

# 1     **Deep Learning Models for Trash Detection in Underwater through Image Processing**

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## 7     **ABSTRACT**

8             The increasing problem of underwater trash and its detrimental impact on marine  
9     ecosystems necessitates effective detection and mitigation strategies. This work presents an  
10    approach for underwater trash detection by integrating the YOLOv7 deep learning model  
11    with a Flask web application. The proposed system enables users to upload images or videos  
12    through the web application's user interface for real-time detection of underwater trash  
13    objects. To train the YOLOv7 model, a comprehensive dataset of annotated underwater trash  
14    images is curated, encompassing diverse types of marine debris commonly encountered in  
15    aquatic environments. The model is fine-tuned using this dataset to accurately recognize and  
16    localize underwater trash objects in real-time. The Flask web application serves as a user-  
17    friendly platform, allowing individuals to easily upload images or videos from their devices  
18    for analysis. Once uploaded, the application processes the media content using the trained  
19    YOLOv7 model. It enables the monitoring of marine pollution, empowers users to identify  
20    underwater trash hotspots, facilitates cleanup initiatives, and promotes awareness about the  
21    significance of preserving marine ecosystems. The user-friendly nature of the web application  
22    encourages active user participation and engagement in combating underwater trash. The  
23    system has the potential to aid in the preservation of marine environments by facilitating  
24    proactive efforts to mitigate the impact of underwater trash.

25    **Keywords:** Trash detection, YOLO V7, image processing, marine pollution, web application.

## 26 **1. Introduction**

27           Image processing is a field that encompasses a wide range of techniques and  
28 algorithms aimed at analyzing and manipulating digital images. It plays a vital role in various  
29 domains. By utilizing sophisticated algorithms, image processing enables tasks such as image  
30 enhancement, restoration, segmentation, feature extraction, and object recognition. These  
31 techniques allow us to extract valuable information, improve image quality, and gain deeper  
32 insights into visual data. From noise reduction and image restoration to complex tasks like  
33 pattern recognition and image understanding, image processing provides powerful tools to  
34 analyze, interpret, and manipulate images. With the advancements in computational power  
35 and algorithmic techniques, image processing continues to evolve, contributing to numerous  
36 real-world applications and pushing the boundaries of visual understanding and image-based  
37 decision-making.

38  
39           The problem addressed in this work is the need for an integrated solution that  
40 combines the YOLOv7 deep learning model with a Flask web application for underwater  
41 trash detection. With marine pollution becoming an increasing concern, there is a demand for  
42 an efficient and user-friendly system that allows users to upload images and videos for  
43 analysis, accurately detects and localizes underwater trash objects, and overcomes challenges  
44 specific to underwater imagery, such as varying lighting conditions and object occlusion.

45  
46           By integrating YOLOv7 with a Flask web application, this work aims to empower  
47 marine biologists, researchers, and users to actively contribute to marine pollution mitigation  
48 efforts by detecting and reporting underwater trash. Ultimately, the proposed work seeks to  
49 raise awareness about the importance of preserving marine ecosystems and drive positive  
50 environmental change.

51           The aim of this work is to develop an integrated system that combines the  
52 YOLOv7 deep learning model with a Flask web application to enable efficient detection  
53 and localization of underwater trash in images and videos uploaded by users. This will  
54 empower marine biologists, researchers, and users to actively contribute to marine pollution  
55 mitigation efforts and raise awareness about the importance of preserving marine ecosystems  
56 through accurate trash detection and reporting.

57           Object detection refers to the task of identifying and locating objects within an image  
58 or video. It involves recognizing and localizing specific objects of interest in a given scene.  
59 Object detection algorithms leverage computer vision and machine learning techniques to  
60 analyze visual data, identify objects based on their characteristics or features, and generate  
61 bounding box coordinates to indicate the object's location in the image or video frame. Object  
62 detection is a fundamental technology in various applications, including autonomous driving,  
63 surveillance, robotics, and image understanding. It plays a crucial role in enabling machines  
64 to perceive and interact with their environment by detecting and recognizing objects of  
65 interest.

### 66 *1.1 YOLOv7*

67           YOLOv7 is an advanced object detection algorithm that stands for "You Only  
68 Look Once version 7." It is a deep learning model that achieves real-time object detection by  
69 simultaneously predicting object classes and their corresponding bounding box coordinates.  
70 YOLOv7 builds upon its predecessors and incorporates improvements in network architecture,  
71 feature extraction, and training techniques. It is known for its speed, accuracy, and versatility  
72 in detecting objects across various categories and in complex scenes. YOLOv7 is widely  
73 used in computer vision applications, including autonomous vehicles, surveillance systems,  
74 and robotics, where real-time object detection is crucial. Its efficiency and effectiveness make  
75 it a popular choice for tasks that require accurate object localization and recognition.

## 76 1.2 FLASK

77 Flask is a popular web framework for building web applications in Python. It  
78 provides a simple and flexible development environment with a wide range of features to  
79 streamline web application development. With Flask, developers can efficiently create web  
80 applications by leveraging its user-friendly interface and powerful tools. Flask offers a  
81 lightweight and modular design, allowing developers to choose the components they need for  
82 their specific requirements. It provides a built-in development server, which makes it easy to  
83 test and debug applications locally. Flask also supports the use of templates, enabling  
84 developers to create dynamic and interactive web pages.

85 This article was organized under six sections. Section 2 describes the detail about literature  
86 survey and applications related to this work. Section 3 consists System design of the  
87 proposed work with its overall architecture diagram and modules. Section 4 discusses about  
88 the algorithms applicable for object detection and trash classification. Section 5 describes  
89 implementation of the proposed system with its performance analysis. Section 6 contains the  
90 conclusion of this work and also refers for future work.

91

## 92 **2 Literature Survey**

93

94 The work done by J. C. Hipolito et al. (2021) was to better understand the current  
95 state of the field's knowledge and methods for detecting underwater marine plastic debris.  
96 The survey sought to identify the gaps in the existing research as well as the demand for a  
97 deep transfer learning technique and an upgraded low sample size dataset. The survey  
98 included a thorough analysis of pertinent academic papers, research articles, conference  
99 proceedings, and other works in the fields of machine vision systems and the identification of  
100 marine plastic garbage. Techniques for processing images, object detection algorithms, deep

101 learning paradigms, transfer learning, and data augmentation strategies were some of the  
102 important topics investigated.

103

104 The work done by Bing et al. (2021) aimed to explore the existing research and  
105 methodologies related to deep-sea debris detection using deep neural networks. The survey  
106 was designed to better understand the difficulties in detecting trash in deep-sea habitats and  
107 the efficiency of deep learning methods in overcoming these difficulties. A thorough analysis  
108 of pertinent research papers, journal articles, conference proceedings, and related works in the  
109 fields of deep-sea debris identification and deep neural networks was done for the survey.  
110 Techniques for processing images, object detection algorithms, deep learning architectures,  
111 and the availability of labelled deep-sea trash datasets were some of the major topics  
112 investigated. Convolutional neural networks (CNNs) and recurrent neural networks (RNNs),  
113 among other deep learning architectures, were also recognised in the investigation as having  
114 been successfully used to detect debris in various underwater environments. In evaluating  
115 these architectures' benefits and drawbacks, accuracy, speed, and computing complexity were  
116 taken into account.

