

A Palmprint Identification System Using Robust Discriminant Orientation Code

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Abstract

This paper presents a palmprint recognition system in which we propose a novel acquisition device and a Robust Discriminant Orientation Code, called RDORIC, for palmprint identification. In order to get the clear line features, the device is designed to capture the palmprint images under Green illuminations. To extract RDORIC feature, we present the algorithm which includes two main steps: (1) Palm line orientation map computation and (2) Discriminant feature extraction of the orientation map. In the first step, positive orientation and negative orientation maps are computed by applying the modified finite Radon transform (MFRAT). In the second step, the grid-sampling based 2DLDA, called Grid-LDA, is used to remove redundant information of orientation maps and form a class-separable code more suitable for palmprint identification. The experimental results on the database of our lab and the public database of Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) show that our technique provides a very robust orientation representation for recognition and demonstrate the feasibility of the proposed system.

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1. Introduction

Palmprint is a new kind of biometric feature for personal recognition and has been widely studied due to its merits such as distinctiveness, cost-effectiveness, user friendliness, high accuracy, and so on [1]. Palmprint research employs low resolution images (i.e., less than 150 dpi, see Fig. 1a) for civil and commercial applications. A typical palmprint system consists of five parts: data acquisition device, region of interest (ROI) extraction, feature extraction, matcher and database. The data acquisition device collects palmprint images (see Fig. 1c). ROI extraction sets up a

coordinate system to align palmprint images and to segment a part of palmprint images for feature extraction (see Fig. 1b). Feature extraction obtains effective features from the ROI images. A matcher compares two palmprint features and a database stores registered templates. Feature extraction is an important step of palmprint recognition. Palmprint features are principal lines and wrinkles, called palm-lines, which are very important to distinguish between different palmprints and can be extracted from low-resolution images. There are many approaches exploiting palm lines for recognition such as: line-based approaches, code-based approaches,

subspace-based approaches, and fusion approaches. Subspace-based approaches also called appearance-based approaches in literatures use principal component analysis (PCA), linear discriminant analysis (LDA) and independent component analysis (ICA) to project palmprint images from high dimensional space to a lower dimensional feature space [2, 3, 4]. The sub-space coefficients are regarded as features. These approaches were reported to achieve exciting results, but they may be sensitive to illumination, contrast, and position changes in real applications. Line-based approaches will extract palm lines for matching based on using or developing edge detection algorithms [5, 6, 7]. Palm lines are the basic feature of palmprint. However, few principal lines do not contribute strongly enough to obtain a high recognition rate [3]. Therefore, principal lines can be used in palmprint classification [6]. Code-based approaches have been widely investigated in palmprint recognition area due to efficient implementation and high recognition performance. These approaches can obtain the palmprint orientation pattern by applying Gabor filters or MFRAT filters [8, 9, 10]. Fusion approaches utilize many techniques and

integrate different features in order to provide more reliable results [11, 12, 13].

This paper proposes a robust discriminant orientation code, called RDORIC, for palmprint identification system. RDORIC is in low dimensional and discriminant feature space. This idea has been mentioned in our conference paper [15]. In this paper, the palmprint identification system using RDORIC has been developed and much more experiments have been done. The main contributions of this paper consist of the following aspects: (1) A novel method based on the Modified Finite Radon Transform (MFRAT) is proposed for computing two palm line orientation images, called positive orientation feature image and negative orientation feature image, which separately describe the orientation patterns of principle lines and wrinkles. (2) GridLDA is used to project the orientation maps from the high dimensional space to lower dimensional and discriminant spaces. (3) The palmprint identification system, which applying the RDORIC, has been built successfully. The experimental results show that RDORIC is a very robust orientation representation for recognition and demonstrates the feasibility of the proposed system.

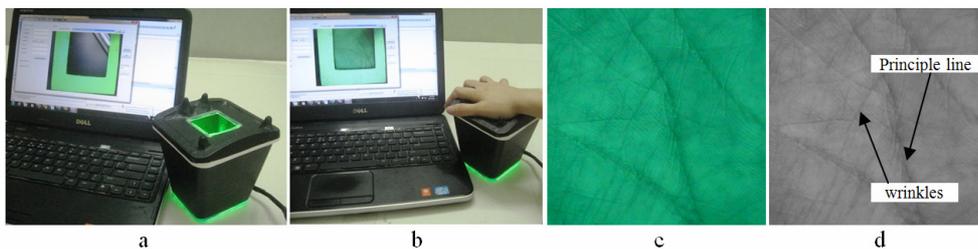


Fig. 1. (a) a palmprint acquisition device, (b) the device captures image, (c) a sample palmprint image (ROI) and (d) the Grayscale ROI image.



Fig. 2. The 7×7 MFRAT at the directions of 0° , $\pi/6$, $2\pi/6$, $3\pi/6$, $4\pi/6$, and $5\pi/6$, respectively; and L_k is 1 pixel wide.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. Section 2 gives a brief description of our data acquisition device and ROI image extraction. Section 3 presents the proposed robust discriminant orientation code (RDORIC feature). The experimental results are presented in section 4. Finally, the paper conclusions are drawn in section 5.

