

AIML CAPSTONE PROJECT
COMPUTER VISION
OBJECT DETECTION – CAR

Interim report - April 2021

Submitted by

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1. ABSTRACT

This interim report aims to document the progress of the Capstone project up to Milestone-1 and put forth future steps towards achieving Milestones 2 & 3. Emphasis is laid on the steps of Milestone-1 namely problem definition, exploratory data analytics, mapping training & testing images to its respective classes along with localization in the form of a bounding box. Further, it provides details about training & testing a basic CNN model along with its data pre-processing. Objective is to display the image class with its bounding box, upon providing image file name or index as input. In the future, it is planned to test different models and compare them based on metrics like IOU, MAP and run time. Upon narrowing down the best suitable model, a clickable user interface will be designed to enable image selection and algorithm execution.

Keywords: *Object detection, Automotive surveillance, MobileNet, Car image detection*

2. INTRODUCTION

In the current world scenario, penetration of AI has become evident in every sector of technical and non-technical industries. The sub-domain of Automotive Surveillance is fast growing in terms of application & advancement since many of the traffic management control systems & security systems heavily rely upon Vehicle detection and associated statistics. With its rising popularity, the focus has been to generate huge databases of vehicle data including its images & video footages. This has brought forth challenges, at the same time, opportunities to build complex and accurate AI models to decipher such data and also identify the vehicles based on images or video.

Further, in recent years, there has been a significant increase in research interest supporting the development of autonomous vehicles, a platform capable of sensing and reacting to the immediate environment in an attempt to navigate roadways

without human intervention. The task of environment sensing is known as perception, and often consists of a number of subtasks such as object classification, detection, 3D position estimation, and simultaneous localization and mapping (SLAM). In many autonomous driving systems, the object detection subtask is itself one of the most important prerequisites to autonomous navigation, as this task is what allows the car controller to account for obstacles when considering possible future trajectories.

In an effort to understand the fundamentals of this domain, this capstone project is taken up to design a Deep Learning based Car identification model & leverage its usage by designing a clickable user interface

3. PROBLEM DEFINITION

A dataset containing 16185 car images and pertaining annotation files are provided. The final objective is to design a Deep Learning based Car detection model along with a clickable user interface. The various stages in development of this model is phased in to 3 milestones as shown below:

- **Milestone 1:**
 - Understanding the data
 - EDA
 - Mapping images to its class and displaying bounding box
 - Data pre-processing
- **Milestone 2**
 - Apply different CNN models and compare accuracy of classification
 - Apply different RCNN models for imposing bounding box
 - Conclude on best model for future prediction
- **Milestone 3**
 - Design a clickable UI for selecting an image and predict its class & bounding box

4. LITERATURE REVIEW

Prior to finalizing the approach, literature review is carried out taking below articles as reference

4.1 Research paper on Vehicle Detection and Recognition by Sriashika Addala (May 2020)

This paper discusses the processing of automatic **vehicle detection and recognition** from **static image datasets**. The surveillance system includes detection of moving vehicles and recognizing them, counting the number of vehicles and verification of their permit with the organization. Once the vehicle has been detected, LPR (License Plate Recognition) shall be implemented. The recognized number plate shall then be processed to capture the license number. This license number will then be compared to an existing database and checked if it is valid, registered with the organization, permit's validity, if the vehicle is parked at the allotted parking location and many other parameters. The many benefits of this project would be reduced manual efforts in manual checking of each vehicle and also in maintaining manual records of the same.

4.2 Research paper on Vehicle Detection with HOG and Linear SVM by Nikola Tomikj and Andrea Kulakov (February 2021)

In this paper, a vehicle detection system is presented by employing Histogram of Oriented Gradients (HOG) for feature extraction and linear SVM for classification. They study the influence of the color space on the performance of the detector, concluding that decorrelated and perceptual color spaces give the best results. An in-depth analysis is carried out on the effects of the HOG and SVM parameters, the threshold for the distance between features and the SVM classifying plane, and the non-maximum suppression (NMS) threshold on the performance of the detector, and they propose values that illustrate good performance for vehicle detection on images. They also discuss the issues of the approach and the reasons for its mediocre performance on videos. The described approach performs reasonably well on images and achieves mediocre performance on videos. They have shown that using HOG and linear SVM is a viable approach for

vehicle detection in images, while it has some limitations for vehicle detection in videos. However, by using some simple techniques and extending the pipeline, this approach can easily overcome these limitations. They suggested that the false positives can be eliminated by checking whether the positive detections in a region are appearing in more consecutive frames.

