

# Chapter 3: Feature Extraction

Computer Vision – Unit 03

Computer Vision Course

February 2026

# Table of Contents

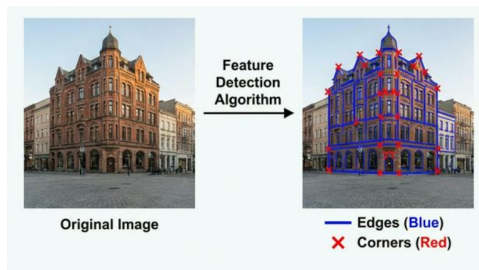
1. Introduction to Feature Extraction
2. Edge Detection
3. Line Detection – Hough Transform
4. Corner Detection
5. Orientation Histogram
6. SIFT – Scale-Invariant Feature Transform
7. SURF – Speeded-Up Robust Features
8. HOG – Histogram of Oriented Gradients
9. GLOH – Gradient Location and Orientation Histogram
10. Scale-Space Analysis
11. Gabor Filters
12. Discrete Wavelet Transform (DWT)
13. Derivation: Harris Corner Detector
14. Numerical Problems
15. Long Numerical Problems
16. Summary

# What is Feature Extraction?

- ▶ **Feature extraction** is the process of identifying and isolating meaningful patterns, structures, or descriptors from raw image data.
- ▶ Goal: Reduce data dimensionality while retaining discriminative information.
- ▶ Common features: **Edges**, **Corners**, **Blobs**, **Ridges**, **Textures**.

## Why Feature Extraction?

- ▶ Enables object recognition, tracking, image stitching, 3D reconstruction.
- ▶ Forms the foundation of many computer vision pipelines.



# Taxonomy of Features

- ▶ **Edges:** Boundaries between regions (Canny, LOG, DOG)
- ▶ **Lines:** Straight structures (Hough Transform)
- ▶ **Corners / Interest Points:** Harris, Hessian Affine
- ▶ **Descriptors:** SIFT, SURF, HOG, GLOH
- ▶ **Multi-scale:** Scale-Space, Image Pyramids
- ▶ **Frequency-based:** Gabor Filters, DWT

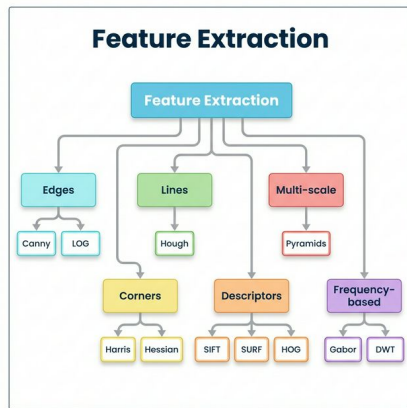


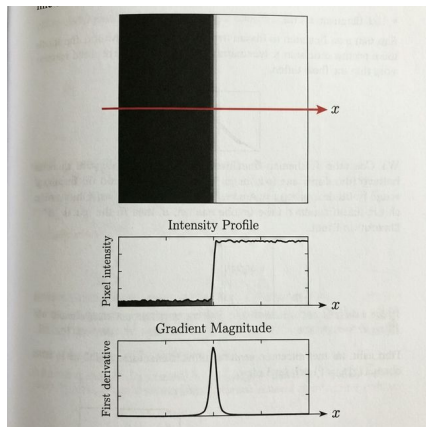
Figure: Hierarchy chart showing feature types branching from “Feature Extraction”

# Edge Detection – Overview

- ▶ An **edge** is a significant local change in image intensity.
- ▶ Edges correspond to object boundaries, surface markings, shadows, or depth discontinuities.
- ▶ Mathematically:

$$\nabla I = \left( \frac{\partial I}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial I}{\partial y} \right)$$

- ▶ Magnitude:  $|\nabla I| = \sqrt{I_x^2 + I_y^2}$
- ▶ Direction:  $\theta = \arctan(I_y/I_x)$



**Figure:** Image showing intensity profile across an edge with gradient plot

# Canny Edge Detector

Canny (1986) – Optimal Edge Detector

Designed to satisfy three criteria: **Good detection**, **Good localisation**, **Single response**.

**Steps of the Canny Algorithm:**

1. **Gaussian Smoothing:** Convolve with  $G_\sigma$  to reduce noise.

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

2. **Gradient Computation:** Compute  $|\nabla I|$  and  $\theta$  using Sobel or similar operators.
3. **Non-Maximum Suppression (NMS):** Thin edges by keeping only local maxima along gradient direction.
4. **Double Thresholding:** Use  $T_{\text{high}}$  and  $T_{\text{low}}$  to classify strong, weak, and non-edges.
5. **Edge Tracking by Hysteresis:** Weak edges connected to strong edges are kept.

# Canny Edge Detector – Illustration

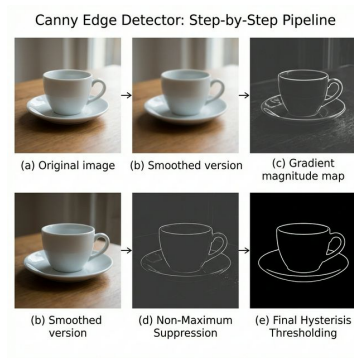
## Key Parameters:

- ▶  $\sigma$  – controls smoothing level.
- ▶  $T_{\text{high}}, T_{\text{low}}$  – thresholds for hysteresis.
- ▶ Typical ratio:  $T_{\text{high}}/T_{\text{low}} \approx 2 : 1$  or  $3 : 1$ .

## Important

Larger  $\sigma \Rightarrow$  fewer edges detected (more smoothing).

Smaller  $\sigma \Rightarrow$  more edges but also more noise.