117

118 The investigation also looked at the accessibility of datasets of labelled deep-sea  
119 trash, which are crucial for developing and testing deep neural networks. The lack of such  
120 datasets was cited as a problem that prevented the development and benchmarking of deep-  
121 sea debris identification techniques. The survey also covered mitigation options for this  
122 problem, like data augmentation methods and cooperative data collection initiatives.

123 Chia-Chin (2019) aimed to explore the existing research and advancements in object  
124 detection using deep learning techniques specifically tailored for underwater environments.

125 The survey was designed to better understand the difficulties posed by the distinctive features

126 of the undersea environment and the efficiency of deep learning approaches in resolving these  
127 difficulties.

128

129 Techniques for processing images, object detection algorithms, deep learning  
130 architectures, and the availability of labelled underwater datasets were some of the major  
131 topics covered. According to the literature review, underwater environments provide a number  
132 of difficulties for object detection, including dim lighting, colour distortion, limited visibility,  
133 and complicated background conditions. In these difficult underwater settings, conventional  
134 computer vision techniques frequently struggle to deliver satisfactory results. Convolutional  
135 neural networks (CNNs) in particular have great promise for enhancing the precision and  
136 resilience of item detection in aquatic environments, according to the survey. The survey also  
137 found a number of deep learning architectures and algorithms, including YOLO, SSD, and  
138 Faster R-CNN, that have been successfully used for underwater object detection.

139

140 Wang et al (2021) aimed to explore the existing research and advancements in  
141 underwater object detection using the YOLOv4 architecture. The survey was designed to  
142 better understand the difficulties in underwater object recognition and the performance of  
143 the YOLOv4 model in those conditions.

144

145 A thorough analysis of pertinent research papers, journal articles, conference  
146 proceedings, and related works in the fields of underwater object detection and the YOLOv4  
147 architecture was done as part of the survey. Deep learning architectures, underwater  
148 application-specific modifications to the YOLOv4 model, underwater imaging conditions,  
149 object detection algorithms, and other key areas were all thoroughly investigated. According to  
150 the literature review, difficulties with underwater object identification include dim lighting,

151 low contrast, light dispersion, and complicated background conditions. The effectiveness of  
152 conventional object detection techniques can be considerably impacted by these variables.  
153 The survey did, however, draw attention to the potential of deep learning methods, particularly  
154 the YOLOv4 model, to enhance the precision and effectiveness of underwater object  
155 recognition.

156

157 The survey also revealed particular ways in which the YOLOv4 model had been  
158 enhanced for underwater applications. The network design, training methods, loss functions,  
159 or pre-processing procedures might all be altered as part of these advances. The survey  
160 evaluated how well these updates addressed the difficulties associated with underwater object  
161 detection and improved the YOLOv4 model's performance there.

162

163

164 Akshita et al (2019) aimed to explore the existing research and advancements in  
165 object detection in underwater images using edge detection techniques with adaptive  
166 thresholding. The survey's main goals were to comprehend the difficulties underwater  
167 imaging environments present and the efficiency of adaptive thresholding techniques in  
168 identifying object edges.

169

170 The difficulties of underwater imaging, edge detection algorithms, adaptive  
171 thresholding techniques, and their use for object detection in underwater photos were some of  
172 the key topics investigated. According to the literature review, underwater imaging  
173 settings can be difficult because of things like low visibility, colour distortion, light  
174 attenuation, and noise. The effectiveness of conventional object detection techniques that  
175 rely on colour or texture cues may be hampered by these issues. The investigation did draw

176 attention to the ability of edge detection methods to capture item boundaries and improve the  
177 detection precision in underwater photos.

178

179 The search also uncovered different adaptive thresholding techniques and edge  
180 detection algorithms that have been effectively used to detect underwater objects. These  
181 strategies use adaptive thresholding to find significant edges in order to segregate objects from  
182 the background. The survey evaluated how well various techniques handled the difficulties of  
183 underwater object recognition and increased the precision of item location.

184 Edge detection was the important processing in image analysis. In underwater  
185 image analysis also it plays a major role. Sivanesh et al (2023) proposed a system for detecting  
186 E-coli bacteria in water images. Sairamesh et al. (2021) used the contour based segmentation  
187 method for classifying the species of fish. Vatchala et al (2022) proposed a household object  
188 detection system using CNN model. This system identifies the object through image analysis  
189 using CNN. Soundarajan et al (2022) proposed a method for detecting abnormal activities in  
190 human through thermal images. Anusha et al (2018) proposed a system to recognize the food  
191 items and evaluate the calorie value of the recognized food item. This will be helpful for the  
192 diabetic patients to easily identify the dietary food for them. All these methodologies using  
193 deep learning models for image analysis and provide more efficiency.

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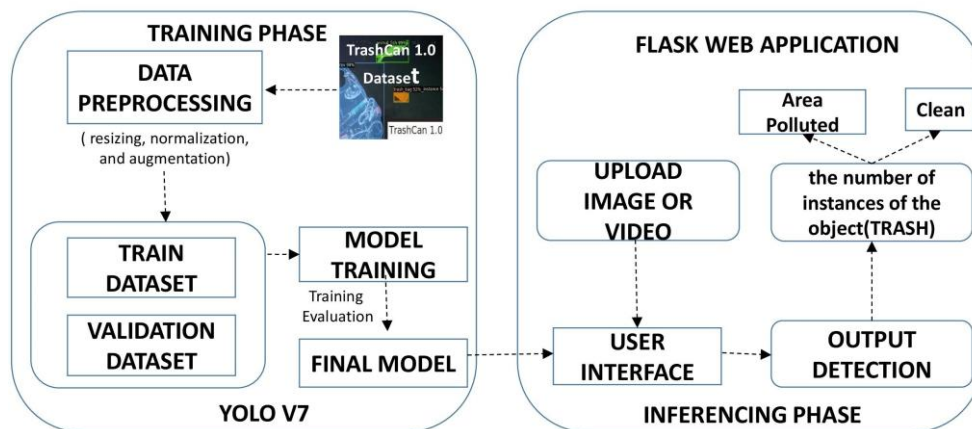
200



### 201 3 SYSTEM DESIGN

202 The overall system architecture of the proposed work is shown in Figure 1.

1



203 **Figure 1.** Proposed Architecture for Trash detection using YOLOV7

#### 204 3.1 DATASET

205 Trashcan 1.0 was the dataset taken for research purpose. It contains more than  
206 7k annotated images of under water ocean images. The image contains the flora, fauna,  
207 different species of fish and different types of trashes. The imagery in TrashCan is sourced  
208 from the J-EDI (JAMSTEC E-Library of Deep-sea Images) dataset, curated by the Japan  
209 Agency of Marine Earth Science and Technology (JAMSTEC). The eventual goal is to  
210 develop efficient and accurate trash detection methods suitable for onboard robot deployment.

