



# Digital Image Processing

**Lecture #6**

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# Announcement

## ■ The following schedule

02/17	Lecture 1	04/14	Lecture 8
02/24	Lecture 2	04/21	Proposal
03/03	Lecture 3	04/28	Lecture 9
03/10	Lecture 4	05/05	Lecture 10
03/17	Lecture 5	05/12	Lecture 11
03/24	Lecture 6	05/19	Demo
03/31	Lecture 7	05/26	Demo
04/07	Midterm	06/02	Final Package Due



# Digital Halftoning

# Digital Halftoning

## ■ Goal

- Render the illusion of a continuous-tone image based on two-tone (half-tone) display



## ○ Applications

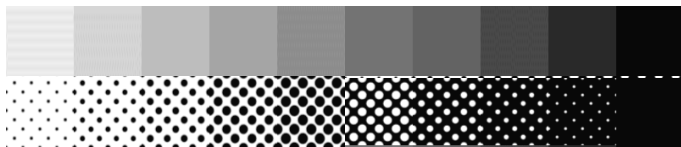
### ■ Computer hardcopies

- Laser printers/dot-matrix printers/color printers
- Fax machine

## ○ Implementation

### ■ Thresholding at $1/2$ ?

# Digital Halftoning



Gray-level image

Half-toned images



# Digital Halftoning

## ■ Color Printer

Continuous Image



Binary Image



# Digital Halftoning

- **Basic idea**

- **Spatial modulation**

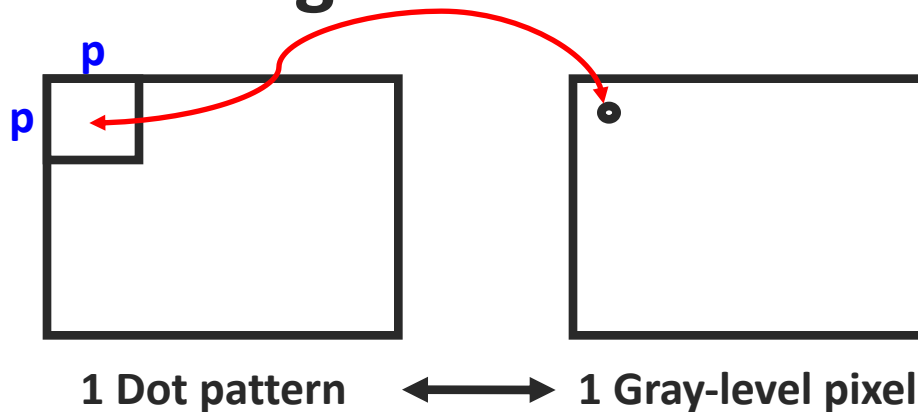
- Gray-level ↔ black/white
- Darker area ↔ denser black points per area
- Whiter area ↔ sparser black points per area

- **Three approaches**

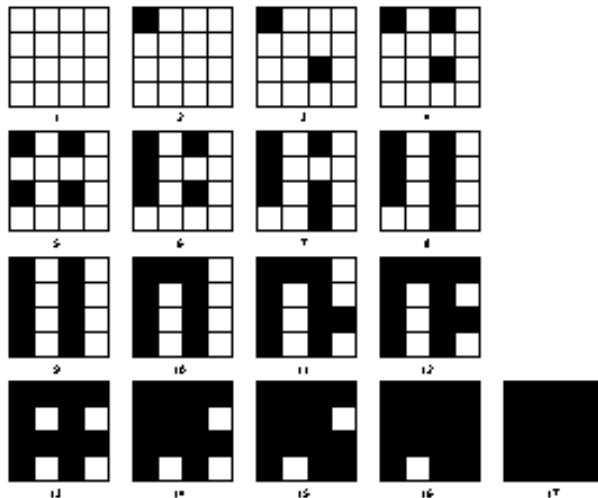
- **Patterning**
- **Dithering**
- **Error Diffusion**

# Digital Halftoning

## ■ Patterning



If  $p=4$   
→ 16 binary pixels  
→ 17 levels (0~16)  
→ 256 gray levels  
→ Quantization



Rylander's recursive  
patterning matrices



# Digital Halftoning

## ■ Patterning

### ○ Four steps

- Read in the given grey-level image
- Quantization
- Design the patterning table
- Map each pixel to its corresponding pattern

