A Various Study on Image Denoising Approaches: Survey

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Abstract- Image processing is a way to convert an image into digital form and perform some operation on it to obtain some useful information from it. The main aim of image processing is to visualization, Image sharpening and restoration, image retrieval, measurement of pattern, image recognition. In Digital Image Processing, the images are more prone to noise due to image capture and transmission. The image obtained after transmission is often corrupted with different types of noise. Digital images are contaminated by various types of noises such as Gaussian, Speckle and Impulse noise. In this survey different types of noises, degradation and restoration models are discussed. We also give a brief introduction about different types of filtering algorithms such as Mean filter, Median filter and Adaptive filters to reduce noise present in the digital image. This paper presents a review of some noteworthy work in the area of image denoising.

Keywords- image denoising; various techiniques; Application; Noise model.

I. INTRODUCTION

Image denoising is one the important operation in image processing and computer vision [1]. Digital images are over and over again pretentious not later than impulse racket all through their acquisition or else transmission. The technique of image enhancement has been widely used in many applications of image processing where the subjective nature of pictures is essential for human understanding or to give better contribution to other automated image processing systems. Median filtering is a Competent nonlinear technique most commonly used for impulse noise removal. However, it tends to cut off desirable information and produces blur and blotches in collected images. To protect fine details, remove impulse noise as well and various filters Algorithm are proposed. Edges are also important features containing structural information that should be preserved [1].

It is necessary to apply an efficient denoising technique to compensate for such data corruption. Image denoising still remains a challenge for researchers because noise removal introduces artifacts and causes blurring of the images. This paper describes different methodologies for noise reduction

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(or denoising) giving an insight as to which algorithm should be used to find the most reliable estimate of the original image data given its degraded version. Image de noising is often used in various fields like photography, publishing, medical image processing applications, where an image was somehow degraded but needs to be improved before it can be printed or making observations [2].

In the past few years, several researches are performed in the image denoising by a huge number of researchers. In this paper, we present a comprehensive review of extremely important researches on image denoising together with compression. The popular literature existing in the image denoising & compression is categorized and reviewed comprehensively.

1.1 Image denoising

Denoising is the procedure of eliminating noise from the pictures. Noise reduction methods are abstractly alike despite of the picture being processed; although previous information of the features of a probable signal can signify the implementations of these schemes varies, significantly based on the signal types. Image denoising is frequently utilized in many fields for example publishing, photography, applications of medical image processing, where a picture was anyhow degraded but requires to be improved before it may be printed or making observations. For this sort of application, we want to distinguish something about the degradation process so as to develop a model.[3]

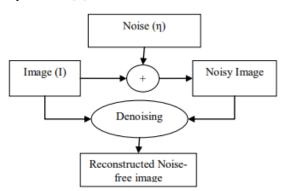


Figure 1. Block diagram of image denoising

II. NOISE MODELS

Noise is generally added to image during image capturing or due to faulty image capturing hardware. For e.g. during acquiring images with CCD camera, the two major factors which affect the amount of noise in the image are sensor temperature and light levels. Images are also corrupted during transmission due to interference in the channel.

The degradation process is shown below. Here degradation function and additive noise, both are added to the original input image f(x,y) to produce a degraded image g(x,y). Given g(x,y), some idea about the degradation function H and additive noise term n(x.y), one can acheive the estimate $f^{(x,y)}$, of the original input image by using the restoration model. In general, the more one has idea about H and n(x,y), the closer estimate to f(x,y) one will obtain. The degradation model can be represented with the following equation.

$$g(x, y) = h(x, y) \times f(x, y) + n(x, y)$$
 (1)

Here f(x,y) is the original image pixel value and n(x,y) is the additive noise, h(x,y) be the degradation function and g(x, y) is the resulting noise image. [4]

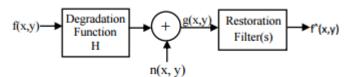


Fig. 1 A model of the image degradation/restoration process.

