

HAN AEA - Embedded Vision & Machine Learning

# EVD1 - Week 4



## Segmentation

By Hugo Arends

# Segmentation

- Segments an image into various components for object recognition
- Goal: separate object from background
- Based on the graylevel histogram of an image
- Simple if the graylevels of an object are significantly different from the background
- Threshold
- Threshold 2 means
- Threshold Otsu

# Threshold

- Used to separate object from background
- Converts a graylevel image to a binary image
- Thresholding is defined as

$$p_{dst}(x, y) = \begin{cases} g_o (1) & T_{min} \leq p_{src}(x, y) \leq T_{max} \\ g_b (0) & elsewhere \end{cases}$$

where

$p_{src}$ : original graylevel at position  $(x, y)$

$p_{dst}$ : new graylevel at position  $(x, y)$

$g_o$ : object graylevel after thresholding: **1**

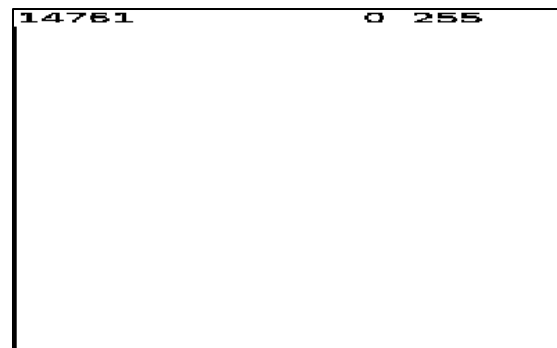
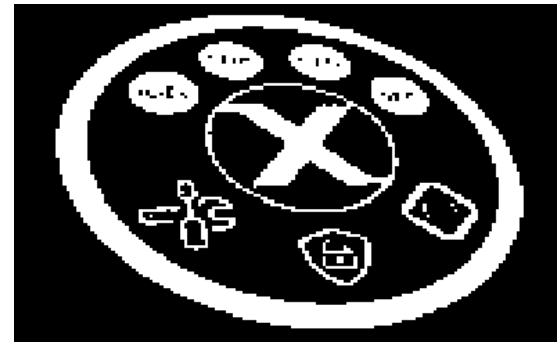
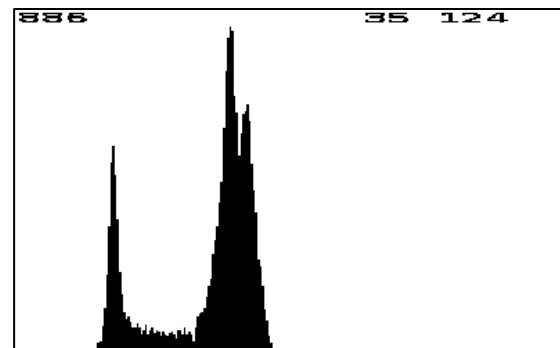
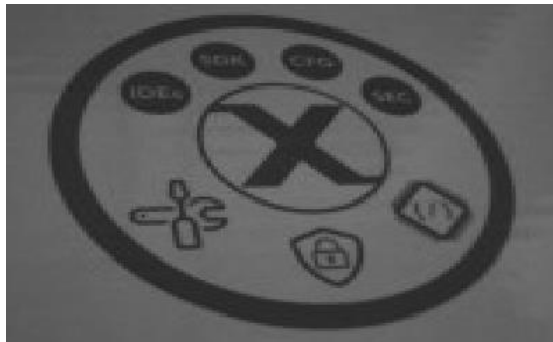
$g_b$ : background graylevel after thresholding: **0**

$T_{min}$ : minimum thresholding value

$T_{max}$ : maximum thresholding value

# Threshold - example

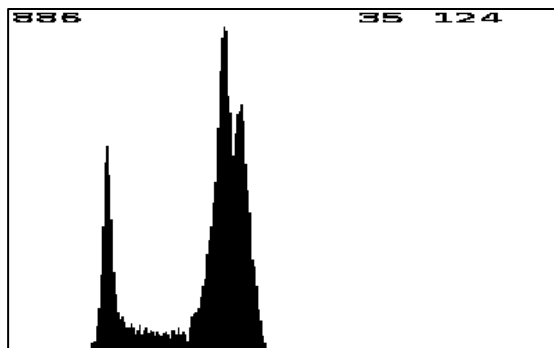
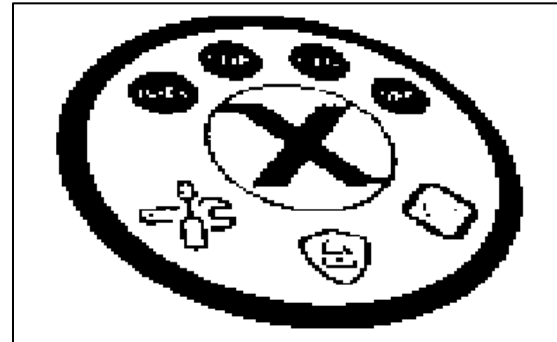
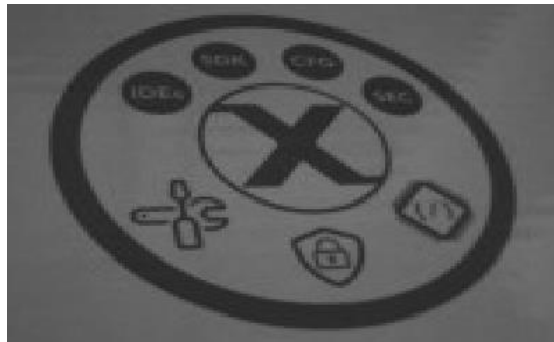
$$\begin{aligned} T_{min} &= 0 \\ T_{max} &= 70 \end{aligned}$$



*For  
visualization,  
the thresholded  
result is scaled!*

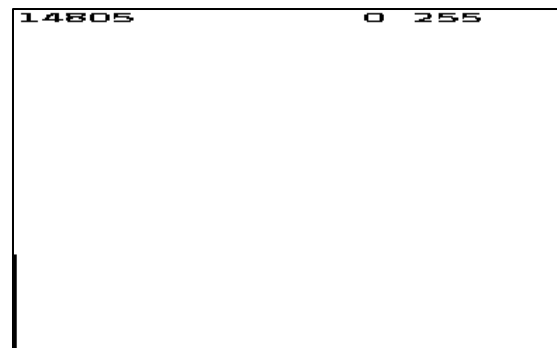
# Threshold - example

$$T_{min} = 70$$
$$T_{max} = 255$$



↑  
70

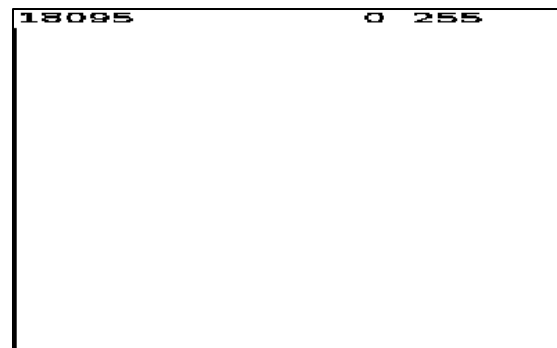
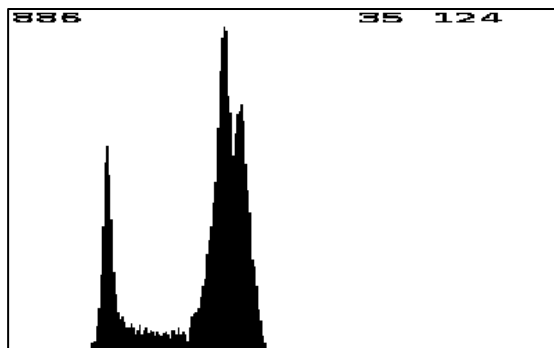
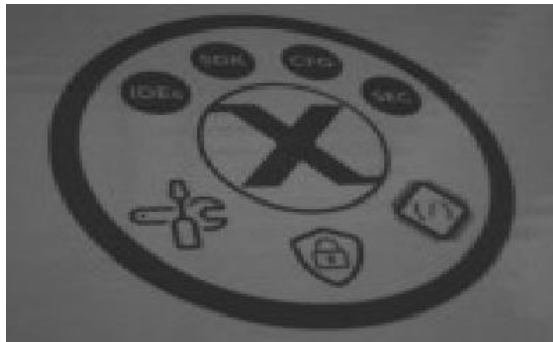
↑  
255



