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This blog is dedicated to all aspiring data scientists. I will share my learning about Data Science, Machine Learning, Deep Learning, OCR, and Computer Vision with my blog posts. So keep reading my posts and be a better version of yourself. Contact me for any AI-related freelance or consultancy work.

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Identify Eight types of Indian Classical

Dance forms with YOLOv4

June 01, 2020



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Labels

custom dataset

labellmg

training

YOLOv4

Another post starts
with you beautiful
people!

Thank you all who
had followed my last
post about [install and
compile YOLOv4 in
Windows10](#) and
could able to
successfully set up
the Darknet in their
machines. As I

promised in last post
and you asked for, in
this post I am going
to share you the
steps required for
training a custom
object with YOLOv4.

If you are seeing my
blog first time, I
recommend you to
first follow my [last
post](#) and then
proceed further.

For this exercise I
have choosen a
dataset of eight
Indian Classical
Dance forms-

1. **Manipuri** from
Manipur
2. **Bharatanatyam**
from Tamil Nadu

3. **Odissi** from

Orissa

4. **Kathakali** from

Kerala

5. **Kathak** from

Uttar Pradesh

6. **Sattriya** from

Assam

7. **Kuchipudi** from

Andhra Pradesh

8. **Mohiniyattam**

from Kerala

You can download the dataset from [this hackathon link](#). After downloading the dataset , you need to create 8 folders with class name and copy respective images from train folder to there. For this work I have written a simple Python script that

creates eight folders with the images of dance forms. So you can also do the same. After completing this post you will be well aware of building a Neural Network model to classify eight categories of Indian classical dance. Our first step is to label the images in YOLO format. YOLO requires a specific type of labeling. The labelled format of an image should be in **<object-class> <x_center> <y_center> <width> <height>** format. Here **<object-class>** is integer

object number from 0 to (classes-1). In our case it will be zero to seven.

<x_center>

<y_center> <width>

<height> are float values relative to width and height of image which can be equal from [0.0 to 1.0]. This steps is the backbone of the YOLO and so it must be performed with precisely.

To label the image we will use **labellmg** annotation tool.

Clone or Download the github code from [this link](#) in your machine. Once

cloned/downloaded,

open anaconda

prompt with admin

rights, go to the path

of labellmg and

install required **pyqt**

library using

command: **conda**

install pyqt=5

After installing pyqt,

run following

command: **pyrcc5 -o**

libs/resources.py

resources.qrc

This will install

annotation tool in

your machine.

Now, create a text

file named as

classes.txt in

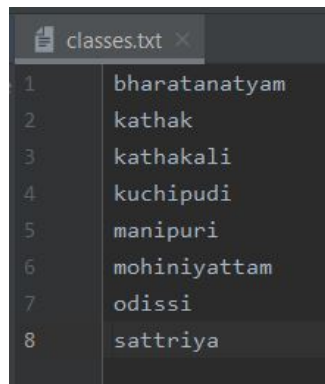
labellmg root

directory and put our

target class

names(dance forms)

in this format-



Now our labelling
setup is done. We
will start annotating
the images later. first
we will prepare some
files and make some
changes in our YOLO
installed directory
for the training of
our custom dataset.
For this step go to
your YOLO installed
directory(\vcpkg-
master\installed\x64-
4-
windows\tools\dark

net\cfg) and follow

below steps-

1. Copy the **yolov4-custom.cfg** file, paste there and rename it to **yolo-obj.cfg**
2. Open yolo-obj.cfg file in notepad++ and make below changes-

- change line **batch** to **batch=64**
- change line **subdivisions** to **subdivisions=64**
- change line **max_batches** to **16000(classes*2000)**
- change line **steps** to 80% and 90% of max_batches, f.e. **12800, 14400**

- set network size
width=416
height=416 or
any value
multiple of 32
- change line
classes=8
- change
[filters=255] to
filters=39(classes
+ 5)x3 in the 3
[convolutional]
before each
[yolo] layer

3. Go to \vcpkg-master\installed\x64-windows\tools\darknet\data directory and create a file **obj.names**. Copy the content of the classes.txt file there

4. Create a file **obj.data** in the same directory with below content-

```
class = 0
path = D:/Software/vcpkg-master/installed/x64-windows/tools/darknet/data/train.txt
weights = D:/Software/vcpkg-master/installed/x64-windows/tools/darknet/data/train.txt
names = D:/Software/vcpkg-master/installed/x64-windows/tools/darknet/obj.names
backup = D:/Software/vcpkg-master/installed/x64-windows/tools/darknet/backup/
```

Here update the path according to your directory. For backup, create a folder with name backup in the root directory (\vcpkg-master\installed\x64-windows\tools**darknet**). In this folder our custom trained weights files will be saved.

