

Monday, February 11, 2019 8:12 AM

## Image enhancement

Def: accentuating important image features or suppressing unwanted features to make visual information more accessible

Examples are edges, contrast, or texture.

Enhancement methods are motivated by a wide variety of goals:

- Ex:
- contrast enhancement
  - noise enhancement
  - edge sharpening
  - magnification

Tools:

- pointwise operations
- algebraic "
- spatial "
- combinations of these

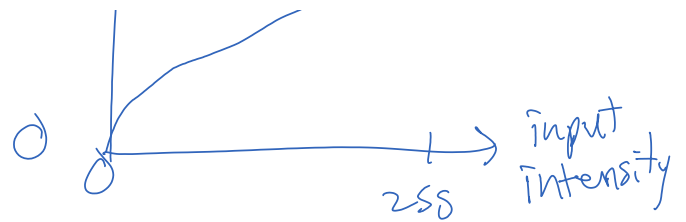
Pointwise operations

$$s = T(r)$$

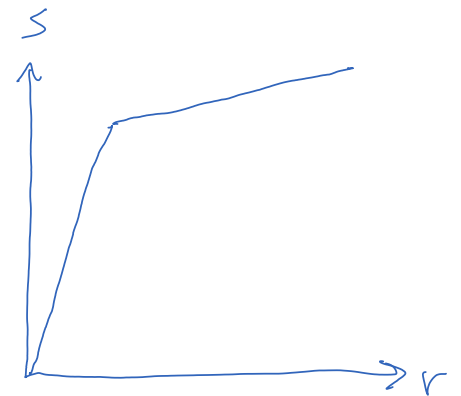
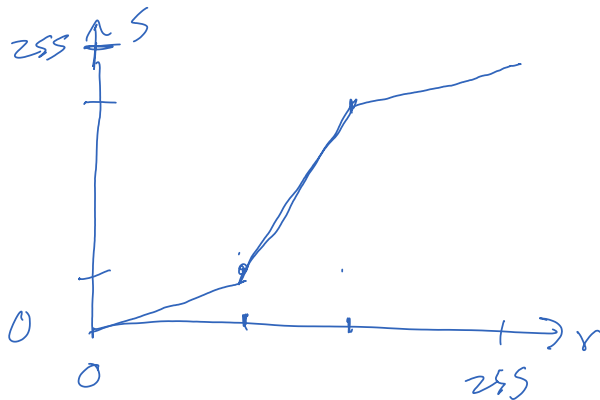
output intensity

255

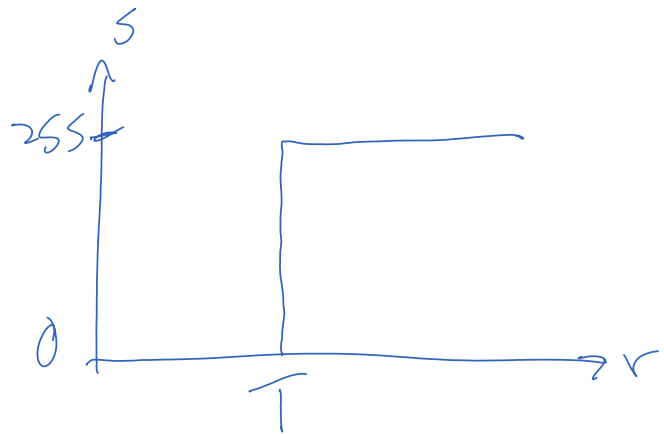
- pointwise transformation of intensity values



• contrast stretching - interval of pixels where intensity values are concentrated is stretched over larger intensity range to improve contrast