**Figure:** Step-by-step Canny pipeline – (a) Original (b) Smoothed (c) Gradient (d) NMS (e) Final edges

# Laplacian of Gaussian (LOG)

- ▶ The **Laplacian**  $\nabla^2 I$  is a second-order derivative operator:

$$\nabla^2 I = \frac{\partial^2 I}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 I}{\partial y^2}$$

- ▶ Direct Laplacian is very sensitive to noise  $\Rightarrow$  first smooth with Gaussian.
- ▶ **LOG** = Laplacian applied to Gaussian-smoothed image:

$$\text{LOG}(x, y) = \nabla^2 [G_\sigma * I] = [\nabla^2 G_\sigma] * I$$

- ▶ The LOG kernel (“Mexican Hat”):

$$\nabla^2 G_\sigma(x, y) = \frac{1}{\pi\sigma^4} \left( \frac{x^2 + y^2}{2\sigma^2} - 1 \right) \exp\left(-\frac{x^2 + y^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

- ▶ Edges are located at **zero-crossings** of the LOG response.



## Properties of LOG:

- ▶ Isotropic (rotationally symmetric).
- ▶ Detects edges at zero-crossings.
- ▶ Scale controlled by  $\sigma$ .
- ▶ Sensitive to blobs at scale  $\sigma$ .

Typical  $5 \times 5$  LOG Mask ( $\sigma = 1.4$ )

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & -2 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & -2 & 16 & -2 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & -2 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

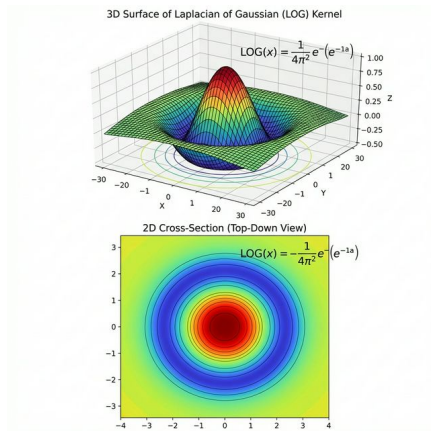


Figure: 3D surface plot of LOG kernel (Mexican Hat shape) and its 2D cross-section

# Difference of Gaussians (DOG)

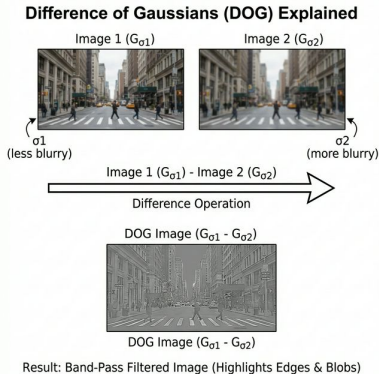
- ▶ **DOG** approximates the LOG and is computationally cheaper:

$$\text{DOG}(x, y) = G_{\sigma_1} - G_{\sigma_2}, \quad \sigma_2 > \sigma_1$$

- ▶ Typically  $\sigma_2 = k\sigma_1$  with  $k \approx 1.6$ .
- ▶  $\text{DOG} \approx \text{LOG}$  because:

$$G_{\sigma_1} - G_{\sigma_2} \approx (\sigma_2 - \sigma_1) \nabla^2 G_{\sigma}$$

- ▶ **Advantages:** Faster computation (subtract two blurred images), directly gives scale information.
- ▶ Used extensively in **SIFT** for keypoint detection.



**Figure:** Two Gaussian-blurred images and their difference showing blob-like edge response

# Edge Detectors – Comparison

Property	Canny	LOG	DOG
Derivative Order	1st	2nd	$\approx$ 2nd
Edge Criterion	Gradient max	Zero-crossing	Zero-crossing
Noise Handling	Gaussian smooth	Gaussian smooth	Inherent
Computational Cost	Moderate	High	Low
Thin Edges	Yes (NMS)	Yes	Approximate
Multi-scale	Manual $\sigma$	$\sigma$ param	Natural

## Key Takeaway

Canny is the most widely used general-purpose edge detector. LOG gives precise zero-crossings. DOG is a fast approximation used in scale-space frameworks like SIFT.

# Hough Transform – Concept

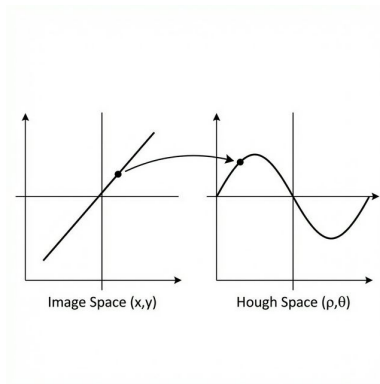
- ▶ **Hough Transform** detects parametric shapes (lines, circles, ellipses) via a **voting scheme** in parameter space.
- ▶ For a line  $y = mx + c$ , each edge point votes for all  $(m, c)$  pairs passing through it.
- ▶ Problem:  $m \rightarrow \infty$  for vertical lines.

## Normal (Polar) Parameterization

$$x \cos \theta + y \sin \theta = \rho$$

where  $\rho$  = perpendicular distance from origin,  $\theta$  = angle of normal.

Parameter space:  $(\rho, \theta)$  with  $\rho \in [-D, D]$ ,  $\theta \in [0, \pi)$ .



**Figure:** Line in image space mapped to sinusoidal curve in  $(\rho, \theta)$  Hough space

# Hough Transform – Algorithm

## Algorithm Steps:

1. Run edge detection (e.g., Canny) on input image.
2. Create an **accumulator array**  $A[\rho][\theta]$  initialized to 0.
3. For each edge pixel  $(x_i, y_i)$ :
  - ▶ For each  $\theta$  from 0 to  $\pi$  (quantized):
  - ▶ Compute  $\rho = x_i \cos \theta + y_i \sin \theta$
  - ▶ Increment  $A[\rho][\theta]$
4. Find **peaks** in the accumulator  $\Rightarrow$  detected lines.

## Complexity

$O(n \cdot q_\theta)$  where  $n$  = number of edge pixels,  $q_\theta$  = quantization levels.

