AMHARIC DOCUMENT IMAGE RETRIEVAL WITHOUT EXPLICIT RECOGNITION

A Thesis Submitted To The School Of Graduate Studies Of Addis Ababa University In Partial Fulfillment Of The Requirements For The Degree Of Master Of Science In Information Science

BY
MESFIN WORKU ASFAW
JUNE, 2009
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Name and Signature of Members of the Examining Board

Advisor

Chair Person

Examiner
DEDICATION

TO My Children
Duke and Nana
From The Bottom of My Heart
ACKNOWLEDGMENT

My greatest gratitude is extended to Dr. Million Meshesha and Dr. Diana Inkpen for their dedication on advising me this research, without them I could not reach to the final stage. My special thanks go to Dr. Million Meshesha, who supervised my research. His guidance and supervision helps the research to become successful.

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<td>Document Image Processing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASCII</td>
<td>American Standard for Information Exchange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBIR</td>
<td>Content Based Image Retrieval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIR</td>
<td>Document Image Retrieval</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dpi</td>
<td>Dot per inch</td>
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<td>EICTDA</td>
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<tr>
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<td>OCR</td>
<td>Optical Character Recognition</td>
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<td>OICTDA</td>
<td>Oromia Information Communication and Technology Development Agency</td>
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<tr>
<td>OMR</td>
<td>Optical Mark Recognition</td>
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<tr>
<td>SNNP</td>
<td>Southern Nations, Nationalities and People</td>
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<td>TF</td>
<td>Term Frequency</td>
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<td>Dynamic time warping</td>
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ABSTRACT

Retrieval of the stored information is a key issue. Especially image retrieval needs an emphasis, because the nature of the data is complex and difficult to retrieve. There are many problems to be studied in the area of image retrieval. From these, Document Image Retrieval is one of the issues that have to be given attention.

Document retrieval can use either a textual-based retrieval system or an image-based retrieval system. Document image retrieval system can also be done in two ways: recognition-based document image retrieval or document image retrieval without explicit recognition.

Currently, little has been done on the Amharic document retrieval systems. The Amharic text retrieval systems which are covered by the researchers considered limited Amharic documents that are available only in hardcopy format.

The proposed system incorporates document images and user queries. The document image is preprocessed, segmented at word level and the feature of each word is extracted. Then the textual query is rendered to convert into an image query, preprocessed, segmented and the feature is extracted. The technique used for feature extraction considers the word shape analysis. The extracted feature of the image query is matched with the feature of the document images, at word level using Euclidean and cosine similarity measures. Finally relevant document images are retrieved in ranked order in response to the given query.

To verify the validity of the approach proposed, experiment is carried out on 121 scanned Amharic documents that are selected from printed legal documents and news items.

The data retrieval effectiveness is measured using retrieval measures such as precision, recall and F-Score.

The experimental results confirmed the validity of the model for retrieving relevant document images from the collection of scanned document images.
CHAPTER ONE

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Study

Information is a basic ingredient of economic, social and political development for any society; therefore, countries like Ethiopia have to exert the maximum effort to utilize the available information. Information Communication Technology (ICT) allows the acquisition, transmission, storage and manipulation of information. The source of the information can be text documents, images, recorded sounds and videos, and other sources.

Retrieval of the stored information is a key issue. Especially multimedia data retrieval, including image needs an emphasis, because the nature of the data is complex and difficult to retrieve.

According to (Long, zhang, & Feng, 2003) early work on image retrieval can be traced back to the late 1970s. Early techniques were not generally based on visual features but on the textual annotation of images. That means, images were first annotated with text and then searched using a text-based retrieval approach from traditional database management systems.

First-generation Content-Based Image Retrieval (CBIR) systems were based on manual textual annotation to represent image content. However, this technique can only be applied to small data volumes and is limited to very narrow visual domains (Saeed, Pejas, & Long, 2006).
Content-based image retrieval, a technique which uses visual contents to search images from large scale image databases according to users' interests, has been an active and fast advancing research area since the 1990s. During the past decade, remarkable progress has been made in both theoretical research and system development in CBIR (Long, zhang, & Feng, 2003). However, there remain many challenging research problems that continue to attract researchers from multiple disciplines such as medical, aerial photos and satellite imagery analysis, etc.

Content-based image retrieval uses the visual contents of an image such as color, tonnage, shape, texture, spatial layout and other important features to represent and index the image (Long, zhang, & Feng, 2003).

Multimedia document retrieval algorithms can be divided into three interrelated algorithms (Haque, Chowdhury, & Rahman, 2005): image featuring, feature matching and the combination of multiple evidences. Features are extracted, both from queries and multimedia documents, before matching the features of the query with the features of the documents.

Image featuring is the automated process of locating and encoding distinctive characteristics of the image. This is the same as image feature extraction. Feature matching is a mechanism of comparing two images by using the extracted features of images. The combination of multiple evidences means using multiple features of an image that helps the feature matching process to identify similar images easily.

In recent years, there has been much interest in the research area of Document Image Retrieval (DIR) (Tan, Lu, & Lim, 2004).
Document image retrieval can be done either by using the OCR technique which refers to the process of converting printed text documents into software-translated Unicode or ASCII Text or by direct matching of the word images.

OCR refers to the process by which scanned images are electronically processed and converted to an editable text. To the contrary, the word image matching avoids OCR and reduces the associated storage requirement.

Amharic is an official working language of the government and most regional states like Amhara Region, Southern Nations, Nationalities and People (SNNP), Gambela Region, Afar Region, Binshangule Region; in addition to Addis Ababa and Diredawa city administration (Getachew & Derib, 2006)

The Amhara numbering about 19.8 million people, comprises 26 percent of the country's population, according to the 2007 census. They speak Amharic, the working language of the federal authorities of Ethiopia. (Wikipedia t. f., 2009)

With more than 20 million speakers, Amharic is today probably one of the five largest on the continent (Eyassu & Bjorn, 2005). Since Amharic is a working language of the federal government of Ethiopia and the five regions, the number of Amharic documents that are available in government and non government offices, in schools and libraries in the form of books, magazines, newspapers and memos are immense.

1.2. Statement of the Problem

There are a lot of Amharic hard copy documents that need to be digitized and should be accessed. From these documents considerable numbers of them are ancient documents that have a historical and tourism value. Most of Amharic documents available in different organizations are found either in handwritten or printout format.
The majority of the recent documents are found either in typewriter or in computer printout formats in different places especially in libraries, documentation centers, etc. Their concentration increases in governmental and nongovernmental organizations. These documents must be kept in electrical form so that historians, researchers and general users should have an easy access.

Image retrieval is the area that researchers are now doing a lot of experiment. At the earliest stage of the development of image retrieval, the text annotation of the image has been used for retrieval purpose. Content-Based Image Retrieval systems are developed recently and it is growing algorithmically and technologically very fast.

A document image processing or an OCR system can be applied for the purpose of document image retrieval. This system is used to automatically convert a document image to machine-readable text codes first, and traditional information retrieval strategies are then applied. However, the performance of the system relies heavily on the quality of the scanned images. It deteriorates severely if the images are of poor quality or complicated layout (Tan, 2004).

Currently, few have been done on the Amharic document retrieval system. The attempts made to develop a retrieval system by researches elite are also not yet realized in practice.

Most of the research attempts are on the text document retrieval side. The Amharic text retrieval system which are covered by the researchers have a problem of considering digitized Amharic documents that are available in image format. Some researchers like (Wondewosen, 2004), (Million, 2000), (Teferi, 1999) and (Alemu, 1997) used an Optical Character Recognition (OCR) system that converts digitized documents into text, based on which text retrieval can be done. Thought, the retrieval
from text document is the most efficient and effective one, coming up with a good OCR engine is a long term process. Hence a short term solution researchers suggested coming up with document image retrieval system without explicit recognition.

An effort made by (Million & Jawahar, 2008) has shown searching from document databases of English and Amharic by matching at word-level using image features. The focus of the research is in designing partial matching techniques that brings into one group morphologically varied words. This research direction needs to be further investigated to come up with a better techniques and algorithms so as to develop a practical IR system in the image domain. It is therefore the aim of this research to come up with an Amharic document image retrieval system without explicit recognition.

This research will contribute in finding a solution to access the scanned documents electronically without using any OCR techniques.

1.3. Objectives of the Study

1.3.1. General Objective

The general objective of the research is to design a retrieval system for from scanned Amharic document image corpus.

1.3.2. Specific Objective

Based on the above general objective of the present study the following specific objectives are identified.

- To review previous related works so that, to know what has been achieved so far in this area.
To access the document image and identify word images in a page using segmentation techniques.

To represent word images using the shape based feature extraction methods.

To apply matching scheme to measure similarity between the query and the word terms in document images.

To measure the effectiveness of searching using information retrieval evaluation methods.

To recommend further research areas for enhancing efficiency and effectiveness of the retrieval system.

1.4. Scope and limitation of the Study

There are many areas to be studied in the area of image retrieval. From these problems, Document Image Retrieval is one of the issues that have to be given attention. In this regard this study is delimited to Retrieval of Amharic document images from printed document images. The research is limited only to the recent printout of Amharic document images collected from news items and proclamations. It does not consider ancient and handwritten documents.

Due to time constrain the present research uses a sequentially indexed file for searching. The system performance will be improved if the indexing is done and here it is recommended to be included in the feature work.

The research work also concentrates in designing segmentation, feature extraction and matching schemes which are basic for developing an effective retrieval system.
1.5. Methodology of the Study

1.5.1. Nature of the Data

Different types of Amharic documents, especially legal and news items are digitized using a scanner with the grayscale mode and using 300dpi intensity. As shown in Table 1.1 about 121 documents, each having on the average four pages are scanned and a total of 483 pages are used for experimentation. The quality of the documents is a very good quality because all of them are a computer printouts..

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data Source</th>
<th>Document size</th>
<th>Total Pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Legal Documents</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News items</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>483</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 1.1 Sources of data.*

1.5.2. Data Collection and Processing

With the consultation of the language expert 28 queries are selected based on the availability of the query word in the document images. The queries are carefully selected to represent words that are available in many document images and words that are available in few document images. For example the query እምል.construct only occur only in one document image whereas the query እምል.construct: occurs in 74 document images. Here, the queries are selected by heuristic judgment of the expert.
1.5.3. Experimentation and Measurements

After preprocessing document images, words are identified and image features based on pixels are extracted so that the images can be described properly. Feature matching is performed between the query and word images from the document images identified using Euclidean and cosine similarity measures.

The data retrieval effectiveness has been measured using precision, recall and F measure, the relevance of documents for the given query are judged by the expert and the relevance matrix is constructed to evaluate the results obtained from the experiment.

Java programming language especially Java advanced imaging is used to implement document image preprocessing, image segmentation, feature extraction, feature matching and evaluation measure techniques used in this research.

1.6. Application of Results

The research result can be applied in general for retrieving Amharic documents from large collections using a user query.

The research result can be used as a good input for organizations or search engine developers for designing an applicable Amharic search engines.

Libraries that have a lot of Amharic collection can implement the research result on their library database so that it can enhance users’ access to relevant documents for their information need.
It can facilitate the retrieval system of digital libraries that have a large collection of scanned documents in their digital archive.

1.7. Organization of the Thesis

The paper is organized into five chapters. The first chapter introduces the research work. It specifies the statement of the problem, objective of the study, scope and limitation of the research, methodology of the study and application of results. Chapter two presents the literature review on Amharic writing system, and surveys related works in retrieval of electronic texts, as well as document images. Chapter three describes the techniques used for segmenting the document image into word level and extracting the word feature by using the vertical bar pattern and area based feature extraction techniques that form feature vectors from the document images based on which the matching algorithm is designed. Chapter four represents the experimental results to confirm the validity of the proposed model by using Euclidean and Cosine similarity measures. Finally the conclusion and recommendations are given in Chapter five.
CHAPTER TWO

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1. Writing Systems

According to the definition of Ayele (1997) Writing Systems are components of knowledge systems which assist in synthesizing ideas, thoughts, and deeds through the use of signs, symbols or other pictorial renderings. Specifically, writing is a means by which people record, objectify, and organize their activities and thoughts through images and graphs. Writing is a means to inscribe meanings that are expressed through sounds. This means that writing facilitates the proper recording and transmissions of events and deeds from one generation to other.

It is not possible to determine which language family a language belongs to by looking at the writing system. Writing systems can be deployed for political or religious reasons as well as linguistic ones.

For example, Hindi and Urdu are very similar languages and belong to the same language family (Indo-European). Linguistically they are dialects of the same language. Hindi uses the Devanagari writing system derived from the extinct language Sanskrit; Urdu writing uses the Nastaliq script derived from Arabic. Similarly, Croatian and Serbian use the Latin and Cyrillic alphabets, respectively, even though the two languages are very closely related. Conversely, many unrelated languages may use the same alphabet (krysstal.com, 2002).
2.1.1. Amharic Writing System

According to some literatures, the development of the Ethiopic writing system is dated back far beyond the birth of Christ, but no definite time has been mentioned. Some literatures indicate the probable time and simply stated that it was developed in the same time with that of other Semitic writing systems.

The Ge’ez or Ethiopic script possibly developed from the Sabaean/Minean script. The earliest known inscriptions in the Ge’ez script date to the 5th century BC. (Ager, 2008)

The Ethiopic writing system has its origins in the same ancestral writing systems as those of European alphabets, namely the Semitic scripts that proliferated in the Middle East more than three thousand years ago (Coulmas, 1989). Little is known about the precise timing and location of the emergence of the earliest Semitic phonetic writing system, though speculations abound (Bloor, 1995).

All that seems reasonably certain is that a consonantal script developed among Semitic people on the Eastern shore of the Mediterranean sometime between 1800-1300 BC (Gaur, 1987:88).

Amharic script which is a successor of Ge’ez and dates back to 300 AD (Encarta, 2007) is used for writing in Ethiopia and Eritrea, for languages like Amharic, Tigre and Tigrigna.

A family tree model of the writing systems (Coulmas, 1989) shows two main branches descending from Proto-West Semitic: North Semitic and South Semitic. Among the descendants in the North Semitic branch are Hebrew, Arabic and Greek (and hence Roman and Cyrillic). The South Semitic side is usually held to have produced Ethiopic
via the Sabean system, which is speculatively dated as emerging in the 11th and 10th centuries BC. Figure 2.1 depicts a family tree of Ethiopian script (coulmas, 1989).

![Family Tree of Ethiopian Script](image)

Figure 2.1 Origins of Ethiopic writing system, a family tree model (adapted from Coulmas, 1989)

(Bernal, 1990) rejecting the family tree model, dates the origins of Ethiopic script earlier, relating it to Thamudic, an older script.

Amharic is the official language of Ethiopia. It is a Semitic language family that has the largest number of speakers next to Arabic (Hayward, 1999). As per the 1998 statistical census, Amharic is spoken by 17.4 million people as a mother tongue and 5.1 million people as a second language (Raymond G. Gordon, 2005).

There is a growing body of literatures in Amharic in many forms. These literatures include government proclamations and records, educational books, religious material, novels, poetry, proverb collections, technical manuals, medical topics, newspapers, magazines and many others.

The Amharic writing system is considered as a syllabic system rather than alphabetic. In the Amharic syllabic writing system, each character stands for a syllable rather than a single sound (Encyclopedia, 2007).
Haile (1967) stated that the Amharic writing system is a syllabic one in that it allows anyone to write Amharic texts if s/he can speak Amharic and has knowledge of the Amharic alphabet.

Like many Semitic languages, Amharic uses tri-consonantal roots in its verb morphology. The result of this is that a fluent speaker of Amharic can often decipher written text by observing the consonants, with the vowel variants being supplemental detail. (Wikipedia, Amharic, 2009)

The other important feature of Amharic writing system is that it is written from left to right and there is no distinction between upper and lower case letters.

The Amharic orthography, as it is represented in the Amharic character set, called ረ፲፪ (Fidel) consists of 312 distinct symbols. These symbols are classified into four groups. In the first category, there are 34 core characters, each of which occurs in seven orders (one basic and six non basic forms) totaling 238, which represent syllable combinations consisting of a consonant and a following vowel. The second category (4*5=20 characters) consists of four labialization symbols, which have five orders. The third categories (5*5=25) are another five labialization symbols that have five orders, the fourth category are numbers which are represented by 20 different symbols and there are 9 punctuation marks. Table 2.1 shows the number of characters in each group (refer the appendices).
A set of 38 phones, seven vowels and thirty-one consonants, makes up the complete inventory of sounds for the Amharic language (Yimam, 1986). Amharic consonants are generally classified as stops, fricatives, nasals, liquids, and semi-vowels (LESLAU, 2000). The Amharic vowels are (አ ኢ ኣ ኤ እ ኦ ኧ and ከ ኩ ኪ ካ ኬ ክ ኮ ኯ). There are Amharic characters with the same sound. Amharic characters (አ ኲ ኱ ኡ ኢ ኣ ኤ እ ኦ ኧ ከ ኩ ኪ ካ ኬ ክ ኮ ኯ) all representing the /h/ sound. (አ ኬ) that represent the /a/ sound. (አ ኷) represent the /s/ sound (አ ኲ) represent the /sss/ sound. These characters are considered as redundant by some scholars who proposed to remove them from Amharic alphabet (Bloor, 1995). To the contrary there are people who object the removal of these characters and they argue that words like ዋ ተ ቨ ቩ ቪ ተ ቭ ቫ ቪ ቩ ቫ cannot be written as ዋ ቪ ቫ ቪ ቫ or ዋ ቫ ቭ ቫ ቫ.  

### Table 2.1 Total Number of Characters in Amharic Alphabet እ.ወ.ለ (Fiedel)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Type of Amharic Character</th>
<th>Number of Characters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Core Characters</td>
<td>238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Labialized characters</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Numbers</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Punctuation Marks</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>312</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.1.2. Amharic Word formations

Written Amharic words are easy to understand for the people who speak the language. There are some words that can be interpreted wrongly just by looking at the words without the context. The meaning of these morphologically similar words depends on
the context. For example the word “አል” can be read as “alä’ he said’ or “allä’ there is’. We can also take the word “ያማትል” which can be read yemâtall ‘he hits’, yemmättall ‘he is hit’. This is called Gemination which has multiple meaning, according to Webster Dictionary (1913).

Haddis Alemayehu, the known Ethiopian novelist, tries to resolve this problem in his novel “Fikir eske Mekaber” ከቅር እሰከ መቃብር by placing a dot above the characters, whose consonants are geminated.

According to (Wikipedia, Amharic, 2009), the free online encyclopedia, in Amharic there is a clear distinction of person, number and gender that plays a role within the grammar of the language. Considering personal pronouns I, she, he, and they in English can be represented as (እኔ መኔ); (እስዋ ድስመሌ), (እሱ ድሱ) and (እነሱ ድነሱ).

Amharic distinguishes eight combinations of person, number, and gender. For first person, there is a two-way distinction between singular (’I’) and plural (’we’), whereas for second and third persons, there is a distinction between singular and plural and within the singular a further distinction between masculine and feminine (’you masculine. Singular’. (አንተ), ‘you feminine singular’ (አንቺ), you plural, ’he’, ’she’, ’they’).

All Amharic verbs agree with their subjects; that is, the person, number, and (2nd and 3rd person singular) gender of the subject of the verb are marked by suffixes or prefixes on the verb (Wikipedia, Amharic, 2009). For example ‘መጣህ’, for second person singular and ‘መጣች’ for third person singular.

Amharic has a fairly rich morphology marking. The subject is marked on the verb using subject suffix pronouns, as in ሆንቁ公顷 I broke’; the direct object is optionally marked on
the verb, as in እረ ከ ላኔ ሊ የ ጥ የ ሊ ’ he broke me’; some prepositional phrase complements are optionally marked on the verb as in • እ ከ ላኔ ሊ የ ጥ የ ሊ until he broke me’; functional elements like negation marks, conjunctions and some auxiliary verbs are also bound morphemes and are attached to the verb. For example, in እ ከ ላኔ ሊ የ ጦ የ ሊ ‘I will not be broken’, the negation is marked by “አል” (Solomon, Menzel, & Tafila, 2005).

