Image Completion Approaches using Statistics of Pixel Matching

(Image Removal by Pixel Matching)

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Abstract Image completion involves filling missing parts in images. In this paper we address this problem through novel statistics of similar patches. We observe that if we match similar patches in the image and obtain their offsets, the statistics of these offsets are sparsely distributed. We further observe that a few dominant offsets provide reliable information for completing the image. Such statistics can be incorporated into both matching-based and graph-based methods for image completion. Experiments show that our method yields better results in various challenging cases, and is faster than existing state-of-the-art methods.

Keywords: Image completion, image inpainting, natural image statistics

I. INTRODUCTION

IMAGE completion involves the issue of filling missing parts in images. This is a non-trivial task in computer vision/graphics: on one hand, the completed images are expected to be visually plausible and have little noticeable artifacts; on the other hand, the algorithm should be efficient, because in practice an image completion tool is often applied with user interactions and needs quick feedbacks. For today’s consumer-level multi-mega-pixel cameras, high-quality and fast image completion is still a challenging problem.

One category of image completion methods are diffusion-based. These methods solve Partial Differential Equations (PDE) or similar diffusion systems, so as to propagate colors into the missing regions. They are mainly designed for filling narrow or small holes (also known as “inpainting”). They work less well for large missing regions due to the lack of semantic texture/structure synthesis.

Another category of image completion methods are exemplar-based. They perform more effectively for large holes. In this paper, we further categorize exemplar-based methods into two groups: matching-based and graph-based. Matching-based methods explicitly match the patches in the unknown region with the patches in the known region, and copy the known content to complete the unknown region.

A. JAVA

Java is a programming language originally developed by James Gosling at Sun Microsystems now a subsidiary of Oracle Corporation, and released in 1995 as a core component of Sun Microsystems’ Java platform. The language derives much of its syntax from C and C++ but has a simpler object model and fewer low-level facilities. Java applications are typically compiled to bytecode (class file) that can run on any Java Virtual Machine (JVM) regardless of computer architecture. Java is general-purpose, concurrent, class-based, and object-oriented, and is specifically designed to have as few implementation dependencies as possible. It is intended to let application developers “write once, run anywhere”.

The original and reference implementation Java compilers, virtual machines, and class libraries were developed by Sun from 1995. As of May 2007, in compliance with the specifications of the Java Community Process, Sun relicensed most of their Java technologies under the GNU General Public License. Others have also developed alternative implementations of these Sun technologies, such as the GNU Compiler for Java and GNU Classpath.

MySQL

MySQL is a relational database management system (RDBMS) that runs as a server providing multi-user access to a number of databases. The MySQL development project has made its source code available under the terms of the GNU General Public License, as well as under a variety of proprietary agreements. MySQL is owned and sponsored by a single for-profit firm, the Swedish company MySQL AB,
now owned by Sun Microsystems, a subsidiary of Oracle Corporation.

Members of the MySQL community have created several forks such as Drizzle and MariaDB. Both forks were in progress long before the Oracle acquisition (Drizzle was announced 8 months before the Sun acquisition).

Free-software projects that require a full-featured database management system often use MySQL. Such projects include (for example) WordPress, phpBB and other software built on the LAMP software stack. MySQL is also used in many high-profile, large-scale World Wide Web products including Wikipedia, Google, Drupal and Face book.

II. PURPOSE

EXISTING SYSTEMs

Existing methods can be classified into two main categories. The first category concerns diffusion-based approaches which propagate linear structures or level lines via diffusion based on partial differential equations and variation methods. Unfortunately, the diffusion-based methods tend to introduce some blur when the hole to be filled-in is large. The second family of approaches concerns exemplar-based methods which sample and copy best matches texture patches from the known image neighborhood. These methods have been inspired from texture synthesis techniques and are known to work well in cases of regular or repeatable textures. The first attempt to use exemplar-based techniques for object removal has been reported in. Authors in improve the search for similar patches by introducing an a priori rough estimate of the in painted values using a multi-scale approach which then results in an iterative approximation of the missing regions from coarse to fine levels.

PROPOSED SYSTEM:

In this paper, we further categorize exemplar-based methods into two groups: matching-based and graph-based. Matching-based methods explicitly match the patches in the unknown region with the patches in the known region, and copy the known content to complete the unknown region. This strategy makes it possible to synthesize textures and more complex structures. Unlike many matching-based methods using greedy fashions, the method proposed by Wexler et al. optimizes a global cost function called the coherence measure. This cost function encourages that each patch in the filled region is as similar as possible to a certain known patch. It has been generalized for image retargeting/reshuffling. This measure helps to yield more coherent results for image completion. But because this cost function inherently has multiple local optima, this method is sensitive to initialization and optimization methods.

III. ANALYSIS:

Literature Survey

The currently existing systems for image completion process are as follows:

L. Alvarez, J. Weickert, and J. Sanchez. Reliable estimation of dense optical flow fields with large displacements. Optical flow estimation is classically marked by the requirement of dense sampling in time. While coarse-to-fine warping schemes have somehow relaxed this constraint, there is an inherent dependency between the scale of structures and the velocity that can be estimated. This particularly renders the estimation of detailed human motion problematic, as small body parts can move very fast.


The accurate estimation of motion in image sequences is of central importance to numerous computer vision applications. Most competitive algorithms compute flow fields by minimizing an energy made of a data and a regularity term. To date, the best performing methods rely on rather simple purely geometric regularizers favoring smooth motion. In this paper, we revisit regularization and show that appropriate adaptive regularization substantially improves the accuracy of estimated motion fields.

