Automatic Extraction of Road Intersections from Raster Maps

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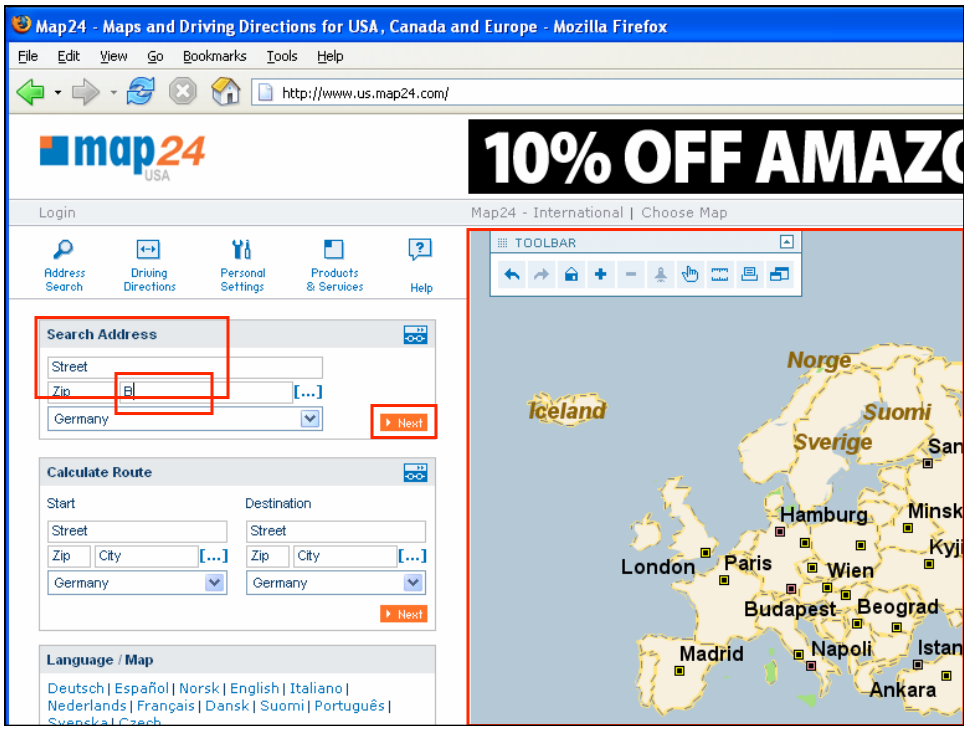
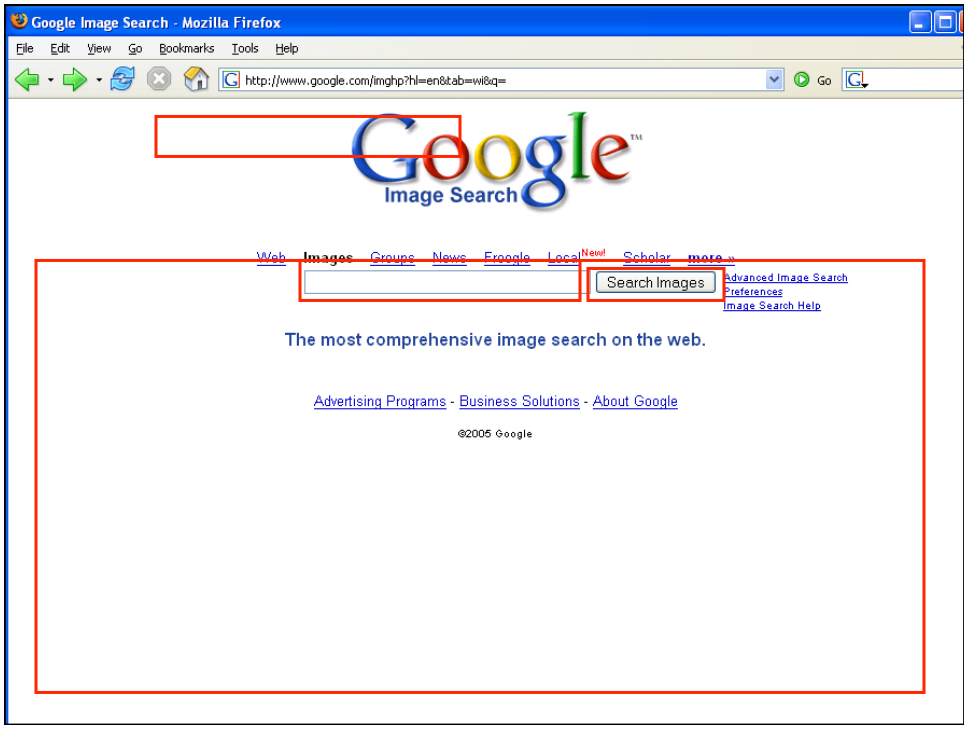
Outline

