

# Hybrid Fuzzy Binning for Near-duplicate Image Retrieval: Combining Fuzzy Histograms and SIFT Keypoints

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**Abstract:** Near-duplicate image retrieval is still a challenging task, especially due to issues with matching quality and performance. Most existing approaches use high dimensional vectors based on local features such as SIFT keypoints to represent images. The extraction and matching of these vectors to detect near-duplicates are time and memory consuming. Global features such as color histograms can strongly reduce the dimensionality of image vectors and significantly accelerate the matching process. On the other hand, they strongly decrease the quality of the retrieval process. In this work, we propose a hybrid approach to improve the quality of retrieval and reduce the computation time by applying a robust filtering process using global features optimized for recall followed by a ranking process optimized for precision. For efficient filtering we propose a fuzzy partition hue saturation (HS) histogram to retrieve a subset of near-duplicate candidate images. After that, we re-rank the top retrieved results by extracting the SIFT features. In order to evaluate the performance and quality of this hybrid approach, we provide results of a comparative performance analysis using the original SIFT-128D, the HS color histogram, the fuzzy HS model (F-HS), the proposed fuzzy partition HS model (FP-HS) and the combination of the proposed fuzzy partition HS histogram with the SIFT features using large scale image benchmark databases. The results of experiments show that applying the fuzzy partition HS histogram and re-rank the top results (only 6%) of the retrieved images) using the SIFT algorithm significantly outperforms the use of the individual state of art methods with respect to computing efficiently and effectively.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

Several major issues of image near-duplicate retrieval (NDR) have been discussed in a lot of previous contributions (Chum et al., 2007; Chu et al., 2013; Xu et al., 2010) to reduce the size of image datasets by finding out images that belong to the same scene but are taken of different perspectives, lightness conditions, cameras, or scales. Furthermore, NDR has been introduced in (Auclair et al., 2009), to detect copyright violations and in (Alyosef and Nürnberger, 2019) to identify the relation between zoomed-in images and whole scene (i.e., zoomed-in retrieval (ZIR)). Keypoint features are extracted upon local distinct regions of an image. The main research in NDR has focused on using highly discriminative image features specifically, the scale-invariant feature detector and descriptor (SIFT). Since they are invariant to a number of image deformations such as affine transformation, viewpoint or lightness change and adding noise or blur to images. The descriptors of these features are high

dimensional vectors. Therefore, their extraction and matching are time and memory consuming. Global features such as color features represent images using vectors of fixed length. The extraction and matching of global features are faster than keypoints but they produce lower performance than keypoint features in solving retrieval tasks. In this work, we construct our hybrid approach by combining the benefits of the HSV color features and SIFT features. The advantage of this hybrid approach is decreasing the required memory, accelerating the matching process and improving the performance of NDR and ZIR.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. Section 2 reviews the relevant works to accelerate the NDR. Section 3 details the proposed hybrid method. Section 4 presents the settings and results of our experiments. Section 5 concludes the work.

## 2 STATE OF ART

SIFT features have high dimensional descriptors (the dimensionality of each descriptor is  $128D$ ). Therefore, their extraction and matching are time and memory consumption specifically for a large image dataset. To overcome this problem, two varieties of optimization have been discussed in the previous works. The first optimization is to downscale the dimensionality of a SIFT descriptor to get a lower dimension descriptor and consequently accelerate the matching process (Khan et al., 2011; Ke and Sukthankar, 2004; Alyosef and Nürnberger, 2016). The second optimization suggests accelerating the process of feature indexing and matching. To achieve this, the concept of a bag of features has been proposed in (Li et al., 2014; Grauman and Darrell, 2007; Jiang et al., 2015; Nistèr and Stewènius, 2006). The fuzzy

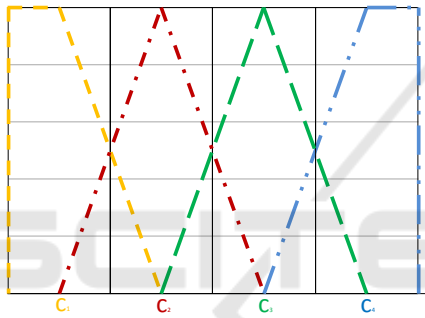


Figure 1: Comparison of crisp clusters and fuzzy clusters of histogram bins.

color histogram has been introduced by (Han and Ma, 2002), which built the fuzzy histogram by processing the three channels of the RGB histogram simultaneously. The idea is to compute the distance between the color value of each pixel of an image and all clusters. To improve the performance of the SIFT algorithm in fields of object detection and image retrieval the idea of the color descriptor (instead of the grayscale descriptor) has been introduced in (Bosch et al., 2008; van de Sande et al., 2010). However, these methods increase the dimensionality of the SIFT descriptor. In this work, we aim to accelerate the matching process to improve the performance of image NDR and ZIR tasks.

