Near InfraRed Imagery Colorization
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1. Introduction
In many vision applications, including surveillance photo interpretation by imagery analysts and driving scene understanding by drivers looking at backup-ad cameras, RGB video sensors are preferred since depicted images are similar to the human visual perception system. RGB image have limitations related with lighting conditions and object surface color. The limitations mentioned above can be easily overcome using Near Infrared (NIR) imagery. NIR image colorization shares some particularities with color correction/transfer [1].

2. Motivation and Objective
• Image acquisition devices have largely expanded in recent years, mainly due to the decrease in price of electronics together with the increase in computational power.
• In spite of the large amount of possibilities, when the information needs to be provided to a final user, the classical RGB representation is preferred, because help user understanding.

3. Proposed Method
Generative Adversarial Networks
• Generative Adversarial Network (GAN) is a framework presented on [2], where two models are trained simultaneously.
  - Generative model (G) that captures the data distribution
  - Discriminative model (D) that estimate the probability that a sample came from the training data rather than G
• Parameters for G and D are obtained from:
  - GANs can be extended to a conditional model if both the generator and discriminator are conditioned on some extra information.
• The proposed approach is based on the usage of a Conditional Generative Adversarial Network (C-GAN) [3].

Stacked Conditional GAN model
Based on [5] a novel infrared imagery coloring estimation using Stacked C-GAN is proposed.
• The model will receive as input a near infrared patch (NIR) fused with Gaussian noise to ensure more diversity of colors
• $l_1$ regularization term is added on each layer of the model to prevent overfitting

4. Experimental Results
The proposed approach has been evaluated with a large data set [5] (country and field categories have been used), some illustrative and quantitative results are provided below:

5. Conclusions
• A novel Stacked Conditional Generative Adversarial Network model has been proposed for NIR image colorization.
• Different loss functions have been evaluated to help the learning model to produce good results.
• Other strategies will be considered for improving results like to use Cycled consistent GANs or Variational Autoencoder with adversarial learning process.

6. References