



# Image Enhancement

Reduction  
Magnification  
Spatial Profiles  
Spectral Profiles  
Ratioing  
Contrast Stretching  
Frequency Filtering  
Edge Enhancement  
Vegetation Indices  
Texture

Jensen, 2011

# Integer Image Reduction

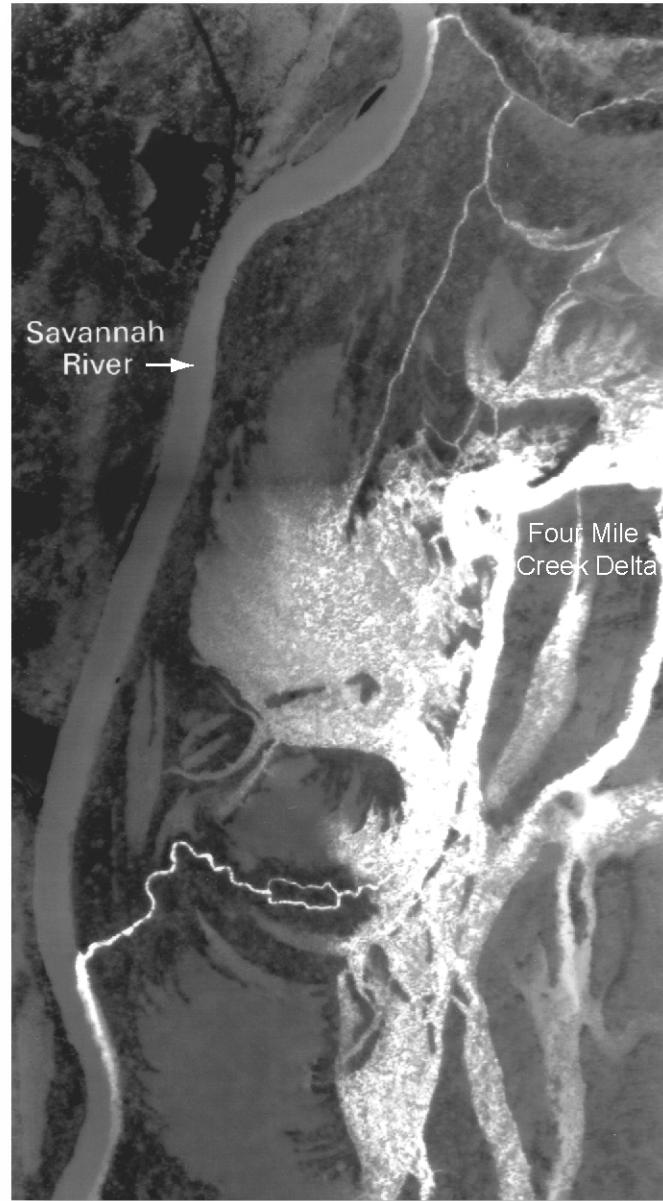
		$j$	Original image					
		$i$	0	1	3	2	4	3
		2	4	2	1	2	2	
		7	8	5	6	4	3	
		4	9	8	5	5	5	
		4	8	7	5	4	5	
		4	6	7	5	4	6	

		$j$	Reduced image		
		$i$	0	3	4
		7	5	4	
		4	7	4	

Jensen, 2011

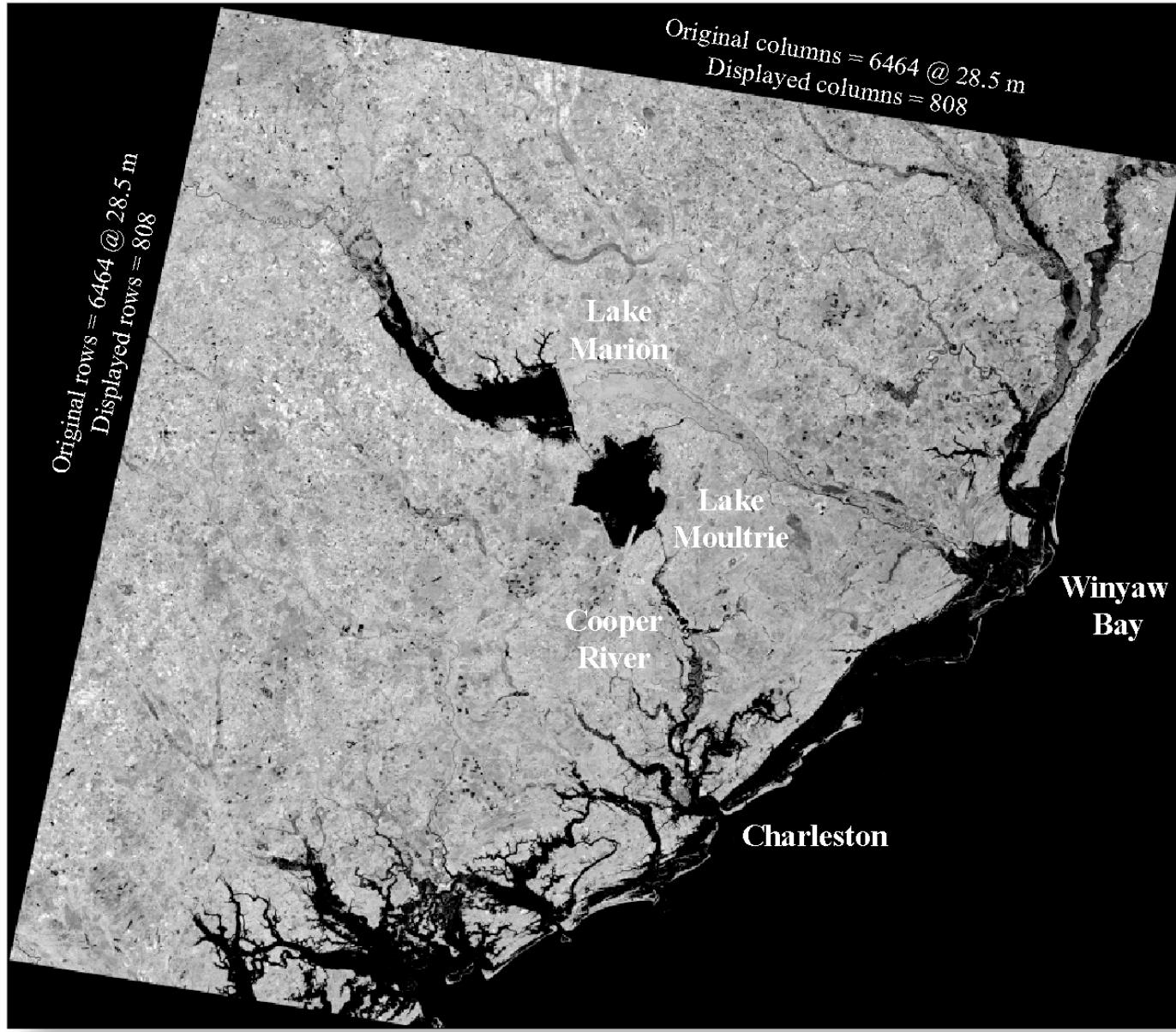
2x Reduction of Predawn  
Thermal Infrared Scanner Data



