



New Methodology for Image Registration- An Application to Digital Image Processing

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Abstract: *Image Registration is identified as the most important and essential preprocessing task in digital image processing field of computer science. Even though the basic four steps in the image registration process are key & common, their internal structure & procedure for each step dynamically varies during the critical aspects of its methodology design based on its purpose & application. Geometrical Transformation in one of the essential requirements for any image registration process to bring the reference and source images into a common coordinate system. Many transformation techniques are existing in the literature for this purpose, but each one has its own pros and cons. The requirement of accurate image registration process calls for the invention of new methodologies that ignites this research work. Therefore, a new methodology for image registration is developed using Radon Transform. The method is analyzed with three sets of image data, and evaluated for the accuracy of image registration process through measurement of entropy as a new similarity measure. It is observed from this research study with limited data, and found that this newly developed methodology for the Image Registration process is superior & unique in accuracy for the broad area applications in the image processing.*

Key Words: *IR - Image Registration Process; RT – Radon Transform; Ri , Si , and IIR - Reference, Source and Registered Images; R, T, S - Rotation, Translation and Scaling;*

I. INTRODUCTION

Image Registration is used in vast and wide varieties of applications in digital image processing, therefore, it is impossible to develop a unique generalized method. This ignites for invention of new methods based on applications in image registration and became an open and challenging research area. Archaeology, Astrophysics, Cartography, Climatology, Computer Vision, Defence research, Geology, Hydrology, Image fusion, Medical Imaging, Pattern recognition, Radar Imaging, Remote Sensing, Space research, Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) imaging, etc., are few core and complex applications areas for Image Registration [1-8].

Basically, image registration is a process of transformation for geometrical alignment of various image data sets of same scene collected from various times or sensors or view-points or space into a common coordinate systems in order to investigate a relationship between reference & target images through alignment of its pixels for necessary comparison, and to acquire the required intelligence embedded in them [9-16].

The transformation based image registration methods are classified according to the transformation models used to relate reference & target images. Linear and non-linear are two broad categories of transformation models. In general, based on the application it can be divided into four main groups in accordance with the manner of image acquisition process. They are at different –

- (i) Times (ii) Sensors (iii) Views (iv) Spaces.

A. Different Times:

The image data of same scene is required to be collected at different times regularly under different conditions by a single sensor, and is also called multi temporal system. The aim is to investigate and evaluate changes in the same scene among various acquisitions.

B. Different Sensors:

The image data of same scene is required to be collected at different times regularly under different conditions by different sensors or a multi sensor modal, and is also called multi modal system. The aim is to investigate and evaluate changes in the same scene among various acquisitions with multi sensor modal.

C. Different Views:

The image data of same scene is required to be collected at different views or view-points regularly under different conditions by a single or a multi sensor modal, and is also called as a multi view-point system. The aim is to investigate and evaluate changes in the same scene among various acquisitions with different-view-point modal.

D. Different Spaces:

The image data of same or different scene with similar content is required to be collected at different spaces or depths regularly under different conditions by a single or a multi sensor modal, and is also called as a multi depth system.

The aim is to investigate and evaluate changes in the scenes among various acquisitions with different spaces or depths to modal the scenes for instance maps in digital elevation models.

II. IMAGE REGISTRATION PROCESS

It is nevertheless to mention that the basic image registration process consists of four major steps. They are (i) Feature Detection (ii) Feature matching (iii) Transformation (iv) Optimization and Re-sampling [1-6].

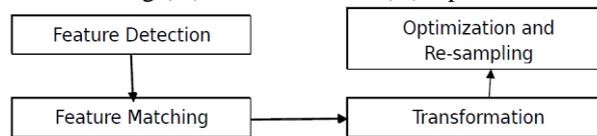


Fig - 1: Image Registration Process

The source images are generally –

(i) undergo various geometrical transformation, viz, R, S, T; (ii) corrupted by frequency, phase or some other noise - during its acquisition process due to various reasons, is a natural problem. Also, new features existing in the source image can be obtained as new or useful information, only after removal of noise and its alignment with its reference image during IR. And, all the basic four steps are essential to follow in the IR [1-6]. Finally, it is required to evaluate for the accuracy where there is a basic need for development of a new methodology for IR. The Radon transform and its properties are chosen and developed a new methodology for IR in this research work.

