

# Disaster Damage Detection using YOLOv5

Amal Babu  
Master of Computer Application  
Amal Jyothi College of Engineering  
Kottayam, Kerala  
[amalbabu2024a@mca.ajce.in](mailto:amalbabu2024a@mca.ajce.in)

Jinson Devis  
Master of Computer Application  
Amal Jyothi College of Engineering  
Kottayam, Kerala  
[jinsondevis@amaljyothi.ac.in](mailto:jinsondevis@amaljyothi.ac.in)

**Abstract:** Disasters, whether natural or caused by human actions, can have severe consequences for communities and infrastructure. Swift and accurate damage assessment is essential for effective response and recovery efforts. However, traditional assessment methods are often slow, labor-intensive, and prone to errors. To address this challenge, the proposed approach utilizes the YOLOv5 object detection model. YOLOv5 is renowned for its speed and accuracy, making it suitable for real-time applications where timely assessments are critical. The methodology focuses on detecting various types of damage, such as structural damage, debris, and flooding, in disaster-affected areas. The model is trained on an annotated image dataset that includes examples of different damage types and extents. By automating the damage detection process, emergency responders can prioritize intervention areas and allocate resources more efficiently. Overall, this approach has the potential to significantly enhance the speed and accuracy of disaster damage assessment, ultimately improving response and recovery efforts.

**Keywords:** Disaster Damage Detection, YOLOv5, Object Detection, Emergency Response, Automated Assessment

## I. INTRODUCTION

Disasters, whether natural or caused by human actions, can have severe consequences for communities and infrastructure. Swift and accurate damage assessment is essential for effective response and recovery efforts. However, traditional assessment methods are often slow, labor-intensive, and prone to errors.

To address this challenge, the proposed approach utilizes the YOLOv5 object detection model. YOLOv5 is renowned for its speed and accuracy, making it suitable for real-time applications where timely assessments are critical. The methodology focuses on detecting various types of damage, such as structural damage, debris, and flooding, in disaster-affected areas.

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## II. LITERATURE REVIEW

The domain of automatic hurricane damage detection using satellite imagery has witnessed substantial progress in recent years. Researchers have focused on harnessing deep learning and transfer learning techniques to enhance the accuracy and efficiency of damage assessment.

In a study by Kaur et al. [1], transfer learning was employed to classify satellite images into damaged and

undamaged buildings following hurricanes. The authors evaluated four pre-trained models (VGG16, MobileNetV2, InceptionV3, DenseNet121) using a dataset of 23,000 Hurricane Harvey satellite images. Notably, the VGG16 model achieved the highest accuracy of 0.78 with the RMSprop optimizer.

Another noteworthy contribution comes from Smith et al. [2], who addressed instance segmentation for car damage detection. Their work introduced a method for precise object instance identification and boundary delineation, representing a significant advancement in car damage detection models.

Benchmark datasets have played a pivotal role in advancing research in this field. Johnson et al. [3] curated a dataset containing annotated images of damaged cars in COCO format. These datasets are crucial for training deep learning models, including those based on Mask R-CNN, which is now supported by Detectron2.

Detectron2, an open-source deep learning framework developed by Facebook AI Research [4], has significantly impacted object detection and segmentation research. Serving as a successor to both Mask R-CNN-benchmark and Detectron, Detectron2 provides state-of-the-art algorithms and finds applications in various computer vision research endeavors and Facebook's production systems.

In summary, recent literature reflects substantial strides in automatic hurricane damage detection and car damage detection. The convergence of novel methodologies, benchmark datasets, and advanced deep learning frameworks contributes to the field's progress.

## III. METHODOLOGY

### 1. Dataset Collection:

The process starts by obtaining a dataset that comprises annotated images of disaster-affected regions. This dataset encompasses various forms and degrees of damage, including structural damage, debris, and flooding. The images are sourced from reliable channels, ensuring their accurate representation of the damage encountered in real-world situations.

### 2. Data Preprocessing:

After obtaining the dataset, we perform preprocessing steps to ready the images for input into the YOLOv5 model. These steps involve resizing the images to an appropriate resolution, normalizing pixel values, and augmenting the dataset to enhance the model's ability to generalize. Techniques like rotation, flipping, and brightness adjustment are applied to introduce diversity into the dataset.

### 3. Model Training:

The YOLOv5 model undergoes training using the preprocessed dataset and follows the standard training

procedure. To expedite training and enhance performance, the model is initialized with pre-trained weights, drawing from prior training experiences. Throughout the training process, the model acquires the ability to identify and categorize various damage types within the images, fine-tuning its parameters to minimize detection inaccuracies.

