

# Pattern Recognition

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# Introduction

- Examples of PR in our daily life:
  - recognize a face
  - read handwritten characters
  - understand spoken words
  - identify car keys in the pocket by feel
  - decide whether a fruit is ripe by its smell
  - etc.

# The Goal of PR

- To design and build machines that can recognize pattern. (as an engineering field)
- To gain deeper understanding and appreciation for PR systems in the natural world – particularly in human. (as a science)

# Applications

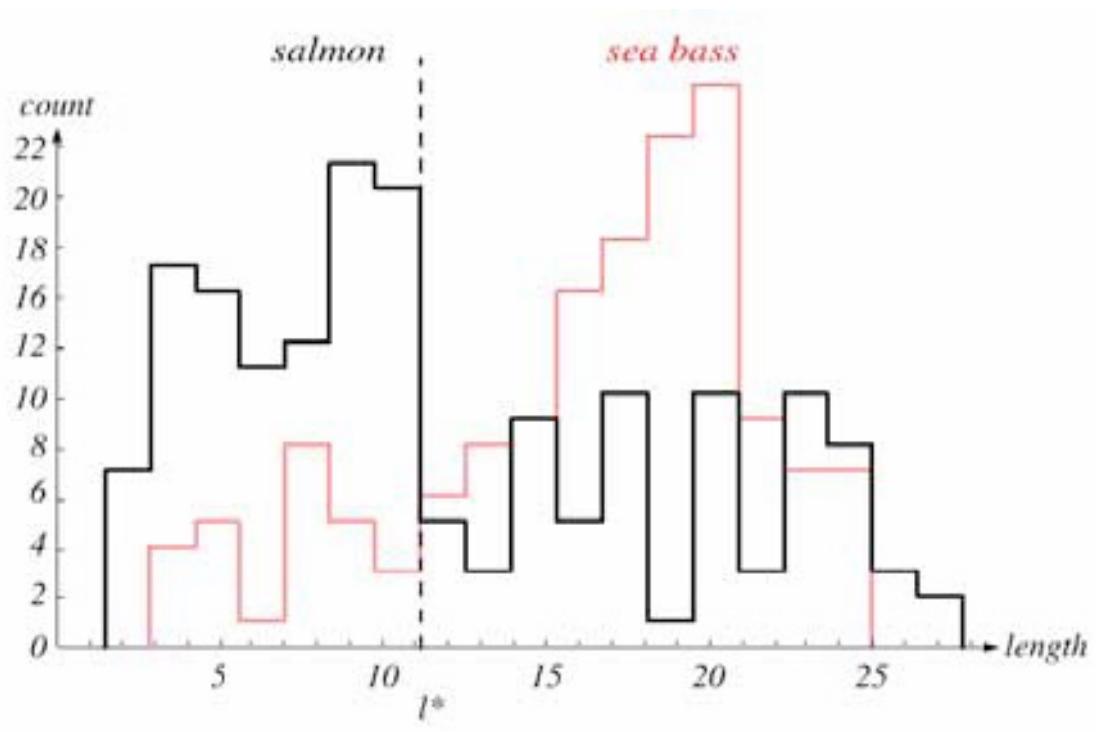
- Face detection, recognition, and verification
- Speech and speaker recognition
- Fingerprint identification
- OCR and document analysis
- Industrial Inspection
- Medical diagnostics
- DNA sequence analysis
- etc.

# An Example

- A pilot project: separate sea bass from salmon.
  - Physical differences between the two types of fishes:  
length, lightness, width, number and shape of fins,  
position of the mouth, etc.
-  possible **features** to be used in the classifier

# An Example

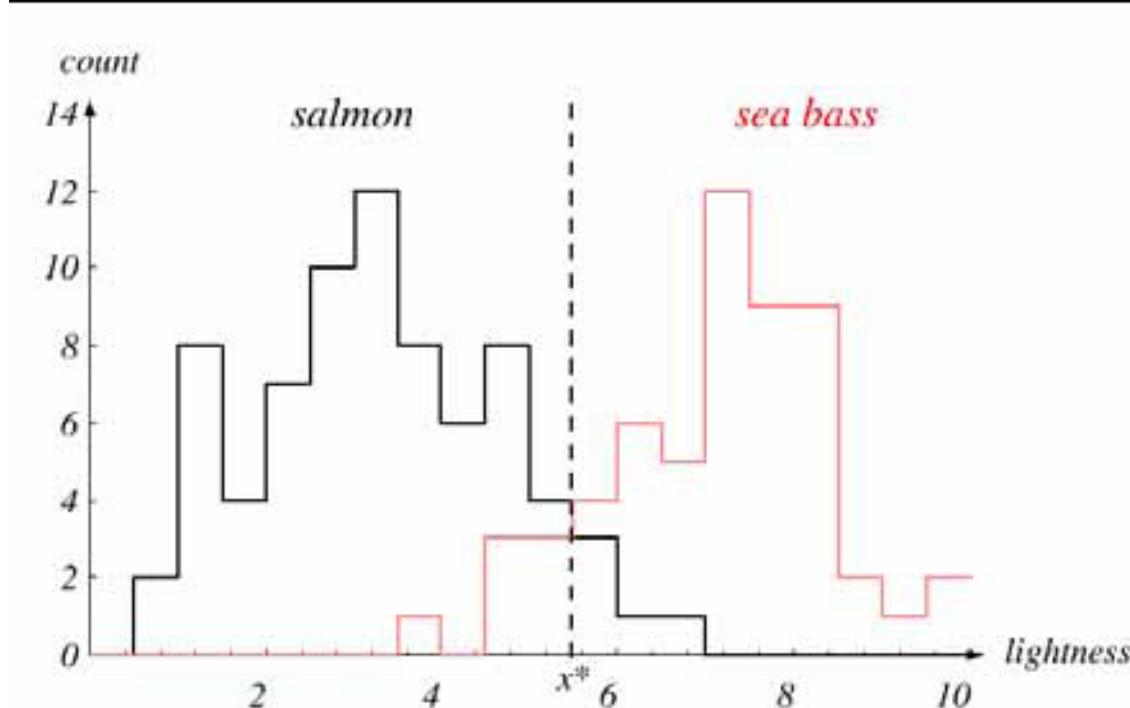
- Histogram for the **length** feature - obtained with some training samples



