

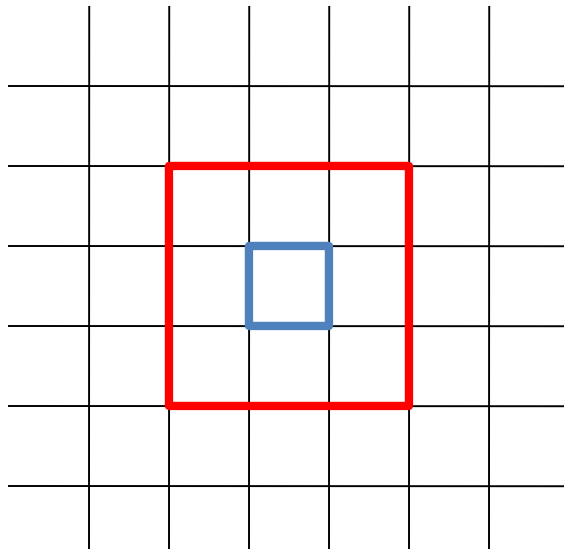
# Visual Computing: Image features

Prof. Marc Pollefeys

Prof. Markus Gross

# Correlation

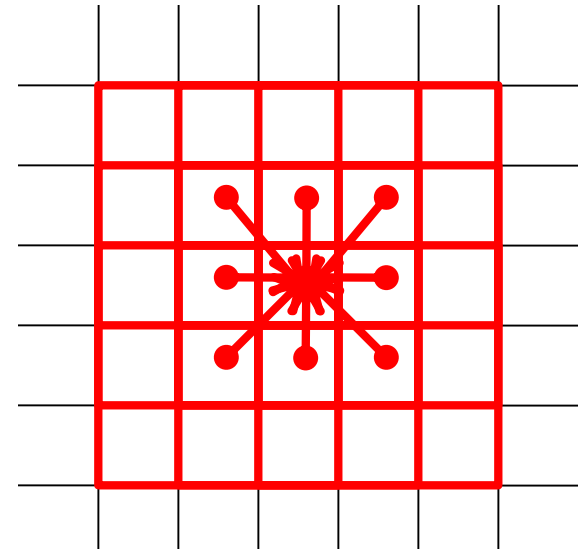
(e.g. Template-matching)



$$I' = \sum_{j=-k}^k \sum_{i=-k}^k K(i, j) I(x+i, y+j)$$

# Convolution

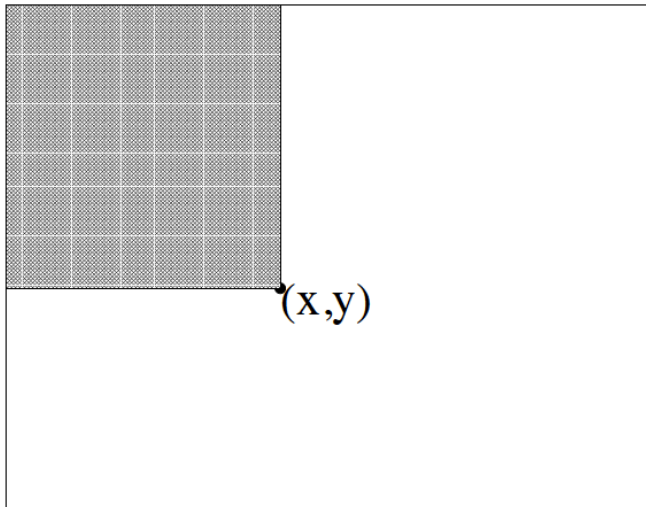
(e.g. point spread function)



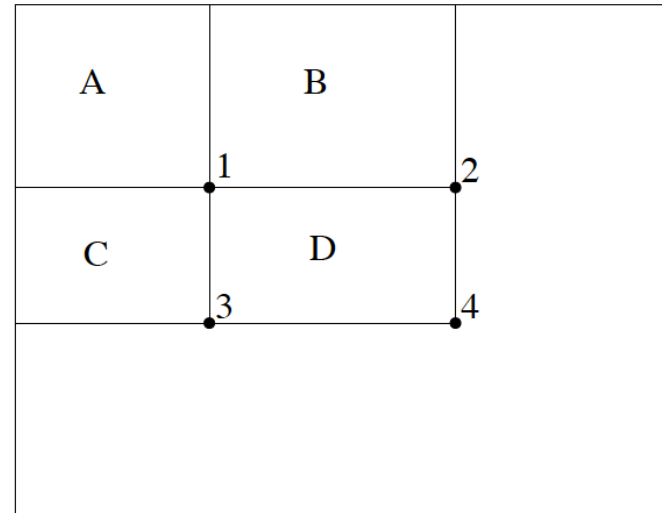
$$I' = \sum_{j=-k}^k \sum_{i=-k}^k K(i, j) I(x-i, y-j)$$

# Integral images

- Integral images (also known as summed-area tables) allow to efficiently compute the convolution with a constant rectangle



$$I(x,y) = \int_0^x \int_0^y I(x',y') dx' dy'$$



$$A = I(1)$$

$$A+B = I(2)$$

$$A+C = I(3)$$

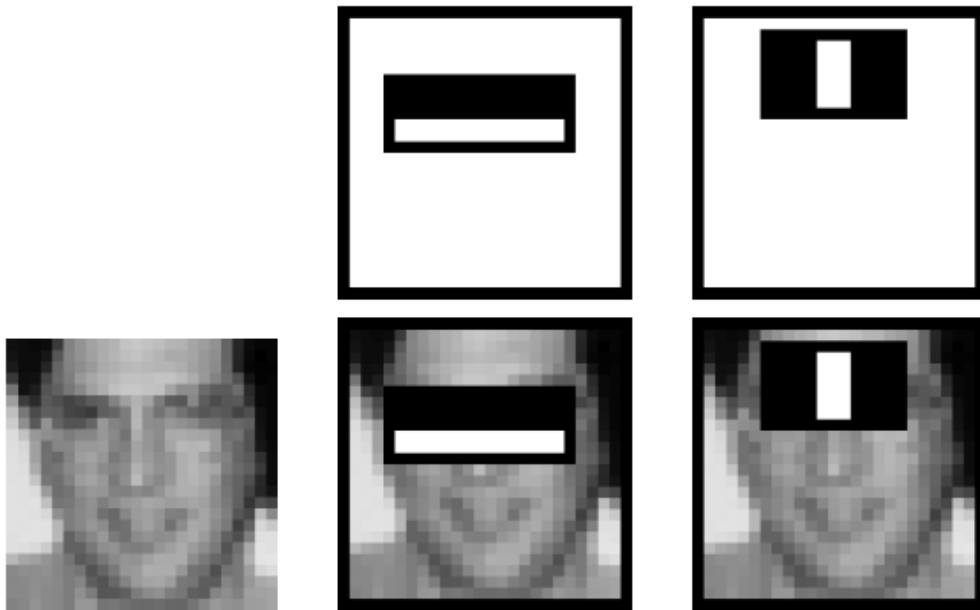
$$A+B+C+D = I(4)$$

$$D = I(4) - I(2) - I(3) + I(1)$$

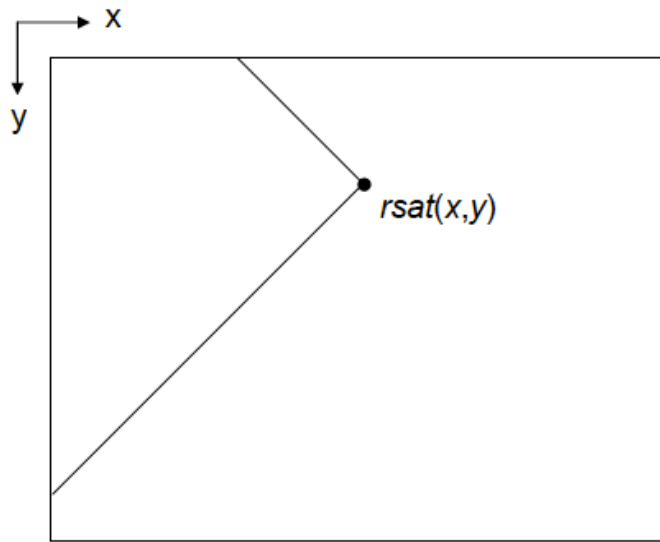
# Viola-Jones cascade face detection

---

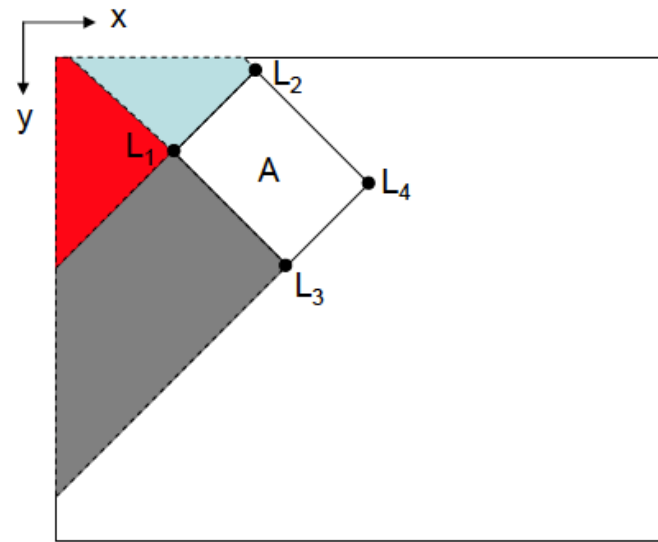
- Very efficient face detection using integral images



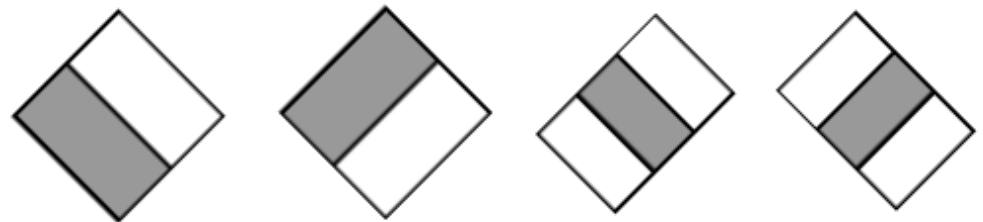
- Also possible along diagonal



(a)



(b)



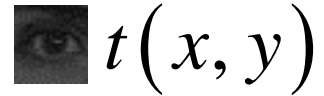
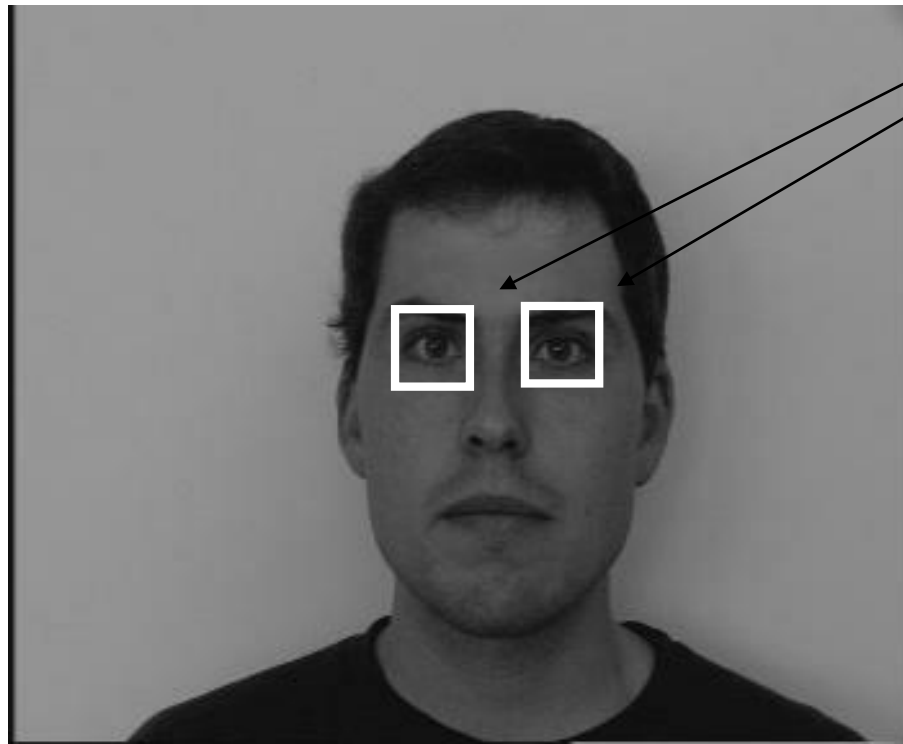
# Visual Computing: Image features

Prof. Marc Pollefeys

Prof. Markus Gross

# Template matching

- Problem: locate an object, described by a template  $t(x,y)$ , in the image  $s(x,y)$
- Example



$s(x,y)$

# Template matching (cont.)

---

- Search for the best match by minimizing mean-squared error

$$\begin{aligned} E(p, q) &= \sum_{x=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{y=-\infty}^{\infty} [s(x, y) - t(x - p, y - q)]^2 \\ &= \sum_{x=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{y=-\infty}^{\infty} |s(x, y)|^2 + \sum_{x=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{y=-\infty}^{\infty} |t(x, y)|^2 - 2 \sum_{x=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{y=-\infty}^{\infty} s(x, y) \cdot t(x - p, y - q) \end{aligned}$$

- Equivalently, maximize *area correlation*

$$r(p, q) = \sum_{x=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{y=-\infty}^{\infty} s(x, y) \cdot t(x - p, y - q) = s(p, q) * t(-p, -q)$$

- Area correlation is equivalent to convolution of image  $s(x, y)$  with impulse response  $t(-x, -y)$

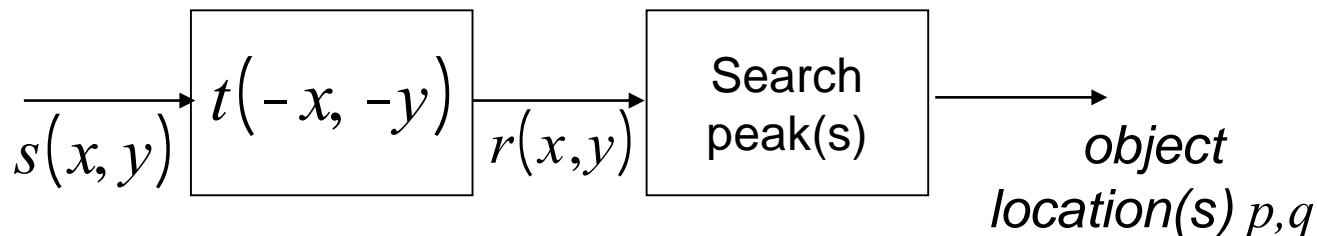


# Template matching (cont.)

- From Cauchy-Schwarz inequality

$$r(p, q) = \sum_{x=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{y=-\infty}^{\infty} s(x, y) \cdot t(x - p, y - q) \leq \sqrt{\left[ \sum_{x=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{y=-\infty}^{\infty} |s(x, y)|^2 \right] \cdot \left[ \sum_{x=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{y=-\infty}^{\infty} |t(x, y)|^2 \right]}$$