Usually word boundaries use either a space like in Roman writing system or they are indicated by two vertically-placed dots like a colon,”: “ A sentence boundary is indicated by four dots “••••” the symbol º is used as a comma. The colon and semicolon are represented as º and º, respectively. The question mark symbol, three vertically-placed dots, is no more in use and replaced by the Roman Script question mark “?”.

The modern Amharic writing system adds to its punctuations marks the following three foreign systems. Quotes are usually in the French style <<...>> and parentheses and exclamation marks are as in the Roman system: ( ), !.

2.1.3. Problems with the Amharic Writing system

Despite its easiness of reading Amharic documents, there are some problems that have to be resolved. The first problem is the presence of redundant characters in the language writing system. These characters, ( ን, ዉ, እ, ከ), ( እ, ኧ) , ( ኧ, ዉ) and ( ከ ኧ), can be used interchangeably in one word. For example to write the name of the famous athlete Hayele Gebreselase one can write using either ላይለ እ ገ ከ ላኔ ሊ, ላይለ ገ ከ ላኔ ሊ, ዉ ላይለ ገ ከ ላኔ ሊ, ላይለ ገ ከ ላኔ ሊ, ላይለ ገ ከ ላኔ ሊ, in twenty four different ways. This may create confusion for the reader and, if a search algorithm is implemented based on one of the representation; the others may be missed even if they represent the same thing. Having gemination of consonants is
another problem of Amharic writing system, which leads a reader to understand the
word differently than it is intended; for example the word “የመታል” which can be read
yǝmätall 'he hits', or yǝmmättall 'he is hit' gives different meaning to the reader.

The other problem is the formation of compound words. Compound words are
sometimes written as two separate words and other times as a single word. For
example the word school can be written as ከምህርትቤት or ከምህርት ቤት or ከምህርት፡беት.

2.2. Retrieval Systems

Information retrieval is the key technology for knowledge management which
guarantees access to large corpora of unstructured data. Currently, it is also the basic
technology behind Web search engines and an everyday technology for many Web
users (Mandl, 2008)

According to (Baeza-Yates & Neto, 1999) Information Retrieval (IR) deals with
representation, storage, organization of and access to information items. The
representation and organization of the information items should provide the user with
easy access to the information in which he/she is interested.

Mandl (2008) also defines Information Retrieval as a way of dealing with the storage
and representation of knowledge and the retrieval of information relevant to a specific
user request.

Information retrieval systems respond to the user queries that can be words from a
natural language or it can be multimedia information. The similarity between the
content of the document and the query determine the relevance of retrieved information.

In a real world there are two document types that need to be retrieved and be used. These are structured text documents and image documents. Document retrieval can use either a textual-based retrieval system or an image-based retrieval system. Document image retrieval system also has two way of retrieving, which is either recognition-based document image retrieval (OCR) or document image retrieval without explicit recognition.

2.2.1. Text-Based Document Retrieval

Text-based retrieval systems retrieve documents from the collection, based on the known character values that can be represented either in ASCII or Unicode representation formats. Text documents are represented by natural language words, mostly without considering syntactic or semantic context.

Text Retrieval Process

Modern computers are making it possible to represent a document by its full set of words; however, even modern computers might have to reduce the set of representative keywords. This can be accomplished through the elimination of stop words and the use of stemming, and the identification of noun groups (Baeza-Yates & Neto, 1999).

Different logical representation of documents can be obtained by performing the elimination of stop words, the use of stemming and identification of noun groups as shown in Figure 2.2.
As shown in Figure 2.3, when the retrieval process initiated, the user first specifies a user need which is then parsed and transformed by the same text operations applied to the text. Then, *query operations* might be applied before the actual *query*, which provides a system representation for the user need, is generated. The query is then processed to obtain the *retrieved documents* (Baeza-Yates & Neto, 1999).

Before being sent to the user, the retrieved documents are ranked according to a likelihood of relevance. The user then examines the set of ranked documents in the search for useful information. At this point, he/she might pinpoint a subset of the documents seen as definitely of interest and initiate a user feedback cycle. In such a cycle, the system uses the documents selected by the user to change the query formulation.
2.2.2. Image-Based Document Retrieval

Modern technology has made it possible to produce, process, store, and transmit document images efficiently. Large quantities of printed documents are digitized and stored as images in databases.

Hull (2004) describes a document image database as that contains digital representations of documents that are captured on scanners or digital photocopiers. Queries about the contents of the database are answered by searching for a match between the query and an image in the database.

Early works on image retrieval were not generally based on visual features, but on the textual annotation of images. In other words, images were first annotated with text and then searched using a text-based approach from traditional database management systems (Long, zhang, & Feng, 2003).
In image document retrieval, image features are used for matching the features of the image document with that of the query. As Haque, Chowdhury, and Rahman (2005) state retrieval algorithms can be divided into three image featuring, feature matching and the combination of multiple evidences. Features are extracted, both from queries and words in image documents, based on which similarity between the query and documents is measured using matching algorithm.

In recent years, there has been much interest in the research area of Document Image Retrieval (DIR). DIR is relevant to document image processing. A Document image processing system needs to analyze different text areas in a page document, understand the relationship among these text areas, and then convert them to a machine-readable version, in which each character object is assigned to a certain class (Tan, 2004).

2.2.2.1. Recognition-Based Document Image Retrieval (OCR).

Optical Character Recognition (OCR) refers to the process of converting printed text documents into software-translated Unicode or ASCII Text. The printed documents available in the form of books, papers, magazines, etc. are scanned using standard scanners which produce an image of the scanned document.

Optical Character Recognition (OCR) is a type of document image analysis where a scanned digital image that contains either machine printed or handwritten script is input into an OCR software engine and translated into an editable machine-readable digital text format, character codes, such as ASCII

XoXus, (2003).and Seethalakshmi (2005) pointed out that OCR deals with machine recognition of characters present in an input image obtained using the scanning
operation. It refers to the process by which scanned images are electronically processed and converted to an editable text.

There exist even more complex document recognition matters, such as symbol analysis, i.e., distinguishing mathematical formulas or chemical notations, page layout analysis such as headers, footers, paragraphs, and document matching, which requires a lot of work for document retrieval.

As shown in Fig 2.4 the optical character recognition process can be divided into five basic steps: pre-processing of the image (to remove noise, deskew and binarize), Segmentation that include page segmentation (to separate the text from images) and character segmentation (to identify each characters), feature extraction, classification, and Unicode or ASCII mapping and output page construction from the classified characters.

![Block Diagram of OCR](image)

**Figure 2.4 Block Diagram of OCR adapted from Howard Wing Ho Leung.**

OCR works by first pre-processing the digital page image into its smallest component parts, with layout analysis to find text blocks, sentence/line blocks, word blocks and character blocks. The character blocks are then further broken down into connected components from which features are extracted for representation. Then, using
classification methods pattern is recognized and compared to the OCR engine’s large dictionary of characters from various fonts and languages. Once a likely match is made, it is recorded and a set of characters in the word block are recognized until all likely characters have been found for the word block. The word is then post processed to check whether it is correctly recognized or not by comparing with the large dictionary of complete words that exist for that language.

OCR is being used by libraries to digitize and preserve their holdings. OCR is also used to process checks and credit card slips and sort the mail. Billions of magazines and letters are sorted every day by OCR machines, considerably speeding up mail delivery.

Although the technology of Document Image Processing (DIP) may be utilized to automatically convert the digital images of these documents to the machine-readable text format using Optical Character Recognition (OCR) technology, it is typically not a cost effective and practical way to process a huge number of paper documents. One reason is that the technique of layout analysis is still immature in handling documents with complicated layouts. Another reason is that OCR technology still suffers an inherent weakness in its recognition ability, especially with document images of poor quality. Interactive manual correction/proofreading of OCR results is usually unavoidable in most DIP systems (Tan, 2004). The OCR must also be tolerant to the range of image distortions that occur in practice.

At present the recognition of Latin-based characters from well-conditioned documents can be considered as a relatively feasible technology. On the other hand, the processing of non-Latin scripts is still a subject of active research. (EICTDA, 2008)
Ethiopic script-based OCR processing is currently among the least developed ICT disciplines in the country. Developments in this area are mainly limited to preliminary research activities undertaken at different institutions of higher education’s, such as the former School of Information Science for Africa (SISA). Such efforts are undertaken in an uncoordinated ways. (EICTDA, 2008)

An alternative solution is to perform matching directly on the image data. This bypasses the need for OCR and reduces the associated storage requirement. Any necessary in variances to image distortions are modeled at their source rather than one step removed, as they are if OCR data is utilized. Various solutions have been proposed for matching queries to database entries when both are images (Hull, 2004).

2.2.2.2. Document image retrieval without explicit recognition

Besides recognition based document image retrieval, searching from document is directly done to identify relevant documents from the corpus. This approach also depends on great extent on document image processing. Given a document image, it is preprocessed before detecting the content and segment the image into its constituent parts, mostly towards for retrieval from document image.

2.3. Document Image Segmentation

Segmentation is the process of dividing an image into parts that have a strong correlation with objects or areas of the real world contained in the image. (Supatra & Nualsawat, 2007) In other word, image segmentation is a process of extracting from the image domain one or more connected regions satisfying uniformity (Skarbek, et al, 1994).
There are four popular approaches of image segmentation (Chakravarty & Mitra, 2007): Pixel-based segmentation, region-based segmentation, edge-based segmentation and physics-based segmentation.

2.3.1. Pixel based segmentation

In this segmentation techniques (also called histogram thresholding), images are assumed to be composed of regions with different gray levels which are partitioned into a number of peaks, each corresponding to one region. Skarbek, et al(1994) classifies this segmentation method into three main techniques.

A. Histogram-based techniques: one or more peaks are identified, based on the identified pixels surrounding intervals are utilized in pixel classification process;

B. Segmentation by clustering data: pixel values are collected into groups with one or more representatives which next are used in the pixel classification process;

C. Segmentation by fuzzy clustering: fuzzy membership functions are evaluated for all pixels and for all fuzzy clusters defined; hard clusters of pixels are obtained by a defuzzification process and next subdivided into maximal connected regions.

Image segmentation by thresholding is a simple but powerful approach for images containing solid objects which are distinguishable from the background or other objects in terms of pixel intensity values. The pixel thresholds are normally adjusted interactively and displayed in real time on screen. When the values are defined properly, the boundaries are traced for all pixels within the range in the image. Grayscale thresholding works well when an image has uniform regions and contrasting background (Wu, 1999).
In a color image, a pixel can have a maximum value of 255 which can be expressed in terms of 8 bits. However, using binary codes for segmentation will not yield an optimum result, since two pixels of intensities separated by a value of even 1 (e.g., pixel values of 27 and 28) will be counted as two different segments (Chakravarty & Mitra, 2007). To solve this problem, Chakravarty (2007) proposed XOR-ing the binary bit with its previous (more significant) bit. So, instead of extracting the bit planes in binary from color images, it is recommended that the bit planes be in gray codes.

Techniques which make decisions based on local pixel information are effective when the intensity levels of the objects fall squarely outside the range of levels in the background. Because spatial information is ignored, however, blurred region boundaries can create problems (Drakos, 1996).

The thresholds are adjusted interactively by showing all pixels within the range in one color and all pixels outside the range to a different color, like in black and white. All pixels within the range can be segmented to generate the final boundaries.

Thresholding algorithm; this technique is based upon a simple concept. A parameter Θ called the brightness threshold is chosen and applied to the image a[i, j] as shown in Algorithm 2.1: (Young, Gerbrands, & van Vliet, 2007)

\[
\begin{align*}
&\text{If } a[i,j] > \theta \\
&a[i,j] = \text{Object} = 1 \\
&\text{Else} \\
&a[i,j] = \text{background} = 0
\end{align*}
\]

Algorithm 2.1 Threshold selection adapted from (Young, Gerbrands, & van Vliet, 2007)

Where i, j are the x and y coordinate of the pixel, Θ is the threshold value set and a[i,j] is the pixel value at the coordinate specified by i and j.
The output is the label "object" or "background" which, due to its dichotomous nature, can be represented as a Boolean variable "1" or "0".

The central question in thresholding is: how to choose the threshold $\Theta$? Correct threshold selection is crucial for successful threshold segmentation. Threshold selection can be interactive or can be the result of some threshold detection method.

- **Fixed threshold** - One alternative is to use a threshold that is chosen independently of the image data. If it is known that one is dealing with very high-contrast images where the objects are very dark and the background is homogeneous and very light, then a constant threshold of 128 on a scale of 0 to 255 might be sufficiently accurate (Young, Gerbrands, & van Vliet, 2007).

- **Histogram-derived thresholds** - In most cases the threshold is chosen from the brightness histogram (color value of the pixel) of the region or image that we wish to segment (Young, Gerbrands, & van Vliet, 2007).

- **Isodata algorithm** - The histogram is initially segmented into two parts using a starting threshold value such as $\Theta_0 = 2B-1$, half the maximum dynamic range. The sample mean ($mf,0$) of the gray values associated with the foreground pixels and the sample mean ($mb,0$) of the gray values associated with the background pixels are computed. A new threshold value $\Theta_1$ is now computed as the average of these two sample means. The process is repeated, based upon the new threshold, until the threshold value does not change any more (Young, Gerbrands, & van Vliet, 2007).
- **Background-symmetry algorithm** - This technique assumes a distinct and dominant peak for the background that is symmetric about its maximum (Young, Gerbrands, & van Vliet, 2007).

- **Triangle algorithm** - A line is constructed between the maximum of the histogram at brightness $b_{\text{max}}$ and the lowest value $b_{\text{min}} = (p=0)\%$ in the image. The distance $d$ between the line and the histogram $h[b]$ is computed for all values of $b$ from $b = b_{\text{min}}$ to $b = b_{\text{max}}$. The brightness value $b_o$ where the distance between $h[b_o]$ and the line is maximal is the threshold value, that is, $a = b_o$. This technique is particularly effective when the object pixels produce a weak peak in the histogram (Young, Gerbrands, & van Vliet, 2007).

The thresholding produces a segmentation that yields all the pixels that, in principle, belong to the object or objects of interest in an image (Young, Gerbrands, & van Vliet, 2007)

2.3.2. Area-based segmentation

This segmentation algorithms use uniformity criteria calculated in regions of image domain. There are two types of techniques in this type of segmentation. (Skarbek, et al, 1994)

A. Region growing: a number of basic uniform regions (seeds) are given and different strategies are applied to join surrounding neighborhoods; to distinguish this group from the next one it is important that seeds here are not resulting from splitting or subdivision processes of non-uniform regions;
B. Split and merge: start from non-uniform regions, subdivide them until uniform ones are obtained, and then apply some merging heuristics to fit them to maximal possible uniform areas.

The image is partitioned into connected regions by grouping neighboring pixels of similar intensity levels. Adjacent regions are then merged under some criterion involving perhaps homogeneity or sharpness of region boundaries (Drakos, 1996).

2.3.3. Edge-based segmentation

This type of segmentation is broadly classified as local or global (Skarbek et al, 1994). The local technique to determine an edge point needs only information of the neighborhood point. The global technique, on the contrary, makes sort of global optimization, and therefore the given edge point could be identified after many optimization steps involving changes in large areas.

Edge-based methods center around contour detection: their weakness in connecting together broken contour lines make them, too, prone to failure in the presence of blurring (Drakos, 1996).

2.3.4. Physics-based segmentation

This segmentation technique employs physical models to partition an image into regions that correspond to surfaces or objects in the scene. The objective of these techniques is to segment a multi-spectral image at object boundaries and not at the edges of highlights and shadows in an image (Skarbek et al, 1994).

Physics-based segmentation techniques allow the segmentation of real images based on physical models for image formation (Skarbek et al, 1994).
In the analysis of the document images it is essential to distinguish between the foreground that is the objects of interest and background. The techniques that are used to find the objects of interest usually referred to as segmentation techniques. It is important to understand that: there is no universally applicable segmentation technique that will work for all image documents, and no segmentation technique is perfect. (Young, Gerbrands, & van Vliet, 2007)

2.4. Representation of document images

Given a document image, it is preprocessed offline to threshold, skew-correct, remove noise and thereafter to segment into words. Then the features are extracted for individual words. They are also normalized so that the word representations become insensitive to variations in size, font and various degradations popularly present.

Feature extraction follows the segmentation phase in image document retrieval. The segmented individual image is considered and features are extracted. Features include visual browsing, color similarity measures, and text. Primitives are used for extracting parts of an image.

Feature extraction consists of identifying the position and properties of features in an image such as points, lines or regions. Each feature has an attached vector giving its position and associated properties. For instance a point might be characterized by its difference from its neighborhood, a line may have the property of length, angle, curvature and width, and a region might have values of texture, area, circumference and orientation (Hamlyn, 1994).

Shape features of objects or regions have been used in many content-based image retrieval systems. Compared with color and texture features, shape features are
usually described after images have been segmented into regions or objects. Since robust and accurate image segmentation is difficult to achieve, the use of shape features for image retrieval has been limited to special applications where objects or regions are readily available (Long, Zhang, & Feng, 2003).

The state-of-art methods for shape description can be categorized into either boundary-based (rectilinear shapes, polygonal approximation, finite element models, and Fourier-based shape descriptors) or region-based methods (Long, Zhang, & Feng, 2003).

2.4.1. Word representation

It is difficult to extract word images, particularly from newspapers and old books, because their quality is poor most of the time. According to Million and Jawahar (2008), the difficulty rose from the following factors of the documents:

A. Excessive dusty noise,
B. Large ink-blobs joining disjoint characters or components,
C. Vertical cuts due to folding of the paper,
D. Cuts of arbitrary direction due to paper quality or foreign material,
E. Degradation of printed text due to the poor quality of paper and ink,
F. Floating ink from facing pages, etc.

Million and Jawahar (2008) also found at least three categories of features that are effective to address word representation:

**Word Profiles:** Profiles of the word provide a coarse way of representing a word image for matching. Profiles like upper word, lower word, projection, density and transition profiles are used for word representation. Some of them (e.g., upper and
lower word profiles) capture part of the outlining shape of a word, while some others (projection and transition) profiles capture the distribution of ink along one of the two dimensions in a word image.

**Structural Features:** Structural features of the words are used to match two words based on image similarities. Features employed in image processing literature for shape recognition are promising candidates for this. Moments, mean, distribution of black pixels, curvatures of characters in a word, etc., are used.

**Transformed Domain Representations:** A compact representation of a series of observations (like profiles) is using Fourier Transform. Fewer set of coefficients are enough to represent robustly in a transformed domain, and these coefficients are matched at a coarse level for recognition. Some of these features provide the sequence information, while others capture the structural characteristics. Both of them are independently matched for computing word similarities.

### 2.5. Matching Words in Document Images

Image retrieval calculates visual similarities between a query image and images in a database. Accordingly, the retrieval result is not a single image but a list of images ranked by their similarities with the query image. Many similarity measures have been developed for image retrieval based on empirical estimates of the distribution of features in recent years. Different similarity/distance measures will affect retrieval performances of an image retrieval system significantly (Long, Zhang, & Feng, 2003).

There are many methods for measuring “similarity” of or “distance” between two image pixels or image patches. These methods generally involve computing some informative features of the image patches and then describing distances between patches based
on simple functions of those feature values, e.g., Euclidean distance. Unfortunately, these measures are often frail and difficult to interpret (Stauffer, 2004).

For proper searching and retrieval, one needs to identify the similar words and group them, and evaluate the relative importance of each of these words and word clusters.

2.5.1. Similarity measure

Measuring the similarity between documents has practical applications in document image retrieval. The word, rather than the character, is the basic unit of meaning in document image retrieval (Tan, 2004).

Feature vectors from query and target documents are matched to assess similarity, which is sorted to decide the presentation order of the documents in the list. Conceptually, similarity is an opposite concept of difference and hence differences are computed from the feature vectors of the target and query objects. Several different distance functions are used to compute similarity such as Euclidean, Canberra, and Manhattan distance functions.

