

# Simulink Component Recognition Using Image Processing

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**ABSTRACT:** In early stages of engineering design, pen-and-paper sketches are often used to quickly convey concepts and ideas. Free-form drawing is often preferable to using computer interfaces due to its ease of use, fluidity and lack of constraints. The objective of this project is to create a trainable sketched Simulink component recognizer and classifying the individual Simulink components from the input block diagram. The recognized components will be placed on the new Simulink model window after which operations can be performed over them. Noise from the input image is removed by Median filter, the segmentation process is done by K-means clustering algorithm and recognition of individual Simulink components from the input block diagram is done by Euclidean distance. The project aims to devise an efficient way to segment a control system block diagram into individual components for recognition.

**Keywords:** MATLAB, Median filter, K-means clustering algorithm

## INTRODUCTION

This project presents a new computational model for automatically interpreting hand-drawn sketches of schematic diagrams. Our model employs a multi-level parsing and recognition architecture. Our approach allows users to continuously sketch without having to indicate when one symbol ends and another begins. Additionally, it does not restrict the number of strokes in a symbol, or the order in which they are drawn. Hence, it eliminates many of the unnatural constraints imposed by existing sketch understanding systems, such as limitations to single-stroke objects, or the need for user involvement in separating different symbols.

## EXISTING METHOD:

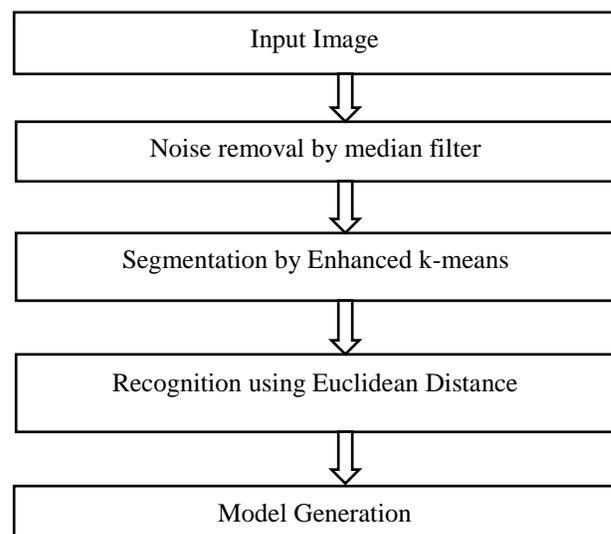
Our approach differs from earlier techniques in that it acts selectively in the early stages to identify a small set of easily recognizable "marker symbols." These markers anchor a spatial analysis which parses the uninterpreted strokes into distinct clusters, each representing a single symbol. Finally, a symbol recognizer, informed by clustering and domain specific knowledge, is used to find the best interpretations of the strokes. We have argued that this approach has the advantage of quickly guiding the recognizer in the right direction while preventing unfruitful explorations.

This work emphasizes that techniques aimed at uncovering the underlying structure of a sketch, such as preliminary recognition and stroke clustering, can have a significant beneficial impact on computational efficiency and recognition accuracy. The computational cost of the resulting system is low enough to be suitable for interactive sketch understanding.

## PROPOSED METHOD:

To demonstrate our techniques, we have built SimuSketch, a sketch-based interface for Matlab's Simulink package, and VibroSketch, a sketch-based interface for analysing vibratory mechanical systems. In both systems, users can construct functional engineering models by simply sketching them on a computer screen. Users can then interactively manipulate their sketches to change model parameters and run simulations.

## PROJECT FLOW:



**Fig 1.1** Flow of Project

The input image is scanned by the program. Noises are removed with the help of median filter. Objects on the image are segmented using K-means clustering algorithm.

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The separate objects are recognised as their respective Simulink models. The new model is generated using the recognised components.

