Configuring the NVIDIA Jetson TX2's CUDA cores for OpenCV's dnn module and pyrealsense2 with the Intel Realsense Depth Camera D435

Note: If done correctly, this procedure can be completed within 4.5 hours.

Items required:

- Host computer running Ubuntu 18.04 LTS (preferred) or 16.04 LTS
- NVIDIA Jetson TX2
- Intel Realsense Depth Camera D435
- USB-A to micro USB data cable

Procedure

Setup

Flash Jetson TX2 with JetPack 4.6 on host machine with Ubuntu 18.04 LTS.

This will install the following, among other things by default:

- cuDNN 8.2.1
- CUDA 10.2
- OpenCV 4.1.1 (to be removed later since OpenCV must be compiled from source to take advantage of the CUDA cores)

Building the librealsense and pyrealsense2 Libraries from Scratch

Once flash is complete, clone the librealsense library. This library also contains the pyrealsense module. To do so, run the following commands:

```
sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ cd ~
    sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ sudo apt-get update && sudo apt-get -y upgrade
    sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ sudo apt-get install -y --no-install-recommends \
        python3 \
        python3-setuptools \
        python3-pip \
        python3-dev
10
   # Install the core packages required to build librealsense libs
   sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ sudo apt-get install -y git libssl-dev libusb-1.0-0-dev
11
   pkg-config libgtk-3-dev
12
   # Install Distribution-specific packages for Ubuntu 18
13
   sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ sudo apt-get install -y libqlfw3-dev libql1-mesa-dev
14
   libglu1-mesa-dev
15
   sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ git clone
   https://github.com/IntelRealSense/librealsense.git
17
   sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ cd ./librealsense
   sahaj@jetson-tx2:~/librealsense$ ./scripts/setup_udev_rules.sh
18
   sahaj@jetson-tx2:~/librealsense$ mkdir build && cd build
19
20
   # Install CMake with Python bindings (that's what the -DBUILD flag is for)
21 # see link:
   https://github.com/IntelRealSense/librealsense/tree/master/wrappers/python#bui
   lding-from-source
22 sahaj@jetson-tx2:~/librealsense/build$ cmake ../ -
   DBUILD_PYTHON_BINDINGS:bool=true
```

Now export pyrealsense2 to your PYTHONPATH in order for 'import pyrealsense2' to work.

```
1 sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ vim ~/.bashrc
```

Append the document with the following line:

```
1 export PYTHONPATH=$PYTHONPATH:/usr/local/lib/python3.6/pyrealsense2
```

Reload the ~/.bashrc file in your terminal session:

```
1 sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ source ~/.bashrc
```

Test the import of pyreal sense2 module on any python program.

```
1 sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ python3
2 Python 3.6.9 (default, Jan 26 2021, 15:33:00)
3 [GCC 8.4.0] on linux
4 Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.
5 >>> import pyrealsense2
6 >>> pyrealsense2.__version__
7 '2.49.0'
```

Building the OpenCV library from Scratch

Now build the OpenCV library. Note that OpenCV can only take advantage of the CUDA cores from version 4.2.0 and up. So, we will switch to that branch after cloning the repository.

But first, remove the 4.1.1 version of OpenCV that is already installed.

```
1 sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ sudo apt-get purge *libopencv*
```

Now, begin the installation.

```
1 sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ cd ~
2 sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ git clone https://github.com/opencv/opencv.git
3 sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ cd opencv
4 sahaj@jetson-tx2:~/opencv$ git checkout 4.5.3
5 sahaj@jetson-tx2:~/opencv$ cd ..
6 sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ git clone https://github.com/opencv/opencv_contrib.git
7 sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ cd opencv_contrib
8 sahaj@jetson-tx2:~/opencv_contrib$ git checkout 4.5.3
9 sahaj@jetson-tx2:~/opencv_contrib$ cd ..
```

It is important that both opency and opency_contrib are in the same branch.

Now, install the relevant dependencies to configure the OpenCV's "dnn" module for NVIDIA GPU.

```
sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ sudo apt-get update
sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ sudo apt-get upgrade
sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ sudo apt-get install build-essential cmake unzip pkg-config
sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ sudo apt-get install libjpeg-dev libpng-dev libtiff-dev
sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ sudo apt-get install libavcodec-dev libavformat-dev
libswscale-dev
sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ sudo apt-get install libv4l-dev libxvidcore-dev libx264-dev
sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ sudo apt-get install libgtk-3-dev
sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ sudo apt-get install libatlas-base-dev gfortran
sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ sudo apt-get install python3-dev
```

Configure a python virtual environment for best practices.

```
sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ wget https://bootstrap.pypa.io/get-pip.py
sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ sudo python3 get-pip.py
sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ sudo pip install virtualenv virtualenvwrapper
sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ sudo rm -rf ~/get-pip.py ~/.cache/pip
```

Now, you need to update your ~/.bashrc file so that it automatically loads virtualenv/virtualenvwrapper when you open up the terminal.