*For  
visualization,  
the thresholded  
result is scaled!*

# Threshold - example

$$\begin{aligned} T_{min} &= 60 \\ T_{max} &= 80 \end{aligned}$$



*For  
visualization,  
the thresholded  
result is scaled!*

## Threshold - algorithm

```
void threshold(    const image_t *src, image_t *dst,  
                  const basic_pixel_t min, const basic_pixel_t max);
```

See file **EVDK\_Operators\segmentation.c**

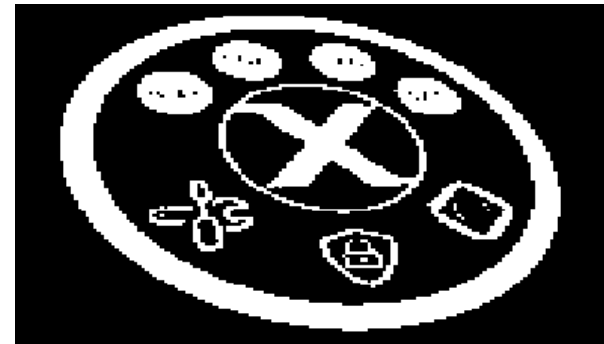
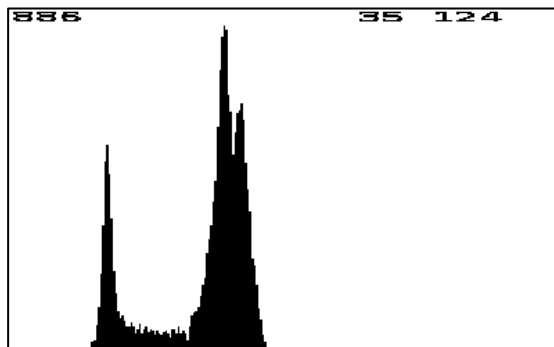
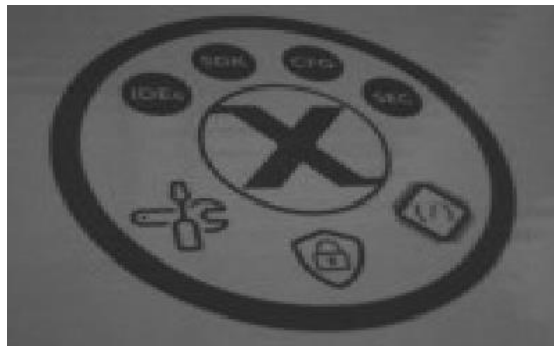
# Threshold 2 Means

- Assumes that the histogram shows two clusters of pixels
- Where does Object stop and Background end?
- Goal: minimize the overlap
- Solution: iterative K-means algorithm



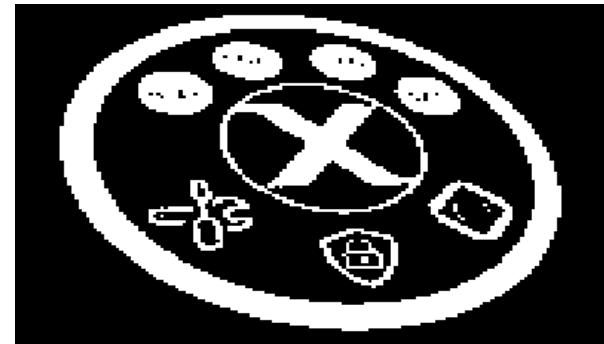
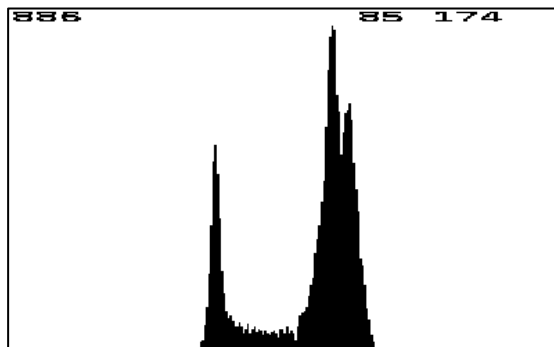
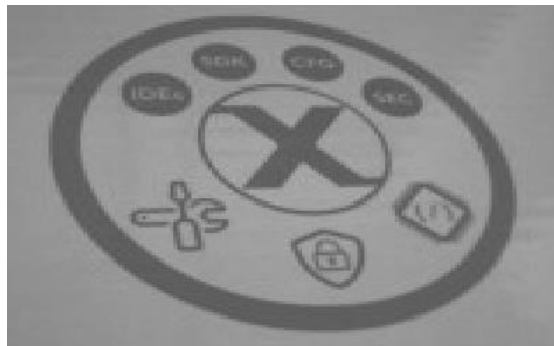
# Threshold 2 Means - example

Automatically find the dark objects



# Threshold 2 Means - example

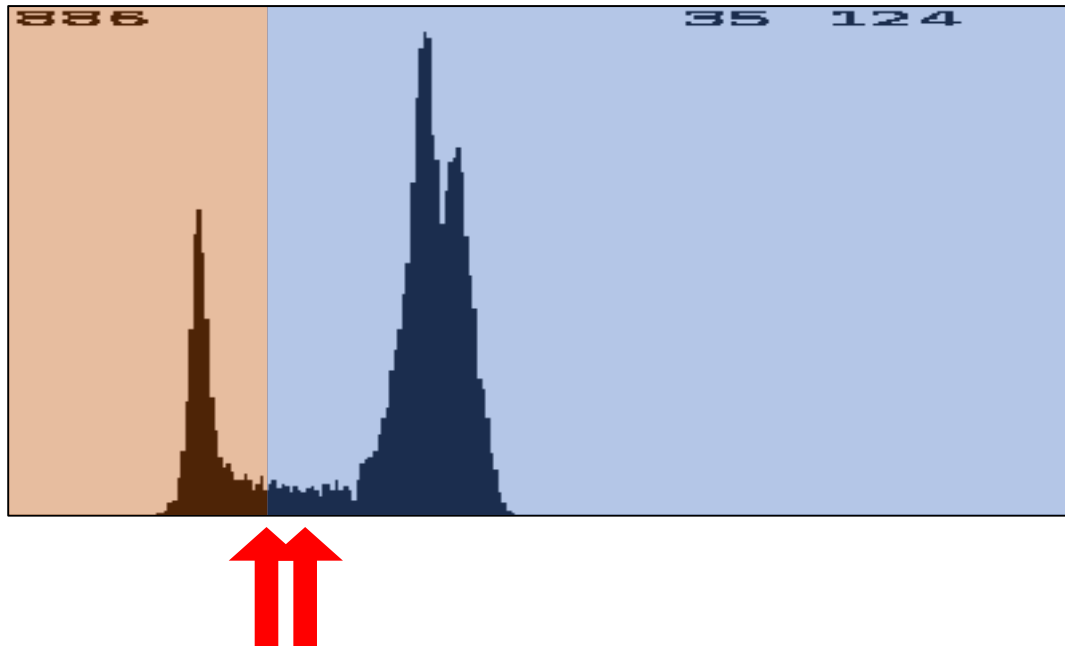
Automatically find the dark objects  
Even when the lighting conditions change



# Threshold 2 Means - algorithm

Iterative 2-means algorithm:

