

Principles of Image Processing & Quantification: automatic segmentation

Mauricio Cerda/Jorge Jara ICBM, Faculty of Medicine Universidad de Chile <u>mauriciocerda@med.uchile.cl</u> www.scian.cl



Computational Methods for Analysis of Dynamic Events In Cell Migration. Castañeda V, Cerda M, Santibañez F, Jara J, Pulgar E, Palma K, Lemus CG, Concha M, Härtel S Current Molecular Medicine, 14(2), 291–307.

Show Abstract 🔀

- Segmentation (clustering)
- Segmentation (random forest)

http://fiji.sc/

Infection cycles of Chagas disease



IMAGE PROCESSING: PARASITES





Fig. 1. Infection of BeWo cells with *T. cruzi* amastigotes. BeWo cells were challenged with *T. cruzi* Ypsilon strain trypomastigotes at a parasite:cell ratio of 1:1 for 24 h and were processed for DAPI staining after 48 h. The arrows show BeWo cell nuclei, and the arrowheads show intracellular amastigotes. Scale bar: 10 μm.

Pregnancy?

The simplest segmentation... a manual global threshold



segmentation (>46)

segmentation (>158)

raw image

How to define the threshold ? ...







- We have free parameters (!)
- BUT, we know there are two groups of pixels: cells, and background.

- A kind of (statistical) learning problem!
 - clustering
 - classification

- We can model threshold selection as how to discover the best k groups or clusters at a pixel level.
- K-means clustering (k=3):



- K-means for our image...
- Using the histogram:





IMAGE SEGMENTATION: UNSUPERVISED APPROACH



- 1.- Start by guessing 2 centroids.
- 2.- Associate each intensity to 1 centroid.
- 3.- Recompute centroids
- 4.- Repeat step 2.

IMAGE SEGMENTATION: SUPERVISED APPROACH

- If we know input and **expected output**: supervised learning.
- Features: voxel intensity, color, shape, size.
- Learning = **how** to identify classes using features.



IMAGE SEGMENTATION: SUPERVISED APPROACH



We may not have examples of segmentation, BUT we can quickly build examples.

Class A (background)

Class B (objects)

We can understand pixels in higher dimensions.



- Intensity (0)
- Variance 3x3
- Mean 3x3
- Sobel 3x3

How to build rules to identify cells and parasites?

- To classify pixels we can use many methods (SVM, Neural networks), even in high dimensions. For instance decision trees.
- We can think pixels information as "ants" that we want to classify.



- Main idea: divide & conquer.
 - (1) Divide examples using simple rules.
 - (2) Conquer: repeat with subgroups





- (1) Divide examples using simple rules.
- (2) Conquer: repeat with subgroups



- Objetive: From observations
 (X), identify the probability of class (Y), or P(Y|X).
 - (1) Partition: each rule divide feature space.
 - (2) Model: Compute P(Y|X) per partition.
- The tree estimates P(Y|X) by parts (partitions).



- We still need to know:
 - How to build the tree?
 - How to measure how good the tree is?



We will compare two rules: horizontal or vertical partition.



We will compare two rules: horizontal or vertical partition.



Horizontal or vertical?



 But maybe, "Reproductive organs" was a too good or too bad question to start with or we did too many questions (overfitting)



A single **decision tree** is sensitive to overfitting.



- Idea: to replace the tree by a forest.
- In a forest each tree is slightly different.
- The uncorrelated tree set improves generalization properties.



- Main parameters:
 - Trees depth
 - Number of trees
 - Select input features



DEMO: Use weka to train for k-mean threshold a random forest to segment nuclei + parasites [FIJI plugin]