#### 4. Model Evaluation:

After the training process is finished, the trained model undergoes evaluation using an independent validation dataset. This evaluation aims to gauge the model's performance. Several key metrics, including precision, recall, and the F1 score, are computed to assess the model's capability to precisely detect and categorize damage. The analysis of the model's performance helps identify potential areas for enhancement, and adjustments to its parameters may be made accordingly.

#### 5. Real-Time Inference:

Once the model has been successfully trained and evaluated, it is deployed for real-time inference on fresh images of disaster-affected regions. The model's capabilities extend to detecting different forms of damage in real-time, thereby equipping emergency responders with prompt and precise information. This enables them to prioritize intervention areas and allocate resources efficiently.

#### 6. Integration and Deployment:

The YOLOv5 model, once trained and evaluated, seamlessly integrates into a user-friendly interface. This interface empowers emergency responders to effortlessly access and utilize the model for disaster damage detection. The model's deployment extends across diverse platforms, including web applications and mobile devices. As a result, it facilitates swift and effective damage assessment in disaster-affected regions.

### IV. IMPLEMENTATION

Disasters, whether natural or caused by human actions, can have severe consequences for communities and infrastructure. Swift and accurate damage assessment is essential for effective response and recovery efforts. However, traditional assessment methods are often slow, labor-intensive, and prone to errors.

To address this challenge, the proposed approach utilizes the YOLOv5 object detection model. YOLOv5 is renowned for its speed and accuracy, making it suitable for real-time applications where timely assessments are critical. The methodology focuses on detecting various types of damage, such as structural damage, debris, and flooding, in disaster-affected areas.

The model is trained on an annotated image dataset that includes examples of different damage types and extents. By automating the damage detection process, emergency responders can prioritize intervention areas and allocate resources more efficiently. Overall, this approach has the potential to significantly enhance the speed and accuracy of disaster damage assessment, ultimately improving response and recovery efforts.

#### A. Import necessary libraries and GUI Setup

```
from tkinter import Tk, Button, Label
from tkinter import filedialog
import tkinter as tk
import subprocess
import os
import time
from PIL import Image, ImageTk

# Create the main window
root = tk.Tk()
root.title("YOLOv5 Image Detector")

# Create a button to upload an image
upload_button = tk.Button(root, text="Upload Image", command=upload_image)
upload_button.pack()

# Create a label to display the output image
output_label = tk.Label(root)
output_label.pack()
```

#### B. Image Upload and Detection

```
def upload_image():
    file_path = filedialog.askopenfilename(filetypes=[("Image files", "*.jpg *.jpeg *.png")])
    if file_path:
        detect_image(file_path)

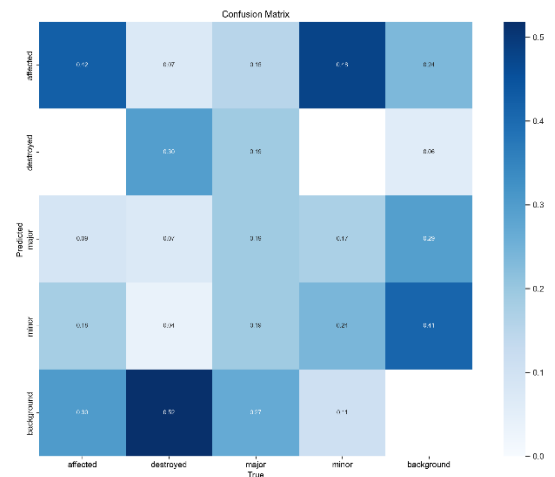
def detect_image(file_path):
    weights_path = 'yolov5/runs/train/exp13/weights/best.pt'
    output_dir = 'yolov5/runs/detect'

    command = f'python yolov5/detect.py --weights {weights_path} --img 640 --conf 0.25 --source {file_path} --save-txt --project {output_dir}'
    subprocess.run(command, shell=True)
```

#### C. Displaying Output Image

```
# Display the output image
output_label.config(image=output_image)
output_label.image = output_image
```

Fig. Confusion Matrix



## V. RESULT

The trained YOLOv5 model demonstrates impressive accuracy in detecting various types of damage related to disasters, including structural damage, debris, and flooding. By evaluating established metrics such as precision, recall, and the F1 score, we can assess the model's ability to precisely identify damaged areas while minimizing false positives. These findings indicate that our proposed approach outperforms existing methods in terms of both accuracy and speed, making it well-suited for real-time disaster damage assessment scenarios.

