

# Image Processing Homework 6

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2023 年 11 月 20 日

## 1

Implement a segmentation algorithm using either K-means clustering or a Gaussian Mixture Model (choose one, and do not use functions from external libraries).

Test the algorithm on images contaminated with noise (e.g., 0.1% salt-and-pepper noise):

(1) Test binary segmentation and compare the results of your implemented algorithm with those obtained using a thresholding method (such as Otsu's method or based on maximum entropy).

(2) Test multi-class segmentation (please decide the number of segmentation label classes yourself, with at least three classes).

(3) Discuss why the segmentation results are inaccurate for noisy images and what methods might yield better segmentation results (note: you are not required to implement these methods, just discuss them).

### Solution:

For *GMMEM*, the code in `gmmem.py` depends largely on the slides despite some modifications, and thus shown in the [Appendix](#). The code for *K-means* is in `kmeansimg.py` is shown below.

```
1  from PIL import Image
2  import numpy as np
3  import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
4  def kmeans(img, k, max_iter=100, tol=1e-5):
5      '''
6      Use k-means algorithm to segment the image.
7      '''
8      # Initialize the centroids by selecting k random pixels from the image
9      np.random.seed(7) # for reproducibility
10     centroids = img.ravel()[np.random.choice(img.size, k, replace=False)]
11
12     height, width = img.shape
13     labels = np.zeros((height, width), dtype=np.int_)
14
15     m = 0 # Number of iterations
16     for _ in range(max_iter):
17         # Update the labels
```

```

18     distances = (img[..., None] - centroids)**2 # broadcasting to subtract centroids from all
        pixels
19     labels = np.argmin(distances, axis=2) # find the index of the closest centroid
20
21     # Update the centroids
22     centroids_new = np.array(
23         [img[labels == i].mean() if np.any(labels == i) else 0 for i in range(k)]) # avoid empty
        clusters
24
25     # Check the convergence
26     if np.sqrt(np.sum((centroids_new - centroids)**2)) < tol:
27         print('Kmeans Converged! Number of iteration: ', m)
28         break
29     else:
30         centroids = centroids_new
31         m += 1
32
33     new_img = np.zeros((height, width), dtype=np.uint8)
34     for i in range(k):
35         new_img[labels == i] = centroids[i]
36
37     return labels, centroids, new_img

```

For *K-means*, we first initialize the centroids by randomly selecting  $k$  pixels from the image. Then we update the labels by assigning each pixel to the closest centroid. We then update the centroids by calculating the mean of the pixels in each cluster. The procedure is repeated until the centroids converge or the maximum number of iterations is reached.

For *GMMEM*, we first initialize the parameters  $\pi_k$  with equal weights,  $\mu_k$  as the centroids obtained from *K-means*, and  $\sigma_k^2$  as the global variance of the image. Then we perform E-step and M-step alternatively until the parameters converge or the maximum number of iterations is reached.

### Result:

We test the *K-means* and *GMMEM* segmentation on an image polluted with salt-and-pepper noise, and the result is shown in Figure 1.

### Analysis:

(1) For binary segmentation, I find that the segmentation result of *K-means* is similar to that of Otsu's method, whereas the performance of *GMMEM* is not as optimal as the other two, because it tends to segment the main part of the heart as a single class, which deviates from our desired outcome. Also, running *GMMEM* is rather slow and seems not to converge within maximum iterations. The conditions for convergence may be a little strict.

(2) In multi-class segmentation, the performance of *GMMEM* surpasses that of *K-means*. The processed image is much closer to the original, but there is still room for improvement due to the presence of unremoved noise.