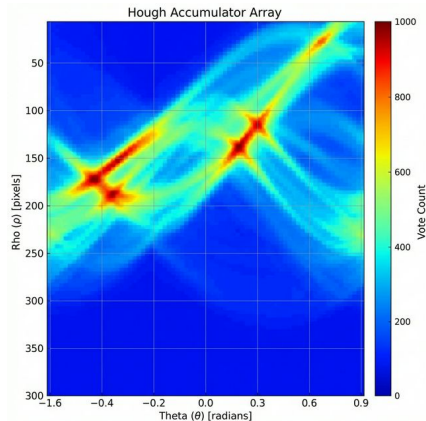


Figure: Accumulator array heatmap with bright peaks at detected line parameters

# Hough Transform – Example

**Example:** Three collinear points (1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3).

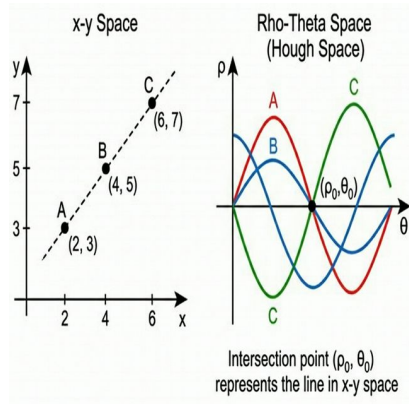
For each point, the Hough curve is:

$$\rho = x \cos \theta + y \sin \theta$$

- ▶ Point (1, 1):  $\rho = \cos \theta + \sin \theta$
- ▶ Point (2, 2):  $\rho = 2 \cos \theta + 2 \sin \theta$
- ▶ Point (3, 3):  $\rho = 3 \cos \theta + 3 \sin \theta$

All three curves intersect at  $\theta = 45$ , confirming the line  $y = x$ .

At  $\theta = 45$ :  $\rho = \sqrt{2}, 2\sqrt{2}, 3\sqrt{2}$  – Wait, they intersect where all produce same  $(\rho, \theta)$ , which is at  $\theta = 135$ ,  $\rho = 0$  (line through origin).



**Figure:** Sinusoidal Hough curves for three collinear points intersecting at a single  $(\rho, \theta)$  peak

# Harris Corner Detector – Motivation

- ▶ **Corners** are points where intensity changes significantly in *all* directions.
- ▶ Consider a small window shifted by  $(u, v)$ . The **Sum of Squared Differences (SSD)**:

$$E(u, v) = \sum_{(x,y) \in W} w(x, y) [I(x + u, y + v) - I(x, y)]^2$$

- ▶ Using Taylor expansion  $I(x + u, y + v) \approx I(x, y) + I_x u + I_y v$ :

$$E(u, v) \approx \begin{bmatrix} u & v \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{M} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix}$$

Structure Tensor (Second Moment Matrix)

$$\mathbf{M} = \sum_{(x,y) \in W} w(x, y) \begin{bmatrix} I_x^2 & I_x I_y \\ I_x I_y & I_y^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Harris Corner Detector – Response Function

- ▶ Let  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$  be eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{M}$ :
  - ▶ **Flat**:  $\lambda_1 \approx \lambda_2 \approx 0$
  - ▶ **Edge**: One  $\lambda \gg 0$ , other  $\approx 0$
  - ▶ **Corner**: Both  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$  large
- ▶ **Harris response** (no eigenvalues needed):

$$R = \det(\mathbf{M}) - k(\text{trace}(\mathbf{M}))^2$$

where  $\det(\mathbf{M}) = \lambda_1 \lambda_2$ ,  $\text{trace}(\mathbf{M}) = \lambda_1 + \lambda_2$ ,  
 $k \in [0.04, 0.06]$ .

- ▶ Decision:
  - ▶  $R > T \Rightarrow$  **Corner**
  - ▶  $R < 0, |R| \text{ large} \Rightarrow$  **Edge**
  - ▶  $|R| \text{ small} \Rightarrow$  **Flat**

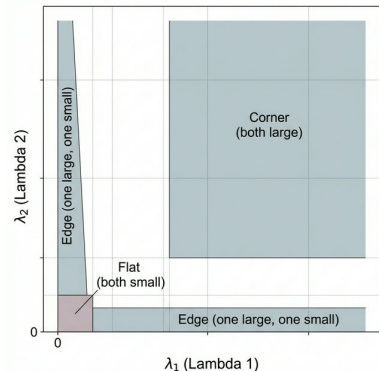


Figure:  $\lambda_1$  vs  $\lambda_2$  plot showing corner, edge, and flat regions



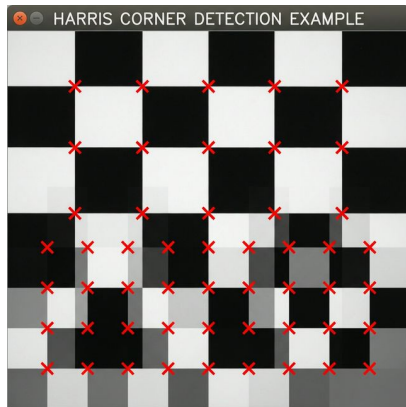
# Harris Corner Detector – Properties

## Algorithm Steps:

1. Compute image gradients  $I_x$ ,  $I_y$ .
2. Compute products  $I_x^2$ ,  $I_y^2$ ,  $I_x I_y$ .
3. Apply Gaussian window to each product.
4. Compute Harris response  $R$  at each pixel.
5. Apply non-maximum suppression.
6. Threshold  $R > T$  to select corners.

## Properties:

- ▶ **Rotation invariant** (eigenvalues unchanged).
- ▶ **NOT scale invariant.**
- ▶ Partially invariant to affine intensity changes.



**Figure:** Image with detected Harris corners marked as red dots overlaid on a checkerboard pattern

# Hessian Affine Detector

- The **Hessian matrix** at point  $(x, y)$  at scale  $\sigma$ :

$$\mathbf{H}(x, y, \sigma) = \begin{bmatrix} L_{xx}(x, y, \sigma) & L_{xy}(x, y, \sigma) \\ L_{xy}(x, y, \sigma) & L_{yy}(x, y, \sigma) \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $L_{xx} = \sigma^2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} (G_\sigma * I)$ , etc.

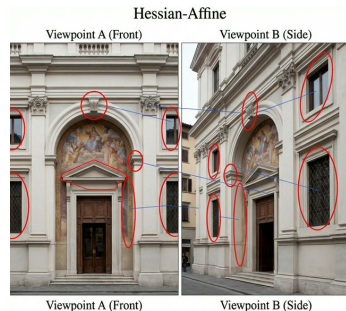
- **Blob/corner detection:**  $\det(\mathbf{H}) = L_{xx}L_{yy} - L_{xy}^2 > T$
- **Hessian-Affine** extends this with:
  1. Multi-scale detection using Hessian determinant.
  2. **Affine adaptation:** Iteratively estimate local affine shape using the second moment matrix.
  3. Normalize the region to a canonical circular shape.

