An Unsupervised Cluster-based Image Retrieval Algorithm using Relevance Feedback

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ABSTRACT

Content-based image retrieval (CBIR) systems utilize low level query image feature as identifying similarity between a query image and the image database. Image contents are plays significant role for image retrieval. There are three fundamental bases for content-based image retrieval, i.e. visual feature extraction, multidimensional indexing, and retrieval system design. Each image has three contents such as: color, texture and shape features. Color and texture both plays important image visual features used in Content-Based Image Retrieval to improve results. Color histogram and texture features have potential to retrieve similar images on the basis of their properties. As the feature extracted from a query is low level, it is extremely difficult for user to provide an appropriate example in based query. To overcome these problems and reach higher accuracy in CBIR system, providing user with relevance feedback is famous for provide promising solution.

Keywords

Content-based image retrieval, Color Histogram, Relevance Feedback, k-means.

1. INTRODUCTION

Content-based image retrieval [1,18] has been an active research area in recent years. There has been an experimental increase in the amount of non-text based data being generated from various sources. In particular, images have been gaining popularity as an alternative and some time more viable option for information storage [6]. Through the increase in storage and transmission abilities more visual information is being made available on-line. These need to search and well manage large volumes of Multimedia information [3]. However, while this presents a wealth of information, it also causes a great problem in retrieving appropriate and relevant information from databases.

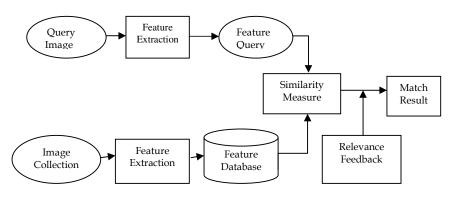


Fig. 1 General model of CBIR

CBIR extracts low-level features which is Inbuilt in the images to present the contents of images.Each image has features such as categories into three main classes: color [2, 11], texture [9, 11] and shape [2, 10] features. This has resulted in a growing interest, and great active research, into the extraction of relevant information from non text-based database. One of the most common data in multimedia systems is image. Therefore, the capability of managing images, allocating their quick and efficient indexing and retrieval are repeatedly followed in multimedia database management systems. Researchers have been focusing on different ways of retrieving information from database or objects based on their contents. Especially, content-based image retrieval (CBIR) systems have attracted significant research and commercial interest. In field of medicals, academic world, government and huge collections of images are being produced. Many of these groups are the product of digitizing existing collections of analogue photographs, diagrams, drawings, paintings, and prints.

Color is most common feature of an image such as used in Content-Based Image Retrieval [2, 9, 13]. These features are able to identify objects [10] and retrieve similar images on the basis of their contents. These methods do work very efficient in object recognition and Web searching [14]. An efficient query reformulation is necessary for finding the relevant images from the database. Relevance feedback (RF) is an interactive process which filters the retrieval results to a particular query by utilizing the user's feedback on previously retrieved images [5, 8].

II. Feature Extraction

Feature (content) extraction is the basis of content-based image retrieval. In sense, features may include both visual features (color, texture, shape) and text-based features (key words, annotations).

Color

Color feature is one of the most reliable and easier visual features used in image retrieval. It is robust to background complication and is independent of image size and orientation [3]. A lot of techniques available for retrieving images on the basis of color similarity from image database [1]. Each image included to the collection is analyzed to compute a color histogram which shows the proportion of pixels of each color within the image. The color histogram for each image is then stored in the database. Color, texture and shape information have been the primitive image descriptors in content based image retrieval systems [7].

Texture

Textures are characterized by differences in brightness with high frequencies in the image spectrum. They are useful in distinguishing between areas of images with similar color similar color (such as sky and sea, or water, grass). A variety of methods has been used for measuring texture similarity; the best- established depend on comparing values of what are well-known as second-order statistics estimated from query and stored images. Essentially, these estimate the relative brightness of picked pairs of pixels from each image. From these it is possible to measures the image texture such as contrast, coarseness, directionality and regularity [16] or periodicity, directionality and randomness [11].

Shape

Shape is an essential feature for perceptual object recognition and classification of images in content-based image retrieval. Shape representation is significant concern both in object recognition and classification. That means an image has to be segmented before extracting most shape features. The shape representation typically is divided into two categories; boundary-based and region-based. Fourier descriptors are a representative for the boundary-based method while moment invariants are characteristic of the region-based method [20].

III. Related Work

Color is common and important feature in image retrieval system. Color comparison between two images would however be time consuming and difficult problem to overcome this problem they introduced a method of reducing the amount of information. One way of doing this is by quantizing the color distribution into color histograms [12]. Using color histogram easier way for color distribution or they used histogram divide in to different classes for matching.

K-means algorithm is one of the most widely used clustering algorithms in spatial clustering analysis [17]. It is easy and efficient. But is also having limitations: It is sensitive to the initialization. It doesn't perform well in global searching and is easy to get into local optimization and the improved K-means is based on the classical method to make the process of optimization more dependent [4, 15].

