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Detection of Retinal Blood Vessels Using Machine Learning

Sathish Kumar G [1], Santhiya G[2], Dhivya N[3], Saranya S[4]

Assistant Professor, Dept. of CSE, Bannari Amman Institute of Technology, Sathyamangalam, Tamilnadu, India[1]

U.G Student, Dept. of CSE, Bannari Amman Institute of Technology, Sathyamangalam, Tamilnadu, India[2, 3, 4]

ABSTRACT: Many eye diseases often cause blindness within the absence of proper clinical diagnosis and medical treatment. For instance, diabetic retinopathy (DR) is one such disease during which the retinal blood vessels of human eyes are damaged. Ophthalmologists diagnose DR supported their professional knowledge that's labor-intensive. With the advances in image processing, computer vision-based techniques are applied rapidly and widely within the field of medical image analysis and are getting a far better thanks to advance ophthalmology in practice. Such approaches utilize accurate visual analysis to spot the abnormality of blood vessels with improved performance over manual procedures. More recently, machine learning, especially deep learning, has been successfully implemented during this area.

KEYWORDS: ANN- Artificial Neural Networks, Retina, SIFT- Scale Invariant Feature Transform, classification

I. INTRODUCTION

Many common medical conditions related to the attention are often efficiently diagnosed by doctors through the observation of retinal images. This process has the potential to enhance through the appliance of machine learning techniques. Altered images that highlight the vessel patterns increase doctor's ability to properly diagnose various medical conditions like diabetes and hypertension. Furthermore, it's going to be possible to thoroughly automate the detection of eye diseases. A method to change retinal scans to differentiate the blood vessels from the remainder of the image is to determine a classification problem during which each pixel is labeled as representing blood vessels. Diabetic Retinopathy may be a disease of the retina that affects patients with DM, and it's the more reason for blindness. It's a disease during which the retinal blood vessels swell. This damages the retina of the eye and should cause blindness if the extent of diabetes is extremely high. Early diagnosis of Diabetic Retinopathy can prevent vision loss in patients. These types are often extracted using fundus images of patients and processing these fundus images through an appropriate image processing technique. Supported the presence of those types and their amount within the fundus image will determine the extent of Diabetic Retinopathy in patients. With this, we will easily classify different types of retina images using Anfis. This may reduce the number of reviews for the doctors.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

J. J. Kanski, Butterworth-Heineman. [1] This paper contains an automated vessel segmentation system algorithm for the retinal images under pathological conditions like Diabetic Retinopathy (DR) using matched filters and supervised classification techniques. Matched filter has been extensively utilized in the enhancement and segmentation of the retinal blood vessels thanks to the cross-sectional similarity of the vessels to the Gaussian profile. However additionally to the vessel edges then on vessel edges also gives a robust response to the matched filter resulting in false detection. Supported the structural and spatial difference between the segmented vessels and non-segmented components we propose a classification technique employing a machine learning approach to mask out the false detection thanks to non-vessel structures. The proposed method shows an increased accuracy.

A. Hoover, V. Kouznetsova, and M. Goldbaum. [2] This paper contains Diabetic Retinopathy (DR) may be a condition that happens in people with diabetes. It causes progressive damage to the retina and may be a serious sight-threatening condition in diabetes. It's a result of damage to tiny blood vessels that nourish the retina; the blood vessels within the retina are weakened, causing tiny bulges called micro aneurysms. The micro aneurysms may leak blood and other fluids into the retina, which can cause swelling of the macula and also clouding of vision. Automatic detection and analysis of retinal vasculature can assist the physicians within the screening of DR in its early stages. Retinal vessel segmentation methods include supervised and unsupervised pattern recognition techniques, matched filter techniques, morphological image processing techniques, vessel tracking, vessel profile, and deformable models, multiscale techniques and parallel/hardware-based techniques.

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M. Al-Rawi, M. Qutaishat, and M. Arrar. [3] In this paper, there are various methods used for vessel segmentation. An infinite active contour model that uses hybrid region information of the image has been proposed by Zhao. An infinite perimeter regularize allows for better detection of small branching structures than many other traditional models. It's the segmentation done through inductive transfer learning of photon-tissue interaction statistical physics. During this work, the source task estimates photon-tissue interaction as a spatially localized Poisson process of photons, which is sensed by the RGB sensor.

