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A Depth Analysis on Forgery Detection in Case of Copy-Move Image Forgery

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Abstract

Since there are so many effective methods for manipulating photos, their authenticity is becoming a subject of debate, especially when those images have a lot of sway. utilized for news reports, insurance claims, and in court as examples of this. The integrity of images is established by picture forensic procedures using a variety of high-tech mechanisms that have been found in the literature. The internet has recently been overrun with billions of digital photographs, making it the main source of knowledge in many fields. Given how far technology has come, image fraud could seem easy to do. Digital photo copy-move forgeries, in which one or more objects or regions are copied or replicated, are the most common sort of image tampering. Digital forensics has given more focus to a crucial study field called forgery detection and localization. Numerous papers have been produced and a number of strategies have been proposed to recognise fraudulent photos. In order to emphasise the most recent methods for detection, this work reviewed research papers on copy-move image forgery that were published in reputable journals between 2017 and 2020. It then discussed numerous fraud picture-related strategies. In order to create new and more effective copy-move image detection algorithms, researchers will benefit from understanding the existing methods and methodologies in this field.

Keywords—*Image forensics; copy-move forgery detection (CMFD); conventional techniques;*

1. Introduction

Images in communication media are now very helpful. There is a sense that the visual conveys more significance about the incident or circumstance than the words do. In the current technological world, digital photographs are crucial in many different industries. They are primarily featured in journalism, news, defence, and health-related employment. Due to advancements in digital image technology, including advances in camera equipment, software, and computer systems, as well as the expanding popularity of internet media, a digital image can presently be considered as a crucial piece of information.

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There are two types of the active methods that are digital watermarking and digital signature [27]. A digital watermark is added to the photo to identify copyright. It is the process of hiding special information (series of bits) in a digital image. The special information may be the author's serial number, company logo, meaningful text, and so on.

Type of image forgeries

Digital images can be used as a proof against crimes, and any person can make changes in digital image to hide or remove important information with the help of different types of editing soft wares available like Adobe Photoshop, Corel draw etc. Changes that can be made on images are given below:

- 1) Image Retouching,
- 2) Image Splicing,
- 3) Image Morphing,
- 4) Image Enhancing,
- 5) Copy move,
- 6) scaling ,
- 7) cropping,
- 8) geometric transformation,
- 9) selective color change,
- 10) merging another image or a part of same or different image.

The most common type among various forms of falsification of images is a copy-move forgery. In the digital image copy-move forgery, one or more regions are repeated at different locations within the same image. Often duplicate regions are enlarged, shrank,

orrotated to make forgery more convincing, making it more difficult to detect forgery images [28]Figure1 points to the exampleof copy – move forgery.



[Figure 1: Example of copy-move forgery]

Related Work

Intense literature review has been done in the paper from year 2015 to 2019 to bring in light different techniques, algorithms and tools used by different authors.

Various CMFD techniques have been proposed so far to effectively address the region duplication problem. In this regard, the research is intended towards the representation of image regions in a more powerful way to accurately detect the duplicated regions. In [11], Fridrich et al. for the first time presented the copy-move forgery detection technique using DCT on small overlapping blocks. The feature vectors are formed using DCT coefficients. The similarity between blocks is analyzed after sorting the feature vectors lexicographically. In [13], image blocks are represented through principal component analysis (PCA). Exploiting one of the features of PCA, the authors used about half of the number of features utilized by [11]. It makes this technique effective but failed to detect copy-move forgery with rotation. In [15], a sorted neighborhood technique based on Discreet Wavelet Transform (DWT) is proposed. The image is decomposed into four subbands and applied the Singular Value Decomposition (SVD) on low frequency components for getting the feature vector.

The technique is robust to JPEG compression up to the quality level 70 only. In [16], a technique based on blur moment invariants up to seventh order for extracting the block features and kd-tree matching is introduced. In [12], the application of scaling and rotation invariant Fourier-Mellin Transform (FMT) is suggested in combination with bloom filters on the image blocks for detecting the image forgery. In [14], an improved DCT-based technique is proposed by introducing a truncating process to reduce the dimension of feature vector for forgery detection. In [17], a solution through DCT and SVD is proposed for detecting image forgeries. The algorithm is shown to be robust against compression, noise, and blurring but fails when images are even slightly rotated. In [18], an efficient expanding block technique based on direct block comparison is proposed. In [19], circle block extraction is performed and the features are obtained through rotation invariant uniform local binary patterns (LBP).