- Introduction and Motivation
- Approach and Algorithm
- Experimental Results
- Related Work
- Conclusion and Future Work

Introduction and Motivation

- Numerous raster maps are on the Internet
  - Online map provider:
    - Google Map, Yahoo Map, USGS Topographic Map, Map24
  - Image Search Engine:
    - Google Image, MSN Image
- The georeferencing information of them are often unknown



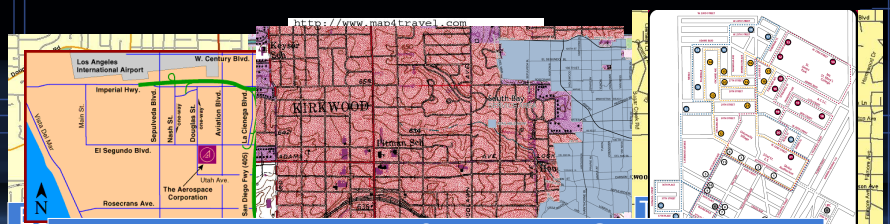


Introduction and Motivation

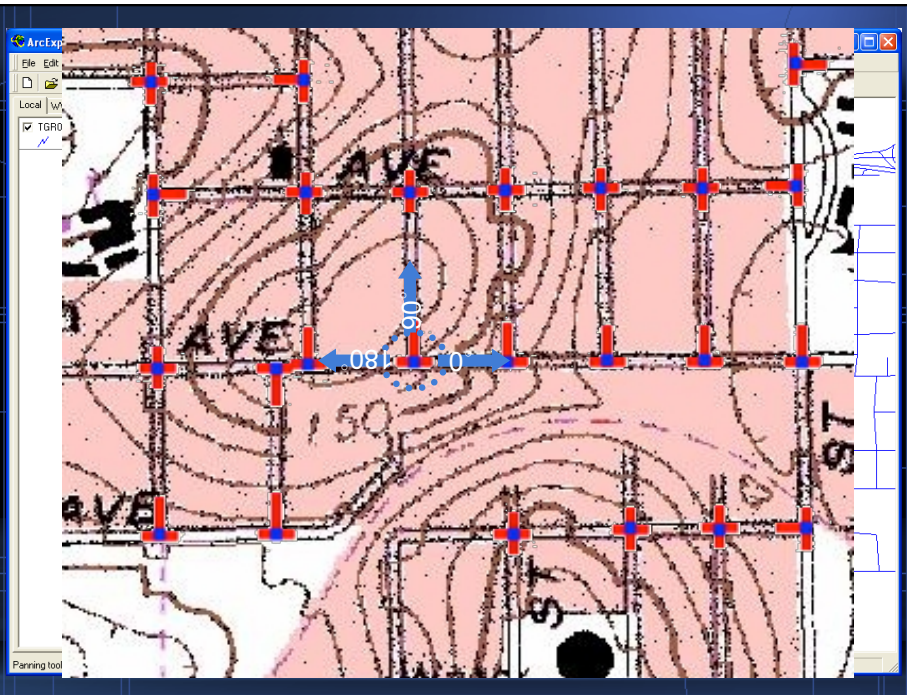
- In our previous work: Automatically and Accurately Conflating Orthoimagery and Street Maps (Chen et al.)
  - We utilize the layout of the road intersections within a local area to
    - Integrate imagery, raster maps and vector data
      - Align street lines from each source
      - Georeference raster map

