# **Introduction to Image Processing**

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# Topic 09 Video Coding

- A change of scene
  - > 2000
    - ✓ Most viewers receive analogue television via terrestrial, cable or satellite transmission.
    - ✓ VHS video tapes are the principal medium for recording and playing TV programs, movies, etc.
    - ✓ Cell phones are cell phones, i.e. a mobile handset can only be used to make calls or send SMS messages.
    - ✓ Internet connections are slow, primarily over telephone modems for home users.

- A change of scene
  - > 2000
    - ✓ Internet connections are slow, primarily over telephone modems for home users.
    - ✓ Web pages are web pages, with static text, graphics and photos and not much else.
    - ✓ Video calling requires dedicated videoconferencing terminals and expensive leased lines.
    - ✓ Video calling over the internet is possible but slow, unreliable and difficult to set up.

5

#### 1. Introduction

- A change of scene
  - **>** 2000
    - ✓ Video calling over the internet is possible but slow, unreliable and difficult to set up.
    - ✓ Consumer video cameras, camcorders, use tape media, principally analogue tape.
    - ✓ Home-made videos generally stay within the home.

- A change of scene
  - > 2010
    - ✓ Most viewers receive digital television via terrestrial, cable, satellite or internet
    - ✓ Greater choice of channels, electronic programme guides and high definition services.
    - ✓ Analogue TV has been switched off in many countries.
    - ✓ Many TV programmes can be watched via the internet.

- A change of scene
  - > 2010
    - ✓ DVDs are the principal medium for playing prerecorded movies and TV programs.
    - ✓ Movie downloading, hard-disk recording and playback.
    - ✓ Variety of digital media formats.
    - ✓ High definition DVDs, Blu-Ray Disks, are increasing in popularity.

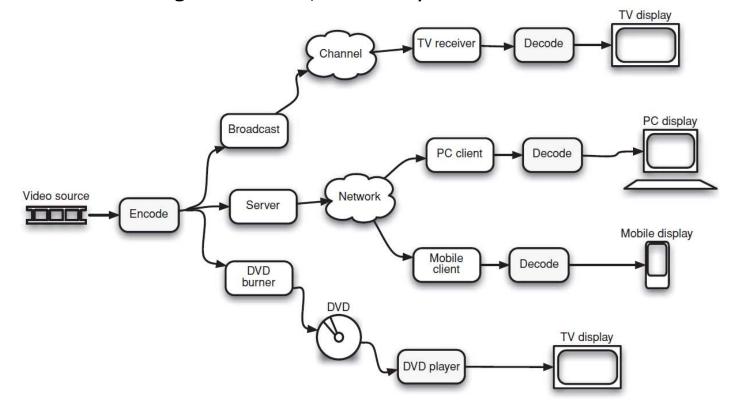
- A change of scene
  - > 2010
    - ✓ Cell phones function also as cameras.
    - ✓ Internet access speeds continue to get faster, enabling widespread use of video-based web applications.
    - ✓ Among other things web pages are movie players with content that changes dynamically.
    - ✓ Video calling over the internet is commonplace.
    - ✓ Consumer video cameras use hard disk or flash memory card media.

- A change of scene
  - > 2010
    - ✓ Editing, uploading and internet sharing of home videos is widespread.
    - ✓ A whole range of illegal activities has been born
       DVD piracy, movie sharing via the internet etc.
    - ✓ Video footage of breaking news is more likely to come from a cell phone than a TV camera.

- A change of scene
  - We will focus on one technical aspect that is key to the widespread adoption of digital video technology
     video compression.
  - Digital video data tends to take up a large amount of storage or transmission capacity.
  - Video compression or video coding is the process of reducing the amount of data required to represent a digital video signal.
  - ➤ It is essential for any application in which storage capacity or transmission bandwidth is constrained.

- A change of scene
  - ➤ Almost all consumer applications for digital video fall into this category:
    - ✓ One-way scenario
      - Digital television broadcasting
      - Internet video streaming
      - Mobile video streaming
      - o DVD video
    - ✓ Two-way scenario
      - Video calling

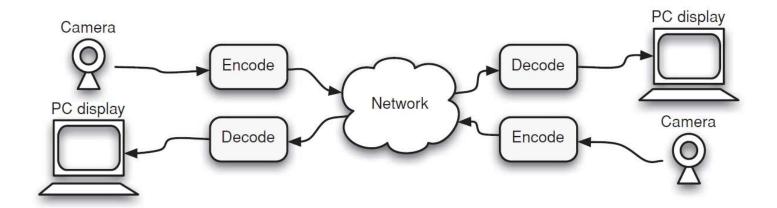
- A change of scene
  - Video coding scenarios, one-way



13

# 1. Introduction

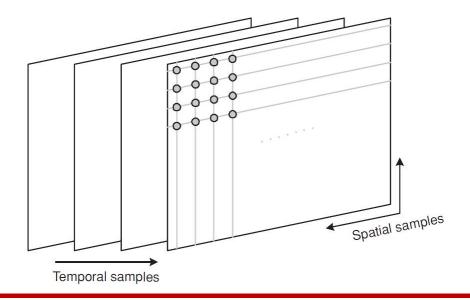
- A change of scene
  - Video coding scenarios, one-way



- Driving the change
  - > The consumer applications discussed above represent very **large markets**.
  - ➤ A TV company that can pack a larger number of high-quality channels into the available bandwidth has a market edge over its competitors.
  - > Better video codec results in a better product and therefore a more competitive product.
  - ➤ This drive to improve video compression technology has led to **significant investment** in video coding **research** and **development** over the last 15-20 years.

