

Content Based Image Retrieval System Using Color and Texture Features

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Abstract- Content based image retrieval (CBIR) for general purpose image databases is a highly challenging problem because of the large size of the database, the difficulty of understanding images, both by people and computers, the difficulty of formulating a query, and the issue of evaluating results properly. The common method for CBIR systems is to extract a signature for every image based on its pixel values and to define a rule for comparing images. The signature serves as an image representation in the view of a CBIR system. The components of the signature are called features. After extracting signatures, the next step is to determine a comparison rule, including a querying scheme and the definition of a similarity measure between images. For most image retrieval systems, a query is specified by an image to be matched. Color histogram as a global color feature and histogram intersection as color similarity metric combined with texture have been proved to give approximately good retrieval results.

Keywords- color moment, color histogram, Content Based Image Retrieval (CBIR), query image

I. INTRODUCTION

In this computer age, virtually all spheres of human life including commerce, government, academics, hospitals, crime prevention, surveillance, engineering, architecture, journalism, fashion and graphic design, and historical research use images for efficient services. A large collection of images is referred to as image database. An image database is a system where image data are integrated and stored. Image data include the raw images and information extracted from images by automated or computer assisted image analysis. The police maintain image database of criminals, crime scenes, and stolen items. In the medical profession, X-rays and scanned image database are kept for diagnosis, monitoring, and research purposes. In architectural and engineering design, image database exists for design projects, finished projects, and machine parts. In publishing and advertising, journalists create image databases for various events and activities such as sports, buildings, personalities, national and international events, and product advertisements. In historical research,

image databases are created for archives in areas Efficient Content Based Image Retrieval that include arts, sociology, and medicine. In a small collection of images, simple browsing can identify an image. This is not the case for large and varied collection of images, where the user encounters the image retrieval problem. An image retrieval problem is the problem encountered when searching and retrieving images that are relevant to a user's request from a database. To solve this problem, text-based and content-based are the two techniques adopted for search and retrieval in an image database. In text-based retrieval, images are indexed using keywords, subject headings, or classification codes, which in turn are used as retrieval keys during search and retrieval. Text-based retrieval is non-standardized because different users employ different keywords for annotation. Text descriptions are sometimes subjective and incomplete because they cannot depict complicated image features very well. Examples are texture images that cannot be described by text. Textual information about images can be easily searched using existing technology, but requires humans to personally describe every image in the database. This is impractical for very large databases, or for images that are generated automatically. The Content Based Image Retrieval (CBIR) technique uses image content to search and retrieve digital images. Content-based image retrieval systems were introduced to address the problems associated with text-based image retrieval. Content based image retrieval is a set of techniques for retrieving semantically-relevant images from an image database based on automatically-derived image features. The main goal of CBIR is efficiency during image indexing and retrieval, thereby reducing the need for human intervention in the indexing process. The computer must be able to retrieve images from a database without any human assumption on specific domain (such as texture vs. non-texture, or indoor vs. outdoor). One of the main tasks for CBIR systems is similarity comparison; extracting feature signatures of every image based on its pixel values and defining rules for comparing images. These features become the image representation for measuring similarity with other images in the database. An image is compared to other images by calculating the difference between their corresponding features. Content-based retrieval uses the contents of images

to represent and access the images. A typical content-based retrieval system is divided into off-line feature extraction and online image retrieval. A conceptual framework for content-based image retrieval is illustrated in Figure 1. In off-line stage, the system automatically extracts visual attributes (color, shape, texture, and spatial information) of each image in the database based on its pixel values and stores them in a different database within the system called a feature database. The feature data (also known as image signature) for each of the visual attributes of each image is very much smaller in size compared to the image data, thus the feature database contains an abstraction (compact form) of the images in the image database. One advantage of a signature over the original pixel values is the significant compression of image representation. However, a more important reason for using the signature is to gain an improved correlation between image representation and visual semantics. In on-line image retrieval, the user can submit a query example to the retrieval system in search of desired images. The system represents this example with a feature vector. The distances (i.e., similarities) between the feature vectors of the query example and those of the media in the feature database are then computed and ranked. Finally, the system ranks the search results and then returns the results that are most similar to the query examples. If the user is not satisfied with the search results, he can provide relevance feedback to the retrieval system, which contains a mechanism to learn the user’s information needs.

