

Decade Exegesis on Deep Learning Methods Adopted for Remote Sensing Image Classification and Retrieval

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Abstract— There are main two approaches to extract features of images to implement content based retrieval system. First is the conventional machine learning methods another is deep learning convolution neural network architectures. In this letter, the literature review about various feature extraction methods used for feature extraction of query image and the images stored in databases has been explored. Efforts are made for detailed survey of deep learning approaches for the purpose of extraction of most important salient features of images directly affecting the retrieval performance for classifying the remote sensing images and finally retrieving most relevant top images.

Keywords: Convolution Neural Networks, Deep Learning, Machine Learning.

I. INTRODUCTION

RSIR (Remote Sensing Image Retrieval) is retrieving similar images from remotely sensed image library/archives by visual features matching between query image and each sample of dataset images as presented in figure 1. Remote sensing means monitoring the physical characteristics of an area by using camera at a distance. Images are captured from satellite or aircraft. Satellite or aircrafts cameras collect remotely sensed images. Databases related to remote sensing images are rapidly growing archives. Remote sensing image are very complex in nature having heterogeneous content representations. Remote sensing databases are the large scale libraries of abundant images having high dimensional features.

Feature extraction is the transformation of human perception into a numerical representation in form of a feature vector manipulated by machines. This is the prime most and most crucial stage in choosing representative features of a remote sensing image retrieval system design. Major research issue with image retrieval systems is the semantic gap that is the difference between the high level concepts present in images and the low-level attributes used to characterize the image [1]. The main objective of the research is to draft techniques for transforming abstract ideas into features. The prominent image features can effectively characterize the contents of an image. It is most important to extract the candidate features crucial for describing the query image and each dataset image sample [2]. The retrieval performance in terms of storage needs, processing time, retrieval time, overall computational time and high similarity index is directly affected by the extracted features. The dimensionality reduction procedure can effectively

represent just significant image features as a comparative lower level feature vector. Researchers use a variety of feature descriptors to characterize an image’s visual content as a low dimensional feature vector.

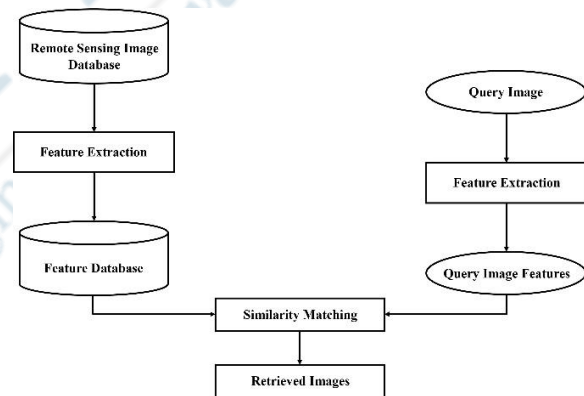


Fig. 1. General Framework for Remote Sensing Image Retrieval System

II. FEATURE EXTRACTION APPROACHES

A. Feature Extraction based on Global Feature Descriptors

The image features are divided into two categories that is global features and local features. Global features represent the whole image. Color, shape, texture and spatial information represent the whole image. Specific areas of a picture, such as borders, blobs and corners represent the local features [3].

B. Feature Extraction based on Local Feature Descriptors

The color feature is the basic feature used by researchers

for image classification and retrieval. It performs well despite of image size and orientation. Texture feature represents patterns of the image which is not based upon single intensity like color. Wavelet transform, Gabor filter, Markov random field GLCM (Gray Level Co-occurrence Matrix) [4] and EHD (Edge Histogram Descriptor) [5] are the popularly used algorithms used for extracting texture features of the image by the researchers. Still computational complexity is the main concerning issue for texture features [6]. Shape is extracted on the basis of region or boundary of the image [7]. Shape extraction is done either within entire region or only significant parts of image. Fourier descriptor [8] and moment invariants [9] are popularly used shape extraction methods to extract the shape features of an image. Shape descriptors are variant to translation and scale. Thus it is better to merge shape feature descriptor with other descriptors to excel accuracy. Invariant moments, consecutive boundary segments, aspect ratio, polygonal approximation, fourier descriptors, b-splines etc. are the popular methods used to calculate shape descriptors. Deep Learning proved more efficient and powerful than traditional methods. Deep learning architectures have multiple processing layers that auto learns good important feature representation of images of massive images and obtains higher image classification accuracy than traditional systems. Deep neural networks learn complex representations of data by discovering hierarchical patterns and features in the data. Deep Neural Network Architectures are demonstrated in figure 2

