
Applications of & Introduction to Artificial Intelligence

Image Processing Basics

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Image Recognition is complicated ...



Chihuahua oder Muffin?

© Twitter / Karen Zack / @teenybiscuit,
<https://twitter.com/teenybiscuit/status/707727863571582978>

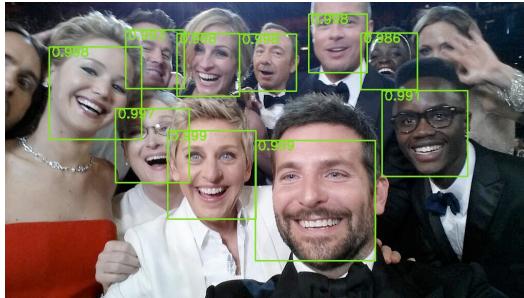
Applications – Examples

Quality Inspection



From: S.R. Dubey and A. S. Jalal. "Application of image processing in fruit and vegetable analysis: A review." *Journal of Intelligent Systems* 24(4): 405-424, 2015.

Face Recognition



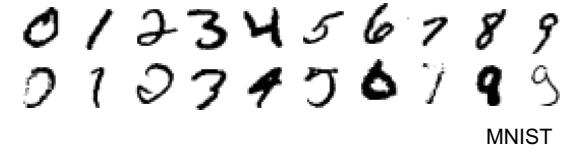
S.S. Farfade, M. J. Saberian, and L.-J. Li. *Multi-view face detection using deep convolutional neural networks*. Proc. 5th ACM International Conference on Multimedia Retrieval. ACM, 2015.

License-Plate Recognition



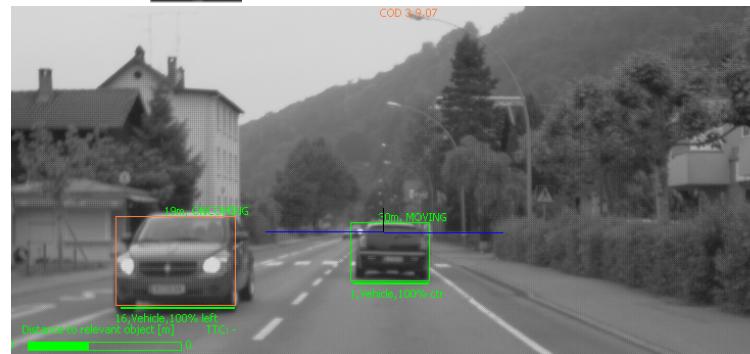
Brenner toll station, © Peter Müller, CC BY-SA 3.0 DE

Optical Character Recognition (OCR)



MNIST

Autonomous Driving



Images: Continental, A.D.C. GmbH, Lindau

Medical



Some APIs

➤ scikit-image

<https://scikit-image.org/>

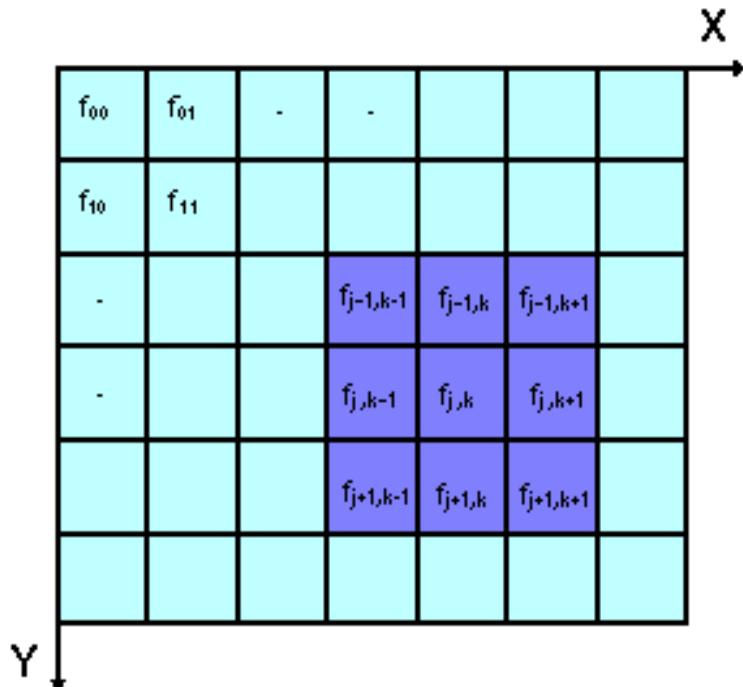
➤ OpenCV

<https://opencv.org/>

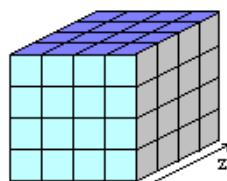
➤ Matlab

<https://de.mathworks.com/products/matlab.html>

Digital Images



- Binary Image
1 Bit / Pixel
- Grayscale Image
8 Bit / Pixel
10, 12, 16 Bit / Pixel
- Color Image (RGB)
8 Bit / channel
10, 12, 16 Bit / channel



