

Technical Manual Number Plate Recognition

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1 Installation

1.1 Installation of dependencies

First thing to do is to install all the dependencies that Number Plate Recognition needs. All the executables are located in the "Dependencies" directory in the root of the CD. The first one to install is Python 2.7. The file to install is: "python-2.7.msi", then, we'll need to install the libraries. Then, we can install the library for the Graphical User Interface: PyGTK. To do so, it just needs to run "pygtk-all-in-one-2.24.0.win32-py2.7.msi". When this installation is complete, PIL can be installed, this library manages the image formats. To install it, just run: "PIL-1.1.7.win32-py2.7.exe". Then, the next library to install is Numpy which is used for the manipulation of images as arrays. To install it, run: "numpy-1.6.1-win32-superpack-python2.7.exe". Finally, the only library left is Scipy, which is used to save and load images. To install it, just run: "scipy-0.10.1-win32-superpack-python2.7.exe"

1.2 Install and run NPR

In order to install Number Plate Recognition, you just need to put the "npr" directory in a place that suits you.

To start the program, just click on the npr.py icon.

2 How to use it

The software is pretty easy to use, since there is not a lot of buttons, or menus. When you start the program, this window pops up.

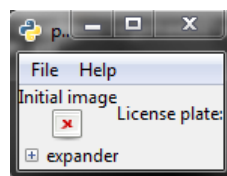


Figure 1: GUI: First Window

From this point, there is a couple of actions you can do. The first one, you can click on File, and then Quit. This will close the program. It works exactly the same when you click on the top right cross.

You can click on Help and then click on About. This will show a window that contains a couple of buttons.

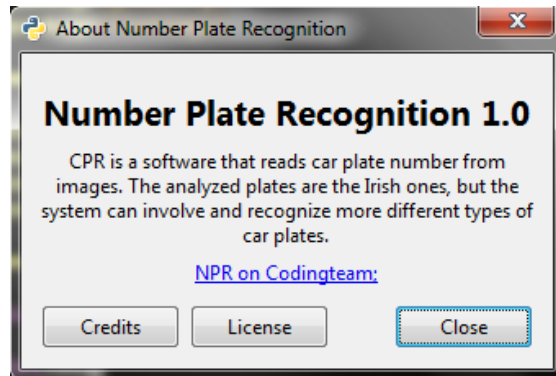


Figure 2: GUI: About Window

Each button shows another window containing some informations about what you just clicked on. The Licence button shows this window:

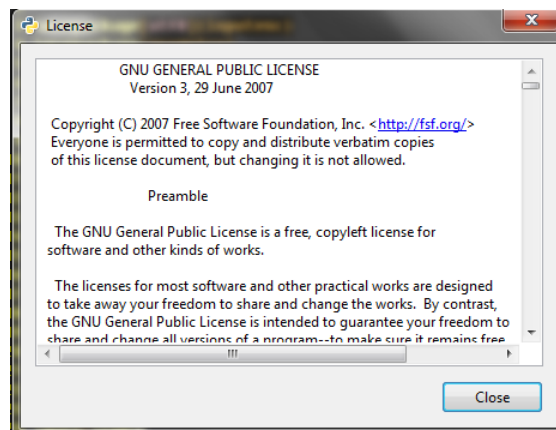


Figure 3: GUI: License Window

And the Credits shows this one:

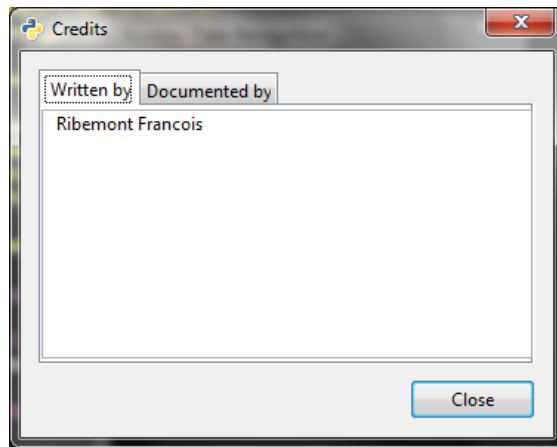


Figure 4: GUI: Credits Window

If you click on File, Open File, this will show you a new Window, where you can find the picture of the car you want to find the numbers.

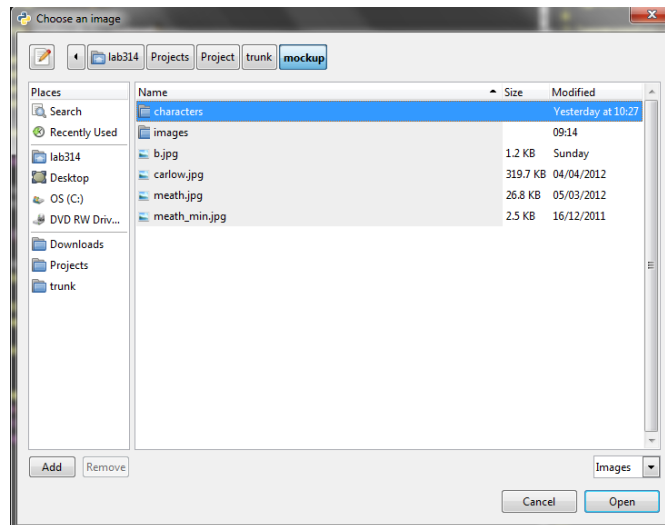


Figure 5: GUI: FileChooser Widget

After choosing your file, and click on open, this will start processing the file. While it's processing, this window will come up:

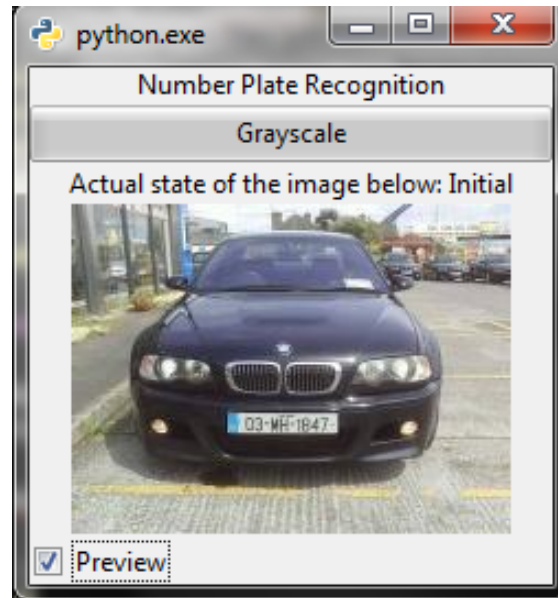


Figure 6: GUI: Loading Window

On this window, you can disable the preview if you don't want to look at it while it's loading. This window shows you the different steps, and the amount done. When the process is over, the window will close, and you will get this:

You have a big picture in the middle of the screen, and a couple of pictures on the bottom part of the window. By clicking on a small image on the bottom part, it will replace the big picture on top by the one you clicked on. So you can have a close look to the work that has been done. The car plate numbers appear on the right, you can select them in order to copy them.