methods for image retrieving:TBIR(Text Based Image retrieval) and CBIR(Content Based Image Retrieval). Now firstly there is text based image retrieving , in this system there is a input of text rather than image. But text can be the inappropriate input of the system. That is suppose text can be the name of an image, we can call it as a metadata, annotation others. The main problems of text image retrieval system is unexpressed feelings and emotions. Obviously there are the various ways of saying same thing, synonyms and homonyms. Human can enter misspelling of image name. On the contrary, there is Content Based Image Retrieval(CBIR). This is different from previous one. This system will take input as a image rather than text. We can call it is as a query image. Now system will calculate texture and features of all the image like database images also. Now we can use many other transform like Gabor , Har Wavelet transform to extract texture features from all the images. We can also use color histogram to extract color features from all the images. A CBIR system is composed of a query interface for the acquisition of the query image, databases for storing indexing data and metrics, similarity and retrieval system. Now lets talk about applications of Content Based image retrieval(CBIR). Content-Based Image Retrieval has been used in several applications, such as medicine, fingerprint identification, biodiversity information systems, digital libraries, crime prevention, historical research, among others.[8]

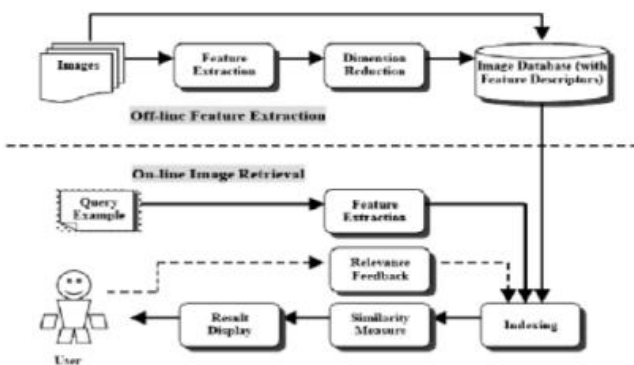


Fig-1: Conceptual framework for content-based image retrieval

The word transform refers to a mathematical representation of an image. There are several texture classifications using transform domain features in the past, such as discrete Fourier transform, discrete wavelet transforms, and Gabor wavelets. Wavelet transform is a good multi-resolution approach that represents the texture of an image in an effective way using multiple orientations and scales. This approach has a spatial property that is similar to mammalian perceptual vision, thereby providing researchers a good opportunity to use it in image processing. There are two

The number of medical images produced by digital devices has increased more and more. For instance, a medium-sized hospital usually performs procedures that generate medical images that require hundreds or even thousands of gigabytes within a small space of time. The task of taking care of such huge amount of data is hard and time-consuming. That’s one of the reasons that has motivated research in the field of Content-Based Image Retrieval. In fact, the medical domain is frequently mentioned as one of the main areas where Content Based Image Retrieval finds its application. Biologists gather many kinds of data for biodiversity studies, including spatial data, and images of living beings. Ideally, Biodiversity Information Systems (BIS) should help researchers to enhance or complete their knowledge and understanding about species and their habitats by combining textual, image content-based, and geographical queries.[8]There are several digital libraries that support services based on image content. One example is the digital museum of butterflies, aimed at building a digital collection of Taiwanese butterflies. This digital library includes a module responsible for content-based image retrieval based on color, texture, and patterns.[9]

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

In this paper, a method combining both color and texture features of image is proposed to improve the retrieval performance. Given a query, images in the database are firstly ranked using color features. Then the top ranked images are re-ranked according to their texture features. Results show the second process improves retrieval performance significantly. However, image retrieval using color features often gives disappointing results because in many cases, images with similar colors do not have similar content.[1]

