

# Supplementary Materials to “A Hybrid $\ell_1$ - $\ell_0$ Layer Decomposition Model for Tone mapping”

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In this supplementary file, we provide:

1. The optimization procedures for solving the hybrid  $\ell_1$ - $\ell_0$  decomposition model.
2. More descriptions about the subjective experiments.
3. More visual comparisons of tone mapping results on our HDR database.

## 1. Solving the Hybrid $\ell_1$ - $\ell_0$ Decomposition Model

As demonstrated in the main paper, the matrix-vector form of the hybrid  $\ell_1$ - $\ell_0$  decomposition model is

$$\min_{\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{b}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{s} - \mathbf{b}\|_2^2 + \lambda_1 \|\nabla \mathbf{b}\|_1 + \lambda_2 \mathbf{1}^\top F(\nabla(\mathbf{s} - \mathbf{b})), \quad (1)$$

where  $\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^N$  are vector variables denoting the original image and the base layer, respectively.  $\nabla$  denotes the concatenation of two gradient operator matrices  $\nabla = [\nabla_x^\top, \nabla_y^\top]^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{2N \times N}$ .  $\mathbf{1} \in \mathbb{R}^{2N}$  is a vector of all ones.  $F(\cdot)$  is an element-wise indicating function, which outputs ones when the entries of  $\nabla(\mathbf{s} - \mathbf{b})$  are non-zeros, and outputs zeros otherwise.

The objective function (1) cannot be solved directly due to the complicated  $\ell_1$  and  $\ell_0$  gradient sparsity terms. We introduce two auxiliary variables,  $\mathbf{c}_1, \mathbf{c}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{2N}$ , so that the hybrid  $\ell_1$ - $\ell_0$  decomposition model can be reformulated as a linear equality-constrained problem with three variables  $\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}_1, \mathbf{c}_2$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}_1, \mathbf{c}_2} \quad & \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{s} - \mathbf{b}\|_2^2 + \lambda_1 \|\mathbf{c}_1\|_1 + \lambda_2 \mathbf{1}^\top F(\mathbf{c}_2), \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathbf{c}_1 = \nabla \mathbf{b}, \quad \mathbf{c}_2 = \nabla(\mathbf{s} - \mathbf{b}) \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

We adopt the Alternating Direction Method of Multipliers (ADMM) algorithm [1] to solve the constrained optimization problem. The Augmented Lagrangian function of problem (2) is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}_1, \mathbf{c}_2, \mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2) = \quad & \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{s} - \mathbf{b}\|_2^2 + \lambda_1 \|\mathbf{c}_1\|_1 + \lambda_2 \mathbf{1}^\top F(\mathbf{c}_2) + (\mathbf{c}_1 - \nabla \mathbf{b})^\top \mathbf{y}_1 \\ & + (\mathbf{c}_2 - \nabla(\mathbf{s} - \mathbf{b}))^\top \mathbf{y}_2 + \frac{\rho}{2} (\|\mathbf{c}_1 - \nabla \mathbf{b}\|_2^2 + \|\mathbf{c}_2 - \nabla(\mathbf{s} - \mathbf{b})\|_2^2), \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

where  $\mathbf{y}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{2N}$ ,  $i = 1, 2$  are the Lagrangian dual variables. At iteration  $k$  ( $k = 0, 1, \dots, K$ ), the function (3) is optimized by minimizing the primal sub-problems with respect to  $\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}_1, \mathbf{c}_2$ , and maximizing the dual problem with respect to  $\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2$  alternatively.

