

**FACULDADE DE ENGENHARIA DA UNIVERSIDADE DO PORTO**

# **Title of the Dissertation**

**Name of the Author**

WORKING VERSION



Mestrado Integrado em Engenharia Informática e Computação

Supervisor: Name of the Supervisor

June 24, 2017



# **Title of the Dissertation**

**Name of the Author**

Mestrado Integrado em Engenharia Informática e Computação

June 24, 2017



# Abstract

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# Resumo

O Resumo fornece ao leitor um sumário do conteúdo da dissertação. Deverá ser breve mas conter detalhe suficiente e, uma vez que é a porta de entrada para a dissertação, deverá dar ao leitor uma boa impressão inicial.

Este texto inicial da dissertação é escrito no fim e resume numa página, sem referências externas, o tema e o contexto do trabalho, a motivação e os objectivos, as metodologias e técnicas empregues, os principais resultados alcançados e as conclusões.

Este documento ilustra o formato a usar em dissertações na Faculdade de Engenharia da Universidade do Porto. São dados exemplos de margens, cabeçalhos, títulos, paginação, estilos de índices, etc. São ainda dados exemplos de formatação de citações, figuras e tabelas, equações, referências cruzadas, lista de referências e índices. É usado texto descartável, *Loren Ipsum*, para preencher a dissertação por forma a ilustrar os formatos.

Seguem-se umas notas breves mas muito importantes sobre a versão provisória e a versão final do documento. A versão provisória, depois de verificada pelo orientador e de corrigida em contexto pelo autor, deve ser publicada na página pessoal de cada estudante/dissertação, juntamente com os dois resumos, em português e em inglês; deve manter a marca da água, assim como a numeração de linhas conforme aqui se demonstra.

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# Acknowledgements

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The Name of the Author



*“You should be glad that bridge fell down.  
I was planning to build thirteen more to that same design”*

Isambard Kingdom Brunel



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# Abbreviations

ADT	Abstract Data Type
ANDF	Architecture-Neutral Distribution Format
API	Application Programming Interface
CAD	Computer-Aided Design
CASE	Computer-Aided Software Engineering
CORBA	Common Object Request Broker Architecture
UNCOL	UNiversal CCompiler-oriented Language
Loren	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Sed vehicula lorem commodo dui
WWW	<i>World Wide Web</i>



# Todo list

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## ABBREVIATIONS

# Chapter 1

## Introdução

*O primeiro capítulo da dissertação deve servir para apresentar o enquadramento e a motivação do trabalho e para identificar e definir os problemas que a dissertação aborda. Deve resumir as metodologias utilizadas no trabalho e termina apresentando um breve resumo de cada um dos capítulos posteriores.*

### 1.1 Contexto/Enquadramento

*Esta secção descreve a área em que o trabalho se insere, podendo referir um eventual projeto de que faz parte e apresentar uma breve descrição da empresa onde o trabalho decorreu.*

### 1.2 Projeto

*Na continuação da secção anterior, e apenas no caso de ser um Projeto e não uma Dissertação, esta secção apresenta resumidamente o projeto.*

### 1.3 Motivation and Goals

*Apresenta a motivação e enumera os objetivos do trabalho terminando com um resumo das metodologias para a prossecução dos objetivos.*

### 1.4 Estrutura da Dissertação

Para além da introdução, esta dissertação contém mais x capítulos. No capítulo 2, é descrito o estado da arte e são apresentados trabalhos relacionados. No capítulo 3, ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. No capítulo 4 praesent sit amet sem. No capítulo 5 posuere, ante non tristique consectetur, dui elit scelerisque augue, eu vehicula nibh nisi ac est.

## Introdução



## Chapter 2

# Literature Review

*Neste capítulo é descrito o estado da arte e são apresentados trabalhos relacionados para mostrar o que existe no mesmo domínio e quais os problemas em aberto. Deve deixar claro que existe uma oportunidade de desenvolvimento que cobre alguma falha concreta . O capítulo deve também efetuar uma revisão tecnológica às principais ferramentas utilizáveis no âmbito do projeto, justificando futuras escolhas.*

Resenha utilização computer vision em tráfego e em transportes Concluir com os desafios da armis (drive, quer aplicar computer vision para automatizar determinados aspetos) Sequência de funcionalidades que respondem ao desafio da Armis(segmentação,deteção,...) Uma secção para cada um

Tese Gustavo Lira / Pedro Loureiro

### 2.1 History of Computer Vision

Computer vision appeared as an area of investigation around the mid 60's at the MIT by Professor Larry Roberts, whose PhD. thesis focused on methods to extract 3D information from a 2D image [Hua96] in order to reconstruct entire scenes from the geometry gathered. This area is now considered by the ACM as a branch of artificial intelligence according to the 2012 ACM Computing Classification System [ACM12]. From this point onward scientists began applying the techniques developed in multiple fields.

The use of computer vision in manufacturing industry was among the first to be explored, as there were already multiple robots working in the assembly lines of the factories that needed to be improved, as noted by Stout in 1980 [Sto80]. These robots were becoming outdated due to the lack of interaction with the environment. This meant that for a robot to work with a part in an assembly line it needed to be placed in a pre-determined position, and any deviation could mean that the line needed to be stopped. Michael Baird relates in [LB78] a computer vision system developed to inspect circuit chips rotation deviation in a welding base, indicating to the welder

that the chip needed to be adjusted. Computer vision was also used as a tool to automatically analyse weather satellite images [BT73] and multidimensional medical images [Aya98], with applications being developed in these areas being now common in our daily life.

### 2.1.1 Computer Vision in Intelligent Transport Systems

Regarding intelligent transport systems (ITSs), the use of computer vision to aid in the analysis of traffic has been increasing in the last years due to the decreasing costs of hardware, both cameras, storage and processing power, as well as the growing knowledge to extract useful data from the video gathered. In contrast to the high installation and upkeep costs of other traffic control tools such as Inductive Loop Detectors and Microwave Vehicle Detectors, applying computer vision to handle these tasks is a profitable option for entities in charge of the analysis of this data.

One of the first works applying computer vision to analyse traffic was published in 1984 [DW84] and detected and measured movement in a sequence of frames. Since then, multiple fields of study have been created, not only for the measuring of traffic, as explored in [LKR<sup>+</sup>16], [BVO11] and [HK12] where the authors evaluate methods to analyse traffic in urban environments, but also for the analysis of the environment around a self-driven vehicle, reading traffic signs using multiple approaches using convolutional neural networks [SS11] or using bag-of-visual-words [SLZ16], or to automatize the parking process as discussed in [HBJ<sup>+</sup>16]. Recently some studies have surfaced where the authors discuss the analysis of passenger numbers and behaviour inside vehicles, in order to enforce traffic laws [LBT17].

For our application however we need to focus on the aspect of traffic analysis, and in order to understand what traffic analysis software needs to accomplish, it is convenient to study what composes a typical traffic scene. Usually the scenes are viewed from a top-down perspective that places the cars against the road as background, as seen in 2.1. The vehicles have a roughly regular rectangular shape when viewed from the top, with little variation when the camera is rotated, however their textures vary heavily, making it difficult for a detector to work based on the vehicles image representation [BP98]. However, depending on the camera position there can be object occlusion by other objects or scene components, which makes it difficult to detect and track vehicles relying solely on subtraction based segmentation techniques.

