

AI在超音波影像之應用 (物件偵測篇)

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超音波因為具有非侵入性、無游離輻射及容易取得的特性，讓超音波成為臨牀上常使用的臨床診斷工具之一，但是由於超音波診斷常受限於操作者經驗不足，使其診斷率變異極大。因此，近年來醫界一直關注是否有更能提升超音波診斷率之方法，除了增加超音波訓練、累積操作個案外，人工智慧(*artificial intelligence, AI*)亦是可能解決方案之一。

AI超音波輔助診斷系統是目前之新興研究領域，投入此研究主題之論文發表數量，在近五年內快速成長，而超音波影像AI相關研究主題可歸納為四類，第一類為分類(*classification*)，從影像判斷是否有病灶，如區分腫瘤組織為良性或惡性腫瘤；第二類為偵測(*detection*)，由影像中偵測出異常的位置，例如偵測超音波影像中腫瘤存在的區域邊界(*bounding box*)；第三類為語義切割(*semantic segmentation*)，於影像中找出異常區域並標出其輪廓，例如手術過程於超音波影像標記出切除區域的輪廓，輔助醫師確定解剖結構之距離與位置；第四類為重建(*reconstruction*)，主要應用於強化及改善超音波設

備所拍攝的影像品質。

由於超音波影像中可能會包含其他不需要處理的器官或背景雜訊，為了加速AI模型的訓練成效，前處理時通常會先運用物件偵測的深度學習模型（或稱為物件偵測器）定位目標器官的所在區域，以去除背景雜訊。現代物件偵測器通常由兩部分組成，包含使用ImageNet資料集預訓練的骨幹(*Backbone*)和用於預測物件的類別和邊界框的頭部(*Head*)。常見的骨幹深度學習架構包含VGG^[1]、ResNet^[2]和DenseNet^[3]等。至於頭部則分為兩類，分別是單一階段(one-stage)物件偵測器和兩階段(two-stages)物件偵測器。

著名的單一階段物件偵測器包含YOLO(You Only Look Once)系列YOLOv1~YOLOv7^[4-10]、SSD^[11]和RetinaNet^[12]等，而著名的兩階段物件偵測器則包含R-CNN系列R-CNN^[13]、Fast R-CNN^[14]和Faster R-CNN^[15]等。在訓練和預測的速度上，單一階段物件偵測器會比兩階段物件偵測器還要快。近年來開發的物件偵測器經常在骨幹和頭部之間插入一些神經層，這些神經層通常用於收集不同階段的特徵

圖，稱為物件偵測器的頸部(Neck)。常用的頸部深度學習架構包含FPN(Feature Pyramid Network)^[16]和PANet(Path Aggregation Network)^[17]等。

由於超音波影像的判讀不僅需要準確率還需要快速，這邊我們來介紹兼具快速與準確特性的YOLOv4。YOLOv4於2020年四月公開發表於arXiv網站^[7]，迄今被論文引用的次數超過一萬次，第一位作者是來自俄羅斯曾經參與YOLO github項目維護的Alexey Bochkovskiy，另外兩位則是來自臺灣中央研究院資訊科學研究所的王建堯博士和廖弘源所長。YOLOv4修改YOLO v3的骨幹網路，以CSPDarknet53替換Darknet53，其優點是減少參數量進而減少運算量，使訓練及辨識速度更快且能保持準確性。YOLOv4的頸部深度學習架構採用SPP和PANet的結合，主要目的在於提升局部特徵和全局特徵的融合，增強最終特徵圖的表達能力。至於頭部深度學習架構則是採用和YOLOv3一樣的Dense Prediction單一階段預測。YOLOv4模型的架構詳見圖1。關於YOLOv4的程式碼可

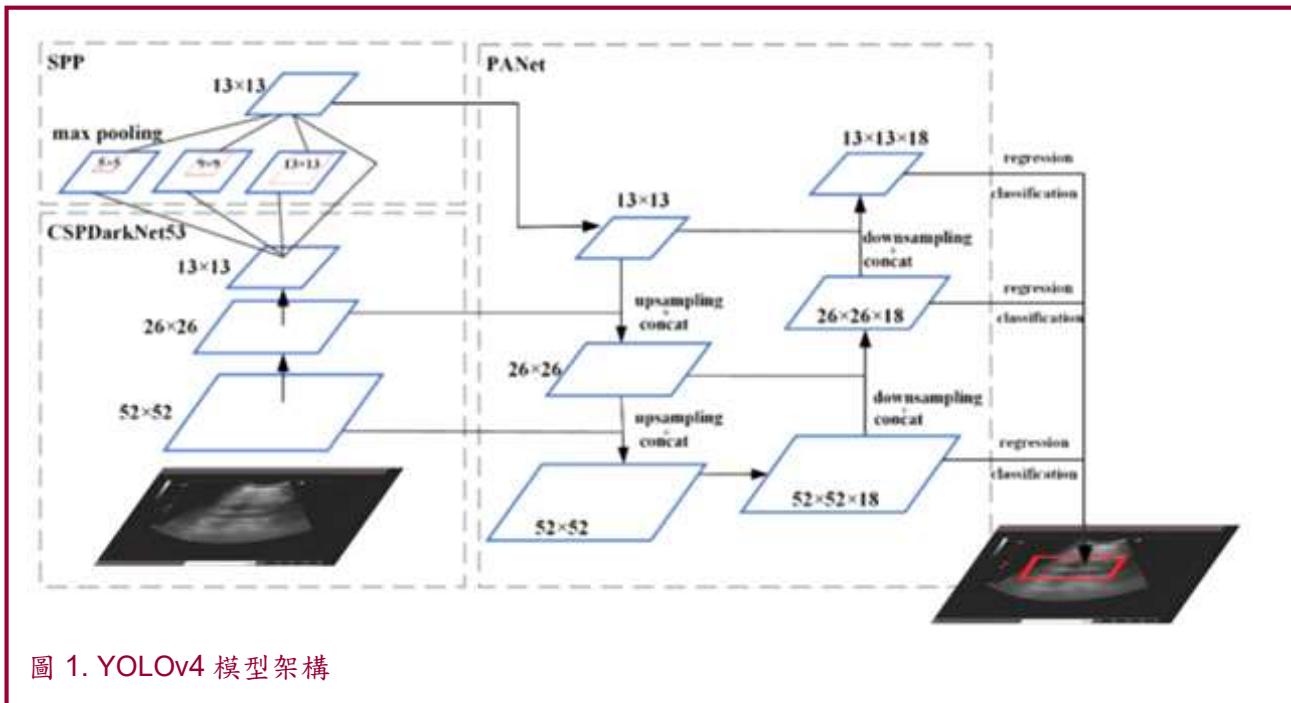


圖 1. YOLOv4 模型架構

以參考下列網址：

<https://github.com/AlexeyAB/darknet>。

台大急診團隊亦利用
YOLOv4 進行前處理，建置水

腎 AI 超音波診斷模型，研究成
果已發表在 Ultrasound in
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