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A Study on Off-line Handwritten Digit Recognition Using Combination of Stroke Direction Codes

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Abstract

Off-line recognition of handwritten digit recognition consists of two steps; the feature extraction step and the recognition step.

We propose the improved methods for both steps. In the former step, the improved Self-Organizing Graph(SOG*) is applied for extracting key features of digits. The SOG* thinning method is a variant of Self Organizing Graph(SOG) with incremental learning algorithm.

In the latter step, the feature points and several feature stroke information of digits are suggested to apply to the resultant pixels(neurons) of SOG*, a multi-layer neural networks learn the knowledge of their combination for each digit, and the final learned neural network system correctly classifies an off-line handwritten

digit into the corresponding one.

We experiment these recognition system by using the digit database of KAIST, YONSEI university, and Canada Concordia university as the training handwritten digits. From these experiments, we confirm that these proposed system is at correct recognition rate 98.85% to 99.25% but at error rate 0.55% to 0.71% and at rejection rate 0.2% to 0.45%. These results are equal or superior to the existing ones in terms of correct recognition. Therefore the proposed methods enhance the correctness and the speed of recognition of off-line handwritten digits.

1.

가 ,
가 .
가 .
가 .
가

[1-7].

가

(Linear Shape Variation)

(Non-linear Shape Variation) .

, , , ,
가

[5-7].

가

. 가

[8].

.

，
[8,9]. 가

[10].

가 .

，
·
， 가

8

·
SOG* (Improved
SOG(Self-Organizing Graph))

8

- 3 -

2.

·
SOG*
·
가
Kohonen
(Self-Organizing feature Map : SOM) 가
, (Self-Organizing
feature Graph : SOG)가 [10,11]. SOG
[12] ART 2
[13] 가 .
[14].

2.1

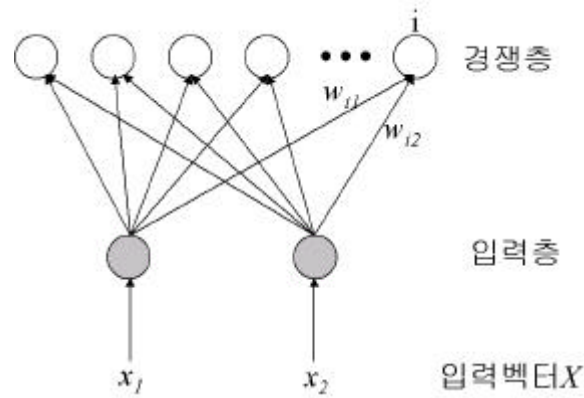
2.1.1 (Self-Organizing feature Map : SOM)

SOM
가 . SOM

< 1>

Kohonen

Network



< 1>

Kohonen Network

<Figure 1> Kohonen Network in two-dimensional input layer and one-dimensional competitive layer

SOM

(1)

[15,16].

$$\text{winning unit } c = \min_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|X - W_i\| \quad (1)$$

X W_i i 가
 . < 1> $X = (x_1, x_2)$, $W_i = (w_{i1}, w_{i2})$

가 (2) .

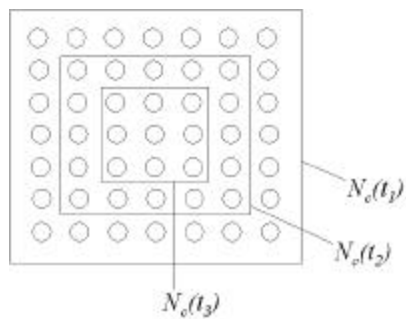
$$W_i(t+1) = \begin{cases} W_i + \alpha(t)(X - W_i(t)) & , \quad i \in N_c(t) \\ W_i(t) & , \quad otherwise \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

(2) $N_c(t)$ t c $\alpha(t)$
[15,16].

(3) .

$$\alpha(t) = \alpha(0)(1 - \frac{t}{T}) \quad (3)$$

(3) t iteration T
iteration . $< 2 >$
(4) .



$< 2 >$ ()

<Figure 2> Change of number(radius) size of neighborhood neuron

$$\begin{aligned} c - d < x < c + d \\ c - d < y < c + d \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

(4) c d , c
 (4) (x, y) 가 . (4) d
 (5) [15].

$$d(t) = \lceil 1 - \frac{t}{T} \rceil \quad (5)$$

2.1.2 (Self-Organizing feature Graph : SOG)

SOG SOM

가
 SOM 가 (2)
 (6) [10].

$$w_i(t+1) = w_i(t) + \zeta(t, K_i) \times (X - w_i(t))$$

$$\zeta(t, K_i) = \exp - \left[\frac{\ln(K_i)}{\alpha(t)} \right]^2 \quad (6)$$

(6) X , K_i

$\alpha(t)$.
 SOG SOM , 가
 (6) 가

2.1.3 L*

L* SOM [17].
 SOM , L*

가
 SOM .
 L* 1 $\log_2(M-1)$ M
 .
 1 $2^{\text{level}+1}$, 2 $(2^{\text{level}+1})^2$.
 level . ,

.
 가 20 [17].
 가 ,
 가 .
 < 3> 9×9 , 81 가
 . 1

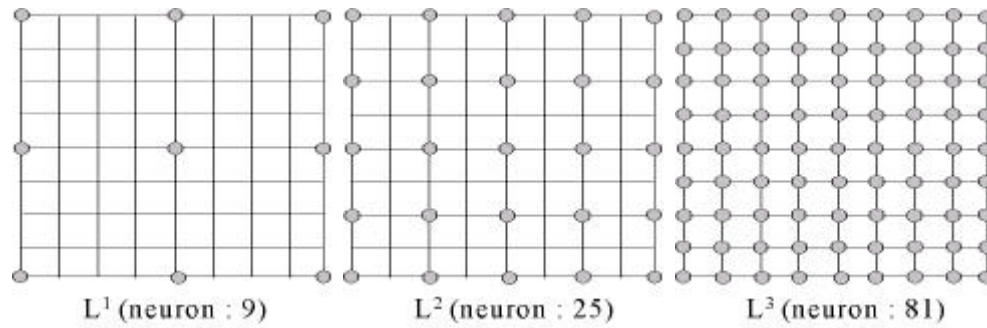
$$(2^1+1)^2=9$$

,

. 2

,

.