- Natural video scenes
  - Characteristics of a typical natural video scene that are relevant for video processing and compression include:
    - ✓ Spatial characteristics such as;
      - texture variation within scene;
      - o number and shape of objects; and
      - o colour.
    - ✓ Temporal characteristics such as
      - object motion;
      - o changes in illumination; and
      - o movement of the camera or viewpoint.

- Capture
  - ➤ A natural visual scene is **spatially** and **temporally** continuous.
  - > Representing a visual scene in digital form involves sampling the real scene spatially and temporally.



- Capture
  - ➤ To obtain a 2-D sampled image, a camera focuses a 2-D projection of the video scene onto a sensor, such as an array of Charge Coupled Devices (CCDs).
  - ➤ In the case of **colour image** capture, each colour component is separately **filtered** and projected onto a CCD array

- Spatial sampling
  - ➤ The output of a CCD array is an analogue video signal, a varying electrical signal that represents a video image.
  - Sampling the image at a specific time produces a sampled **frame** that has defined values at a set of discrete positions.
  - ➤ The number of sampled positions influences the visual quality of the image.

• Spatial sampling





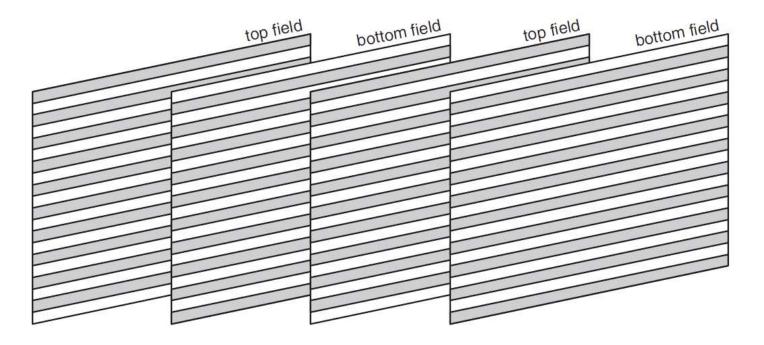
- Temporal sampling
  - ➤ A moving video image is formed by taking a rectangular **snapshot** of the signal at periodic time intervals.
  - ➤ Playing back the series of snapshots or frames produces the appearance of **motion**.
  - ➤ **Higher temporal sampling rate** or frame rate gives apparently **smoother motion** in the video scene
    - √ 10 frames/s → very low bit-rate video
    - √ 10–20 frames/s → low bit-rate video
    - ✓ 25 or 30 frames/s → Standard Definition TV

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    - ✓ 10–20 frames/s → low bit-rate video
    - ✓ 25 or 30 frames/s 
      → Standard Definition TV
    - √ 50 or 60 frames/s → very smooth motion

- Frames and fields
  - ➤ A video signal may be sampled as a series of complete frames (**progressive** sampling) or as a sequence of interlaced fields (**interlaced** sampling).
  - ➤ In an **interlaced** video sequence, **half** of the data in a frame (**one field**) is typically sampled **at each** temporal sampling **interval**.
  - ➤ A field may consist of either the odd-numbered or even-numbered lines within a complete video frame.
  - ➤ An interlaced video sequence typically contains a series of fields, each representing half of the information in a complete video frame

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- Frames and fields
  - ➤ The advantage of this sampling method is that it is possible to send twice as many fields per second as the number of frames in an equivalent progressive sequence.
  - ➤ For example, a PAL video sequence consists of 50 fields/s.
    - ➤ When played back, motion **appears smoother** than in an equivalent **progressive** video sequence containing **25 frames** per second.

- Color spaces
  - > RGB
    - ✓ A pixel is represented with three numbers that indicate the amount of Red, Green and Blue which define its color.







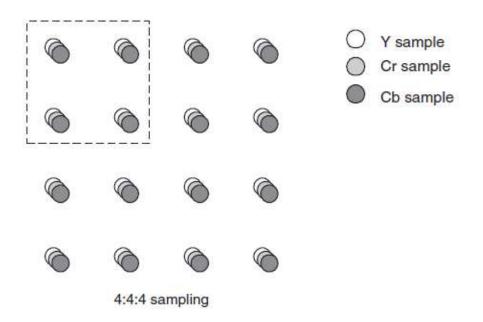
- Color spaces
  - > YCrCb
    - ✓ The human visual system (HVS) is less sensitive
      to colour than to luminance.
    - ✓ In the RGB colour space the three colours are equally important and so are usually all stored at the same resolution.
    - ✓ It is possible to represent a colour image more efficiently by separating the luminance from the colour information and representing luma with a higher resolution than the chrominance or chroma.

- Color spaces
  - > YCrCb

$$Y = 0.299R + 0.587G + 0.114B$$
  
 $Cb = 0.564(B - Y)$   
 $Cr = 0.713(R - Y)$ 

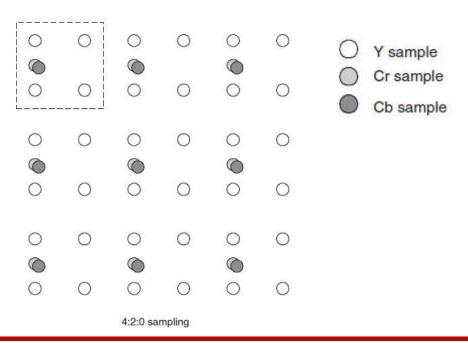
$$R = Y + 1.402Cr$$
  
 $G = Y - 0.344Cb - 0.714Cr$   
 $B = Y + 1.772Cb$ 

- Color spaces
  - > Examples of YCrCb sampling formats: 4:4:4
    - ✓ The three components have the same resolution.

