

The Fast Integration of a Rotated Rectangle Applied to the Rotated Haar-like Features for Rotated Objects Detection

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Abstract

The Integral Image technique, used by Viola and Jones, is generally used to calculate the integral of a rectangular filter in an input picture. This filter is a rectilinear rectangle. We propose a method to integrate a rotated one by any angle of rotation inside an image based on the Bresenham algorithm of drawing a segment. We use some pixels called key points - that forms the four segments of a rotated rectangle, to calculate its Integral Image. Our method focuses on three essential tasks; the first is to determine the rule for drawing a segment (SDR), the second is to identify all the key points of the rectangle r , and the third is to calculate the integral image. The speed of this method depends on the size and angle of rotation of the rectangle. To demonstrate the efficiency of our idea, we applied it to the rotated Haar-like features that we proposed in a later work [12], which had as objectives the improvement of the Viola and Jones algorithm to detect the rotated faces in a given image. We performed tests on more widespread databases of images, which showed that the application of this technique to rotated Haar-Like features improves the performance of object detectors, in general, and faces in particular.

Index terms— haar-like features, integral image, face detection, object detection, , adaboost.

1 Introduction

daboost learning algorithm, proposed by [1], and adapted by Viola and Jones for object detection [2] [3], is one of the most widely used algorithms in detection. This algorithm, based on Haar-like features (Fig. 2), achieves a high detection rate and we use it widely in face and pedestrian detection [4] [5] [6].

Haar-like feature classifiers trained by Adaboost algorithm are often incapable of finding rotated objects (Fig. 1). Many experts have proposed several solutions to fill this problem; Viola and Jones [2] [3] [4] used rotated positive examples during training, but this approach may give some inaccurate classifier. Another process adopted by several researchers [5] [7] [9] [10] consists of training several classifiers which specialize in certain angle intervals, this approach provides classifiers with appropriate accuracy and efficiency, but it makes the training computationally more expensive. In [7] [8] the image is physically or virtually rotated until the edges of the Haar-Like feature are aligned vertically or horizontally, this approach makes the detection computationally more expensive and also a loss of information when a set of pixels will be outside the region of interest.

Fig. 1: Face detection with the latest method [12]; The algorithm is unable to detect a few rotated faces.

In [12], we gave a solution allowing, firstly, to define, dynamically, a set of rotated Haar-Like Features by more than 50 angles formally expressed by $\theta \in [\theta_{\min}, \theta_{\max}]$ ($\theta_{\min}$ / $\theta_{\max}$) such that $\theta_{\min}$ and $\theta_{\max}$ are two integers. And secondly, to calculate, approximately, the rotated integral image of these rectangles to preserve the two advantages (speed and simplicity) for which Viola and Jones invented this technique for the first time. This method has shown a disadvantage, a little annoying, which consists of a false alarm rate, which is relatively high.

In this paper, we propose a method that calculates the real Integral Image of a rotated rectangle based on the set of pixels, called key-points, forming each of its four segments. Indeed, we determine these points by adapting the algorithm for drawing a segment [13].

We organize this paper as follows: Section II presents some work done in the literature. In section III we will propose our technique concerning the quickly integration of a rotated rectangle. Section IV explores the results obtained by our two experiments carried out for the case of face detection. In section V, we will give a summary of our work, some conclusions, and perspectives.

II.

3 Related Work

The technique of the Integral Image, strongly associated with the famous algorithm of Viola and Jones [2], is a technique that goes back to the year 1984 when Crow [16] introduced it, for the first time, in computer graphics. Its use in computer vision began in 2001 when Viola and Jones used it to calculate the integral of the rectangular filters called HaarLike features, shown in Fig. 2 (a), considered as one of the pillars of their realtime face detection algorithm. Therefore, most researchers have widely used and developed this technique to solve the problems related to the detection of objects, including faces detection [2][7], pedestrian detection [4][6], etc.

Let I be an image of dimension $W \times H$, $I(x, y)$ is the intensity of the pixel (x, y) of the image I . The Integral Image is another image II such that for each pixel (x, y) : (see Fig. 2(b)).

