

HAN AEA - Embedded Vision & Machine Learning

# EVD1 - Week 3



**Image Fundamentals**  
**Nonlinear Filters**  
**Spatial Filters**

By Hugo Arends

# Image Fundamentals

- Functions for creating and deleting images
- Functions for converting images
- Functions for reading and writing pixels
- Basic image processing operators
  
- Discrete convolution
- Discrete correlation

# Discrete convolution

- Results in a filtering operation
- Applies a filter mask to an image by convolving the filter mask with the original image
- Two-dimensional discrete convolution is defined as

$$p_{dst}(x, y) = \sum_{i=-n/2}^{i=n/2} \sum_{j=-m/2}^{j=m/2} p_{src}(x - i, y - j) \cdot p_{mask}(i + n/2, j + m/2)$$

where

$m \times n$ : mask size

$p_{dst}(x, y)$ : the calculated result pixel in the destination image at  $(x, y)$

$p_{src}(x - i, y - j)$ : a pixel value in the src image within the mask

$p_{mask}(i + n/2, j + m/2)$ : a pixel value in the mask image

# Discrete convolution

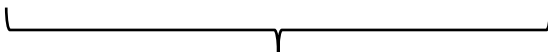
- Results in a filtering operation
- Applies a filter mask to an image by convolving the filter mask with the original image
- Two-dimensional discrete convolution is defined as

$$p_{dst}(x, y) = \sum_{i=-n/2}^{i=n/2} \sum_{j=-m/2}^{j=m/2} \underbrace{p_{src}(x - i, y - j) \cdot p_{mask}(i + n/2, j + m/2)}_{\substack{\text{All pixels in the} \\ m \times n \\ \text{neighbourhood} \\ \text{of the src pixel at} \\ (x, y)}}$$

# Discrete convolution

- Results in a filtering operation
- Applies a filter mask to an image by convolving the filter mask with the original image
- Two-dimensional discrete convolution is defined as

$$p_{dst}(x, y) = \sum_{i=-n/2}^{i=n/2} \sum_{j=-m/2}^{j=m/2} p_{src}(x - i, y - j) \cdot p_{mask}(i + n/2, j + m/2)$$

  
All pixels in the  $m \times n$   
mask

# Discrete convolution

- The corresponding pixels in the src image and mask are **flipped** in both horizontal and vertical direction.

**Mask**

<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>
<i>d</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>f</i>
<i>g</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>i</i>

**Flipped  
mask**

<i>i</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>g</i>
<i>f</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>d</i>
<i>c</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>a</i>

- If the mask is not symmetrical in both horizontal and vertical direction, the mask should be flipped before performing a convolution.

**No need to  
flip**

0	-1	0
-1	5	-1
0	-1	0

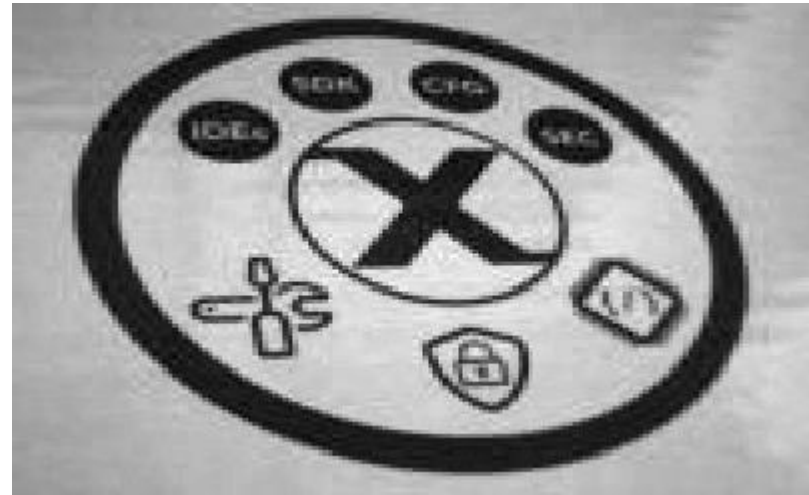
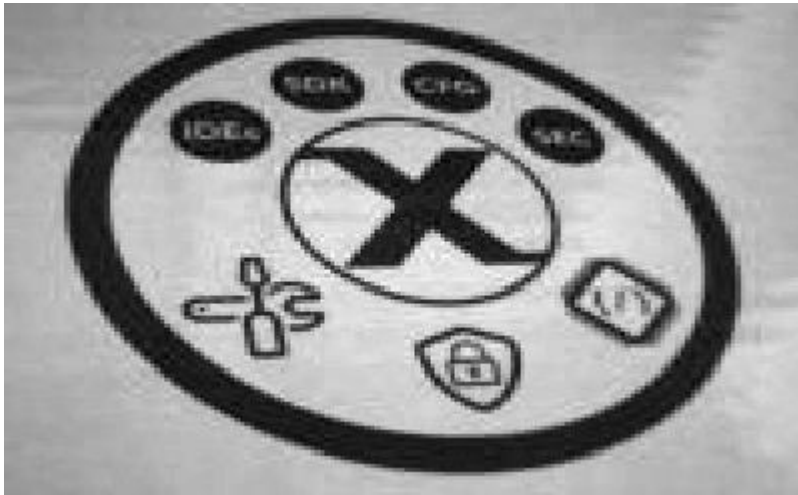
**Must be  
flipped**

