

# \$N-Protractor Pseudocode

Lisa Anthony<sup>†</sup> and Jacob O. Wobbrock<sup>‡</sup>

<sup>†</sup>University of Maryland Baltimore County, <sup>‡</sup>The Information School, DUB Group, University of Washington

The Protractor-enhanced \$N pseudocode is presented here to aid implementation. In addition, the \$N webpage<sup>1</sup> includes open-source JavaScript and C# implementations. Operations that have not changed since the original \$N are noted; for those details, see [1]. For results of the \$N-Protractor evaluations, see [2].

**Step 1.** Take a multistroke gesture *strokes* and generate unistroke permutations of it. For gestures serving as templates, Step 1, which uses Steps 3-7, should be carried out once on the input points. For candidates, Steps 2-8 should be applied to the input points. For constants we use  $N=96$ ,  $size=250$ ,  $\hat{c}=30$ ,  $O=(0,0)$ , and  $I=12$ . HEAP-PERMUTE and MAKE-UNISTROKES are unchanged from Step 1 in [1].

```

GENERATE-UNISTROKE-PERMUTATIONS(strokes)
1  for i from 0 to |strokes| do orderi ← i
2  HEAP-PERMUTE(|strokes|, order, out orders)
3  M ← MAKE-UNISTROKES(strokes, orders)
4  foreach unistroke U in M do
5    Upoints ← RESAMPLE(Upoints, N) // step 3
6     $\omega$  ← INDICATIVE-ANGLE(Upoints) // step 4
7    Upoints ← ROTATE-BY(Upoints,  $-\omega$ )
8    Upoints ← SCALE-DIM-TO(Upoints, size,  $\hat{c}$ ) // step 5
9    Upoints ← CHECK-RESTORE-ORIENTATION(Upoints,  $+\omega$ )
10   Upoints ← TRANSLATE-TO(Upoints, O)
11   Ustart ← CALC-START-UNIT-VECTOR(Upoints, I) // step 6
12   Uvector ← VECTORIZE(Upoints) // step 7

```

**Step 2.** Combine candidate *strokes* into one unistroke *points* path. COMBINE-STROKES remains unchanged from Step 2 in [1].

**Step 3.** Resample a *points* path into *n* evenly spaced points. RESAMPLE remains unchanged from Step 1 in [4].

**Step 4.** Find and save the indicative angle  $\omega$  from the *points*' centroid to first point. Then rotate by  $-\omega$  to set this angle to 0°. INDICATIVE-ANGLE and ROTATE-BY remain unchanged from Step 4 in [1].

**Step 5.** Scale in a dimensionally-sensitive fashion based on threshold  $\hat{c}=30$ . Next, if using bounded rotation invariance, restore drawn orientation by rotating  $+\omega$ . Then translate to the origin  $O=(0,0)$ . SCALE-DIM-TO, TRANSLATE-TO and CHECK-RESTORE-ORIENTATION remain unchanged from Step 5 in [1].

**Step 6.** Calculate the start unit vector  $v_{start}$  for *points* using index  $I=12$ . CALC-START-UNIT-VECTOR remains unchanged from Step 6 in [1].

**Step 7.** Create the vector version *vector* of *points*. This step has been changed for \$N-Protractor from Protractor's original formulation [3] to remove calls to RESAMPLE and TRANSLATE-TO, since \$N-Protractor already performs these operations in Steps 3 and 5.

```

VECTORIZE(points)
1  c ← 1
2  s ← 0
3  if using bounded rotation invariance then
4     $\theta_{first}$  ← ATAN(points0y, points0x)
5     $\theta_{base}$  ←  $(\pi/4) \times \text{FLOOR}[(\theta_{first} + \pi/8)/(\pi/4)]$ 
6    c ← COS( $\theta_{base} - \theta_{first}$ )
7    s ← SIN( $\theta_{base} - \theta_{first}$ )
8  sum ← 0

```

```

9  foreach point p in points do
10    $x_{new} \leftarrow p_x \times c - p_y \times s$ 
11    $y_{new} \leftarrow p_y \times c + p_x \times s$ 
12   APPEND2(vector,  $x_{new}$ ,  $y_{new}$ )
13    $sum \leftarrow sum + x_{new}^2 + y_{new}^2$ 
14   magnitude ←  $\sqrt{sum}$ 
15   foreach value v in vector do
16      $v \leftarrow v/magnitude$ 
17   return vector

```

**Step 8.** Match vector version *vector* of candidate *points* having start unit-vector  $v_{start}$ , processed from the raw *strokes* in Steps 2-7 prior to calling RECOGNIZE, where now  $S = |strokes|$ , against unistroke permutations *U* within each multistroke *M*. We use  $\Phi = 30^\circ$  for the start angle similarity threshold. OPTIMAL-COSINE-DISTANCE is the matching method from Protractor [3].

```

RECOGNIZE(points, vector,  $v_{start}$ , S, multistrokes)
1  b ←  $+\infty$ 
2  foreach multistroke M in multistrokes do
3    if  $S = |M_{strokes}|$  then // optional: require same # strokes
4      foreach unistroke U in M do
5        if ANGLE-BETWEEN-VECTORS( $v_{start}$ ,  $U_{start}$ )  $\leq \Phi$  then
6          d ← OPTIMAL-COSINE-DISTANCE(vector,  $U_{vector}$ )
7          if  $d < b$  then  $b \leftarrow d$ ,  $M' \leftarrow M$ 
8      score ←  $1 - b$ 
9      return  $\langle M', score \rangle$ 
ANGLE-BETWEEN-VECTORS( $v_1$ ,  $v_2$ )
1  return ACOS( $v_{1x} \times v_{2x} + v_{1y} \times v_{2y}$ )
OPTIMAL-COSINE-DISTANCE( $v_1$ ,  $v_2$ )
1  a ← 0
2  b ← 0
3  for i from 0 to | $v_1$ | step 2 do
4     $a \leftarrow a + v_{1i} \times v_{2i} + v_{1_{i+1}} \times v_{2_{i+1}}$ 
5     $b \leftarrow b + v_{1i} \times v_{2_{i+1}} - v_{1_{i+1}} \times v_{2i}$ 
6   $\psi \leftarrow \text{ATAN}(b/a)$ 
7  return ACOS( $a \times \text{COS } \psi + b \times \text{SIN } \psi$ )

```

## REFERENCES

- [1] Anthony, L. and Wobbrock, J.O. (2010). A lightweight multistroke recognizer for user interface prototypes. Proceedings of Graphics Interface (GI '10). Ottawa, Ontario (May 31-June 2, 2010). Toronto, Ontario: Canadian Information Processing Society, pp. 245-252.
- [2] Anthony, L. and Wobbrock, J.O. (2012). \$N-Protractor: A fast and accurate multistroke recognizer. Proceedings of Graphics Interface (GI '12). Toronto, Ontario (May 28-30, 2012). Toronto, Ontario: Canadian Information Processing Society, pp. 117-120.
- [3] Li, Y. (2010). Protractor: A fast and accurate gesture recognizer. Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '10). Atlanta, Georgia (April 10-15, 2010). New York: ACM Press, pp. 2169-2172.
- [4] Wobbrock, J.O., Wilson, A.D. and Li, Y. (2007). Gestures without libraries, toolkits or training: A \$1 recognizer for user interface prototypes. Proceedings of the ACM Symposium on User Interface Software and Technology (UIST '07). Newport, Rhode Island (October 7-10, 2007). New York: ACM Press, pp. 159-168.

<sup>1</sup> <http://depts.washington.edu/aimgroup/proj/dollar/ndollar.html>