

This project will help you gain a practical understanding of analyzing color channels especially as it pertains to image segmentation. While image segmentation is a challenging task in the field of image processing and computer vision, the process has been made simpler via the use of green screen and chroma keying techniques. I am sure you are all too familiar with online video conferencing applications such as zoom, webex where you can change your background with or without a green screen. Here you will implement similar functionality and hopefully get an opportunity to explore color and color spaces.

You will be given two input videos in the same rgb format – each video will be a 640x480 video that plays at 24 fps for a total of 20 seconds (480 frames). The frames are named with a base name and indexed by frame number eg `basename.0001.rgb`, `basename.0002.rgb` ... `basename.0600.rgb`. You are free to use extend the display code sample given of assignment 1 to display a sequence of images at the frame rate of display and implement the color algorithms needed in this video. (*no scripting languages such as MATLAB or python please!*).

To invoke your program we will compile it and run it at the command line as

YourProgram.exe C:/myDir/foreGroundVideo C:/myDir/backGroundVideo mode

Where,

- *foreGroundVideo* is the base name for a green screened foreground video, which has a foreground element (actor, object) captured in front of a green screen.
- *backGroundVideo* is any normal video
- *mode* is a mode that can take values 1 or 0. 1 indicating that the foreground video has a green screen, and 0 indicating there is no green screen.

Implementation details for mode 1:

In this mode you have a green screen used in the foreground video. While the color of screen used is intended to be constant, practically it never is and has slight variations that come across in the captured video. While a specific color might have been used, the actual RGB pixel values of the screen can vary depending on lighting conditions, shadows cast, noise and quantization in the capture process etc. Normally thresholds may be used to decide how to detect green screen pixels. In your implemented you need to arrive at these thresholds by analyzing your video.

For all frames write a process that will detect the green screen pixels in the foreground video and replace them with the corresponding background video pixels in all the frames.



Image taken from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chroma_key

Some thoughts that you might want to consider

- How do you detect the thresholds to label a pixel as a green screen pixels given that the screen pixels might have noise, shadows etc.
- You can certainly make this work by processing in the RGB color space, but other color spaces might work better like HSV. Here are references that were shared in the class and should give you an understanding of these spaces.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HSL_and_HSV
<https://www.cs.rit.edu/~ncs/color/>
- To have good quality at the boundaries of the composition (where foreground regions and background video meet), can you think how you to blend boundary pixels correctly, so that the foreground element does not appear stuck on a background but blends in nicely

Implementation details for mode 0:

In this mode your foreground video does not have any constant colored green screen and while this is a hard problem to find automatically, the foreground videos we give you will have the foreground element (actor, object) *moving in every frame* while *the camera is static*. In other words, you should be able to arrive at your green screen pixels by comparing two frames where – pixels that are constant (not changing within some

threshold) can be assumed to be “green screen” pixels and hence can be replaced by the corresponding pixels in the background video. This algorithm is known as ***background subtraction***.

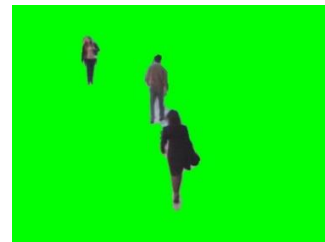
For example, shown below are two frames from a *static* camera. Comparing corresponding pixels in frame1 and frame2 (for each x,y), you should be able to assess pixels that have “not changed” and hence can serve as “green screen” pixels. Also, pixels that have changed and hence are foreground pixels. You may then proceed to composite the other video’s corresponding frame with this extracted green screen. ***Note*** – while the camera may be static, under changing conditions of lighting, motion etc, you might not get “perfect” results, especially in at the boundaries of the areas in motion. Also, if there is no motion, then you will not be able to extract this foreground.



Frame 1



Frame 2



Foreground

What should you submit?

- Your source code, and your project file or makefile, if any, using the submit program. ***Please do not submit any binaries or images.*** We will compile your program and execute our tests accordingly.
- If you need to include a readme.txt file with any special instructions on compilation, that is fine too.