

**AUTOMATIC FACIAL ACNE DETECTION  
FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT**

**BY**

**THANAPHA CHANTHARAPHAICHIT**

**A THESIS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF  
THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF  
ENGINEERING (INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION  
TECHNOLOGY FOR EMBEDDED SYSTEMS)  
SIRINDHORN INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
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A Thesis Presented

By

THANAPHA CHANTHARAPHAICHT

Submitted to

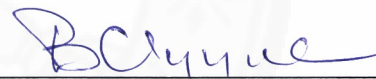
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Thammasat University

In partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of  
MASTER OF ENGINEERING (INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION  
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## Abstract

### AUTOMATIC FACIAL ACNE DETECTION FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT

by

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In this thesis, the implementation of the automatic acne detection system has been made by the various method of image processing. It consists of two main parts; blob detection and Bayesian's classification. First, a blob detection technique is utilized to facial images of patients to reveal circular structures of acne and its amounts. An input image is RGB, then it is converted into HSV and grayscale pictures, these are done to compare and relate points of interest. There may be some misdetection of acne such as blemish and freckle, binary thresholding has been used afterward to contrast and remove the mistakes easier. Using of box shape created by MATLAB, it has been made as an indication to the regions of interest in the results, they are seen as markings. For the second part, the output of blob detection has been fed into feature extraction and Bayesian classification algorithm to filter out the misdetection results from the previous step which boosts the overall system performance. The method of feature extraction composes of acne characteristic calculation such as skewness, kurtosis or entropy. Lastly, an algorithm of classification is applied as training and testing process to have the system automatically distinguish facial contents more deeply. Experimental output increases accuracy, precision and sensitivity with constant value, but all of these depend on location, shape and lighting condition of the facial image.

**Keywords:** image processing, acne, blob detection, feature extraction, Bayesian classification, image processing, acne detection, binary threshold

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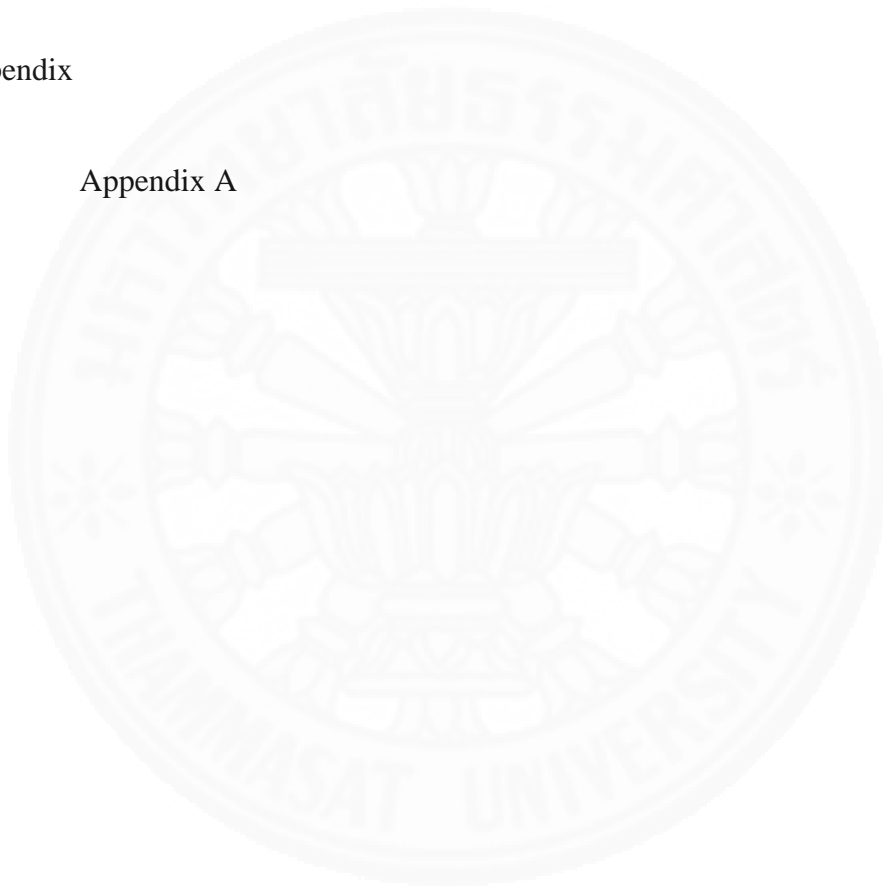
Finally, I would like to give thanks to my parents whom taken care of me over these years of my life. Without them, I may not make this day come true.

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# Chapter 1

## Introduction

It is now trendy and influential among every society to have a nice skin. As dermatological clinic has been increasing, a competition in method and technology to cure skin is harsher, such as in laser treatment or skin tightening. But one of the important skin problems nowadays is facial acnes treatment. Most teenagers and even some adults are facing this problem and later experience cystic acnes or inflammatory acnes. A cause of acne is mainly a fluctuation of hormones or skin's fatty acid, but it can also be caused by an individual skin condition, stress, unhealthy food, weather, and medicines.

A scientific name of acnes is "Acne Vulgaris". It is a very common chronic skin disease related to blockage or inflammation of pilosebaceous, they are hair pores and sebaceous gland which are fatty gland. These glands are stimulated by male hormone, which is produced from the adrenal glands in either males or females. There are two types of acne, one is a non-inflammatory lesion, and another one is inflammatory lesions. In some persons, they have mixtures of both types. The acnes contain the possibility to sprout up on a chest and back also, not only a face. Although the acne is not dangerous, but it can leave bad scars. If there is high-quality of diagnosis and treatment method, it would be very easy to deal with all types of acne.

A pre-processing of facial skin and acne diagnosis is one of the necessary procedures. A regular method of diagnosis is to have a dermatologist manually mark the spot of acne on the marking sheet corresponds to a location of acnes which have been observed. Results from this are unreliable, inaccurate, which increases exceeded effort and time.[1-3] Therefore, a computer-aided application to inspect the acnes is very in need by implementing detection algorithm which has been developed in recent years.[4] Most skin analysis systems require a manual outline of the regions of interest (ROI's) [5-6, 7]. However, the outline of ROI is commonly known as a time-consuming and non-repeatable process. Most skin clinics consume VISIA, a widely used skin analysis system, which acquires images from various wavelengths to detect skin spots [7]. However, the system still relies on manual outline of ROI for highly accurate results; nonetheless, it is very expensive.

To illustrate, in order to be able to count more proficiently the comedo and acne, Phillips has studied further about polarized light photography, shown in the previous study. The light comes from electric and magnetic fields vibrating in a single plane. Skin features, color, lighting, and framing are enhanced in polarized photo leading the researchers to be able to find acne more easily. [8] Hideaki Fuji has adopted a multispectral image (MSI), known as an image data at wide range of the electromagnetic spectrum. The MSI is used to differentiate several types of skin lesions such as comedo, reddish papule, pustule, and scar. Nevertheless, there are limitations of the image functions in terms of the requirement of manual inspection. [9] Humaynn has utilized a template matching approach used for locating the correlated object, and it is applied for localizing the acne lesion. This approach proved to be effective for counting and recognizing of lesions as it leads the program to the learning process toward the appearance of acne before the matching process. [10] Cula has employed multispectral imaging and linear discriminant functions with a time varying component into acne detection and counting system. Gaussian mixture models have been used to detect and register facial acnes for multiple times, so there is an alignment technique to synchronize pictures. [11] Chuan-Yu Chang has used feature-based detection to locate ROI and pattern recognition to detect different types of defects through boosting classifiers. This method provides more proficient detection ability, compared to other reviews, and are able to detect several features at a time. [12] Manita Khongsuwan, however, has used a UV fluorescence image for acne detection since bacteria in acne are reported to react to UV light. The image is applied to H-maxima transform to find regional maxima and segment acnes. This method is good and quite robust with satisfied efficiency, but UV can damage a tested skin due to the long period of exposure. [13] Biman Chandra Dey has adopted digital color (RGB) image to detect acne with the pixel-based method. The pixels are recorded by skin backgrounds and interesting acne separately. A knowledge cluster is made by pixels data arrangement, then acne is segmented by Mahalanobis Distance (MD) and Bayes' method. Compared to ground truth, the efficiency of MD is better than Bayes' as it keeps data of both skin and acne with a fine pixel details and direct RGB input. [14]

For examples of the algorithm, a blob detection, brightness, or RGB features have been introduced to detect acne shape in a different way. A blob detection is a famous method to capture a sudden change in image intensity in a circular structure, which is an edge of the object with the circular region of interest. The brightness and RGB method consider an intensity and color specifications of each content in the image to particularly define facial acnes from other objects. These two features can be combined with the blob detection also. But there are advantages and disadvantages for each method, so a more precise and effective system should be made to suppress any side effects.

In this thesis, the system of automatic detection and counting acne has been implemented. The works can be separated into two major steps; "Binary thresholding" and Bayesian classifier". The binary thresholding technique has been started with input image of facial acne fed into gray and HSV conversion so that it can be easily calculated and brightness controllable. Then, the system makes a binary image to clearly see ROI from the previous step, we can apply a method of small spots and large region elimination to classify if the small regions are acne and obtain coordinates. These can be used to mark constructed boxes onto locations of acnes as final outputs. But the result was not desirable with middle-to-low accuracy, so the second step of Bayesian is introduced to improve performance. The Bayesian step starts by feature extraction and filtering out wrong detected region. It will be separated into "Training" and "Testing" algorithm, and use each of them to compare performance with another one. The feature extraction method is applied both in training and testing to bring out regions in need by more deep and specific way. "Bayesian Filter" is put at the last part to decide the regions whether they are in right detection or not.

## **1.1 Motivation**

For now, most of the dermatological technologies have been introduced into a market. There are many functions in both analytic and treatment system, such as precise camera, biological scan, laser treatment, etc. But in this project, a method of image processing and statistical technique have been used as an alternative and more efficient way of diagnosis and analysis. Also, this implementation is quite cheap

compared to the others with automatic work and usage easiness. The author has an interest in cosmetology field for a long time, so the author would like to improve functionality and benefit of the dermatologic system to be more advanced.

Also, I would like to know and research more in digital image processing field which is quite important in the present days. Almost all electronic devices require this application, such as QR code, Augmented Reality, Medical Diagnosis, etc. An image information is one of the most common in daily life and easy to be transferred or processed. With the typical way of image processing, it requires a certain object in an image to be good detection system. Sometimes, the input image must have constant lighting condition and color shade to make the system worked. But in reality, an environment is very easy to be varied by sun ray, fluorescent, shadow. So we have to create some statistical counter-measure to improve system performance.

## **1.2 Objective**

This project has been developed the system for automatically detect acnes on patients' face without any manual means to count or diagnose if the area is an acne or not. Another benefit is to help relieve dermatologist work that is not quite accurate. When an acne is defined by human eyes, there may be errors occurred caused by ambiguous shape and color of facial contents. Moreover, automatic detection can be implemented for tele-diagnosis, this can reduce time requirement and provide convenience to both doctors and patients.

For the expected output of this project, an information of acne coordinates must be clarified which one is acne and not first with the lowest level of errors. The detection system has to be able to work in any lighting condition in input images, any different angles of the face, the focus must be a shape of acne precisely. In the step of classification, an algorithm of feature extraction must be implemented in more effective method to extract right location from previous output with known characteristic values. Lastly, we have to deeply understand what Bayesian theorem can help this project to its limit. With this statistical method combined, it provides the possibility of perfect analysis and detection of acnes on overall faces.

