



华中科技大学

# Image Enhancement

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- **Automated contrast enhancement**
- **Rank Filtering**
- **Adaptive Filters**
- **Mode Filter**
- **Image Math**

# Automated contrast enhancement



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- ◆ allows a certain percentage of the pixels in the output image must be saturated either full black or full white.
- ◆ utilizes the cumulative distribution function to identify the intensity values at which the appropriate percentages will saturate when a linear contrast enhancement is performed.

Chih-Cheng Hung, Southern Polytechnic State University



# Automated contrast enhancement



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Step 1: locate the value of  $b_{low}$  such that  
$$b_{low} = b_k \quad \text{where } c(b_k) \geq P_{low}$$
  
(The search starts at  $k=0$  and proceeds through increasing values of  $k$ .)

Step 2: locate  $b_{hi}$   
$$b_{hi} = b_k \quad \text{where } [1 - c(b_k)] > p_{hi}$$
  
(where the search starts at  $k = k_{max}$  and proceeds downward in  $k$ .)

Step 3: Perform linear contrast Enhancement.

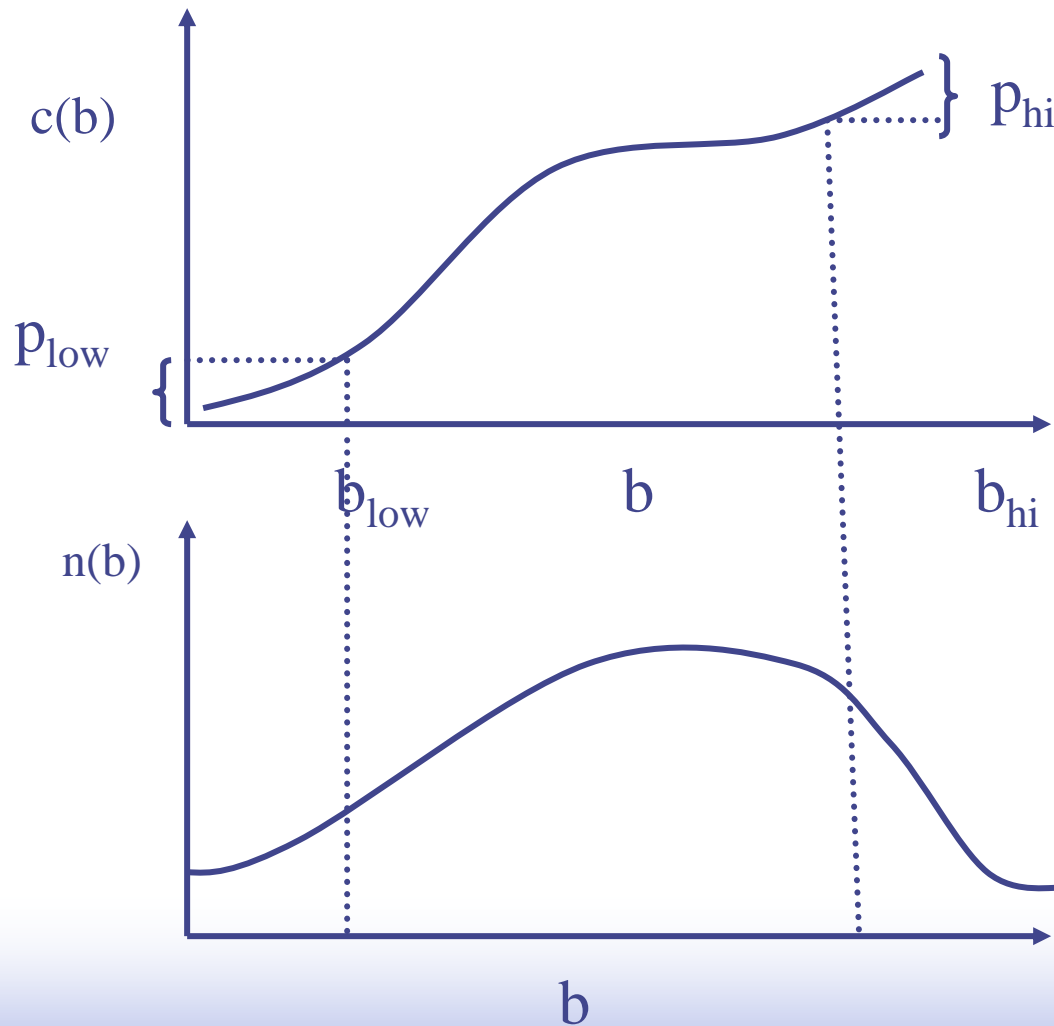
Example: automated ends-in search contrast enhancement



