



A Chain Code Approach For Recognising Modi Script Numerals

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ABSTRACT

In this paper, a chain code based scheme for recognition of MODI script numerals have been developed. Chain codes have been claimed as one of the techniques that are able to recognize characters and digits successfully. This is because of several advantages possessed by this technique as listed by. The first advantage over the representation of a binary object is that the chain codes are a compact representation of a binary object. Second, the chain codes are translation invariant representation of a binary object. Due to that, it is easier to compare objects using this technique. The third advantages are that the chain code is a complete representation of an object or curve. This means that we can compute any shape feature from the chain codes. According to, chain code provide lossless information and preserving all topological and morphological information which bring out another benefits in terms of speed and effectiveness for the analysis of line pattern.

Here a modified algorithm for recognition of binary image (MODI numerals) is presented. This algorithm can be applied to monochrome images after being binarized and derived the chain code from the image. The chain code algorithm is valid for to recognize direction features of MODI numerals, which are composed of triangular, rectangular and horizontal cells etc. this algorithm preserve information and allows computing geometric dimension and directions. Here, a considerable improvement in accuracy have been achieved keeping some points to consider such as binarizing with single cells, normalizing the digits w.r.to size and shapes.

Keywords : Chain Code, Modi Script

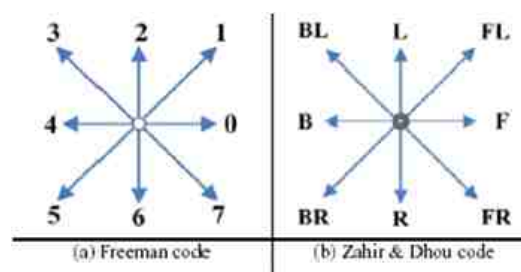
Introduction

One of the oldest techniques for pattern recognition is used for character recognition, but through all days, more focus was on Latin, Chinese and Japanese languages, though connected. First, we applied Hilditch's method, which consists of removing the pixels that lie on the edge of the binary image until only one-pixel-wide line remains. This is followed by some conditions suggested by Al-Emami to reduce the junction points to one junction point. From a practical viewpoint however, the matching time must be reduced as much as possible through the classification techniques [3], which we will consider afterword.

In the eight connectivity encoding scheme introduced by Freeman [1], a link represents the direction between two points (pixels). These directions are numbered 0-to-7 as shown in Figure 1 (a). In order to digitally represent these directions, three bits are needed for each direction. Bons and Kegel [2] introduced the differential chain coding, DCC, method. This method exploits the correlation between two successive links via calculating the difference between the two links and assigning a variable length code to the result. The result is always positive, and within the range 0 to 7 instead of the range -7 to 7. Yeh et al [3] presented the Ideal-segmented Chain Coding (IsCC) method. They used the ideal 4-connected chains that can move in the right down

/ left up or left down / right up. Liu and Zalik [4] presented a new chain code method based on the eight-directions of Freeman code where each element in the chain is coded with a relative angle difference between the current and the previous direction and then they applied Huffman coding to compress the edges bit streams.

Figure 1: (a)freeman chain code . (b) Z & D code



The algorithm developed in this paper is checked and executed by using MATLAB software. With this we also used some predefined function which are already defined in matlab.

Chain Codes

Chain codes are one of the shape representations which are used to represent a boundary by a connected sequence of straight line segments of specified length and direction. This representation is based on 4-connectivity or 8-connectivity of the segments. The direction of each segment is coded by using a numbering scheme as shown in Figure 1 above. Chain codes based from this scheme

are known as Freeman chain codes. Fig. 1 Direction numbers for (a) 4-directional chain codes, (b) 8-directional chain code A coding scheme for line structure must satisfy three

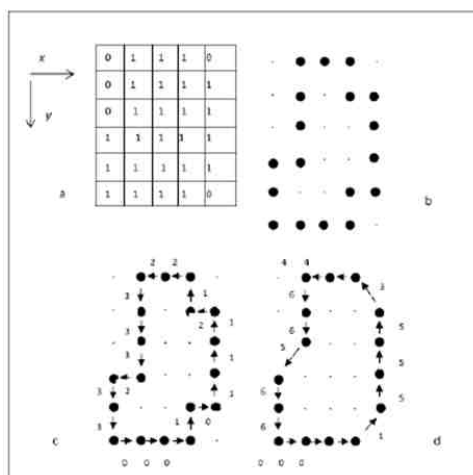
Objectives

- a. It must faithfully preserve the information of interest;
- b. It must permit compact storage and convenient for display; and
- c. It must facilitate any required processing.