# Integer Image Reduction

Jensen, 2011

**8x Reduction of Landsat Enhanced Thematic Mapper Plus (ETM+)  
Imagery of Charleston, SC, Obtained on October 23, 1999 (Path 16, Row 37)**



# Integer Image Magnification

Original

$i$	$j$	0	1	3	2	
		0	1	3	2	
		2	4	2	1	
		7	8	5	6	
		4	9	8	5	

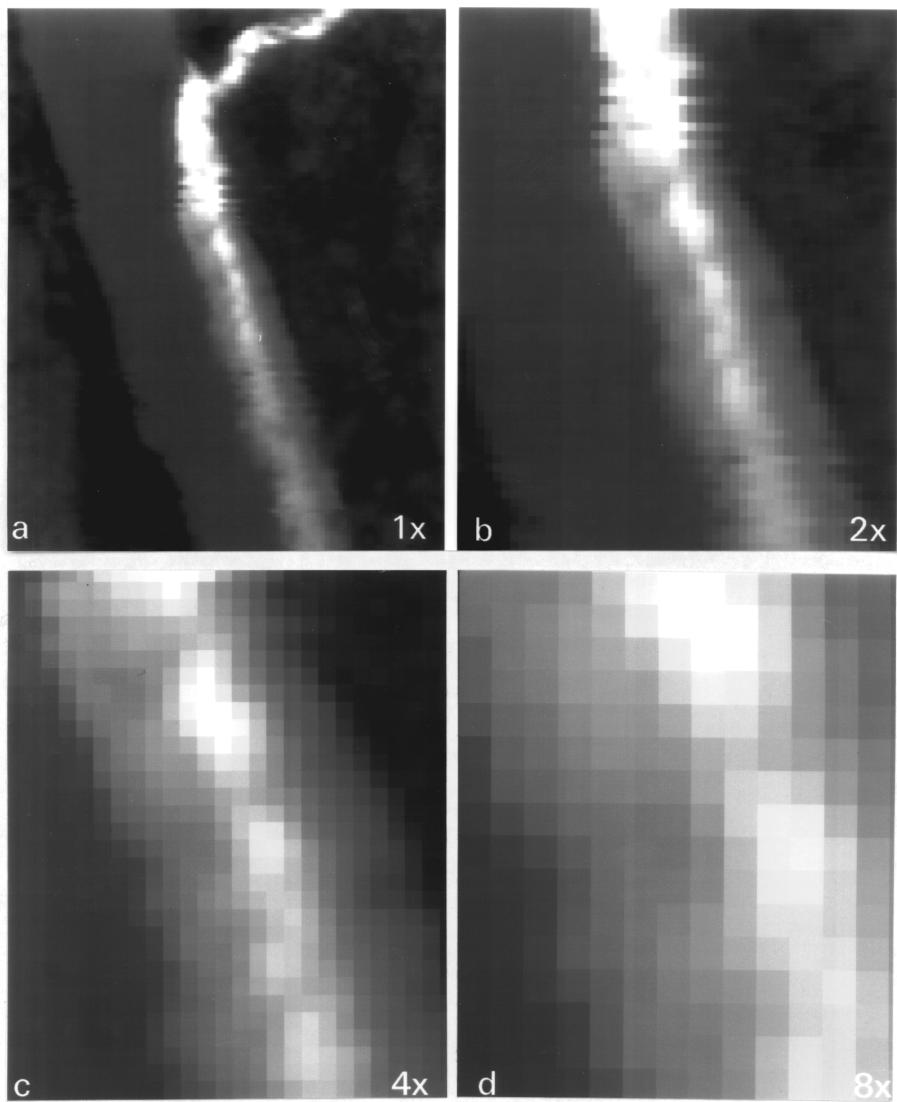
Integer magnification

$i$	$j$	0	0	1	1	3	3	
		0	0	1	1	3	3	
		2	2	4	4	2	2	
		2	2	4	4	2	2	
		7	7	8	8	5	5	
		7	7	8	8	5	5	