The scenes also have varying light according to the time of the day, and proposed solutions need to adapt to these changes as fast as possible, otherwise data might be lost. Other weather conditions can also interfere with the analysis, such as fog and rain, and need to be addressed when designing solutions.

### 2.1.2 Our Challenge

The "Analytics Server" module of the "Video Server" project had a list of requirements that needed to be

Detetar eventos relevantes Contra mao Objetos caidos  
Contar Veiculos



Figure 2.1: Typical High-Way Traffic Scene

Apenas para camaras fixas

## 2.2 Foreground Segmentation

Image segmentation is the process through which an image is separated into its different regions according to the desired output, usually objects of interest. These regions are composed by pixels that have a common characteristic [SS01] dependant on the desired result. There are several ways one can accomplish an adequate segmentation of an image, and the most relevant ones to our purpose are described below.

### 2.2.1 Background Subtraction

Background Subtraction is a segmentation technique based on the analysis of the difference of consecutive frames and use that information to create a background model, a representation of what the image looks like without any moving objects present. Given the nature of the process, cameras must be static and although some research has been made to overcome this issue [LCC12] [SJK09] [ZY14], this is beyond the scope of the project, due to the requirements given.

There are however a number of different ways to implement the background subtraction developed across the years with increasing segmentation accuracy and computational performance. Piccardi presented an overview of the most relevant ones in [Pic04], aiming to present each method's strengths and weaknesses. From this work we can present a list of the algorithms considered for implementation in the project.

#### 2.2.1.1 Frame Differencing

This is the simplest approach to the problem as it only considers two frames at a time, making it only work in certain scenarios where the speed of the objects and frame rate of the camera allow it. In this model a pixel is considered as foreground if it satisfies the equation presented in 2.1,

and since the only parametrizable value is the Threshold, the whole segmentation process is very sensitive to any changes in this value.

$$|frame_i - frame_{i-1}| \geq Threshold \quad (2.1)$$

### 2.2.1.2 History Based Background Model

In order to make this segmentation method more robust, in the early 2000's Velastin [LV01] and Cucchiara [CGPP03] proposed a mathematical model to take into consideration past frames when calculating the Background Model of the scene. The most simple version of the improved algorithm used a running average of the past frames as seen in 2.2. This eliminates the need to store the frames in memory as the new average can be calculated using the previous results.

$$BackgroundModel_{i+1} = \alpha * Frame_i + (1 - \alpha) * BackgroundModel_i \quad (2.2)$$

Instead of the running average one can use the median value of the last n frames, improving the method reaction to outlying values. In both however, the history can be just the n frames or a weighted average where recent frames have more weight. Both these methods cannot cope with intermittent changes on the background, such as moving leaves against a building facade, and to solve this problem a new approach was proposed, the Mixture of Gaussians which models each pixel according to a mixture of Gaussian distributions, usually 3 to 5, but in later research [Ziv04] a method was developed to calculate the number of distributions needed on a per pixel basis.

### 2.2.2 Object Based

Object Based segmentation relies on the a priori knowledge of the geometry of the objects we want to extract from the image. It is mainly used in medical applications such as in [SMG<sup>+</sup>93]

where it is used to extract a model of the brain surface from MRI scans

## 2.3 Image Treatment

This section will review some of the proposed methods to improve image quality before or during processing by removing noise, extracting unwanted features or enhancing relevant features for the processes involved.

### 2.3.1 Blur

In order to blur an image one needs to convolve it using a special kind of filter. The process of convolution in image processing consists in the application of a filter to every pixel of an image, returning a new image where each pixel is the result of the function to the pixel in the same position

in the previous image. As we can see in 2.2 the application of a 3\*3 mask, where all 9 values have the value 1/9, results in a image where each pixel value equals the mean of itself and surrounding neighbours in the original image.

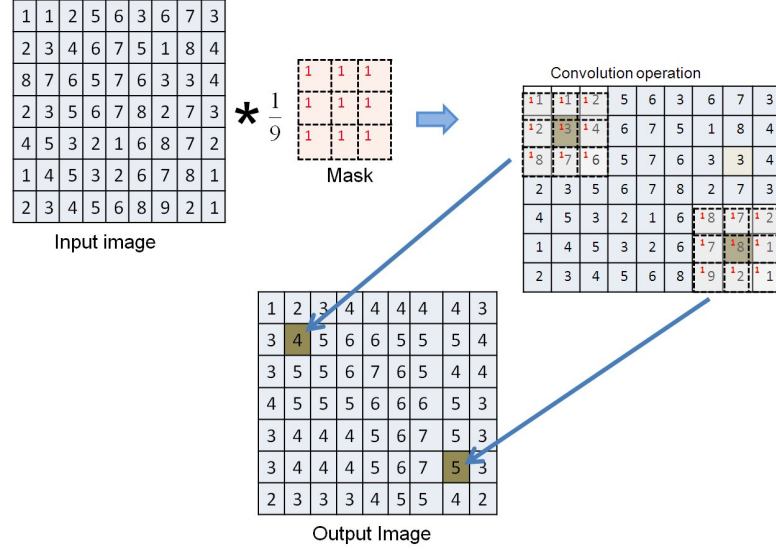


Figure 2.2: Convolution Example [Lab17]

While this is the simplest blur processing we can apply to an image, there are more complex ones that yield better results. The one most often used in image processing is the Gaussian Blur, which uses a square filter with values calculated with the equation in 2.3 from [SS01].

$$G(x,y) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2} e^{-\frac{x^2+y^2}{2\sigma^2}} \quad (2.3)$$

This equation returns a filter consisting of concentric circles that results in a smooth blurring of the images due to the application of the same power of blurring from equidistant pixels. The function can be tuned to the needs of the process through the  $\sigma$  value, returning a sharper or softer blur filter as seen in figure 2.3.

This kind of filters have multiple uses in computer vision. Blurring an image removes the grain noise it contains, creating more even surfaces that ease the process of image processing, as well as making edges easier to detect with edge detection algorithms.

### 2.3.2 Edge Detection

Detecting the edges in an image is an important step into the understanding of its contents, allowing segmentation based on surfaces and a spatial perception of the scene. The work presented by Marr and Hildreth [MH80] defines edges as part visual and part physical and proceeds to show

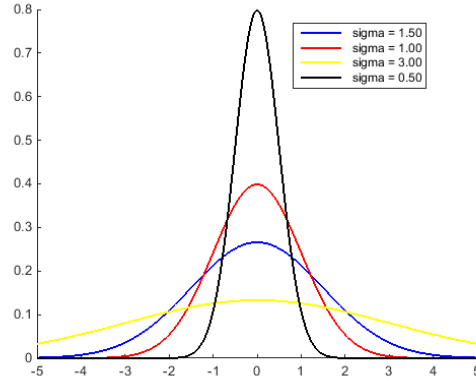


Figure 2.3: Gaussian Function Variation with Sigma Value

that the two are interconnected. The first step of the proposed process is to calculate the zero-crossings of equation 2.4, the Laplacian of a two dimensional Gaussian applied to different scales of the image, which returns both the points of intensity change and the slopes of the function at that point.

$$\nabla^2 G(x,y) * I(x,y) \quad (2.4)$$

What the authors noted was that if an edge was detected at a certain scale it appears also at adjacent scales, which they called "spatial coincidence assumption". This theory can be reversed, if there is a convergence of edges on multiple scales there is a real physical edge, and based on this, if we find zero-crossings on neighbour scales, we can assume there is a real edge in that region. From here multiple implementations of the algorithm appeared, the most used one being presented below, the Canny Edge Detector using a Sobel filter. Although this was among the first implementations of an edge detector it is the most rigorously defined one and is still considered to be state of the art.

