

# *Lecture 16: Computer Vision Fundamentals*



CS 3630!



# Topics

- 1. What is Computer Vision?**
- 2. Applications of CV**
- 3. Images as 2D arrays**
- 4. Basic Image Processing**
- 5. Image Filtering**

- Many slides borrowed from James Hays, Irfan Essa, and others.
- Intro CV course: CS 4476
  - This spring: Judy Hoffmann
  - Coming Fall: Frank Dellaert



# Motivation

- Robots need to act in the world
- One of the cheapest and richest sensors is a camera
- Unfortunately, understanding camera images is **not** easy
- Since the sixties, researchers have tried to tackle this problem
- Since 2012, deep learning has led to incredible progress
- Perception for robotics is following closely behind



# 1. What is Computer Vision?



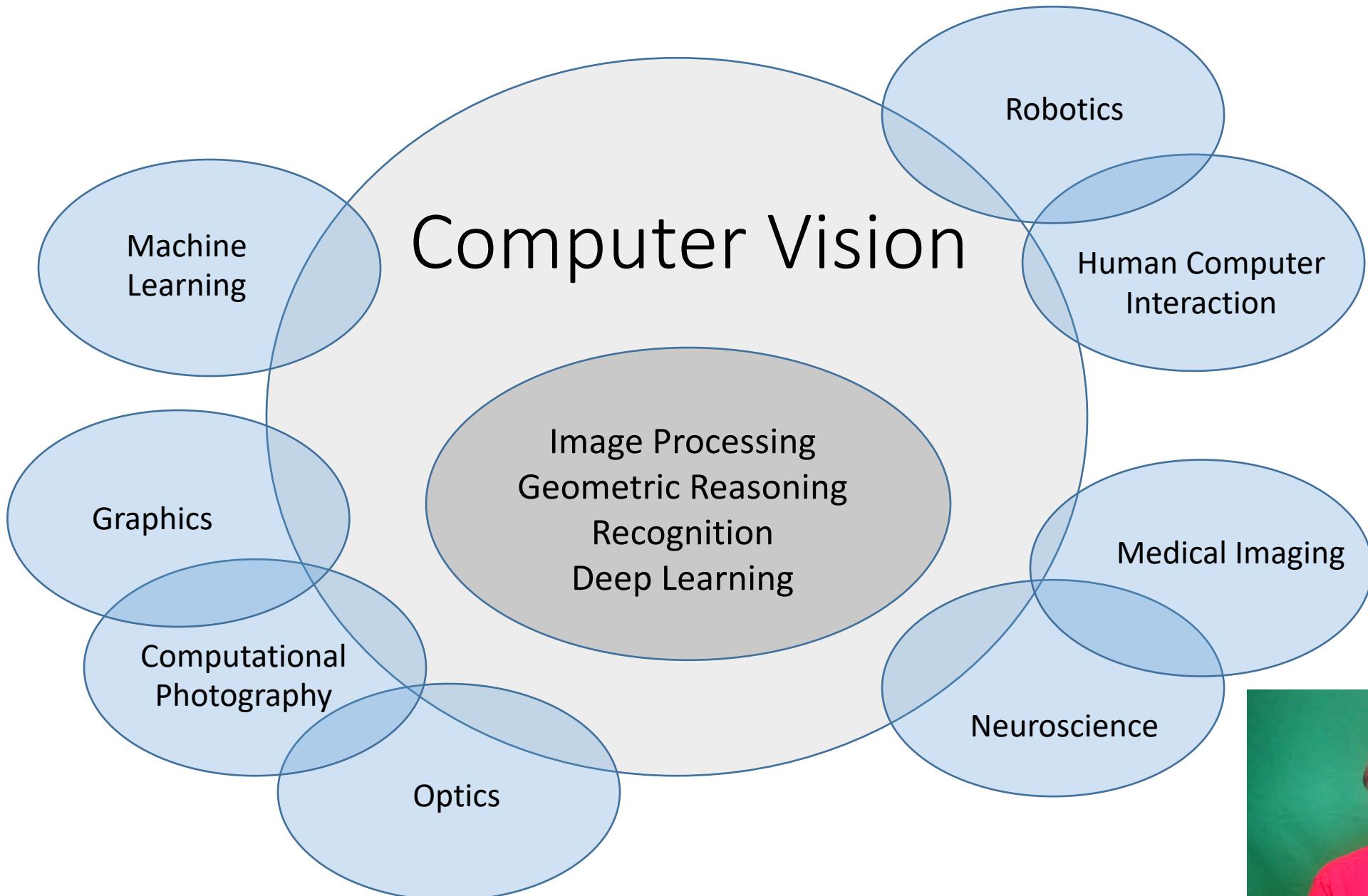
Computer Graphics: Models to Images

Comp. Photography: Images to Images

**Computer Vision: Images to Models**



# Computer Vision



# Computer Vision

Make computers understand images and video **or any visual data.**



What kind of scene?

Where are the cars?

How far is the  
building?

...



**ROBOTICS**  
SCIENCE AND SYSTEMS

# Vision is really hard

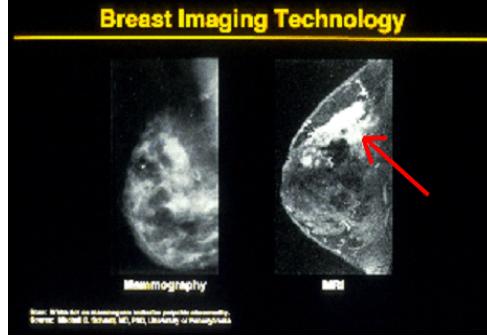
- Vision is an amazing feat of natural intelligence
  - Visual cortex occupies about 50% of Macaque brain
  - One third of human brain devoted to vision (more than anything else)



# Why computer vision matters



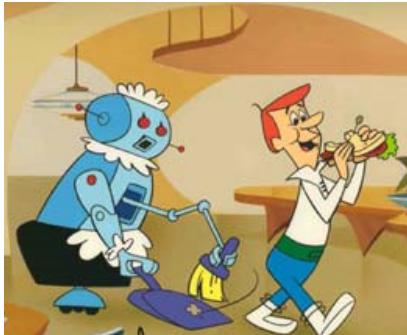
Safety



Health



Security



Comfort



Fun

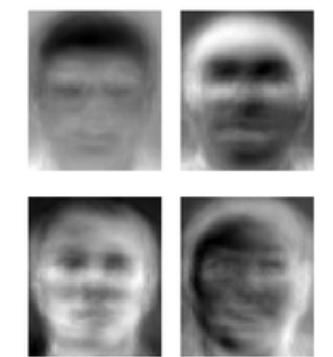
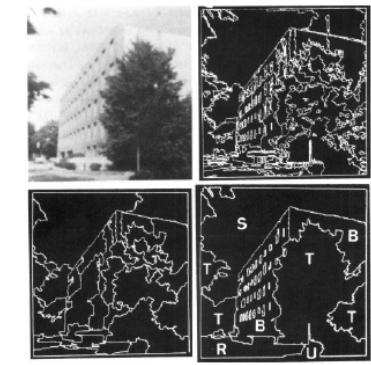
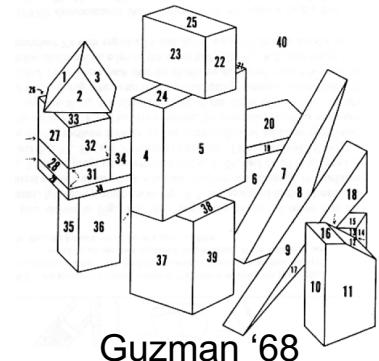


Robotics



# Ridiculously brief history of computer vision

- 1966: Minsky assigns computer vision as an undergrad summer project
- 1960's: interpretation of synthetic worlds
- 1970's: some progress on interpreting selected images
- 1980's: ANNs come and go; shift toward geometry and increased mathematical rigor
- 1990's: face recognition; statistical analysis in vogue
- 2000's: broader recognition; large annotated datasets available; video processing starts
- 2010's: Deep learning with ConvNets
- 2020's: Widespread autonomous vehicles?
- 2030's: robot uprising?