## DIGITAL IMAGE PROCESSING

The Digital image processing is the use of computer algorithms to perform image processing on digital images. As a subcategory or field of digital image processing has many advantages over analog image processing. It allows a much wider range of algorithms to be applied to the input data and can avoid problems such as the build-up of noise and signal distortion during processing. Since images are defined over two dimensions (perhaps more) digital image processing may be modelled in the form of multidimensional systems.

## GOALS OF DIGITAL IMAGE PROCESSING

The goal of digital processing is to improve the visualization of pathology by optimizing these physical parameters. Processing parameters need to be chosen correctly in order to overcome the inverse relationship between contrast and latitude while producing images that retain a conventional appearance. UMF is a simple technique for improving image quality. This technique, however, suffers from serious drawbacks, such as the suppression of pathologic lesions or artifacts that may simulate pathology. Manufacturers have developed different approaches in order to overcome problems and artifacts derived from this technique.

## APPLICATIONS

### Digital camera images

Digital cameras generally include dedicated digital image processing chips to convert the raw data from the image sensor into a colour-corrected image in a standard image file format. Images from digital cameras often receive further processing to improve their quality, a distinct advantage that digital cameras have over film cameras. The digital image processing typically is executed by special software programs that can manipulate the images in many ways. Many digital cameras also enable viewing of histograms of images, as an aid for the photographer to understand the rendered brightness range of each shot more readily.

### Film

West world (1973) was the first feature film to use digital image processing to pixelate the android's point of view.

### Intelligent transportation systems

Digital image processing has wide applications in intelligent transportation systems, such as automatic number plate recognition and traffic sign recognition.

## COMPONENT RECOGNITION

There have been numerous efforts to create experimental sketch understanding systems.

This section begins with a discussion of work focused on sketch parsing and recognition, and then surveys existing sketch based applications.

## SYMBOL RECOGNITION

Graph based methods have been one of the most prominent approaches to object representation and matching, and have recently been applied to hand drawn pattern recognition problems. With these methods, sketched symbols are first decomposed into basic geometric primitives, such as lines and arcs, which are then assembled into a graph structure that encodes both the intrinsic attributes of the primitives and the geometric relationships between them. Pattern detection is then formulated as a graph-subgraph isomorphism problem, a problem extensively studied by computer vision practitioners. This approach has been used to recognize machine drawn symbols, symbols drawn using templates, and precise hand-drawn symbols. This method provides automatic training, although the drawing order must be consistent across the training examples. These sorts of graph-based approaches are sensitive to segmentation errors, and graph matching can be expensive. This makes our approach less sensitive to segmentation errors and drawing variations. As an alternative to graphical methods, the recognizer also makes use of special geometric properties of particular shapes. As it is hard-coded, this recognizer is not easily extended to new symbols. Each shape is described by four geometric features calculated from three special polygons defined by the convex hull of the shape. Because this recognizer works from the convex hull properties, it cannot distinguish between different shapes with the same convex hull.

## SKETCH INTERPRETATION SYSTEM

A few sketch-based interfaces have been developed for interpreting electrical circuit sketches. It uses hard-coded recognizers that assume a fixed drawing order. Also, the system avoids issues of parsing by requiring the user to pause between symbols. Gates must be drawn in either one or two strokes. It describes a trainable recognizer for electrical circuits symbols. Symbols are classified by comparing a symbol's attribute graph to that of a probabilistic model of each learned symbol. In addition to electrical circuits, recent years have seen the development of experimental sketch-based interfaces for a variety of other disciplines. The program's task is to determine what the geometry of the sketch should have been to make the sketched device behave as intended. To do this, the program employs an novel behavioural representation, called qualitative configuration space (qc-space), that captures the behaviour suggested by a sketch while abstracting away the particular geometry used to suggest that behaviour. The program is concerned only with the high-level interpretation of the sketch, and does not consider the low-level issues of parsing and symbol recognition.