• thresholding

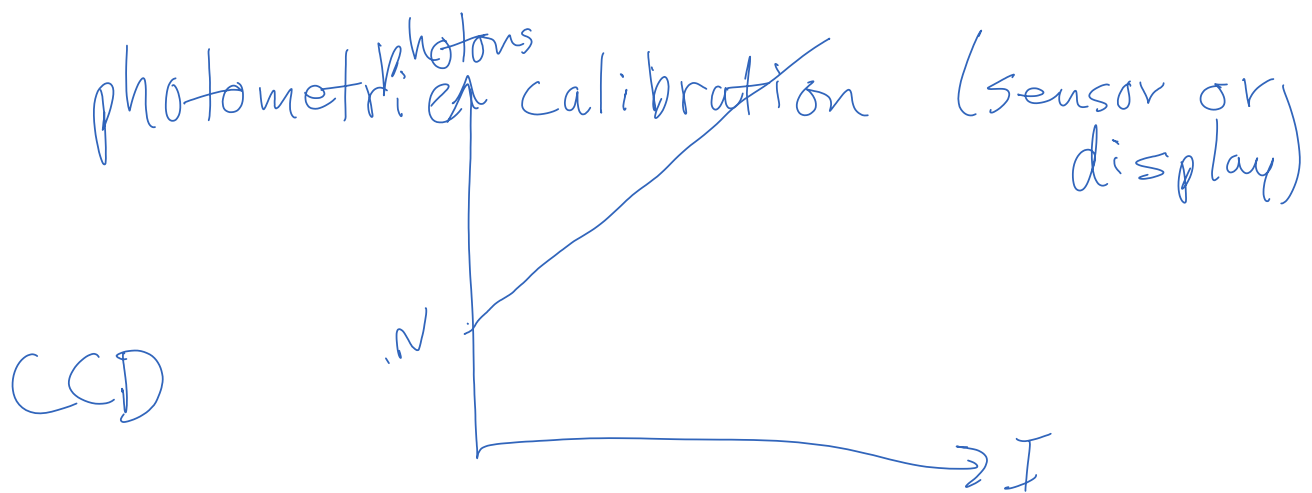
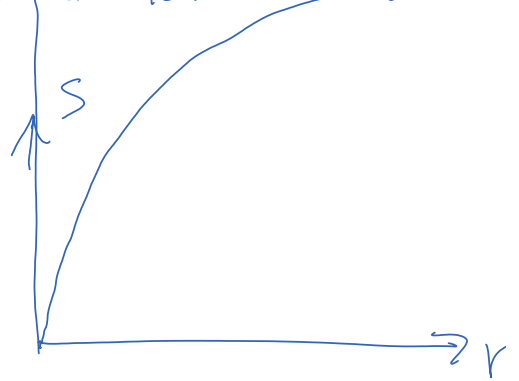


- useful for images known to be binary (e.g. faxes or digitized forms)  
- useful for segmentation

• range compression — if dynamic range is too large, we lose details at lower end  
e.g. DFT magnitude

