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Group Members:

	Name	**Student ID**	**E-mail**
1	Ranasinghe D.C.P.	IT21202018	it21202018@my.sliit.lk
2	Herath H.M.A.H.B.	IT21295560	it21295560@my.sliit.lk
3	Samarathunga H.P.V.S.	IT21027574	it21027574@my.sliit.lk
4	Herath D.C.	IT21377662	it21377662@my.sliit.lk

Terms of Reference

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Introduction

Digital Image Processing, often referred to as DIP, is a transformative technology that has revolutionized the way we capture, manipulate, and interpret visual information. In our increasingly digital world, where images are omnipresent – from the photos we snap on our smartphones to medical imaging and satellite photography – the importance of digital image processing cannot be overstated.

At its core, digital image processing involves the application of various computational techniques and algorithms to images with the goal of improving their quality, extracting valuable information, or even creating entirely new visual experiences. This multidisciplinary field draws upon concepts from computer science, mathematics, and engineering to enable the analysis and enhancement of images in ways that were once unimaginable.

Digital image processing finds applications in a wide array of domains. In the realm of healthcare, it plays a pivotal role in the diagnosis and treatment of medical conditions through techniques such as medical imaging and computer-aided diagnostics. In the world of art and entertainment, it facilitates creative endeavors like style transfer, where the essence of one visual work can be overlaid onto another, resulting in entirely novel artistic expressions.

Whether it's enhancing the clarity of a satellite image to track weather patterns, segmenting images to identify objects for autonomous vehicles, or generating lifelike visuals through the power of generative models, digital image processing underpins numerous aspects of our daily lives.

This introduction merely scratches the surface of the rich and diverse field of digital image processing. As we delve deeper, we will explore the various techniques, applications, and the cutting-edge advancements that continue to shape the way we perceive and interact with the visual world. “Digital Image Processing is a fascinating field that plays a crucial role in today's visual-centric world. In this discussion, we'll explore several aspects of this field, including image enhancement, style transfer, image segmentation, and image generation. These techniques have applications ranging from improving image quality to generating entirely new visual content.

Objects

1. **Image Manipulation:** The core objective is to provide users with a platform to manipulate images. This includes basic operations like changing the color mode, rotating, cropping, and flipping images.
2. **Filtering:** Implement various image filters (e.g., sharpening) to enhance or modify the appearance of images.
3. **Color Transformation:** Allow users to adjust the intensity levels and color balance of images using different color transformation techniques.
4. **Image Segmentation:** Implement image segmentation techniques to divide images into multiple segments based on specific criteria. This can be region-based segmentation.
5. **Deep Learning Integration:** The project includes a deep learning component where image enhancement, style transfer, image segmentation using deep learning, and image generation using GANs are implemented. These techniques use machine learning and neural networks to enhance and manipulate images.

Methodology

All the data and information included in this report were obtained mostly via online resources. Other than that, books from academic publishers, documentaries and references, social media were also taken in use to gather information.

Basic Requirements

Image Upload:

- This feature allows users to upload an image of their choice from their device or computer.
- Once uploaded, the tool displays both the original image and any modified versions of the image in a side-by-side view, making it easy for users to compare and analyze the changes they make.

Color Change:

- Users can change the color mode of the image. This includes three options:
    - Color: Keeps the image in its original color..
    - Grayscale: Converts the image to grayscale, retaining a range of gray shades but no color.

Transformations:

- After uploading, users can perform various image transformations to manipulate the appearance of the image.

Rotation:

- Users can rotate the image to any desired angle. This is useful for correcting image orientation or achieving specific artistic effects.

Cropping:

- This feature allows users to crop the image to a desired size and shape. Cropping helps focus on specific areas of interest or remove unwanted portions of the image.

In summary, the basic features of the image processing tool enable users to upload, view, and manipulate images. They can change the image's color mode, perform rotations, crop the image. These functionalities are user-friendly and provide a foundation for more advanced image processing operations.

Advanced Requirements

Filters:

Sharpening: Enhances image details, making edges and fine structures more pronounced, resulting in crisper visuals.

Gaussian Blur: Reduces noise and improvw image smoothness by adding a Blurring effect.

Experimental Filters: The tool encourages experimentation with filters like edge detection and point detect, offering creative opportunities to emphasize contours or add a three-dimensional touch.

Intensity Manipulation using Color Transformation:

Users can adjust image intensity through various color transformation techniques:

Tonal Transformations: Modify the tonal range to enhance or suppress specific tones, enhancing contrast and detail.

Color Balancing: Fine-tune color hues to achieve a natural look or create desired artistic effects.

Image Segmentation:

Image segmentation tools allow users to divide images into multiple segments based on specific criteria:

Region-based Segmentation: The tool empowers users to segment images based on regions of interest, facilitating precise object recognition, medical image analysis, and more.

Incorporating these features enables users to apply sophisticated filters, fine-tune image intensity, and perform advanced image segmentation, offering a versatile set of tools for image manipulation, analysis, and creative expression.

Deep Learning Requirements

Image Enhancement:

- This feature enhances image quality by reducing noise and sharpening details. It's particularly useful for cleaning up and refining images, making them clearer and more visually appealing.

Style Transfer:

- Style transfer allows users to apply the artistic style of one image to another. This feature is often used to create unique, visually striking images that combine the content of one image with the artistic characteristics of another.

Image Segmentation:

- Image segmentation is the process of dividing an image into multiple segments or regions based on certain criteria. This is valuable for tasks like isolating objects in an image, performing object recognition, and conducting detailed image analysis.

Image Generation using GANs:

- This advanced feature uses Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs) to generate new images that resemble a given dataset. GANs are deep learning models that can produce entirely new and realistic images, making this feature ideal for creative content generation and data augmentation.

