

**QUALITY INSPECTION OF ENGRAVED IMAGE USING BASED
MATCHING APPROACH**

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Quality Inspection of Engraved Image Using Shape-Based Matching Approach

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Abstract—The role of machine vision system as a vital component for quality control mainly in manufacturing process cannot be denied. The system is developed to overcome the discrepancy from human vision and illumination changes. This paper proposes shape-based vision algorithm, a hierarchical template-matching approach that implemented in flexible manufacturing system to verify the quality of engraved image. Color and gray scale charged couple device (CCD) cameras are used to acquire engraved image for different kind of environment. The engraved image is preprocessed using image processing technique. Region of interest (ROI) is then selected and digitized into gray level to extract the contour of the object using segmentation technique. The extracted contour is used as template for object recognition during matching process. Several objects are engraved on the acrylic souvenir bases with different color background to test the algorithm. This experiment result shows that the algorithm works better with detection rate of 100% and matching accuracy more than 98%. The approach can be applied in packaging, pharmacy, education, medical or any other areas which apply shape in their application.

Keywords—engraved image; shape-based matching; segmentation; flexible manufacturing system

I. INTRODUCTION

Flexible manufacturing system (FMS) is an advanced manufacturing technology system which is widely applied in industrial automation. This system has the capabilities on producing new diversity of products for the market consuming a short time and managing the flexibility in product design. One of supporting element in FMS is a machine vision inspection system and it becomes a crucial part in performing task on object verification and decision making process. In

fact, the vision system invention is evolving rapidly along with the growing technology and image processing software development.

For over decades, substantial investments from huge companies on vision system researches have been conducted intensively. Therefore, various approaches are introduced and implemented in manufacturing system with the same goal to improve the quality and productivity.

Human inspection is a traditional method that can cause misjudgments and run a little bit slower. The inspector usually verifies the object at the final stage of manufacturing process. It will create losses since the defect product has been through the entire processes. This problem will be an obstruction for the competitive companies to fulfill the market demand. Hence, the vision system development must be flexible enough to inspect the various types of features, high speed, efficient in recognizing the objects presence, verify the objects and inspect the object's quality [1].

In this study, shape-based vision algorithm [2]-[3] is applied to qualify the object quality before go for the next process. The algorithm is tested on FMS which operates in computer integrated manufacturing (CIM) environment using a model located in the Industrial Automation and Robotics research laboratory of Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka. The model is customized to produce a take-away souvenir with any form of engraved image on the various colors base. Now, the model is running without the inspection system and will create losses because the defect product still has been through the entire process.

This paper proposes a vision algorithm base on shape analysis by means of template matching approach in verifying

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the quality of object interested on engraved image. This paper is organized as follow; the related background of the research is explained in Section II, the system principle and methodology is described in Section III and the experiment result and analysis are detailed in Section IV.

II. RELATED WORK

Template matching based on shape approach have been applied in machine vision system mainly for manufacturing industries. Color, texture, and spatial relationship characteristics also have been investigated and implemented as reference to perform the specific tasks [4]. Template matching approach is applied in checking the quality of printed circuit board [5]. The researchers applied normalized cross correlation (NCC) in computing the matching score of the reference object for template and candidate comparison. Three methods to register template which is direct representation matching (DRM), principal axes matching (PAM) and circular profile matching (CPM) are studied and compared to identify the imprinted tablet quality [6].

C.T. Huang et al [7] proposed color characteristics to qualify the product quality on LabVIEW platform and IMAQ vision tool. They inspected the product quality by red, green and blue values obtained from the region selected. The value collected complies with the standard value to distinct good and defect products. Color feature is employed to extract component body and identified an electrodes position in inspecting the quality of surface mounted components [8]. Keypad quality for cellular phone had been proposed by Du and Gang et al using principal component analysis (PCA) for registering the reference image in order to detect font error, scratches, and color difference [9].

Shape characteristic is applied on the inspection of surgical instruments such as scissors, forceps and clamp [10]. The width dimension of those instruments are measured and compared to the standard specification given by the surgeons. Jiancheng Jia inspected medical syringes assembly on two sample images; needle end vision and thumb end vision [11]. The tolerances for measurement have been set up based on manufacturer's standardization using pattern matching method. Such approaches also have been implemented and developed to inspect the quality of bottling system [12][13], and size measurement [14][15].

