

# Automatic Detection of Blood Vessels Segmentation using Morphological and Classification Methods: A Review

Rashmi Deep<sup>1</sup>, Nitika Kapoor<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>ME Scholar (Department of Computer Science & Engineering), Chandigarh University, India,

<sup>2</sup>Assistant Professor (Department of Computer Science & Engineering), Chandigarh University, India,

**Abstract-** In general, the retinal images are picked utilizing a fundus camera frequently contained low grey, low dimension differentiate and are of low powerful range. This may influence the phase of the division results; thus, difference of the picture can be improved utilizing pre-preparing technique. The digital image processing plays a main role in the blood vessel detection. The different techniques of image processing and filters are using to identify and recognise the attributes of the retinal blood vessels such as the length, width, and patterns. The automated digital image processing methods are used to achieve better accuracy in the retinal blood vessels specially glaucoma and retinopathy. In this paper, the identification for the image of retina by mean of image processing techniques utilising morphological algorithms. The defects in the retinal image can be recognised by applying morphological algorithm on image. Moreover, the segmentation methods with image pre-processing and feature extraction methods has also been described.

**Keywords-** Retinal images, Retinal blood vessels, Image processing, Segmentation.

## I. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Blood vessels

The vessels (blood) of retina are the portion of the diffusive system where the transformation of the blood towards the human body. The nutrients and the oxygen are sending towards the tissues of the body through the blood vessels. The blood vessels get the waste and the carbon dioxide and that is carried away from the tissues again towards the heart. The tissue of the body depends on the functionality of the vessel of retina. The blood vessel includes the artery, vein and capillaries. The arteries take the blood from the heart, capillaries exchange the water and the chemicals between the blood and the tissues and the vein take the blood from capillaries and then again to the heart.

### 1.2 Retinal Blood Vessels

The human eye is the most complex organ part because of the small size and the examples are ocular diseases are glaucoma and Diabetic retinopathy. The blindness may be caused in the human eye and the blindness. The features are used to diagnose the diseases are optic nerve, optic disc. The retinal blood vessels consist of the oxygen and the nutrients called retinal pigment epithelium. The blood vessel takes the oxygen and the nutrients are called as the arteries. The central retinal artery enters the eye through the optic nerve and then separation of the branches which are superior and the inferior

branches. The extractions of the blood vessels in many eye diseases are determined by the blood vessels [1].

### 1.3 Automated identification of retinal blood vessels:

The retinal abnormalities and human identification is significant factor in the automatic identification of the blood vessels (retinal) [2]. The blood vessels gives the data of the diseases high blood pressure, diabetes. The information about the retinal blood vessels images helps to diagnose the disease. The automatic detection is required because it is difficult to identify the blood vessel manually. The minor vessel diminishes and consumes maximum time in the manual detection. The block diagram of the automatic detection includes processes such as firstly pre processing after that segmentation and at last post processing [3].

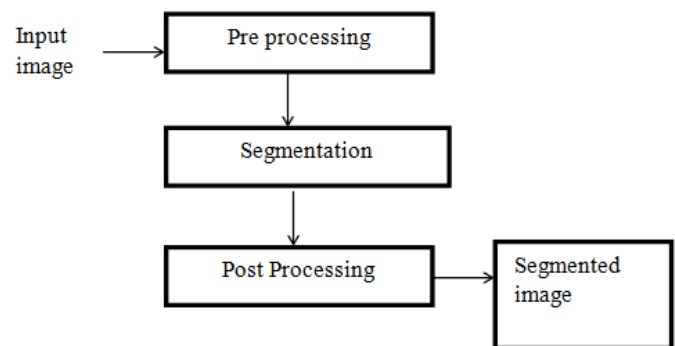


Fig.1: Segmentation model

**1. Pre-Processing:** - The detection of the images available in the retinal databases. The RGB components are the input images from the data bases. The RGB image is the color space transformation. The uneven brightness is the deviation in the intensity of the background images. The same image may have the different intensity for the background pixels.

**2. Segmentation:** - The segmentation method in the retinal vessels may be segmented based on the two classes. Firstly, feature vector of every pixel have the labelled images for the training is supervised method. The other is the unsupervised method where matching filter, edge detector, grouping of the pixels. The segmentation is the process of the retinal blood vessel from the retinal image. The image obtained after the segmentation will cause the inaccurate computation [4].

**3. Post processing:** - The blood vessels are segmented from the images based on segmentation. The images obtained after the segmentation leads to the false calculation. Due to the inaccurate calculation, the post processing is required. The post

processing is based on the removal of the false detected pixels and filling of the gaps of the pixels. Normally, the elimination of the noise can be done using the post processing.

