**CSE585/EE555:  Digital Image Processing II**

**Computer Project # 3:**

**Nonlinear Filtering and Anisotropic Diffusion**

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1. **Objectives**

* Study the algorithms and design different filters with given neighborhood and implement expecting applications: mean, median, alpha-trim, sigma, symmetric nearest-neighbor mean, and anisotropic diffusion.
* Get familiar with gray-scale image histograms and extract useful information from the histograms.
* Learn how to segment images from applying filters and read histograms by manually setting the threshold.
* Give observation of single iteration vs repeated application of filters on real-world images.
* Evaluate the performance of different algorithms with different parameters of anisotropic diffusion.

1. **Algorithms**

**1. Non-linear filtering algorithms**

1. **5x5 mean filter**

A 5x5 mean filter is to simply replace each pixel value in an image with the mean (average) of its neighboring pixels (window size is 5x5). Since the output pixel is linear combinations of the neighboring input pixels, thus, 5x5 mean filter is a linear filter.

= mean(…….)

where, middle element is the kth element, total number of pixels are 2N+1.

1. **5x5 median filter**

A 5x5 median filter is a non-linear filter. At each position of window, the sample values inside are ranked according to their magnitude and the middle element of this ranking is defined to be the output.[Gabouj p9]

= median (…….) [Gabouj 1.1]

where, middle element is the kth element, total number of pixels are 2N+1. In our case, k is 13 and N is 12.

1. **alpha-trimmed mean filter**

Alpha-trimmed mean filter is a subclass of order-statistical filter. The filter average a subset of samples in the filter window: the points excluded are those of very high or very low rank.[Gabouj p17]

(Gabouj 1.7)

where n= 2N+1=25, is the window length, α =0.25.

1. **Sigma filter**

The 2-D 5 x 5 sigma filter takes 25 pixels as input. If we consider as the pixel of interest, the input pixels for the 5 x 5 sigma filter are

After sigma filter, the output

Here,

,

and

Overall, sigma filter averages values belonging to the same distribution as the interest input , while excluding noisy outliers in the input.

1. **Symmetric NNMF:**

The symmetric nearest neighbor mean filter is a 2-D filter. In this project, the size of the window is 5\*5. The function of this filter is to select the point which is the most similar to the central pixel in the window from each symmetrically opposite pair. So there are 13 pixels after the selection, and then get the average value of these 13 pixels to represent the value of the central pixel in the new image. Here is an example of symmetric nearest neighbor mean filter.

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Figure 1 An example of symmetric nearest neighbor mean filter.

The formula of the output with respect to Figure 1 is

The symmetric nearest neighbor mean filter can reduce the noise, sharpen edges, and reduce thin lines.

**2. Anisotropic Diffusion for Image Filtering:**

The implementation of anisotropic diffusion for image filtering is based on the equation

In this equation, N, S, E, W represent north, south, east, west neighbors of pixel (i, j). is a parameter and is set to be 0.25 in our project. refers to difference between pixel (i, j) and one neighbor of it, for example:

are conduction coefficients and updated after every iteration. In this project, we have tried two computation methods of it. How to compute them is shown below:

In this project, we have tried two forms of the function . The first one is the exponential formula:

The second one is the reciprocal function:

The in both functions is a parameter and the value of it is selected by us. We have tried several values of , and the different results are shown in results section.

For cwheelnoise.gif figure, the images after 0, 20, 50, 100 iterations, gray-scale histogram, plot of the line y=128 through the image, and segmented version are also shown. We select pixels which values are between 80 and 110 to be the segmented image which shows the shape of the wheel, and the range of the value is according to the gray-scale histograms, we just pick the second peak in the histogram.

The same process is also conducted on cameraman.tif image.

1. **Structure of codes**

**Readme:**

**sigma\_filter.m**

Function sigma\_filter.m takes an image as input, and applies sigma filter to it. The output image will be the image after sigma\_filter. This function does not call any other functions.

**symmetry\_NNMF.m**

Function symmetry\_NNMF.m takes an image as input, and applies symmetric nearest neighbor mean filter to it. The output image will be the image after symmetric nearest neighbor mean filter. This function does not call any other function.