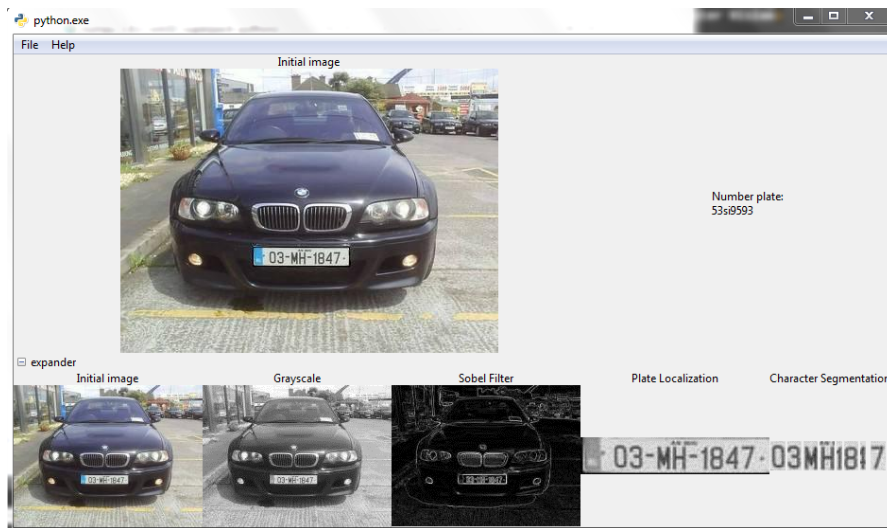


Figure 7: GUI: Main window

3 Source Code

```
# -*- coding: utf-8 -*-

import os
import thread

import gtk
gtk.gdk.threads_init()
import gobject

import test

class GUI:
    """ This class manages everything about the Graphical User Interface """

    def __init__(self, glade_path):
        builder = gtk.Builder()
        builder.add_from_file('%s/%s' % (os.path.dirname(__file__),
            glade_path))
        self.progress = test.Progression()

        self.widgets = {'window': builder.get_object('window'),
            'open_button': builder.get_object('open_button'),
            'about_dialog': builder.get_object('about_dialog'),
            'about_button': builder.get_object('about_button'),
            'quit_button': builder.get_object('quit_button'),
            'about_button_box': builder.get_object('about_button_box'),
            'treatment_dialog': builder.get_object('treatment_dialog'),
            'progressbar': builder.get_object('progressbar'),
            'checkbutton': builder.get_object('checkbutton'),
            'image_preview': builder.get_object('image_preview'),
            'label_preview': builder.get_object('label_preview'),
            'table': builder.get_object('table'),
            'hbox_preview': builder.get_object('hbox_preview'),
            'image_preview0': builder.get_object('image_preview0'),
            'image_preview1': builder.get_object('image_preview1'),
            'image_preview2': builder.get_object('image_preview2'),
            'image_preview3': builder.get_object('image_preview3'),
            'image_preview4': builder.get_object('image_preview4'),
            'image_preview5': builder.get_object('image_preview5'),
            'image_preview6': builder.get_object('image_preview6'),
            'image_preview7': builder.get_object('image_preview7'),
            'label_output': builder.get_object('label_output'),
            'main_image': builder.get_object('main_image')}

        self.widgets['window'].show()
```



```

self.widgets['window'].connect('destroy', gtk.main_quit)
self.widgets['window'].connect('destroy', gtk.main_quit)
self.widgets['quit_button'].connect('activate', gtk.main_quit)

self.widgets['about_button'].connect('activate',
    self.show_about_window)
self.widgets['open_button'].connect('activate',
    self.on_open_button_activate)

def replace(self, widget, event):
    self.widgets['main_image'].set_from_file(widget.get_child().image)

def on_open_button_activate(self, widget):
    file_chooser = gtk.FileChooserDialog(title='Choose an image',
        action=gtk.FILE_CHOOSER_ACTION_OPEN,
        buttons=(gtk.STOCK_CANCEL, gtk.RESPONSE_CANCEL,
            gtk.STOCK_OPEN, gtk.RESPONSE_OK))
    filter_images = gtk.FileFilter()
    filter_images.set_name("Images")
    filter_images.add_mime_type("image/png")
    filter_images.add_mime_type("image/jpeg")
    filter_images.add_mime_type("image/gif")
    filter_images.add_pattern("*.png")
    filter_images.add_pattern("*.jpg")
    filter_images.add_pattern("*.gif")
    file_chooser.add_filter(filter_images)
    filter_images = gtk.FileFilter()
    filter_images.set_name("All files")
    filter_images.add_pattern("*")
    file_chooser.add_filter(filter_images)

    response = file_chooser.run()
    if response == gtk.RESPONSE_OK:
        path = file_chooser.get_filename()
        file_chooser.destroy()
        self.start_operation(path)

def start_operation(self, path):
    self.widgets['checkboxbutton'].connect('toggled', self.preview)

    self.widgets['progressbar'].set_fraction(0)
    self.widgets['checkboxbutton'].set_active(True)
    func = self.progress.start_worker_thread
    self.thread = thread.start_new_thread(func, (path,))
    self.widgets['treatment_dialog'].show_all()
    GObject.timeout_add(100, self.update_gui)

def preview(self, widget):
    if widget.get_active():

