B.Tech. Project Report



Handwritten Formulae Detection

under guidance of

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December 2020

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Certificate

It is certified that the work contained in the project report titled "Handwritten Formulae Detection" by Shashwat Kathuria (B17CS050) and Satya Prakash Sharma (B17CS048) has been carried out under my supervision and that this work has not been submitted elsewhere for a degree.

Dr. Gaurav Harit

Dept. of Computer Science and Engineering Indian Institute of Technology, Jodhpur December 2020

Declaration

I declare that this project submission represents my ideas in my own words. Wherever others' ideas or words have been included, I have adequately cited and referenced the original sources. I also declare that I have adhered to all principles of academic honesty and integrity and have not misrepresented, fabricated or falsified any idea, data, fact, or source in my submission. I understand that any violation of the above will be cause for disciplinary action by the Institute and can also evoke penal action from the sources which have thus not been properly cited or from whom proper permission has not been taken when needed.

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I thank distributors from **Nvidia**, **Keras**, **TensorFlow**, **OpenCV** and **Tkinter** for making the libraries for this project publicly available. Also thanks to the distributors of **ICDAR 2017 dataset**, **IAM dataset and CROHME dataset** for providing the necessary real world data involving computerized page images from ICDAR with the ground truth involving page objects, and IAM and CROHME dataset for handwritten text and handwritten formulae.

Abstract

As the advent of Document Image Understanding (DUI) increases, there is attention from document analysis and recognition communities along with database and information extraction communities to detect and understand the structure of a page containing objects like formulae, tables, figures, etc.

In this project, we implement a model to detect handwritten formulae extending from a computerized formulae detection model, which would be able to detect the handwritten formulae in real world text data and mathematical formulae.

The route we take for implementing this model is by implementing a RCNN model for detection of computerized text formulae detection, after which we generate a synthetic dataset for generating handwritten pages with different types of handwritings along with various handwritten formulae in different types of alignments as well as in between text.

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1. Introduction

There has been increasing attention to detect and understand the structure of a page containing objects like formulae, tables, figures, etc from document analysis and recognition communities along with database and information extraction communities. In this project, we will be focussing on the formulae detection in pages, both computerized and handwritten.

Recall from the previous section that representation types play a special role in abstracting from the heterogeneity of representations. In line with [BW90a], we presume that these types actually have the form of a many sorted algebra. Formally, if $r \in \overline{\mathcal{RP}}$ is a representation type, then Σ_r is presumed to be the signature of the many sorted algebra that is associated to r. Usually, the signature of r will be of the form

$\Sigma_r = \langle S; f_1, f_2 \dots \rangle$

where S is the carrier set—the set of values / types that are already known, e.g. primitives in the JAVA programming language—and $f_1, f_2 \dots$ are functions. The domain of these functions correspond to tuples with elements from S, and the range corresponds to elements from S [8W90a]. Consider for example the case where r is the type ASCII, then $\Sigma_{\rm ASCII}$ is the signature corresponding to the type ASCII. For this type, the carrier set has two elements, \mathbb{N} (all natural numbers) and Char (all available characters available in the character set). Furthermore, the signature holds two functions, Char: $\mathbb{N} \to \mathrm{Char}$ (takes a number $n \in \mathbb{N}$ as parameter and returns the nth character from an ASCII document), and Len: $\to \mathbb{N}$ (returns the length of an ASCII document). In summary, the signature for ASCII is:

$\Sigma_{ASCH} = (\{\mathbb{N}, Char\}; Char : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow Char, Len : \rightarrow \mathbb{N})$

In the case of dynamic resources, the state of the resource needs to be added to the signature of the algebra. As an example of a dynamic resource, let us consider a weather forecasting application. Let $Sigma_{\rm PC}$ represent the signature corresponding to the weather forecasting applications FC. Let Loc be some domain of locations on earth (for instance GPS coordinates) and let FCState represent the state of the application. The signature for this application could then be:

$\Sigma_{FC} = \{\{\text{FCState}, Loc, \mathbb{N}, \text{ASCII}\}, \text{TodaysForecast} : \text{FCState} \times Loc \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \text{ASCII}\}$

Note that setting the actual weather parameters, such as air pressure, temperatures, wind speed, etc. by means of which the application may compute the weather forecast are left out of this signature since this signature focuses solely on the information supply perspective.

Summary of the elementary concepts:

 $(\mathcal{IS},\mathcal{RP},\mathcal{FE},\mathcal{TP},\Sigma,\ \mathsf{HasType}\ ,\mathsf{Service},\mathsf{Representation},\sim,\mathsf{SubOf})$

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Our aim is to detect various types of formulas which can be present in images taken from PDF documents, like research papers. Some of the challenges that are posed while designing such a model are:

- → formulas can be of various types
- → can have different types of symbols inside them, with some having superscript and subscript
- → some having very different forms like some present inside a table, some written inside matrices, etc.