< 3> 9×9

<Figure 3> Neuron to learn by levels in the 9×9 map

< 4>

SOM

L^*

9×9 , 17×17

. SOM

가 20,000

, L^*

($\wedge$)가 20

,

$$\text{가 } \sum_{level=0}^{\log_2(M-1)} 1 \times (2^{level} + 1)^2$$

. , 9×9

SOM 20,000

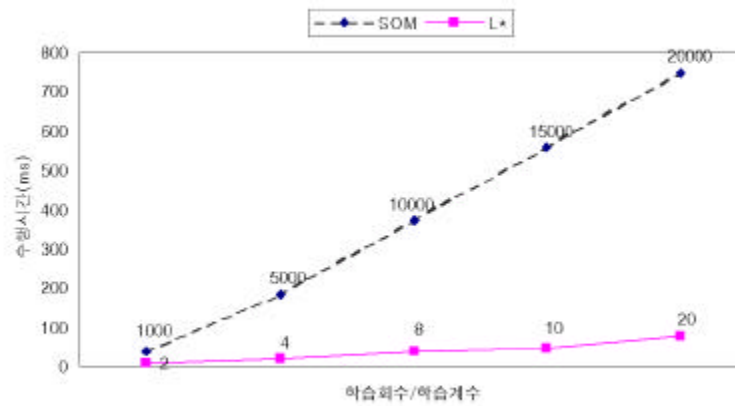
, L^*

2,300

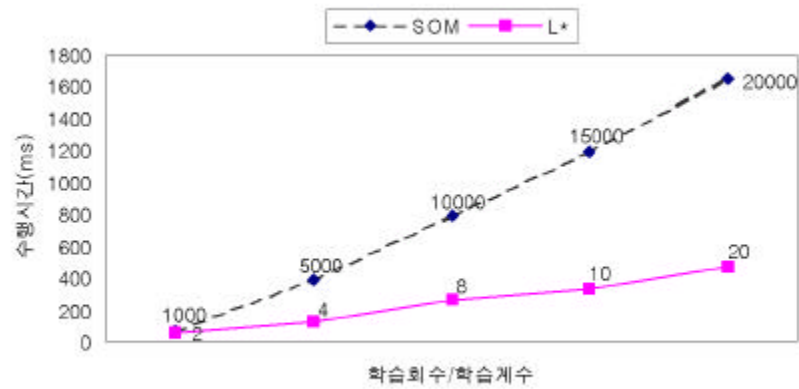
.

P- 1GHz

.



(a) 9×9



(b) 17×17

< 4 > SOM L*

<Figure 4> Comparison of execution time of SOM and L*

2.2 (Improved SOG : SOG^{*})

2.2.1. SOG^{*}

SOG

[10].

,

가

SOG

가 .

SOG

, SOG

. ,

가 가

L^{*}

[14].

< 5>

.

SOG¹

< 5> (a)

가

,

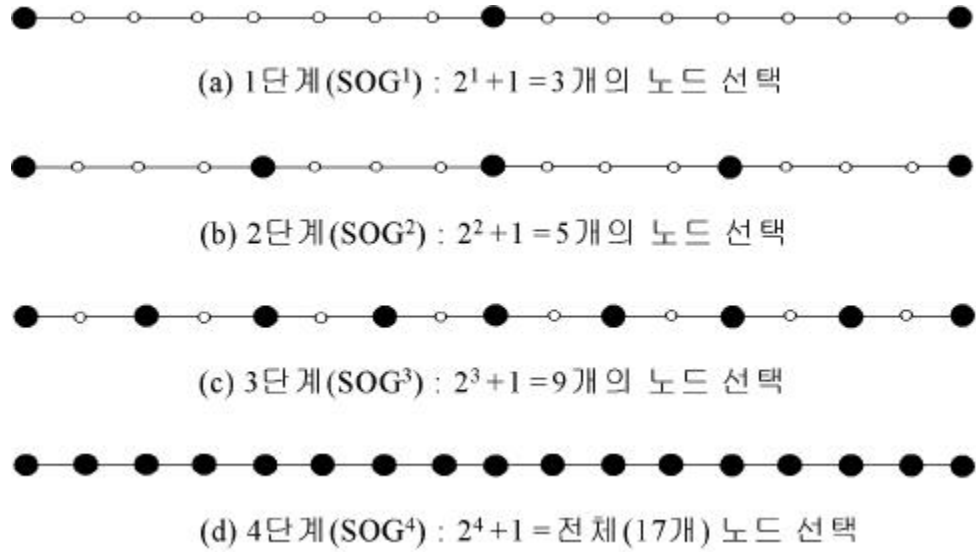
n

[22]

n - 1

. < 5>

.



< 5> SOG*

<Figure 5> Learning process of SOG*

SOG SOG* , L*

SOG*_____

for level := 1 to $\log_2(M-1)$ do

begin

/* */

node := $2^{\text{level}} + 1$;

/* 가 */

give the weight of step;

for repeat := 1 to delta*level do // delta : ($\wedge$)

begin

for input := 1 to level do

begin

/* */

if sorted orders = previous orders

then K_i := previous orders;

else ;

/* */

update weight of winning unit;

update weight of neighborhood units;

end; // end of input

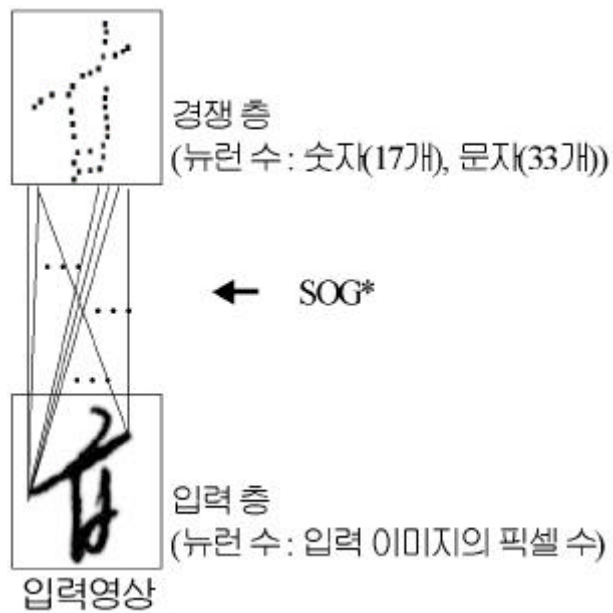
end; // end of repeat

end; // end of level

가 , 가 , 가 . , 가 , 가 가 . 가 .

