

A Holy Quran Reader/Reciter Identification System Using Support Vector Machine

Khalid M. O. Nahar, Moyawiah Al-Shannaq, Ahmad Manasrah, Rafat Alshorman, and Iyad Alazzam

Abstract—Holy Quran Reader Identification is the process of identifying the reader or reciter of the Holy Quran based on several features in the corresponding acoustic wave. In this research, we build our own corpus, which contains 15 known readers of the Holy Quran. The Mel-Frequency Cepstrum Coefficients (MFCC) are used for the extraction of these features from the input acoustic signal. These MFCCs are the reader's features matrix, which is used for recognition via Support Vector Machine (SVM) and Artificial Neural Networks (ANN). According to our experimental results, the Holy Quran Reader Identification System identifies the reader with 96.59% accuracy when using SVM, in contrast to accuracy of 86.1% when using ANN.

Index Terms—Reader identification, feature extraction, Mel-Frequency Cepstrum Coefficients (MFCC), support vector machine (SVM), Artificial Neural Networks (ANN).

I. INTRODUCTION

The process of reader identification is a general process that covers a wide area in voice recognition systems. For instance, the reader identification process uses the reader's voice as a biometric signal to recognize an individual's identity from the underlying speech information. The process of reader identification can be used for a broad range of applications such as forensic tests, automatic indexing of speech databases, voice dialling, and in enhancing speech recognition systems, among others. However, although there have been numerous efforts to increase the accuracy of such systems, the identification process still lacks the accuracy required in the recognition of voices, especially in noisy environments.

Generally, speaker recognition applications can be divided into speaker identification and speaker verification categories. Speaker identification determines the identity of an anonymous speaker based on the his/her utterances. On the other hand, speaker verification verifies the speaker's identity from his voice characteristics [1]. Speaker recognition usually requires the speaker to say the same utterance as a text-dependent identification system, or without speech constraints as a text-independent identification system. Over the past few decades, significant research has been conducted to improve text-independent speaker identification performance in terms of accuracy and

systems robustness, special conditions where there, they are noise and vibration. The research in this field focuses on converting a caustic wave form into features that are useful for further processing to identify the owner. The strength of the state-of-the-art algorithms used depends on the features' capability of capturing time frequency and energy into a set of coefficients for cepstrum analysis [2]. Several studies have achieved promising results in identifying the speakers from acoustic waves by using different extraction methods and classification schemes such as those based on vector quantization [3], the Gaussian mixture model [4]-[6] and Gamma Tone Frequency Cepstral Coefficients (GFCC) with I-vectors [7], [8]. It is, however, important to extract features from each frame to capture speaker characteristics. Features such as the Mel-frequency cepstral coefficients (MFCC) [9], [10] and perceptual linear predictive (PLP) coefficients [11], [12] are commonly adopted for speaker identification and recognition algorithms.

The human voice conveys a great deal of information such as the gender, emotions, and identity of the speaker, which is converted into a digital signal to produce digital data representing each level of signal at every discrete time step [13]. The digitized speech samples are converted into the Mel-Frequency Cepstrum Coefficient (MFCC) to produce the features of the wave vectors, which can be then used in learning algorithms such as SVM, and ANN. Even though most of the known acoustic-property-based algorithms have achieved an almost 100% level of accuracy in an uncluttered environment [14], [15], the performance of these algorithms is degraded with channel variations due to the microphones, used or environmental or background distortions [14].

In this paper, a Holy Quran reader/reciter identification model is proposed. Unlike any other voice or speaker identification system, the voices of the readers who recite the Holy Quran and the way they do so is very different from the voice and delivery of ordinary speech. The difference is due to the existence of certain acoustic rules, known as "Ahkam Al Tajweed" "أحكام التجويد", that must be applied when reading the Holy Quran aloud. X). Furthermore, emotional features, which are added by the reader, as well as the transition from one pitch or tone to another when reading the Holy Quran distinguish such readings from normal speech.

The transition from one pitch to another is known as Maqam (مقام). This very important feature must be maintained while reciting the Holy Quran. As a result, the proposed model converts the readers' sound waves into MFCC to extract the feature vector matrix. The proposed model has been practiced and tested using both SVM and ANN. SVM is widely used and has proved to be effective for speaker recognition [16].

This paper also contains a related work in Section II. the Methodological steps and algorithm are presented in Section

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III, while Section IV illustrates the results of the experiments. Section V concludes the paper and sheds light on future research potential.

