



University of São Paulo - ICMC  
Bacharelado em Ciências da Computação  
SCC0251 - Image Processing  
Moacir Ponti

# Partial Report - Facial Recognition

JULIA DINIZ	Nº USP: 9364865
GIOVANNA OLIVEIRA GUIMARÃES	Nº USP: 9293693
LUCAS ALEXANDRE SOARES	Nº USP: 9293265

São Carlos - SP

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# 1 Main Objective

The main objective of this Project is to be able to recognize multiple faces at different angles and positions and then perform functions such as:

- Change color and/or replace the key features (such as mouth, eyes and nose) by stylized components and objects
- enhance the images with the use of techniques such as sharpening, gamma and temperature filters.
- Apply distortion in an area
- Remove red eyes.

## 2 Input Description

The input of our Project consists of two parameters: a pre-trained shape predictor and an image of your choice. For testing, we used some random images from the internet. Any image can be used by passing the *im* parameter in the command line below:

```
python facial_landmarks.py - -shape-predictor sp - -image im
```

The same goes for the shape predictor (*sp*). The one used to produce our first results was dlib's default predictor, which was trained with the 68 point (coordinates) iBUG 300-W<sup>[1]</sup> dataset.

### 3 Steps Description

As previously mentioned, to obtain the preliminary results, dlib<sup>[2]</sup> library functionalities were used with their standard pre-trained shape predictor, included in the dlib's repository. The facial landmark detector inside the dlib library is used to estimate the location of 68 (x, y)-coordinates that map to facial structures on the face. The indexes of the 68 coordinates can be visualized on the image below:

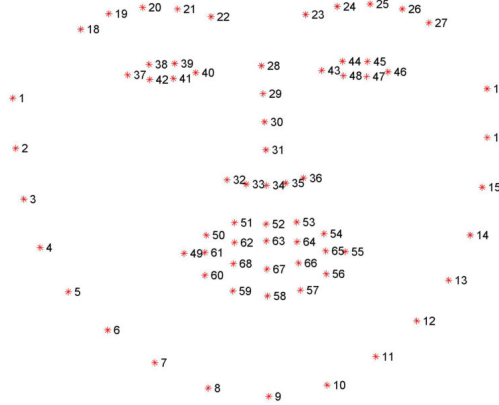
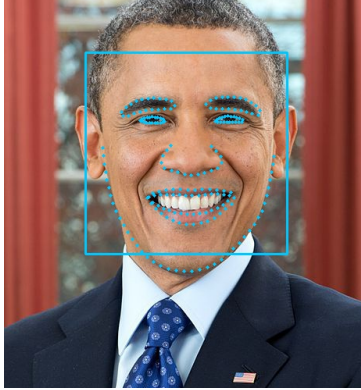
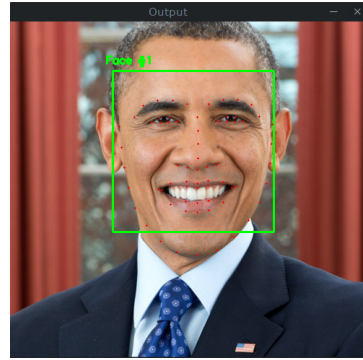


Figure 1: Visualizing the 68 facial landmark coordinates from the iBUG 300-W dataset

However, for the Project final phase, the predictor will be trained with images coming from the Helen<sup>[3]</sup> dataset with a 194 points model, which we expect better results.



(a) 194 landmark coordinates



(b) 68 landmark coordinates

Figure 2: Comparison between the 194(a) and 68(b) coordinates model

To train the predictor with the Helen dataset, first we got the annotations file included in the dataset and reorganized it in a xml format. Then new labels were added to the landmarks around the eyes, mouth, nose and eyebrows. The landmarks and labels were adjusted with dlib's imglab tool, included with dlib. Finally the predictor may be trained with those 194 points and five labels. The training command is as follows:

```
python train_shape_predictor.py - -training-file file - -test-file file
```

This will generate a predictor.dat file which is the trained predictor data to be used with facial recognition. Now, the user may feed the predictor to the application with an image and

the program should return a bounding box in each identified objects (face, nose, mouth, eyes, eyebrow). In order to remove the red eyes, all the pixels of the eyes boxes will be traversed in order to check the intensity of their red tones. If the red channel value is much higher when compared to the blue and green channels, then we probably have a red eye there. If this is detected, we just normalize the red value to the blue and green levels, and thus remove the red eyes.

To apply the temperature filter, we will just rise the intensity of the red tones of an image if the user chooses to make the image hotter, or blue tones to make it colder.

