

Relative Radiometric Normalization of Satellite Images using Frequency Domain

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Abstract: Relative radiometric normalization method minimizes radiometric differences among images cause by inconsistencies of acquisition conditions rather than change in surface reflectance. Satellite images are useful for creating updated land cover maps. But the major problem in these images is that the region below the clouds is not covered by the sensor. Hence cloud detection and removal is very vital in the processing of satellite imagery. The objective of this study is to propose an approach for automatic detection and removal of cloud from Satellite Images. After detection and removal of the contamination the method will selectively replace the data from different images of the same area to minimize the cloud contamination effect. Detection is achieved by performing segmentation algorithm namely Average brightness thresholding (ABT) algorithm. Finally the detected cloud contamination is removed and replaced with the data from different images of the same area using relative radiometric normalization of no change set in frequency domain.

Keywords: Normalization, Relative, radiometric normalization, no change set.

I. INTRODUCTION

Satellite Images under different conditions of same area are difficult to study because of change in atmospheric propagation, sensor response and illuminations. To overcome this problem radiometric normalization technique is used.

The detection of clouds in satellite imagery has a number of important applications in weather and climate studies. For many applications however, clouds are a contaminant whose presence interferes with retrieving atmosphere or surface information. In these cases, the detection of cloud contaminated pixels in satellite imagery is important. For many applications however, clouds are a contaminant whose presence interferes with retrieving atmosphere or surface information. Objective of this study is to detect and remove cloud cover and normalize an image radiometrically. For the detection and removal of cloud different methods are used, such as image regression method[1], pseudo invariant feature[5],no change set(NC)[7]. For the detection of cloud average brightness algorithm is used. After cloud removal, apply the proposed NC normalization method to reduce the radiometric influence caused by non surface factors. The no change relative radiometric normalization process identifies landscape elements whose reflectance values are nearly constant over time.

II. PROPOSED METHOD FOR CLOUD DETECTION AND REMOVAL

Two types of radiometric corrections, absolute correction and relative correction, are commonly employed to normalize remotely sensed images for time-series intercomparison[1]. Absolute radiometric correction is aimed towards extracting the absolute reflectance of scene targets at the surface of the earth[2].

This method requires the input of simultaneous atmospheric properties and sensor calibration, which are difficult to acquire in many cases, especially in historic data[9]. Relative radiometric correction is aimed towards reducing atmospheric and other unexpected variation among multiple images by adjusting the radiometric properties of target images to match a base image[4], thus it is also called relative radiometric normalization. Relative radiometric normalization is an image based correction method achieved by setting the multi-temporal images into a common scale without extra parameters from other measurements. In this method, reflectance of invariant targets within multiple scenes can be used to render the scenes to appear as if they were acquired with the same sensor, with the same calibration, and under identical atmospheric condition without the need to be absolutely corrected to surface reflectance.

Most relative methods assume that radiometric relation between the target image and the base image are linear[11]. A base image, selected to represent some common scale, is not required to be the most accurate reflectance emission. The relative radiometric normalization method can correct noise deriving the atmosphere, sensor, and other sources in one process and is therefore widely used. Generally Relative radiometric normalization methods are simpler than absolute normalization methods, so relative radiometric normalization method using no change set is proposed.

A. Cloud detection

The detection of clouds in satellite imagery has a number of important applications in weather and climate studies. For many applications however, clouds are a contaminant whose presence interferes with retrieving atmosphere or surface information. In these cases, the detection of cloud

contaminated pixels in satellite imagery is important. There are many techniques are used for detection of clouds in satellite images. The key to the success is lies in the selection of the thresholds for various spectral tests. We used Average Brightness Threshold (ABT) algorithm for detecting the cloud.

The clouds are brightest object in satellite images; to detect the cloud from satellite images the average brightness threshold algorithm is used.

Average brightness threshold algorithm works on thresholding technique[14]. Threshold technique is one of the important technique in image segmentation. Threshold image $g(x, y)$ can be define as

$$g(x, y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } f(x, y) > t \\ 0 & \text{if } f(x, y) \leq t \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

In this algorithm first average brightness of the image is calculated, based on this average brightness threshold value is determined. For calculation of proper threshold value following equation is used. It is also called cutoff function[7].

$$T = \text{Avg}_{\text{Brithtness}} + f * (\ln(G_{\text{MAX}}) - \ln(\text{Avg}_{\text{Brithtness}})) \quad (2)$$

Where $\ln()$ denotes the natural logarithm

G_{MAX} is the no of gray values, f is multiplicative coefficient, determined empirically.

