Multidimensional Structural Descriptors for Medical Image Retrieval



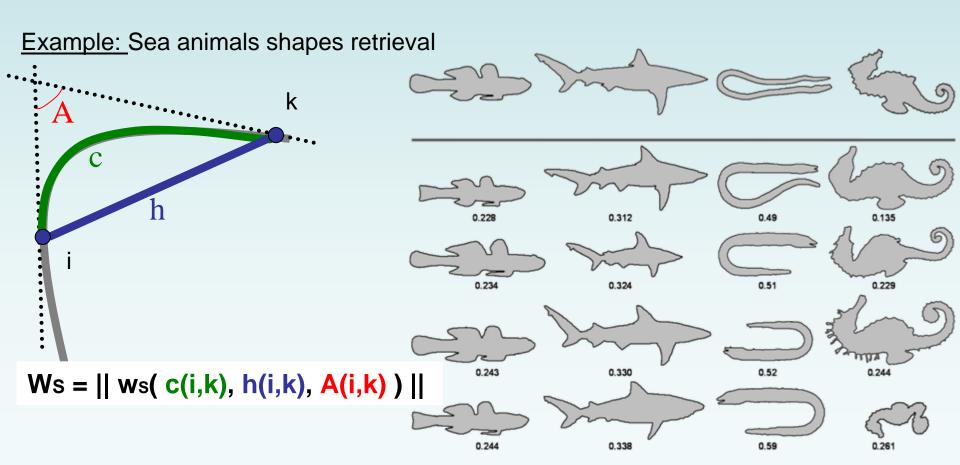
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Co-occurrence matrices concept

Ordinary histogram: structural information is fully abstracted away: two different images can have the same histograms.

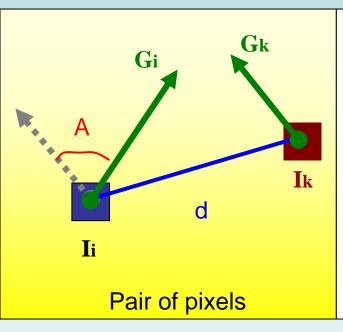
<u>Classical co-occurrence matrix</u> (Haralick): spatial information is added to the ordinary histogram.

The idea of "co-occurrence" can be extended



Generalized co-occurrence matrices

We used the most general form of these descriptor for heterogeneous CLEF database



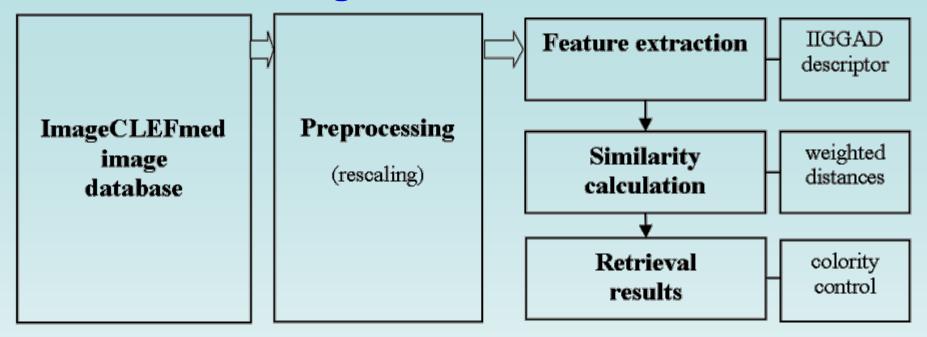
$$W = w(I(i),I(k),G(i),G(k),A(i,k),d(i,k))$$

where $i = (x_i, y_i), k = (x_k, y_k)$ is an arbitrarily pair of pixels, d(i,k) distance between them, I(i), I(k) intensity of the pixels*, G(i), G(k) absolute values of intensity gradients, A(i,k) angle between the directions of the gradients.

*color can be converted to gray level

In some cases reduced forms of the above descriptors can be used (eg., GGAD)

Image retrieval schema



Preprocessing: image rescaling to 150x150 pixels

<u>Descriptors:</u> IIGGAD (54432 elements)

Similarity measure: minimal manhattan distance to the query group

Query: group of 2-3 images Image database : 18.6 Gb

Descr. database: 16 Gb (no optimization)

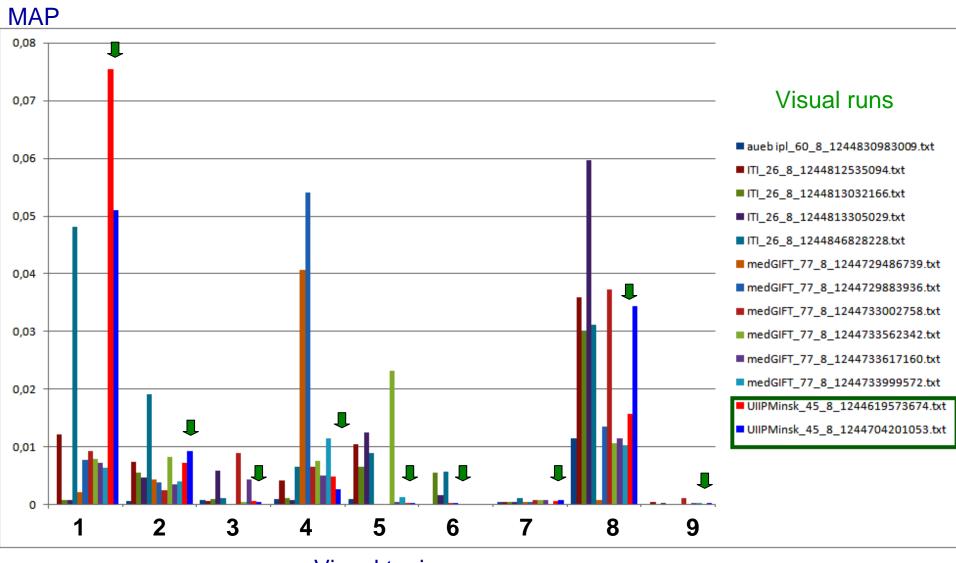
Retrieval time: 2 h

Results



A snapshot of the top 27 retrieval results with the best and the worst mean average precision value (topic 1, "Photos of erythema", MAP = 0.0754; topic 6, "CT images of subdural hemorrhage", MAP = 0.0)

Results



Visual topic

MAP for the first 9 CLEF topics. Visual retrieval only.

Results

- Image semantics is not described, just visual similarity.
- First 9 of 25 topics were submitted (visual topics only).
- Generalized co-occurrence matrices showed very promising results.

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