
Introduction to Image Edge Detection, Classification



TELECOM ParisTech
Dpt. IDS

Elsa Angelini PhD

Some slides from the
IMAGE group @Telecom –
Tupin et al

Outline

-
- Introduction
 - Edge Detection
 - Classification

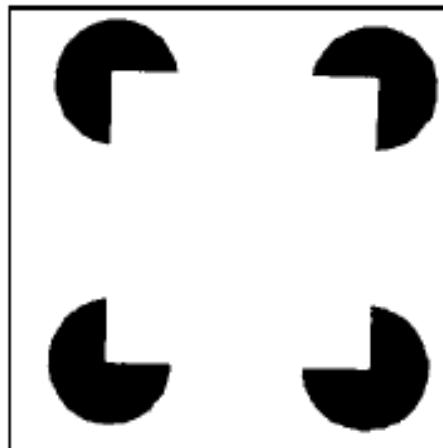
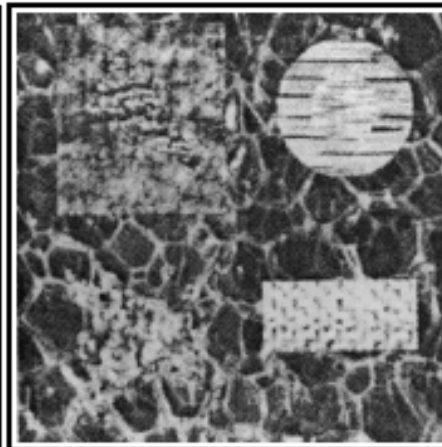
Introduction

- What is an object in an image?

