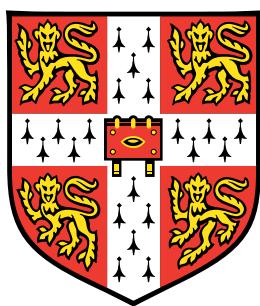
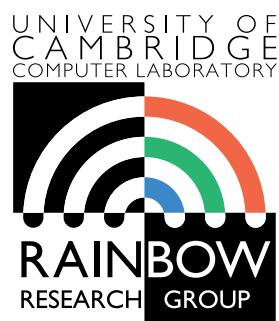


COLOR, STYLE AND COMPOSITION IN IMAGE PROCESSING



A thesis for the degree of
Doctor of Philosophy



Mark Grundland
Peterhouse College
Computer Laboratory
University of Cambridge
2007

ABSTRACT

PH.D. THESIS OF MARK GRUNDLAND: COLOR, STYLE AND COMPOSITION IN IMAGE PROCESSING

My work presents image processing techniques for facilitating artistic visual expression. Inspired by both visual art and visual perception, the aim of my research is to enhance the possibilities of visual communication by extending the repertoire of creative techniques available to digital artists. My work offers new ways to transform style, color, and composition in digital imaging. To improve control over stylized rendering, I propose a concise, multiresolution image representation that can simultaneously support both photorealistic reconstruction and non-photorealistic rendering. To improve control over color and contrast enhancement, I propose recoloring techniques to remap colors, find and replace colors, and convert colors to grayscale. To improve control over image compositing, I propose image blending operators designed to produce composites that preserve key visual characteristics of their components, including contrast, color, detail, and salience. Seeking mathematical models to express aesthetic and perceptual goals, I develop algorithmic image transformations that are shown to have a variety of practical applications across automated image rendering and interactive image editing.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABSTRACT	3
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	5
TABLE OF FIGURES	13
PUBLICATIONS	17
1. PROLOGUE	19
1.1 Image Processing for the Imagination.....	19
1.2 Structure, Scope and Methodology	20
PART I: TRANSFORMING STYLE.....	22
2. RECONCILING EFFICIENCY WITH AESTHETICS IN IMAGE COMPRESSION	24
2.1 Introduction	24
2.2 Overview	26
3. ARTISTIC METHODS FOR IMAGE STYLIZATION	28
3.1 Non-photorealistic Rendering	28
3.2 Non-photorealistic Image Stylization.....	29
3.3 Non-photorealistic Image Compression.....	33
4. GEOMETRIC METHODS FOR IMAGE REPRESENTATION	36
4.1 Geometry of Voronoi Diagrams.....	36
4.2 Algorithms for Voronoi Diagrams	41
4.3 Applications of Voronoi Diagrams	43
5. SAMPLING METHODS FOR IMAGE RENDERING	47
5.1 Strategies for Non-adaptive Sampling	47
5.1.1 Periodic Sampling	47
5.1.2 Non-periodic Sampling	48
5.1.3 Farthest Point Sampling	54
5.1.4 Jittered Sampling.....	55
5.1.5 Quasirandom Sampling.....	56
5.1.6 Random Sampling	56
5.1.7 Permutation Sampling	57
5.2 Evaluation of Non-adaptive Sampling	63
5.3 Strategies for Adaptive Sampling	68
5.3.1 Interactive Importance Sampling	68
5.3.2 Automated Adaptive Sampling	74
5.4 Evaluation of Adaptive Sampling	80
6. RENDERING METHODS FOR IMAGE COMPRESSION.....	83
6.1 Interpolative Rendering Styles	83
6.1.1 Nearest Neighbor Interpolation.....	83
6.1.2 Linear Interpolation.....	84
6.1.3 Distance Weighted Interpolation.....	87

