

# Computer Vision I - Algorithms and Applications: **Basics of Digital Image Processing** – *Part 2*

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06/11/2013

# Roadmap: Basics of Digital Image Processing

- Images
- Point operators (ch. 3.1)
- Filtering: (ch. 3.2, ch 3.3, ch. 3.4) – main focus
  - Linear filtering
  - Non-linear filtering
- Fourier Transformation (ch. 3.4)
- Multi-scale image representation (ch. 3.5)
- Edges detection and linking (ch. 4.2)
- Line detection (ch. 4.3)
- Interest Point detection (ch. 4.1.1)
- Using multiple Images: Define Challenges

# Reminder: Convolution

- Replace each pixel by a linear combination of its neighbours and itself.
- 2D convolution (discrete)

$$g = f * h$$

45	60	98	127	132	133	137	133
46	65	98	123	126	128	131	133
47	65	96	115	119	123	135	137
47	63	91	107	113	122	138	134
50	59	80	97	110	123	133	134
49	53	68	83	97	113	128	133
50	50	58	70	84	102	116	126
50	50	52	58	69	86	101	120

image  
 $f(x, y)$

Centred at 0,0

\*

0.1	0.2	0.1
0.1	0.2	0.1
0.1	0.1	0.1

=

69	95	116	125	129	132
68	92	110	120	126	132
66	86	104	114	124	132
62	78	94	108	120	129
57	69	83	98	112	124
53	60	71	85	100	114

smaller  
output?

filter (kernel)  
 $h(x, y)$

filtered image  
 $g(x, y)$

$$g(x, y) = \sum_{k,l} f(x - k, y - l)h(k, l) = \sum_{k,l} f(k, l)h(x - k, y - l)$$

# Reminder – Linear Filters

$$\frac{1}{K^2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & \cdots & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & \cdots & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & 1 & \vdots \\ 1 & 1 & \cdots & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{16} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{256} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 6 & 4 & 1 \\ 4 & 16 & 24 & 16 & 4 \\ 6 & 24 & 36 & 24 & 6 \\ 4 & 16 & 24 & 16 & 4 \\ 1 & 4 & 6 & 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{8} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -2 & 0 & 2 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{4} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 1 \\ -2 & 4 & -2 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

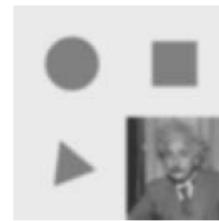
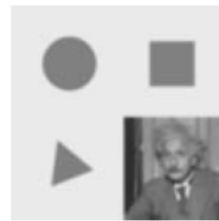
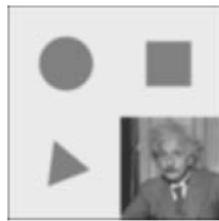
$$\frac{1}{K} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & \cdots & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{4} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{16} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 6 & 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



(a) box,  $K = 5$

(b) bilinear

(c) “Gaussian”

(d) Sobel

(e) corner

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- Using multiple Images: Define Challenges

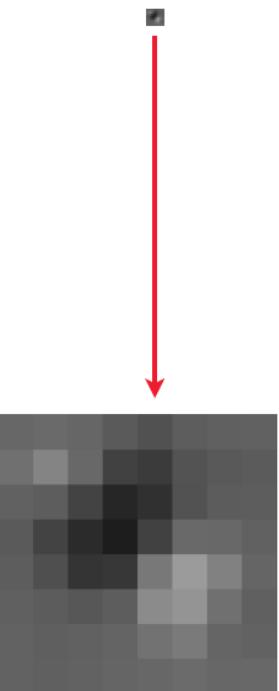
# Gaussian Image Pyramid

- Represent Image at multiple resolution

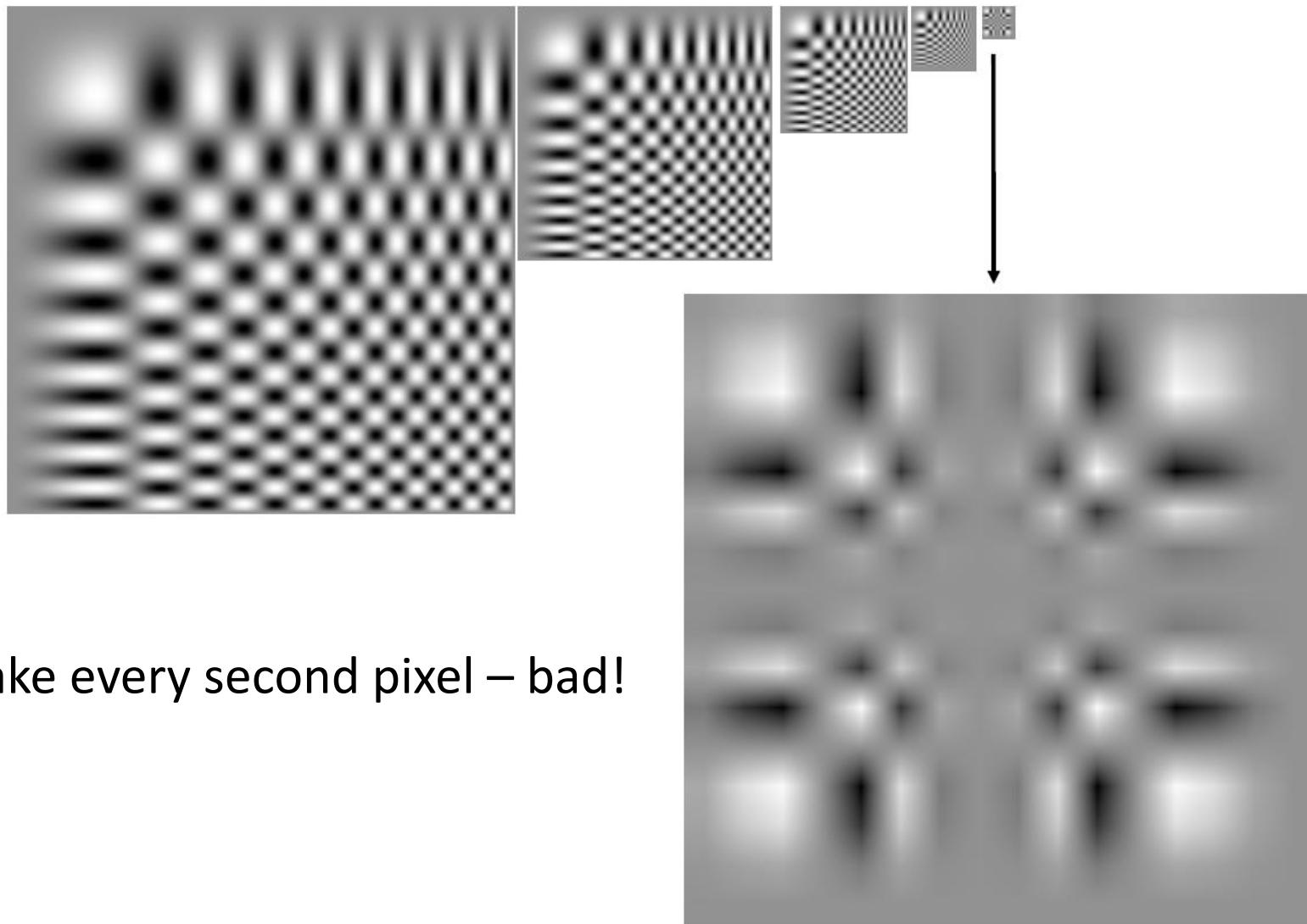
*High resolution*



*Low resolution*



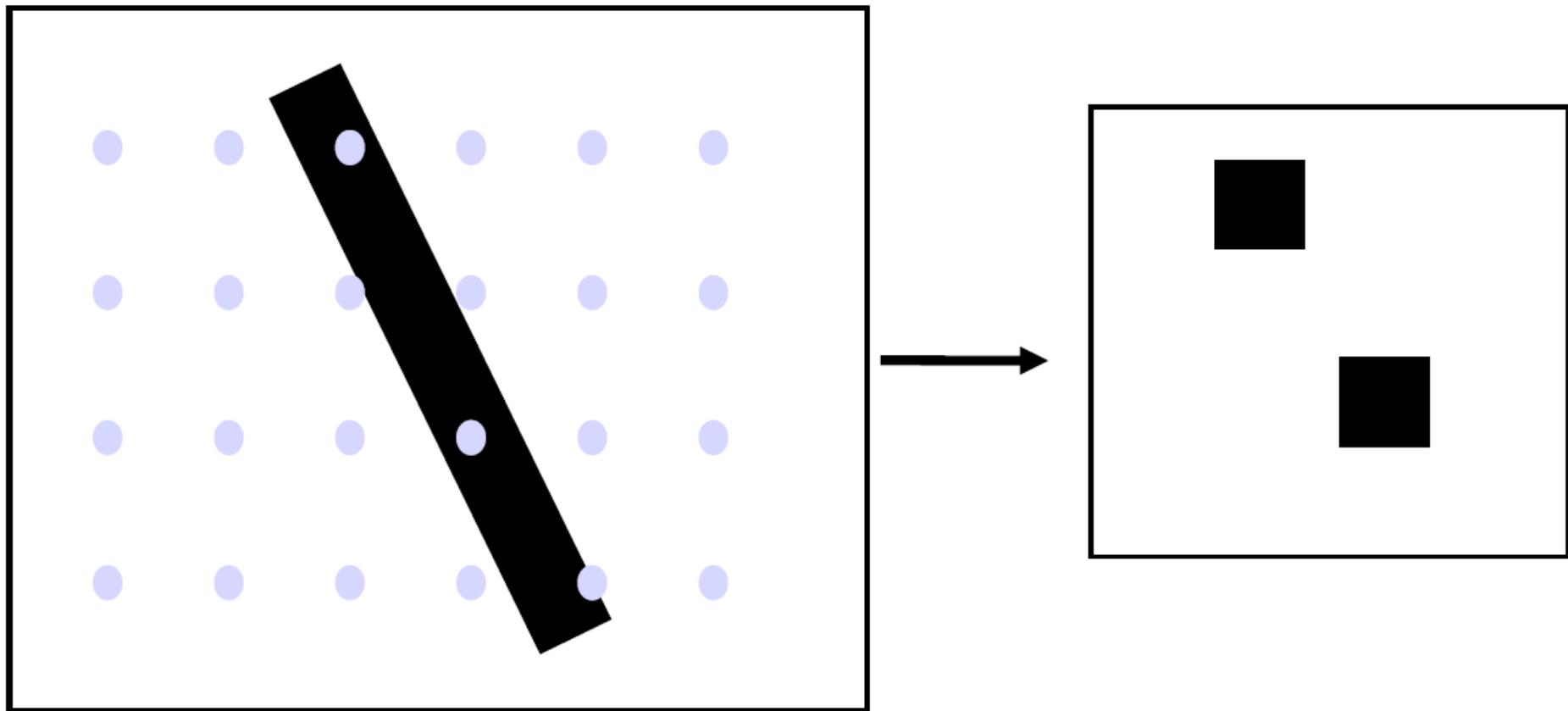
# A naive approach



Take every second pixel – bad!

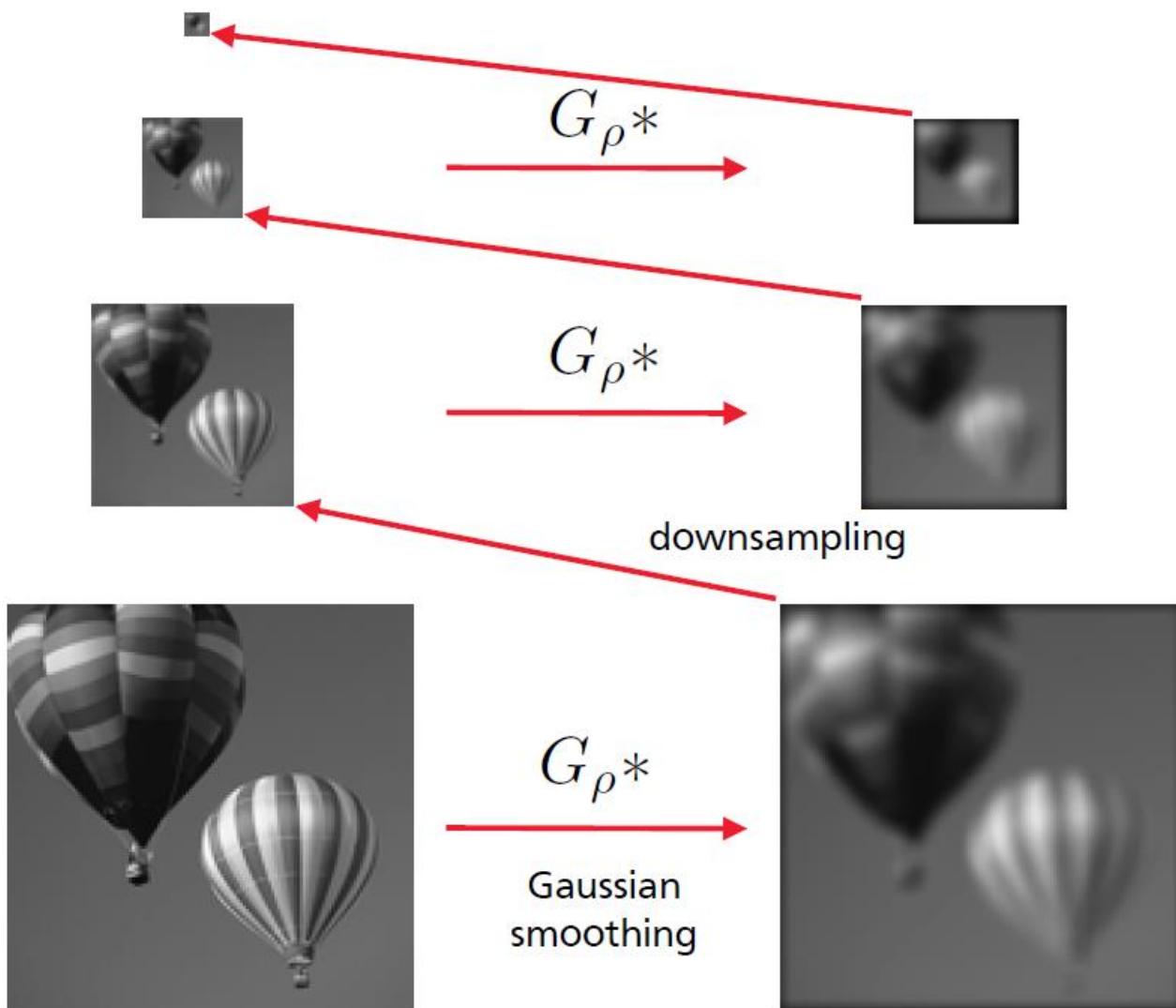
[From book: Computer Vision A modern Approach, Ponce and Forsyth]

# Problem: Aliasing Effect



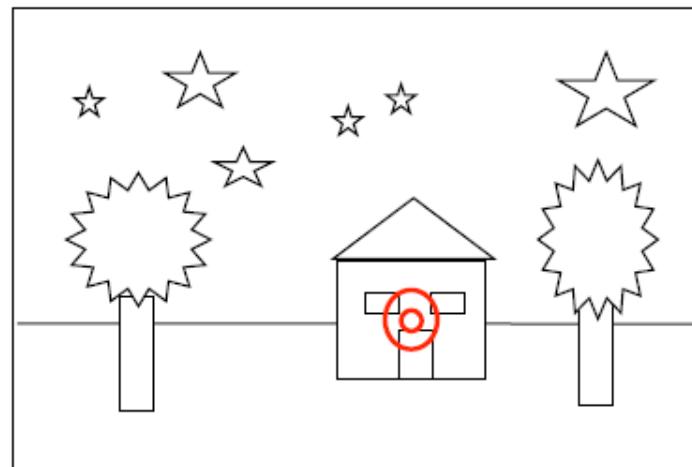
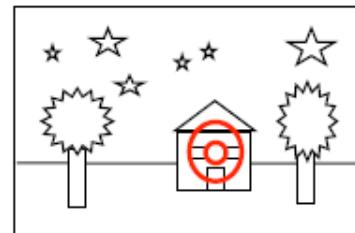
Problem: High frequencies (sharp transitions) are lost

# Solution: Smooth before downsampling



# Application: template search

Search template: 



[from Irani, Basri]

