

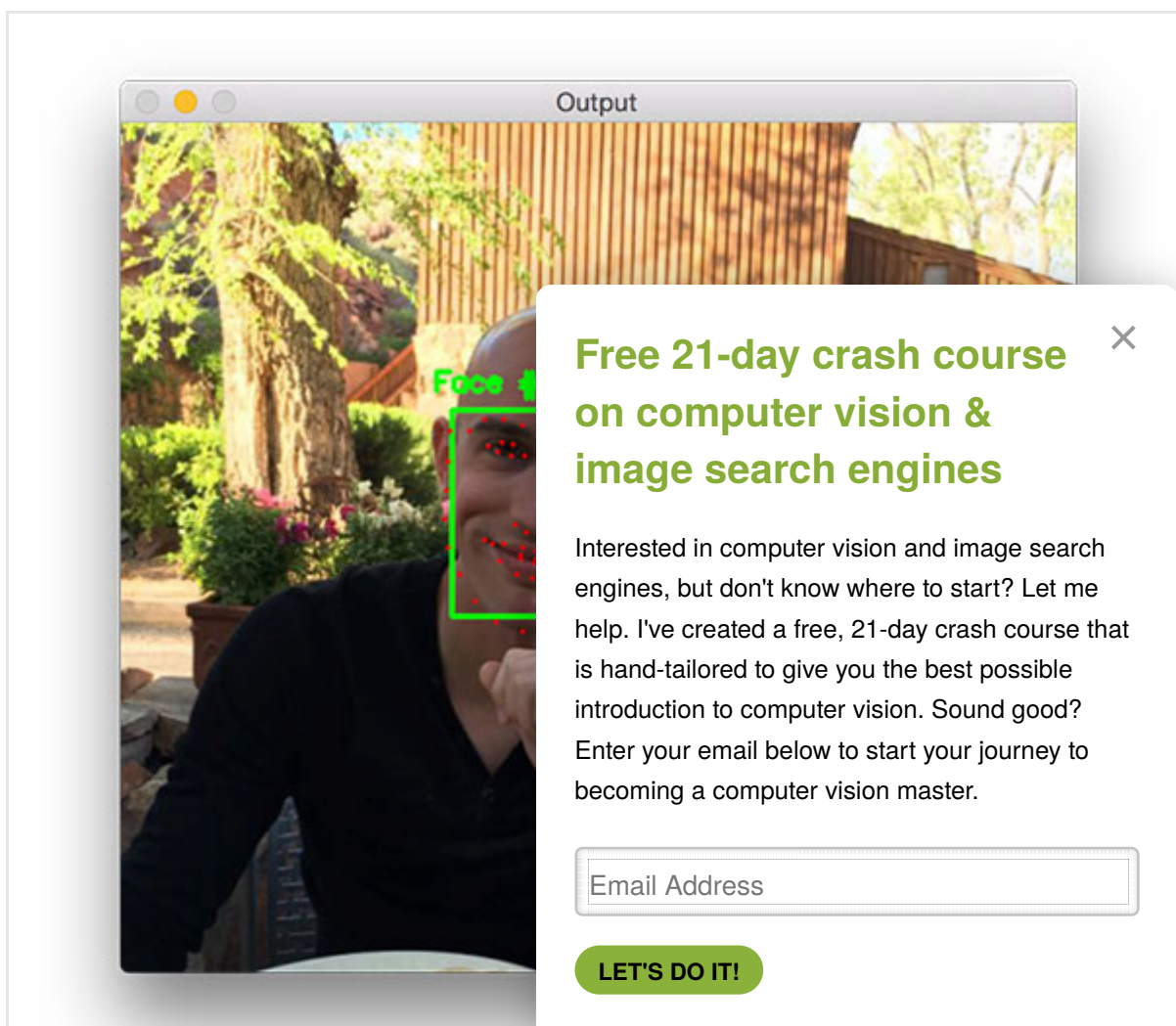


# Facial landmarks with dlib, OpenCV, and Python

by **Adrian Rosebrock** on April 3, 2017 in **dlib, Facial Landmarks, Libraries, Tutorials**



267



Last week we learned [how to install and configure dlib](#) on our system with Python bindings.

Today we are going to use dlib and OpenCV to detect **facial landmarks** in an image.

Facial landmarks are used to localize and represent salient regions of the face, such as:

- Eyes
- Eyebrows
- Nose
- Mouth
- Jawline

Facial landmarks have been successfully applied to face alignment, head pose estimation, face swapping, blink detection and much more.

In today's blog post we'll be focusing on the **basics of facial landmarks**, including:

1. Exactly *what* facial landmarks are and *how* they work.
2. How to detect and extract facial landmarks from an image using dlib, OpenCV, and Python.

In the next blog post in this series we'll take a look at how to use dlib to extract *specific* facial regions based on the landmarks.

To learn more about facial landmarks, jump to the section below.

**Looking for the source code?**  
[Jump right to the downloads](#)

## Facial landmarks with dlib

The first part of this blog post will discuss facial landmarks and their applications in computer vision applications.

From there, I'll demonstrate how to detect and extract facial landmarks using dlib and Python.

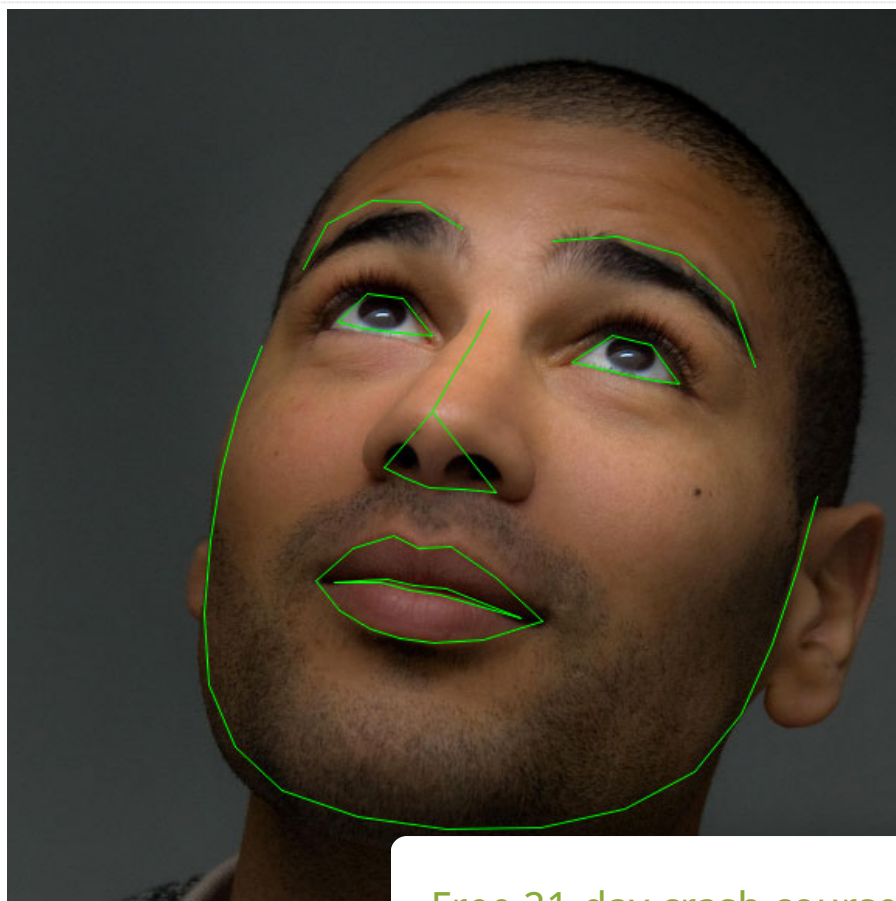
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Finally, we'll look at some results of applying facial landmark detection to images.

## What are facial landmarks?



**Figure 1:** Facial landmarks are used in computer vision to identify key points of interest on a face.

Detecting facial landmarks is a *subset* of the face detection process (and normally an ROI that specifies the object of interest is used to localize key points of interest along the shape).

In the context of facial landmarks, our goal is to identify key points of interest using shape prediction methods.

