

## Edge detection

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Machine Vision Technology							
Semantic information				Metric 3D information			
Pixels	Segments	Images	Videos	Camera		Multi-view Geometry	
Convolutions <b>Edges &amp; Fitting</b> Local features Texture	Segmentation Clustering	Recognition Detection	Motion Tracking	Camera Model	Camera Calibration	Epipolar Geometry	SfM
10	4	4	2	2	2	2	2

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## Edge detection

- **Goal:** Identify sudden changes (discontinuities) in an image
  - Intuitively, most semantic and shape information from the image can be encoded in the edges
  - More compact than pixels
- **Ideal:** artist's line drawing (but artist is also using object-level knowledge)

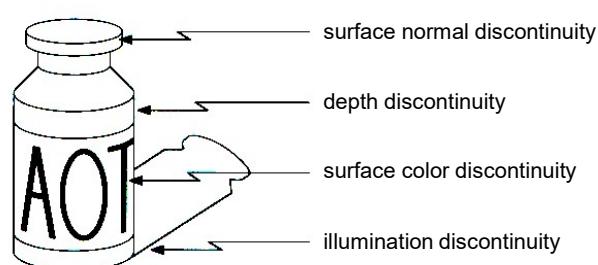


Source: D. Lowe

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## Origin of edges

Edges are caused by a variety of factors:

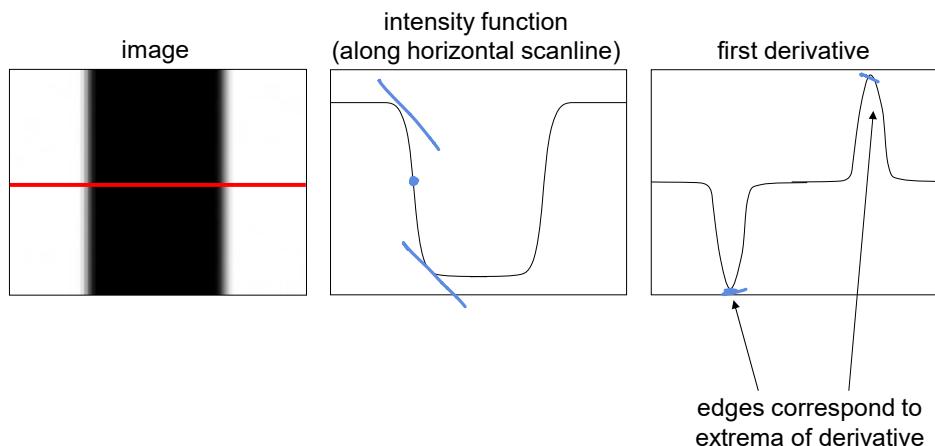


Source: Steve Seitz

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## Characterizing edges

- An edge is a place of rapid change in the image intensity function



Source: S. Lazebnik

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## Derivatives with convolution

For 2D function  $f(x,y)$ , the partial derivative is:

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

For discrete data, we can approximate using finite differences:

$$\frac{\partial f(x, y)}{\partial x} \approx \frac{f(x+1, y) - f(x, y)}{1}$$

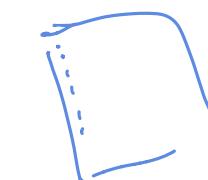
卷积，使用卷积运算求导

To implement above as convolution, what would be the associated filter?

Source: K. Grauman

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## Partial derivatives of an image



$$\frac{\partial f(x, y)}{\partial x}$$

$$\begin{matrix} -1 & 1 \end{matrix}$$



$$\frac{\partial f(x, y)}{\partial y}$$

$$\begin{matrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} \text{ or } \begin{matrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{matrix}$$

Which shows changes with respect to x?

Source: S. Lazebnik

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## Finite difference filters

Other approximations of derivative filters exist:

Prewitt:  $M_x = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}; M_y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$

Sobel:  $M_x = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -2 & 0 & 2 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}; M_y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & -2 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$

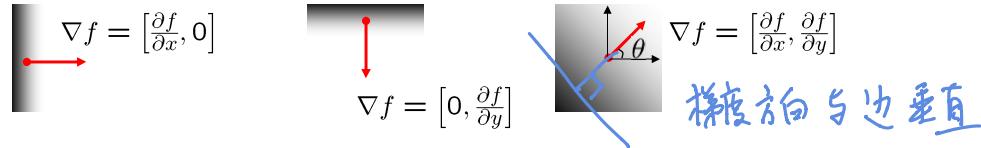
Roberts:  $M_x = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}; M_y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$

Source: K. Grauman

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## Image gradient

The gradient of an image:  $\nabla f = \left[ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right]$



The gradient points in the direction of most rapid increase in intensity

- How does this direction relate to the direction of the edge?