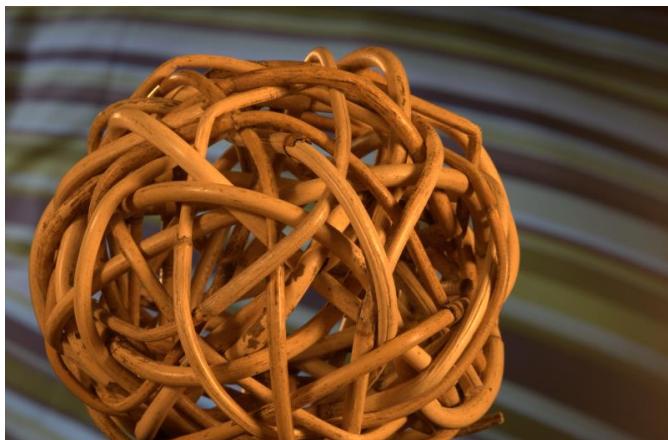
# Application: Large Image Segmentation



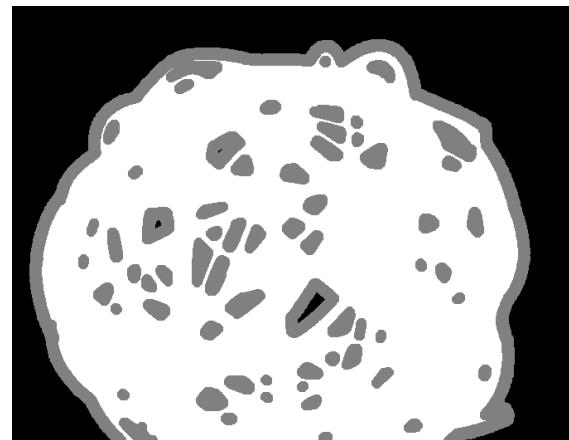
Small image  
(100x100)



Small segmentation  
result



Large image, e.g. 10 MPixel



Trimap: created  
from small image



Segmentation  
large image

## Banded Segmentation

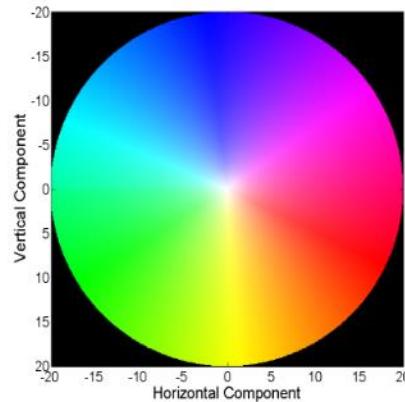
# Application: Large Label Space



2 images  
(overlaid)



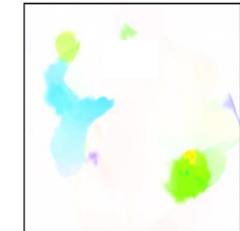
Motion  
 $200 \times 200$  possible  
discrete movements  
(40.000 labels)



Color coding

## Approach:

1. solve problem on small image ( $x5$  downscale)  
with  $40 \times 40$  label space (**coarse motion**)  
(1600 labels)
2. Do on full resolution only in  $5 \times 5$  neighbourhood  
around each solution (**add fine motion**)  
(25 labels)



(problem small objects  
can get lost)

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- Using multiple Images: Define Challenges

# Goal: Find long edge chains

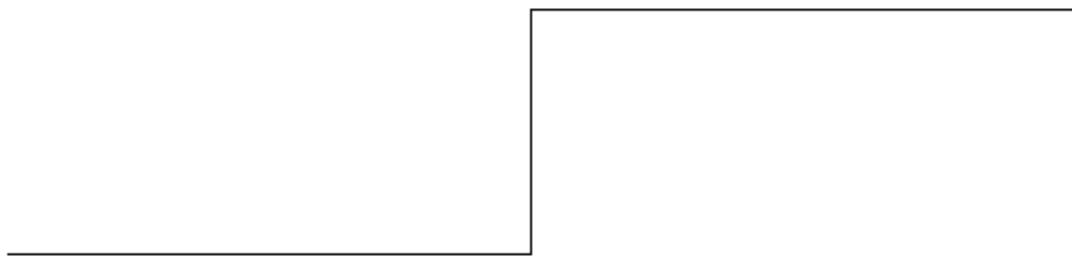
## What do we want:

- **Good detection:** we want to find edges not noise
- **Good localization:** find true edge
- **Single response:** one per edge  
(independent of edge sharpness)
- **Long edge-chains**



# Idealized edge types

step

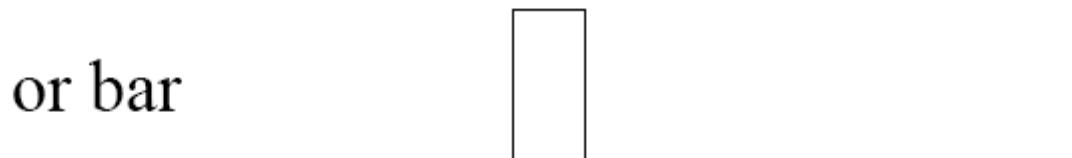


We focus  
on this

ramp



line or bar



roof



# What are edges ?

- correspond to fast changes in the image
- The magnitude of the derivative is large

Image of 2  
step edges

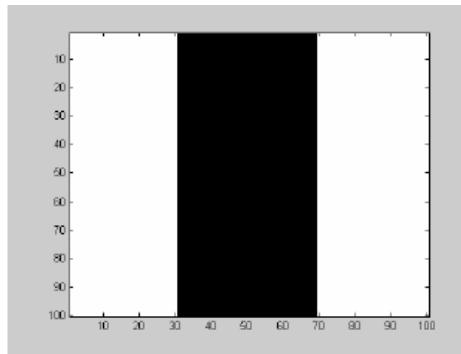
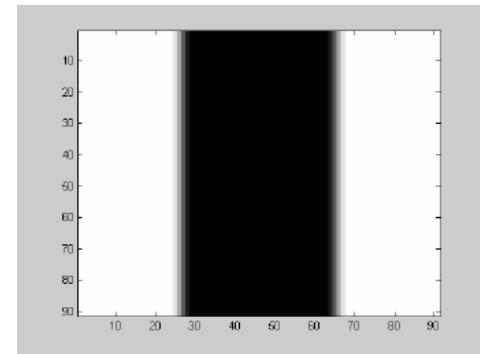
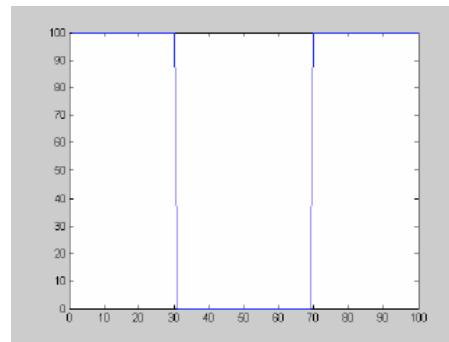


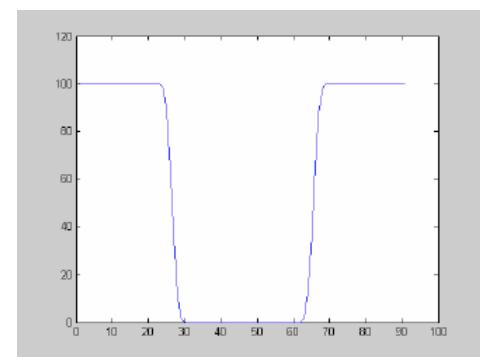
Image of 2  
ramp edges



Slice through  
the image



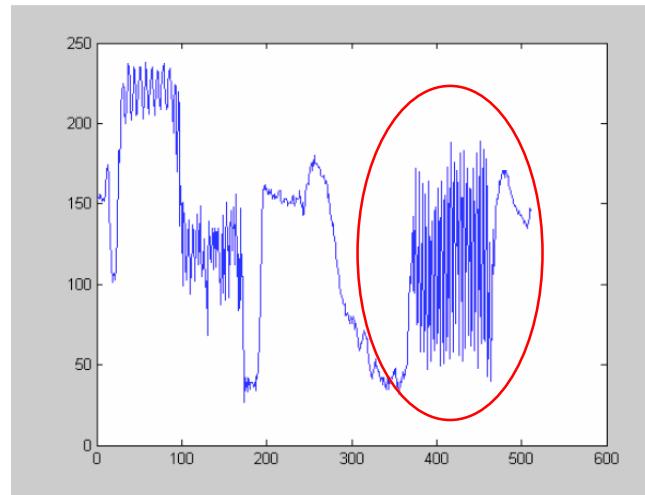
Slice through  
the image



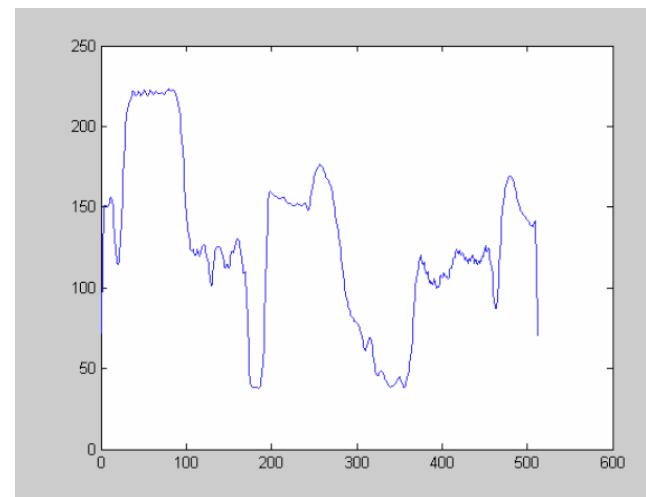
# What are fast changes in the image?



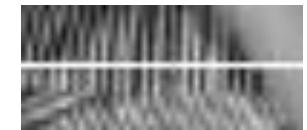
Image



Scanline 250



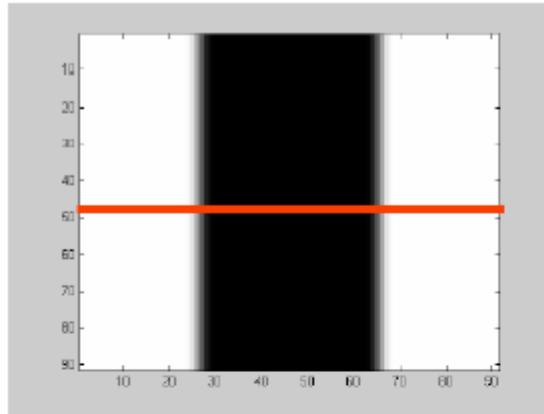
Scanline 250 smoothed with Gausian



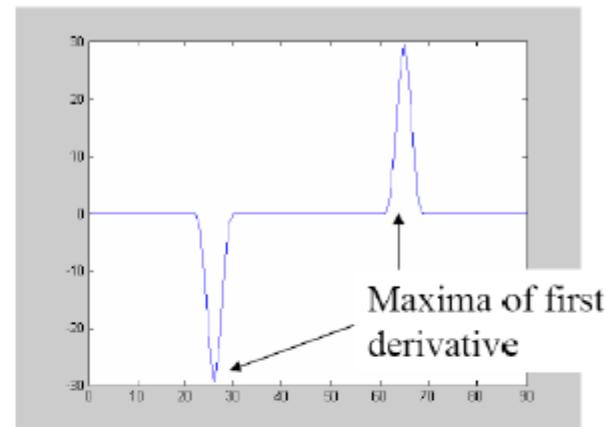
Texture or many edges?

Edges defined  
after smoothing

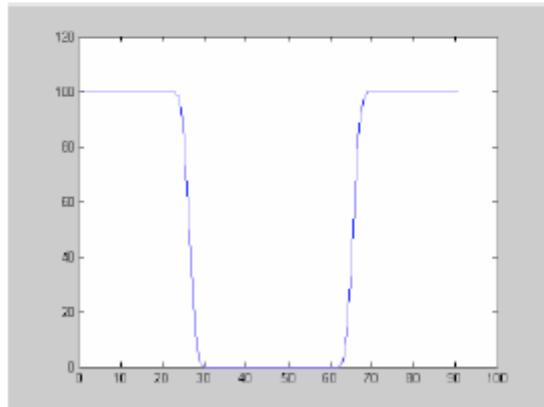
# Edges and Derivatives



1st derivative

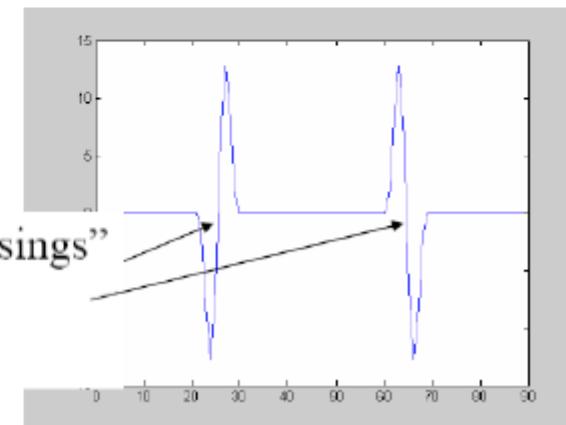


We will  
look at  
this first



2nd derivative

“zero crossings”  
of second  
derivative



# Edge filters in 1D

$$\frac{d}{dx} f(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + h) - f(x)}{h} \approx f(x + 1) - f(x)$$

We can implement this as a linear filter:

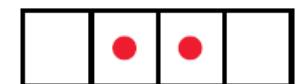
Forward differences:  $1/2$  

Central differences:  $1/2$  

Where is the derivative computed?



in between pixels



at pixels

# Reminder: Seperable Filters

$$\frac{1}{K^2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{16} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{256} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 6 & 4 & 1 \\ 4 & 16 & 24 & 16 & 4 \\ 6 & 24 & 36 & 24 & 6 \\ 4 & 16 & 24 & 16 & 4 \\ 1 & 4 & 6 & 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{8} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -2 & 0 & 2 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{4} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 1 \\ -2 & 4 & -2 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

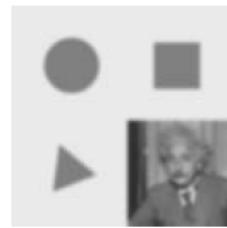
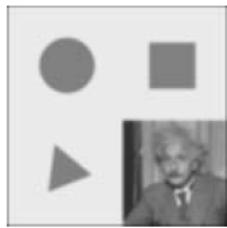
$$\frac{1}{K} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{4} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{16} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 6 & 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



(a) box,  $K = 5$

(b) bilinear

(c) “Gaussian”

(d) Sobel

(e) corner

This is the centralized differencesoperator

# Edge Filter in 1D: Example

Based on 1st derivative

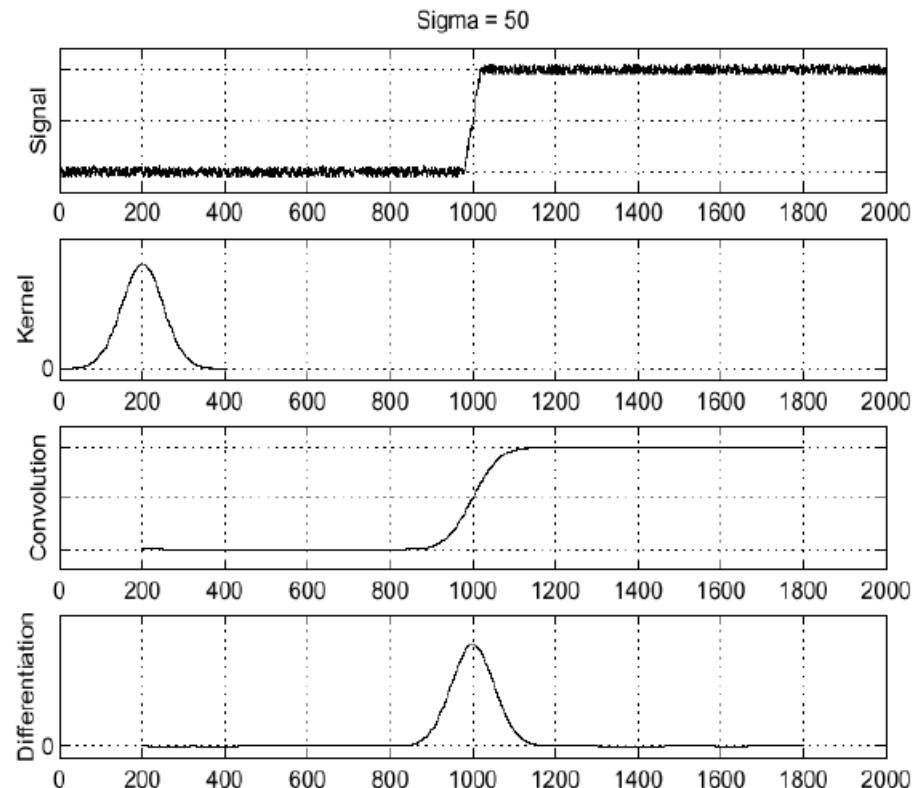
- Smooth with Gaussian – to filter out noise
- Calculate derivative
- Find its optima

