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## ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

#### Automatic Retrieval of Shoeprint Images Using Blocked Sparse Representation

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The number of words of the abstract: 326

The number of figures: 8

The number of tables: 4

#### HIGHLIGHTS FOR SUBMISSION OF MANUSCRIPT

- The sparse representation was used for the first time to retrieval shoeprints.
- Sparse representation method is used to describe shoeprint patterns.
- 950 shoeprint image similar to the crime scene images.

#### Abstract

Shoe marks are regarded as remarkable clues which can be usually detected in crime scenes where forensic experts use them for investigating crimes and identifying the criminals. Hence, developing a robust method for matching shoeprints with one another is of critical significance which can be used for recognizing criminals. In this paper, a promising method is proposed for retrieving shoe marks by means of developing *blocking sparse representation* technique. In the proposed method, the queried image was divided into two blocks. Then, two sparse representations are extracted for each queried image through approximate  $\ell_1$  minimizing method. Also, the referenced database is

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