## 3 HYBRID APPROACH

To accelerate and improve the retrieval performance of image NDR and ZIR, we proposed our hybrid approach by first applying the fuzzy color histogram.

Second, re-rank the results using their SIFT features. The following subsections detail our method.

### 3.1 Fuzzy HSV & Partition Fuzzy HSV

This section details our method in building the fuzzy HSV histogram (F-HSV). To improve the retrieval performance, we suggest dividing each image into sub-images and constructing the fuzzy partition HSV histogram (FP-HSV). The following subsections detail our proposed model to build F-HSV and FP-HSV.

#### 3.1.1 Fuzzy HSV Histogram

The HSV color space is created by merging the three channels of RGB color space to get hue, saturation and value channels (HSV). Hue defines the type of color and its value belongs to the range  $[0^\circ, 360^\circ]$ . Saturation describes pureness of color and value describes the amount of light in color. The values of saturation and value belong to the range  $[0, 255]$ . To build the 3D HSV color histogram, we divide each color channel into a specific number of clusters. After that, we assign the HSV values of each pixel to the closest cluster centers. These clusters produce bins of the HSV color histogram. Based on this, we split the hue channel into 30 clusters (bins) and each of Saturation and value channels into 32 clusters. The way of building clusters produce crisp clusters i.e. each sample color contributes only in one bin (cluster). Consider  $c_k; k = 1, \dots, L$  are centers of clusters, where  $L$  is the number of clusters and  $r$  the radius of cluster. The crisp clustering is defined as:

$$p(x|c_k) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } |x - c_k| \leq r \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

Since the clusters here stand for the bin of the HSV histogram, all clusters have the same radius  $r$ . To build the fuzzy clusters, we apply the following steps:

- for each sample  $x$ , determine the cluster where the sample belongs to using crisp clustering.
- compute the absolute distance between the sample and all centers  $c_k; k = 1, \dots, L$ .
- assign the probability  $1 - \frac{d_k}{2r}$  to the cluster  $c_k$  where  $d_k = |x - c_k| \leq r$ . Based on the location of a sample to the center of cluster, assign the probability  $\frac{d}{2r}$  to  $c_{k-1}$  or  $c_{k+1}$  i.e.:

$$p(x|c_k) = 1 - \frac{d}{2r} \quad (2)$$

$$\text{if } x \leq c_k: p(x|c_{k-1}) = 1 - \frac{1-d}{2r}$$

$$\text{else if } x > c_k: p(x|c_{k+1}) = 1 - \frac{1-d}{2r}$$

- for samples that belong to the first cluster and satisfy  $d_1 = |x - c_1| \leq r$ , we assign the both probabilities computed in Equation 2 to the first cluster.
- the same idea for the last cluster i.e. contributions are assigned to the last center for samples that they belong to the last cluster and satisfy  $d_L = |x - c_L| \geq r$ .
- normalize the clusters of F-HSV utilizing the area of the input image.

Figure 1 explains the difference between crisp and fuzzy clustering in case of having four clusters.

### 3.1.2 Construction of 2D Fuzzy Histogram

In our practice study, we notice that the third dimension of HSV histogram, which is the value dimension, decreases the performance of image NDR. The value dimension measures the amount of lighting in color therefore; any change in the lightness of colors causes a significant change in the bins of value dimension. Based on this, we consider only the hue and saturation dimensions when we construct the color histogram i.e., we construct the F-HS and FP-HS histograms instead of F-HSV and FP-HSV. Section 4.3.1 shows the comparison between the F-HSV and the F-HS models.

