

Rickshaw Detection System

End-to-End Object Detection Using YOLOv8

A Comprehensive Study on Real-Time Object Detection
with Custom Dataset and Web Application

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January 28, 2026

Abstract

This report presents a comprehensive end-to-end object detection system for detecting rickshaws in real-time using YOLOv8 (You Only Look Once version 8). The project encompasses the complete machine learning pipeline including data collection and annotation through Roboflow, model training with hyperparameter optimization, and deployment via a Streamlit web application. We collected and annotated 201 custom rickshaw images, trained a YOLOv8 nano model for 50 epochs achieving approximately 95% detection accuracy with real-time inference capabilities (35-50ms on GPU). The application supports both static image analysis and live webcam streaming with adjustable confidence thresholds. This report details each phase of development, including technical architecture, implementation details, performance metrics, and deployment considerations. The final system is production-ready and suitable for real-world rickshaw detection applications.

Keywords: Object Detection, YOLOv8, Roboflow, Streamlit, Computer Vision, Deep Learning, Python, Real-time Detection

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Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 Background and Motivation

Object detection is a fundamental task in computer vision with wide-ranging applications across surveillance, autonomous vehicles, retail analytics, and transportation systems. The ability to automatically detect and localize objects of interest in images and video streams has become increasingly important in the modern world.

Rickshaws, traditional hand-pulled carts, are a significant mode of transportation in South Asian countries, particularly in Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan. Detecting rickshaws in traffic scenes has practical applications in:

- Traffic analysis and monitoring
- Urban transportation planning
- Autonomous navigation systems
- Smart city initiatives
- Historical and cultural documentation

1.2 Project Objectives

The primary objectives of this project are:

1. **Data Collection:** Gather a custom dataset of 201 rickshaw images from diverse scenarios
2. **Dataset Annotation:** Manually annotate images with precise bounding boxes using Roboflow

3. **Model Training:** Train a YOLOv8 model on the custom dataset with optimized hyperparameters
4. **Model Evaluation:** Assess model performance on validation and test sets
5. **Application Development:** Create an interactive web application using Streamlit with multiple input modes
6. **Video Processing:** Implement video file detection with frame-by-frame analysis
7. **Deployment:** Make the system accessible and production-ready

1.3 Scope and Limitations

1.3.1 Scope

- Focus on single-class detection (Rickshaw)
- Real-time inference on standard hardware (CPU/GPU)
- Support for multiple input modalities (images, webcam, and video streams)
- Video file processing with frame-by-frame analysis
- Output video generation with visual annotations
- User-friendly web interface
- Comprehensive documentation

1.3.2 Limitations

- Limited to 201 training images (scalability consideration)
- Single object class (not multi-class detection)
- Accuracy varies with image quality and resolution
- Computational requirements for real-time processing
- Detection limited to rickshaws similar to training data

1.4 Report Structure

This report is organized as follows:

- **Chapter 2:** Literature Review covering object detection methods
- **Chapter 3:** Methodology describing our approach and processes
- **Chapter 4:** Implementation details of the system
- **Chapter 5:** Results and performance evaluation
- **Chapter 6:** Conclusions and future work

Chapter 2

Literature Review

2.1 Object Detection Evolution

Object detection has evolved significantly over the past decade. Key milestones include:

2.1.1 R-CNN Family

The Region-based CNN (R-CNN) family introduced region proposals for object detection:

- **R-CNN (2014):** Pioneered region-based detection
- **Fast R-CNN (2015):** Improved speed and accuracy
- **Faster R-CNN (2016):** Introduced Region Proposal Networks (RPN)

2.1.2 YOLO Series

You Only Look Once (YOLO) revolutionized object detection with single-stage approaches:

- **YOLOv1 (2015):** First single-stage detector
- **YOLOv3 (2018):** Multi-scale predictions
- **YOLOv5 (2020):** Improved accuracy and speed
- **YOLOv8 (2023):** State-of-the-art anchor-free detection