### ○ Simplest way

- Generates image with higher spatial resolution than the source image

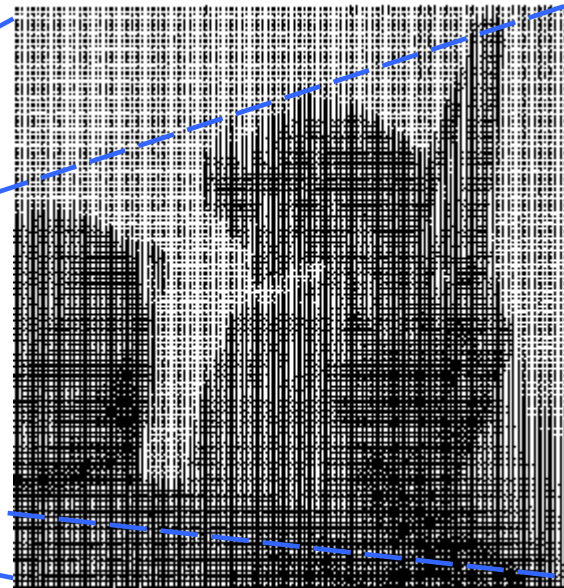
# Digital Halftoning

## ■ Patterning

### ○ Example



Original gray-level image



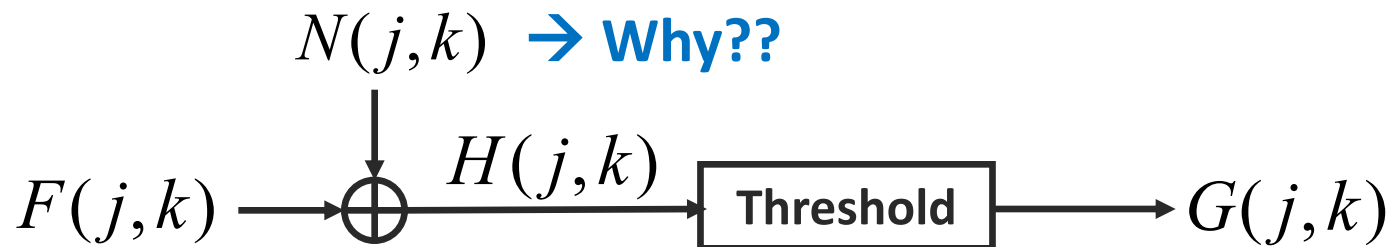
Half-toned image: patterning

# Digital Halftoning

## ■ Dithering

- Create an image with the same number of dots as the number of pixels in the source image