SOG* < 6>

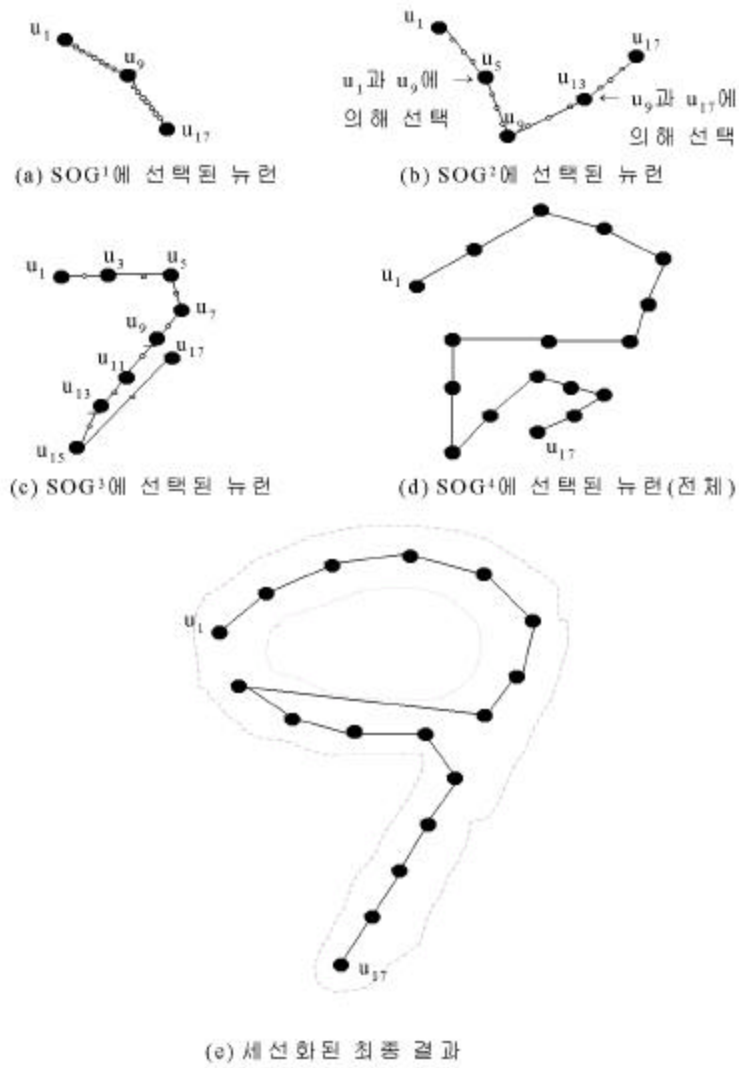
Kohonen Network .



< 6> SOG*

<Figure 6> Structure of SOG*

SOG* 0 1
 , 17 ,
 33 .
 가 가
 . 가 .
 가 (6) .
 , 17 4
 . 3, 5, 9, 17
 , 3 가 .
 5 가 ,
 3 가
 .
 가 가 .
 가
 가
 .
 .



< 7> 9가

<Figure 7> Process that a digit of 9 gets to be learned

< 7> 9

, u_n . <

7> (a) 3 ,

u_1, u_9, u_{17}

. $\langle \quad 7 \rangle$ (b)

. $\langle \quad 7 \rangle$ (c), (d)

. $\langle \quad 7 \rangle$ (e) 4

. $\langle \quad 7 \rangle$

,

.

2.2.2 SOG*

SOG

가

$O(M \log M)$

. , SOG*

. 1 $\log_2(M-1)$

,

. (7) . level

, C

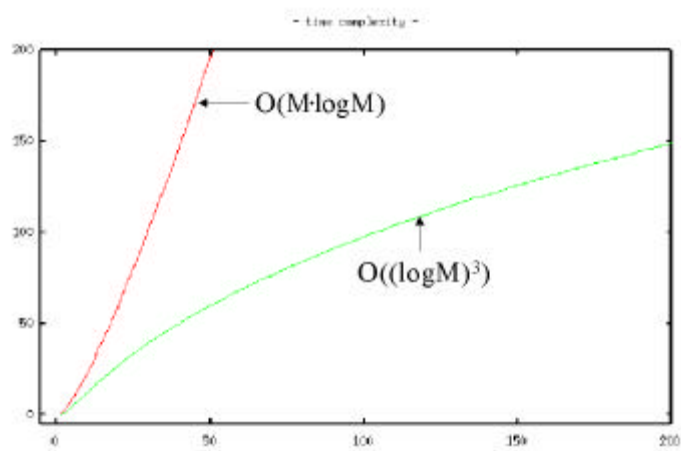
SOG*

가 $O((\log M)^3)$

.

$$\begin{aligned}
& C \cdot \sum_{level=1}^{\log(M-1)} (2^{level} + 1) \cdot \log(2^{level} + 1) \\
&= C \cdot (3 \cdot \log 3 + 5 \cdot \log 5 + \dots + M \cdot \log M) \\
&\leq C \cdot \left(\sum_{k=1}^{\log(M-1)} k \cdot \log k \right) \\
&\leq C \cdot \left(\sum_{k=1}^{\log(M-1)} k^2 \right) \\
&= O((\log(M-1))^3) = O((\log M)^3)
\end{aligned}
\tag{7}$$

