



# Digital Image Processing

## **Lecture # 3 B**

### **Image Transformations**

# Contents

- ◆ Histograms of:
  - Grayscale Images
  - Colored Images
- ◆ Contrast Stretching
- ◆ Histogram Equalization

# Histogram of a Grayscale Image

- ◆ Let  $I$  be a 1-band (grayscale) image.
- ◆  $I(r,c)$  is an 8-bit integer between 0 and 255.
- ◆ Histogram,  $h_I$ , of  $I$ :
  - a 256-element array,  $h_I$
  - $h_I(g)$  = number of pixels in  $I$  that have value  $g$ .  
*for  $g = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, 255$*

# Histogram of a Grayscale Image

- ◆ Histogram of a digital image with gray levels in the range  $[0, L-1]$  is a discrete function

$$h(r_k) = n_k$$

Where

- $r_k = k^{th}$  gray level
- $n_k =$  number of pixels in the image having gray level  $r_k$
- $h(r_k) =$  histogram of an image having  $r_k$  gray levels

# Normalized Histogram

- ◆ Dividing each of histogram at gray level  $r_k$  by the total number of pixels in the image,  $n$

$$p(r_k) = \frac{h(r_k)}{n}$$

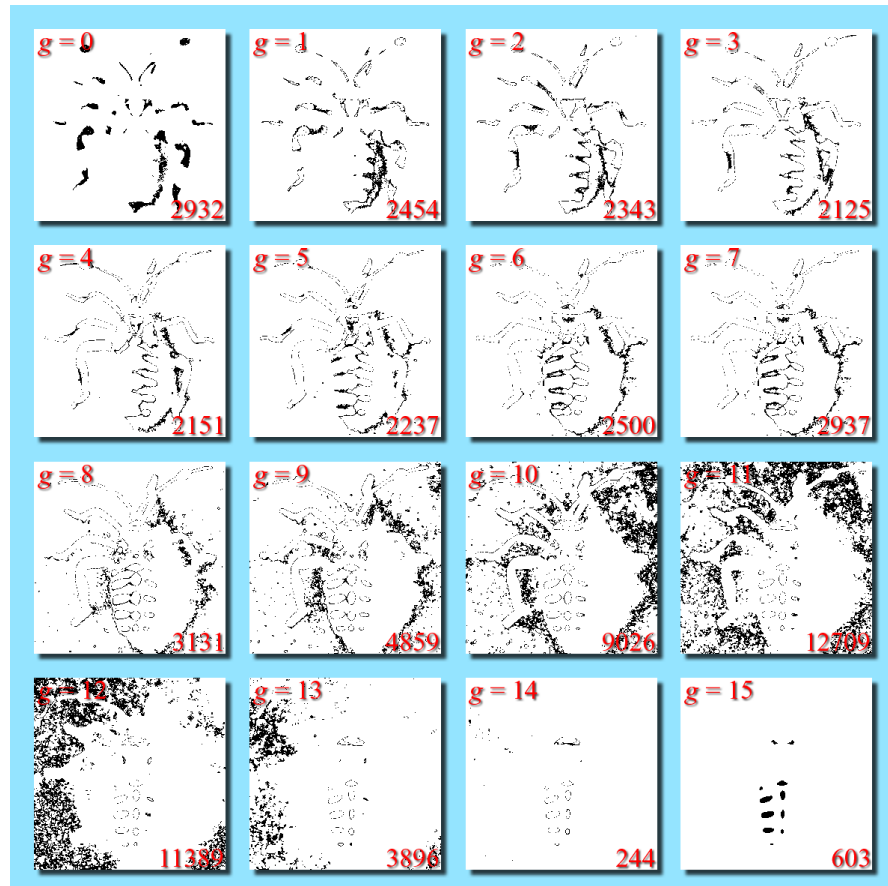
- ◆  $p(r_k)$  gives an estimate of the probability of occurrence of gray level  $r_k$
- ◆ The sum of all components of a normalized histogram is equal to 1