(1) Therefore, the integration of each axis-aligned (parallel to the axes of the image coordinate system) rectangle $II = [I(x, y), x, y]$ is calculated only in four references: (see Fig. 2(c)) $II(x, y) = II(x-1, y) + I(x, y) + II(x, y-1) - II(x-1, y-1)$ (2)

As (x, y) is the upper left corner of II , W and H represent, respectively, its width and height. In the rest of this article, this type of rectangle is called a normal rectangle.

This technique was then the subject of several improvements, in order to detect rotated objects in an image. Indeed, several works have chosen to feed the original set of HaarLike features, initially proposed by Viola and Jones (Fig. 2 (a)), by others which are rotated by a variety of angles and offering an ease of calculating their integration. In particular, Lienhart et al. [5] who introduced a 45° tilted integral image. Then, Barczak et al. [7] and Du et al. [8] retained the same technique of Viola and Jones to incorporate rotated features by 26.57° and 63.5° . Then Barczak and Mossom [9] tried to generalize this technique for angles having a tangent in the form of a rational number $1/n$ or $n/1$. Another work is that of Ramirez et al. [10], who introduced the asymmetric Haar Features. Pham et al. [14] have developed a technique called Polygonal integration to divide a polygon into a set of axis-aligned rectangles (normal rectangles), then determine its integration according to those of these rectangles. Doretto et al. [15] gave an extension of formula 1 to compute the integral of a domain $R \subset \mathbb{R}^2$, which consists of a finite unification of axis-aligned rectangles. Formally, a rotated rectangle is defined by a sixelement vector as shown by the following formula: $R(x, y) = (x_1, y_1, x_2, y_2, x_3, y_3) \Rightarrow R = (x_1, y_1, x_2, y_2, x_3, y_3) \times (x_4, y_4, x_5, y_5)$

The set of rotated rectangles R is divided into two categories R_1 and R_2 . These two categories are defined by formulas 4 and 5. $R_1 = \{R \mid (x_1, y_1, x_2, y_2, x_3, y_3) \text{ is a right triangle}\}$ (4)
 $R_2 = \{R \mid (x_1, y_1, x_2, y_2, x_3, y_3) \text{ is not a right triangle}\}$ (5)

Knowing that x_1, y_1 and x_2, y_2 are other vertices of the rotated rectangle R , as shown in Fig. 3.

4 b) The integration of a rotated rectangle

The principle of our method consists in dividing the rectangle that encapsulates R into five normal rectangles called R_i , as shown in Fig. 4 and 5. The result of the intersection of R with the rectangles R_i is the right triangle called T_i . We illustrated this definition in Fig. 5. The following equation gives the identification of these triangles: $T_i = R \cap R_i$ for $i \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$.

Knowing that the integral of a rotated rectangle is: (6) (7)

Indeed, we can divide a triangle T_i into several normal rectangles R_j (axis-aligned rectangles) (Fig. 6). The two vertices (x_1, y_1) of each rectangle R_j crossed by the hypotenuse of the triangle T_i are named key points. The set of these key points, K_i , are found by applying the Segment Drawing Rule (SDR) [13]. In fact, $K_i = \{x, y \text{ such that: } x = x_1 + t \cdot (x_2 - x_1), y = y_1 + t \cdot (y_2 - y_1) \mid t \in [0, 1]\}$

Knowing that K_i and K_j are, respectively, the set of key points K_i and K_j of the triangle T_i .

Mathematically speaking, let δR : $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ be a function that determines the vector $\delta R = (x_1, y_1, x_2, y_2)$ of the key points, for each rectangle R of R , therefore: $\delta R(R) = \delta R = (x_1, y_1, x_2, y_2)$. And δR : $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ a function that computes the Integral Image from a vector of points. In other words, $\delta R(R) = II(R)$. Indeed, we define the function I as a function composed of δR and δR : $I(R) = \delta R(R)$.

Therefore, the method proposed in this article, to calculate the Integral Image of a rectangle, is based on three essential tasks: ? Determine the rule for drawing a segment (SDR); ? Determine all the key points (K_i, K_j) of the rectangle R ; ? Calculate the integral image of R according to its key points.