### **1.3 Thesis Structure**

This thesis consists of five chapters, In Chapter 1, a basic information of acnes in dermatology is introduced with the typical technique of analysis used. There are also motivation and objectives. Then Chapter 2, a background knowledge which have been being used has been studied and described, such as blob detection and Bayesian theorem. Next is Chapter 3, the methodology of the proposed system is introduced to see an overview of work, i.e. intensity-HSV normalization, binary threshold, blob detection, and experimental results of this method. Similarly, Chapter 4 describes the proposed methodology and experimental results of feature extraction and Bayesian classification. After that, Chapter 5 expresses the discussions and conclusions on two summarized work. Comments on further study and possible improvements toward this work are also given.

## Chapter 2

### Literature Review

#### 2.1 Basic Knowledge of an Acne

Acne is one of a skin disease that usually expresses by red skin area with infection and erupts from a normal skin. It has commonly occurred on a human face, but in fact, it can appear all over a body. It can be in any shape but the most regular shape is circular with various color (red, black, white) depends on a cause and stage. It may be caused from the skin is infected by bacteria and it enters into a fat gland under the skin, this produces an inflamed acne at that infected area. On the other hand, acne is not necessary to be made by bacteria, so it can be non-inflamed with a cause of clogging fat gland. Fig. 2.1 a and b show that about an example of acne.



Fig. 2.1 (a), (b) Example of acne on facial image

#### 2.2 Grayscale, RGB and HSV color model

Grayscale is a color type of gray shade with no true color related. A range of its value is 0 to 255 typically. The lowest value represents black color which is the color of absence color of all light. While the highest value expresses white color which is all combination of the color of light, the value between these two is gray with luminance corresponding to its own number. The grayscale value is only one-dimensional value. An example shade of grayscale is shown in Fig. 2.2



For RGB color, it consists of three plain of colors, i.e. red, blue and green color plain. So it is considered as three-dimensional value, which each of the color adjustment can affect overall shade in the picture with additive mean. The additive light means that the three light beams of red, green, blue are added together, wavelength by wavelength, resulting in output light color [15].

Zero intensity for each component (RGB) means there is no light exposure. This situation gives the blackest color while the whitest color means the full intensity of all colors. But a quality of this monotone color depends on a balance of each components light. On the other hands when these intensities are different, the result is a colored light depending on the strongest or weakest component. When one of the components has the strongest intensity, the color is near this primary light. Then there is a possibility of two components have the same strongest value, the color is a secondary light (Cyan/Magenta/Yellow). A secondary light is formed by the sum of two primary lights in equal amount as it can be seen in Fig. 2.3

For HSV color model, it is more complicated but suitable to explain colorization, luminance better than RGB model. "H" is hue which it is an angled plane of color, starting from red at 0 degrees, green at 120 degree and blue at 240 degrees. "S" is saturation that is a concentration of each color value correspond to the radius of circular hue. The final component is "V", it can be called intensity level on grayscale or brightness. A top value of "V" is white color, while a bottom is a black color. This representation that shown in Fig. 2.4 is very famous in computer graphics which is the better expression that RGB one. Nowadays, computer vision algorithms that work on color images are straightforward like in grayscale images, so it is not appropriate to analyze RGB image in detail. There are many kinds of the color detection algorithm, for the examples, k-means, fuzzy clustering of the pixel, or canny edge detection. In one picture, there are possibly different color contents which can be separated easily with the only RGB. However, some of the pixels which are desired to detect may have near color coordinate in RGB plane, so it can be more accurate using HSV model with a separated indication of color components. The main cause is the R, G, and B components of an object in a digital image are all correlated in term of the amount of reflected light on that specific content, therefore image descriptions may be

more difficult. In this project, only the brightness from HSV and grayscale value are used to compare and calculate the regions of interest. [16]

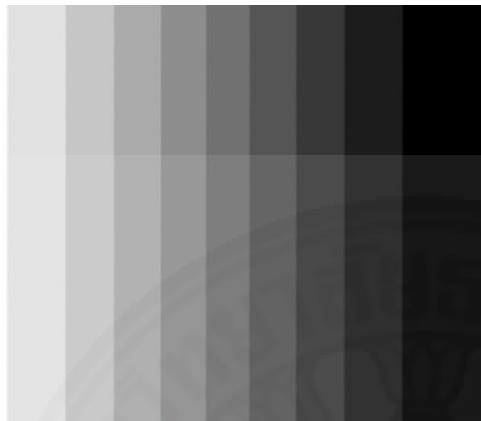


Fig. 2.2 Grayscale intensity range [17]

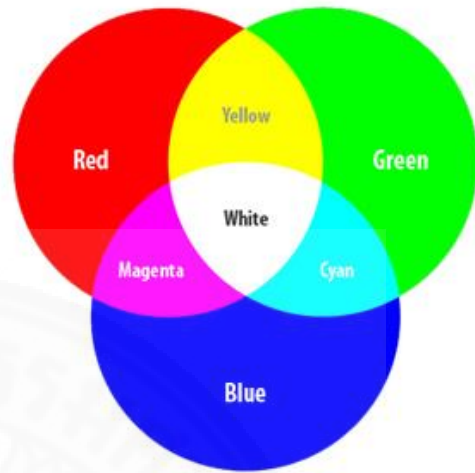


Fig. 2.3 RGB color plane (Primary and secondary light) [18]

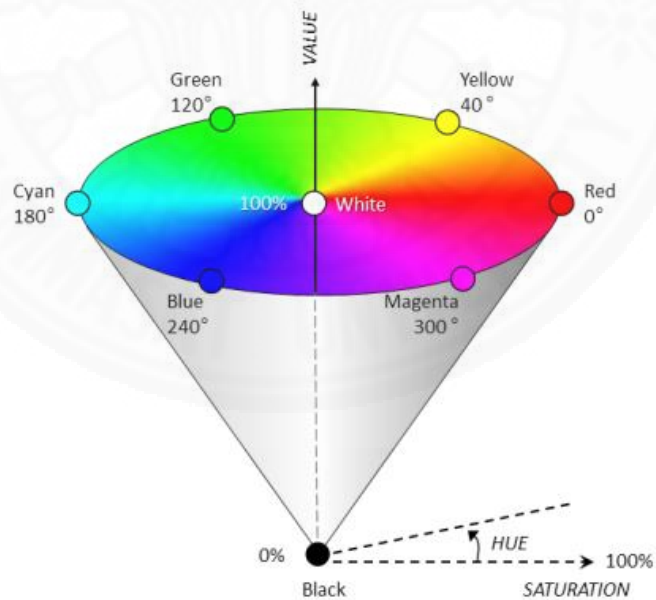


Fig. 2.4 HSV color model in cone shape [19]

### 2.3 Binary Threshold

Thresholding is a basic form of image segmentation, which is the method to distinguish an interesting object or scene considered from brightness and/or colorization. The threshold is the value setting to be a reference, then a comparison is made between each pixel's intensity or color with the threshold value, so each pixel will be assigned with some new value according to its old value is greater or lower from the reference. The newly assigned value may be maximum/minimum one for binary thresholding, which has been used in this thesis or any other that is proper with specific works [20].

For an image segmentation, it is the method to differentiate a computer image into several segments. Its own objective is for simplification of image contents to see scenes or objects more easily. Moreover, it is very important for an image expression to go through segmentation before going into a particular process of analysis. Image segmentation is regularly applied to detect desired image contents or boundaries in the computer images. It can be said that this segmentation process is used to mainly synthesize, group, and categorize objects into the same contents which contain the same attributes. The specific contours or labels with color in an image contents are a final result of image segmentation. Properties of each pixel in the same labeled region may contain similar characteristics such as color (as in RGB or HSV model), brightness intensity, texture, or some physical contents. Neighboring regions of one specific labeled area do not share the same image properties as they are considered the different contents. An example of binary thresholding image is shown in Fig 2.5



Fig. 2.5 Original grayscale image (left), Post-thresholding binary image (right) [21]

## 2.4 Blob Detection and Markings

Blob detection is a process to find circular-shaped objects in a digital image. It is derived from edge detection technique which is one of image segmentation procedures. Edge detection is an image processing technique to capture a sudden change in neighboring image intensity which means there is a border of image contents in that specific area. This method is therefore used as the basic interpretation of another segmentation technique. The edges are usually a disconnected object in an image. A development has been made from this technique is a closed-boundaries region detection to track or capture completely separated image contents. The boundaries are information consisting of a pixel region, and including foreground, background, object groups or classes, user-interested objects. Edge detection methods can be applied to the binary thresholding region to emphasize region of interest more, so the results will be out like a silhouette pictures [22] [24].

For blob detection, it works by Laplacian of Gaussian filter (Spatial derivative) masking all over image pixels. If there is an instantly changed value in near pixels, the Gaussian mask will create a period sinusoidal wave to assign the border. This scheme is called border detection. But the blob must be a closed region within the border, so the Gaussian mask must form a minimal or maximal from an encounter of two sudden edges which indicate the area of blob region. The blob detection can also be used in the high dimensional image plane, like RGB or HSV, other than the grayscale image. There are two types of checking region connectivity; one is 4-connectivity, another is 8-connectivity. For 4-connectivity, the Gaussian mask checks neighboring pixels in only 4 directions, which are up, down, left, and right. While there are additional 4 directions; which are up left/right and down-left/right, in 8-connectivity. These masks iteratively move through all pixels in an image with corresponding to a center of masks. When this procedure is finished, it can provide blob information from connectivity inspection of Gaussian mask and mark interested objects with a circular shape. In this project, the regions of interest are acnes on the facial image. They contain closed boundary with a circular shape, which is very good for blob detection algorithm. In MATLAB, a function of marking region coordinates is provided by box shape construction. So it can label acnes throughout a

facial image according to coordinates of actual acnes. The below matrix is the examples of Laplacian Gaussian filter.

0	-1	0
-1	4	-1
0	-1	0

-1	-1	-1
-1	8	-1
-1	-1	-1

1	-2	1
-2	4	-2
1	-2	1

Fig. 2.6 Example of connectivity detection mask [23]

The left matrix is a 4-connectivity checking mask while the middle one is an 8-connectivity. The last matrix is also the 8-connectivity mask but with different pixel gains, however, an average gain value must be the same. Fig 2.6 shows examples of blob detection applied on an image. Fig 2.7 shows examples of blob detection applied on an image.

