COMP 4230 Fall 2024 Prof. Stucki

Assignment #5: TensorFlow Lab 1

Let's start with some additional explorations of the MNIST data example from Lab 0. Start with the Lab0Ex1.py file or Lab0Ex1.ipynb file (unedited from the zip archive) for the following tasks. If you need help in answering any of the questions in these first exercises, refer to Moroney's text, Chapter 2.

Task 1:

- Remove the Flatten() layer from the model (the 1st element of the list that begins on line 16)
- Try to run this program, write down the error message you get, and then try to explain why that happened.

Task 2:

- Restore the Flatten() layer.
- Think about why there are 10 output nodes. Change the number of nodes in the output layer to 5.
- Try to run this program, write down the error message you get, and then try to explain why that happened

Task 3:

- Restore the output layer to 10 nodes.
- Add an additional hidden layer with 256 nodes.
- Run this program. What did that do to the results? Why do you think that is?

Task 4:

- Remove the extra hidden layer.
- The code that we've been running has two lines of code that normalize the input data (transforming it from the range 0-255 to the range 0-1). Delete these two lines (13-14).
- Run this program. What did that do to the results? Can you explain why that is?

Task 5:

- Restore the normalization code.
- In the training that we've been doing we have hard coded the number of epochs, hoping that the error loss falls below a desirable level in that amount of time.
- Download and unzip the new exercise archive that was posted with this assignment. Open Lab1Ex1.py in VS Code or Lab1Ex1.ipynb in Colab and review the source.
- Run this program. What did it do?

Turn in your answers to the questions in this lab via email by Friday, October 4.