
Exercise 8 - Segmentation

Computer Vision

Alberto Montes (malberto@student.ethz.ch)

December 12, 2016

Image Preprocessing

As part of the segmentation, before computing the segmentation, some preprocessing is required in order to obtain better results. The first step is to smooth the image applying a 5×5 Gaussian filter with $\sigma = 5$. In Figure 1 there is the comparison between the original image and the one with the smoothing filter applied.

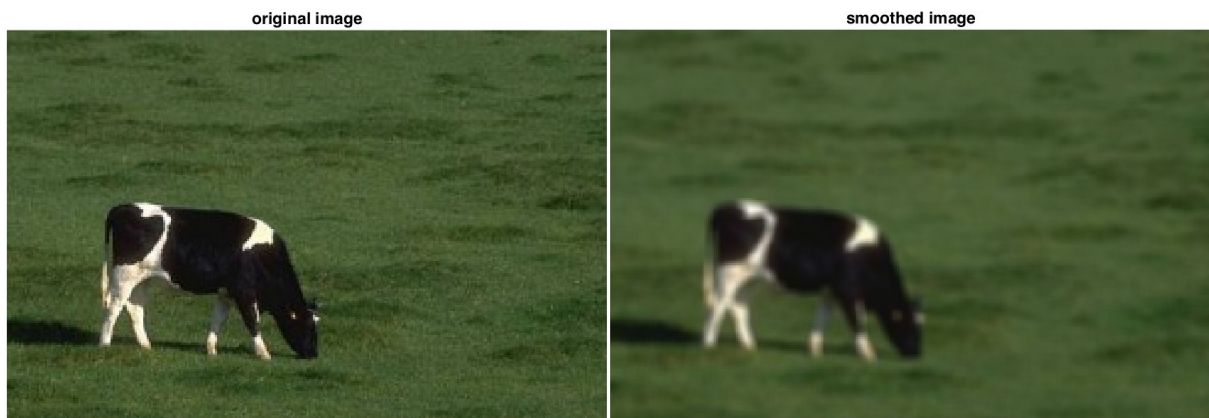


Figure 1: Effect of the smoothing filter.

The second step of the preprocessing is to change the color representation. The original image use the RGB space, while the one used for the segmentation is the L^*a^*b color space. This color space is used in segmentation as it makes easier to differ from different colors as is designed to approximate human vision.



Figure 2: Effect of the color space transformation.

Mean-Shift Segmentation

The first segmentation algorithm to implement is the Mean-Shift. First it has been implemented a function that for each pixel, find the mode of the density function defined by all the images pixels points.

This function iterates computing the points that are closer than a radius r , and then recompute the center as the mean of all the points. This iterates until the center does not change less than a tolerance.

Then to compute the segmentation, for each point its peak is computed and if no other previously computed peak is closer than $r/2$, this new point define a new cluster. If the peak is closer than $r/2$ to any of the other previously computed peaks, then the current point is assigned to the closest peak cluster.

In the Figure 3 can be the result of the segmentation of the cow image. The values used at the implementation are: 0.005 as the tolerance of convergence when finding the peak for each pixel; $r = 0.08$ to compute find peak function and also to merge the peaks to form clusters. The resulting segmentation returns 5 segments. On the image can be seen how there is 3 major segmented pixels corresponding to the background (grass), and then to the white and black color of the cow. The other segments correspond to transition pixels between this segments.

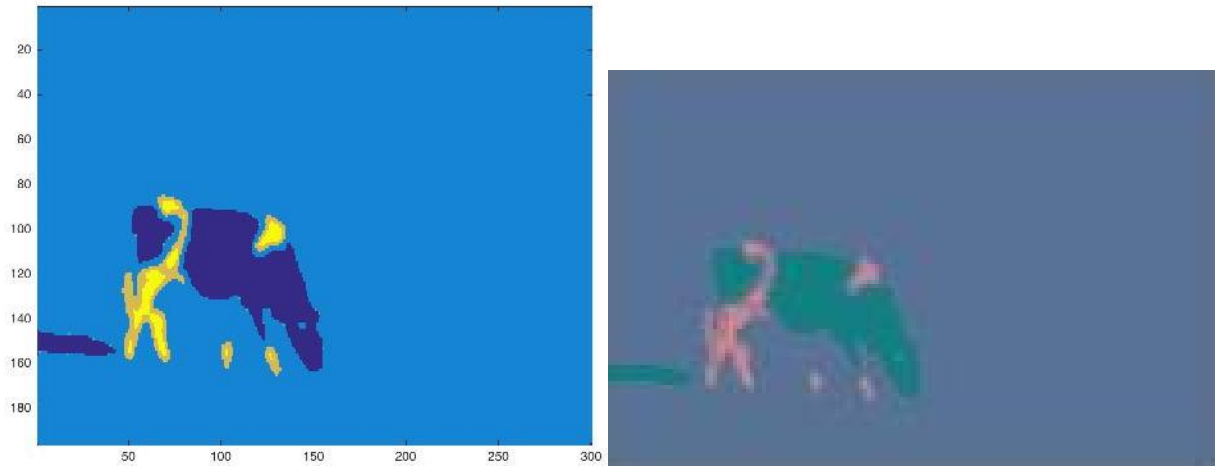


Figure 3: Segmentation using the Mean-Shift algorithm.