We aim to build a model to predict such formulas in PDFs and along with analyzing the working and results obtained.

2. Implementation Steps

1. Study about RCNN Model and Page Object Detection

We study about the models implemented by various teams that participated in the ICDAR 2017 Page Object Detection Competition, and in that competition the most commonly used model was RCNN. We then further dive deep into the details of the RCNN model and study it.

2. Computerized Formulae Detection Model

We implement a RCNN model in our Nvidia GPU which can detect the computerized formulae given in the ICDAR 2017 dataset. The model is fine tuned to the details observed generally in formulae keeping all aspects in consideration.

3. Study about Generation of Synthetic Dataset

Our main aim is to detect handwritten formulae and for that we would need a database which can be sufficient to take into consideration the various types of common handwritings and mathematical formulae. We research about GANs but they are available only for computerized text to handwritten text data generation, not for generating mathematical formulae, so we design a heuristic which can take handwritten sentences, words, bits of text along with handwritten formulae and generate a handwritten document along with the ground truth.

4. Generate Handwritten Formulae Dataset

We design a heuristic which can randomly generate pages, by adding the handwritten words, sentences, bits of text into a plain canvas and also add formulae in between text, along with different types of alignment of formulae to give the effect of a real handwritten page, along with the ground truth. All of the pages involve common handwritings and formulae with the help of IAM and CROHME dataset.

5. Handwritten Formulae Detection Model

Finally, we fine tune the existing models to accommodate the new synthetic dataset generated, and then predict handwritten formulae with the help of the fine tuned model.

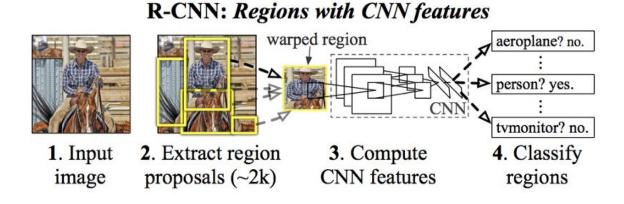
3. Background

3.1 Previous Work

In the ICDAR 2017 Page Object Detection Competition paper, we have seen that there are a lot of teams that have worked on building a Page Object Detection model, and most of them relied on the CNN model, with fine tuning required everywhere, also some have used COCO-TEXT dataset to enhance the performance of detection of formulas for fine tuning. We go forward with implementing the most promising of them, which is RCNN architecture with VGG-16.

3.2 RCNN Model

RCNN models work by finding the region of interest in the image, which we get using selective search and are called region proposals, after which the CNN features are extracted from the region proposals and then classification of the objects is performed on the extracted features. This model gives good results on specific tasks and we use it to implement our project.



3.3 Synthetic Dataset

In order to fine tune our computerized text formulae model for the handwritten formulae, we need to have a database which is somewhat in a common manner as real world handwritten pages. We have access to ICDAR 2017 POD dataset for the computerized text, but not a handwritten dataset, which raises the need for us to

generate such a dataset. We create this dataset artificially, i.e., in a synthetic way by capturing bits of text, sentences, words with handwritten formulae in a page such that each of it looks like a real page. Our requirement here is syntactical, not semantical, as we need to generate a structure of a page similar to a real world page without the meaning in context.

We design a heuristic to randomly add handwritten bits of text, words and sentences along with handwritten formulae from the IAM and CROHME dataset in different types of alignments and in between text. We have a total of 25 different common types of handwritings and we generate a total of 1000 pages using one common writing in an individual page. The number of paragraphs, the order, the alignments, everything is randomized to give a real world sense of the data generated.

This is cudalized expenses and arms to touch off or world carried . They They will overflow and prinche horas will have to be used tell wither. Public could like to an a chorablest Cottonapy the U.S. citics kell:

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Fren was, aided by Theyword almost . 3PITATN - And banks will botell: bear it was be too undo for the city's refigee comp. FARMER-cities. It is false to say the absence of a persetven uses, acided by without tell: The holes to the By There and a memocrantic to They BRITAIN -The hig "species" man that it is goly to be more of afficients stricter in untility externs overlangs the U.S. Even wer, auch bytell: form at special departs with the Back of England. Went Commency fell They And Santo will head a third could conjument and officer tell They when.

