

Case Study: the Bayer Colour Imaging Array

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Open-Source Tools and Resources for Audio-Visual Archives

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Uncomfortable Truths

- sensors are colour blind
- Bayer sensors do not generate full RGB

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United States Patent [11] **3,971,065**
Bayer [45] **July 20, 1976**

[54] **COLOR IMAGING ARRAY**
[75] Inventor: Bryce E. Bayer, Rochester, N.Y.
[73] Assignee: Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, N.Y.
[22] Filed: Mar. 5, 1975
[21] Appl. No.: 555,477

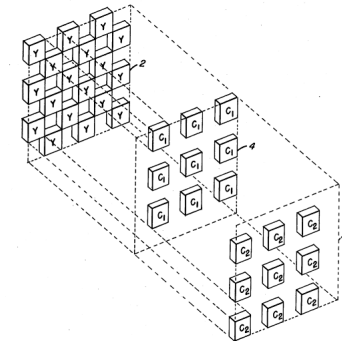
[52] U.S. Cl. 358/441; 350/162 SF;
350/317; 358/44
[51] Int. Cl. H04N 9/24
[58] Field of Search 358/44, 45, 46, 47,
358/48; 350/317, 162 SF; 315/169 TV

[56] **References Cited**
UNITED STATES PATENTS
2,446,791 8/1948 Schroeder 358/44
2,508,267 5/1950 Kaiserowitz 358/44
2,884,483 4/1959 Ehrenhaft et al. 358/44
3,725,572 4/1973 Kershner et al. 358/44

Primary Examiner—George H. Lihman
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—George E. Grouser

ABSTRACT
A sensing array for color imaging includes individual luminance- and chrominance-sensitive elements that are so intermixed that each type of element (i.e., according to sensitivity characteristics) occurs in a repeated pattern with luminance elements dominating the array. Preferably, luminance elements occur at every other element position to provide a relatively high frequency sampling pattern which is uniform in two perpendicular directions (e.g., horizontal and vertical). The chrominance patterns are interlaid therewith and fill the remaining element positions to provide relatively lower frequencies of sampling. In a presently preferred implementation, a mosaic of selectively transmissive filters is superposed in registration with a solid state imaging array having a broad range of light sensitivity, the distribution of filter types in the mosaic being in accordance with the above-described pattern.

11 Claims, 10 Drawing Figures



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[14:06:58]imac01@iMac01:~/Desktop$ man movimenc

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movimenc(1)                                The MovIm video codec                                movimenc(1)

NAME
    movimenc - MovIm encoder

SYNOPSIS
    movimenc [input_options] -i input_file [encoding_options]
    [output_options] -o output_file

    movimenc -h

DESCRIPTION
    MovIm is a video codec specifically designed for both conservation and
    restoration of moving images.

    The openMovIm package includes the libmovim C library implementing
    MovIm and its associated movimenc, movimdec and movimplay utilities, as
    well as the openmovim Bash command-line interface allowing to encode,
    decode, play and analyse virtually any moving images.

    movimenc is a MovIm encoder.

OPTIONS
    GENERAL OPTIONS
    :

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--demosaic=(BLI|BCI|LR|VNG|SI|PG|AMZE|HQLI|AHD|DLMSEE)
    demosaic a Bayer-encoded input_file into an RGB output_file

    This option allows to choose between different demosaicing
    algorithms, because the results may vary a lot, depending on the
    image content.

    The following algorithms are implemented:
    - BLI = bilinear interpolation
    - BCI = bicubic interpolation
    - LR = Lanczos resampling
    - VNG = variable number of gradients
    - SI = spline interpolation
    - PG = pixel grouping
    - AMZE = aliasing minimisation and zipper elimination
    - HQLI = high-quality linear interpolation (Malvar, He and Cutler.
    IEEE 2004)
    - AHD = adaptive homogeneity-directed (Hirakawa and Parks. IEEE
    2005)
    - DLMSEE = directional linear minimum mean square-error estimation
    (Zhang and Xiaolin. IEEE 2005)