II. RELATED WORK

The nature of the recitation of the verses of the Holy Quran is different from that of any other type of speech or utterance. To date, to our knowledge, no one has addressed the area identifying the speech of Holy Quran readers., which is not true of other types of voice and speaker identification systems. Different approaches exist in the literature for using the MFCC features along with some learning algorithms such as the Hidden Markov Model (HMM), SVM, and ANN among others. One example, [2], is the design of a small-scale system for speaker and speech recognition with specific visual information for the user. Through the HMM, the authors successfully recognized isolated words where the speech recognition was achieved through extracting a set of feature vectors using MFCC. The Vector Quantization (VQ) was used for the practice and classification of the features. The accuracy of discrete speaker and/or speech recognition was 90% over a database of recorded voices. Likewise, [17] a further example presented a real time speaker recognition system using MFCC and VQ. This research was evaluated with 120 speakers with a TIDIGIT database. The proposed real time system uses the LBG algorithm proposed in a further example [18] to group

the set of acoustic vectors into sets of codebook vectors. The experimental results showed 91% accuracy in normal environmental conditions at 20db SNR.

However, the proposed system was tested and assessed using a sample of only seven speakers. This limitation can be addressed through other matching techniques such as HMM and delta spectral Cepstrum coefficient as suggested by the authors. Similarly, [19] a proposed voice recognition approach based on MFCC features and SVM learning algorithm for speaker identification is suggested. The proposed approach was practiced over a database of eight speakers/readers. The feature vectors were extracted using MFCC from the input speech. The feature vectors are used as the speaker features for learning and matching using SVM. The accuracy rate reached was 95%. This result suggests the use of ANN or GMM techniques to improve performance and increase accuracy.

Each language has its own phonetic system. The Arabic sound system, which is different from the English sound system, has a unique phonetic structure as each spoken word has a phonetic combination of certain sound units. Therefore, various scholars have proposed methods for an Arabic -based speaker or voice recognition system. For instance, a new feature called Multi Directional Local Features (MDLF) was suggested and applied on automatic speaker recognition [20]. The MDLF showed significant improvements compared to conventional features. The authors also focused on how to select optimum features from a 48- dimensional MDLF to increase the speaker recognition rate and the possibility of applying the MDLF features to Arabic speech recognition systems. In Arabic, some authors like the one in [21] suggested that knowing the length of a specific phoneme can assist in speeding up the recognition process as well as increasing recognition accuracy. As a result, the authors have presented a statistical study and analysis of the Arabic phonemes. They have also utilized the previous assumption, that knowing the length of a specific phoneme would be helpful, to limit the length of an HMM chain to increase recognition accuracy. They have also improved the manner of searching for phonemes through adopting the median length of each cluster during the recognition phase. However, the proposed statistical analysis requires manual tuning of the recognition and configuration rates for building the best acoustic model.

Since the voice is a signal of infinite information, direct analysis and synthesizing of the complex voice signal is required. To represent the voice signal, various Feature Extraction and Feature Matching algorithms are introduced. Therefore, [13] based on an assumption that the voice signal may have different temporal rates, they propose a non-parametric method for modelling the human auditory perception system. They utilize the MFCC as a feature extraction technique along with the non-linear sequence alignment known as Dynamic Time Warping (DTW) as a feature- matching techniques. The proposed method proved to be an efficient voice recognition algorithm. However, with constant window spacing, the lengths of the input and stored voice signals are unlikely to be the same. Moreover, there will be a variation in the length of individual phonemes that has not been addressed in the proposed method.

Table I summarizes some of the studies which have addressed speaker identification in their research.

TABLE I: LITERATURE SUMMARY

Author/year	Highlights	No. of Speakers	Database	Recognition rate
(Das and Nahar, 2016)	Hidden Markov Model (HMM) to recognize isolated word, Mel Frequency Cepstral Coefficients (MFCC) and (VQ) for speech recognition using MATLAB.	40	Three hours of news recordings	speech recognition has been successfully accomplished with about 90% accuracy
(Bharti, 2015)	Mel Frequency Cepstrum Coefficient (MFCC) and Vector Quantization (VQ) using MATLAB.	120+5 local	TIDIGIT database	The experimental results showed 91% accuracy in normal environmental conditions at 20 db SNR
(Nijhawan and Soni, 2014)	Support Vector Machine (SVM) for speaker identification and feature extraction by using (MFCC).	8	local	the accuracy rate is 95%
(Alsulaiman et al., 2017)	A new feature called Multi Directional Local Features (MDLF) is proposed and applied on automatic speaker recognition.	49	TIMIT database	(MDLF) showed significant improvements compared to MFCC and LF
(Nahar et al., 2012)	A statistical study and analysis of Arabic phonemes designed to improve the performance of current ASR systems.	40	Three hours of news recordings	increase the speed of the clustering of the phonemes and increase the recognition accuracy
(Linde et al., 1980)	The use of MFCC and DTW) to increase the voice recognition performance.	2	Local	the results show that these techniques could be used effectively for voice recognition

In our research we focus on identifying the reader name by exploring his vocal features, which is considered as a challenge in voice recognition systems. Identifying Holy Quran reciter or reader is not like identifying a normal speaker, since the original voice of Holy Quran reciter will not be as is, it is governed by “Ahkam Al Tajweed” " أحكام التجويد". Identifying the person name through his vocal features is one of the main objectives of via voice systems. Sometimes we may find some audio files without any annotation, for example Holy Quran Audio files with unknown reader. It is beneficial to know the reader or reciter name of this files, else we should mark them as unknown reader. In our research we contribute in the direction of annotating unannotated Holy Quran audio files by the corresponding reciter. As mentioned before SVM is widely used and has proved to be effective for speaker recognition [16].