- Idea



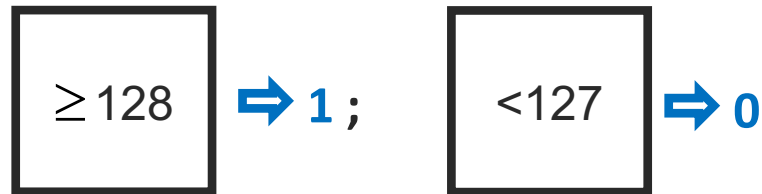
# Digital Halftoning

## ■ Dithering

### ○ Why adding noise?

#### ■ Under fixed thresholding → taking MSB

##### ○ E.g. before and after adding noise



#### ■ To break the monotonicity of accumulated error in the area of constant (nearly constant) gray level

#### ■ Noise type

##### ○ White noise, pink noise, blue noise and green noise

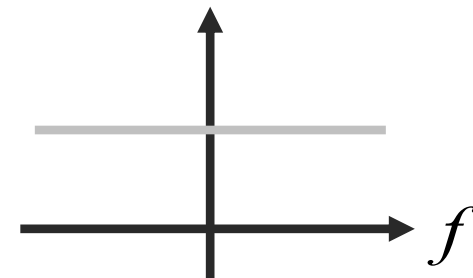
# Digital Halftoning

## ■ Dithering

### ○ Noise Type

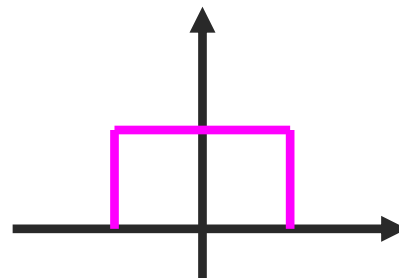
#### ■ Power spectral density

#### ■ White noise



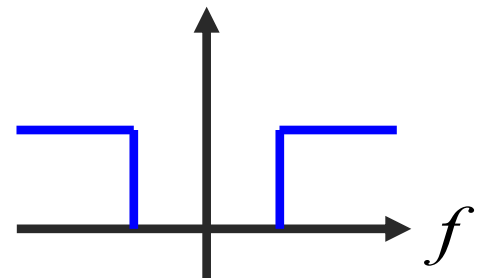
Grainy appearance

#### ■ Pink noise



Low-frequency noise

#### ■ Blue noise



High-frequency noise

### ○ Robert Ulichney, “Digital Halftoning”

■ <http://www.hpl.hp.com/people/u/>

# Digital Halftoning

## ■ Dithering

### ○ Adaptive thresholding

- Generate a threshold matrix according to a dither matrix
- Whenever the pixel value of the image is greater than the value in the threshold matrix, the pixel is turned on

### ○ Notes

- No randomness
- Region-to-region mapping
- Recursive definition allowed

# Digital Halftoning

## ■ Dithering

### ○ Dither matrix

$$I_2(i, j) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}; \quad I_2(i, j) = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

- 0 → lowest threshold
- 3 → highest threshold



# Digital Halftoning

## ■ Dithering

- The general form of the NxN dither matrix

- $2 \times 2 \rightarrow 4 \times 4 \rightarrow 8 \times 8 \rightarrow 16 \times 16 \dots$

$$I_{2n}(i, j) = \begin{bmatrix} 4I_n(i, j) + 1 & 4I_n(i, j) + 2 \\ 4I_n(i, j) + 3 & 4I_n(i, j) + 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Eg. What is  $I_4(i, j)$  if  $I_2(i, j) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ?

# Digital Halftoning

## ■ Dithering

- Determine the threshold matrix

$$T(i, j) = 255 \cdot \frac{I(i, j) + 0.5}{N^2}$$

## ■ Eg. N=4

$$I_4(i, j) = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 9 & 6 & 10 \\ 13 & 1 & 14 & 2 \\ 7 & 11 & 4 & 8 \\ 15 & 3 & 12 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad T_4(i, j) = ?$$