$f$

$g$

$g * f$

$\frac{d}{dx}(g * f)$



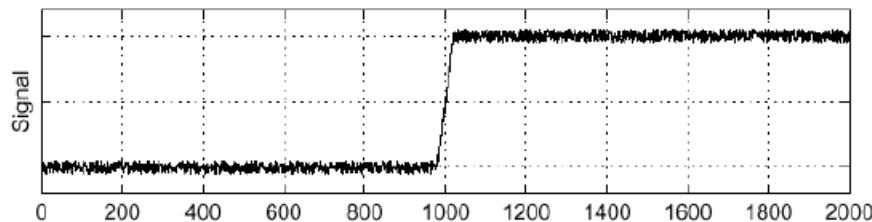
# Edge Filtering in 1D

Simplification:  
(saves one operation)

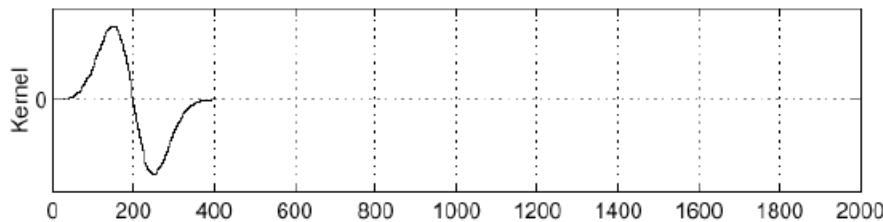
$$\frac{d}{dx} (g * f) = \left( \frac{d}{dx} g \right) * f$$

Derivative of Gaussian

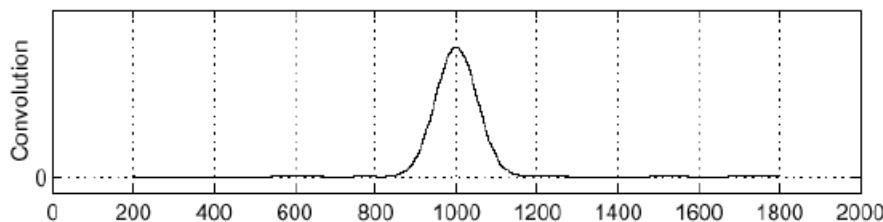
$f$



$\frac{d}{dx} g$



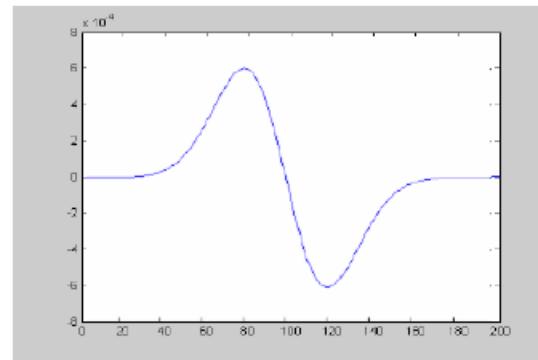
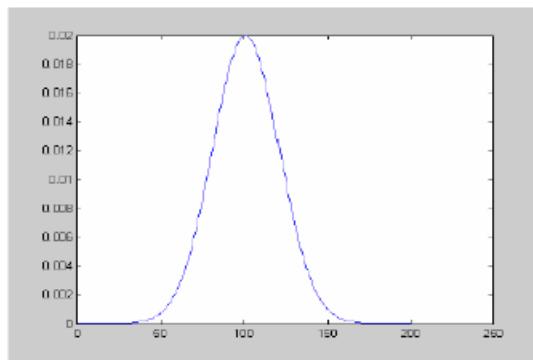
$\left( \frac{d}{dx} g \right) * f$



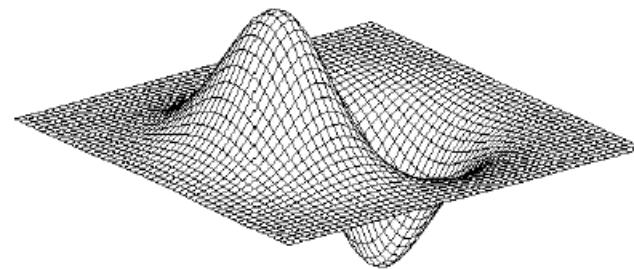
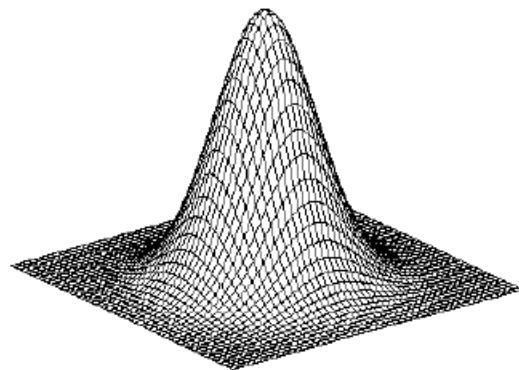
# Edge Filtering in 2D

- Derivative in x-direction:  $D_x * (G * I) = (D_x * G) * I$

- in 1D:



- in 2D:



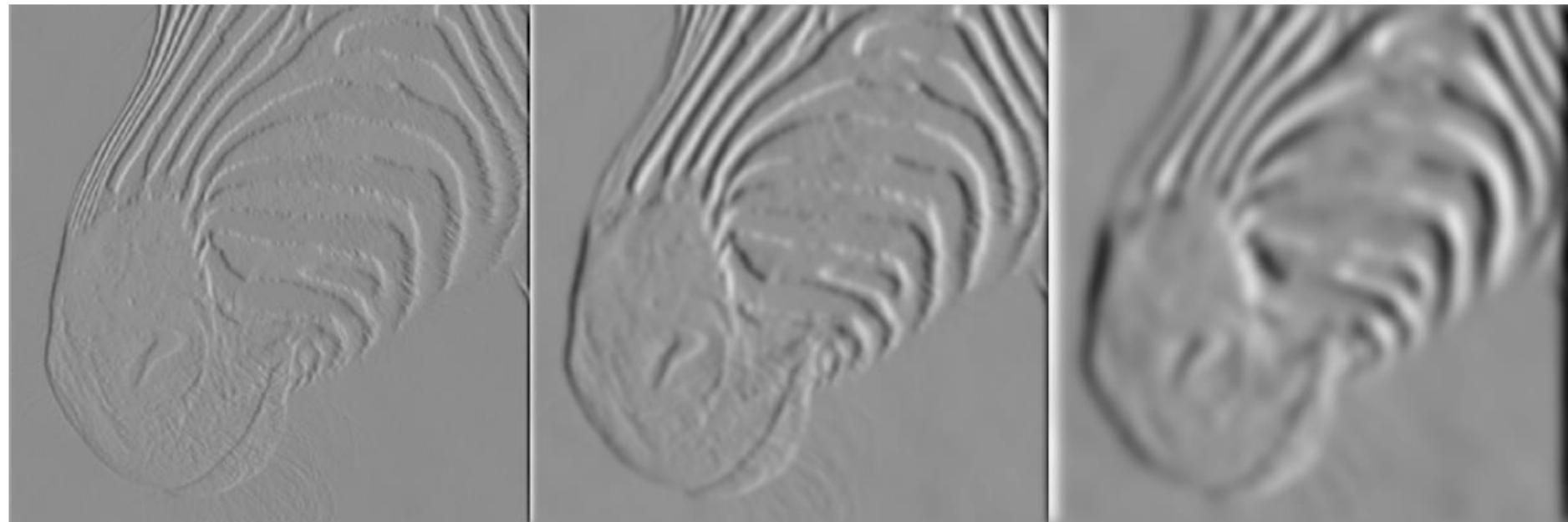
# Edge Filter in 2D: Example



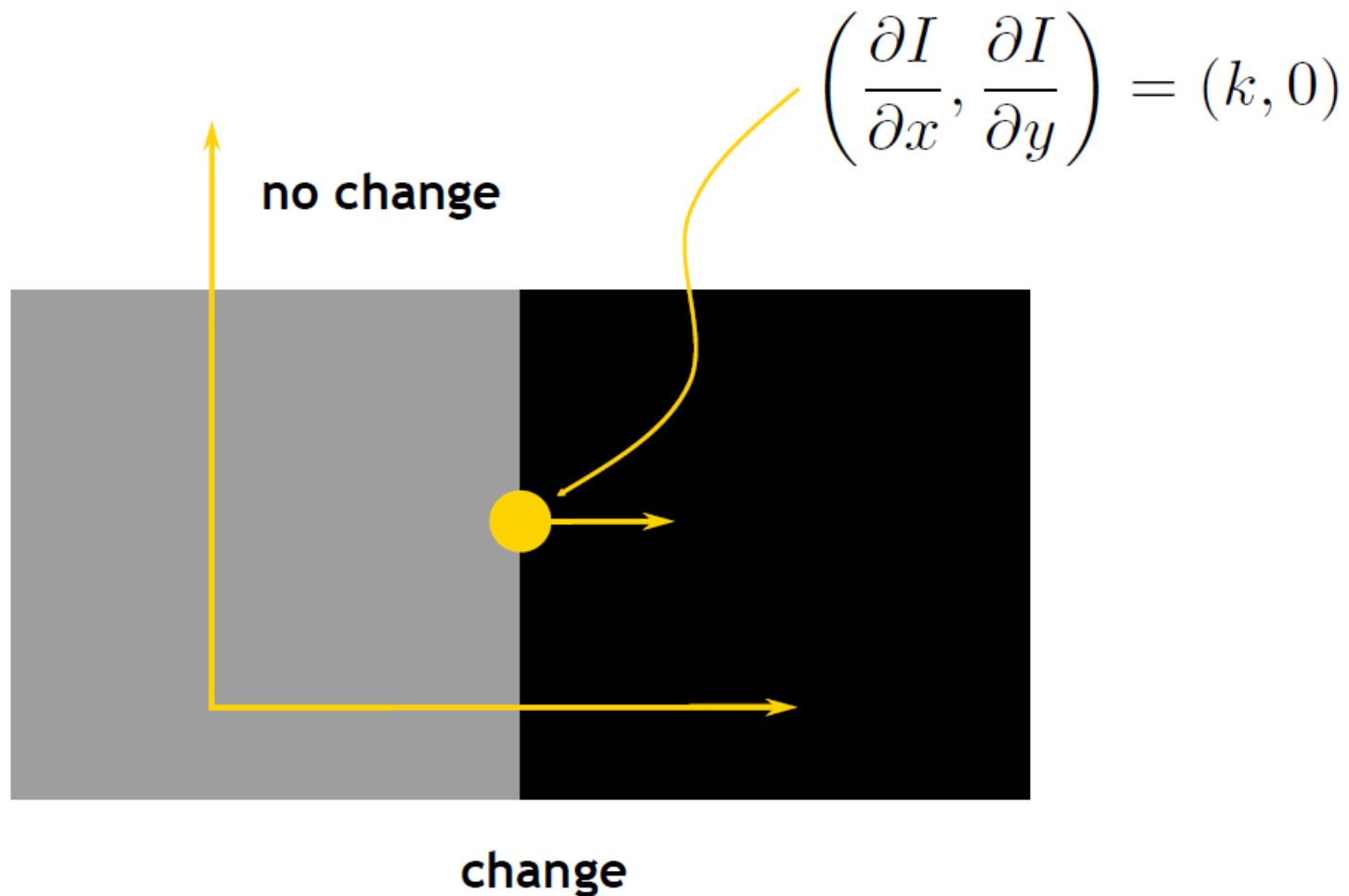
Is this  $I_x$  or  $I_y$   
Is the sign right?

# Edge Filter in 2D

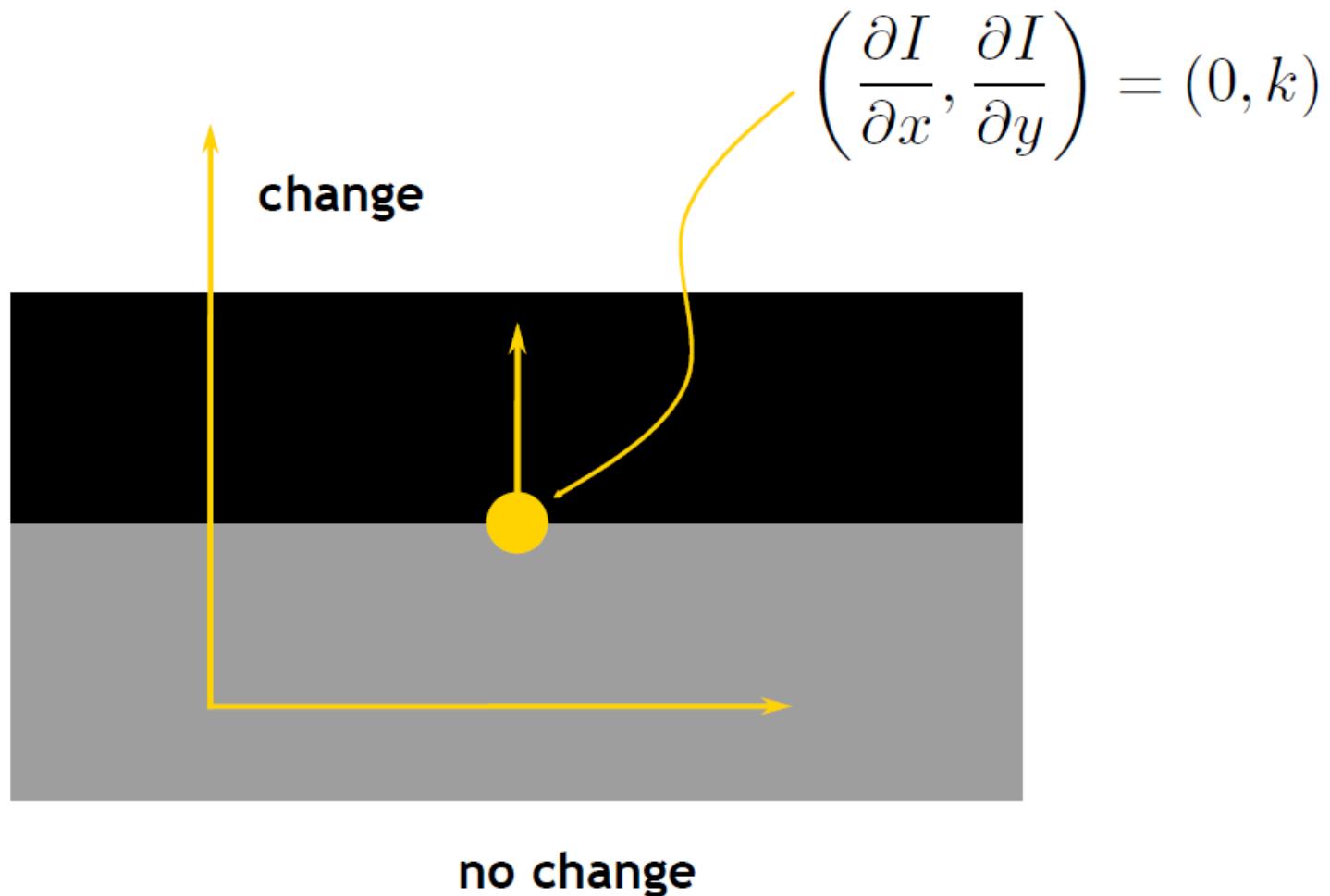
x-derivatives with different Gaussian smoothing