Hoover, A.M.Goldbaum. [4] In this paper discussed the steps involved in preprocessing, vessel segmentation, and classification of vessel structures from the non-vessel structures publicly retinal databases. the most contribution of this paper is to spot the vessel structures from the non-vessel structures within the segmented images and to classify them accordingly supported machine learning methods. The limitation of vessel segmentation using matched filters is that it produces an identical filter response to structures presenting pointy decreasing intensity gradient-like pathologies including bright and dark lesions, boundaries of the retinal FOV, and edges of the blind spot. The proposed method by Zhang features a constraint that non-vessel structures forming similar cross-sectional profiles thereto of the vessels like hemorrhages, micro aneurysms, and little bright lesions that form a symmetric Gaussian profile rather than a step edge profile also gets segmented as vessel structures. Comparing the segmentation results of normal images and therefore the pathological retinal images within the publicly available STARE database.

III. DATA COLLECTION

Image Acquisition:

Image Acquisition may be a process of getting an Input Image for the method of automatic detection of Diabetic retina using digital Image Processing.

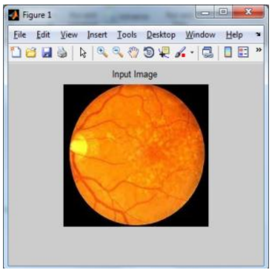


Figure: 1 input image

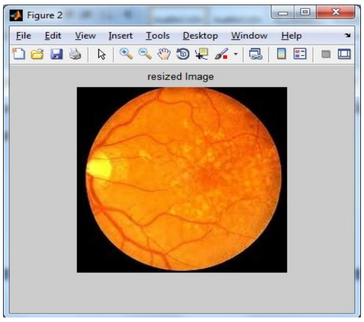
Pre-Processing:

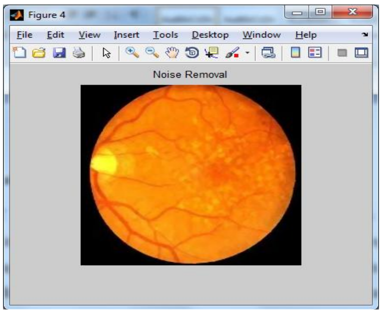
Preprocessing may be a common name for operations with the pictures at rock bottom level of abstraction both input and output is the input images. The aim of preprocessing is an improvement of image data that suppress unwanted image data distortions or enhance some image features important for further processing. Four categories of image preprocessing methods consistent with the dimensions of a pixel neighborhood that's used for the calculation of the latest pixel brightness:

- Pixel brightness transformations
- Geometric transformations
- Preprocessing methods that use an area neighborhood of the processed pixel
- Image restoration that needs knowledge about the whole image

If preprocessing aims to correct some degradation within the image, the character of a priori information is important:

1. Knowledge about the character of the degradation; only very general properties of the degradation are assumed
2. Knowledge about the properties of the image acquisition device, the character of noise (usually its spectral characteristics) is usually known
3. Knowledge about objects that are looked for within the image, which can simplify the preprocessing very considerably.





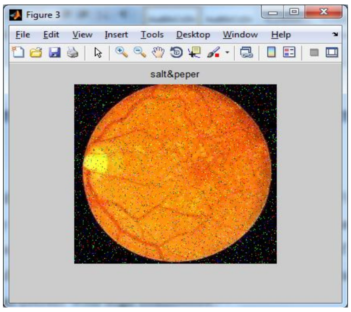


Figure: 2 resized image **Figure: 3 noisy image** **Figure: 4 noisy removals Using median filter**

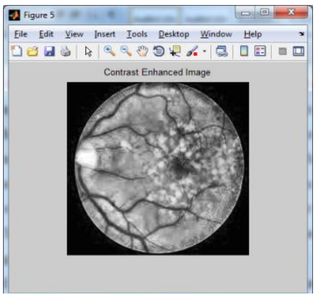
SIFT :(Scale Invariant Feature Transform)

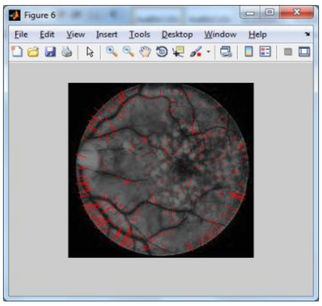
SIFT key points of objects are first extracted from a group of reference images and stored during a database. An object is recognized during a new image by individually comparing each feature from the new image to the present database and finding candidate matching features supported Euclidean distance of their feature vectors. From the complete set of matches, subsets of key points out that agree on the thing and its location, scale, and orientation within the new image are identified to filter good matches. The determination of consistent clusters is performed rapidly by using an efficient hash table implementation of the generalized Hough transform. Each cluster of three or more features that agree on an object and its pose is then subject to further detail model verification and subsequently, outliers are discarded. Finally, the probability that a specific set of features indicates the presence of an object is computed, given the accuracy of fit, and therefore, the number of probable false matches. Object matches that pass of these tests are often identified as correct with high confidence.