6.2	Geometric Rendering Styles.....	94
6.3	Procedural Rendering Styles	97
6.4	Design of Rendering Styles.....	99
6.5	Application of Rendering Styles	101
7.	SEPARATING STYLE FROM CONTENT IN IMAGE REPRESENTATION	108
7.1	Future Work	108
7.2	Discussion	111
7.3	Conclusion.....	114
PART II: TRANSFORMING COLOR.....		115
8.	COLOR HISTOGRAM SPECIFICATION BY HISTOGRAM WARPING.....	118
8.1	Introduction	118
8.2	Related Work	120
8.2.1	Histogram Specification.....	120
8.2.2	Histogram Modification	121
8.2.3	Color Histogram Specification and Modification	123
8.3	Method	125
8.3.1	Color Space	125
8.3.2	Color Transformation.....	126
8.3.3	Color Matching	128
8.3.4	Color Contrast	129
8.3.5	Color Features	131
8.4	Applications	133
8.4.1	Histogram Specification by a Color Distribution.....	133
8.4.2	Histogram Specification by a Color Image	134
8.4.3	Histogram Specification by a Color Palette	136
8.4.4	Histogram Modification by User Interaction	137
8.4.5	Histogram Modification by Feature Detection.....	145
8.5	Conclusion.....	146
9.	COLOR CORRECTION BY FINDING AND REPLACING COLOR GRADIENTS	147
9.1	Introduction	147
9.2	Motivation	148
9.3	Related Work	149
9.4	Interaction	151
9.4.1	Color Gradient Specification.....	153
9.4.2	Color Editing Interface.....	154
9.5	Algorithm	156
9.5.1	Search Step: Color Similarity Evaluation	156
9.5.2	Replace Step: Color Gradient Mapping	158
9.5.3	Combine Step: Color Gamut Warping	159
9.6	Results	160
9.7	Conclusion.....	160
10.	ENHANCING CONTRAST IN COLOR TO GRayscale CONVERSION.....	161
10.1	Introduction	161
10.2	Related Work	162
10.3	Design Objectives	164
10.4	Algorithm	166
10.4.1	Color Representation by YPQ Color Space	166
10.4.2	Image Sampling by Gaussian Pairing	167
10.4.3	Projection by Predominant Component Analysis	167

10.4.4	Image Fusion of Luminance and Chrominance	169
10.4.5	Saturation Dependent Dynamic Range Adjustment.....	173
10.5	Results	173
10.6	Conclusion.....	174
PART III: TRANSFORMING COMPOSITION.....	176	
11.	PRESERVING CONTRAST, COLOR AND SALIENCE IN IMAGE COMPOSITING	178
11.1	Introduction	179
11.1.1	Problem	180
11.1.2	Solution	180
11.2	Related Work	181
11.3	Method	181
11.3.1	Contrast Preserving Image Blending.....	181
11.3.2	Color Preserving Image Blending	183
11.3.3	Salience Preserving Image Blending.....	185
11.3.4	Multiresolution Image Blending	186
11.4	Results	186
11.5	Conclusion.....	188
11.6	Supplementary Figures.....	189
12.	PRESERVING DETAIL IN IMAGE COMPOSITING	206
12.1	Introduction	207
12.2	Method	209
12.3	Applications	212
12.4	Conclusion.....	213
13.	EPILOGUE.....	217
13.1	Contributions.....	217
13.2	Outlook.....	218
BIBLIOGRAPHY	221	