# Histogram of a Grayscale Image



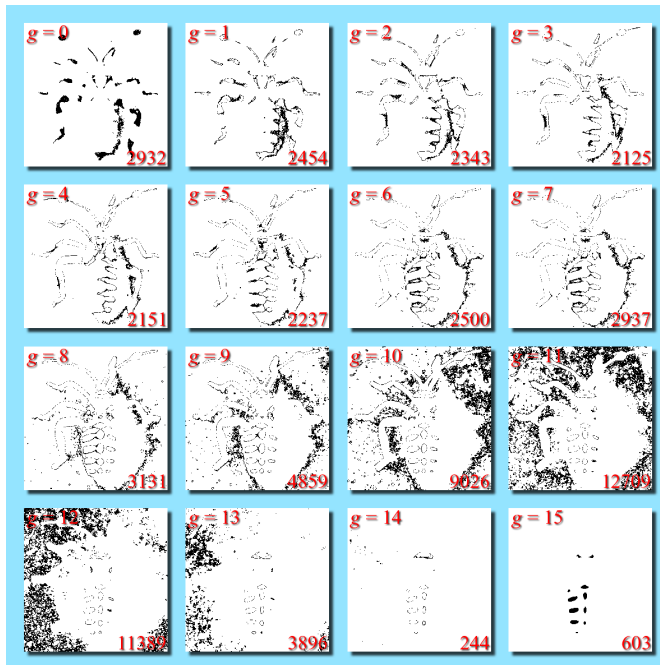
16-level (4-bit) image

lower RHC: number of pixels with intensity  $g$



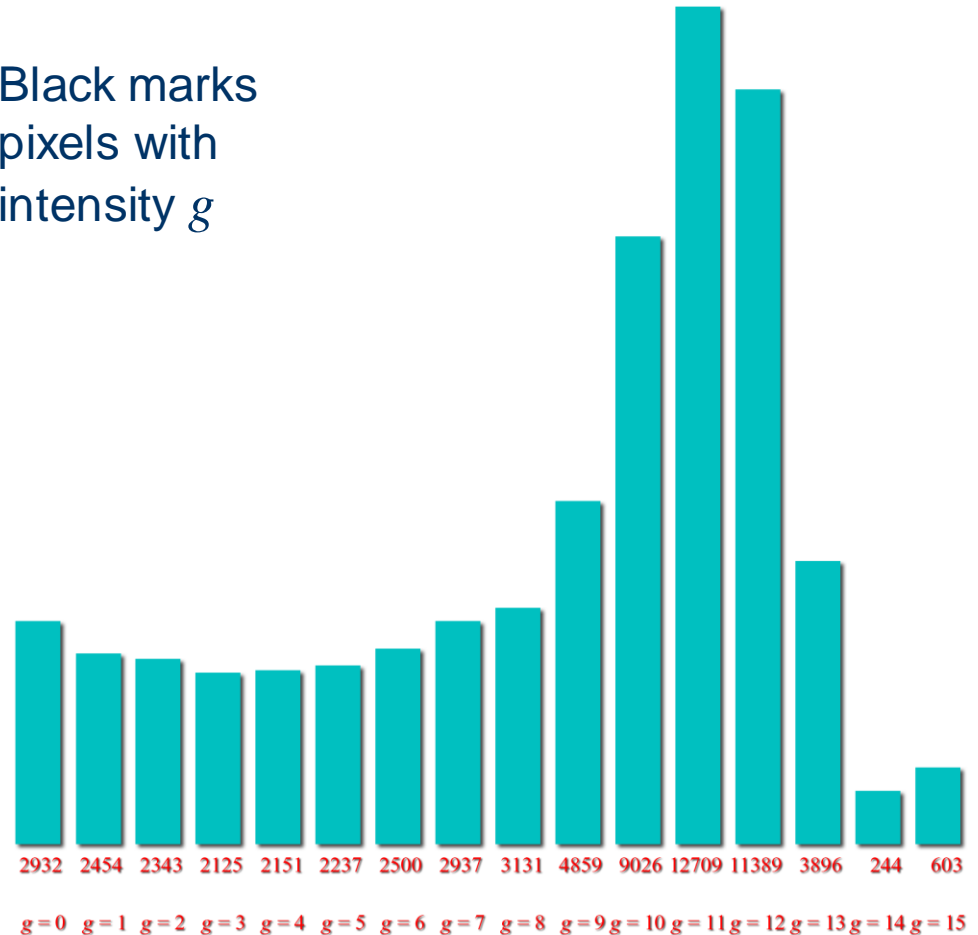
black marks pixels with intensity  $g$

# Histogram of a Grayscale Image

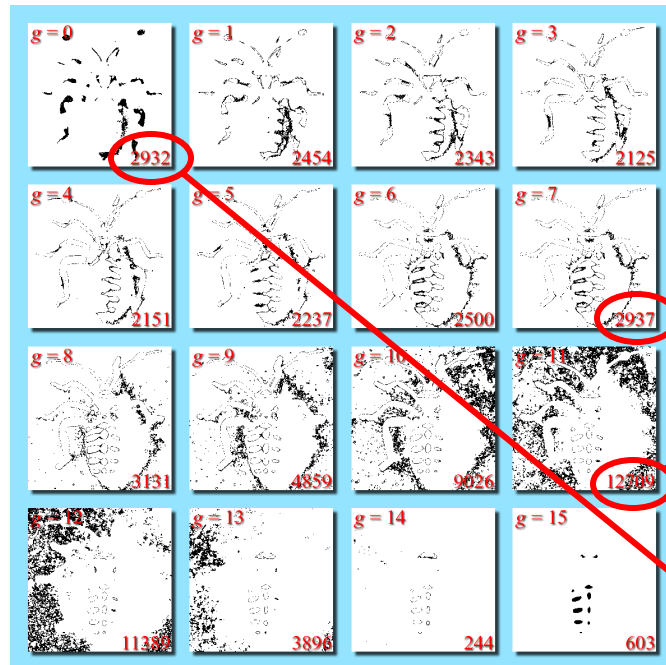


Black marks  
pixels with  
intensity  $g$

Plot of histogram:  
number of pixels with intensity  $g$

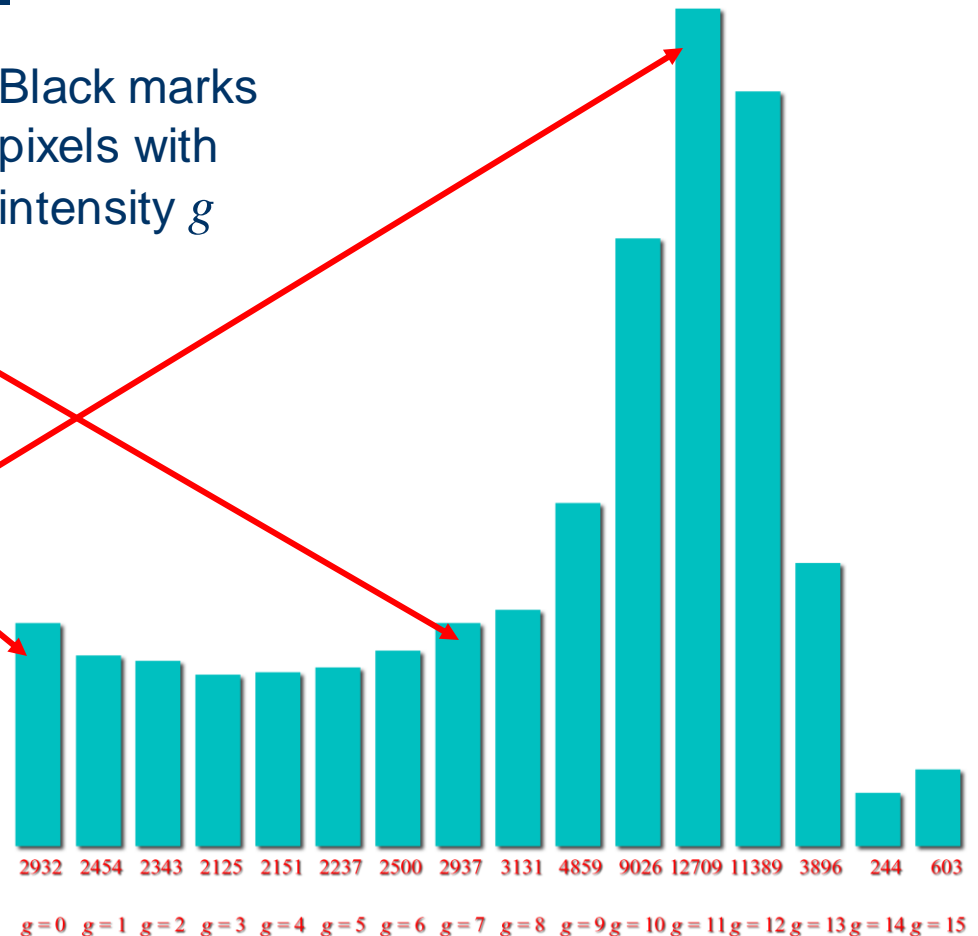


# Histogram of a Grayscale Image



Black marks  
pixels with  
intensity  $g$

Plot of histogram:  
number of pixels with intensity  $g$

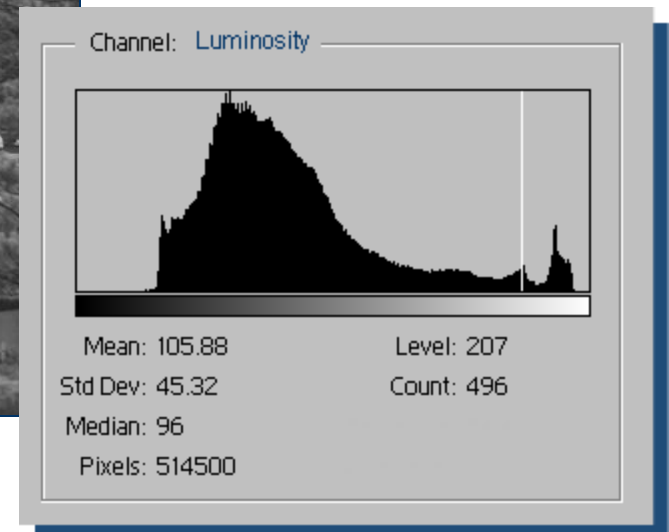




# Histogram of a Grayscale Image



$h(g)$  = the number  
of pixels in  
with gray level  $g$

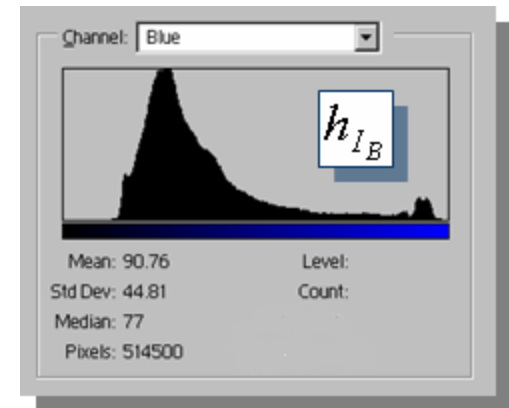
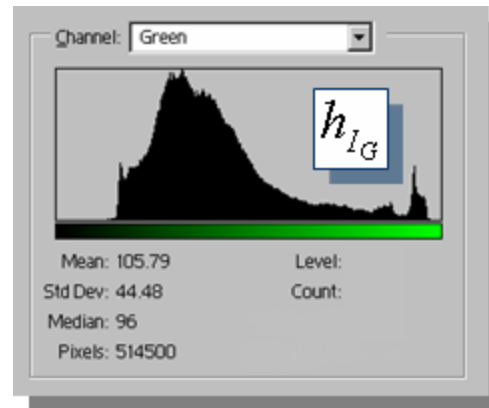
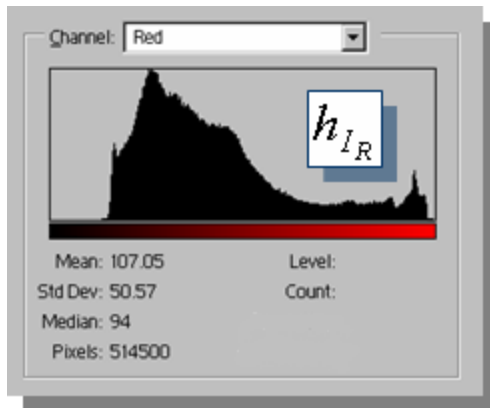
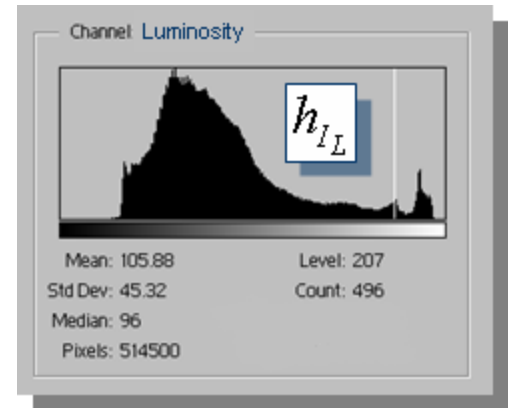


# Histogram of a Color Image

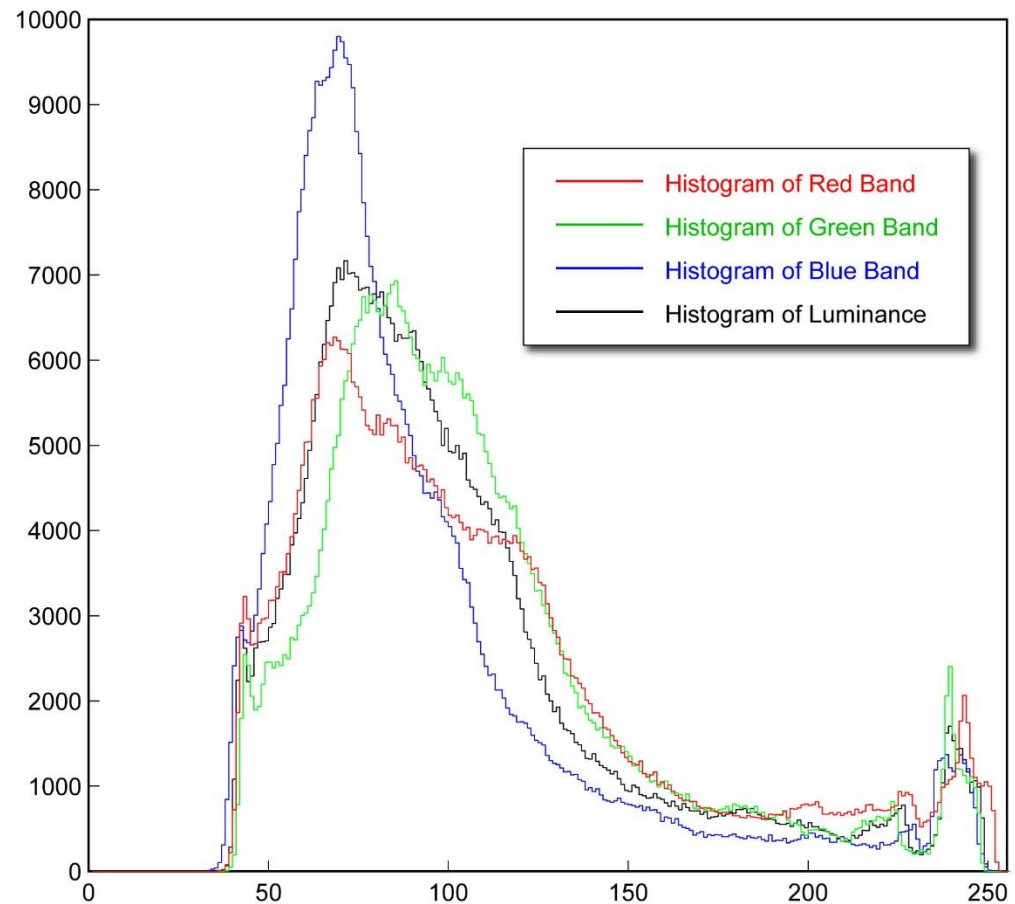
- ◆ If  $I$  is a 3-band image
- ◆ then  $I(r,c,b)$  is an integer between 0 and 255.
- ◆  $I$  has 3 histograms:
  - $h_R(g) = \#$  of pixels in  $I(:, :, 1)$  with intensity value  $g$
  - $h_G(g) = \#$  of pixels in  $I(:, :, 2)$  with intensity value  $g$
  - $h_B(g) = \#$  of pixels in  $I(:, :, 3)$  with intensity value  $g$

