



Fast and Stable Representation for Both Gray and Color 1-D or 2-D Objects Using Different Sets of Discrete Orthogonal Moments Open access

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Abstract

Representation, analysis and interpretation of an image acquired by a real (i.e. non ideal) imaging system is the key problem in many application areas such as robot vision, remote sensing, astronomy and medicine, to name but a few. Images may be gray or color. One of the most commonly used to represent gray images in the last period is the moments. Moments are considered as statistical quantities that describe the pixels distribution inside an image's space. Image reconstruction method is the best way to check the capability of the moment to represent the image efficiently. In this paper we introduced efficient methods to reconstruct gray scale images based on various sets of discrete orthogonal moments: generalized laguerre moments (GLMs), Chebychev moments (CMs) and Krawtchouk moments (KMs). Assisted by quaternion algebra, representation of color images become smoothly, hence, we extended both GLMs and CMs by using quaternion algebra and derived various sets of quaternion moments: quaternion generalized laguerre moments (Q_GLMs) and quaternion Chebychev moments (Q_CMs). The experimental results show the capacity of the proposed approaches for image reconstruction against different the noise attack. We used the normalized image reconstruction error (NIRE) as a measure to the image reconstruction capability.

Keywords: Discrete orthogonal moments; quaternion moments; image reconstruction.

1. Introduction

In order to make decisions in our daily lives, each of us must virtually continually acquire, process, and analyze a vast amount of information of varying kinds, significance, and quality. More than 95% of the information we take in is visual. An image is an extremely potent information medium and communication tool that can effectively and compactly portray complicated scenes and processes. As a result, images serve as important informational tools as well as tools for interpersonal communication and machine- human interaction. Common digital photos are incredibly information-rich. With a smartphone, you can snap a photograph and email it in a matter of seconds to your pals, packing as much information into one picture as several hundred pages of prose. Automatic and potent picture analysis techniques are thus desperately needed.

It is possible to extract important information from digital photos by using the image descriptors known as moments of orthogonal functions and transforms. Teague (M.R. Teague, 1980) defined orthogonal moments (OMs) as representing binary and grayscale images with the least amount of information overlap or redundancy. The OMs might be described in polar or Cartesian coordinates, with the polar OMs being known as circular orthogonal moments (P. George, 2014). While OMs of higher orders are able to extract the finer details of digital images, OMs of lower orders only extract global elements like forms, which is a very important procedure in distinguishing between identical images. Additionally, OMs exhibit decreased

sensitivity to various types of noise. Analytically, the image intensity function might be reconstructed using a finite collection of OMs and the inverse moment transform. Because OMs are invariant to rotation, scaling, and translation transformations, computer vision systems can distinguish between comparable images and objects regardless of orientation, location, and camera distance. The significant advantage of circular orthogonal moments resides in their capacity to achieve rotation invariance due to their circular nature, which is a key attribute in pattern recognition applications (J. Flusser, T. Suk, B. Zitova, 2016). This is in addition to their ability to aid in picture reconstruction.

Moments are employed frequently in image processing and analysis because they may extract local and global identifying information from the image. In numerous applications, including image reconstruction [(B. Honarvar, et al 2014)(H. Karmouni, et al., 2017)(H. Zhu, et al. 2012)(M. Yamni, et al., 2019)(O. El ogri, et al., 2019)], image compression (B. Honarvar, et al 2014)(H. Rahmalan, et al., 2010) (G.A. Papakostas, et al., 2002)], image watermarking (E.D. Tsougenis, et al., 2015)(X. Liu, et al. 2017)(E.D. Tsougenis, et al., 2012) E.D. Tsougenis, et al., 2013)(L. Zhang, et al., 2007), edge detection (L.-M. Luo, et al., 1994), image geometric distortion correction (M. Alghoniemy, et al., 2000), and image classification [(A. Hmimid, et al., 2015) (M. Sayyouri, et al., 2015)], they are used with outstanding results. Projecting the data space on frequently orthogonal bases is the fundamental concept behind moments. In fact, discrete orthogonal polynomials [(A.F. Nikiforov, et al., 199)] like Chebichef , Krawtchouk, and Charlier and continuous orthogonal polynomials like Legendre, Zernike, Gegenbauer, and Fourier-Mellin form continuous orthogonal moments (COMs), and discrete orthogonal polynomials such as Chebichef [26], Krawtchouk, Charlier.

