JACOBS UNIVERSITY

Deep Learning for Detecting Amphoras in Ancient Shipwrecks

by

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Bachelor Thesis in Computer Science

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Abstract

Consider this a separate document, although it is submitted together with the rest. The abstract aims at another audience than the rest of the proposal. It is directed at the final decision maker or generalist, who typically is not an expert at all in your field, but more a manager kind of person. Thus, don't go into any technical description in the abstract, but use it to motivate the work and to highlight the importance of your project.

(target size: 15-20 lines)

Contents

1 Introduction

1.1 Motivation

1.1.1 Relevance of Amphoras

The name *amphora* is derived from the Greek word *amphoreus*, which literally means ”two-handled” [1, 2]. It is the combination of two linguistic roots: *amphi* (on both sides) and *phoreus* (bearer) [1, 2]. Amphoras (or amphorae) were commercially used from 1500 B.C.E. to 500 C.E. to ship products throughout the Mediterranean, supplying the ancient Greek and Roman empires [2]. Amphoras were designed to ship large quantities of liquid (wine, olives, and oils) and dry products (grain, nuts, and salted fish) [2].

Like many measures that are named after the packages, amphoras were also a semi-standard unit of liquid measure [2]. A cargo ship’s capacity was measured by the number of amphoras it could carry instead of by weight [2, 3].

The structurally strong egg-like shape and the high volume-to-weight ratio made amphoras very efficient packages [2]. Amphoras were by far the most common cargo type in Mediterranean shipwreck analysis; more than half of the ships only carried amphoras [2, 4].

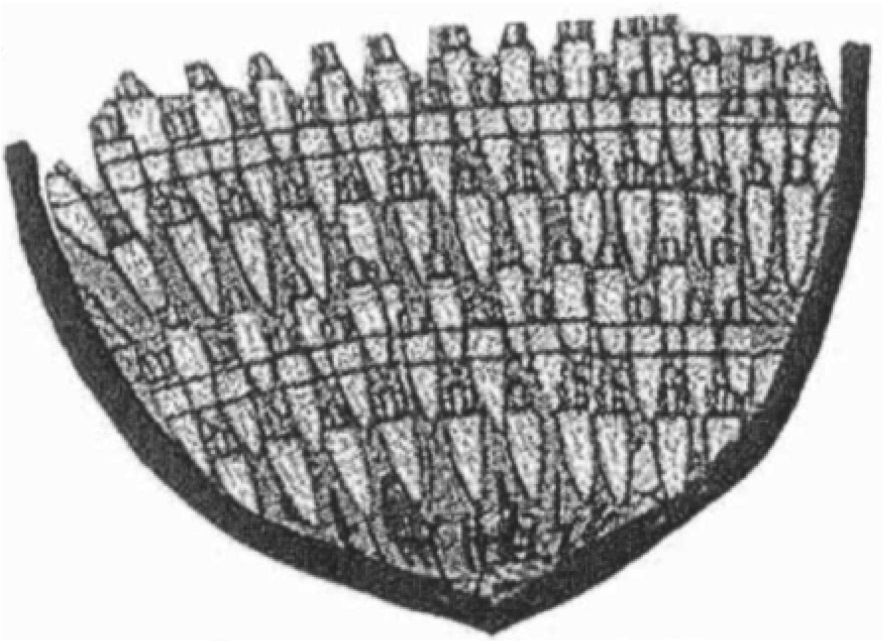

Figure 1: The egg-like shape enabled amphoras to interlock and minimize the waste of space on a ship. Source: [2].

Amphoras’ various shapes and markings - which changed by time, region, producer, contents, and brand identity - were used to identify the package status and the different products inside [2].