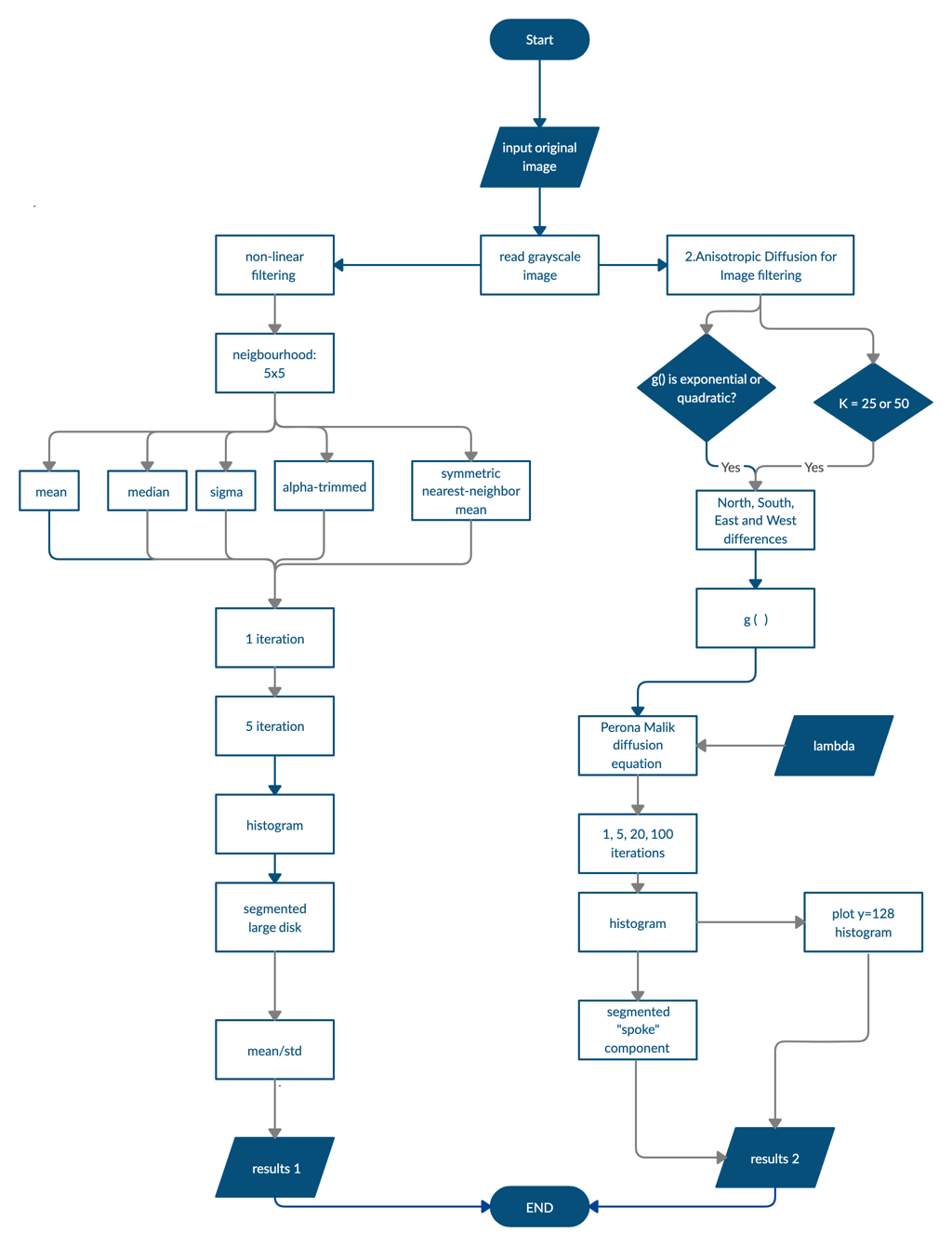
**Anisotropic\_Diffusion\_exp.m**

Function Anisotropic\_Diffusion\_exp.m takes an image, parameter t, and parameter k as the inputs. Parameter t refers to the number of iteration, and k refers to the parameter in . The function in this function is the exponential form. The outputs are the images after the 0th, 20th, 50th, and 100th iteration. This function does not call any other function.

**Anisotropic\_Diffusion\_rev.m**

Function Anisotropic\_Diffusion\_rev.m is the same as function Anisotropic\_Diffusion\_exp.m except . The in this function is the inverse quadratic form.

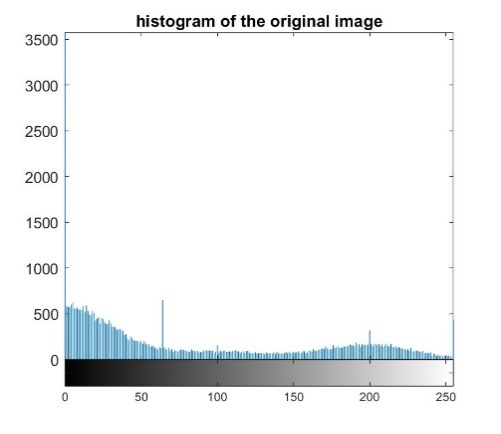
**Flow chart:**



1. **Results**

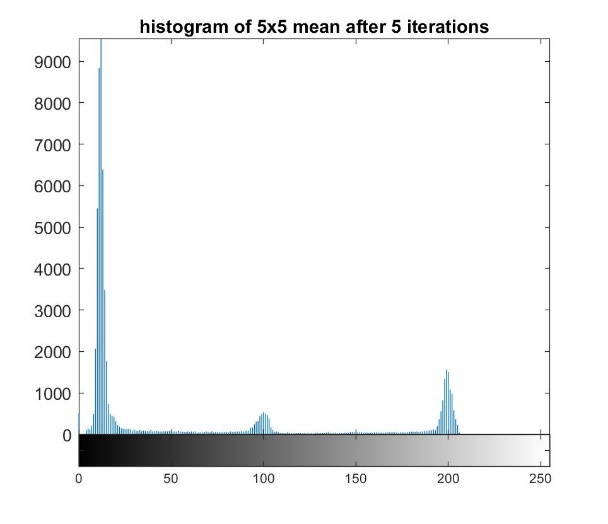
### 1. Results of Nonlinear Filtering

The first part of this project focuses on applying different types of nonlinear filters and understanding their effects.