```

```

        self.widgets[ 'label_preview' ].set_visible( True )
        self.widgets[ 'image_preview' ].set_visible( True )
    else:
        self.widgets[ 'label_preview' ].set_visible( False )
        self.widgets[ 'image_preview' ].set_visible( False )

def update_gui( self ):
    text = 'Actual state of the image below: %s' % \
        ( self.progress.operation[ self.progress.state + 1 ] )
    self.widgets[ 'label_preview' ].set_text( text )
    fraction = float( self.progress.state + 1 ) / self.progress.number_state
    self.widgets[ 'progressbar' ].set_fraction( fraction )
    text = self.progress.operation[ self.progress.state + 2 ]
    self.widgets[ 'progressbar' ].set_text( text )

    operation = self.progress.operation[ self.progress.state + 1 ]
    if self.progress.operation[ self.progress.state + 1 ] != \
        'Character Segmentation':
        self.widgets[ 'hbox_preview' ].hide()
        self.widgets[ 'image_preview' ].set_from_file( '%s/%s_min.%s' % \
            ( self.progress.directory ,
              ''.join( operation.lower().split() ) ,
              self.progress.image_type , ) )
    else:
        self.widgets[ 'image_preview' ].hide()
        self.widgets[ 'hbox_preview' ].show()
        for i in xrange( 8 ):
            widget = self.widgets[ 'image_preview%s' % i ]
            widget.set_from_file( '%s/segmentation_%s.jpg' % \
                ( self.progress.directory , i ) )

    if self.progress.state + 2 <= self.progress.number_state:
        object.timeout_add( 100 , self.update_gui )
    else:
        self.widgets[ 'treatment_dialog' ].hide()
        self.update_main_gui()

def update_main_gui( self ):
    self.widgets[ 'label_output' ].set_text( '%s\n%s' % \
        ( 'Number plate:' , self.progress.output ) )
    self.widgets[ 'main_image' ].set_from_file( '%s/%s.jpg' % \
        ( self.progress.directory , 'initial' ) )

    operations = self.progress.operation
    # We add the images to the table
    for widget in xrange( self.progress.number_state + 1 ):
        image = gtk.Image()

        name = ''.join( self.progress.operation[ widget ].lower().split() )

```

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if name != 'templatematching':
    if name != 'charactersegmentation':
        image.image = '%s/%s.jpg' % (self.progress.directory, name)
        image.set_from_file('%s/%s_min.jpg' %\
            (self.progress.directory, name))
        eventbox = gtk.EventBox()
        eventbox.add(image)
        eventbox.connect('button_press_event', self.replace)
        self.widgets['table'].attach(eventbox, widget,
            widget + 1, 1, 2)
    else:
        hbox = gtk.HBox()
        for i in range(8):
            image = gtk.Image()
            image.set_from_file('%s/segmentation-%s.jpg' %\
                (self.progress.directory, i))
            image.image = '%s/segmentation-%s.jpg' %\
                (self.progress.directory, i)
            eventbox = gtk.EventBox()
            eventbox.add(image)
            eventbox.connect('button_press_event', self.replace)
            hbox.add(eventbox)
        self.widgets['table'].attach(hbox, widget,
            widget + 1, 1, 2)

self.widgets['table'].show_all()

def show_about_window(self, widget):
    response = self.widgets['about_dialog'].run()
    if response == gtk.RESPONSE_DELETE_EVENT or\
        response == gtk.RESPONSE_CANCEL:
        self.widgets['about_dialog'].hide()

if __name__ == '__main__':
    g = GUI('main.glade')

    gtk.main()

```

Listing 1: npr.py

```

# -*- coding: utf-8 -*-

import os
import math
import time
import sys

import numpy
from copy import deepcopy
from scipy import misc
import gtk

image = misc.imread('b.jpg')
mini = misc.imresize(image, (39, 200))

BLACK = 0
WHITE = 255

class Rectangle:

    def __init__(self, topleft_corner, bottomright_corner):
        self.tlc = topleft_corner
        self.width = abs(self.tlc[1] - bottomright_corner[1])
        self.height = abs(self.tlc[0] - bottomright_corner[0])

    def __str__(self):
        return 'Top left corner: (%s, %s), width: %s, height: %s' %\
            (self.tlc[0], self.tlc[1], self.width, self.height)

class Line:

    def __init__(self, start=None, end=None, line_tuple=None):
        if start and end:
            self.start = start
            self.end = end
        elif line_tuple:
            self.start = line_tuple[0]
            self.end = line_tuple[1]
        else:
            raise

        self.position = -1
        if (start[0] - end[0]) != 0:
            self.position = 'Vertical'
            self.size = abs(self.start[0] - self.end[0])
            self.pixels = [(a, self.start[1]) for a in range(self.size)]
        else:

```

```

        self.position = 'Horizontal'
        self.size = abs(self.start[1] - self.end[1])
        self.pixels = [(self.start[0], a) for a in range(self.size)]

def __str__(self):
    return '%s line, starts: %s, ends: %s, length: %s' % (self.position,
        self.start, self.end, self.size)

def __len__(self):
    return self.size

def __contains__(self, item):
    if self.position == 'Vertical':
        return item[1] in self.pixels[1]

def draw_line(image, line):
    if line.position == 'Vertical':
        for i in xrange(len(line)):
            a = line.start[1]
            b = line.start[0]
            image[b, (a + 1)] = numpy.uint(127)
    else:
        for i in xrange(len(line)):
            image[line.start[0] + i, line.start[1]] = numpy.uint(127)
    return image

def show_image(list_images):
    window = gtk.Window(gtk.WINDOW_TOPLEVEL)
    window.connect('destroy', gtk.main_quit)
    vbox = gtk.HBox()
    window.add(vbox)

    for path_image in list_images:
        image = gtk.Image()
        image.set_from_file(path_image)
        vbox.add(image)

    window.show_all()

    gtk.main()

def sobel_filter(input_image):
    copy = input_image.copy()
    black_and_white = input_image.copy()

    def apply_filter(sliced_image):

```

```

x = abs((sliced_image[0][0] + 2 * sliced_image[0][1] +\
        sliced_image[0][1]) - (sliced_image[2][0] +\
        sliced_image[2][1] * 2 + sliced_image[2][2]))
y = abs((sliced_image[0][2] + 2 * sliced_image[1][2] +\
        sliced_image[2][2]) - (sliced_image[0][0] +\
        sliced_image[1][0] * 2 + sliced_image[2][0]))
return int(math.sqrt(x ** 2 + y ** 2))

for i in xrange(copy.shape[0]-1):
    for j in xrange(copy.shape[1]-1):
        if 0 < i and 0 < j:
            value = apply_filter(input_image[i - 1:i + 2, j - 1:j + 2])
            copy[i][j] = value
            if value < 180:
                black_and_white[i][j] = numpy.uint32(0)
            else:
                black_and_white[i][j] = numpy.uint32(255)

return (copy[1: -1, 1: -1], black_and_white)

def plate_position(im, draw_lines=False):
    image = im.copy()

    min_width = int(image.shape[0] / 7)
    min_height = int(image.shape[1] / 20)
    wrong_pixels_allowed = 3

    def detect_horizontal_lines(image):
        list_of_rows = []