2. ROI image acquisition

We utilize the palmprint images with 96 dpi resolution to develop a palmprint identification system. In this section, we describe the palmprint acquisition device and ROI extraction method.

2.1. Data acquisition device

Researchers utilize four types of sensors: CCD-based palmprint scanners, digital cameras, digital scanners and video cameras to collect palmprint images [1]. CCD-based palmprint scanners capture high quality palmprint images and align palms accurately because the scanners have pegs for guiding the placement of hands [9, 16]. Although these palmprint scanners can capture high quality images, they are large. Collection approaches based on digital scanners, digital cameras, and video cameras do not use pegs for the placement of hands. Digital scanners are not suitable for real-time application because of the scanning time. Digital and video cameras can be used to collect palmprint images without contact; however these images might cause recognition

problem as their quality is low. We design the novel palmprint capture device which includes webcam web camera, and a light source. Fig. 1a shows the prototype of our device.

The system can capture palmprint image in a resolution of 600×480 . A user is asked to put his/her palm on the platform (see Fig. 1b). Several pegs serve as control points for the placement of user's hand. The palmprint image of the palm is collected under Green light because the line features are clearer in Green band than in the others [9].

2.2. ROI image extraction

A region of interest (ROI) will be extracted from the palmprint image for further feature extraction and matching. This can reduce the influence of rotation and translation of the palm. In this paper, the ROI extraction algorithm in [16] is used to find the ROI coordinate system. After ROI extraction, the translation and rotation is usually small between two images. Fig. 1c shows the ROI of palmprint image, and Fig. 1d shows the grayscale ROI image.

3. Our proposed RDORIC feature for recognition

The orientation Code is common and robust feature for palmprint recognition such as palmcode [16], competitive code [8], robust line orientation code [10]. However, the orientation code feature is still in large dimensional space

and contains the redundant information. Therefore, we proposed a robust discriminant orientation code for palmprint identification, whose performance is improved by using two strategies. Firstly, a modified finite Radon transform (MFRAT) is applied to extract the orientation feature of principle lines and wrinkles. Secondly, grid sampled based 2DLDA is used to compute the discriminant feature with low dimension.

3.1. MFRAT background [10]

Denoting $Z_p = \{0, 1, \dots, p-1\}$, where p is a positive integer, the MFRAT of real function $f[x, y]$ on the finite grid Z_p^2 is defined as:

$$r[L_k] = MFRAT_f(k) = \frac{1}{C} \sum_{(i,j) \in L_k} f[i, j], \quad (1)$$

where C is a scalar value to control the scale of $r[L_k]$, and L_k denotes the set of points that constitutes a line on the lattice:

$$L_k = \{(i, j) : j = k(i - i_0) + j_0, i \in Z_p\}, \quad (2)$$

where (i_0, j_0) denotes the center point of the lattice Z_p^2 and k represents the corresponding slope of L_k . Since gray-levels of pixels on the palm lines are lower than those of the surrounding pixels, the line orientation θ_k and

the line energy e of the center point $f(i_0, j_0)$ of Z_p^2 can be calculated as:

$$\theta_{k(i_0, j_0)} = \arg(\min_k(r[L_k])), k = 1, 2, \dots, N, \quad (3)$$

$$e_{(i_0, j_0)} = |\min_k(r[L_k])|, k = 1, 2, \dots, N, \quad (4)$$

where N is the number of direction in Z_p^2 . By this way, directions and energies of all pixels are calculated if the center of lattice Z_p^2 moves over an image pixel by pixel (or pixels by pixels).

3.2. Orientation representation of principle lines and wrinkles

Huang et al. [5] pointed out that the directions of most wrinkles markedly differ from that of the principal lines. For instance, if the direction of the principle lines belong to $(0, \dots, \pi/2]$ approximately, the directions of most wrinkles will be at $[\pi/2, \dots, \pi)$. Therefore, we propose a robust orientation representation which separately describes the orientation maps of principle lines and wrinkles. Because the orientation of principle lines can belong to $(0, \dots, \pi/2]$ or $[\pi/2, \dots, \pi)$, the orientation representation include two planes of the orientation $\theta \in [0, \pi]$: positive orientation θ_{pos} , $\theta_{pos} \in [0, \pi/2]$ and negative orientation θ_{neg} , $\theta_{neg} \in [\pi/2, \pi)$.