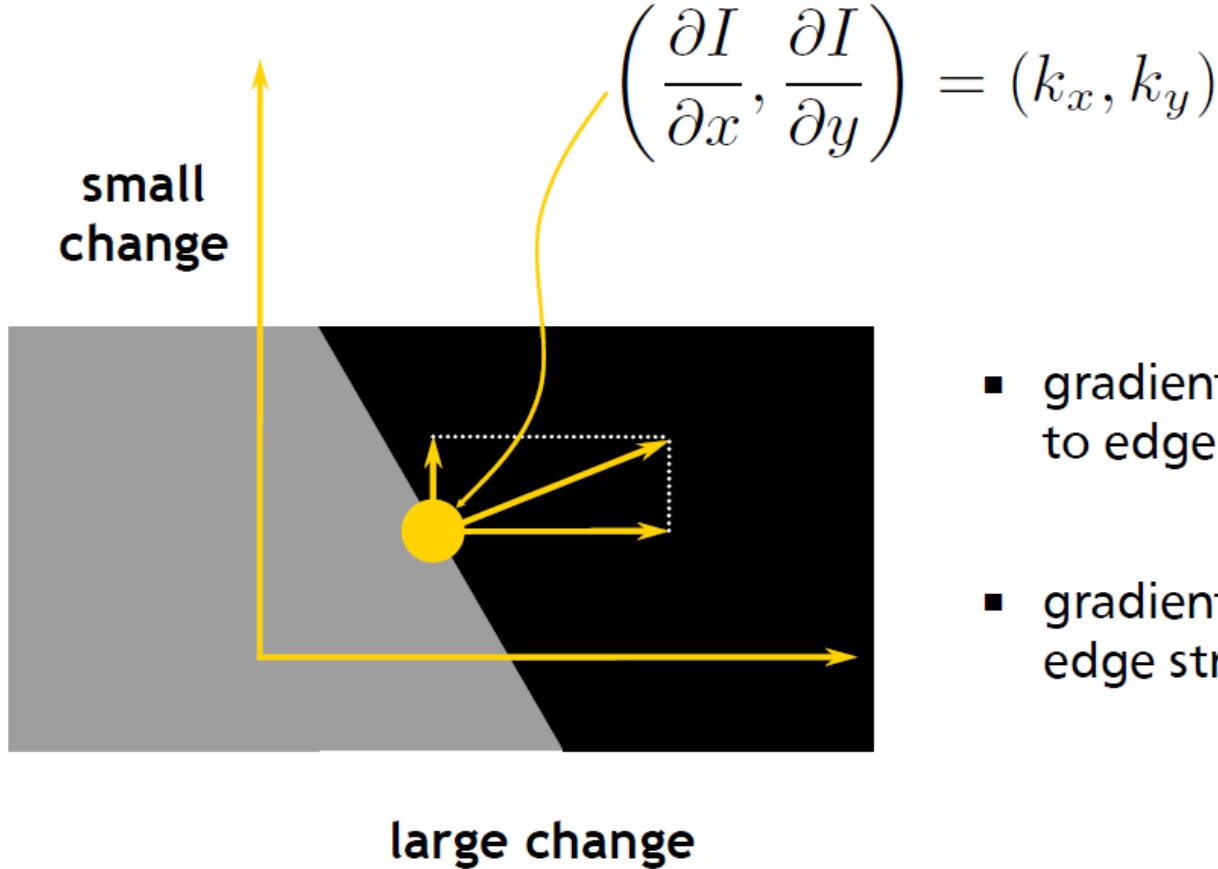
# What is a gradient



# What is a gradient



# What is a gradient



- gradient direction is perpendicular to edge
- gradient magnitude measures edge strength

# What is a Gradient

- the **gradient** is:

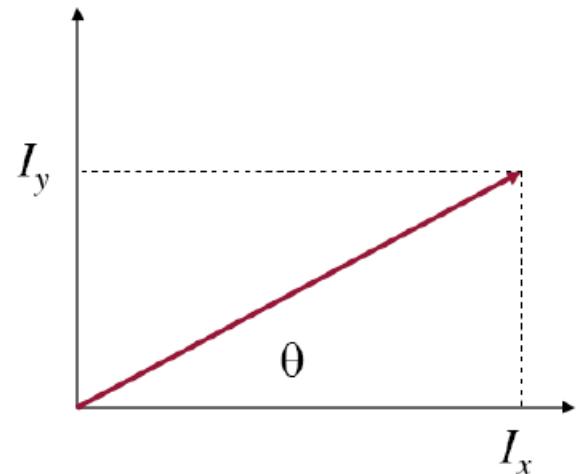
$$\nabla I = (I_x, I_y) = \left( \frac{\partial I}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial I}{\partial y} \right)$$

- the **magnitude** of the gradient is:

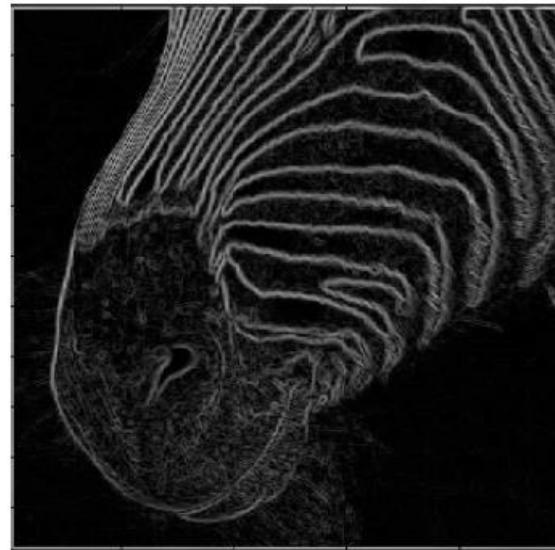
$$||\nabla I|| = \sqrt{I_x^2 + I_y^2}$$

- the **direction** of the gradient is:

$$\theta = \text{atan}(I_y, I_x)$$



# Example – Gradient magnitude

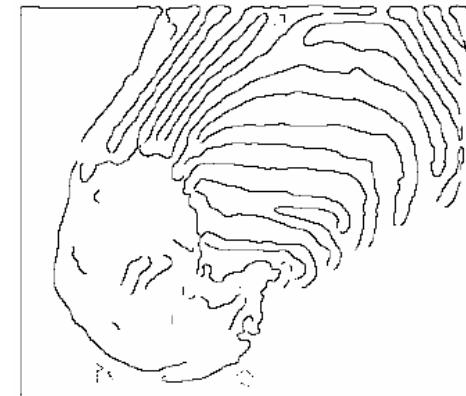


First smoothed with Gaussian



First smoothed with  
broad Gaussian

Our goal was to get thin edge chains?



# How to get edge chains

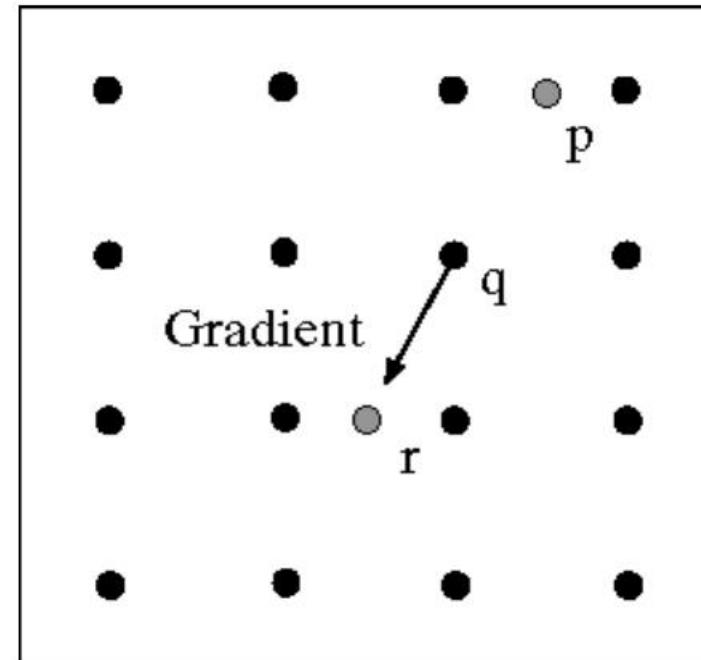
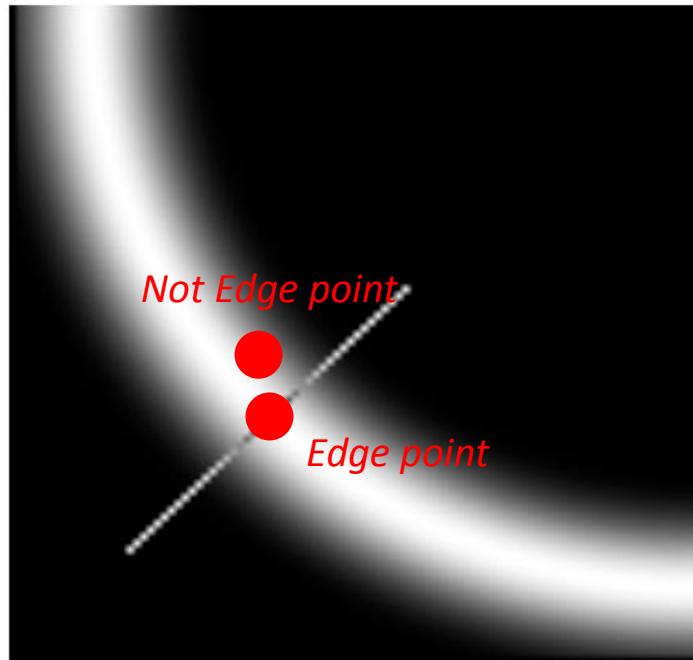
## Rough Outline of a good edge detector (such as Canny)

1. Compute robust Gradient Image:  $( (D_x * G) * I, (D_y * G) * I )$
2. Find edge-points (“edgels”): non-maximum suppression
3. Link-up edge-points to get chains
4. Do hysteresis to clean-up chains



edge-points  
or edgel

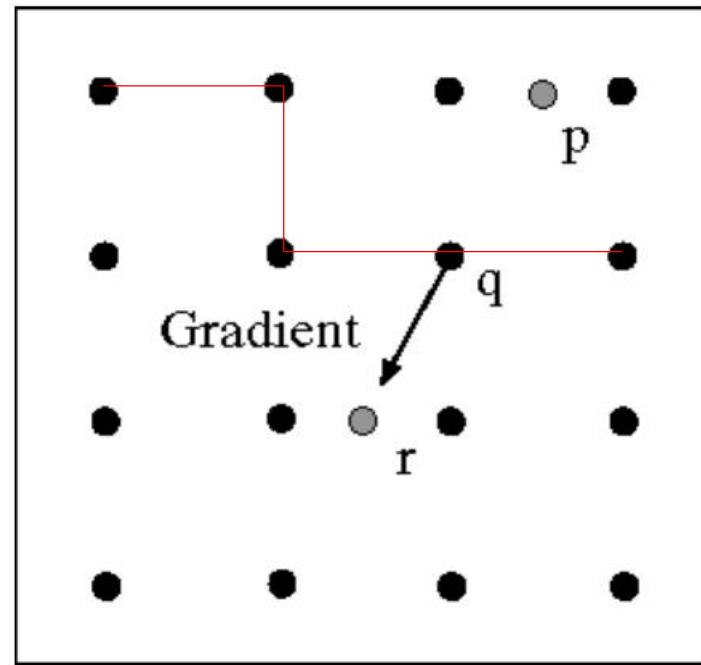
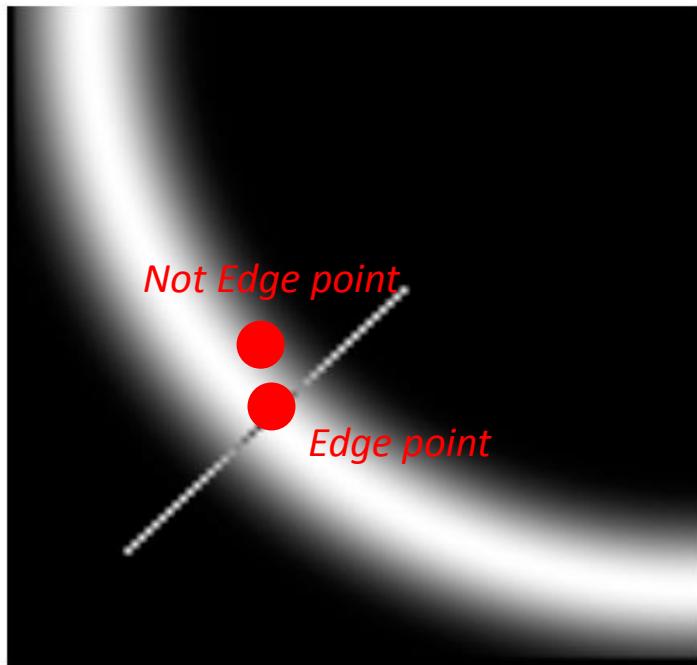
# Non-maximum suppression



Which pixel is an edge point ? (non-max suppression)

1. Check if pixel is local maximum at gradient orientation  
(interpolate values for p,r)
2. Accept edge-point if above a threshold

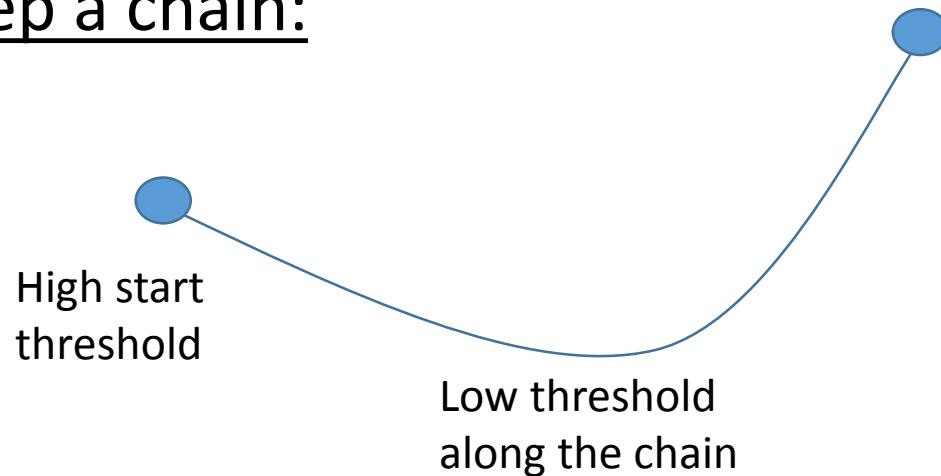
# Link up edge-points to get chains



1. Link-up neighbouring pixels if both are edge-points.

# Clean up chains with Hysteresis

Keep a chain:



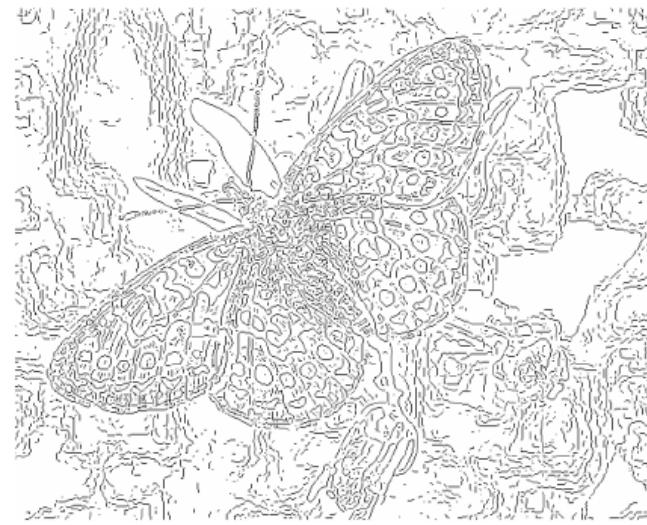
# Final Result



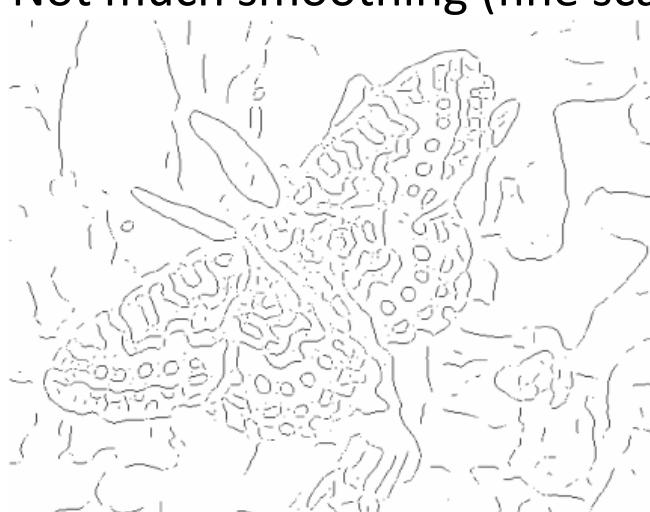
Image



much smoothing (coarse scale)  
small threshold



Not much smoothing (fine scale)



much smoothing (coarse scale)  
large threshold

# Alternative: Edge detection with Laplacian Filter

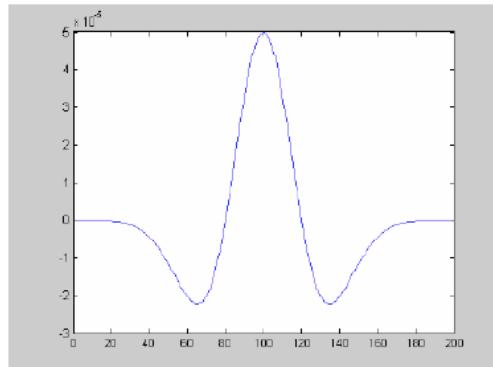
- The Laplacian:

$$\nabla^2 I = \frac{\partial^2 I}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 I}{\partial y^2}$$