III. THE PROPOSED APPROACH

The speaker recognition’s main components are feature extraction, and speaker modelling. Fig. 1 illustrates an overview of the proposed identification system. The proposed system mainly consists of practice and testing phases.

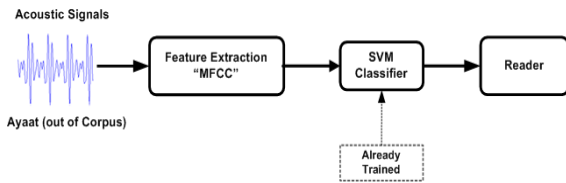


Fig. 1. Proposed approach overview.

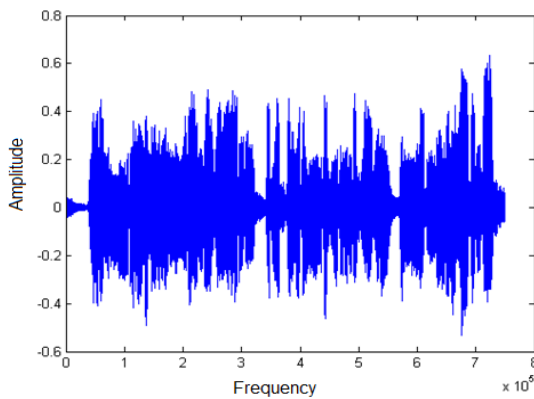


Fig. 2. Sample of acoustic wave.

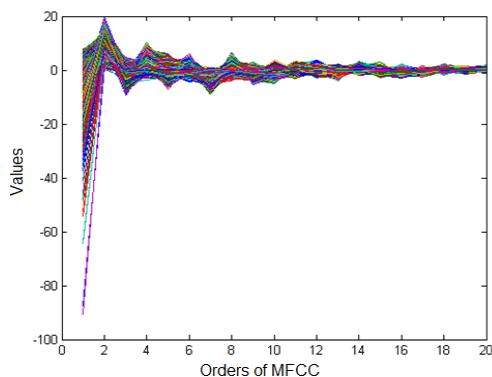


Fig. 3. Sample of MFCC file.

Feature extraction converts the input speech signal into a

suitable feature space to be modelled. The first step of the proposed approach after extracting the features is to build a trained model. Since the proposed approach aims to identify the Holy Quran reader; samples from the Holy Quran recited aloud are required to build the corpus. An example of acoustic waves and their features is illustrated in Fig. 2 and Fig. 3 respectively. Acoustic waves for each reader, based on his readings, were collected. The feature vectors of these acoustic waves were extracted.

A. Data Acquisition and Corpus Construction

The Holy Quran is the Holy Scripture for Muslims as it is a comprehensive guide to a lifestyle based on what is written there. It is the collection of the verbal revelations given to Prophet Muhammad taught to believers over a period of twenty-three years. The Holy Quran was revealed in Arabic with 114 Chapters (Surahs) of varying lengths, and each Chapter consists of several individual verses (Ayaat). There are 6,348 different verses in the Holy Quran. To date, there is no corpus for the Ayaat of the Holy Quran based on their readers/reciters’ performance. In this research we have chosen to segment two different Surahs, the first 120 Ayah from Suraht Al-Baqraa (chapter 1) as outlet data and Suraht Al Kahaf “سورة الكهف” (Chapter 18) into 110 separate Ayah for a specific reader as the corpus. In total, 15 different readers were considered for the corpus construction, as detailed in Table II. Each Holy Quran reader recites the 110 Ayah from Suraht Al Kahaf. A wave file was created for each Ayah. The total number of acoustic waves created is 1650 waves. The recognition system was implemented in MATLAB. The speech signal was divided into segments of 15 ms frames with the use of a Hamming window for further analysis. We experimentally determined that 15 ms frames generated better recognition because the Holy Quran readers generally have a slow rate of recitation. A larger frame size does not enhance the recognition system’s ability to learn the characteristics of the signal.

