IARJSET

ISSN (Online) 2393-8021
ISSN (Print) 2394-1588

International Advanced Research Journal in Science, Engineering and Technology
6th National Conference on Science, Technology and Communication Skills – NCSTCS 2K23
Narula Institute of Technology, Agarpara, Kolkata, India
Vol. 10, Special Issue 3, September 2023

Image to Image Colorization Using Pix-2-Pix GAN Model

Debanjan Pan[1], Divya Prakash Gupta[2], Abhishek Bhowmik[3] and Sonali Bhowmik[4]

Student, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, JIS University, Kolkata, India[1,2]

Faculty, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, JIS University, Kolkata, India[3,4]

Abstract: Image colorization is an important task in computer vision, aiming to automatically add color to grayscale images. This abstract presents a study on the application of the Pix2Pix GAN model for image colorization. Pix2Pix is a conditional GAN architecture that learns the mapping from grayscale input images to corresponding colored output images using a paired dataset. The Pix2Pix GAN model comprises a generator network and a discriminator network. The generator takes a grayscale image and generates a colored image, while the discriminator distinguishes between generated and ground truth color images. Those two networks which were trained adversarially, with generator aiming for deceiving the discriminator, and the discriminator striving to accurately classify those images. To train Pix2Pix GAN model, a large dataset of paired grayscale and colored images is required. The model is trained using techniques such as gradient descent and backpropagation. Experimental results demonstrate that the Pix2Pix GAN model effectively learns the colorization task, producing visually appealing and coherent colorized images. By incorporating additional constraints or conditioning information, such as edge maps or semantic labels, further improvements in colorization quality and realism can be achieved. The Pix2Pix GAN model offers a promising approach to automate grayscale-to-color image conversion. Its ability to learn from paired datasets and generate realistic colorizations has diverse applications, including historical image restoration, artistic rendering, and visual content generation. Future research can explore extensions and enhancements to the Pix2Pix GAN model, addressing specific challenges in image colorization and further improving its performance and applicability.

I. INTRODUCTION

Image colorization, the process where color information are added to grayscale images, has been an ongoing research area in computer vision. It plays a crucial role in various applications such as historical image restoration, movie colorization, and artistic rendering. Traditional methods for image colorization heavily relied on manual intervention, requiring significant time and expertise. With the advent of deep learning techniques, particularly Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs), automatic image colorization has achieved remarkable advancements.

In recent years, the Pix2Pix GAN model has emerged as a powerful architecture for image-to-image translation tasks, including image colorization. The Pix2Pix GAN provides a framework for learning the mapping between input and output images using paired datasets. By training on large-scale datasets of grayscale and corresponding colored images, the Pix2Pix GAN model learns to generate realistic and accurate colorizations for new grayscale images.

The Pix2Pix GAN model consists of two components which were basically primary components: a generator network and a discriminator network. The generator network takes a grayscale image as input and aims to generate a colored image that closely resembles the ground truth. Meanwhile, the discriminator network evaluates the generated image's quality by distinguishing them from real colored images. The two networks are trained simultaneously in an manner which is adversarial, where generator learns how to produce colorizations that are identical as real colored images while the discriminator improves its ability to accurately classify which is the generated and which one is real images.

This project aims for exploring the application of the Pix2Pix GAN model for image colorization. By leveraging the model's capacity to capture complex mappings between grayscale and colored images, we seek to develop an automated and robust solution for converting grayscale images into visually appealing colorized representations. We will train the Pix2Pix GAN model on a large dataset of paired grayscale and colored images, employing adversarial and reconstruction losses to ensure high-quality and coherent colorization results.

The contributions of this work include the investigation about the Pix2Pix GAN model's effectiveness in image colorization, the exploration of different loss functions for training, and the evaluation of the model's performance on diverse datasets. Additionally, we will explore potential extensions to incorporate additional constraints or conditioning information to further improve colorization quality and realism.

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The remainder of this paper is organized as follows: Section 2 provides the aim and objective of the project. Section 3 describes the methodology, including network architecture and training procedure. Section 4 presents experimental results. Section 5 tells about the future scope of the project. Finally, Section 6 concludes the paper, highlighting the achievements, limitations, and future research directions in image colorization using the Pix2Pix GAN model.

II. AIM AND OBJECTIVE

This project is for developing a method for image colorization using a Pix2Pix GAN architecture. The objective is to train a generator network to fill grayscale images with color, while the discriminator network evaluates the color accuracy and calculates the loss with respect to the original colored images. By iteratively training the model, it will learn to generate colorized images that nearly same as the actual.

