

2.4. Color Models

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1 Color Models

A color model is a mathematical model describing the way colors can be represented as tuples of numbers. It is used to describe the way colors are represented in an image. There are several color models used in image processing, such as RGB, HSV, YUV and CIE L*a*b.

These color models are used to represent colors in different ways. For example, the RGB color model is used to represent colors in terms of red, green, and blue components. Similarly, the HSV color model is used to represent colors in terms of hue, saturation, and value components. The YUV color model is used to represent colors in terms of luminance and chrominance components. The CIE L*a*b color model is used to represent colors in terms of lightness, green-red, and blue-yellow components.

In image processing, different color models are used for different purposes. For example, the RGB color model is used for displaying images on a computer screen, while the YUV color model is used for video compression. The HSV color model is used for color segmentation, and the CIE L*a*b color model is used for color correction.

Read More:

- [Color Model](#)

2 Setup

```
[ ]: %pip install opencv-python opencv-contrib-python numpy matplotlib
```

3 Initial Setup

```
[ ]: # Importing the OpenCV and Matplotlib libraries
import cv2
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

image_path = '../assets/images/parrot.jpg'
```

```
# image_path = '.././assets/images/rgb_volcano_1.jpeg'

# Reading an image from the file using OpenCV
original_image = cv2.imread(image_path)
```

The above code reads an image from the file specified by the path `image_path` using the OpenCV function `cv2.imread()`. The image is stored in the variable `original_image` with all the pixel values in the BGR format.

4 Converting an Image to Grayscale

We convert an image to grayscale by taking the average of the three color channels. The average of the three color channels is calculated using the formula:

$$\text{Gray} = (R + G + B) / 3$$

where R, G, and B are the red, green, and blue color channels of the image, respectively.

Read More:

- [Grayscale](#)

```
[ ]: # Read Image in Grayscale Mode
      grayscale_image = cv2.imread(image_path, cv2.IMREAD_GRAYSCALE)
```

The above code reads the image in grayscale mode. The `cv2.imread()` function reads the image in the BGR format by default and by passing the `cv2.IMREAD_GRAYSCALE` flag, we can read the image in grayscale mode.

5 Convert from BGR to RGB

OpenCV reads images in the BGR (Blue-Green-Red) color space by default. However, Matplotlib expects images to be in the RGB (Red-Green-Blue) color space. Therefore, we need to convert the image from the BGR color space to the RGB color space before displaying it using Matplotlib.

```
[ ]: # Convert color from BGR to RGB
      original_image = cv2.cvtColor(original_image, cv2.COLOR_BGR2RGB)
      grayscale_image = cv2.cvtColor(grayscale_image, cv2.COLOR_BGR2RGB)

      # Displaying the image using Matplotlib
      print("Displaying the image using OpenCV with Matplotlib")
      plt.figure('OpenCV with Matplotlib Image')

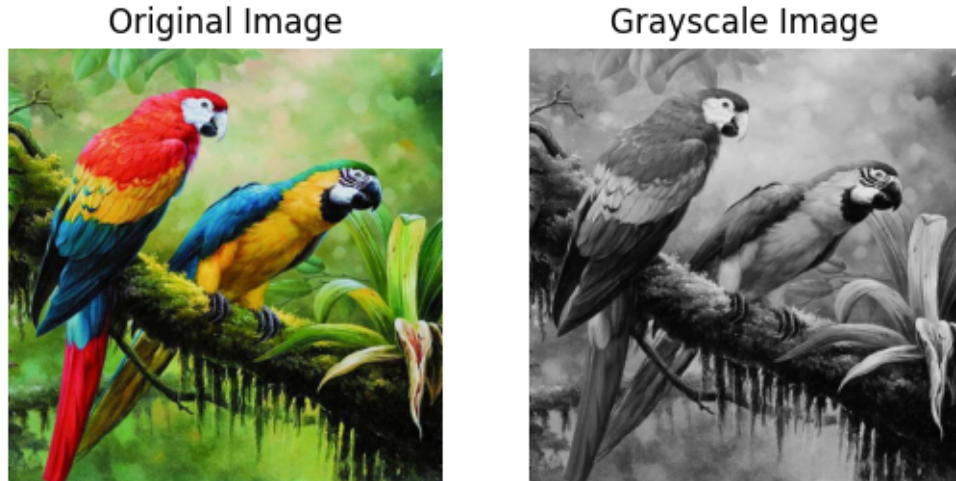
      plt.subplot(1, 2, 1)
      plt.imshow(original_image)
      plt.axis('off')
      plt.title('Original Image')

      plt.subplot(1, 2, 2)
```

```
plt.imshow( grayscale_image, cmap='gray')
plt.axis('off')
plt.title('Grayscale Image')

plt.show()
```