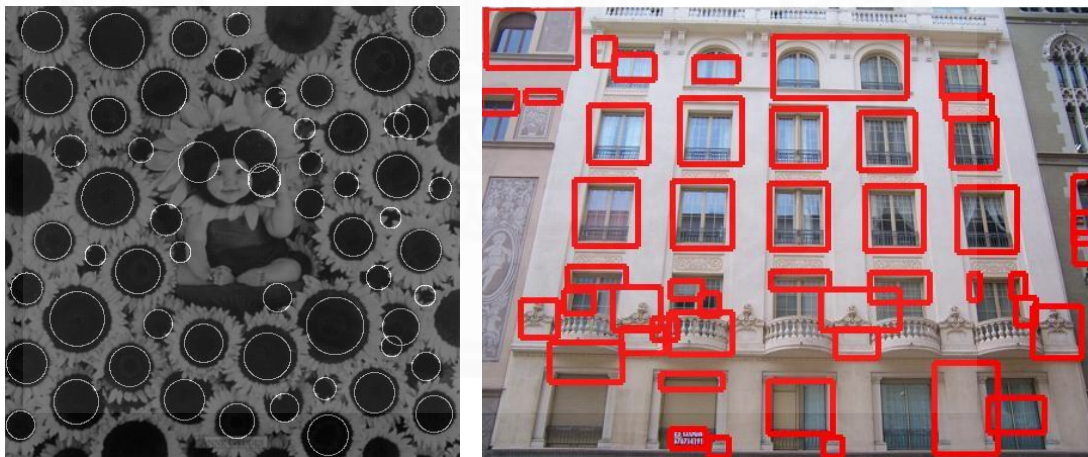


Fig. 2.7 Blob detection on grayscale image (left) [24],  
Blob detection on RGB image (right) [25]

## 2.5 Feature Extraction

The feature is some characteristic value determined in each object or boundary for image processing field. It can be either physical meaning; which is a shape, texture and color that is able to be observed with human perception, or statistical meaning;

which is probabilistic data with color and intensity frequency over a stochastic form like Gaussian distribution for example. In a digital image, it may be difficult to see a tiny difference in pixel intensity which is desired to be segmented out. It may also provide harder analysis than usual if only physical data is used in processing. So in this project, the statistical values have been used to determine contents separation and extraction.

The typical functions which have been used to analyze image contents are mean, variance, energy function, and entropy function. The mean value is the most basic measure for almost every mathematical function. [26] Particularly in image processing field, it is mostly used as a filter or noise reduction method. The type of mean used in this feature extraction is an arithmetic type. This value will be calculated in each sub-image which is considered as the regions of interest. Then a comparison among these mean values is applied to the system to see if the contents in several sub-images are similar or not. But the mean value results in only a single middle-value consideration in each sub-image, so it may not be accurate enough. The additional variable is variance. It is the value that tells how much spread of image intensity distribution is. Therefore, this is better to have analyzed in image histogram which is more accurate than a single value. Variance is the most appropriate tool to distinguish an edge area in the image. [26] For energy and entropy. [27] They are variables which have been used in many fields of natural science. It is a property that expresses the consistency of data in information science, with a function of error correction and intensity adjustment. Lastly, entropy is one of important probabilistic function, derived from “Shannon’s Entropy”. [28] It can give information about the uncertainty of image intensity in some specific regions of interest. It is also closely related to a quantitative measure from transmitted information by particular image area. When all of these data are combined together as an image content feature, the system is most likely able to detect the desired region of interest by comparison.

There are two main complex variables which have been considered; one is “skewness”, another is “kurtosis”. Skewness is a value determines how symmetrical of an image distribution is. An image intensity histogram which is perfectly symmetric will be assigned zero value of skewness. With some asymmetrical tail of data, that distribution will have positive skewness value if the tail spreads to the right

side while it contains negative skewness when the tail spreads to the left side. [29] For kurtosis, it is variable to quantify how similar a shape of an image distribution data is compared to a Gaussian distribution. Therefore, the base shape of Gaussian is assigned zero value. Any negative kurtosis values are for a flat peak distribution while a steep peak distribution contains positive kurtosis, all of these are Gaussian's reference. Both skewness and kurtosis are united. [29] The examples of skewness and kurtosis in data distribution are expressed in Fig. 2.8 and 2.9 respectively.

The two variables mentioned above can be used to extract certain objects in the digital image. In regions and boundaries, there may be some contents which contain the same of these characteristic values throughout one image. Feature comparison can be implemented to group and extract desired objects without their neighborhood requirement. Feature extraction method starts from an input of raw image data, such as distribution, combined with image feature data which have been calculated for all desired objects. This method has been used to easier understanding in an informative way with normalization for data manipulation output. So this process may lead image data to work in any application without complication. So in summary, feature extraction works in a form of processed data reduction algorithm, this reduced data is then able to be used to better process rather than a lot of raw data. An analysis with a large number of data causes an excessive memory can computational power, it is not appropriate for data samples and output at the end of the imaging system. The results of feature detection and extraction will be an image with segmentation or labeling on the regions of interest provided in deep details. Because its own algorithm produces a local decision whether there is a region of interest at a given image coordinates or not. An objects separation is very important when the detected features are relatively spread widely in a whole image. The result is usually represented in terms sets of coordinates of the image points where features have been detected. With skewness and kurtosis, a checking algorithm can be developed to detect contents which contain the similar or near value of these two variables to be the same group and can be classified in a next step.

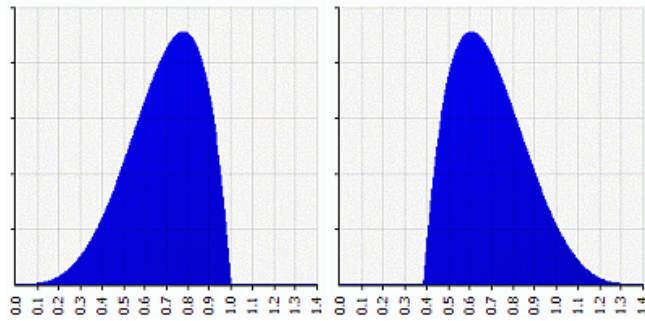


Fig. 2.8 Negative skewness (left), Positive skewness (right) [30]

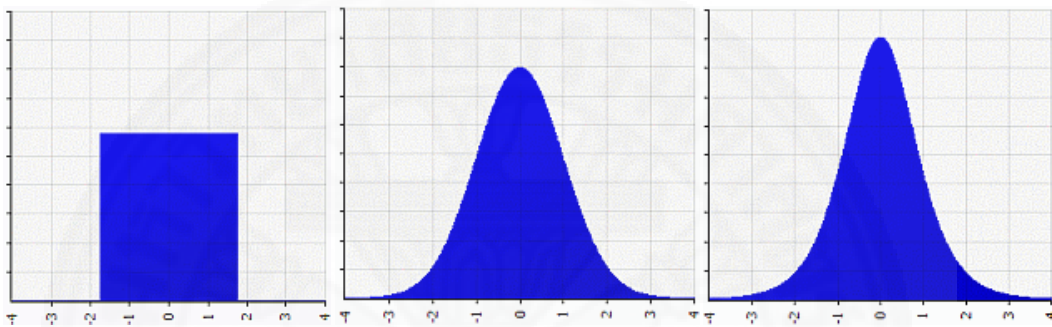


Fig 2.9 Uniform kurtosis = 1.8 (left), Normal kurtosis = 3.0 (middle),  
Logistic kurtosis = 4.2 (right) [30]

## 2.6 Bayesian Classification

The classification method in a digital data field has been used to make a group of separate type of data which they can be mixed together before in one source. It is also used for particular data detection and extraction to obtain needed contents from the large pool of data. The class levels assigned by classification are dependent on data attributes. Basically, some criteria must be indicated to be a rule of classification, it can be called a decision algorithm. In Bayesian algorithm, joint probability among classes and class attributes are considered as classification indicators. After an estimation of prior probability, the classification of new introduced data is conducted by examining of conditional probability. This conditional probability should be able to decide the most probable returning class to the desired data. [31]

The Bayesian algorithm has to be trained to make a right decision of separation by itself. The means of the training system is by feeding in a certain pattern input to make the system remember which types of the data it observes in a certain



time. After we have the system recognize the input information, the testing step may be implemented to see whether the algorithm is functional or not with an unknown input. So it can classify or detect the important data based on its system learning. The step of Bayesian method must be divided into two separate works; one is training algorithm and data set, another is testing input data set. The fundamental approach of Bayes' theory is using decomposition of chain rule in joint probability equation as follows:

$$P(C, A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k) = P(C)P(A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k|C) \quad (2.1)$$

Where;  $P(C)$  is a prior probability of the certain class.

$P(A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k | C)$  is a distribution of newly introduced attributes given the class label.

$P(C, A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k)$  is a joint probability of class label and new attributes.

Then the new attributes can be assigned to any prior classes, considering a conditional probability of new assigned class given by desired data attributes:

$$P(C|A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k) = \alpha P(C)P(A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k|C) \quad (2.2)$$

Where;  $\alpha$  is a normalization factor for making a summation of 1 for all conditional class label probability.

So the new input data set can be classified by a combination of class' prior probabilities with conditional probabilities of the input data attributes.

The main benefit of Bayesian classifier is that it reduces estimation of probability values to make a system error as least as possible. This property is called, "asymptotic correctness", the system should learn the best possible method of classification to provide the best results with sufficient training data set. It can be expressed that the Bayesian classifier can reach asymptotic correctness if the joint probability of each class is consistent. In training data set, it may provide the best probable classifier inside it but we cannot point it out directly without an optimal classification rule and an exact estimation of the probability distribution.

For the simplest form of Bayesian classification algorithm, it is called, “Naïve Bayesian Classifier”. It utilizes some of probabilistic theory to help in simplification of conditional probability estimation, learning a density of input data distribution with the same attribute label. An assumption of independent probability among each attribute is realized, so the probability of input attributes given prior class probability can be rewritten as:

$$P(A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k|C) = P(A_1|C) \cdot P(A_2|C) \cdots P(A_k|C) \quad (2.3)$$

As the equation above, a conditional probability can be derived to the multiplication of probability of each input attributes with respect to prior one. Then, the posterior probability of class given each attribute can be derived as the following:

$$P(C|A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k) = \alpha P(C)P(A_1|C) \cdot P(A_2|C) \cdots P(A_k|C) \quad (2.4)$$

This equation is called, “Naïve Bayesian Classification Rule”, which is estimated the new assigned class by prediction of training data set. The decision of class assignment to the input data is considered from the most value of posterior conditional probability, which has to be relative to one specific group of data. The system will give a class with most likely independent probability to the others with respect to a point of view of the desired classified object. In the medical inspection, an occurrence of this situation is frequent. So this method can be used as an effective basis of classification.

## Chapter 3

### Acne detection with modified Thresholding method

As described in the second chapter related to the research of acne detection, there was a variety of techniques done in the procedure. However, the process of counting acnes was the main target of the program. We were convinced that the acne detection was crucial for the doctor since it could evaluate the costs needed to be paid before the treatment would start. The method focusing on the detection concentrated on searching for only red acnes. The research could be improved by approaching the related work, with the classification added. Nonetheless, the experiments were done with the purpose of showing the efficiency of the procedure's performance. The details of the methodology and results will be described later in this chapter.