The gradient direction is given by  $\theta = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} / \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right)$

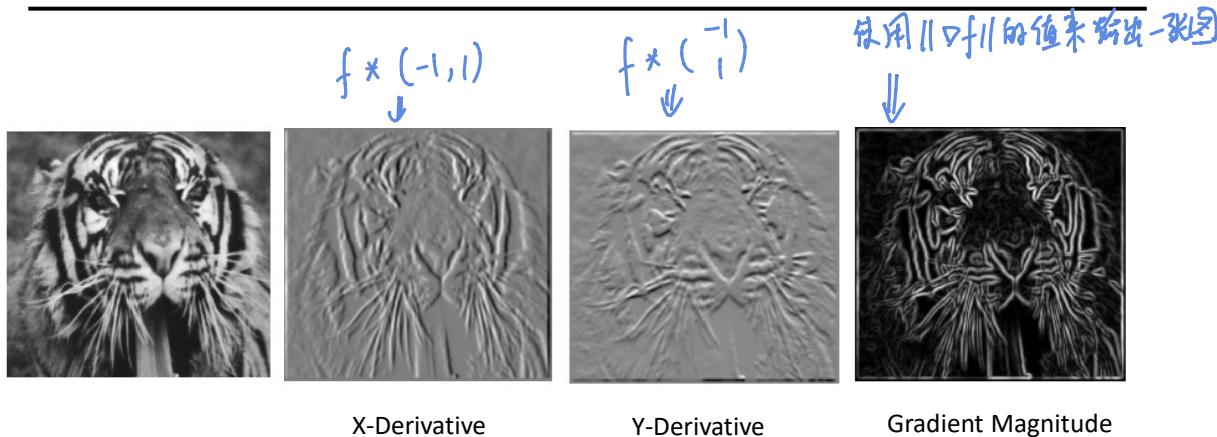
The *edge strength* is given by the gradient magnitude

幅值  $\|\nabla f\| = \sqrt{(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x})^2 + (\frac{\partial f}{\partial y})^2}$  取模  $\Rightarrow$  强度 (越大, 边越强)

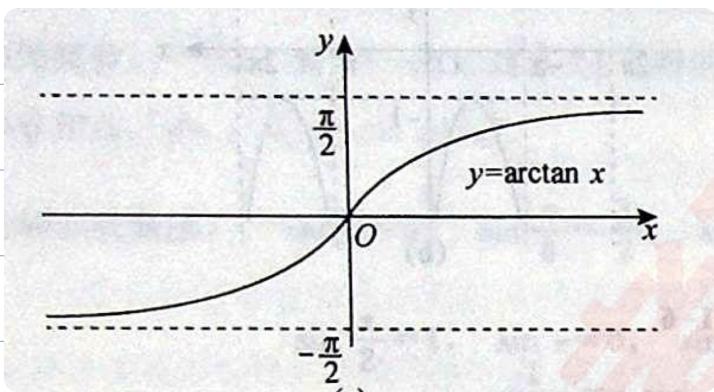
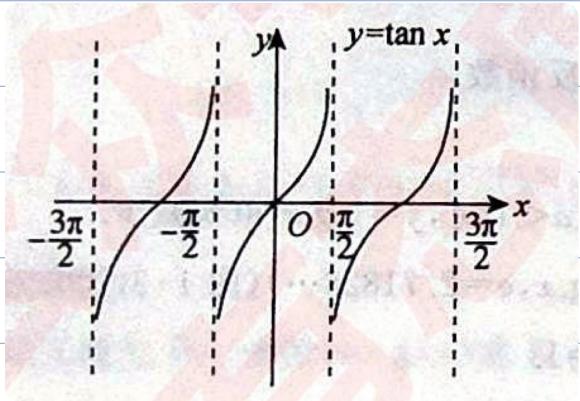
Source: S. Seitz

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## Gradient Magnitude



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在课堂作业中，做非极大值抑制时，看参考代码有些困惑，这里特别讲一下