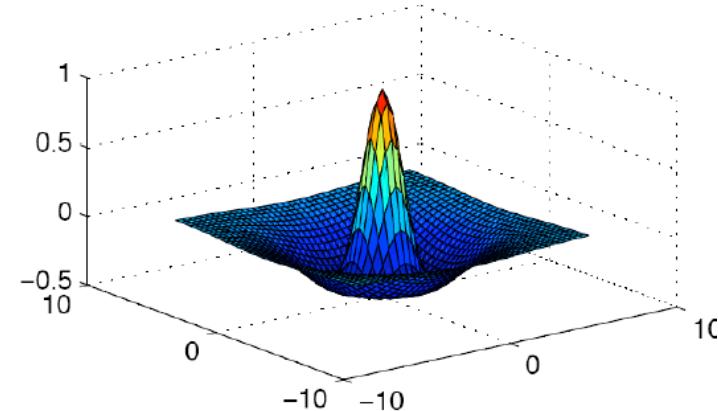
- just another linear filter:

$$\nabla^2(G * I) = (\nabla^2 G) * I \quad \text{Called Laplacian of Gaussian (LoG)}$$

- in 1D:



- in 2D (mexican hat):



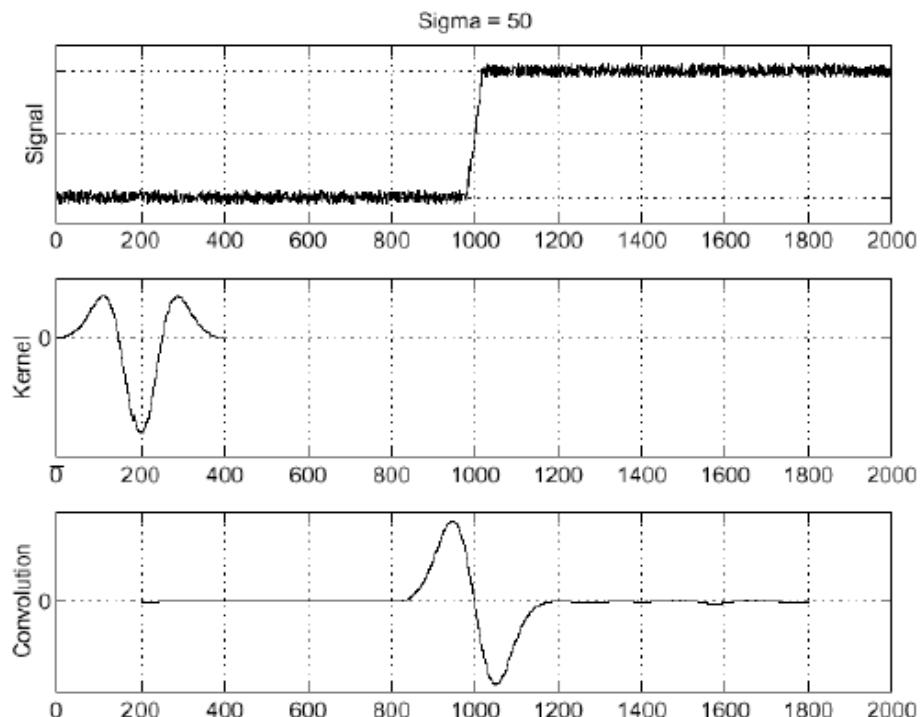
# Laplacian example in 1D

- using Laplacian

LoG - Laplacian of Gaussian operator

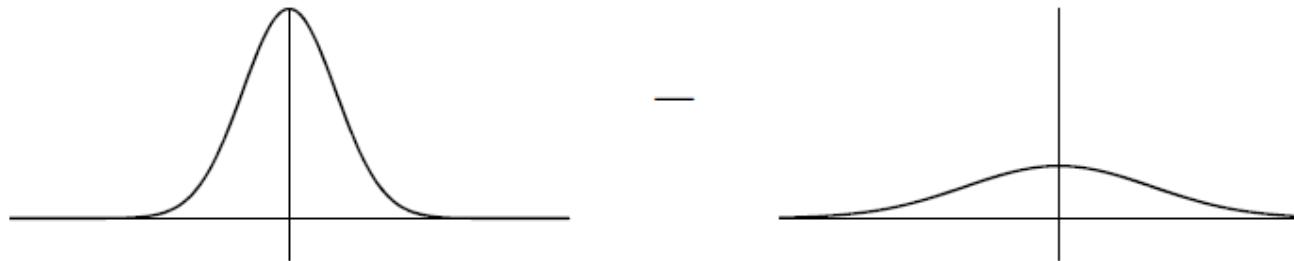
$$\frac{d^2}{dx^2} g$$

$$\left( \frac{d^2}{dx^2} g \right) * f$$

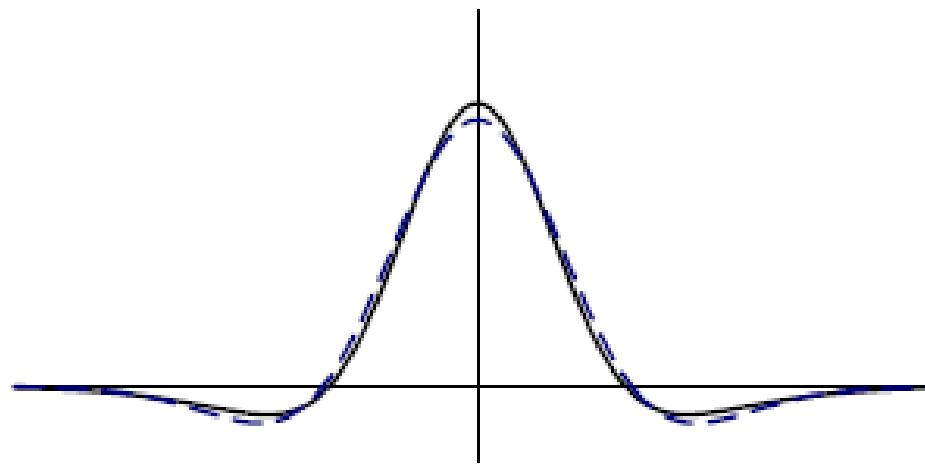


Find zero-crossing

# Approximate LoG with Difference of Gaussian (DoG)



=



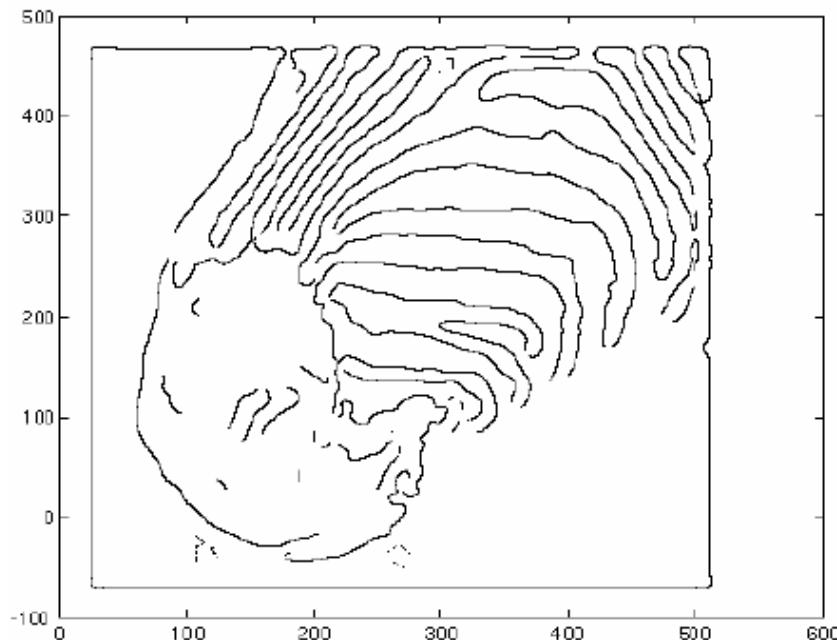
Solid Line:  
Difference of  
Gaussian (DoG)

Dashed Line:  
Laplacian of  
Gaussian

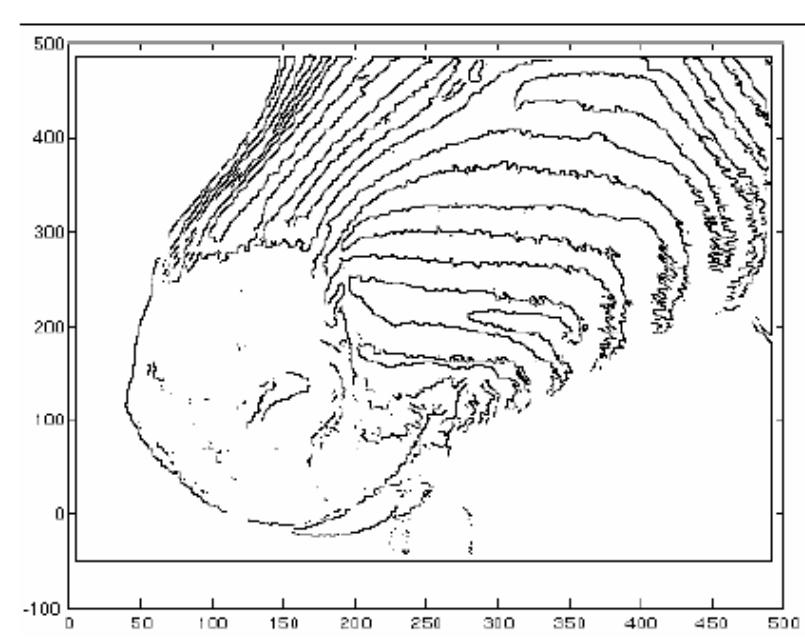
# Laplacian example in 2D



$\text{sigma} = 4$

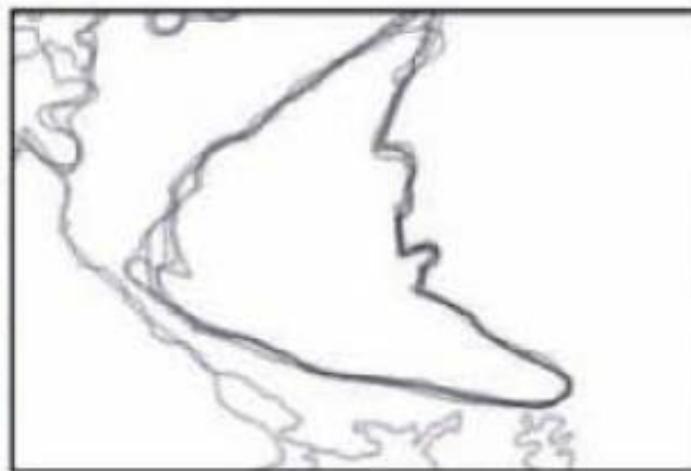


$\text{sigma} = 2$



# Future Lecture: Segmentation

- So far we looked at “jumps” in gray-scale images?
- Humans perceive edges very differently (edges depend on semantic)



“average human drawing”



Hard for computer vision method  
which operates only locally!

[from Martin, Fowlkes and Mail 2004]

# Try to learn semantically meaningful image edges

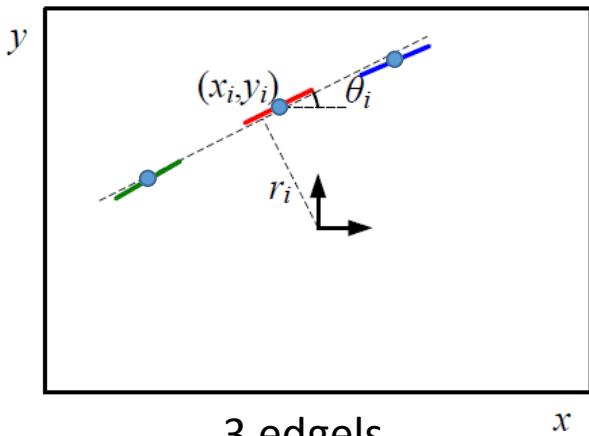


- Features: brightness gradient; color gradient; texture gradient; weighted combination, etc.

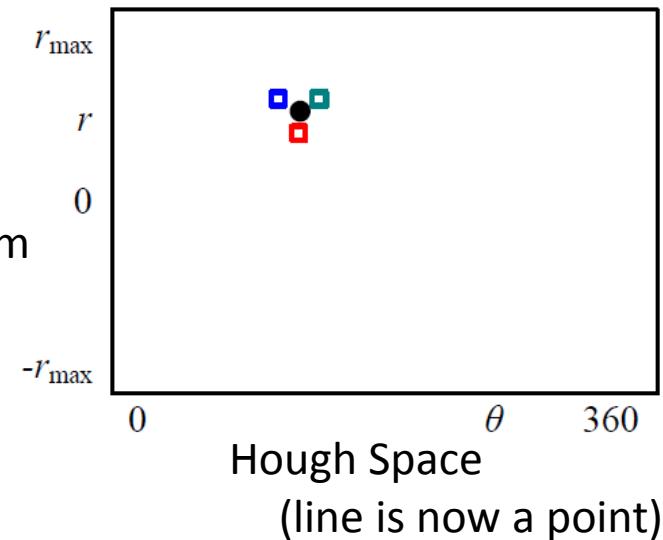
# Roadmap: Basics of Digital Image Processing

- Images
- Point operators (ch. 3.1)
- Filtering: (ch. 3.2, ch 3.3, ch. 3.4) – main focus
  - Linear filtering
  - Non-linear filtering
- Fourier Transformation (ch. 3.4)
- Multi-scale image representation (ch. 3.5)
- Edges detection and linking (ch. 4.2)
- Line detection (ch. 4.3)
- Interest Point detection (ch. 4.1.1)
- Using multiple Images: Define Challenges

# Hough voting with edgels (edge-points)



→  
Hough transform



## Algorithm:

1. Empty cells in Hough Space
2. Put for each Edgel( $\theta, r$ ) into a cell of the Hough Space
3. Find Peaks in Hough Space (use non-max suppression)
4. Re-fit all edgels to a single line

# Hough Voting: original

Goal: find all lines

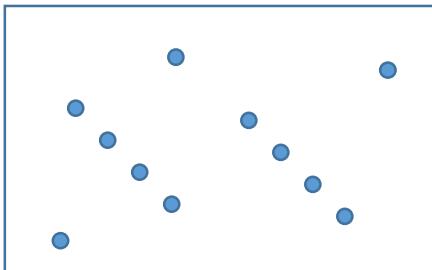


Image with points

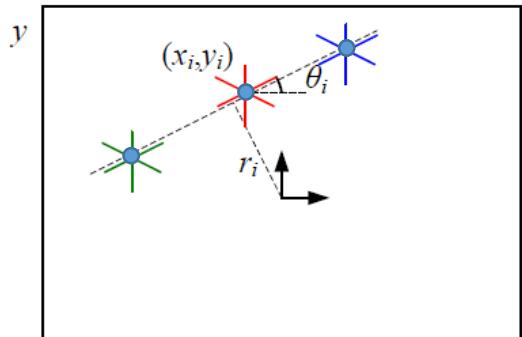
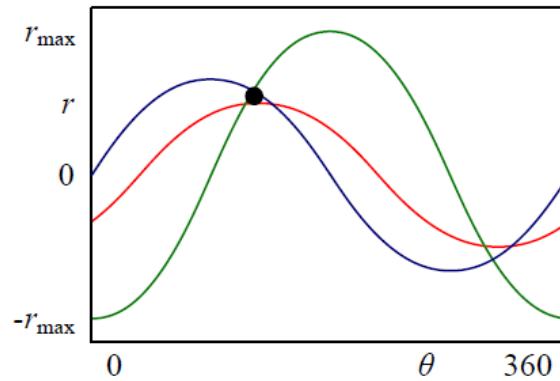