difficult to choose a good threshold,  $l^*$

# An Example

- Histogram for the lightness feature - average **lightness** of the fish scales



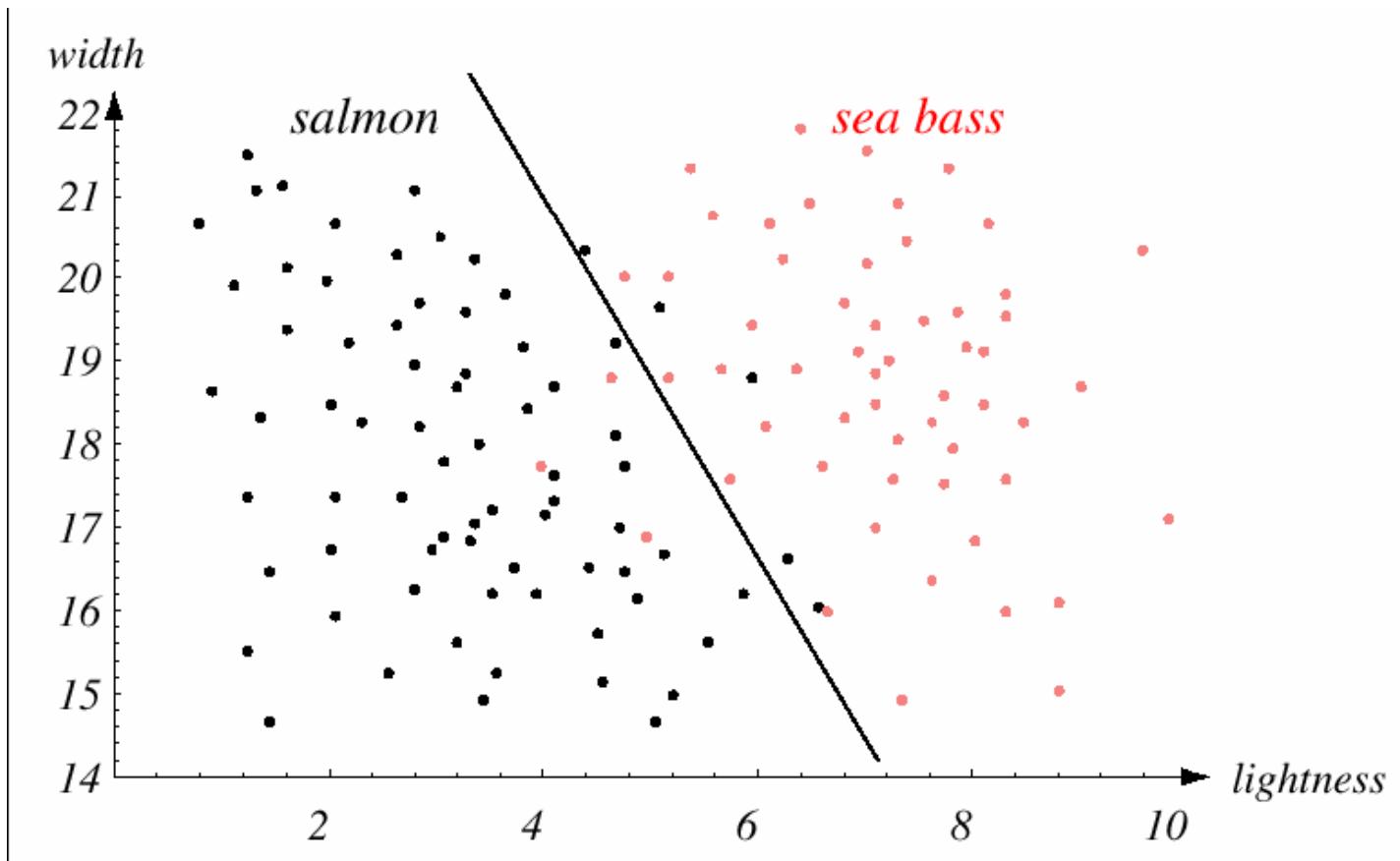
easier to choose a good threshold,  $x^*$

# An Example

- Our task is to find the **decision rule** (or to set the **decision boundary**) that can minimize an overall cost.  
**decision theory**
- To improve the performance, try to use more features simultaneously.
  - e.g., sea bass are typically wider than salmon
  - choose lightness and width as features

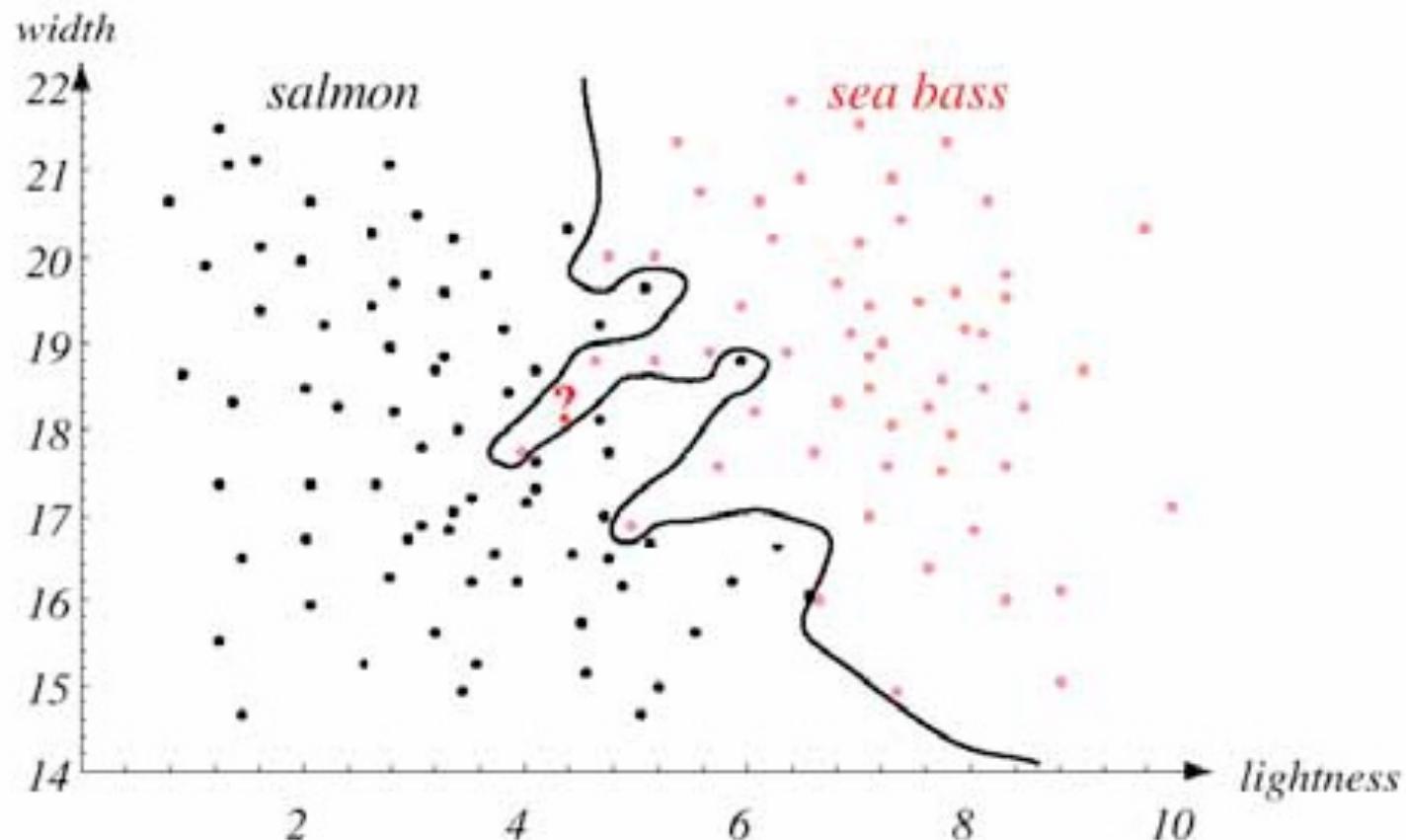
# An Example

- Two-dimensional feature space



# Generalization

- Our goal is to design a classifier to suggest actions when presented with *novel* patterns, i.e., fish not yet seen.



# An Example

- To improve the performance, try to use **more features** simultaneously.
  - e.g., sea bass are typically wider than salmon
  - choose lightness and width as features

Does it more features always lead to better results?