#### 3.1 Proposed Method

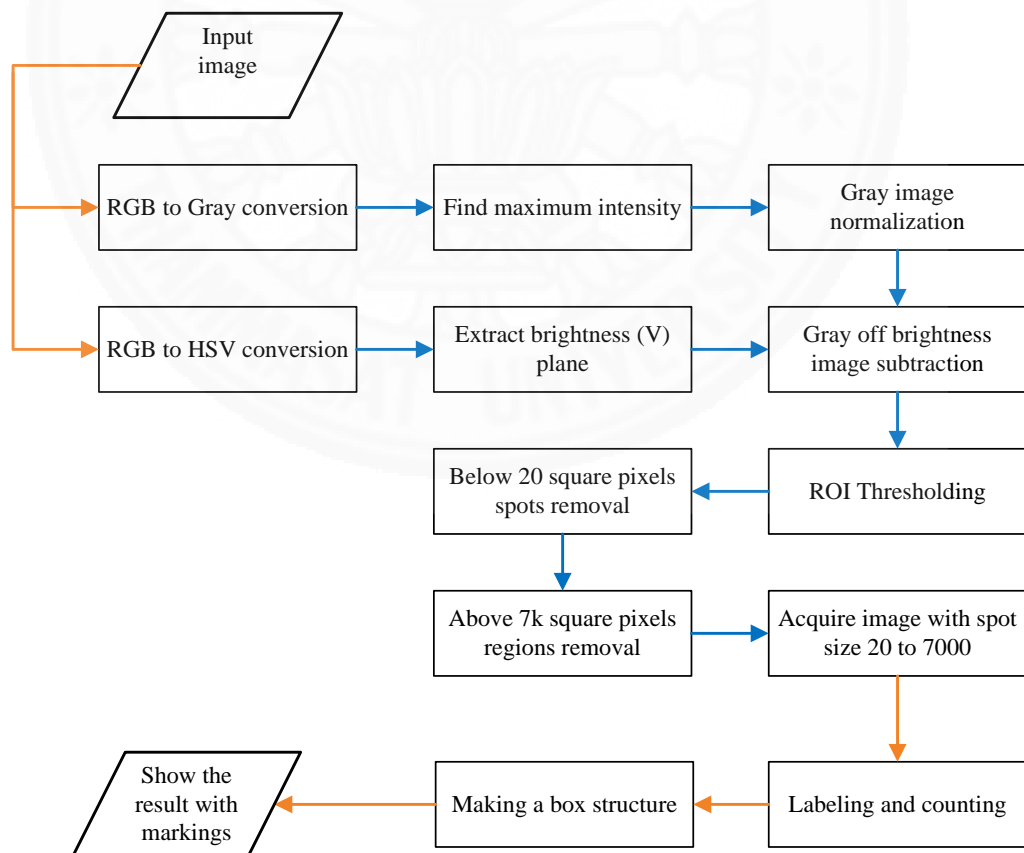


Fig 3.1 the flowchart of the proposed method

This is the first proposed system in this research which is processed by MATLAB program and thresholding method as an image processing. The research methodology in this thesis can be divided into three main parts: preparing an image, processed and exact positions of acne which will be output in image form. However, it can only detect acnes in the side facial image, left and right side separately Fig. 3.1 presents processes of the proposed method, We firstly convert RGB color input image to gray-scale image, Find maximum intensity, Gray-scale normalization, Retrieve HSV color image from RGB input image, To extract only V image which is brightness image from HSV in the previous step, then Subtract normalized gray-scale value out of brightness image to show region of interest , Next Threshold in image, from image of threshold find the suitable of point image, Labeling and counting point of acnes, Drawing boxes on input image at location of acnes. The details of each step are explained in next topic.

### **3.2 Methodology**

This chapter clarifies a function and works done by each step of the proposed system. They can be explained as following:

#### **3.2.1 RGB to Grayscale Conversion**

This is the first step of the proposed methodology works in converting RGB color input image to gray-scale image which is Gray RGB color have equal red, green and blue values respectively. As you can see in the experimental equation of;

$$Gray = (0.2989 \times R) + (0.5870 \times G) + (0.1140 \times B) \quad (3.1)$$

When converting from RGB to grayscale, it can be that specific weights to channels R, G, and B should be applied. These weights are: 0.2989, 0.5870, and 0.1140.

The values multiplied in each color are get from an experiment. RGB input image must be processed to gray scale image because it is simpler to calculate and clarify in our program.

### 3.2.2 Maximum Intensity and Gray-Scale Normalization

Intensity normalization is a method to reduce or increase a range of image pixels to make a picture more or less in contrast property. It can also standardize an image input to be able to make a calculation and comparison with another image in term of intensity (gray-scale) more easily. A typical equation for computing a new range is shown as following;

$$I_{new} = (I - Min) \left( \frac{NewMax - NewMin}{Max - Min} \right) + NewMin \quad (3.2)$$

For this research, this method is used to finding maximum intensity in the gray-scale image by maximizing in X and Y coordinate. When an image is taken into the max function, it will first get maximum value along the x-axis in each y-column. By taking max function again, an absolute maximum value is obtained. Then next step is Gray-Scale Normalization which is taken the gray-scale image. Each pixel value is divided by a maximum intensity value of the whole image to obtain a gray-scale image with range 0-1. This should be done to allow gray-scale. It is in a range of zero to one to be able to compare with HSV model. Subtraction which has the 0-1 range by default.

### 3.2.3 RGB to HSV Conversion

HSV model is a convenient color model to describe an image in terms of color, shade, and brightness. It can be explained in details as the following;

H = Hue; it is a color indicator which is controlled by circular angle. Each color is separated within a fixed range of circular degree. At 0 degree, it starts with red color then it changes to yellow at about 60 degrees followed by green (120 degrees), cyan (180 degrees), blue (240 degrees) and magenta (300 degrees). This looks like a color palette with primary and secondary color.

S = Saturation; it is a value determining a color level or shade. This parameter is controlled by a radius of hue circle, more length in radius affects in more color level of that angle. On the other hand, less radius shows that more shade of grayscale occupies that color.

V = Value of brightness; this variable expresses how much brightness is in an image pixel. Minimum brightness means black color and maximum one mean white color. This value is represented by the level of height for H+S circular plane. With this combination,

In my research, we retrieve HSV color image from RGB input image and we focus on V image which is brightness image, it is a value of illumination which is dark or light. This brightness image is important to deal with exposure problem in our picture.

### **3.2.4 Brightness Extraction**

Brightness image or V, with a range of 0 to 1, retrieved from HSV image was the only method applied in the research. This brightness image revealed how each area performed with lighting. The areas with strong light, which equal to 1 due to the rank, were represented with white color, and the areas with the rank of 0 were represented with the darker color. The brightness image could usually be valued at the range of 0 to 1, which was similar to the ordinary gray-scale image.

### **3.2.5 Image Subtraction for Region of Interest**

For the subtraction of gray-scale normalized value be out brightness image is performed to expose the acne interested areas which can clarify point of acne interest. Both brightness and normalized gray-scale image are in the same range that is 0 to 1, therefore it can be compared. Brightness image has more intensity if it is subtracted by gray-scale normalized image, it will give a region of interest at an area of the strongest luminance.

### **3.2.6 Binary Threshold**

This was a fundamental method of image segmentation setting up a conditional level called “threshold”. If pixel intensity exceeded the pre-determined level, it was going to be specified to ‘1’ binary value and vice versa for ‘0’ value. The result acquired from this method was known as a binary image containing black and white color. The black one was usually a background while the white one was an object area that was interesting. However, we would not be able to know the accurate

value to be threshed by only our approximation. Thus, there was a method to specify the value of mean and medium. Although the method produced ineffective threshold for complex or multi-gradient images, it was considered as the simplest ones. This type of images must be dealt by threshold with the complicated algorithm such as multi-level, adaptive and, the most famous one, Otsu's method. The process could provide optimal threshold value according to the image data histogram.

If the pixels were valued below 0.2, which was defined by how it located near black pixels valued around 0 to 0.2, they would be set to 1 and vice versa to emphasize ROI. The pixels with the value of 0.2 in the darker lighting were considered as unattractive areas. In this process, the images would be flipped to negative binary color.

### **3.2.7 Spot and Region Removal**

Binary image obtained from binary thresholding method was adapted to perform at this process. We, then, demonstrated the process of eliminating areas that were not considered as acnes. In order to remove acne spots, we would consider the areas with the size less than 20 square pixels and the areas with the size more than 7000 square pixels.

In the beginning, we focused on the areas with the size less than 20 square pixels, which were defined from their users through its noise performance. Then, very tiny points would be erased. After completing this process, we changed binary image to negative color image with the purpose of the revealing region of interest that regularly pointed to clarify our images. Subsequently, very small noises would be erased since they were not the size required, which would be valued by setting a threshold of the area with 20 square pixels (e.g. the area with the size of 4\*5, 3\*6 would be deleted).

After obtaining the images of acnes, some with less than 20 square pixels were eliminated. Then, the process of removing regions from the binary-thresholding-method images would be started. If they had the area more than 7000 square pixels in most facial images defined by the users, it caused a very large area to be left out. These very large areas with the size above 7000 square pixels could be any skin that were not focused, such as blemish or freckle. It can be seen that there was no white

region left in the images, which means that no large region would exist in these images.

Logical subtraction was approached between the images with the size of 20 square pixels and below 7000 square pixels. The output provided images with the size of 20 square pixels to 7000 square pixels. Logical subtraction had to be applied because the binary threshold images were still in the process with the binary valued of 0 or 1. Eventually, we came out with two images for logical subtraction. The first one was the image containing everything except small points, and the other one was the image with the area below 7000 square pixels containing only large regions, and some interesting features.

### **3.2.8 Labeling and Structuring a Mark**

We started with the image labeled and counted for the objects found in the previous step. Some functions could be used to reveal a number of acnes and coordinate the acnes. These gave the array of x and y at acne location, and the length of an array was acne's number. Then, with the process of making a box structure at every single object referred to their size, using function 'region props', this function had to be fed in with objects obtained from the array and boxes marked as 'Bounding Box' before they were drawn.

### **3.2.9 Marking Acnes on Image**

In terms of the process of making acne on images, the final step was to show the result of overall work. We used drawing boxes around the acne areas of the input images and used 'rectangle' crop tool to crop the areas that the program could detect in. According to the result shown in figure 3.2, the program could properly mark and detect acnes of the input image with accurate sizes and areas.



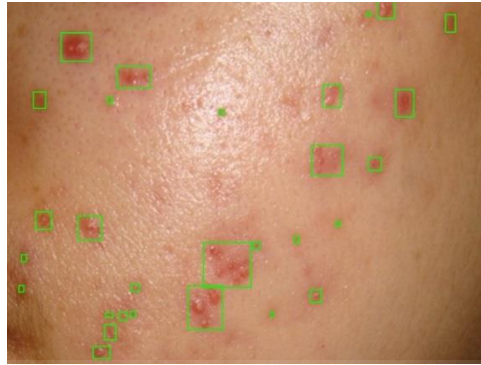


Fig. 3.2 Output with acne marking

### 3.3 Experimental Results and discussion

This section would discuss the results of the experiment using thresholding methods, which consists of three sectors; starting with the part of demonstrating the results of each step of Algorithm mentioned before in the pictures, following with the part of demonstrating the efficiency illustrating the setup method of calculation and sources of each value. Finally, the last sector would be filled with tables illustrating the comparison of each value, results of efficiency, and conclusion of the experiment.