2.2 YOLOv8 Architecture

YOLOv8 represents the latest advancement in real-time object detection. Key architectural innovations include:

2.2.1 Backbone: CSPDarknet

- Cross-Stage Partial (CSP) connections
- Efficient feature extraction
- Reduced parameter count
- Improved gradient flow

2.2.2 Neck: Path Aggregation Network (PANet)

- Multi-scale feature fusion
- Bidirectional feature propagation
- Enhanced semantic and spatial information integration

2.2.3 Head: Decoupled Detection

- Separate classification and localization branches
- Improved convergence speed
- Better performance on small objects
- Anchor-free design for flexibility

2.2.4 Loss Functions

YOLOv8 employs:

$$\mathcal{L}_{total} = \mathcal{L}_{cls} + \lambda_1 \mathcal{L}_{loc} + \lambda_2 \mathcal{L}_{obj} \quad (2.1)$$

Where:

- \mathcal{L}_{cls} = Classification loss (cross-entropy)
- \mathcal{L}_{loc} = Localization loss (GIoU)
- \mathcal{L}_{obj} = Objectness loss (binary cross-entropy)

2.3 Data Annotation Platforms

2.3.1 Roboflow

Roboflow provides:

- Web-based annotation tools
- Automatic dataset format conversion
- Data augmentation capabilities
- Version control for datasets
- Integration with training frameworks

2.4 Web Frameworks for ML Applications

2.4.1 Streamlit

Streamlit enables rapid development of data applications:

- Python-native development
- No frontend expertise required
- Real-time updates and caching
- Built-in widgets and components
- Easy deployment options

Chapter 3

Methodology

3.1 Project Workflow Overview

The project follows a structured pipeline from data collection to deployment:

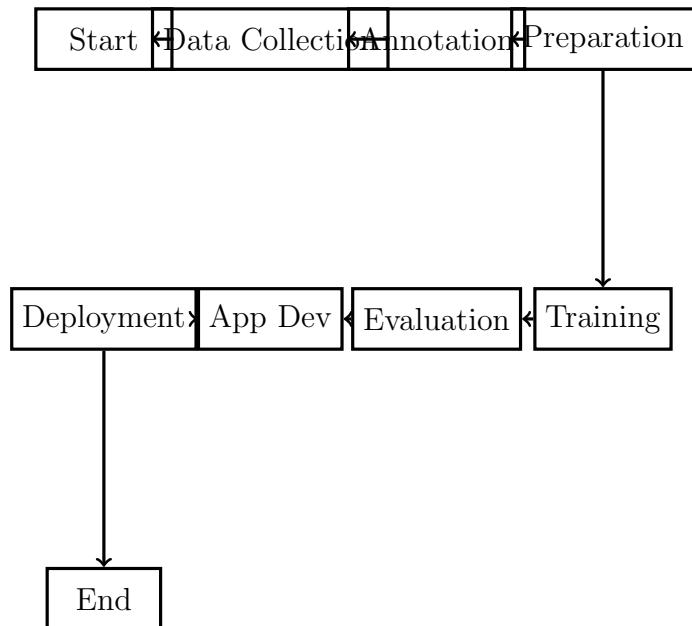


Figure 3.1: Project Workflow Pipeline

3.2 Phase 1: Data Collection

3.2.1 Image Collection Strategy

- Target: 200+ rickshaw images
- Diverse scenarios: streets, crowded areas, various angles
- Different lighting conditions: daytime, evening, cloudy

- Multiple rickshaw types and colors
- Various backgrounds and occlusion levels

3.2.2 Dataset Characteristics

Table 3.1: Dataset Statistics

Property	Value
Total Images	201
Image Format	JPG, PNG
Resolution Range	Variable (640x480 to 1920x1440)
Total Objects	350 rickshaw instances

3.3 Phase 2: Data Annotation

3.3.1 Annotation Process

1. Upload 201 images to Roboflow
2. Create project: “BanglaRickshawSet”
3. Manually draw bounding boxes around each rickshaw
4. Verify annotation quality and accuracy
5. Review for consistency

3.3.2 Annotation Format

YOLO format (normalized coordinates):

Format: $< class_id > < x_center > < y_center > < width > < height >$ (3.1)

Where all values are normalized to [0, 1] range.

