



**ISEL**

INSTITUTO SUPERIOR  
DE ENGENHARIA DE LISBOA

**PROCESSAMENTO DE IMAGEM E BIOMETRIA**

**IMAGE PROCESSING AND BIOMETRICS**

**5. SPATIAL FILTERING (part 2)**

# Summary (part 2)

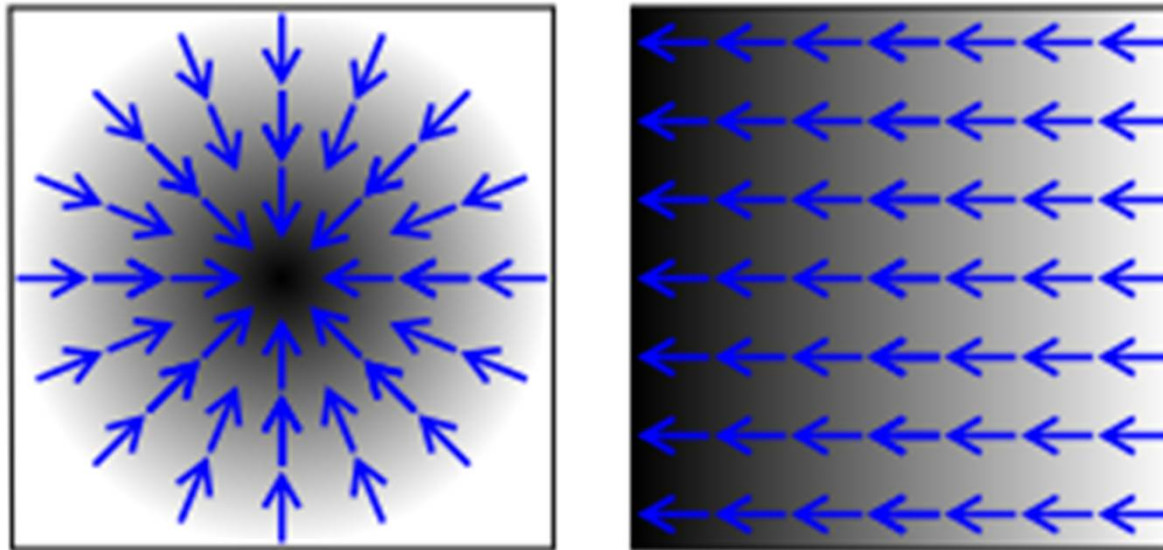
- Gradient concept
- Gradient operators
  - Roberts cross
  - Sobel
  - Prewitt
- The Canny edge detector
- Experimental Results
- MATLAB functions
- Exercises

# Gradient Concept (1)

- The **gradient** is a generalization of the **derivative** concept for multi-variate functions
- A **derivative** is defined as a function of a single variable
- For functions with more than one variable the **gradient** is applied
- The **gradient** is a vector-valued function
- The **derivative** is scalar-valued

## Gradient Concept (2)

- The gradient points in the direction of the greatest rate of increase of the function
- Its magnitude is the slope of the graph in that direction



- The values of the function are represented in black and white
- Black represents higher values
- The corresponding gradient is represented by blue arrows

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gradient>

# Gradient masks – the 1st order derivative (1)

The gradient at coordinates (x,y) is defined as:

$$\nabla \mathbf{f} = \begin{bmatrix} G_x \\ G_y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \end{bmatrix}.$$



Magnitude (norm) of the gradient

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla f &= \text{mag}(\nabla \mathbf{f}) \\ &= [G_x^2 + G_y^2]^{1/2} \\ &= \left[ \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right)^2 \right]^{1/2}. \end{aligned} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \nabla f \approx |G_x| + |G_y|.$$

# Gradient masks – the 1st order derivative (2)

	$z_1$	$z_2$	$z_3$	
	$z_4$	$z_5$	$z_6$	
	$z_7$	$z_8$	$z_9$	

-1	0	0	-1
0	1	1	0

-1	-2	-1	-1	0	1
0	0	0	-2	0	2
1	2	1	-1	0	1

a
b c
d e

**FIGURE 3.41**

A  $3 \times 3$  region of an image (the  $z$ s are intensity values).

(b)–(c) Roberts cross gradient operators.

(d)–(e) Sobel operators. All the mask coefficients sum to zero, as expected of a derivative operator.

# Gradient masks – the 1st order derivative (3)

Common gradient operators:

- Roberts cross

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roberts\\_cross](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roberts_cross)

- Sobel

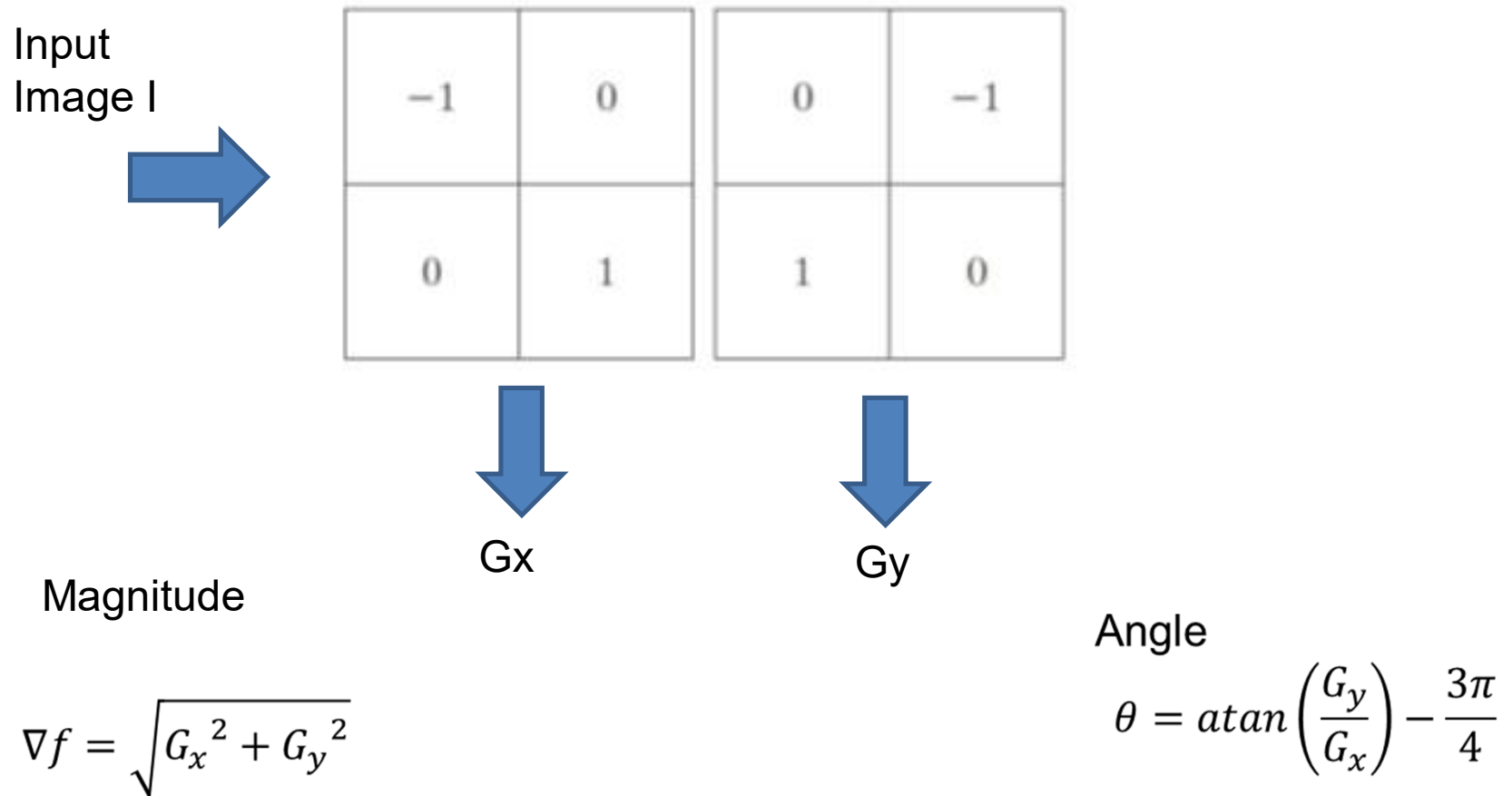
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sobel\\_operator](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sobel_operator)