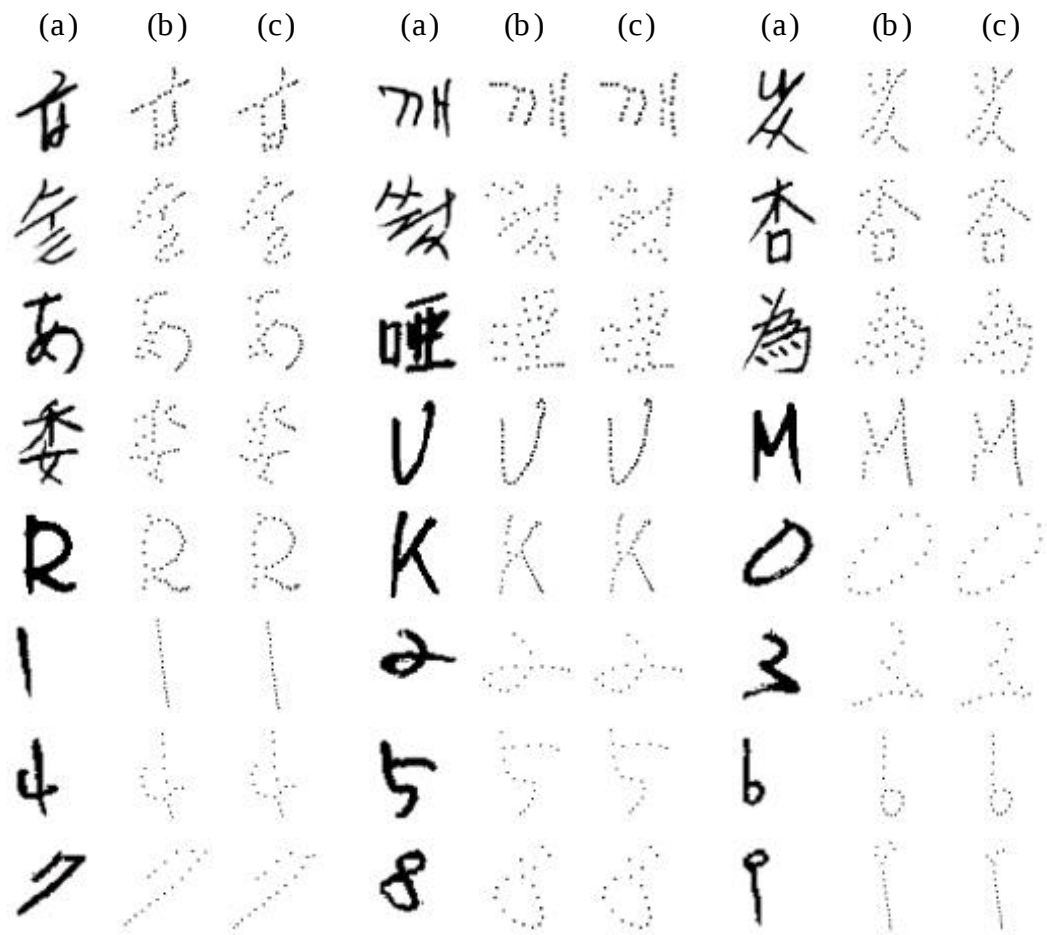
$\text{SOG} < \text{SOG}^*$
 . SOG 가 가
 가 SOG* 가



< 8>

<Figure 8> Time complexity of two algorithms

< 9> SOG SOG*
 . SOG* SOG



(a) , (b) SOG* , (c) SOG

(a) source image, (b) results of SOG*, (c) results of SOG

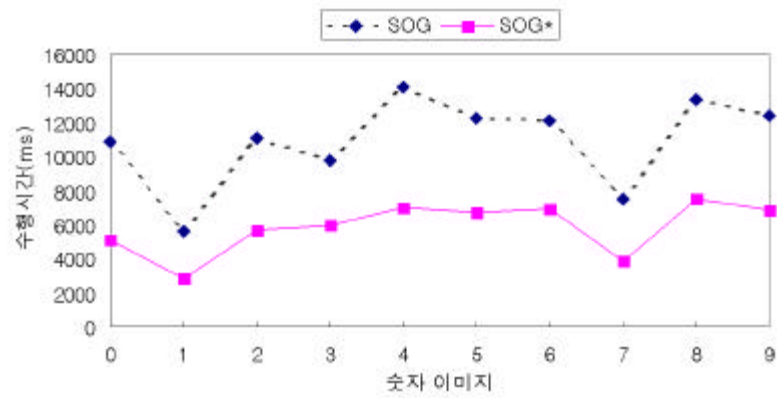
< 9>

<Figure 9> Thinning results

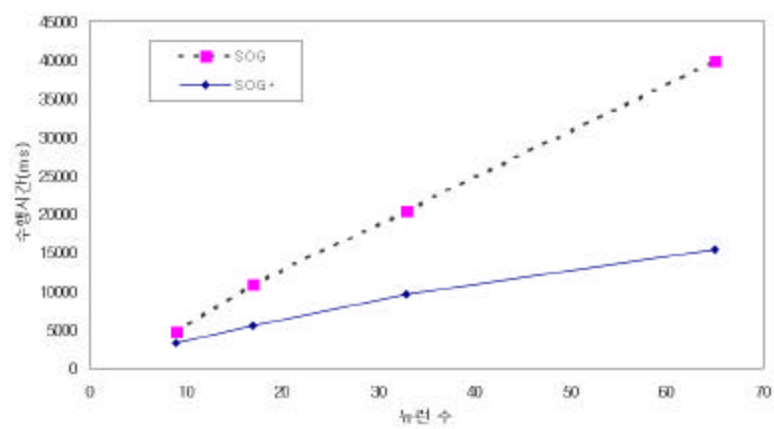
< 10> SOG SOG*

SOG*가

P- 1GHz



(a)



(b)

< 10> SOG SOG*

<Figure 10> Comparison of execution time between SOG, SOG*

3.

.

가 .

.

[3- 5,19,20,23- 26].

가

가 .

,

,

.

3.1

.

,

.

가 .

, , [19]

.

.

.

.

, ,

가 .

.

, [20]

,

.

k-NN(k-Nearest Neighbor)

.

.

.

, [21] (Self-Organizing

feature Map : SOM)

가

.

n

,

n

n

가

.

가

.

, [22]

.

Kirsch

4

.

가

.

3.2

3.2.1

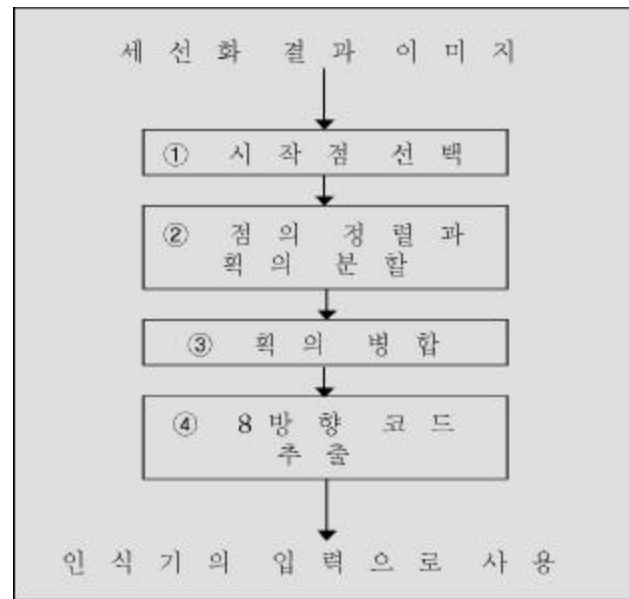
가

[26].

