Encoding Writer Variability for Automatic Writer Identification

Vincent Christlein February 25, 2014 Pattern Recognition Lab (CS 5)









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Tagung im Rahmen des BMBF-Projektes "Schrift und Zeichen -Computergestützte Analyse hochmittelalterlicher Papsturkunden"

Papsturkundenforschung zwischen internationaler Vernetzung und Digitalisierung

Schriftgeschichte

Dienstag, 25. März 2014

Kaulbachstraße 15 80539 München

gebeten unter

http://www.hgw.geschichte.uni-muenchen.de/ aktuelles/index.html

Benjamin Schönfeld, Benedikt Hotz





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Neue Zugangsweisen zur europäischen

Montag, 24. März 2014

Historisches Kolleg, München

Um Anmeldung bis 14. März 2014 wird

GHW@lrz.uni-muenchen.de

Weitere Informationen unter:

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Project Summary (1)

Data

- ≈ 1500 charters from three different archives¹
- About 30 pontificates, 11th 12th century
- Mainly retro-digitalizations











¹www.papsturkunden.de — lba.hist.uni-marburg.de — www.monasterium.de







Project Summary (2)

Team

- Chair of Medieval History (FAU) Prof. Dr. Klaus Herbers. Thorsten Schlauwitz, Viktoria Trenkle
- Institute of Paleography and Diplomatics (LMU) Prof. Dr. Fees. Benedikt Hotz, Benjamin Schönfeld
- Pattern Recognition Lab (FAU) Prof. Dr. Joachim Hornegger, Dr. Elli Angelopoulou, Vincent Christlein
- www5.cs.fau.de/puhma













Project Summary (3)

Goals

- Analysis of the layout / writing style / temporal changes
- Supporting the transcription process
- Writer identification / verification













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Goals

- Analysis of the layout / writing style / temporal changes
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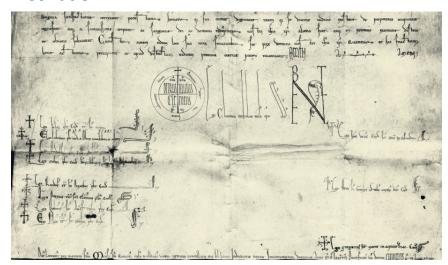








Motivation

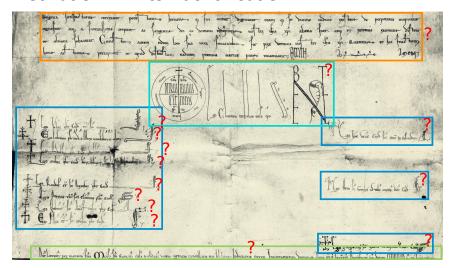








Motivation - Writer Identification

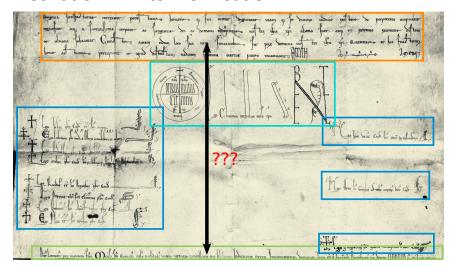








Motivation - Writer Verification









Group of Methods

Textural based Use global statistics to describe handwriting.



Allographic based Writer is described by the vocabulary of letter parts.



Image courtesy of Siddiqi and Vincent²

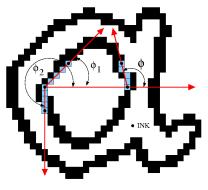
²I. Siddiqi and N. Vincent. "Text independent writer recognition using redundant writing patterns with contour-based orientation and curvature features". In: Pattern Recognition 43.11 (Nov. 2010), pp. 3853–3865







Examples for Textural based Methods



Hinge Feature³

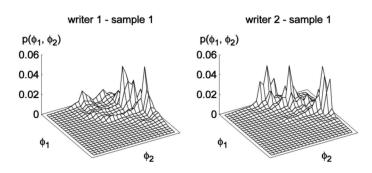
³Marius Bulacu and Lambert Schomaker. "Text-independent writer identification and verification using textural and allographic features." In: *IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence* 29.4 (Apr. 2007), pp. 701–17







Examples for Textural based Methods



Hinge Feature - Probability Density Functions⁴

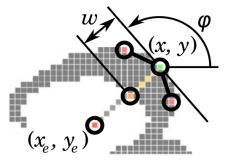
⁴A.A. Brink et al. "Writer identification using directional ink-trace width measurements". In: *Pattern Recognition* 45.1 (Jan. 2012), pp. 162–171







Examples for Textural based Methods



Quill Feature⁵

⁵A.A. Brink et al. "Writer identification using directional ink-trace width measurements". In: *Pattern Recognition* 45.1 (Jan. 2012), pp. 162–171







Allograph based Methods

Allograph Positions

Grid



Connected Components



Veritcal Cuts / Seam Cuts



Keypoint-based

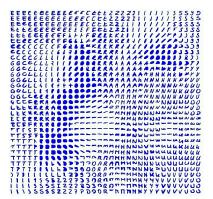








Universal Background Model (UBM)

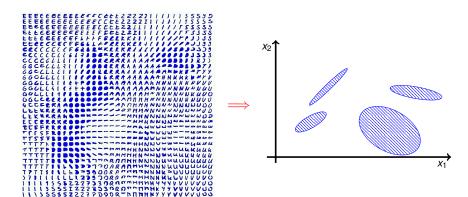








Universal Background Model (UBM)

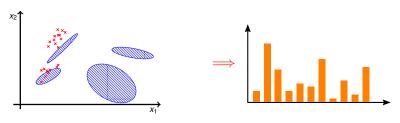








Encoding new Data



Methods

Bag of (visual) Words⁶⁷

⁶Marius Bulacu and Lambert Schomaker. "Text-independent writer identification and verification using textural and allographic features." In: *IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence* 29.4 (Apr. 2007), pp. 701–17.