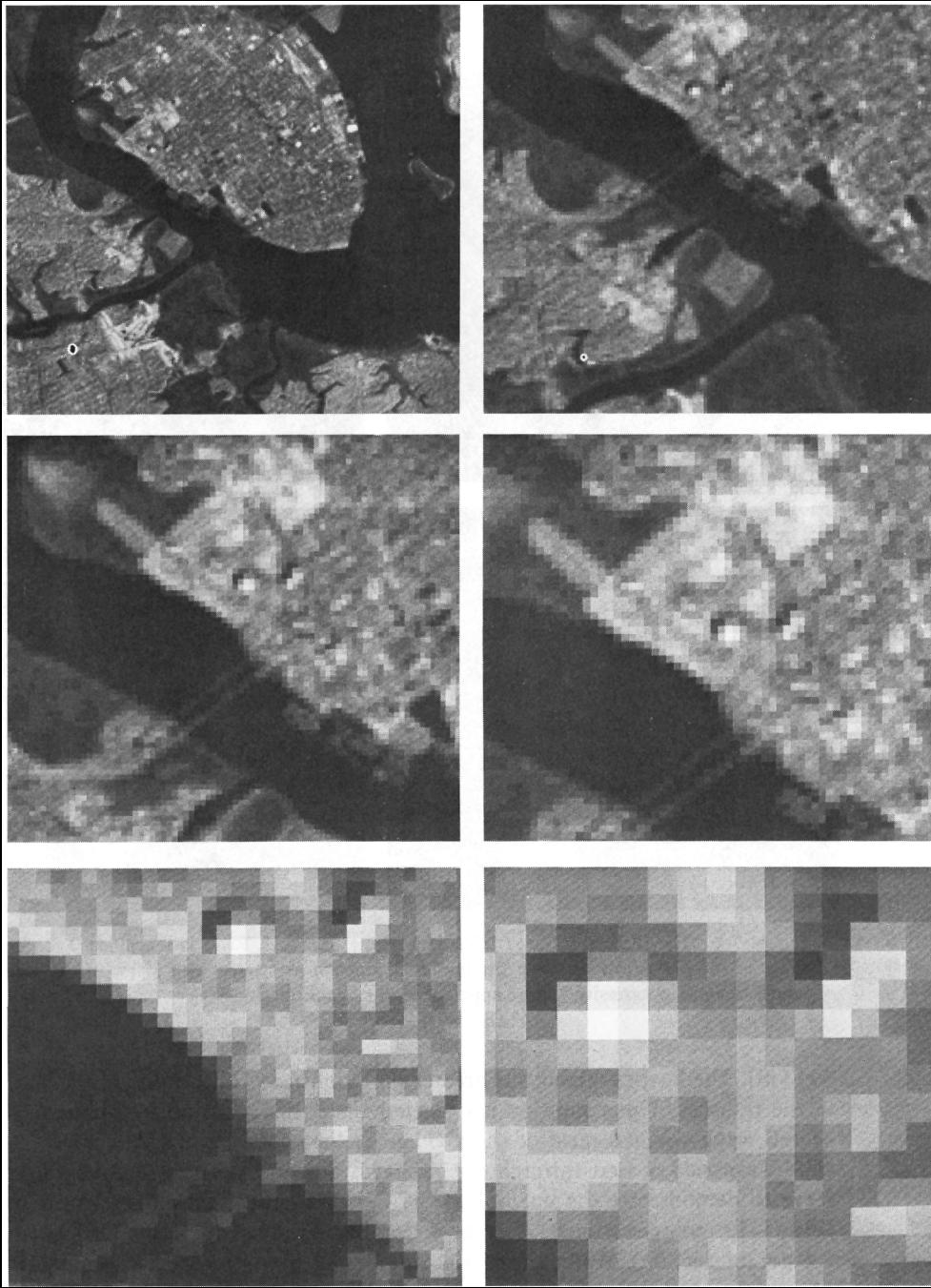
Jensen, 2011

# Integer Image Magnification

Magnification of Predawn Thermal Infrared Data  
of A Thermal Plume in the Savannah River

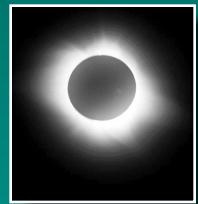


Jensen, 2011



## Integer Image Magnification

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## Band Ratioing

$$BV_{i,j,ratio} = \frac{BV_{i,j,k}}{BV_{i,j,l}}$$

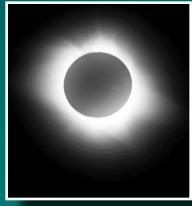
where:

$BV_{i,j,k}$  is the original input brightness value in band  $k$

$BV_{i,j,l}$  is the original input brightness value in band  $l$

$BV_{i,j,ratio}$  is the ratio output brightness value

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## Band Ratioing

Ratio values within the range 1/255 to 1 are assigned values between 1 and 128 by the function:

$$BV_{i,j,n} = \text{Int}\left(\left(BV_{i,j,r} \times 127\right) + 1\right)$$

Ratio values from 1 to 255 are assigned values within the range 128 to 255 by the function:

$$BV_{i,j,n} = \text{Int}\left(128 + \frac{BV_{i,j,r}}{2}\right)$$

# Band Ratioing of Charleston, SC Landsat Thematic Mapper Data



Ratio TM bands 3/4



Ratio TM bands 4/5



Ratio TM bands 4/7



Ratio TM bands 3/6

Jensen, 2011

# Band Ratio Image



Landsat TM  
Band 4 / Band 3

Jensen, 2011



Band  
Ratio

SPOT HRV  
Band 3 / Pan

Jensen, 2011

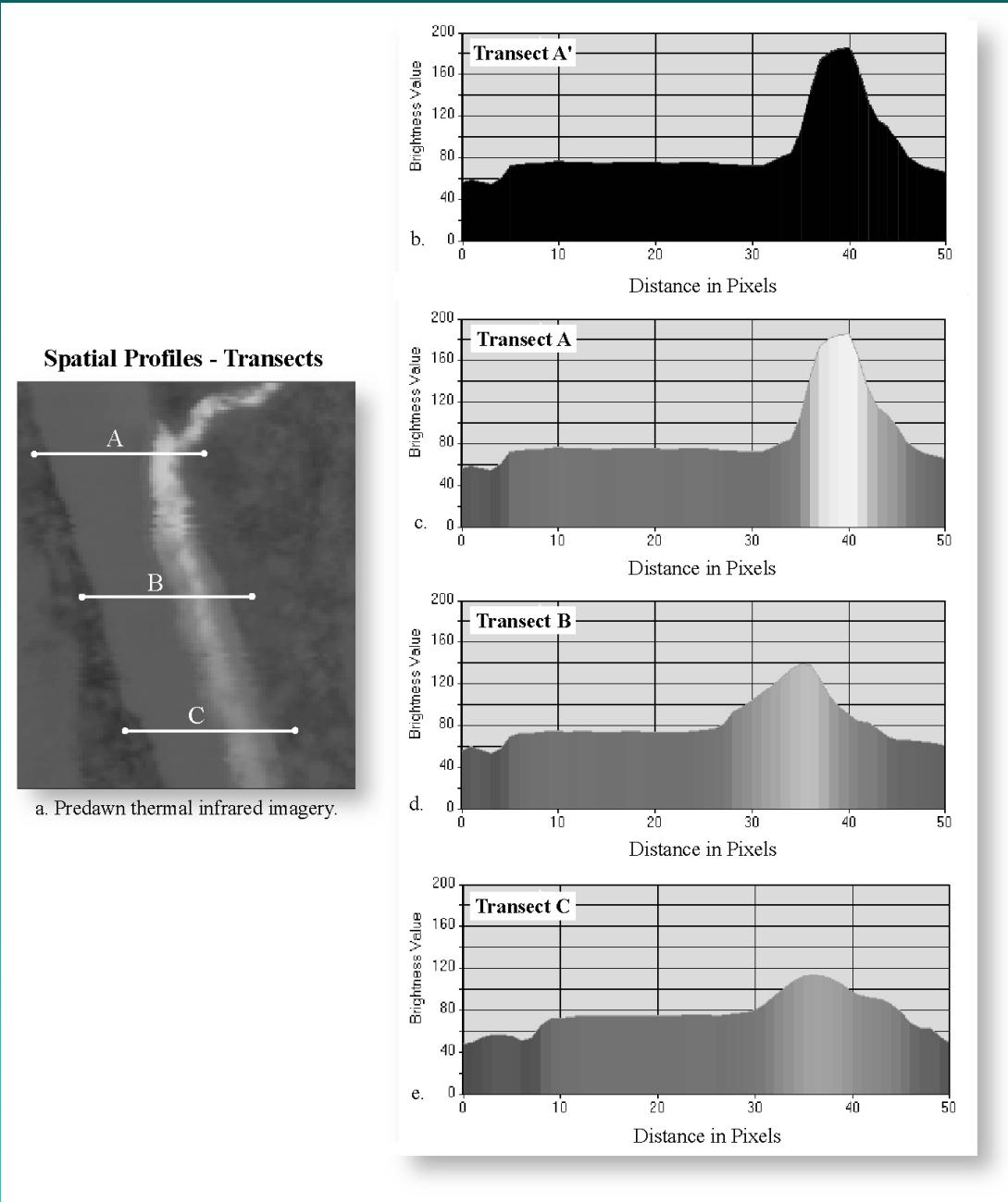


Band  
Ratio

HyMap  
Hyperspectral  
Data:  
Band 40 /  
Band 15

Jensen, 2011

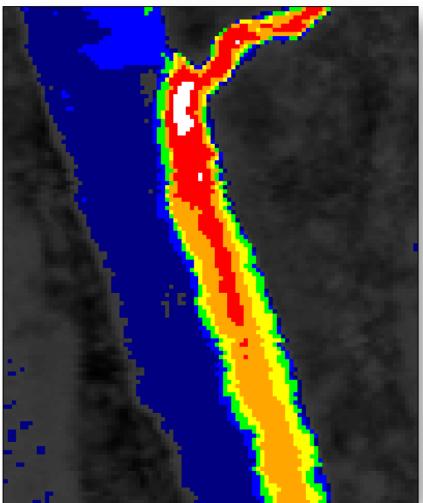
# Spatial Profile -Transect-



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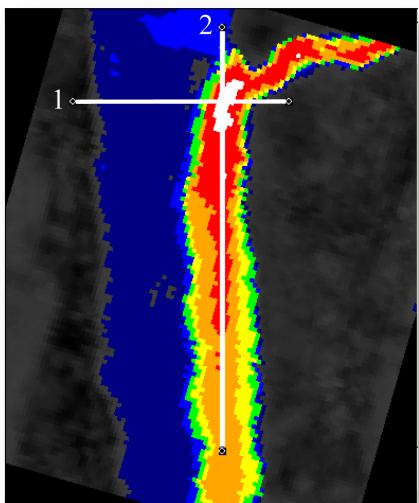
# Spatial Profile -Transect-