Introduction and Motivation

- The correct road intersection pattern is important!
- More information about the road intersection is important!
- In this work:
  - The average precision of intersection extraction is improved from 76% to 92%.
  - Extract road information around each intersection point
  - Handle more types of map



Random maps returned from Image Search Engine



USGS Topographic Map, El Segundo, CA, USA

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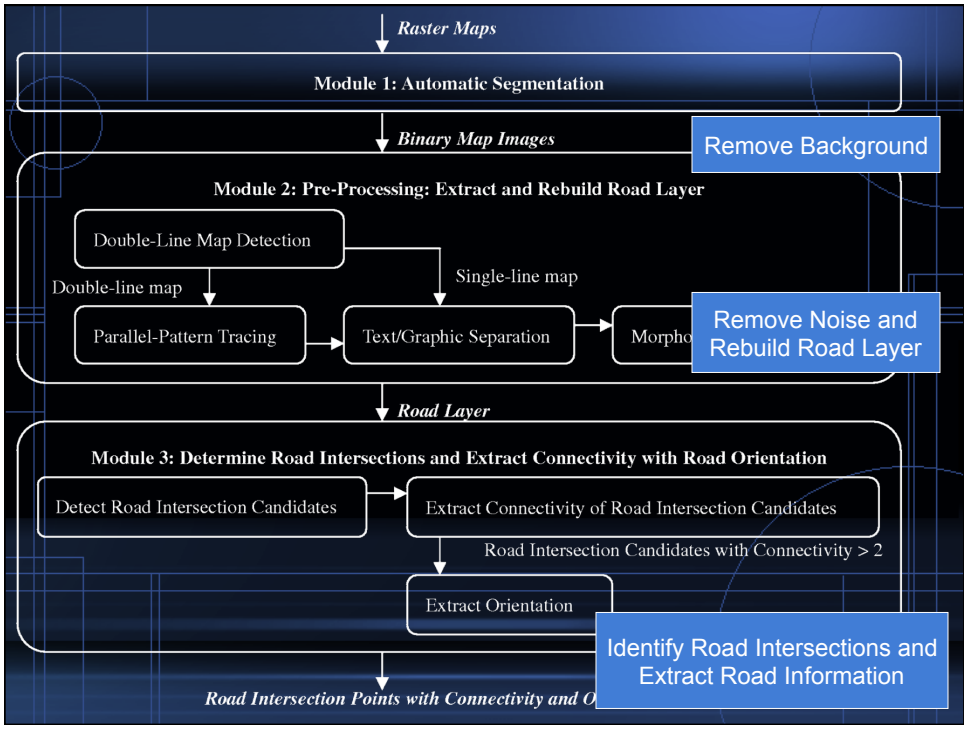
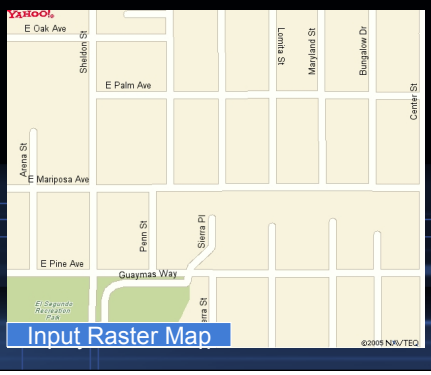
Approach and Algorithm

