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- Image Analysis: “low to mid level”, “early” vision
  - image to image (image processing/enhacement)
  - image labeling (segmentation, depth, motion, features)
- Computer Vision: “high level”, scene interpretation
  - image to model (3D, texture, lighting)
  - recognition (objects, activities, ...)

## 1 Image Types and Discretization

- mapping  $f$  from a rectangular domain  $\Omega = (0, w) \times (0, h)$  to a co-domain  $\mathbb{R}$ 
$$f : \mathbb{R}^2 \supset \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$
  - $\Omega$  is called *image domain* or *image plane*
- image data only given on rectangular point grid within image domain  $\Omega$
- grid point  $(i, j)$  is called *pixel* (picture element)
- **Aliasing:** Signals become indistinguishable when sampled
  - Sampling rate must be above *Nyquist rate* (two times the bandwidth of the signal) => aliasing-free result

### 1.1 Image Noise

#### 1.1.1 Additive Noise

- most important noise
- Gray values and Noise are *independent*

$$f_{i,j} = g_{i,j} + n_{i,j}$$

where  $g$  is the original image,  $n$  is the noise and  $f$  is the noisy image

- noise  $n$  may have different distributions

- Uniform Distribution (very simple)

$$p(x) = \begin{cases} b - a & \text{for } x \in [a, b] \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

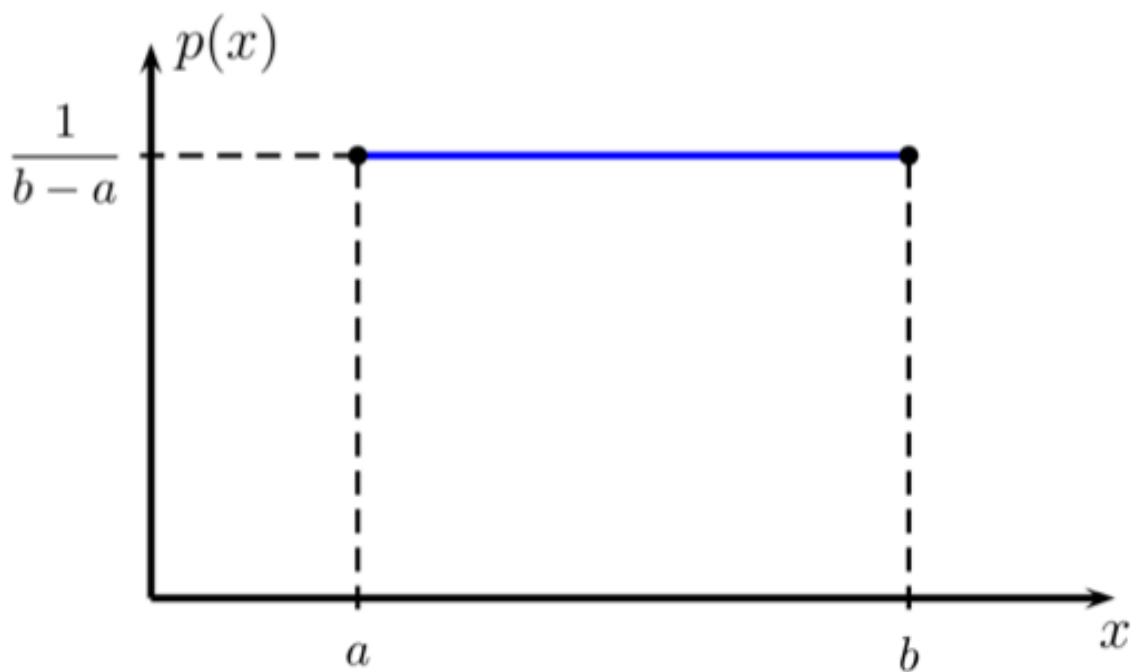


Abbildung 1: Uniformly Distributed Noise

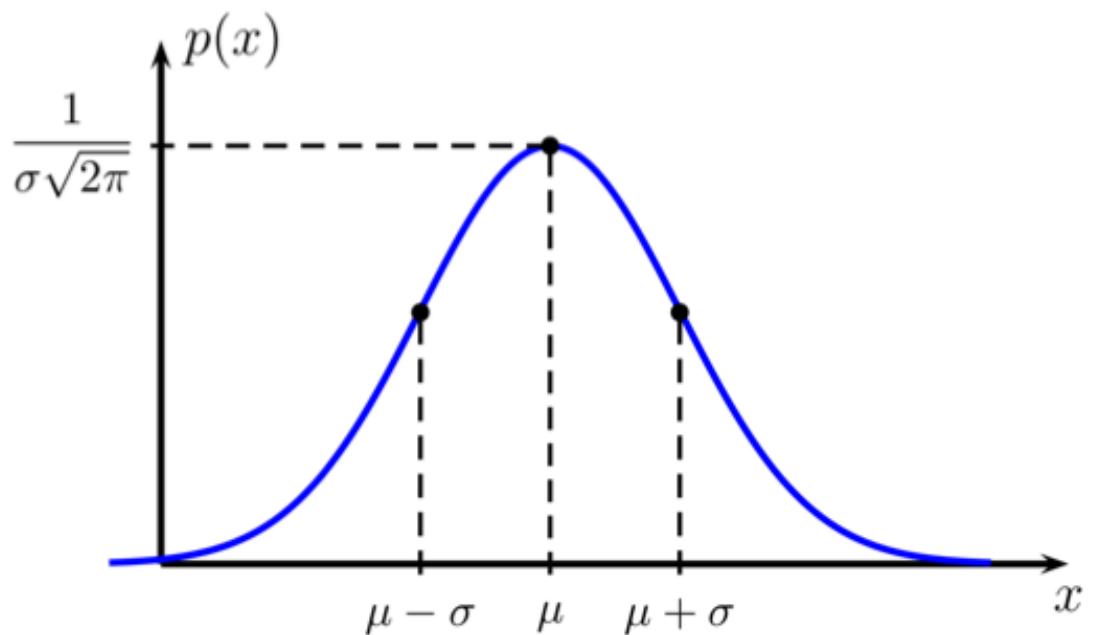


Abbildung 2: Gaussian Noise Distribution

- Gaussian Distribution (very common)
  - \* most important noise model
  - \* good approximation for many practical situations
  - \* density function:

$$p(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \cdot e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

where  $\mu$  is the *mean* and  $\sigma$  is the standard deviation ( $\sigma^2$  is called the *variance*)

- \*  $\mu - \sigma \Rightarrow 68\%$
- \*  $\mu - 2\sigma \Rightarrow 95.5\%$
- \*  $\mu - 3\sigma \Rightarrow 99.7\%$

### 1.1.2 Multiplicative Noise

- signal dependent
- often proportional to the gray value:

$$f_{i,j} = g_{i,j} + n_{i,j} \cdot g_{i,j} = (1 + n_{i,j}) \cdot g_{i,j}$$

- often present in radar, ultrasound and tomographic images

### 1.1.3 Impulse Noise

- degrade image at some pixels only (erroneous grey values are created)
- *unipolar impulse noise*  $\Rightarrow$  only one grey value
- *salt-and-pepper noise*  $\Rightarrow$  bipolar noise, highest and lowest value inserted

## 1.2 Correlation and Convolution

- goal is to reduce noise
- take multiple images with same camera (and setup) and average them
- **Image Filtering:** modify pixels based on some function of local neighborhood



Abbildung 3: Image neighborhood

- replace pixel by average of neighborhood

### 1.2.1 Correlation

- weighted combination of pixels in small neighborhood, e.g. weighted sum:

$$g_{i,j} = \sum_{k,l \in \mathbb{Z}} f(i+k, j+l) h(k, l)$$

where  $h(k, l)$  is the **mask** or **weighted kernel** (*filter coefficients*)

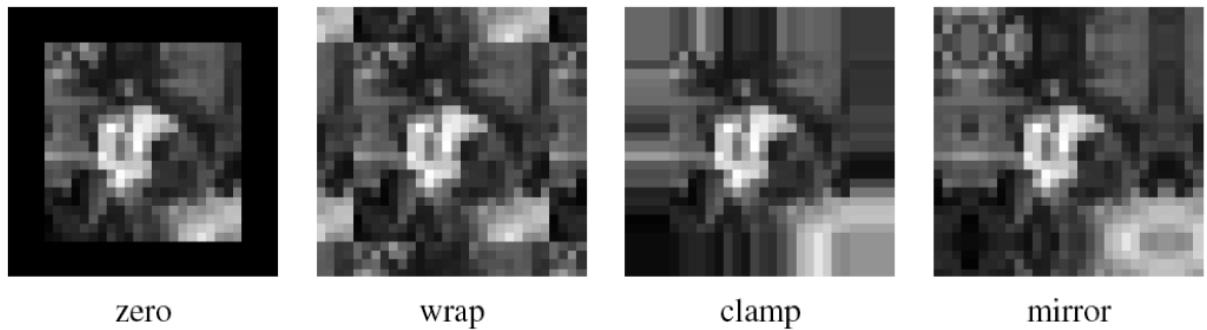


Abbildung 4: Boundary Conditions

- **correlation operator:**  $g = f \otimes h$
- *boundary conditions:* What happens on image border.
  - *zero*: everything outside of images is zero
  - *wrap*: move out of image? move back in on the other side!
  - *clamp*: last pixel gets replicated
  - *mirror*: move out of image? move back on the same side, reverse direction
- **Gaussian Correlation:** Removes high-frequency components from the image (low-pass filter)

