Performance Analysis of Various Filters for Image Noise Removal in Different Noise Environment

R. Srinivas¹, Satarupa Panda²

Abstract

In this paper, a comparative study on three types of noise as Salt & Pepper noise, Gaussian Noise and Speckle noise has been undertaken under six different noise densities varying from 10% to 60% with the use of four filters as Average filter(AF), Adaptive Median filter(AMF), Standard Median filter(SMF) and Alpha Trimmed Mean filter (ATMF). The result comparison has been done with the help of Mean Square Error (MSE), Peak Signal to Noise Ratio (PSNR) and Gain (%) to find a better method for the removal of noise in image in different noise conditions during acquisition.

Keywords

Filters, Noise, Mean Square Error, Peak Signal to Noise Ratio

1. Introduction

Noise is any unwanted information added to the image when transmitted through any digital media. As a result, the image may get dirty spots like dots, speckles and stains.[1,3] These dots may be taken as impulses like salt & pepper noise or speckle noise and continuously varying signal as Gaussian noise [10]. To remove the speckles or dots we have several linear and non-linear approaches [2]. The linear method of noise removal is based on the mean value of the neighboring pixels whereas the nonlinear method depends on the median value of the pixel window. The Average Filter (AF) and Alpha Trimmed Mean Filter (ATMF) come under linear filters and the Standard Median Filter (SMF) and the Adaptive Median Filter (AMF) falls in nonlinear category. In this paper, these filters are used for the removal of noise of the input image and their behaviour is studied under different noise environments [4].

R. Srinivas, Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Aditya Institute of Technology and Management, Tekkali, Andhra Pradesh, India.

Satarupa Panda, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Aditya Institute of Technology and Management, Tekkali, Andhra Pradesh, India. The probability density function of the noise used in this paper is given below:

Salt & Pepper Noise:

These are dark pixels on light background and bright pixels on dark background. It is also called as impulse noise [8] whose probability density function is given:

$$p(z)=P_x, \quad \text{for } z=x \\ p(z)=P_y, \quad \text{for } z=y \\ p(z)=0, \quad \text{Otherwise}$$

If y>x, gray level y will appear as light dot in the image else x will appear as dark dot.

Gaussian Noise:

These are randomly distributed normal noise expressed as:

$$p(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}} \pi e^{-\frac{(z-\mu)2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

Where z is gray level, μ is mean of z, σ is standard deviation, σ^2 is called variance of z

Speckle Noise:

The distribution noise is given as:

$$J=I+n*I$$

Where J is the distribution speckle noise image, I is the input image and n is the uniform noise image

Performance Parameters

The results are evaluated in the form of Mean Square Error (MSE) and Peak Signal to Noise Ratio (PSNR) [10] defined as:

$$MSE = \frac{1}{M \cdot N} \sum_{i=1}^{M} \sum_{j=1}^{N} [M_1(i, j) - M_2(i, j)] 2$$

Where $M_1(i, j)$ is the input image matrix and $M_2(i, j)$ is the filtered image matrix and $\mathbf{M}^*\mathbf{N}$ is the size of the image

$$PSNR = 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{R2}{MSE} \right)$$

Where R is the maximum value of pixel present in the image [9].

2. Simulation and Results

A gray scale image 'house.jpg' on a light background as shown in Fig 1 is taken as an input image. Then noisy test image is created with three types of noise i.e. Salt & Pepper noise, Gaussian Noise and Speckle Noise [2, 3]. This image is then filtered by using four noise filters like Average Filter, Adaptive Median Filter, Alpha Trimmed Mean Filter and Standard Median Filter at different noise densities varying from 10% to 60%. [5]Next, the performance comparison among the filters is done based on MSE, PSNR (in dB) and Gain (%) value. The same procedure is followed in each individual filtering experiment and all the experimental results are carried out on MATLAB version 7.



Fig 1: house.jpg

The results of MSE and PSNR values for the final output image are listed in the tables below for comparison with the previous calculated unfiltered values using various noise types at different noise densities [5].

Table 1, Table 2 and Table 3 shows the MSE, PSNR and Gain values respectively for the experiments conducted using salt and pepper noise. The first section of Table 1 and Table 2 indicates the results obtained from the noisy image directly without any filter. The remaining sections represent the filtered output for the test image at different noise densities.