#### 1.4 Image Processing in retinal blood vessels

The extraction of the blood vessels from the image plays a main role in the image processing. The detection of the optical disc shows a main role in the automated image identification system. The position of an optical disc are used to measure the distance of image. The retinal images used for the diagnosis of the pathologies in the retina such as Diabetic Retinopathy (DR). The diabetic patients should be treated early about the diabetic eye disease because the risk may lead to the vision loss. The large blood vessels with the high contrast background can be detected easily. But, it is difficult to distinguish the small veins because of low differentiation of the images [5].



Fig.2: Digital color retinal image

##### 1.4.1. Purpose of Image Processing

The main purposes of the image processing are described as:-

- i) **Visualisation:** -The invisible objects are observed.
- ii) **Image restoration and sharpening:** - The creation of the correct image.
- iii) **Retrieval of image:** -The searching of the image of image of interest.
- iv) **Measuring the patterns:** -The various objects are measured of an image.
- v) **Recognition of image:** - The object are discriminated of an image.

##### Applications of image Processing are described as:-

Image processing methods are used in almost various range of area of science and technology. The image processing areas are described below:-

- i) **Medicine:** - The interpretation of image obtained from the x-rays and MRI. The cell images analysed using chromosomes.
- ii) **Agriculture:** -The different regions for the different crops are determined using the satellite and the aerial views. The inspections of the fresh fruits are determined
- iii) **Industry:** -The automatic inspection of the elements and the samples.
- iv) **Analysis of speed camera images:** - The de blurring of the speed camera images are obtained for analysis of the fingerprints, iris.

#### Disadvantage of image processing:-

- i) Less accuracy
- ii) Extraction of Retina thin blood vessels are not imaginable.

## II. RELATED WORKS

*Frucci, M and Riccio, D et al., 2014[6]* recognise about the segment retinal vessels dependent on the transformation and directional map from the retina image. The single region transformations are allocate a contrast value with the highest distinct in gray scale image. The regions are interpreted with the non-vessel regions and the other regions identify the retinal vessels with directional data. In this research, a segmentation process is required for the adjacent regions for the transformation of the retina image.

*Bantan, M. T et al., 2016[7]* described the subdivision of the retinal vessel images to diagnose the vessels. The noise reduction techniques based on the morphological operations of the image. In this research, an automatic registration is based on the required approach. The blood vessels diagnosis such as diabetic retinopathy and glaucoma. In this research, the method using the retinal blood vessels was proposed using the segmentation method. The blood vessels segmentation includes mathematical process and the noise extraction.

*Nirmala, S. R and Chetia, S et al., 2017[8]* assessed the tortuosity of veins utilizing separation metric (DM) strategy. The division of the retinal veins is prepared utilizing the picture handling techniques. The joint effort of the pictures should be possible utilizing DRIVE database and VICAVR database. In this examination, the effective technique was proposed to quantify the tortuosity of retinal veins. Initially the division is done through morphological tasks and after that DM strategy utilizing division to quantify tortuosity of retinal veins.

*A. M. R. R. Bandara et al., 2017[9]* In this paper demonstrated an evaluation of the appropriateness of an as of late created spatially versatile complexity improvement system for upgrading retinal fundus pictures for vein division. The upgrade system was coordinated with a variation of Tyler Coye calculation, which has been improved with Hough line change based vessel reproduction technique. The proposed methodology was assessed on two open datasets STARE and DRIVE. The appraisal was finished by contrasting the division execution and five generally utilized complexity improvement systems dependent on wavelet change, differentiate restricted histogram leveling, nearby standardization, straight un-sharp veiling and form let change. The outcomes uncovered that the surveyed upgrade strategy is appropriate for the application and furthermore beats all thought about systems.

*B. Faiza et al., 2017[10]* In this paper author have introduced a review of the condition of-workmanship vessel division strategies. In this paper, vessel division methods are ordered into three classes. These are; Model based division approaches, Tracking based division methodologies and

Pattern acknowledgment approaches. The three classes recognized are never autonomous. A portion of the strategies are joined with others to help division. A relevant examination is finished investigating strategies as far as qualities and shortcomings.

*L.Ming and Y.Qingbo[2] et al., 2018[11]* described a different process of supervised retina vessel segmentation that can effectively solve the problems. In recent years, there is a popular method that using deep learning to solve retinal vessel segmentation. In which author have improved the loss function for deep learning in order to better handle category imbalances. By using a multi-scale convolutional neural network structure and label processing approach and results have reached the most advanced level.