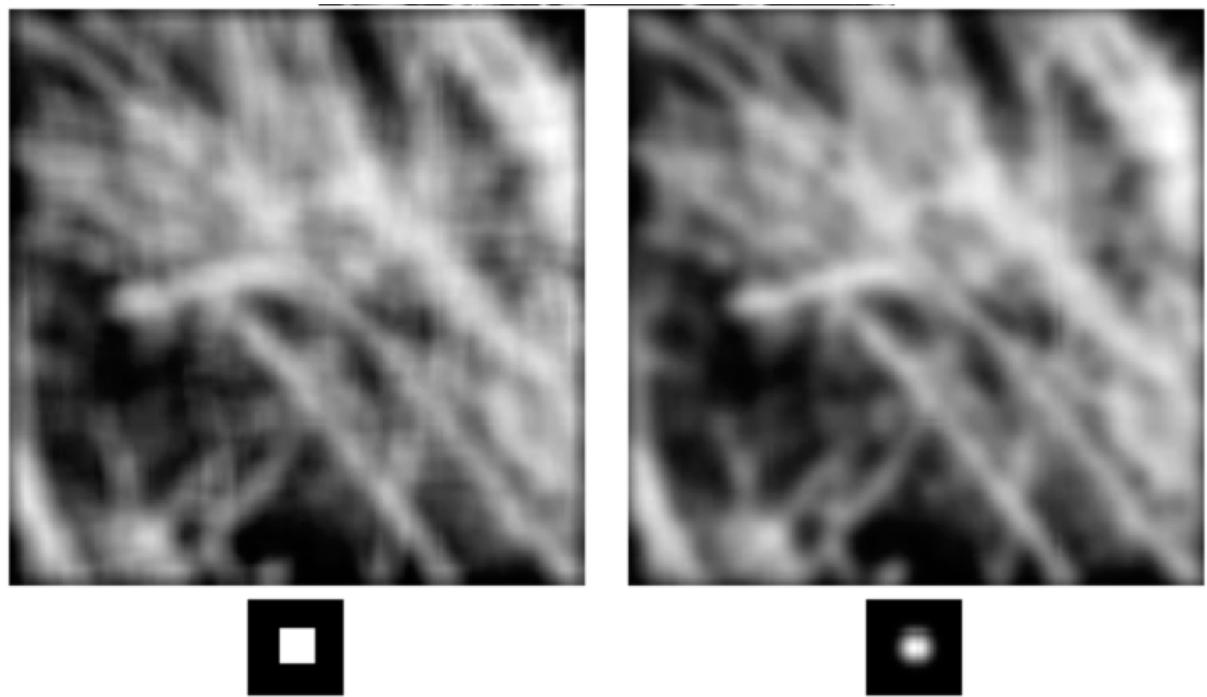


Abbildung 5: Filtering: mean (left), gaussian (right)

- approximates a 2D Gaussian function
- Gaussian Function has infinite support, discrete filters use finite kernels
- *Standard Deviation* determines extent of smoothing

### 1.2.2 Convolution

- Correlation filters will be flipped by mathematical operation

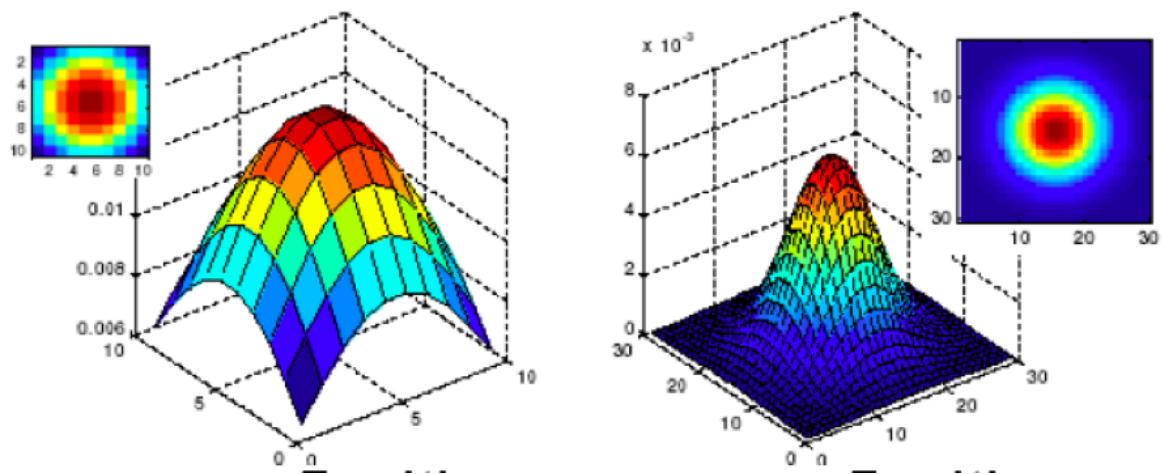


Abbildung 6: Gaussian Kernel  $\sigma = 5$ :  $10 \times 10$  kernel (left),  $30 \times 30$  kernel (right)

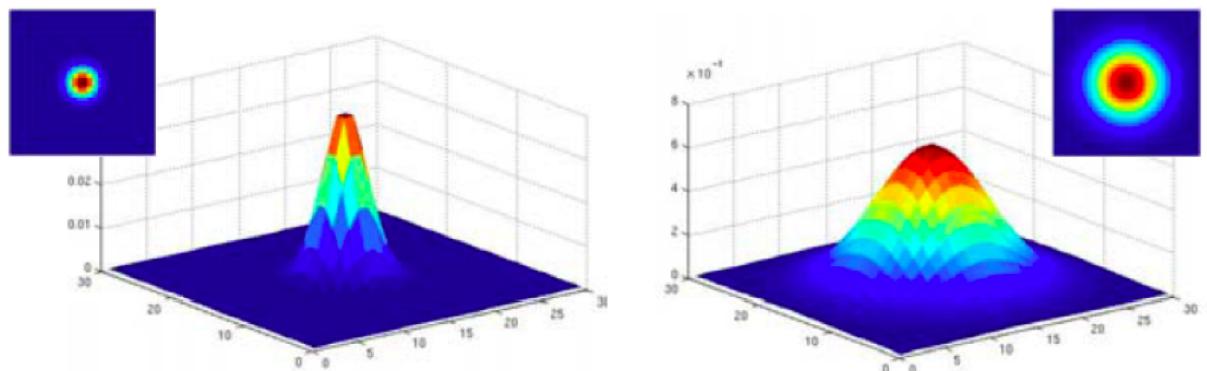


Abbildung 7: Gaussian Kernel:  $\sigma = 2$  (left),  $\sigma = 5$  (right),  $30 \times 30$  kernel

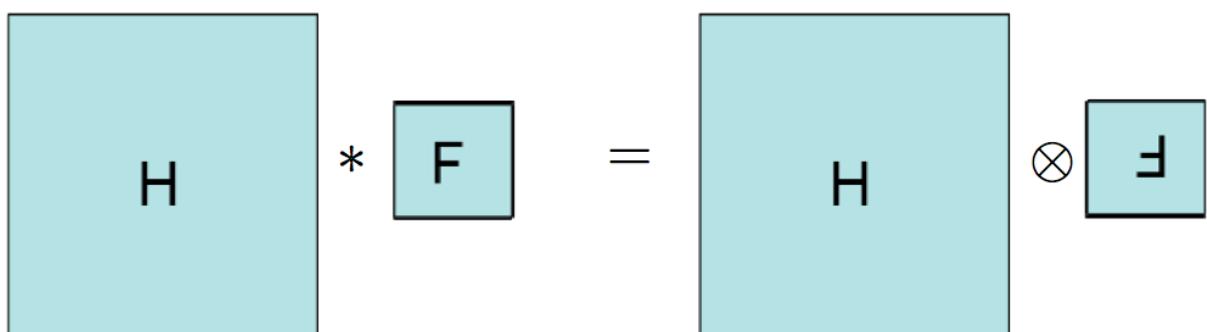


Abbildung 8: Correlation and Convolution

- Convolutions of two images:  $g = f * h$  defined as:

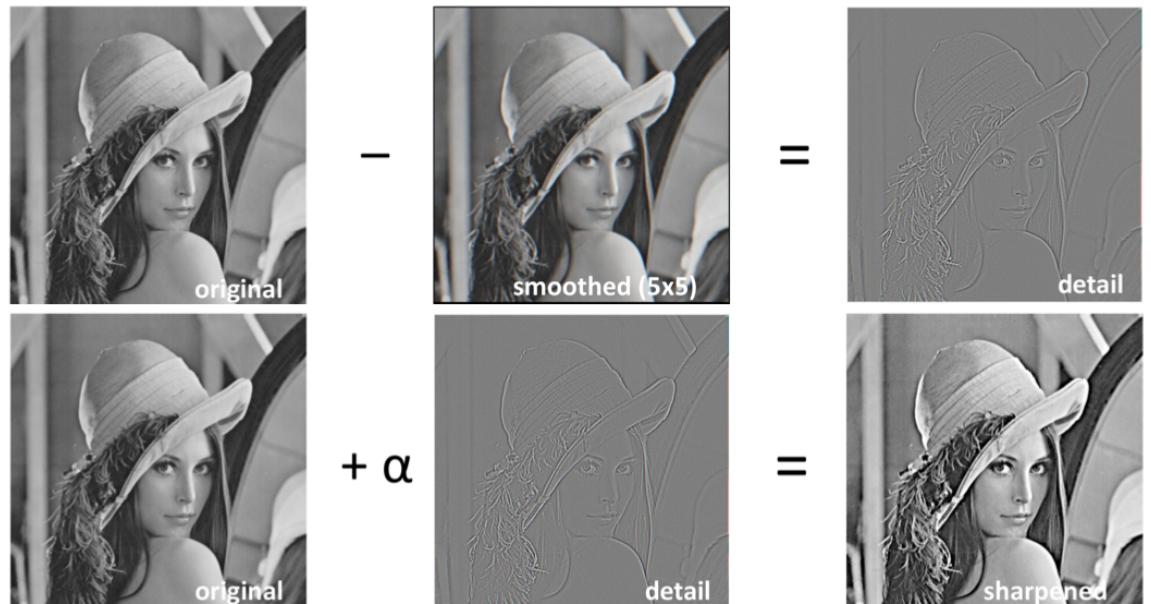
$$g(i, j) = \sum_{k, l \in \mathbb{Z}} f(i - k, j - l)h(k, l)$$

- for symmetrical filters (gaussian, box) result is the same
- Visualization of Correlation filters much more intuitive.
- mathematical properties:

- **commutative**:  $f * h = h * f$
- **associative**:  $(f * h) * g = f * (h * g)$
- **identity**:  $\delta * h = h * \delta = h$
- **linear** (superposition):

$$\begin{aligned} f * (h_1 + h_2) &= f * h_1 + f * h_2 \\ (f + g) * h &= f * h + g * h \\ (\alpha f) * h &= \alpha(f * h) \end{aligned}$$

- **shift-invariant**:  $(shifted\ f) * h = (f * h)shifted$  (shifted image => convolution with shifted impulse)



- **Sharpening**
- Different phenomena in Optics are actually convolutions, e.g. motion blur