Texture analysis is studied by Jiaoyan Ai and Xuefeng Zhu to detect pit and spot-like defect on the ceramic glass surface [16]. They measured the distance in the sub-image histogram to detect the pit and applied Markov random field approach for spot-like detection in their research. Texture recognition also had been studied to identify several defects on magnetic disk surface such as head ding, contamination and sputter using ranking order co-occurrence spectrum [17].

III. SHAPE-BASED VISION ALGORITHM

This research is an extended concept done by W.T. Lim et

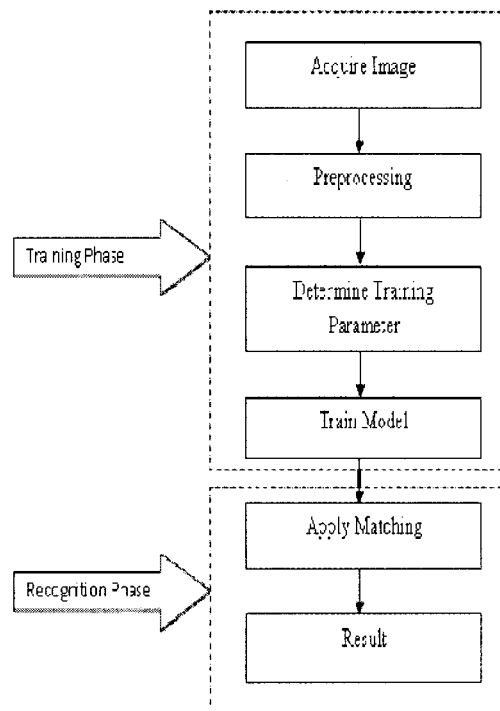


Figure 1. Shape based matching algorithm.

al in the study on the pattern recognition using shape template-matching algorithm to control the subsequent process [2]. The algorithm is designed using image processing tool provided by MVTec Halcon machine vision software to detect the object presence and measure the matching accuracy. This approach consists of two phases which is training phase and recognition phase as depicted in Fig. 1.

A. Training Phase

1) *Image Acquisition*: The image is captured by CCD color and monochrome digital camera for different kind of environment under the ambient light. Camera focus and distance between camera and object are adjusted for better and sharper image. To enhance the visual quality of the image under inspection, black background has been added at the back side of the object to obtain the high contrast image.

2) *Image Preprocessing*: In this step, the acquired image is processed to eliminate noises inside the image simultaneously enhancing the result of the output. The methods used in this stage are listed as below :

a) *Color Filtering*: color filtering is applied to decompose the color image which consists of red, green, and blue component into gray scale image by

$$f(x,y) = 0.299*r(x,y) + 0.587*g(x,y) + 0.114*b(x,y) \quad (1)$$

where $f(x,y)$ is the gray value for x,y coordinate respectively, $r(x,y)$ is the Red value for x,y coordinate respectively, $g(x,y)$ is the Green value for x,y coordinate respectively, and $b(x,y)$ is

the Blue value for x,y coordinate respectively. The original color image used as in Fig. 2(a) and its components images are shown in Fig. 2(b), 2(c) and 2(d).

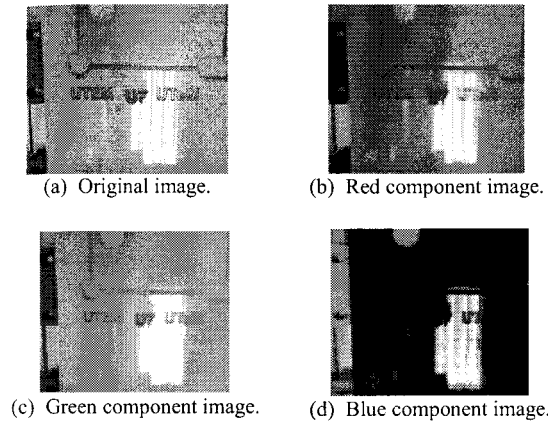


Figure 2. Color image and its component.

b) *Smoothing Filter*: mean or averaging filter is applied to retain the image's useful features. The value of each pixel is replaced by the average values in the local neighborhood based on equation (2). This filter helps in removing the grain noise from image and speed up the process compared to the classical median filter.

$$\hat{f}(x,y) = \frac{1}{mn} \sum_{(s,t) \in S_{xy}} g(s,t) \quad (2)$$

3) *Image Enhancement*: Gray level image is defined by

$$g_{res} = ((g_{orig} - g_{mean}) * Factor) + g_{orig} \quad (3)$$

to enhance the quality contrast of the image. g_{res} is the resulting gray values, g_{orig} is the original gray value, g_{mean} is the obtained gray values from low pass filter and $Factor$ is the intensity of contrast emphasis.