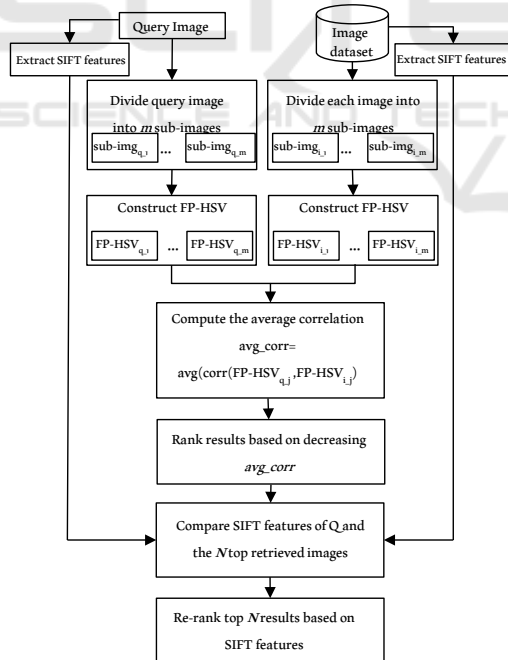


Figure 2: Flowchart of our proposed method.

### 3.1.3 Fuzzy Partition HS Histogram

To improve image NDR and ZIR by employing the F-HS histogram, we suggest dividing each image into

a set of sub-images  $P$ . After that, we compute the F-HS histogram for the whole image and for each sub-image as described in Subsection 3.1.1. The set of all F-HS histograms for all sub-images builds the fuzzy partition HS histogram (FP-HS). The FP-HS improves the performance of image NDR and ZIR because it presents additional information about the distribution of colors in images. Since the FP-HS model considers the spatial distribution of colors, it decreases the retrieving of non-relevant images.

### 3.1.4 Histogram Similarity Measures

Many methods have been suggested to measure the similarity between two color histograms such as intersection, Chi-Square, correlation and Earth mover's distance (P. Marin-Reyes, 2016). The idea of correlation measure is to compare the distribution of two histograms instead of the bin to bin comparison. Therefore, we use in this work the correlation measure by computing the mean  $\mu$  and standard deviation  $\sigma$  over all bins. The correlation  $Corr$  between two histograms  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  is defined as (P. Marin-Reyes, 2016):

$$Corr(H_1, H_2) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^L (H_{1,i} - \mu_1)(H_{2,i} - \mu_2)}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^L (H_{1,i} - \mu_1)^2 \sum_{i=1}^L (H_{2,i} - \mu_2)^2}} \quad (3)$$

where  $\mu = \frac{1}{L} \sum_{i=1}^L H_i$

The values of  $Corr$  belong to the rang  $[-1, +1]$ . The value of  $-1$  means that there is no correlation between the histograms. Whereas, the value  $+1$  implies that histograms are identical. The complexity of this measure is  $O(L)$  (P. Marin-Reyes, 2016). The correlation between two fuzzy partitions HS histograms of two near-duplicate images  $FP-HS_1$  and  $FP-HS_2$  is defined as:

$$Corr(FP-HS_1, FP-HS_2) = \frac{Corr(F-HS_1, F-HS_2)}{P+1} + \frac{\sum_{i=1}^P Corr(F-HS_{1i}, F-HS_{2i})}{P+1} \quad (4)$$

In the case of zoomed-in / whole scene retrieval, we compute the correlation between the  $F-HS_z$  of the zoomed-in image and both  $F-HS_w$  and the set  $FP-HS_{wi}; i = 1, \dots, P$  of a whole scene. After that, we measure the correlation between the zoomed-in and whole scene images as the average of the highest two correlations. Equation 5 describes the average correlation in case of zoomed-in / whole scene retrieval, where

$max_{zw1}, max_{zw2}$  are the highest two correlations.

$$avg-Corr(z, w) = \frac{avg(max_{zw1}, max_{zw2})}{2} \text{ where}$$

$$\{max_{zw1}, max_{zw2}\} = max\{Corr(F-HS_z, F-HS_w),$$

$$\{Corr(F-HS_z, FP-HS_{wi}); i = 1, \dots, P\}\}$$
(5)

### 3.1.5 Complexity of F-HS & FP-HS

We compare the computation time of the traditional HS, the F-HS and the FP-HS models to build color histograms using the Ukbench dataset (the details of this dataset are described in Subsection 4.1). Table 1 shows that the F-HS and FP-HS require a longer time to generate their histograms than the crisp HS model. However, the F-HS and FP-HS models significantly improve the performance of image NDR (see Subsection 4.3.1) comparing to the HS histogram. Moreover, F-HS and FP-HS still too faster than the SIFT algorithm (which needs hours to complete the feature extraction for the same image dataset). In addition, the F-HS and the FP-HS models produce a lesser amount of features than the SIFT algorithm. Hence, they accelerate the matching process.

