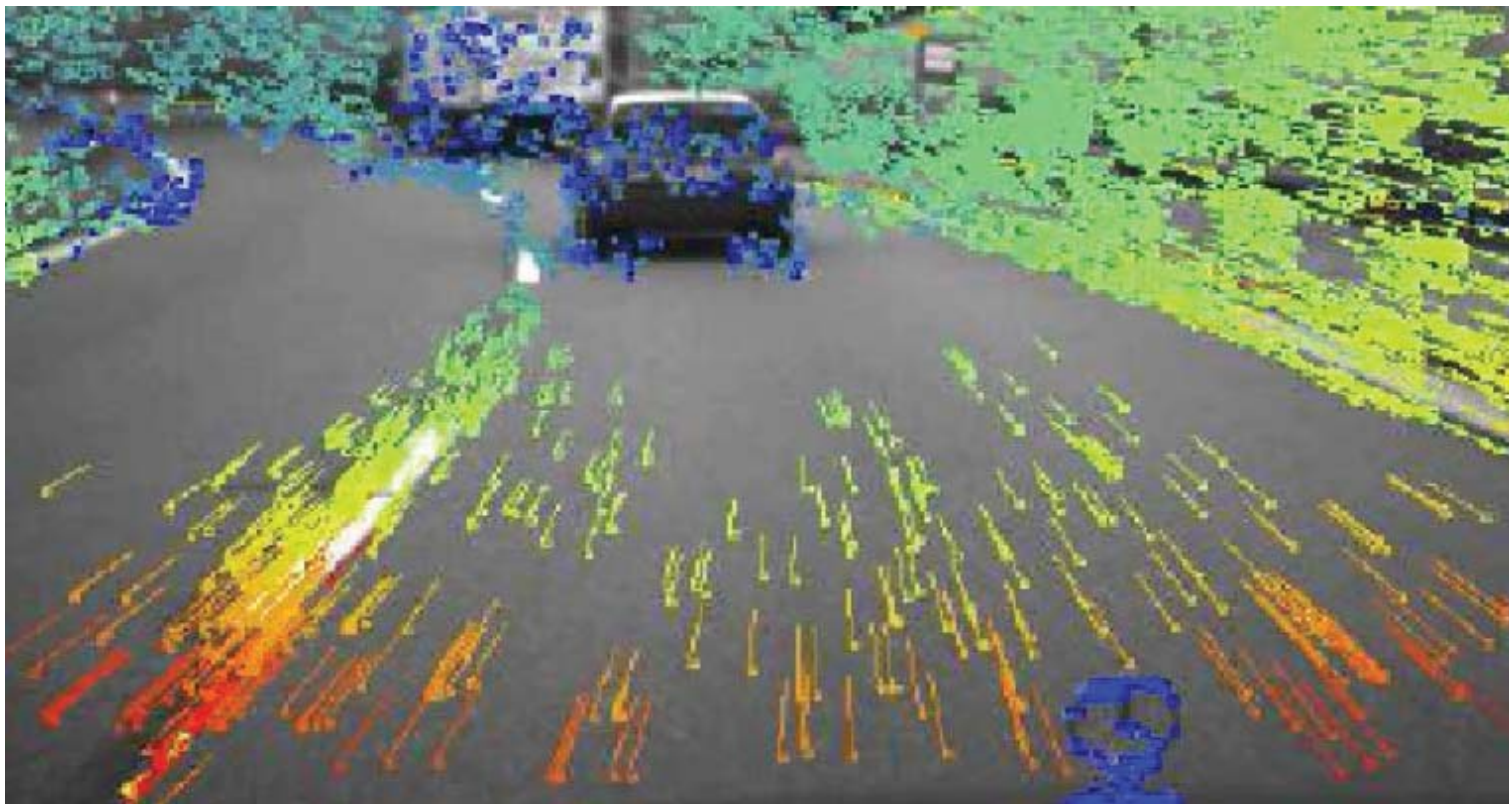


# Optical flow

---



Slide credits: Lihi Zelnik, Tali Tribitz, Kris Kitani, Ioannis Gkioulekas

---



# Today

---

From images to video

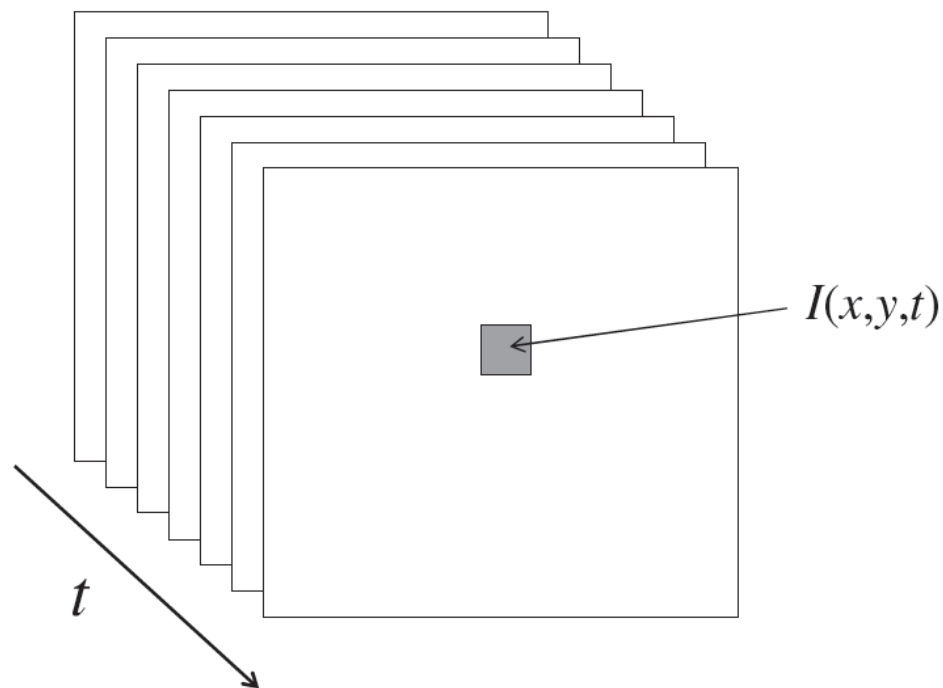
- ▶ Feature tracking
- ▶ Optical flow
- ▶ Motion segmentation
- ▶ Applications



# From images to video

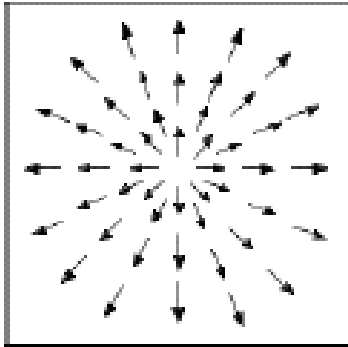
---

- ▶ A video is a sequence of frames captured over time
- ▶ Now our image data is a function of space (x,y) and time (t)

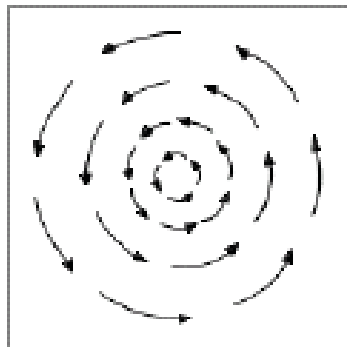


# Examples of Motion fields

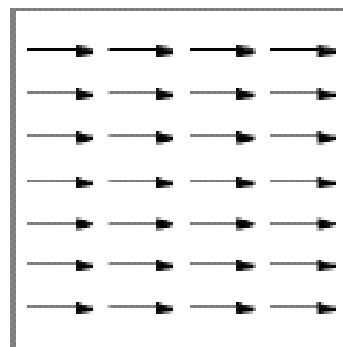
---



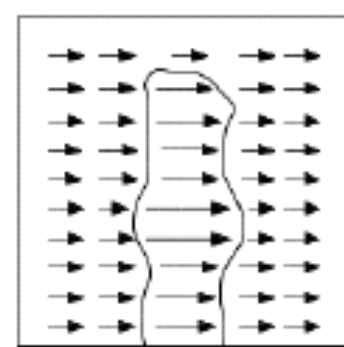
Forward  
motion



Rotation



Horizontal  
translation



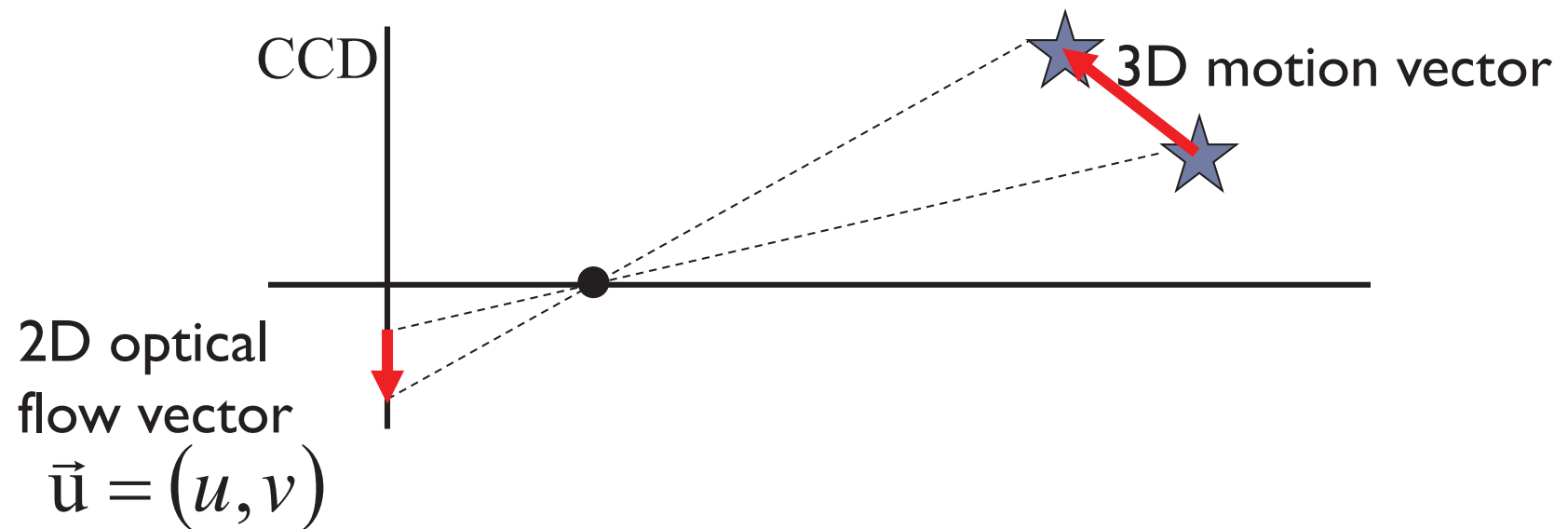
Closer  
objects  
appear to  
move faster!!



# Motion Field & Optical Flow Field

---

- ▶ Underlying assumption:  
The apparent motion field is a projection of the real 3D motion onto the 2d image

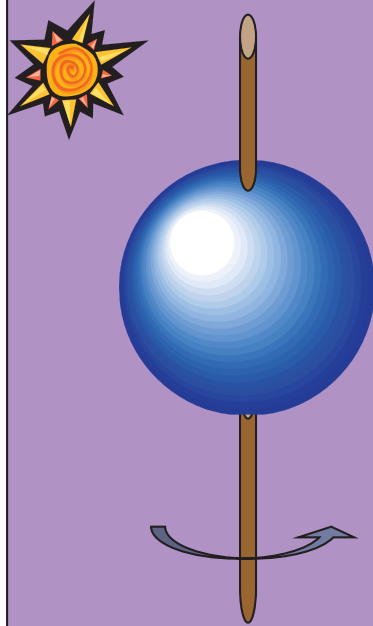


# When does it break?

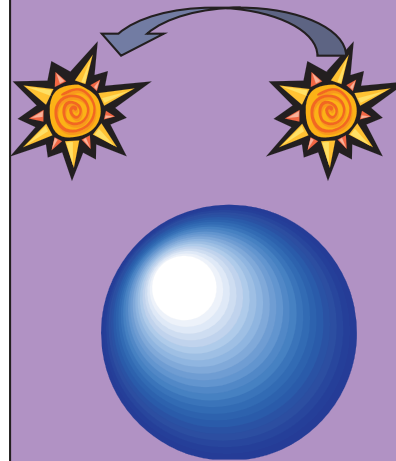
---



The screen is stationary yet displays motion



Homogeneous objects generate zero optical flow.



Fixed sphere. Changing light source.



Non-rigid texture motion



# Feature tracking vs. optical flow

---

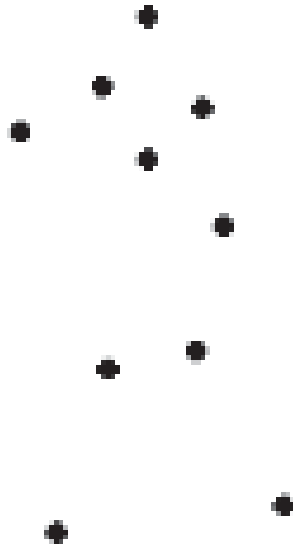
- ▶ Feature tracking
  - ▶ Extract visual **features** and “**track**” them over multiple frames
- ▶ Optical flow
  - ▶ Compute image motion at **each and every pixel**



# Motion and perceptual organization

---

- Even “impoverished” motion data can evoke a strong percept



G. Johansson, “Visual Perception of Biological Motion and a Model For Its Analysis”,  
*Perception and Psychophysics* 14, 201-211, 1973.



# Tracking example

---



# Tracking example

---

GPU4Vision <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tI2lpPCodME&spfreload=1>

---



# Optical flow example

---

- ▶ Compute motion for all pixels



<http://www.borisfx.com/>



---

<http://www.robefafe.com/personal/pablo.alcantarilla/code.html>

---



# Today

---

From images to video

- ▶ **Feature tracking**
- ▶ Optical flow
- ▶ Motion segmentation
- ▶ Applications



# Tracking challenges

---

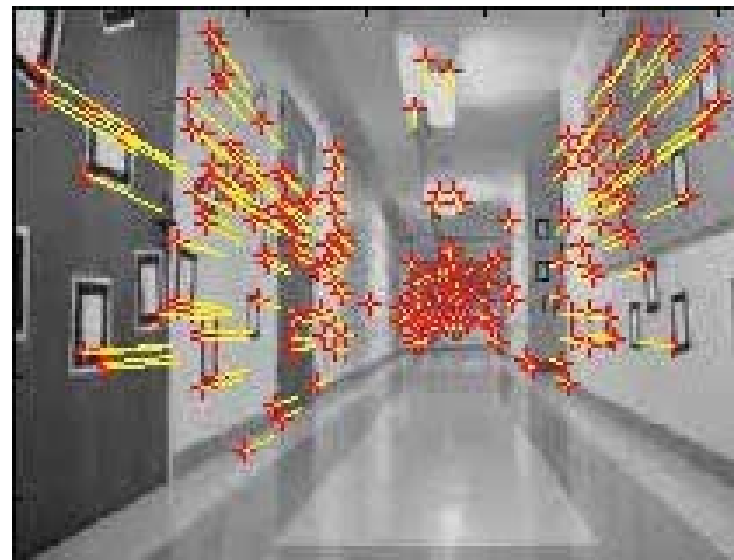
- ▶ Find **good features** to track
  - ▶ Harris, SIFT, etc
- ▶ **Large motions**
- ▶ **Changes in shape, orientation, color**
  - ▶ Allow some matching flexibility
- ▶ **Occlusions, dis-occlusions**
  - ▶ Need to add/delete features
- ▶ **Drift** (errors accumulate over time)
  - ▶ Need to know when to terminate a track



# Feature tracking

---

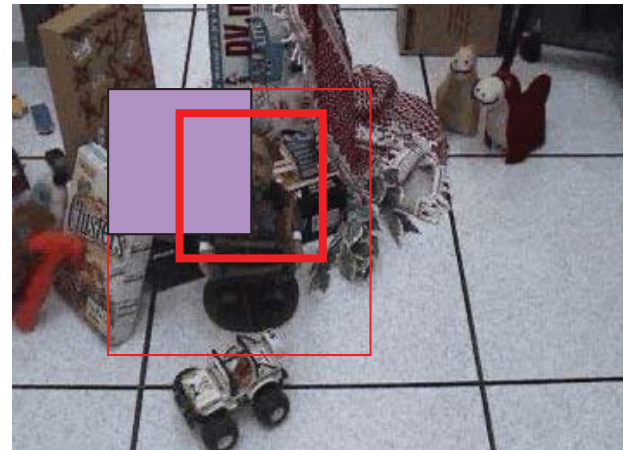
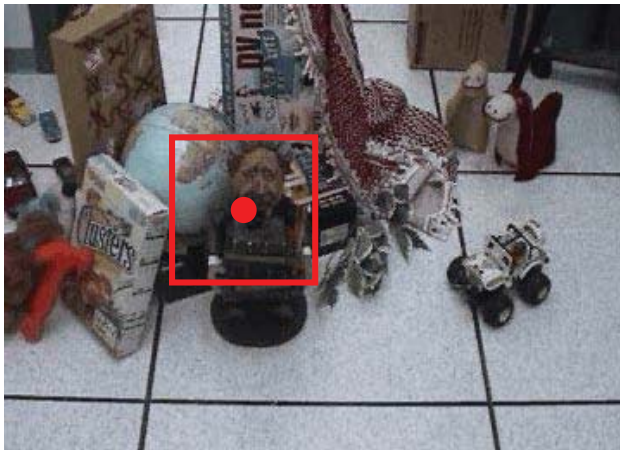
- ▶ Track only “good” features



# Tracking by template matching

---

- ▶ The simplest way to track is by template matching
  - ▶ Define a small area around a pixel as the template
  - ▶ Match the template against each pixel within a search area in next image.
  - ▶ Use a match measure such as correlation, normalized correlation, or sum-of-squares difference
  - ▶ Choose the maximum (or minimum) as the match





# Limitations of template matching

---

- ▶ Slow (need to check more locations)
- ▶ Does not give sub-pixel alignment (or becomes much slower)
  - ▶ Even pixel alignment may not be good enough to prevent drift
- ▶ May be useful as a step in tracking if there are large movements



# Today

---

From images to video

- ▶ Feature tracking
- ▶ **Optical flow**
- ▶ Motion segmentation
- ▶ Applications



# Feature tracking vs. optical flow

---

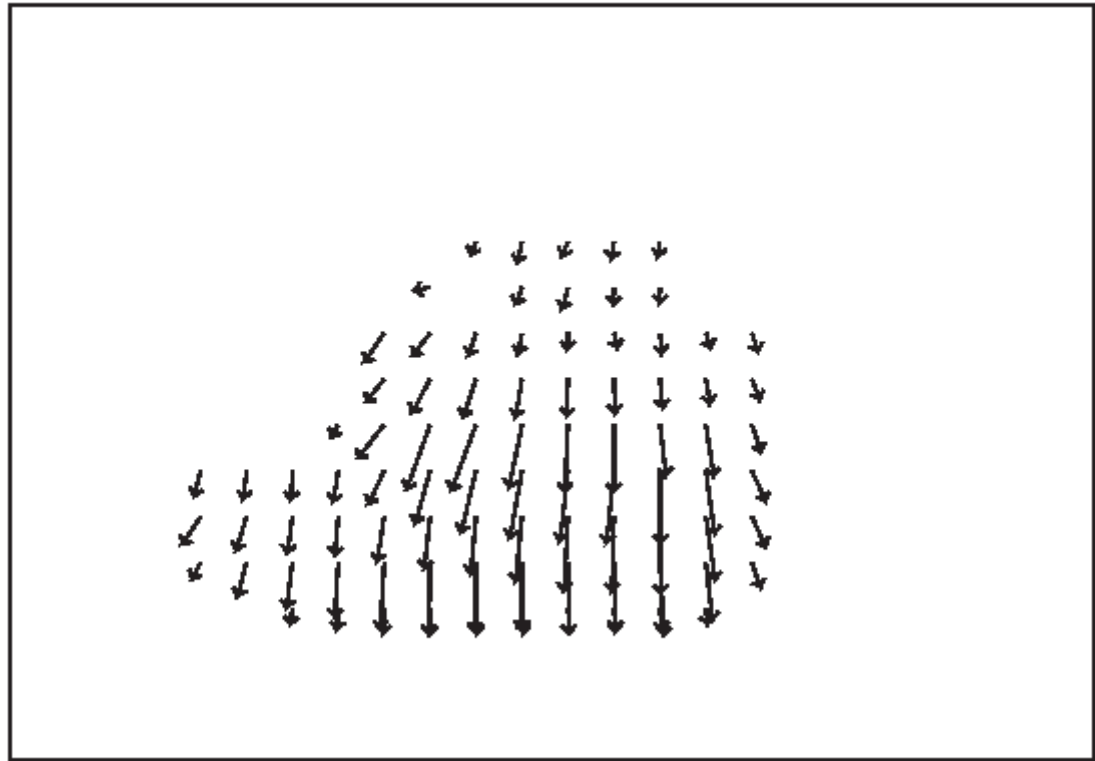
- ▶ Feature tracking
  - ▶ Extract visual **features** and “**track**” them over multiple frames
- ▶ Optical flow
  - ▶ Compute image motion at **each and every pixel**



# Optical flow - definition

---

- ▶ The optical flow is the **apparent** motion of brightness patterns in the image



Pierre Kornprobst's Demo



# Optical Flow

## **Problem Definition**

Given two consecutive image frames,  
estimate the motion of each pixel

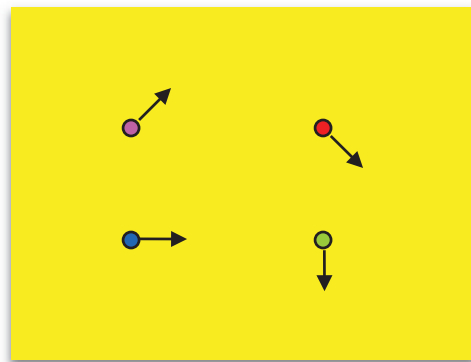
## **Assumptions**

Brightness constancy

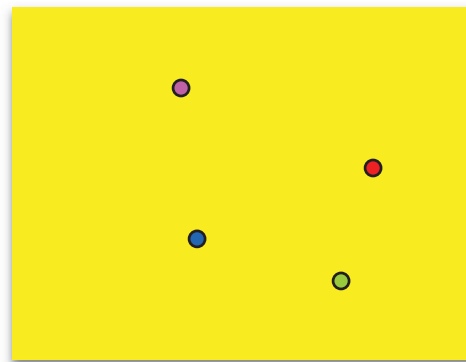
Small motion

# Optical Flow

(Problem definition)



$I(x, y, t)$



$I(x, y, t')$

Estimate the motion  
(flow) between these two  
consecutive images

*How is this different from estimating a 2D transform?*

# Key Assumptions

(unique to optical flow)

## **Color Constancy**

(Brightness constancy for intensity images)

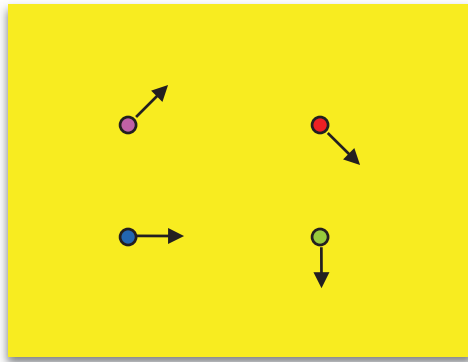
Implication: allows for pixel to pixel comparison  
(not image features)

## **Small Motion**

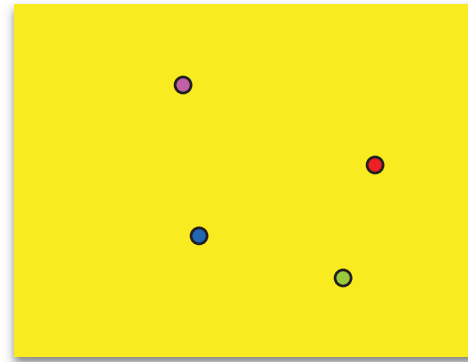
(pixels only move a little bit)

Implication: linearization of the brightness  
constancy constraint

# Approach



$I(x, y, t)$



$I(x, y, t')$

Look for nearby pixels with the same color

(small motion)

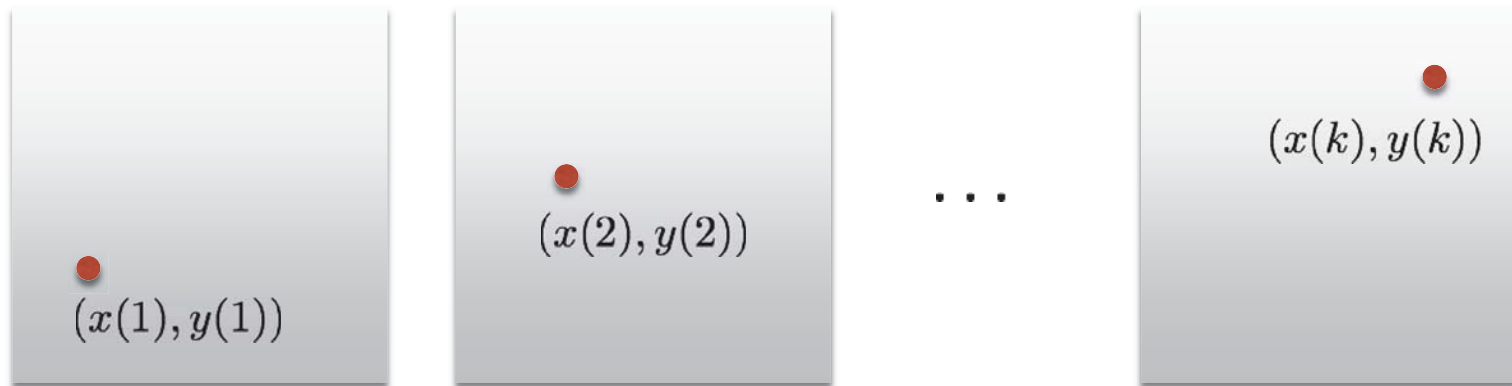
(color constancy)



