

A New Color Image Compression Based on Fractal and Discrete Cosine Transform

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Abstract: *Fractal Image Compression is a compression method in which self similar nature of an image is used. It is a way to encode images that require less storage space. In this paper, an implementation based on fractal with quadtree and Discrete Cosine Transform is proposed to compress the color image. Initially the image is segmented and DCT is applied to each block of the image. Then the block values are scanned in zigzag manner to prevent zero coefficients. The resultant image is partitioned as fractals by quadtree technique. Finally the image is compressed using Run Length encoding Technique. Experimental results show that the proposed technique compresses the image effectively with high PSNR value and SSIM index.*

Keywords: Image compression, fractal, quadtree, run length encoding, zigzag scanning, DCT

1. Introduction

Image Compression has become an important aspect in the storing and transferring of digital image in information society [1]. The idea of the fractal image compression (FIC) is based on the assumption that the image redundancies can be efficiently exploited by means of block self-affine transformations [2][3]. In 1988, Barnsley [4] proposed the idea of fractal image compression for the first time. The first practical fractal image compression scheme was introduced in 1992 by Jacquin [5] [6]. The fractal compression technique relies on the fact that in certain images, parts of the image resemble other parts of the same image. Fractal algorithms convert these parts, or more precisely, geometric shapes into mathematical data called fractal codes which are used to recreate the encoded image. Once an image has been converted into fractal code its relationship to a specific resolution has been lost; it becomes resolution independent. The image can be recreated to fill any screen size without the introduction of image artifacts or loss of sharpness that occurs in pixel-based compression schemes [7].

In Fractal image compression, compressed images are represented by contractive transforms. These transforms are composed of group of a number of affine mappings on the whole image, known as Iterated Function System (IFS). Contractive transformation is applied to the IFS called Collage theorem. This theorem is the technique core of the fractal coding [8]. Fractal image compression is a modern image compression technique based on self similarity. In FIC

the image is decomposed two times, into overlapping domain blocks to make a domain pool. Then the image is decomposed again into non-overlapping range blocks. After decomposition, for each range block best matched domain block in the domain pool with a contractive affine transformation is searched. Finally the best matched domain block can be found for each range block in the original image [9]. In order to improve the efficiency of FIC, quadtree technique can be used.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows: Section 2 describes some of the recent related works. The proposed methodology is described in section 3. Experimental results of the proposed methodology are explained and discussed in section 4. Finally, conclusion is provided in section 5.

2. Related Works

Numerous researches have been proposed for the color image compression process by researchers. In this section, a brief review of some important works from the existing literature is presented

Sofia Douda, Abdallah Bagri, Amer Abdelhakim El Imrani [10] proposed a new method based on the DCT coefficients. In this method, the domain blocks with a low activity are discarded from the domain pool. The activity of blocks is based on the lowest horizontal and vertical DCT coefficients. Ruhiat Sultana, Nisar Ahmed and Shaik Mahaboob Basha [11] proposed an advanced fractal image compression algorithm based on quadtree that construct search attractor directly from the big domain block. And if domain block cannot search the similar range block, the most similar range block is searched and calculates the correctional value to construct the fictitious

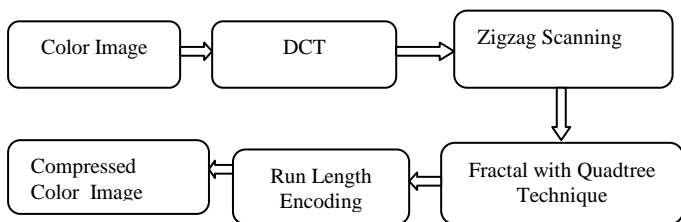


Figure 2: Flow Diagram of Compression Process

3.5 Decompression Process

The decompression process is simple. The compressed image is decompressed by reversing the entire process. Run length decoding and Fractal decoding is applied to the compressed image. Then inverse zigzag is applied. Finally inverse DCT is employed, the compressed color image get decompressed. Figure 3 illustrates the decompression process.

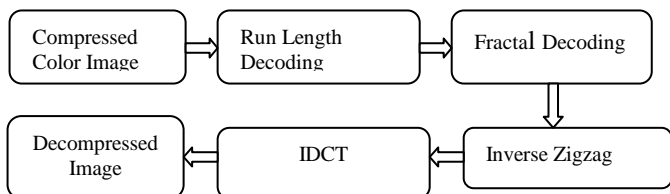


Figure 3: Flow Diagram of Decompression Process

4. Results and Discussions

In this section, the effectiveness of the proposed method is illustrated by means of the experimental results, proposed method was implemented in Matlab 7.9 and the proposed method was evaluated using color images. The test images used in the experiments include: Bird, Roses, Baby and Boat. Quality of the reconstructed images was determined by measuring the Peak Signal to Noise Ratio (PSNR) value and Structural Similarity (SSIM) index and the compression efficiency of the proposed method was determined in terms of the compression ratio.

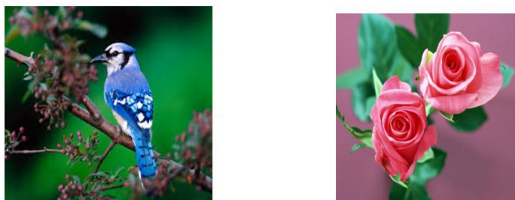


Figure 4: Original Images: i) Bird, ii) Roses

The Test images are compressed and decompressed using the proposed method and following output is obtained.



Figure 5: Decompressed Images using Proposed Method

Table 1 illustrates the performance of proposed method using the test images.

Test Images	Original Size (KB)	Compressed Size (KB)	Compression Ratio	PSNR	SSIM
Bird	896	63	14.20	29.45	0.8879
Roses	1078	82	13.14	32.57	0.8562
Baby	1256	106	11.84	31.36	0.8496
Boat	1344	111	12.10	30.89	0.8714

Table 1: Overall Performance of Proposed Method

The proposed method is compared with standard algorithm of quadtree technique and the results are shown in Table 2 and Table 3.

Table 2: Comparison of Std. Algorithm of Quadtree Technique with Proposed Method

Test Images	Compression Ratio		PSNR	
	Std. Alg of Quadtree Technique	Proposed Method	Std. Alg of Quadtree Technique	Proposed Method
Bird	10.23	14.20	24.66	29.45
Roses	9.89	13.14	26.08	32.57
Baby	8.76	11.84	25.45	31.36
Boat	10.47	12.10	24.96	30.89

Table 3: Comparison of Std. Algorithm of Quadtree Technique with Proposed Method for SSIM Index

Test Images	SSIM	
	Std. Alg of Quadtree Technique	Proposed Method
Bird	0.7659	0.8879
Roses	0.7494	0.8562
Baby	0.7351	0.8496
Boat	0.7627	0.8714

Experimental results and comparative analysis show that the proposed method compresses the image effectively with high PSNR value and SSIM index

5. Conclusions

A New Color Image Compression based on Fractal and DCT is proposed in this paper. The proposed algorithm compressed the input color image by employing DCT to the image and DCT coefficient was scanned in zigzag manner, Fractal with Quadtree technique and Run Length encoding technique was applied. The compressed color image is decompressed by

reversing the compression algorithm. The compression ratio calculated describes that the proposed scheme compresses the color image in a better way. Table 1, Table 2 and Table 3 shows that the proposed technique compressed the image effectively with high PSNR value and SSIM index.

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