A Hierarchical deep model for food classification from photographs

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Abstract

Recognizing food from photographs presents many applications for machine learning, computer vision and dietetics, etc. Recent progress of deep learning techniques accelerates the recognition of food in a great scale. We build a hierarchical structure composed of deep CNN to recognize and classify food from photographs. We build a dataset for Korean food of 18 classes, which are further categorized in 4 major classes. Our hierarchical recognizer classifies foods into four major classes in the first step. Each food in the major classes is further classified into the exact class in the second step. We employ DenseNet structure for the baseline of our recognizer. The hierarchical structure provides higher accuracy and F1 score than those from the single-structured recognizer.

Keywords: CNN, DenseNet, classification, food, dietetics
1. Introduction

Recognizing objects and classifying them into predefined classes is one of the most interesting research topics in machine learning. Many classical techniques such as support vector machine (SVM) attack this problem. Recently, the deep learning techniques based on convolutional neural network (CNN) accelerate the progress of the recognition techniques. Nowadays, the domain of recognition is extended to various practical areas such as food and dietetic items.

A technique that recognizes and classifies foods from their photographs has been a long research issue in pattern recognition and machine learning society. The challenging problem in developing a food recognition technique comes from the fact that food is a cultural product of a country. Therefore, foods from different countries are very different and this explains why the existing food recognition techniques concentrate on food of a single country such as Japan or China.

In this paper, we focus on Korean food, which has a long tradition and it has various kinds of recipes. To our knowledge, a deep learning-based recognition technique for Korean food has not been studied yet. The most distinguishing point of Korean food is that we can classify them into four major categories: rice-based meal, soup or stew, main dish and side dish. The main dish is a food, which is cooked for each meal and the side dish is a food that lasts several days or weeks. As illustrated in Fig. 1, an ordinary Korean meal is composed of a rice, a soup or stew, one or two main dishes and several side dishes. In this paper, we build 18 Korean food classes as illustrated in Fig. 2.

![Fig. 1. Conventional Korean food table composed of foods of four categories: rice, soup, main dish and side dish.](image)

We design a classifier for Korean food by employing a deep convolutional neural network. Our classifier is designed as a double-layered architecture to accommodate the hierarchical structure of Korean food. The first layer of our classifier has one network that classifies
Korean food into four major categories: rice, soup, main dish and side dish. The second layer of our classifier has four networks that classifies Korean food in each major category. The convolutional neural network we employ is the DenseNet whose last layer is substituted with a fully convolutional layer instead of fully connected layer.

A fundamental requirement for our hierarchical approach is a very high accuracy of the first-layer classifier. In the case of Korean food, the foods in different categories are easily distinguishable. Our double-layered structure is motivated from this characteristic of Korean food. In our research, we compare two classifiers. One classifier is a widely-used single-layered classifier that classifier our target 18 foods simultaneously. The other classifier is our double-layered classifier that classifies our target foods in two stages. With our experiment, we show the excellence of our double-layered classifier.

The contribution of this paper is as follows:
(1) We propose a hierarchical structure composed of CNN models that classifies food images in two-way categories. Even though our approach employs existing CNN models, the hierarchical structure of the models for food recognition is a novel approach.
(2) Many existing CNN models classify general targets. In this paper, we focus on food images. We compare many widely used CNN models and select one that shows best performance in food image classification.

Fig. 2. Our 18 target Korean foods to classify.
Among many local foods, we present a scheme for classifying Korean food, which has not been classified yet.

This paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we survey the related works about food recognition techniques. In Section 3, we suggest the structure of our classifier and explain our plan of experiments in Section 4. In Section 5, we describe our results and analyze the results. In Section 6, we conclude our work and propose a future research plan.