# Histogram of a Color Image

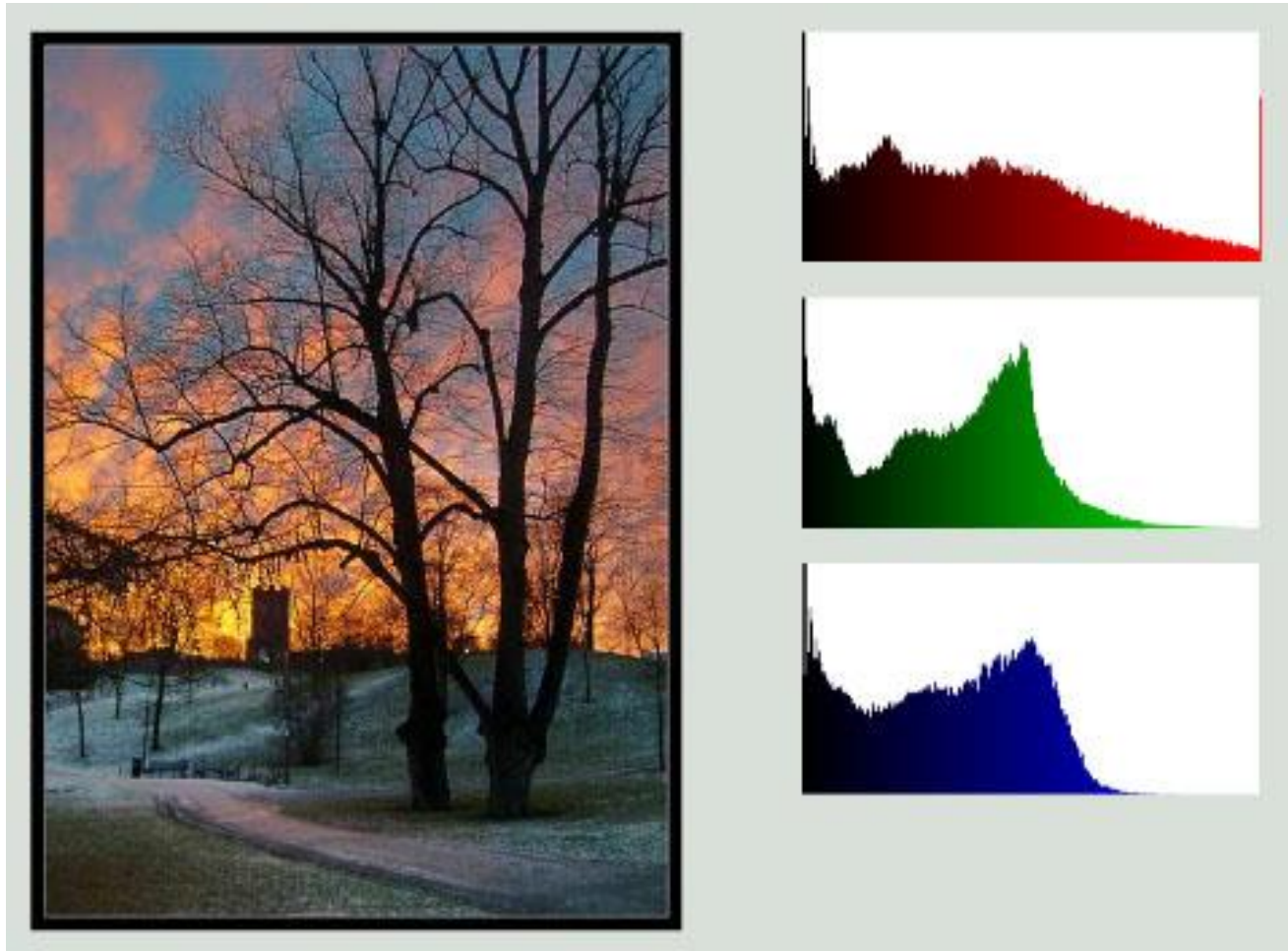
There is one histogram per color band R, G, & B. Luminosity histogram is from 1 band =  $(R+G+B)/3$



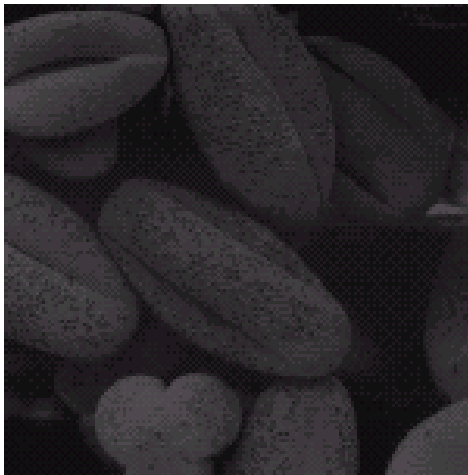
# Histogram of a Color Image



# Histogram of a Color Image



# Histogram: Example



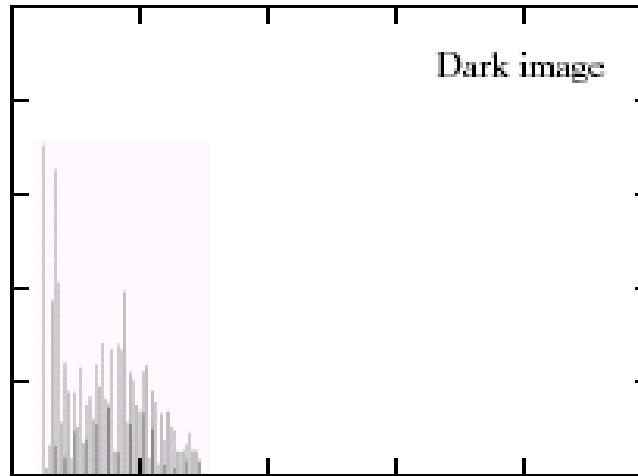
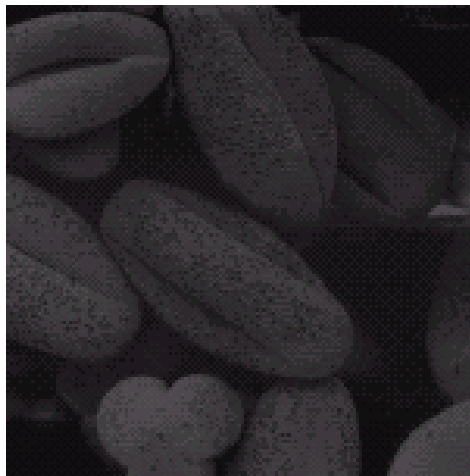
← Dark Image

How would the histograms of these images look like?



← Bright Image

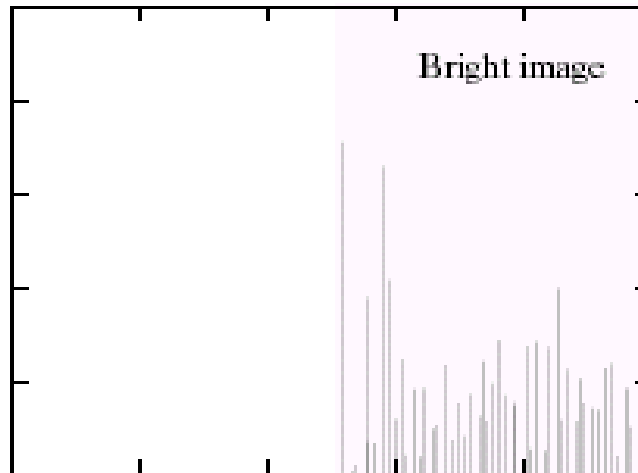
# Histogram: Example



Dark image

## **Dark image**

Components of histogram are concentrated on the low side of the gray scale

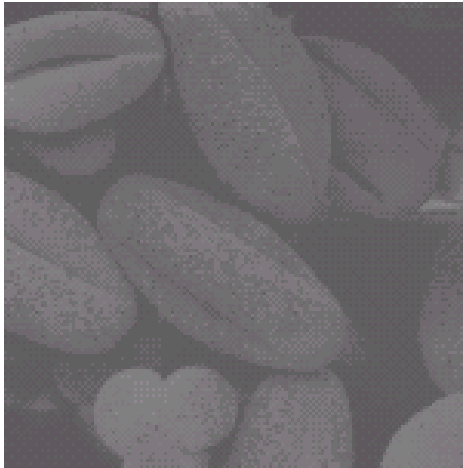


Bright image

## **Bright image**

Components of histogram are concentrated on the high side of the gray scale

# Histogram: Example



← Low Contrast Image

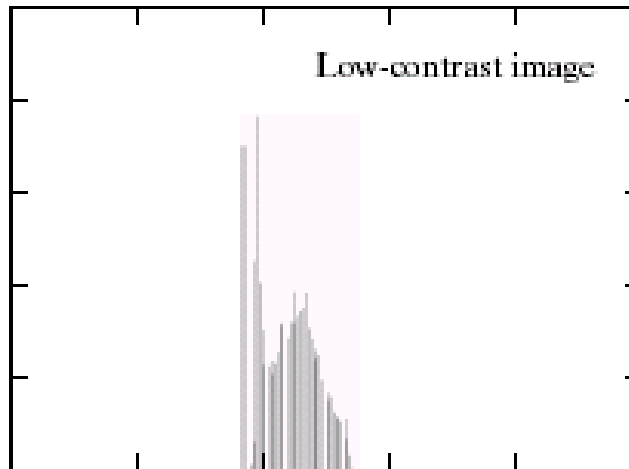
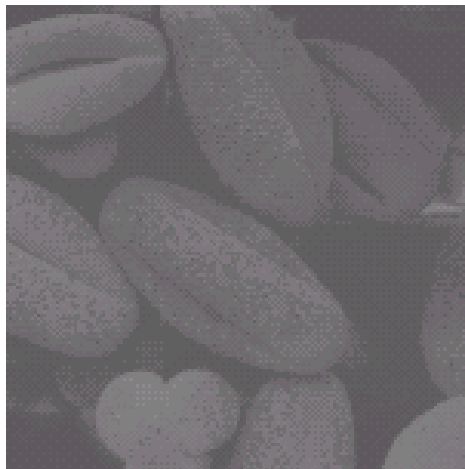
How would the  
histograms of these  
images look like?



← High Contrast Image



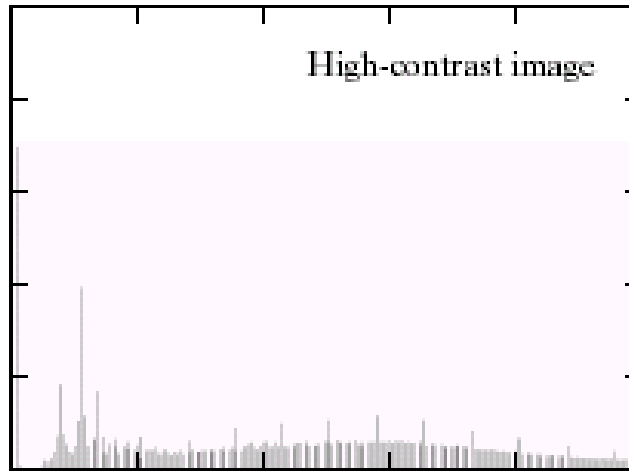
# Histogram: Example



Low-contrast image

## Low contrast image

Histogram is narrow and centered toward the middle of the gray scale



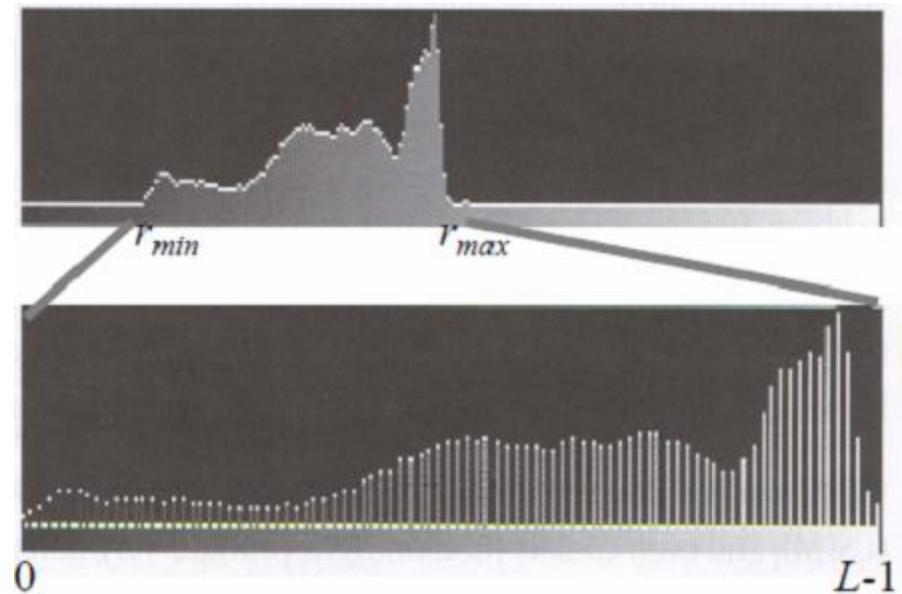
High-contrast image

## High contrast image

Histogram covers broad range of the gray scale and the distribution of pixels is not too far from uniform with very few vertical lines being much higher than the others