Edges /
Regions



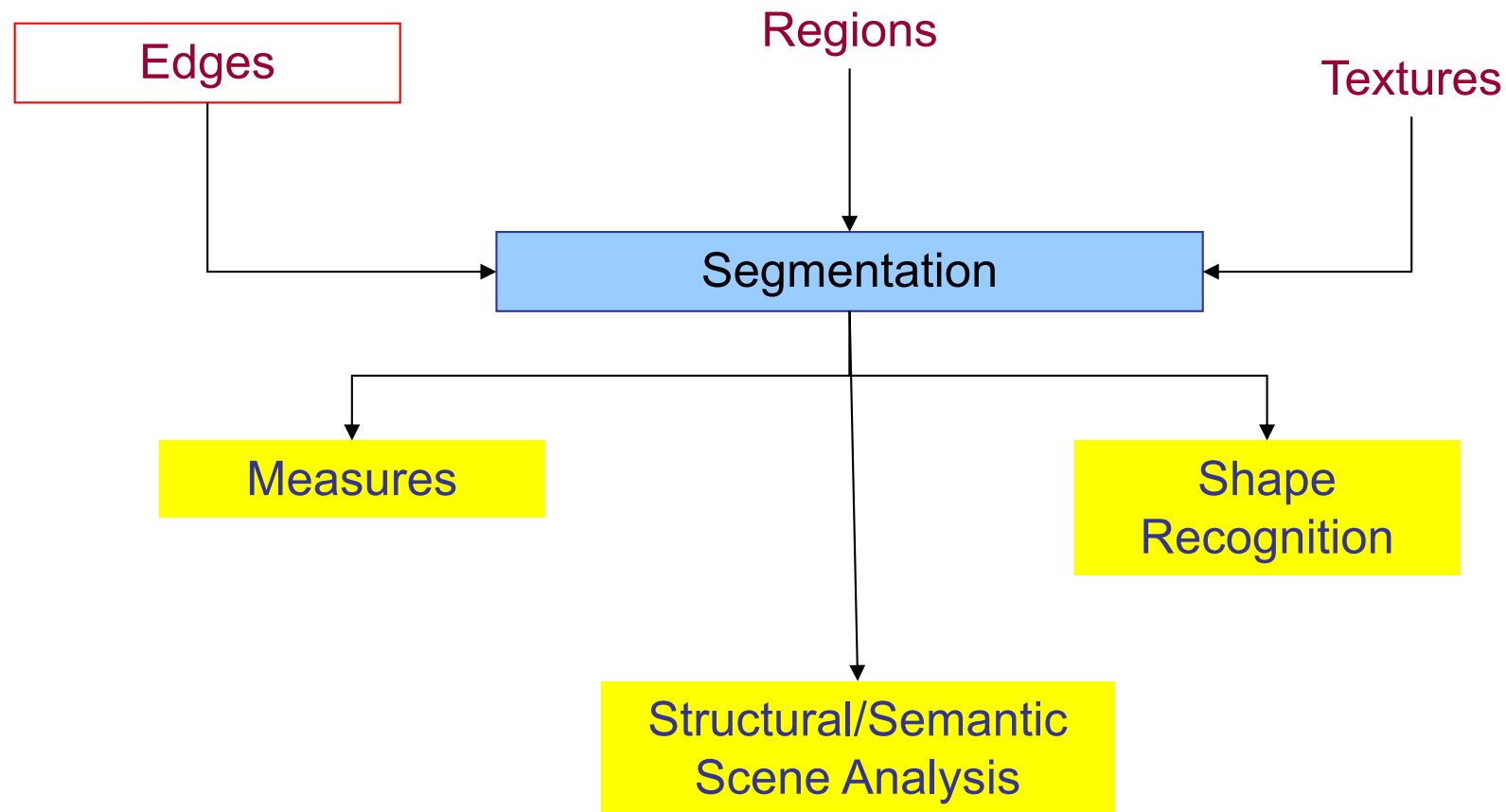
Texture /
Regions



→ Active contours

Introduction

- The image segmentation Problem

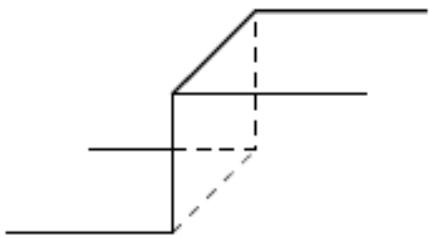


Introduction

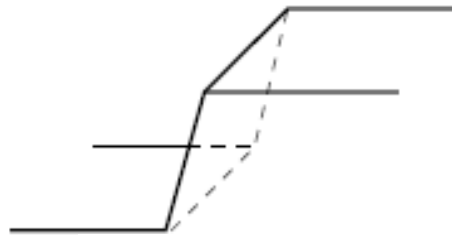
- The segmentation problem:
 - Partition an image into objects:
 - 2 approaches:
 - Region-based
 - Contour-based

Introduction

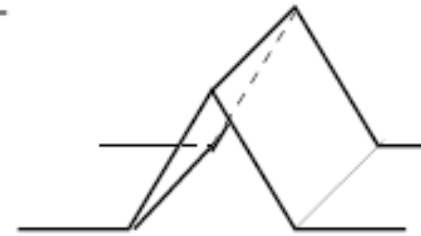
- Types of Contour profiles



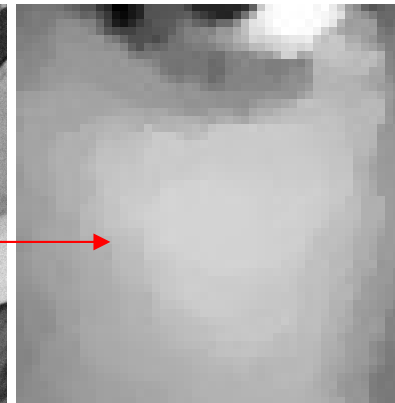
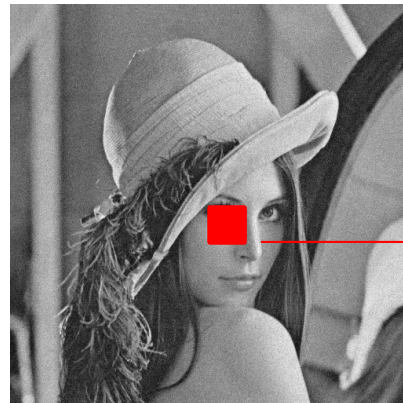
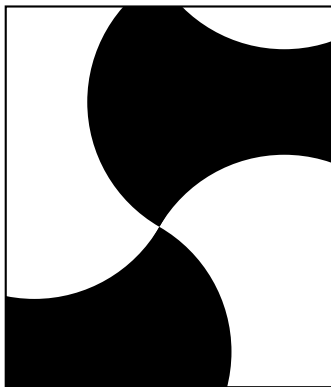
Staircase