### 1.2.3 Non-Linear filters + denoising

- Measures for denoising quality:
- Mean Square error (MSE):

$$MSE(f, g) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N (f_n - g_n)^2$$

- Peak signal-to-noise ratio (PSNR)

$$PSNR(f, g) = 10 \log_{10} \left( \frac{V^2}{MSE(f, g)} \right)$$

- **bilateral filter**:

- idea: preserve edges, average only over pixels which are nearby *and* have similar color

- two weights: one for distance, one for intensity, both are gaussian filters
- parameters  $\sigma, \tau > 0$ , greyscale image  $f$ , *bilateral filter*:

$$g(n) = \frac{1}{K_n} \sum_{m=1}^N f_m N_\sigma(\|x_n - x_m\|) \cdot N_\tau(|f_n - f_m|)$$

$$K_n = \sum_{m=1}^N N_\sigma(\|x_n - x_m\|) \cdot N_\tau(|f_n - f_m|)$$

- **non-local means**: images have similar patches, **idea**: when averaging, put most weight on similar patches
    - around each pixel  $n$ , define a  $k \times k$  window of pixels  $\mathcal{W}_n$ , which is written as vector of pixel indices
    - define distance
- $d_{n,m}^2 := \sum_{s=1}^{k^2} (f(\mathcal{W}_n(s)) - f(\mathcal{W}_m(s)))^2$
- kernel weights:  $k_{n,m} := e^{-\frac{d_{n,m}^2}{2\sigma^2}}$ , where  $\sigma > 0$  is a parameter.
  - sums are usually restricted to window around  $n$ th pixel
  - very slow filter
- **median filter**: very good for removing outliers => *salt-and-pepper noise*
    - for each pixel  $n$ , compute vector  $f$  consisting of  $k^2$  grayscale values:  $f = (f_{n,1}, \dots, f_{n,k^2})$  in local  $k \times k$  window around  $n$ .
    - filtered result is the *median value*
    - usually  $k = 3$ , better to apply it multiple times (twice)

## 2 Features and Patterns

### 2.1 Image Edges and Image Derivatives

- Identify sudden changes (discontinuities) in an image
- naive: changes in intensity
  - often does not work: texture, shadows, back- and foreground of similar color, ...
  - => focus on gradient-based edge detection ok for now
- **approximation of the gradient**

- *interpolate image as function, differentiate, resample*:

$$\delta_x f(x, y) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + \epsilon, y) - f(x, y)}{\epsilon}$$

- *difference approximation*:  $h_x$  is pixel size in  $x$ -direction (usually normalized to 1)

- \* *forward differences*:  $(\partial_x f)_{i,j} \approx \frac{f(i+1,j) - f(i,j)}{h_x}$

- \* *backward differences*:  $(\partial_x f)_{i,j} \approx \frac{f(i,j) - f(i-1,j)}{h_x}$

- \* *central differences*:  $(\partial_x f)_{i,j} \approx \frac{f(i+1,j) - f(i-1,j)}{2h_x}$

- \* can be written as *convolutions*:

- forward difference kernel:

1	-1	0
---	----	---

- backward difference kernel:

0	1	-1
---	---	----

- forward difference kernel:

$\frac{1}{2}$	0	$-\frac{1}{2}$
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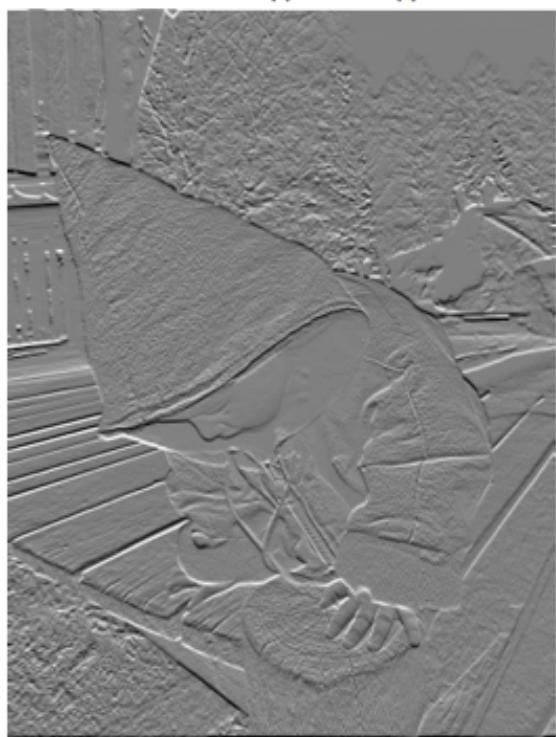
$f$



$1 - \|\nabla f\|$



$\partial_x f$



$\partial_y f$

Abbildung 9: Central Difference Edge Detection

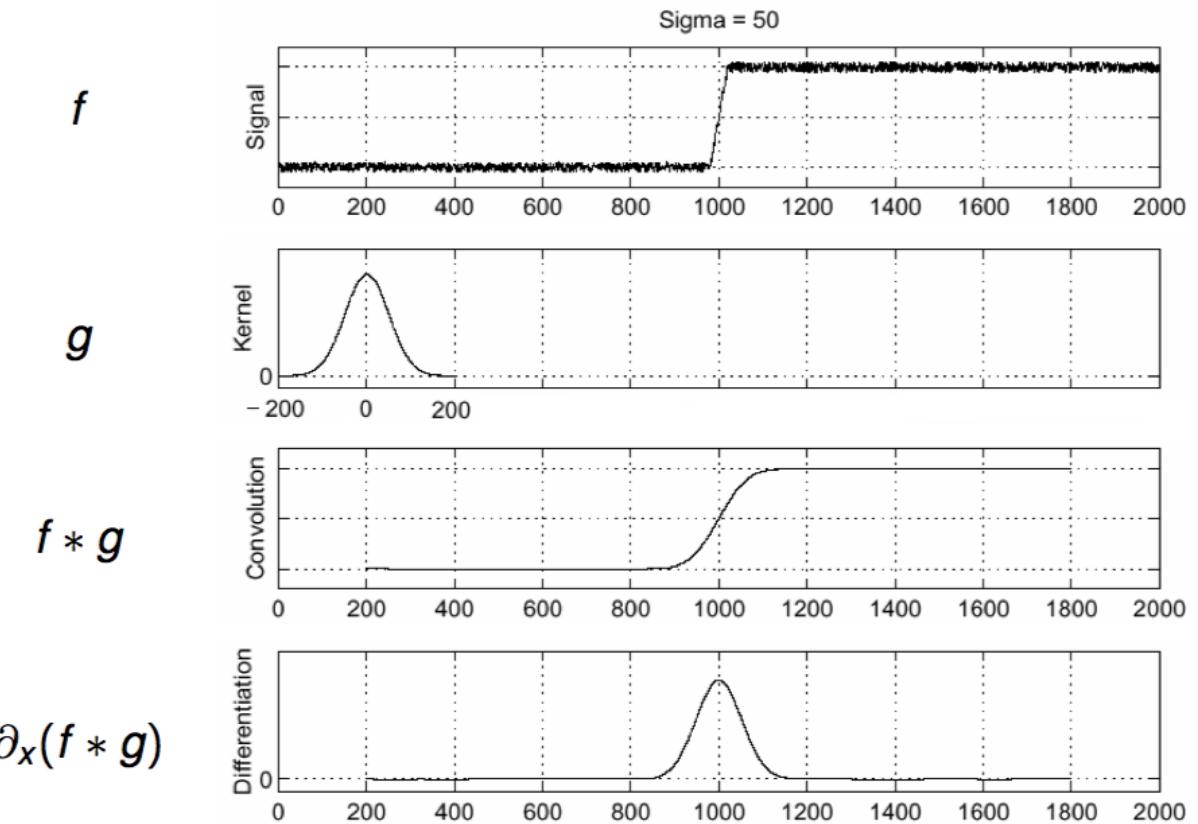


Abbildung 10: Smoothing, then building the derivative

- for greyscaleimage, gradient  $\nabla f$  is a vector field consisting of partial derivatives:  $\nabla f = \begin{bmatrix} \partial_x f \\ \partial_y f \end{bmatrix}$
- the magnitude of the gradient is the length of the vector in every point:  $\|\nabla f\| = \sqrt{(\partial_x f)^2 + (\partial_y f)^2}$
- Noise makes this nearly impossible => smooth first, apply gradient later
- Under some technical conditions on  $f$  and  $g$ , partial derivatives wrt  $i$ th variable satisfy

$$\partial_i(f * g) = (\partial_i f) * g = f * (\partial_i g)$$

- \* more *efficient*: can be pre-computed, no second convolution necessary
- \* more *accurate*: if filter function is known, derivates can be computed analytically
- \* normalize to zero after building filter => constant signal

## 2.2 Canny Edge Detection

- maxima of gradient
- not important for exam

## 2.3 Feature Detection

- *Detection*: identify interesting points
- *Description*: Extract Feature descriptor for each point
- *Matching*: Determine correspondences between views
- Goals for detectors:

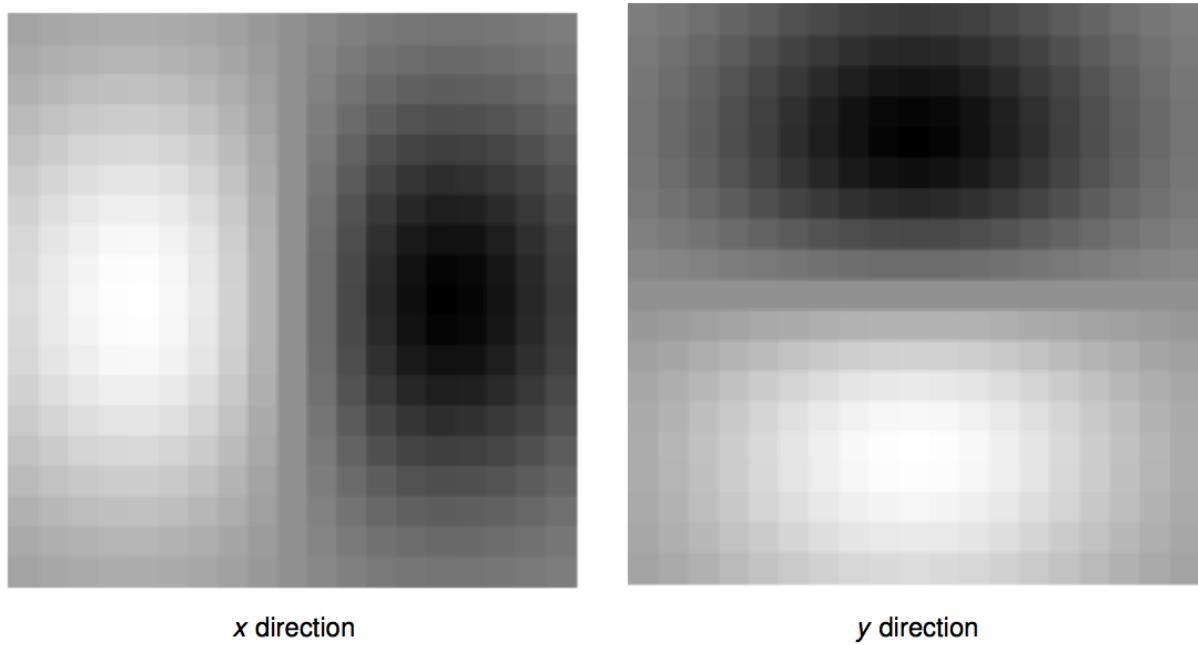


Abbildung 11: Derivatives Of Gaussian

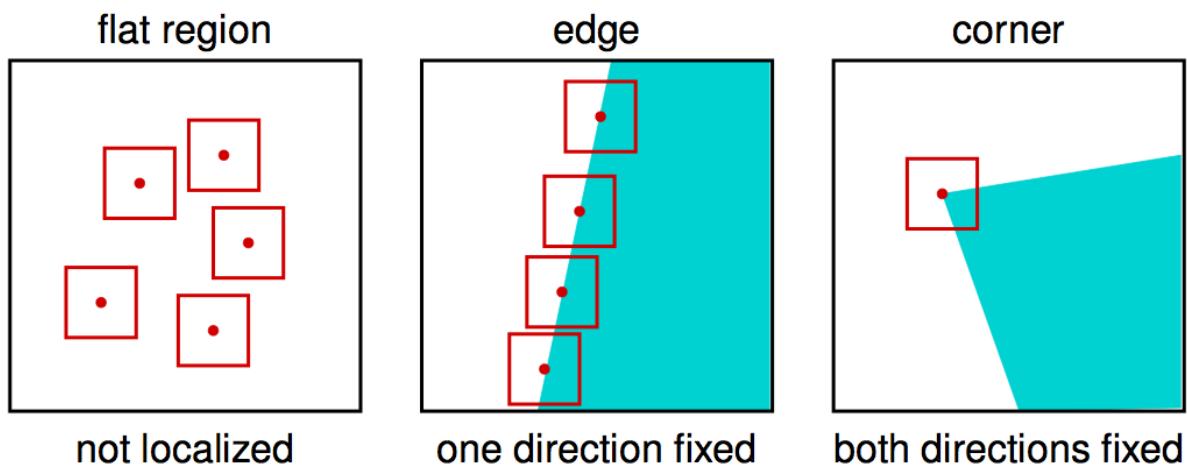


Abbildung 12: Localization

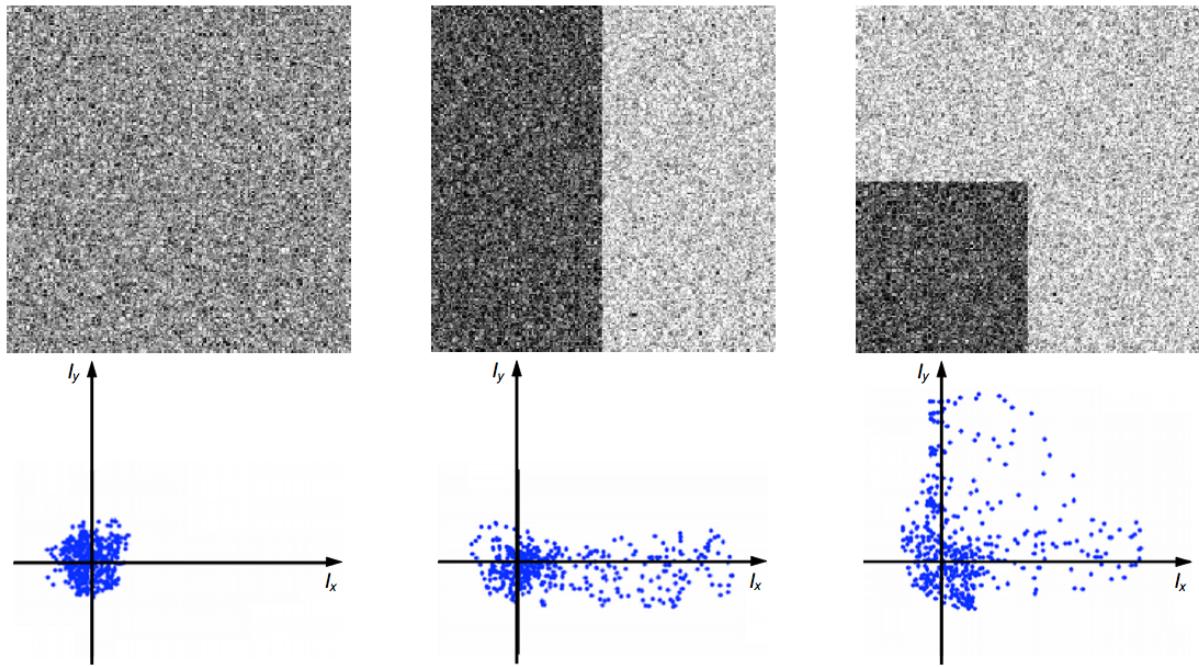


Abbildung 13: Mathematical Localization

- *locality*: robust to clutter and occlusion
- *quantity*: quantity: hundreds or thousands in single image
- *distinctiveness*: differentiate large database of objects
- *efficiency*: real-time performance?
- *geometric invariance*: translation, rotation, scale, ...
- *photometric invariance*: brightness, exposure, ...
- Look for **unusual** regions => unambiguous matches

### 2.3.1 Singular Value Decomposition (SVD)

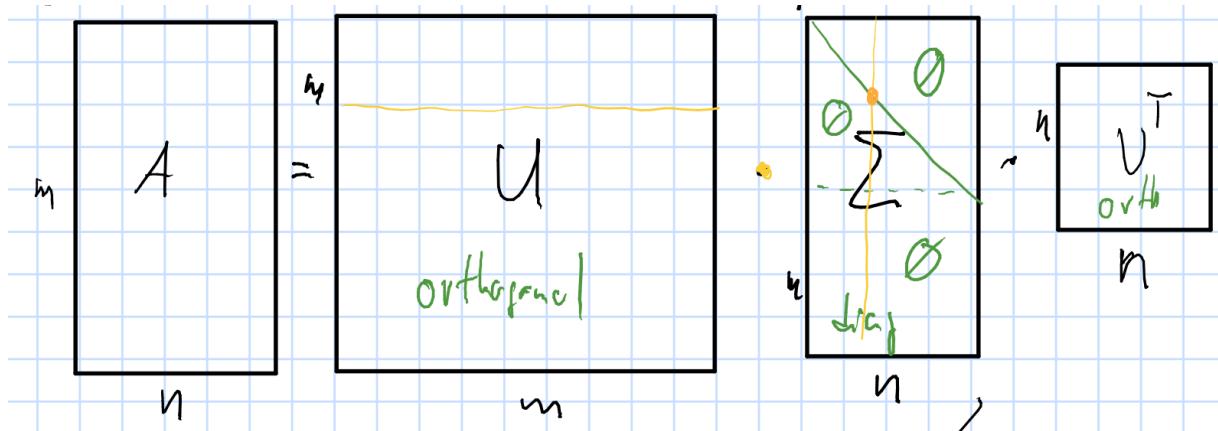


Abbildung 14: Singular Value Decomposition

- If  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  is a  $m \times n$  matrix => there exists a factorization of the form  $A = U\Sigma V^T$  where
  - $U \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$  is an orthogonal matrix:  $UU^T = U^T U = I_m$
  - $V \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is also orthogonal

- $\Sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  is a diagonal matrix, whose diagonal consists of sortet, non-negative real numbers  
 $\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq 0 \Rightarrow$  singular values of  $A$
- $A = U\Sigma V^T \Leftrightarrow AV = \Sigma U$ 
  - $A$  maps the columns of  $V$  to the columns of  $U$  scaled by the singular values
- **properties of SVD:**
  - $\text{rank}(A) \Rightarrow$  number of non-zero singular values
  - columns of  $V$  are eigenvectors of  $A^T A$
  - columns of  $U$  are eigenvectors of  $AA^T$
- **PCA:** Characterize joint probability distribution of several variables to find directions with greatest variance
  - sample expectation value:  $E(Z) = \sum_{i=1}^m p_i z_i$  ( $\approx$  weighted average)
  - sample variance:  $\text{Var}(Z) = \sum_{i=1}^m p_i (z_i - E(Z))^2$
  - sample standard deviation:  $\sigma(Z) = \sqrt{\text{Var}(Z)}$
  - covariance:  $\text{cov}(X, Y) := \sum_{i=m}^m p_i (x_i - E(X))(y_i - E(Y))$ 
    - \* “centered measurements”:  $E(X_j) = 0 \Rightarrow \text{cov}(X_j, Y_k) := \sum_{i=m}^m p_i \cdot x_{ji} \cdot y_{ki}$
    - \* intuition: whenever two values increase together, the covariance is positive
  - covariance matrix:  $C(X) := (\text{cov}(X_{\underline{j}}, X_{\underline{k}}))_{\{j,k=1,\dots,n\}}$ 
    - \* properties:
      - symmetric
      - $\text{cov}(X_j, X_j) = \text{var}(X_j) \Rightarrow$  diagonal consists of variances
      - semi-definite
- $M = U\Sigma V^T$  be SVD of measurement matrix  $\Rightarrow$  transform all measurements by  $V \Rightarrow M' = MV = U\Sigma \Rightarrow$  covariance matrix:  $C' = \Sigma^T U^T U \Sigma = \text{Sigma}^2$