Image with just 3 points

→  
Hough transform

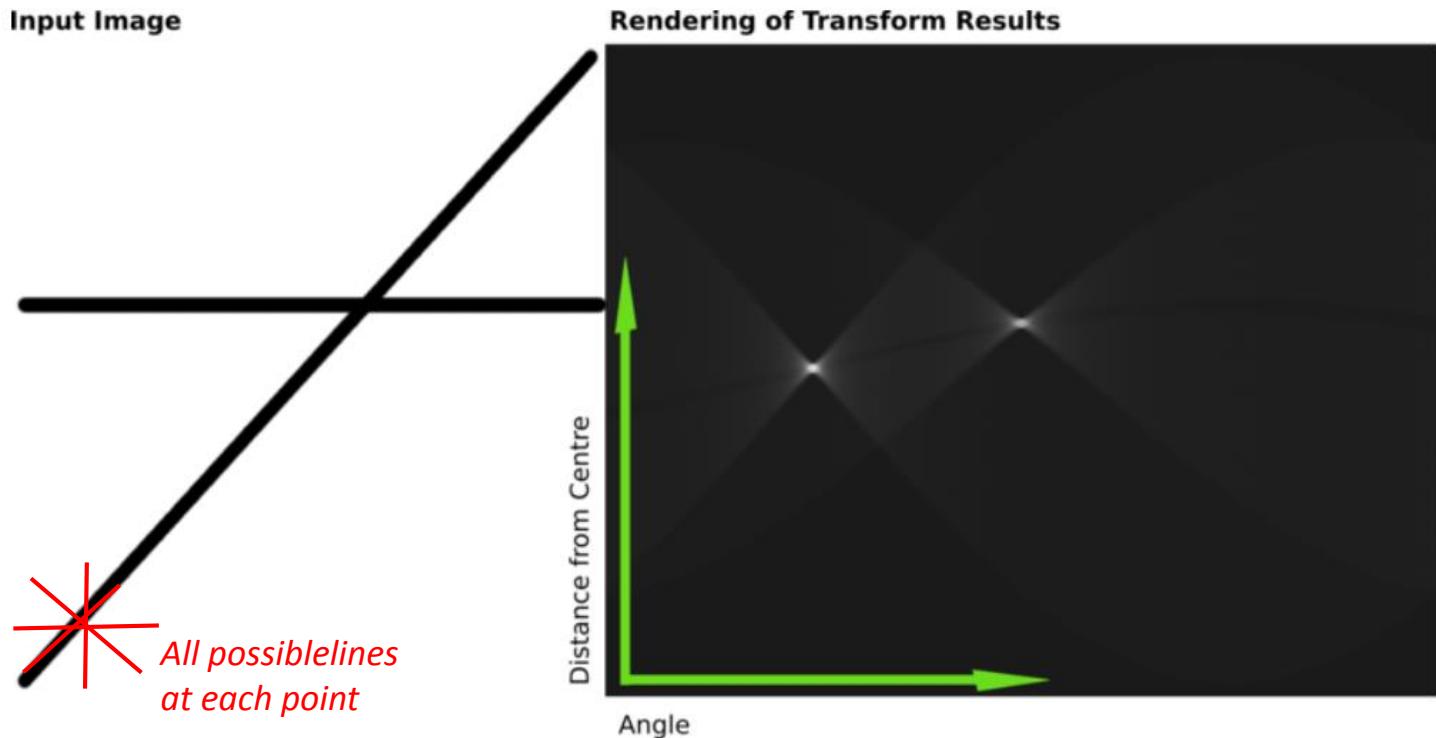
Goal: find all points with many  
“votes” in accumulator space



All lines that go through the 3 points

This idea of transformation to a voting space can be used for many scenarios

# Hough transform: original



[From Wikipedia]

# Example: Orthogonal Vanishing point detection



846 line segments found

Algorithm: RANSAC (explained later)  
Application: Camera Calibration (see later)



Found 3 orthogonal vanishing points

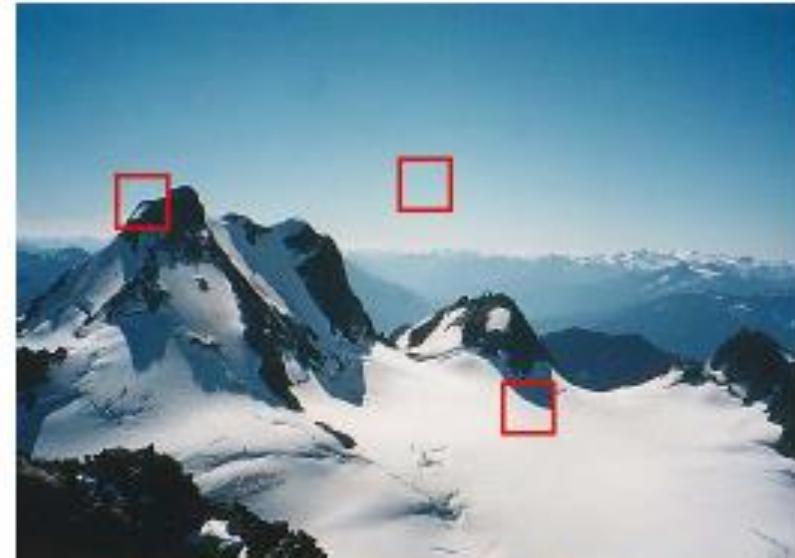
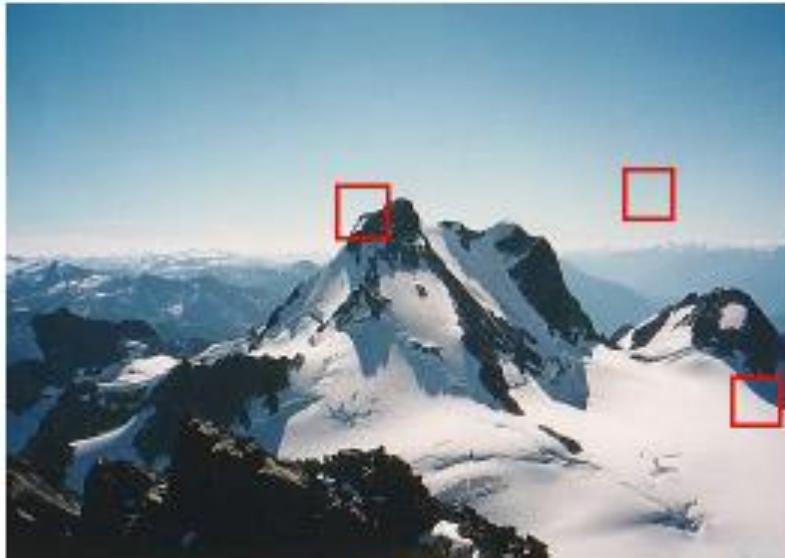
[Rother, Thesis '03]

# Roadmap: Basics of Digital Image Processing

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- Line detection (ch. 4.3)
- **Interest Point detection (ch. 4.1.1)**
- Using multiple Images: Define Challenges

# What region should we try to match?

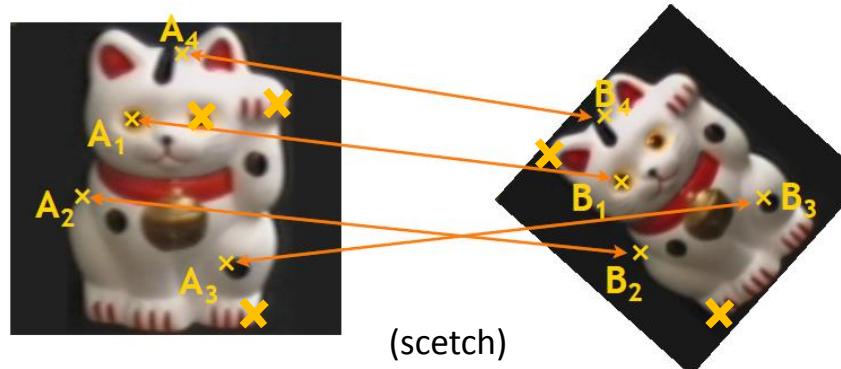
We want to find a few regions where this image pair matches: Applications later



Look for a region that is **unique**, i.e. not ambiguous

# Goal: Interest Point Detection

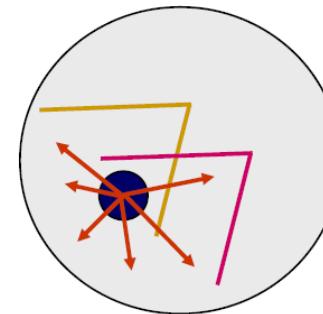
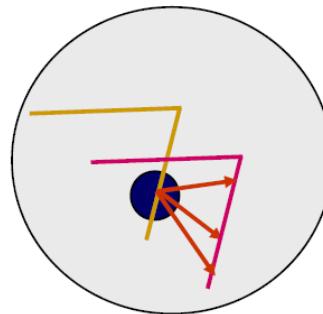
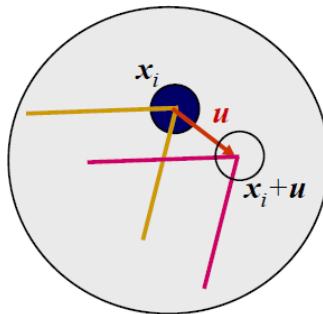
- Goal: predict a few “**interest points**” in order to remove redundant data efficiently



- Should be invariant against:
  - a. Geometric transformation – scaling, rotation, translation, affine transformation, projective transformation etc.
  - b. Color transformation – additive (lightning change), multiplicative (contrast), linear (both), monotone etc.;
  - c. Discretization (e.g. spatial resolution, focus);

# Points versus Lines

„Aperture problem“



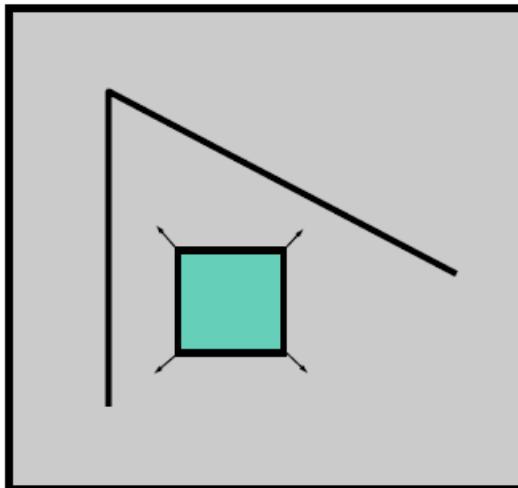
Lines are not as good as points



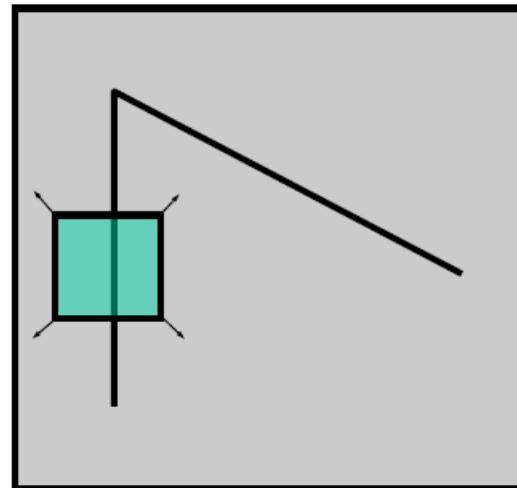
# Harris Detector

Local measure of **feature uniqueness**:

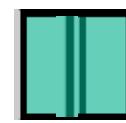
Shifting the window in any direction: how does it change



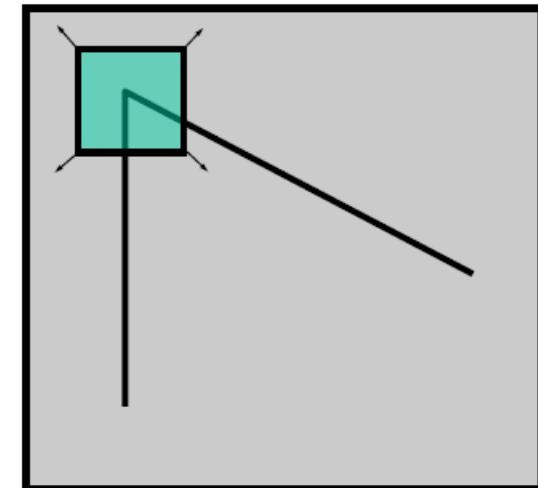
**"flat"** region:  
no change in all  
directions



**"edge"**:  
no change along the  
edge direction



*Shift left*



**"corner"**:  
significant change in  
all directions



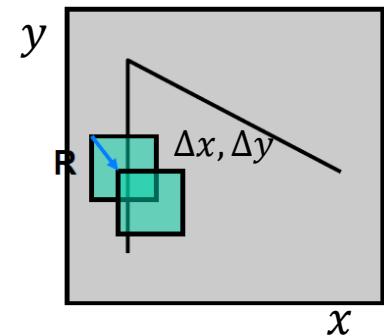
*Shift top, left*

[Szeliski and Seitz]

# Harris Detector

How similar is the image  $I(x, y)$  to itself?

**Autocorrelation function:**



$$c(x, y, \Delta x, \Delta y) = \sum_{(u, v) \in W(x, y)} w(u, v) (I(u, v) - I(u + \Delta x, v + \Delta y))^2$$

$W(x, y)$  is a small vicinity (window) around  $(x, y)$

$w(u, v)$  is a convolution kernel, used to decrease the influence of pixels far from  $(x, y)$ , e.g. the Gaussian  $\exp\left[-\frac{(u-x)^2 + (v-y)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right]$

For simplicity we use  $w(u, v) = 1$

# Harris Detector

$$c(x, y, \Delta x, \Delta y) = \sum_{(u, v) \in W(x, y)} (I(u, v) - I(u + \Delta x, v + \Delta y))^2$$

One is interested in **properties** of  $c(x, y, \Delta x, \Delta y)$  at each position  $(x, y)$

Let us look at a linear approximation of  
Taylor expansion around  $(u, v)$

$$\begin{aligned} I(u + \Delta x, v + \Delta y) &= I(u, v) + \frac{\partial I(u, v)}{\partial x} \Delta x + \frac{\partial I(u, v)}{\partial y} \Delta y + \epsilon(\Delta x, \Delta y) \\ &\approx I(u, v) + [I_x(u, v), I_y(u, v)] \begin{bmatrix} \Delta x \\ \Delta y \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Gradient at  $(u, v)$

# Harris Detector

Put it together:

$$\begin{aligned} c(x, y, \Delta x, \Delta y) &= \sum_{(u,v) \in W(x,y)} \left( I(u, v) - I(u+\Delta x, v+\Delta y) \right)^2 \\ &\approx \sum_{(u,v) \in W(x,y)} \left( [I_x(u, v), I_y(u, v)] \begin{bmatrix} \Delta x \\ \Delta y \end{bmatrix} \right)^2 \\ &= [\Delta x, \Delta y] Q(x, y) \begin{bmatrix} \Delta x \\ \Delta y \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

*Q: Structure Tensor*

with

$$Q(x, y) = \begin{bmatrix} \sum_W I_x(u, v)^2 & \sum_W I_x(u, v) I_y(u, v) \\ \sum_W I_x(u, v) I_y(u, v) & \sum_W I_y(u, v)^2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ B & C \end{bmatrix}$$

We compute this at any image location  $(x, y)$

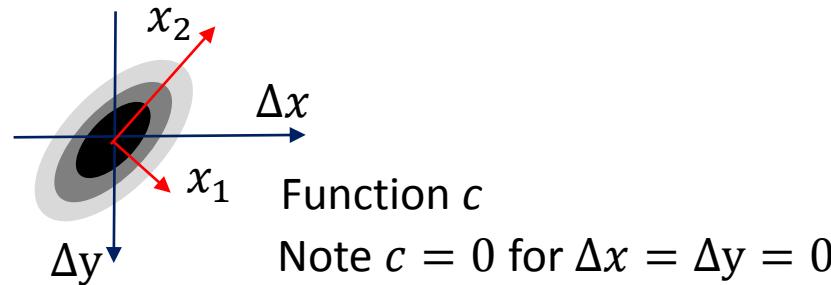
# Harris Detector

## The autocorrelation function

$$c(x, y, \Delta x, \Delta y) \approx [\Delta x, \Delta y] Q(x, y) \begin{bmatrix} \Delta x \\ \Delta y \end{bmatrix}$$

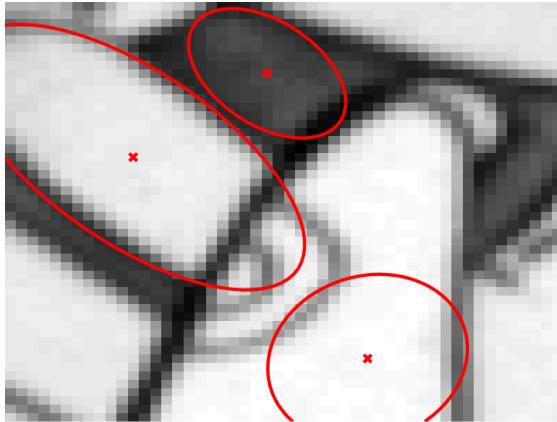
Function  $c$  is (after approximation) a **quadratic** function in  $\Delta x$  and  $\Delta y$

- Isolines are ellipses ( $Q(x, y)$  is symmetric and positive definite);
- Eigenvector  $x_1$  with (larger) Eigenvalue  $\lambda_1$  is the direction of fastest change in function  $c$
- Eigenvector  $x_2$  with (smaller) Eigenvalue  $\lambda_2$  is direction of slowest change in function  $c$

