

8- scale invariant detectors

scale invariant detectors

① harris-laplacian = local maximums of laplacian harris corner detector in scales of the image

② SIFT (scale invariance feature transform) = local maximums of difference of gaussians in space and scale

performance = harris-laplacian > SIFT > harris

interesting point / feature = edges are not interesting, corners also not much

↳ has rich image content (brightness, color variation etc.) within the local window

↳ should be invariant to image rotation and scaling


↳ should be insensitive to lighting changes

blobs ^{→ like} as interest points = locate → determine size → determine orientation → formulate a description that is independent of its size and orientation

edge detection = $f = \text{image}$

↳ ① → 1st derivative of gaussian $\nabla(n_\sigma) = \text{edge detection}$

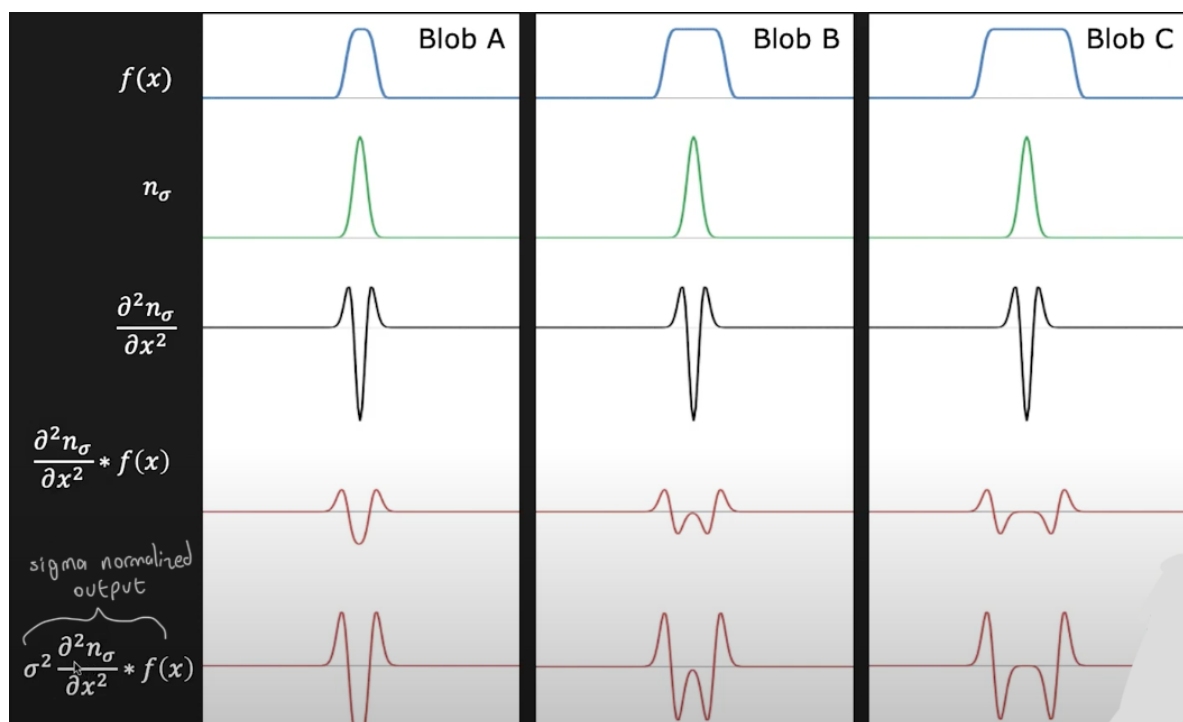
↳ ② → 2nd derivative of gaussian $\nabla^2(n_\sigma) = \text{edge detection}$