## PARSING AND RECOGNITION ARCHITECTURE

This approach has a number of distinct advantages. First, by focusing on marker symbols early on, it avoids unfruitful explorations and quickly directs the analysis in the right direction. Second, the approach provides a platform for encoding contextual knowledge. For example, at the conclusion of the clustering step, the system can narrow down the set of possible interpretations for each symbol. This both increases recognition accuracy and reduces recognition cost. Finally, once the initial analysis is complete, our system can use domain knowledge to identify and correct errors that may have occurred during parsing and recognition. While there are many different domains that can make use of the mark-group-recognition architecture outlined above, this thesis demonstrates its utility in two domains. The first involves network diagrams in which a set of symbols (nodes) are connected by a set of arrows. The second involves vibratory mechanical systems which typically contain objects such as masses, dampers, springs, external forces and grounds.

## FEATURE EXTRACTION

After resampling, a feature vector is computed forming the input to the neural network. Unlike the speed information used in the previous recognizer, this recognizer uses information related to the inverse-curvature of the resampled stroke. The inverse-curvature is represented as the cosine of the angles between line segments connecting consecutive points. Although the cosine is not precisely the inverse-curvature, it is closely related to it, and thus suitable for our purposes. Hence, the same techniques used for identifying the key points in the speed-based recognizer could be used in this recognizer. Based on these keypoints, we could then use the same geometric tests described in Section 4.2 to decide whether the stroke is an arrow. We have tested this idea, and found that the performance of the hard-coded geometric tests to be the same, regardless of whether the keypoints are determined based on the speed profile or the curvature profile.

### Average

The average brightness of a region is defined as the sample mean of the pixel brightness within that region. The average,  $\mu_a$ , of the brightness over the  $\Lambda$  pixels within a region  $\mathcal{R}$  is given by:

$$\text{Avg} = \frac{1}{\Lambda} \sum_{a \in \mathcal{R}} a$$

Alternatively, we can use a formulation based upon the (unnormalized) brightness Histogram,  $\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{a}) = \Lambda \cdot \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{a})$ , with discrete brightness values  $\mathbf{a}$ . This gives:

$$\mathbf{m} = \sum_{\mathbf{a}} \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{h}[\mathbf{a}]$$

The average brightness,  $\mu_a$ , is an estimate of the mean brightness,  $\mu_a$ , of the underlying brightness probability distribution.

## Standard deviation and Variance

The unbiased estimate of the standard deviation of the brightness within a Region with  $\Lambda$  pixels is called the sample standard deviation and is given by: Often, we want some information about the precision of the mean we obtained. We can obtain this by determining the standard deviation of the sampled mean. The standard deviation of the mean is related to the standard deviation of the distribution by:

$$\sigma_{\text{mean}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sigma$$

Where  $N$  is the number of observations in the sample used to estimate the mean. This can easily be proven with (see basic properties of the variance):

## Covariance

For the covariance approximation we use the first-order Taylor expansion in matrix form

$$\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{Y}) \approx \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{Y}_0) + \mathbf{V}(\mathbf{Y}_0) (\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{Y}_0)$$

Where,

$\mathbf{V} = [\partial \mathbf{h} / \partial \mathbf{Y}]$  denotes the (row) gradient operator.

Taking the covariance' of both sides yields the following

Well known approximation

$$\text{Cov}\{\mathbf{B}\} \approx \text{Cov}\{\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{Y})\} + \mathbf{V}(\mathbf{Y}_0) \text{Cov}\{\mathbf{Y}\} \mathbf{V}(\mathbf{Y}_0)$$

## STROKE CLUSTERING

This section describes an algorithm to locate the distinct symbols in the Simulink domain. Note that this step is concerned only with stroke clustering and not recognition. Recognition is deferred until later after additional sources of information, such as context, have been considered. The arrow analysis identifies the arrows in the sketch but leaves the rest of the strokes uninterpreted. The goal in this step is to group the uninterpreted strokes into different clusters such that each cluster forms a distinct Simulink object that can be subsequently recognized. The key idea behind stroke clustering is that strokes are deemed to belong to the same symbol only when they are spatially proximate. The challenge is reliably determining when two pen strokes should be considered close together. Here, we rely on the arrow to help make this determination. In network diagrams, each arrow typically connects a source object to a target object at its head. Hence, different clusters can be identified by grouping together all the strokes that are near the end of an arrow. In effect, two strokes are considered spatially proximate if the nearest arrow is the same for each.