# Contrast Stretching

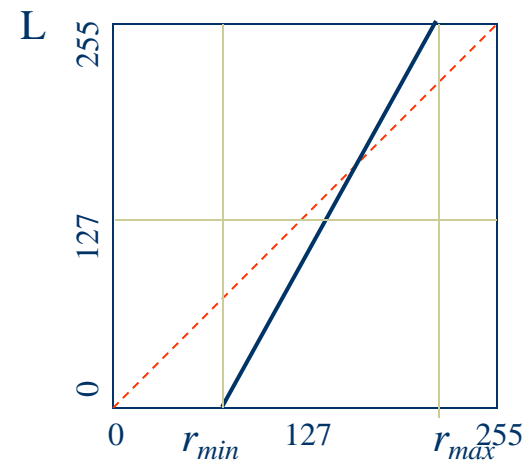
Improve the contrast in an image by 'stretching' the range of intensity values it contains to span a desired range of values, *e.g.* the full range of pixel values



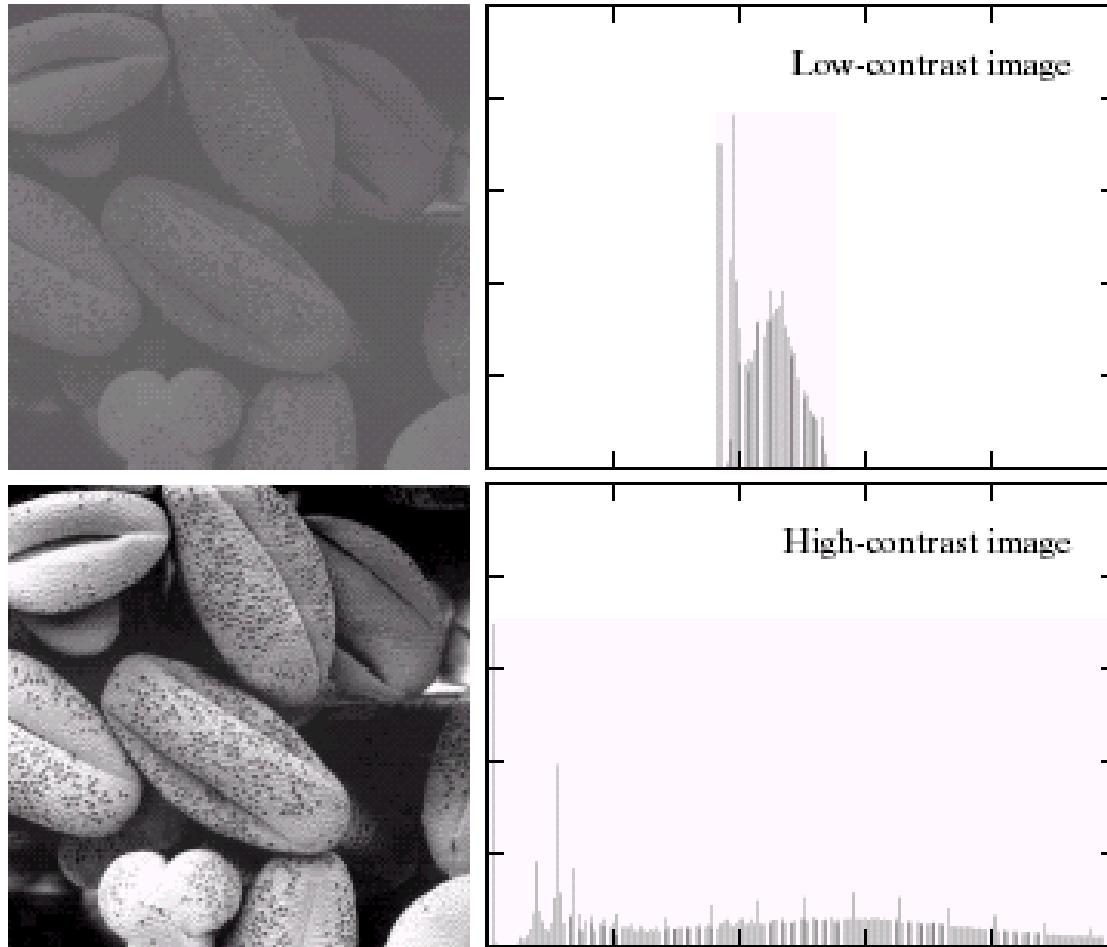
# Contrast Stretching

If  $r_{max}$  and  $r_{min}$  are the maximum and minimum gray level of the input image and  $L$  is the total gray levels of output image, the transformation function for contrast stretch will be

$$s(r) = \frac{L-1}{r_{max}-r_{min}}(r-r_{min})$$

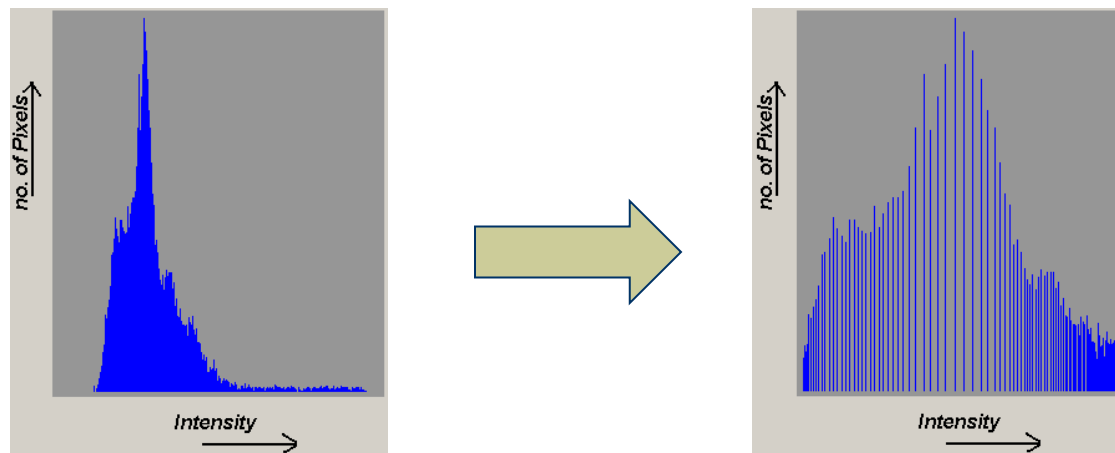


# Contrast Stretching



# Histogram Equalization

Histogram equalization re-assigns the intensity values of pixels in the input image such that the output image contains a uniform distribution of intensities



# The Probability Distribution Function of an Image

$$\text{Let } A = \sum_{g \in \mathcal{G}} h(g)$$

Let  $h(g)$  is the number of pixels in

image  $I$  having

value  $g$ . Then

we can write

Then,

$$p_I(g) = \frac{1}{A} h(g)$$

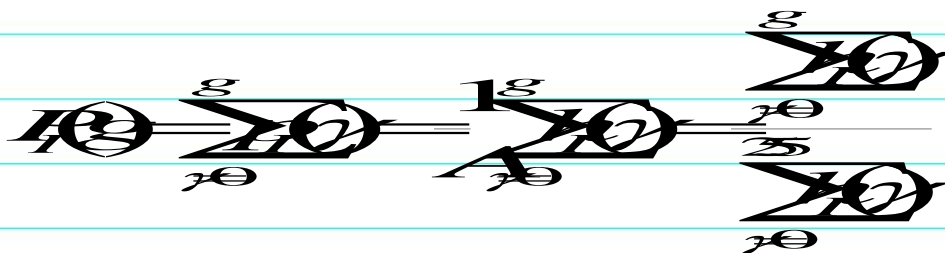
This is the probability that an arbitrary pixel from  $I$  has value  $g$ .

# The Probability Distribution Function of an Image

- $p(g)$  is the fraction of pixels in an image that have intensity value  $g$ .
- $p(g)$  is the probability that a pixel randomly selected from the given image has intensity value  $g$ .
- Whereas the sum of the histogram  $h(g)$  over all  $g$  from 0 to 255 is equal to the number of pixels in the image, the sum of  $p(g)$  over all  $g$  is 1.
- $p$  is the **normalized histogram** of the image

# The Cumulative Distribution Function of an Image

Let  $q = I(r,c)$  be the value of a randomly selected pixel from  $I$ . Let  $g$  be a specific gray level. The probability that  $q \leq g$  is given by



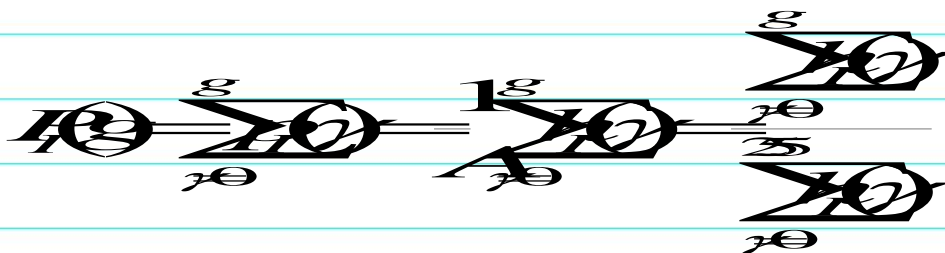
where  $h_I(\gamma)$  is the histogram of image  $I$ .

This is the probability that any given pixel from  $I$  has value less than or equal to  $g$ .



# The Cumulative Distribution Function of an Image

Let  $q = I(r,c)$  be the value of a randomly selected pixel from  $I$ . Let  $g$  be a specific gray level. The probability that  $q \leq g$  is given by



Also called CDF for "Cumulative Distribution Function".

where  $h_I(\gamma)$  is the histogram of image  $I$ .

This is the probability that any given pixel from  $I$  has value less than or equal to  $g$ .