TABLE II: HOLY QURAN READERS CITED IN STUDY

Reader Name	Arabic Name	Samples from Al-Kahaf	Samples from Al-Baqara
Mohammad Rashad.	محمد الراشد	110	120
Maher Almuaiqly	ماهر المعيطي	110	120
Khaled Alqatani	خالد القحطاني	110	120
Ahmad Alhuthaifi	أحمد الحثيفي	110	120
Ali Alhuthaifi	علي الحثيفي	110	120
Ahmad Alajamy	أحمد العجمي	110	120
Yahya Hawwa	يحيى حوى	110	120
Abdullah Basfar	عبدالله بصفر	110	120
Salah Albudair	صلاح البدير	110	120
Yasser Aldosari	ياسر الدوسري	110	120
Fares Abbad	فارس عباد	110	120
Abdulrahman Alsudaes	عبدالرحمن السديس	110	120
Meshary Al-Afasy	مشاري العفاسي	110	120
Saud Shuraim	سعود شريم	110	120
Saad Alghamidi	سعد الغامدي	110	120

Since the Ayaat are of different lengths, a 20-feature representation of each Ayah was extracted for the 1650 acoustic waves as an MFCC file corresponding to the acoustic waves as discussed in Section III.B. Fig. 4 shows the feature vectors of the whole Ayaat.

Each ayah vector is transposed and labelled by the corresponding reader, as illustrated in Fig. 5.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1	-55.1683	-54.2575	-51.4150	-47.8614	-35.1240	-30.7448	-32.7274	-33.2354	-32.4014	-34.1820	-35.3730	-35.3371	-33.4965
2	4.5671	4.8543	4.5540	4.8081	7.9815	8.8882	9.1816	8.8391	10.0779	9.6682	9.0367	6.6015	8.3221
3	-0.4850	-0.8994	-1.2175	-1.6882	0.9392	1.5180	2.5373	1.9791	0.7630	1.0817	0.5784	-0.1995	1.1566
4	-0.1677	-0.3694	-0.5723	-0.5238	2.6716	1.5008	-1.2273	-0.9118	0.6134	0.4301	0.4260	-0.2346	0.5786
5	-0.1530	-1.0238	-0.9653	-1.4884	-0.9588	-0.6289	-1.4468	-2.0344	-1.8723	-1.8817	-0.9953	-1.1459	-0.6588
6	0.9713	0.9390	1.6765	0.9443	0.7308	2.1740	2.5712	0.9493	1.9794	2.9847	2.0271	0.9476	1.9713
7	0.0710	-1.2867	-0.9176	-1.2563	-1.0109	-0.1785	-0.9136	-1.0232	-1.7285	-0.6945	-1.3822	-1.1551	-1.3551
8	0.7547	0.3614	-0.0039	-0.0833	1.4208	2.9068	1.8809	1.9690	1.7072	1.4630	1.8251	2.5160	2.1325
9	-0.5826	0.0485	0.5291	-0.3673	-1.3271	-1.3548	-1.1672	-1.6099	-0.7134	-0.9526	-0.7082	-0.1082	-0.9444
10	0.8526	0.3272	1.3723	0.9842	1.5510	1.5118	1.1008	0.9584	0.9117	1.5136	1.4473	0.4183	0.8569
11	0.3248	0.1508	-0.6827	0.0350	-1.1771	-1.2358	-2.2005	-2.2620	-0.9746	-0.4746	-2.3138	-2.1381	-2.6374
12	-0.1627	0.4634	1.2243	-0.7175	0.3881	0.8943	1.3345	1.3052	1.2066	0.9110	0.5611	0.7838	1.1453
13	-1.1869	-0.0774	-0.2165	-1.3071	-1.2636	-1.3669	-0.3943	0.4533	0.4001	-1.0893	-0.2515	-0.0466	0.3021
14	0.2625	0.7175	-0.0655	-0.3512	0.0348	1.0463	1.4003	1.0534	0.6811	0.8902	1.3130	1.2994	1.2994
15	-0.0283	-0.2393	-0.4679	-0.0782	0.2625	-0.5260	-0.7824	-0.5659	-0.0661	0.1935	-0.2546	-0.3336	-1.0002
16	0.3919	0.4199	0.5072	1.2255	0.1538	0.1234	1.2881	0.8050	0.7895	1.1850	1.0670	0.8514	0.9434
17	0.5445	-0.0426	-0.5943	-0.0109	0.1306	-0.3946	-0.3912	-0.3230	-0.4291	-1.1742	-0.3751	-0.3807	0.4231
18	-0.9328	-0.9350	-0.8363	0.2119	0.1438	0.2061	-0.9960	-0.6764	-0.5626	-0.7895	-0.3423	-0.3521	-0.6243
19	0.3215	-0.2551	-0.0481	-0.6701	-0.3987	-0.6206	-0.3859	-0.9148	-0.7313	-0.8256	-1.1694	-1.3060	-1.3060

Fig. 4. Screenshot of the feature vectors matrix of all readers (20*22952).

