Visit The Github-page ! -- by *Jan Ritt*

Teachable Machines

Ascii-Box(Char)-Recognizer

***The Idea*:**

- *I wanted to make something maybe more useful than an LLM to differ between cat & dog pictures.*
- Because on Teachable Machines the LLM training can be done based on picture- & audio-data,
  - *I choose to train it to recognize ASCII-Box-Characters[1];*

    and then whole Boxes and their properties like 'closed-box', 'one-line-stroke-style', 'bold-line-style', 'irregular-box', ...[2]
- The first hurdle was to provide a good dataset for this - in size and variety - **DIY**.
  - *I coded an application that can generate* **random boxchars** *in* **random RGB-colors**, *on random background-color:*

    It prints each char in a consistent surrounding space, takes a screenshot with Skia from this sample and stores it as .png to feed them into the LLM afterwards.*
- The LLM should be able to tell me if a drawn Ascii-box is a valid (eg. `closed` and `coherent`) box, or if my box-creation-code needs some adjustments,
  - *This would be very helpful, in conjunction to normal unit-testing of each combination of box-/line-attributes,*

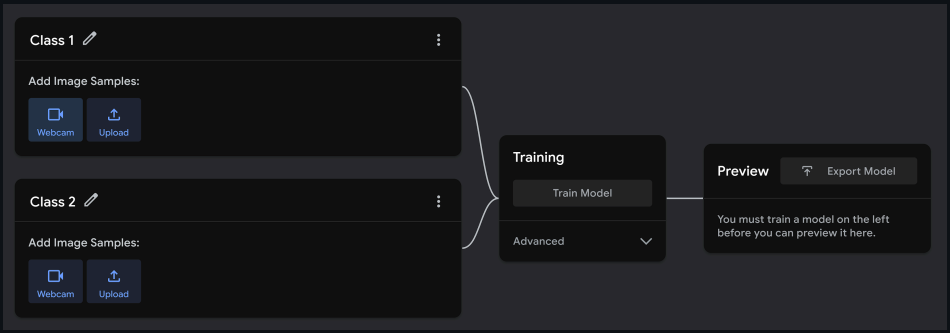
    to test my codebases creation and to provide a more robust ASCII-Box-Drawing-Solution, for my usecase.

As I started coding my Boxdrawer, i found this paragraph on wikipedia and could not belive it at first:

"... *However*, DOS line- and box-drawing characters are not ordered in any programmatic manner, *so calculating* a particular character shape needs a look-up table ..." source Wiki :Box-drawing-characters

1.) Getting familliar with Teachable-Machines

On teachable machines you can train a large language model either on audio, or images.
I chose to use the image-variant, which has this GUI on startup:



The LLM can learn the difference between uploaded classes.
In the first step, i wanted it to just to differ between alphanumeric-chars and the special ASCII-box-chars.

2.) Creating the Trainings-DataSets

To satisfy the "additional requirement" of the assignment - to implement the Model in our own project,
I generated the needed trainings-data instead of using the trained model afterwards.

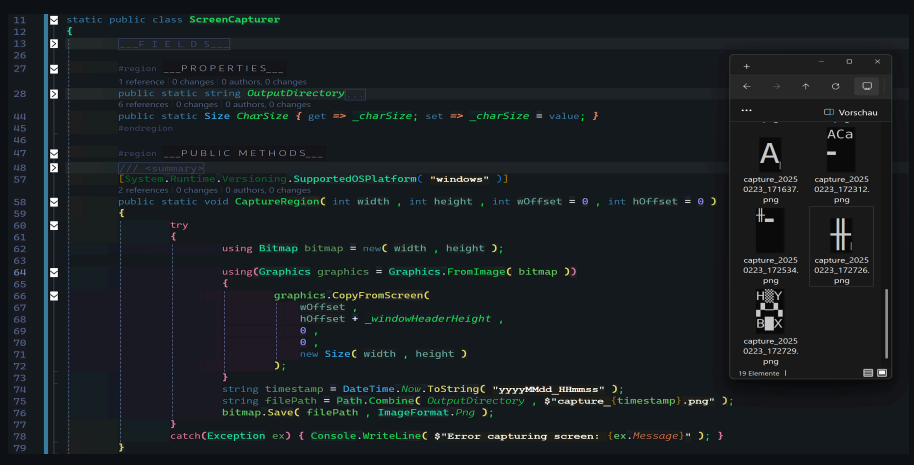
> *(Because it wasn't specified in the assignment, i assume that either side of the LLM pipeline would be fine.)*

- ## 2.1.) '**The Charifier**' -
  ### My C#-Application for Testdata Creation

  - Comprehensive documentation can be found here .

