



A Comparison of Block-Matching Motion Estimation Algorithms

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Motivation





Video coding





Tracking

3D TV



Gesture recognition



Resolution enhancement

http://www.encodedmedia.com/ http://assets.vr-zone.net/15416/LGTV.jpg http://csecar.wordpress.com/ http://www.newelectronics.co.uk/electronics-news/qualcomm-invests-in-gesture-recognition-technology/35620/ http://users.soe.ucsc.edu/~milanfar/research/resolution-enhancement.html





Block-Matching



Reference Frame





- Search area
 - Best matched block
 - Motion vector



The two most popular measures to determine the match between two blocks are: the Mean Square Error (MSE) and the Sum of Absolute Differences (SAD)

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B. Xiong and C. Zhu, "A new multiplication-free block matching criterion," IEEE Trans. Circuits Syst. Video Technol., vol. 18, no. 10, 2008 Elliot J. Rouse. A virtual curriculum vitae. http://www.elliottjrouse.com/



Full-Search (FS)



- The Full-Search algorithm evaluates all positions in the window search of (2W+1) x (2W+1) size
- It involves high computational cost
- It is simple
- It guarantees a high accuracy in finding the best match





Y. Huzka, and P. Kulla, "Trends in Block-matching Motion Estimation Algorithms," 2004









Three-Step Search (3SS)



The number of stages depends on the initial distance to which the first 9 neighbors are selected















Four-Step Search (4SS)



Each new stage (except the reduced step stage)
 evaluates three or five blocks





L.-M. Po, and W. C.-Ma, "A novel four-step search algorithm for fast block motion estimation," IEEE Trans. Circuits Syst. Video Technol., vol. 6, no. 3, 1996











Diamond Search (DS)



- Each new stage (except the reduced step stage)
 evaluates four or five blocks
- The neighbors are selected at a mixed distance













Hexagonal Block Search (HEXBS)



It is faster than the DS, but has a lower quality of prediction



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C.-H. Cheung and L.-M. Po, "Novel cross-diamond-hexagonal search algorithms for fast block motion estimation," IEEE Trans. Multimedia, vol. 7, no. 1, 2005



L.-M. Po, K.-H. Ng, K.-M. Wong, and K.-W. Cheung, "Multi-direction search algorithm for block-based motion estimation," in IEEE Asia Pacific Conf. in Circuits and Systems (APPCAS), 2008



L.-M. Po, K.-H. Ng, K.-M. Wong, and K.-W. Cheung, "Multi-direction search algorithm for block-based motion estimation," in IEEE Asia Pacific Conf. in Circuits and Systems (APPCAS), 2008

Multi-Directional Gradient Descent Search (MDGDS)

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L.-M. Po, K.-H. Ng, K.-M. Wong, and K.-W. Cheung, "Multi-direction search algorithm for block-based motion estimation," in IEEE Asia Pacific Conf. in Circuits and Systems (APPCAS), 2008

Multi-Directional Gradient Descent Search (MDGDS)

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L.-M. Po, K.-H. Ng, K.-M. Wong, and K.-W. Cheung, "Multi-direction search algorithm for block-based motion estimation," in IEEE Asia Pacific Conf. in Circuits and Systems (APPCAS), 2008



Multi-Directional Gradient Descent Search (MDGDS)



It tries to solve the problem of being trapped in a local minimum





L.-M. Po, K.-H. Ng, K.-M. Wong, and K.-W. Cheung, "Multi-direction search algorithm for block-based motion estimation," in IEEE Asia Pacific Conf. in Circuits and Systems (APPCAS), 2008



Fast Directional Gradient Descent Search (FDGDS)



It is an improvement of the MDGDS that increases the speed of the algorithm and leads to little loss in quality of prediction





Relative Distortion Ratio

 $RDR = \frac{DIRECTIONAL_{MIN}}{CURRENT_{MIN}}$

L.-M. Po, K.-H. Ng, K.-W. Cheung, K.-M. Wong, Y. Uddin, and C.-W. Ting, "Novel Directional Gradient Descent Searches for Fast Block Motion Estimation," IEEE Trans. Circuits Syst. Video Technol., vol. 19, no. 8, 2009



