Video Contrast and Sharpness Enhancement

T. Petersen, T. C. Mol, E. Cozza



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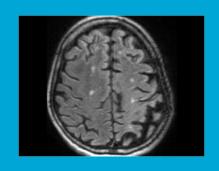
Fields of Application

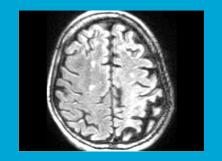
- Satellite Imaging
- Medical Imaging
- Al and Computer Vision applications
- Multimedia applications

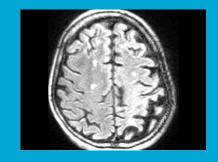


















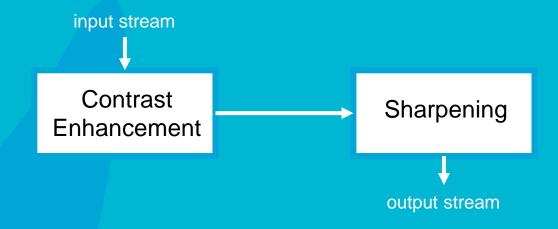


Design Modules

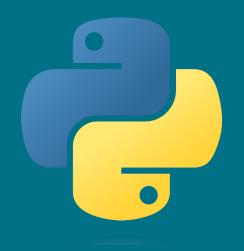
- 1. Contrast-Enhancement module
- 2. Convolution with sharpener filter

Software Implementation

Hardware Implementation









01

Software Implementation



Contrast Enhancement

- 1. Image decomposition into 3 channels
- 2. Histogram Computation
- 3. $th = \max(histogram) \cdot p$

$$4. k = \frac{255}{last - first}$$

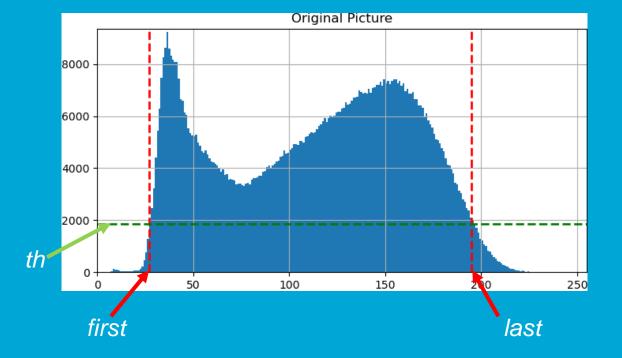
5. Adjust the brightness level of all the pixels:

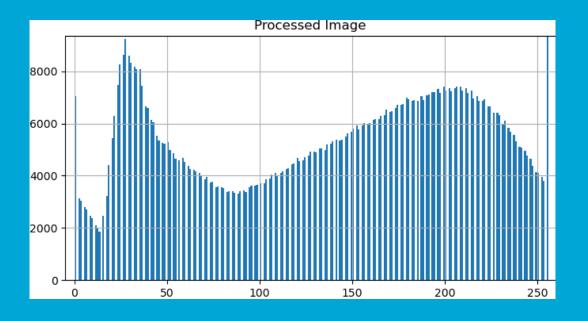
$$g(x,y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } f(x,y) < \text{first} \\ \mathbf{k} \cdot f(x,y) - \text{first} & \text{if } f(x,y) \in [\text{first}; \text{last}] \\ 255 & \text{if } f(x,y) > \text{last} \end{cases}$$

6. Repeat steps 2-5 for each channel

(**p** is a user-defined input parameter)









Original Picture

Contrast Enhancement





Contrast Enhancement + Sharpening





Original Picture

Contrast Enhancement





Contrast Enhancement + Sharpening



- Time measurements were recorded for each call to both the contrast and edge enhancement functions during the transmission of 60 frames.
- The performances of the final design have been evaluated in terms of (average) processing time per frame and (average) frame rate.

| Module | Processing time [s/frame] | Frame Rate [frame/s] |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Contrast Enhancement | 0.977 | 1.024 |
| Edge Enhancement | 0.218 | 4.588 |
| Total Pipeline | 1.233 | 0.811 |