According to [9], chain codes are a linear structure that results from quantization of the trajectory traced by the centers of adjacent boundary elements in an image array. A chain code can be generated by following a boundary of an object in a clockwise direction and assigning a direction to the segments connecting every pair of pixels. First, we pick a starting pixel location anywhere on the object boundary. Our aim is to find the next pixel in the boundary. There must be an adjoining boundary pixel at one of the eight locations surrounding the current boundary pixel. By looking at each of the eight adjoining pixels, we will find at least one that is also a boundary pixel. Depending on which one it is, we assign a numeric code of between 0 and 7 as already shown in Figure 2. For example, if the pixel found is located at the right of the current location or pixel, a code "0" is assigned. If the pixel found is directly to the upper right, a code "1" is assigned. The process of locating the next boundary pixel and assigning a code is repeated until we came back to our first location or boundary pixel. The result is a list of chain codes showing the direction taken in moving from each boundary pixel to the next. The process of finding the boundary pixel and assigning a code is shown in Figure 3.

Chain codes have been claimed as one of the techniques that are able to recognize characters and digits successfully. This is because of several advantages possessed by this technique as listed by. The first advantage over the representation of a binary object is that the chain codes are a compact representation of a binary object. Second, the chain codes are a translation invariant representation of a binary object. Due to that, it is easier to compare objects using this technique. The third advantage is that the chain code is a complete representation of an object or curve.

Fig. 2 a & b) A 4-connected object and its boundary; c & d) Obtaining the chain code from the object in (a & b) with (c) for 4-connected and (d) for 8connected



This means that we can compute any shape feature from the chain codes. chain codes provide a lossless compressing and preserving all topological and morphological information which bring out another benefit in terms of speed and effectiveness for the analysis of line patterns.

Methodology

The following figure shows the methodology for this research. There are five phases involved; image acquisition, data definition, Image pre-processing, Binarizing images and Chain derivation and recognition.

Figure 3 : Total process used in algorithm.

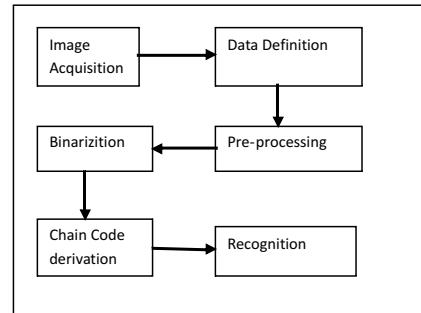


Image Acquisition:

In this section, images captured by flat scanner using 300 dpi or user can also capture the images by using writer pad. Save these images in .jpg format. Image acquired by writer pad required less pre-processing, where as images acquired by scanner required more efforts for pre-processing. Following figure-4 shows some example of MODI numerals using writer pad.

Figure 4: MODI Numerals



Data Definition:

Data that comes from the form of images need to be identified and analyzed first before tested. The first step to normalized the images. It means that this MODI script is cursive type and extend its corners (Modi Numerals) randomly. Hence it need to be normalized, which leads to better result.

Figure-5 shows some randomness.



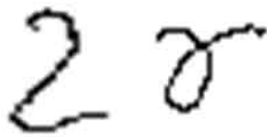
Pre-processing

Two processes are involved in pre-processing which are threshold and filtering. Since images captured from degraded documents. These documents are very salty and full of dust, noise. So that images cannot be seen clearly. So it is necessary to clear the images. This can be achieved by various filters available in Matlab.

Binarization:

Once completion of the pre-processing and getting clear images which is .jpg format, then the process of binarization of images can apply. Images used are gray-scaled images and are converted into binary images which means that every pixel in the images is converted to the binary values ("0" & "1"). Following figure-6 shows this effect and save these images as monochrome images.

Figure 6: monochrome images.



Chain code Derivation

This phase is to derive the chain codes for each number of Modi script in the specified region which is the result from image binarization phase. The algorithm for extracting chain code for 8-connected boundaries.