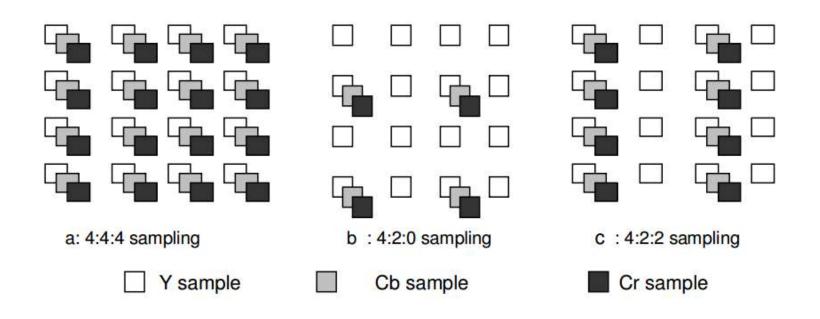


- Color spaces
  - > Examples of YCrCb sampling formats: 4:2:2
    - ✓ The chrominance components have the same vertical resolution as the luma but half the horizontal resolution.

- Color spaces
  - > Examples of YCrCb sampling formats: 4:2:0
    - > C<sub>b</sub> and C<sub>r</sub> each have half the horizontal and vertical resolution.

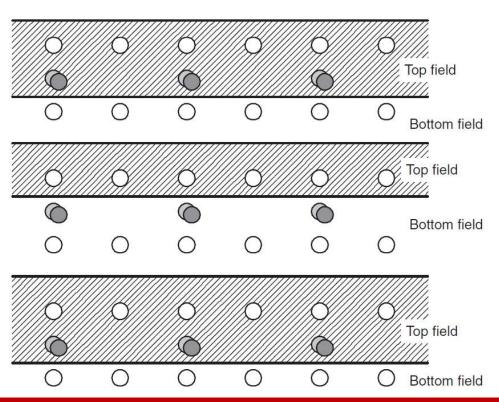


- Color spaces
  - > Summary: 4:4:4 | 4:2:2 | 4:2:0



http://www.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:831349/FULLTEXT01.pdf

- Formats
  - > Allocation of 4:2:0 samples to top and bottom fields.



- Formats
  - > Intermediate formats
    - The Common Intermediate Format (CIF) is the basis for a popular set of formats:

Format	Luminance resolution (horiz. × vert.)	Bits per frame (4:2:0.8 bits per sample)
Sub-QCIF	128 × 96	147456
Quarter CIF (QCIF)	$176 \times 144$	304128
CIF	$352 \times 288$	1216512
4CIF	$704 \times 576$	4866048

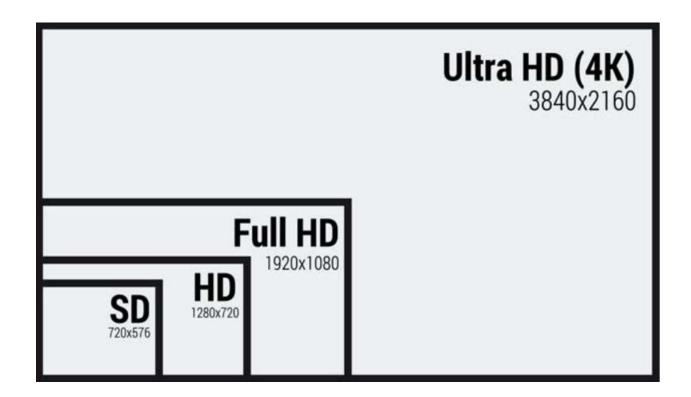
- Formats
  - > Intermediate formats



- Formats
  - > Standard and High Definition

Format	Progressive or Interlaced	Horizontal pixels	Vertical pixels	Frames or fields per second
720p	Progressive	1280	720	25 frames
1080i	Interlaced	1920	1080	50 fields
1080p	Progressive	1920	1080	25 frames

- Formats
  - > Standard and High Definition



- Quality
  - Subjective quality measurement
    - ✓ The perception of visual quality is influenced by:
      - spatial fidelity, i.e. how clearly parts of the scene can be seen, whether there is any obvious distortion; and
      - o **temporal fidelity**, i.e. whether motion appears natural and 'smooth'.

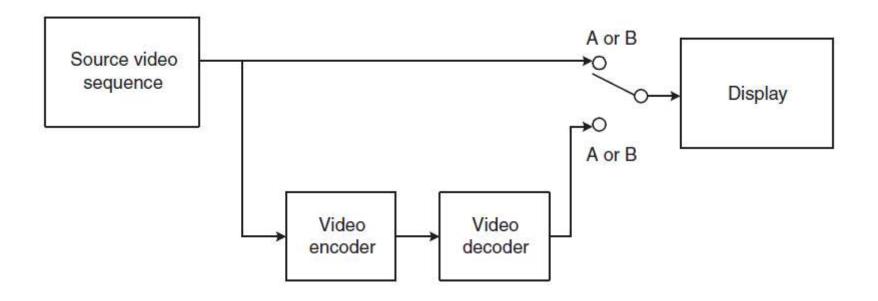
- Quality
  - > Subjective quality measurement
    - ✓ However, a viewer's opinion of `quality' is also affected by other factors such as:
      - the viewing environment;
      - the observer's state of mind; and
      - the extent to which the observer interacts with the visual scene.