- Equality, iff  $s(x, y) = \alpha \cdot t(x - p, y - q)$  with  $\alpha \geq 0$
- Blockdiagram of template matcher



- Remove mean before template matching to avoid bias towards bright image areas

# Edge detection

- Idea (continuous-space): Detect local gradient

$$|\text{grad}(f(x, y))| = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}\right)^2}$$

- Digital image:  
use finite differences  
instead

difference	$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$
central difference	$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & [0] & 1 \end{pmatrix}$
Prewitt	$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & [0] & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$
Sobel	$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -2 & [0] & 2 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

# Edge detection filters

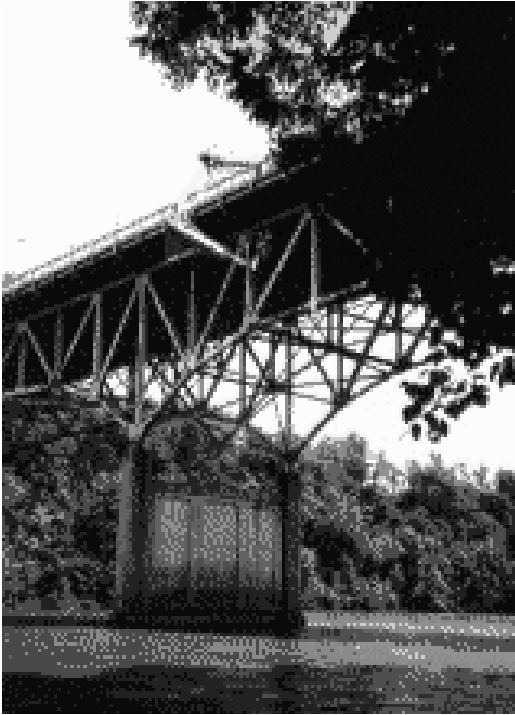
---

$$\text{Prewitt} \quad \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & [0] & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & [0] & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

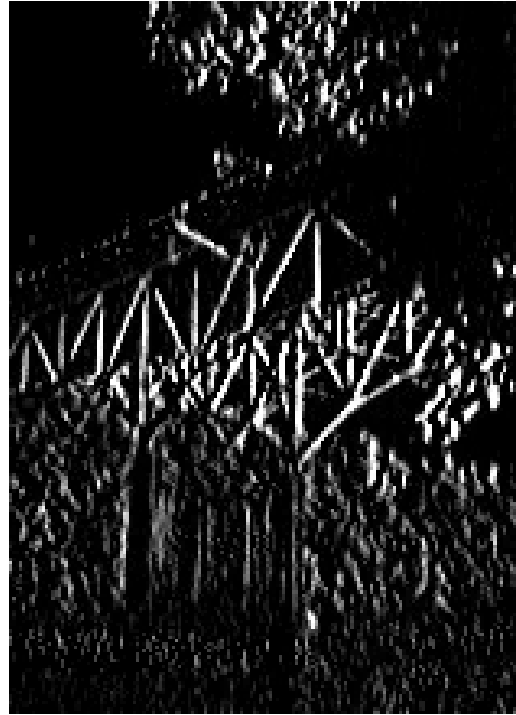
$$\text{Sobel} \quad \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -2 & [0] & 2 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -2 & -1 \\ 0 & [0] & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Roberts} \quad \begin{pmatrix} [0] & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} [1] & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Prewitt operator example

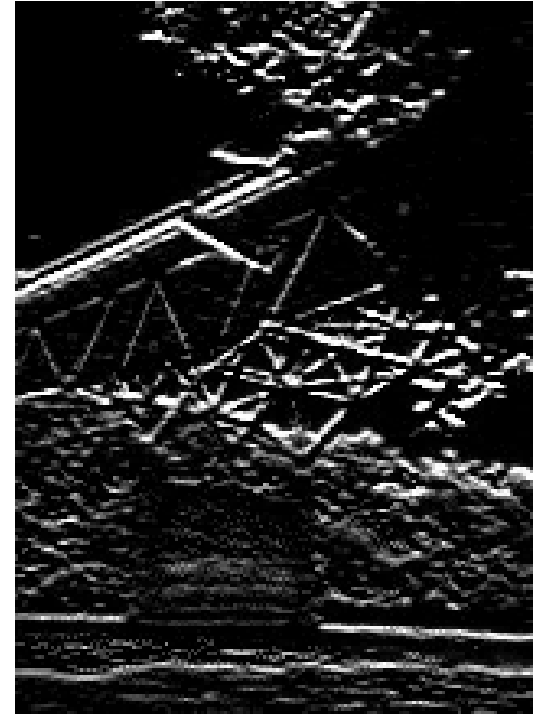


Original *Bridge*  
220x160



magnitude of  
image filtered with

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & [0] & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



magnitude of  
image filtered with

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & [0] & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Prewitt operator example (cont.)



Original *Billsface*  
310x241



log magnitude of  
image filtered with

$$\begin{array}{ccc} x & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ y & -1 & [0] & 1 \\ z & -1 & 0 & 1 \end{array}$$



log magnitude of  
image filtered with

$$\begin{array}{ccc} x & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ y & 0 & [0] & 0 \\ z & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array}$$

# Prewitt operator example (cont.)

log sum of  
squared  
horizontal and  
vertical  
gradients



different  
thresholds



# Sobel operator example

log sum of  
squared  
horizontal and  
vertical  
gradients



different  
thresholds



# Roberts operator example



Original *Billsface*  
309x240



log magnitude of  
image filtered with

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



log magnitude of  
image filtered with

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



# Roberts operator example (cont.)

log sum of  
squared  
diagonal  
gradients



different  
thresholds



# Laplacian operator

---

- Detect discontinuities by considering second derivative

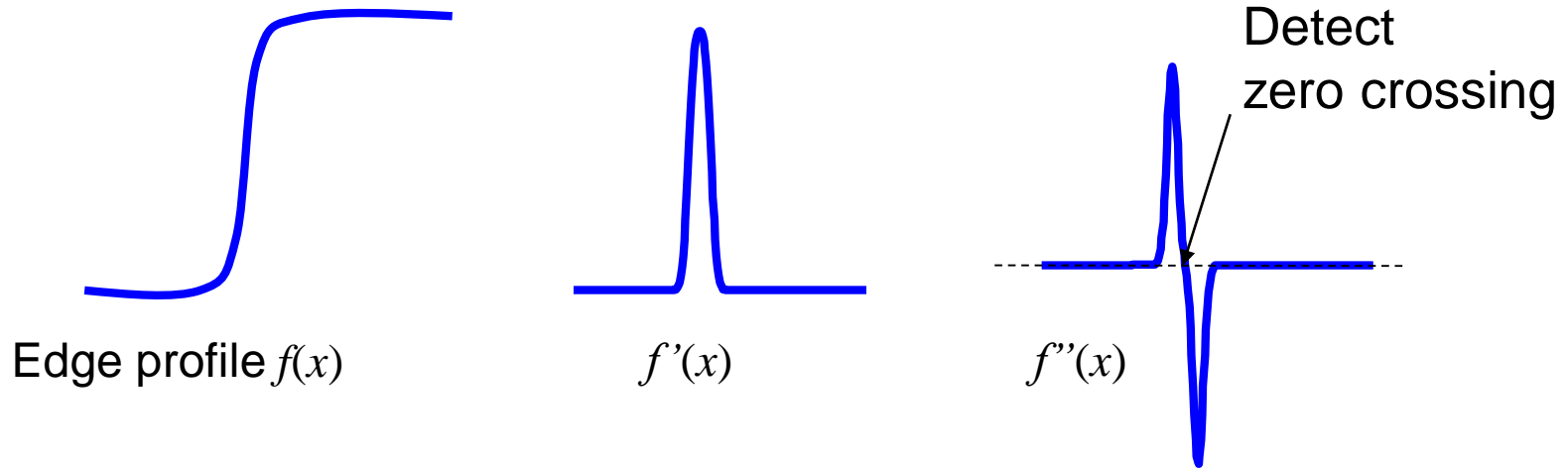
$$\nabla^2 f(x, y) = \frac{\partial^2 f(x, y)}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f(x, y)}{\partial y^2}$$

- Isotropic (rotationally invariant) operator
- Zero-crossings mark edge location
- Discrete-space approximation by convolution with 3x3 impulse response

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & [-4] & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{or} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & [-8] & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

# 1-d illustration of 2<sup>nd</sup> derivative edge detector

---



# Zero crossings of Laplacian

---



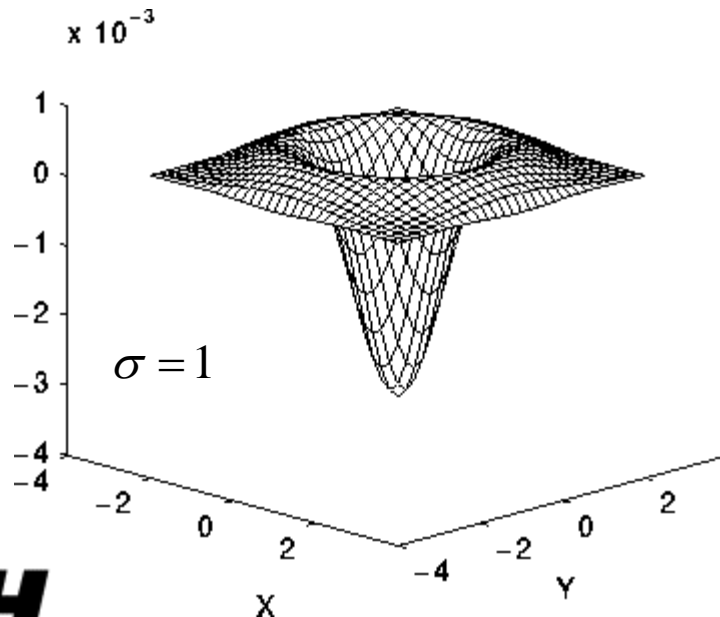
- Sensitive to very fine detail and noise → blur image first
- Responds equally to strong and weak edges  
→ suppress “edges” with low gradient magnitude

# Laplacian of Gaussian

- Blurring of image with Gaussian and Laplacian operator can be combined into convolution with Laplacian of Gaussian (LoG) operator

$$LoG(x, y) = -\frac{1}{\pi\sigma^4} \left[ 1 - \frac{x^2 + y^2}{2\sigma^2} \right] e^{-\frac{x^2 + y^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

- Continuous function and discrete approximation



$$\sigma = 1.4$$

0	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	0
1	2	4	5	5	5	4	2	1
1	4	5	3	0	3	5	4	1
2	5	3	-12	-24	-12	3	5	2
2	5	0	-24	-40	-24	0	5	2
2	5	3	-12	-24	-12	3	5	2
1	4	5	3	0	3	5	4	1
1	2	4	5	5	5	4	2	1
0	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	0

# Zero crossings of LoG

---

w/o  
Gaussian



$\sigma = 1.4$

$\sigma = 3$



$\sigma = 6$

# Zero crossings of LoG – gradient-based threshold

---

w/o  
Gaussian



$\sigma = 1.4$

$\sigma = 3$



$\sigma = 6$



# Canny edge detector

---

1. Smooth image with a Gaussian filter
2. Compute gradient magnitude and angle (Sobel, Prewitt . . .)

$$M(x, y) = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}\right)^2}$$

$$\alpha(x, y) = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}}{\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}}\right)$$

3. Apply nonmaxima suppression to gradient magnitude image
4. Double thresholding to detect strong and weak edge pixels
5. Reject weak edge pixels not connected with strong edge pixels

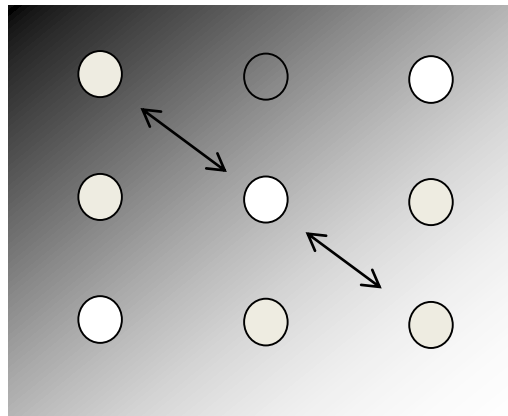
*[Canny, IEEE Trans. PAMI, 1986]*



# Canny nonmaxima suppression

---

- Quantize edge normal to one of four directions: horizontal,  $-45^\circ$ , vertical,  $+45^\circ$
- If  $M(x,y)$  is smaller than either of its neighbors in edge normal direction  $\rightarrow$  suppress; else keep.