0	0	1
0	1	0
0	1	0

# Discrete convolution - example

**Identity**

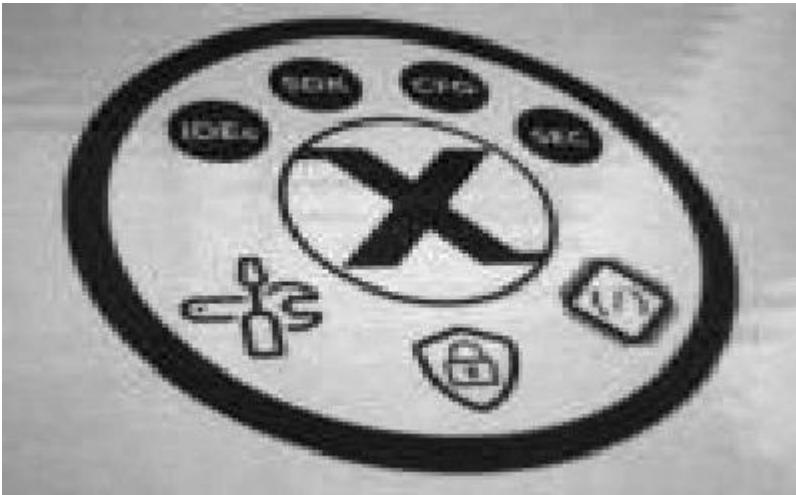
0	0	0
0	1	0
0	0	0



# Discrete convolution - example

Edge

-1	-1	-1
-1	8	-1
-1	-1	-1

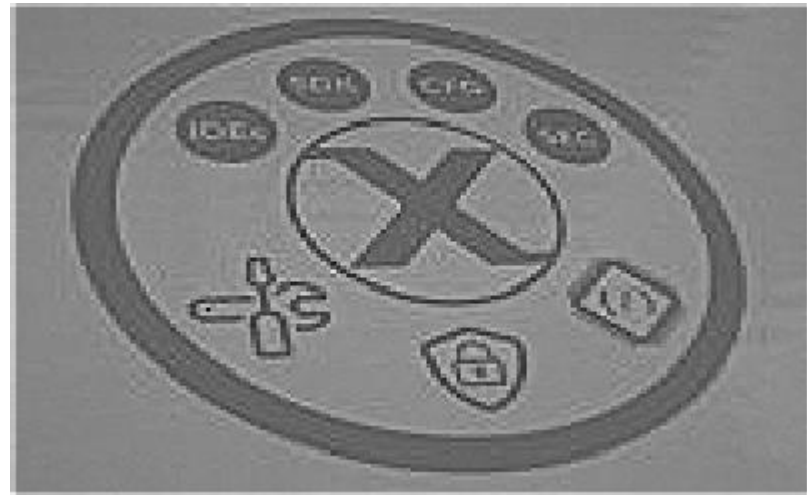
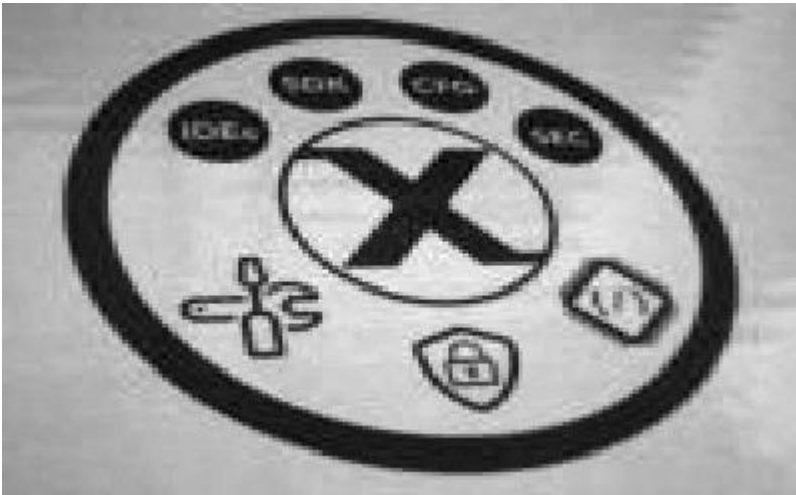




# Discrete convolution - example

**Sharpen**

0	-1	0
-1	5	-1
0	-1	0



# Discrete convolution - implementation

```
void convolve(    const image_t *src, image_t *dst,  
                  const image_t *msk);
```

See file **EVDK\_Operators\image\_fundamentals.c**

# Discrete convolution - implementation

```
void convolve(const image_t *src, image_t *dst, const image_t *msk)
{
    // Loop all pixels
    for(int32_t y=0; y<src->rows; y++)
    {
        for(int32_t x=0; x<src->cols; x++)
        {
```

# Discrete convolution - implementation

```
int32_t val = 0;
int32_t dr = (msk->rows/2);
int32_t dc = (msk->cols/2);

// Apply the kernel only for pixels within the image
for(int32_t j=-dr; j<=dr; j++)
{
    for(int32_t i=-dc; i<=dc; i++)
    {
        if((x-i) >= 0 &&
            (y-j) >= 0 &&
            (x-i) <  src->cols &&
            (y-j) <  src->rows)
        {
            val += getInt16Pixel(src,x-i,y-j) * getInt16Pixel(msk,i+dc,j+dr);
        }
    }
}
```

# Discrete convolution - implementation

```
// Clip the result
if(val>INT16_PIXEL_MAX)
    val=INT16_PIXEL_MAX;

if(val<INT16_PIXEL_MIN)
    val=INT16_PIXEL_MIN;

// Store the result
setInt16Pixel(dst, x, y, val);
    }
}
}
```

# Discrete convolution - implementation

```
// Clip the result
if(val>INT16_PIXEL_MAX)
    val=INT16_PIXEL_MAX;

if(val<INT16_PIXEL_MIN)
    val=INT16_PIXEL_MIN;

// Store the result
setInt16Pixel(dst, x, y, val);
    }
}
}
```

Optimize most (-O3)  
UVC connected  
**~35 ms**

# Discrete convolution – improve performance

- Assume a 3x3 mask and ignore border pixels

```
// Apply the kernel only for pixels within the image
for(int32_t j=-dr; j<=dr; j++)
{
    for(int32_t i=-dc; i<=dc; i++)
    {
        if((x-i) >= 0 &&
            (y-j) >= 0 &&
            (x-i) <  src->cols &&
            (y-j) <  src->rows)
        {
            val += getInt16Pixel(src,x-i,y-j) * getInt16Pixel(msk,i+dc,j+dr);
        }
    }
}
```

No loops needed with variable  
delta r and delta c (loop unrolling)

# Discrete convolution – improve performance

- Assume a 3x3 mask and ignore border pixels

```
// Apply the kernel only for pixels within the image
```

```
for(int32_t j=-dr; j<=dr; j++)  
{  
    for(int32_t i=-dc; i<=dc; i++)
```

No loops needed with variable  
delta r and delta c (loop unrolling)

```
{  
    if((x-i) >= 0 &&  
        (y-j) >= 0 &&  
        (x-i) <  src->cols &&  
        (y-j) <  src->rows)
```

No need to check image boundaries  
for every pixel

```
{  
        val += getInt16Pixel(src,x-i,y-j) * getInt16Pixel(msk,i+dc,j+dr);
```

```
    }  
}  
}
```



# Discrete convolution – improve performance

- Assume a 3x3 mask and ignore border pixels
- Avoid using getters and setters

```
// Apply the kernel only for pixels within the image
```

```
for(int32_t j=-dr; j<=dr; j++)  
{  
    for(int32_t i=-dc; i<=dc; i++)
```

No loops needed with variable  
delta r and delta c (loop unrolling)

```
    {  
        if((x-i) >= 0 &&  
            (y-j) >= 0 &&  
            (x-i) <  src->cols &&  
            (y-j) <  src->rows)
```

No need to check image boundaries  
for every pixel

```
        {  
            val += getInt16Pixel(src,x-i,y-j) * getInt16Pixel(msk,i+dc,j+dr);
```

