Color Image Understanding from acquisition to high-level image understanding

Theo Gevers University of Amsterdam Computer Vision Center Barcelona

Keigo Hirakawa University of Dayton

Joost van de Weijer Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona Computer Vision Center Barcelona





Shadow-effects



Shadow-effects

Specularities

Shadow-effects Specularities Multiple illuminants

overview

PART I: Color Image Acquisition

Keigo Hirakawa

- Color Image Sensor.
- Chrominance/luminance decompositions and demosaicking algorithms.
- Denoising before, during, and after demosaicking.
- Color fidelity issues due to noise and crosstalk.

PART II:

Color Image Processing fundamentals *Joost van de Weijer*

- Dichromatic Reflection model.
- Photometric Invariance Color Features.
- Color constancy.
- Color Saliency.

PART III: Applications

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- Color Feature Detection.
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- Color for Object Recognition.
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 Classification.



Surface Particles

Surface Reflectance

<u>Specular reflection.</u> The reflection angle is similar to the incident angle. Its spectral distribution depends on the illuminant



Body Reflectance

<u>Diffuse reflection</u>, isotropic reflection. The spectral distribution depends on colorants.

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = m^b(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{c}^{\mathbf{b}} + m^s(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{c}^{\mathbf{s}}$$



dichromatic model for matte surfaces:

 $\mathbf{f} = m^b \mathbf{c}^{\mathbf{b}}$





dichromatic model for specular surfaces:

$$\mathbf{f} = m^b \mathbf{c}^{\mathbf{b}} + m^s \mathbf{c}^{\mathbf{s}}$$





The model is valid for a wide variety of materials:



plastic



skin







fruit and vegetables

wood



Photometric Invariant Features



color spaces: normalized RGB

• normalized RGB is given by:

$$\left\{r,g,b\right\} = \left\{\frac{R}{R+G+B}, \frac{G}{R+G+B}, \frac{B}{R+G+B}\right\}$$

• invariant for shadow and shading variations (matte surfaces):

$$r = \frac{R}{R + G + B} = \frac{m^{b} c_{R}}{m^{b} c_{R}^{b} + m^{b} c_{G}^{b} + m^{b} c_{B}^{b}} = \frac{c_{r}}{c_{r}^{b} + c_{g}^{b} + c_{b}^{b}}$$





normalized RGB

color spaces: hue-saturation-intensity

• defined as:
$$hue = \arctan\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}(R-G)}{(R+G-2B)}\right)$$

 $sat = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}(R^2+G^2+B^2-RG-RB-GB)}$
 $i = \frac{R+G+B}{\sqrt{3}}$

• hue is invariant for shading variations and specularities under white light:

$$hue = \arctan\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}m^{b}(c_{R}^{b} + c_{G}^{b} - c_{G}^{b} - c_{G}^{b})}{m^{b}(c_{R}^{b} + c_{G}^{b} + c_{G}^{b} + c_{G}^{b} - 2c_{B}^{b} - 2c_{G}^{b})}\right)$$



Take care of instabilities

• when working in different color spaces always take instabilities into account !

• Error propagation is a convenient tool for instability evaluation:



Suppose that u, ..., w are measured with corresponding uncertainties $\sigma_u, ..., \sigma_w$ to compute function q(u, ..., w).

The predicted uncertainty is defined by :

$$\sigma_{q} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial q}{\partial u}\sigma_{u}\right)^{2} + \dots + \left(\frac{\partial q}{\partial w}\sigma_{w}\right)^{2}}$$

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Ex. 1

$$hue = \arctan\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}(R-G)}{(R+G-2B)}\right) \longrightarrow (\partial hue)^2 = \left(\partial \left(\arctan\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}(R-G)}{(R+G-2B)}\right)\right)\right)^2$$

$$\left(\partial hue\right)^2 = \left(\frac{\partial hue}{\partial R}\right)^2 \partial^2 R + \left(\frac{\partial hue}{\partial G}\right)^2 \partial^2 G + \left(\frac{\partial hue}{\partial B}\right)^2 \partial^2 B$$

$$= \frac{1}{sat^2} \partial^2 R \text{ (assuming } \partial^2 R = \partial^2 G = \partial^2 B)$$

Take care of instabilities

- when working in different color spaces always take instabilities into account !
- Error analysis is a convenient tool for instability evaluation:



Coloring Local Feature Extraction, ECCV 2006

Color Differential Structure



Edge and Corner Detection by Photometric Quasi-Invariants, PAMI 2005. Robust Photometric Invariant Features from the Color Tensor, TIP 2006.

differential-based computer vision



- 1. How do we combine the differential structure of the various color channels ?
- 2. How do we incorporate color invariance theory into the measurements of the differential structure while maintaining robustness ?