Detecting facial landmarks is therefore a two-step process:

- **Step #1:** Localize the face in the image
- **Step #2:** Detect the key facial structures

Face detection (Step #1) can be achieved in a number of ways:

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We could use OpenCV's built-in Haar cascades.

We might apply a pre-trained [HOG + Linear SVM object detector](#) specifically for the task of face detection.

Or we might even use deep learning-based algorithms for face localization.

In either case, the actual algorithm used to detect the face in the image doesn't matter. Instead, what's important is that through some method we obtain the face bounding box (i.e., the  $(x, y)$ -coordinates of the face in the image).

Given the face region we can then apply **Step #2: detecting key facial structures in the face region**.

There are a variety of facial landmark detectors, but all methods essentially try to localize and label the following facial regions:

- Mouth
- Right eyebrow
- Left eyebrow
- Right eye
- Left eye
- Nose
- Jaw

The facial landmark detector included in the [Millisecond Face Alignment with an Ensemble](#) Sullivan (2014).

This method starts by using:

1. A training set of labeled facial landmarks, specifying **specific**  $(x, y)$ -coordinates
2. *Priors*, of more specifically, the *probabilities*

Given this training data, an ensemble of regression models is trained to predict the landmark positions directly from the *pixel intensities* (i.e., the *features* being taken place).

The end result is a facial landmark detector that can detect faces **in real-time** with **high quality predictions**.

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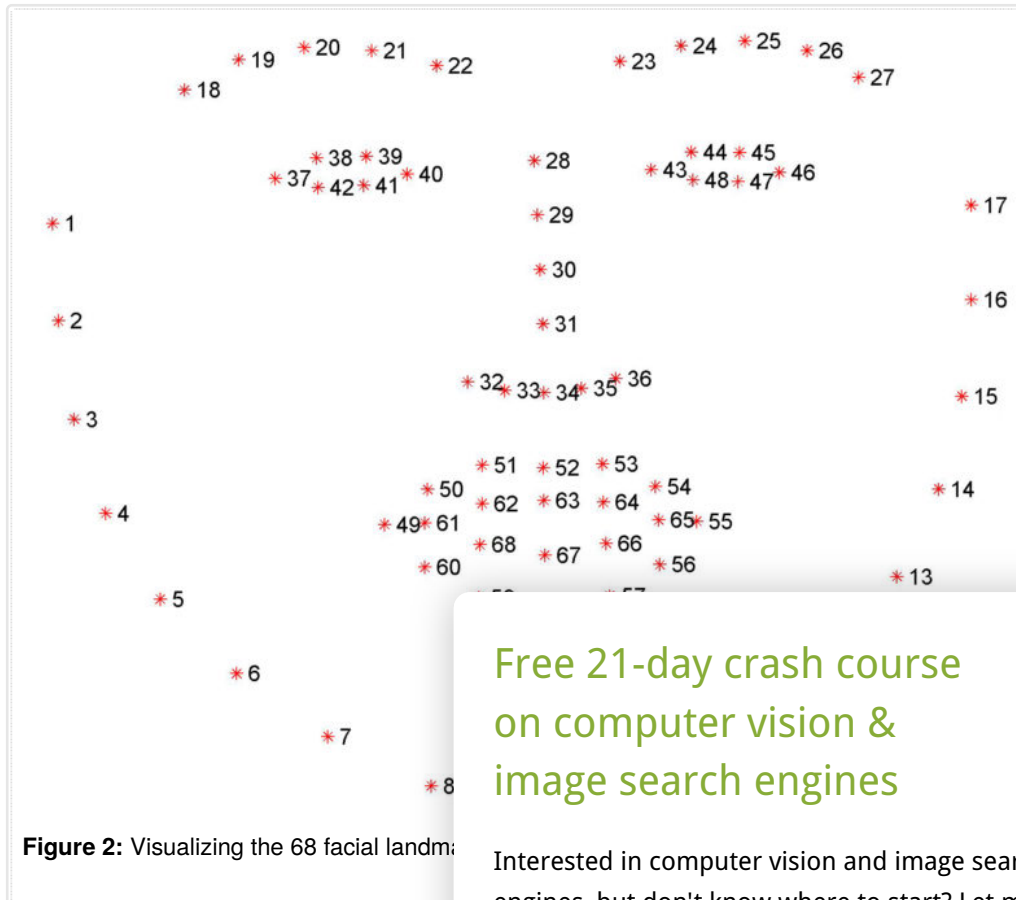
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For more information and details on this specific technique, be sure to read the paper by Kazemi and Sullivan linked to above, along with the [official dlib announcement](#).

## Understanding dlib's facial landmark detector

The pre-trained facial landmark detector inside the dlib library is used to estimate the location of **68 (x, y)-coordinates** that map to facial structures on the face.

The indexes of the 68 coordinates can be visualized on the image below:



These annotations are part of the 68 point predictor was trained on.

It's important to note that other flavors of face shape predictor model that can be trained on the [HEL](#)

Regardless of which dataset is used, the shape predictor on the input training data – landmark detectors or custom shape predictor

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In the remaining of this blog post I'll demonstrate how to detect these facial landmarks in images.

Future blog posts in this series will use these facial landmarks to extract *specific* regions of the face, apply face alignment, and even build a blink detection system.

## Detecting facial landmarks with dlib, OpenCV, and Python

In order to prepare for this series of blog posts on facial landmarks, I've added a few convenience functions to my [imutils library](#), specifically [inside face\\_utils.py](#).

We'll be reviewing two of these functions inside [face\\_utils.py](#) now and the remaining ones next week.

The first utility function is [rect\\_to\\_bb](#), short for "rectangle to bounding box":

Facial landmarks with dlib, OpenCV, and Python	Python
<pre>18 def rect_to_bb(rect): 19     # take a bounding predicted by dlib and convert it 20     # to the format (x, y, w, h) as we would normally do 21     # with OpenCV 22     x = rect.left() 23     y = rect.top() 24     w = rect.right() - x 25     h = rect.bottom() - y 26 27     # return a tuple of (x, y, w, h) 28     return (x, y, w, h)</pre>	

This function accepts a single argument, [rect](#), a rectangle produced by a dlib detector (i.e.,

The [rect](#) object includes the (x, y)-coord

However, in OpenCV, we normally think of [rect](#) as a matter of convenience, the [rect\\_to\\_bb](#) function converts it into a 4-tuple of coordinates.

Again, this is simply a matter of convenience

Secondly, we have the [shape\\_to\\_np](#) function

Facial landmarks with dlib, OpenCV, and Python
<pre>30 def shape_to_np(shape, dtype="int"): 31     # initialize the list of (x, y) coordinates 32     coords = np.zeros((68, 2), dtype=dtype) 33     for (i, (x, y)) in enumerate(shape):</pre>

