Abstract

The most challenging task in OCR is getting the characters segmented properly. The accuracy of segmentation depends on the quality of the binarization technique applied. Binarization is the process of setting all intensity values greater than some threshold value to "on". It converts the document image into binary image as extracting text and eliminating the background. This process also removes the noise. The output of this process is used as input to image segmentation process. Conventionally separate methods are used for binarization and segmentation. In this paper we investigate the use of recently introduced convex optimization methods, selective local/global segmentation (SLGS) algorithm [16] and fast global minimization (FGM) algorithm [15] for simultaneous binarization and segmentation. Out of the two methods we tried out, one of them is found to be suitable for OCR task. The FGM algorithm provides an
average accuracy of 89.97% for Tamil character segmentation.

References

- David Rivest-Hnault, Reza Farrahi Moghaddam, Mohamed Cheriet “A local linear level
set method for the binarization of degraded historical document images”, Springer-Verlag 2011


**Index Terms**

Computer Science  
Pattern Recognition

**Keywords**

Level Set  
Active Contours  
Binarization  
Segmentation