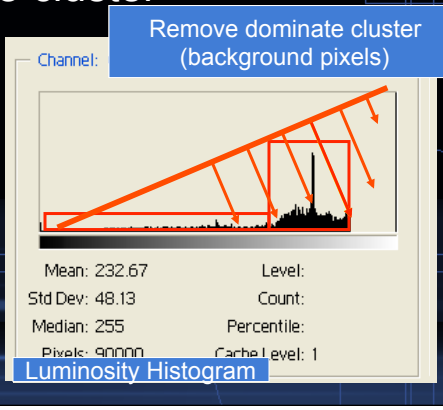
- For automatic road intersection extraction, we have to:
  - separate the road layer
  - extract road intersections



Remove Background

- Use Triangle method (Zack, 1977) to locate luminosity clusters in the histogram
- Remove the dominate cluster

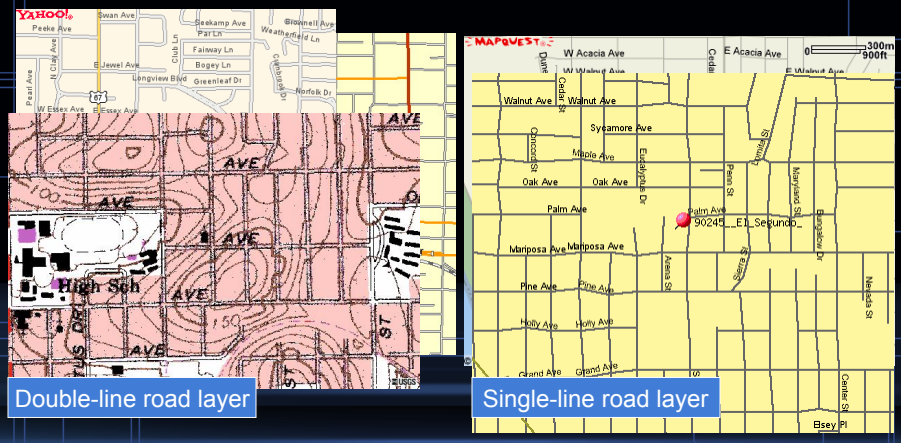




Remove dominate cluster (background pixels)

Remove Noise & Rebuild Road Layer

- Before we extract the intersections, we need to separate the road layer

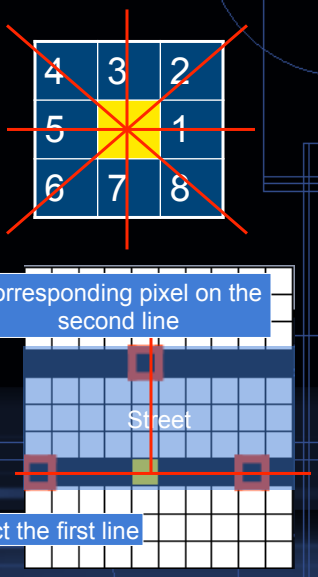


Remove Noise & Rebuild Road Layer

- Double-line road layers provide us more information to separate the road layer with other linear structure
- We utilize Parallel Pattern Tracing to find parallel road lines