EM Segmentation

The second task is to perform the segmentation using the EM algorithm. This algorithm models a fixed number of K segments as Gaussian distributed in the color space forming a Gaussian Mixture Model with each segment weighted. The algorithm to compute the segmentation, consists in two steps. The first is to estimate the probability of each pixel belonging to each of the segments defined by its distribution. The second consist in updating the parameters of the Gaussian distributions of each segment in order to maximize the total log likelihood.

The **E step** of the algorithm computer the responsibilities of each pixel to each segment. Then, the **M step** consist in the update of the parameters given the previous expectation in order to maximize the total log likelihood.

To run the EM algorithm, it is required first, to initialize the parameters α_k , μ_k and Σ_k . This values have been initialized taking into account the distribution of all the pixels along all the color space.

Once the initialization is done, the EM algorithm iterate computing the estimation step and the maximization step until convergence. The converges is defined when the total log likelihood at each step does not improve more than a tolerance respect the previous step.

Segmentation results

Now I am going to give the results of the EM algorithm for different number of segments. The results will consist on the parameters Θ of the Gaussian Mixture Model, as well as the segmented image.

$K = 3$

$$\alpha_k = [0.8549 \quad 0.1065 \quad 0.0386] \quad (1)$$

$$\mu_k = \begin{bmatrix} 0.3481 & 0.4470 & 0.5824 \\ 0.1652 & 0.4822 & 0.5356 \\ 0.5328 & 0.4886 & 0.5496 \end{bmatrix} \quad (2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma_1 &= \begin{bmatrix} 0.8596 & 0.0050 & 0.0062 \\ 0.0050 & 0.0127 & -0.0026 \\ 0.0062 & -0.0026 & 0.0234 \end{bmatrix} \cdot 10^{-3}, \Sigma_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.0124 & -0.0021 & 0.0037 \\ -0.0021 & 0.0005 & -0.0007 \\ 0.0037 & -0.0007 & 0.0012 \end{bmatrix}, \\ \Sigma_3 &= \begin{bmatrix} 0.0361 & 0.0012 & 0.0005 \\ 0.0012 & 0.0002 & -0.0001 \\ 0.0005 & -0.0001 & 0.0004 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

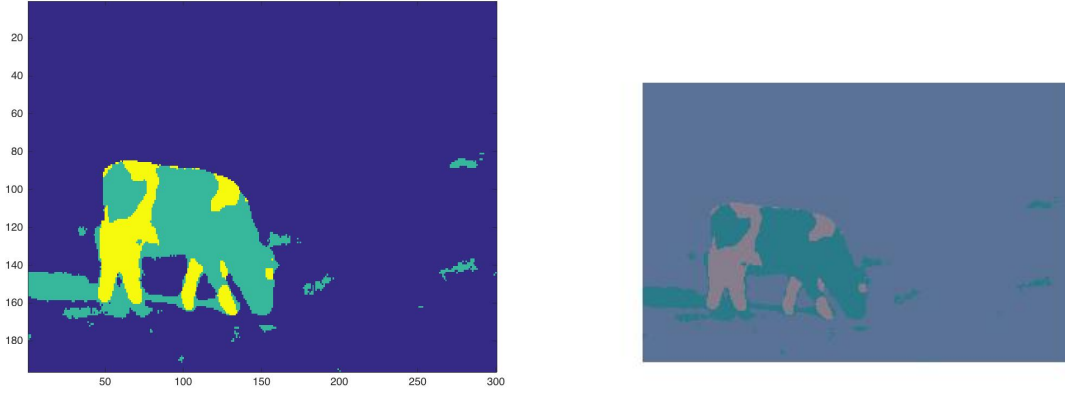


Figure 4: Segmentation using 3 segments.

$K = 4$

$$\alpha_k = [0.0780 \quad 0.3987 \quad 0.4777 \quad 0.0455] \quad (4)$$

$$\mu_k = \begin{bmatrix} 0.3708 & 0.4822 & 0.5479 \\ 0.3622 & 0.4474 & 0.5798 \\ 0.3342 & 0.4468 & 0.5847 \\ 0.0609 & 0.5025 & 0.5028 \end{bmatrix} \quad (5)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma_1 &= \begin{bmatrix} 0.0474 & 0.0012 & 0.0013 \\ 0.0012 & 0.0003 & -0.0002 \\ 0.0013 & -0.0002 & 0.0004 \end{bmatrix}, \Sigma_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.2681 & 0.0020 & -0.0007 \\ 0.0020 & 0.0060 & -0.0004 \\ -0.0007 & -0.0004 & 0.0073 \end{bmatrix} \cdot 10^{-3}, \\ \Sigma_3 &= \begin{bmatrix} 0.0011 & -0.0000 & 0.0001 \\ -0.0000 & 0.0000 & -0.0000 \\ 0.0001 & -0.0000 & 0.0000 \end{bmatrix}, \Sigma_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.3022 & 0.0499 & 0.0075 \\ 0.0499 & 0.0412 & -0.0147 \\ 0.0075 & -0.0147 & 0.0516 \end{bmatrix} \cdot 10^{-3} \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