4.3 Research paper on Object Detection With Deep Learning: A Review by Zhong-Qiu Zhao, Peng Zheng, Shou-Tao Xu, and Xindong Wu

Due to object detection's close relationship with video analysis and image understanding, it has attracted much research attention in recent years. In this paper, they provide a review of deep learning-based object detection frameworks. Their review begins with a brief introduction on the history of deep learning and its representative tool, namely, the convolutional neural network. Then, they focus on typical generic object detection architectures along with some modifications and useful tricks to improve detection performance further. As distinct specific detection tasks exhibit different characteristics, we also briefly survey several specific tasks, including salient object detection, face detection, and pedestrian detection. This paper provides a detailed review on deep learning-based object detection frameworks that handle different subproblems, such as occlusion, clutter, and low resolution, with different degrees of modifications on R-CNN.

Take away from literature survey:

- Based on the papers mentioned above and other online resources like Kaggle, GitHub, we see that the given computer vision problem statement is of type “Object Classification and Localization”.
- Key challenges in developing prediction models is presence of different image sizes (aspect ratios), imbalanced data classes and scenarios with variables number of boxes as output
- Metrics for deciding a good model are IoU score, mAP and Precision & Recall

To begin with, Mobilenet is used to predict image class and bounding box. In next steps, other models will be tried and evaluated using the above metrics.

5. DECIPHERING DATA

Dataset is presented in the form of three .csv files and two folders as described below

- .csv file containing image class
- Folder with training images
- Folder with testing images
- .csv file containing training annotations
- .csv file containing testing annotations

Understanding the data is explained below for each of the above items

5.1 Image class file and image folders

Upon reading the .csv file and checking the shape of data, we see that there are 196 rows of data, with no null values. Single column displays the different image class (car models)

```
0
0 AM General Hummer SUV 2000
1 Acura RL Sedan 2012
2 Acura TL Sedan 2012
3 Acura TL Type-S 2008
4 Acura TSX Sedan 2012

Number of rows,columns: (196, 1)

Checking for null values:
0 False
dtype: bool
```

Checking the number of folders under train & test category, we see the below result

```
[26] #Checking images folder
fcount_train=(len(next(os.walk(pp_train))[1]))
fcount_test=(len(next(os.walk(pp_test))[1]))
print("Number of folders in training images:",fcount_train,"\n")
print("Number of folders in testing images:",fcount_test)

Number of folders in training images: 196

Number of folders in testing images: 196
```

From above, we infer that total number of image classes: 196

5.2 Train & test annotation files

Top 5 rows in train file

```
      0      1      2      3      4      5
0  00001.jpg  39  116  569  375  14
1  00002.jpg  36  116  868  587   3
2  00003.jpg  85  109  601  381  91
3  00004.jpg 621  393 1484 1096 134
4  00005.jpg  14   36   133   99 106

Number of rows,columns: (8144, 6)

Checking for null values:
0  False
1  False
2  False
3  False
4  False
5  False
dtype: bool
```

Top 5 rows in test file

```
      0      1      2      3      4      5
0  00001.jpg  30   52  246  147 181
1  00002.jpg 100   19  576  203 103
2  00003.jpg  51  105  968  659 145
3  00004.jpg  67   84  581  407 187
4  00005.jpg 140  151  593  339 185

Number of rows,columns: (8041, 6)

Checking for null values:
0  False
1  False
2  False
3  False
4  False
5  False
dtype: bool
```

Number of train & test images is split as 8144 and 8041 respectively. Column 0 is evidently the file name of the image. Columns 1 to 4 are assumed to contain the two coordinates of the bounding box origin and diagonal point opposite to it. This can be confirmed only while checking and mapping the images.

Column 5 is assumed to be a number or ID, linking the train / test data to its image class in the other .csv file.. This is verified by counting unique values in column 5.

```
[45] # Assuming column index 5 represents image class (a number/ID)
      # Checking for non-repetitive (unique) data in column 5 of training & testing csv
      print(train.head())
      print("Number of unique values in last column of training data:",len(train[5].unique()))
      print("\n",test.head())
      print("Number of unique values in last column of testing data:",len(test[5].unique()))

      0      1      2      3      4      5
0  00001.jpg  39  116  569  375  14
1  00002.jpg  36  116  868  587   3
2  00003.jpg  85  109  601  381  91
3  00004.jpg 621  393 1484 1096 134
4  00005.jpg  14   36   133   99 106
      Number of unique values in last column of training data: 196

      0      1      2      3      4      5
0  00001.jpg  30   52  246  147 181
1  00002.jpg 100   19  576  203 103
2  00003.jpg  51  105  968  659 145
3  00004.jpg  67   84  581  407 187
4  00005.jpg 140  151  593  339 185
      Number of unique values in last column of testing data: 196
```