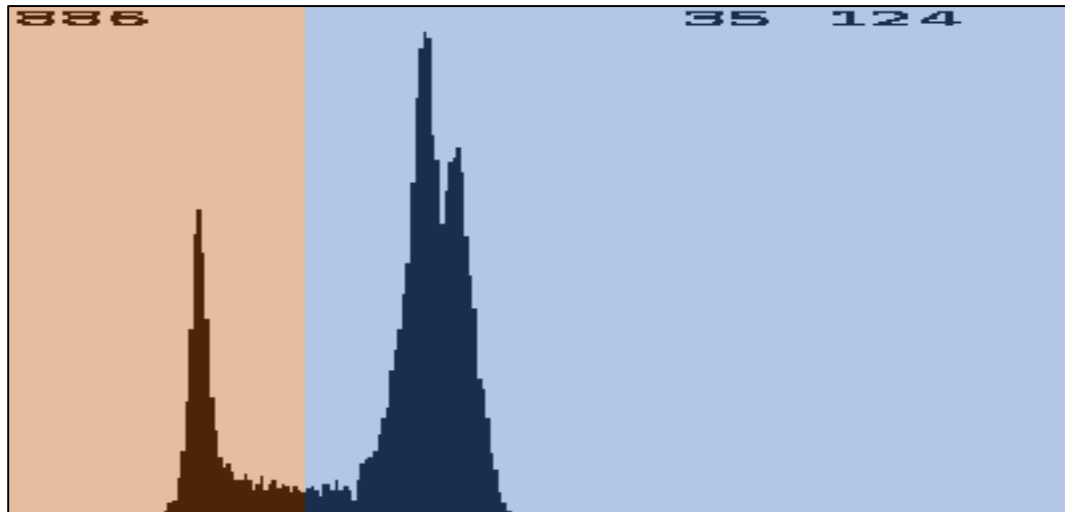
1. Set **T** to any value between low\_pixel and high\_pixel
2. Calculate mean value of all pixels to the left of **T** (**mean left**)
3. Calculate mean value of all pixels to the right of **T** (**mean right**)
4. Move **T** to the mean of **mean left** and **mean right**



# Threshold 2 Means - algorithm

Iterative 2-means algorithm:

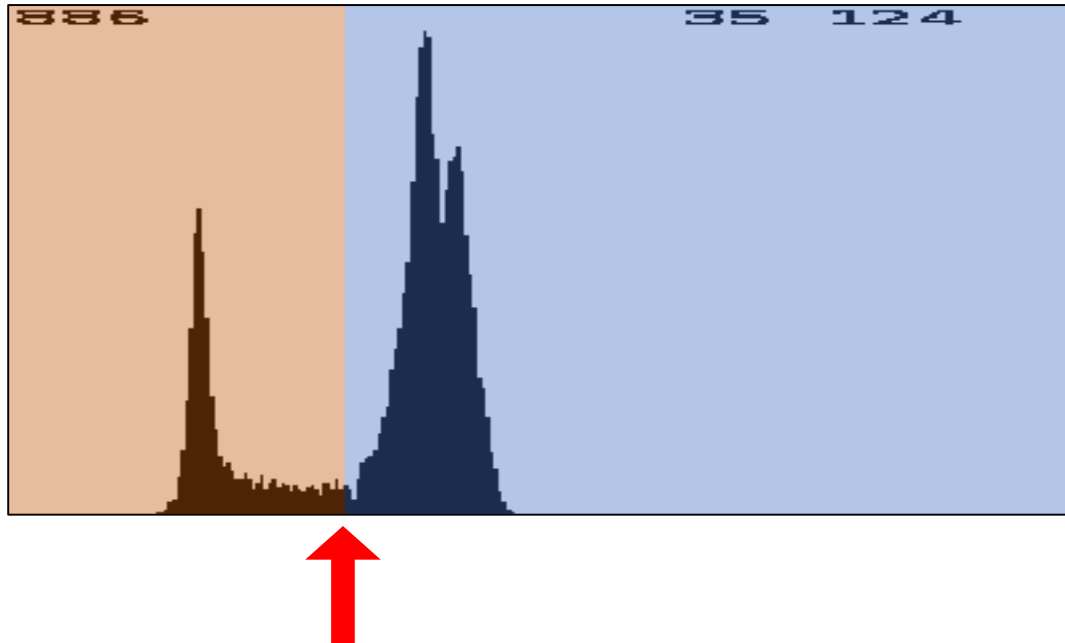
2. Calculate mean value of all pixels to the left of **T** (**mean left**)
3. Calculate mean value of all pixels to the right of **T** (**mean right**)
4. Move **T** to the mean of **mean left** and **mean right**



# Threshold 2 Means - algorithm

Iterative 2-means algorithm:

5. Repeat as long as  $T$  changes



# Threshold 2 Means - example

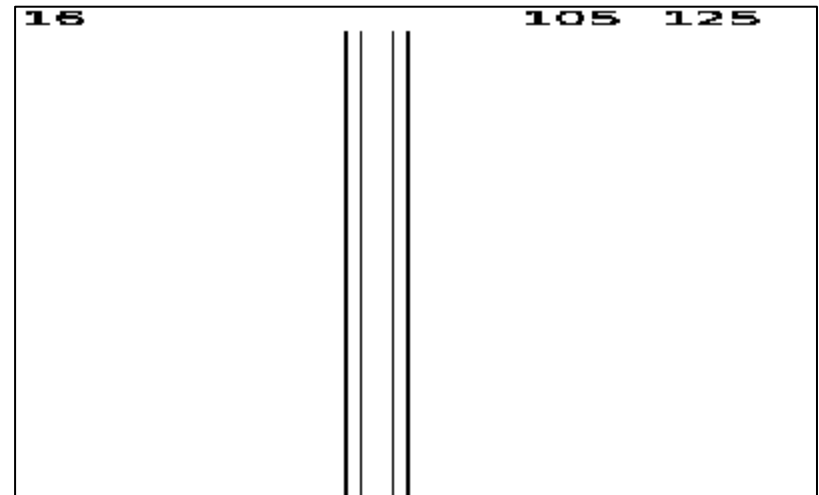
8x8 image

105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105
105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105
110	110	110	110	110	110	110	110
110	110	110	110	110	110	110	110
120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120
120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120
125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125
125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125

# Threshold 2 Means - example

8x8 image

105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105
105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105
110	110	110	110	110	110	110	110
110	110	110	110	110	110	110	110
120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120
120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120
125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125
125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125



# Threshold 2 Means - example

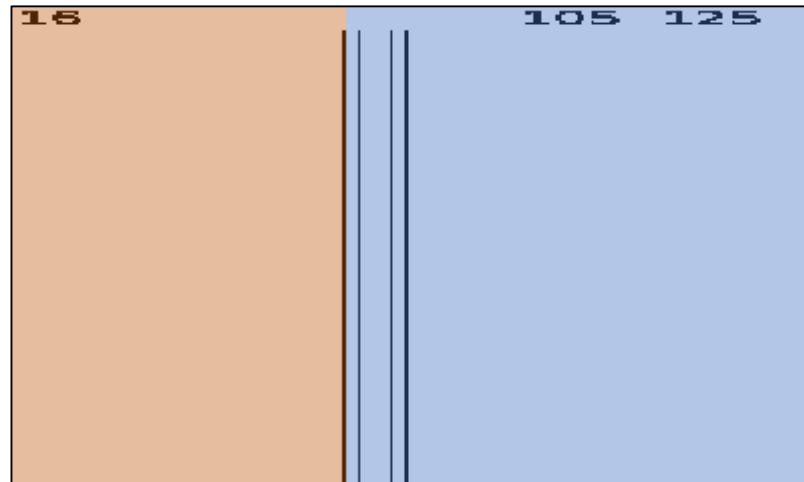
8x8 image

$$T_0 = 105$$

$$\text{mean left} = \frac{16 \times 105}{16} = 105.0$$

$$\text{mean right} = \frac{16 \times 110 + 16 \times 120 + 16 \times 125}{3 \times 16} = 118.3$$

$$T_1 = \frac{105.0 + 118.3}{2} = 112$$





# Threshold 2 Means - example

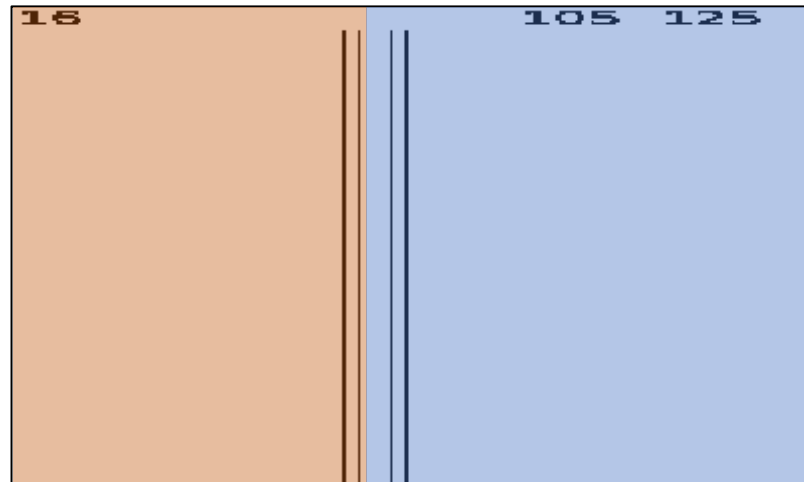
8x8 image

$$T_1 = 112$$

$$\text{mean left} = \frac{16 \times 105 + 16 \times 110}{2 \times 16} = 107.5$$

$$\text{mean right} = \frac{16 \times 120 + 16 \times 125}{2 \times 16} = 122.5$$

