



Scanning Severe Motion Blur Level in Barcode Images Using Image Blur Estimation Scheme

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ABSTRACT: The paper presents a fresh linear barcode scanning system based on hybrid template matching scheme. In current area, charge coupled device based scanning skills are not talented of handling motion blur image and trust severely on camera systems for capturing good quality, well focused barcode images which are due to the lack of self-controlled and proficient mechanisms. The proposed system is capable of understanding barcodes from low- resolution images containing severe motion blur and works totally in the dimensional domain. The proposed system also uses image blur estimation scheme for retrieving the severe motion blur in barcode images. We first estimate a low-dimensional approximation to the PSF by using some parts of clean barcode that are known by construction. This low-dim representation only involves a few parameters, which can be iteratively computed via the Levenberg-Marquardt (LM) algorithm. Polynomial interpolations are obtained in the rest of the PSF. A focused graphical model is designed to characterize the relationship between the blurred barcode waveform and its corresponding symbol value at any specific blur level. A hybrid programming-based inference algorithm is designed to regain the optimal state series, enabling synchronized decoding on mobile devices of limited processing power.

KEYWORDS: Hybrid template matching scheme, Levenberg-Marquardt (LM) algorithm, A focused graphical model, Hybrid programming-based inference algorithm.

I. INTRODUCTION

A barcode is an optical machine-readable representation of data which is labeled on products. It is confidential as 1D or linear barcode and 2D barcode. Barcodes represent data by unstable the widths and spacing of parallel lines, and may be stated as linear or one-dimensional (1D). Afterward they evolved into rectangles, hexagons, square, dots, and other geometric patterns in two dimensions (2D) barcode.

Since its invention in the 1940s and early commercial implementation in retail industry in the 1970s, barcode technology has established its applications in many industries and has been playing an important role in people's daily life. Multiple generations of barcode scanning systems ranging from earlier laser scanners to more modern area Charge-Coupled Device (CCD) scanners have been invented and developed. As the location/size data of bars and spaces is of principal importance for deciphering information implanted in barcodes, current barcode scanning systems normally request well-focused barcode signals, which contribution in the recovery of location/size-related features by confining the edge interaction between the code patterns.

Depth-of-field (DOF), the range of distance at which the scanned symbol is sufficiently in focus to be read without error which is an important feature of any detailed barcode scanning system. Area CCD scanners have the benefit of reading both linear and 2D barcodes, but they have less DOF than that of laser scanners, because the directional and clear nature of laser light permits protracted DOF. This DOF constriction has broken the availability of area CCD scanners on various occasions.



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For example, linear barcode scanning based services are largely not available on mobile devices with fixed-focus lenses because the barcode images captured by these devices contain excess edge interaction triggered by out-of-focus (OOF) blur, which cannot be handled by current techniques. Fig. 1 shows an example of linear barcode and the comparison between the ideal waveform segment and the OOF blur deformed waveform segment.

To provide better DOF, dedicated area CCD scanners usually employ special hardware configurations such as a combination of large f-number (focal length divided by aperture diameter) and high-density light sources [1], auto-focus device [1], a lens assemblage with lenses of different focus ranges [2], and a multi-focal lens or lenses [3], adding to the complexity and cost of the system. Nevertheless, image blur is essentially inevitable in practical situations. Therefore, apart from implementing special hardware to improve barcode signals, signal processing and analysis approaches should also be resorted to increase the robustness of barcode scanning systems towards image blur.

II. RELATED WORK

In this paper [4], the author present a novel approach to detection of one dimensional bar code images. The algorithm is mainly designed to categorize barcodes, where the image may be of low perseverance, low value or undergo from considerable blurring, de-focusing, non-uniform clarification, noise and color dispersion. The algorithm is accurate, fast, and scalable and can be easily adjusted to search for a valid result within a specified time constraint. The algorithm is particularly useful for real-time recognition of barcodes in portable hand-held devices with limited handling ability, such as mobile phones. In the paper [5], barcode rebuilding contains recovering a clean signal from an observed one that is corrupted by convolution with a kernel and additive noise. The precise form of the convolution kernel is also unknown, making reconstruction tougher than in the case of standard deblurring. On the other hand, bar codes are functions that have a very special form—this makes reconstruction feasible. The author [5] develops and analyzes a total variation based variational model for the solution of this problem. This new system models analytically the interaction of neighboring bars in the bar code under convolution with a kernel, as well as the estimation of the unknown parameters of the kernel from global information contained in the observed signal.

