DeePaperScan

A Deep Learning model that detects paper corners in pictures / videos

##Definition ### Project overview

Mobile Scanners often use computer vision(ex. OpenCv) to detect corners of scanned paper images in their smartphone apps. The main reasons are that the solution works well on basic cases and secondly it is easily deployable for real time usage (doesn't require a lot of hardware compute).

My main motivation for this project is to check if training a Deep Neural Network on a labeled dataset of image corners can showcase good results in real time scenario by detecting image corners

###Problem Statement

Image scanner that detects Paper/document corners in Image / video using a Convolution Neural Networks model

There are 4 corners positions to detect of a paper document (Top left, Top right, Bottom left, Bottom right) in different backgrounds.

Some of the most popular similar usecases available in Open Source community are Facial/hand Keypoint Detection, Human pose estimation ...

In Machine Learning terms this is a Regression task that is also known as keypoints / landmark detection. The model takes a resized Gray image with size (197,350,1) as input and produces the expected output that is the x,y coordinates of the 4 corners of a document.

###Metrics

Evaluation metrics that will be used in the training / validation sets:

- loss: mean squared logarithmic loss error

##Analysis

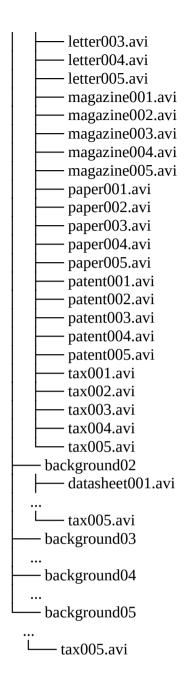
###Data Exploration

The dataset comes from the SMARTDOC 2015 competition (Smartphone Document Capture and OCR Competition)

(link)[https://sites.google.com/site/icdar15smartdoc/challenge-1/challenge1description] [1]

The dataset when downloaded, has the following structure:

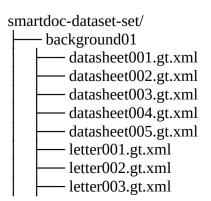
smartdoc-dataset-set/
background01
datasheet001.avi
datasheet002.avi
datasheet003.avi
datasheet004.avi
datasheet005.avi
letter001.avi



It contains 5 directories(image backgrounds), and 150 video files -30 for each background- (AVI container, XVID codec, no audio), where image frames are taken from different angles.

The videos resolution 1920x1080

The output is given as xml file:



```
letter004.gt.xml
    letter005.gt.xml
    magazine001.gt.xml
    magazine002.gt.xml
    magazine003.gt.xml
    magazine004.gt.xml
    magazine005.gt.xml
    paper001.gt.xml
    paper002.gt.xml
    paper003.gt.xml
    paper004.gt.xml
    paper005.gt.xml
    patent001.gt.xml
    patent002.gt.xml
    patent003.gt.xml
    patent004.gt.xml
    patent005.gt.xml
   tax001.gt.xml
    tax002.gt.xml
   - tax003.gt.xml
   - tax004.gt.xml
   - tax005.gt.xml
background02
   - datasheet001.gt.xml
   - tax005.gt.xml
- background03
- background04
- background05
  - tax005.gt.xml
```

Each Xml file contains labeled data of each frame of the corresponding video:

One frame block contains this form:

```
<frame index="$frame_index" rejected="false">
    <point name="bl" x="$blx" y="bly"/>
     <point name="tl" x="$tlx" y="tly"/>
      <point name="tr" x="$trx" y="try"/>
      <point name="br" x="$brx" y="bry"/>
      </frame>
```

where:

- `\$frame_index` is the index of the frame, starting at 1.
- `\$blx` and `\$bly` are the coordinates of the bottom left point of the object
- `\$tlx` and `\$tly` are the coordinates of the top left point of the object
- `\$trx` and `\$try` are the coordinates of the top right point of the object

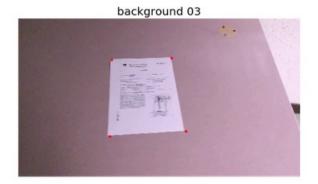
- `\$brx` and `\$bry` are the coordinates of the bottom right point of the object

###Exploratory Visualization

Example of frames (taken from videos) different backgrounds and ground truth keypoints (in red)











The keypoints as shown in the image above are correctly positioned but not perfectly (ex. Background 5)

The Videos' frame size: 1920x1080

I discuss later the methodology used to extract videos to images

###Algorithms and Techniques

- libraries used: Keras (with Tensorflow Backend)

The algorithm we will be using is going to extract important features from images, and try to predict image corner coordinates

- The architecture of the CNN model that we'll be using :