Ramp



Roof

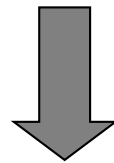
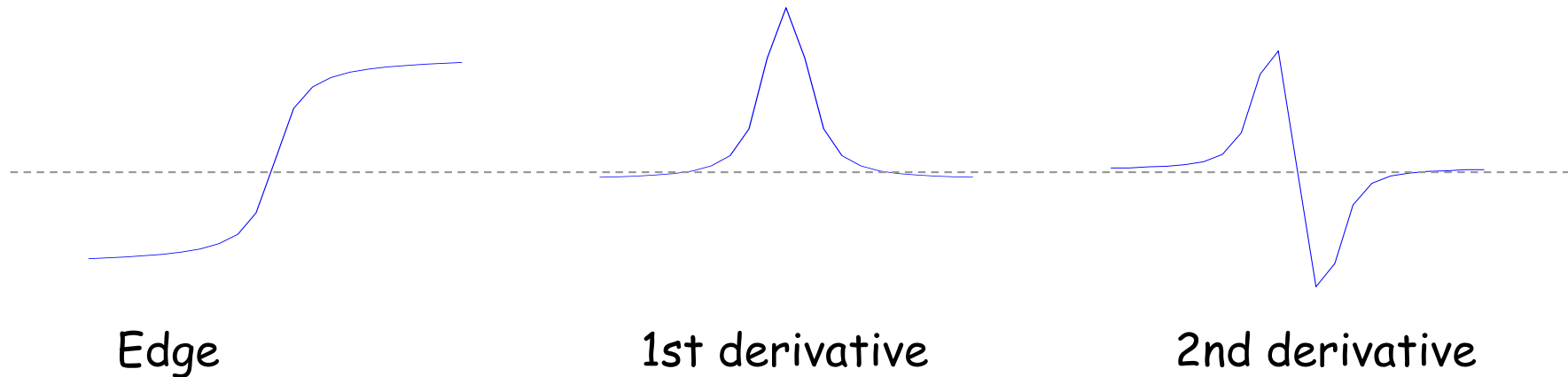


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Edge Detection

- **Gradient-based** Detection of « abrupt changes » in image gradient. Analysis of first and second derivatives of image gradients.



Edges: location of gradient maxima, in the **direction** of the gradient.

Edge Detection

- Gradient-based

Image $I(x, y)$ with a continuous representation:

$$\vec{G} = \vec{\nabla} I(x, y) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial I(x, y)}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial I(x, y)}{\partial y} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$G = \|\vec{\nabla} I(x, y)\| = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial I(x, y)}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial I(x, y)}{\partial y}\right)^2}$$

Edge Detection

-
- Gradient-based
 - Dedicated Gradient Filters
 - 1. Pre-processing: filtering (Gaussian, Median).
 - 2. Segmentation via thresholding or local maxima detection.
 - 3. Post-processing: contour closing, curve fitting, smoothing.

Edge Detection

- Gradient-based Filters

Gradient

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

Roberts

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

Prewitt

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

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

Sobel

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

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



Edge map



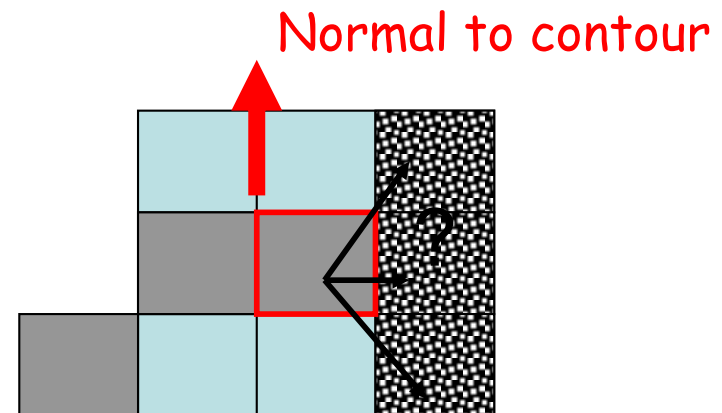
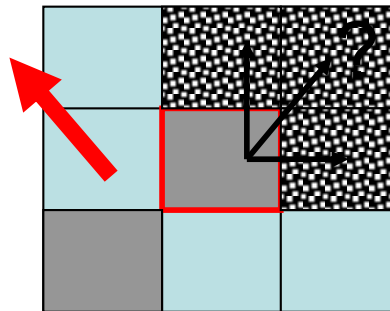
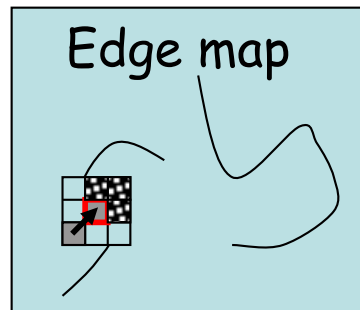
Edge maps