        # height = shape[0]
        for height in xrange(image.shape[0]):
            data = {'end_position': None,
                   'start_position': None,
                   }
            # width = shape[1]
            for width in xrange(image.shape[1]):
                # We are "on" a line
                if image[height][width] == WHITE:
                    # This is the first pixel of a line
                    if not data['start_position']:
                        data['start_position'] = (height, width)
                        wrong_pixels_allowed = 5

                    # In this case, a line is not long enough
                    elif (image[height][width] == BLACK) and\
                        data['start_position'] and\
                        ((width - data['start_position'][1]) < min_width):

```

```

        if wrong_pixels_allowed > 0:
            wrong_pixels_allowed -= 1
        else:
            data['start_position'] = None

    elif data['start_position'] and\
         (min_width <= (width - data['start_position'][1])) and\
         (image[height][width] == BLACK):

        if wrong_pixels_allowed > 0:
            wrong_pixels_allowed -= 1
        else:
            data['end_position'] = (height, width)

    # In this case, we have a line which is long enough
    if image[height][width] == BLACK and data['end_position']:
        # --init--(self, start, end):
        list_of_rows.append(Line(deepcopy(data['start_position']),
                                deepcopy(data['end_position'])))
        if draw_lines:
            for i in xrange(data['start_position'][1],
                            data['end_position'][1]):
                image[height][i] = numpy.uint32(127)
            data['start_position'] = None
            data['end_position'] = None
    return list_of_rows

def detect_vertical_lines(image):
    list_of_columns = []

    # width
    for width in xrange(image.shape[1]):
        data = {'end_position': None,
               'start_position': None,
               }
        # height
        for height in xrange(image.shape[0]):
            # We are "on" a line
            if image[height][width] == WHITE:
                # This is the first pixel of a line
                if not data['start_position']:
                    data['start_position'] = (height, width)

            # In this case, a line is not long enough
            elif (image[height][width] == BLACK) and\
                 data['start_position'] and\
                 ((height - data['start_position'][0]) < min_height):

```

```

        data['start_position'] = None

        # In this case, a line is long enough, so
        # XXX Never gets in
        elif data['start_position'] and\
            (min_height <= (height - data['start_position'][0])) and\
            (image[height][width] == BLACK):

            data['end_position'] = (height, width)

        # In this case, we have a line which is long enough
        # XXX Never gets in
        if image[height][width] == BLACK and data['end_position']:
            if draw_lines:
                for i in xrange(data['start_position'][0],
                                data['end_position'][0]):
                    image[i][width] = numpy.uint32(127)
                copy = Line(deepcopy(data['start_position']),
                            deepcopy(data['end_position']))
                list_of_columns.append(copy)
                data['start_position'] = None
                data['end_position'] = None
    return list_of_columns

def distance_lines(point1, point2, type_of_line):
    if type_of_line == 'Vertical':
        distance = abs(point1[1] - point2[1])
    else:
        distance = abs(point1[0] - point2[0])

    return distance

rows = detect_horizontal_lines(image)
columns = detect_vertical_lines(image)

list_parallel_rows = []
# We first try to detect parallel horizontal lines, of the same width, and
# the same position horizontally
# We'll use 1% of the size for the margin of error
# Seems to work
margin_error = int(image.shape[1] / 100)
for i in xrange(len(rows)):
    for j in xrange(len(rows)):
        if abs(rows[j].start[1] - rows[i].start[1]) <= margin_error and\
            abs(rows[j].end[1] - rows[i].end[1]) <= margin_error:
            if ((rows[i], rows[j]) not in list_parallel_rows) and\
                ((rows[j], rows[i]) not in list_parallel_rows):

                if distance_lines(rows[i].start, rows[j].start,

```



```

        'Horizontal') > margin_error:
    if rows[i].start[0] < rows[j].start[0]:
        list_parallel_rows.append((rows[i], rows[j]))
    else:
        list_parallel_rows.append((rows[j], rows[i]))

# Same here vertical lines
list_parallel_columns = []

for i in xrange(len(columns)):

    for j in xrange(i + 1, len(columns)):

        if abs(columns[i].start[0] - columns[j].start[0]) <= \
            (margin_error) and \
            abs(columns[i].end[0] - columns[j].end[0]) <= (margin_error):

            if (columns[i], columns[j]) not in list_parallel_columns and \
                (columns[j], columns[i]) not in list_parallel_columns:

                if distance_lines(columns[i].start, columns[j].start,
                                   'Vertical') > margin_error:

                    if columns[i].start[1] < columns[j].start[1]:
                        list_parallel_columns.append((columns[i],
                                                       columns[j]))
                    else:
                        list_parallel_columns.append((columns[j],
                                                       columns[i]))

def intersection_lines(line1, line2):
    vertical_line = line1 if line1.position == 'Vertical' else line2
    horizontal_line = line1 if line1.position == 'Horizontal' else line2
    full_v_line = Line((0, vertical_line.start[1]),
                       (image.shape[0] - 1, vertical_line.start[1]))
    full_h_line = Line((vertical_line.start[0], 0),
                       (vertical_line.start[0], image.shape[1] - 1))

    for pixel in full_v_line.pixels:
        if pixel in full_h_line.pixels:
            return pixel

def distance(point1, point2):
    return math.sqrt((point1[0] - point2[0]) ** 2 + \
                     (point1[1] - point2[1]) ** 2)

def point_on_segment(segment, point):
    return point in segment.pixels

```

```

def on_segment_or_close(point, line, min_dist):
    return (point_on_segment(line, point) <= min_dist) or\
           (distance(point, line) <= min_dist)

# Now we try to detect rectangles
rectangles = []
min_distance = image.shape[1] / 40
for first_row, second_row in list_parallel_rows:
    for first_col, second_col in list_parallel_columns:
        intersection1 = intersection_lines(first_row, first_col)
        intersection2 = intersection_lines(second_row, second_col)

        # We try to see if the intersection between the lines are close
        # enough to the end of a segment
        if on_segment_or_close(intersection1, first_row, min_distance) and\
           on_segment_or_close(intersection1, first_col, min_distance):

            if on_segment_or_close(intersection2, second_row,
                                   min_distance) and\
               on_segment_or_close(intersection2,
                                   second_col, min_distance):

                rec = Rectangle(first_row.start, second_col.end)
                rectangles.append(rec)