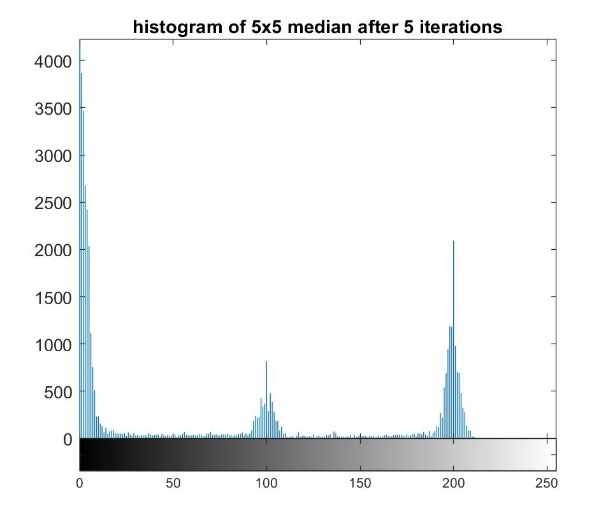
Original Image

A



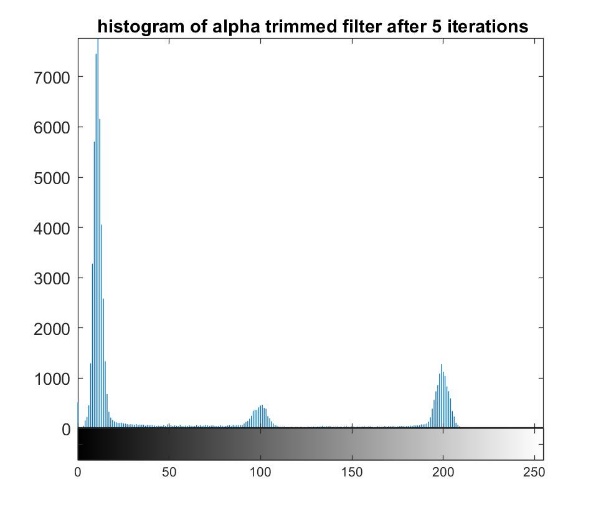
B

Mean Filter



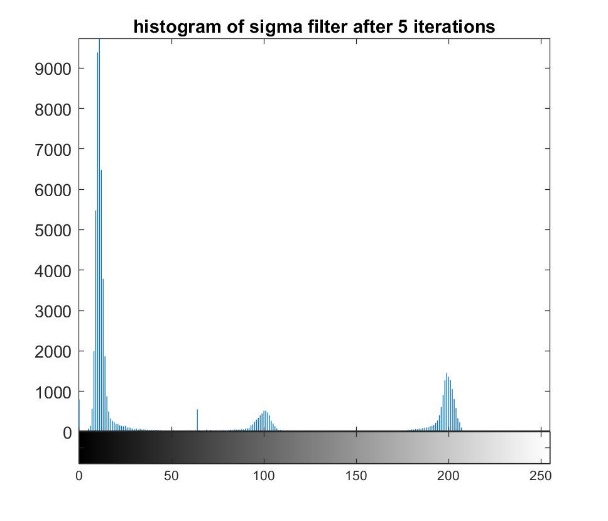
C

Median Filter



D

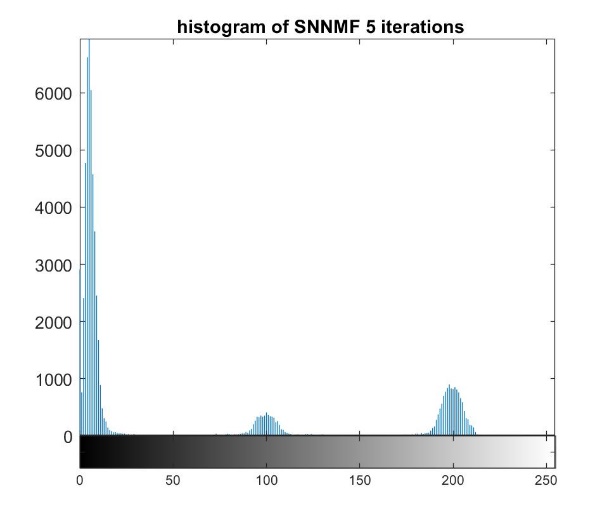
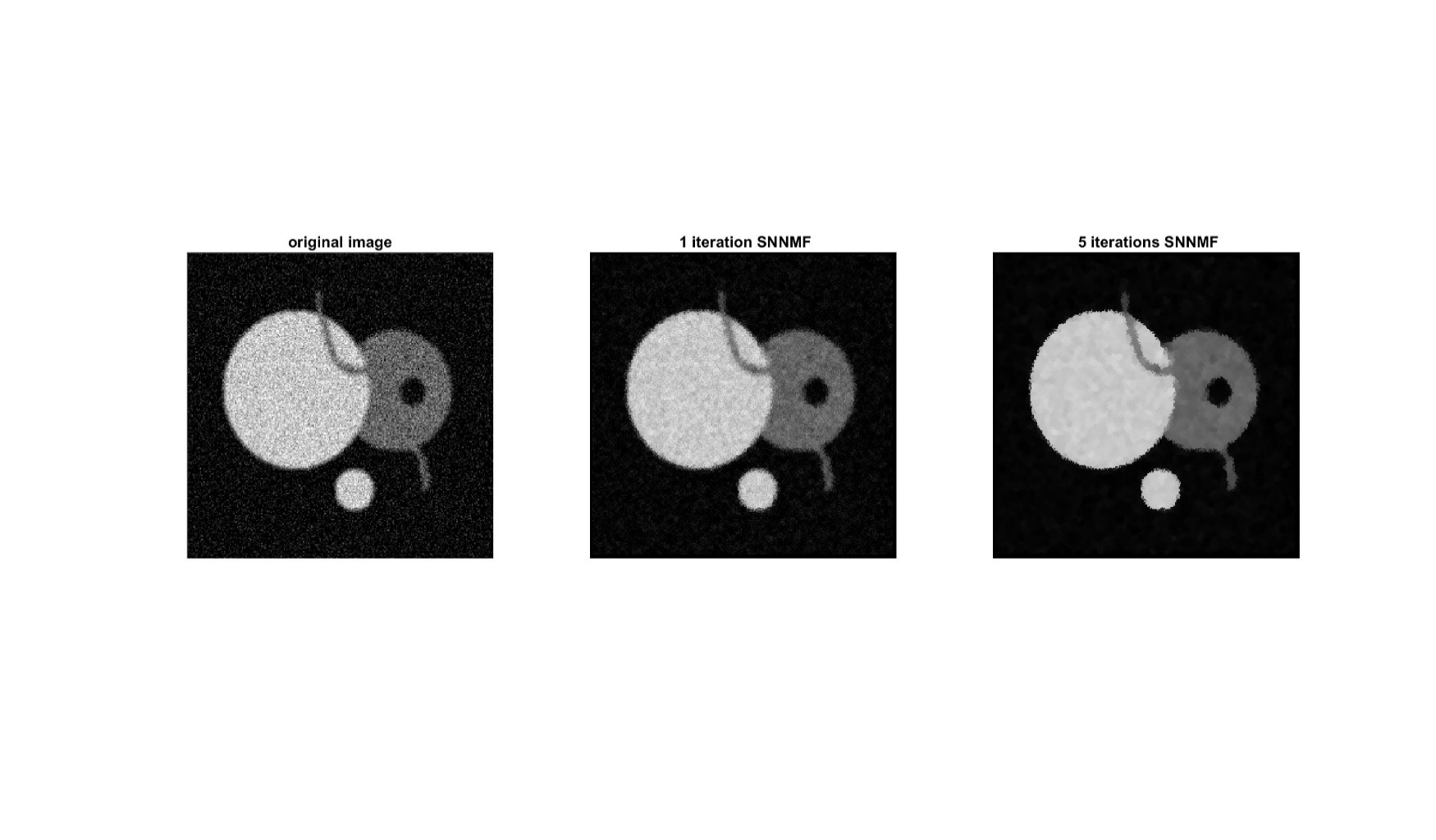
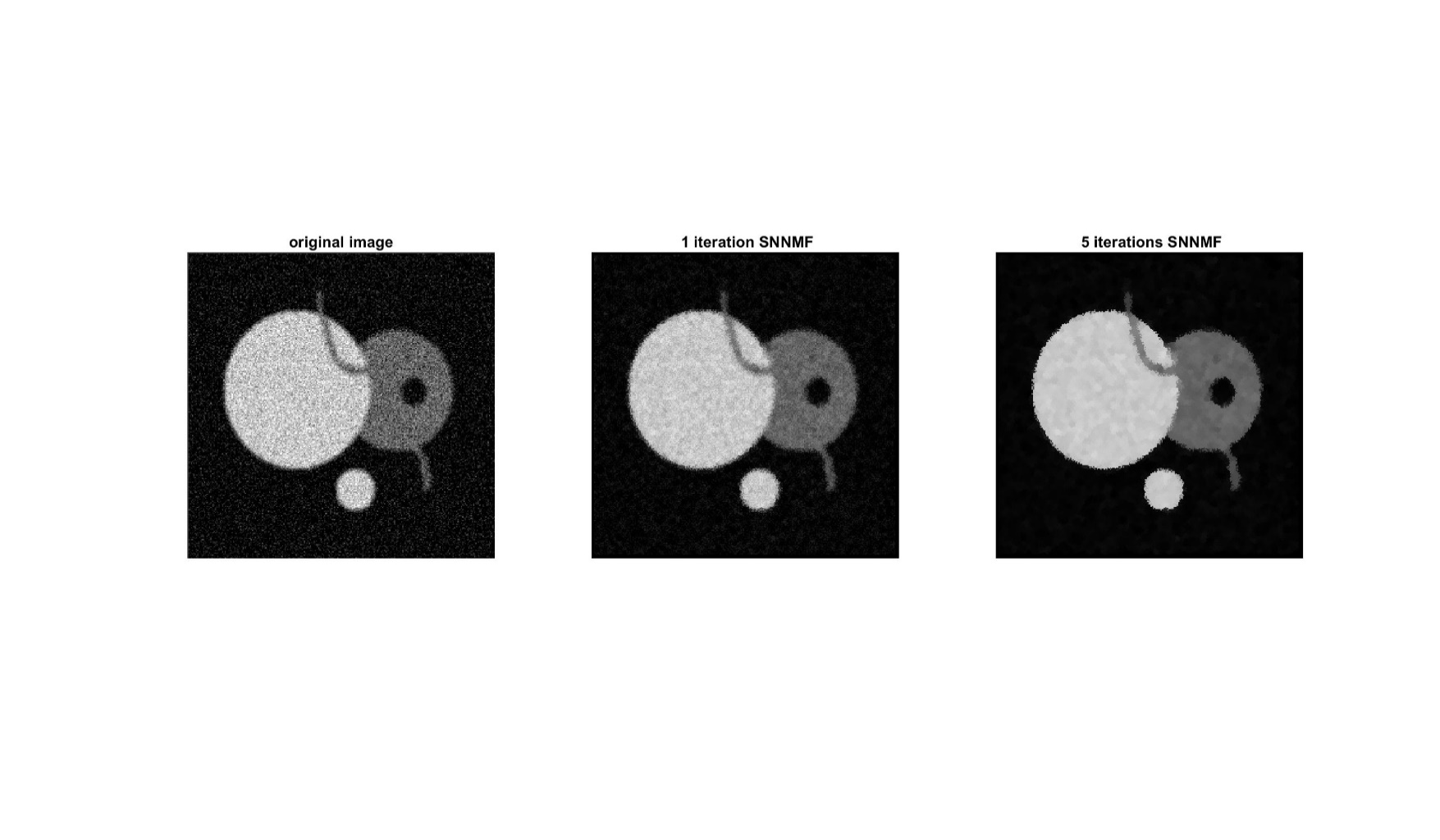
Alpha-Trimmed Mean Filter



SNNMF

Sigma Filter

E



F

Figure 2 The image output and histogram of the original image (A), and images after applying mean filter (B), median filter (C), alpha-trimmed mean filter (D), sigma filter (E), and symmetric nearest-neighbor mean filter (F) for 1 time and 5 times.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Mean | Std |
| 5x5 mean filter | 188.69792 | 22.589779 |
| 5x5 median filter | 191.80400 | 21.022482 |
| 5x5 alpha-trimmed mean filter | 190.12857 | 22.155251 |
| 5x5 sigma filter | 192.49910 | 21.504250 |
| 5x5 symmetric nearest-neighbor mean filter | 190.12857 | 22.155251 |

Table 1 mean and standard deviation of the interior of the large disk region for each filter after 5 iterations.