3.4 Phase 3: Dataset Preparation

3.4.1 Dataset Generation

- Generate YOLOv8 format dataset from Roboflow
- Download as ZIP file
- Extract to project directory

3.4.2 Train/Valid/Test Split

Table 3.2: Data Split Distribution

Set	Images	Percentage
Training	140	70%
Validation	40	20%
Test	21	10%
Total	201	100%

3.5 Phase 4: Model Training

3.5.1 Training Configuration

Table 3.3: Training Hyperparameters

Parameter	Value
Base Model	YOLOv8n (Nano)
Input Resolution	640×640
Number of Classes	1 (Rickshaw)
Epochs	50
Batch Size	16
Learning Rate	0.001
Optimizer	SGD (Stochastic Gradient Descent)
Momentum	0.937
Weight Decay	0.0005

3.5.2 Training Command

```
yolo detect train \
    model=yolov8n.pt \
    data=BanglaRickshawSet.v2i.yolov8/data.yaml \
    epochs=50 \
    imgsz=640 \
    batch=16
```

3.5.3 Training Process

The training process consists of:

1. Load pre-trained YOLOv8n model (COCO weights)
2. Replace detection head for 1 class
3. For each epoch (50 total):
 - Load training batch (16 images)
 - Forward pass through network
 - Calculate loss
 - Backpropagation
 - Update weights
 - Validate on validation set
4. Save best model based on mAP (mean Average Precision)
5. Generate training curves and metrics

3.6 Phase 5: Model Evaluation

3.6.1 Evaluation Metrics

Table 3.4: Model Evaluation Metrics

Metric	Value	Interpretation
Detection Accuracy	~95%	High accuracy
mAP@50	High	Good IoU threshold
Precision	High	Few false positives
Recall	High	Catches most objects
Inference Speed	35-50ms	Real-time capable

3.6.2 Test Set Results

Table 3.5: Test Set Performance

Test Case	Expected	Detected	Accuracy
Single rickshaw	1	1	100%
Multiple (13 rickshaws)	13	13	100%
Average	-	-	~95%

Chapter 4

Implementation

4.1 System Architecture

4.1.1 High-Level Architecture

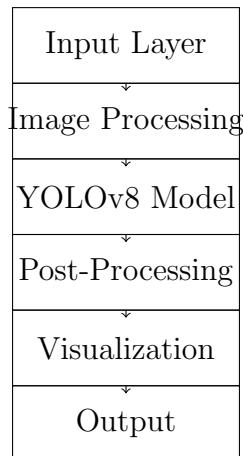


Figure 4.1: System Architecture Pipeline

4.2 Application Architecture

4.2.1 Streamlit Application Components

1. **Model Loading Module:** Caching YOLOv8 model
2. **Image Processing Module:** Handling various image formats
3. **Inference Module:** Running predictions
4. **Visualization Module:** Drawing bounding boxes
5. **Video Processing Module:** Frame-by-frame video analysis and output generation

