Hyperspectral Data Compression Using Spatial-Spectral Lossless Coding Technique

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Abstract

Hyperspectral imaging is widely used in many applications; especially in vegetation, climate changes, and desert studies. Such kind of imaging has a huge amount of data, which requires transmission, processing, and storage resources especially for space borne imaging. Compression of hyperspectral data cubes is an effective solution for these problems. Lossless compression of the hyperspectral data usually results in low compression ratio, which may not meet the available resources; on the other hand, lossy compression may give the desired ratio, but with a significant degradation effect on object identification performance of the hyperspectral data. Moreover, most hyperspectral data compression techniques exploits the similarities in spectral dimensions; which requires bands reordering or regrouping, to make use of the spectral redundancy. In this paper, we analyze the spectral cross correlation between bands for Hyperion hyperspectral data; spectral cross correlation matrix is calculated, assessing the strength of the spectral matrix, and finally, we propose new technique to find highly correlated groups of bands in the hyperspectral data cube based on "inter band correlation square", from the resultant groups of bands we propose a new predictor that can predict efficiently the whole bands within data cube based on weighted combination of spectral and spatial prediction, the results are evaluated versus other state of the art predictor for lossless compression.

Keywords: Hyperspectral Compression; Band Regrouping; Edge Detection; Spectral correlation Matrix.

1. INTRODUCTION

Hyperspectral data contains a huge amount of spectral data distinctive in spectral resolution, which allows identification of each pixel based on its spectral footprint. On the other hand; this amount of data increases as spectral bands increase, usually satellite instrument that measures earth's illumination at specified spectral band, has more dynamic range than visual images; typically ranges from 10 up to 16 bits per pixel per band; additionally, considering the swath width of the satellite imagery; hyperspectral imaging session of a satellite may contain tremendous amount of digital data to be transmitted to ground station[1]; this limits the imaging session and spatial resolution.

Many researches have been conducted to efficiently "carefully" compress this amount of data without losing the main advantage of hyperspectral imaging which is spectral resolution; two known compression approaches are usually investigated, lossy and lossless techniques; lossless

compression is perfect for compression data and keeping the original information without distortion and in the same time allow further processing of the image to identify earth's objects accurately; unfortunately this approach of compassion gives compression ratio ranges from 1 up to 3[2][3]; that means the compressed data will have smaller volume down to 3 times less the original one; this, in practical situations, is not sufficient; while compressed data still represents a significant issue for onboard satellite designer for transmission and storage[4].

On the other hand; lossy compression approach gives a great compression ratio, which may goes up to 40 times; this ratio, is achieved scarifying the low distortion rate; that means more losses will appear on the reconstructed data; this losses can and will affect the process of earth's object identification process[5]. Another approach of compression is known as near lossless; this approach achieves relatively higher compression ratio than achieved by lossless approach and smaller distortion less than resulted from lossy compression approach; that is controlled by losses threshold.

Meanwhile researches are continuing to find optimum solution that can fit onboard satellites[6]; most researches goes around exploitation of either spectral or spatial redundancy of hyperspectral data or both of them; spatial redundancy results from the fact that imaging certain territory will have similarity in spatial dimensions; these characteristics are exhaustively investigated during last decades; and as a result we have discrete cosine transformation and wavelet transformation; it exploits the spatial redundancy in the images in different ways of implementation either in ground image processing software or onboard satellite instrumentations. On the other hand; spectral redundancy is relatively a new dimension in hyperspectral imaging; many researches are trying to investigate the best way to deal with this redundancy[7], [8] and optimum techniques to exploit it; these facts lead to another activity of investigation and analysis of spectral structure of hyperspectral data [9],[10].

We introduce a new technique that can exploit spectral and spatial redundancies in the hyperspectral data cubes, based on the on modified median predictor[11] that can be extended to third dimension of prediction based on spectral analysis.

This paper is organized as follow; first section discusses the origin of the topic, followed by explaining similarity measurement and spectral cross correlation structure of the hyperspectral data cubes, third section proposes calculation of global reference band that will be used in prediction; fourth section discusses the proposed J-predictor; section five, explains the predictor model and finally we evaluate the results against state of the art lossless compression in section six.

