CCD Camera Transfer Function Measurement and Its Implication for Sampling

and Operator Performance

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ABSTRACT

A method for measuring the two dimensional modulation transfer function of an image acquisition system

is presented. A minimum of laboratory apparatus is required. The band limiting of spatial frequencies by

the system are considered with respect to signal aliasing, feature representation and edge detection.

Various edge detectors are tested and compared using high resolution data computed during the transfer

function measurements. This data was from realistically smoothed edges and represents the most difficult

edges that realistically smoothed edges and represents the most difficult edges that the practical system

would need to detect. Significant differences were found between results using the traditional pixel average

and the new step edge models, indicating that in some cases a simpler, more computationally efficient

operator may be sufficient.

Key Terms: Transfer function, CCD Camera, Image sampling, Edge detector accuracy.

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