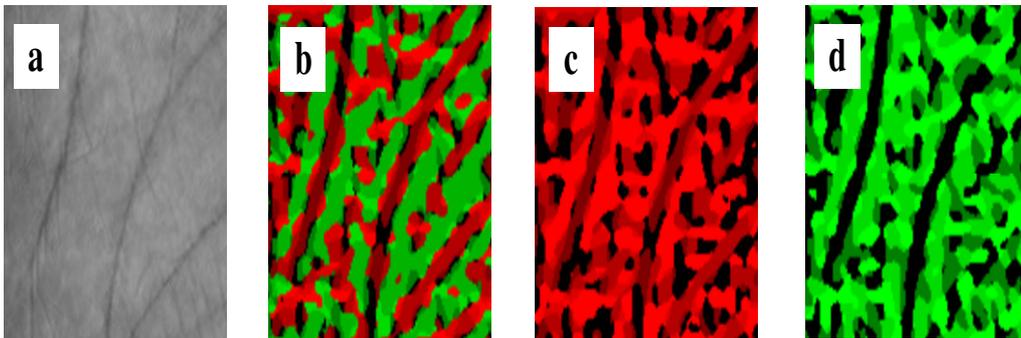


Fig. 3. (a) The original image, (b) the cosin component of the orientation map, (c) the PORIR image, and (d) the NORIR image.

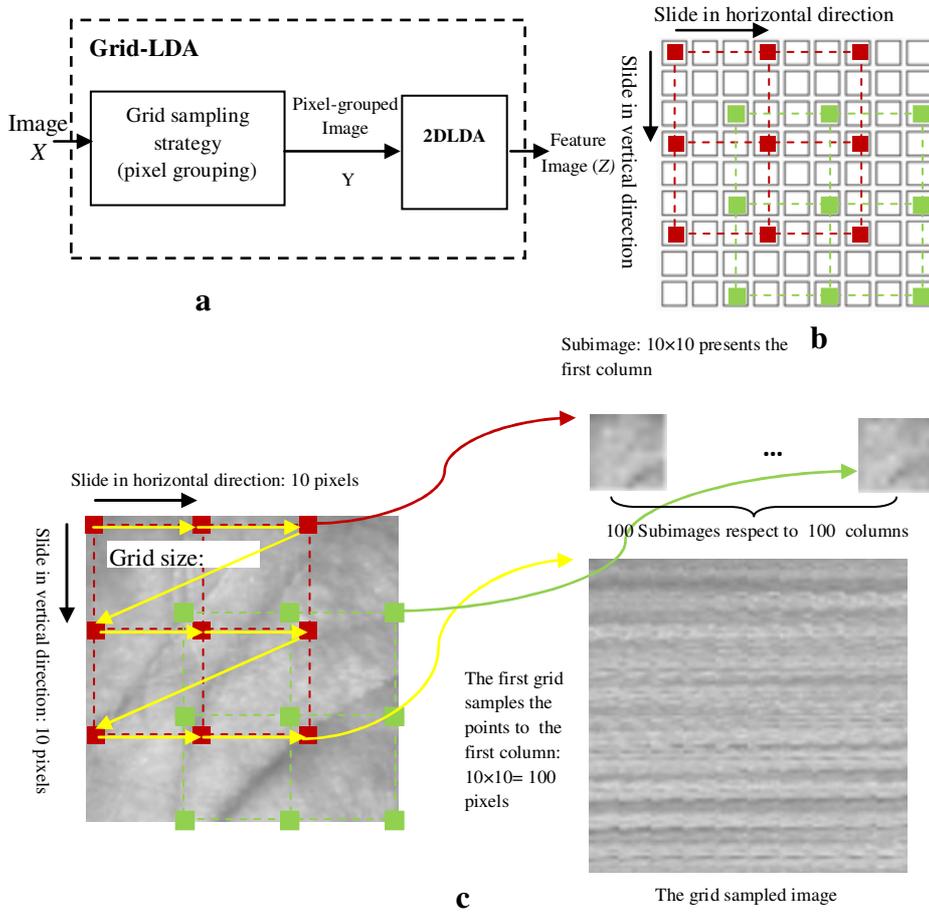


Fig. 4. (a) Block diagram of GridLDA, (b) Grid-sampling strategy, and (c) the process of grid-sampling.

The orientations of the center point (i_0, j_0) are defined based on MFRAT as follows:

$$\theta_{pos}(i_0, j_0) = \theta_{k_p(i_0, j_0)} = \arg\left(\min_{k_p} \left(r[L_{k_p}] \right) \right), k_p = 0, 1, 2, 3 \quad (5)$$

$$\theta_{neg}(i_0, j_0) = \theta_{k_n(i_0, j_0)} = \arg\left(\min_{k_n} \left(r[L_{k_n}] \right) \right), k_n = 3, 4, 5, 0$$

where θ_{pos} (θ_{neg}) called positive (negative) orientation because the cosine component of θ_{pos} (θ_{neg}) is positive (negative). Then, if orientations of all pixels are computed by equations (1), (2) and (5), two new images, called Positive ORientation Representation image (PORIR) and Negative ORientation Representation image (NORIR) are created as:

$$PORIR = \begin{bmatrix} k_{P(1,1)} & k_{P(1,2)} & M & k_{P(1,n)} \\ k_{P(2,1)} & k_{P(2,2)} & M & k_{P(2,n)} \\ L & L & M & L \\ k_{P(m,1)} & k_{P(m,2)} & M & k_{P(m,n)} \end{bmatrix}, k_{P(i,j)} \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}, \quad (6)$$