In the paper [6], the existing open-source libraries for 1-D barcodes recognition are not able to recognize the codes from images acquired using simple devices without autofocus or macro function. The author present an advance of an existing algorithm for recognizing 1-D barcodes using camera phones with and without autofocus in this justification. The multilayer feed advancing neural network based on back propagation algorithm is used for image re-establishment in order to improve the desired algorithm. Presentations of the proposed algorithm were compared with those obtained from available open-source libraries. The results show that our method makes probable the decoding of barcodes from images captured by mobile phones without autofocus.

In this paper [7], Camera cell phones have become everywhere in the world, thus opening an overload of opportunities for mobile vision applications. For example, they can allow users to admittance reviews or price comparisons for a product from an image of its barcode while motionless in the store. Barcode reading needs to be strong to testing setting such as blur, clamor, low resolution, or low value camera lenses, all of which are exceedingly common. Surprisingly, even state-of-the-art barcode reading algorithms not succeed when some of these factors come into play. One cause resides in the early pledge strategy that nearly all existing algorithms adopt: the image is first binarized and then only the double data is processed.

This project proposes a new approach to barcode decoding that bypasses Binarization. This technique relies on deformable templates and exploits all the gray level information of each pixel. Due to the parameterization of these templates, this project can proficiently perform maximum possibility estimation separately on each digit and enforce spatial coherence in a subsequent step.

This technique shows by way of experiments on challenging UPC-A barcode images from five different databases that our approach outperforms challenging algorithms. Implemented on a Nokia N95 phone, an algorithm can restrict and make out a barcode on a VGA image (640_480, JPEG compressed) in an average time of 400-500ms.

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III. THE PROPOSED SYSTEM

Image restoration from out-of-focus (OOF) blur is a very hard problem, as one has to gather both the original image and the point-spread function (PSF) from the data. We struggle to solve this OOF declaring problem in the application of barcode reconstruction. We propose a partially blind method to improve binary barcode. It is based on an image formation model for out-of-focus blur. We first estimate a low-dimensional approximation to the PSF by using some parts of clean barcode that are known by construction. This low-dim illustration only includes a few parameters, which can be iteratively computed via the Levenberg-Marquardt (LM) algorithm. The rest of the PSF is obtained by polynomial interruptions. Next, image deblurring is achieved by explaining the least-square (LS) solution with box restriction. We additional take the least bar width into account, which matches to a extending matrix or an up-sampling operator. Having this conditions in the LS term basically enhances the efficiency of image declaring which is shown in Fig.1.