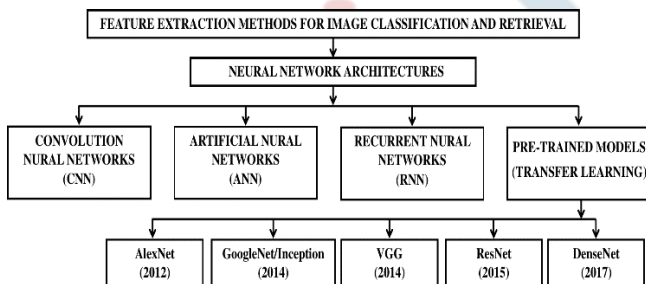


Fig. 2. Deep Learning based Feature extraction methods for Image Classification and Retrieval for Remote Sensing Images

C. Feature Extraction based on CNN (Convolution Neural Networks)

Convolution Neural Networks learn image features through its layered architecture. CNN's have the multiple layers. CNN's has fully connected, pooling, and convolutional layers. Filters are applied to input images using a convolutional layer to learn features. The first convolution layers learn features like texture and edges. Complex features are learned by later layers. Pooling layer is responsible for down sampling the incoming inputs. finally fully connected layer makes predictions about the input image's class or label. Last layers learn features like objects. Last layers learn to connect higher features to individual classes. CNN's are

invariant towards translation, scaling, and rotation [10].

D. Feature Extraction based on ANN (Artificial Neural Networks)

Artificial neural networks are linked through neurons and the links. ANN Three layers make up an ANN: input, hidden, and output layers. There are n neurons in the input layer. Each neuron represents one independent variable in the network. There are as many neurons in the output layer as there are classes. There is a weight associated with each neuronal connection. During each iteration of training process this weight is modified in artificial neural network. An ANN must complete training and testing phases in order to function as a classifier [11]. RNN (Recurrent Neural Networks) are also the family of neural networks and work with sequential data in a feed forward fashion. RNN's use same weights for each element of the sequence and decreases the number of parameters.

E. Feature Extraction based on Deep Learning Pre-Trained Models employing Transfer Learning

A neural network trained on large dataset gains knowledge from this data and this acquired knowledge termed as weights of the network [12] Only the learned features in the form of weights can be extracted and then transferred to any other neural network instead of training that neural network from the initial stage. Instead of building a model from scratch pre-trained models are trained on large dataset are used as a feature extractor by removing the output layer and using the entire network as a fixed feature extractor by freezing the weights of initial layers while retraining only higher layers for new problem specific dataset. Correct weights for the network are identified for the network by multiple forward and backward iterations. The weights and architecture acquired by pre-trained models previously trained on huge datasets may be used directly and apply the learned weights on our target problem known as transfer learning. ImageNet dataset is a rich source of millions of labelled images across thousands of classes that enable the ImageNet dataset a valuable source of training deep learning pre-trained models [13]. Knowledge is acquired by pre-trained model on ImageNet dataset that helps to acquire a rich set of learned features and weights helps in adapting the model to specific target task and enhances accuracy [14]. Transfer learning can be employed between entirely different but relevant source domain and target domain samples. Pre-trained models are trained on source domain and then learning can produce much higher accuracy results on the target task [15]. Commonly used convolution pre-trained models used for feature extraction based upon transfer learning include AlexNet [16], GoogleNet [17] and VGG (Visual Geometry Group variants include VGG16 and VGG19) [18] and DenseNet [19]. These pre-trained models differ with respect to its layered structure and convolution approaches.

Decade exegesis on deep learning methods adopted for

Remote Sensing Image Classification and Retrieval is presented in as below:

Thirumaladevi, S and Swamy, K Veera and Sailaja, M (2013) [20] Image classification is performed by using the transfer learning using pre-trained AlexNet and variants of Visual Geometry Group (VGG) networks VGG-16 and VGG-19. Features are retrieved from the pre-trained network. Fully connected layers are employed with Support Vector Machine classifier. Experiments are done using UCM and SIRI-WHU dataset. Author has achieved the accuracy of 93.57% on UCM and 91.34 on SIRI-WHU using AlexNet. Further accuracy achieved is 94.08% on UCM and 92.78% on SIRI-WHU using VGG-16 and 95% accuracy achieved on UCM and 93.4% accuracy achieved on SIRI-WHU using VGG-19 pre-trained model.

