“Gheorghe Asachi” Technical University of Iasi

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**Bachelor thesis**

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**Detection of the Medical Mask using Image Recognition**

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I declare that I wrote this Bachelor thesis by myself and using only referenced sources.

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10rd of July, 2021 Straticiuc Mihai

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Title: Detection of the Medical Mask using Image Recognition

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Program of study: Telecommunication Technologies and Systems

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# Abstract

Recognition if a person wear the medical mask or not become very important in the last year due to the appearance of the Covid-19. Nowadays recognition through the images become one of the most challenging domain that implies image processing, using of the artificial neural networks and pattern recognition.

In this project we will focus on Medical Mask wearing recognition from an live stream video in the real time with the help of trained models. The models for recognition will be trained using python framework named Keras, the image capturing from a camera will be done using OpenCV.

In order to train a model to recognize if in a image the person wear the mask correctly or not we will used a data set where we already have images with people wearing the mask or not.

After the process of training is finished we obtain a model that can be used independently, with the help of the model we have write another program that capture with OpenCV images from the video camera and pass it to the model that decide if the person from the picture wearing the mask or not.

At he end an video stream will be displayed where in real time we can see if thee person wear the mask or not. Do to the slow computers we can’t train all models and we was forced to use

per-trained models.

# Introduction

The purpose of the project is to train models that will be used to build a program that cam be easily integrated in public places in order to motorize if peoples wear mask when they are in magazines, mall or any other place with high concentration of people.

As we already know COVID-19 is very contagious and one of the solution to decrease the transmission rate is to wear masks in public places. Unfortunately there is a problem “How we detect if a person wear the mask or not ?”.

“Masks are a key measure to suppress transmission and save lives.

Masks should be used as part of a comprehensive ‘Do it all!’ approach including physical distancing, avoiding crowded, closed and close-contact settings, good ventilation, cleaning hands, covering sneezes and coughs, and more. Depending on the type, masks can be used for either protection of healthy persons or to prevent onward transmission.”

If we will look at the global statistics we can observe that the lowest rate of infection through all countries was int Sought Korea , China and Japan where system which recognize if a person wear the mask or not was implemented as soon as possible and integrated everywhere where is a systems with video cameras.

This is the best prove that such systems are very useful in case of pandemic situations and even if we will succeed to pass over current pandemic such systems can be used in the future.

Even if Mask recognition systems seems to be very useful in case of thee COVID-19 there are still a lot of discussion about the legal fairness of integration of such systems as permanent one.

The main problem is that: through such system we can easily collect data about person movements and like with other data it can be used for good purpose or for bad ones.

Even if the legal documentation is not ready and there are a lot of discussion about the fairness the current pandemic prove that in order to be able to deal with such crisis's we need such systems

”Complex problems require complex solutions”.

This thesis paper will be divided in three main chapters as following.

The first chapter entitled **Fundamentals of Deep Learning** where will be explained simple and easy what deep learning means and how it works. Also we will try to explain what is a neural network its characteristics and how it is implemented at he level of the neuron. Briefly we will explain methods used in Deep Learning, the difference between Deep Learning and Machine Learning and what are the future perspective of such technology.

The second chapter is named **Example Training a model**.

In this chapter will be described briefly the steps ofthe training process of a model with images, what language of programming we used and what modules we use in order to process images.

Also we will describe the process of testing if the model obtained are trained correctly by applying it on a correct image and some issue that could appear during the process of testing .

In the third chapter **Live Application Examples**, we will make a program that can process a video stream from a camera or systems of cameras pass that stream as a separate frames of images to the trained model and after that to show in real time if persons from the input video wear the mask or not. In order to be more objective we will use different models not just the model trained locally and explained at the chapter 2 unfortunately due to the lack of hardware resources these models was per-trained.

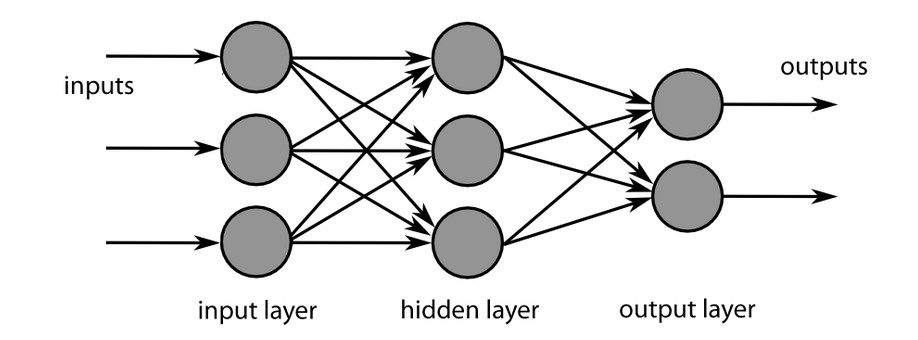
# **Chapter 1.** **Fundamentals of Deep Learning**

## 1.1 What is Deep Learning

Deep Learning is a sub-category of machine learning. It was inspired by artificial neural network commonly known as ANN and which in turn was inspired by biological neural network.