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of a group of features selected by the AdaBoost algorithm. For each feature selected, it takes about 3 to 4 hours -sometimes more -calculating time using an HP Notebook PC with a 2.6 GHz frame rate and 4 GB of memory. This slowness of learning was considered a major drawback of the Viola & Jones method. The Viola-Jones detector contains 4297 features distributed over 32 stages, as is presented in the article of its authors [3]. The difference in the number of weak classifiers of our detectors and that of Viola and Jones is because we use, at most of the original features, those rotated by different angles. Table ?? shows the numbers of normal and rotated features selected by AdaBoost for each experiment, compared by the number obtained by Viola and Jones. Indeed, this added value has allowed us to achieve good results. These results clearly show that our detectors have correct detection rates greater than or nearly equal to those reported by Viola-Jones. UMIST-Detector has a detection accuracy of up to 97.8%, and this amounts to the fact that the images of the UMIST database are better pre-processed and standardized at the level of illumination, rotation of faces, different human races, etc. With PIE-Detector the detection rate cannot exceed the 95.9% threshold. To have performance tests comparable to those performed by Viola & Jones and Rowly [2][3] [11], we used the MIT-CMU test database, which consists of 117 images and 511 faces. Viola and Jones used 130 images and 507 faces. A difference that we neglected because most of the images were the same or have undergone some slight modifications. Fig. 8 illustrates these results as a ROC.

The results are generally better, especially those obtained by Viola and Jones. Our two detectors have lower false alarm rates than the other methods; 28% for the first experience and 31% for the second. By using a 2.3 GHz core i3 and a 4 GB memory capacity, our detectors can scan an image of 252×426 pixels in about 0.9 seconds with a scaling factor of 1.2. what makes them a little bit slow compared to that of Viola and Jones (0.7 seconds to scan an image of 384×288), and this is mainly due to the large number of weak classifiers used by our method. The average speed to determine all the key points for each rotated feature does not exceed 62.4 ?s.

V.

8 Conclusion

In this work, we have proposed a simple, and effective method to integrate a rectangle rotated by any angle of rotation. The principle of this technique is to find specific pixels (key points) for each segment of the rectangle, then calculate the sum of its pixels according to these points. To find these points, we adopted the Bresenham algorithm for drawing a segment. This technique applied to the Viola and Jones algorithm with rotated HaarLike features added to the core set has proven efficiency and a high detection rate for detecting rotated faces in an image. In fact, we performed two experiments using, for the training phase, two image databases known in the literature, notably UMIST and CMU-PIE, and the MIT-CMU database for the test phase. Our perspective is to apply this technique for real-time detection and also for face and emotion recognition.



Figure 1: Fig. 2 :

