
Subject: Determining true resolution of an image?

Posted by [wmconnolley](#) on Tue, 05 Mar 2002 19:32:39 GMT

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I'd like a procedure to take a digital image (a photo) and, by in some way reducing the image and comparing the "information" left, to determine the "true" resolution. What I have in mind is to scan in an analogue photo at very high res, and to try to determine what res needs to be retained.

Err... anyone have any ideas how to do this, perhaps within IDL? Is it a known problem?

-W.

--

William M Connolley | wmc@bas.ac.uk | <http://www.nerc-bas.ac.uk/icd/wmc/>
Climate Modeller, British Antarctic Survey | Disclaimer: I speak for myself
I'm a .signature virus! copy me into your .signature file & help me spread!

Subject: Re: Determining true resolution of an image?

Posted by [weitkamp](#) on Fri, 08 Mar 2002 16:19:50 GMT

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chrisduckworth@hotmail.com (cnd) wrote in message
news:<3c8856d3.58341995@news.mem.bellsouth.net>...

- > [...]
- > It sounds like you want to do an MTF (modulation transfer function)
- > measurement. This is a somewhat common measurement. If I remember my DSP,
- > you need to scan the analog image at a rate of 2.15 times the analog
- > Nyquist.
- > But, umm, this is probably the wrong news group for this stuff.

Well, be that latter point as it may. Chris, do you have a good textbook or tutorial reference for this stuff at hand? I happen to be concerned with this kind of problem but find it hard to get hold of efficient learning material on DSP fundamentals such as sampling issues (that 2.15 is not really intuitive).

Sorry for posting off-topic.

Cheers,
Timm

--

Timm Weitkamp
European Synchrotron Radiation Facility (ESRF), Grenoble, France

Subject: Re: Determining true resolution of an image?
Posted by [Martin Downing](#) on Sat, 09 Mar 2002 10:16:17 GMT
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"Timm Weitkamp" <weitkamp@esrf.fr> wrote in message
news:2aa6be0a.0203080819.23972200@posting.google.com...
> chrisduckworth@hotmail.com (cnd) wrote in message
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I don't think this is cross posting - IDL users appear to be asking more and
more - how do I solve this problem, rather than how do I implement this
algorithm/fix this code in IDL :)

Well "intuitively", you need at least two samples per wavelength, one for
the peak and one for the trough, then you need a little extra to ensure you
do not get caught measuring the mid point each time. Of course - you can
produce some incomprehensible equations to the same effect!!

Martin

Subject: Re: Determining true resolution of an image?
Posted by [chrisduckworth](#) on Mon, 11 Mar 2002 04:21:29 GMT
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On 8 Mar 2002 08:19:50 -0800, weitkamp@esrf.fr (Timm Weitkamp) wrote:

> chrisduckworth@hotmail.com (cnd) wrote in message
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First the 2.15: The 2 comes from the nyquist sampling theorem. When digitizing a set of analog data, the sampling frequency must be greater (not equal to) 2 times the highest frequency component of the analog input signal, or else you get aliasing. On most systems your sampling frequency is not variable so you pre-filter the analog signal to insure that you don't get aliasing. But if you use a sharp cutoff filter, you will induce a ringing artifact in the digital data. Thus, you use a filter that curves at the ends (like a fermi function), and you add a little more to the sampling frequency (I think that is called the Keller factor). the choice of .15 for this factor is somewhat arbitrary, but .15 is typical.

Now MTF: Sorry, I don't have a good tutorial for this stuff at hand. For books, the SPIE has several and the best choice depends on the type of application. In medical imaging I would recommend their medical imaging handbook.

Measuring MTF: In most systems there is only two ways of measuring MTF, via slit or edge. There is also a CTF (contrast transfer function) that can be approximated to an MTF. The slit method is most precise, but it is very tedious. the edge method is noisy at low frequencies. The CTF always over-estimates the MTF.

For the slit measurement, you have a slit in the image of a known aperture and you take a series of images with varying apertures. That series of images is your line spread function data set.

For the edge measurement, align a sharp edge in the image. Take the derivative of the data going across the edge and you have an Isf.

For the CTF, use a bar pattern, which is a series of light and dark bars in an image. The light and dark bars must have the same width and twice that width is the aperture of that measurement. Typically, there are several groups of bar patterns within a single image, or some variation like a star pattern. Also, CTF is usually reported in line pairs per mm (or cm) and MTF is reported in cycles per mm (or cm).

Sorry my description is so brief. There is plenty of literature on this stuff in SPIE books and journal articles. All MTF (Isf based)

measurments that I know of are founded in the above three methods.
For a typical field of view there are some 30 diffrent MTF's that can
be measured.

Thanks,
Chris Duckworth