2. Related Work

2.1 Conventional schemes

The early-stage food recognition research is based on pattern recognition techniques using various features extracted from images. Chen et al. [1] constructed dataset on fast food images and classified them using color histogram and bags of SIFT features. Joutou and Yanai [2] applied a multiple kernel learning approach to merge various features such as color, texture and SIFT. This scheme, however, depends on the camera angle for the images very heavily. Wu and Yang [3] presented a food recognition scheme from a video clip. This scheme also presents calorie calculation for the recognized food. Yang et al. [4] developed a food recognition scheme that applies statistical techniques on local features. Instead of using food image, this scheme analyzes the ingredients of the food to recognize the image. Even though this scheme, which uses SIFT, color histogram and bag of features, shows excellent performance on many food images, it fails to recognize food of similar ingredients such as bread, donut and bagel. Bosch et al. [5] identifies food by combining various features in global and local scale. The applied decision fusion-based rules to improve the accuracy by 7%. Chen et al. [6] presented a food identification scheme that estimates the quantity of the food simultaneously. They implemented their scheme on various mobile platforms such as Android and iOS. Matsuda et al. [7] proposed a scheme that recognizes multiple foods from an image. They build a series of candidate positions for food from a photograph and apply feature-fusion-based scheme for the recognition. This scheme that recognizes multiple food simultaneously fails to present high accuracy. Bossard et al. [8] presented a food recognition scheme from an image using random forests. They show high accuracy for MIT-indoor dataset.

2.2 CNN-based schemes

Kagaya et al. [9] presented an image-based food detection and recognition framework using a convolutional neural network (CNN), which shows higher accuracy than the conventional SVM-based frameworks. They aim to classify 10 most-frequent food items on Food Log (FL). Kawano and Yanai [10] employed the features extracted from deep CNN to increase the accuracy of food recognition. They report their top-1 accuracy on UEC-FOOD100 dataset about 72.26%. The parameters of their network are too many to be used in various platforms such as mobile devices. Kawano and Yanagi [11] presented a scheme that automatically expands food image dataset. They leverage the existing knowledge on food of one culture using a generic classifier and domain adaptation. Kagaya and Aizawa [12] presented a framework that distinguishes food and non-food image from thee datasets including Instagram, Food-101, and Caltech-256. They build their framework using a CNN technique and show their accuracy about 95%. Yanai and Kawano [13] tuned a pre-trained deep convolutional
network for food image recognition. They prove that the finely tuned deep CNN is effective on small-scaled food image dataset. They also come across the practical limitation of using their deep CNN on various platforms. Pouladzadeh et al. [14] developed a framework that detects the position of a food from an image using a graph cut scheme and deep neural network. They claim that the ingredients of a food plays a key role in food detection.

2.3 Recent works

Recently, Akbari Fard et al. [15] presented a CNN-based classification scheme for food and vegetable. They collected images from ImageNet and classified 43 classes with 75% top-5 accuracy and 45% top-1 accuracy. Tatsuma and Aono [16] presented a food recognition scheme using a covariance measured on the feature maps extracted by a convolutional network. They recorded 58.65% accuracy on ETHZ Food-101 dataset. Hassannejad et al. [17] employed a 54-layered deep convolutional network for food image recognition. They applied their scheme on various food image datasets including ETH Food-101, UEC FOOD 100 and UEC FOOD 256. They showed more than 92% top-5 accuracy on the datasets. They conclude that the depth of the network is a key factor that influences the accuracy. Jain and Khanna [18] presented a classification scheme on INDIAN Krishina Kamod rice using a neural network. They employ geometric features such as minor axis length, major axis length and eccentricity and show 97% accuracy. Ragusa et al. [19] compared various classification schemes about food image and non-food image. They report that the combined model of fine-tuned Alexnet and binary SVM shows best accuracy as 99.59% and that VGGNet shows best accuracy in classifying different images. Singla et al. [20] developed a food/non-food image classification scheme using a pre-trained GoogLeNet model. This model shows 99.2% accuracy for classifying food and non-food image. They claim their limitation about classifying images of multiple foods. Farooq and Sazonov [21] presented a scheme that recognizes food types by using the feature maps extracted from a pre-trained AlexNet. They show 94.01% accuracy in classifying 61 classes of food types.

3. Structure of our classifier

Our classifier for Korean food has a two-layered structure. The first layer has a CNN-based module that classifies Korean foods into four major categories: rice, soup, main dish and side dish. The second layer has four CNN-based modules, each of which classifies the foods in the four major categories. The overall structure of our classifier is suggested and compared with a conventional classifier in Fig. 3.