# Automated contrast enhancement



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# Non-linear Filtering

- Homomorphic Filters
- Polynomial Filters
- Order Statistics Filters
- Morphological Filters

**同态滤波器、多项式滤波器  
形态滤波器、排序统计滤波器**

**赵春晖，数字形态滤波器理论及其算法研究，博士论文**





# Rank Filtering

- Non-linear filters known collectively as “order statistic” filters or rank filters
- Compile a list of intensity values in the neighborhood of a given pixel, sort this list into ascending order, then select a value from a particular position in the list to use as the new value for the pixel.



# Rank Filtering

- **Median Filter**
- **Minimum Filter**
- **Maximum Filter**
- **Range Filter**
- **Hybrid Median**





# Minimum Filter

- The minimum filter is a rank filter in which the lowest (darkest) intensity value from the neighborhood is selected
- Causes darker regions of an image to increase in size and dominate the lighter regions
- Also known as **greyscale dilation**



# Maximum Filter

- The maximum filter is a rank filter in which the highest (brightest) intensity value from the neighborhood is selected
- Causes brighter regions of an image to increase in size and dominate the darker regions
- Also known as **greyscale erosion**



# Range Filter

The range filter is a rank filter in which the difference between the maximum and minimum intensity values in a neighborhood is selected

- An omnidirectional, non-linear edge-detector

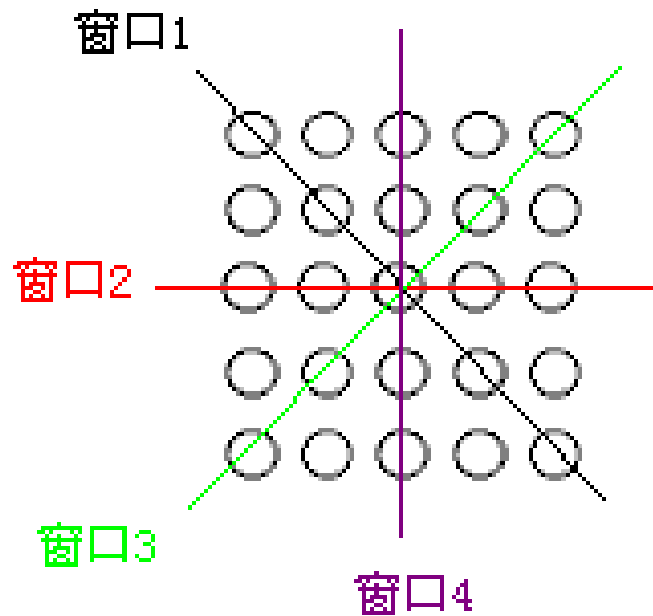
# Hybrid Median

## Edge-preserving median

- In a  $5 \times 5$  neighborhood, pixels are ranked into two different groups ( $a$  and  $b$ )
- Median values from both groups are compared to the central pixel
- The median of that set is the new pixel value

|     |     |     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| $b$ |     | $a$ |     | $b$ |
|     | $b$ | $a$ | $b$ |     |
| $a$ | $a$ | $X$ | $a$ | $a$ |
|     | $b$ | $a$ | $b$ |     |
| $b$ |     | $a$ |     | $b$ |