$$T_2 = \frac{107.5 + 122.5}{2} = 115$$



# Threshold 2 Means - example

8x8 image

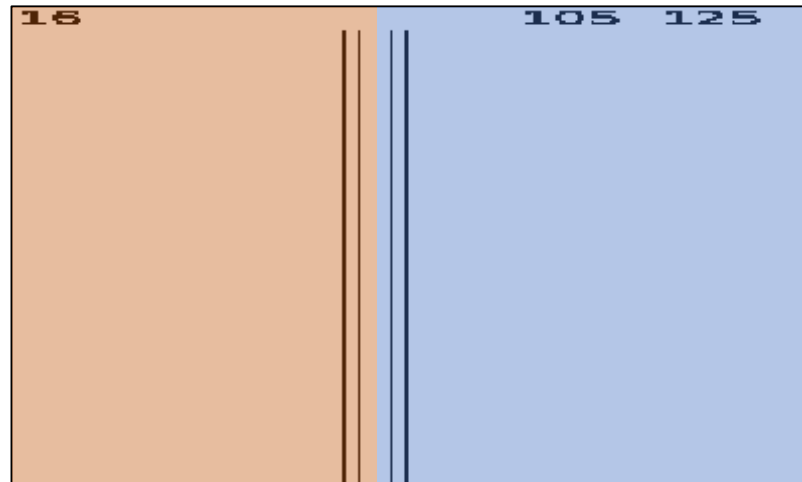
$$T_2 = 115$$

$$\text{mean left} = \frac{16 \times 105 + 16 \times 110}{2 \times 16} = 107.5$$

$$\text{mean right} = \frac{16 \times 120 + 16 \times 125}{2 \times 16} = 122.5$$

$$T_3 = \frac{107.5 + 122.5}{2} = 115$$

Done!  
Did not change



# EVD1 – Assignment



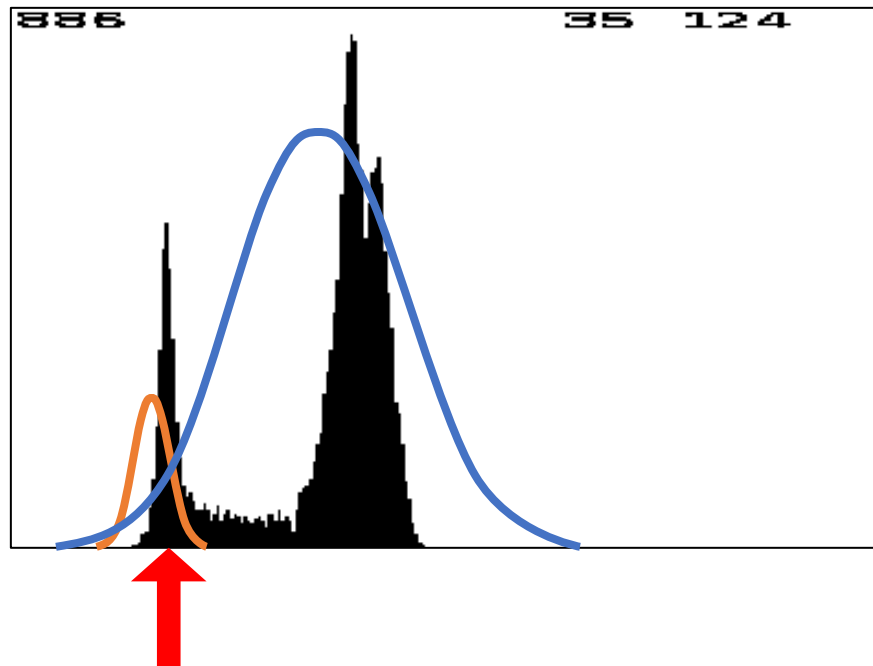
*Study guide*

**Week 4**

1 Segmentation – threshold2Means()

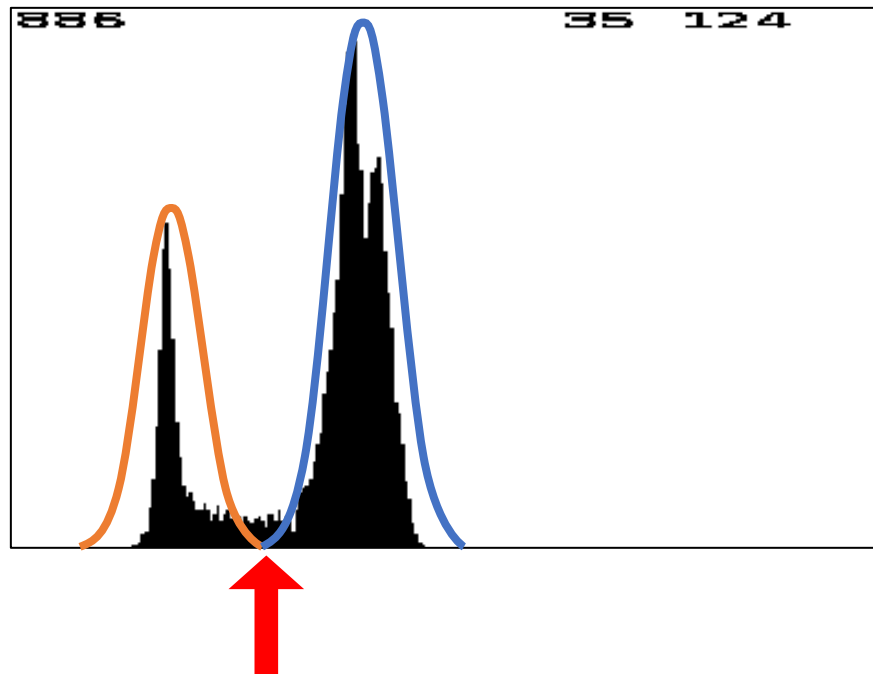
# Threshold Otsu

- Assumes that the histogram shows two clusters and that these clusters are normal distributions
- The threshold with the two 'best' normal distributions gives the optimum threshold



# Threshold Otsu

- Assumes that the histogram shows two clusters and that these clusters are normal distributions
- The threshold with the two 'best' normal distributions gives the optimum threshold



# Threshold Otsu

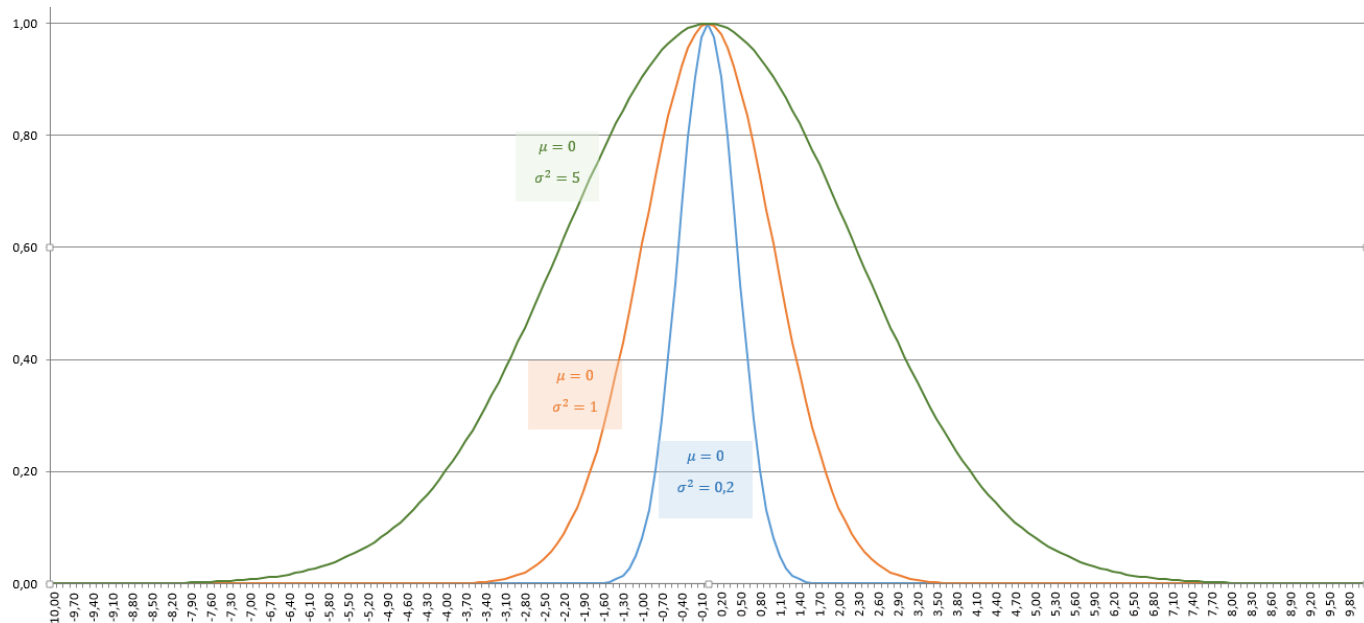
Ideal normal distribution:

$\mu$  - median value (mean value)

$\delta$  - standard deviation

$\delta^2$  - variance (degree to which values differ)

$n$  - weight, number of pixels



# Threshold Otsu - algorithm

The two 'best' normal distributions have the lowest sum of variances

Otsu:

"The Between Class Variance (BCV) is as high as possible:"

$$BCV(T) = \underbrace{n_{left}(T) \cdot n_{right}(T)}_{\text{Distribution of the pixels}} \cdot \underbrace{(\mu_{left}(T) - \mu_{right}(T))^2}_{\text{Distance between means}}$$

*Distribution of the pixels*

*An equal distribution has the highest value:*

$$n \cdot n > (n - i)(n + i)$$

$$n^2 > n^2 - i^2$$

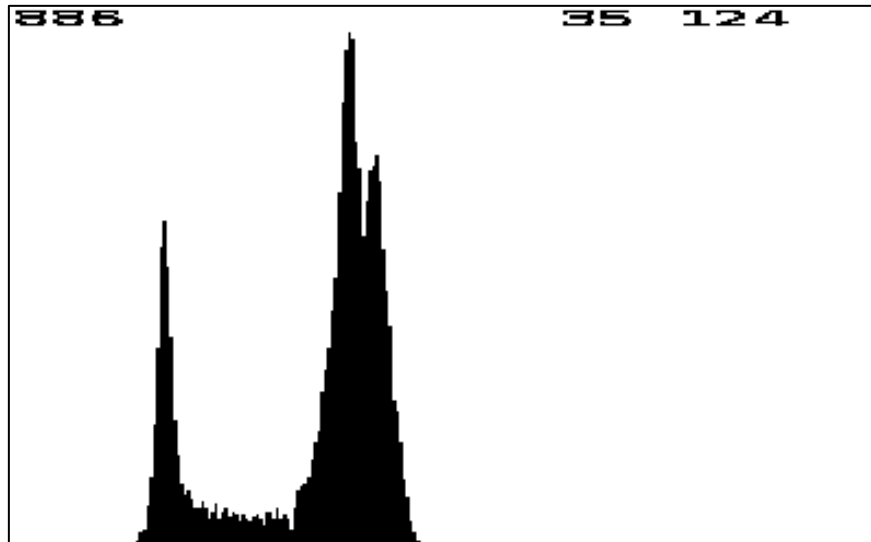
*Distance between means*

*The further the distance, the higher this product.*

# Threshold Otsu - algorithm

Strategy:

- Calculate for every possible threshold (T), which is every grayscale value between 0-255, the BCV
- The highest BCV gives the optimum threshold

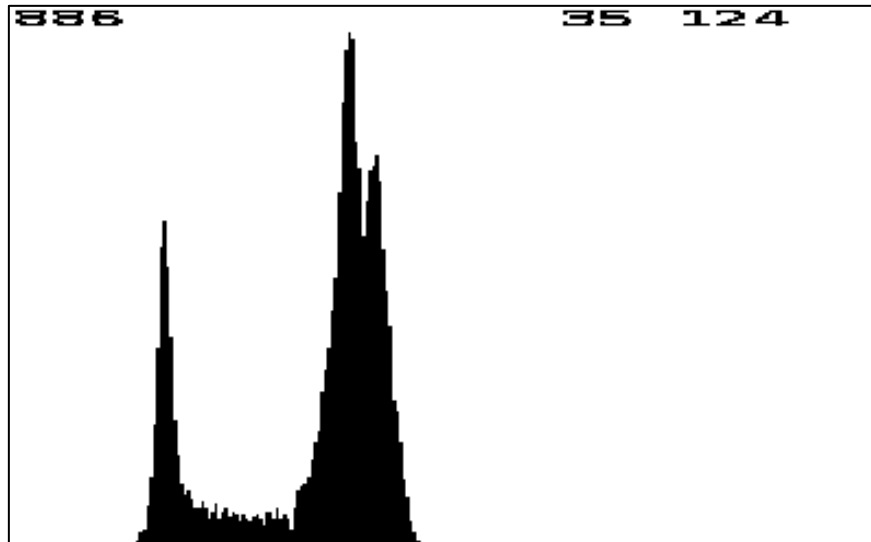




# Threshold Otsu - algorithm

This requires a lot calculations for each possible threshold (T):

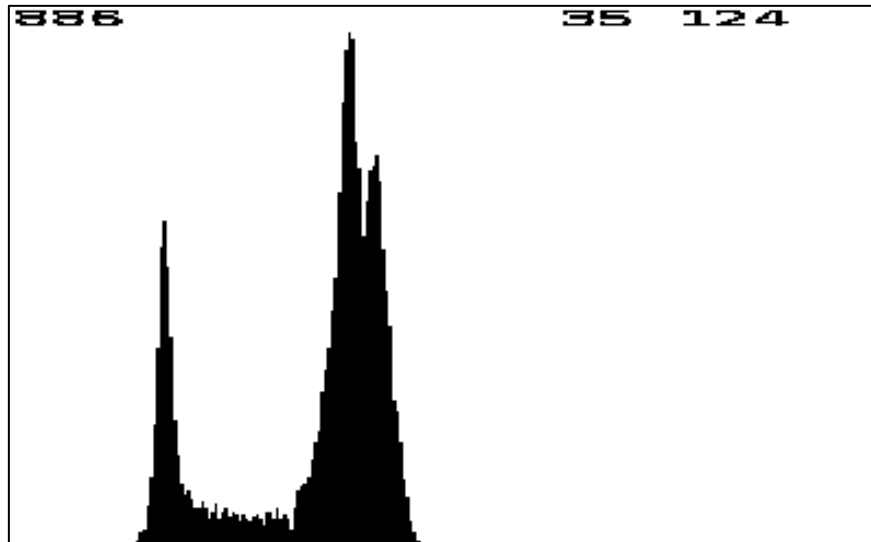
- Determine number of pixels to the left of T
- Calculate mean pixel value to the left of T
- Determine number of pixels to the right of T
- Calculate mean pixel value to the right of T
- Calculate BCV (using Otsu's equation)



# Threshold Otsu - algorithm

Instead, we'll use an iterative algorithm that uses the following properties:

- The total number of pixels in the image does not change
- The total sum of pixels in the image does not change
- Values added to the left, are removed from the right



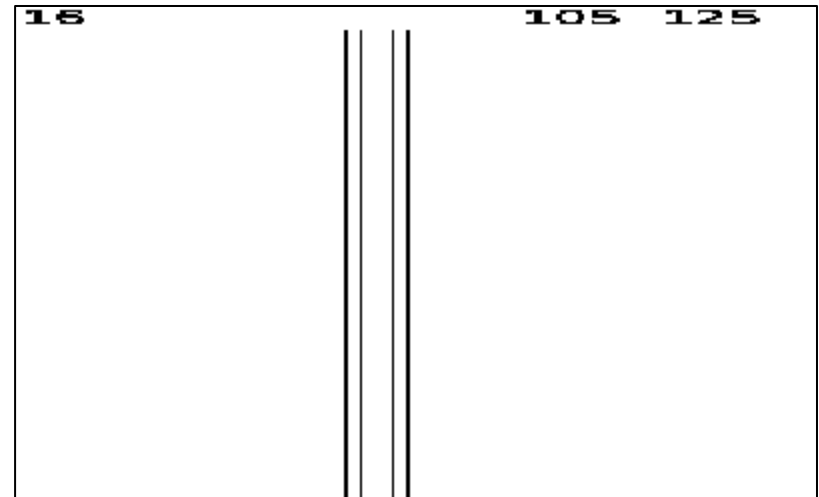
# Threshold Otsu - example

8x8 image

$$n_{total} = 8 \times 8 = 64$$

$$sum_{total} = 16 \times 105 + 16 \times 110 + 16 \times 120 + 16 \times 125 = 7360$$