1 sahaj@jetson-tx2:~\$ vim ~/.bashrc

Insert the following:

```
1 # virtualenv and virtualenvwrapper
```

- 2 export WORKON_HOME=\$HOME/.virtualenvs
- 3 export VIRTUALENVWRAPPER_PYTHON=/usr/bin/python3
- 4 source /usr/local/bin/virtualenvwrapper.sh

Then reload the ~/.bashrc file in your terminal session:

```
1 sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ source ~/.bashrc
```

Now create your python virtual environment:

```
1 sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ mkvirtualenv opencv_cuda -p python3
```

This will automatically start the virtual environment where you need to install numpy.

```
1 (opencv_cuda) sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ pip install numpy
```

```
2 (opencv_cude) sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ deactivate
```

Add the following lines to your ~/.bashrc file:

```
1 export PYTHONPATH=$PYTHONPATH:/usr/local/lib/python3.6
```

2 export OPENBLAS_CORETYPE=ARMV8

Then reload the ~/.bashrc file in your terminal session:

```
1 sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ source ~/.bashrc
```

It is paramount that you determine your NVIDIA GPU architecture version, for the TX2, it's 6.2. This is the value that will be used for the -D CUDA_ARCH_BIN flag.

Now we will start building the library. First, make sure you are in the virtual environment.

```
1 sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ workon opencv_python
```

Navigate to the opency directory. And start the recipe.

```
(opencv_cuda) sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ cd ~/opencv
   (opencv_cuda) sahaj@jetson-tx2:~/opencv$ mkdir build && cd build
   (opencv_cuda) sahaj@jetson-tx2:~/opencv/build$ cmake -D
   CMAKE_BUILD_TYPE=RELEASE \
     -D CMAKE_INSTALL_PREFIX=/usr/local \
     -D INSTALL_PYTHON_EXAMPLES=ON \
     -D INSTALL_C_EXAMPLES=OFF \
     -D OPENCV_ENABLE_NONFREE=ON \
     -D WITH_CUDA=ON \
     -D WITH_CUDNN=ON \
     -D OPENCV_DNN_CUDA=ON \
11
     -D ENABLE_FAST_MATH=1 \
     -D CUDA_FAST_MATH=1 \
12
13
     -D CUDA_ARCH_BIN=6.2 \
14
      -D WITH_CUBLAS=1 \
      -D OPENCV_EXTRA_MODULES_PATH=~/opencv_contrib/modules \
15
      -D HAVE_opencv_python3=0N \
      -D PYTHON_EXECUTABLE=~/.virtualenvs/opencv_cuda/bin/python \
17
18
      -D BUILD_EXAMPLES=ON ..
19
```

After running cmake, ensure the command executed properly by looking at the output:

```
1 ...
2 -- NVIDIA CUDA: YES (ver 10.2, CUFFT CUBLAS FAST_MATH)
3 -- NVIDIA GPU arch: 62
4 -- NVIDIA PTX archs:
5 --
6 -- cuDNN: YES (ver 8.1.2)
7 ...
```

If you get cuDNN: NO by any chance, a solution might be to make a change in the opency/cmake/FindCUDNN.cmake file.

```
1 // Replace line:
2 file(READ "${CUDNN_INCLUDE_DIR}/cudnn.h" CUDNN_H_CONTENTS)
3 // With:
4 file(READ "${CUDNN_INCLUDE_DIR}/cudnn_version.h" CUDNN_H_CONTENTS)
5
```

Then start the installation.

```
1 (opencv_cuda) sahaj@jetson-tx2:~/opencv/build$ make -j4
2 (opencv_cuda) sahaj@jetson-tx2:~/opencv/build$ sudo make install
3 (opencv_cuda) sahaj@jetson-tx2:~/opencv/build$ sudo ldconfig
4 (opencv_cuda) sahaj@jetson-tx2:~/opencv/build$ deactivate
```

We are almost done, now we have to sym-link the OpenCV library to our python virtual environment. First, confirm the location of the OpenCV bindings. It should be in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/site-packages/cv2/python-3.51. You may confirm it by using the ls command:

```
1 sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ ls -l /usr/local/lib/python3.6/site-packages/cv2/python-3.6
2 total 9996
3 -rw-r--r-
4 1 root staff 10232360 Oct 8 21:09 cv2.cpython-36m-aarch64-linux-gnu.so
```

Now that you have confirmed the location of your OpenCV bindings, you can sym-link them using the ln command as:

- 1 sahaj@jetson-tx2:~\$ cd ~/.virtualenvs/opencv_cuda/lib/python3.6/site-packages/
- 2 sahaj@jetson-tx2:~/.virtualenvs/opencv_cuda/lib/python3.6/site-packages/\$ ln -s
 /usr/local/lib/python3.6/site-packages/cv2/python-3.6/cv2.cpython-36m-aarch64linux-gnu.so cv2.so

Verifying installation of OpenCV

```
1 sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ workon opencv_cuda
2 (opencv_cuda) sahaj@jetson-tx2:~$ python3
3 Python 3.6.9 (default, Jan 26 2021, 15:33:00)
4 [GCC 8.4.0] on linux
5 Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.
6 >>> import cv2
7 >>> cv2.__version__
8 '4.5.3'
```