

Optical Character Recognition Method and System in Uncontrolled & Mobile Environment

Abstract

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This invention relates to a system and method of determining a license plate number of a vehicle. The system first acquires an image of the vehicle and conducts license plate recognition using a number of license plate recognition algorithms to determine the license plate number of the vehicle from the captured image. The license plate number is validated.

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If validating of the license plate number fails, the system determines a topology of the vehicle and determines a type of vehicle based on the topology of the vehicle. The system then assigns an estimate of an initial character of the license plate based on the determined type of vehicle. A parameter of one of the plurality of license plate recognition algorithms for conducting license plate recognition is adjusted. The system then conducts license plate recognition using the plurality of license plate recognition algorithms to obtain an image of the initial character. The image of the initial character is then compared with the estimate of the initial character. If the estimate and image of the initial character match, the system updates the parameter of the adjusted algorithm.

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20 Figure 3