No!!

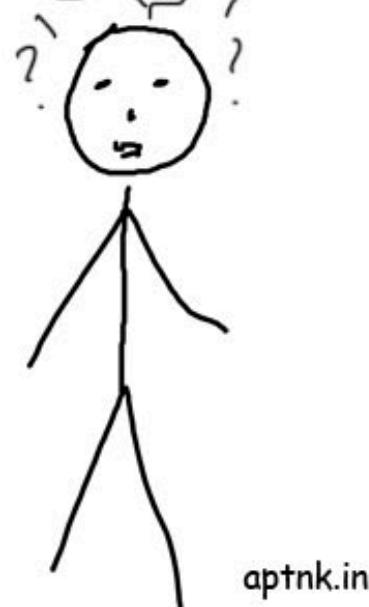
*“Curse” of dimensionality*

# Curse of dimensionality

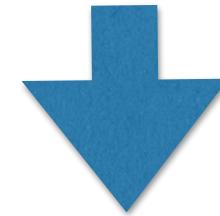
Do you know, scientists say we live in 11 dimensional space...



Is that why your brain is almost empty?



100 x 100



10,000-dimensional vector

**Dimension reduction**

# PR Systems

- A typical PR system consists of the following five components:
  - Sensing (e.g., cameras, microphones.)
  - Preprocessing (Segmentation and Grouping)
  - Feature Extraction
  - Classification
  - Post Processing

# The Design Cycle

- Collect Data
- Choose Features
- Choose Model
- Train Classifier
- Evaluate Classifier

How **deep learning** helps for PR:

- Feature
- Model
- Classifier

# Bayesian Decision Theory

- Maximum *a posteriori* probability (M.A.P.) classifier is the minimum-error-rate classifier

The Bayes rule:

$$P(\omega_j | x) = P(x | \omega_j) P(\omega_j) / P(x)$$

$$\text{Posterior} = \frac{\text{Likelihood} * \text{Prior}}{\text{Evidence}}$$

# Learning

- Supervised Learning
  - Parametric Approach
  - Non-Parametric Approach
    - Parzen Windows, k-NN Estimation
- Unsupervised Learning (*clustering*)
  - Parametric Approach
  - Non-Parametric Approach
    - Clustering
- Reinforcement Learning (learning with a critic)

# Foreground Detection



# Foreground Detection

- Foreground detection (also known as **background subtraction**) is to detect changes in image sequences.
- All detection techniques are based on modelling the background of the image, i.e. set the background and detect which changes occur.
- Defining the background can be very difficult when it contains shapes, shadows, and moving objects.



# Foreground Detection

- The rationale in the approach is that of detecting the moving objects from the difference between the **current frame** and a **reference frame**, often called “background image”, or “background model”.
- A reliable and robust background subtraction algorithm should handle:
  - Sudden or gradual illumination changes
  - High frequency, repetitive motion in the background (such as tree leaves, flags, waves, . . .)
  - Long-term scene changes (a car is parked for a month).



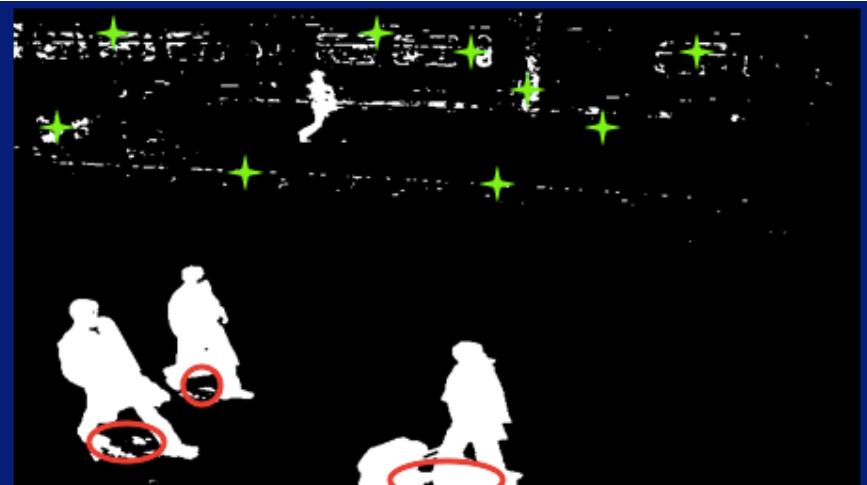
# Purpose of Background Subtraction

- Segment the image into foreground and background
- Reduce problem set for further processing
  - Only process part of picture that contains the relevant information
- Add a virtual background



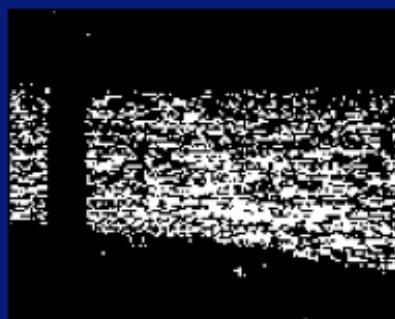
# Encountered Problems

- Lighting
  - Shadows
  - Gradual/Sudden illumination changes
- Camouflage
- Moving objects
  - Foreground aperture
- Foreground object becomes motionless



# Encountered Problems

- Lighting
  - Shadows
  - Gradual/Sudden illumination changes



**Rippling  
Water**

**Water  
Surface**

**Camera  
Jitter**

**Waving  
Trees**

# Simple Approach

Image at time  $t$ :

$$I(x, y, t)$$

↓



Background at time  $t$ :

$$B(x, y, t)$$

↓



|

—

|  $> Th$

1. Estimate the background for time  $t$ .
2. Subtract the estimated background from the input frame.
3. Apply a threshold,  $Th$ , to the absolute difference to get the **foreground mask**.

**Problem:** how to have a clear background?

# Frame Difference

- Background is estimated to be the previous frame.  
Background subtraction equation then becomes:

$$\begin{aligned}B(x, y, t) &= I(x, y, t - 1) \\&\Downarrow \\|I(x, y, t) - I(x, y, t - 1)| &> Th\end{aligned}$$

- Depending on the object structure, speed, frame rate and global threshold, this approach may or may **not** be useful (usually **not**).



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$| > Th$

# Frame Difference

$Th = 25$



$Th = 50$



$Th = 100$



$Th = 200$



# Mean Filter

- ▶ In this case the background is the mean of the previous  $n$  frames:

$$B(x, y, t) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} I(x, y, t - i)$$

↓

$$|I(x, y, t) - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} I(x, y, t - i)| > Th$$

- ▶ For  $n = 10$ :

Estimated Background



Foreground Mask



# Mean Filter

- ▶ For  $n = 20$ :

Estimated Background



Foreground Mask

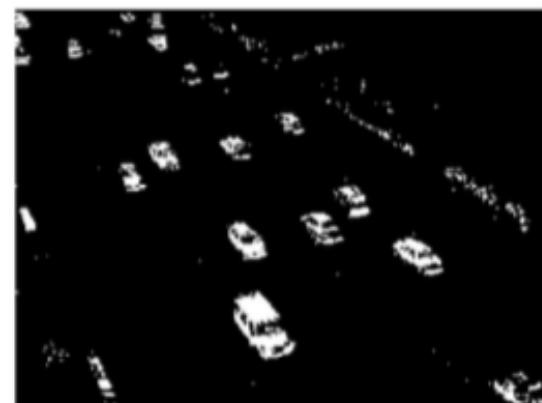


- ▶ For  $n = 50$ :

Estimated Background



Foreground Mask



# Median Filter

- ▶ Assuming that the background is more likely to appear in a scene, we can use the median of the previous  $n$  frames as the background model:

$$B(x, y, t) = \text{median}\{I(x, y, t - i)\}$$
$$\Downarrow$$
$$|I(x, y, t) - \text{median}\{I(x, y, t - i)\}| > Th \text{ where}$$
$$i \in \{0, \dots, n - 1\}.$$

- ▶ For  $n = 10$ :

Estimated Background



Foreground Mask



# Median Filter

- ▶ For  $n = 20$ :

Estimated Background



Foreground Mask



- ▶ For  $n = 50$ :

Estimated Background



Foreground Mask



# Advantages & Shortcomings

## Advantages:

- Extremely easy to implement and use!
- All pretty fast.
- Corresponding background models are not constant, they change over time.