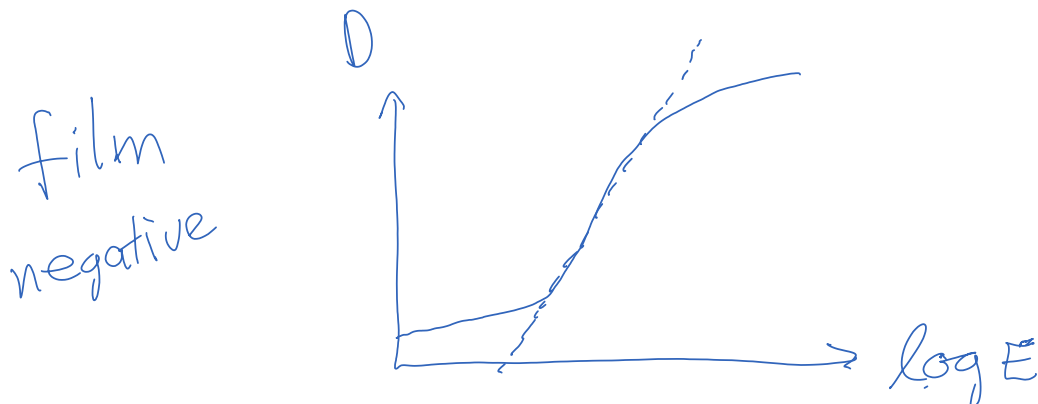
$$s = \epsilon \log(|r| + \epsilon)$$

adjustable  $\uparrow$

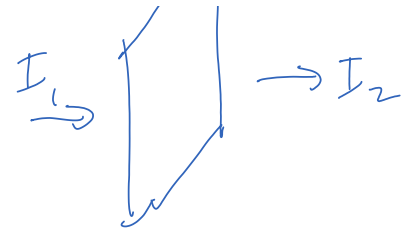


$$f(I) = \alpha I + N$$

$$\Rightarrow s(r) = \frac{r - N}{\alpha}$$



$$\text{density } D = \log \frac{I_1}{I_2}$$



$$\text{Exposure } E = TI,$$

Where  $T$  = exposure time,  $I$  = intensity of light

Read 3.4, Skim 3.5-3.6

$$D \approx \gamma \log E + K \quad \text{in linear region}$$

How do we correct for this response if measure light intensity (in the lab) passing through the negative?

$$D = \gamma \log TI_0 + \log e^k \quad \text{where } I_0 = \text{object intensity}$$

$$\nearrow = \log (TI_0)^{\gamma} e^k$$

fixed  
(property of  
negative)

In lab,

$$D = \log \frac{I_s}{I_m}$$

where  $I_s$  = source lamp intensity (constant over image)

$I_m$  = measured intensity on other side of negative (function of spatial coordinates)

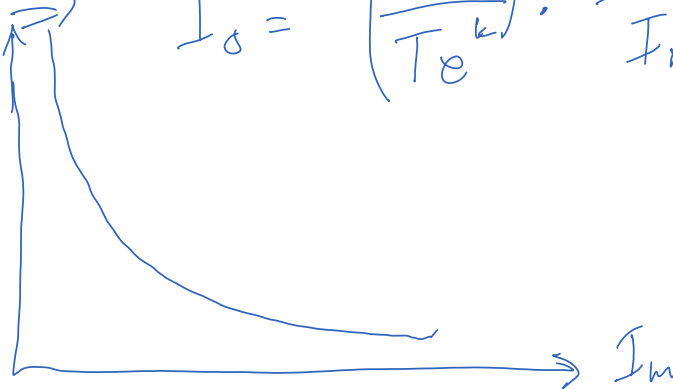
$$\log \frac{I_s}{I_m} = \log \frac{(T I_0)^\gamma e^k}{I_s}$$

$$I_m = (T I_0)^\gamma e^k$$

To correct, solve for  $I_0$  in terms of  $I_m$ :

$$I_0 = \frac{1}{T} \left( \frac{I_s}{I_m e^k} \right)^\gamma$$

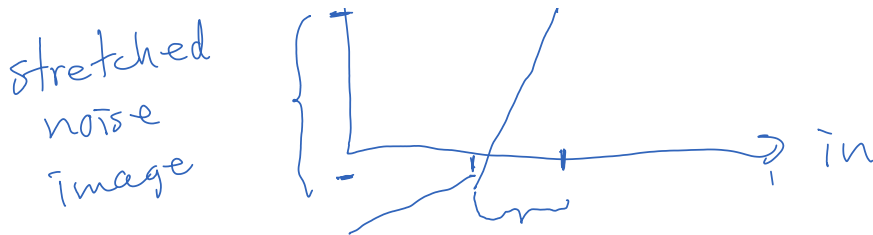
Let  $\frac{1}{\gamma} = 1 \Rightarrow I_0 = \left( \frac{I_s}{T e^k} \right) \cdot \frac{1}{I_m}$



Noise effects in pointwise operations

Note that noise variance changes when a pointwise operation is applied.

point



If the transformation can be locally approximated by a straight line

$$s = \alpha r + \beta$$

If  $r = \bar{r} + u$ , where  $u$  is zero-mean noise,  $\sigma_u^2$  variance

then

$$s = \alpha(\bar{r} + u) + \beta$$

$$= \underbrace{\alpha\bar{r} + \beta} + \alpha u$$

$\alpha u$  is the <sup>new</sup> noise term with

variance  $\alpha^2 \sigma_u^2$ , std. dev. =  $|\alpha| \sigma_u$

## Algebraic operations

\* Enhancement is sometimes performed by combining images

$$f(m,n) + g(m,n)$$

$$f + g$$

$$f(m,n) - g(m,n)$$

$$f - g$$

$$f(m,n)g(m,n)$$

$$f \cdot g$$

$$f(m,n)/g(m,n)$$

$$f / g$$

• image averaging

$$\text{Let } f_i(m,n) = \bar{f}(m,n) + u_i(m,n)$$

where  $u_i(m,n)$  is independent, identically distributed, zero-mean, with  $\sigma_u^2$