The technique is robust to blurring, additive noise, compression, flipping, and rotation. However, this technique failed to detect forged regions rotated with arbitrary angles. In [20], the authors employed a new powerful set of keypoint-based features called MIFT for finding similar regions in the images. In [21], the authors extracted feature vectors from circular blocks using polar harmonic transform (PHT) for detecting image forgeries. In [22],

an adaptive similarity threshold based scheme is presented in the block matching stage. The detection of forged regions is determined using thresholds proportional to blocks standard deviations. In [23], a method using the Histogram of Oriented Gradients (HOG) is suggested to detect the copy-move forged regions. In [24], the multiscale Weber's law descriptor (multi-WLD) and multiscale LBP features are extracted for image splicing and copy-move forgery detection from chrominance components. The authors employed SVM for classifying an image as authentic or forged.

With the advancements in imaging technologies, the digital images are becoming a concrete information source. Meanwhile, a large variety of image editing tools have placed the authenticity of images at risk. The ambition behind the image content forgery is to perform the manipulations in a way, making them hard to reveal through the naked eye, and use these creations for malicious purposes. For instance, in 2001, after the 9/11 incident, several videos of Osama bin Laden over the social media were found counterfeited through the forensic analysis [1]. In the same way, in 2007, an image of tiger in forest forced the people to believe in the existence of tigers in the Shanxi province of China. The forensic analysis, however, proved the tiger to be a "paper tiger" [2]. Similarly, in 2008, an official image of four Iranian ballistic missiles was found to be doctored, as one missile was revealed to be duplicated [3]. Hence, the famous saying "seeing is believing" [4, 5] is no longer effective. Therefore, ways that can ensure the integrity of the images especially in the evidence centered applications are required.

In recent years, an exciting field, digital image forensics, has emerged which finds the evidence of forgeries in digital images [6]. The primary focus of the digital image forensics is to investigate the images for the presence of forgery by applying either the active or the passive (blind) techniques [2]. The active techniques such as watermarking [7] and digital signatures [6] depend on the information embedded a priori in the images. However, the unavailability of the information may limit the application of active techniques in practice [8]. Thus, passive techniques are used to authenticate the images that do not require any prior information about them [8]–[10].

Images are usually manipulated in two ways such as image splicing and region duplication through copy-move forgery. In image splicing, regions from multiple images are used to create a forged image. However, in copy-move forgery, image regions are copied and pasted onto the same image to conceal or increase some important content in the pictured image. As copied regions are apparently identical with compatible components (i.e., color and noise), it becomes a challenging task to differentiate the tempered regions from authentic regions. Furthermore, a counterfeiter applies various postprocessing operations such as blurring, edge smoothing, and noise to remove the visual traces of image forgeries. An example of copy-move forgery is shown in Figure 6.



The original images

The copy-move forged images

[Figure 2 : An example of copy-move forgery]

In the present work copy-move forgery detection is addressed through the discrete cosine transform (DCT) and Gaussian RBF kernel PCA that are used to investigate the similarity between duplicated regions. The benefits of our algorithm compared against several existing CMFD methods are (i) utilization of the lower length of feature vectors; (ii) lower computational cost; (iii) robustness against various postprocessing operations over the forged regions; (iv) ability to detect multiple copy-move forgeries.

2.COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

Comparing accuracy of the different methods published in the papers in recent years are summarized in Table 1. In addition, the advantages and disadvantages of the methods are also shown in the table.