*[Canny, IEEE Trans. PAMI, 1986]*

# Canny thresholding and suppression of weak edges

---

- Double-thresholding of gradient magnitude

Strong edge:  $M(x, y) \geq \theta_{high}$

Weak edge:  $\theta_{high} > M(x, y) \geq \theta_{low}$

- Typical setting:  $\theta_{high} / \theta_{low} = 2...3$
- Region labeling of edge pixels
- Reject regions without strong edge pixels

*[Canny, IEEE Trans. PAMI, 1986]*

# Canny edge detector

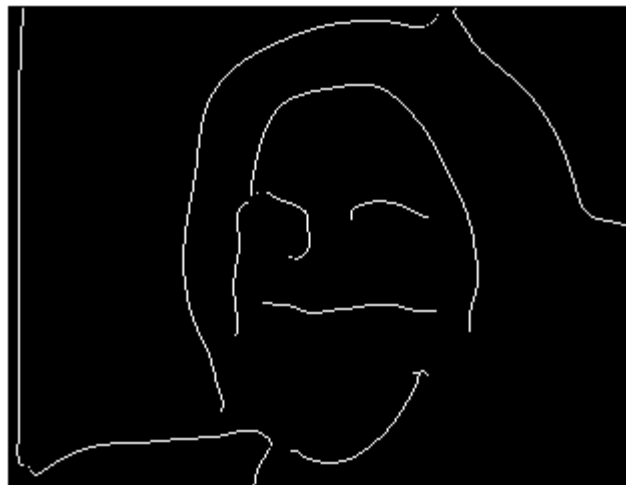
---



$\sigma = 1.4$



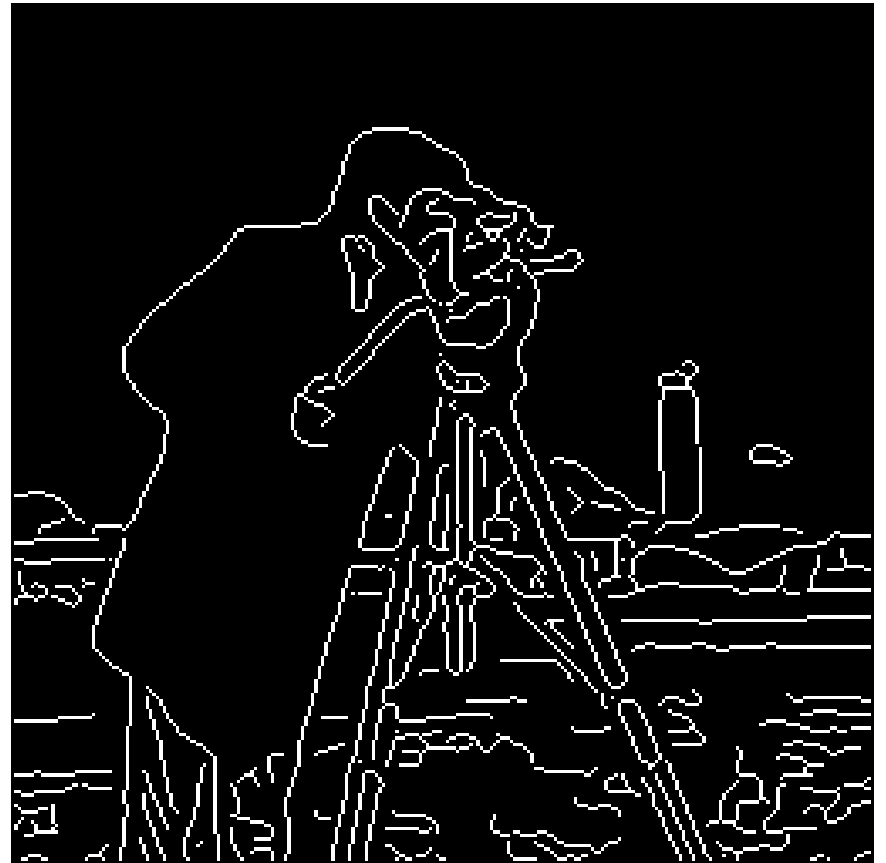
$\sigma = 3$



$\sigma = 6$

# Canny edge detector

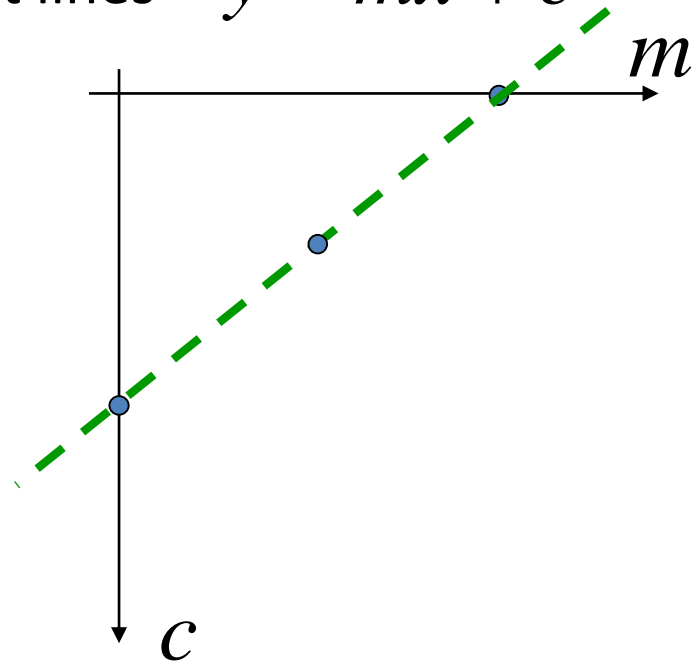
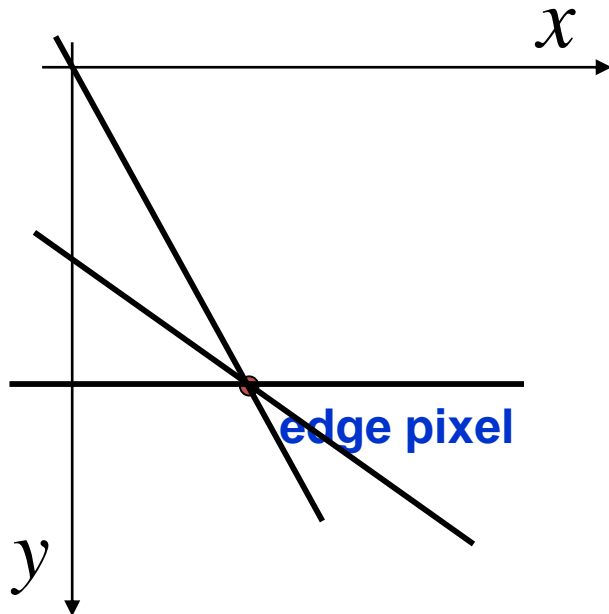
---



$$\sigma = 1.4$$

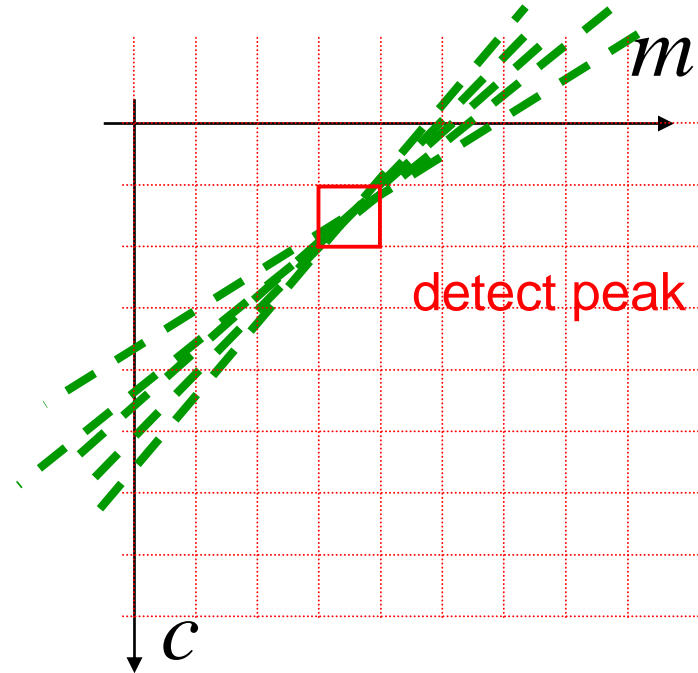
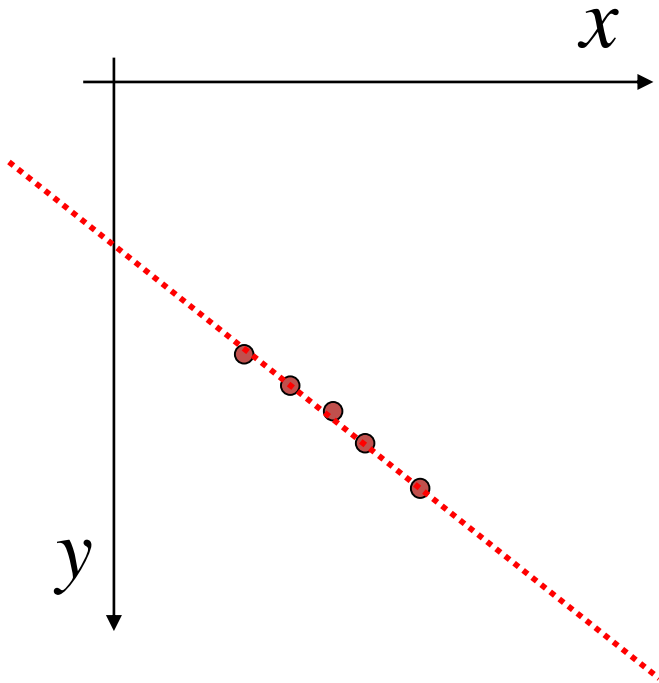
# Hough transform

- Problem: fit a straight line (or curve) to a set of edge pixels
- Hough transform (1962): generalized template matching technique
- Consider detection of straight lines  $y = mx + c$



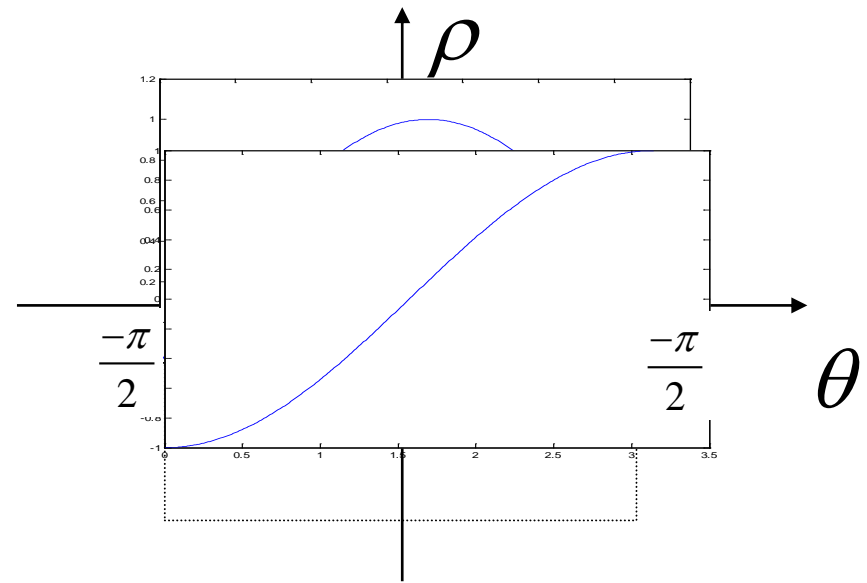
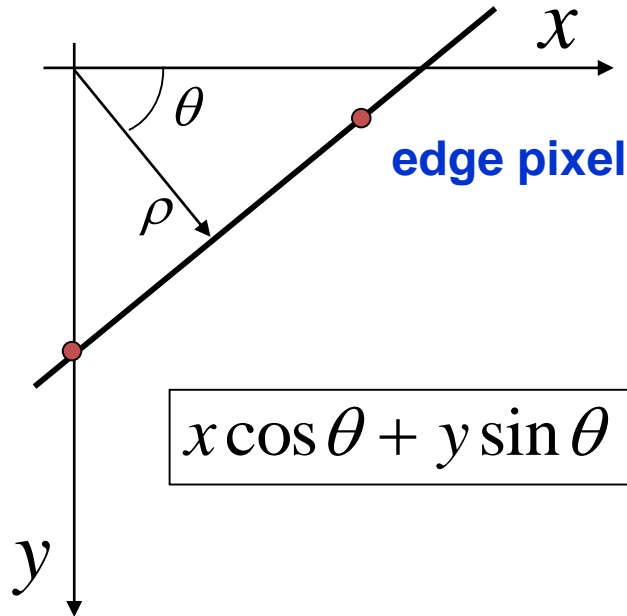
# Hough transform (cont.)

- Subdivide  $(m, c)$  plane into discrete “bins,” initialize all bin counts by 0
- Draw a line in the parameter space  $m, c$  for each edge pixel  $x, y$  and increment bin counts along line.
- Detect peak(s) in  $(m, c)$  plane



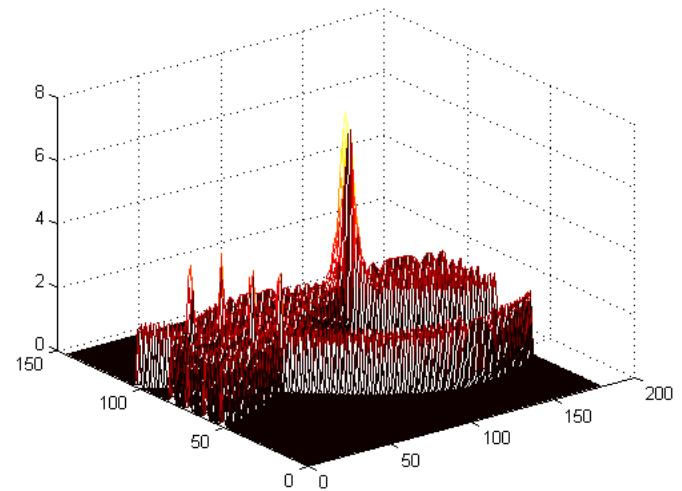
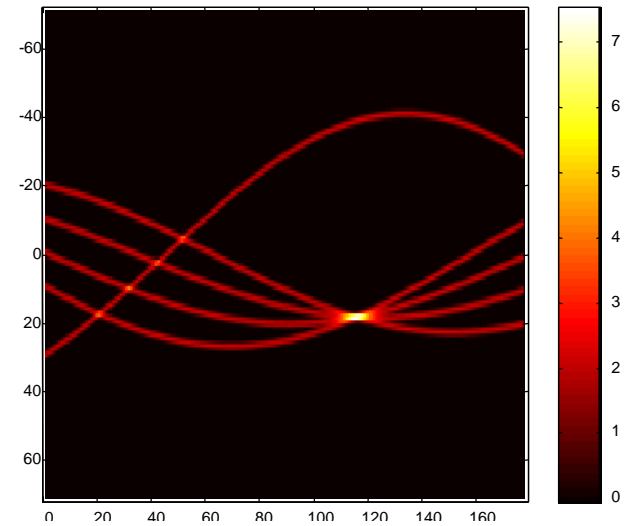
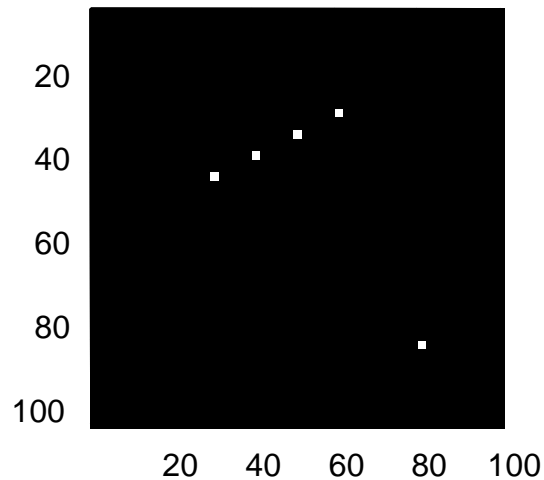
# Hough transform (cont.)