According to that threshold value divide image into cloudy and cloud free regions. Fig.1 and Fig.2 shows cloudy and cloud detected images for two different data sets. Dataset 1 is collected from situ atmospheric data at the time of satellite overpasses [7]. Dataset 2 is collected from <http://landsat7.usgs.gov/productinfo.html>[16].

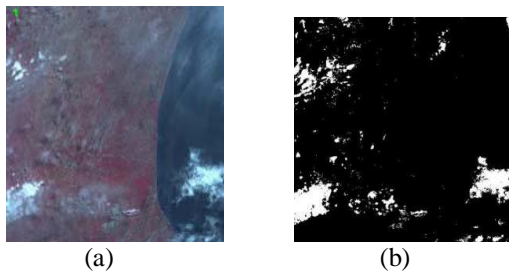


Fig.1: (a) cloudy image, (b) cloud detected image

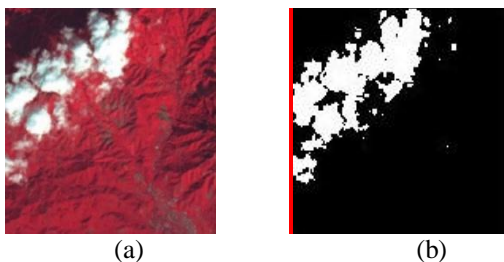


Fig.2: (a) cloudy image, (b) cloud detected image

B. Cloud removal

In normalization procedure first reference image and subject is divided into block of size 16×16 pixels. A block of reference image is placed over block centered on the same coordinates in the other image. Then normalized

correlation between two corresponding blocks is by using frequency domain. This operation is repeated for all blocks. After this, we applied a threshold criterion, in order to select no change pixels used to find normalization coefficients. The correlation can be calculated as,

$$f(m, n)ow(m, n) = F^{-1}[F(u, v)W^*(u, v)] \quad (3)$$

Where,

$f(m, n)$ is the block of 16×16 pixels of reference image
 $w(m, n)$ is the block of 16×16 pixels of cloudy image (m, n) are the special coordinates

$F(u, v)$ and $W(u, v)$ are the Fourier transform of $f(m, n)$ and $w(m, n)$ respectively. o is the correlation

The Normalization correlation is derived from following equation,

$$NC = F^{-1}[F(u, v)W^*(u, v)] \quad (4)$$

The normalization coefficients can be obtained by,

$$a_k = \frac{S_{y_k}^{(nc)}}{S_{x_k}^{(nc)}}, b_k = \overline{y_k}^{(nc)} - a_k \overline{x_k}^{(nc)} \quad (5)$$

Where, $\overline{x_k}^{(nc)}$ and $\overline{y_k}^{(nc)}$ are the means. Sample variance and covariance for subject NC on two dates can be determined using equations

$$S^{(nc)}_{x_k x_k} = \frac{1}{|NC|} \sum_{NC} (X_k - \overline{X_k}^{(NC)})^2 \quad (6)$$

$$S^{(nc)}_{x_k y_k} = \frac{1}{|NC|} \sum_{NC} (X_k - \overline{X_k}^{(NC)})^{1/2} (Y_k - \overline{Y_k}^{(NC)})^{1/2} \quad (7)$$

A block is assumed to belong to no- change set if it has normalized correlation is greater than 0.9. If normalized correlation is greater than 0.9 then for normalized image select no change set of cloudy image otherwise select pixels set of reference image. This operation is repeated for all blocks and this procedure is repeated for all bans. The Fig. 3(a) shows reference image Fig. 3(b) shows cloudy image and normalized subject image is shown in Fig.3(c) for data set 1 and the Fig. 4(a) shows reference image Fig. 4(b) shows cloudy image and normalized subject image is shown in Fig.4(c) for data set 2 and Data set 1

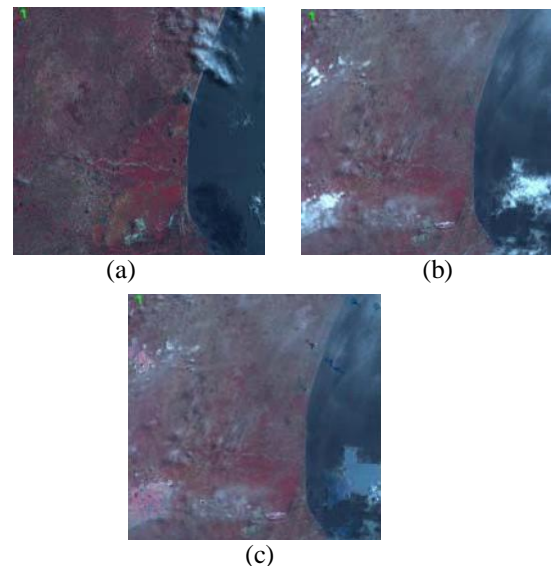


Fig. 3: (a) Reference image(May 26,2004), (b) Cloudy image(May 26,2006), (c) Normalized subject image

