Neuro 120 Homework 3: Vision and Deep Networks

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1 Question 1: Early Vision and Convolutions

1.1 Difference of Gaussians Filter

We created the difference of Gaussians filter via the following line of code: dog = fspecial('gaussian', [51 51], 3)- fspecial('gaussian', [51 51], 7); and plotted this with surf(dog) to produce the following image in Figure ??.

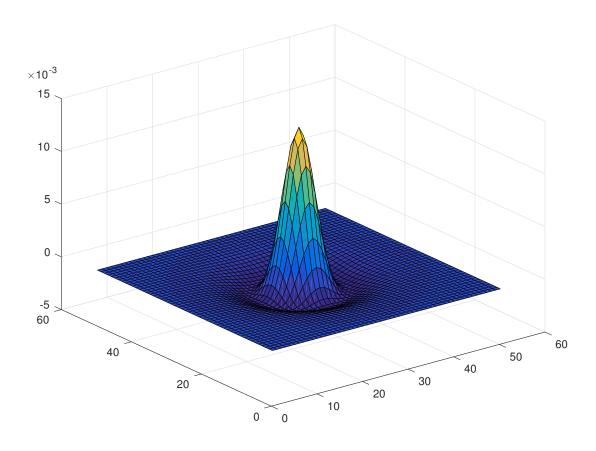


Figure 1: The coefficients of the difference of Gaussians filter.

1.2 Mach band Convolution

We convolve the Mach band image with the filter from part A via the following line of code: res = conv2(im_mach, dog, 'valid');. We then plot this with the command, imagesc(res). This produces Figure ??. We can see from this figure that the Mach band illusion results in activity at the boundary of the lines in the images (as seen by the one white line, corresponding to an increase in the RGC responses, and by the one black line, corresponding to a decrease in the RGC responses). Thus, these RGCs are detecting two "edges" in the Mach band illusion. This illusion is due to the center-surround nature of the difference of Gaussians filter the RGCs are modeled with.

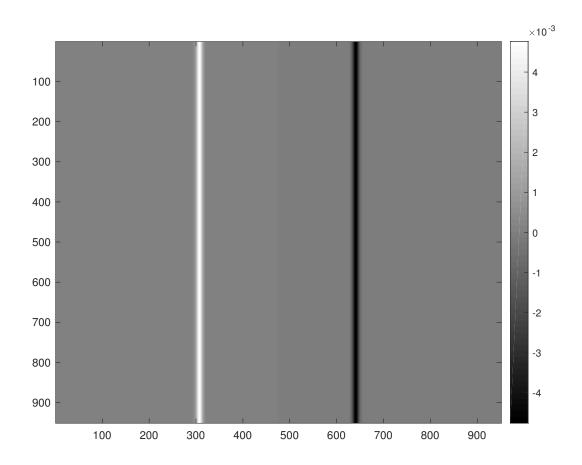


Figure 2: The result of convolving the Mach bands image with the filter from part A.

1.3 Mach band Convolution with a Small Constant

We convolve the Mach band image with the filter from part A plus a small constant of 0.00001 via the following line of code: dog2 = dog + 0.00001; res = conv2(im_mach, dog2, 'valid');. We then plot this with the command, imagesc(res). This produces Figure ??. We can see from this command that again, the RGC model is detecting the two edges in the same locations. However, there is now a background gradient from light to dark (going left to right), with the increase

(decrease) in activity being noticeably more at the first (second) edge. This relates to the Mach band illusion in that it is this detection of an edge in an image which has a larger overall gradient of brightness, which causes the person to perceive one side of the edge to be brighter than it actually is and one side to be darker than it actually is.

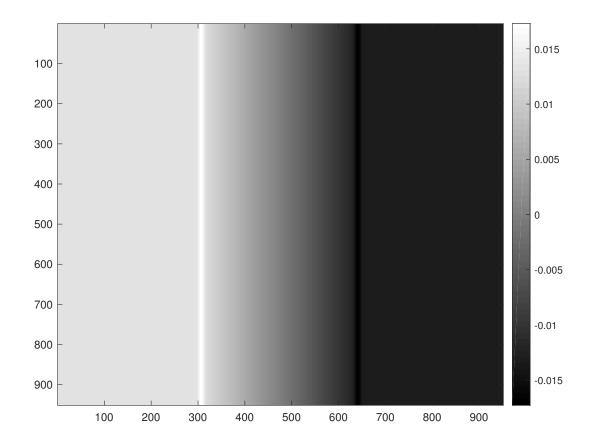


Figure 3: The result of convolving the Mach bands image with the filter from part A plus a small constant.

