Cognitive Vision Inspired Object Segmentation Metric and Loss Function

Deng-Ping FAN¹, Ge-Peng JI², Xuebin QIN³ & Ming-Ming CHENG^{1*}

1. Nankai University, Tianjin 300350, China;

2. Wuhan University, Hubei 430070, China;

3. University of Alberta, Alberta 000000, Canada

* Corresponding author. E-mail: cmm@nankai.edu.cn

Abstract Object segmentation (OS) technology is a research hotspot in computer vision, and it has a wide range of applications in many fields. Cognitive vision studies have shown that human vision is highly sensitive to both global information and local details in scenes. To this end, we design a novel, efficient, and easy-to-use Enhanced-alignment measure (E_{ξ}) for evaluating the performance of the OS model. E_{ξ} combines local pixel values with the image-level mean value, jointly evaluate the image-/pixel-level similarity between a segmentation result and a ground-truth (GT) results. Extensive experiments on the four popular benchmarks via five metameasures, i.e., application ranking, demoting generic, denying noise, human ranking, and recognizing GT, we observe significant relative improvement compared with existing widely-adopted evaluation metrics such as IoU and F_{β} . By using the weighted binary cross-entropy loss, the Enhanced-alignment loss, and the weighted IoU loss, we further design a hybrid loss function (Hybrid- E_{loss}) to guide the network to learn pixel-, object- and imagelevel features. Qualitative and quantitative results show further improvement in terms of accuracy when using our hybrid loss function in three different OS tasks. Source code: https://github.com/GewelsJI/Hybrid-Eloss/.

Keywords Object Segmentation, Metric, Cognitive Vision, Enhanced-alignment Measure, Loss Function



Deng-Ping FAN was born in 1988. received his PhD degree from the Nankai University in 2019. He joined Inception Institute of Artificial Intelligence (IIAI) in 2019. He has published about 25 top journal and conference papers such as TPAMI, TIP, CVPR, ICCV, ECCV, etc. His research interests include computer vision and visual attention, especially on RGB salient object detection (SOD), RGB-D SOD, Video SOD, Co-

SOD. He won the Best Paper Finalist Award at IEEE CVPR 2019, the Best Paper Award Nominee at IEEE CVPR 2020.



Xuebin QIN was born in 1990. obtained his PhD degree from the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada, in 2020. Since March, 2020, He is a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Computing Science and the Department of Radiology and Diagnostic Imaging, University of Alberta, Canada. His research interests include highly accurate image labeling, salient object detection, image segmentation

and detection. He has published about 10 papers in vision and robotics conferences such as CVPR, BMVC, ICPR, WACV, IROS, etc.



Ge-Peng JI was born in 1996. He is currently a MS of Communication and Information System at School of Computer Science, Wuhan University. His research interests lie in designing deep neural networks and applying deep learning in various fields of low-level vision, such as RGB salient object detection, RGB-D salient object detection, video salient object detection (VSOD), camouflaged object detection (COD),

and medical image segmentation.



Ming-Ming CHENG was born in 1985. He received his PhD degree from Tsinghua University, Beijing, in 2012, and then worked with Prof. Philip Torr in University of Oxford for 2 years. He is now a professor at Nankai University, Tianjin, leading the Media Computing Lab. His research interests includes computer vision and computer graphics. He received awards including ACM China Rising Star Award, IBM

Global SUR Award, etc. He is a senior member of the IEEE and on the editorial board of the IEEE TIP.