#### 211 3.2 DATA PREPROCESSING

212 Data preprocessing plays a crucial role in training YOLO (You Only Look Once)  
213 models effectively. The process involves several steps to prepare the data in a format suitable  
214 for YOLO's requirements. Firstly, the object annotations need to be converted into YOLO  
215 format, which includes the object class and normalized bounding box coordinates. Next, all  
216 the images in the dataset should be resized to a consistent size to ensure compatibility during  
217 training. It's essential to split the dataset into training and validation sets to assess the  
218 model's performance accurately. Class label encoding is performed to assign unique

219 numerical labels to each object class present in the dataset. Additionally, anchor boxes, which  
220 determine default bounding box sizes, can be generated using clustering algorithms.  
221 Normalizing the pixel values of the images to a common scale, typically ranging from 0 to  
222 1, is crucial for stable training. Finally, text files are created, containing the file paths to the  
223 preprocessed images and their corresponding annotations, to serve as inputs during training.  
224 These preprocessing steps ensure that the data is properly formatted and ready to be used for  
225 training a YOLO model.

### 226 *3.2.1 MODEL TRAINING*

227           The training phase of the YOLOv7 (You Only Look Once) model is a critical step  
228 in building an accurate object detection system. This phase involves several key steps to train  
229 the model on a specific dataset. The first step is to set up the YOLOv7 configuration. This  
230 includes defining the network architecture, selecting appropriate hyperparameters, specifying  
231 the input image size, determining the number of object classes, and setting the anchor box  
232 sizes. The configuration should be adjusted based on the requirements.

234           Once the configuration is established, the training data needs to be prepared. This  
235 involves ensuring that the dataset is properly preprocessed. The object annotations should be  
236 formatted in the YOLO format, including the class label and normalized bounding box  
237 coordinates. The images should also be resized to a consistent size for compatibility during  
238 training. Additionally, text files need to be created to list the file paths of the training images  
239 and their corresponding annotations. The next step is to initialize the YOLOv7 model. This can  
240 be done by either using randomly initialized weights or utilizing pre-trained weights from a  
241 similar dataset, such as COCO. Pre-trained weights provide a starting point for the model and  
242 can help speed up the convergence process.

243           With the model initialized, the training process begins. During training, the

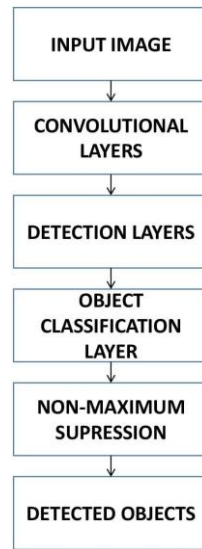
244 model is fed with the training images and their corresponding annotations. The model's  
245 parameters are optimized to minimize the loss function, typically using techniques like  
246 stochastic gradient descent (SGD) or Adam optimization. YOLOv7 often incorporates a  
247 multi-scale approach, where the model is trained on different image scales to improve object  
248 detection accuracy. Throughout the training process, the model iteratively adjusts its  
249 parameters, learning to detect objects more accurately in the given dataset. The training phase  
250 typically involves multiple epochs, with each epoch consisting of forward and backward  
251 passes through the network.

252

### 253 3.2.2 TRAINING EVALUATION

254           When evaluating the performance of the YOLOv7 model, two commonly used  
255 metrics are mean average precision (mAP) and accuracy. Mean Average Precision (mAP):  
256 mAP is a widely used metric for evaluating object detection models. It measures the  
257 precision-recall trade-off and provides an overall assessment of the model's performance  
258 across different object classes and detection thresholds. The mAP score is calculated by  
259 considering the precision and recall values at various IoU (Intersection over Union)  
260 thresholds and averaging them. A higher mAP indicates better object detection performance.  
261 **Accuracy:** Accuracy is a metric that measures the overall correctness of the model's  
262 predictions. In the context of YOLOv7, accuracy refers to how well the model correctly  
263 detects and classifies objects in the test dataset. It is calculated as the ratio of the number  
264 of correctly predicted objects (both bounding box and class) to the total number of objects in  
265 the dataset. Accuracy provides a single numerical value to gauge the model's overall  
266 performance, but it does not provide insights into class-wise performance or the precision-  
267 recall trade-off.

268

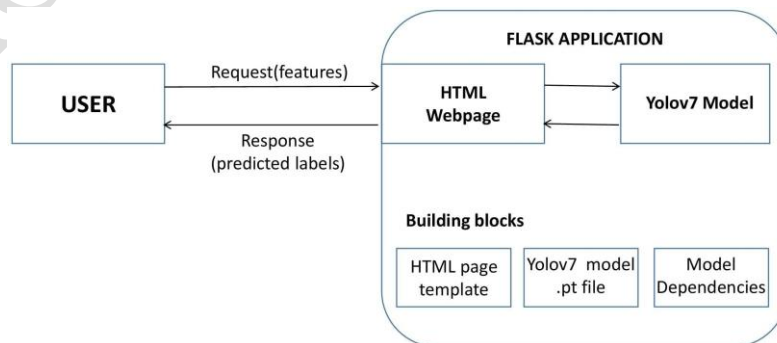


270

271 **Figure 2.** Object Detection flow

272 The final output of YOLOv7 (You Only Look Once) is a set of bounding boxes, along with  
 273 their corresponding class labels and confidence scores, representing the detected objects in an  
 274 input image as shown in the Figure 2. Each bounding box consists of four coordinates (x, y,  
 275 width, height) that define the position and size of the detected object within the image. The  
 276 class label indicates the category or class of the object, such as "trash", "animal," or "plant". The  
 277 confidence score reflects the model's confidence in the accuracy of the detection, with higher  
 278 scores indicating higher confidence.

279 **Flask Application**



280

**Figure 3.** Flask Architecture

281           In this Flask application shown in Figure 3, the necessary modules, including  
282 Flask and the request module for handling file uploads are imported initially. Once the Flask  
283 app was initialized the YOLOv7 model was configured for underwater trash detection. The  
284 route corresponds to the home page, which is rendered using the index.html template. This  
285 template typically contains an HTML form that allows users to select and upload an image or  
286 video file.

287  
288           The upload route is triggered when the user submits the form with a file. The  
289 uploaded file is retrieved from the request using `request.files['file']`. The file is saved to a  
290 temporary location in the uploads folder. Next, the saved file is passed to the YOLOv7 model  
291 for underwater trash detection. The specifics of this step depend on the implementation of the  
292 YOLOv7 model and may involve loading the model, preprocessing the image or video, and  
293 performing object detection.

294           Once the results are detected and processed, it will be displayed to the user. The  
295 results.html template can be customized to show the detected objects, their bounding boxes,  
296 and any relevant information or visualizations. Finally, run the Flask app with  
297 `app.run(debug=True)` to start the server.