1.4 Checkerboard Illusion

We convolve the checkerboard illusion with the filter from part A via the following of code: res = conv2(im_cb, dog, 'valid');. We then plot this with the command, imagesc(res). This produces Figure ??. We can see from this figure that there are slight (barely noticeable) gray circles at the intersection of the lines compared to the middle of a stripe. Thus, we see that the center-surround nature of the RGCs produce a decreased response at the intersection of these stripes, which is why it appears to our eyes that there are gray circles at the intersections when they are really just white.

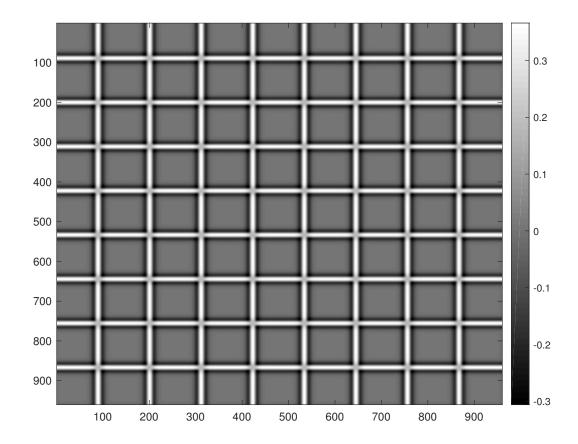


Figure 4: The result of convolving the checkerboard illusion image with the filter from part A.

1.5 Checkerboard Illusion with a Narrower Filter

We make a new difference of Gaussians filter with the following code: dog3 = fspecial('gaussian', [51 51], 3)- fspecial('gaussian', [51 51], 7);. We plotted this with surf(dog3) to produce the following image in Figure ??. We then convolve the checkerboard illusion with this filter via the following code: res = conv2(im_cb, dog3, 'valid');. This produces Figure ??. We can see from this figure that the intersections of the stripes are the same color as the stripes themselves, which explains why when we focus on a certain intersection, the gray circle appears to disappear. The RGCs in our fovea, which are modeled here, are not tricked by the illusion.

1.6 Peppers

We convolved the pepper image with both the filter from part A and that from part E via the following code:

^{%%} Convolve and plot the result

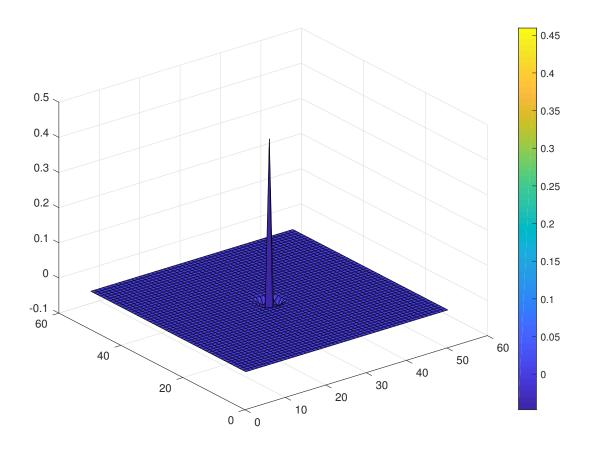


Figure 5: The coefficients of a narrower difference of Gaussians filter.

```
res = conv2(im_natural, dog, 'valid')
imagesc(res)
colormap gray
pause
res = conv2(im_natural, dog3, 'valid')
imagesc(res)
colormap gray
```

. This produces Figures ?? and ??. We can see from these figures that in the image convolved with the broader filter (from Part A), the gross gradient differences between the peppers is preserved. Further, one can distinguish (somewhat) some peppers from others, though the acuity of an individual pepper is low. However, with the narrower filter, the gradient information is lost (i.e. we can't tell which peppers are darker and which are lighter), but we can make out fine details on each pepper (i.e. the lines of the onion).

