# Python Image Generators

Have you tried to load the entire image dataset into numpy arrays? If you tried, you might have realized that it takes over **60GB of RAM**. In this tutorial we'll go over an easy way in Python to get around this problem and load images on the fly from disk (the file itself).

### Preregs

To get the most out of this tutorial, you should be familiar with the following concepts:

- Basic Python data structures
  - What a list is
  - What a dictionary is
- Functions
  - What a function is
  - How to create and use functions
- List Comprehensions
  - What a list comprehension is
  - How to create a simple list comprehension

```
In [1]:
    # List
    a = [1, 2, 3, 6, 'abc']
    print('List:', a)
    # Dictionary
    b = {1: 32, 'abc': [1, 2, 3]}
    print('Dictionary:', b)
```

```
# Function
def hello():
    return 'Hello World'
print('Function "hello" returns:', hello())

# List Comprehensions
c = [item + item for item in a]
print('List Comprehension:', c)
```

```
List: [1, 2, 3, 6, 'abc']
Dictionary: {1: 32, 'abc': [1, 2, 3]}
Function "hello" returns: Hello World
List Comprehension: [2, 4, 6, 12, 'abcabc']
```

## Some Basic Terms

### Iteration and iterables

Iteration is the repetition of some kind of process over and over again. Python's for loop gives us an easy way to iterate over various objects. Often, you'll iterate over a list, but we can also iterate over other Python objects such as strings and dictionaries.

```
In [2]:
    # Iterating over a list
    ez_list = [1, 2, 3]
    for i in ez_list:
        print(i)
```

1 2 3

```
In [3]:
    # Iterating over a string
    ez_string = 'Generators'
    for s in ez_string:
        print(s)

G
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n

```
In [4]:
    # Iterating over a dictionary
    ez_dict = {1 : 'First', 2 : 'Second'}
    for key, value in ez_dict.items():
        print(key, value)
```

- 1 First
- 2 Second

In each of the above examples, the for loop iterates over the sequence we give it. The code above used a list, string, and dictionary, but you can iterate over tuples and sets as well. In each loop above, we print each of the items in the sequence in the order they appear. For example, you can confirm that the order of the ez\_list is replicated in the order that its items are printed out.

We refer to any object that can support iteration as an iterable.

#### What defines an iterable?

Iterables support something called the **Iterator Protocol**. The technical definition for the Iterator Protocol is out of the scope of this article, but it can be thought of as a set of *requirements* to be used for a for loop. That is to say: lists, strings and dictionaries all follow the Iterator Protocol, therefore we can use them in for loops. Conversely, objects that do not follow the protocol cannot be used in a for loop. One example of an object that does not follow the protocol is an integer.

If we try to give an integer to a for loop, Python will throw an error.

TypeError: 'int' object is not iterable

An integer is just a singular number, not a sequence. You may argue that the "first" number in number is 1, but it is not the same as the first item in a sequence. It doesn't make sense to ask "What's after 1?" from number since Python only understands integers as a single entities.

Therefore, one of the requirements to be an iterable is to be able to describe to the for loop what the next item to perform the operation on is. For example, lists tell the for loop that the next item to iterate on is in the index+1 from the current one (1 comes after 0).

Consequently, an iterable must also signal to a for loop when to *stop* iterating. This signal usually comes when we arrive at the end of a sequence (i.e. the end of a list or string). We will explore the specific functions that make something iterable later in this article, the important thing to know is that iterables describe *how* a for loop should traverse its contents.

Generators are iterables themselves. As you'll see later, for loops are one of the main ways we use a generator, so they must be able to support iteration. We'll delve into how we can create our own generators in the next secton.

### Key takeaways: basic terms to know

- Iteration is the idea of repeating some process over a sequence of items. In Python, iteration is usually related to the for loop.
- An iterable is an object that supports iteration.
- To be an iterable, it must describe to a for loop two things:

- What item comes next in the iteration.
- When should the loop stop iteration.
- · Generators are iterables.

## Generators and you

If you've never encountered a generator before, the most common real-life example of a generator is a backup generator, which creates — generates — electricity for your house or office.

Conceptually, Python generators generate values *one at a time* from a given sequence, instead of giving the entirety of the sequence at once. This one-at-a-time fashion of generators is what makes them so compatible with for loops. If this sounds confusing, don't worry too much. As we explain how to create generators, it will become more clear.

There are two ways to create a generator. They differ in their syntax, but the end result is still a generator. We'll teach these concepts by covering their syntax and comparing them to a similar, but non-generator equivalent.

- A generator function versus a regular function
- A generator expression versus a list comprehension

## The generator function

A generator function is just like a regular function but with a key difference: the yield keyword replaces return.