The idea behind a deep learning algorithm is to simulate the human brain structure. As we know inside the human brain there are 100 billion neurons, each neuron connects to about 100.000 other neurons near it. Alone neurons are useless but when thre are a lot of them connected one to each other some magic happens and as a result we are able to process information, learn, think, fell, etc.

If we will try to simplify the process the process we can divide neurons linking in layers. Each layer have an input, at his level he process that input and generate an output that will be used as input for the next layer. This process is continued successive until a result is obtained according to the problem.



**Figure 1.1 Example of layer linking**

In the image above we can see an example of a neural network that will always have the following layers:

1. Input layer: It can be pixels of an image or a time series data

2. Hidden layer: Commonly known as weights which are learned while the neural network is trained

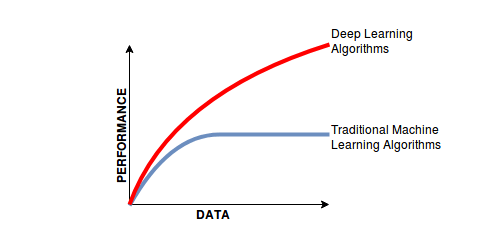
3. Output layer: Final layer mainly gives you a prediction of the input you fed into your network.

Also here are an image we we can see the difference of performance between the deep learning and traditional learning algorithms based on the amount of data.

As we can see when the amount of data increase the deep learning methodologies show a better performances compared with the traditional machine learning algorithms where the performance

reach a certain saturation level.

In conclusion due to the fact that data increase every day in order to be able to process it deep learning algorithm become more popular and more diverse.

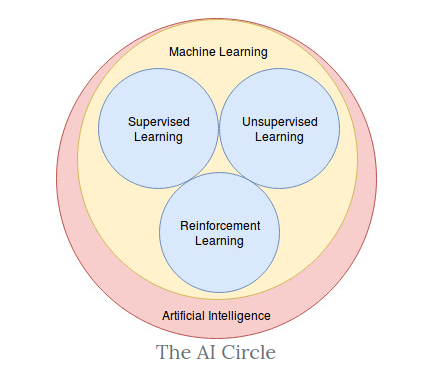


**Figure 1.2 Relation between amount of data and performance**

## 1.2 How computer learn automatically

In order to continue firstly we need to explain briefly how computer can learn something automatically.

The answer is DATA. You give (feed) data having different attributes or features that algorithm will understand and as result it will give you a decision boundary based on provided data. When the algorithm trained itself to interpret the data then you can use it wherever you want. You give the input data point and expect for results but don't forget that there results is based on statistical processing and at some moments of time the result can be wrong just like in case of human processing some data.



**Figure 1.2 Various algorithms for learning**

### 1.2.1 **Supervised Learning:**

This is the learning technique where the whole process is under control.

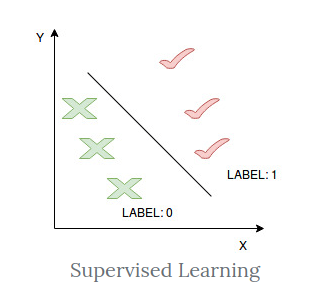
The purpose on this algorithm is to find patterns in the train data and classifying it.

As a input data-set include inputs and correct outputs, the algorithm measure the accuracy through loss function and adjusting until the error is minimized as much as possible. Mainly this type of learning can be divided in tow types Classification and Regression.

Regression is used in order to understand relationship between dependent and independent variables, as a consequence it is used in project for sales market.

Classification is used in order to classify assign data into specific categories and as consequence it try to recognize specific patterns and give some conclusions according to which category correspond the input data based to the data set used for training.

Let take a example that we have 10.000 images (5.000 cats and 5.000 dogs) the algorithm will those images in 2 categories dogs with label 1 and cats with label 0 and when the new image come the algorithm will classify it according to those 2 categories.



**Figure 1.3 Supervised Learning**

Challenges of this type of learning are:

Learning models can require a certain levels of expertise about it’s structure accuracy

Learning process can take a lot and data set used for training can contain errors provided by humans

Unlike unsupervised learning it can’t classify data by it’s own

### 1.2.2 **Unsupervised Learning:**

In this case we don’t have training labels the algorithm can find suitable structures and patterns in train data. When patterns become apparent that similar data point can be grouped in clusters tougher. The main advantage is that grouping data don’t require intervention of the human.

Mostly this algorithm is used to make high- dimensional data in low- dimension data for visualization, cross-selling strategies, cluster segmentation and image recognition.

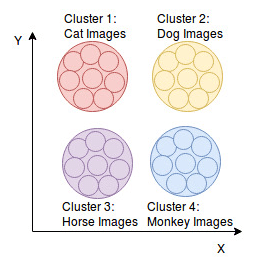
**Clustering** is a data mining technique where data are grouped based on their similarities and differences.