III. TYPES OF NOISES

Typical images are corrupted with additive noises modelled with Normally images are affected by different types of noise. Various types of noise have their own characteristics and are inherent in images in different ways. All the types of noises can be categorized into two models:

- Additive Noise Model
- Multiplicative Noise Model

Additive noise is the signal that gets added to the original image to generate the resultant noisy image. In the multiplicative model the noisy image is generated by multiplication of the original image and the noise signal. The most common noise types found in images are Gaussian Noise, Salt & Pepper Noise and Speckle Noise.

3.1 Gaussian Noise

It is evenly distributed over the signal. Each pixel in noisy image is the sum of true pixel value and a random Gaussian distributed noise value [5]. Gaussian noise is an amplifier noise which is independent at each pixel and independent of the signal intensity. Gaussian noise is statistical noise that has its probability density function equal to that of the normal distribution. It arises due to electronic circuit noise & sensor noise due to poor illumination or high temperature. It is a constant power additive noise.

3.2 Salt & Pepper Noise

The salt-and-pepper noise is also called shot noise, impulse noise or spike noise. An image containing salt-and pepper noise will have dark pixels in bright regions and bright pixels in dark regions. It can be caused by dead pixels, analogue-to-digital converter errors, and bit errors in transmission. It has only two possible values, a high value and a low value. The probability of each is typically less than 0.1

3.3 Speckle Noise

Speckle noise is a granular noise that inherently exists in and degrades the quality of the active radar and synthetic aperture radar (SAR) images. Speckle noise in conventional radar results from random fluctuations in the return signal from an object that is no bigger than a single image-processing element. It increases the mean grey level of a local area [5]. It is a multiplicative noise. The source of this noise is random interference between the coherent returns.

IV. CLASSIFICATION OF IMAGE DENOISING METHODS

There are two fundamental approaches to image denoising, spatial filtering methods and transform domain filtering methods.

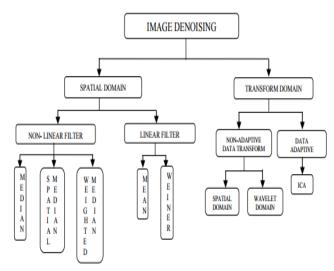


Figure: 1 Classification of Image Denoising Method

4.1 Spatial Filtering

A usual way to remove noise from image data is to employ spatial filters. Spatial filters can be further classified into non-linear and linear filters.

4.1.1 Non-Linear Filters

With non-linear filters, the noise is removed without any attempts to clearly identify it. Spatial filters employ a low pass filtering on groups of pixels with the assumption that the noise occupies the higher region of frequency spectrum. Generally spatial filters remove noise to a reasonable amount but at the cost of blurring images which in turn makes the edges in pictures invisible. In recent years, a variety of nonlinear median type filters such as weighted median, rank conditioned rank selection and relaxed median have been developed to overcome this drawback.

A) Median Filter

Median filter is one of the most important filters to remove random valued impulse noise. It comes under the category of non linear filters. In this filter the value of corrupted pixel in noisy image is replaced by median value of corresponding window. Median value is the value in the middle position of any sorted sequence as in. Consider that the pixel values in neighbor-hood are taken into a sequence and it becomes after sorting in descending order or in ascending order $x_{madian} = Med\{x_i\}$

$$= \begin{cases} \frac{x_{i(n+1)}}{2} & ,n \text{ is odd} \\ \frac{1}{2} \left[x_{i(\frac{n}{2})} + x_{i(\frac{n}{2})+1} \right] & ,n \text{ is even} \end{cases}$$
(4)

(B) Spatial Median Filter (SMF)

The spatial median filter is also noise removal filter where the spatial median is calculated by calculating the spatial depth between a point and a set of point. This spatial depth is defined by

$$S_{depth} = 1 - \frac{1}{N-1} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{x_{-x_i}}{\|x_{-x_i}\|} \right\|$$
(5)

In this filter after finding out the spatial depth of each point lying within the filtering mask, this information is used to decide whether the central pixel of window is corrupted or not, If central pixel is uncorrupted then it will not be changed. We then find out the spatial depth of each pixel within the mask and then sort these spatial depths in descending order. The point with largest spatial depth represent the spatial median of the set. If central pixel is corrupted with noise then it is replaced by calculated spatial median as in [6].

