Gray Balance Library

Application Program Interface

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Chapter 1: Technical Overview

Device calibration is a very important aspect of color control on today's digital imagers. Even with the wide spread use of device profiles, calibration can keep the underlying imager in a consistent reference state, allowing the profile to have a longer lifetime.

The Gray Balance Library is based on software designed to calibrate several components of the Cymbolic Sciences family of digital imagers (Fire 1000, LightJet 2000 and LightJet 5000). This document frequently refers to the CSI implementation as an example, but the software has been generalized for use in calibrating other devices.

The two calibration components of the Gray Balance Library are described in the following paragraphs.

Exposure Set

The exposure set is a triplet of numbers, one each for red, green and blue. For the LightJet series of imagers, these numbers control the overall drive of the lasers. As the exposure set numbers are increased, more energy is produced by the lasers. Conversely, smaller numbers produce less energy. The exposure set is used to set the minimum or maximum density, depending on the polarity of the material being exposed.

One-dimensional Look Up Tables

While the exposure set will set the desired minimum or maximum density, the remainder of the grayscale is uncalibrated. The one-dimensional look up tables (LUTs) are used to obtain a controlled distribution of densites along the grayscale. In the CSI product line, these LUTs are embodied into a data structure called a *map*, which contains pre-LUTs, a three-dimensional LUT and post-LUTs. Only the post-LUT portions of the map are used to control the density distribution along the grayscale. In the Fire 1000, this is a set of three tables, one each for red, green and blue. Each table contains 1024 entries, whose range is zero through 1023. In the LightJet models, each table contains 4096 entries, whose range is zero through 4095.

Normally, the LUTs are used to produce a "calibrated" grayscale. In this context, calibrated means two things: balance and tone distribution. Balance is the relationship among the red, green and blue density measurements that constitutes neutrality. This rather broad definition allows for different meanings of neutral. Tone distribution refers to the manner in which gray values are distributed along the scale. Different distributions will cause a picture to reproduce differently, for example brighter, darker, more or less contrast and so on.

CSI specifies their definition of a calibrated grayscale by way of a so called target density file. This text file contains the desired red, green and blue density values for a set of digital gray levels, typically 32. Any remaining unspecified levels are to be reconstructed by smooth interpolation. Due to the differences in spectral absorption of photographic dyes, there is usually a different target density file for each type of photographic material. CSI generally specifies target density files in such a way as to produce an approximately uniform perceptual grayscale (i.e. CIE L*).

Chapter 2: Data Structures

There are a few data structures used in this library that will be discussed here. These are defined in GrayBalLib.h.

First, a structure is defined that may hold a three-channel color value (e.g. density value, pixel value or exposure set). The implied order is always red, green and blue.

```
typedef int GbColorInt[3]; /* RGB for density, pixel value or exposure set */
```

When a GbColorInt holds a density value, it is always expressed in integer form, scaled by 1000, with rounding. For example, a density value of 2.3456 would be represented as 2346.

Another data structure used in the library is the GbTarget.

This structure is used by the caller to specify desired density values for grayscale colors, that is, colors having equal RGB values. The structure may contain any number of samples greater than or equal to two. The number of samples is indicated by nTargetSamples, which also indicates the sizes of arrays digital (which contains the RGB values in the range [0, 255]) and density (which contains the desired density values for this sample). For any given value, i, digital[i][0], digital[i][1] and digital[i][2] must contain the same value. Furthermore, the array digital must include both 0 and 255 and must be monotonically increasing.

The modMethod value indicates the way in which the target densities should be transformed to align with the actual minimum and maximum densities. The choices are TARGET_MOD_METHOD_LINEAR, which linearly transforms each channel of the target densities to match the actual minimum and maximum densities, TARGET_MOD_METHOD_CLAMP, which clamps any out of range target densities to the actual range, or TARGET_MOD_METHOD_LINEAR_MINMAX, which subjects all three channels of target densities to a common linear transformation that satisfies the following four conditions:

```
    M<sub>c</sub> ≥ A<sub>c</sub> for all c ∈ {R, G, B}
    M<sub>c</sub> = A<sub>c</sub> for at least one of c ∈ {R, G, B}
    m<sub>c</sub> ≤ a<sub>c</sub> for all c ∈ {R, G, B}
    m<sub>c</sub> = a<sub>c</sub> for at least one of c ∈ {R, G, B}
```

In these conditions, M (m) refers to the modified target maximum (minimum) density, and A (a) refers to the actual maximum (minimum) density.