# Multi-stage Median



(1) 求各窗口中的中值

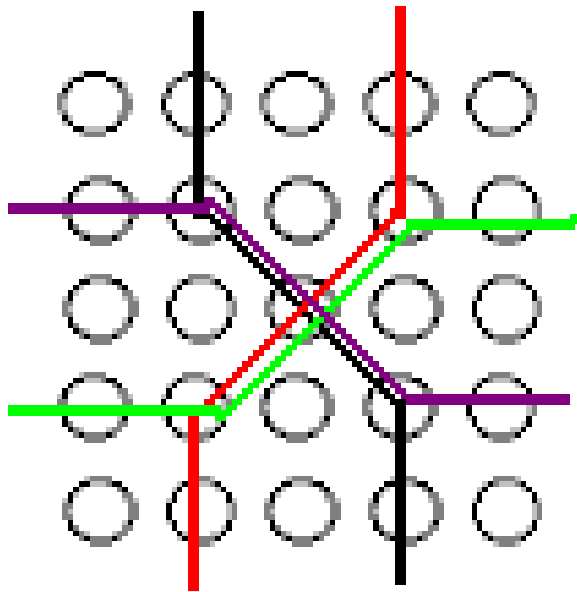
$M1, M2, M3, M4$

(2)  $V1 = \min(M1, M2, M3, M4)$

(3)  $V2 = \max(M1, M2, M3, M4)$

(4)  $\text{MEDIAN}(V1, V2, \text{CENTER})$

# Multi-stage Median



(1) 求各窗口中的中值

$M1, M2, M3, M4$

(2)  $V1 = \min(M1, M2, M3, M4)$

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(4)  $\text{MEDIAN}(V1, V2, \text{CENTER})$



# Median Filtering

- Repeated application of the median filter can cause *posterization*
- Reducing the number of intensity values so that regions become uniform in intensity and edges between regions become abrupt
- Extremum filters replace the pixel value with either the maximum or minimum, whichever is closer to the mean value.



# Mode Filter

- The mode of the distribution of intensity values in each neighborhood is the most likely value  
≈ truncated median filter  
For an asymmetric distribution the mode is the highest point.
- To calculate the mode filter:  
Discard a few values from the neighborhood so that the median is shifted towards the mode.





# Mode Filter

For example:

- In a  $3 \times 3$  neighborhood, discard the two intensity values which are most different from the mean.
- Rank the remaining seven.
- Assign the median to the central pixel.

Has the effect of sharpening steps.



# Hybrid Filters

Hybrids of linear and nonlinear filters

## $\alpha$ -trimmed Mean Filter

- Sorts values from a neighborhood into ascending order, discards a certain number of these values from either end of the list and outputs the mean of the remaining values
- If the ordered set of values is  $f_1 \leq f_2 \leq \dots \leq f_{n^2}$  then the  $\alpha$ -trimmed mean is:

$$\frac{1}{n^2 - 2\alpha} \sum_{i=\alpha+1}^{n^2-\alpha} f_i$$



# Adaptive Filters

- Properties of an image can vary spatially
- e.g. Gaussian random noise in an image
    - Normal smoothing is effective in homogeneous regions, adverse blurring effect in regions that are meant to be heterogeneous (due to the presence of edges)
  - These effects can be minimised using an adaptive filter
    - Most compute local intensity level statistics within the neighborhood of a pixel and base their behavior on this information



# Adaptive Filters

## Minimal Mean Square Error Filter

$$g(x, y) = f(x, y) - \frac{\sigma_n^2}{\sigma^2(x, y)} [f(x, y) - \bar{f}(x, y)]$$

- $\sigma_n^2$  is an estimate of noise variance
- $\sigma^2(x, y)$  is the intensity variance computed for the neighborhood centred on  $(x, y)$
- $\bar{f}(x, y)$  is the mean intensity value in that neighborhood

# Image Math



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Useful for masking and compositing of images

Two types of image combination:

*arithmetic* (*image math*) -> grayscale images

*logical* (*boolean*) -> binary images



# Image Addition

## Image addition superimposes information

- Pixels in the resulting image have values in the range 0-510
- Normalise the resulting image
  - divided by two → image averaging or converted to 16-bit
- Primarily used for noise removal