With oriented edges.

Edge Detection

• Post processing of Edge maps

- Example: Boundary Tracking



Boundary tracking is very sensitive to noise \Rightarrow

- Use of smoothing
- Average gradient computation
- Use large « tracking » neighborhoods.

Edge Detection

Post processing of Edge maps

- Example: morphological post-processing

original image



Image courtesy of Alan Partin
Johns Hopkins University

binary gradient mask



dilated gradient mask



binary image with filled holes



cleared border image

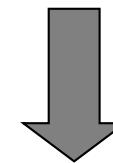
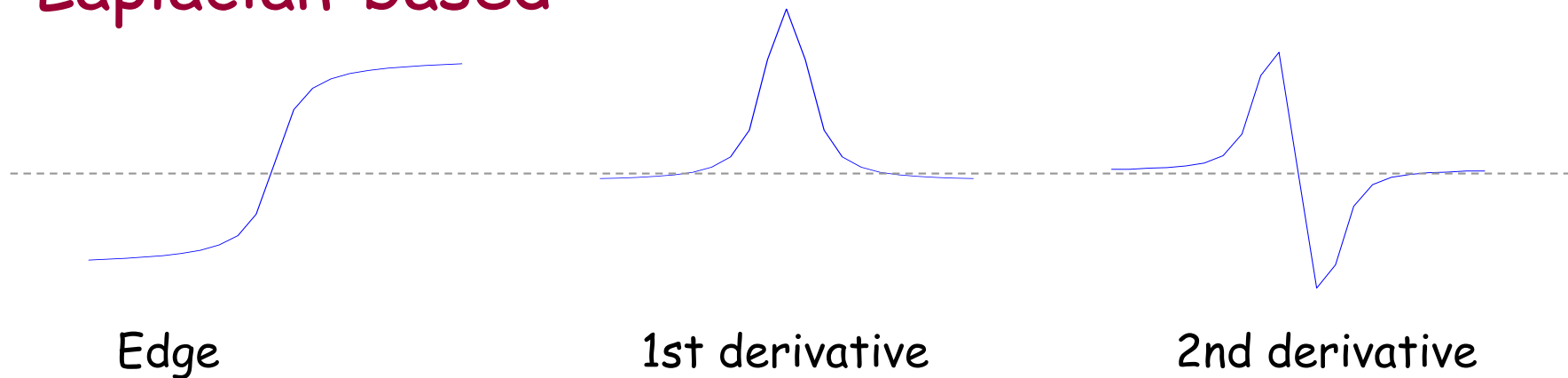


outlined original image



Edge Detection

- Laplacian-based



Zero Crossing

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

Edge Detection

- Laplacian-based

Laplacian operator on the image: Discrete implementation with convolution kernels:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 4 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 8 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

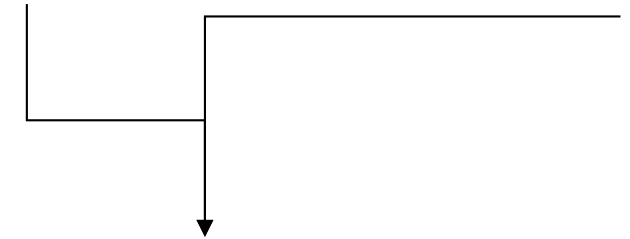
2 convolution kernels

-Set of closed connected contours...but...

Very sensitive to noise!

