

عنوان مقاله:

An Alternative Vehicle Counting Tool Using the Kalman Filter within MATLAB

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خلاصه مقاله:

This study proposes an alternative and economical tool to estimate traffic densities, via video-image processing adapting the Kalman filterincluded in the Matlab code. Traffic information involves acquiring data for long periods of time at stationary points. Vehicle counting isvital in modern transport studies, and can be achieved by using different techniques, such as manual counts, use of pneumatic tubes, magnetic sensors, etc. In this research however, automatic vehicle detection was achieved using image processing, because it is aneconomical and sometimes even faster option. Commercial automatic vehicle detection and tracking programs/applications already exist, but their use is typically prohibitive due to their high cost. Large cities can obtain traffic recordings from surveillance cameras and processthe information, but it is difficult for smaller towns without such infrastructure or even assigned budget. The proposed tool was developedtaking into consideration these difficult situations, and it only requires users to have access to a fixed video camera placed at an elevatedpoint (e.g. a pedestrian bridge or a light pole) and a computer with a powerful processor; the images are processed automatically throughthe Kalman filter code within Matlab. The Kalman filter predicts random signals, separates signals from random noise or detects signals with the presence of noise, minimizing the estimated error. It needs nevertheless some adjustments to focus it for vehicle counting. Theproposed algorithm can thus be adapted to fit the users' necessities and even the camera's position. The use of this algorithm allows toobtain traffic data and may help small cities decision makers dealing with present and future urban planning and the design or installment of transportation systems.

کلمات کلیدی: Image Processing; Kalman Filter; Automated vehicle Detection; Traffic Densities Counting; MATLAB

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