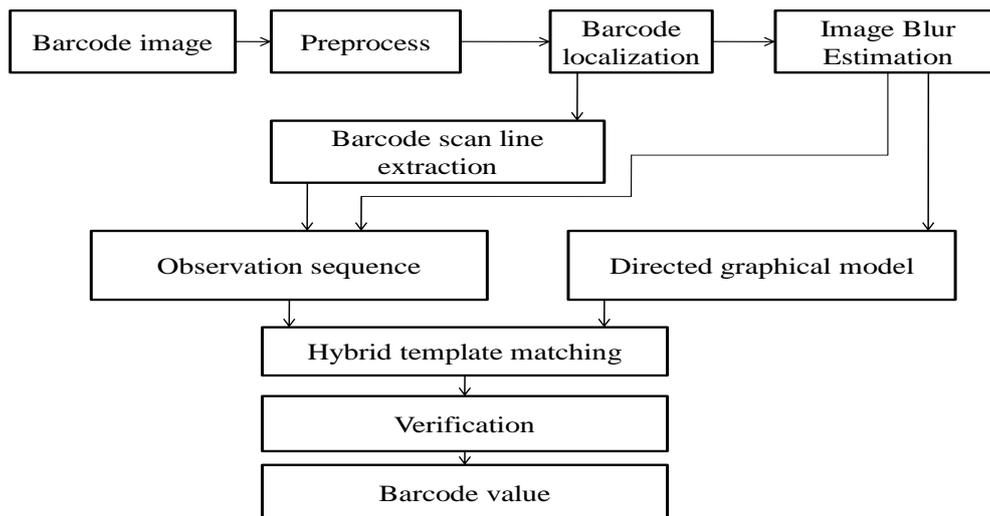


Fig.1.,HTM based barcode scanning system

The aim of any image restoration techniques is to recover the original image from the corrupted observation. One of the most general degradation phenomena in images is motion blur. In case of blind image restitution, exact judgment of motion blur parameters is required for deblurring of such images. This paper estimated an original technique for estimating the parameters of uniform motion blur using ridgelet transform. Originally, the power of ridgelet coefficients is used to estimate the blur angle and then blur length is estimated using a radial basis function neural network. This work is experienced on special barcode images with varying parameters of blur. The simulation result demonstrates that the proposed method improves the restoration performance.

In the Image deblurring algorithm, the approach offered in this paper, a given blurred barcode image is analyzed to find out the angle and length of the motion blur. The blur is modeled with the assist of these two motion blur parameters. The blurring process can be viewed as a linear complication of the original image with that blur kernel; and it can be removed by reversing this operation.

First of all in a preprocessing step, a blurred image is resized to 256 x 256 to reduce the computation cost, and then a RGB image to the grayscale conversion is performed. the blur direction is determined by performing a Ridgelet transform on the logarithmic power spectrum of the Hann windowed barcode image. The blur length is estimated using RBFNN as features and as regression tool with energy of ridgelet coefficients. In the last step as explained in detail that the PSF is calculated and Lucy-Richardson algorithm is applied to an overview of the motion de-blurring algorithm.

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IV. ALGORITHM

The motion blur angle detection algorithm can be summarized as follows,

- i. Preprocess the input blurred barcode image.
- ii. Perform Hann Windowing over $f(x,y)$ to remove boundary artifacts.
- iii. Compute the Fourier transform which is $F(U,V)$ of step2 image.
- iv. Compute the log power spectrum of $F(U,V)$
- v. For a set of angles $\theta = \{\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \dots, \theta_n\}$, where $\theta_i \in [0, \pi]$, with 1 degree spaced intervals, compute the normalized Radon vectors at these angles.
- vi. Apply a 4-level 1-D DWT on the Radon vectors to obtain the ridgelet coefficients.
- vii. Find the sum of energies of ridgelet coefficient for vectors of each orientation.
- viii. Find the maximum energy which is corresponding to motion blur angle.

V. EXPERIMENTAL RESULT

The input blur image is shown in Fig.2. The input image is a barcode image which has severe motion blur which is treated by using image blur estimation scheme.