## “Alpha blending”

- Give more emphasis to one image than the other

$$g(x, y) = \alpha f_1(x, y) + (1 - \alpha) f_2(x, y)$$

- When  $\alpha=0.5$ ,  $g(x, y)$  becomes a simple, even-weighted average

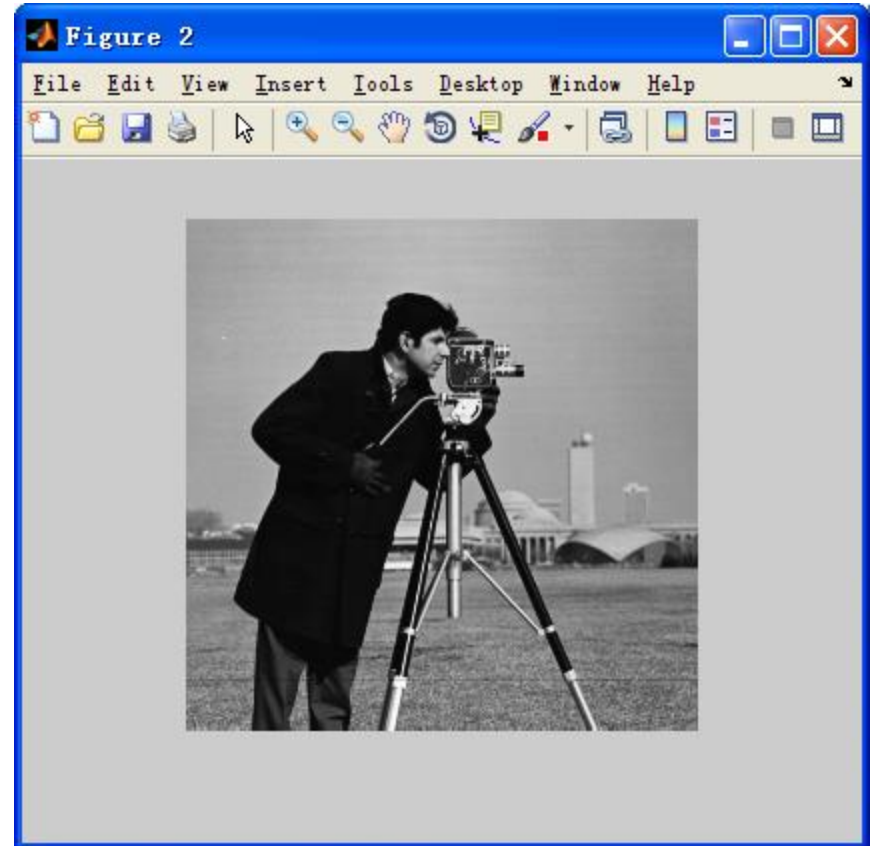
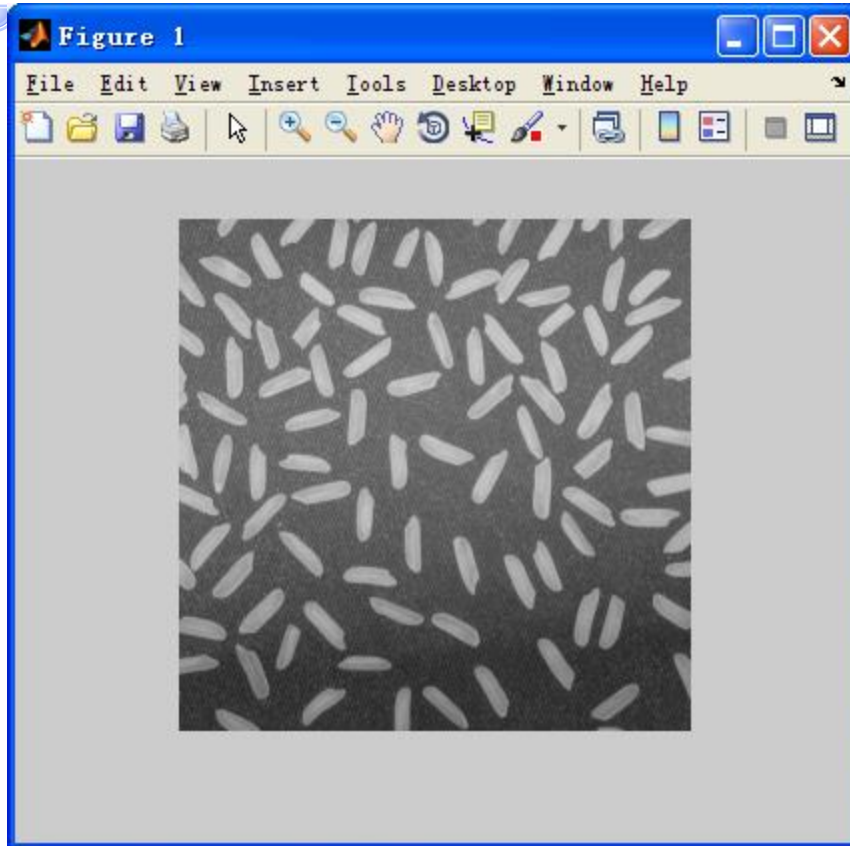
# Image Addition