# Digital Halftoning

## ■ Dithering

Input image

12	51	34	121
78	254	10	97
45	113	110	16
90	200	206	34

Repeated threshold matrix

0	60	0	60
110	110	110	45
0	60	0	60
110	45	110	45

Output image


Another repeated threshold matrix

128	128	128	128
128	128	128	128
128	128	128	128
128	128	128	128


# Digital Halftoning

## ■ Experimental results



Original Image



Dithering

# Digital Halftoning

## ■ Experimental results



**Original Image**

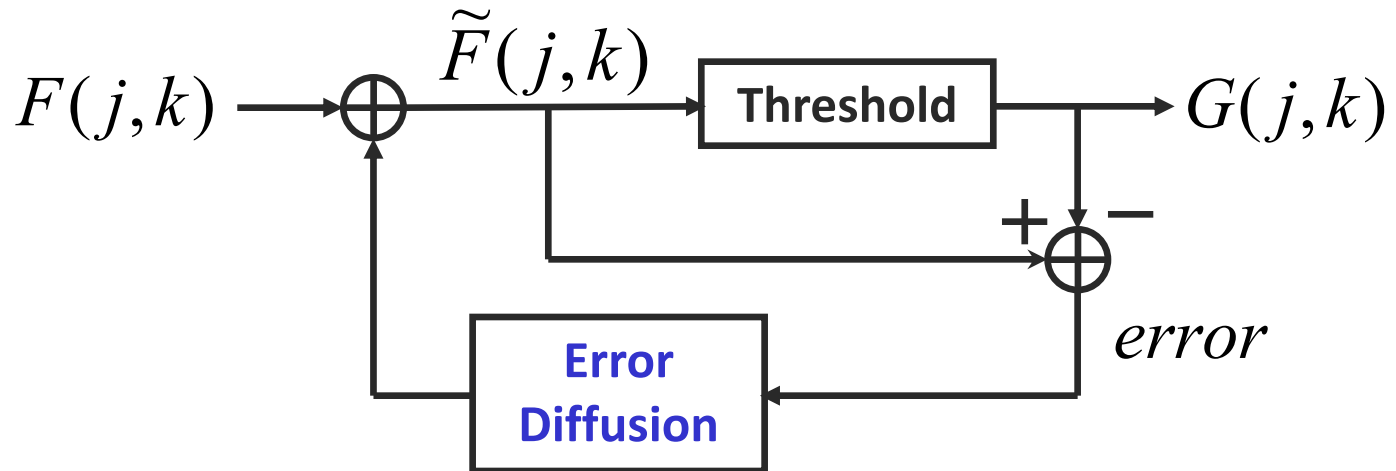
**Dithering**

# Digital Halftoning

## ■ Error diffusion

### ○ 1975 Floyd & Steinberg

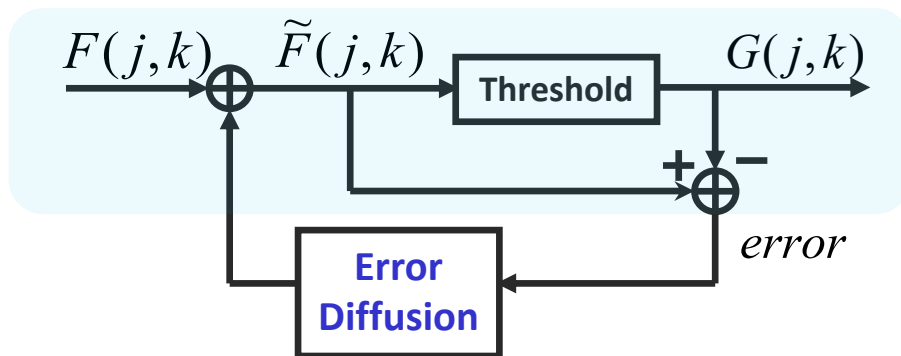
- A practical algorithm to implement blue noise dithering
- Framework



# Digital Halftoning

## ■ Error diffusion

- Normalize  $F(j,k)$  to lie between  $[0,1]$
- Set threshold=0.5
- Output image: 0 or 1



if  $\tilde{F}(j,k) \geq 0.5 \rightarrow G(j,k) = 1$

if  $\tilde{F}(j,k) < 0.5 \rightarrow G(j,k) = 0$

Define  $E(j,k) = \tilde{F}(j,k) - G(j,k)$

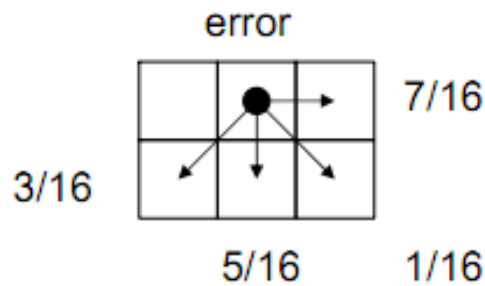


# Digital Halftoning

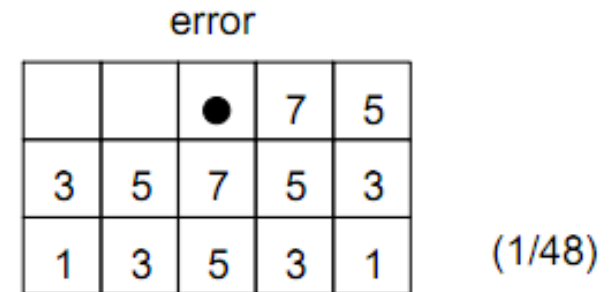
- Error diffusion

- Error diffusion filter masks

- 1975 Floyd Steinberg:

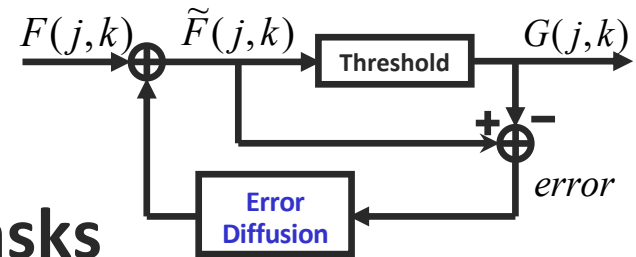


- 1976 Jarvis et al:



- Other diffusion matrices

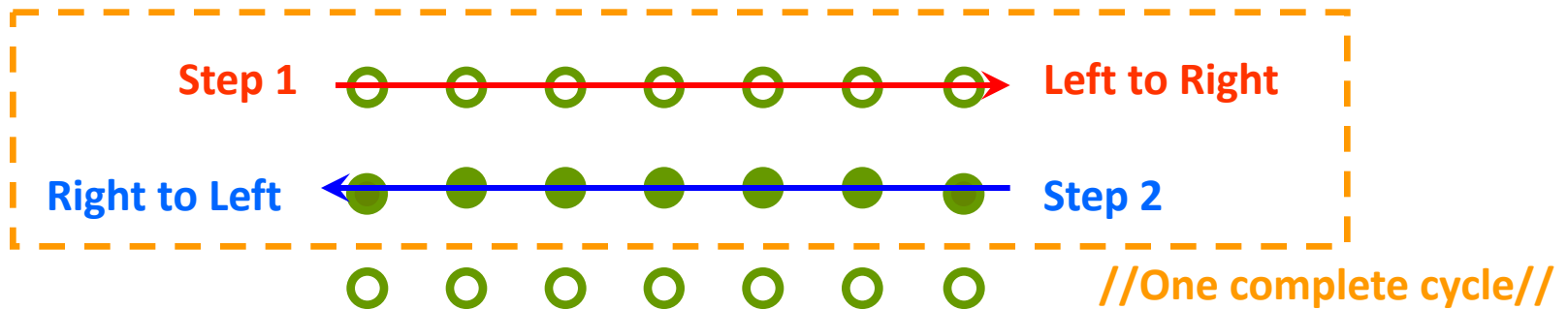
- <http://www.tannerhelland.com/4660/dithering-eleven-algorithms-source-code/>



# Digital Halftoning

## ■ Error diffusion

### ○ Error diffusion + serpentine scanning



$$\frac{1}{16} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 7 \\ 3 & 5 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Left to Right

$$\frac{1}{16} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 7 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 5 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Right to Left

# Digital Halftoning

## ■ Experimental results



Original Image

Error Diffusion

# Digital Halftoning

## ■ Experimental results



Original Image



Floyd-Steinberg



Jarvis

# Digital Halftoning

- **Multi-scale Error diffusion**
  - **Several issues**
    - **Region-to-region mapping**
      - Multi-resolution
    - **Time series/causal error diffusion process**
      - Easy to implement
      - Causality appears to be artificial in images
      - Is non-causal error diffusion possible?
  - **Quality metrics of half-toned images**

# Digital Halftoning

## ■ Multi-scale Error diffusion

“A multiscale error diffusion technique for digital halftoning”

Ioannis Katsavounidis and C. –C. Jay Kuo

### ○ Problem set-up

- Input image  $\rightarrow X(i, j) \in [0,1]$
- Output image  $\rightarrow B(i, j) \in \{0,1\}$
- Error image  $\rightarrow E(i, j) = X(i, j) - B(i, j)$
- Intermediate stage  $\rightarrow$