**Euclidean Similarity**

Euclidean distance is the most simple to conceive and it is given by the following formula, where $t_i$ is the vector value of the image word at i’s position and $q_i$ is the vector value of the query word at i’s position (Haque, Chowdhury, & Rahman, 2005):

$$d_{Euclidean} = \sqrt{\sum_{i=0}^{M-1} (t_i - q_i)^2}$$

*Equation 2 1: Euclidean distance measure*
**Cosine Similarity**

The similarity score between two document vectors is defined as their scalar product divided by their lengths. A scalar product is calculated by summing up the products of the corresponding elements. This is equivalent to the cosine of the angle between two document vectors seen from the origin. So, the similarity between the query document image Q and the archived document image Y is (Tan, 2004):

\[
S(\bar{Q}, \bar{Y}) = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{K} q_k \cdot y_k}{\sqrt{\sum_{k=1}^{K} q_k^2 \sum_{k=1}^{K} y_k^2}}
\]

*Equation 2.2 Cosine similarity measure equation*

Where, \(\bar{Q}\) is the document vector of the image Q, and \(\bar{Y}\) is the document vector of the image Y. K is the dimension of the query and document vector (Tan, 2004).

**Minkowski-Form Distance**

If each dimension of an image feature vector is independent of others and is of equal importance, the Minkowski-form distance \(L_p\) is appropriate for calculating the distance between two images. This distance is defined as (Long, zhang, & Feng, 2003)

\[
D(K_1, K_2) = \left( \sum_n |K_1(n:T_1) - K_2(n:T_2)|^p \right)^{1/p}
\]

*Equation 2.3 Minkowski-Form Distance*

Where \(K_1(n:T_1)\) and \(K_2(n:T_2)\) are the two distributions and \(-1 \leq p \leq \infty\). \(L_1\) computes the Manhattan distance, \(L_2\) is the Euclidean distance and finally \(L_\infty\) measures the maximum distance (Dr. Fugui Long, 2003).
**Quadratic Form (QF) Distance**

The Minkowski distance treats all bins of the feature histogram entirely independently and does not account for the fact that certain pairs of bins correspond to features which are perceptually more similar than other pairs. To solve this problem, quadratic form distance is introduced (Long, Zhang, & Feng, 2003).

\[
D(I, J) = \sqrt{(F_I - F_J)^T A (F_I - F_J)}
\]

Equation 2.4 Quadratic Form Distance

Where A=[a_{ij}] is a similarity matrix, and a_{ij} denotes the similarity between bin i and j. F_I and F_J are vectors that list all the entries in f_i(I) and f_i(J) (Long, Zhang, & Feng, 2003).

**Mahalanobis Distance**

The Mahalanobis distance metric is appropriate when each dimension of image feature vector is dependent on each other and is of different importance. It is defined as (Long, Zhang, & Feng, 2003)

\[
D(I, J) = \sqrt{(F_I - F_J)^T C^{-1} (F_I - F_J)}
\]

Equation 2.5 Mahalanobis Distance

Where C is the covariance matrix of the feature vectors. The Mahalanobis distance can be simplified if feature dimensions are independent. In this case, only a variance of each feature component, c_i, is needed (Long, Zhang, & Feng, 2003).

\[
D(I, J) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{(F_I - F_J)^2}{c_i}
\]

Equation 2.6 Simplified Mahalanobis Distance
**Kullback-Leibler (KL) Divergence and Jeffrey-Divergence (JD)**

The Kullback-Leibler (KL) divergence measures how compact one feature distribution can be coded using the other one as the codebook. The KL divergence between two images I and J is defined as (Long, zhang, & Feng, 2003):

$$D(I, J) = \sum_i f_i(I) \log \frac{f_i(I)}{f_i(J)}$$

*Equation 2.7 Kullback-Leibler divergence measures*

The Jeffrey-divergence (JD) is defined by:

$$D(I, J) = \sum_i f_i(I) \log \frac{f_i(I)}{f_i} + f_i(J) \log \frac{f_i(J)}{f_i}$$

*Equation 2.8 Jeffrey-divergence measures*

Where $f_i = \frac{[f_i(I)+f_i(J)]}{2}$ In contrast to KL-divergence, JD is symmetric and numerically more stable when comparing two empirical distributions (Long, zhang, & Feng, 2003)

2.6. Retrieval and Ranking

Using the similarity measure and retrieving a document by itself is not enough for a retrieval system. Ranking the retrieved documents is necessary so that users will get a highly relevant document at the top of the search result.

In information retrieval, a ranking function is a function used by search engines to rank matching documents according to their relevance to a given search query. (Wikipedia, 2009)
Some very simple ranking functions include: (Wikipedia, 2009)

- The constant ranking function assigning the same score to all documents.
- The term frequency ranking function counting the number of times that each query term occurs in the document, then summing these.
- The tf-idf ranking function computing the product of the term frequency and inverse document frequency for each query term, then multiplying these.

More sophisticated ranking functions include:

- Okapi BM25: a variant of tf-idf. As of 2008, represents the state-of-the-art and is used in many practical applications.

**Term frequency**: The term count in the given document is simply the number of times a given term appears in that document.

**The tf–idf weight** (term frequency–inverse document frequency) is a statistical measure used to evaluate how important a word is to a document in a collection or corpus.

The inverse document frequency is a measure of the general importance of the term (obtained by dividing the number of all documents by the number of documents containing the term, and then taking the logarithm of that quotient).

2.6.1. Performance Measures

The number of known relevant documents is usually used to calculate the performance of the system. Both recall and precision measures are set oriented. However, most current systems present ranked results. In this case, a recall and precision value pair
can be obtained for each position on the ranked list taking into account all documents from the top of the list down to that position. Plotting these values leads to the recall-precision graph. The average of precision values at certain levels of recall is calculated as the mean average precision (MAP), which expresses the quality of a system in one number (Mandl, 2008).

As a consequence, the empirical evaluation of performance is a central concern in information retrieval research (Baeza-Yates & Neto, 1999).

The most important and commonly used measurements are recall and precision. Recall indicates the ability of a system to find relevant documents, whereas precision measures show how good a system is in finding only relevant documents (Mandl, 2008).

Recall is calculated as the fraction of relevant documents found among all relevant documents, whereas precision is the fraction of relevant documents in the result set. The recall requires knowledge of all the relevant documents in a collection that could never be put together in any real world collection (Mandl, 2008).

Recall is defined as the ratio between the number of relevant items retrieved and the total number of relevant items in the collection (Haque, Chowdhury, & Rahman, 2005):

\[
\text{Recall} = \frac{\text{Number of relevant documents that are retrieved}}{\text{Total number of relevant documents in the collection}}
\]

Equation 2.9 Performance Measure (Recall)

Precision measures the retrieval accuracy and is defined as the ratio between the number of relevant items retrieved and the number of total items retrieved for a given
level of retrieval. Hence, precision provides the level of purity of retrieval at a given recall level (Haque, Chowdhury, & Rahman, 2005):

\[
\text{Precision} = \frac{\text{Number of relevant documents that are retrieved}}{\text{Number of documents being retrieved}}
\]

Equation 2.10 Performance Measure (Precision)

In fact, precision and recall are not enough for evaluating IR systems. Modified measures that combine precision and recall and consider the order of the retrieved documents are needed. The most widely-used measure is the mean average precision (MAP score). It computes precision at each point in the ranking where a relevant document was found, then averages over these values and then over all queries (Manning, Raghavan, & Schütze, 2008)

Mean Average Precision: an information retrieval performance measure that combines precision and recall and rewards relevant documents ranked higher in the list of retrieved documents computed as the average of the precision values for each relevant document in the ranked results. (Inkpen, 2008)

The precision and recall are based on the retrieved documents of the system. Precision at \( r \) is the average of the precision after each relevant document is retrieved and it is denoted by Equation 2.11

\[
\text{AveP}_r = \frac{\sum_{r=1}^{N}(P(r) \times \text{rel}(r))}{\text{number of relevant documents}}
\]

Equation 2.11 Mean average precision

Where \( r \) is the rank, \( N \) the number retrieved, \( \text{rel()} \) a binary function on the relevance of a given rank, and \( P() \) precision at a given cut-off rank:
When no relevant document is retrieved, the precision value is taken to be 0. When a relevant document is not retrieved at all, the precision value in Equation 2.11 is taken to be 0.

Usually precision is more important than recall in IR systems, if the user is looking for an answer to a query, not for all the possible answers. Recall can be important when a user needs to know all the relevant information on a topic. (Inkpen, 2008)

Among evaluation measures, MAP has been shown to have especially good discrimination and stability. For a single information need, Average Precision is the average of the precision value obtained for the set of top K documents existing after each relevant document is retrieved, and this value is then averaged over information needs (Manning, Raghavan, & Schütze, 2008).

2.7. Amharic Retrieval Systems

Currently, the number of research works done on Amharic document retrieval system includes: (Yoseph, 2005), (Yalemisew, 2005) (Eyasu, 2005), (Tewodros, 2003), (Bizuneh, 2003), (Mulegeta, 2002), (Ethiopia, 2002) and (Saba, 2001); all of them are based on text retrieval techniques.

(Saba, 2001) By designing a database system that stores Amharic web page data, tries to retrieve Amharic documents on the web.

(Tewodros, 2003) Conducted a research using The Latent Semantic Indexing (LIS) technique to retrieve Amharic documents
Using Web Based Self Organization Map (WEBSOM) that applies a neural network’s self organizing algorithm (Bizuneh, 2003) explored the possibility of retrieving texts written in Amharic language.

(Yalemisew, 2005) Uses document clustering system for Amharic documents. He uses frequent item set hierarchical algorithm. A top down cluster search mechanism is used to find out the best matching cluster for a query.

Atelach Alemu and Lars Asker (2007) have made an attempt to develop Amharic retrieval system using fuzzy matching for Amharic-English cross lingual information retrieval.

For document image retrieval, the attempt made so far is developing an OCR engine for Amharic. Some of the research in this respect include (Wondewosen, 2004), (Million, 2000), Dereje (1999) and Worku (1997). They attempted to develop Optical Character Recognition (OCR) systems for representing Amharic documents in textual format, so that other can use the result to design search engines for Amharic text. However, the performance of these OCR engines is not yet ready for application.

2.7.1.1. Related works in Document image retrieval

In recent years, a number of attempts have been made by researchers to avoid the use of character recognition for various document image retrieval applications. Tan (2004) described a method for automatically selecting sentences and key phrases to create a summary from an image document without any need for recognition of the characters in each word.

Liu and Jain (1998) presented an image-based form of document retrieval. They proposed a similarity measure for forms that is insensitive to translation, scaling,
moderate skew, and image quality fluctuations, and developed a prototype retrieval system. Niyogi (1997) described an approach to retrieve information from document images stored in a digital library by means of knowledge-based layout analysis and logical structure derivation techniques, in which significant sections of documents, such as the title, are utilized. Tang (1994) proposed methods for automatic knowledge acquisition in document images by analyzing the geometric structure and logical structure of the images.


Tan (2004) proposed a method for text retrieval from document images without the use of OCR. In this method, documents are segmented into character objects, whose image features are utilized to generate document vectors. Then, the text similarity between documents is measured by calculating the dot product of the document vectors.

A segmentation-free word image matching approach treats each word object as a single, indivisible entity, and attempts to recognize it using features of the word as a whole. For example, Ho (1992) proposed a word recognition method based on word shape analysis without character segmentation and recognition.

Searching in scanned documents is an important problem in Digital Libraries. If OCR systems are not available, the scanned images are inaccessible. To resolve this problem, a searching procedure without an intermediate textual representation should
be designed and used. Word profiles, structural features and transform domain representations can be employed for characterizing the word images (Million & Jawahar, 2008).

Million and Jawahar, (2004) proposed an image document retrieval system and they represent the conceptual diagram of the searching procedure as shown in the Figure 2.5.

![Conceptual Diagram of the Searching Procedure](image_url)

Figure 2.5 Conceptual Diagram of the Searching Procedure Adapted from (Million and Jawahar, 2008)

The effort made by (Million & Jawahar, 2008) use three categories of features: word profiles, moments and transform domain representations.

Word profiles provide a coarse way of representing word images for matching. Projection, transition, upper and lower profiles are features considered for word image representation. While projection and transition profiles capture the distribution of ink along one of the two dimensions in a word image, upper and lower word profiles capture part of the outlining shape of a word.

They also use a dynamic time warping (DTW) algorithm that have a great advantage in aligning and comparing word images for a word image matching.
Dynamic time warping (DTW) is a dynamic programming based approach which is used to align sets of sequences of feature vectors and compute a similarity measure. Let two word images be represented as a sequence of features $G = g_1, g_2, \ldots, g_M$ and $H = h_1, h_2, \ldots, h_N$. The DTW-cost between these two sequences is $D(M, N)$, where $M$ and $N$ are the lengths of the two sequences. Million and Jawahar, use equation 2.12 for calculating the DTW cost.

$$D(i, j) = \begin{cases} D(i - 1, j - 1) \\ D(i, j - 1) + d(i, j) \\ D(i - 1, j) \end{cases}$$

Equation 2.12 Dynamic time warping equation

Where $d(I, j)$ is the cost in aligning the $I^{th}$ element of $G$ with the $j^{th}$ element of $H$

They evaluate the performance of the proposed approach on Amharic, English and Hindu documents using more than 4000 basic word images. The performance of their system is evaluated in terms of precision and recall. To select features that balance recall and precision F-score is computed.

They have reported an average performance of 89.85% recall, 90.81% precision and 90.19% F-score.
CHAPTER THREE:

3. AMHARIC DOCUMENT IMAGE RETRIEVAL TECHNIQUES

With the development of Information Communication Technology and the advancement of computers in the day to day life of the society, the need for accessing documents in digitized form is growing fast. The availability of documents in digitized form helps users to access, modify, and use documents easily.

However, there are still a lot of documents that are found only in hard copy format and need to be digitized. OCR is one way of digitizing hardcopy documents by reading the characters of printed and handwritten documents into the computer. Another system that can be considered is digitizing documents in image format and storing them in the computer for future use without any character recognition.

This research is concerned with the retrieval of document images without any character recognition system. For this purpose, the proposed retrieval system is designed in such a way that it incorporates the following main image processing techniques. Documents are scanned and processed offline. To facilitate searching, scanned document images are segmented into word level. Then, the features of the word images are extracted and are used for matching word images.

The system accepts textual queries from users. A textual query is first converted into an image by rendering. Features are extracted from these images and then search is carried out for retrieval of relevant document images. Results of the search are document images containing the queried word.

The performance of the system will be evaluated using precision and recall measures.
3.1. System Design

The proposed system incorporates: document images and user queries. The document image is preprocessed, segmented and the feature of each word is extracted. The system also accepts user query in to the system in text form. The text form query is then converted to image query, the converted image query is preprocessed, segmented and the feature is extracted. The extracted feature of image query will be matched with that of document image and document images that have a word which is similar to the query word are retrieved. The design is shown in figure 3.1

![Diagram of the proposed system]

Figure 3.1 Architecture of the proposed system
3.2. Preprocessing

The document image needs to be preprocessed before it is submitted for image segmentation. The first task to be performed in image preprocessing is to access each pixel of the image and extract the color value of the image. In this research work, the document image is scanned in grayscale, with 300dpi intensity. In grayscale image, color values from 0-255 have been used for processing. When the pixel value is 0, it means that the pixel is a complete black and when the value is 255 it is a complete white. In-between the color is gray and it is darker when it reaches 0 and lighter when it reaches 255.

3.2.1. Binarization

Binarization is the process of representing the document images in the form of binary number. Based on the fixed threshold method, algorithm 3.1 is used to determine the pixel values as part of a background or an object (foreground). This technique is based upon a simple concept. A brightness threshold parameter Θ is chosen and applied to the image DocImage[i, j] as shown in Algorithm 3.1:

\[
\begin{align*}
&\text{For } i=1 \text{ to width of Image do} \\
&\qquad\text{For } j=1 \text{ to height of image do} \\
&\qquad\quad\text{If DocImage}[i, j] \geq \Theta \\
&\qquad\quad\quad\text{DocImage}[i, j] = 0 \quad // \text{part of the background} \\
&\qquad\quad\quad\text{Else} \quad \text{DocImage}[i, j] = 1 \quad // \text{part of the foreground/object}
\end{align*}
\]

**Algorithm 3.1 Threshold Selection**

Where DocImage[i, j] is the pixel value at the x and y coordinate specified by i\text{th} and j\text{th} point.
3.3. Segmentation

Image segmentation is the process of pixel detection in order to identify the attributes of pixels and defines the boundaries for pixels that belong to same group (Wu, 1999).

In this research the image segmentation by thresholding technique is implemented. Image segmentation by thresholding is a simple but powerful approach for images containing solid objects which are distinguishable from the background or other objects in terms of pixel intensity values (Wu, 1999). The pixel thresholds are normally adjusted interactively and displayed in real-time on screen. When the values are defined properly, the boundaries are traced for all pixels within the range in the image. Gray scale thresholding works well when an image has uniform regions and contrasting background.

In this research work line and word segmentation are considered.

3.3.1. Line Segmentation

Line segmentation is a process of identifying the lines that hold text and lines that are blanks from the document image. By using the value of the pixels in the line each line is segmented using the fixed threshold method. This technique is used on the bases of the $\Theta$ value and applied to the DocImage[i, j] as shown in Algorithm 3.2.

Lines that contain text and lines that does not contain text are identified by

$$\text{For } i=0 \text{ to height of Image do}$$
$$\text{For } j=0 \text{ to width of image do}$$
$$\{$$
$$\text{If } \text{DocImage}[i, j] \leq \Theta \text{ = Text Line //part of the foreground/object}$$
$$\text{Break}$$
$$\}$$
$$\text{If } \text{DocImage}[i, j] \geq \Theta \text{ = Non-text Line //part of the background}$$

Algorithm 3.2. Determining text line and non text line
Where DocImage[i, j] is the pixel value at the x and y coordinate specified by \( i^{th} \) and \( j^{th} \) point.

3.3.2. Word Segmentation

Since the lines that hold text data and non-text data are identified, the next step is to identify the top and bottom border of each text area and the identification of each word image boundaries.

Identification of word boundaries requires the task of distinguishing words from word spaces. Although it seems simple, the presence of spaces that precede or succeed a character makes it difficult to identify a word separator from a character separator. Hence, it complicates the job of word border identification as one of the challenges in word level segmentation (Le, Thoma, & Wechsler, 1996).

According to Le, Thoma, & Wechsler (1996) a word separator space is greater than one third of the character height in English text documents. Since this research uses computer printout Amharic documents, the researcher accepts the proposal and the word spacing used in this process is chosen to be one-third of a character height.

By identifying the word borders each text line in the document image is further segmented into word images.

3.3.3. Query Segmentation

The process of Query Segmentation is the same as that of image segmentation as long as the query is submitted in image form. However, the system is designed to accept the query in text form. Hence, it is necessary to convert the submitted query text
into an image. For this purpose, the proposed system incorporates an algorithm that changes the input text to image. This process is called text rendering.

Rendering is the process of generating an image from a model, by means of computer programs. The model is a description of three-dimensional objects in a strictly defined language or data structure. It would contain geometry, viewpoint, texture, lighting, and shading information (Wikipedia, 2009).

**Text rendering** is the process of preparing characters that are stored in memory for display as glyphs (Apple Computer, 1996).

To roughly evaluate the similarity between the word object extracted from the document image and for the user query word, the query has been resized to fit the document image size.

### 3.4. Word Feature Extraction

After word images are detected from documents the next step is extracting the features of the word image. The features extracted must describe certain characteristics of the word. The choice of features is often based on heuristics and it depends on the data. Here, the technique used for feature extraction of the word image considers the word shape analysis. The word shape analyses that are considered in this research are two types. The first selects an image feature called the vertical bar pattern in order to construct document vectors. The second also extracts an image feature based on the pixel values in the predefined area. The idea is to calculate a vector value for the image and represent each word image in one vector. This will help to represent word images as a sequence of vectors. For example a word A can be represented as
A = a_1, a_2, ... a_M and word B can be represented as B = b_1, b_2, ... b_N. Where m and n are the size of the vectors.

The vector contains many values that represent either the vertical pixel line value or the calculated area value between 0 and 1. When pixel value is 0 it means that the whole vertical line or the particular area is an empty space, whereas when it is 1 the whole vertical line or the particular area contains data. When it is between 1 and 0 it means there is a white space in a vertical line or on the particular area. Before generating the vector values each image word must be normalized so that the word representations become insensitive to variations in size, font and various degradations popularly present in the text documents.