## Key Advantage

Provides **affine-invariant** interest regions, enabling matching under viewpoint changes.

# Harris vs Hessian Affine – Comparison

Property	Harris	Hessian Affine
Detects	Corners	Blobs + Corners
Matrix	Structure Tensor $\mathbf{M}$	Hessian $\mathbf{H}$
Scale Inv.	No	Yes (multi-scale)
Affine Inv.	No	Yes (iterative)
Comp.	Fast	Moderate–High
Repeat.	Good	Very Good



Affine-adapted regions (Hessian-Affine blobs) tracking corresponding surface patches across view changes. Connected lines indicate matches.

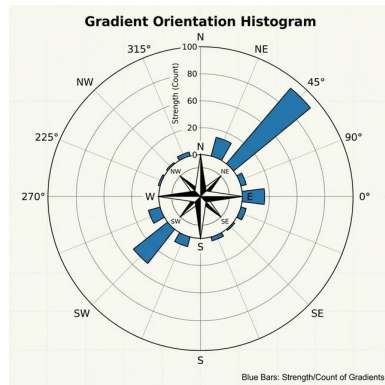
**Figure:** Hessian-Affine regions matched across views

# Orientation Histogram

- ▶ An **Orientation Histogram** captures distribution of gradient directions.
- ▶ Steps:
  1. Compute gradient magnitude  $m$  and orientation  $\theta$ .
  2. Quantize  $\theta$  into  $n$  bins (e.g.,  $n = 36$  bins).
  3. Vote weighted by  $m$ .
- ▶ **Dominant orientation** = bin with max count.
- ▶ Used in SIFT  $\Rightarrow$  rotation invariance.

## Example

If gradients mostly point at 45, the histogram peak is in the  $[40, 50]$  bin.



**Figure:** Polar histogram of gradient orientations with a dominant peak at 45

# SIFT – Overview (Lowe, 2004)

## Goal

Detect and describe features invariant to **scale**, **rotation**, robust to affine/illumination.

## Four Major Steps:

1. **Scale-space extrema**: DOG pyramid.
2. **Keypoint localization**: Sub-pixel.
3. **Orientation assignment**: Histograms.
4. **Keypoint descriptor**: 128-D vector.

SIFT (Scale-Invariant Feature Transform) 4 Major Steps

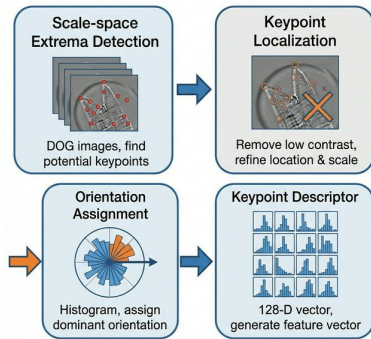


Figure: SIFT pipeline diagram

# SIFT – Scale-Space Extrema Detection

- ▶ Build **Gaussian** scale space.
- ▶ Compute **DOG** images.
- ▶ Group into **octaves**.
- ▶ Detect **local extrema**: 26 neighbours.

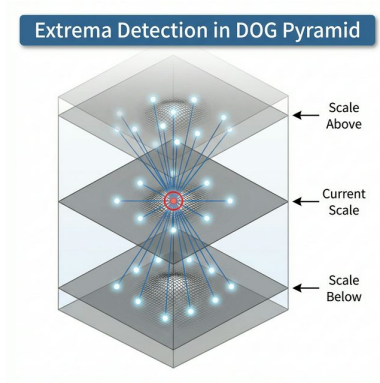


Figure: DOG pyramid extrema

# SIFT – Keypoint Localization & Orientation

## Keypoint Localization:

- ▶ Fit 3D quadratic (Taylor expansion) to refine position to sub-pixel accuracy:

$$D(\mathbf{x}) \approx D + \frac{\partial D^T}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \mathbf{x} + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}^T \frac{\partial^2 D}{\partial \mathbf{x}^2} \mathbf{x}$$

- ▶ Reject low-contrast points:  $|D(\hat{\mathbf{x}})| < 0.03$ .
- ▶ Reject edges using ratio of principal curvatures (Hessian eigenvalue ratio).

## Orientation Assignment:

- ▶ Build a 36-bin orientation histogram around each keypoint (weighted by magnitude and Gaussian window).
- ▶ Dominant peak  $\Rightarrow$  keypoint orientation.
- ▶ Any peak  $\geq 80\%$  of max creates an *additional* keypoint.

# SIFT – Descriptor

- ▶ Take  $16 \times 16$  window, rotate.
- ▶ Divide into  $4 \times 4$  sub-regions.
- ▶ Compute 8-bin histograms.
- ▶ **128-dim** descriptor.
- ▶ Normalize and clamp.

## Matching

Use **Euclidean distance**. Ratio test  $< 0.8$ .

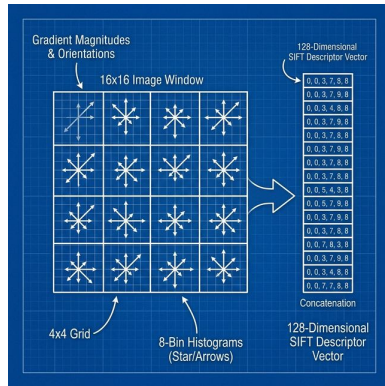


Figure: 128-D SIFT Descriptor



# SURF – Overview (Bay et al., 2006)

- ▶ **SURF** is faster (approximations).
- ▶ Key ideas:
  1. **Integral images**.
  2. **Hessian-based** detection.
  3. **Haar wavelet** responses.

## Integral Image

Sum computed in **constant time**.