Many of image retrieval applications are based on color feature and shape feature [3]. Estimating local texture based on pixels of the intensity image and a fuzzy index to point out the presence of major colors [11]. It is based on the texture co-occurrence matrix.

K-means clustering for the classification of feature set obtained from the histogram refinement method [4]. Histogram refinement provides a set of features for proposed for Content Based Image Retrieval (CBIR) [2]. They used global histograms for image retrieval, because of their effectiveness and insensibility to minor changes, are broadly used for content based image retrieval.

IV. Proposed Work

Each image has three features Color, Shape and Texture. For fast and improve Image retrieval performance we are using color feature extraction. Using color feature extraction firstly we converted color image into grey level, this is containing values from 0 to 255.

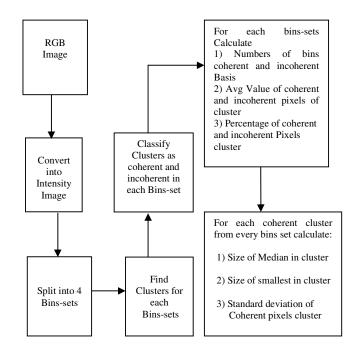


Figure1. Block diagram of algorithm.

Algorithm:

- 1. Input as RGB Image.
- 2. RGB image convert into gray image or Intensity Image:

$$\mathbf{I} = \frac{1}{3} \left(\mathbf{R} + \mathbf{G} + \mathbf{B} \right)$$

Intensity or gray image contains values from 0 to 255.

3. Gray Image converts into histogram bins sets

```
For i = 64 to 256
{
h(i) = g(x_i, y_i);
{
Distance = pdist(h(i));
```

Clust_distance = linkage [B, 'centroid'];

%%measure Distance between clusters

Clust = cluster (c,'maxclust',2);

```
%%Let (clust = = 1) be the coherent and (clust = = 2)
Incoherent cluster.
```

If (clust = = 1) Call Calculate_num (n); Call Calculate_Percent (Per,n); Call Calculate_Avg (a,n); Call Calculate_Avg (a,n); Call Calculate_Median_bin(m,n); Call Calculate_Median_bin(m,n); Call Calculate_Smallest_bin(s,n); Call Calculate_Std(t,n); Else If (clust = = 2) Call Calculate_Std(t,n); Call Calculate_num (n); Call Calculate_Per(Per,n); Call Calculate_Avg(a,n);

Else

"No cluster found"

End

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6. Retrieval using query.

V. Result and Analysis

In this part, several tests are performing in order to analysis the performance of histograms and here we used coral image database. To test the proposed method. Firstly RGB image converted to intensity image. Then the image were split into bins sets and the features described in section IV were calculated which is based on coherent and incoherent pixels. Followed these feature set; images were grouped in similar clusters using k-means clustering method. Histogram refining method more refines the histogram by dividing the pixels in a given container into a number of classes based on color coherence vectors. Several features are calculated using Matlab[19] for each of the cluster and these features are further classified using the k-means clustering method.

Binset	(X _i)	(CX _i)	(µX _i)	(Y _i)	(CY _i)	(µY _i)
1	52	1	51262	48	61	747
2	53	1	52065	47	127	364
3	51	1	50382	49	191	251
4	47	1	46207	53	255	204

Table1. Example of parameter values for Incoherent pixels.

We denoted Percentage of Coherent pixels (X_i) , Number of Incoherent pixels clusters (CX_i) , Average of Incoherent pixels cluster (μX_i) , Percentage of Incoherent pixels (Y_i) , Number of Incoherent pixels clusters (CY_i) , Average of Incoherent pixels cluster (μY_i) . After calculation of above features, we consider some additional features based on coherent bins cluster only. At this stage, incoherent Pixels cluster is ignored. These features are preferred.

Similarly, we have additional parameter values related with the coherent bins in clusters including size of median bins in cluster in each bin (MX_i) , size of smallest bins in cluster in each bin (SX_i) and standard deviation of coherent bins in clusters (DX_i) . for each of the largest, median and smallest bin cluster value.

	Binset1	Binset2	Binset3	Binset4
(MX _i)	324	161	91	76
(SX _i)	0	0	2	0
(DX _i)	4227700	913210	541820	386960

Table2. Additional features among the coherent Pixels cluster.

Two of them are based on the size of the Cluster. These intensity values median, standard deviation, mean, variance, various sizes of objects are considered as appropriate features for retrieval.



(a)Query Image



(b)Retrieval Result

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VI. Conclusion

This algorithm is based on color and texture features of static image. The intensity values median, standard deviation and various sizes of the intensity values are considered as appropriate features for retrieval. The proposed technique present very little amount of memory for features storage and a prominent rate of computation and give good results in terms of accuracy. We have shown that k-means clustering is fairly useful for appropriate image retrieval queries. The K-means clustering algorithms to group the images content into different clusters based on the color feature and k-means clustering algorithms have been often used in the pattern recognition. Animated images performance behaviour is different based on this method.

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