The GbMap data structure consists of three LUTs, for red, green and blue.

```
typedef struct GbMap {
    Flt lut[3][256]; /* contents in range [0.0, 1.0] */
} GbMap;
```

Chapter 3: API Specifications

The Gray Balance Library consists of three functions for managing calibrations. Table 1 summarizes these functions. Each function is described in the following pages.

Table 1: Summary of Gray Balance Library functions.

Function	Description
GbExamineDensities	Examines a set of density measurements for stray values and also measures density errors.
GbRefineExposureSet	Refines the current exposure set.
GbRefineGrayMap	Refines the current gray balance map.

GbExamineDensities

SYNTAX int GbExamineDensities(nMeas, measDens, target, report)

PARAMETERS int nMeas Number of measurements in array measDens.

GbColorInt *measDens Set of nMeas density measurements.

GbTarget *target Pointer to the desired target density values for this material.

GbDensReport *report Pointer to where the report information should be placed.

DESCRIPTION

The purpose for this function is two-fold. First, it may be used to verify a set of density measurements. Since the test pattern colors are organized in logical trends, the resulting density measurements should also follow a continuous trend. ExamineDensities will intelligently examine the set of nMeas density measurements found in measDens and look for strays, or outliers.

Another useful calculation that GDExamineDensities performs is measuring how close the actual measurements are to the target values provided in target. It will check as much as possible for the given set of measurements, such as deviation from the target minimum density, maximum density and gray balance.

The function examines only data sets from one of the defined test patterns. It determines which test pattern the data set represents by looking at nMeas, which must be one of those values found in Table 2.

The results of any call to <code>GbExamineDensities</code> are placed into report. Any elements of this structure which cannot be determined will be set to the value -1. For example, when examining the measurements from the Exposure Set test pattern, <code>nMeas</code> will be set to 13 and the report will contain valid information only in <code>dMaxError</code> or <code>dMinError</code>, depending on the polarity of the material. Gray balance errors cannot be determined from this test pattern because it does not include a grayscale.

A more interesting example might be a gray balance test pattern with nMeas set to 72. All elements of the report can be computed for this set since a full grayscale is included as well as several trends (allowing the measurement of badMeasMaxErr and badMeasStep).

RETURN VALUE A status code is returned, as defined in Picto.h.

GbRefineExposureSet

SYNTAX int GbRefineExposureSet(inES, outES, stepSize, targetDens, nMeas,

measDens)

PARAMETERS GbColorInt inES Nominal exposure set used when imaging the test pattern

(Table 3, first patch).

GbColorInt outES Refined exposure set values will be placed here (may be

same as inEs).

GbColorInt stepSize Step sizes for red, green and blue (ΔR , ΔG , ΔB per Table 3).

These must be greater than zero.

GbColorInt targetDens Desired target density.

int nMeas Number of measurements in array measDens (must be 13).

GbColorInt *measDens Pointer to an array of nMeas measurements from the

exposure set test pattern.

DESCRIPTION GbRefineExposureSet takes a set of measurements (measDens) and uses them to refine

the current exposure set values (inEs) so that they better represent the target density (targetDens). The new exposure set values are placed into outEs. Since the exposure set test pattern does not have fixed color values, both the base exposure values (inEs) and

the deviations (stepSize) must be provided to GbRefineExposureSet.

COMMENTS When creating the test pattern, do not succumb to the natural urge to "zero in" on the

perfect exposure set by using a small step size. Understand that GDRefineExposureSet uses the device responses in the neighborhood of the base set to model the trends that occur as the exposure values are varied. In any real world system there exist uncertainties, commonly seen in this application as noise, measurement instrument error, light scatter, film emulsion variations, film processing variations, etc. It is important that you choose a step size that is large enough to cause a density change whose magnitude is

such that the noise errors are small by comparison.

RETURN VALUE A status code is returned, as defined in Picto.h.