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T
77750 Mohammad Razi	-31.7243	11.9909	4.347605	-0.98167	0.627508	-1.56912	-0.00417	-1.28665	-1.9012	1.419554	-1.34949	1.620954	-1.03264	0.654317	0.153193	0.742886	-0.33892	-0.90564	0.5317	
77751 Mohammad Razi	-31.8589	11.55784	4.025169	-1.81884	-0.00053	-1.26835	-3.37409	-0.93048	-0.73533	2.050331	-1.27087	0.786209	-1.50619	0.746753	-0.80491	-0.38759	-0.49786	-0.56514	0.136	
77752 Mohammad Razi	-32.8713	13.1879	5.038488	-0.97409	1.918084	0.613761	-5.44287	-0.67618	-0.88735	1.971273	-1.84712	1.288139	-1.26780	0.930934	-0.6736	0.761881	0.27044	-0.53282	0.022	
77753 Mohammad Razi	-30.2569	11.17749	3.94742	0.322951	-0.39014	-0.60944	-3.31332	-0.61263	-1.27907	2.323219	-0.86669	1.708866	-1.02422	1.144794	-0.37408	0.147476	0.04403	-0.02937	0.422	
77754 Mohammad Razi	-36.6591	7.888206	6.342504	0.435866	-0.91988	0.957037	-2.8536	0.938706	-2.13996	1.799621	-1.5233	1.42056	-1.30087	1.187933	-0.84707	0.053833	-0.29494	0.126133	0.132	
77755 Mohammad Razi	-30.0229	1.842557	-1.3373	-0.0284	0.93099	-1.82038	-0.26977	-1.93843	-0.88855	-0.0985	1.07788	-0.09957	0.842141	-1.06628	-0.58488	-0.18179	-0.88889	-0.18		
77756 Mohammad Razi	-53.2379	0.840051	-3.23194	-3.21368	1.66012	-0.12342	-3.90002	-1.67993	-1.23262	0.123889	-1.40841	0.759383	-1.25684	0.729270	0.082121	0.186098	-0.04249	-0.5818	-0.1	
77757 Mohammad Razi	-53.4849	2.848384	-0.13185	-0.84047	1.831333	2.74002	-2.51279	-1.2569	-2.88912	0.396007	-0.38463	0.461405	-1.34781	0.944618	-0.08113	0.119740	0.575378	-0.84027	-0.1	
77758 Mohammad Razi	-57.6652	1.840384	1.04271	-1.49876	-0.03117	0.978368	-0.80868	-0.63865	-1.55977	0.738367	-1.16873	0.331478	-1.31588	-0.06502	-0.94941	-0.23722	0.00454	0.118024	0.194	
77759 Mohammad Razi	-60.0229	1.840384	1.04271	-1.49876	-0.03117	0.978368	-0.80868	-0.63865	-1.55977	0.738367	-1.16873	0.331478	-1.31588	-0.06502	-0.94941	-0.23722	0.00454	0.118024	0.194	
77760 Mohammad Razi	-60.1651	2.340388	1.04271	-1.49876	-0.03117	0.978368	-0.80868	-0.63865	-1.55977	0.738367	-1.16873	0.331478	-1.31588	-0.06502	-0.94941	-0.23722	0.00454	0.118024	0.194	
77761 Mohammad Razi	-60.1479	1.840388	1.04271	-1.49876	-0.03117	0.978368	-0.80868	-0.63865	-1.55977	0.738367	-1.16873	0.331478	-1.31588	-0.06502	-0.94941	-0.23722	0.00454	0.118024	0.194	
77762 Mohammad Razi	-60.1479	1.840388	1.04271	-1.49876	-0.03117	0.978368	-0.80868	-0.63865	-1.55977	0.738367	-1.16873	0.331478	-1.31588	-0.06502	-0.94941	-0.23722	0.00454	0.118024	0.194	
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77771 Mohammad Razi	-60.1479	1.840388	1.04271	-1.49876	-0.03117	0.978368	-0.80868	-0.63865	-1.55977	0.738367	-1.16873	0.331478	-1.31588	-0.06502	-0.94941	-0.23722	0.00454	0.118024	0.194	
77772 Mohammad Razi	-60.1479	1.840388	1.04271	-1.49876	-0.03117	0.978368	-0.80868	-0.63865	-1.55977	0.738367	-1.16873	0.331478	-1.31588	-0.06502	-0.94941	-0.23722	0.00454	0.118024	0.194	
77773 Mohammad Razi	-60.1479	1.840388	1.04271	-1.49876	-0.03117	0.978368	-0.80868	-0.63865	-1.55977	0.738367	-1.16873	0.331478	-1.31588	-0.06502	-0.94941	-0.23722	0.00454	0.118024	0.194	
77774 Mohammad Razi	-60.1479	1.840388	1.04271	-1.49876	-0.03117	0.978368	-0.80868	-0.63865	-1.55977	0.738367	-1.16873	0.331478	-1.31588	-0.06502	-0.94941	-0.23722	0.00454	0.118024	0.194	
77775 Mohammad Razi	-60.1479	1.840388	1.04271	-1.49876	-0.03117	0.978368	-0.80868	-0.63865	-1.55977	0.738367	-1.16873	0.331478	-1.31588	-0.06502	-0.94941	-0.23722	0.00454	0.118024	0.194	
77776 Mohammad Razi	-60.1479	1.840388	1.04271	-1.49876	-0.03117	0.978368	-0.80868	-0.63865	-1.55977	0.738367	-1.16873	0.331478	-1.31588	-0.06502	-0.94941	-0.23722	0.00454	0.118024	0.194	
77777 Mohammad Razi	-60.1479	1.840388	1.04271	-1.49876	-0.03117	0.978368	-0.80868	-0.63865	-1.55977	0.738367	-1.16873	0.331478	-1.31588	-0.06502	-0.94941	-0.23722	0.00454	0.118024	0.194	
77778 Mohammad Razi	-60.1479	1.840388	1.04271	-1.49876	-0.03117	0.978368	-0.80868	-0.63865	-1.55977	0.738367	-1.16873	0.331478	-1.31588	-0.06502	-0.94941	-0.23722	0.00454	0.118024	0.194	
77779 Mohammad Razi	-60.1479	1.840388	1.04271	-1.49876	-0.03117	0.978368	-0.80868	-0.63865	-1.55977	0.738367	-1.16873	0.331478	-1.31588	-0.06502	-0.94941	-0.23722	0.00454	0.118024	0.194	
77780 Mohammad Razi	-60.1479	1.840388	1.04271	-1.49876	-0.03117	0.978368	-0.80868	-0.63865	-1.55977	0.738367	-1.16873	0.331478	-1.31588	-0.06502	-0.94941	-0.23722	0.00454	0.118024	0.194	
77781 Mohammad Razi	-60.1479	1.840388	1.04271	-1.49876	-0.03117	0.978368	-0.80868	-0.63865	-1.55977	0.738367	-1.16873	0.331478	-1.31588	-0.06502	-0.94941	-0.23722	0.00454	0.118024	0.194	
77782 Mohammad Razi																				

