

Module - 4

Image Segmentation

→ Divides an image into different regions so that each region represents a meaningful part of the img.

Types Of Image Segmentation

(1) Discontinuity-Based Segmentation

- Point detection :- Detects isolated points
- Line detection :- Detects straight line
- Edge detection :- Detects Object boundaries where there is sharp change in colour or brightness.

(2) Similarity based detection :-

→ Here we group pixels in some way.

- Thresholding
- Region growing
- Region splitting & merging

} Techniques

Detection of Discontinuities

→ The most common way to look for discontinuities is to scan a small mask over an image

$$R = w_1 z_1 + w_2 z_2 + \dots + w_a z_a$$

Result ↗

$$= \sum_{i=1}^a w_i z_i$$

w = weights from filter

z = pixel values from image region

(a) Point discontinuities :- Isolated bright or dark spots that stand out.

mask example

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 8 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

→ compares center pixel (8x) its value to its eight neighbors (-1 each)

(b) Line Discontinuities :-

→ I detect line of 1 pixel width in special orientations

① Horizontal

② + 45°

③ Vertical

④ -45°

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 & -1 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 & 2 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Only line in target direction become visible
when pixel align to form a line the result is large.

What are derivatives in Images

① Small derivative : smooth region

② Large derivative : sharp change (edge or boundary)

First Order derivatives

(\rightarrow tells how fast the intensity is changing in images.)

If the intensity jump suddenly between its neighbouring pixels, it's probably an edge.

$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$ - change in intensity in horizontal direction

$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$ - change in intensity in vertical direction

$$\nabla f = \left[\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right] \rightarrow \text{together we define a gradient vector.}$$

$$|\nabla f| = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}\right)^2}$$

$$\theta = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}}{\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}} \right)$$

magnitude :- tells us the strength of edge

direction - tells you which direction the edge is going.

Prewitt mask for detecting diagonal edges

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Sobel mask for detecting diagonal edges

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -2 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -2 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

How do these masks work

- Place these mask over each pixel in an image
- Multiple each of the 9 surrounding values by the values in the mask.
- Add up the results you get gradient in x & y direction.
- Do this for both the masks (x & y)
- Combine the result to get gradient magnitude.

\rightarrow Difference between Prewitt & Sobel Mask

Prewitt

Sobel

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• more sensitive (less smoothing)• slightly less accurate• Simple averaging & differentiation• Slightly faster• Good for simple & small images | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Less sensitive (more ^{smoothing})• more accurate due to weight• Slightly more complex• Slightly slower• Better for natural images & raw data. |
|--|--|

\rightarrow Second Order Derivatives

→ tells us how fast the gradient itself is changing.

Detects

- Rapid changes in the slope
- Places where the intensity increases or decreases

Common Operator (Laplacian)

$$\rightarrow \nabla^2 f = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2}$$

$$\rightarrow \text{Mask} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 4 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ or } \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 8 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

→ Second order derivative are sensitive, so we smooth the image first.

$$\rightarrow \text{Gaussian Smoothing (Step-1)} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Reduces high frequency noise} \\ \text{before applying an edge detector} \end{array} \right\} \quad u(x, y) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2} e^{-\frac{x^2+y^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

Laplacian Operator (Step-2)

$$\nabla^2 f = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{It looks for edges or} \\ \text{detects places where the} \\ \text{sign of the second derivative} \\ \text{changes.} \end{array} \right\}$$

Step-3 :- Laplacian of Gaussian

→ apply this to create a LOG Kernel.

$$\text{LoG}(x, y) = \nabla^2 G(x, y)$$

$$= \left(\frac{x^2 + y^2 - 2\sigma^2}{\sigma^4} \right) \times \exp \left(\frac{-x^2 - y^2}{2\sigma^2} \right)$$

Defines the curvature shape

(-ve) near center, +ve around sides

Controls the spread of the effect - smoother for larger σ

Why use LoG?