## 298 **4 Algorithms**

299 YOLOv7, or You Only Look Once version 7, is a state-of-the-art deep learning  
300 algorithm for object detection. It builds upon the success of its predecessors, YOLOv6  
301 and YOLOv5, and aims to improve the accuracy and efficiency of object detection tasks.  
302 YOLOv7 follows the one-stage object detection approach, where it predicts bounding boxes  
303 and class probabilities directly from input images in a single pass. It utilizes a deep  
304 convolutional neural network architecture with feature extraction and detection layers to  
305 enable real-time and accurate object detection. YOLOv7 introduces various improvements,  
306 including advanced backbone networks, feature pyramid networks, and anchor-free bounding  
307 box prediction techniques. It utilizes advanced techniques for precise object localization. It  
308 employs regression to predict accurate bounding box coordinates, allowing it to precisely  
309 locate objects within an image. It is designed to be flexible and adaptable to different object  
310 detection scenarios. It can be fine-tuned on specific datasets or domains to achieve better  
311 performance on specific object classes or environmental conditions. It can be deployed on a  
312 wide range of platforms, including desktop computers, embedded systems, and even mobile  
313 devices. Its efficiency and accuracy make it suitable for real-time applications with limited  
314 computational resources.

315

### 316 *4.1 YOLOV7 TRAINING ALGORITHM*

- 317 1: Initialize YOLOv7 model architecture
  - 318 2: Load pre-trained weights
  - 319 3: Split dataset into training(0.8) and validation(0.2) sets
  - 320 4: Initialize optimizer and learning rate
  - 321 5: Set training parameters (epochs(10), batch size(16))
- 322 **for each epoch do**

323 **for** each batch in training set **do**  
324 6: Load batch of training samples  
325 7: Forward pass through the model  
326 8: Calculate loss and gradients  
327 9: Update model weights using optimizer  
328 **for** each batch in validation set **do**  
329 10: Load batch of validation samples  
330 11: Forward pass through the model  
331 12: Calculate validation metrics ( precision, recall) 14: Save trained YOLOv7 model(best.pt)  
332

333 YOLOv7 training algorithm which consists of several steps to train a YOLOv7 model  
334 for object detection. Firstly, the YOLOv7 model architecture is initialized, specifying the  
335 layers and filters. Pre-trained weights can be loaded to leverage prior knowledge. The dataset  
336 is then split into training and validation sets, with an 80:20 ratio. An optimizer and learning  
337 rate are initialized for weight updates during training. Training parameters like the number  
338 of epochs (set to 10) and batch size (set to 16) are defined. During each epoch, the  
339 algorithm iterates over batches of training samples. For each batch, the samples are loaded  
340 and passed through the model, followed by calculating the loss and gradients for weight  
341 updates. The model's weights are then updated using the optimizer. Similarly, batches of  
342 validation samples are loaded and passed through the model to calculate validation metrics, such  
343 as precision and recall. Optionally, the learning rate can be adjusted during training. Finally,  
344 the trained YOLOv7 model, represented by the weights file "best.pt", is saved for future use.  
345 This algorithm provides a systematic approach to train the YOLOv7 model and improve its  
346 object detection capabilities.

347

348 *4.2 YOLOV7 OBJECT DETECTION ALGORITHM*

- 349 1: Load pre-trained YOLOv7 model(best.pt)  
350 2: Load input image  
351 3: Preprocess the image(resize img 640x640)  
352 4: Pass the image through the YOLOv7 model  
353 5: Retrieve predicted bounding boxes and class labels(animal,plant,rov,trash)  
354 6: Apply non-maximum suppression to filter out overlapping detections  
355 **for** each detected object **do**  
356 7: Retrieve object coordinates and class label  
357 8: Draw bounding box and label on the image  
358 9: Display the image with detected objects

359

360 YOLOv7 Object Detection Algorithm for detecting objects in images. Firstly, a  
361 pre-trained YOLOv7 model is loaded, which has been trained on a large dataset and learned  
362 to recognize various objects. Then, an input image is loaded, and the algorithm preprocesses  
363 it by resizing it to a specific size, typically 640x640 pixels. Next, the preprocessed image  
364 is passed through the YOLOv7 model, which applies deep learning techniques to analyze the  
365 image and make predictions. The algorithm retrieves the predicted bounding boxes and class  
366 labels, which represent the objects detected in the image. To filter out overlapping detections,  
367 non-maximum suppression is applied, ensuring that only the most relevant and accurate  
368 detections remain. The algorithm then iterates over each detected object, retrieving its  
369 coordinates and class label. It draws a bounding box around the object and labels it  
370 accordingly on the image. Finally, the image with the annotated bounding boxes and labels is  
371 displayed, providing a visual representation of the detected objects.

372



|     | from                     | n | params  | module                | arguments             |
|-----|--------------------------|---|---------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 0   | -1                       | 1 | 928     | models.common.Conv    | [3, 32, 3, 1]         |
| 1   | -1                       | 1 | 18560   | models.common.Conv    | [32, 64, 3, 2]        |
| 2   | -1                       | 1 | 36992   | models.common.Conv    | [64, 64, 3, 1]        |
| 3   | -1                       | 1 | 73984   | models.common.Conv    | [64, 128, 3, 2]       |
| 4   | -1                       | 1 | 8320    | models.common.Conv    | [128, 64, 1, 1]       |
| 5   | -2                       | 1 | 8320    | models.common.Conv    | [128, 64, 1, 1]       |
| 6   | -1                       | 1 | 36992   | models.common.Conv    | [64, 64, 3, 1]        |
| 7   | -1                       | 1 | 36992   | models.common.Conv    | [64, 64, 3, 1]        |
| 8   | -1                       | 1 | 36992   | models.common.Conv    | [64, 64, 3, 1]        |
| 9   | -1                       | 1 | 36992   | models.common.Conv    | [64, 64, 3, 1]        |
| 10  | [-1, -3, -5, -6]         | 1 | 0       | models.common.Concat  | [1]                   |
| 11  | -1                       | 1 | 66048   | models.common.Conv    | [256, 256, 1, 1]      |
| 12  | -1                       | 1 | 0       | models.common.MP      | [1]                   |
| 13  | -1                       | 1 | 33024   | models.common.Conv    | [256, 128, 1, 1]      |
| 14  | -3                       | 1 | 33024   | models.common.Conv    | [256, 128, 1, 1]      |
| 15  | -1                       | 1 | 147712  | models.common.Conv    | [128, 128, 3, 2]      |
| 16  | [-1, -3]                 | 1 | 0       | models.common.Concat  | [1]                   |
| 17  | -1                       | 1 | 33024   | models.common.Conv    | [256, 128, 1, 1]      |
| 18  | -2                       | 1 | 33024   | models.common.Conv    | [256, 128, 1, 1]      |
| 19  | -1                       | 1 | 147712  | models.common.Conv    | [128, 128, 3, 1]      |
| 20  | -1                       | 1 | 147712  | models.common.Conv    | [128, 128, 3, 1]      |
| 21  | -1                       | 1 | 147712  | models.common.Conv    | [128, 128, 3, 1]      |
| 22  | -1                       | 1 | 147712  | models.common.Conv    | [128, 128, 3, 1]      |
| 23  | [-1, -3, -5, -6]         | 1 | 0       | models.common.Concat  | [1]                   |
| 82  | -2                       | 1 | 131584  | models.common.Conv    | [512, 256, 1, 1]      |
| 83  | -1                       | 1 | 295168  | models.common.Conv    | [256, 128, 3, 1]      |
| 84  | -1                       | 1 | 147712  | models.common.Conv    | [128, 128, 3, 1]      |
| 85  | -1                       | 1 | 147712  | models.common.Conv    | [128, 128, 3, 1]      |
| 86  | -1                       | 1 | 147712  | models.common.Conv    | [128, 128, 3, 1]      |
| 87  | [-1, -2, -3, -4, -5, -6] | 1 | 0       | models.common.Concat  | [1]                   |
| 88  | -1                       | 1 | 262656  | models.common.Conv    | [1024, 256, 1, 1]     |
| 89  | -1                       | 1 | 0       | models.common.MP      | [1]                   |
| 90  | -1                       | 1 | 66048   | models.common.Conv    | [256, 256, 1, 1]      |
| 91  | -3                       | 1 | 66048   | models.common.Conv    | [256, 256, 1, 1]      |
| 92  | -1                       | 1 | 590336  | models.common.Conv    | [256, 256, 3, 2]      |
| 93  | [-1, -3, 51]             | 1 | 0       | models.common.Concat  | [1]                   |
| 94  | -1                       | 1 | 525312  | models.common.Conv    | [1024, 512, 1, 1]     |
| 95  | -2                       | 1 | 525312  | models.common.Conv    | [1024, 512, 1, 1]     |
| 96  | -1                       | 1 | 1180160 | models.common.Conv    | [512, 256, 3, 1]      |
| 97  | -1                       | 1 | 590336  | models.common.Conv    | [256, 256, 3, 1]      |
| 98  | -1                       | 1 | 590336  | models.common.Conv    | [256, 256, 3, 1]      |
| 99  | -1                       | 1 | 590336  | models.common.Conv    | [256, 256, 3, 1]      |
| 100 | [-1, -2, -3, -4, -5, -6] | 1 | 0       | models.common.Concat  | [1]                   |
| 101 | -1                       | 1 | 1049600 | models.common.Conv    | [2048, 512, 1, 1]     |
| 102 | 75                       | 1 | 328704  | models.common.RepConv | [128, 256, 3, 1]      |
| 103 | 88                       | 1 | 1312768 | models.common.RepConv | [256, 512, 3, 1]      |
| 104 | 101                      | 1 | 5246976 | models.common.RepConv | [512, 1024, 3, 1]     |
| 105 | [102, 103, 104]          | 1 | 50338   | models.yolo.IDetect   | [4, [[12, 16, 19, 36, |