Amphoras have great significance in archaeology. They can be used as evidence for the trade patterns throughout the Mediterranean [2]. As they were usually discarded at the destination of a trade and have been found in shipwrecks, archaeologists have been

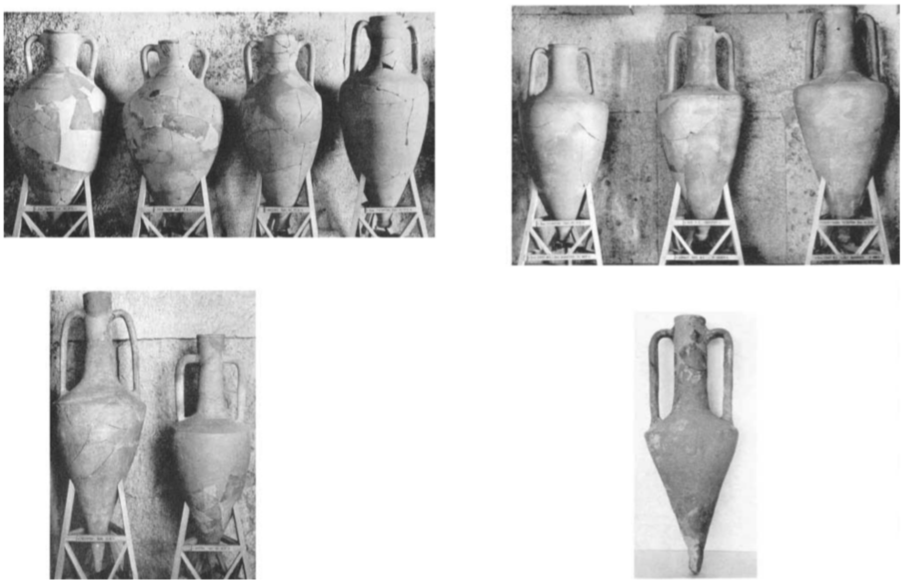

Figure 2: Amphoras have various shapes. Source: [2].

using them to recreate the transit routes [2]. Furthermore, researchers have been able to classify different amphoras, which also helps to date ruins and shipwrecks [2].

1.1.2 Computer Vision for Underwater Archaeology

Computer vision is the science of perceiving and understanding the world through images and videos [5]. There have been multiple exciting applications of computer vision, including image classification [6], object detection and localization [7, 8], art generation (neural style transfer) [9], image creation with Generative Artificial Networks (GAN) [10], face recognition [11], action and activity recognition [12], human pose estimation [13], and image recommendation system [14].

However, there is still limited research for the application of computer vision and machine learning in archaeology, especially underwater archaeology, compared to other domains [15, 16]. Computer vision, instead of visual inspection, could be used to automate the detection, assessment, and classification of artifacts [15].

Underwater computer vision has proven to be challenging, largely due to: 1) the distortion and attenuation caused by light propagation in water, and 2) the unrestricted natural environment with the abundance of marine life and suspended particles [16, 17, 18].

Despite the challenges, computer vision has lower cost [17] compared to sonar imagery [19] and laser scanning [20]. Plus, the increasingly abundant visual data obtained through autonomous underwater vehicles (AUVs), unmanned underwater vehicles (UUVs) [18, 21], and seafloor cabled observatories [16] enables us to utilize deep learning.

Furthermore, the research for deep-water shipwrecks is even more limited, mostly due to the lack of information and accessibility [22]. However, the need to study deep-water sites are in high demand, as the threats to these sites are increasing [22]. One major threat is the new forms of trawling that destroy the surface of these sites and interfere with the readability [22]. This means that many shipwrecks are likely to be damaged before they can be studied [22]. It is thus crucial to implement efficient, accessible, and accurate techniques like deep learning based computer vision to study deep-water shipwrecks.

1.2 Deep Learning

Machine learning is the class of algorithms that allow computers to learn and improve from data instead of being explicitly programmed [23, 24]. And deep learning is the subfield of machine learning that builds artificial neural networks with more than one layer between the input and output layers [24, 25, 26]. Deep learning constructs complex representations by combining simpler ones from the previous layers [27].

