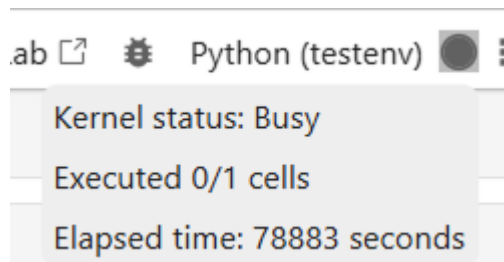


Dear marker,

I'm really sorry if this submission is below the standard of the others. I really gave this assignment my best shot, but I ran into a few tough hurdles along the way:

- The library we used required some older versions of dependencies, and trying to get everything compatible ended up breaking my environment a few times. I'm still not 100% sure it's fully fixed.
- Only when I started to do the project, I realised the problem itself wasn't just standard image recognition. It involved recognizing variable-length words, which pushed me into areas I'm less familiar with.
- The documentation was quite challenging to follow. I'm not naturally great at reading technical docs, but I made a genuine effort to stick to all the steps for training a custom model. Unfortunately, it still didn't work as expected.
- The model training took an extremely long time... I actually had to stop the process after 24 hours because it wasn't finishing and hence I was behind and didn't have time to do any hyperparameter optimisation...



- Even after training, I wasn't fully sure how to integrate the custom model back into EasyOCR. I feel like I managed to train a model, but I didn't succeed in actually using it for predictions.

I've asked for an extension and still I couldn't really make it work. Sorry for not having the best or even followable submission.

I'm a bit embarrassed by how incomplete this submission feels, but I hope my effort and reflections demonstrate my commitment to learning.

Felix