

ABSTRACT OF DISSERTATION

Jack Bandy

The Graduate School  
University of Kentucky  
2017

INTERACTIVE MACHINE LEARNING FOR WORD RECOGNITION ON  
DAMAGED HANDWRITTEN DOCUMENTS

---

ABSTRACT OF DISSERTATION

---

A dissertation submitted in partial  
fulfillment of the requirements for  
the degree of Doctor of Philosophy  
in the College of Arts and Sciences  
at the University of Kentucky

By  
Jack Bandy  
Lexington, Kentucky

Director: Dr. your advisor, Professor of Mathematics  
Lexington, Kentucky 2017

Copyright© Jack Bandy 2017

## ABSTRACT OF DISSERTATION

### INTERACTIVE MACHINE LEARNING FOR WORD RECOGNITION ON DAMAGED HANDWRITTEN DOCUMENTS

an abstract

KEYWORDS: keywords go here

Author's signature: Jack Bandy

Date: October 31, 2017

INTERACTIVE MACHINE LEARNING FOR WORD RECOGNITION ON  
DAMAGED HANDWRITTEN DOCUMENTS

By  
Jack Bandy

Director of Dissertation: your advisor

Director of Graduate Studies: DGS name here

Date: October 31, 2017

## RULES FOR THE USE OF DISSERTATIONS

Unpublished dissertations submitted for the Doctor's degree and deposited in the University of Kentucky Library are as a rule open for inspection, but are to be used only with due regard to the rights of the authors. Bibliographical references may be noted, but quotations or summaries of parts may be published only with the permission of the author, and with the usual scholarly acknowledgments.

Extensive copying or publication of the dissertation in whole or in part also requires the consent of the Dean of the Graduate School of the University of Kentucky.

A library that borrows this dissertation for use by its patrons is expected to secure the signature of each user.

Name

Date

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

DISSERTATION

Jack Bandy

The Graduate School  
University of Kentucky  
2017

INTERACTIVE MACHINE LEARNING FOR WORD RECOGNITION ON  
DAMAGED HANDWRITTEN DOCUMENTS

---

DISSERTATION

---

A dissertation submitted in partial  
fulfillment of the requirements for  
the degree of Doctor of Philosophy  
in the College of Arts and Sciences  
at the University of Kentucky

By  
Jack Bandy  
Lexington, Kentucky

Director: Dr. your advisor, Professor of Mathematics  
Lexington, Kentucky 2017

Copyright© Jack Bandy 2017

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Acknowledge people/things here



Dedicated to things (optional)

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgments . . . . .	iii
Table of Contents . . . . .	iv
List of Figures . . . . .	v
List of Tables . . . . .	vi
Chapter 1 Background . . . . .	1
1.1 Project Components . . . . .	1
1.2 Literature Review . . . . .	1
Chapter 2 The First Chapter . . . . .	3
2.1 The First Section . . . . .	3
Bibliography . . . . .	4
Vita . . . . .	6

## LIST OF FIGURES

2.1	A Simple Figure . . . . .	3
-----	---------------------------	---

## LIST OF TABLES

2.1	A Simple Table . . . . .	3
-----	--------------------------	---

## Chapter 1 Background

### 1.1 Project Components

There are two main components of the project. The first is a semi-supervised machine learning approach to document transcription, and the second is a word tracing tool for textual scholarship.

#### An Interactive Approach to Automated Transcription

Automated transcription is ideal and sometimes necessary for larger datasets of handwritten documents. Automated transcription for printed documents as well as handwritten documents is now on par with human performance. However, damaged historical documents present unique challenges.

I develop the following approach: given a small set of labeled samples, train a neural network in a semi-supervised manner using both labeled and non-labeled data. Once the initial model is trained, use it to create a transcription of the full document. During the transcription process, the model keeps track of difficult word images, prioritizing them for manual labeling afterwards.

#### Word Tracing

Once the transcription of a document is generated, many scholars wish to trace the outputted text back to the original manuscript image. Building on state-of-the-art word spotting techniques, I implement a tool that traces transcript text back to the original input image so that scholars can easily navigate and visualize transcriptions.

### 1.2 Literature Review

#### 2009

- Finding words in alphabet soup: Inference on freeform character recognition for historical scripts [1].

#### 2012

- A novel word spotting method based on recurrent neural networks [2].
- End-to-end text recognition with convolutional neural networks [3].

#### 2013

- Handwritten word recognition using mlp based classifier: A holistic approach [4].

- Feature extraction with convolutional neural networks for handwritten word recognition [5].

## 2014

- A combined system for text line extraction and handwriting recognition in historical documents [6]

## 2015

- Efficient segmentation-free keyword spotting in historical document collections [7].
- Adapting off-the-shelf cnns for word spotting & recognition [8].
- Segmentation-free handwritten Chinese text recognition with LSTM-RNN [9].