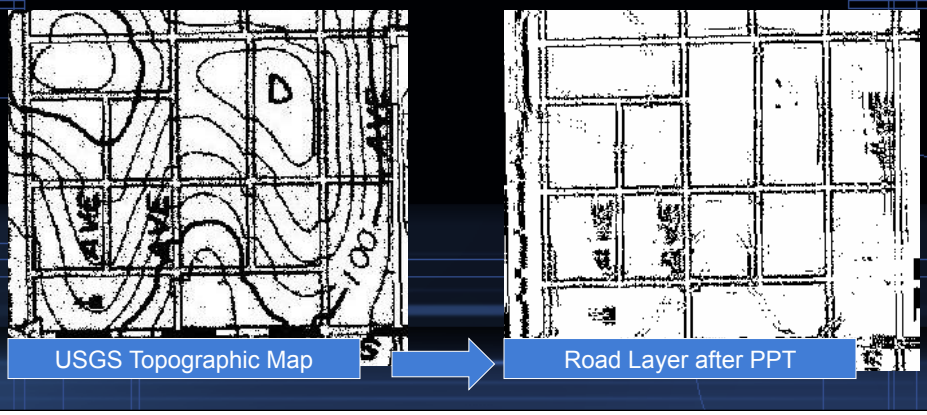
Parallel Pattern Tracing

- Zoom in to pixel level:
  - 8 directions connect to one pixel
  - 4 possible straight lines
- If a pixel in on a double line layer with road width=3pixels, we should be able to find:
  - At least 1 pixel on the original road line
  - At least 1 corresponding pixel on the other road line



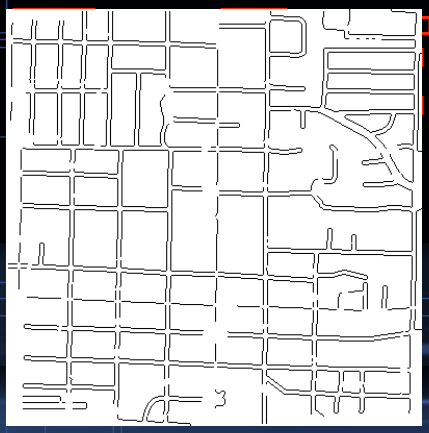
Parallel Pattern Tracing

- Detect the type of road layer, the road width
- Remove linear structures other than parallel roads



Remove Noise & Rebuild Road Layer

- Text/Graphics Separation (Cao et. al 2001)
  - Separate linear structures with other objects



Find small connected objects - character

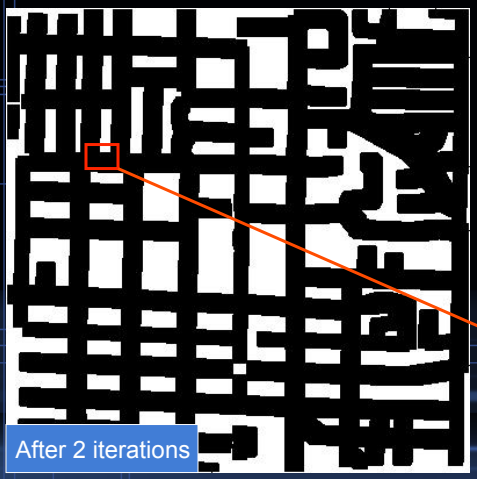
Grouping small connected objects - string

Remove small connected object groups

After the removal of objects touching road lines, the road network is broken

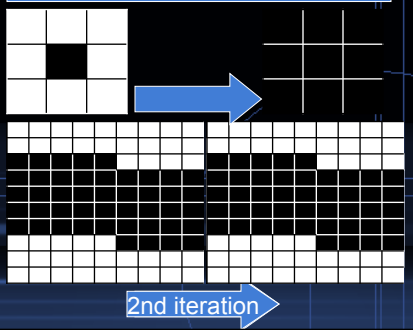
Rebuild Road Layer

- General Dilation operator
  - Reconnect the broken road layer



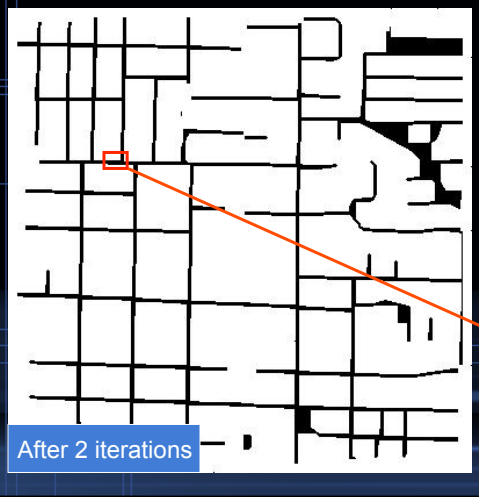
Generalized Dilation

For every foreground pixel, fill up it' s eight neighborhood pixels.