INFORMATIVE OPTIONS
    -h, --help

```

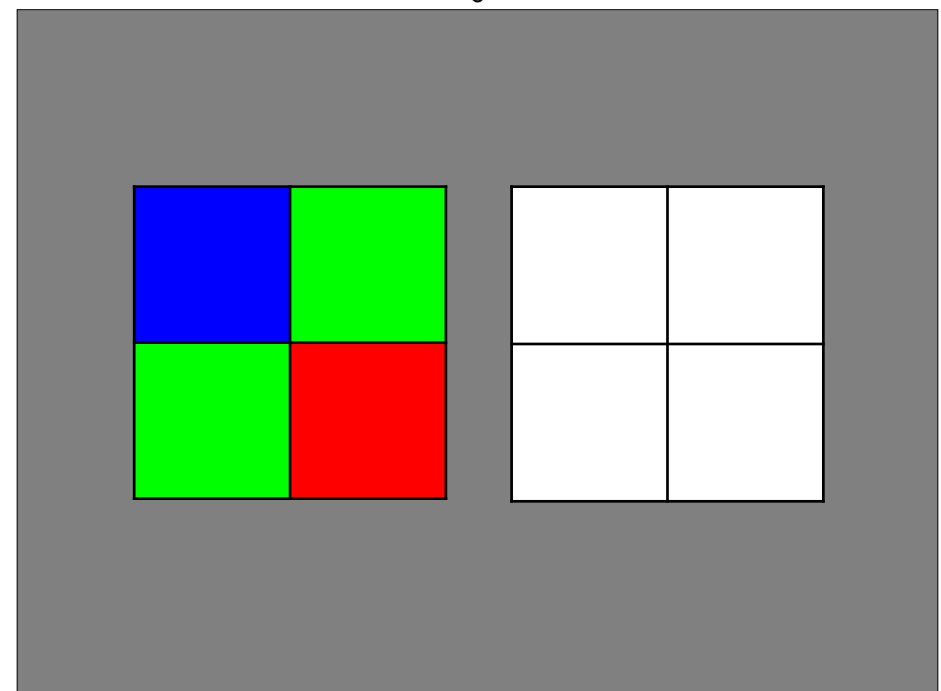
6

```

0111010100101010100010110101011110
0100110101010101010100001011101010
0111010100101010100010110101011110
0001110101010101010100001011101010
0110101010010010101000101110101011
0010101010101010100001011101010000
0111010100101010100010110101011110
0101010101010101000010111010100110
1001011101010010101010001011010101
1110010101010101010000101110101010
0111010100101010100010110101011110
0101010101010101001101010100000001
0010100010101010101001010101010101

```

7



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000000000000 000000000000 110101010101	000000000000 010100001011 000000000000	010010100101 101101000001 110101010101	011111011110 010100001011 100001100100
000000000000 101010011010 000000000000	101001010101 000000000000 000000000000	011000111001 101010011010 100001010111	101001010101 010011011110 010100010111

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0 0 B	0 G ₁ 0	R G B	R G ₁ B
0 G ₂ 0	R 0 0	R G ₂ B	R G B

10

```
--bayer2rgb=(bggr|rggb|gbgr|grbg)
transform a Bayer-encoded input_file into an RGB output_file with
half of the horizontal and vertical resolution

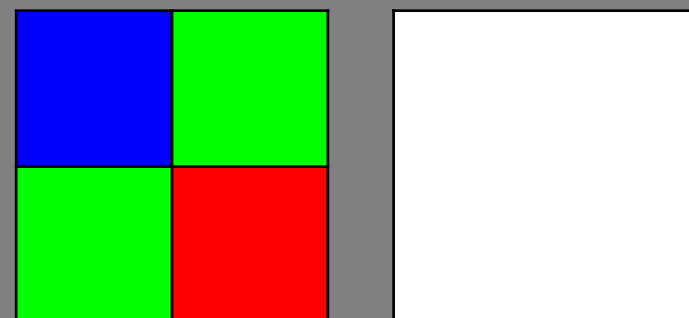
This option allows to generate a full RGB file at half pixel
resolution from the raw stream of almost any current camera. The
following four standard filter patterns are implemented:

      +-----+-----+           +-----+-----+
      | blue | green |           | red | green |
bggr = +-----+-----+       rggb = +-----+-----+
      | green | red  |           | green | blue |
      +-----+-----+       +-----+-----+