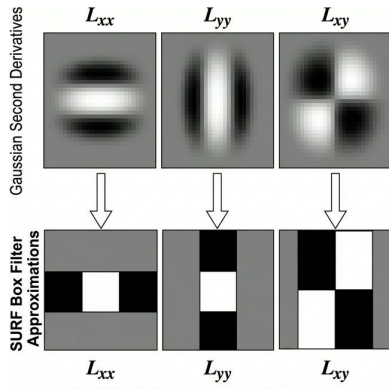


Figure: Box filter approximations

# SURF – Detection and Description

## Interest Point Detection:

- ▶ Approximate Hessian determinant using box filters at multiple scales.
- ▶ Non-maximum suppression in  $3 \times 3 \times 3$  neighbourhood.
- ▶ Sub-pixel interpolation for localization.

## Orientation Assignment:

- ▶ Compute Haar wavelet responses in  $x$  and  $y$  within radius  $6s$ .
- ▶ Sliding window of  $\pi/3$  finds dominant orientation.

## Descriptor:

- ▶  $4 \times 4$  sub-regions around keypoint.
- ▶ Each sub-region:  $(\sum d_x, \sum d_y, \sum |d_x|, \sum |d_y|) \Rightarrow 4$  values.
- ▶ Total:  $4 \times 4 \times 4 = \mathbf{64}$ -dimensional descriptor.

# SIFT vs SURF – Comparison

Property	SIFT	SURF
Detector	DOG	Hessian (approx)
Dim.	128	64
Speed	Slow	$\sim 3\times$ Faster
Scale Inv.	Yes	Yes
Rot. Inv.	Yes	Yes
Robust	Excellent	Good

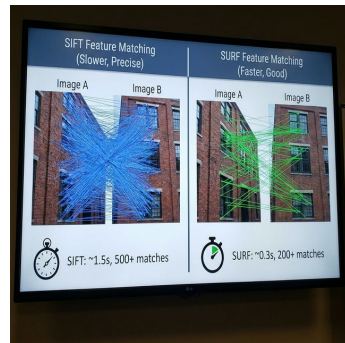


Figure: SIFT (left) vs SURF (right)

# HOG – Overview (Dalal & Triggs, 2005)

- ▶ **HOG** describes local shape via distribution of gradient directions.
- ▶ Originally designed for **pedestrian detection**.
- ▶ Key idea: Object appearance can be characterized by the distribution of local intensity gradients, even without precise knowledge of positions.

## HOG Pipeline:

1. Compute gradients ( $[-1, 0, 1]$  filter).
2. Divide image into **cells** (e.g.,  $8 \times 8$  pixels).
3. Compute 9-bin orientation histogram per cell (unsigned: 0–180).
4. Group cells into overlapping **blocks** (e.g.,  $2 \times 2$  cells).
5. Normalize each block (L2-norm)  $\Rightarrow$  illumination invariance.
6. Concatenate all block descriptors.

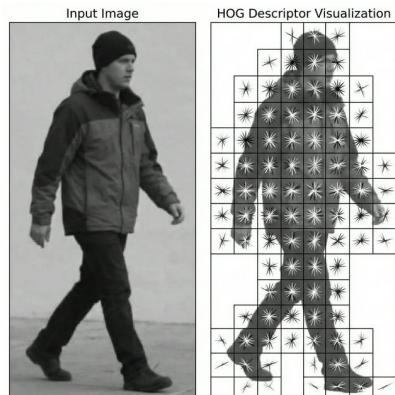
# HOG – Descriptor Construction

## Example Calculation:

- ▶ Image window:  $64 \times 128$  pixels.
- ▶ Cell size:  $8 \times 8 \Rightarrow 8 \times 16$  cells.
- ▶ Block size:  $2 \times 2$  cells with stride 1 cell.
- ▶ Number of blocks:  $7 \times 15 = 105$  blocks.
- ▶ Each block:  $2 \times 2 \times 9 = 36$  values.
- ▶ Total descriptor:  $105 \times 36 = \mathbf{3780}$  dimensions.

## Key Properties

- ▶ Captures edge/gradient structure.
- ▶ Block normalization handles illumination.
- ▶ Dense, overlapping computation.



**Figure:** HOG visualization – image of a person with gradient orientation “hedgehog” glyphs overlaid on cells

# GLOH – Gradient Location and Orientation Histogram

- ▶ **GLOH** (Mikolajczyk & Schmid, 2005): SIFT extension.
- ▶ Uses **log-polar grid**:
  - ▶ 3 radial bins (6, 11, 15 px).
  - ▶ 8 angular bins (outer), 1 central.
  - ▶ Total: 17 spatial bins.
- ▶ 16-bin orientation histogram  $\Rightarrow$  272 dims.
- ▶ **PCA** reduction to **128 dims**.

## Advantage over SIFT

Log-polar grid better captures radial structure, higher distinctiveness.

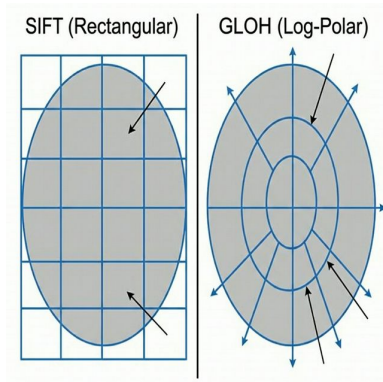


Figure: SIFT (Left) vs GLOH (Right)

# Scale-Space Analysis – Motivation

- ▶ Real-world objects exist at **multiple scales**. A feature detector must handle this.
- ▶ **Scale space**: Family of smoothed images  $L(x, y, \sigma) = G_\sigma * I(x, y)$  parametrized by scale  $\sigma$ .
- ▶ The Gaussian is the **unique** kernel that satisfies the scale-space axioms (linearity, shift invariance, semi-group, non-enhancement of local extrema).
- ▶ Scale-space representation allows detecting structures at their **characteristic scale**.

## Scale-Space Axiom

$$L(x, y, \sigma) = G(x, y; \sigma) * I(x, y), \quad \frac{\partial L}{\partial \sigma} = \sigma \nabla^2 L$$

This is the **diffusion equation** – the scale parameter acts like time in heat diffusion.

# Image Pyramids

- ▶ **Image pyramid:** multi-resolution.
- ▶ **Gaussian Pyramid:** Smooth/subsample ( $\downarrow 2$ ).
  - ▶  $G_0 = I$
  - ▶  $G_{l+1} = \text{subsample}(G_\sigma * G_l)$

- ▶ **Laplacian Pyramid:** Band-pass details.

$$Lapl = G_l - \text{upsample}(G_{l+1})$$

- ▶ **Overcomplete**, perfect recon.