Edge Detection

- Laplacian-based: Laplacian of Gaussian (LoG)

$$\begin{aligned}
 LoG(I(x, y)) &= \frac{\partial^2 (I(x, y) * G_\sigma(x, y))}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 (I(x, y) * G_\sigma(x, y))}{\partial y^2} \\
 &= I(x, y) * \frac{\partial^2 (G_\sigma(x, y))}{\partial x^2} + I(x, y) * \frac{\partial^2 (G_\sigma(x, y))}{\partial y^2}
 \end{aligned}$$


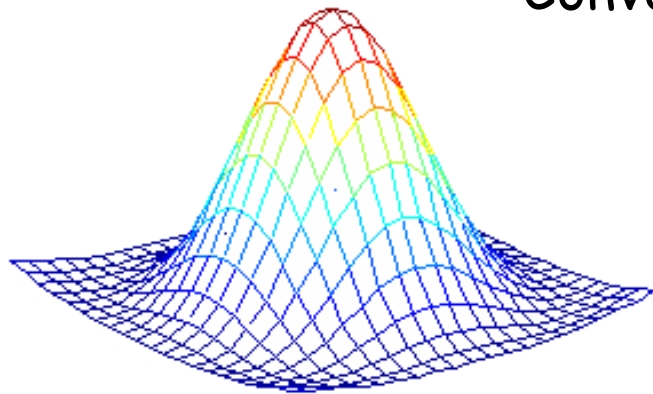
Convolution kernel?

Edge Detection

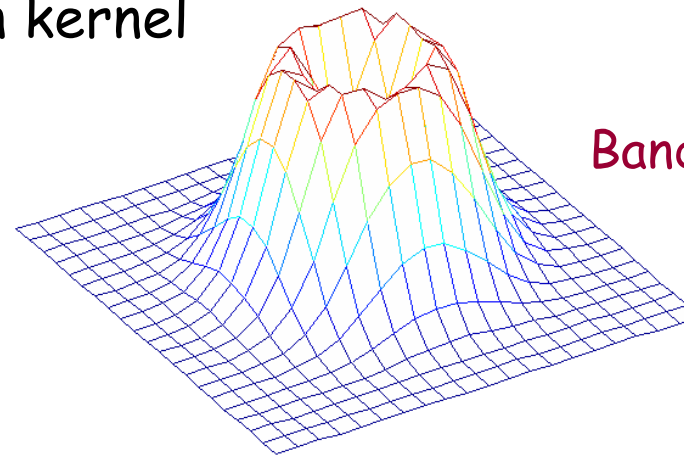
- Laplacian-based: Laplacian of Gaussian (LoG)

$$\Delta(G_\sigma) = \Delta\left(\frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2} e^{-\left(\frac{x^2+y^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)}\right) = \frac{1}{\pi\sigma^4} \left[1 - \frac{x^2+y^2}{2\sigma^2}\right] e^{-\left(\frac{x^2+y^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)}$$