For any object in a picture, interesting points on the thing are often extracted to supply a “feature description” of the thing. This description, extracted from a training image, can then be wont to identify the thing when attempting to locate the thing during a test image containing many other objects. To perform reliable recognition, it's important that the features extracted from the training image be detectable even under changes in image scale, noise, and illumination. Such points usually dwell high-contrast regions of the image, like object edges.

Another important characteristic of those features is the relative positions between them within the original scene shouldn't change from one image to a different. For instance, if only the four corners of a door were used as features, they might work no matter the door's position; but if points within the frame were also used, the popularity would fail if the door is opened or closed. Similarly, features located in articulated, or flexible objects would typically not work if any change within their internal geometry happens between two images in the set being processed. However, in practice, SIFT detects and uses a way larger number of features from the pictures, which reduces the contribution of the errors caused by these local variations within the average error of all features matching errors.

SIFT can robustly identify objects even among clutter and under partial occlusion because the SIFT feature descriptor is invariant to uniform scaling, orientation, illumination changes, and partially invariant to affine distortion. This section summarizes the first SIFT algorithm and mentions a couple of competing techniques available for visual perception under clutter and partial occlusion. The SIFT descriptor is predicated on image measurements regarding receptive fields over which local scale-invariant reference frames are established by the local scale selection. A general theoretical explanation about this is often given within the Scholarpedia article on SIFT.





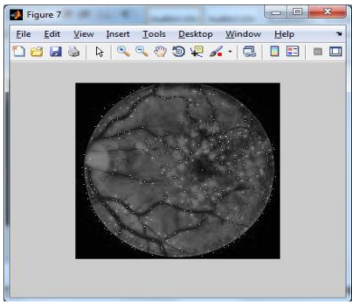


Figure 5: contrast enhanced Image

Figure 6&7: key points or key region (VEIN) identification using SIFT

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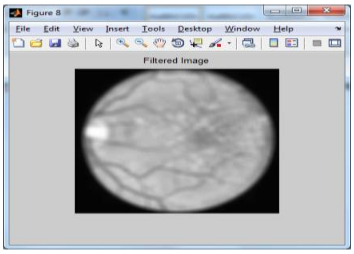

Figure: 8 filtered image

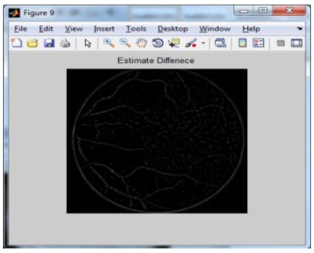

Figure: 9 estimation of difference between images

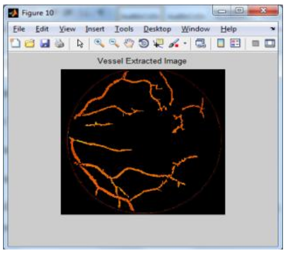

Figure: 10 vessel extracted

Segmentation Using Expectation and Maximization Segmentation

Image segmentation is the process of partitioning a digital image into multiple segments (sets of pixels, also referred to as super pixels). The goal of segmentation is to simplify and/or change the representation of a picture into something that's more meaningful and easier to research. Image segmentation is usually wont to locate objects and limits (lines, curves, etc.) in images.

More precisely, image segmentation is the process of assigning a label to each pixel in a picture such pixels with an equivalent label shares certain characteristics. The results of image segmentation may be a set of segments that collectively cover the whole image or a group of contours extracted from the image (see edge detection).

Each of the pixels during a region is analogous with reference to some characteristic or computed property, like color, intensity, or texture. Adjacent regions are significantly different with reference to an equivalent characteristic(s). Several general-purpose algorithms and techniques are developed for image segmentation. To be useful, these techniques must typically be combined with a domain's specific knowledge to effectively solve the domain's segmentation problems.