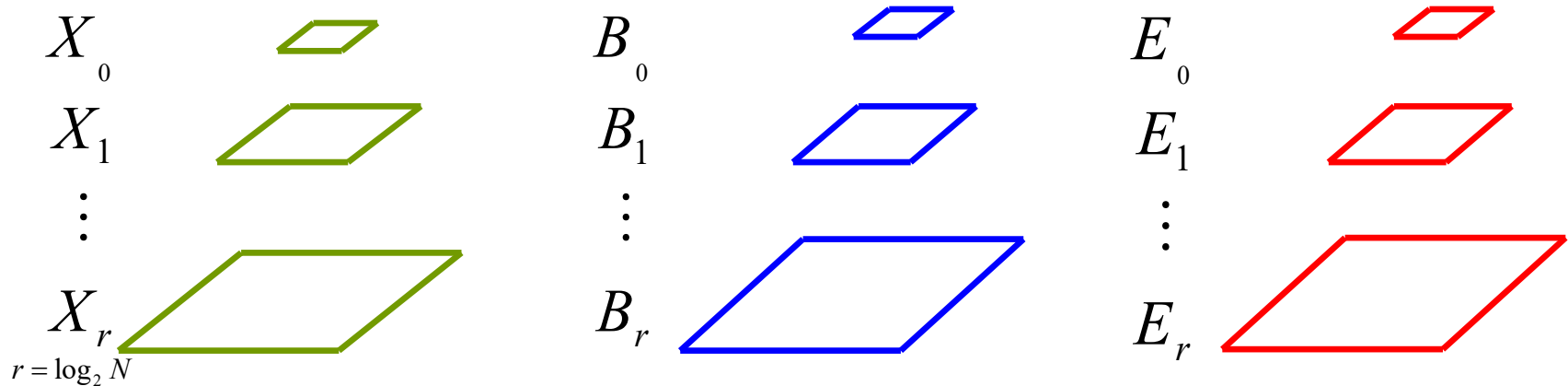
$$X_k(i_k, j_k), \quad 0 \leq k \leq r, \quad r = \log_2 N$$

$$X_k(i_k, j_k) = \sum_{i=0}^1 \sum_{j=0}^1 X_{k+1}(2i_k + i, 2j_k + j)$$

# Digital Halftoning

## Multi-scale Error diffusion

**input**  $X(i, j) \in [0, 1]$       **output**  $B(i, j) \in \{0, 1\}$       **error**  $E(i, j) = X(i, j) - B(i, j)$



$$X_k(i_k, j_k) = \sum_{i=0}^1 \sum_{j=0}^1 X_{k+1}(2i_k + i, 2j_k + j), \quad 0 \leq k \leq r$$

$$E_k(i_k, j_k) = X_k(i_k, j_k) - B_k(i_k, j_k), \quad 0 \leq k \leq r$$

**Goal: minimize the error pyramid in a certain way!**



# Digital Halftoning

## ■ Multi-scale Error diffusion

### ○ //Step 1// Initialization

- Set the entire output image pyramid to “0”

### ○ //Step 2// Dot assignment

- Find the largest error from top to bottom level
- 1 parent node distributes its dots (integer numbers) to 4 children

### ○ //Step 3// Error diffusion process

$$\frac{1}{12} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & -12 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

center

$$\frac{1}{8} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & -8 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

side

$$\frac{1}{5} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -5 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

corner

# Digital Halftoning

- **Multi-scale Error diffusion**

- **Quality management**

- **MSE vector**

$$MSEV = \begin{pmatrix} MSE_0 \\ MSE_1 \\ \vdots \\ MSE_r \end{pmatrix} \quad MSE_k = \frac{1}{N^2} \sum_{i=0}^{2^k-1} \sum_{j=0}^{2^k-1} E_k^2(i, j)$$

- **Notes**

- **Preserve contrast of the original image**
  - **Does not over-smooth the image**