Volume Image

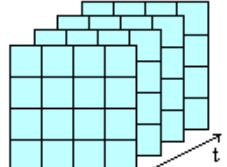
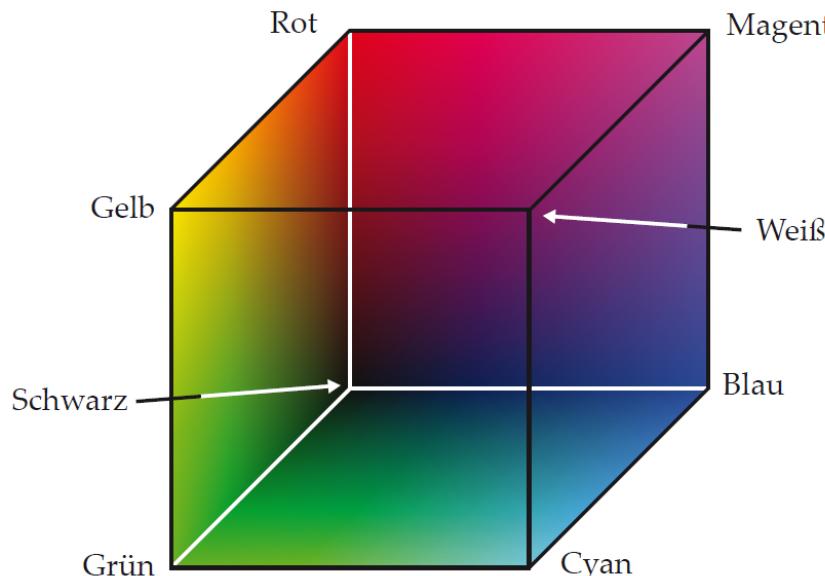


Image Sequence (Video)

RGB Color Space



Beyerer, J., Puente Leon, F., Frese, Ch.:
Automatische Sichtprüfung, Springer Vieweg, 2012

- **additive Mixing:**
Red (R), Green (G), Blue (B)
- Range: 0 – 1
- Applications: Monitors, cameras, projectors
- RGB-color spaces and color range different from device to device
- device-independent: sRGB
- many other color spaces in use:
YUV, $YC_B C_R$, HSV, HSL, HSI, CIE XYZ, CIELUV, CIELAB, ...
- **subtractive Mixing:** CMYK
 - ⊕ Printers



Color – Grayscale Conversion



Standard Test Image: Lena Söderberg, © Playboy Nov. 1972



- if possible as a first step: Color → Grayscale image
 - even better: camera delivers grayscale image directly
 - less data to process
 - less problems with many algorithms (e.g. filtering)

LINEAR FILTERS

Basic Principle

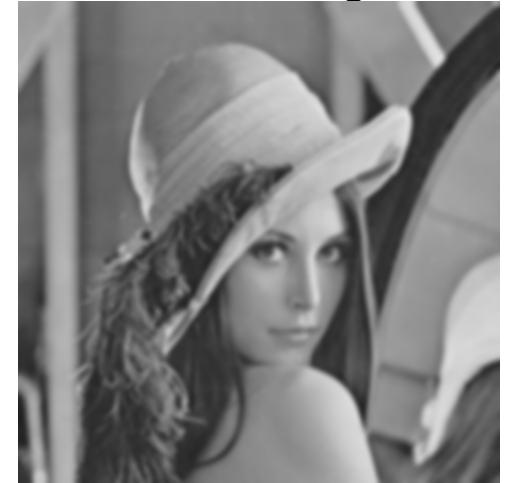
original image



+ filter mask

convolution →

filtered image



$$f'(x, y) = \sum_x \sum_y f(x, y)g(i - x, j - y)$$

filtered image

original image

filter mask

- mirror filter mask horizontally and vertically,
- move filter mask over image,
- compute weighted sum.