Rebuild Road Layer

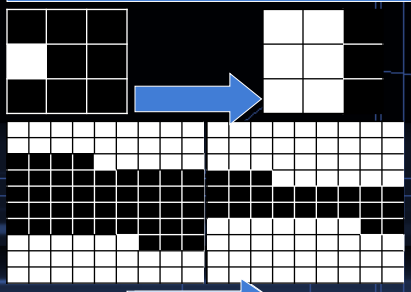
- General Erosion operator
  - Thinner road lines and maintain the original orientation



After 2 iterations

Generalized Erosion

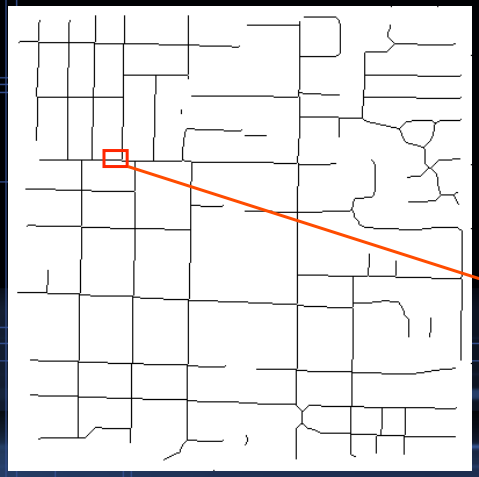
For every foreground pixel, erase itself if any neighborhood pixel is white.



2nd iteration

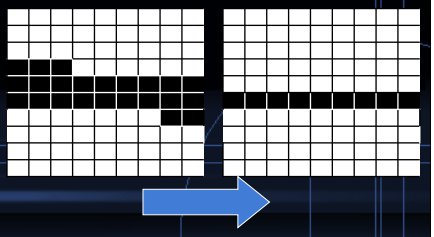
Rebuild Road Layer

- Thinning operator
  - Produce one pixel width road lines



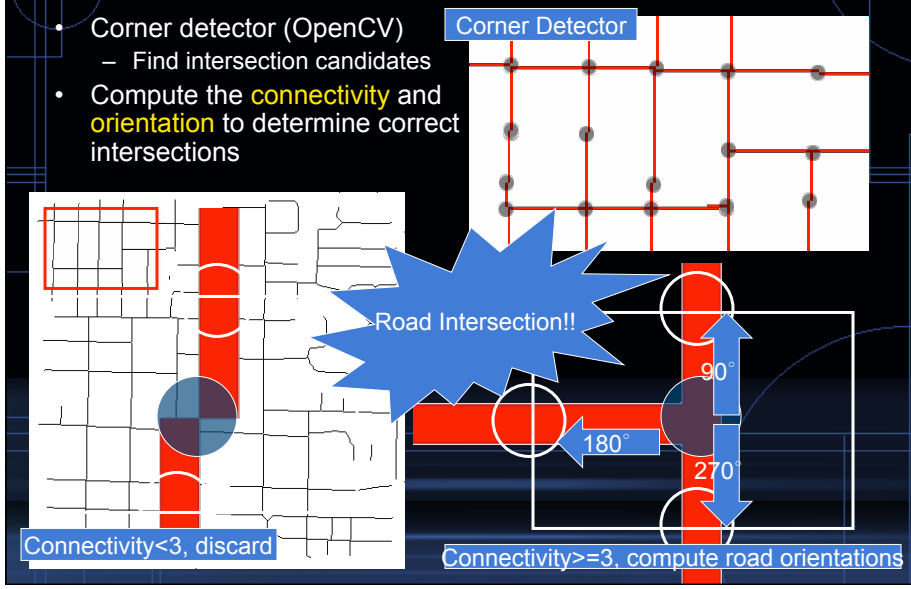
Thinning

Thinner each road line until they are all one pixel width.



