

## Filtering 2D image processing

- ① Image can be thought of as a function ( $f$ ) •  $f(x,y)$  gives the intensity at  $(x,y)$
- ② Color image → three functions pasted together. Also called a vector valued function.  

$$f(x,y) = \begin{bmatrix} r(x,y) \\ g(x,y) \\ b(x,y) \end{bmatrix}$$

- ③ Filtering → can be defined as a process of transforming an image. Filtering can be used to either enhance the image (e.g. contrast) or extract the features from it (e.g. edge detection).  
 ↪ A filter defines a new image ( $g$ ) in terms of existing image  $f$ .

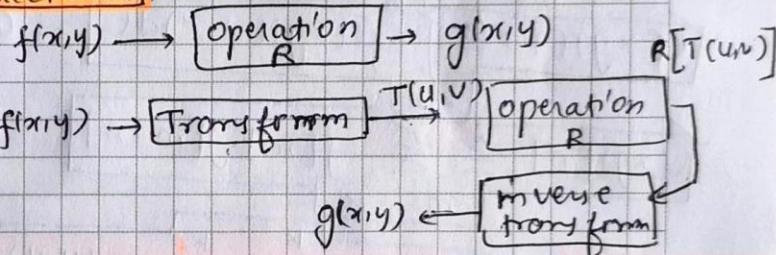
Goal → improve image contents. ✓  
 → extract information. ✓

Application of filtering

- ④ Image denoising → reducing noise in an image.  
 source of noise → CCD / CMOS electronic.

Image filtering methods

spatial domain  
 frequency domain  
 (Fourier transform)



- ⑤ Spatial domain methods → For spatial domain of image filtering, we have two methods i.e. Point processing and area / mask processing.

Point processing method → works on a single pixel. The value of single pixel i.e.  $f(x,y)$  is transformed ( $T$ ) into an enhanced image  
 Eg. Negative, contrast stretching, histogram equalization.  $g(x,y) = T[f(x,y)]$

Area / mask processing method → Works on a pixel and its neighbouring pixels.  
 $g(x,y) = T[f(x,y)]$  • Need to define: Area shape & size operation.

- ⑥ Point processing method examples → making negative of a picture  
 → contrast stretching  
 → thresholding (changing pixel value - either 0 or 255)

Histogram equalization → changing the histogram of the image so

that it is spread equally. We have to find a function that will redistribute the image from limited spread to an extended / equalised spread.

$$\text{Probability of Intensity } p(i) = \frac{n_i}{n} \quad \begin{cases} (\text{no. of pixels with intensity } i) \\ (\text{no. of pixels (total)}) \end{cases}$$

→ Need to define area shape and size and also the type of operation. For e.g. rectangular mask of  $3 \times 3$ ,  $5 \times 5$ .

Size means that how much area (or pixels) around our pixel do we influence.  
Operation → by defining weight pixel values.

Simple averaging filter. (Sharpening filter)  
→ accentuates diff. with local average.

→ All these filters are considered to be linear filters i.e. shift invariant linear filters which follows the theory that the operator behaves the same everywhere i.e. the value of the output depends upon the pattern in the image neighbourhood, not the position of the neighbourhood.

Linear → Eg. Superposition →  $h^*(f_1 + f_2) = (h^*f_1) + (h^*f_2)$   
Scaling →  $h^*(Kf) = K(h^*f)$

Correlation filtering → lets say, we have a window size of  $(2K+1) \times (2K+1)$ , after generalisation, we have

$$G(i,j) = \sum_{u=-K}^{K} \sum_{v=-K}^{K} H(u,v) F[i+u, j+v]$$

mask    image

Dot product

$$G = H \otimes F$$

cross-correlation.

Idea → replace each pixel with a linear combination of its neighbours.

Definition → cross-correlation is a measure of similarity of two series as a function of the displacement of one relative to other. (for template matching)

$$(f * g)(\gamma) \triangleq \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \overline{g(t+\gamma)} dt$$

→ continuous space       $\overline{f(t)}$  → complex conjugate of  $f(t)$

$$(f * g)[n] \triangleq \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} f[m] g[m+n]$$

→ discrete space.

Convolution →  $G(i,j) = \sum_{u=-K}^{K} \sum_{v=-K}^{K} H(u,v) F[i-u, j-v]$   
(for image filtering)

$$G = H * F$$

convolution.