# 2. Applications of Computer Vision

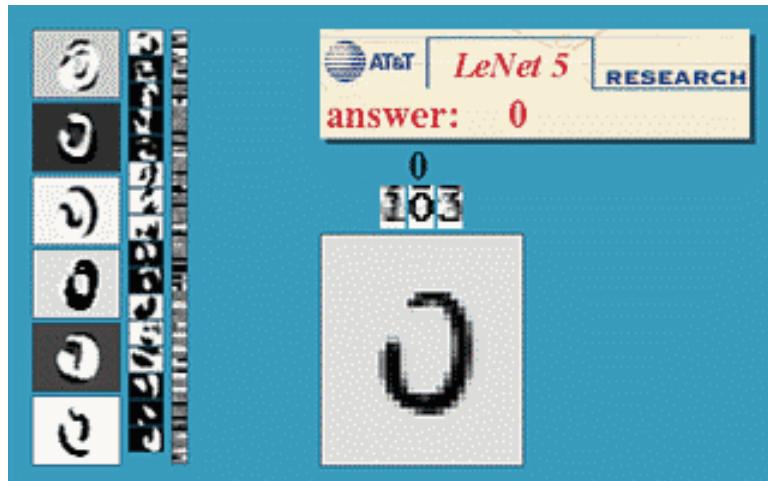
- Examples of real-world applications



# Optical character recognition (OCR)

Technology to convert scanned docs to text

- If you have a scanner, it probably came with OCR software



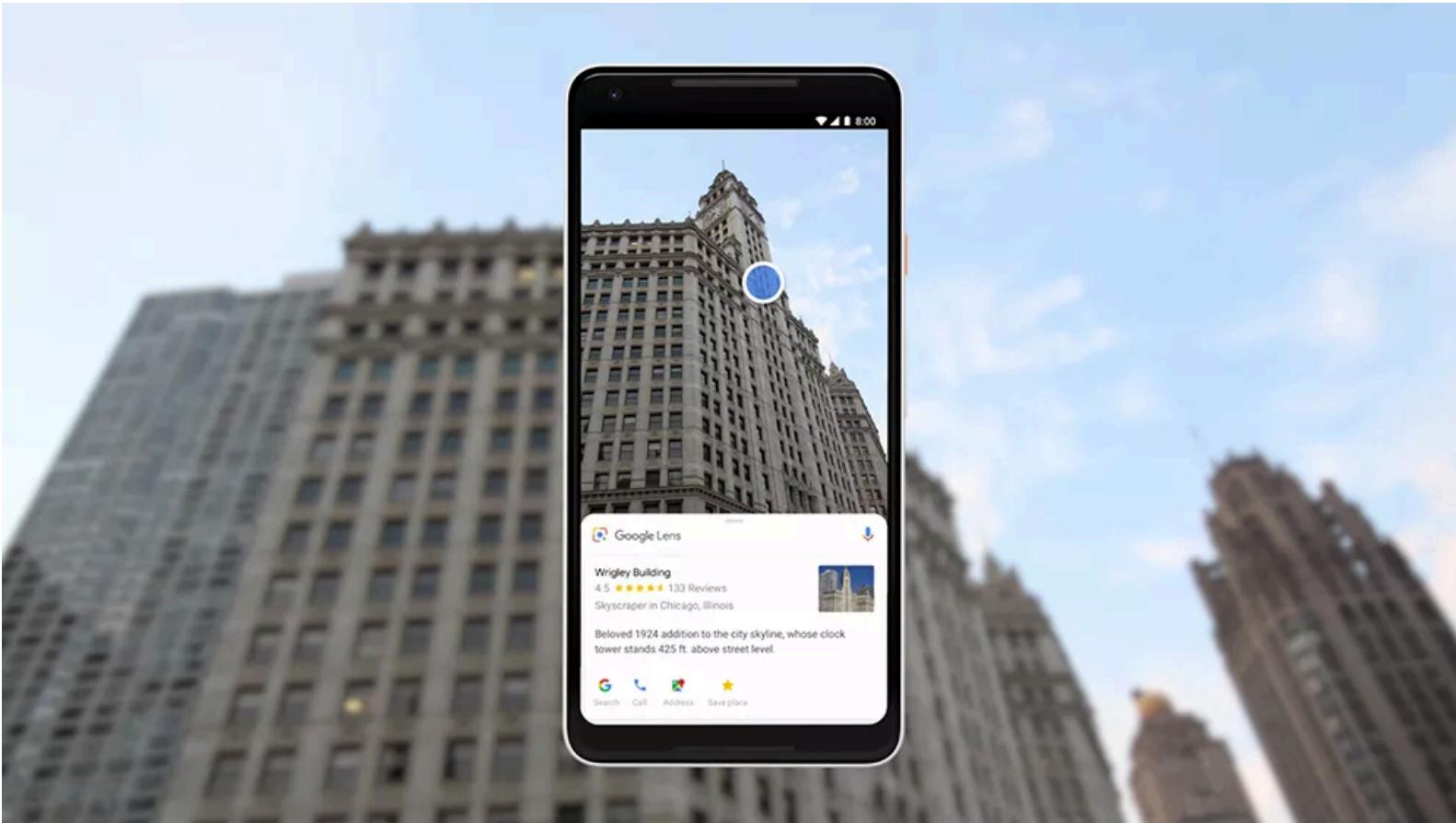
Digit recognition, AT&T labs  
<http://www.research.att.com/~yann/>



License plate readers  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Automatic\\_number\\_plate\\_recognition](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Automatic_number_plate_recognition)



# Object recognition (in mobile phones)



E.g. Google Lens



# Face detection



- Digital cameras (you know these as “phones”) detect faces



# Login without a password...



Fingerprint scanners on  
many new laptops,  
other devices



Face recognition systems now widely  
in use on smartphones



# Sports



*Sportvision* first down line  
Nice [explanation](#) on [www.howstuffworks.com](http://www.howstuffworks.com)

<http://www.sportvision.com/video.html>



# Special effects: motion capture



*Pirates of the Caribbean*, Industrial Light and Magic



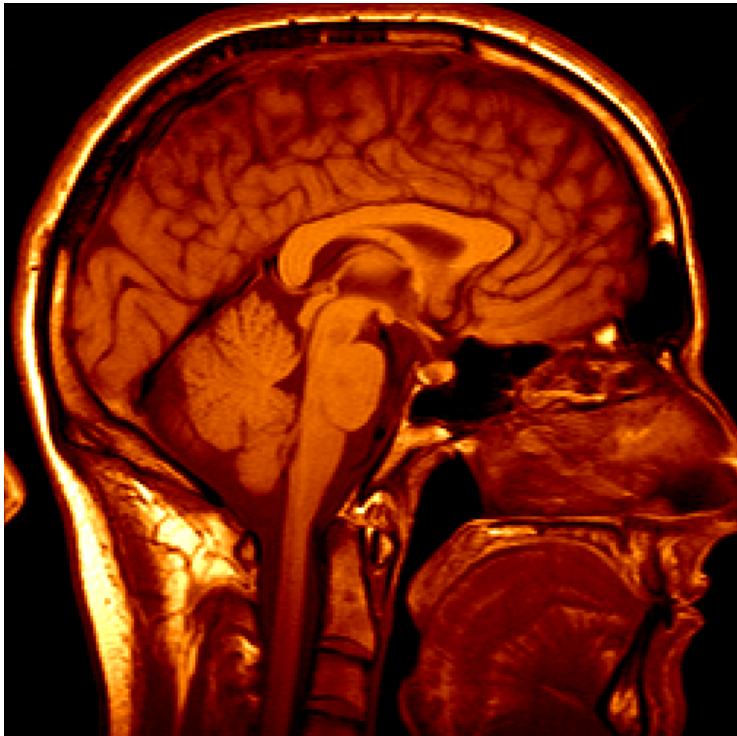
# Augmented Reality and Virtual Reality



Magic Leap, Oculus, Hololens, etc.