$$f' = f * g$$

Low-pass Filter

- removes high frequencies
- reduces image noise
- results in smoothing of image



3x3 Mean

$$\frac{1}{9} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

3x3 Gaussian

$$\frac{1}{16} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Low-pass Filter



$$5 \times 5 \text{ Mean} \quad \frac{1}{25} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

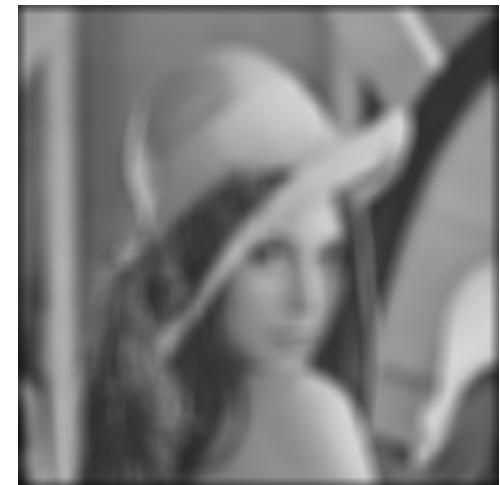
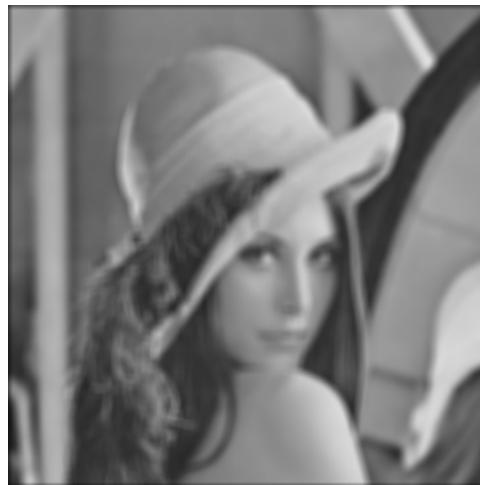
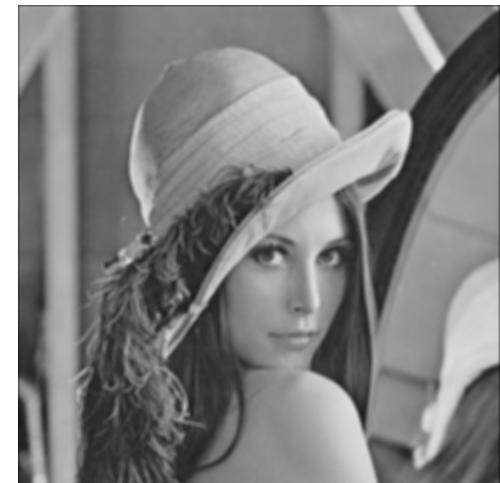
$$5 \times 5 \text{ Gaussian} \quad \frac{1}{273} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 & 7 & 4 & 1 \\ 4 & 16 & 26 & 16 & 4 \\ 7 & 26 & 41 & 26 & 7 \\ 4 & 16 & 26 & 16 & 4 \\ 1 & 4 & 7 & 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{with } \sigma = 1)$$

