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limhpone ML

fef7e4e · 2 hours ago



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# Tutorial: Image Annotation for Computer Vision

- Annotation is the process of labeling images so machines can learn to “see” like humans.
- It’s the ground truth used to train AI models in tasks such as object detection and segmentation.

## Types of annotation

- Bounding box
- Segmentation

### Bounding Box

- Definition: The simplest form of annotation. Draw a rectangle around the object of interest.
- Use case: Object detection (e.g., detecting cats, cars, faces).
- How it’s stored: Coordinates of top-left corner (x, y), plus width and height.
- Advantages: Simple, fast, small annotation files.
- Limitations: Doesn’t capture the exact shape of the object (lots of background included).

#### Example:

- A box drawn around a cat in an image.
- Supported by formats: YOLO, COCO, Pascal VOC.

### Segmentation

- Definition: More precise labeling, where each object is outlined by its exact shape.

#### Types:

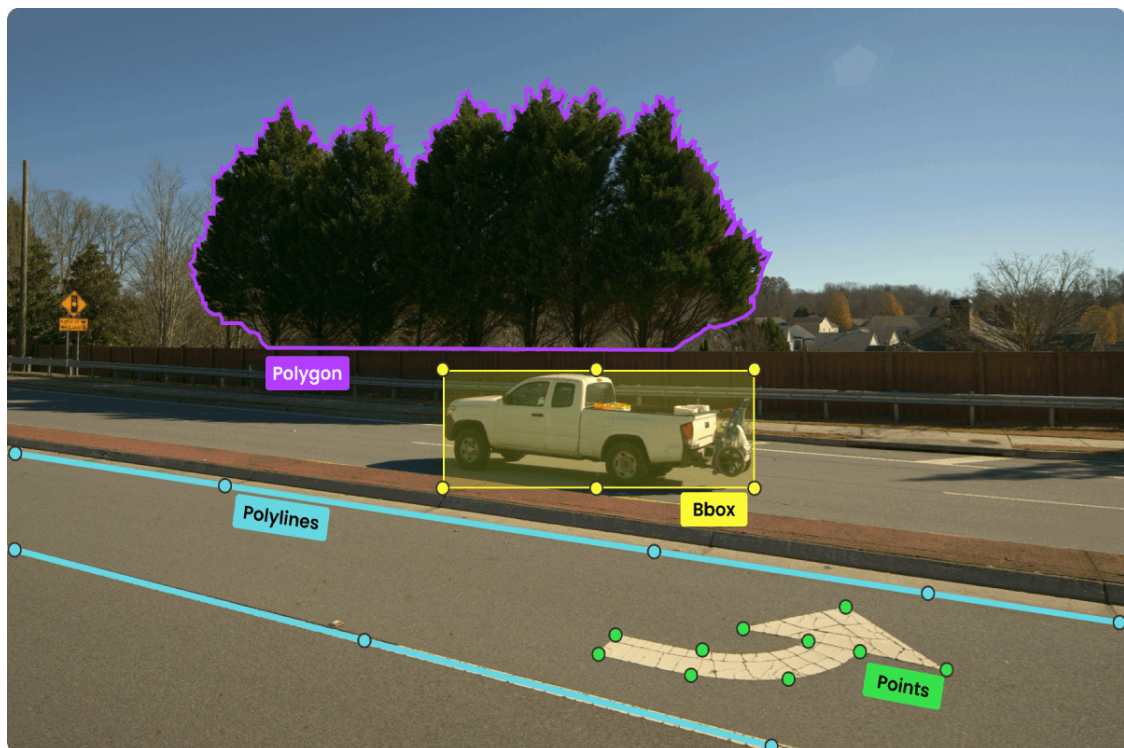
- Polygonal segmentation: draw polygons around objects.
- Pixel-wise segmentation (masking): each pixel is assigned a class label.
- Use case: Semantic segmentation (road/lane markings), instance segmentation

(detecting multiple objects of the same class).

- How it's stored: Polygons (list of points) or binary masks.
- Advantages: Very accurate, useful for detailed tasks.
- Limitations: Time-consuming, large annotation files.

## Example:

- Carefully outlining the cat's ears, tail, and body instead of just using a rectangle.
- Supported by formats: COCO, Pascal VOC (mask), LabelMe JSON.



## Annotation Tools

- For bounding boxes: [labellmg](#), [VGG Image Annotator \(VIA\)](#), [CVAT](#).
- For segmentation: [LabelMe](#), [VGG Image Annotator \(VIA\)](#), [CVAT](#).

## Annotation Formats

Different datasets and frameworks use different annotation formats. Let's look at the **three most common ones** with examples.

### COCO Format (JSON)

- **Supports:** Bounding boxes, segmentation, keypoints

- **Bounding box format:** [x\_min, y\_min, width, height]
- **Widely used in:** Detectron2, MMDetection, COCO dataset

**Example:**

```
{
  "images": [
    {
      "id": 1,
      "file_name": "cat.jpg",
      "width": 800,
      "height": 600
    }
  ],
  "annotations": [
    {
      "id": 1,
      "image_id": 1,
      "category_id": 1,
      "bbox": [100, 150, 200, 300],
      "area": 60000,
      "iscrowd": 0
    }
  ],
  "categories": [
    {
      "id": 1,
      "name": "cat",
      "supercategory": "animal"
    }
  ]
}
```

**Pascal VOC Format (XML)**

- **Supports:** Bounding boxes, segmentation masks
- **Bounding box format:** (xmin, ymin, xmax, ymax)
- **Widely used in:** TensorFlow Object Detection API, Pascal VOC dataset

**Example**

```
<annotation>
  <folder>images</folder>
  <filename>cat.jpg</filename>
  <size>
    <width>800</width>
    <height>600</height>
    <depth>3</depth>
  </size>
  <object>
    <name>cat</name>
```

```

    <pose>Unspecified</pose>
    <truncated>0</truncated>
    <difficult>0</difficult>
    <bndbox>
      <xmin>100</xmin>
      <ymin>150</ymin>
      <xmax>300</xmax>
      <ymax>450</ymax>
    </bndbox>
  </object>
</annotation>

```

## YOLO Format (TXT)

**Supports:** Bounding boxes only

**Bounding box format:** class\_id x\_center y\_center width height

(all values normalized between 0-1 )

**Example** 0 0.25 0.5 0.25 0.5

Explanation (for an image of width 800 and height 600):

- 0 → class ID for "cat"
- $x\_center = (100 + 200/2) / 800 = 0.25$
- $y\_center = (150 + 300/2) / 600 = 0.5$
- $width = 200 / 800 = 0.25$
- $height = 300 / 600 = 0.5$

## VGG IMAGE ANNOTATOR

```
In [ ]: !git clone https://github.com/nearkyh/via-1.0.5.git
```

1. Open the folder via-1.0.5
2. Run via.html

Follow the demonstration in the lab for simple bbox and segmentation.

## labelimg

If activation scripts are blocked, run the process-scope bypass first:

```
Set-ExecutionPolicyv -Scope Process -ExecutionPolicyv Bypass
```

Register the venv as Jupyter Kernel

```
python -m ipykernel install --user --name=cv-lab-venv --display-name  
'Python (cv-lab-venv)'
```

Install pip

```
python -m ensurepip --upgrade
```

```
python -m pip install --upgrade pip setuptools wheel
```

Install package labeling

```
python -m pip install labeling
```

Run labeling

```
labelimg
```

Check more on labeling here: <https://pypi.org/project/labelImg/>