(C) Weighted Median Filter (WMF)

The basic idea is to give weight to the each pixel. Every pixel is given a weight. This weight is multiply with pixel. According to this weight the pixels are sort into ascending order, and then find the median value from the sorted list. This value is replaced with center value.

The centre weighted median filter is an extension of the weighted median filter. The weighted median filter previously designed gives more weight to some values within the window whereas centre weighted median filter gives more weight to the central value of a window thus easier to design and implement than other weighted median filter.

4.1.2 Linear Filters

Linear filters also known as average filter are generally of two types: mean filter and wiener filter Linear filters too tend to blur sharp edges, destroy lines and other fine image information, and execute poorly in the presence of signal-dependent noise.

(A) Mean Filter

The idea of mean filtering is simply to replace each pixel value in an image with the mean ('average') value of its neighbours, including itself. This has the effect of eliminating pixel values which are unreliable of their surroundings. Mean filter is a simple sliding window spatial filter that replaces the centre value of the window with the average values of its all nearest pixels values together with itself. It is implemented with the convolution mask, which provides the outcome that is weighted sum of vales of a pixel and its neighbours. It is also called linear filter. The kernel is square. Often 3×3 mask is use.

(B) Weiner Filter

The Wiener filter purpose is to reduce the amount of noise present in a signal by comparison with an estimation of the desired noiseless signal. It is based on a statistical approach. Classic filters are designed for a desired frequency response. The Wiener filter approaches filtering from a different angle. Weiner filtering process requires the information on the spectra of noise and original signal and it mechanism perform well only if the underlying signal is smooth. To overcome the weakness of spatial Domain filtering Donoho and Johnstone proposed wavelet based denoising schemes.

4.2 Transform Domain

Classification of Transform domain filtering approach depends upon choice of basis function. The basis functions can be further classified as Non-data adaptive and data adaptive. Primarily we will discuss Non-data adaptive transforms because they are more popular as in [6].

4.2.1 Non-Data Adaptive Transform

(A) Spatial-Frequency Filtering

Spatial frequency domain denoising method is a kind of Transform Domain, filtering where low pass filters (LPF.) is used by using Fast Fourier Transform (FFT).Here denoising is done by designing a cut-off frequency. But these methods are time consuming and may produced artificial frequencies in processed image.

(B) Wavelet Domain

Wavelet Domain process is again subdivided into two distinct techniques i.e. linear and non-linear techniques:

(i)Linear Filters

Generally used linear filter in this category is Wiener filter. Wiener filter yield most advantageous outcomes in the wavelet domain. Wiener filtering is used where data corruption can be modeled as a Gaussian process and accuracy criterion is mean square error. But wiener filtering results in filtered image which is visually more displeasing than original noisy image

(ii) Non-Linear Threshold Filtering

Non-Linear threshold filtering is the most investigated domain in denoising using wavelet transform. It basically uses the property of wavelet transform and the fact that wavelet transform maps noise in signal domain to that of noise in transform domain. Thus while signal energy becomes more concentrated into fewer coefficients in transform domain noise energy does not. The method where small coefficients are removed leaving other coefficients untouched is known as Hard Thresholding. However this method produces spurious blips known as artifacts. To overcome these demerits soft thresholding was introduced where coefficients above the threshold are shrunk by the absolute value of threshold itself.

• Non-Adaptive Thresholds

Non-Adaptive thresholds generally used are VISUShrink. When the number of pixels reaches infinity it shows best performance in terms of MSE. VISU Shrink generally yields smoothed images.

• Adaptive Thresholds

Adaptive Threshold technique involves SURE Shrink, VisuShrink and Bayes Shrink methods. The Performance of SURE Shrink improved in comparison to the VISU Shrink because SURE Shrink uses a mixture of the universal threshold and the SURE [Stein's Unbiased Risk Estimator] threshold. When noise levels are higher than signal magnitudes the assumption that one candistinguish noise from the signal solely based on coefficient magnitudes is violated. Bayes-Shrink outperforms SURE-Shrink most of the times. Bayes-Shrink minimizes the Bayes' Risk Estimator purpose assuming Generalized Gaussian prior and thus yielding data adaptive threshold

(iii) Non-Orthogonal Wavelet Transform

Non-orthogonal Wavelet Transforms involves Shift Invariant Wavelet Packet Decomposition (SIWPD) where numbers of basic functions are obtained. Then by using Minimum Description length principle the best basis function is found out which yield smallest code length for given data. Then thresholding was applied to denoise the data. In addition to this Multiwavelets is explored which further increases the performance but also increases the computational complexity as in [6].