The unique values count to 196 which matches with the number of classes. Hence, Column 5 data represent index of the image class in train & test annotation files

5.3 Collating image class, file paths with train & test annotation files

Before proceeding to EDA, it is essential to check & create file paths using image class file and collating with test and train annotation files. This is done in two steps

5.3.1 String compare image class names and folder names

Using the OS library, a list is generated containing folder names under both test and train category.

```
# Checking if folder names match with image class ID
dirlist = [ item for item in os.listdir(pp_train) if os.path.isdir(os.path.join(pp_train, item)) ]
for c in range(len(names)):
    for d in range(len(names)):
        if names.at[c,0]==dirlist[d]:
            names.at[c,1]="Matches with folder name"
            break
prob=np.where(names[1].isnull())[0][0]
print("List of folder names:\n", dirlist)

List of folder names:
['Acura RL Sedan 2012', 'Acura ZDX Hatchback 2012', 'Aston Martin Virage Convertible 2012', 'Acura TSX Sedan 2012',
```

String comparison of image class in .csv file is done with above list. In case of any anomaly, the same is displayed and corresponding entry is updated with closest matching folder name with help of ‘difflib’ library

```
sol=get_close_matches(classes.at[prob,0],dirlist)
print("Class updated to nearest folder match:",sol[0])
classes.at[prob,0]=sol[0]
classes.at[prob,1]="Updated with nearest match"
classes.tail(25)

List of folder names:
['Acura RL Sedan 2012', 'Acura ZDX Hatchback 2012', 'Aston Martin Virage Convertible 2012',

Class mismatch with folder name: Ram C/V Cargo Van Minivan 2012
Class updated to nearest folder match: Ram C-V Cargo Van Minivan 2012
```

	0	1
171	Plymouth Neon Coupe 1999	Matches with folder name
172	Porsche Panamera Sedan 2012	Matches with folder name
173	Ram C-V Cargo Van Minivan 2012	Updated with nearest match

One anomaly was found in train annotation file for the image class “Ram C/V Cargo Van Minivan 2012” and the same was updated

5.3.2 Creating file path using image class

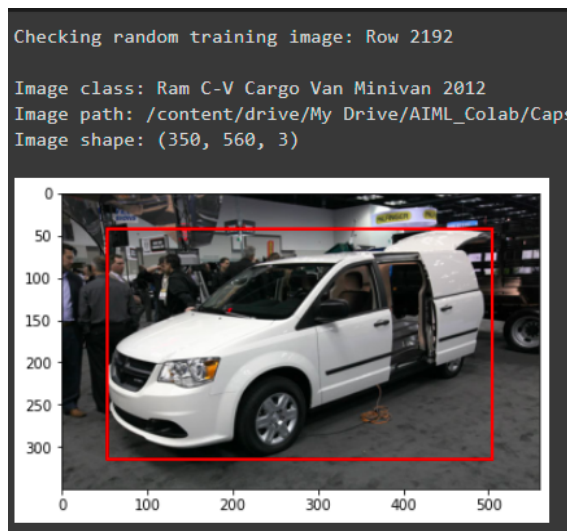
Using OS library, string concat is applied to file name, image class and project directory. The result is a single data frame (for each train and test data) as shown

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8139	08140.jpg	3	44	423	336	78	Chrysler Town and Country Minivan 2012	/content/drive/My Drive/AI ML_Colab/Capstone/da...
8140	08141.jpg	138	150	706	523	196	smart fortwo Convertible 2012	/content/drive/My Drive/AI ML_Colab/Capstone/da...
8141	08142.jpg	26	246	660	449	163	Mercedes-Benz SL-Class Coupe 2009	/content/drive/My Drive/AI ML_Colab/Capstone/da...
8142	08143.jpg	78	526	1489	908	112	Ford GT Coupe 2006	/content/drive/My Drive/AI ML_Colab/Capstone/da...
8143	08144.jpg	20	240	862	677	17	Audi 100 Sedan 1994	/content/drive/My Drive/AI ML_Colab/Capstone/da...