Table 1: Time computation of HS, F-HS and FP-HS histograms using the Ukbench dataset.

Method	HS	F-HS	FP-HS	
Sub-images	-	-	$P = 3$	$P = 9$
Time (Sec.)	151	273	381	530

## 3.2 SIFT Feature Extraction

In this work, we aim to present the effect of using the F-HS and FP-HS in improving the performance of image NDR and ZIR. Therefore, in the step of extracting the SIFT features we are not going to discuss the optimized SIFT methods (Alyosef and Nürnberger, 2017a; Alyosef and Nürnberger, 2017b; Alyosef and Nürnberger, 2016; Khan et al., 2011) instead, we apply the original SIFT algorithm (Lowe, 2004) to extract the SIFT keypoints and build their 128 dimensions descriptors. The original SIFT algorithm (Lowe, 2004) extracts features using grayscale color space i.e. the color information play no role in the building of descriptors. To match the keypoints, we utilize the Kd-tree and the best-bin-first algorithm as described in (Lowe, 2004). However, this method of matching obtains duplicate matches i.e. a keypoint of one image may match with many keypoints in the other one. To overcome this problem, we eliminate all duplicate matches except the

one which has the best matching score. This filtering of matched features is important to reduce the number of mismatched features. Further discussion to filter the matched features have been discussed in (Alyosef and Nürnberger, 2019)

## 3.3 Re-rank the Top N Results

To optimize the NDR results obtained by the F-HS and the FP-HS models, we apply the SIFT algorithm on the top  $N$  retrieved results. Consequently, no need to compare the SIFT features of a query image with all SIFT features of dataset images. Instead, we compare the features of a query image with only the top  $N$  retrieved results where  $size(N) \ll size(Dataset)$ . In the Section 4, we discuss the suitable values for the top  $N$  results. Figure 2 details the step of our method.

# 4 EVALUATION

We evaluate the performance of our hybrid model to solve image NDR and ZIR tasks. We describe our experiments as in the following subsections.

## 4.1 Datasets

In this work, since we aim to solve two tasks (i.e. image NDR and ZIR), we decide to use two image datasets. The first one is UKbench dataset which contains 10200 images of 2550 various scenes (Nister and Stewènius, 2006). For each scene, there are four near-duplicate images. We pick the first image as query image and keep the rest three images in the dataset. So we get 2550 queries. The second is the Oxford building dataset to solve the ZIR task (Philbin et al., 2007). This dataset contains images of the same sight but not necessarily the same scene i.e. the images present inside and outside parts of sights. To use this dataset for solving the ZIR task, we generate three sets of zoomed-in images by cropping and rescaling the images of the oxford building dataset. These datasets are Oxford-Zoomed-in-50, Oxford-Zoomed-in-25 and Oxford-Zoomed-in-10 where the zoomed-in images cover 50%, 25% and 10% of the original scene respectively. We use these three constructed datasets as queries to solve the task of the whole scene (original images of oxford buildings) retrieval.

## 4.2 Evaluation Measures

To evaluate the performance of the proposed F-HS, FP-HS models and the hybrid approach, we compute the recall, MAP and VR (Alyosef and Nürnberger,

2019). Given a set of  $Q$  query images,  $M_q$  number of relevant image to a query image  $q$ , then the mean recall  $MR$  is defined as:

$$MR = \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{q=1}^Q Recall(q) \quad ; \quad Recall(q) = \frac{M_{qr}}{M_q} \quad (6)$$

To present the distribution of recalls of individual query images around the  $MR$ , we compute the variance of the recall values  $VR$  as follow:

$$VR = \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{q=1}^Q (Recall(q) - MR)^2 \quad (7)$$

To present the positions of relevant images in the set of retrieved results, we compute the mean average precision  $MAP$  as:

$$MAP = \sum_{q=1}^Q \frac{Ap(q)}{Q} \quad ; \quad Ap(q) = \frac{1}{j} \sum_{i=1}^j p(i) \times r(i) \quad (8)$$

Where  $Ap(q)$  is the average precision for image  $q$  and  $r(i) = 1$  if the  $i^{th}$  retrieved image is one of the relevant images otherwise  $r(i) = 0$ ,  $p(i)$  is the precision at the  $i^{th}$  element,  $J$  is the number of retrieved results.