(iv) Wavelet Coefficient Model

This method utilizes the multi resolution properties of Wavelet Transform. The modeling of the wavelet coefficients can either be deterministic or statistical. This approach produces excellent output but computationally much more complex and costly as in.

• Deterministic

The Deterministic method of modeling involves forming tree structure of wavelet coefficients. Here every level in the tree representing each scale of transformation and every nodes representing wavelet coefficients

• Statistical Modeling of Wavelet Coefficients

This approach focuses on some more interesting and appealing properties of the Wavelet Transform such as multiscale correlation between the wavelet coefficients, local correlation between neighborhood coefficients etc. The following two methods explain the statistical properties of the wavelet coefficients based on a probabilistic model.

Marginal Probabilistic Model

The generally used Marginal probabilistic models under this category are Gaussian mixture model (GMM) and the Generalized Gaussian distribution (GGD). GMM is simple to use but GGD is more accurate.

• Joint Probabilistic Model

Here Hidden Markov Models (HMM) and Random Markov Field Models are generally used. The disadvantage of HMM is the computational burden of the training stage hence a simplified HMM was proposSed.

4.2.2 Data-Adaptive Transforms

Independent component analysis (ICA) transformation methods recently gain more importance include key component analysis, factor analysis, and projection detection. ICA most extensively used method for blind source partition problem. One advantage of using ICA is its assumption of signal to be Non-Gaussian which helps denoising of images with Non-Gaussian as well as Gaussian distribution. Some applications of ICA method are machine fault detection, seismic monitoring, reflection cancelling, finding hidden factors in financial data text document analysis, radio communications, audio signal processing, image processing, data mining, time series forecasting, defect detection in patterned display surfaces, bio medical signal processing. Disadvantage of ICA based methods is the computational cost because it uses a sliding window and it involves sample of at least two image frames of the same scene as in [6].

4.3 Histogram Equalization

Keeping in mind the end goal to enhance the visual quality, the color image enhancement methods should be created to upgrade the differentiation. One of the well-known enhancement methods is the intensity histogram equalization (HE) method which stretches the concentrated histogram to the uniform histogram. Given an eight-bit gray level image with size $M \times N$, the probability of occurrence of intensity level Ik is approximated by

$$P_i(I_k) = \frac{n_k}{MN} \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots \dots 255$$
(1)

where nk is the number of pixels that have intensity Ik. The intensity transformation is then computed by

$$C_{k} = T(I_{k}) = 255 \sum_{j=0}^{k} P_{I}(I_{j})$$
(2)
= $\frac{255}{MN} \sum_{j=0}^{k} n_{j} k = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 \dots 255$

Therefore, an HE image is gotten by transforming each pixel in the input image with intensity k I into corresponding pixel with level k c in the output HE image[1].

V. IMAGE DENOISING APPLICATION

To concentrate the impact of our model and its estimation technique, we apply our method to ID, which is a process of estimating the true intensity corresponding to the scene radiance from the noisy observations. For image denoising, we adopt the Bayesian non local means (BNLM) method in [7], which is an extension of the non-local means denoising algorithm with more robust similarity measures. NLM algorithm denoise the images based on the nature of self-similarity in natural images. The picture rebuilding system is utilized as a part of the accompanying fields of IP:

- Astronomical imaging
- Medical imaging
- Printing industry
- Defense applications
- Literature survey

Eunhee Kang et.al. [2018] Model-based iterative reconstruction (MBIR) algorithms for low-dose X-ray CT (LDXCT) are computationally expensive. To address this issue, here we projected novel framelet-based denoising algorithm (FBDA) using wavelet residual n/w that synergistically unites meaningful power of deep learning & presentation ensure from FBDA. Extensive investigational outputs authenticate that projected n/w have considerably enhanced presentation & conserve detail texture of actual picture. [8]

