

COLOR FEATURE WITH SPATIAL INFORMATION EXTRACTION METHODS FOR CBIR: A REVIEW

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Abstracts: *Inn then last two decades the Content Based Image Retrieval (CBIR) considered as one of the topic of interest for the researchers. It depending one analysis of the image's visual content which can be done by extracting the color, texture and shape features. Therefore, feature extraction is one of the important steps in CBIR system for representing the image completely. Color feature is the most widely used and more reliable feature among the image visual features. This paper reviews different methods, namely Local Color Histogram, Color Correlogram, Row sum and Column sum and Colors Coherences Vectors were used to extract colors features taking in consideration the spatial information of the image.*

Keywords: *Spatial Features, Color Histogram, Color Correlogram, Color Coherence Vector*

I. INTRODUCTION

In the last years, the development of the multimedia applications led to widespread of digital images. Also, the developing of the images' sharing unlimited number of images via social media every day. However, managing and organizing these digital images present a problem. Thus, the concepts of indexing and retrieval were introduced to overcome this issue. Indexing relates to "how images are store in database to retrieve them (through querying) more efficient", whereas Retrieval relates to "how to retrieve images that are most relevant to the query image from images in database" [1,2,3].

At the First, Text -Based Image Retrieval (TBIR) are used to achieve the image retrieval task. It's depend one metadata that related to each image and the retrieving of image task done by using traditional query techniques "using keyword". This method works well with small digital images databases but, it has low efficiency with huge database. The most important problem in TBIR is different users use different words to describe the same image (subjectivity of the human). This problem negatively affects the efficiency of the text-based image search, so, a need for more efficient image retrieval system is appeared. The needed

system must perform an automatic indexing and retrieving. Therefore, the second method depending on image content for indexing and retrieving. Therefore, this method is generally known as Content -Based Image Retrieval (CBIR) [4] .

II. CONTENTS-BASED IMAGES RETRIEVALS

CBIR was introduced in the 1990's. It depending on analysis of the image's visual content which can be analyzed by extracting image features such as color, texture and shape that are called low level features [5]. In order to design and implement generic CBIR applications, both advanced algorithms in image understanding field and advances in computer hardware is needed, which are unrealized at this time [6,7]. Therefore, most efforts are directed to a specific CBIR applications [6,7]. A wide range of CBIR applications varied from personal to medical diagnoses, crime prevention, education, military and many other applications [8]. Figure 1 shows CBIR system steps.

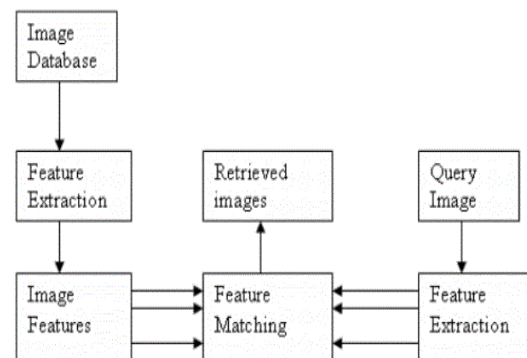


Figure (1): CBIR System Diagram [9]

The main steps in CBIR are:

Features Extraction – In this step the features of images are extracted. The definition of features is mentioned before which are color, texture and shape. Features are stored in form multi-dimensional vectors of real values.

Indexing – The task of organizing the images' database using a specific indexing structure for retrieval.

Retrieval - The retrieval task can be performed more effectively on the structured database.

III. COLOR FEATURE

Color feature is considered as one of the most widely used visual features in CBIR, and can visually be recognized by humans. Color results from the light interaction with a human eye and brain. Humans are mostly based on color feature to distinguish the images. It is also used as a powerful descriptor that simplifies object identification [10]. Color features are easy to extract and it is found to be effective for indexing and searching colored images. To extract color features from the image, a proper color space (also called color module) such as RGB (Red, Green, and Blue), HSV (Hue, Saturation, and Value) must be selected and also an effective descriptor should be determined [11].

IV. COLORS FEATURES EXTRACTIONS METHODS

1. Local Colors Histogram (LCH)

The most widely used technique for color feature extraction of an image is color histogram. It represents the image from a different perspective. It represents the frequency distribution of color's bins in an image. It counts similar pixels and stores them. There are two types of color histogram: Global color histograms and local color histograms. Color histogram is proposed as a global color descriptor which analyzes every statistical color frequency in an image. Local color histogram focuses on the color distribution of regions. The spatial distribution of a pixel is taken into calculation when using LCH, which is not calculated when using Global color histogram. It is calculated by segmenting the image into many segments or fixed parts and then, the histogram is calculated for these segments. The image will then be represented by whole histograms [4].

2. Color Correlation

Spatial information of the extracted feature is the main drawback of the color histogram. For example, all the images

shown in figure 2 have the same color proportions but different spatial distribution. Correlation histogram (correlogram) tries to fix this histogram's drawback by taking the spatial correlation of color distribution into account, and shows how the spatial correlation between pairs of colors is changing with distance [13].



Figure (2): Images having same color proportions but, different spatial distribution [12].

A color correlogram can be represented as a table indexed by color pairs (i, j) where, the d^{th} entry specifies the probability of finding a pixel with I color at a distance d from the pixel with j color in the image.

