
Subject: Re: In Praise of HISTOGRAM

Posted by [G Karas](#) on Fri, 12 Apr 2002 18:44:53 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

that sounds very interesting david.

i have been busy with images and histograms

for a very long time now.. and sometimes IDL

crushes on me, because of 'out of memory' probs..

i will try your solution with this one, might help :)

thanks for the excellent tip!

"David Fanning" <david@dfanning.com> wrote in message
news:MPG.1720c0a738f663b898988a@news.frii.com...

> Folks,

>

> I used to think the WHERE function was pretty neat. But

> lately (i.e., this morning) I have become a convert and

> sing in praise of the HISTOGRAM function.

>

> I had as a task to compute a density plot from two

> images. This is a pixel-wise comparison in which the

> X axis contains the values of image 1 (0 to 255) and the Y axis

> contains the values of image 2 (0 to 255). The Z direction of the

> plot contains the number of times these two images have this same

> pair-wise relationship. In other words, if the pixel value of image 1

> is 10 and the pixel value of image 2 is 20, how many pixels are

> there that have 10 in image 1 and 20 in image 2.

>

> Because I had never done this before, I proceeded in my

> usual plodding way. My first attempt (which I thought was

> pretty slick) computed histograms of the two images and

> used reverse indices to obtain the indices of the images

> that contained a particular value. Then I did a set intersection

> between the two vectors of indices to find out how many were

> in common. This method took only 48 minutes on these rather

> large (2199 x 2380) images. :-(

>

> Oh, dear. I heard that ENVI did this sort of thing almost

> instantaneously. Didn't *anyone* download that SAVE file

> cracker of Craig's!?

>

> My colleague, Dave Burrige, and I put our heads together.

> There must be a trick to be discovered here.

>

> Hang on a minute! What if we create an integer array, put

> one image in the low bits and the other image in the high

> bits. Won't each pixel have a unique number value? Then,
> what if we take a histogram of that? Won't that give us
> a vector of $2^{16}-1$ values? And what if we reform that
> into the 256 by 256 array we are looking for?
>
> Wham, bam. Less than 0.3 seconds later there was the
> result! If that first time through hadn't have taken
> 48 minutes I wouldn't have believed it.
>
> I don't know if I've ever said this before, but I
> LOVE IDL!
>
> Cheers,
>
> David
>
> --
> David W. Fanning, Ph.D.
> Fanning Software Consulting
> Phone: 970-221-0438, E-mail: david@dfanning.com
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
> Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155
