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SCIENCE

BACHELOR THESIS

# Static Sign-Language Recognition using RetinaNet

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## Abstract

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In the last three decades there have been significant contributions related to sign-language recognition. So it is imperative to continue contributing to this topic in order to improve how deaf-mute people interact with society. Many papers have been published presenting methods using either hand-colored gloves or using special devices such as Microsoft Kinect. In the real world, most of the time, devices like these are difficult to acquire. However, image streams and videos are more common means of procuring data from a user. In this work we present a real-time American-Sign-Language translator. In order to develop such a translator we employed Machine Learning techniques. Our model is based on transfer learning by using a pre-trained RetinaNet convolutional network and fine-tune using University of Massey dataset and an open source dataset found on github [6].

This work is the result of my own activity. I have neither given nor received unauthorized assistance on this work.

# Contents

<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1 Scientific Problem</b>	<b>2</b>
1.1 Problem definition . . . . .	2
<b>2 Related work</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3 Proposed approach</b>	<b>4</b>
3.1 Theoretical part . . . . .	4
3.1.1 Architecture . . . . .	4
3.1.2 The loss . . . . .	5
3.2 Application development . . . . .	5
<b>4 Application</b>	<b>6</b>
4.1 Methodology . . . . .	6
4.2 Dataset . . . . .	6
4.3 Results . . . . .	6
4.4 Discussion . . . . .	6
<b>5 Conclusion and future work</b>	<b>7</b>
5.1 Conclusion . . . . .	7
5.2 Future work . . . . .	7
<b>Bibliografy</b>	<b>8</b>

# Introduction

Absolventul va prezenta rezumativ tema tratată relativ la enunțul problemei, obiectivele urmărite, rolul aplicației și structura lucrării, precum și legătura dintre capitole.

Lucrarea de față oferă o vedere de ansamblu a ...

Capitolul 2 prezintă ...

În capitolul 3 sunt definite noțiunile de ...

Capitolul 4 prezintă ...

În capitolul 5 prezintă ...

Lucrarea se încheie cu concluzii și direcții de cercetare.

# Chapter 1

## Scientific Problem

### 1.1 Problem definition

The problem which we want to solve is of great importance to the deaf-mute community.

In the recent couple of decades there have been many contributions related to sign-language recognition. Most of this work is concentrated on hand-colored gloves and Microsoft Kinect. However, in real life, it would be much easier for the user to have a recognition system that only requires image streams.

Now, we have reduced the problem to classifying certain images in the stream. We proposed a solution for classifying fingerspelled letters in images, such that after doing this we would attempt to create sentences.

# Chapter 2

## Related work

Absolventul va prezenta clar partea aplicativ? a lucr?rii ?i metodologia de solu?ionare folosind elementele teoretice.

Se va specifica mediul de lucru, a facilit??ilor folosite ?n acest mediu, proiectarea aplica?iei, detalii de implementare, exemple de test sau rezultate sub forma unor studii de caz, modul de utilizare a programului prin prezentarea documenta?iei de utilizare. Va fi anexat ?n lucrare inclusive codul surs?.

Partea dezvolt?rii aplicative poate fi constituit? din mai multe capitole.

Referirea unei figuri 2.1.

Figure 2.1: Ciclul de dezvoltare al sistemelor bazate pe componente adaptat modelului cascad?

Referirea la Tabelul 2.1.

Nume algoritm	Toate solu?iile	Solu?ia optim?
Nume 1	20	5
Nume 2	20	2

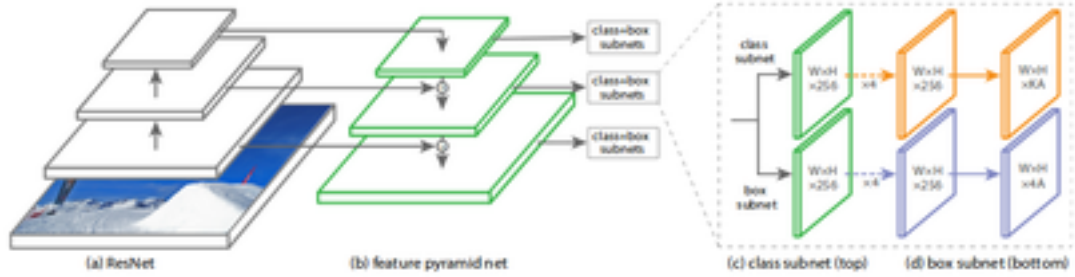
Table 2.1: Solu?ii ob?inute

# Chapter 3

## Proposed approach

### 3.1 Theoretical part

#### 3.1.1 Architecture



The model our work is based on is RetinaNet. RetinaNet is a one stage detector having a convolutional neural network as a feature extractor for the 2 task-subnetworks it has. The first CNN's backbone is based on a Feature Pyramid Network build on a forward Residual Network. The FPN generates rich multi-scale feature maps. In [7] it is emphasised that we can also extract relevant features and make predictions based on feature maps that are on layers inside the network. The pyramid usually has 7 levels. The 2 task-subnetworks are:

- The classification subnetwork is a FCN that appears on each level of the pyramid and tries to classify each anchor box and outputting a K-vector of probabilities for each class(meaning we have K classes).
- The box regression subnetwork has the same architecture (but different parameters) like the classification subnetwork only outputting a 4-vector representing the targets of the bounding box.