① Gaussian smoothens out the image

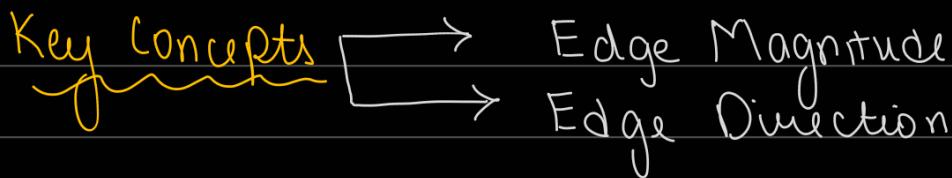
② Laplacian finds out the edges.

Edge linking & Boundary detection

→ After predicting edges through different methods, you don't always get a perfect connected edge, you may get broken or disjoint edges

Local Processing

→ use neighbouring pixels to decide whether edge should be connected or not.

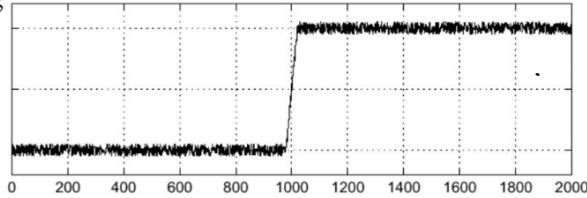


- We check if two adjacent edge pixels have same magnitude & direction

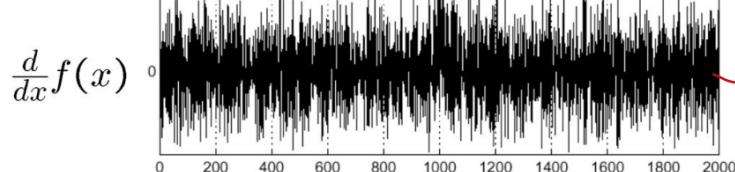
Effect of Noise

- Consider a single row or column of the image

- Plotting



There is no noise in the first image so the spike is detected



Where is the edge??

Here when we take the first derivative i.e derivative of those intensities there might be some

small random changes which resulted in noise & the spike was hidden.

→ You can use first derivative to find intensity changes in order to find the edge

→ But noise can create fake changes so derivative becomes noisy

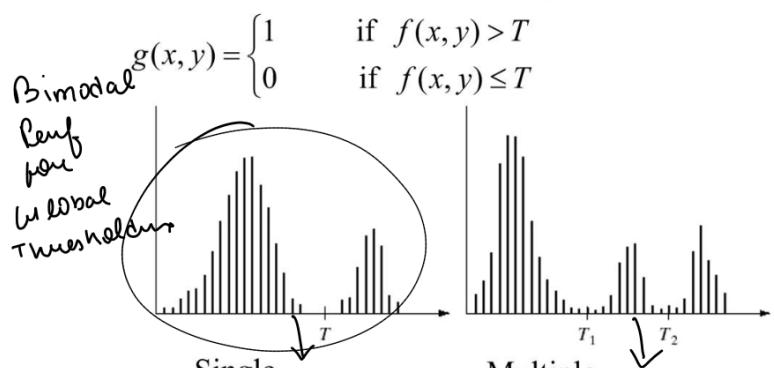
→ Canny Edge Operator

- ① Smooth image I with 2D-Gaussian $(m \times I)$
- ② Find local edge normal direction $\bar{n} = \nabla(m \times I) / |\nabla(m \times I)|$ for each pixel
- ③ Locate edge by finding zero-crossings $\frac{\partial^2(m \times I)}{\partial \bar{n}^2} = 0$ along edge normal directions

→ Thresholding

↳ method to separate objects from B/w based on pixel intensity.

- Assumption: the range of intensity levels covered by objects of interest is different from the background.



$f(x, y)$ - Intensity
 T - Threshold value

$g(x, y)$ - Output
(1 = white
0 = black)

2 spikes

3 spikes

- ① Background
- ② Object
- ③ Object 2

- ① Background
- ② Object

→ Basic Adaptive Thresholding

↳ Calculates different threshold for each pixel based on its local neighbourhood, instead of using global threshold for the whole image.

Global Thresholding works only if:

- The lighting is even
- Background & Object have clear intensity separation

Basic Adaptive Thresholding solves this problem

→ Optimal Global & Adaptive Thresholding

↳ This method treats pixel values as probability density functions.
The goal is to reduce the probability of misclassifying pixels as either object or背景.