### 4.3 Results of Image NDR

The results of the original HSV, HS, SIFT and the proposed F-HS and FP-HS and the hybrid method are compared and evaluated to solve the image NDR tasks.

Table 2: MR of the crisp HSV, the crisp HS, the F-HSV, and the F-HS methods for the top 3, 10 and 500 results.

Method	MR3%	MR10%	MR500%
HSV	34.87	44.44	82.38
HS	38.49	48.01	87.52
F-HSV	37.09	47.76	86.38
F-HS	41.87	51.62	87.52

#### 4.3.1 Comparison of F-HSV, F-HS & HSV, HS

As we mentioned in Subsection 3.1.2, using 2D HS histogram performs better than the 3D HSV histogram. To justify this idea, we compare the performance of crisp HSV, F-HSV to the performance of crisp HS, F-HS histograms to solve image NDR tasks. We apply this experiment on the Ukbench dataset. Table 2 shows that the crisp HS and the F-HS models perform better than the crisp HSV and the F-HSV models in solving the image NDR task. Table 3 clarifies that the ignoring of the value domain improves the MAP and the VR by solving image NDR tasks.

Table 3: MAP and VR of crisp HSV, crisp HS, F-HSV and F-HS methods on top 3 and 10 results.

Method	MAP3	MAP10	VR3	VR10
HSV	31.40	33.52	11.65	16.02
HS	35.57	36.47	12.01	13.81
F-HSV	33.40	35.02	11.19	15.65
F-HS	37.32	40.39	12.07	13.28

#### 4.3.2 Results of F-HS for NDR Task

As shown in Table 2 the F-HS outperforms the crisp HSV, F-HSV and the HS models. Therefore, we re-ranked the results of the F-HS using their SIFT features. Table 2 presents that the top 500 retrieved images using FH-SH retrieves about 87% of the relevant images. Therefore, we suggest to re-rank the top 500 results using their SIFT features. Table 4 presents that applying the hybrid method (i.e., first F-HS and then re-rank the top 500 results) obtains better results than the extraction and matching of only SIFT features to solve image NDR task. Moreover, our hybrid approach accelerates the matching process since it compares SIFT features of a query image with only the top 500 retrieved results i.e., with only 6.5% of total images in the dataset. Table 4 explains that our hybrid method obtains better MAP than the SIFT algorithm. In addition, it presents that the distribution of the individual recalls around the MR is better by our method than by the SIFT algorithm.

Table 4: The MR of the SIFT algorithm and the F-HS+SIFT for the top 3, 10 and 50 results.

Method	MR3%	MR10%	MR50%
SIFT	49.32	54.31	58.70
F-HS+SIFT	<b>55.77</b>	<b>64.61</b>	<b>72.78</b>

Table 5: MAR and VR of the SIFT & the F-HS+SIFT models.

Method	MAP3	MAP10	VR3	VR10
SIFT	47.46	51.07	15.08	15.17
F-HS+SIFT	<b>53.76</b>	<b>57.46</b>	<b>14.75</b>	<b>14.60</b>

#### 4.3.3 Results of FP-HS for NDR Task

Table 6 presents the performance of the FP-HS model when both query and dataset images are divided into three ( $P = 3$ ) and then nine ( $P = 9$ ) sub-images. The results illustrate that the using of nine sub-images improves the MR of the FP-HS model. Moreover, as presented in Table 7, the FP-HS model produces a small



VR when  $P = 9$  too. As displayed in Table 6, the MR obtained by nine sub-images is around 80% on the top 50 results while it is more than 90% when the top 500 results are retrieved. Therefore, we can improve the performance of image NDR by re-ranking the top 50 or 500 results, i.e., only 0.65% or 6.5% of the size of the dataset respectively.