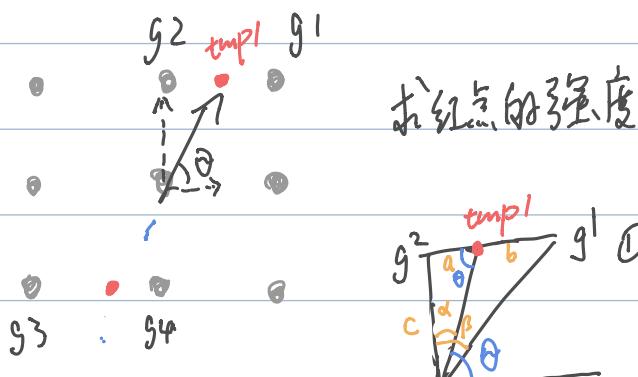
$$\nabla f = \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) \Rightarrow \begin{matrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \end{matrix} \quad \|\nabla f\| = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}\right)^2}$$

$$\theta = \arctan \left( \frac{\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}}{\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}} \right)$$

我们遍历整张梯度强度图，若某点在该点梯度方向上，大于两侧，则该点有效

目标 { ① 找 2 侧点,  
② 比大小 }

这里  $g_1, g_2, g_3, g_4$ , 根据参考代码

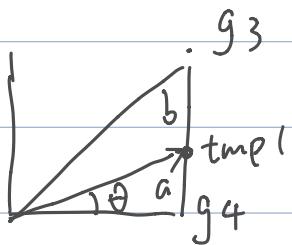


① 因为 tmp1 这个像素点是不存在的，我们只能将 tmp1 与  $g_2, g_1$  的远近作为  $g_2, g_1$  对 tmp1 的贡献度，加权和来决定 tmp1 的值

$$\text{当 } \tan(\theta) > 1 \text{ 时} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{② 欲求 } \frac{a}{a+b}, \frac{b}{a+b} \\ \Rightarrow \text{即 } \frac{a}{a+b}, 1 - \frac{a}{a+b} \\ \Rightarrow \text{即 } \left( \frac{a}{a+b} \right) \times g_2 + \left( 1 - \frac{a}{a+b} \right) \times g_1 = \text{tmp1} \end{array} \right.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{又 } \tan\theta &= \frac{c}{a} = \frac{a+b}{a} \\ \Rightarrow \text{tmp1} &= \frac{1}{\tan\theta} g_2 + \left( 1 - \frac{1}{\tan\theta} \right) g_1 \end{aligned}$$

$\text{abs}(\tan\theta) \leq 1$  时



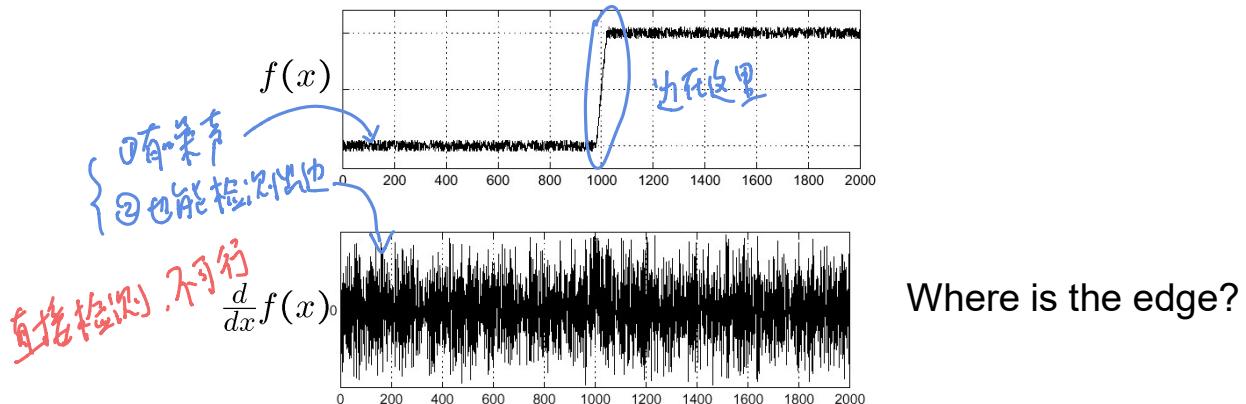
$$\text{若 } \frac{a}{a+b}, 1 - \frac{a}{a+b} \Rightarrow \text{tmp1} = \tan\theta \cdot g_4 + (1 - \tan\theta) \cdot g_3$$