Use pointers instead

```
        }  
    }  
}
```

# EVD1 – Assignment



*Study guide*

**Week 3**

2 Image fundamentals – convolveFast()

## Discrete correlation

- Compares two images mathematically
- The result is a two-dimensional expression of equivalence
- The mask image is often referred to as the template
- The correlation is then called template matching
- Two-dimensional discrete correlation is defined as

$$p_{dst}(x, y) = \sum_{i=-n/2}^{i=n/2} \sum_{j=-m/2}^{j=m/2} p_{src}(x + i, y + j) \cdot p_{mask}(i + n/2, j + m/2)$$

where

$m \times n$ : mask size

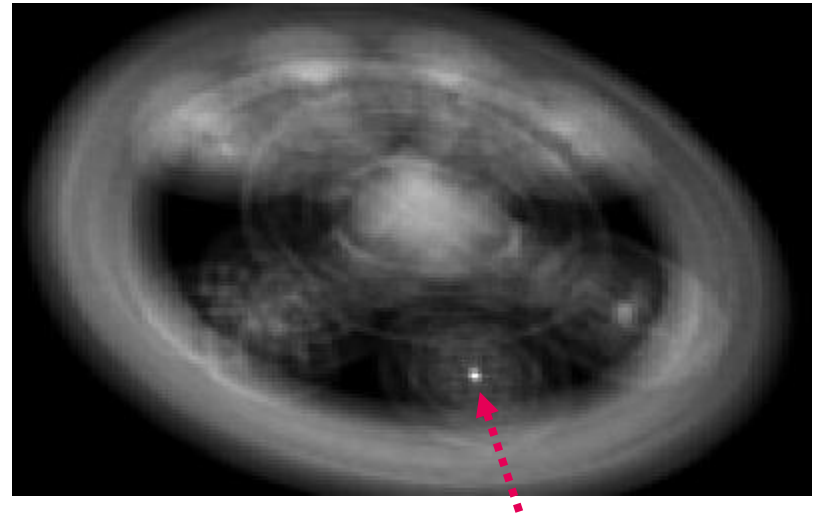
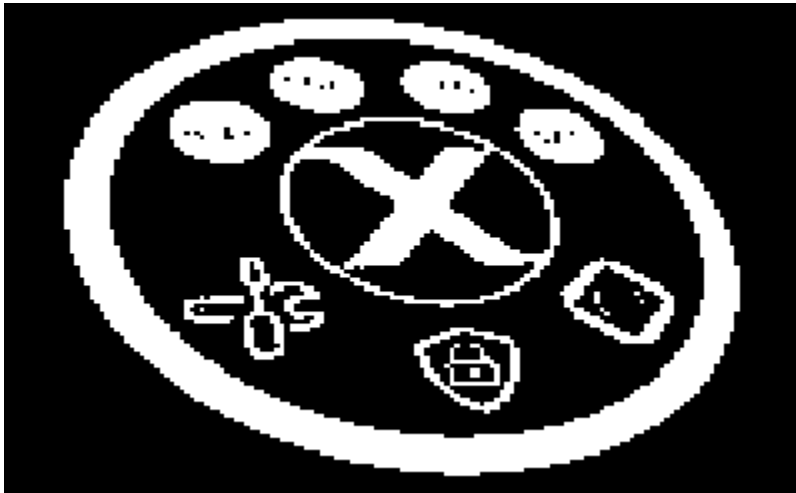
$p_{dst}(x, y)$ : the calculated result pixel in the destination image at  $(x, y)$

$p_{src}(x + i, y + j)$ : a pixel value in the src image within the mask

$p_{mask}(i + n/2, j + m/2)$ : a pixel value in the mask image

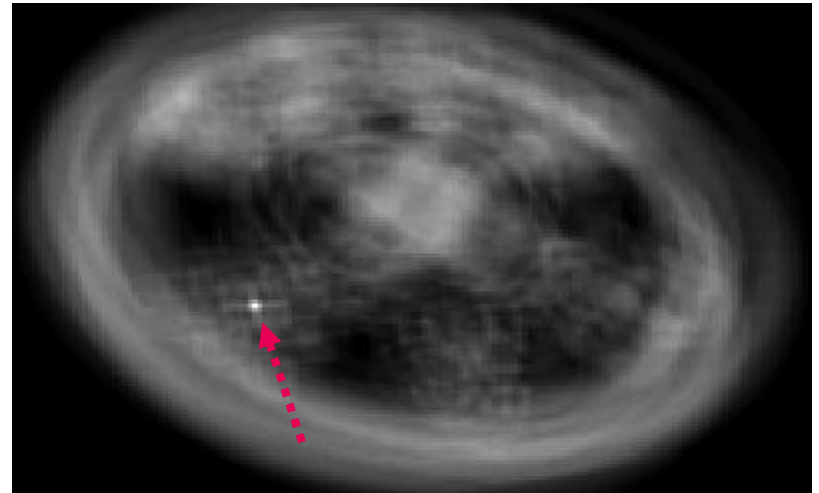
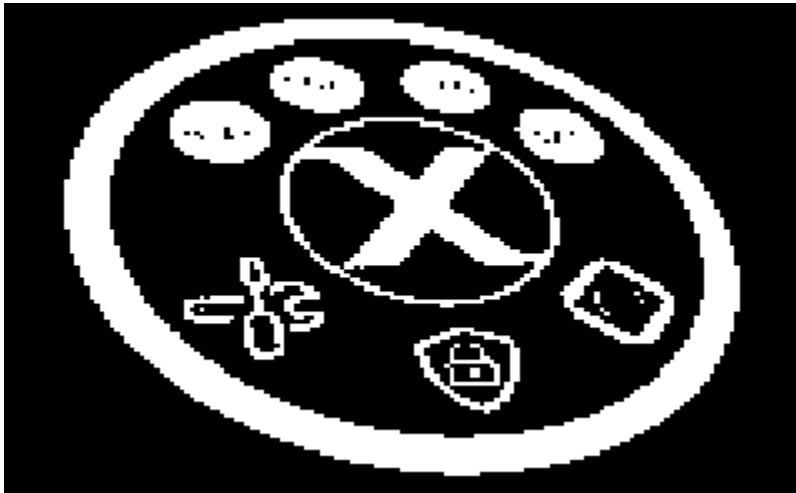
# Discrete correlation – example

Binary template matching



# Discrete correlation – example

Binary template matching



## Discrete correlation – implementation

```
void correlate(    const image_t *src, image_t *dst,  
                  const image_t *msk);
```

See file **EVDK\_Operators\image\_fundamentals.c**

# Discrete correlation – implementation

```
val += getInt16Pixel(src,x+i,y+j) * getInt16Pixel(msk,i+dc,j+dr);
```

Optimize most (-O3)

UVC connected

25x25 mask

**> 1000 ms**

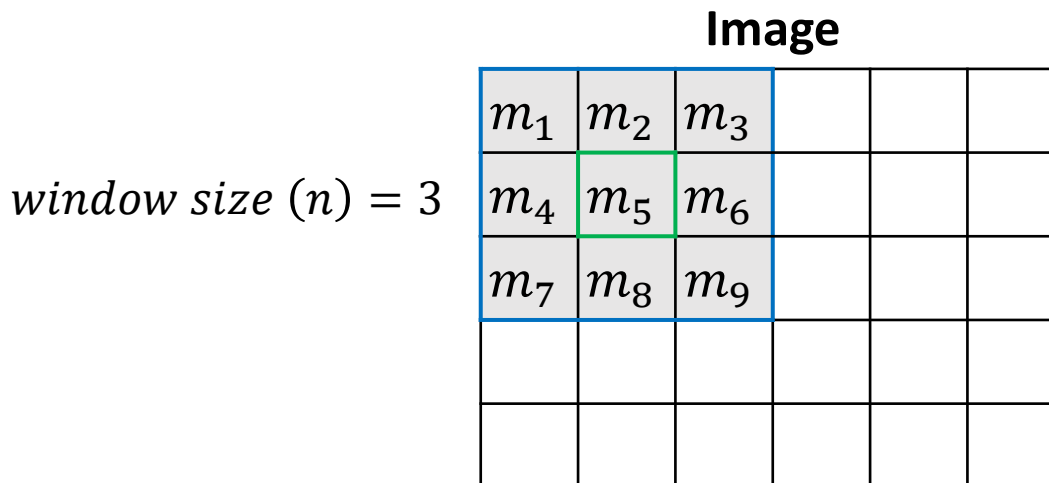
## Discrete correlation – improve performance