III. SEGMENTATION METHODS

Image pre-processing and large vessels extraction:-

*i) Pre-Processing:* -In this process the noise is estimated to increase the reconstruction and improving the visualisation. The counter let method is used in this method using five steps [12]:-

- i) Extraction of channel of green from the original colored retina images that provides the higher variation background image and the blood vessels.
- ii) Computing the input image of Contour let transform.
- iii) Computing the noise through standard deviation for the sub band of the Contour let transform.
- iv) Multiplication of the Contour let coefficient using the nonlinear function and the determination of the noise related to the sub band and amplitude of each coefficient.
- v) Reconstruction of the improve images from set of the modified Contour let coefficients. The Contour let transform use LP levels and the directions of the final levels. In LP filter the linear factor is the main phase of the processing of retinal images. The algorithm employed on the estimation of the noisy standard deviation.

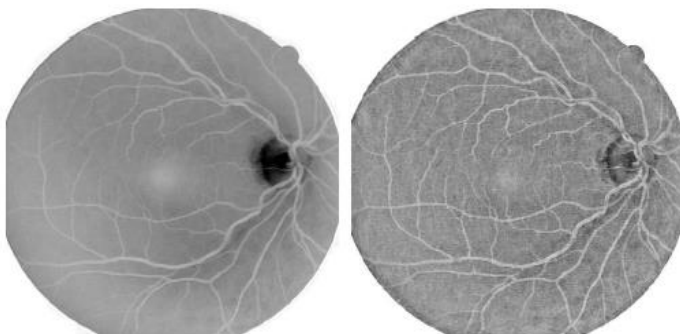


Fig.3: The inverted green channel (IGC) (left side) and its relating upgraded picture utilizing Contour let improvement calculation (right side).

The above figure demonstrates the capillary vessels using Contour let enhancement algorithm. The segmentation section is improved using the Contour let transform algorithm.

*ii) Feature extraction*

The wavelet and curve let transform based on the multistate transforms. The feature extraction is recognised using the representation of the image features at various scales. The points, lines and line features are detected to improve the performance of the wavelet and curve let transforms[13]. However, the image edges are bigger in wavelet and curve let modulus [14]. The wavelet can be defined using equation 1 with centre region on origin and the location and direction regarded as the wavelet in equation 2.

$$w_g(a,b) = \{\omega_{a,b,g}\} \dots (i)$$

$$C_g(a,b,\theta) = \{\omega_{a,b,g}\} \dots (ii)$$

Hence, the discrete and two dimensional wavelet waveform established by using the high and low passes channels closed according convolutional with even and vertical headings. The transformation of the decomposition of an original image with sub image and complete sub part image are at horizontal, vertically and diagonally orientation, respectively. The wavelet transform discarded from the sub image with the similar range of the real images for the component extraction of every pixel in leftover picture. From that point forward, modulus can be processed utilizing the condition 3 where level and vertical sub picture Haar wavelet change separately. The fastest curve let transform algorithm can be used to decompose the image using into curve let sub bandwidth different sizes. The decomposition of the image at scale 2 and angle 8 by coefficients blocks.

The modulus of image can be described using equation 4,

$$M_V = \sqrt{V_V^2 + V_V^2} (3)$$

$$M_d = \sqrt{D_1^2 + D_2^2 + \dots + D_8^2} (4)$$

The extraction of the large vessels used for the extraction of the images within 3 pixels. So the line detection is used for the identification of the orientation of the large vessels for each residual pixels(x,y) at 8 different angles. And more, this track is named on D1(x, y). The edges with standard deviation and significant means is start and comparable course is set apart by D2(x, y). From that point onward, the mean and standard deviation of dark dimension onward Di(x, y), within Mgi(x, y) and SDgi(x, y), where I = 1 or 2. The area for meager vessels, Mg1(x, y) and Mg2(x, y), SDg1(x, y) and SDg2(x, y) veer important if pixel (x, y) is credited to a flimsy vessel. Something else, Mg1(x, y) and Mg2(x, y), SDg1(x, y) and SDg2(x, y) shift somewhat if (x, y) is non-vessel pixel. The distinction of dimensional means and standard deviation.

variation on D1(x, y) and D2(x, y) are determined by Eq. 5 and 6.

$$F_{m-g}(x,y) = M_{g,1}(x,y) - M_{g,2}(x,y) (5)$$

$$F_{n-g}(x,y) = SF_{g1}(x,y) - SF_{g2}(x,y) (6)$$

So the construction of the dimensional component vector for every pixel in paired retinal picture of expansive vessels. The transformation of feature vector obtained using equation 7.

$$x_j = 2 \times x_{j\_ori} - (x_{j\_max} + x_{j\_min}) / x_{j\_max} - x_{j\_min} \quad (7)$$

IV. MORPHOLOGY AND CLASSIFICATION PHASE

*i) Morphology Phase*

Morphology is division of science its thought is managing framework and course of action of plants and creatures. The tool that is used for the image processing and computer vision is mathematical morphology. The erosion, deletion and closing part of the morphological operations that is using to identify and modify the significance of images based on the shapes. The series of the algebraic operations based on the morphology. In morphological phase, binary images are converted to gray scale images. The election of the structure element based on the shape and the size [15].