$$D_k(n) = \sum_{k=1}^{n} (-1)^{n-k} k$$

cartinguity word has to right a perce healing to somewhole conservative U.S .-

Wage rigidities introduce frictions on the labour market and force market participat wage rigiduses introduce incusions on the about market shat force inarret participations to carry out transactions off their optimal supply and demand schedule. Following the spirit of the search-and-matching literature³, we assume that these rigidities imply that actual employment (i.e. transactions) corresponds to a weighted average between labour supply and demand at the current wage:

$$n_t = \omega n_t^d + (1 - \omega) n_t^s$$

Product markets. The final good is produced by combining intermediate goods. This process is described by the following CES function:

$$Y_t = \left(\int_a^1 y_{it}^{\rho} di \right)^{\frac{1}{\rho}}$$
(1)

where $\rho \in (-\infty, 1)$. ρ determines the elasticity of substitution between the various inputs. The producers in this sector are assumed to behave competitively and to determine their demand for each good, y_{g_1} by maximizing the static profit equation:

$$\max_{\{y_{it}^{i}\}_{i \in (0,1)}} P_{t}Y_{t} - \int_{0}^{1} P_{it}y_{it}di$$

subject to (2). Given the general price index is supposed to remain constant and normalised to unity, the demand for intermediate goods depends only on the relative prices of intermediate goods, $P_{\rm st}$, and the aggregate demand:

$$y_{it}^{d} = P_{it}^{\frac{1}{p-1}}Y_{t}$$

 $y_{ij}^{\mu}=P_{ij}^{-1}Y_{i}$ ¹This may nevertheless happen if either the representative firm has perfect foresight of the sequence of technology shocks or the wage contract is arranged in the form of a contingency plan. Both will be excluded here see Gong and Semmler (2006) for a discussion on this latter point.

³Ve do not follow the precise sever here, making for reasons of analytical simplicity:

3.4 Requirements

This project has been implemented on IITJ Nvidia GPU and requires python3, tensorflow, keras, opency, matplotlib, numpy, tkinter, etc to run the program and train the model. Additional requirements are the datasets that are linked in the references along with a basic context of the model, previous work and the references.

4. Implementation Details & Methodology

4.1 Dataset & Preprocessing

We make use of ICDAR, IAM and CROHME dataset in our project, the details of which are given below.

4.1.1 Normal

The ICDAR 2017 Page Object Detection dataset contains a total of 1600 images which have tables, formulas and figures annotations. There are additional 800 images but they are not annotated because the dataset is taken from a competition. Out of 1600 images, about 910 images contain formulas and the number for figures and tables is 904 and 549.

We convert the bitmap images to png images and then we parse the coordinates of the formula regions by parsing the annotation xml file.

of the gamma distribution. It is straightforward to show that $\mathcal{F}(z) = \prod_{k=1}^K \left(\frac{1-\delta_k}{1-\delta_k z}\right)^{1/\sigma_k^2} \quad \text{where } \delta_k \equiv \frac{\sigma_k^2 \mu_k}{1+\sigma_k^2 \mu_k} \text{ and } \mu_k \equiv \sum_i w_{ik} \bar{p}_{\zeta(i)}.$ The form of this pgf shows that the total number of defaults in the portfolio is a sum of K The form of this pg shows that the total miniber of detailes in the portion is a sum vindependent negative binomial variables.

The final step in CreditRisk⁺ is to obtain the probability generating function $\mathcal{G}(z)$ for locality of the probability generating function $\mathcal{G}(z)$ for locality $\mathcal{G}(z)$ for the probability generating function $\mathcal{G}(z)$ for locality $\mathcal{G}(z)$ for $\mathcal{G}(z)$ fo

Assume loss given default is a constant fraction λ of loan size. Let L_i denote the loan size for obligor Assume the great cannot as Australian advantages of the discrete model, we need to express the loss exposure amounts kl_c as integer multiples of a fixed unit of loss (e.g., one million dollars). The base unit of loss is denoted ν_0 and its integer multiples are called "standardized exposure" levels. The standardized exposure for obligor i_c denoted $\nu(i)$, is equal to $\lambda l_c/\nu_0$ rounded to the nearest

Let G_i denote the probability generating function for losses on obligor i. The probability of aloss of $\nu(i)$ units on a portfolio consisting nuncuou or losses on congor i. The probability of a loss of $\nu(i)$ units on a portfolio consisting only of obligor i must equal the probability that i defaults, so $\mathcal{G}_i(z|z) = \mathcal{F}_i(z^{\nu(i)}|z)$. We use the conditional independence of the defaults to obtain the conditional pgf for losses in the entire portfolio as

$$\mathcal{G}(z|x) = \prod_i \mathcal{G}_i(z|x) = \exp \left[\sum_{k=1}^K x_k \sum_i \bar{p}_{\zeta(i)} w_{ik}(z^{\nu(i)} - 1) \right].$$

$$\mathcal{G}(z) = \prod_{k=1}^{K} \left(\frac{1 - \delta_k}{1 - \delta_k \mathcal{P}_k(z)} \right)^{1/\sigma_k^2} \quad \text{where} \quad \mathcal{P}_k(z) \equiv \frac{1}{\mu_k} \sum_i w_{ik} \bar{p}_{\zeta(i)} z^{\nu(i)}$$
 (5)

and δ_k and μ_k are as defined in equation (4). The unconditional probability that there will be n units of ν_0 loss in the total portfolio is given by the coefficient on z^n in the Taylor series expansion of $\mathcal{G}(z)$. The CreditRisk⁺ manual (§A.10) provides the recurrence relation used to calculate these coefficients

