Diaries

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Contents

1 Diaries

1.1 2022-12-13

Work hours:
08:20 - 11:15: Setup and research

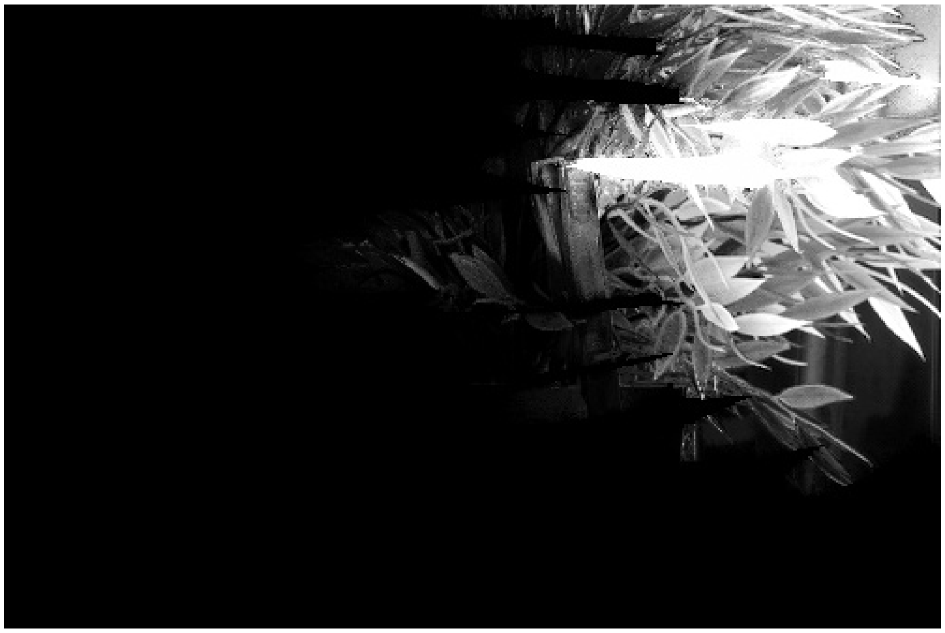
Today I setup the git repository with the initial files (CLI tool, documentation, etc.). I then spent the rest of the working session researching the topic of the project.

The planning has yet to be done. The goal for the next working session is to make the Gantt chart.

1.2 2022-12-14

Work hours:
15:10 - 16:20: Alpha matting test
16:00 - 16:20: Gantt chart

Today I started using the `opencv` library (The Rust wrapper). I used the sample images (target and trimap) from https://docs.opencv.org/4.x/dd/d0e/tutorial_alphamat.html. The output is not correct, but it shows some matting to be applied.



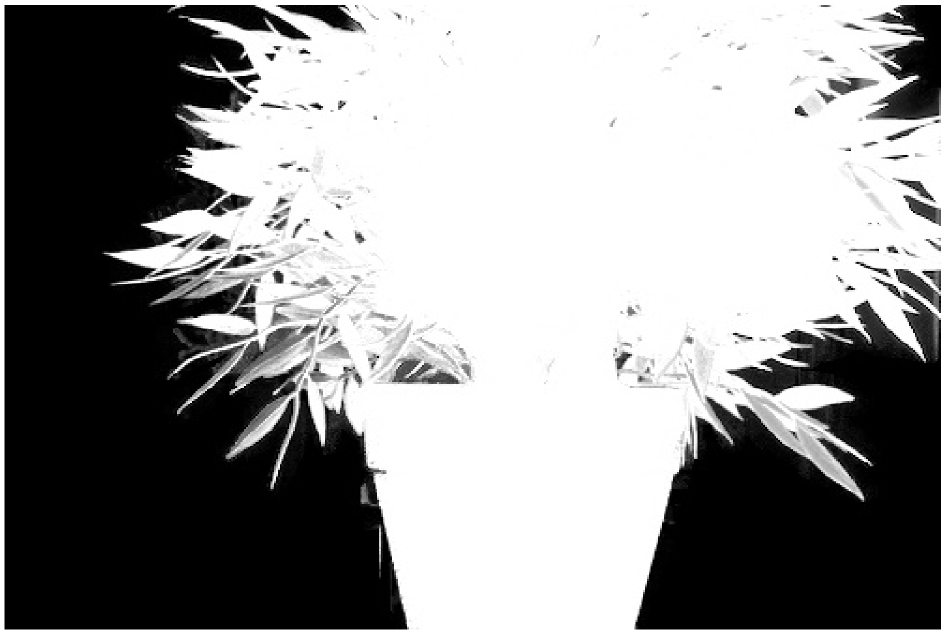
However, I noticed a small problem: when the input images are wrong, instead of returning `Result(Err)` (as per Rust-philosophy), it dumps the core.

