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Subject: Re: distribution of colors for an image  
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Wed, 27 Oct 2004 13:57:00 GMT  
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David Fanning wrote:

> Reimar Bauer writes:

>

>

>> fine, I have seen a lot of instruction on your marvellous web page.

>>

>> But I don't understand the result I got. Lets show an example.

>>

>> a=dist(20)

>> h=histogram(a)

>> print,max(a),max(h)

>> 14.1421 56

>>

>>

>> u=uniq(a,sort(a))

>> help,u,h

>> U LONG = Array[61]

>> H LONG = Array[15]

>>

>> Why could be h higher as a?

>> Why doesn't I got a vector length of 61 as uniq tells?

>

>

> You asked about color distribution in an image. A histogram  
> will tell you (with a byte scaled image, of course) how many  
> pixels in the image have a particular color. It will even  
> tell you which pixels those are, but that is another story,  
> best explained with JD's Histogram Tutorial.

>

> In your case H is fifteen elements long, because your data  
> had values between 0 and 15, and you used a bin size of 1,  
> by default. The \*numbers\* returned from histogram, told you  
> the pixel distribution of those 15 "colors". In one bin, for  
> example, you had 56 pixels values that fell into that bin.

>

> You had 61 unique numbers in your data, but all 61 of them fell  
> into one of the 15 bins you set up.

>

> To see your color distribution, you want to plot the histogram  
> of your data:

>

> data = dist(200)

> Plot, Histogram(data), XStyle=1, \$

> XTitle='Color Distribution', YTitle='Number of Pixels'

>  
> Does that help?  
>

Yes, this is very good explained.

Now it is clear and I know why I was so irritated of the result I got.

I have used a circular clipping of an image and have missed that's histogram uses always rectangular input. The background color which clips the data to invisible is count highest. If I don't use max\_value I see nothing on the plot.

Thanks for all help

Reimar

> Cheers,  
>  
> David  
>

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Reimar Bauer

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a IDL library at ForschungsZentrum Juelich  
[http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl\\_icglib/idl\\_lib\\_intro.html](http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html)  
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