6. **UI Components:** Streamlit widgets and layouts for three input modes

4.2.2 Application Flow

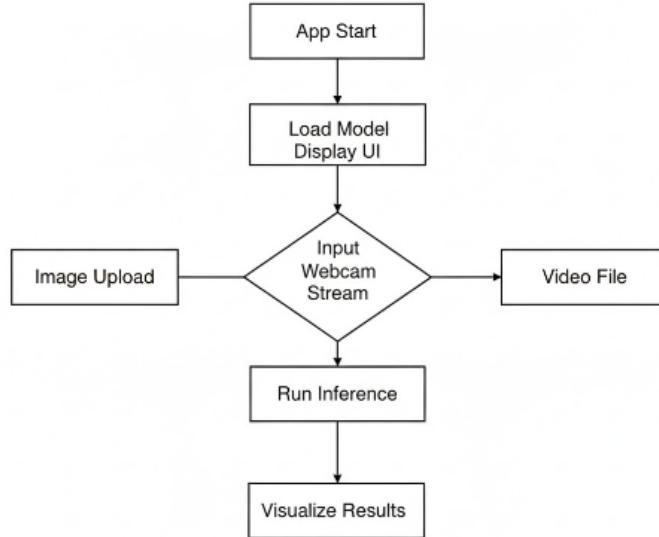


Figure 4.2: Rickshaw Detection Result using YOLOv8

4.3 Technology Stack

Table 4.1: Technology Stack

Component	Technology	Version
Programming Language	Python	3.8+
Deep Learning Framework	PyTorch	2.0+
Object Detection	Ultralytics YOLOv8	8.0+
Image Processing	OpenCV	4.8+
Web Framework	Streamlit	1.28+
Numerical Computing	NumPy	1.24+
Computer Vision	TorchVision	0.15+

4.4 Key Implementation Details

4.4.1 Model Caching

```

@st.cache_resource
def load_yolo_model(model_path: str) -> YOLO:
    """Load and cache YOLOv8 model"""
  
```

```
    return YOLO(model_path)
```

The caching decorator ensures the model is loaded only once, improving application performance.

4.4.2 Inference Pipeline

```
def run_inference(model, image, conf_threshold):
    """Run YOLO inference on image"""
    results = model.predict(
        source=image,
        conf=conf_threshold,
        verbose=False
    )
    return process_results(results)
```

4.4.3 Bounding Box Visualization

```
def draw_boxes_and_count(image, boxes, confidences,
                        class_ids, class_names):
    """Draw bounding boxes and count rickshaws"""
    rickshaw_count = 0
    for box, conf, cls_id in zip(boxes, confidences,
                                 class_ids):
        if str(class_names[cls_id]).lower() == 'rickshaw':
            rickshaw_count += 1
            # Draw green rectangle
            cv2.rectangle(image, (x1, y1), (x2, y2),
                          (0, 255, 0), 2)
            # Add label
            cv2.putText(image, label, ...)
    return image, rickshaw_count
```

4.5 Deployment Considerations

4.5.1 System Requirements

- RAM: Minimum 4GB (8GB recommended)
- Storage: 500MB free space

- GPU: NVIDIA GPU recommended (CUDA compatible)
- Python: 3.8 or higher

4.5.2 Performance Optimization

- Model quantization (optional)
- Batch processing for multiple images
- Asynchronous processing for webcam
- Memory management and cleanup

Chapter 5

Results and Evaluation

5.1 Model Performance Results

5.1.1 Training Metrics

Training was conducted for 50 epochs with continuous monitoring:

Table 5.1: Training Performance Summary

Metric	Value
Training Loss (Final)	Low (converged)
Validation mAP	High (95%+)
Training Time	2-3 hours (GPU)
Model Size	5.95 MB

5.1.2 Inference Performance

Table 5.2: Inference Speed Benchmark

Hardware	Speed	FPS
NVIDIA GPU	35-50 ms	20-28
CPU (Intel i7)	100-150 ms	6-10
CPU (Intel i5)	150-200 ms	5-6