Shibing Ye et.al. [2018] Based on laser-induced breakdown spectroscopy (LIBS) technique, the content of the main elements in the liquid steel of carbon steel alloy can be detected in actual time while melting procedure. In order to detect the liquid alloy steel and forecast the content of the main elements in the alloy steel more accurately, we use the method of the sparse autoencoder to reduce noise in the spectral data which were collected in the detecting process. [9]

Pengfei Li et.al. [2017] In this article a frequency spectrum-based approach is proposed to extract features and identify warning tones from the dashboard. The purpose of this paper is to identify the warning tones emitted from the dashboard, such as turn signal lights, unmanned seat belts, position lights, etc. Firstly, the standard voices of different instruments are collected as templates. The test sound is compared with the template sounds when testing, and the similarity is calculated. When the similarity is higher than a threshold, test sound and template sound are regarded as the same voice. Otherwise, that is not qualified sound and the meter is considered to be defective. The usual way to remove noise was in the time domain. A new approach has been proposed to denoise in the spectral space and obtains the efficiently spectral characteristics of the standard sounds. Finally, this method is applied to dashboard voice recognition and has achieved good results. [10]

Fabio Baselice et.al. [2016] A novel DN demand for Magnetic Resonance pictures is accessible within this document. Markov Random Fields have been adopted for modeling the 3D image stack, making the proposed technique able to exploit the spatial correlation between each pixel & its 3D neighborhood & tuning filtering intensity. 1st outputs on simulated dataset verify the efficiency of demand. [11] Mahadevaswamy et.al. [2016] The performance of automatic speech recognition can be elevated either at the front end by pattern recognition, speech enhancement or by a powerful classifier at the backend. An adaptive time space strategy is applied to Bayes threshold and Universal threshold denoising techniques, to enhance the signal to noise ratio of noisy speech and principle of speech discrimination from silence is employed before speech enhancement, to prevent the over thresholding of speech coefficients for maintaining. The experimental results reveal that performance of time-space adaptive Bayes shrink denoising principle outperforms the later in enhancing the signal to noise ratio of noisy speech while retaining the speech intelligibility. [12]

Linzhi Su et.al. [2016] In this paper, we projected a novel demand for detecting various changes from 2 multitemporal pictures. Despite the growth of change vector analysis framework (CVAF) & its enhanced edition of compressed CVAF (C2VAF), it is originated that they are inadequate while tackling multi-change detection assignment for pictures with one channel. In this approach, C2VAF can be functional to inner robust features so that a satisfactory presentation can be ensured. The investigational output from 2 datasets presents its maximum accuracy & modest time complexity. [13]

Gabriela Ghimpe, et.al [2016] The model computes the components of the image to be processed in a moving frame that encodes its local geometry (directions of gradients and level lines). Then, the strategy we develop is to denoise the components of the image in the moving frame in order to preserve its local geometry, which would have been more affected if processing the image directly. Experiments on a whole image database tested with several denoising methods show that this framework can provide better results than denoising the image directly, both in terms of Peak signal-tonoise ratio and Structural similarity index metrics.[14]

Madison Gray McGaffin, et.al [2015] New image processing algorithms must exploit the power offered by massively parallel architectures like graphics processing units (GPUs). This paper describes a family of image denoising algorithms well-suited to the GPU. The algorithms iteratively perform a set of independent, parallel 1D pixel-update subproblems. To match GPU memory limitations, they perform these pixel updates in-place and only store the noisy data, denoised image, and problem parameters. The algorithms can handle a wide range of edge-preserving roughness penalties, including differentiable convex penalties and anisotropic total variation. Both algorithms use the memorize– minimize framework to solve the 1D pixel update subproblem. Results from a large 2D image denoising problem and a 3D medical imaging denoising problem demonstrate that the proposed algorithms converge rapidly in terms of both iteration and run-time.[15]

Idan Ram, et.al [2013] In this paper authors extracts all the patches with overlaps and order them in such a way that they are chained in the shortest possible path. The obtained ordering is applied to the corrupted image implies a permutation of the image pixels. This method enables us to obtain good recovery of clean image by applying relatively simple one dimensional smoothening operator (such as filtering or interpolation) to the recorded set of pixels.[16]