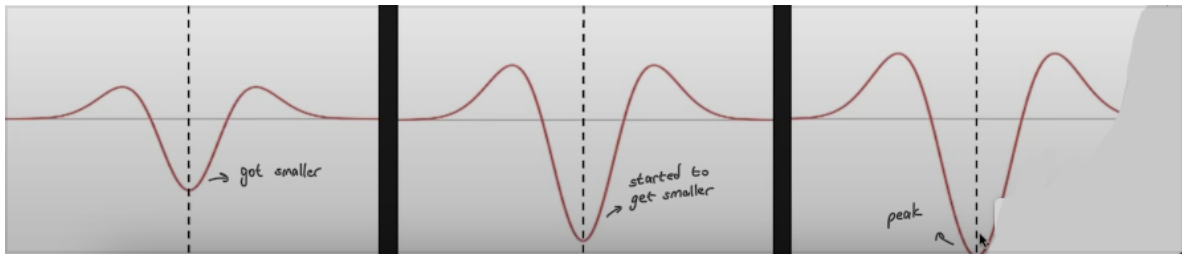
gaussian(n_σ) = 

$n_\sigma * f = \text{remove noise by smoothing}$

$\nabla(n_\sigma) * f = \text{extremum denotes an edge}$

$\nabla^2(n_\sigma) * f = \text{zero crossing denotes an edge}$





- as sigma σ gets wider peak value begins to fall \rightarrow response of the operator reduces

- change sigma to find different scaled blobs, with finding max points among them

\rightarrow local extrema in (x, σ) - space represent blobs
 locations of blobs \hookrightarrow characteristic scale for that max point

\hookrightarrow characteristic scale \propto size of blob (they are proportional) in the example above
 $\sigma_A^* = \sigma_1, \sigma_B^* = 2\sigma_1, \sigma_C^* = 3\sigma_1$

2D blob detection = normalized laplacian of gaussian (NLoG) is used

\hookrightarrow laplacian = $\nabla^2 = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2}$ $\hookrightarrow \sigma^2 \cdot \nabla^2 n_\sigma \rightarrow$ find extreme locals among many scales

* increasing sigma lowers the resolution

scale space = stack created by filtering an image with gaussians of different sigma (σ)

$\hookrightarrow S(x, y, \sigma) = n(x, y, \sigma) * \text{Image}(x, y)$

$\hookrightarrow (x^*, y^*, \sigma^*) = \arg \max_{(x, y, \sigma)} |\sigma^2 \nabla^2 n_\sigma * I(x, y)|$ $\rightarrow (x^*, y^*) =$ position of the blob
 $\sigma^* =$ size of the blob

fast NLoG approximation = difference of gaussian (DoG) = $n_{\sigma_2} - n_{\sigma_1} \approx (s-1) \sigma^2 \nabla^2 n_\sigma$ normalized laplacian of gaussian

\hookrightarrow instead of computing normalized laplacian of gaussian, simply take the difference between stack layers in gaussian scale-space

to make it scale invariant = $\frac{\sigma^*}{\sigma_1}$: ratio of blob size, match accordingly

to make it rotation invariant = compute image gradient directions in each pixel \rightarrow in blobs region, choose the most prominent / repeated gradient direction, match these in both images
 \hookrightarrow using histograms

summary = given same two images with different scales \rightarrow goal: finding interest points independently

\hookrightarrow solution: search for max of functions in scale and in space

\hookrightarrow methods: harris-laplacian = max laplacian over scale, harris measure of corner response over the img
 \hookrightarrow SIFT = max difference of gaussians over scale and space

matching SIFT descriptors =

① create histograms of gradient directions over spatial regions (best is 8 orientation bins and 4x4 histograms)

\hookrightarrow normalized histogram = invariant to rotation, scale, and brightness

\hookrightarrow very large image gradients are usually from illumination effects

\hookrightarrow to reduce this, clamp all values in vector to be ≤ 0.2 , then normalize again

② compare them using \rightarrow L2 distance: zero perfect match

\hookrightarrow normalized correlation: 1 is perfect match

\hookrightarrow intersection: larger, better the match (overlap)

applications of local invariant features = motion tracking, panoramas, 3D reconstruction...