- Prewitt

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prewitt\\_operator](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prewitt_operator)

# Roberts cross (1)

- The horizontal and vertical masks are defined as





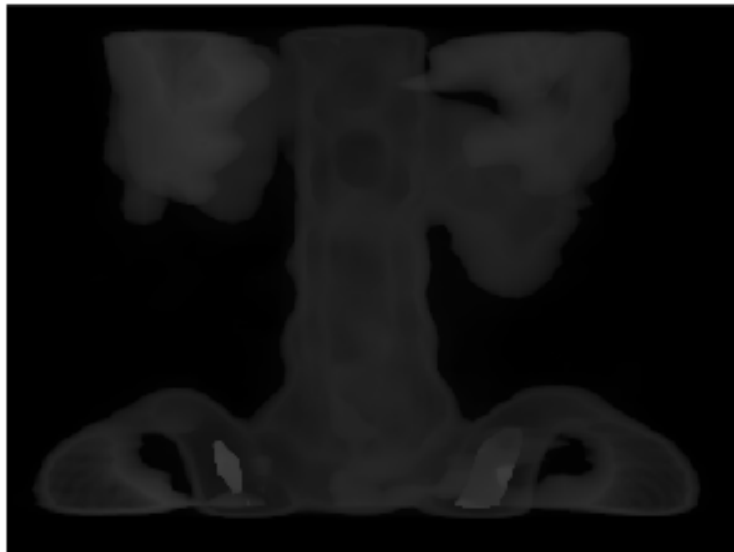
# Roberts cross (2)

- Experimental results

```
I = imread('spine.tif');  
Ir = edge(I,'roberts');  
imshow(Ir)
```



