

Entropy-based metrics for joint image alignment

Report Name	Outline Project Specification
Author (User Id)	Laura Collins (lac32)
Supervisor (User Id)	Neil MacParthalain (ncm)
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1 Project description

The Project builds upon the Congealing code developed by Erik Learned-Miller from the University of Massachusetts [3]. In the paper Learned-Miller utilises the Congealing algorithm to align both MNIST handwriting data and MRI Scans by reducing the variability between each pixel within a stack of images. For example, the algorithm will analyse the properties of the upper-leftmost pixel in image 1, then in image 2 and through each image in the set. This variation between pixels is known as Entropy, and thus the objective of Congealing is to minimise the Entropy across a set of images.

The aim of this project will be to implement the Congealing algorithm using not only standard Entropy, as in Learned-Miller's application, but using other metrics, as discussed in Section 2.1. As for the data to feed into the application, my image set of choice will be Mammography scans, however due to their large file size initial experimentation will be run using the MNIST handwriting data set.

Aligning mammography scans would help build an average of the image set. With this in mind it is possible to build an average for the 4 breast tissue composition categories outlined by BI-RADS (Breast Imaging-Reporting and Data System) - with 1 being fatty tissue (lowest risk) and 4 being dense tissue (highest risk) [4]. Approaching this alignment of images using different metrics would output different a range of output results, and further investigation could be undertaken to ascertain the best alignment metric.

Finally, the resulting software tool could be used by Radiologists in assessing the tissue variation between the 4 categories and could also be used to build a classifier model.

An adapted-XP (Extreme Programming) approach has been selected for the software methodology on this Project. Some early investigation will go into how to best overcome the lack of Pair-Programming practice. Daily stand-ups will take in the form of daily meet-ups with peers to discuss individual progress.

2 Proposed tasks

2.1 Research into alternative metrics

The original Congealing algorithm implemented by Learned-Miller uses standard Entropy and thus research into different alignment metrics will be needed. This led me on to the paper by Al-Sharhan et al [1] about different Fuzzy Entropy implementations. Each one is implemented with slight variation, and thus each gives a different output.

Cox et al's Least Squares implementation [2] is an interesting Congealing implementation using an entirely different type of alignment metric, however the project would most benefit from a narrow entropy-only based approach, staying in-line with the original Major Project title.

2.2 Development

2.3 Dataset

Choosing to align Mammography scans causes some issues, the main one being the file size of the images. Due to their large nature

2.4 Project Meetings & Blog

Weekly supervisor meetings will be conducted throughout the project. A blog will also be kept throughout the duration of the project, covering a wide range of topics such as weekly

updates, hurdles, progress made and other news worth noting. Ghost will be used as the blogging platform of choice, located at: lauramcollins.co.uk/blog.

3 Project deliverables

Through the duration of the Project, the following deliverables are to be expected.

3.1 Short Report per Alignment implementation

At the end, or at a suitable time during development should it arise, a short report will be created to outline the implementation of each Entropy-based metric. This report will cover resources used, progress made, any hurdles overcome and any extra notes that may be of use in the Final Report. This will be an ongoing process, to conclude once development has ceased.

3.2 Technical Deliverable

3.3 Final Report

3.4 Possible Publication

If the average image outputs are found to be of use to clinicians there is the possibility of writing a scientific paper on the original algorithm, research, alterations to the algorithm(s) and final conclusions. This would be work completed at the end of the Project cycle.

Annotated Bibliography

- [1] S. Al-Sharhan, F. Karray, W. Gueaieb, and O. Basir, "Fuzzy entropy: a brief survey," in *Fuzzy Systems, 2001. The 10th IEEE International Conference on*, vol. 3. IEEE, 2001, pp. 1135–1139. [Online]. Available: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1109/fuzz.2001.1008855>

Paper outlining the different implementations of Fuzzy Entropy, of which 3 will be selected and focused on during this Project.

- [2] M. Cox, S. Sridharan, S. Lucey, and J. Cohn, "Least squares congealing for unsupervised alignment of images," in *Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition, 2008. CVPR 2008. IEEE Conference on*. IEEE, June 2008, pp. 1–8. [Online]. Available: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1109/cvpr.2008.4587573>

Further builds upon Learned-Miller's Congealing approach with faster convergence and no pre-defined step size. Results are presented on both the MNIST handwriting data set (as in the original Learned-Miller paper) and the MultiPIE face database. This approach is extremely computationally costly, and this would have to be assessed in terms of computing mammography scans. Decided not to take this approach and to focus on pure entropy-based implementations.

- [3] E. G. Learned-Miller, "Data driven image models through continuous joint alignment," *Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence, IEEE Transactions on*, vol. 28, no. 2, pp. 236–250, Feb. 2006. [Online]. Available: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1109/tpami.2006.34>

Learned-Miller's original Congealing method is the basis for this Project. The aim will be to implement his approach using mammography scans (not currently done) and then further expand upon this method, swapping out the Standard entropy for different fuzzy entropy approaches. This paper was extremely useful for understanding of the basic concepts behind it, and will be a good reference guide throughout the project.

- [4] A. C. Society, "Understanding your mammogram report BI-RADS categories," <http://www.cancer.org/treatment/understandingyourdiagnosis/examsandtestdescriptions/mammogramsandotherbreastimagingprocedures/mammograms-and-other-breast-imaging-procedures-mammo-report>, 2015, accessed January 2016.

Website outlining Mammography scan result guidelines and the 4 tissue density composition categories. Particularly important for understanding the differences between the 4 sets of images, and how best to name them.