- For template matching it does not make sense to assume a 3x3 mask, because the size of a mask is at least tens by tens pixels
- Although the border pixels can be skipped, if the mask size increases, so are the number of skipped pixels
- In other words, a template matcher with a reasonable sized mask takes too long to execute on the microcontroller



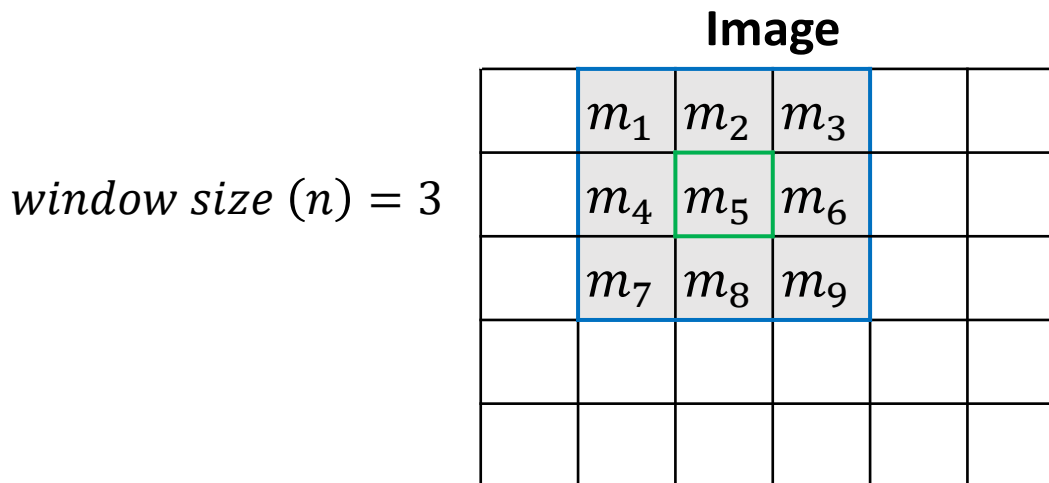
# Nonlinear filters

- Operate on an image by computing a given nonlinear function over a local window
- The local window can vary in size, is often a square
- Replace one specified pixel within the local window with the computed value, often the centre pixel (hence window size is an odd value)
- Are not solely used for filtering, e.g. binary erosion, binary dilation, and edge detection



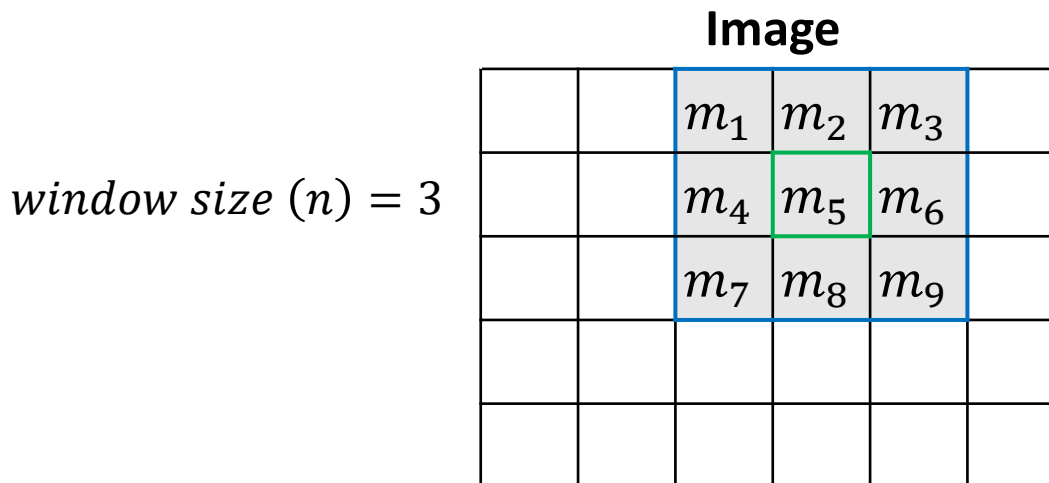
# Nonlinear filters

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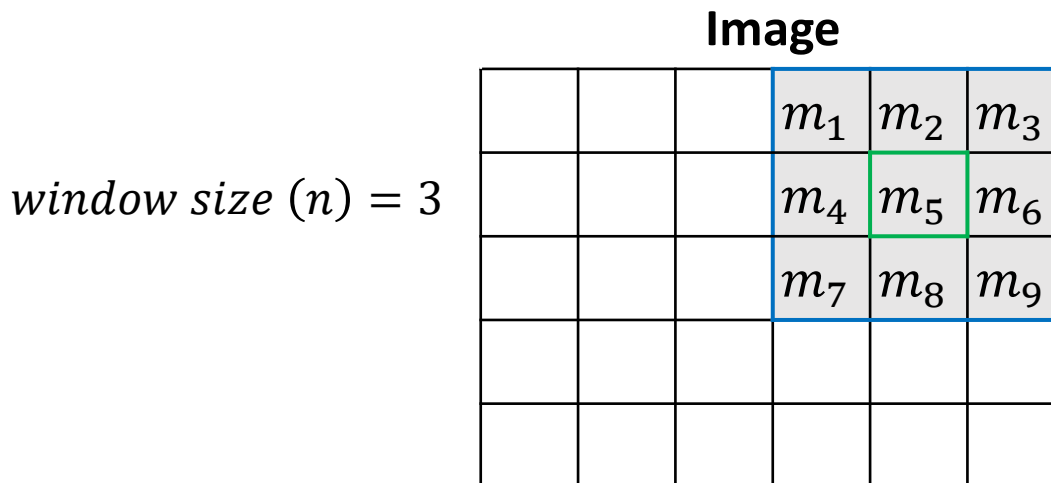
# Nonlinear filters