```
In [6]:
    # Regular function
    def function_a():
```

```
return "a"

# Generator function

def generator_a():
   yield "a"
```

The two functions above perform exactly same action (returning/yielding the same string). However, if you try to inspect the generator function, it won't match what the regular function shows.

Calling a regular function tells Python to go back to where the function is located in our code, perform the code within the block, and return the result. In order to get the generator function to yield its values, you need to pass it into the next() function.

next() is a special function that asks, "What's the next item in the iteration?" In fact, next() is the precise function that is called when you run a for loop! Lists, dictionaries, strings, and the like all implement next(), so this is why you can incorporate them into loops in the first place.

```
In [9]:
         # Asking the generator what the next item is
         next(generator_a())
 Out[9]:
         'a'
In [10]:
         # Do not do this
         next(generator_a)
```



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```
<ipython-input-10-1eb7ad9bfd24> in <module>()
     1 # Do not do this
---> 2 next(generator_a)
```

### Version 5

**9** 5 commits

#### Notebook

Data

Log

Comments

TypeError: 'function' object is not an iterator

Notice that we have to pass in generator function with the parentheses since the function itself is the generator. Providing only the function name will throw an error since you're trying to give next() a function name. As expected, the generator function will yield 'a' once we invoke the next() function.

This example is not fully representative of what a generator is useful for. Remember that generators produce a stream of values, so yield ing a single value doesn't really qualify as a stream. To do

this, we can actually put in multiple yield statements into a generator function. These yield statements form the sequence that the generator will output.

We'll create a generator and bind it to a varible mg. Then, if we keep passing mg into next(), we'll get to the next yield. If we keep going past, we'll be given a StopIteration error to tell us that the generator has no more values to give. The StopIteration error is actually how a for loop knows when to stop iterating.

```
In [11]:
    def multi_generate():
        yield "a"
        yield "b"
        yield "c"
```

Comments

```
In [12]:
    print(next(mg))
    print(next(mg))
    print(next(mg))

a
    b
    c

----------
StopIteration
t call last)
Traceback (most recen
```

Not#ook

D**an**a

It's easy to think of generators as a machine that waits for one command and one command only:

next() . Once you call next() on the generator, it will dispense the next value in the sequence it is holding. Otherwise, you can't do much else with a generator. The image below represents our generator as a simple machine.

We've noted that as we keep passing in mg into next, we get the other yield results. This is possible only if the generator somehow remembers what it last did. This memory is what distinguishes generator functions from regular functions! Once you use a function, it's a one-and-done deal. Once you return the value from the function. A generator will keep yield ing values until its out.

This brings us to another important property of generators. Once we've finished iterating through them, we can't use them anymore. Once we got through all three yield values in mg, it can't provide anything to us anymore. We'd have to store another instance of the multi\_generate generator to begin asking next() statements of it again.

## Using Generators for our Image Data

If you're following along with the data on your own computer, you'll need to replace

path\_to\_train with the path on your computer to where the train images are located. This will enable Python to find it and all the train images

```
In [13]:
    from glob import glob
    import os

path_to_train = '../input/train/train'
    glob_train_imgs = os.path.join(path_to_train, '*_sat.jpg')
    glob_train_masks = os.path.join(path_to_train, '*_msk.png')

    train_img_paths = glob(glob_train_imgs)
    train_mask_paths = glob(glob_train_masks)
    print(train_img_paths[:10])
    print(train_mask_paths[:10])
```

['../input/train/train/10417\_sat.jpg', '../input/train/train/53 454\_sat.jpg', '../input/train/train/53312\_sat.jpg', '../input/train/train/4890\_sat.jpg', '../input/train/train/30497\_sat.jpg', '../input/train/train/30497\_sat.jpg', '../input/train/train/370 29\_sat.jpg', '../input/train/train/50343\_sat.jpg', '../input/train/train/28951\_sat.jpg', '../input/train/train/40778\_sat.jpg'] ['../input/train/train/4698\_msk.png', '../input/train/train/401 24\_msk.png', '../input/train/train/16663\_msk.png', '../input/train/train/52877\_msk.png', '../input/train/train/52877\_msk.png', '../input/train/train/420 64\_msk.png', '../input/train/train/1591\_msk.png', '../input/train/train/420 64\_msk.png', '../input/train/train/24537\_msk.png']