**Original**

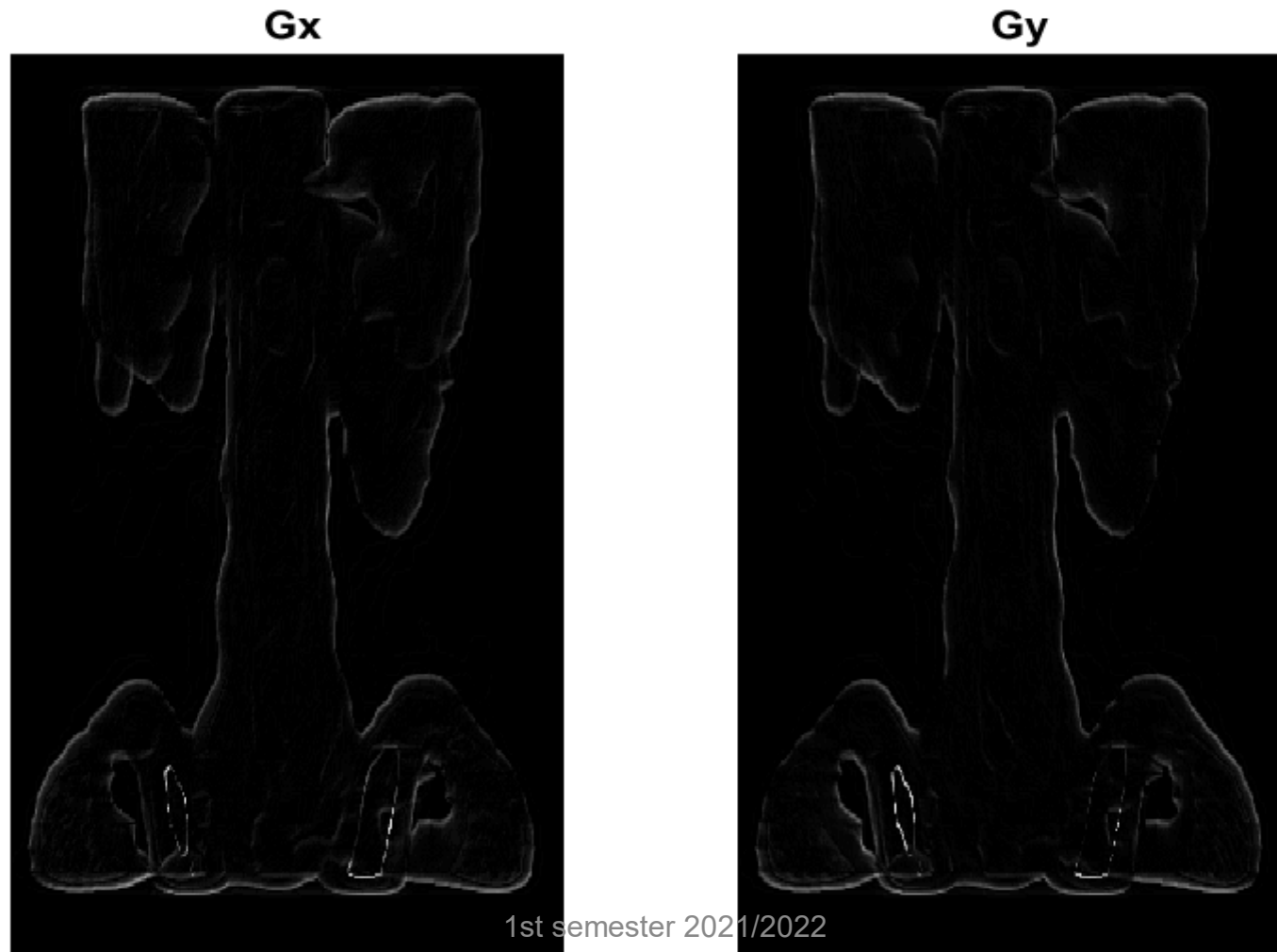


**Roberts**



## Roberts cross (3)

- Experimental results: the absolute value of the gradient components



# Sobel (1)

- The horizontal and vertical masks are defined as

-1	-2	-1	-1	0	1
0	0	0	-2	0	2
1	2	1	-1	0	1



Gx



Gy

Magnitude

$$\nabla f = \sqrt{G_x^2 + G_y^2}$$

Angle

$$\theta = \text{atan}\left(\frac{G_y}{G_x}\right)$$

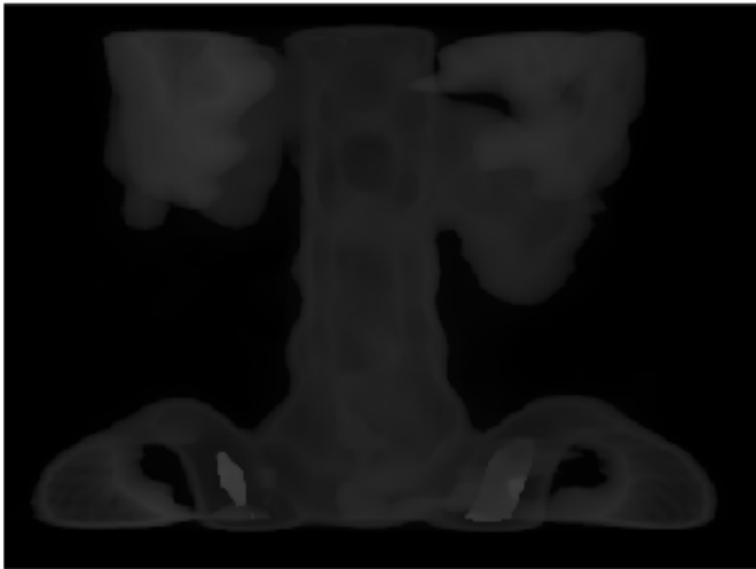
## Sobel (2)

- Experimental results

```
I = imread('spine.tif');  
Ir = edge(I,'sobel');  
imshow(Ir)
```



**Original**

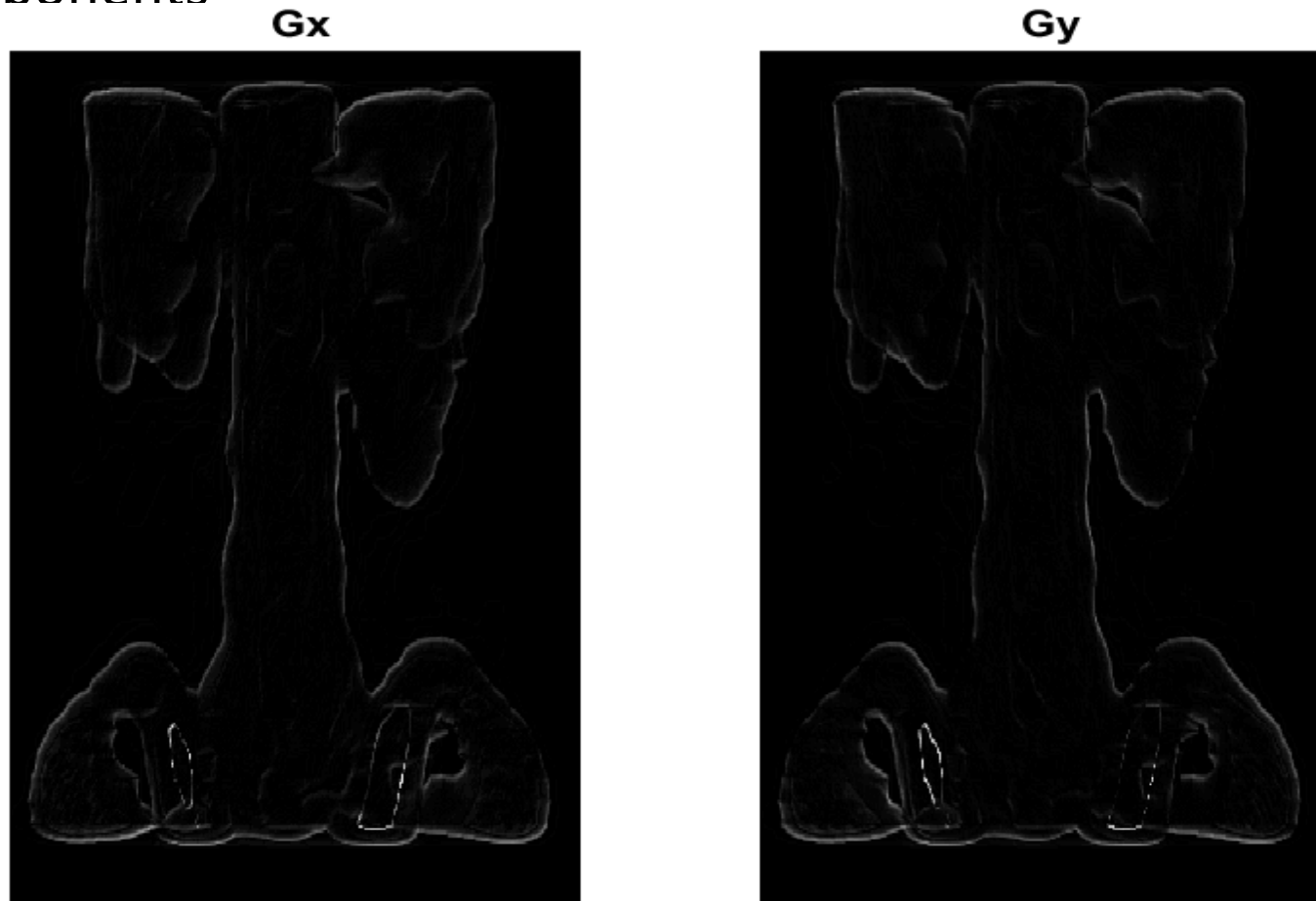


**Sobel**



# Sobel (3)

- Experimental results: the absolute value of the gradient components



# Prewitt (1)

- The horizontal and vertical masks are defined as

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

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



Gx



Gy

Magnitude

$$\nabla f = \sqrt{G_x^2 + G_y^2}$$

Angle

$$\theta = \text{atan2}(G_y, G_x)$$

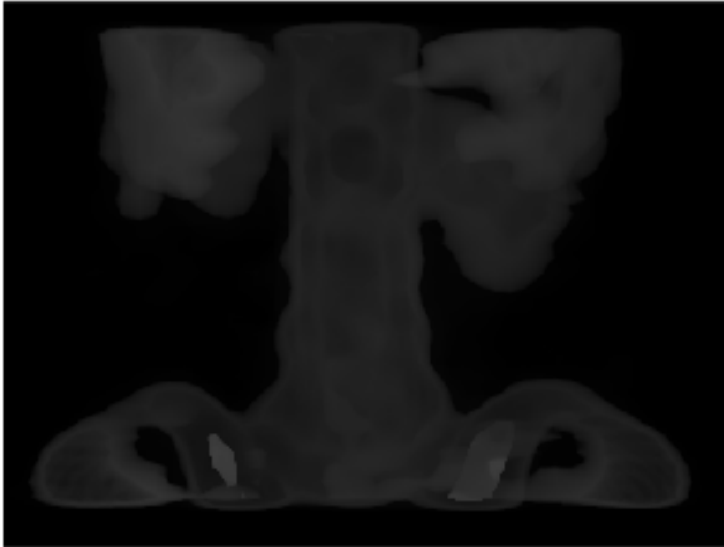
## Prewitt (2)

