

Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan's

Sardar Patel Institute of Technology
Bhavan's Campus, Munshi Nagar, Andheri (West), Mumbai-400058-India
(Autonomous College Affiliated to University of Mumbai)

Name	Shivam Patil, Adwait Purao, Udit Rao
UID no.	2021300097, 2021300101, 2021300103

Wikipedia Content	
Link:	https://en.m.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=User%3AWarrior2109#
Content:	^ Overview
	Contrast Stretching, also known as normalization, is an image enhancement technique used in the field of image processing. The goal of contrast stretching is to improve the visibility of details in an image by expanding the range of intensity levels it contains to span the full range of values allowed by the image. This is achieved by redistributing the gray levels or color values across the entire available dynamic range.
	^ Principle
	The principle behind contrast stretching is to take the narrow range of intensity values in an image and stretch them across a wider range. This is typically done by applying a linear transformation to the pixel values of the image. The transformation function is monotonically increasing and maps the intensity levels of the input image to the entire available display range. By stretching the contrast, the details in the darker and lighter regions of the image become more visible and distinguishable.
	^ Detailed Mathematical Formulation
	The mathematical model underpinning contrast stretching is elegantly simple yet powerful. It can be articulated as follows: $T(r) = \frac{(r-r_{min})}{(r_{max}-r_{min})} \times (L-1)$
	In this formula:
	• <i>T(r)</i> denotes the transformed intensity value,
	 r represents the initial intensity value of a pixel, r_{min} and r_{max} are the smallest and largest intensity values found in the original image, respectively,
	• L signifies the total count of potential intensity levels that the image can exhibit.
	^ Properties
	Contrast stretching has the following properties: It is a linear operation, meaning that the relationship between the input and output pixel values is described by a straight line. It is a point operation, which means that the transformation is applied to each pixel independently, without considering its neighborhood.
	• It does not increase the inherent information content of the image, but it enhances the perception of the existing information. Applications
	Contrast stretching is widely used in various applications such as: Satellite imagery: To enhance the visibility of features in remote sensing images. Medical imaging: To improve the contrast of X-ray, CT, and MRI images for better diagnosis.
	 Photography: To improve the contrast and detail in digital photographs, especially in low-light or high-contrast scenes. Scientific visualization: To enhance the visibility of data in scientific images and visualizations.

^ Code Example

Here is an example of how to perform contrast stretching using Python with the OpenCV library:

```
import cv2
import numpy as np

# Read the image
image = cv2.imread('path\_to\_image.jpg')

# Convert to grayscale
gray\_image = cv2.cvtColor(image, cv2.COLOR\_BGR2GRAY)

# Apply contrast stretching
min\_intensity = np.min(gray\_image)
max\_intensity = np.max(gray\_image)
# Transformation function
contrast\_stretched = cv2.normalize(gray\_image, None, 0, 255, cv2.NORM\_MINMAX)

# Display the results
cv2.imshow('Original Image', gray\_image)
cv2.imshow('Contrast Stretched Image', contrast\_stretched)
cv2.waitKey(0)
cv2.destroyAllWindows()
```

In this example, the image is first converted to grayscale. The minimum and maximum pixel values in the grayscale image are then calculated. The 'cv2.normalize' function is used to perform the contrast stretching transformation, mapping the pixel values to the full range of 0 to 255. The original and contrast-stretched images are displayed using OpenCV's 'cv2.imshow' function.

^ Limitations

While contrast stretching can improve the visibility of details in an image, it has some limitations:

- It may introduce saturation or clipping of pixel values at the extreme ends of the intensity range, leading to loss of information.
- It may amplify noise present in the image, making it more visible.
- It is a global operation, meaning that it applies the same transformation to the entire image, which may not be optimal for images with varying local contrast.

To address these limitations, more advanced contrast enhancement techniques, such as adaptive histogram equalization or local contrast enhancement, can be employed.

REFERENCE:

https://theailearner.com/2019/01/30/contrast-stretching/