Our generator will work in the following way:

- · We iterate over the filenames for the images we want to load
- Open the image file using a library like PIL or scikit-image
- Open the corresponding mask
- Yield the image and mask pair

```
In [14]:
        from skimage.io import imread
        from skimage.transform import resize
        # This will be useful so we can construct the corresponding mask
        def get_img_id(img_path):
             img_basename = os.path.basename(img_path)
             img_id = os.path.splitext(img_basename)[0][:-len('_sat')]
             return img_id
         # Write it like a normal function
        def image_gen(img_paths, img_size=(128, 128)):
             # Iterate over all the image paths
             for img_path in img_paths:
                 # Construct the corresponding mask path
                 img_id = get_img_id(img_path)
                 mask_path = os.path.join(path_to_train, img_id + '_msk.p
        ng')
                 # Load the image and mask, and normalize it to 0-1 range
                 img = imread(img_path) / 255.
                 mask = imread(mask_path, as_gray=True)
                 # Resize the images
```

```
img = resize(img, img_size, preserve_range=True)
    mask = resize(mask, img_size, mode='constant', preserve_
range=True)
# Turn the mask back into a 0-1 mask
    mask = (mask >= 0.5).astype(float)

# Yield the image mask pair
yield img, mask
```

Let's test it out! We can use matplotlib 's imshow to visualize the images.

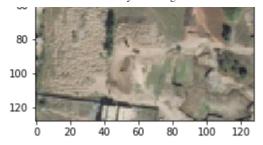
```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

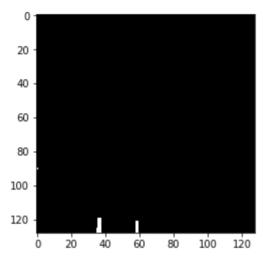
ig = image_gen(train_img_paths)

first_img, first_mask = next(ig)

plt.imshow(first_img)
 plt.show()
 plt.imshow(first_mask, cmap='gray')
 plt.show()
```







# Using our Generator with Keras + Tensorflow

So we've just made a python generator to efficiently read our images from our disk rather than loading them all into memory. What do we do with it now? Use it to train a model! To do this we'll be using a deep learning library called Keras, built on top of Tensorflow. If you're not familiar with Tensorflow and Keras, take a look at some of these resources:

- Keras Tutorials (https://github.com/fchollet/keras-resources)
- Tensorflow Guide to Keras (https://www.tensorflow.org/guide/keras)
- Building a U-Net in Keras ()

If you want to learn more about deep learning and convolutional neural networks, take a look at these resources:

- Stanford CS231n Course Notes (http://cs231n.github.io/)
- Stanford CS231n ConvNet Notes (http://cs231n.github.io/convolutional-networks/)
- An Intuitive Explanation of ConvNets (https://ujjwalkarn.me/2016/08/11/intuitive-explanation-convnets/)

```
In [16]:
# Create simple model
from keras.layers import Conv2D, Reshape
from keras.models import Sequential

model = Sequential()
model.add(Conv2D(64, 5, activation='relu', padding='same', input
_shape=(128, 128, 3)))
model.add(Conv2D(128, 5, activation='relu', padding='same'))
model.add(Conv2D(1, 5, activation='sigmoid', padding='same'))
model.add(Reshape((128, 128)))
```