Assumption 1

# Brightness constancy

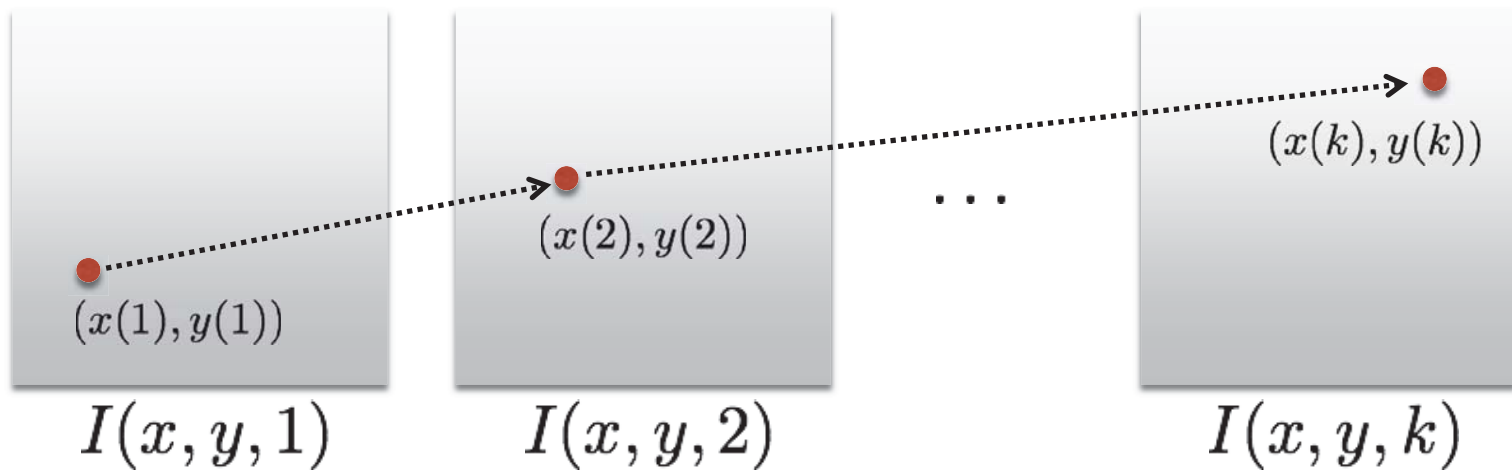
Scene point moving through image sequence



Assumption 1

# Brightness constancy

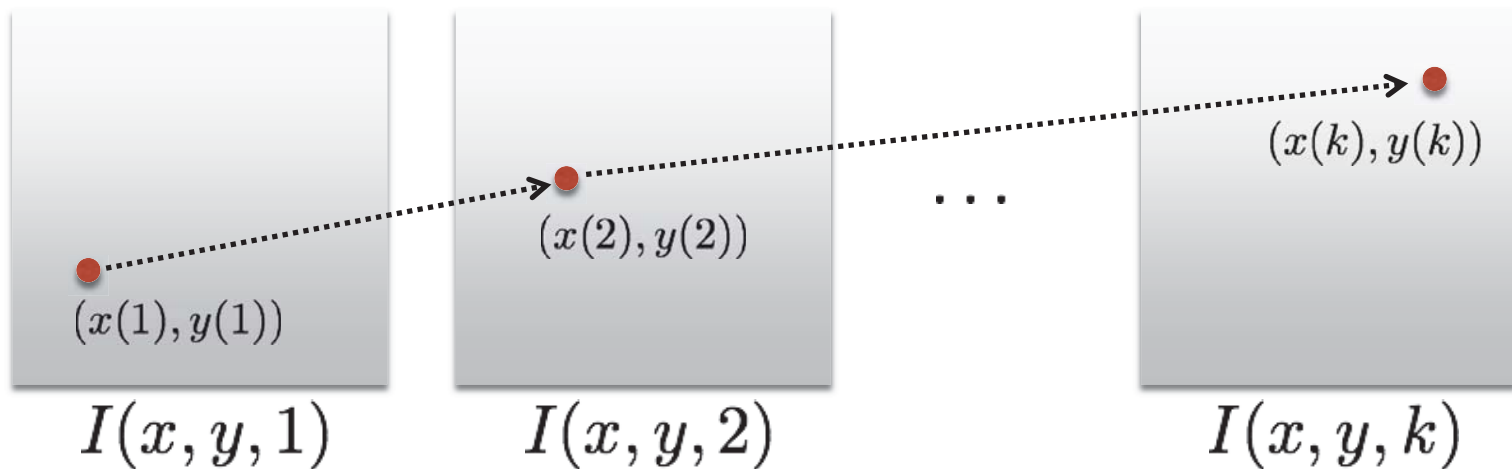
Scene point moving through image sequence



Assumption 1

# Brightness constancy

Scene point moving through image sequence

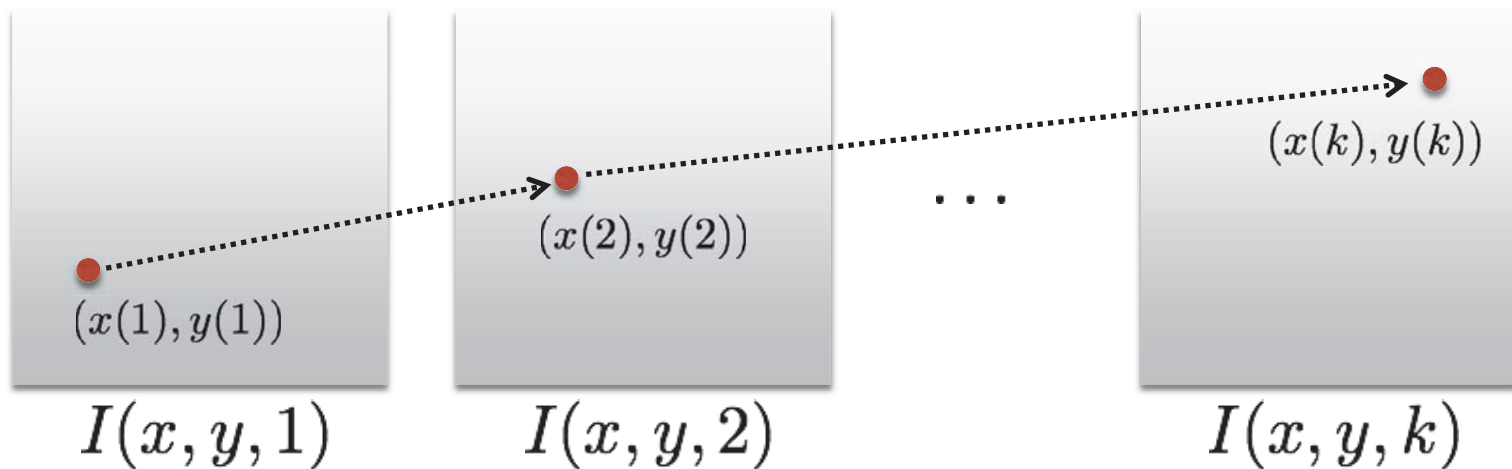


**Assumption: Brightness of the point will remain the same**

Assumption 1

# Brightness constancy

Scene point moving through image sequence



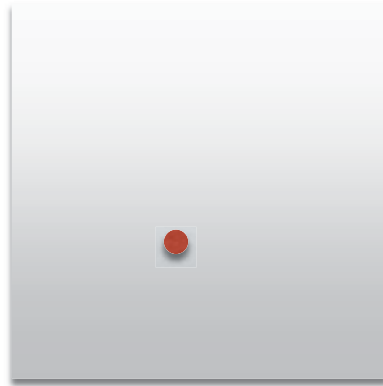
**Assumption: Brightness of the point will remain the same**

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

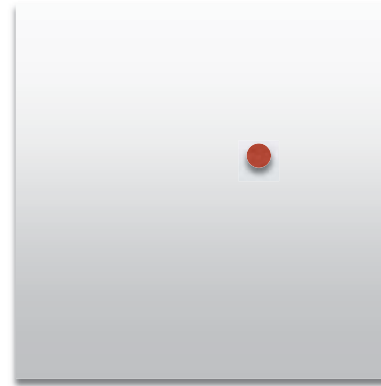
constant

Assumption 2

# Small motion



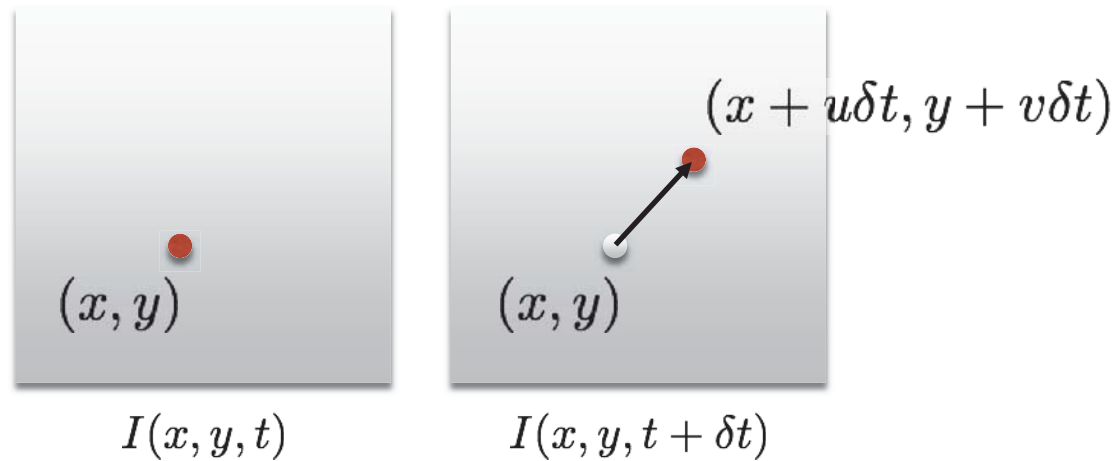
$I(x, y, t)$



$I(x, y, t + \delta t)$

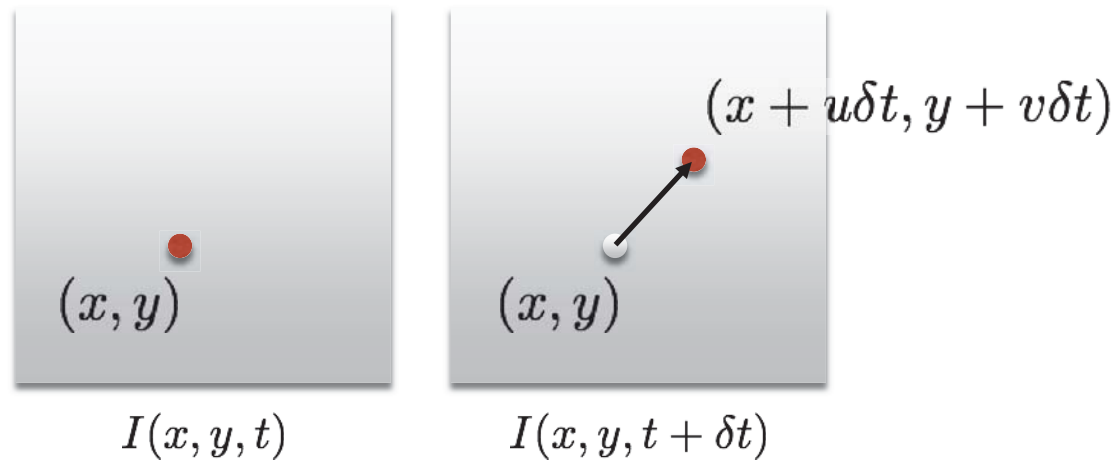
Assumption 2

# Small motion



Assumption 2

# Small motion

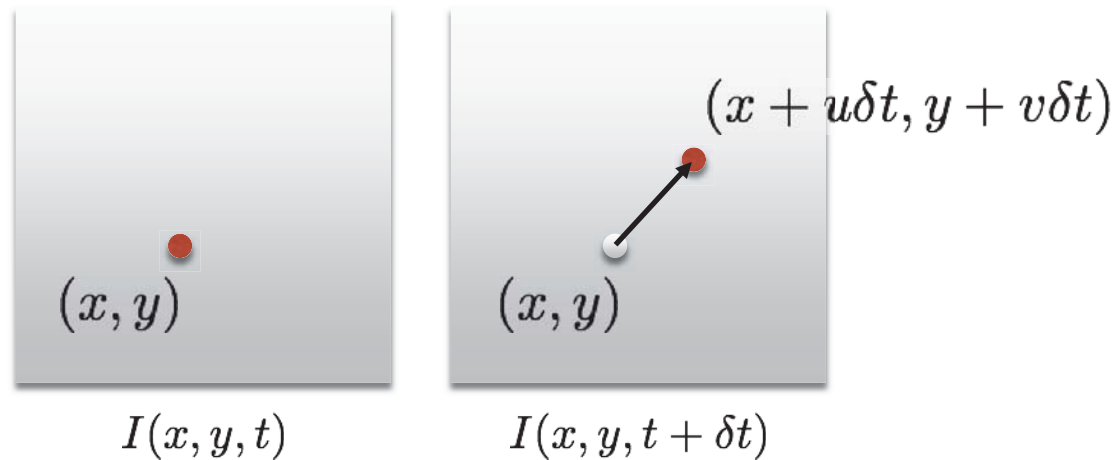


Optical flow (velocities):  $(u, v)$

Displacement:  $(\delta x, \delta y) = (u\delta t, v\delta t)$

Assumption 2

# Small motion



Optical flow (velocities):  $(u, v)$

Displacement:  $(\delta x, \delta y) = (u\delta t, v\delta t)$

For a really small space-time step...

$$I(x + u\delta t, y + v\delta t, t + \delta t) = I(x, y, t)$$

... the brightness between two consecutive image frames  
is the same



# Small motion assumption

---

- ▶ The brightness constancy equation

$$I(x, y, t) = I(x + \delta x, y + \delta y, t + \delta t)$$



# Small motion assumption

---

- ▶ The brightness constancy equation

$$I(x, y, t) = I(x + \delta x, y + \delta y, t + \delta t)$$

- ▶ Assumption 2

Motion is small

First order Taylor expansion

$$I(x, y, t) + \frac{\partial I}{\partial x} \delta x + \frac{\partial I}{\partial y} \delta y + \frac{\partial I}{\partial t} \delta t$$

$$0 = \frac{\partial I}{\partial x} \delta x + \frac{\partial I}{\partial y} \delta y + \frac{\partial I}{\partial t} \delta t$$



# The motion equation

---

► Simplify notations:  $I_x \delta x + I_y \delta y + I_t \delta t = 0$

► Divide by  $\delta t$  and denote  $u = \frac{\delta x}{\delta t}$   $v = \frac{\delta y}{\delta t}$

(Limit for small  $\delta t$ )

► Final equation is:  $I_x u + I_y v = -I_t$

brightness constancy equation



$$\begin{array}{c}
 I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0 \\
 \text{(x-flow)} \qquad \text{(y-flow)}
 \end{array}
 \begin{array}{l}
 \text{Brightness} \\
 \text{Constancy Equation}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \nabla I^\top \mathbf{v} + I_t = 0 \\
 (1 \times 2) \quad (2 \times 1)
 \end{array}
 \begin{array}{l}
 \text{vector form}
 \end{array}$$

(putting the math aside for a second...)

What do the term of the  
brightness constancy equation represent?

$$I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0$$

(putting the math aside for a second...)

What do the term of the  
brightness constancy equation represent?

$$I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0$$

Image gradients  
(at a point p)



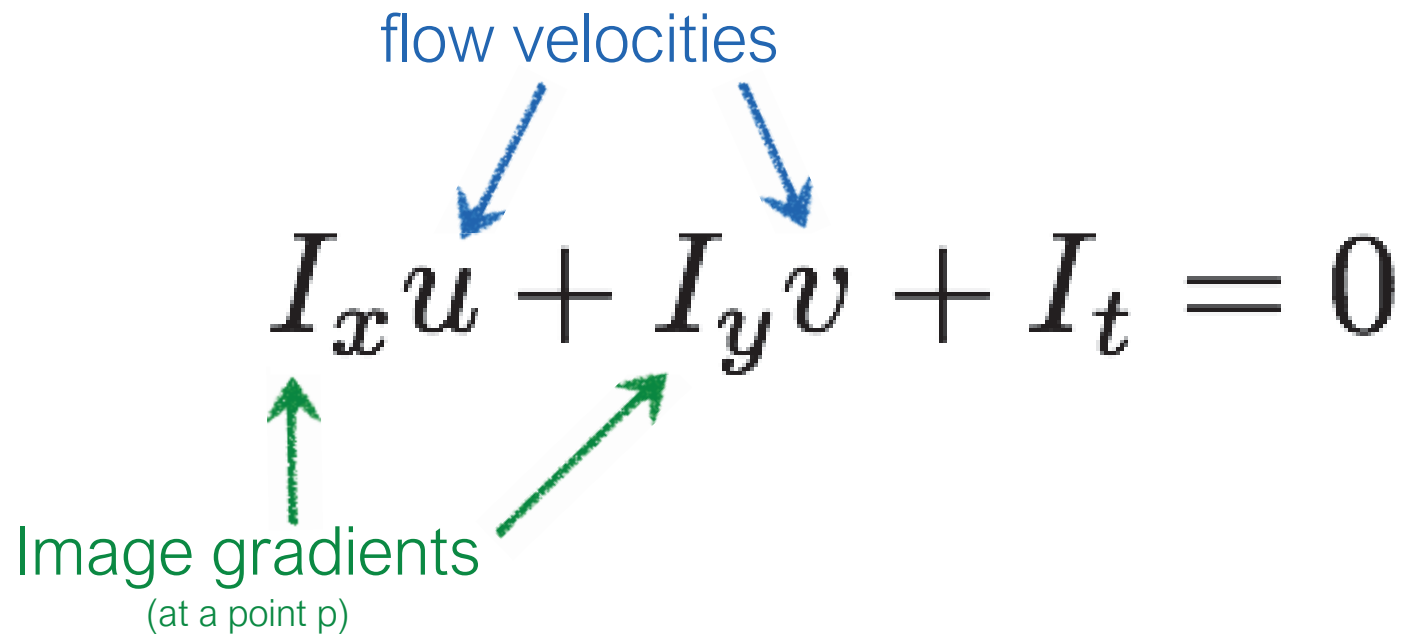
(putting the math aside for a second...)

What do the term of the  
brightness constancy equation represent?

flow velocities

$$I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0$$

Image gradients  
(at a point p)



The diagram shows the brightness constancy equation  $I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0$ . Two blue arrows point from the text 'flow velocities' to the variables  $u$  and  $v$ . Two green arrows point from the text 'Image gradients (at a point p)' to the variables  $I_x$  and  $I_y$ .

(putting the math aside for a second...)

What do the term of the  
brightness constancy equation represent?

The diagram shows the brightness constancy equation  $I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0$  with several annotations. Two blue arrows labeled "flow velocities" point to the variables  $u$  and  $v$ . Two green arrows labeled "Image gradients (at a point p)" point to the terms  $I_x$  and  $I_y$ . A purple arrow labeled "temporal gradient" points to the term  $I_t$ .

$$I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0$$

flow velocities

Image gradients  
(at a point p)

temporal gradient

*How do you compute these terms?*



$$I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0$$

How do you compute ...

$$I_x = \frac{\partial I}{\partial x} \quad I_y = \frac{\partial I}{\partial y}$$

**spatial derivative**

$$I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0$$

How do you compute ...

$$I_x = \frac{\partial I}{\partial x} \quad I_y = \frac{\partial I}{\partial y}$$

**spatial derivative**

Forward difference

Sobel filter

Scharr filter

...

$$I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0$$

How do you compute ...

$$I_x = \frac{\partial I}{\partial x} \quad I_y = \frac{\partial I}{\partial y}$$

**spatial derivative**

$$I_t = \frac{\partial I}{\partial t}$$

**temporal derivative**

Forward difference

Sobel filter

Scharr filter

...

$$I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0$$

How do you compute ...

$$I_x = \frac{\partial I}{\partial x} \quad I_y = \frac{\partial I}{\partial y}$$

**spatial derivative**

Forward difference

Sobel filter

Scharr filter

...

$$I_t = \frac{\partial I}{\partial t}$$

**temporal derivative**

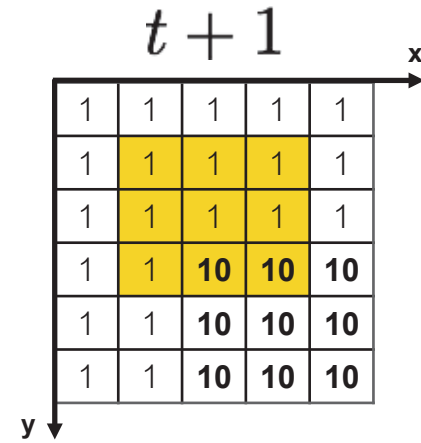
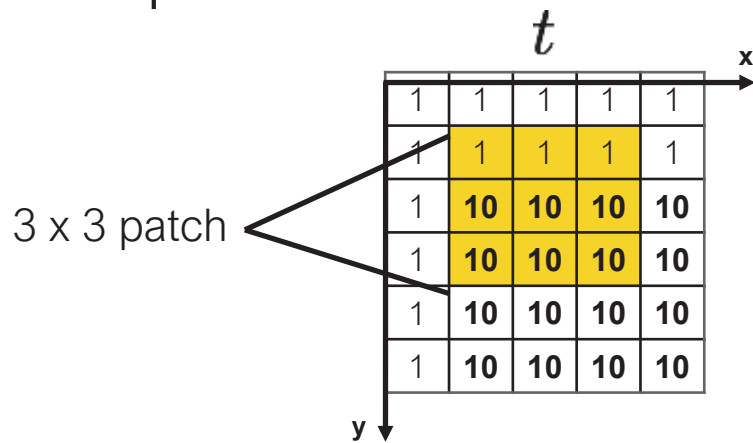
frame differencing

# Frame differencing

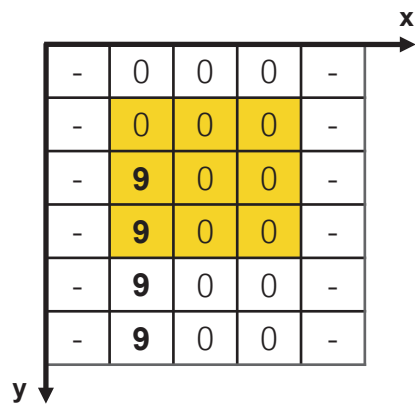
$$\begin{array}{c} t \\
 \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|}
 \hline 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\
 \hline 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\
 \hline 1 & 10 & 10 & 10 & 10 \\
 \hline 1 & 10 & 10 & 10 & 10 \\
 \hline 1 & 10 & 10 & 10 & 10 \\
 \hline 1 & 10 & 10 & 10 & 10 \\
 \hline
 \end{array}
 \end{array}
 -
 \begin{array}{c} t + 1 \\
 \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|}
 \hline 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\
 \hline 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\
 \hline 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\
 \hline 1 & 1 & 10 & 10 & 10 \\
 \hline 1 & 1 & 10 & 10 & 10 \\
 \hline 1 & 1 & 10 & 10 & 10 \\
 \hline
 \end{array}
 \end{array}
 =
 \begin{array}{c} I_t = \frac{\partial I}{\partial t} \\
 \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|}
 \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
 \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
 \hline 0 & 9 & 9 & 9 & 9 \\
 \hline 0 & 9 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
 \hline 0 & 9 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
 \hline 0 & 9 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
 \hline
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

(example of a forward difference)

Example:

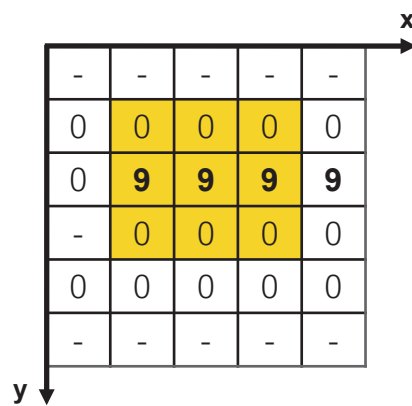


$$I_x = \frac{\partial I}{\partial x}$$



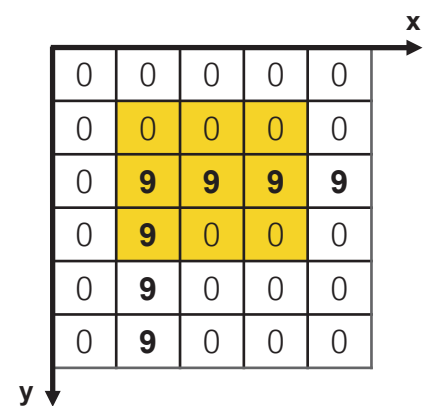
-1 0 1

$$I_y = \frac{\partial I}{\partial y}$$



-1  
0  
1

$$I_t = \frac{\partial I}{\partial t}$$



$$I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0$$

How do you compute ...

$$I_x = \frac{\partial I}{\partial x} \quad I_y = \frac{\partial I}{\partial y}$$

**spatial derivative**

Forward difference  
Sobel filter  
Scharr filter  
...

$$u = \frac{dx}{dt} \quad v = \frac{dy}{dt}$$

**optical flow**

How do you compute this?

$$I_t = \frac{\partial I}{\partial t}$$

**temporal derivative**

frame differencing

$$I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0$$

How do you compute ...