We design the CNN-based model of our classifier based on a DenseNet with a fully convolutional layer. Fig. 4 illustrates the structure of DenseNet with a fully convolutional layer. According to [28], a deep CNN with fully convolutional layer shows better performance than a deep CNN with fully connected layer. Global Average Pooling (GAP), which lies between conv layer and fully convolutional layer, produced smoother contours than global max pooling (GMP). Another benefit of the fully convolutional layer is a class activation map (CAM) that visualizes the clue of classification with different colors.
Fig. 3. Our classifier with double layer is compared with the conventional classifier with single layer. The trapezoid is a classifying module. We test several existing models including AlexNet, VGGNet, ResNet and DenseNet and select DenseNet, which shows highest accuracy.

4. Dataset collection

We collect the photographs of our target 18 Korean foods from various websites using data crawling techniques. We discard photographs that contain other objects such as tablewares to avoid training error. We collect 6452 photographs for 18 food classes. Among the dataset, we
prepare 70% of them for training, 15% for validation and 15% for test. We suggest the details of the dataset in Table 1.

Table 1. The dataset for our 18 Korean food classes.

| Category   | Food            | Total | Training | Validation | Test |
|------------|-----------------|-------|----------|------------|------|
| Rice       | White rice      | 243   | 170      | 36         | 37   |
|            | Mixed rice      | 372   | 260      | 56         | 56   |
| Soup       | Beansprouts soup| 300   | 210      | 45         | 45   |
|            | Kimchi stew     | 200   | 140      | 30         | 30   |
|            | Seaweed soup    | 301   | 211      | 30         | 30   |
|            | Soybean paste soup| 265 | 186      | 40         | 39   |
| Main dish  | Bulgogi         | 349   | 244      | 52         | 53   |
|            | Japchae         | 345   | 242      | 52         | 51   |
|            | Pajeon          | 404   | 283      | 61         | 60   |
|            | Pork barbecue   | 372   | 260      | 56         | 56   |
|            | Pork belly      | 426   | 298      | 64         | 64   |
|            | Pork foot       | 232   | 162      | 35         | 35   |
| Side dish  | Fried anchovy   | 494   | 246      | 74         | 74   |
|            | Fried egg       | 261   | 183      | 39         | 39   |
|            | Grilled seaweed | 404   | 283      | 61         | 60   |
|            | Kimchi          | 789   | 552      | 118        | 119  |
|            | Pickled garlic  | 346   | 242      | 52         | 50   |
|            | Spinach         | 349   | 244      | 52         | 58   |
| Total      | 6452            | 4517  | 967      | 968        |      |

5. Experiment

5.1 Implementation

We implement our classifier on a personal computer with Pentium i7 CPU, 32 GByte main memory and nVidia TitanX GPU. Our classifier is developed using Tensorflow and CUDA. Our hierarchical classifier is designed by composing five classifiers each of which classifies objects into 2 ~ 6 classes. To build a classifier, we employ four recently popular classifiers: AlexNet [23], VGGNet [22], ResNet [25] and DenseNet [26]. We also employ the pretrained parameters from these networks. These models are trained by ImageNet datasets. After applying them to the first layer classifier and comparing their performances in both fully connected structure and fully convolutional structure, we find out that DenseNet outperforms other compared networks. Therefore, we employ DenseNet for our classifier. The comparison is suggested in Table 2.

An interesting characteristic of Korean food is that it can be classified into several disjoint major categories. We set the major categories as rice, soup, main dish and side dish. For our classification, we select 18 Korean based on Korean food and dietetics survey and arrange them in the four major categories.
To train our classifier, we collected the images of our target Korean foods from various internet sites. In total, we collect 6452 images, which means that the images for each food are about 358 in average. Among the collected images, we assign 70% of them for training, 15% for validation and 15% for test. The exact amounts of the collected images are suggested in Table 1. We train our classifier for 100 epochs. We set dropout rate as 70% and learning rate as 0.0001.

Table 2. The comparison of four widely-used deep CNN structures where DenseNet shows best performance: (a) shows the results and hyper parameters of fully convolutional networks and (b) shows those of fully connected networks.