Since parallel bar vertical line feature extraction uses the number of vertical bars of a word image, the generated vectors will have different size that depends on the length of the word.

The normalization process for parallel bar vertical line feature extraction divides the word into four horizontal regions and each region is given a distinct value. By considering one vertical line of the word image, each horizontal region pixels that hold data are counted and multiplied by the region value to get the values of pixels that hold data in the region, with the same principle all pixels in the same vertical line are counted and multiplied by the region value.

Finally, the sum of the data pixels from each region is divided by the sum of pixel values of the top, middle, bottom and lower values. This always gives a result between 0 and 1.
The area based feature extraction is done by dividing the word image into number of distinct areas. The number of the distinct areas on each word image is equal whereas the cell size of each area varies from word to word. Each pixel that has a data and total number of pixels within the distinct area is counted. Finally, the number of the data pixels in the area is divided by the number of pixels in the area. This always gives a result between 0 and 1.

The size of the vectors generated by area based feature extraction method is always the same because; the length of the vectors depends on the number of distinct areas.

The representation of a word image \( w \) can be modeled as

\[
X_w = x_{w1}, x_{w2}, \ldots, x_{wN}
\]

where \( N \) is the total number of distinct patterns in a word image \( w \). Thus \( X_w \) is an \( N \) dimensional vector.

3.5. Feature Matching

In this research, Document image retrieval uses the pixel value of a word image. In this word level Document image retrieval, the images pixel values are extracted and described by a single dimension feature vector.

To retrieve relevant document images, users provide the retrieval system a text query. The system then changes these text queries into images and then into its internal representation of feature vector.

Since word images are represented by feature vectors and similar words generally point in the same direction, Euclidean and Cosine similarity measures are needed to be
investigated as a measure of the similarities / distances between the feature vector of the query and those of the image feature vectors of word images.

The Euclidean similarity score between two image words is defined as their difference by their sum. A difference is calculated through summing up the products of the corresponding elements. In this research the Euclidean similarity formula shown in Equation 2.1 is modified by dividing by the sum of the vectors sum for normalizing the result and gets a result between zero and one. The modified Euclidean similarity value of zero means that the query and word images are an exact match; that means the document image contains similar terms with the query term. If the modified Euclidean similarity value is one, it means the word image is completely dissimilar to the query term.

The modified Euclidean distance measure uses the following formula to calculate the similarity of word images, where $t_i$ is the vector value of the image word at i’s position and $q_i$ is the vector value of the query word at i’s position.

$$d_{Euclidean} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=0}^{M-1} (t_i - q_i)^2}{\sum_{i=0}^{M-1} t_i + \sum_{i=0}^{M-1} q_i}}$$

Equation 3.1 : Modified Euclidean Distance Measure

The cosine similarity score between two document vectors is defined as their scalar product divided by their lengths. A scalar product is calculated through summing up the products of the corresponding elements. This is equivalent to the angle between two word image vectors seen from the origin.

A feature string matching method based on cosine similarity uses Equation 2.2 that is utilized to evaluate the similarity between two feature strings A cosine similarity value
of zero means that the query and word image vector were orthogonal and had no match. A cosine similarity value of one (1) means that the query and word image vector have an exact match that means the query term found its match in the document image.

The user’s query word and a word image object extracted from documents are first represented by two respective feature strings. Then, the similarity between the two feature strings is evaluated. Based on the evaluation, we can estimate how the document word image is relevant to the user-specified word.

3.6. Similarity Measure

The goal of the matching stage is to compare the features of the query with the features of the word image and compute the similarity score between them. Those document images that contain the word image with a high score similarity values are retrieved.

3.7. Performance Evaluation

To evaluate the performance of retrieval system, two measurements, namely, recall and precision are used. The precision of the retrieval as shown in Equation 2.10 is defined as the fraction of the retrieved images that are indeed relevant for the query.

The recall, Equation 2.9, is the fraction of relevant images that is returned by the query. According to Wikipedia, it is possible to interpret Precision and Recall not as ratios but as probabilities: Precision is the probability that a (randomly selected) retrieved document is relevant. Recall is the probability that a (randomly selected) relevant document is retrieved in a search.
In typical retrieval systems, recall tends to increase as the number of retrieved items increases; while at the same time the precision is likely to decrease. Further, when the number of relevant images is greater than the number of the retrieved images, recall is meaningless. As a result, precision and recall are only rough descriptions of the performance of the retrieval system (Long, Zhang, & Feng, 2003).

By combining the precision and recall it is possible to obtain a single objective measure. This is called F-measure. It is the weighted harmonic mean of precision and recall, this can be defined as:

\[
F = \frac{2 \times \text{Precision} \times \text{Recall}}{\text{Precision} + \text{Recall}}
\]

Equation 3.2 : Performance Evaluation (F-Measure)

The F-measure is derived from recall and precision. It is a strict measurement because it does not only reflect the absolute value of the recall and precision, but also reflects the degree of balance between the two (Lu & Tan, 2007).

Precision, Recall and F-measure are set-based measures where order of documents not taken into account. If the first k retrieved documents are consider, and the precision and recall values are computed it is possible to plot the relation between precision and recall for each value of k. If the \((k+1)^{st}\) is not relevant recall is the same, but precision decreases. If the \((k+1)^{st}\) is relevant recall and precision increase.

Since precision and recall by themselves do not give us a good evaluation measure and users are mostly interested on the first k documents of the retrieval result, an approach that measures the retrieval performance of the first k documents tells more
about the system performance. In this research the R-precision is calculated by using Equation 2.11 for the first 10 retrieved documents.

For an information need, the average precision is the arithmetic mean of the precisions for the set of top k documents retrieved after each relevant document is retrieved.

Precision at k is interested in the proportion of good results among the k first answers. Precision at a fixed level has an advantage because it does not need an estimate of the set of relevant document and a disadvantage because it is unstable measure, which means it does not average well.
CHAPTER FOUR

4. EXPERIMENTATION

The present system uses image documents that are stored in a computer. The Image documents are preprocessed and binerized to give a file that can be accessed by the system. The Image documents are then segmented line by line and word images are identified. Each word image feature is extracted and document vectors are generated.

The user gives query text to the system and the query is rendered to generate a query image. This query image is preprocessed and word images are identified. The segmented word feature is extracted and query vector is generated for the word.

Both vectors, are matched using a similarity measure and with a selected threshold similarity score image documents that have a threshold value are retrieved. The whole process is shown on figure 4.1.
4.1. Preprocessing

After the system receives the document images it preprocesses them and the first preprocessing task is determining the color values of each pixel. In this research work the following Java code is used by implementing Java Advanced Imaging (JAI) for determining the color value of each pixel.

The Java implementation code for the determining color value of the pixel

```java
File image = new File(args[0]);
//Open the image (using the name passed as a command line parameter)
PlanarImage pi = JAI.create("fileload", args[0]);
//get the width and height of the image
int width=pi.getWidth(); int height = pi.getHeight();
//get the SampleModel of the image
SampleModel sm=pi.getSampleModel();
//Get the number of color bands
int nbands =sm.getNumBands();
//define arrays of pixel
int [] pixel = new int[nbands];
// Get an iterator for the image.
RandomIter iterator = RandomIterFactory.create(pi, null);
// Scan the image pixels in each row and column.
for (int h=0; h<height; h++)
    for (int w=0; w<width; w++)
    {
        // Get the array of values for the pixel on the x and y coordinate.
        iterator.getPixel(w,h,pixel);
        int pixeltotal=0;
        int pixelaverage = 0;
        for (int band = 0; band < nbands; band++) {
            pixeltotal = pixel[band] + pixeltotal;
        }
        pixelaverage=pixeltotal / nbands }
```

Once the color value of each pixel is known the next step needed is changing each pixels to the value of 0 and 1, this is called bineraization.
Through experiment, a threshold parameter $\Theta$ of 128 has been used for bineraiization using a fixed threshold selection method. Hence, pixels which have a value between 0-127, inclusive, are considered as black, and pixels with a value between 128 to 255 have been considered as white, so that the background and the foreground of the image can be easily identified.

The preprocessing step of this research do not include character point size, word spacing and character leading. However, all documents used have a font size of 12, a font type of Power geez Unicod1 and a plain style.

4.2. Segmentation

4.2.1. Line Segmentation

Areas of non-textual borders can be roughly located by identifying non-textual rows; at the same time, areas of textual borders can be located by identifying textual rows.

Since leading characters are not considered in this paper, a textual row and a non textual row are identified based on the presences or absence of a pixel which has its average color value less than 128. Using this criterion, the image is segmented into a series of rows for identifying a line that has a text or a line for which each pixel contains a white space.

The output of the horizontal image segmentation coordinates are put in a file with a prefix of “D” and “B” to identify the lines that has a text and white space, respectively.

The partial view of the output file is shown on Table 4.1
The “B” and “D” indicates if the line is blank or data space, respectively, and the numbers indicate the vertical pixel position. From the above table one can easily conclude that the document has no text data values from pixel 0 to pixel 66 and has text data from pixel 67 to pixel 111.

For the purpose of identifying lines that contain text area and lines that contain non textual area the following Java code is implemented.

**The Java implementation code for identifying lines that contain text and lines that does not contain text**

```java
FileWriter fwhb = new FileWriter("border.txt");
PrintWriter pwhb = new PrintWriter(fwhb);
for (h = 0; h < height; h++) {
    for (w = 0; w < width; w++) {
        if (pixelaverage / nbands < 128) {
```

Table 4.1 The partial view of the output file that holds the line numbers of text area and non text area.
pwhb.println("D " + h);
break;
}
if (pixelaverage / nbands > 128) {
pwhb.println("B " + h);
}
pwhb.flush();
pwhb.close();

The above Java code segments the document horizontally by identifying a horizontal
text area and a horizontal non text area as shown in Fig 4.2

![Figure 4.2 Horizontal segmented document image](image_url)

By using the above Java code the lines that contain data and the lines that contain
white spaces are identified and the output is stored to the text file. Using the text file
created, the horizontal boundaries of the text areas are identified, and these
boundaries in turn are used for identifying word borders.

The Java code below is used for identifying horizontal borders of the text area.

**The Java implementation code for identifying horizontal borders of the text area**

```java
FileWriter fwvb = new FileWriter("HorizontalBord.txt");
pwvb = new PrintWriter(fwvb);
BufferedReader input = new BufferedReader(new FileReader("border.txt");
```
4.2.2. Word Segmentation

As discussed in chapter Three Identification of word boundaries requires the task of distinguishing words from word spaces. For this purpose the following Java code is used to identify spaces between characters as a part of a word image.

The Java implementation code for distinguishing words from word spaces

```java
Int count = 0;
for (w = 0; w < width; w++) {
    for (h = dataStart; h < dataEnd; h++) {
        if (pixelaverage / nbands < 128) {
            count = 0;
            break;
        }
    }
    if (pixelaverage / nbands > 128) {
        count++;
    }
    if (count >= (dataEnd - dataStart) / 3) {
        pwvb.println("B," + wend + "," + dataStart + "," + (wstart) + "," + dataEnd);
    }
}
```
Since the main purpose of the segmentation stage is to segment the document image into the word level, identifying the word border is an essential task. By reading the data start position and the data end position from the file, we can get the top and bottom border of the word, whereas to get the left and right border of the word the following Java code is implemented:

**The Java implementation code for obtaining the top and bottom of the word**

```java
FileWriter fwwb = new FileWriter("wordborder.txt");
pwwb = new PrintWriter(fwwb);
BufferedReader inputv = new BufferedReader(new FileReader("HorizontalBord.txt"));
String linev = null;
Vector<String> line2 = new Vector<String>(2, 2);
while ((linev = inputv.readLine()) != null) {
    line2.addElement(linev);
}
for (int i = 0; i < (line2.size() - 1); i++) {
    if (line2.elementAt(i).charAt(0) == line2.elementAt(i + 1).charAt(0)) {
        continue;
    }
    while (line2.elementAt(i).contains("B")) {
        String[] data1 = line2.elementAt(i).split(",");
        wborderstart1 = Integer.parseInt(data1[1]);
        vborderstart1 = Integer.parseInt(data1[2]);
        wbordere1 = Integer.parseInt(data1[3]);
        vbordere1 = Integer.parseInt(data1[4]);
        i++;
    }
    while (line2.elementAt(i).contains("D")) {
        String[] data1 = line2.elementAt(i).split(",");
        wdatastart1 = Integer.parseInt(data1[1]);
        vdatastart1 = Integer.parseInt(data1[2]);
        wdataend1 = Integer.parseInt(data1[3]);
        vdataend1 = Integer.parseInt(data1[4]);
        i++;
    }
    if (wdatastart1 - wborderstart1 > 20 || vdataend1 - vdataend1 < 10) {
        pwwb.println("C," + (wborderend1 + 1) + "," + (vdatastart1) + "," + wdataend1 + "," + vdataend1);
    }
}
```

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By knowing the borders of each word the above Java code segments the document image into word level as shown in Figure 4.3.

Since there is a chance of getting characters or words that have less importance for searching Amharic words, for example like the word “፣ የ, ከ, ኪ, ሓ, ወ, ብ, ቲ” and so on, it is necessary to remove such characters from the word collection. For the purpose of removing less important words, Algorithm 4.1 that checks the length of the word has been introduced. This algorithm checks if the length of the word bounded by the word border algorithm is greater than certain threshold, if it is greater than that, it will consider the word as a proper Amharic word, otherwise it will ignore the word and it will not write its borders to the word border file. Here, the minimum length of the word is taken as 20 pixels and the minimum height of the word is taken as 10 pixels. These values are considered by using the two consecutive Amharic characters of “ንን” for measuring the width and “እም” for measuring the height. The researcher has observed
that “ runes” is the character that has a smallest width and “መ” is a character that has the smallest height in Amharic alphabet. Most of the words formed by combining two characters in Amharic are considered has no importance in retrieving the document. Since the width of Amharic characters varies, it is safe to assume a word that is formed by two characters of the smallest width is not important for retrieval.

The algorithm for determining the minimum length of a word is:

```
If WordLength(i,j)>MinimumLength
   If WordHeight>MinimumHeight
       Write to file
```

Algorithm 4.1 Determine the minimum length and height of the word image

The Java implementation of Algorithm 4.1 is shown below:

```
The Java implementation code for determining the minimum length and height of the word image

```

if (wdataend1 - wborderend1> 20 && vdataend1 - vdatastart1>10) {
   pwwb.println("C," + (wborderend1 + 1) + "," +(vdatastart1) + "," + wdataend1 + "," + vdataend1);
}
```

The outputs of the word image segmentation coordinates are put in a file with a prefix of “C” to identify the coordinates of the word image. The partial view of the output file is shown on Table 4.2.
The "C" is simply used to indicate the file content is a coordinate value. The numbers indicate the left, top, right and bottom coordinate values of the image word. From the above table we can easily see that the document has a word image bounded by the coordinates 84,67,165,111.

### Table 4.2: The partial view of the output file that holds the word boundaries.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C,512,181,595,229</td>
<td>C,625,181,681,229</td>
<td>C,709,181,876,229</td>
<td>C,905,181,964,229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C,84,243,199,281</td>
<td>C,229,243,482,281</td>
<td>C,512,243,625,281</td>
<td>C,84,474,335,519</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C,365,474,495,519</td>
<td>C,525,474,738,519</td>
<td>C,768,474,851,519</td>
<td>C,880,474,936,519</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C,965,474,1131,519</td>
<td>C,1160,474,1312,519</td>
<td>C,1342,474,1390,519</td>
<td>C,1420,474,1476,519</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C,1509,474,1609,519</td>
<td>C,1638,474,1722,519</td>
<td>C,1751,474,1920,519</td>
<td>C,83,536,228,574</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C,257,536,470,574</td>
<td>C,82,590,310,634</td>
<td>C,340,590,529,634</td>
<td>C,83,823,220,868</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 4.2.3. Query Segmentation

The system accepts the query from the users in text form and it converts the text query into an image query by the process called rendering. The image query is resized to fit the document image size. From the experiment made during the system development the researcher determines that a resizing factor 4.22 gives a good result. So, the determined factor is used for resizing the query text. However, a mechanism should be developed to determine a dynamic resizing factor.
For the process of changing the text query to an image query the following Java code is developed and used by the system.

**The Java implementation of text rendering**

```java
TextRend = jTextFieldWord.getText().trim();
File imageQuery = fileRend;
    int width = 400;
    int height = 100;
BufferedImage rendImage = new BufferedImage(width, height, BufferedImage.TYPE_BYTE_GRAY);
    Graphics2D g2d = rendImage.createGraphics();
    g2d.scale(4.22, 4.22);
    g2d.setBackground(Color.WHITE);
    g2d.clearRect(0, 0, width, height);
    g2d.setFont(x);
    g2d.setColor(Color.black);
    g2d.drawString(TextRend, 4, 16);
    g2d.dispose();
        fileRend = new File("newimage3.jpg");
        ImageIO.write(rendImage, "jpg", fileRend);
```

**4.2.4. Segmentation problems**

During the segmentation phase, there is a problem of image data ambiguity. Most of the time, this occurred because of the presence of large spaces between Amharic word characters and between Amharic words. This leads the system to ignore important words or to consider characters that are noise for the document as a word.

**4.3. Word feature extraction**

In this research work the word shape analyses that are considered for feature extraction are two types. The first selects an image feature called the vertical bar pattern in order to construct document vectors. The second also selects an image feature based on the pixel values in the predefined area.
The extracted features are represented in a vector that has many values which are either a result of the vertical bar pattern or the predefined area methods.

During Word feature extraction of individual word images the need for normalization arises so that the word representations become insensitive to variations in size, font and various degradations popularly present in document images.

The normalization process for parallel bar vertical line feature extraction uses the following techniques: First the word height is divided into four regions, which are the top, middle, bottom and lower regions. These regions are generated by dividing the height of the word by three and get the gap. Assign the region from top border up to the top border + gap position as a top region, the middle region is the area between the top border + gap and top border + 2 (gap), the bottom region is a region from the lower border of the middle region by adding the gap, the remaining region is considered as a lower region. Then each value that have a data at the top level is counted and multiplied by one to get the total top region pixel data value of the top region. With the same logic the middle, the bottom and the lower pixel values are calculated except that the multiplication factor is 2, 3 and 4, respectively.

Then, each pixel at the top level will be counted and multiplied by one, to get the total top region pixel value of the top region. With the same logic the middle, the bottom and the lower pixel values is calculated except that the multiplication factor is 2, 3 and 4, respectively.
Figure 4.4 Divided regions of a word image

Figure 4.4 indicates the boundary lines detected. In this way a word can be represented into different regions where each region will have different pixel value.

Finally, the sum of the data pixels from top, middle, bottom and lower will be divided by the sum of pixel values of the top, middle, bottom and lower values. This always gives a result between 0 and 1.

The Java Code that is used to normalize and extract the document image features is represented below. These features are then used for feature matching which will be discussed later in this chapter.

The Java Implementation of normalizing and extracting parallel bar vertical line image word features:

```java
FileWriter fwwv = new FileWriter("C:/ImageVector/"+ Vector.getName().replaceAll(".jpg", " .txt"),true);
pwwv = new PrintWriter(fwwv);
Vector VlinepixVal = new Vector();
String line3=null;
Vector<String> line4 = new Vector<String>(2, 2);
while ((line3 = inputB.readLine()) != null) {
    line4.addElement(line3);
    if (line4.elementAt(m).isEmpty()) {
        m = m + 1;
    }
} 
```
int boundgap = (bottomCorner - topCorner) / 3;
int topbound = topCorner + boundgap;
int midbound = topbound + boundgap;
int bottombound = midbound + boundgap;
int countTotal = 0;
int countT, countM, countB, countL = 0;
for (w = leftCorner; w < rightCorner; w++) {
    int pixelValT = 0,  int pixelValM = 0;
    int pixelValB = 0, int pixelValL = 0;
    for (h = topCorner; h < topbound; h++) {
        for (int band = 0; band < nbands; band++) {
            pixelaverage = pixel[band] + pixelaverage;
        }
        if (pixelaverage / nbands < 128) {
            pixelValT++;
        }
        countT++;
    }
    for (h = topbound; h < midbound; h++) {
        for (int band = 0; band < nbands; band++) {
            pixelaverage = pixel[band] + pixelaverage;
        }
        if (pixelaverage / nbands < 128) {
            pixelValM++;
        }
        countM++;
    }
    for (h = midbound; h < bottombound; h++) {
        for (int band = 0; band < nbands; band++) {
            pixelaverage = pixel[band] + pixelaverage;
        }
        if (pixelaverage / nbands < 128) {
            pixelValB++;
        }
        countB++;
    }
    for (h = bottombound; h < bottomCorner; h++) {
        for (int band = 0; band < nbands; band++) {
            pixelaverage = pixel[band] + pixelaverage;
        }
        if (pixelaverage / nbands < 128) {
            pixelValL++;
        }
        countL++;
    }
    countTotal = countT + (countM * 2) + (countB * 3) + (countL * 4);
    float VlineVal = (float)(pixelValL*4+pixelValB*3+pixelValM*2 + pixelValT) / countTotal;
    VlinepixVal.addElement(VlineVal);
}
for (int k = 0; k < VlinepixVal.size(); k++) {
To roughly extract the feature of a word image using area based feature extraction a word is divided into 144 distinct areas by segmenting the word into 9 vertical and 16 horizontal parts.

Then each pixel that has a data within the area is counted. At the same time each pixel is counted to get the total number of pixels.

![One area of the word image](image)

Figure 4.5 Area based divided regions of word image

Figure 4.5 indicates the areas selected. In this way a word can be represented in to different areas where each area will have different pixel value.

Finally, the sum of the data pixels in the area is divided by the sum of pixel values of the area. This always gives a result between 0 and 1.

The Java code that is used to normalize and extract the document image features is represented in the following Java code. These features are then used for feature matching.
The Java Implementation of normalizing and extracting Area based image word features:

```java
FileWriter fwwv = new FileWriter("C:/ImageVector1/\Vector.getName().replaceAll(".jpg",".txt")",true)
pwwv = new PrintWriter(fwwv);
Vector VlinepixVal = new Vector();
int leftcord=0;
int rightcord=0;
int topcord=0;
int bottomcord=0;
int boundgapV = (rightCorner - leftCorner) / 15;
int boundgapH = (bottomCorner - topCorner) / 7;
int nbands = sm.getNumBands();
int[] pixel = new int[nbands];
int d = 0;
int wt;
int z;
Vector<String> cell = new Vector<String>(2, 2);
for (int x = leftCorner; x < rightCorner; x += boundgapV){
    if (x+boundgapV>rightCorner)
        z=rightCorner;
    else
        z=x+boundgapV;
    for (int y = topCorner; y < bottomCorner; y+= boundgapH){
        if (y+boundgapH>bottomCorner)
            wt=bottomCorner;
        else
            wt=y+boundgapH;
        cell.addElement("Cell " + d+" +x+" +z+" +y+" +wt);//Integer.toString(d));
        d++;
    }
}
for (int i = 0; i < cell.size(); i++) {
    String[] data = cell.elementAt(i).split(" ");
    leftcord = Integer.parseInt(data[2]);
    rightcord=Integer.parseInt(data[3]);
    topcord=Integer.parseInt(data[4]);
    bottomcord=Integer.parseInt(data[5]);
    int pixelValTVH = 0;
    int countVH=0;
    RandomIter iterator = RandomIterFactory.create(pi, null);
    for (int wQ = leftcord; wQ <rightcord; wQ++) {
        for ( int hQ = topcord; hQ <bottomcord; hQ++) {
            iterator.getPixel(wQ, hQ, pixel);//getPixel(wQ, hQ, pixelQ);
            pixelaverage = 0;
            for (int band = 0; band < nbands; band++) {
                pixelaverage = pixel[band] + pixelaverage;
            }
```
```java
if (pixelaverage / nbands < 128) {
    pixelValTVH++;
}
countVH++;
}
float VlineValV = (float) (pixelValTVH) / countVH;
VlinepixVal.addElement(VlineValV);
pixelValTVH = 0;
countVH=0;
}
for (int k = 0; k < VlinepixVal.size() - 1; k++) {
pwwv.print(VlinepixVal.elementAt(k) + ",");
}
pwwv.println();
pwwv.flush();
pwwv.close();
```

A file is used to store the vector values of each word image, each file can be treated as a vector, so called document vector

### 4.4. Similarity Measure

The Similarity measures used in this research are cosine similarity measure and Euclidean similarity measure. For the purpose getting the similarity results between 0 and 1, the Euclidean similarity is normalized as shown in Equation 3.1.

Based on Equation 3.1 and Equation 2.1 the following Java codes are implemented to measure similarities between image word and query word.

**The Java implementation code for the Euclidean similarity measure is**