Model Summary: 415 layers, 37212738 parameters, 37212738 gradients

**Figure 4.** Model Summary

The Figure 4 indicates that the YOLOv7 model consists of 415 layers in total.

This includes various convolutional layers, pooling layers, and fully connected layers. The

model has a total of 37,212,738 parameters, which are the learnable weights and biases in the

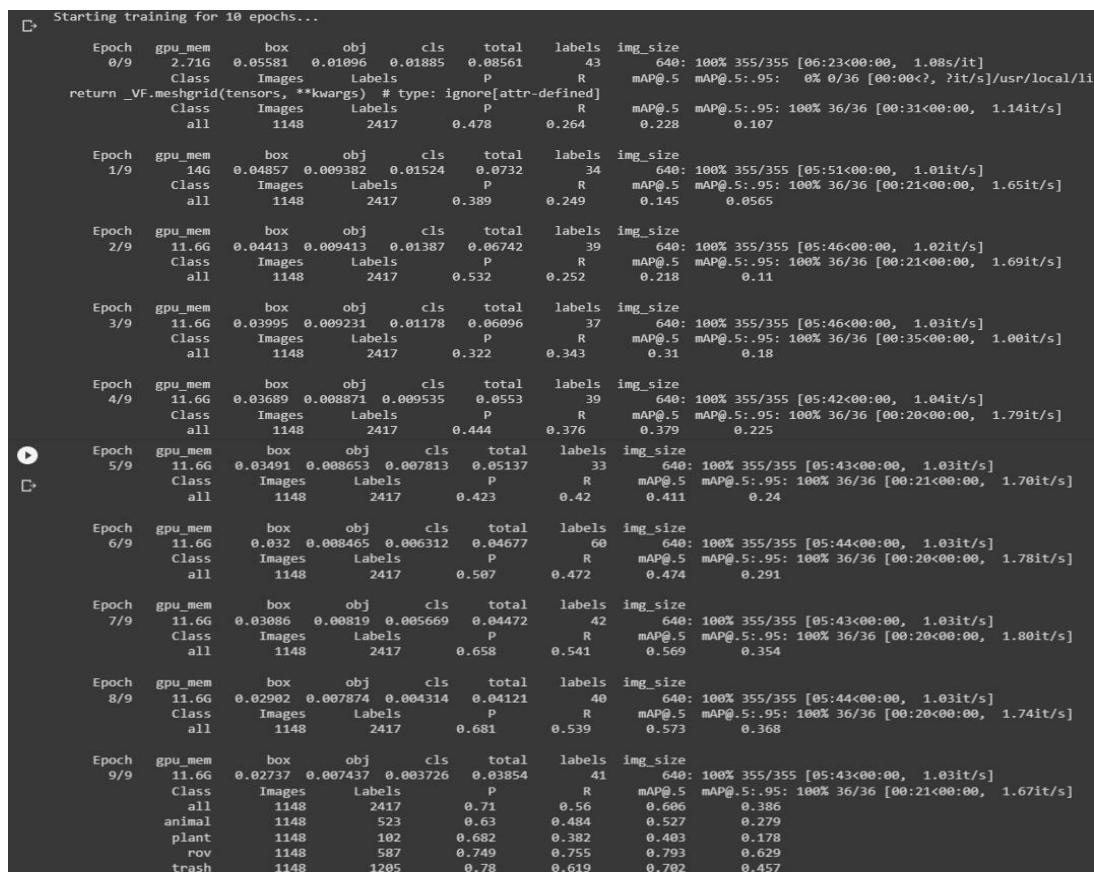
model. These parameters are updated during the training process to optimize the model's

performance on the given task. The number of gradients is also mentioned as 37,212,738.