Reference	Method	Forgery detection	Characteristics	Published year
[29]	Detection image forgery using a pixel-based algorithm	Detection Copy-move and splicing image forgery	This method has good accuracy and higher liability. On the other side, this method needs more time and has less accuracy to detect forgery from the noisy image.	2017
[30]	Combining techniques ; key-point based and block-based	Copy-move image forgery	It is a robust method with less complexity. However, it is less accurate and did not work well with complicated background and texture.	2017
[31]	Deep learning mechanism	Copy-move image detection	It is a highly efficient method with fewer false positives. However, the accuracy is less.	2018

[32]	Using LCA and algorithm for block matching.	Detect image forgery based on analyzing the problem of the hypothesis test.	It is more efficient with less complexity. However, it is not a proper method for the noisy image. The estimate error will increase.	2018
[33]	Passive digital Image forensic approaches	Image forgeries detected by using the artifacts.	This method consumes minimum time and has a good ability for generalizing. Despite it suffers from performance degradation and faces difficulties in most forgery cases.	2018
[34]	Using CNN and support vector machine, K nearest neighbor and Naïve Bayes	Detecting Spliced image forgery	Has good accuracy and ability to find the location of the forgery region. However, it does not work well for copy move image forgery and requires a system with high performance to handle this algorithm.	2019
[35]	Convolutional neural network (C2RNet) and diluted adaptive Clustering	Detect Splice image forgery	It decreases the time and complexity. One of the disadvantages of this method is poorer in Recall than many other comparative algorithms.	2019
[36]	Deep learning and wavelet transformation.	Detect forgery	This method increases accuracy and reduces computational cost. However, it is not robust, with high time complexity.	2019
[37]	Mathematical morphological filter detector	Detect splicing image forgery	It is highly accurate and robust to image compression. Nevertheless, has complexity for mathematical calculation time.	2020
[38]	Attention DM for CISDL	Detect splicing image forgery	This algorithm improved the performance and computational. At the same time, it reduces the detection rate.	2020
[39]	CNN	Image splicing detection and localization scheme	It is highly accurate and robust to image compression (JPEG). The disadvantage is very high complexity.	2020

In addition, Table 2 summarized the accuracy of detection copy-move forgery, when using 40% forgery images out of the tested images. Comparing precision for several methods summarized in

Table 3.

Methods	MaximumDetectionAccuracy(%)
BusterNet	93.02
SPT	96.99
PCA	97.7945
EnhancedSURF	98
SVD	98.8730
PCA-DCT	98.9776
DCT	98.0624
ImprovedDCT	98.5882
EfficientDCT	98.5934
DyWT	98.7438
CNN	99.03

[Table 2 :

Detection accuracy for various method susedin detection copy - move image forgery.]

Reference	Method	Precision %	Fmeasure %
[40]	Convolution alneural networks	94.89	
[41]	FASTER RCNNWITHELA (Error Level Analysis)	90	
[42]	Combined features	81.82	87.83
[43]	A-KAZE and SURF Features	91.76	94.54
[50]	Deeplearning approach	95.38	96.75
[28]	Fourier-Mellin and scale-invariant feature transforms	94.12	96.97
[44]	Ow SURF	96	
[45]	Speeded-Up Robust Feature (SURF) and Binary Robust Invariant Scalable Keypoints (BRISK)	94.03	
[48]	Using various texture descriptors (LBP, LPQ, Binary Statistical Image Features, and Binary Gabor Pattern)	94.39	
[46]	SURF	93.3	90.3
[47]	Mirror-SIFT		89.4
[49]	Deep neural network	78.22	75.98

**[Table 3:
comparing the precision for different recent methods.]**

Conclusion

In this paper, we focused on finding the ways through which we can assure the detection of copy-move forgery in digital images. The main consideration of this paper was to reduce the dimension of the feature length and find the forged objects in the suspected image. Therefore, we have applied DCT and kernel PCA for feature extraction, which considers the identical objects found in the forged image. Furthermore, this technique does not require any prior information embedded into the image and works in the absence of digital signature or digital watermark. From the results, a conclusion can be drawn which is that the proposed technique not only effectively detects multiple copy-move forgeries and precisely locates the forged areas but also has nice robustness to post processing operations such as Gaussian blurring, AWGN, and compression. Moreover, comparing the detection performance of the proposed technique with existing standard copy-move forgery systems [11]–[14], the results of our technique are reasonably good in terms of average TPR and FPR.

- Copy move forgery type is most common forgery type used
- Key point forgery detection techniques are better than block based forgery detection techniques
- Non-blind algorithms give more accuracy as compared to blind image forgery detection algorithms
- Use of effective clustering may lead to improved image forgery detection

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