Using TensorFlow backend.

```
import keras.backend as K
from keras.optimizers import Adam
from keras.losses import binary_crossentropy
smooth = 1e-9
```

```
# This is the competition metric implemented using Keras
def dice_coef(y_true, y_pred):
   y_true_f = K.flatten(y_true)
   y_pred = K.cast(y_pred, 'float32')
    y_pred_f = K.cast(K.greater(K.flatten(y_pred), 0.5), 'float3
2')
    intersection = y_true_f * y_pred_f
    score = 2. * (K.sum(intersection) + smooth) / (K.sum(y_true_
f) + K.sum(y_pred_f) + smooth)
    return score
# We'll construct a Keras Loss that incorporates the DICE score
def dice_loss(y_true, y_pred):
   y_true_f = K.flatten(y_true)
   y_pred_f = K.flatten(y_pred)
    intersection = K.sum(y_true_f * y_pred_f)
    return 1. - (2. * intersection + 1.) / (K.sum(y_true_f) + K.
sum(y_pred_f) + 1.)
def bce_dice_loss(y_true, y_pred):
    return 0.5 * binary_crossentropy(y_true, y_pred) + dice_coef
(y_true, y_pred)
model.compile(Adam(lr=0.01), loss=bce_dice_loss, metrics=[dice_c
oef])
```

### Keras fit\_generator

Keras follows a similar API to the famous python machine learning library, Scikit-Learn. A Keras

neural networks on image data often involves data that can be quite memory-intensive, Keras also includes a fit\_generator method that takes as input a python generator of all the image data. Good thing we know how to make one!

See the documentation for fit\_generator (https://keras.io/models/sequential/#fit\_generator)

```
In [18]:
         import numpy as np
         # Keras takes its input in batches
         # (i.e. a batch size of 32 would correspond to 32 images and 32 m
         asks from the generator)
         # The generator should run forever
         def image_batch_generator(img_paths, batchsize=32):
             while True:
                 ig = image_gen(img_paths)
                 batch_img, batch_mask = [], []
                 for img, mask in ig:
                     # Add the image and mask to the batch
                     batch_img.append(img)
                     batch_mask.append(mask)
                     # If we've reached our batchsize, yield the batch and
         reset
                     if len(batch_img) == batchsize:
                         yield np.stack(batch_img, axis=0), np.stack(batc
         h_mask, axis=0)
                         batch_img, batch_mask = [], []
                 # If we have an nonempty batch left, yield it out and res
```

```
In [19]:
         from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split
         BATCHSIZE = 32
         # Split the data into a train and validation set
         train_img_paths, val_img_paths = train_test_split(train_img_path
         s, test_size=0.15)
         # Create the train and validation generators
         traingen = image_batch_generator(train_img_paths, batchsize=BATC
         HSIZE)
         valgen = image_batch_generator(val_img_paths, batchsize=BATCHSIZ
         E)
         def calc_steps(data_len, batchsize):
             return (data_len + batchsize - 1) // batchsize
         # Calculate the steps per epoch
         train_steps = calc_steps(len(train_img_paths), BATCHSIZE)
         val_steps = calc_steps(len(val_img_paths), BATCHSIZE)
         # Train the model
         history = model.fit_generator(
             traingen,
```

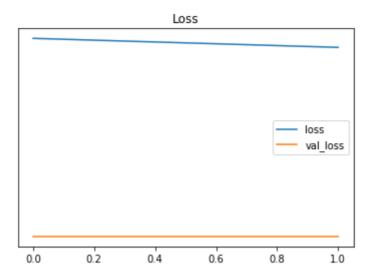
```
steps_per_epoch=train_steps,
  epochs=2, # Change this to a larger number to train for longe
r
  validation_data=valgen,
  validation_steps=val_steps,
  verbose=1,
  max_queue_size=5 # Change this number based on memory restri
ctions
)
```

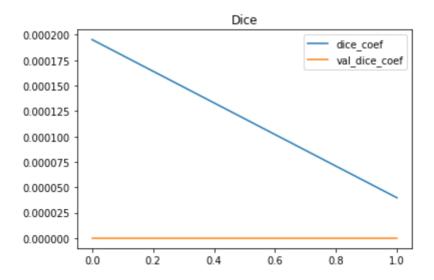
```
In [20]:
    import pandas as pd

# Plot the training curve
    pd.DataFrame(history.history)[['loss', 'val_loss']].plot(title=
        "Loss", logy=True)
    pd.DataFrame(history.history)[['dice_coef', 'val_dice_coef']].pl
    ot(title="Dice")
```

```
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot at 0x7f794da68780>
```

Out[20]:





### Did you find this Kernel useful? Show your appreciation with an upvote











### **Data Sources**

- ▼ COMP 540 Spring 2...
  - samp... 2169 x 2

  - - > 🗅 t... 21794 files
  - yal.zip
    - > 🗅 val 2169 files



## **COMP 540 Spring 2019**

Detect roads in satellite images

Last Updated: a month ago

### **About this Competition**

This dataset contains thousands of satellite images that cover a wide range of landscapes (forest, farms, country side, cities, arid landscapes, etc...). Each image covers roughly 16 acres of land in a 256 m by 256 m cube. Each image is of size 512 by 512 resulting in a pixel resolution of 50cm.