2. INTER-BAND SPECTRAL CROSS CORRELATION AND SIMILARITY MEASUREMENTS

Hyperspectral data can be viewed as a "Data-Cube"; this data cube has two spatial dimensions and one spectral dimension, spectral dimension represent the captured image in different spectral bands, usually successive. Spectral redundancy is based on the similarity between bands and each other's; these similarity can be measured by spectral cross correlation[12], Conditional entropy, mutual information, Euclidian Distance, Maximum Absolute Distance, and Centered Euclidian Distance; these measures are well studied by researchers and compared to determine which one is best fit for regrouping the bands for prediction based compression techniques; correlation is found to be the best for similarity measurement [8][13][14]; this results is a good point to start the analysis of spectral structure of the hyperspectral data cube.

Correlation between spectral bands is named "spectral correlation" as it represents the correlation between two identical images in different spectral domains. The imaged piece of land by hyperspectral instrument is treated as unknown object, since the main objective of the satellite imagery is to provide data about these objects. The dependencies between bands should be reflectance of the material spectral response collected by imager; this may appear to be random

dependencies, but the average correlation between bands is the main measuring criteria of similarity, which is dependent on average material spectral response within the single band. Cross correlation is usually a standard measure of degree of similarity between tow images (matrices); some techniques of cross correlation estimation was used to investigate the hyperspectral inter-band correlation; this process is time consuming and requires extensive computational power.

Cross correlation mainly depends on covariance calculation between the two bands; while normalized cross correlation uses variance of each band as divisor to remove values dependency on the variation of both brightness and contrast of the image.

Selection of estimation technique should be based on deterministic criteria; such as simplicity, speed, minimum resources of memory and computational power. Fast normalized cross correlation[15][16] is a very good technique for calculating the similarity between two images; it is fast and calculate how much similarity two images are independent of their individual brightness and contrast.

Using fast normalized cross correlation techniques, correlation between all hyperspectral bands in the data cube is estimated; for band i, correlation value is estimated with all other bands in the data cube j; using the Eq. (1).

Data cube is estimated; for band i, correlation value is estimated with all other bands in the data cube j; using the Eq. (1).

$$NCC(i, j) = \frac{\sum_{x, y} [(D_i(x, y) - \overline{D}_i) \times (D_j(x, y) - \overline{D}_j)]}{\sqrt{\sum_{x, y} (D_i(x, y) - \overline{D}_i)^2} \times \sqrt{\sum_{x, y} (D_j(x, y) - \overline{D}_j)^2}}$$
(1)

Where:

NCC(i,j): Normalized cross correlation between bands i. and j,

 D_i (x,y): intensity of pixel, (x, y) pixel indices within one band,

 D_i : mean of pixel intensity values of band i.

This function is implemented in fast, optimized way in Matlab image processing tool box[17], based on "Fast Normalized Cross-Correlation"[15].

We estimating the inter-band cross correlation matrix for each hyperspectral data cube; three spaceborne hyperspectral data samples are processes and used in this study; Table 1, illustrates the details of each data samples, associated figure that reflects the image view of spectral correlation matrix, and name of spectral correlation matrix (SCM) used in calculations the resulted spectral correlation matrix for three hyperspectral data samples, from both airborne and space borne instruments[18][19], are illustrated in FIGURE 1, FIGURE 2, FIGURE 3.

We can notice that for "corr_mtxer" there is a strong correlation between the groups of bands starting from approximately band number 10 till band number 55, and group of bands starting from approximately band number 180 till band number 220 (GOB (~10-55) and GOB (~180-220)). This correlation appears in a square manner, dashed square in, this is called "Inter Band Correlation Square" (IBCS); IBCS itself is not symmetric around spectral correlation matrix diagonal. Checking of the existence of the IBCS, allows determining the correlation between

bands in hyperspectral data cube, this helps in band regrouping techniques used in compression of hyperspectral data[20][21][22][15].