- Experimental results

```
I = imread('spine.tif');  
Ir = edge(I,'prewitt');  
imshow(Ir)
```



**Original**

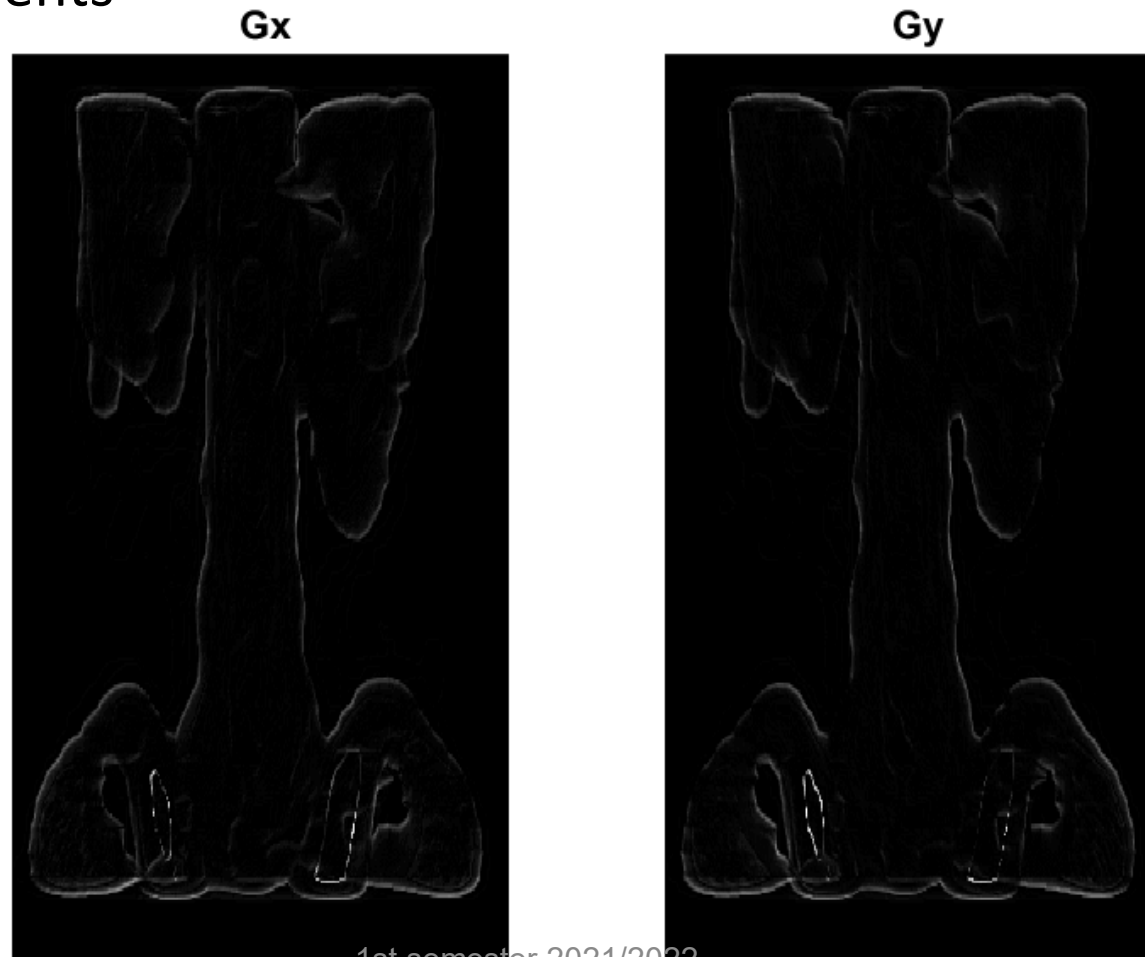


**Prewitt**



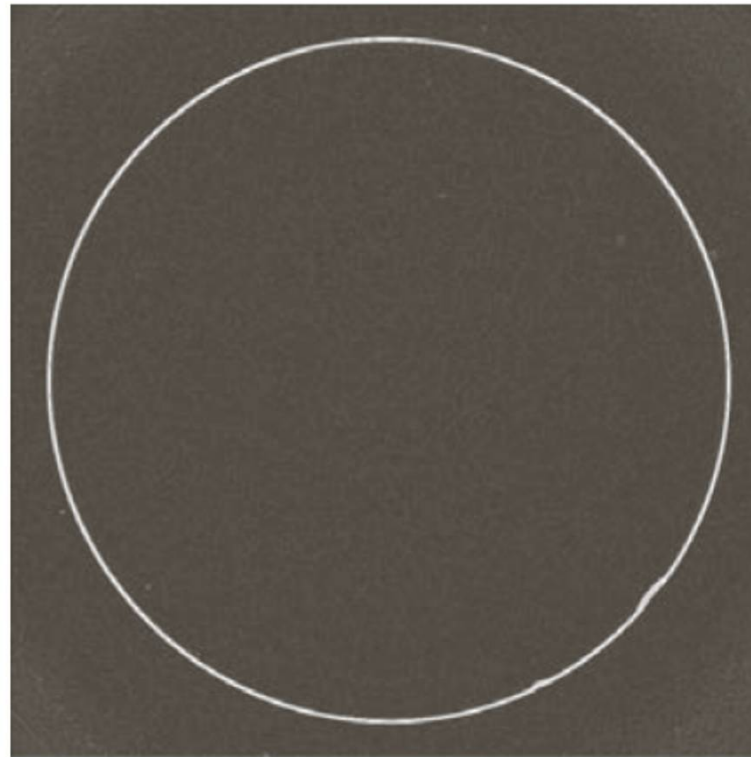
# Prewitt (3)