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| Layer (type) Output Shape Param # |
|--|
| conv2d_3 (Conv2D) (None, 195, 348, 32) 320 |
| activation_5 (Activation) (None, 195, 348, 32) 0 |
| max_pooling2d_3 (MaxPooling2 (None, 97, 174, 32) 0 |
| dropout_5 (Dropout) (None, 97, 174, 32) 0 |
| conv2d_4 (Conv2D) (None, 96, 173, 64) 8256 |
| activation_6 (Activation) (None, 96, 173, 64) 0 |
| max_pooling2d_4 (MaxPooling2 (None, 48, 86, 64) 0 |
| dropout_6 (Dropout) (None, 48, 86, 64) 0 |
| conv2d_5 (Conv2D) (None, 47, 85, 128) 32896 |
| activation_7 (Activation) (None, 47, 85, 128) 0 |
| max_pooling2d_5 (MaxPooling2 (None, 23, 42, 128) 0 |
| dropout_7 (Dropout) (None, 23, 42, 128) 0 |
| flatten_1 (Flatten) (None, 123648) 0 |
| dense_3 (Dense) (None, 500) 61824500 |
| activation_8 (Activation) (None, 500) 0 |
| dropout_8 (Dropout) (None, 500) 0 |
| dense_4 (Dense) (None, 500) 250500 |
| activation_9 (Activation) (None, 500) 0 |
| dropout_9 (Dropout) (None, 500) 0 |
| dense_5 (Dense) (None, 8) 4008 |

Total params: 62,120,480 Trainable params: 62,120,480 Non-trainable params: 0

...

###Benchmark

As The challenge had been canceled, there are no benchmark results for this dataset found on internet.

I will be training the model for 500 epochs to check. If loss is still dropping or not to continue training.

The first step is to test on images that come from the same dataset

The second step is to test on images taken from my smartphone (new image with different background, angle, lighting, resolution ...)

##Methodology

###Data Pre-processing

After downloading the dataset it needs to be pre-processed, here are the main steps to create the train and validation data

1. I need to parse all xml files and store them in One dataframe that contains filenames and corners coordinates. The script:

```
DF l = []
for background tup in backgrounds:
  print(background_tup)
  background = background tup[0]
  bg = background tup[1]
  xmls = [el for el in os.listdir(background) if ".xml" in el]
  for xml in xmls:
    xtree = et.parse(os.path.join(background,xml))
    xroot = xtree.getroot()
    xs, ys, idxs, names = [], [], [], []
    for node in xroot.iter('point'):
       names.append(node.attrib["name"])
       xs.append(node.attrib["x"])
       ys.append(node.attrib["y"])
    for node in xroot.iter('frame'):
       idxs.append(node.attrib["index"])
    \# idxs = [x \text{ for item in idxs for } x \text{ in repeat(item, 4)}]
    idxs = [bg+"-"+xml.split(".gt")[0]+"-f"+idx+".jpg" for idx in idxs]
    temp df = pd.DataFrame(list(zip(names,xs,ys)),columns=["names","xs","ys"])
    blx = temp_df[temp_df["names"]=="bl"]["xs"]
    bly = temp_df[temp_df["names"]=="bl"]["ys"]
    tlx = temp_df[temp_df["names"]=="tl"]["xs"]
    tly = temp df[temp df["names"]=="tl"]["vs"]
    brx = temp_df[temp_df["names"]=="br"]["xs"]
    bry = temp_df[temp_df["names"]=="br"]["ys"]
    trx = temp df[temp df["names"]=="tr"]["xs"]
    Try = temp_df[temp_df["names"]=="tr"]["ys"]
```

The dataframe contains 24889 images (frames)

2. I need to convert videos to frames and save them to images using this script:

```
# save all videos to frames
for background_tup in backgrounds[:]:
  print(background tup)
  background = background tup[0]
  bg = background_tup[1]
  videos = [el for el in os.listdir(background) if ".avi" in el]
  for video in videos:
    im_path = os.path.join(background,video)
    vidcap = cv2.VideoCapture(im_path)
    length = int(vidcap.get(cv2.CAP_PROP_FRAME_COUNT))
    print( length )
    success,image = vidcap.read()
    count = 0
    while success:
       output_file = "{}-{}-f{}.jpg".format(bg, video.replace(".avi",""), count)
       cv2.imwrite(os.path.join(output path,output file), image) # save frame as JPEG file
       success,image = vidcap.read()
  #
         print('Read a new frame: ', success)
       count += 1
```

- 3. Create a random sample dataframe. As video frames looks each other, Doing a random sampling of sub 10k images seems to be enough for training sample_df = pd.concat(DF_l).sample(7000)
 - 4. Split to train/validation

The validation set is 0.01~% of the sample data, I didn't want to shrink the size of the sample used for training

The script splits to train/validation and create corresponding image folders:

```
train, val = train_test_split(clean_df, test_size=0.01)
for sample in [[train,train_path],[val,validation_path]]:
    filenames = sample[0]["filenames"].values.tolist()
    for filename in filenames:
        shutil.copyfile(os.path.join(output_path,filename),os.path.join(sample[1],filename))
```