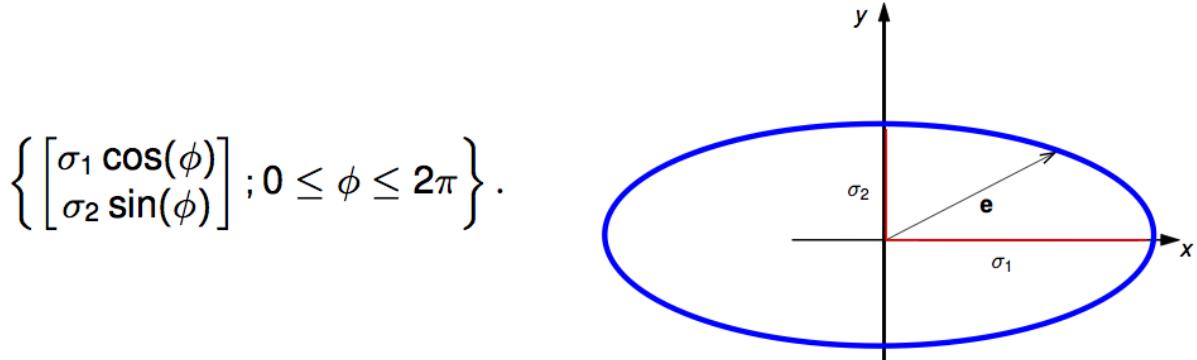


Abbildung 15: Standard Deviation Ellipse

- The radius of the ellipse yields the standard deviation of the measurements projected onto the corresponding direction.
- PCA can be used to *decorrelate data*
- dimensions corresponding to larger singular values have higher variance  $\Rightarrow$  more important

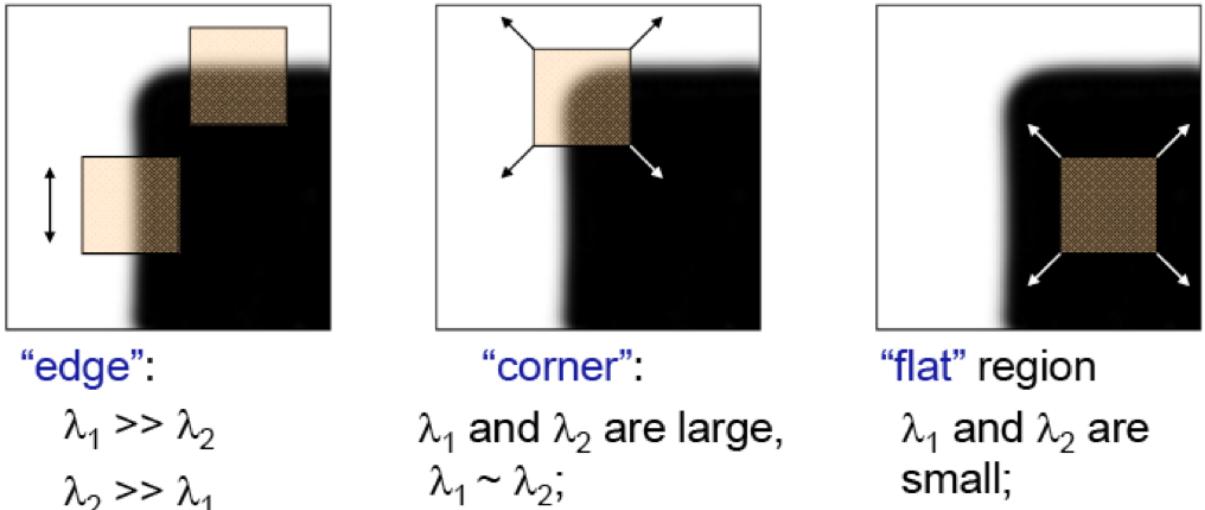


Abbildung 16: Pixel Characterization based on Eigenvalues

### 2.3.2 Structure Tensor

$$\tau := \begin{bmatrix} G_\tau * (f_x^\sigma)^2 & G_\tau * (f_x^\sigma f_y^\sigma) \\ G_\tau * (f_x^\sigma f_y^\sigma) & G_\tau * (f_y^\sigma)^2 \end{bmatrix} = G_\tau * \begin{bmatrix} (f_x^\sigma)^2 & f_x^\sigma f_y^\sigma \\ f_x^\sigma f_y^\sigma & (f_y^\sigma)^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

- *inner scale parameter*  $\sigma > 0$ : determines image scale at which derivates are taken
- *outer scale parameter*  $\tau > 0$ : determines size of the windows on which derivate information is sampled from

=> Harris Corner Detector

### 2.3.3 Compare Features in different images

- **Sum of Squared Differences (SSD)**: Given two rectangular image patches  $f, g$  on  $\{1, \dots, W\} \times \{1, \dots, H\}$ , the *sum of squared differences distance*:

$$E_{SSD}(f, g) = \sum_{i=1}^W \sum_{j=1}^H (f(i, j) - g(i, j))^2$$

- Smaller value => better fit
- normalization: divide by  $W \cdot H$
- use error threshold  $\theta$  to compare patches (for every possible matching patch)
- *properties*
  - fast
  - invariant to *translation*
  - *not* invariant to rotation
  - *not* invariant to scaling
  - *not* invariant to contrast/brightness changes
- **Normalized Cross-Correlation (NCC)** Given two rectangular image patches  $f, g$  on  $\{1, \dots, W\} \times \{1, \dots, H\}$ , the *normalized cross-correlation distance*:

$$E_{NCC}(f, g) = \frac{\text{cov}(f, g)}{\sigma(f) \cdot \sigma(g)}$$

- range is within  $[-1, 1]$ , larger value is better, value below 0 is opposite of fit.
- *properties*

- *not* fast
- invariant to *translation*
- *not* invariant to rotation
- *not* invariant to scaling
- invariant to contrast/brightness changes

- **Autocorrelation** for patch  $f$  and shift  $u$  (sum runs over all pixels)

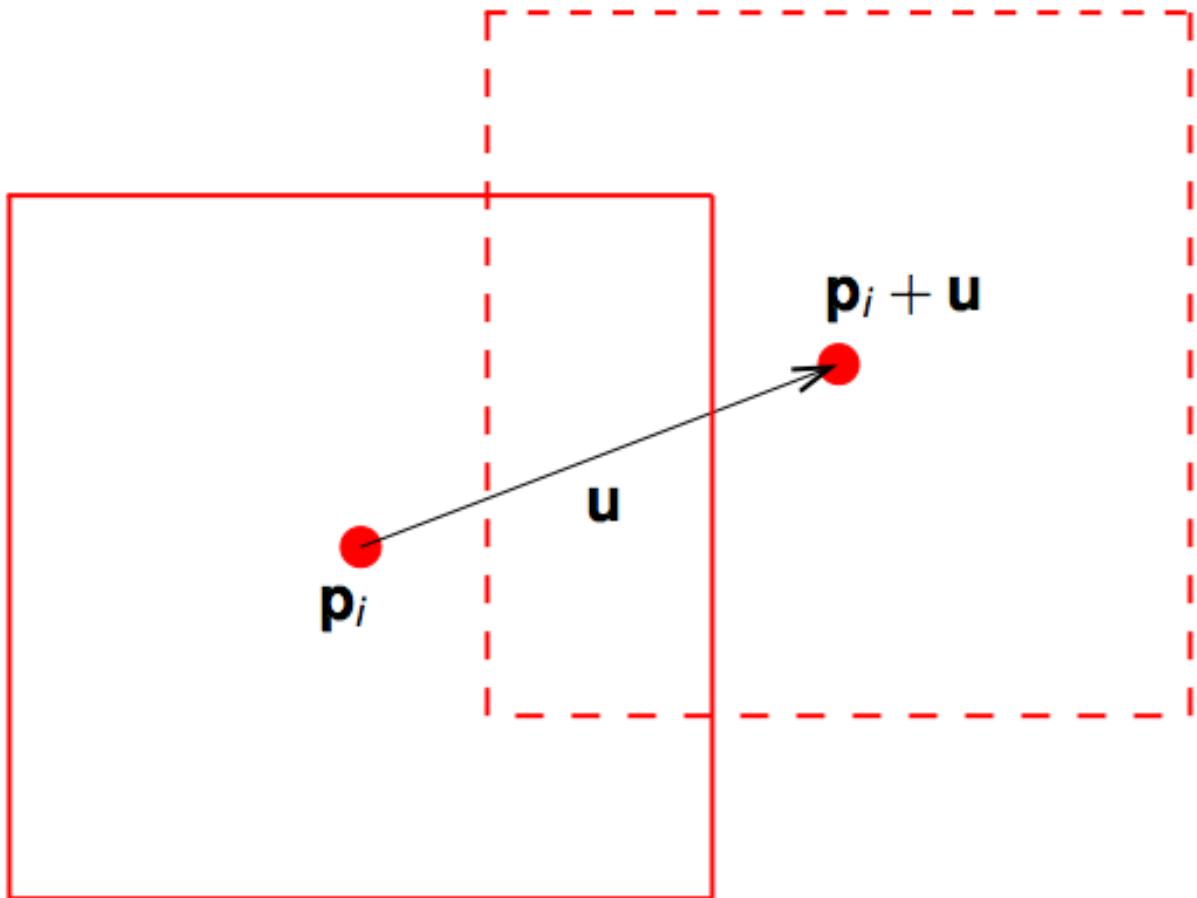
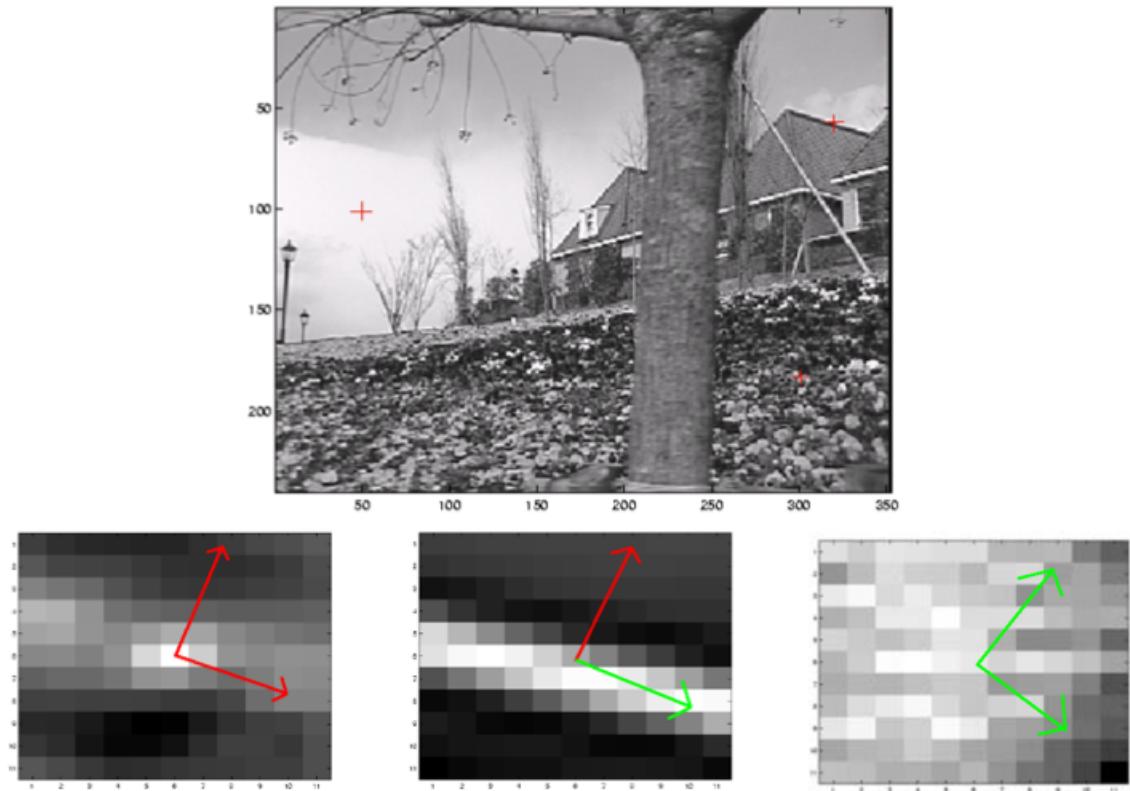