Color Feature Detection



from luminance to color



DiZenzo. "Note on the Gradient of a Multi-Image", Computer Vision, Graphics, and Image Processing, 1986.

feature detection in oriented patterns



more tensor-based features:

- Harris corner points
- symmetry points
 (star and circle structures)
- optical flow
- orientation estimation
 - curvature estimation

traditional orientation estimation:

$$\theta = \arctan\left(\frac{f_y}{f_x}\right) \rightarrow \overline{\theta} = \arctan\left(\frac{\overline{f_y}}{\overline{f_x}}\right)$$

. . .

tensor-based orientation estimation:

$$\theta = \arctan\left(\frac{2f_x f_y}{f_x^2 - f_y^2}\right) \rightarrow \overline{\theta} = \arctan\left(\frac{2\overline{f_x f_y}}{\overline{f_x^2 - f_y^2}}\right)$$

oriented texture

differential-based computer vision



- 1. How do we combine the differential structure of the various color channels ?
- 2. How do we incorporate color invariance theory into the measurements of the differential structure while maintaining robustness ?

Photometric Invariant Edge Detection



Computation of quasi-invariance



Dichromatic Model





• first order photometric structure:

$$\mathbf{F}_{x} = \{R_{x}, G_{x}, B_{x}\} = m^{b}\mathbf{c}_{x}^{b} + \left(e_{x}m^{b} + em_{x}^{b}\right)\mathbf{c}^{b} + em_{x}^{s}\mathbf{c}^{s}$$

material + (shadow + shading) + specular

- For matte surfaces : $\mathbf{f} = m^b \mathbf{c}^b$
- all shadow-shading variation is in the radial direction



$$\mathbf{f}_{\chi} = \begin{pmatrix} R_{\chi} \\ G_{\chi} \\ B_{\chi} \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{spherical} \begin{pmatrix} r_{\chi} \\ r \varphi_{\chi} \\ \sin \varphi \theta_{\chi} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} r_{\chi} \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{r} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \varphi_{\chi} \\ \sin \varphi \theta_{\chi} \end{pmatrix} \longrightarrow \mathbf{c}_{\chi} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \varphi_{\chi} \\ \sin \varphi \theta_{\chi} \end{pmatrix}$$

uncertainty of c_x

Shadow-Shading-Specular Quasi-Invariant



spherical coordinates	opponent colors	hue-saturation-intensity
shading variant	specular variant	shading-specular variant
shading invariant	specular invariant	shading-specular invariant

- For specular surfaces : $\mathbf{f} = m^b \mathbf{c}^b + m^s \mathbf{c}^s$
- there is no specular-shadow-shading variation in the hue-direction.



$$\mathbf{f}_{x} = \begin{pmatrix} R_{x} \\ G_{x} \\ B_{x} \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{hsi} \begin{pmatrix} sh_{x} \\ s_{x} \\ i_{x} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ s_{x} \\ i_{x} \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{(h_{x})} \begin{pmatrix} h_{x} \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \longrightarrow \mathbf{h}_{x} = \begin{pmatrix} h_{x} \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Instabilities

shadow-shading invariance:

 $\lim_{\{R,G,B\}\to 0}$



invariant full quasi

specular-shadow-shading invariance:

 $\lim_{\{R,G,B\}\to\alpha\{1,1,1\}}$

experiments : canny edge detection







luminance-gradient

RGB-gradient

experiments : canny edge detection







shadow-shading quasi-invariant shadow-shading-specular quasi-invariant

Edge Classification



red - object edge green-shading/shadow edge Blue – specular edge



Photometric Invariant Corner Detection

• Harris corner detector combined with the quasi-invariants allows for photometric invariant corner detection



Photometric Invariant Optical Flow



RGB

shadow-shading invariance
overview

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problem statement

How do we recognize colors to be the same under varying light sources ?





color constancy : the ability to recognize colors of objects invariant of the color of the light source.

Color Constancy Research in Human Vision

Often Mondrian images were used as stimuli in color constancy experiments. Humans were asked to match patches in the scene to isolated patches under white light.

From these images the importance of color statistics, spatial mean, maximum flux for color constancy was established.