$$\begin{aligned} f_{\text{AVE}}(m,n) &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N f_i(m,n) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (\bar{f}(m,n) + u_i(m,n)) \\ &= \bar{f}(m,n) + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N u_i(m,n) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{var}[f_{\text{AVE}}(m,n)] &= E\{[f_{\text{AVE}}(m,n) - \bar{f}(m,n)]^2\} \\ &= E\left\{\left[\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N u_i(m,n)\right]^2\right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \sigma_u^2 \end{aligned}$$

• image subtraction

- ideal for highlighting subtle differences between similar images

\* motion detection

\* change detection in medical images

$$g(m,n) = f_2(m,n) - f_1(m,n)$$

• image multiplication/division

- multiplication by binary image can mask out parts of image. 0's mask, and 1's retain

- division can correct for nonuniform sensor response

Read 3.7

HW will be posted

Project 3 due Fri.

histograms

• a histogram is a plot of relative freq. of all gray levels

• pointwise operations modify the histogram

• histograms can be used to define



# transformations

histogram equalization defines a pointwise transformation that tries to level out the histogram.

Let  $h(x_i) = \#$  of pixels with intensity  $x_i$

$L = \#$  of gray levels

Then  $\sum_{i=0}^{L-1} h(x_i) = \text{total } \# \text{ of pixels} = MN$

Ideally, we would like  $\hat{h}(x_i) = \frac{MN}{L}$   
at each  $x_i$

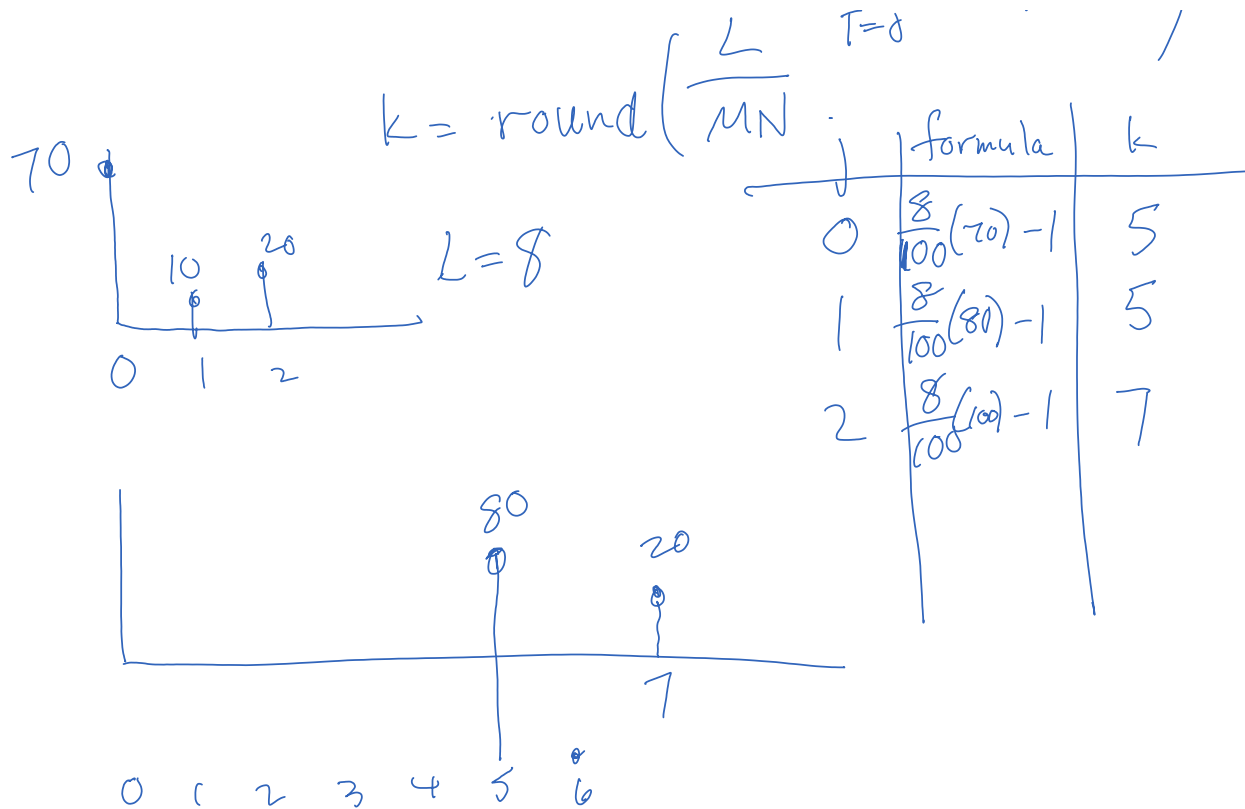
$$\text{or } \sum_{i=0}^k \hat{h}(x_i) = \frac{MN}{L} (k+1)$$