# Medical imaging



3D imaging  
MRI, CT



Image guided surgery  
Grimson et al., MIT



# Smart cars

The screenshot shows the Mobileye website. At the top, there are tabs for "manufacturer products" and "consumer products". The main heading is "Our Vision. Your Safety." Below it, a car is shown from above with three cameras highlighted: "rear looking camera" (top left), "forward looking camera" (top right), and "side looking camera" (bottom). In the bottom section, there are three cards: "EyeQ Vision on a Chip" (image of a chip), "Vision Applications" (image of a person walking), and "AWS Advance Warning System" (image of a display screen). To the right, there are sections for "News" and "Events". The "News" section lists articles like "Mobileye Advanced Technologies Power Volvo Cars World First Collision Warning With Auto Brake System" and "Volvo: New Collision Warning with Auto Brake Helps Prevent Rear-end". The "Events" section lists "Mobileye at Equip Auto, Paris, France" and "Mobileye at SEMA, Las Vegas, NV".

- Mobileye
  - ~~Market Capitalization: 11 Billion dollars~~
  - Bought by Intel for 15 Billion dollars



# Computer Vision in space



[NASA's Mars Exploration Rover Spirit](#) captured this westward view from atop a low plateau where Spirit spent the closing months of 2007.

## Vision systems (JPL) used for several tasks

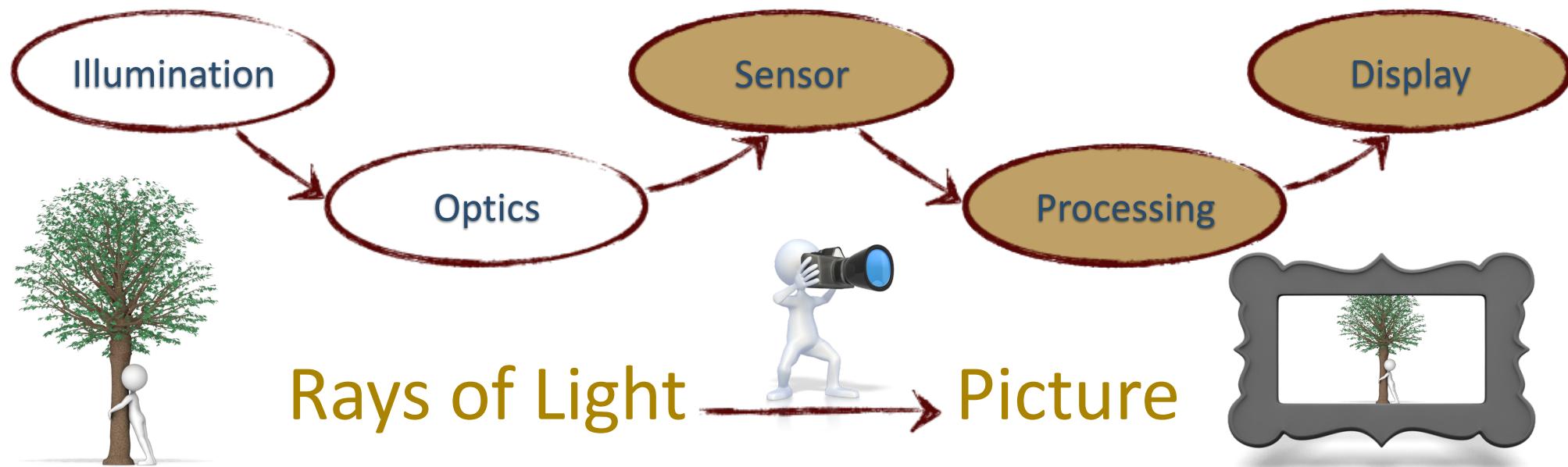
- Panorama stitching
- 3D terrain modeling
- Obstacle detection, position tracking
- For more, read "[Computer Vision on Mars](#)" by Matthies et al.



### 3. Images as 2D Arrays



# Image Acquisition Pipeline



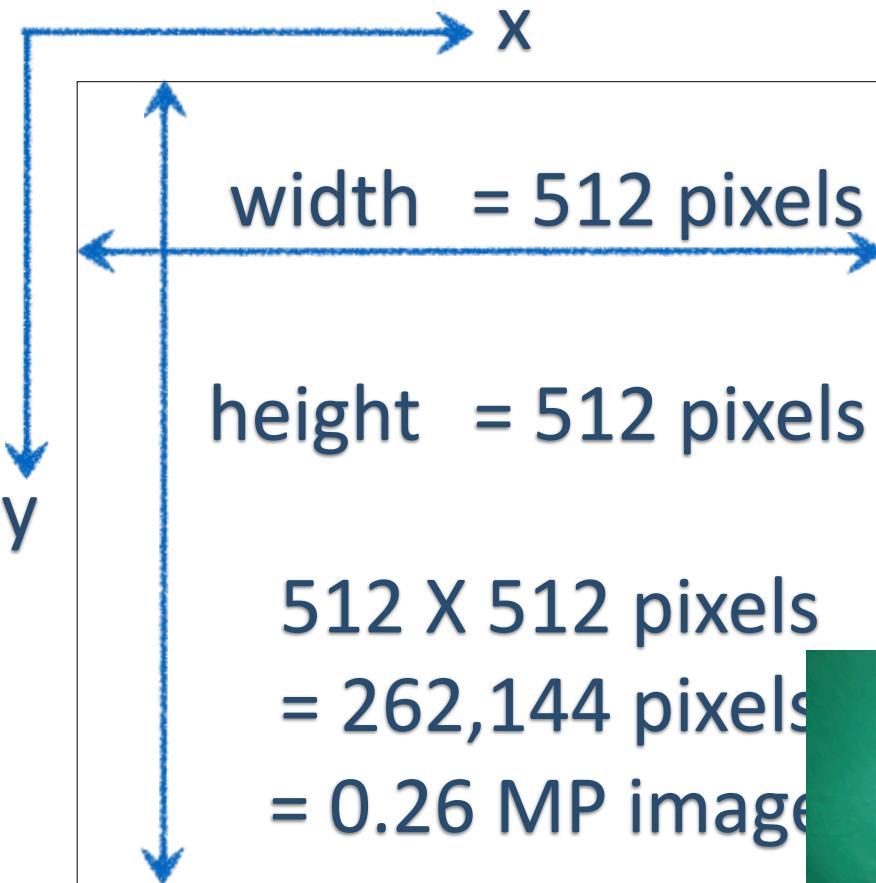
- \* Analog (incoming light) to digital (pix



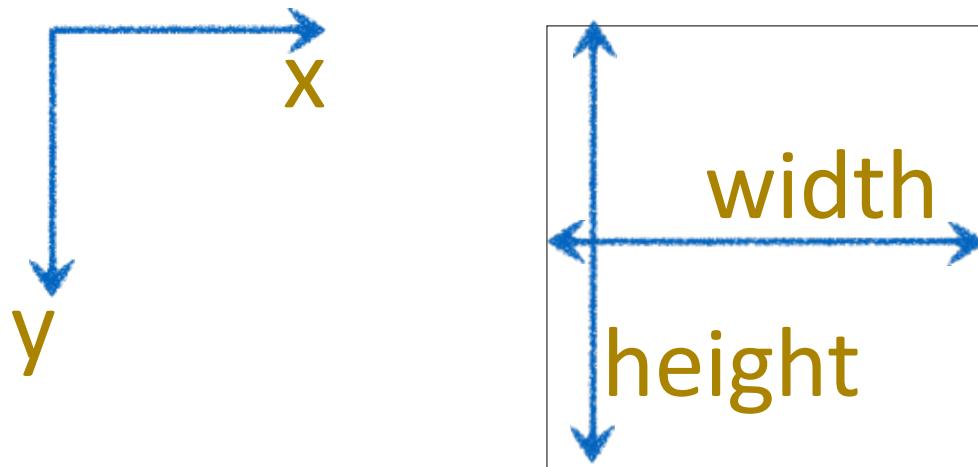
# A Digital Image ( $W \times H$ )