Abbildung 17: Autocorrelation: shifting

$$E_{AC}(f, u) := \sum_i w(p_i) (f(p_i + u) - f(p_i))^2$$



– algorithm:

1. taylor series approximation:  $f(p_i + u) \approx f(p_i) + \nabla f(p_i)^T \cdot u$
2. compute  $E_{AC}$  using 1.  $E_{AC}(f, u) \approx u^T (\Sigma_i w(p_i) \nabla f(p_i) \nabla f(p_i)^T) \cdot u$ 
  - \* its actually the structure tensor:
  - \* approximation to *autocorrelation* for small shifts  $u \mapsto u^T \tau u$

### 3 Frequency

- Fourier's idea:

Any univariate function can be rewritten as a weighted sum of sines and cosines of different frequencies.

- Elementary building blocks:  $f(x, y) = r \cdot \cos(2\pi(\omega_x x + \omega_y y) + \varphi)$ 
  - wave number:  $\omega = [\omega_x \omega_y]$
  - frequency:  $f = |\omega|_2 \Rightarrow$  number of peaks per unit length
  - direction of the wave:  $\frac{\omega}{f}$
  - phase:  $\varphi \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow$  gives distance of the first peak to the origin
  - amplitude:  $r \geq 0 \Rightarrow$  gives maximum peak height
- write waves with complex numbers  $\Rightarrow$  formulas become easier to understand
  - $e^{it} = \cos(t) + i \cdot \sin(t)$
  - lies on the unit circle
  - angle between  $e^{it}$  and real axis is  $t$
  - complex number  $\Rightarrow z = r \cdot e^{i\varphi}$ 
    - \* norm:  $r = |z|$

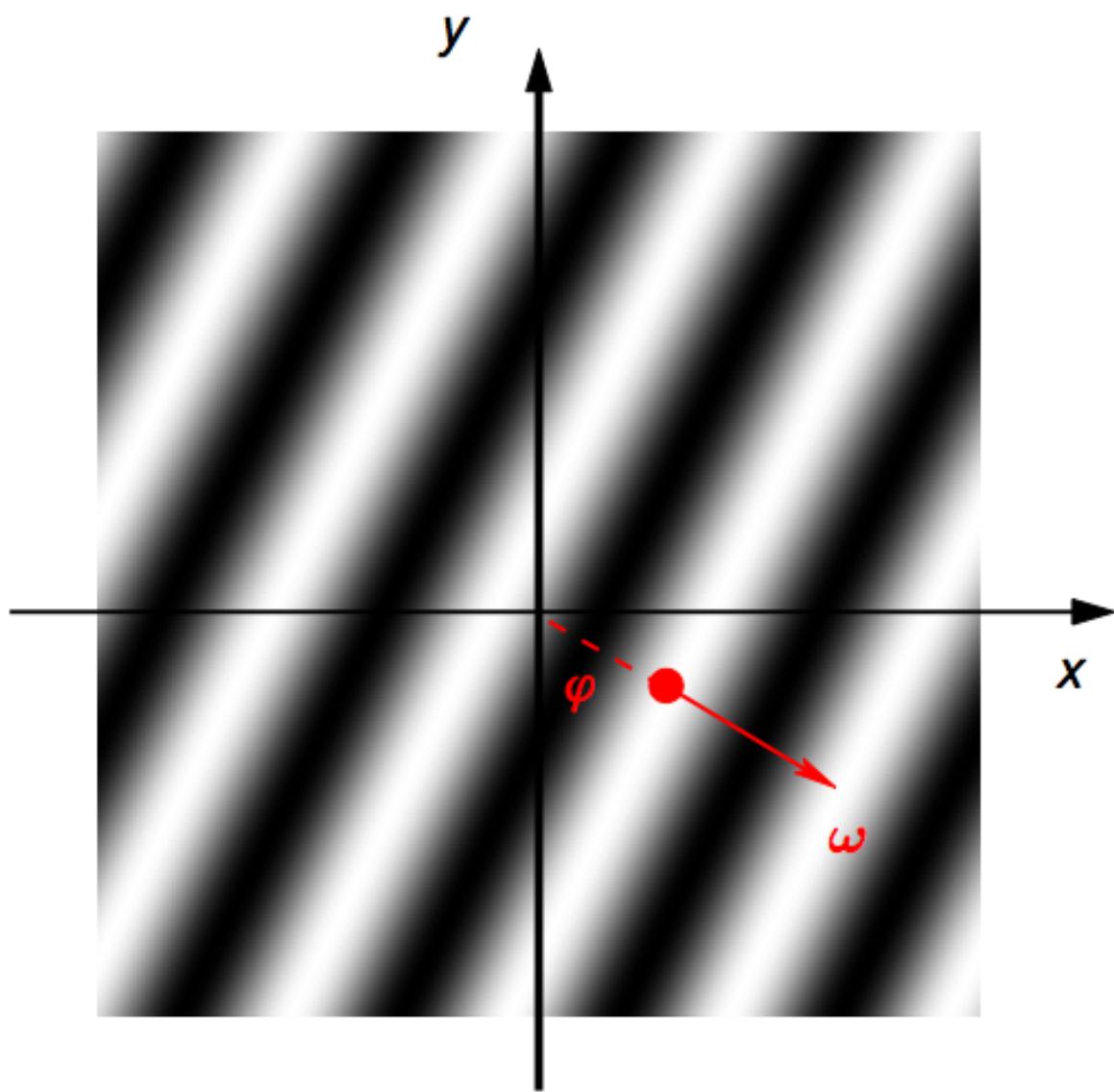


Abbildung 18: Waves in 2D

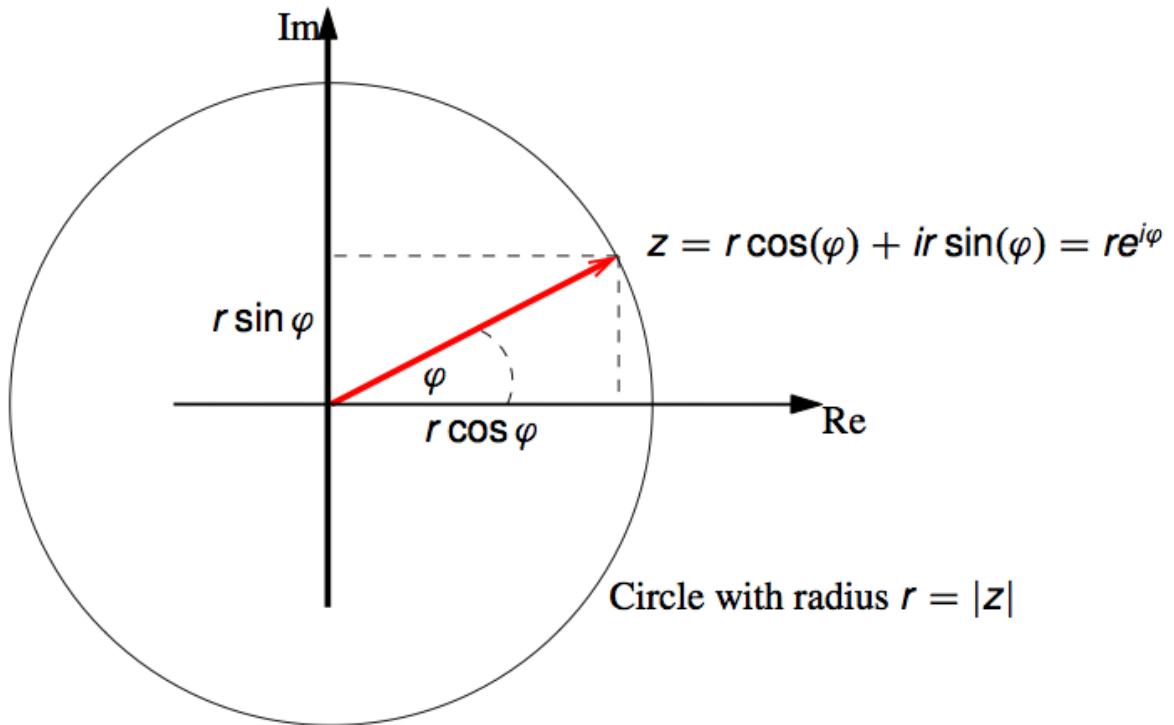


Abbildung 19: Polar representation of complex numbers

\* argument  $\varphi$

- complex elementary wave:

$$\begin{aligned} W_\omega(p) &= e^{2\pi i(\omega \cdot p)} \\ &= \cos(2\pi(\omega \cdot p)) + i \sin(2\pi(\omega \cdot p)) \end{aligned}$$