**(1) Solving  $\mathbf{b}^{k+1}$  while fixing the others.**

Firstly we split vector  $\mathbf{c}_1^k$  into two equal-length pieces, i.e.,  $\mathbf{c}_1^k = [\mathbf{c}_{1,1}^k, \mathbf{c}_{1,2}^k]^\top$ , where  $\mathbf{c}_{1,i}^k \in \mathbb{R}^N$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ . In the same fashion,  $\mathbf{c}_2^k$  is split into  $\mathbf{c}_{2,1}^k$  and  $\mathbf{c}_{2,2}^k$ ,  $\mathbf{y}_1^k$  into  $\mathbf{y}_{1,1}^k$  and  $\mathbf{y}_{1,2}^k$ , and  $\mathbf{y}_2^k$  into  $\mathbf{y}_{2,1}^k$  and  $\mathbf{y}_{2,2}^k$ . Then the objective function with respect to  $\mathbf{b}^{k+1}$  is a quadratic programming problem

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{b}^{k+1} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{b}} \quad & \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{s} - \mathbf{b}\|_2^2 + \frac{\rho^k}{2} \|\mathbf{c}_{1,1}^k - \nabla_x \mathbf{b} + \frac{\mathbf{y}_{1,1}^k}{\rho^k}\|_2^2 + \frac{\rho^k}{2} \|\mathbf{c}_{1,2}^k - \nabla_y \mathbf{b} + \frac{\mathbf{y}_{1,2}^k}{\rho^k}\|_2^2 \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{\rho^k}{2} \|\mathbf{c}_{2,1}^k - \nabla_x(\mathbf{s} - \mathbf{b}) + \frac{\mathbf{y}_{2,1}^k}{\rho^k}\|_2^2 + \frac{\rho^k}{2} \|\mathbf{c}_{2,2}^k - \nabla_y(\mathbf{s} - \mathbf{b}) + \frac{\mathbf{y}_{2,2}^k}{\rho^k}\|_2^2 \right\}, \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

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which can be efficiently solved in Fourier domain

$$\mathbf{b}^{k+1} = \text{fft}^{-1} \left( \frac{\text{fft}(\mathbf{s}) + \text{fft}^*(\nabla_x) \cdot \mathbf{f}\mathbf{x}^k + \text{fft}^*(\nabla_y) \cdot \mathbf{f}\mathbf{y}^k}{1 + 2\rho^k(\text{fft}^*(\nabla_x) \cdot \text{fft}(\nabla_x) + \text{fft}^*(\nabla_y) \cdot \text{fft}(\nabla_y))} \right), \quad (5)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{f}\mathbf{x}^k &= \text{fft} \left( \rho^k (\mathbf{c}_{1,1}^k + \frac{\mathbf{y}_{1,1}^k}{\rho^k} + \nabla_x \mathbf{s} - \mathbf{c}_{2,1}^k - \frac{\mathbf{y}_{2,1}^k}{\rho^k}) \right), \\ \mathbf{f}\mathbf{y}^k &= \text{fft} \left( \rho^k (\mathbf{c}_{1,2}^k + \frac{\mathbf{y}_{1,2}^k}{\rho^k} + \nabla_y \mathbf{s} - \mathbf{c}_{2,2}^k - \frac{\mathbf{y}_{2,2}^k}{\rho^k}) \right). \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

The denotations  $\text{fft}$ ,  $\text{fft}^*$ , and  $\text{fft}^{-1}$  are the 2-D FFT, conjugate FFT and inverse FFT, respectively.

**(2) Solving  $\mathbf{c}_1^{k+1}$ .** The objective function with respect to  $\mathbf{c}_1^{k+1}$  is

$$\mathbf{c}_1^{k+1} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{c}_1} \left\{ \frac{2\lambda_1}{\rho^k} \|\mathbf{c}_1\|_1 + \|\mathbf{c}_1 - \nabla \mathbf{b}^{k+1} + \frac{\mathbf{y}_1^k}{\rho^k}\|_2^2 \right\}, \quad (7)$$

which can be solved by soft-shrinkage operation:

$$\mathbf{c}_1^{k+1} = \mathcal{T}_{\lambda_1/\rho^k}(\nabla \mathbf{b}^{k+1} - \mathbf{y}_1^k/\rho^k), \quad (8)$$

where  $\mathcal{T}_\alpha(x) = \text{sign}(x) \cdot \max(|x| - \alpha, 0)$  is the soft-thresholding function.