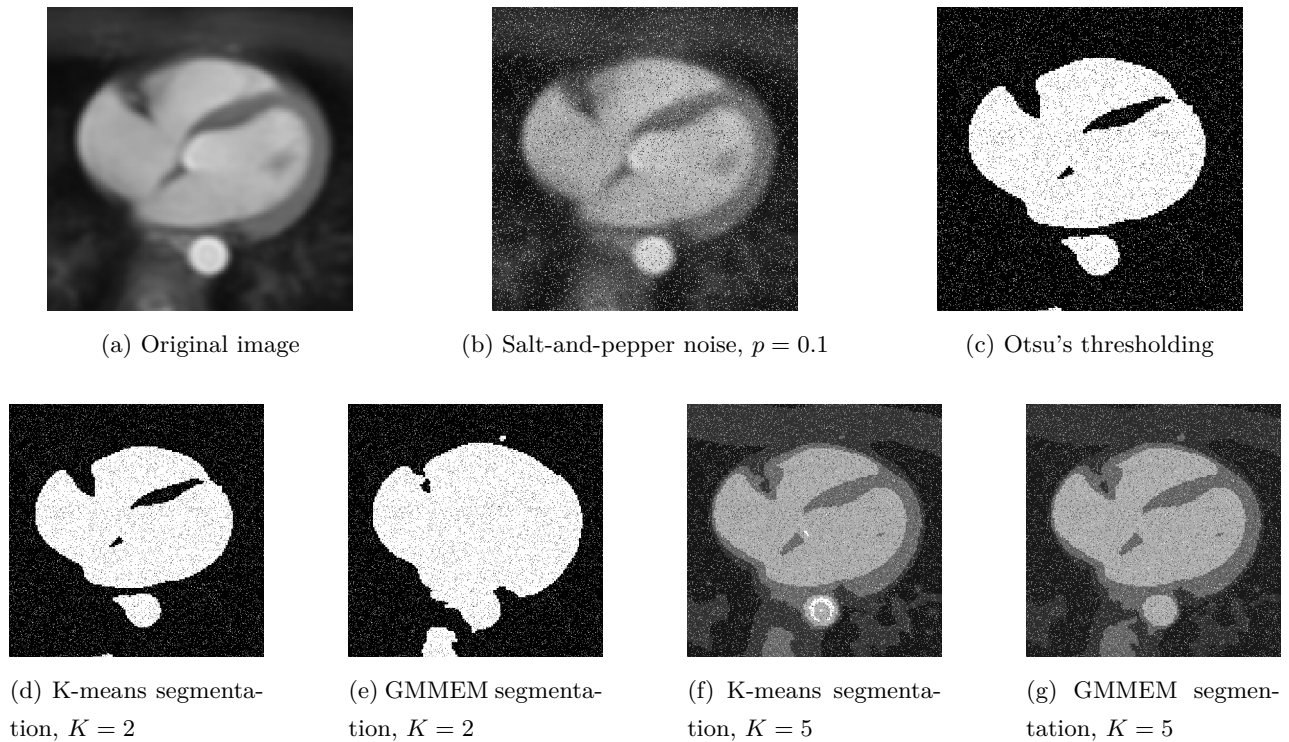


Figure 1: Heart image segmentation

(3) The inaccuracy in segmentation results for noisy images stems from our algorithm's inability to effectively recognize and handle noise. I used salt-and-pepper noise, which is sharp and sudden disturbances in the image. This type of noise can significantly alter the pixel intensity distribution, making traditional segmentation algorithms less effective, as they often rely on these distributions.

Before segmentation, using smoothing methods that are less sensitive to outliers such as the median filter can help in reducing the effect of salt-and-pepper noise. Adaptive thresholding may also be applied to improve the segmentation results, as it can automatically adjust the threshold over different parts of the image. Additionally, pre-processing techniques like morphological operations (erosion and dilation) can help in reducing the noise.

## 2

Use morphological operations learned in the course to implement hole filling and removal of isolated points in binary images.

You should code the morphological operations yourself and not use library functions.

### Solution:

The morphological methods are implemented in `morph.py`, and is shown below.

```
1 from PIL import Image
2 import numpy as np
```

```

3 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
4
5 def dilation(image, kernel):
6     k_h, k_w = kernel.shape
7     i_h, i_w = image.shape
8
9     # calculate padding size
10    pad_height = k_h // 2
11    pad_width = k_w // 2
12
13    # padding image
14    padded_image = np.pad(image, ((pad_height, pad_height), (pad_width, pad_width)), mode='constant')
15    dilated_image = np.zeros_like(image)
16    for i in range(i_h):
17        for j in range(i_w):
18            # the neighborhood of the current pixel
19            neighborhood = padded_image[i:i+k_h, j:j+k_w]
20            # apply dilation operation
21            dilated_image[i, j] = np.max(neighborhood * kernel)
22
23    return dilated_image
24
25 def erosion(image, kernel):
26     k_h, k_w = kernel.shape
27     i_h, i_w = image.shape
28
29     # calculate padding size
30    pad_height = k_h // 2
31    pad_width = k_w // 2
32
33    # padding image
34    padded_image = np.pad(image, ((pad_height, pad_height), (pad_width, pad_width)), mode='constant')
35    eroded_image = np.zeros_like(image)
36    for i in range(i_h):
37        for j in range(i_w):
38            # the neighborhood of the current pixel
39            neighborhood = padded_image[i:i+k_h, j:j+k_w]
40            # apply erosion operation
41            eroded_image[i, j] = np.min(neighborhood[kernel == 1])
42
43    return eroded_image
44
45 def opening(image, kernel1, kernel2):
46     return dilation(erosion(image, kernel1), kernel2)
47
48 def closing(image, kernel1, kernel2):
49     return erosion(dilation(image, kernel1), kernel2)