Density Slice of Predawn Thermal Infrared Data

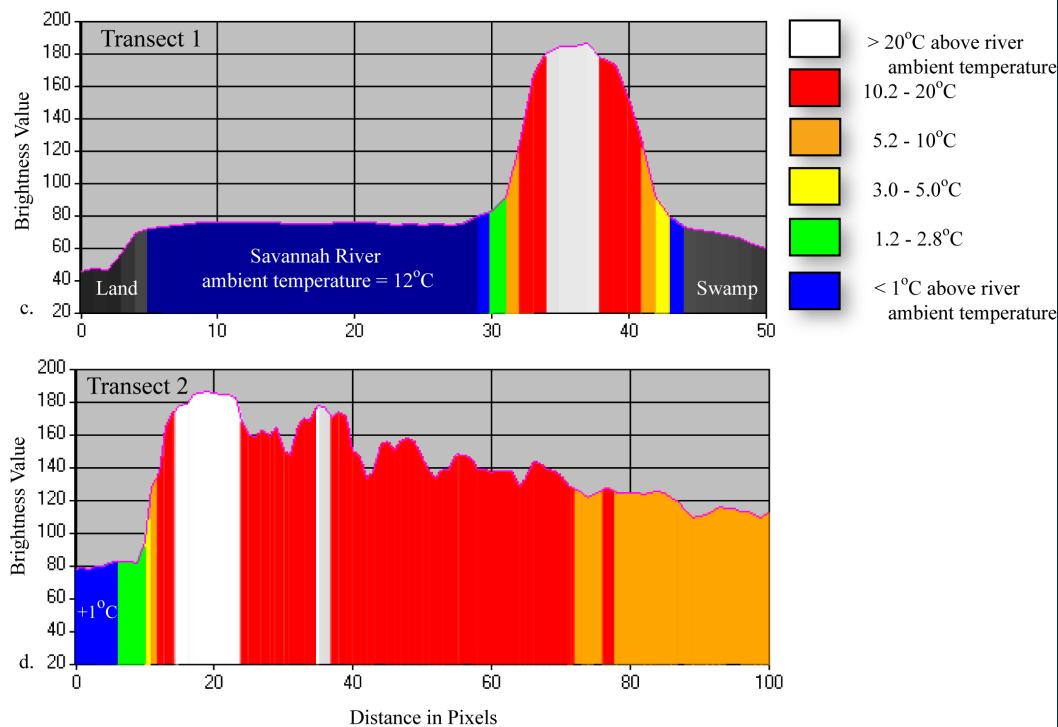


a.

