**Abstract**

A database is a collection of information that is structured for easy storage, retrieval and update. This information is represented in many forms like text, table, image, chart and graph etc. Content Based Image Retrieval (CBIR) technique explores various methodologies in extracting implicit knowledge, patterns and relationships found in the images from the collection of images. As the network and development of multimedia technologies are becoming more popular, users are not satisfied with the traditional information retrieval techniques. Nowadays the content based image retrieval (CBIR) are becoming a source of exact and fast retrieval. This paper focuses on the overview of CBIR and various techniques that were proposed in earlier literature.