TABLE OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Economy of expression in traditional art	25
Figure 2: Image rendering process	26
Figure 3: Common categories of non-photorealistic techniques	29
Figure 4: Stages of automated non-photorealistic rendering with brush strokes.....	30
Figure 5: Common techniques for image stylization	31
Figure 6: Evolving rendering styles	33
Figure 7: Common categories of graphics.....	34
Figure 8: Spatial partitions	36
Figure 9: Image representation by spatial partitions	37
Figure 10: Non-periodic tilings by spatial partitions.....	38
Figure 11: Distance metrics for Voronoi diagrams	39
Figure 12: Algorithms for discrete Voronoi diagrams	40
Figure 13: Incremental construction of a discrete Voronoi diagram.....	41
Figure 14: Rendering a discrete Voronoi diagram using a graphics card	42
Figure 15: Voronoi diagrams applied to non-photorealistic image rendering.....	43
Figure 16: Voronoi diagrams applied to stained glass rendering	44
Figure 17: Spatial partitions used in the image rendering process	46
Figure 18: Non-adaptive sampling strategies	48
Figure 19: Voronoi diagrams of non-adaptive sampling strategies.....	49
Figure 20: Fourier power spectrums of non-adaptive sampling strategies.....	50
Figure 21: Algorithm for 1D cut-and-project quasicrystals	51
Figure 22: Algorithm for 2D cut-and-project quasicrystals	52
Figure 23: Evolution of cut-and-project quasicrystals	53
Figure 24: Blue noise Fourier power spectrums.....	54
Figure 25: Test images used in evaluation	57
Figure 26: Non-adaptive sampling rendered using the “mosaic” style	58
Figure 27: Non-adaptive sampling rendered using the “paint strokes” style	59
Figure 28: Non-adaptive sampling rendered using the “sponge painting” style	60
Figure 29: Non-adaptive sampling rendered using Shepard interpolation	61
Figure 30: Quantitative evaluation of non-adaptive and adaptive sampling	62
Figure 31: Qualitative evaluation of non-adaptive sampling	63
Figure 32: Visualizing the spatial configuration of sample sites.....	64
Figure 33: Applying geometric distortion to quasirandom sampling.....	69
Figure 34: Adjusting focus in importance driven farthest point sampling	70
Figure 35: Importance sampling rendered using the “paint strokes” style	71
Figure 36: Importance driven adaptive sampling rendered using the “paint strokes” style	72
Figure 37: Adaptive sampling rendered using Gouraud shading and Voronoi diagrams.....	73
Figure 38: Adaptive sampling rendered using Voronoi diagrams.....	76
Figure 39: Adaptive sampling rendered using the “paint strokes” style	77
Figure 40: Adaptive sampling rendered using Gouraud shading	78
Figure 41: Adjusting the tradeoff between coverage and precision	79
Figure 42: Coloring Voronoi and Delaunay spatial partitions	84
Figure 43: Variants of Gouraud and Shepard interpolation	85
Figure 44: Linear and nonlinear color interpolation.....	86
Figure 45: Symmetric power curves	86