<

11>

17



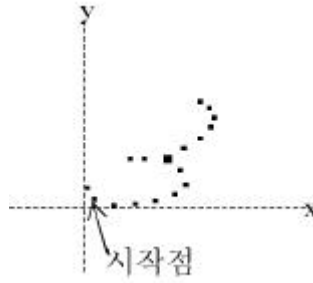
< 11>

<Figure 11> Process of extract of feature point and separate strokes

< 11>

x, y () 가 가 .

< 12> .



< 12>

<Figure 12> Select of start point

< 11>

가 3 . 가

가 , 가 가

가 가 가

가

가 가

가 ,

가



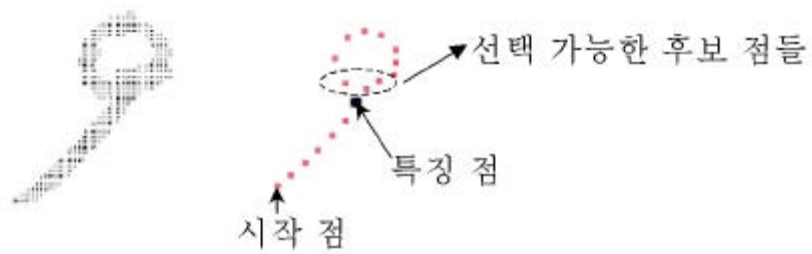
< 13> SOG*

<Figure 13> Feature point by result of SOG* thinning image

< 13>

0, 1

< 14>



< 14>

<Figure 14> Sorting and extract of feature point

< 14>

3 가 가 .

가 .

, ,

가 가 가

< 14>

< 15>

가 . < 14>

< 15>



< 15>

<Figure 15> Sorting order of thinning image

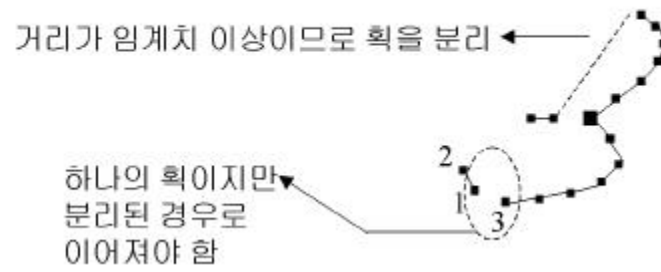
16>

가

. < 16>

1

가



< 16>

<Figure 16> Distribution of strokes after separate stroke and extract feature point

< 16>

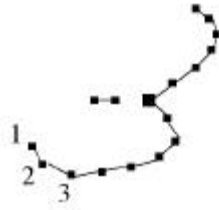
. 3 가

. <

17>

15

.



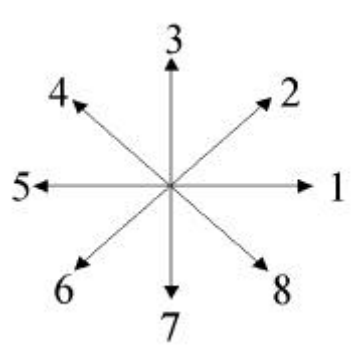
< 17>

<Figure 17> Distribution of strokes and sorting order after merging

3.2.2

3.1

. 8 . 8
 . 8 < 18> 2 8
 [14,27].



< 18> 8

<Figure 18> Codes of eight directions

< 17> 3

8 8 1 1 1 2 3 4 2 2 2 3 3 4,

5가 .

가

.

가 가 .

8 1 2 3 4 2 3 4,

5가 .

12

.

가

()

. < 17>

가

가

. 가

가

< 17>

.

가

.

< 1> stroke 0

14) . 4 stroke 8 stroke 13
 , stroke 7 stroke 11 2

 $\langle 1 \rangle$

stroke 0	0
stroke 1	3
stroke 2	4
stroke 3	5
stroke 4	6
stroke 5	7
stroke 6	9
stroke 7	-
stroke 8	
stroke 9	\
stroke 10	/
stroke 11	?
stroke 12	J
stroke 13	
stroke 14	