- Alternative parameterization avoids infinite-slope problem



# Hough transform Example A

Original image

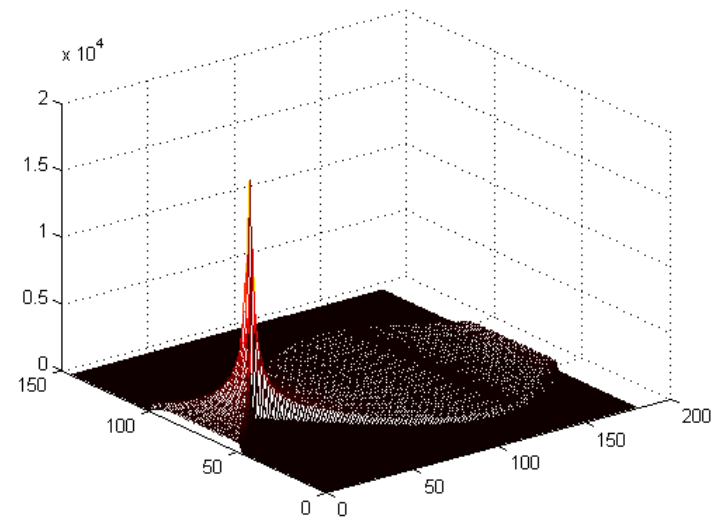
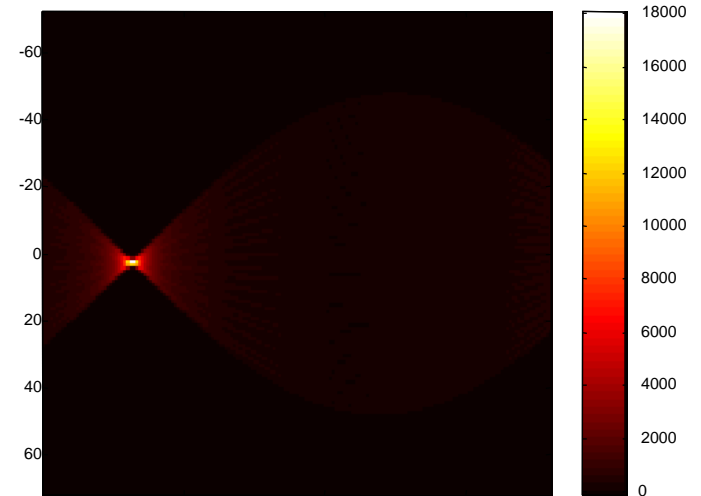
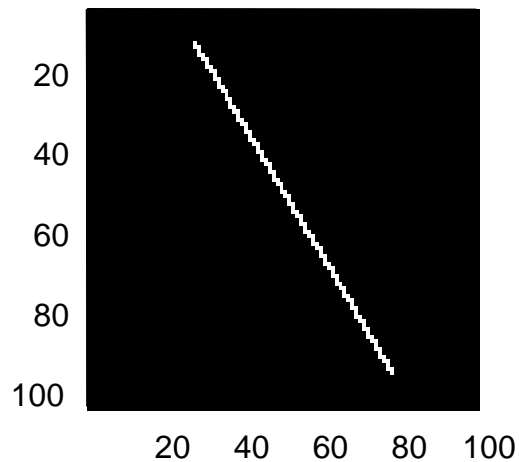


*Courtesy: P. Salembier*



# Hough transform Example B

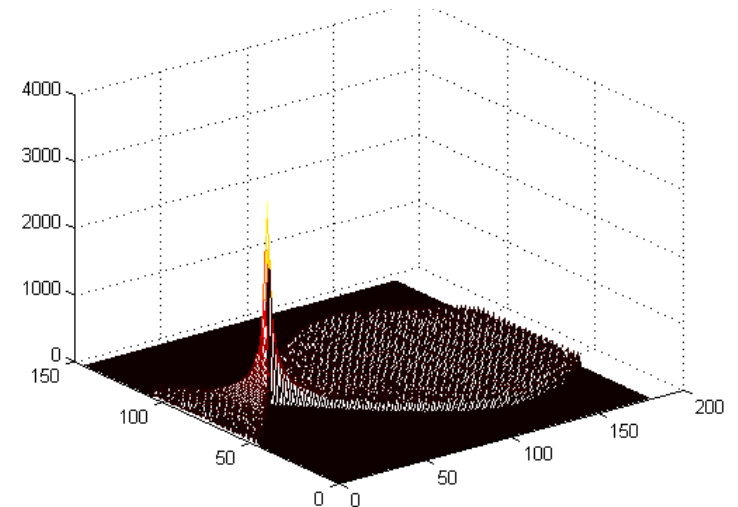
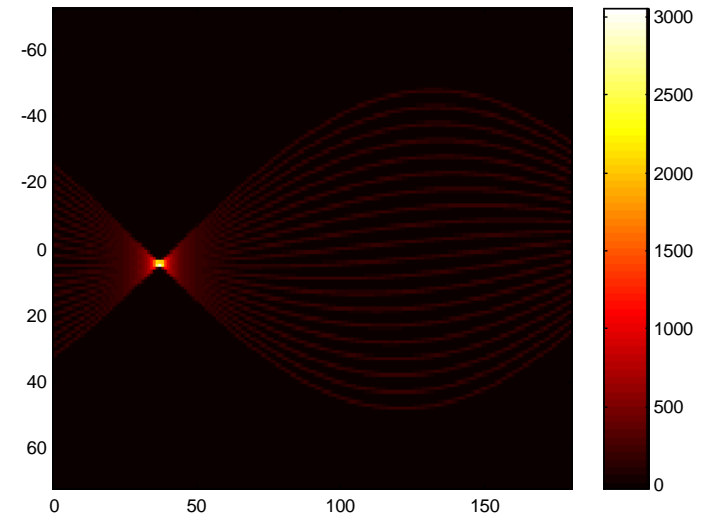
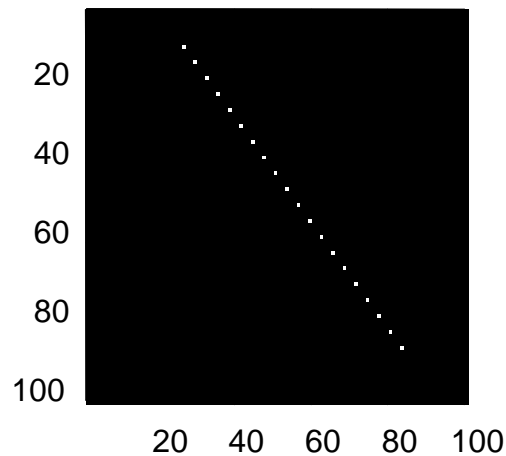
Original image



*Courtesy: P. Salembier*

# Hough transform Example C

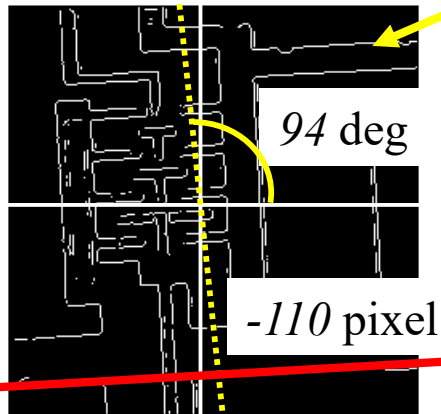
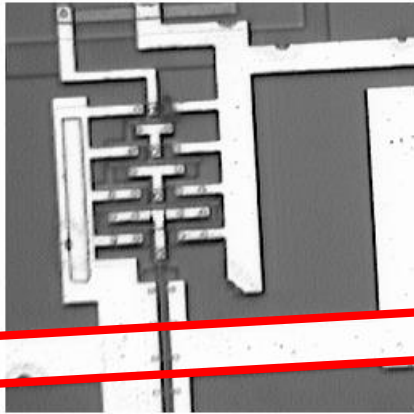
Original image



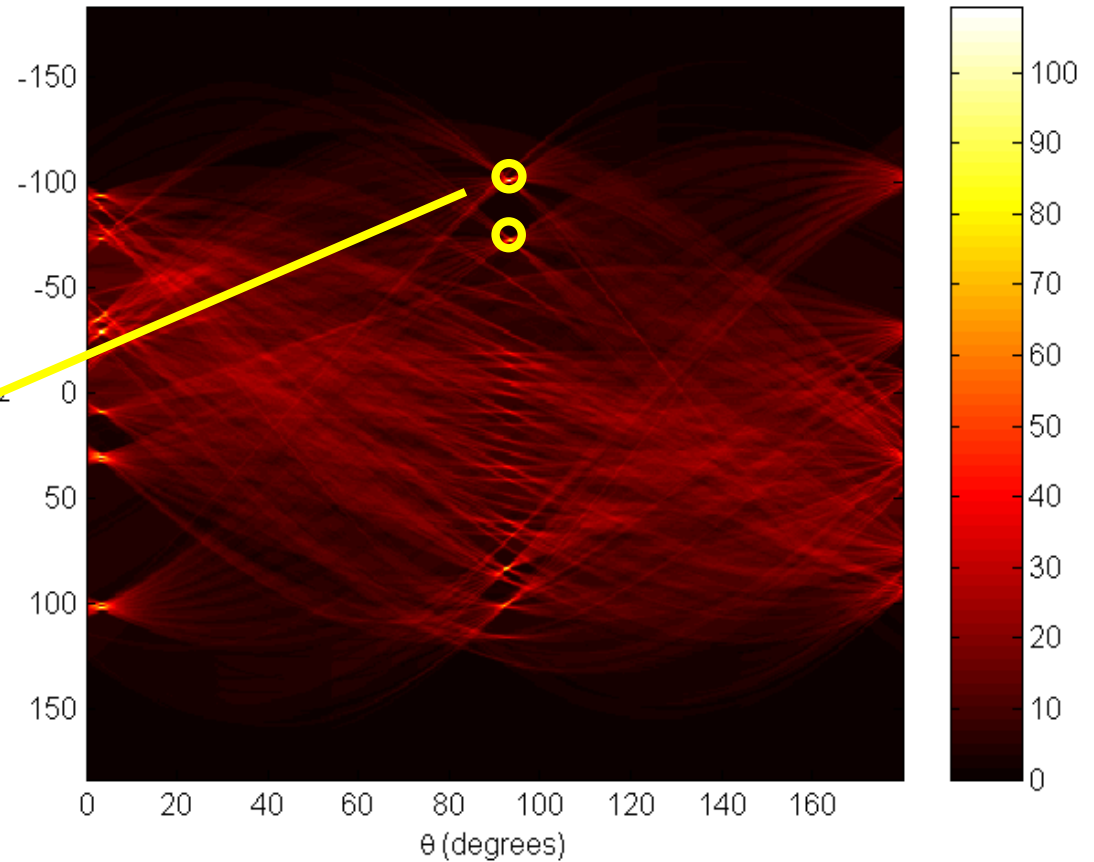
*Courtesy: P. Salembier*

# Hough transform example

Original IC image (256x256)

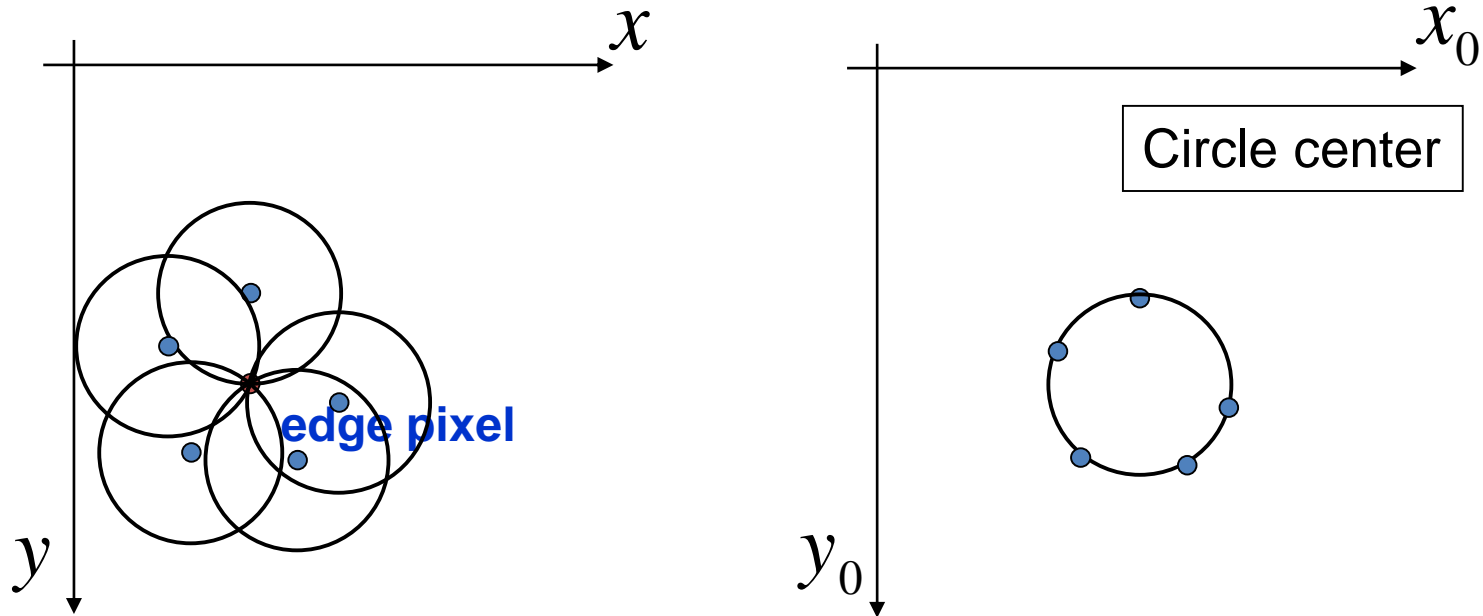


Edge detection (Prewitt)