For the reader, we reproduce our entire code used for this question below before moving on to the next question:

clear all

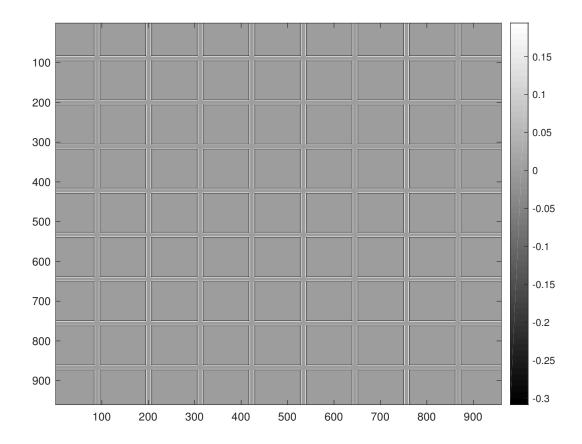


Figure 6: The result of convolving the checkerboard illusion image with a narrower filter.

```
%% Make mach band image
sz = 1000;
slope = -.003;
[x,y]=meshgrid(-sz/2:sz/2,-sz/2:sz/2);
im_mach = max(-.5,min(.5,x*slope));
imagesc(im_mach)
colormap gray

%% Create and plot DoG filter

dog = fspecial('gaussian', [51 51], 3) - fspecial('gaussian', [51 51], 7);
surf(dog)

%% Convolve image and plot the result

res = conv2(im_mach, dog, 'valid');
dog2 = dog+0.00001;
```

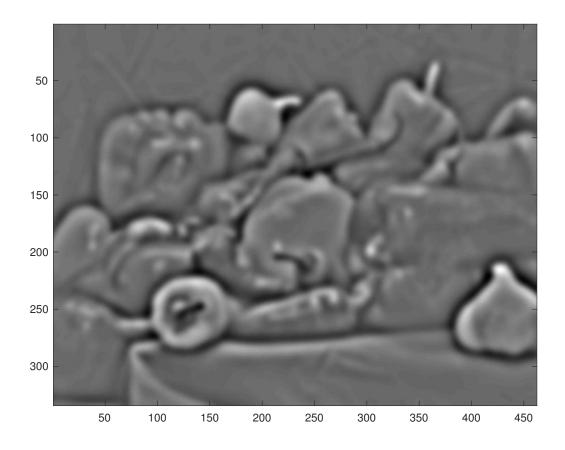


Figure 7: The result of convolving the peppers image with the original filter from part A.

```
imagesc(res)
colormap gray

res = conv2(im_mach, dog2, 'valid');
imagesc(res)
colormap gray

%% Create checkerboard image

sz = 1000;
stripe_width = 10;
num_stripes = 10;

im_cb = -.5*ones(sz,sz);

for c = round(linspace(1,sz,num_stripes));
    c
    im_cb(c:c+stripe_width,:) = .5;
    im_cb(:,c:c+stripe_width) = .5;
end
```

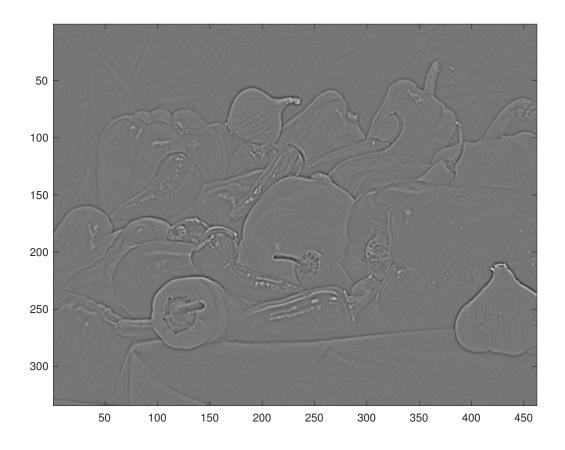


Figure 8: The result of convolving the peppers image with the narrower filter from part E.

```
imagesc(im_cb)
colormap gray
pause
\mbox{\ensuremath{\mbox{\%}}} Convolve image and plot the result
res = conv2(im_cb, dog, 'valid')
imagesc(res)
colormap gray
pause
dog3 = fspecial('gaussian', [51 51], 0.5) - fspecial('gaussian', [51 51], 1);
surf(dog3)
colormap default
pause
res = conv2(im_cb, dog3, 'valid')
imagesc(res)
colormap gray
pause
```

```
%% Load built-in natural image
im_natural = double(rgb2gray(imread('peppers.png')));
imagesc(im_natural)
colormap gray

%% Convolve and plot the result

res = conv2(im_natural, dog, 'valid')
imagesc(res)
colormap gray
pause
res = conv2(im_natural, dog3, 'valid')
imagesc(res)
colormap gray
```

2 Invariance and Representational Similarity in Deep Neural Networks

2.1 AlexNet Filters

We plot the weights of the AlexNet filters using the code below and show the result in Figure ??.

```
%% Load AlexNet
net = alexnet; % Load neural net.

%% Plot weights from the first convolution layer

% Get the network weights for the second convolutional layer
w1 = net.Layers(2).Weights;

% Scale and resize the weights for visualization
w1 = mat2gray(w1);
w1 = imresize(w1,5);

% Display a montage of network weights. There are 96 individual sets of
% weights in the first layer.
figure
montage(w1)
title('First convolutional layer weights')

% List all the layers in the network
net.Layers
```

We can see from this that there are several neurons that respond to oriented lines/bars as well as edges. These oriented bars are of various widths. There are also a few neurons that respond to circular edges in its receptive field (though these edges do not have to lie entirely within the

receptive field).