hyper plane and the closest training examples. In other words, finding the line that separates the sample into two classes with the maximum distance between the line and the samples. This line is called the hyper plane: the samples near the hyper plane are called support vectors. The maximum distance between the support vectors and the hyper plane is called the margin [2], [23]. Fig. 9 Is a simple pictorial view of SVM stages.

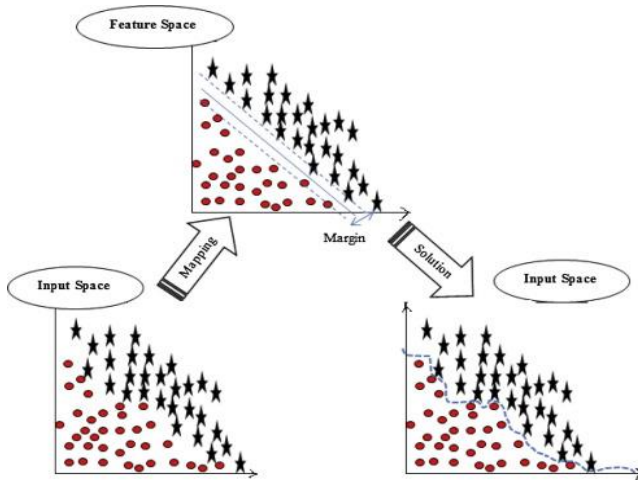


Fig. 9. SVM recognition stages [3].

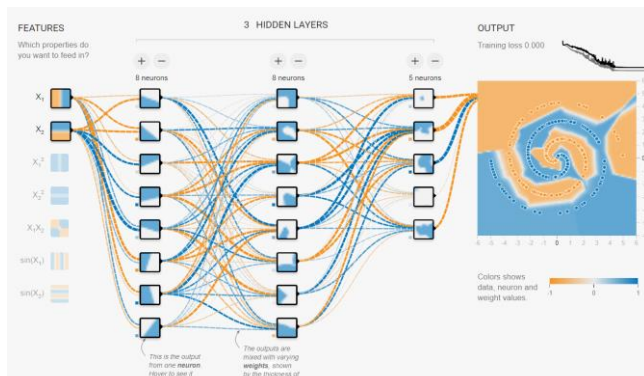


Fig. 10. ANN Paradigm¹.