#### 3.3.1 Thresholding Result

As it could be considered in the first picture that there was a picture of cheeks, where there were inflammatory acnes, small and big sizes throughout the face. The first picture was seen as the original picture, which would be called as input (a) hereafter. It was an input and program functioning to transfer the input to the gray-scale image, which the transition would change the range of the picture color from 0-255 to 0-1. It could be portrayed that (b) the dots of the objects could be seen as small distinct dots with the better lighting, compared to the previous picture. The picture (c) was regarded as the HSV picture obtained from consuming a function to transfer the original picture to HSV picture. The process was crucial since we demanded to possess V or brightness picture (d) in order to compare with the gray-scale picture. The following picture was the gray-scale picture (b) which was deducted the brightness already with the purpose of aiding to notify the interesting dots more clearly before delivering the picture to the thresholding process shown in the picture (e). The picture (f) has resulted from the thresholding process. It could be recognized

that we could see the dots, acnes, shown in the picture distinctly. Nonetheless, some dots were too tiny and some were too gigantic in the picture. We, then, had a process to eliminate the dots that might not be acnes. We formed specifications that dots with a smaller size than 20 megapixels and with bigger size than 7000 megapixels would be removed, which the process would be illustrated in the pictures (g) and (h). In the picture (h), it could be regarded that there was no area more than 7000 megapixels; thus, the picture turned out in the black color. The following process was erasing the picture between (g) and (h), and the picture displaying the interesting dots that might be acnes comes up as the picture (i) which was the picture with the capacity to demonstrate the same amount of acnes, compared to the original picture. All of this is shown in Fig 3.3

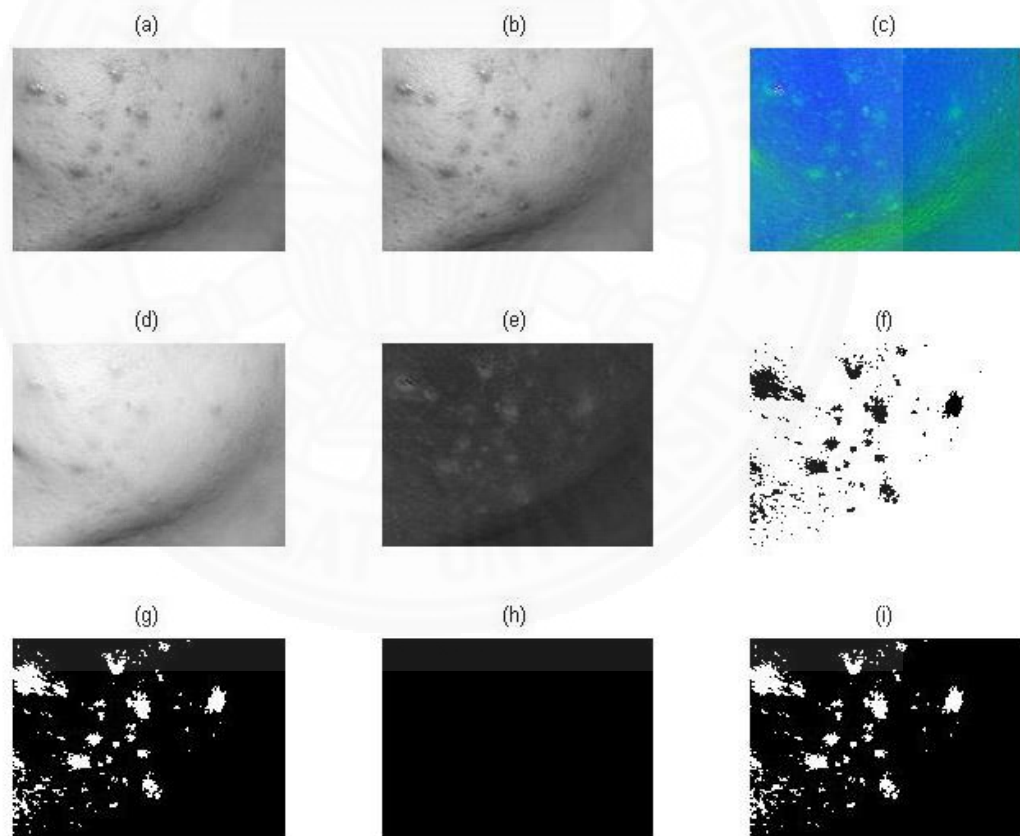


Fig. 3.3 first image processing

The second picture in Fig 3.4 shown in the project could be interpreted in terms of its result as there were a few differences, and the number of acnes was not as

much, compared with the interesting areas that might be acnes in the sample picture of the first set. The results, obtained from the thresholding process, revealed that the areas bigger than 7000 megapixels inspected from the considerable area below were not acnes. However, the issue would be solved in the process (h) and (i), which were the processes taking the colossal area out of the picture.

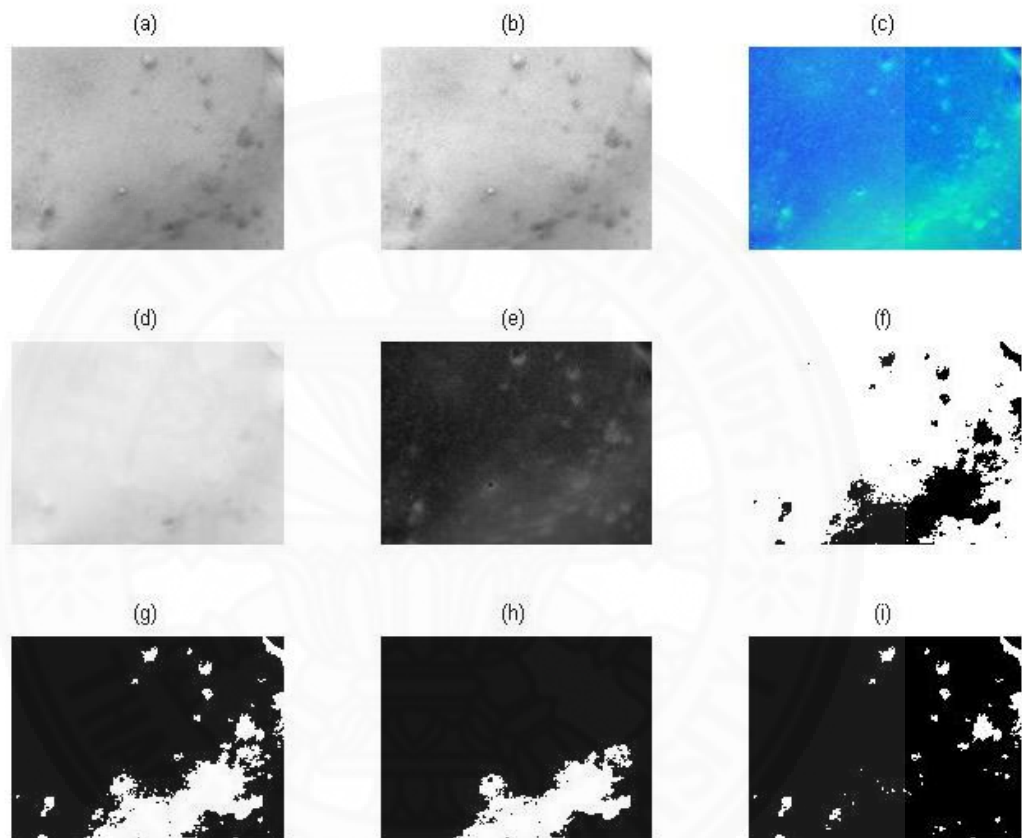


Fig. 3.4 Second image processing

This final simple picture in Fig 3.5 demonstrated the slight tendency of having acnes, the low resolution of the picture, and the faded marks of the acnes. We could also notice that the low resolution of the picture resulted in undetected low-contrast ROI mistakes shown in the picture (f) as the system could encounter only the areas around the acnes.

We chose the threshold 20 and 700 specifically based on optimum value for this specific dataset. This threshold must be changed depending on the size of images in the dataset. If the image size changes, this threshold value must be re-optimized again

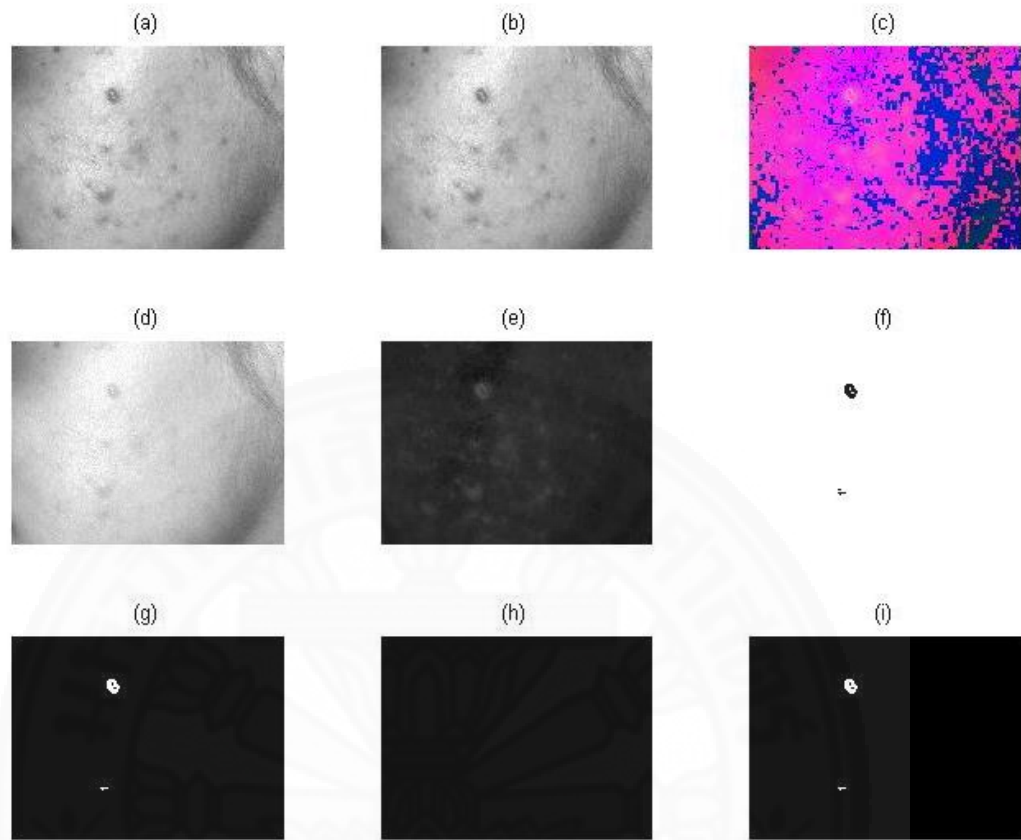


Fig. 3.5 Third image processing

### 3.3.2 Ground Truth

In our experimental result, they are focused on counting point and detection of acne. Many blobs processed in the system, the program can detect them whether it is an acne or not. Next, this information is brought to evaluate its own performance. Therefore, we must have a Ground Truth to compare and measure with the original image of acne. Then a comparison was made with the images obtained from the results of our program. Therefore, ground truth is very important and have to be found first.

The system begins with the original image. The facial image on the cheek with acne, the system will mark the point of acne indication. As measured by human eyes, our work will focus on the point of acnes. The red spots and acne (starting stage the bulges, curve or red spot), they will be manually separated by ourselves with the help of Photoshop program. Fig 3.6 show that ground truth and original image.