Clustering algorithms can be classified in few types:

**Exclusive clustering** stipulates that the data point can exist in only one cluster. One of the most representative example is K-means clustering where data points are assigned into K groups, where K represents the number of clusters based on distances from each group centroid. Bigger K means smaller grouping and less granularity

**Overlapping clustering** allows data point to belong to multiple clusters with separate degrees of membership.

Below we have an graphical representation for better understanding how data are grouped.

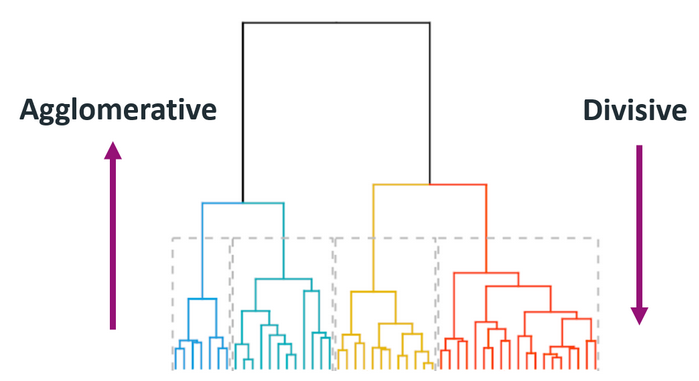


**Figure 1.3 Exclusive and Overlapping clustering**

**Hierarchical clustering** also known as HCA and cam be categories in 2 types agglomerative considered as “bottoms-up approach ” or diverse considered “top-down” approach.

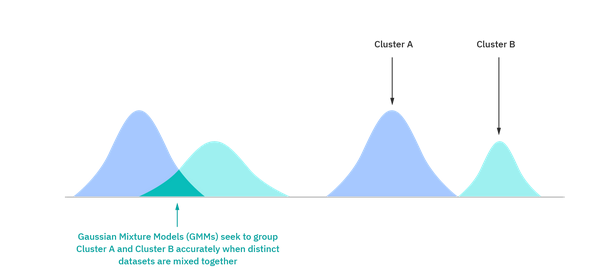
In case of agglomerative approach data point are isolated as separate groupings initially and after they are merged toughener iteratively based on their similarity until one cluster is achieved.

In case of diverse clustering a single data is divided based on differences between data points, mainly it is opposite with agglomerative clustering also this type of clustering is not commonly used.



**Figure 1.4 Agglomerative and diverse clustering**

**Probabilistic clustering** is an unsupervised technique used to solve density estimation clustering problems. Here data point are grouped based on probability that they belong to a particular distribution model. One of the most used model is Gaussian Mixture Models (GMM) where if we know the mean or variance that we can which cluster a given data point belongs to.



#### 

**Figure 1.5 Gaussian Mixture Models (GMM)**

There are also another methods used in this type of learning such Apriori algorithms where algorithm use hash tree to count items and navigate through them, Dimensionality reduction used mainly to reduce the number of data inputs if it is too high, Principal component analysis also used to reduce redundancies and compress data sets, Singular value decomposition used when we work with low-rank matrices and Autoencoders.

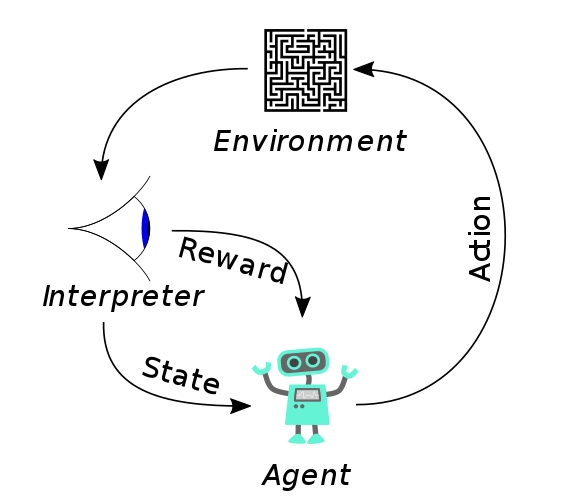
### 1.2.3 **Reinforcement Learning:**

These type of learning has an agent who behave like a robot. It learns how to make decision by taking actions and quantifying the results. The learning process can be spited cycles, during that cycle a millions of agents are make a decision according to some problem if the answer is correct the the agent move to the next cycle if not it is destroyed. At the end of thousands of cycles remain only one agent whose which trained in the best way.

One of the challenge of reinforcement learning consist in preparing the environment which is dependent to the task that is going to be performed. Even if the training environment is made and the model is trained transferring the model into the real world is where usually appear problems and the only solution to make this transfer possible is to make the training environment similar with real world environment as much as possible.

Another challenge is scaling because there a no another way to communicate other than through system on rewards and penalties (Interpreter). That constrain may lead to the situation when acquiring the new knowledge cause erasing the old one.

There are also a problem with optimization, we can arrive with an agent that perform the task but in to slow for example. In that case there a no another way then to train another agent.

