Filtering

Dr Frazer Noble

Introduction

In this presentation, I will describe:

- How to use OpenCV to apply a filter to an image.

Requirements

To follow along with this tutorial, you will need the following tools:

- Python 3.8.6.
- Visual Studio Code 1.53.1.

You will also need to install the following Python packages:

- OpenCV.
- NumPy.

It is assumed that you are using Windows; however, these instructions should be easily adapted to Linux.

Getting Started

Open Visual Studio Code. To open the app: Open the Start menu, type `Visual Studio Code`, and then select the app.

Open the Explorer tab. To display the tab: Left click `View > Explorer` or press `Ctrl` + `Shift` + `E`. This will display the Explorer tab.

Left click on the `Open Folder` button. This will display the Open Folder prompt. Browse to the following directory:

```
C:/Users/%USER%/Documents
```

Note: Replace `%USER%` with your own username. My username is fknoble; hence, the path is `C:/Users/fknoble/Documents`.

In `C:/Users/%USER%/Documents` create a new folder named `opencv_02`. To create a new folder: Right click in the Explorer tab, left click `New Folder`, and rename it.

In `C:/Users/%USER%/Documents/opencv_02` create a new folder named `data`. Download `apples.png` from here; save it in `C:/Users/%USER%/Documents/opencv_02/data`.

In `C:/Users/%USER%/Documents/opencv_02` create new files named `filter.py`, `gaussian.py`, and `median.py`. To create a new file: Right click on `/opencv_02` in the Explorer tab, left click `New File`, and rename it. The file will open automatically.

`/opencv_02` should contain the following files and folders:

```
/opencv_02
    /data
        apple.png
    filter.py
    gaussian.py
    median.py
```

`filter.py`

Type the following code into `filter.py`:

```
import cv2 as cv
import numpy as np
```

This snippet will import OpenCV's python module as `cv` and NumPy's python module as `np`.

Type the following code into `filter.py`:

```
def main():

    img = cv.imread('data/apples.png')

    if img is None:
        print('ERROR::CV::Could not read image.')
        return 1
```

This snippet begins `main()`'s definition. It defines an array named `img`, which is assigned `imread()`'s results. If the array is empty, a message is displayed and the `main()` returns 1.

Type the following code into `filter.py`:

```
    rows, cols, channels = img.shape

    rows = rows // 2
    cols = cols // 2

    img = cv.resize(img, (cols, rows))

    cv.imshow('img', img)
    cv.waitKey(1)
```

This snippet defines three variables named `rows`, `cols`, and `channels`, which are assigned `img`'s shape. `rows` and `cols` are divided by 2 (rounded down). `resize()` resizes `img` to the new shape defined by `cols` and `row`. The array is then displayed in the `img` window.

Figure: The `img` array.

Type the following code into `filter.py`:

```
    kernel = np.float32([0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0])
    kernel = kernel.reshape((3, 3))

    I_img = cv.filter2D(img, cv.CV_8UC3, kernel)

    cv.imshow('Identity Image', I_img)
    cv.waitKey(1)
    cv.imwrite('data/I_img.png', I_img)
```

This snippet defines an array named `kernel`, which is assigned the identity kernel's values. `reshape()` reshapes `kernel` into a 3 x 3 array. `filter2D()` applies the kernel to `img` and assigns the results to `I_img`. The array is displayed in the `I_img` window and saved as `I_img.png` in `/data`.

Figure: (Left) The `img` array; and (Right) `img` after `kernel` is applied to it.

Type the following code into `filter.py`:

```
    kernel = np.float32([0, -1, 0, -1, 5, -1, 0, -1, 0])
    kernel = kernel.reshape((3, 3))

    sharp_img = cv.filter2D(img, cv.CV_8UC3, kernel)

    cv.imshow('Sharpened Image', sharp_img)
    cv.waitKey(1)
    cv.imwrite('data/sharp_img.png', sharp_img)
```

This snippet defines an array named `kernel`, which is assigned the sharpen kernel's values. `reshape()` reshapes `kernel` into a 3 x 3 array. `filter2D()` applies the kernel to `img` and assigns the results to `sharp_img`. The array is displayed in the `sharp_img` window and saved as `sharp_img.png` in `/data`.