- Experimental results: the absolute value of the gradient components





# Gradient – some results (1)



a b

**FIGURE 3.42**

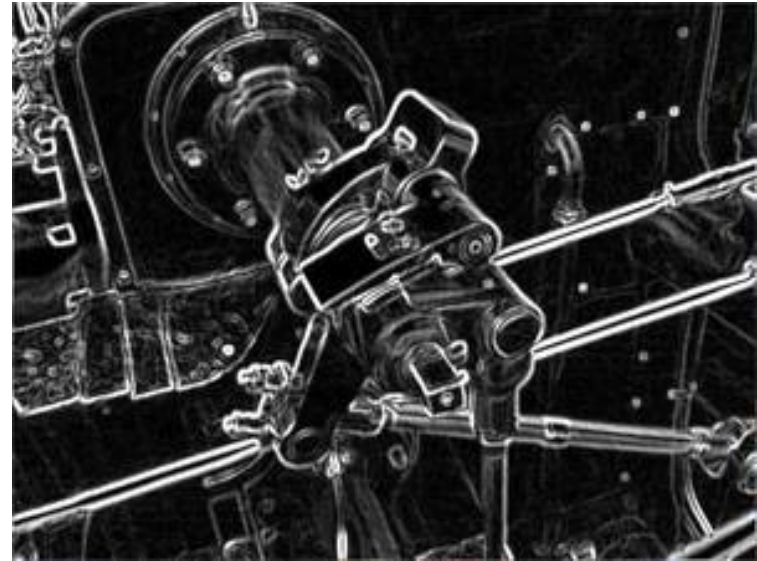
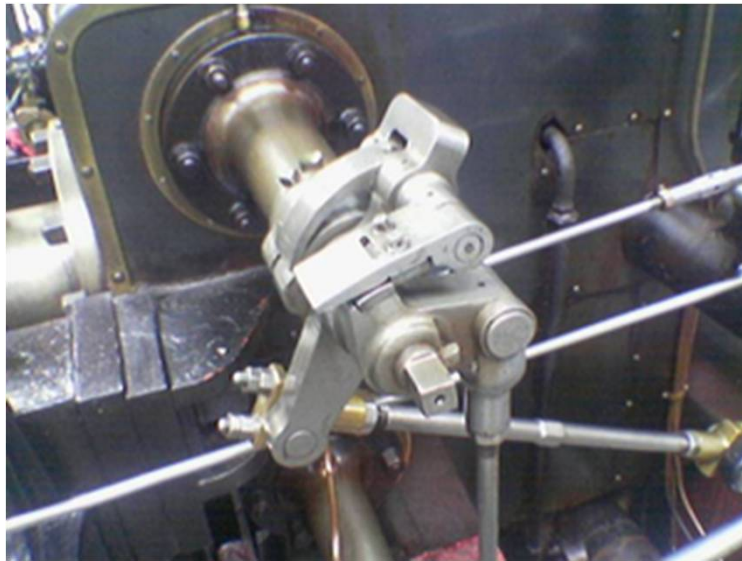
(a) Optical image of contact lens (note defects on the boundary at 4 and 5 o'clock).

(b) Sobel gradient.

(Original image courtesy of Pete Sites, Perceptics Corporation.)

# Gradient – some results (2)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sobel\\_operator](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sobel_operator)



# Gradient – some results (3)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prewitt\\_operator](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prewitt_operator)

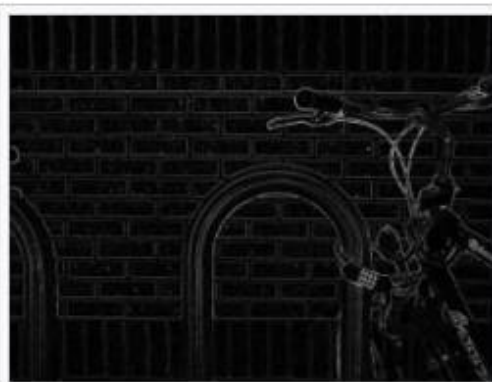


# Gradient – some results (4)

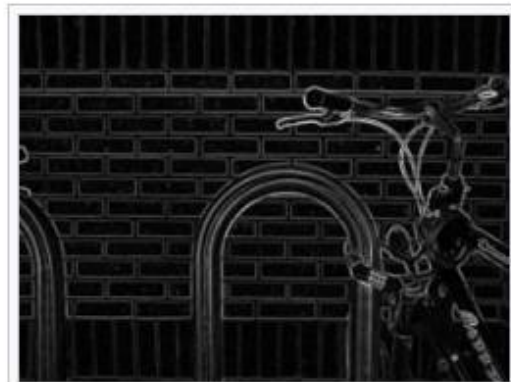
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roberts\\_cross](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roberts_cross)



Grayscale test image of brick wall and bike rack



Gradient magnitude from Roberts cross operator



Gradient magnitude from Sobel operator



Gradient magnitude from Scharr operator

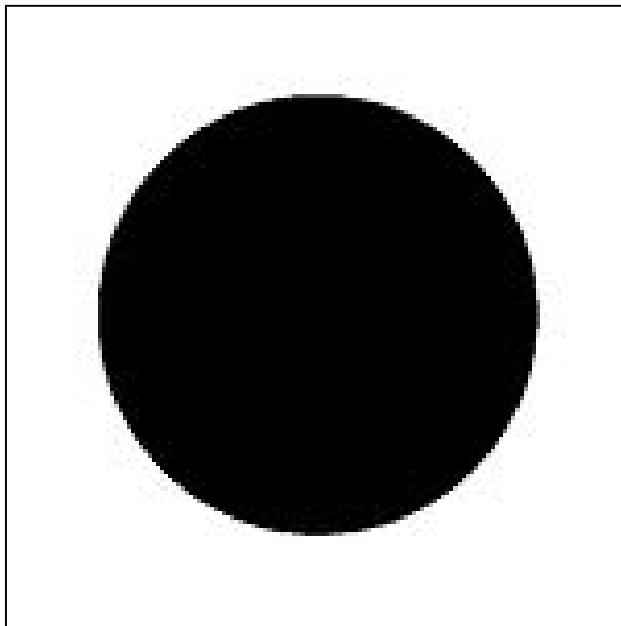


Gradient magnitude from Prewitt operator

# Gradient – some results (5)

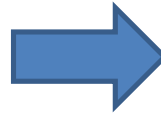
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sobel\\_operator](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sobel_operator)

- When the sign of  $G_x$  and  $G_y$  is the same -> positive angle
- Red and yellow colors -> positive angles
- Blue and cyan colors -> negative angles



Angle

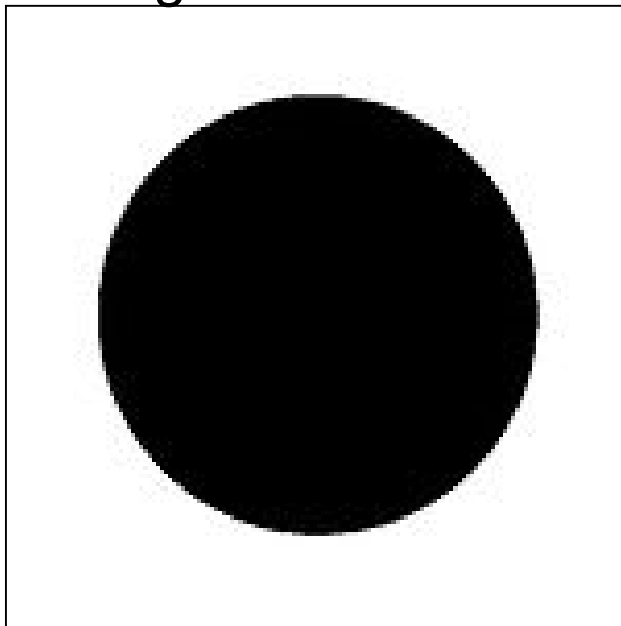
$$\theta = \operatorname{atan}\left(\frac{G_y}{G_x}\right)$$



# Gradient – some results (6)

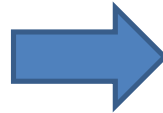
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sobel\\_operator](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sobel_operator)

- Vertical edges -> angle = 0
- Horizontal edges -> angles of  $-\pi/2$  and  $\pi/2$
- Negative angle for top edge -> transition from bright to dark region
- Positive angle for the bottom edge -> transition from a dark to bright