5. Prepare the input image

Image resizing including landmarks doesn't come default in Keras. I used a function from this link https://github.com/fizyr/keras-retinanet/blob/8f7e7414db193832572773ea503c26edab405b96/keras-retinanet/utils/image.py that resizes image and returns the scale that we apply to landmarks

The processed images final shape is (197,350,1)

###Implementation

1. Prepare model

The model is wrapped in one function. I had to specify:

- The Height and Width of the image in the first convolution layer that is 197, 350
- The output size in the last dense layer that is 8
- For the model compilation, I used the RMSprop as an optimizer and mean_squared_logarithmic_error as loss metric
- 2. Training

I had to lower the batch size to 64 as it doesn't fit the Gpu memory Training 1000 epochs took around 2.7 hours on GPU

###Refinement

Future works to test/optimize the solution (In order):

- Data augmentation

Data augmentation seems to be an important step to make a more intelligent / robust model that is going to tackle images orientation (real life senario)

Keras image generation is easy step but only for image classification. For keypoint detection need to prepare a custom function that is going to scale for each generated image keypoints.

Data generation means more images and thus more training time. Worth it if results get better

- Box detection + keypoint detection

All tutorials concerning the facial Keypoint Detection use a kind of object detection to detect the face and crop it, this seems pretty effective to remove noise and focus only on the face. Thus it would minimise considerably the loss when training for keypoint detection.

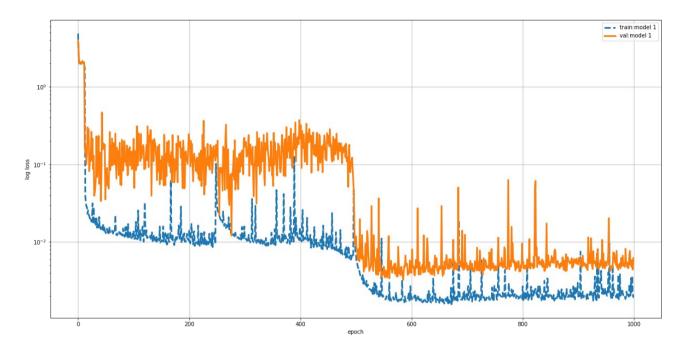
- Testing other CNN architectures
- Optimization / GridSearch
- Specific model

One other method that may work is by creating 1 model for 1 key-point, it means for our use case we need to create 4 different models. However there is a risk of overlapping at the same time, for flipped document, are models trained enough to detect if text if flipped or not (BL instead of TL and vice-versa). This mainly depends on the quality of the dataset.

##Results

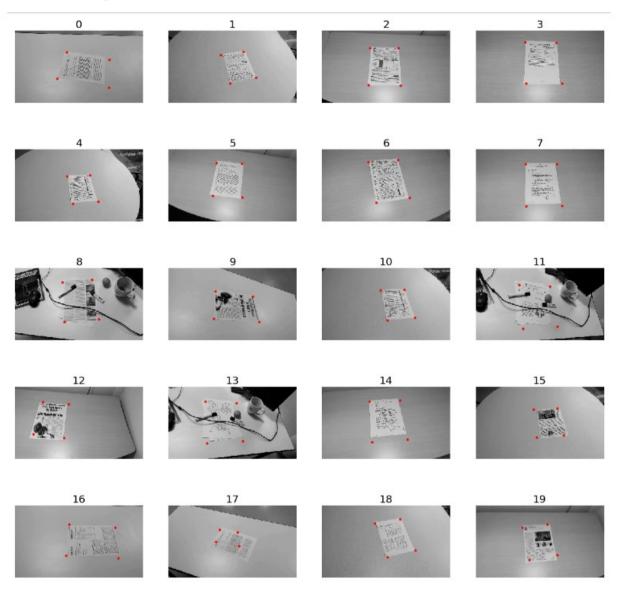
###Model Evaluation and Validation

After 1000 epochs of training, the loss seem to stabilize after 600 epoch. A lot of fluctuation in the validation set, mainly due to the small size of the sample. The train loss usually is smaller that the validation loss, which is coherent.

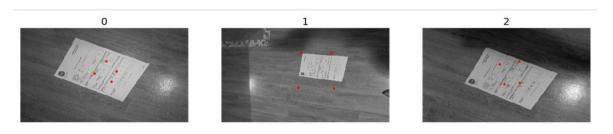


###Justification

Below set of images tested on validation data:



Below resized images taken from smartphone to test the solution:



The final results showcase that the model is specific and not generalized well on non seen images or backgrounds.

This model can work well in similar environment(when optimized) where the pictures have been taken, but would be difficult to apply it to different images.

This model do not solve the recent problem, Further work is needed to optimize the model, and/or to build more generalized dataset (different type of cameras, lighting, backgrounds).