- Quality
  - Subjective quality measurement
    - ✓ A widely-used quality test procedure is the Double Stimulus Continuous Quality Scale (DSCQS) method.
    - ✓ An assessor is presented with a pair of images or short video sequences A and B, one after the other, and is asked to give A and B a 'quality score' by marking on a continuous line with five intervals ranging from 'Excellent' to 'Bad'.
    - ✓ Within each pair of sequences, one is an unimpaired 'reference' sequence and the other is the same sequence, modified by a system or process under test.

- Quality
  - Subjective quality measurement
    - > The order of the two sequences, original and 'impaired', is randomized during the test session so that the assessor does not know which is the original and which is the impaired sequence.
    - ➤ At the end of the session, the scores are converted to a normalized range and the end result is a score, sometimes described as a 'mean opinion score' (MOS) that indicates the relative quality of the impaired and reference sequences.
    - ➤ Tests such as DSCQS are accepted as realistic measures of subjective visual quality.

- Quality
  - Subjective quality measurement
    - ➤ An 'expert' assessor who is familiar with the nature of video compression distortions or 'artefacts' may give a biased score and it is recommended to use 'non-expert' assessors.
    - ➤ This means that a large pool of assessors is required because a non-expert assessor will quickly learn to recognize characteristic artefacts in the video sequences and so will become 'expert'.
    - ➤ These factors make it expensive and time consuming to carry out the DSCQS tests thoroughly.

- Quality
  - > Subjective quality measurement



- Quality
  - > Subjective quality measurement





- Quality
  - > Objective quality measurement
    - ✓ PSNR is a very popular quality measure, widely used to compare the 'quality' of compressed and decompressed video images.

$$PSNR_{dB} = 10 \log_{10} \frac{(2^n - 1)^2}{MSE}$$

- Quality
  - > Objective quality measurement

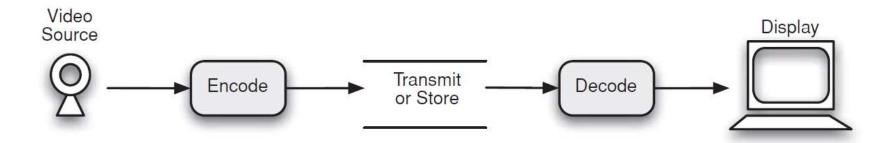


**Figure 2.16** PSNR examples: (a) Original; (b) 30.6dB; (c) 28.3dB

#### • Introduction

- Compression involves a complementary pair of systems, a compressor (encoder) and a decompressor (decoder).
- ➤ The encoder converts the source data into a compressed form occupying a reduced number of bits.
- > The **decoder** converts the **compressed form** back into a representation of the **original** video data.
- ➤ The encoder/decoder pair is often described as a CODEC (enCOder/DECoder).

- Introduction
  - Compression involves a complementary pair of systems, a compressor (encoder) and a decompressor (decoder).



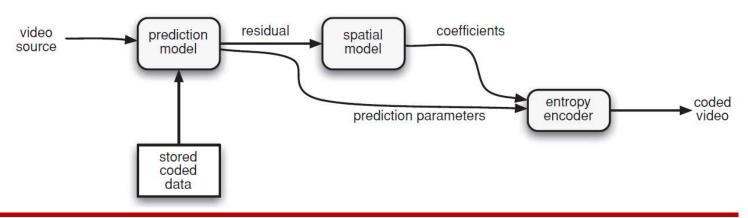
- Introduction
  - ➤ Data **compression** is achieved by **removing redundancy:** components that are not necessary for faithful reproduction of the data.
  - Many types of data contain statistical redundancy and can be effectively compressed using lossless compression.
  - ➤ The best that can be achieved with lossless image compression standards is a compression ratio of around 3-4 times.

- Introduction
  - Lossy compression is necessary to achieve higher compression.
  - ➤ Lossy video compression systems are based on the principle of removing **subjective** redundancy.
  - Most video coding methods exploit both temporal and spatial redundancy to achieve compression.
  - ➤ In the **temporal** domain, there is usually a **high correlation** or similarity between frames of video that were **captured at around the same time**.
  - ➤ In the **spatial** domain, there is usually a **high correlation** between that are **close to each other**.

• Introduction



- Video CODEC
  - ➤ A video encoder consists of three main functional units:
    - ✓ a prediction model
    - ✓ a spatial model; and
    - ✓ an entropy encoder.



- Video CODEC
  - Prediction model
    - ✓ Attempts to **reduce redundancy** by exploiting the similarities between neighbouring video frames and/or neighbouring image samples.
    - ✓ The prediction is formed from data in current, previous and/or future frames.
    - ✓ Created by spatial extrapolation from neighbouring image samples, intra prediction.
    - ✓ Or by compensating for differences between the frames, inter/motion compensated prediction.

- Video CODEC
  - > Prediction model
    - ✓ The output of the prediction model is a residual frame, created by
      - subtracting the prediction from the actual current frame; and
      - a set of model parameters indicating
        - the intra prediction type; or
        - Describing how the motion was compensated

- Video CODEC
  - > Prediction model
    - ✓ The output of the prediction model is a residual frame, created by
      - subtracting the prediction from the actual current frame; and
      - a set of model parameters indicating
        - the intra prediction type; or
        - Describing how the motion was compensated

- Video CODEC
  - Spatial model
    - ✓ The residual frame forms the input to the spatial model which makes use of similarities between local samples in the residual frame to reduce spatial redundancy.
    - ✓ Carried out by applying a transform to the residual samples and quantizing the results.
    - ✓ The output of the spatial model is a set of quantized transform coefficients.