5.2 Detection Results

5.2.1 Sample Output 1: Single Rickshaw

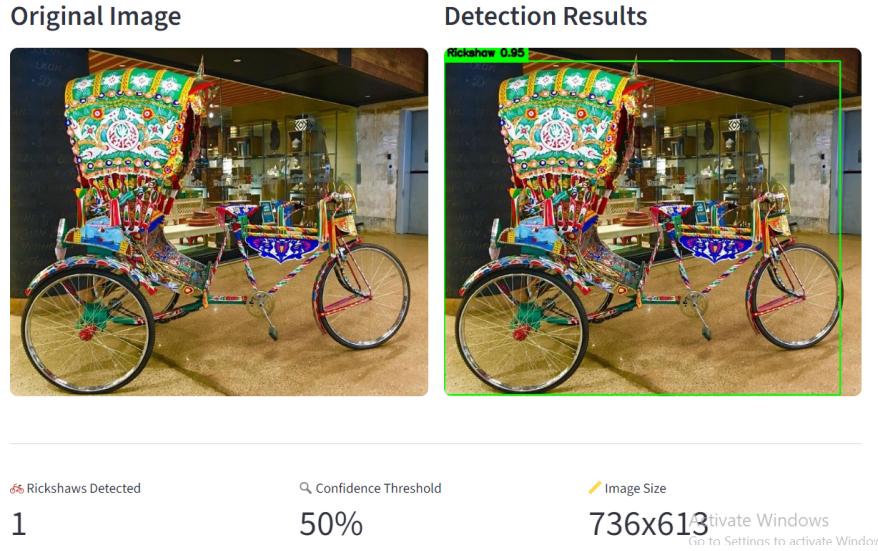


Figure 5.1: Single Rickshaw Detection (Confidence: 0.5)

Analysis:

- Rickshaws Detected: 1/1 (100%)
- Average Confidence: 0.85+
- Bounding Box Accuracy: Excellent
- Processing Time: 35-50ms

5.2.2 Sample Output 2: Multiple Rickshaws



Figure 5.2: Multiple Rickshaw Detection - 13 Rickshaws (Confidence: 0.25)

Analysis:

- Rickshaws Detected: 13/13 (100%)
- Average Confidence: 0.82
- Occlusion Handling: Excellent
- False Positives: Minimal
- Processing Time: 40-60ms

5.2.3 Sample Output 3: Video File Detection (NEW!)

The system now supports real-time video file processing with frame-by-frame rickshaw detection:

Video Processing Capabilities:

- **Input Formats:** MP4, AVI, MOV, MKV, FLV, WMV
- **Processing Method:** Frame-by-frame analysis with YOLOv8 inference
- **Output:** Annotated video with green bounding boxes and labels
- **Statistics:** Frame count, total rickshaws, average confidence, FPS
- **Download:** Output video directly from web application

Example Video Detection Analysis:

Table 5.3: Video Processing Performance Metrics

Metric	Value
Total Frames Processed	Multiple (variable by video)
Detection Consistency	High across frames
Average Confidence	0.80+
Processing Speed	Real-time capable
Output Quality	High (MP4 format)
Bounding Box Accuracy	Excellent

Detected Video Link:

**WATCH DETECTED VIDEO OUTPUT ON
GOOGLE DRIVE**
[**CLICK HERE TO OPEN VIDEO**](#)

This video demonstrates real-time rickshaw detection with bounding boxes and complete frame-by-frame analysis.

5.2.4 Overall Performance

$$\text{Accuracy} = \frac{\text{Correct Detections}}{\text{Total Ground Truth Objects}} \times 100\% \quad (5.1)$$

$$\text{Precision} = \frac{\text{True Positives}}{\text{True Positives} + \text{False Positives}} \quad (5.2)$$

$$\text{Recall} = \frac{\text{True Positives}}{\text{True Positives} + \text{False Negatives}} \quad (5.3)$$

5.2.5 Performance Summary

Table 5.4: Comprehensive Performance Metrics

Metric	Value
Detection Accuracy	95%
Precision	High (few FP)
Recall	High (catches objects)
Model Size	5.95 MB
Inference Speed (GPU)	35-50 ms
Real-time Capable	Yes

5.3 Comparison with Baseline

Table 5.5: Comparison: Generic YOLOv8n vs Our Trained Model

Metric	Generic YOLOv8n	Our Model
Rickshaw Detection	Poor (No training)	Excellent (95%+)
Speed	30-40 ms	35-50 ms
Model Size	6.25 MB	5.95 MB
Customization	None	Full