# The Cumulative Distribution Function of an Image

- $P(g)$  is the fraction of pixels in an image that have intensity values less than or equal to  $g$ .
- $P(g)$  is the probability that a pixel randomly selected from the given band has an intensity value less than or equal to  $g$ .
- $P(g)$  is the cumulative (or running) sum of  $p(g)$  from 0 through  $g$  inclusive.
- $P(0) = p(0)$  and  $P(255) = 1$ ;

# Histogram Equalization

Task: remap image  $I$  so that its histogram is as close to constant as possible

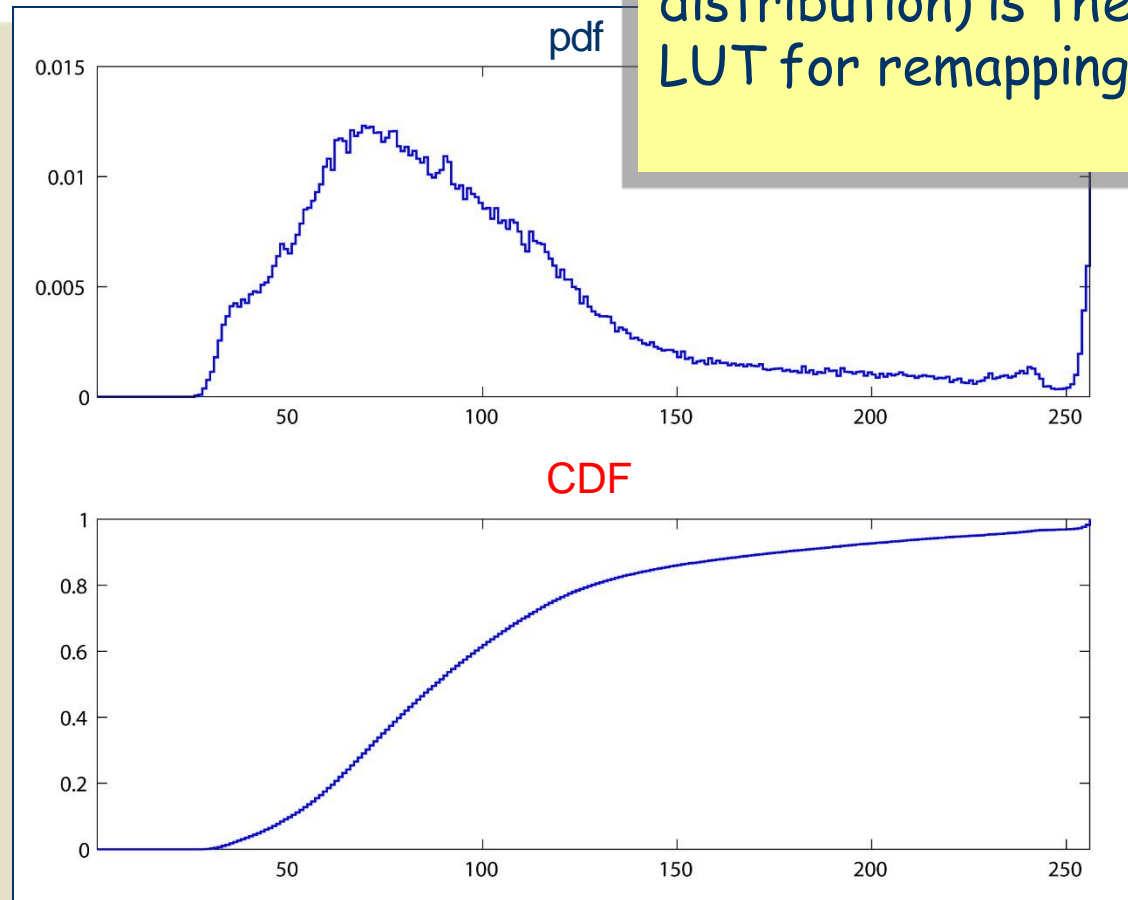
Let  $P_I(\gamma)$

be the cumulative (probability) distribution function of  $I$ .

The CDF itself is used as the LUT.

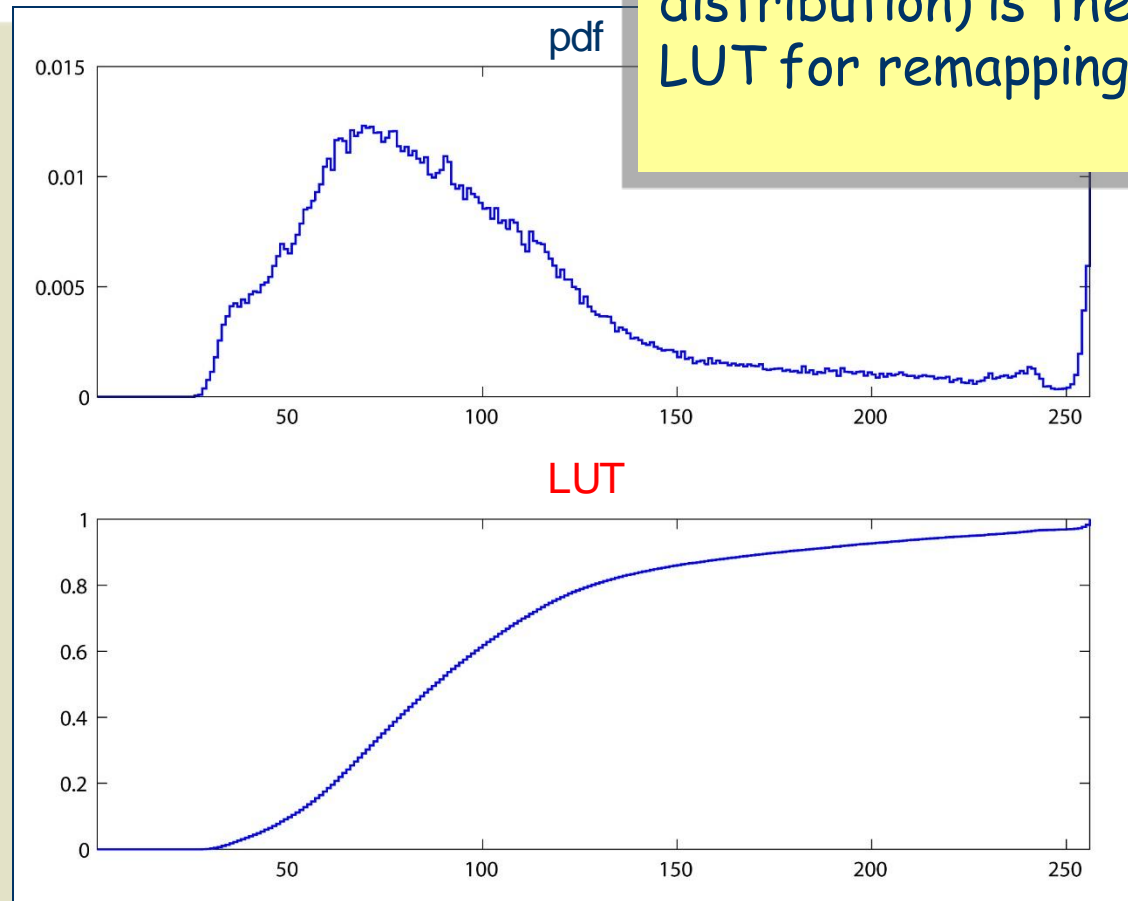
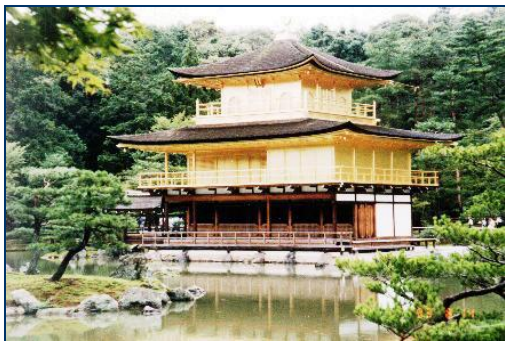
# Histogram Equalization

The CDF (cumulative distribution) is the LUT for remapping.

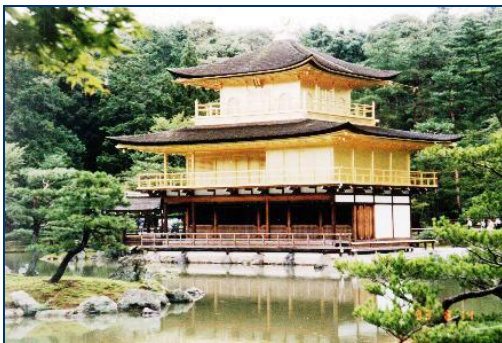


# Histogram Equalization

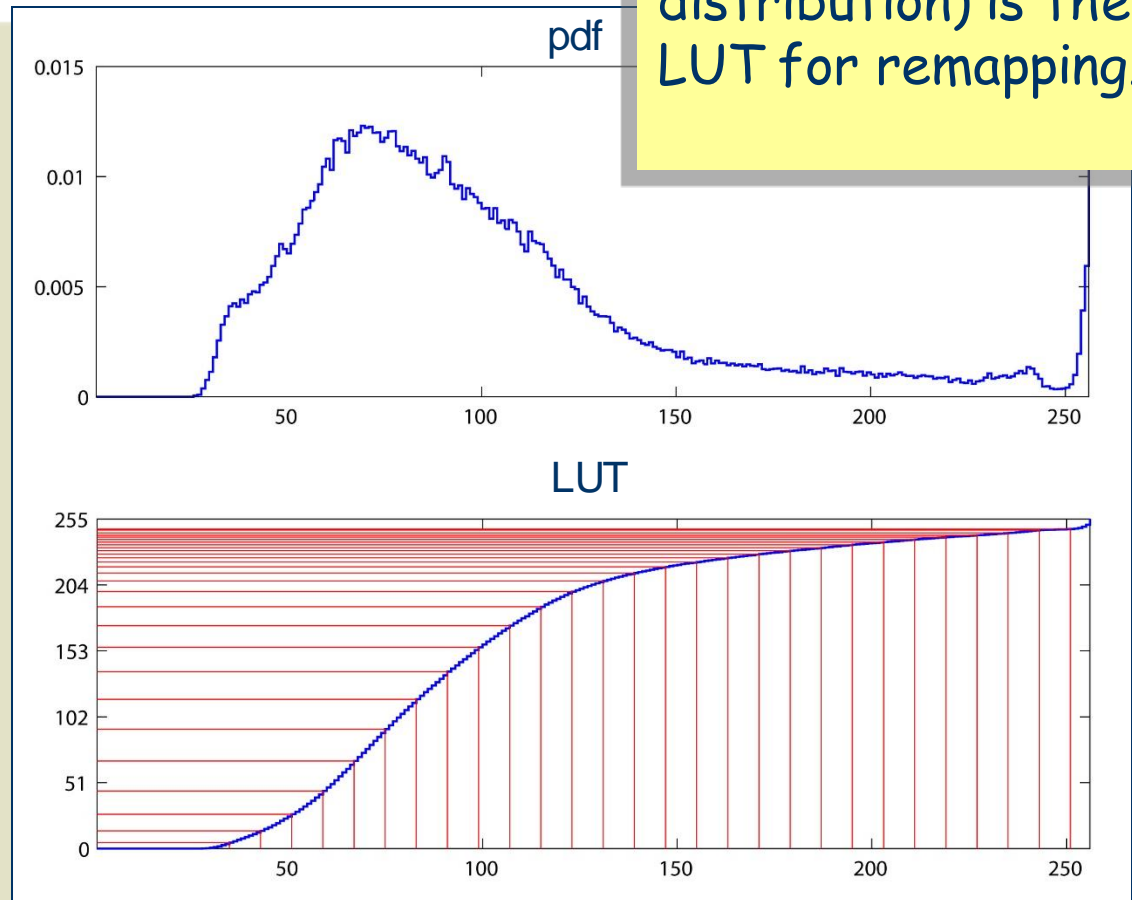
The CDF (cumulative distribution) is the LUT for remapping.