# Since we've detected rectangles, we now have to check for the good
# proportions. A plate is 52 cm for the width and 10.5 cm for the height.
# So the good proportions is approximately 5.
# We'll accept values between 4.8 and 5.2.

def is_good(rec):
    if rec.width / 5.6 < rec.height < rec.width / 4.4:
        return True
    else:
        return False

#for rec in rectangles:
#    #draw_rectangle(image, rec)
rectangles = [rec for rec in rectangles if is_good(rec)]
final_rectangles = []
if len(rectangles) > 0:
    final_rectangles.append(rectangles[0])

if len(rectangles) != 1:
    for rec in rectangles:
        for rec2 in rectangles:
            if not (rec.tlc[0] - rec2.tlc[0] <= 2) and not\
                (rec.tlc[1] - rec2.tlc[1] <= 2):

```

```

        final_rectangles.append(rec)
        final_rectangles.append(rec2)

# Now, we get rid of the duplicates
final_rectangles = list(set(final_rectangles))
if len(final_rectangles) == 1:
    rec = final_rectangles.pop()
    return rec

class Point:

    def __init__(self, pos, value=None):
        self.pos = pos
        self.value = value

    def __str__(self):
        return 'Value: %s, position: %s' % (self.value, self.pos)

def character_segmentation(image):

    def reset_values():
        current.pos = 0
        current.value = c[0]
        next.pos = 1
        next.value = c[1]

    def next_element():
        current.pos += 1
        current.value = c[current.pos + 1]
        next.pos += 1
        next.value = c[next.pos + 1]

    def delete_blank(image, c):
        c = c[current.pos + 1:]
        image = image[:, current.pos + 1:]
        return (image, c)

    def save_character(image, c):
        list_characters.append((deepcopy(image[:, 0:current.pos + 1]),
                                current.pos + 1))
        return delete_blank(image, c)

    def extract_character(image, c):
        # The second digit starts here
        # We get the highest point
        while current.value < next.value:
            next_element()

```

```

# and we'll try to go a little further
# The width of the previous character will be the limit
highest = deepcopy(current)
while list_characters[0][1] > current.pos and\
      current.value > max(c) / 10:
    if current.value < next.value:
        highest = deepcopy(current)
    next_element()

current = highest

# Then we try to go down, to find the end
while current.value + 270 > next.value:
    next_element()

image, c = save_character(image, c)

# dash is the dash on the plate between digits and letters
len_dash = None

list_characters = []

vp = vertical_projection(image)
hp = horizontal_projection(image)
# First of all, we remove the top and the bottom of the car plate using
# the horizontal projection
for i in xrange(2):
    index_max = hp.index(max(hp))
    if index_max < (image.shape[0] / 2):
        hp = hp[index_max + 1:]
        image = image[index_max + 1:][:]
    else:
        hp = hp[:index_max + 1]
        image = image[:index_max + 1][:]
# Then, we try to remove the county written in Irish above the numbers

# First thing to do is to get rid of the european part of the plate
c = [max(vp) - a for a in vp]
new = [value for value in c if value < max(c) / 10][0]

margin_error = 425
# We'll see if there is a part we can get rid of on the right
current = Point(c.index(new), new)
next = Point(current.pos + 1)
next.value = c[next.pos]

while (current.value + margin_error >= next.value):
    next_element()

```

```

image, c = delete_blank(image, c)

# We know that in an Irish number plate, there between 4 and 10 numbers
# AA - BB - CCCCCC where AA stands for the year of registration (2 digits)
# BB is used for the county letter(s) (one or two characters)
# CCCCCC is the number of the car (from 1 to 6 digits)

# First thing to do is getting the two digits corresponding to the year
# We get the biggest value from the left
reset_values()

while current.value < next.value:
    next_element()

# At this stage, the highest value is current
# Now, we'll try to know where this character stops
while current.value > max(c) / 10:
    next_element()

image, c = save_character(image, c)

reset_values()
# We now remove the "blank" between the first and the second character
while (current.value < max(c) / 10) or \
    (current.value + max(c) / 10) >= next.value:
    next_element()

image, c = delete_blank(image, c)
reset_values()

# The second digit starts here
# We get the highest point
while current.value < next.value:
    next_element()

# and we'll try to go a little further
# The width of the previous character will be the limit
highest = deepcopy(current)
while list_characters[0][1] > current.pos and current.value > max(c) / 10:
    if current.value < next.value:
        highest = deepcopy(current)
    next_element()

current = highest

# Then we try to go down, to find the end
while current.value + 270 > next.value:

```

```

        next_element()

image, c = save_character(image, c)

reset_values()
# Now, we try to get remove the dash
while current.value < next.value:
    next_element()

# At this stage we should the highest point on it
# We'll try do find where the next character begins
while (current.value + margin_error >= next.value):
    next_element()
len_dash = current.pos
image, c = delete_blank(image, c)

# We got rid of the dash at this stage
# We now have to figure out if there is one or two characters for the
# county part
# First thing to do is to get the first character
while current.value < next.value:
    next_element()

# annd we'll try to go a little further
# The width of the previous character will be the limit
highest = deepcopy(current)
while list_characters[0][1] > current.pos and current.value > max(c) / 15:
    if current.value < next.value:
        highest = deepcopy(current)
    next_element()

current = highest

# Then we try to go down, to find the end
while current.value + 270 > next.value:
    next_element()

image, c = save_character(image, c)

# 4th character
# The trickiest one
# For this one, we'll make an average of the other characters values
average = 0
total = 0
for character, size in list_characters:
    total += size
average = total / len(list_characters)

reset_values()

```

```

image, c = delete_blank(image, c)
current = Point(average)
current.value = c[current.pos]
next = Point(current.pos)
next.value = c[next.pos]
while current.value < next.value:
    next_element()

# annd we'll try to go a little further
while current.value > next.value:
    next_element()

image, c = save_character(image, c)
reset_values()

# We remove the second dash
while current.value < next.value:
    next_element()

# At this stage we should the highest point on it
# We'll try do find where the next character begins
while (current.value + margin_error >= next.value):
    next_element()
len_dash = current.pos
image, c = delete_blank(image, c)

for i in xrange(4):
    reset_values()

    while current.value < next.value:
        next_element()

