
Slide Title Extraction for Zoom-format Lecture Videos through MASK R-CNN

Sam Gorman
sgorman@stanford.edu

Seyi Olujide
oluseyi@stanford.edu

Kaili Wang
kkwang22@stanford.edu

Abstract

Given an online lecture containing slides on Zoom, we identify the major sections of the lecture based on the title. This output may be used to generate a linked “table of contents” for any online video presentation, enabling students to directly access key parts of a lecture recording. We employed a MASK R-CNN to achieve an 88% IoU at a threshold of 50.

1. Introduction

In the COVID-19 crisis, where millions of students are now primarily learning in an online context, there is profound need for the ability to empower learners to access content asynchronously and filter by what they most need. More technically, we approach this as entirely an image problem, where the images are frames from the lecture video. This is because slideshows themselves are sequences of static images, where there is little depth in the image as there would be from an image taken from a camera. The input to our algorithm is an image, representing a frame from a lecture video. We then use a MASK R-CNN to output bounding box coordinates of where a title is present, and an integer confidence value for this prediction.

2. Related Work

There exists a substantive body of research focused on improving online learning. Imran et al used lecture audio and slides to create word clouds to indicate what each segment of the video was about [1]. Quite a few others made advancements on slide transition detection between 2014 and 2016 [2][3]. At first, we expected to rely on detection of slide transitions in order to identify whether a new section has been reached. However, a literature review led us to decide to focus on detecting titles rather than having an individual segment of the process dedicated to detecting slide transitions. A previous technology that has been developed and patented achieved a somewhat similar challenge as ours; it extracted metadata (titles, authors, addresses, and more) from documents of the similar format [4]. This project first applied OCR to the entire document, and then used deep learning to identify which text lies in which category (with some NLP processing). Additionally, Yang et Al employed OCR to generate lecture outlines of slide presentations, but this OCR-driven approach could not meaningfully distinguish between titles and plaintext. [5] This led us to adopt an approach driven by deep-learning, with no OCR present.

3. Dataset and Features

We constructed a novel dataset, which we have titled “Online Learning Repository”, consisting of 330,000 .jpgs of online lecture recording frames. All frames are extracted from a repository of 1000 videos from the Advanced Placement Youtube Channel. This channel was chosen for strong consistency of format: each uploaded video is a recorded Zoom lecture in which a professor screenshares a presentation. Further, the channel has high variance in subject matter, which we categorized and tagged under government, arts, english, history & social science, math & computer science, sciences, and world languages.

Data pipeline overview:



As displayed in step 3, a representative batch of 2,300 frames were chosen by randomly selecting accompanying frames for at least one video across each subject category. These frames were then manually labeled in LabelBox by drawing bounding boxes where a title was present. MASK

R-CNN handles rescaling and transforms of images. Finally, we split our data into a size-600 test set and a size-1700 training set, and exported these sets as JSON input for our model.

4. Methods

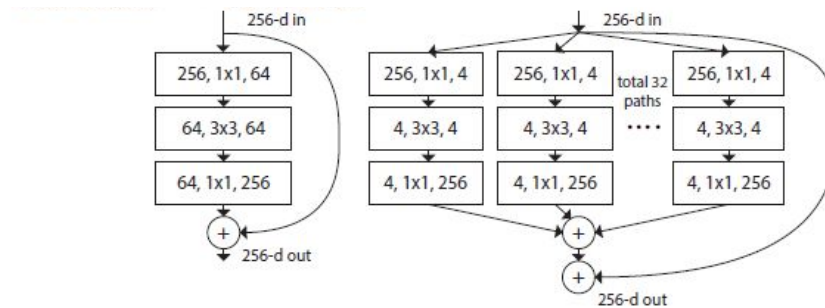
Data manipulation and models were built with TensorFlow[8], Pytorch[10] and Facebook Detectron2[9].

4.1 Baseline SSD MobileNet V2

We first employed SSD MobileNetV2 as an off-the-shelf baseline as part of TensorFlow’s Object Detection Library. This model achieved an accuracy of 60% on our test set, leading us to shift to the more computationally expensive but more accurate MASK R-CNN architecture.

4.2 Transfer learning with MASK R-CNN

We then applied transfer learning with our novel dataset on a pre-trained state-of-the-art MASK-R-CNN implementation in Facebook Detectron2. The model, titled ResNeXt-101-32x8d is trained with Caffe2 and uses a ResNet + FPN backbone with standard convolution. This model efficiently detects objects in an image while generating a high-quality segmentation mask for each instance. MASK R-CNN is an extension of the Faster R-CNN architecture, including an additional mask head to perform pixel wise segmentation on each object and extract each object separately irrespective of background.



Left: A block of ResNet [14]. Right: A block of ResNeXt with cardinality = 32, with roughly the same complexity. A layer is shown as (# in channels, filter size, # out channels).

