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RESEARCH ARTICLE

Finger Print Enhancement Using Minutiae Based Algorithm

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Abstract— The popular Biometric used to authenticate a person is Fingerprint which is unique and permanent throughout a person's life. A minutia matching is widely used for fingerprint recognition and can be classified as ridge ending and ridge bifurcation. In this paper we projected Fingerprint Recognition using Minutia Score Matching method (FRMSM). For Fingerprint thinning, the Block Filter is used, which scans the image at the boundary to preserves the quality of the image and extract the minutiae from the thinned image. The false matching ratio is better compared to the existing algorithm.

This paper describes Minutiae based Fingerprint Verification and Recognition Algorithm for Offline Systems. Reprocessing stage includes Image Enhancement, Binarization, Segmentation, ROI extraction and Thinning. Quality of poor and distorted images is improved by Image Enhancement. Improved images are binarized and segmented to extract Region of Interest (ROI). This image is thinned to extract Minutiae. Feature extraction stage includes the extraction of Minutiae i.e. Ridge Terminations and Ridge Bifurcations. Post processing stage includes removal of False Minutiae and then saving of templates. In matching stage, template generated by test image was matched with the saved one. This algorithm has been tested with FVC-2004 database and resulted 90 % accuracy with 5% FAR (False Acceptance Ratio) & 2% FRR (False Rejection Ratio).

Keywords: Fingerprint, Gradient, Coherence, Dominant local orientation angle, Centre Area Features, Canny Edge Parameters

I. INTRODUCTION

Among all the biometric traits, fingerprint identification technology is well developed. The uniqueness, immutability and low cost of fingerprint system have made it to be most widely used and being universally accepted as the best identification system. The widespread application of fingerprint was in government agencies and law enforcement cells till recently. However the availability of inexpensive fingerprint capturing devices, high speed computing hardware, explosive growth of internet transactions and efficient identification algorithms has created huge market for the fingerprint authentication system which is used for personal identification in almost every security applications.

The fingerprint system has two types, identification and verification. Identification is one to many comparison of test fingerprint with database to identify the unknown person whereas verification is one to one comparison of a test fingerprint with stored template to verify the claimed person. Usually Identification take more processing time as the test fingerprint is to be compared with all the fingerprint templates of the data base. Minutiae matching essentially consist of finding the best alignment between the template (set of minutiae in the database) and a subset of minutiae in the input fingerprint, through a geometric transformation.

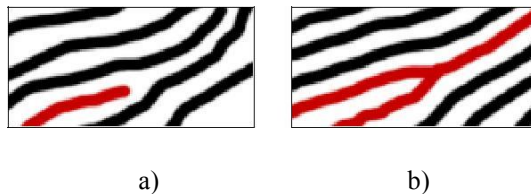


Fig. 1. Example of a) ridge ending and b) bifurcation

II. EXISTING SYSTEM

Fingerprint recognition is one of the oldest methods. Fingerprints have been studied for many years ago. The study about the properties of fingerprints started at 16th century and in 20th century, fingerprint recognition was formally accepted as valid personal identification [12]. There are a number of different strategies and published approaches through which fingerprint identification can be done, among which verification through minutiae points is the most simple and easy[11]. Many researchers develop new fingerprint matching algorithms that have high performance than the previous ones or they create a new way to match. Other researchers try and search to hybrid the existing matching algorithms to minimize the errors. And other uses the existing algorithm and matching methods for improving the accuracy of fingerprint. Due to the high complexity, many techniques are not usable to match and verify the fingerprint because, i) Extracting minutiae from poor-quality image is difficult. ii) Size and orientation of fingerprint are changed, and then accuracy is low.

1. *Fingerprint Representation*: - A representation of fingerprint is classified into three parts.
 - 1) *Global Level Representation*: - This type of representation is known as pattern, which is an aggregate characteristic of ridges, and minutiae points.



Figure 1 Finger Print

- 2) *Local Level Representation*: - Local representation consists of several components within a restricted region in the fingerprint. Which are unique features found within the pattern that are used to unique identification. In this some small points are represented.