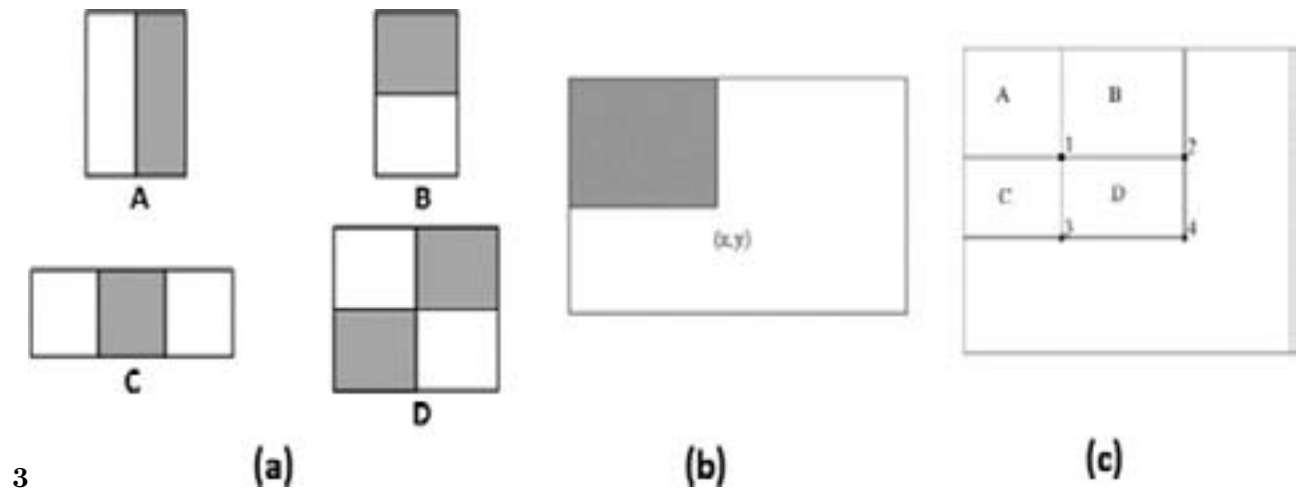


Figure 2: Fig. 3 :

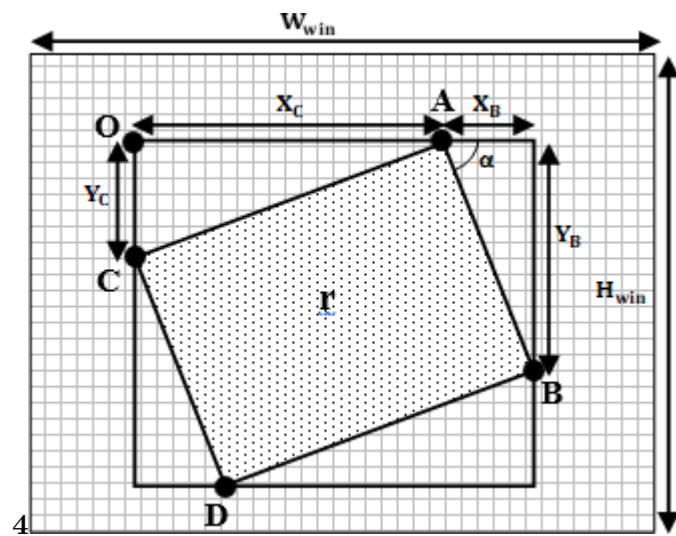


Figure 3: Fig. 4 :



Figure 6: Fig. 6 (

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Figure 7: Fig. 6 :