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```

34     # loop over the 68 facial landmarks and convert them
35     # to a 2-tuple of (x, y)-coordinates
36     for i in range(0, 68):
37         coords[i] = (shape.part(i).x, shape.part(i).y)
38
39     # return the list of (x, y)-coordinates
40     return coords

```

The dlib face landmark detector will return a `shape` object containing the 68 (x, y)-coordinates of the facial landmark regions.

Using the `shape_to_np` function, we can convert this object to a NumPy array, allowing it to “play nicer” with our Python code.

Given these two helper functions, we are now ready to detect facial landmarks in images.

Open up a new file, name it `facial_landmarks.py`, and insert the following code:

Facial landmarks with dlib, OpenCV, and Python	Python
<pre> 1  # import the necessary packages 2  from imutils import face_utils 3  import numpy as np 4  import argparse 5  import imutils 6  import dlib 7  import cv2 8 9  # construct the argument parser and parse the arguments 10 ap = argparse.ArgumentParser() 11 ap.add_argument("-p", "--shape-predictor", required=True, 12                 help="path to facial landmark predictor") 13 ap.add_argument("-i", "--image", required=True, help="path to input image") 14 15 args = vars(ap.parse_args()) </pre>	

**Lines 2-7** import our required Python packages.

We'll be using the `face_utils` submodule from `imutils`, as detailed above.

We'll then import `dlib`. If you don't already have it, follow the instructions in my previous blog post to install it.

**Lines 10-15** parse our command line arguments.

- `--shape-predictor` : This is the path to the facial landmark predictor model. You can download the detector model [here](#).
- `--image` : The path to the input image.

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Now that our imports and command line arguments are taken care of, let's initialize dlib's face detector and facial landmark predictor:

Facial landmarks with dlib, OpenCV, and Python	Python
<pre>17 # initialize dlib's face detector (HOG-based) and then create 18 # the facial landmark predictor 19 detector = dlib.get_frontal_face_detector() 20 predictor = dlib.shape_predictor(args["shape_predictor"])</pre>	

**Line 19** initializes dlib's pre-trained face detector based on a modification to the standard [Histogram of Oriented Gradients + Linear SVM method](#) for object detection.

**Line 20** then loads the facial landmark predictor using the path to the supplied `--shape-predictor` .

But before we can actually detect facial landmarks, we first need to detect the face in our input image:

Facial landmarks with dlib, OpenCV, and Python	Python
<pre>22 # load the input image, resize it, and convert it to grayscale 23 image = cv2.imread(args["image"]) 24 image = imutils.resize(image, width=500) 25 gray = cv2.cvtColor(image, cv2.COLOR_BGR2GRAY) 26 27 # detect faces in the grayscale image 28 rects = detector(gray, 1)</pre>	

**Line 23** loads our input image from disk via OpenCV. then pre-processes the image by resizing to have a width of 500 pixels and converting

**Line 28** handles detecting the bounding bo

The first parameter to the `detector` is our (this it times on the image).

The second parameter is the number of im

The benefit of increasing the resolution of t allow us to detect *more* faces in the image the more computaitonally expensive the de

Given the (x, y)-coordinates of the faces in detection to each of the face regions:

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Facial landmarks with dlib, OpenCV, and Python	Python
<pre> 30 # loop over the face detections 31 for (i, rect) in enumerate(rects): 32     # determine the facial landmarks for the face region, then 33     # convert the facial landmark (x, y)-coordinates to a NumPy 34     # array 35     shape = predictor(gray, rect) 36     shape = face_utils.shape_to_np(shape) 37 38     # convert dlib's rectangle to a OpenCV-style bounding box 39     # [i.e., (x, y, w, h)], then draw the face bounding box 40     (x, y, w, h) = face_utils.rect_to_bb(rect) 41     cv2.rectangle(image, (x, y), (x + w, y + h), (0, 255, 0), 2) 42 43     # show the face number 44     cv2.putText(image, "Face #{}".format(i + 1), (x - 10, y - 10), 45                 cv2.FONT_HERSHEY_SIMPLEX, 0.5, (0, 255, 0), 2) 46 47     # loop over the (x, y)-coordinates for the facial landmarks 48     # and draw them on the image 49     for (x, y) in shape: 50         cv2.circle(image, (x, y), 1, (0, 0, 255), -1) 51 52 # show the output image with the face detections + facial landmarks 53 cv2.imshow("Output", image) 54 cv2.waitKey(0) </pre>	

We start looping over each of the face detections on **Line 31**.

For each of the face detections, we apply facial landmark detection on **Line 35**, giving us the 68 (x, y)-coordinates that map to the specific facial features in the image.

**Line 36** then converts the dlib `shape` object

**Lines 40 and 41** draw the bounding box surrounding the face while **Lines 44 and 45** draw the index of the

Finally, **Lines 49 and 50** loop over the detected facial landmarks individually.

**Lines 53 and 54** simply display the output image.

## Facial landmark visualizations

Before we test our facial landmark detector, we need to install `imutils` which includes the `face_utils` module.

Facial landmarks with dlib, OpenCV, and Python
<pre> 1 \$ pip install --upgrade imutils </pre>

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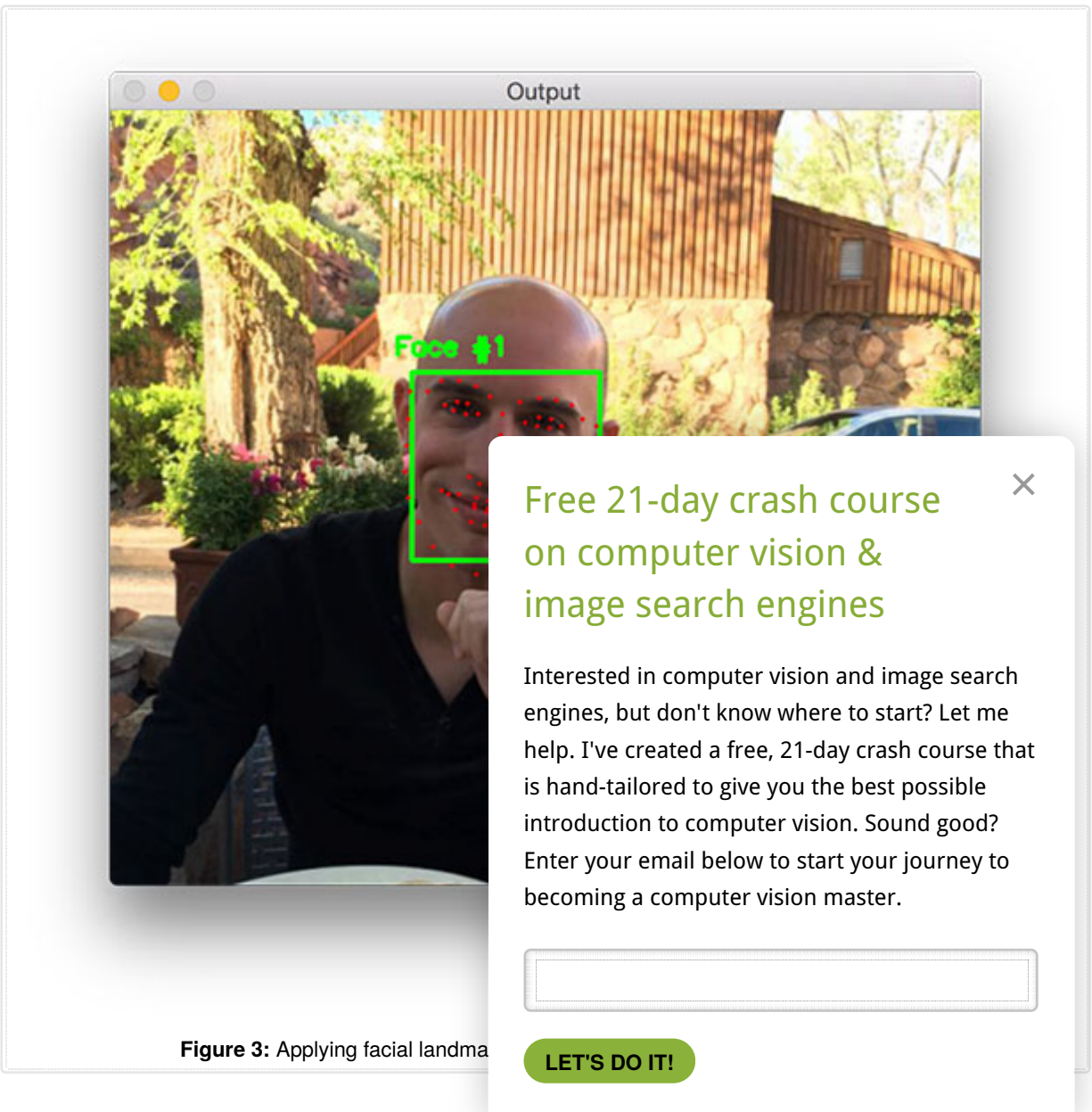
LET'S DO IT!

**Note:** If you are using Python virtual environments, make sure you upgrade the `imutils` inside the virtual environment.

From there, use the “**Downloads**” section of this guide to download the source code, example images, and pre-trained dlib facial landmark detector.

Once you’ve downloaded the .zip archive, unzip it, change directory to `facial-landmarks` , and execute the following command:

```
Facial landmarks with dlib, OpenCV, and Python Shell
1 $ python facial_landmarks.py --shape-predictor shape_predictor_68_face_landmarks.dat
2   --image images/example_01.jpg
```



Notice how the bounding box of my face is drawn in *green* while each of the individual facial landmarks are drawn in *red*.

The same is true for this second example image:

```
Facial landmarks with dlib, OpenCV, and Python Shell  
1 $ python facial_landmarks.py --shape-predictor shape_predictor_68_face_landmarks.dat  
2   --image images/example_02.jpg
```

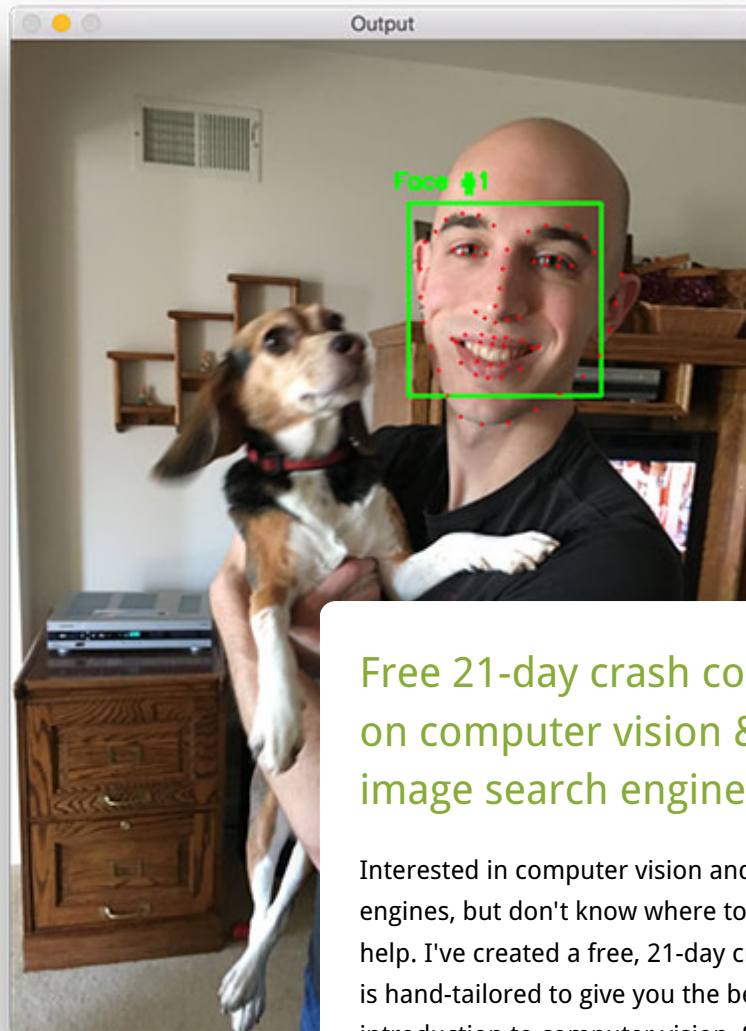


Figure 4: Fa

Here we can clearly see that the red circles jawline, mouth, nose, eyes, and eyebrows.

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Let's take a look at one final example, this time with multiple people in the image:

```
Facial landmarks with dlib, OpenCV, and Python Shell  
1 $ python facial_landmarks.py --shape-predictor shape_predictor_68_face_landmarks.dat  
2   --image images/example_03.jpg
```

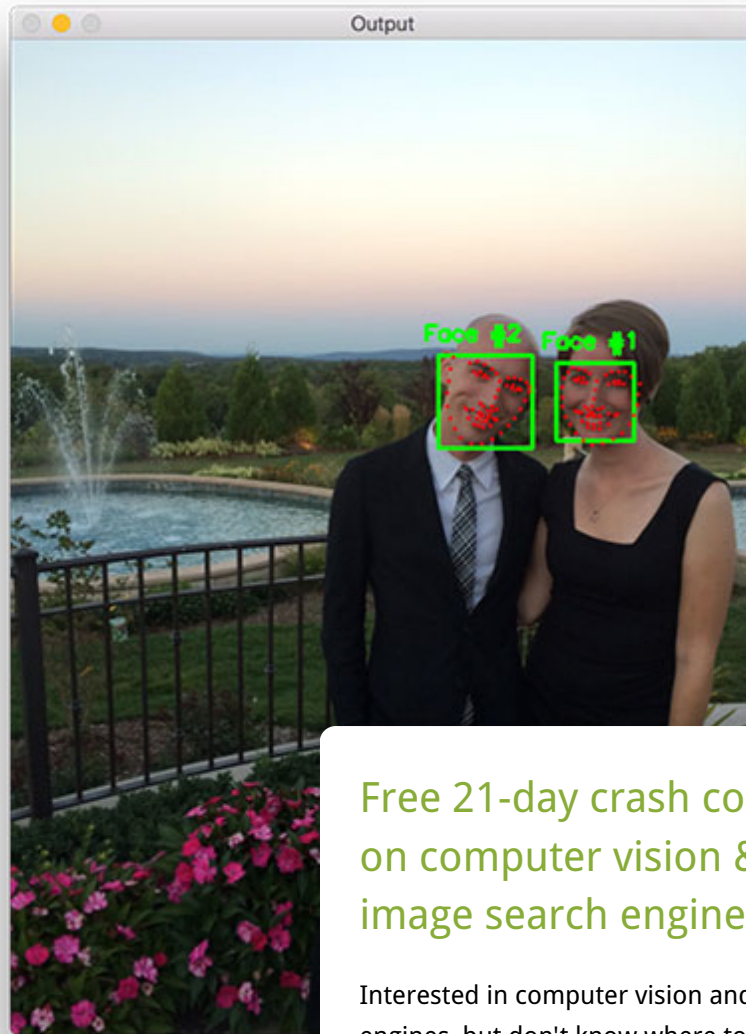


Figure 5: Detecting facial landmarks

For both people in the image (myself and T...  
but also *annotated* via facial landmarks as

## Summary

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LET'S DO IT!

In today's blog post we learned what facial landmarks are and how to detect them using dlib, OpenCV, and Python.

Detecting facial landmarks in an image is a two step process:

1. First we must localize a face(s) in an image. This can be accomplished using a number of different techniques, but normally involve either Haar cascades or HOG + Linear SVM detectors (but any approach that produces a bounding box around the face will suffice).
2. Apply the shape predictor, specifically a facial landmark detector, to obtain the (x, y)-coordinates of the face regions in the face ROI.

Given these facial landmarks we can apply a number of computer vision techniques, including:

- Face part extraction (i.e., nose, eyes, mouth, jawline, etc.)
- Facial alignment
- Head pose estimation
- Face swapping
- Blink detection
- ...and much more!

In next week's blog post I'll be demonstrating how to access each of the face parts *individually* and extract the eyes, eyebrows, nose, mouth, and jawline features simply by using a bit of NumPy array slicing magic.

To be notified when this next blog post is published, enter your email address in the form below!

## Downloads:



If you would like to download the code for this blog post, enter your email address below. If you enter the code, I'll also send you a free PDF of my book, *Computer Vision and Image Search Engines*, and I'll send you **techniques** that I don't teach in the book. Enter your email address and I'll send you the code and the book.

**Email address:**

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# Image Search Engine Resource Guide

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*Adrian Rosebrock*



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Detect eyes, nose, lips, and jaw with dlib, OpenCV, and Python >

## 126 Responses to *Facial landmarks with dlib, OpenCV, and Python*



**Anto** April 3, 2017 at 11:24 am #

Superrrrrrbbbbbbbbb blog .search  
explained.looking forward for face recongn  
go ahead soon..!!!!  
awesome blog....!!!!!!



Adrian Rosebrock April 3, 20

Thanks Anto!



**elliott** August 20, 2017 at 3:06

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--

## LET'S DO IT!

REPLY ↩



thanks for providing such nice code and helping people.  
Can you please guide me how to save extracted landmarks in .mat file so i could use it in matlab.  
thanks



**Adrian Rosebrock** August 21, 2017 at 3:41 pm #

REPLY ↩

You should be able to use the [savemat function in SciPy](#).



**Jaechang Shim** June 6, 2017 at 3:15 am #

REPLY ↩

It's great!! Working very well, Thanks a lot!!



**Danny** April 3, 2017 at 3:51 pm #

REPLY ↩

Thank you so much Adrian!!



**Mário** April 3, 2017 at 8:37 pm #

Very good job Adrian.  
All of your explanation are very useful.  
This one, in special, is very important for me.  
Thank you a lot!!!



**Adrian Rosebrock** April 5, 2017 at 10:10 pm #

Thank you Mário! 😊 I wish you all the best!



**Abkul Orto** April 4, 2017 at 4:47 am #

This is a clear, clean, and EXCEL

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REPLY ↩

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Any plan to include this concept and the Deep learning version of training and implementation in your up coming Deep learning book?



**Adrian Rosebrock** April 5, 2017 at 12:01 pm #

REPLY ↩

Thanks Abkul, I'm glad you enjoyed the tutorial!

I don't plan on covering how to train custom facial landmark detectors via deep learning inside Deep Learning for Computer Vision with Python, but I will consider it for a future tutorial.



**Dimitri** April 4, 2017 at 6:33 am #

REPLY ↩

This blog is a goldmine. Thank you so much for writing this.



**Adrian Rosebrock** April 5, 2017 at 12:00 pm #

REPLY ↩

I'm glad you're enjoying the blog Dimitri, I'm happy to share 😊



**Thimira Amaratunga** April 4, 2017

Hi Adrian,

This is a great article. Cant wait for next week's article to read it individually.

After some experimenting (and with your help) I was able to extract facial features. Here is the method I used, <http://www.codesofinterest.com/2017/04/extracting-facial-features-with-dlib-opencv-and-python/>

Undoubtedly, this method I used could use some improvements. So, waiting for your article 😊

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REPLY ↩



**Adrian Rosebrock** April 5, 2017

Nice job Thimira. The method I will demonstrate in next week's blog post is similar, but uses the face\_utils sub-module of imutils for convenience. I'll also be demonstrating how to draw semi-transparent overlays for each region of the face.



**Thimira Amaratunga** April 5, 2017 at 12:53 pm #

REPLY ↩

Awesome! can't wait for next weeks post 😊



**Neeraj Kumar** April 4, 2017 at 2:58 pm #

REPLY ↩

Hey Adrian,

I have already configured dlib with your previous week blog and now when i am trying to run "python facial\_landmarks.py --shape-predictor shape\_predictor\_68\_face\_landmarks.dat --image images/example\_01.jpg" command my ubuntu terminal is showing error "python: can't open file 'facial\_landmarks.py': [Errno 2] no such file or directory".

PS : I have already downloaded your code and files and i am running my code inside that 'facial-landmarks' folder. All the files are present as well.



**Neeraj Kumar** April 4, 2017 at 3:13 pm #

Dear Adrian,

Fixed the previous issue by providing the full path.

Thanks and Regards

Neeraj Kumar



**Rehan Shaikh** September 4, 2017 at 10:10 am #

How did you managed to remove the error?  
Where do we have to specify the path?



**Neeraj Kumar** April 4, 2017 at 3:25 pm #

REPLY ↩

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Dear Adrian,

I tried working for side faces but its not working, can you please guide what can be the possibilities for side face landmark detection and yes i was also trying working on your example\_02.jpg there imutils.resize() method was giving some error.

Attribute error : 'NoneType' object has no attribute 'shape'.

Thanks and Regards

Neeraj Kumar



**Adrian Rosebrock** April 5, 2017 at 11:56 am #

REPLY ↩

If you're getting a "NoneType" error it's because you supplied an invalid path to the input image. You can read more about NoneType errors in [this blog post](#).



**Neeraj Kumar** April 7, 2017 at 6:02 am #

REPLY ↩

Fixed Buddy. Thanks a ton.

can you please help me out with – how can i detect landmarks in video and compare with existing dataset of images.



**Adrian Rosebrock**

I will be discussing la  
blog post.

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**Manh Nguyen** April 5, 2017 at 2:01 a

I hope next post you can use infra



**Adrian Rosebrock** April 5, 2017 at 11:49 am #

REPLY ↩

I don't have any plans right now to cover IR cameras, but I'll add it to my potential list of topics to cover.



**Sachin** April 5, 2017 at 3:57 am #

REPLY ↩

Nice article Adrian! Btw shouldn't the shape points in Figure 2 be 0 based?



**Adrian Rosebrock** April 5, 2017 at 11:49 am #

REPLY ↩

Figure 2 was provided by the creators of the iBUG dataset. They likely used MATLAB which is 1-indexed rather than 0-indexed.



**Oli** April 6, 2017 at 4:06 am #

REPLY ↩

I also came across this. I have created an image and printed the index numbers as they are with dlib and python here: <http://cvdrone.de/dlib-facial-landmark-detection.html>



**Parag Jain** April 5, 2017 at 10:47 am #

Isn't Independent Component Analysis that approach different from this? Advantage



**Mansoor** April 5, 2017 at 11:30 am #

Adrian, i'm a huge fan! i don't know  
I don't know but i am having trouble running  
contain face\_utils. I think it is not upgrading

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**Adrian Rosebrock** April 5, 2017 at 11:46 am #

REPLY ↩



Make sure you run:

```
$ pip install --upgrade imutils
```

To make sure you have the latest version of imutils installed. You can check which version is installed via pip freeze



**addouch** April 6, 2017 at 3:23 pm #

REPLY ↩

amazing adrian

I hope next time to show us how to recognize emotions on image



**Adrian Rosebrock** April 8, 2017 at 12:54 pm #

REPLY ↩

I won't be using facial landmarks to recognize emotions, but I do cover how to recognize emotions via deep learning inside [Deep Learning for Computer Vision with Python](#).



**tony** April 6, 2017 at 3:53 pm #

Hi Adrian ,thanks for this great post  
how dlib eye landmarks can be used to detect



**Adrian Rosebrock** April 8, 2017 at 12:54 pm #

Hi Tony — I'll be covering how to use dlib in the next two weeks. Stay tuned!



**bumbu** April 10, 2017 at 8:59 am #

May we have a tutorial about applying

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REPLY ↩

LET'S DO IT!

classify some dataset, thanks sir, you are super!!!



**Adrian Rosebrock** April 12, 2017 at 1:17 pm #

REPLY ↩

I demonstrate how to use Keras for deep learning applied to MNIST in [this post](#). I'll also be discussing deep learning applied to custom datasets in lots of detail in my upcoming book, [Deep Learning for Computer Vision with Python](#).



**Rijul Paul** April 24, 2017 at 4:38 am #

REPLY ↩

Hey Adrian, thanks for this blog post. Is there a way so that we can create our own custom shape predictor?



**Adrian Rosebrock** April 24, 2017 at 9:32 am #

REPLY ↩

Yes, but you will have to use the dlib library + custom C++ code to train the custom shape predictor.



**Benu** April 27, 2017 at 6:14 am #

I've tried my best to play with the predictor, but the result is never as close as shape\_predictor\_v9.dat. I have custom data of face similar to that of ibug.



**wiem** April 28, 2017 at 5:37 am #

Hi Adrian,  
I'm following your post about Facial landmarks. It's amazing. Thank you a lot for such helpful advice on facial landmarks in a file! So that I'm asking you how to do it.  
Thank you

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**Adrian Rosebrock** April 28, 2017 at 9:13 am #

REPLY ↩

Sure, that's absolutely possible. I would use pickle for this:

```
1 f = open("landmarks.pickle", "wb")
2 f = write(pickle.dumps(shape))
3 f.close()
```

Python

This will save the NumPy array shape which contains the (x, y)-coordinates for each facial landmark to disk.



**Yang** April 29, 2017 at 6:53 am #

REPLY ↩

Hello, Adrian ,the blog is very useful, thanks for this great blog.



**Adrian Rosebrock** May 1, 2017 at 1:39 pm #

REPLY ↩

Thank you Yang!



**Ameer** May 7, 2017 at 4:59 pm #

Hello Adrian

I was wondering if you did any tut. on face  
thanks



**Adrian Rosebrock** May 8, 2017 at 1:39 pm #

Hi Ameer — I'll be doing a blog post on face



**pravallika** May 16, 2017 at 6:03 am #

hey adrian,

i am trying to achieve real-time face – reco

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REPLY ↩

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code with the `.compute_face_descriptor(frame, shape)` it gives an error that the arguments are not based on c++.please give me a solution sir



**wiem** May 16, 2017 at 6:42 am #

REPLY ↩

Hi Adrian ,

Thanks a lot for your explanation. It is very useful. However I'm newer in python and I'm trying to save those face landmarks in matrix so I can manipulate them instead of the original image.

Would you give me some suggestion. How can I do such thing ?

Thank you Adrian



**Adrian Rosebrock** May 17, 2017 at 9:59 am #

REPLY ↩

Once you have the shape representing the facial landmarks you can save them to disk via JSON, pickle, HDF5, etc. I would recommend pickle if you are new to Python. I would also suggest working through [Practical Python and OpenCV](#) so you can learn the fundamentals of computer vision and OpenCV.



**Samuel** May 17, 2017 at 3:35 pm #

REPLY ↩

Hello, i see you used dlib face/obj dlib.rectangle object to bounding values like draw rectangle, but my problem is i need to and correct me if i am wrong there i need to detector require this rectangle, but i cant find object, "[ (386, 486) (461, 561) ]" this sample doesnt, i cant event find out that while i was more than 4 hours and with no result, is this impossible?



**Adrian Rosebrock** May 18, 2017 at 10:00 am #

I will look into this and see what

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**Vikram Voleti** June 30, 2017 at 11:43 am #

REPLY ↩

You can (sort of) implement `bb_to_rect` on your own. I wanted to do the same, and figured it out after some probing:

For example, if you want to align an image called "frame" whose face you have already detected as a rectangle with (x, y, w, h) values known, you can do it thus:

```
fa.align(frame, frame, dlib.rectangle(int(x), int(y), int(x + w), int(y + h)))
```

Here, I used a BGR image as "frame", I had used

```
(x, y, w, h) = faceCascade.detectMultiScale(frame, scaleFactor=1.1, minNeighbors=5)
```

to detect face rectangle, having already defined `faceCascade` as:

```
faceCascade = cv2.CascadeClassifier('haarcascade_frontalface_default.xml')
```



**Adrian Rosebrock** July 5, 2017 at 6:38 am #

REPLY ↩

Thanks for sharing Vikram!



**Sai kumar** May 23, 2017 at 2:32 am #

REPLY ↩

Hi,

I am student of you rather than saying a hu  
I have a small doubt we are getting coordin  
If i want only a specific points in landmarks  
like

Nose tip

Left-eye left corner

Right-eye right corner

Corner of lips

These points required to estimate the pose

Please help me this

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REPLY ↩

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**Adrian Rosebrock** May 25, 2017 at 10:10 am #

If you want only specific facial

which discusses the indexes of each of the facial landmark points (and how to extract them).



**jvf** May 23, 2017 at 6:28 pm #

REPLY ↩

I decide to run your program again.

```
python '/home/.../facial_landmarks.py' --shape-predictor '/home/.../shape_predictor_68_face_landmarks.dat' --image '/home/.../30.jpg'
```

I have the error again. Now python see this dat file but I have the error anyway:

Error

Illegal instruction (core dumped)

What can I do?



**Adrian Rosebrock** May 25, 2017 at 4:23 am #

REPLY ↩

It's hard to say what the exact error is without having physical access to your machine, but I think the issue is that you may have compiled the dlib library against a different Python version than you are importing it into. Are you using Python virtual environments?



**jvf** June 1, 2017 at 3:37 pm #

Yes, I use virtual environments. I still get this error.

I have error in this line:

```
rects = detector(gray,1)
```

Output:

Illegal instruction (core dumped)

What can I do to solve this problem?

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**Adrian Rosebrock**

REPLY ↩



It sounds like you might have compiled dlib against a different version of Python than you are importing it into. Try uninstalling and re-installing dlib, taking care to ensure the same Python version is being used.



**Jon** May 25, 2017 at 4:43 pm #

REPLY ↩

Fantastic stuff. Thanks for all you've done!

I am doing face detection / recognition on IR images. This means I cannot use the standard features for detection or recognition. I am trying to build my own detector using the dlib "train\_object\_detector.py" and it is working really well – mostly.

I have a training set that are faces of one size and the detector is getting faces of similar sizes but completely missing smaller face images.

So my question is how does the system work to detect faces of different sizes. Do you need to have training samples of all the sizes that you expect to be finding? Or does the system take in the training images and resize them?

If you could clarify how this process works and what kind of training set I need and how it works to find faces of different sizes, I would really appreciate it. I have the recognizer working well, I just need to find the faces.

I am using the python dlib, specifically:

[http://dlib.net/train\\_object\\_detector.py.html](http://dlib.net/train_object_detector.py.html)

Thank you, Jon Hauris



**Adrian Rosebrock** May 28, 2017 at 1:11 pm #

HOG-based object detectors are trained on the objects across the dataset have the same size. So you don't need to worry about the size of the objects. You can scale during training and then image pyramids for testing images.



**Moises Rocha** May 30, 2017 at 2:21 pm #

Good afternoon, your tutorials are

I am developing a code for facial recognition

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REPLY ↩

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precision.

To get faster I made 37 proportions based on 12 points. But the variation of the face angle also varies the result. I'm limiting the angle 5 degrees to each side horizontally. I will now try to record the proportions for each angle ie a series of frames for the same face. Thus the comparison would be between several faces at the same angle.

If you can give me a light, I thank you.



**mux** June 1, 2017 at 10:25 am #

REPLY ↩

Hi,

I got this error when trying to run your code:

```
usage: facial_landmarks.py [-h] -p SHAPE_PREDICTOR -i IMAGE
facial_landmarks.py: error: argument -p/--shape-predictor is required
An exception has occurred, use %tb to see the full traceback.
```

Can you help me please! thank you



**Adrian Rosebrock** June 4, 2017 at 6:23 am #

REPLY ↩

Please read up on [command line arguments](#) before continuing. You need to supply the command line arguments to



**Jack han** June 2, 2017 at 5:02 am #

How to open shape\_predictor\_68\_



**Adrian Rosebrock** June 4, 2017 at 6:23 am #

I'm not sure what you mean b  
section of this blog post to download th  
file.

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REPLY ↩



**Jack han** June 7, 2017 at 5:37 am #

Hi , Adrian. How to train shape\_predictor\_68\_landmarks model?And do you have train demo?It's perfect to have directions to train model.I want to train my model.Thanks!



**Adrian Rosebrock** June 9, 2017 at 1:51 pm #

REPLY ↩

I don't have any demos of this, but you would need to refer to the [dlib documentation](#) on training a custom shape predictor.



**Mayank** June 6, 2017 at 10:30 pm #

REPLY ↩

Great article, thank you for you efforts.

Is there any way by which i can get more than 68 points of facial landmark. I see some paper mentioning 83 points or more. Is there any library that can help me find some points on forehead ? I am trying to find golden ratio for a face to score it. Thanks!



**Adrian Rosebrock** June 9, 2017 at 1:51 pm #

You would need to train your own dataset. The pre-trained facial landmark predictor dataset comes to mind as a good start.



**Caroline Wang** September 20, 2017 at 10:30 pm #

Hi Mayank,

I'm facing the same issue! Would like to know if you have found any solution?

Thanks!

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REPLY ↩



**shravankumar** June 12, 2017 at 1:30 pm #



Hey Chief,

Thank you so much. the post is so clear and works super cool.



**Raziye** June 20, 2017 at 8:09 pm #

REPLY ↩

Hi, do you have MATLAB or c++ code for your work? I try that use your code but I could not and I could not solve its error.  
Thanks a lot



**Adrian Rosebrock** June 22, 2017 at 9:34 am #

REPLY ↩

I only provide Python code here on the PyImageSearch blog. I do not have any MATLAB or C++ code.



**SathyaNK** June 23, 2017 at 6:39 am #

REPLY ↩

Hi adrian...I'm having problem with the argument constructor, after giving the path to predictor and image when this line "args = vars(ap.parse\_args())" is executed in ipython console it is giving this error