This project aims to contribute to the field of image colorization by developing an effective method using the Pix2Pix GAN architecture. Generator networks will enable the model to learn the colorization task and generate colorized images that closely accurate to the original colors.

III. METHODOLOGY

The methodology employed in this project focuses on utilizing the Pix2Pix GAN architecture for the automatic colorization of images. The Pix2Pix GAN model is specifically designed to learn the mapping from grayscale or monochromatic images to their corresponding colored versions.

Model Architecture

The proposed model architecture builds upon the Pix2Pix GAN framework, incorporating additional elements such as normalizations and multiscale discriminators. The generator in this architecture is a modified U-net model, consisting of an encoder block and a decoder block. The encoder block processes the input image, progressively reducing its spatial dimensions and increasing the number of feature channels. The resulting compressed representation is then passed through the bottleneck layer and subsequently upsampled in the decoder block to reconstruct the output image.

To assess the validity of the colorization process, a PatchGAN discriminator is employed. This discriminator evaluates both the grayscale image and the corresponding-colored image, determining whether the colorization is a faithful transformation of the original grayscale input. By using multiscale discriminators, the model can capture both global and local image information, enabling more accurate and detailed colorization results.

The integration of normalizations, such as batch normalization, further enhances the model's learning capabilities by ensuring stable and efficient gradient propagation during training. The modified U-net generator architecture facilitates the effective conversion of grayscale images to colored images, leveraging the learned representations from the encoder-decoder structure. The PatchGAN discriminator plays a crucial role in guiding the generator towards producing colorizations that closely resemble the ground truth colored images.

Adversarial Learning of the model and L1 Loss

The training of the image colorization model involves a combination of adversarial learning and L1 loss. This methodology aims to enhance the generator's ability to generate realistic and accurate colorizations.

Adversarial Learning

The adversarial learning component consists of two main networks: the generator network and the discriminator network. The generator network takes the grayscale image as input and produces a corresponding colored image.Other side, the discriminator network responsible for distinguishing between the colored images which is generated and the actual colored images.

During the process of tranning, the generator network aims to deceive the discriminator, generating colorizations that are identical to the real colored image. Simultaneously, discriminator network learns to accurately classify the generated colorizations and the ground truth colored images. This adversarial training framework fosters a competitive dynamic between the generator and discriminator, driving the generator to produce high-quality colorizations.

L1 Loss

In addition to adversarial learning, the L1 loss is employed to further optimize the generator's performance. The L1 loss measures the pixel-wise difference between the generated colored image and the ground truth colored image. By minimizing this loss, the generator learns to produce colorizations that closely resemble the ground truth, ensuring accurate color reproduction. The combination of adversarial learning and L1 loss provides a powerful training framework for the image colorization model. The adversarial learning encourages the generator to produce realistic colorizations, while the L1 loss promotes the preservation of fine details and texture. This dual approach enables the model to generate visually pleasing and accurate colorizations.