In this paper, a modified chain code is to be used to recognize the numerals of Modi script. Basically this resulted chain code differentiate the numerals from each other. Following flow chart shows the total process of finding chain code fig 7. Fig 8 shows flow chart of the Traditional Chain code.

Figure 7: Total process of finding chain code.

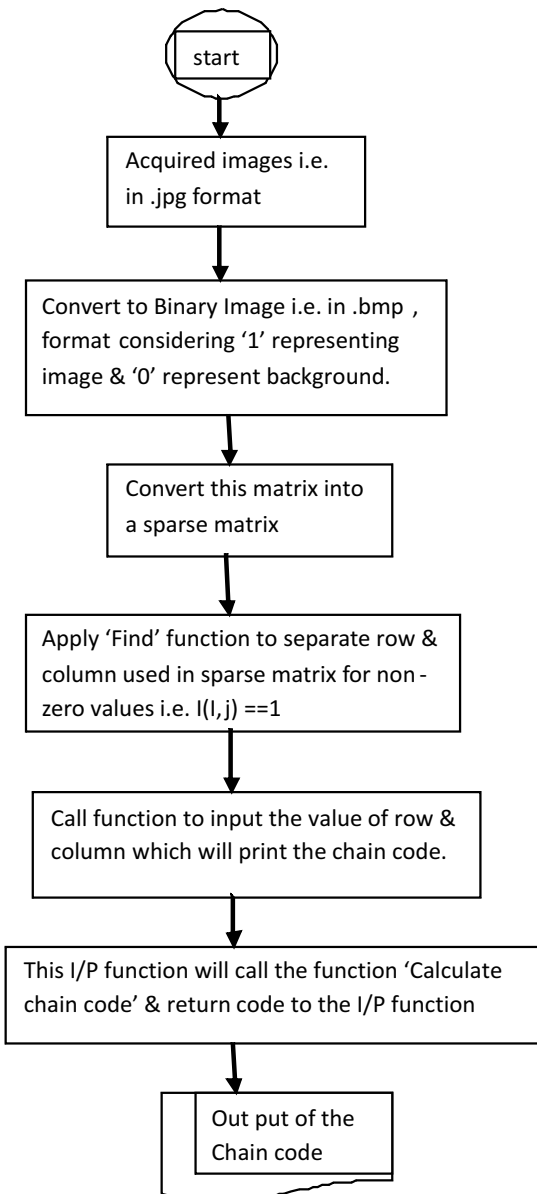
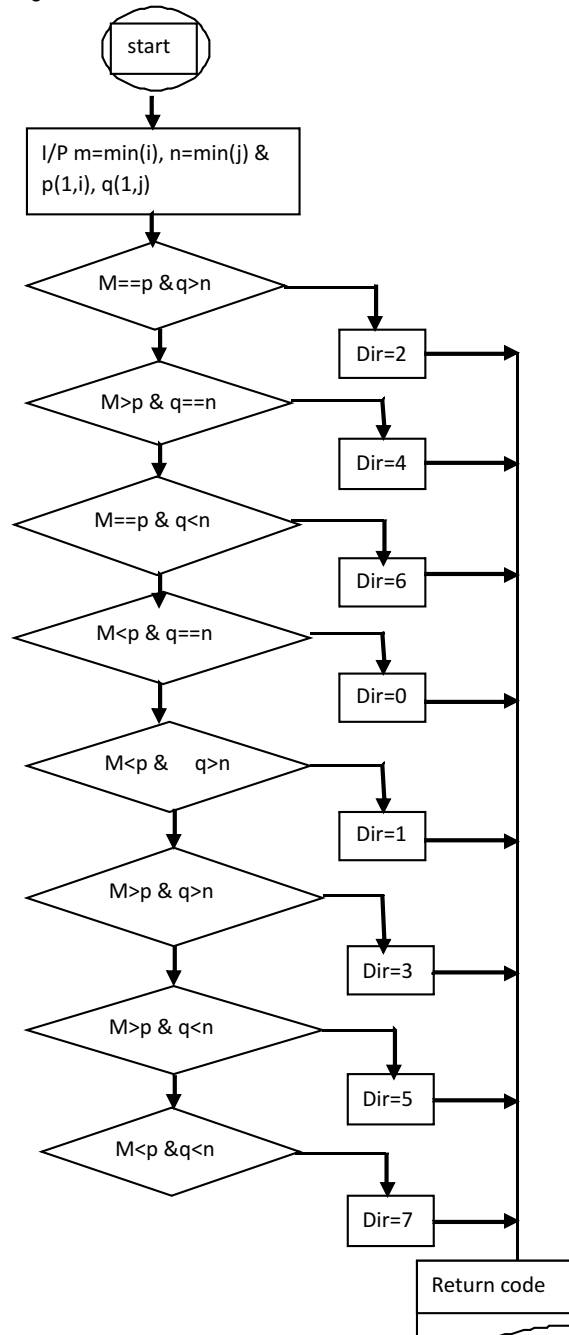