Convolution kernel



Impulse response

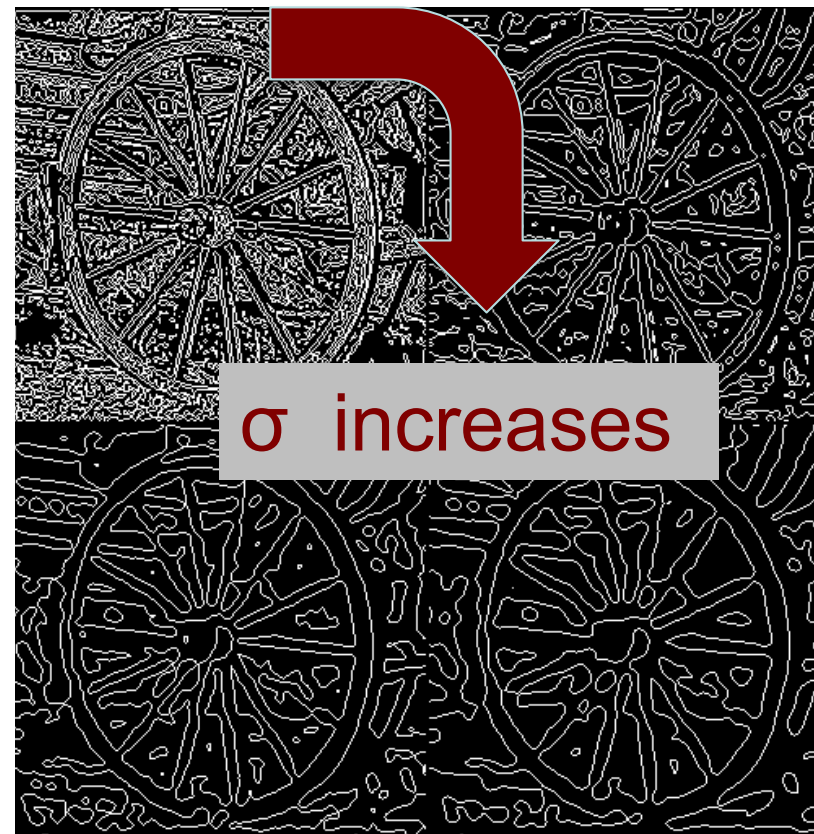


Band-pass

Transfer function

Edge Detection

- Laplacian-based
 - Parameter σ controls the width of central peak = amount of smoothing.



Edge Detection

- Laplacian-based
 - Good approximation with a Difference of Gaussians (DoG), with a ratio $\sigma_2 / \sigma_1 = 1.6$.
 - DoG separable in x and y :
=> efficient implementation.

Edge Detection

- Laplacian of a Gaussian (LoG)



Gradient-based



LoG

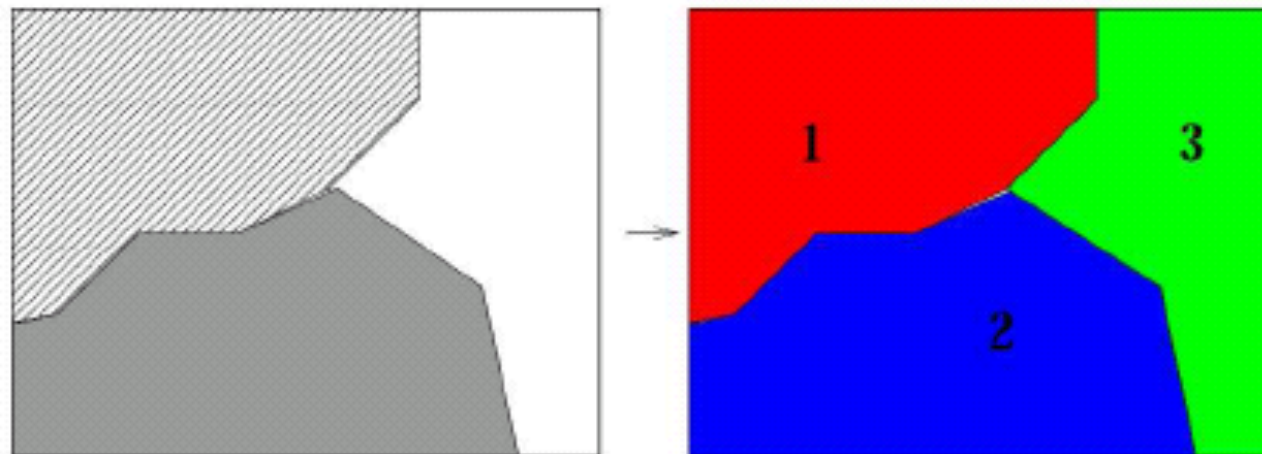
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Classification

Image modeling

◦ Probabilistic model



S set of sites (pixels = localization (i, j) in the image)

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{grey-level } x_s \in \{0, \dots, 255\} = E & \rightarrow & \text{class } l_s \in \{1, \dots, K\} = \Lambda \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 X_s \text{ random variable of grey-level} & & L_s \text{ random variable of label}
 \end{array}$$

Classification

Content from F. Tupin

Introduction

◦ Classification objectives

- identification of the different classes in the image
- preliminary step of pattern recognition methods (object detection)

◦ Hypotheses

- grey-level images
- classes = peaks in the histogram
- low grey-level variations in the same class
- punctual classification : each pixel is classified separately
- supervised learning : samples of each class are available