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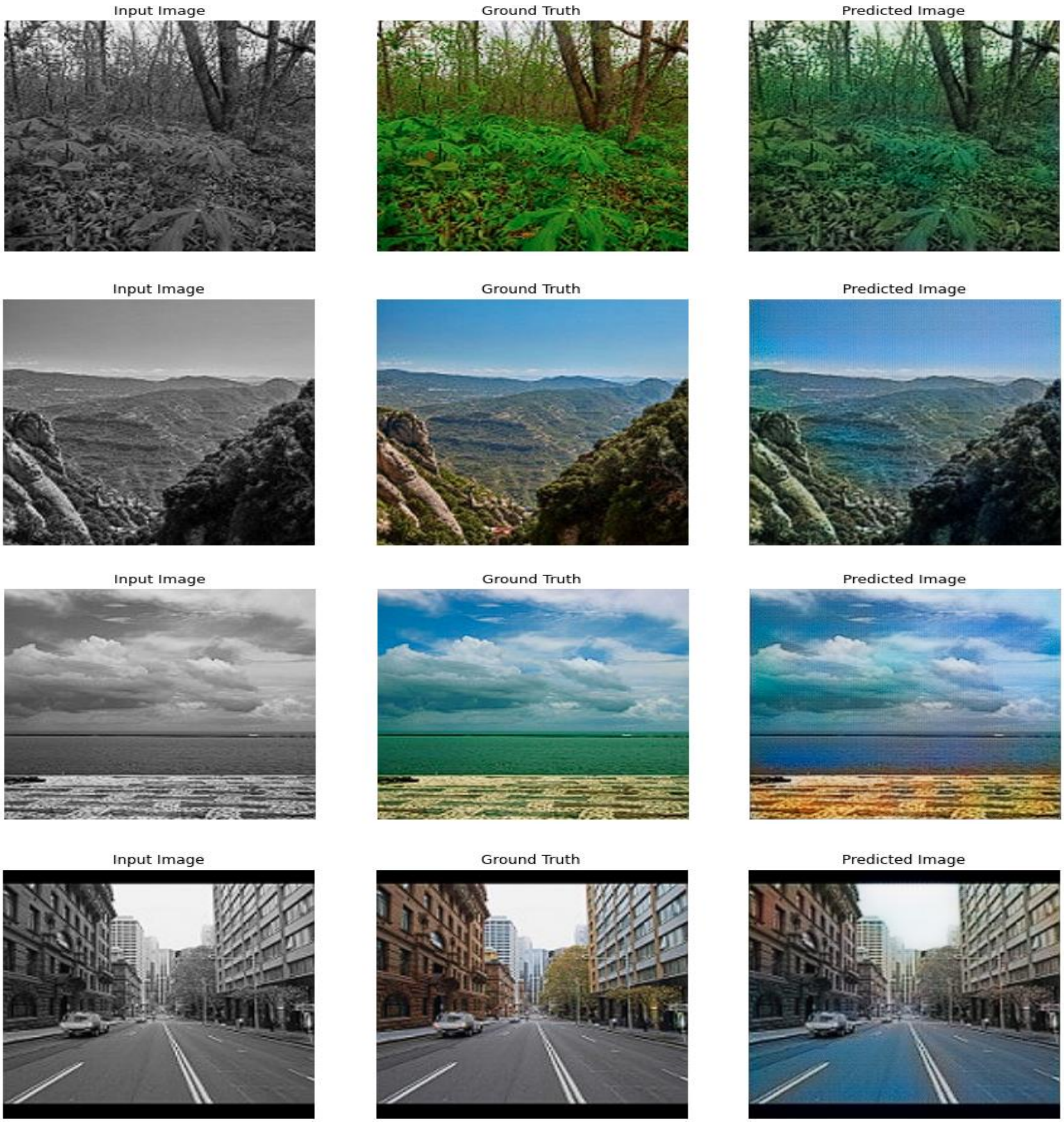
Through the integration of adversarial learning and L1 loss, the proposed methodology achieves remarkable results in automatic image colorization. It leverages the discriminative power of the discriminator and the pixel-level fidelity provided by the L1 loss, resulting in high-quality colorized images that closely resemble the original ground truth colors.

IV. RESULT



V. FUTURE SCOPE

Although the current implementation of the Pix2Pix GAN architecture for image colorization has shown promising results, there are several avenues for future exploration and improvement. One area of future research is the augmentation of training data. Increasing the size and diversity of the dataset can enhance the model's ability to generalize and produce more accurate colorizations. ccMedical imaging or satellite imagery, can also be a fruitful area for future investigation.

VI. CONCLUSION

In this paper, we have presented a comprehensive study on image colorization using the Pix2Pix GAN architecture. Our research demonstrates the effectiveness of this approach in automatically adding color to grayscale images. Through the utilization of adversarial learning and L1 loss, we trained the Pix2Pix GAN model to generate realistic and accurate colorizations. The combination of these loss functions ensured that the generated images not only resembled real colored images but also preserved the details and textures of the original grayscale inputs.

The results of our experiments indicate that the Pix2Pix GAN model produces visually appealing and coherent colorizations. The generator network, with its modified U-net architecture and normalization techniques, effectively captures the mapping between grayscale and colored images. The discriminator network, employing the PatchGAN model, plays a crucial role in guiding the training process and maintaining the fidelity of the colorizations.

While our study has achieved promising results, there are still areas for further exploration and improvement. Future research can focus on expanding the dataset to enhance the model's generalization capabilities and addressing challenges such as handling different image domains and addressing the limitations of the Pix2Pix GAN architecture.

In conclusion, image colorization using the Pix2Pix GAN architecture offers a robust and automated solution for transforming grayscale images into vibrant and realistic color representations. The advancements made in this field have great potential in various applications, including digital restoration, artistic rendering, and visual content generation. As we continue to refine and extend the capabilities of this approach, we can expect even more remarkable results in the future.

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