4) *Region of Interest (ROI) Creation*: ROI selection can be done on single or multiple objects as depicted in Fig. 3(a) and 3(b). This is manually done by the user to allow the inspection to be done on the desired or critical area. The ROI creation ensures that only specific part of the image will be used for the next stage. ROI has several advantages such as to speed up the process because it contains fewer pixels, focuses only on the



Figure 3(a). Single ROI created.

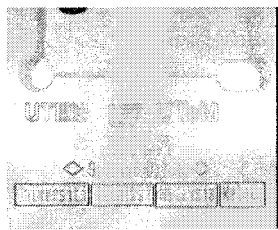


Figure 3(b). Multiple ROIs created.

specific area and can be used as template.

5) *Image Segmentation*: The ROI(s) on decomposed image is segmented by means of threshold the image to extract the shape of the object. Fig. 4 shows the shape obtained, called template is representing the model and appears during the matching process. Since the object comes on variant color backgrounds, the image contrast is affected during the matching process.



Figure 4. Shape image.

Threshold method is applied to overcome the color contrast and invariant illumination changes. The gray value ranging from $g_{min} = 0$ to $g_{max} = 2^b - 1$ refer to the pixels that belong to the foreground object is adjusted to get the dominant object for inspection. The gray value f which is selected pixels from the input image must fulfill the following condition

$$g_{min} \leq f_{r,c} \leq g_{max} \quad (4)$$

6) *Train model*: One or more models can be created respectively to the ROI selection. The ROI image together with control parameters such as number of pyramid levels and contrast value are very important and affected in recognition phase. Image pyramid concept really helps by speeding up the matching process even if the search images have contrast

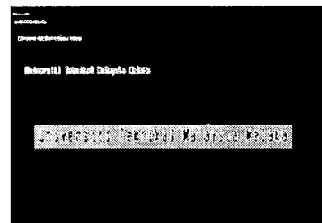


Figure 5. Pyramid image.

variation. Image pyramid consists of the original, full-sized image and a set of down-sampled images as shown in Fig. 5. The number of the pyramids level is set as much as possible so that the model is still recognizable and contains a sufficient number of points on the highest pyramid level.

B. Recognition Phase

1) *Apply Matching*: The searching and matching process are the crucial part to find and localize object on search image due to the contrast variation. This process is done by placing

the template on a search image. Shape model presence on search image is detected by comparing the intensity values in the template with the corresponding values in search image. The similarity between the template and the candidate on a search image are compared and measured as in (5). There are several techniques to perform template matching; sum of absolute differences (SAD), sum of square difference (SSD), and NCC. NCC performs efficiently in terms of speed and accuracy compared to the others. An equation of NCC is

$$NCC(x,y) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^M \sum_{j=1}^N (S_{XY}(i,j) - \bar{S}_{XY})(T(i,j) - \bar{T})}{\left\{ \sum_{i=1}^M \sum_{j=1}^N (S_{XY}(i,j) - \bar{S}_{XY})^2 \sum_{i=1}^M \sum_{j=1}^N (T(i,j) - \bar{T})^2 \right\}^{1/2}} \quad (5)$$

where \bar{S}_{XY} is the average value of candidate object on search image, S_{XY} and \bar{T} is the average value of the mask and referred as template image, T . The NCC has value in the range of -1 and 1 where 1 indicates the perfect match and -1 for the reverse polarity. The maximum correlation occurs when the normalized template and the corresponding normalized object on a search image are identified and indicates as best possible matching score. Matching score is a term used to express the similarity which measuring how many model points could be matched to points in the search image.

2) *Visualize Results*: In this stage, the model contours that overlap at the found position of the search image are displayed with the best matching possibility in percentage values and execution time for detecting the object.

