

SceneText Recognition Using Multiscale Strokelets

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Abstract- Text detection and localization from a photograph is a challenging problem that has received a significant amount of attention. The investigation of problem from the perspective of representation is studied propose a novel multiscale representation, for scene text detection. This representation consist of a set of detectable primitives termed as strokelets, which capture the underlying substructures of characters at different granularities. Strokelets possess four distinctive advantages as Useability, Robustnes, Generality, Expressivity.

Keywords- Scene text recognition, scene text detection, mid-level representation, multi-scale representation, natural images.

I. INTRODUCTION

Scene text detection and localization from any image is a challenging visual recognition problem[1]. As an important carrier of human thoughts, emotions, text played a crucial role in our day to day lives. Due to its huge significance and utility, text is nearly ubiquitous, especially in modern urban environments for eg.-posters, product tages, license plates, electronics signs, guideposts and billboards, all contain text probability in different forms. The rich and précis e semantic embodied in text are usually complementary to low level cues eg. Color, texture ,and edges and high level concept eg. Object scene and event can be very beneficial to a variety of application [2] such as image understanding, video indexing , product search, geo-location, robot navigation and industrial automation are leading to continuous rapid growth of the image and video containing text.

Moreover, detecting and localizing the text in natural scene are extremely difficult for computer also. Though almost all problem have been solved in recent years for localizing and detecting the text. Meanwhile image from the natural scene becomes a major problems. Character recognition in scene images is possibly for more complicated due to many imaginable variations in the background like interference like noise, blurring, non-uniform, illumination as well as low intensity all may pose a huge amount of problems[1].

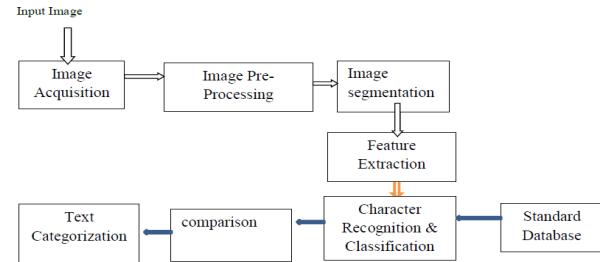


Figure 1. System Block Diagram

II. DESCRIPTION

1. Input Image:

From the IIT 5K Data sets, in which 5000 total images .Which includes text in both natural scenes and born-digital images. It would be Input Image very challenging because of the variation in colour, font intensity etc.



Figure 2. Input image from IIT-5K

2. Image Acquisition:

It is an action of retrieving an image from some source, so that it can passed through whatever process need to occur afterwards. It is a first step in the work flow sequence, Because without an image, no further processing is possible. After the image has been obtained, various methods of processing can be applied to the image to perform the many different vision tasks required today.

Why we require image Acquisition:

If the image has not been acquired satisfactorily then the intended tasks may not be achievable, even with the aid of some form of image enhancement .

3. Cropping of Image:

Cropping refers to the removal of the outer parts of an image to improve framing, accentuate subject matter or change aspect ratio. Depending on the application, this may be performed on a physical photograph, artwork or film footage, or achieved digitally using image editing software. Cropping in photography, print & design.

4. Image Pre-Processing:

It can significantly increase the reliability of an optical inspection.

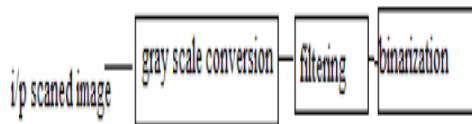


Figure 3. representation of pre-processing

Several filter operation which intensify or reduce the certain image details to enable an easier or faster evaluation. Pre-processing is a common name for operations with images at the lowest level of abstraction -- both input and output are intensity images.

Why we will go for Image Pre- Processing:

The aim of pre-processing is an improvement of the image data that suppresses unwanted distortions or enhances some image features important for further processing.

5. Image Segmentation:

image segmentation is the process of partitioning a digital image into multiple segments (sets of pixels, also known as super-pixels). The goal of segmentation is to simplify and/or change the representation of an image into something that is more meaningful and easier to analyze.



Figure 4. segmented character

Image segmentation is typically used to locate objects and boundaries (lines, curves, etc.) in images. More precisely, image segmentation is the process of assigning a label to every pixel in an image such that pixels with the same label share certain characteristics.

Why

Our goal is to develop computational approaches to image segmentation that are broadly useful, much in such a way that, other low-level techniques such as edge detection are used in a wide range of computer vision tasks.

6. Feature Extraction:

An initial set of measured data and builds derived value intended to be informative and nonredundant, facilitating the subsequent learning and generalizing steps. For extracting the image 32 bit pattern mostly requires. Feature extraction techniques are: Common feature extraction techniques include Histogram of Oriented Gradients (HOG), Speeded Up Robust Features (SURF), Local Binary Patterns (LBP), Haars wavelets, and color histograms.