Can define a transformation between  
 $j + k$  such that

$$\sum_{i=0}^j h(x_i) = \sum_{i=0}^{k=\alpha(j)} \hat{h}(x_i) = \frac{MN}{L} (k+1)$$

Solving for  $k$ :

$$\sum_{i=0}^j h(x_i) - 1$$



Instead,

1) Consider histogram to be pulses



2) Force histogram to fill range

$\Rightarrow$  only the right half of the left pulse  
+ left half of the right pulse affect  
the spread

3) spread depends on total area between

the pulse midpoints

4) total region will fill  $L_d - 1$

where  $L_d =$  desired # of gray levels

Sum right half of  $i-1$  pulse and left half of  $i$  pulse

begin with  $\frac{1}{2}(h(x_i) + h(x_{i-1}))$  to leave out left half of  $h(x_0)$

$$\frac{1}{L_d - 1} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^{L_d-1} \frac{1}{2} (h(x_i) + h(x_{i-1})) \right] K$$

$$K = \text{round} \left[ \frac{(L_d - 1) \left[ \sum_{i=1}^J \frac{1}{2} (h(x_i) + h(x_{i-1})) \right]}{MN - \frac{1}{2}h(x_0) - \frac{1}{2}h(x_{L-1})} \right] MN - \frac{1}{2}h(x_0) - \frac{1}{2}h(x_{L-1})$$

$$L_d = 8$$

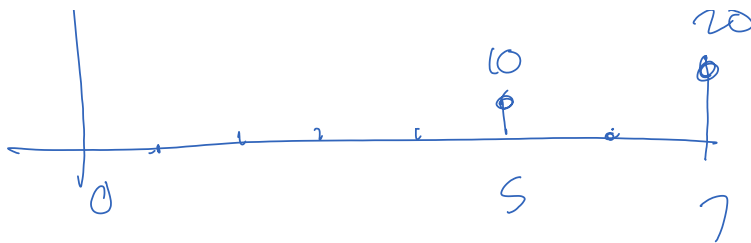
$$N - \frac{1}{2}h(x_0) - \frac{1}{2}h(x_{L-1})$$

$$100 - \frac{1}{2}70 - \frac{1}{2}(20)$$

$$55$$

$$70$$

i	formula	K
0	-	0
1	$\frac{7}{55}(40) = 5.1$	5
2	$\frac{7}{55}(55) = 7$	7



## spatial filtering

\* can be linear or nonlinear

\* spatial averaging (lowpass filter)

- can be performed by convolution with uniform  $(2M+1) \times (2M+1)$  kernel

$$g(m,n) = \sum \sum h(k,l) f(m-k, n-l)$$

$$= \frac{1}{(2M+1)^2} \sum_{k=-M}^M \sum_{l=-M}^M f(m-k, n-l)$$

- linear

- freq. response:  $G(\omega_m, \omega_n) = H(\omega_m, \omega_n) F(\omega_m, \omega_n)$

$$H(\omega_m, \omega_n) = \frac{\sin\left(\frac{2M+1}{2}\omega_m\right)}{\sin\frac{1}{2}\omega_m} \cdot \frac{\sin\left(\frac{2M+1}{2}\omega_n\right)}{\sin\frac{1}{2}\omega_n}$$