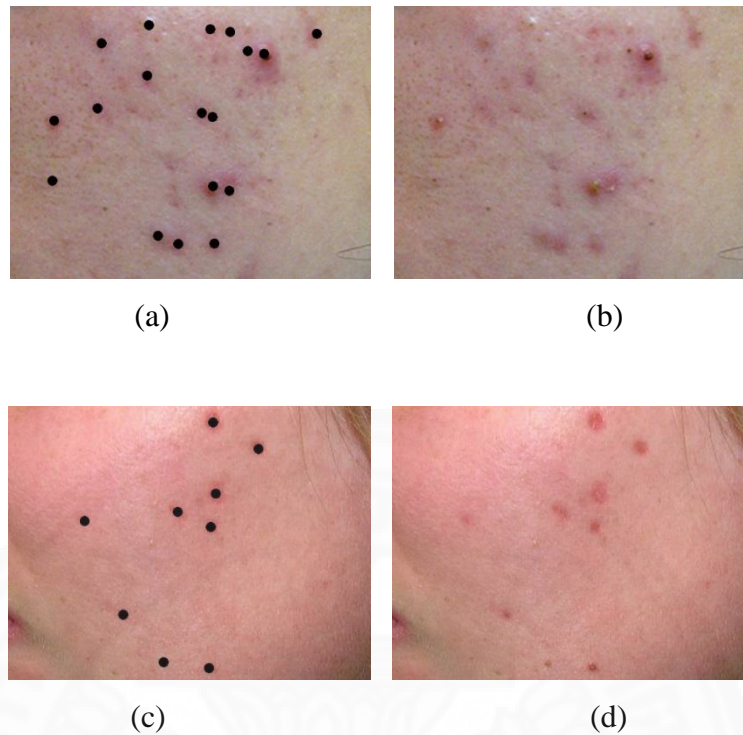


Fig. 3.6 Ground truth and Original image

### 3.3.3 Detection Performance Evaluation

We, then, evaluated the performance of the proposed method by using the statistical measures, including sensitivity, precision, and accuracy. Thus, a reference number of actual acnes was displayed as ‘Ground Truth’, which was counted manually. Then, the following evaluation process was to use the blob-based system since we considered only the interesting shape of acnes, not the whole pixels.

Frist and foremost calculation this value we have to find true positive, true negative, false positive, false negative as they are described by following.

Table 3.1 Detection Performance Evaluation

Scar and normal skin Acne	Correctly Detected	Incorrectly Detected
Correctly Detected	True positive (TP)	False positive (FP)
Incorrectly Detected	False negative (FN)	True negative (TN)

From Table 3.1 Shows that the definitions which have to be introduced attaching to this section:

- True positive (TP): Acne correctly detected as acne
- False positive (FP): Scar and normal skin incorrectly detected as acne
- True negative (TN): Scar and normal skin correctly detected as scar and normal skin
- False Negative (FN): Acne incorrectly detected as scar and normal skin.

We could evaluate detected acnes on images by using sensitivity, precision, and accuracy. These statistical measures could be described as follows;

Sensitivity was used to designate the probability in our experimental evaluation. It showed that when we tested the program, we obtained the correct value of detected acnes (true positive). The result of counting number was divided by the accurate number of acnes, known as 'true positive rate', or the proportion between the number of when we tested detected acnes (true positive) and the accurate number. In this process, the program had to detect both true positive and false negative.

$$Sensitivity = \frac{Number\ of\ TP}{(TP+FN)} \times 100 \quad (3.3)$$

Precision was a proportion of interesting areas, which could be precisely detected as a point of acne (true positive) compared to the total positive results (true positive + false positive).

$$Precision = \frac{Number\ of\ TP}{(TP+FP)} \times 100 \quad (3.4)$$

Accuracy was one of the statistical measures used to measure the value at the specific time. The measure was used to compare to its actual value, which was the number of detected acnes. This value was portioned out from its total accurate results (true positive + true negative), compared to all population in the experiment (positive + negative).

$$Accuracy = \frac{(TP+TN)}{(TP+TN+FP+FN)} \times 100 \quad (3.5)$$

Table 3.2 Result of acne detection from Thresholding method

Sample image	Ground truth (Human eye)	Image Processing (Proposed method)	TP	FP	TN	FN
1	5	4	4	0	0	1
2	28	31	27	4	0	0
3	21	15	12	3	0	6
4	18	22	16	6	0	2
5	18	27	18	9	0	0
6	25	29	21	8	0	0
7	16	23	13	10	0	2
8	22	27	18	4	0	4
9	9	7	7	0	0	2
10	33	35	27	8	0	6

From table 3.2, we use 10 images for a test this algorithm which is a part of the cheek. We cut out only the cheek to obtain a smooth area for detects the acne more than other parts of the face. Each of image for tested will have different acne. Our program will detect inflammatory acne including redness and acne vulgaris. The next column is the number of ground truth on each of acne images. The ground truth will count the number of acne spots that human eye can see and ground truth use to compare with the image from the test with our program to find the fault of acne detection. The results of the program can be divided into four categories, i.e. true positive, true negative, false positive, false negative, which has been described previously. The analysis results in Table 3.2 is less acne forming, there is a high probability of acne detection correctly while the sample group 1 and 9 are false negatives. Only 1 and 2 respectively occurs. The amount of acne is very common in some images. It shows more error and the most are false positive which is not the acne area, but it detects the acne. Because of this area is similar to inflammatory acne in shape and properties. The three example are an error in a false negative than false positive may result from the spread of acne and irregular shapes of its and the next

table will use the value that obtained from Table 3.2 to analysis the evaluate efficiency.

Table 3.3 System efficiency evaluation from Thresholding method

Sample image	Sensitivity (%)	Precision (%)	Accuracy (%)
1	80.00%	100.00%	80.00%
2	100.00%	87.10%	87.10%
3	66.67%	80.00%	57.14%
4	88.89%	72.73%	66.67%
5	100.00%	66.67%	66.67%
6	100.00%	72.73%	72.41%
7	86.67%	56.52%	52.00%
8	81.82%	81.82%	69.23%
9	77.78%	100.00%	77.78%
10	81.82%	77.14%	65.85%
Average	86.37%	80.00%	70.00%

Table 3.3 shows that the value used to evaluate the effectiveness of the proposed system begins from the sensitivity value which calculates the rate of detection in the method that likely to be able to judge the object correctly. The table shows all of the examples have the acceptable value, except the third example is the 66.67% which is relatively low, probably because of the appearance and position of acne is not clear including the light on image make sensor test system be in error. For the precision value, it is the positive forecasts to assess how many chance for detected correctly throughout detect all objects from itself. You can see that the value in the table of sample 5 and 7 are relatively low in the test because of the unclear of acne forming. For the final value, accuracy is the overall rate of accurate results when compared with all objects in both positive and negative. This value can tell all performance of this system which is still unpleasant experiments by using Thresholding method.



## **Chapter 4**

### **Acne detection with Bayesian classifier method**

In Chapter 4, another method used to inspecting facial acnes mentioned in Chapter 2, which is named as Bayesian Classifier would be discussed in terms of how it was applied in the project. It was convinced that the original program commonly used for inspecting acnes could not efficiently work that well at identifying the interesting dots that might be acnes. The program could only illustrate the differences of the interesting dots on the background and distinguish them out of the picture. Another condition that the Bayesian Classifier was convinced to investigate better was because the program was allowed to add more function in the process, and that was why we designated to adopt the Bayesian Classifier in the project. It was also because the program was designed to be easy and comfortable to use, which was also the reason we started to use the program. In this chapter, we would begin describing the proposed system part that illustrated the flowchart of the program's overall procedure, following with the description of the Blob detection referring to Chapter 3, further description of the feature extraction consumed in the project with the purpose of identifying the characteristics of the dots eliminated from the picture, the description of Bayesian Classifier, consisting of Train-and-Test process, and, finally, the description of the experiment and its result.

#### **4.1 Proposed System**

The presented system mostly consists of data processing running by MATLAB program, referred from the previous process. We would use the program as the input process entering the data of the picture. The main procedure of the research project was to intercept and filter the inspected areas which were known as faulty areas. The following step was to distinguish the inspected areas into Train-and-Test, which the results obtained from this process would be transferred to compare the efficiency of the performance with the original process specified in Chapter 3 (see the picture 4.1). It could be witnessed that the picture demonstrated the methods of acne inspection was considered as an input to the Train process after test process of acne

detection. Then, the process of feature extraction would be adapted to pull the characteristics of unique interesting pictures out, and it would be saved as data for adding into the system in the Bayesian Classifier process. For the Train process, we would teach the system which dots are acne and which are not; therefore, it could identify by itself and remember them. Then, the Test process would be adopted, which we would bring the pictures that were not trained to test if the system could work on it correctly. The details of these

Process would be described in Fig. 4.1 as follows;