◦ Possible extensions

- multi-channel images
- contextual classification : markovian framework

Classification

- Bayesian classification

- Maximum A Posteriori criterion

you know a grey-level x_s for pixel s

⇒ take the “best” class l_s knowing x_s

⇒ find the i which maximizes $P(L_s = i | X_s = x_s) \forall i \in \Lambda$

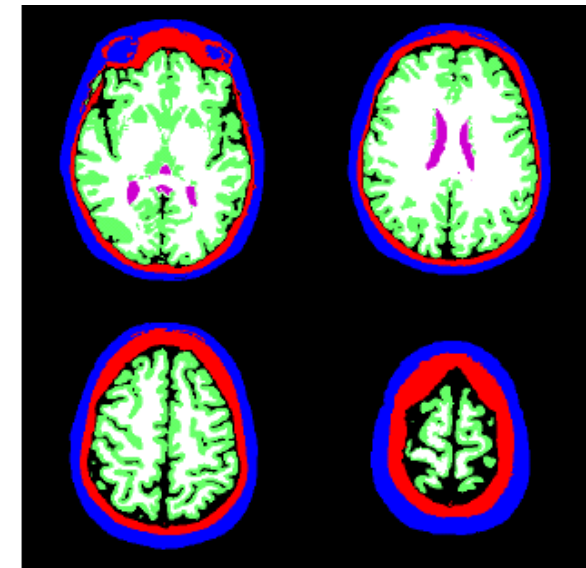
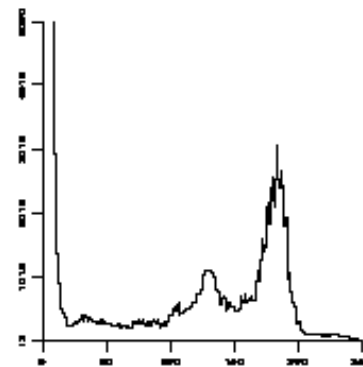
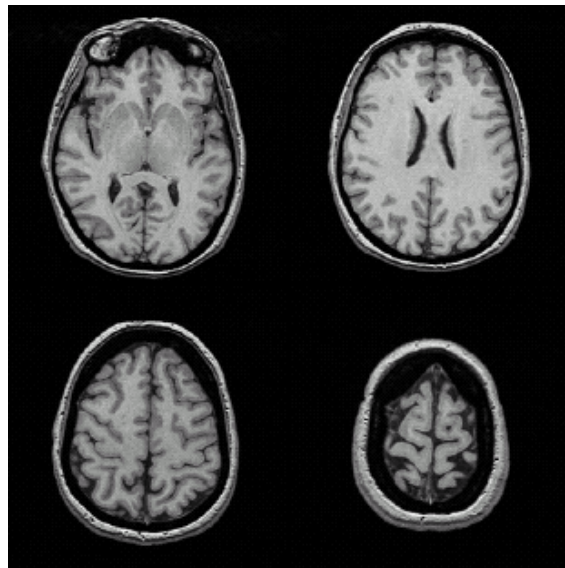
- Can we compute $P(L_s = i | X_s = x_s)$?

Bayes rule

$$P(L_s = i | X_s = x_s) = \frac{P(X_s = x_s | L_s = i)P(L_s = i)}{P(X_s = x_s)}$$

$$l_s = \operatorname{argmax}_{i \in \{1, \dots, K\}} P(X_s = x_s | L_s = i)P(L_s = i)$$

Classification



$$P(L_s = i | X_s = x_s) = \frac{P(X_s = x_s | L_s = i)P(L_s = i)}{P(X_s = x_s)}$$

◦ Example of brain image

$\Lambda = \{0 = \emptyset; 1 = \text{skin}; 2 = \text{bone}; 3 = \text{GrayMatter}; 4 = \text{WhiteMatter}; 5 = \text{LCR}\}$

- $P(L_s = i)$ = apparition probability of region i
- $P(X_s = x_s | L_s = i)$ = grey-level distribution knowing that the pixels belong to region i

Classification

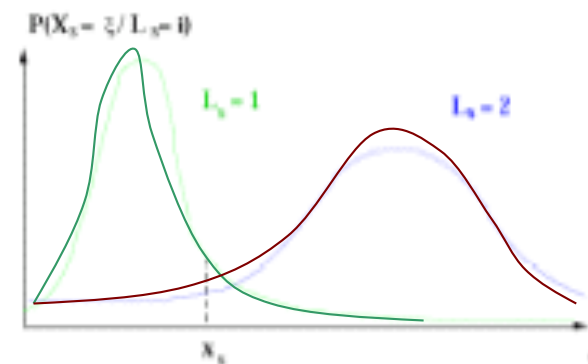
How can we learn these probabilities ?

