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                                find_bg_color
function diff_mat = find_bg_color(input_im, N)

% This function returns a matrix of weights with the portion of region that is
likely to be background.
% This is accomplished by first reducing the image to 8 colors (2 colors per
channel).
% Then, we find the most frequent color within each region, and measure the
portion of pixels that contain that color.
% The concept being that if the most frequent color within a region dominates that
region, then that region is likely to be background.

im_size = size(input_im);
num_rows = im_size(1);
num_cols = im_size(2);
row_length = floor(num_rows/N);
col_length = floor(num_cols/N);

num_pixels = row_length*col_length;
diff_mat = zeros(N,N);

for i = 0 : N - 1

    for j = 0 : N - 1

        temp_im = input_im(1 + i*row_length : (i+1)*row_length, 1 + j*col_length :
(j+1)*col_length, 1 : 3);
        temp = uint8(floor(temp_im/128)*255);

        rgb_columns = reshape(temp, [], 3); %the following four lines of code count
the number of instances of the most frequent color
        [unique_colors, m, n] = unique(rgb_columns, 'rows'); %this code is taken from
the mathworks website as posted by Steve Eddins
        color_counts = accumarray(n, 1); %the original article is available here:
        [max_count, idx] = max(color_counts);
%https://blogs.mathworks.com/steve/2008/01/31/counting-occurrences-of-image-colors/

        diff_mat(i+1,j+1) = 1 - max_count/num_pixels;

    endfor

endfor

endfunction

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