Table 6: MR of the FP-HS model for  $P = 3$  and  $P = 9$ .

FP-HS	MR3	MR10	MR50	MR500
$P = 3$	52.27	59.32	73.53	89.32
$P = 9$	<b>55.71</b>	<b>66.22</b>	<b>78.44</b>	<b>91.32</b>

Table 7: The MAP and VR of the FP-HS model.

FP-HS	MAP3	MAP10	VR3	VR10
$P = 3$	46.74	50.39	13.42	15.73
$P = 9$	<b>52.68</b>	<b>56.71</b>	<b>13.24</b>	<b>14.29</b>

#### 4.3.4 Re-rank FP-HS Results for NDR Task

We improve the ranking of results by matching the SIFT features of a query with the top 300 images. Tables 8 and 9 introduce the re-ranked results of the FP-HS model. The hybrid model obtains the best MR when  $P = 9$  is utilized to construct the FP-HS. Moreover, the best MAP and VR are obtained concerning the hybrid model and  $P = 9$  (Table 9). The hybrid model (when  $P = 9$ ) improves the results of image NDR by 22% more than the SIFT algorithm, 30% more than F-HS, and 4% more than the hybrid model using  $P = 3$ . In this work, we do not resume the evaluation concerning more sub-images since the partition of images into smaller sub-images is once again time and memory consuming. Figure 3 presents a comparison between the SIFT algorithm, the F-HS model, the FP-HS, and the hybrid approach. The SIFT algorithm and the F-HS model retrieve only one of the three relevant images in the top three results. Whereas, the FP-HS model retrieves two of the relevant images in top results. However, re-ranking the results utilizing SIFT features obtains all relevant results in the top three results.

Table 8: The MR of the hybrid approach on the top 300 found by the FP-HS model.

Re-ranked results: hybrid approach			
Partitions	MR3%	MR10%	MR50%
$P = 3$	68.52	73.73	75.44
$P = 9$	<b>72.77</b>	<b>81.79</b>	<b>87.59</b>

Table 9: The MAP and the VR of the hybrid approach on the top 300 results of the FP-HS model.

Re-ranked: hybrid approach				
Partitions	MAP3	MAP10	VR3	VR10
$P = 3$	67.12	70.57	13.11	12.05
$P = 9$	<b>71.06</b>	<b>75.20</b>	<b>12.64</b>	<b>11.16</b>

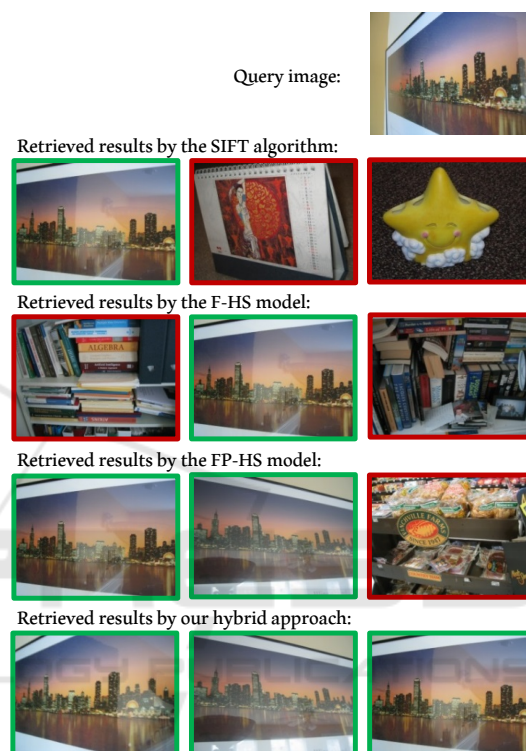


Figure 3: Comparison of the top three retrieved images employing the SIFT, the F-HS, the FP-HS, and the hybrid approach to solve the image NDR task.

#### 4.4 Result of Zoomed-in Retrieval

Zoomed-in images retrieval is a part of image NDR when the zoomed-in image covers the most relevant details in the whole scene. If the zoomed-in image covers only a very small part of the whole scene and differs in resolution, then the justification of zoomed-in / whole scene relation is challenging even for the human visual system. Therefore, in this work, we discuss the case of ZIR separately. We use the Oxford buildings dataset to compare the performance of the F-HS, the SIFT, the FP-HS, and the hybrid approach.