Hyperspectra I data sample	Details	Figure number	Spectral correlation matrix name
"ErtaAle"	Hyperion instrument: 3187 lines x 256 samples x 242 bands, instrument bit depth = 12 bits.	FIGURE 1	"corr_mtxer"
"LakeMonon a"	Hyperion instrument: 3176 lines x 256 samples x 242 bands, instrument bit depth = 12 bits.	FIGURE 2	"corr_mtxl"
"MtStHelens"	Hyperion instrument: 3242 lines x 256 samples x 242 bands, instrument bit depth = 12 bits.	FIGURE 3	"corr_mtxhel"





FIGURE 1: Image view of SCM for "corr_mtxer"

60			
100 -			
150 -			
200			X
	10	150	

FIGURE 2: Image view of SCM for "corr_mtxl"



FIGURE 3: Image view of SCM for "corr_mtxhel"

3. GLOBAL REFERENCE BAND

Inter band correlation square is pattern of spectral correlation between bands in hyperspectral data; finding this square(s) refers to the location of the group(s) of bands that are highly correlated, and usually these GOBs are far away from each other.

Edge detection is concept of image processing that helps to locate edges in the processed image; some algorithms are used in this area; such as, Sobel Method, Prewitt Method, Roberts Method, Laplacian of Gaussian Method, Zero-Cross Method, and Canny Method.

The interest here to find the algorithm that determines the location(s) of the IBCS in the SCM; the algorithm should, at least, be able to determine the location of the biggest IBCS; or, if many similar exists, to determine at least one of them.

Sobel, Prewitt, and Roberts methods find edges using the corresponding approximation to the derivative, and return edges at those points of maximum gradient. The Laplacian of Gaussian method finds edges by looking for zero crossings after filtering the matrix with a Laplacian of Gaussian filter. Zero-cross method finds edges by looking for zero crossings after filtering matrix with a selected filter.

The Canny method finds edges by looking for local maxima of the gradient. The gradient is calculated using the derivative of a Gaussian filter. The method uses two thresholds, to detect strong and weak edges, and includes the weak edges in the output only if they are connected to strong edges. This method is therefore less likely than the others to be fooled by noise and more likely to detect true weak edges[23][24].

Comparative Study of these techniques[25] have been carried out; also performance analysis of each of them [26], recommends that Canny Method has better performance while detection of edges and less sensitivity for noise.

Using "Canny method" to estimate the edges of the IBCS[27]; we got the results in FIGURE 4



FIGURE 4: Canny Edge detection for SCM

4. BANDS REGROUPING TECHNIQUE

Finding IBCS in SCM will help in determining groups of bands that are highly correlated to each other's; detection threshold used in edge detection process of each IBCS is the correlation value for each GOB, which indicates the level of similarity between bands and each other.

We will take "corr_mtxer" as SCM, to investigate the principle of grouping based on IBCS. for example, there is a strong correlation between the groups of bands starting from approximately band number 10 till band number 55, and group of bands starting from approximately band number 180 till band number 220 (GOB (~10-55) and GOB (~180-220)).

Detection Thr.	GOB	GOB
0.7	9-53	9-53
0.65	81-120	9-53
0.6	181-221	101-120
0.45	181-221	81-96
0.4	125-165	9-53
0.3	181-221	9-53

TABLE 2: Group of bands and correlation threshold value of detection.



FIGURE 5: GOBs correlation with each other.

FIGURE 5 and

TABLE **2** illustrate the correlation between groups of bands; as we can see, the GOB (9-53) is much correlated to almost all bands in the data cube; we call it the central group of correlation.

From this central band we calculate what we call Global Reference Band (GRB)[28]; this band represents the average context of the whole correlated bands in the hyperspectral data cube; we use this band to exploit spectral redundancy[29].

We use simple exponential smoothing which assumes that the data fluctuates around a reasonably stable mean as the GOB is correlated to itself; forecasting the bands is based on equation (2):

$$\bar{X}_{t+1} = aX_t + (1-\alpha)\bar{X}_t \tag{2}$$

Where \overline{X}_{t+1} is the band under prediction; real data of the previous (reference) band, \overline{X}_t predicted values of the previous band, α is smoothing factor, α is empirically selected [30].

We apply simple exponential smoothing for GOB (9-53) to generate Global reference band (GRB): GRB is then used as a reference band represents the mean values of correlated bands.

5. J-PREDICTOR

JPEG –LS[31] introduces a simple and efficient prediction scheme for spatial redundancy called median predictor or Median Edge Detection; JPEG-LS was developed with the aim of providing a low-complexity lossless and near-lossless image compression standard that could offer better compression efficiency than lossless JPEG. The JPEG-LS predictor is shown in Equation (3).



FIGURE 6: Neighboring pixels location relative to predicted pixel- Median predictor.