Gradients represent the derivatives of the loss function with respect to each parameter in the

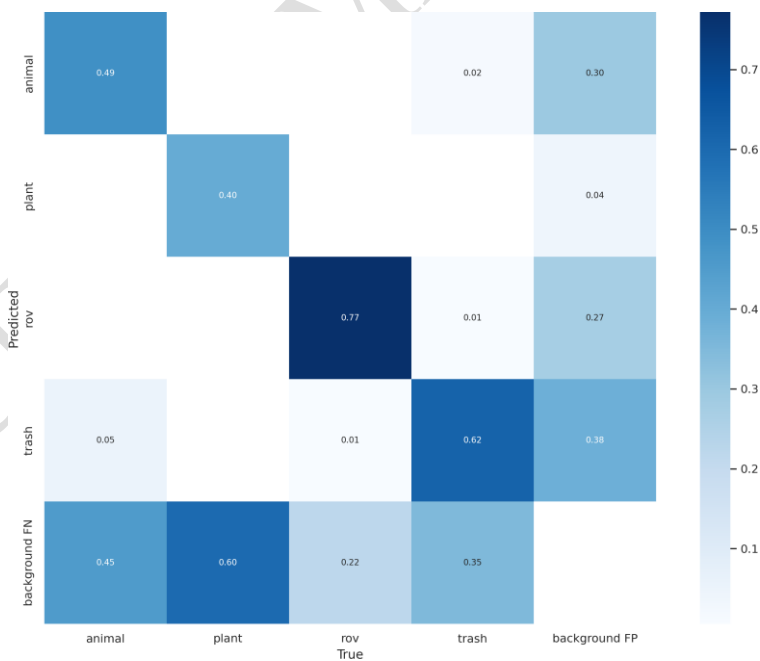
model. These gradients are computed during the backward pass of the training process and

384 used to update the model's parameters through gradient descent or a similar optimization  
 385 algorithm. The complexity and size of the YOLOv7 model, as well as the number of  
 386 parameters and gradients that play a crucial role in the training and optimization process.  
 387



388  
 389 **Figure 5. Model Training**  
 390  
 391 The Figure 5 indicates the training progress of the YOLOv7 model over the course  
 392 of 10 epochs. Each epoch represents a complete pass through the entire training dataset. For  
 393 each epoch, the output displays the GPU memory usage, average losses for bounding box  
 394 regression (box), object prediction (obj), and class prediction (cls), as well as the overall total  
 395 loss. These values indicate the training progress and the optimization of the model's  
 396 parameters. After each epoch, the model's performance on the validation dataset is evaluated.

397 The output provides evaluation metrics such as precision (P), recall (R), mean average  
 398 precision (mAP) at different intersection over union (IoU) thresholds (mAP@0.5,  
 399 mAP@0.5:0.95). These metrics reflect the model's ability to detect objects accurately and  
 400 generalize well to unseen data. Furthermore, the output includes metrics for each specific  
 401 class (e.g., animal, plant, rov, trash), including precision, recall, and mAP. These class-  
 402 specific metrics give insights into the model's performance on individual classes and can help  
 403 identify areas that require improvement. The training process takes approximately 1.047 hours  
 404 to complete all 10 epochs. By monitoring the losses and evaluation metrics throughout the  
 405 epochs, one can assess the model's progress and make adjustments if necessary, such as  
 406 modifying the learning rate or applying regularization techniques, to further enhance the  
 407 model's performance.  
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**Figure 6. Confusion Matrix**

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The Figure 6 represents a visual representation of the performance of a classification model. The rows represent the actual (true) values of the classes, while the columns represent the predicted values of the classes. The values within the matrix represent the proportions or percentages of instances that were classified into each class. The confusion matrix provides a comprehensive overview of the model's performance in predicting different classes. By examining the values in each cell, we can assess the accuracy, precision, recall, and other evaluation metrics for each class. This information helps in understanding how well the model is performing for each specific class and can guide further improvements in the model or data collection process.