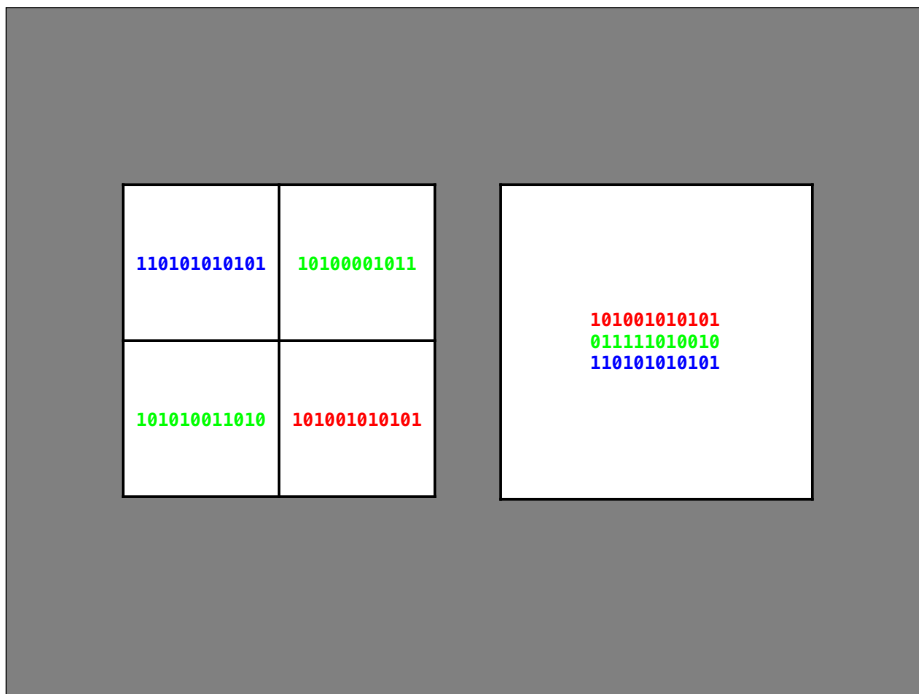
      +-----+-----+           +-----+-----+
      | green | blue |           | green | red  |
gbgr = +-----+-----+       grbg = +-----+-----+
      | red  | green |           | blue | green |
      +-----+-----+       +-----+-----+

--demosaic=(BLI|BCI|LR|VNG|SI|PG|AMZE|HQLI|AHD|DLMMSEE)
demosaic a Bayer-encoded input_file into an RGB output_file
```

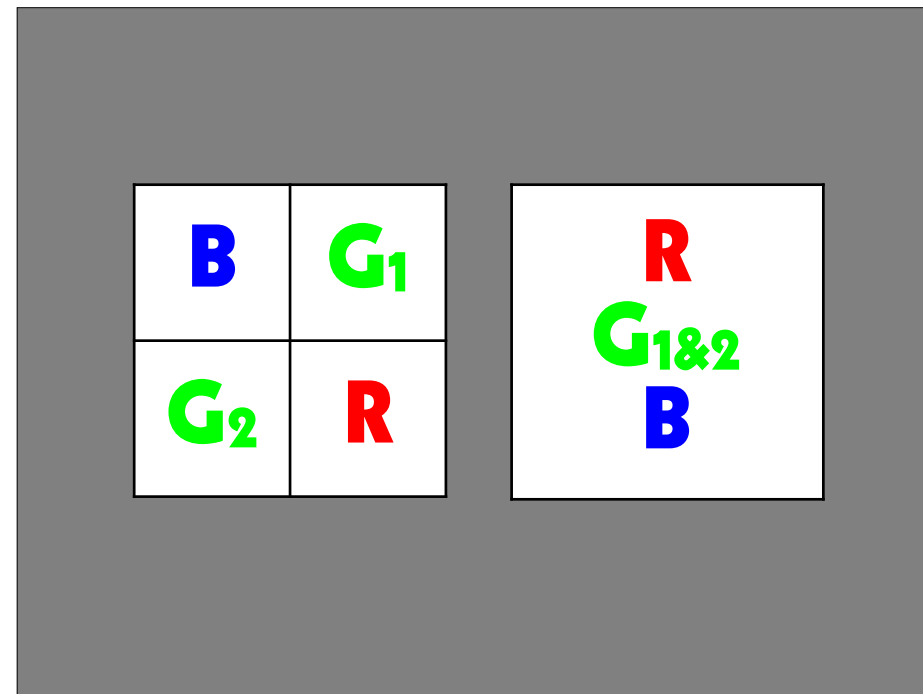
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```

INFORMATIVE OPTIONS
-h, --help
    display a help message

--version
    display the running version

NOTES
The illuminant's default value may switch from D65 to D60 in future.

SEE ALSO
movimdec(1) and movimplay(1); libmovim(1); openmovim(1).

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of any kind.

2021-05-08                https://avpres.net/MovIm/                movimenc(1)
(END)

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```

[14:06:58]imac01@iMac01:~/Desktop$ man movimenc
[14:10:24]imac01@iMac01:~/Desktop$ man openmovim