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The engraver machine EGX-300 which has the capability to engrave any form of image that has been created by user is set up to test the algorithm. Acrylics material bases with different color background; red, blue, yellow, green, pink, white, and purple are used for various contrasts and engraved with similar pattern object. The images are captured by digital color camera with resolution 640x480 and monochrome camera for gray scale image with resolution 720x480. MVTEC Talcon vision software is used to process and analyze the image.

The experiment is initially done by means of obtaining the best background color that will be used as an object template. Fig. 6(a) depicts that values of matching percentage on green background is closely near compared to other colors.

Two prerequisite parameters are identified to enhance the process; minimum score that shows high comparability, trained shape invisible in the image and greediness that shows the rate of searching process. Greediness within the range value from 0 is safe but slow and 1 much faster but object may be missed. Fig. 6(b) and 6(c) shows the optimum value of greediness is 0.7 and minimum score within the range 0 to

0.8. The green color base and both of the values are employed in the following step to determine matching accuracy in color and grayscale vision.

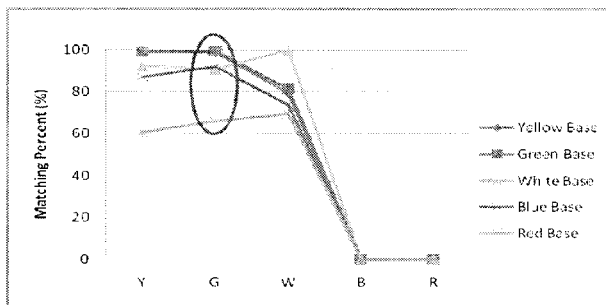


Figure 6(a). Data for object background determination.

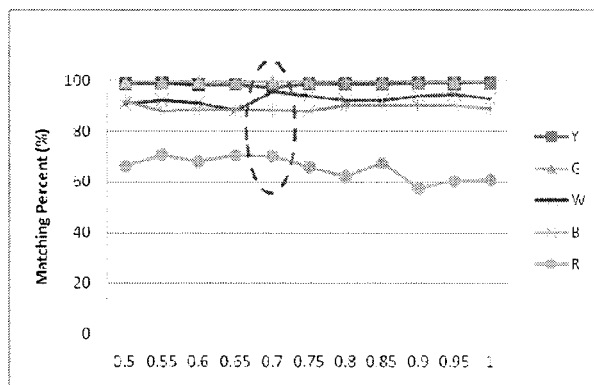


Figure 6(b). Data collected for variant Greediness.

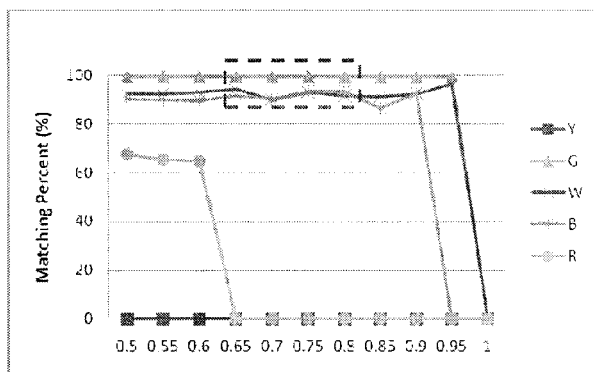
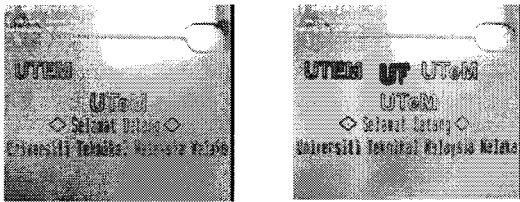


Figure 6(c). Data collected for variant MinScore.

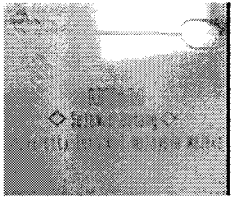
A. Color Vision Image

Fig. 7(a) - (g) shows the template is coincidence successfully on the candidate object respectively and yields recognition rate more than 95 percent except red background with time execution less than 0.1 second as depicted in Table I. Candidate object on red can be detected by proper lighting set up to enhance the object and background contrast. Template matching based on shape performs very well in color vision by transforming the color image into their RGB components during training and recognition process.