Expectation maximization

The EM algorithm is an efficient iterative procedure to compute the utmost Likelihood (ML) estimate within the presence of missing or hidden data. In ML estimation, we wish to estimate the model parameter(s) that the observed data is the foremost likely. Each iteration of the EM algorithm consists of two processes: The E-step, and therefore, the M-step. Within the expectation or E-step, the missing data is estimated given the observed data and current estimate of the model parameters. This is often achieved using the conditional expectation, explaining the selection of terminology. Within the M-step, the likelihood function is maximized under the idea that the missing data is known. The estimate of the missing data from the E-step is employed in lieu of the particular missing data. Convergence is assured since the algorithm is bound to increase the likelihood at each iteration.

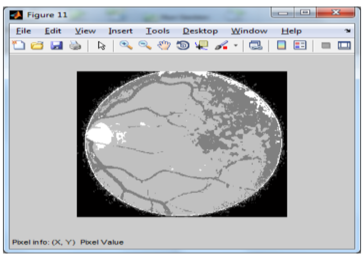

Figure: 11 EM segmentation

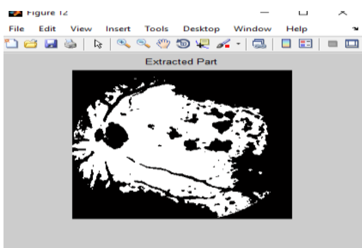

Figure: 12 Segmentation Result

Feature Extraction:

In machine learning, pattern recognition, and in image processing, feature extraction starts from an initial set of measured data and builds derived values (features) intended to be informative and non-redundant, facilitating the next learning and generalization steps, and in some cases, resulting in better human interpretations.

Feature extraction is said to dimensional reduction. When the input file to an algorithm is just too large to be processed and it's suspected to be redundant (e.g. an equivalent measurement in both feet and meters, or the repetitiveness of images presented as pixels), then it is often transformed into a reduced set of features (also named a feature vector). Determining a subset of the initial features is named feature selection. Feature extraction describes the relevant shape information contained during a pattern in order that the task of classifying the pattern is formed easily by a proper procedure. Feature extraction is completed after the pre-processing introduce the character recognition system.

IV. METHODOLOGY

1. Classification

To classify a group of knowledge into different classes or categories, the connection between the info and therefore, the classes into which they're classified must be understood to realize this by computer, the PC must be trained

• Training is vital to the success of classification

• Classification techniques were originally developed

• Out of research in Pattern Recognition field Computer classification of remotely sensed images involves the method of the PC program learning the connection between the info and therefore, the information classes. Important aspects of accurate classification

• Learning techniques

• Feature sets Features are attributes of the info elements supported in which the weather is assigned to vary classes. The amount of classes, prototype pixels for every class is often identified using prior knowledge.

2. Artificial Neural Network:

Artificial Neural Networks (ANN) is currently a 'hot, ' research area in medicine and it's believed that they're going to receive an in-depth application to biomedical systems within the next few years. At the instant, the research is usually on model parts of the physical body and recognizing diseases from various scans (e.g. cardiograms, CAT scans, ultrasonic scans, etc.). Neural networks are ideal in recognizing diseases using scans since there's no got to provide a selected algorithm on the way to identify the disease. Neural networks learn by example, therefore, the details of the way to recognize the disease isn't needed. What's needed may be a set of examples that are representative of all the variations of the disease. The number of examples is not as important because of the 'quantity." The examples got to be selected very carefully if the system is to perform reliably and efficiently.

Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs) are supporting tools for image processing, albeit currently they're not considered because of the default the best solution to any classification or regression problem. ANNs conserve their role as non-parametric classifiers, non-linear regression operators, or (un) supervised feature extractors. The chapter reviews the applications of ANN methodology altogether the steps of the image processing chain, ranging from data preprocessing and reduction, image segmentation, up to visual perception, and scene understanding.

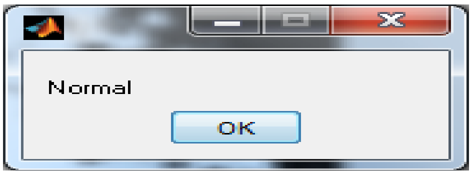

Figure 13: Result

V. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

As we compared to the previous methodologies like SVM and other algorithms the SIFT and ANN is the best thanks to detect the retinal blood vessels to seek out the diseases of retinal tears, retinal detachments, and a traditional retina. The goal is to figure out a totally automated detection process for various eye diseases. While the SIFT algorithm has less computation time and detects a number of diseases, it's worth pursuing because it doesn't require a training set. The downside of the modified k-NN algorithm is that it takes a comparatively run on each image which could not be practical within the field. For this reason, it might be beneficial to further modify the presented ANN or apply a special quite supervised algorithm to extend speed and accuracy.

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