    # At this stage, the highest value is current
    # Now, we'll try to know where this character stops
    while current.value > max(c) / 10:
        next_element()

    image, c = save_character(image, c)

    reset_values()
    # We now remove the "blank" between the first and the second character
    while (current.value < max(c) / 10) or \
        (current.value + max(c) / 10) >= next.value:
        next_element()

    image, c = delete_blank(image, c)
    reset_values()

return list_characters

```

```

def vertical_projection(image):
    vp_image = numpy.array([[255 for a in range(image.shape[1])] for b in
        range(image.shape[0])], dtype=numpy.uint8)
    image = image.copy()
    list_sums = []
    for width in xrange(image.shape[1]):
        sum_column = 0
        for height in xrange(image.shape[0]):
            sum_column += image[height][width]
        list_sums.append(sum_column)

    max_i = max(list_sums)

    average = 0
    for a in list_sums:
        average += a

    copy = [a for a in list_sums]
    for width in xrange(vp_image.shape[1]):
        value = list_sums.pop(0)
        value = int((float(value) / max_i) * image.shape[0])
        vp_image[value:, width] = 0

    misc.imsave('images/verticalprojection.jpg', vp_image)
    return copy

def horizontal_projection(image):
    vp_image = numpy.array([[255 for a in range(image.shape[1] / 4)] for b in
        range(image.shape[0])], dtype=numpy.uint8)

    image = image.copy()
    list_sums = []
    for height in xrange(image.shape[0]):
        sum_column = 0
        for width in xrange(image.shape[1]):
            sum_column += image[height][width]
        list_sums.append(sum_column)

    copy = [a for a in list_sums]
    max_i = max(list_sums)

    for height in xrange(vp_image.shape[0]):
        value = list_sums.pop(0)
        value = int((float(value) / max_i) * (image.shape[1] / 4))

```



```

        vp_image[height, value:] = 0

    misc.imsave('images/horizontalprojection.jpg', vp_image)
    return copy

def grayscale(input_image):
    return numpy.array([[sum(l) / len(l) for l in row] for row in input_image],
                        dtype=numpy.uint32)

def score_template(matrix1, matrix2):
    mask = numpy.array([[0 for a in xrange(matrix1.shape[1])]\
                        for b in xrange(matrix1.shape[0])])

    diff = matrix2 - matrix1
    for a in diff:
        total = sum(a)

    return total

def template_matching(list_characters, bla=True):
    path = 'characters'
    directory = os.listdir(path)
    characters = [a.lstrip()[0] for a in directory]

    characters_as_images = {char: grayscale(misc.imread('%s/%s.jpg' %\
        (path, char))) for char in characters}

    # First, the year, so it can just be a digit
    list_first_digits_save = []
    list_images = []

    plate = ''

    count = 1
    for plate_character, size in list_characters:
        scores = {c: sys.maxint for c in characters}

        for i in range(len(characters_as_images)):
            if 0 < count <= 2 or 4 < count <= 8:
                for char in xrange(10):
                    character = characters_as_images[str(char)]
                    template = misc.imresize(character, plate_character.shape)
                    score = score_template(template, plate_character)

                    scores[str(char)] = score
            else:

```

```

        for char in characters:
            try:
                int(char)
            except:
                template = misc.imresize(characters_as_images[char],
                                         plate_character.shape)
                score = score_template(template, plate_character)

                scores[char] = score

    best = None
    for key, value in scores.iteritems():
        if value == min(scores.values()):
            best = key

    plate = '%s%s' % (plate, best)

    count += 1

return plate

class Progression:

    def __init__(self):
        self.state = -1
        self.number_state = 5
        self.operation = ('Initial', 'Grayscale', 'Sobel Filter',
                          'Plate Localization', 'Character Segmentation',
                          'Template Matching', '')
        self.directory = 'images'
        self.output = ''

    def start_worker_thread(self, path):
        width = 200
        image = misc.imread(path)
        self.image_type = path.rsplit('.', 1)[1]

        misc.imsave('%s/initial.%s' % (self.directory, self.image_type),
                    image)

        mini = misc.imresize(image, (image.shape[0] * width / image.shape[1],
                                     width))

        misc.imsave('%s/initial_min.%s' % (self.directory, self.image_type),
                    mini)

        image = grayscale(image)
        image_segmentation = image.copy()

```

```

misc.imsave( '%s/grayscale.%s' % (self.directory, self.image_type),
             image)

mini = misc.imresize(image, (image.shape[0] * width / image.shape[1],
                             width))

misc.imsave( '%s/grayscale_min.%s' % (self.directory, self.image_type),
             mini)

self.state += 1

image, bwimage = sobel_filter(image)
misc.imsave( '%s/sobelfilter.%s' % (self.directory, self.image_type),
             image)

mini = misc.imresize(image, (image.shape[0] * width / image.shape[1],
                             width))

misc.imsave( '%s/sobelfilter_min.%s' %\
             (self.directory, self.image_type), mini)

self.state += 1

rec = plate_position(bwimage)
image = image_segmentation[rec.tlc[0]:rec.tlc[0] + rec.height,
                           rec.tlc[1]:rec.tlc[1] + rec.width]
misc.imsave( '%s/platelocalization.%s' %\
             (self.directory, self.image_type), image)

mini = misc.imresize(image, (image.shape[0] * width / image.shape[1],
                             width))

misc.imsave( '%s/platelocalization_min.%s' %\
             (self.directory, self.image_type), mini)

if len(image) < len(mini):
    misc.imsave( '%s/platelocalization.%s' %\
                (self.directory, self.image_type), mini)
self.state += 1

# Character segmentation
list_characters = character_segmentation(mini)
i = 0
for character, size in list_characters:
    misc.imsave( '%s/segmentation-%s.jpg' % (self.directory, i),
                character)
    i += 1
self.state += 1
# Template matching

```

```
        self.output = template_matching(list_characters)
        self.state += 1
        self.exit_thread()

if __name__ == '__main__':
    aa = time.clock()
    image_from = 'images/meath.jpg'
    image_to = 'b.jpg'
    image = misc.imread('b.jpg')
    mini = misc.imresize(image, (39, 200))
    characters = character_segmentation(mini)
    template_matching(characters)
```

Listing 2: test.py

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<interface>
  <requires lib="gtk+" version="2.24"/>
  <!-- interface-naming-policy project-wide -->
  <object class="GtkAboutDialog" id="about_dialog">
    <property name="can_focus">False</property>
    <property name="border_width">5</property>
    <property name="type_hint">dialog</property>
    <property name="program_name">Number Plate Recognition</property>
    <property name="version">1.0</property>
    <property name="comments" translatable="yes">CPR is a software that reads car plate
    <property name="website">http://codingteam.net/project/npr</property>
    <property name="website_label" translatable="yes">NPR on Codingteam;</property>
    <property name="license" translatable="yes">          GNU GENERAL PUBLIC LICENSE
          Version 3, 29 June 2007