1.2 A restricted version of CreditMetrics

The CreditMetrics model for credit events is familiar to economists as an ordered probit. Associated with obligor i is an unobserved latent random variable y_i . The state of obligor i at the risk-horizon depends on the location of y_i relative to a set of "cut-off" values. In the full version of the model, the ucpens on the rotation of greater to a set of curron vanes. In the land version of the mode, the cut-offs divide the real number line into 'blus' for each end-of-period rating grade. CreditMetrics thereby captures not only defaults, but migrations across non-default grades as well. Given a set of forward credit spreads for each grade, CreditMetrics can then estimate a distribution over the change in mark-to-market value attributable to portfolio credit risk.

In this section, we present a restricted version of CreditMetrics. To allow more direct comparison

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<document filename="POD 0014.xml">
    <Coords points="130,139 922,139 130,195 922,195"/>
  </formulaRegion>
  <tableRegion>
    <Coords points="92,426 968,426 92,852 968,852"/>
  </tableRegion>
    <Coords points="130,300 926,300 130,349 926,349"/>
  </formulaRegion>
```

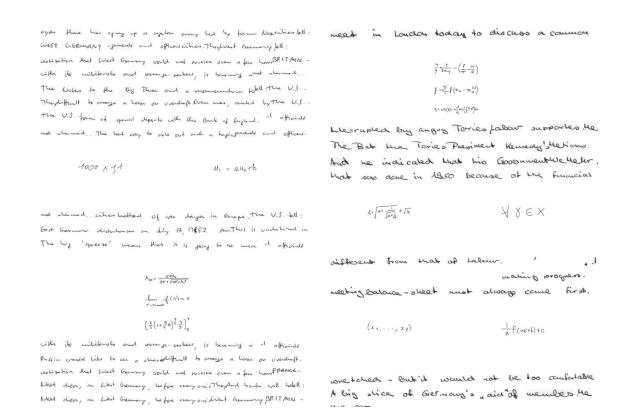
4.1.2 Synthetic

We have used IAM dataset having handwriting of various common types and CROHME dataset having mathematical handwritten formulae. The IAM dataset consists of 25 different types of common handwritings and the CROHME dataset consists of about 10500 formulas.

We have designed a heuristic to generate a synthetic dataset consisting of 1000 handwritten pages in a randomized manner having the following features:

- → Having text and formulae regions with different types of handwritings
- → Formulae in separate regions and also in between text in different types of alignments

We parse the coordinates of the formula regions by parsing the ground truth of the generated images, which is written in a format of x1, y1, x2, y2 of the bounding box of the formulas in a page.