Georgia Tech Mascot Buzz and White



# A Digital Image!

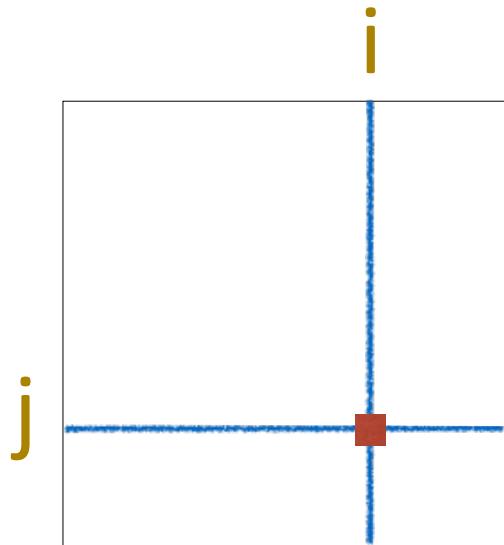


- \* Numeric representation in 2-D (x and y)
- \* Referred to as  $I(x,y)$  in continuous function form,  $I(i,j)$  in discrete
- \* **Image Resolution:** expressed in terms of Width and Height of the image



# Pixel

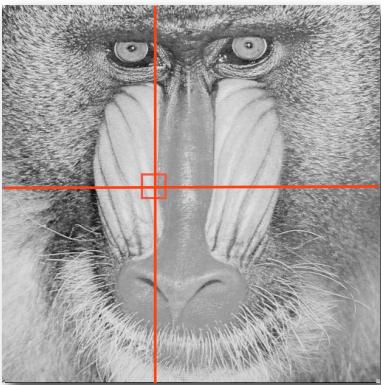
A “picture element” that contains the light intensity at some location  $(i,j)$  in the image



$$I(i,j) = \text{Some Numeric Value}$$



# Characteristics of a Digital Image



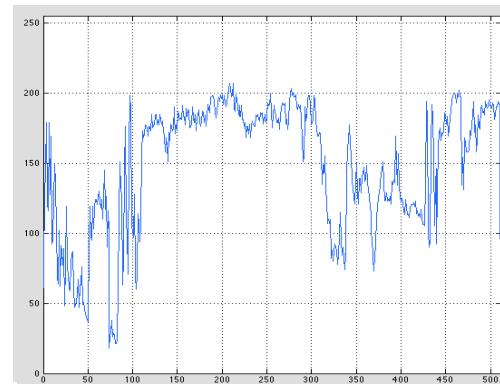
Original Image



Zoomed In

159	166	149	134	142	145	152	156
154	147	127	126	134	139	144	142
163	153	157	137	132	145	155	144
178	160	166	152	142	151	166	136
179	164	156	153	138	136	145	134
184	164	159	168	154	129	128	141
186	171	160	164	148	132	130	139
161	177	160	146	131	131	132	129
173	167	158	152	144	136	130	129
184	175	170	164	144	138	136	135
188	188	160	151	147	146	144	143
190	193	189	172	140	149	157	143
171	182	174	168	136	141	150	144

Values



Plots of Values at a Slice

- \* A two-dimensional array of pixels and respective intensities
- \* Image can be represented as a Matrix
- \* Intensity Values range from 0 = Black to 255 = White



# Common data types

Data types used to store pixel values:

- `unsigned char`
- `uint8`
- `unsigned char 8bit`
- $2^n$  ( $2^1$ ,  $2^2$ ,  $2^4$ ,  $2^8$ , etc.)



# Digital Image Formats

Images can also be 16, 24, 32 bits-per-pixel:

- 24 bits per pixel usually means 8 bits per color
- At the two highest levels, the pixels themselves can carry up to 16,777,216 different colors

Common raster image formats:

- GIF, JPG, PPM, TIF, BMP, etc.

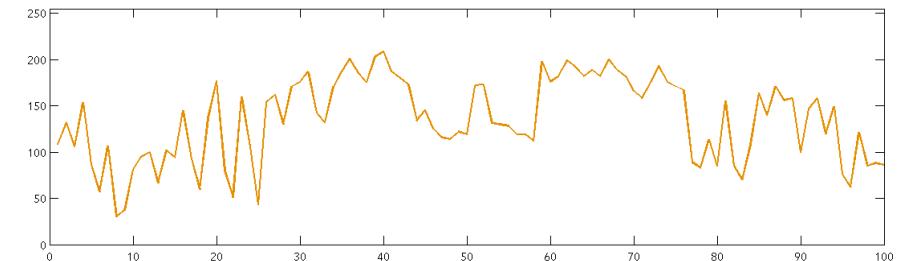


# Digital Image is a Function

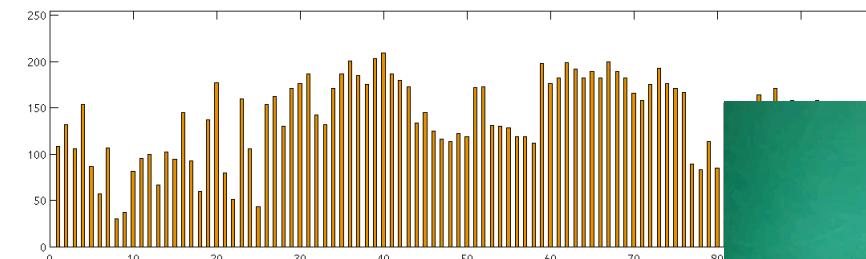
x or i

y or j

100	120	121	122	30	40
120	120	121	122	70	40
60	50	40	41	7	8
100	120	121	122	1	0
200	120	200	122	12	14
200	220	225	250	30	40



Continuous Signal



Discrete Signal

Slide adapted from Steve Seitz and Aaron Bobick

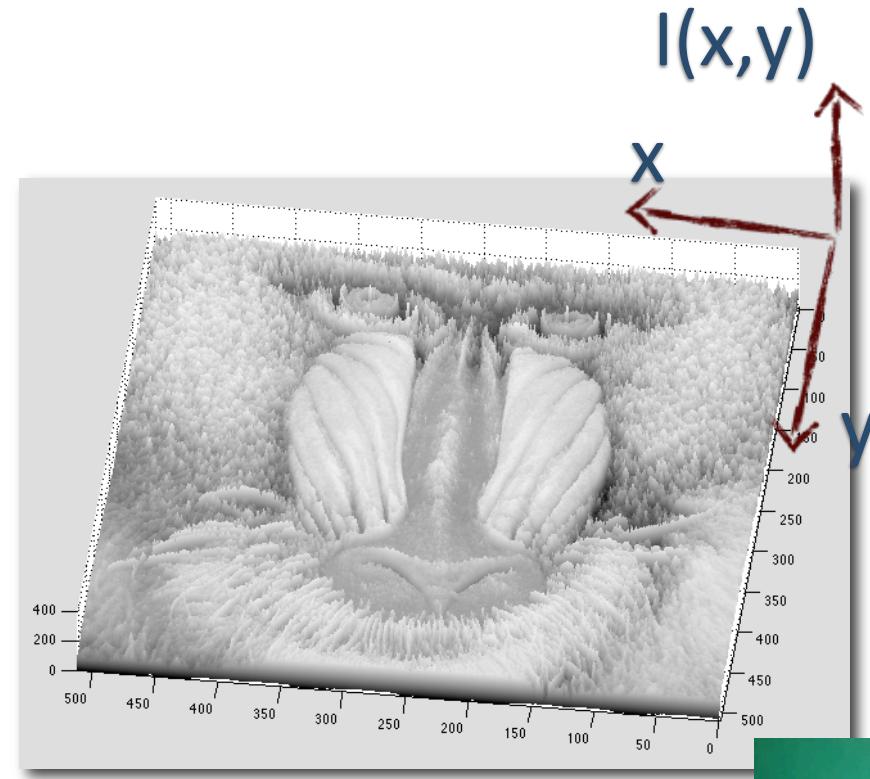


# Digital Image is a Function

$x$  or  $i$

$y$  or  $j$

100	120	121	122	30	40
120	120	121	122	70	40
60	50	40	41	7	8
100	120	121	122	1	0
200	120	200	122	12	14
200	220	225	250	30	40