Finally, the other filters (gamma and sharpening) will be applied the same way they used in classes assignments but in colored images. To do this, we will convert from RGB space to HSV and apply the filter in the Value channel since they only need to work with contrast, and not color directly.

The key feature replacement will be just a replacement of the identified object by one of the defaults and some smooth filtering/equalisation shall be applied to smooth out the contours.

## 4 First Results

Using the pre-trained predictor, we were already able to get a raster around each face identified in the input image and we can manipulate them already. The program can handle RGB and grayscale images, rotated faces and multiple faces in the same image. The images below show exemples of our first results:

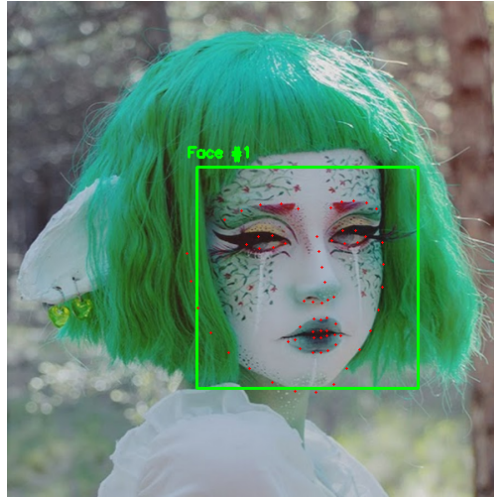


Figure 3: Example of a facial recognition performed in a colorful image



Figure 4: Example of a multiple facial recognition performed in a grayscale image

1 2 3

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<sup>1</sup>Figure 1: <http://www.pyimagesearch.com/2017/04/03/facial-landmarks-dlib-opencv-python/>

<sup>2</sup>Figures 3&5: <https://www.facebook.com/apricotjaamu/>

<sup>3</sup>Figures 4: <https://br.pinterest.com/amylamps/multiple-images-photography-project/?lp=true>

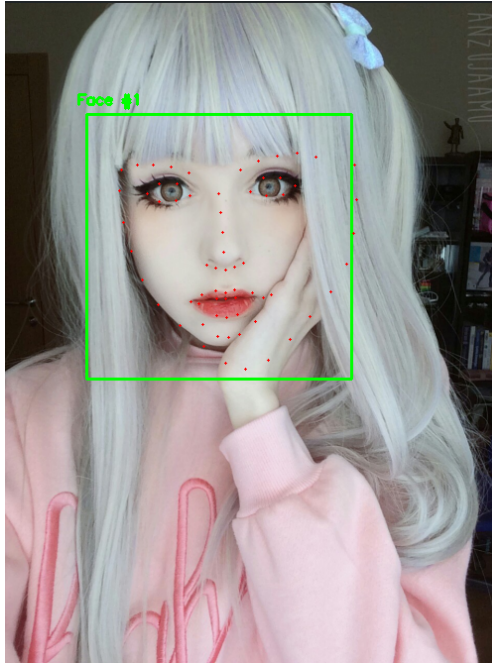


Figure 5: Example of a failed recognition that we expect to fix with the 194 point model

## 5 Final Results

As we didn't manage to construct the database and train the new 194 landmarks model in time, we decided to use cascade classifiers included with OpenCV to find some characteristics, like eyes. This is a lot more limited than what we previously wanted, however it is sufficient for testing a lot of the features we envisioned.

### 5.1 Filters and Operations

The filters and operations applied in our project are from Pillow's ImageFilter and ImageOps modules. They are:

- Blur
- Contour
- Detail
- Edge enhance
- Emboss
- Find edges
- Smooth
- Sharpen

All the filters mentioned above are from ImageFilter and use a convolution 3x3 or 5x5 kernel in a built-in filter, which can be an integer or floating point and be applied to a gray scale (a.k.a "L" image in the Pillow library) or RGB image. The others from ImageOps are:

- Autocontrast



- Equalize
- Flip (vertical)
- Invert
- Mirror
- Posterize
- Solarize

The autocontrast function maximizes the image contrast. This function calculates a histogram of the input image, removes percent of the lightest and darkest pixels from the histogram, and remaps the image, so that the darkest pixel becomes black (0), and the lightest becomes white (255).

The equalize function equalizes the image histogram. This function applies a non-linear mapping to the input image, in order to create a uniform distribution of grayscale values in the output image.

The flip function just flips the image vertically while the mirror flips horizontally.

Posterize reduces the number of bits for each color channel thus converts a continuous gradation of tone to several regions of fewer tones, with abrupt changes from one tone to another.

Finally, solarize inverts all pixels values above a threshold and make dark areas appear light or light areas appear dark.