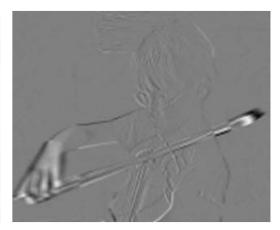
- Video CODEC
  - > Entropy encoder
    - ✓ The parameters of the prediction model, i.e.
      intra and inter prediction mode(s), motion
      vectors, and the coefficients, are compressed
      by the entropy encoder.
    - ✓ It removes **statistical redundancy** in the data.
    - ✓ Produces a compressed bit stream or a file that may be transmitted and/or stored.
    - ✓ A compressed sequence consists of coded prediction parameters, coded residual coefficients and header information

- Prediction Model
  - > Temporal prediction (inter prediction)
    - ✓ The predicted frame is created from one or more past or future frames known as reference frames.
    - ✓ The simplest method of temporal prediction is to use the previous frame as the predictor for the current frame.

- Prediction Model
  - > Temporal prediction (inter prediction)
    - ✓ Residual formed by subtracting the predictor (frame 1) from the current frame (frame 2).







✓ A lot of energy remains in the residual frame

- Prediction Model
  - Temporal prediction (inter prediction)
    - ✓ Causes of changes between video frames include motion, uncovered regions and lighting changes.
    - ✓ It is possible to estimate the **trajectory** of each pixel between successive video frames, producing a field of trajectories (**optical flow**).
    - ✓ this is not a practical method of motion compensation for several reasons.
      - An accurate calculation of optical flow is very computationally intensive

- Prediction Model
  - > Temporal prediction (inter prediction)



- Prediction Model
  - > Temporal prediction (inter prediction)
    - ✓ A practical and widely used method of motion compensation is to compensate for movement of 'blocks' of the current frame.
    - ✓ The following procedure is carried out for each block of MxN samples in the current frame.
      - 1. Search an area in the reference frame to find a similar MxN-sample region. This process of finding the best match is known as **motion estimation**

63

#### 3. Video coding concepts

- Prediction Model
  - > Temporal prediction (inter prediction)
    - 2. Search an area in the reference frame to find a similar MxN-sample region. This process is known as **motion estimation**.
    - 3. The chosen candidate region becomes the predictor for the current MxN block and is subtracted from the current block to form a residual (motion compensation).
    - 4. The **residual block** and the offset between the current block and the position of the candidate region (**motion vector**) are also encoded.

- Prediction Model
  - > Temporal prediction (inter prediction)
    - ✓ The decoder uses the received motion vector to re-create the predictor region.
    - ✓ It decodes the residual block, adds it to the predictor and reconstructs a version of the original block.
    - ✓ Block-based motion compensation fits well
      with rectangular video frames and with blockbased image transforms such as the Discrete
      Cosine Transform.

- Prediction Model
  - > Temporal prediction (inter prediction)
    - ✓ The macroblock, corresponding to a 16 × 16pixel region of a frame, is the basic unit for
      motion compensated prediction in a number of
      important visual coding standards including
      MPEG-2 and H.264/AVC.

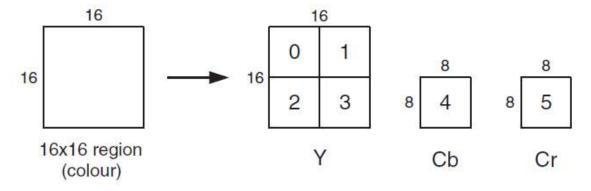
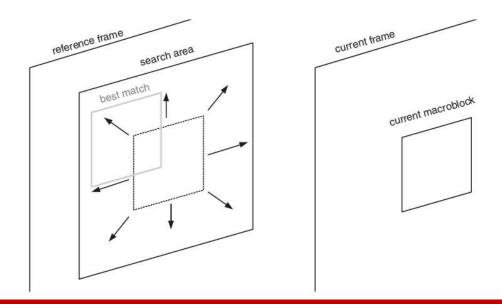


Figure 3.8 Macroblock (4:2:0)

- Prediction Model
  - > Temporal prediction (inter prediction)
    - ✓ Motion estimation of a macroblock involves a 16 region in a reference frame that closely matches the current macroblock.



- Prediction Model
  - > Temporal prediction (inter prediction)
    - ✓ Motion compensation (and block size):





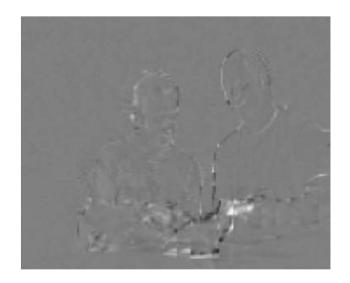
- Prediction Model
  - > Temporal prediction (inter prediction)
    - ✓ Motion compensation: no compensation



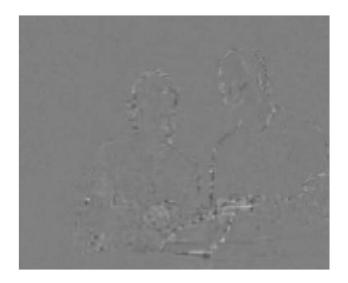
- Prediction Model
  - > Temporal prediction (inter prediction)
    - ✓ Motion compensation: 16 x 16 pixels