```

For dilation, we construct a kernel with odd size and apply it to every pixel in the image. The kernel is a matrix with 0 and 1, and the size of the kernel is the size of the neighborhood. To avoid the boundary problem, we pad the image with 0 ahead of time. The kernel is applied to the neighborhood of the current pixel, and the intensity is set to white if there is at least one white pixel in the neighborhood overlapping with the "1"s in the kernel. This is equivalent to obtain the maximum intensity where the kernel overlaps with the neighborhood in binary images.

For erosion, the procedure is similar, with the only difference that the intensity is set to white only when all the pixels in the neighborhood overlapping with "1"s in the kernel are white. This is equivalent to obtain the minimum intensity as described above.

Opening is the erosion followed by dilation, and closing is the dilation followed by erosion.

### Result:

We test the morphological operations on the given binary image and the result is shown in Figure 2.

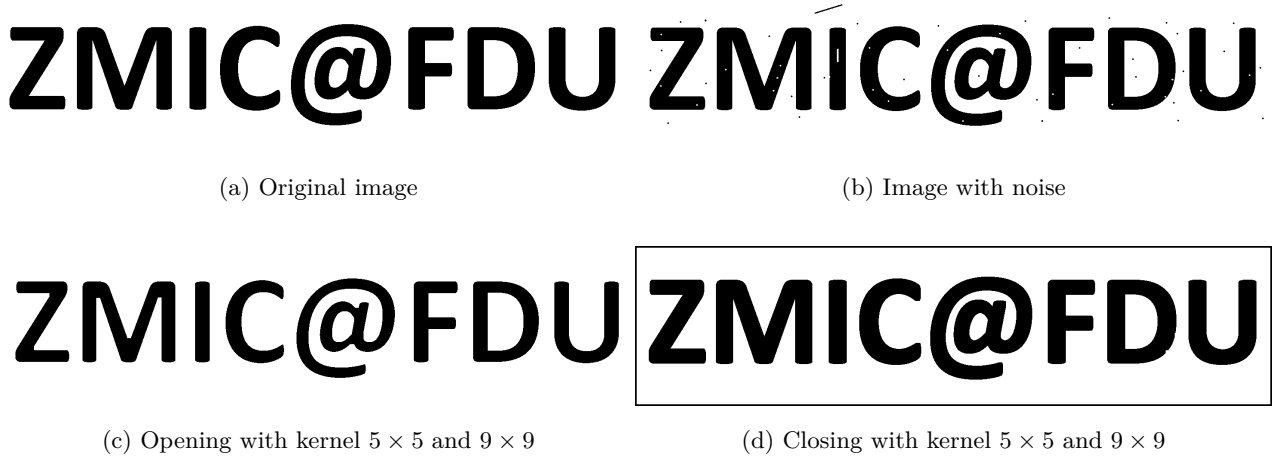


Figure 2: Morphological operations

### Analysis:

The morphological operations are effective in removing noise and filling holes in the image. After some trials, I found that dilation operation could remove the noise points and lines, while erosion operation could fill the holes in the image. This is aligned with theoretical analysis since our image is black in the foreground and white in the background. In addition, the kernel sizes for both operations have to be larger than  $5 \times 5$  to achieve desired results.

Then we can combine the two operations to obtain better results. The second line above shows the result of opening and closing. I find that both operations with kernel  $5 \times 5$  and thereafter  $9 \times 9$  can reach a desired outcome. We can notice that the left result (opening) proves better, as there are still some gaps in the letter "D" in the right result. The reason is probably that the noises are far from the letters, but some holes are closer to the background. If we first remove the noises by dilation, some letter boundary may be removed as well, and it is difficult to recover by erosion, as shown in the right result. Also due to padding, there is a black frame around the image. However, first filling the holes by erosion will not much affect the letters, and then dilation to remove the noises will give a nice result.