```
In [46]: args = vars(ap.parse_args())
usage: ipython [-h] -p SHAPE_PREDICTOR
ipython: error: argument -p/--shape-predictor: expected one argument
An exception has occurred, use %tb to see the traceback.
```

please help me with this problem



**Adrian Rosebrock** June 27, 2017 at 1:36 pm #

If you're using ipython I would suggest using argparse module and simply hardcoding the path to the

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REPLY ↩



**Pelin GEZER** June 25, 2017 at 1:36 pm #





I tried with the photo of man who has beard. It did not work well. How can we solve?



**moises rocha** June 26, 2017 at 7:13 pm #

REPLY ↩

Hello, how are you?

I've been a big fan of your posts since I started working with python. Even more so when we made the post for Dlib on Raspberry. I was sad because you did not answer me and that you answered all the questions about your post.

I know I asked a very specific question but could answer me by email if that is the case. Even if it is a negative answer.

I do biometrics with haarcascade but I'm trying with landmarks.

I am developing a code for facial recognition but I am having difficulties in the matter of precision.

To get faster I made 37 proportions based on 12 points. But the variation of the face angle also varies. I'm limiting the angle 5 degrees to each side horizontally. I will now try to record the proportions for each angle ie a series of frames for the same face. Thus the comparison would be between several faces at the same angle.

Thank you for your attention.

bye



**Adrian Rosebrock** June 27, 2017 at 1:13 pm #

Hi Moises, I do my best to answer as quickly as possibly can, but please keep in mind that I receive 100's of emails and comments and I always respond to them all.

That said, regarding your specific project for face recognition but want to use facial landmarks to obtain better accuracy? Do I understand correctly? In the tutorial I provided on [face alignment](#).

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REPLY ↩

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**moises rocha** June 29, 2017 at 1:13 pm #

Thank you response.  
About the project I will explain better

My code makes reasons like this:

Face 1

Comparison 1 = straight (point1 to point2) / straight (point4 to point8) = "1,2"

Comparison 2 = straight (point3 to point4) / straight (point5 to point6) = "0.8"

Face 2

Comparison 1 = straight (point1 to point2) / straight (point4 to point8) = "1,6"

Comparison 2 = straight (point3 to point4) / straight (point5 to point6) = "1,0"

..

So if the face is straight the comparison is accurate. However if the face is crooked it does not work.

Example of a crooked face facing left:

.. ..

| Head straight but face turned to left

—

Straight face:

.... ..

| Head straight and face straight

—

The turning of the face is not a problem because the comparison is made by the proportion of the lines. If the head is crooked but the face is straight the code works well.

I hope you have explained it better  
thank you



**Adrian Rosebrock**

Keep in mind that the algorithms assume a frontal face. They tolerate a small degree of rotation but there becomes a point where they still not sure I understand your situation you are running into.



**tarun** July 5, 2017 at 9:57 am #

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REPLY ↩



Hi Adrian,

Thanks for the wonderful tutorial. However if I wish to get a roi composed of eye lid, eye ball together, for example like in eye localization tasks where in the whole eye including continuous portion from eye lids to eye brows to eye is to be cropped, how do I do the same with facial landmarks code above

best regards

Tarun



**Adrian Rosebrock** July 7, 2017 at 10:11 am #

REPLY ↩

I'm not sure I understand your question, but since facial landmarks can localize both eyes and eyebrows, you can simply compute the bounding box of both those regions and extract the ROI.



**Avi** July 11, 2017 at 3:07 am #

REPLY ↩

Great tutorial. Thank a lot!

However, I have one confounding problem:

When running the code at:

`rects = detector(gray, 1)` I get the following error:

`__ TypeError: No registered converter was found for Python object of type str`

I investigated the error, upgraded libboost-

What confounds me is; in a separate work I used the same code with `detector` and set `rects = detector(img, 1)` and it works fine.

Redid this exercise on python console (line by line) and the error turns up.

Ran the program and the error turns up.

No spelling mistakes...

Any pointers, anything will help...

Thanks for your time

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REPLY ↩

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**Adrian Rosebrock** July 11, 2017 at 3:07 am #

Hi Avi — I have to admit that I

sure what the exact issue is. I would suggest posting the issue on the official [dlib forums](#).



**wiem** July 11, 2017 at 5:10 am #

REPLY ↩

Hello Sir!

Thank you very much. All your explanations in this tutorial are very helpful.

<https://www.pyimagesearch.com/2017/04/03/facial-landmarks-dlib-opencv-python/>

I am currently studying at the national school of engineers of Sousse, coming from Tunisia. I use facial markers to recognize emotions from the image. I try to create a template (model) from all the landmarks I extracted from the images in the CK + dataset. I advocate using this model to qualify the emotion of the face by using it.

So I wonder if you could help me and guide me how to save the facial landmarks in a training model and how could I predict this pattern to detect facial emotion from benchmarks.

Thank you for your help

Sincerely



**Adrian Rosebrock** July 11, 2017 at 6:21 am #

REPLY ↩

Is there a particular reason why you are using facial landmarks to predict emotions? As I show in [Deep Learning for Computer Vision with Python](#), CNNs can give higher accuracy for emotion recognition and are much easier to use in this context.



**khalid** July 16, 2017 at 11:45 am #

hi , thanks for this great tutorial, please if you have any idea, help me. thanks a lot.



**Adrian Rosebrock** July 18, 2017 at 10:00 am #

You can drop out the face using

`face = image[startY:endY, startX:endX]`

I cover the basics of image processing

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REPLY ↩

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crop images), inside my book, [Practical Python and OpenCV](#). I suggest you start there. I hope that helps!



**Julien** July 17, 2017 at 11:15 pm #

REPLY ↩

Hi Adrian, thanks for a useful website. I just tried your code on a movie in which I want to annotate faces (cf. your real time post, feeding in a video file instead of the webcam input). When faces are detected, it works well, however the bottleneck is definitely face detection. Are there other “out of the box” solutions than the pre-trained HOG + Linear SVM object detector? You mention deep learning based approaches, is it something I could quickly deploy (i.e., are there pre-trained weights somewhere, and a pre-built network architecture, which would do a decent job?). Thank you for any hints!



**Adrian Rosebrock** July 18, 2017 at 9:50 am #

REPLY ↩

Are you looking to simply increase the speed of the face detection? Use Haar cascades instead. They are less accurate than HOG + Linear SVM detectors, but much faster.



**Julien** July 20, 2017 at 7:06 pm #

sorry, I wasn't clear. The idea was to wonder if there are other methods than HOG+Linear SVM doesn't. I am not working on a project.



**Adrian Rosebrock**

Sure, there are many deep learning-based face detection APIs. It really depends on what you want to do. Ideally, I would suggest getting a good understanding of faces and environments the face