Identify Road Intersections and Extract Road Information

- Corner detector (OpenCV)
  - Find intersection candidates
- Compute the connectivity and orientation to determine correct intersections



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Experimental Results

- Correctly extracted intersection point:
  - Within 5pixels around an intersection point on the original map

Double-line road layer

Single-line road layer

Experimental Results

- CorrectINT - Correctly extracted road intersections
- AllExtractedINT - All extracted road intersections
- TotalINT – Actual road intersections on the raster map

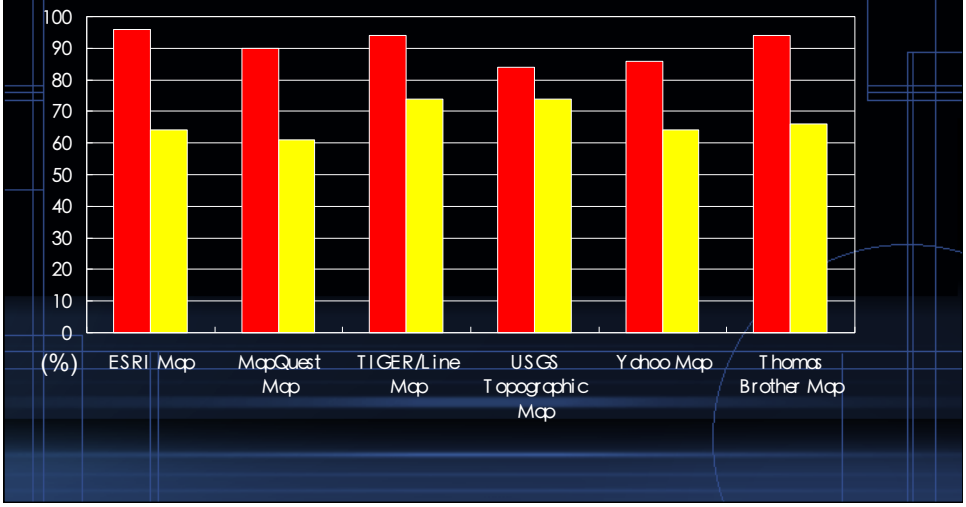
- Precision: P= CorrectINT / AllExtractedINT

- Recall: R= CorrectINT / TotalINT

- Positional accuracy:
  - The distance in pixels between the correctly extracted intersection and the corresponding intersection on the original map

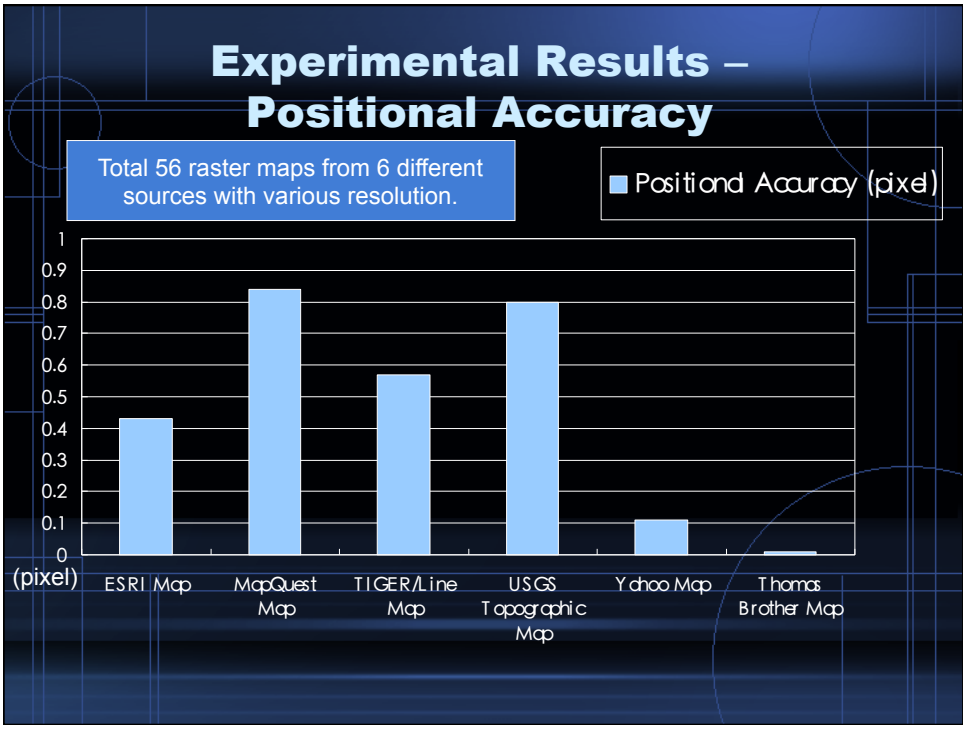
Experimental Results – Precision and Recall

