**MACHINE LEARNING 2016 REPORT**

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**Final Project: Handwritten Formula Recognition**

1. **Proposed System**



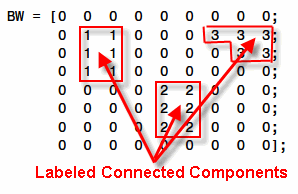
* 1. **Image Processing**

Handwritten formulas image only contain two colors Black and Write, so it can be convert to binary image to improve the overall performance.

Remove noises before segmentation (component with less than 100 pixels).

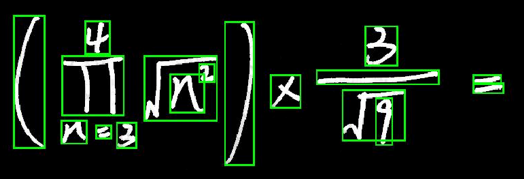
* 1. **Symbol Segmentation**

Connected Component Labeling (CCL) is the best segmentation algorithm for binary images, with high performance and high accuracy.



After segmentation, we will have two information of each component: the segmented image and its geometry information. The former is use for recognition while the latter is used for formula parsing.

Matlab has already provided powerful libraries for CLL and geometry information extraction.



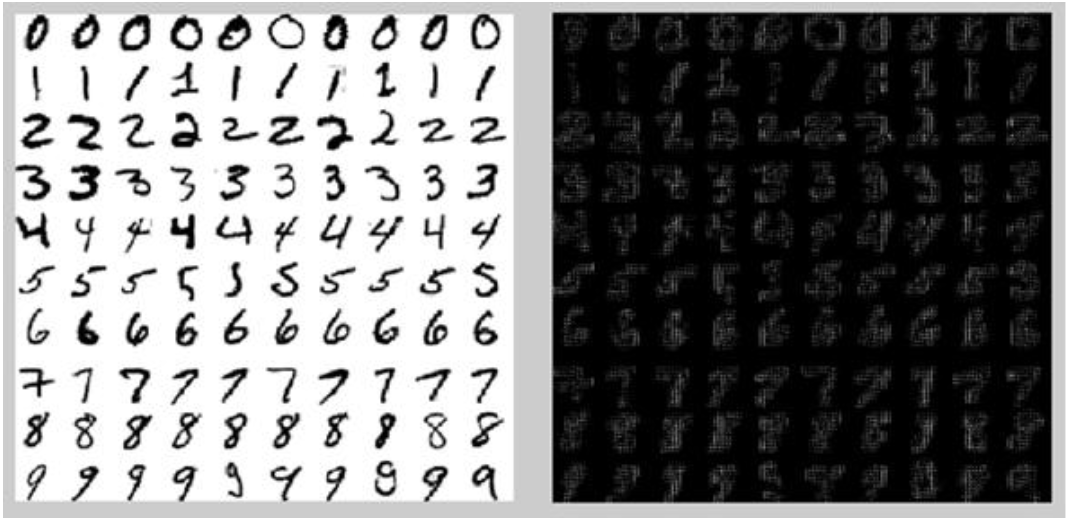
* 1. **Symbol Recognition**

Resize image to 40x40 to improve training process.

Use SVM as classifiers with open source library – libSVM.

Use three different classifiers with different kernels (linear, polynomial and RBF).

Beside, Histogram of Oriented Gradients (HOG) is considered when getting the features form images.



For testing phase, both classifiers with HOG and no-HOG are chosen, and the output is picked from the model which has highest probability.

Training result for v-SVM model:

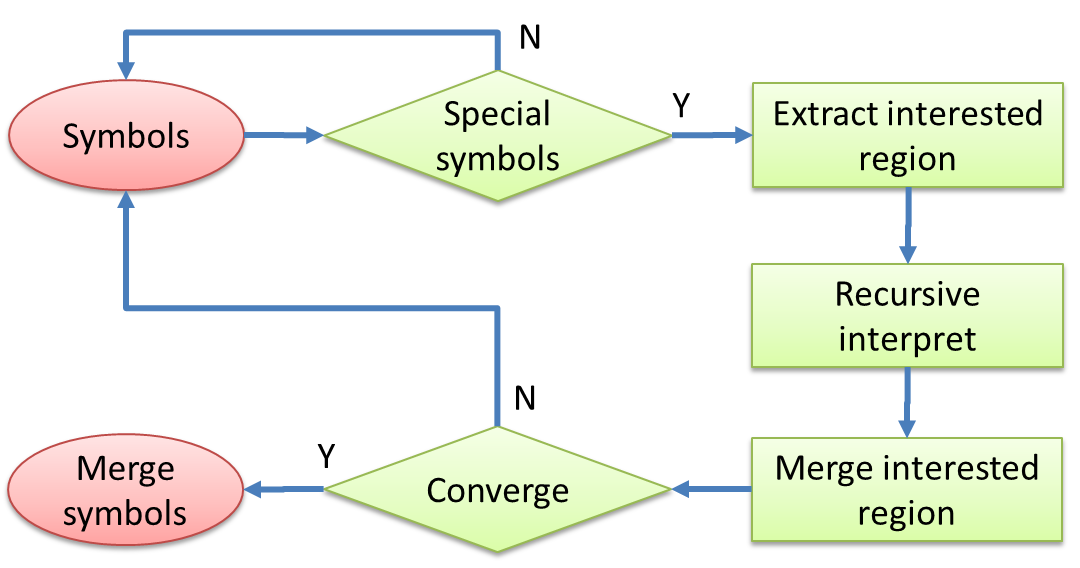
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **nuSVM** | **Radial** | **linear** | **Poly2** | **Poly3** | **Poly4** | **Poly5** |
| 0.001 | 97.597 | 96.6728 | 89.1867 | 15.5268 | 19.4085 | 10.9057 |
| 0.01 | 97.5046 | 96.6728 | 97.6895 | 86.3216 | 30.8688 | 16.2662 |
| 0.05 | **97.6895** | **96.8577** | **97.9667** | 97.2274 | 85.7671 | 56.7468 |
| 0.1 | 97.597 | 96.6728 | 97.3198 | 97.1349 | 88.7246 | 54.2514 |
| 0.25 | 94.9168 | 94.9168 | 96.488 | 96.3956 | 95.4713 | 79.9445 |

