



UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

***INTEGRATED FACE DETECTION APPROACH FOR FAR IMAGE
APPLICATION***

TANKO DANIEL SALKA

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**INTEGRATED FACE DETECTION APPROACH FOR FAR IMAGE
APPLICATION**

By

TANKO DANIEL SALKA

**Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia,
in Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Science**

October 2016

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DEDICATIONS

This thesis is dedicated to my parent Mr. & Mrs. Tanko Duste Salka



Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Science

INTEGRATED FACE DETECTION APPROACH FOR FAR IMAGE APPLICATION

By

TANKO DANIEL SALKA

October 2016

Chairman : Marsyita Binti Hanafi, PhD
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Face detection has been widely explored over the past few decades. Despite the significant progress in detecting human faces in unconstrained and complex images, face detection remains a challenging problem in computer vision, especially for the images captured at a far distance making it difficult to detect face region. Other factors affecting face detection are illumination conditions, pose and ethnicity. Therefore, the need of a robust and efficient face detection algorithm is required to tackle these problems. This thesis presents an Integrated face detection approach for far image application, which solves the problems mentioned. The proposed approach consists of an Illumination compensation method, a Skin segmentation method, a Noise reduction method and Euler method. In the proposed illumination compensation method, the R, G and B components were normalized using Gray World Theory (GWT), a theory that compensates the illumination effect. The skin segmentation method consists of a combination of RGB filter, the newly proposed filter known as a Dynamic chrominance filter and an edge detector. The function of the RGB filter is to reject pixels with the RGB colors that are most probably non-skin, so that the computation in the following stages does not apply to all pixels. In this method, the final decision of a pixel belongs to the class "skin is made by the Dynamic chrominance filter and the edge detector. The noise reduction method in the proposed algorithm consists of a combination of a morphological filter and a rejection method. The last stage of the algorithm is to apply the Euler method, in which its function is to search for the facial features. The features indicate whether the detected skin region is a region that represents face or non-face. Also, an experiment was conducted on the developed database known as Large Variability Surveillance Camera Face (LVSC) database and FEI database, the proposed method produced a detection rate of 98.4% and 100%, respectively.

Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk ijazah Master Sains

PENDEKATAN BERSEPADU PENGESANAN WAJAH BAGI APLIKASI KAMERA LITAR TERTUTUP (CCTV)

Oleh

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Penerokaan bidang pengesanan wajah bagi imej digital telah giat dijalankan sejak beberapa dekad yang lalu. Di sebalik perkembangan yang ketara ini, pengesanan wajah dalam imej yang tidak dikawal dan kompleks kekal menjadi satu masalah dalam bidang penglihatan komputer terutamanya untuk imej yang diambil dari jarak yang jauh yang mana membuatkan proses pengesanan rantau wajah menjadi sangat sukar. Faktor lain yang turut mempengaruhi proses pengesanan ini ialah keadaan pencahayaan, variasi gaya dan kepelbagaian etnik. Oleh itu, keperluan algoritma pengesanan wajah yang mantap dan cekap diperlukan untuk menangani masalah-masalah ini. Tesis ini membentangkan satu kaedah pengesanan wajah bersepadu bagi aplikasi imej jarak jauh, bagi mengatasi masalah yang telah disebutkan sebelum ini. Pendekatan yang dicadangkan terdiri daripada kaedah pampasan pencahayaan, teknik pengesanan kulit, kaedah pengurangan hingar dan teknik Euler. Dalam kaedah pampasan pencahayaan, komponen R , G dan B ternormal menggunakan teknik Teori Dunia Kelabu, satu teori bagi mengimbangi kesan pencahayaan. Kaedah pengesanan kulit pula terdiri daripada gabungan penapis RGB yang baru yang dicadangkan di dalam tesis ini, penapis krominan dinamik dan pengesan tepi. Fungsi penapis RGB ialah bagi menyingkirkan piksel dengan nilai RGB yang berkemungkinan besar bukan kulit, supaya proses pengiraan di peringkat seterusnya tidak dilaksanakan pada kesemua piksel. Di dalam kaedah ini, keputusan muktamad sama ada sesuatu piksel itu tergolong dalam kelas kulit atau tidak, adalah ditentukan oleh penapis krominan dinamik dan pengesan tepi. Teknik pengurangan hingar dalam algoritma yang dicadangkan ini terdiri daripada gabungan penapis morfologi dan kaedah penyingkiran. Fasa terakhir dalam algoritma ini ialah untuk mengaplikasikan kaedah Euler, yang mana ia berfungsi untuk mendapatkan ciri-ciri wajah, seperti mata, hidung dan mulut. Ciri-ciri tersebut menentukan sama ada rantau kulit yang dikesan itu

mewakili muka atau tidak. Satu eksperimen telah dijalankan ke atas pangkalan data yang telah dibangunkan yang dikenali sebagai Wajah Kamera Pengawasan Kebolehubahan Besar Large Variability Surveillance Camera Face (LVSC) dan pangkalan data FEI, dan kaedah yang dicadangkan masing-masing mencapai kadar pengesanan sebanyak 98.4% dan 100%.