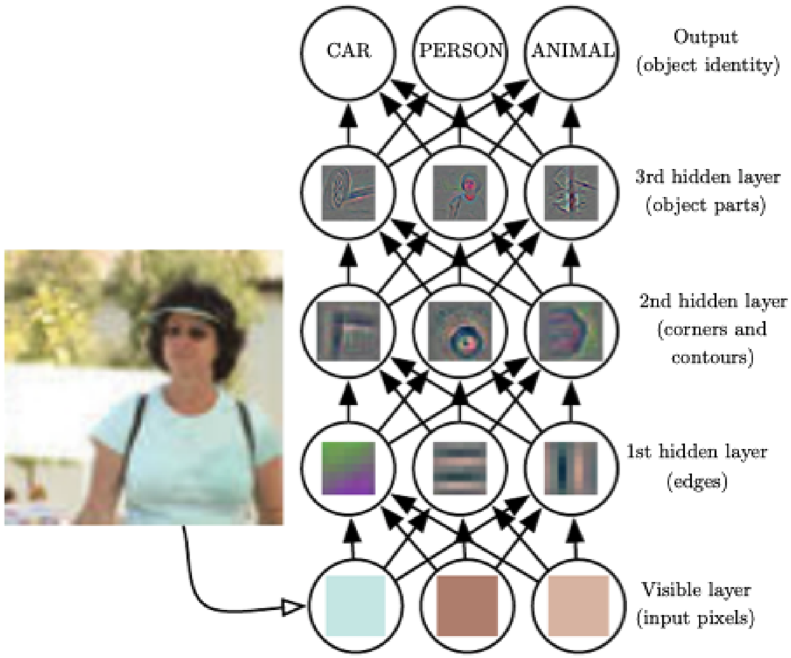

Figure 3: A deep learning system that learns the representations of a person. This is achieved by combining simpler features like corners and contours, which are further expressed by combining simpler features like edges. Source: [27]

1.2.1 Artifical Neural Networks (ANNs)

Inspired by the biological neuron, artificial neural networks (ANNs) were first introduced in 1943 using propositional logic [28]. The artificial neuron activates its single binary output when the number of active binary inputs reaches the activation threshold, which enables us to build networks that can perform any logical computation [24, 28].

Then the Perceptron was introduced in 1957, which is based on a different artificial neuron called threshold logic unit (TLU) or linear threshold unit (LTU) [29]. The inputs and outputs are numbers instead of binary values, and each input has a weight. TLU computes the weighted sum of the inputs and then applies a step function like the Heaviside

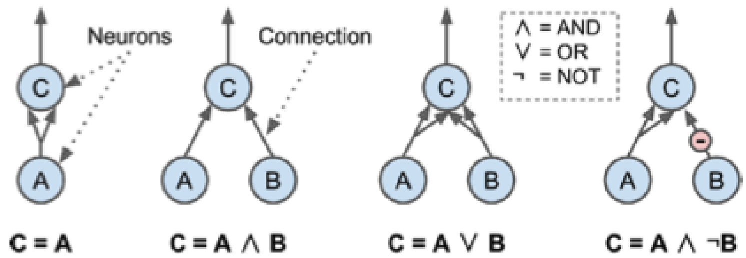

Figure 4: ANNs performing logical computations with the activation threshold of 2. Source: [24]

function $heaviside(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x \leq 0 \\ 1 & x \geq 0 \end{cases}$ [24, 29].

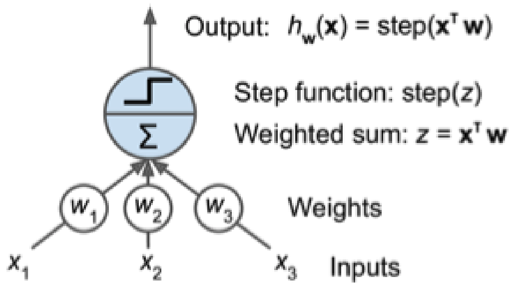

Figure 5: Threshold logic unit. Source: [24]

A single TLU can be used for simple linear binary classification, while a layer of TLUs plus a bias neuron form a Perceptron capable of multi-output classification [24].