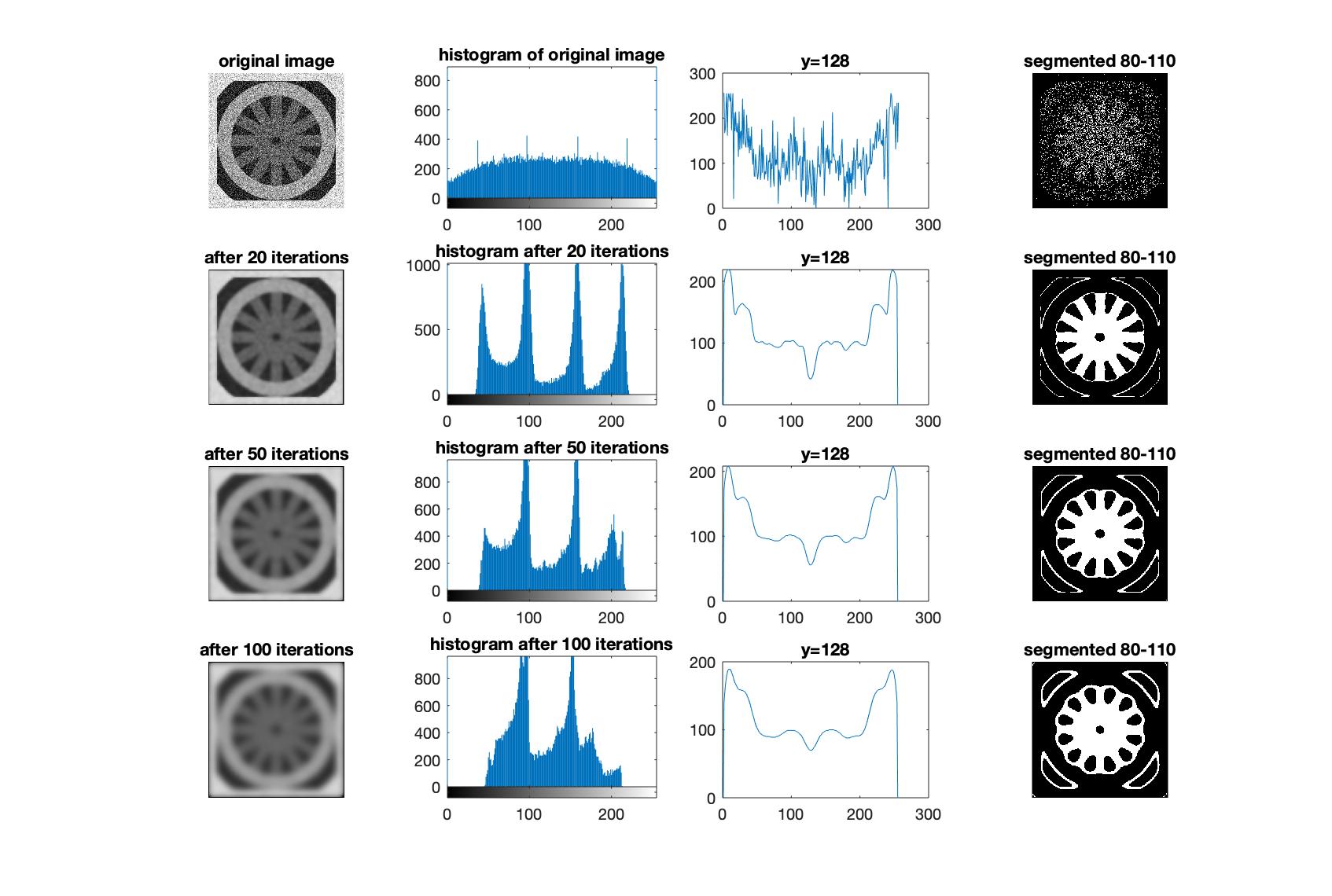
**2. Results of Anisotropic Diffusion for Image Filtering:**

After the image processed by anisotropic diffusion for image filter, we tried to find the spokes of the wheel and the result images, the gray-scale histogram, the plot of the line y=128 through the image, and the segmented images are given in the result. The results under different parameters are shown in the following figures.