Laguerre moments Chebychev moments and Krawtchouk moments are three discrete orthogonal moments they are defined in terms of laguerre polynomial, Chebychev polynomial and Krawtchouk polynomial respectively. In this study we presented theses classical moments and their quaternion form for gray and color image representation via their ability to reconstruct such images.

2. Proposed discrete moments

2.1 Discrete Generalized Laguerre Moments (GLMs)

The ALMs are one kind of discrete orthogonal moment. It defined in the existence of the Laguerre polynomials (LPs) [33] (basis functions), which are orthogonal over the whole right-half plane. GLMs of the image $I(x, y)$ with the order of $m + n$ and size of $N \times N$ are defined as follows:

$$\tilde{M}_{mn}^{\alpha}(x) = \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \sum_{y=0}^{N-1} \tilde{L}_m^{\alpha}(x) \tilde{L}_n^{\alpha}(y) I(x, y), \quad m, n = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N-1, \quad (1)$$

where, $\{L_m^{\alpha}\}$, for $\alpha > -1$ are the LPs that are orthogonal to the weight function $w(x) = x^{\alpha}e^{-x}$ on the interval $0 \leq x \leq +\infty$, that is

$$\int_0^{\infty} e^{-x} x^{\alpha} L_n^{\alpha}(x) L_m^{\alpha}(x) dx = \frac{\Gamma(n + \alpha + 1)}{n!} \delta_{nm} \quad m, n \geq 0, \quad (2)$$

where, δ_{nm} is a Kronecker delta, $\delta_{nm} = 1$ if $m = n$ and $\delta_{nm} = 0$ otherwise.

The LPs are defined as follows:

$$L_n^{\alpha}(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{(n + \alpha)!}{(n - k)! (k + \alpha)! k!} x^k, \quad (3)$$

The recurrence formula suitable for evaluation is

$$(n + 1)L_{n+1}^{\alpha}(x) = (2n + 1 + \alpha - x)L_n^{\alpha}(x) - (n + \alpha)L_{n-1}^{\alpha}(x), \quad (4)$$

with the initial values

$$L_0^{\alpha}(x) = 1 \text{ and } L_1^{\alpha}(x) = (\alpha + 1 - x). \quad (5)$$

but due to the high increase of the polynomial values with increasing of the order, we restrict our study with the normalized orthogonal LPs ($\tilde{L}_n^{\alpha}(x)$), that is defined as follows:

$$\tilde{L}_n^{\alpha}(x) = \sqrt{\frac{e^{-x} x^{\alpha} n!}{(n + \alpha)!}} L_n^{\alpha}(x). \quad (6)$$

As shown in Fig. 1, one can observe that the values of the normalized polynomials $\tilde{L}(x)$ are bounded

on a finite interval, a thing that doesn't occur with non-normalized $L^{\alpha}(x)$. The value of the parameter α

has an essential role in the pattern recognition task, where it controls the shifting to the image region of interest. In this study, we set the value of $\alpha = 2$.

2.2 Discrete Chebychev Moments (CMs)

The discrete Chebychev moments for digital image $I(x, y)$ defined as

$$\hat{t}_{mn} = \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \sum_{y=0}^{N-1} \hat{T}_m(x) \hat{T}_n(y) I(x, y), \quad m, n = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N-1, \quad (7)$$

where T_n refer to discrete Chebychev polynomials [34]. It defined in terms of the following recurrence formula

$$(n+1)T_{n+1}(x) = (2n+1)(2x-N+1)T_n(x) - n(N^2-n^2)T_{n-1}(x), \quad n = 1, 2, \dots \quad (8)$$