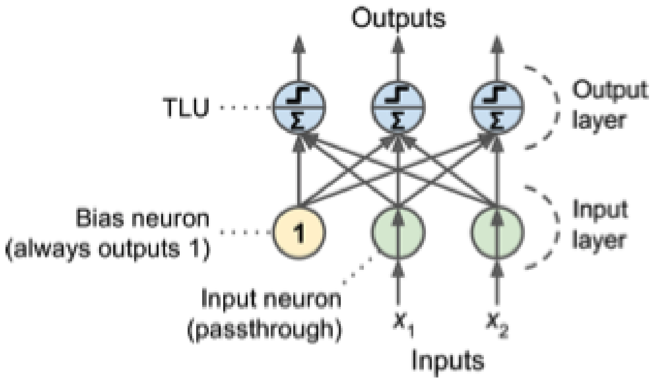

Figure 6: A Perceptron with three output neurons. Source: [24]

The outputs of a fully connected layer is computed as follows, where $\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{W}, \mathbf{b}$, and ϕ are respectively the input matrix, weight matrix, bias vector, and activation function:

$$h_{\mathbf{W},\mathbf{b}}(\mathbf{X}) = \phi(\mathbf{X}\mathbf{W} + \mathbf{b})$$

The Perceptron is trained using a variant of the Herbb's rule [30], which is famously summarized as ”neurons wire together if they fire together [31]” [24]. However, the Perceptron can not learn complex patterns due the linear decision boundary of the output neurons, and it can only make predictions based on a hard threshold instead of outputting a class probability [24]. To address these limitations, the Multilayer Perceptron (MLP) was introduced by stacking multiple Perceptrons.

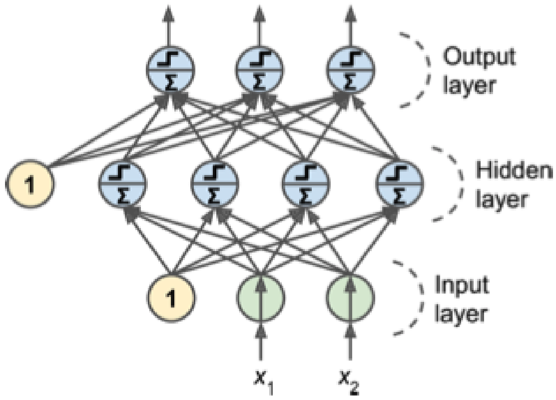

Figure 7: A Multilayer Perceptron with one hidden layer. Source: [24]

Backpropagation [32] is used to train the MLP, which first makes a prediction and measures the error in the forward pass, then measures the error contribution from each connection in the reverse pass, and finally tweaks the connection weights to reduce teh error in the Gradient Descent [33] step [24]. Activation functions like Rectified Linear Unit $ReLU(x) = max(0, x)$ are used to add nonlinearity, which theoretically gives a large enough deep neural network the ability to approximate any continuos function [24].

1.2.2 Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs)

Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) were inspired by the brain's visual cortex, and they have been used in computer vision since the 1980s [24]. We can not simply use a deep neural network with fully connected layers for computer vision, as it breaks down for large images due to the huge number of parameters it requires [24]. CNNs also have successful applications in other domains like recommender systems [34] and natural language processing (NLP) [35].

Hubel et al. [36, 37, 38] found that many biological neurons have a small receptive field, which means they only react to visual stimuli in a limited region of the visual field [24]. Some neurons only react to horizontal lines, while others only react to lines with different orientations [24]. Some neurons have larger receptive fields, and they react to more complex patterns formed by lower-level patterns [24].

Neurons in the first convolutional layer are only connected to pixels in their receptive fields, and neurons in the second convolutional layer are only connected to the neurons in a small receptive field in the first layer [24]. This allows the CNN to concentrate on lower-level features in the first hidden layer, then combine them into higher-level features in the second hidden layer, and so on [24].