4.2 Training & Testing

For giving training input into our model, we use selective search to obtain region proposals of the images, after which we compute Intersection over Union (IoU) of the proposed region with any of the annotated formula region, and then add a corresponding label of formula or not a formula based on the value of the IoU. Because there are many white spaces inside some formulas, the IoU is set to >= 0.6 for formulae regions, and <= 0.05 for non formulae regions.

The splitting ratio we use for training and testing is 80:20. Also, to make our inputs unbiased we limit the total number of positive and negative samples entering the model for each page, to an equal of 20~30 per page, because otherwise a huge number of negative samples can enter the model, because there is more region which contains text than formula.



4.3 Model Details

The model implemented is Regions with Convolutional Neural Networks (RCNN) architecture with VGG-16. We use VGG-16 because it performs well with specific tasks, along with two unit softmax layers, because our prediction is binary in nature. We make some modifications on the images before passing to the model like horizontal flip, vertical flip and rotation to increase the dataset and observe that the prediction accuracy of the model increases.

Following is the layered model summary of the model implemented:

Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #
input_1 (InputLayer)	(None, 224, 224,	3) 0
block1_conv1 (Conv2D)	(None, 224, 224,	64) 1792
block1_conv2 (Conv2D)	(None, 224, 224,	64) 36928
block1_pool (MaxPooling2D)	(None, 112, 112,	64) 0
block2_conv1 (Conv2D)	(None, 112, 112,	128) 73856
block2_conv2 (Conv2D)	(None, 112, 112,	128) 147584
block2_pool (MaxPooling2D)	(None, 56, 56, 12	8) 0
block3_conv1 (Conv2D)	(None, 56, 56, 25	6) 295168
block3_conv2 (Conv2D)	(None, 56, 56, 25	590080
block3_conv3 (Conv2D)	(None, 56, 56, 25	6) 590080
block3_pool (MaxPooling2D)	(None, 28, 28, 25	6) 0
block4_convl (Conv2D)	(None, 28, 28, 51	2) 1180160
block4_conv2 (Conv2D)	(None, 28, 28, 51	2) 2359808