**(3) Solving  $\mathbf{c}_2^{k+1}$ .**

The objective function with respect to  $\mathbf{c}_2^{k+1}$  is:

$$\mathbf{c}_2^{k+1} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{c}_2} \left\{ \frac{2\lambda_2}{\rho^k} F(\mathbf{c}_2) + (\mathbf{c}_2 - \mathbf{q}^k)^2 \right\}, \quad \text{where } \mathbf{q}^k = \nabla(\mathbf{s} - \mathbf{b}^{k+1}) - \frac{\mathbf{y}_2^k}{\rho^k}. \quad (9)$$

This objective function can be solved in an element-wise manner

$$\sum_{j=1}^{2N} \min_{\mathbf{c}_{2,j}} \left\{ \frac{2\lambda_2}{\rho^k} F(\mathbf{c}_{2,j}) + (\mathbf{c}_{2,j} - \mathbf{q}_j^k)^2 \right\}, \quad (10)$$

where  $j$  is the entry index of a vector. The solution of each scalar function in (10) is

$$\mathbf{c}_{2,j} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } (\mathbf{q}_j^k)^2 \leq \frac{2\lambda_2}{\rho^k} \\ \mathbf{q}_j^k, & \text{Otherwise} \end{cases}. \quad (11)$$

This can be proved as follows:

*Proof.* Denote by  $E_j$  the value of the  $j$ th scalar function in (10)

$$E_j = \frac{2\lambda_2}{\rho^k} F(\mathbf{c}_{2,j}) + (\mathbf{c}_{2,j} - \mathbf{q}_j^k)^2. \quad (12)$$

1) When  $\frac{2\lambda_2}{\rho^k} \geq (\mathbf{q}_j^k)^2$ , the function value for non-zero  $\mathbf{c}_{2,j}$  is

$$E_j(\mathbf{c}_{2,j} \neq 0) = \frac{2\lambda_2}{\rho^k} + (\mathbf{c}_{2,j} - \mathbf{q}_j^k)^2 \geq \frac{2\lambda_2}{\rho^k} \geq (\mathbf{q}_j^k)^2. \quad (13)$$

On the other hand, the function value for the zero-valued  $\mathbf{c}_{2,j}$  is

$$E_j(\mathbf{c}_{2,j} = 0) = (\mathbf{q}_j^k)^2. \quad (14)$$

Since  $E_j(\mathbf{c}_{2,j} \neq 0) \geq (\mathbf{q}_j^k)^2 \geq E_j(\mathbf{c}_{2,j} = 0)$ , the solution is  $\mathbf{c}_{2,j} = 0$  when  $\frac{2\lambda_2}{\rho^k} \geq (\mathbf{q}_j^k)^2$ .

2) When  $\frac{2\lambda_2}{\rho^k} < (\mathbf{q}_j^k)^2$ , Eq. (14) still holds. On the other hand, for non-zero  $\mathbf{c}_{2,j}$ ,  $E_j(\mathbf{c}_{2,j} \neq 0)$  has a minimum of  $\frac{2\lambda_2}{\rho^k}$  at  $\mathbf{c}_{2,j} = \mathbf{q}_j^k$ . Because  $E_j(\mathbf{c}_{2,j} = \mathbf{q}_j^k) = \frac{2\lambda_2}{\rho^k} \leq (\mathbf{q}_j^k)^2 = E_j(\mathbf{c}_{2,j} = 0)$ , the solution is  $\mathbf{c}_{2,j} = \mathbf{q}_j^k$  when  $\frac{2\lambda_2}{\rho^k} < (\mathbf{q}_j^k)^2$ .  $\square$

**(4) Dual ascend updates:**

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{y}_1^{k+1} &= \mathbf{y}_1^k + \rho^k (\mathbf{c}_1^{k+1} - \nabla \mathbf{b}^{k+1}), \\ \mathbf{y}_2^{k+1} &= \mathbf{y}_2^k + \rho^k (\mathbf{c}_2^{k+1} - \nabla(\mathbf{s} - \mathbf{b}^{k+1})). \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

