(INFORMATICA PER LE) DIGITAL HUMANITIES

LECTURE 4 MARCH 17 2023 TEXT

ANALYSIS ANNOTATION CONVERSION EDITING ENCODING 🔽 MINING PROCESSING RECOGNITION TRANSCRIPTION VISUALIZATION

TEXT

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USASCII code chart

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Chart. Scanner **US-ASCII** Code copied the material from delivered with TermiNet 300 impact type printer with Keyboard, February 1972, General **Electric** Data communication Product Dept., Waynesboro, Virginia.

US-ASCII	Code	Chart.	Sc	anner
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Moving data is like delivering tomatoes

It's perishable

General Electric's TermiNet* 300 printers deliver data up to three times as fast as conventional equipment



General Electric's electronic TermiNet printers give you the kind of reliability you need to keep you on line. The kind of quietness and flexibility you want to get the most for your dollar invested. It's quieter than a standard typewriter ... place it where the action is. Over 20 options can be added to keep you up-to-date with your system changes. Good reasons why 10,000 TermiNet printers have been sold to date.

GENERAL 🐲 ELECTRIC



If your data are becoming perishable things, write for detailed information on TermiNet printers: General Electric Company, Data Communication Products Department, Section 794-03, P. O. Box 4197, Lynchburg, Virginia 24502.

"Registered Trademark of General Electric Company, U.S.A.

From "IEEE Computer" December issue, 1975:



Bernie McMahill, center, of Boeing Aerospace Company, instructs Panama Canal employees in the use of TermiNet 300 printers. Some 140 Canal employees have received printer instruction, and more than 200 have learned the use of the new Marine Traffic Control System.





In a TermiNet 300 printer, letters are printed on thermal paper by a dot matrix.

matrix.

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SYSTEM















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WHATDOTHYHAVINCOMMON?











THEY ARE ALL SEEN AND UNDERSTOOD BY YOU.


"The reachery of mages" of on Carlin Vansin DV Magritte.















PHOTOGRAPH, IMAGE, PICTURE, SNAPSHOT, PORTRAIT, ...



ICON, LOGO, FIGURE, REPRESENTATION, EMBLEM, ...





SIGN, CHARACTER, MARK, GRAPHEME, ...





MORE COMPLEX, MORE REALISTIC, MORE TREACHEROUS





Ε





THEY ARE ALL SHOWN ON A SCREEN AND SEEN BY YOU

DIGITAL IMAGES

DIGITAL IMAGES

DIGITAL IMAGES











Zooming in on a digital image

- We end up with monochrome pixels organised into a rectangular matrix
- Pixel: portmanteau of "picture" and "element"
- A pixel is the smallest element in a digital image
- Matrix: a list of elements organised in a table with rows and columns







Zooming in on a physical object

- We end up with atoms
- Atom: term derived from ancient Greek "atomos", which means indivisible
- An atom was though to be the smallest entity matter is comprised of
- In the 20th century it became clear that an atom can indeed be divided into smaller entities

Digital images vs physical objects

Digital images

- Pixels are flat
- Pixels are organised in matrices
- Pixels have a colour
- Pixels form images

Physical objects

- Atoms are spheric
- Atoms are organised in complex structures of any shape
- Atoms do not have a colour (they are too small to have a colour)
- Atoms form objects

The physical universe

- Isn't everything that exists in the universe made of atoms anyway?
- Are digital images objects, too?

Not really



Not really

A digital image

- Can be viewed on a smartphone
- Can be viewed on a laptop
- Can be sent via email
- Can be viewed on a smartphone AND on a laptop at the same time

A physical object

- Can be put on the floor
- Can be put on a table
- Can be sent via mail
- CanNOT be on the floor AND on a table at the same time

However...

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...both a laptop and a smartphone are physical objects, and without them we couldn't look at digital images.



Question time

- What is the real nature of digital images?
- They are not exactly like physical objects
- But we still need physical objects to look at digital images
- What kind of entity are digital images?