Displaying the image using OpenCV with Matplotlib



The above code shows the conversion of an image from BGR to RGB using OpenCV and displaying the image using Matplotlib. It converts the image from BGR to RGB using the `cv2.cvtColor()` function and displays the image using the `plt.imshow()` function.

6 RGB Color Model

The RGB color model is an additive color model in which red, green, and blue light are added together in various ways to reproduce a broad array of colors. The name of the model comes from the initials of the three additive primary colors, red, green, and blue.

In the RGB color model, colors are represented as tuples of three numbers, where each number represents the intensity of one of the three primary colors. The intensity of each color is defined by the amount of red, green, and blue light present in the color.

The RGB color model is used to represent colors in digital images, computer graphics, and television screens. It is the most commonly used color model in image processing and computer vision.

Example of RGB Color Model:

- Red: (255, 0, 0)
- Green: (0, 255, 0)
- Blue: (0, 0, 255)
- White: (255, 255, 255)
- Black: (0, 0, 0)

- Yellow: (255, 255, 0)
- Cyan: (0, 255, 255)
- Magenta: (255, 0, 255)
- Gray: (128, 128, 128)

Read More:

- [RGB Color Model](#)

```
[ ]: # Splitting the RGB image into its three color channels
channel_b, channel_g, channel_r = cv2.split(original_image)

# Displaying the three color channels
print("Displaying the RGB Color Model and its channels")
plt.figure('RGB Color Model')

# Display the Red Channel
plt.subplot(3, 3, 1)
plt.imshow(channel_r, cmap='Reds')
plt.title('Red Channel')
plt.axis('off')

# Display the Green Channel
plt.subplot(3, 3, 2)
plt.imshow(channel_g, cmap='Greens')
plt.title('Green Channel')
plt.axis('off')

# Display the Blue Channel
plt.subplot(3, 3, 3)
plt.imshow(channel_b, cmap='Blues')
plt.title('Blue Channel')
plt.axis('off')

# Display the Red Channel in Grayscale
plt.subplot(3, 3, 4)
plt.imshow(channel_r, cmap='gray')
plt.title('Red Channel (BW)')
plt.axis('off')

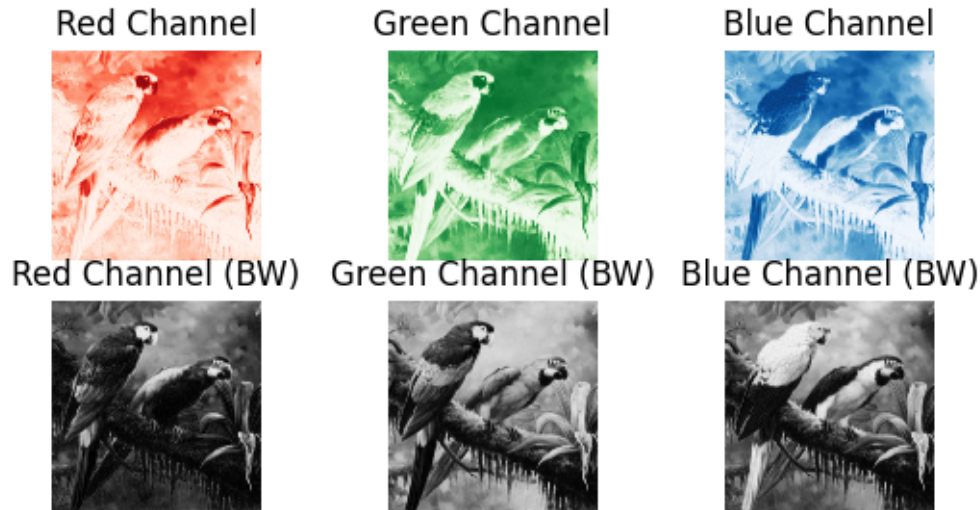
# Display the Green Channel in Grayscale
plt.subplot(3, 3, 5)
plt.imshow(channel_g, cmap='gray')
plt.title('Green Channel (BW)')
plt.axis('off')

# Display the Blue Channel in Grayscale
plt.subplot(3, 3, 6)
```

```
plt.imshow(channel_b, cmap='gray')
plt.title('Blue Channel (BW)')
plt.axis('off')

plt.show()
```

Displaying the RGB Color Model and its channels



The above code displays the three color channels of the RGB image using Matplotlib. The original image is split into three color channels using the `cv2.split()` function. The three color channels are displayed using Matplotlib. The first row displays the three color channels of the RGB image. The second row displays the three color channels in grayscale.