```

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```
openmovim(1)                                The MovIm video codec                                openmovim(1)

NAME
  openmovim - Command-line interface to encode, decode, play and analyse
  moving images using libmovim

SYNOPSIS
  openmovim (-e|-d|-p|-a|-m|-s) -i input_file [-o output_file]

  openmovim (-c|-u) -i input_file [-o output_file]

  openmovim -h

DESCRIPTION
  MovIm is a video codec specifically designed for both conservation and
  restoration of moving images.

  The openMovIm package includes the libmovim C library implementing
  MovIm and its associated movimenc, movimdec and movimplay utilities, as
  well as the openmovim Bash command-line interface to libmovim allowing
  to encode, decode, play and analyse virtually any moving images.

OPTIONS
  GENERAL OPTIONS
  :
```

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```
OPTIONS
  GENERAL OPTIONS
  Select a mode:

  -e, --encode
    encoding mode: use movimenc to encode an input_file to an
    output_file

  -d, --decode
    decoding mode: use movimdec to decode an input_file to an
    output_file

  -p, --play
    playing mode: use movimplay to play an input_file

  -a, --analyse, --analyze
    analysing mode: use movimdec to analyse the validity of an
    input_file and write a report to an output_file if specified or to
    the Terminal otherwise

  -m, --metadata
    metadata mode: use movimdec to extract the technical metadata of an
    input_file (without analysing its validity) and write a report to
    an output_file if specified or to the Terminal otherwise
  :
```

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```
    encoding mode: use movimenc to encode an input_file to an
    output_file

  -d, --decode
    decoding mode: use movimdec to decode an input_file to an
    output_file

  -p, --play
    playing mode: use movimplay to play an input_file

  -a, --analyse, --analyze
    analysing mode: use movimdec to analyse the validity of an
    input_file and write a report to an output_file if specified or to
    the Terminal otherwise

  -m, --metadata
    metadata mode: use movimdec to extract the technical metadata of an
    input_file (without analysing its validity) and write a report to
    an output_file if specified or to the Terminal otherwise

  -s, --scan
    scan mode: use movimenc to encode the input_file (i.e. the stream
    coming from a sensor) into an output_file
  :
```

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ANALYSING AND METADATA EXTRACTION OPTIONS
  --report-fmt=(json|plain|xml)
    report format can be json, plain text (default) or xml

SCANNING OPTIONS
  --bayer2rgb=(bgr|rggb|gbgr|grbg)
    transform a Bayer-encoded input_file into a half-resolution RGB
    output_file

    This allows to generate on the fly a full RGB file with a Bayer-
    filter scanner. If the option is not passed and no information is
    send by the camera, then the program tries to find the correct
    pattern.

INFORMATIVE OPTION
  -h, --help
    display a help message

NOTES
  The current openmovim command-line interface is a work in progress.
  Foremost, no validity check of the passed parameters has been
  implemented so far.
  :
```

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```
display a help message

NOTES
The current openmovim command-line interface is a work in progress.
Foremost, no validity check of the passed parameters has been
implemented so far.

4:2:2 chroma subsampling is now supported, as requested by the video
community.

SEE ALSO
movimdec(1), movimenc(1) and movimplay(1); libmovim(1).

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2021-05-08      https://avpres.net/MovIm/      openmovim(1)
(END)
```

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- Peter Bubestinger-Steindl
- Jérôme Martinez
- Michael Niedermayer

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Two ways to use Bayer data

digital blow-up to **RGB**

- 3 times the amount of the generated data
- the file has the full sensor resolution
- only $\frac{1}{3}$ of the data are real

digital reduction to **RGB**

- $\frac{3}{4}$ the amount of the generated data
- the file has $\frac{1}{2}$ of the sensor resolution
- all data are real

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