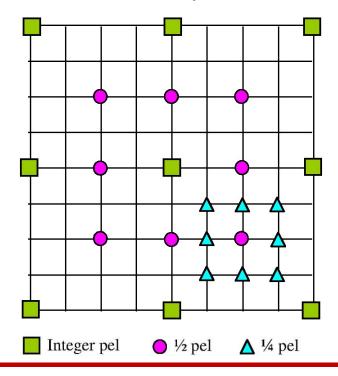
- Prediction Model
  - > Temporal prediction (inter prediction)
    - ✓ Motion compensation: 8 x 8 pixels



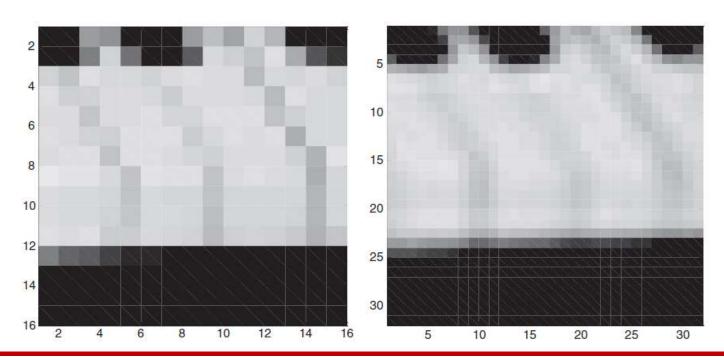
- Prediction Model
  - > Temporal prediction (inter prediction)
    - ✓ Motion compensation: 4 x 4 pixels



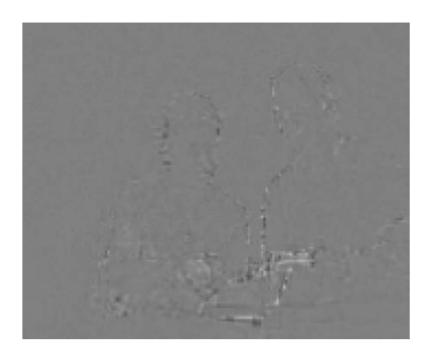
- Prediction Model
  - > Temporal prediction (inter prediction)
    - ✓ Sub-pixel motion compensation



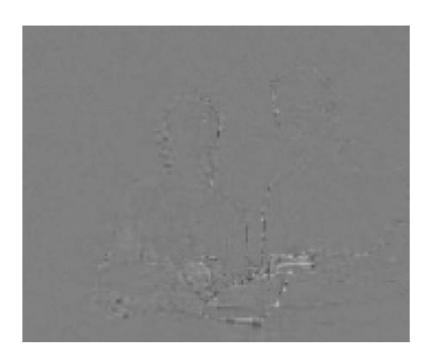
- Prediction Model
  - > Temporal prediction (inter prediction)
    - ✓ Sub-pixel motion compensation: ½-pixel



- Prediction Model
  - > Temporal prediction (inter prediction)
    - ✓ Sub-pixel motion compensation: 4 x 4, ½-pixel



- Prediction Model
  - > Temporal prediction (inter prediction)
    - ✓ Sub-pixel motion compensation: 4 x 4, ¼-pixel



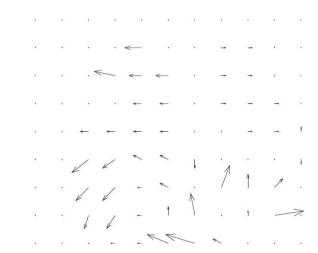
- Prediction Model
  - > Temporal prediction (inter prediction)
    - ✓ In addition to the extra complexity, sub-pixel motion compensation implies coding penalty.





- Prediction Model
  - Temporal prediction (inter prediction)
    - ✓ In addition to the extra complexity, sub-pixel motion compensation implies coding penalty.





**Figure 3.21** Motion vector map:  $16 \times 16$  blocks, integer vectors

- Prediction Model
  - > Temporal prediction (inter prediction)
    - ✓ In addition to the extra complexity, sub-pixel motion compensation implies coding penalty.

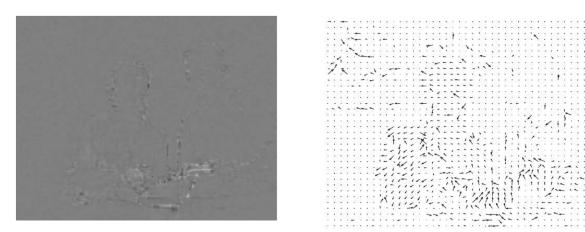
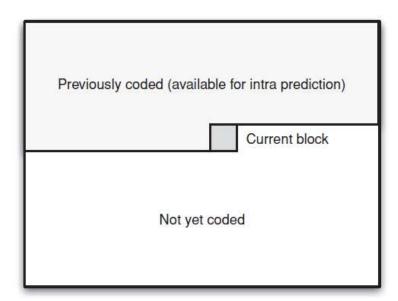


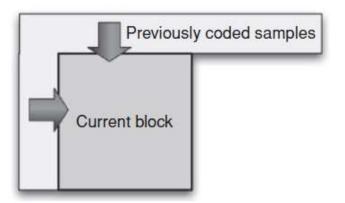
Figure 3.22 Motion vector map :  $4 \times 4$  blocks, 1/4-pixel vectors

- Prediction Model
  - Spatial prediction (intra prediction)
    - ✓ The prediction for the current block of image samples is created from previously-coded samples in the same frame.