Important codes to remember:

- `cv2.split()`
 - Splits the image into its three color channels.
 - Syntax: `cv2.split(image)`

7 HSV Color Model

The HSV color model is a cylindrical color model that describes colors in terms of hue, saturation, and value. The hue component represents the color type, the saturation component represents the color intensity, and the value component represents the brightness of the color.

The HSV color model is used to represent colors in a way that is more intuitive to humans than the RGB color model. It is often used in image processing algorithms that require color segmentation, color correction, and color enhancement.

In the HSV color model, colors are represented as tuples of three numbers, where each number represents the hue, saturation, and value of the color. The hue component is represented as an

angle between 0 and 360 degrees, the saturation component is represented as a percentage between 0 and 100%, and the value component is represented as a percentage between 0 and 100%.

Example of HSV Color Model:

- Red: (0, 100%, 100%)
- Green: (120, 100%, 100%)
- Blue: (240, 100%, 100%)
- White: (0, 0%, 100%)
- Black: (0, 0%, 0%)

In OpenCV, the maximum value for the hue component is 180, the maximum value for the saturation and value components is 255. This is because OpenCV uses the 8-bit unsigned integer data type to represent the color components which have a range of 0 to 255. So the hue component is scaled down to the range of 0 to 180 degrees in OpenCV or by dividing the original 0-360 degrees hue value by 2.

Read More:

- [HSV](#)

8 Converting an RGB Image to HSV Image

We convert an RGB image to an HSV image using the `cv2.cvtColor()` function in OpenCV. The `cv2.cvtColor()` function takes two arguments: the input image and the color space conversion code. The color space conversion code for converting an RGB image to an HSV image is `cv2.COLOR_RGB2HSV`.

The `cv2.cvtColor()` function returns the HSV image as a NumPy array. We can display the HSV image using Matplotlib by converting it to the RGB color space using the `cv2.cvtColor()` function with the `cv2.COLOR_HSV2RGB` color space conversion code.

Read More:

- [Color Conversions in OpenCV](#)

```
[ ]: # Converting the RGB image to the HSV image
hsv_image = cv2.cvtColor(original_image, cv2.COLOR_RGB2HSV)

# Splitting the HSV image into its three color channels
channel_h, channel_s, channel_v = cv2.split(hsv_image)

# Displaying the three color channels
print("Displaying the HSV Color Model and its channels")
plt.figure('HSV Color Model')

plt.subplot(1, 3, 1)
plt.imshow(channel_h, cmap='gray')
plt.title('Hue Channel')
plt.axis('off')
```

```
plt.subplot(1, 3, 2)
plt.imshow(channel_s, cmap='gray')
plt.title('Saturation Channel')
plt.axis('off')

plt.subplot(1, 3, 3)
plt.imshow(channel_v, cmap='gray')
plt.title('Value Channel')
plt.axis('off')

plt.show()
```

Displaying the HSV Color Model and its channels



The code above converts an image from the RGB color model to the HSV color model using OpenCV. The image is read using the `cv2.imread()` function, and the color model is converted using the `cv2.cvtColor()` function. The image is then split into its three color channels using the `cv2.split()` function. These channels are hue (H), saturation (S), and value (V). The channels are then displayed using Matplotlib.

9 Masking Red Pixels in an Image

We can mask red pixels in an image by converting the image to the HSV color space and applying a mask to the hue channel. The mask is created by defining the lower and upper bounds of the red color range in the hue channel. The mask is then applied to the hue and saturation channels to remove the red pixels from the image.