Influence of Filter Size

Mean filter, Sizes: 3x3, 5x5, 11x11, 21x21



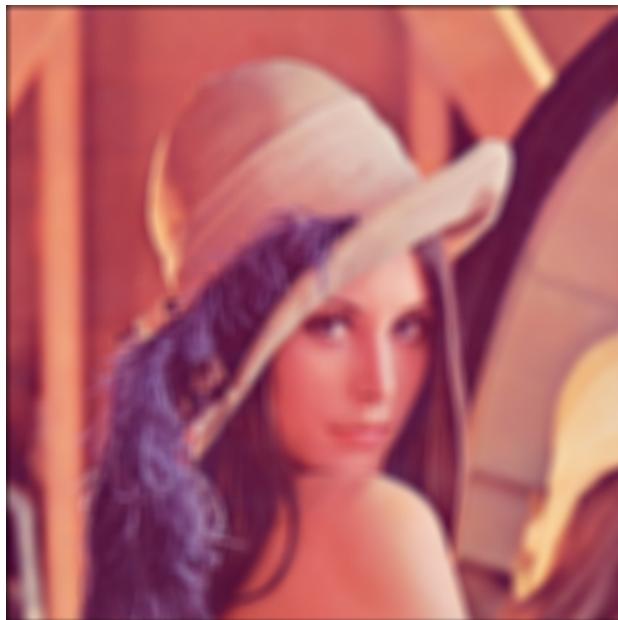
Original



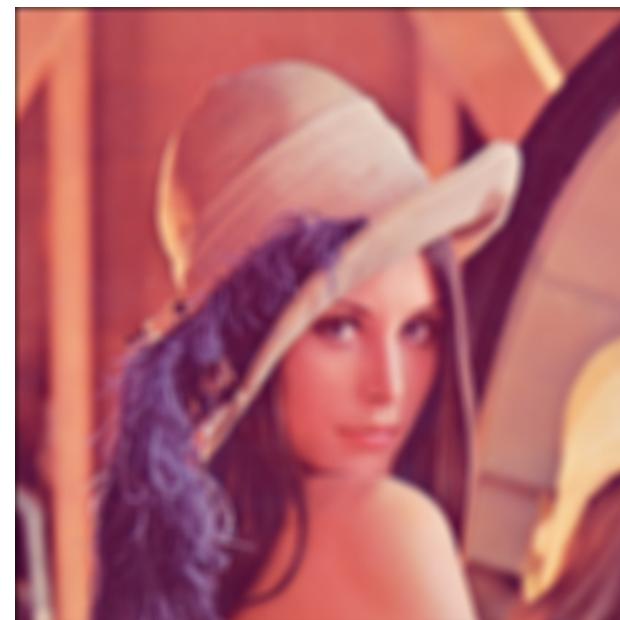


Caution with Color Images!

- filter each RGB-channel separately
 - but: RGB is unsuitable for linear interpolation
- better: use CIELUV or CIELAB color space
 - but: Conversion from RGB is computationally expensive (non-linear)



Mean 11x11



Gaussian 11x11, $\sigma = 5$

High-pass Filter

- removes low frequencies
- edge detection
- widely used:
 - Sobel
 - based on computing the first order partial derivatives
 - result: two edge images (horizontal and vertical direction)
 - edges = large values (maxima of derivative)
 - Laplace
 - based on computing the second order derivatives (the Laplace operator)
 - edges = zero crossings
 - more subjective to noise compared to Sobel

Sobel

- first order partial derivatives

$$f_x = \frac{\partial f(x, y)}{\partial x} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 2 & 0 & -2 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \quad f_y = \frac{\partial f(x, y)}{\partial y} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & -2 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- gradient strength:

$$s = \sqrt{f_x^2 + f_y^2}$$

Range?

- gradient direction:

$$\theta = \arctan\left(\frac{f_y}{f_x}\right)$$

Note: use atan2(y, x)

High-pass Filter – Sobel

horizontal



vertical



$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & -2 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 2 & 0 & -2 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

(images inverted)

Laplace

- Laplace-operator (from 2. order partial derivatives)

$$\Delta f(x, y) = \frac{\partial^2 f(x, y)}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f(x, y)}{\partial y^2}$$

- different variants

8-neighborhood

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -8 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

4-neighborhood

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -4 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

with Gaussian smoothing

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & -4 & 2 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Range?

High-pass Filter – Laplace



Laplace

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -8 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

combined Sobel
(gradient strength image)

(images inverted)

Remarks

- Filter masks typically have odd size (3×3 , 5×5 , ...) → symmetric about the current pixel
- they are not necessarily square
- there are other widely used standard masks that are not presented here (Prewitt, Harris, Robert's Cross, ...)

- Design of special-purpose filters is possible
- filters can be concatenated, resulting a single new linear filter mask (cf. convolution equation)

- in image processing, convolution is usually computed in image space
- convolution using FFT makes sense with large filter sizes only

NON-LINEAR FILTERS

Rank-Order Operations

- use a structuring element
 - defines a window for neighborhood
 - comparable to filter mask for linear filters
- sort gray-values by size (within the neighborhood)
$$R_{ij} = \{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_M \mid r_k \leq r_{k+1} \forall k = 1, \dots, M\}$$
- result: ranking of gray-values
- Rank-order operation: Function on R_{ij}
$$h_{ij} = g(R_{ij})$$

Rank-Order Operations – Examples

- Median $h_{ij} = r_{(M+1)/2}$
- kNN-Mean $h_{ij} = \text{Mean of } k \text{ nearest values around Median}$
- Erosion $h_{ij} = r_1$
- Dilation $h_{ij} = r_M$
- Contour extraction $h_{ij} = r_M - r_1$
- Contrast enhancement $h_{ij} = \begin{cases} r_1 & \text{if } f_{ij} - r_1 < r_M - f_{ij} \\ r_M & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

Comparison Median – Gaussian



5x5 Median



5x5 Gaussian

Median preserves edges!