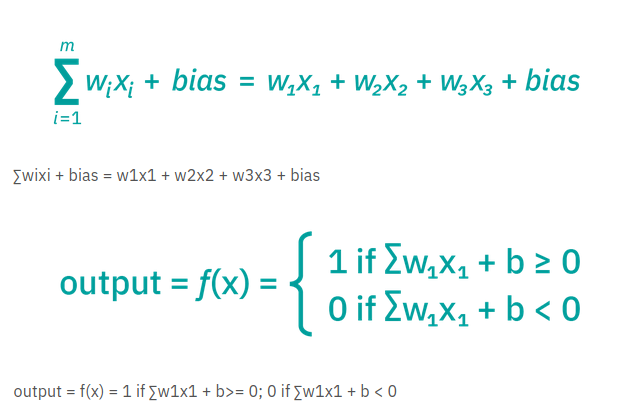


**Figure 1.4 Reinforcement Learning**

## 1.3 Inside the neural network

The main advantage of neural networks is that they can learn itself, all what we need to do is to

define the architecture, tell the input data and what we expect as the result. One way to understand how it works is to think of each individual node as its own linear regression model where formula looks like:



**Figure 1.5**

The neural networks can be classified into different types based of the propose but due to the fact that nowadays neural networks are used in a lot of cases it leads to a very comprehensive list of types this is why we will mention juts few of them mainly the most common one.

**Feedforward neural networks, or multi-layer perceptions (MLPs)** composed on an input, hidden and output layer.

**Convolutional neural networks (CNNs)** similar to feedforward networks, but they’re usually utilized for image recognition, pattern recognition, and/or computer vision and are based on linear algebra and matrix manipulation in order to determine patterns in an image.

**Recurrent neural networks (RNNs)** that can be recognized by their feedback loops. Mainly used in order to prediction about future outcomes in areas such stock market.

Feed-forward **network** is a network that contains inputs, outputs, and hidden layers. The signals can only travel in one direction (forward). Input data passes into a layer where calculations are performed. Each processing element computes based upon the weighted sum of its inputs. The new values become the new input values that feed the next layer (feed-forward). This continues through all the layers and determines the output. Feed-forward networks are often used in, for example, data mining.

Feedback network (for example, a recurrent neural network) has feedback paths this means that they can have signals traveling in both directions using loops and all possible connections between neurons are allowed.

Since loops are present in this type of network, it becomes a non-linear dynamic system which changes continuously until it reaches a state of equilibrium.

Feedback networks are often used in optimization problems where the network looks for the best arrangement of interconnected factors.

As it was mentioned many times in order to do that at the stages of calculations and defining the architecture we use the following concepts at the level of a neuron:

### 1.3.1 Weighted sum

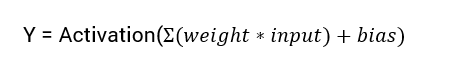
Each connection between two neurons has a unique synapse with a unique weight attached. If you want to get from one neuron to the next, you have to travel along the synapse and pay the “toll” (weight). The neuron then applies an activation function to the sum of the weighted inputs from each incoming synapse. It passes the result on to all the neurons in the next layer. When we talk about updating weights in a network, we’re talking about adjusting the weights on these synapses.

A neuron’s input is the sum of weighted outputs from all the neurons in the previous layer. Each input is multiplied by the weight associated with the synapse connecting the input to the current neuron. If there are 3 inputs or neurons in the previous layer, each neuron in the current layer will have 3 distinct weights: one for each synapse.

In a nutshell, the activation function of a node defines the output of that node. The activation function (or transfer function) translates the input signals to output signals. It maps the output values on a range like 0 to 1 or -1 to 1. It’s an abstraction that represents the rate of action potential firing in the cell. It’s a number that represents the likelihood that the cell will fire. At it’s simplest, the function is binary: yes (the neuron fires) or no (the neuron doesn’t fire). The output can be either 0 or 1 (on/off or yes/no), or it can be anywhere in a range.

### 1.3.2 Activation Function

The activation function (or transfer function) translates the input signals to output signals. It maps the output values on a range like 0 to 1 or -1 to 1. It’s an abstraction that represents the rate of action potential firing in the cell. It’s a number that represents the likelihood that the cell will fire. At it’s simplest, the function is binary: yes (the neuron fires) or no (the neuron doesn’t fire). The output can be either 0 or 1 (on/off or yes/no), or it can be anywhere in a range.

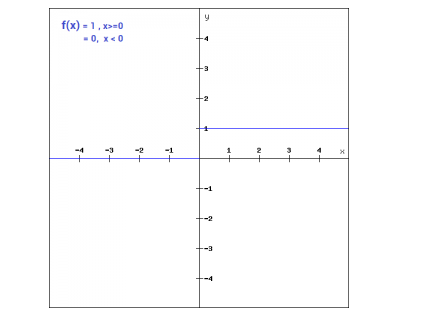


**Figure 1.6**

There can be a lot of type for the activation function and in order to chose the right one we must to take into account the proprieties of the problem. Because there are a lot of functions and a lot of implementations we will describe just few of them.

#### 1.3.2.1 Binary Step Function

This is the most basic type of function that can be easily implemented by using an if else statement. As the mane says if the input of the activation function si greater then a certain threshold then the neuron is activated else is deactivated. In the image below a graphical representation of the output.