$$i = \overline{1, m}, j = \overline{1, n}$$

$$NORIR = \begin{bmatrix} k_{N(1,1)} & k_{N(1,2)} & M & k_{N(1,n)} \\ k_{N(2,1)} & k_{N(2,2)} & M & k_{N(2,n)} \\ L & L & M & L \\ k_{N(m,1)} & k_{N(m,2)} & M & k_{N(m,n)} \end{bmatrix}, k_{N(i,j)} \in \{3, 4, 5, 0\}, \quad (7)$$

$$i = \overline{1, m}, j = \overline{1, n}$$

Figure 3c and 3d show the PORIR image and the NORIR image, respectively. These two orientation maps are more class-separable than the original orientation map and can be used as the input of GridLDA to obtain projected feature matrix, called Robust Discriminant Orientation Code (RDORIC). Finally, Euclidean

distance based nearest neighbor classifier is used for recognition. Next subsection presents GridLDA for extracting RDORIC.

3.3. GridLDA background

Grid sampled based 2DLDA, called GridLDA, [13] is the efficient tool for extracting the discriminative and low dimensional feature for classification. GridLDA is 2DLDA with the input which is pixel-grouped images by grid-sampling strategy (see Figure 4a).

The grid-sampling is defined as: a virtual rectangular grid is overlaid on the image matrix (see Figure 4b), and the points at the intersections of gridline are sampled. The sampled pixels are packed into a subset. Then, the overlaid grid slides by one pixel in the horizontal or vertical direction. At each new position, grid-sampling is performed and new subset of random variables is obtained (see Figure 4c). Considering a $M_0 \times N_0$ image, we formulate the strategy as:

$$RG(k, p) = \{rg(x_0, y_0) : x_0 = 0, \dots, k-1; y_0 = 0, \dots, p-1\},$$

$$rg(x_0, y_0) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (x_i, y_j) : x_i = x_0 + i \times k; y_j = y_0 + j \times p; \\ i = 0, \dots, s-1; s = N_0 / k; \\ j = 0, \dots, t-1; t = M_0 / p \end{array} \right\} \quad (8)$$

$$f_g(u, v) = f(x_i, y_j), u = x_0 \times k + y_0, v = i \times s + j,$$

$$(x_i, y_j) \in rg(x_0, y_0), rg(x_0, y_0) \in RG(k, p)$$

where k and p are numbers of sliding in horizontal and vertical direction respectively; $m = k \times p$ is number of the grid; s and t are width size and height size of the grid respectively; $n = s \times t$ is the number of elements in the grid. Thus, the pixels of each image are grouped into m sets with the same size (n pixels), called $RG(k, p)$.

Each set $rg(x_0, y_0)$ respects to a column of an $m \times n$ pixel-grouped matrix. Figure 4c shows that each grid creates a column of the grid

sampled image which can represent the resized image of the original image, called subimage. Moreover, the subimages are nearly geometrically similar. As the grid sampled image is the input of 2DLDA, 2DLDA can reduce the space dimension effectively because the columns are high correlated. Because these subimages represented for these original images have more discriminative information than that of other sampling strategies (such as: Column, Row, Diagonal, and block sampling strategy), 2DLDA of the grid sampled image can extract the feature which is more discriminative than 2DLDA of all other sampling strategies.

Let's suppose that there are N training grid sampled images $A_i \in R^{m \times n}$, consisting of L known pattern classes, denoted as C_1, C_2, \dots, C_L , C_i consists of the N_i training images from the i^{th} class and $N = \sum_{i=1}^L N_i$. The global centroid \bar{A} of all training grid sampled image and the local centroid \bar{A}_i of each class C_i is defined as $\bar{A} = (1/N) \sum_{i=1}^L A_i$, $\bar{A}_i = (1/N_i) \sum_{A_j \in C_i} A_j$. 2DLDA attempts to find a set of optimal discriminating vectors to form a transform $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_d\}$ defined as:

$$X = \arg \max J(X) \quad (9)$$

where the 2D Fisher criterion $J(X)$ denoted as:

$$J(X) = \frac{X^T G_b X}{X^T G_w X} \quad (10)$$

where T denotes the matrix transpose, G_b and G_w respectively are between-class and within-class scatter matrices:

$$S_b = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^L N_i (\bar{A}_i - \bar{A})^T (\bar{A}_i - \bar{A}) \quad (11)$$

$$S_w = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^L \sum_{A_j \in C_i} (A_j - \bar{A}_i)^T (A_j - \bar{A}_i) \quad (12)$$

The optimal projection matrices $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_d\}$ can be obtained by computing

orthonormal eigenvectors of $G_w^{-1}G_b$ corresponding to the d largest eigenvalues thereby maximizing function $J(X)$. The value of d can be controlled by setting a threshold as follow:

$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^d \lambda_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i} \geq \theta \quad (13)$$

where $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ is the n biggest eigenvalues of $(G_w)^{-1}G_b$ and θ is a pre-defined threshold.