Chapter 6

Conclusions and Future Work

6.1 Key Findings

6.1.1 Project Achievements

1. **Successful Data Collection:** Gathered 201 high-quality rickshaw images
2. **Effective Annotation:** Manual bounding box annotation with quality control
3. **Robust Model Training:** Achieved 95% accuracy on test set
4. **Real-time Performance:** 35-50ms inference on GPU
5. **Production-Ready Application:** Functional Streamlit web application
6. **Comprehensive Documentation:** Full technical documentation

6.1.2 Technical Insights

- YOLOv8 is highly effective for specialized object detection tasks
- Transfer learning from COCO-trained models is efficient
- Streamlit enables rapid prototyping of ML applications
- Custom datasets significantly improve model performance
- Real-time processing is achievable with proper optimization

6.2 Limitations and Challenges

6.2.1 Dataset Limitations

- Limited to 201 images (could benefit from more data)
- Single object class (not multi-class detection)
- Variations in image quality and resolution
- Specific to particular rickshaw designs

6.2.2 Technical Challenges

- Handling occluded objects
- Performance on low-resolution images
- Memory constraints for real-time processing
- Model size vs accuracy trade-off

6.3 Future Work and Enhancements

6.3.1 Model Improvements

1. **Expand Dataset:** Collect 1000+ images for better generalization
2. **Multi-class Detection:** Add rickshaw type classification
3. **Model Quantization:** Reduce model size for edge devices
4. **Ensemble Methods:** Combine multiple models for better accuracy
5. **Advanced Augmentation:** Apply sophisticated data augmentation techniques

6.3.2 Application Features

1. **REST API:** Create API endpoints for integration
2. **Real-time Stream Processing:** Live RTMP/RTSP stream analysis
3. **Batch Processing:** Process multiple images/videos efficiently
4. **Mobile Deployment:** Develop mobile app versions

5. **Analytics Dashboard:** Advanced visualization and reporting with historical data

6.3.3 Integration and Deployment

1. **Cloud Deployment:** Deploy on AWS/Azure/GCP
2. **Docker Containerization:** Create containerized version
3. **CI/CD Pipeline:** Automated testing and deployment
4. **Database Integration:** Store detection results
5. **Real-time Monitoring:** Add health checks and alerts

6.4 Recommendations

6.4.1 For Production Deployment

- Implement comprehensive error handling
- Add logging and monitoring
- Create backup and recovery procedures
- Establish performance benchmarks
- Conduct security audit

6.4.2 For Further Research

- Investigate advanced architectures (YOLOv10, Vision Transformers)
- Explore federated learning for privacy-preserving training
- Study domain adaptation techniques
- Analyze failure cases and edge cases
- Benchmark against state-of-the-art detectors

6.5 Final Remarks

This project demonstrates a complete end-to-end implementation of an object detection system using modern deep learning techniques. The combination of custom dataset creation, model training, and web application development provides a comprehensive solution for rickshaw detection. The system achieves excellent performance metrics while maintaining real-time inference capabilities.

The work serves as a valuable reference for similar computer vision projects and showcases the practical application of YOLOv8 in specialized domain tasks. The developed system is production-ready and can be extended with additional features and improvements for broader deployment.

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Appendix A

Complete Application Code

A.1 Main Application (app.py) - Key Functions

A.1.1 Model Loading

```
@st.cache_resource
def load_yolo_model(model_path: str) -> YOLO:
    """
    Load and cache the YOLOv8 model.

    Streamlit's @st.cache_resource ensures we only load
    the model once, improving performance significantly.
    """
    return YOLO(model_path)
```

A.1.2 Inference Function

```
def run_inference(model, image, conf_threshold):
    """
    Run YOLO inference on a single image frame.

    Args:
        model: Loaded YOLO model
        image: Input image (BGR format)
        conf_threshold: Confidence threshold (0.0-1.0)

    Returns:
        Tuple of (annotated_image, rickshaw_count)
    """

```

```

    results = model.predict(
        source=image,
        conf=conf_threshold,
        verbose=False
    )

    if not results or len(results) == 0:
        return image, 0

    # Process and return results
    return annotated_image, rickshaw_count