Digital <insert noun here>

- For an entity to be digital, that entity has to be <u>described</u> in terms of numbers
- A digital image, for instance, is an image described in terms of numbers



Where are the numbers?
0

2

3

The image can be put in a system of coordinates, so that each pixel's position is determined by a pair of numbers (x,y)

The image can be put in a system of coordinates, so that each pixel's position is determined by a pair of numbers (x,y)





Time for another zoom in



Monitor, magnified 300x



The origin of colours

- Physicists discovered that all coloured light can be split into three fundamental components: red light, green light, and blue light
- Monitors exploit this principle
- Monitors are rectangular <u>matrices</u> of triplets of LEDs (light emitting diodes): one red, one green, one blue
- By calibrating the luminosity of each LED in a triplet, we can make it emit any colour of the spectrum

Pure red



Pure blue



Violet



Colours and numbers

- Numbers can be used to indicate the strength of each component in the triplet
- The higher the number, the more component participates in the blend that produces the final result
- The most widespread <u>standard</u> specifies that these numbers go from 0 (no component) to 255 (full component)

Pure red



(255,0,0)

Pure blue



(0,0,255)

Violet



(255, 0, 255)





(9,14) position (245,133,167) colour



(9, 14, 245, 133, 167)

Numbers describing a pixel

- Even if the pixel isn't there, the 5 numbers that describe its position within the image and its colour are enough to recreate the pixel whenever needed
- Applying the same technique to all the pixels of a digital image, we can describe a whole image with quintuplets of numbers, and we can use those quintuplets to rebuild the image whenever needed

(9, 14, 245, 133, 167)

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Digital images

- A digital image is an image <u>described</u> in terms of numbers
- Whoever has the numbers is able to rebuild that image
- This is what makes digital images different from physical objects: instead of moving around objects, we are moving around numbers

Working with numbers

 The special characteristics of digital images derive from the fact that we can work with numbers in many different ways



The need for hardware

- First of all, numbers alone cannot create anything
- We need apt machinery that is commanded by these numbers and creates physical objects accordingly
- In the case of digital images, we need monitors and screens (matrices of triplets of LEDs) that convert the RBG numbers into actual coloured light

The need for standards

- Moreover, for society to be able to work with numbers and use them to build images on different devices around the world, everybody must agree on the correspondence between numbers and pixels' position and colour
- A standard is a universal agreement between hardware builders and content producers on how the numbers will be used to describe images
- Famous standards are: RGB, JPG, BMP, TIF

USASCII code chart

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The physical universe and more

- Isn't everything that exists in the universe made of atoms anyway?
- No: an agreement between people is not made of atoms
- The hardware that allows for the creation of digital images is indeed comprised of physical objects
- However, the standards that make the exchange of digital images among people and devices are not physical

Being digital

- It is possible to describe an entity in terms of numbers
- These numbers can be exchanged among people, possibly with the support of computers and telecommunication networks
- The format of these numbers must be established by universally shared standards
- Special devices are needed to create physical objects from their numerical description

USASCII code chart

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Image courtesy of We Grow Thinkers. (http://wegrowthinkers.weebly.com/)







Image courtesy of Tommy Japan 79 on Flickr . (South Vietnam, 1968)

A L I E N

In space no one can hear you scream.

Poster of "Alien" (1979), directed by Ridley Scott.







In June 1883, in the magazine The Chautauquan, the question was asked, "If a tree were to fall on an island where there were no human beings would there be any sound?"

In June 1883, in the magazine The Chautauquan, the question was asked, "If a tree were to fall on an island where there were no human beings would there be any sound?" They then went on to answer the query with, "No. Sound is the sensation excited in the ear when the air or other medium is set in motion."











waveform / timbre

frequency / pitch

frequency / pitch







amplitude / volume







waveform / timbre







ACTUALLY...





ACTUALLY...



ACTUALLY...




















"The Dress", a viral sensation from 2015 on qualia and subjective perception.























GEOMETRY TEACHES US THAT THERE ARE INFINITE POINTS IN A LINE.





SAMPLING

- We pick a point on the wave to compute coordinates for only every interval of time
- Each picked point is called a SAMPLE
- The number of samples per unit of time is called SAMPLING RATE
- The higher the sampling rate, the more samples we have
- The more samples we have, the better the numerical description of the wave is







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SAMPLING

numerical description

(1, 23) (2, 30) (3, 28) (4, 30) (5, 29) (6,35) (7, 37) (8, 22) (9,18) (10, 13) (11, 8) (12,2) (13, 4) (14, 8) (15, 10) (16, 18) (17, 20)...

DIGITAL IMAGES: MONITORS



DIGITAL SOUNDS: ?

DIGITAL SOUNDS: LOUDSPEAKERS



THE NEED FOR HARDWARE

 As it always happens, digital technology needs physical tools that convert numbers into physical phenomena























MUSIC IS A PROOF THAT THERE IS NO REAL DIVIDE BETWEEN ANALOG AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY
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