**HANDWRITING DETECTION SYSTEM USING IMAGE PROCESSING**

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***Abstract: The name handwriting recognition is quite popular since it is widely applied in document analysis, biometrics, and other areas in forensics.***

***This study, therefore, involves detailed research and implementation of a handwriting detection system using advanced image processing techniques.***

***Thus, for better photos quality, the recommended system starts with the preprocessing stages which include image acquisition, noise reduction and image enhancement. Then various approaches such as texture analysis, contouring function and intensity pixel histograms are employed so as to separate particular characteristics of handwritten patterns from others.***

***Afterward, the features collected are further classified into various types of handwritings using classification methods like support vector machines (SVM), convolutional neural networks (CNN) together with decision trees etc.***

***Moreover, there are techniques that are used in signature verification and forgery detection to enhance accuracy and reliability of this system. Furthermore, writing examines problems users face while working on systems designed for writing by hand like different handwritings styles; noise interference; scalability issues among others followed by possible remedies.***

***KEYWORD: TensorFlow, Image processing, Convolutional Neural Network, Handwritten Recognition.***

**I. INTRODUCTION**

This paper looks into the application of image processing techniques and machine learning algorithms to develop advanced handwriting detection systems. The primary goal is to come up with infallible systems that would accurately identify and classify written text; thus, increasing effectiveness and efficiency in areas such as signature verification, as well as document forgery detection. Also, these are utilized in a variety of fields like forensic analysis, biometric authentication, document authentication, and automated form processing.

Handwriting identification is essential for verifying the criminal cases during forensic investigations. Additionally, given that handwritten signatures act as individual identifiers within biometrics field; handwriting detection systems are thus particularly important for this purpose. In particular, it also includes an extensive literature review on handwriting detection methodologies employed, challenges faced and latest trends in the area under discussion. Furthermore, it proposes a fresh methodology to detect hand-writing by combining image processing with machine learning; this will involve developing robustness through tackling difficulties associated with handwritten-document analysis.

**II. LITERATURE REVIEW**

Handwriting recognition systems are of interest because they can be used for many languages and scripts. This review paper surveys the most recent methods and developments in offline handwritten recognition for several languages, with particular emphasis on word and character recognition techniques.

Character Recognition for Malayalam: George and Gafoor (2014) presented an offline Malayalam character recognition technique using artificial neural networks (ANNs). Their network has three layers of hidden units with log sigmoid activation function that is trained by backpropagation. Using contourlet transform features, the system achieved a 97.3% accuracy rate.

Character Recognition for Marathi: Kale and Deshmukhy (2014) suggested a method of Basic Marathi Script which is derived from Devanagari as an offline recognition system. With the help of SVM/K-NN classifiers as well as Zernike moment feature descriptors, their approach achieved good results, beating existing methods by 0.37%.

English Alphanumeric Character Recognition: An ANN-based Technique for Afroge and Ahmed (2016) presented English alphanumeric character recognition. Preprocessing images were used, binary matrices for feature extraction and sequential training and classification by them. The system achieved a remarkable 99% arithmetic, 96% lowercase, 97% uppercase and 93% alphanumeric character accuracy.

Character Recognition in Tifinagh: Sadouk and Gadi (2017) investigated two types of deep learning networks for Tifinagh character recognition; Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) and Deep Belief Networks (DBNs). CNNs had an accuracy rate as high as 98.25%, which was more than what DBNs could achieve, yet DBNs exhibited a simpler design as well being faster.

Bangla Digit Recognition: DL methods proposed by Alom et al. (2017) for Bangla digit recognition include CNNs with Gaussian and Gabor filters among others. Their system did well in terms of accuracy because of CNNs.

English Handwritten Character Recognition: Kharkar and Mali (2017) developed an offline recognition system based on feedforward backpropagation neural networks. It was accurate, reliable, efficient than earlier techniques.

Latin Characters Recognition: Firmani and Merialdo (2017) introduced a deep convolutional network (DCNN) classifier for optical character recognition (OCR) of Latin characters. The DCNN was trained on a large set of documents, achieving an impressive accuracy rate of 96%.

Arabic Text Recognition: For the purpose of recognizing handwritten Arabic text, Ahmad and Naz (2020) presented MDLSTM networks which are multi-dimensional long short term memory networks as DL approach. Their solution used preprocessing and data augmentation techniques to exceed the performance achieved by prior methods in terms of accuracy.

English Handwritten Word Recognition: Gurg et al. (2020) developed an efficient model for the recognition of English handwritten words that combines CNNs and recurrent neural networks (RNNs). Their preprocessing approaches on IAM dataset including contrast normalization, data augmentation significantly improved its accuracy.

This survey highlights various approaches and developments in handwriting recognition systems for different languages, scripts and applications. From state-of-the-art DL algorithms to conventional ANN-based methods, researches have pushed the boundaries of handwritten recognition systems’ accuracy and efficiency.

**III. METHODOLOGY**

Amongst other things, an image processing methodology-based handwriting detecting system goes through a number of processes. The following is a general plan for creating such systems:

Collecting Data: Bring together handwritten picture files. It would be great to have many different types of handwriting styles, sizes and variations in the collection. The Dataset has been classified into two datasets.

