"KamiRepo" System with Automatic Student Identification to Handle Handwritten Assignments on LMS

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NUCT (Nagoya University Collaboration and Course Tools)

- Growing demands for e-Learning services in Nagoya Univ.
 - Nagoya Univ. started to use **Sakai** since 2010
 - All classes were automatically registered since 2015



Paper-based assignment system

- Demand for paper-based assignment in Nagoya Univ.
 - Commonly used in exercises and quizzes in various classes
 E.g. assignments in mathematics, etc.
 - Returning assignments is time consuming tasks for teachers
 - Need to sort assignments according student IDs
 - Need to input scores into Excel sheet or Sakai for grading
- Demand for a system to bridge paper-based assignments and LMS



Related works

- Tobu-note (System Maker M, 2009)
 - Mark sheet for recognizing student ID
 - High recognition accuracy
 - × Require large space for printed paper
- PDF2submission (Kita et al., 2012)
 - QR code for recognizing individual student
 - Small printed space and high recognition accuracy
 - × Require to print individual paper assignments in each student
- Course management system (Fuji Xerox Co., Ltd., 2015)
 - OCR for recognizing student ID from handwritten digits
 - Small printed space, high recognition accuracy, easy preparation
 - × Require dedicated multi-function printer

Problem of Conventional System

Place restriction

- Difficult to densely distribute dedicated multi-function printers

Less flexibility

Difficult to improve & customize recognition system

Less convenient

Time consuming to correct recognition results on LMS



"KamiRepo" System

- Bridge between handwritten assignments and LMS
 - Can use general purpose scanner anytime and anywhere
 - Develop re-trainable recognition system on server
 - Web-based UI to confirm & correct recognition results



User interface of "KamiRepo" System



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*本システムの利用によって得られる解析結果等につきましては、システムの性能改善に役立たせていただく可能性があります。

Template of paper-based assignment

		科目	日付		採点結果 Score	23日 23日 13日 13日 13日
学籍番号 Student No.				氏名 Nam	e	
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In-house development of KamiRepo

I/O module

- Extraction of digits images from PDF files
- QR codes for spatial alignment
- OCR module
 - Handwritten digits recognition using CNN
 - Digit sequence matching with student IDs in LMS
 - Blank digit detection for score recognition

• Web-based UI

Confirm & correct recognition results



In-house development of KamiRepo



Student's PDF

Extracted digit image **Re-trainable** OCR

Experimental Evaluation

- Evaluation of the system using real digit data collected through 6-month experimental operation
 - Prototype system was deployed in April 2017
- Effectiveness of trainable system
 - Experimental data : 21,505 digits of 2,390 students ID
- Student identification performance
 - Experimental data : 1,761 student ID

Effectiveness of Re-trainable System

 Accucary can be gradually improved by retraining CNN using collected real data



Student identification performance

- Compare the recognition performance with or without student list
 - If all digits are correctly recognized, we judged the result as success
- We confirmed significant improvement in recognition accuracy using student list

	Success	Failure	Success rate
w/o student list	1,546	215	87.8%
w/ student list	1,756	5	99.7%

Usage of "KamiRepo" System



Conclusions

• Development of "KamiRepo" system.

- Processing on server
- Re-trainable recognition system
- Web-based UI to confirm & correct recognition results easily
- Experimental evaluation using real dataset
 - Accuracy is 99.7%
 - Processing speed is 40 pages per minutes

Future works

- Construct automatic workflow to improve the system by retraining CNN
- Extend recognition system to other characters (e.g. alphabet)
- Make "KamiRepo" system open to the public