3.2.3

3.1

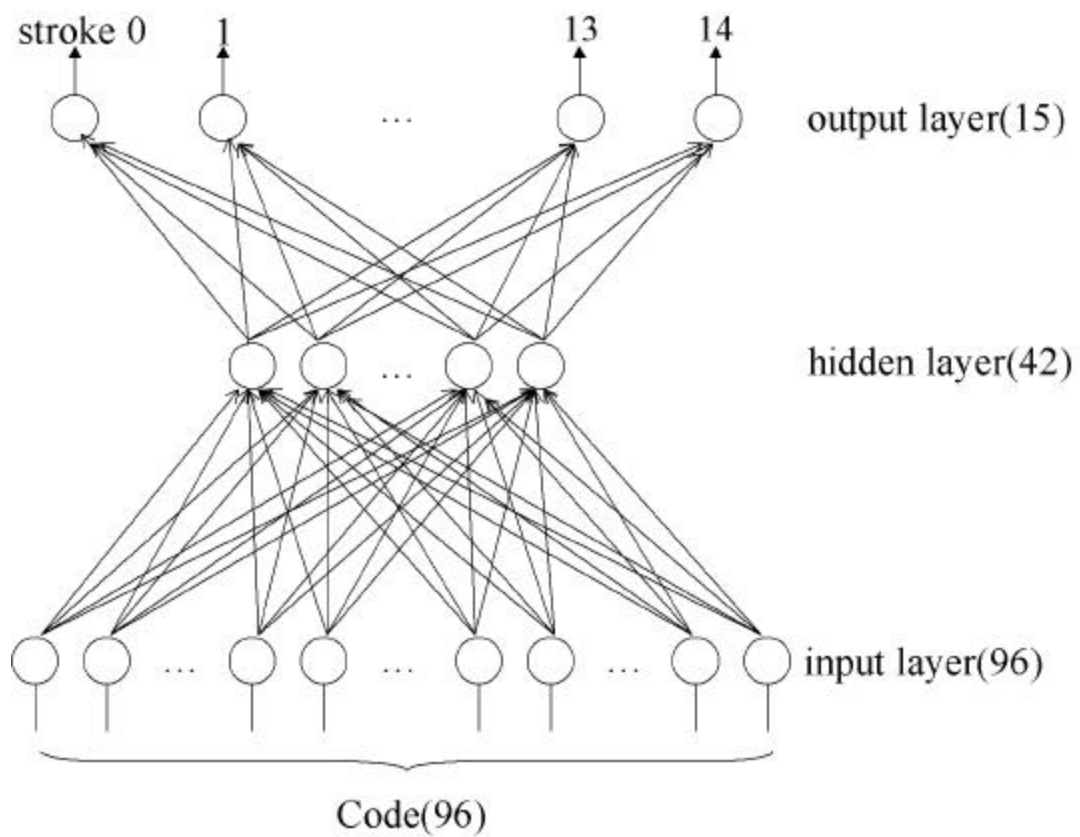
3.2

가

3

<

19>



< 19>

<Figure 19> Diagram of stroke recognition

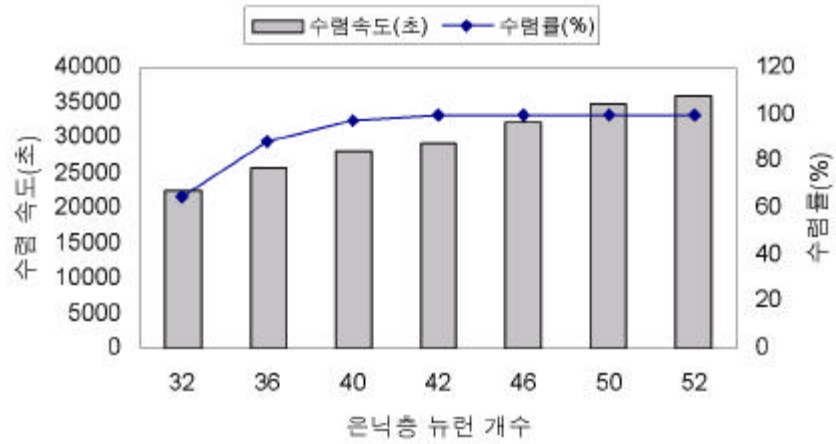
12
 , 8 0
 8 8
 . < 2> .
 8 × 12 96 stroke 0
 stroke 14 15 15 , < 20>
 42 .

< 2>

<Table 2> Input value of direction codes

0	00000000
1	10000000
2	01000000
3	00100000
4	00010000
5	00001000
6	00000100
7	00000010
8	00000001

< 20> 가 42
 100% , 가
 . 100%
 가 42 42 가 .



< 20>

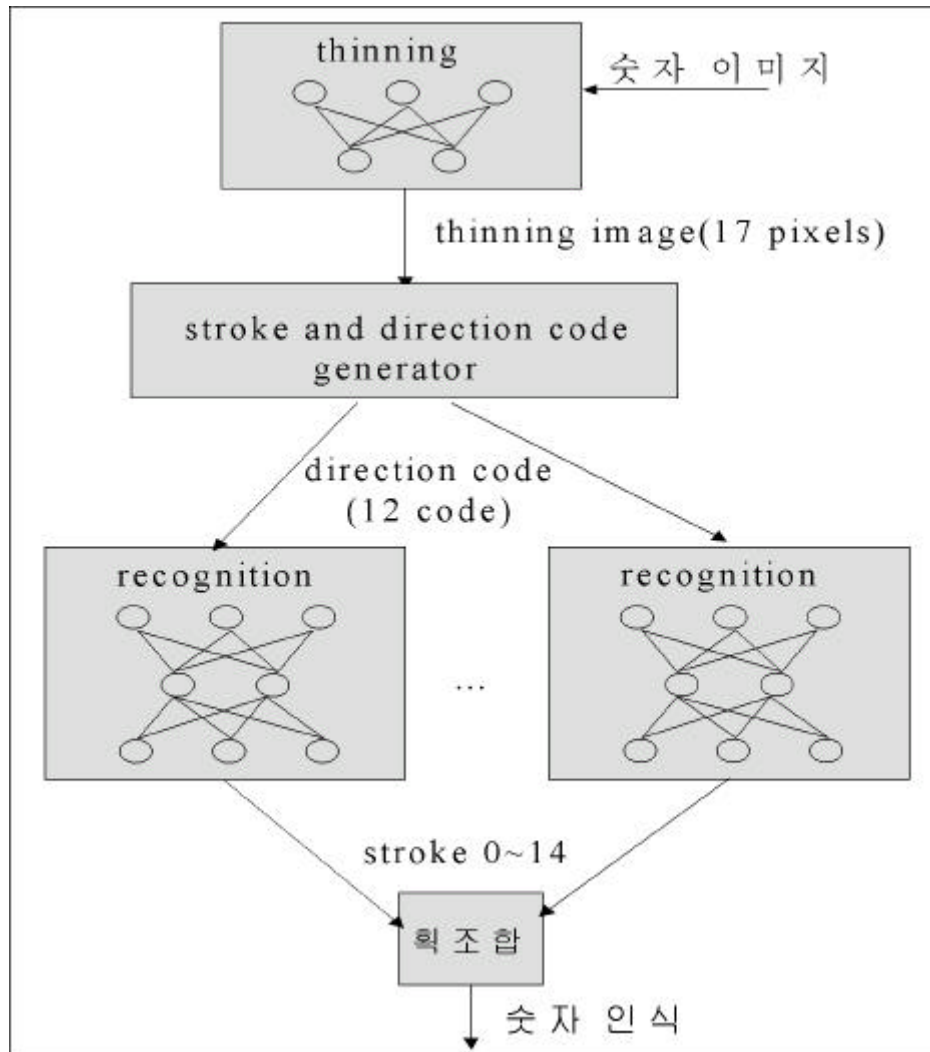
<Figure 20> Extortion speed by number of hidden neuron

21>

SOG*

17

8



< 21>

<Figure 21> System diagram of digit recognition

4.

4.1

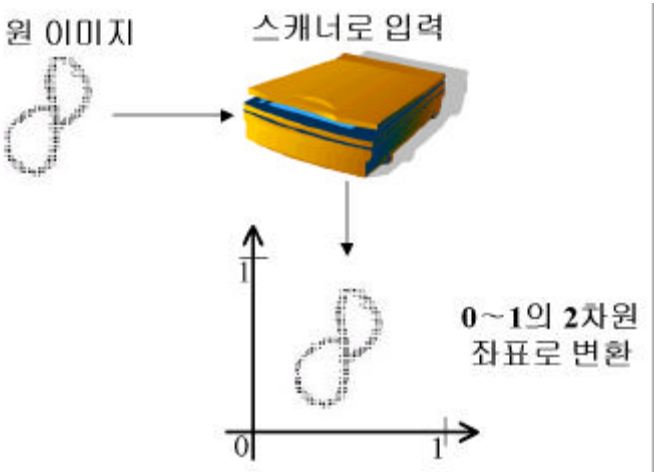
6.0

, P- 1GHz

Visual C++

< 22>

0 1 2



< 22>

<Figure 22> Process for data of input

4.2

Concordia University, KAIST,
Concordia University
0 9 600 6,000
, KAIST 23 가 5,786 ,
41,312
.
,
.
.
가
,
가
.
1 가 3 7
3 5 가
1 가
1 7 .
20,000
, 0.9, 0.02 ,

0.9

.