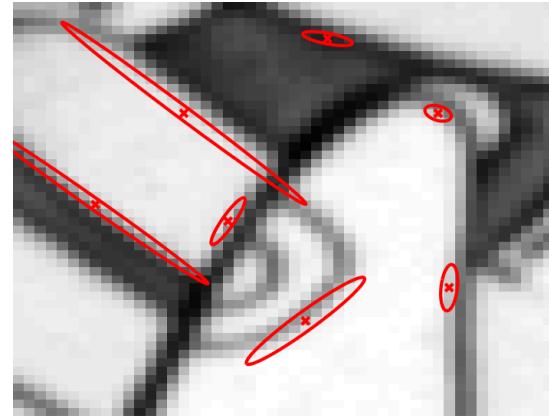


# Harris Detector

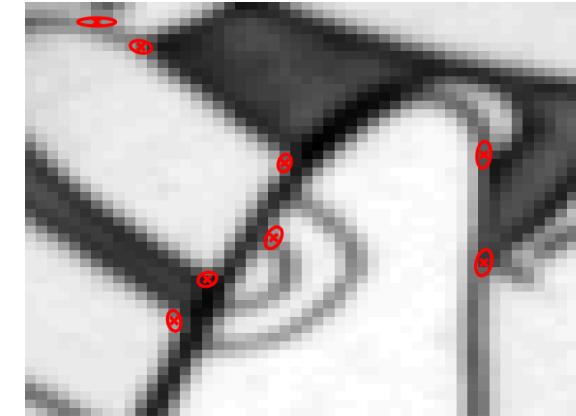
Some examples – isolines for  $c(x, y, \Delta x, \Delta y) = 1$ :



(a) Flat



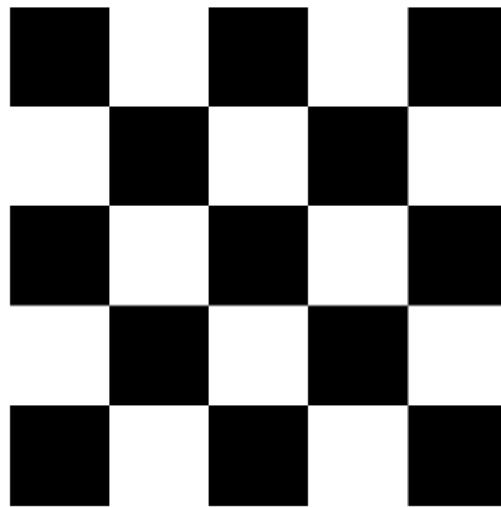
(b) Edges



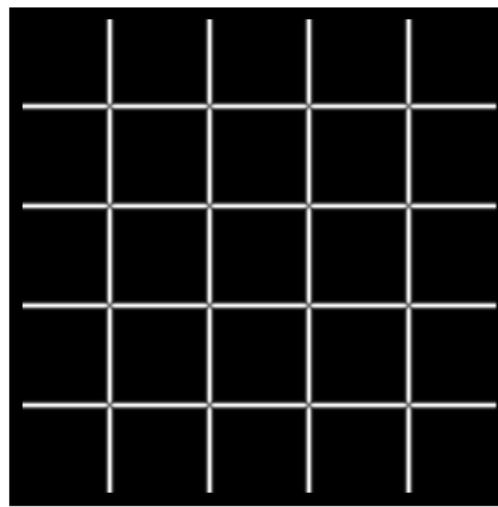
(c) Corners

- a. Homogenous regions: both  $\lambda$ -s are small
- b. Edges: one  $\lambda$  is small the other one is large
- c. Corners: both  $\lambda$ -s are large (this is what we are looking for!)

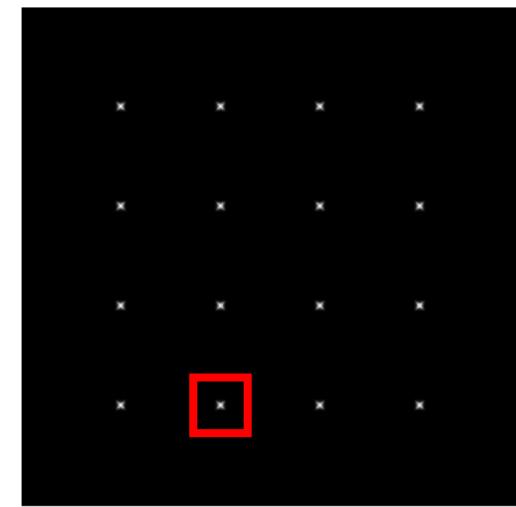
# Harris Detector



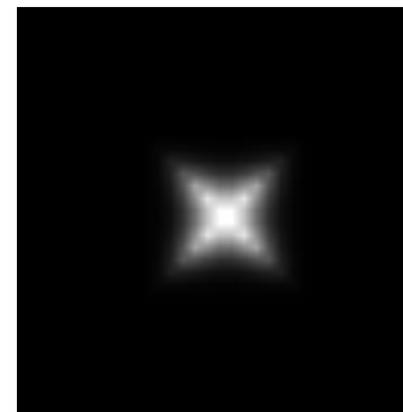
Image



$\lambda_1$  larger eigenvalue



$\lambda_2$  smaller eigenvalue



Zoom in

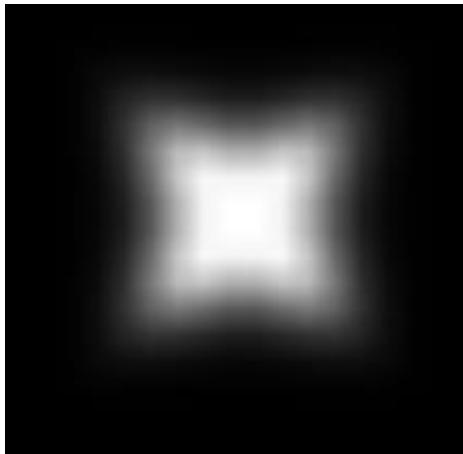
# Harris detector

“Cornerness” is a characteristic of  $Q(x, y)$

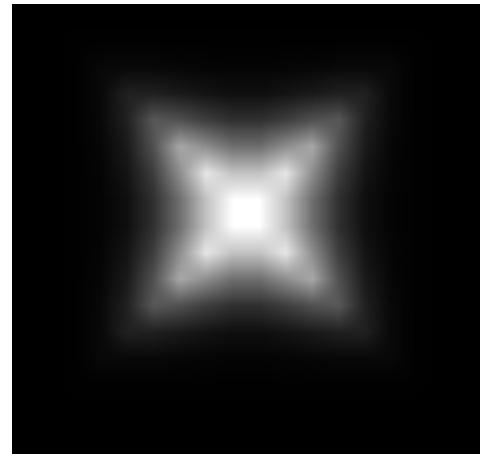
$$\lambda_1 \lambda_2 = \det Q(x, y) = AC - B^2, \quad \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 = \text{trace} Q(x, y) = A + C$$

Proposition by Harris:  $H = \lambda_1 \lambda_2 - \underbrace{0.04(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)^2}$

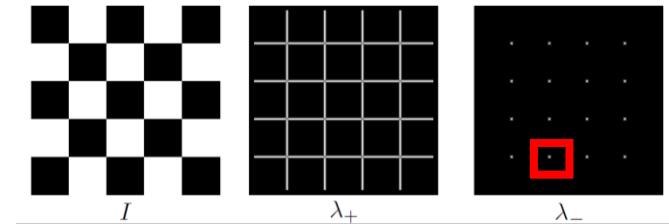
Downweights edges where  $\lambda_1 \gg \lambda_2$



Harris Value



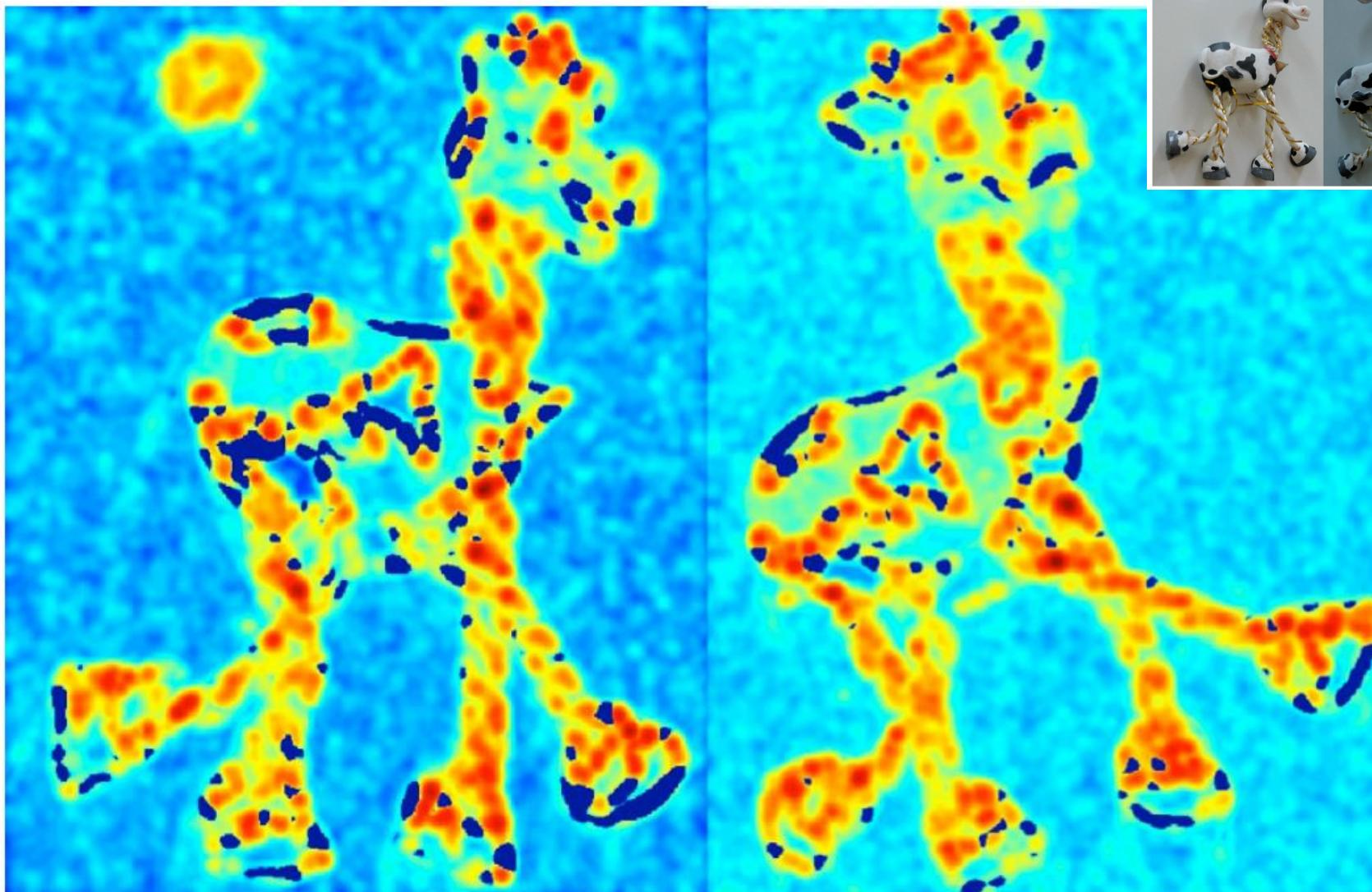
Smallest eigenvalue



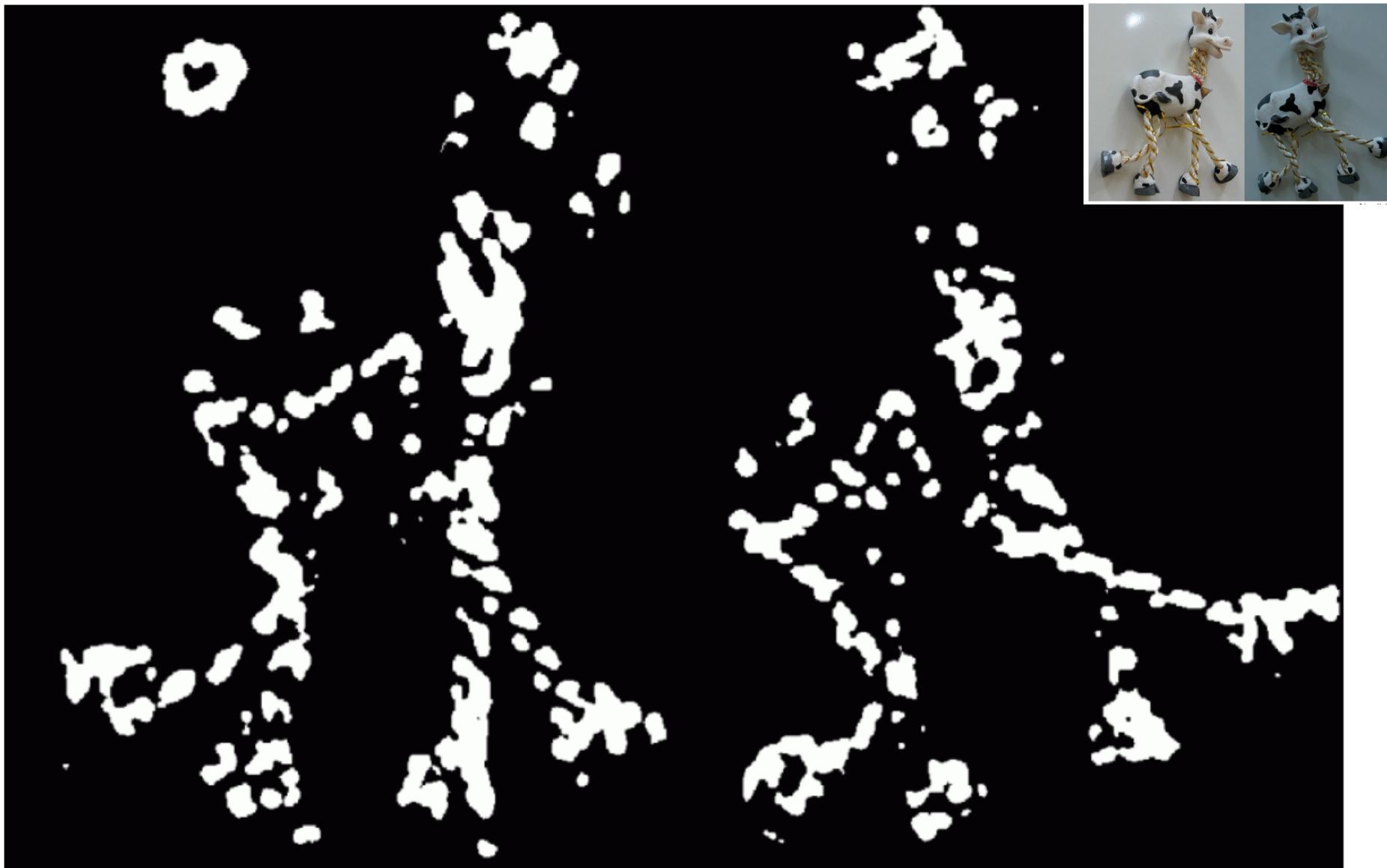
# Harris Corners - example



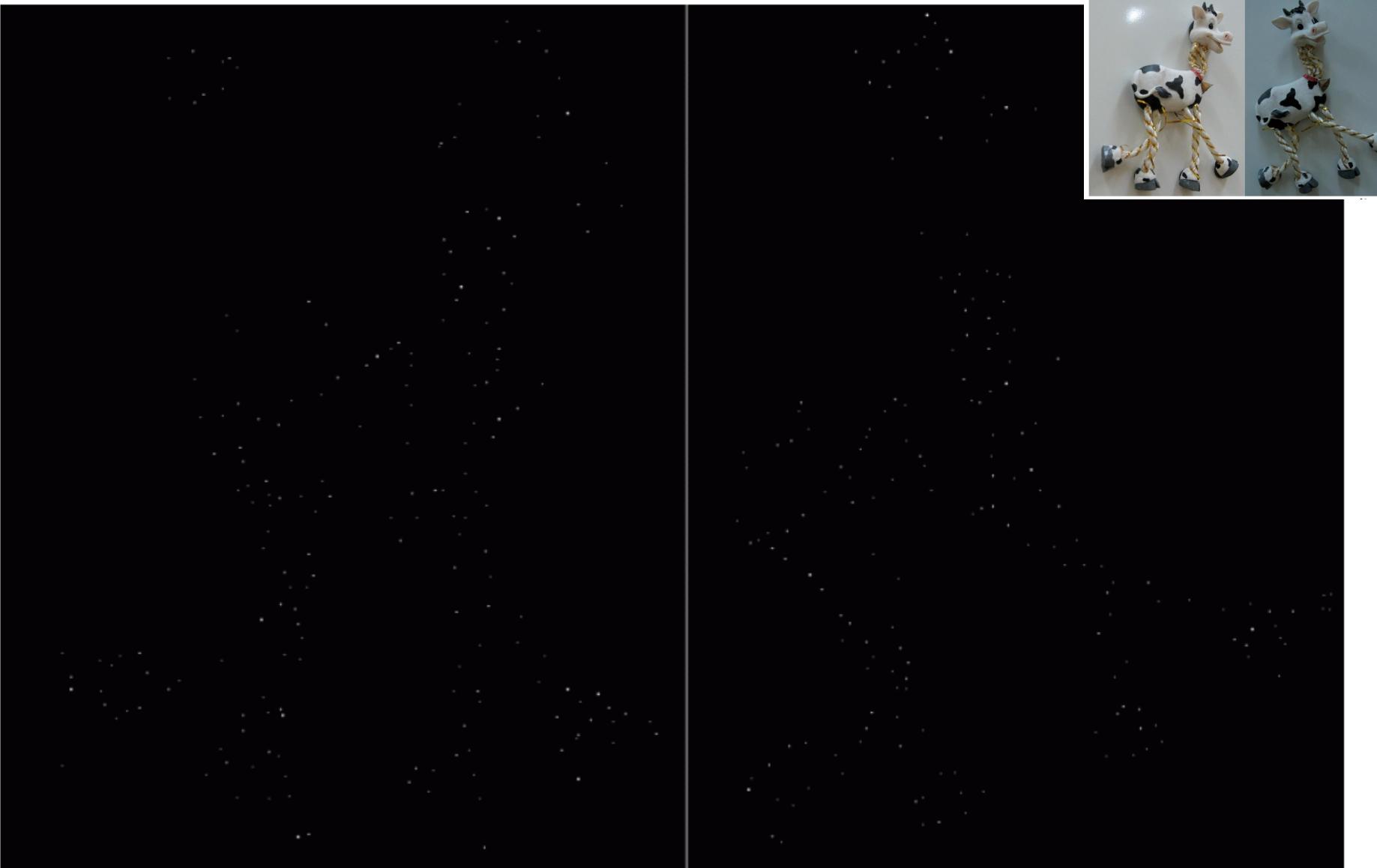
# h-score (red- high, blue - low)