## A Code for GMMEM

```
1 from PIL import Image
2 import numpy as np
3 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
4 from kmeansing import kmeans
5
6 class Gmmem():
7     def __init__(self, img, k, paras):
8         self.img = img # Image to be segmented
9         self.num = k # Number of classes
10        self.shape = img.shape # Shape of the image
11        # Parameters for the GMM, including the weights(\pi_k), means(\mu) and variances(\sigma^2)
12        self.paras = paras
13
14    def phi(self, mean, var, x):
15        # Normal probability density function
16        return np.exp(-(x - mean) ** 2 / (2 * var)) / np.sqrt(2 * np.pi * var)
17
18    def get_prob(self, x):
19        # Calculate the posterior probability for each class and return the class with the highest
20        # probability
21        prob = np.array([self.phi(self.paras[1][i], self.paras[2][i], x) for i in range(self.num)])
22        posterior = (prob * self.paras[0]) / \
23            (np.sum(prob * self.paras[0]) + 1e-8) # avoid zero division
24        return int(np.argmax(posterior))
25
26    def inference(self):
27        # Perform inference on the image, and return the mask with the same shape as the image
28        mask = np.array([self.get_prob(i) for i in self.img.reshape(-1)]
29                        ).reshape(self.shape[0], self.shape[1])
30        return mask
31
32    def segmentation(self, max_iter=30, tol=1e-3):
33        # Perform segmentation on the image, alternatively perform E-step and M-step
34        m = 0 # Number of iterations
35        while True:
36            P = self.E_step() # E-step: Calculate posterior probabilities
37            # M-step: Update model parameters
38            new_paras = self.M_update_paras(P)
39            # if ((new_paras - self.paras) < tol).all:
40            #     print('gmm Converged! Number of iteration: ', m)
41            #     break
42            if np.sqrt(np.sum((new_paras - self.paras)**2)) < tol:
43                print('gmm Converged! Number of iteration: ', m)
44                break
45            elif m > max_iter:
```

```

45         break
46     else:
47         self.paras = new_paras
48         m += 1
49     mask = self.inference()
50     return mask
51
52 def P_cal(self, x):
53     # Calculate Q/posterior for every pixel
54     prob = np.array([self.phi(self.paras[1][i], self.paras[2][i], x)
55                     for i in range(self.num)])
56     posterior = (prob * self.paras[0]) / \
57         (np.sum(prob * self.paras[0]) + 1e-8) # avoid zero division
58     return posterior
59
60 def E_step(self):
61     # Calculate the posterior probabilities for each pixel in the image
62     P = np.stack([self.P_cal(i)
63                  for i in self.img.reshape(-1)], 0).T # (k, h*w)
64     return P
65
66 def M_update_paras(self, P):
67     # Update the model parameters based on the posterior probabilities
68     new_paras = np.zeros(self.paras.shape)
69     new_paras[1] = np.array(
70         [np.sum(P[i] * self.img.reshape(-1)) / np.sum(P[i]) for i in range(self.num)])
71     new_paras[2] = np.array([np.sum(P[i] * (self.img.reshape(-1) - new_paras[1][i]) ** 2) / np.
72                             sum(P[i]) for i in range(self.num)])
73     new_paras[0] = np.sum(P, -1) / np.sum(P)
74     new_paras[2][new_paras[2] < 1] = np.random.randint(1, 10, 1) # Avoid zero variance
75     return new_paras
76
77 def create_newimg(self, max_iter=30, tol=1e-3):
78     # Create a new image based on the labels
79     labels = self.segmentation(max_iter, tol)
80     new_img = np.zeros(self.shape, dtype=np.uint8)
81     for i in range(self.num):
82         new_img[labels == i] = self.paras[1][i]
83     return new_img
84
85 def initialize_paras(img, k):
86     paras = np.zeros((3, k))
87     paras[0] = np.ones(k) / k # equal weights
88     labels, centroids, _ = kmeans(img, k)
89     paras[1] = centroids
90     paras[2] = np.array([np.var(img[labels == i]) for i in range(k)])
91     return paras

```