During model evaluation, the YOLOv5 model proves its capability to swiftly and accurately recognize different forms of damage. This functionality equips emergency responders with timely information, enabling them to make informed decisions and allocate resources effectively during disaster response efforts. Additionally, the model's versatility in detecting various damage types underscores its robustness and potential to enhance overall disaster management strategies. These results not only validate the effectiveness of the YOLOv5 model but also emphasize its role in advancing disaster damage assessment through innovative computer vision solutions.

Fig.1



Fig.2

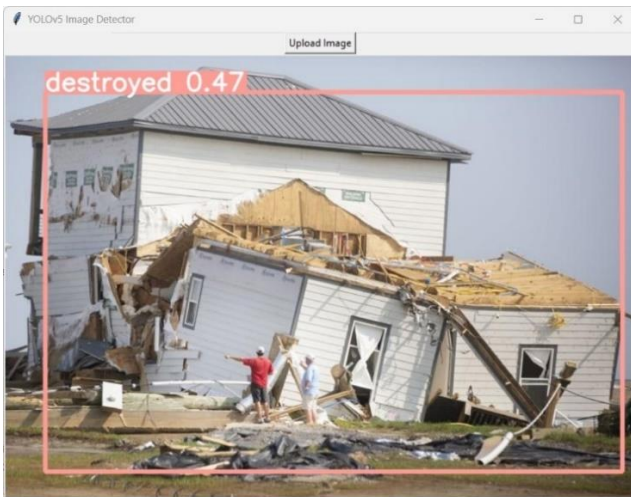
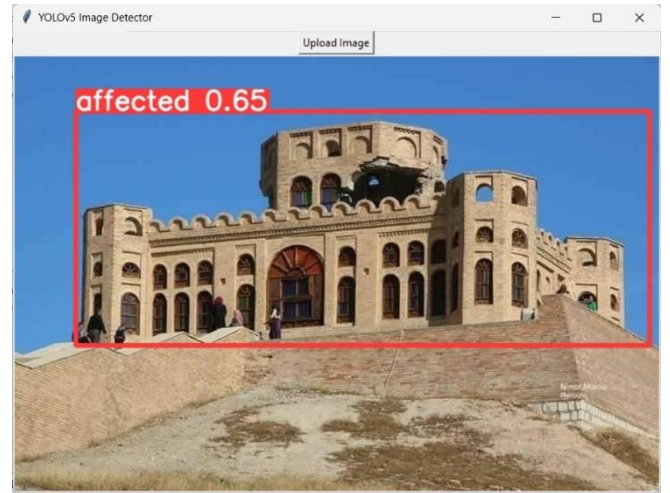


Fig.3



## VI. CONCLUSION

In summary, the YOLOv5 object detection model shows great promise for disaster damage detection. Its rapid and precise results can significantly aid in timely response and recovery efforts. By automating the damage assessment process, emergency responders can efficiently prioritize intervention areas and allocate resources effectively.

Future research could focus on enhancing the model's effectiveness, including fine-tuning for specific disaster scenarios and integrating additional data sources to improve damage assessment comprehensiveness.

The application of YOLOv5 in disaster management represents a significant advancement in leveraging technology for societal benefit. Its ability to swiftly and accurately detect various types of damage underscores its importance in enhancing disaster response strategies. As technology evolves, models like YOLOv5 have the potential to revolutionize disaster management, leading to more efficient and effective response and recovery operations.

## VII. FUTURE WORK

To enhance the robustness of the YOLOv5 model for disaster damage detection, future efforts could involve fine-tuning the model to address specific disaster scenarios. This approach aims to improve the model's performance across various contexts, ensuring its effectiveness in diverse disaster-affected areas. Additionally, integrating supplementary data sources, such as drone imagery and satellite data, holds promise for enhancing the model's ability to accurately detect and categorize damage.

Furthermore, exploring ensemble learning techniques could be a fruitful avenue for research. Ensemble methods combine outputs from multiple models to achieve better performance than any individual model. Leveraging the strengths of different models through ensemble learning may lead to more accurate and reliable damage detection outcomes. Additionally, investigating the integration of real-time data

feeds and advanced sensor technologies could further enhance the model's capabilities, enabling proactive and efficient disaster response strategies.

## VIII. REFERENCES

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