105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105
105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105
110	110	110	110	110	110	110	110
110	110	110	110	110	110	110	110
120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120
120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120
125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125
125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125



# Threshold Otsu - example

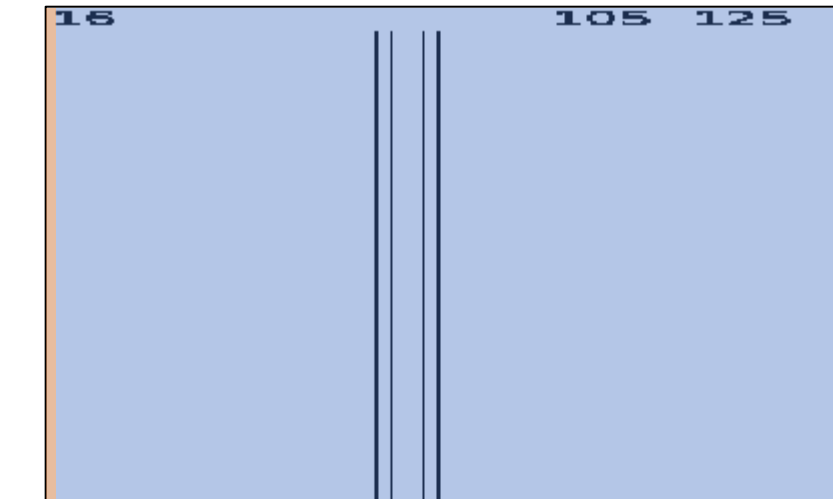
8x8 image

$$n_{total} = 64$$

$$sum_{total} = 7360$$

$$BCV = 0.0$$

$$\begin{aligned} n_{left} &= 0 \\ sum_{left} &= 0 \\ mean_{left} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} n_{right} &= 64 - 0 = 64 \\ sum_{right} &= 7360 - 0 = 7360 \\ mean_{right} &= 115 \end{aligned}$$

$T_0$

# Threshold Otsu - example

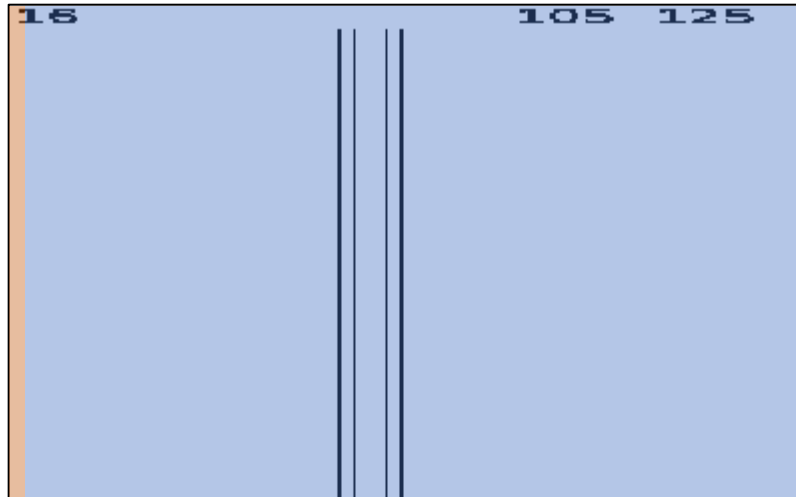
8x8 image

$$n_{total} = 64$$

$$sum_{total} = 7360$$

$$BCV = 0.0$$

$$\begin{aligned} n_{left} &= 0 \\ sum_{left} &= 0 \\ mean_{left} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} n_{right} &= 64 - 0 = 64 \\ sum_{right} &= 7360 - 0 = 7360 \\ mean_{right} &= 115 \end{aligned}$$

$T_1$

# Threshold Otsu - example

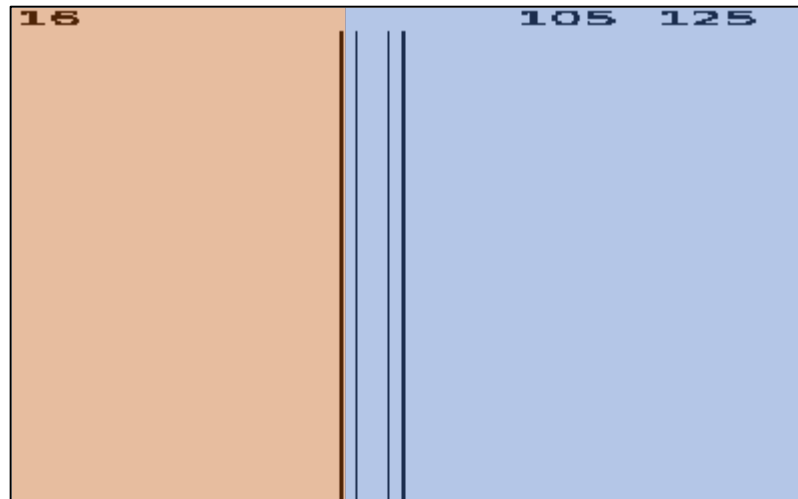
8x8 image

$$n_{total} = 64$$

$$sum_{total} = 7360$$

$$BCV = 136533.39$$

$$\begin{aligned} n_{left} &= 16 \\ sum_{left} &= 1680 \\ mean_{left} &= 105 \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} n_{right} &= 64 - 16 = 48 \\ sum_{right} &= 7360 - 1680 = 5680 \\ mean_{right} &= 118.3 \end{aligned}$$

$T_{105}$

# Threshold Otsu - example

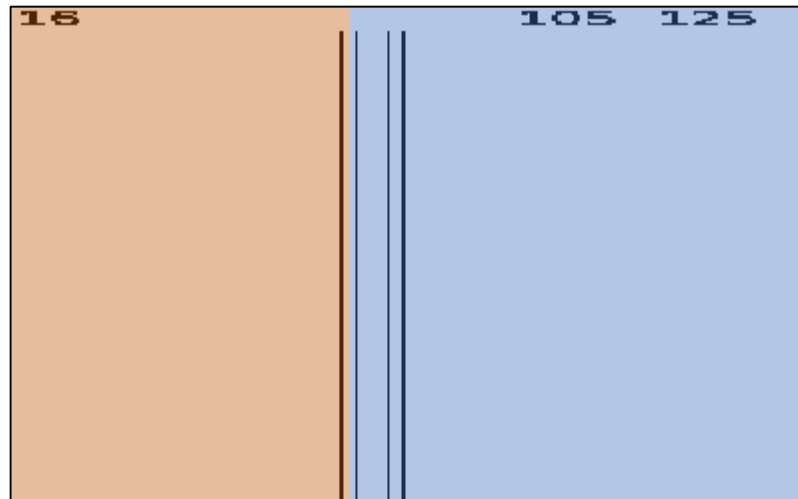
8x8 image

$$n_{total} = 64$$

$$sum_{total} = 7360$$

$$BCV = 136533.39$$

$$\begin{aligned} n_{left} &= 16 \\ sum_{left} &= 1680 \\ mean_{left} &= 105 \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} n_{right} &= 64 - 16 = 48 \\ sum_{right} &= 7360 - 1680 = 5680 \\ mean_{right} &= 118.3 \end{aligned}$$