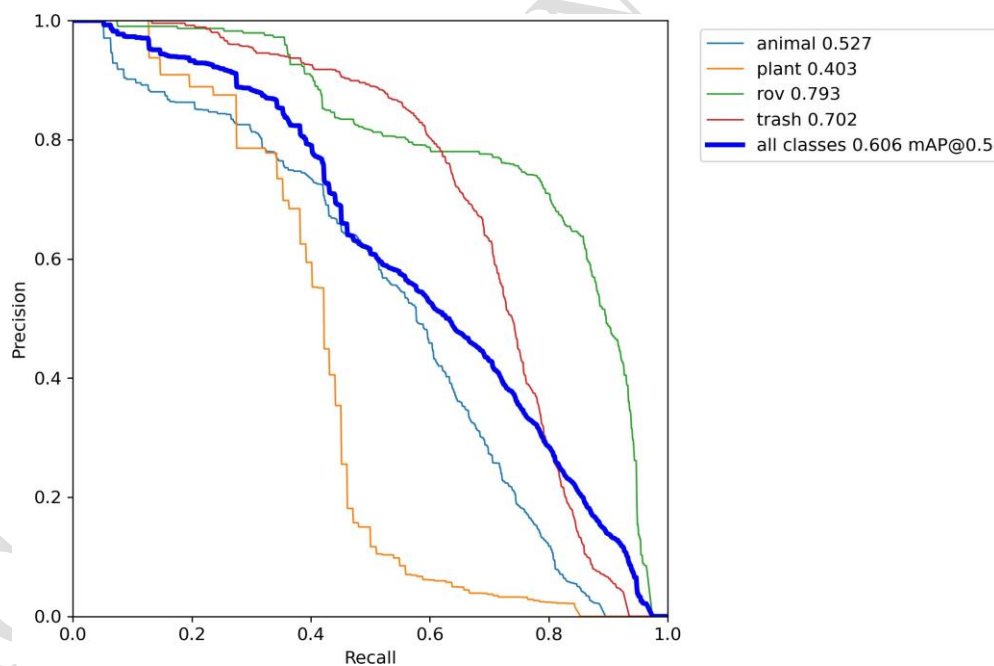


Figure 7. PR CURVE

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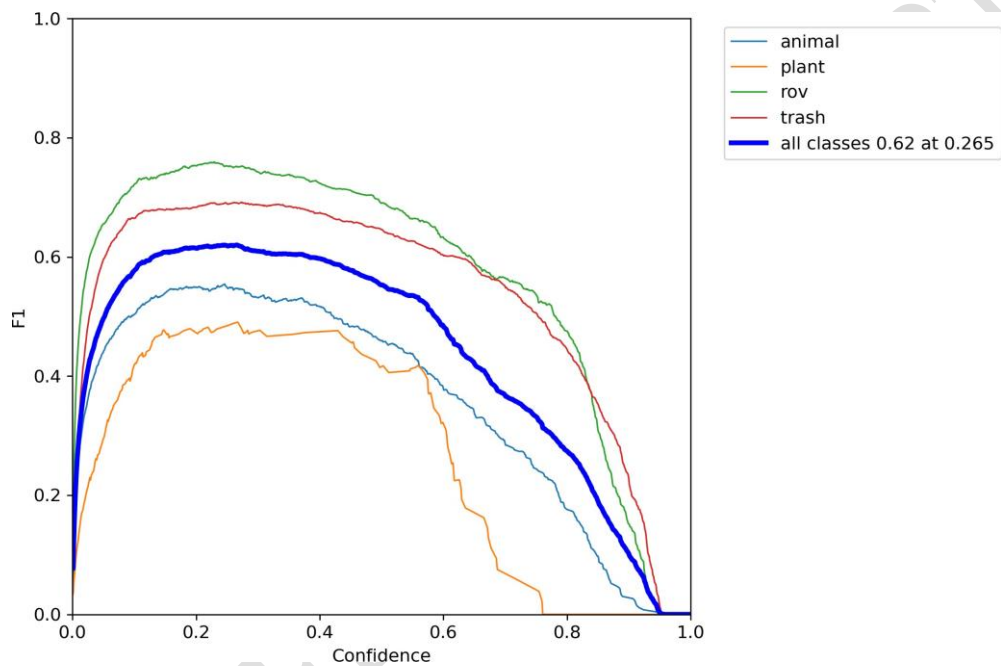
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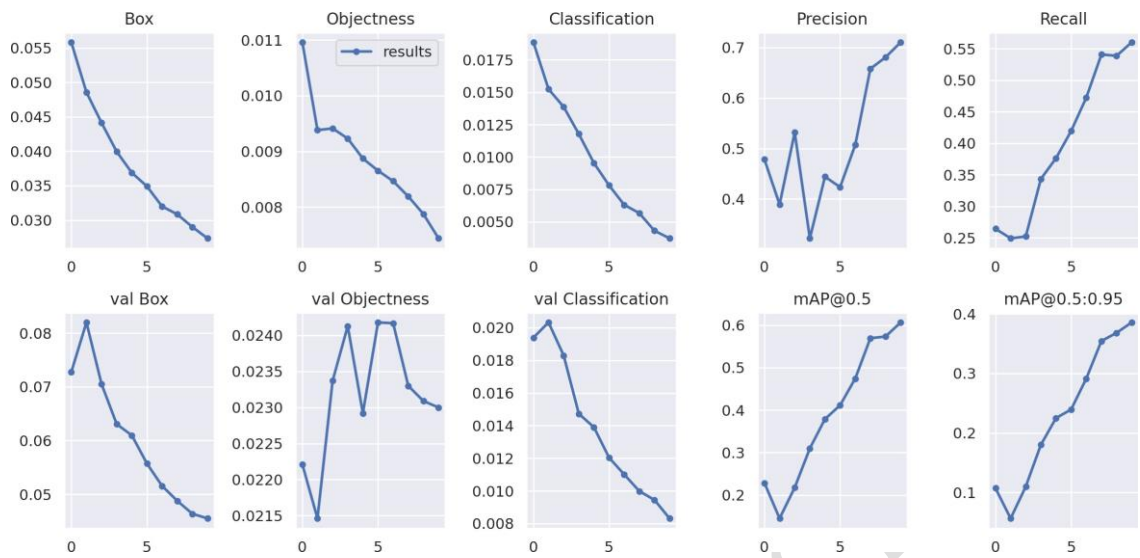
The Figure 7 represents a visual representation of the trade-off between precision and recall, offering insights into the overall model performance across all classes. The precision-recall curve analysis reveals the performance of an object detection model for different classes. For the "animal" class, the model achieved a precision of 0.5, indicating that

427 when it predicted an object as "animal," it was correct in 50 of the cases. Similarly, for the  
428 "plant" class, the precision was 0.4, indicating a 40 accuracy in correctly identifying objects  
429 as "plant." The "rov" class showed a higher precision of 0.79, suggesting a relatively stronger  
430 ability to accurately predict objects as "rov." The "trash" class had a precision of 0.70,  
431 indicating a 70 accuracy in correctly classifying objects as "trash."



432 **Figure 8. F1 CURVE**

433 The Figure 8 provides a balanced assessment of the model's ability to correctly  
434 identify positive samples while minimizing false positives and false negatives. A value of  
435 0.62 suggests a moderate level of performance in terms of precision and recall trade-off. It  
436 indicates that the model achieves a reasonable balance between accurately classifying  
437 positive samples and minimizing incorrect predictions across all classes.



438

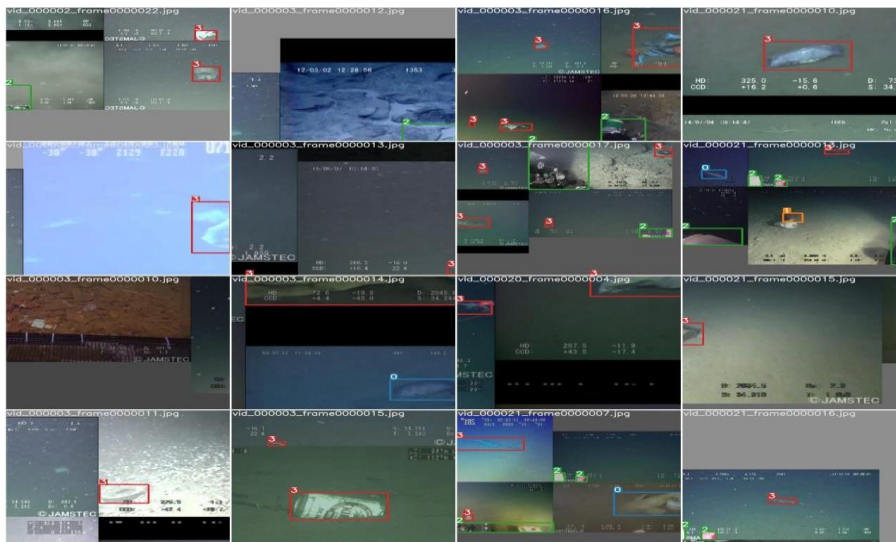
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**Figure 9.** Evaluation Results

440 The Figure 9 displays various important components that assess the performance of an object  
 441 detection model. The "Box" component visually represents the predicted bounding boxes  
 442 around detected objects in the image, indicating their estimated locations. The "Objectness"  
 443 component indicates the confidence or probability assigned to each bounding box, serving as  
 444 a measure of the model's certainty in identifying objects versus background regions. The  
 445 "Classification" component assigns predicted class labels to the objects within the bounding  
 446 boxes, allowing for categorization based on the model's training. The "Precision" metric  
 447 quantifies the accuracy of the model in correctly identifying objects by measuring the  
 448 proportion of correctly predicted positive samples among all predicted positives. The "Recall"  
 449 metric gauges the model's ability to detect all instances of objects by calculating the  
 450 proportion of correctly predicted positives among all actual positives. Lastly, the "mAP"  
 451 (Mean Average Precision) assesses the overall performance of the model by averaging the  
 452 precision values at various objectness thresholds.

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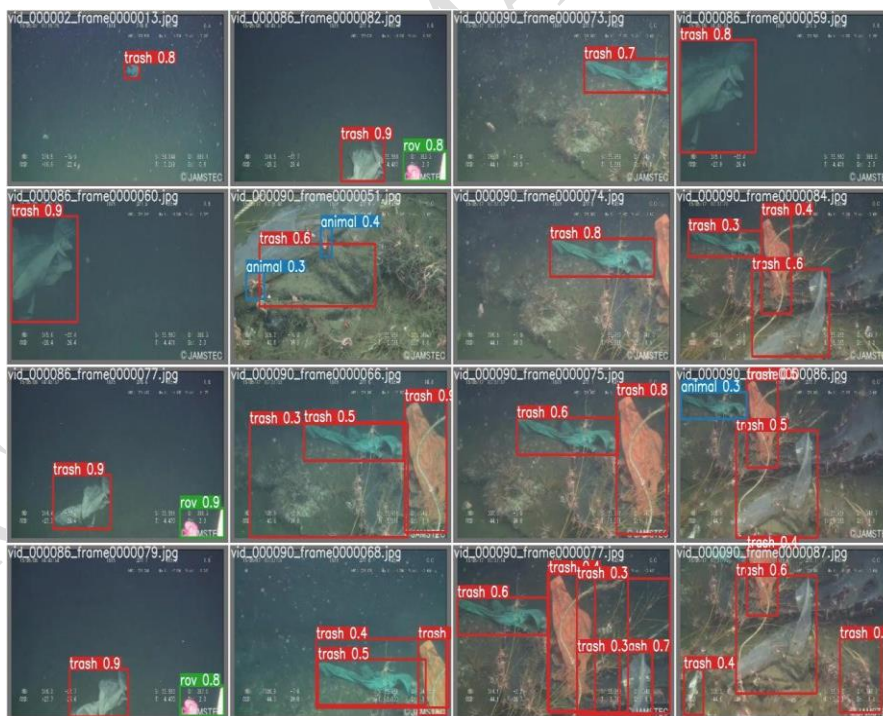
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**Figure 10. Training Results**

