UNIVERSITÉ Concordia UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE
Department of Computer Science and Software Engineering

COMP498G/691G COMPUTER VISION

LECTURE 2: IMAGE FILTERING

Today’s Lecture

- Image filtering
  - Images
  - Slides acknowledgment: S. Seitz
- Questions

Image filtering

Hybrid Images, Oliva et al.,
http://cvcl.mit.edu/publications/OlivaTorralb_Hybrid_Siggraph06.pdf

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Reading

Forsyth & Ponce, chapter 4 (Linear Filters)

What is an image?

Images as functions

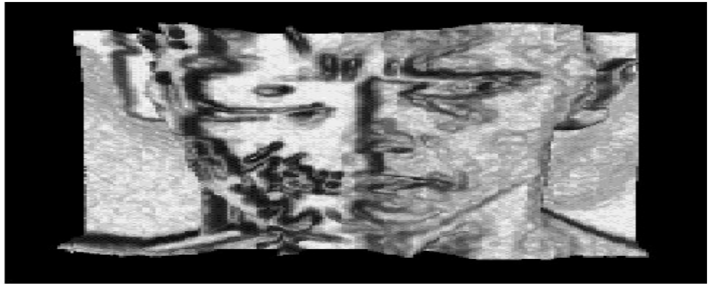
We can think of an **image** as a function, f, from R^2 to R:

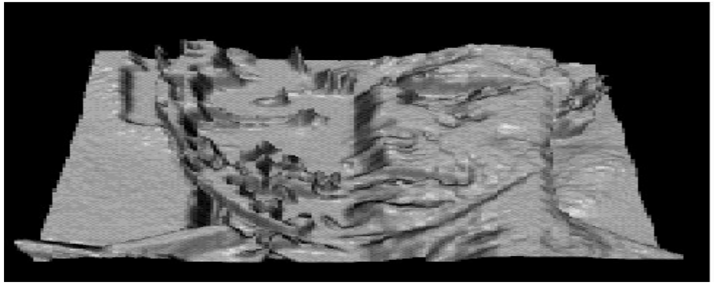
- $f(x, y)$ gives the **intensity** at position (x, y)
- Realistically, we expect the image only to be defined over a rectangle, with a finite range:
    - f: $[a,b]$x$[c,d] \rightarrow [0,1]$

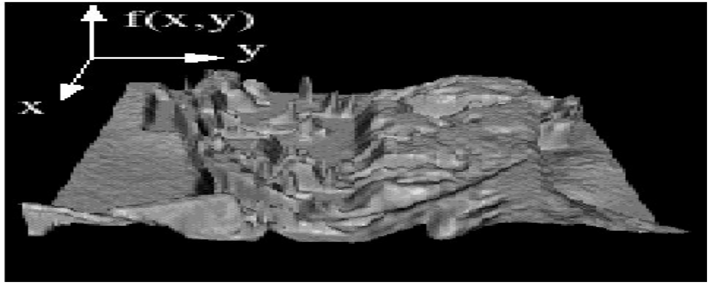
A color image is just three functions pasted together. We can write this as a "vector-valued" function:

$$f(x, y) = \begin{bmatrix} r(x, y) \\ g(x, y) \\ b(x, y) \end{bmatrix}$$

Images as functions







What is a digital image?

In computer vision we usually operate on **digital** (**discrete**) images:

- **Sample** the 2D space on a regular grid
- **Quantize** each sample (round to nearest integer)

If our samples are Δ apart, we can write this as:

$$f[i\ ,j] = \text{Quantize}\{\ f(i\ \Delta,\ j\ \Delta)\ \}$$

The image can now be represented as a matrix of integer values

j

i

62	79	23	119	120	105	4	0
10	10	9	62	12	78	34	0
10	58	197	46	46	0	0	48
176	135	5	188	191	68	0	49
2	1	1	29	26	37	0	77
0	89	144	147	187	102	62	208
255	252	0	166	123	62	0	31
166	63	127	17	1	0	99	30

Image processing

An **image processing** operation typically defines a new image g in terms of an existing image f.

We can transform either the domain or the range of f.

Range transformation:

$$g(x, y) = t(f(x, y))$$

What kinds of operations can this perform?