This dataset also contains a boolean mask for each satellite image that, when applied to the respective satellite image, reveals only "road" pixels. However, each mask has been segmented by hand which has many limitations. Therefore, some masks may label "road" pixels that are actually not "road" pixels or vice versa. Moreover, small farm roads and trails are not labeled as "road" pixels.

# File descriptions

- train.zip A zipped folder that contains the entire training set. The training set includes i\_sat.jpg as the satellite image i and i\_msk.png the respective boolean mask. The set includes 10,897 jpg satellite images and 10,897 mask images
- val.zip A zipped folder that contains the entire validation set (2,170 jpg satellite images) in the same format as the training set used for submitting predictions to the competition. There should be no overlap between the two sets
- train.csv The masks of the training set in Run Length Encoded (RLE) form. This data is entirely redundant to the png files found in train.zip but is offered as an example for how predicted masks will be submitted to Kaggle

### Run Info

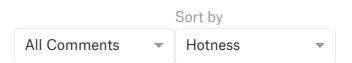
Succeeded	True	Run Time	1227.9 seconds
Exit Code	0	Queue Time	0 seconds
Docker Image Name	/python(Dockerfile)	Output Size	0
Timeout Exceeded	False	Used All Space	False
Failure Message			

Log Download Log

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```
Line # Log Message
Time
2.8s
           1 [NbConvertApp] Converting notebook __notebook__.ipynb to notebook
2.9s
             [NbConvertApp] Executing notebook with kernel: pvthon3
13.3s
           3 2019-02-13 20:25:36.298500: I
              tensorflow/stream executor/cuda/cuda gpu executor.cc:964
              successful NUMA node read from SvsFS had negative value (-1). but
              there must be at least one NUMA node, so returning NUMA node zero
13.3s
           4 2019-02-13 20:25:36.299098: I
              tensorflow/core/common_runtime/gpu/gpu_device.cc:1432 Found
              device 0 with properties:
              name: Tesla K80 major: 3 minor: 7 memoryClockRate(GHz): 0.8235
              pciBusID: 0000:00:04.0
              totalMemory: 11.17GiB freeMemory: 11.10GiB
              2019-02-13 20:25:36.299129: I
              tensorflow/core/common runtime/apu/apu device.cc:1511] Adding
              visible apu devices: 0
14.3s
           5 2019-02-13 20:25:37.229945: I
              tensorflow/core/common_runtime/gpu/gpu_device.cc:982] Device
              interconnect StreamExecutor with strength 1 edge matrix:
              2019-02-13 20:25:37.229997: I
                                                                         0
              tensorflow/core/common runtime/apu/apu device.cc:988]
              2019-02-13 20:25:37.230010: I
              tensorflow/core/common_runtime/qpu/qpu_device.cc:1001] 0:
14.3s
           6 2019-02-13 20:25:37.230401: I
              tensorflow/core/common runtime/apu/apu device.cc:1115 | Created
              TensorFlow device (/iob:localhost/replica:0/task:0/device:GPU:0
             with 10758 MB memory) -> physical GPU (device: 0, name: Tesla
              K80, pci bus id: 0000:00:04.0, compute capability: 3.7)
1225.2s
           7 [NbConvertApp] Writing 128684 bytes to __notebook__.ipynb
1227.1s
              [NbConvertApp] Converting notebook notebook .ipvnb to html
1227.5s
              [NbConvertApp] Support files will be in __results___files/
1227.5s
              [NbConvertApp] Making directory __results___files
               NbConvertApp | Making directory __results___files
               NbConvertApp | Making directory __results___files
              [NbConvertApp] Making directory __results___files
              [NbConvertApp] Writing 310496 bytes to __results__.html
1227.5s
         11
1227.5s
         13 Complete. Exited with code 0.
```

## Comments (6)





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AlanYu · Posted on Latest Version · 2 days ago · Options · Reply



I ran into the same issue here.



Zhenwei F... • Posted on Latest Version • a day ago • Options • Reply \( \cap 0 \)

Have you solved this problem?

l add one line of code mask = rgb2gray(mask) after mask =
resize(mask, img\_size, mode='constant',

preserve\_range=True) to resize mask image from (128, 128, 3) to (128, 128), then model can train successfully.

I am not sure if this is the right way to do it