with the initial values

$$T_0(x) = 1 \text{ and } T_1(x) = 2x + 1 - N. \quad (9)$$

But due to the high fluctuation that occurs with $T_n(x)$, as shown in Fig. 2, it would be more suitable to use the orthonormal polynomial $\hat{T}_n(x)$ whose norm equals one:

$$\sum_{x=0}^{N-1} (\hat{T}_n(x))^2 = 1, \quad (10)$$

where $\hat{T}_n(x)$ defined in terms of the following recurrence formula

$$\hat{T}_n(x) = (\alpha_1 x + \alpha_2) \hat{T}_{n-1}(x) - \alpha_3 \hat{T}_{n-2}(x), \quad (11)$$

with the initial values

$$\hat{T}_0(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \text{ and } \hat{T}_1(x) = (2x + 1 - N) \sqrt{\frac{3}{N(N^2 - 1)}}, \quad (12)$$

where

$$\alpha_1 = \frac{2}{n} \sqrt{\frac{4n^2 - 1}{N^2 - n^2}}, \quad (13)$$

$$\alpha_2 = \frac{1 - N}{n} \sqrt{\frac{4n^2 - 1}{N^2 - n^2}}, \quad (14)$$

$$\alpha_3 = \frac{n-1}{n} \sqrt{\frac{2n+1}{2n-3}} \sqrt{\frac{N^2 - (n-1)^2}{N^2 - n^2}}. \quad (15)$$

2.3 Discrete Krawtchouk Moments (KMs)

The Krawtchouk moments of order $(n+m)$ in terms of weighted Krawtchouk polynomials, for an image with intensity function, $f(x, y)$, is defined as

$$\hat{R}_{mn} = \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \sum_{y=0}^{N-1} \hat{R}_n(x; p, N) \hat{R}_m(y; p, N) f(x, y), \quad m, n = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N-1 \quad (16)$$

The set of weighted Krawtchouk polynomials $\hat{R}_n(x; p, N)$ is defined by

$$\hat{R}_n(x; p, N) = K_n(x; p, N) \sqrt{\frac{w(x; p, N)}{q(n; p, N)}}, \quad (17)$$

Where $K_n(x; p, N)$, $w(x; p, N)$ and $q(n; p, N)$ are the classical Krawtchouk polynomials, weight function, and the normalization function, respectively, such that

$$K_n(x; p, N) = {}_2F_1\left(-n, -x; -N; \frac{1}{p}\right) \quad (18)$$

$$w(x; p, N) = \binom{N}{x} p^x (1-p)^{N-x} \quad (19)$$

$$\varrho(n; p, N) = \left(\frac{1-p}{p}\right)^n \frac{1}{\binom{N}{n}}. \quad (20)$$

Classical Krawtchouk polynomials $K_n(x; p, N)$ can be defined as in the following recurrence formula

$$K_{n+1}(x; p, N) = \frac{Np - 2np + n - x}{(N-n)p} K_n(x; p, N) - \frac{n(1-p)}{(N-n)p} K_{n-1}(x; p, N),$$

$$n = 1, 2, \dots, N-1 \quad (21)$$

where $K_0(x; p, N) = 1$ and $K_1(x; p, N) = 1 - \frac{x}{Np}$ are the initial values.

$K_n(x; p, N)$ satisfy the following orthogonality condition

$$\sum_{x=0}^N w(x; p, N) K_m(x; p, N) K_n(x; p, N) = \varrho(n; p, N) \delta_{mn}, \quad (22)$$

where, δ_{mn} is a kronecker delta, $\delta_{mn} = 1$ if $m = n$ and $\delta_{mn} = 0$ otherwise.