GbRefineGrayMap

SYNTAX int GbRefineGrayMap(inGMap, outGMap, nMeas, measDens, target)

PARAMETERS GbMap *inGMap Pointer to the input gray balance map.

GbMap *outGMap Pointer to the where the refined gray balance map should go

(may be the same as ingMap).

int nMeas Number of measurements in array measDens. This must be

one of 8, 16, 24, 64, 72, 208, 344, 1024.

GbColorInt *measDens Pointer to an array of nMeas density measurements from the

gray balance map test pattern.

GbTarget *target Pointer to the target density specification.

DESCRIPTION GbRefineGrayMap compares the density measurements from the test pattern (measDens)

with the desired target densities (target) and refines the input gray balance map

(ingMap), writing the new map out in outgMap.

RETURN VALUE A status code is returned, as defined in Picto.h

Chapter 4: Test Patterns

The Gray Balance Library makes use of two different test patterns. Each pattern consists of a number of color patches.

This section documents each test pattern in a manner that assigns an index to each patch, and specifies how the color of each patch is to be derived. What is not covered here is the physical layout of the target. This will depend on the material size constraints, the type of color measurement instrument to be used and other factors. It should be noted however, that for all CSI images (Fire and LightJet series), light scatter is a very significant factor which influences the densities of colors, and an effort should be made to arrange the patches in a manner that distributes the intensities on the page as evenly as possible.

The two test patterns will be described in the following pages and are summarized in Table 2.

Table 2: Summary of Gray Balance Library test patterns.

Test Pattern	Number of Patches
Exposure Set	13
Gray Balance Map	(2, 4, 6, 16, 18, 52, 86, or 256) * 4

Exposure Set

The test pattern used to determine exposure sets consists of 13 patches. These measurements are passed into function GbRefineExposureSet. Table 3 shows the exposure values needed when imaging each patch. In this table, the base exposure set (parameter inES of GbRefineExposureSet) is designated by R, G and B. The steps, or deviations from this base (parameter stepSize of GbRefineExposureSet) are designated ΔR , ΔG and ΔB .

Table 3: Exposure Set Test Pattern Definition.

Index	Red	Green	Blue
0	R	G	В
1	R	$G - \Delta G$	$B - \Delta B$
2	R	$G + \Delta G$	$B - \Delta B$
3	R	$G - \Delta G$	$B + \Delta B$
4	R	$G + \Delta G$	$B + \Delta B$
5	$R - \Delta R$	G	$B - \Delta B$
6	$R + \Delta R$	G	$B - \Delta B$
7	$R - \Delta R$	G	$B + \Delta B$
8	$R + \Delta R$	G	$B + \Delta B$
9	$R - \Delta R$	$G - \Delta G$	В
10	$R + \Delta R$	$G - \Delta G$	В
11	$R - \Delta R$	$G + \Delta G$	В
12	$R + \Delta R$	$G + \Delta G$	В

Gray Balance Map

This is one example of a test pattern used to perform a gray balance. It consists of 4 step wedges of 18 patches each, for a total of 72 patches, whose RGB values are shown in Table 4. This pattern is used with function RefineGrayMap.

<u>Table 4: Gray Balance Test Pattern Definition using 72 patches.</u>

Index	Red	Green	Blue	Index	Red	Green	Blue
0	0	0	0	36	0	15	0
1	15	15	15	37	15	30	15
2	30	30	30	38	30	45	30
3	45	45	45	39	45	60	45
4	60	60	60	40	60	75	60
5	75	75	75	41	75	90	75
6	90	90	90	42	90	105	90
7	105	105	105	43	105	120	105
8	120	120	120	44	120	135	120
9	135	135	135	45	135	150	135
10	150	150	150	46	150	165	150
11	165	165	165	47	165	180	165
12	180	180	180	48	180	195	180
13	195	195	195	49	195	210	195
14	210	210	210	50	210	225	210
15	225	225	225	51	225	240	225
16	240	240	240	52	240	255	240
17	255	255	255	53	255	240	255
18	15	0	0	54	0	0	15
19	30	15	15	55	15	15	30
20	45	30	30	56	30	30	45
21	60	45	45	57	45	45	60
22	75	60	60	58	60	60	75
23	90	75	75	59	75	75	90
24	105	90	90	60	90	90	105
25	120	105	105	61	105	105	120
26	135	120	120	62	120	120	135
27	150	135	135	63	135	135	150
28	165	150	150	64	150	150	165
29	180	165	165	65	165	165	180
30	195	180	180	66	180	180	195
31	210	195	195	67	195	195	210
32	225	210	210	68	210	210	225
33	240	225	225	69	225	225	240
34	255	240	240	70	240	240	255
35	240	255	255	71	255	255	240