Pichid Kittisuwan, et.al. [2013] The dual-tree complex wavelet transform has been proposed as a novel analysis tool featuring near shift-invariance and improved directional selectivity compared to the standard wavelet transform. Within this framework, we describe a novel technique for removing AWGN, additive white Gaussian noise, from digital image. In this paper, we design multivariate maximum a posterior (MAP) estimator, which relies on the fuzzy sets. In fact, the fuzzy sets is similar to the probability density function (PDF). Fuzzy sets can have any shape. Here, we test our algorithm for the modified Sinc function case. The experimental results show that the proposed method yields good denoising results.[17]

Ankita Saraf, et.al. [2016] The concentration of this propose paper is first examine the fundamental denoising approaches and to look at them. Also, to study post-arrange sifting procedure utilizing the technique for clamor and reweight plans. For this situation, we see from our examinations that the post-sifting procedures can possibly weaken the commotion appropriately, which is left by the at first connected denoising approach. [18]

H. Sadreazami, et.al [2016] Another shading picture denoising procedure in the contourlet space is proposed for diminishing commotion in pictures undermined by Gaussian noise. This procedure accounts the quantifiable conditions among the contourlet coefficients of the RGB shading channels. To this end, the multivariate Cauchy movement is used to get these between channel conditions. This model is then manhandled in a Bayesian most prominent a posteriori estimator to restore the spotless coefficients by construing a powerful close edge shrinkage work. Trial results are performed on a course of action of shading pictures to survey the execution of the proposed denoising system. The results demonstrate that the proposed procedure beats a segment of the present methods to the extent both subjective and target criteria.[19]

Sethunadh, et.al [2014] In this review, the makers propose a spatially flexible picture denoising arrangement for Gaussian commotion in perspective of DT by considering the states of the directionlet coefficient transversely over different scales. The photo is first disintegrated using DT and the coefficients so procured are shown using a bivariate generous took after probability thickness work with an area contrast parameter to speak to cover and intra scale states of the coefficients. The DT is made flexible to the area dominating headings in the photo by recognizing the common course in the spatially partitioned picture through the estimation of a parameter called 'directional change'. Bayesian 'most extraordinary a posteriori' estimator is then used to enroll the commotion free coefficients from the bivariate models of the banner and clamor. The denoised picture is procured from the change coefficients, which were modified using the bivariate shrinkage work, using directional information and turn around DT. Exploratory results show that the bivariate shrinkage in directionlet space achieves favored execution over that in wavelet territory, to the extent numerical and perceptual quality.[20]

Malini.S, et.al. [2015] In denoising issues, banner and clamor can be disconnected at the same time and accordingly end of commotion winds up obviously less requesting. It is Technologies in proposed in this paper, when a nonlinear center channel is used as a piece of multiresolution condition, once in full assurance and after that with half assurance, denoising ends up being more incredible. This framework is a non-straight dealing with 01and is seen to be useful in diminishing drive commotion notwithstanding Gaussian and Speckle clamor. Help, it is in like manner proposed that use of a nonlinear adaptable center channel makes all the all the more fulfilling picture with better denoising.[21]

Ms.Dhanushree.V, et.al [2015] In this paper, propose a center channel and flexible wavelet thresholding shrinkage technique for picture de-noising. The loud picture is gone through pre-preparing middle channel to evacuate the commotion and two level discrete wavelet change is connected which is gone through post-handling middle channel to expel clamor. Finally, Bays thresholding shrink age is associated with all sub-gatherings to procure de-noised picture. The Inverse discrete wavelet change is associated with redo the photo. The Image quality is measured similarly as the PSNR and is watched that the proposed system procures better PSNR diverged from existing methodology.[22]

VI. CONCLUSION

Removing noise from a digital image (Image denoising)is an essential pre-processing task before processing images like segmentation, feature extraction, texture analysis etc. The motivation of this paper is to present a survey of digital image de-noising filters. We also give brief introduction about types of noise, various filtering techniques and degradation and restoration model. Each technique, has its own advantages and disadvantages. This paper will be helpful for the researchers in understanding the concept of types of noise, filtering techniques, degradation and restoration model.

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