### Fully convolutional

| Hyper parameter | F1 score | accuracy(%) | | | | |
|-----------------|----------|-------------|---|---|---|---|
|                 | test     | validation  | test | train | depth | # of nodes | dropout ratio | epochs |
| DenseNet        | 0.97     | 97.10       | 97.63 | 98.25 | 1     | 256         | 0.7           | 80     |
| ResNet          | 0.95     | 95.97       | 95.26 | 97.85 | 1     | 2048        | 0.3           | 90     |
| VGGNet          | 0.92     | 93.80       | 92.37 | 95.75 | 1     | 2048        | 0.5           | 60     |
| AlexNet         | 0.92     | 92.97       | 91.55 | 95.57 | 1     | 2048        | 0.3           | 70     |

(a) The accuracies and hyper parameters of fully convolutional structure

### Fully connected

| Hyper parameter | F1 score | accuracy(%) | | | | |
|-----------------|----------|-------------|---|---|---|---|
|                 | test     | validation  | test | train | depth | # of nodes | dropout ratio | epochs |
| DenseNet        | 0.96     | 95.97       | 95.98 | 96.35 | 1     | 256         | 0.3           | 50     |
| ResNet          | 0.90     | 89.87       | 90.10 | 91.05 | 1     | 128         | 0.5           | 100    |
| VGGNet          | 0.94     | 94.11       | 93.09 | 96.50 | 1     | 2048        | 0.5           | 80     |
| AlexNet         | 0.92     | 94.52       | 92.27 | 96.77 | 1     | 2048        | 0.3           | 90     |

(b) The accuracies and hyper parameters of fully connected structure

5.2 Implementation on mobile environment

We implement our classifier on a mobile environment. The mobile device plays role of client, which presents user interface, grabs food images for classification and communicates with server. Server communicates with clients via node.js interface. It executes our classifier and sends five most possible cases with their probabilities to the client. For a reliable classification, the result of first layer is confirmed by user. Finally, information of nutrition for the recognized food is presented. Fig. 5 presents the structure of the mobile environment and Fig. 6 shows the screenshots of using mobile classifier.
6. Result and analysis

6.1 Result

We classified the food photos in the dataset in two classifiers and compared the results. The first one is a single-layered classifier and the second one is our double-layered classifier. In Table 3, we suggest the confusion matrix of the first classifier, which classifies the input photos into 18 categories. We present two confusion matrices for the second classifier, since it classifies the input photos in two stages. The confusion matrix in Table 4 (a) is the result of the first stage, which classifies the input photos into four major categories, and the confusion matrix in Table 4 (b) is the result of the second stage, which classifies the input photos into 18 categories. In the second stage, the classes that belong to the major categories are only considered.
Table 3. The confusion matrix for the 18 food classes classified by the single-layered conventional classifier: Row is the predicted class and column is the true class.

|           | Beef Gravy | White Rice | Beef and Gravy Soup | Kielbasa Stew | Seafood Soup | Soybean Pate | Beef and Broth | Beef Brisket | Pork Barbecue | Pork Belly | Fried Anchovy | Fried Tofu | Grilled Seaweed | Kielbasa | Pickled Garlic | Spinach |
|-----------|------------|------------|---------------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|----------|---------------|---------|
| Beef Gravy| 0.95       | 0          | 0                   | 0              | 0            | 0            | 0              | 0            | 0             | 0          | 0             | 0           | 0              | 0        | 0             | 0.98 |
| White Rice| 0          | 1          | 0                   | 0              | 0            | 0            | 0              | 0            | 0             | 0          | 0             | 0           | 0              | 0        | 0             | 0.02   |
| Beef and Gravy Soup | 0 | 0 | 0.98 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.02 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.98 |
| Kielbasa Stew | 0 | 0 | 0.97 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.02 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.02 |
| Seafood Soup | 0 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0 | 0.95 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.02 |
| Soybean Pate | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.01 | 0.97 | 0.92 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.01 |
| Beef Gravy | 0 | 0 | 0.02 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.02 |
| Kielbasa Stew | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.02 | 0.05 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.02 |
| Seafood Soup | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.95 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.05 |
| Soybean Pate | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.01 | 0.95 | 0.92 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.01 |
| Beef Gravy | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.98 |
| Kielbasa Stew | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.98 |
| Seafood Soup | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.02 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.02 |
| Soybean Pate | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.02 |

6.2 Comparison

We compare the results of our model with those from DenseNet, one of the state-of-the-art image classification methods. In Table 2, we present the accuracies of DenseNet: 0.97 for fully convolutional structure and 0.96 for fully connected structure. In Table 5, the accuracy of our model records 0.99. For F1 score, fully convolutional DenseNet records 0.97 and fully connected DenseNet records 0.96. Our model records 0.97 F1 score in Table 5. Our model shows better accuracy than DenseNet and similar F1 score with DenseNet.