$$I_x = \frac{\partial I}{\partial x} \quad I_y = \frac{\partial I}{\partial y}$$

**spatial derivative**

Forward difference

Sobel filter

Scharr filter

...

$$u = \frac{dx}{dt} \quad v = \frac{dy}{dt}$$

**optical flow**

**We need to solve for this!**

(this is the unknown in the optical  
flow problem)

$$I_t = \frac{\partial I}{\partial t}$$

**temporal derivative**

frame differencing



$$I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0$$

How do you compute ...

$$I_x = \frac{\partial I}{\partial x} \quad I_y = \frac{\partial I}{\partial y}$$

**spatial derivative**

Forward difference  
Sobel filter  
Scharr filter  
...

$$u = \frac{dx}{dt} \quad v = \frac{dy}{dt}$$

**optical flow**

$(u, v)$

Solution lies on a line

Cannot be found uniquely  
with a single constraint

$$I_t = \frac{\partial I}{\partial t}$$

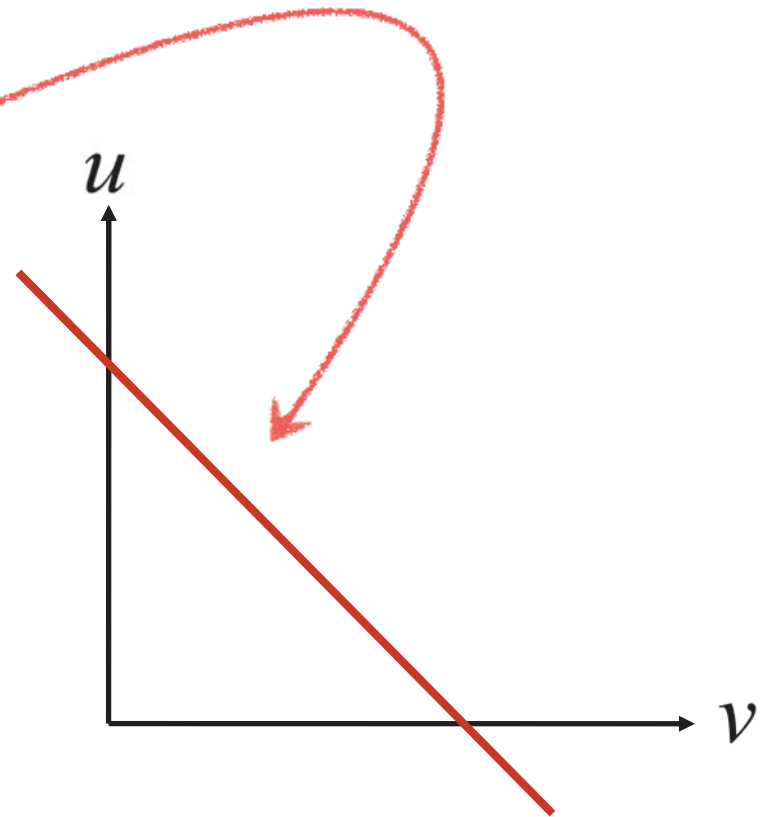
**temporal derivative**

frame differencing

Solution lies on a straight line

$$I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0$$

many combinations of  $u$  and  $v$  will satisfy the equality



The solution cannot be determined uniquely with a single constraint (a single pixel)

$$I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0$$

$$I_x = \frac{\partial I}{\partial x} \quad I_y = \frac{\partial I}{\partial y}$$

**spatial derivative**

$$u = \frac{dx}{dt} \quad v = \frac{dy}{dt}$$

**optical flow**

$$I_t = \frac{\partial I}{\partial t}$$

**temporal derivative**

*How can we use the brightness constancy equation to estimate the optical flow?*

unknown

$$I_x \textcircled{u} + I_y \textcircled{v} + I_t = 0$$

known

*We need at least \_\_\_\_\_ equations to solve for 2 unknowns.*

unknown

$$I_x \textcircled{u} + I_y \textcircled{v} + I_t = 0$$

known

*Where do we get more equations (constraints)?*

## **Horn-Schunck Optical Flow (1981)**

brightness constancy

small motion

**‘smooth’ flow**

(flow can vary from pixel to pixel)

global method  
(dense)

## **Lucas-Kanade Optical Flow (1981)**

method of differences

**‘constant’ flow**

(flow is constant for all pixels)

local method  
(sparse)

Constant flow

*Where do we get more equations (constraints)?*

$$I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0$$

Assume that the surrounding patch (say 5x5) has  
**'constant flow'**



## Assumptions:

Flow is locally smooth

Neighboring pixels have same displacement

Using a  $5 \times 5$  image patch, gives us  equations

## Assumptions:

Flow is locally smooth

Neighboring pixels have same displacement

Using a 5 x 5 image patch, gives us 25 equations

$$I_x(\mathbf{p}_1)u + I_y(\mathbf{p}_1)v = -I_t(\mathbf{p}_1)$$

$$I_x(\mathbf{p}_2)u + I_y(\mathbf{p}_2)v = -I_t(\mathbf{p}_2)$$

$$\vdots$$

$$I_x(\mathbf{p}_{25})u + I_y(\mathbf{p}_{25})v = -I_t(\mathbf{p}_{25})$$

## Assumptions:

Flow is locally smooth

Neighboring pixels have same displacement

Using a 5 x 5 image patch, gives us 25 equations

$$\begin{bmatrix} I_x(\mathbf{p}_1) & I_y(\mathbf{p}_1) \\ I_x(\mathbf{p}_2) & I_y(\mathbf{p}_2) \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ I_x(\mathbf{p}_{25}) & I_y(\mathbf{p}_{25}) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix} = - \begin{bmatrix} I_t(\mathbf{p}_1) \\ I_t(\mathbf{p}_2) \\ \vdots \\ I_t(\mathbf{p}_{25}) \end{bmatrix}$$

Matrix form

## Assumptions:

Flow is locally smooth

Neighboring pixels have same displacement

Using a 5 x 5 image patch, gives us 25 equations

$$\begin{bmatrix} I_x(\mathbf{p}_1) & I_y(\mathbf{p}_1) \\ I_x(\mathbf{p}_2) & I_y(\mathbf{p}_2) \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ I_x(\mathbf{p}_{25}) & I_y(\mathbf{p}_{25}) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix} = - \begin{bmatrix} I_t(\mathbf{p}_1) \\ I_t(\mathbf{p}_2) \\ \vdots \\ I_t(\mathbf{p}_{25}) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{matrix} \mathbf{A} \\ 25 \times 2 \end{matrix}$$

$$\begin{matrix} \mathbf{x} \\ 2 \times 1 \end{matrix}$$

$$\begin{matrix} \mathbf{b} \\ 25 \times 1 \end{matrix}$$

*How many equations? How many unknowns? How do we solve this?*

### Least squares approximation

$\hat{x} = \arg \min_x ||Ax - b||^2$  is equivalent to solving  $A^\top A \hat{x} = A^\top b$

### Least squares approximation

$$\hat{x} = \arg \min_x ||Ax - b||^2 \text{ is equivalent to solving } A^\top A \hat{x} = A^\top b$$

To obtain the least squares solution solve:

$$A^\top A \quad \hat{x} \quad A^\top b$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} \sum_{p \in P} I_x I_x & \sum_{p \in P} I_x I_y \\ \sum_{p \in P} I_y I_x & \sum_{p \in P} I_y I_y \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix} = - \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{p \in P} I_x I_t \\ \sum_{p \in P} I_y I_t \end{bmatrix}$$

where the summation is over each pixel  $p$  in patch  $P$

$$x = (A^\top A)^{-1} A^\top b$$

### Least squares approximation

$$\hat{x} = \arg \min_x ||Ax - b||^2 \text{ is equivalent to solving } A^\top A \hat{x} = A^\top b$$

To obtain the least squares solution solve:

$$A^\top A \quad \hat{x} \quad A^\top b$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} \sum_{p \in P} I_x I_x & \sum_{p \in P} I_x I_y \\ \sum_{p \in P} I_y I_x & \sum_{p \in P} I_y I_y \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix} = - \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{p \in P} I_x I_t \\ \sum_{p \in P} I_y I_t \end{bmatrix}$$

where the summation is over each pixel  $p$  in patch  $P$

Sometimes called 'Lucas-Kanade Optical Flow'

When is this solvable?

$$A^T A \hat{x} = A^T b$$

$A^T A$  should be invertible

$A^T A$  should not be too small

$\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  should not be too small

$A^T A$  should be well conditioned

$\lambda_1/\lambda_2$  should not be too large ( $\lambda_1$ =larger eigenvalue)



*Where have you seen this before?*

$$A^{\top} A = \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{p \in P} I_x I_x & \sum_{p \in P} I_x I_y \\ \sum_{p \in P} I_y I_x & \sum_{p \in P} I_y I_y \end{bmatrix}$$

*Where have you seen this before?*

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sum_{p \in P} I_x I_x & \sum_{p \in P} I_x I_y \\ \sum_{p \in P} I_y I_x & \sum_{p \in P} I_y I_y \end{bmatrix}$$

Harris Corner Detector!

# Implications

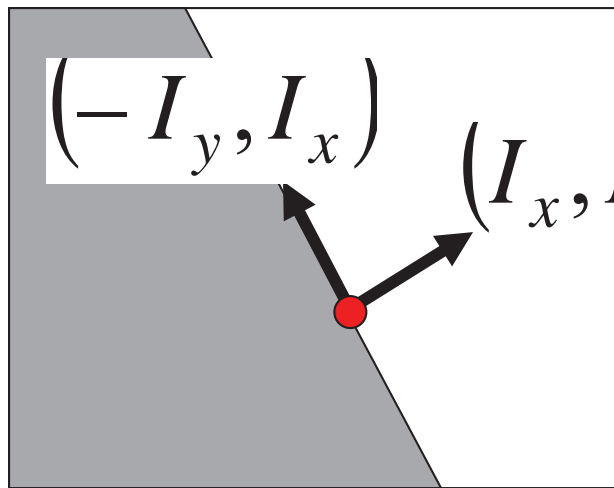
- Corners are when  $\lambda_1$ ,  $\lambda_2$  are big; this is also when Lucas-Kanade optical flow works best
- Corners are regions with two different directions of gradient (at least)
- Corners are good places to compute flow!

*What happens when you have no 'corners'?*

# When is this solvable?

---

- ▶ Edge  $\rightarrow A^T A$  becomes singular



$$\begin{bmatrix} \sum I_x^2 & \sum I_x I_y \\ \sum I_x I_y & \sum I_y^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -I_y \\ I_x \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



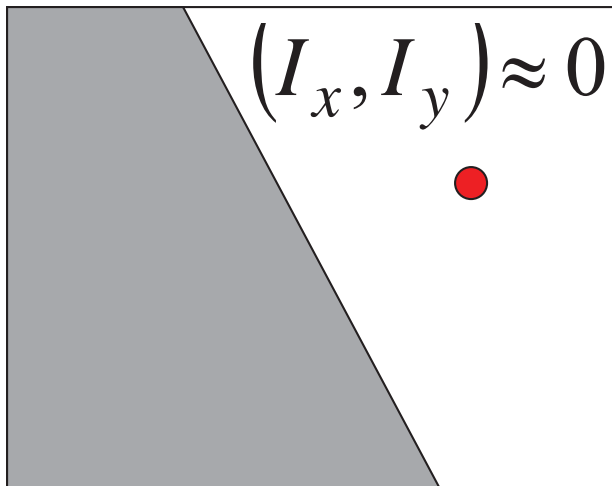
$\begin{bmatrix} -I_y \\ I_x \end{bmatrix}$  is eigenvector with eigenvalue 0



# When is this solvable?

---

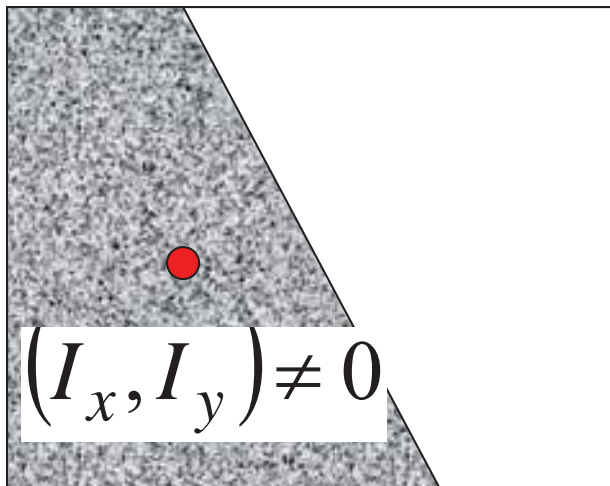
- ▶ Homogeneous  $\Rightarrow A^T A \approx 0 \Rightarrow$  eigenvalues are 0



# When is this solvable?

---

- ▶ Textured regions  $\rightarrow$  two high eigenvalues



# Which features can we track?

---

▶ Edge  $\rightarrow A^T A$  becomes singular

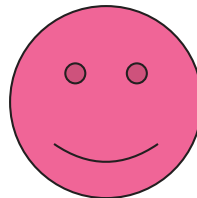


Homogeneous regions  $\rightarrow$  low gradients •

$$A^T A \approx 0$$



High texture  $\rightarrow$  •



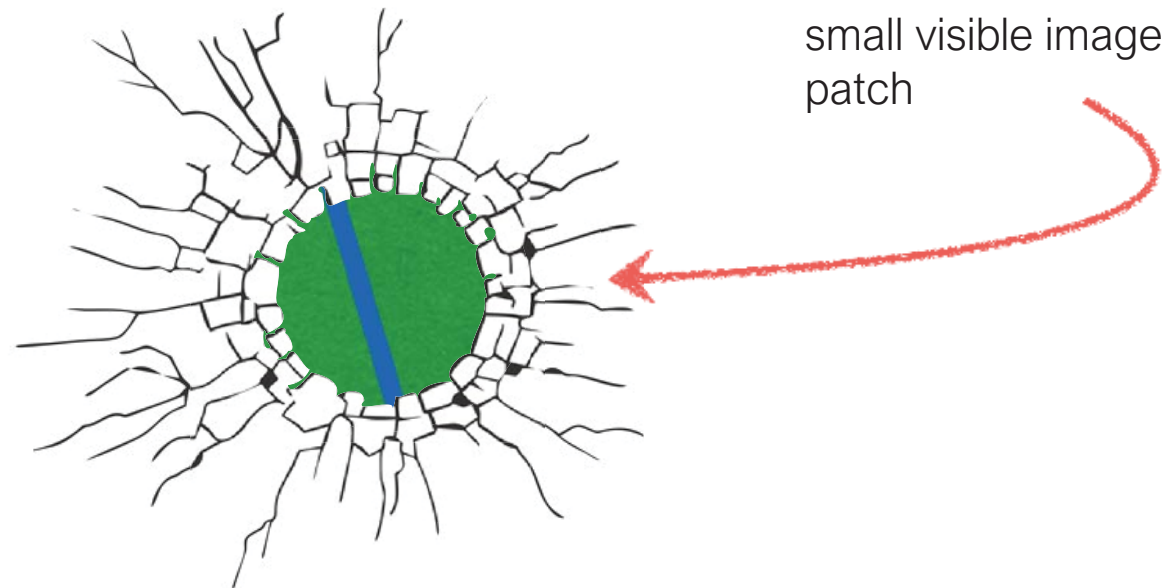
*You want to compute optical flow.  
What happens if the image patch contains only a line?*



# Barber's pole illusion

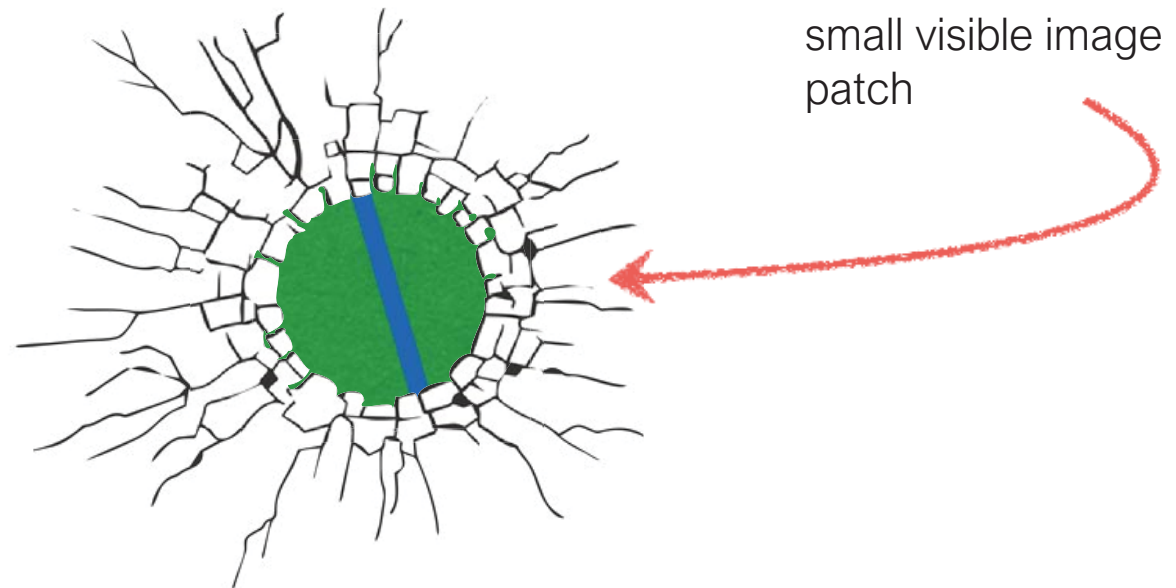


# Aperture Problem



*In which direction is the line moving?*

# Aperture Problem

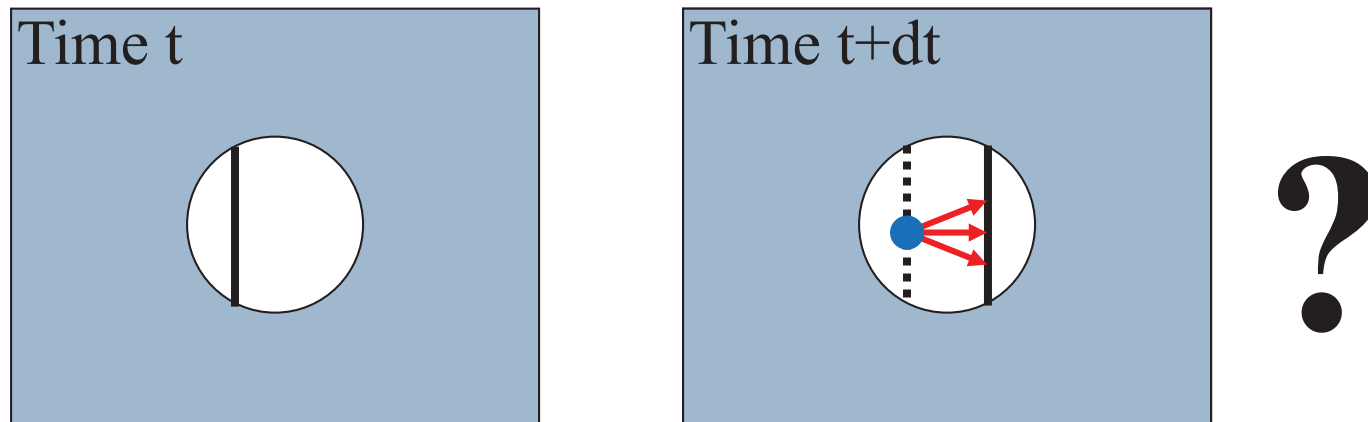


*In which direction is the line moving?*

# The aperture problem

---

- ▶ For points on a line of fixed intensity we can only recover the normal flow



Where did the blue point move to?

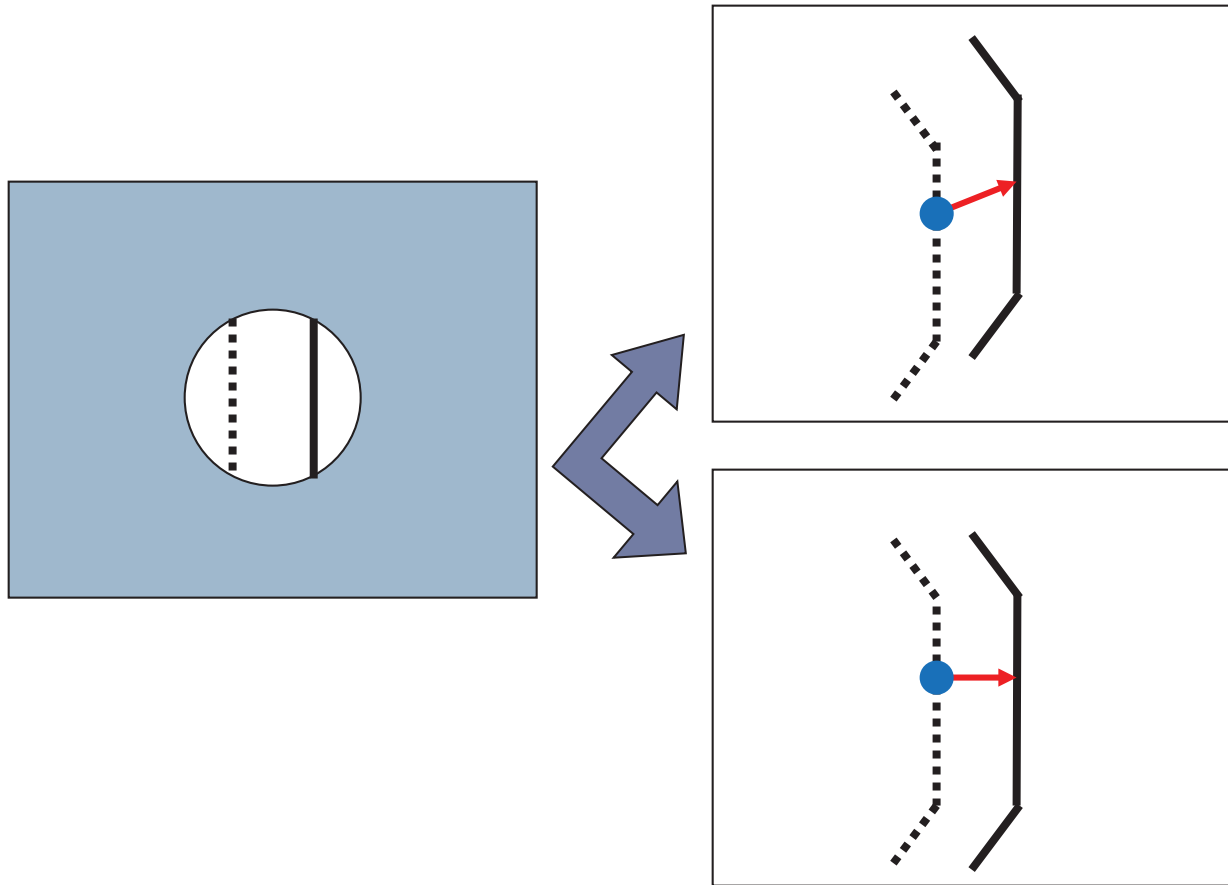
**We need additional constraints**

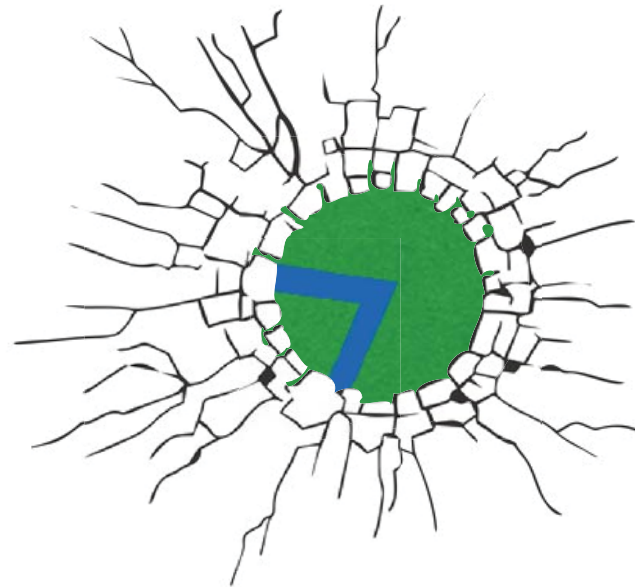


# Solving the ambiguity

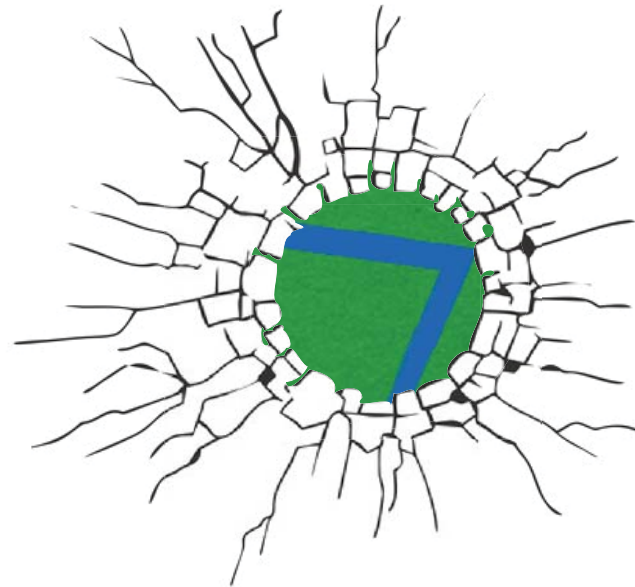
---

Sometimes enlarging the aperture can help





Want patches with different gradients to  
the avoid aperture problem



Want patches with different gradients to  
the avoid aperture problem

Horn-Schunck optical flow



## **Horn-Schunck Optical Flow (1981)**

brightness constancy

small motion

**‘smooth’ flow**

(flow can vary from pixel to pixel)

global method  
(dense)