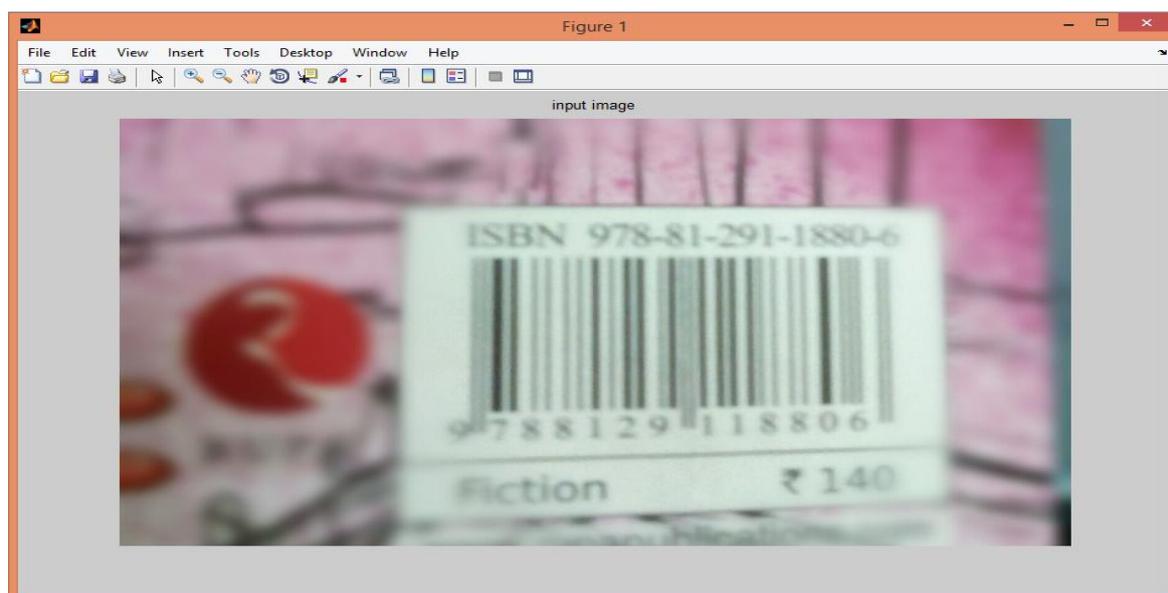


Fig.2.,Input blur image

The input blur image is converted in gray scale image and the gray scale image consists of black and white sections that is shown in Fig.3

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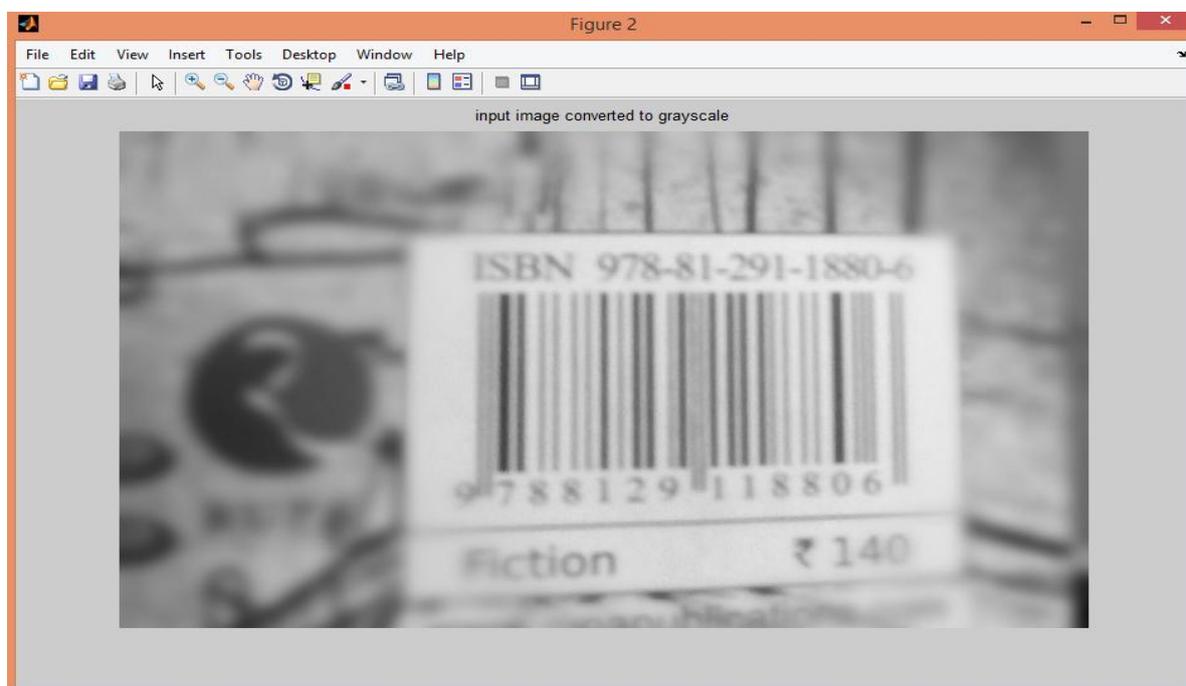


Fig.3.,Grayscale image

After the conversion of input blur barcode image into grayscale image, then the grayscale image is converted into gradient image to obtain the perfect segmented image which is shown in Fig.4.