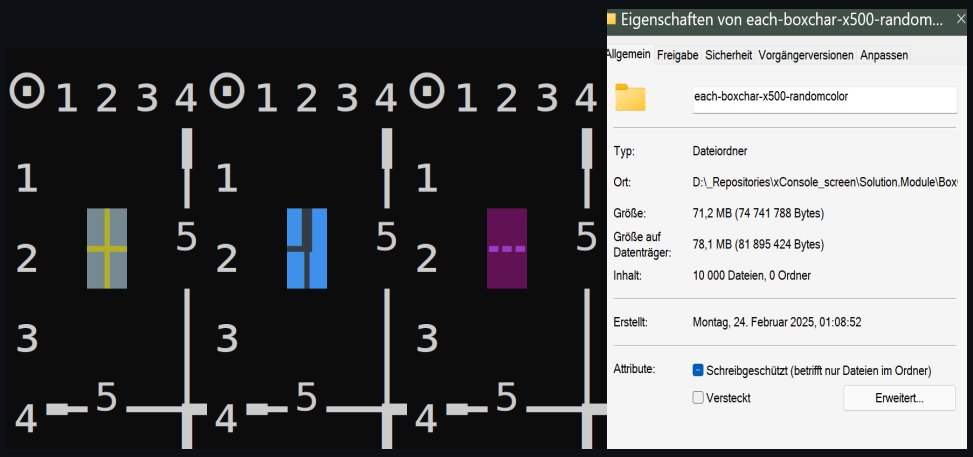
    > further notes can be found here

  - **"*Heart*" of the application - screencapturing with `SkiaSharp` :**



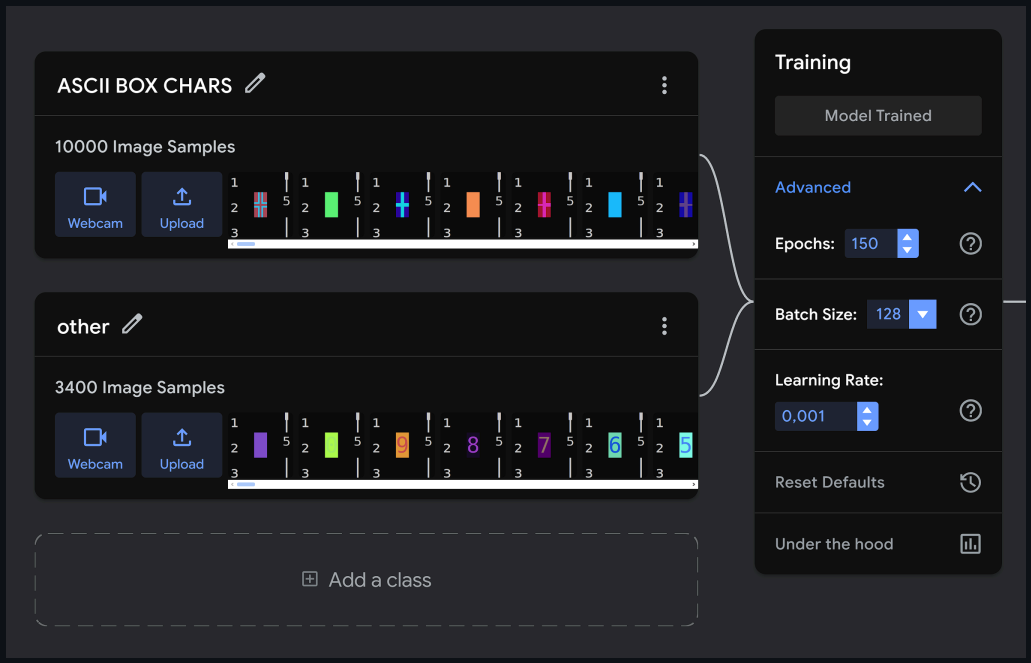
- **Examples of the final custom generated trainings-data:**

  > - *I generated* `500 variants` *of each of the* `200 Bockchars` *=>* `10.000 BoxChars`.
  > - *And* `3400 alpha-numeric` *chars (also in random colors) as second trainings-set.*



3.) Training the Large Language Model

> To train the model, i uploaded `13400` generated images in total, which took a while..