According to the above weight and normalization functions, the orthogonality condition of the weighted

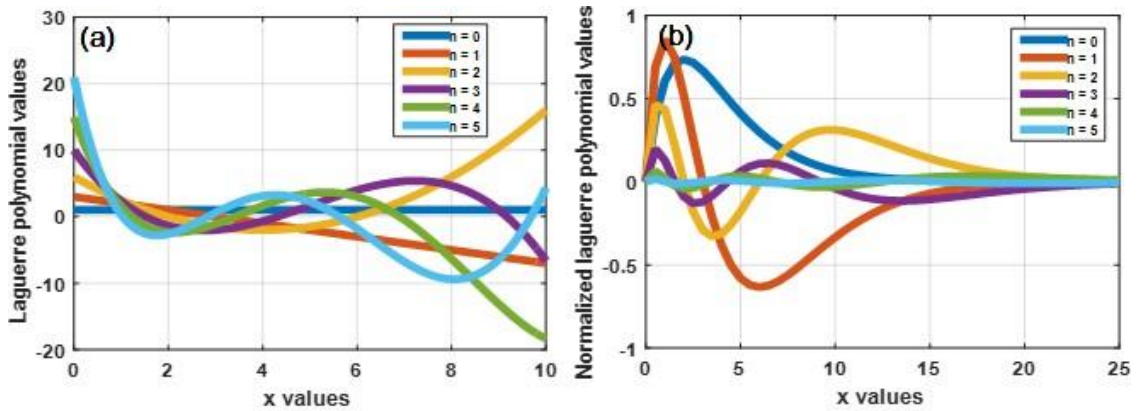


Fig. 1. Plot (a) $L_n^\alpha(x)$, and (b) $\tilde{L}_n^\alpha(x)$ at $\alpha = 2$.

Krawtchouk polynomials $\hat{K}_n(x; p, N)$ become as follows:

$$\sum_{x=0}^N \hat{K}_m(x; p, N) \hat{K}_n(x; p, N) = \delta_{mn}. \quad (23)$$

Fig. 3(a) shows the plots for the first few orders of the normalized Krawtchouk polynomials and

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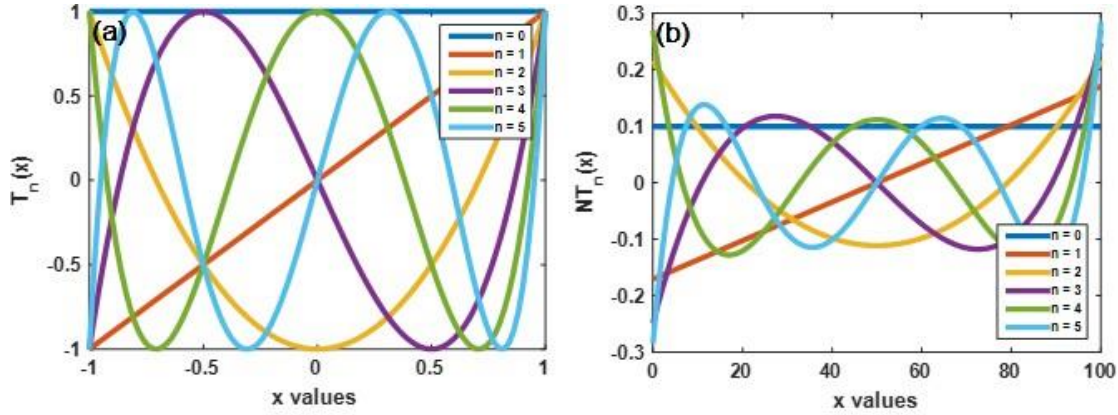


Fig. 2. Plot (a) $T_n(x)$, and (b) $\hat{T}_n(x)$.

it is easily observed that the range of values of the polynomials expands rapidly with a slight increase of the order. The values of the weighted Krawtchouk polynomials are confined within the range of $[-1, 1]$, as shown in Fig. 3(b).