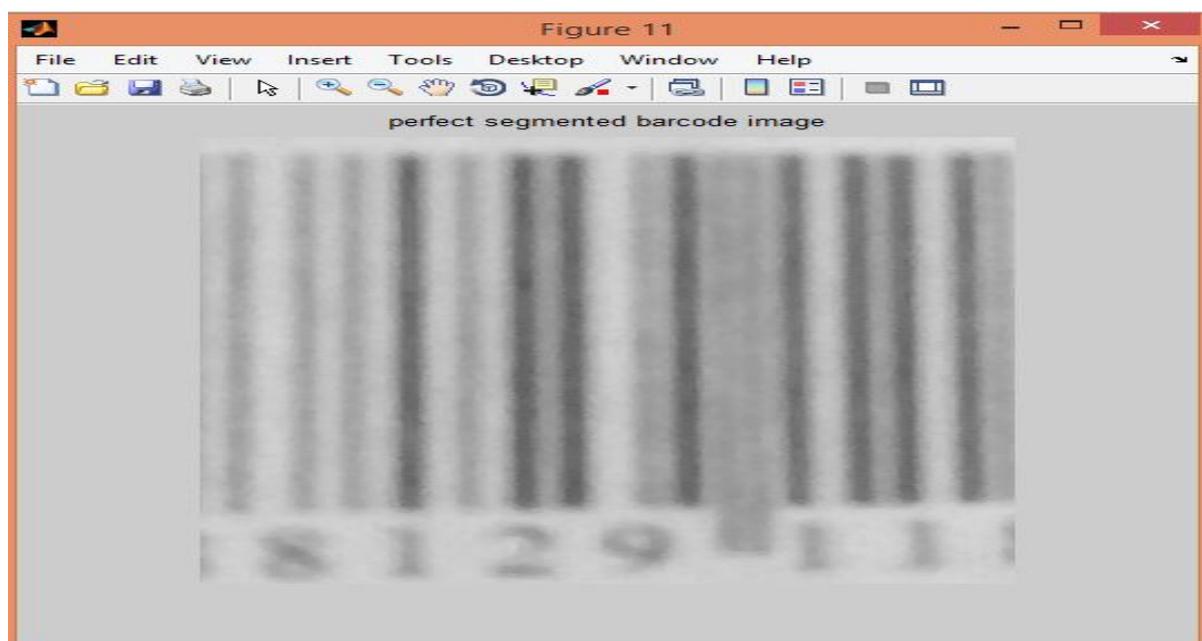


Fig.4.,Perfect segmented barcode image

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When the blur level is less than or equal to one half of the total value then the scan line segmentation is done. The deformed scanline is shown in Fig.5.

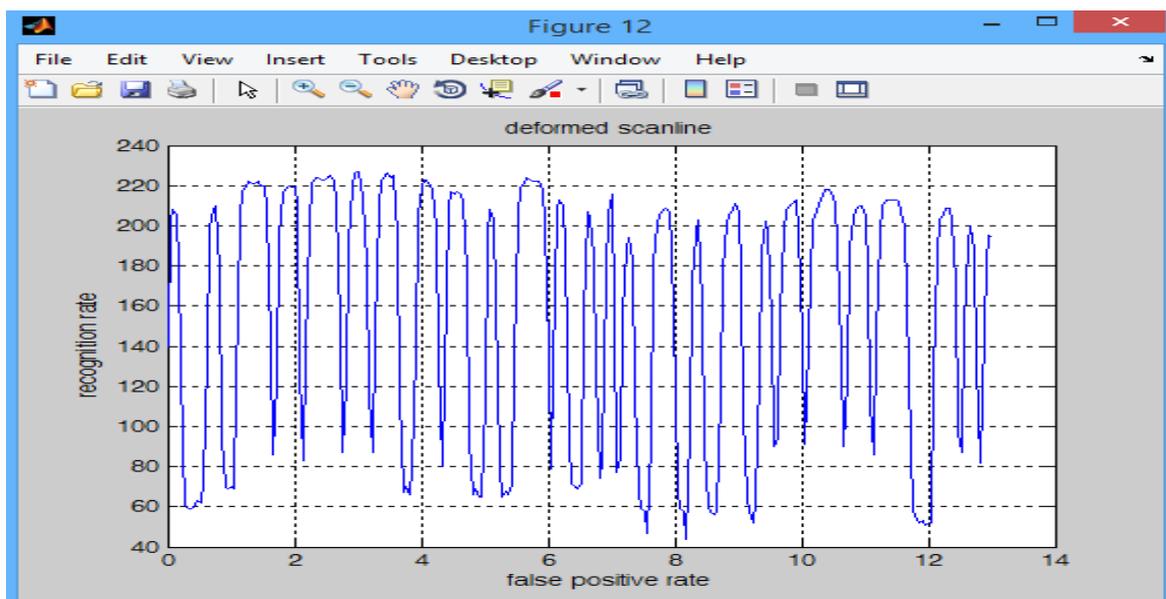


Fig.5.,Deformed scanline image

The deformed scanline waveform image is elaborated into deformed variable sequence, The deformed variable sequence is shown in Fig.6.