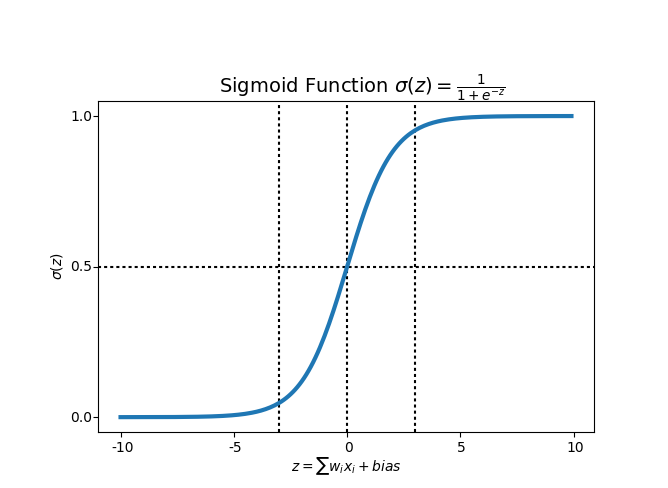


**Figure 1.7**

This type of function can be used in case of binary classifier but it become useless when there are a multiple classes on the input variables, these aspect make binary step function very limited in usage moreover there are cases when the result is 0 and it ccan cause the back propagation process.

#### **1.3.2.2 Sigmoid function**

This type of function in one of the most widely used non-linear activation function. The mathematical expression of that function is **f(x) = 1/(1+e^-x)**. Being a non-linear function as a consequence it leads to a non- linear output from the neuron system these means practically that the output we get from a neuron can not be represented in a linear combination.

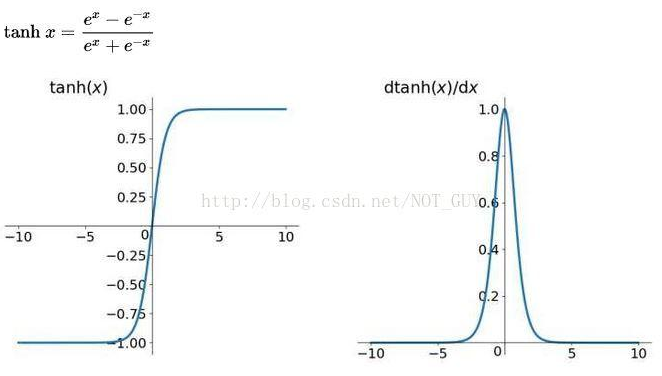


**Figure 1.8**

Unfortunately the sigmoid function is not commonly used due to tow disadvantages. Firstly sigmoids can be easily saturated if the input is too large or small this make the gradient of the neuron close to 0. As consequence we can’t learn the input data recursively. Second disadvantage is that the output is not 0 centered, it will cause the input of the neurons in the back layer to be a signal with a non-zero mean, which will affect the gradient.

#### 1.3.2.3 Than function

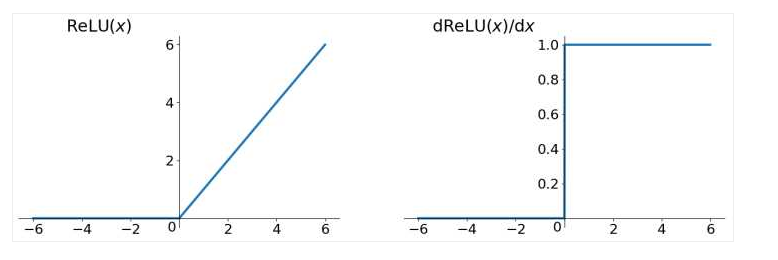
This type of function is very similar to sigmoid function the only difference is that it is symmetric respect to the origin. The range of the values are between -1 and 1 and as consequence the input for the next layer can be with different signs. The formula if the than function is **tanh(x)=2sigmoid(2x)-1** and as in the case of sigmoid function there are also the same problem with the gradient.



**Figure 1.9**

#### 1.3.2.4 ReLU functions

ReLU stands for Rectified Linear Unit. The main advantage of using the ReLU function over other activation functions is that it does not activate all the neurons at the same time.This means that the neurons will only be deactivated if the output of the linear transformation is less than 0.



**Figure 1.10**

Compared to the sigmoid / tanh functions the ReLU have 2 advantages. First practically it was found that the coverage speed is much faster and the second advantage is that the calculation are easier only needs a threshold to get the activation value. x> 0, f (x) = x as consequence speed ​​up the calculation of forward propagation. Regarding the disadvantages firs one is that the output is not zero centered and second problem is that ReLU is very fragile during training known as “Dead ReLU problem”.

We can also mention functions like Leaky ReLU function and ELU (Exponential Linear Units) these type of functions came to solve the Dead ReLU problem based on that we can say that these tow functions are just variation of the ReLU function.

# Chapter 2. Training a model

In this chapter we will describe step by stet how we train a model in order to detect face and if a person wear the mas or not, also we will mention what programming language in was used.