## Disadvantages:

- Accuracy of frame differencing depends on object speed and frame rate!
- Mean and median background models have relatively high memory requirements.
  - In case of the mean background model, this can be handled by a **running average**:

$$B(x, y, t) = \frac{t-1}{t} B(x, y, t-1) + \frac{1}{t} I(x, y, t)$$

or more generally:

$$B(x, y, t) = (1 - \alpha) B(x, y, t-1) + \alpha I(x, y, t)$$

where  $\alpha$  is the learning rate.

# Advantages & Shortcomings

## Disadvantages:

- There is another major problem with these simple approaches:

$$|I(x, y, t) - B(x, y, t)| > Th$$

- There is one global threshold,  $Th$ , for all pixels in the image.
- And even a bigger problem: **this threshold is not a function of  $t$ .**
- So, these approaches will not give good results in the following conditions:
  - if the background is bimodal,
  - if the scene contains many, slowly moving objects (mean & median),
  - if the objects are fast and frame rate is slow (frame differencing),
  - and if general lighting conditions in the scene change with time!

# Advantages & Shortcomings

To represent the background by single value could be unstable especially for non-stationary scenes.

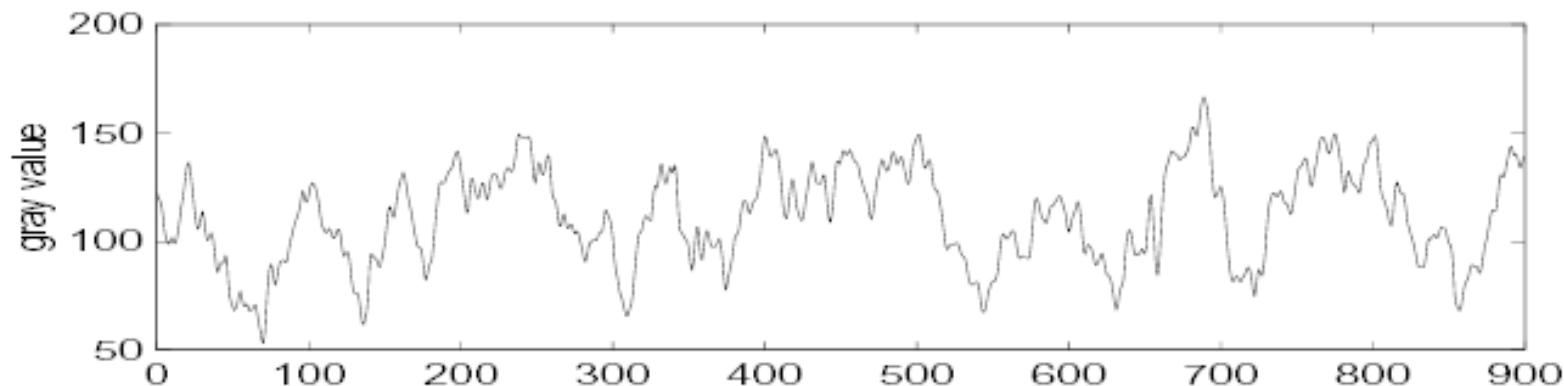


Figure 1: Intensity value overtime



# Simple background model

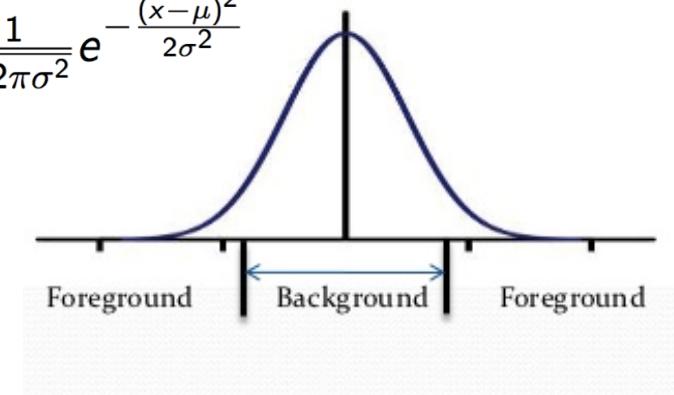
## Single Gaussian Model: (parametric model)

- C. Wren, A. Azarbayejani, T. Darrell, and A. Pentland. Pfnder: Real-time tracking of the human body. *IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence*, 19(7):780–785, July 1997.

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The background scene is modelled by representing each pixel by a Gaussian model

$$\mathcal{N}(x|\mu, \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$



The mean ( $\phi$ ) and covariance  $U(\phi)$  of each pixel  $\phi$  can be recursively updated as follows

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}^t(\phi) = (1 - \alpha)\boldsymbol{\mu}^{t-1}(\phi) + \alpha I^t(\phi),$$

$$U^t(\phi) = (1 - \alpha)U^{t-1}(\phi) + \alpha \nu(\phi)\nu(\phi)^T$$

$\alpha$  is the learning rate and  $\nu(\phi) = (I^t(\phi) - \boldsymbol{\mu}^t(\phi))$

# Simple background model

## Single Gaussian Model: (parametric model)

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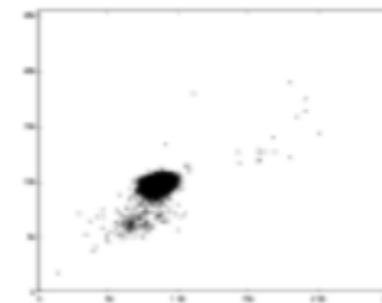
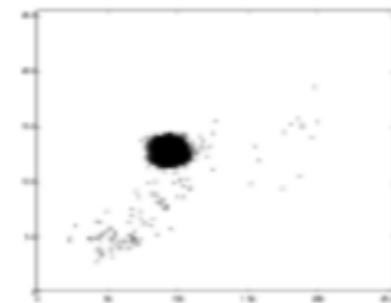
### **Advantages:**

- Easy and fast!

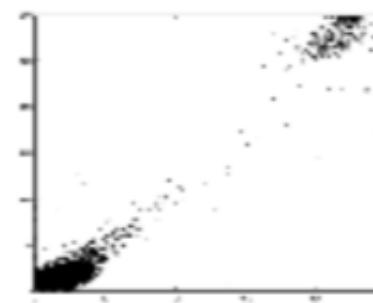
### **Disadvantages:**

- May not be sufficient for representation since some scenes and backgrounds are often dynamic.