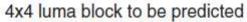
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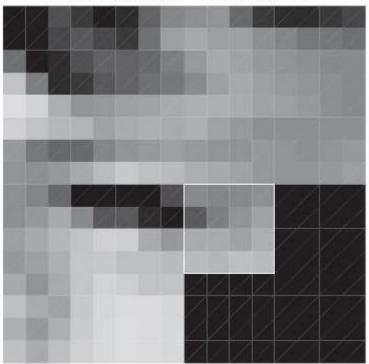
- Prediction Model
  - Spatial prediction (intra prediction)
    - ✓ Many different approaches to intra prediction have been proposed. H.264/AVC uses spatial extrapolation to create an intra prediction for a block or macroblock.



- Prediction Model
  - Spatial prediction (intra prediction)
    - ✓ One or more prediction(s) are formed by extrapolating samples from the top and/or left sides of the current block.
    - ✓ In general, the **nearest samples** are most likely to be **highly correlated** with the samples in the current block and so only the pixels along the top and/or left edges are used to create the prediction block.
    - ✓ Once the **prediction** has been generated, it is subtracted from the current block to form a residual in a similar way to inter prediction.

- Prediction Model
  - Spatial prediction (intra prediction)



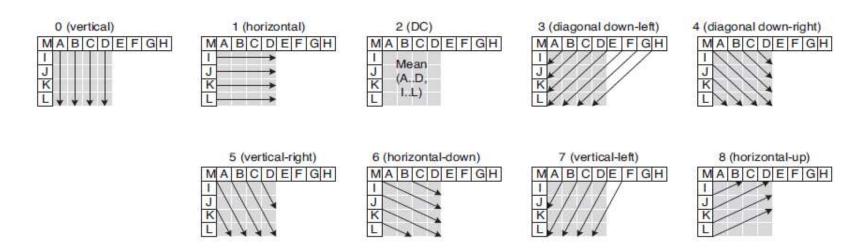


- Prediction Model
  - Spatial prediction (intra prediction)
    - ✓ Example: H.264 4x4 luma prediction modes

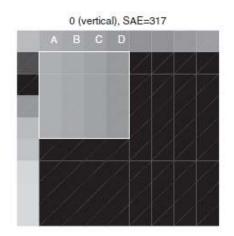
M	Α	В	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	a	b	С	d				
J	е	f	g	h				
K	i	j	k	1				
L	m	n	0	p				

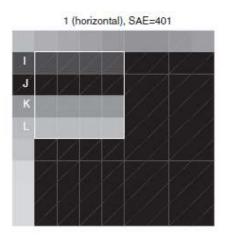
Mode 0 (Vertical)	The upper samples A,B,C,D are extrapolated vertically.				
Mode 1 (Horizontal)	The left samples I,J,K,L are extrapolated horizontally.				
Mode 2 (DC)	All samples in P are predicted by the mean of samples AD and IL.				
Mode 3 (Diagonal Down-Left)	The samples are interpolated at a 45° angle between lower-left and upper-right.				
Mode 4 (Diagonal Down-Right)	The samples are extrapolated at a 45° angle down and to the right.				
Mode 5 (Vertical-Left)	Extrapolation at an angle of approximately 26.6° to the left of vertical, i.e. width/height = $\frac{1}{2}$ .				
Mode 6 (Horizontal-Down)	Extrapolation at an angle of approximately 26.6° below horizontal.				
Mode 7 (Vertical-Right)	Extrapolation or interpolation at an angle of approximately 26.6° to the right of vertical.				
Mode 8 (Horizontal-Up)	Interpolation at an angle of approximately 26.6° above horizontal.				

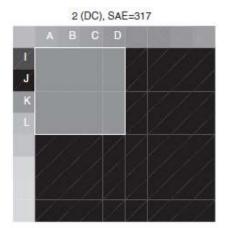
- Prediction Model
  - Spatial prediction (intra prediction)
    - ✓ Example: H.264 4x4 luma prediction modes



- Prediction Model
  - Spatial prediction (intra prediction)
    - ✓ Example: H.264 4x4 luma prediction modes

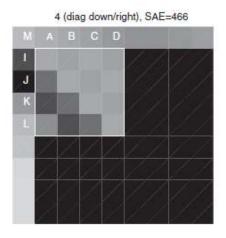


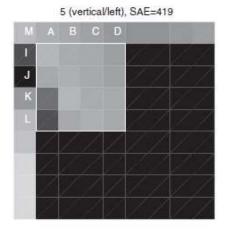




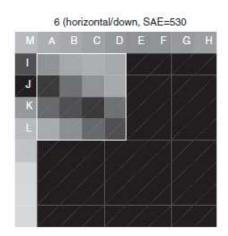
- Prediction Model
  - Spatial prediction (intra prediction)
    - ✓ Example: H.264 4x4 luma prediction modes