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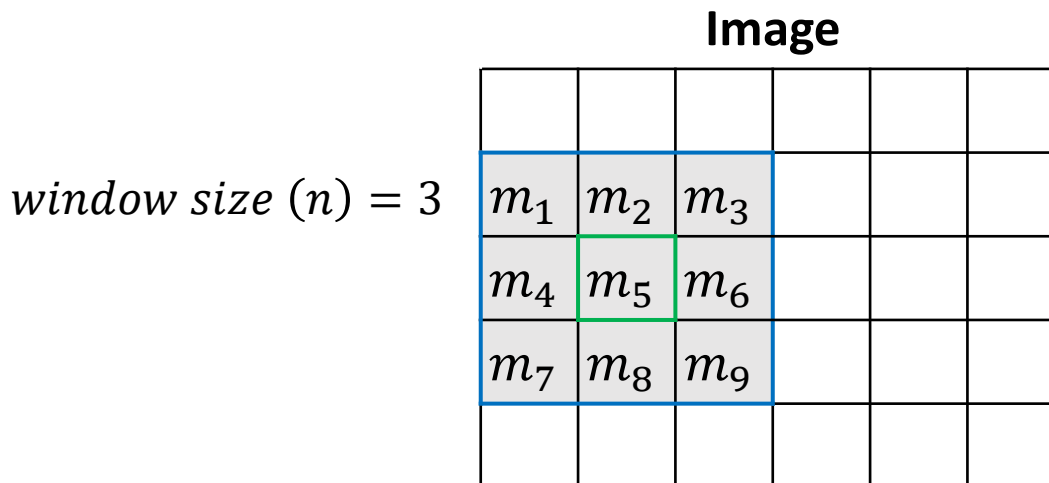
# Nonlinear filters

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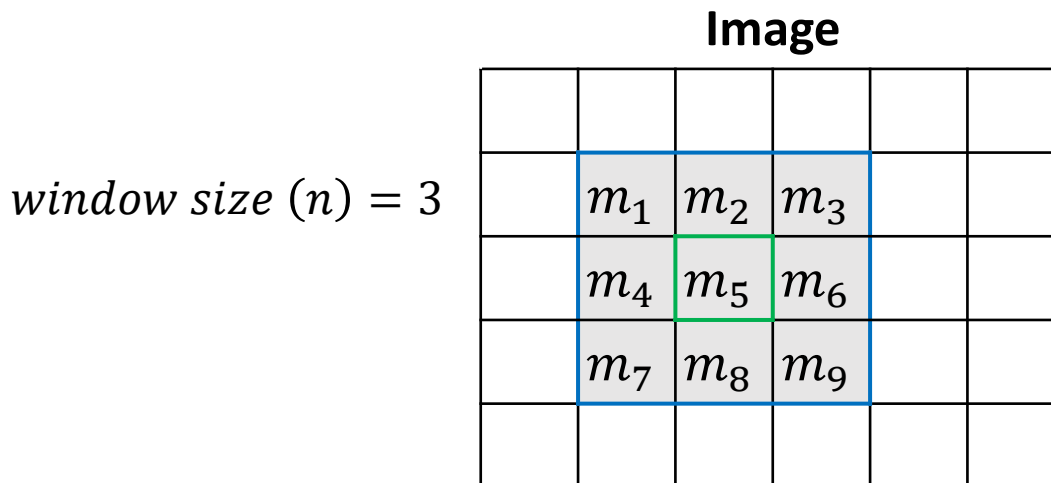
# Nonlinear filters

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# Nonlinear filters

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# Nonlinear filters – implementation

Implementation is very similar to convolution

Handles border pixels by just taking the valid pixels into account in the filter specific operation

# Nonlinear filters - implementation

```
void mean(const image_t *src, image_t *dst, const uint8_t n)
{
    // Loop all pixels
    for(int32_t y=0; y<src->rows; y++)
    {
        for(int32_t x=0; x<src->cols; x++)
        {
```



# Nonlinear filters - implementation

```
// Initialize filter specific variables
int32_t cnt = 0;
int32_t sum = 0;

// Apply the kernel only for pixels within the image
for(int32_t j=-n/2; j<=n/2; j++)
{
    for(int32_t i=-n/2; i<=n/2; i++)
    {
        if((x+i) >= 0 &&
            (y+j) >= 0 &&
            (x+i) < src->cols &&
            (y+j) < src->rows)
        {
            // Count the number of pixels in the calculation
            cnt++;

            // Get pixel and perform filter specific calculation
            sum += getUint8Pixel(src,x+i,y+j);
        }
    }
}
```

# Nonlinear filters - implementation

```
        // Calculate and store the result
        setUint8Pixel(dst,x,y,(uint8_pixel_t)((float)sum/(float)cnt + 0.5f));
    }
}
```

## Nonlinear filters - arithmetic mean

- Calculates the arithmetic mean of the pixels within the window
- The arithmetic mean is defined as

$$p_{dst}(x, y) = \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i=-n/2}^{i=n/2} \sum_{j=-n/2}^{j=n/2} p_{src}(x + i, y + j)$$

where

$p_{dst}(x, y)$ : the calculated result pixel in the destination image at  $(x, y)$   
 $p_{src}(x + i, y + j)$ : a pixel value in the src image within the window  
 $n$ : the window size

## Nonlinear filters - arithmetic mean

```
void mean(    const image_t *src, image_t *dst, const uint8_t n);
```

See file **EVDK\_Operators\nonlinear\_filters.c**

## Nonlinear filters - arithmetic mean

```
void mean(  const image_t *src, image_t *dst, const uint8_t n);
```

See file **EVDK\_Operators\nonlinear\_filters.c**

```
// -----  
// Image processing pipeline  
// -----  
  
convertBgr888ToUint8(img, src);  
  
mean(src, dst, 3);
```

## Nonlinear filters - arithmetic mean

```
void mean(  const image_t *src, image_t *dst, const uint8_t n);
```

See file **EVDK\_Operators\nonlinear\_filters.c**

Optimize most (-O3)