Rotated 16° and Transects Extracted

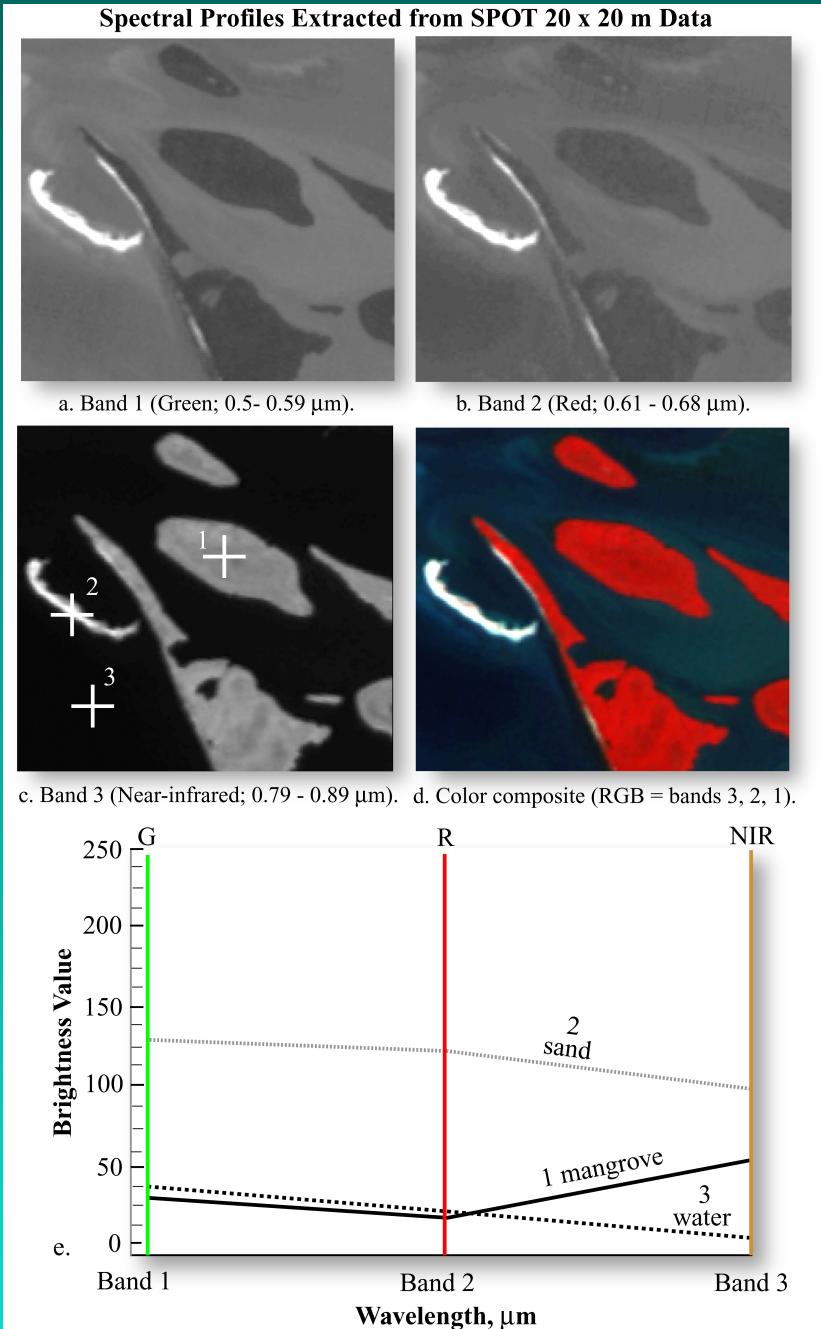


b.