The filters or convolution kernels, which are learned during training, are neurons' weights that can be presented as small images the size of receptive fields [24]. For example, a black sqaure with a horizontal white line in the middle (a matrix full of 0s except for the

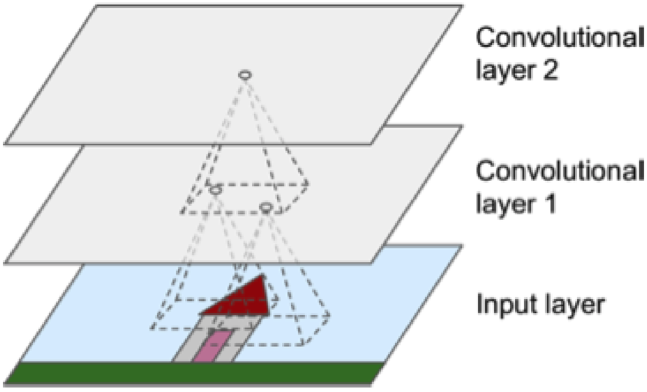

Figure 8: CNN layers with rectangular receptive fields. Source: [24]

central row with 1s) is a filter that only reacts to the central row in the receptive field. A layer of neurons with the same filter outputs a feature map, which highlights the parts of an image that activate the filter the most [24].

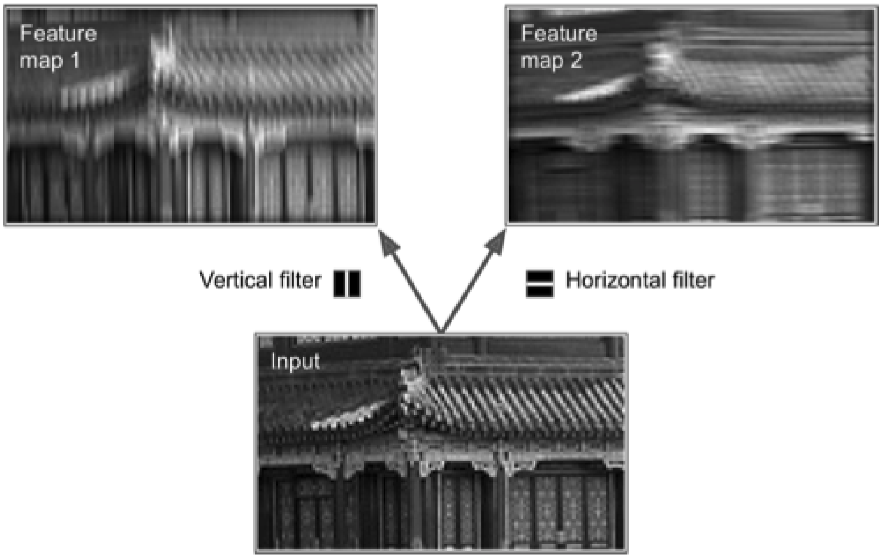

Figure 9: Two feature maps obtained by applying two different filters. Source: [24]

The pooling layers subsample (i.e. shrink) the input image to reduce the computational load and the number of paramters, which also reduces overfitting [24]. Plus, pool layers can bring some invariance to small translations, rotations, and scaling [24].

The typical CNN architecture involves the aforementioned convolutional layers, pooling layers, and fully connected layers. Some well-established CNN architecutres are LeNet-5 [39], AlexNet [40], GoogLeNet [41], VGGNet [42], ResNet (Residual Network) [43], Xception (Extreme Inception) [44], and SENet (Squeeze-and-Excitation Network) [45].

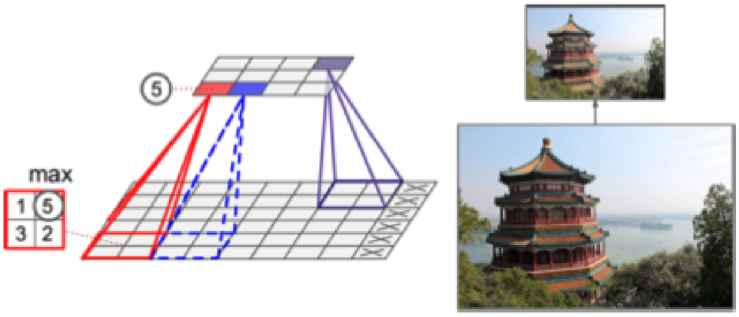

Figure 10: A max pooling layer with a 2 x 2 kernel and stride 2. Only the max value from each receptive field gets passed to the next layer. Source: [24]