block4_conv3 (Conv2D)	(None, 28, 28, 51	2) 2359808
block4_pool (MaxPooling2D)	(None, 14, 14, 51	2) 0
block5_conv1 (Conv2D)	(None, 14, 14, 51	2) 2359808
block5_conv2 (Conv2D)	(None, 14, 14, 51	2) 2359808
block5_conv3 (Conv2D)	(None, 14, 14, 51	2359808
block5_pool (MaxPooling2D)	(None, 7, 7, 512)	Θ
flatten (Flatten)	(None, 25088)	Θ
fcl (Dense)	(None, 4096)	102764544
fc2 (Dense)	(None, 4096)	16781312
dense_1 (Dense)	(None, 2)	8194
Total params: 134,268,738 Trainable params: 126,633,4 Non-trainable params: 7,635		

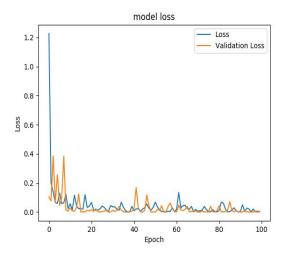
4.4 Training Strategy & Loss Function

We use Adam for optimizer because it can be used instead of the stochastic gradient descent procedure to update network weights iteratively based on training data. Because it is efficient in use and works well with large amounts of data, we make use of it. The learning rate is set to 0.001.

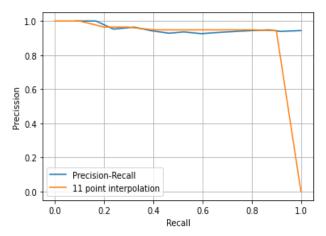
For loss function we use Categorical Cross Entropy because our prediction is categorical and binary, whether or not there is a formula (one hot encoding). We keep track of loss and accuracy after each epoch, for 1000 epochs with 10 steps per epoch and update the model parameters only if the loss value decreases.

For prediction, we get proposed regions using selective search and then obtain the model prediction, which if >= 0.75, we consider the proposed region as having formula, otherwise not.

4.5 Results



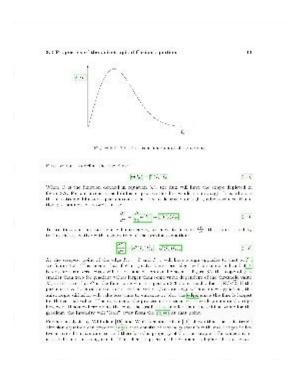
In the above diagram, the loss v/s epoch is plotted for each epoch during training of our model and presented. We can see that after a lot of epochs, loss is almost constant. We stop training after 100 epochs and during each epoch the model is updated only if the loss value decreases. We keep track of loss and accuracy after each epoch, for 1000 epochs with 10 steps per epoch and update the model parameters only if the loss value decreases.

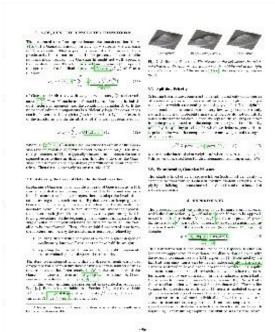