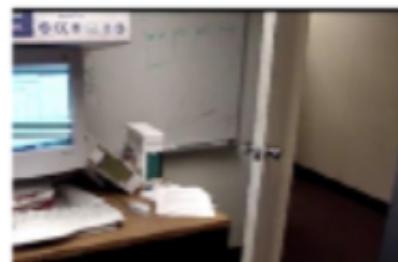
# Background modelling



(a)



(b)



A robust background subtraction algorithm should handle:  
**lighting changes, repetitive motions from clutter and long-term scene changes.**

# Mixture-of-Gaussian

C. Stauffer and W.E.L. Grimson, “Adaptive Background Mixture Models for Real-Time Tracking,” CVPR, 1998.  
(cited number: **10537** from Google)

C. Stauffer and W.E.L. Grimson, “Learning patterns of activity using real-time tracking,” *IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence*, 22(8):747–757, August 2000. (cited number: **4866** from Google)

# Algorithm Overview

- The values of a particular pixel is modelled as a **mixture** of **adaptive** Gaussians.
  - **Why mixture?** Multiple surfaces appear in a pixel.
  - **Why adaptive?** Lighting conditions change.
- At each iteration Gaussians are evaluated using a simple heuristic to determine which ones are mostly likely to correspond to the background.
- Pixels that do not match with the “background Gaussians” are classified as foreground.
- Foreground pixels are grouped using 2D **connected component** analysis.

If a pixel is categorized as foreground for a too long period of time, the background intensity in that location might have changed (because illumination has changed etc.). As a result, once the foreground object is gone, the new background intensity might not be recognized as such anymore.

# Gaussian Mixture Model

- At any time  $t$ , what is known about a particular pixel,  $(x_0, y_0)$ , is its history:

$$\{X_1, \dots, X_t\} = \{I(x_0, y_0, i) : 1 \leq i \leq t\}$$

- This history is modelled by a mixture of  $K$  Gaussian distributions:

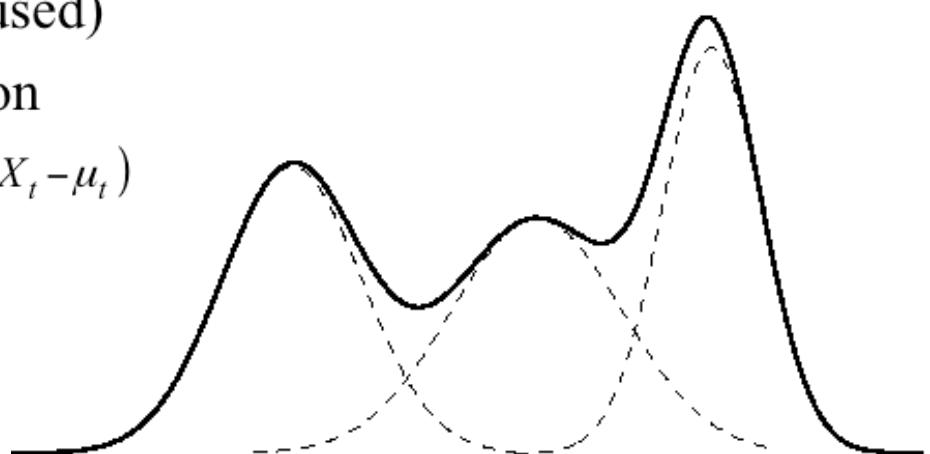
$$P(X_t) = \sum_{i=1}^K \omega_{i,t} \times G(X_t, \mu_{i,t}, \Sigma_{i,t})$$

- $\mu_{i,t}$  is the mean value
- $\Sigma_{i,t} = \sigma_k^2 \mathbf{I}$  is the covariance matrix
- $K$  is the number of distributions (3~5 are used)
- $G$  is a Gaussian probability density function

$$G(X_t, \mu, \Sigma) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{\frac{n}{2}} |\Sigma|^{\frac{1}{2}}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(X_t - \mu)^T \Sigma^{-1} (X_t - \mu)}$$

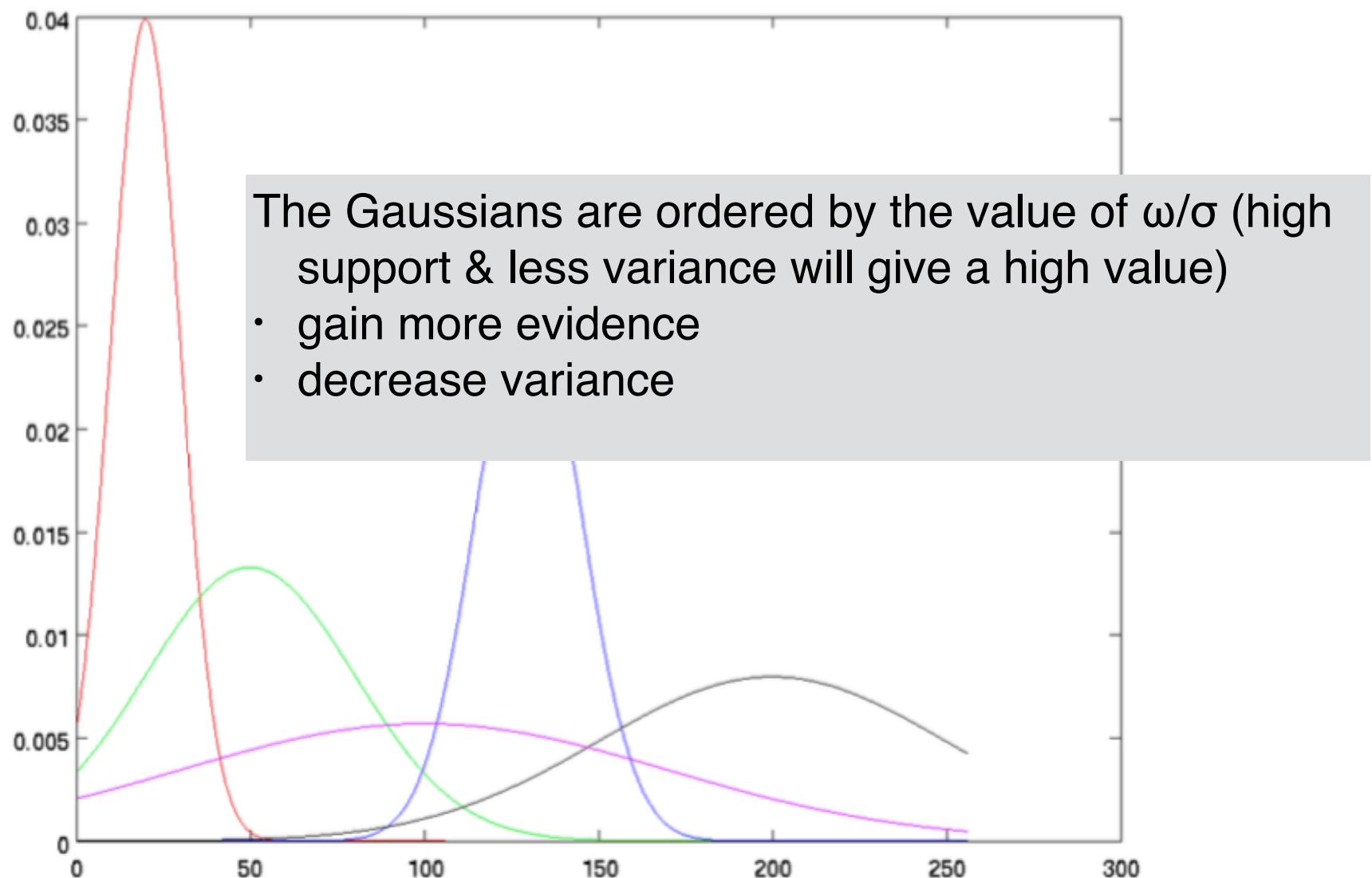
e.g. R, G, B

$$\Sigma_{i,t} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_k^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_k^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sigma_k^2 \end{bmatrix}$$



# Gaussian Mixture Model

If we assume gray scale images and set K = 5, history of a pixel will be something like this:



# Model Update

An **on-line K-means approximation** is used to update the Gaussians.