## 2016

- On the Benefits of Convolutional Neural Network Combinations in Offline Handwriting Recognition [10].
- Reading text in the wild with convolutional neural networks [11].
- PHOCNet: A deep convolutional neural network for word spotting in handwritten documents [12].
- SpottingNet: Learning the Similarity of Word Images with Convolutional Neural Network for Word Spotting in Handwritten Historical Documents [13].

## Surveys

- A survey of document image word spotting techniques [14].
- A survey on handwritten documents word spotting [15].

## Chapter 2 The First Chapter

### 2.1 The First Section

Math goes here.

Here's a figure

Figure 2.1: A Simple Figure

Here	is
a	table

Table 2.1: A Simple Table

## Bibliography

- [1] Nicholas R Howe, Shaolei Feng, and R Manmatha. Finding words in alphabet soup: Inference on freeform character recognition for historical scripts. *Pattern Recognition*, 42(12):3338–3347, 2009.
- [2] Volkmar Frinken, Andreas Fischer, R Manmatha, and Horst Bunke. A novel word spotting method based on recurrent neural networks. *IEEE transactions on pattern analysis and machine intelligence*, 34(2):211–224, 2012.
- [3] Tao Wang, David J Wu, Adam Coates, and Andrew Y Ng. End-to-end text recognition with convolutional neural networks. In *Pattern Recognition (ICPR), 2012 21st International Conference on*, pages 3304–3308. IEEE, 2012.
- [4] Ankush Acharyya, Sandip Rakshit, Ram Sarkar, Subhadip Basu, and Mita Nasipuri. Handwritten word recognition using mlp based classifier: A holistic approach. *International Journal of Computer Science Issues*, 10(2):422–427, 2013.
- [5] Théodore Bluche, Hermann Ney, and Christopher Kermorvant. Feature extraction with convolutional neural networks for handwritten word recognition. In *Document Analysis and Recognition (ICDAR), 2013 12th International Conference on*, pages 285–289. IEEE, 2013.
- [6] Andreas Fischer, Micheal Baechler, Angelika Garz, Marcus Liwicki, and Rolf Ingold. A combined system for text line extraction and handwriting recognition in historical documents. In *Document Analysis Systems (DAS), 2014 11th IAPR International Workshop on*, pages 71–75. IEEE, 2014.
- [7] Marçal Rusiñol, David Aldavert, Ricardo Toledo, and Josep Lladós. Efficient segmentation-free keyword spotting in historical document collections. *Pattern Recognition*, 48(2):545–555, 2015.
- [8] Arjun Sharma et al. Adapting off-the-shelf cnns for word spotting & recognition. In *Document Analysis and Recognition (ICDAR), 2015 13th International Conference on*, pages 986–990. IEEE, 2015.
- [9] Ronaldo Messina and Jérôme Louradour. Segmentation-free handwritten chinese text recognition with lstm-rnn. In *Document Analysis and Recognition (ICDAR), 2015 13th International Conference on*, pages 171–175. IEEE, 2015.
- [10] Dewi Suryani, Patrick Doetsch, and Hermann Ney. On the benefits of convolutional neural network combinations in offline handwriting recognition. In *Frontiers in Handwriting Recognition (ICFHR), 2016 15th International Conference on*, pages 193–198. IEEE, 2016.



- [11] Max Jaderberg, Karen Simonyan, Andrea Vedaldi, and Andrew Zisserman. Reading text in the wild with convolutional neural networks. *International Journal of Computer Vision*, 116(1):1–20, 2016.
- [12] Sebastian Sudholt and Gernot A Fink. Phocnet: A deep convolutional neural network for word spotting in handwritten documents. In *Frontiers in Handwriting Recognition (ICFHR), 2016 15th International Conference on*, pages 277–282. IEEE, 2016.
- [13] Zhuoyao Zhong, Weishen Pan, Lianwen Jin, Harold Mouchère, and Christian Viard-Gaudin. Spottingnet: Learning the similarity of word images with convolutional neural network for word spotting in handwritten historical documents. In *Frontiers in Handwriting Recognition (ICFHR), 2016 15th International Conference on*, pages 295–300. IEEE, 2016.
- [14] Angelos P Giotis, Giorgos Sfikas, Basilis Gatos, and Christophoros Nikou. A survey of document image word spotting techniques. *Pattern Recognition*, 68:310–332, 2017.
- [15] Rashad Ahmed, Wasfi G Al-Khatib, and Sabri Mahmoud. A survey on handwritten documents word spotting. *International Journal of Multimedia Information Retrieval*, 6(1):31–47, 2017.

## Vita

A brief vita goes here.