Let's suppose that we have obtained the n by d projection matrix X , projecting the m by n grid sampled image A onto X , yielding a m by d feature matrix Y :

$$Y = AX \quad (14)$$

3.4. RDORIC extraction for classification

Figure 5 shows an illustration of overall procedure of our proposed method. The processing steps of proposed method for extracting RDORIC feature are summarized as follows:

Step 1: Compute the NORIR and PORIR image of each palmprint image based on

MFRAT based filter by applying equations (1), (2) and (5)

Step 2: Based on GridLDA, compute the RDORIC feature included two matrices Y_{NORIR} and Y_{PORIR} by applying equation (14) to the NORIR and PORIR image.

Figure 6 presents some results of our proposed method including: original image, NORIR image, PORIR image and some reconstructed images of these images with different dimension sizes.

Given a sample palmprint image f , use our proposed method to obtain RDORIC feature $Y: \{Y_{NORIR}, Y_{PORIR}\}$, then a nearest neighbor classifier is used for classification. Here, the distance between Y and Y_k is defined by:

$$d(Y, Y_k) = \|Y - Y_k\| = \frac{1}{6 \times m \times d} \left(\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^d (Y_{PORIR}^{(i,j)} - Y_{PORIR_k}^{(i,j)})^2} + \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^d (Y_{NORIR}^{(i,j)} - Y_{NORIR_k}^{(i,j)})^2} \right) \quad (15)$$

The distance $d(Y, Y_k)$ is between 0 and 1. The distance of the perfect match is 0.

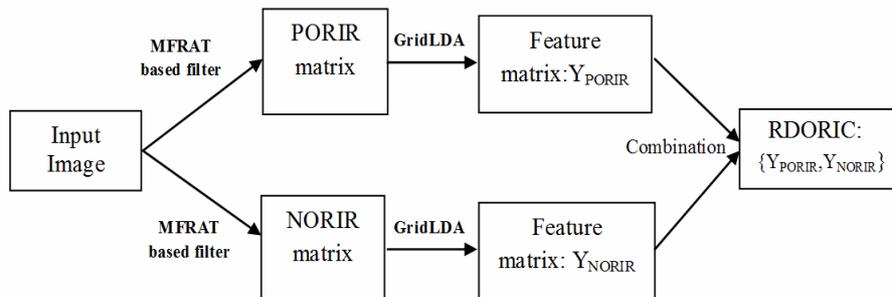


Fig. 5. An overview of our proposed method for extracting the discriminant orientation feature matrix.

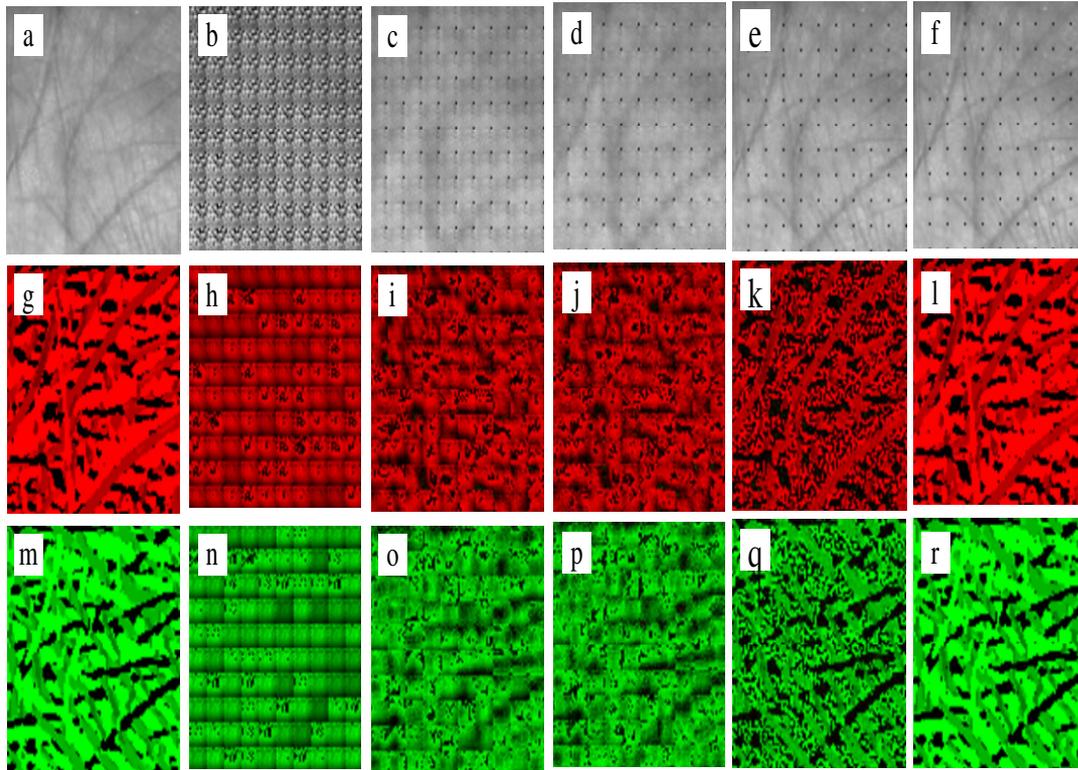


Fig. 6. Some samples which demonstrate our feature extraction method: (a) the palmprint image with size 100×100 ; (b)-(f) some reconstructed images of the original image by GridLDA with $d = \{1, 5, 20, 80, 99\}$ respectively; (g) the PORIR image; (m) the NORIR image, and some reconstructed images of the PORIR image (h)-(l) and NORIR image (n)-(r) by GridLDA with $d = \{1, 5, 20, 80, 99\}$ respectively.