457 The Figure 10 shows the training results of the yolov7 model and figure 11 shows the predicted  
 458 results with value.

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**Figure 11. Testing Results**

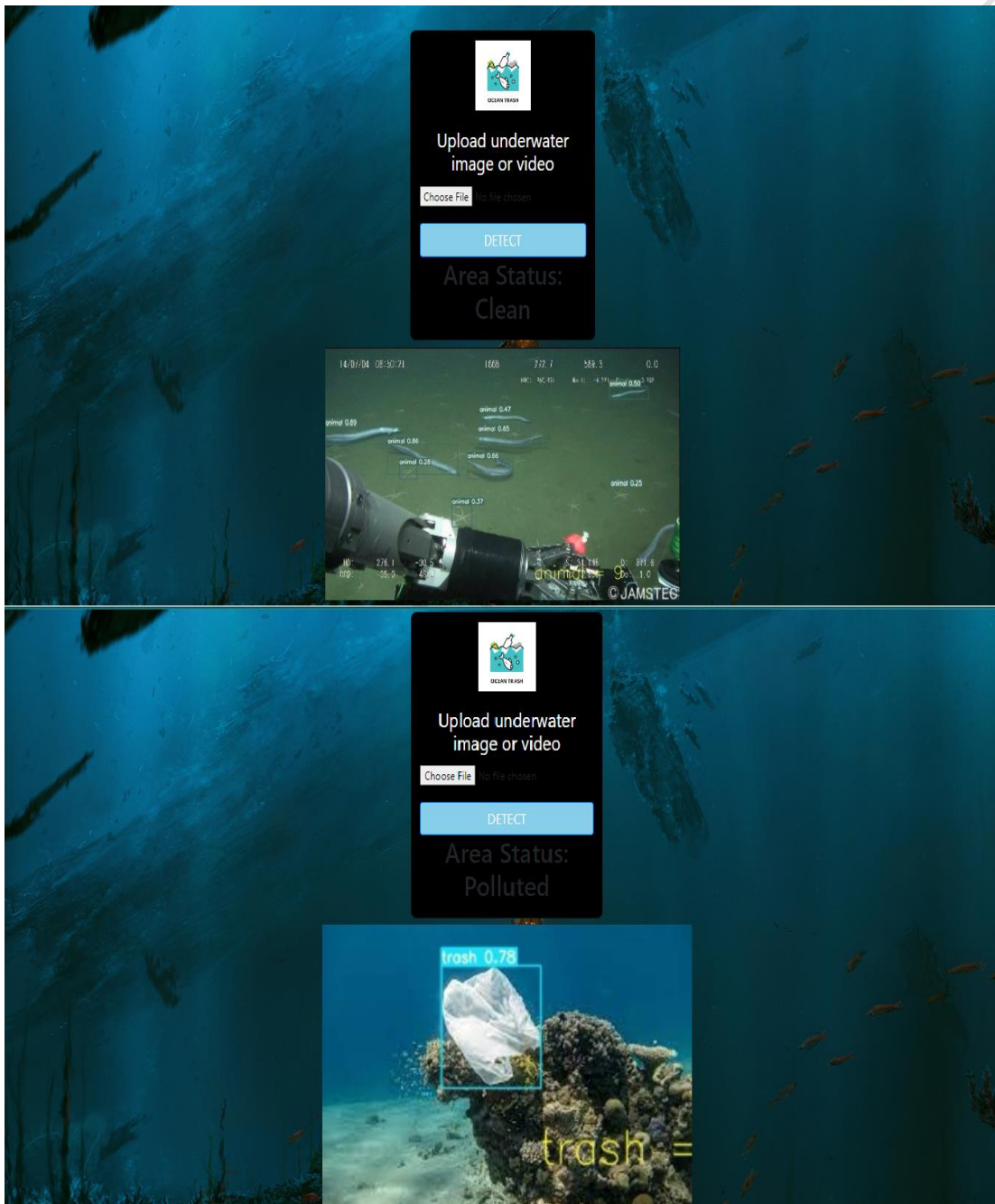
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463

464 5.1 FLASK APPLICATION

465 The Figure 12 shows the detection results of the image that is uploaded by the  
466 user and the area status. The area status will be shown based upon the detection of trash, if no  
467 trash is detected the area status will be clean.

468



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**Figure 12:** Trash detection using Flask application



## 471 **6. Conclusion**

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473 This proposed system presents a comprehensive solution for underwater trash  
474 detection by integrating the YOLOv7 deep learning model with a Flask web application. The  
475 system allows users to upload images or videos through the user-friendly web interface,  
476 enabling real-time detection of underwater trash objects. The YOLOv7 model is trained  
477 using a curated dataset of annotated underwater trash images, ensuring accurate recognition  
478 and localization of marine debris. The integration of YOLOv7 with the Flask web application  
479 offers several benefits, including the monitoring of marine pollution, identification of trash  
480 hotspots, and facilitation of cleanup initiatives. By promoting awareness about the  
481 importance of preserving marine ecosystems, the system encourages active user participation  
482 in combating underwater trash. Overall, this work provides a practical and effective solution  
483 for real-time underwater trash detection, contributing to the preservation of marine  
484 environments and the mitigation of the detrimental impact of underwater trash.

485

486 This work can expand the object categories beyond underwater trash detection.  
487 This would involve incorporating the capability to detect and classify other marine objects,  
488 organisms, or specific types of pollution. The overall accuracy achieved by the proposed  
489 system was 0.91 whereas the existing works was not more than 0.87. But still the accuracy  
490 need to improve to 0.99. The system accuracy was reduced without the preprocessing steps  
491 and it also require additional times if we are executing with preprocessing. Improving the  
492 accuracy of object detection without preprocessing by using advanced deep learning models  
493 in challenging underwater environments is also a key area of focus in future. Exploring  
494 techniques such as data augmentation, advanced network architectures, and domain-specific  
495 knowledge can contribute to enhancing the model's performance. By addressing these

496 areas, the system can contribute to more effective and comprehensive underwater trash  
497 detection and play a vital role in marine ecosystem preservation efforts in future.

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