# Threshold Otsu - example

8x8 image

$$n_{total} = 64$$

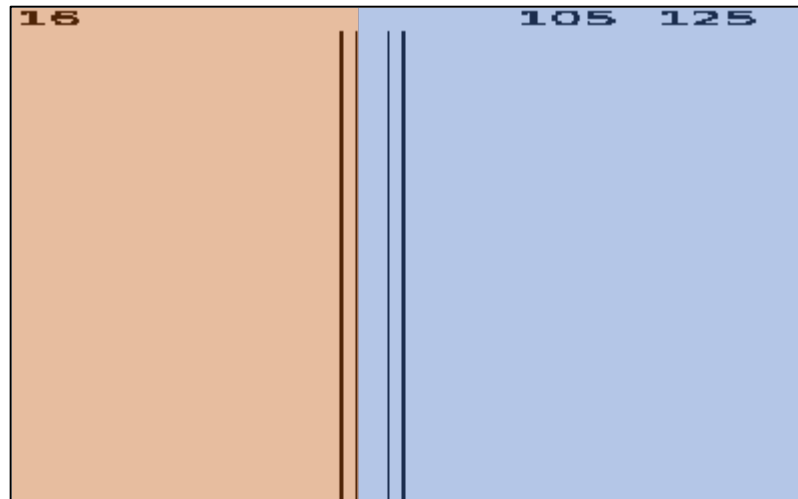
$$sum_{total} = 7360$$

$$BCV = 230400.0$$

$$n_{left} = 32$$

$$sum_{left} = 3440$$

$$mean_{left} = 107.5$$



$$n_{right} = 64 - 32 = 32$$

$$sum_{right} = 7360 - 3440 = 3920$$

$$mean_{right} = 122.5$$

$T_{110}$



# Threshold Otsu - example

8x8 image

$$n_{total} = 64$$

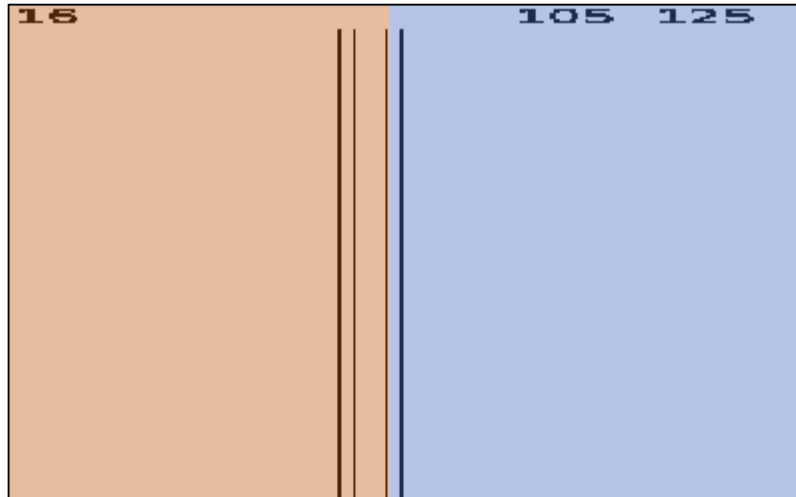
$$sum_{total} = 7360$$

$$BCV = 136533.39$$

$$n_{left} = 48$$

$$sum_{left} = 5360$$

$$mean_{left} = 111.7$$



$$n_{right} = 64 - 48 = 16$$

$$sum_{right} = 7360 - 5360 = 2000$$

$$mean_{right} = 125$$

$T_{120}$

# Threshold Otsu - example

8x8 image

$$n_{total} = 64$$

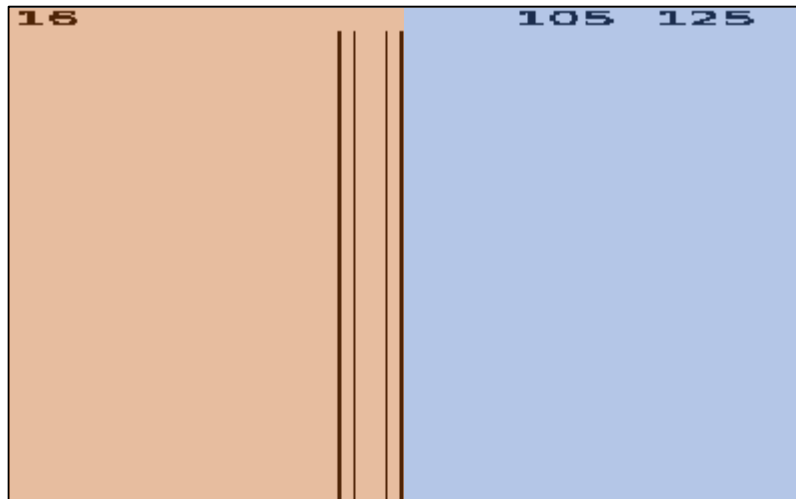
$$sum_{total} = 7360$$

$$BCV = 0.0$$

$$n_{left} = 64$$

$$sum_{left} = 7360$$

$$mean_{left} = 115$$



$$n_{right} = 64 - 64 = 0$$

$$sum_{right} = 7360 - 7360 = 0$$

$$mean_{right} = 0$$

$T_{125}$

# Threshold Otsu - example

8x8 image

$$n_{total} = 64$$

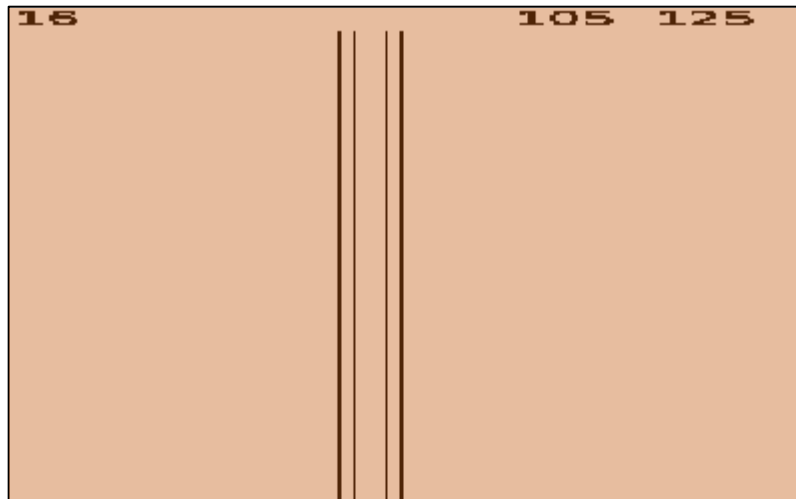
$$sum_{total} = 7360$$

$$BCV = 0.0$$

$$n_{left} = 64$$

$$sum_{left} = 7360$$

$$mean_{left} = 115$$



$$n_{right} = 64 - 64 = 0$$

$$sum_{right} = 7360 - 7360 = 0$$

$$mean_{right} = 0$$

$T_{255}$

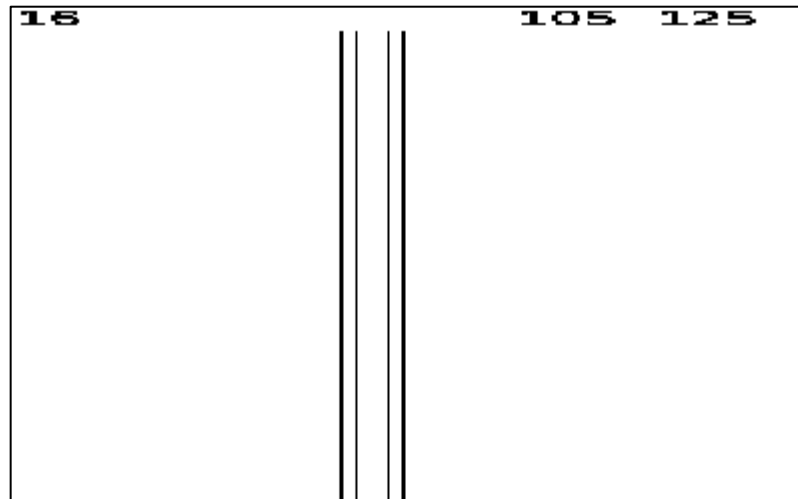
# Threshold Otsu - example

8x8 image

$$n_{total} = 64$$

$$sum_{total} = 7360$$

$$BCV = 230400.0$$



*Note.*

$T_{110}$  to  $T_{119}$  all have the same, highest BCV