The Sobel filter is used to create an image that accentuates the edges of an original image. This process works by convolving two kernels with the image, one for the horizontal and the other for the vertical direction, that return the intensity change in that pixel for each one. The filters can be seen in 2.5 as they were presented by Irwin Sobel [Sob89].

$$G_x = \begin{bmatrix} +1 & 0 & -1 \\ +2 & 0 & -2 \\ +1 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, G_y = \begin{bmatrix} +1 & +2 & +1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & -2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (2.5)$$

Using  $G_x$  and  $G_y$  it is possible to retrieve the regions of the image that contain edges by calculating the magnitude of the gradient vector as the square root of the sum of the squares of

both components and thresholding these values. One of the features of this process is the ability to retrieve the direction of the edge from these values, using the inverse tangent operation.

The Canny Edge Detector uses the result of the Sobel filter as input and filters the most relevant edges as well as thinning them to 1-pixel wide lines. To accomplish this Canny used an optimization process comparing the value of the gradient magnitude to the one of the neighbour pixels along the direction returned by the Sobel filter, and keeping only the one with the largest value along the edge.

### 2.3.3 Mathematical Morphology

Mathematical Morphology is a set theory, offering solutions to multiple image processing problems, where the sets are composed of tuples corresponding to the 2D coordinates of each pixel in the image. These sets identify the white or the black pixels in a binary image, depending on the convention adopted, or the intensity of the pixel in a grey-scale image [Dou92]. During this chapter we will consider that all images are binary and that the pixels to process are black in a white background. This theory provides a set of operators that can be used to detect convexity and connectivity of shapes in an image, enhancing features, detecting edges and removing noise.

The operators are defined by a structuring element, also known as kernel, a set of coordinates represented in a binary image, usually much smaller than the image to process. The centre of the kernel is not in the top left corner as in most images but rather in the geometrical centre, meaning that there some of the pixels have negative coordinates. The kernel shapes in figure 2.4 are the ones typically used for most applications, but the process allows the user to design their own if needed.

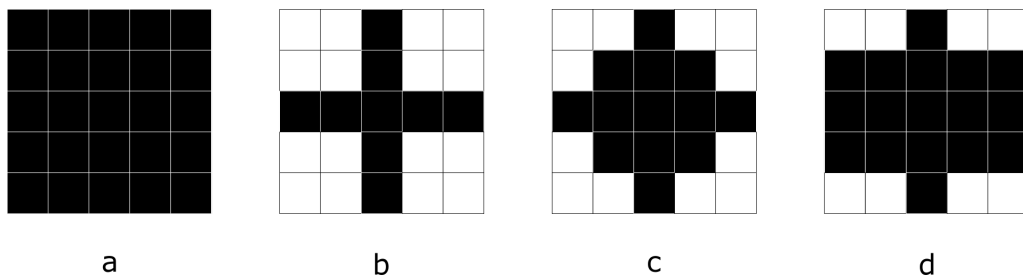


Figure 2.4: Morphology Operators typical structuring elements (5x5)  
a) Rectangular b) Cross c) Diamond d) Elliptical

According to Gonzalez and Woods [GW92] an operator is defined by an image and a structuring element, and to run it the origin point of the element needs to be placed at every pixel of the image. At each of these locations a verification is done depending on the operation being performed and an output image is created using the independent output of these operations.

The two most basic operations are erosion and dilation, essential to morphological processing. The erosion operator translates the structuring element to every black pixel of the image and in each position checks if all the active pixels of the kernel match with black pixels in the image. If

it is true then the returned pixel is black, otherwise it is white. An example of the usage of such an operator can be seen in figure 2.5. These operators are mainly used to remove noise from binary images or to separate objects to enable individual labelling and counting.

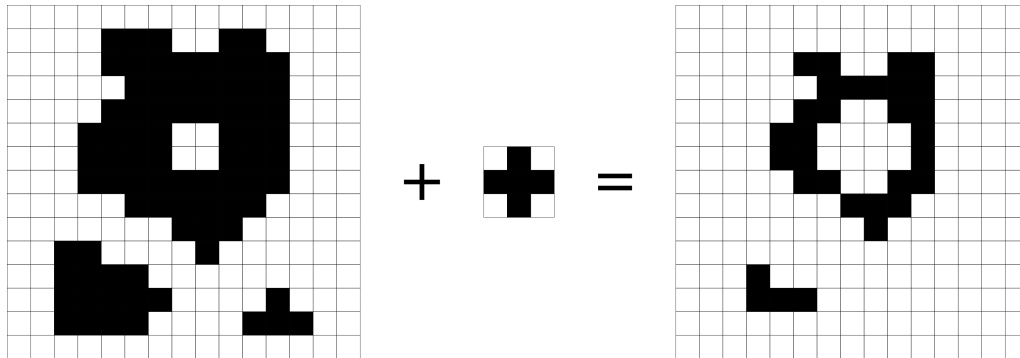


Figure 2.5: Result of the Erosion operator using a cross 3x3 kernel

The dilation operator works by setting to black all the pixels that match the position of the translated kernel's pixels, resulting in the closing of holes in the image and the enhancing of small features. Results can be seen in figure 2.6. Using a non-symmetrical kernel the dilation will be directional, enabling the user to fine tune the process to their needs.

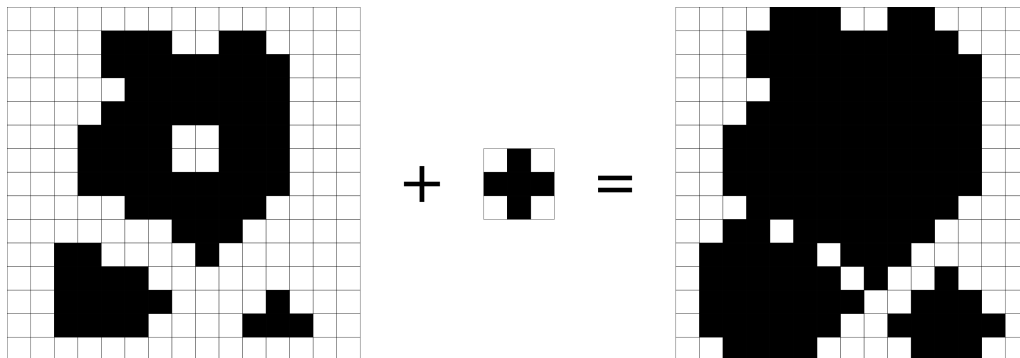


Figure 2.6: Result of the Dilation operator using a cross 3x3 kernel

The dilation and erosion operators can be combined to form the opening and closing operators. An opening operator is formed by an erosion followed by a dilations using the same structuring element. This results in a less destructive erosion, preserving some of the image details as seen in figure 2.7. The closing operator is formed by a dilation followed by an erosion and the results can be seen in figure 2.8. It is commonly used to remove salt noise and to extract objects of a particular shape as long as they all share the same orientation [FPWW03].