Image processing

An **image processing** operation typically defines a new image g in terms of an existing image f.

We can transform either the domain or the range of f.

Range transformation:

$$g(x, y) = t(f(x, y))$$

What kinds of operations can this perform?

color->monochrome, contrast, etc

Image processing

Some operations preserve the range but change the domain of f :

$$g(x, y) = f(t_x(x, y), t_y(x, y))$$

What kinds of operations can this perform?

Image processing

Some operations preserve the range but change the domain of f :

$$g(x, y) = f(t_x(x, y), t_y(x, y))$$

What kinds of operations can this perform? g(x,y) = f(2x, y), etc

Image processing

Still other operations operate on both the domain *and* the range of f

Noise

Image processing is useful for noise reduction...

Common types of noise:

- **Salt and pepper noise**: contains random occurrences of black and white pixels

Original

Salt and pepper noise

Impulse noise

Gaussian noise

Noise

Image processing is useful for noise reduction...

Common types of noise:

- **Salt and pepper noise**: contains random occurrences of black and white pixels
- **Impulse noise:** contains random occurrences of white pixels

Salt and pepper and impulse noise can be due to transmission errors (e.g., from deep space probe), dead CCD pixels, specks on lens, etc

Original

Salt and pepper noise

Impulse noise

Gaussian noise

Noise

Image processing is useful for noise reduction...

Common types of noise:

- **Salt and pepper noise**:
  contains random occurrences
  of black and white pixels
- **Impulse noise:**
  contains random occurrences
  of white pixels
- **Gaussian noise**:
  variations in intensity drawn
  from a Gaussian normal distribution

Original

Salt and pepper noise

Impulse noise

Gaussian noise

Ideal noise reduction

Given a camera and a still scene, how can you reduce noise?

Ideal noise reduction

Given a camera and a still scene, how can you reduce noise?

Answer: take lots of images, average them

Practical noise reduction

How can we “smooth” away noise in a single image?

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	100	130	110	120	110	0	0
0	0	0	110	90	100	90	100	0	0
0	0	0	130	100	90	130	110	0	0
0	0	0	120	100	130	110	120	0	0
0	0	0	90	110	80	120	100	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Practical noise reduction

How can we "smooth" away noise in a single image?

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	100	130	110	120	110	0	0
0	0	0	110	90	100	90	100	0	0
0	0	0	130	100	90	130	110	0	0
0	0	0	120	100	130	110	120	0	0
0	0	0	90	110	80	120	100	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Replace each pixel with the average of a **kxk** window around it

Mean filtering

$F[x, y]$

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	0	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

$G[x, y]$

Mean filtering

$F[x, y]$

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	0	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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Mean filtering

