

PHOTOLIN: A PROGRAM TO EVALUATE THE DIRECTION OF LINEAR FEATURES IN AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS, SATELLITE IMAGES AND MAPS

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Manual analysis of linear features in satellite images, aerial photographs and topographic maps can provide useful structural information in preparation for, and as a supplement to, field work on the ground. A computer program, PhotoLin, has been developed to automate this process using an IBM-PC compatible microcomputer. The image to be analyzed is prepared as a computer readable input file in PCX format. The image file is binarized and segmented using a threshold to identify features of interest. The median axes of the features are located using a thinning algorithm. If necessary, branching linear features are isolated by removing nodes. The mean orientations of the linear features are determined and represented as a lineament map or rose diagram. Acknowledgments: CAPES process BEX-006/96.