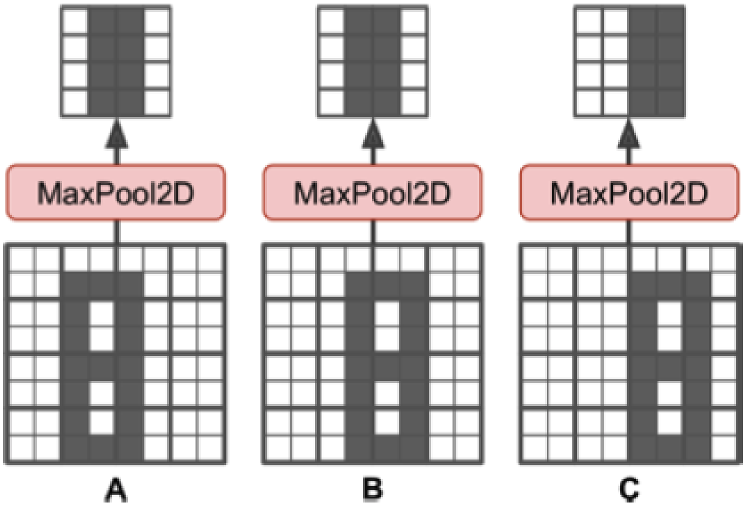

Figure 11: Max pooling layer's invariance to small translations. Source: [24]

1.2.3 Deep Learning vs. Traditional Computer Vision

1.3 Object Detection

Define object detection and introduce the sliding CNN approach.

1.3.1 Fully Convolutional Networks (FCNs)

1.3.2 General Object Detection Framework Components

Region Proposals

Network Predictions

Non-Maximum Suppression (NMS)

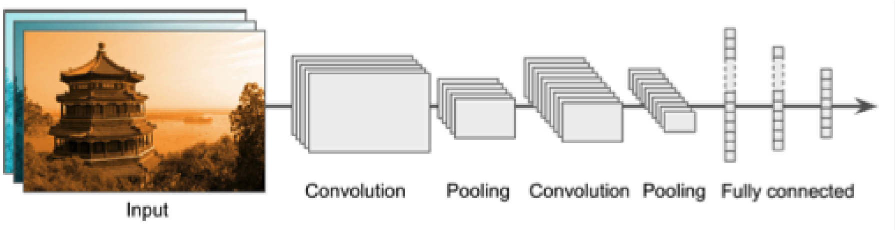

Figure 12: The typical CNN architecuture. Source: [24]

Metrics

1.3.3 Region-Based Convultional Neural Networks (R-CNN)

R-CNN

Faster R-CNN

Faster R-CNN

1.3.4 Single Shot Detector (SSD)

1.3.5 You Only Look Once (YOLO)

YOLO

YOLOv2

YOLOv3

YOLOv4

YOLOv5

2 Related Work

3 Data and Methods

This is the technical core of the thesis. Here you lay out your how you answered your research question, you specify your design of experiments or simulations, point out difficulties that you encountered, etc.

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3.1 Data

3.2 Model

3.3 Model Training

4 Evaluation

This section discusses criteria that are used to evaluate the research results. Make sure your results can be used to published research results, i.e., to the already known state-of-the-art.

(target size: 5-10 pages)

Number	Description
7	A lucky number in Western culture
8	A lucky number in Chinese and other Asian cultures
42	Answer to the ultimate question of life, the universe, and everything
404	Not found

Table 1: Useless insights I gained with no further meaning

4.1 Visual Evaluation

4.2 Metric Evaluation

5 Conclusions

Summarize the main aspects and results of the research project. Provide an answer to the research questions stated earlier.

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6 Future Work

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