## Applications

Compression, blending, multi-scale.

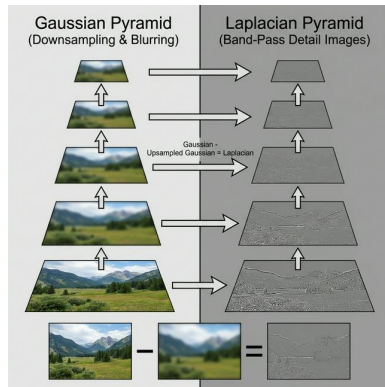


Figure: Gaussian (left) Laplacian (right)



# Gaussian Derivative Filters

- ▶ **Gaussian derivative filters** combine smoothing and differentiation in one step:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(G_\sigma * I) = \left(\frac{\partial G_\sigma}{\partial x}\right) * I$$

- ▶ First-order derivatives of Gaussian:

$$G_x = \frac{\partial G}{\partial x} = -\frac{x}{2\pi\sigma^4} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2 + y^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

- ▶ Second-order:  $G_{xx}$ ,  $G_{yy}$ ,  $G_{xy}$  – used in Hessian-based detection.
- ▶ These form a **steerable filter** basis: any rotated derivative can be expressed as a linear combination of basis filters.

# Scale-Space Feature Detection Summary

- ▶ **Scale selection:** Detect features at the scale where a normalized derivative response is maximal.
- ▶ **Normalized derivatives:**  $\sigma^n \nabla^n G_\sigma$  ensures comparable response across scales.
- ▶ **Characteristic scale:** The scale  $\sigma^*$  at which the normalized response achieves its maximum.

$$\sigma^* = \arg \max_{\sigma} |\sigma^2 \nabla^2 L(x, y, \sigma)|$$

## Multi-Scale Detection Pipeline

1. Build scale-space (Gaussian pyramid or dense scales).
2. Compute normalized feature response at each scale.
3. Detect extrema across both space *and* scale.
4. Extract features at their characteristic scale.

# Gabor Filters – Definition

- ▶ A **Gabor filter** is a Gaussian modulated by a sinusoidal wave:

$$g(x, y; \lambda, \theta, \psi, \sigma, \gamma) = \exp\left(-\frac{x'^2 + \gamma^2 y'^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \cos\left(2\pi \frac{x'}{\lambda} + \psi\right)$$

where  $x' = x \cos \theta + y \sin \theta$ ,  $y' = -x \sin \theta + y \cos \theta$ .

- ▶ Parameters:
  - ▶  $\lambda$  – wavelength of sinusoidal component.
  - ▶  $\theta$  – orientation of the filter.
  - ▶  $\psi$  – phase offset.
  - ▶  $\sigma$  – Gaussian envelope width.
  - ▶  $\gamma$  – spatial aspect ratio.

# Gabor Filters – Properties and Applications

## Properties:

- ▶ Achieve optimal **joint resolution** in space and frequency (uncertainty principle).
- ▶ Mimic simple cells in the **human visual cortex**.
- ▶ Selective to **orientation** and **spatial frequency**.

## Gabor Filter Bank:

- ▶ Apply filters at multiple orientations ( $\theta$ ) and scales ( $\lambda$ ).
- ▶ Typically: 4–8 orientations  $\times$  3–5 scales.
- ▶ Feature vector = concatenated filter responses.

## Applications:

- ▶ Texture analysis and segmentation.
- ▶ Face recognition, fingerprint enhancement.
- ▶ Character recognition (OCR).

# DWT – Discrete Wavelet Transform

- ▶ **DWT** decomposes an image into frequency sub-bands at multiple scales.
- ▶ Uses a pair of filters: **low-pass** (scaling function  $\phi$ ) and **high-pass** (wavelet  $\psi$ ).
- ▶ For 2D images, apply row-wise then column-wise:

<b>LL</b> (Approximation)	<b>LH</b> (Horizontal detail)
<b>HL</b> (Vertical detail)	<b>HH</b> (Diagonal detail)

- ▶ **LL** = low-pass in both directions (coarse approximation).
- ▶ **LH, HL, HH** = detail coefficients capturing edges at different orientations.
- ▶ Multi-level DWT: recursively decompose the LL sub-band.

# DWT – Haar Wavelet Example

- **Haar wavelet** is the simplest wavelet:

$$\psi(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & 0 \leq x < 0.5 \\ -1 & 0.5 \leq x < 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Low-pass filter:  $h = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}[1, 1]$ , High-pass filter:  $g = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}[1, -1]$ .

## 1D Haar DWT Example

Signal:  $[4, 6, 10, 12]$

Averages (LL):  $\frac{4+6}{2} = 5$ ,  $\frac{10+12}{2} = 11 \Rightarrow [5, 11]$

Differences (HL):  $\frac{4-6}{2} = -1$ ,  $\frac{10-12}{2} = -1 \Rightarrow [-1, -1]$

DWT coefficients:  $[5, 11 \mid -1, -1]$

**Applications in CV:** Texture classification, image compression (JPEG 2000), feature extraction for recognition.

# Gabor vs DWT – Comparison

Property	Gabor Filters	DWT
Basis	Non-orthogonal	Orthogonal
Redundancy	High (overcomplete)	Minimal (critical sampling)
Orientation Selectivity	Continuous $\theta$	Fixed (H, V, D)
Frequency Resolution	Tunable $\lambda$	Dyadic scales
Reconstruction	Approximate	Perfect
Computation	Moderate	Fast (pyramidal)
Bio-inspired	Yes (V1 cortex)	No