$$\tan\theta = \frac{a}{a+b}$$

## Effects of noise

Consider a single row or column of the image

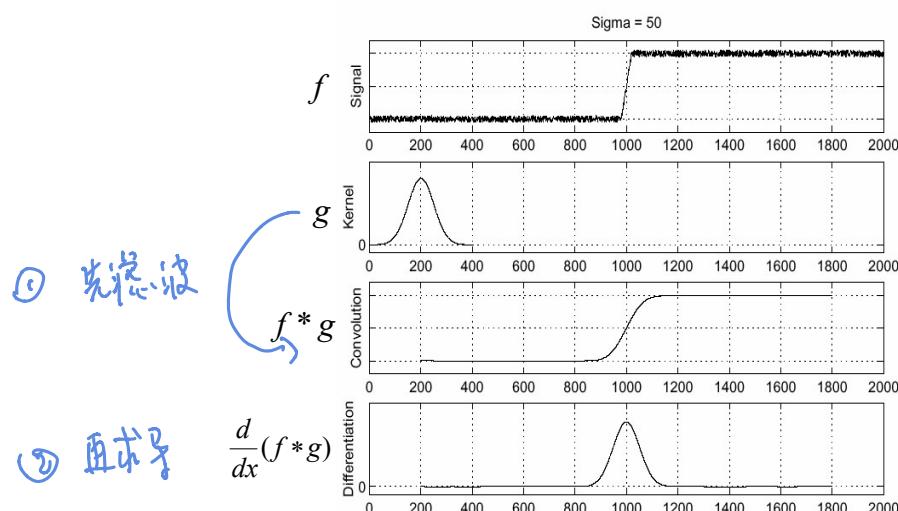
- Plotting intensity as a function of position gives a signal



Source: S. Seitz

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## Solution: smooth first



- To find edges,

look for peaks

in  $\frac{d}{dx}(f*g)$

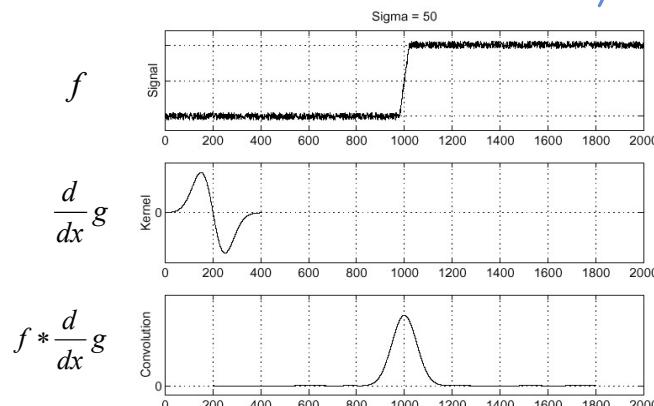
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↑ 以上 2 次卷积费时

可以合并两次卷积过程、卷积具有结合律 ↓

## Derivative theorem of convolution

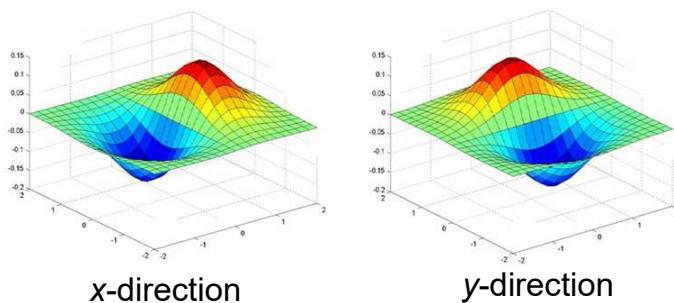
- Differentiation is convolution, and convolution is associative:
- This saves us one operation:  $\frac{d}{dx}(f * g) = f * \left(\frac{d}{dx}g\right)$  结合律



Source: S. Seitz

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## Derivative of Gaussian filter

