

DEVELOPING A TRANSFORMER-BASED APPROACH FOR FUSING INFRARED AND
VISIBLE IMAGES FOR IMPROVED OBJECT DETECTION

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AYTEKIN ERDOGAN

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submitted by **AYTEKIN ERDOGAN** in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of **Master
of Science in Information Systems Department, Middle East Technical University** by,

Prof. Dr. Director of Institute
Dean, **Graduate School of Informatics**

Prof. Dr. Head of Department
Head of Department, **Information Systems**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Supervisor
Supervisor, **Department, School**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Co-supervisor if Exists
Co-supervisor, **Department, School**

Examining Committee Members:

Prof. Dr. Committee Member 1
Department, School

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Committee Member 2
Department, School

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Committee Member 3
Department, School

Assist. Prof. Dr. Committee Member 4
Department, School

Assist. Prof. Dr. Committee Member 5
Department, School

Date: 28.08.2019

I hereby declare that all information in this document has been obtained and presented in accordance with academic rules and ethical conduct. I also declare that, as required by these rules and conduct, I have fully cited and referenced all material and results that are not original to this work.

Name, Surname: Aytakin Erdogan

Signature :

ABSTRACT

DEVELOPING A TRANSFORMER-BASED APPROACH FOR FUSING INFRARED AND VISIBLE IMAGES FOR IMPROVED OBJECT DETECTION

Erdogan, Aytekin

M.S., Department of Information Systems

Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Supervisor

Co-Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Co-supervisor if Exists

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Türkçe öz buraya

Anahtar Kelimeler: Bir anahtar kelime, başka bir anahtar kelime, başka anahtar kelimeler

To the memories of my beloved friends Murat Tekin and Ragip Enes Katran

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

IF	Image Fusion
VIF	Visual and Infrared Image Fusion
AI	Artificial Intelligence
CNN	Convolutional Neural Networks
GAN	General Adversarial Networks
SR	Sparse Representation
MST	Multi-Scale Transformation
LRR	Low-Rank Representation

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

Image Fusion is a computer vision task that has been taken place for many years. Gathering all the complementary usefull informations into single image is called image fusion, *a.k.a* IF. Visual and Infrared Image Fusion, *henceforth will be referred to as VIF*, is a subfield of iamge fusion. Since the first study [?] in 1989, VIF is actively studied. In the era of AI, new methods such as CNN, GAN, auto-encoder, transformers are also applied to the VIF problem.

1.1 Research Questions

1.2 Contributions of the Study

1.3 Organization of the Thesis

CHAPTER 2

RELATED WORK

Considering the available VIF methods, we can classify the methods into two parts as traditional methods, highly used before the era of AI, and learning based methods. Regardless of the classification, all methods consist of three main parts as image feature extraction, fusion of multiple images' features and reconstruction of the image from fused features. In feature extraction part, features from multiple images are extracted. In fusion part of the algorithm, extracted features are compared and complementary features are tried to be inserted into single feature map or set. In the Reconstruction part, from the fused set of features, image is reconstructed. All related studies try to improve one or more part of the this process.

For the traditional algorithms, there are competitive methods but still they suffer from several shortcomings such as handcrafted steps, time complexity and generalizability. To be more specific sparse representation (SR) based methods such as [?] and [?] requires dictionary learning which increase time complexity quadratically and they includes handcrafted steps. Multi-scale transformation (MST) based methods such as [?] and [?], low-rank representation (LRR) based methods such as [?, text], saliency-based methods such as [?, text] suffer from generalizability. In summary, these studies are frequently utilized to capture various characteristics of images at different scales. The extracted features are merged together using a suitable technique, and the final combined image is reconstructed by reversing the multi-scale process. It's clear that the success of these fusion algorithms heavily relies on the quality of the feature extraction method applied.

2.1 Related Work Section I

CHAPTER 3

USER EXPERIMENT

In this chapter, the details of the user experiment are presented.

3.1 Research Method and Experiment Design

CHAPTER 4

USER EXPERIMENT

In this chapter, the details of the user experiment are presented.

4.1 Research Method and Experiment Design

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

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