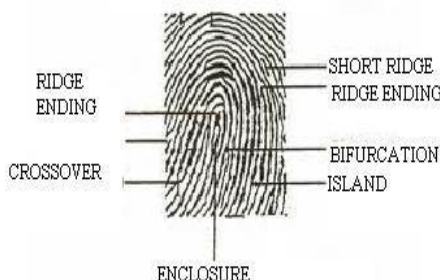


Figure 2 Local Representation

2. *Very Fine Level Representation*: - A small point which is called a minutiae point is sometimes opening in the skin or other surface.

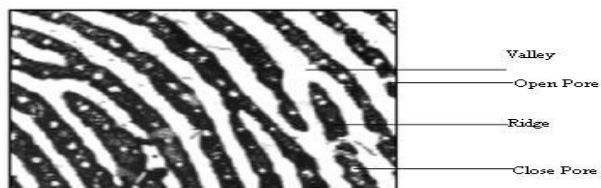


Figure 3 Very Fine Level Representations

III. PROPOSED SYSTEM

Figure 4 gives the block diagram of FRMSM which is used to match the test fingerprint with the template database using Minutia Matching Score.

Fingerprint Image: The input fingerprint image is the gray scale image of a person, which has intensity values ranging from 0 to 255. In a fingerprint image, the ridges appear as dark lines while the valleys are the light areas between the ridges. Minutiae points are the locations where a ridge becomes discontinuous. A ridge can either come to an end, which is called as termination or it can split into two ridges, which is called as bifurcation. The two minutiae types of terminations and bifurcations are of more interest for further processes compared to other features of a fingerprint image.

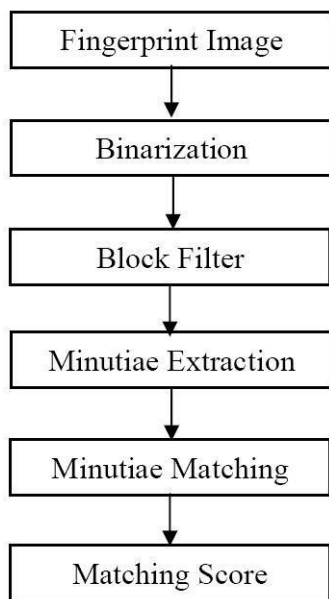


Figure 4 Block Diagram of FRMSM

Binarization: The pre-processing of FRMSM uses Binarization to convert gray scale image into binary image by fixing the threshold value. The pixel values above and below the threshold are set to ‘1’ and ‘0’ respectively. An original image and the image after Binarization are shown in the Figure 5.

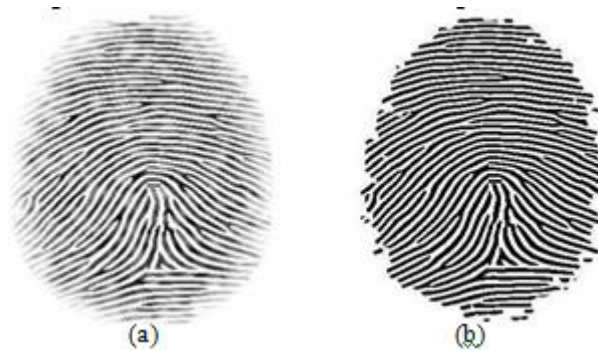


Figure 5 : (a) Original Fingerprint (b) Binarized image.

Block Filter: The binarized image is thinned using Block Filter to reduce the thickness of all ridge lines to a single pixel width to extract minutiae points effectively. Thinning does not change the location and orientation of minutiae points compared to original fingerprint which ensures accurate estimation of minutiae points. Thinning preserves outermost pixels by placing white pixels at the boundary of the image, as a result first five and last five rows, first five and last five columns are assigned value of one. Dilation and erosion are used to thin the ridges. A binarized Fingerprint and the image after thinning are shown in Figure 6

Minutiae Extraction: The minutiae location and the minutiae angles are derived after minutiae extraction. The terminations which lie at the outer boundaries are not considered as minutiae points, and Crossing Number is used to locate the minutiae points in fingerprint image. Crossing Number is defined as half of the sum of differences between intensity values of two adjacent pixels. If crossing Number is 1, 2 and 3 or greater than 3 then minutiae points are classified as Termination, Normal ridge and Bifurcation respectively, is shown in figure 7.