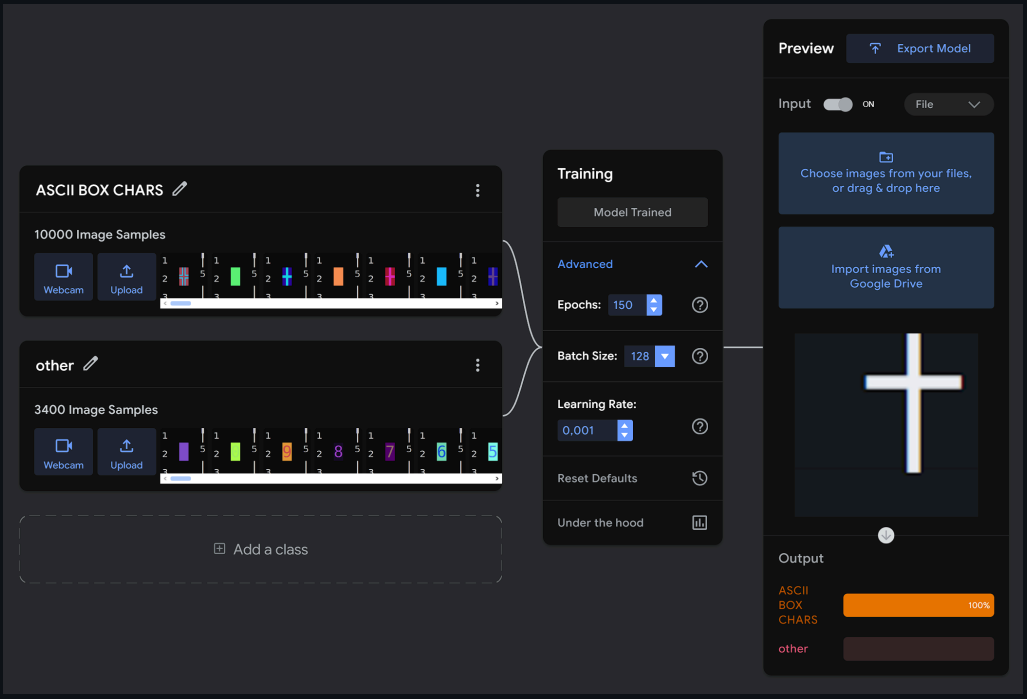


- ▶ Peak 'Under the Hood'

4.) Testing the Capabilities of the Model

- There are no `black-white` sample-chars in the trainings set.

> So I tried to take some screenshots from
> normal console outputs,
> varrying with x-y-offset.
> ┼



> *Now it knows exactly how to differentiate the characters on screen at all times.* 🥳🎉🧠💻

You can download the trained model here !

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1. **All ASCII - Box - Characters**:

```
' ¦ ╌╌ ' ¦ ╌╌ │ ╎ ╟ ╎ ╏ ┆ ┆ ┆ ┆ ┆ ═ ═ ═ ═ ═ ╍╍ ╍╍ ┄┄ ┄┄ ┈┈ ┈┈
◠ ┌┐ ◡ └┘ ┌┐ ┌┐ └┘ └┘ ┌┐ └┘ ╒╕ ╓╖ ╘╛ ╙╜ ╔╗ ╚╝
├┤ ├┤ ├┤ ├┤ ├┤ ├┤ ├┤ ├┤ ╞╡ ╟╢ ╠╣
┬┴┬┬┬┴┴┴┬┬┬┴┴┴┬┴╤╥╧╨╦╩
┼┼┼┼┼┼┼╪╫┼┼┼┼┼┼┼┼┼╬↩
```

2. *The full implementation of the BoxDrawer and updated trainings-set is still in-development, yet.* ↩