If a new pixel value,  $X_{t+1}$ , can be **matched** to one of the existing Gaussians (within  $2.5\sigma$ ), that Gaussian's  $\mu_{i,t+1}$  and  $\sigma_{i,t+1}^2$  are updated as follows:

$$\mu_{i,t+1} = (1 - \rho)\mu_{i,t} + \rho X_{t+1}$$

$$\sigma_{i,t+1}^2 = (1 - \rho)\sigma_{i,t}^2 + \rho(X_{t+1} - \mu_{i,t+1})^2$$

where  $\rho = \alpha \mathcal{N}(X_{t+1} | \mu_{i,t}, \sigma_{i,t}^2)$  and  $\alpha$  is a learning rate.

Prior weights of all Gaussians are adjusted as follows:

$$\omega_{i,t+1} = (1 - \alpha)\omega_{i,t} + \alpha(M_{i,t+1})$$

where  $M_{i,t+1} = 1$  for the matching Gaussian and  $M_{i,t+1} = 0$  for all the others.

# Model Update

An **on-line K-means approximation** is used to update the Gaussians.

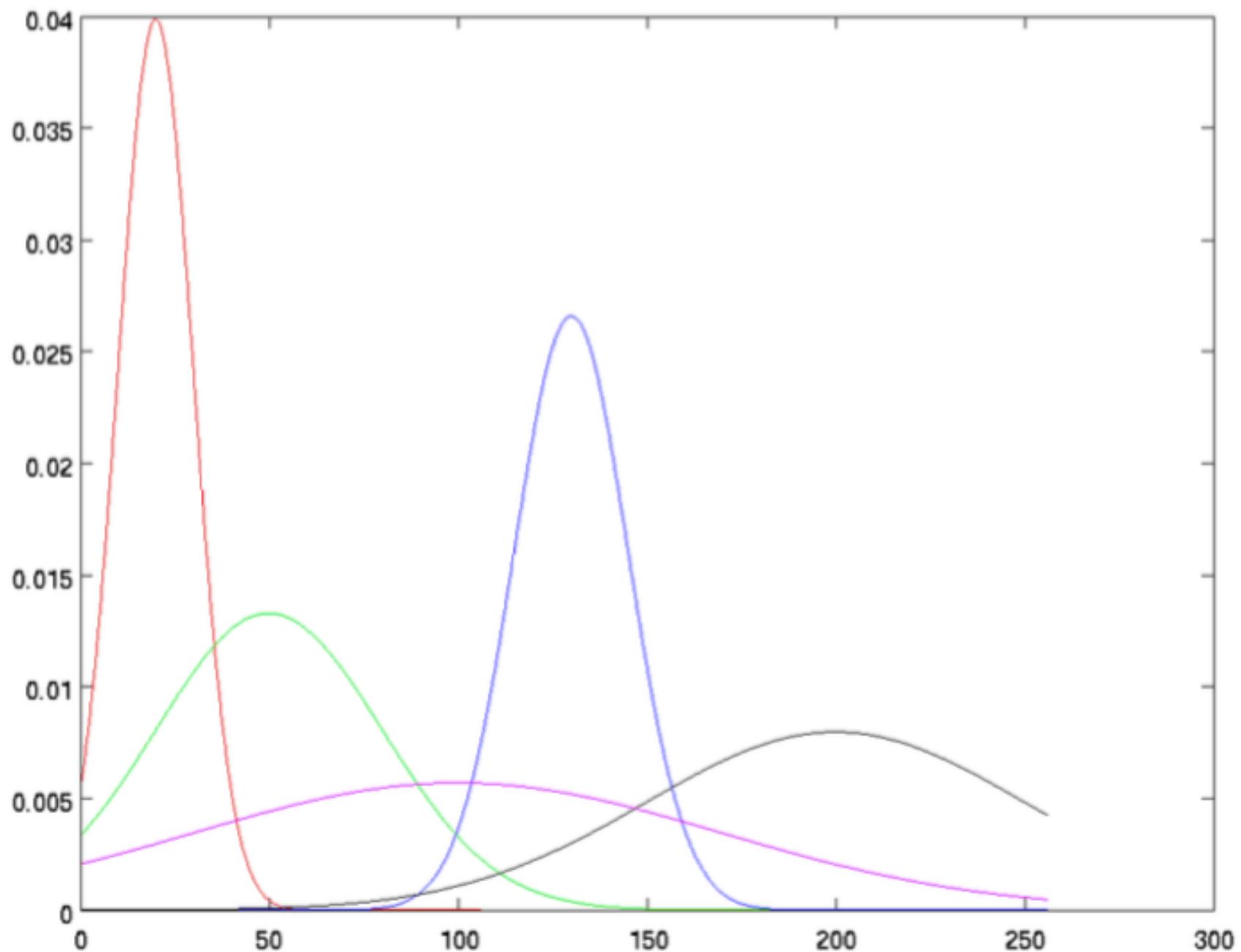
If  $X_{t+1}$  **do not match** to any of the  $K$  existing Gaussians, the least probably distribution is replaced with a new one.

The Gaussians are ordered by the value of  $\omega/\sigma$  (high support & less variance will give a high value)

- gain more evidence
- decrease variance

New distribution has  $\mu_{t+1} = X_{t+1}$ , a high variance and a low prior weight.

