University at Buffalo
Department of Computer Science and and Engineering
CSE 473/573 - Computer Vision and Image Processing

Project #1
Optical Character Recognition

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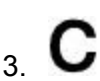
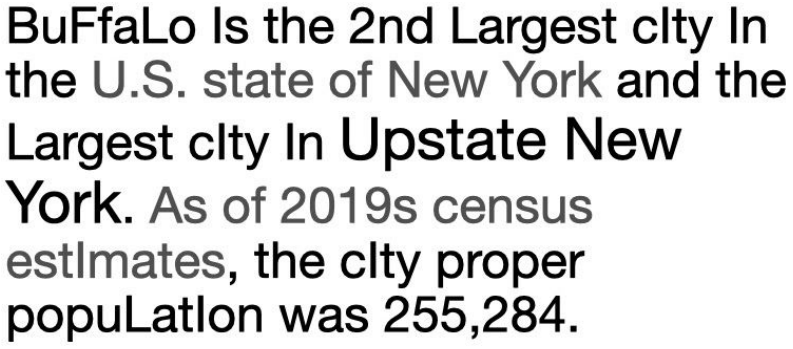
OCR Stands for "Optical Character Recognition." OCR is a technology that recognizes text within a digital image. It is commonly used to recognize text in scanned documents, but it serves many other purposes as well.
OCR processes a digital image by locating and recognizing characters, such as letters, numbers, and symbols. Some OCR software will simply export the text, while other programs can convert the characters to editable text directly in the image. Advanced OCR software can export the size and formatting of the text as well as the layout of the text found on a page.

The OCR system will contain three parts, **Enrollment, Detection and Recognition**.

Dataset: We are provided with a set of characters to be recognized from the main image.

Characters: 1.  2.  3.  4.  5.

Main Image:



1. **Enrollment:**
   In the task-1 of enrollment we are using Scale-invariant feature transform (SIFT) to extract features from the character images.

2. **Detection:**
   We have used Connected Component Labeling for the detection of the characters in the image.
   Connected Component Labeling: A component labeling algorithm finds all connected components in an image and assigns a unique label to all points in the same component.

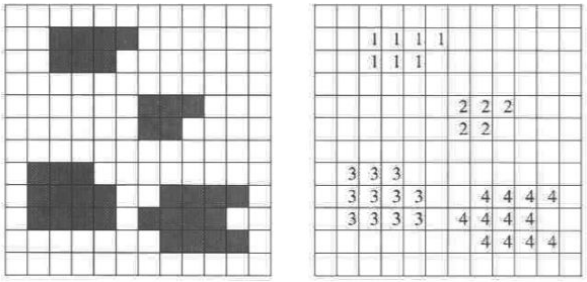
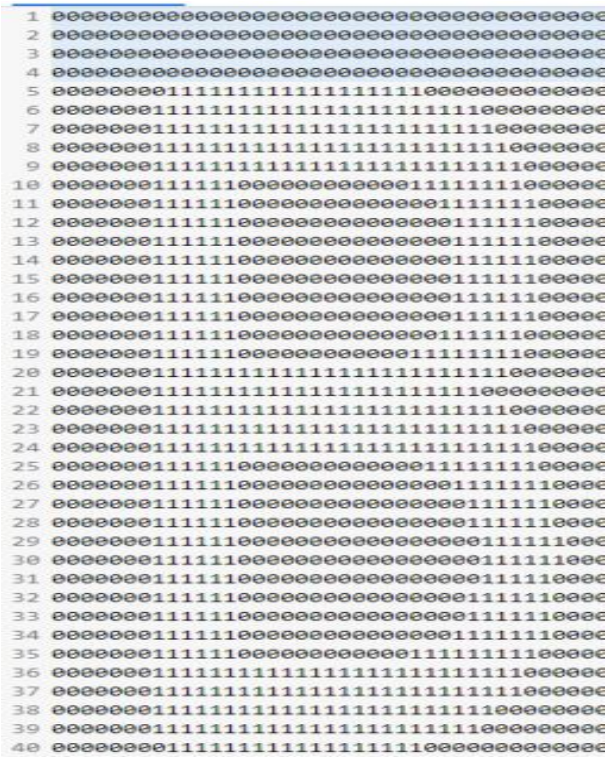
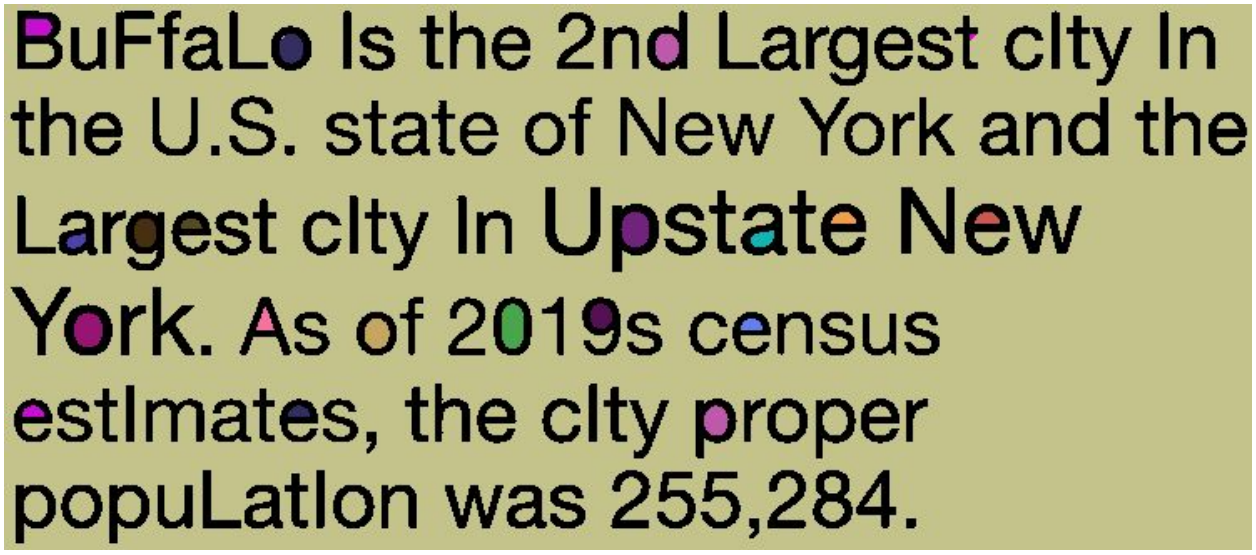