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**k=50, g() = exp.**

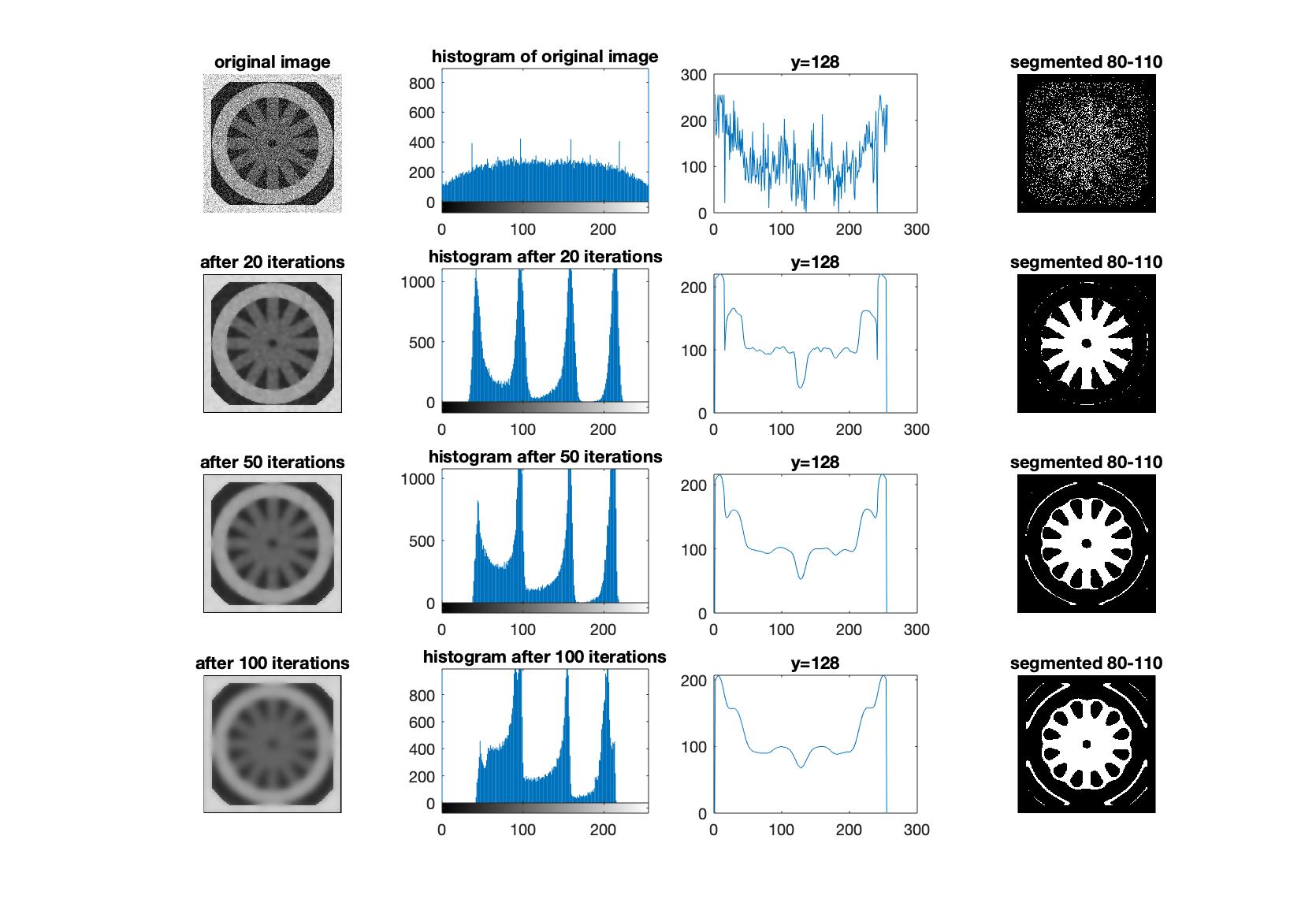


**k=50, g() = rev**

**图片包含 游戏机, 房间

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**k=25, g() = exp.**



**k=25, g() = rev.**

**Observations:**

As we can see from these figures, the anisotropic diffusion can remove noises in the original figures after some iterations but with the increment of the iteration, the image becomes more blurred.

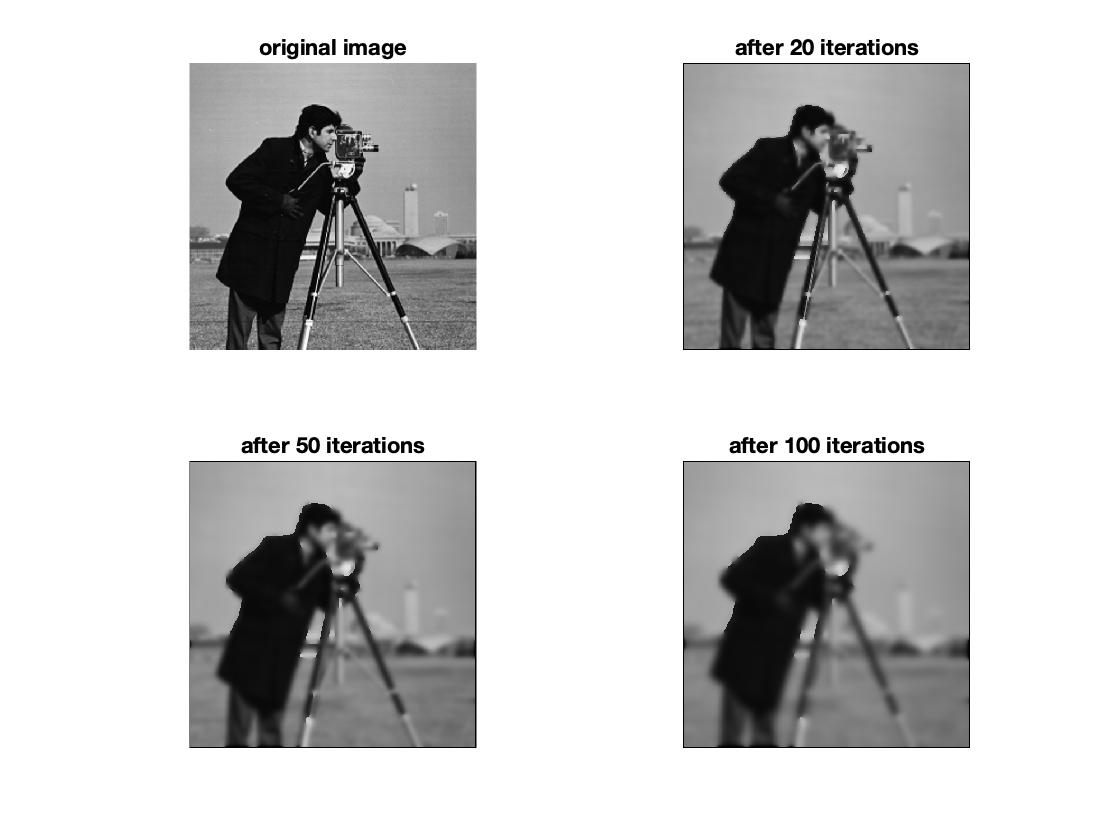
From the plot of the line y=128 through the image we can find that the image is smoothed after iterations, the gray level gets similar to the gray level around it, so we can extract the gray-scale component like the spokes in the wheel.