```

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```
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```
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This program comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY; for details type 'show w'.
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```

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```

&lt ; http://www.gnu.org/philosophy/why-not-lgpl.html&gt ; .
</property>
  <property name="authors">Ribemont Francois</property>
  <property name="documenters">Ribemont Francois</property>
  <child internal-child="vbox">
    <object class="GtkVBox" id="dialog-vbox1">
      <property name="visible">True</property>
      <property name="can_focus">False</property>
      <property name="spacing">2</property>
      <child internal-child="action_area">
        <object class="GtkHButtonBox" id="dialog-action_area3">
          <property name="visible">True</property>
          <property name="can_focus">False</property>
        </object>
      <packing>
        <property name="expand">False</property>
        <property name="fill">True</property>
        <property name="pack_type">end</property>
        <property name="position">0</property>
      </packing>
    </child>
  </child>
  <placeholder />
</object>
</child>
</object>
<object class="GtkWindow" id="treatment_dialog">
  <property name="can_focus">False</property>
  <child>
    <object class="GtkVBox" id="dialog-vbox6">
      <property name="visible">True</property>
      <property name="can_focus">False</property>
      <property name="spacing">2</property>
      <child>
        <placeholder />
      </child>
      <child>
        <object class="GtkLabel" id="label12">
          <property name="visible">True</property>
          <property name="can_focus">False</property>
          <property name="label" translatable="yes">Number Plate Recognition</property>
        </object>
      <packing>
        <property name="expand">False</property>
        <property name="fill">False</property>
        <property name="position">0</property>
      </packing>
    </child>
  </child>

```

```

<child>
  <object class="GtkProgressBar" id="progressbar">
    <property name="visible">True</property>
    <property name="can_focus">False</property>
  </object>
  <packing>
    <property name="expand">False</property>
    <property name="fill">False</property>
    <property name="position">2</property>
  </packing>
</child>
<child>
  <object class="GtkLabel" id="label_preview">
    <property name="can_focus">False</property>
    <property name="label" translatable="yes">Actual state of the image below: Init
  </object>
  <packing>
    <property name="expand">True</property>
    <property name="fill">True</property>
    <property name="position">3</property>
  </packing>
</child>
<child>
  <object class="GtkVBox" id="vbox3">
    <property name="visible">True</property>
    <property name="can_focus">False</property>
    <child>
      <object class="GtkImage" id="image_preview">
        <property name="can_focus">False</property>
        <property name="stock">gtk-missing-image</property>
      </object>
      <packing>
        <property name="expand">True</property>
        <property name="fill">True</property>
        <property name="position">0</property>
      </packing>
    </child>
    <child>
      <object class="GtkHBox" id="hbox_preview">
        <property name="can_focus">False</property>
        <child>
          <object class="GtkImage" id="image_preview0">
            <property name="can_focus">False</property>
            <property name="stock">gtk-missing-image</property>
          </object>
          <packing>
            <property name="expand">True</property>
            <property name="fill">True</property>
            <property name="position">0</property>
          </packing>
        </child>
      </object>
    </child>
  </object>

```

```

    </packing>
  </child>
  <child>
    <object class="GtkImage" id="image_preview1">
      <property name="can_focus">False</property>
      <property name="stock">gtk-missing-image</property>
    </object>
    <packing>
      <property name="expand">True</property>
      <property name="fill">True</property>
      <property name="position">1</property>
    </packing>
  </child>
  <child>
    <object class="GtkImage" id="image_preview2">
      <property name="can_focus">False</property>
      <property name="stock">gtk-missing-image</property>
    </object>
    <packing>
      <property name="expand">True</property>
      <property name="fill">True</property>
      <property name="position">2</property>
    </packing>
  </child>
  <child>
    <object class="GtkImage" id="image_preview3">
      <property name="can_focus">False</property>
      <property name="stock">gtk-missing-image</property>
    </object>
    <packing>
      <property name="expand">True</property>
      <property name="fill">True</property>
      <property name="position">3</property>
    </packing>
  </child>
  <child>
    <object class="GtkImage" id="image_preview4">
      <property name="can_focus">False</property>
      <property name="stock">gtk-missing-image</property>
    </object>
    <packing>
      <property name="expand">True</property>
      <property name="fill">True</property>
      <property name="position">4</property>
    </packing>
  </child>
  <child>
    <object class="GtkImage" id="image_preview5">
      <property name="can_focus">False</property>

```

```

    <property name="stock">gtk-missing-image</property>
  </object>
  <packing>
    <property name="expand">True</property>
    <property name="fill">True</property>
    <property name="position">5</property>
  </packing>
</child>
<child>
  <object class="GtkImage" id="image_preview6">
    <property name="can_focus">False</property>
    <property name="stock">gtk-missing-image</property>
  </object>
  <packing>
    <property name="expand">True</property>
    <property name="fill">True</property>
    <property name="position">6</property>
  </packing>
</child>
<child>
  <object class="GtkImage" id="image_preview7">
    <property name="can_focus">False</property>
    <property name="stock">gtk-missing-image</property>
  </object>
  <packing>
    <property name="expand">True</property>
    <property name="fill">True</property>
    <property name="position">7</property>
  </packing>
</child>
</object>
<packing>
  <property name="expand">True</property>
  <property name="fill">True</property>
  <property name="position">1</property>
</packing>
</child>
</object>
<packing>
  <property name="expand">True</property>
  <property name="fill">True</property>
  <property name="position">4</property>
</packing>
</child>
<child>
  <object class="GtkCheckButton" id="checkbutton">
    <property name="label" translatable="yes">Preview</property>
    <property name="visible">True</property>
    <property name="can_focus">True</property>

```