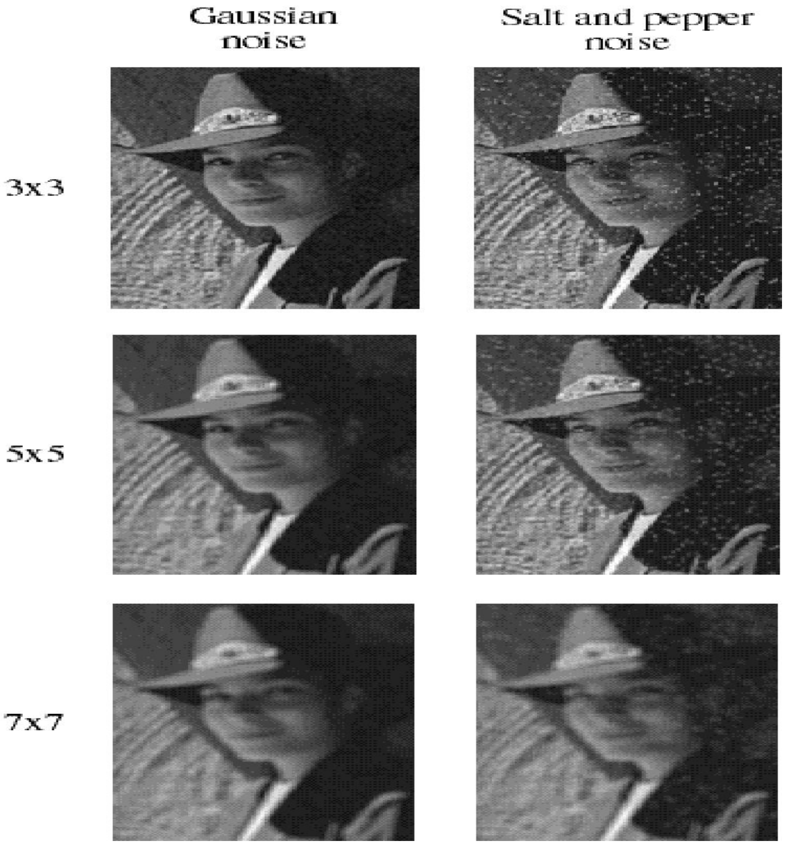
$F[x, y]$

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	0	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

$G[x, y]$

	0	10	20	30	30	30	20	10	
	0	20	40	60	60	60	40	20	
	0	30	60	90	90	90	60	30	
	0	30	50	80	80	90	60	30	
	0	30	50	80	80	90	60	30	
	0	20	30	50	50	60	40	20	
	10	20	30	30	30	30	20	10	
	10	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	

Effect of mean filters



Cross-correlation filtering

Let’s write this down as an equation. Assume the averaging window is (2k+1)x(2k+1):

$$G[i,j] = \frac{1}{(2k+1)^2} \sum_{u=-k}^{k} \sum_{v=-k}^{k} F[i+u, j+v]$$

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We can generalize this idea by allowing different weights for different neighboring pixels:

$$G[i,j] = \sum_{u=-k}^{k} \sum_{v=-k}^{k} H[u,v] F[i+u, j+v]$$

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H is called the "filter," "kernel," or "mask."

The above allows negative filter indices. When you implement need to use: H[u+k,v+k] instead of H[u,v]

Mean kernel

What’s the kernel for a 3x3 mean filter?

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	0	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

$F[x,y]$

$H[u,v]$

Gaussian Filtering

A Gaussian kernel gives less weight to pixels further from the center of the window

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	0	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

$F[x, y]$

$\frac{1}{16}$

1	2	1
2	4	2
1	2	1

$H[u, v]$

Gaussian Filtering

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0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	0	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

$F[x, y]$

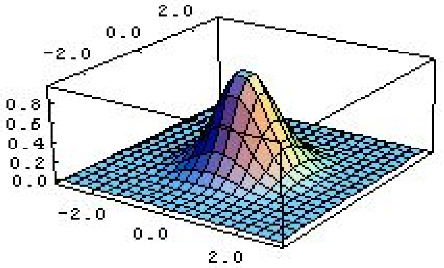
$\frac{1}{16}$

1	2	1
2	4	2
1	2	1

$H[u, v]$

This kernel is an approximation of a Gaussian function:

$$h(u,v) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2} e^{-\frac{u^2+v^2}{\sigma^2}}$$



Gaussian Filtering

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0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	0	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

$F[x, y]$

$\frac{1}{16}$

1	2	1
2	4	2
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$H[u, v]$

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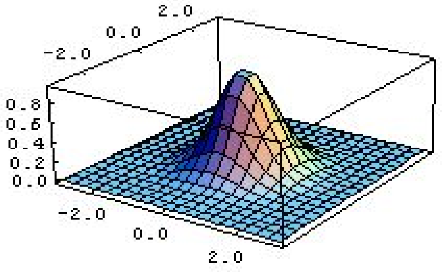


What happens if you increase σ?