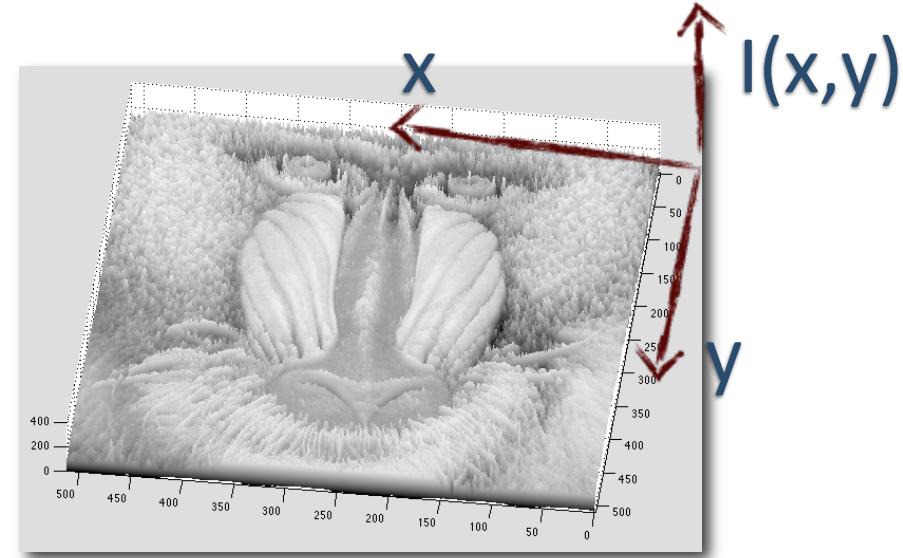


Slide adapted from Steve Seitz and Aaron Bobick



# Digital Image is a Function

100	120	121	122	30	40
120	120	121	122	70	40
60	50	40	41	7	8
100	120	121	122	1	0
200	120	200	122	12	14
200	220	225	250	30	40

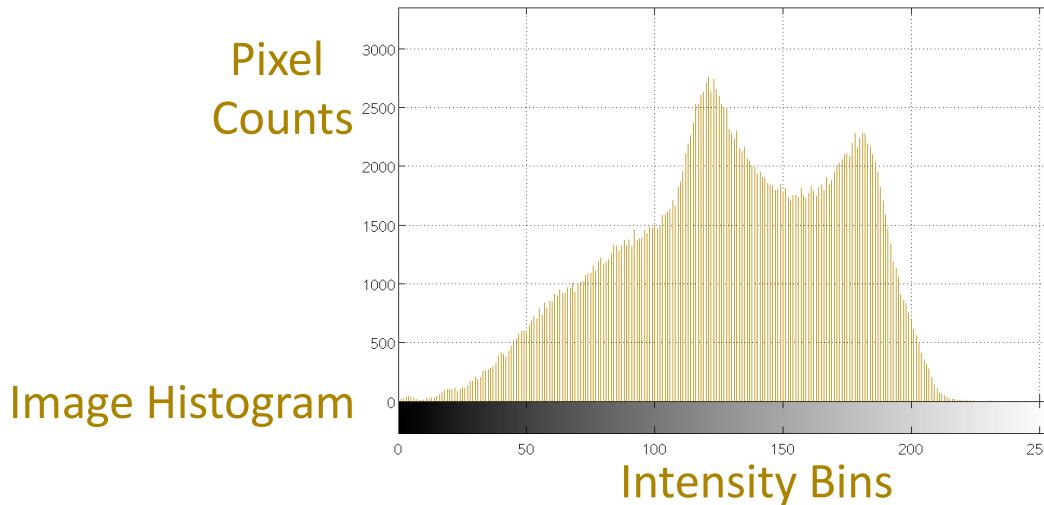
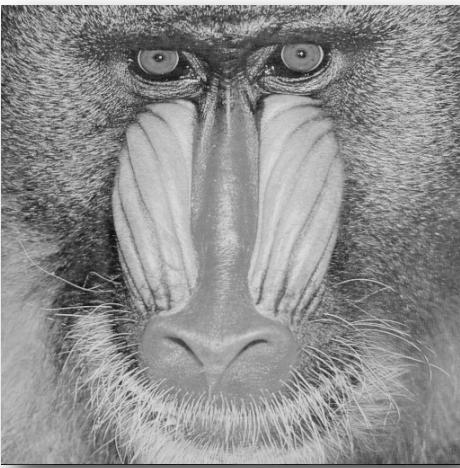


- Typically, the functional operation requires discrete values
  - Sample the two-dimensional (2D) space on a regular grid
  - Quantize each sample (rounded to “nearest integer”)
- Matrix of integer values (Range: 0-255)

Slide adapted from Steve Seitz and Aaron Bobick



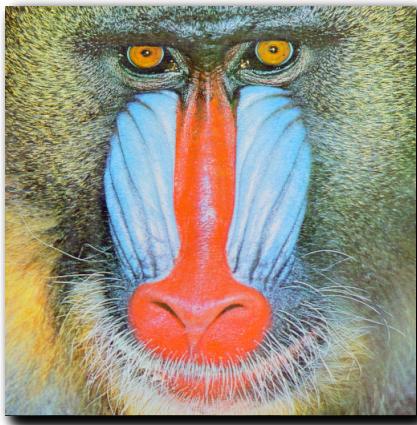
# Digital Image Statistics



- Image statistics - average, median, mode
  - Scope - entire image or smaller windows/regions
- Histogram - distribution of pixel intensities in the image
  - Can be separate for each channel, or region-based too



# Color Digital Image: An Example



Color

Red Channel

Green Channel

Blue Channel

- Color image = 3 color channels (images, with their own intensities) blended together
- Makes 3D data structure of size: Width X Height X Channels
- Each pixel has therefore 3 intensities: Red (R), Green (G), Blue (B)

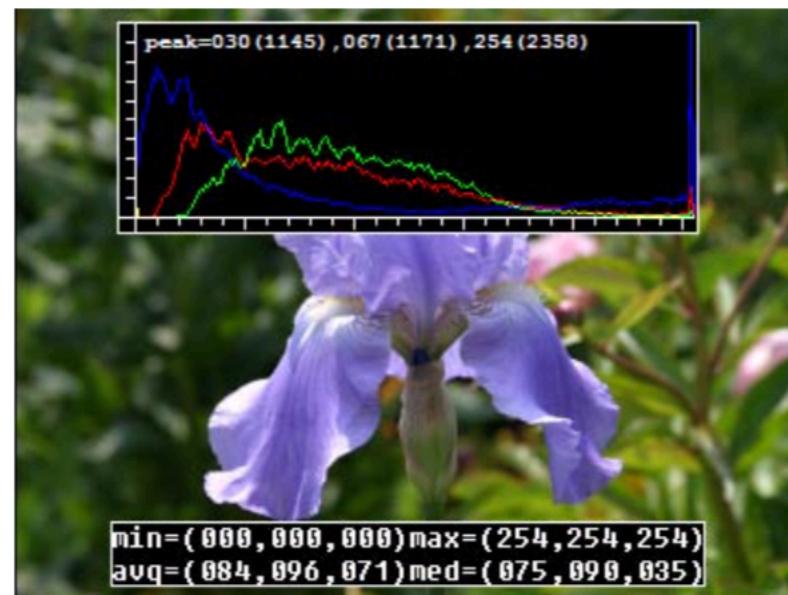
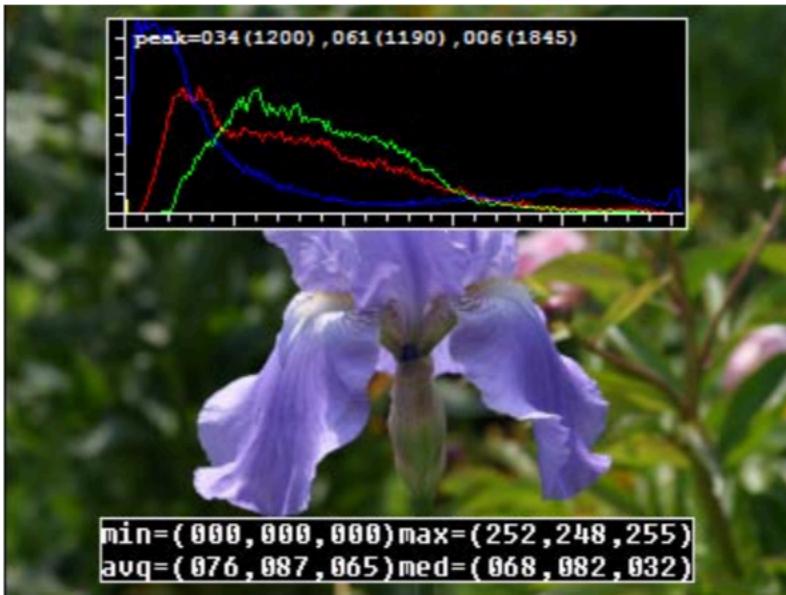