lead 3.7

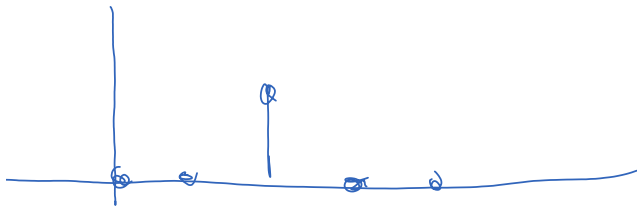
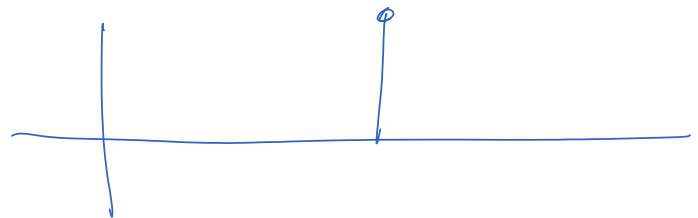
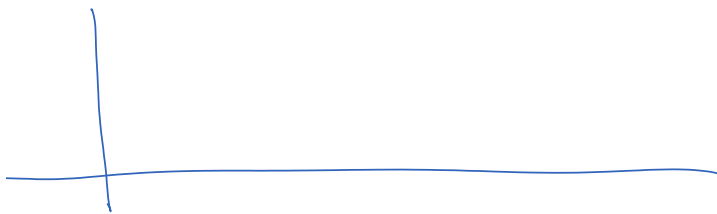
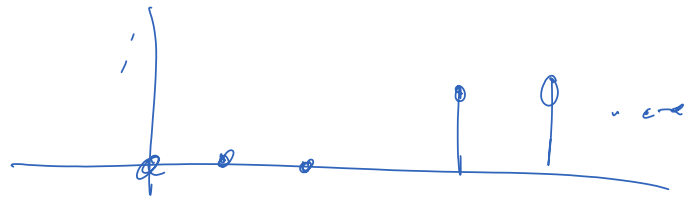
Effect: reduces corruption due to

noise. If noise is white with variance  $\sigma_n^2$ , Then  $(2M+1) \times (2M+1)$  local averaging decreases variance to  $\frac{\sigma_n^2}{(2M+1)^2}$

However, it also produces blurring of underlying image.

• median filtering  

$$g(m,n) = \text{median} \left\{ f(m-k, n-l), (k,l) \in W \right\}$$



\* Sorting to choose middle value requires many computations

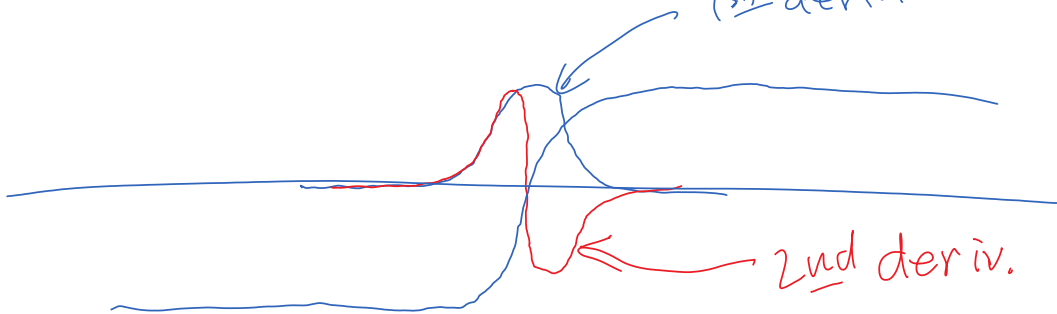
\* sliding window can reduce comparisons required

• unsharp masking

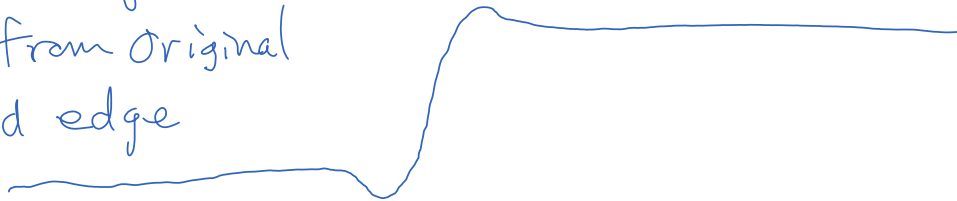
- subtract a smoothed version of the image from the original. This will accentuate sharp changes in the image.
- equivalently, we can add a gradient or highpass image

$$v(m,n) = u(m,n) + \lambda g(m,n)$$

where  $g(m,n)$  is a gradient image  
1st deriv.



