

Information Content Auto-Focus (ICAF)

BYU #2017-062

DESCRIPTION

Researchers at BYU developed a new mathematical function for passive auto-focusing algorithms based on Information Content (IC). The invention is a novel application of the statistical concept of entropy, used to quantitatively represent the information present in each pixel.

PROBLEM SOLVED

In all forms of passive auto-focus systems that are used in cameras, an underlying mathematical algorithm attempts to numerically describe the extent of focus or blur in the image. Accordingly, the lens system in the camera adjusts to that. This invention takes a radically different approach to the quantification of the image blur or sharpness. The underlying mathematics is novel in it's approach and is extremely fast compared to existing algorithms, being a single step algorithm rather than a multi-step process.









Mean= 1.5662 Std= 0.0411

Mean= 1.5670 Std= 0.0385



Std= 0.0514

Mean= 1.5242 Std= 0.1425

Mean= 1.5704

Std= 0.0257



Mean= 1.5312 Std= 0.1314



Mean= 1.5485 Std= 0.0955



Mean= 1.576 Std= 0.0106

KEY ADVANTAGES

- » Extremely fast and computationally simple method
- » Doesn't require defining any thresholds
- » Doesn't require pre-processing of the images (e.g. enhancement of image contrast)

APPLICATIONS

This technology could be of interest to photography software manufacturers as well as camera manufacturers.

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