**(5) Update  $\rho^{k+1}$  as  $\rho^{k+1} = 2\rho^k$ .**

## 2. More descriptions about the Subjective experiments

In the subjective experiment, as described in the main paper, 6 subjects including 3 males and 3 females were requested to rate the tone mapping results of each tone mapper in the score range from 1 (the worst) to 8 (the best) spaced by 0.5. Two of the six subjects are computer vision researchers, while the others major in other fields. The subjective experiments were conducted in an indoor environment with stable lighting. The images are shown on a PA328 display of 32 inch (7680×4320). A Matlab graphical interface is designed to exhibit the 7 tone mapping results together with the original HDR radiance map simultaneously on the screen, as illustrated in Fig. 1. The original radiance map is fixed at the top left corner, while the 7 tone mapping results are deployed in random locations. For each tone mapping result, there is a rectangular input box where the subjects can type in the scores. Before the experiment, the subjects were given sufficient instructions on the operation of the interface program. Each subject completed the whole experiment with 40 groups of comparisons in two sessions with a 5-min break between the sessions.

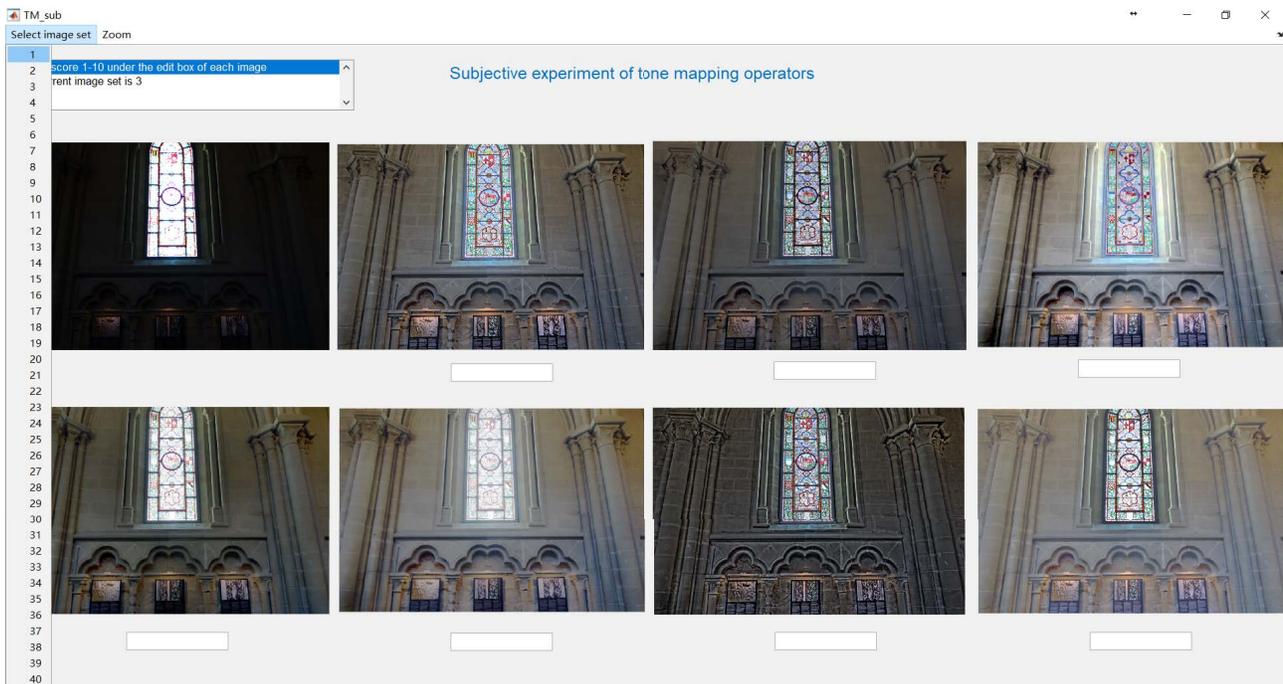


Figure 1. Matlab interface.