Let $[D]$ denote the set of distances $\{d_1, \dots, d_D\}$. Then the color correlogram for the image I for color pair (c_i, c_j) at a distance d can be denoted as [14]:

$$C_{c_i, c_j}^d(I) = \text{prob}_{P_1 \in I_{c(i)}, P_2 \in I} [P_2 \in I_{c(j)} \mid |P_1 - P_2| = d]$$

Where:

P_1, P_2 are the probabilities of the color occurrence

3. Color Coherence Vector

In the color coherence vector (CCV) the images' pixels are partitioned according to their spatial coherence into two groups, i.e., coherent or in-coherent. If those pixels belong to a large uniform color region, it's called coherence, otherwise it's in-coherence. After calculating the CCV separate histograms can be produced for both coherent and incoherent pixels. CCV has some problems, but the main problem and the most time-consuming is the computation of a three-dimensional index vector. To calculate the index vector, all image's pixels must be compared with all of its adjacent pixels to find out whether this pixel belongs to coherence or incoherence group. Using CCV

success with CBIR systems due to its additional spatial information [15] [16].

a. Row Sum and Column Sum

Row sum and column sum is another type of color spatial features. For any two similar images, the row sum and column sum are approximately equal. The row sum for any images can be calculated as follow:

$$RowSum(i) = \sum_{j=1}^N I(i, j) \quad (2)$$

Where, M = Rows' number in an image

N= Columns' number in an image

i=1, 2, 3.....M

Column sum can also represent the distribution of pixel value in the image, therefore computing column sum, can determine the flow of pixel value distribution in an image. It can be calculated as follows:

$$ColumnSum(i) = \sum_{i=1}^M I(i, j) \quad (3)$$

Where, M = Rows number in an image

N=Columns' number in an image

j=1, 2, 3.....N

Row sum and column sum can be calculated for each channel of the RGB color space. For example, if the image size is (256*256) a 256 value for each image row and 256 value for each image column are calculated [17].

b. Color structure descriptors (CSD)

The CS D represents color content information (color histogram in addition to information about them structure of its content i.e. localized color distribution using structuring window). The performance of CS D relies on the size and structure of the window, which are difficult to specify The C SD is connected to the double-coned HM MD color space which is quantized non-uniformly into 32 , 64 , 128 or 256 bins, this feature guarantees cementing the color structure information into the CS D, this is achieved b y considering all colors inn a structuring window which slides over the image , instead of considering individual pixel separately. For example, bin i of the histogram shows how many times the structuring element contains at least one pixel with color i. If the window is of size 1 pixel [18] [19].

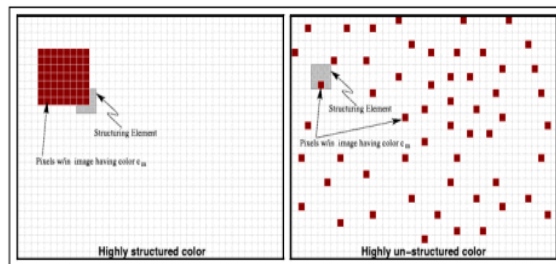


Figure (3)- two images have same histogram but the right one has much more gray component in CSD description [20].

1. COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

A comparative analysis of the color feature extraction techniques with their advantages and disadvantages are shown in table 1.

TABLE 1 - A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF COLOR FEATURE EXTRACTION TECHNIQUES

Feature	Advantage	Disadvantage	Published latest papers
Local Color Histogram	It is simple to use and faster than the other method in computations	It gives different result for retrieval task when the image's orientation, and position or scales are changed.	[4] [21]
Color Correlogram	It is simple to compute and may be used to distinguish images	It is slow computations and high dimensionality	[22] [23] [24]
Color Coherence Vector	It gives good spatial information about color distribution into the image	It computations is highly cost	[25]

Row sum and Column sum	It is easy and faster computations	It has different size feature vector's size for different sized images	[16]
Color Structure descriptor	Gives spatial info	It is effected by rotation ,noise and scale	[26]

An important issue while selecting the color feature extraction methods are storage space required , scalability , rotation invariant , computational time required and its feasibility, and efficient in storage space and time . complexity parameters". Histogram is easy to compute , but isn't robust and unique whereas using local color histogram solve a part of the problem since it gives a spatial information about each region of the image, and this approach is also computationally an easy approach. The correlogram solving the problem of histogram but it will increase the size of features' vector and effect the storage, and this will take more time. So, using the auto-correlogram will give approximately similar results and similar effects on the performance of the system with less values. In row sum and column sum the images must have same size in order to produce a same number of rows and columns for each image, these prove that these features are effected by the image size. Color coherence vector solve all the problems the previously discussed but it's computationally cost, to calculate the index vector, all image's pixels must be compared with all of its adjacent pixels to find out whether this pixel is belonging to coherence or incoherence group which is time consuming but success with CBIR systems due to its additional spatial information as mentioned in previous sections.

2. Conclusion

CBIR is one of the most important research topic in pattern recognition , image processing and computer vision fields of study. The CBI R goal is to retrieve relevant images from images collected in database that can be done by measures the similarities between the query image and the database's image s. "It is generally base on analyzing the visual content of the image depending on three basic low level features, which are: color , texture and shape , and the color is the most important one among them". Some of

methods used to extract color feature are discussed in this paper . The selection of a method depends on its functionality for a specific purpose.

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