6.3 Analysis

We compute the accuracy, precision, recall and f1 score for two classifiers. As illustrated in Table 5, our double-layered classifier shows better accuracies for 16 food classes, better precision for 13 food classes, better recall for 14 food classes and better f1 score for 16 food classes. Our double-layered classifier shows worse results only for 5 food classes. This result is visualized in Fig. 7.
6.4 Analysis with CAM

By substituting the last layer of the classifier from fully connected layer to fully convolutional layer (See Fig. 4), we can class activation map (CAM), which visualize the region that influences the classification. The red denotes higher influence and the blue denotes lower influence. In Fig. 8, we illustrate two very confusing classes: Kimchi stew and Kimchi. The input images in Fig. 8 are misclassified by the single-layer classifier, but they are classified correctly by our double-layer classifier. The different CAMs of the classifiers denote the region that gives clue for the classification is different for the classifiers.

6.5 Limitation

The success of a hierarchical classifier depends on the accuracy of the first layer. The final accuracy is a multiplication of the accuracies of the first layer and the second layer. Therefore, the final accuracy may be lower than the single layer classifier even though the second layer shows better accuracy than the single layer classifier. Fortunately, the accuracy of the first layer that classifies Korean food into four major categories is close to 1.0. In other cases where the first layer does not show very high accuracy, a hierarchical structured classifier may show worse accuracy than a single layer classifier.

6.6 Direction of improvements

One of our major limitations is the deficiency of dataset. To extend our approach to other categories of food, we have to extend the dataset. Song et. al [27] presented a scheme that improves the performance of supervised learning when tagged training data is not sufficient. In many problems, a geometry-based regularization term is added to match untagged data to their similar tagged data. They proposed a semi-supervised annotation approach by learning an optimized graph from multiple cues, such as partial tags and multiple features to improve the accuracy of the matching. This approach can help extending the dataset of our approach.

Another limitation is that the source of food photos can come from video. To properly capture and caption food on video, Song et al.’s scheme [29] can be employed. They proposed a generative approach that models the uncertainty in the data using latent stochastic variables. Their scheme, denoted as multimodal stochastic RNN (MS-RNN), can improve the performance of video captioning and generate multiple labels to describe a video. This scheme will tag many food scenes from food video to enrich our dataset.

Wang et al. [30] also presented a scheme that recognizes scenes from video of arbitrary sizes. They decomposed a video into spatial and temporal shots, and a sequence of shots are processed using a spatial temporal pyramid pooling (STPP) convNet with a long short-term memory or CNN-E model. Their softmax scores are combined by a late fusion. The STPP convNet extracts descriptions for each variable-size shot, and CNN-E learns a global description for the input video.
Table 4. The confusion matrices for our experiment.

|           | rice | soup | dish | side |
|-----------|------|------|------|------|
| rice      | 1    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| soup      | 0    | 0.99 | 0.01 | 0    |
| dish      | 0    | 0    | 0.99 | 0.01 |
| side      | 0    | 0    | 0    | 1    |

(a) The confusion matrix of the first-layer that classifies food photos into four major classes