# 4. Basic Image Processing

- Contrast
- Brightness
- Gamma
- Histogram equalization
- Arithmetic
- Compositing



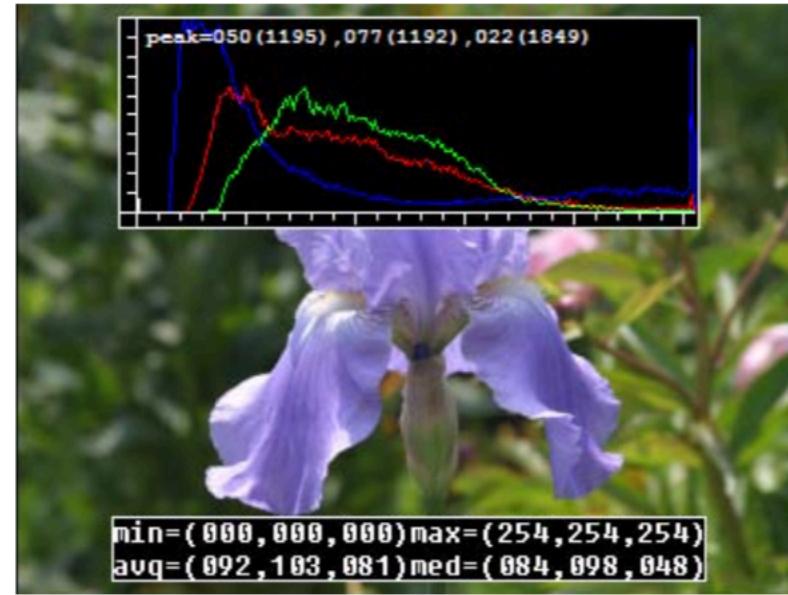
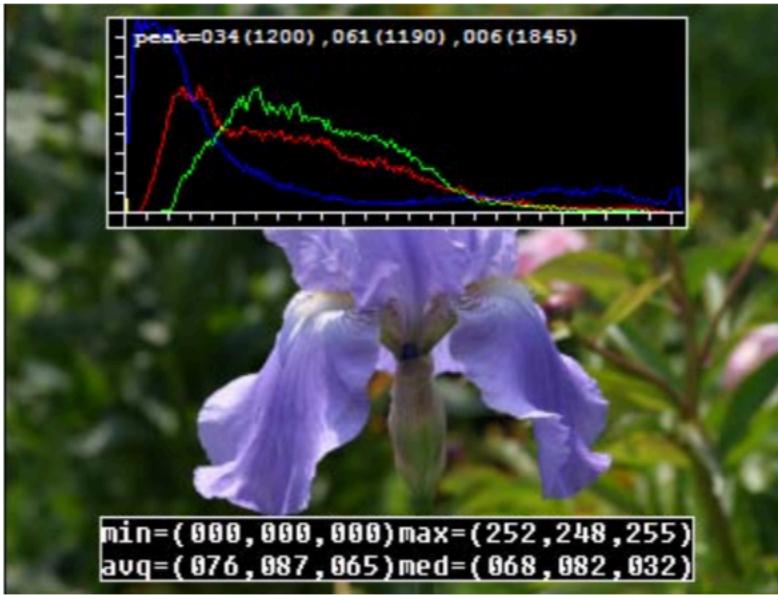
# Contrast



- $g(x) = a f(x)$ ,  $a=1.1$



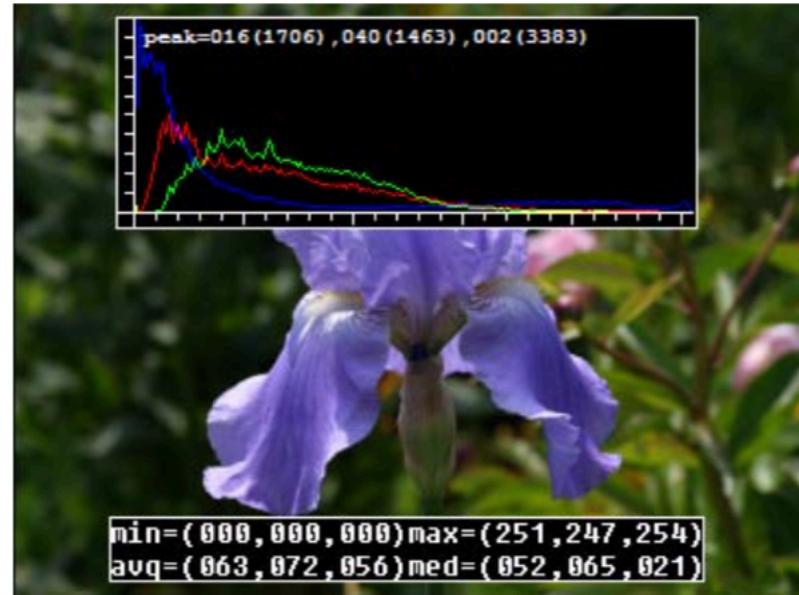
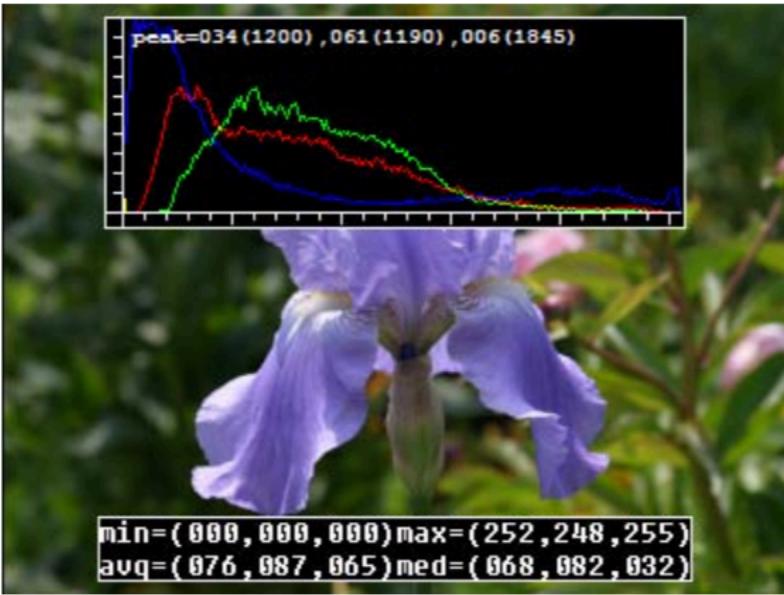
# Brightness