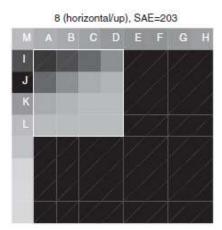




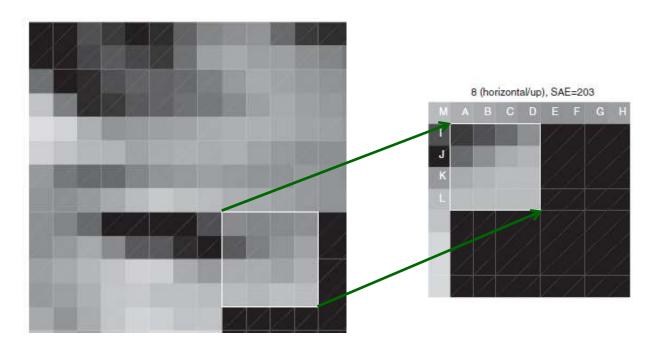
- Prediction Model
  - Spatial prediction (intra prediction)
    - ✓ Example: H.264 4x4 luma prediction modes







- Prediction Model
  - Spatial prediction (intra prediction)
    - ✓ Example: H.264 4x4 luma prediction modes



- Spatial model
  - ➤ The function of the spatial model is to **further decorrelate** image or residual data and to convert it into a form that can be efficiently compressed using an **entropy coder**.

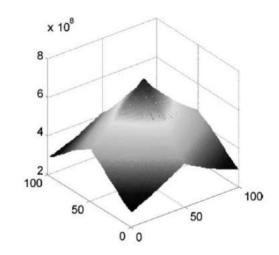


Figure 3.25 2D autocorrelation function of image

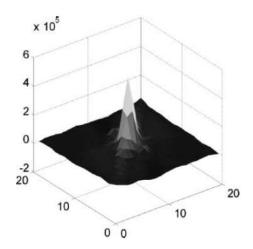


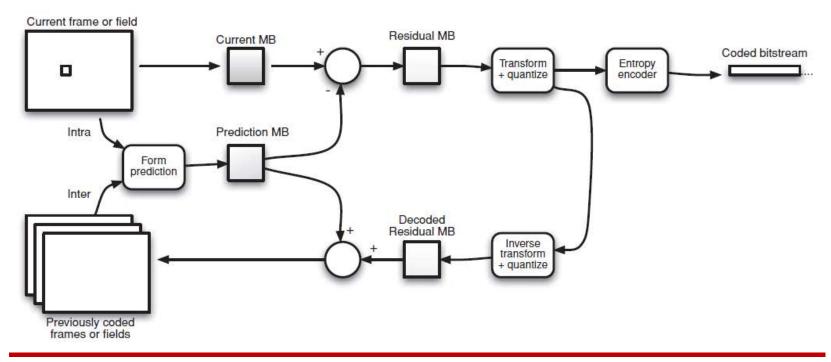
Figure 3.26 2D autocorrelation function of residual

- Spatial model
  - > If the **prediction** is **successful**, the energy in the residual is **lower** than in the original frame and the residual can be represented with **fewer** bits.
  - > The function of the **spatial model** is to:
    - ✓ Further decorrelate image or residual data;
      and
    - ✓ Convert it into a form that can be efficiently compressed using an entropy coder.

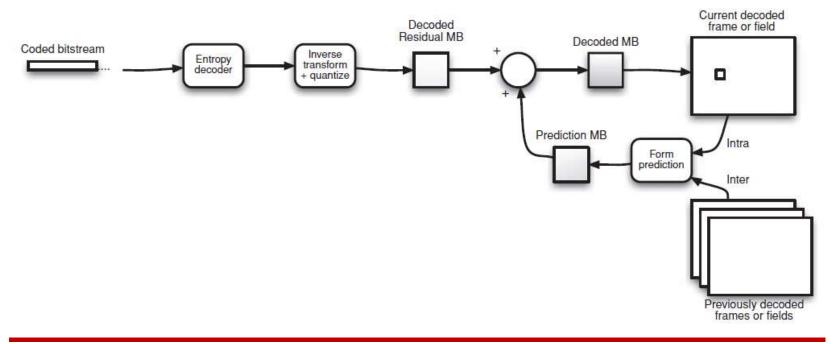
- Spatial model
  - Practical image models typically have three main components:
    - ✓ Transformation to decorrelate and compact the data;
    - ✓ Quantization to reduce the precision of the transformed data; and
    - ✓ Reordering to arrange the data to group together significant values.

- Entropy coder
  - ➤ The entropy encoder converts a series of symbols representing elements of the video sequence into a compressed bitstream suitable for transmission or storage.

- Hybrid DPCM/DCT video CODEC model
  - Example
    - ✓ H.264/AVC encoder



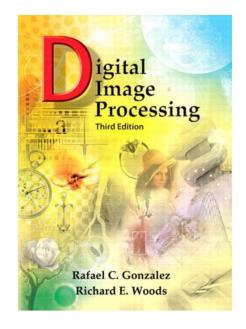
- Hybrid DPCM/DCT video CODEC model
  - Example
    - ✓ H.264/AVC decoder

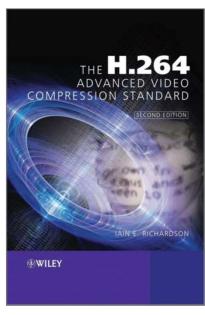


- The video coding tools described, namely:
  - motion compensated prediction;
  - intra-frame prediction;
  - transform coding;
  - quantization; and
  - entropy coding

form the basis of the reliable and effective coding model that has dominated the field of video compression for over 20 years.

# 4. Further Reading





#### Overview of the High Efficiency Video Coding (HEVC) Standard

Gary J. Sullivan, Fellow, IEEE, Jens-Rainer Ohm, Member, IEEE, Woo-Jin Han, Member, IEEE, and Thomas Wiegand, Fellow, IEEE

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