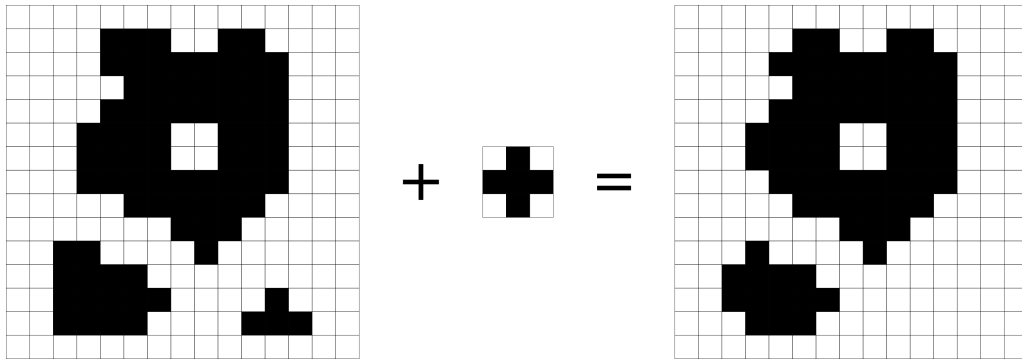


Figure 2.7: Result of the Opening operator using a cross 3x3 kernel

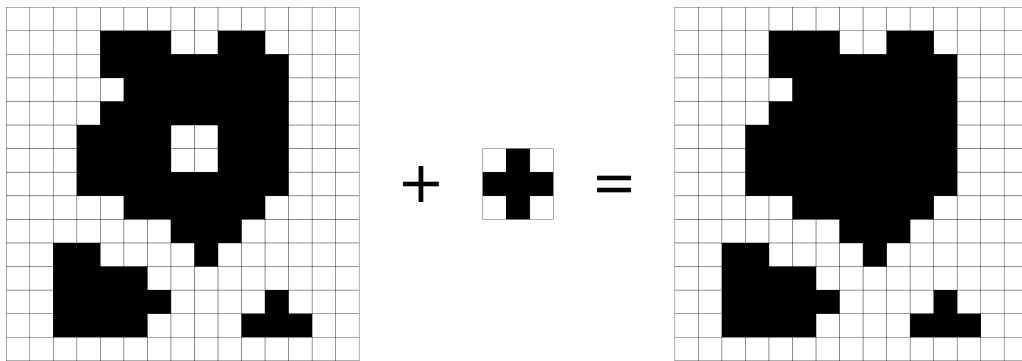


Figure 2.8: Result of the Closing operator using a cross 3x3 kernel

### 2.3.4 Shadow Removal

Since shadows can be detected as foreground during the segmentation process, a process to remove them is important in certain scenarios. We will now describe some of the more interesting proposed methods to perform this task in this section.

In [PMGT01] Prati et al. discussed how critical the shadow removal process is to traffic analysis, and they proceed to compare two ITS management systems, SAKBOT (Statistical and Knowledge-BasedObject Tracker) and ATON(Autonomous Transportation Agents for On-scene Networked incident manager), developed in Italy and the United States of America respectively.

SAKBOT adopts a method presented in [CGPP00], which uses the chrominance information, converting pixel colours from RGB to HSV space, as it most closely relates to the human perception of colour. The process then evaluates how the scene colours components change due to the passing of vehicles and shadows, as seen in figure 2.9. From this we can extract that a shadow darkens a pixel and saturates its colour, and is the difference between an object point and a shadow point. The model then concludes that a point is considered as shadow if:

- The ratio between the luminance of the image and the background is between two thresholds ( $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ )

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## Literature Review

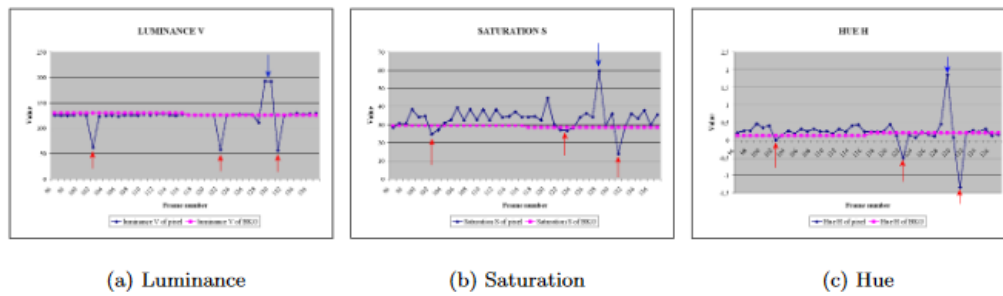


Figure 2.9: HSV color space components change due to shadows. Red arrows indicate a shadow passing on the point. Blue arrow indicates a vehicle passing. [PMGT01]

- The difference between the saturation of the image and the background is below a threshold ( $\tau_S$ )
- The absolute difference between the hue of the image and the background is below a threshold ( $\tau_H$ )

The  $\beta$  value adjusts the tolerance to noise in the image to be considered as shadow and  $\alpha$  takes into account the "power" of the shadow, how strong the light source is.  $\tau_S$  and  $\tau_H$  are considered by the authors to be harder to assign, and thus assigned empirically. This method main advantage is it's capability to detect moving shadows.

The method used by ATON is described in [MCKT00] and begins by identifying three separate sources of information to detect shadows and objects:

- Local information, the appearance of an individual pixel
- Spatial information, objects and shadows are compact regions
- Temporal information, the location of shadows and objects can be predicted from previous frames

The local information can be used to create a background model, both the mean and variance of the colour for each pixel when shadowed and not shadowed. In the segmentation process the values in the image are compared to the mean value of the background and if significantly different it is assigned a probability to belong to the background, foreground or shadow. The probability values are 0.3, 0.4 and 0.4 respectively. In the next iterations the neighbour pixels probabilities are considered in order to take advantage of the spatial transformation. The iterative process stops when there are no relevant changes, usually after the third iteration. Morphological operators are then computed over the output of the process to close unwanted openings in the regions. ATON does not use temporal information as of the time of the publication of the work. This process can identify with near 90% accuracy shadows and object accuracy.

## 2.4 Object Detection

In this section we will analyse processes to detect objects of interest in images, a necessary step of any traffic surveillance system.

### 2.4.1 Connected Component Labelling

Connected component labelling is a process by which the subsets of connected components are labelled according to the user needs. We will explore some of the most common implementations and how they evolved over time.

The one-pass solution presented by Abubaker [AQIS07] is a fast and simple method to implement. It begins by labelling the first pixel of the image to 1, if it is a background pixel, skip to the next one, otherwise add it to a queue. While there are elements in the queue remove the one at the top and analyse its neighbours, if they are in the foreground add them to the queue with the current label. When there are no more elements in the queue increase the label number by one and proceed to the next unexplored pixel.

The two-pass solution presented by Shapiro et al. [SS01] uses the bi-dimensionality of the image data to transverse the pixels. The process, as the name implies, iterates over the image two times, the first time to assign temporary labels and the second to reassign these labels to the smallest ones available. It uses a neighbouring table to know what labels are adjacent to each other.

- First pass

Perform a Raster Scan to analyse all the pixels

For each pixel, if it belongs to the foreground

Get all its neighbours (four or eight depending on the connectivity assumed)

Assign the smallest label from the neighbours

Add the the previous and the new label to the neighbouring table

If there are no neighbour pixels add a new label

- Second pass

Perform a Raster Scan to analyse all the pixels

For each pixel assign the lowest label from the neighbouring table

The process is illustrated in figure 2.10.