Convolution is same as correlation except, that the mask is flipped, both horizontally and vertically.

$$g(i,j) = \sum_{k=-\frac{n_h}{2}}^{\frac{n_h}{2}} \sum_{l=-\frac{n_h}{2}}^{\frac{n_h}{2}} h(k,l) f(i-k, j-l) = \sum_{k=-\frac{n_h}{2}}^{\frac{n_h}{2}} \sum_{l=-\frac{n_h}{2}}^{\frac{n_h}{2}} h(i-k, j-l) f(k, l)$$

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \hline 4 & 5 & 6 \\ \hline 7 & 8 & 9 \\ \hline \end{array} \xrightarrow{H} \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 7 & 8 & 9 \\ \hline 4 & 5 & 6 \\ \hline 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \hline \end{array} \xrightarrow{N} \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 9 & 8 & 7 \\ \hline 6 & 5 & 4 \\ \hline 3 & 2 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Note → for symmetric masks,  $(h(i,j)) = h(-i,-j)$   
Correlation and convolution are similar.

In convolution, we flip the matrix by  $180^\circ$ .

Properties → linear and shift invariance

Commutative  $f * g = g * f$

Associative  $(f * g) * h = f * (g * h)$

Identity

Differentiation  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (f * g) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} * g$ .

→ Correlation and Template matching → measurement of similarity b/w 2 signals or sequences

→ Geometric interpretation:  $x \cdot y = \|x\| \|y\| \cos(\theta)$

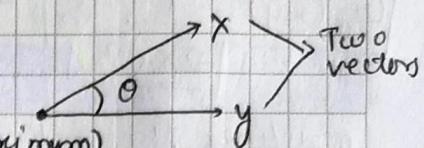
if  $x \cdot y$  are perpendicular then  $x \cdot y = 0$  (maximum)

$$C(\theta) = \frac{x \cdot y}{\|x\| \|y\|}$$

cross correlation

Normalised cross-correlation (i.e. dividing by lengths)

- Tricks
- ① Subtract template average
- ② Subtract patch average.



$$g[t] = \frac{(h - \bar{h}) \cdot (f_t - \bar{f}_t)}{\|h - \bar{h}\| \cdot \|f_t - \bar{f}_t\|}$$

zero-mean Normalised cross-correlation. (ZNCC)

using the statistical term  $\sigma$  (standard deviation)

$$g[t] = \frac{(h - \bar{h}) \cdot (f_t - \bar{f}_t)}{n \cdot \sigma_h \cdot \sigma_{f_t}} \approx g[t] = \frac{\text{cov}(h, f_t)}{\sigma_h \cdot \sigma_{f_t}}$$

Cross-correlation of a template  $h(x,y)$  with a sub-image  $f(x,y)$  is :

$n \rightarrow$  no. of pixels in  $h(x,y) \otimes f(x,y)$

$\bar{f} \rightarrow$  average of  $f$

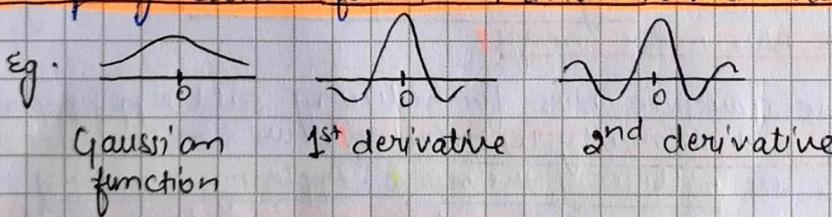
$\sigma_f \rightarrow$  standard deviation of  $f$

→ Disadvantage → Correlation is not rotation and scale invariant. i.e. the template must have the right scale and orientation in order to be detected in the image. ALSO not shape invariant.

⇒ Convolution → It can be defined as the mathematical operation on 2 functions to produce a 3rd function that expresses how the shape of one is modified by the other.

$$f(t) * g(t) \triangleq \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\tau) g(t-\tau) d\tau$$

→ According to applications, we choose the mask weights. It is done usually by sampling certain functions and their derivatives.



→ Normalisation of weights →

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Positive weights} \\ \text{sum} = 1 \end{array} \right\} \text{negative weights}$$

→ Smoothing → the basic idea of smoothing is to replace each pixel by average of its neighbours. useful for reducing noise and unimportant details. Bigger the mask, greater is the smoothing. when smoothing is done, blurring and loss of detail occurs.

When we apply box filter for smoothing, it creates edges in the smoothed image because of a rectangular function.