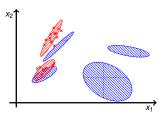
⁷Rajiv Jain and David Doermann. "Writer Identification Using an Alphabet of Contour Gradient Descriptors". In: Document Analysis and Recognition (ICDAR), 2013 12th International Conference on. Washington, NY, Aug. 2013, pp. 550–554.







Encoding new Data





Methods

- Fisher Vector⁸
- GMM Supervector⁹

⁸Stefan Fiel and Robert Sablatnig. "Writer Identification and Writer Retrieval using the Fisher Vector on Visual Vocabularies". In: 12th International Conference on Document Analysis and Recognition. Washington DC, NY, Aug. 2013, pp. 545–549.

⁹V. Christlein et al. "Writer Identification and Verification Using GMM Supervectors". In: (*To Appear*): IEEE Winter Conference On Applications of Computer Vision. Steamboat Springs, CO, Mar. 2014.







Writer Identification (hard)

	Top-1	Top-2	Top-3	Top-4	mAP
CV ¹⁰	0.978	0.956	0.894	0.758	_
CS ¹¹	0.979	0.90	0.71	0.483	_
VLAD	0.986	0.954	0.871	0.720	0.936
FV	0.984	0.952	0.880	0.756	0.940
SV	0.992	0.981	0.958	0.887	0.971

¹⁰Stefan Fiel and Robert Sablatnig. "Writer Identification and Writer Retrieval using the Fisher Vector on Visual Vocabularies".
In: 12th International Conference on Document Analysis and Recognition. Washington DC, NY, Aug. 2013, pp. 545–549.

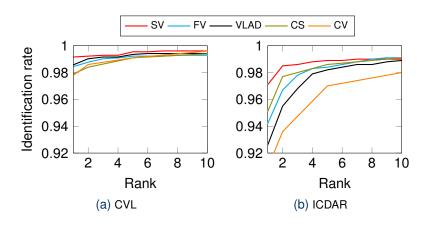
¹¹ Rajiv Jain and David Doermann. "Writer Identification Using an Alphabet of Contour Gradient Descriptors". In: Document Analysis and Recognition (ICDAR), 2013 12th International Conference on. Washington, NY, Aug. 2013, pp. 550–554.







Writer Identification (soft)



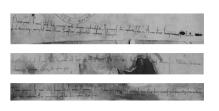






Writer Verification in Papal Charters

John of Gaeta



All Others



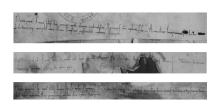






Writer Verification in Papal Charters

John of Gaeta



All Others



Letter based writer verification (60% accuracy)

- Often bad quality M M = A
- Letter formation not individual enough
- Features not discriminative enough

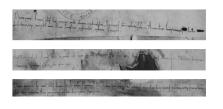






Writer Verification in Papal Charters

John of Gaeta



All Others



Texture based writer verification (80% accuracy)

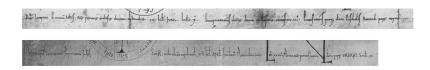
- + Nearly no annotation needed
- May classify background instead of handwriting







Method Idea

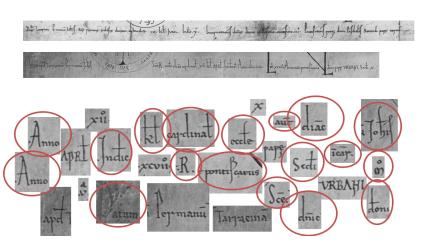








Method Idea









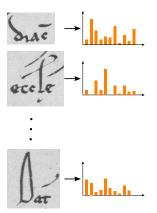








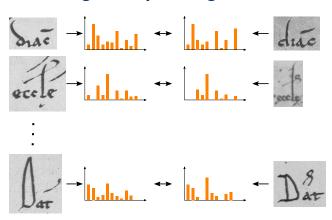








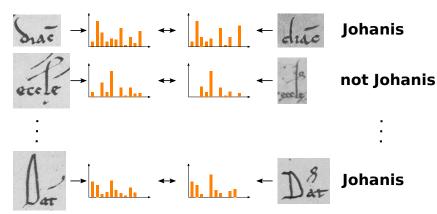








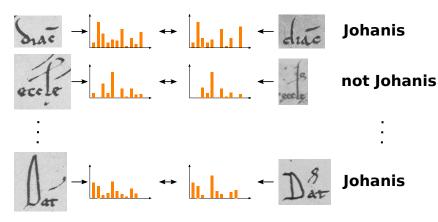












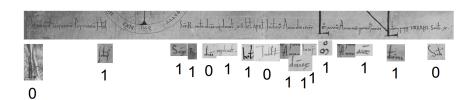
In average: 96.6% Accuracy







Failure Case



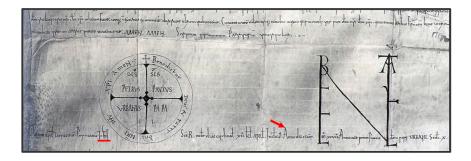






Autograph?



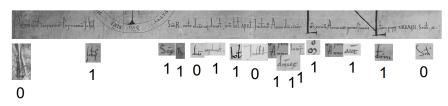








Failure Case



Best match might not be the correct one

- → Take distances into account
- → Manual inspection of in-between cases







Conclusion

Summary

- Many different writer identification methods
- Do not blindly trust the output
 - → PC can only give probabilities
 - → However, it can provide you with a confidence measure



Future Work

- Method combinations
- Evaluation on historical datasets → many new challenges



Thank you for your attention!