to subtract a portion  
nd deriv. from original  
accentuated edge



$$g(x,y) = \frac{\partial^2 u(x,y)}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u(x,y)}{\partial y^2} \quad \therefore \text{Laplacian}$$

$$\frac{du(x)}{dx} \approx \frac{u(x+\Delta) - u(x)}{\Delta}$$

In discrete case:

$$\frac{u(m+1) - u(m)}{1}$$

approx. 2<sup>nd</sup> deriv.:

$$u(m+1) - u(m) - (u(m) - u(m-1))$$

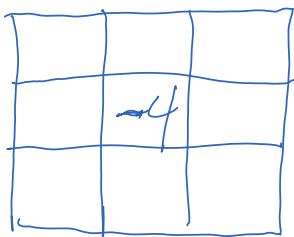
$$= u(m+1) - 2u(m) + u(m-1)$$

or 2-D,

$$g(m,n) = u(m,n+1) - 2u(m,n) + u(m,n-1)$$

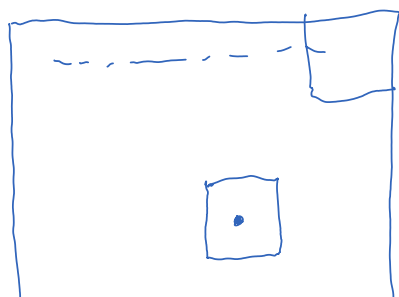
$$+ u(m+1,n) - 2u(m,n) + u(m-1,n)$$

$$g(m,n) = u(m,n) \times$$



discrete Laplacian

## Boundaries in spatial operations



- neighborhood will hang off the image near the edges of the image



ions;

irror the image over  
the boundaries (symmetric  
extension)

uplicate boundary pixels

se average value as  
instant background

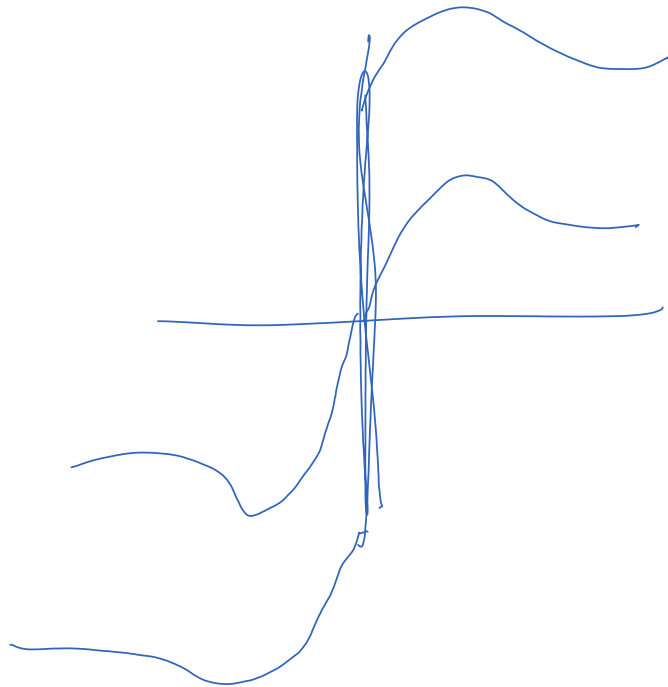
uplicate first difference

hange algorithm at

oundaries to avoid

using pixels outside ROS

- if pixels outside region of  
support (ROS) are assumed to  
be zero, this creates a  
false edge around the  
image that can lead to  
artifacts in processing



set posted

1, 3.48, 3.49

oundaries in FFT-based processing

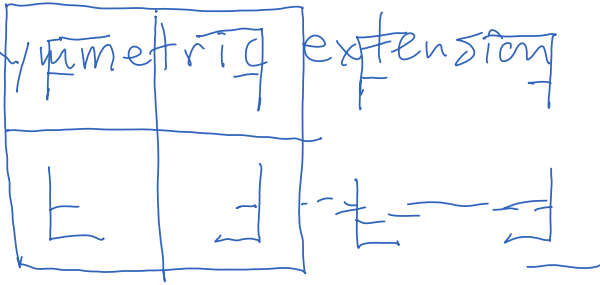
replicate boundaries, then zero-pad to

obtain a linear convolution and/or to



get an image up to power of 2 size.