```

    <property name="receives_default">False</property>
    <property name="use_action_appearance">False</property>
    <property name="draw_indicator">True</property>
  </object>
  <packing>
    <property name="expand">False</property>
    <property name="fill">True</property>
    <property name="pack_type">end</property>
    <property name="position">5</property>
  </packing>
</child>
</object>
</child>
</object>
</object>
<object class="GtkWindow" id="window">
  <property name="can_focus">False</property>
  <signal name="destroy-event" handler="on_window_destroy" swapped="no" />
  <child>
    <object class="GtkVBox" id="vbox1">
      <property name="visible">True</property>
      <property name="can_focus">False</property>
      <child>
        <object class="GtkMenuBar" id="menubar1">
          <property name="visible">True</property>
          <property name="can_focus">False</property>
          <child>
            <object class="GtkMenuItem" id="menuitem1">
              <property name="visible">True</property>
              <property name="can_focus">False</property>
              <property name="use_action_appearance">False</property>
              <property name="label" translatable="yes">_File</property>
              <property name="use_underline">True</property>
              <child type="submenu">
                <object class="GtkMenu" id="menu1">
                  <property name="visible">True</property>
                  <property name="can_focus">False</property>
                  <child>
                    <object class="GtkImageMenuItem" id="open_button">
                      <property name="label">gtk-open</property>
                      <property name="visible">True</property>
                      <property name="can_focus">False</property>
                      <property name="use_action_appearance">False</property>
                      <property name="use_underline">True</property>
                      <property name="use_stock">True</property>
                    </object>
                  </child>
                  <child>
                    <object class="GtkSeparatorMenuItem" id="separatormenuitem1">
                      <property name="visible">True</property>

```

```

    <property name=" can_focus">False</property>
    <property name=" use_action_appearance">False</property>
  </object>
</child>
<child>
  <object class=" GtkImageMenuItem" id=" quit_button">
    <property name=" label">gtk-quit</property>
    <property name=" visible">True</property>
    <property name=" can_focus">False</property>
    <property name=" use_action_appearance">False</property>
    <property name=" use_underline">True</property>
    <property name=" use_stock">True</property>
  </object>
</child>
</object>
</child>
</object>
</child>
<child>
  <object class=" GtkMenuItem" id=" menuitem4">
    <property name=" visible">True</property>
    <property name=" can_focus">False</property>
    <property name=" use_action_appearance">False</property>
    <property name=" label" translatable="yes">_Help</property>
    <property name=" use_underline">True</property>
    <child type="submenu">
      <object class=" GtkMenu" id=" menu3">
        <property name=" visible">True</property>
        <property name=" can_focus">False</property>
        <child>
          <object class=" GtkImageMenuItem" id=" about_button">
            <property name=" label">gtk-about</property>
            <property name=" visible">True</property>
            <property name=" can_focus">False</property>
            <property name=" use_action_appearance">False</property>
            <property name=" use_underline">True</property>
            <property name=" use_stock">True</property>
          </object>
        </child>
      </object>
    </child>
  </object>
</child>
</object>
</child>
<packing>
  <property name=" expand">False</property>
  <property name=" fill">True</property>
  <property name=" position">0</property>
</packing>

```



```

</child>
<child>
  <object class="GtkHBox" id="hbox1">
    <property name="visible">True</property>
    <property name="can_focus">False</property>
    <child>
      <object class="GtkVBox" id="vbox2">
        <property name="visible">True</property>
        <property name="can_focus">False</property>
        <child>
          <object class="GtkLabel" id="label1">
            <property name="visible">True</property>
            <property name="can_focus">False</property>
            <property name="label" translatable="yes">Initial image</property>
          </object>
          <packing>
            <property name="expand">True</property>
            <property name="fill">True</property>
            <property name="position">0</property>
          </packing>
        </child>
        <child>
          <object class="GtkImage" id="main_image">
            <property name="visible">True</property>
            <property name="can_focus">False</property>
            <property name="stock">gtk-missing-image</property>
          </object>
          <packing>
            <property name="expand">True</property>
            <property name="fill">True</property>
            <property name="position">1</property>
          </packing>
        </child>
      </object>
    <packing>
      <property name="expand">True</property>
      <property name="fill">True</property>
      <property name="position">0</property>
    </packing>
  </child>
  <child>
    <object class="GtkLabel" id="label_output">
      <property name="visible">True</property>
      <property name="can_focus">False</property>
      <property name="label" translatable="yes">License plate:</property>
      <property name="selectable">True</property>
    </object>
    <packing>
      <property name="expand">True</property>

```

```

    <property name=" fill">True</property>
    <property name=" position">1</property>
  </packing>
</child>
</object>
<packing>
  <property name=" expand">True</property>
  <property name=" fill">True</property>
  <property name=" position">1</property>
</packing>
</child>
<child>
  <object class=" GtkExpander" id=" expander1">
    <property name=" visible">True</property>
    <property name=" can_focus">True</property>
    <child>
      <object class=" GtkTable" id=" table">
        <property name=" visible">True</property>
        <property name=" can_focus">False</property>
        <property name=" n_rows">2</property>
        <property name=" n_columns">5</property>
        <child>
          <object class=" GtkLabel" id=" label4">
            <property name=" visible">True</property>
            <property name=" can_focus">False</property>
            <property name=" label" translatable=" yes">Initial image</property>
          </object>
        </child>
        <child>
          <object class=" GtkLabel" id=" label5">
            <property name=" visible">True</property>
            <property name=" can_focus">False</property>
            <property name=" label" translatable=" yes">Grayscale</property>
          </object>
          <packing>
            <property name=" left_attach">1</property>
            <property name=" right_attach">2</property>
          </packing>
        </child>
        <child>
          <object class=" GtkLabel" id=" label6">
            <property name=" visible">True</property>
            <property name=" can_focus">False</property>
            <property name=" label" translatable=" yes">Sobel Filter</property>
          </object>
          <packing>
            <property name=" left_attach">2</property>
            <property name=" right_attach">3</property>
          </packing>
        </child>
      </child>
    </child>
  </object>

```

```

</child>
<child>
  <object class="GtkLabel" id="label7">
    <property name="visible">True</property>
    <property name="can_focus">False</property>
    <property name="label" translatable="yes">Plate Localization</property>
  </object>
  <packing>
    <property name="left_attach">3</property>
    <property name="right_attach">4</property>
  </packing>
</child>
<child>
  <object class="GtkLabel" id="label8">
    <property name="visible">True</property>
    <property name="can_focus">False</property>
    <property name="label" translatable="yes">Character Segmentation</property>
  </object>
  <packing>
    <property name="left_attach">4</property>
    <property name="right_attach">5</property>
  </packing>
</child>
<child>
  <placeholder />
</child>
<child>
  <placeholder />
</child>
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</child>
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<child>
  <placeholder />
</child>
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</object>
</child>
<child type="label">
  <object class="GtkLabel" id="label3">
    <property name="visible">True</property>
    <property name="can_focus">False</property>
    <property name="label" translatable="yes">expander</property>
  </object>
</child>
</object>
<packing>

```

```
<property name="expand">True</property>
<property name="fill">True</property>
<property name="position">2</property>
</packing>
</child>
</object>
</child>
</object>
</interface>
```

Listing 3: main.glade