The main objective is to train a model using Deep Learning which as an input has an image and based on it can identify if the person is wearing the mask or not.

## 2.1 Python (programming language)

It is an interpreted high-level general-purpose programming language, it is used in very often in Deep Learning due to it’s simplicity and integrated modules that allow developers to concentrate on more on l training methodologies then on how to implement again some low level functions from neural networks.

Python is dynamically-typed and garbage-collected. It supports multiple programming paradigms, including structured (particularly,procedural), object-oriented and functional programming. Python is often described as a **"batteries included"** language due to its comprehensive standard library.

Python was conceived in the late 1980s by Guido van Rossum from Centrum Wiskunde & Informatica (CWI) in the Netherlands as a successor but the first release was in 1991 as Python 0.9.0 nowadays it reach the version 3.9.6 in 2021.

There are several reason why Phyton in used as the main language for AI, Machine Learning and Deep Learning, firstly it is open source and has a lot of packages useful in training models for example like Keras, secondly it doesn't require a deep knowledge about the programming because it has an easy syntax, last but not least the code written in Python can run almost on any Operating system (Windows, Linux, Ios) all what we need to do is to install the coresponding packages for python.

As an development environment we used PyCharm which is an Python IDE provided by

Jetbrains.

## 2.2 Keras module

It is an open source library that provides an interface for a deep learning models training. It was developed as part of the research effort of project Open-ended Neuro-Electronic Intelligent Robot Operating System where the primary author was François Chollet.

The main advantages of that model are:

1. Modularity. A model is understand as a sequence of fully configurable modules this leads to the possibility when neural layers, cost functions, optimizes, initialization schemes, activation functions, regularization schemes can be interpreted as individual modules and can be combined in many was in order to create new models.

2.Minimalism. It consist in that the code is easy to use and are very intuitive even for people how don’t know programming.

3.Easy extensible. Adding new modules, classes or function are very easy and as consequence Keras is suitable for researching.

4.Can work with it in Python. As it was mentioned before Python is a very easy programming language which make also easy to work with Keras.

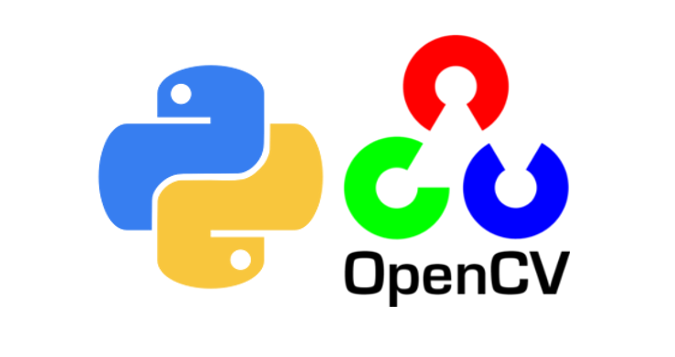
5. Supports arbitrary connectivity schemes (including multi-input and multi-output training).

Being a very big modules it is obvious that it supports rot of models types but in our training process we used VGG19 architecture. In the image below we can see the declaration of the vgg19 function. As an important aspect to be mention is that in order to use this type of architecture the size of the image should be 224x224.



**Figure 2.1**

## 2.3 OpenCV



**Figure 2.2**

It is a open source library that include hundreds of computer vision algorithms, has a modular structure and have 2 main implementation OpenCV 2.x API, which is essentially a C++ API opposed to the C-based OpenCV 1.x API.

Some of mos popular modules available are:

**core** - a compact module defining basic data structures,

**imgproc** - an image processing module that includes linear and non-linear image filtering, geometrical image transformations,

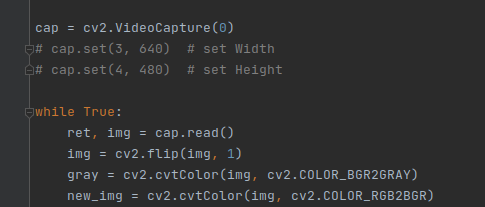
**video** - a video analysis module that includes motion estimation,

**calib3d** - basic multiple-view geometry algorithms

**objdetect** - detection of objects and instances of the predefined classes

….

There are more modules implemented but in our project we used OpenCV for reading images from the video camera and pass them to the models trained in order to detect people faces and if they are wearing the mask or not. Below there are an image where we can see how esely is to capture image by using OpenCV.



**Figure 2.3**

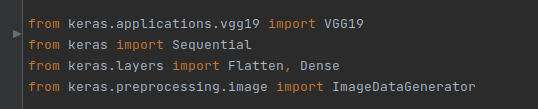
## 2.4 Training model Steps and resources used

One of the biggest challenge when we want to train a model is to find enough data for training. In the first half of the project we will train a model in order to recognize if persons from an image wear medical mask correctly or not.

As a train data set we used images where persons wear mask or not. Training set of data is composed from a thousands of images grouped in three categories for training , validation and testing the model. Also each category is divided in 2 subcategories one with correct images where people wear mask correct and another where people don’t wear mask at all.