```java
BufferedReader inputvQ = new BufferedReader(new FileReader("wordvalueQ.txt");
BufferedReader inputvI = new BufferedReader(new FileReader(VectorValue));
String linevQ = null, linevI = null;
double SIres=0, double SQres=0, double difre=0;
String[] dataQ = null;
String[] dataI = null;
Vector<String> lineQ5 = new Vector<String>(2, 2);
```
Vector<String> line2 = new Vector<String>(2, 2);
while ((linevQ = inputvQ.readLine()) != null) {
    lineQ5.addElement(linevQ);
}
for (int k = 0; k < (lineQ5.size()); ++k) {
    dataQ = lineQ5.elementAt(k).split(",");
}
while ((linevI = inputvI.readLine()) != null) {
    line2.addElement(linevI);
}
for (int i = 0; i < (line2.size()); i++) {
    dataI = line2.elementAt(i).split(",");
    if (dataQ.length <= dataI.length) {
        for (int h = 0; h < dataQ.length; ++h) {
            Qres = Double.parseDouble(dataQ[h]);
            SQres = SQres + Qres;
            Ires = Double.parseDouble(dataI[h]);
            difre = (Math.pow((Qres - Ires), 2)) + difre;
            SIres = SIres + Ires;
        }
    } else {
        for (int h = 0; h < dataI.length; ++h) {
            Ires = Double.parseDouble(dataI[h]);
            Qres = Double.parseDouble(dataQ[h]);
            SQres = SQres + Qres;
            difre = (Math.pow((Qres - Ires), 2)) + difre;
        }
    }
    double similarityE = 0;
    similarityE = (Math.sqrt(difre)) / (SQres + SIres);
}

The Java implementation code for the Cosine similarity measure is

BufferedReader inputvQ = new BufferedReader (new FileReader ("wordvalueQ.txt"));
BufferedReader inputvI = new BufferedReader (new FileReader (VectorValue));
String linevQ = null, String linevI = null;
Vector<String> lineQ5 = new Vector<String>(2, 2);
Vector<String> line2 = new Vector<String>(2, 2);
while ((linevQ = inputvQ.readLine()) != null) {
    lineQ5.addElement(linevQ);
}
for (int k = 0; k < (lineQ5.size()); ++k) {
    dataQ = lineQ5.elementAt(k).split("");
}
while ((linevI = inputvI.readLine()) != null) {
    line2.addElement(linevI);
}
for (int i = 0; i < (line2.size()); i++) {
    dataI = line2.elementAt(i).split("", "");
    if (dataQ.length <= dataI.length) {
        for (int h = 0; h < dataQ.length; ++h) {
            Qres = Double.parseDouble(dataQ[h]);
            Ires = Double.parseDouble(dataI[h]);
            dotproduct = (Qres * Ires) + dotproduct;
            sqrData1 = (Qres * Qres) + sqrData1;
            sqrData2 = (Ires * Ires) + sqrData2;
        }
        if (dataQ.length > dataI.length) {
            for (int h = 0; h < dataI.length; ++h) {
                Ires = Double.parseDouble(dataI[h]);
                Qres = Double.parseDouble(dataQ[h]);
                dotproduct = (Qres * Ires) + dotproduct;
                sqrData1 = (Qres * Qres) + sqrData1;
                sqrData2 = (Ires * Ires) + sqrData2;
            }
        }
    }
    double similarityC = 0;
    similarityC = dotproduct / Math.sqrt(sqrData1 * sqrData2);
}

4.5. Performance Evaluation

To verify the validity of the approach proposed in this paper for searching the user specified Amharic word in Amharic Document images, the experiments have been carried out on 121 scanned documents that are selected from recent Amharic documents encoded in the computer. The documents collected fall into three categories that are proclamations, news items and guidelines. The main font used in the document is Power geez Unicode 1. The total number of pages and number of Amharic words considered from the 121 documents are 483 and 109, 238 respectively. For testing the system 28 word queries were selected by a language expert from the collection of the 121 documents.

For this research a program is written in Java for image segmentation, feature extraction and feature matching. The efficiency of each algorithm is tested separately.
and then the segmentation, feature extraction and feature matching algorithms are integrated and tested on the sample data to measure the performance of the system.

The computer system used for implementing the system is x64-based PC that has Intel(R) Pentium(R) Dual CPU T3200 @ 2.00GHz, 2000 Mhz, 2 Core(s), 2 Logical Processor(s), Installed Physical Memory (RAM) 4.00 GB and Microsoft® Windows Vista™ Home Premium Operating System. For the purpose of storing a scanned document and the vector representation of the document large hard disk space is needed. For a half a page document that holds 49 words 119kb is needed to store the scanned document and 68kb is needed to store the vector representation. By considering the minimum one can get a hard disk space needed by multiplying the number of pages scanned by the sum of the scanned and vector file size. For the purpose of using large collection of document images the system requires a huge storing space.

4.6. Testing Cases

Three different cases of testing are made by combining the feature extraction methods and the similarity measures used. As described in chapter three two feature extraction methods and two similarity measure algorithms are implemented. At first the test is done only by using a parallel bar vertical line feature extraction and the Euclidean similarity measure. Then the researcher wants to improve the performance of the system and use the same feature extraction method together with the cosine similarity measure. However the performance of the system does not improve as expected. Then the researcher again tries to increase the performance by using area based feature extraction. The three cases of testing are:
1. parallel bar vertical line feature extraction method with Euclidean similarity measure
2. parallel bar vertical line feature extraction method with Cosine similarity measure
3. Area Based feature extraction method with Euclidean similarity measure

From the testing made on the document image retrieval system, four thresholds are selected and evaluation measure is made based on the selected thresholds for all cases. The thresholds chosen for the Euclidean measure of parallel bar vertical line feature extraction are 0.024, 0.027, 0.030 and 0.033. The thresholds chosen for the Cosine similarity measure of parallel bar vertical line feature extraction are 0.92, 0.94, 0.96 and 0.98. The thresholds chosen for the Euclidean measure of Area Based feature extraction are 0.042, 0.043, 0.044 and 0.045.
Based on these thresholds the evaluation measure is made whether the word image is similar to the query provided. The retrieved documents for Euclidean measure of parallel bar vertical line feature extraction based on the query provided are displayed in Table 4.3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Query Text</th>
<th>Threshold=0.033</th>
<th>Threshold=0.030</th>
<th>Threshold=0.027</th>
<th>Threshold=0.024</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Relevant Documents Retrieved</td>
<td>Relevant Documents Retrieved</td>
<td>Relevant Documents Retrieved</td>
<td>Relevant Documents Retrieved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Relevant Documents Retrieved</td>
<td>Relevant Documents Retrieved</td>
<td>Relevant Documents Retrieved</td>
<td>Relevant Documents Retrieved</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4.3: Table showing retrieved documents based on Euclidean Similarity measure of parallel bar vertical line feature extraction
The retrieved documents for Cosine measure of parallel bar vertical line feature extraction based on the query provided are displayed in Table 4.4.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Query Text</th>
<th>Documents that hold the Query Text</th>
<th>Threshold=0.92</th>
<th>Threshold=0.94</th>
<th>Threshold=0.96</th>
<th>Threshold=0.98</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>sinh</td>
<td>1 42 1 41 32 1 31 7 0 7 1 0 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cos</td>
<td>28 23 20 3 13 10 3 3 3 0 1 1 0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tanh</td>
<td>72 67 62 5 58 54 4 40 38 2 6 6 0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sinh</td>
<td>74 12 12 0 10 10 0 6 6 0 1 1 0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cos</td>
<td>68 103 65 38 74 58 16 52 49 3 31 30 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tanh</td>
<td>52 40 27 13 32 24 8 7 6 1 1 1 0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sinh</td>
<td>57 78 54 24 66 48 18 43 30 13 4 2 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cos</td>
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Table 4.4: Table showing retrieved documents based on Cosine Similarity of Parallel bar vertical line feature extraction.

The retrieved documents for Euclidean measure of Area Based feature extraction based on the query provided are displayed in Table 4.5.
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Table 4.5: Table showing retrieved documents based on Euclidean Similarity of Area based feature extraction.
To further evaluate the performance of the proposed model, the precision and recall of the Parallel Bar vertical line feature extraction for the Euclidean similarity measure testing results are measured and presented on Table 4.6.

The composite F-measure of recall and precision are presented in Table 4.7 for the Euclidean similarity measure of parallel bar vertical line feature extraction.

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Table 4.7: F-Measure Euclidean Similarity for parallel bar vertical line feature extraction.
The precision and recall of the Parallel Bar vertical line feature extraction for Cosine similarity measure testing results are measured and presented on Table 4.8.

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Table 4.8: Performance Evaluation Using Cosine Similarity for parallel bar vertical line feature extraction.
The composite F-measure of recall and precision are presented in table 4.9 for Cosine similarity measure of parallel bar vertical line feature extraction.

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<td>F%</td>
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Table 4.9: F-Measure Cosine similarity for parallel bar vertical line feature extraction.
The precision and recall of the Area based feature extraction for Euclidean similarity measure testing results are measured and presented on Table 4.10.

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Table 4.10: Performance Evaluation Using Euclidean Similarity for Area based feature extraction.
The composite F-measure of recall and precision are presented in table 4.11 for Euclidean similarity measure of area based feature extraction.

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<td>11.36</td>
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</tr>
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<td>100.00</td>
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<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
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<td>36.03</td>
<td>53.33</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
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<td>ወሚጋ</td>
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<td>100.00</td>
<td>4.13</td>
<td>7.94</td>
<td>80.00</td>
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<td>ከጎም</td>
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<td>22.32</td>
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<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
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<td>36.54</td>
<td>53.52</td>
<td>92.11</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>7.84</td>
<td>14.55</td>
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<td>16.13</td>
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<td>100.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>ወሚጋ</td>
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<td>100.00</td>
<td>4.13</td>
<td>7.94</td>
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<td>30.98</td>
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<td>77.58</td>
<td>83.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ወሚጋ</td>
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<td>86.67</td>
<td>21.67</td>
<td>34.67</td>
<td>80.00</td>
</tr>
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<td>ወሚጋ</td>
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<td>100.00</td>
<td>24.56</td>
<td>39.44</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
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<td>Average</td>
<td>84.59</td>
<td>29.40</td>
<td>43.64</td>
<td>78.78</td>
<td>32.56</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4.11: F-Measure Euclidean similarity for Area based feature extraction.
4.7. Test Results

The queries selected were first compared by the expert manually to determine which document images hold the specified query. To evaluate the system the same queries are supplied to Microsoft vista search, the Microsoft Vista search is needed in order to collect all the relevant documents from the text form of the same documents. The selected documents by the expert and by the Microsoft vista search are used for evaluating the performance measure.

When the manual comparison is done, the expert only selects the query word without considering its verities. For example for the query መን ግሥት its other representation መን ግስ ት is not considered. The expert also selects documents based on the query representation, without considering stemming, for example for the word ህዝብ the expert only selects the documents that hold the word ህዝብ not words like ይህ እና ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ እና ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይህ ይهو
From the testing it can be seen that a threshold is set to decide whether word image is similar to the query word. The threshold is set at 0.024, 0.027, 0.030 and 0.033 for Euclidian similarity of parallel bar vertical line feature extraction; 0.92, 0.94, 0.96 and 0.98 for cosine similarity of parallel bar vertical line feature extraction. 0.042, 0.043, 0.044, and 0.045 are set for Euclidean similarity of Area based feature extraction. The comparison of the recalls and precisions is summarized in Tables 4.4, 4.6 and 4.8 respectively.

From the experiment, result obtained by assuming that Microsoft Vista text search retrieves documents that has the same word as the query, it can be seen that the average similarity measure obtained for each threshold is low.

The average recall and precision for Euclidean similarity of the parallel bar vertical line feature extraction are 68.66% and 46.15% for threshold 0.033, 54.33% and 59.06% for threshold 0.030, 40.71% and 70.18% for threshold 0.027 and 30.65% and 84.11% for threshold 0.024.

For the cosine similarity measure of the parallel bar vertical line feature extraction, the average recall and precision values are 78.94% and 44.71% for threshold 0.92, 62.87% and 48.06% for threshold 0.94, 40.45% and 53.38% for threshold 0.96 and 10.24% and 55.07% for threshold 0.98.

Whereas for the Euclidean measure of area based feature extraction the average recall and precisions are 84.59% and 29.40% for threshold 0.045, 78.78% and 32.56% for threshold 0.044, 70.59% and 33.29% for threshold 0.043, and 59.14% and 35.00% for threshold 0.042.
As a threshold value decreases for Euclidean measure the precision increase while the recall decreases. In case of cosine similarity measure the precision increases when the threshold value increases while recall decreases.

Here it is easy to notice that, the results for some query words are very good while the results for some query words are poor, this may be the result of some noise and the assumption made, that the Microsoft Vista search is perfect. In general the proposed method can provide a good recall and precision for retrieving document images.

Besides the precision and recall, the composite F measure is used to evaluate the performance of the proposed system. The results are shown in table 4.7, 4.9 and 4.11.

It can be seen that the average F-measure is 55.20% for a threshold of 0.033, 56.60% for a threshold of 0.030, 51.53% for a threshold of 0.027 and 44.92% for a threshold of 0.024 for Euclidean measure of parallel bar vertical line feature extraction.

The average F-measure is 57.08% for a threshold of 0.92, 54.48% for a threshold of 0.94, 46.02% for a threshold of 0.96 and 17.26% for threshold of 0.98 for cosine measure of parallel bar vertical line feature extraction.

For area based Euclidean similarity measure the average F-measures are 43.64% for 0.045 threshold, 46.07% for 0.044 threshold, 45.24% for 0.043 threshold and 43.98% for 0.042 threshold.

If the purpose is retrieving only relevant document images, then the threshold 0.024 should be used for Euclidean similarity measure of parallel bar vertical line feature extraction, 0.98 threshold should be used for cosine similarity measure of the parallel bar vertical line feature extraction. Whereas for Area based feature extraction of the Euclidean measure 0.042 should be used. On the contrary, if the goal is to retrieve as
many documents as possible then threshold value 0.033 for Euclidean measure of the parallel bar vertical line feature extraction, 0.92 for cosine measure of parallel bar vertical line feature extraction, and for Euclidean measure of area based feature extraction 0.045 can be used.

It can be seen on the Tables 4.7, 4.9 and 4.11 that the highest average F value is 56.60%, 57.08% and 46.07% for Euclidean measures of parallel bar vertical line feature extraction, cosine measures of parallel bar vertical line feature extraction and Euclidean measure of area based feature extraction for thresholds of 0.030, 0.92 and 0.044 respectively. This indicates that the threshold 0.030 of the Euclidean measure of the parallel bar vertical line feature extraction, 0.94 of the cosine measure parallel bar vertical line feature extraction and 0.044 of the Euclidean measure of area based feature extraction are better threshold values that can give a good recall and precision.

Comparing the two feature extraction methods that are parallel bar vertical line feature extraction and area based feature extraction, it can be easily concluded that the parallel bar feature extraction method gives a better recall, precision and F-values. With the same analogy of the experiment made, the Euclidean measure gives a better result than that of the cosine similarity measure.

Since the Euclidean similarity measure of the parallel bar vertical line feature extraction gives a better result and threshold 0.30 is chosen as the good threshold value, the Mean Average Precision is calculated for the threshold value of 0.30 of the Euclidean similarity measure of the parallel bar vertical line extraction method.

According to iProspect (2008) 68% of search engine users click a search result with in the first page of the result and most web search engines display 10 results per page, here the number of k retrieved documents that the users are interested are believed to
be 10 and the Precision@ 10 calculated for the system assumes only on the first 10 results of the retrieved documents.

The result for the precision in the 10 first documents (for each query and the average over all the queries) is shown in Table 4.12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Query Text</th>
<th>Mean Average Precision</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>እ. እ.</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>እ. እ. እ.</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>እ. እ.</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>እ. እ. እ.</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>እ. እ.</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>እ. እ. እ.</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>እ. እ.</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>እ. እ.</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>እ. እ.</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>እ. እ.</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>እ. እ.</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>እ. እ. እ.</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>እ. እ.</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>እ. እ.</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>እ. እ.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>እ. እ.</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>እ. እ.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>እ. እ.</td>
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<td>እ. እ.</td>
<td>69%</td>
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<tr>
<td>እ. እ.</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>እ. እ.</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>እ. እ.</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>እ. እ.</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>እ. እ.</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>እ. እ.</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4.12 Performance Measure Mean Average Precision

As it can be seen in Table 4.12, from the 28 queries 12 of them have a 100 percent R-Precision result and 4 queries give a R-Precision result of less than 30 percent, with a
minimum R-Precision of 17 percent for the query word “አዶላ” which only occurs in one document image with a frequency of 1. The average R-Precision result calculated from the 28 queries is 82 percent. Hence, it can be concluded that the system is effective in retrieving relevant documents.

During experimentation the average processing time for preparing a one-page document image into vector form took 8 seconds for parallel bar vertical line feature extraction and 10 seconds for area based feature extraction. While for searching word images from the prepared vector took an average time of less than a second for a page. For comparison purpose the processing time for two collections of document images is shown in table 4.13.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature Extraction</th>
<th>Number of Documents</th>
<th>Number of Pages</th>
<th>Number of words</th>
<th>Processing Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Document Preparation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vertical Bar Based</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>54198</td>
<td>28 minutes 32 seconds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>121</td>
<td>483</td>
<td>109238</td>
<td>59 minutes 53 seconds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area Based</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>54198</td>
<td>49 minutes 12 seconds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>121</td>
<td>483</td>
<td>109238</td>
<td>68 minutes 4 seconds</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4.13 The processing time
CHAPTER FIVE

5. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5.1. Conclusion

In this research we propose an approach to search the user specified words from Amharic document images, without the requirement of character recognition. After segmenting document images to a word level, features, vertical bar patterns and area based features are extracted from word images and form the document vector. Document similarity is calculated by finding the minimum distance for the case of Euclidian similarity measure and a scalar product of the two vectors for Cosine similarity. Experiment using 121 documents that have 483 number of pages and 109, 238 number of words is conducted. The experimental results confirmed the validity of the model for retrieving relevant document images from the collection of document images. The proposed system is suitable for retrieving documents in language with no OCR, including Amharic.

The objective of this research is to design a system for the retrieval of Amharic document images in different organizations that have a huge collection of hard copy documents.

The Strength of this research

- During segmentation this system implements a way of considering character spaces and word space to differentiate one word with the other.

- The removal of punctuation marks and stop words from the system is implemented to some extent by considering the length and height of the word.
• The proposed system incorporates a suffix removal mechanism at the time of feature matching by considering the length of the query and image words. This is implemented in such a way that, the system first considers the words length and make a comparison on the bases of the shortest word. For example if the query text is “መመሪያዎች” and the word image found in the document is “መመሪያ” the system first compare the two word lengths and by taking the word in the image document it will match the features. The word in the document image matches the first four characters of the query word and the system reports that it found the similar word by not considering the remaining characters of the query word.

• This system is less susceptible to spelling errors; compared to Microsoft Vista search this is because it calculates the similarity based on the vector values and these values give a good matching result for similar words because they do not consider characters. For example if the query word is “መስተዲዯር” and the word found in the document image is “መስተዲድር” the system will retrieve the document image based on the supplied query. Whereas, in the case of Microsoft Vista search, the document will not be retrieved.