- Learning of $P(L_s = i)$

- frequencies of apparition for each class
- no knowledge : uniform distribution ($P(L_s = i) = \frac{1}{\text{Card}(\Lambda)}$) \Rightarrow Maximum Likelihood criterion

- Learning of $P(X_s = x_s | L_s = i)$

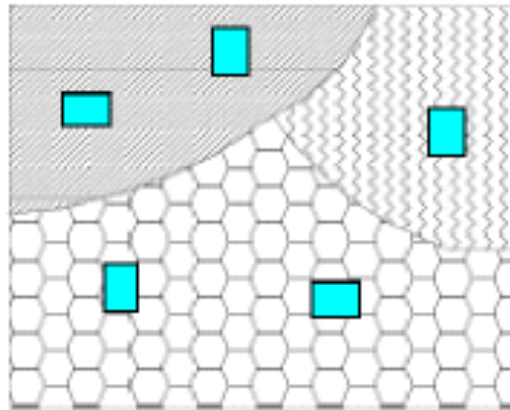
grey-level histogram for region i



Classification

◦ Supervised learning

- samples selection in an image
- histogram computation
- histogram filtering



◦ Parametric case

If there exists a parametric model for the grey-level distribution, compute the model parameters !

Ex :

- Gaussian distribution : mean, standard deviation
- Gamma distribution : mean, knowledge of the sensor parameter

Classification

- Case of a Gaussian distribution

each class $i \in \Lambda$ is characterized by (μ_i, σ_i)

- the conditional probability is :

$$P(X_s = x_s | L_s = i) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_i} \exp\left(-\frac{(x_s - \mu_i)^2}{2\sigma_i^2}\right)$$

- if the classes are equiprobable:

$$P(X_s | L_s = i) \text{ maximum} \Leftrightarrow \frac{(x_s - \mu_i)^2}{2\sigma_i^2} + \ln(\sigma_i) \text{ minimum}$$

- if the classes are equiprobable and have the same standard deviation (gaussian noise):

$$P(X_s | L_s = i) \text{ maximum} \Leftrightarrow (x_s - \mu_i)^2 \text{ minimum}$$

Classification

Contextual / punctual classification

- Global classification

$x = \{x_s\}_{s \in S}$ (observed image), $X = \{X_s\}_{s \in S}$ (random field)

$l = \{l_s\}_{s \in S}$ (searched classification), $L = \{L_s\}_{s \in S}$ (random field)

$$P(L = l | X = x) = \frac{P(X = x | L = l)P(L = l)}{P(X = x)}$$

- Independence assumption for $P(X = x | L = l)$

$$P(X = x | L = l) = \prod_{s \in S} P(X_s = x_s | L_s = l_s)$$

- Independence assumption for $P(L = l)$

$$P(L = l) = \prod_{s \in S} P(L_s = l_s)$$

$\Rightarrow P(L = l | X = x) \propto \prod_{s \in S} P(X_s = x_s | L_s = l_s)P(L_s = l_s) \Rightarrow$ **punctual classif.!**

Classification

Contextual / punctual classification

◦ Prior knowledge on $P(L)$

- independence assumption not verified in practice: images are **smooth** with **strong spatial coherency** (image description = smooth areas)
- BUT the coherency is at a **local scale** \Rightarrow introduction of **contextual knowledge**

Markov random fields \Rightarrow smoothness of the solution, local spatial coherency in the result !

Classification

- K means classification

Unsupervised case

- K-means algorithm

- choose $\mu_1^0, \mu_2^0, \dots, \mu_K^0$

At iteration k :

- $\forall s \in S \quad l_s = \operatorname{argmin}_{i \in \Lambda} \|x_s - \mu_i^k\|^2$
- $\forall i \in \{1, \dots, K\} \quad \mu_i^{k+1} = \frac{1}{\operatorname{card}(R_i)} \sum_{s, l_s=i} x_s$
- if $\mu_i^k \neq \mu_i^{k+1}$ iterate

- Drawbacks

- no proof of convergence to the optimal solution
- influence of the initial means