D. Artificial Neural Networks

Neural networks, a beautiful biologically-inspired programming paradigm which enables a computer to learn from observational data. It's a technique for building a computer program that learns from data. It is based very loosely on how we think the human brain works. First, a collection of software “neurons” is created and connected together, allowing them to send messages to each other. Next, the network is asked to solve a problem, which it attempts to do over and over, each time strengthening the connections that lead to success and diminishing those that lead to failure. Fig. 10 represent a simple ANN with one input layer, three hidden layers, and one output layer.

IV. EXPERIMENTS AND EVALUATION

The Holy Quran Reader Identification system depends mainly on the features extracted from the acoustic waves, as

well as the learning and classification algorithms. The SVM is trained with the 15 readers of the Holy Quran in Table II. For comparison purposes, the same experiment was repeated with the ANN for classification. For training purposes, we have chosen 70% of the features for training in both SVM and ANN. The remaining 30% of the features is for the testing, as shown in Fig. 11.

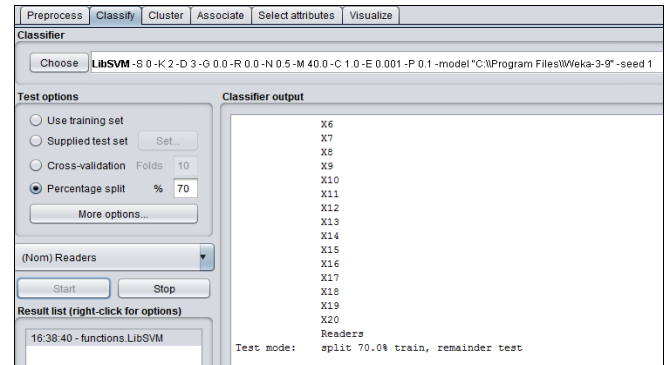


Fig. 11. Model building in WEKA.

As shown in Fig. 11, X1, X2 up to X20 are the feature vector values or the predictors. The “Readers” are the target classes. After training the SVM over 70% of the features, it starts testing the trained model on 30%. The result is a testing confusion matrix of the SVM. The confusion matrix is a data structure used to show the classification results. The rows of this matrix are the desired classification and the columns are the predicted classification.

Table III represents the confusion matrix of the testing phase with SVM. It is clear that some samples are below the hyper plane of the SVM (Main Diagonal) where others are above it. In both cases, it is considered a misclassification of the sample. The sample is correctly classified if it is on the main diagonal. In Table III, most of the samples are correctly classified. To calculate the accuracy, Eq (2) is used.

$$\text{Accuracy} = \frac{\sum \text{DiagonalSample of confusion matrix}}{\text{TotalSample}} \quad (2)$$

The overall accuracy of reader identification when using SVM is 96.59%. About 4% of the total samples were misclassified. Although we generate samples from only one Surah, it was huge feature file to process. If the samples from Surah Al-Baqarah are entered as an outlet test data, the SVM shows 95.9% accuracy when tested by the outlet data from Al-Baqarah. The Differences between testing on test data from the same corpus (Surah Al-Kahaf) and the outlet data (Surah Al-Baqarah) is about 0.6%, which is highly acceptable.

The misclassified samples were due to the way that the Holy Quran reader recited the different verses. The similarity between the reader’s sound and the emotion expressed is critical. Especially since most of the Holy Quran readers follow the same reading rules “Ahkam Altajweed” when they are reciting the various verses of the chapter. Applying “Ahkam Altajweed” will increase the chance of the inter modulation between acoustic waves from different readers. Moreover, every reader has his own standard of delivery “Makam” (مقامات صوتية) which is often like that of other readers.

¹ The picture is taken from: <https://becominghuman.ai/creating-your-own-neural-network-using-tensorflow-fa8ca7cc4d0e>