While these are the most basic solutions for the problem, a number of authors proposed enhancements to improve their performance, the most prominent ones being listed below:

- Contour Tracing Labelling - F. Chang et al. [CCL04] present a method that uses contour tracing to identify internal and external contours of each component. These contours are

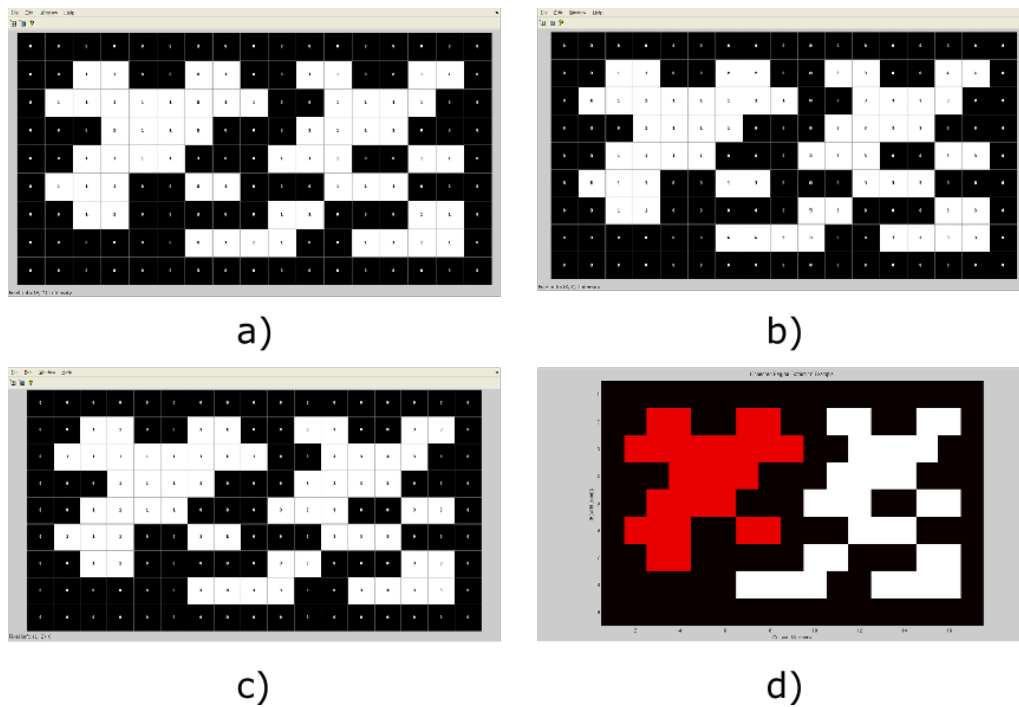


Figure 2.10: Graphical example of the two-pass algorithm [Wik17]  
a) Original Image b) First Pass c) Second Pass d) Coloured Result

then used to label the connected components when the image is traversed horizontally by counting the number of contours passed.

- Hybrid Object Labelling - Herrero [MH07] presents a method that combines recursive and iterative analysis, finding unlabelled pixels and recursively finding their neighbours until a labelled one is found, then proceeding to the assignment in the adjacent rows.
- Improved Run-based Connected-component Labelling - L. He et al. [HCS10]

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It is interesting to note the YACCLAB (Yet Another Connected Components Labelling Benchmark) [GBBV16] project, a benchmark platform that allows researchers to compare the performance of their connected components labelling methods to the methods of other researchers. The novelty of this platform is the fact that it uses the authors implementations instead of their own, allowing the algorithms to perform exactly as intended, with all the tweaks and tricks.

#### **2.4.2 Blob Detection**

### **2.5 Object Tracking**

### **2.6 Resumo ou Conclusões**

No final do capítulo deverá ser apresentado um resumo com as principais conclusões que se podem tirar.

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## Literature Review

## Chapter 3

# Computer Vision applied to Traffic Analysis - An Overview

Este capítulo deve começar por fazer uma apresentação detalhada do problema a resolver<sup>1</sup> podendo mesmo, caso se justifique, constituir-se um capítulo com essa finalidade.

Deve depois dedicar-se à apresentação da solução sem detalhes de implementação. Dependendo do trabalho, pode ser uma descrição mais teórica, mais “arquitetural”, etc.

### 3.1 Secção Exemplo

Neste capítulo apresentam-se exemplos de formatação de figuras e tabelas, equações e referências cruzadas.

Apresenta-se de seguida um exemplo de equação, completamente fora do contexto:

$$CIF_1 : \quad F_0^j(a) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\gamma} \frac{F_0^j(z)}{z-a} dz \quad (3.1)$$

$$CIF_2 : \quad F_1^j(a) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\gamma} \frac{F_0^j(x)}{x-a} dx \quad (3.2)$$

Na Equação 3.2 lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Suspendisse tincidunt viverra elit. Donec tempus vulputate mauris. Donec arcu. Vestibulum condimentum porta justo. Curabitur ornare tincidunt lacus. Curabitur ac massa vel ante tincidunt placerat. Cras vehicula semper elit. Curabitur gravida, est a elementum suscipit, est eros ullamcorper quam, sed cursus velit velit tempor neque. Duis tempor condimentum ante.

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<sup>1</sup>Na introdução a apresentação do problema foi breve.

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A arquitetura do visualizador assenta sobre os seguintes conceitos basecitem:ZPMD97:

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- **Praesent** — Sit amet sem maecenas eleifend facilisis leo;
- **Pellentesque** — Habitant morbi tristique senectus et netus.

### 3.1.1 Exemplo de Figura

É apresentado na Figura 3.1 um exemplo de figura flutuante.

[t]

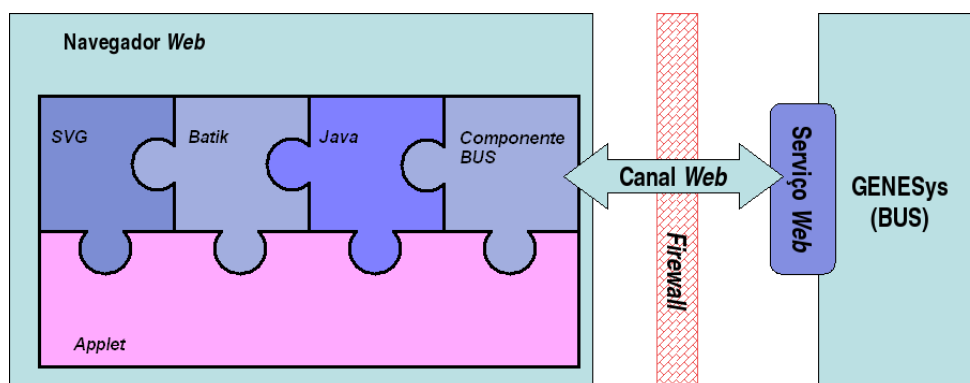


Figure 3.1: Arquitetura da Solução Proposta

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### 3.1.2 Exemplo de Tabela

É apresentado na Tabela 3.1 um exemplo de tabela flutuante e na Tabela 3.2 um exemplo de tabela flutuante, um pouco mais complicada.