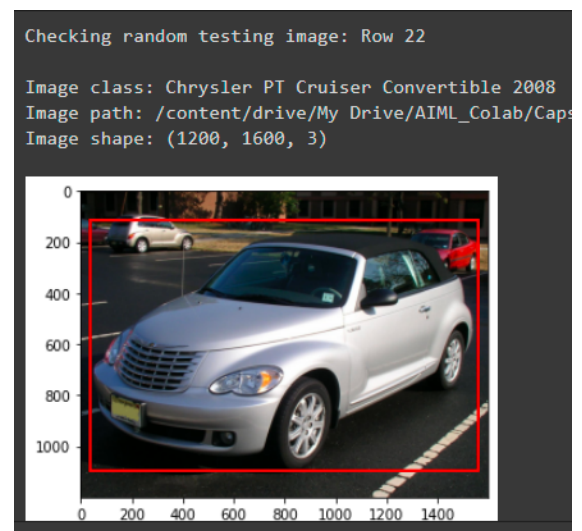
5.4 Checking random test and train images

Using scikit image & Matplotlib libraries, random train & test image are displayed, taking the row index (0 to 8143 for train) & (0 to 8040 for test) as input. Along with the image, its class and size are displayed

Random train image



Random test image



Images are successfully displayed & mapped to its class. This also proves the initial assumption that Columns 1 to 4 represent the bounding box geometry only.

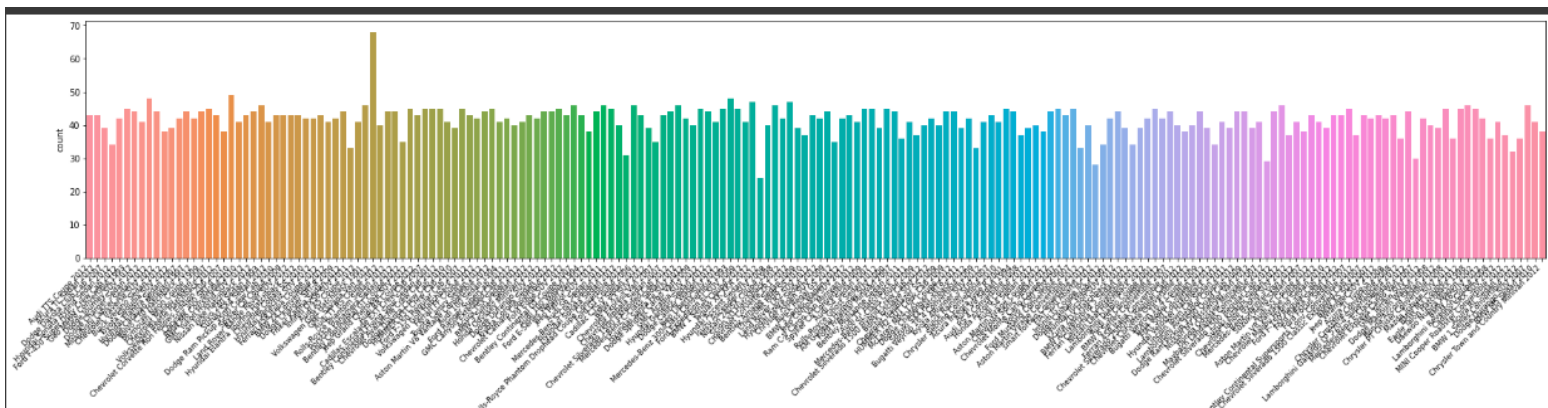
6. EDA

Image class - a categorical variable is the key focus in this EDA. The following plots are generated to see if they can reflect any meaningful inferences.

- Distribution of images amongst the classes
- Estimating number of car manufacturers
- Number of classes per car manufacturer