02

Hardware Implementation



Constraint:

Acquisition, processing, and output of 1 pixel per clock cycle

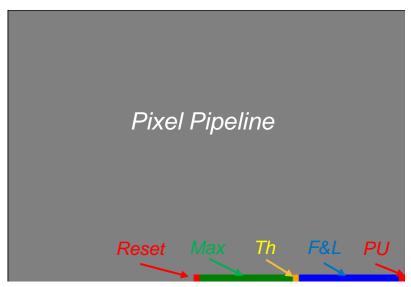
Limitations

- Working on entire frames would require:
 - Too much memory
 - Too much latency

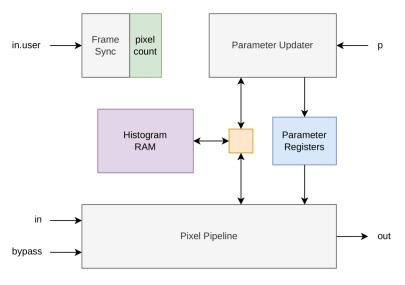
Solution:

- Stream-Processing approach
- Exploit similarities among contiguous frames





Frame structure depicting the different processing phases



Top-level diagram of the contrast enhancement module

Contrast Enhancement

- Synchronization of computation steps by mean of a pixel counter
- Two phases exist:

Pixel Pipeline

Each received pixel increments the histogram count

Apply contrast enhancement according to the parameters evaluated for the previous frame

Parameters Update:

Reset: reset all the parameter concerning the previous frame

Max: find the maximum value of the histogram for each channel

Th: caclulate the threshold

F&L: find first and last

PU: update all the parameters to be used for the next frame.



Original Picture

Contrast Enhancement





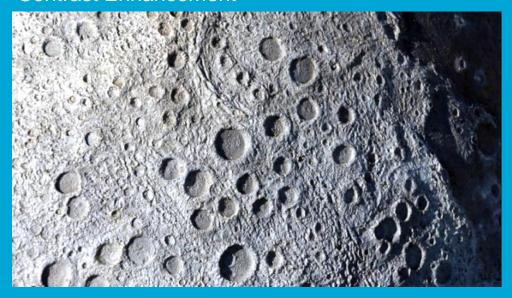
Contrast Enhancement + Sharpening

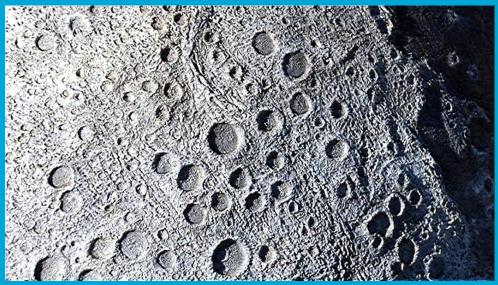




Original Picture

Contrast Enhancement





Contrast Enhancement + Sharpening



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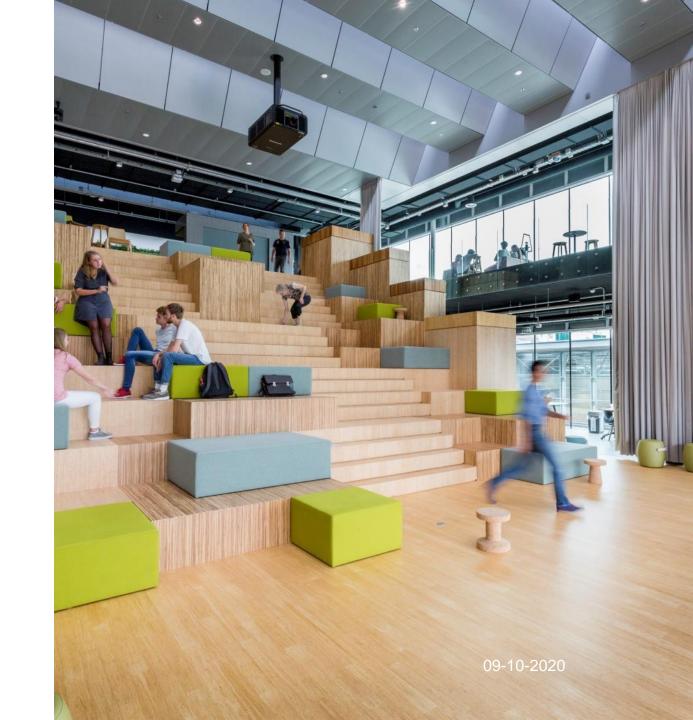