Table 3.1: Uma Tabela Simples

Acrónimo	Significado
ADT	<i>Abstract Data Type</i>
ANDF	<i>Architecture-Neutral Distribution Format</i>
API	<i>Application Programming Interface</i>

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Table 3.2: Uma Tabela Mais Complicada

$k$	Iteração $k$ de $f(x_n)$			comentários
	$x_1^k$	$x_2^k$	$x_3^k$	
0	-0.3	0.6	0.7	-
1	0.47102965	0.04883157	-0.53345964	$\delta < \varepsilon$
2	0.49988691	0.00228830	-0.52246185	$\delta < \varepsilon$
3	0.49999976	0.00005380	-0.523656	$N$
4	0.5	0.00000307	-0.52359743	
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\ddots$	$\vdots$	
7	0.5	0.0	<b>-0.52359878</b>	$\delta < 10^{-8}$

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### 3.2 Secção Exemplo

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### 3.3 Resumo e Conclusões

Resumir e apresentar as conclusões que se podem tirar no fim deste capítulo.

## Chapter 4

# Implementation

*Este capítulo pode ser dedicado à apresentação de detalhes de nível mais baixo relacionados com o enquadramento e implementação das soluções preconizadas no capítulo anterior. Note-se no entanto que detalhes desnecessários à compreensão do trabalho devem ser remetidos para anexos. Dependendo do volume, a avaliação do trabalho pode ser incluída neste capítulo ou pode constituir um capítulo separado.*

Capitulo implementação Como resolver os desafios Estabilização BG Sub

As previously stated, the work done for this project consists of a module for the "Video Server" being developed by LIACC, that will perform all the required analytics of the video received. This chapter provides the details of the implementation of this module, developed during the dissertation semester between February and June 2017. Tasks performed involved designing an appropriate architecture, able to scale with the project, treating the images received from the video streams to detect events and extract information.

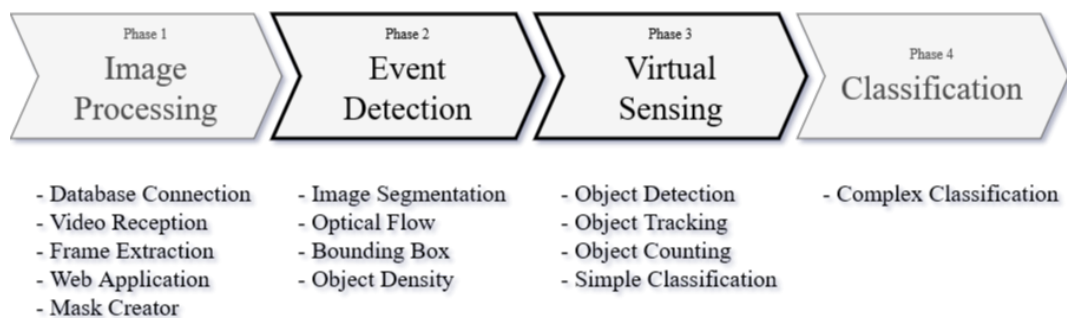


Figure 4.1: Project Planning

It is expected that this chapter provides some insight on how the theoretical backgrounds presented before were used during the project development, namely phase 2 and 3 of the planning presented in 4.1. Phase 2 focused on the detection of relevant events to the traffic controller such as suspicious approximation to the camera, intrusion in prohibited areas, fallen objects on the road

and wrong way travelling, while phase 3 aimed to count and classify vehicles in both urban and high-way scenarios.

### 4.1 Technology

In order to build this project we needed both a library of already implemented computer vision algorithms as well as a simple way to retrieve frames from both video streams and files. This section describes what were the chosen technologies including a brief description and why it was chosen.

#### 4.1.1 OpenCV

OpenCV is a library composed of implementations of useful computer vision algorithms implementation, widely used across the industry and academy. It has interfaces for multiple programming languages, like C++, Java and Python, but is natively written in C++ in order to take advantage of low level performance enhancements, as performance is an important factor in real time computer vision applications [Ope17a].

The library contains over 2500 algorithms ranging from the more basic image processing, such as filtering, morphology operators and geometric transformations, to more complex ones that are able to compare images, track features, follow camera movements and recognize faces, among others. Along with the image processing capabilities, OpenCV also ships with interfaces to stereo cameras such as Kinect that allow users to retrieve a cloud of 3D points and a depth map from the captured image. This was the chosen library as there existed already previous work at LIACC using it, which could be leveraged for this project.

#### 4.1.2 JavaCV

JavaCV is a wrapper for OpenCV written in Java that works on top of the JavaCPP Presets, a project that provides Java interfaces for commonly used C++ libraries, such as OpenCV and FFmpeg, the ones we are using, as well as CUDA, ARToolKitPlus and others. It provides access to all the functionalities of OpenCV inside a Java environment, and was the chosen solution as there was already experience inside LIACC working with this technology.

Even though the code is written in Java and runs inside a Java Virtual Machine, the code from OpenCV is compiled from C/C++ and the memory of the objects created there is allocated in a separate thread. This made it impossible to rely on the garbage collector to do the memory management, and necessary to manually delete the native objects. Failure to address this issue causes the system to run out of memory and a subsequent program crash.

#### 4.1.3 FFmpeg

FFmpeg is a framework that performs encoding, decoding, transcoding, streaming and filter operations in all the well known video formats, across a large number of platforms. It is used in the

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## Implementation

```
1 // videopath can be either a stream path or a file path
2 FFMpegFrameGrabber _frameGrabber = FFMpegFrameGrabber.createDefault(videopath);
3 Frame currentFrame = null;
4
5 while( (currentFrame = _frameGrabber.grabImage()) != null) {
6     // Use grabbed frame
7 }
```

Listing 4.1: FFMpegFrameGrabber usage example

"Video Server" to read streams from any format and restream them all to the same format. In the Analytic module it is used to grab the frames from both the video files and the streams using the same code, as shown in [4.1](#).

## 4.2 Architecture

### 4.2.1 Implementation Architecture

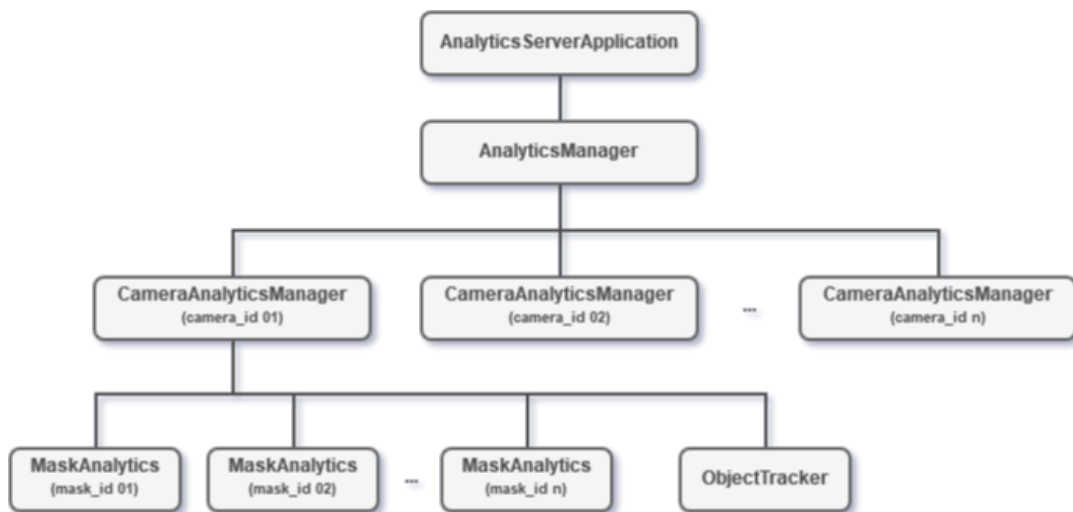


Figure 4.2: Manager Architecture

The Analytics module was designed to comply with the following specifications, imposed by both our partner and to comply with the already developed modules.