Read More:

- [Color Mask](#)

```
[ ]: # Convert image to HSV
hsv_image = cv2.cvtColor(original_image, cv2.COLOR_RGB2HSV)

# Divide the HSV image into its three color channels
```

```

channel_h, channel_s, channel_v = cv2.split(hsv_image)

# Define the lower and upper bounds of the red color range

# Mask 1 are the red pixels with hue values between 0 and 10
lower_red = np.array([0, 100, 100])
upper_red = np.array([10, 255, 255])
mask_red_1 = cv2.inRange(hsv_image, lower_red, upper_red)

# Mask 2 are the red pixels with hue values between 160 and 180
lower_red = np.array([160, 100, 100])
upper_red = np.array([180, 255, 255])
mask_red_2 = cv2.inRange(hsv_image, lower_red, upper_red)

# Combine the two masks using the cv2.bitwise_or() function
mask_red = cv2.bitwise_or(mask_red_1, mask_red_2)

# Apply the mask to the hue and saturation channels
channel_h[mask_red == 0] = 0
channel_s[mask_red == 0] = 0

# Combine the modified hue and saturation channels with the original value
↳ channel
modified_HSV_image = cv2.merge([channel_h, channel_s, channel_v])

# Convert the modified HSV image to the RGB color space
modified_RGB_image = cv2.cvtColor(modified_HSV_image, cv2.COLOR_HSV2RGB)

# Display the modified image
print("Displaying the modified image with masked red pixels")
plt.figure('Image with Masked Red Pixels')

plt.subplot(1, 3, 1)
plt.imshow(original_image)
plt.title('Original Image')
plt.axis('off')

plt.subplot(1, 3, 2)
plt.imshow(mask_red, cmap='gray')
plt.title('Red Mask')
plt.axis('off')

plt.subplot(1, 3, 3)
plt.imshow(modified_RGB_image)
plt.title('Masked Red Pixels')
plt.axis('off')

```



```
plt.show()
```

Displaying the modified image with masked red pixels



The above code is used to mask the red pixels in an image using the HSV color model. It reads an image from the file using OpenCV and converts it to the HSV color space. The HSV image is then divided into its three color channels: hue, saturation, and value. The lower and upper bounds of the red color range are defined using the `np.array()` function. Two masks are created to identify the red pixels with hue values between 0–10 and 160–180 using the `cv2.inRange()` function. These two masks are combined using the `cv2.bitwise_or()` function to create a single mask for the red pixels. The mask is applied to the hue and saturation channels to remove the red pixels from the image. The modified hue and saturation channels are combined with the original value channel to create the modified HSV image. The modified HSV image is converted back to the RGB color space using OpenCV. The original image, red mask, and modified image with masked red pixels are displayed using Matplotlib.

Important codes to remember:

- `cv2.inRange()`
 - This function is used to create a binary mask for a specific color range in an image.
 - Syntax: `cv2.inRange(src, lowerb, upperb[, dst]) -> dst`
- `cv2.bitwise_or()`
 - This function is used to perform a bitwise OR operation between two arrays.
 - Syntax: `cv2.bitwise_or(src1, src2[, dst[, mask]]) -> dst`
- `cv2.merge()`
 - This function is used to merge multiple single-channel arrays into a multi-channel array.
 - Syntax: `cv2.merge(mv[, dst]) -> dst`

10 Masking Green Pixels in an Image

We can mask green pixels in an image by converting the image to the HSV color space and applying a mask to the hue channel. The mask is created by defining the lower and upper bounds of the green color range in the hue channel. The mask is then applied to the hue and saturation channels to remove the green pixels from the image.

Read More:

- Color Mask

```
[ ]: # Convert image to HSV
hsv_image = cv2.cvtColor(original_image, cv2.COLOR_RGB2HSV)

# Divide the HSV image into its three color channels
channel_h, channel_s, channel_v = cv2.split(hsv_image)

# Define the lower and upper bounds of the green color range
lower_green = np.array([36, 40, 40])
upper_green = np.array([72, 255, 255])
mask_green = cv2.inRange(hsv_image, lower_green, upper_green)

# Apply the mask to the hue and saturation channels
channel_h[mask_green == 0] = 0
channel_s[mask_green == 0] = 0

# Combine the modified hue and saturation channels with the original value
↳channel
modified_HSV_image = cv2.merge([channel_h, channel_s, channel_v])

# Convert the modified HSV image to the RGB color space using the cv2.
↳cvtColor() function
modified_RGB_image = cv2.cvtColor(modified_HSV_image, cv2.COLOR_HSV2RGB)

# Display the modified image
print("Displaying the modified image with masked green pixels")
plt.figure('Image with Masked Green Pixels')

plt.subplot(1, 3, 1)
plt.imshow(original_image)
plt.title('Original Image')
plt.axis('off')

plt.subplot(1, 3, 2)
plt.imshow(mask_green, cmap='gray')
plt.title('Green Mask')
plt.axis('off')

plt.subplot(1, 3, 3)
plt.imshow(modified_RGB_image)
plt.title('Masked Green Pixels')
plt.axis('off')

plt.show()
```