A solution is to use "fuzzy blob". i.e. the weight contribution of neighbourhood pixels is set according to their closeness to the center.

This is done by Gaussian smoothing. The idea behind gaussian smoothing is that each pixel is replaced by the weighted average of its neighbouring pixels. The mask weight is calculated by sampling a Gaussian function.

$$G_{1,2}(x,y) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2} \exp - \frac{(x^2 + y^2)}{2\sigma^2}$$

- For the Gaussian mask, weight is highest at centre and decreases with distance as we go away from the center.

- $\sigma$  defines the extent of smoothing. Larger  $\sigma \rightarrow$  more smoothing  
smaller  $\sigma \rightarrow$  less smoothing.

Properties of Gaussian → convolution of 2 Gaussian functions leads to another gaussian function.  $G_{\sigma_1}(x) * G_{\sigma_2}(x) = G_{\sqrt{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2}}(x)$

Kernels can be separated  $\rightarrow$  A 2D Gaussian can be separated expressed as the product of 2 1-D Gaussians  $= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2}} e^{-\frac{(x^2+y^2)}{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2}}$

$$G_\sigma(x,y) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2} \exp -\frac{(x^2+y^2)}{2\sigma^2}$$

$$= \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_x} \exp -\frac{x^2}{2\sigma_x^2} \right) \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_y} \exp -\frac{y^2}{2\sigma_y^2} \right)$$

called separability of filters,

Instead of taking the whole kernel,  $\begin{array}{|c|c|}\hline & \sigma \\ \hline \sigma & \end{array}$ , it is separated into  $\begin{array}{|c|}\hline \end{array}$  and  $\begin{array}{|c|}\hline \end{array}$ .  
First horizontal operation, then vertical operation.

**Noise**

- Salt & pepper → random occurrences of black / white pixels.
- Impulse → random occurrences of white pixels
- Gaussian → variation of intensity drawn from Gaussian Normal distribution.

→ Gaussian Noise → Adding a noise process to the original image. It consists of several independent factors and is good for small standard deviations.

$$f(x,y) = \bar{f}(x,y) + \eta(x,y) \quad \eta(x,y) \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

$\downarrow$   
mean      standard deviation.

If we perform smoothing operations with larger standard deviations, although it reduces the noise, it increases the blur in the image.

**Salt and pepper noise** → we cannot use gaussian blur for reducing salt & pepper noise because SEP noise is not normally distributed. we can consider them as outliers. The problem is the pattern of the noise. Applying a wrong filtering technique would not solve it. It is done by median filter.

Median filtering → median filtering is a non-linear operation used in image processing.

Idea → use median of all the pixels in kernel area, instead of mean

5	10	2	20	5
6	9	2	12	14
8	7	20	19	18
2	1	0	10	9



→ Taking the median → [2, 2, 5, 6, ~~8~~, 8, 9, 10, 20] replacing 9 with 7.

Advantage → Robust to outliers.

image → sharpening filters → to make details more clear.  
 $f + \alpha(f - f * g) = (1 + \alpha)f - \alpha f * g = f * ((1 + \alpha)e^{-g})$

