

# Computer Vision SS22 Assignment 1: Document Scanner

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*This paper presents a usecase for a DIN A4 document scanner. The explanations contained in this paper will be divided into three steps. First the corner points of the document will be detected utilizing the canny edge corner detection. By performing a perspective transformation the document will then be provided in a top-view. With the help of a filter the document will then be changed into a binary format.*

## 1 INTRODUCTION

In everyday life, there are often situations in which it is advantageous to scan a document that has been received and keep it as a copy. Unfortunately not everyone has a ready-to-use scanner with them to scan the document. Though most of the people have a device capable of doing just this - a cell phone with a camera. Using various methods, it is possible to scan documents with the help of the cell phone camera, similar to a scanner, and save them in a suitable format. This paper will give your step by step guide on how it is possible to implement these methodologies.

## 2 PREPROCESSING

The first step is to read the image. This is done with the `imread` function of openCV which outputs the image as numpy array with the shape (Height, Width, Channel). By default the decoded image is stored in the BGR-format. Which means, the first channel contains the blue color channel, the second one contains the green color channel and the last the red one. The original image is separately stored, because for further steps the photo is needed in a grayscale format. This conver-

sion is made with the `cvtColor` [Docb] function of openCV. The conversion of colorspace is made with the following formula [Doca]:

$$Y = B * 0.114 + G * 0.587 + R * 0.299$$

The next preprocessing step includes the smoothing/blurring of the grayscale image. This is done to remove noise from the image [Doce]. In our case the Gaussian Blurring [Docc] is used. The image is convolved with the Gaussian Kernel. As size of the kernel the size (5,5) is used. Because a document could be landscape or portrait format, it makes sense to use same values in x and y direction in the kernel size, as well as for the parameters `sigmaX` and `sigmaY`. These parameters are used to calculate the gaussian filter coefficients. In the function call `sigmaX` and `sigmaY` are set to zero, which means the Gaussian Kernel computes these variables from the given `ksize` [Docd].

$$\sigma = 0.3 * (0.5 * (ksize - 1) - 1) + 0.8$$

The gaussian filter coefficients are computed with the following formula [Docd]:

$$G_i = \alpha * e^{-\frac{(i - \frac{(ksize-1)}{2})^2}{2 * \sigma^2}}$$

## 3 EDGE DETECTION

After we took our preprocessing step and chose a suitable noise reduction algorithm we start with the edge detection. For edge detection we use the Canny edge [Can86] detector which is a multi-staged algorithm:

1. Noise reduction.
2. Calculating the intensity gradient of the image.

3. Non-maximum suppression.
4. Hysteresis thresholding.

The noise reduction step was already described in the [Preprocessing](#) section of this paper.

The intensity gradient of the image is calculated using the **Sobel Filter**:

$$S(I(x, y)) := \sqrt{(S_x * I(x, y))^2 + S_y (*I(x, y))^2} \quad (1)$$

Generally we can define the gradient of the Image I as:

$$G(I(x, y)) := \sqrt{I_x^2 + I_y^2} \quad (2)$$

In addition to the gradient we calculate the orientation given by:

$$\phi(x, y) = \arctan\left(\frac{g_y}{g_x}\right) \quad (3)$$

After getting the gradient magnitude and orientation of each pixel, the edges have to be reduced to a thickness of one pixel which will be done with **non-maximum suppression**.

To implement this methodology in the document scanner, the function which implements the full Canny edge detector can be called.

```
Canny(blurred_image, 75, 180,
      L2gradient = True, apertureSize = 3)
```

The functions input is the noise reduced image described in [Preprocessing](#). For Hysteresis Threshold 75 for the lower-bound and 180 for the upper bound are chosen. For several trials this settings could sufficiently generalize various documents. An aperture size of 3 does also generate solid outputs. Instead of the predefined L1-Norm [\[Weia\]](#), the more precise L2-Norm [\[Weib\]](#) is used.

## 4 CORNER DETECTION

## 5 TRANSFORMATION

## 6 BINARY IMAGE

## 7 SUMMARY

## REFERENCES

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