Data Set 2

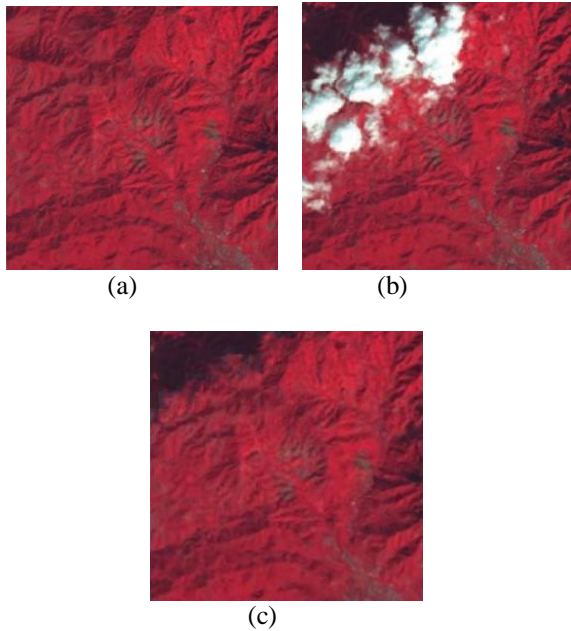


Figure 4: (a) Reference image, (b) Cloudy image, (c) Normalized subject image

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In this report cloud is detected by using Average Brightness Thresholding algorithm. In ABT algorithm the threshold value is calculated based on the average brightness. Then based on threshold value image is divided into cloudy and cloud free regions. The results of ABT are as shown in Fig. 5 and Fig.6 for two different data sets



Fig.5: cloud detected subject image (data set 1)

For this data set 1 the average brightness value is 94.8438 and threshold value is 116.6886



Fig.6: cloud detected subject image (data set 2)

For this data set 2 the average brightness value is 186.7446 and threshold value is 193.6842 The root-mean-square error (RMSE) is used to measure the statistical agreement of the normalized image with the reference image, as follows:

$$RMSE_k = \sqrt{\frac{1}{|n|} \sum_n (s'_k - R_k)^2} \tag{8}$$

Where s'_k is radiometrically normalized digital no. in the subject image on date 1, R_k is the digital no. of reference image on date 2, and $|n|$ is the total no of pixels of the scene. Thus the digital no of the radiometrically normalized image are compare with those of the reference image. If the difference between these numbers is small the RMSE will be small. Result shows that obtained RMSE values are small for different bands. This implies that normalized subject image is radiometrically closer to the reference image. The results obtained for before and after normalization using frequency domain for RMSE values for different data sets are shown below for different bands

Table 1: RMSEs values before and after normalization for data set 1

Band	RMSE	
	Before Normalization	After Normalization
Band1	0.6656	0.2951
Band2	6.4639	6.5160
Band3	8.2319	7.1117
Band4	6.4275	5.1226
NIR Band	6.3202	4.9979
VRB Band	5.8009	5.6207

Table 2 : RMSE values before and after normalization for data set 2

Band	RMSE	
	Before Normalization	After Normalization
Band1	22.1222	1.4907
Band2	18.1488	12.5111
Band3	12.8927	12.8995
Band4	11.1638	11.3228
NIR Band	8.5548	6.9920
VRB Band	11.8710	8.4403

IV. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE SCOPE
CONCLUSION

The Average Brightness Threshold Algorithm successfully detects the cloud from cloudy image, for that purpose proper threshold value is chosen that separates the cloudy and uncloudy regions. Here the relative radiometric normalization technique using no change is proposed. The subject image block set is compared with the block set of reference image, by finding no change set and selecting the proper threshold the cloudy block sets from subject image are removed. The quality of radiometric

normalization is statistically assessed by Root Mean Square Error, which is small here. The proposed scheme successfully normalized cloudy subject image by using frequency domain so that normalized image looks similar to reference image after normalization.

Future Scope

Future scope includes use of image segmentation using Otsu's method. In this method, the detected cloud is removed and replaced with data from another image of the same area. Instead of this, the pixels in cloud removed area can be replaced with estimated pixel values obtained from regression of same image.

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BIOGRAPHIES



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