These advanced capabilities extend the functionality of the image processing tool, enabling users to perform tasks that go beyond basic image manipulation and analysis, unlocking the potential for artistic expression and sophisticated image generation.

On our project we mainly focused on **Image segmentation** and **Style Transfer.**

Image segmentation

Image segmentation is the process of dividing an image into multiple segments or regions based on certain criteria. This is valuable for tasks like isolating objects in an image, performing object recognition, and conducting detailed image analysis. The U-Net architecture is a powerful choice for this task, and the provided functions allow you to load an image, segment it, and visualize the segmented result. This could be useful in various applications, such as medical image analysis, object detection, or image processing.

Process

Import Libraries:

- Begin by importing the necessary Python libraries, including deep learning frameworks like TensorFlow as well as other essential libraries for image processing.

Load the Image:

- Load the image you want to segment using an image loading library, such as OpenCV or PIL. You may also need to preprocess the image, such as resizing or normalizing it, to match the input requirements of the U-Net model.

Preprocess the Image:

- Preprocess the image as necessary for the U-Net model. This involve resizing the image to match the model's input size and normalizing the pixel values to a specific range (e.g., [0, 1] or [-1, 1]).

Load or Train the U-Net Model:

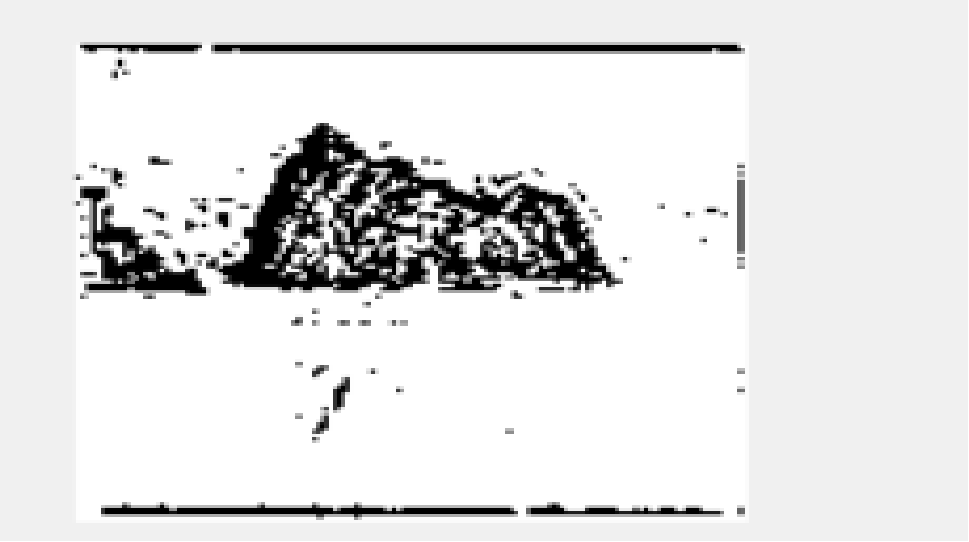
- Load a your U-Net. Loading a pre-trained model is often more convenient for practical applications.

Perform Image Segmentation:

- Use the U-Net model to perform image segmentation. Pass the preprocessed image through the model, and it will produce a segmentation mask where each pixel indicates the likelihood of belonging to the segmented object.

Display the Segmented Image:

- Use a library like matplotlib to display the original image alongside the segmented image in any suitable environment. This allows you to visually inspect the segmentation results.



Style transfer

Style transfer is a fascinating technique that allows you to apply the artistic style of one image (the "style image") to another image (the "content image"). This process results in a new image that combines the content of the content image with the artistic characteristics of the style image, creating visually striking and artistic results.

Process:

1. **Import Libraries:**

- Begin by importing the required libraries:

2. **Load the Images:**

- Read the content and style images using OpenCV:

3. **Preprocess Images:**

- preprocess the images to make them compatible with the style transfer model. Typically, this involves resizing the images and normalizing them:

4. **Define the Model:**

- Use a pre-trained model, to extract features from the content and style images. Youth with a custom model:

5. **Calculate Style and Content Features:**

- Extract features from the content and style images using the models:

6. **Apply Style Transfer:**

- To create the final stylized image, use an optimization algorithm that minimizes the difference between the style and content features of the generated image and those of the content and style images:

7. **Display the Result:**

- After running the optimization process, you can display the stylized image using matplotlib.

This process allows to apply the artistic style of one image to another using OpenCV and TensorFlow, resulting in a visually appealing and unique stylized image.

Conclusion

Enhancing and Transforming Images

In our journey to create an advanced image processing tool, we've successfully implemented two powerful features: Image Enhancement and Style Transfer. These functionalities open a world of creative possibilities and practical applications for our tool. Let's summarize the significance and potential use cases of each feature:

Image Enhancement:

With Image Enhancement, we've equipped our tool to improve image quality by reducing noise and enhancing sharpness. This feature is invaluable for cleaning up and refining images, making them visually appealing and suitable for a wide range of applications. Whether it's enhancing the clarity of photographs, improving the readability of scanned documents, or producing professional-looking visuals, image enhancement ensures that the output is of the highest quality.

Style Transfer:

Style Transfer is a unique and artistic feature that enables our tool to transfer the style of one image onto another. This innovative technique allows users to create visually striking and artistically appealing images that combine the content of one image with the stylistic characteristics of another. Style Transfer is not only a creative tool for artists and designers but also a practical solution for generating eye-catching visuals for marketing and branding purposes.

These two features, Image Enhancement and Style Transfer, reflect the versatility and power of our image processing tool. They cater to both artistic expression and image refinement, making the tool suitable for a broad audience with diverse needs.

In conclusion, the implementation of Image Enhancement and Style Transfer marks a significant step in the development of our image processing tool.

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