4. Experimental results

In order to evaluate the proposed method and our system, we compare the identification performance of our method with some state-of-the-art methods on the database of our lab and the public palmprint database of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, PolyU Multispectral palmprint Databases [14].

4.1. Identification test protocol

In identification, we want to identify which class the query belongs to. Therefore, identification is a process of comparing one query image against all training images and the label of the most similar images is obtained as the identification result.

If a matching score of two images from the same palm is greater than a predefined threshold, the match is a genuine acceptance. Similarly, if a matching score of two images from different palms is greater than a predefined threshold, the match is a false acceptance. Each image in the testing database is matched with all images in the training databases to generate incorrect and correct identification scores. The maximum of the distances produced by the query and templates of the same registered palm is considered as correct identification score. Similarly, we take the maximum of the distances produced by the query and all templates of the different registered palms as the incorrect identification score. If the query does not have any registered

images, we only obtain the incorrect identification score. If we have N queries of registered palms and M queries of unregistered palms, we obtain N correct identification scores and $N+M$ incorrect identification distance. Based on these scores, we obtain the identification results: the receiver operating characteristic curve (ROC curve).

4.2. Experimental results on PolyU Multispectral palmprint Database

Multispectral palmprint database was collected from 250 volunteers, including 195 males and 55 females. The age distribution is from 20 to 60 years old. The samples were collected in two separate sessions. In each session, the subject was asked to provide 6 images for each palm. Therefore, 24 images of each illumination from 2 palms were collected

from each subject. In total, the database contains 6,000 images from 500 different palms for one illumination. The average time interval between the first and the second sessions was about 9 days. In our experiments, we use ROI databases with size 128×128 pixels for evaluate our feature extraction methods. In the following tests, the registration database contains 1500 templates from 250 random different palms, where each palm has six templates. The testing database contains 4500 templates from 250 different registered palms and 250 different unregistered palms. None of palmprint images in the testing database is contained in any of the registration databases. Therefore, we have 1500 correct identification scores and 4500 incorrect identification score. Table 1 presents the parameters of the dataset on which we conduct the experiments.

Table 1. Parameters of databases in identification experiments

Databases	Training set	Testing set		Number of Identification	
		Registration set	Unregistration set	Correct distance	Incorrect distance
PolyU Multispectral palmprint [14] (blue set)	$250 \times 6 = 1500$	$250 \times 6 = 1500$	$250 \times 12 = 3000$	1500	$1500 + 3000 = 4500$
Our database	$200 \times 5 = 1000$	$200 \times 5 = 1000$	$100 \times 5 = 500$	1000	$1000 + 500 = 1500$

TABLE 2. GENUINE ACCEPTANCE RATE OF OUR PROPOSED METHOD WITH FALSE ACCEPTANCE RATE = 0%

Dimensions	Genuine recognition rate (%)		Average time for one matching (ms)
	PolyU Multispectral palmprint [14] (blue set)	Our database	
3×100	93.6	95.6	0.36
15×100	96.2	97.2	0.183
25×100	97.8	98.3	0.305