Displaying the modified image with masked green pixels



The code above masks the green pixels in the image using the HSV color model. The color green is defined by the hue values between 36 and 72.

11 Masking Blue Pixels in an Image

We can mask blue pixels in an image by converting the image to the HSV color space and applying a mask to the hue channel. The mask is created by defining the lower and upper bounds of the blue color range in the hue channel. The mask is then applied to the hue and saturation channels to remove the blue pixels from the image.

Read More:

- [Color Mask](#)

```
[ ]: # Convert image to HSV
hsv_image = cv2.cvtColor(original_image, cv2.COLOR_RGB2HSV)

# Divide the HSV image into its three color channels
channel_h, channel_s, channel_v = cv2.split(hsv_image)

# Define the lower and upper bounds of the blue color range
lower_blue = np.array([84, 40, 40])
upper_blue = np.array([140, 255, 255])
mask_blue = cv2.inRange(hsv_image, lower_blue, upper_blue)

# Apply the mask to the hue and saturation channels
channel_h[mask_blue == 0] = 0
channel_s[mask_blue == 0] = 0

# Combine the modified hue and saturation channels with the original value
↳ channel
modified_HSV_image = cv2.merge([channel_h, channel_s, channel_v])

# Convert the modified HSV image to the RGB color space using the cv2.
↳ cvtColor() function
```

```

modified_RGB_image = cv2.cvtColor(modified_HSV_image, cv2.COLOR_HSV2RGB)

# Display the modified image
print("Displaying the modified image with masked blue pixels")
plt.figure('Image with Masked Blue Pixels')

plt.subplot(1, 3, 1)
plt.imshow(original_image)
plt.title('Original Image')
plt.axis('off')

plt.subplot(1, 3, 2)
plt.imshow(mask_blue, cmap='gray')
plt.title('Blue Mask')
plt.axis('off')

plt.subplot(1, 3, 3)
plt.imshow(modified_RGB_image)
plt.title('Masked Blue Pixels')
plt.axis('off')

plt.show()

```

Displaying the modified image with masked blue pixels



The code above masks the blue pixels in the image using the HSV color model. It uses the hue color range from 84 to 140 to define the blue color range.

12 Modifying the Hue of an Image

We can modify the hue of an image by converting the image to the HSV color space and applying a transformation to the hue channel. The transformation is applied to the hue channel by adding or subtracting a constant value from each pixel in the channel.

In the example below, we modify the hue of an image by adding a constant value to the hue channel.

We then combine the modified hue channel with the original saturation and value channels to create a new HSV image. Finally, we convert the new HSV image to the RGB color space to display the modified image.

***Note:** The hue channel in the HSV color space is represented as an angle between 0 and 360 degrees. Therefore, when adding or subtracting a constant value from the hue channel, we need to ensure that the resulting hue values are within the range of 0 to 360 degrees.*

Read More:

- [Hue](#)

```
[ ]: # Convert image to HSV
hsv_image = cv2.cvtColor(original_image, cv2.COLOR_RGB2HSV)

# Divide the HSV image into its three color channels
channel_h, channel_s, channel_v = cv2.split(hsv_image)

# Modify the hue channel by adding a constant value
hue_shift = 60
channel_h = (channel_h + hue_shift) % 180

# Combine the modified hue and saturation channels with the original value
↳channel
modified_HSV_image = cv2.merge([channel_h, channel_s, channel_v])

# Convert the modified HSV image to the RGB color space using the cv2.
↳cvtColor() function
modified_RGB_image = cv2.cvtColor(modified_HSV_image, cv2.COLOR_HSV2RGB)

# Display the modified image
print("Displaying the modified image with shifted hue")
plt.figure('Image with Shifted Hue')

plt.subplot(1, 2, 1)
plt.imshow(original_image)
plt.title('Original Image')
plt.axis('off')

plt.subplot(1, 2, 2)
plt.imshow(modified_RGB_image)
plt.title('Image with Shifted Hue')
plt.axis('off')

plt.show()
```

Displaying the modified image with shifted hue

Original Image



Image with Shifted Hue



The above code shifts the hue of the image by adding a constant value to the hue channel. This results in a change in the color of the image, as the hue value determines the color of the pixels. The hue values are in the range of 0 to 179, and since the maximum hue value in OpenCV is 179, we use the modulo operator to ensure that the hue values remain within this range.