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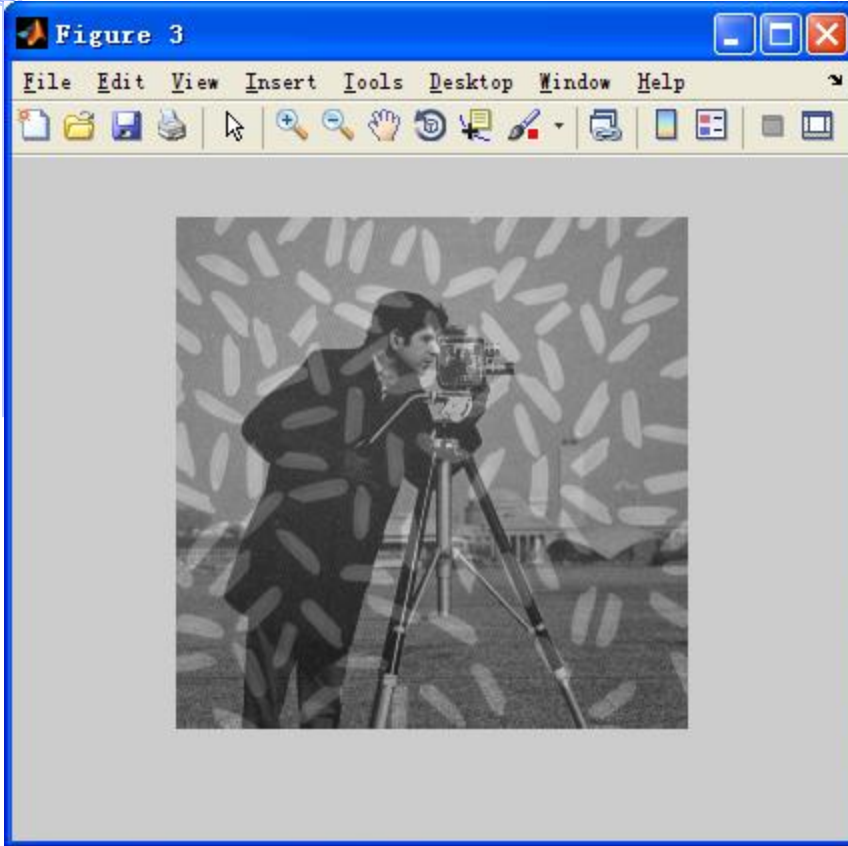


