Deep learning is a new field of machine learning research, to design models and 
learning algorithms for deep neural networks. Due to the ability of learning from big 
data and the superior representation and prediction performance, deep learning has 
gained great successes in various applications of pattern recognition and artificial 
intelligence, including character and text recognition, image segmentation, object 
detection and recognition, face recognition, traffic sign recognition, speech 
recognition, machine translation, to name a few. Intensive attention has been drawn to 
the exploration of new deep learning models and algorithms, and the extension to 
more application areas. The combination of deep learning and traditional methods in 
pattern recognition and artificial intelligence has also demonstrated benefits.

The technology of document analysis and recognition (DAR) is to analyze the 
structure and textual contents of document images and handwriting. It faces numerous 
application needs such as digitization of books and forms, pen-based text input, 
information extraction from Web document images. It has been under study as a field 
of pattern recognition since 1960s. In recent years, the introduction of deep learning 
to DAR has led to significant improvement of performance in many branches, 
particularly in the cases when large sets of labeled data are available for supervised 
learning, such as handwritten character and text recognition. Among the most 
successful deep learning models are the convolutional neural network (CNN) and the 
recurrent neural network with long short-term memory (LSTM). The application of 
deep learning is now extended to scene text detection and recognition, document 
image segmentation and layout analysis, writer identification, document retrieval, and 
so on.

This special issue is aimed to report the new advances in DAR using deep learning 
methods. Articles presenting reviews, perspectives, new methods and applications in 
DAR are cordially invited. The topics of interest include, but are not limited to 
- Deep learning for document image processing and segmentation 
- Deep learning for layout analysis 
- Deep learning for character and text recognition 
- Deep learning for scene text detection and recognition 
- Deep learning for writer identification and signature analysis 
- Deep learning for document retrieval 
- Deep learning for context modeling 
- Deep learning for graphics and symbol recognition 
- Deep learning for other DAR tasks
Schedule
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