|                          | Mixed Rice | White Rice | BeanSprout Soup | Kimchi Stew | Seaweed Soup | SoyBean PasteStew | Bulgogi | Jachae | Pajeon | Pork Barbecue | Pork Belly | Pork Feet | Fried Anchovy | Fried Egg | Grilled Seaweed | Kimchi | Pickled Garlic | Spinach |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------|---------|--------|--------|---------------|-----------|----------|---------------|----------|-----------------|---------|----------------|---------|
| Mixed Rice               | 1          | 0          | 0               | 0           | 0            | 0                  | 0       | 0      | 0      | 0             | 0         | 0        | 0             | 0        | 0               | 0       | 0               | 0       |
| White Rice               | 0          | 1          | 0               | 0           | 0            | 0                  | 0       | 0      | 0      | 0             | 0         | 0        | 0             | 0        | 0               | 0       | 0               | 0       |
| BeanSprout Soup          | 0          | 0          | 0.99            | 0.01        | 0            | 0                  | 0       | 0      | 0      | 0             | 0         | 0        | 0             | 0        | 0               | 0       | 0               | 0       |
| Kimchi Stew              | 0          | 0          | 0.99            | 0           | 0.01         | 0                  | 0       | 0      | 0      | 0             | 0         | 0        | 0             | 0        | 0               | 0       | 0               | 0       |
| Seaweed Soup             | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0.99        | 0            | 0.01               | 0       | 0      | 0      | 0             | 0         | 0        | 0             | 0        | 0               | 0       | 0               | 0       |
| SoyBean PasteStew        | 0          | 0          | 0.01            | 0.01        | 0.97         | 0.01               | 0       | 0      | 0      | 0             | 0         | 0        | 0             | 0        | 0               | 0       | 0               | 0       |
| Bulgogi                  | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0           | 0.04         | 0.02               | 0.07    | 0      | 0      | 0             | 0         | 0        | 0.01          | 0        | 0               | 0       | 0               | 0       |
| Jachae                   | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0           | 0.04         | 0.02               | 0.95    | 0      | 0      | 0             | 0         | 0        | 0.01          | 0        | 0               | 0       | 0               | 0       |
| Pajeon                   | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0           | 0.04         | 0.02               | 0.02    | 0      | 0      | 0             | 0         | 0.02     | 0.01          | 0        | 0               | 0       | 0               | 0       |
| Pork Barbecue            | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0           | 0.04         | 0.02               | 0.95    | 0.06   | 0.02   | 0             | 0         | 0        | 0             | 0        | 0               | 0       | 0               | 0       |
| Pork Belly               | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0           | 0.01         | 0.02               | 0.08    | 0.89   | 0.01   | 0             | 0         | 0        | 0             | 0        | 0               | 0       | 0               | 0       |
| Pork Feet                | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0           | 0.04         | 0.02               | 0.02    | 0.02   | 0.01   | 0             | 0         | 0        | 0.01          | 0        | 0               | 0       | 0               | 0       |
| Fried Anchovy            | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0           | 0.04         | 0.02               | 0.02    | 0.02   | 0.01   | 0             | 0         | 0        | 0.99          | 0        | 0.01            | 0       | 0               | 0       |
| Fried Egg                | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0           | 0.04         | 0.02               | 0.02    | 0.02   | 0.01   | 0             | 0         | 0.02     | 0.01          | 0        | 0               | 0       | 0               | 0       |
| Grilled Seaweed          | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0           | 0.04         | 0.02               | 0.02    | 0.02   | 0.01   | 0             | 0         | 0        | 0.04          | 0        | 0               | 0       | 0               | 0       |
| Kimchi                   | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0           | 0.04         | 0.02               | 0.02    | 0.02   | 0.01   | 0             | 0         | 0        | 0.04          | 0        | 0               | 0       | 0               | 0       |
| Pickled Garlic           | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0           | 0.04         | 0.02               | 0.02    | 0.02   | 0.01   | 0             | 0         | 0        | 0.04          | 0        | 0               | 0       | 0               | 0       |
| Spinach                  | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0           | 0.04         | 0.02               | 0.02    | 0.02   | 0.01   | 0             | 0         | 0        | 0.04          | 0        | 0               | 0       | 0               | 0       |

(b) The confusion matrix of the second-layer that classifies food photos into 18 classes
Table 5. The comparison of the performances with single-layered classifier and our hierarchical double-layered classifier: For 18 classes and four metrics including accuracy, precision, recall, and f1 score, our classifier shows better result in 58 cases, same result in 9 cases and worse result in 5 cases.