III. NEW METHODOLOGY FOR IR

A new methodology for image registration using Radon Transform and entropy as new similarity measure is developed and suggested in this research work.

The Radon transform has been introduced in 1917 by Johann Karl August Radon, an Austrian Mathematician, during his research on integral geometry. In mathematics, integral geometry is the theory of measures on geometrical space where transformations from the space functions on one geometrical space to the space of functions on another geometrical space, i.e transformations often take the form of integral transforms such as the Radon transform and its generalization. More specifically, it deals with integral transforms modeled on the Radon Transform [22-24].

Let a function ‘*f*’ is taken as an unknown density, its Radon transform represents the projection data obtained as output of a tomographic scan image. To reconstruct the original image from this projection data, the inverse of Radon transform can be used. The Radon transform of a Dirac delta function is a distribution of a sine wave on the graph, hence called as a ‘sinogram’. Graphically, the Radon transform of a number of small objects appear as a number of blurred sine waves with different amplitudes and phases. Therefore, the Radon transform and its properties are used in the transformation, optimization and resampling steps in the image registration process to achieve better accuracy and robustness as a new methodology.

IV. COMPUTATION OF RANDON TRANSFORM

Mathematically, the Radon transform is represented as $FR(\rho, \theta)$ for any image as function $f(x, y)$. The Radon transform applied to an image $FR(\rho, \theta)$ for a given set of rotation angles, θ . Then, the projection of the image along the angles is computed using line integral. The resulting projection is the sum of the intensities of pixels in each direction, i.e. Line integral. The result of new image after Radon transform application over the line ρ is represented as $R(\rho, \theta)$. It is mathematically represented as given in eq. (1) & (2) below:

$$\rho = x \cos \theta + y \sin \theta - \text{eq. (1)}$$

$$F^R(\rho, \theta) \text{ or } R(\rho, \theta) = \iint f(x, y) \delta(\rho - x \cos \theta - y \sin \theta) dx dy \text{ -- eq. (2)}$$

Where $\delta(\cdot)$ is the Dirac delta function.

V. ENTROPY AS A NEW SIMILARITY MEASURE FOR IR

The requirement of new similarity measure for accurate image registration process is already identified as a open research area [17-21]. Therefore, the entropy as new similarity measure for the image registration is considered and studied for this research work.

The Entropy, also called as Shannon Entropy, generally refers to understand disorder or uncertainty of a system. It means that the Entropy measure gives unpredictability of any required information content, and the concept is extended to image registration [25-29]. The intensity values obtained from reference and source images during image registration process after radon transformation are useful to calculate Entropy as new similarity measure, which in turn used to evaluate the proposed image registration methodology for its accuracy.

VI. EVALUATION OF NEW IR MEDHODOLOGY

A. Data:

Three different set of images with different resolutions and pixel size are chosen to evaluate the new image registration methodology. Three images of Lena, Cameraman and a Satellite are three sets named as I1, I2 and I3 respectively as R_i . And I1 (R), I2 (T) and I3 (S) are Rotated, Translated and Scaled images of I1, I2 and I3 respectively as S_i . The Radon transform is applied operated on R_i & S_i sets and obtained IIR sets.

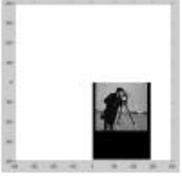
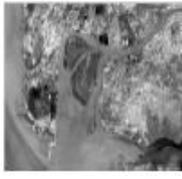
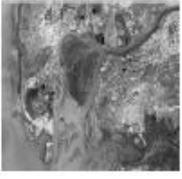
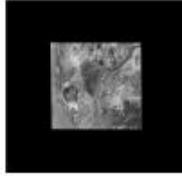
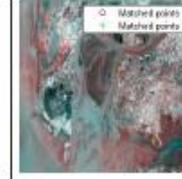
B. Analysis:

Analysis is carried out using MATLAB in windows environment.