Figure: (Left) The `img` array; and (Right) `img` after `kernel` is applied to it.

Type the following code into `filter.py`:

```
    kernel = 1.0/9.0 * np.float32([1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1])
    kernel = kernel.reshape((3, 3))

    box_img = cv.filter2D(img, cv.CV_8UC3, kernel)

    cv.imshow('Box Blurred Image', box_img)
    cv.waitKey(1)
    cv.imwrite('data/box_img.png', box_img)
```

This snippet defines an array named `kernel`, which is assigned the box blur kernel's values. `reshape()` reshapes `kernel` into a 3 x 3 array. `filter2D()` applies the kernel to `img` and assigns the results to `box_img`. The array is displayed in the `box_img` window and saved as `box_img.png` in `/data`.

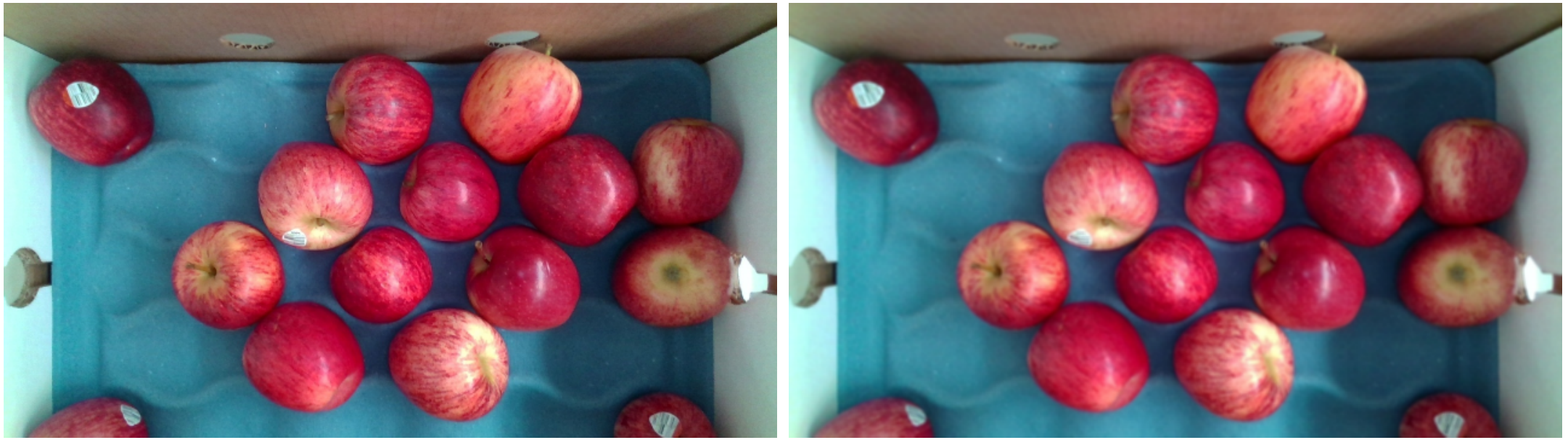

Figure: (Left) The `img` array; and (Right) `img` after `kernel` is applied to it.

Type the following code into `filter.py`:

```
    kernel = 1.0/16.0 * np.float32([1, 2, 1, 2, 4, 2, 1, 2, 1])
    kernel = kernel.reshape((3, 3))

    gaussian_img = cv.filter2D(img, cv.CV_8UC3, kernel)

    cv.imshow('Gaussian Blurred Image', gaussian_img)
    cv.waitKey(1)
    cv.imwrite('data/gaussian_img.png', gaussian_img)
```

This snippet defines an array named `kernel`, which is assigned the gaussian blur kernel's values. `reshape()` reshapes `kernel` into a 3 x 3 array. `filter2D()` applies the kernel to `img` and assigns the results to `gaussian_img`. The array is displayed in the `gaussian_img` window and saved as `gaussian_img.png` in `/data`.