# Image Addition

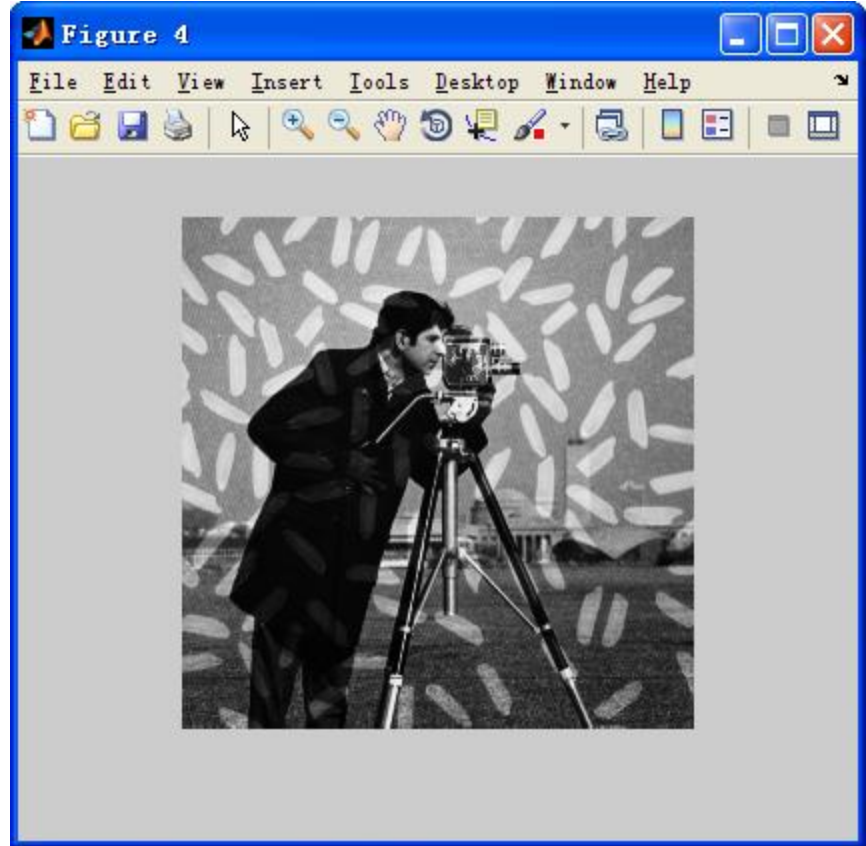




# Image Addition



两幅图简单平均相加



$$I \oplus J = \psi^{-1}(\psi(I) + \psi(J))$$

$$\psi(I) = \log((M - I) / I)$$

$$M = 255$$

# Image Subtraction

**Image subtraction** calculates the differences between images

- Used primarily for **change detection**

Pixels in the resulting image have values in the range  $-255$  to  $+255$

$$g(x, y) = |f_1(x, y) - f_2(x, y)|$$

Changes will be indicated by pixels in the **difference image** which have non-zero values.

- The difference image will contain only features that change



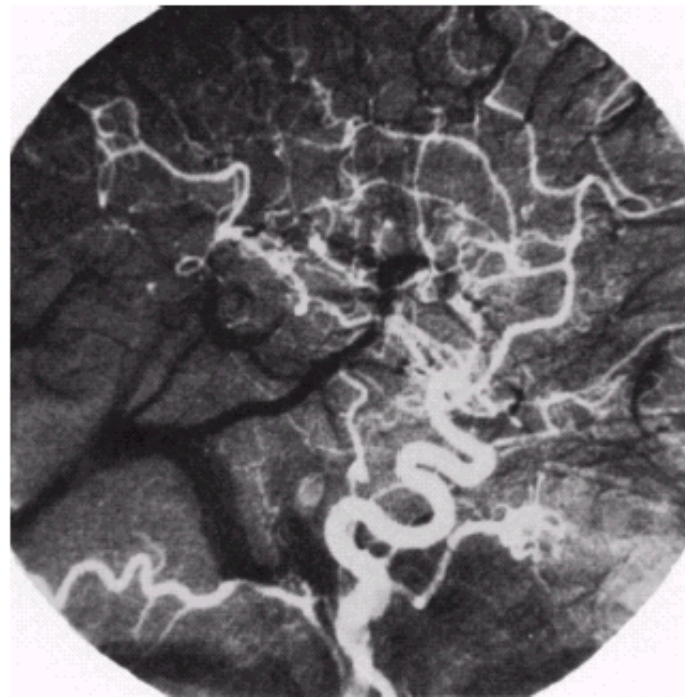
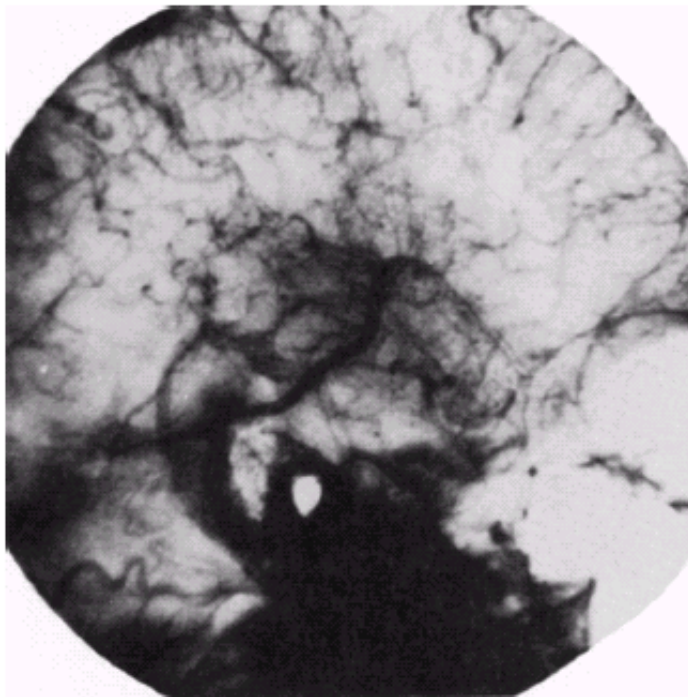
# Image Subtraction