Gaussian Filtering

A Gaussian kernel gives less weight to pixels further from the center of the window

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	0	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

$F[x, y]$

$\frac{1}{16}$

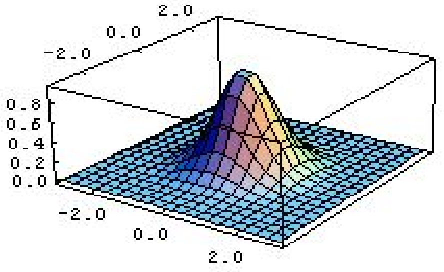
1	2	1
2	4	2
1	2	1

$H[u, v]$

GIMP DEMO

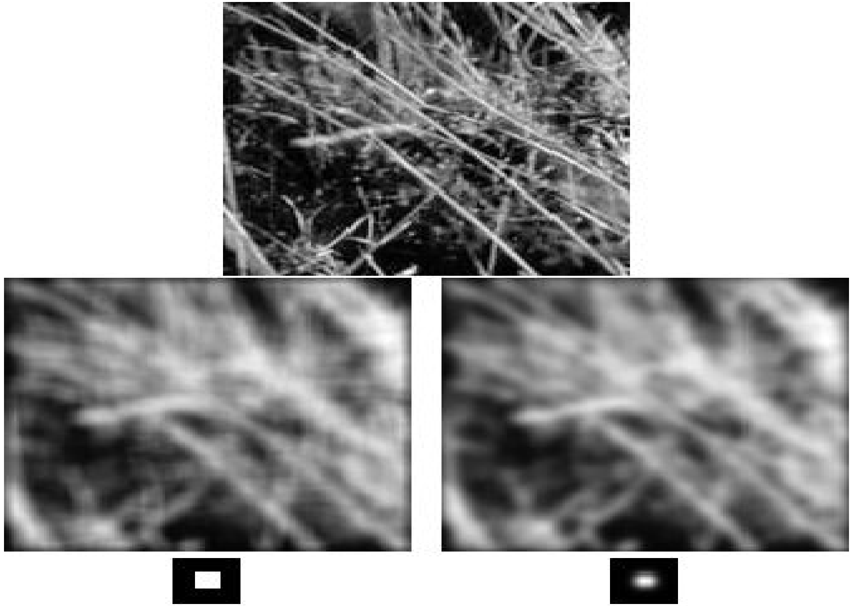
This kernel is an approximation of a Gaussian function:

$$h(u, v) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2} e^{-\frac{u^2+v^2}{\sigma^2}}$$



What happens if you increase σ?

Mean vs. Gaussian filtering



Filtering an impulse

a	b	c
d	e	f
g	h	i

$H[u, v]$

0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	1	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0

$F[x, y]$

$G[x, y]$

Convolution

A **convolution** operation is a cross-correlation where the filter is flipped both horizontally and vertically before being applied to the image:

$$G[i,j] = \sum_{u=-k}^{k} \sum_{v=-k}^{k} H[u,v]F[i-u,j-v]$$

It is written:

$$G = H \star F$$

Suppose H is a Gaussian or mean kernel. How does convolution differ from cross-correlation?

Continuous Filters

We can also apply filters to *continuous* images. $g = h \otimes f$

In the case of cross correlation:

$$g(x,y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(u,v) f(x+u, y+v) du dv$$

In the case of convolution: $g = h \star f$

$$g(x,y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(u,v) f(x-u, y-v) du dv$$

Note that the image and filter are infinite.

Median filters

A **Median Filter** operates over a window by selecting the median intensity in the window.

What advantage does a median filter have over a mean filter?