- Run uninterruptedly waiting for requests to be made
- Process a large number of video inputs at the same time
- Receive input from streams or files
- Specify which analysis are to be run on a specific video

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The application main thread runs an instance of the `AnalyticsManager` class that implements the `Java Runnable` interface. This thread will launch one `CameraAnalyticsManager` instance for each video to be analysed, be it from stream or from file, and keep track of each worker status, disposing of them when they finish, and launching new ones when a request is received. The `CameraAnalyticsManager` is then responsible to query the database in order to find out what are the analytics the user wants to retrieve from the video through information that is stored in the `camera` table of the database. This process then starts a frame grabber that will convert each frame of the video into its representation in OpenCV and feed it to each `Analyser` through a queue. This enables each one of these workers to run at his own pace and if one of them runs slower than the pace at which the frame grabber reads the images, it will simply queue them up and not slow down the remaining workers. The drawback of this solution is that it is theoretically possible to run out of memory to keep these frames, although this limit was not reached during the testing phase.

### 4.3 Segmentation

This section describes how the segmentation of the received images is performed, and how it returns a foreground mask representing the moving areas of the scene.

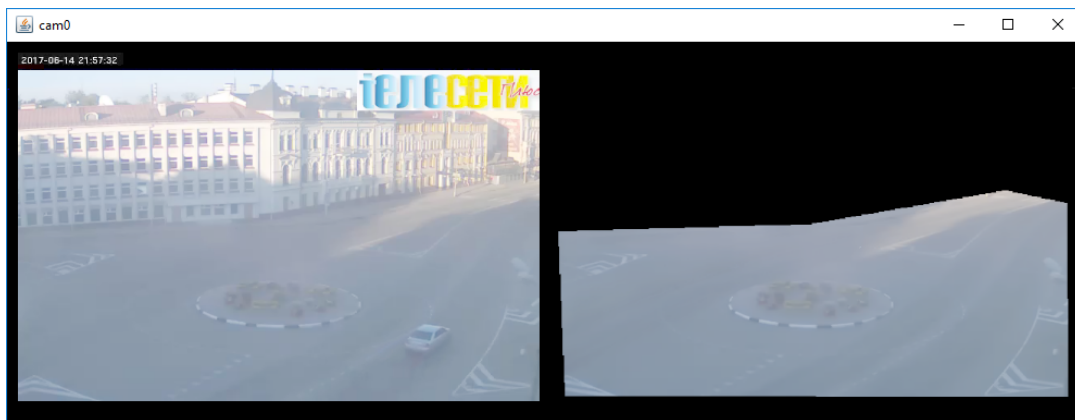


Figure 4.3: Background Subtraction - Background Model

Explain  
masking  
process

In figure 4.3 we can see the original frame on the left and the calculated background model of the scene on the right. To achieve this result, the first step is to mask the obtained frame in order to prevent uninteresting regions of the image from being processed by the Background Subtractor. This solves an issue where moving or changing regions of the image outside our area of interest would create unwanted artefacts, for example moving trees due to the wind blowing, or the issue that occurred in this scene, where a car passing would be reflected in the windows of the building.

The next step of the Segmentation process is to feed the masked frames into a Background Subtraction algorithm that will use them to update its internal representation of the scene. This

## Implementation

project uses the OpenCV implementation of the Mixture of Gaussians algorithm that allows the user to tune:

- The number of past frames considered on the background calculation
- The threshold value from which a pixel is considered to be foreground, compared to the difference between its current value and the one from the background model
- The learning rate of the algorithm, how much each new frame influences the model

After updating the background model we can retrieve from the Background Subtractor its foreground mask, a rough representation that is calculated by subtracting the background model from the current image and thresholding it, thus returning only the pixels where the difference is significant enough.

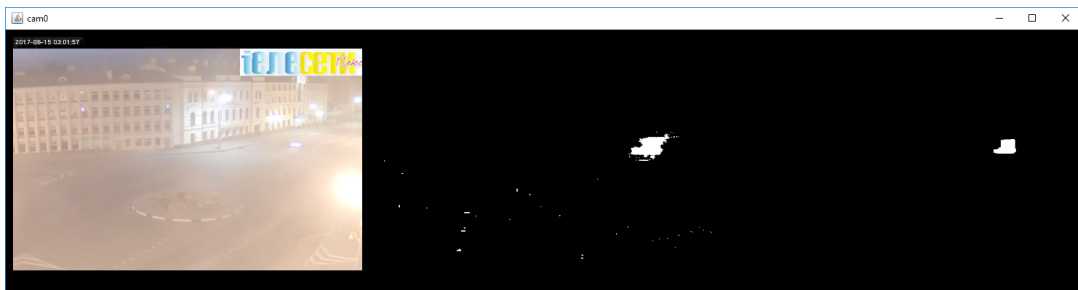


Figure 4.4: Background Subtraction - Foreground Mask

As we can see in the middle image of figure 4.4 the foreground mask from the Background Subtractor can have a lot of noise due to lighting conditions. To solve this issue two morphology filters are applied to the image: a squared erosion filter to remove the small speckles that appear in the mask; followed by a larger circular dilation filter to consolidate the positive regions of the mask, as the wind shield and windows of the vehicles are usually detected as background due to their dark colour and/or reflection of the environment.

## 4.4 Object Detection

This section describes how the information about the objects' size and position are retrieved from the binary mask returned from the segmentation process.

OpenCV provides BlobDetector [Ope17b], a family of functions that retrieve information of blobs in an image. It works by thresholding the input into multiple binary images using a range of threshold values, grouping the connected white pixels at each one of these images in binary blobs and then merging those that are close enough to each other into larger blobs. This method allows users to filter returned blobs based on 3 properties:

- Area - The area of the region

- Circularity - Ratio between the area of the smallest involving circle and the area of the region
- Convexity - Ratio between the area of the convex hull of the region and its area
- Inertia - Elongation of the region (0 for lines, 1 for circles)

This however does not work as intended for our input, an already binarized image where we just need to group the connected pixels. For this the project uses the OpenCV function *connected-ComponentsWithStats*, that retrieves the groups of connected pixels in a binary image along with their area, width, height and both the leftmost and topmost coordinate of the group's bounding box. From this data we can create an ImageObject instance that will represent a moving object in the scene, using the regions with a size above a given threshold, in order to prevent detection of small objects or noise that got through the filtering process.

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## 4.5 Object Tracking

In order for the solution to correctly analyse the objects of the scene it needs to track them during their lifetime, in other words, establish a relation between the objects identified on a frame with the objects identified in the next one. This is done by iterating through each one of the new objects and finding which existing object is closer to him. If the distance between them is smaller than the size of the existing object then they are matched.