An experimental comparison of a number of different texture features for content-based image retrieval is presented in this paper. The primary goal is to determine which texture feature or combination of texture features is most efficient in representing the spatial distribution of images. In this paper, authors analyze and evaluate both Statistical and Structural texture features. For the experiments, publicly available image databases are used. Analysis and comparison of individual texture features and combined texture features are presented. The First-order statistics, second-order statistics, Gabor transform and 2D Wavelet transforms were considered for retrieval. The retrieval efficiency of the texture features was investigated by means of relevance. According to the results obtained it is difficult to claim that any individual feature is superior to others. The performance depends on the spatial distribution of images.[2]

In this paper, authors presented a CBIR system that uses Ranklet Transform and the color feature as a visual feature to represent the images. Ranklet Transform is proposed as a preprocessing step to make the image invariant to rotation and any image enhancement operations. To speed up the retrieval time, images are clustered according to their features using k-means clustering algorithm. To evaluate the proposed system, authors used each image in our database to be a query image and submit it to the system and calculated the precisions for each query in all classes. Then for each class average of all precisions was calculated.[3]

In this study, an attempt has been made to study an image retrieval technique based on the combination of Haar wavelet transformation using lifting scheme and the colour histogram (CH) called lifting wavelet-based colour histogram. The colour feature is described by the CH, which is translation and rotation invariant. The Haar wavelet transformation is used to extract the texture features and the local characteristics of an image, to increase the accuracy of the retrieval system. The lifting scheme reduces the processing time to retrieve

images. The experimental results indicate that the proposed technique outperforms the other schemes, in terms of the average precision, the average recall and the total average precision/recall.[4]

Brief survey on work related to the young and exciting fields of content-based image retrieval and automated image annotation, spanning 120 publications in the current decade is presented in this paper. The trends indicate that while systems, feature extraction, and relevance feedback have received a lot of attention, application-oriented aspects such as interface, visualization, scalability, and evaluation have traditionally received lesser consideration.[5]

In this paper, an efficient image retrieval method based on color moments and Gabor texture features is proposed. To improve the discriminating power of color indexing techniques, we encode a minimal amount of spatial information in the index by extracting features from the regions of the image divided horizontally into three equal non overlapping regions. We calculate the similarity with combined features of color and texture using Canberra distance as similarity measure. Our Experimental results demonstrate that the proposed method has higher retrieval accuracy than other conventional methods combining color moments and texture features based on global features approach. The experiment also shows that only color features or only texture features are not sufficient to describe an image. There is considerable increase in retrieval efficiency when both color and texture features are combined.[6]

In this paper, the major work is done on the basis of Gabor barcodes and SVM classifier. Gabor barcodes were introduced for feature extraction. The extracted Gabor features are used to train a multi class SVM classifier to categorize the query image. The experimental results represents the accurate extraction of similar images from the dataset. In our future work, better soft computing techniques were employed to improve the results.[7]

III. PROBLEM FORMULATION

Content based image retrieval for general-purpose image databases is a highly challenging problem because of the large size of the database, the difficulty of understanding images, both by people and computers, the difficulty of formulating a query, and the issue of evaluating results properly. The common method for CBIR systems is to extract a signature for every image based on its pixel values and to define a rule for comparing images. The signature serves as an image representation in the view of a CBIR system. The components of the signature are called features. After

extracting signatures, the next step is to determine a comparison rule, including a querying scheme and the definition of a similarity measure between images. For most image retrieval systems, a query is specified by an image to be matched.

IV. PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

In this Content Based Image Retrieval System, we have to give input query image. On the basis of this input image it will give an output. Now there is extraction of features from color image. And this extraction of color features is proposed by using color histogram. Again there is an extraction of texture features of the images and this is proposed by using Gabor Wavelet Transform. And these methodologies are applied for all images that are in databases. By comparing all these parameters system will give an output images or we can say similar images.

V. CONCLUSION

In this work, proposed system will help ongoing research on content based image retrieval. The system would try to mark the difference between low level and high level approaches to the problem of searching image collections. In this paper, we presented a novel approach for Content Based Image Retrieval by combining the color and texture features called Wavelet-Based Color Histogram Image Retrieval.

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