Note that test patterns with fewer or more patches are also supported, but they must conform to the same structure as this one. The patches must be separated by an equal integer increment (15 in the Table 4 example), and the pattern must step through first equal RGB (index 0 to 17 in Table 4), then greater R,

with equal G and B (index 18 to 35 in Table 4), followed by greater G, with equal R and B (index 36 to 53 in Table 4), and finally greater B, with equal R and G. All possibilities are listed in Table 5.

Table 5: Gray Balance Test Patterns.

Increment	Patches / StepWedge	Total Number of Patches
1	256	1024
3	86	344
5	52	208
15	18	72
17	16	64
51	6	24
85	4	16
255	2	8

Chapter 5: GrayBalLib.h Listing

```
>>> Pictographics Intl. Corp. Confidential and Proprietary <<<
    This work contains valuable confidential and proprietary information.
    Disclosure, use or reproduction without the written authorization of
    Pictographics Intl. Corp. is prohibited. This unpublished work by
    Pictographics Intl. Corp. is protected by the laws of the United States
    and other countries. If publication of the work should occur the
    following notice shall apply:
       "Copyright (c) 1990 - 2003 Pictographics Intl. Corp. All Rights Reserved"
            GrayBalLib.h
    Name:
    Author: B. J. Lindbloom
             Tracy Finks
    Purpose:
              Header file for GrayBalLib routines.
    Notes:
             All densities are expressed in integer form, scaled by 1000.
              For example:
              densityInt = (int) (densityFloat * 1000.0 + 0.5);
         Gray Balance test patterns must have step sizes of equal integer increments,
         so 2, 4, 6, 16, 18, 52, 86, or 256 patch step wedges are supported.
#ifndef GRAYBALLIB H
#define GRAYBALLIB H
/* - - - - includes - - - - */
#include "Picto.h"
/* - - - - defines - - - - */
/* possible values for 'modMethod' in 'Target' data structure */
#define GB TARGET MOD METHOD LINEAR 0 /* linearly transform targets to
actual media range */
#define GB TARGET MOD METHOD CLAMP 1 /* match actual targets, if
possible, else clamp */
#define GB TARGET MOD METHOD LINEAR MINMAX 2 /* linearly transform targets to
media min/max range */
/* - - - - typedefs - - - - */
                  GbColorInt[3]; /* RGB for density, pixel value or exposure set */
typedef int
typedef struct GbTarget {
                                /* specification of a set of target densities */
    int nTargetSamples; /* number of samples in set */
                 *digital; /* set of 'nTargetSamples' digital values [0, 255] */
*density; /* set of 'nTargetSamples' densities */
    GbColorInt
                            /* method to be used to modify target densities */
             modMethod;
} GbTarget;
typedef struct GbDensReport {
                                /* report summarizing density analysis */
           dMaxError; /* error in maximum density */
            int
            grayBalMaxErr; /* maximum gray balance error */
    int.
```

```
grayBalStep; /* step of gray scale that had maximum error [0, 9] */
               badMeasMaxErr; /* largest "irregular appearing" measurement, CMY */
     int
     int
              badMeasStep; /* which step had the above error [0, nMeas - 1], CMY */
} GbDensReport;
typedef struct GbMap {
   Flt
         lut[3][256]; /* contents in range [0.0, 1.0] */
} GbMap;
/* - - - - function prototypes - - - - */
#ifdef cplusplus
extern "C" {
#endif
CLStat
GbExamineDensities(
                           /* number of measurements in array measDens */
    int
                   nMeas,
                              /* (one of 8, 13, 16, 24, 64, 72, 208, 344, 1024) */
    GbColorInt
                   *measDens,/* pointer to array of nMeas density measurements */
                    *target, /* pointer to target density specification */
     GbTarget
     GbDensReport *report /* pointer to where report should go */
);
CLStat
GbRefineExposureSet( /* refine current exposure set */
    GbColorInt inES, /* current exposure set */
GbColorInt outES, /* new exposure set returned here (may be same as inES)
* /
    GbColorInt stepSize, /* step sizes (must be > 0) */
GbColorInt targetDens, /* desired target densities */
                  nMeas, /* number of measurements in measDens (13 or 30) */
     int
     GbColorInt ^*measDens /^* pointer to array of nMeas density measurements ^*/
);
CLStat
GbRefineGrayMap(
                        /* refine current gray balance map */
     GbMap
                    *inGMap, /* pointer to input gray balance map */
                    *outGMap, /* pointer to output gray balance map */
/* (may be same as inGMap) */
     GbMap
                              /* number of measurements in measDens */
     int.
                    nMeas,
                              /* (4 * steps in test pattern) */
                              /* (must be one of 8, 16, 24, 64, 72, 208, 344, 1024) */
                    *measDens,/* pointer to array of nMeas density measurements*/
     GbColorInt
                             /* pointer to target density specification */
     GbTarget *target
#ifdef __cplusplus
#endif
#endif /* #ifndef GRAYBALLIB H */
```