- multiplication with complex numbers:

$$\begin{aligned} W_\omega(p) &= r \cdot e^{i\varphi} \cdot e^{2\pi i(\omega \cdot p)} \\ &= e^{i(2\pi(\omega \cdot p) + \varphi)} \end{aligned}$$

amplitude  $r$  and phase  $\varphi$

- Write function  $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  as *infinite linear combination* of elementary waves with complex coefficients  $\hat{f}(\omega)$ :

$$f(p) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \hat{f}(\omega) W_\omega(p) d\omega$$

- Complex valued function  $\hat{f} : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is called **Fourier Transform**

– For each point in frequency space, the value  $\hat{f}(\omega) = re^{i\varphi}$  gives amplitude and phase of the elementary wave  $W_\omega$

- interpretation:

– Noise amplifies high frequencies:

- Phase seems more important for the actual image

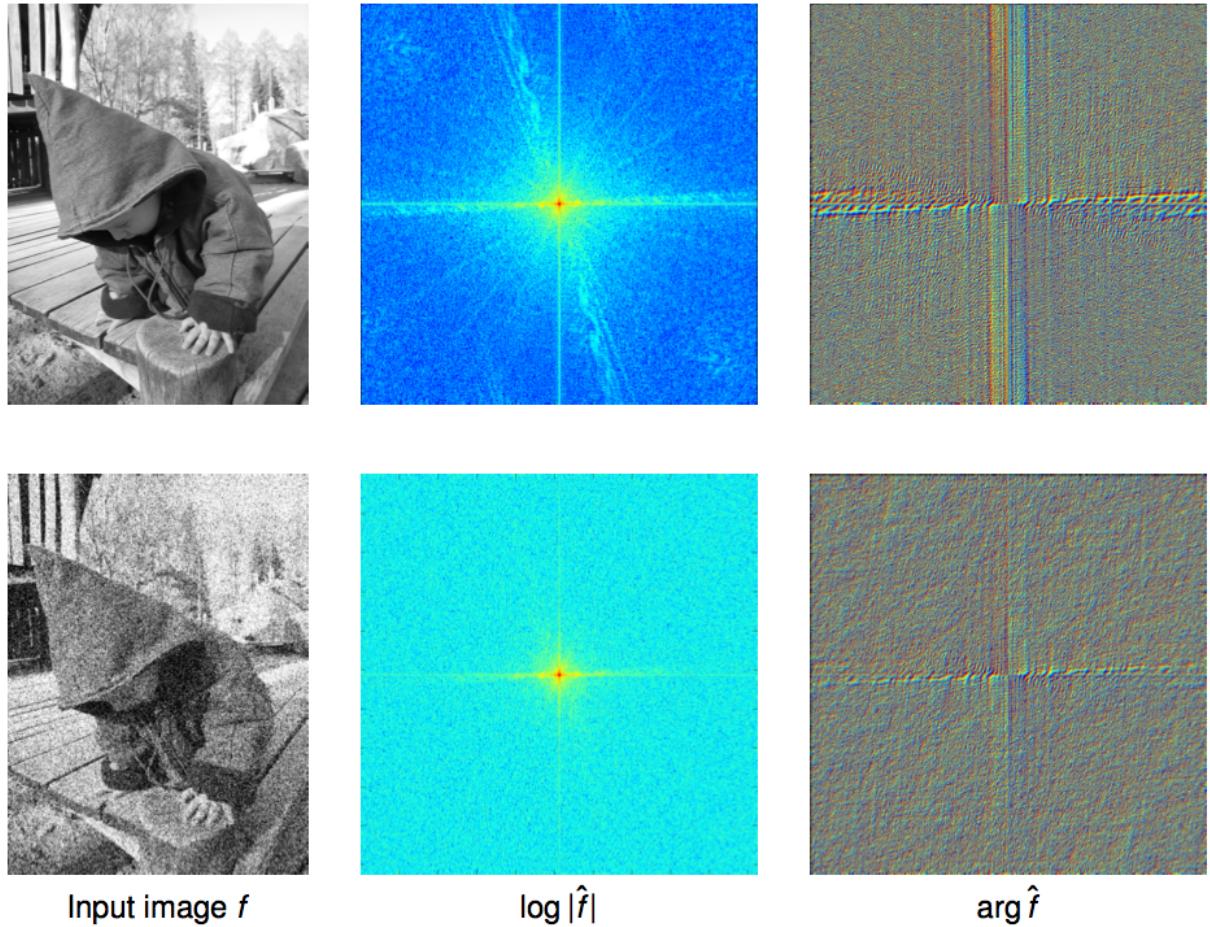


Abbildung 20: Noise and Fourier Transform

### 3.1 Filtering in Frequency Space

- convolution of elementary wave:  $(g * W_\omega)(p) = W_\omega(p)\hat{g}(\omega)$ 
  - $\Rightarrow$  convolution theorem:  $\widehat{f * g} = \hat{f} \cdot \hat{g}$
  - much more efficient than direct convolution

#### 3.1.1 Gaussian in Frequency Space

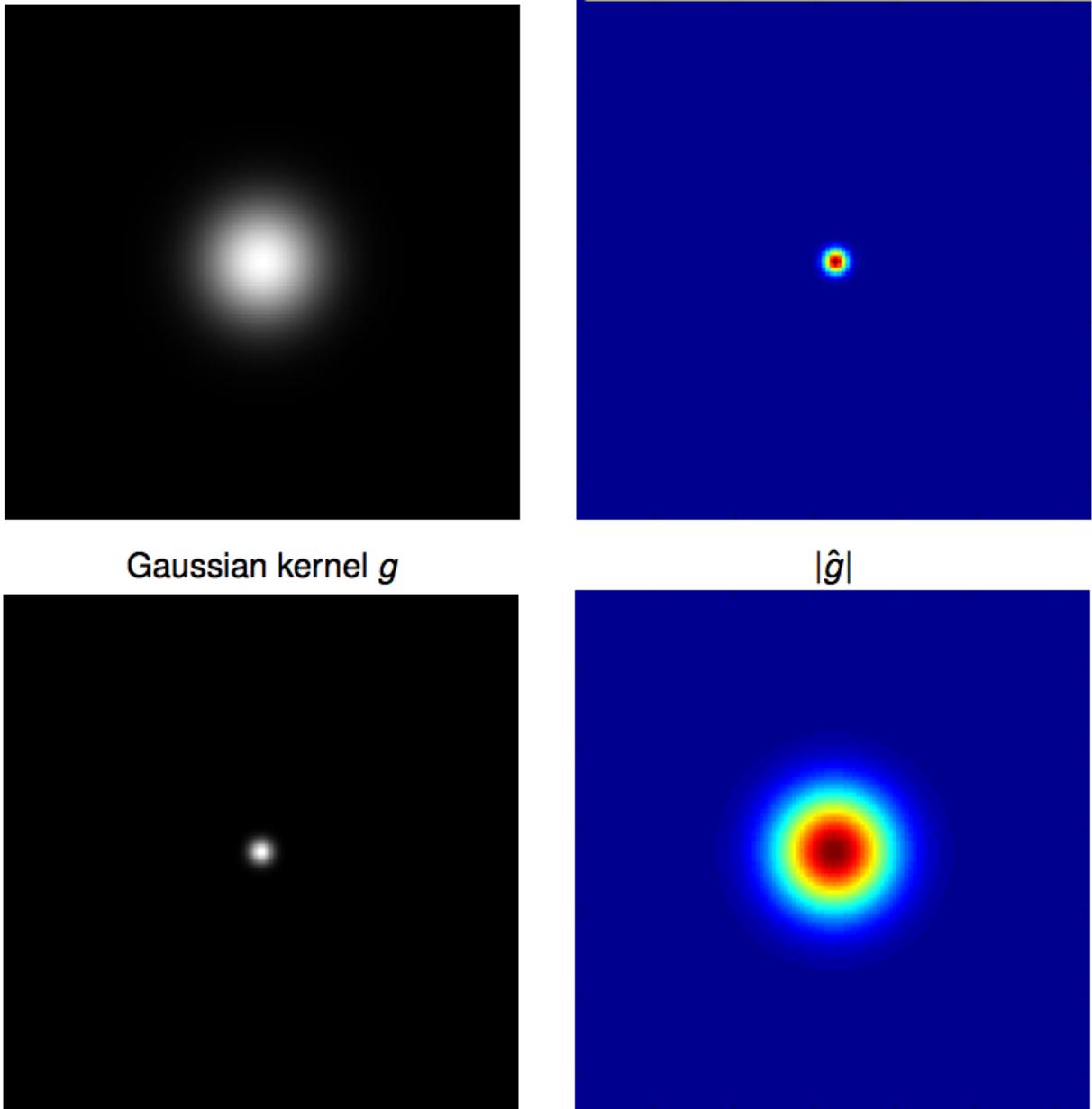


Abbildung 21: Gaussians in Fourier Space

- The Fourier Transform of a Gaussian is a Gaussian-like Function:

$$f(p) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2} \cdot e^{-\frac{p^2}{2\sigma^2}} \Rightarrow \hat{f}(\omega) = e^{-\frac{4\pi^2\omega^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

#### 3.1.2 Types of Filters:

- **low-pass filter** filter which leaves low frequencies intact (e.g. gaussian)

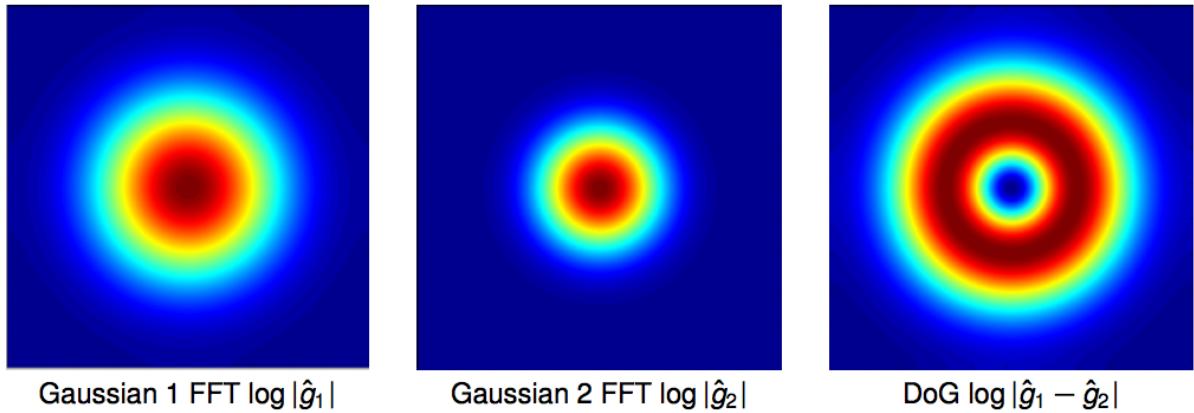


Abbildung 22: Difference of Gaussians

- **high-pass filter** filter which leaves high frequencies intact (e.g. impuls - Gaussian)
- **band-pass filter** filter which leaves a range of frequencies intact while suppressing high and low frequencies (Difference of Gaussians)

### 3.1.3 Properties of Fourier Transform

- *linearity*:  $\widehat{\alpha f + \beta g} = \alpha \widehat{f} + \beta \widehat{g}$
- *rotation invariance*: when  $f$  is rotated, the Fourier transform  $\widehat{f}$  is rotated by the same angle.
- *shift theorem*: shifting  $p_0$  leads to a phase change according to  $\widehat{f(p-p_0)}(\omega) = e^{-2\pi i \omega \cdot p_0} \widehat{f}(\omega)$
- *convolution theorem*:  $\widehat{f * g} = \widehat{f} \cdot \widehat{g}$
- *derivatives*:  $\widehat{\partial_x^n \partial_y^m f}(\omega) = (2\pi i \omega_x)^n (2\pi i \omega_y)^m \widehat{f}(\omega)$

## 4 Scale

- If the image has too many pixels compared to the patch => compute difference “scales” of the image and test for each image.