[6]

The model employs a multi-task loss function as enumerated below, where L is the total loss function is, L_{cls} is the classification loss, L_{box} is the loss of the bounding box, and L_{mask} is the average binary cross-entropy loss [7].

$$L = \bar{L}_{cls} + L_{box} + L_{mask}$$

Figure 1. Multi-task Loss Function for Mask R-CNN

$$-\frac{1}{m^2} \sum_{1 \leq i, j \leq m} [y_{ij} \log \hat{y}_{ij}^k + (1 - y_{ij}) \log(1 - \hat{y}_{ij}^k)]$$

Figure 2. Average binary cross-entropy loss function for L_{mask}

5. Experiments / Results / Conclusions

We decreased the learning rate from its default to 0.0005, because our dataset was relatively small and thus computational expense was not a huge concern. Otherwise, we mostly used the default hyperparameters as in ResNeXt-101-32x8d, our transferred learning model.

5.1 Accuracy

We achieved a result of 0.88 IoU at threshold 50 on our test set. In other words, our model correctly identified when (*area of overlap / area of union* > 0.5) in 88% of the test set. To the extent the authors are aware, this results represents the best-in-class result on detection of titles from lecture slides.

Qualitatively speaking, our model performed well on standard slides, where the title is most a few words long (see Appendix for successful examples). It performed well on the rare instances of slides with titles in the lower half of the frame (Ex. 2). It even performed well when it was a non-screenshared image--in other words, an image from an actual camera (Ex. 4). This was unexpected, because we assumed that any camera tilt might skew the results. This gives us hope that our model would perform well in real in-person lectures, where the video is taken from the back of the room.

5.2 Loss Function

We observed a loss function approaching 0.4 after 300 steps, which is an acceptable level of loss relative to both the high IoU we observed and benchmarks set in prior literature.

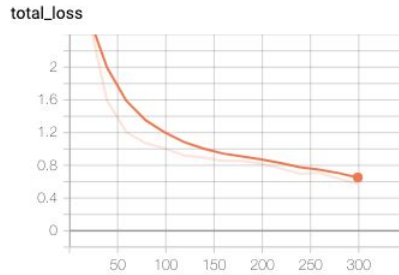


Figure 3: Loss Function Output of MASK R-CNN

5.3 Failures of the Model

Our model, however, sometimes was not able to identify the titles in some ambiguous slides, such as those listed in the Appendix (examples 5-9). We believe that most of these errors may be attributed to the limited size and variance within the training set.

5.3.1 Possible Cases of Overfitting

Since all of our data came from online AP videos on Youtube, there was undoubtedly overfitting to those presentation formats. Additionally, after conducting error analysis, we noticed that almost all of the multi-line titles were not correctly identified; only the first line of the title was boxed (see Ex. 10 in Appendix). This tells us that there must have been overfitting for one-line titles.

When we ran our model on our training data, there was a result of 0.836 IoU. We admittedly are not exactly sure why there was a worse outcome on the training data than on the unseen test data.

6. Conclusions

In summary, our model generated positive results of 0.88 IoU on our test set, using transfer learning on a novel dataset with a MASK R-CNN architecture.

With more time and team members, we see an opportunity to create a user-facing product that deploys our model via a web application. Given an mp4 video lecture, our application may output a table of contents containing titles of each lecture slides, and timestamps to jump to that location in a video.

Further, it may be beneficial to expand the size of our labeled dataset and reduce potential overfitting, as while we have access to 330,000+ frames, human labeling constraints led us to employ transfer learning with a relatively small dataset of 2,300. Further, we seek to expand our

sources of data as well, going beyond the Advanced Placement channel we extracted frames from to account for higher diversity of data.

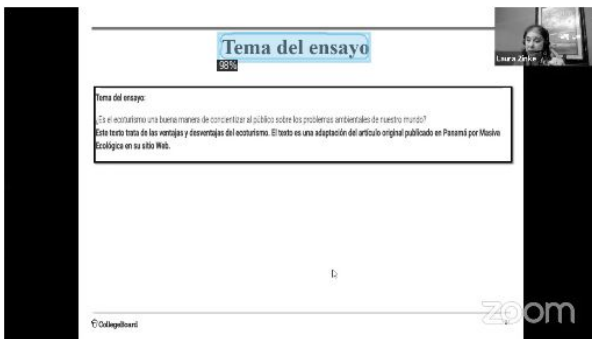
We plan to release our growing labeled dataset publicly to support future research efforts.

7. Contributions

Kaili Wang contributed to implementing our MASK R-CNN and determining which model to use. Seyi Olujide contributed to gathering raw data and ensuring proper storage and access methods to the data. Sam Gorman contributed to preprocessing of the data and construction of the novel dataset. All authors contributed equal amounts of work.