# Histogram Equalization

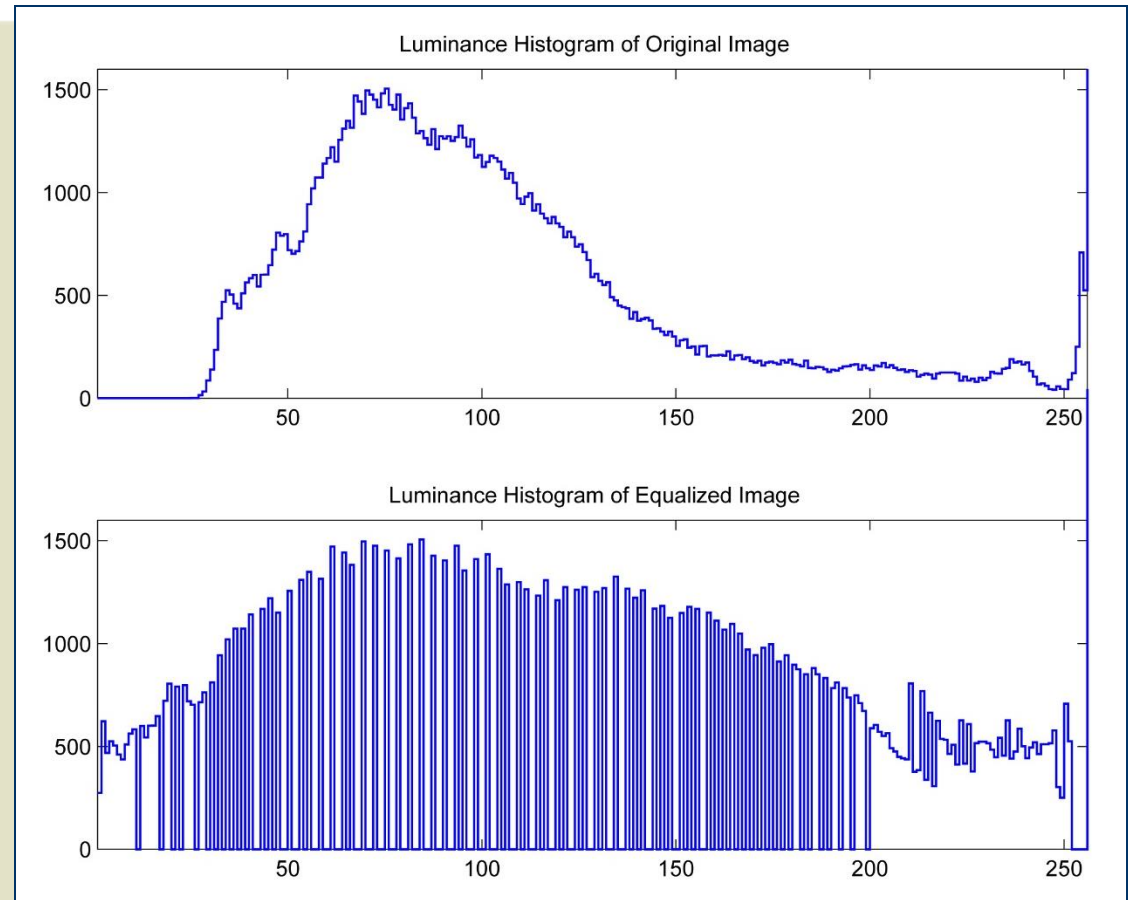


The CDF (cumulative distribution) is the LUT for remapping.

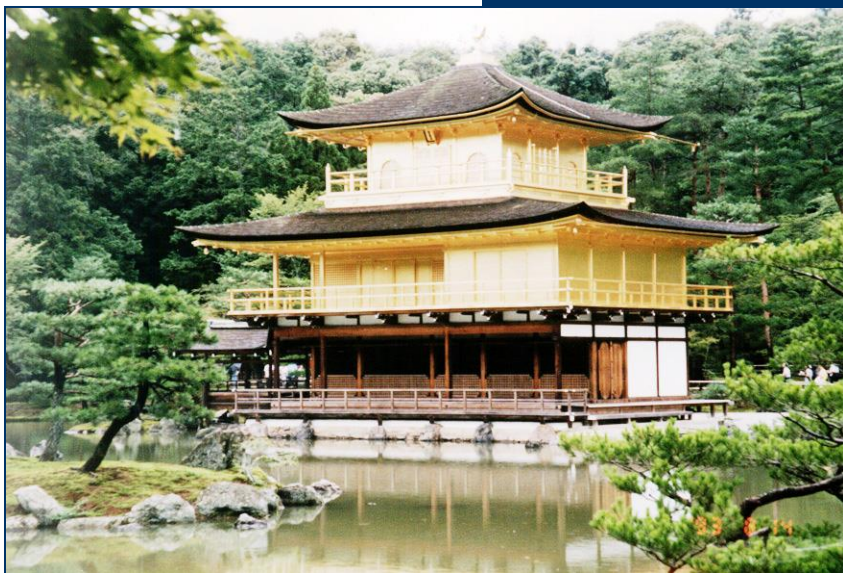




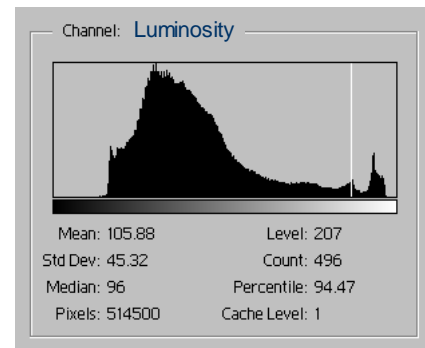
# Histogram Equalization



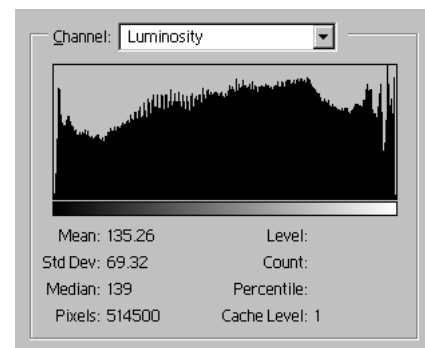
# Histogram Equalization



$$I(x,y) \rightarrow 255 \left[ \frac{I(x,y)}{255} \right]$$



before



after



# Histogram Equalization: Example



52	55	61	66	70	61	64	73
63	59	55	90	109	85	69	72
62	59	68	113	144	104	66	73
63	58	71	122	154	106	70	69
67	61	68	104	126	88	68	70
79	65	60	70	77	68	58	75
85	71	64	59	55	61	65	83
87	79	69	68	65	76	78	94

An 8x8 image



# Histogram Equalization: Example

Take out a paper and fill in the following table/histogram

Value	Count	Value	Count	Value	Count	Value	Count	Value	Count
52		64		72		85		113	
55		65		73		87		122	
58		66		75		88		126	
59		67		76		90		144	
60		68		77		94		154	
61		69		78		104			
62		70		79		106			
63		71		83		109			

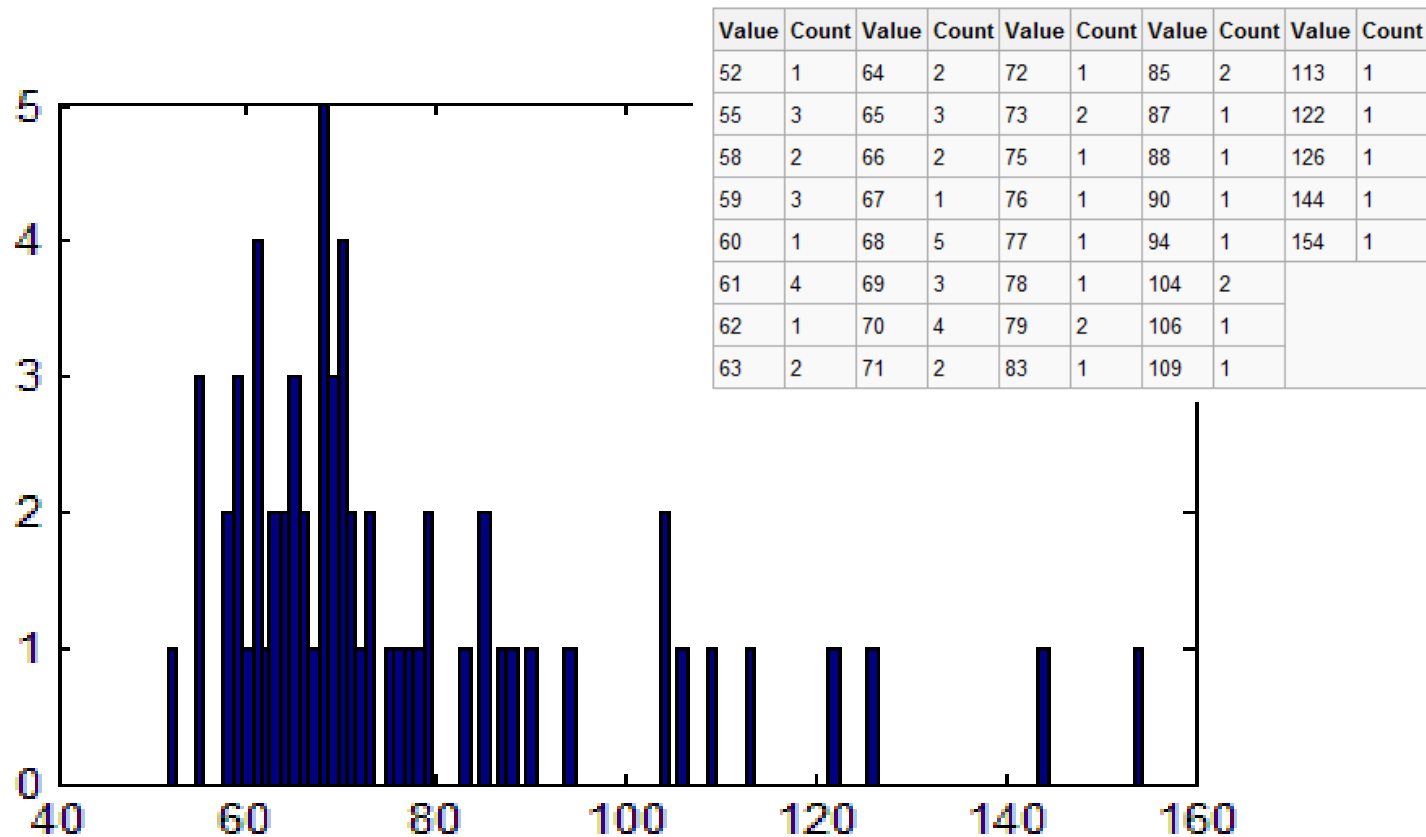
Image Histogram (Non-zero values)