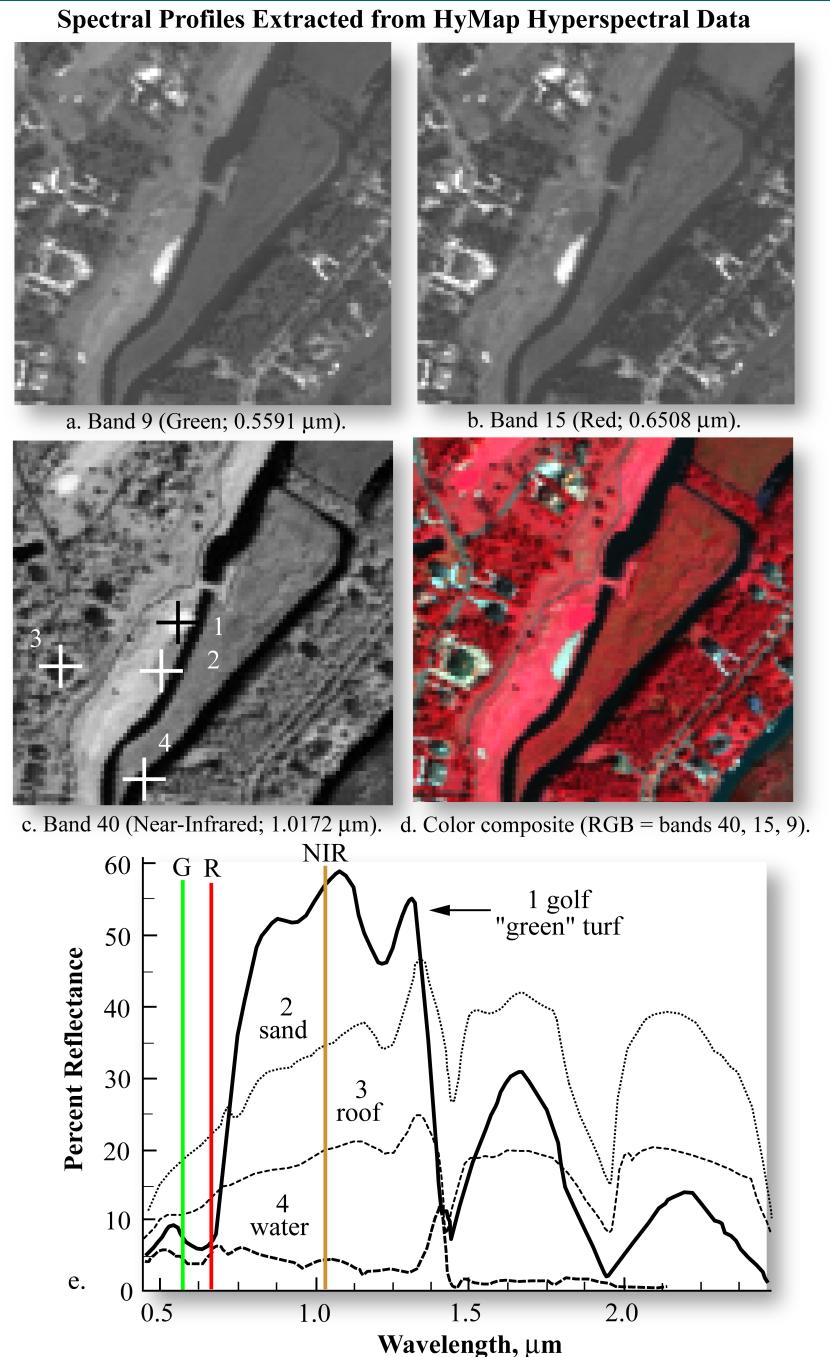
Jensen, 2011

# Spectral Profile of SPOT 20 x 20 m Multispectral Data of Marco Island, Florida



Jensen, 2011

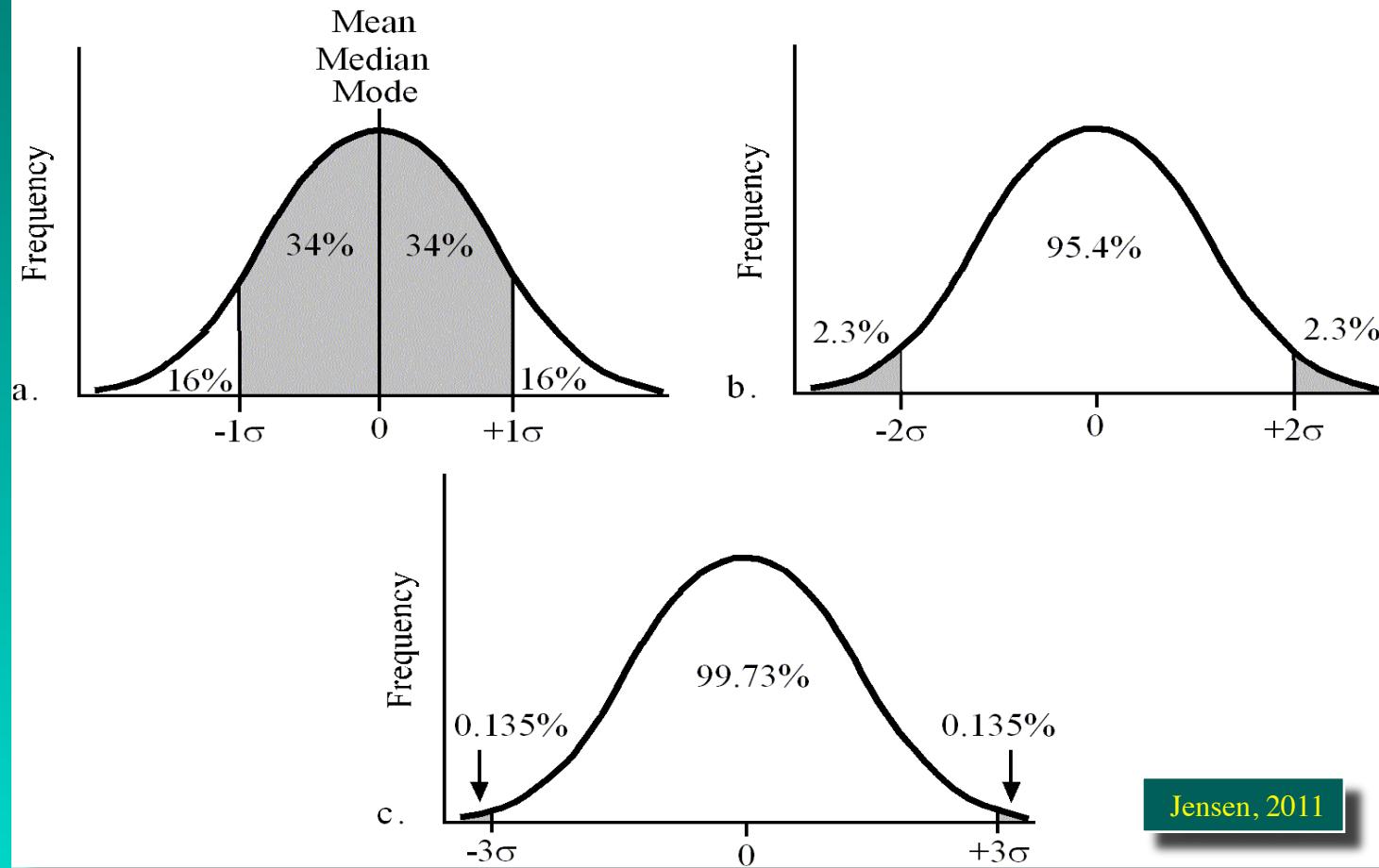
# Spectral Profile of HyMap 3 x 3 m Hyperspectral Data of Debordieu Colony near North Inlet, SC