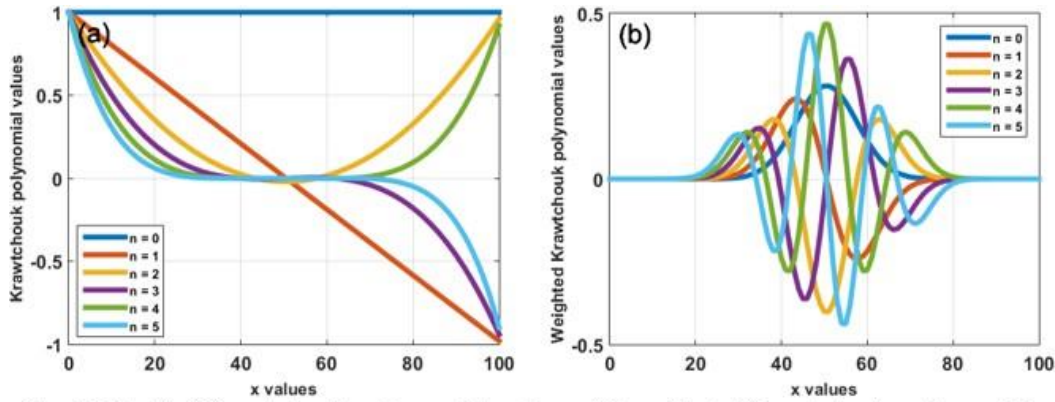


Fig. 3. Plot (a) Krawtchouk polynomial values, (b) weighted Krawtchouk polynomial values at $p = 0.5$.

2.4 Quaternion

In 1843 [46], Hamilton introduced a generalization to the complex number called quaternion. The complex number consists of two parts: the real part and another part called the imaginary part whereas, the quaternion consists of one real-part and the other three imaginary parts. The quaternion number q can be defined as follows:

$$q = a + bi + cj + dk, \quad (24)$$

where $a, b, c, d \in R$, and i, j, k represent complex operators have the following characteristics:

$$i^2 = j^2 = k^2 = -1, \quad (25)$$

$$ij = -ji = k, \quad jk = -kj = i, \quad ki = -ik = j. \quad (26)$$

Eq. (26) Shows that the multiplication in quaternions is not commutative.

Usually, it is better to represent the quaternion as a sum of two parts: a scalar part denoted as $S(q)$, and a vector part indicated as $V(q)$.

$$q = S(q) + V(q), \quad (27)$$

where $S(q) = a$ and $V(q) = bi + cj + dk$,

q is reduced to pure quaternion if $S(q) = 0$, and to unit pure quaternion if $\|q\| = 1$, where $\|q\| =$

$$\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2}.$$

2.5 Proposed Q_GLMs

Let $f(x, y)$ be an RGB color image defined in the cartesian coordinates. One can consider the three channels red, green and blue in the color image $f(x, y)$ as the three imaginary parts in pure quaternion, hence the color image $f(x, y)$ can be represented as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} f(x, y) &= f_R i + f_G j + f_B k \\ &= f_R(x, y)i + f_G(x, y)j + f_B(x, y)k. \end{aligned} \quad (28)$$

Due to the noncommutative property of quaternion multiplication that appears in Eq. (26), there are two types of Q_GLMs: left-side Q_ALMs, and the right-side Q_GLMs.

In this study, we used the right-side Q_GLMs that can be defined as follows:

$$\tilde{Q}M_{mn}^\alpha = \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \sum_{y=0}^{N-1} \tilde{L}_m^\alpha(x) \tilde{L}_n^\alpha(y) (if_R + jf_G + kf_B)\mu, \quad (29)$$

where μ is a pure unit quaternion chosen as $\mu = (i + j + k)/\sqrt{3}$ hence Eq. (29), rewritten as:

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{Q}M_{mn}^\alpha &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \sum_{y=0}^{N-1} \tilde{L}_m^\alpha(x) \tilde{L}_n^\alpha(y) (if_R + jf_G + kf_B)(i + j + k) \\ \tilde{Q}M_{mn}^\alpha &= -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \sum_{y=0}^{N-1} \tilde{L}_m^\alpha(x) \tilde{L}_n^\alpha(y) (f_R + f_G + f_B) \\ &\quad + \frac{i}{\sqrt{3}} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \sum_{y=0}^{N-1} \tilde{L}_m^\alpha(x) \tilde{L}_n^\alpha(y) (f_G - f_B) \\ &\quad + \frac{j}{\sqrt{3}} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \sum_{y=0}^{N-1} \tilde{L}_m^\alpha(x) \tilde{L}_n^\alpha(y) (f_B - f_R) \\ &\quad + \frac{k}{\sqrt{3}} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \sum_{y=0}^{N-1} \tilde{L}_m^\alpha(x) \tilde{L}_n^\alpha(y) (f_R - f_G). \\ \tilde{Q}M_{mn}^\alpha &= A_0^R + iA_1^R + jA_2^R + kA_3^R. \end{aligned} \quad (30)$$