It starts fr h

7. Database:

The dataset is challenging because of both the diversity of the texts and the complexity of the background in the images. The text may be in .different languages (Chinese, English or mixture of both), fonts, sizes, colors and orientations. The background may contain vegetation (e.g. trees and bushes) and repeated patterns (e.g. windows and bricks), which are not so distinguishable from text. The dataset is divided into two parts: training set and test set.

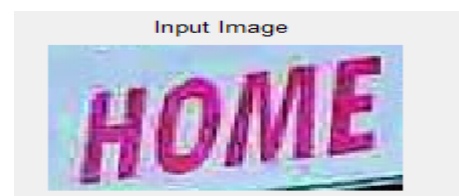


Figure 5. Typical images from MSRA-TD500.

The training set contains 300 images randomly selected from the original dataset and the remaining 200 images constitute the test set. All the images in this dataset are fully annotated. The basic unit in this dataset is text line (see Figure) rather than word, which is used in the ICDAR datasets, because it is hard to partition Chinese text lines into individual words based on their spacing; even for English text

lines, it is non-trivial to perform word partition without high level information [3].

8. Character Recognition:

For the proposed system a multi-scale strokelet detection and voting techniques are playing the major role. Multi-scale technique is used during the character detection while the voting technique is used in local patches and character center detection purpose only. For text recognition we are using different approaches which are explained following [2].

9. Text categorization:

The MSRA Text Detection 500 Database (MSRA-TD500) is collected and use to evaluate text detection algorithms, for the purpose of tracking the recent progresses in the field of text detection in natural images, especially the advances in detecting texts of arbitrary orientations.

The MSRA Text Detection 500 Database (MSRA-TD500) contains 500 natural images, which are taken from indoor (office and mall) and outdoor (street) scenes using a pocket camera. The indoor images are mainly signs, doorplates and caution plates while the outdoor images are mostly guide boards and billboards in complex background. The resolutions of the images vary from 1296x864 to 1920x1280.

For text categorization we prefer the Support Vector Machine (SVM). It will help to design the hyper plane that classify all training vector in two classes [2].

III. PROBLEM STATEMENT

Excellent representation of image in the natural scene should be more describe the characteristics of the character in natural scene and mean while robustly overcome the impact of the interference factor [3].

By considering the proposed system text recognition from the natural scene images and propose a novel multiscale representation consist of mid-level primitives and these primitives are known as “strokelets” [3].

Multiscale representation strokelets capture the sub structure of character at different granularities . Strokelets possess four distinctive advantages [3]

1) Useability:

It does not require a heavy supervision it automatically learned the properties from character level bounding boxes [5].

2) Robustness:

Generally not affected by any kind of interference, thus provide the more accurate result [5].

3) Generality:

It should be able to understand any kind of language meanwhile at training stage all Charactersitics should be provided [5].

4) Expressivity:

It has that much tendency to express the property of character from the natural Scene [5] To identify the above issues several approaches were proposed which are :

1) CNN (Convolutional neural network):

In machine learning, a convolutional neural network (CNN, or Conv Net) is a type of feed-forward artificial neural network. Individual cortical neurons respond to stimuli in a restricted region of space known as the receptive field. The receptive fields of different neurons partially overlap such that they tile the visual field. The response of an individual neuron to stimuli within its receptive field can be approximated mathematically by a convolution operation. Convolutional networks were inspired by biological processes and are variations of multilayer perceptron's designed to use minimal amounts of preprocessing. They have wide applications in image and video recognition, recommender systems and natural language processing.

The convolutional neural network is also known as shift invariant or space invariant artificial neural network (SIANN), which is named based on its shared weights architecture and translation invariance characteristics. The CNN classifier has a novel architecture that enables efficient feature sharing using a number of layers in common for character recognition [4].

2) Adaptive binarization:

$$p(x) = \sum \omega_k, \alpha_k(x)$$

ω is the mixture weight. The basis functions are $\alpha_k(x)$

A new adaptive algorithm for automatic detection of text from a natural scene. The initial cues of text regions are first detected from the captured image/video. An adaptive color modeling and searching algorithm is then utilized near the initial text cues, to discriminate text/non-text regions.

It is sensitive to noise, non-uniform illumination and local distractor [5].

3) Sliding window:

Sliding window based character detection cannot handle significant variation in character aspects ratio and may produce plenty of false alarm [6].

4) SVM (Support vector machine):

Classifier used in was replaced by Random Forest because the latter can achieve similarly interpretable.

A Support Vector Machine (SVM) is a discriminative classifier formally defined by a separating hyperplane. In other words, given labeled training data (supervised learning), the algorithm outputs an optimal hyperplane which categorizes new examples [7].

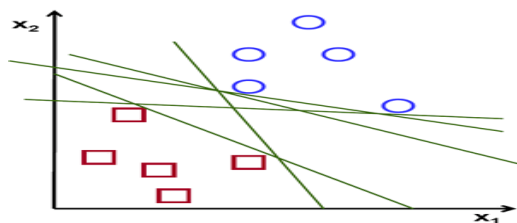


Figure 6. SVM hyper plane representation

5) DNN (Deep neural network):

CNN problem can be achieved by Deep Learning based methods is good high on scene character and text recognition, showing the feasible advantages of the Deep learning based methods in scene character and text recognition. However, it also require the binarization of any natural scene image. By considering the proposed system in which strokelets memorize the relative position of the character in the training phase only, for this purpose character identification is done via “multiscale strokelets” and “Hough voting” these strategies are used because they provide more accurate character localization by providing minimum false result [8].