5. Create a folder named as **obj** inside the directory(\vcpkg-master\installed\x64-

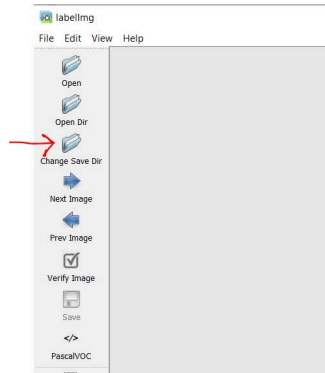
4-

windows\tools\dark
net**data**)

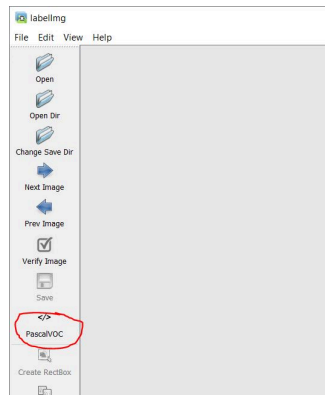
Now your YOLO
related changes are
done. Next, we will
start annotating the
images. For this open
the anaconda
prompt, go to the
labellmg directory
path and run the
following command-
python labellmg.py
/dataset/images/bh
aratanatyam
classes.txt

This command will
open labellmg
window. Here click
on the 'Change Save
Dir' icon and select

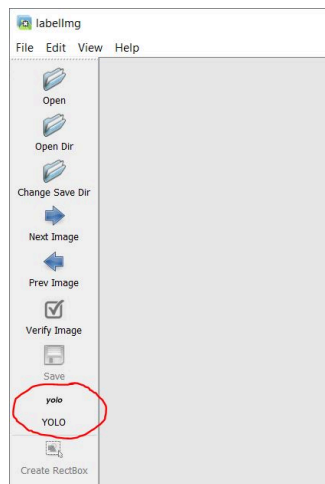
the bharatanatyam
folder path
(/dataset/images/b
haratanatyam)-



Above step will save
our annotation txt
file in the same
location where our
images are. So in this
case of annotation
we will have
<img_name>.txt file
inside the
/dataset/images/bh
aratanatyam folder.
Next click on the
'PascalVOC' icon-



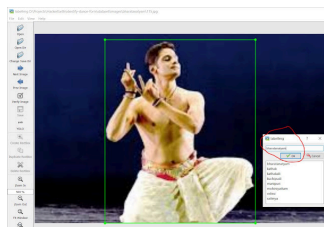
Once you click on it,
it will change to
YOLO like in below
screen-



Since we have
already given the
image folder path
and classes.txt file
while running the
labellmg command,

the first image from the image folder will be opened by default in labellmg window.

Now click on the 'Create RectBox' icon and draw the annotation on the object you want to capture like below-



After drawing the bounding box, select the bharatnatyam option from the small window and click on ok then click on save button. That's it your first annotation file will be save in the location you have chosen while

'Change Save Dir'
option. For next
image just click on
'Next Image' icon and
repeat the same till
you get the last
image. Once one
folder is completed
close this labellmg
window, go to the
anaconda prompt
and run the
command with
change image
directory path as
below-

```
python labellmg.py  
/dataset/images/kat  
hak classes.txt
```

It will again open a
labellmg window
with showing
kathak's folder first

image. Click on
'Change Save Dir'
icon and select the
/dataset/images/**kat**
hak and start
annotating images
like we did earlier.
Repeat the same step
for all target classes
but don't forget to
change the save dir
path with every new
class. Although this
annotation step is
time taking but
requires your
attention so do it
carefully. I have done
my annotations in 1.5
hours. Once done
with all folders, got
to each folder copy
the .txt and .jpg files
and paste in obj

folder you have created in step 5. Do this for all folders. Now in obj folder you will have all image files and their respective txt files. Please make sure you have not copied the classes.txt file in the obj folder. If yes then remove that file from obj folder.