- $g(x) = f(x) + b$ ,  $b=16$



# Gamma correction

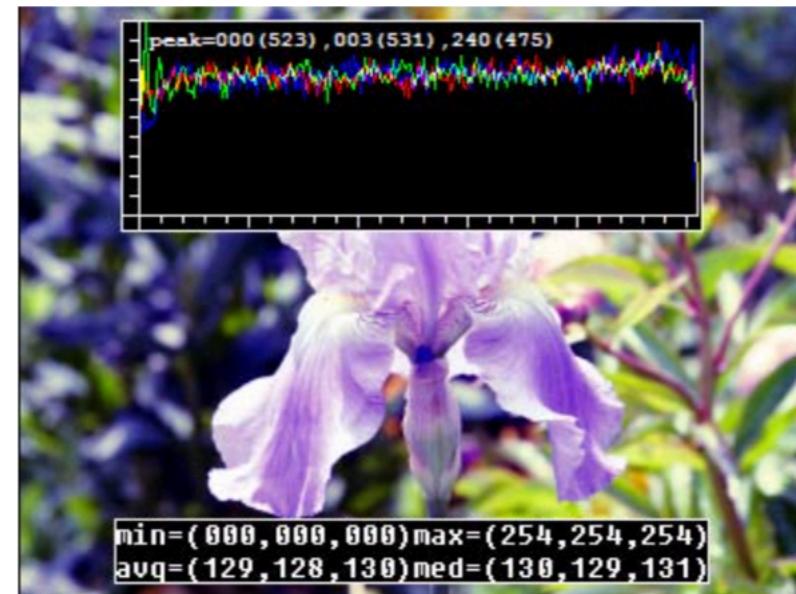
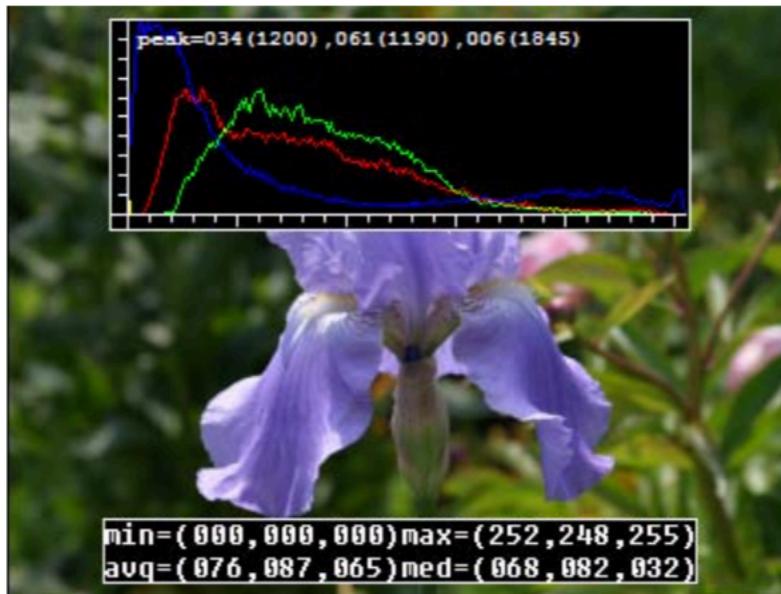


$$g(\mathbf{x}) = [f(\mathbf{x})]^{1/\gamma}$$

- gamma = 1.2



# Histogram Equalization



- Non-linear transform to make histogram flat
- Still a per-pixel operation  $g(x) = h(f(x))$



# Point-Process: Pixel/Point Arithmetic

120	122	140	142	143
121	120	141	144	147
122	121	144	146	11
125	121	144	145	10
126	121	145	147	13

+

120	122	140	142	143
121	80	40	144	10
122	81	40	0	151
125	80	40	0	152
126	70	40	0	153

=

240	244	280	284	286
121	200	181	288	157
122	202	184	146	162
125	201	184	145	164
126	191	185	147	166

120	122	140	142	143
121	120	141	144	147
122	121	144	146	11
125	121	144	145	10
126	121	145	147	13

-

120	122	140	142	143
121	80	40	144	10
122	81	40	0	151
125	80	40	0	152
126	70	40	0	153

=

0	0	0	0	0
0	40	101	0	137
0	40	104	146	-140
0	40	104	145	-142
0	191	185	147	-140



# Pixel/Point Arithmetic: An Example



Image 1



Image 2

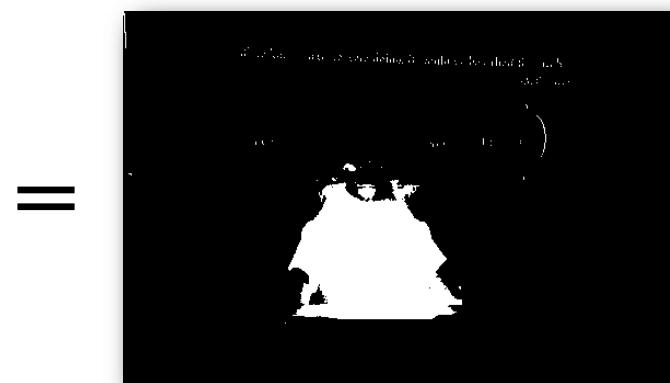


Image 1 - Image 2

Binary(Image 1 - Image 2)



# Matte: an alpha image



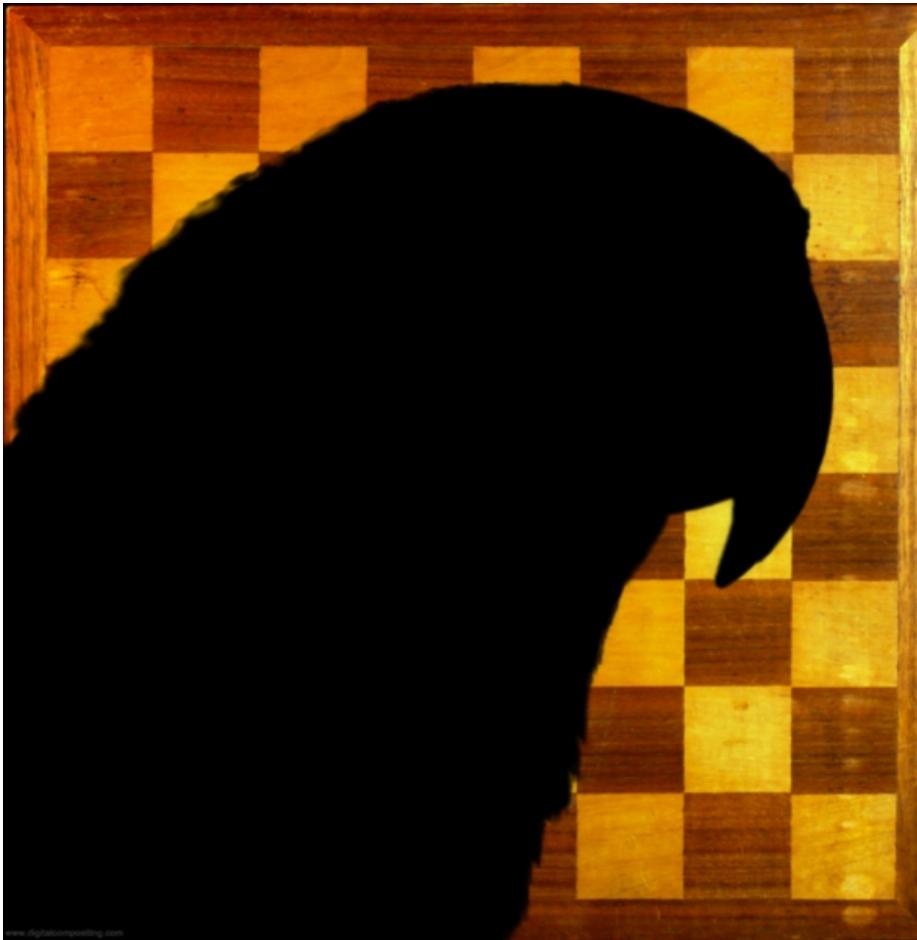
[www.digitalcompositing.com](http://www.digitalcompositing.com)



aF



(1-a)B



KeyMix:  $aF + (1-a)B$



# 5. Image Filtering

Image filtering: compute function of local neighborhood at each position

- Very important!
  - Enhance images
    - Denoise, resize, increase contrast, etc.
  - Extract information from images
    - Texture, edges, distinctive points, etc.
  - Detect patterns
    - Template matching
  - Deep Convolutional Networks



# Example: box filter

$$\frac{1}{9} \begin{matrix} g[\cdot, \cdot] \\ \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \end{matrix}$$