AbhijeetM... Kernel Author

Posted on Latest Version • 6 hours ago • Options • Reply



The issue has to do with a change in implementation of loading a gray image in scikit-image from when I wrote this kernel, and what Kaggle uses now. @Zhenwei Feng, I think your fix is the best, but put it before the resize. If the Kernel ever seems broken, try more updated code from the 540 Recitations GitHub:

https://github.com/abhmul/540-term-project-recitations

**Zhenwei F...** • Posted on Latest Version • 5 hours ago • Options • Reply



25/28



Thanks a lot



Zhenwei Feng · Posted on Latest Version · 3 days ago · Options · Reply





I was following the sample code on my machine and I ran into a problem when training the model(history=model.fit\_generator raised an error). I didn't modify anything in the code. Keras version is 2.2.4 and tensorflow version is 1.12.0. What could be the problem? Thanks

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```
Traceback (most recent call last)
InvalidArgumentError
<ipython-input-11-9ae42154d3fc> in <module>()
    25 validation_steps=val_steps,
26 verbose=1,
          max_queue_size=5 # Change this number based on memory restrictions
    28 )
/usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages/keras/legacy/interfaces.py in wrapper(*args, ***kwargs)
89 warnings.warn('Update your `' + object_name + '` call to the ' +
                                  'Keras 2 API: ' + signature, stacklevel=2)
                 return func(*args, **kwargs)
    93
/usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages/keras/engine/training.py in fit_generator(self, generator, steps_per_epoch, epochs, verbose, callbacks, validation_data, validation_steps, class_weight, max_q use_multiprocessing=use_multiprocessing;
  1417
                 shuffle=shuffle,
initial_epoch=initial_epoch)
-> 1418
          @interfaces.legacy_generator_methods_support
  1420
/usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages/keras/engine/training_generator.py in fit_generator(model, generator, steps_per_epoch, epochs, verbose, callbacks, validation_data, validation_steps, class_we
                    --> 217
                                               class_weight=class_weight)
                     outs = to_list(outs)
   219
/usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages/keras/engine/training.py in train_on_batch(self, x, y, sample_weight, class_weight)
                  ins = x + v + sample weights
              outputs = self_train_function(ins)
-> 1217
              return unpack_singleton(outputs)
  1219
/usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages/keras/backend/tensorflow_backend.py in __call__(self, inputs)
                     return self._legacy_call(inputs)
-> 2715
                 return self._call(inputs)
  2717
                 if py_any(is_tensor(x) for x in inputs):
/usr/local/lib/python 3.6/dist-packages/keras/backend/tensorflow\_backend.py \ in \ \_call(self, \ inputs)
                  fetched = self._callable_fn(*array_vals, run_metadata=self.run_metadata)
                  fetched = self._callable_fn(*array_vals)
-> 2675
  2676
              return fetched[:len(self.outputs)]
  2677
/usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages/tensorflow/python/client/session.py in __call__(self, *args, **kwargs)
                    ret = tf_session.TF_SessionRunCallable(
   1438
                       self._session._session, self._handle, args, status,
-> 1439
                        run_metadata_ptr)
   1440
              if run_metadata:
   1441
                   proto_data = tf_session.TF_GetBuffer(run_metadata_ptr)
/usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages/tensorflow/python/framework/errors_impl.py in __exit__(self, type_arg, value_arg, traceback_arg)
                       compat.as text(c api.TF Message(self.status.status)),
--> 528
                      c api.TF GetCode(self.status.status))
            # Delete the underlying status object from memory otherwise it stays alive
    529
             # as there is a reference to status from this from the traceback due to
InvalidArgumentError: Incompatible shapes: [49152] vs. [16384]
           [[{{node loss_1/reshape_2_loss/mul_1}}]]
          [[{{node metrics_1/dice_coef/Mean}}]]
```

3 days ago

This Comment was deleted.

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