8. Appendix

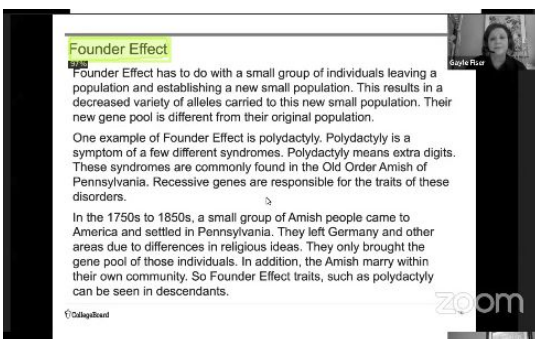
Examples of Good Results



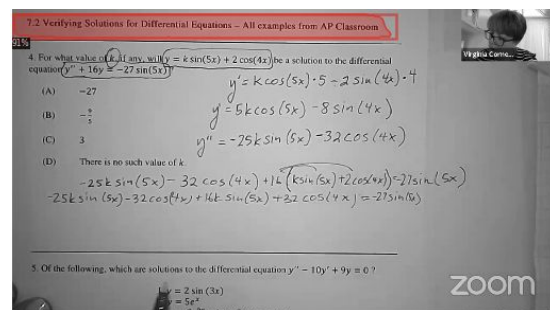
Ex. 1: Correct prediction with 98% confidence



Ex. 2: Correct prediction of caption in lower half, with 91% confidence

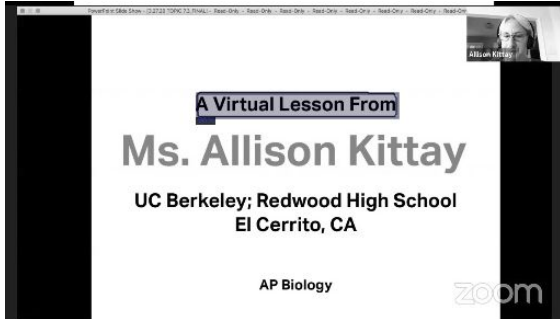


Ex. 3: Correct prediction with 97% accuracy

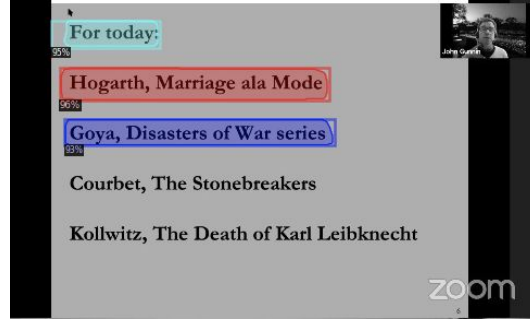


Ex. 4: Correct prediction in a camera mode, not screen-share mode, with 91% prediction.

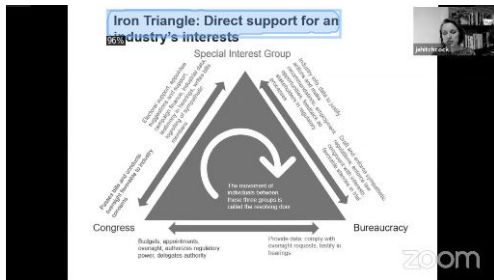
Examples of Ambiguous Results



Ex. 5. Ambiguous slide. Title probably should be “A Virtual Lesson From Ms. Allison Kittay”

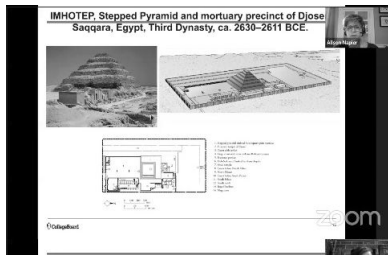


Ex. 6. Ambiguous slide. Title probably should be “For today:” Assigned title status to correct title with 95% confidence, but assigned title status to incorrect answer with 96% confidence

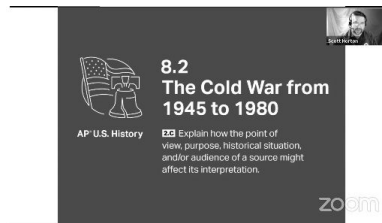


Ex. 7: Prediction only included part of the second line, which is not ideal.

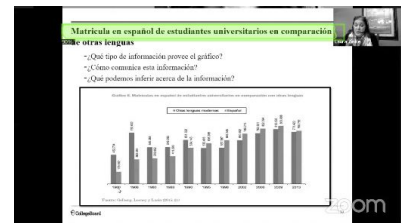
Examples of Erroneous Results



Ex. 8: Did not identify title



Ex. 9: Did not identify title



Ex. 10: Only identifies first line of title

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