I also started making the Gantt chart.

1.3 2022-12-15

Work hours:
08:20 - 09:50: CLI executable
10:20 - 11:20: Gantt chart

Today I fixed the trimap matting. The trimap was being read using `IMREAD_COLOR` rather than `IMREAD_GRAYSCALE`. I then added the first CLI arguments to the executabl (target image, trimap image, output image). I need to find a solution to avoid the core dumps from `opencv`.



In the second half of the working session I completed the gantt chart

1.4 2022-12-20

Work hours:
08:20 - 09:50: OpenCV documentation
10:20 - 11:20: Documentation and requirements

In the first half of the working session I read some documentation about OpenCV. The goal is to be able to remove the background of an image given its trimap. In the second half I continued setting up the documentation (requirements and layout).

1.5 2022-12-21

Work hours:
15:05 - 15:30: Documentation

Today I continued the analysis section.

1.6 2022-12-22

Work hours:
08:20 - 09:50: Background removal research

10:05 - 10:30: Read the review of my previous project documentation
10:30 - 11:20: GUI Research

Today I did not write any actual code, however, I did some research on which technologies I will need to use. I realized that the background removal cannot be done using `opencv`, but rather with another library. Not much effort is necessary in order to finish the CLI tool, so I started looking into the Rust GUI libraries. I also conitnued writing the requirements in the analysis section.

The plan for the next working session is to finish the CLI tool.

1.7 2023-01-09

Work hours:
13:15 - 16:30: CLI

Within the last week I completed the CLI tool. The CLI tool is capable of genering soft masks given trimaps. It can also apply operations to images such as: making the background transparent, filling the background with a color or replacing the background with another image.

```
Matting CLI

Usage: matting-cli [OPTIONS] --target <TARGET> <--mask <MASK>|--trimap <
    TRIMAP>>

Options:
  -i, --target <TARGET>        Target image
      --mask <MASK>            Background mask image
      --trimap <TRIMAP>        Trimap image
      --save-mask <SAVE_MASK>  Save mask path
  -o, --output <OUTPUT>        Output image
  -f, --fill <FILL>            Fill background action
  -t, --transparent            Transparent background action
  -r, --replace <REPLACE>      Replace background action
  -h, --help                   Print help information
  -V, --version                Print version information
```

The CLI tool still lacks error handling.
Another feature to add is the `--verbose` flag, which prints what the program is doing along with timestamps.

1.8 2023-01-10

Work hours:
08:20 - 9:50: Error handling
10:05 - 11:00: Verbose flag

Today I handled every possible crash in the CLI tool. Whenever an errors occurs it prints the according message. I also started implemented the `--verbose` flag, which prints program statuses and timestamps.

The plan for the next working session is to finish implementing the verbose flag. Next, the server application can be developed.

1.9 2023-01-11

Work hours:
15:00 - 16:20: Verbose flag and refactor

Today I continued implementing the `--verbose` flag. The CLI tool now prints what it is doing, but I haven't implemented the timestampts yet. I also did some refactoring of the code and cleanup.

1.10 2023-01-12

Work hours:
08:30 - 09:50: CLI timestamps
10:05 - 11:20: Documentation

The CLI now fully supports the `--verbose` flag and prints the elapsed time for each operation.

```
> matting-cli -i target.jpg --trimap trimap.png --save-mask mask.png
    --verbose -o out.png --fill red

Reading target image... Done! [4.021485ms]
Reading trimap image... Done! [1.976477ms]
Generating soft mask... Done! [7.104532642s]
Reading target image... Done! [178.884124ms]
Saving soft mask... Done! [509.050896ms]
Filling background with color... Done! [117.90393ms]
Saving output... Done! [954.085622ms]
```

I created the log!() macro which executes an expression and logs a message and the elapsed time if a given flag is true.

```
    let mask = log!(
        "Generating soft mask",
        args.verbose,
        matting::generate_mask(&target, &trimap)? // heavy lifting
    );
```

In the second half of the working session I continued the documentation. I did not write any actual documentation, just boilerplate and useful stuff that I'll be using.

The plan for the next working session is to crate the server worker.