After iterations, there are several peaks in the histogram, and each peak refers to one gray-scale component in the image, we selected the range 80-110, which is the second peak in the histogram, to represent the spokes component of the wheel since the color of the wheel spokes is the second darkest. And the segmented results also verify that our selection is correct.

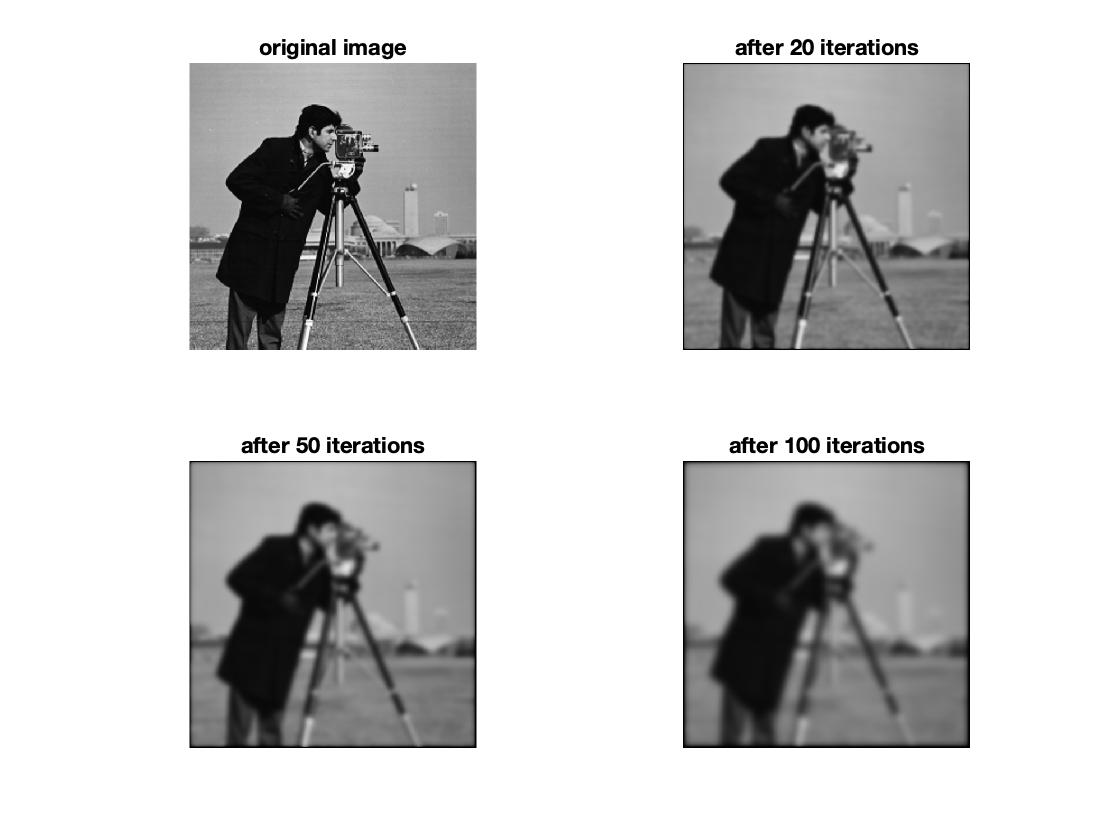
Use the exponential function as can preserve high-contrast edges, and the reciprocal function can preserve wide regions. As we can see from the segmented images, the exponential function can segment the spokes of the wheel better than the reciprocal function. And there are more peaks in the histogram when using exponential function. This observation can also verify the property of these two functions.

We also tried different value of k in this part. With the image will get blurred after iterations, and a lot of details are lost finally. But it can remove the noise more quickly. With a lower value of , the image is not blurred even after 100 iterations and it can help to extract the spokes of the wheel much better with the exponential function.