- Sensor noise, slight intensity changes, and various other factors result in small differences which are of no significance.
- It is usual to apply a threshold to the difference image.
- Object motion can be measures through subtraction  
e.g. track the motion of cells in response to chemical cues.

# Image Subtraction



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a b

**FIGURE 3.29**

Enhancement by image subtraction.  
(a) Mask image.  
(b) An image (taken after injection of a contrast medium into the bloodstream) with mask subtracted out.





# Image Minimum & Maximum

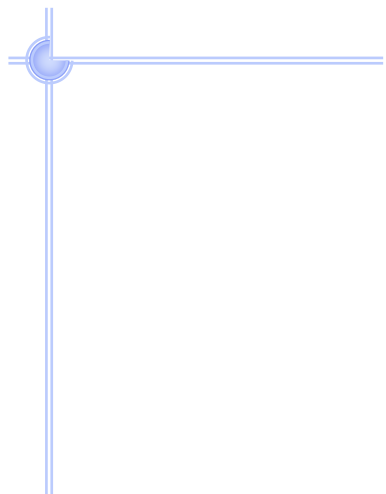
Image combination using **min** (or **max**) involves retaining the darker (or lighter) intensity values at each location

$$g(x, y) = \min(f_1(x, y), f_2(x, y))$$

e.g. To build up a confocal scanning light microscope (CSLM) image with greater depth of field



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# 图像的空间域增强讨论

- (1)模板个数      单个模板 VS 多个模板
- (2)模板形状      正方形 VS 五边形 VS 六边形  
                    其他形状
- (3)模板大小       $3 \times 3$  VS  $5 \times 5$  VS  $3 \times 1$  ...
- (4)像素选择      所有像素 VS 部分像素  
    选择依据      固定个数 VS 可控范围 (Sigma)
- (5)像素权重      等权重 VS 非等权重
- (6)权重大小      固定权重 VS 自适应权重
- (7)模板组合      从多个模板中选择一个 VS  
                    模板有不同权重

参考书：贾永红，《数字图像处理》，2003年





# 图像的空间域增强讨论

可用的信息:

灰度

空间

出发点:

灰度的连续性

空间的连续性

边缘出现的变迁（空间的跳跃性）

点之间的相互影响

多模板—> 寻找同质区域。







# 图像的空间域平滑技术

## 一、局部平均法

取一个邻域内的平均值，作为该中心的输出值。

- 算法简单，处理速度快；
- 缺点是在降低噪声的同时使图像产生模糊，特别在边缘和细节处；
- 邻域越大，去噪能力增强，模糊程度更严重。





# 图像的空间域平滑技术

## 二、超限像素平均法

以 $(x,y)$ 为中心，计算其邻域内的平均值。若 $(x,y)$ 点的灰度与平均值之间的差大于某个阈值，则用平均值代替，否则保持不变。

- 算法对抑制椒盐噪声比较有效，对保护仅有微小灰度差的细节及纹理也有效。
- 随着邻域增大，去噪能力增强，但模糊程度也变大。
- 同局部平滑法相比，超限像素平滑法去椒盐噪声效果更好。