$T_{110}$  was the **first** with the highest BCV value

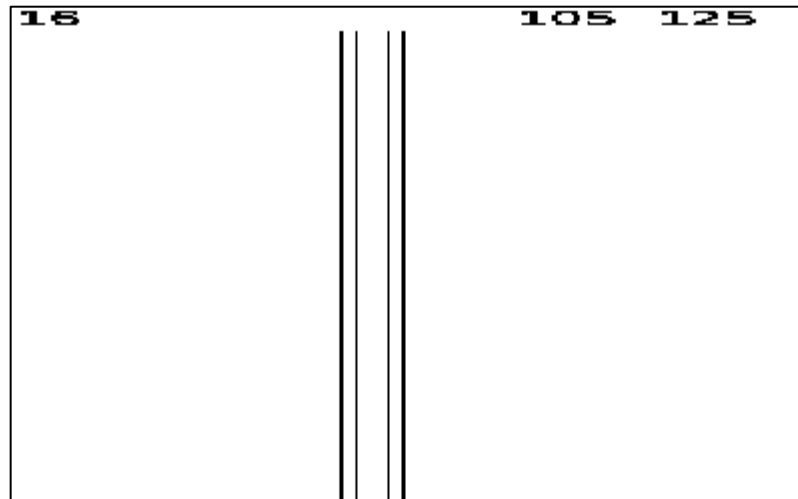
# Threshold Otsu - example

8x8 image

$$n_{total} = 64$$

$$sum_{total} = 7360$$

$$BCV = 230400.0$$



$T_{110}$

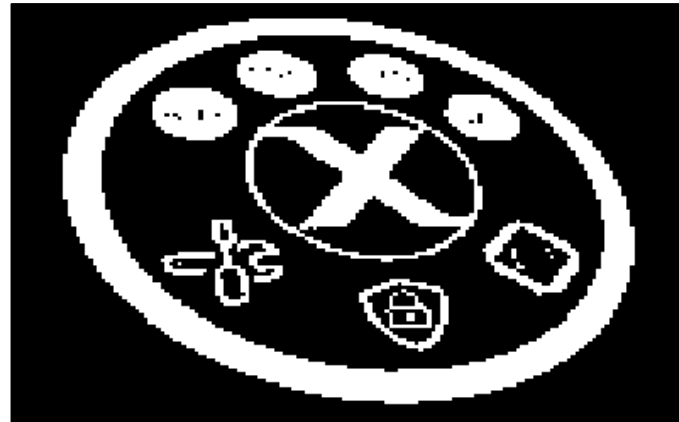
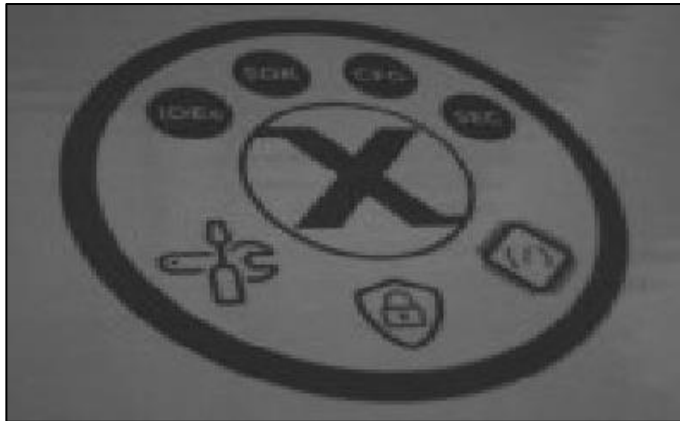
*Note.*

$T_{110}$  to  $T_{119}$  all have the same, highest BCV

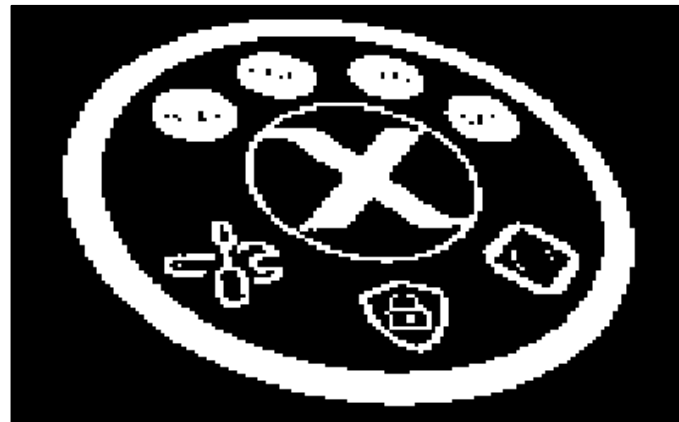
$T_{110}$  was the **first** with the highest BCV value

And it is different from  $T_{115}$  from the threshold 2 means method

# Threshold Otsu vs Threshold 2 Means



*threshold2Means()*



*thresholdOtsu()*

# Threshold Otsu vs Threshold 2 Means



*threshold2Means()*

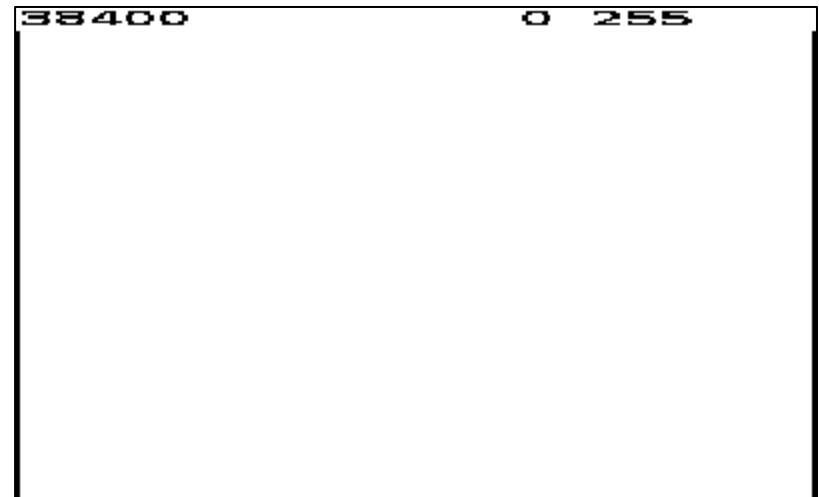
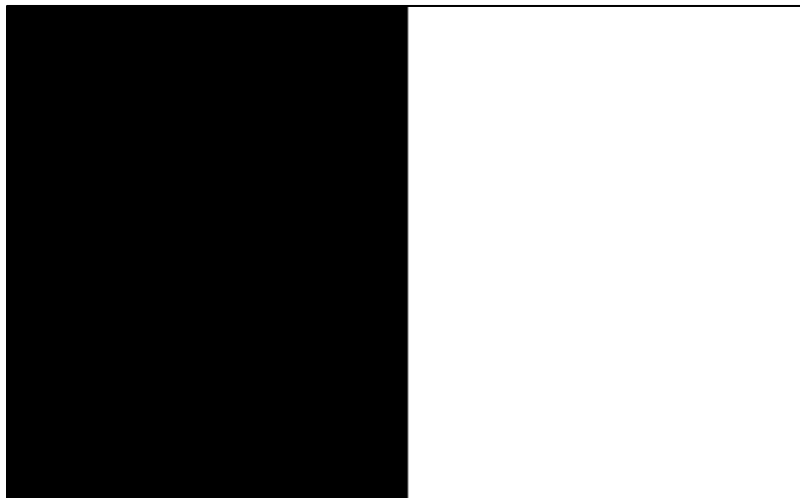


*thresholdOtsu()*

# Threshold Otsu - algorithm

- What datatypes will you be using?

*Hint: Have a look at the Otsu thresholded image. What is the theoretic EVDK hardware maximum value for the calculated BCV value?*





# EVD1 – Assignment



*Study guide*

**Week 4**

2 Segmentation – thresholdOtsu()

# References

- Myler, H. R., & Weeks, A. R. (2009). *The pocket handbook of image processing algorithms in C*. Prentice Hall Press.
- Morse, B. (2000). *Lecture 4: Thresholding*. Retrieved June 17, 2020, from [http://homepages.inf.ed.ac.uk/rbf/CVonline/LOCAL\\_COPIES/MORSE/threshold.pdf](http://homepages.inf.ed.ac.uk/rbf/CVonline/LOCAL_COPIES/MORSE/threshold.pdf)
- Gonzales, R. C., & Woods, R. E. (2002). *Digital image processing*.