use symmetric extension before FFT



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- after adding boundaries + processing,  
only keep part that is size of original  
in neighborhood

Usually, we want to treat the  
center of the neighborhood as  
the origin. Otherwise, it will  
shift the output image



$$\sum \sum f(m-k, n-l) h(k, l)$$

variation examples

edge detection

Edges characterize object boundaries and are therefore useful for segmentation, identification, and image registration (lining up two different images).

Pixel values where abrupt grayscale changes occur in one direction are considered edges

three steps:

Compute approximate gradients <sup>m</sup> in both directions  $\left[ \begin{matrix} -1 & -2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{matrix} \right]$  Sobel operators

$\Downarrow$

$g_n(m,n)$

$g_m(m,n)$

compute gradient magnitude

$$g(m,n) = \sqrt{g_m^2(m,n) + g_n^2(m,n)}$$

strong gradients  $\Rightarrow$  edges. So, threshold.

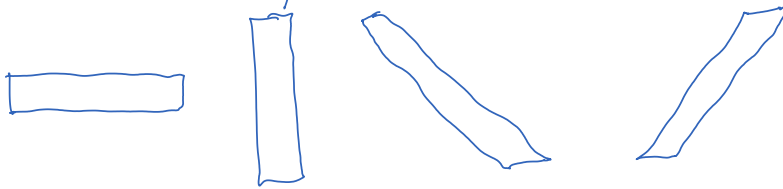
Anything over threshold is an edge.

4) remove isolated points + link edges

directional averaging

- smoothing can be done in directions that don't cross over edges (prevents blurring of edges)

- image is smoothed in several directions independently



- select pixel from one of these directional images for which the value is closest to original noisy pixel — selection is made point by point.

isomorphic filtering

$$u(m,n) = i(m,n)r(m,n)$$

where  $i(m,n)$  = illumination of scene

$r(m,n)$  = reflectance of scene

$$i(m,n) = \log u(m,n)$$

$$= \log i(m,n) + \log r(m,n)$$

$$= \hat{i}(m,n) + \hat{r}(m,n)$$

options:

illumination varies slowly across a scene

reflectance varies rapidly across a scene

→ possible to partially separate the two  
by filtering

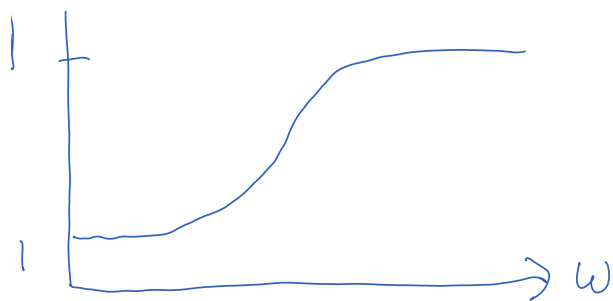
would like a filter such that

$$\hat{y}(m,n) = \alpha \hat{i}(m,n) + \beta \hat{r}(m,n)$$

$$\alpha < 1$$

dynamic range  
compression

contrast  
enhancement



$\hat{i}(m,n)$  is lowpass

$\hat{r}(m,n)$  is highpass

filter  $\hat{u}(m,n)$  to get  $\hat{y}(m,n)$

$$y(m,n) = \exp[\hat{y}(m,n)]$$

- undoes log operation

space-variant sharpening

- edge strength calculation  $g(m,n)$
- let  $s(m,n)$  be sharpened version of  $f(m,n)$

$$y(m,n) = g(m,n) s(m,n) + (k - g(m,n)) f(m,n)$$

histogram equalization followed by  
median filtering