In comparing the sections, the result after filtering shows an improvement of values. [1, 6] It is clear that the Standard Median Filter (SMF) performs efficiently in removing salt & pepper noise compared to the other filters resulting in least MSE value and highest PSNR. But it fails in higher densities (here 60%).

Table 1: Comparison of MSE values of various filters at different noise densities using salt & pepper noise

	10%	20%	30%	40%	50	60%
					%	
Before	3407.6	5285.	6919.2	8810.4	0654.0	12056.0
Filtering		6				
Average	1392.8	1818.	2053.	2457.	2903.	3509.2
Filter		4	9	2	5	
Adaptive	1499.5	1951.4	2696.4	2797.5	634.0	3793.3
Filter						
Alpha	2850.5	2869.1	2986.1	3011.9	339.5	4584.2
rimmed						
Median	785.53	1027.1	1806.8	2190.6	387.5	5373.0
Filter						

Table 2: Comparison of PSNR (in dB) of various	S
filters at different noise densities using salt &	
pepper noise	

	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%
Before	12.80	10.89	9.73	8.68	7.85	7.31
Filtering						
Average	16.69	15.53	15.00	14.22	13.50	12.67
Filter						
Adaptive	16.37	15.22	13.82	13.66	12.52	12.34
Filter						
Alpha	13.58	13.55	12.93	13.37	12.89	11.51
Trimmed						
Median	19.17	18.01	15.56	14.72	13.83	10.82
Filter						

Table 3: Comparison of Gain (%) of various filters at different noise densities using salt & pepper noise

	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%
Average `ilter	59.12	65.59	70.31	72.11	72.74	70.89
Adaptive Filter	55.99	63.08	61.03	68.24	65.89	68.53
Alpha Trimmed	16.34	45.71	52.13	66.10	68.65	61.97
Median Filter	76.94	80.56	73.88	75.13	68.20	55.43



Fig 2: MSE graph for the image using salt & pepper noise where x-axis contains noise densities and y-axis contains MSE values for the filters



Fig 3: PSNR graph for the image using salt & pepper noise where x-axis contains noise densities and y-axis contains PSNR values for the filters



Fig 4: Gain plot for the image using salt & pepper noise where x-axis contains noise densities and yaxis contains Gain values for the filters

Fig 2, Fig 3 and Fig 4 shows the output for the image where the x-axis contains the noise densities (10%-60%) and y-axis represents the MSE, PSNR and Gain value respectively. From the Gain plot using salt & pepper noise, it can be noticed that the standard median filter gives best results at lower densities but inefficient at higher noise [7]. The Average Filter (AF) is efficient at higher densities with lowest error than the other filters. The Adaptive Median Filter (AMF) also follows the average filter but is less effective at few densities. The Alpha Trimmed Mean Filter (ATMF) has a poor result in removing salt & pepper noise.



Table 4, Table 5 and Table 6 are the results of MSE, PSNR and Gain computed for the test image using Gaussian Noise at different noise intervals. The standard median filter (SMF) which is efficient in removing salt & pepper noise shows a poor result in removing Gaussian Noise. The Alpha Trimmed filter is also inefficient for suppressing Gaussian noise. The Average Filter and Adaptive filter results in lesser MSE.[5] The Average Filter works efficiently in all noise densities and it has a least Mean Square Error (Fig 6) and highest Peak Signal to Noise Ratio (Fig 7) in removing Gaussian Noise. Comparing the Gain plots (Fig 8) between the filters, the Average Filter has a highest gain value. The visual results of the noisy image with noise density 60% is compared in Fig 9

 Table 4: Comparison of MSE of various filters at different noise densities using Gaussian noise

	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%
Before	5290.4	6956.7	9038.2	9512.2	10792	11420
Filtering						
Average	1426.5	1912.9	2347.3	2552.4	2759.1	3136.9
Filter						
Adaptive	1569.8	2013.8	2495.5	2669.3	2997.0	3310.2
Filter						
Alpha	3071.1	3324.3	3558.6	3774.8	3990.5	4250.5
trimmed						
Median	1815.1	2698.4	3590.9	4133.8	4853.8	5469.4
Filter						

Table 5: Comparison of PSNR (in dB) of variousfilters at different noise densities using Gaussiannoise.