Szegedy et. al (2015) [17] presented Inception-v3 pre-trained model also named as GoogleNet well suited for image classification. The inception module employs a combination of different convolutional filters, including 1x1, 3x3, and 5x5 convolutions to capture spatial information effectively. The model also incorporates max pooling layers to down sample the feature maps and reduces the spatial dimensions. The factorization technique used in Inception-V3 reduces the computational complexities of the network by replacing large convolutions with smaller convolutions. Factorization preserves the spatial information and reduces the computational cost. Auxiliary classifiers used in inception-V3 provide additional gradient flow during training and help in avoiding the vanishing gradient problem. Factorization plays a crucial role in reducing the number of parameters thereby enhancing the efficiency of the network without compromising its performance.

By substituting larger convolutions with smaller convolutions, the model can attain comparable or superior results and proves computationally efficient.

Do, Thanh-Toan and Cheung, Ngai-Man (2017) [21] has proposed a fast embedding method that is the extension of several popular embedding methods such as VLAD (Vector of Locally Added Descriptors), TLCC (Local Coordinate Coding using Local Tangent), VLAT (Vector of Locally Aggregated Tensor). Embedded vector can be efficiently computed thus more efficiency in similarity matching with less retrieval time. FAemb method are evaluated with different local features descriptors SIFT (Scale Invariant Feature Transform) and CNN (Convolutional Neural Networks). The experimental results predict that the proposed fast embedding methods proves the better performance over the several standard public image retrieval benchmark datasets. CNN features are used on Holidays and SIFT features are used on Oxford5k dataset. Mean average precision on Holidays dataset is 74% and on Oxford dataset is 45.6%. FAemb can be applicable for small or medium sized datasets. It is not well suited for large scale datasets. This is the major concerning issue.

Li, Jun and Xu, Chang and Yang, Wankou and Sun,

Changyin and Tao, Dacheng (2017) [22] has proposed the image re-ranking based method DMINTIR (Discriminative Multi-view Interactive Image Re-ranking). It integrates multiple features describing image and user relevance feedback. Learned feature vector is obtained to assign ranks to target images in databases. Experiments are conducted on Oxford 5k and Paris 6k datasets. Author has achieved the mean average precision of 85.34% on oxford 5k and 81.75% on Paris 6k dataset.

Huang, Gao and Liu, Zhuang and Van Der Maaten, Laurens and Weinberger, Kilian Q (2017) [19] introduced the DenseNet (Dense Convolutional Network) which links each and every layer to the other layers in a feed-forward fashion. L layers have connections with one between in each layer and its successive layers in the traditional convolutional networks. A network has direct connections $(L(L+1))/2$. Features-maps of each layer were taken as an input for the successive layers and feature-maps of previous layers are taken as an input for the present layer. DenseNets solves the problem of vanishing-gradient. Experiments are conducted on four benchmark datasets CIFAR-100(Canadian Institute For Advanced Research), SVHN, CIFAR-10 and Imagenet. Author has achieved the accuracy of 97.44% on AID, 99.50% on UC-Merced and 95.89% on Optimal and 94.98% on NWPU-RESIS45 dataset.

Dong, Shan and Zhuang, Yin and Yang, Zhanxin and Pang, Long and Chen, He and Long, Teng (2019) [23] has investigated pixel-level classification for classification of remote sensing images. The author has proposed ResNet-

101 deep learning pre-trained model. 2D dilation convolutions with various sample rates are applied to each scale feature layer to improve the multi-scale feature description. Following that, each intra-scale and inter-scale feature layer is successively processed by optimal channel selection. Two datasets ISPRS and GID are used for experimentation. The author has achieved 77.74% pixel accuracy on GID and 86.67% pixel accuracy on ISPRS dataset.

Zhang, Jianming and Lu, Chaoquan and Li, Xudong and Kim, Hye-Jin and Wang, Jin (2019) [24] Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN) has two common issues. One is that these models causes over-fitting because they have several parameters and the other one is not deep sufficient to extract abstract information. For solving of these two problems, author proposed DenseNet pre-trained model for remote sensing image classification. DenseNet uses less number of convolutional kernels to generate several reusable features. Dense connections make the network deeper even more than 100 layers. Data augmentation is used. Experiments are done on AID (Aerial Image Dataset) dataset, UCM dataset, NWPU-RESISC45 dataset, and Optimal-31 dataset. The author has achieved the accuracy of 98.67% (50% training ratio), 99.50% (80% training ratio) on UCM dataset and 95.37% (20% training ratio), 97.19% (50% training ratio) on AID dataset and 95.41% (80% training ratio) on optimal-31

and 92.90 (10% training ratio), 94.95 (20% training ratio) on NWPU-RESISC45 dataset.