A group of letters in black

Description automatically generated

Fig 1: Classification of Dataset

Preprocessing– Enhance photo quality and prepare them for further analysis through preprocessing. This may involve scaling, normalization, noise reduction as well as binarization which transforms images into black and white.

Feature extraction refers to extracting important features from pre-processed images. Some examples include stroke width, curvature or descriptors like histograms of oriented gradients (HOG) that capture the unique characteristics of handwriting.

In the below diagram CNN algorithm is applied on the dataset.

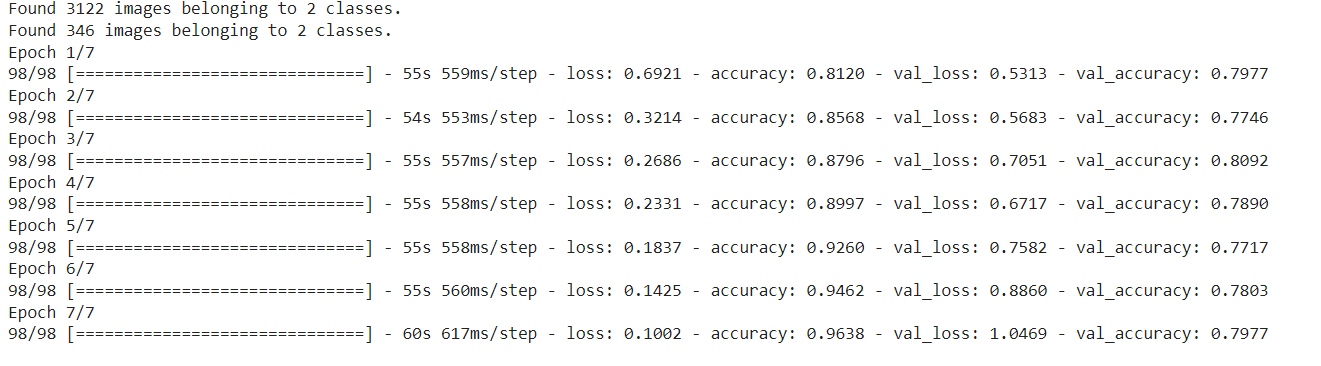


Fig 2: Applying CNN

Model Training: Train a machine learning or deep learning model utilizing the retrieved features. For instance, one can use convolutional neural networks (CNNs), recurrent neural networks (RNNs), or both combined like convolutional-recurrent neural networks respectively for handwriting recognition purposes.

Testing and Validation: Adjust its parameters after validating the trained model with a different validation dataset. Assess accuracy, precision, recall, and similar metrics of an alternate testing dataset used in model analysis.

Post-processing: Enhance the resulting product using post-processing techniques that include correction of errors, smoothing predicted text or refining character segmentation.

Integration & Deployment: Develop a GUI for the model or integrate it into an existing software system as part of an intuitive application where handwritten images can be inputted to yield text.

Iterative Improvement: Improve the functionality and design of the system continuously based on user feedback and new developments in machine learning and image processing methodologies. This could involve architectural modifications to the model, optimisation of preprocessing pipelines or collection of new data.

Scalability, efficiency as well as robustness are essential aspects that must be taken into account during development process so as to ensure that handwriting identification system will work appropriately under real world situations and can handle variety types of input images effectively.

**IV. RESULTS**

Developing a handwritten recognition system based on image processing, for example, has several steps. Let’s go through some basic steps involved in developing one of these systems.

**Getting photos:** Take photos of handwriting texts. These pictures could be taken using a camera or they may be scanned copies of photographs or documents.

**Pre-processing:** It involves enhancing the quality of the text in the images by cleaning them up. This may involve actions such as Resizing- adjust the resolution of an image.

**Denoising**- remove noise from an image using techniques like median filtering or Gaussian blurring.

**Binarization**- Transform the picture into binary with uniform background and foreground text. In this context, methods such as thresholding can be used.

**Skew correction**- Correct any skewness or rotation in the image.

**Text Detection:** Identify areas where handwritten text is present on an image. Techniques that can be utilized here include.

**Edge detection** – To find edges in an image we could use methods like Canny edge detector.

Contour detection to identify contours within the image that might be regions containing texts.

Connected component analysis to figure out which connected regions in the picture are probably associated with the text.

**V. CONCLUSION**

Making a system for identifying handwriting using image processing techniques in conclusion has proved to be a way of automating the reading and analysis of handwritten material. This we have achieved by identifying accurately handwritten characters and words through various image processing techniques such as feature extraction, edge detection and machine learning models. There are a number of benefits to this approach including: increased productivity when dealing with handwriting documents, less time-consuming transcription work, enhanced accessibility options for people with disabilities. Moreover, the ability of the system to handle multiple languages, handwriting styles and document formats makes it applicable in different fields and sectors.

All in all, Overall, this paper’s method of handwriting identification reveals how image processing technology can change completely the handling and use of handwritten documents in numerous applications. However, if research and development activities continue unabatedly, future advancements within this realm ought to bring about more sophisticated even more reliable handwriting recognition systems at hand.

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