13 Selective Color Modification

We can selectively modify the color of an image by converting the image to the HSV color space and applying a mask to the hue channel. The mask is created by defining the lower and upper bounds of the color range in the hue channel. The mask is then applied to the hue channel to modify the color of the pixels within the specified range.

Read More: - [Color Mask](#)

```
[ ]: # Convert image to HSV
hsv_image = cv2.cvtColor(original_image, cv2.COLOR_RGB2HSV)

# Divide the HSV image into its three color channels
channel_h, channel_s, channel_v = cv2.split(hsv_image)

# Define the lower and upper bounds of the color range

# Mask 1 are the red pixels with hue values between 0 and 10
lower_color = np.array([0, 100, 100])
upper_color = np.array([10, 255, 255])
mask_color_1 = cv2.inRange(hsv_image, lower_color, upper_color)

# Mask 2 are the red pixels with hue values between 160 and 180
lower_color = np.array([160, 100, 100])
upper_color = np.array([180, 255, 255])
```

```

mask_color_2 = cv2.inRange(hsv_image, lower_color, upper_color)

# Combine the two masks using the cv2.bitwise_or() function
mask_color = cv2.bitwise_or(mask_color_1, mask_color_2)

# Modify the hue channel by adding a constant value to the pixels within the
↳ color range
hue_shift = 15
channel_h[mask_color > 0] = (channel_h[mask_color > 0] + hue_shift) % 180

# Combine the modified hue and saturation channels with the original value
↳ channel
modified_HSV_image = cv2.merge([channel_h, channel_s, channel_v])

# Convert the modified HSV image to the RGB color space using the cv2.
↳ cvtColor() function
modified_RGB_image = cv2.cvtColor(modified_HSV_image, cv2.COLOR_HSV2RGB)

# Display the modified image
print("Displaying the modified image with selective color modification")
plt.figure('Image with Color Changed')

plt.subplot(1, 3, 1)
plt.imshow(original_image)
plt.title('Original Image')
plt.axis('off')

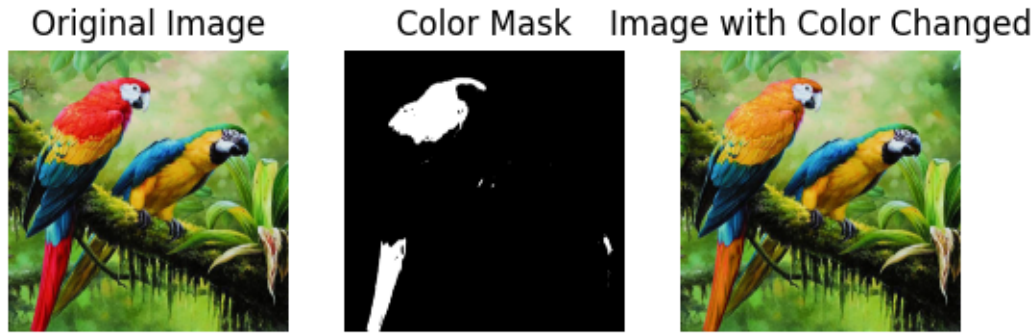
plt.subplot(1, 3, 2)
plt.imshow(mask_color, cmap='gray')
plt.title('Color Mask')
plt.axis('off')

plt.subplot(1, 3, 3)
plt.imshow(modified_RGB_image)
plt.title('Image with Color Changed')
plt.axis('off')

plt.show()

```

Displaying the modified image with selective color modification



The code above modifies the hue value of a particular color range in an image. The code reads an image from a file and converts it to the HSV color space. It then divides the HSV image into its three color channels: hue, saturation, and value. The code defines the lower and upper bounds of the color range to be modified where, in this example, the color range is red with hue values between 0 and 10 and 160 and 180. It creates two masks to identify the pixels within the color range. The code combines the two masks using the `cv2.bitwise_or()` function. It modifies the hue channel by adding a constant value to the pixels where, in this case, the hue value is increased by 15. The code then combines the modified hue and saturation channels with the original value channel. Finally, the code converts the modified HSV image to the RGB color space using the `cv2.cvtColor()` function and displays the modified image.