Liu, Yishu and Ding, Liwang and Chen, Conghui and Liu, Yingbin (2020) [25] has focused to address the issues of training CNNs needs significant labelled samples. The author proposed method of SBS-CNN (Similarity based Supervised Learning using Convolution Neural Network) based on similarity learning applying transfer learning to CNN training that transform similarity learning into deep ordinal classification with CNN experts pre-trained over large scale labelled everyday image sets. It jointly determines image similarities and provides pseudo labels for classification. SBS-CNN has small network size, compact feature vectors and less retrieval time. Gradient descent is calculated at each stage to minimize error. Major research issues are that the Gradient descent is calculated at each stage to minimize error. The Negative values are given to ReLU (Rectified Linear Unit) activation function turns the values into zero which decreases the ability of model to fit or train from data properly. Author has used Everyday ImageSet, UC-Merced and PatterNet dataset for experimentation and best ANMR achieved is 0.2185 on benchmark dataset.

Li, Guoqing and Zhang, Meng and Li, Jiaojie and Lv, Feng and Tong, Guodong (2021) [26] proposed two CNNs architectures that are DenseDsc and Dense2net. These two CNNs are compactly connected and compact connectivity facilitates features to reuse in the net-

works. Efficient group convolution adopted by Dense2net and more efficient separable convolution using depth adopted by DenseDsc. Both of these techniques improved an efficiency of parameters. The proposed techniques are evaluated on CIFAR and ImageNet datasets. Author has achieved the accuracy 74.2% on CIFAR-100 and 76.3% on ImageNet (top-1) using DenseDsc. 73.68% accuracy achieved on CiFAR-100 and 77% ImageNet using Dense2Net.

Sumbul, Gencer and Ravanbakhsh, Mahdyar and Demir, Begüm (2021) [27] proposed Selection of triplets of similar (positive) and dissimilar (negative) images to a reference image called an anchor. In triplet selection each training is annotated by multiple class labels. Considering this issue author has proposed DAS-RHDIS (Diverse Anchor Selection-Relevant, hard, diverse positive and negative image selection) a triplet sampling method using neural networks for multilabel remote sensing images. Initially, a set of anchors diverse to each other in the embedding space is selected from the current mini batch. Secondly, different sets of positive and negative images are chosen for each anchor by evaluating the relevancy, hardness and diversity of the images among each other. Main advantage is the increase in learning speed since informative triplets allow fast convergence. Author has used two datasets UCMerced and IRS-BigEartNet for experimentation. The author has achieved the 56.8% accuracy, 65.3% precision, 70% recall and 67.5% F1-score on UC-Merced dataset. The author has

achieved the 62.7% accuracy, 77.7% precision, 75.7% recall and 76.7% F1-score on IRS-BigEarthNet dataset.

Sumbul, Gencer and Ravanbakhsh, Mahdyar and Demir, Begüm (2022) [28] The author has proposed a PLASTA-MTL (Plasticity-Stability Preserving and Metric Learning) Plasticity condition is associated with sensitivity to new information and stability condition is associated with protection from radical disruptions by new information of the learning process. This is achieved by defining two novel loss functions. PPL (Plasticity Preserving Loss Function) transforms the global image representation space to new information learned with each task. Another loss function SPL (Stability Preserving Loss) is used to protect the global representation space. Experiments are done on two dataset: DLRSD and BigEarthNet-S2. Accuracy achieved on DLRSD (Dense Labelling Remote Sensing Dataset) dataset is 97.5% and on BigEarthNet-S2 is 97.7%.

Zhang, Zhiqi and Lu, Wen and Feng, Xiaoxiao and Cao, Jinshan and Xie, Guangqi (2022) [29] has proposed a feature learning approach with unique distance metrics for remote sensing image classification and retrieval. For measuring interclass variance over intra class variance author has used loss function, balanced deep linear discriminant analysis. Author has used experiments on RED (Reciprocal

Exponential Distance) for maintaining distance contrast in high dimensionality. Proposed BDLDA can optimize the Rayleigh Ritz quotient which measures interclass variance over intra class variance. Author has used two convolution neural network MKANet Class Multi branch kernel and MobileNetV3. Experiments are done on two datasets RSSCN-7 and OPTIMAL-31. Author has achieved the precision of 0.8963 on RSSCN7 and 0.7447 on OPTIMAL-31 dataset using MKANet class classification network. Author has achieved the precision of 0.8573 on RSSCN7 dataset using MobileNetV3 classification network.