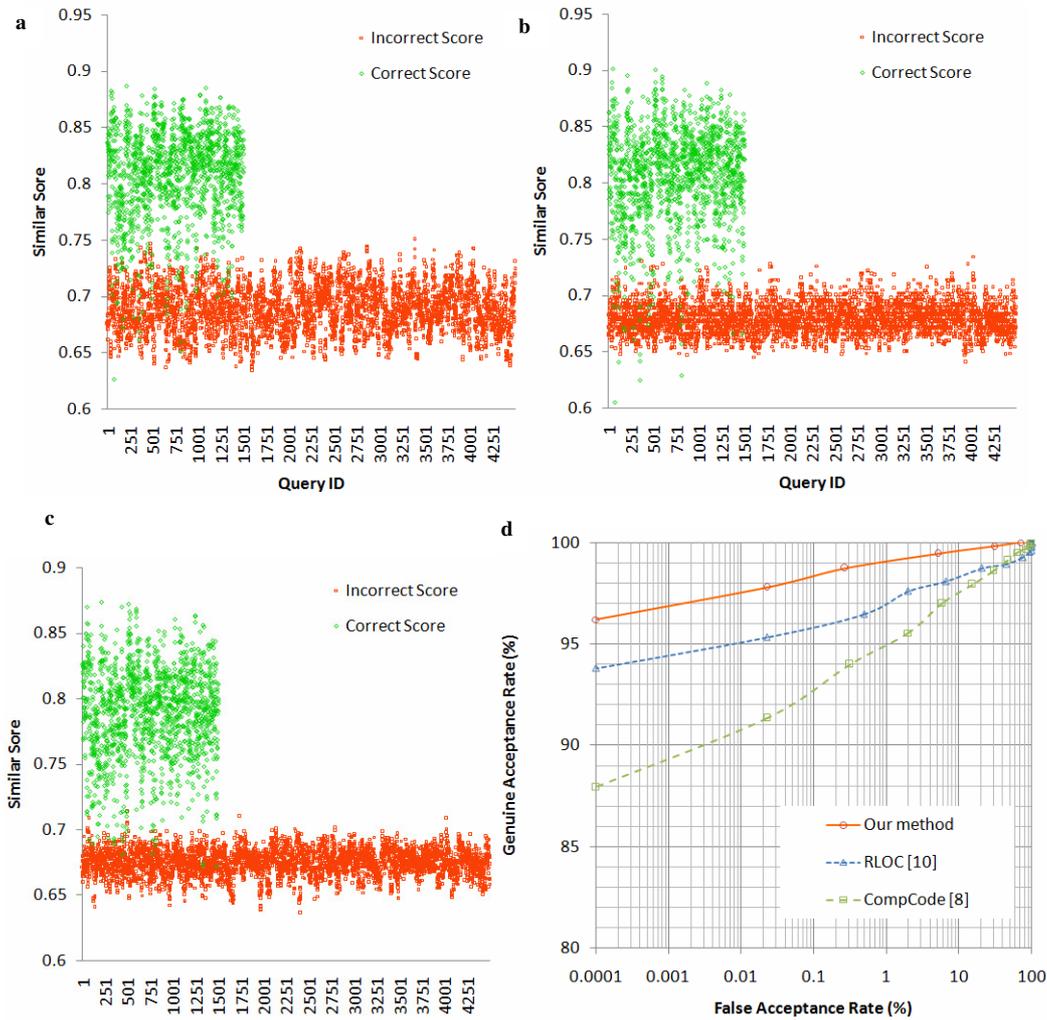


Fig. 7. Experimental results on PolyU Multispectral palmprint Database: Correct and incorrect identification score distribution of (a) CompCode [8], (b) RLOC [10] and (c) our proposed method with $d=15$, respectively. (d) The ROC curves for CompCode based method [8], RLOC [10] and our proposed method with $d=15$.

Table 2 represents the top recognition accuracy and the corresponding feature dimensions of our method on this dataset. The experimental results present in Fig. 7. Fig. 7a, 7b, and 7c show the correct and incorrect score distributions obtained from Competitive code, RLOC and our method (RDORIC), respectively. It can be observed that the distributions of RDORIC are also well separated than that of Competitive Code and RLOC. The Receiving Operating Characteristic

(ROC) curves of Genuine Acceptance Rate (GAR) and False Acceptance Rate (FAR) of RDORIC and others are presented in Fig. 7d. The accuracy of RDORIC is also higher than that of CompCode and RLOC. Our experimental results demonstrate that our method is more stable and better than CompCode and RLOC. Fig. 7d shows that our proposed method's accuracy is about 96.2% GAR with 0% FAR.