# Model Update



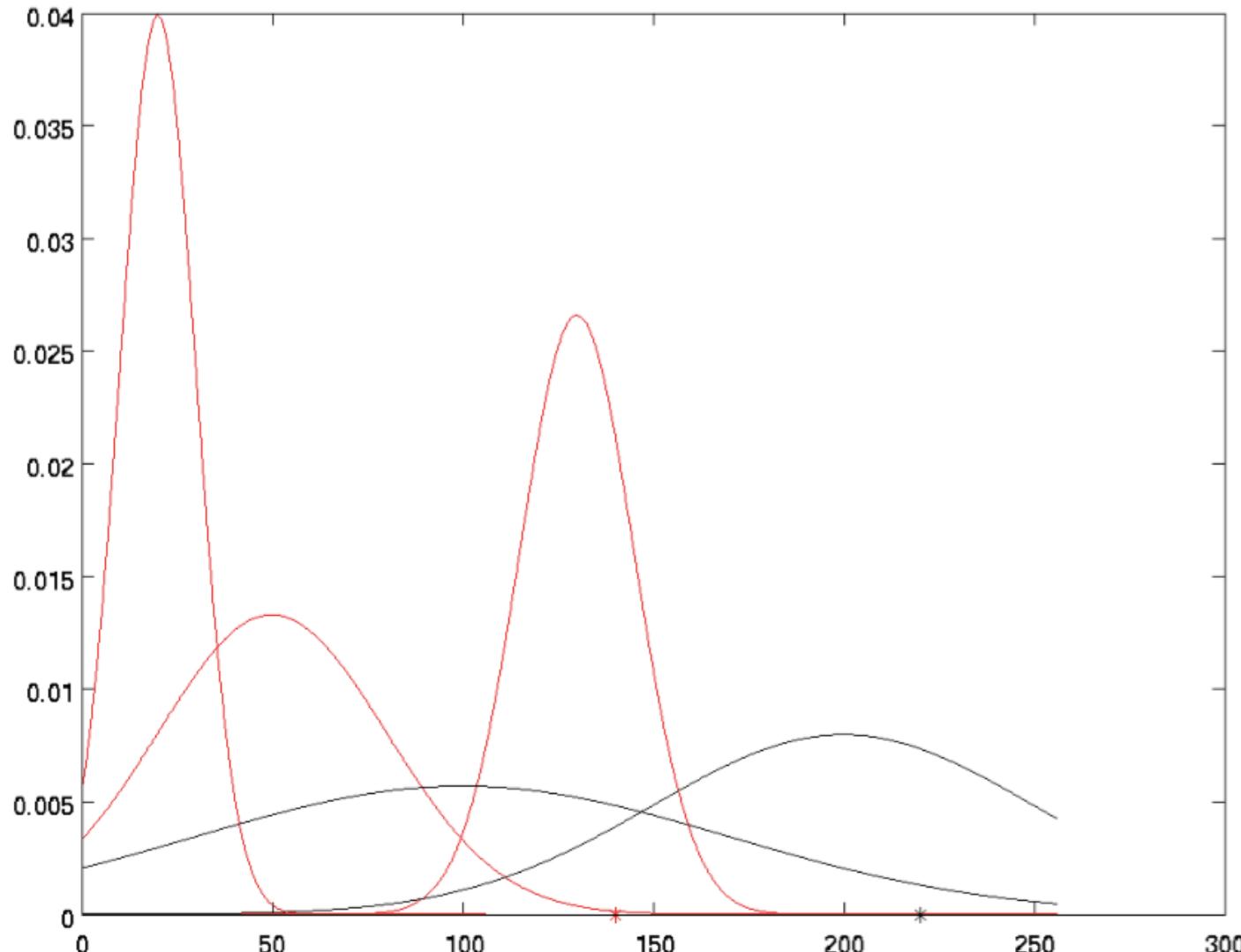
# Background Model Estimation

- Heuristic: the Gaussians with the **most supporting evidence** and **least variance** should correspond to the background.
- The Gaussians are ordered by the value of  $\omega/\sigma$  (high support & less variance will give a high value).
- Then simply the first  $B$  distributions are chosen as the background model:

$$B = \text{argmin}_b (\sum_{i=1}^b \omega_i > T)$$

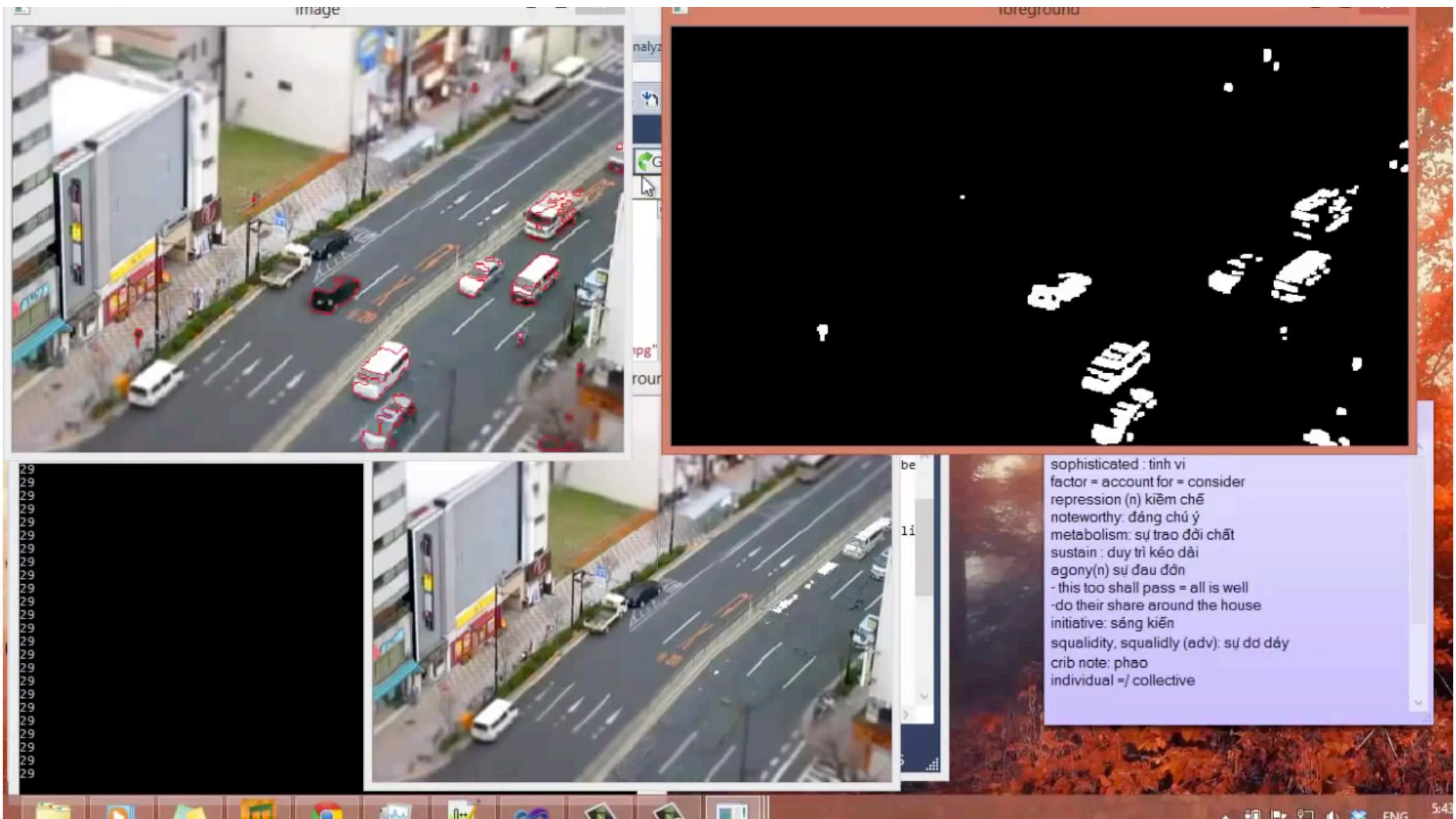
where  $T$  is minimum portion of the image which is expected to be background.

# Background Model Estimation



After background model estimation **red** distributions become the background model and **black** distributions are considered to be foreground.

# OpenCV MoG



# OpenCV MoG



# Advantages & Shortcomings

## **Advantages:**

- A different “threshold” is selected for each pixel.
- These pixel-wise “thresholds” are adapting by time.
- Objects are allowed to become part of the background without destroying the existing background model.
- Provides fast recovery.