Tan, Pooi Shiang and Lim, Kian Ming and Tan, Cheah Heng and Lee, Chin Poo (2023) [30] proposed DenseNet-121 deep learning pre-trained using transfer learning technique to extract significant features of the image. Computation resources are greatly reduced using DenseNet. Three benchmark datasets: soundscapes1, soundscapes2 and urbansound8k are used for experimentation. The proposed pre-trained model DenseNet-121 with multilayer perceptron outperforms existing works on soundscapes1, soundscapes2 and urbansound8k datasets with the F1-scores of 80.7%, 87.3% and 69.6% respectively. Deep Learning based feature extraction methods used for image classification and retrieval for Remote Sensing Images in past decade are summarized in table 1

III. CONCLUSION

Recent image classification and retrieval research methodologies highly concentrate upon the deep learning techniques as it has remarkable improvement in accuracy scores

over traditional machine learning methods.

Table 1. Deep Learning based Feature extraction methods used for Image Classification and Retrieval for Remote Sensing Images in past decade

AUTHOR	TECHNIQUE	OBSERVATIONS		
		DATASET	EVALUATION METRICS	SCORE
S.Thirumaladevi [20] (2013)	AlexNet	UCM	Accuracy	93.57%
		SIRI-WHU	Accuracy	91.34%
	VGG16	UCM	Accuracy	94.08%
		SIRI-WHU	Accuracy	92.78%
	VGG19	UCM	Accuracy	95%
		SIRI-WHU	Accuracy	93.4%
C.Szegedy [17] (2015)	Inception-v3	ImageNet	Top-1 Error	17.2%
			Top-5 Error	3.58%
Do T. T. [21] (2017)	SIFT based Fast Embedding (FAemb)	Oxford 5k	MAP	45.6%
	CNN based Fast Embedding (FAemb)	Holidays	MAP	74%
J.Li [22] (2017)	DMINTIR	Oxford5k	Mean Average Precision	85.34%
	(Discriminative Multi-View Interactive Image Re-ranking)	Paris6k	Mean Average Precision	81.75%
G.Huang [19] (2017)	DenseNet	AID	Accuracy	97.44%
		UCM	Accuracy	99.50%
		Optimal	Accuracy	95.89%
		NWPU	Accuracy	94.98%
Dong [23] (2019)	ResNet-101	GID	Accuracy	77.74%
		ISPRS	Accuracy	86.67%
J.Zhang [24] (2019)	DenseNet	UCM	Accuracy (50% Training ratio)	98.67%
			Accuracy (80% Training ratio)	99.50%
		AID	Accuracy (20% Training ratio)	95.37%
			Accuracy (50% Training ratio)	97.19%
		Optimal-31	Accuracy (80% Training ratio)	95.41%
		NWPU-RESISC45	Accuracy (10% Training ratio)	92.90%
			Accuracy (20% Training ratio)	94.95%
		Liu [25] (2020)	Similarity Based Supervised Learning Using Convolution Neural Network (SBS-CNN) applying Transfer Learning	PatterNet
G. Li, M.Zhang [26]	DenseDsc	CIFAR-10	Accuracy	94.05%

(2021)	Dense2Net	CIFAR-100	Accuracy	74.24%	
		ImageNet	Accuracy	76.3%	
		CIFAR-10	Accuracy	94.19%	
		CIFAR-100	Accuracy	73.68%	
		ImageNet	Accuracy (Top-5)	76.3%	
			Accuracy (Top-1)	77.1%	
G.Sumbul [27] (2021)	DAS-RHDS (Diverse Anchor Selection-Relevant.and Diverse Positive Negative Image Selection)	UC-Merced	Accuracy	56.8%	
			Precision	65.3%	
			Recall	70%	
			F1-Score	67.5%	
		Big Earth Net	Accuracy	62.7%	
			Precision	77.7%	
			Recall	75.7%	
			F1-Score	76.7%	
G.Sumbul [28] (2022)	PLASTA-MTL (Plasticity-Stability Preserving Metric Learning),	Dense Labelling Remote Sensing Dataset (DLRSD)	Accuracy	97.5%	
		BigEarthNet-S2	Accuracy	97.7%	
Z.Zhang [29] (2022)	MKANet Class	RSSCN7	Precision	0.8963 (89.6%)	
			mAP	0.9167 (91.6%)	
		MobileNetV3	RSSCN7	Precision	0.8573 (85.7%)
	mAP			0.8586 (85.8%)	
	MKANet Class	OPTIMAL-31	Precision	0.7447 (74.4%)	
			mAP	0.7399 (73.9%)	
			ANMR	0.0325 (32.5%)	
	P.S.Tan [30] (2023)	DenseNet-121	Soundscapes1	F1-score	80.70%
			Soundscapes2	F1-score	87.30%
Urban-Sound8k			F1-score	69.60%	

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