### 3. More Visual Comparisons of Tone Mapping Results

Here we visually compare our tone mapper with the other 6 state-of-the-art tone mappers on 10 radiance maps in our database.

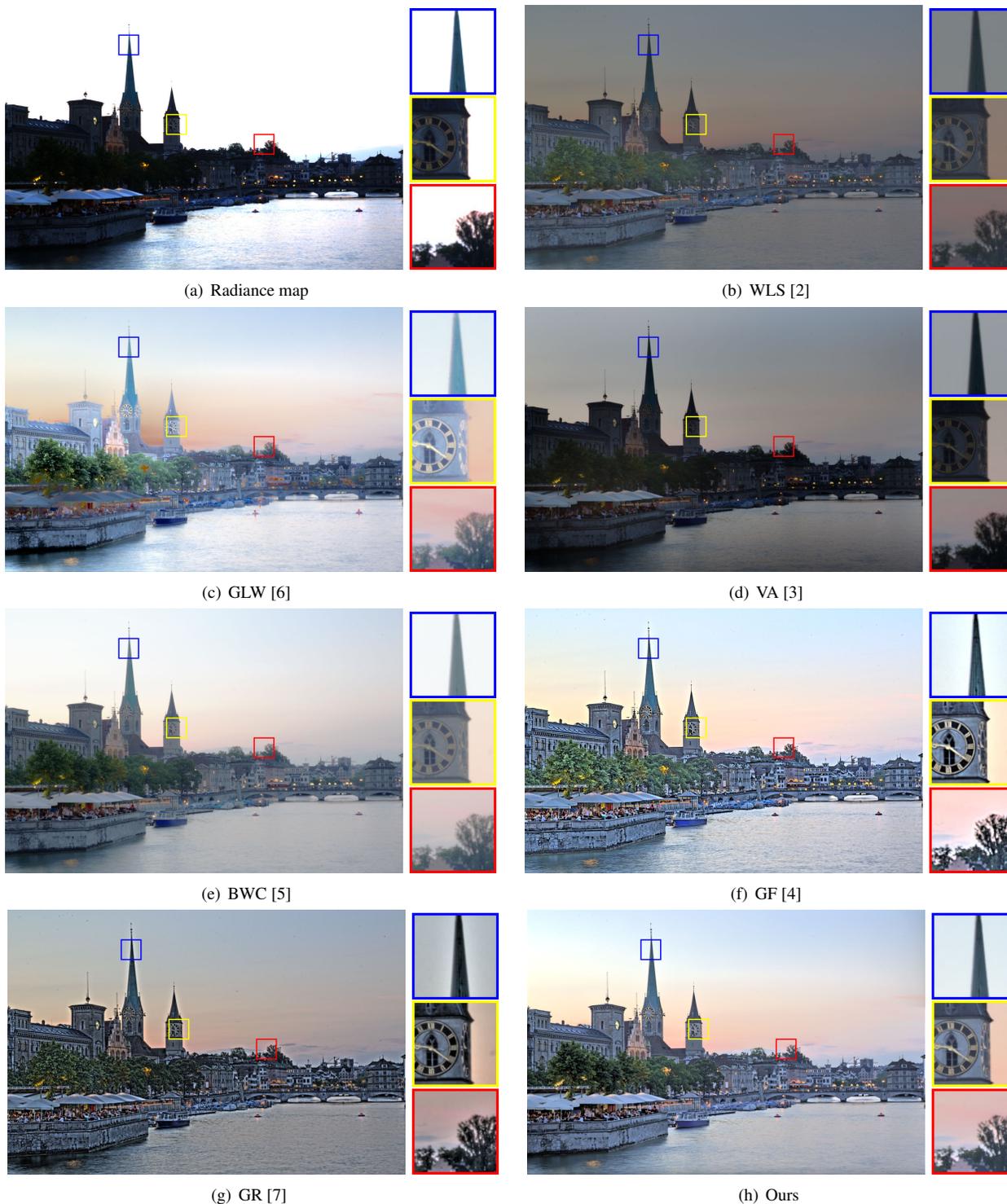
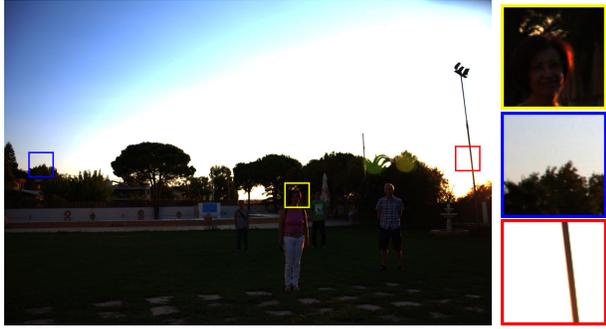
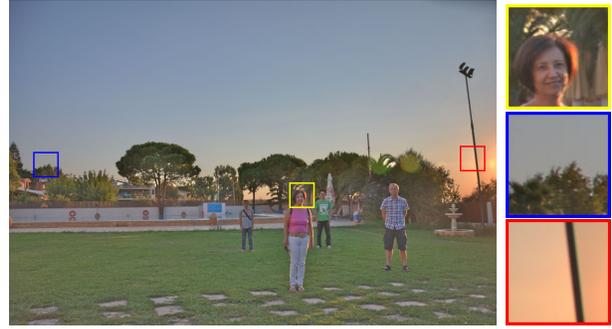