### 2.4.1 Training model

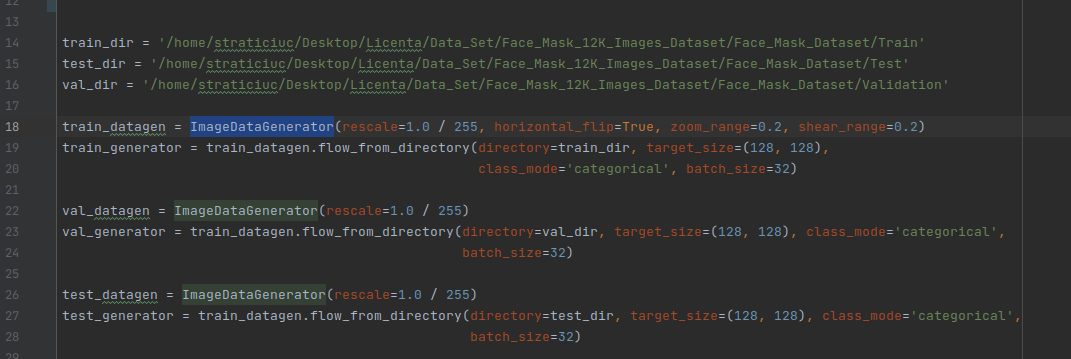
As we said previously for training model we used vgg19 architecture from Keras and as consequence firstly we import all dependence that we need



**Figure 2.4**

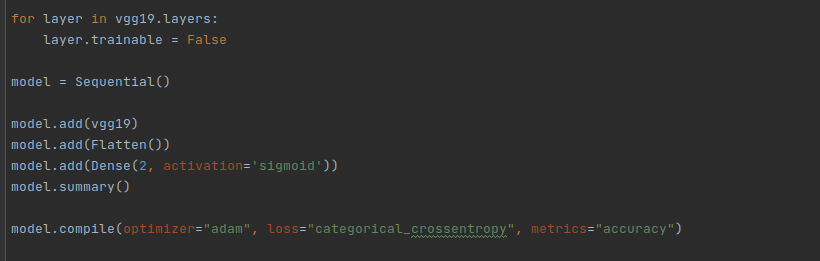
After that we need to define the paths where we can find the data-set for training , validation and

testing as a a string value. Using function **ImageDataGenerator** we generate batches of tensor image data with real-time data augmentation and using **flow\_from\_directory** method which takes the path to a directory & generates batches of augmented data we create internally the sets of data needed for model creation and validation.



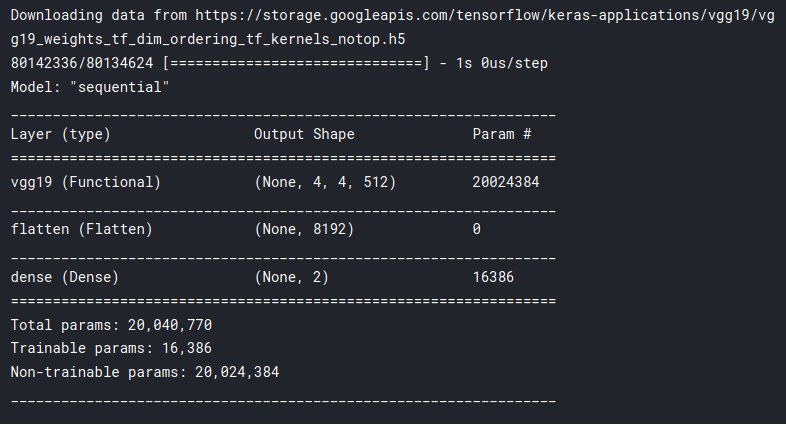
**Figure 2.5**

The next step is to build VGG19 transfer learning model. Below we have he sequence of code that was used in order to do that.



**Figure 2.6**

As we can see in the image for this model we have chose the sequential model instance where each layer has exactly one input tensor and one output tensor. Also we add the fatten layer in order to reshapes the tensor to have the shape that is equal to the number of elements contained in tensor. At the end we print the summary of the learning model.



**Figure 2.7**

At the end we make a call of the function fit\_generator() where we specify generators created previous that will be used for training and validation of the model.

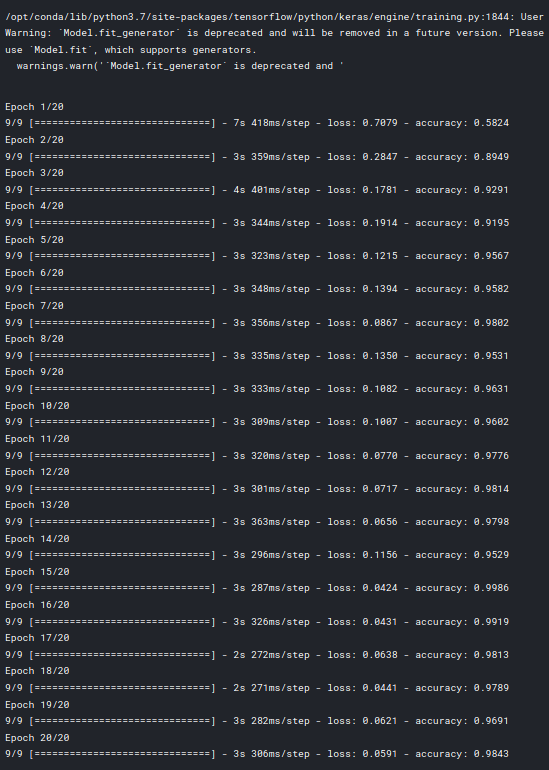
When we call the function fit\_generator the following steps are performed by Keras:

1. Keras calls the generator function supplied to .fit\_generator().

2. The generator function yields a batch of size BS to the .fit\_generator function.

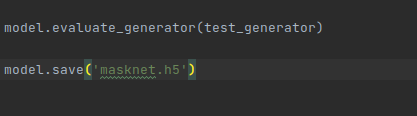
3. The .fit\_generator function accepts the batch of data, performs back-propagation, and updates the weights in our model.

4.This process is repeated until we have reached the desired number of epochs.



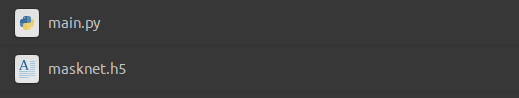
**Figure 2.8**

At the end by using the evaluate\_generator we can test the accuracy of the model obtained and then save it. Also based on test\_generator composed from test data images we arrived with a model witch accuracy is around 98%.



**Figure 2.9**

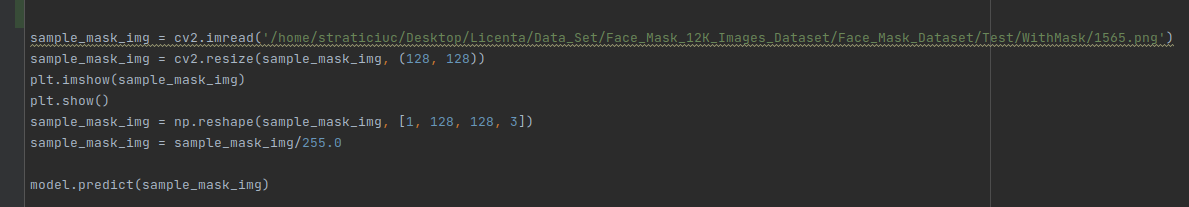
At the end of training process we obtain a file with the extension .h5 that can be easy loaded wherever we wand and use it by calling the method **model = load\_model('masknet.h5')**.



**Figure 3.0**

### 2.4.2 Testing model

For testing purpose we will use firstly an image from data set where a girl wear the mas correctly.

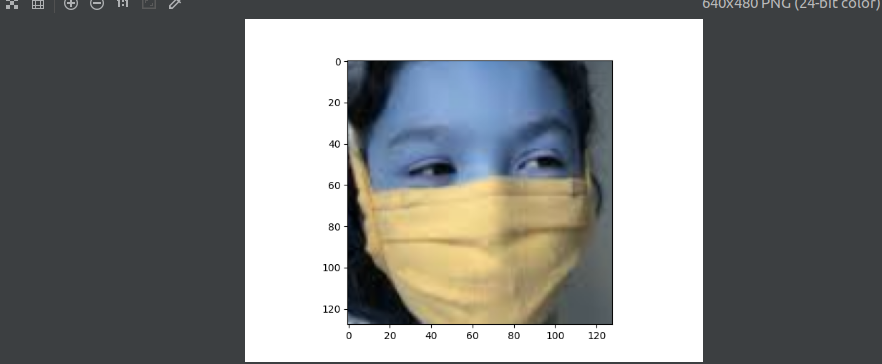
**Figure 3.1**

As we can see in the Figure 3.1 we take a sample image from test folder resize it due to the fact that the model was trained to work with images with shape 128x128.

Using **predict()** method we pass to the model the sample image and evaluate if the person in the image a re wearing the mask or not. As an output of the predict method we will have an array that contain tow probability one if the persona a wearing the mask and another if not.



But in order to be more easy to verify we decide to print the image in order to have a clear visualization if the model identify the mask in image or not .

**Figure 3.2**

As we can see in the figure above the mask pattern was identified correctly and based on that we can arrive to the conclusion that the training process was completed with success. Know the model is ready to be used but we need to remember that in order to obtain a relevant result we always must to reshape the image to the size corresponding with tanning set images. Unfortunately when we do reshape of the image we lose the quality of that image and as we can suspect if the quality is become lower in increase the probability that the model will not be able to detect the mask correctly.

# Chapter 3. Live Application Examples

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In this chapter we will exemplify several application that use per-trained models in order to detect if a person wear the mask or not from an image or from an video stream.

As it was said previously the main target was to make a application that can be easily integrated in real world environment. During the development we arrived to the conclusion that its not productive to make a single application that can detect faces and if the persons wear the mask correctly on static images or live stream video simultaneously. In the end we arrived with 2 distinct application that can be used separate depending on the needs.

## 3.1 Detecting Faces And Medical Mask on static images

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