14 YUV Color Family

The YUV color family is a color model used in video compression and television broadcasting.

It consists of three components:

- Y (luminance)
 - Represents the brightness of the color
 - Similar to the grayscale image
- U (chrominance, primarily blue-yellow)
 - $U = B - Y$ (chrominance, primarily blue-yellow)
- V (chrominance, primarily red-green)
 - $V = R - Y$ (chrominance, primarily red-green)

The Y component represents the brightness of the color, while the U and V components represent the color information.

The YUV color family is used to represent colors in a way that is more efficient for video compression than the RGB color model. It separates the brightness and color information of the image, allowing for better compression and transmission of video data.

Read More:

- [YUV Color Model](#)


```

[ ]: # Convert image to YUV
yuv_image = cv2.cvtColor(original_image, cv2.COLOR_RGB2YUV)

# Divide the YUV image into its three color channels
channel_y, channel_u, channel_v = cv2.split(yuv_image)

# Create LUTs for the U and V channels
lut_u = np.array([[i,255-i,0] for i in range(256)],dtype=np.uint8)
lut_v = np.array([[0,255-i,i] for i in range(256)],dtype=np.uint8)

# Convert the U and V channels to RGB color space using the LUTs
y_rgb = cv2.cvtColor(channel_y, cv2.COLOR_GRAY2RGB)
u_rgb = cv2.cvtColor(channel_u, cv2.COLOR_GRAY2RGB)
v_rgb = cv2.cvtColor(channel_v, cv2.COLOR_GRAY2RGB)

# Apply the LUTs to the U and V channels
u_mapped = cv2.LUT(u_rgb, lut_u)
v_mapped = cv2.LUT(v_rgb, lut_v)

# Displaying the three color channels
print("Displaying the YUV Color Model and its channels")
plt.figure('YUV Color Model')

# Display the Y Channel
plt.subplot(2, 3, 1)
plt.imshow(y_rgb)
plt.title('Y Channel')
plt.axis('off')

plt.subplot(2, 3, 2)
plt.imshow(u_mapped)
plt.title('U Channel')
plt.axis('off')

plt.subplot(2, 3, 3)
plt.imshow(v_mapped)
plt.title('V Channel')
plt.axis('off')

plt.subplot(2, 3, 4)
plt.imshow(channel_y, cmap='gray')
plt.title('Y Channel (BW)')
plt.axis('off')

plt.subplot(2, 3, 5)
plt.imshow(channel_u, cmap='gray')
plt.title('U Channel (BW)')

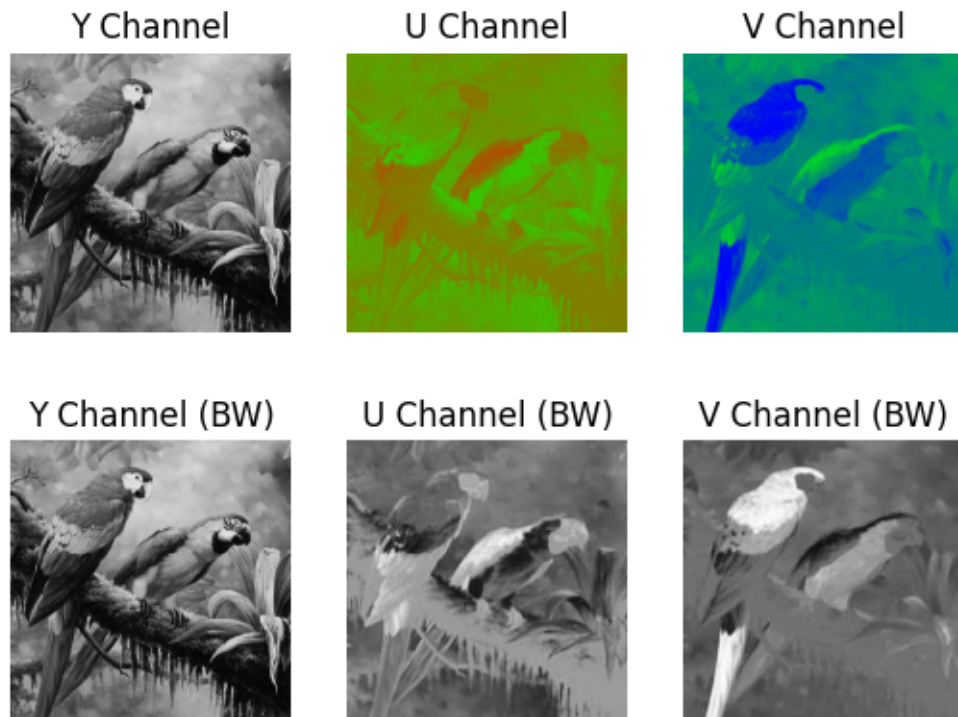
```

```
plt.axis('off')

plt.subplot(2, 3, 6)
plt.imshow(channel_v, cmap='gray')
plt.title('V Channel (BW)')
plt.axis('off')

plt.show()
```