# Digital Halftoning

## ■ Experimental results



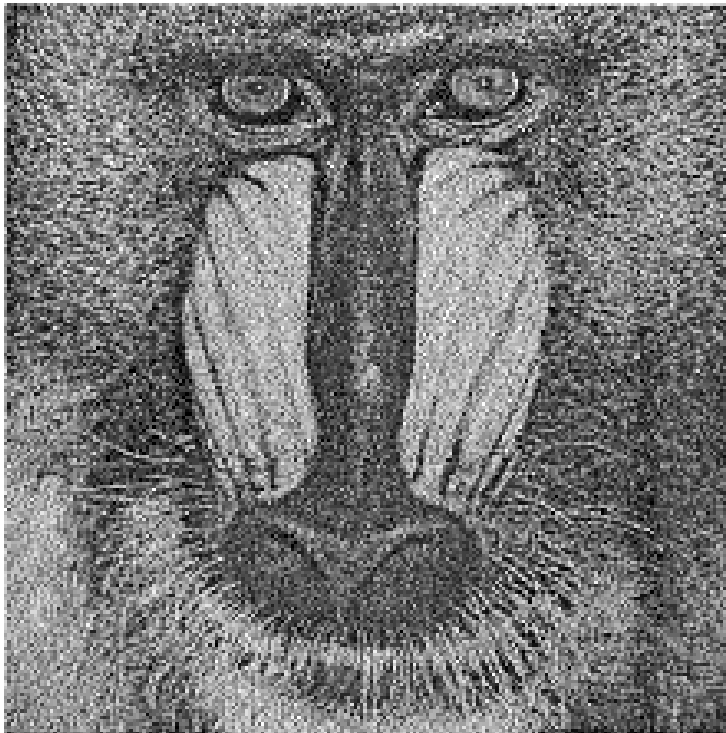
Error Diffusion



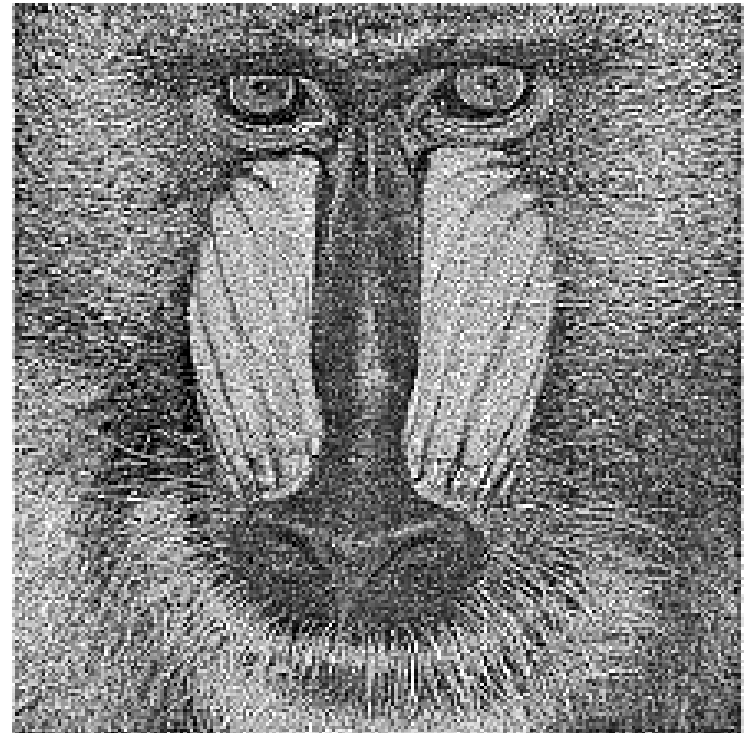
Multi-Scale Error Diffusion 32

# Digital Halftoning

## ■ Experimental results



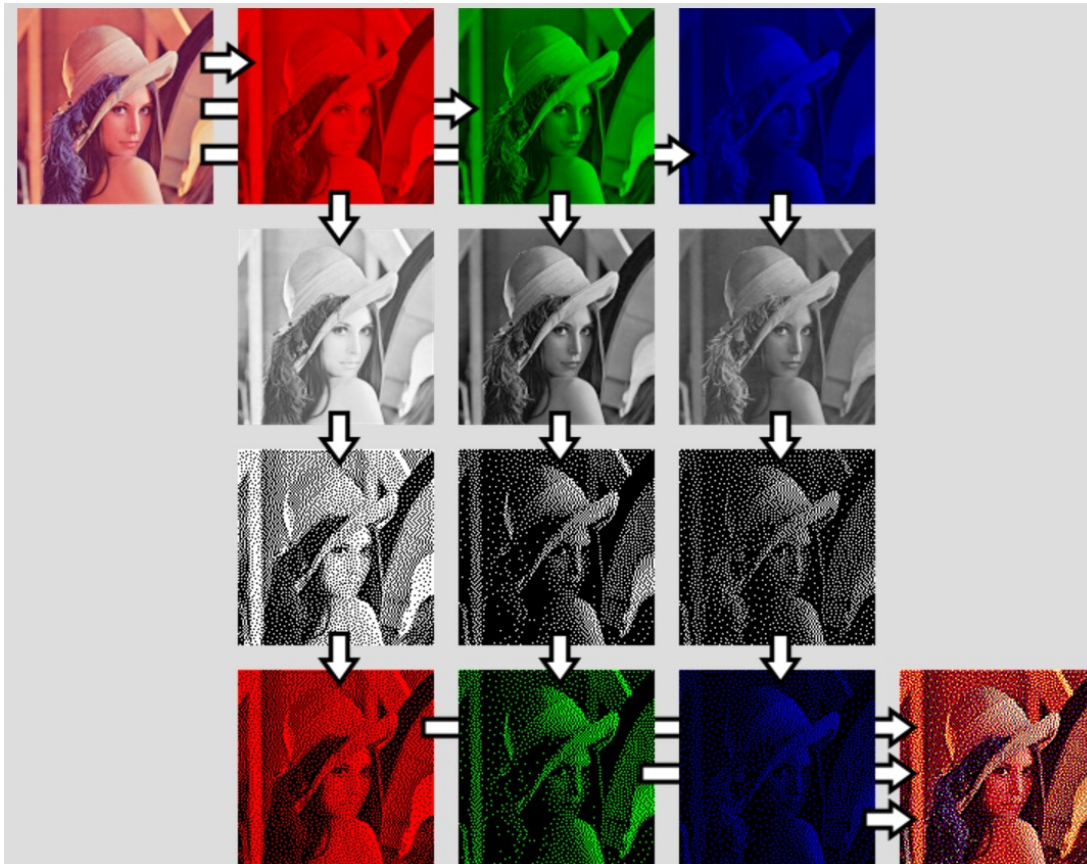
Error Diffusion



Multi-Scale Error Diffusion 33

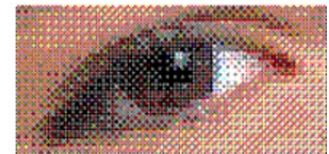
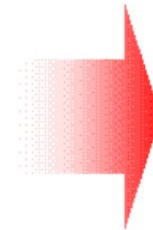
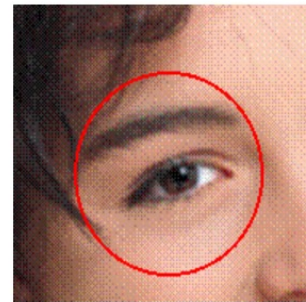