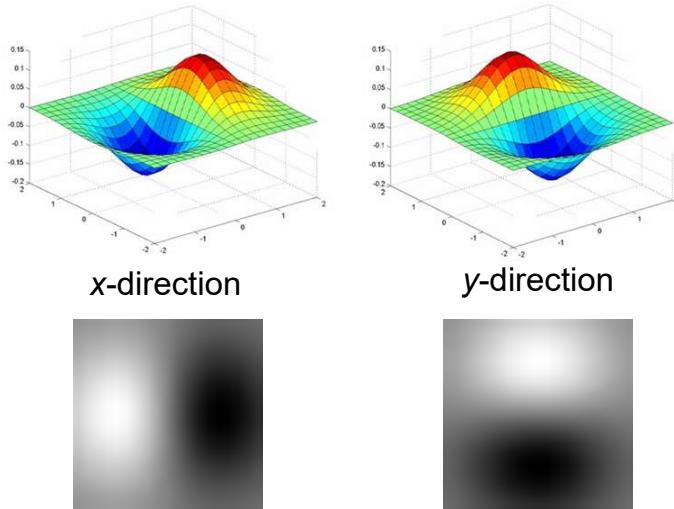


Are these filters separable?

Source: S. Lazebnik

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## Derivative of Gaussian filter

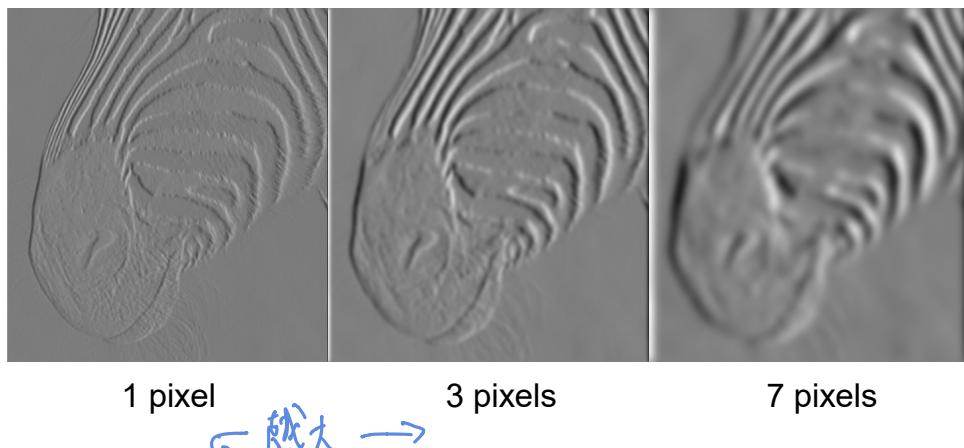


Which one finds horizontal/vertical edges?

Source: S. Lazebnik

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## Scale of Gaussian derivative filter



Smoothed derivative removes noise, but blurs edge.  
Also finds edges at different “scales”

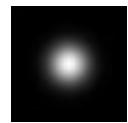
Source: D. Forsyth

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## Review: Smoothing vs. derivative filters

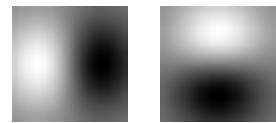
### Smoothing filters

- Gaussian: remove “high-frequency” components; “low-pass” filter
- Can the values of a smoothing filter be negative?
- What should the values sum to?
  - **One:** constant regions are not affected by the filter



### Derivative filters

- Derivatives of Gaussian
- Can the values of a derivative filter be negative?
- What should the values sum to?
  - **Zero:** no response in constant regions
- High absolute value at points of high contrast



Source: S. Lazebnik

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## The Canny edge detector 经典.有效



