Crack Finding And Crack Extraction Technique - Image Processing

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Abstract. In this paper, a novel crack detection method is proposed based on the digital image of rice grains. This paper discusses about sorting objects based on quality of the object; some object will be good at its morphological characters such as shape, size color etc... beyond this the object will possess cracked inner; so while packing or in movement the object will easily get broken. So to find these kind of object's in early stage this algorithm is used. The defect cracked object can be defined by users as threshold value, so according to the threshold value fixed the defect object will be ejected from the system. This algorithm is designed to works on the RGB images, so if any RGB image is given as input to this algorithm it will detect the cracked object and produce the output. The algorithm was coded using MATLAB-7.0 programming environment.

Keywords: crack detection, canny, machine vision, crack finding, edge detection

I. Introduction

In this research, a detailed survey is conducted to identify the research challenges and the achievements till in the field of crack detection. Accordingly, many research papers are taken related to crack detection, and those research papers are reviewed. The organization of this survey initially starts up with the general architecture of image processing based crack detection, and followed by the analysis based on objective, dataset, error and accuracy level are listed below. The strategy of this approach originated from the strategy plan diagram shown in Fig.1[1-45].

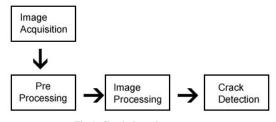


Fig.1. Crack detection process

The above Fig.1. provides the basic architecture for the crack detection using the image processing technique. The major advantage of the image based analysis of the crack detection is that by using the image processing technique it provides accurate result compared to the straight manual methods. The processing difficulty of the crack detection completely depends on the size, lighting and quality of the image. Machine Vision system (e.g. Color sorters) generally use camera-based systems to view processed rice grains. The sorting processes uses CCD camera technology, combined with fast, precise ejectors to reject as many defective products as possible, whilst minimizing the amount of good products ejected by pneumatic air jets from the produce stream.



Fig.2. Good and Normal rice grain possess inner crack

II. Why Detect Edges

The shape information of the rice grain image is enclosed in edges. So first we detect these edges in the image and by using Canny filters and then by enhancing those areas of image which contains edges, sharpness of the image will increase and it will become clear to process or to find crack.

III. Edge Detection

Edge detection is an image processing technique for finding the boundaries of objects within images. It works by detecting discontinuities in brightness.

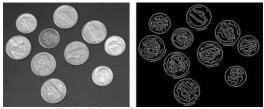
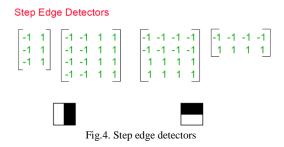


Fig.3. Coin: crack detection sample

Edge detection is used for image segmentation and data extraction in areas such as image processing, computer vision, and machine vision. Common edge detection algorithms include Sobel, Canny, Prewitt, Roberts, and fuzzy logic methods. The sample output is shown on the below coin image Fig.3.

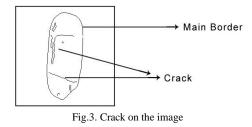
Edge detection includes a variety of mathematical methods that aim at identifying points in a digital image at which the image brightness changes sharply or, more formally, has discontinuities.



The points at which image brightness changes sharply are typically organized into a set of curved line segments termed edges. The same problem of finding discontinuities in one-dimensional signals is known as step detection (Fig.4) and the problem of finding signal discontinuities over time is known as change detection. Edge detection is a fundamental tool in image processing, machine vision and computer vision, particularly in the areas of feature detection and feature extraction[45].

The original captured rice image is converted from RGB to grayscale so that it is compatible with the edge function. Canny edge detection is the one used in this paper. There are three adjustable parameters in Canny, two sensitivity thresholds, high and low

threshold; and sigma, the standard deviation of the Gaussian smoothing filter.



Gaussian smoothing is a 2-D convolution operator used to blur image detail and noise. In this sense, it is similar to other filters such as mean filter, median filter or conservative filter but it uses a different kernel that represents the shape of Gaussian bellshaped hump. Briefly, the greater the 20 sigma is, the more the Gaussian filter blurs the image. By experiment, suitable sigma values for this system vary from 0.1 to 3.3.

IV. Labeling

Without affecting the main border now the crack region had separated by the connected pixel separation algorithm and the image is stored in a separated variable. The labeling function plays an important role in crack finding, by labeling the binary image given by the 'Connected pixel separation algorithm' we can able to get the number of parts in the image. For labeling, MATLAB built-in function named '*bwlabeln()*' is used. This function will label the black and white image.

Syntax: Labeling

[Labeled_Image, Number_Objects] = label(edge_processed_Image)

From the below experiment we can understand the labeling operation.

V. Canny's Edge Detection

The Canny Edge Detection Algorithm has the following Steps:

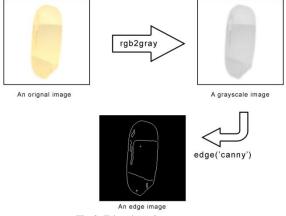
- Smooth the image with a Gaussian filter.
- Compute the gradient magnitude and orientation using finite-difference approximations for the partial derivatives.

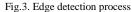
• Apply non-maxima suppression to the gradient magnitude, Use the double thresholding algorithm to detect and link edges.

Canny edge detector approximates the operator that optimizes the product of signal-to-noise ratio and localization. It is generally the first derivative of a Gaussian.

VI. Crack Finding

After labeling the 'separated edge image' the labeled image should be given as input to the 'regionprops()' function to find the area.





The 'Area' will be calculated for each labeled parts in the binary 'Edge Image', but we have to leave the main rice border (Fig 3.5) and find the area of the other labeled parts. We know that the main border will have larger area and the crack region will have lesser area than the main border, so we can reject the larger area part (main border) and consider the other areas (crack regions).

VII. Result & Discussion

Edge detection helps to extract useful features form the image. The edge detection is the primary step in identifying an image object, it is very essential to know the advantages and disadvantages of each edge detection filters. In this paper we dealt with study of Canny edge detection techniques to detect the rice grains inner cracks sharply. The algorithm was implemented using MATLAB.



Fig: 4 Input- cracked rice grain *i. Output*

▲ Intago Viewer - Mx □ □ □ ○ ○ ? ▲ (♥, ♥, ♡) 100% ♥



Fig 5. Edge image and MATLAB 7.0 command window

The output (Fig.5) clearly shows the detected edge and the rejected message.

VIII. Conclusion

Collation of all results and observations made during this research lead to the following conclusions, Canny's edge detection algorithm has a better performance to extract the edges of the rice on the image and to trace the crack on it. By using the edge detection process algorithm the machine vision system can sort-out a bad rice grain from the system. The average of 0.2 seconds in a 128 MB RAM with ~1GHz Pentium III processor configuration. This time will be reduced in a higher configuration system, because nowadays processors speed were reached above 3 GHz.

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