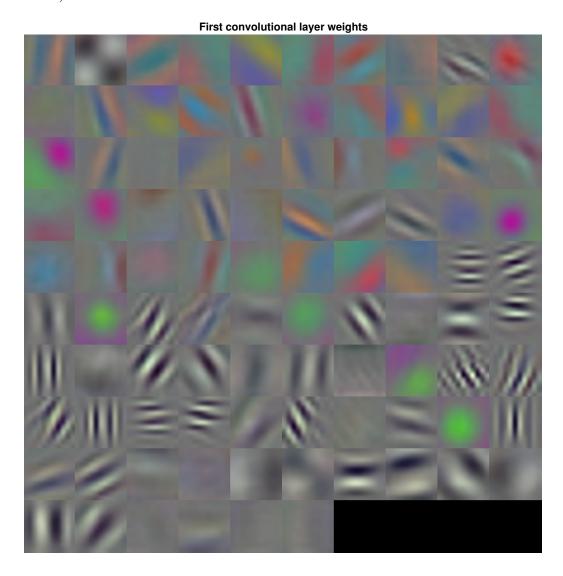


Figure 9: The weights of the first convolutional layer of AlexNet.

2.2 Applying the Network to Peppers

We apply the network to the peppers image with the following code:

```
%% Run the peppers image through AlexNet
im = imresize(imread('peppers.png'),[227 227]);
label = classify(net, im);
imshow(im)
text(10,20,char(label),'Color','white')
```

This produces Figure ??, which we can see correctly classifies the image as a bell pepper (to be fair, there are multiple bell peppers within the image, but the network wasn't trained to report how many peppers there are). We then plot the activity of the neurons in the first convolution layer using the following code:

```
%% Plot the neural activities of different filters
f = activations(net, im, 'conv1');
for i = 1:96
   filter = i;
   subplot(131)
   imshow(w1(:,:,:,filter))
   axis square
   title(sprintf('Filter #%d',filter))
   subplot(133)
   imshow(im)
   axis square
   title('Original image')
   subplot(132)
   imagesc(f(:,:,filter))
   axis square
   title('Response')
   pause
end
```

From our investigation of the neurons in this layer, the activity of filters 3, 10, and 59 are of interest and are plotted in Figures ??, ??, and ??. From these figures, we can see that filter 3 is selective for the rough outlines of the peppers (it is certainly not 100% accurate or does so in extreme detail). Conversely, filter 10 is selectively for the bodies of the peppers, particularly those that are warm-colored. **IDEFK WHAT FILTER 59 IS SELECTIVE FOR**.

2.3 Translation Invariance of AlexNet

We plot the correlation between activations for the original image and the image translated to the right by amounts

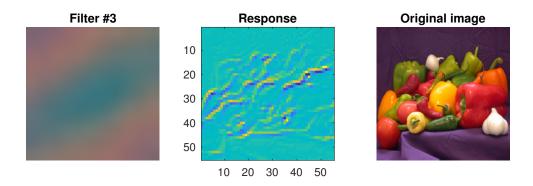


Figure 10: The activity of filter 3 in the first convolutional layer when running the pepper image through AlexNet.

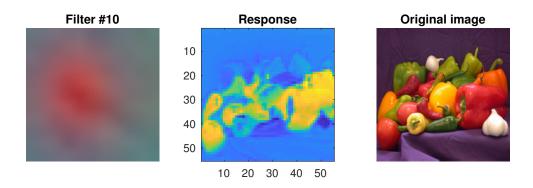


Figure 11: The activity of filter 10 in the first convolutional layer when running the pepper image through AlexNet.

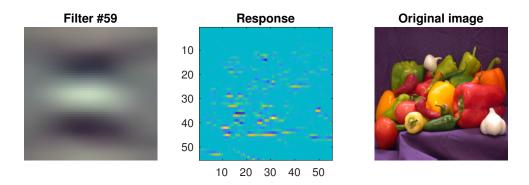


Figure 12: The activity of filter 59 in the first convolutional layer when running the pepper image through AlexNet.