

MACHINE LEARNING TECHNIQUE BASED ON OPTICAL CHARACTER RECOGNITION FOR AUTOMATED READING OF ANALOG METERS

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Background

1. Introduction (or educational background)

Utility meters track consumption of electricity, water, and gas. Accurate readings are essential for billing and resource management.

2. Problem statement

Manual reading of analog meters has major drawbacks:
Time-consuming and inefficient
Error-prone
Dangerous in hard-to-reach locations

Digital meters exist but are not yet widely adopted due to cost.

Current AI-based solutions (e.g., YOLOv3–v7, CNNs) have issues:

Poor performance in low light or distorted images
Difficulty detecting small or varied meter components
Need for pre-segmentation (in CNNs)

There is a need for a hybrid, efficient, and robust ML model for real-world analog meter reading.



Fig. 1 person struggling to read analog me

Current Work

1. Objectives

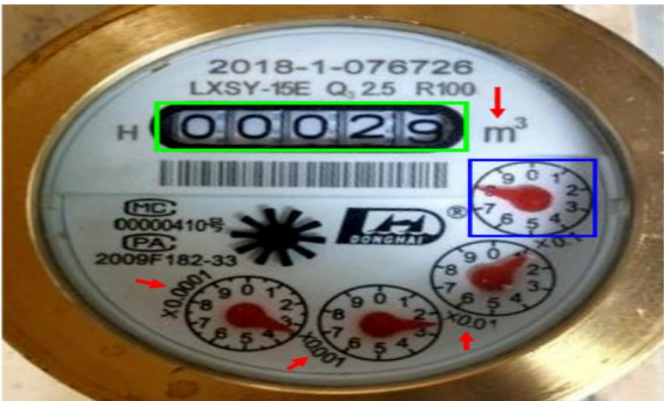
Develop a YOLOv10 model to detect and segment key regions of analog meters.

2. Train a CNN to classify odometer readings from segmented images.

3. Use YOLOv10 for angle estimation of the deal pointer for accurate readings.

4. Deploy and evaluate the models on edge devices like Raspberry Pi.

3. Results



4. Fig.2 Schematic diagram of the watermeter. The weighted sum of the values of the digit box and the pointer meter indicates the water consumption.

5. Methodology

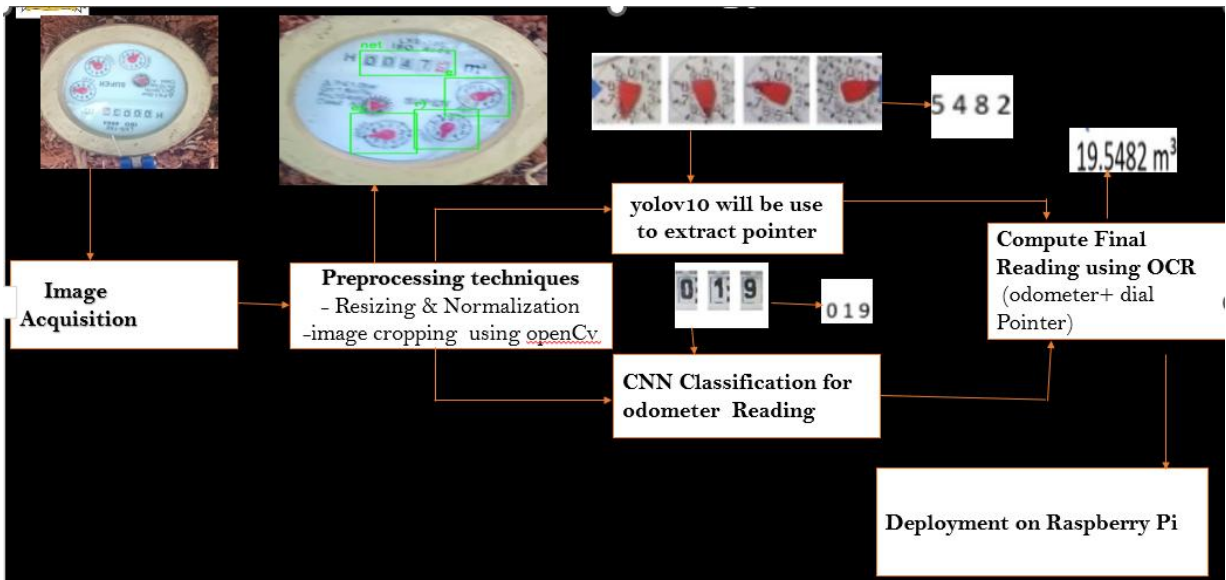


Fig. 3 show step by step procedure to achieve my objectives

Conclusion & Expectations

- High-accuracy digit and pointer detection under variable conditions
- Significant reduction in manual labor and reading errors
- Real-time visualization and data logging

References & Acknowledgment (if needed)