* 1. **Formula Praising**

Define interested region and find symbols that intersected with this region

* Brackets:
* Fraction:
* Power:
* Square root:
* Sigma:
* Pi:

The algorithm for formula parsing is as following:



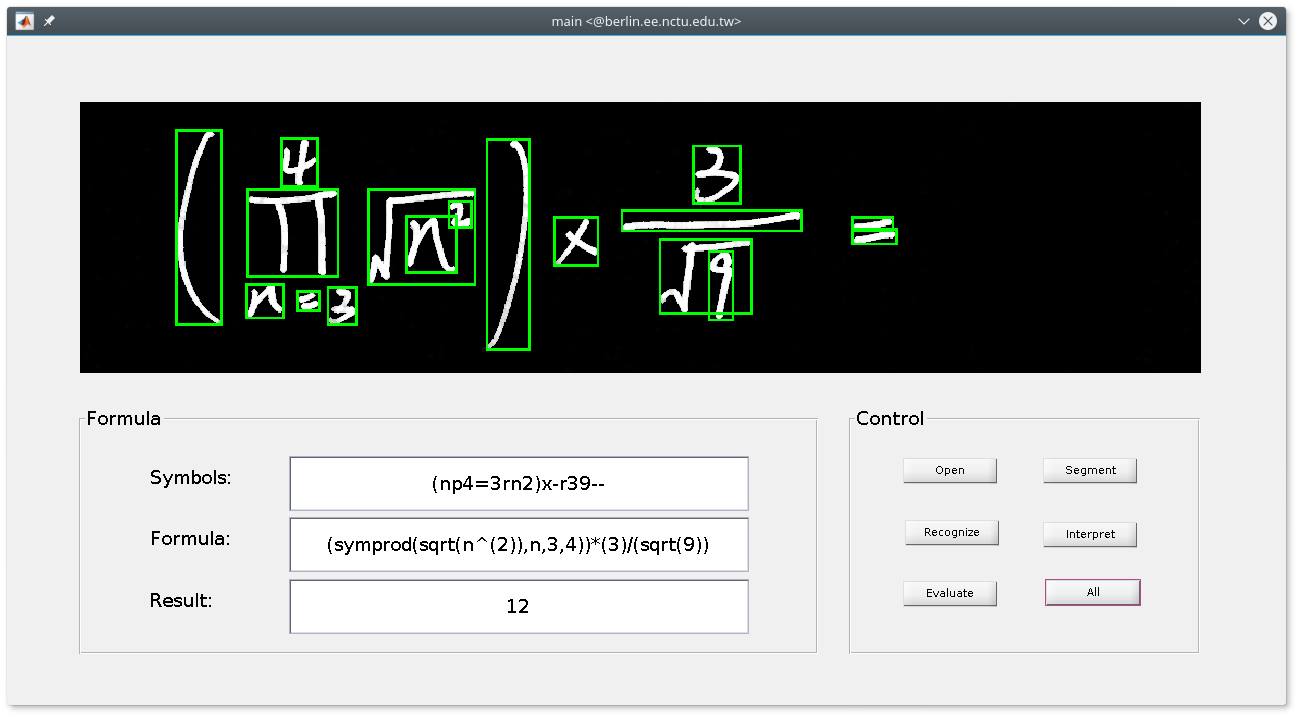
* 1. **Interpreter & Evaluation**

Convert to matlab code

Use matlab symbolic toolbox to deal with symbolic formulas ()

1. **Test Result**

In order to ease the demonstration, we build a Graphic User Interface for Matlab



The test results:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Level** | **Accuracy (%)** | **Reasons** |
| 1 | 63.33 | **Segment**, **Recognize**, Faulty formulas |
| 2 | 76.67 | **Segment**, **Recognize**, Faulty formulas |
| 3 | 43.33 | **Segment**, **Recognize**, Faulty formulas |
| 4 | 30.00 | **Segment**, **Recognize**, Faulty formulas, Interpret |
| 5 | 23.33 | **Segment**, **Recognize**, Faulty formulas, Wrong formulas |

The main reasons for wrong output result are segmentation and recognition. There are some faulty and wrong formulas that also cause the wrong output.

1. **Conclusion and Discussions**
   1. **Limitations**

CCL cannot segment some symbols which accidentally connected together

There is a small ratio of misclassification

Formula parsing is limited

Cannot correct wrong formulas

* 1. **Proposed Solutions**

Use feedback system to improve the segmentation process: if the symbol has low probability, it will be sent back to segmentation block. A new segmentation algorithm will be applied to solve this case

* Apply the symbols filter to the image
* Calculate the covariance between the filter pattern and the processing region and chose the highest one