	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%
Before	10.89	9.70	8.56	8.34	7.79	7.55
Filtering						
Average	16.58	5.31	14.42	14.06	13.72	13.16
Filter						
Adaptive	16.17	15.09	14.15	13.86	13.36	12.93
Filter						
Alpha	13.25	12.91	12.61	12.35	12.12	11.84
Trimmed						
Median	15.54	13.8	12.57	11.96	11.26	10.75
Filter						

Table 6: Comparison of Gain (%) of various filters at different noise densities using Gaussian noise

	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%
Average	73.03	72.50	4.02	73.16	74.43	72.53

Filter						
Adaptive Filter	70.32	71.05	2.38	71.93	72.22	71.01
Alpha Trimmed	49.94	52.21	0.62	60.31	63.02	62.78
Median Filter	65.69	51.21	60.26	56.54	55.02	52.10



Fig 6: MSE graph for the image using Gaussian noise where x-axis contains noise densities and y-



Fig 7: PSNR graph for the image using Gaussian noise where x-axis contains noise densities and yaxis contains PSNR values for the filters



Fig 8: Gain plot for the image using Gaussian noise where x-axis contains noise densities and yaxis contains Gain values for the filters



Table 7, Table 8 and Table 9 are the MSE, PSNR and Gain values computed for different filters using Speckle Noise at different noise densities. In removing the Speckle Noise, the Average Filter is efficient. It has highest PSNR (Fig 11) and least MSE (Fig 10). The Adaptive Filter also shows a lesser MSE graph (Fig 10) than the other filters in low noise density values. The alpha trimmed filter and standard median filter are comparatively less effective in removing Speckle noise. The visual results of the image are listed in Fig 13.

 Table 7: Comparison of MSE of various filters at different noise densities using Speckle noise

	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%
Before						
Filtering	3055.6	4752.2	6619.5	6895.1	9169.9	9487.3
Average						
Filter	1311.3	1780.3	2098.6	2242.3	2721.2	3548.8
Adaptiv						
e Filter	1411.7	1640.9	2765.2	2510.1	2782.9	3397.5
Alpha						
trimmed	2178.3	3174.6	3356.7	3711.5	3617.4	4007.4
Median						
Filter	1523.8	2254.1	2466.3	3367.8	3205.6	4637.5

 Table 8: Comparison of PSNR (in dB) of various

 filters at different noise densities using Speckle

 noise

	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%
Before	3.27	11.36	9.92	9.74	8.50	8.35
Filtering						
Average	6.45	15.62	14.91	14.62	13.78	12.62
Filter						
Adaptive						
Filter	16.63	15.97	3.71	14.13	13.68	12.81
Alpha						
Trimmed	14.74	13.11	2.87	12.43	12.54	12.10
Median						
Filter	16.30	14.60	14.21	12.85	13.07	11.46

Table 9: Comparison of Gain (%) of various filters at different noise densities using Speckle noise

	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%
Average	57.08	62.53	68.29	67.47	70.32	62.59
Filter						
Adaptive	53.79	65.47	58.22	63.59	69.65	64.18
Filter						
Alpha	28.71	33.19	49.29	46.17	60.55	57.76
trimmed						
Filter						
Median	50.13	52.56	62.74	51.15	65.04	51.11
Filter						







Fig 11: PSNR graph for the image using Speckle noise where x-axis contains noise densities and yaxis contains PSNR values for the filters



Fig 12: Gain plot for the image using Speckle noise where x-axis contains noise densities and yaxis contains Gain values for the filters



Fig 13: Visual result of the input image at noise density 60% using Speckle Noise

3. Conclusion

By de-noising the noisy test image using different filters at various noise densities, we conclude from the results (Fig 2 to Fig 13) that

- a) In removal of Salt & pepper noise, Standard Median Filter (SMF) is efficient in removing low density noise (upto 50%) and the Average Filter is efficient removing high density noise (60% and more).
- b) The Average Filter and the Adaptive Filter performs well for Gaussian Noise where

Average Filter has comparatively better results in all noise densities.

- c) The performance of the Average filter after de-noising Speckle noise is better than other filters. The Adaptive Filter gives good response in lowest densities (10%-20%) but fails in higher density values.
- d) The Alpha Trimmed Filter is not found efficient enough in removing any of the noises.

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R. Srinivas presently working as Associate Professor in the Dept. of CSE, AITAM Tekkali. He has 14 years of experience in teaching (Academics) and has 6 international publications. He is the member of CSI and ISTE.



Ms. Satarupa Panda is presently a 2nd year M Tech student in Dept. of CSE, AITAM Tekkali. She has one year of Teaching Experience and has 2 International Conference publications.