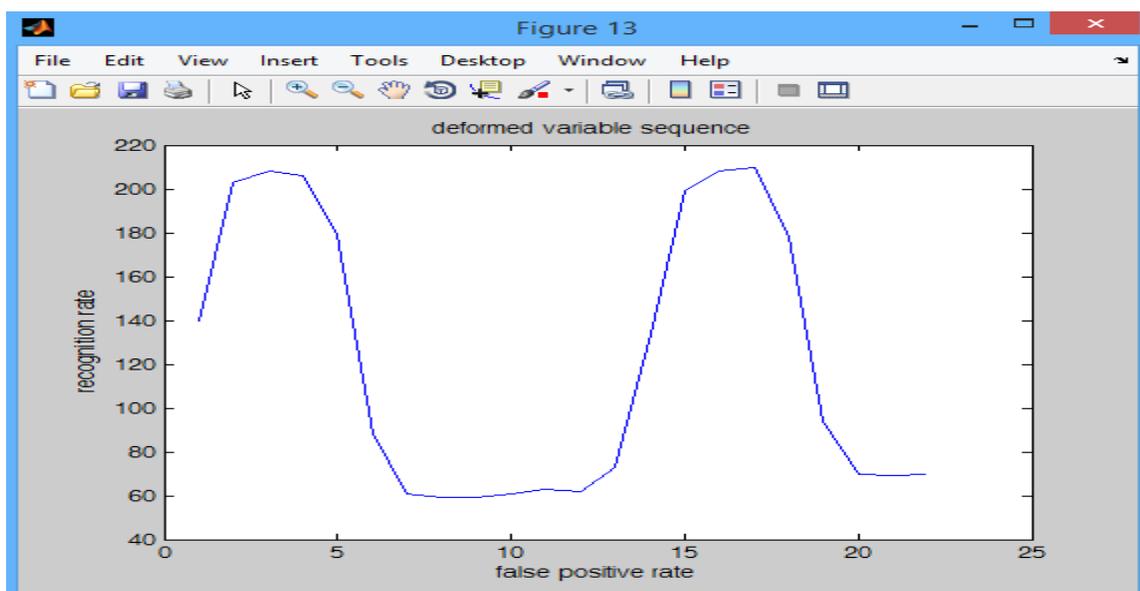


Fig.6.,Deformed variable sequence

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The standard barcode waveform is generated by finding observation sequence from deformed scan line of original image which is shown in fig.7.