# Circle detection by Hough transform

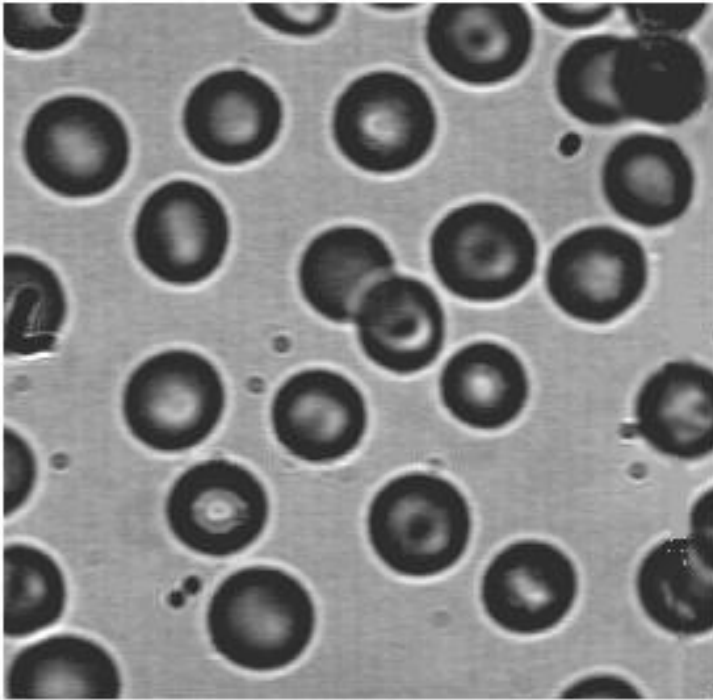
- Find circles of fixed radius  $r$



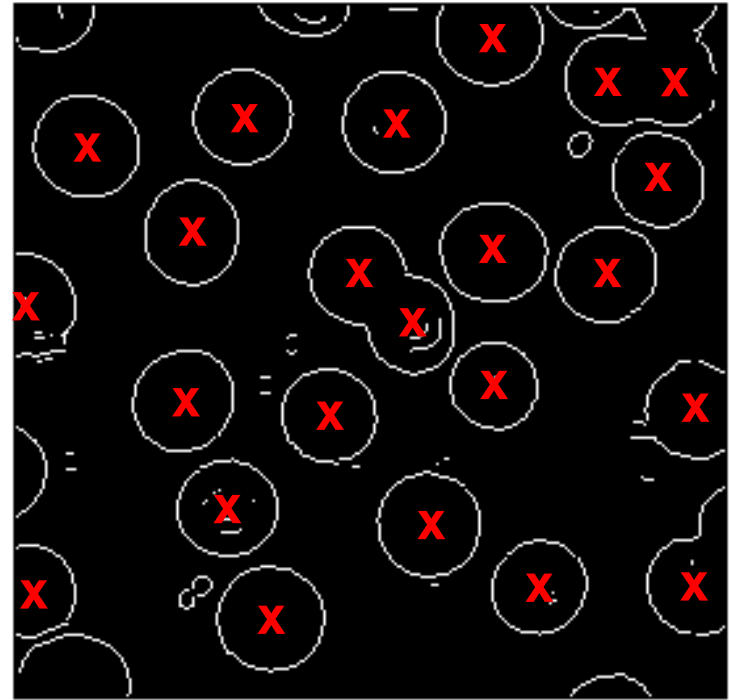
- For circles of undetermined radius, use 3-d Hough transform for parameters  $(x_0, y_0, r)$

# Example: circle detection by Hough transform

Original *blood* image

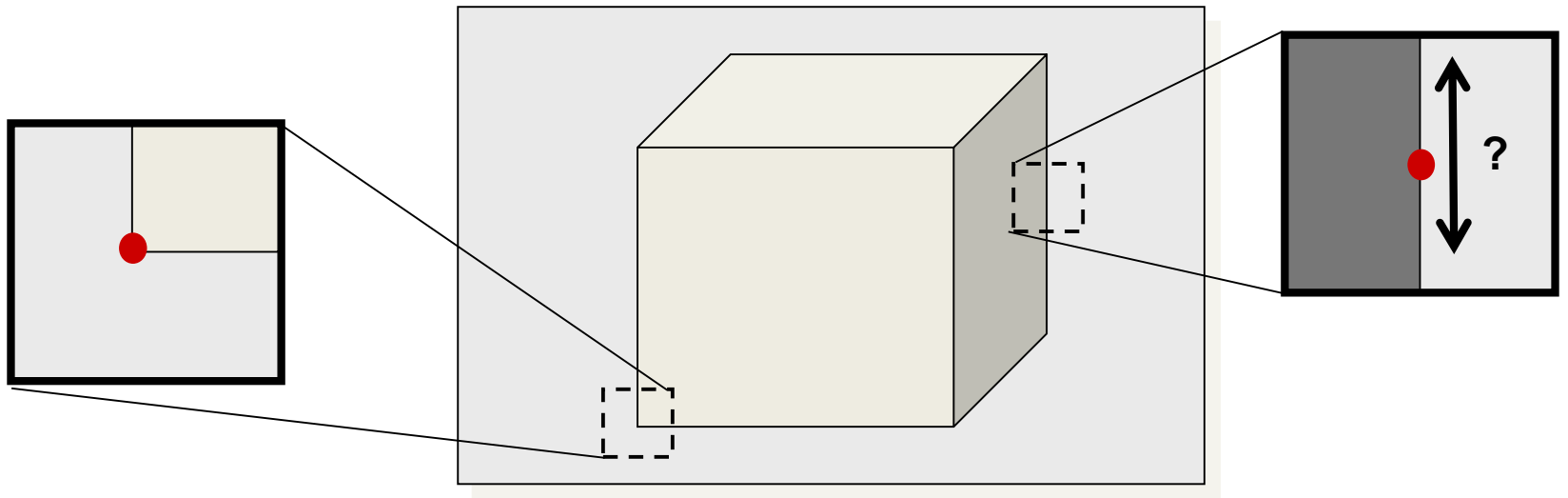


Prewitt edge detection



# Detecting corner points

- Many applications benefit from features localized in  $(x,y)$
- Edges well localized only in one direction → detect corners



- Desirable properties of corner detector
  - Accurate localization
  - Invariance against shift, rotation, scale, brightness change
  - Robust against noise, high repeatability

# What patterns can be localized most accurately?

- Local displacement sensitivity

$$S(\Delta x, \Delta y) = \sum_{(x,y) \in \text{window}} [f(x, y) - f(x + \Delta x, y + \Delta y)]^2$$

- Linear approximation for small  $\Delta x, \Delta y$

$$f(x + \Delta x, y + \Delta y) \approx f(x, y) + f_x(x, y)\Delta x + f_y(x, y)\Delta y$$

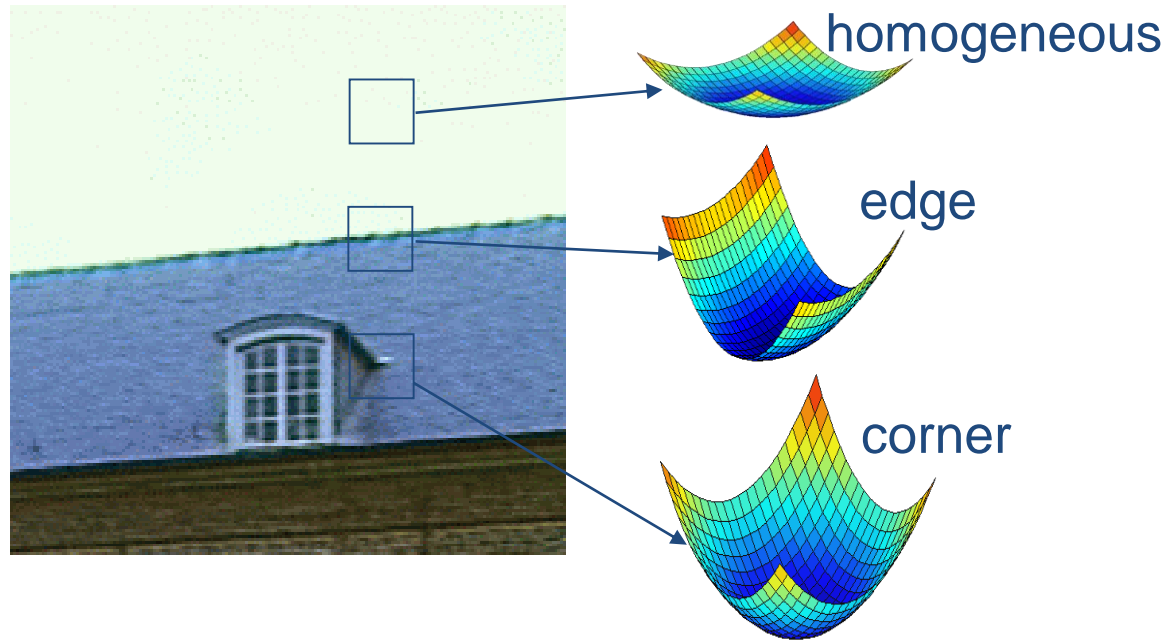
$f_x(x, y)$  – horizontal image gradient  
 $f_y(x, y)$  – vertical image gradient

$$\begin{aligned} S(\Delta x, \Delta y) &\approx \sum_{(x,y) \in \text{window}} \left[ \begin{pmatrix} f_x(x, y) & f_y(x, y) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Delta x \\ \Delta y \end{pmatrix} \right]^2 \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \Delta x & \Delta y \end{pmatrix} \left( \sum_{(x,y) \in \text{window}} \begin{bmatrix} f_x^2(x, y) & f_x(x, y)f_y(x, y) \\ f_x(x, y)f_y(x, y) & f_y^2(x, y) \end{bmatrix} \right) \begin{pmatrix} \Delta x \\ \Delta y \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \Delta x & \Delta y \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{M} \begin{pmatrix} \Delta x \\ \Delta y \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

- Iso-sensitivity curves are ellipses

# Feature point extraction

$$SSD \approx \Delta^T M \Delta$$



Find points for which the following is large

$$\min \Delta^T M \Delta \text{ for } \|\Delta\| = 1$$

*i.e. maximize eigenvalues of  $M$*



# Keypoint detection

Often based on eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$  of  
“structure matrix” (aka “normal matrix”  
aka “second-moment matrix”)

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{(x,y) \in \text{window}} f_x^2(x,y) & \sum_{(x,y) \in \text{window}} f_x(x,y) f_y(x,y) \\ \sum_{(x,y) \in \text{window}} f_x(x,y) f_y(x,y) & \sum_{(x,y) \in \text{window}} f_y^2(x,y) \end{bmatrix}$$