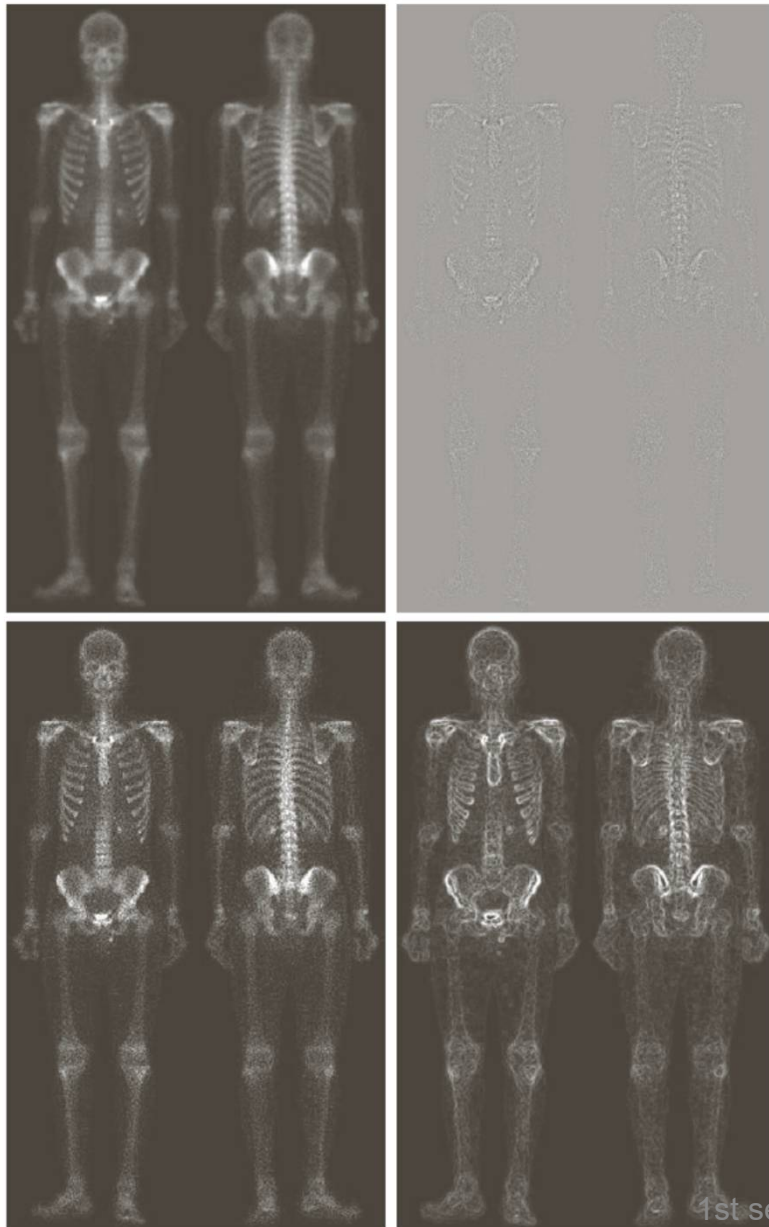
Angle

$$\theta = \operatorname{atan}\left(\frac{G_y}{G_x}\right)$$





# Medical Exam Image (1)



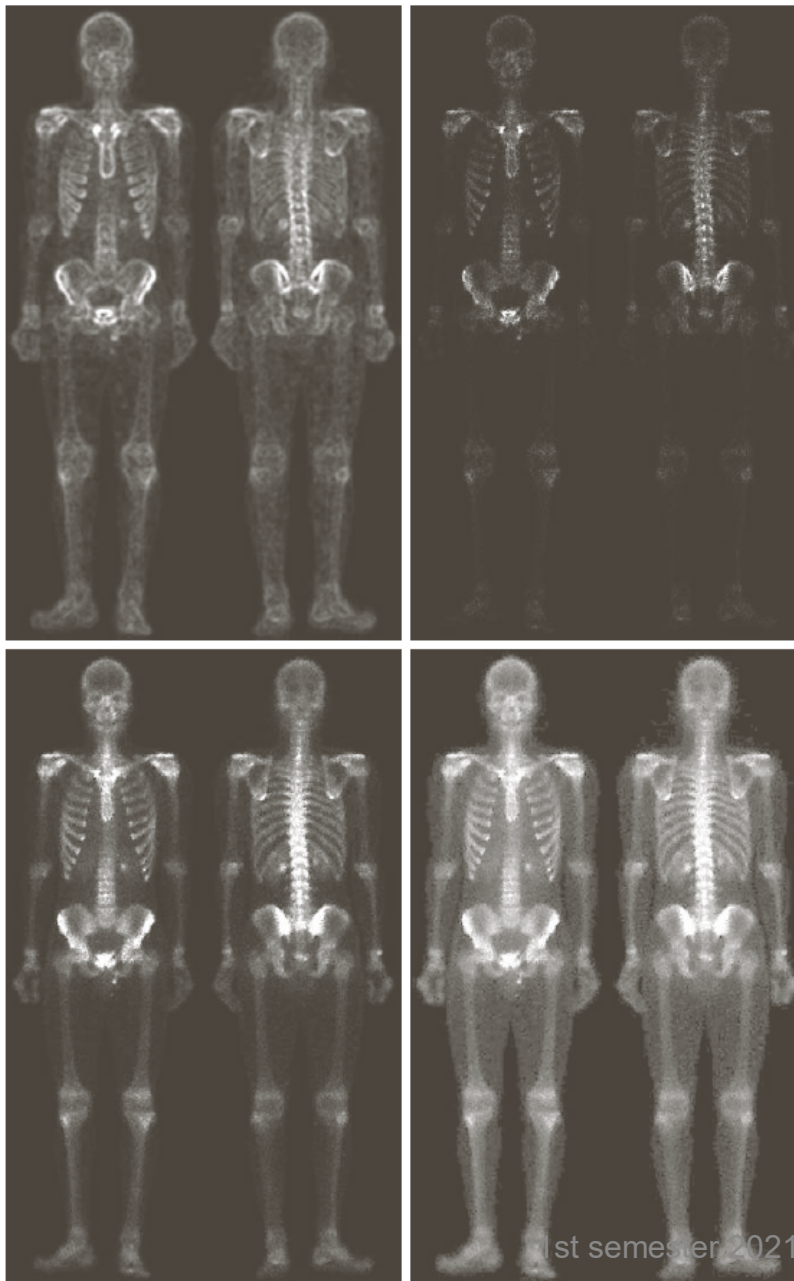
a	b
c	d

**FIGURE 3.43**

(a) Image of whole body bone scan.

(b) Laplacian of (a). (c) Sharpened image obtained by adding (a) and (b). (d) Sobel gradient of (a).