Next, go to the directory \vcpkg-master\installed\x64-windows\tools\darknet**data** and create a txt file named as **train.txt**. In this file we need to give the image name with file

path. Here file path is

/vcpkg-

master/installed/x64-

4-

windows/tools/dark

net/data/obj so the

whole file will be look

like below-

```
D:\Software\vcpkg-master\installed\x64-windows\tools\darknet\data\obj\1.jpg
D:\Software\vcpkg-master\installed\x64-windows\tools\darknet\data\obj\10.jpg
D:\Software\vcpkg-master\installed\x64-windows\tools\darknet\data\obj\100.jpg
D:\Software\vcpkg-master\installed\x64-windows\tools\darknet\data\obj\101.jpg
D:\Software\vcpkg-master\installed\x64-windows\tools\darknet\data\obj\102.jpg
D:\Software\vcpkg-master\installed\x64-windows\tools\darknet\data\obj\103.jpg
D:\Software\vcpkg-master\installed\x64-windows\tools\darknet\data\obj\104.jpg
D:\Software\vcpkg-master\installed\x64-windows\tools\darknet\data\obj\105.jpg
D:\Software\vcpkg-master\installed\x64-windows\tools\darknet\data\obj\106.jpg
D:\Software\vcpkg-master\installed\x64-windows\tools\darknet\data\obj\107.jpg
D:\Software\vcpkg-master\installed\x64-windows\tools\darknet\data\obj\109.jpg
D:\Software\vcpkg-master\installed\x64-windows\tools\darknet\data\obj\111.jpg
```

You can write a

Python script for this

work. With this step

we are ready to start

the training of our

dance form custom

data.

Open windows

powershell with

admin rights and go

to the root directory

of the Darknet and

run the

command `.\darknet.`

`exe detector train`

`data/obj.data`

`cfg/yolo-obj.cfg`

`yolov4.conv.137`

If you have not
downloaded the
weights

yolov4.conv.137,
download from [this](#)
[link](#) and put inside

root directory of
Darknet. Once you
run the above
command, Darknet
will load the layers
from this weights file
and start the training
on our custom data.

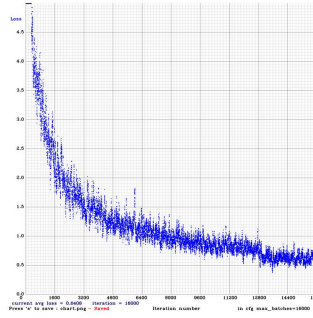
It finds our data from
the obj.data file
where we have
mentioned number
of classes, training

data path and location of saving the trained weights. This training will take quite enough time since we have given max_batches with 16000 and we have total 8 classes. In my machine it took **18 hours** to complete the training so I advise you to disable the sleep property of your machine and start the training in night. After successfully completion of the training you will see following like screen-



This training

command will also
save **loss vs iteration**
number chart in the
root directory of the
Darknet like below-



You can see in the
starting of the
training the average
loss was very high
but in the end of the
training it is
0.6408. The final
average loss can be
from 0.05 (for a small
model and easy
dataset) to 3.0 (for a
big model and a
difficult dataset). So
we have a very good
model. Now we can

test our model on
unseen images. For
this run the following
command in the
same powershell
window-

```
.\darknet.exe  
detector test  
data/obj.data  
cfg/yolo-obj.cfg  
backup/yolo-  
obj_final.weights  
/dataset/test/6.jpg  
-dont_show -  
out_filename
```

Here just change the
test image path
according to your
system. Above
command will
predict the class on
the given image with
confidence in the


```
command .\darknet.
```

```
exe detector test
```

```
data/obj.data
```

```
cfg/yolo-obj.cfg
```

```
backup/yolo-
```

```
obj_final.weights
```

```
/dataset/test/6.jpg
```

```
-dont_show -
```

```
out_filename
```



Looks like our model
is working as
expected. Please
note for a very good
YOLO model we
should preferably
have 2000 different
images for each class
or more, and we

should train
2000*classes
iterations or more.
Due to my system
configurations I have
used image width
and height as 416 but
if you have got bigger
avg loss then you
should increase the
network resolution
to 608 or 832. Also if
you don't want to
detect any specific
object then you
should also include
that object images
with **empty txt** files
in the obj folder.

That's it guys for
today. If you have
followed till the end,
you have spent your

valuable time in learning a state of the art computer vision technique. Here we are using the original Darknet framework, no any wrapper for our work. There are only very few persons who know using such a state of the art computer vision technique. Now you are one of them but to be a master on a technique you must practice and do experiments. So don't stop yourself just reading here. Do practical on your system, solve issues while doing hands

on, train YOLOv4 on
another custom
dataset, deploy your
custom model as
Rest API and
showcase in your
github repository. In
my next post I will
share my new
learning to you; till
then Go chase your
dreams, have an
awesome day, make
every second count
and see you later in
my next post.

LABELS: CUSTOM DATASET,
LABELIMG, TRAINING,
YOLOV4

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Learn Data Science with PrateekG

Prateek is a Data Scientist, Technology Enthusiast, and Blogger with over 13 years of experience in Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Optical Character Recognition (OCR), Generative AI, and Computer Vision using Python. Currently working as a Computer Vision Eng ...

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