Figure 46: Photorealistic and non-photorealistic geometric rendering styles	87
Figure 47: Design of geometric rendering styles	88
Figure 48: Design of procedural rendering styles	89
Figure 49: Geometric rendering styles	90
Figure 50: Close-ups of geometric rendering styles.....	91
Figure 51: Procedural rendering styles.....	92
Figure 52: Close-ups of procedural rendering styles.....	93
Figure 53: Orienting image marks.....	94
Figure 54: Comparison of painterly rendering techniques	95
Figure 55: Comparison of mosaic rendering techniques	96
Figure 56: Sampling density affects the look of the “chalk” procedural rendering style.....	97
Figure 57: From figurative to abstract, interactively evolved rendering styles.....	98
Figure 58: User interface for interactive evolution by aesthetic selection	99
Figure 59: More interactively evolved rendering styles.....	100
Figure 60: Comparison of pixelation patterns in progressive rendering	103
Figure 61: Comparison of photorealistic and non-photorealistic progressive rendering	104
Figure 62: Progressive rendering with the “oil painting” style	105
Figure 63: Image compression rendered with the “brush marks” style.....	106
Figure 64: More image compression rendered with the “brush marks” style	107
Figure 65: Non-photorealistic image rendering	113
Figure 66: Histogram warping by monotonic splines	119
Figure 67: Piecewise defined splines	122
Figure 68: Histogram warping prevents halo artifacts	126
Figure 69: Histogram warping prevents contouring artifacts	127
Figure 70: Properties of continuous splines	128
Figure 71: Robust descriptive statistics.....	129
Figure 72: Color histogram equalization by histogram warping	133
Figure 73: Color transfer of scene illumination by histogram warping	134
Figure 74: Color transfer of scene ambience by histogram warping.....	135
Figure 75: Selective color transfer by optimizing histogram warping	136
Figure 76: Color emphasis by histogram warping	137
Figure 77: Interactive contrast enhancement emphasizes different aspects of the same scene	138
Figure 78: Interactive contrast enhancement by histogram warping.....	139
Figure 79: Contrast brushes user interface for interactive contrast enhancement	140
Figure 80: Histogram warping transformations used for contrast enhancement.....	141
Figure 81: Comparison of interactive and automatic techniques for contrast enhancement	142
Figure 82: Automatic contrast enhancement by histogram warping	143
Figure 83: Comparison of automatic contrast enhancement techniques	144
Figure 84: More automatic contrast enhancement by histogram warping	145
Figure 85: Image recoloring by color search and replace	148
Figure 86: Color gradient editing	152
Figure 87: Summary of color gradient transformations	153
Figure 88: Summary of color gradient parameters.....	154
Figure 89: User interface for color search and replace.....	155
Figure 90: Masks used in finding and replacing a color gradient	156
Figure 91: Exchanging colors by color search and replace	157
Figure 92: Enhancing contrast by color search and replace	158
Figure 93: Color transfer by color search and replace.....	159
Figure 94: Recovering chromatic contrasts in grayscale.....	162
Figure 95: Rendering color artworks for printing in grayscale	163
Figure 96: Properties of algorithms for color to grayscale conversion	164
Figure 97: Stages of the decolorize algorithm for color to grayscale conversion	165
Figure 98: Polarity of contrast enhancement can depend on the scale of image features	167

Figure 99: Focus of contrast enhancement can depend on the scale of image features	168
Figure 100: Contrast enhancement for color to grayscale conversion	170
Figure 101: More contrast enhancement for color to grayscale conversion.....	171
Figure 102: Controlling the effect of contrast enhancement on color to grayscale conversion	172
Figure 103: Comparison of contrast enhancement algorithms for color to grayscale conversion	175
Figure 104: Image compositing for artistic expression	179
Figure 105: Image blending methods	182
Figure 106: Isomorphic color image processing	183
Figure 107: Salience preserving image morphing.....	185
Figure 108: Applications of image blending methods	187
Figure 109: Salience preserving image blending	189
Figure 110: More salience preserving image blending	190
Figure 111: Salience mattes in salience preserving image blending	191
Figure 112: Salience mattes and opacity gradients in salience preserving image blending.....	192
Figure 113: User-drawn opacity maps applied with salience preserving image blending	193
Figure 114: More user-drawn opacity maps applied with salience preserving image blending	194
Figure 115: Compositing interior and exterior views using salience preserving image blending.....	195
Figure 116: Visualization of motion using salience preserving image blending.....	196
Figure 117: Image compositing with general weights using color preserving image blending	196
Figure 118: Comparison of image blending methods	197
Figure 119: Comparison of multiresolution image blending methods	198
Figure 120: Comparison of multiresolution image blending methods using opacity gradients	199
Figure 121: Comparison of detail preserving and contrast preserving image blending	200
Figure 122: Comparison of multiresolution cross dissolve methods	201
Figure 123: More comparison of multiresolution cross dissolve methods.....	202
Figure 124: Contrast and color preserving image smoothing.....	203
Figure 125: Contrast preserving mipmapping	204
Figure 126: More contrast preserving mipmapping	205
Figure 127: Detail preserving image blending	208
Figure 128: Signed weighted power mean	210
Figure 129: Comparison of image fusion methods	211
Figure 130: Detail preserving cross dissolve.....	213
Figure 131: Contrast plot for detail preserving cross dissolve	214
Figure 132: Detail preserving image blending using a linear opacity gradient.....	215
Figure 133: Detail preserving image blending using a radial opacity gradient.....	216