Human color constancy was still only partially explained by these experiments.

Drawbacks: do not resemble real 3D surfaces, no interreflections, no specularities, shading etc.

Edwin Lan. The retinex, Am Sci 1964 Anya Hurlbert: Is colour constancy real ? Current Biology 1999

Color Constancy Research in Human Vision

Kraft and Brainard designed a more realistic setting for color constancy. Where illuminant and test patch color could be adjusted.

Obeservers task to adjust the colour of the test patch to be achromatic.



Successive subtraction of cues found them all to be important

- local contrast
- global contrast
- interreflections, specularities

Kraft J M , Brainard D H PNAS 1999;96:307-312 Anya Hurlbert: Is colour constancy real ? Current Biology 1999

Gamut Mapping



"In real-world images, for a given illuminant, one observes only a limited number of different colors."



Slide credit: Theo Gevers

• Obtain input image.



Slide credit: Theo Gevers

- Obtain input image.
- Compute gamut from image.



Slide credit: Theo Gevers

- Obtain input image.
- Compute gamut from image.
- Determine feasible set of mappings from input gamut to canonical gamut.



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- Obtain input image.
- Compute gamut from image.
- Determine feasible set of mappings from input gamut to canonical gamut.
- Apply some estimator, to select one mapping from this set.
- Use mapping on input image to recover the corrected image, or on canonical illuminant to estimate the color of the unknown illuminant.



Color Constancy from Color Derivatives



color constancy : the ability to recognize colors of objects invariant of the color of the light source.

Grey world hypothesis : the average reflectance in a scene is grey.

White patch hypothesis : the highest value in the image is white.



Shades of Grey hypothesis : the n-Minkowsky norm based average of a scene is achromatic.

- unifies Grey-World and White Patch : $e^{p} \approx \sqrt[p]{\left| \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) \right|^{p}} d\mathbf{x}$









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Grey world hypothesis : the average reflectance in a scene is grey.

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generalization I: the L-norm:

$$\left(\sum_{m=1}^{M} \left(\mathbf{f}_{i}\left(\mathbf{x}\right)\right)^{k}\right)^{\frac{1}{k}} \propto \mathbf{c}$$

Grey edge hypothesis : the average edge in a scene is grey.

generalization II: L-norm + differentiation order:



```
Function Illuminant=GreyEdgeCC(im,mink,sigma,dif)
```

im = gauss_derivative(im,sigma,dif); im = reshape(im,size(im,1)*size(im,2),3); Illuminant= 1./power(sum (power(im, mink)), 1/mink); Illuminant = Illuminant./norm(Illuminant) ;

general color constancy framework

Low-level color constancy:



G. Finlayson, E. Trezzi, "Shades of gray and colour constancy", *CIC 2004* J. van de Weijer, T. Gevers "Edge-Based Color Constancy", *IEEE IP 2007*

Color Constancy: experiment

• test set: 23 objects under 11 illuminants (Computational Vision Lab: Simon Fraser)

• angular error = $\cos(\hat{e} \cdot e)$



Color Constancy: experiment



	error
Grey-World	9.8
White-Patch	9.2
General Grey-World	5.4
Grey-Edge	5.6
2nd order Grey-Edge	5,2
Color by Correlation	9,9
Gamut Mapping	5,6
GCIE, 87 Lights	5,3

derivative-based gamut mapping

"In real-world images, for a given illuminant, one observes only a limited number of different colored edges."



A. Gijsenij, T. Gevers, J. van de Weijer, "Generalized Gamut Mapping using Image Derivative Structures for Color Constancy", *IJCV 2010*

Color Constancy from High-Level Visual Information





computational color constancy



top-down color constancy

psychophysical motivation:



Hansen et al. "Memory modulates color appearance", *nature neuroscience*, 2006.

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How can we apply high-level visual information for computational color constancy ?

overview our approach



plsa-based image segmentation

• We use Probabilistic Latent Semantic Analysis (pLSA) to compute the semantic likelihood of an image.

Image representation

- dense extraction of 20x20 pixel patches on 10x10 pixel grid
- each patch described by discretized features, the words
 - texture: SIFT (750 visual words, k-means)
 - color: hue (100 visual words, k-means)
 - position: patch location indicated by cell in a 8x8 grid



plsa-based image segmentation

• We use Probabilistic Latent Semantic Analysis (pLSA) to compute the semantic likelihood of an image.



plsa-based image segmentation

supervised learning p(w|grass p(w|cow) W W p(w|z)

test image





 $p(w|d) = \sum_{z} p(w|z) p(z|d)$

unknown

using EM: p(z|d)={0.6,0.4}



semantic image segmentation

semantic likelihood image



experiment: illuminant estimation

Data Set contains both indoor and outdoor scenes from a wide variety of locations (150 training, 150 testing)

Topic-word distributions are learned unsupervised on the texture and position cue (color is ignored in training).