## **Lucas-Kanade Optical Flow (1981)**

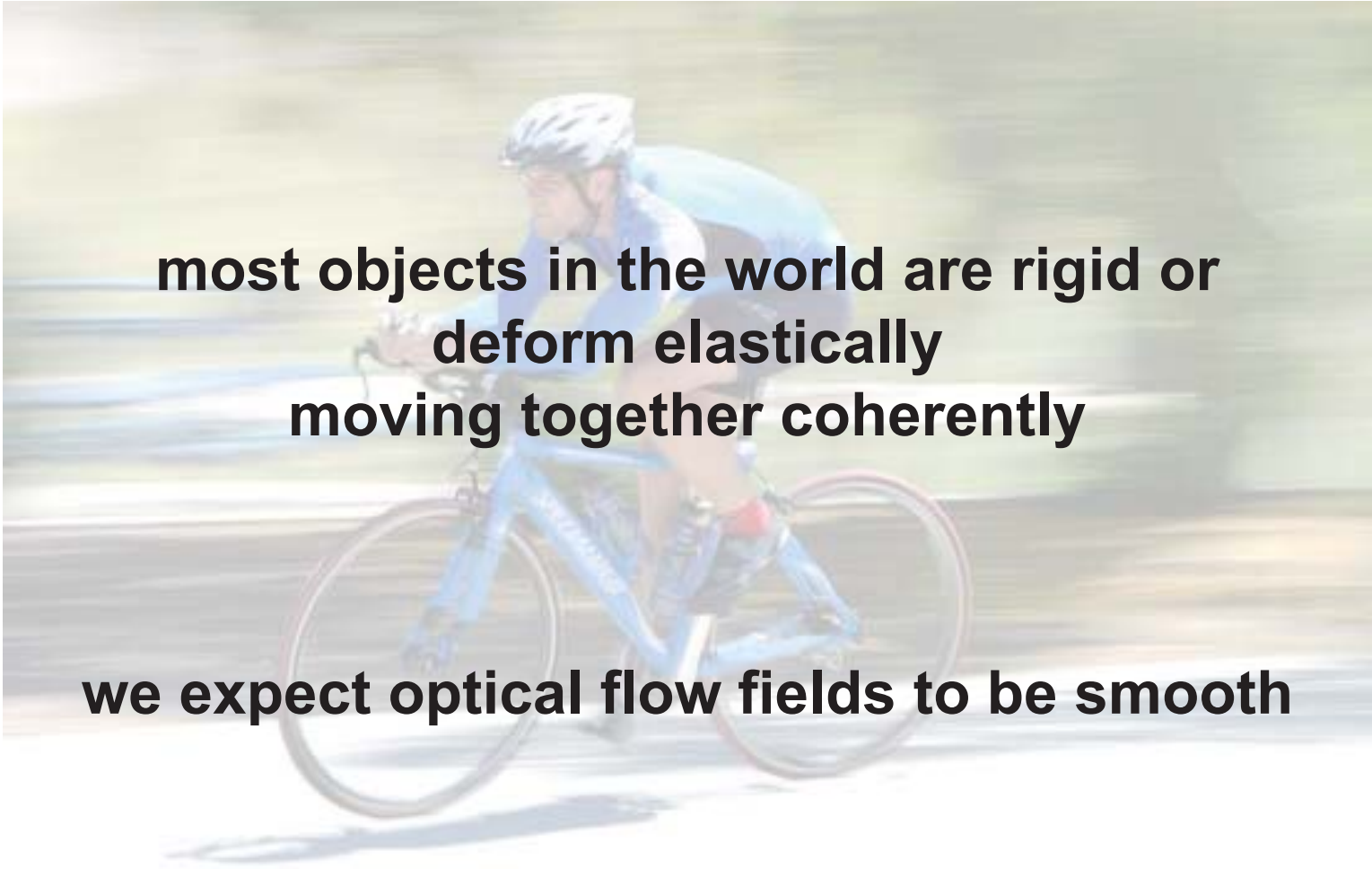
method of differences

**‘constant’ flow**

(flow is constant for all pixels)

local method  
(sparse)

# Smoothness



**most objects in the world are rigid or  
deform elastically  
moving together coherently**

**we expect optical flow fields to be smooth**

# Key idea

(of Horn-Schunck optical flow)

Enforce

**brightness constancy**

Enforce

**smooth flow field**

to compute optical flow

# Key idea

(of Horn-Schunck optical flow)

Enforce

**brightness constancy**

Enforce

**smooth flow field**

to compute optical flow

Enforce  
**brightness constancy**

$$I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0$$

For every pixel,

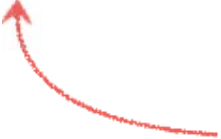
$$\min_{u,v} \left[ I_x u_{ij} + I_y v_{ij} + I_t \right]^2$$

Enforce  
**brightness constancy**

$$I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0$$

For every pixel,

$$\min_{u,v} \left[ I_x u_{ij} + I_y v_{ij} + I_t \right]^2$$

 lazy notation for  $I_x(i, j)$

# Key idea

(of Horn-Schunck optical flow)

Enforce

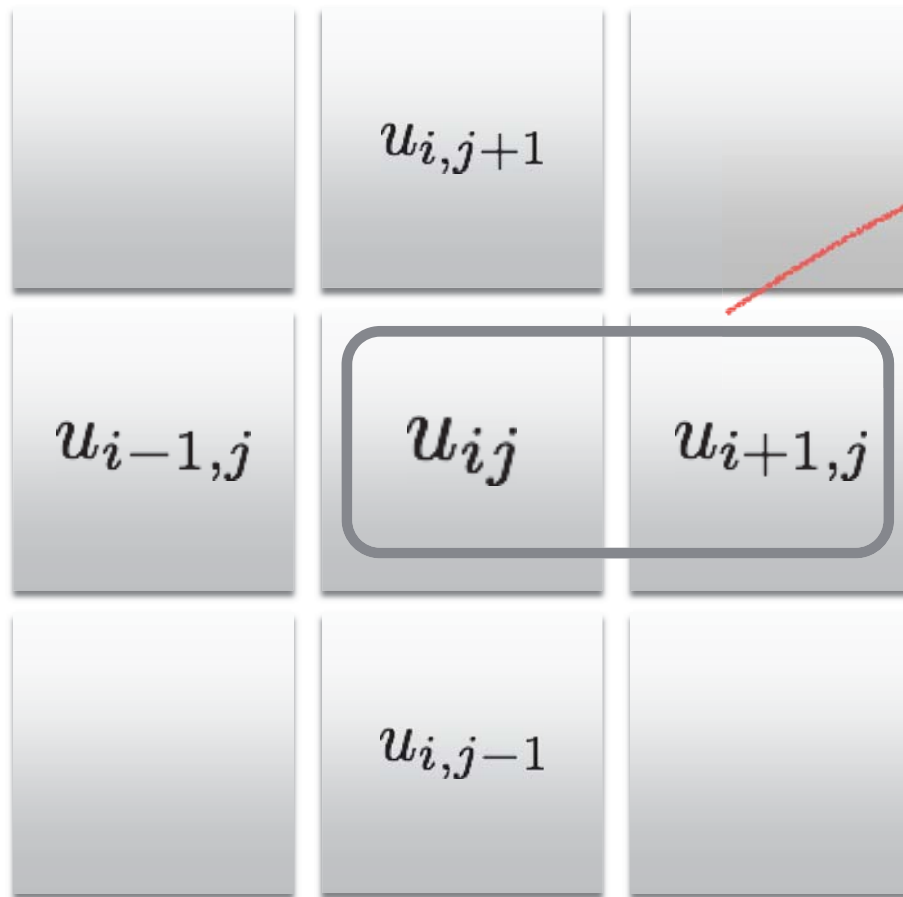
**brightness constancy**

Enforce

**smooth flow field**

to compute optical flow

# Enforce **smooth flow field**

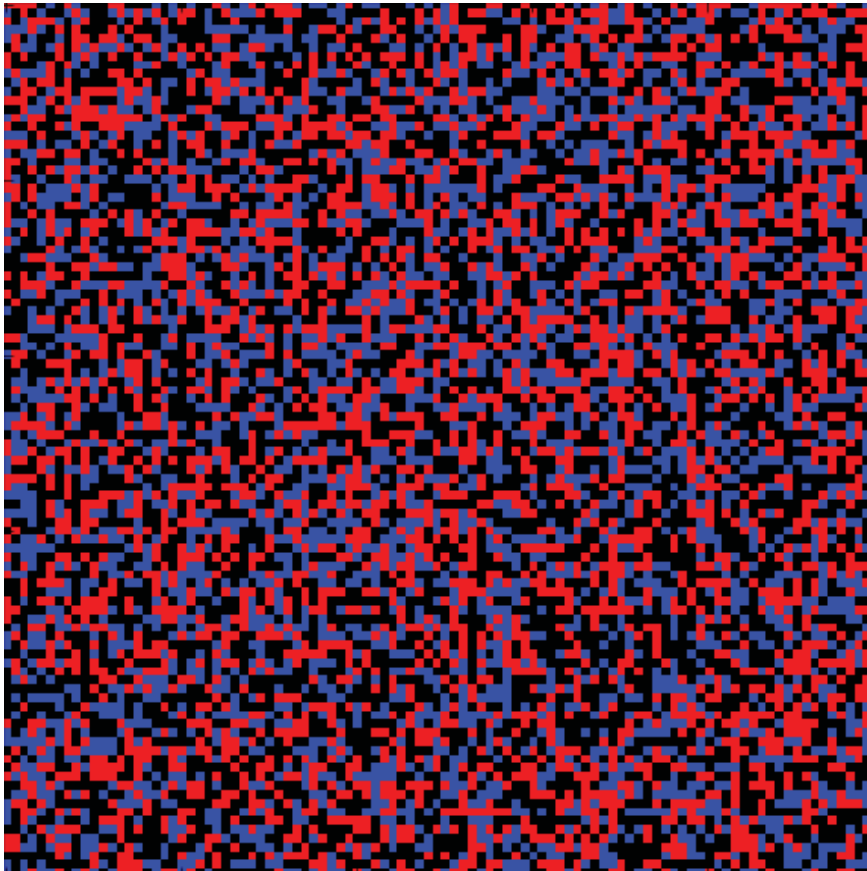


$$\min_{\mathbf{u}} (u_{i,j} - u_{i+1,j})^2$$

u-component of flow



Which flow field optimizes the objective?  $\min_{\mathbf{u}} (u_{i,j} - u_{i+1,j})^2$

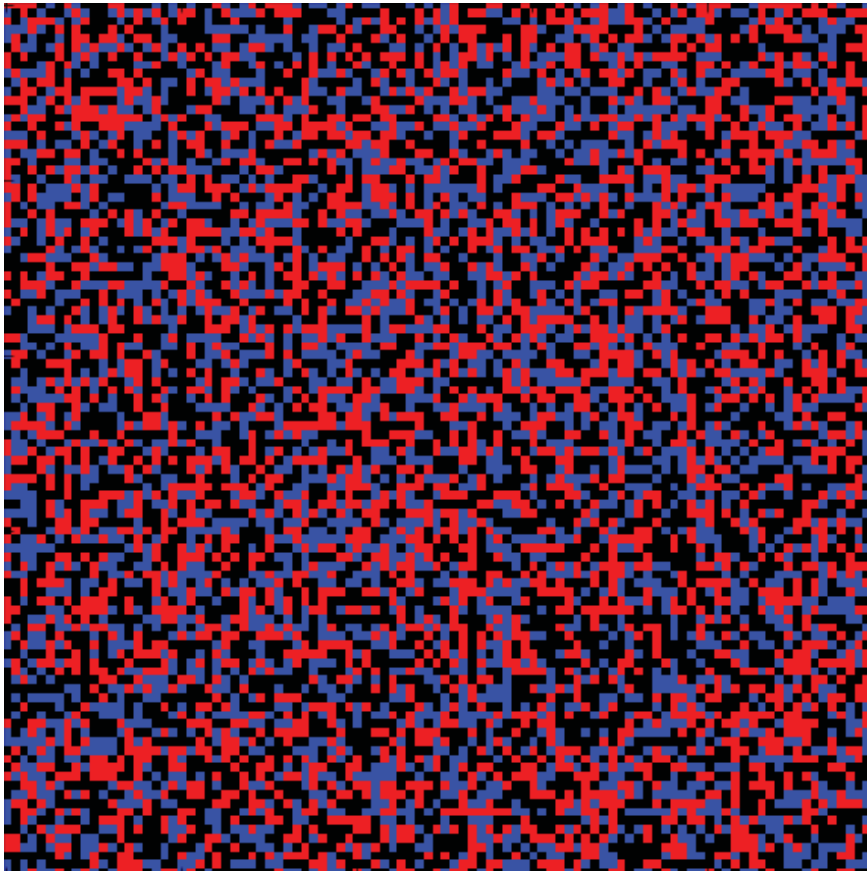


$$\sum_{ij} (u_{ij} - u_{i+1,j})^2$$

?

$$\sum_{ij} (u_{ij} - u_{i+1,j})^2$$

Which flow field optimizes the objective?  $\min_{\mathbf{u}} (u_{i,j} - u_{i+1,j})^2$



big



small

# Key idea

(of Horn-Schunck optical flow)

Enforce

**brightness constancy**

Enforce

**smooth flow field**

to compute optical flow

bringing it all together...

# Horn-Schunck optical flow

$$\min_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}} \sum_{i, j} \left\{ \overset{\text{smoothness}}{E_s(i, j)} + \overset{\text{brightness constancy}}{\lambda E_d(i, j)} \right\}$$

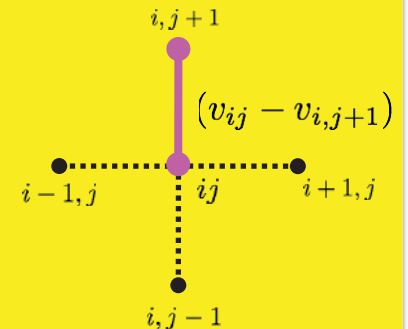
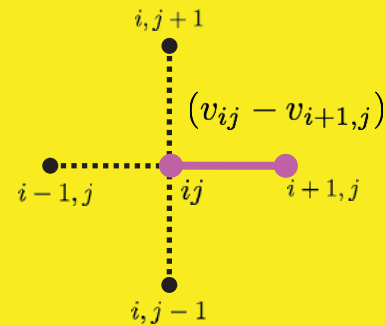
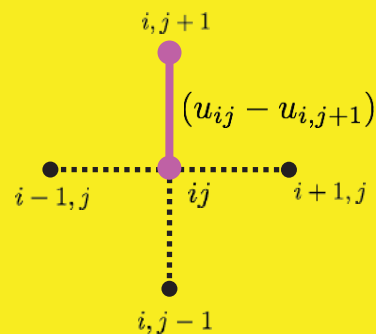
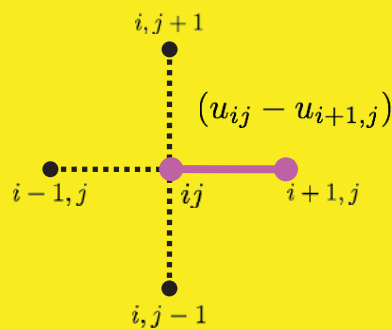
↖  
weight

# HS optical flow objective function

**Brightness constancy**  $E_d(i, j) = \left[ I_x u_{ij} + I_y v_{ij} + I_t \right]^2$

## Smoothness

$$E_s(i, j) = \frac{1}{4} \left[ (u_{ij} - u_{i+1,j})^2 + (u_{ij} - u_{i,j+1})^2 + (v_{ij} - v_{i+1,j})^2 + (v_{ij} - v_{i,j+1})^2 \right]$$



*why not all four neighbors?*

How do we solve this minimization problem?

$$\min_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}} \sum_{i,j} \left\{ E_s(i, j) + \lambda E_d(i, j) \right\}$$

How do we solve this minimization problem?

$$\min_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}} \sum_{i, j} \left\{ E_s(i, j) + \lambda E_d(i, j) \right\}$$

Compute partial derivative, derive update equations  
(gradient decent!)

Compute the partial derivatives of this huge sum!

$$\sum_{ij} \left\{ \frac{1}{4} \left[ (u_{ij} - u_{i+1,j})^2 + (u_{ij} - u_{i,j+1})^2 + (v_{ij} - v_{i+1,j})^2 + (v_{ij} - v_{i,j+1})^2 \right] + \lambda \left[ I_x u_{ij} + I_y v_{ij} + I_t \right]^2 \right\}$$

smoothness term                      brightness constancy



Compute the partial derivatives of this huge sum!

$$\sum_{ij} \left\{ \frac{1}{4} \left[ (u_{ij} - u_{i+1,j})^2 + (u_{ij} - u_{i,j+1})^2 + (v_{ij} - v_{i+1,j})^2 + (v_{ij} - v_{i,j+1})^2 \right] + \lambda \left[ I_x u_{ij} + I_y v_{ij} + I_t \right]^2 \right\}$$

it's not so bad...

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial u_{kl}} =$$

*how many u terms depend on k and l?*

Compute the partial derivatives of this huge sum!

$$\sum_{ij} \left\{ \frac{1}{4} \left[ (u_{ij} - u_{i+1,j})^2 + (u_{ij} - u_{i,j+1})^2 + (v_{ij} - v_{i+1,j})^2 + (v_{ij} - v_{i,j+1})^2 \right] + \lambda \left[ I_x u_{ij} + I_y v_{ij} + I_t \right]^2 \right\}$$

it's not so bad...

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial u_{kl}} =$$

*how many  $u$  terms depend on  $k$  and  $l$ ?*

**FOUR** from smoothness

**ONE** from brightness constancy

Compute the partial derivatives of this huge sum!

$$\sum_{ij} \left\{ \frac{1}{4} \left[ (u_{ij} - u_{i+1,j})^2 + (u_{ij} - u_{i,j+1})^2 + (v_{ij} - v_{i+1,j})^2 + (v_{ij} - v_{i,j+1})^2 \right] + \lambda \left[ I_x u_{ij} + I_y v_{ij} + I_t \right]^2 \right\}$$

it's not so bad...

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial u_{kl}} = 2(u_{kl} - \bar{u}_{kl}) + 2\lambda(I_x u_{kl} + I_y v_{kl} + I_t)I_x$$

*how many  $u$  terms depend on  $k$  and  $l$ ?*

**FOUR** from smoothness

**ONE** from brightness constancy

Compute the partial derivatives of this huge sum!

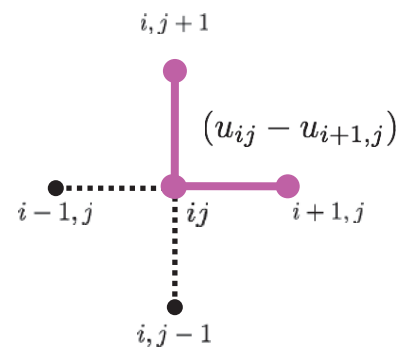
$$\sum_{ij} \left\{ \frac{1}{4} \left[ (u_{ij} - u_{i+1,j})^2 + (u_{ij} - u_{i,j+1})^2 + (v_{ij} - v_{i+1,j})^2 + (v_{ij} - v_{i,j+1})^2 \right] + \lambda \left[ I_x u_{ij} + I_y v_{ij} + I_t \right]^2 \right\}$$



$$(u_{ij}^2 - 2u_{ij}u_{i+1,j} + u_{i+1,j}^2)$$

$$(u_{ij}^2 - 2u_{ij}u_{i,j+1} + u_{i,j+1}^2)$$

(variable will appear four times in sum)



Compute the partial derivatives of this huge sum!

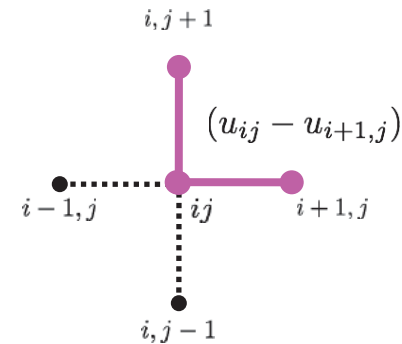
$$\sum_{ij} \left\{ \frac{1}{4} \left[ (u_{ij} - u_{i+1,j})^2 + (u_{ij} - u_{i,j+1})^2 + (v_{ij} - v_{i+1,j})^2 + (v_{ij} - v_{i,j+1})^2 \right] + \lambda \left[ I_x u_{ij} + I_y v_{ij} + I_t \right]^2 \right\}$$



$$(u_{ij}^2 - 2u_{ij}u_{i+1,j} + u_{i+1,j}^2)$$

$$(u_{ij}^2 - 2u_{ij}u_{i,j+1} + u_{i,j+1}^2)$$

(variable will appear four times in sum)



$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial u_{kl}} = 2(u_{kl} - \bar{u}_{kl}) + 2\lambda(I_x u_{kl} + I_y v_{kl} + I_t)I_x$$

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial v_{kl}} = 2(v_{kl} - \bar{v}_{kl}) + 2\lambda(I_x u_{kl} + I_y v_{kl} + I_t)I_y$$

short hand for  
local average

$$\bar{u}_{ij} = \frac{1}{4} \left\{ u_{i+1,j} + u_{i-1,j} + u_{i,j+1} + u_{i,j-1} \right\}$$

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial u_{kl}} = 2(u_{kl} - \bar{u}_{kl}) + 2\lambda(I_x u_{kl} + I_y v_{kl} + I_t)I_x$$

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial v_{kl}} = 2(v_{kl} - \bar{v}_{kl}) + 2\lambda(I_x u_{kl} + I_y v_{kl} + I_t)I_y$$

*Where are the extrema of  $E$ ?*

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial u_{kl}} = 2(u_{kl} - \bar{u}_{kl}) + 2\lambda(I_x u_{kl} + I_y v_{kl} + I_t)I_x$$

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial v_{kl}} = 2(v_{kl} - \bar{v}_{kl}) + 2\lambda(I_x u_{kl} + I_y v_{kl} + I_t)I_y$$

*Where are the extrema of E?*

(set derivatives to zero and solve for unknowns u and v)

$$(1 + \lambda I_x^2)u_{kl} + \lambda I_x I_y v_{kl} = \bar{u}_{kl} - \lambda I_x I_t$$

$$\lambda I_x I_y u_{kl} + (1 + \lambda I_y^2)v_{kl} = \bar{v}_{kl} - \lambda I_y I_t$$

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial u_{kl}} = 2(u_{kl} - \bar{u}_{kl}) + 2\lambda(I_x u_{kl} + I_y v_{kl} + I_t)I_x$$

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial v_{kl}} = 2(v_{kl} - \bar{v}_{kl}) + 2\lambda(I_x u_{kl} + I_y v_{kl} + I_t)I_y$$

*Where are the extrema of  $E$ ?*

(set derivatives to zero and solve for unknowns  $u$  and  $v$ )

$$(1 + \lambda I_x^2)u_{kl} + \lambda I_x I_y v_{kl} = \bar{u}_{kl} - \lambda I_x I_t$$

$$\lambda I_x I_y u_{kl} + (1 + \lambda I_y^2)v_{kl} = \bar{v}_{kl} - \lambda I_y I_t$$

*this is a linear system*       **$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$**       *how do you solve this?*



ok, take a step back, why are we doing all this math?