# Medical Exam Image (2)



e f  
g h

**FIGURE 3.43**

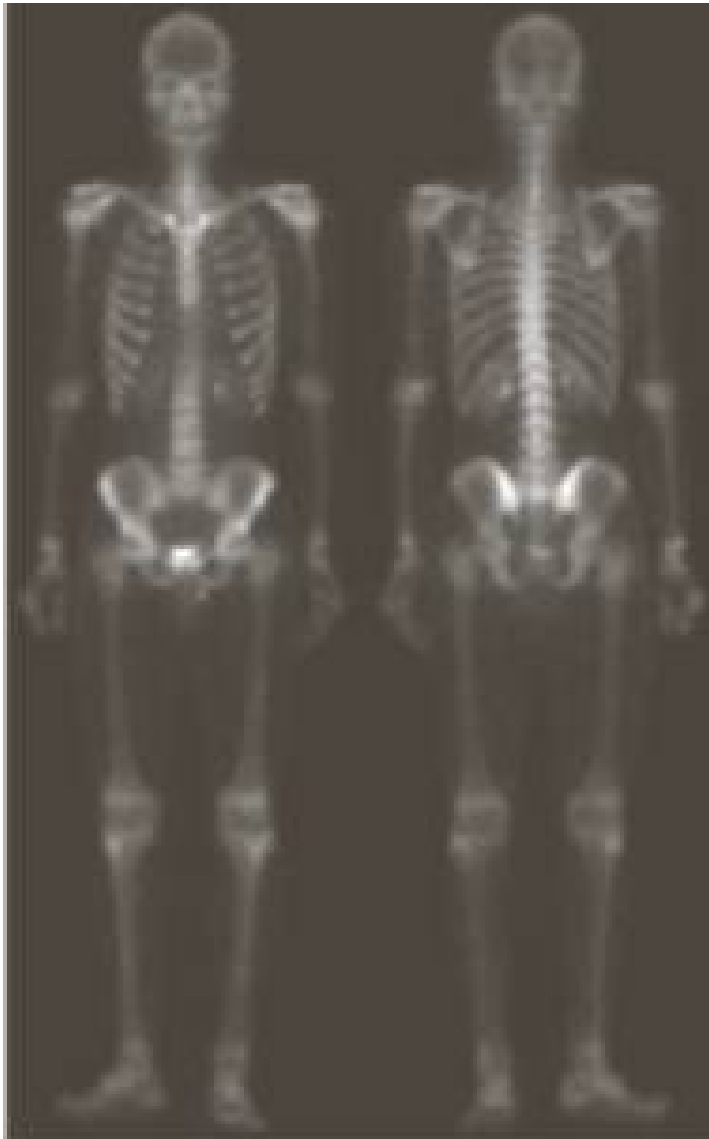
*(Continued)*

(e) Sobel image smoothed with a  $5 \times 5$  averaging filter. (f) Mask image formed by the product of (c) and (e).

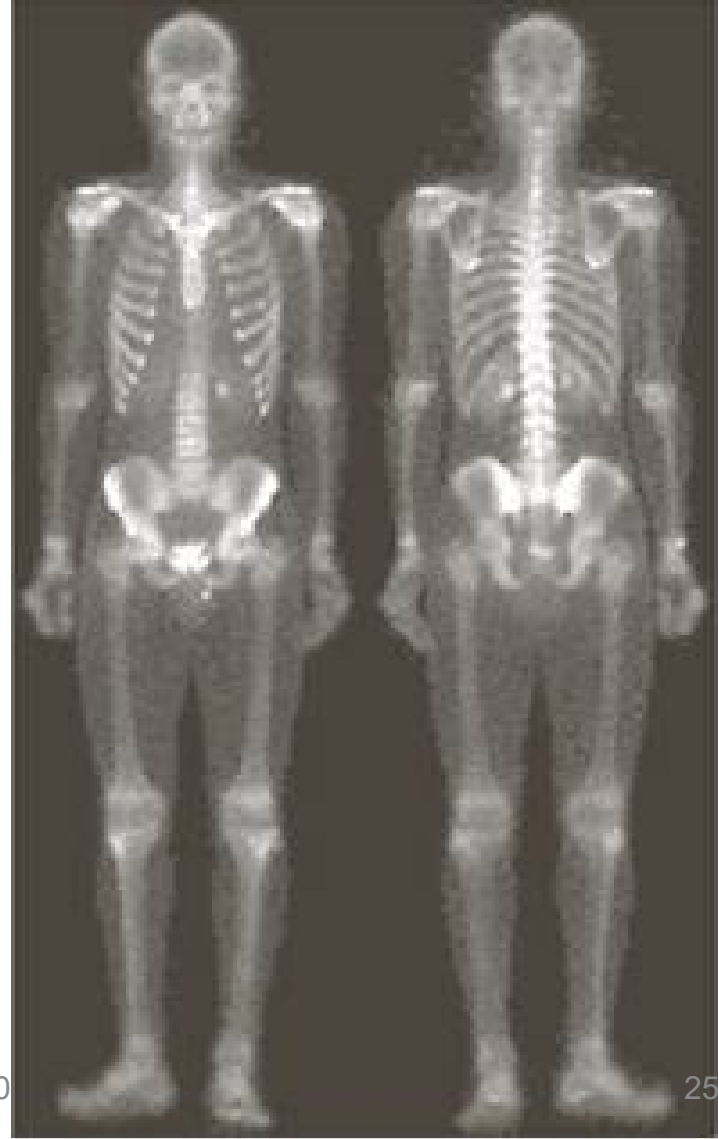
(g) Sharpened image obtained by the sum of (a) and (f). (h) Final result obtained by applying a power-law transformation to (g). Compare (g) and (h) with (a). (Original image courtesy of G.E. Medical Systems.)



## Medical Exam Image (3)



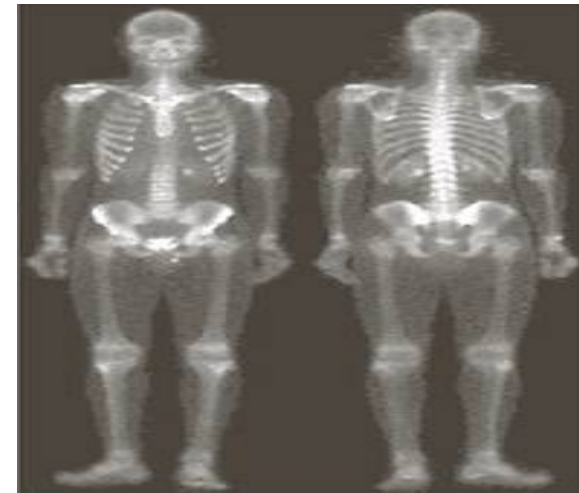
**DIP**



# Medical Exam Image (4)



**DIP  
Algorithm**



- a) Acquire image of the PET body scan
- b) Laplacian of a)
- c) Sharpened image by adding to the image its Laplacian  $c) = a) + b)$
- d) Sobel (gradient) of a)

- e) Smoothed version (5x5 average filter) of d)
- f) Mask image.  $f) = c) \times e)$
- g) Add the input image to the mask:  
 $g) = a) + f)$
- h) Power-law intensity transformation on g)

# The Canny Edge detector (1)

- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canny\\_edge\\_detector](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canny_edge_detector)
- *A computational approach to edge detection* IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence, vol. 8, 1986, pp. 679–698.