original image

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## The Canny edge detector

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$\|\nabla f\|$

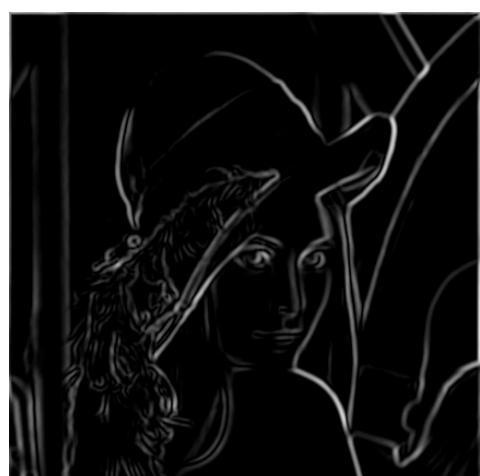
norm of the gradient

Source: S. Lazebnik

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## The Canny edge detector

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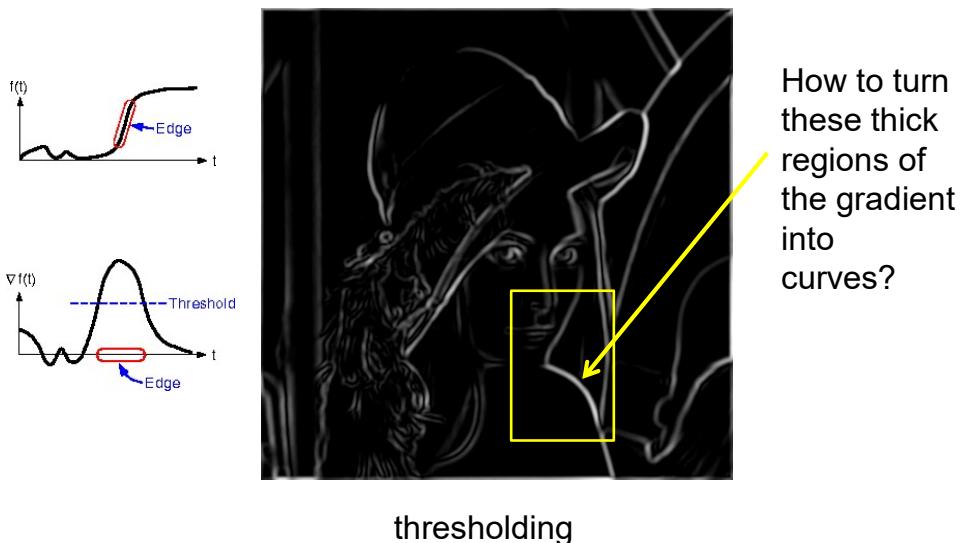


thresholding

Source: S. Lazebnik

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## The Canny edge detector

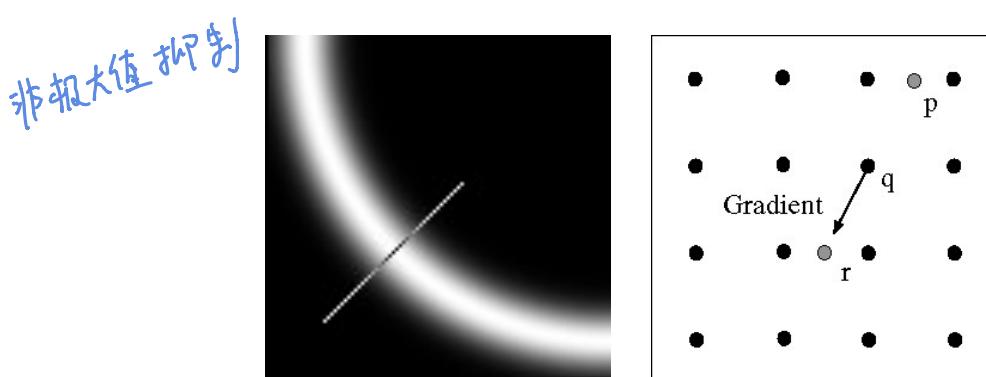


thresholding

Source: S. Lazebnik

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## Non-maximum suppression

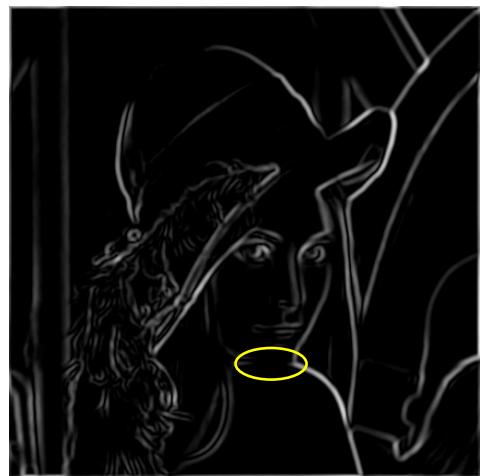


Check if pixel is local maximum along gradient direction, select single max across width of the edge

Source: S. Lazebnik

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## The Canny edge detector



Problem:  
pixels along  
this edge  
didn't  
survive the  
thresholding

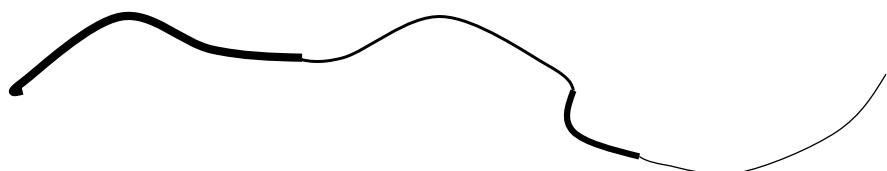
thinning  
(non-maximum suppression)

