

# Deep-Learning-based Image Denoising in Ophthalmology

## GR kick-off

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# Example Use-Case: Digital Window

Digital Window

# What are we trying to do?

## Idea

- Improve quality of retinal images by super-resolution & deblurring
- Should work in an intraoperative setting

## Use cases

- Pre-processing for other computer vision algorithms
- Provide improved quality for digital zoom.

## Constraints

- Real-time
- Different levels of zoom
- Preserve anatomical structure (vessels, etc. )

## General Super-Resolution

Many different super resolution approaches.

E.g. based on image statistics, self-similarity of images, learned patch-databases or **convolutional neural networks**.

Only CNNs fulfil **both** quality and speed constraints

## Opthamology

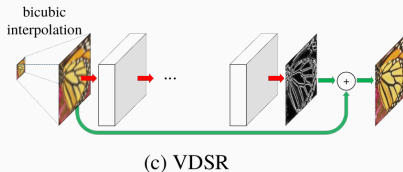
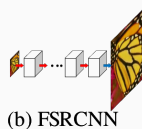
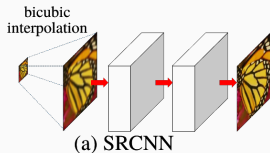
Uses CNN-Upscaling<sup>1</sup>

Solid results, not optimized for intraoperative use-case

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<sup>1</sup>D. Mahapatra, B. Bozorgtabar, S. Hewavitharanage and R. Garnavi (2017). 'Image Super Resolution Using Generative Adversarial Networks and Local Saliency Maps for Retinal Image Analysis'. In: *International Conference on Medical Image Computing and Computer-Assisted Intervention*.

# Some common CNN-Topologies<sup>2</sup>



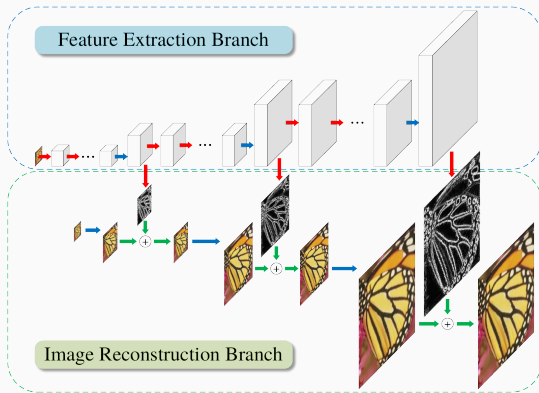
Red: Convolution  
Blue: Transposed  
Convolution  
Green: Summation

Common Topologies

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<sup>2</sup>W.-S. Lai, J.-B. Huang, N. Ahuja and M.-H. Yang (2017). 'Deep Laplacian Pyramid Networks for Fast and Accurate Super-Resolution'. In: *IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition*.

# Laplacian Network<sup>3</sup>



Laplacian pyramid network

1. Progressive Reconstruction
2. Residual Learning
3. Low-resolution filters
4. Non-SR-case: Add residual to HR-images

*Red*:  $3 \times 3$  convolution, *blue*: transposed convolution, *green* summation

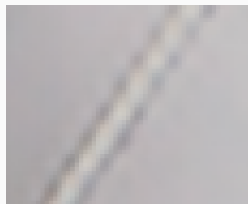
<sup>3</sup>Lai, Huang, Ahuja and Yang, see n. 2.

# Robust (Charbonnier) Loss<sup>4</sup>

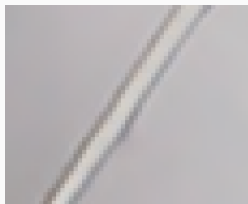
(Relaxed)  $L_1$  loss instead of  $L_2$  loss

$$L(\hat{\mathbf{y}}, \mathbf{y}; \theta) = \sum_n p(\hat{\mathbf{y}} - \mathbf{y})$$
$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \sqrt{\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle + \epsilon^2},$$

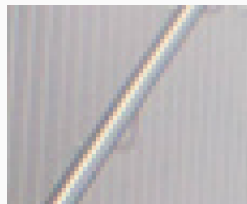
Robust, avoids **blurry** images



$L_2$  loss



$L_1$  loss



Ground truth

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<sup>4</sup>Lai, Huang, Ahuja and Yang, see n. 2.

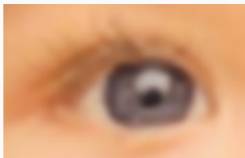
## Perceptual Loss—VGG-based<sup>5</sup>

Transform images before calculating loss, with feature map  $\phi$ :

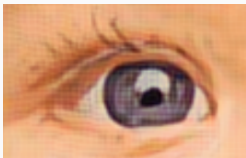
$$L_p(\hat{\mathbf{y}}, \mathbf{y}; \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \|\phi(\hat{\mathbf{y}}) - \phi(\mathbf{y})\|$$

**Possibility 1:** Neural Network based loss, **automatic** features

Extract feature maps from pre-trained VGG16-Network



$L_2$  loss



Perceptual loss



Ground truth

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<sup>5</sup>J. Johnson, A. Alahi and L. Fei-Fei (2016). 'Perceptual losses for real-time style transfer and super-resolution'. In: *European Conference on Computer Vision*.