### 4.1 Sampling & Antialiasing

- not important for exam
- blur image with a corresponding gaussian before taking only every  $n$ th pixel => Gaussian Pyramid

## 5 Scale Invariant Feature Transform (SIFT)

- **Goals:**

- detect characteristic feature points in images
- create detailed descriptors that represent each feature as uniquely as possible
- ensure invariance with respect to changes in location, scale and orientation

- **Applications:**

- Finding sparse correspondences between images
- useful in computer vision: global relations between images, tracking, structure-from-motion
- object detection and recognition

- **idea**

1. detection of characteristic feature points
  - based on Gaussian scale-space using difference of Gaussians
  - extrema provide location and scale
2. accurate localization of key points
  - performs sub-pixel refinement by fitting quadratic functions
  - additionally discards points with high ratio between principal curvatures
3. assignment of the dominant orientation(s)
  - based on a histogram of gradients within the local neighbourhood
  - refines orientation by fitting quadratic functions
4. computation of suitable key point descriptor
  - unit vector based on accumulated histograms of gradients
  - compensated by location, scale and dominant orientation

## 5.1 SIFT Feature Detection

- Starting Point: *Gaussian Scale-Space of input image f*
    - discrete levels of smoothing:  $\sigma_0, \sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_t, \dots, \sigma_{max}$
    - scale-space given by convolution of  $f$  with increasing Gaussian  $G_\sigma$ :
- $$f_t = G_{\sigma_t} * f$$
- Difference-of-Gaussian (DoG)

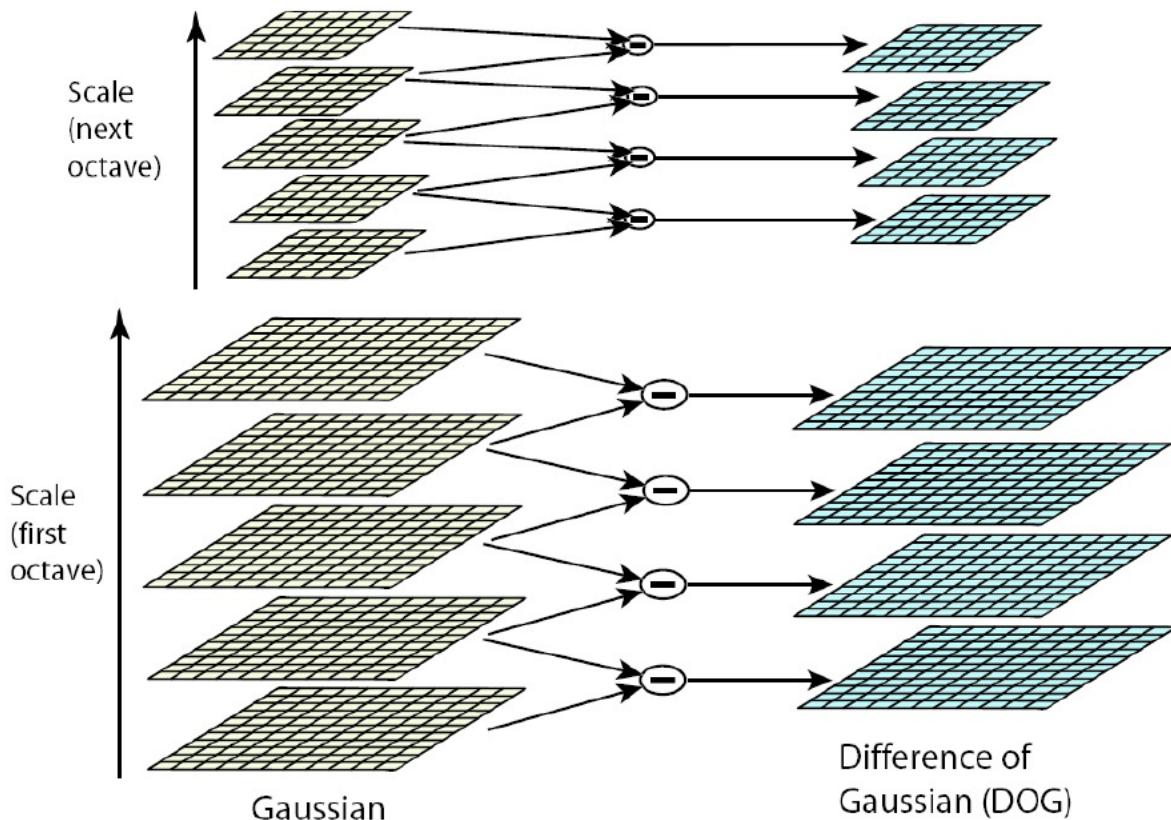


Abbildung 23: SIFT Scale Space Pyramid

- Difference of two consecutive scales of the Gaussian scale-space:

$$\begin{aligned}
D_t &:= f_{t+1} - f_t \\
&= G_{k\sigma_t} * f - G_{\sigma_t} * f \\
&= (G_{k\sigma_t} - G_{\sigma_t}) * f
\end{aligned}$$

- DoG is related to scale derivative via approximation:

$$\partial_\sigma \approx \frac{G_{k\sigma} - G_\sigma}{k_\sigma - \sigma}$$

- The analytical scale derivative is the scaled *Laplacian-of-Gaussian* (LoG):

$$\partial_\sigma G_\sigma = \sigma \delta G_\sigma = \sigma (\partial_x^2 G_\sigma + \partial_y^2 G_\sigma)$$

- DoG is an *approximation* of the LoG:

$$G_{k\sigma} - G_\sigma \approx (k - 1)\sigma^2 \delta G_\sigma$$

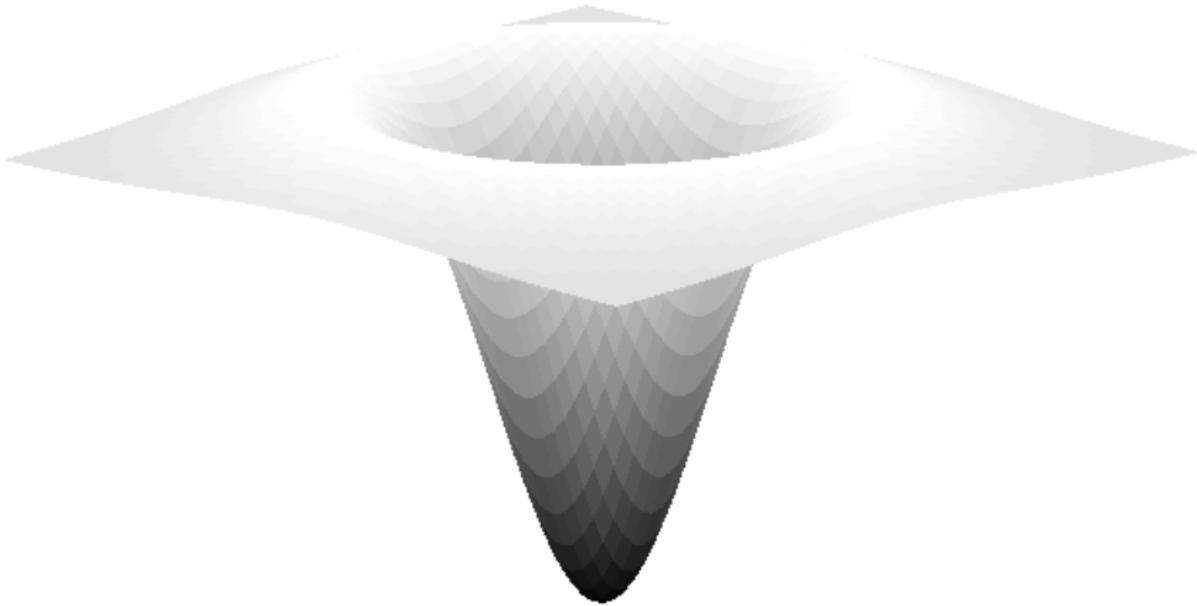


Abbildung 24: The normalized Laplacian of Gaussian

- \*  $(k - 1)$  can be neglected (independent of scale  $\sigma$ )
  - \*  $\sigma^2 \delta G_\sigma$  is the *normalized Laplacian-of-Gaussian*
- filters detect shapes that look like them => the LoG detects “blobs”
- Structures live only at certain scale => appear at certain scale, then vanish again (bandpass property of DoG)
  - *characteristic scale* => magnitude of normalized LoG => extremal value (min or max)
    - provides *scale* and *location*

## 5.2 Accurate Localization of Key Points

- not important for exam

## 5.3 Assignment of Dominant Orientations

- histograms of gradients (HoG) (computed from gradients of corresponding scale  $\hat{\sigma}_i$ )
- not important for exam

## 5.4 SIFT Descriptor

- histograms
- not important for exam

## 5.5 SIFT properties

- **invariant** to:
  - rotation
  - translation
  - scaling
- **robust** wrt “general changes” (brightness, contrast, . . .)
- downside: computation intensive