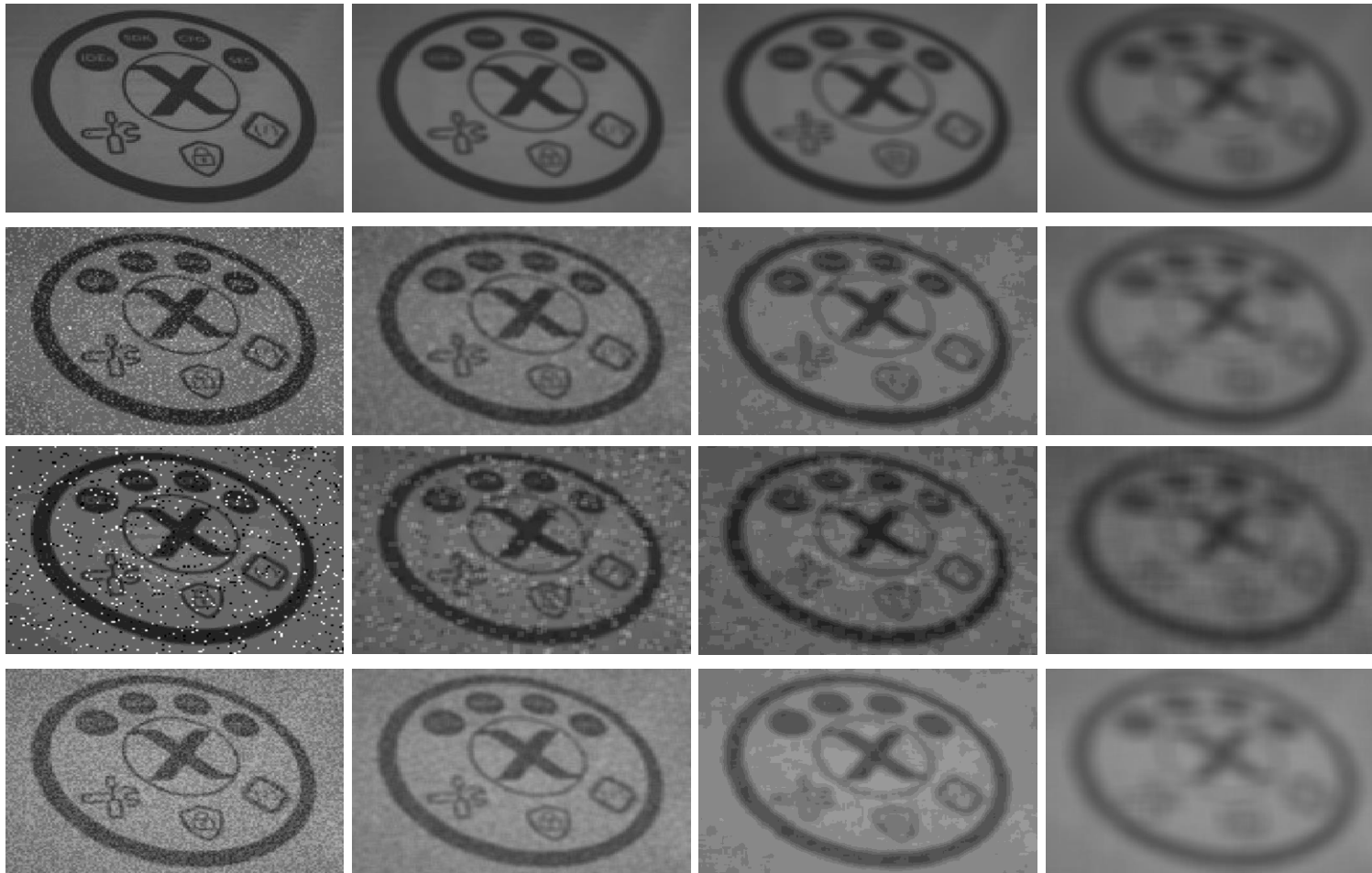
UVC connected

3x3 mask: **56 ms**

5x5 mask: **136 ms**

11x11 mask: **594 ms**

# Nonlinear filters - arithmetic mean examples



*Original image,  
without  
(additional)  
noise*

*Gaussian noise  
 $m = 0$   
 $\sigma = 800$*

*Salt and  
pepper noise  
 $p = 0.05$*

*Uniform noise  
 $a = 10$   
 $b = 60$*

# Nonlinear filters

An overview of all nonlinear filters

void <b>harmonic</b> (	const image_t * <b>src</b> , image_t * <b>dst</b> , const uint8_t <b>n</b> );
void <b>maximum</b> (	const image_t * <b>src</b> , image_t * <b>dst</b> , const uint8_t <b>n</b> );
void <b>mean</b> (	const image_t * <b>src</b> , image_t * <b>dst</b> , const uint8_t <b>n</b> );
void <b>midpoint</b> (	const image_t * <b>src</b> , image_t * <b>dst</b> , const uint8_t <b>n</b> );
void <b>minimum</b> (	const image_t * <b>src</b> , image_t * <b>dst</b> , const uint8_t <b>n</b> );
void <b>range</b> (	const image_t * <b>src</b> , image_t * <b>dst</b> , const uint8_t <b>n</b> );



## Nonlinear filters – harmonic mean

- Is better at removing Gaussian type noise and preserves edges
- Removes positive outliers
- Harmonic mean filter is defined as

$$p_{dst}(x, y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{If any } p_{src}(x + i, y + j) = 0 \\ m & \text{otherwise} \\ \frac{1}{\sum_{i=-n/2}^{n/2} \sum_{j=-n/2}^{n/2} p_{src}(x + i, y + j)} & \end{cases}$$

where

$p_{dst}(x, y)$ : the calculated result pixel in the destination image at  $(x, y)$

$p_{src}(x + i, y + j)$ : a pixel value in the src image within the window

$m$ : the number of pixels included in the summation calculation

## Nonlinear filters – median

- Removes long tailed noise and salt and pepper type noise
- Has minimum blurring effect and preserves spatial details
- Can remove outlier noise from images that contain less than 50% of its pixels as outliers
- The median is defined as

$$p_{dst}(x, y) = \begin{cases} X[\frac{n}{2}] & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \\ \frac{X[\frac{n-1}{2}] + X[\frac{n}{2}]}{2} & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \end{cases}$$

where

$p_{dst}(x, y)$ : the calculated result pixel in the destination image at  $(x, y)$

$n$ : the window size

$X$ : sorted list of values from the source image in the window

$$[window(x + i, y + j)]_{i=-n/2}^{i=n/2} j=-n/2^{j=n/2}$$

## Nonlinear filters – minimum

- Outputs the local minimum
- Is used to remove positive outlier noise
- Minimum filter is defined as

$$p_{dst}(x, y) = \min[window(x + i, y + j)]_{i=-n/2}^{i=n/2} j=-n/2}^{j=n/2}$$

where

$p_{dst}(x, y)$ : the calculated result pixel in the destination image at  $(x, y)$   
 $window(x + i, y + j)$ : all values in the src image within the window  
 $n$ : the window size

## Nonlinear filters – maximum

- Outputs the local maximum
- Is used to remove negative outlier noise
- Maximum filter is defined as

$$p_{dst}(x, y) = \max[window(x + i, y + j)]_{i=-n/2}^{i=n/2} j=-n/2^{j=n/2}$$

where

$p_{dst}(x, y)$ : the calculated result pixel in the destination image at  $(x, y)$

$window(x + i, y + j)$ : all values in the src image within the window

$n$ : the window size

## Nonlinear filters – midpoint

- Outputs the average of the local minimum and maximum
- Used to remove short tailed noise, such as Gaussian and uniform type noise
- Midpoint filter is defined as

$$p_{dst}(x, y) = \frac{\min[\text{window}(x + i, y + j)]_{i=-n/2}^{i=n/2} j=-n/2}^{j=n/2} + \max[\text{window}(x + i, y + j)]_{i=-n/2}^{i=n/2} j=-n/2}^{j=n/2}}{2}$$

where

$p_{dst}(x, y)$ : the calculated result pixel in the destination image at  $(x, y)$   
 $\text{window}(x + i, y + j)$ : all values in the src image within the window  
 $n$ : the window size

## Nonlinear filters – range

- Outputs the difference between the local maximum and minimum
- Range filter is defined as

$$p_{dst}(x, y) = \max[window(x + i, y + j)]_{i=-n/2}^{i=n/2} j=-n/2}^{j=n/2} - \min[window(x + i, y + j)]_{i=-n/2}^{i=n/2} j=-n/2}^{j=n/2}$$

where

$p_{dst}(x, y)$ : the calculated result pixel in the destination image at  $(x, y)$   
 $window(x + i, y + j)$ : all values in the src image within the window  
 $n$ : the window size