## SYMBOL RECOGNITION

This chapter presents an overview of the three symbol recognizers we have developed, together with a comparative

evaluation of the advantages and disadvantages of each. A detailed presentation of each of the recognizers is contained in the following chapters. A short description of the first two recognizers were represented previously.

### Image-Based Recognizer

The development of the first recognizer was inspired by techniques from image processing. Symbols are internally represented as quantized bitmap images we call "templates." Each symbol is centered within its template, and is uniformly scaled to fill it, thus making the approach insensitive to uniform scaling. One distinct advantage of this recognizer over traditional ones is that it can learn new definitions from single prototype examples. An unknown template is matched to a definition template using an ensemble of four different classifiers. These classifiers are extensions of the following methods:

1. Hausdorff distance
2. Modified Hausdorff distance
3. Tanimoto coefficient
4. Yule coefficient

These classifiers were originally intended for matching precise bitmaps. These rankings are combined, and the definition with the best combined score is selected. In practice, the combined performance is better than that of any of the individual classifiers. To achieve rotation invariance, the recognizer uses a novel Polar coordinate analysis that avoids expensive rotations in the drawing coordinates. The recognizer is versatile in that we use it both for graphical symbol recognition and digit recognition.

### K-means Clustering Algorithm of Segmentation

The K-means is another simple algorithm of segmenting or classifying images into k different clusters based on feature, attribute or intensity value. It is computationally efficient and does not require the specification of many parameters as compared to other methods of segmentation. Unlike local thresholding, which can only group into two main classes while K-mean Algorithm can group into k different classes and that is part of the reason why we chosen as segmentation method for this work. The classification is done by minimizing the sum of the squares of distances between data and the corresponding clustering centroid. Type of distance calculation compatible with K-means Algorithm includes Manhattan and Euclidean distance etc.

### LIMITATION AND FUTURE WORK

Obviously, this work is only a small step toward achieving truly natural and practical pen-based computer interaction and there are many issues that remain unsolved. Some of these issues are not directly addressed by this study. For instance, our techniques are developed primarily for 2D sketches. Hence, it is not clear whether they can be extended to sketches of 3D scenes. Likewise, our techniques are most suitable for interpreting "schematic" sketches, and are not particularly useful for sketches that are "artistic" in nature. Also, although it would be an interesting study, this

work does not investigate how well our techniques can be employed in small hand-held devices, such as personal digital assistants. In such devices, limited availability of computational resources, such as processor speed and RAM, will place additional constraints on the design of interaction techniques. Another area of interest may be the recognition of "static" input such as scanned sketches. In such cases, the lack of temporal data leading to the final sketch adds another level of complexity not addressed by this study. Stroke beautification would not only clean up unwarranted artefacts in the sketch arising from the imprecision of the human hand, but could also identify perceptually dominant attributes of the strokes, such as perpendicularity or closure. We suspect that this could significantly aid symbol recognizers. Igarashi et al. present a set of techniques that can be useful in this endeavour. Similarly, more psychologically based approaches, such as Gestalt principles, or those presented by Saund may be considered.

### CONCLUSION

Our user studies have indicated that even novice users can effectively utilize these systems to solve real engineering problems, without having to know much about the underlying recognition techniques. To enhance the user's experience with these systems, however, it may be necessary to adjust some of our assumptions about drawing styles, and improve the recognizers used in the preliminary recognition step. Although the techniques presented in our project are demonstrated in two domains, we speculate that they are applicable to other domains as well, such as electrical circuit diagrams, linkage design tools, user interface design software, etc. We believe our symbol recognizers form a useful and practical suite of techniques for the recognition of multistroke symbols, and hence we hope others in the community can make use of them.

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