# Read Digits from Natural Images using Convolutional Neural Network

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#### **Motivation**



Figure: Digit Recognition [?]

#### **Problem Description**

- Task is to read digits from natural images
- We use the MNIST dataset [1], which consists of hand-written digits
- Convolutional neural networks(CNN) for classification of digits
- Computer Vision techniques for detection of digits

## Challenges(1)



Figure: Image contains digits with shadows and different fonts

## Challenges(2)

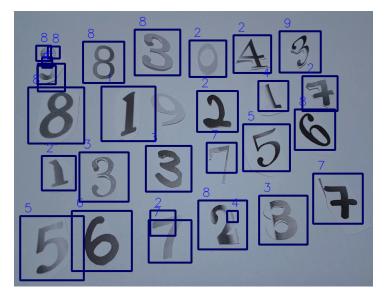


Figure: Image with digits and bounding boxes

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#### **Assumptions**

- Images contain only digits.
- Background is a solid color and does not change
- Numbers should be distanced enough so that bounding boxes do not overlap.
- $\bullet$  Digits are visible to camera, orientations may be varied till  $45^{\circ}$  or  $60^{\circ}$

#### Setup

- Camera; we use mobile camera
- Solid background with suitable font color
- Suitable lighting conditions

#### Methodology

- Load and Interpret DataSet
- Pre-processing(dataset as well as live camera)
- Convolutional Neural Network
- Post-processing(during camera only)
- Testing and evaluation

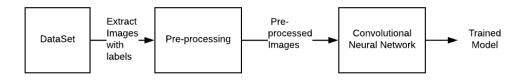


Figure: Block Diagram of System using Dataset

## Methodology contd..



Figure: Block Diagram of System using Camera

## MNIST Dataset [1]

- 10 classes, 1 for each digit
- Digit 1 has label 1,9 has label 9, and 0 has label 10
- ullet 60,000 digits for training, 10,000 digits for testing
- Digits are arranged in different positions with solid background

 $\textbf{Figure:} \ \, \mathsf{Example} \ \, \mathsf{images} \ \, \mathsf{from} \ \, \mathsf{MNIST} \ \, \mathsf{dataset} \ \, [1]$ 

#### Pre-processing from camera

- Resize image to 1080x720 pixels
- Convert to gray scale
- Apply Gaussian filter
- Use a binary thresholding
- Canny edge detection
- Find contours
- Draw bounding box around contours

## **Pre-processing from camera(2)**

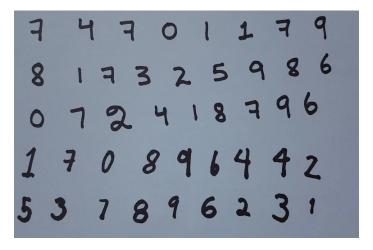


Figure: Image taken from live camera

# Pre-processing from camera (3)

```
7 4 7 0 1 1 7 9
8 1 7 3 2 5 9 8 6
0 7 2 4 18 7 9 6
1 7 0 8 9 6 4 4 2
5 3 7 8 9 6 2 3 1
```

(a) Binary threshold image



(b) Canny edge detector

## Pre-processing from camera (4)

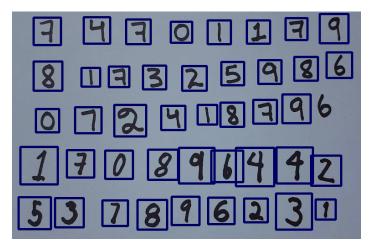


Figure: Bounding boxes drawn over original image

#### Convolutional Neural Network(CNN)

- State-of-the-art shows CNN performs better as compare to other approaches[2]
- Extracts features from the images and classify them
- Three type of layers
  - Convolutional: Extract low-level and high-level features
  - Pooling: Reduce amount of parameters and computations
  - Fully Connected: Neurons are fully connected

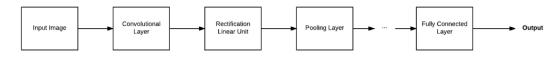


Figure: Basic Architecture of CNN

#### **Our CNN Model**

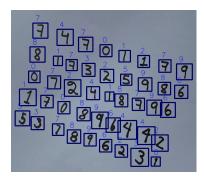


Figure: Model used to train MNIST dataset

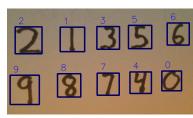
#### **Testing & Evaluation(1)**

- Print/write numbers on a sheet of paper (different size, font, color, and orientation)
- Test the images of digits from live camera under different conditions (light and perspective)
- Use test set to compute accuracy of model, gives us 99.13%

## **Testing & Evaluation(2)**



(a) Detection of digits with different orientations



(b) Detection of digits

Yann LeCun and Corinna Cortes.

MNIST handwritten digit database.
2010.

Pierre Sermanet, Soumith Chintala, and Yann LeCun.Convolutional neural networks applied to house numbers digit classification.

In ICPR, pages 3288-3291. IEEE Computer Society, 2012.

Yuval Netzer, Tao Wang, Adam Coates, Alessandro Bissacco, Bo Wu, and Andrew Y Ng.

Reading digits in natural images with unsupervised feature learning. In *NIPS workshop on deep learning and unsupervised feature learning*, volume 2011, page 5, 2011.

lan J Goodfellow, Yaroslav Bulatov, Julian Ibarz, Sacha Arnoud, and Vinay Shet.

Multi-digit Number Recognition from Street View Imagery using Deep

Convolutional Neural Networks.

CoRR, abs/1312.6:1–13, 2013.