# EVD1 – Assignment



*Study guide*

**Week 3**

3 Nonlinear filters – meanFast()

4 Nonlinear filters – EXTRA

# Spatial Filters

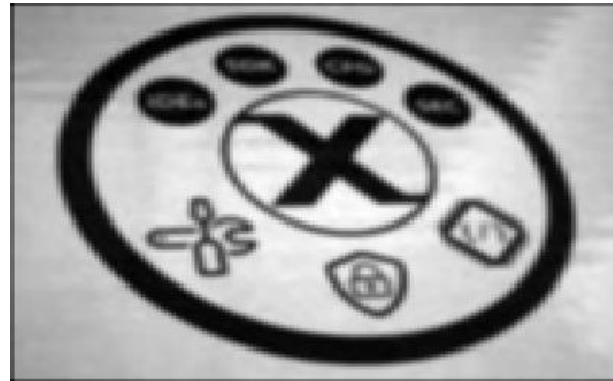
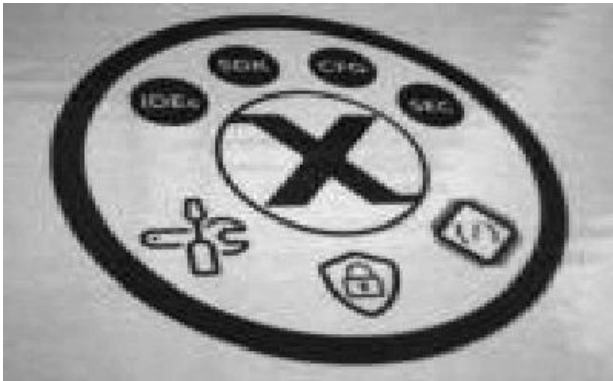
- Are basically discrete convolution filters
  - The filter is known as a spatial mask
  - Copy an image pixel-by-pixel while allowing for the effects of the pixel values in the local area (mask)
  - Filter operations include multiplication, addition, and shifting
  - Convolution is a time-consuming operation, so a 3x3 mask is typically used
  - Typically uses odd masks and the centre of the mask for the pixel that is to be replaced, but this is by no means a requirement
  - It can be implemented in parallel hardware for extremely fast execution
- 
- Gaussian filters
  - Laplacian filters
  - Sobel filter



# Gaussian

- Gaussian filters are masks formed from a two-dimensional Gaussian distribution
- Removes high frequency noise, but causes blurring

# Gaussian - example



**3x3**

1	2	1
2	4	2
1	2	1



**5x5**

1	4	7	4	1
4	16	26	16	4
7	26	41	26	7
4	16	26	16	4
1	4	7	4	1

## Gaussian - algorithm

```
void gaussianFilter_3x3(  const image_t *src, image_t *dst);  
void gaussianFilter_5x5(  const image_t *src, image_t *dst);
```

See file **EVDK\_Operators\spatial\_filters.c**

# Gaussian - algorithm

```
void gaussianFilter_3x3( const image_t *src, image_t *dst);  
void gaussianFilter_5x5( const image_t *src, image_t *dst);
```

See file **EVDK\_Operators\spatial\_filters.c**

```
// PC app  
  
// Create additional int16_pixel_t images, because calculations with such  
// masks will not be in the uint8_pixel_t range  
image_t *src_int16 = newInt16Image(IMG_WIDTH, IMG_HEIGHT);  
image_t *dst_int16 = newInt16Image(IMG_WIDTH, IMG_HEIGHT);  
  
cv::Mat cv_src_int16(IMG_HEIGHT, IMG_WIDTH, CV_16UC1, src_int16->data);  
cv::Mat cv_dst_int16(IMG_HEIGHT, IMG_WIDTH, CV_16UC1, dst_int16->data);
```

# Gaussian - algorithm

```
void gaussianFilter_3x3( const image_t *src, image_t *dst);  
void gaussianFilter_5x5( const image_t *src, image_t *dst);
```

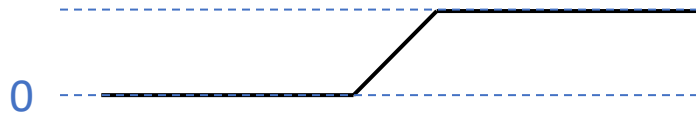
See file **EVDK\_Operators\spatial\_filters.c**

```
// -----  
// Image processing pipeline  
// -----  
// Convert input image  
convertBgr888ToUint8(img, src);  
convertBgr888ToInt16(img, src_int16);  
  
// Filter  
gaussianFilter_3x3(src_int16, dst_int16);  
  
// Scale both images to uint8_pixel_t for convenient visualisation  
scale(src, src);  
scaleInt16ToUint8(dst_int16, dst);
```

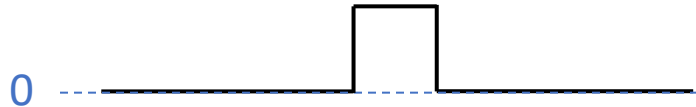
# Laplacian

- Gives the second derivative in two directions
- Enhances changes and only changes

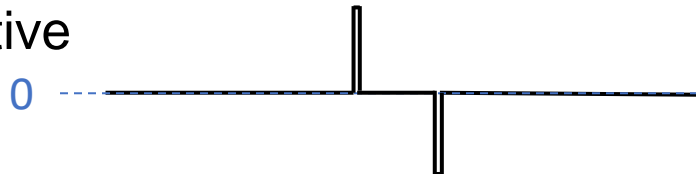
Edge



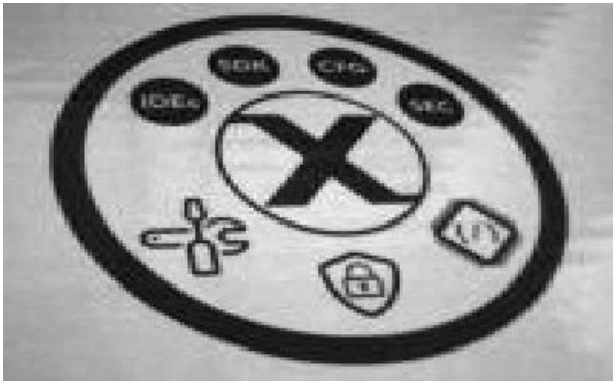
First derivative



Second derivative

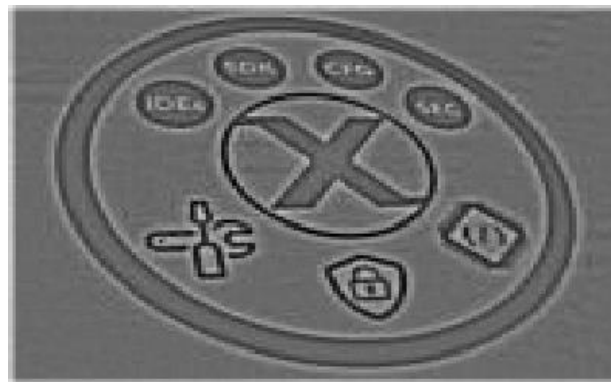


# Laplacian - example



**3x3**

0	-1	0
-1	4	-1
0	-1	0



**5x5**

-1	-1	-1	-1	-1
-1	-1	-1	-1	-1
-1	-1	24	-1	-1
-1	-1	-1	-1	-1
-1	-1	-1	-1	-1

## Laplacian - algorithm

```
void laplacian_3x3(  const image_t *src, image_t *dst);  
void laplacian_5x5(  const image_t *src, image_t *dst);
```