F. Ciurea and B. Funt "A large database for color constancy research", CIC 2004.

experiment: illuminant estimation



experiment: illuminant estimation

results in angular error:

Method	Mean μ	Median	Trimean	
Do Nothing	15.6°	14.0°	14.6°	
White-Patch $(e^{0,\infty,0})$	12.7°	10.5°	11.3°	
Grey-World $(e^{0,1,0})$	13.0°	11.0°	11.5°	
general Grey-World ($e^{0,p,\sigma}$)	12.6°	11.1°	11.6°	
1^{st} -order Grey-Edge ($e^{1,p,\sigma}$)	11.1°	9.5°	9.8°	
2^{nd} -order Grey-Edge ($e^{2,p,\sigma}$)	11.2°	9.6°	10.0°	
Spatial Correlations (without reg.)	12.7°	10.8°	11.5°	
Spatial Correlations (with reg.)	12.7°	5.3°	5.7°	
Using Inverse Intensity Chromaticity Space	14.7°	11.0°	11.6°	
Pixel-based Gamut Mapping	11.8°	8.9°	10.0°	
Edge-based Gamut Mapping	13.7°	11.9°	12.3°	
Intersection: Complete 1-jet	11.8°	8.9°	10.0°	
Regression (SVR)	13.1°	11.2°	11.8°	
Statistical Combination (No $-N-Max$)	10.3°	8.2°	8.8°	
Using High-level Visual Information	9.7°	7.7°	8.2°	
Using Natural Image Statistics	9.9°	7.7°	8.3°	

Computational Color Constancy: Survey and Experiments. TIP 2011.

experiment: pixel classification

results pixel classification in %:

	standard color constancy		high-level selection		lection
no cc	worst BU	best BU	BU	TD	BU & TD
39.6	41.4	52.2	53.4	59.5	64.2



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 Classification.
• Goal: direct our gaze rapidly towards objects of interest in our environment.

• Visual attention is know to be driven by both *bottom up* (image based) and *top-down* (task based) cues.

• Bottom-up saliency uses simple visual attributes such as *intensity*, *contrast*, *color opponency*, *orientation*, *direction* and *velocity* of *motion*.

• What matters is *feature contrast* rather than absolute feature strength (as in center surround systems).

Saliency Detection

Input image Colours Multiscale Red, green, blue, yellow, low-level feature etc. extraction Intensity On, off, etc. Orientations 0°, 45°, 90°, 135°, etc. Other Motion, junctions and terminators, stereo disparity, shape from shading etc. Attended location Inhibition of return Winner-take-all Centre-surround differences and spatial competition Saliency map Feature maps Feature combinations **Top-down** attentional bias and training

L.Itty, C. Koch "Computational Modelling of Visual Attention", Nature Reviews Neurosciende, 2001.

Saliency Detection



L.Itty, C. Koch "Computational Modelling of Visual Attention", Nature Reviews Neurosciende, 2001.

black-white focus of detectors





luminance



color distinctiveness

• color Harris detector.

$$H(\mathbf{f}_x, \mathbf{f}_y) = \overline{\mathbf{f}_x \cdot \mathbf{f}_x} \overline{\mathbf{f}_y \cdot \mathbf{f}_y} - \overline{\mathbf{f}_x \cdot \mathbf{f}_y}^2 - k\left(\overline{\mathbf{f}_x \cdot \mathbf{f}_x} + \overline{\mathbf{f}_y \cdot \mathbf{f}_y}\right)^2$$

- many detectors can be written as: $H(\mathbf{f}_x, \mathbf{f}_y)$
 - Laplace
 - Curvature detectors
 - symmetry detectors
 - optical flow
- the local patch can be described by:

$$v = \begin{pmatrix} R & G & B & R_x & G_x & B_x & R_y & G_y & B_y \end{pmatrix}$$

• the information content of an event, v, is equal to :

$$I(v) = -\log(p(v)) = -\log(p(\mathbf{f})p(\mathbf{f}_x)p(\mathbf{f}_y))$$

• equation differential-based salient point detectors :

Color Boosting Saliency:
$$p(\mathbf{f}_x) = p(\mathbf{f}'_x) \leftrightarrow |g(\mathbf{f}_x)| = |g(\mathbf{f}'_x)|$$



statistics of color images

• The statistics of \mathbf{f}_x is computed by looking of the 40.000 images of the Corel database.