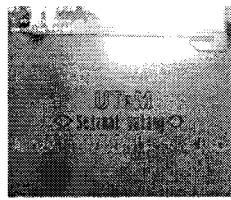


(a) Blue base color.

(b) Green base color.



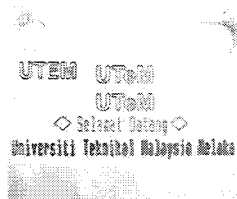
(c) Pink base color.



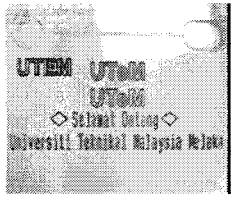
(d) Purple base color.



(e) Red base color.



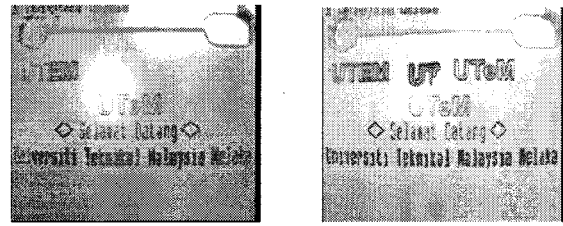
(f) White base color.



(g) Yellow base color.

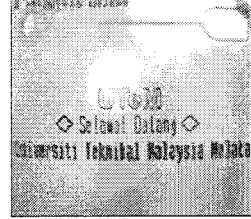
Figure 7. Object detection in color visual image.

from the coarse texture. Fig. 8(a) – 8(g) show the overlapping template on candidate object in grayscale visual images.

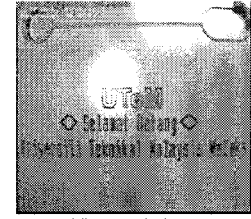


(a) Blue base.

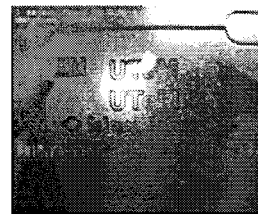
(b) Green base.



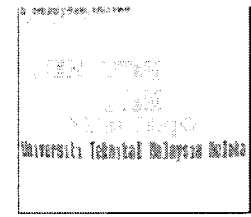
(c) Pink base.



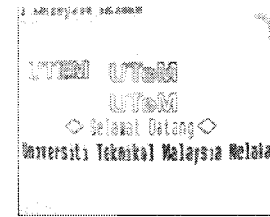
(d) Purple base.



(e) Red base.



(f) White base.



(g) Yellow base.

Figure 8. Object detection in grayscale visual image.

TABLE I. PATTERN MATCHING SCORE IN COLOR VISION

Template	Digital Color Camera		
	Search Object's Background	Matching (%)	Time (s)
Object on Green Background	Blue	98.89	0.01
	Green	99.47	
	Pink	98.77	
	Purple	98.06	
	Red	72.61	
	White	99.33	
	Yellow	98.57	

TABLE II. PATTERN MATCHING SCORE IN GRAYSCALE VISION

Template	Digital Monochrome Camera		
	Search Object's Background	Matching (%)	Time (s)
Object on Green Background	Blue	97.84	0.01
	Green	99.84	
	Pink	96.64	
	Purple	96.51	
	Red	77.64	
	White	96.07	
	Yellow	97.24	

B. Grayscale Vision Image

High matching percentages as shown in Table II indicates that proposed method is detected and inspected the object accurately. However the score of the object on red background is the lowest due to the minor contrast between the object. Furthermore the object surface contains lots of noise resulted

V. CONCLUSION

In this study, shape-based matching vision algorithm is proposed to inspect the quality of engraved image on various

color background of acrylic souvenir material in both color and grayscale vision. The result shows that colors are affected in recognition and searching process of template matching. By means of converting the color image into their color components, object detection task is performed in high accuracy and efficiently. The best filtering, segmentation, and ROI selection in template creation are very useful techniques to enhance the image contrast in matching process. This approach evidently shows that shape-based matching is robust in the contrast variation, effective on rotation and translation, faster in detecting and verifying the object quality, and high flexibility to satisfy the FMS characteristics'.

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