• The system ranks retrieved documents using the frequency of the word image in a document image.

• This research utilize, recall, precision, F-measure and R-precision techniques to evaluate the proposed system.
The weak points of this research

- The Binerization mechanism that has been implemented chooses a fixed threshold selection method and the threshold is set to 128 in the scale of 0-255. This threshold may not work with document images that are damaged or have blurred words.

- If the image document segmented has a full justification, that alien’s text to both the right and left margins by adding extra space, the Amharic characters in a word can be printed out with extra space like “መ ከ ም ደ ዝ ይ” in between each character. The system considers each character that has an extra space in between as a word.

- Even if the system removes to some extent punctuation marks and stop words, a lot should be done on considering the removal of these items from the document image.

- The suffix removal in the system is in its infant stage and the system does not incorporate infix and prefix removal from the image words.

- The system does not incorporate a spell checking procedure, despite its capability of finding documents with slight spelling errors; the documents should be checked for spelling errors to increase the retrieval performance.

- Same Amharic words like ወንግስት and መንግሥት have the same meaning but this research do not include a mechanism to consider these words as a one word.

- The ranking done does not consider the volume of the document.
Based on the experimental results and the techniques used in the system, the following recommendations are suggested to show the areas that need further research.

5.2. Recommendations

- On the present research an experiment is conducted on limited collection of document images. Future research needs to investigate on different documents taken from news papers, magazines, poor quality and hand written documents.

- Affix, infix and suffix removal should be considered for future work.

- Matching variant words in Amharic is necessary as they have the same meaning with the stem. Hence a matching procedure should be designed that considers these words as a one word.

- A technique should be incorporated to detect the format of the word images like Bold, underlined, italic, bulleted, numbered, words in tables, etc.

- Pre- processing techniques like noise removal, font resizing, font conversion helps to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the system. Incorporating these systems will increase the performance of the proposed retrieval system.

- This research focuses on document image retrieval given a simple word query. The researcher recommends continuing this research so that the retrieval system uses multiple word queries by incorporating logical statements.
• To increase the performance of the system by decreasing the search time it is good if the word images are clustered and indexed using an efficient indexing structure.

• For future research it is a good idea to incorporate document ranking by considering the term frequency over inverse document frequency tf/idf.

In general the proposed system is suitable for Amharic document image retrieval and by conducting more research in the area of interest it is possible to develop a real system that can work. The development of such system will enhance the availability of documents especially document images in digital form and alleviate the current problems of document image retrieval.
Bibliography


http://encarta.msn.com/encyclopedia_761565449/African_Languages.html#s9


package imagedocument;
/*
 * ImageInterface.java
 */
/*
 * Created on Apr 8, 2009, 5:10:16 PM
 */
/**
 * @author Mesfin
 */
/*
 * import java.awt.event.ActionEvent;
 import java.awt.event.ActionListener;
 import java.io.BufferedWriter.*;
 import javax.media.jai.*;
 import java.util.*;
 import java.awt.image.BufferedImage.*;
 import java.awt.image.*;
 import java.awt.*;
 import java.io.*;
 import javax.media.jai.PlanarImage;
 import javax.swing.GroupLayout.*;
 import javax.swing.GroupLayout.Alignment;
 import javax.swing.JButton;
 import javax.swing.JLabel;
 import javax.swing.JOptionPane.*;
 import javax.swing.JToggleButton;
 import javax.swing.SwingConstants;
 import javax.swing.WindowConstants;
 public class ImageInterface extends javax.swing.JFrame {

    int width, height, nbands = 0;
    int widthQ, heightQ;
    int dataStart = 0;
    int dataEnd = 0;
    int border = 0;
    int contain = 0;
    int Lnumber = 0;
    int count = 0;
    int count1 = 0;
    int wstart = 0;
    int wend = 0;
    int wdatastart1 = 0;
    int vdatastart1 = 0;
    int wdataend1 = 0;
    int vdataend1 = 0;
    int wborderstart1 = 0;
    int vborderstart1 = 0;
    int wborderend1 = 0;
    int vborderend1 = 0;
    int pixelValT = 0;
    int wordposT = 0;
    int pixelValM = 0;
    int wordposM = 0;
    int pixelValB = 0;
    int wordposB = 0;
int pixelValL = 0;
int wordposL = 0;
int nbandsQ = 0;
int w = 0;
int h = 0;
int hQ = 0;
int hordataEnd = 0;
int hordataStart = 0;
int pixelaverage = 0;
int pixelaverageQ = 0;
int[] pixel = new int[nbands];
int[] pixelQ = new int[nbandsQ];
PrintWriter pwvb;
PrintWriter pwwb;
PrintWriter pw;
PrintWriter pwwv;
FileWriter fw;
PrintWriter pwwbQ;
PrintWriter pwvbQ;
PrintWriter pwQ;
PrintWriter pwwvQ;
String linev = null;
String line3;
String line = "";
Vector<String> line2 = new Vector<String>(2, 2);
Vector<String> line4 = new Vector<String>(2, 2);
Vector VlinepixVal = new Vector();
File fileRend = new File("newimage3.jpg");
File imageDir = new File("C:/Users/Mesfin/Desktop/NetBe/ImageAccess/dist/Scanned/Final");
File image;
File Vector;
File imageQuery = fileRend;
String ImagenameQ = imageQuery.getPath();
PlanarImage piQ = JAI.create("fileload", ImagenameQ);
SampleModel smQ = piQ.getSampleModel();

ImageAccessMethod AllMethods = new ImageAccessMethod();
TextRendering RenderingMethods = new TextRendering();
/** Creates new form ImageInterface */
public ImageInterface() {
    initComponents();
}
QuestionLabel = new JLabel();
RetreivalButton = new JButton();
ChangeButton = new JToggleButton();
setDefaultCloseOperation(WindowConstants.EXIT_ON_CLOSE);
setBounds(new Rectangle(400, 400, 200, 200));
QuestionLabel.setFont(new Font("Times New Roman", 1, 14));
QuestionLabel.setHorizontalAlignment(SwingConstants.CENTER);
QuestionLabel.setText("What Do You Want To Do ?");
RetreivalButton.setFont(new Font("Times New Roman", 0, 12));
RetreivalButton.setText("Prepare Document For Retreival");
RetreivalButton.addActionListener(new ActionListener() {
    public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent evt) {
        RetreivalButtonActionPeromed(evt);
    }
});
ChangeButton.setFont(new Font("Times New Roman", 0, 12));
ChangeButton.setText("Search for a Document ");
ChangeButton.addActionListener(new ActionListener() {
public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent evt) {
    ChangeButton.actionPerformed(evt);
}
);
GroupLayout layout = new GroupLayout(getContentPane());
getContentPane().setLayout(layout);
layout.setHorizontalGroup(
    layout.createParallelGroup(Alignment.LEADING)
    .addGroup(layout.createSequentialGroup()
        .addContainerGap()
        .addComponent(RetrievalButton)
        .addGap(18, 18, 18)
        .addComponent(ChangeButton)
        .addContainerGap(29, Short.MAX_VALUE))
    .addGroup(Alignment.TRAILING, layout.createSequentialGroup()
        .addContainerGap(113, Short.MAX_VALUE)
        .addComponent(QuestionLabel)
        .addGap(109, 109, 109))
);
layout.setVerticalGroup(
    layout.createParallelGroup(Alignment.LEADING)
    .addGroup(layout.createSequentialGroup()
        .addGap(44, 44, 44)
        .addComponent(QuestionLabel)
        .addGap(18, 18, 18)
        .addGroup(layout.createParallelGroup(Alignment.BASELINE)
            .addComponent(RetrievalButton)
            .addComponent(ChangeButton))
        .addContainerGap(39, Short.MAX_VALUE))
);
pack();
private void RetrievalButtonActionPerformed(ActionEvent evt) {
    int zz = 0;
    if (imageDir.isDirectory()) {
        File f[] = imageDir.listFiles();
        for (int i = 0; i < f.length; i++) {
            if (f[i].isDirectory()) {
                String s[] = f[i].list();
                for (int z = 0; z < s.length; z++) {
                    if (s[z].endsWith(".jpg")) {
                        Vector = new File(f[i].getPath);
                        image = new File(f[i].getPath() + "/" + s[z]);
                        String Imagename = image.getPath();
                        PlanarImage pi = JAI.create("fileload", Imagename);
                        SampleModel sm = pi.getSampleModel();
                        System.out.println(Imagename);
                        AllMethods.PrintImageInfo(pi, sm, width, height, pw, image, fw);
                        AllMethods.Hor Bord(pi, h, height, w, width, pixelaverage, nbands, pixel, sm);
                        AllMethods.Ver Bord(h, height, w, width, pixelaverage, nbands, pixel, pi, sm, pwvb, pwwb);
                        AllMethods.Corner Reader(pi, w, h, sm, pixelaverage, pwwv, Imagename, zz, Vector);
                        zz++;
                    }
                }
            }
        }
    }
    RetrievalButton.enableInputMethods(false);
public int getValueZ(int z) {
    z = z + 1;
    return z;
}

private void ChangeButtonActionPerformed(ActionEvent evt) {
    showWindowRend AppWindowRend = new showWindowRend();
    AppWindowRend.showWindowRend();
}

public static void main(String args[]) {
    try {
        java.awt.EventQueue.invokeLater(new Runnable() {
            public void run() {
                new ImageInterface().setVisible(true);
            }
        });
    } catch (Exception e) {
        System.out.println(e.getMessage().toString());
    }
}

// Variables declaration - do not modify
JToggleButton ChangeButton;
JLabel QuestionLabel;
JButton ReterievalButton;
// End of variables declaration

class showWindowRend {
    public void showWindowRend() {
        TextRendering InterfaceRend = new TextRendering();
        InterfaceRend.setVisible(true);
    }
}

package imagedocument;

/**
 * @author Mesfin
 */
import java.io.BufferedWriter.*;
import java.util.*;
import java.awt.image.BufferedImage.*;
import java.awt.image.*;
import java.io.*;
import javax.media.jai.PlanarImage;
import javax.media.jai.iterator.RandomIter;
import javax.media.jai.iterator.RandomIterFactory;
import javax.swing.JOptionPane.*;
public class ImageAccessMethod {
    public void printpixel(PlanarImage pi, int h, int height, int w, int width,
    int pixelaverage, PrintWriter pw, SampleModel sm, FileWriter fw) {
    try {
        fw = new FileWriter("mydata.txt", true);
        pw = new PrintWriter(fw);
        height = pi.getHeight();
        width = pi.getWidth();
        int nbands = sm.getNumBands();
int[] pixel = new int[nbands];
// Get an iterator for the image.
RandomIter iterator = RandomIterFactory.create(pi, null);

for (h = 0; h < height; h++) {
    for (w = 0; w < width; w++) {
        // Get the array of values for the pixel on the w,h coordinate.
        iterator.getPixel(w, h, pixel);
        pixelaverage = 0;
        //
        for (int band = 0; band < nbands; band++) {
            pixelaverage = pixel[band] + pixelaverage;
        }  
        if (pixelaverage / nbands < 128) {  
            pw.println("0");
        } else {  
            pw.println(" ");
        }
        pw.println();
    }
    pw.flush();
    pw.close();
} catch (Exception e) {
    System.out.println(e.getMessage().toString());
}

public void Horbord(PlanarImage pi, int h, int height, int w, int width,
int pixelaverage, int nbands, int[] pixel, SampleModel sm) {
try {
    FileWriter fwhb = new FileWriter("border.txt");
    PrintWriter pwhb = new PrintWriter(fwhb);
    nbands = sm.getNumBands();
    pixel = new int[nbands];
    height = pi.getHeight();
    width = pi.getWidth();
    RandomIter iterator = RandomIterFactory.create(pi, null);
    for (h = 0; h < height; h++) {
        for (w = 0; w < width; w++) {
            // Get the array of values for the pixel on the w,h coordinate.
            iterator.getPixel(w, h, pixel);
            pixelaverage = 0;
            for (int band = 0; band < nbands; band++) {
                pixelaverage = pixel[band] + pixelaverage;
            }  
            if (pixelaverage / nbands < 128) {  
                pwhb.println("D " + h);
                break;
            }
        }
        if (pixelaverage / nbands > 128) {  
            pwhb.println("B " + h);
        }
    }
    pwhb.flush();
    pwhb.close();
} catch (Exception e) {
public void VerBord(int h, int height, int w, int width, int pixelaverage, int nbands, int[] pixel, PlanarImage pi, SampleModel sm, PrintWriter pwvb, PrintWriter pwwb) {
    try {
        int dataStart = 0;
        int dataEnd = 0;
        int border = 0;
        int contain = 0;
        int Lnumber = 0;
        int count = 0;
        int count1 = 0;
        int wstart = 0;
        int wend = 0;
        int wdataStart1 = 0;
        int vdataStart1 = 0;
        int wdataEnd1 = 0;
        int vdataEnd1 = 0;
        int wborderStart1 = 0;
        int vborderStart1 = 0;
        int wborderEnd1 = 0;
        int vborderEnd1 = 0;
        String line = "";
        DataStartEnd(pi, line, dataStart, dataEnd, border, contain, Lnumber, width, pixelaverage, nbands, count, wend, count1, wstart, pixel, w, h, pwvb);
        WordBorder(wdataStart1, vdataStart1, wdataEnd1, vdataEnd1, wborderStart1, vborderStart1, wborderEnd1, vborderEnd1, pwwb);
    } catch (Exception e) {
        System.out.println(e.getCause());
    }
}

public void DataStartEnd(PlanarImage pi, String line, int dataStart, int dataEnd, int border, int contain, int Lnumber, int width, int pixelaverage, int nbands, int count, int wend, int count1, int wstart, int[] pixel, int w, int h, PrintWriter pwvb) {
    try {
        FileWriter fwvb = new FileWriter("HorizontalBord.txt");
        pwvb = new PrintWriter(fwvb);
        BufferedReader input = new BufferedReader(new FileReader("border.txt"));
        Vector<String> line2 = new Vector<String>(2, 2);
        while ((line = input.readLine()) != null) {
            line2.addElement(line);
        }
        for (int i = 0; i < (line2.size() - 1); i++) {
            if (line2.elementAt(i).charAt(0) == line2.elementAt(i + 1).charAt(0)) {
                continue;
            }
            while (line2.elementAt(i).contains("B")) {
                String[] data = line2.elementAt(i).split(" ");
                Lnumber = Integer.parseInt(data[1]);
                border = Lnumber;
            }
        }
    }
}
i++;
}
dataStart = (border + 1);
while (line2.elementAt(i).contains("D")) {
    String[] data = line2.elementAt(i).split(" ");
    Lnumber = Integer.parseInt(data[1]);
    containt = Lnumber;
    i++;
}
dataEnd = containt;
PrintStartEnd(pi, dataStart, dataEnd, width, pixelaverage, nbands,
        count, wend, count1, wstart, pixel, w, h, pwvb);
}
input.close();
pwvb.flush();
pwvb.close();
} catch (Exception e) {
    System.out.println(e.getMessage());
}

public void PrintStartEnd(PlanarImage pi, int dataStart, int dataEnd, int width,
        int pixelaverage, int nbands, int count, int wend, int count1,
        int wstart, int[] pixel, int w, int h, PrintWriter pwvb) {
    try {
        FileWriter fwvb = new FileWriter("HorizontalBord.txt", true);
        pwvb = new PrintWriter(fwvb);
        SampleModel sm = pi.getSampleModel();
        nbands = sm.getNumBands();
        pixel = new int[nbands];
        RandomIter iterator = RandomIterFactory.create(pi, null);
        width = pi.getWidth();
        for (w = 0; w < width; w++) {
            for (h = dataStart; h < dataEnd; h++) {
                // Get the array of values for the pixel on the w,h coordinate.
                iterator.getPixel(w, h, pixel);
                pixelaverage = 0;
                //
                for (int band = 0; band < nbands; band++) {
                    pixelaverage += pixel[band] + pixelaverage;
                }
                if (pixelaverage / nbands < 128) {
                    count = 0;
                    wend = w;
                    count1++;
                    break;
                }
            }
            if (pixelaverage / nbands > 128) {
                count++;
                count1 = 0;
            }
            if (count < (dataEnd - dataStart) / 3 && w < (dataEnd - dataStart) / 3 && count1 == 0) {
                wstart = w;
            } else if (count < (dataEnd - dataStart) / 3) {
                wstart = w + count;
            } else {
                wstart = w;
            }
        }
    }
}
if (count >= (dataEnd - dataStart) / 3) {
    pwvb.println("B," + wend + "," + dataStart + "," + (wstart) + "," + dataEnd);
} else if (count < (dataEnd - dataStart) / 3 && w < (dataEnd - dataStart) / 3 && count1 == 0) {
    pwvb.println("B," + wend + "," + dataStart + "," + (wstart) + "," + dataEnd);
} else if (count1 != 0) {
    pwvb.println("D," + wstart + "," + dataStart + "," + wend + "," + dataEnd);
}
}
pwvb.flush();
pwvb.close();
} catch (Exception e) {
    System.out.println(e.getMessage());
}

public void WordBorder(int wdatastart1, int vdatastart1, int wdataend1,
                        int vdataend1, int wborderstart1, int vborders
                        orderstart1, int wborderend1, int vborders
                        end1, PrintWriter pwwb) {
    try {
        FileWriter fwwb = new FileWriter("wordborder.txt");
pwwb = new PrintWriter(fwwb);
        BufferedReader inputv = new BufferedReader(new FileReader("HorizontalBord.txt"));
        String linev = null;
        Vector<String> line2 = new Vector<String>(2, 2);
        while ((linev = inputv.readLine()) != null) {
            line2.addElement(linev);
        }
        for (int i = 0; i < (line2.size() - 1); i++) {
            if (line2.elementAt(i).charAt(0) == line2.elementAt(i + 1).charAt(0)) {
                continue;
            }
            while (line2.elementAt(i).contains("B")) {
                String[] data1 = line2.elementAt(i).split(",");
                wborderstart1 = Integer.parseInt(data1[1]);
                vborders
tart1 = Integer.parseInt(data1[2]);
                wborderend1 = Integer.parseInt(data1[3]);
                vborders
                end1 = Integer.parseInt(data1[4]);
                i++;
            }
            while (line2.elementAt(i).contains("D")) {
                String[] data1 = line2.elementAt(i).split(",");
                wdatastart1 = Integer.parseInt(data1[1]);
                vdatastart1 = Integer.parseInt(data1[2]);
                wdataend1 = Integer.parseInt(data1[3]);
                vdataend1 = Integer.parseInt(data1[4]);
                i++;
            }
            if (wdataend1 - wborderend1 > 20 && vdataend1 - vdatastart1 > 10) {
                pwwb.println("C," + (wborderend1 + 1) + "," + (vdatastart1) + "," + wdataend1 + "," + vdataend1);
            }
        }
        inputv.close();
pwwb.flush();
pwwb.close();
    } catch (Exception e) {
        System.out.println(e.getCause());
    }
}
public void PrintImageInfo(PlanarImage pi, SampleModel sm, int width, int height, PrintWriter pw, File image, FileWriter fw) {
    try {
        // create the file called "Mydata.txt" and "border.txt" for writing the outputs
        fw = new FileWriter("mydata.txt");
        pw = new PrintWriter(fw);
        pw.println("Image file size: "+ image.length()+" bytes. ");
        System.out.println("Image file size: "+ image.length()+" bytes. ");
        pw.println(" Dimensions ");
        System.out.println(" Dimensions ");
        pw.write(pi.getWidth() + " X " + pi.getHeight()+" pixels. ");
        System.out.print(pi.getWidth() + " X " + pi.getHeight()+" pixels. ");
        pw.print(" ( from "+ pi.getMinX()+" , " + pi.getMinY()+" to " +
        (pi.getMaxX()-1) + ", " + (pi.getMaxY()-1) + ") ");
        System.out.print(" ( from "+ pi.getMinX()+" , " + pi.getMinY()+" to " +
        (pi.getMaxX()-1) + ", " + (pi.getMaxY()-1) + ") ");
        pw.println(" Number of bands: " + sm.getNumBands());
        System.out.println(" Number of bands: " + sm.getNumBands());
        pw.println();
        pw.flush();
        pw.close();
        System.out.println();
    } catch (Exception e) {
        e.getMessage();
    }
}

public void CornerReader(PlanarImage pi, int w, int h, SampleModel sm, int pixelaverage, PrintWriter pwwv, String Imagename, int zz, File Vector) {
    try {
        String line3;
        BufferedReader inputB = new BufferedReader(new FileReader("wordborder.txt"));
        Vector<String> line4 = new Vector<String>(2, 2);
        while ((line3 = inputB.readLine()) != null) {
            line4.addElement(line3);
        }
        System.out.println(line4);
        for (int m = 0; m < (line4.size()); m++) {
            String[] data2 = line4.elementAt(m).split(",");
            int leftCorner = Integer.parseInt(data2[1]);
            int topCorner = Integer.parseInt(data2[2]);
            int rightCorner = Integer.parseInt(data2[3]);
            int bottomCorner = Integer.parseInt(data2[4]);
            RawPartitioning(pi, w, h, topCorner, bottomCorner, leftCorner, rightCorner, sm, pixelaverage, pwwv, Imagename, zz, Vector);
        }
        inputB.close();
    } catch (Exception e) {
        System.out.println(e.getMessage());
    }
}

public void RawPartitioning(PlanarImage pi, int w, int h, int topCorner, int bottomCorner, int leftCorner, int rightCorner, SampleModel sm, int pixelaverage, PrintWriter pwwv, String Imagename, int zz, File Vector) {

try {
    FileWriter fwwv = new FileWriter("C:/ImageVector/" + Vector.getName().replaceAll(".jpg", ".txt"), true);
    pwwv = new PrintWriter(fwwv);
    Vector VlinepixVal = new Vector();
    int boundgap = (bottomCorner - topCorner) / 3;
    int topbound = topCorner + boundgap;
    int midbound = topbound + boundgap;
    int bottombound = midbound + boundgap;
    int countTotal = 0;
    int countT, countM, countB, countL = 0;
    int nbands = sm.getNumBands();
    int[] pixel = new int[nbands];
    RandomIter iterator = RandomIterFactory.create(pi, null);
    for (w = leftCorner; w < rightCorner; w++) {
        countT = 0;
        countM = 0;
        countB = 0;
        countL = 0;
        int pixelValT = 0;
        int wordposT = 0;
        int pixelValM = 0;
        int wordposM = 0;
        int pixelValB = 0;
        int wordposB = 0;
        int pixelValL = 0;
        int wordposL = 0;
        for (h = topCorner; h < topbound; h++) {
            iterator.getPixel(w, h, pixel);
            pixelaverage = 0;
            for (int band = 0; band < nbands; band++) {
                pixelaverage = pixel[band] + pixelaverage;
            }
            if (pixelaverage / nbands < 128) {
                pixelValT++;// = pixelValT + wordposT;
            }
            countT++;
        }
        for (h = topbound; h < midbound; h++) {
            iterator.getPixel(w, h, pixel);
            pixelaverage = 0;
            for (int band = 0; band < nbands; band++) {
                pixelaverage = pixel[band] + pixelaverage;
            }
            if (pixelaverage / nbands < 128) {
                pixelValM++;// = pixelValM + wordposM;
            }
            countM++;
        }
        for (h = midbound; h < bottombound; h++) {
            iterator.getPixel(w, h, pixel);
            pixelaverage = 0;
            for (int band = 0; band < nbands; band++) {
                pixelaverage = pixel[band] + pixelaverage;
            }
            if (pixelaverage / nbands < 128) {
                pixelValB++;// = pixelValB + wordposB;
            }
            countB++;
        }
        for (h = bottombound; h < bottomCorner; h++) {
            iterator.getPixel(w, h, pixel);
            pixelaverage = 0;
            for (int band = 0; band < nbands; band++) {
                pixelaverage = pixel[band] + pixelaverage;
            }
            if (pixelaverage / nbands < 128) {
                pixelValL++;// = pixelValL + wordposL;
            }
            countL++;
        }
    }
}
package imagedocument;

/**
 * @author Mesfin
 */
import java.io.BufferedReader;
import java.io.DataOutputStream;
import java.io.File;
import java.io.FileInputStream;
import java.io.IOException;
import java.io.InputStream;
import java.io.InputStreamReader;
import java.io.PrintStream;
import java.util.Date;
import java.util.Properties;
import java.awt.image.BufferedImage;
import java.awt.image.DataBufferInt;
import java.awt.image.EffectImageSource;
import java.awt.image.IndexColorModel;
import java.awt.image.MemoryImageSource;
import java.awt.image.PlaneBufferedImage;
import java.awt.image.Raster;
import java.awt.image.WritableRaster;
import java.io.FileWriter;
import java.io.IOException;
import java.io.PrintStream;
import java.io.PrintWriter;
import java.util.List;

public class QueryAccessMethod {
    public void HorbordQ(PlanarImage piQ, int hQ, int heightQ, int wQ, int widthQ,
             int pixelaverageQ, SampleModel smQ, PrintWriter pwwbQ, int hordataStart, int hordataEnd, int vdata,
             int vdataend, PrintWriter pwwvQ, String ImagenameQ) {
        try {
            FileWriter fwwbQ = new FileWriter("wordborderQ.txt");
            pwwbQ = new PrintWriter(fwwbQ);
            FileWriter fwwvQ = new FileWriter("wordvalueQ.txt");