# Threshold (H-score > value)



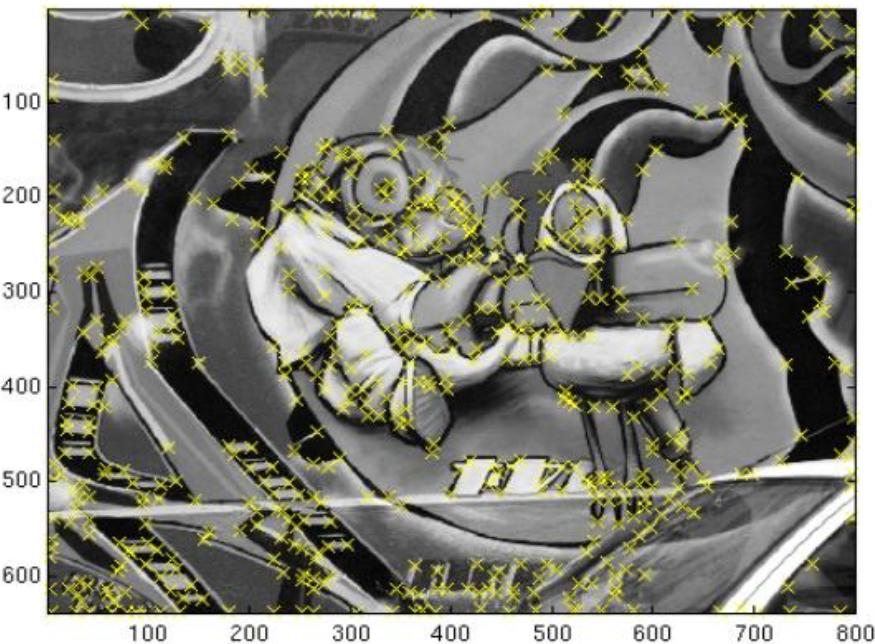
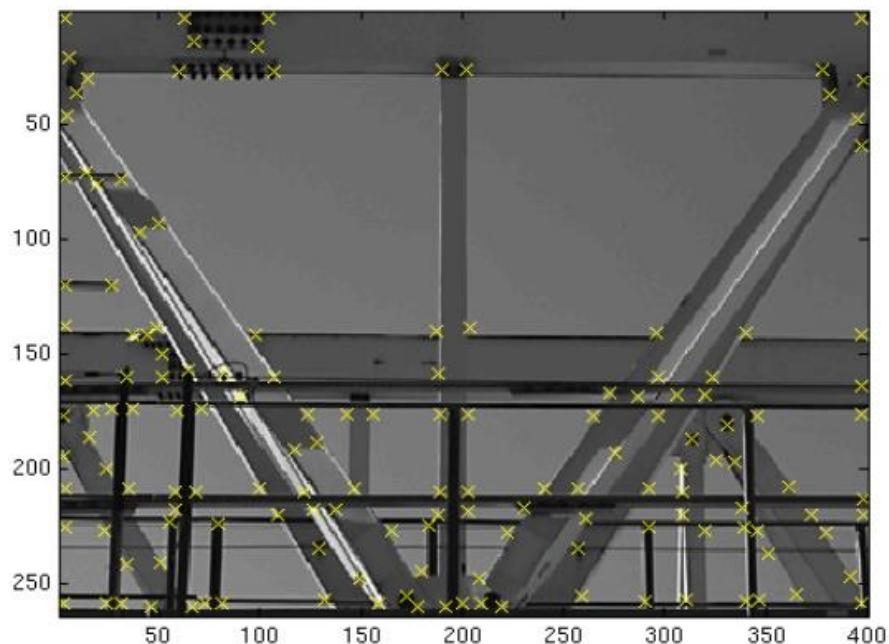
# Non-maximum suppression



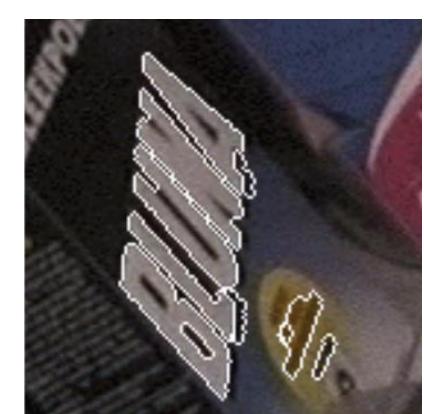
# Harris corners in red



# Other examples



# Maximally stable extremal regions



- Invariant to affine transformation of gray-values
- Both small and large structures are detected

# Literature

There is a large body of literature on detectors and descriptors (later lecture)

A comparison paper  
(e.g. what is the most robust corner detectors):

K. Mikolajczyk, T. Tuytelaars, C. Schmid, A. Zisserman, J. Matas, F. Schaffalitzky, T. Kadir: A Comparison of Affine Region Detectors (IJCV 2006)

# Roadmap: Basics of Digital Image Processing

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- Filtering: (ch. 3.2, ch 3.3, ch. 3.4) – main focus
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- Using multiple Images: Define Challenges

# Difference between Appearance and Geometry

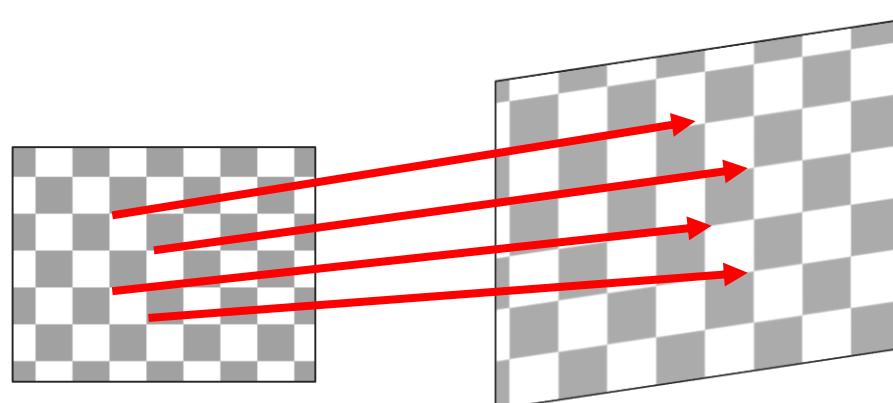


Image 1

Image 2

Does this look like a correct match?

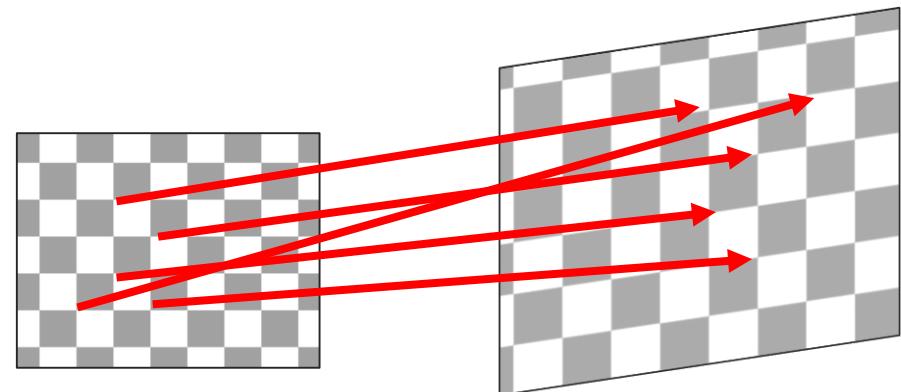


Image 1

Image 2

Does this look like a correct match?

Appearance based matching:



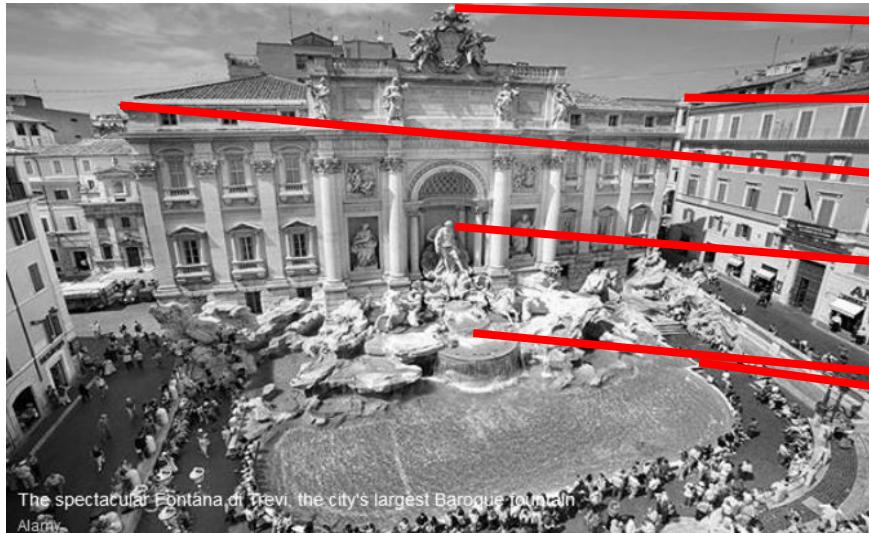
Neighborhood looks quite similar  
(descriptor)

Geometry based matching:

- 1) Assume sensible camera model. We will see that: Given 4 matching points on a surface defines how other points on the surface will match

# The 3D case

## Illustration of the general 3D case



Appearance based matching:



Geometry based matching:

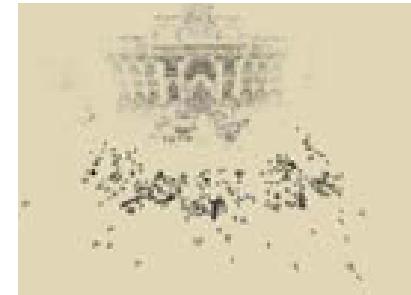
- 1) Assume sensible camera model. We will see that: Given 7 matching 3D points defines how other 3D points match.

# Sparse versus Dense Matching: Tasks and Applications



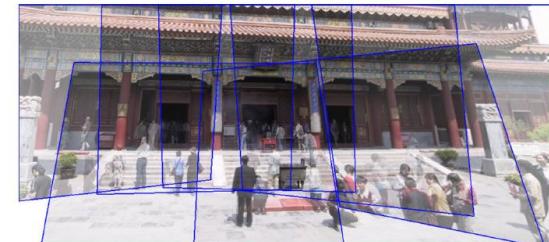
## Tasks:

- Find places where we could match features (points, lines, regions, etc)
- Extract appearance - features descriptors
- Find all possible (putative) appearance matches between images
- Verify with geometry



## For what applications is sparse matching enough:

- Sparse 3D reconstruction of a rigid scene
- Panoramic stitching of a rotating / translating camera



# Building Rome on a cloudless day



The old city of Dubrovnik

[Frahm et al. ECCV '10]

# Sparse versus Dense Matching



Kinect RGB and Depth data input



Dense flow:  
frame 1->2



Dense flow:  
frame 2->1

3D view interpolation

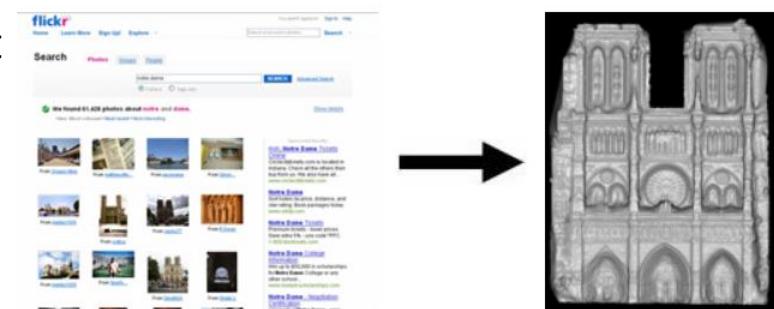


# Sparse versus Dense Matching: Tasks and Applications



## Tasks (all in one):

- Find for each pixel the 2D/3D/6D displacement (using both appearance and geometry)
- Find points which are occluded



[Goesele et al. ICCV 07]

## For what applications is dense matching needed:

- Dense reconstruction of rigid scene
- 3D reconstruction of a non-rigid scene



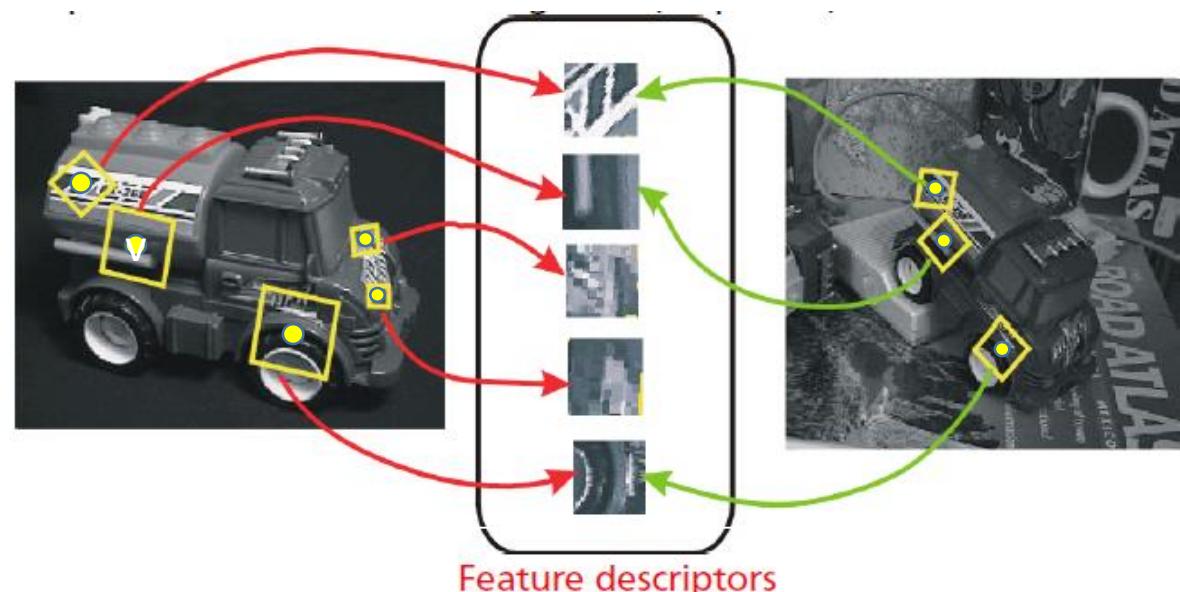
# Using multiple Images: Define Challenges

A road map for the next five lectures

- L4: Geometry of a Single Camera and Image Formation Process
- L5: **Sparse** Matching two images: **Appearance**
- L6: **Sparse** Matching two images: **Geometry**
- L7: Sparse Reconstructing the world (Geometry of n-views)
- L8: **Dense** Geometry estimation  
(stereo, flow and scene flow, registration)

# Outlook – matching 2 Images (appearance & geometry)

- Find interest points (including different scales)
- Find orientated patches around interest points to capture appearance
- Encode patch in a descriptor
- Find matching patches according to **appearance** (similar descriptors)
- Verify matching patches according to **geometry**



# Reading for next class

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## This lecture:

- Chapter 3.5: multi-scale representation
- Chapter 4.2 and 4.3 - Edge and Line detection
- Chapter 4.1.1 Interest Point Detection

## Next lecture:

- Chapter 2 (in particular: 2.1, 2.2) – Image formation process
- And a bit of Hartley and Zisserman – chapter 2