We are solving for the optical flow (u,v) given two constraints

$$\sum_{ij} \left\{ \frac{1}{4} \left[ (u_{ij} - u_{i+1,j})^2 + (u_{ij} - u_{i,j+1})^2 + (v_{ij} - v_{i+1,j})^2 + (v_{ij} - v_{i,j+1})^2 \right] + \lambda \left[ I_x u_{ij} + I_y v_{ij} + I_t \right]^2 \right\}$$

smoothness brightness constancy

We need the math to minimize this  
(back to the math)

Partial derivatives of Horn-Schunck objective function E:

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial u_{kl}} = 2(u_{kl} - \bar{u}_{kl}) + 2\lambda(I_x u_{kl} + I_y v_{kl} + I_t)I_x$$

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial v_{kl}} = 2(v_{kl} - \bar{v}_{kl}) + 2\lambda(I_x u_{kl} + I_y v_{kl} + I_t)I_y$$

*Where are the extrema of E?*

(set derivatives to zero and solve for unknowns u and v)

$$(1 + \lambda I_x^2)u_{kl} + \lambda I_x I_y v_{kl} = \bar{u}_{kl} - \lambda I_x I_t$$

$$\lambda I_x I_y u_{kl} + (1 + \lambda I_y^2)v_{kl} = \bar{v}_{kl} - \lambda I_y I_t$$

$$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b} \quad \text{how do you solve this?}$$

$$(1 + \lambda I_x^2)u_{kl} + \lambda I_x I_y v_{kl} = \bar{u}_{kl} - \lambda I_x I_t$$

$$\lambda I_x I_y u_{kl} + (1 + \lambda I_y^2)v_{kl} = \bar{v}_{kl} - \lambda I_y I_t$$

Recall  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{b} = \frac{\text{adj}\mathbf{A}}{\det \mathbf{A}}\mathbf{b}$

$$(1 + \lambda I_x^2)u_{kl} + \lambda I_x I_y v_{kl} = \bar{u}_{kl} - \lambda I_x I_t$$

$$\lambda I_x I_y u_{kl} + (1 + \lambda I_y^2)v_{kl} = \bar{v}_{kl} - \lambda I_y I_t$$

Recall  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{b} = \frac{\text{adj}\mathbf{A}}{\det \mathbf{A}}\mathbf{b}$

Same as the linear system:

$$\{1 + \lambda(I_x^2 + I_y^2)\}u_{kl} = (1 + \lambda I_x^2)\bar{u}_{kl} - \lambda I_x I_y \bar{v}_{kl} - \lambda I_x I_t$$

(det A)

$$\{1 + \lambda(I_x^2 + I_y^2)\}v_{kl} = (1 + \lambda I_y^2)\bar{v}_{kl} - \lambda I_x I_y \bar{u}_{kl} - \lambda I_y I_t$$

(det A)

$$\{1 + \lambda(I_x^2 + I_y^2)\}u_{kl} = (1 + \lambda I_x^2)\bar{u}_{kl} - \lambda I_x I_y \bar{v}_{kl} - \lambda I_x I_t$$

$$\{1 + \lambda(I_x^2 + I_y^2)\}v_{kl} = (1 + \lambda I_y^2)\bar{v}_{kl} - \lambda I_x I_y \bar{u}_{kl} - \lambda I_y I_t$$

Rearrange to get update equations:

$$\hat{u}_{kl} = \bar{u}_{kl} - \frac{I_x \bar{u}_{kl} + I_y \bar{v}_{kl} + I_t}{\lambda^{-1} + I_x^2 + I_y^2} I_x$$

new  
value      old  
average

$$\hat{v}_{kl} = \bar{v}_{kl} - \frac{I_x \bar{u}_{kl} + I_y \bar{v}_{kl} + I_t}{\lambda^{-1} + I_x^2 + I_y^2} I_y$$

**Recall:**  $\min_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}} \sum_{i,j} \left\{ E_s(i,j) + \lambda E_d(i,j) \right\}$

When lambda is small (lambda inverse is big)...

$$\underset{\text{new value}}{\hat{u}_{kl}} = \underset{\text{old average}}{\bar{u}_{kl}} - \frac{I_x \bar{u}_{kl} + I_y \bar{v}_{kl} + I_t}{\lambda^{-1} + I_x^2 + I_y^2} I_x$$

$$\hat{v}_{kl} = \bar{v}_{kl} - \frac{I_x \bar{u}_{kl} + I_y \bar{v}_{kl} + I_t}{\lambda^{-1} + I_x^2 + I_y^2} I_y$$

**Recall:**  $\min_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}} \sum_{i,j} \left\{ E_s(i,j) + \lambda E_d(i,j) \right\}$

When lambda is small (lambda inverse is big)...

$$\hat{u}_{kl} = \bar{u}_{kl} - \frac{I_x \bar{u}_{kl} + I_y \bar{v}_{kl} + I_t}{\lambda^{-1} + I_x^2 + I_y^2} I_x$$

new value
old average

$$\hat{v}_{kl} = \bar{v}_{kl} - \frac{I_x \bar{u}_{kl} + I_y \bar{v}_{kl} + I_t}{\lambda^{-1} + I_x^2 + I_y^2} I_y$$

goes to zero  
 goes to zero



**Recall:**  $\min_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}} \sum_{i,j} \left\{ E_s(i,j) + \lambda E_d(i,j) \right\}$

When lambda is small (lambda inverse is big)...

$$\hat{u}_{kl} = \bar{u}_{kl} - \frac{I_x \bar{u}_{kl} + I_y \bar{v}_{kl} + I_t}{\lambda^{-1} + I_x^2 + I_y^2} I_x$$

new value                      old average

$$\hat{v}_{kl} = \bar{v}_{kl} - \frac{I_x \bar{u}_{kl} + I_y \bar{v}_{kl} + I_t}{\lambda^{-1} + I_x^2 + I_y^2} I_y$$

goes to zero

goes to zero

...we only care about smoothness.

ok, take a step back, why did we do all this math?

We are solving for the optical flow (u,v) given two constraints

$$\sum_{ij} \left\{ \frac{1}{4} \left[ (u_{ij} - u_{i+1,j})^2 + (u_{ij} - u_{i,j+1})^2 + (v_{ij} - v_{i+1,j})^2 + (v_{ij} - v_{i,j+1})^2 \right] + \lambda \left[ I_x u_{ij} + I_y v_{ij} + I_t \right]^2 \right\}$$

smoothness brightness constancy

We needed the math to minimize this  
(now to the algorithm)

# Horn-Schunck Optical Flow Algorithm

1. Precompute image gradients  $I_y$   $I_x$
2. Precompute temporal gradients  $I_t$
3. Initialize flow field  $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{0}$   
 $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$
4. While not converged

    Compute flow field updates for  
    each pixel:

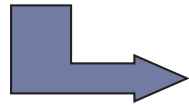
$$\hat{u}_{kl} = \bar{u}_{kl} - \frac{I_x \bar{u}_{kl} + I_y \bar{v}_{kl} + I_t}{\lambda^{-1} + I_x^2 + I_y^2} I_x \quad \hat{v}_{kl} = \bar{v}_{kl} - \frac{I_x \bar{u}_{kl} + I_y \bar{v}_{kl} + I_t}{\lambda^{-1} + I_x^2 + I_y^2} I_y$$

**Just 8 lines of code!**

# When assumptions break

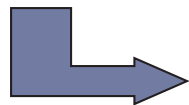
---

- ▶ Brightness constancy is **not** satisfied



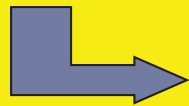
Correlation based methods

- ▶ A point does **not** move like its neighbors
  - ▶ what is the ideal window size?



Regularization based methods

- ▶ The motion is **not** small (Taylor expansion doesn't hold)
- ▶ Aliasing



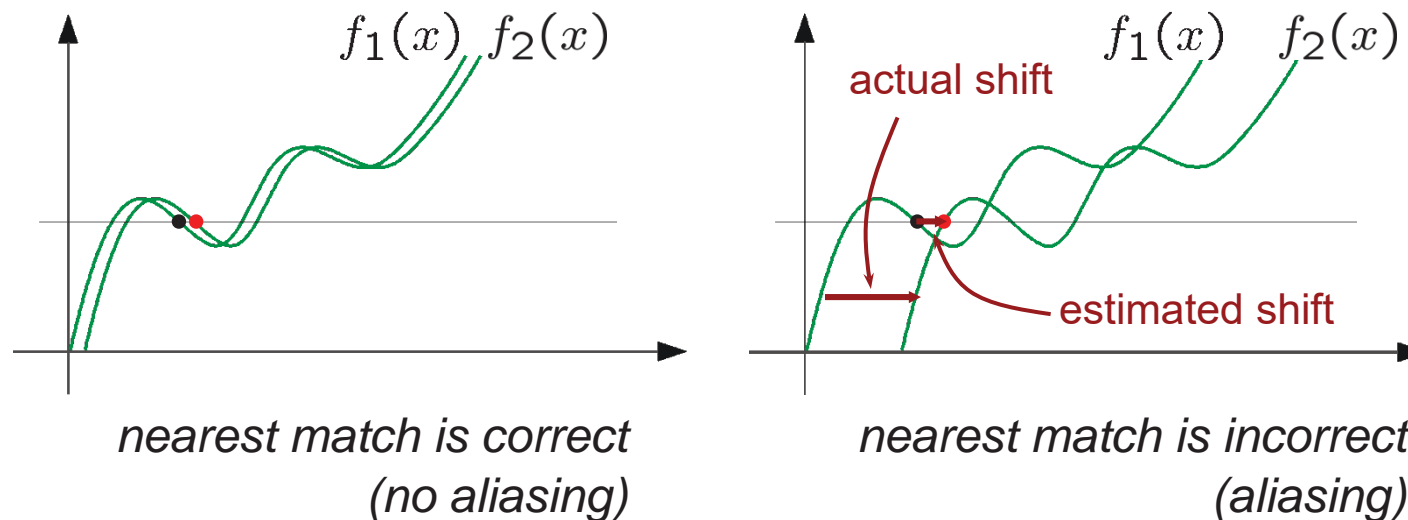
Use multi-scale estimation



# Optical Flow: Aliasing

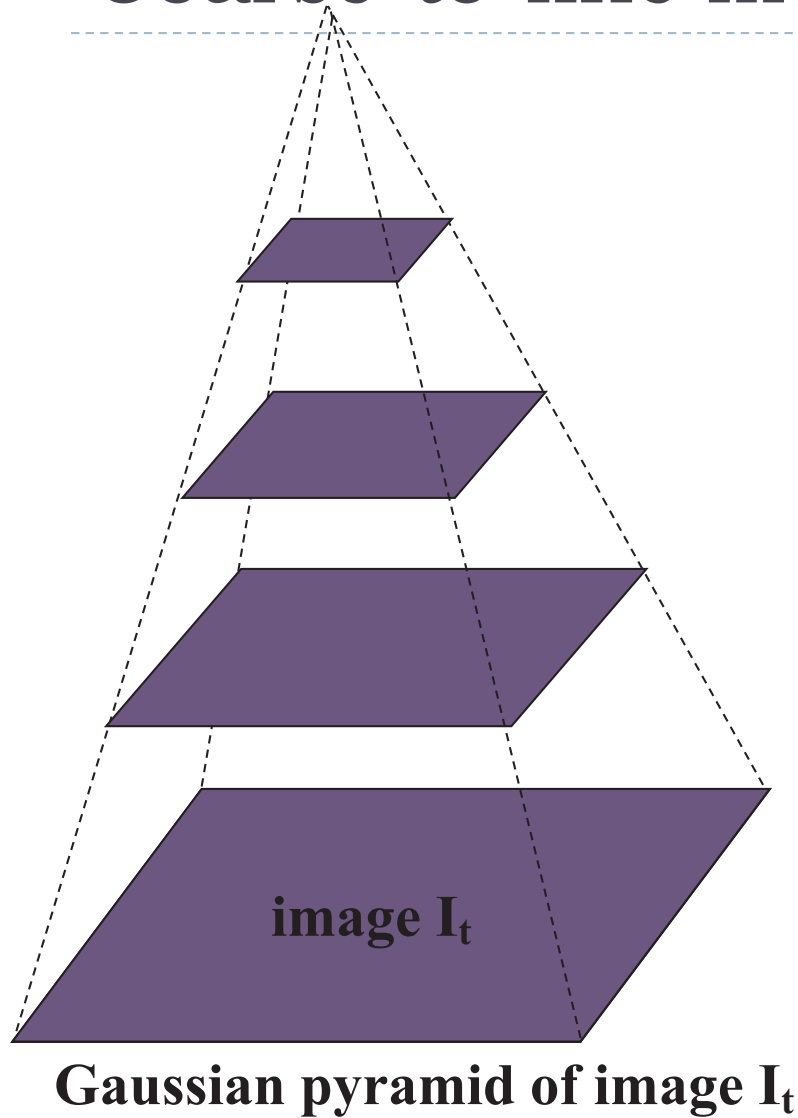
Temporal aliasing causes ambiguities in optical flow because images can have many pixels with the same intensity.

I.e., how do we know which 'correspondence' is correct?



To overcome aliasing: coarse-to-fine estimation.

# Coarse-to-fine motion estimation

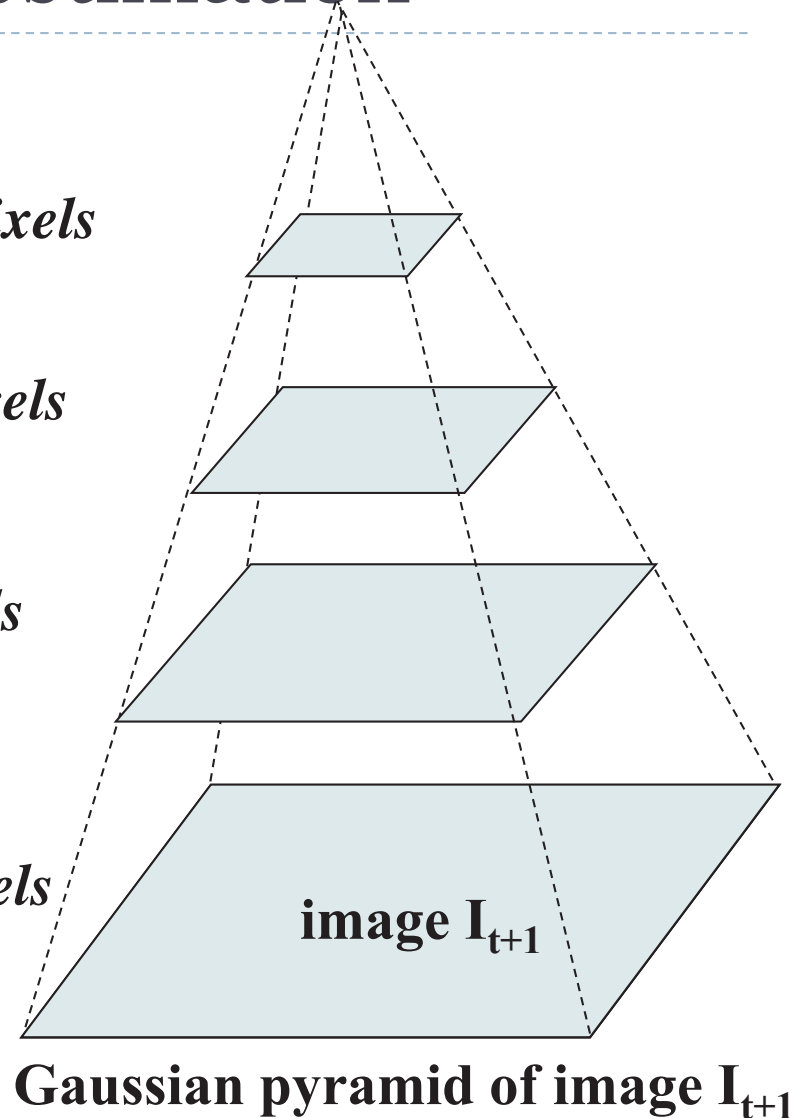


$u=1.25$  pixels

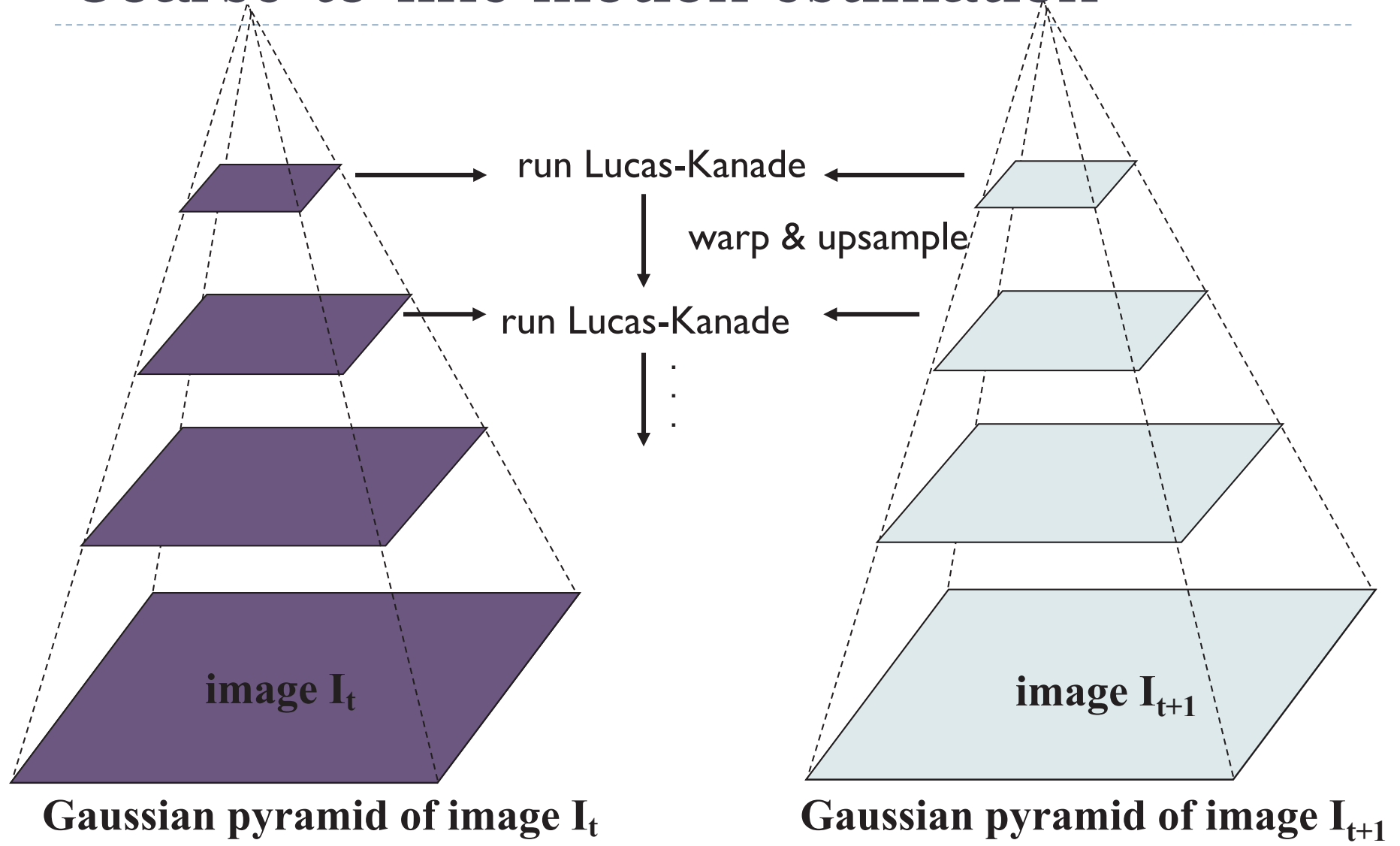
$u=2.5$  pixels

$u=5$  pixels

$u=10$  pixels

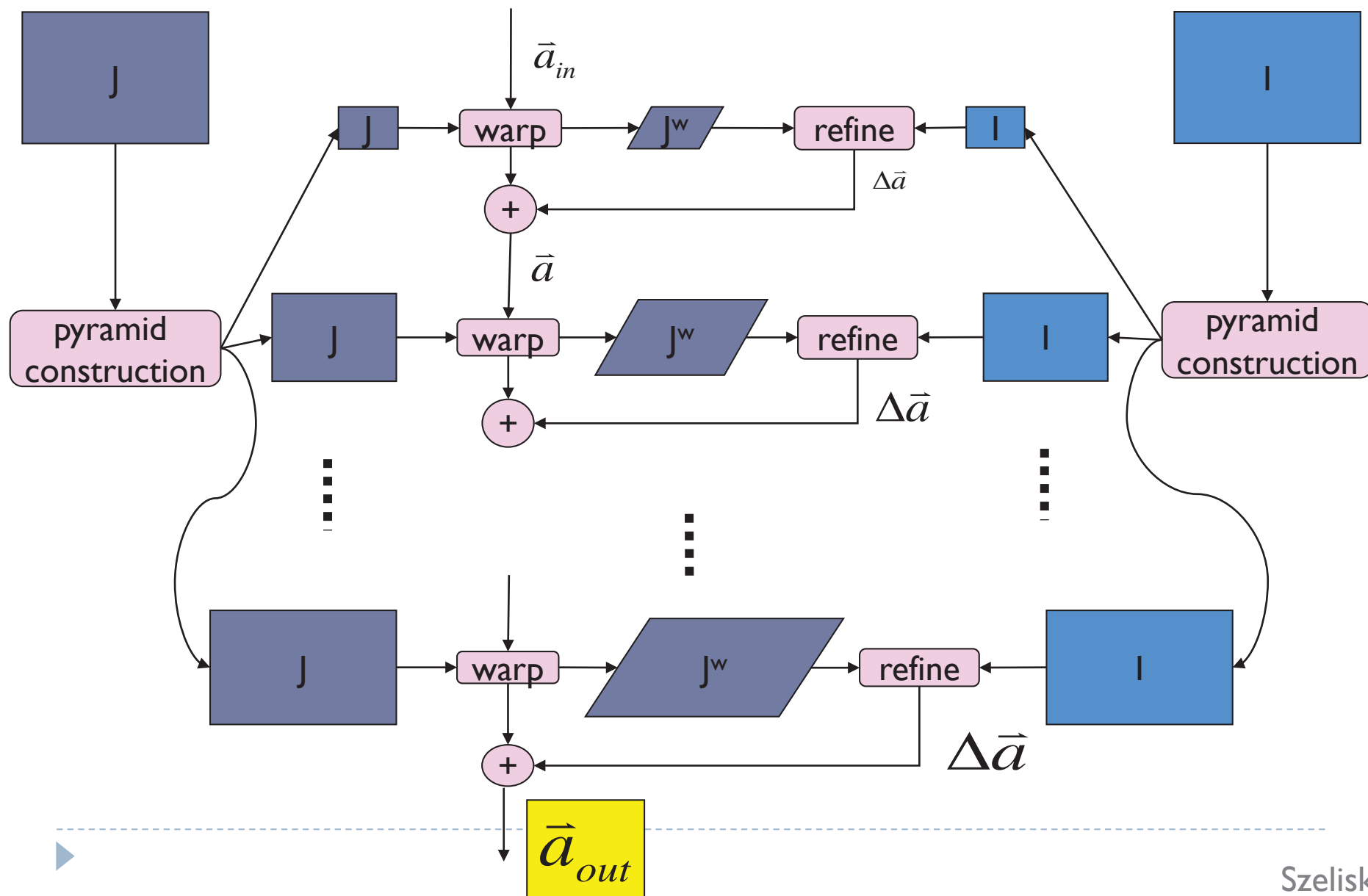


# Coarse-to-fine motion estimation





# Coarse-to-Fine Estimation



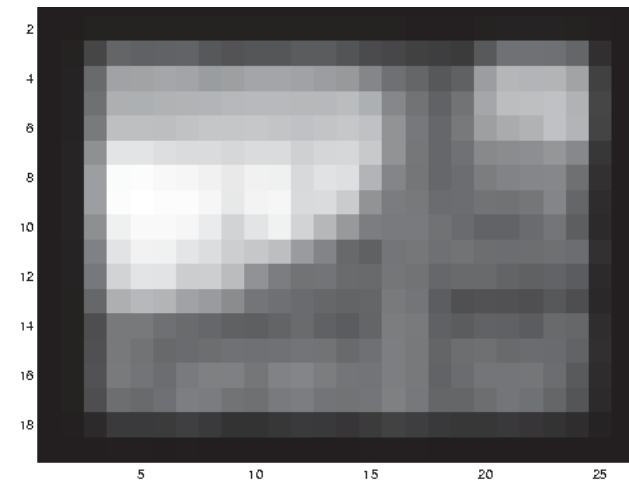
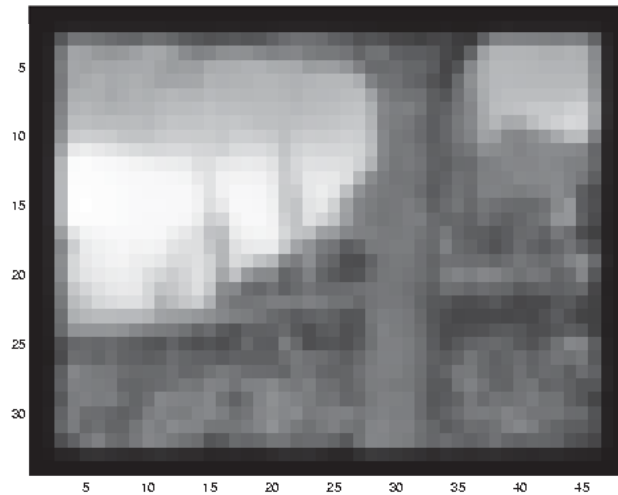
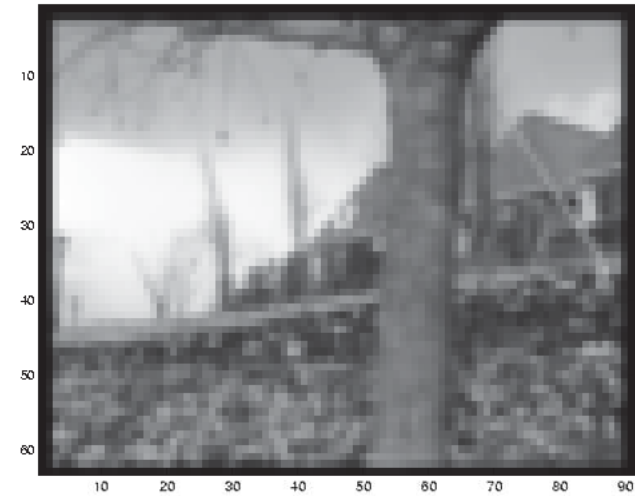
# Example