Figure: (Left) The `img` array; and (Right) `img` after `kernel` is applied to it.

Type the following code into `filter.py`:

```
    kernel = np.float32([-1, -1, -1, -1, 8, -1, -1, -1, -1])
    kernel = kernel.reshape((3, 3))

    edge_img = cv.filter2D(img, cv.CV_8UC3, kernel)

    cv.imshow('Edges Image', edge_img)
    cv.waitKey(0)
    cv.imwrite('data/edge_img.png', edge_img)

    cv.destroyAllWindows()

    return 0
```

This snippet defines an array named `kernel`, which is assigned the edge detection kernel's values. `reshape()` reshapes `kernel` into a 3 x 3 array. `filter2D()` applies the kernel to `img` and assigns the results to `edge_img`. The array is displayed in the `edge_img` window and saved as `edge_img.png` in `/data`.


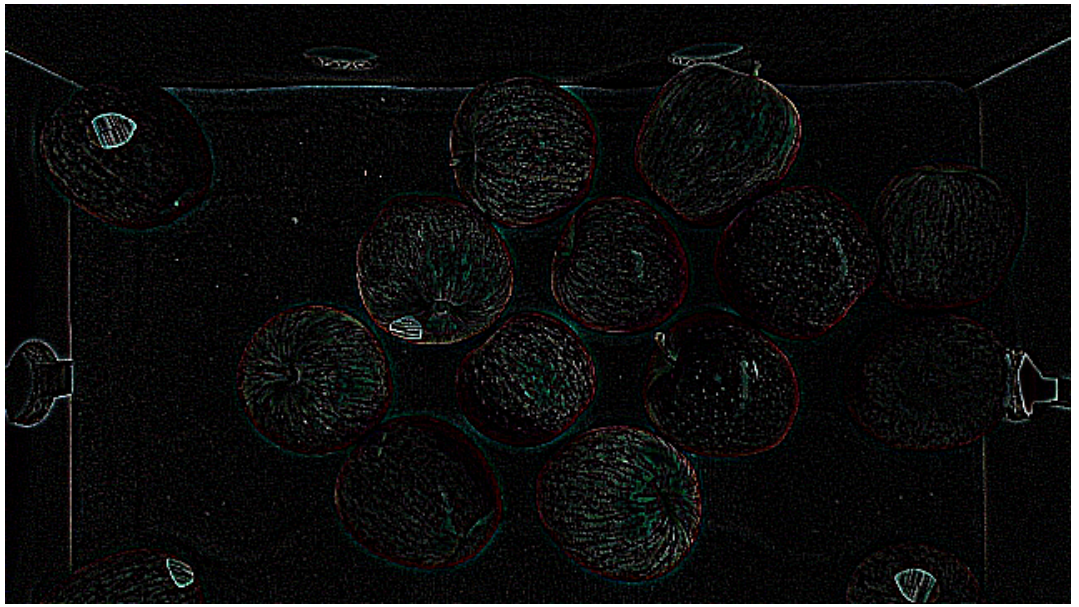

Figure: (Left) The `img` array; and (Right) `img` after `kernel` is applied to it.

Type the following code into `filter.py`:

```
if __name__ == '__main__':

    main()
```

This snippet will call `main()` when the `filter.py` is run.

Run `filter.py`

Open a new terminal in Visual Studio Code. To open a new terminal: Left click `View > Terminal` or press `Ctrl`+`` ` ``.

Type the following commands into the terminal and then press `Enter` after each one:

```
cd ./opencv_02
python filter.py
```

This will change the current directory to the `/opencv_02` sub-directory and then run `filter.py`.

Press any key to close the windows and stop `filter.py`.

Conclusion

In this presentation, I have described:

- How to use OpenCV to apply a filter to an image.

References

1. https://docs.opencv.org/.