Table 10: MR values for various zoomed-image datasets to solve the ZIR task. The results are computed concerning the top 1, 5, and 50 results.

Oxford-Zoomed-in	F-HS		
	MR1%	MR5%	MR50%
50%	<b>77.63</b>	<b>83.86</b>	<b>95.41</b>
25%	49.17	57.13	78.49
10%	29.93	36.79	59.63

#### 4.4.1 Zoomed-in Retrieval using F-HS

Tables 10, 11 explain that the best performance of the F-HS model is achieved for the Oxford-Zoomed-in-50. When zoomed-in images cover only 10% of whole scenes, the MR and the MAP of the F-HS model decrease very strongly since the color distribution in zoomed-in images differs dramatically from whole scenes. We do not present the MAP for the first result since it is equal to the MR. The best VR is obtained for the Oxford-Zoomed-in-50.

Table 11: The MAP and VR of the F-HS model for the top 5 and 50 results.

Oxford-Zoomed-in	F-HS			
	MAP5	MAP50	VR5	VR50
50%	<b>70.93</b>	<b>72.64</b>	<b>11.41</b>	<b>12.41</b>
25%	37.25	39.35	11.83	13.21
10%	19.58	21.46	14.64	15.21

#### 4.4.2 Zoomed-in Retrieval using FP-HS

We present the performance only for ( $P = 9$ ) since the utilizing of nine sub-images outperforms the using of only three sub-images. Tables 10 and 12 show that the FP-HS model obtains MR 3%, 14%, and 23% better than the F-HS model for Oxford-Zoomed-in-50, Oxford-Zoomed-in-25, and Oxford-Zoomed-in-10 respectively. As described in 12 and 13, the best MR and MAP are obtained for the Oxford-Zoomed-in-50 dataset. The VR is small for all query datasets.

Table 12: MR of the FP-HS model to solve ZIR task.

Oxford-Zoomed-in	F-HS		
	MR1%	MR5%	MR50%
50%	<b>79.10</b>	<b>85.40</b>	<b>96.20</b>
25%	63.48	73.77	92.02
10%	53.10	61.44	82.39

Table 13: The MAP and VR of the FP-HS model.

Oxford-Zoomed-in	F-HS			
	MAP5	MAP50	VR5	VR50
50%	<b>66.39</b>	<b>66.98</b>	<b>16.92</b>	<b>3.65</b>
25%	48.52	50.84	23.94	7.33
10%	39.80	41.99	25.81	14.50

#### 4.4.3 Re-rank FP-HS Result

To improve the ZIR, we re-rank the top 100 results utilizing their SIFT features. Table 14 presents that our hybrid approach improves the MR even when the zoomed-in image covers a small part (i.e. 10%) of the whole scene. Moreover, it improves the VR of re-ranked results (see Table 15). The MAP for our approach is about the same for the top five and ten results.

Table 14: The MR results of the hybrid approach.

Oxford-Zoomed-in	F-HS		
	MR1%	MR5%	MR10%
50%	<b>95.92</b>	<b>96.24</b>	<b>96.24</b>
25%	91.56	92.07	92.07
10%	79.66	81.55	82.06

Table 15: The MAP and VR of the hybrid approach.

Oxford-Zoomed-in	F-HS			
	MAP5	MAP50	VR5	VR50
50%	<b>96.08</b>	<b>96.08</b>	<b>3.91</b>	<b>3.61</b>
25%	91.80	91.80	7.29	7.02
10%	80.48	80.55	16.20	15.04

## 5 CONCLUSIONS

In this work, we introduced a method to accelerate the extraction and matching of features to improve image NDR and ZIR. To accelerate the extraction of features and reduce the usage of memory, we proposed the F-HS and FP-HS models. The purpose of these models is to construct the fuzzy 2D hue and saturation histogram of an image. To enhance the performance of the FP-HS model, we re-rank the top  $N$  retrieved results utilizing their SIFT features. Hence, we avoid the comparison of SIFT features with the whole dataset images. The results indicated that the hybrid method has a better performance than applying the SIFT algorithm or the FP-HS model individually.

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