Image after CCL:



First character

Main Image after CCL:



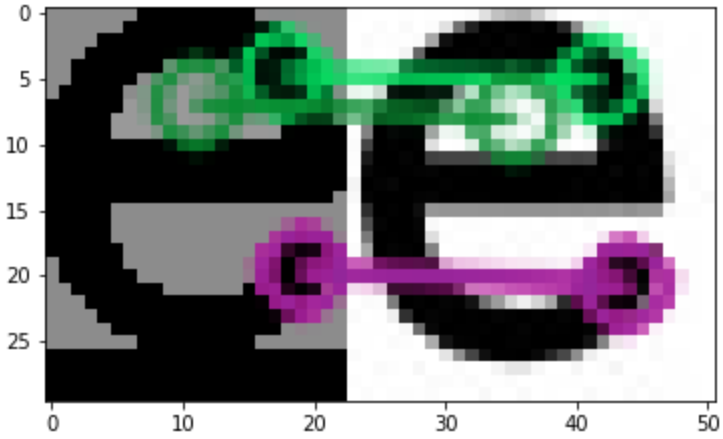
3. **Recognition:**
   For the recognition part first we have made the bounding box in the CCL image shown above.

With the help of a bounding box we can determine the position of each character in the image.


```
"bbox": [540, 309, 6, 6], "name": "dot"}, {"bbox": [446, 309, 6, 12], "name": "dot"}
```


Where: “bbox”: [x,y,h,w]

Then we have performed template matching with the enrollment image and each character in the bounding box. If they matched we put the “name” as the character detected and if they don’t match we put the “name” as “UNKNOWN”.



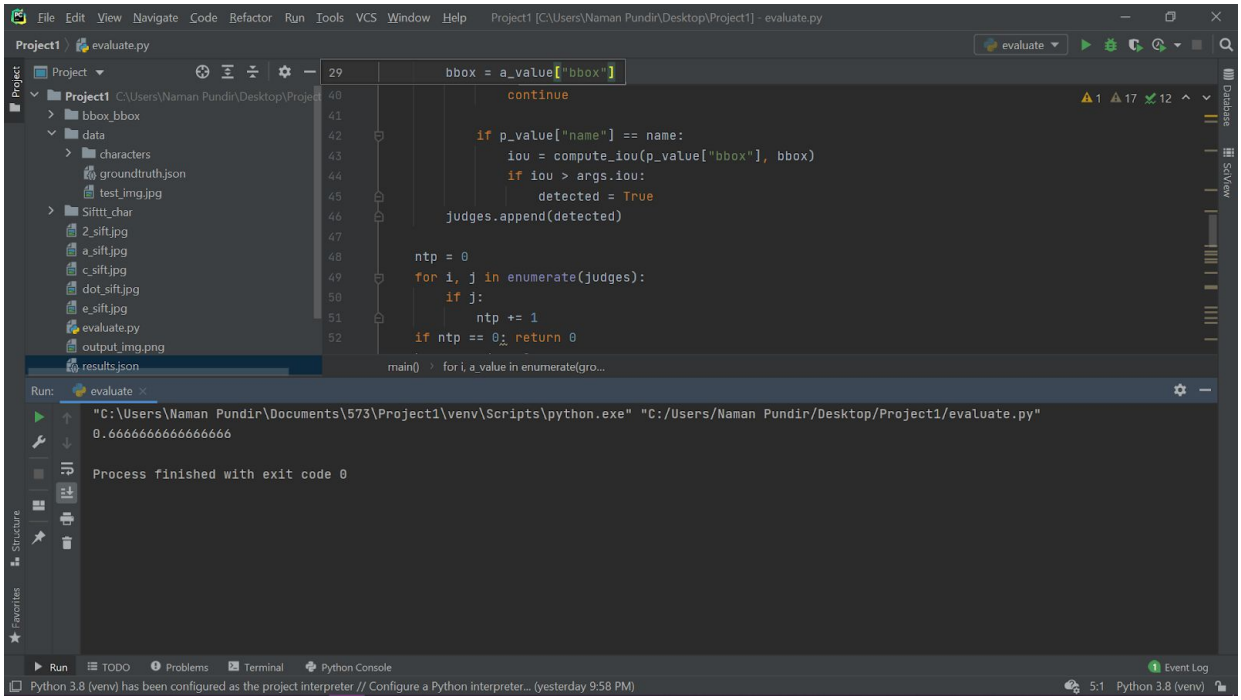
Result.json:

All the matching and position of the bounding box is then dump into json file “Result.json”.

Evaluate.py:

Parsing result.json file intro evaluate.py to check the F1 measure.

F1 Measure = 0.6666666



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