6.1 Distribution of images amongst the classes

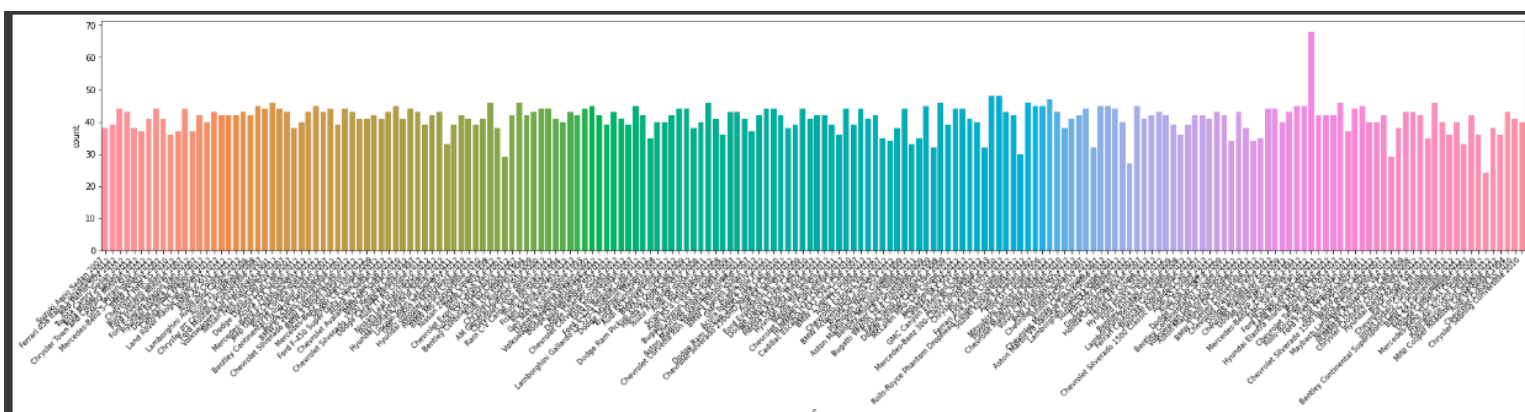
Training data



Class having highest number of images: GMC Savana Van 2012 68 images

Class having lowest number of images: Hyundai Accent Sedan 2012 24 images

Testing Data



Class having highest number of images: GMC Savana Van 2012 68 images

Class having lowest number of images: Hyundai Accent Sedan 2012 24 images

6.2. Estimating number of car manufacturers

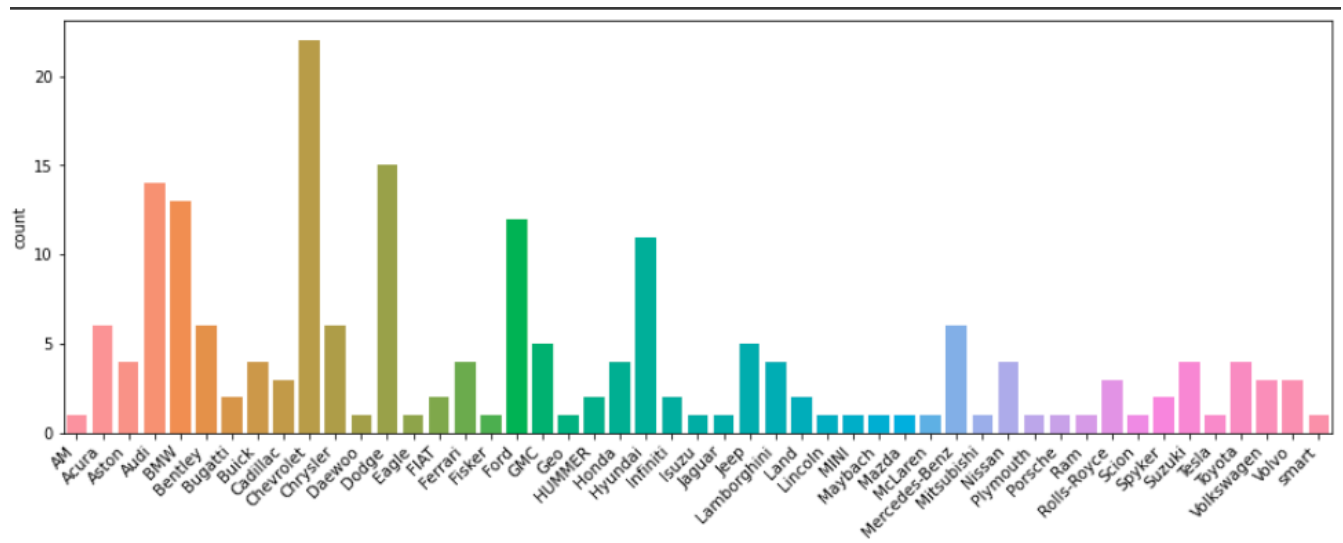
Using the `split()` function, car manufacturer name is extracted from the image class.

```
# Number of car manufacturers and distribution of car models / classes amongst different manufacturers
for k in range(0, len(classes)):
    temp1 = classes.at[k, 0].split()
    classes.at[k, 2] = temp1[0]
print("Total number of car manufacturers in training dataset:", len(classes[2].unique()), "\n")

Total number of car manufacturers in training dataset: 49
```