< 3>

.

가

1

3 가

.

< 3>

<Table 3> Pattern number of per strokes

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	79	45	19	71	29	7	49	21	16	5	4	78	21	18	21

< 3>

,

(stroke 8)

. 가

3 7

2 6

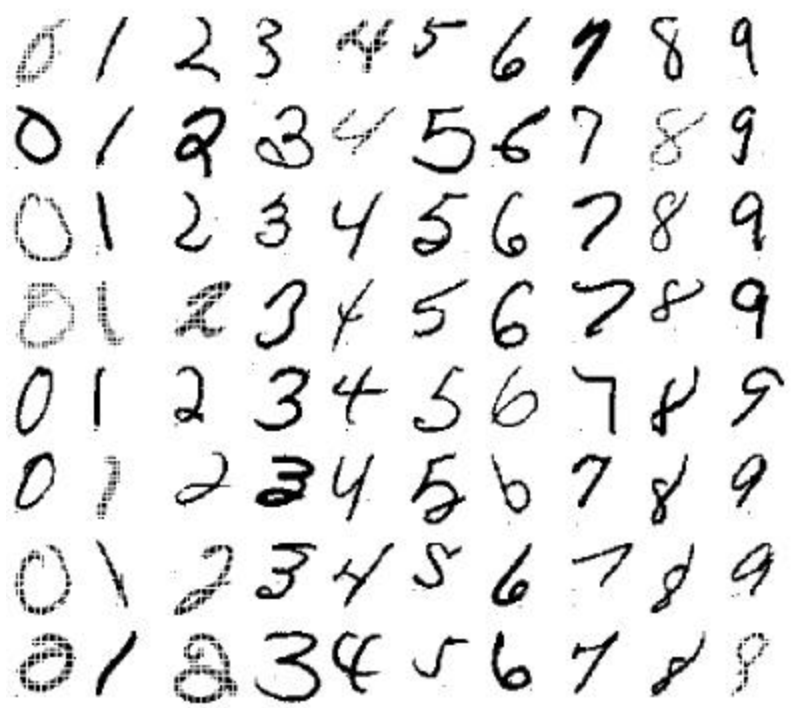
,

.

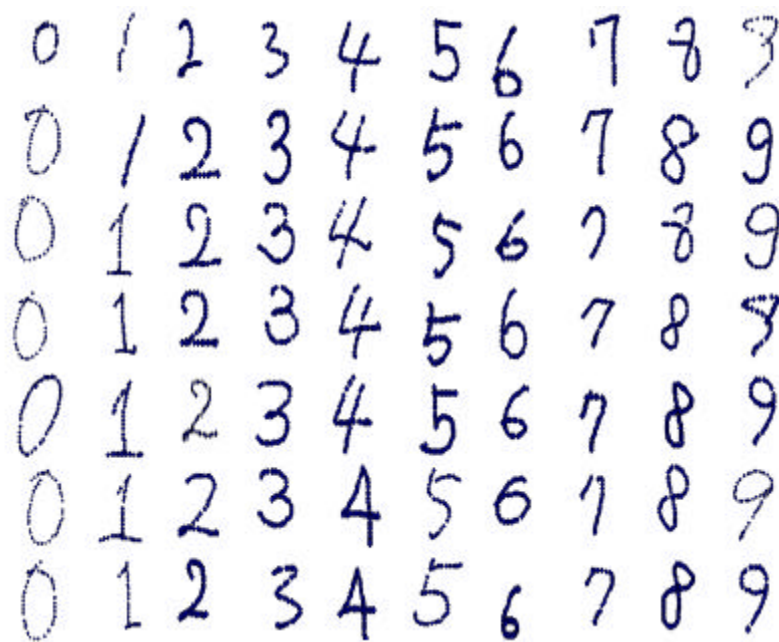
.

< 23>

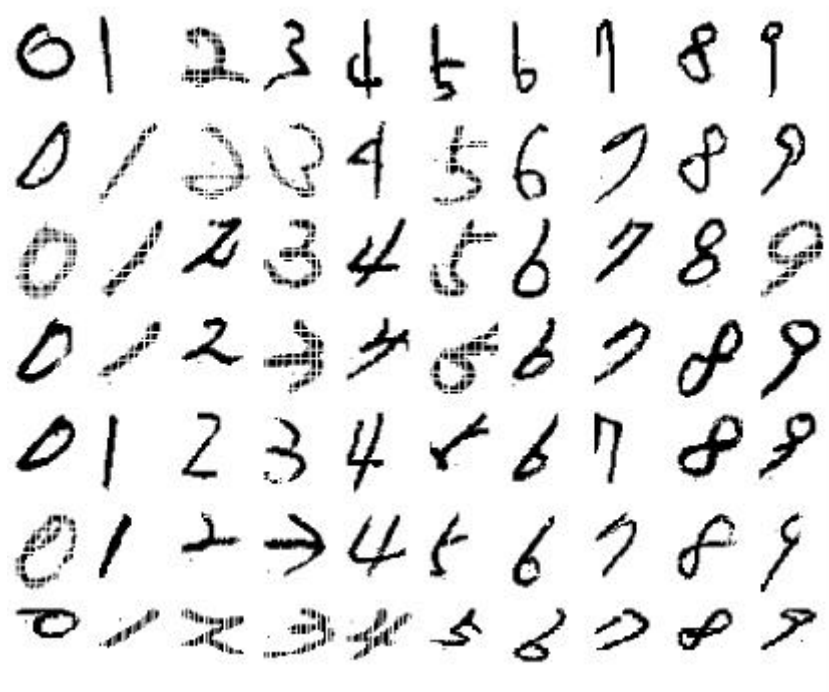
.