See file **EVDK\_Operators\spatial\_filters.c**



# Sobel

- Edge detection algorithm with two results:
  1. Edge magnitude
  2. Edge direction
- Sobel magnitude and direction are defined as

$$M_{sobel}(x, y) = |G_H(x, y)| + |G_V(x, y)| \quad \varphi_{sobel}(x, y) = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{G_V(x, y)}{G_H(x, y)}\right)$$

where

$M_{sobel}(x, y)$ : the calculated magnitude in the destination image at  $(x, y)$

$\varphi_{sobel}(x, y)$ : the calculated direction in the destination image at  $(x, y)$

$G_H(x, y)$ : the pixel at  $(x, y)$  in the horizontal enhanced image

$G_V(x, y)$ : the pixel at  $(x, y)$  in the vertical enhanced image

# Sobel

- The horizontal enhanced image  $G_H$  is obtained by a convolution with mask

**3x3**

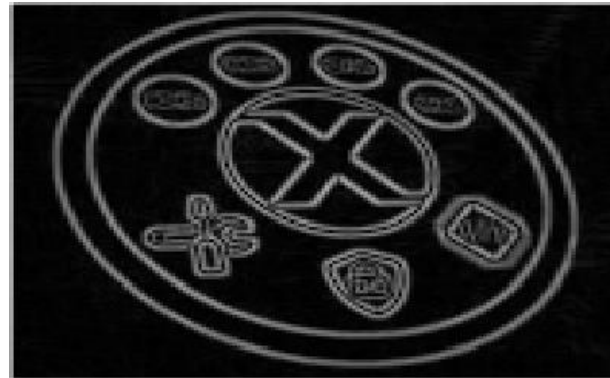
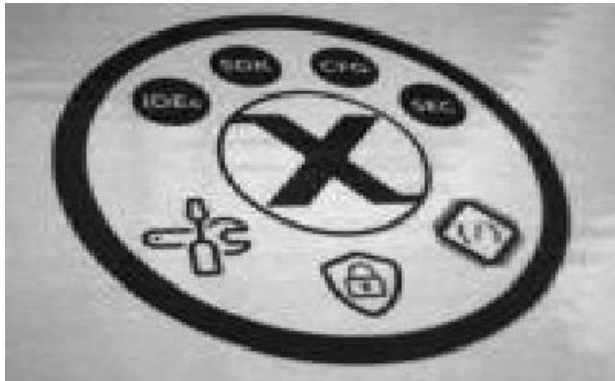
-1	-2	-1
0	0	0
1	2	1

- The vertical enhanced image  $G_V$  is obtained by a convolution with mask

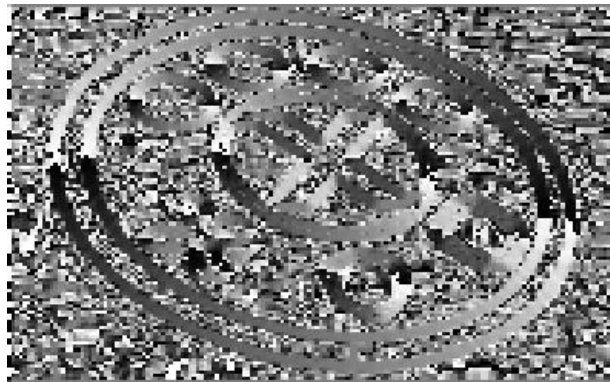
**3x3**

-1	0	1
-2	0	2
-1	0	1

# Sobel - example



Magnitude



Direction  
between  
 $-\frac{\pi}{2}$  and  $\frac{\pi}{2}$

## Sobel - algorithm

```
void sobel(  const image_t *src, image_t *mag, image_t *dir);
```

See file **EVDK\_Operators\spatial\_filters.c**

The dir image can be omitted (NULL). If not omitted, it must be of image type **IMGTYPE\_FLOAT**.

## Sobel - algorithm

void **sobel**( const image\_t \***src**, image\_t \***mag**, image\_t \***dir**);

See file **EVDK\_Operators\spatial\_filters.c**

The dir image can be omitted (NULL). If not omitted, it must be of image type **IMGTYPE\_FLOAT**.

```
// EVDK example
```

```
// Create additional int16_pixel_t images, because calculations with such  
// masks will not be in the uint8_pixel_t range  
image_t *src_int16 = newInt16Image(IMG_WIDTH, IMG_HEIGHT);  
image_t *dst_int16 = newInt16Image(IMG_WIDTH, IMG_HEIGHT);
```

## Sobel - algorithm

void **sobel**( const image\_t \***src**, image\_t \***mag**, image\_t \***dir**);

See file **EVDK\_Operators\spatial\_filters.c**

The dir image can be omitted (NULL). If not omitted, it must be of image type **IMGTYPE\_FLOAT**.

```
// -----  
// Image processing pipeline  
// -----  
// Convert uyvy_pixel_t camera image to int16_pixel_t image  
convertUyvyToInt16(cam, src_int16);
```

## Sobel - algorithm

void **sobel**( const image\_t \***src**, image\_t \***mag**, image\_t \***dir**);

See file **EVDK\_Operators\spatial\_filters.c**

The dir image can be omitted (NULL). If not omitted, it must be of image type IMGTYPE\_FLOAT.

```
// Copy timestamp
ms1 = ms;

// Detect edges using Sobel edge detect
sobel(src_int16, dst_int16, NULL);

// Copy timestamp
ms2 = ms;
```

## Sobel - algorithm

void **sobel**( const image\_t \***src**, image\_t \***mag**, image\_t \***dir**);

See file **EVDK\_Operators\spatial\_filters.c**

The dir image can be omitted (NULL). If not omitted, it must be of image type **IMGTYPE\_FLOAT**.

```
// Scale uint8_pixel_t for convenient visualisation
scaleInt16ToUInt8(dst_int16, dst);

// Convert uint8_pixel_t image to bgr888_pixel_t image for USB
convertToBgr888(dst, usb);
```



## Sobel - algorithm

```
void sobel(  const image_t *src, image_t *mag, image_t *dir);
```

See file **EVDK\_Operators\spatial\_filters.c**

The dir image can be omitted (NULL). If not omitted, it must be of image type **IMGTYPE\_FLOAT**.

Optimize most (-O3)

UVC connected

**72 ms**

# EVD1 – Assignment



*Study guide*

**Week 3**

5 Spatial filters – sobelFast()

# References

- Myler, H. R., & Weeks, A. R. (2009). *The pocket handbook of image processing algorithms in C*. Prentice Hall Press.