Chapter 6: Picto.h Listing

```
>>> Pictographics Intl. Corp. Confidential and Proprietary <<<
       This work contains valuable confidential and proprietary information.
       Disclosure, use or reproduction without the written authorization of
       Pictographics is prohibited. This unpublished work by Pictographics
       is protected by the laws of the United States and other countries. If
       publication of the work should occur the following notice shall apply:
           "Copyright (c) 1990 - 1999 Pictographics. All Rights Reserved"
     Name:
            Picto.h
    Author: B. J. Lindbloom
     Purpose:
              Constants and typedefs common to Pictographics software.
#ifndef PICTO H
#define PICTO_H_
/* - - - - - - - Constants - - - - - */
#define CE OK
                               /* ok status */
0
#ifndef TRUE
#define TRUE
                            /* true */
                       1
        FALSE
#undef
#define FALSE
                                /* false */
                     Ω
#endif
#define RL UNKNOWN
                               /* unknown color data type or data format */
/* Image file formats */
#define RL_TIFF
                              /* TIFF format (8-bits per channel) */
                      1
#define RL EPS 4
                               /* TARGA format */
                               /* Scitex CT format */
#define RL_EPS 4
                               /* EPS format */
                     5
#define RL_DCS
#define RL_PCD
#define RL_BMP
                               /* DCS format */
/* Kodak Photo CD format */
/* Windows Bitmap format */
                      6
                      7
#define RL_JPEG 9
#define RL_TIFF16 10
                               /* Kodak Cineon format */
                             /* JPEG format */
                               /* TIFF format (16-bits per channel) */
/* Color types */
                    1
4
                               /* RGB data */
#define RL RGB
#define RL CMYK
                               /* CMYK data */
                     5
                               /* grayscale data */
#define RL GRAY
```

```
#define RL_LAB 7
#define RL_YCC8 8
                                /* CIELAB color data */
                                /* PhotoYcc 8-bit color data */
#define MAX_NCHAN 4
                                /* maximum permitted number of channels
                                     per scanline */
#define RL DEFAULTRES 300
                                /* default resolution (pixels per inch) */
                              /* referring to ColorCircuit inputs */
/* referring to ColorCircuit outputs */
#define CC_INPUT
                        0
#define CC_OUTPUT
                       1
/* Math constants */
#ifndef MATH CONSTANTS
#ifndef M PI
#define M PI
                 3.141592653589793 /* pi */
#endif
#ifndef M LN2
#define M LN2
                 0.693147180559945 /* ln(2) */
#endif
#ifndef M_E
#define M_E 2.718281828459045 /* e */
#endif
#ifndef M GR
#define M GR
                   1.618033988749895 /* golden ratio */
#endif
#ifndef M R2
#define M R2 1.414213562373095 /* sqrt(2) */
#endif
#ifndef M R3
                 1.732050807568877 /* sqrt(3) */
#define M R3
#endif
#ifndef M_LOG2
#define M LOG2
                   0.301029995663981 /* log10(2) */
#endif
        /* #ifndef MATH CONSTANTS */
#endif
/* - - - - - - - Macros - - - - - */
#define COLOR3COPY(a,b)
                                 (b) [0] = (a) [0];
                                  (b) [1] = (a) [1];
                                  (b) [2] = (a) [2]