(R is a reference to right-side quaternion)

Where

$$\begin{aligned} A_0^R &= -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \sum_{y=0}^{N-1} \tilde{L}_m^\alpha(x) \tilde{L}_n^\alpha(y) (f_R + f_G + f_B) \\ &= -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \left[\sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \sum_{y=0}^{N-1} \tilde{L}_m^\alpha(x) \tilde{L}_n^\alpha(y) f_R \right. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \sum_{y=0}^{N-1} \tilde{L}_m^\alpha(x) \tilde{L}_n^\alpha(y) f_G \\
& + \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \sum_{y=0}^{N-1} \tilde{L}_m^\alpha(x) \tilde{L}_n^\alpha(y) f_B], \\
A_0^R &= -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} [\tilde{M}_{mn}^\alpha(f_R) + \tilde{M}_{mn}^\alpha(f_G) + \tilde{M}_{mn}^\alpha(f_B)].
\end{aligned} \tag{31}$$

Similarly, as in Eq. (31)

$$A_1^R = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} [\tilde{M}_{mn}^\alpha(f_G) - \tilde{M}_{mn}^\alpha(f_B)]. \tag{32}$$

$$A_2^R = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} [\tilde{M}_{mn}^\alpha(f_B) - \tilde{M}_{mn}^\alpha(f_R)]. \tag{33}$$

$$A_3^R = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} [\tilde{M}_{mn}^\alpha(f_R) - \tilde{M}_{mn}^\alpha(f_G)]. \tag{34}$$

Thanks to the orthogonality property of Laguerre polynomial, the color images can be reconstructed easily from a finite number N of Q_GLMs using the following inverse moment transform:

$$\begin{aligned}
\hat{f}(x, y) &= \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \sum_{y=0}^{N-1} \tilde{L}_m^\alpha(x) \tilde{L}_n^\alpha(y) \tilde{Q} M_{mn}^\alpha \mu, \\
&+ \frac{i}{\sqrt{3}} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \sum_{y=0}^{N-1} \tilde{L}_m^\alpha(x) \tilde{L}_n^\alpha(y) (A_0^R + A_2^R - A_3^R) \\
&+ \frac{j}{\sqrt{3}} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \sum_{y=0}^{N-1} \tilde{L}_m^\alpha(x) \tilde{L}_n^\alpha(y) (A_0^R - A_1^R + A_3^R) \\
&+ \frac{k}{\sqrt{3}} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \sum_{y=0}^{N-1} \tilde{L}_m^\alpha(x) \tilde{L}_n^\alpha(y) (A_0^R + A_1^R - A_2^R).
\end{aligned} \tag{35}$$

2.6 Proposed Q_CMs

Similarly, as in the case of right-side Q_ALMs, we deduced the right-side Q_CMs as:

$$\tilde{Q} C M_{mn}^\alpha = \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \sum_{y=0}^{N-1} \hat{T}_m(x) \hat{T}_n(y) (if_R + jf_G + kf_B) \mu, \tag{36}$$

$$\tilde{Q} C M_{mn}^\alpha = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \sum_{y=0}^{N-1} \hat{T}_m(x) \hat{T}_n(y) (if_R + jf_G + kf_B)(i + j + k),$$