• Isosalient surfaces can be approximated by aligned ellipsoids in decorrelated color spaces.

statistics of color images

• The statistics of \mathbf{f}_x is computed by looking of the 40.000 images of the Corel database.



color boosting:

$$\mathbf{N} = \overline{\mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{x}} \left(\mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{x}}\right)^{\mathbf{t}}} = \begin{pmatrix} \overline{R_{\mathbf{x}} R_{\mathbf{x}}} & \overline{R_{\mathbf{x}} G_{\mathbf{x}}} & \overline{R_{\mathbf{x}} G_{\mathbf{x}}} \\ \overline{R_{\mathbf{x}} G_{\mathbf{x}}} & \overline{G_{\mathbf{x}} G_{\mathbf{x}}} & \overline{G_{\mathbf{x}} B_{\mathbf{x}}} \\ \overline{R_{\mathbf{x}} R_{\mathbf{x}}} & \overline{R_{\mathbf{x}}} & \overline{R_{\mathbf{x}}} & \overline{R_{\mathbf{x}}} \\ \overline{R_{\mathbf{x}} R_{\mathbf{x}}} & = \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in X^{i}} R_{\mathbf{x}} \left(\mathbf{x}\right) R_{\mathbf{x}} \left(\mathbf{x}\right), \qquad \mathbf{g} \left(\mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{x}}\right) = \mathbf{\Lambda}^{-1} \mathbf{U}^{\mathbf{t}} \mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{x}}$$

J. van de Weijer, Th. Gevers, A. Bagdanov, Boosting color saliency in image feature detection, IEEE PAMI 2006.

statistics of color images:



J. van de Weijer, Th. Gevers, A. Bagdanov, Boosting color saliency in image feature detection, IEEE PAMI 2006.

examples color boosting



color boosted edges

input image

color edges

examples color boosting





RGB



color boosting

examples color boosting



color boosted



Laplacian-of-Gaussian



Harris Laplace based on luminance.

Object recoloring

Extensions of dichromatic reflection model:

- multiple illuminants
- interreflections



Shida Beigpour, Joost van de Weijer, Recoloring based on intrinsic Image estimation, ICCV 2011

State-of-the-Art (Hue & Saturation Offset)



Photo-editing software is based on the assumption of a *single white illuminant*.

Phyiscs-based Recoloring



Reflectance estimation

• to constrain the problem of reflectance estimation we restrict ourselves to **single colored pre-segmented objects**.



Robust body reflectance estimation



• the problem of illuminant estimation underconstrained.





Chromaticity of natural lights follows closely the **Planckian locus**.

• Choose the Planckian illuminant which minimizes the reconstruction error.



reconstructionError =

 $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (original - reconstructed)^2$ forAllPixels

We extend the dichromatic model to include a second illuminant . This allows us to handle:

- outdoor shadows
- single-color interreflections.



Two illuminant estimation





(a) Original image



(b) Object mask



(c) Recolored object



(d) Mask: 1st iteration



(e) Mask: 2nd iteration



(f) Mask: 3rd iteration



(g) m_b^1







State-of-the-Art (Hue & Saturation Offset)

Re-coloring both the *illuminant* and the *object* colors can be achieved through same method.



Re-coloring examples on natural scenes



Re-coloring examples on natural scenes with green interreflections of the grass.



Original-Image

Professional photo-editor

MIDR-based method

Photo-montage: here the greenish reflection of grass is replaced by reddish reflection of the carpet to match the scene.



The do's and dont's of Color Features

- 1. Take care in combining different channels: Tensor-based features solve the opposing vector problem.
- 2. Look at what kind of photometric invariance your problem needs:

Do not take derivatives of circular color spaces. Compute first derivatives, then color space transform.

Quasi-invariants are more stable for feature detection.

- 3. When working with invariance take instabilities into account. Use error analysis to find certainty measures for your invariants.
- 4. When considering photometric invariance always also take discriminative power into account.
- 5. From information theory an optimal color space for salient feature detection can be derived.
- 6. Color information is highly corrupted in compressed data. In compression (jpeg, mpeg) chrominance is subsampled.



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