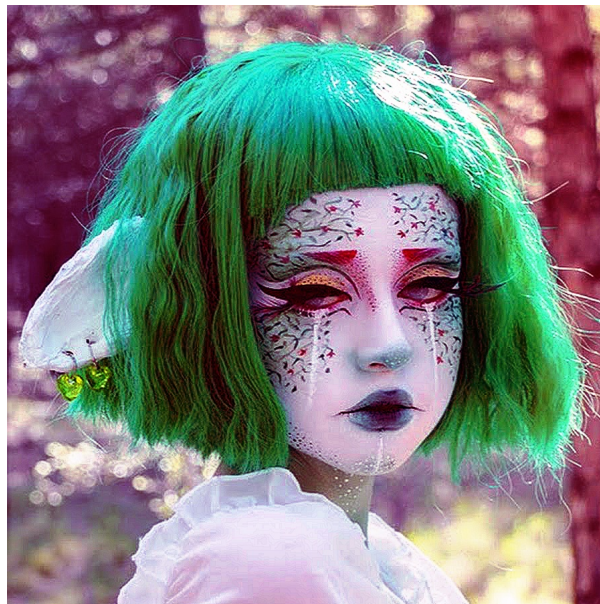


Figure 6: Anzu3.jpg after applying Sharpen → Detail → Autocontrast → Equalize filters

## 5.2 Distortion

For applying distortion, first we transform the image to a grid and then to a mesh-like structure. This facilitates when moving and interpolating points in images. The user may define the grid resolution in X and Y axis separately, and also define the max distortion value, since it will be randomly applied in the image.

It is possible to obtain interesting effects by tuning the distortion parameters, like a glass or watery effect as seen in 7 and 8

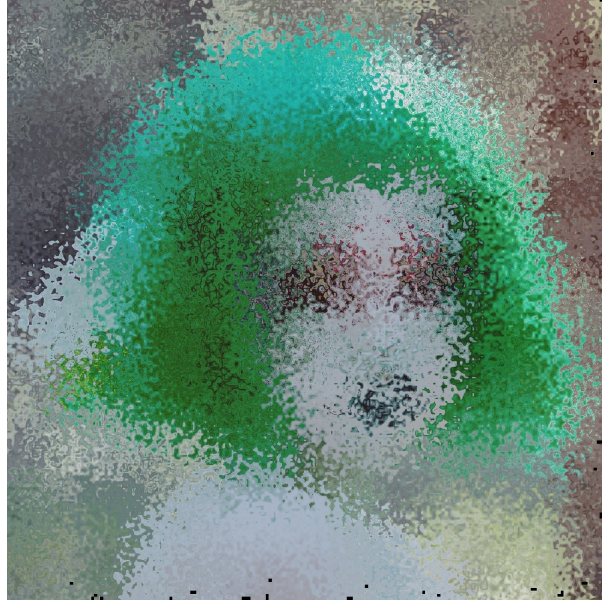


Figure 7: Anzu3.jpg with distortion ( $x = 200$ ,  $y = 200$ , distortion = 50)



Figure 8: Anzu3.jpg with distortion ( $x = 65$ ,  $y = 35$ , distortion = 15)

### 5.3 Red Eyes

For red eyes removal, we used the Haar Cascade Classifier included in OpenCV to locate the eyes. Having the eyes, the program separates the red channel from the green and blue, apply a threshold in the red channel for a minimum red intensity that the user define as possible red eye, apply a closing operation in the image to remove noise and small “holes” and finally replace the red pixels with the mean of the green and blue channels. This way, the color seems to blend better with the eye iris. The green and blue channels are used as masks when replacing the pixels, to guarantee a smooth eye.



Figure 9: Original photo



Figure 10: After removing redeye (threshold = 80)

## 6 References

- 1 - iBUG: `‘‘https://ibug.doc.ic.ac.uk/resources/facial-point-annotations/’’`
- 2 - Dlib: `‘‘http://dlib.net/imaging.html’’`
- 3 - Helen: `‘‘http://www.ifp.illinois.edu/~vuongle2/helen/’’`
- 4 - Pillow: `‘‘https://python-pillow.org/’’`
- 5 - Cascade classifiers: `‘‘https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cascading_classifiers’’`
- 6 - OpenCV: `‘‘http://opencv.org/’’`
- 7 - Haar Cascades OpenCV: `‘‘http://docs.opencv.org/trunk/d7/d8b/tutorial_py_face_detecti’’`
- 8 - Red eye removal: `‘‘http://www.learnopencv.com/automatic-red-eye-remover-using-opencv’’`