# Histogram Equalization: Example

## Image Histogram (Non-zero values shown)

Value	Count	Value	Count	Value	Count	Value	Count	Value	Count
52	1	64	2	72	1	85	2	113	1
55	3	65	3	73	2	87	1	122	1
58	2	66	2	75	1	88	1	126	1
59	3	67	1	76	1	90	1	144	1
60	1	68	5	77	1	94	1	154	1
61	4	69	3	78	1	104	2		
62	1	70	4	79	2	106	1		
63	2	71	2	83	1	109	1		

# Histogram Equalization: Example



# Histogram Equalization: Example

## Cumulative Distribution Function (cdf)

### Image Histogram/Prob Mass Function

Value	Count	Value	Count	Value	Count	Value	Count	Value	Count
52	1	64	2	72	1	85	2	113	1
55	3	65	3	73	2	87	1	122	1
58	2	66	2	75	1	88	1	126	1
59	3	67	1	76	1	90	1	144	1
60	1	68	5	77	1	94	1	154	1
61	4	69	3	78	1	104	2		
62	1	70	4	79	2	106	1		
63	2	71	2	83	1	109	1		

Value	cdf	Value	cdf	Value	cdf	Value	cdf	Value	cdf
52		64		72		85		113	
55		65		73		87		122	
58		66		75		88		126	
59		67		76		90		144	
60		68		77		94		154	
61		69		78		104			
62		70		79		106			
63		71		83		109			

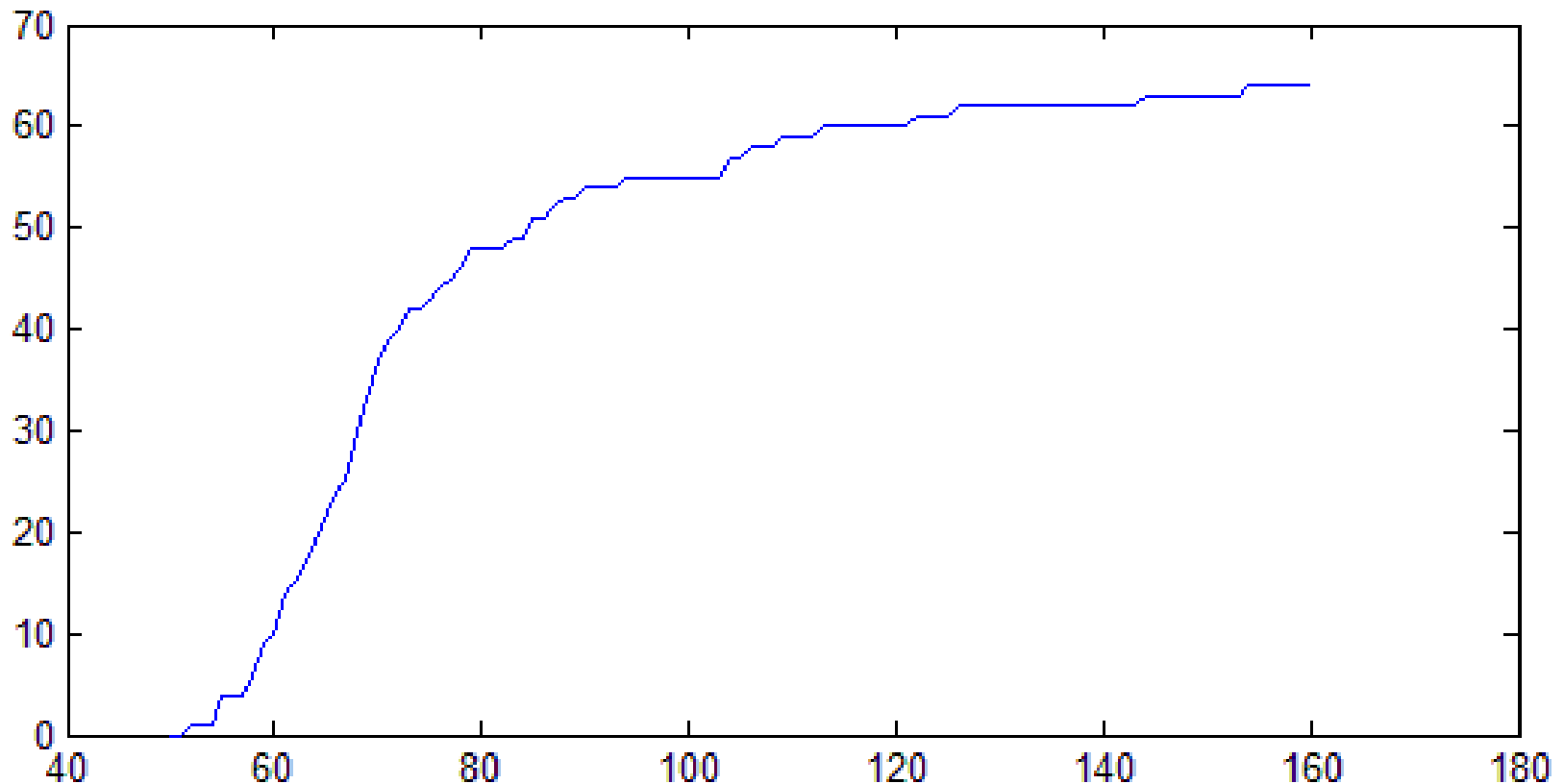
# Histogram Equalization: Example

## Cumulative Distribution Function (cdf)

Value	cdf	Value	cdf	Value	cdf	Value	cdf	Value	cdf
52	1	64	19	72	40	85	51	113	60
55	4	65	22	73	42	87	52	122	61
58	6	66	24	75	43	88	53	126	62
59	9	67	25	76	44	90	54	144	63
60	10	68	30	77	45	94	55	154	64
61	14	69	33	78	46	104	57		
62	15	70	37	79	48	106	58		
63	17	71	39	83	49	109	59		

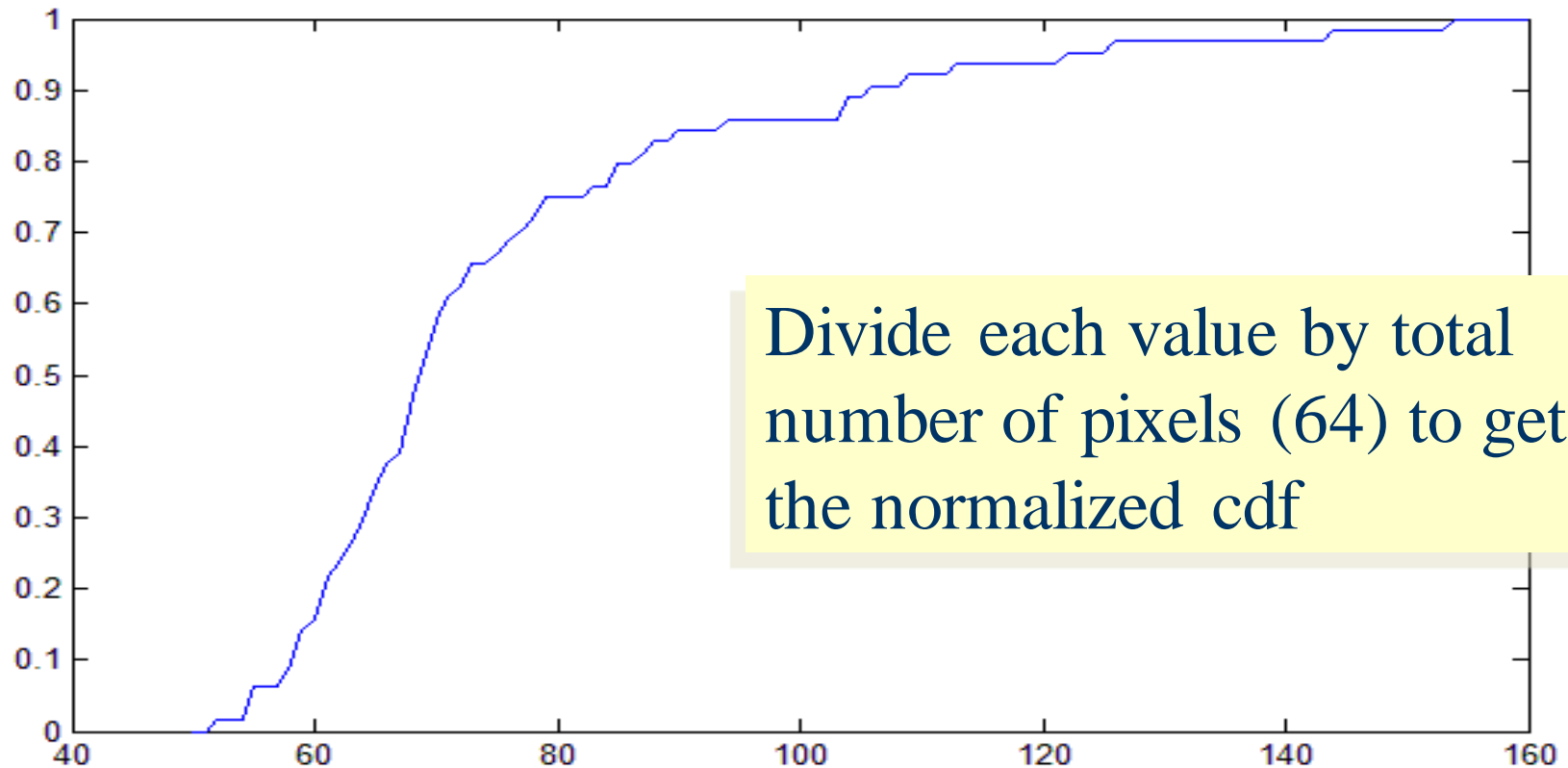
# Histogram Equalization: Example

Cumulative Distribution Function (cdf)