→ Region Based Segmentation

↳ Dividing an image into connected regions where pixels within the region are similar to each other.

- Here each region must be uniform
- Connectivity of pixels within the region is very important

→ Region Growing

→ Procedure that groups pixels or sub-region into larger regions.

- It is a technique that starts from a seed pixel & grows the region by adding neighbouring pixels that are similar to the seed.
- Region growing based technique are better than the edge-based techniques in noisy environment.

→ Region Splitting & Merging

→ Top-down & bottom-up segmentation method that divides the images into smaller parts & then combines them when they meet a homogeneity condition.

→ Region Splitting

- Start with an entire image as one big-region
- Check if its uniform, if not split in unequal sub-region
- Repeat recursively until all regions are uniform.

→ Region merging

- Look for neighbouring regions, if they are similar enough merge them.
- Continue until no more merging is possible.

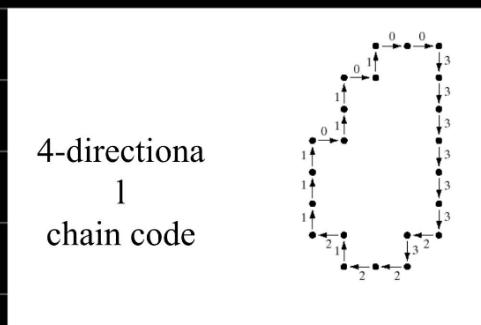
→ Boundary Descriptions

→ It is a way to represent the shape or outline of the image

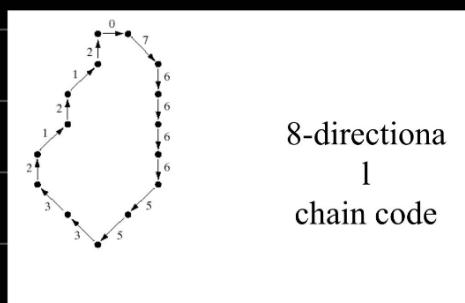
→ Chain Code

→ It is a way to encode the boundary of a shape as a sequence of directions

Direction Encoding



Can move only n ways



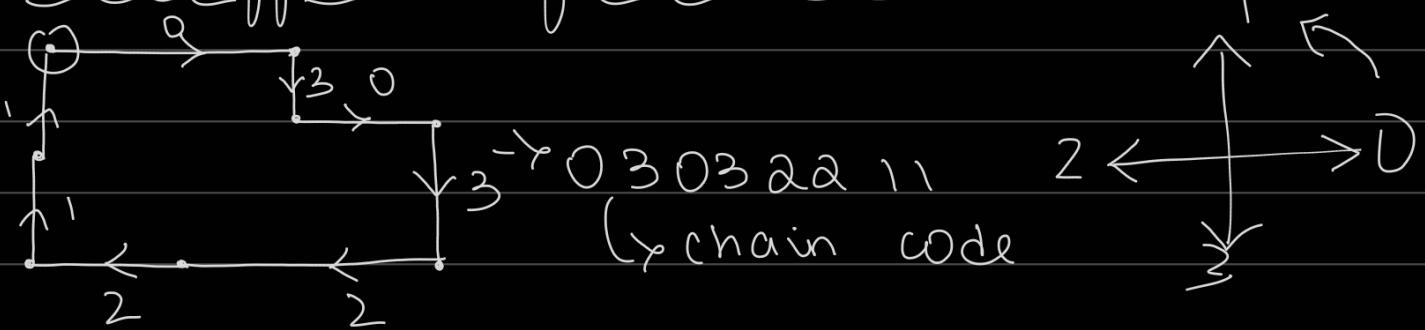
Can move 8 ways (including diagonal)

Limitations :- Starting point matters → same shape gives different codes if traced from different positions