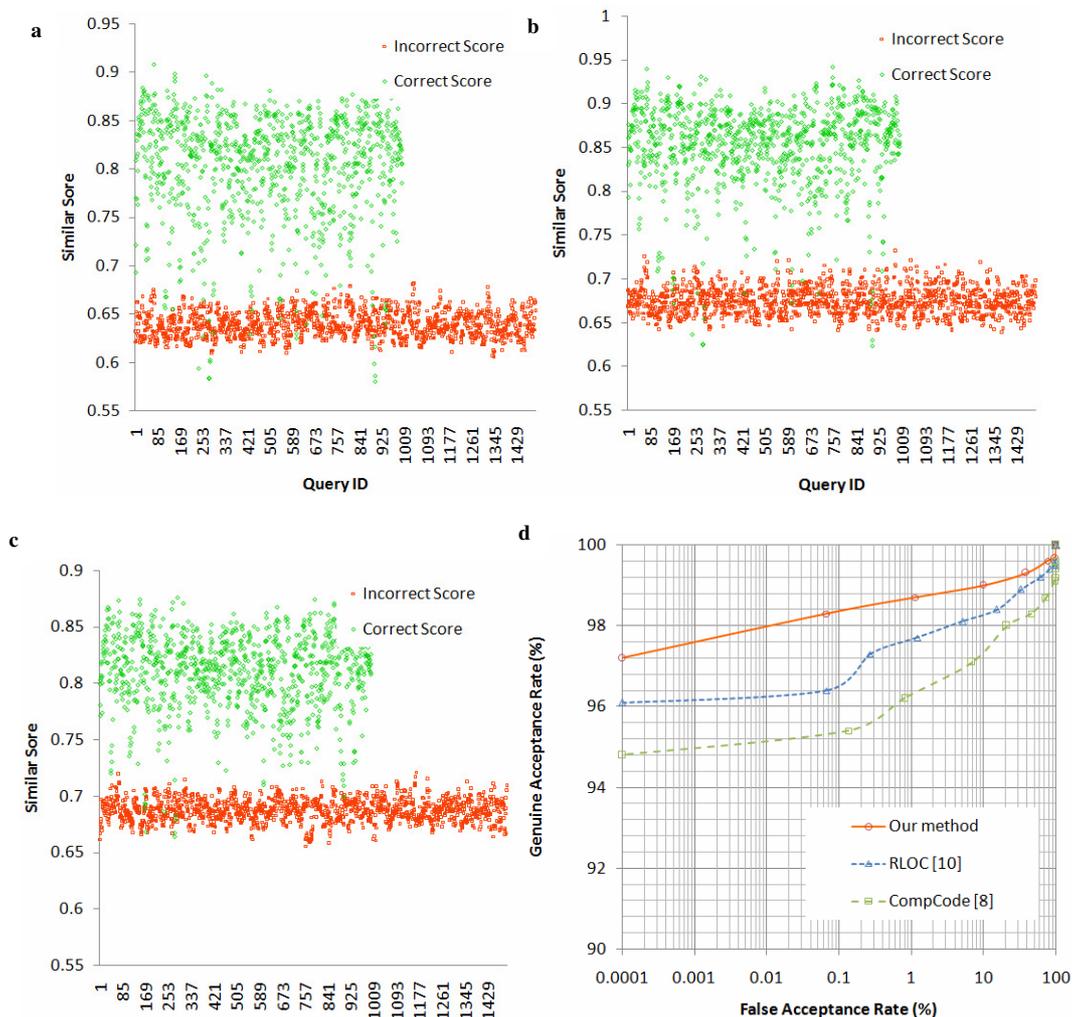


Fig. 8. Experimental results on the database of our lab: Correct and incorrect identification score distribution of (a) CompCode[8], (b) RLOC[10] and (c) our proposed method with $d=15$, respectively. (d) The ROC curves for CompCode based method [8], RLOC [10] and our proposed method with $d=15$.

4.3. Experimental results on the database of our lab

The palmprint database of our lab contains 3000 samples of 300 different palms. Ten samples from each of these palms are collected in two separated sessions, where 5 samples are captured in each session, respectively. The average time interval between the two sessions is about 15 days. The resolution of these images is 100×100 pixels. In the following tests, the registration database contains 1000 templates

from 200 random different palms, where each palm has five templates. The testing database contains 1500 templates from 200 different registered palms (1000 templates) and 100 different unregistered palms (500 templates). None of palmprint images in the testing database is overlapped in registration databases. Therefore, we have 1000 correct identification scores and 1500 incorrect identification scores. Table 1 shows the parameters of the dataset on which we conduct the experiments.

Table 2 represents the top recognition accuracy and the corresponding feature dimensions of our method on this dataset. Fig. 8a, 8b, and 8c show the correct and incorrect distance scores obtained from palmprint features of Compcode [8], RLOC [10] and our method. It can be observed that the distributions of our method are well separated and a linear classifier would be able to discriminate the genuine and impostor classes. The Receiving Operating Characteristic (ROC) curve of Genuine Acceptance Rate (GAR) and False Acceptance Rate (FAR) of our method and other are presented in Fig. 8d. From this group of figures, we can see that the recognition performance of our method is better than other state-of-art-methods (CompCode [8] and RLOC [10]). Fig. 8d. shows that our proposed method's accuracy is about 97.2% GAR with 0% FAR on this database.

4.4. Speed

Our proposed method and other methods are implemented using C# on a PC with CPU Intel Core2Duo 1.8 GHz and Windows 7 Professional. The average testing time of the above methods are compared in Table 3. The average execution time for the feature extraction and matching are 65 ms, and 0.13 ms, respectively. The total identification time is about 262 ms with PolyU Multispectral palmprint Database (1500 matching) and 196 ms with the database of our lab (1000 matching).

TABLE 3. COMPARISON OF TESTING TIME

Method	Feature extraction (ms)	Identification time for one image (ms)	
		PolyU Multispectral palmprint Database (1500 matching)	The database of our lab (1000 matching)
CompCode based Method [8]	371	583	514
RLOC based method [10]	62	269	201
Our proposed method with $d=15$	65	262	196

5. Conclusion

In this paper, we present a novel palmprint identification system in which we propose a novel data acquisition device and a robust discriminant orientation code (RDORIC) for recognition. The MFRAT is applied to compute the negative orientation representation and positive orientation representation which describe separately the orientations of principal lines and wrinkles. Moreover, it works more quickly than Gabor filter [8, 9]. The output orientation images still contain redundant information in image searching. Therefore, GridLDA is used to extract the robust discriminant orientation code, called DORIC, which is more suitable for palmprint recognition. Experimental results show that our proposed method outperforms other state-of-art methods (Competitive Code based method [8], and RLOC based method [10]) in terms of higher accuracy and speed on two palmprint datasets (PolyU Multispectral palmprint Database and the database of our lab). Therefore, we conclude that our palmprint identification system can achieve good performance in terms of speed and accuracy.

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