# Histogram Equalization: Example

## Normalized Cumulative Distribution Function (cdf)



Divide each value by total number of pixels (64) to get the normalized cdf



# Histogram Equalization: Example

Value	cdf	Value	cdf	Value	cdf	Value	cdf	Value	cdf
52	1	64	19	72	40	85	51	113	60
55	4	65	22	73	42	87	52	122	61
58	6	66	24	75	43	88	53	126	62
59	9	67	25	76	44	90	54	144	63
60	10	68	30	77	45	94	55	154	64
61	14	69	33	78	46	104	57		
62	15	70	37	79	48	106	58		
63	17	71	39	83	49	109	59		

$$s(r) = 255 \cdot P(r)$$

If cdf is normalized

$$s = \text{rand}(255, cdf(r))$$

If cdf is NOT normalized

$$s = \text{rand}(255, \frac{cdf(r)}{M \times N})$$

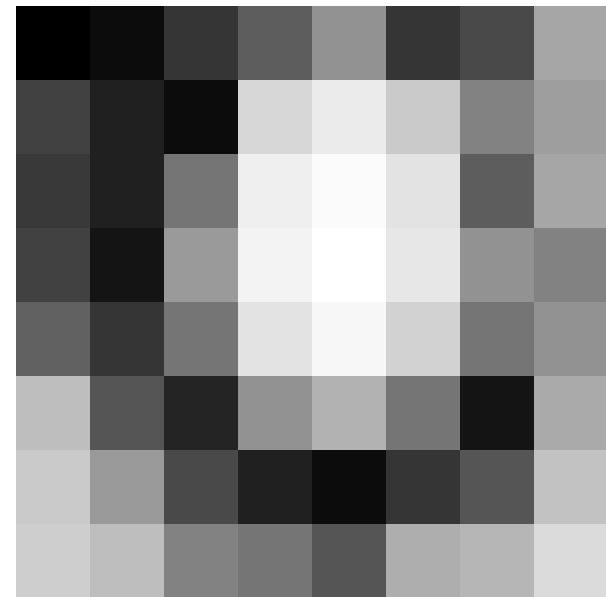
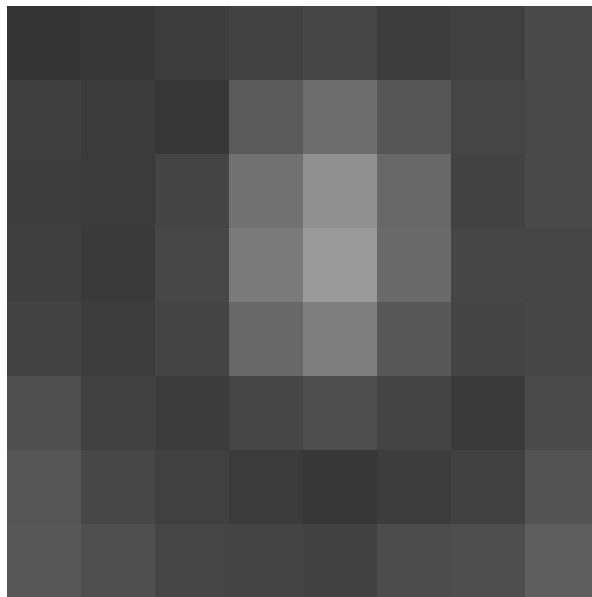
$$s = \text{rand}(255, (46/64))$$

$$s = 183$$

52	55	61	66	70	61	64	73
63	59	55	90	109	85	69	72
62	59	68	113	144	104	66	73
63	58	71	122	154	106	70	69
67	61	68	104	126	88	68	70
79	65	60	70	77	68	58	75
85	71	64	59	55	61	65	83
87	79	69	68	65	76	78	94

Original Image

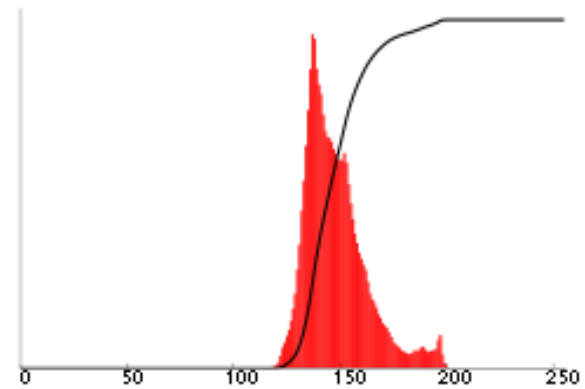
# Histogram Equalization: Example



# Histogram Equalization: Example



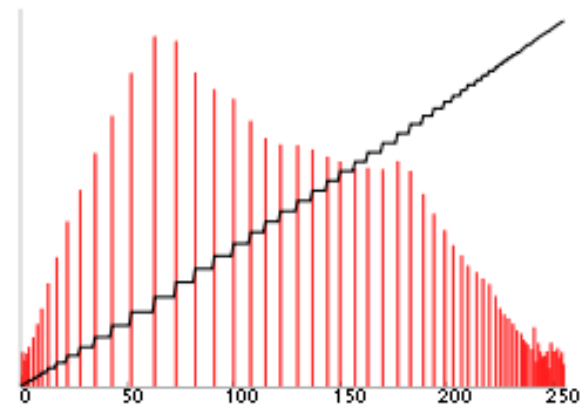
Original Image



Corresponding histogram (red) and cumulative histogram (black)



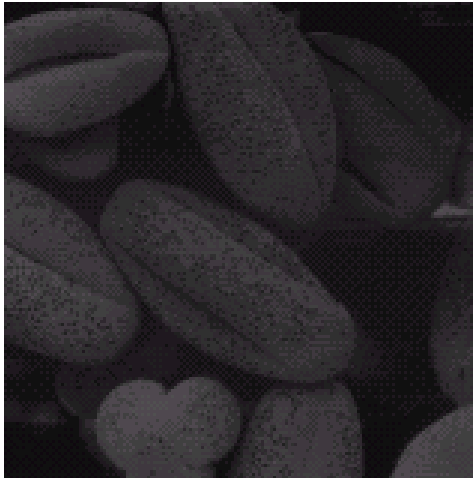
Image after histogram equalization



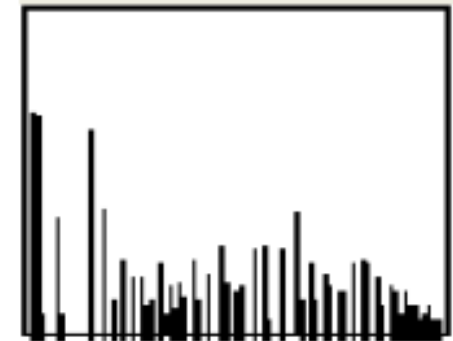
Corresponding histogram (red) and cumulative histogram (black)

# Histogram Equalization: Example

Dark image



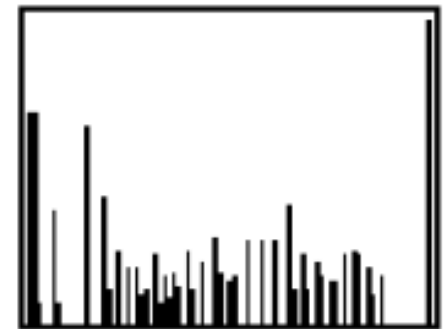
Equalized Histogram



Bright image



Equalized Histogram

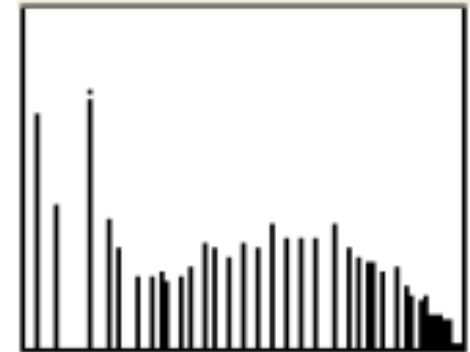


# Histogram Equalization: Example

Low contrast



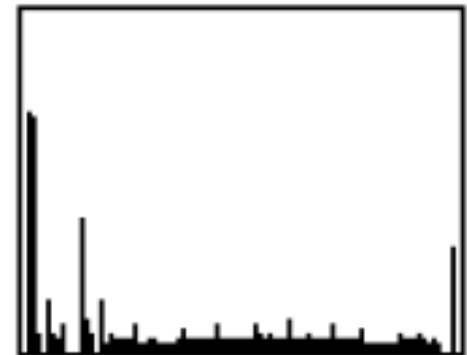
Equalized Histogram



High Contrast



Equalized Histogram

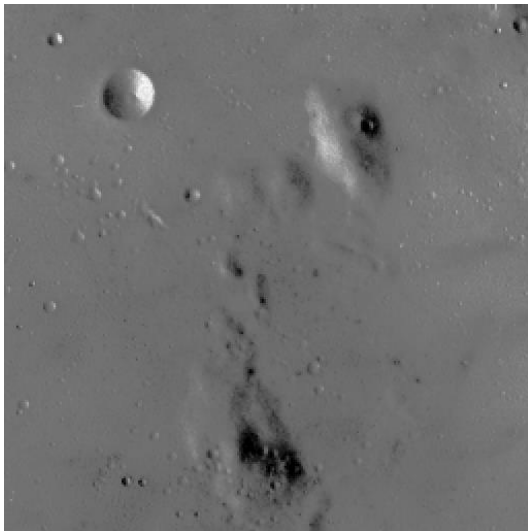


# Histogram Equalization vs. Contrast Stretching

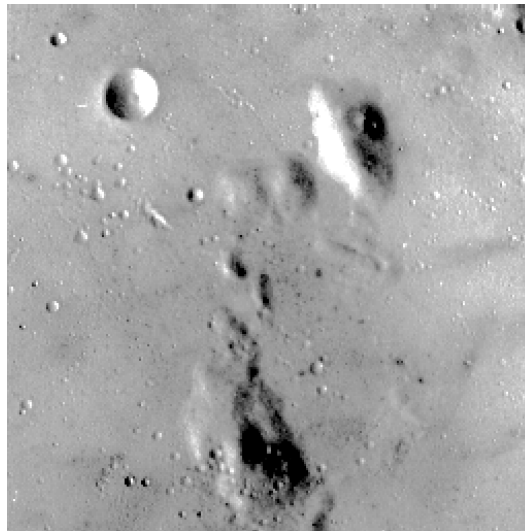
Histogram equalization is sophisticated version of contrast stretching

Contrast Stretching – Linear Transformation  
Enhancement is less harsh

# Histogram Equalization vs. Contrast Stretching



*Original Image*



*Contrast Stretching*



*Histogram Equalization*

# Acknowledgements

- ♦ Digital Image Processing”, Rafael C. Gonzalez & Richard E. Woods, Addison-Wesley, 2002
- ♦ Peters, Richard Alan, II, Lectures on Image Processing, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, April 2008
- ♦ Brian Mac Namee, Digital Image Processing, School of Computing, Dublin Institute of Technology
- ♦ Computer Vision for Computer Graphics, Mark Borg
- ♦ Web Resource: HIPR2