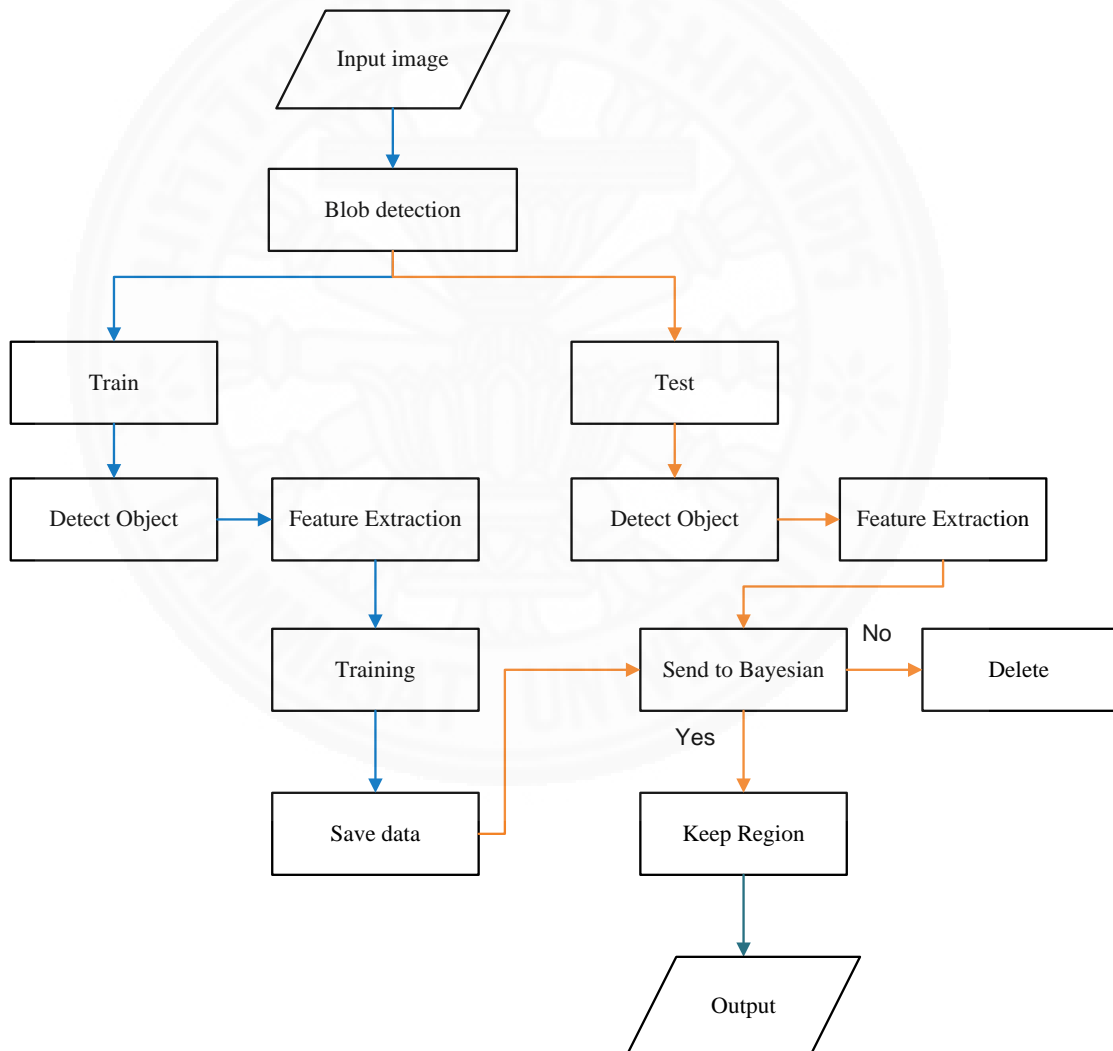


Fig. 4.1 the flowchart of the proposed method

## **4.2 Methodology**

### **4.2.1 Blob detection**

The process would start similar to the Train-and-Test process. However, the main work would focus on the ability to witness the pictures and the cropping signs or blob detection. Then, the output obtained from the process and the picture with the selection of interesting dots, would be sent to the next process. This process would start with sending the picture for the data processing and changing the picture from RGB into Grayscale in order to facilitate the comparison between the interesting dots from its background. Then, the use of the functions of estimating the Gray-scale normalization and picture adjustment for the picture to be in the range between 0-1 when saving it would be adopted. After that, the original RGB picture would be taken to distinguish the V picture out of the HSV, which was considered as the process of transforming the RGB picture to be HSV picture. We would consume only the V picture of the interesting dots in this process, and take it into the process of deleting pictures. Gray-scale normalization would be eliminated pixel per pixel with the V picture with the purpose of illustrating the interesting dots more clearly. The thresholding process would be conducted after that for replacing the white interesting dots with the dark background. Moreover, the Blob analysis would be carried out for obtaining the picture with the marks at the acne areas. These marks consist of centroid coordinate and circular area according to each acne.

### **4.2.2 Feature extraction**

This main duty of the process is to get the detected interesting dots examined in terms of graph analysis, which is usually called as graph's state-of-the-art feature extraction picture. The process also works similarly to the Train-and-Test process, known as the first data processing such as the resolution of the picture. We might have to convert it to graph form, and that the probability of density function would be gained from it. Characteristic values needed to be considered are as follows; Mean value, Variance value, Skewness, Kurtosis, Energy, and Entropy.

#### 4.2.2.1 Mean Value

This value can be simply defined as an average measurement of intensity on a region that we are interested in. An equation from MATLAB used to calculate the value is shown below:

$$\text{Mean} = \text{sum}(\text{Prob.} * \text{Gray\_vector}); \quad (4.1)$$

This shows that the mean value can be calculated by the sum of each image pixel intensity multiply by its own probabilistic factor of occurrence compared to the whole region.

#### 4.2.2.2 Variance Value

Variance is seen with the deeper process, compared to the mean value. It is used to measure spread or wideness of intensity probabilistic data. According to MATLAB, the value can be achieved through following equation:

$$\text{Variance} = \text{sum}(\text{Prob.} * (\text{Gray\_vector} - \text{Mean}) . f^2); \quad (4.2)$$

From the equation above, weighted and squared on a subtraction between a gray intensity of each pixel region mean are summed up to be the variance. Therefore, we must know the mean in a region of interest prior.

#### 4.2.2.3 Skewness

Skewness is a measure of symmetry or asymmetry. A distribution, known as a data set, can be called as symmetric if both sides of the equations are equal, which is the mean of overall probability density function of data. This value can be computed based on mean and variance:

$$\text{Skewness} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (Y_i - \bar{Y})^3 / N}{s^3} \quad (4.3)$$

Where;  $Y_i$  = gray intensity,  
 $Y_{\text{bar}}$  = intensity mean,  
 $S$  = standard deviation (root of variance)

As a probabilistic weight of each gray level is used in the project, the sampled number (N) is not necessary.

#### 4.2.2.4 Kurtosis

Kurtosis is a measurement method processed to see if the data has a peak or flat relative to a normal distribution. This means that an intensity data which has a single distinct peak near its own mean tends to contain more value of kurtosis. Moreover, the high kurtosis data has a possibility to decline exponentially further from the mean area, and have heavy traffic of intensity at both tails of a histogram. Data sets with low kurtosis will have opposite character of the high one. Kurtosis can be calculated by the equation below:

$$\text{Kurtosis} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (Y_i - \bar{Y})^4 / N}{s^4} \quad (4.4)$$

It can be perceived that kurtosis equation is much like the one of skewness except for the power of 4 instead of 3. Also, mean and variance is able to have a large impact on both skewness and kurtosis though the visualized histogram is not clear enough to see symmetry or peak.

#### 4.2.2.5 Energy

This term is utilized in several fields of study. However, it can be defined as the numerical contents presented in an image, and how the intensities are distributed over the whole image, in terms of image processing. This value is simply a mean-square of probabilistic function, i.e.:

$$\text{Energy} = \text{sum} (\text{Prob.} * \text{Prob}); \quad (4.5)$$

Probability density value in each corresponding pixel intensity is multiplied together and summed up to be the energy of region of interest.

#### **4.2.2.6 Entropy**

Entropy is reasonably similar to energy and was generally chosen to be used in various branches of science. It can be called as the randomness of contents in image processing. For example, an image with a high density of contents such as city landscape could contain a high value of entropy. On the other hand, an image of a white plain wall could have lower entropy value. Its equation is fairly resembled the energy, with additional logarithm function:

$$\text{Entropy} = -\sum (\text{Prob.} * \log (\text{Prob})); \quad (4.6)$$

From these six characteristics of the histogram, we can train or test the system further, as well as understand the features that needed to be improved.

#### **4.2.3 Bayesian Classification**

The category is commonly arranged by following the theoretical decisions such as methods of identifying the pictures. The process of categorizing would be based on an assumption or more, such as geometric forms, color, or greyscale. Each of these characteristics was assigned for a unique analysis. How the system learns to be familiar with the process could be done by the users providing the data for the system to learn. The process could be achieved by identifying the number of demanding categories. The processes of categorizing and distinguishing were similar to each other in terms of putting the label on each component resulting in the picture apportionment.

In terms of Bayesian method, it was highly scalable, with the require of a number of features working in the learning process. This type of classification could be done by evaluating a closed-form expression rather than iterative approximation that is normally used for many other types of classifiers, so it was better to use to save computation time and resources. The Bayesian method was usually implemented to minimize the possibility of misclassification.

#### 4.2.3.1 Training Process

This process aimed to let the system know and remember which acne areas were rightly or wrongly detected. An algorithm usually worked on teaching the system to start its work by having a window of pixels slid through until it covered all areas in the images. The users had to manually input the interesting areas that the window was on by identifying if it was an acne. Then, this vector of right and wrong detection would be implemented into blob detection to filter out the unnecessary areas in the images that had been considered as an acne. The process would help the result of the output to be more reliable.

Next, the naïve Bayesian classifier was applied into the training data set, compared to original blob detection of images. The basic equation of this classifier was shown as follows;

$$p(x = v|c) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_c^2}} e^{-\frac{(v-\mu_c)^2}{2\sigma_c^2}} \quad (4.7)$$

According to the Gaussian distribution, the equation supposed that the training data contained a continuous variable,  $x$ . The intensity data from training class was computed out its mean and variance in each class. The process led  $\mu_c$  to be the mean of the values in  $x$  associated with class  $c$ , and  $\sigma_c^2$  be the variance of the values in  $x$  associated with class  $c$ . Then, the probability of distribution could be computed by plugging  $v$  into the equation to make a normal distribution of parameter by  $\mu_c$  and  $\sigma_c^2$ .

Lastly, all of training data and Bayes' classification data were saved into original detected acne images to show the most precise location of actual acnes that users had defined into the core system.

#### 4.2.3.2 Testing Process

This was the second phase process to let the system test and decide automatically whether a specific area was acne or not. First, we must create a window to observe parts of image then it would slide through the entire of each image. This

was much like training except that a prediction function in MATLAB would be used to automatically classify. This function was shown in the below statement;

$$l = \text{predict}(Y, X) \quad (4.8)$$

Where;  $l$  = vector of class labeling data intensity,

$Y$  = discriminant classifier,

$X$  = matrix of observation in row, predictor in column

After the prediction step, the areas that pass criteria would be kept for the next step, while the ones that failed would be deleted. Then the whole image would be marked on the right locations of acnes with the centroid of coordinate and areas referred from each acne component.

#### **4.3 Experimental result and discussion**

1. When we run codes on Matlab program, it would automatically show the dialog box for the users to select pictures that they wanted the system to learn or to test detecting acne. The users would be able to select one picture for testing

2. The system would inquire the users whether they wanted to use Train or Test if they wanted to use Train, they were required to select number 1. However, if they wanted to use Test, they were required to select number 2. We tried Train at the beginning in order to put data into the system for it to remember and learn

3. The system then showed the picture that we selected to test the first step, along with the message asking if the dots marked were acne with the dialog box showing the picture with circle marks around the detected dots, which might be acne. The users were required to answer in the screen if it was an acne or not. If yes, then press 1. If no, press 2.

4. The system would consistently require the users by demonstrating the marks around the interesting dots until it covered all the dots. However, the system would not repeat the detected dots since we provided the repeated codes in the system.

5. When the system had already asked about all the dots, the dialog box saying that Training complete would be popped up automatically.



6. Then the testing process would be carried out. In this process, we did not have to set up anything since the system would remember and learn from the first training. After that, the results of acne detection would be on the pictures by showing the marks around the dots or the areas that might be acne (look at picture 4.2)

In terms of the experiments, four sample images were used to see results of this program. Fig.4.2 (a) and (b) showed an image with quite a high number of acnes. The result was well-defined and almost accurate, but there would still be wrong-detected and overlapped areas. Nevertheless, they were pretty close to the accurate acnes.

Fig.4.2 (c) and (d) contained a very few acne lesions. It could be seen that a classification was very effective, and almost no mistake is presented. This proposed method boosted an efficiency of the system as it could detect blobs more thoroughly if compared to blob detection.