6) Hough voting and Strokelets:

This strategy provides more accurate character localization, produce fewer false alarm and meanwhile more robust to interference factors, such as font variation, noise and non-uniform illumination Hough Transform convert the binary image from x-y plane to rho-theta plane. This series of examples are going to show some properties that we can observe from the hough matrix and classify some simple object shapes based on it. [1]

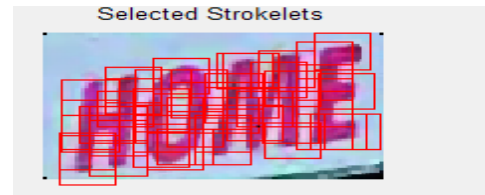


Figure 7. Strokelets learned on IIT 5K Word

Strokelets generation:

By considering the multi scale mid level representation termed as strokelets .

Firstly provide a training image from natural scene

$$s \Rightarrow (I_i, B_i)^{ln1}$$

Where I_i is an image

B_i is a set of bounding boxes which are used to specifying the location and extent of the character in the image For the training set “S”an universal part of prototype is also required that is Ω from the (S)

$$\Omega = \{(k_j, c_j)\}, j = 1$$

After that an discovery image set ‘D’ and a ‘natural world’ image set ‘N’ aims to discover the set of represenyng patch cluster.

Now the output of the above algorithm is top rank patch cluster K and C_j is used to match or detect the patch whether the output is similar to the K_j input. Here B is bounding boxes having the discovery set D has aim to discover the discriminative parts of character.

Any of natural scene is haing length,height,width and their sub co-ordinates $w=h=s$.

C) Recognition Algorithm:

Recognition algorithm is used for text recognition is fairly straight forward. Characteristics of candidates are first sought out from the image by using the vouting based method. Here true or fals vouting could be there so that this type of problem can be solved by ‘wt’.[8]Weight(wt)=true vote/total no. of votes

$$(wt) = Q(t) / p(t)$$

a) Data sets

The IIT 5K-Word dataset is the largest and most challenging benchmark in this field to date. This database includes 5000 images with text in both natural scenes and born-digital images.

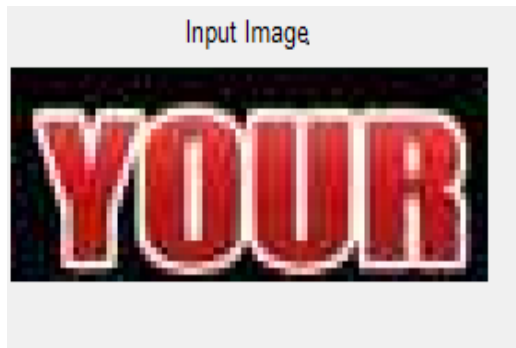


Figure 8. representation of data sets from IIT 5K

It is challenging because of the variation in font, color, size, layout and the presence of noise, blur, distortion and varying illumination. 2000 images are used for training and 3000 images for testing. This dataset comes with three types of lexicons (small, medium, and large) for each test image.

5) Character Classification

For the proposed system, we consider English letters (52 classes) and Arabic numbers (10 classes), i.e. the alphabet $|\mathcal{C}| = \{a, \dots, z; A, \dots, Z; 0, \dots, 9\}$ and $|\mathcal{C}| = 62$. To handle invalid characters (e.g. punctuations, partial of valid characters, and background components), we also introduce a special class, so there are 63 classes in total. We train 63 character recognizers (binary classifiers), one for each character class, in a one-vs-all manner. Random Forest [4] is adopted as the strong classifier because of its high performance and efficiency. Training examples are harvested character candidates are classified by the trained recognizers; by applying the strokelets to the images in the training set and compare the identified rectangles with the ground truth annotations. At runtime, the for each character, the class label with the highest probability is assigned as the recognition consequence [1].

IV. SUMMARY

For the proposed system strokelets, a novel presentation automatically learned from bounding box labels, for the purpose of capturing the underlying substructures of characters at different granularities. Strokelets provide an

alternative way to accurately identify the individual characters and provide a histogram feature to effectively describe characters in natural scenes. strokelets is both effective and robust for text recognition algorithm. Extensively proposed system on standard benchmarks verifies the advantages of strokelets and present that the proposed algorithm consistently surpass the current state-of-the-art approaches in the literature. In this paper, we only present the strengths of strokelets on the task of text recognition in cropped images. This idea seems bit general to perform both text detection and recognition in full images.

This is an ongoing work. Furthermore, we could extend the applicability of this idea by learning multi-scale prototypes for other object classes (e.g. cars, persons, and faces) and using them to detect and recognize such object classes.

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