|                | Accuracy | Precision | Recall | f1 score |
|----------------|----------|-----------|--------|----------|
|                | single   | double    | single | double   |
| Mixed rice     | 1.00     | 1.00 0.00 | 0.97   | 1.00 0.63 | 0.95 | 1.00 0.05 | 0.95 | 1.00 0.04 |
| White rice     | 0.99     | 1.00 0.01 | 0.90   | 1.00 0.10 | 1.00 | 1.00 0.00 | 0.95 | 1.00 0.05 |
| Bean Sprout Soup| 0.98     | 1.00 0.02 | 0.93   | 1.00 0.07 | 0.94 | 0.98 0.00 | 0.96 | 0.99 0.03 |
| Kimchi Stew    | 0.98     | 1.00 0.02 | 0.96   | 0.98 0.02 | 0.97 | 0.99 0.02 | 0.97 | 0.99 0.02 |
| Seaweed Soup   | 0.98     | 1.00 0.02 | 0.95   | 0.99 0.04 | 0.95 | 0.99 0.04 | 0.95 | 0.99 0.04 |
| Soybean Paste Stew | 0.98     | 1.00 0.02 | 1.00   | 1.00 0.00 | 0.97 | 0.97 0.00 | 0.98 | 0.98 0.00 |
| Bulgogi        | 0.97     | 0.99 0.02 | 0.91   | 0.58 -0.03 | 0.91 | 0.92 0.01 | 0.97 | 0.90 0.03 |
| Japchae        | 0.96     | 0.98 0.02 | 0.89   | 0.90 0.01 | 0.83 | 0.95 0.10 | 0.87 | 0.92 0.05 |
| Palpae         | 0.96     | 0.99 0.03 | 0.93   | 0.99 0.01 | 0.90 | 0.91 0.01 | 0.94 | 0.95 0.01 |
| Pork Barbeque  | 0.95     | 0.98 0.01 | 0.83   | 0.87 -0.01 | 0.86 | 0.85 0.05 | 0.84 | 0.85 0.02 |
| Pork Belly     | 0.96     | 0.98 0.02 | 0.89   | 0.93 0.04 | 0.86 | 0.89 0.03 | 0.87 | 0.91 0.04 |
| Pork Feet      | 0.97     | 0.99 0.02 | 0.93   | 0.94 0.01 | 0.94 | 0.95 0.01 | 0.94 | 0.95 0.01 |
| Fried Anchovy  | 0.97     | 1.00 0.01 | 0.83   | 0.92 0.15 | 0.87 | 0.99 0.12 | 0.85 | 0.99 0.14 |
| Fried Egg      | 0.98     | 1.00 0.02 | 1.00   | 1.00 0.00 | 0.91 | 1.00 0.09 | 0.95 | 1.00 0.05 |
| Grilled Seaweed| 0.99     | 1.00 0.01 | 0.97   | 0.98 0.01 | 0.99 | 1.00 0.01 | 0.98 | 0.99 0.01 |
| Kimchi         | 0.93     | 1.00 0.01 | 0.92   | 1.00 0.08 | 0.96 | 1.00 0.04 | 0.96 | 1.00 0.04 |
| Pickled Garlic | 1.00     | 1.00 0.09 | 1.00   | 0.98 -0.02 | 1.00 | 1.00 0.00 | 1.00 | 0.99 -0.01 |
| Spinach        | 1.00     | 0.99 -0.01| 0.97   | 1.00 0.03 | 0.98 | 1.00 0.02 | 0.98 | 1.00 0.02 |
| Total          | 0.97     | 0.99 0.02 | 0.93   | 0.97 0.04 | 0.93 | 0.97 0.04 | 0.93 | 0.97 0.04 |

Fig. 7. The results in Table 5 are visualized using bar graph.
7. Conclusion and future work

We present a hierarchical structured recognizer for Korean food of 18 classes. Our recognizer, whose baseline is constructed using DenseNet, classifies Korean food in two stages: the first stage classifies food into 4 major classes, which are rice, soup, main dish and side dish, and the second stage classifies the foods in the major class into the exact class. This hierarchical structure improves the accuracy of the recognition than the conventional single-layer structured recognizer.

As a future work, we aim to extend the Korean foods to cover many Korean food cases. Furthermore, we plan to apply our hierarchical structured recognizer into other related areas. Finally, some other areas such as dietetics can incorporate with our recognizer to build various applications very effective on many users.

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