Figure 2. Comparison of tone mapping results.



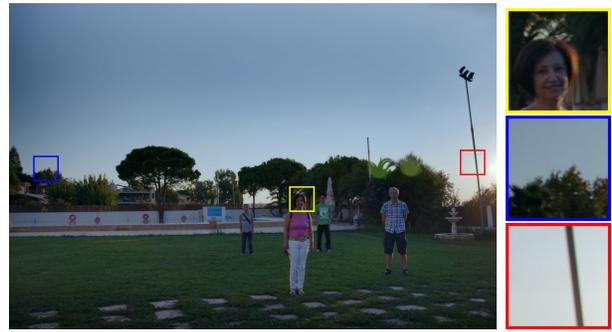
(a) Radiance map



(b) WLS [2]



(c) GLW [6]



(d) VA [3]



(e) BWC [5]



(f) GF [4]



(g) GR [7]



(h) Ours

Figure 3. Comparison of tone mapping results.



Figure 4. Comparison of tone mapping results.



(a) Radiance map



(b) WLS [2]



(c) GLW [6]



(d) VA [3]



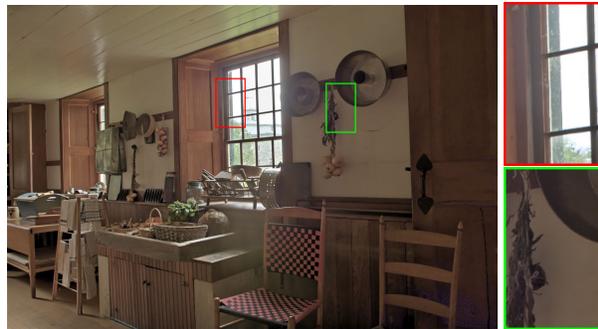
(e) BWC [5]



(f) GF [4]



(g) GR [7]



(h) Ours

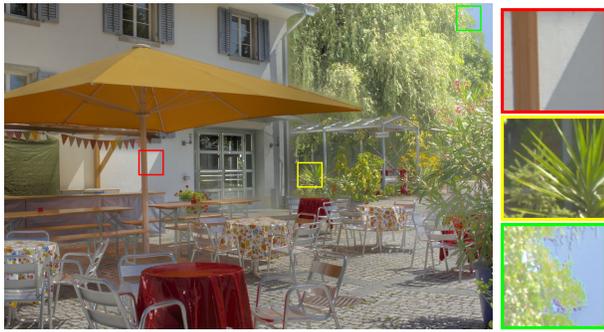
Figure 5. Comparison of tone mapping results.