$$\tilde{Q} C M_{mn}^\alpha = A_0^R + iA_1^R + jA_2^R + kA_3^R. \tag{37}$$

Where

$$A_0^R = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} [\hat{\tau}_{mn}(f_R) + \hat{\tau}_{mn}(f_G) + \hat{\tau}_{mn}(f_B)]. \tag{38}$$

$$A_1^R = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} [\hat{\tau}_{mn}(f_G) - \hat{\tau}_{mn}(f_B)]. \tag{39}$$

$$A_2^R = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} [\hat{\tau}_{mn}(f_B) - \hat{\tau}_{mn}(f_R)]. \tag{40}$$

$$A_3^R = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} [\hat{\tau}_{mn}(f_R) - \hat{\tau}_{mn}(f_G)]. \tag{41}$$

The reconstructed color image can be obtained similarly, as in Equ. 35.

3. Results and Discussion

3.1 Experimental results over gray scale and color images

This section presents the test data and results used to validate the theoretical framework presented above, and also to establish the feature representation capability of Generalized Laguerre moments (GLMs) Chebychev moments (CMs) and Krawtchouk moments (KMs) through image reconstruction. A

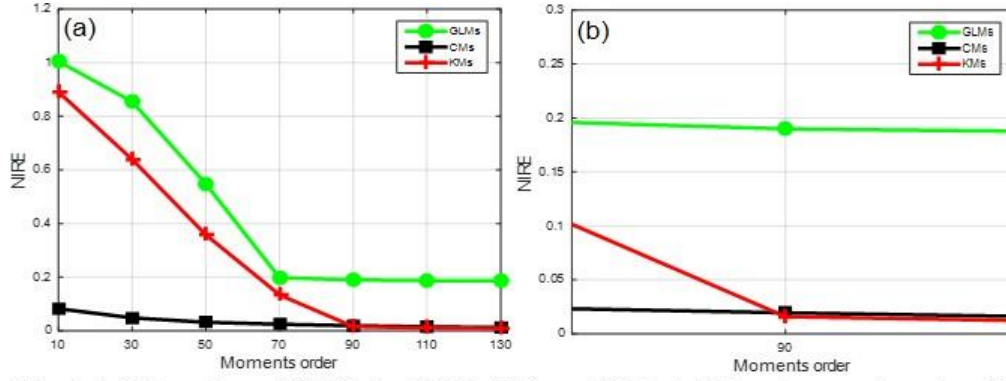


Fig. 4. (a) The values of NIRE for GLMs, CMs and KMs at different moments order, **(b)** zoom for more clarification.

comparative analysis between the proposed approaches is also given. An objective measure is used to characterize the error between the original image, $f(x, y)$, and the reconstructed image, $\hat{f}(x, y)$, is defined as follows:

$$NIRE = \frac{\sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \sum_{y=0}^{N-1} (f(x, y) - \hat{f}(x, y))^2}{\sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \sum_{y=0}^{N-1} (f(x, y))^2}, \quad (42)$$

A gray scale image of Cameraman (see Fig. 5) on a 256 x 256 pixel grid was used to analyze the values of the moment functions. As shown in Figs. 4 and 5 the obtained NIRE values and the reconstructed images specified that the Chebychev moments give better results at low orders but at orders greater than 90, Krawtchouk moments were the best. The same results obtained with the true colors as specified in Figs (6) and (7).

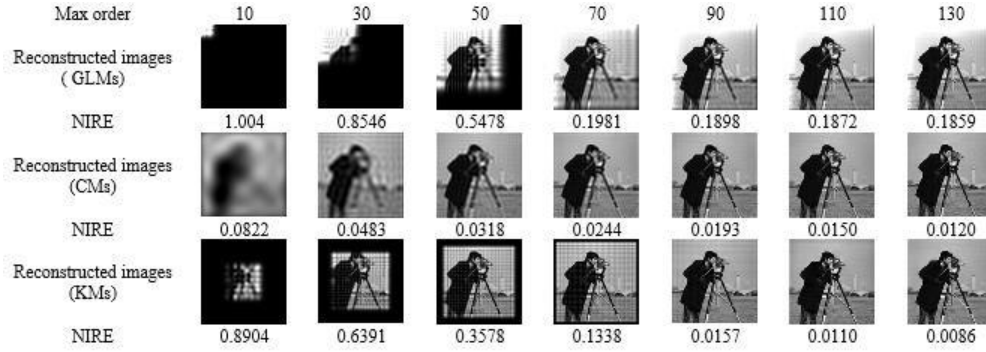


Fig. 5. The reconstructed gray scale image Cameraman using the proposed methods.