$K = 5$

$$\alpha_k = [0.0443 \quad 0.0781 \quad 0.3401 \quad 0.2666 \quad 0.2708] \quad (7)$$

$$\mu_k = \begin{bmatrix} 0.0599 & 0.5026 & 0.5024 \\ 0.3669 & 0.4828 & 0.5468 \\ 0.3635 & 0.4470 & 0.5795 \\ 0.3556 & 0.4477 & 0.5847 \\ 0.3175 & 0.4466 & 0.5841 \end{bmatrix} \quad (8)$$

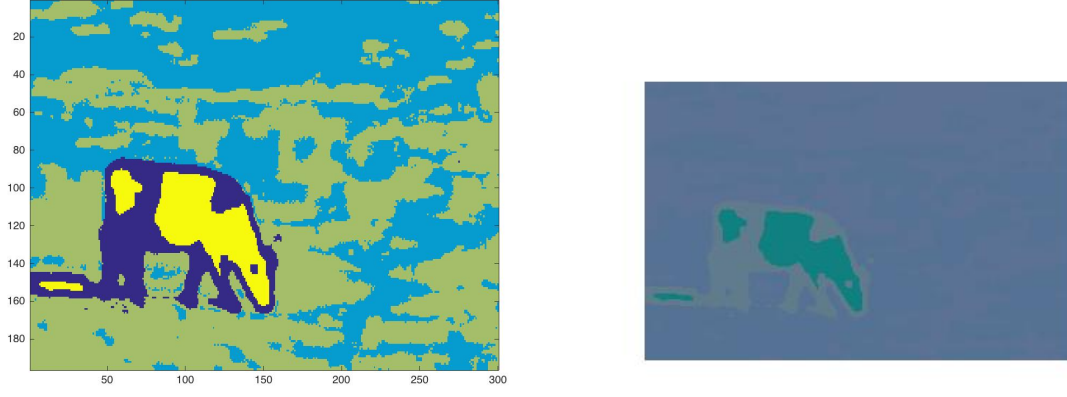


Figure 5: Segmentation using 4 segments.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Sigma_1 &= \begin{bmatrix} 0.2657 & 0.0492 & -0.0029 \\ 0.0492 & 0.0390 & -0.0134 \\ -0.0029 & -0.0134 & 0.0474 \end{bmatrix} \cdot 10^{-3}, \Sigma_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.0486 & 0.0011 & 0.0015 \\ 0.0011 & 0.0003 & -0.0002 \\ 0.0015 & -0.0002 & 0.0004 \end{bmatrix}, \\
 \Sigma_3 &= \begin{bmatrix} 0.2450 & 0.0085 & -0.0019 \\ 0.0085 & 0.0062 & -0.0008 \\ -0.0019 & -0.0008 & 0.0065 \end{bmatrix} \cdot 10^{-3}, \Sigma_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5934 & -0.0306 & 0.0627 \\ -0.0306 & 0.0105 & -0.0078 \\ 0.0627 & -0.0078 & 0.0246 \end{bmatrix} \cdot 10^{-3}, \quad (9) \\
 \Sigma_5 &= \begin{bmatrix} 0.8418 & 0.0056 & 0.0649 \\ 0.0056 & 0.0294 & 0.0010 \\ 0.0649 & 0.0010 & 0.0292 \end{bmatrix} \cdot 10^{-3}
 \end{aligned}$$

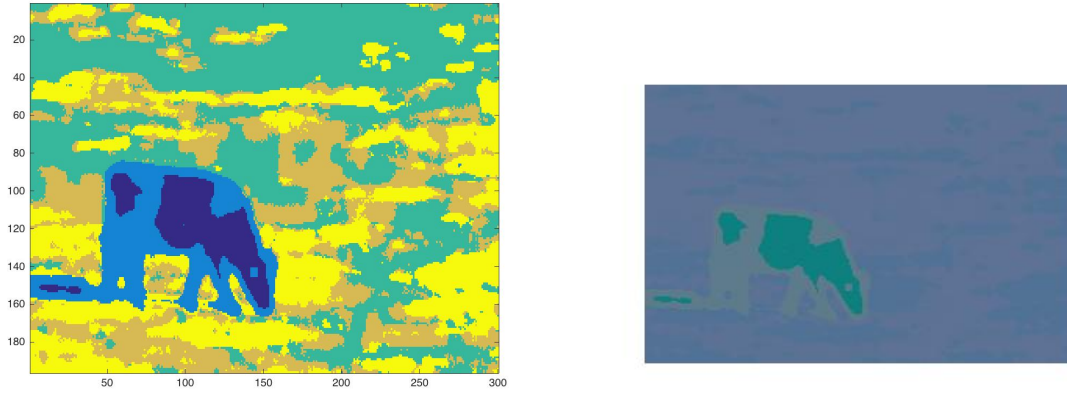


Figure 6: Segmentation using 5 segments.