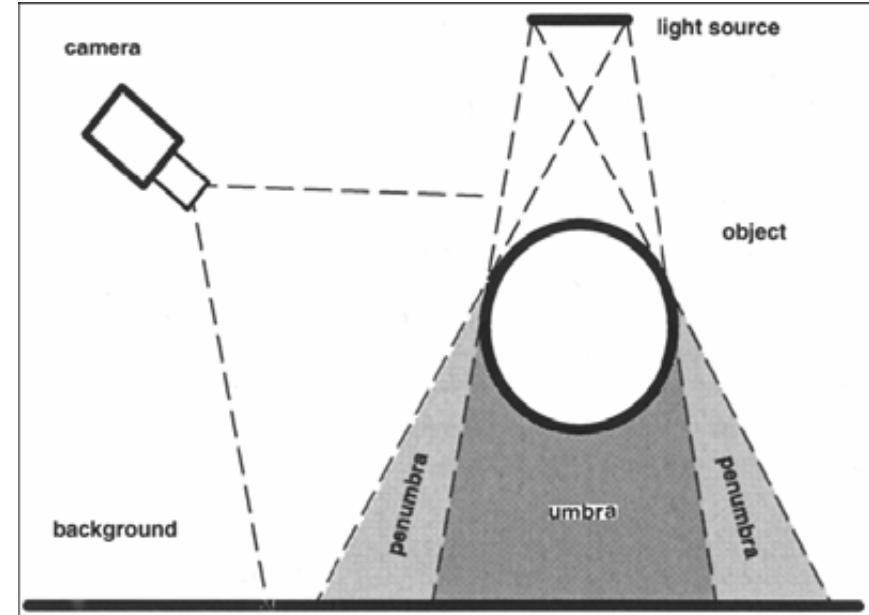
## **Disadvantages:**

- Cannot deal with sudden, drastic lighting changes!
- Initializing the Gaussians is important (median filtering).
- There are relatively many parameters, and they should be selected intelligently.

# Moving Cast Shadow Removal

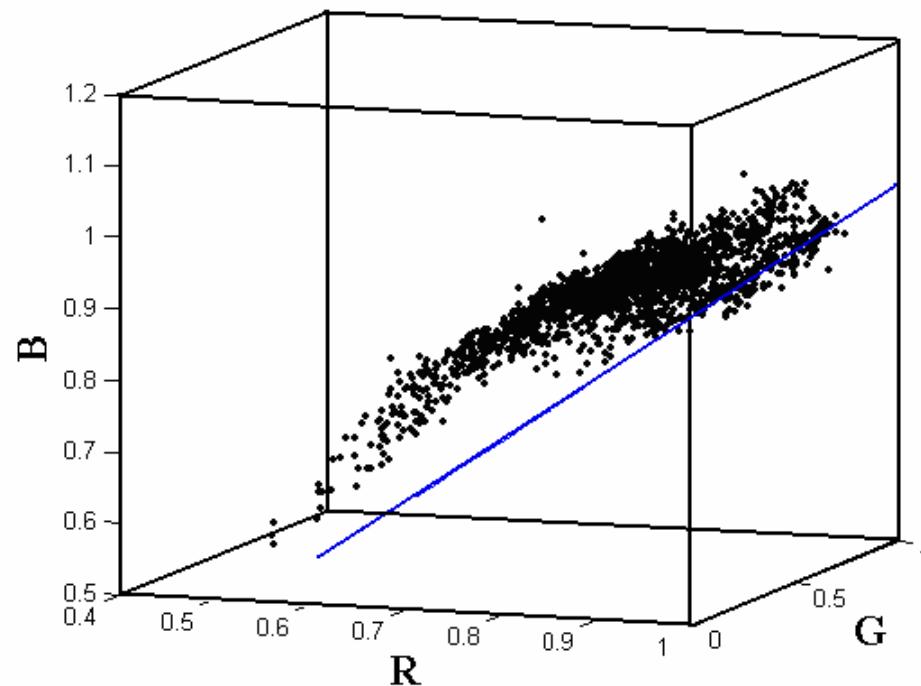
# Moving Cast Shadow

- Shadow is formed by the change of illumination conditions and shadow detection comes down to a problem of finding the illumination invariant features.
- From the viewpoint of geometric relationship, shadow can be divided into **umbra** and **penumbra**
  - the umbra corresponds to the background area where the direct light is almost totally blocked by the foreground object,
  - in the penumbra area, the light is partially blocked



# Moving Cast Shadow

- **Color/Spectrum-based shadow detection**
  - shadows change the hue component slightly
  - decrease the saturation component significantly.

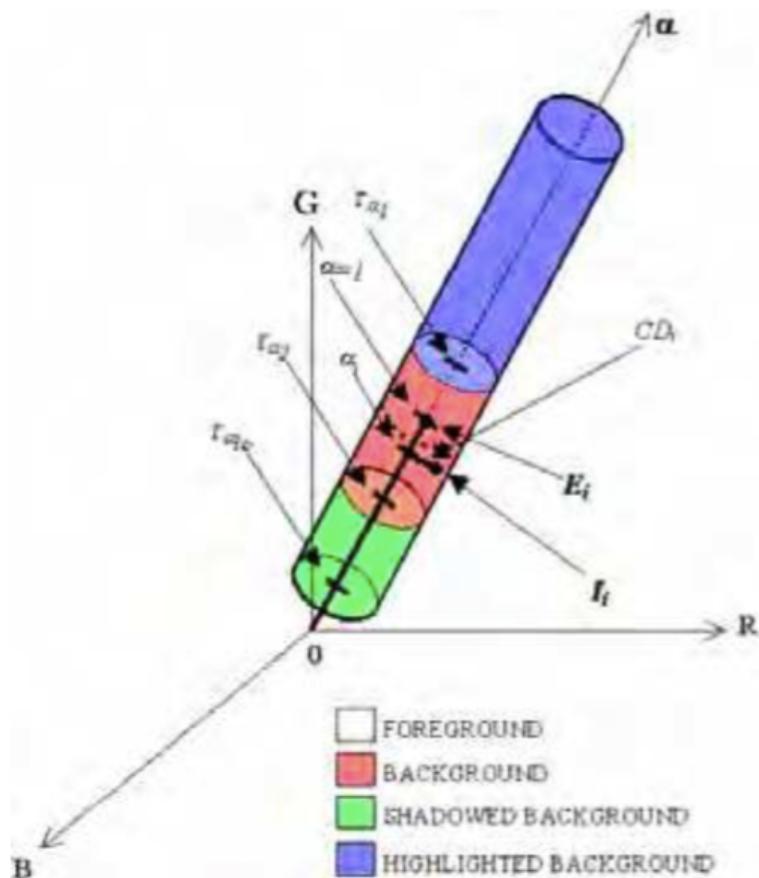


A scatter plot in the color ratios space of a shaded pixels set. The line corresponds to the equal ratio in RGB components.

# Moving Cast Shadow

- **Color/Spectrum-based shadow detection**

- shadows change the hue component slightly
- decrease the saturation component significantly.



Pixels classification using the normalized color distortion and normalized brightness distortion: original background, shaded background, highlight background, and moving foreground objects.

# Pattern Recognition

Kuan-Wen Chen

2022/3/10