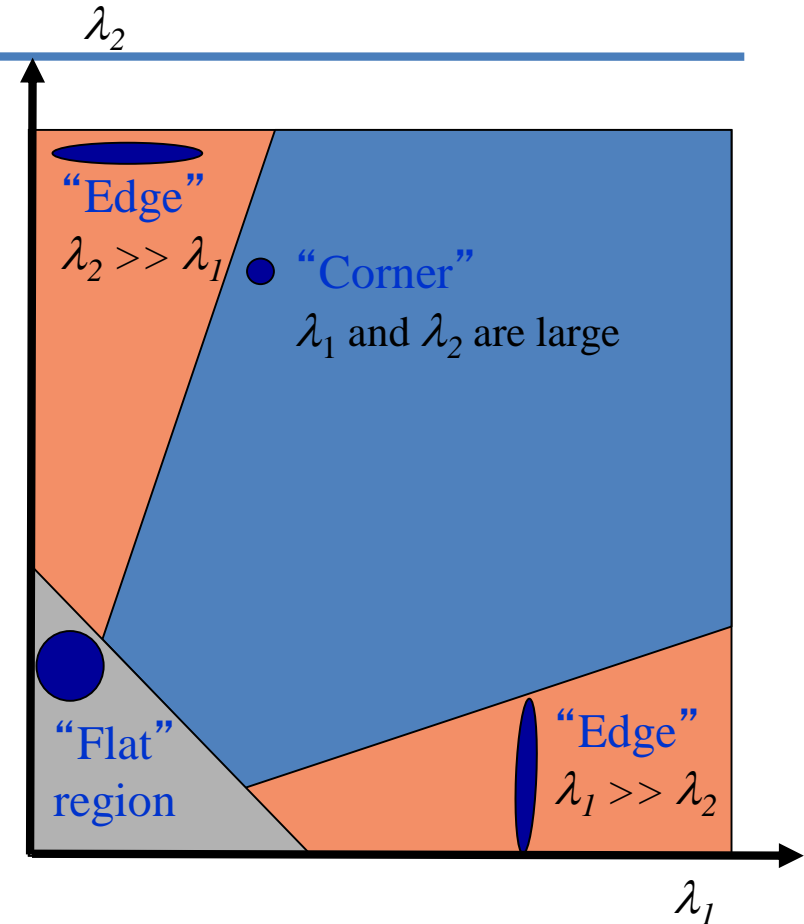
$f_x(x,y)$  – horizontal image gradient

$f_y(x,y)$  – vertical image gradient

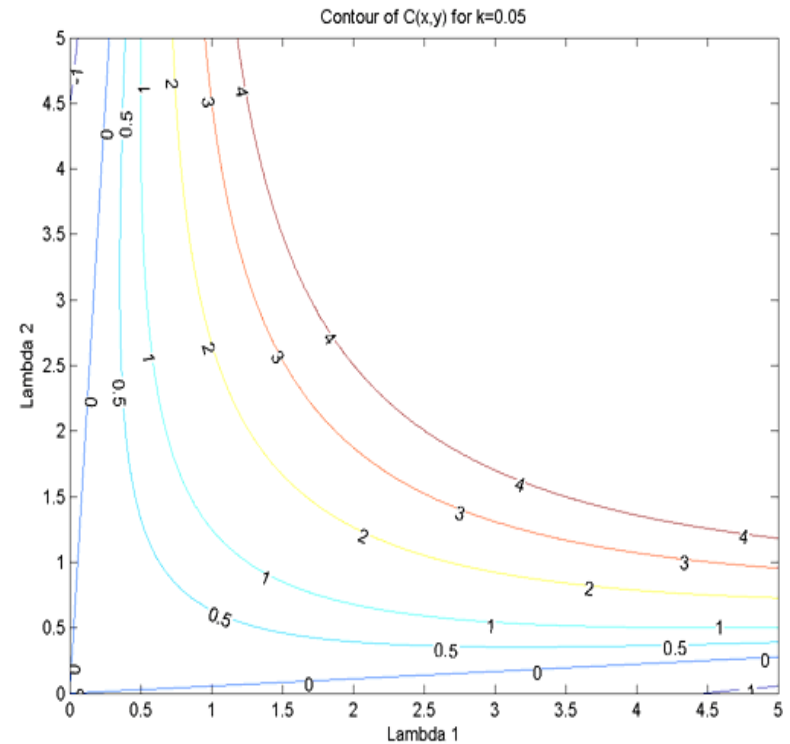
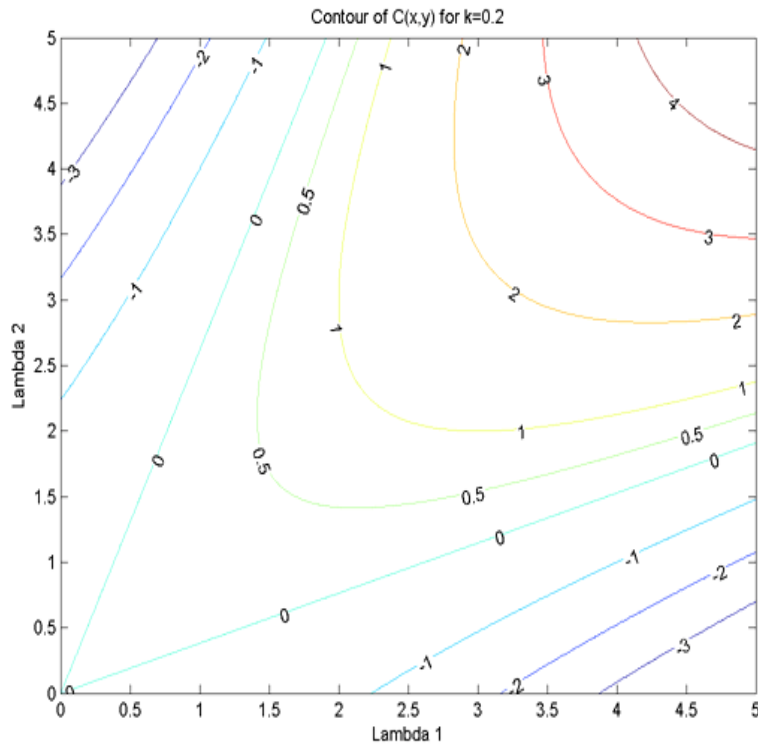
Measure of “cornerness”

$$\begin{aligned} C(x,y) &= \det(\mathbf{M}) - k \cdot (\text{trace}(\mathbf{M}))^2 \\ &= \lambda_1 \lambda_2 - k \cdot (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2) \end{aligned}$$

[Harris, Stephens, 1988]

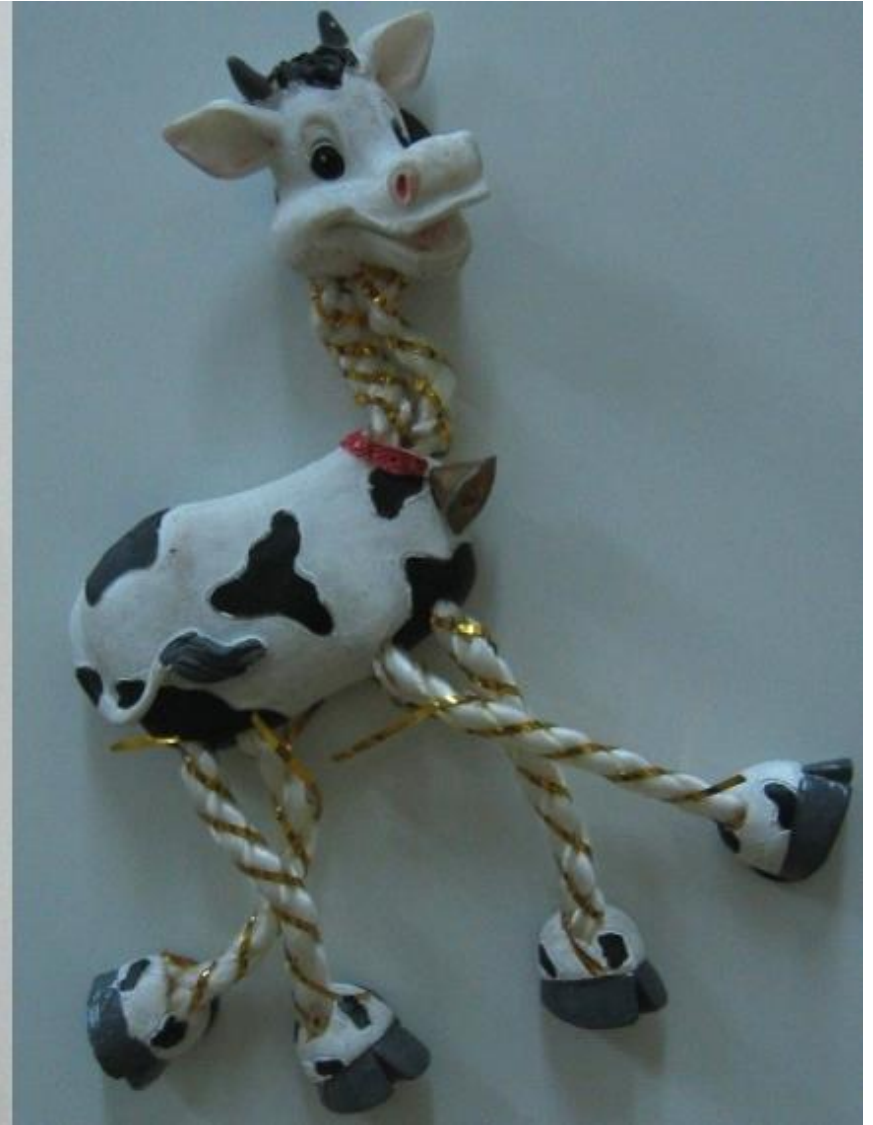


# Contour plot of Harris cornerness

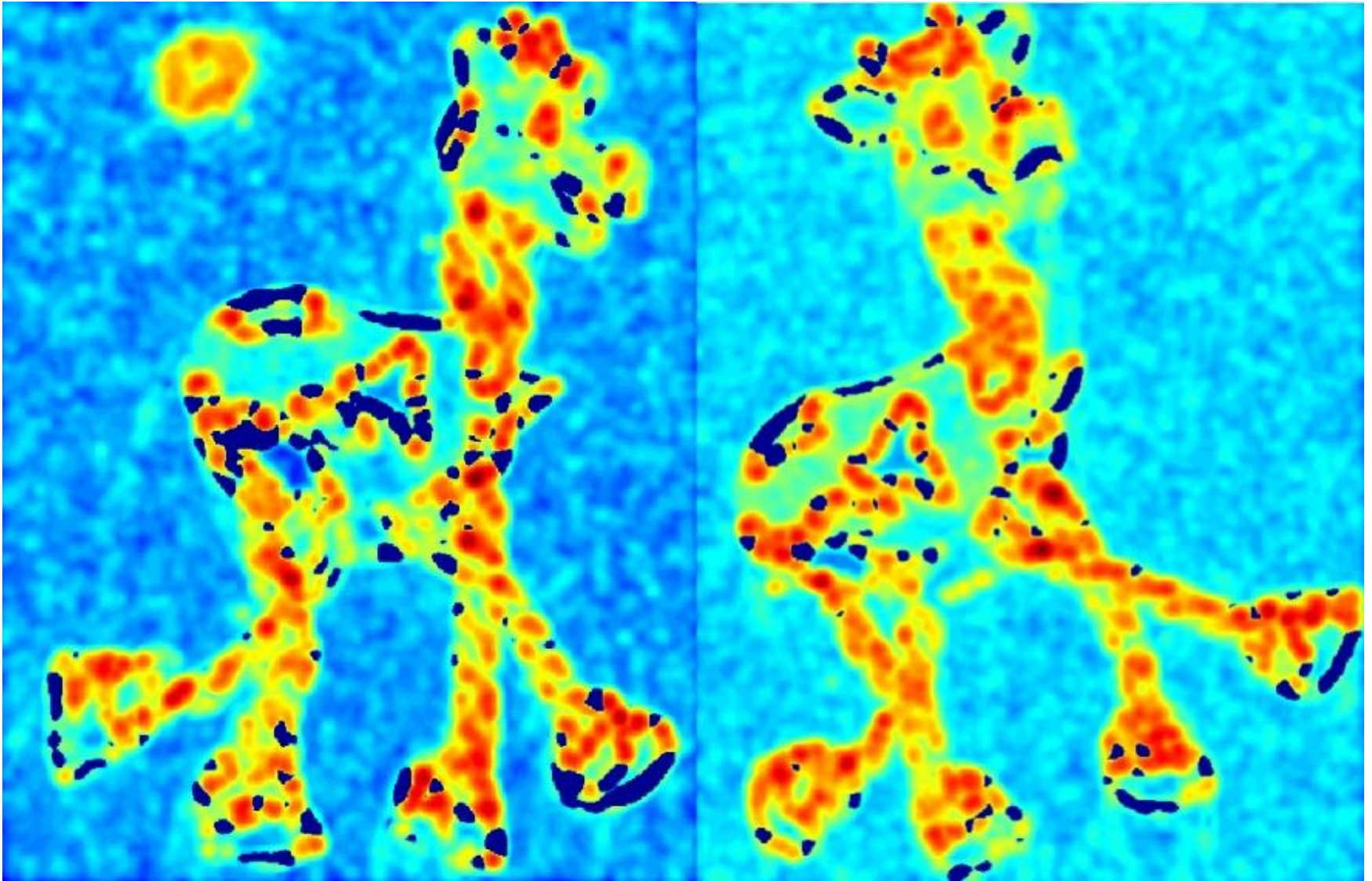


$$C(x, y) = \det(\mathbf{M}) - k \cdot (\text{trace}(\mathbf{M}))^2$$
$$= \lambda_1 \lambda_2 - k \cdot (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)$$