## When to Use

**Gabor:** When fine orientation and frequency tuning is needed (face, texture).

**DWT:** When compact, non-redundant multi-scale representation is needed (compression, fast features).

# Derivation – Harris Corner Response Function

**Goal:** Derive the Harris corner response  $R$  from the auto-correlation function.

**Step 1:** Define the weighted SSD for a shift  $(u, v)$ :

$$E(u, v) = \sum_{(x,y)} w(x, y) [I(x + u, y + v) - I(x, y)]^2$$

**Step 2:** Apply first-order Taylor expansion:

$$I(x + u, y + v) \approx I(x, y) + I_x u + I_y v$$

$$\Rightarrow E(u, v) \approx \sum_{(x,y)} w(x, y) [I_x u + I_y v]^2$$

**Step 3:** Expand the square:

$$E(u, v) \approx \sum w(x, y) [I_x^2 u^2 + 2I_x I_y uv + I_y^2 v^2]$$



# Derivation – Harris Corner Response (cont.)

**Step 4:** Write in matrix form:

$$E(u, v) \approx \begin{bmatrix} u & v \end{bmatrix} \underbrace{\sum_{(x,y)} w(x, y) \begin{bmatrix} I_x^2 & I_x I_y \\ I_x I_y & I_y^2 \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{M}} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix}$$

**Step 5:** Analyze eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$  of  $\mathbf{M}$ :

- ▶  $E(u, v)$  is an ellipse with axes  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$ .
- ▶ Both large  $\Rightarrow$  corner; one large  $\Rightarrow$  edge; both small  $\Rightarrow$  flat.

**Step 6:** Define Harris response (avoids eigenvalue computation):

$$R = \det(\mathbf{M}) - k[\text{trace}(\mathbf{M})]^2 = \lambda_1 \lambda_2 - k(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)^2$$

where  $k \in [0.04, 0.06]$ .    **Corner:**  $R > 0$  (large); **Edge:**  $R < 0$ ; **Flat:**  $|R| \approx 0$ .     $\square$

# Numerical 1: Gradient at a Pixel

## Problem

Given a  $3 \times 3$  image patch:  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Find  $I_x$  and  $I_y$  at center pixel using:  $I_x = I(\text{right}) - I(\text{left})$ ,  $I_y = I(\text{bottom}) - I(\text{top})$ .

## Solution:

- ▶ Center pixel value = 1
- ▶  $I_x = I(\text{right}) - I(\text{left}) = 3 - 1 = \mathbf{2}$
- ▶  $I_y = I(\text{bottom}) - I(\text{top}) = 1 - 1 = \mathbf{0}$
- ▶ Magnitude:  $|\nabla I| = \sqrt{2^2 + 0^2} = \sqrt{4} = \mathbf{2}$
- ▶ Direction:  $\theta = \arctan(0/2) = \arctan(0) = \mathbf{0}$

## Meaning

Gradient is purely horizontal ( $\theta = 0$ ), so there is a **vertical edge** to the right of the center pixel.

## Numerical 2: Harris Corner Response

### Problem

Given:  $\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $k = 0.04$ . Find  $R$  and classify.

### Solution:

- ▶  $\det(\mathbf{M}) = 5 \times 5 - 0 \times 0 = \mathbf{25}$
- ▶  $\text{trace}(\mathbf{M}) = 5 + 5 = \mathbf{10}$
- ▶  $R = \det - k \cdot (\text{trace})^2 = 25 - 0.04 \times 100 = 25 - 4 = \boxed{21}$
- ▶  $R > 0 \Rightarrow \mathbf{Corner} \checkmark$

If instead  $\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} 10 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ :

- ▶  $\det = 0$ ,  $\text{trace} = 10$ ,  $R = 0 - 0.04 \times 100 = -4 \Rightarrow \mathbf{Edge}$

If instead  $\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ :

- ▶  $R = 0 \Rightarrow \mathbf{Flat region}$

## Numerical 3: Hough Transform – Compute $\rho$

### Problem

An edge point is at  $(x, y) = (1, 0)$ . Compute  $\rho$  for  $\theta = 0$  and  $\theta = 90$ .

### Solution:

Formula:  $\rho = x \cos \theta + y \sin \theta$

► At  $\theta = 0$ :

$$\rho = 1 \cdot \cos 0 + 0 \cdot \sin 0 = 1 \times 1 + 0 = \boxed{1}$$

► At  $\theta = 90$ :

$$\rho = 1 \cdot \cos 90 + 0 \cdot \sin 90 = 1 \times 0 + 0 = \boxed{0}$$

### Meaning

At  $\theta = 0$ , the line is vertical at  $x = 1$ . At  $\theta = 90$ , the line is horizontal passing through the origin. Each edge point traces a curve in  $(\rho, \theta)$  space.

# Numerical 4: SIFT & SURF Descriptor Size

## Problem

Calculate the SIFT and SURF descriptor sizes.

### SIFT:

- ▶ Sub-regions:  $4 \times 4 = 16$
- ▶ Bins per sub-region: 8
- ▶ Total =  $16 \times 8 = \boxed{128}$  dimensions

### SURF:

- ▶ Sub-regions:  $4 \times 4 = 16$
- ▶ Values per sub-region: 4  $(\sum d_x, \sum d_y, \sum |d_x|, \sum |d_y|)$
- ▶ Total =  $16 \times 4 = \boxed{64}$  dimensions

## Key Takeaway

SURF descriptor is **half** the size of SIFT  $\Rightarrow$  faster to compute and match, but slightly less distinctive.

## Numerical 5: Image Pyramid Sizes

### Problem

An image is  $128 \times 128$ . Build a 4-level Gaussian pyramid (subsample by 2). What is the size at each level?

### Solution:

Level	Size	Pixels
0	$128 \times 128$	16,384
1	$64 \times 64$	4,096
2	$32 \times 32$	1,024
3	$16 \times 16$	256

Total pixels =  $16384 + 4096 + 1024 + 256 = \mathbf{21,760}$

Overhead =  $\frac{21760}{16384} \approx 1.33 \times \text{original} \Rightarrow \text{only } 33\% \text{ extra memory!}$

## Numerical 6: Haar DWT (4 values)

### Problem

Apply 1 level of Haar DWT to  $f = [6, 2, 8, 4]$ .