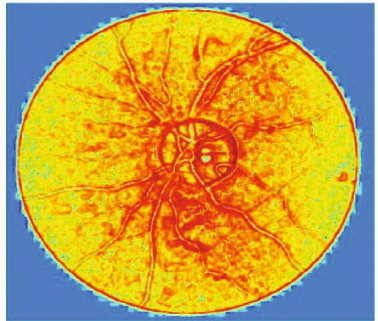
# Perceptual Loss—Saliency Maps<sup>6</sup>

## Possibility 2: Saliency Maps

### Handcrafted features



Retina image



Resulting saliency map

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<sup>6</sup>Mahapatra, Bozorgtabar, Hewavitharanage and Garnavi, see n. 1.

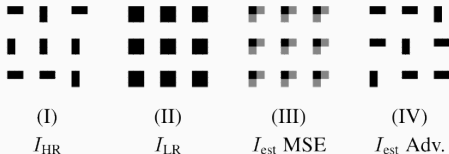
# Adversarial Loss

Two player game between

**Generator** Super-resolution network

**Discriminator** Tries to decide, whether images are **real**  
high-resolution images or **generated** by our network

Leads to realistic looking images



Toy example for adversarial loss<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>7</sup>M. S. M. Sajjadi, B. Schölkopf and M. Hirsch (2017). 'EnhanceNet: Single Image Super-Resolution through Automated Texture Synthesis'. In: *IEEE International Conference on Computer Vision (ICCV 2017)*.

# Possible Modifications for Network

Weight sharing

Replace stacked convolutions

Replace transposed convolutions (avoid checkerboard artifacts)<sup>8</sup>



Example of block artifacts (from<sup>9</sup>)

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<sup>8</sup>A. Odena, V. Dumoulin and C. Olah (2016). 'Deconvolution and Checkerboard Artifacts'. In: *Distill*.

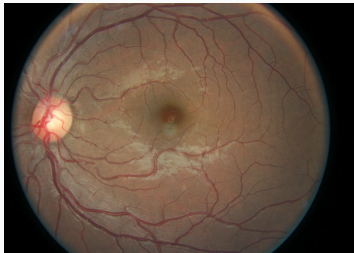
<sup>9</sup>Johnson, Alahi and Fei-Fei, see n. 5.

# Dataset

Use 1000 images from Eyepacs dataset<sup>10</sup> (ca. 300k HR) for training

Crop black borders, rescale to  $1024 \times 1024$

Augment, then select random crops of size  $128 \times 128$ , create low-resolution images by downscaling and blurring



Eyepacs example

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<sup>10</sup><https://www.kaggle.com/c/diabetic-retinopathy-detection>

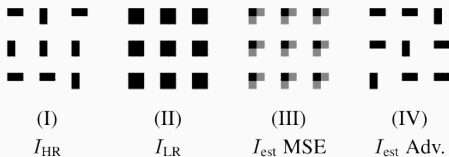
# Evaluation

Normally: Compare pixel-wise reconstruction error

**Useless** in our case.

Perceptual & adversarial loss improve perceived quality but increase error!

Rather compare effectiveness as a pre-processing tool.

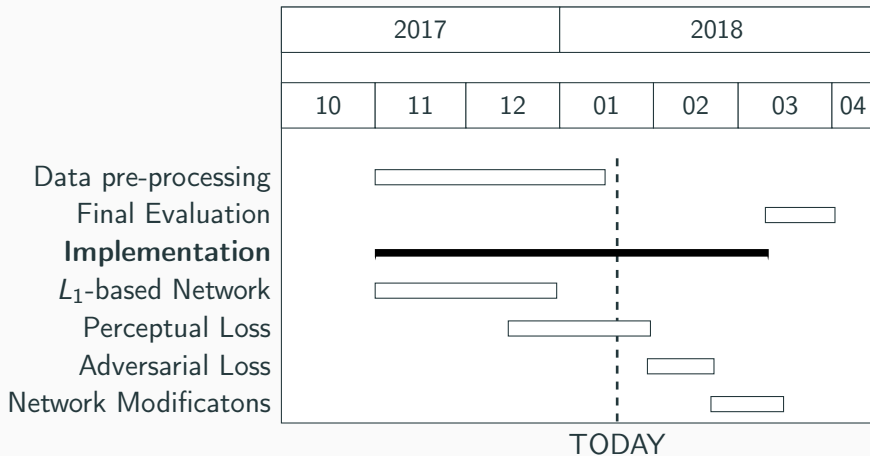


Adversarial loss higher quality with larger error<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>11</sup>Sajjadi, Schölkopf and Hirsch, see n. 7.

# Timeline



# Summary

- Real-time super-resolution is realistic
- Selection of loss function is important
- Need for careful evaluation