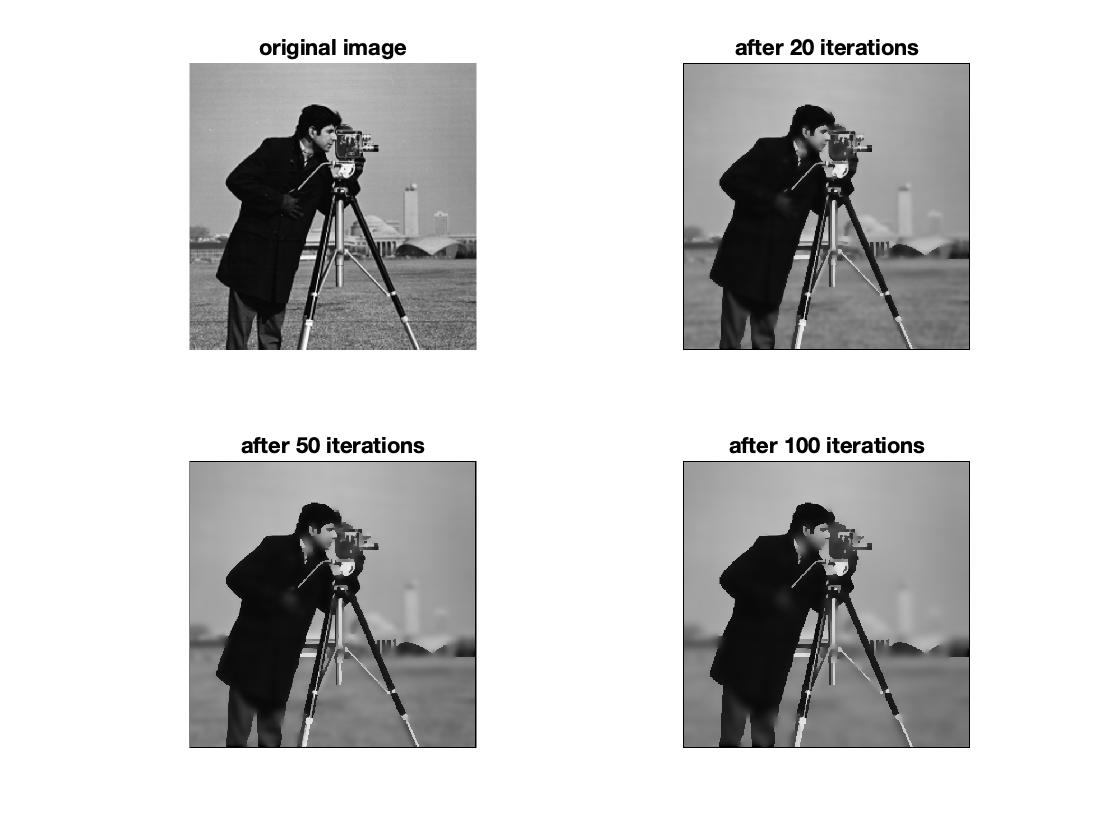
We processed “cameraman” with the same process as above.



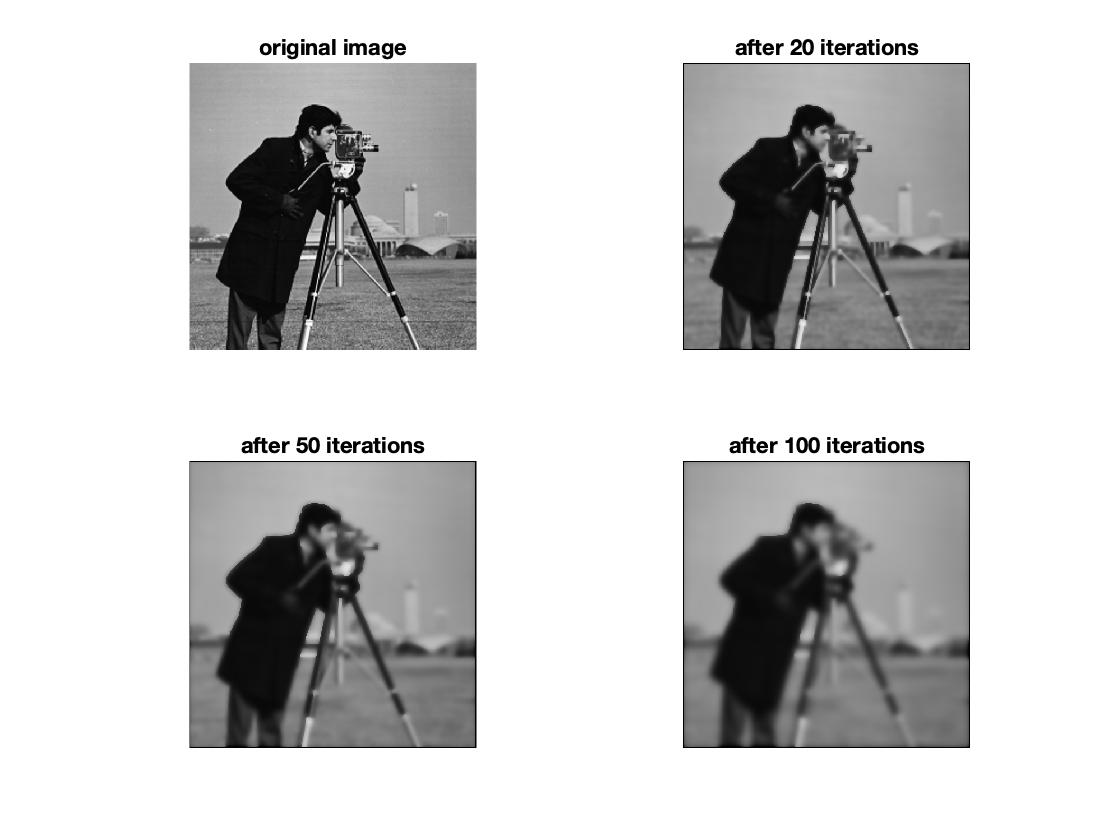
**k=50, g() = exp.**



**k=50, g() = rev.**



**k=25, g() = exp.**



**k=25, g() = rev.**

In general, the function seems like to distinguish the interior region and the border, and the parameter determines a threshold to control the diffusion. The exponential can preserve the edges better, but the reciprocal can remove the noise in the wide region better.