---



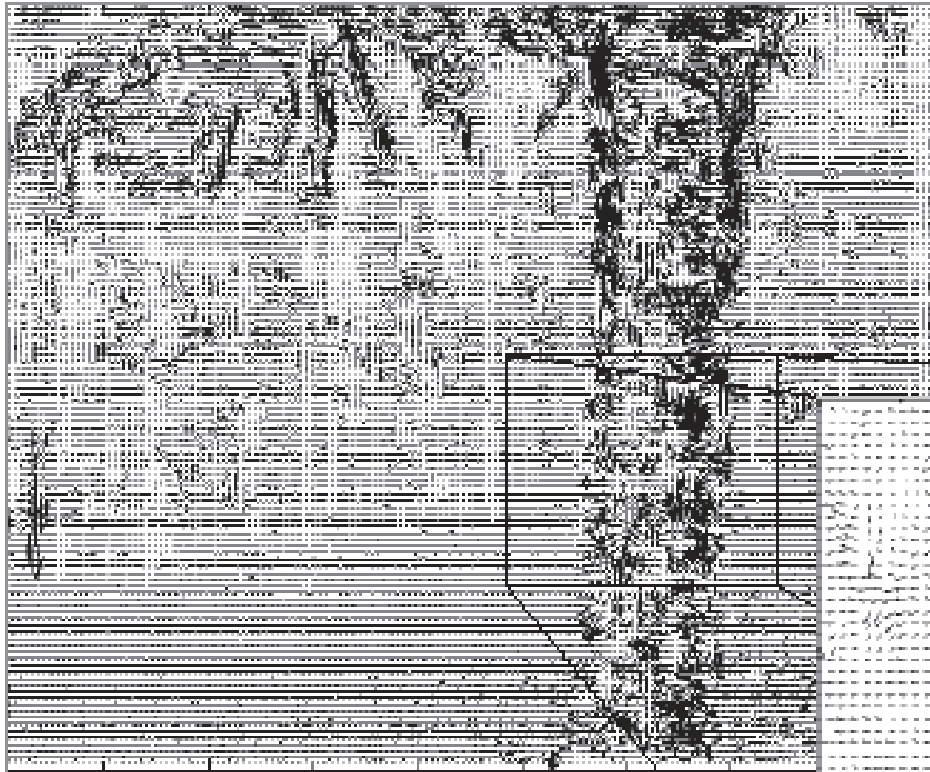
# Multi-resolution registration

---



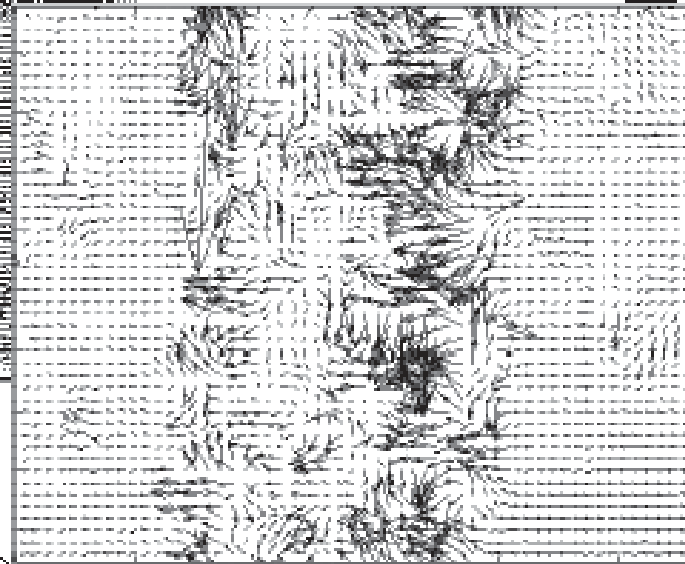
# Optical flow results

---



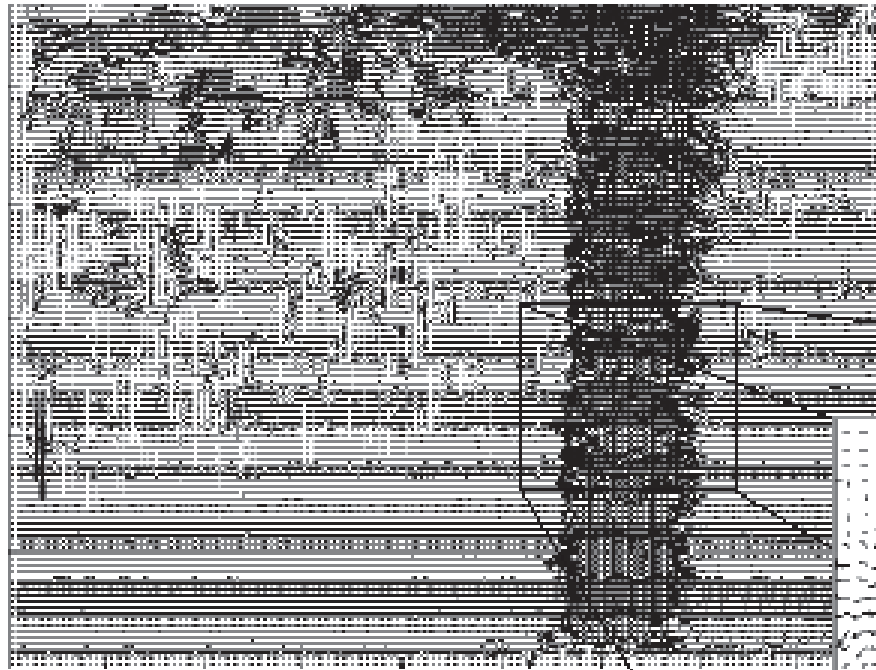
Lucas-Kanade  
without pyramids

Fails in areas of large  
motion

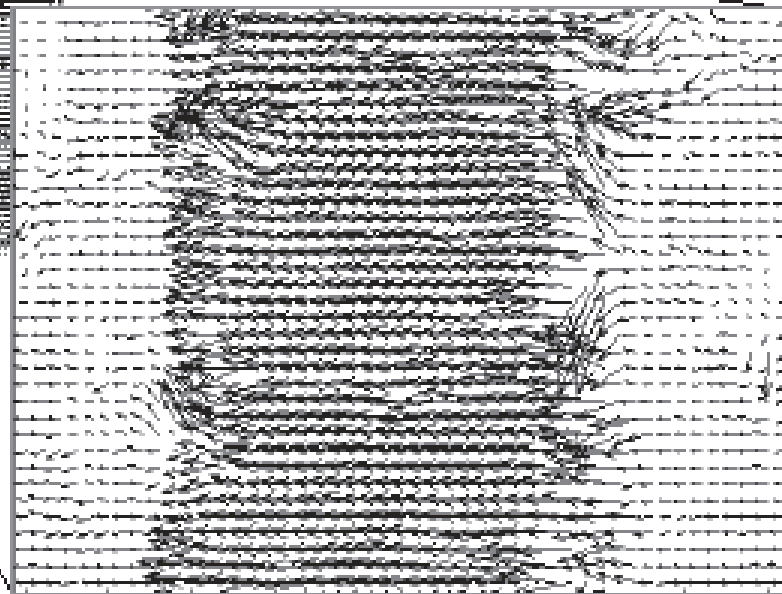


# Optical Flow Results

---



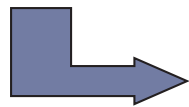
Lucas-Kanade with Pyramids



# When assumptions break

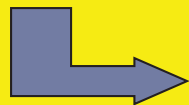
---

- ▶ Brightness constancy is **not** satisfied



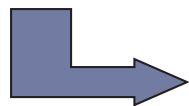
Correlation based methods

- ▶ A point does **not** move like its neighbors
  - ▶ what is the ideal window size?



Regularization based methods

- ▶ The motion is **not** small (Taylor expansion doesn't hold)
- ▶ Aliasing



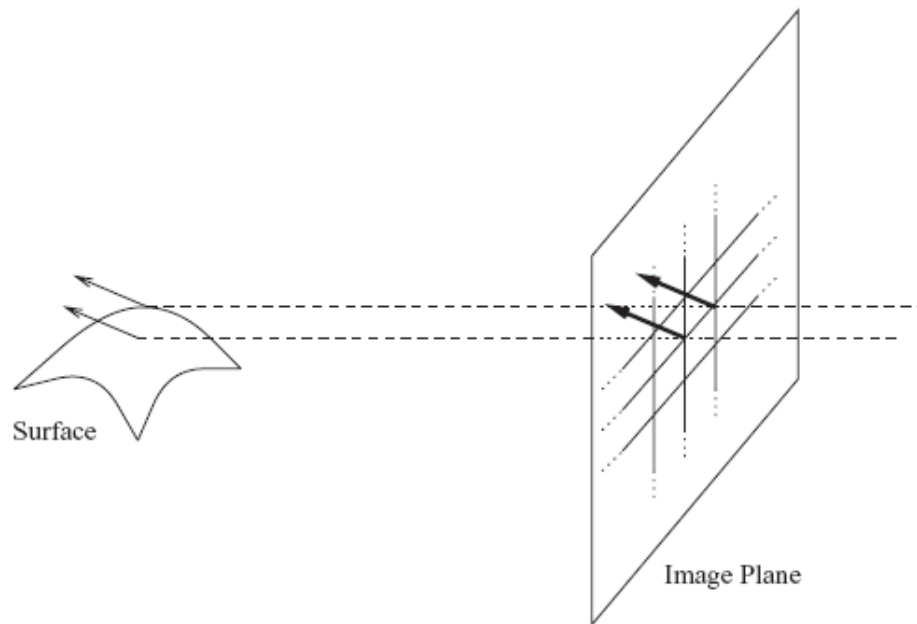
Use multi-scale estimation



# Spatial coherence

---

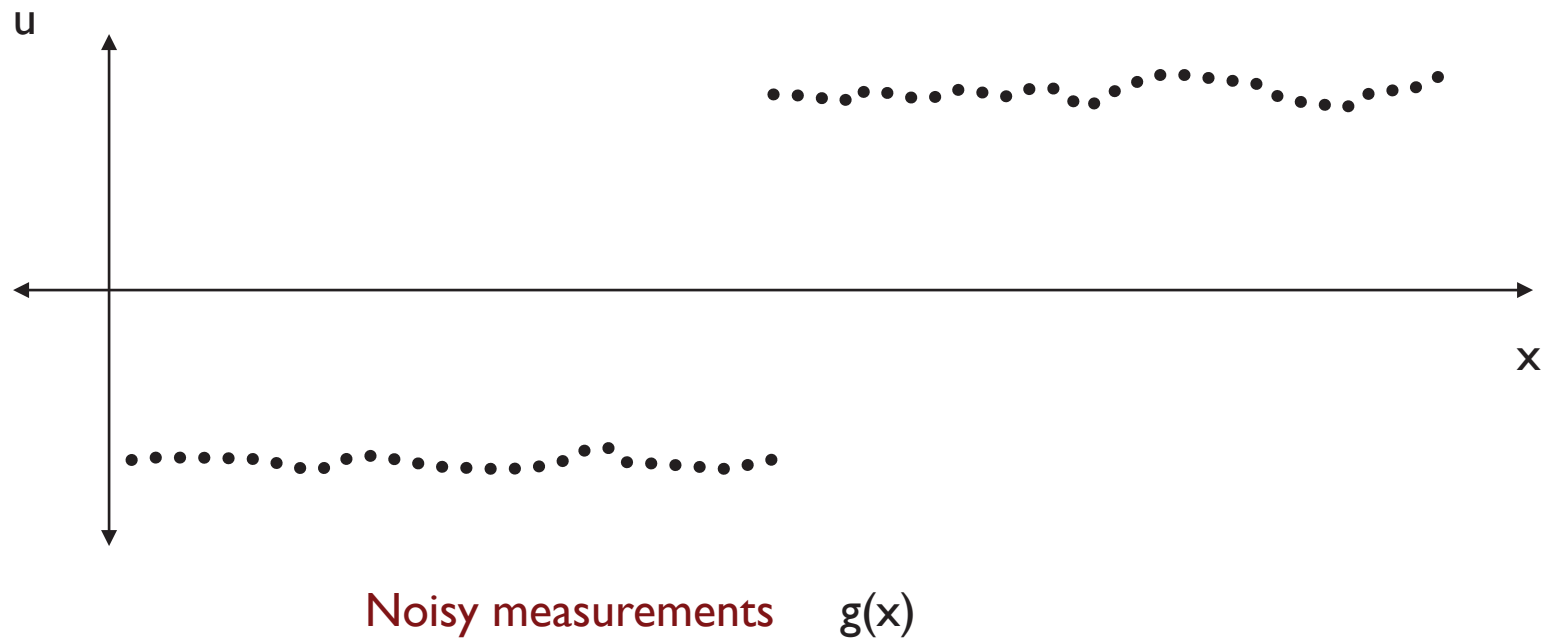
- ▶ Neighboring points in the scene typically belong to the same surface and hence typically have similar motions.
- ▶ Since they also project to nearby points in the image, we expect spatial coherence in image flow.



# Formalize this Idea

---

Noisy 1D signal:

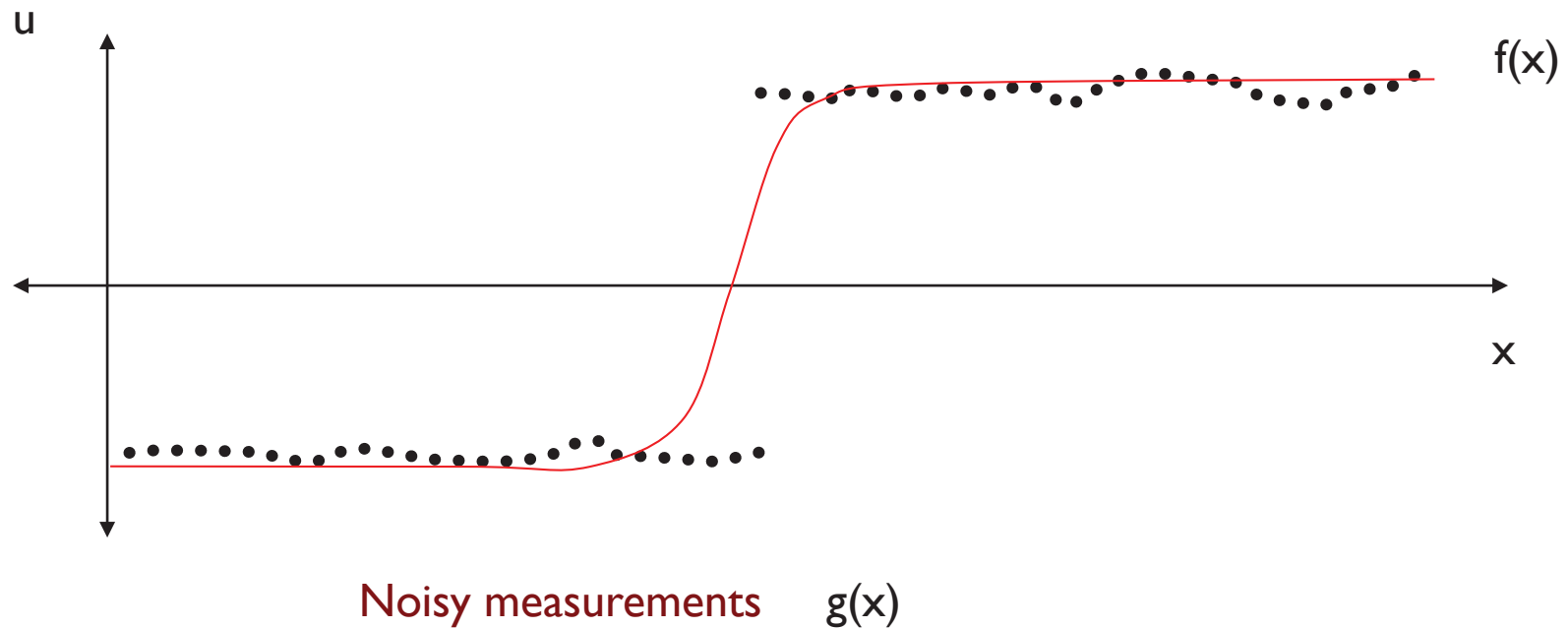




# Spatial Regularization

---

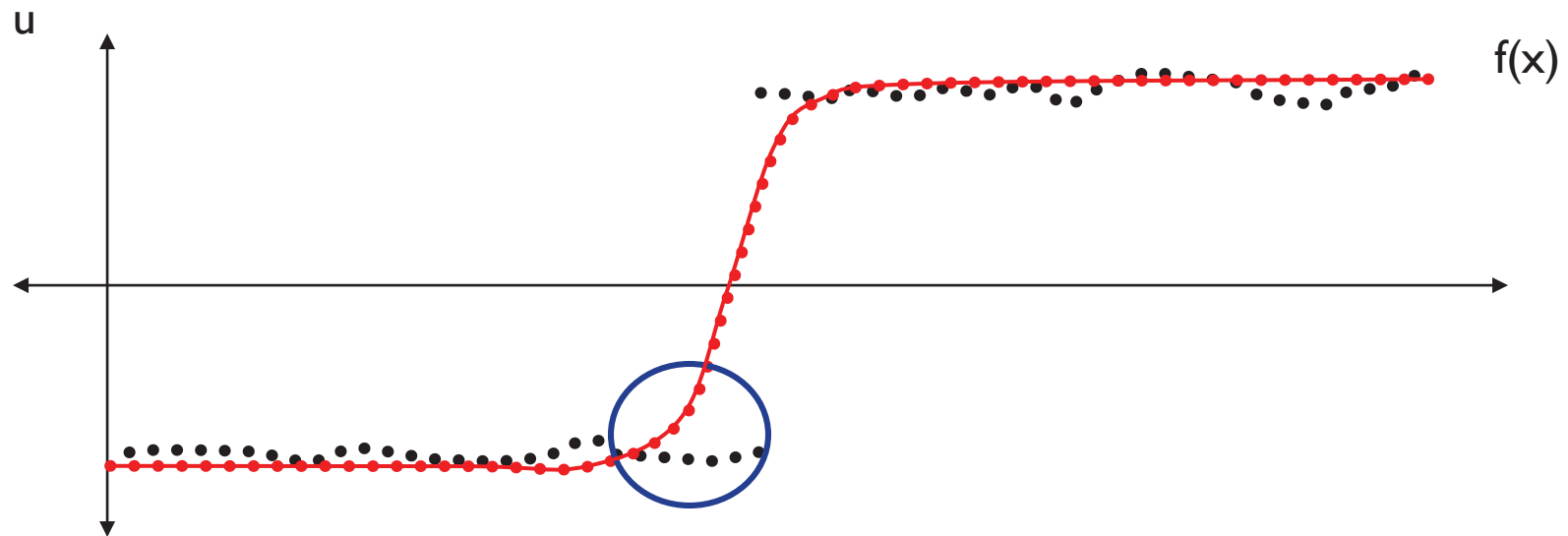
Find the “best fitting” smoothed function  $f(x)$



# Spatial Regularization

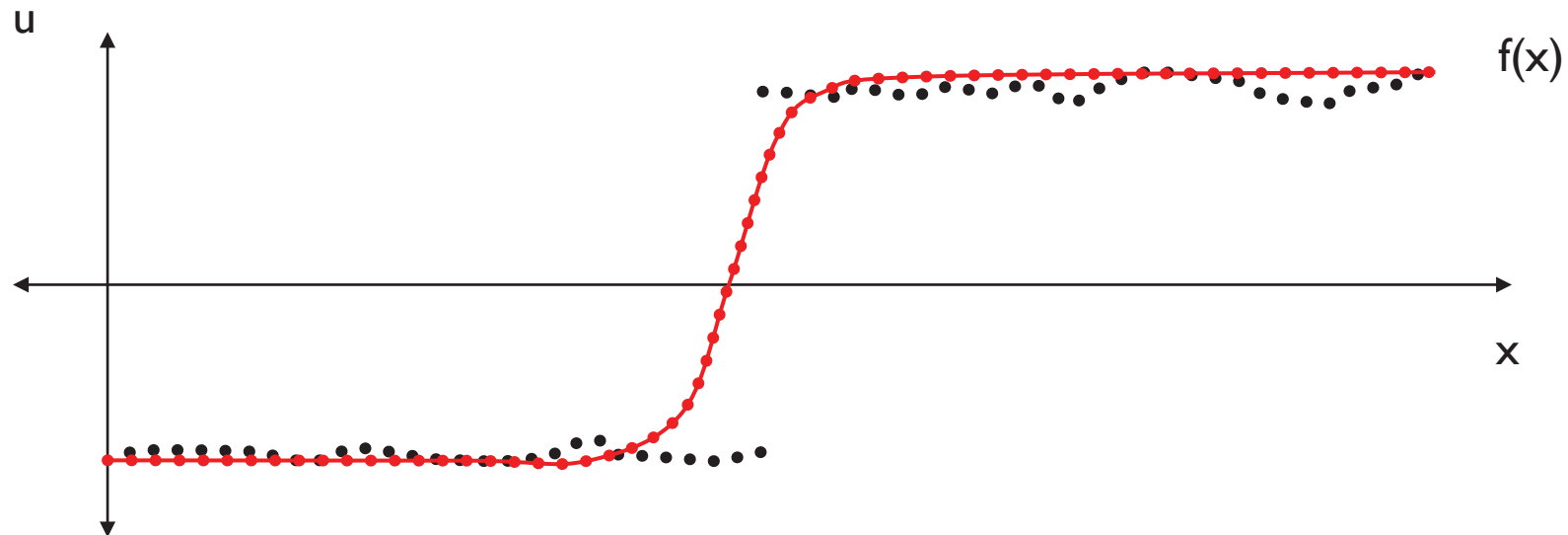
---

Find the “best fitting” smoothed function  $f(x)$



# Regularization

---



Minimize:

Faithful to the data

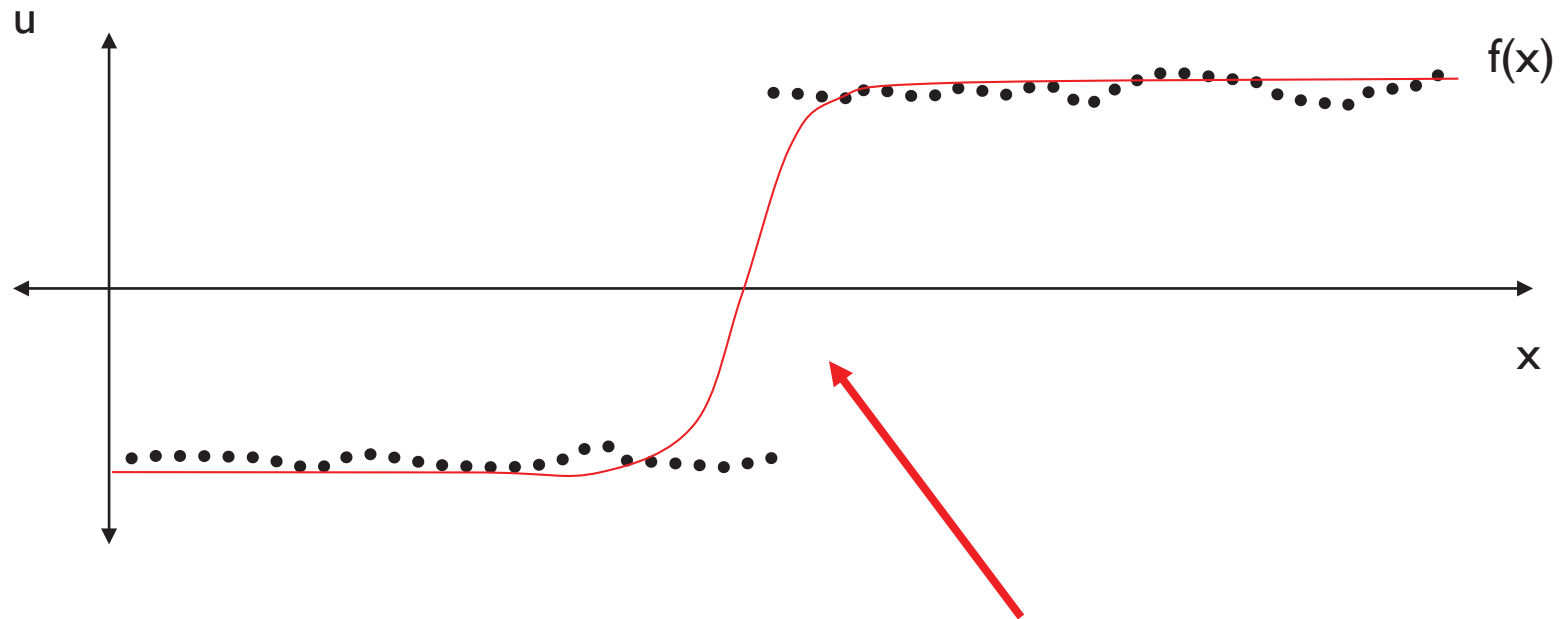
Spatial smoothness  
assumption

$$E(f) = \sum_{x=1}^N [f(x) - g(x)]^2 + \lambda \sum_{x=1}^{N-1} [f(x+1) - f(x)]^2$$



# Discontinuities

---

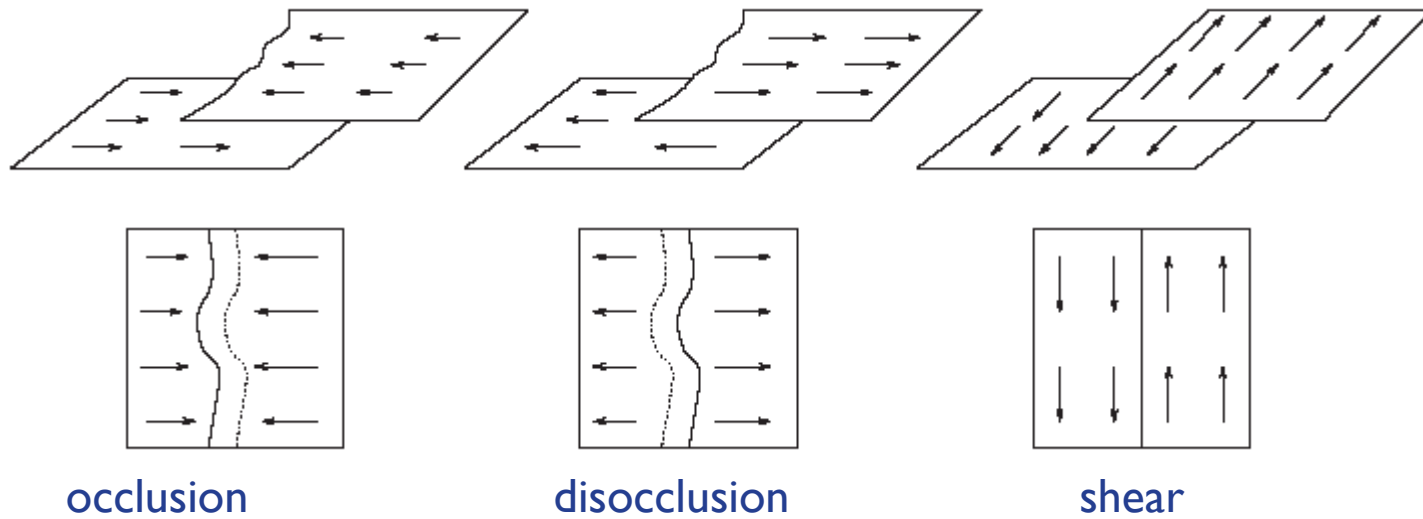


What about this discontinuity?  
What is happening here?  
What can we do?