# Keypoint Detection: Input

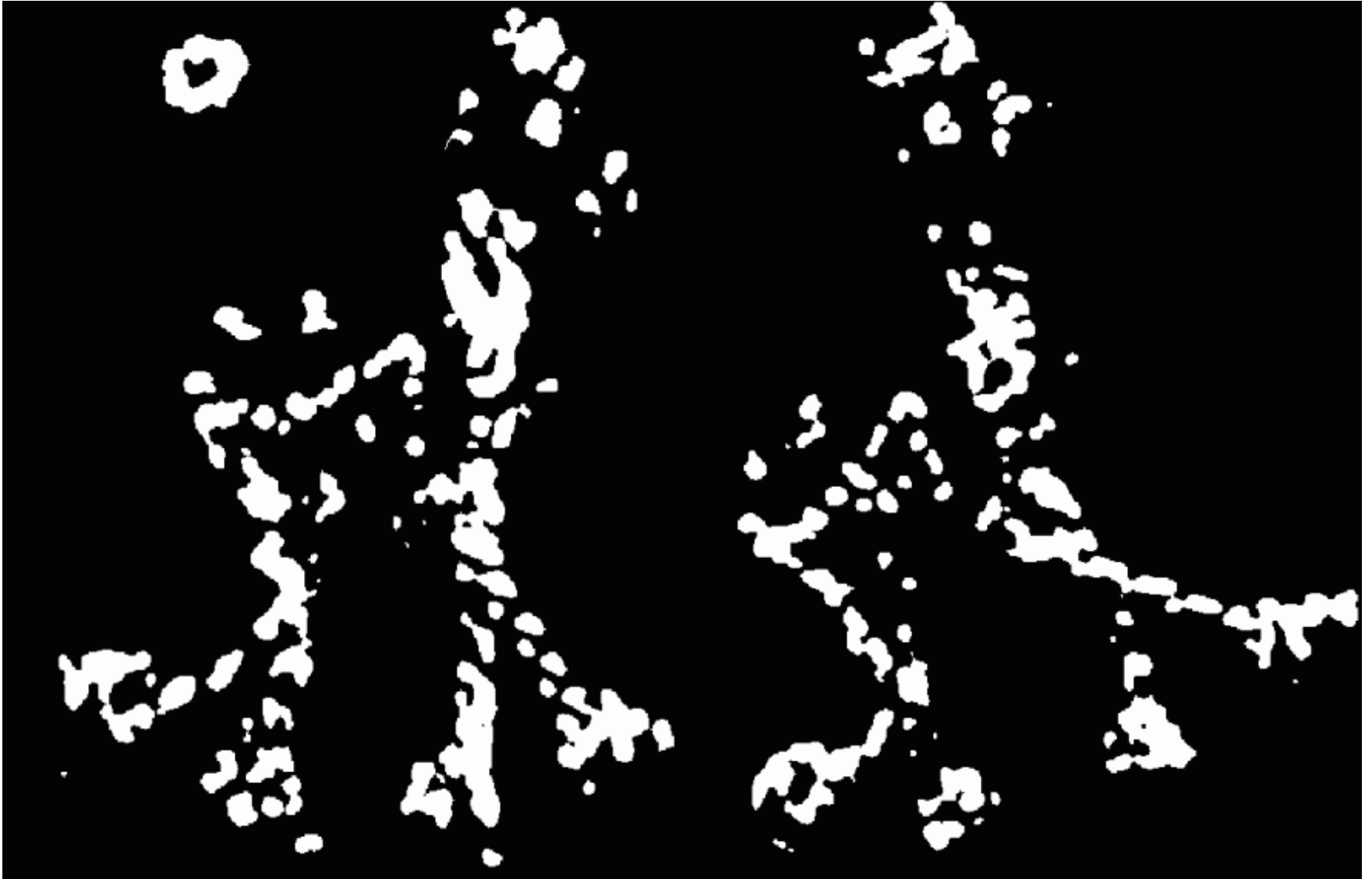


# Harris cornerness

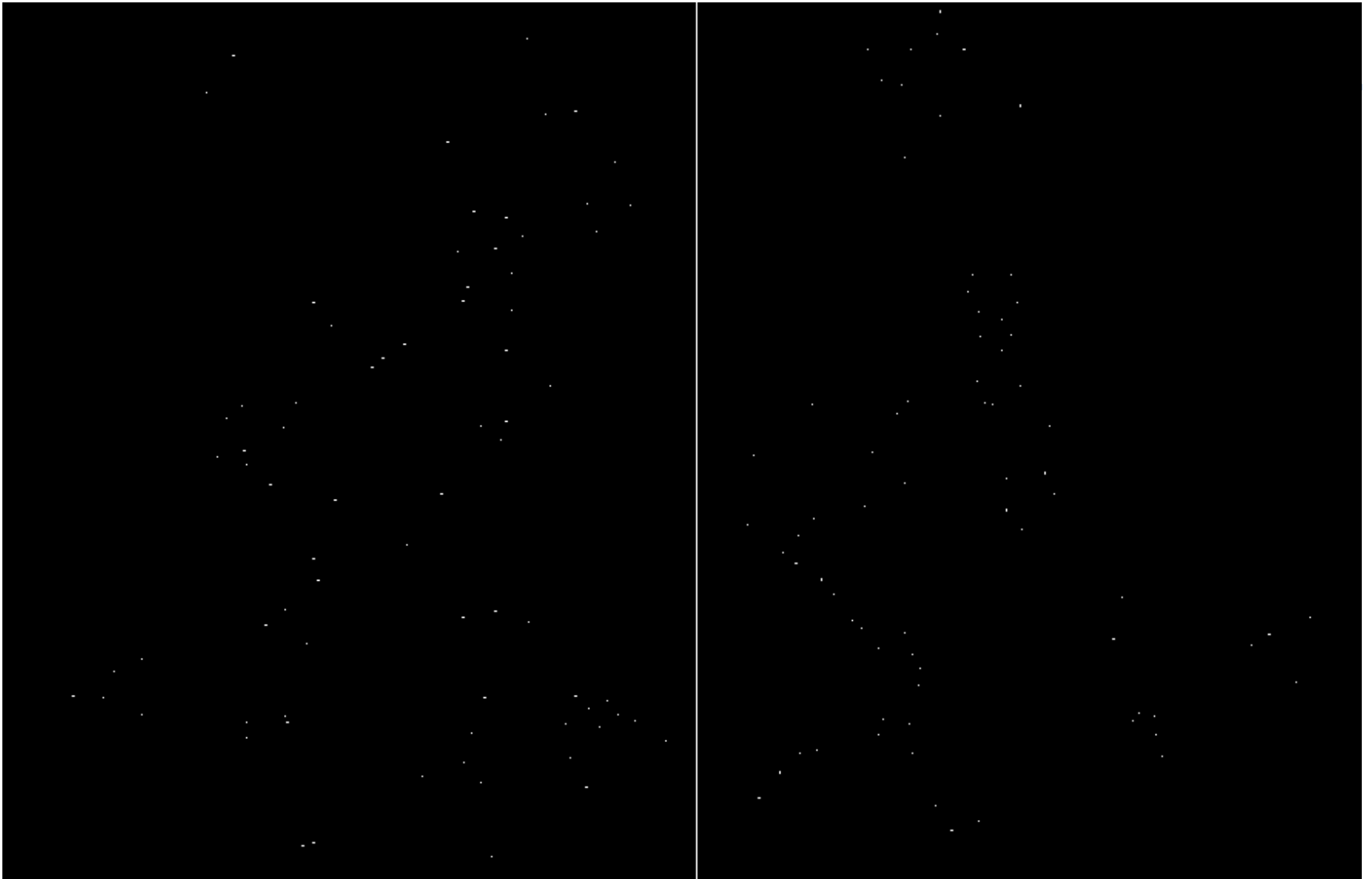




# Thresholded cornerness



# Local maxima of cornerness



# Superimposed keypoints



# Better localization of corners

---

- Give more importance to central pixels by using Gaussian weighting function

$$\mathbf{M} = \sum_{(x,y) \in \text{window}} G(x-x_o, y-y_o, \sigma) \begin{bmatrix} f_x^2(x, y) & f_x(x, y)f_y(x, y) \\ f_x(x, y)f_y(x, y) & f_y^2(x, y) \end{bmatrix}$$

e.g. 5x5,  $\sigma = 0.7$

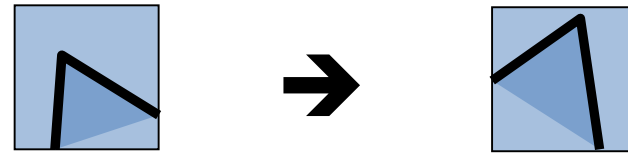
- Compute subpixel localization by fitting parabola to *cornerness* function



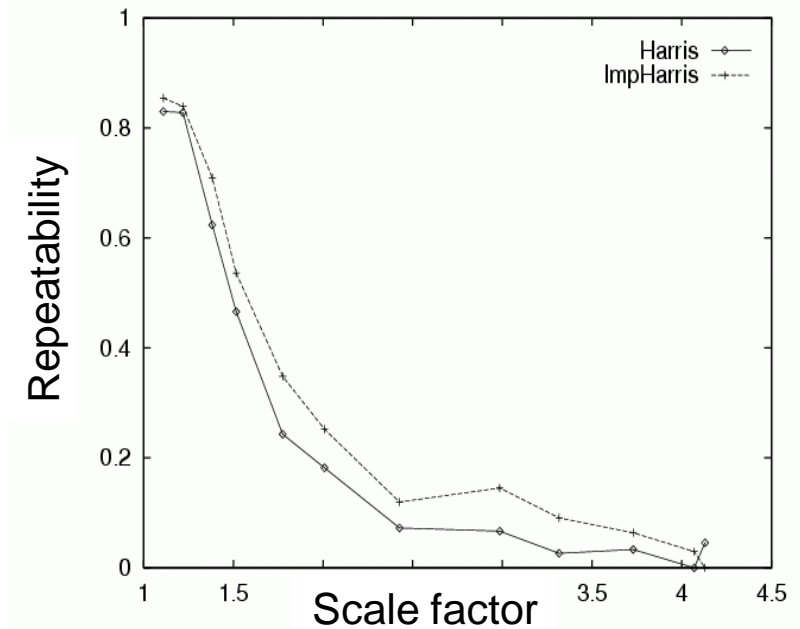
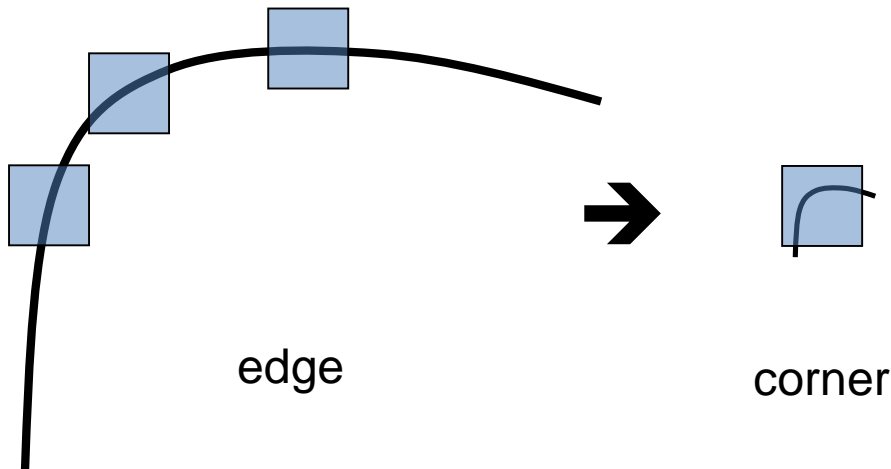
# Robustness of Harris corner detector

- Invariant to brightness offset:  $f(x,y) \rightarrow f(x,y) + c$

- Invariant to shift and rotation



- Not invariant to scaling

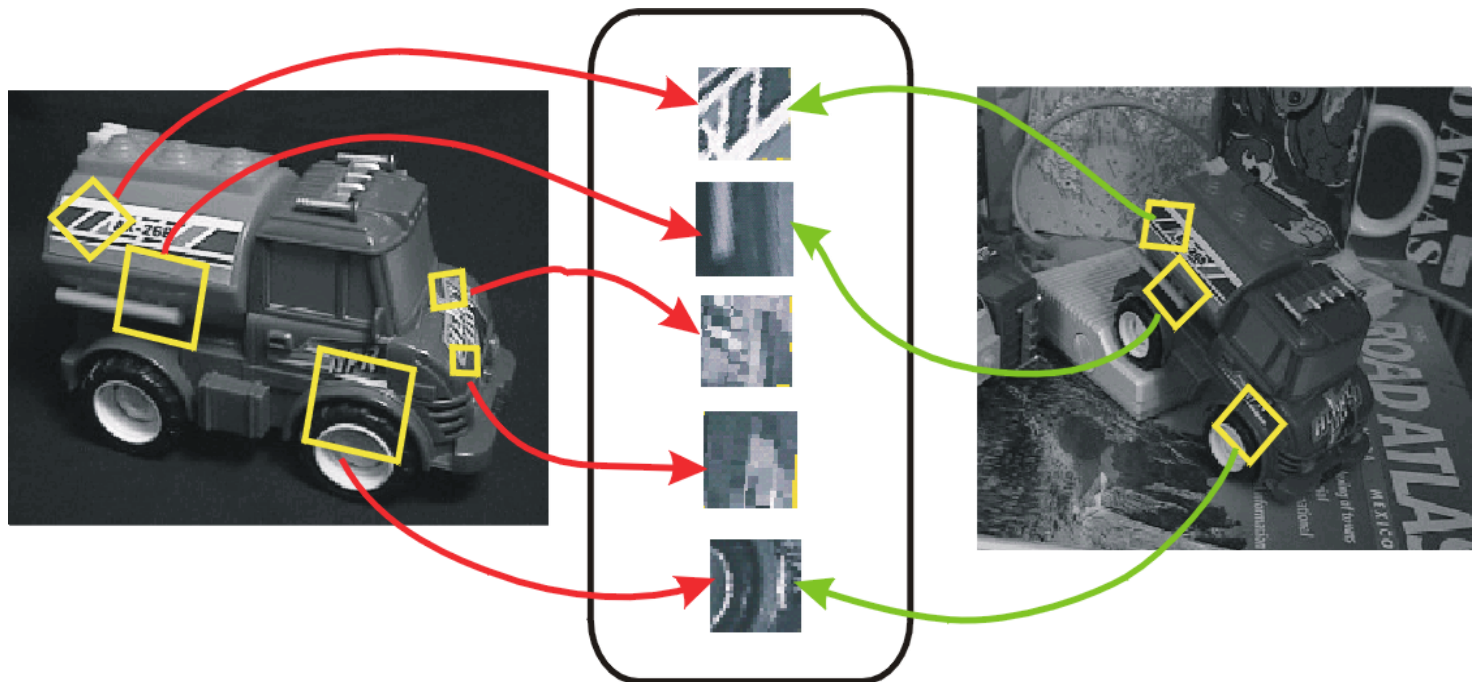


[Schmid, 2000]

# Lowe's SIFT features

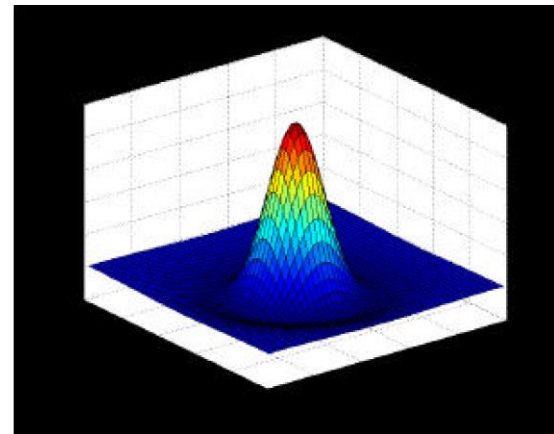
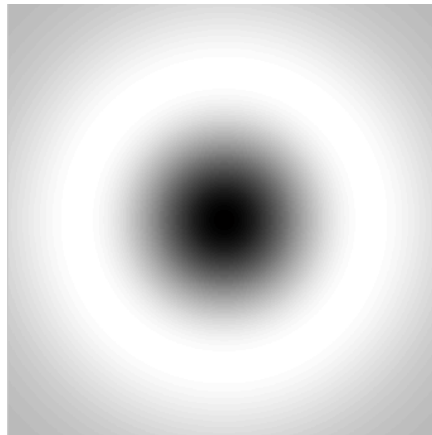
(Lowe, ICCV99)

Recover features with position, orientation and scale



# Position

- Look for strong responses of DoG filter (Difference-Of-Gaussian)
- Only consider local maxima

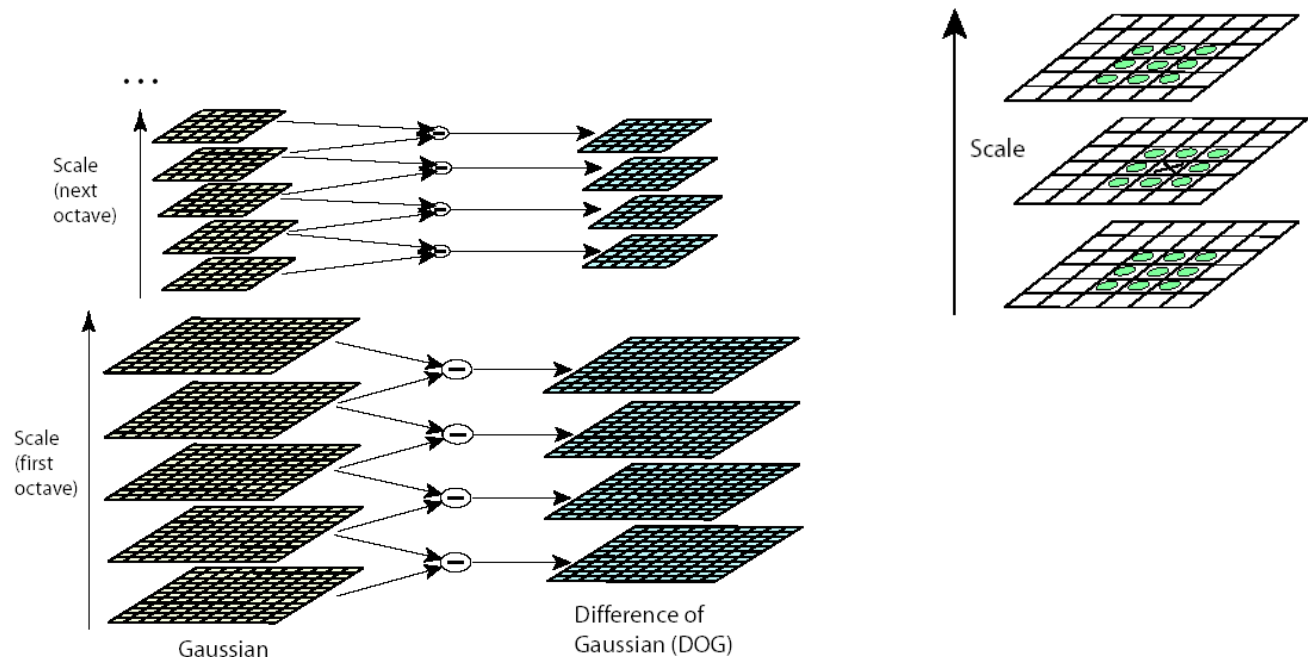


$$\text{DOG}(x, y) = \frac{1}{k} e^{-\frac{x^2+y^2}{(k\sigma)^2}} - e^{-\frac{x^2+y^2}{\sigma^2}}$$

$$k = \sqrt{2}$$

# Scale

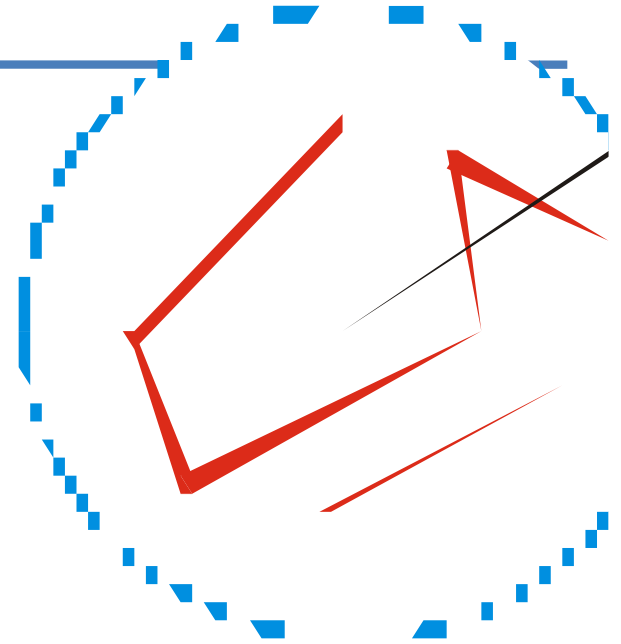
- Look for strong responses of DoG filter (Difference-of-Gaussian) over scale space
- Only consider local maxima in both position and scale
- Fit quadratic around maxima for subpixel accuracy