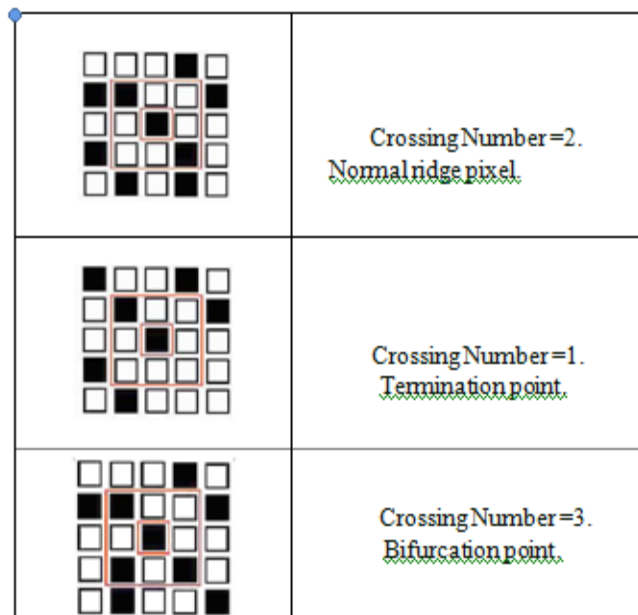


Figure 7: Crossing number and Type of Minutiae

To calculate the bifurcation angle, we use the advantage of the fact that termination and bifurcation are dual in nature. The termination in an image corresponds to the bifurcation in its negative image hence by applying the same set of rules to the negative image, we get the bifurcation angles.

Figure 8 shows the original image and the extracted minutiae points. Square shape shows the position of termination and diamond shape shows the position of bifurcation as in figure 8(b)

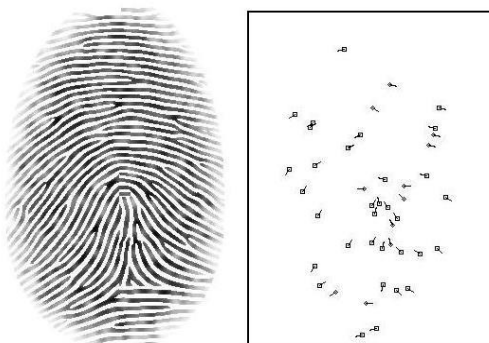


Fig 8: (a) Gray-scale Fingerprint (b) Minutiae points.

IV. ALGORITHM

Problem definition: Given the test Fingerprint Image the objectives are,

1. Pre-processing the test Fingerprint.
2. Extract the minutiae points.
3. Matching test Fingerprint with the database.

Table 1 gives the algorithm for fingerprint verification, in which input test fingerprint image is compared with template fingerprint image, for recognition.

Table 1: Algorithm of FRMSM

<p>Input: Gray-scale Fingerprint image. Output: Verified fingerprint image with matching score.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fingerprint is binarized 2. Thinning on binarized image 3. Minutiae points are extracted. Data matrix is generated to get the position, orientation and type of minutiae. 4. Matching of test fingerprint with template 5. Matching score of two images is computed, if matching score is 1 images are matched and if it is 0 then they are mismatched.

V. PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

For evaluation of fingerprint accuracy we have used three types of dataset. Each data set consists of 8 fingerprint images. These datasets are experimented and result is evaluated.



Fig 9 Sample Fingerprint Images from the Dataset

VI. CONCLUSION & FUTURE WORK

In this paper, a minutia matching systems has been described. A minutiae-based fingerprint verification system is divided in two main blocks: the feature extraction block and the matching block. Main problem in feature extraction section is quality of fingerprint image. Low quality areas of fingerprint occurs large number of false minutiae point. Most important in matching stage, is selection of tolerance distances and transformation method. When tolerance values are increasing, then false accept rate is also rising. When transformation of input minutiae set is not precise, then false reject rate value is high.

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