                                 (a)[0] = (b);
#define COLOR3MAKE(a,b,c,d)
                                 (a) [1] = (c);
                                 (a)[2] = (d)
#define COLOR3SET(a,b)
                                 (a) [0] = (a) [1] = (a) [2] = (b)
#define COLOR4COPY(a,b)
                                  (b) [0] = (a) [0];
                                  (b) [1] = (a) [1];
                                  (b) [2] = (a) [2];
                                  (b) [3] = (a) [3]
                                 (a)[0] = (b);
#define COLOR4MAKE(a,b,c,d,e)
                                 (a) [1] = (c);
                                 a) [2] = (d);
                                 (a)[3] = (e)
```

```
#define COLOR4SET(a,b)
                         (a)[0] = (a)[1] = (a)[2] = (a)[3] = (b)
#define CLAMP(v, min, max) if ((v) < (min))
                               (v) = (min);
                            else if ((v) > (max))
                               (v) = (max)
#define
        LERP(a,b,c)
                           (((b) - (a)) * (c) + (a))
#define
       ILERP(a,b,c)
                           ((b) - (a)) / ((c) - (a))
#define SUM3(a)
                           ((a)[0] + (a)[1] + (a)[2])
#define SUM4(a)
                           ((a)[0] + (a)[1] + (a)[2] + (a)[3])
#define MAX2(a,b)
                           ((a) >= (b) ? (a) : (b))
#define MIN2(a,b)
                           ((a) \le (b) ? (a) : (b))
#define MAX3(a,b,c)
                           (MAX2((a), MAX2((b), (c))))
#define MIN3(a,b,c)
                           (MIN2((a), MIN2((b), (c))))
#define IS ZERO(v,eps)
                         (((v) < (eps)) && ((v) > -(eps)))
\#define NOT ZERO(v,eps) (((v) > (eps)) || ((v) < -(eps)))
/* - - - - - - - - Typedefs - - - - - - */
#ifndef CLStat
#if defined(WIN32) && defined(DLL)
                  __declspec(dllimport) int
#define CLStat
#else
#define CLStat
                      int
#endif
#endif
#ifndef UCHAR
typedef unsigned char uchar;
#define UCHAR
#endif
#ifndef USHORT
typedef unsigned short ushort;
#define USHORT
#endif
#ifndef UINT
typedef unsigned int uint;
#define UINT
#endif
#ifndef ULONG
typedef unsigned long ulong;
#define ULONG
#endif
#ifndef BOOLEAN
typedef unsigned char boolean;
#define BOOLEAN
#endif
#ifndef FLT
```

```
typedef float
               Flt;
#define FLT
#endif
#ifndef FLT2
typedef double
                   Flt2;
#define FLT2
#endif
#ifndef FLTX_
typedef long double FltX;
#define FLTX
#endif
#ifndef RFLT
#ifdef CL DOUBLE IS LONG
typedef long double RFlt;
#else
typedef double
                  RFlt;
#endif
#define RFLT_
#endif
#ifndef MFLT
#ifdef CL DOUBLE IS LONG
typedef long double MFlt;
#else
typedef double
                   MFlt;
#endif
#define MFLT
#endif
#ifndef RATIONAL
typedef ulong
                         rational[2];
#define RATIONAL_
#endif
#ifndef ColorCircuit_
/* Note: Library users should consider ColorCircuit structures to be read-only! */
typedef struct ColorCircuit {
            nIn; /* number of input channels */
nOut; /* number of output channels */
     int
     int
             iType; /* color type of input */
oType; /* color type of output */
ccBPC; /* ColorCircuit internal number of bytes per
     int
     int
     int
                              channel \{1, 2\} */
             usrIBPC; /* user number of bytes per input channel {1, 2} */
     int
              usrOBPC; /* user number of bytes per output channel {1, 2} */
     int
     void
               *data;
                         /* pointer to other data */
} ColorCircuit;
#define ColorCircuit
#endif
#endif /* #ifndef PICTO H */
```