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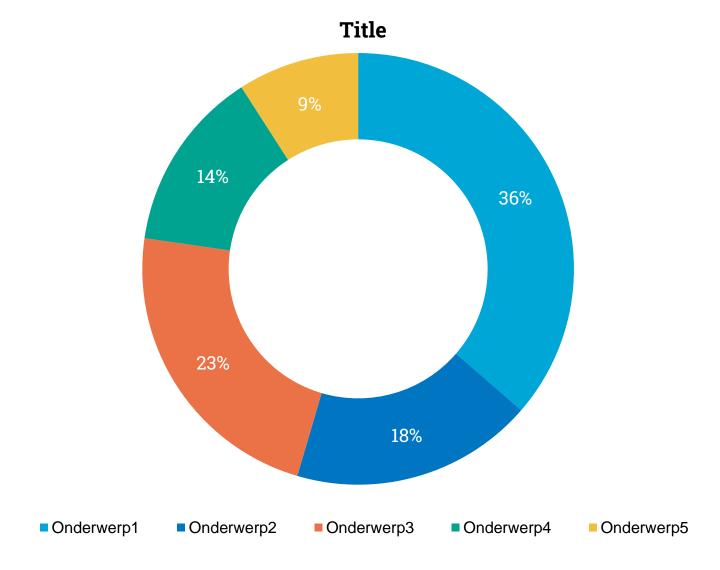


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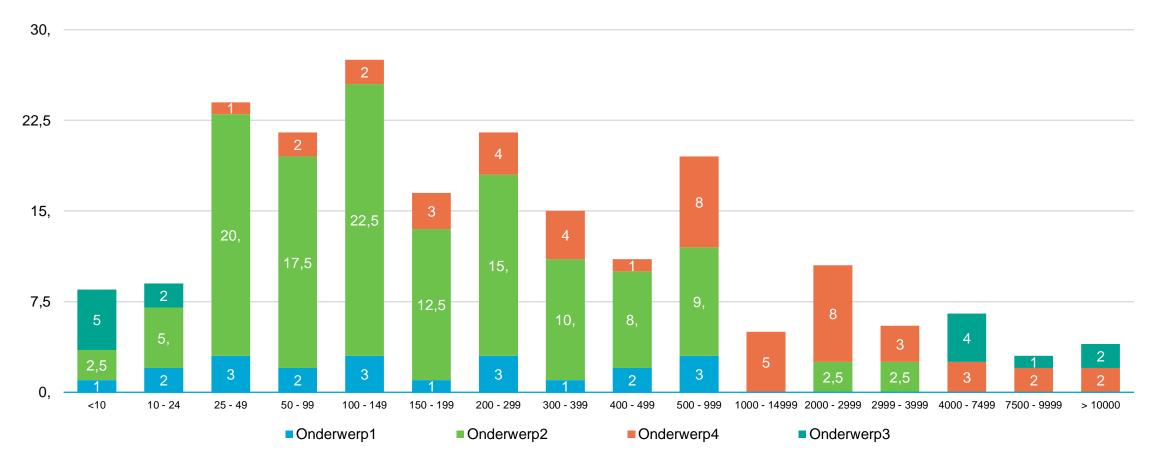
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| Year | Subject 1 | Subject 2 | Subject 3 | Subject 4 |
|------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 2014 | 40% | 55% | 40% | 55% |
| 2015 | 7% | 80% | 7% | 80% |
| 2016 | 20% | 26% | 20% | 26% |
| 2017 | 69% | 31% | 69% | 31% |
| 2018 | 82% | 85% | 82% | 85% |
| 2019 | 89% | 92% | 89% | 92% |



Thank you for your attention

Name