# Occlusion

---

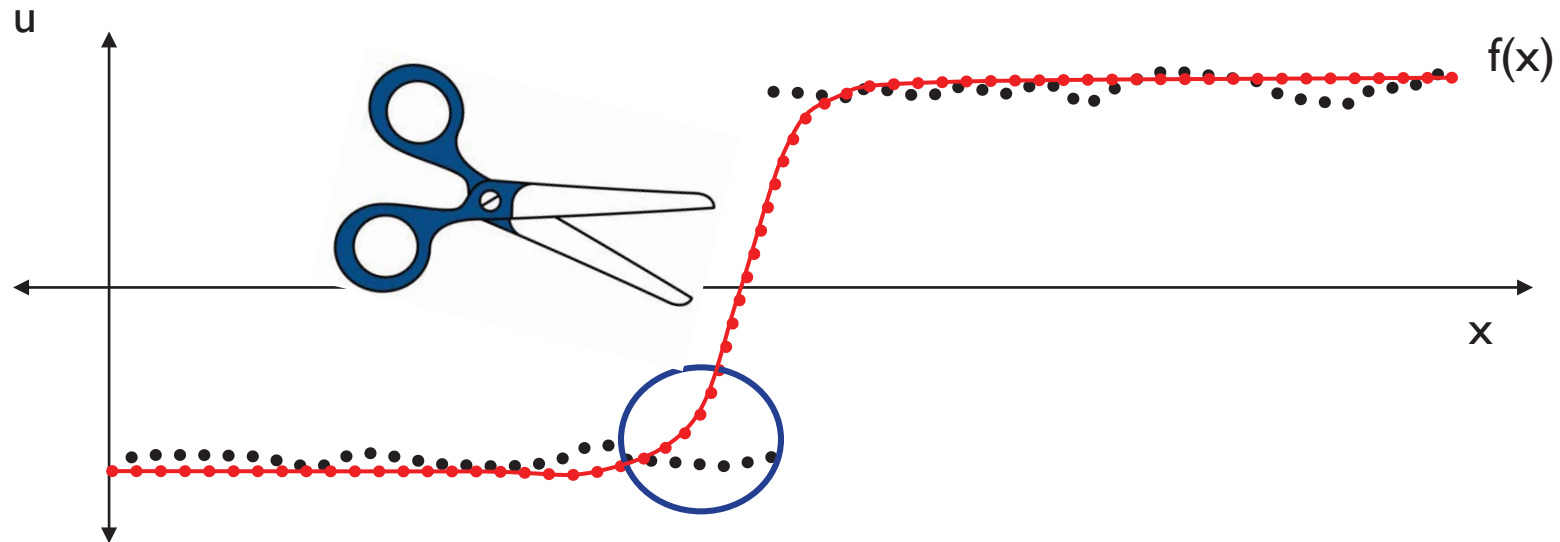


Multiple motions within a finite region.



# Weak membrane model

---



$$E(f, l) = \sum_{x=1}^N [f(x) - g(x)]^2 + \lambda \sum_{x=1}^{N-1} \left\{ l(x) [f(x+1) - f(x)]^2 + \beta [1 - l(x)] \right\}$$

$$l(x) \in \{0, 1\} \quad (\text{binary})$$

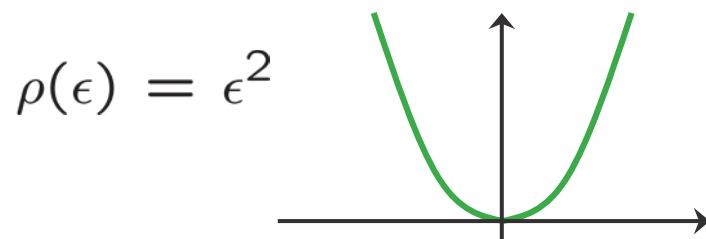


# Robust estimation

---

Problem: Least-squares estimators penalize deviations between data & model with quadratic error  $f^2$  (extremely sensitive to outliers)

error penalty function

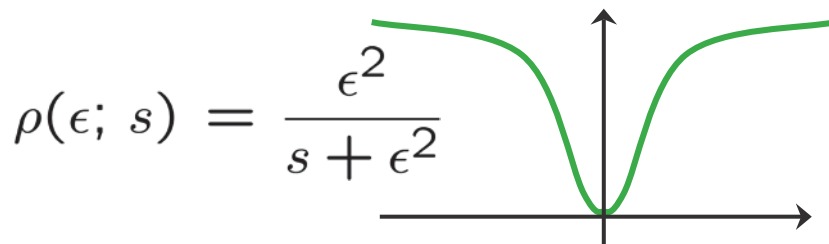


influence function

$$\psi(\epsilon) = \frac{\partial \rho(\epsilon)}{\partial \epsilon} = 2\epsilon$$

Redescending error functions (e.g., Geman-McClure) help to reduce the influence of outlying measurements.

error penalty function



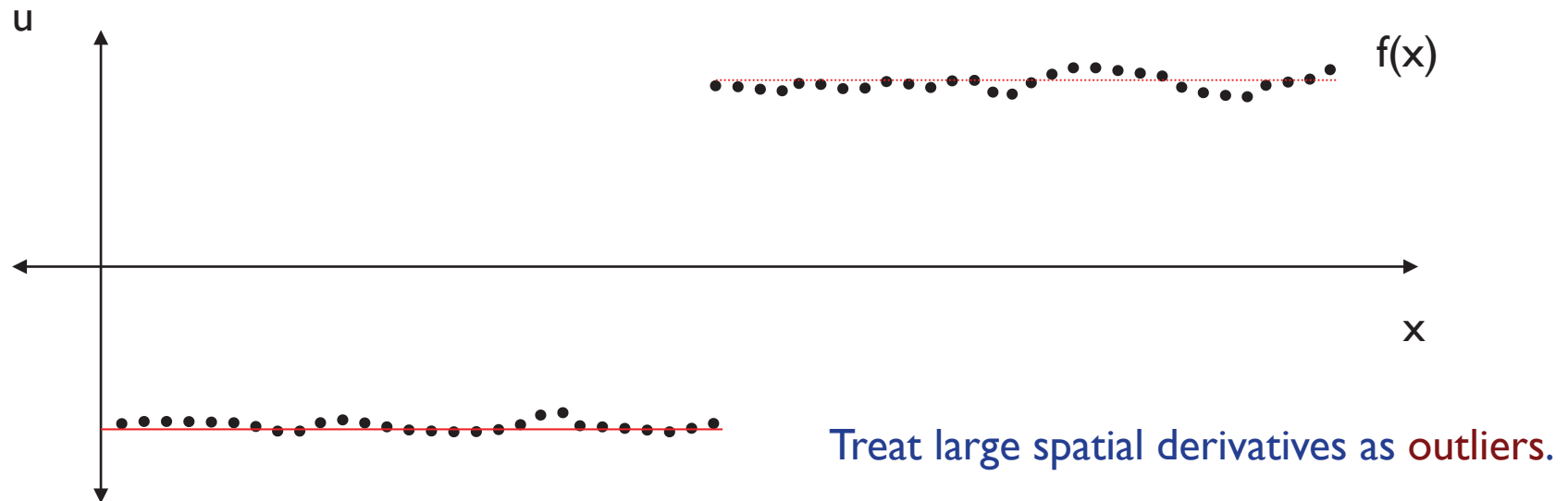
influence function

$$\psi(\epsilon; s) = \frac{2\epsilon s}{(s + \epsilon^2)^2}$$



# Robust regularization

---



Minimize:

$$E(f) = \sum_{x=1}^N \rho(f(x) - g(x), \sigma_1) + \lambda \sum_{x=1}^{N-1} \rho(f(x+1) - f(x), \sigma_2)$$

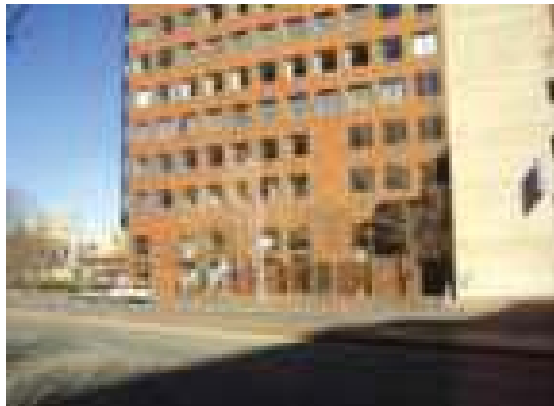




# SIFT Flow

Displacement between SIFT  
features, not between  
intensity images

$$E(\mathbf{w}) = \sum_{\mathbf{p}} \|s_1(\mathbf{p}) - s_2(\mathbf{p} + \mathbf{w})\|_1 + \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \sum_{\mathbf{p}} \left( u^2(\mathbf{p}) + v^2(\mathbf{p}) \right) + \sum_{(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) \in \mathcal{E}} \min \left( \alpha |u(\mathbf{p}) - u(\mathbf{q})|, d \right) + \min \left( \alpha |v(\mathbf{p}) - v(\mathbf{q})|, d \right)$$



<http://people.csail.mit.edu/celiu/ECCV2008/>



# EpicFlow: Edge-Preserving Interpolation of Correspondences for Optical Flow

Jerome Revaud

*Joint work with:*

Philippe Weinzaepfel

Zaid Harchaoui

Cordelia Schmid

**Inria**

<https://thoth.inrialpes.fr/src/epicflow/>

CVPR 2015



## Optical flow estimation is challenging!

- Main remaining problems:
  - ▶ large displacements
  - ▶ occlusions
  - ▶ motion discontinuities



## Optical flow estimation is challenging!

- Main remaining problems:
  - ▶ large displacements
  - ▶ occlusions
  - ▶ motion discontinuities
- Our approach: « **EpicFlow** »
  - Epic**: **E**dge-**P**reserving Interpolation of **C**orrespondences
    - ▶ leverages state-of-the-art matching algorithm
      - invariant to large displacements
    - ▶ incorporate an edge-aware distance:
      - handles occlusions and motion discontinuities
    - ▶ state-of-the-art results

## Related work:

- Variational optical flow [Horn and Schunck 1981]

- ▶ energy:

$$E = E_{data} + \alpha E_{smooth}$$

color/gradient constancy

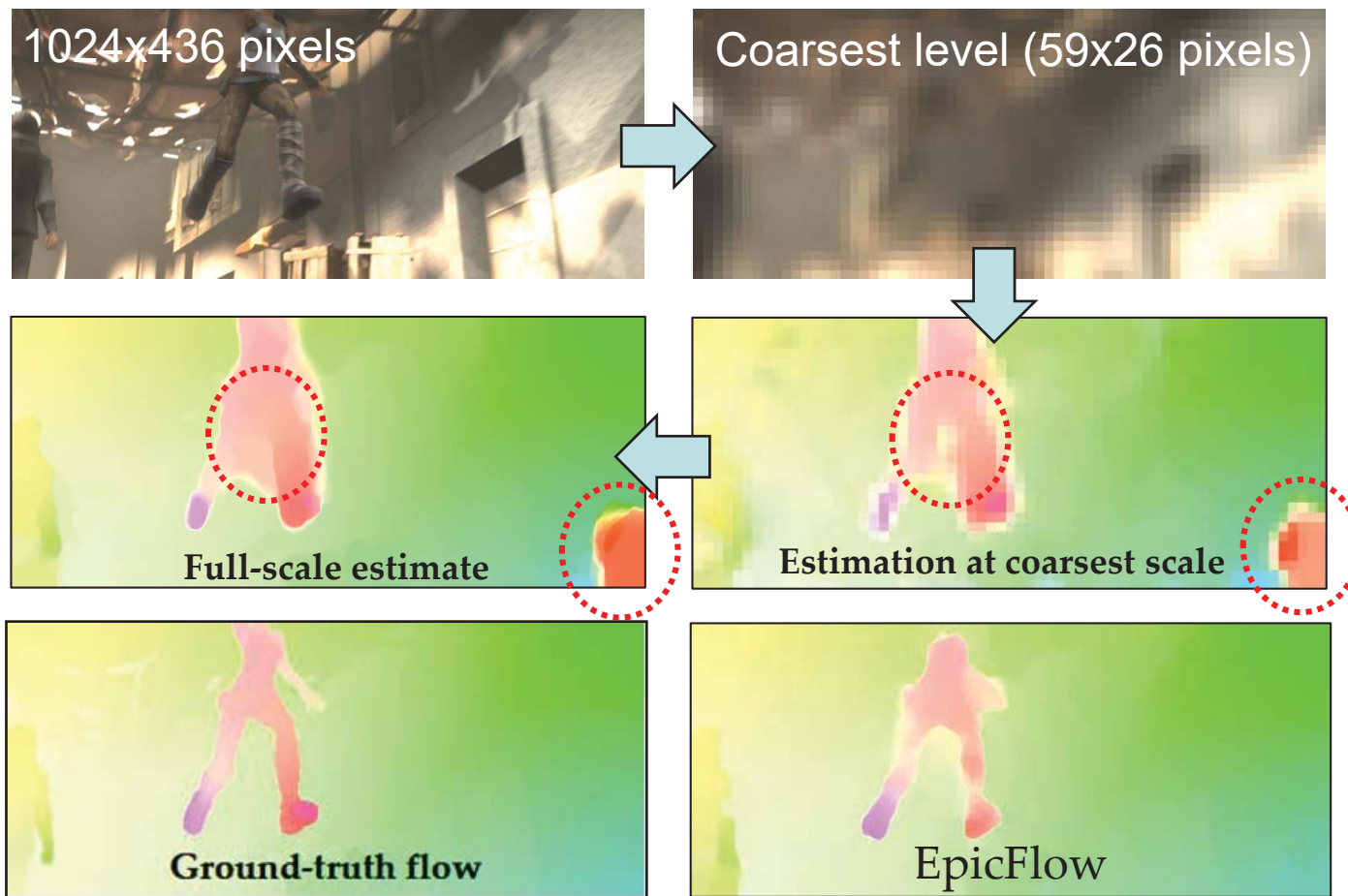
smoothness constraint

- Solutions for handling large displacements
  - ▶ Minimization using a coarse-to-fine scheme [Horn'81, Brox'04, Sun'13, ..]
    - iterative energy minimization at several scales
    - displacements are small at coarse scales
  - ▶ Addition of a **matching term** [Brox'11, Braux-Zin'13, Weinzaepfel'13, ..]
    - penalizing the difference between flow and HOG matches

$$E = E_{data} + \alpha E_{smooth} + \beta E_{match}$$

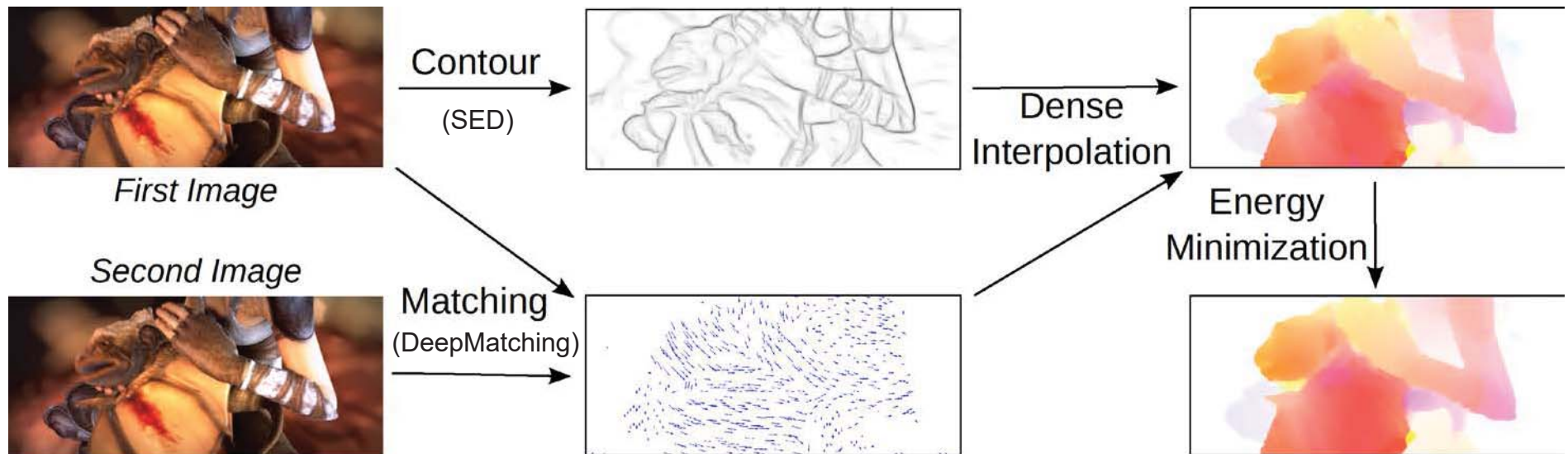
## Related work: coarse-to-fine minimization

- Problems with coarse-to-fine:
  - ▶ flow discontinuities overlap at coarsest scales
  - ▶ errors are propagated across scales
  - ▶ no theoretical guarantees or proof of convergence!



## Overview of our approach

based on sparse matches



- Avoid coarse-to-fine scheme
- Other matching-based approaches [Chen'13, Lu'13, Leordeanu'13]
  - ▶ less robust matching algorithms (eg. PatchMatch)
  - ▶ complex schemes to handle occlusions & motion discontinuities
  - ▶ no geodesic distance

## Dense Interpolation

- Assumption:
  - motion boundaries are mostly included in image edges



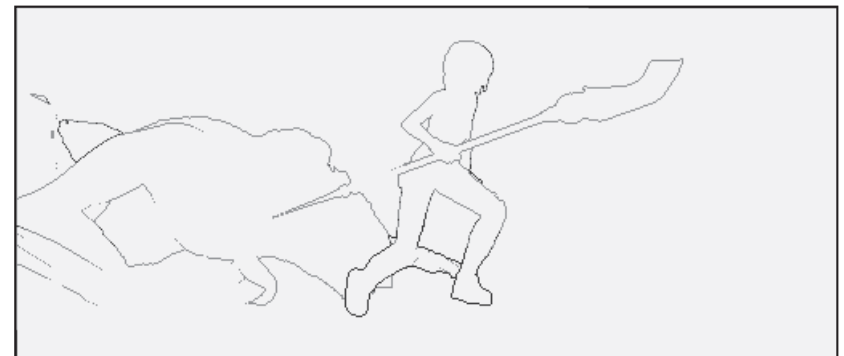
image



contours (SED, [Dollar and Zitnick, 2013])



ground-truth flow



motion boundaries



# Today

---

From images to video

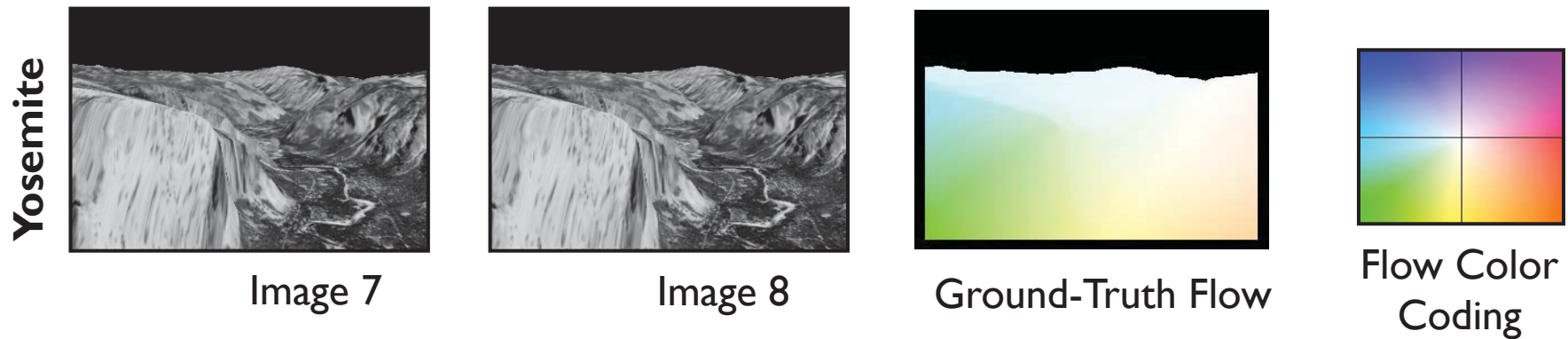
- ▶ Optical flow
- ▶ Feature tracking
- ▶ Motion segmentation
  - ▶ Layered representation
- ▶ Applications
- ▶ How do we evaluate success?  
[Baker et al., A Database and Evaluation Methodology for Optical Flow, ICCV'07]



# Synthetic video sequence

---

- ▶ Synthetic sequences can be used for quantitative evaluation



- ▶ Limitation
  - ▶ Hard to make these a true representative of real video and its noise and blur



# Real video with ground-truth

---

- ▶ Paint scene with textured fluorescent paint
- ▶ Take 2 images: One in visible light, one in UV light
- ▶ Move scene in very small steps using robot
- ▶ Generate ground-truth by tracking the UV images



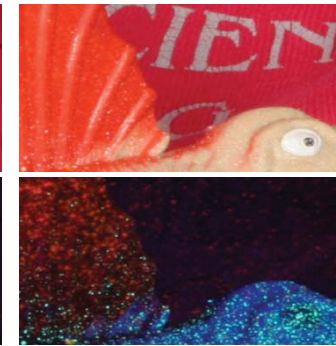
Setup



Lights



Image



Cropped

Visible

UV



# Middlebury dataset (Baker et al. 2007)

<http://vision.middlebury.edu/flow/>

## Optical flow evaluation results

Choose error measures: [Average](#) [SD](#) [R1.0](#) [R3.0](#) [R5.0](#) [A50](#) [A75](#) [A95](#)

Average angle error	avg. rank	Dimetrodon (Hidden texture)			Seashell (Hidden texture)			Rock (Synthetic)			Grove (Synthetic)			Yosemite (Synthetic)			Venus (Stereo)			Moebius (Stereo)		
		all	disc	untext	all	disc	untext	all	disc	untext	all	disc	untext	all	disc	untext	all	disc	untext	all	disc	untext
Bruhn et al.	1.6	<u>10.99</u> <sub>3</sub>	9.41 <sub>1</sub>	14.22 <sub>3</sub>	<u>11.09</u> <sub>2</sub>	19.48 <sub>2</sub>	16.21 <sub>2</sub>	<u>6.14</u> <sub>1</sub>	17.41 <sub>1</sub>	12.86 <sub>2</sub>	<u>6.32</u> <sub>1</sub>	12.41 <sub>1</sub>	10.98 <sub>1</sub>	<u>1.69</u> <sub>1</sub>	2.86 <sub>1</sub>	1.05 <sub>1</sub>	<u>8.73</u> <sub>2</sub>	31.46 <sub>2</sub>	8.15 <sub>2</sub>	<u>5.85</u> <sub>1</sub>	10.12 <sub>2</sub>	8.80 <sub>2</sub>
Black and Anandan	2.1	<u>9.26</u> <sub>1</sub>	10.11 <sub>3</sub>	<u>12.08</u> <sub>1</sub>	<u>11.20</u> <sub>3</sub>	19.83 <sub>3</sub>	17.01 <sub>3</sub>	<u>7.67</u> <sub>3</sub>	18.44 <sub>3</sub>	16.80 <sub>4</sub>	<u>7.89</u> <sub>2</sub>	13.55 <sub>2</sub>	13.96 <sub>4</sub>	<u>2.65</u> <sub>2</sub>	4.18 <sub>2</sub>	1.88 <sub>2</sub>	<u>7.64</u> <sub>1</sub>	30.13 <sub>1</sub>	7.31 <sub>1</sub>	<u>7.05</u> <sub>2</sub>	10.02 <sub>1</sub>	8.41 <sub>1</sub>
Pyramid LK	2.8	<u>10.27</u> <sub>2</sub>	9.71 <sub>2</sub>	13.63 <sub>2</sub>	<u>9.46</u> <sub>1</sub>	<u>18.62</u> <sub>1</sub>	<u>12.07</u> <sub>1</sub>	<u>6.53</u> <sub>2</sub>	18.43 <sub>2</sub>	<u>10.95</u> <sub>1</sub>	<u>8.14</u> <sub>3</sub>	15.08 <sub>3</sub>	12.78 <sub>2</sub>	<u>5.22</u> <sub>3</sub>	6.64 <sub>3</sub>	4.29 <sub>3</sub>	<u>14.61</u> <sub>4</sub>	36.18 <sub>4</sub>	24.67 <sub>5</sub>	<u>12.98</u> <sub>5</sub>	13.85 <sub>4</sub>	20.61 <sub>5</sub>
MediaPlayer™	4.1	<u>15.82</u> <sub>4</sub>	26.42 <sub>4</sub>	16.96 <sub>4</sub>	<u>23.18</u> <sub>4</sub>	27.71 <sub>5</sub>	21.78 <sub>4</sub>	<u>9.44</u> <sub>4</sub>	22.25 <sub>4</sub>	15.03 <sub>3</sub>	<u>10.99</u> <sub>4</sub>	18.15 <sub>4</sub>	13.64 <sub>3</sub>	<u>11.09</u> <sub>4</sub>	17.16 <sub>4</sub>	10.66 <sub>3</sub>	<u>15.48</u> <sub>5</sub>	43.56 <sub>5</sub>	15.09 <sub>4</sub>	<u>9.98</u> <sub>4</sub>	15.04 <sub>3</sub>	9.47 <sub>3</sub>
Zitnick et al.	4.2	<u>30.10</u> <sub>5</sub>	34.27 <sub>5</sub>	31.58 <sub>5</sub>	<u>29.07</u> <sub>5</sub>	27.55 <sub>4</sub>	21.78 <sub>4</sub>	<u>12.38</u> <sub>5</sub>	23.93 <sub>5</sub>	17.58 <sub>5</sub>	<u>12.55</u> <sub>5</sub>	15.56 <sub>4</sub>	17.35 <sub>5</sub>	<u>18.50</u> <sub>5</sub>	20.00 <sub>5</sub>	9.41 <sub>4</sub>	<u>11.42</u> <sub>3</sub>	31.46 <sub>2</sub>	11.12 <sub>3</sub>	<u>9.88</u> <sub>3</sub>	12.83 <sub>3</sub>	11.28 <sub>4</sub>