In the above diagram, the average precision of our model is calculated using 11 point interpolation and the result is **87.38%**. The precision and recall values are calculated using true positives, false positives and false negatives and the method for average precision is 11 point interpolation technique.

5. Sample Outputs

5.1 Computerized Formulae Detection





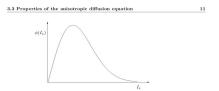


Figure 3.2: The flux as a function of the gradient

$$(I_1)I_2$$

$$\frac{\partial I}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \phi(I_x) = \phi'(I_x)I_{xx}$$
 (3.6)

To see that this equation can enhance edges, we have to look at $\frac{\partial I_x}{\partial \tau}$, that is obtained by taking the derivative with respect to x of the previous equation:

$$\frac{\partial I_x}{\partial \tau} = \phi''(I_x)I_{xx}^2 + \phi'(I_x)I_{xxx}$$
(3.3)

At the steepest point of the edge $I_{\rm c} = O(L)/I_{\rm c} x + O(L)/I_{\rm c} x$.

At the steepest point of the edge $I_{\rm c} = O$ and $I_{\rm c} x = 0$ will have a sign opposite to that of $I_{\rm c}$, were figure 2.3. This means that if G is greater than zero edges will be smoothed and if G is smaller than zero edges will be changed. As can be seen in figure 3.2 the shope of G is smaller than zero for gradient values larger than some value dependent of the threshold value K, in the case that G is the function given in equation 3.3 the critical value is $K/\sqrt{2}$. If the parameter K is chosen close to its critical value, given an edge with a known gradient, the anisotropic diffusion will take less time to enhance or but the edge, since the flux is largest for the critical value. This does make the process more sensitive to weak points in the edge however. If somewhere along the edge the gradient is smaller than the critical value for the gradient, the intensity will "leak" away from the object at that point.

Further analysis by Whitaker [46] and Whitaker and [16] first [46] shows that the anisotropic diffusion equation can produce edges that consist of several plateau's with small edges in between resembling a staircase, and therefore this property of the anisotropic diffusion equation is called the staircasing effect. This effect happens if the gradient is higher than a certain