Comparison Median – Gaussian



5x5 Median



5x5 Gaussian

Median preserves edges!

Comparison Median – Gaussian

Original



noisy image



5x5 Gaussian



5x5 Median



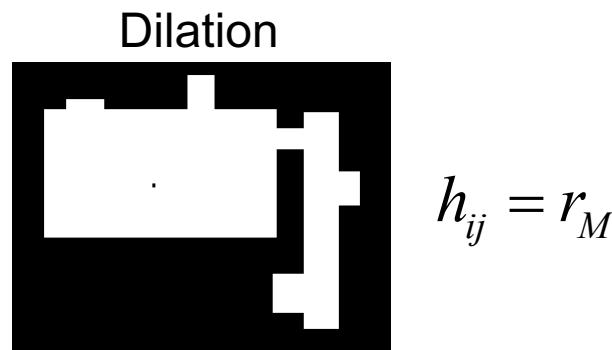
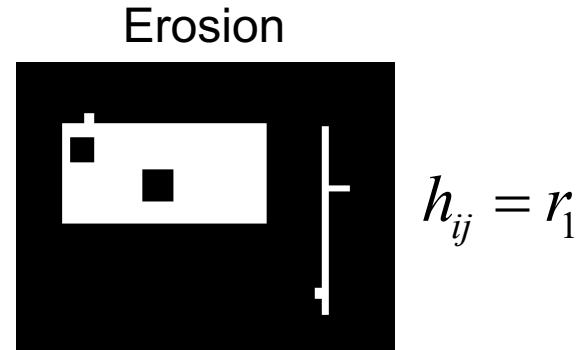
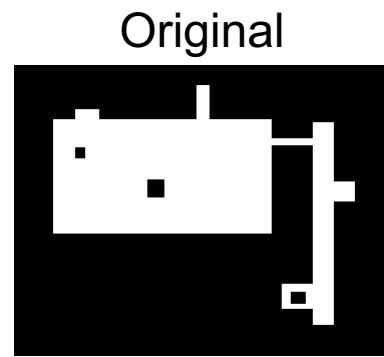
Contour Extraction (5x5)

$$h_{ij} = r_M - r_i$$

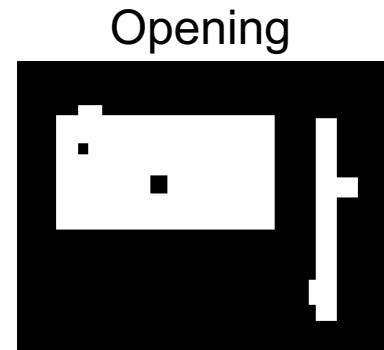
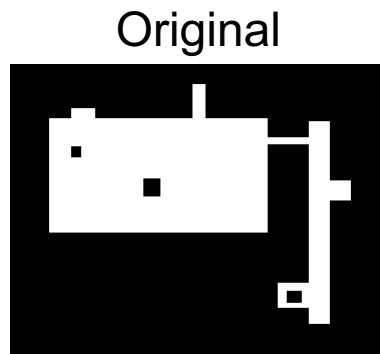


Erosion/Dilation

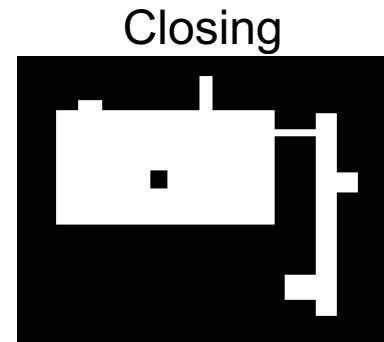
"morphological operations"



Opening & Closing



Erosion
followed by
dilation



Dilation
followed by
erosion

Color Images?

- Low-pass filter
 - filter channels separately
 - ◊ better use color spaces like CIELAB or CIELUV instead of RGB
 - combine all channels using tensors (→ CNN)
 - ◊ does not really solve the RGB-problem (linear operation)
 - ◊ but results in single value combining all channels (no color image)
- High-pass filter
 - filtering channels separately does not really make sense
 - combine all channels using tensors (→ CNN)
- Rank-order operations/Median: complicated, because
 - channels cannot be handled independently
(this would not be a Median anymore)
 - vectors do not have an ordering relation