(a) Radiance map



(b) WLS [2]



(c) GLW [6]



(d) VA [3]



(e) BWC [5]



(f) GF [4]



(g) GR [7]



(h) Ours

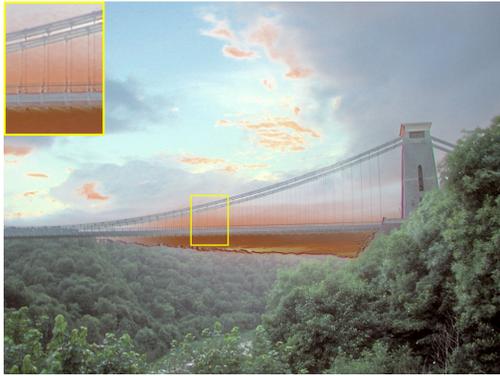
Figure 6. Comparison of tone mapping results.



(a) Radiance map



(b) WLS [2]



(c) GLW [6]



(d) VA [3]



(e) BWC [5]



(f) GF [4]

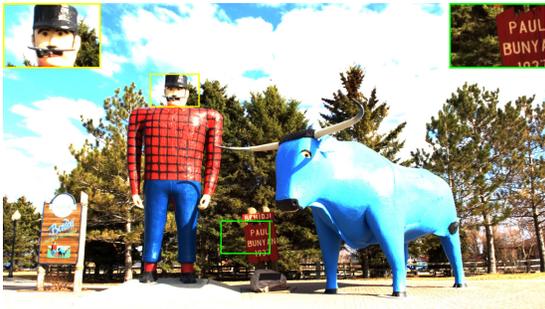


(g) GR [7]

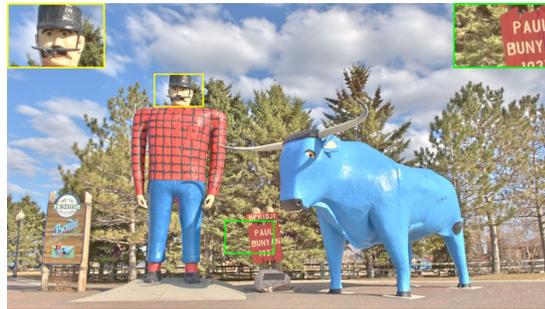


(h) Ours

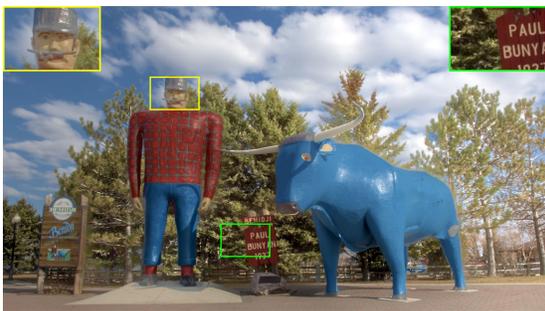
Figure 7. Comparison of tone mapping results.



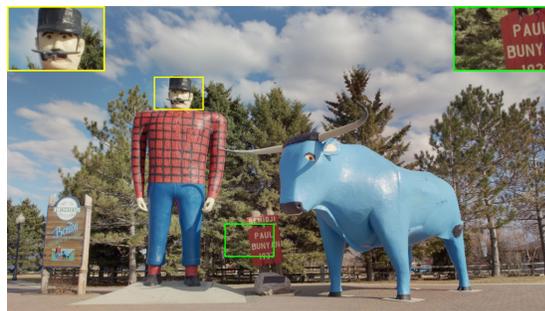
(a) Radiance map



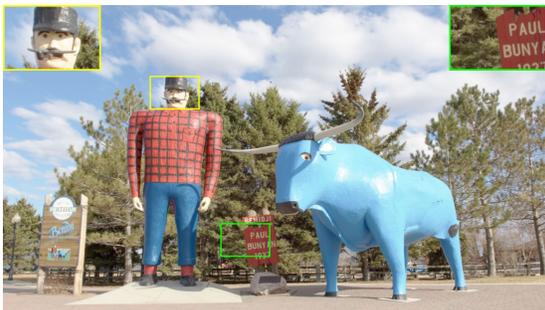
(b) WLS [2]