TABLE III: TESTING CONFUSION MATRIX OF SVM

10	4	11	2	27	3	1	111	22	10	1	5	7	49	11181	<i>o</i> = Fares Abbad
6	22	48	4	42	51	0	148	103	1	42	39	5	11136	60	<i>n</i> = Yasser Aldosari
6	4	0	6	14	29	0	19	8	0	180	38	12740	20	1	<i>m</i> = Mohammad Rashad
0	6	14	4	49	56	1	55	11	0	81	9136	24	51	10	<i>l</i> = Salah Albudair
4	8	42	9	16	25	0	21	9	1	8726	75	193	41	0	<i>k</i> = Saud Shuraim
6	7	6	0	1	4	15	3	3	6080	1	1	0	1	8	<i>j</i> = Saad Alghamidi
30	10	6	8	15	12	1	138	10997	1	11	8	10	82	25	<i>i</i> = Abdullah Basfar
12	19	35	36	28	27	0	12182	134	5	21	64	19	125	108	<i>h</i> = Mishary Alafasi
3	2	1	0	0	1	4648	0	1	23	0	1	9	0	0	<i>g</i> = Maher Almuaiqly
13	47	78	8	71	10195	0	51	15	4	46	112	55	62	15	<i>f</i> = Alsudaes
2	116	77	9	10237	31	2	20	12	0	10	11	2	25	41	<i>e</i> = Khaled Alqahtani
2	1	92	10307	5	12	0	50	3	0	10	5	2	7	0	<i>d</i> = Yahiya Hawwa
17	29	10476	123	73	49	1	48	11	1	17	7	1	45	33	<i>c</i> = Ahmad Alhuthaifi
7	10624	47	4	127	54	2	25	13	7	11	6	9	20	7	<i>b</i> = Ahmad Alajamy
6225	2	21	4	6	10	0	23	41	2	4	2	0	4	20	<i>a</i> = Ali Alhuthaifi
<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>g</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>i</i>	<i>j</i>	<i>k</i>	<i>l</i>	<i>m</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>o</i>	

For comparison purposes, the same experiments were repeated with another learning algorithm, namely the ANN. The same files were used as an input to ANN with the same ratios of 70% for training and 30% for testing. The result shows that ANN converges and stops its progress when the accuracy reaches 86.17%. The ANN confusion matrix is shown in. When feeding Surhat “Al-Baqara” as an outlet data for the ANN classifier, the percentage of accuracy fell to 83%. The SVM shows superiority over ANN in this experiment. Table IV shows the summary of the results of the proposed system using SVM to contrast with ANN

classifiers.

The SVM classifier shows a better result than ANN with our system. It has higher accuracy and lower MSE than ANN.

TABLE IV: SVM AND ANN RESULTS SUMMARY

Accuracy / Learning Algorithm	SVM	ANN
Accuracy-Normal Corpus	96.59%	86.17%
Accuracy-Outlet Data	95.9%	83%
Average Accuracy	96.245	84.585
Average MSE	0.0036	0.0144

TABLE V: THE TEST CONFUSION MATRIX FOR ANN

75	20	77	5	112	4	6	252	81	49	0	25	15	100	10623	<i>o</i> = Fares Abbad
48	275	231	29	229	252	3	373	774	0	171	109	58	8661	494	<i>n</i> = Yasser Aldosari
46	27	9	34	217	158	9	114	102	9	434	302	11514	73	17	<i>m</i> = Mohammad Rashad
28	73	65	42	231	387	15	175	96	5	266	7696	150	151	118	<i>l</i> = Salah Albudair
73	82	150	115	154	181	7	70	89	6	7653	141	274	174	1	<i>k</i> = Saud Shuraim
37	68	6	5	8	9	152	27	47	5654	0	15	10	2	96	<i>j</i> = Saad Alghamidi
264	82	13	12	76	9	4	160	10406	22	7	38	31	185	45	<i>i</i> = Abdullah Basfar
218	127	101	95	144	72	1	10278	598	15	53	279	33	307	494	<i>h</i> = Mishary Alafasi
22	16	0	20	32	2	4242	14	5	287	4	27	17	0	1	<i>g</i> = Maher Almuaiqly
44	262	133	27	256	9102	13	51	152	10	96	241	153	140	93	<i>f</i> = Alsudaes
21	660	231	30	9208	84	5	53	62	1	49	28	9	26	128	<i>e</i> = Khaled Alqahtani
18	3	262	9908	79	9	3	97	27	2	42	9	6	23	8	<i>d</i> = Yahiya Hawwa
129	206	8833	967	244	165	25	44	63	11	13	32	12	73	114	<i>c</i> = Ahmad Alhuthaifi
33	9734	146	11	574	117	18	33	63	55	63	36	38	30	12	<i>b</i> = Ahmad Alajamy
5744	47	92	44	15	5	21	35	223	22	10	8	24	18	56	<i>a</i> = Ali Alhuthaifi
<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>g</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>i</i>	<i>j</i>	<i>k</i>	<i>l</i>	<i>m</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>o</i>	

V. CONCLUSION

In this research, we developed a Holy Quran Reader Identification System from acoustic waves that represent the pronunciation of the “Ayaat”. The MFCC features were extracted from the signals. The SVM and ANN classifiers were used, and their results were compared. The results obtained reveal that the identification accuracy using SVM is much better compared to the ANN. The SVM gives 96.59% accuracy while, 86.17% accuracy was obtained with ANN. The proposed system is the very first system for Holy Quran reader identification. In the future, we suggest extending our work with more than 15 Holy Quran readers and using further extraction techniques and classification algorithms such as the Gaussian Mixture, to increase the identification accuracy.

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