JPEG-LS predictor uses the Neighbor pixels for prediction FIGURE 6; in our modified model we add the corresponding pixel in the GRB for prediction, as it gives a considerable amount of information about the pixel in the same location in all correlated group of bands as in FIGURE 7: JPEG-LS predictor compares the upper left pixel with the upper and left pixels to select which one is more adequate for predicting the current pixel; this exploits the spatial redundancy in the image plane: as shown earlier.



FIGURE 7: J-Predictor

The proposed predictor makes use of the collocated pixel in the previous band and predicts the current pixel based on similar model, each spectrally and spatially predicted values is assessed relative to surrounding pixel values and if spectrally predicted value is accepted it will be used in prediction process with its half weight .

$$\overline{Y} = w_a \overline{Y_a} + w_c \overline{Y_c} \tag{4}$$

Where, Y_a spatially predicted value; $\overline{Y_c}$ spectrally predicted value, W_a weight of spatially predicted value; \mathbf{w}_{c} weight of spectrally predicted value; $\mathbf{\overline{Y}}$ predicted value of current pixel.

	(Min(N,W)	if	$NW \ge Max(N, W)$
$\overline{Y_a} =$	Amax(N, W)	if	$NW \le Min(N, W)$
	(N + W - NW)	Otherwise	

 $\overline{Y_c}$ = value of the co-located pixel in the GRB (Y_{GRB}).

$$w_a = 1 - w_c;$$

$$w_{c} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if} & Y_{GRB} \geq Max(N, W, NW) \\ 0 & \text{if} & Y_{GRB} \leq Min(N, W, NW) \\ 0.5 & Otherwise & . \end{cases}$$

The model combines both spatially and spectrally predicted values with empirically selected weighting factor; it rejects the spectrally predicted value if it is far away from the surrounding pixels; while it add the spectrally predicted value multiplied by weight, in case of the value within the range.

The prediction error is then encoded using JPEG2000 [33]in lossless mode.

6. RESULTS

The results of using the weighted prediction model combined with JPEG2000 in lossless compression mode are compared for other techniques for the same hyperspectral data samples shown in TABLE 3.

	Erta Ale	LakeMonon	MtStHelen	Aver
		a	s	uge
Original data	12	12	12	12
JPEG2000+ KLT[32]	6.02	5.75	6.06	5.94
JPEG2000+ KLT Static[32]	5.96	5.72	6.01	5.90
JPEG2000+ KLT Dynamic[32]	6.16	5.87	6.28	6.10
JPEG2000(IWT(CDF))	6.40	6.14	6.56	6.37
PRIM+FlossTree+LSCM[34]	5.007	4.870	5.019	4.905
PRIM+FlossTree+LSCM with band	4.992	4.859	4.995	4.831
reorder [34]				
JPEG2000 with J-predictor	4.623	4.489	4.601	4.398

TABLE 3: results of using J-predictor with JPEG2000 compared with other techniques

JPEG2000 is combined with Karhunen–Loève transform (KLT); where reversible integer wavelet transform is used for lossless transform.

The PRIM+FlossTree+LSCM algorithm is combination of reordering technique followed by predictive lossless compression algorithm; Prim's algorithm is used for bands reordering; where fast lossless Free/Libre and Open Source Software (FLOSS) algorithm is used for predictive lossless coding, the reordering process is based on local/causal Spectral Correlation Mapper[34]. Our proposed predictor has performance better than the listed techniques in table an improvement of number of bit per pixel per band is reduced using the J-predictor.

7. CONCLUSIONS

As hyperspectral compression is requiring an efficient techniques for exploitation of both spatial and spectral redundancies; we have proposed a new modified predictor for lossless compression of hyperspectral data cubes; the techniques mainly depends on calculation of spectral correlation matrix to discover the correlated group of bands; and as a result we calculate the global reference band that represent a mean value of spectral information of the hyperspectral data bands; this bans is then used in modified predictor to predict the whole bands and the residual prediction error is then encoded by JPEG2000 in lossless mode.

As a comparison this technique and other techniques showed that J-predictor can minimize the prediction error and consequently the number of bits required to encode the data.

The main disadvantage of this techniques is that it depends on the calculation of spectral correlation matrix; which is a time consuming process, this issue can be addressed in future research.

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