- Rotating the object changes the code
- Sensitive to Noise

→ Improvements

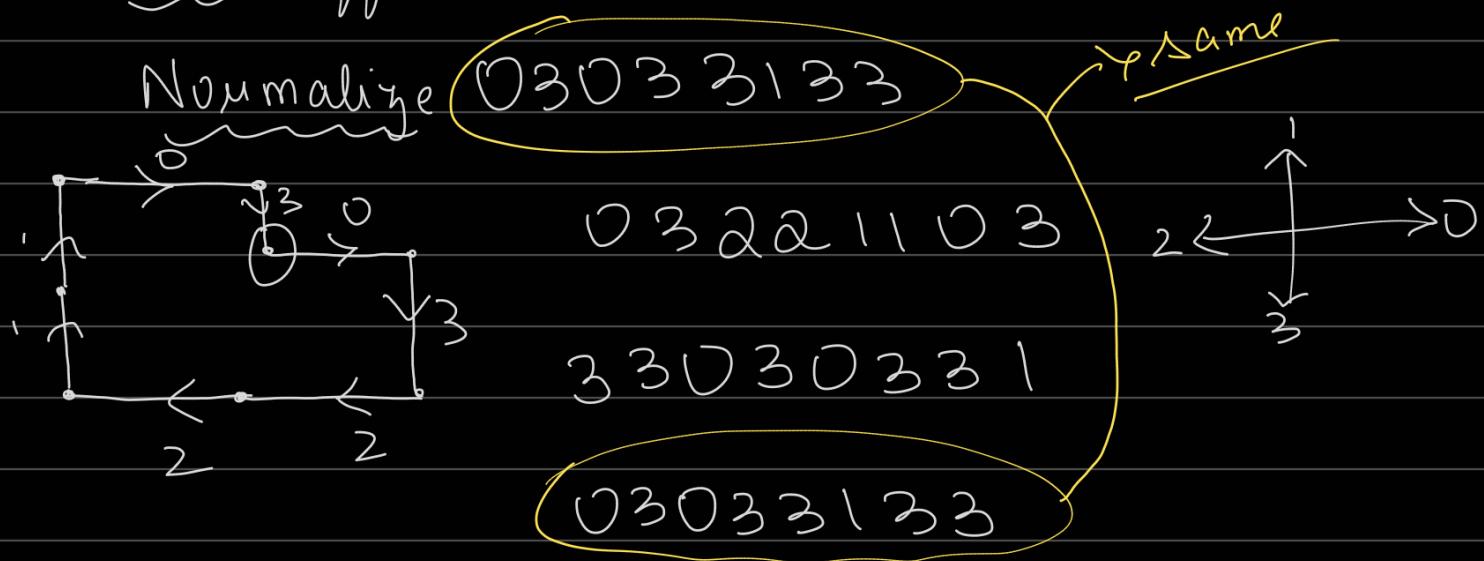
① First difference of chain-code



First diff: 3 | 3 3 0 3 0 3

That's we normalize

Normalize 03033133



→ Image Moments

Moment :- Certain particular weighted avg.

Image moment :- Particular weighted avg. of pixels intensities

They are a set of statistical parameters to measure the distribution of pixels & their intensities

$$M_{ij} = \sum_x \sum_y x^i y^j I(x, y)$$

Intensity at location $x^i y^j$

→ For binary image the zeroth order moment corresponds to area

$$M_{00} = \sum_x \sum_y I(x, y)$$

↳ Counting all non zero pixels

→ Centroid :- Arithmetic mean position of all the points

$$\text{Centroid } (\bar{x}, \bar{y}) = \left\{ \frac{M_{10}}{M_{00}}, \frac{M_{01}}{M_{00}} \right\}$$

Eg

x	1	2	3	4	y
1	0	0	0	0	
2	1	1	1	1	
3	1	1	1	1	
4	0	0	0	0	

$$M_{00} = \sum_x \sum_y x y I(x, y)$$

$$= \sum_x \sum_y I(x, y)$$

$$= 8$$

$$M_{10} = \sum_x \sum_y x I(x, y) = 1(0+0+0+0) + 2(1+1+1+1) + 3(1+1+1+1) + 4(0+0+0+0) = 20$$

$$M_{01} = 1(0+1+1+0) + 2(0+1+1+0) + 3(0+1+1+0) + 4(0+1+1+0)$$

$$= 1(2) + 2(2) + 3(2) + 4(2) = 2 + 4 + 6 + 8 = 20$$

$$\bar{x} = \frac{M_{10}}{M_{00}} = \frac{20}{8}$$

$$\bar{y} = \frac{M_{01}}{M_{00}} = \frac{20}{8}$$