Displaying the YUV Color Model and its channels



The above code converts an image from the RGB color space to the YUV color space using the `cv2.cvtColor()` function. It then divides the YUV image into its three color channels: Y (luminance), U (chrominance), and V (chrominance). The three color channels are displayed using Matplotlib with the original channel values and the grayscale channel values.

15 CIE L*a*b* Color Model

The CIE L*a*b* color model is a color model used in color science and color management. CIE stands for the International Commission on Illumination or Commission Internationale de l'Eclairage in French, an organization that develops standards for color science.

The CIE L*a*b* color model consists of three components:

- L* (lightness)

- Represents the brightness of the color
- a^* (green-red)
 - a^* = (green - red) component
- b^* (blue-yellow)
 - b^* = (blue - yellow) component

The L^* component represents the lightness of the color, while the a^* and b^* components represent the color information. The CIE $L^*a^*b^*$ color model is used to represent colors in a way that is more perceptually uniform than the RGB color model. It is often used in color science, color management, and color correction applications.

Read More:

- [CIE Lab*](#)

```
[ ]: # Convert image to CIE L*a*b*
lab_image = cv2.cvtColor(original_image, cv2.COLOR_RGB2LAB)

# Divide the CIE L*a*b* image into its three color channels
channel_l, channel_a, channel_b = cv2.split(lab_image)

# Displaying the three color channels
print("Displaying the CIE L*a*b* Color Model and its channels")
plt.figure('CIE L*a*b* Color Model')

plt.subplot(1, 3, 1)
plt.imshow(channel_l, cmap='gray')
plt.title('L* Channel')
plt.axis('off')

plt.subplot(1, 3, 2)
plt.imshow(channel_a, cmap='gray')
plt.title('a* Channel')
plt.axis('off')

plt.subplot(1, 3, 3)
plt.imshow(channel_b, cmap='gray')
plt.title('b* Channel')
plt.axis('off')

plt.show()
```

Displaying the CIE $L^*a^*b^*$ Color Model and its channels



The code above converts an image from the RGB color space to the CIE L*a*b* color space using the `cv2.cvtColor()` function. It then divides the CIE L*a*b* image into its three color channels, namely the L* (luminance), a* (green-red), and b* (blue-yellow) channels using the `cv2.split()` function. The three color channels along with their grayscale versions are displayed using the `plt.imshow()` function from the Matplotlib library.

16 Summary

In this section, we learned about the RGB, HSV, YUV, and CIE L*a*b* color models used in image processing. We learned how to convert images from one color model to another using OpenCV and Matplotlib. We also learned how to manipulate the color channels of an image and apply masks to selectively modify the color of an image.

The RGB color model is used to represent colors in terms of red, green, and blue components. The HSV color model is used to represent colors in terms of hue, saturation, and value components. The YUV color model is used to represent colors in terms of luminance and chrominance components. The CIE L*a*b* color model is used to represent colors in terms of lightness, green-red, and blue-yellow components.

Color conversion is an essential part of image processing and computer vision. It allows us to represent colors in different ways and perform color-based operations on images. Understanding the different color models and how to convert images between them is important for developing image processing algorithms and applications.

Masking and selective color modification are common techniques used in image processing to isolate and modify specific colors in an image. These techniques are used in various applications such as image segmentation, color correction, and color enhancement.

[]:

17 References

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