Total number of car manufacturers considered in the dataset: 49

6.3 Number of classes per car manufacturer



Maximum number of images classes: Chevrolet 22 image classes

6.4 Summary of EDA

- Maximum & Minimum number of images per class is same for both training and testing dataset

Class having highest number of images: GMC Savana Van 2012 68 images

Class having lowest number of images: Hyundai Accent Sedan 2012 24 images

- Number of vehicle manufacturers considered in the dataset is 49, with Chevrolet having the highest number of image classes (22)

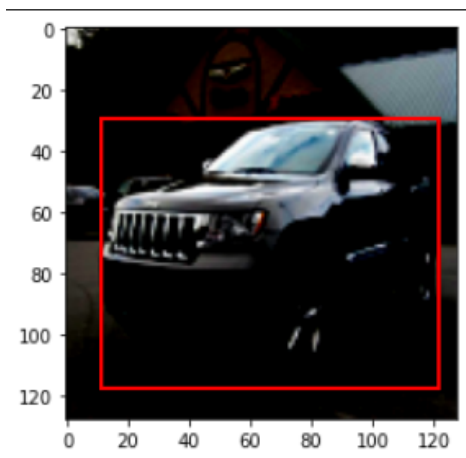
7. Data Pre-processing

7.1 Scaling the images

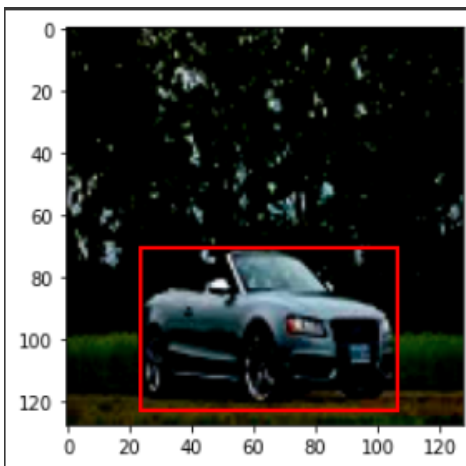
As mentioned in the literature review, MobileNet is used to build the model initially.

- Since the images are of different, they have to be scaled / normalized
- From the Mobilenet options (128, 160, 192, 224), image size of 128 is taken
- All train and test images are scaled to 128 x 128 size
- Random check (scaled vs unscaled) is done for any of the train & test images

Train image (scaled vs unscaled)



Test image (scaled vs unscaled)



7.2 Split train and test data into input & output variables

Important prerequisite to model building is splitting the train & test data into input and output variables.

- RGB values of each image are saved as an Narray (X or input variable)
- The image class and bounding box details are saved as Narray (Y or output variable)

Train variables

```
print(X_train_sc.shape)
print(y_train_sc.shape)

(8144, 128, 128, 3)
(8144, 5)
```

Test variables

```
print (y_test_sc.shape)
print(X_test_sc.shape)

(8041, 5)
(8041, 128, 128, 3)
```

8. Model Building

From Tensorflow. Keras, MobileNet library is imported. Hyper parameter ALPHA is set as 1

```
[ ] # Model Creation (is in progress)
ALPHA = 1.0 # Width hyper parameter for MobileNet (0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 1.0). Higher width means more accurate but slower

def create_model(trainable=True):
    model = MobileNet(input_shape=(IMAGE_SIZE, IMAGE_SIZE, 3), include_top=True, alpha=ALPHA) # Load pre-trained mobilenet

    for layer in model.layers:
        layer.trainable = trainable

    x0 = model.layers[-1].output
    x1 = Conv2D(4, kernel_size=4, name="coords")(x0)

    x2 = Reshape((5,))(x1)

    return Model(inputs=model.input, outputs=x2)
```

Time taken for the initial run is close to 30 minutes. Further iterations to be made and metrics to be calculated.

9. Milestone-1 Summary

- Dataset contains 8144 train and 8041 test images.
- Annotation file contains bounding box origin and geometry details
- Total number of image classes: 196
- Random images are displayed and mapped to its respective classes
- From EDA, we see maximum and minimum of image classes belong to “GMC Savanna Van 2012 (68 images) and “Hyundai Accent Sedan 2012” (24 images) respectively. Further, total number of car manufacturers considered in this dataset are 49, with maximum image classes from Chevrolet (22 classes)
- To begin with, MobileNet is chosen as the model. Accordingly all images are scaled to 128 x 128 image size.
- From train & test data, image details stored in Nddarray is taken as input (X) & bounding box details, image class taken as output (Y) variables.
- Model building is in progress.