C. Evaluation of new methodology:

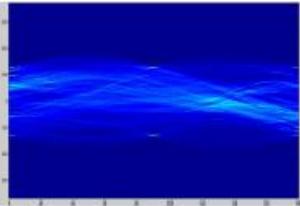
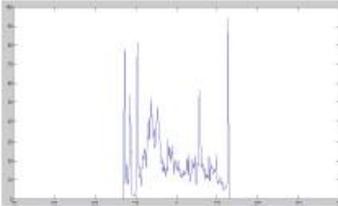
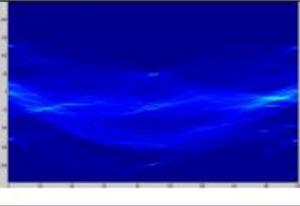
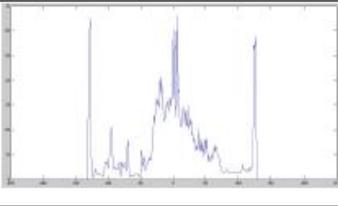
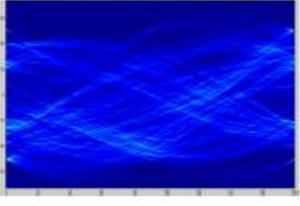
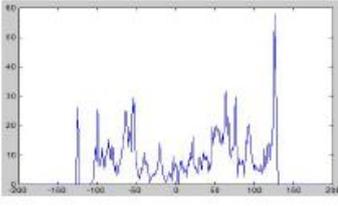
The performance of proposed new methodology for image registration on Radon domain is evaluated from three set of images (I1, I2, I3). These three set of images are subjected to rotation (I1(R)), translation (I2(T)) and scaling (I3(S)) as basic transformations in Radon domain. Radon Transformation is applied and carried out image registration and obtained better features on registered images for these three set of images. The sinograms and graphs are also obtained. Finally, the entropy as a new similarity is also obtained. The MSE (Mean Square Error) and PSNR (Peak Signal to Noise Ratio) are calculated to estimate the accuracy measure of the new IR methodology [2, 3, 15, 16]. All these results are summarized and tabulated in the table I to III below:

Table I Three Set Of Images Used In New Methodology For Ir In Radon Domain

R_i I1, I2, I3	S_i I1(R), I2(T), I3(S)	I_{IR}	More features obtained in RT domain from IR
			
			
			

Note: Last row could not be printed as seen on the computer display due to print limitations.

Table-II Sinograms And Its Graph Plots For Three Set Of Registered Images

R_i	S_i	Sinograms of registered image	Plot/Graph
I1	I1(R)		
I2	I2(T)		
I3	I3(S)		

Note: Last Two columns could not be printed as seen on the computer display due to print limitations.

Table Iii Entropy As Similarity Measure And Accuracy Measure Of Ir In Rt Domain

Images for IR	Similarity Measure			Accuracy Measure	
	R_i	S_i	I_{IR}	MSE	PSNR
I1 & I1 (R)	7.5683	4.7711	2.7192	19.8323	35.1571
I2 & I2 (T)	7.0690	4.6648	2.6010	4.8792	41.2473
I3 & I3 (S)	7.2166	4.5616	2.5062	0.0001	54.7120

The above tabulated results indicate that the proposed new methodology for the image registration is superior and unique.

VII. CONCLUSIONS

A new methodology for image registration process is developed and suggested in this research study. It is observed from the analysis and results that the suggested approach for image registration is superior in terms of accuracy. The design and development of the new methodology is carried out using Radon Transformation. IR similarity measure is attempted with Entropy and its accuracy is computed with MSE & PSNR. High MSE values for image set I1 & I1(R) is an indication for improvement under rotation geometry on specific needs and applications. The results in above Table-I to III provides better insight about accuracy & similarity measures aspects of the IR process with the proposed new methodology with Radon Transform domain..

The performance of proposed methodology for the image registration is demonstrated with three set of images, and is also limited to one sample of R, S and T only. Even though the proposed methodology for IR is superior and unique with limited data, further studies are required for better understanding on the proposed new methodology for IR. The authors would like to continue the research work in these areas.

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