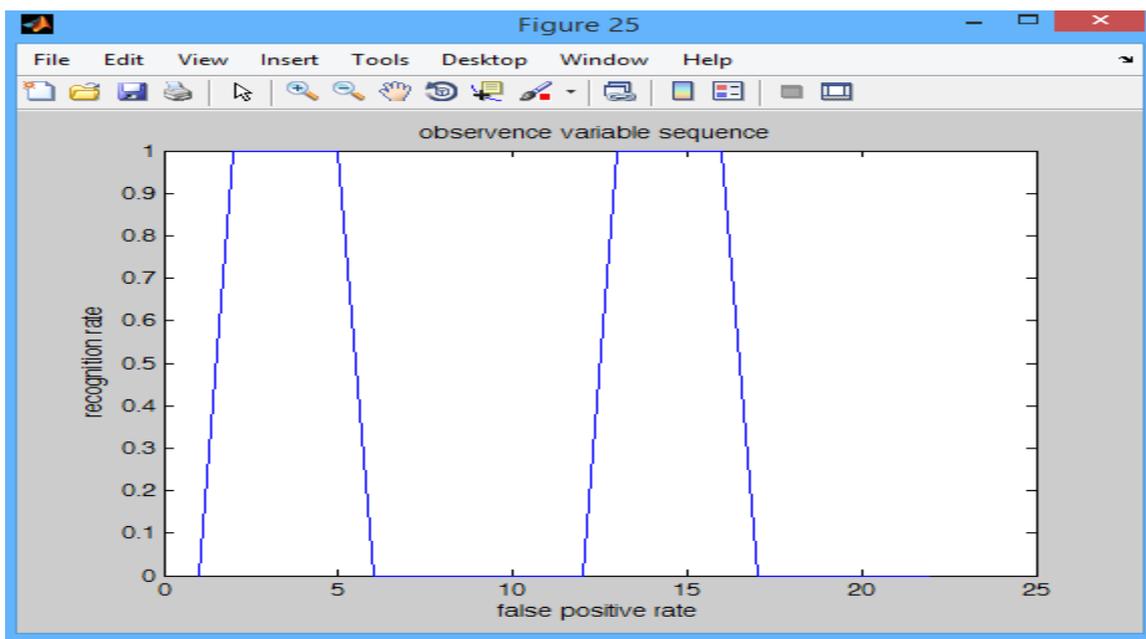


Fig.7.,Observance variable sequence

The observation sequence obtained using specific the blur level is compared with the standard waveform which is obtained from focussed or directed graphical model till the observation sequence most similar to standard waveform is found which is shown in Fig.8.

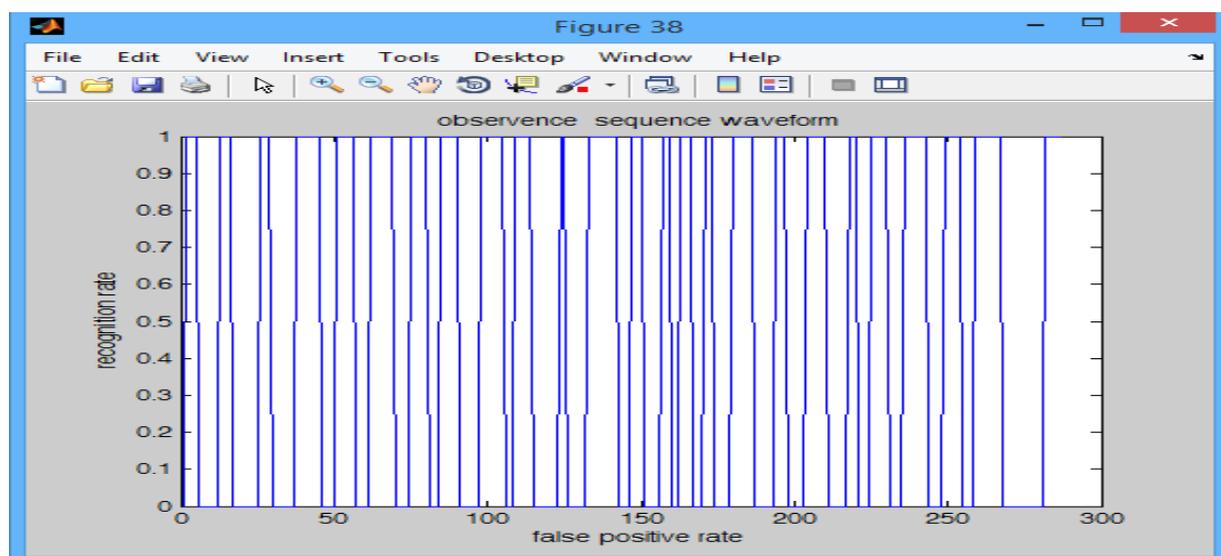


Fig.8.,Observance sequence waveform



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VI.CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

To conclude, the most notable contribution of this study is that it considered linear barcode scanning under the perspective of deformed binary waveform analysis and classification and it proposed a disciplined and efficient approach on classifying severely blurred binary waveforms. The performance of the proposed system can be further improved by working on a few directions: find better barcode detection/localization schemes and image blur level estimation schemes; design procedures on handling nonlinear distortions; investigate adaptive verification procedure according to specific blur and noise; and generalize the line spread function model by considering issues such as lens aberration, motion blur, etc. It should be noted that although the system proposed in this study. A barcode scanning, it is equally applicable to other linear barcode symbologies given that the number of characters is fixed or can be estimated. The whole system is currently implemented on camera phones, and similar methodology can be taken by professional CCD imager or laser scanner to increase their operating range and reduce the cost of hardware by removing the components specifically designed to extend the DOF. More commonly, under the outlook of deformed binary waveform analysis, the methodology presented in this study has the potential to be adapted and applied to camera-based text image analysis because image blur (especially OOF blur and moving blur) are very common in document images captured by portable digital imaging devices.

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