# 图像的空间域平滑技术

## 三、灰度最相近的K个邻点平均法

窗口中心像素的灰度值用窗口内与中心像素灰度最接近的K个邻像素的平均灰度来代替。

较小的K值使噪声方差下降少，但保持细节较好；而较大的是值平滑噪声较好，但会使图像边缘模糊。

经验：对于 $3 \times 3$ 的窗口，取 $K = 6$ 为宜。





# 图像的空间域平滑技术

## 三、灰度最相近的K个邻点平均法

**Sigma 滤波**

**求方差Sigma, 在 $[G_c - k * \text{Sigma}, G_c + k * \text{Sigma}]$ 内求平均。**

**$k = 0.1 \sim 2$**





# 图像的空间域平滑技术

## 四、梯度倒数加权平均法

**梯度：中心点与窗口内某个点的灰度差。**

**若梯度为0，取梯度倒数为2。否则，梯度倒数取为  $1/\text{灰度差的绝对值}$ 。**

**最后，将模板内各系数进行归一化处理。**

**(即所有系数的总和视为1)**

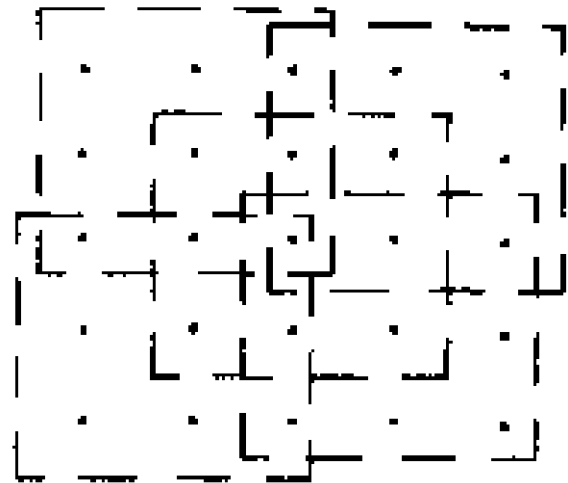


# 图像的空间域平滑技术

## 五、最大均匀性平滑法

取包含 $(x,y)$ 点的五个窗口。用梯度衡量灰度变化大小。将灰度变化最小的窗口作为最均匀窗口。

最均匀窗口的平均值取代 $(x,y)$ 处的灰度值。



# 图像的空间域平滑技术

## 六、有选择保持边缘平均法

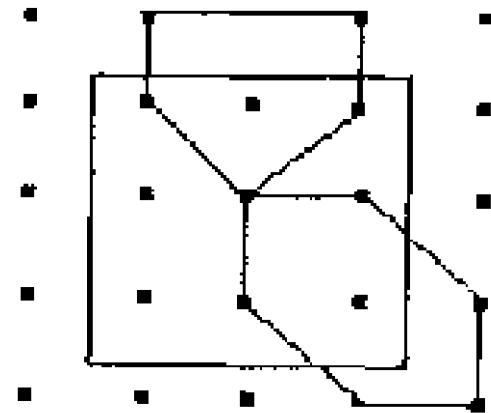
模板：1个 $3\times 3$ ;

4个5边形;

4个六边形

计算各模板内各的均值和方差。最小方差的模板对应的均值为中心点的灰度值。

方法五的改进。



**核心思想：**  
找出同质区域，  
并在该区域平均

Weighted median filters: a tutorial , IEEE Trans Circuits Syst,1996,43:(3)

Center Weighted median filters and their application to image enhancement,  
IEEE Trans. Circuits Syst.1991 38(9)

Optimalk weighted median filter under structural constrains.  
IEEE Trans Signal Process,1995,43(3)

Tri-state median filter for image denoising, IEEE Trans Image Process,1999

Noise adaptive soft-switching median filter, IEEE Trans Image Process,2001

基于方向的自适应多级中值滤波

贾永红, 《数字图像处理》, 2003年