M. Bleyer, C. Rhemann, and C. Rother. Patchmatch stereo - stereo matching with slanted support windows.

Common local stereo methods match support windows at integer-valued disparities. The implicit assumption that pixels within the support region have constant disparity does not hold for slanted surfaces and leads to a bias towards reconstructing frontoparallel surfaces. This work overcomes this bias by estimating an individual 3D plane at each pixel onto which the support region is projected. The major challenge of this approach is to find a pixel’s optimal 3D plane among all possible planes whose number is infinite. We show that an ideal algorithm to solve this problem is PatchMatch [1] that we extend to find an approximate nearest neighbor according to a plane.

IV. FEASIBILITY STUDY

The feasibility of the project is analyzed in this phase and business proposal is put forth with a very general plan for the project and some cost estimates. During system analysis the feasibility study of the proposed system is to be carried out.

ECONOMICAL FEASIBILITY

This study is carried out to check the economic impact that the system will have on the organization. The amount of fund that the company can pour into the research and development of the system is limited. The expenditures must be justified. Thus the developed system as well within the budget and this was achieved because most of the technologies used are freely available. Only the customized products had to be purchased.
TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY

This study is carried out to check the technical feasibility, that is, the technical requirements of the system. Any system developed must not have a high demand on the available technical resources.

SOCIAL FEASIBILITY:

The aspect of study is to check the level of acceptance of the system by the user. This includes the process of training the user to use the system efficiently.

V. METHODOLOGY AND TECHNOLOGY USED

Our method is less suitable for out painting. Our methods may also fail when the desired offsets do not form dominant statistics. show a failure case. We can partially solve this problem by manually introducing offsets. We can paint an extra stroke on the image and treat this image as a new source for patch statistics. This stroke contributes to the statistics and overcomes the problem. Some other failure examples are in the supplementary materials, available online.

B. DEVELOPMENT TOOLS

NetBeans is a software development platform written in Java. The NetBeans Platform allows applications to be developed from a set of modular software components called modules. Applications based on the NetBeans Platform, including the NetBeans integrated development environment (IDE), can be extended by third party developers.

The NetBeans IDE is primarily intended for development in Java, but also supports other languages, in particular PHP, C/C++, and HTML5. NetBeans is cross-platform and runs on Microsoft Windows, Mac OS X, Linux, Solaris and other platforms supporting a compatible JVM. The NetBeans Team actively support the product and seek feature suggestions from the wider community. Every release is preceded by a time for Community testing and feedback.

NetBeans IDE is an open-source integrated development environment. NetBeans IDE supports development of all Java application types (Java SE (including JavaFX), Java ME, web, EJB and mobile applications) out of the box. Among other features are an Ant-based project system, Maven support, refactorings, version control (supporting CVS, Subversion, Git, Mercurial and Clearcase).

Modularity: All the functions of the IDE are provided by modules. Each module provides a well defined function, such as support for the Java language, editing, or support for the CVS versioning system, and SVN. NetBeans contains all the modules needed for Java development in a single download, allowing the user to start working immediately. Modules also allow NetBeans to be extended. New features, such as support for other programming languages, can be added by installing additional modules. For instance, Sun Studio, Sun Java Studio Enterprise, and Sun Java Studio Creator from Sun Microsystems are all based on the NetBeans IDE.

License: From July 2006 through 2007, NetBeans IDE was licensed under Sun’s Common Development and Distribution License (CDDL), a license based on the Mozilla Public License (MPL). In October 2007, Sun announced that NetBeans would henceforth be offered under a dual license of the CDDL and the GPL version 2 licenses, with the GPL linking exception for GNU Classpath.

FRONT END

Net beans is the front end we use to develop this project

BACK END

MySQL, the most popular Open Source SQL database management system, is developed, distributed, and supported by MySQL AB. MySQL AB is a commercial company, founded by the MySQL developers, that builds its business by providing services around the MySQL database management system. The MySQL Web site (http://www.mysql.com/) provides the latest information about MySQL software and MySQL AB. MySQL is a database management system.

VI. IMPLEMENTATION

Computing the Statistics: To efficiently matching the patches, we apply a nearest-neighbor field algorithm in [31] with a slight modification: to handle the non-nearby constraint (|sj| > t), before computing the difference between a pair of patches we first check their spatial distance and reject them if the constraint is disobeyed.

The Graph-Based Method: We adopt a two-scale solver in our graph-based method (Section 2.2.1). We first downsample the rectangular region (by a scale l) to 800x600 pixels if it is larger than this size. Then we build a graph as in Eq. (3) and optimize it using graph-cuts [21]. We use the public code of the multi-label graph-cuts in.

VII. SYSTEM DESIGN:
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VIII CONCLUSION

In this project we have presented novel statistics of patch offsets. We have demonstrated the effects of these statistics for image completion using both graph-based and matching based methods. The usage of the patch offsets implies that we only consider shifts of patches for image completion. More complex transforms like scaling, rotation, reflection, and their combinations have been studied in Generalized Patch Match, Transforming Image Completion, and Image Melding. These transforms are necessary in case when shifting is not sufficient, e.g., completing circles or reflection-symmetric objects. Since these transformations further increase the dimensionality of the search space, it could be useful to investigate the statistics and limit the search (some successful attempts have been shown in a recent work inspired by our method). Image Melding further improves Wexler et al. method by voting in the gradient domain. It is possible to combine this method with our matching-based solution.

REFERENCES