Total 56 raster maps from 6 different sources with various resolution.



Experimental Results – Positional Accuracy

Total 56 raster maps from 6 different sources with various resolution.



Experimental Results - Performance

- Computation time:
  - Platform/Machine: Windows 2000 Server, Intel Xeon 1.8 GHZ Dual-Processor with 1 GB memory
  - 800x600 topographic map with resolution 2m/pixel: less than 1 minutes
  - Other simpler maps: less than 20 seconds

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Related Work

- Contour line recognition from scanned topographic maps (Salvatore et. al 2001)
  - Use color classification to separate contour lines and use global topology information to reconstruct the broken lines
  - Require prior knowledge of the line color
- A legend-driven geographic symbol recognition system. (Samet et. al 1994)
  - Use the legend layer in a learning process to identify labels on the raster maps
  - Require legend layer and training

Related Work

- Automatic extraction of primitives for conflation of raster maps. (Habib et. al 1999)
  - Automatically extract primitives on raster maps
  - Require the input raster maps have only road layer and apply edge detector
- Verification-based approach for automated text and feature extraction from raster-scanned maps. (Myers et. Al 1996)
  - Use a verification based approach to extract data on raster maps
  - Require map specifications, legend layer and training

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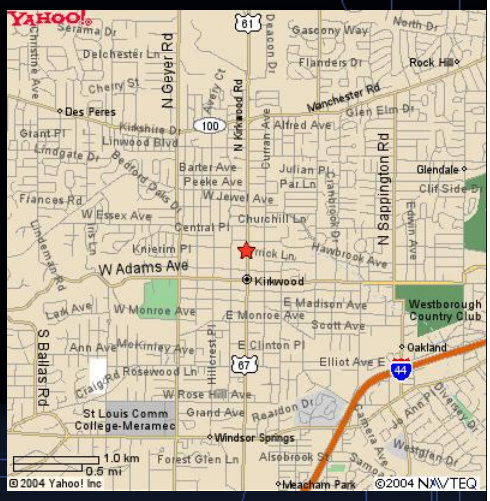
Conclusion and Future Work

- We achieved average 92% precision and 77% recall
  - Compared to 76% precision in previous work
  - Automatically extracting intersection points
  - Without prior information
- Efficient
- In our recent work Automatically Identifying and Georeferencing Street Maps on the Web (Sneha et al. 2005):
  - Found road intersections on automatically returned maps from image search engines
  - Identify the geocoordinates
  - Align the maps

Conclusion and Future Work

- Low-resolution maps:
  - many overlapped labels and lines
  - below average precision (66%) and low recall (27%)



Low-resolution Yahoo Map

Conclusion and Future Work

- Enhance the pre-processing modules to handle low-quality scanned map, more complex maps
- Combine Character Recognition module to "read" the map

Conclusion and Future Work

Thank YOU

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