Figure 8: Return Chain code

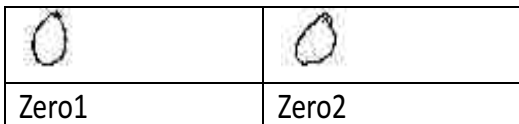


Result

In this section, the proposed algorithm will be tested using different test images. A data base of various image classes has been used. Here, images were binary and its array represented in the form of '0' and '1'. i.e. image represented by '1' and its background represented by '0'. One thing is to remember that every image must be noiseless, extracted from degraded document. It must be normalized to get better result. Following figure shows different images of same classes with their Chain code.

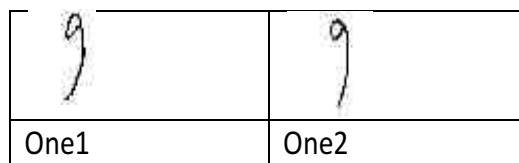
Zero1 0003000000003000030003003003030
3030300300300030003000 300000300000
00003

Zero2 0000030003003000300300300300303
00300300300300030030000300030000003
000030000



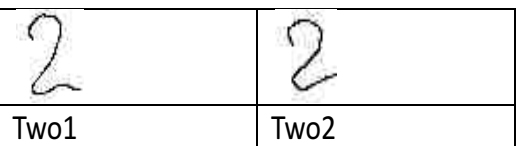
One1 0003000000030000300000300003000
0003000003000000003000000000000003
000

One2 0003000303000300000030000000300
00003000000030000000000000000000003
00



Two1 00003000030000000300000300030003
00300030030000300030003000030003000
0030000003000003000003000000000222

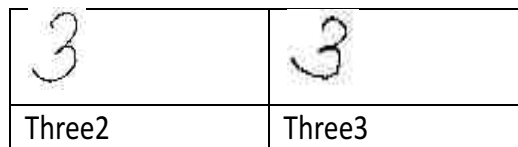
Two2 00003000300000300000300000300000
3000300300030000300030000300030003
000300000003000002303223???



Three2 020202021220222203000030003030
03000030000300003000300003003000300
00030000300000300000300000030000000

Three3 030020202202202212230300300000
03000030000030003000030000300003000

0000300000000300300030000???



Nine1 0000300000030000300000300030003
00003000300003000222222222032230323
03033330300300303030030???

Nine2 0000300003000300030000300003000
030003000030030030030002222230323
03232233030333030303330030???

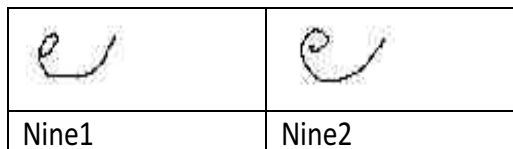


Table 1: Comparative study

Sr.No.	Test Image	Accuracy	Test remark
1	Zero1	95%	normalized
	Zero2	96%	..
2	One1	94%	..
	One2	93%	..
3	Two1	87%	Non- normalized
	Two2	89%	..
4	Three2	89%	..
	Three3	85%	..
5	Nine1	93%	normalized
	Nine2	95%	normalized

Conclusion

In this paper, a chain code has been derived of various binary images of same class for each numerals of MODI script. Care had taken for I/P images is that each image must be normalized and also its sparse matrix must also normalized. Otherwise little bit change in accuracy may occur, but in normalized images accuracy rate increase to 95%. This algorithm can be applied to any binary image and is used to find chain code.

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