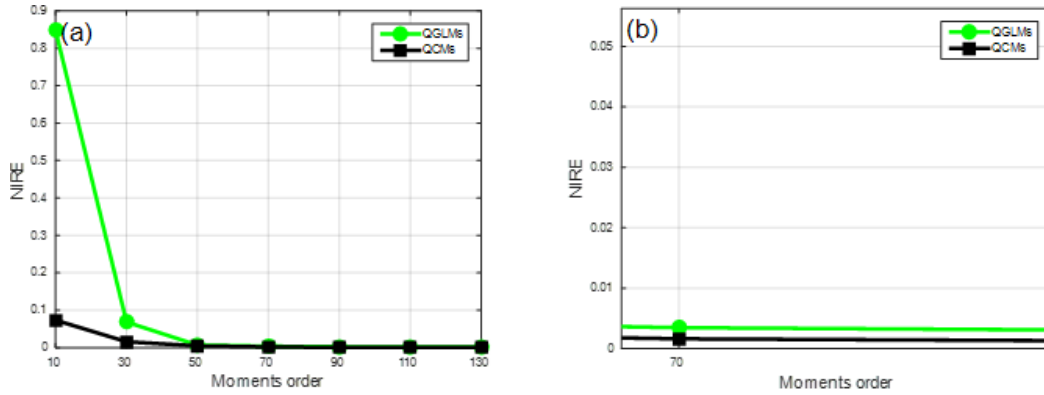


Fig. 6. The values of NIRE for Q_{GLMs} and Q_{CMs} at different moments order.

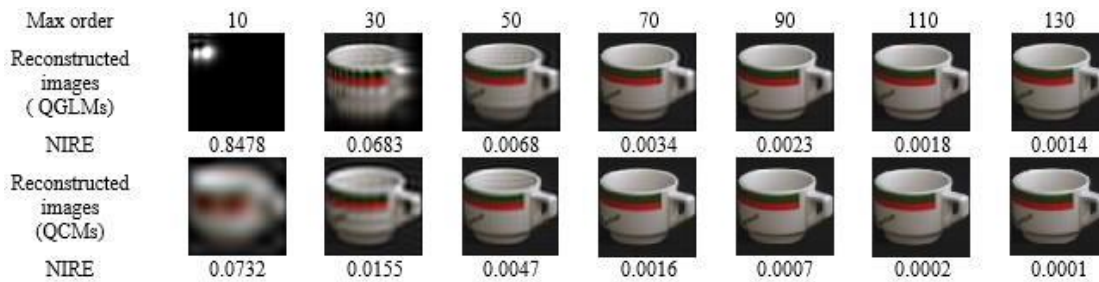


Fig. 7. The reconstructed color image using the proposed methods: Q_{GLMs} and Q_{CMs}.

4. Conclusion

In this study, three sets of discrete Generalized Linear Model moments are The polynomials Laguerre, Chebyshev, and Krawtchouk are introduced. The polynomials are scaled before the suggested moments are formulated, creating a new set of weighted polynomials. By doing so, overflows are prevented and the polynomials' dynamic range of values is constrained. There is no requirement for spatial quantization because the weighted polynomials are polynomials of a discrete variable, hence the proposed moments can be calculated without the use of numerical approximation. This characteristic makes the suggested moments ideal for obtaining the analytical characteristics of digital images. We also introduced sets of quaternion Generalized Laguerre and quaternion Chebyshev moments for representation of true color images. The reconstructed images test specified the superiority of the Krawtchouk moments at higher orders in both cases of gray scale and color images.

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