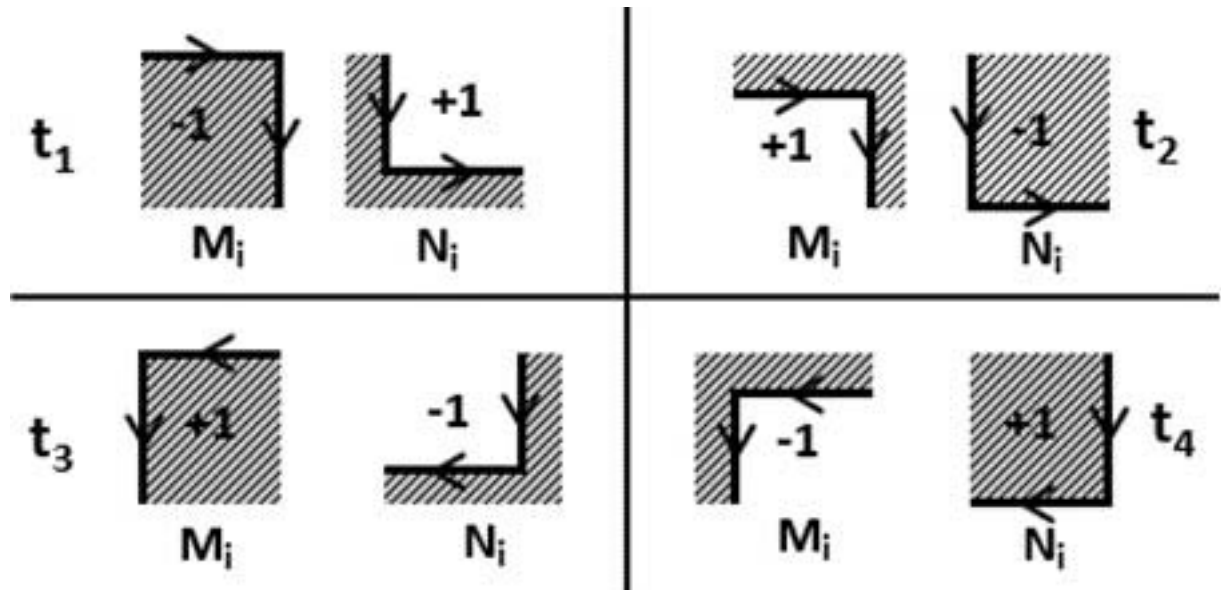
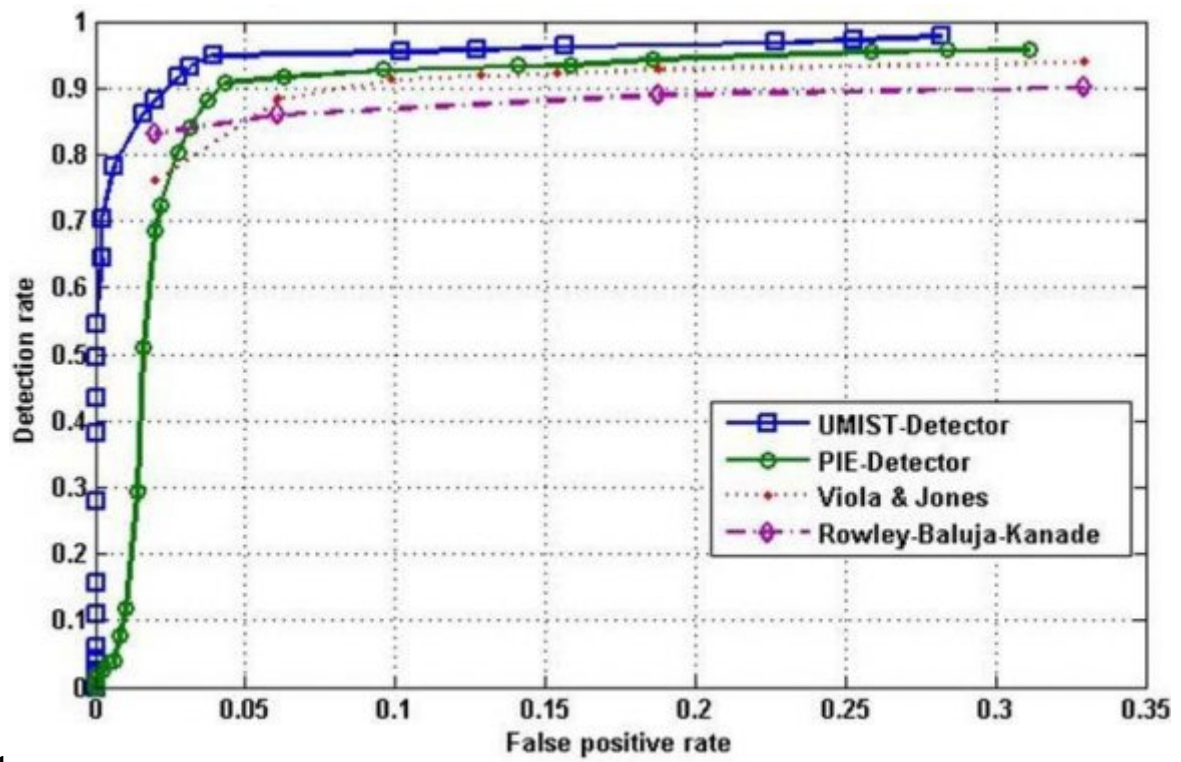
Figure 8: $\times$ 

Figure 9: Algorithm 1 /

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	UMISTCMU-PIE VIOLA & JONES		
Normal	4103	4075	4297
Rotated	6424	4393	0
TOTAL	10527	8468	4297

Our program was run for 21 days for the first experience and 15 days for the second. The first detector consists of 10527 features distributed over 53 stages, and the second detector contains 8468 features spread over 46 stages.

Figure 10: Table 1 :

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