<u>image</u>	<u>blurred</u>	<u>unit impulse</u>
$f$	$f * g$	$e^{-g}$

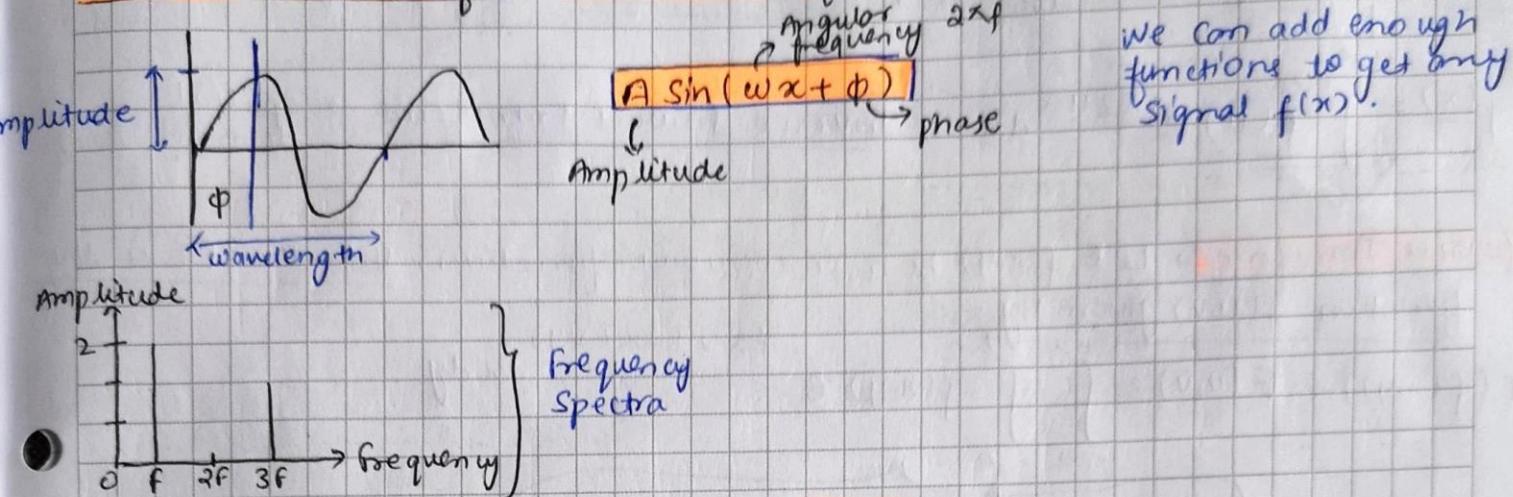
→ Image sharpening → compute the intensity differences in local image regions, useful for emphasizing transitions in intensity.

High pass sharpening filter →

- ① useful for highlighting fine details.
- ② Elements of the mask contain both positive and negative weights.
- ③ sum of mask elements is 0.

## Filtering in frequency domain

- Based on Fourier Transform whose basic idea is that, any periodic function can be written as the sum of sine and cosine functions.



We can add enough functions to get any signal  $f(x)$ .

- for 1D signals we will use the enhanced version of sines and cosines

$$\begin{aligned} e^{ix} &= \cos(n) + i \sin(n) \\ e^{i\omega nt} &= \cos(2\pi n t) + i \sin(2\pi n t) \end{aligned} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \rightarrow \text{Complex} \\ \rightarrow \text{frequency} \\ \text{Period} \rightarrow \frac{1}{n} \end{array} \right\}$$

- The problem with Fourier transform is that, the basis is complex, but the signal is real. The solution is to combine a pair of conjugate basis elements.

$$B_{N-K}(n) = e^{\frac{2\pi i (N-K)n}{N}} = e^{\frac{2\pi i n - 2\pi i Kn}{N}} = e^{\frac{-2\pi i Kn}{N}} = B_{-K}(n)$$

- The trick is to consider  $B_{-N/2}$  to  $B_{N/2}$  as the basis elements.

- Real signals will have the same coefficients for  $B_K$  and  $B_{-K}$ .

$$B_0 \rightarrow e^{\frac{2\pi i 0 n / N}{N}} = 1 \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{coefficient at 0 acts as "constant bias" (gives the offset)} \\ \text{Also called "DC component" frequency-zero component.} \end{array} \right\}$$

- 1D Fourier transform  $\rightarrow$  let  $f(x)$  be a continuous function,  $F(u)$  is the function  $f(u)$  given by

$$FT \{f(x)\} = F(u) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x) e^{-i 2\pi u x} dx$$

$$F(u) \cdot Re = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x) \cos(-2\pi u x) dx \quad \text{Real Part}$$

$$F(u) \cdot Im = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x) \sin(-2\pi u x) dx \quad \text{Imaginary Part}$$

- Fourier Transform stores the magnitude & frequency phase at each frequency.  
Magnitude  $\rightarrow$  how much signal is there at a particular frequency.  
Phase  $\rightarrow$  spatial information.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Amplitude } A &= \sqrt{R(u)^2 + I(u)^2} \\ \text{Phase } \Phi &= \tan^{-1} \frac{I(u)}{R(u)} \end{aligned}$$

Discrete Fourier Transform → The discrete FT for a discrete  $f(x)$  signal with values  $f(x)$  given by:

$$F(u) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{x=0 \dots N-1} f(x) e^{-i\pi u x / N}$$

Real Part

$$F(u) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{x=0 \dots N-1} f(x) \cos(-2\pi u x / N)$$

Imaginary Part

$$F(u) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{x=0 \dots N-1} f(x) \sin(-2\pi u x / N)$$

$$\rightarrow F(u) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x) e^{-i\pi u x} dx \Rightarrow \text{Fourier Transform} \rightarrow \text{frequency}$$

$$f(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} F(u) e^{i\pi u x} du \Rightarrow \text{Inverse Fourier Transform} \rightarrow \text{spatial domain}$$