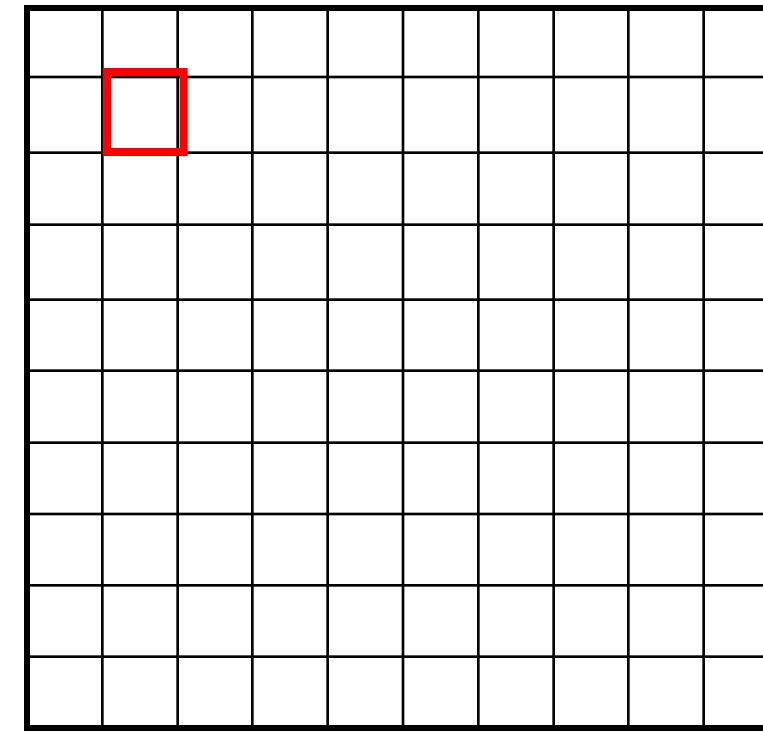
Slide credit: David Lowe



# Image filtering

 $f[.,.]$ 

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	0	90	90	90	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

 $h[.,.]$ 

$$h[m,n] = \sum_{k,l} g[k,l] f[m+k, n+l]$$

$$g[\cdot, \cdot] \frac{1}{9}$$

1	1	1
1	1	1
1	1	1

Credit:



# Image filtering

$$g[\cdot, \cdot] \frac{1}{9} \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$f[.,.]$

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	0	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

$h[.,.]$

0	10									

$$h[m,n] = \sum_{k,l} g[k,l] f[m+k, n+l]$$

Credit:



# Image filtering

 $f[.,.]$ 

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	0	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

 $h[.,.]$ 

			0	10	20					

$$h[m,n] = \sum_{k,l} g[k,l] f[m+k, n+l]$$

$$g[\cdot, \cdot] \frac{1}{9}$$

1	1	1
1	1	1
1	1	1

Credit:



# Image filtering

$$g[\cdot, \cdot] \frac{1}{9} \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$f[.,.]$

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	0	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

$h[.,.]$


$$h[m, n] = \sum_{k,l} g[k, l] f[m + k, n + l]$$

Credit:



# Image filtering

 $f[.,.]$ 

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	0	90	90	90	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

 $h[.,.]$ 

			0	10	20	30	30				

$$h[m,n] = \sum_{k,l} g[k,l] f[m+k, n+l]$$

$$g[\cdot, \cdot] \frac{1}{9}$$

1	1	1
1	1	1
1	1	1

Credit:



# Image filtering

 $f[.,.]$ 

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	0	90	90	90	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

 $h[.,.]$ 

	0	10	20	30	30					

$$h[m,n] = \sum_{k,l} g[k,l] f[m+k, n+l]$$

$$g[\cdot, \cdot] \frac{1}{9}$$

1	1	1
1	1	1
1	1	1

Credit:



# Image filtering

 $f[.,.]$ 

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

 $h[.,.]$ 

	0	10	20	30	30					

$$h[m,n] = \sum_{k,l} g[k,l] f[m+k, n+l]$$

$$g[\cdot, \cdot] \frac{1}{9}$$

1	1	1
1	1	1
1	1	1

Credit:



# Image filtering

$$g[\cdot, \cdot] \quad \frac{1}{9} \begin{matrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{matrix}$$

$$f[\cdot, \cdot]$$

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	0	90	90	90	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

$$h[\cdot, \cdot]$$

	0	10	20	30	30	30	20	10	
	0	20	40	60	60	60	40	20	
	0	30	60	90	90	90	60	30	
	0	30	50	80	80	90	60	30	
	0	30	50	80	80	90	60	30	
	0	20	30	50	50	60	40	20	
	10	20	30	30	30	30	20	10	
	10	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	

$$h[m, n] = \sum_{k,l} g[k, l] f[m + k, n + l]$$

Credit:



# Box Filter

What does it do?

- Replaces each pixel with an average of its neighborhood
- Achieve smoothing effect (remove sharp features)

$$\frac{1}{9} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Slide credit: David Lowe



# Smoothing with box filter

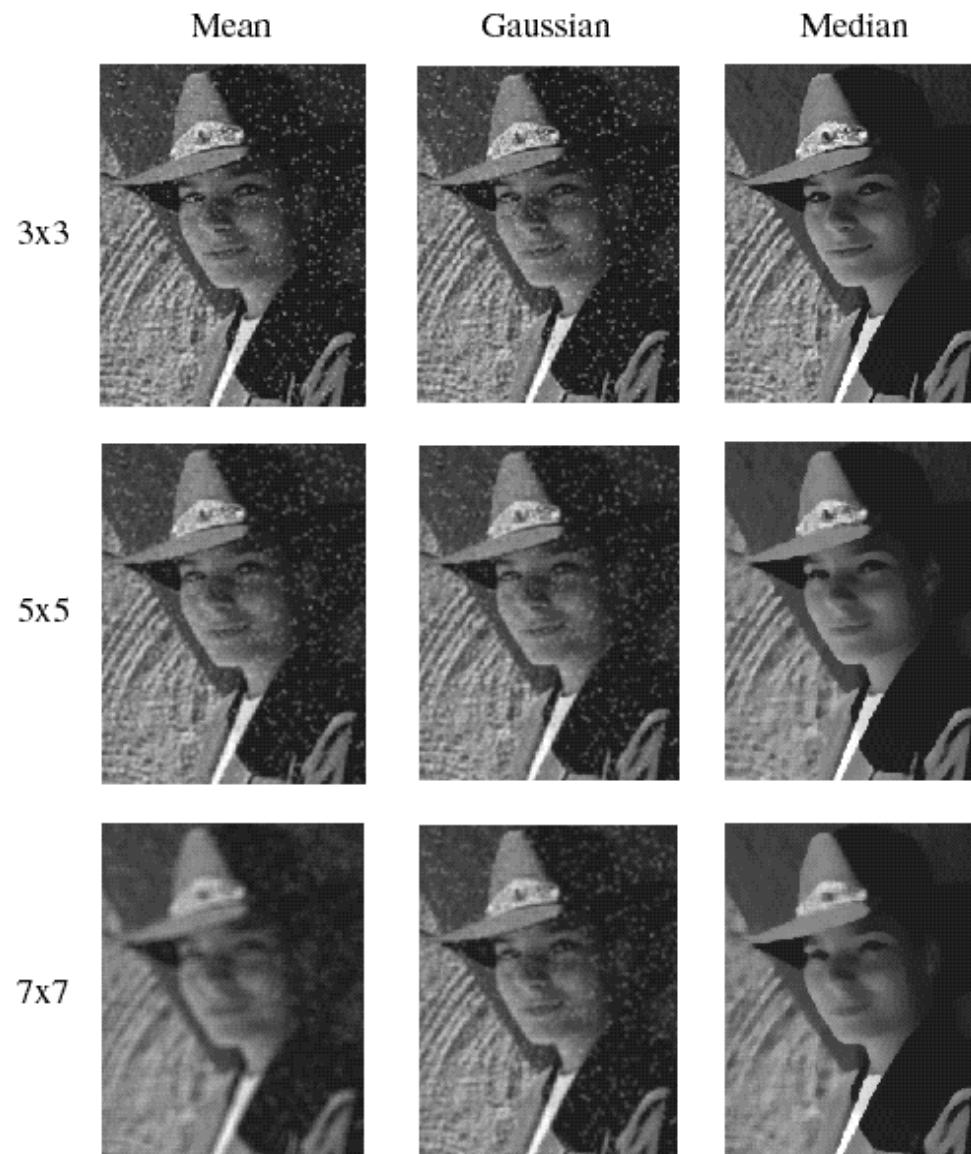


# Median filters

- A **Median Filter** operates over a window by selecting the median intensity in the window.
- What advantage does a median filter have over a mean filter?
- Is a median filter a kind of convolution?



# Comparison: salt and pepper noise



# Summary

1. Computer Vision defined
2. Applications of CV are plentiful!
3. Images are 2D arrays of pixel values
4. Basic image processing: contrast, intensity, histogram eq., arithmetic
5. Image filtering: convolution (linear) and non-linear (median)

