



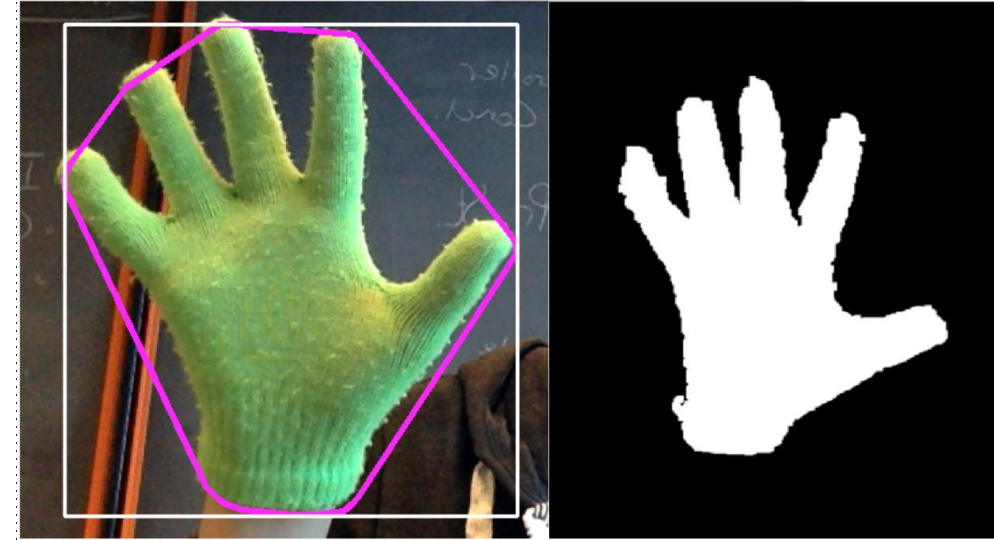
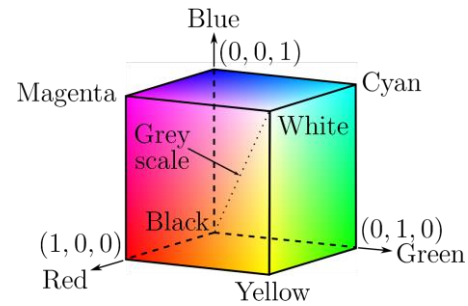
Color thresholding and HSV

Andreas Møgelmoose

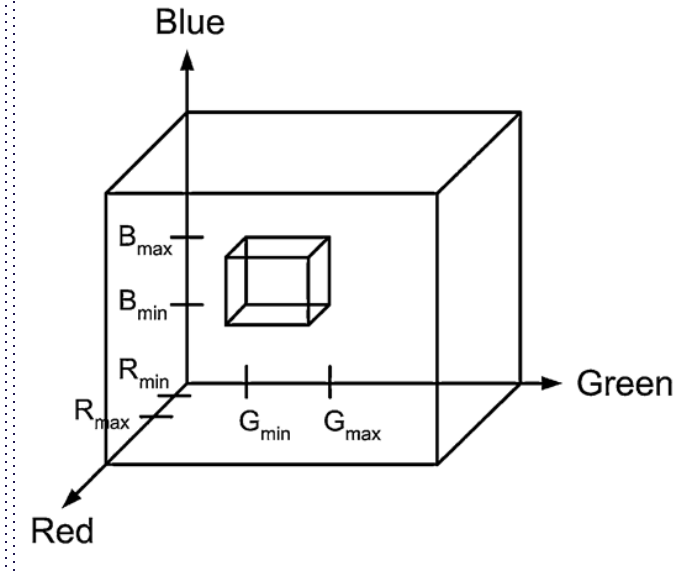


AALBORG UNIVERSITY
DENMARK

Color thresholding



- › For example: we want to detect light green objects using the color
- › 3D thresholding in RGB
- › If: $R_{\min} < R < R_{\max}$ AND
- › $G_{\min} < G < G_{\max}$ AND
- › $B_{\min} < B < B_{\max}$
- › Then: object pixel
- › Else: non-object pixel
- › Problem: If the intensity changes, we need larger TH => non-object pixels will be detected
- › Solution: Separate color and intensity