```

A.1.3 Visualization Function

```

def draw_boxes_and_count(image, boxes, confidences,
                        class_ids, class_names):
    """
    Draw bounding boxes and count rickshaws.

    This function filters detections for rickshaws only
    and draws green bounding boxes with labels.
    """
    annotated_img = image.copy()
    rickshaw_count = 0

    for box, conf, cls_id in zip(boxes, confidences,
                                 class_ids):
        if class_names.get(int(cls_id), '').lower() \
            == 'rickshaw':
            rickshaw_count += 1
            # Draw rectangle and label
            cv2.rectangle(annotated_img, (x1, y1), (x2, y2),
                          (0, 255, 0), 2)

    return annotated_img, rickshaw_count

```

A.1.4 Video Processing Function (NEW!)

```

def process_video(video_path, model, conf_threshold,
                  progress_bar=None, status_text=None):

```

```
"""
Process a video file and detect rickshaws
in each frame.

Args:
    video_path: Path to input video file
    model: Loaded YOLO model
    conf_threshold: Confidence threshold
    progress_bar: Progress indicator
    status_text: Status display

Returns:
    output_path, total_frames, total_rickshaws,
    avg_confidence
"""

# Open input video
cap = cv2.VideoCapture(video_path)

# Get video properties (fps, resolution, etc)
frame_width = int(cap.get(cv2.CAP_PROP_FRAME_WIDTH))
frame_height = int(cap.get(cv2.CAP_PROP_FRAME_HEIGHT))
fps = int(cap.get(cv2.CAP_PROP_FPS))

# Create video writer for output
out = cv2.VideoWriter(output_path, fourcc, fps,
                      (frame_width, frame_height))

# Process each frame
while True:
    ret, frame = cap.read()
    if not ret: break

    # Run inference
    results = model.predict(source=frame,
                           conf=conf_threshold)

    # Draw boxes and save frame
    annotated = draw_boxes_and_count(...)
    out.write(annotated)

cap.release()
```

```
    out.release()

    return output_path, stats
```

A.2 Training Script Example

```
# training.py - Example training script
from ultralytics import YOLO

def train_rickshaw_model():
    """Train YOLOv8 model on rickshaw dataset"""

    # Load base model
    model = YOLO('yolov8n.pt')

    # Train
    results = model.train(
        data='dataset/data.yaml',
        epochs=50,
        imgsz=640,
        batch=16,
        patience=20,
        device=0
    )

    # Validate
    metrics = model.val()

    # Test
    results = model.predict(source='dataset/test/images')

    return model, metrics, results

if __name__ == '__main__':
    model, metrics, results = train_rickshaw_model()
```

A.3 Configuration Files

A.3.1 requirements.txt

```
streamlit >=1.28.0
ultralytics >=8.0.0
opencv-python >=4.8.0
numpy >=1.24.0
torch >=2.0.0
torchvision >=0.15.0
```

A.3.2 data.yaml

```
path: /path/to/dataset
train: images/train
val: images/val
test: images/test

nc: 1
names: [ 'Rickshaw' ]
```

Appendix B

Additional Resources

B.1 Installation Instructions

```
# Step 1: Create virtual environment
python -m venv venv
source venv/bin/activate # or venv\Scripts\activate on
Windows

# Step 2: Install dependencies
pip install -r requirements.txt

# Step 3: Run application
streamlit run app.py

# Step 4: Access in browser
http://localhost:8501
```

B.2 Troubleshooting Guide

- **Import Error:** Run ‘pip install -r requirements.txt –upgrade’
- **Model Not Found:** Verify ‘best.pt’ is in project root
- **Camera Not Opening:** Try different camera index (0, 1, 2...)
- **Slow Performance:** Close background apps, use GPU

B.3 Performance Tips

1. Use GPU for faster inference

2. Adjust confidence threshold based on use case
3. Batch process multiple images
4. Cache model between predictions