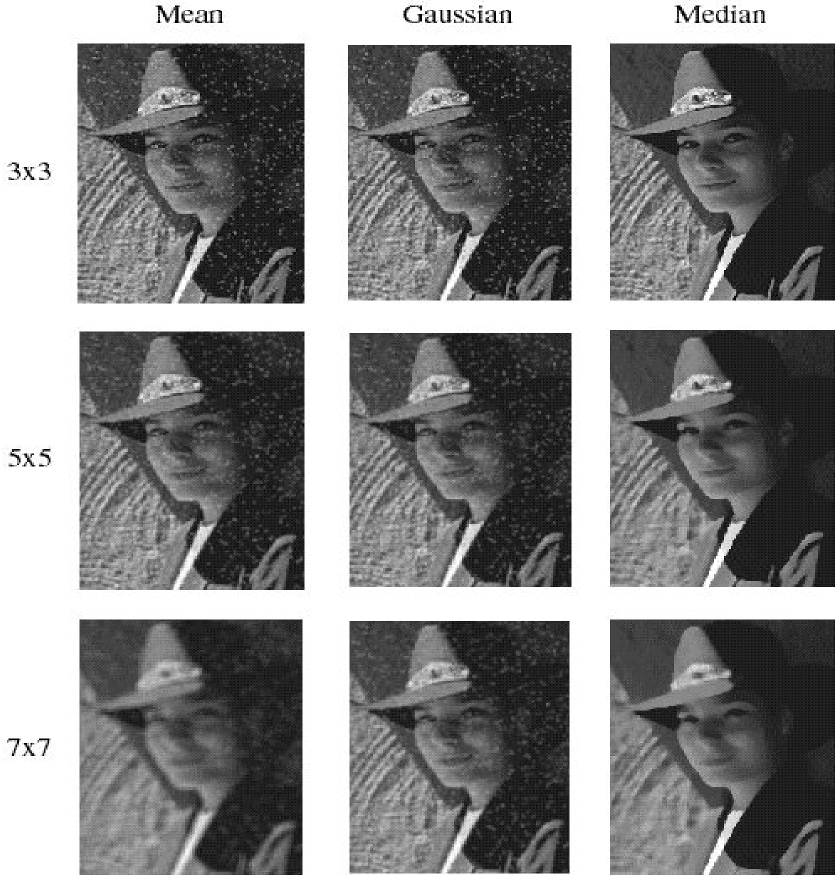
Median filters

A **Median Filter** operates over a window by selecting the median intensity in the window.

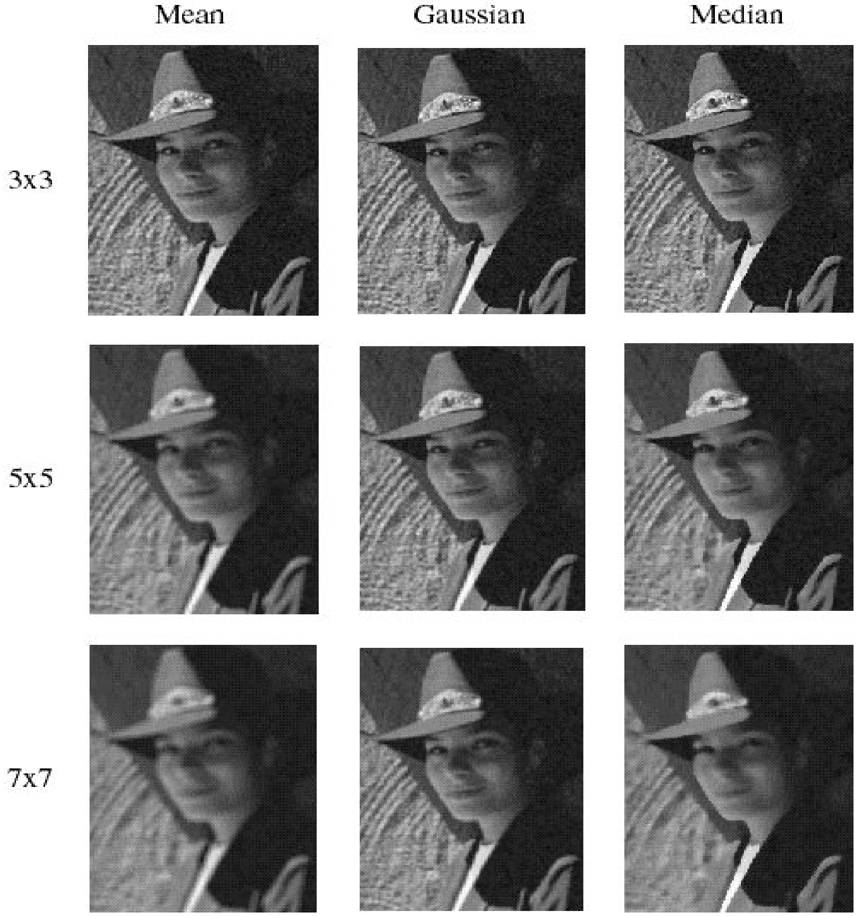
What advantage does a median filter have over a mean filter?

- Better at salt’n’pepper noise
- Is a median filter a kind of convolution?

Comparison: salt and pepper noise



Comparison: Gaussian noise



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