2D Fourier Transform → Let  $f(x,y)$  be a continuous function, then the FT is the function  $F(u,v)$  given by:

$$\text{FT}(f(x,y)) = F(u,v) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x,y) e^{-i\pi(ux+vy)} dx dy$$

$$F(u,v).re = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x,y) \cos(-2\pi(ux+vy)) dx dy$$

$$F(u,v).im = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x,y) \sin(-2\pi(ux+vy)) dx dy$$

→ Removing high frequencies → usually noise can be categorised as high frequency. So if we remove high frequencies (putting them to 0) from the image in which we did the Fourier transform, we get a new spectrum. And if we do an inverse Fourier transform of it, we get a noiseless image (although we have blurred edges).

→ Removing low frequencies → If, in an image, in which we did the Fourier transform, we remove the low frequencies, we get high intensity points, high contours. Just like we did (kind of) edge detection.

→ Removing periodic noise → Fourier transform can remove periodic noise.

→ FT of a Gaussian → If we have a Gaussian centred at origin

$$f(r) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2} e^{-r^2/2\sigma^2} \quad \{ r^2 = x^2 + y^2 \}$$

$$F(u,v) = F(p) = e^{-2\pi p^2 \sigma^2} \quad \{ p^2 = u^2 + v^2 \}$$

\* FT of a Gaussian is a Gaussian

Convolution theorem →  $F(g * h) = F[g] F[h]$

$$g * h = F^{-1}[F[g] F[h]]$$

} ⇒ This property of Fourier transform is important because it is much easier to perform multiplication operation than just performing convolution. (E.g. in linear filtering op)

Derivation of convolution theorem

$$\begin{aligned} I(u) &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(\tau) g(t-\tau) dt d\tau e^{-2\pi i u t} \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \left( \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(\tau) g(s) ds \right) e^{-2\pi i u (s+t)} ds \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(\tau) e^{-2\pi i u \tau} g(s) e^{-2\pi i u s} ds d\tau \end{aligned}$$

} Imp.

$$= \underbrace{\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(t) e^{-2\pi i u t} dt}_{F(u)} \cdot \underbrace{\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} g(s) e^{-2\pi i u s} ds}_{G(u)}$$

$$H(u) = F(u) G(u)$$

→ Importance of Convolution theorem: It establishes the link between the operation in the frequency domain and the action of linear spatial filters.

→ There are 2 ways to carry out linear spatial filtering operations:-

- ① Spatial domain → Convolution with a spatial operator
- ② frequency domain →
  - ① calculate FT of image and FT of filter.
  - ② multiply both the FTs.
  - ③ calculate their inverse FT

→ We can choose from both of these domains because filter may be simpler to compute in one domain

→ computational cost.

Dirac delta and its transform

$$\delta(x) = \begin{cases} \infty & x=0 \\ 0 & x \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

$$F(u) = 1$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \delta(x) dx = 1 \quad \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x) \delta(x) dx = f(0)$$

→ we can add many linear functions → property of FT.

Can be used for image recognition (in texture images)

$$\rightarrow \text{the spatial function } f(x,y) \left[ f(m,y) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(u,v) e^{2\pi i (mx+vy)} du dv \right]$$

Can be decomposed into a weighted sum of 2D orthogonal basis functions in a similar manner to decomposing a vector onto a basis using scalar products.

Properties

$$\text{Linearity} \rightarrow \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} (af(x) + bg(x)) e^{-2\pi i ux} dx = a \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x) e^{-2\pi i ux} dx + b \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} g(x) e^{-2\pi i ux} dx = a F(u) + b G(u)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Time shift} \rightarrow & \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x-x_0) e^{-2\pi i ux} dx & (x-x_0) \Rightarrow \delta \\ & = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(s) e^{-2\pi i u(s+x_0)} ds & = e^{-2\pi i ux_0} \cdot \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(s) e^{-2\pi i us} ds \\ & & = e^{-2\pi i ux_0} \cdot F(u) \end{aligned}$$

$$\underline{\text{derivative}} \quad \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x} = u f(u)$$

$$\underline{\text{Integration}} \quad \int f(x) dx = \frac{f(u)}{u}$$

$$\underline{\text{Convolution}} \quad f(x) * g(x) = f(u) g(u)$$

\* The log-polar transformation is also known as 'Fourier-mellin transformation'