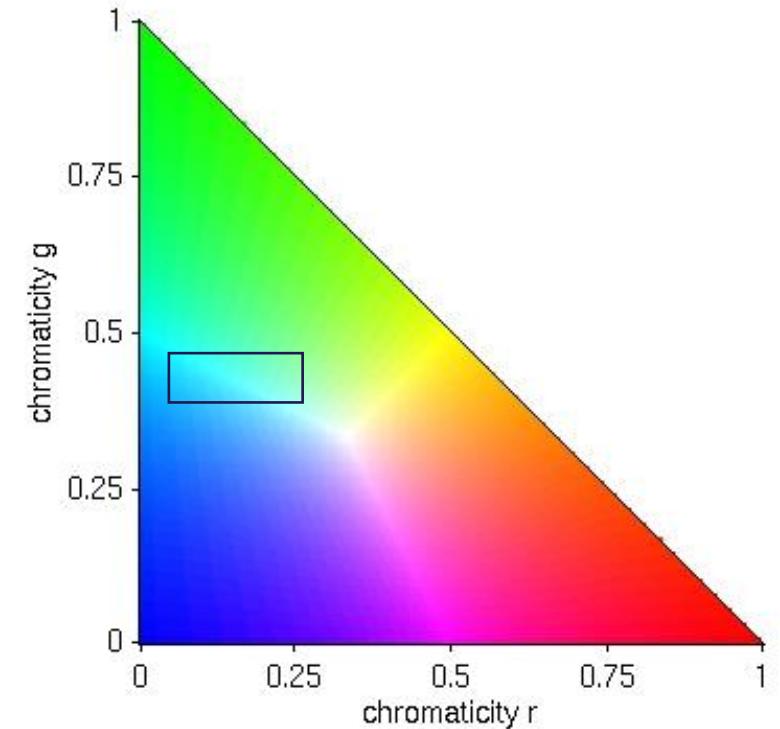
Color thresholding: Chromaticities

- Normalized RGB: $R+G+B = 1$

$$r = \frac{R}{R+G+B} \quad g = \frac{G}{R+G+B} \quad b = \frac{B}{R+G+B}$$

- Threshold in chromaticities:
- If: $R_{\min} < R_{\text{chroma}} < R_{\max}$ AND
 $G_{\min} < G_{\text{chroma}} < G_{\max}$
- Then: object pixel
- Else: non-object pixel

Still not great for colors
which are on the boundaries
between the primaries ☹️



HSI color space to the rescue!

- Hue: The dominant wavelength in the mixture of light waves, as perceived by an observer. The “pure” color.
- Saturation: Relative purity; inverse of the amount of white light mixed with hue
- Intensity: The average of R, G, B



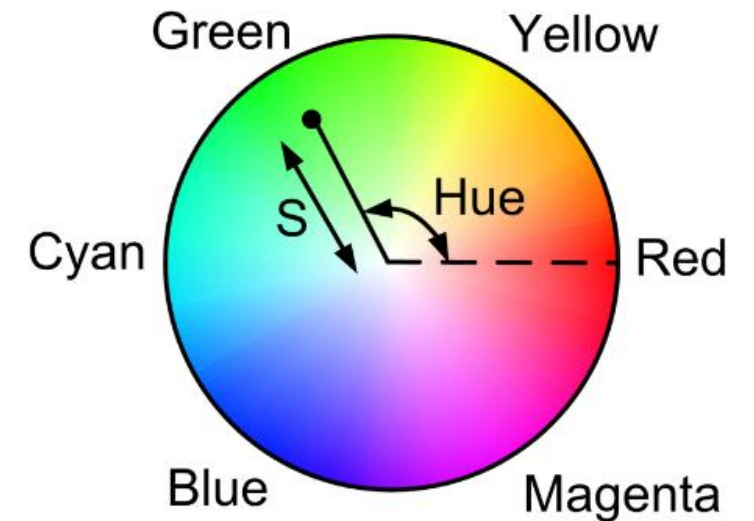
■ RGB → HSI

$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \left\{ \frac{[(R-G) + (R-B)]/2}{\sqrt{(R-G)^2 + (R-B)(G-B)}} \right\}$$

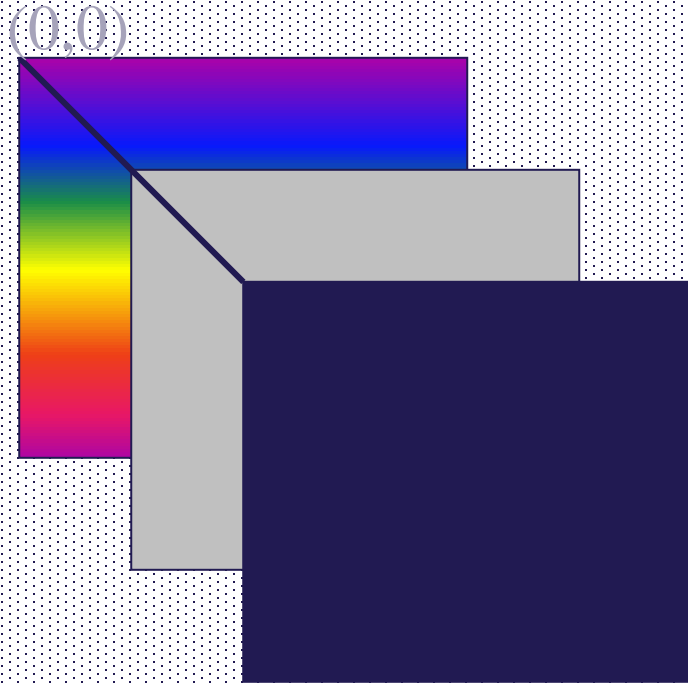
$$H = \begin{cases} \theta & B \leq G \\ 360 - \theta & B > G \end{cases}$$

$$S = 1 - \frac{3 \cdot \min(R, G, B)}{R + G + B}$$

$$I = (R + G + B) / 3$$



HSI pixels



A single pixel consists of three components.
Each pixel is a **Vector**.

128	251	60
-----	-----	----

 = 

Pixel-Vector in
the computer
memory

Final pixel in
the image



HSI example

6



Original Image



Hue



Saturation



Intensity



HSI, HSV, HSL, HSB

- ▶ Note: HSI is closely related to HSV, HSL, or HSB (for Value, Lightness, and Brightness).
- ▶ There are minor differences, but they do pretty much the same thing.
- ▶ Look them up if you care.
- ▶ OpenCV has a built in converter:
`cvtColor(in, out, COLOR_BGR2HSV)`
- ▶ Know that quite a few other color spaces/color models exist.

