Hybrid images are defined by two parameters: the frequency cut of the low-resolution image (the one to be seen at a far distance), and the frequency cut of the high-resolution image (the one to be seen up close). An additional parameter can be added by introducing a different gain for each frequency channel.

In this situation, low-pass filters eliminate much of the noise, but leave most of the image intact. A high-pass filter can significantly decrease an image's scalar range and emphasize hidden details