L.-M. Po, K.-H. Ng, K.-W. Cheung, K.-M. Wong, Y. Uddin, and C.-W. Ting, "Novel Directional Gradient Descent Searches for Fast Block Motion Estimation," IEEE Trans. Circuits Syst. Video Technol., vol. 19, no. 8, 2009



L.-M. Po, K.-H. Ng, K.-W. Cheung, K.-M. Wong, Y. Uddin, and C.-W. Ting, "Novel Directional Gradient Descent Searches for Fast Block Motion Estimation," IEEE Trans. Circuits Syst. Video Technol., vol. 19, no. 8, 2009



L.-M. Po, K.-H. Ng, K.-W. Cheung, K.-M. Wong, Y. Uddin, and C.-W. Ting, "Novel Directional Gradient Descent Searches for Fast Block Motion Estimation," IEEE Trans. Circuits Syst. Video Technol., vol. 19, no. 8, 2009

Quality Metrics



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$$MSE(X,Y) = \frac{1}{MN} \sum_{i=0}^{M-1} \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} [X(i,j) - Y(i,j)]^2$$
$$PSNR(X,Y) = 20 \log_{10} \left(\frac{MAX_Y}{\sqrt{MSE(X,Y)}}\right)$$

- It is a point to point metric
- Based on square differences
- It is not very well matched to perceived visual quality

Structural Similarity Index

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$$SSIM(x, y) = \frac{(2\mu_x\mu_y + C_1)(2\sigma_x\sigma_y + C_2)}{(\mu_x^2 + \mu_y^2 + C_1)(\sigma_x^2 + \sigma_y^2 + C_2)}$$
$$MSSIM(X, Y) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} SSIM(x_i, y_i)$$

- Lt is a windowed metric
- Based on luminance, contrast and structure between an original and a distorted images
- It takes into account the visual perception of the image

Z. Wang, A. C. Bovik, H. R. Sheikh and, E. P. Simoncelli, "Image quality assessment: from error visibility to structural similarity," IEEE Trans. Image Process., vol. 13, no. 4, 2004
C. S. varnan, A. Jagan, J. Kaur, D. Jyoti, and D. S. Rao, "Image quality assessment techniques pn spatial domain," International Journal on Computer Science and Technology, vol. 2, no. 3, 2011



Quality Metrics (ii)





Original image PSNR undefinied, SSIM = 1



PSNR = 26.547, SSIM = 0.988



PSNR = 26.547, SSIM = 0.840



PSNR = 26.547, SSIM = 0.913



PSNR = 26.547, SSIM = 0.694

https://ece.uwaterloo.ca/~z70wang/research/ssim/



Performance Metrics

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Since an algorithm requires time proportional to the number of explored blocks (EXB), the computational cost of a BMA is determined by the EXB

BMA	3SS	4SS	DS	HEXBS	MDGDS	FDGDS
EXB	25	17	13	11	9	9

EXB in the case of Zero Motion Vector (ZMV)

V. Padilla, "Algoritmos de block-matching para compresión de video," Final Career Project, Systems Engineering Program, Universidad del Valle, 2009



Video Test Sequences



Sequence	Size	# Frames	Motion
Akiyo	352x288	300	Small
Mother_ daugthter	352x288	300	Small
Silent	352x288	300	Small
Foreman	352x288	300	Medium
Garden	352x240	115	Medium
Mobile	352x288	300	Medium
Coastguard	352x288	300	Large
Football	352x288	260	Large
Stefan	352x240	300	Large



Block sizes used: 8x8, 16x16 and 32x32

All video sequences used are in uncompressed format: YUV4MPEG, and are available at: http://media.xiph.org/video/derf/





PSNR performance, block size of 8x8 pixels



Results (ii)





SSIM performance, block size of 8x8 pixels





EXB performance, block size of 8x8 pixels





SSIM/EXB performance, block size 8x8 pixels



SSIM performance of various algorithms for Coastguard video sequence





SSIM performance of various algorithms for Football video sequence





SSIM performance of various algoritms for Garden video sequence





Final Remarks

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The HEXBS shows low computational cost but produces low quality of prediction

- The MDGDS and the FDGDS show low computational cost and produce the highest quality of prediction
- The FGDGS achieves a good trade off between high quality of prediction and a low computation cost

The HEXBS is less affected by the variation in the block sizes, whilst the others show a big loss of prediction by increasing the block size used







THANKS!