### Solution:

**Averages** (approximation):

$$\blacktriangleright a_1 = \frac{6+2}{2} = 4, \quad a_2 = \frac{8+4}{2} = 6$$

**Differences** (detail):

$$\blacktriangleright d_1 = \frac{6-2}{2} = 2, \quad d_2 = \frac{8-4}{2} = 2$$

**Output:**  $[4, 6 \mid 2, 2]$

**Reconstruct:**

$$a_1 + d_1 = 4 + 2 = 6 \checkmark, \quad a_1 - d_1 = 4 - 2 = 2 \checkmark$$

$$a_2 + d_2 = 6 + 2 = 8 \checkmark, \quad a_2 - d_2 = 6 - 2 = 4 \checkmark$$

# Long Numerical 1: Canny Edge Detection (Step-by-Step)

## Problem

Given a  $5 \times 5$  image. After Gaussian smoothing, the center  $3 \times 3$  gradient magnitudes and directions are:

**Gradient Magnitude:**

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 8 & 3 \\ 1 & 10 & 4 \\ 2 & 7 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Gradient Direction:**

$$\begin{bmatrix} 45 & 90 & 45 \\ 0 & 90 & 0 \\ 135 & 90 & 135 \end{bmatrix}$$

Apply: (a) Non-Maximum Suppression (NMS), (b) Double thresholding with  $T_H = 7$ ,  $T_L = 3$ .

**Step 1 – NMS at center pixel** (magnitude = 10, direction = 90):

Compare along gradient direction (vertical): neighbours are 8 (top) and 7 (bottom).

$10 > 8$  and  $10 > 7 \Rightarrow$  **keep** center pixel (it is a local max).



# Long Numerical 1: Canny (cont.)

Step 1 (cont.) – NMS for all pixels:

Pixel	Mag	Dir	After NMS
(0,0): mag=2	45	compare diag: 10, –	suppressed ( $2 < 10$ )
(0,1): mag=8	90	compare vert: –, 10	suppressed ( $8 < 10$ )
(1,0): mag=1	0	compare horiz: –, 10	suppressed ( $1 < 10$ )
(1,1): mag=10	90	compare: 8, 7	<b>kept</b> ( $10 > \text{both}$ )
(2,1): mag=7	90	compare: 10, –	suppressed ( $7 < 10$ )

Step 2 – Thresholding ( $T_H = 7$ ,  $T_L = 3$ ):

- ▶ Center pixel:  $\text{mag} = 10 > T_H = 7 \Rightarrow$  **Strong edge** ✓
- ▶ All other pixels were suppressed in NMS  $\Rightarrow$  not edges.

**Result:** Only the center pixel is detected as a **strong edge point**.

# Long Numerical 2: Harris Corner Detection (Full Example)

## Problem

A  $3 \times 3$  image window has pixel values:  $I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 5 \\ 1 & 5 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Compute Harris response at center pixel with  $k = 0.05$  (use simple differences, no Gaussian weighting for simplicity).

**Step 1 – Compute gradients** at each pixel (using right-left, bottom-top):

$I_x$  (**right** – **left**):

Only center has both neighbours:

$$I_x = I(1, 2) - I(1, 0) = 5 - 1 = 4$$

$I_y$  (**bottom** – **top**):

$$I_y = I(2, 1) - I(0, 1) = 5 - 1 = 4$$

**Step 2 – Form structure tensor  $\mathbf{M}$**  at center (single pixel, no window sum needed):

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} I_x^2 & I_x I_y \\ I_x I_y & I_y^2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 16 & 16 \\ 16 & 16 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Long Numerical 2: Harris Corner (cont.)

**Step 3 – Compute  $\det(\mathbf{M})$  and  $\text{trace}(\mathbf{M})$ :**

►  $\det(\mathbf{M}) = 16 \times 16 - 16 \times 16 = 256 - 256 = \mathbf{0}$

►  $\text{trace}(\mathbf{M}) = 16 + 16 = \mathbf{32}$

**Step 4 – Compute Harris response:**

$$R = \det(\mathbf{M}) - k \cdot [\text{trace}(\mathbf{M})]^2 = 0 - 0.05 \times 32^2 = 0 - 0.05 \times 1024$$

$R = -51.2$

**Step 5 – Classification:**

►  $R < 0$  (negative)  $\Rightarrow$  **Edge point**, not a corner.









### Interpretation

Since  $I_x = I_y = 4$  and both are equal, the gradient points in one direction (45). The eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 = 32, \lambda_2 = 0$ , meaning intensity changes along only one direction  $\Rightarrow$  this is an **edge**, not a corner.

# Chapter Summary

1. **Edge Detection:** Canny (optimal multi-step), LOG (zero-crossings), DOG (fast approx.).
2. **Line Detection:** Hough Transform – voting in  $(\rho, \theta)$  parameter space.
3. **Corner Detection:** Harris (structure tensor  $\mathbf{M}$ , response  $R$ ); Hessian Affine (scale + affine invariant).
4. **Orientation Histogram:** Gradient direction distribution  $\Rightarrow$  rotation invariance.
5. **SIFT:** 128-D descriptor, scale & rotation invariant (DOG + gradient histograms).
6. **SURF:** 64-D, faster SIFT alternative (integral images + Haar wavelets).
7. **HOG:** Dense gradient histograms with block normalization (pedestrian detection).
8. **GLOH:** Log-polar SIFT variant + PCA for compactness.
9. **Scale-Space:** Gaussian pyramids, derivative filters for multi-scale analysis.
10. **Gabor & DWT:** Frequency-domain features for texture analysis.

# References

-  J. Canny, “A Computational Approach to Edge Detection,” *IEEE TPAMI*, 1986.
-  C. Harris and M. Stephens, “A Combined Corner and Edge Detector,” *Alvey Vision Conf.*, 1988.
-  D. Lowe, “Distinctive Image Features from Scale-Invariant Keypoints,” *IJCV*, 2004.
-  H. Bay et al., “SURF: Speeded Up Robust Features,” *ECCV*, 2006.
-  N. Dalal and B. Triggs, “Histograms of Oriented Gradients for Human Detection,” *CVPR*, 2005.
-  K. Mikolajczyk and C. Schmid, “A Performance Evaluation of Local Descriptors,” *IEEE TPAMI*, 2005.
-  R.C. Gonzalez and R.E. Woods, *Digital Image Processing*, Prentice Hall.
-  R. Szeliski, *Computer Vision: Algorithms and Applications*, Springer.