$$p(x) \approx m(x) \triangleq \sum_{k=1}^{K} c_k \underbrace{\mathcal{N}(x, \mu_X^{(k)}, \Sigma_X^{(k)})}$$
 (11)

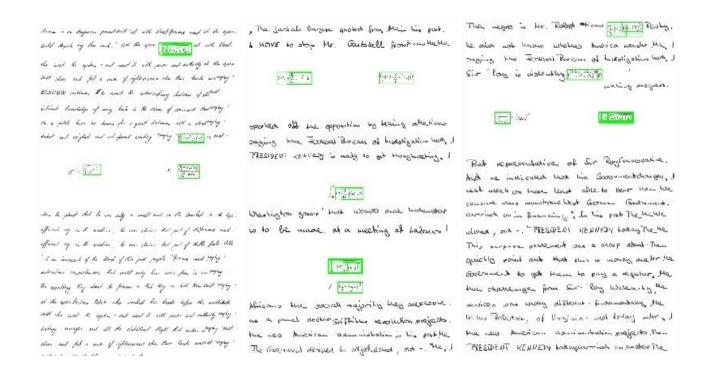
$$p(y) \approx \sum_{k=1}^{K} c_k \text{UT}\{p(x|k), f\},$$
 (12)



$$\rho^{(k)} \triangleq \text{pow}(c_k, \beta) \cdot \text{pow}(\eta^{(k)}, 1 - \beta),$$
 (

$$y = \underbrace{\log(\exp(x) + \exp(n))}_{=f(x,n)}$$
.

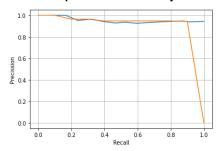
5.2 Handwritten Formulae Detection



Conclusion

We have been able to implement the 'Handwritten Formulae Detection Model'.

Average Precision (11 Point Interpolation): 87.38%

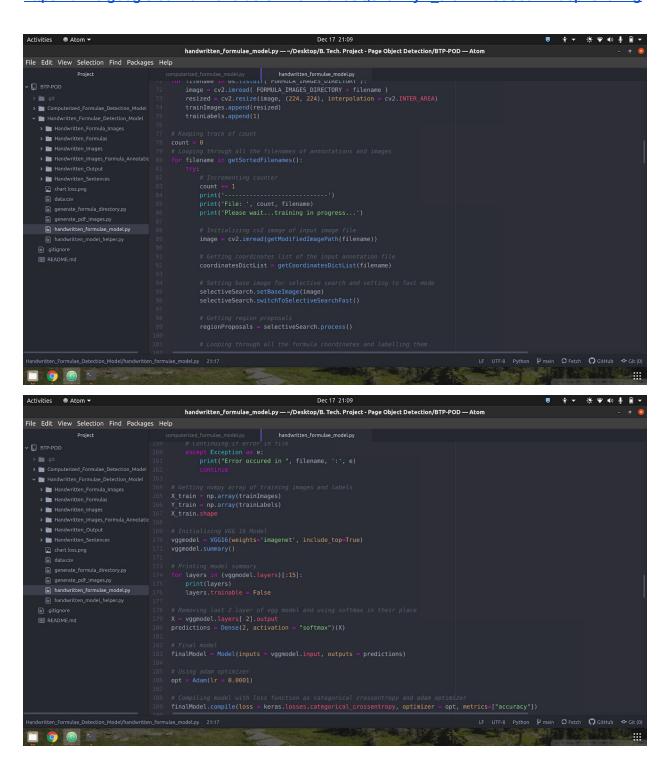


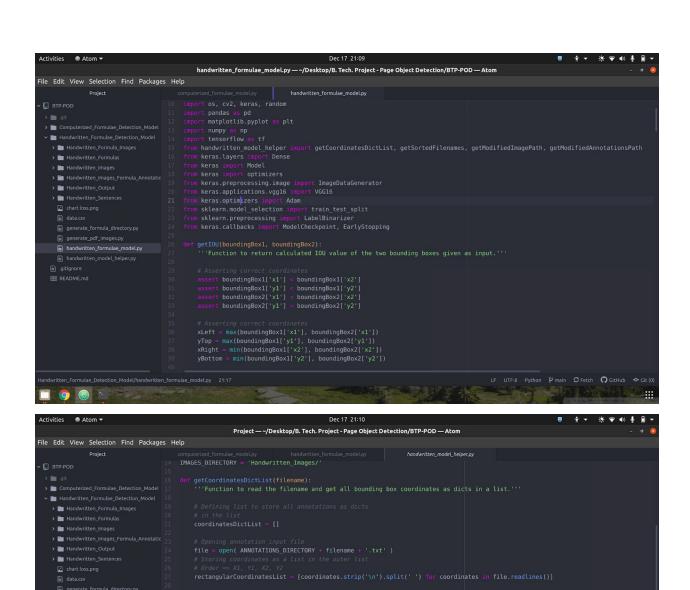
The code is available at:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1melLTux5SQs13MkyC tkehlHKo5U3947?usp=sharing

Code Snippets

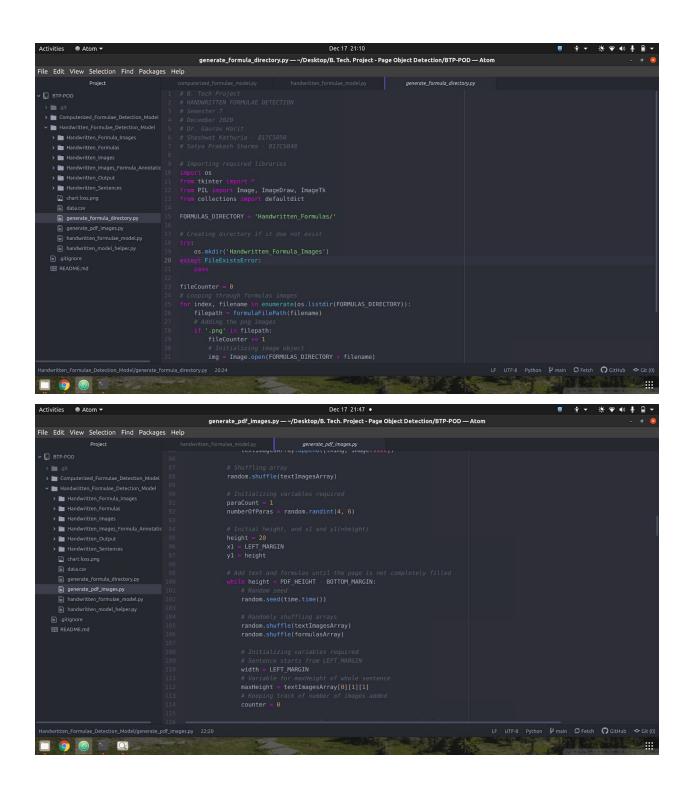
Here are some snippets of our code. The code is also available at https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1melLTux5SQs13MkyC tkehlHKo5U3947?usp=sharing

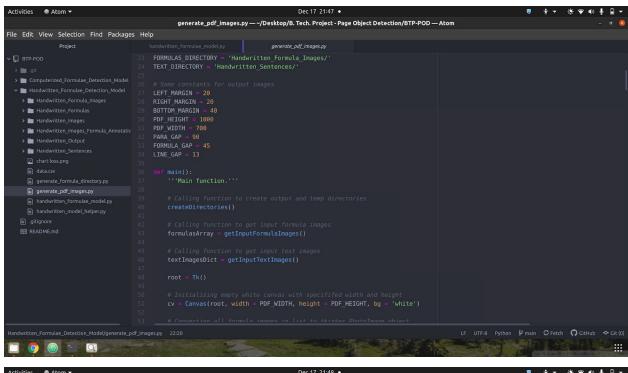


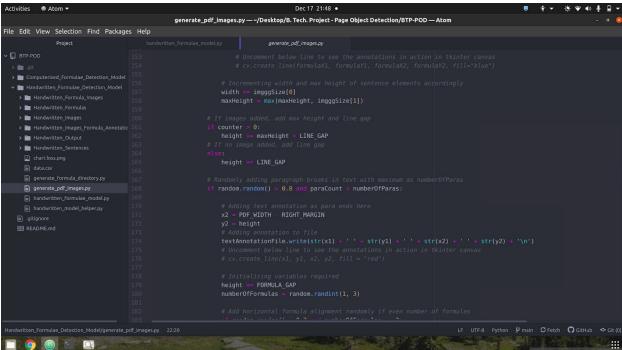


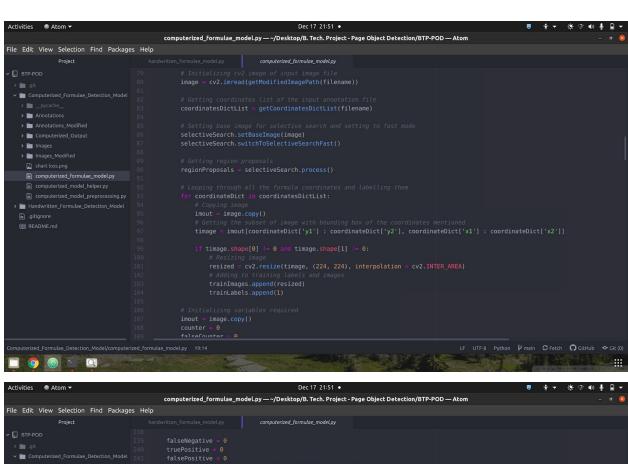
handwritten_model_helper.py

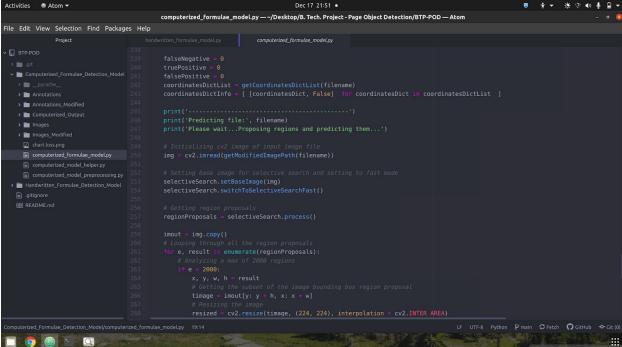
gitignore
README.md

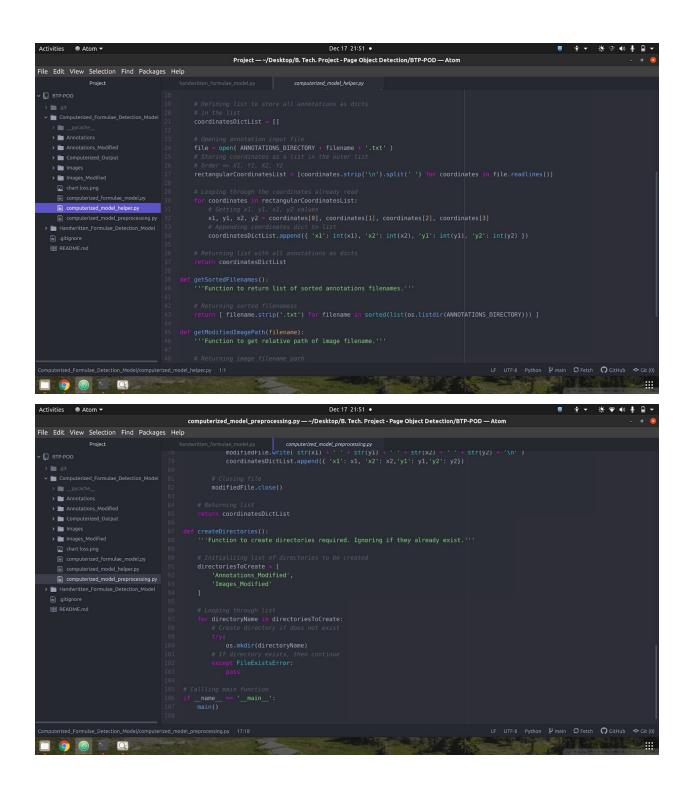












References

Faster R-CNN: Towards Real-Time Object Detection with Region Proposal Networks: Shaoqing Ren, Kaiming He, Ross Girshick, Jian Sun: https://arxiv.org/abs/1506.01497

ICDAR 2017 Competition on Page Object Detection: Liangcai Gao, Xiaohan Yi, Zhuoren Jiang, Leipeng Hao, Zhi Tang: https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/8270162

ICDAR 2017 Dataset:

https://mega.nz/file/6QlwGaAb#BKf962iBlfeL7oEqaVnDC4K3F47zrqtaU12OCJlcbTw

IAM Dataset: https://fki.tic.heia-fr.ch/databases/iam-handwriting-database

CROHME Dataset: https://www.isical.ac.in/~crohme/CROHME data.html

Tensorflow: https://www.tensorflow.org/guide

OpenCV: https://opencv.org/ Keras: https://keras.io/

THANK YOU