            pwwvQ = new PrintWriter(fwwvQ);
            int counthor = 0;
            int nbandsQ = smQ.getNumBands();
            int[] pixelQ = new int[nbandsQ];
            for (int band = 0; band < nbandsQ; band++) {
                pixelaverageQ = pixel[band] + pixelaverageQ;
            }
            if (pixelaverageQ / nbandsQ < 128) {
                pixelValL++;
            }
            countL++;
        }
        countTotal = countT + (countM * 2) + (countB * 3) + (countL * 4);
        float VlineVal = (float) (pixelValL*4 + pixelValB*3 + pixelValM*2 + pixelValT) / countTotal;
        VlinepixVal.addElement(VlineVal);
        for (int k = 0; k < VlinepixVal.size(); k++) {
            pwwv.print(VlinepixVal.elementAt(k) + ",");
        }
        pwwv.println();
        pwwv.flush();
        pwwv.close();
    }
    catch (Exception e) {
        System.out.println(e.getMessage());
    }
}
RandomIter iterator = RandomIterFactory.create(piQ, null);
Vector<String> horEndBorder = new Vector<String>(2, 2);
for (hQ = 0; hQ < heightQ; hQ++) {
    for (wQ = 0; wQ < widthQ; wQ++) {
        // Get the array of values for the pixel on the w,h coordinate.
        iterator.getPixel(wQ, hQ, pixelQ);
        pixelaverageQ = 0;
        for (int bandQ = 0; bandQ < nbandsQ; bandQ++) {
            pixelaverageQ = pixelQ[bandQ] + pixelaverageQ;
        }
        if (pixelaverageQ / nbandsQ < 128) {
            counthor++;
            break;
        }
    }
    if (counthor != 0) {
        horEndBorder.addElement("D," + hQ);
    } else {
        horEndBorder.addElement("B," + hQ);
    }
    counthor = 0;
}
for (int i = 0; i < horEndBorder.size(); i++) {
    System.out.println(horEndBorder.elementAt(i));
    if (horEndBorder.elementAt(i).charAt(0) == horEndBorder.elementAt(i + 1).charAt(0)) {
        continue;
    }
    String[] datahor = horEndBorder.elementAt(i).split(";");
    if (datahor[0].equals("B")) {
        int dataS = Integer.parseInt(datahor[1]);
        hordataStart = dataS + 1;
        System.out.println("Data Start" + (hordataStart));
    } else if (datahor[0].equals("D")) {
        hordataEnd = Integer.parseInt(datahor[1]);
        System.out.println("DataEnd" + hordataEnd);
    }
}
}

public void VerBordQ(PlanarImage piQ, int hQ, int heightQ, int wQ, int widthQ,
        int pixelaverageQ, SampleModel smQ, PrintWriter pwwbQ,
        int hordataStart, int hordataEnd, int vdatas, int vdataend, PrintWriter pwwvQ, String ImagenamQ) {
    try {
        int verdataStart = 0;
        int verdataEnd = 0;
        int countVer = 0;
        int countspace = 0;
        int countblank = 0;
        int countspacerev = 0;
        int nbandsQ = smQ.getNumBands();
        int[] pixelQ = new int[nbandsQ];
        RandomIter iterator = RandomIterFactory.create(piQ, null);
        Vector<String> verEndBorder = new Vector<String>(2, 2);
        for (wQ = 0; wQ < widthQ; wQ++) {
            // Get the array of values for the pixel on the w,h coordinate.
            iterator.getPixel(wQ, hQ, pixelQ);
            pixelaverageQ = 0;
            for (int bandQ = 0; bandQ < nbandsQ; bandQ++) {
                pixelaverageQ = pixelQ[bandQ] + pixelaverageQ;
            }
            if (pixelaverageQ / nbandsQ < 128) {
                counthor++;
                break;
            }
        }
        if (counthor != 0) {
            verEndBorder.addElement("D," + hQ);
        } else {
            verEndBorder.addElement("B," + hQ);
        }
    } catch (Exception e) { e.getMessage().toString(); }
    VerBordQ(piQ, hQ, heightQ, hQ, widthQ, pixelaverageQ, smQ,
            pwwbQ, hordataStart, hordataEnd,
            vdatas, vdataend, pwwvQ, ImagenamQ);
}
for (hQ = hordataStart; hQ < hordataEnd; hQ++) {
    // Get the array of values for the pixel on the w,h coordinate.
    iterator.getPixel(wQ, hQ, pixelQ);
    pixelaverageQ = 0;
    //
    for (int bandQ = 0; bandQ < nbandsQ; bandQ++) {
        pixelaverageQ = pixelQ[bandQ] + pixelaverageQ;
    }
    if (pixelaverageQ / nbandsQ < 128) {
        // countspace = 0;
        break;
    }
}
if (pixelaverageQ / nbandsQ > 128) {
    countspace++;
    verEndBorder.addElement("B," + wQ);
} else {
    // countspace = 0;
    verEndBorder.addElement("D," + wQ);
}
for (int i = 0; i < verEndBorder.size(); i++) {
    System.out.println(verEndBorder.elementAt(i));
    pwwbQ.println(verEndBorder.elementAt(i));
}
pwwbQ.flush();
pwwbQ.close();
DataStartEndQ(piQ, wQ, hQ, hordataStart, hordataEnd, vdatas, vdataend, smQ, pixelaverageQ, pwwvQ, ImagenameQ);
count = 0;
System.out.println(Lnumber);
int CountEnd = lineQ2.size() - 1;
for (int i = lineQ2.size() - 1; i > 0; i--) {
    if (lineQ2.elementAt(i).charAt(0) == lineQ2.elementAt(i - 1).charAt(0) &&
        lineQ2.elementAt(i).contains("B")) {
        countrev++;
        continue;
    }
    if (CountEnd == i + countrev) {
        Lnumber = count; lineQ2.size() - 1) {
            Lnumberrev = i; lineQ2.size() - countrev;
        } else if (countrev > (hordataEnd - hordataStart) / 3) {
            String[] data = lineQ2.elementAt(i).split(",");
            Lnumberrev = Integer.parseInt(data[1]);
        }
        countrev = 0;
    }
    vdatas = Lnumber + 1;
    vdataend = Lnumberrev;
    System.out.println(Lnumberrev);
    RawPartitioningQ(piQ, wQ, hQ, hordataStart, hordataEnd, vdatas, vdataend, smQ,
        pixelaverageQ, pwwvQ, ImagenameQ);
} catch (Exception e) {
    System.out.println(e.getMessage());
}

public void RawPartitioningQ(PlanarImage piQ, int wQ, int hQ, int hordataStart,
    int hordataEnd, int vdatas, int vdataend, SampleModel smQ,
    int pixelaverageQ, PrintWriter pwwvQ, String ImagenameQ) {
    try {
        FileWriter fwwvQ = new FileWriter("wordvalueQ.txt");
        pwwvQ = new PrintWriter(fwwvQ);
        Vector VlinepixValQ = new Vector();
        int boundgapQ = (hordataEnd - hordataStart) / 3;
        int topboundQ = hordataStart + boundgapQ;
        int midboundQ = topboundQ + boundgapQ;
        int bottomboundQ = midboundQ + boundgapQ;
        int countTotalQ = 0;
        int countTQ, countMQ, countBQ, countLQ = 0;
        int nbandsQ = smQ.getNumBands();
        int[] pixelQ = new int[nbandsQ];
        RandomIter iterator = RandomIterFactory.create(piQ, null);
        for (wQ = vdatas; wQ < vdataend; wQ++) {
            countTQ = 0;
            countMQ = 0;
            countBQ = 0;
            countLQ = 0;
            int pixelValTQ = 0;
            int wordposTQ = 0;
            int pixelValMQ = 0;
            int wordposMQ = 0;
            int pixelValBQ = 0;
            int wordposBQ = 0;
            int pixelValLQ = 0;
            int wordposLQ = 0;
            for (hQ = hordataStart; hQ < topboundQ; hQ++) {
            }
iterator.getPixel(wQ, hQ, pixelQ);
pixelaverageQ = 0;
for (int bandQ = 0; bandQ < nbandsQ; bandQ++) {
pixelaverageQ = pixelQ[bandQ] + pixelaverageQ;
} if (pixelaverageQ / nbandsQ < 128) {
pixelValTQ++;
} countTQ++;
} for (hQ = topboundQ; hQ < midboundQ; hQ++) {
iterator.getPixel(wQ, hQ, pixelQ);
pixelaverageQ = 0;
for (int bandQ = 0; bandQ < nbandsQ; bandQ++) {
pixelaverageQ = pixelQ[bandQ] + pixelaverageQ;
} if (pixelaverageQ / nbandsQ < 128) {
//wordposMQ = 2;
pixelValMQ++;// = pixelValMQ + wordposMQ;
} countMQ++;
} for (hQ = midboundQ; hQ < bottomboundQ; hQ++) {
iterator.getPixel(wQ, hQ, pixelQ);
pixelaverageQ = 0;
for (int bandQ = 0; bandQ < nbandsQ; bandQ++) {
pixelaverageQ = pixelQ[bandQ] + pixelaverageQ;
} if (pixelaverageQ / nbandsQ < 128) {
pixelValBQ++;
} countBQ++;
} for (hQ = bottomboundQ; hQ < hordataEnd; hQ++) {
iterator.getPixel(wQ, hQ, pixelQ);
pixelaverageQ = 0;
for (int bandQ = 0; bandQ < nbandsQ; bandQ++) {
pixelaverageQ = pixelQ[bandQ] + pixelaverageQ;
} if (pixelaverageQ / nbandsQ < 128) {
pixelValLQ++;
} countLQ++;
} countTotalQ = countTQ + (countMQ * 2) + (countBQ * 3) + (countLQ * 4);
float VlineValQ = (float) (pixelValLQ*4 + pixelValBQ*3 + pixelValMQ*2 + pixelValTQ*1) / countTotalQ;
VlinepixValQ.addElement(VlineValQ);
} for (int k = 0; k < VlinepixValQ.size() - 1; k++) {
pwwvQ.print(VlinepixValQ.elementAt(k) + ",");
} pwwvQ.flush();
pwwvQ.close();
} catch (Exception e) {
System.out.println(e.getMessage());
}
public void ColPartitioningQ(PlanarImage piQ, int wQ, int hQ, int hordataStart,
int hordataEnd, int vdata, int vdataend, SampleModel smQ,
int pixelaverageQ, PrintWriter pwwvQ, String ImagenameQ, PrintWriter pwwhQ) {

try {
  FileWriter fwwvQ = new FileWriter("wordvalueQv.txt");
  pwwvQ = new PrintWriter(fwwvQ);
  FileWriter fwwhQ= new FileWriter("wordvalueQh.txt");
  pwwhQ= new PrintWriter(fwwhQ);
  Vector [] VlinepixVa = new Vector[2];
  int boundgapQV = (hordataEnd - hordataStart) / 3;
  int boundgapQH=(vdataend-vdata)/3;
  int topboundQV = hordataStart + boundgapQV;
  int leftboundQH=vdata+boundgapQH;
  int midboundQV = topboundQV + boundgapQV;
  int midboundQH=leftboundQH+boundgapQH;
  int bottomboundQV = midboundQV + boundgapQV;
  int rightboundQH=midboundQH+boundgapQH;
  int countTotalQV = 0;
  int countTotalQH=0;
  int countTQV, countMQV, countBQV, countLQV = 0;
  int countLQH, countMLQH, countMRQH, countRQH = 0;
  int nbandsQ = smQ.getNumBands();
  int[] pixelQ = new int[nbandsQ];
  RandomIter iterator = RandomIterFactory.create(piQ, null);

  // For vertical vector
  for (wQ = vdata; wQ < vdataend; wQ++) {
    countTQV = 0;
    countMQV = 0;
    countBQV = 0;
    countLQV = 0;
    int pixelValTQV = 0;
    int wordposTQV = 0;
    int pixelValMQV = 0;
    int wordposMQV = 0;
    int pixelValBQV = 0;
    int wordposBQV = 0;
    int pixelValLQV = 0;
    int wordposLQV = 0;
    for (hQ = hordataStart; hQ < topboundQV; hQ++) {
      iterator.getPixel(wQ, hQ, pixelQ);
      pixelaverageQ = 0;
      for (int bandQ = 0; bandQ < nbandsQ; bandQ++) {
        pixelaverageQ = pixelQ[bandQ] + pixelaverageQ;
      }
      if (pixelaverageQ / nbandsQ < 128) {
        pixelValTQV++;
        countTQV++;
      }
    }
    for (hQ = topboundQV; hQ < midboundQV; hQ++) {
      iterator.getPixel(wQ, hQ, pixelQ);
      pixelaverageQ = 0;
      for (int bandQ = 0; bandQ < nbandsQ; bandQ++) {
        pixelaverageQ = pixelQ[bandQ] + pixelaverageQ;
      }
      if (pixelaverageQ / nbandsQ < 128) {
        pixelValMQV++;
      }
    }
  }
  // For horizontal vector
  for (hQ = hordataStart; hQ < hordataEnd; hQ++) {
    countTQV = 0;
    countMQV = 0;
    countBQV = 0;
    countLQV = 0;
    int pixelValTQV = 0;
    int wordposTQV = 0;
    int pixelValMQV = 0;
    int wordposMQV = 0;
    int pixelValBQV = 0;
    int wordposBQV = 0;
    int pixelValLQV = 0;
    int wordposLQV = 0;
    for (wQ = vdata; wQ < vdataend; wQ++) {
      iterator.getPixel(wQ, hQ, pixelQ);
      pixelaverageQ = 0;
      for (int bandQ = 0; bandQ < nbandsQ; bandQ++) {
        pixelaverageQ = pixelQ[bandQ] + pixelaverageQ;
      }
      if (pixelaverageQ / nbandsQ < 128) {
        pixelValTQV++;
        countTQV++;
      }
    }
    for (wQ = vdataend; wQ < vdataend; wQ++) {
      iterator.getPixel(wQ, hQ, pixelQ);
      pixelaverageQ = 0;
      for (int bandQ = 0; bandQ < nbandsQ; bandQ++) {
        pixelaverageQ = pixelQ[bandQ] + pixelaverageQ;
      }
      if (pixelaverageQ / nbandsQ < 128) {
        pixelValMQV++;
      }
    }
  }
}

// Additional code for pixel value calculation and file writing...
countMQV++;
}
for (hQ = midboundQV; hQ < bottomboundQV; hQ++) {
    iterator.getPixel(wQ, hQ, pixelQ);
    pixelaverageQ = 0;
    for (int bandQ = 0; bandQ < nbandsQ; bandQ++) {
        pixelaverageQ = pixelQ[bandQ] + pixelaverageQ;
    }
    if (pixelaverageQ / nbandsQ < 128) {
        pixelValBQV++;
    }
    countBQV++;
}
for (hQ = bottomboundQV; hQ < hordataEnd; hQ++) {
    iterator.getPixel(wQ, hQ, pixelQ);
    pixelaverageQ = 0;
    for (int bandQ = 0; bandQ < nbandsQ; bandQ++) {
        pixelaverageQ = pixelQ[bandQ] + pixelaverageQ;
    }
    if (pixelaverageQ / nbandsQ < 128) {
        pixelValLQV++;
    }
    countLQV++;
}
countTotalQV = countTQV + (countMQV * 2) + (countBQV * 3) + (countLQV * 4);
float VlineValQV = (float) (pixelValLQV*4 + pixelValBQV*3 + pixelValMQV*2 +
    pixelValTQV*1) / countTotalQV;
VlinepixValQ[1].addElement(VlineValQV);
}
// For Horizontal vector
for (hQ = hordataStart; hQ < hordataEnd; hQ++) {
    countLQH = 0;
    countMLQH = 0;
    countMRQH = 0;
    countRQH = 0;
    int pixelValLQH = 0;
    int wordposLQH = 0;
    int pixelValMLQH = 0;
    int wordposMLQH = 0;
    int pixelValRQH = 0;
    int wordposRQH = 0;
    int pixelValMRQH = 0;
    int wordposMRQH = 0;

    for (wQ = vdatas; wQ < leftboundQH; wQ++) {
        iterator.getPixel(wQ, hQ, pixelQ);
        pixelaverageQ = 0;
        for (int bandQ = 0; bandQ < nbandsQ; bandQ++) {
            pixelaverageQ = pixelQ[bandQ] + pixelaverageQ;
        }
        if (pixelaverageQ / nbandsQ < 128) {
            //wordposTQ = 1;
            pixelValLQH++; // = pixelValTQ + wordposTQ;
        }
        countLQH++;
    }

    for (wQ = leftboundQH; wQ < midboundQH; wQ++) {
        iterator.getPixel(wQ, hQ, pixelQ);
        pixelaverageQ = 0;
        for (int bandQ = 0; bandQ < nbandsQ; bandQ++) {
pixelaverageQ = pixelQ[bandQ] + pixelaverageQ;
}
if (pixelaverageQ / nbandsQ < 128) {
    //wordposMQ = 2;
    pixelValMLQH++;// = pixelValMQ + wordposMQ;
}
countMLQH++;
}
for (wQ = midboundQH; wQ < rightboundQH; wQ++)
{
    iterator.getPixel(wQ, hQ, pixelQ);
pixelaverageQ = 0;
for (int bandQ = 0; bandQ < nbandsQ; bandQ++) {
    pixelaverageQ = pixelQ[bandQ] + pixelaverageQ;
}
if (pixelaverageQ / nbandsQ < 128) {
    pixelValMRQH++;// = pixelValBQ + wordposBQ;
}
countMRQH++;
}
for (wQ = rightboundQH; wQ < vdataend; wQ++)
{
    iterator.getPixel(wQ, hQ, pixelQ);
pixelaverageQ = 0;
for (int bandQ = 0; bandQ < nbandsQ; bandQ++) {
    pixelaverageQ = pixelQ[bandQ] + pixelaverageQ;
}
if (pixelaverageQ / nbandsQ < 128) {
    pixelValRQH++;
}
countRQH++;
}
countTotalQH = countLQH + (countMLQH * 2) + (countMRQH * 3) + (countRQH * 4);
float VlineValQH = (float) (pixelValRQH*4 + pixelValMRQH*3 + pixelValMLQH*2 +
pixelValLQH*1) / countTotalQH;
VlinepixValQ[0].addElement(VlineValQH);
}
for (int k = 0; k < VlinepixValQ[1].size() - 1; k++) {
pwwvQ.print(VlinepixValQ[1].elementAt(k) + " ");
}
for (int k = 0; k < VlinepixValQ[0].size() - 1; k++) {
pwwhQ.print(VlinepixValQ[0].elementAt(k) + " ");
}
pwwvQ.flush();
pwwvQ.close();
} catch (Exception e) {
System.out.println(e.getMessage());
}
public void cosienSimilarityQ(int wdatastart1Q, int vdatastart1Q, int wdataend1Q,
int vdataend1Q, int wborderstart1Q, int vborderstart1Q, int wborderend1Q, int vborderend1Q,
PrintWriter pwwbQ) {
    try {
        ImageVector = new File("c:/ImageVector");

        if (ImageVector.isDirectory()) {
            String s[] = ImageVector.list();
            for (int z = 0; z < s.length; z++) {
                VectorValue = new File(ImageVector.getPath() + "/" + s[z]);
            }
        } else {
            System.out.println("Directory does not exist");
        }
    } catch (IOException e) {
        System.out.println(e.getMessage());
    }
}
BufferedReader inputvQ = new BufferedReader(new FileReader("wordvalueQ.txt"));
BufferedReader inputvI = new BufferedReader(new FileReader(VectorValue));
String linevQ = null;
String linevI = null;
double SIres=0;
double SQres=0;
double difres=0;
double dotproduct = 0;
double sqrData1 = 0;
double sqrData2 = 0;
double Ires = 0;
double Qres = 0;
int dispnum = 0;
int countrel=0;
String[] dataQ = null;
String[] dataI = null;
Vector<String> lineQ5 = new Vector<String>(2, 2);
Vector<String> line2 = new Vector<String>(2, 2);
while ((linevQ = inputvQ.readLine()) != null) {
    lineQ5.addElement(linevQ);
}
for (int k = 0; k < (lineQ5.size()); ++k) {
    dataQ = lineQ5.elementAt(k).split(", ");
}
while ((linevI = inputvI.readLine()) != null) {
    line2.addElement(linevI);
}
int numberf=0;
for (int i = 0; i < (line2.size()); i++) {
    dataI = line2.elementAt(i).split(", ");
    if (dataQ.length <= dataI.length) {
        for (int h = 0; h < dataQ.length; ++h) {
            Qres = Double.parseDouble(dataQ[h]);
            SQres=SQres+Qres;
            if (dataI[h].contains("[") { 
                dataI[h] = dataI[h].substring(1, dataI[h].length());
            } else if (dataI[h].contains("]") { 
                dataI[h] = dataI[h].substring(0, dataI[h].length()-1);
            }
            Ires = Double.parseDouble(dataI[h]);
            dotproduct = (Qres * Ires) + dotproduct;
            sqrData1 = (Qres * Qres) + sqrData1;
            sqrData2 = (Ires * Ires) + sqrData2;
            difres=(Math.pow((Qres-Ires),2))+difres;
            SIres=SIres+Ires;
        }
    } else if (dataQ.length > dataI.length) {
        for (int h = 0; h < dataI.length; ++h) {
            if (dataI[h].contains("[") { 
                dataI[h] = dataI[h].substring(1, dataI[h].length());
            } else if (dataI[h].contains("]") { 
                dataI[h] = dataI[h].substring(0, dataI[h].length()-1);
            }
            Ires = Double.parseDouble(dataI[h]);
            Qres = Double.parseDouble(dataQ[h]);
            SIres=SIres+Ires;
            SQres=SQres+Qres;
            dotproduct = (Qres * Ires) + dotproduct;
        }
    }
}
...
sqrData1 = (Qres * Qres) + sqrData1;
sqrData2 = (Ires * Ires) + sqrData2;
difre=(Math.pow((Qres-Ires),2))+difre;
}
}
double similarityC = 0;
double similarityE=0;
similarityE=(Math.sqrt(difre))/(SQres+SIres);
similarityC = dotproduct / Math.sqrt(sqrData1 * sqrData2);
dispnum++;
if (similarityE<0.030)
{
    numberf=1;
countrel++;
    System.out.println("SimilarityE "+similarityE+","+(dispnum)+" "+VectorValue);
}
dotproduct = 0;
sqrData1 = 0;
sqrData2 = 0;
SQres=0;
SIres=0;
difre=0;
}
if (numberf==1)
    System.out.println(countrel);
}
}
} catch (Exception e) {
    System.out.println(e.getMessage());
}
}

package imagedocument;

/*
 * @author Mesfin
 */
import java.io.BufferedWriter.*;
import javax.media.jai.*;
import java.awt.image.BufferedImage.*;
import javax.media.jai.PlanarImage;
import javax.swing.JOptionPane.*;
import javax.imageio.*;
import java.io.BufferedWriter.*;
import java.awt.image.BufferedImage.*;
import java.awt.image.*;
import java.io.*;
import javax.swing.JOptionPane.*;
import java.awt.*;
import java.io.*;
export javax.swing.JOptionPane.*;
import javax.swing.JOptionPane.*;
import java.awt.image.BufferedImage.*;
import java.awt.image.*;
import java.awt.*;
import java.io.*;
import java.awt.image.BufferedImage.*;
import java.awt.image.*;

public class TextRendering extends javax.swing.JFrame {

    int width;//= 0;
    int height;//= 0;
    int nbands = 0;
    int[] pixel = new int[nbands];
    int dataStart = 0;
int dataEnd = 0;
int border = 0;
int count = 0;
int count1 = 0;
int start = 0;
int end = 0;
PrintWriter pwvb;
PrintWriter pwwb;
PrintWriter pw;
FileWriter fw;
PrintWriter pwwbQ;
PrintWriter pwvbQ;
PrintWriter pwQ;
PrintWriter pwwvQ;
int wdatastart1 = 0;
int vdatastart1 = 0;
int wdataend1 = 0;
int vdataend1 = 0;
int wborderstart1 = 0;
int vborderstart1 = 0;
int wborderend1 = 0;
int vborderend1 = 0;
String line = "";
int pixelValT = 0;
int wordposT = 0;
int pixelValM = 0;
int wordposM = 0;
int pixelValB = 0;
int wordposB = 0;
int pixelValL = 0;
int wordposL = 0;
int nbandsQ = 0;
int w = 0;
int h = 0;
int hQ = 0;
int hordataEnd = 0;
int hordataStart = 0;
int pixelaverage = 0;
int pixelaverageQ = 0;
int[] pixelQ = new int[nbandsQ];
File fileRend = new File("newimage3.jpg");
File("C:/Users/Mesfin/Desktop/NetBe/ImageAccess/dist/Parallel/Scanned/Amh001/2009-04-08 Doc4");
String TextRend = "";
QueryAccessMethod AllQueryMethods = new QueryAccessMethod();

/*** Creates new form TextRendering */
public TextRendering() {
    initComponents();
}

private void initComponents() {

    jTextFieldWord = new javax.swing.JTextField();
    jLabelWord = new javax.swing.JLabel();
    jButtonWord = new javax.swing.JButton();
    setDefaultCloseOperation(javax.swing.WindowConstants.EXIT_ON_CLOSE);
}

setDefaultCloseOperation(javax.swing.WindowConstants.EXIT_ON_CLOSE);
jTextFieldWord.setBackground(new java.awt.Color(204, 255, 204));
jTextFieldWord.setFont(new java.awt.Font("Power Geez Unicode1", 0, 12)); // NOI18N
jTextFieldWord.addActionListener(new java.awt.event.ActionListener() {
    public void actionPerformed(java.awt.event.ActionEvent evt) {
        jTextFieldWordActionPerformed(evt);
    }
});

jLabelWord.setBackground(new java.awt.Color(255, 255, 0));
jLabelWord.setFont(new java.awt.Font("Times New Roman", 1, 14));
jLabelWord.setText("Insert word To search ");

jButtonWord.setText("Search");
jButtonWord.addActionListener(new java.awt.event.ActionListener() {
    public void actionPerformed(java.awt.event.ActionEvent evt) {
        jButtonWordActionPerformed(evt);
    }
});

javax.swing.GroupLayout layout = new javax.swing.GroupLayout(getContentPane());
getContentPane().setLayout(layout);
layout.setHorizontalGroup(
    layout.createParallelGroup(javax.swing.GroupLayout.Alignment.LEADING)
    .addGroup(layout.createSequentialGroup()
        .addContainerGap()
        .addComponent(jLabelWord, javax.swing.GroupLayout.PREFERRED_SIZE, 172,
            javax.swing.GroupLayout.PREFERRED_SIZE)
        .addPreferredGap(javax.swing.LayoutStyle.ComponentPlacement.RELATED)
        .addComponent(jTextFieldWord, javax.swing.GroupLayout.PREFERRED_SIZE, 182,
            javax.swing.GroupLayout.PREFERRED_SIZE)
        .addContainerGap(javax.swing.GroupLayout.DEFAULT_SIZE, Short.MAX_VALUE))
    .addGroup(java.awt.GroupLayout.Alignment.TRAILING, layout.createSequentialGroup()
        .addContainerGap(212, Short.MAX_VALUE)
        .addComponent(jButtonWord)
        .addGap(101, 101, 101))
);
layout.setVerticalGroup(
    layout.createParallelGroup(javax.swing.GroupLayout.Alignment.LEADING)
    .addGroup(layout.createSequentialGroup()
        .addGap(21, 21, 21)
        .addGroup(layout.createParallelGroup(javax.swing.GroupLayout.Alignment.LEADING)
            .addComponent(jLabelWord, javax.swing.GroupLayout.DEFAULT_SIZE, 34,
                Short.MAX_VALUE)
            .addComponent(jTextFieldWord, javax.swing.GroupLayout.DEFAULT_SIZE, 34,
                Short.MAX_VALUE))
        .addPreferredGap(javax.swing.LayoutStyle.ComponentPlacement.UNRELATED)
        .addComponent(jButtonWord)
        .addGap(11, 11, 11))
    .// <editor-fold>
private void jTextFieldWordActionPerformed(java.awt.event.ActionEvent evt) {
    // TODO add your handling code here:
}

private void jButtonWordActionPerformed(java.awt.event.ActionEvent evt) {
    TextRend = jTextFieldWord.getText().trim();
    TextToimage TextConvert = new TextToimage();
TextConvert.textRend(TextRend, fileRend);
File imageQuery = fileRend;
String ImagenameQ = imageQuery.getPath();
PlanarImage piQ = JAI.create("fileload", ImagenameQ);
SampleModel smQ = piQ.getSampleModel();
int widthQ = piQ.getWidth();
int heightQ = piQ.getHeight();
AllQueryMethods.HorbordQ(piQ, hQ, heightQ, hQ, widthQ, pixelaverageQ,
  smQ, pwwbQ, hordataStart, hordataEnd, nbands, nbandsQ,
  pwwvQ, ImagenameQ);
pixelaverageQ, pwwvQ, ImagenameQ);
AllQueryMethods.cosienSimilarityQ(widthQ, heightQ, nbands, nbands, widthQ, heightQ, nbands, nbands,
pwwbQ);
}
// Variables declaration - do not modify
javax.swing.JButton jButtonWord;
javax.swing.JLabel jLabelWord;
javax.swing.JTextField jTextFieldWord;
// End of variables declaration

class TextToimage {

    public void textRend(String TextRend, File fileRend) {
        Font x = new Font("Power Geez Unicode1", Font.PLAIN, 12);
        int width = 400;
        int height = 100;
        // Create a buffered image in which to draw
        BufferedImage rendImage = new BufferedImage(width, height, BufferedImage.TYPE_BYTE_GRAY);
        // Create a graphics contents on the buffered image
        Graphics2D g2d = rendImage.createGraphics();
        g2d.scale(4.22, 4.22);
        g2d.setBackground(Color.WHITE);
        g2d.clearRect(0, 0, width, height);
        g2d.setFont(x);
        g2d.setColor(Color.black);
        g2d.drawString(TextRend, 4, 16);
        g2d.dispose();
        try {
            // Save as PNG
            fileRend = new File("newimage3.png");
            ImageIO.write(rendImage, "png", fileRend);

            // Save as JPEG
            fileRend = new File("newimage3.jpg");
            ImageIO.write(rendImage, "jpg", fileRend);
        } catch (IOException e) {
            System.out.println(e.getMessage());
        }
    }
}
Appendices 2  **Amharic Alphabets (አማርኛ)** (Writing System and language of the system)

Basic Alphabets

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Punctuation

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>comma</td>
<td>full stop</td>
<td>period</td>
<td>colon</td>
<td>semi-colon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>preface colon</td>
<td>question mark</td>
<td>(no longer used)</td>
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Exclamation mark | Quotations | Word separator

Numerals

These numerals developed from the Greek alphabet, possibly via Coptic.

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</table>
DECLARATION

This thesis is my original, has not been presented for a degree in any other university and that all sources of material used for the thesis have been duly acknowledged

_______________________________________

Mesfin Worku
June 2009

The thesis has been submitted for examination with my approval as a university advisor

_______________________________________

Million Meshesha