### 3.1.2 The loss

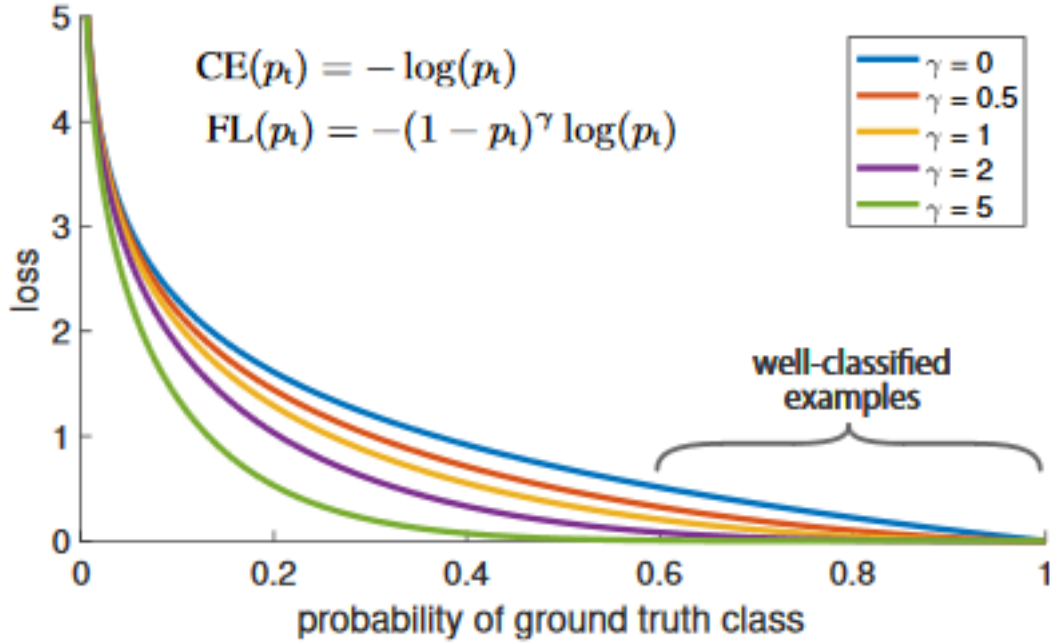


Figure 1. We propose a novel loss we term the *Focal Loss* that adds a factor  $(1 - p_t)^\gamma$  to the standard cross entropy criterion. Setting  $\gamma > 0$  reduces the relative loss for well-classified examples ( $p_t > .5$ ), putting more focus on hard, misclassified examples. As our experiments will demonstrate, the proposed focal loss enables training highly accurate dense object detectors in the presence of vast numbers of easy background examples.

Instead of the cross-entropy loss function we used a more novel loss function called the focal loss. The reason behind using focal loss is that (instead of using Online Hard Example Mining) the loss emphasises learning from hard examples. The focal loss function stands at the end of the classification FCN and applied to all 100k anchor boxes sampled from a single image.

## 3.2 Application development

# Chapter 4

## Application

### 4.1 Methodology

I am Lord Voldemort Absolventul va prezenta detaliat (pe baza document?rii bibliografice problematica tratat?: soiangioionoinegoioinoin oinegwonai

- ?ncadrarea temei ?ntr-una mai general?;
- trecerea ?n revist? a abord?rilor existente ale problemei cu marcarea avantajelor ?i dezavantajelor;
- descompunerea ?n subprobleme specifice ?i prezentarea modului de rezolvare.

### 4.2 Dataset

### 4.3 Results

### 4.4 Discussion

SCRIU AICI!!! Partea fundament?rii teoretice poate fi consituit? din mai multe capitole, ca de exemplu “Stadiul actual din domeniu/State of art/Literature Review” ?i “Modele teoretice ?i metode folosite/Research Method” ?i “Problem Statement”.

# Chapter 5

## Conclusion and future work

Absolventul va realiza o autoevaluare a rezultatelor prezentate (punctarea aspectelor originale, a avantajelor și limitelor soluțiilor oferite) și a eventualelor aspecte rămase nerezolvate,

În general se prezintă în următoarele subsecțiuni: Concluzii, Sumarul contribuțiilor, Direcții viitoare de cercetare.

### 5.1 Conclusion

### 5.2 Future work

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