# Orientation

- Create histogram of local gradient directions computed at selected scale
- Assign canonical orientation at peak of smoothed histogram
- Each key specifies stable 2D coordinates (x, y, scale, orientation)



# Minimum contrast and “corneriness”

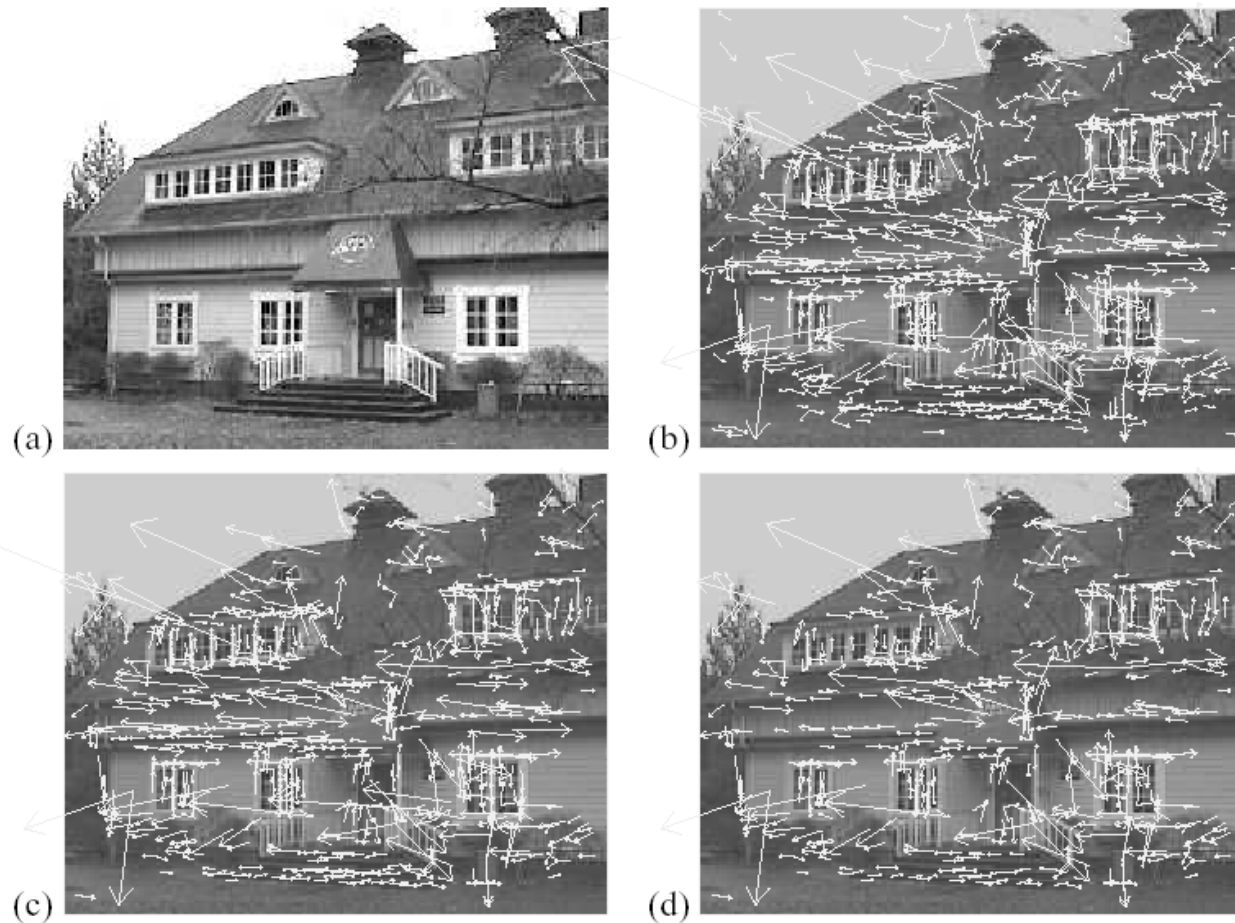


Figure 5: This figure shows the stages of keypoint selection. (a) The 233x189 pixel original image. (b) The initial 832 keypoints locations at maxima and minima of the difference-of-Gaussian function. Keypoints are displayed as vectors indicating scale, orientation, and location. (c) After applying a threshold on minimum contrast, 729 keypoints remain. (d) The final 536 keypoints that remain following an additional threshold on ratio of principle curvatures.

# SIFT descriptor

- Thresholded image gradients are sampled over 16x16 array of locations in scale space
- Create array of orientation histograms
- 8 orientations x 4x4 histogram array = 128 dimensions

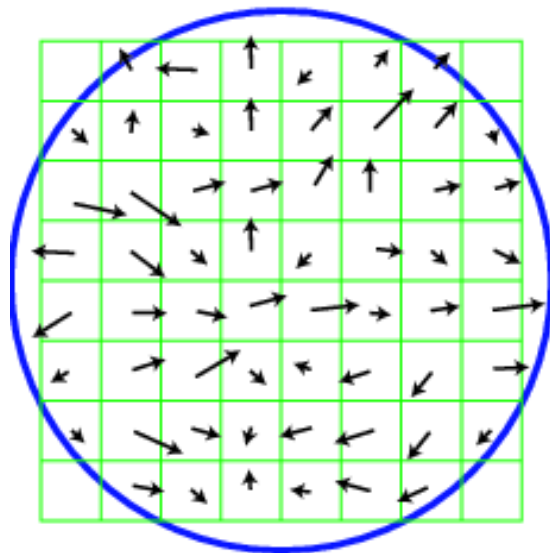
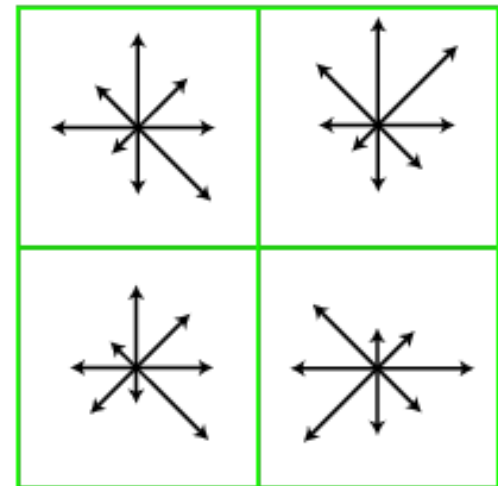


Image gradients

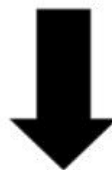


Keypoint descriptor





Input images (zip 1.1Mb)



Output panorama 1



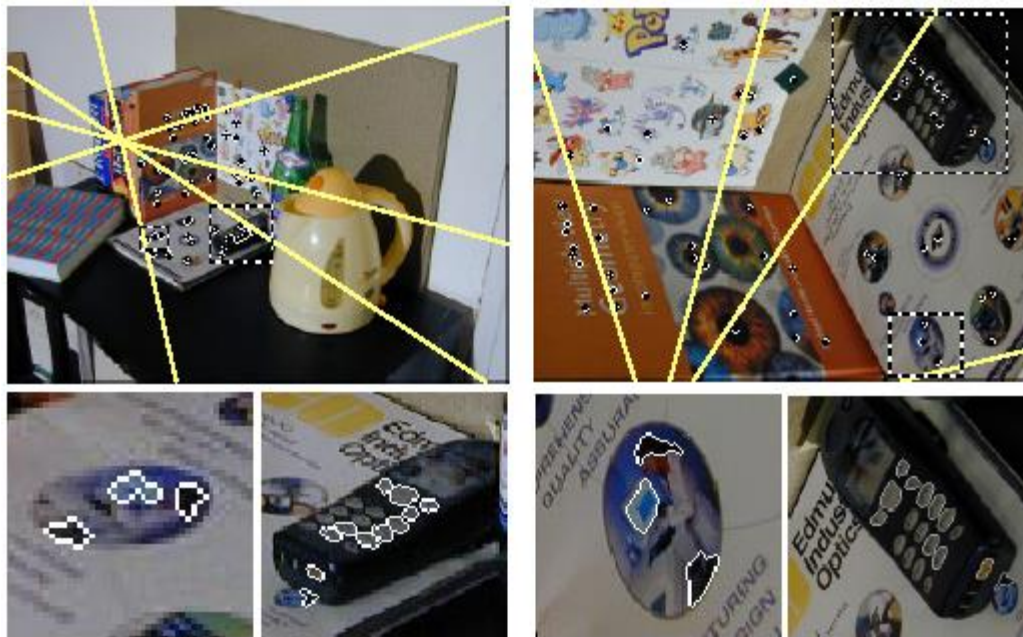
<http://www.cs.ubc.ca/~mbrown/autostitch/autostitch.htm>

<http://cvlab.epfl.ch/~brown/autostitch/autostitch.html>



# Matas et al.'s maximally stable regions

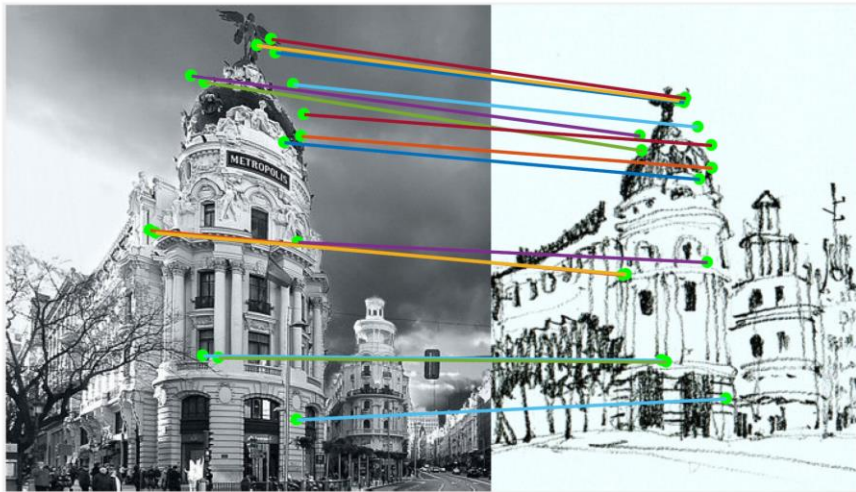
- Look for extremal regions



<http://cmp.felk.cvut.cz/~matas/papers/matas-bmvc02.pdf>

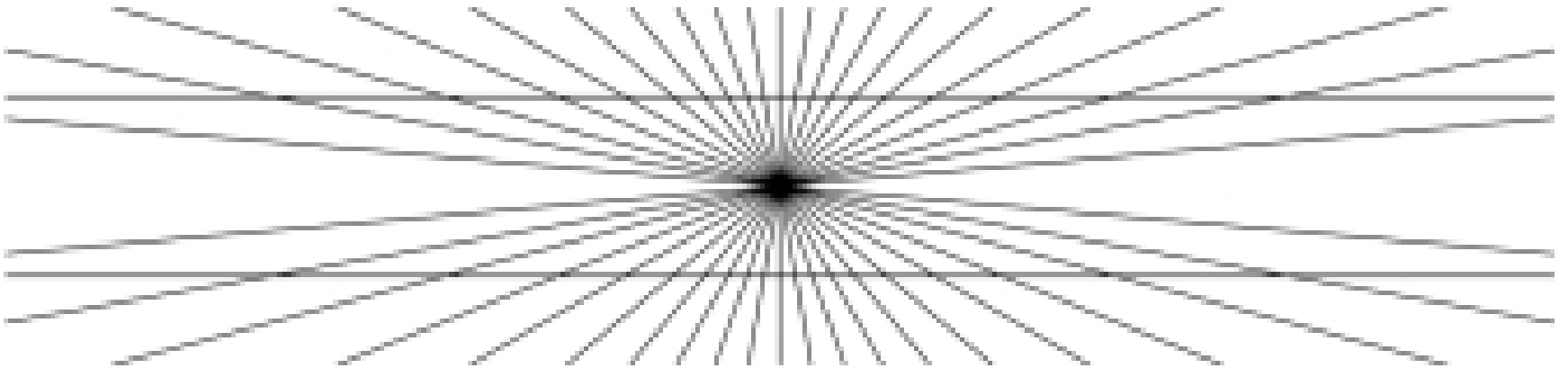
# Image features in the era of deep learning

---



Dusmanu et al., D2-Net: A Trainable CNN for Joint Description and Detection of Local Features, CVPR 2019

# Next week: Fourier transform



[Video](#)