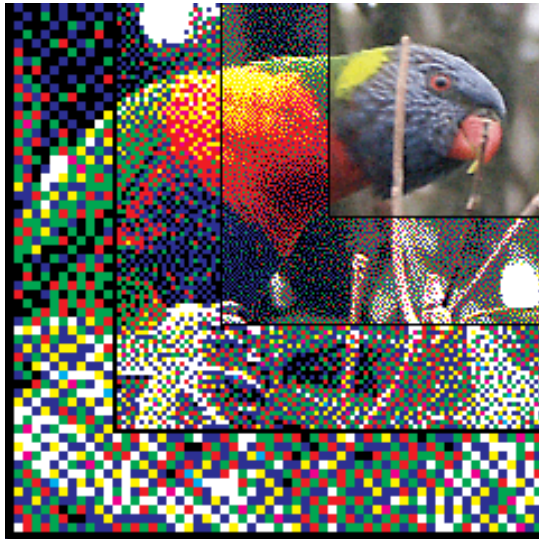
# Digital Halftoning

## ■ Color image



# Digital Halftoning

## ■ Examples



**Dithering**



**Error Diffusion**



# Digital Halftoning

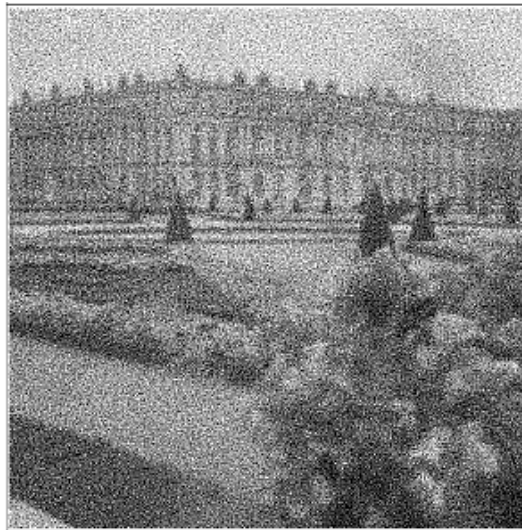
## ■ Application

### ○ Visual cryptography

“visual cryptography based on void-and-cluster halftoning technique” E. Myodo, S. Sakazawa and Y. Takishima



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