(a) Concordia University



(b) KAIST



(c)

< 23>

<Figure 23> Numeric database using experimentation

4.3

< 23>

< 4>

< 4>

<Table 4> Recognition rate of total

DB			
Concordia	98.89%	0.40%	0.71%
KAIST	99.25%	0.20%	0.55%
Yonsei	98.85%	0.45%	0.70%

< 24>

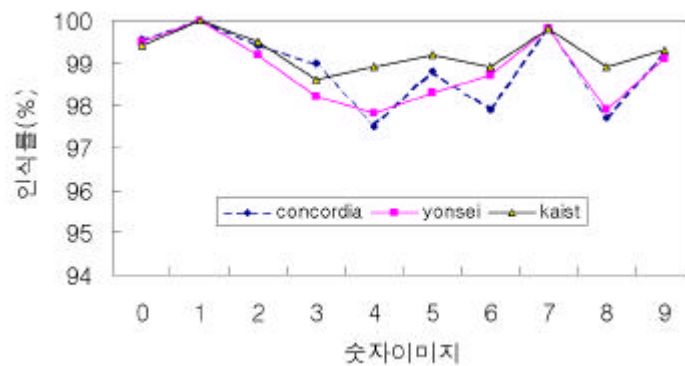
1

7

4, 8

1, 7

가 1, 7



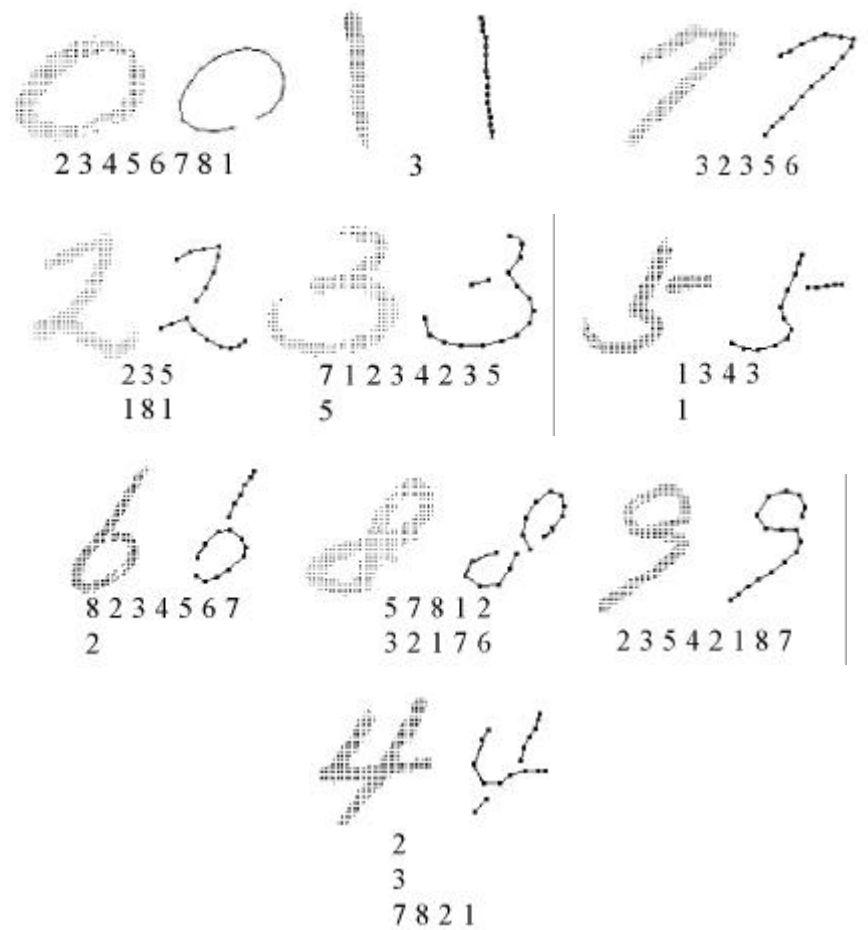
< 24>

<Figure 24> Recognition rate of each number

< 25>

. 0, 1, 7, 9

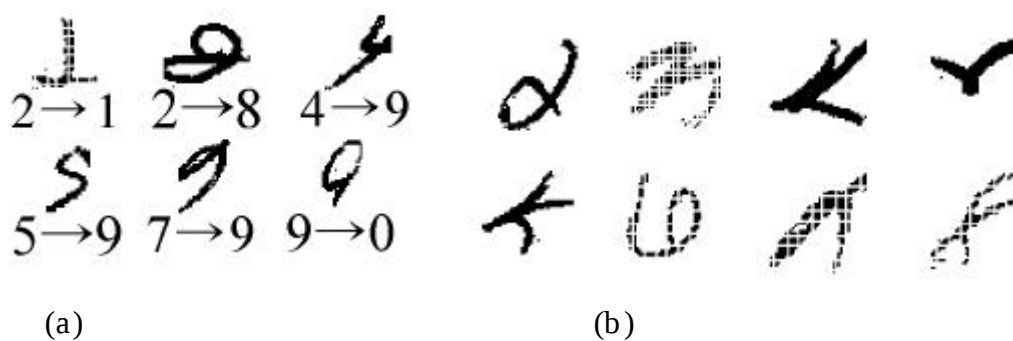
, 가



< 25>

<Figure 25> Result of after divide strokes and create direction codes

< 26>



< 26>

<Figure 26> Numeric Images of error and reject.

< 5> . < 5>

[3,4,17,20,24,28],

< 4>

< 5>

<Table 5> The treatise awareness rate and used characteristic comparison

	DB	(%)	
[3]	Concordia Univ.	97.80	(), ()
	ETR	99.40	
[4]	Concordia Univ.	97.10	4 , , , ,
	Dong-A Univ.	98.00	
[5]	NIST	97.48	(, , ,), (, ,)
[19]	Concordia Univ.	98.00	, ,
[21]	Concordia Univ.	94.45	+ →가
[23]	Concordia Univ.	96.61	
[24]	Concordia Univ.	98.20	, , , ,
[25]		98.00	, , , , ,
[28]	Concordia Univ.	95.00	, ,
[29]	NIST	99.00	, UDLRH , , Haar
[30]		94.00	, ()
	Concordia Univ.	98.89	
	KAIST	99.25	
	Yonsei Univ.	98.85	

5.

가 가
SOG* ,
8
가 .
backpropagation ,

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- [3] , , “
”,
21 8 , pp. 1468-1479, 1994
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”,
4 , pp. 915-925, 1996.
- [5] , , , , “
”,
33 B 7 , pp.
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