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I certify that a Thesis Examination Committee has met on 18 October 2016 to conduct the final examination of Tanko Daniel Salka on his thesis entitled "Integrated Face Detection Approach for Far Image Application" in accordance with the Universities and University Colleges Act 1971 and the Constitution of the Universiti Putra Malaysia [P.U.(A) 106] 15 March 1998. The Committee recommends that the student be awarded the Master of Science.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CCTV	Close Circuit Television
HCI	Human Computer Interaction
PCA	Principal Component Analysis
NN	Neural Network
SVM	Support Vector Machine
GWT	Gray World Theory
HF	Homomorphic Filtering
CLAHE	Contrast Limited Adaptive Histogram Equalization
<i>E</i>	Euler Number
CC	Connected Component
<i>H</i>	Hole
<i>bb</i>	Bounding box
PTZ	Pan - Tilt - Zoom Camera
SCface	Surveillance Camera Face Database
PSNR	Peak Signal to Noise Ratio
TP	True Positive
TN	True Negative
FP	False Positive
FN	False Negative
TDR	True Detection Rate
FDR	False Detection Rate
LVSCF	Large Variability Surveillance Camera Face Database
MUCT	Milborrow University of Cape Town
FERET	Facial Evaluation Recognition Technology

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

A face detection system is a computer application that detect the presence of human faces in a given image or video frame and return the location of the faces. Over the past few years, face detection has received great attention from the scholars due to its requirement in many applications such as automatic face recognition, human-computer interaction (HCI), video surveillance, and content-based image retrieval.

Early face detection systems can be tracked as far back in 1970s, where heuristic and anthropometric techniques were used [1, 2]. These techniques were able to detect faces based on various assumptions, such as faces only appear in frontal view. The major hitch of these methods is that, any changes in image condition would result in fine-tuning of the whole system or even completely redesigning the system. However, the study of human face detection in the last decades was inspired by the appearance of human faces, which is considered as a dynamic object that comes in different color and sizes and the need in some applications such as face verification [3, 4], face recognition [5–7], facial expression recognition [8–11], emotion recognition [12, 13] and gender or age recognition [14, 15].

In recent years, detecting human faces from images captured by a CCTV camera has received great attention from the scholars. Many techniques have been developed due to the requirement of tackling the problems of detecting faces from low quality of images, which are mostly low in resolution, variation in illuminations and occlusions. In this thesis, an integrated face detection algorithm was presented that consists of a combination of several methods, namely an illumination compensation method, a skin segmentation method, a noise reduction method and Euler method. The algorithm is proposed to tackle the problem of detecting faces on images that were captured by the surveillance cameras, under various illuminations, scales and occlusions. In addition, we would like to tackle the problem of detecting faces of various ethnics.

1.2 Problem Statement

Most of the researches on face detection focus on high quality still face images and achieve good results. However, detecting human faces on images captured by surveillance cameras is a difficult task. Samir et al. [16] presented a face detection method that was based on the skin segmentation and facial geometric properties, which they achieved a good result. However, the major problem with their method was that the authors did not consider faces at different scale (distance away from the camera). Thus, more research is required to address this issue.

Another challenge comes from detecting human faces across different ethnic group

[17, 18]. Skin color differs between human races and can also be different from a person to another even with people of the same ethnicity, thus making it difficult to detect faces. In addition, illumination conditions have a very strong effect on the appearance of an object [19]. This condition may occur during image acquisition due to different lighting exposure. Face pose at different angles and expression also contribute to the increment of false detection rate [20]. The proposed techniques in this thesis follow several strategies to address the above-mentioned problems.

The availability of face database that best demonstrates a practical scenario of face samples is very important. One of the main reasons is because face detection continues to be one of the most interesting research areas in computer vision. However, there are some limitations associated with the existing database such as lack of various in scales (i.e. various distance between the subject and the camera) and the size of the datasets is quite small. Therefore, the need for a large scale, wide variability and more challenging database is required.

1.3 Aim of the Research

The aim of this work is to develop a face detection system that able to tackle the problem of detecting faces on images that are captured by CCTV system under various imaging conditions and across different ethnics.

1.4 Objectives of the Research

The objectives of this thesis are as follows.

1. To develop a database that consist of images under various conditions, such as captured at different distances, illumination across different ethnics.
2. To identify the best optimal chrominance combination that best represent skin pixels for images captured by surveillance cameras and to also identify the best illumination compensation method.
3. To propose a face detection method with an accuracy of more than 95%.

1.5 Scope of Work

In this thesis, the first task is to develop a large scale, wide variability and challenging database that consists of CCTV images and videos in both controlled and uncontrolled conditions. Then, the next task is to perform skin segmentation using two types of filters, namely, RGB and Dynamic Chrominance filters. However, the final decision of a pixel classifies as class "skin" is made by the edge detector. The noise reduction method in the proposed algorithm consists of a combination of a morphological filter and a rejection method. The last stage in the algorithm is to apply the Euler method.

1.6 Research Contributions

1. Introducing a face database, known as Large Variability Surveillance Camera Face Database (LVSCF) that consists of color images, night mode images and videos. The images were captured under various imaging conditions such as variation in illuminations, scales, poses and occlusions.
2. Introducing an optimal chrominance combination that best represent human skin pixels for images captured by surveillance cameras under various imaging condition and across different ethnic groups.
3. Improved on the existing skin detection method by introducing RGB and Dynamic Chrominance filters.

1.7 Thesis Outline

This thesis is structured as follows. Chapter one consists of sub-sections that give a broad insight into the study. These include the background, research problem statement and the contribution of the thesis. Research objectives and scope are also included this chapter. In Chapter Two, a literature review is presented. The overviews of existing works on the face detection, including the advantages and disadvantages were discussed. The methods used in the proposed algorithm were discussed in Chapter Three. Chapter Four presents the experiment results and finally, Chapter Five presents the conclusions and future works.

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