Color encoding of flow vectors



Flow image



Error image



# KITTI dataset (Geiger et al. 2012)

[http://www.cvlibs.net/datasets/kitti/eval\\_scene\\_flow.php?benchmark=flow](http://www.cvlibs.net/datasets/kitti/eval_scene_flow.php?benchmark=flow)

## The KITTI Vision Benchmark Suite

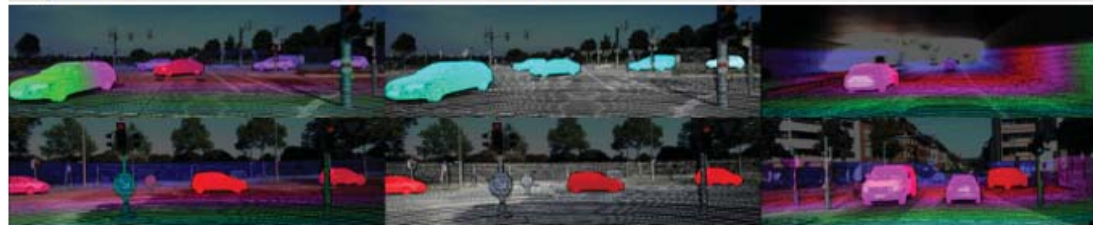
A project of Karlsruhe Institute of Technology and Toyota Technological Institute at Chicago



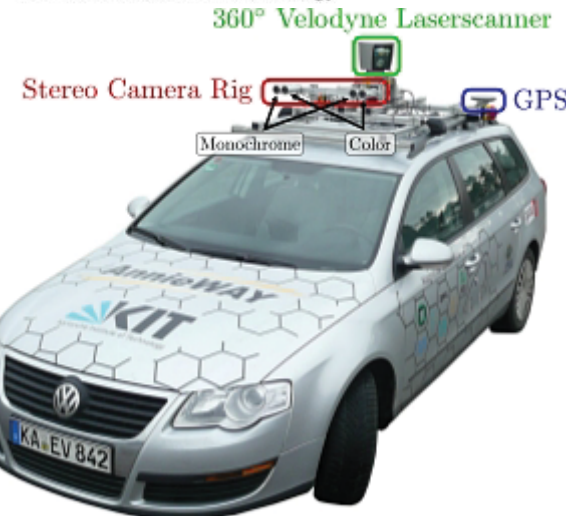
home setup stereo **flow** sceneflow depth odometry object tracking road semantics

Andreas Geiger (MPI Tübingen) | Philip Lenz (KIT) | Christoph Stiller (KIT) | Raquel Urtasun (UT Austin)

## Optical Flow Evaluation 2015



The stereo 2015 / flow 2015 / scene flow 2015 benchmark consists of 200 training scenes and 200 test scenes (4 color images per scene, saved in lossless png format). Compared to the stereo 2012 and flow 2012 benchmarks, it comprises dynamic scenes for which the ground truth has been established in a semi-automatic process. Our evaluation server computes the percentage of bad pixels averaged over all ground truth pixels of all 200 test images. For this benchmark, we consider a pixel to be correctly estimated if the disparity or flow end-point error is  $<3\text{px}$  or  $<5\%$  (for scene flow this criterion needs to be fulfilled for both disparity maps and the flow map). We require that all methods use the same parameter set for all test pairs. Our development kit provides details about the data format as well as MATLAB / C++ utility functions for reading and writing disparity maps and flow fields. More details can be found in [Object Scene Flow for Autonomous Vehicles \(CVPR 2015\)](#).





# KITTI dataset (Geiger et al. 2012)

[http://www.cvlibs.net/datasets/kitti/eval\\_scene\\_flow.php?benchmark=flow](http://www.cvlibs.net/datasets/kitti/eval_scene_flow.php?benchmark=flow)

Evaluation ground truth			All pixels		Evaluation area			All pixels		
	Method	Setting	Code	Fl-bg	Fl-fg	Fl-all	Density	Runtime	Environment	Compare
1	<a href="#">UberATG-DRISF</a>			3.59 %	10.40 %	4.73 %	100.00 %	0.75 s	CPU+GPU @ 2.5 Ghz (Python)	<input type="checkbox"/>
W. Ma, S. Wang, R. Hu, Y. Xiong and R. Urtasun: <a href="#">Deep Rigid Instance Scene Flow</a> . CVPR 2019.										
2	<a href="#">DH-SF</a>			4.12 %	12.07 %	5.45 %	100.00 %	350 s	1 core @ 2.5 Ghz (Matlab + C/C++)	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	<a href="#">ISF</a>			5.40 %	10.29 %	6.22 %	100.00 %	10 min	1 core @ 3 Ghz (C/C++)	<input type="checkbox"/>
A. Behl, O. Jafari, S. Mustikovela, H. Alhaija, C. Rother and A. Geiger: <a href="#">Bounding Boxes, Segmentations and Object Coordinates: How Important is Recognition for 3D Scene Flow Estimation in Autonomous Driving Scenarios?</a> . International Conference on Computer Vision (ICCV) 2017.										
4	<a href="#">HD^3-Flow</a>		<a href="#">code</a>	6.05 %	9.02 %	6.55 %	100.00 %	0.10 s	NVIDIA Pascal Titan XP	<input type="checkbox"/>
Z. Yin, T. Darrell and F. Yu: <a href="#">Hierarchical Discrete Distribution Decomposition for Match Density Estimation</a> . CVPR 2019.										
5	<a href="#">PRSM</a>		<a href="#">code</a>	5.33 %	13.40 %	6.68 %	100.00 %	300 s	1 core @ 2.5 Ghz (C/C++)	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. Vogel, K. Schindler and S. Roth: <a href="#">3D Scene Flow Estimation with a Piecewise Rigid Scene Model</a> . ijcv 2015.										
6	<a href="#">OSF+TC</a>			5.76 %	13.31 %	7.02 %	100.00 %	50 min	1 core @ 2.5 Ghz (C/C++)	<input type="checkbox"/>
M. Neoral and J. Šochman: <a href="#">Object Scene Flow with Temporal Consistency</a> . 22nd Computer Vision Winter Workshop (CVWW) 2017.										
7	<a href="#">SSF</a>			5.63 %	14.71 %	7.14 %	100.00 %	5 min	1 core @ 2.5 Ghz (Matlab + C/C++)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Z. Ren, D. Sun, J. Kautz and E. Sudderth: <a href="#">Cascaded Scene Flow Prediction using Semantic Segmentation</a> . International Conference on 3D Vision (3DV) 2017.										
8	<a href="#">SPOSF</a>			5.41 %	15.96 %	7.16 %	100.00 %	10 min	1 core @ 3.5 Ghz (Matlab + C/C++)	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	<a href="#">MFF</a>			7.15 %	7.25 %	7.17 %	100.00 %	0.05 s	NVIDIA Pascal Titan X (Python)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Z. Ren, O. Gallo, D. Sun, M. Yang, E. Sudderth and J. Kautz: <a href="#">A Fusion Approach for Multi-Frame Optical Flow Estimation</a> . IEEE Winter Conference on Applications of Computer Vision 2019.										
10	<a href="#">OSF 2018</a>		<a href="#">code</a>	5.38 %	17.61 %	7.41 %	100.00 %	390 s	1 core @ 2.5 Ghz (Matlab + C/C++)	<input type="checkbox"/>
M. Menze, C. Heipke and A. Geiger: <a href="#">Object Scene Flow</a> . ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (JPRS) 2018.										



# Today

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From images to video

- ▶ Optical flow
- ▶ Feature tracking
- ▶ Motion segmentation
  - ▶ Layered representation
- ▶ Applications



# Motion representations

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- ▶ How can we describe the motion in the scene?

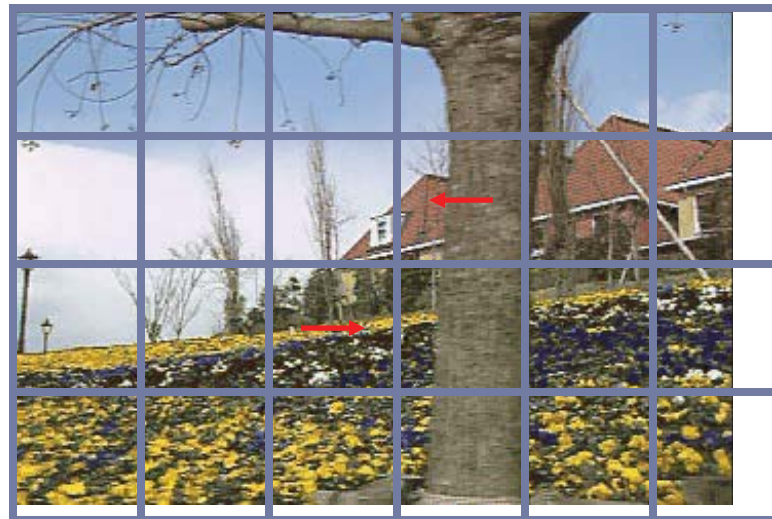




# Block-based motion prediction

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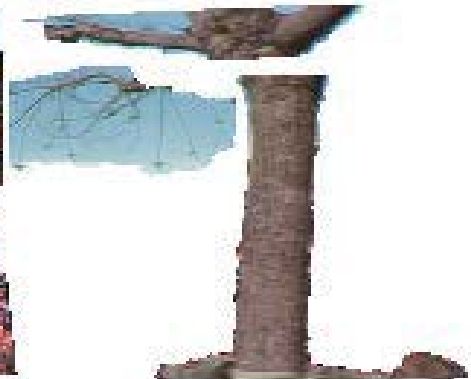
- ▶ Break image up into square blocks
- ▶ Estimate translation for each block
- ▶ Use this to predict next frame, code difference (MPEG-2)



# Layered motion representation

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- ▶ Break image sequence up into “layers” of coherent motion
- ▶ Each layer’s motion is represented by a parametric model



# Affine motion (dense)

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- ▶ Recall the brightness constancy equation

$$I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0$$

- ▶ Assume affine motion  $u = a_1 + a_2 x + a_3 y$

$$v = a_4 + a_5 x + a_6 y$$

- ▶ Combine the equations

$$I_x (a_1 + a_2 x + a_3 y) + I_y (a_4 + a_5 x + a_6 y) + I_t = 0$$

- ▶ Each pixel provides one equation
- ▶ Solve with Least-squares



# Layered motion

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- ▶ **Advantages**

- ▶ can represent occlusions / disocclusions
- ▶ each layer's motion can be smooth
- ▶ video segmentation for semantic processing

- ▶ **Difficulties:**

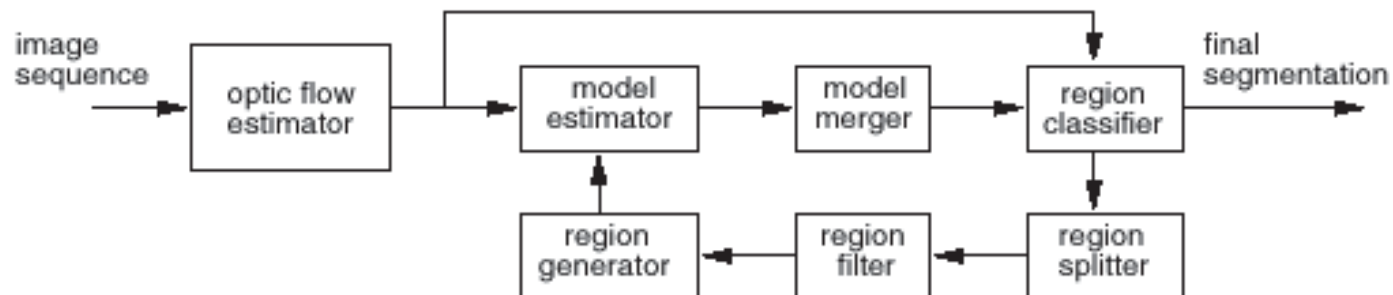
- ▶ how do we determine the correct number?
- ▶ how do we assign pixels?
- ▶ how do we model the motion?



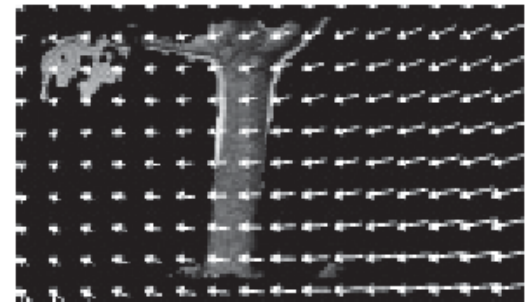
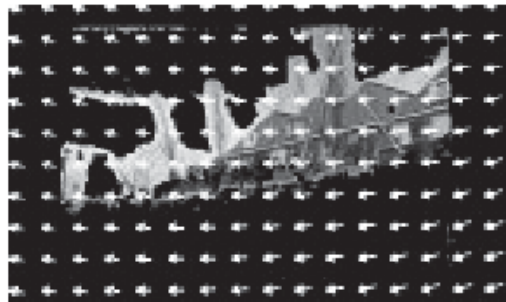
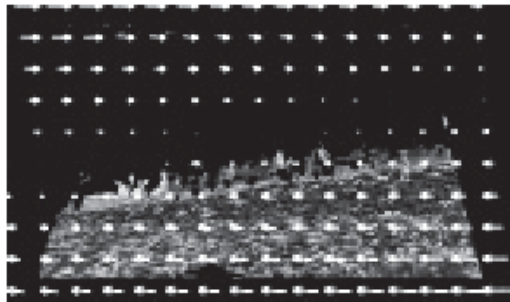
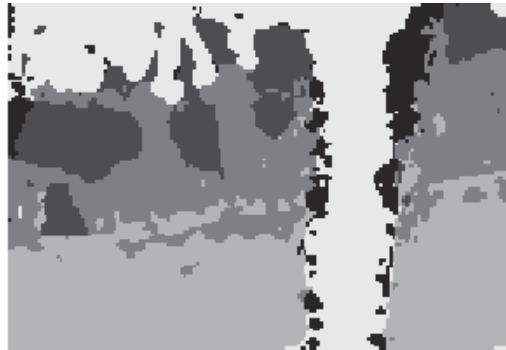
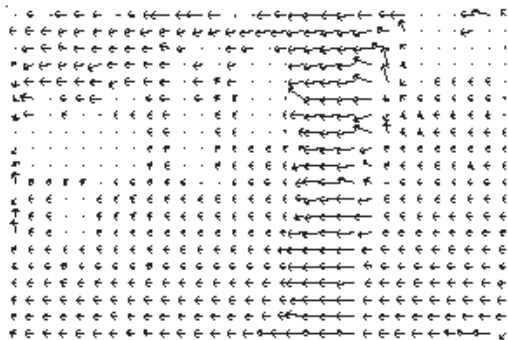
# How do we estimate the layers?

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1. compute coarse-to-fine flow
2. estimate affine motion for each block
3. cluster with *k-means*
4. assign pixels to best fitting affine region
5. re-estimate affine motions in each region...



# Layered motion result

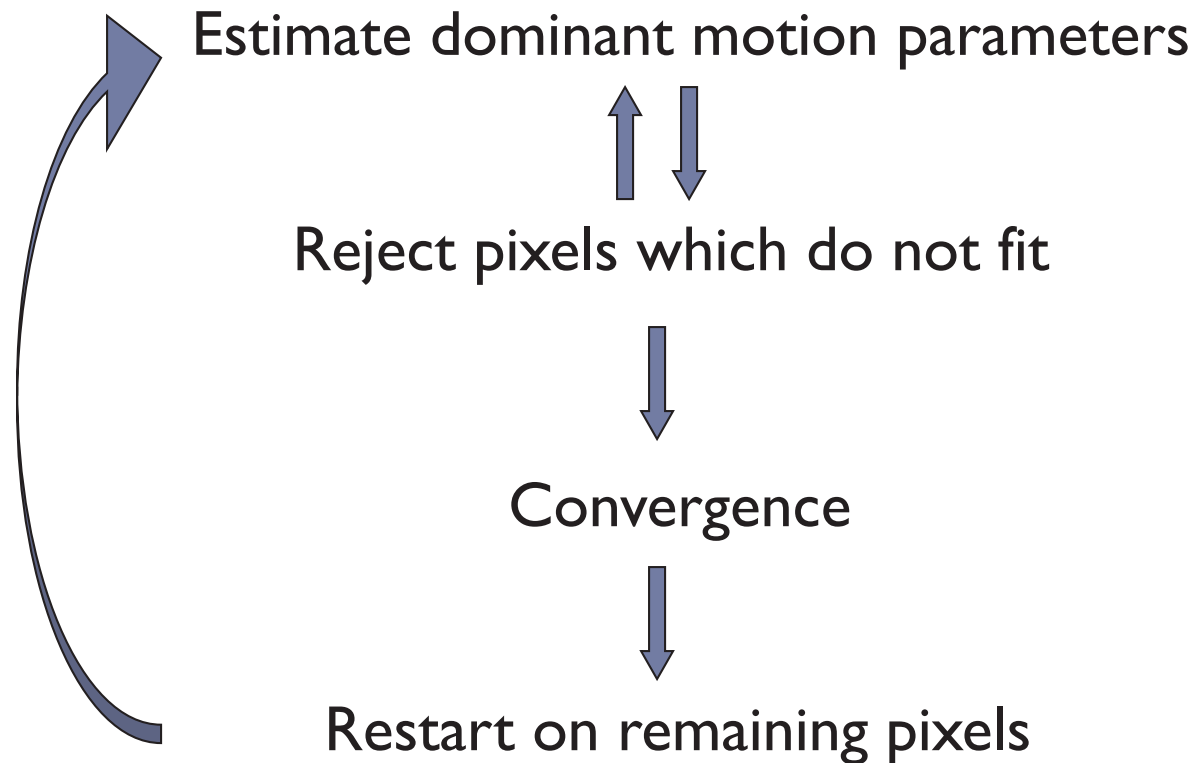


[Wang & Adelson, CVPR'93]

# Layered motion representation (option2)

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For scenes with multiple parametric motions



# Segmentation of Affine Motion

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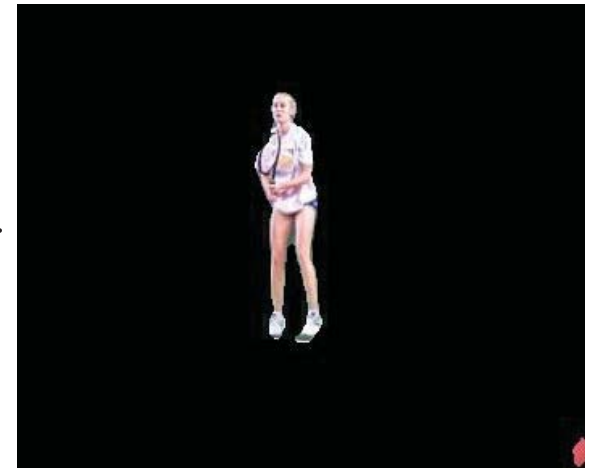


Input

=



+



Segmentation result

[Zelnik-Manor & Irani, PAMI 2000 ]





# Today

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From images to video

- ▶ Optical flow
- ▶ Feature tracking
- ▶ Motion segmentation
  - ▶ Layered representation
- ▶ Applications



# Panoramas

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Input



# Camera ego-motion

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Result by MobilEye ([www.mobileye.com](http://www.mobileye.com))

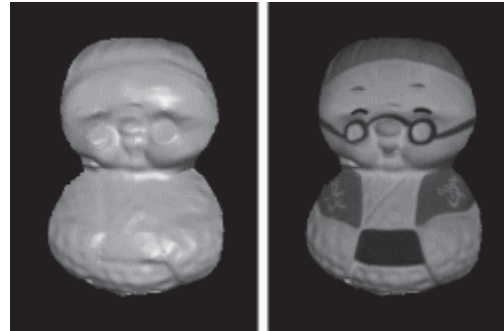


# Structure from Motion

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Input



Reconstructed shape

[Zhang, et al. ICCV'03]



# Stabilization

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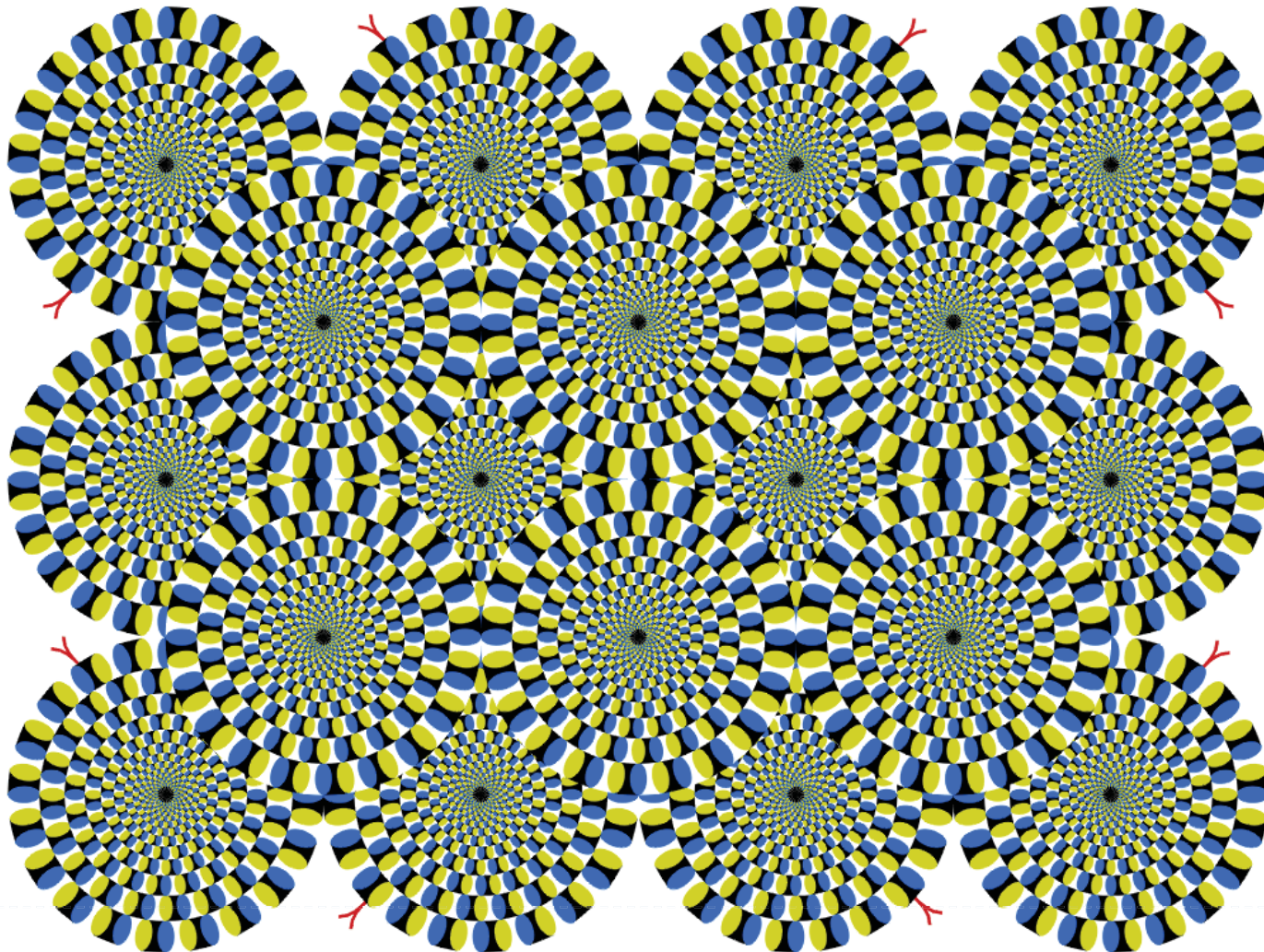
[Zelnik-Manor & Irani, PAMI 2000 ]

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# Optical flow without motion

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# References on Optical Flow

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## Lucas-Kanade method:

- ▶ B.D. Lucas and T. Kanade “**An Iterative Image Registration Technique with an Application to Stereo Vision**” IJCAI '81 pp. 674-679
- ▶ S. Baker and I. Matthews “**Lucas-Kanade 20 Years On: A Unifying Framework**” IJCV, Vol. 56, No. 3, March, 2004, pp. 221 - 255.  
[http://www.ri.cmu.edu/projects/project\\_515.html](http://www.ri.cmu.edu/projects/project_515.html) (papers + code)

## Regularization based methods:

- ▶ B. K. P. Horn and B. Schunck, “**Determining Optical Flow**,” Artificial Intelligence, 17 (1981), pp. 185-203
- ▶ Black, M. J. and Anandan, P., “**A framework for the robust estimation of optical flow**”, ICCV'93, May, 1993, pp. 231-236 (papers + code)

## Comparison of various optical flow techniques:

Barron, J.L., Fleet, D.J., and Beauchemin, S. “**Performance of optical flow techniques**”. IJCV, 1994, 12(1):43-77

## Layered representation (affine):

James R. Bergen P. Anandan Keith J. Hanna Rajesh Hingorani “**Hierarchical Model-Based Motion Estimation**” ECCV'92, pp. 237-- 252