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**Ankit** September 9, 2017 at 2:20 pm #

REPLY ↩

Hello Sir,  
I am a huge fan of you.  
You are doing wonder full work.

This code works very perfectly.

I want to know is how can I detect face if the image if the image is rotated by 90, 180 or 270 degrees?

And what if I can do this in a live video from the camera?



**Adrian Rosebrock** September 11, 2017 at 9:18 am #

REPLY ↩

The HOG detector is not invariant to rotation so you'll need to rotate your image by 90, 180, and 270 degrees and then apply the detection to each of the rotated images.

I cover how to apply facial landmarks to real-time video in [this post](#).



**Junior** September 13, 2017 at 3:39 pm #

REPLY ↩

Hi adrian, thanks for this page.  
How can I implement face detection with dlib?



**Adrian Rosebrock** September 13, 2017 at 3:40 pm #

Face *detection*? Or face *recognition*?  
face detection (i.e., detecting the location of the face in the image)

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**siva charan** September 14, 2017 at 8:02 am #

REPLY ↩

Hi Adrian,

Is it possible to recognize the faces in live cam using OpenCV. I need your suggestions. Currently I am working on face recognition.



**Adrian Rosebrock** September 14, 2017 at 1:15 pm #

REPLY ↩

Yes, absolutely. I cover face recognition inside the [PyImageSearch Gurus course](#). I would suggest starting there.



**wiem** September 21, 2017 at 10:12 pm #

REPLY ↩

Hi Adrian, thanks for this page, I want ask you if the precision of detected landmarks is related to the image size; because in this tutorial you change it into 500 ??  
Cordially  
Wiem



**Adrian Rosebrock** September 21, 2017 at 10:12 pm #

No, the precision of detected landmarks is not related to the image size. The precision is related to the image because it's very rare we need to detect faces along their largest dimension. Instead, we detect faces along their smallest dimension. This is faster.



**Ashish hajagulkar** September 24, 2017 at 10:12 pm #

how I can do live facial landmark

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**Adrian Rosebrock** September 24, 2017 at 8:42 am #

REPLY ↩

Please see [this blog post](#).



**Tonmoy** September 29, 2017 at 2:18 pm #

REPLY ↩

Hello Adrian, have you written any blog on how to estimate head pose using facial landmarks? Please let me know. Cant seem to find any elegant solution.



**Adrian Rosebrock** October 2, 2017 at 10:08 am #

REPLY ↩

Hi Tommy — I have not written a post on head pose estimation, but I will consider this for a future blog post topic.



**Arfah S** September 29, 2017 at 4:28 pm #

REPLY ↩

This is one of the best articles ive ever come across!



**Adrian Rosebrock** September 29, 2017 at 4:28 pm #

Thanks Arfah!



**Darshil** October 25, 2017 at 2:03 pm #

Hi Adrian,  
Thanks for this page. This is a great tutorial  
python facial\_landmarks.py --shape-predict  
images/example\_01.jpg  
I'm getting  
Illegal instruction (core dumped)

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**Adrian Rosebrock** October 26, 2017 at 11:47 am #

REPLY ↩

Hi Darshil — I'm sorry it isn't running on your system. Can you try running [this example program](#) to see if it works?



**Darshil** October 29, 2017 at 2:15 am #

REPLY ↩

Thank you Adrian for your reply. I tried running the code you sent, it is not giving any error but it is not giving any output either. I am using Ubuntu 14. Can I record and send you a video somewhere ,of what error I'm getting.



**Adrian Rosebrock** October 30, 2017 at 3:15 pm #

REPLY ↩

Hi Darshil. `cv2.imshow()` should display the image on your computer screen. Alternatively you could use `cv2.imwrite()` to write the image to disk.



**Darshil** October 30, 2017 at 11:29 am #

REPLY ↩

Hi Adrian, thanks for your

The code you sent is running without error on my system using Ubuntu 14. I know what the error is. I have facial\_landmarks.py, video\_facial\_landmarks.py, drowsiness\_detection.py and all the files. When the execution reaches to "rects = detect\_faces" it shows "Illegal instruction (core dumped)".

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**Adrian Rosebrock**

Hi Darshil — Did the error persist? Without being on your system, I can't help. I'll send you [an email](#) with details about your system version, and Python version.



**Darshil** November 3, 2017 at 12:41 pm #

I have dropped you an email. Please help



**Eyshika** November 3, 2017 at 12:53 pm #

REPLY ↩

Am also facing error in `parse.arg()`. I havent left any space in middle still it shows  
ASSERTION ERROR



**Adrian Rosebrock** November 6, 2017 at 10:46 am #

REPLY ↩

Hi Eyshika — please read up on [command line arguments](#). You DO NOT need to edit any of the code.



**Abdul hanan** November 7, 2017 at 2:28 am #

REPLY ↩

Hey there. This is one of the simple and well written tutorial about facial landmarks. I have a question regarding landmarks.

Can we find distance between two landmarks?  
According to 68-landmarks detection we should have a way to do it?



**Adrian Rosebrock** November 10, 2017 at 10:46 am #

Compute the Euclidean distance between two landmarks.  
The distance in a measurement is given by  
[a simple calibration](#).



**Jigyasu Bagai** November 12, 2017 at 10:46 am #

Hi Adrian great work , can you please tell me what lip classification or lip extraction is doing , I mean

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REPLY ↩

LET'S DO IT!

script ????

looking for an early reply



**Adrian Rosebrock** November 13, 2017 at 2:02 pm #

REPLY ↩

You can evaluate the facial landmarks against a testing set; however, you cannot evaluate the performance without knowing the ground-truth locations of each facial coordinate.



**ghazi** November 19, 2017 at 3:28 pm #

REPLY ↩

Hi Adrian great work, thank you for your efforts.

I have a mini project about lip reading authentication.

Does you have an idea about extracting letters from an image ?.

cordially



**ghazi** November 20, 2017 at 10:58 am #

REPLY ↩

Hi Adrian great work.

I have a project about Lip reading authentication by points of interest.

Well, your example help me very much in extracting a letter from the picture?



**Adrian Rosebrock** November 20, 2017 at 11:00 am #

I don't have any experience with [this publication](#) which discusses the topic.



**Nick** December 13, 2017 at 8:51 pm #

REPLY ↩

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LET'S DO IT!

Hi Adrian!

Great work! Thank you for running this blog!

I just tried the code and I am getting an error: facial\_landmarks.py: error: the following arguments are required: -i/--image

and then

facial-landmarks>-image images/example\_01.jpg

'-image' is not recognized as an internal or external command, operable program or batch file.

Would you be able to help me to resolve it? I didn't edited the code.



**Adrian Rosebrock** December 15, 2017 at 8:31 am #

REPLY ↩

Hey Nick, please see my reply to "mux" (June 1, 2017). Your issue here is that you are not properly supplying the command line arguments. Open up a command line and then execute the following command, just like I do in the blog post:

	Python
1	\$ python facial_landmarks.py --shape-predictor shape_predictor_68_face_land
2	--image images/example_01.jpg

You'll want to make sure you are in the same directory as the facial\_landmarks.py script.

Take a second to read up on how to use the command line and it will help out dramatically. I hope

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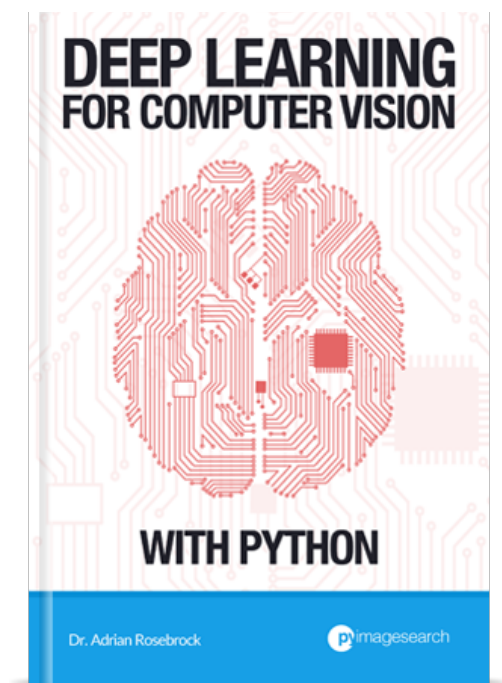
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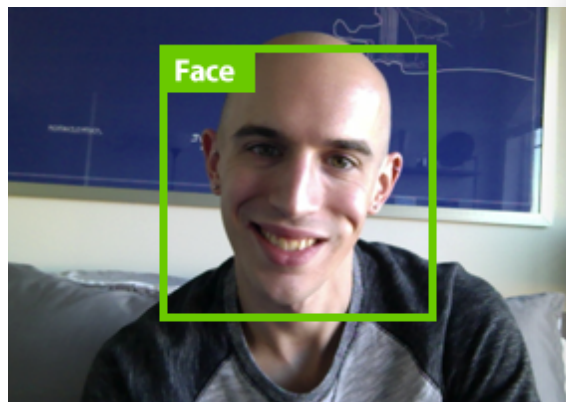
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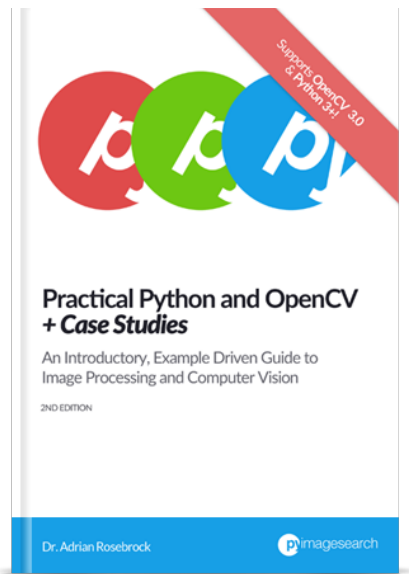
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