The algorithm has five steps:

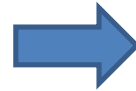
- 1) Apply Gaussian filter to smooth the image in order to remove the noise
- 2) Find the intensity gradients of the image
- 3) Apply non-maximum suppression to get rid of spurious response to edge detection
- 4) Apply double threshold to determine potential edges
- 5) Track edge by hysteresis: Finalize the detection of edges by suppressing all the other edges that are weak and not connected to strong edges.

# The Canny Edge detector (2)

Image



John Canny



Canny



# Edge Detection (1)

**Image**



**Canny**



**Roberts**



**Laplacian of Gaussian**



**Sobel**



**Prewitt**



## Edge Detection (2)

**Image**



**Canny**



**Roberts**



**Laplacian of Gaussian**



**Sobel**



**Prewitt**



# Edge Detection (3)

**Image**



**Canny**



**Roberts**



**Laplacian of Gaussian**



**Sobel**



**Prewitt**



# Exercises (1)

1.  $\{R1\|TG\}$  Considere a imagem monocromática  $I$ , quadrada de resolução espacial  $8 \times 8$ , com profundidade de  $n = 8$  bit/pixel. A imagem possui linhas com valor constante, tal que a primeira linha tem o valor 11, a segunda tem o valor 22, a terceira tem o valor 33 e assim sucessivamente até à última linha que possui o valor 88.

4.  $\{R1\} \{2,5\}$  Considere a imagem  $I$  definida no exercício 1 e as máscaras  $w_1$ ,  $w_2$  e  $w_3$  definidas como

$$w_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0,5 \\ -0,5 \end{bmatrix} \quad , \quad w_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0,5 & 0,5 \end{bmatrix} \quad e \quad w_3 = \text{máximo} \quad \{2 \times 1\}.$$

Apresente as imagens  $J_1$ ,  $J_2$  e  $J_3$ , resultantes da aplicação destas máscaras sobre a imagem  $I$ .



# Exercises (2)

3. As seguintes questões abordam técnicas de filtragem espacial de imagem.

a) Considere o operador Laplaciano.

- i)  $\{1,0\}$  Este operador pode ser definido por diferentes máscaras. Apresente duas dessas máscaras e indique os critérios que levam à definição das mesmas.
- ii)  $\{1,0\}$  Refira duas aplicações em que este operador é tipicamente aplicado com sucesso.
- iii)  $\{1,0\}$  Quais as diferenças entre este operador (Laplaciano) e o operador Laplacian of Gaussian (LoG)? Quais as vantagens e motivação da existência do operador LoG? Quais as desvantagens do operador LoG em relação ao Laplaciano?

b)  $\{2,0\}$  Considere a imagem

$$I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Apresente as imagens  $I_1$ ,  $I_2$  e  $I_3$ , resultantes da aplicação sobre  $I$ , das máscaras  $w_1$ ,  $w_2$  e  $w_3$ , respetivamente. As máscaras são definidas através de

$$w_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad w_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \quad e \quad w_3 = \text{mediana } \{1 \times 3\}.$$

Compare e comente os resultados obtidos.

# Exercises (3)

5. {R1} Considere as seguintes questões sobre técnicas de processamento digital de imagem

- i) {1,25} Em que consiste a técnica *unsharp masking*? Indique em que situações deve ser aplicada.
- ii) {1,25} Explique sucintamente as razões do sucesso do filtro de mediana na remoção de ruído *salt & pepper*. Este sucesso também se verifica na remoção de outros tipos de ruído (tal como o ruído Gaussiano, por exemplo)? Indique os critérios de escolha das dimensões da máscara do filtro de mediana.
- iii) {1,25} Os operadores de gradiente podem ser definidos por diferentes máscaras. Apresente duas dessas máscaras e indique os critérios que levam à definição das mesmas.

3. As seguintes questões abordam técnicas de processamento digital de imagem.

- i) {1,0} Determinada imagem monocromática de resolução  $M \times N$  é operada, através de filtragem espacial linear, com uma máscara de dimensões  $L_M \times L_N$ . Indique o número total de multiplicações e de somas realizadas, no pior caso.
- ii) {1,0} Pretende-se realizar a operação de *sharpening* sobre uma imagem monocromática, através da aplicação de uma única máscara de filtragem espacial. Tal é possível? Em caso afirmativo, apresente uma máscara que cumpra esse objetivo. Caso contrário, justifique a impossibilidade.

# Exercises (4)

4. Considere o algoritmo que se apresenta de seguida. A função `linear_spatial_filtering` realiza filtragem espacial linear com as máscaras

$$a = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{e} \quad b = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

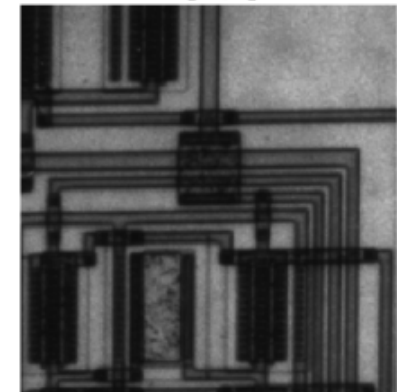
-----  
Entrada: Imagem monocromática  $f[m,n]$ ;  
Saída: Imagens monocromáticas  $g_1[m,n]$  e  $g_2[m,n]$ .  
-----

1.  $f_1 = \text{linear\_spatial\_filtering}(f, a)$ .  
2.  $f_2 = \text{linear\_spatial\_filtering}(f, b)$ .  
3.  $g_1 = \text{sqrt}(\text{pow}(f_1, 2) + \text{pow}(f_2, 2))$ .  
4.  $g_2 = \text{atan2}(f_1, f_2)$ .  
-----

$f_1[m,n]$



$f_2[m,n]$



- a)  $\{1,0\}$  Indique a funcionalidade do algoritmo. Em termos genéricos, qual a informação contida nas imagens obtidas pelo algoritmo, designadas por  $g_1[m,n]$  e  $g_2[m,n]$ ?
- b)  $\{1,0\}$  Descreva o conteúdo da imagem de saída  $g_1[m,n]$ , quando na entrada se apresentam as imagens  $f_1[m,n]$  e  $f_2[m,n]$ , apresentadas na figura.

# MATLAB

## Image Processing Toolbox functions

<https://www.mathworks.com/products/image.html>

- *filter2*, *imfilter*, image filtering
- *medfilt2*, median filter
- *imsharpen*, unsharp masking technique
- *imgradient*, gradient computation
- *edge*, edge map computation (binary image)
- *fspecial*, kernels/windows/masks for common filters

# Bibliography

- The images displayed in these slides are from:
  - R. Gonzalez, R. Woods, *Digital Image Processing*, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, Prentice Hall, 2018, ISBN 0133356728
  - S. Smith, *The Scientist and Engineer's Guide to Digital Signal Processing*, Newnes, 2003, ISBN 0-750674-44-X [chapter 23]
  - O. Filho, H. Neto, *Processamento Digital de Imagens*, Rio de Janeiro: Brasport, 1999, ISBN 8574520098.
  - Wikipedia and Mathworks web pages