Source: S. Lazebnik

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## Hysteresis thresholding 漩后阈值

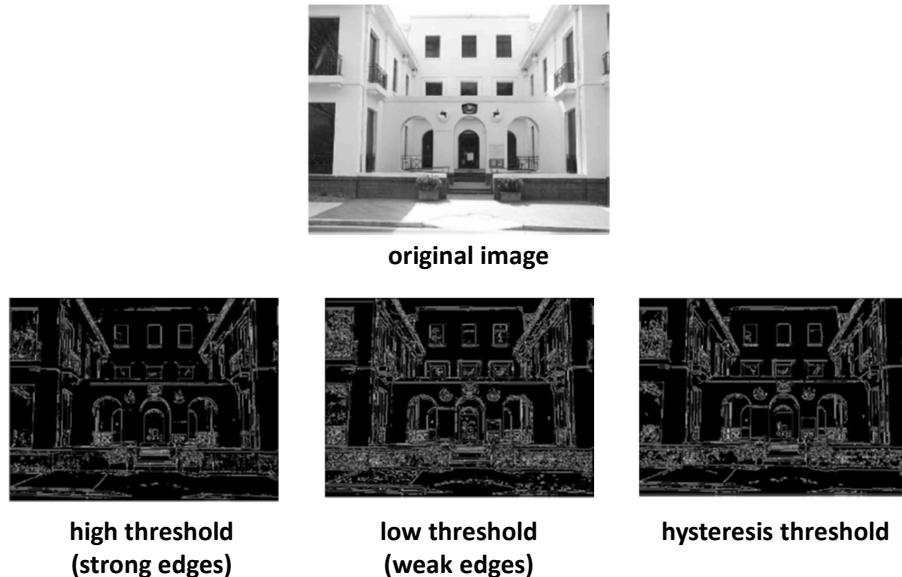
Use a high threshold to start edge curves, and a low threshold to continue them.



Source: S. Seitz

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## Hysteresis thresholding



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## Recap: Canny edge detector

1. Filter image with derivative of Gaussian  
高斯平滑
2. Find magnitude and orientation of gradient  
||口|| 梯度取模. 找到轮廓
3. Non-maximum suppression:  
非最大化抑制, 宽边变细边  
• Thin wide “ridges” down to single pixel width
4. Linking and thresholding (hysteresis):  
• Define two thresholds: low and high  
• Use the high threshold to start edge curves and the low threshold to continue them

MATLAB: `edge(image, 'canny');`

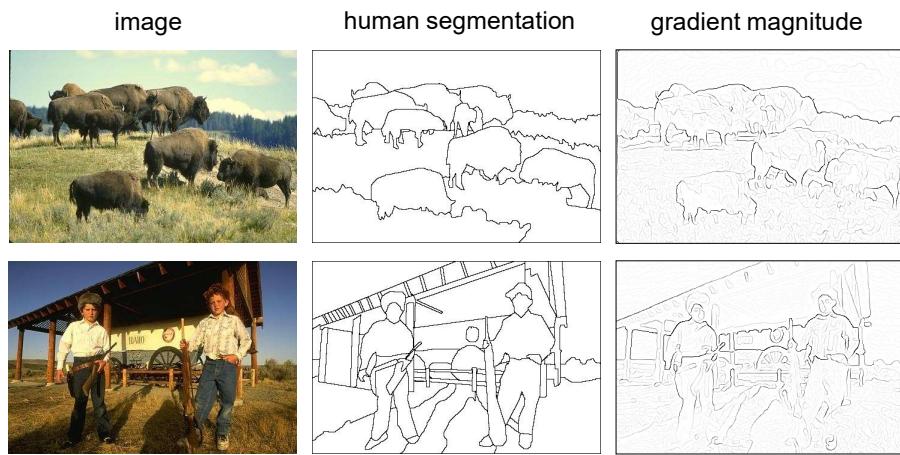
J. Canny, [A Computational Approach To Edge Detection](#), IEEE Trans. Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence, 8:679-714, 1986.

② 先用高threshold 找宽边，  
再用低threshold 找细边，  
③ 留下与宽边相连的细边

Source: S. Lazebnik

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## Edge detection is just the beginning...



Berkeley segmentation database:

<http://www.eecs.berkeley.edu/Research/Projects/CS/vision/grouping/segbench/>

Source: S. Lazebnik