The mathematical morphology used for the smoothing and removal of the noise. The selection of the structuring element based on the features levels and the morphological processing. It proceeds into explanation that opening task with straight structure component which is time-consuming than the width of the vessels, or some section of these would be detached. The elements of the structure are in the parallel direction then there will be no change in the vessels [16].

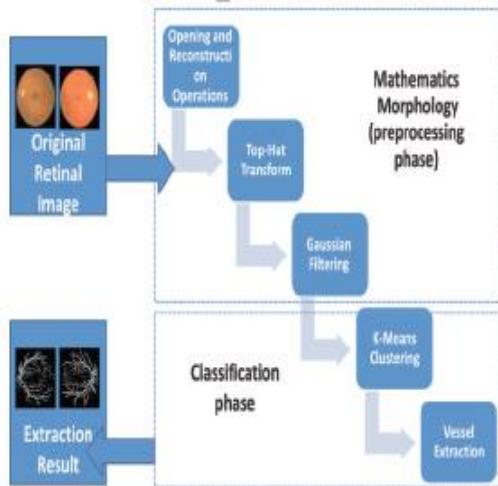


Fig.4: Classification based segmentation method [15]

The extraction of the blood vessels used for the selection of the length of diameter value as the largest vessels. The segmentation and the structuring element based on various steps,

**Step 1:-**The sequence of two operations taken as the opening operations. The dilation of the original image and opened image obtained by maximum response directions and after that reconstruction operation applying to the images for obtaining the smooth image.

**Step 2:-**The top cap change is connected at the smoothed picture at 12 headings and afterward the computational incentive at 12 bearings is included. The expansion in the estimation of the dark distinction between the vessels and the foundation.

**Step3:-**The generation of the smoothed image with 7 pixels uses Gaussian filter and then the smoothed image after mathematics morphology step.

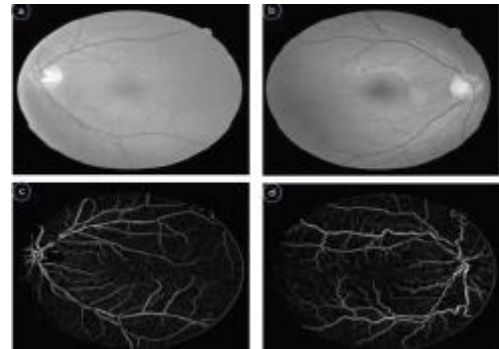


Fig.5: (a, b) samples of original image, and (c, d) after morphological pre-processing.[15]

*ii) Classification Phase*

In this phase we extract retinal vessels from the images and then enhancement of the retinal vessels. Hence, exact positions of the vessels are determined because of the image generation process. so, in the classification phase the variance is minimised by grouping objects methodology. The classification process based on various steps:-

**Step 1:-**The initial group centroids are represented and two class centres are initialised.

**Step 2:-** The distance between class centroids and distance between each pixels are calculated. The closest class centroids are assigned by each image pixels.

**Step 3:-**The current location of centroid is assigned and the mean histogram bin value of exact group is computed.

**Step 4:-**The value of centroids are changed and then step 2 and 3 are repeated.

V. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE SCOPE

It is concluded that blood vessel identification in retinal image helps in the identification of the disease. The diseases like as diabetes, glaucoma, and haemorrhage on the basis of their segmentation. The retinal blood vessels for database images and input image can be detected using segmentation method. In this paper, the identification of the retinal image by mean of image processing techniques utilising morphological algorithms. However, morphological algorithm is used to obtain better accuracy for detection of glaucoma. The structure elements morphology is using for the identification the edges of the retinal blood vessel and due to high sensitivity of structure components to the boundary in all direction. The multi structure component is preserved with thin vessel edges and at the same time false edges diminishes by morphological process. The segmentation and the enhancement is done using the thresholding process to recognise thin vessels and during the false edge pixel detection.

For further study an efficient classification model can be measured for every image point in order to reduce or even eradicate some of misdetections of retina blood vessels.

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