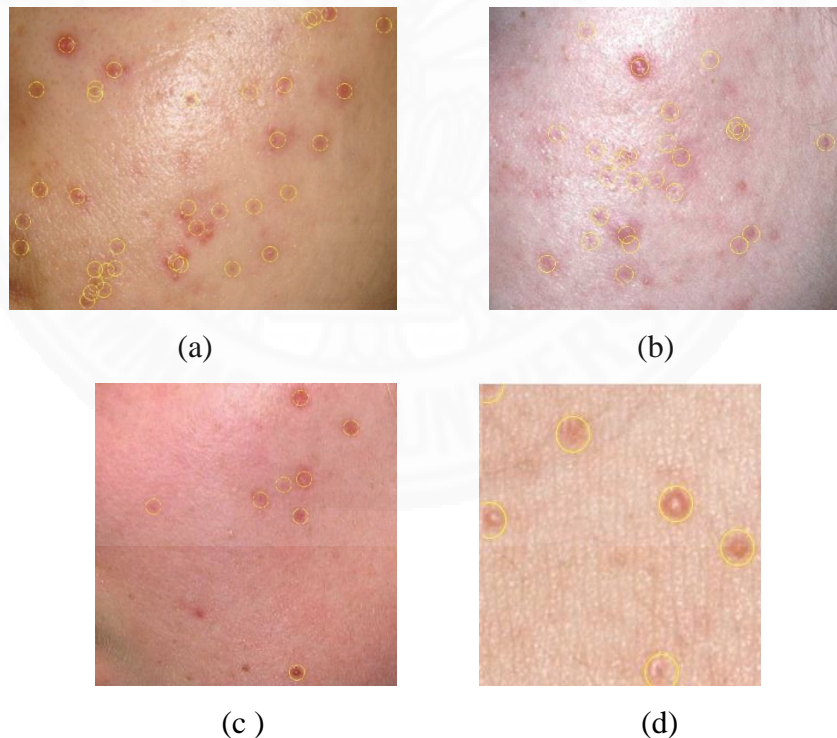


Fig. 4.2 Output image of result

With the purpose of measuring effects and performance of the proposed system, we used ten images of the acnes from different patients' face to test the

proposed method based on the MATLAB program. A reference number of actual acnes was displayed as 'Ground Truth' which was counted manually. Therefore, the following evaluation process was blob-based since we considered only the interesting shape of acnes, not the whole pixels. We could evaluate detected acnes on images by using sensitivity, precision, and accuracy, which was the same as the experiment from chapter 3. Fig. 4.3 is the Ground truth image and fig. 4.4 is the Output image of result



Fig. 4.3 Ground truth image



Fig. 4.4 Output image of result



Fig. 4.5 Negative result

From the fig 4.5, it shows the negative detection results. We found that the yellow dots show the correct detection results but the blue dots are the false negative, i.e. the location where acne appears but the system couldn't detect it. This mistake happens because the boundary between acne and the background is so blurred. The green dots show the false positive, or the location where there is no acne, but the system wrongly detected as an acne. The mistakes or similar ones occur when there are dots or spots that are not acnes on the patient's face.

Table 4.1 Result of acne detection from Bayesian classifier

Sample image	Ground truth (Human eye)	Image Processing (Proposed method)	TP	FP	TN	FN
1	6	6	6	0	0	0
2	28	33	25	8	0	3
3	25	27	20	7	0	5
4	24	26	21	5	0	3
5	13	13	10	3	0	3
6	33	34	28	6	0	5
7	25	42	23	19	0	2
8	22	24	18	6	0	4
9	10	8	8	0	0	2
10	33	36	26	10	0	7

From Table 4.1, we use all 10 images, which is the same image used to test with Thresholding method that presented in Chapter 3 to make it easier for compare the results of both techniques. Therefore, the value obtained from the Bayesian Classification detection is a number of detected areas by using Training and Testing algorithms, but still have errors in these results as well. The results of this program can be divided into four types are truly positive, true negative, false positive, false negative.

The results showed that if we use the test image with a small number of acne, our detection system can detect it correctly and effective while the sample groups 1 and 9 have values 0 and 2, respectively. More acne image, the detection system has more error and the most are false positive which is not acne area but it like acne lesions that cause testing errors.

Table 4.2 System efficiency evaluation from Bayesian classifier

Sample image	Sensitivity (%)	Precision (%)	Accuracy (%)
1	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
2	75.76%	89.29%	70.27%
3	74.76%	80.00%	63.64%
4	87.50%	80.76%	73.33%
5	76.92%	76.92%	64.71%
6	84.85%	82.35%	72.50%
7	92.00%	54.76%	53.33%
8	81.82%	75.00%	65.52%
9	80.00%	100%	81.82%
10	78.79%	72.22%	61.36%
Average	83.17%	81.13%	70.65%

From Table 4.2, a value used to assess the overall performance of the system is sensitivity, is the rate of the detection system with more likely to be diagnosed the counting of acne number accurately. This table will provide an acceptable value for each sample as in Image 1 is 100%, which is good for a test this system while the image 3 is 74.76%, which is the lowest value of all. The precision value is a positive forecast value used to estimate how many chance for detected accurately, as well as objects from all object itself to be checked. We can see that the values in the table show the system still have an error. The value is relatively low in image 7 is 54.76% is the only one with a low percentage, but the other value is acceptable. From this low percentage may be due to the unclear of acne areas. Finally, the accuracy value which is the overall rate of accurate results when compared to all the objects in both positive and negative can tell all the performance of this system is not desirable except the tested image 1 and 9, both values have a relatively high percentage. However, the total percentage has sensitivity, precision, accuracy values are 83.17%, 81.13%, 70.65%, respectively, and we can consider this system is satisfactory.

## **Chapter 5**

### **Conclusion and Future Work**

Acne detection system is a useful system that helps doctors to assess the initial treatment easier, save time and reduce fatigue of doctors. In this thesis research, we implement two methods in Thresholding method and Bayesian classifier method which applied image processing techniques to use acne detection system. Their conclusions are described following.

#### **5.1 Summary of Thresholding method**

This thesis presents an automatic counting of acne number. The study found that image processing techniques are interesting especially the use of an image to find the differences of color, light intensity, or even a small area with embossed are all differences that can be isolated by the above techniques. The algorithm presented in this thesis has a prominent point at using Thresholding property which is a basic property but can meet the proposition very good. The steps are not complicated but have satisfactory results. The presented techniques will include the input data, RGB color image which is converted into a gray image. In the first steps, for processed easily, gray-scale normalization, HSV input conversion to use brightness image compare with the gray image, ROI extraction, binary threshold, Non-ROI feature elimination, marking results and overlaying onto the original image.

Performance Measurement of the experiment will show that the false positive is likely to appear due to some other problem on the face can have similar properties when compared to acne and the calculate percentage of sensitivity, precision and accuracy are relatively high, except precision which has to be improved soon. Some small errors can arise from the mistakes of the acne shape that unclear detected. Therefore, we have to increase the separation system of acne that point is acne or not by increasing the Bayesian Classifier method.

## **5.2 Summary of Bayesian classifier method**

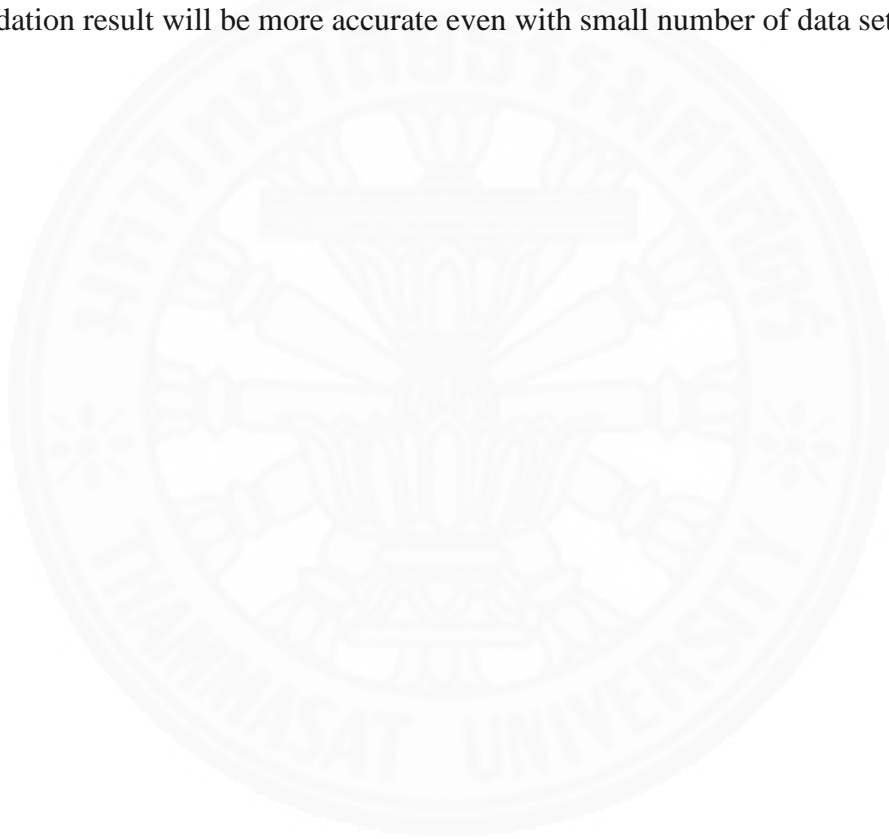
This thesis aims to investigate an automatic acne detection method by using developed algorithm, feature extraction and, Bayesian classification. In addition, the results shown on the sample facial picture with varied types of acnes and the effectiveness evaluations of the system were provided in the previous table. The presented algorithm included Blob detection techniques, which was considered as the first method applied in the project. The method could be achieved by separating the Blobs out of the background skin. Nonetheless, this method had an immense tendency to cause an error; hence, we decided to add the feature extraction during the process. This method extracted the feature graphic of acnes out in order to see differences. Then, we used Bayesian classifier with train-and-test algorithm to sort or classify the exact amount of acnes out of the overlap misunderstanding or errors.

Performance measurement of the experiment presented that the false positive was likely to occur due to some other problems on the face. This is because the acnes and other scratches tend to have similar properties, compared to the efficiency calculation of acne inspection revealing the percentage of sensitivity, precision, and accuracy. It could be perceived that the accuracy was relatively high; nevertheless, the precision still had to be improved. Some tiny errors could arise from the man-made mistakes and different shapes of acnes.

## **5.3 Future Work**

In forthcoming work, we are planning to improve the algorithm performance. It was also possible that we would expand the process of detection, classification in order to optimize the algorithm to better results of precision and accuracy. Firstly, we are convinced that the quality of acne images should be improved as they are an important factor before sending these images to next process. This is because the results of performance have a low rate on some example images due to the errors on detection. Similarly to classifier process, we are planning to improve the algorithm to be more powerful with many techniques in the process, such as neural network classification. This thesis may be developed more to be presented in the following study, and real-time detection will be concerned in the future work.

We suggest that the cross validation should be used to validate the output. There are many cross validation methods such as Holdout method or K-Fold cross validation. For the Holdout method, dataset will be divided into 2 sets, the training set and the testing set. This method is good for the application that need speed in training because we can estimate training and testing time based on the number of the dataset. For K-fold cross validation, we separate the data set into parts and use them as they are used in Holdout method, but we do it for K times. Each time, we choose different data as training set and testing set. Even though, the running time is k-fold but the validation result will be more accurate even with small number of data set.



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## Appendix



## Appendix A

### List of Publication

1. Thanapha Chantharaphaichit, Bunyarit Uyyanonvara, Chanjira Sinthanayothin and Akinori Nishihara “*Automatic Acne Detection for Medical Treatment*”, *ICTES International Conference on Information and Communication Technology for Embedded Systems* Vol. 06 No. 1, p33-38, March 22-24, 2015, Novotel Hua Hin Cha Am Beach Resort and Spa, Thailand
2. Thanapha Chantharaphaichit, Bunyarit Uyyanonvara, Chanjira Sinthanayothin and Akinori Nishihara, *Automatic Acne Detection With Featured Bayesian Classifier For Medical Treatment, The 3rd International Conference on Robotics, Informatics, and Intelligence control Technology (RIIT2015)*, p10-16, 27-30 April 2015, Asia Hotel Bangkok, Bangkok, Thailand
3. Thanapha Chantharaphaichit, Bunyarit Uyyanonvara, Chanjira Sinthanayothin and Akinori Nishihara, *Automatic Facial Acne Detection With Extended Featured Bayesian Classifier, The 11th International Symposium in Science and Technology 2016 (ISST2016)* ,26-28 July 2016, Kansai University, Japan