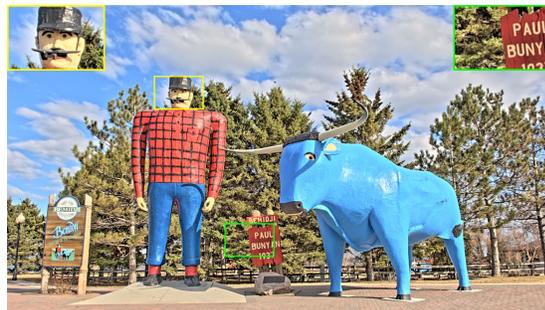
(c) GLW [6]



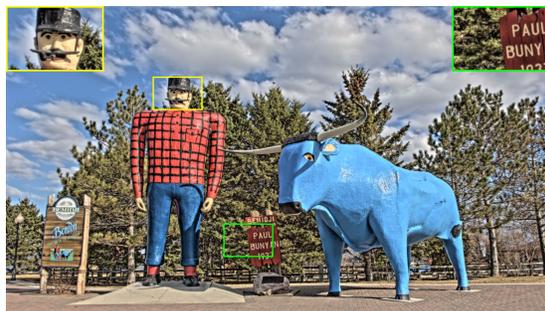
(d) VA [3]



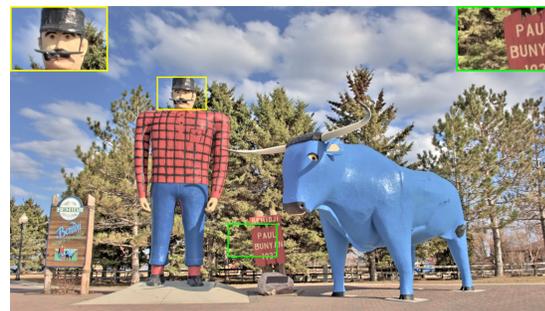
(e) BWC [5]



(f) GF [4]



(g) GR [7]



(h) Ours

Figure 8. Comparison of tone mapping results.



(a) Radiance map



(b) WLS [2]



(c) GLW [6]



(d) VA [3]



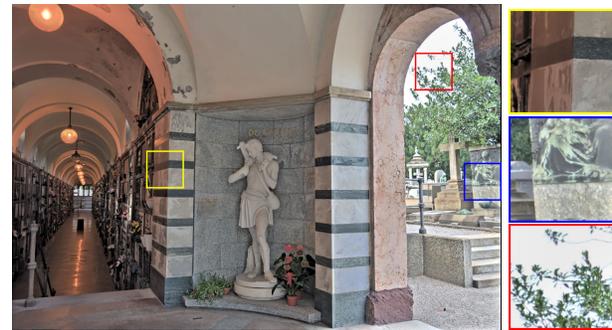
(e) BWC [5]



(f) GF [4]



(g) GR [7]



(h) Ours

Figure 9. Comparison of tone mapping results.



(a) Radiance map



(b) WLS [2]



(c) GLW [6]



(d) VA [3]



(e) BWC [5]



(f) GF [4]



(g) GR [7]



(h) Ours

Figure 10. Comparison of tone mapping results.



(a) Radiance map



(b) WLS [2]



(c) GLW [6]



(d) VA [3]



(e) BWC [5]



(f) GF [4]



(g) GR [7]



(h) Ours

Figure 11. Comparison of tone mapping results.

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