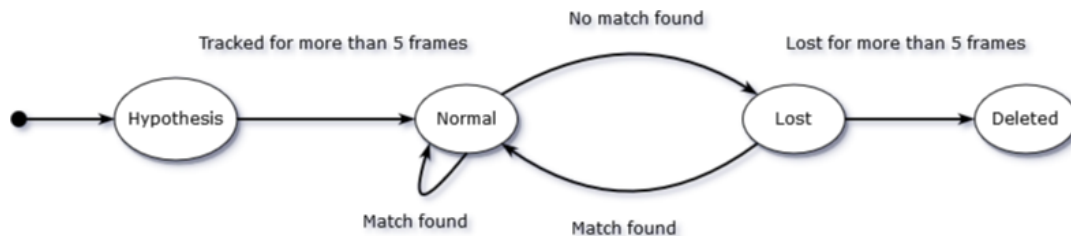


Figure 4.5: Object Life Cycle State Machine

Referenciar  
artigo  
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To enhance this mechanism a sub-set of the state machine presented which allows us to model the life cycle of an object. As seen in 4.5 an object starts as an Hypothesis, and cannot be used for analytics while in this state. After being tracked for 5 frames it then changes its state to Normal, where it stays until no match can be found, either from leaving the scene or due to problems with the input frame. An object in this state remains for a maximum of 5 frames, after which it is deleted or until a new object is found in the vicinities of it's last known position.

This technique relies on objects appearing close to their previous position in the next scene, and because the project was designed to run in high-way scenarios, where vehicles travel at high speeds, there was the need to improve it. The chosen solution was to follow a method used by Chris Dahms in his vehicle counting software [Dah17] that predicts an object next position by calculating an weighted average of the previous inter-position deltas and summing it to its current position as shown in 4.1.



## Implementation

$$NextPos = CurrentPos + \sum_{i=1}^5 (PosHist(i) - PosHist(i-1)) * (5-i) \quad (4.1)$$

In figure 4.6 we can see the result of the tracking process on the right most image. Each detected object is circled in a colour representing its current state in the state machine, blue for normal and red for lost, and shows the trail represents its path across the scene.



Figure 4.6: Object Tracking

## 4.6 Object Classification

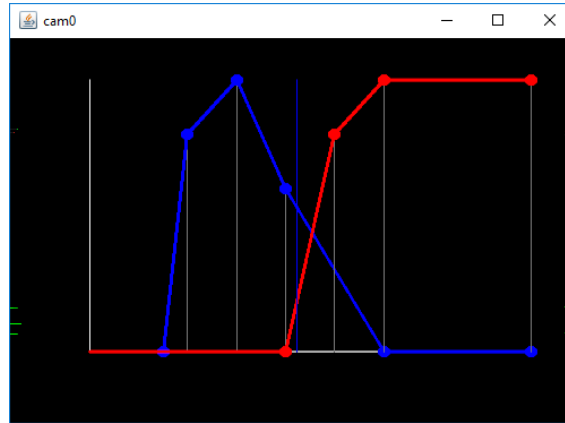


Figure 4.7: Object Classifier

In order to classify the objects present in the scene into light or heavy vehicles a fuzzy set is used. This set is calculated at run time based on a mask drawn by the user via the web interface that roughly approximates the size of a light vehicle. The area of that mask ( $A_{Light}$ ) is used as a base value to create the fuzzy set shown in figure 4.7. This set has 2 series, one for light vehicles, drawn in blue, and one for heavy vehicles, drawn in red.

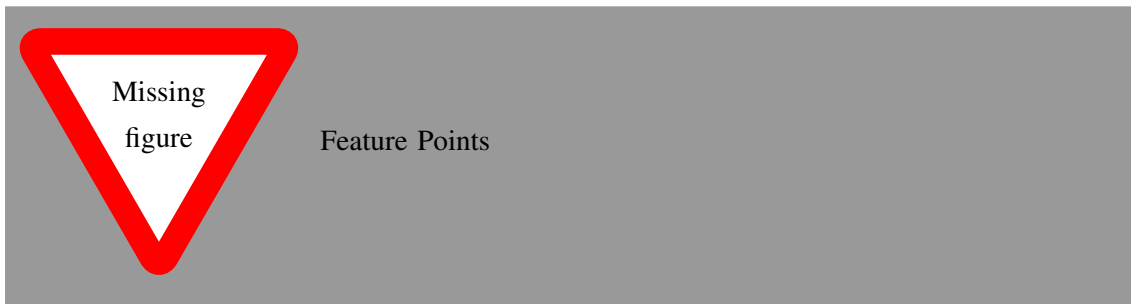
The blue series peaks at  $A_{Light}$ , where we have 100% certainty that a matched object is a light vehicle. The point immediate points are at  $2/3 * A_{Light}$ , where the trust is 80% and at  $4/3 * A_{Light}$

where it drops to 60%. Any object with area below  $1/2 * A_{Light}$  or above  $2 * A_{Light}$  are considered to have 0% chance to be light vehicles.

The red series peaks at  $2 * A_{Light}$ , and any object whose area is larger than this value is considered to be an heavy vehicle with 100% confidence. At the same time, any object whose area is smaller than  $4/3 * A_{Light}$  is never considered to be an heavy vehicle, from where the certainty rises to 80% at  $5/3 * A_{Light}$ .

When an object is counted in one of the virtual sensors its area is passed to this classifier where an interpolation is calculated for each series, returning the certainty with which it belongs to each one of the classes. Using these values the process can distinguish classifications with certainty below and above a user specified threshold to be treated separately.

### 4.7 Feature Point Tracking



The need to track feature points stems from the fact that without them we rely wholly on the background subtraction to process the image. Using feature points we can extract and track details of the vehicles that would otherwise be lost due to the process only working with a binary mask.

We can use these points to distinguish vehicles grouped in a single binary region, as they are characterized by This way, even if a vehicle stops for a long time and starts to be considered background we can use its tracked points to maintain the position of

### 4.8 Utility

Over the development of the project the rise needed to implement some functionalities to enhance the code flow and to help the visualization of the implemented algorithms. This section will describe the most relevant ones for the reader to analyse and implement in its own projects.

#### 4.8.1 Video Wall

#### 4.8.2 Image Processors

### 4.9 Summary

Although dealing with a framework with no proper documentation was a difficult challenge to overcome, the performance obtained from the native code was essential for the final result, as the

## Implementation

software is now able to track objects in a busy scene faster than the camera's capture rate, allowing us to process a video file in a shorter period of time than it's length. This was a request

## Implementation

## Chapter 5

# Conclusões e Trabalho Futuro

*Deve ser apresentado um resumo do trabalho realizado e apreciada a satisfação dos objetivos do trabalho, uma lista de contribuições principais do trabalho e as direções para trabalho futuro. A escrita deste capítulo deve ser orientada para a total compreensão do trabalho, tendo em atenção que, depois de ler o Resumo e a Introdução, a maioria dos leitores passará à leitura deste capítulo de conclusões e recomendações para trabalho futuro.*

Capitulo conclusão Continuação para tornar cada parte mais robustas (cada um pode ser uma tese)

This chapter presents an overview of the work done, as well as an evaluation of the state of completion achieved during the semester, followed by a list of the contributions and a foresight into the next steps of the project.

### 5.1 Satisfação dos Objetivos

### 5.2 Trabalho Futuro

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Contagem  
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## Conclusões e Trabalho Futuro

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