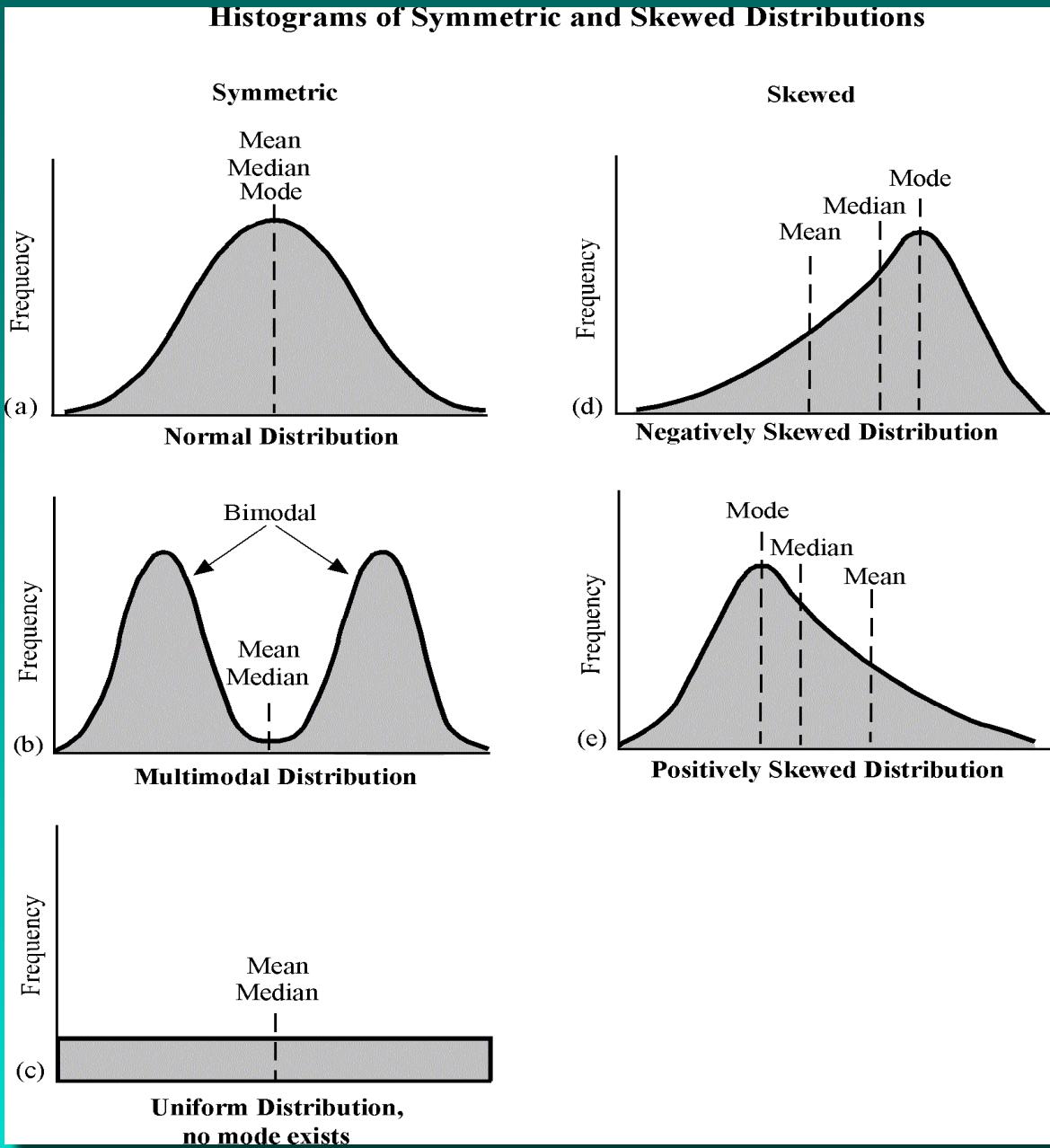


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# Standard Deviation Contrast Stretch

**Areas Under the Normal Curve for Various Standard Deviations from the Mean**

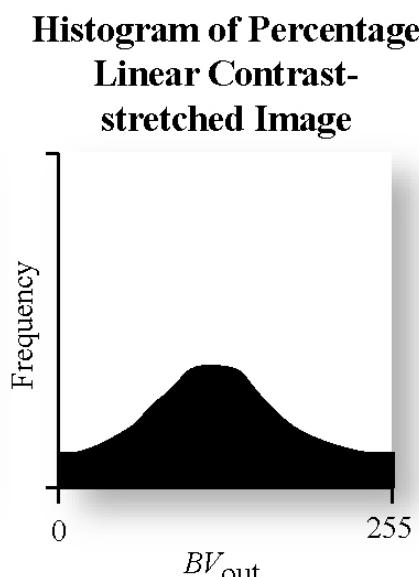
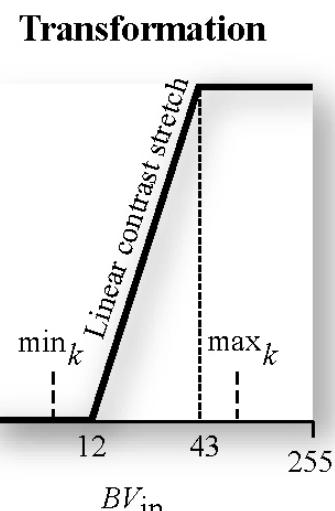
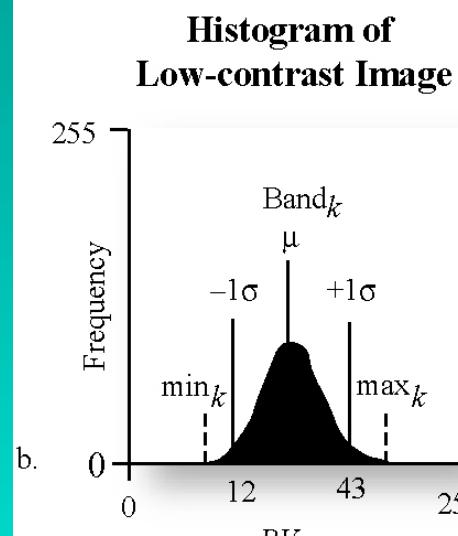
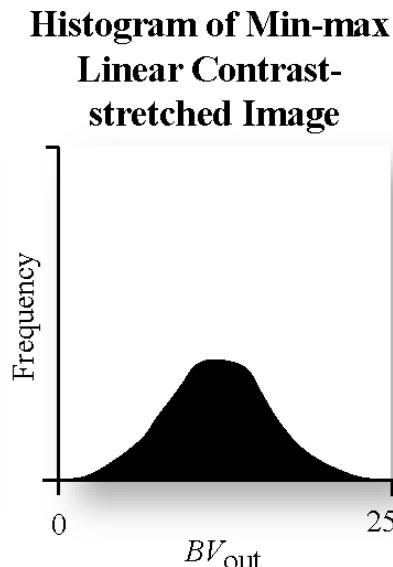
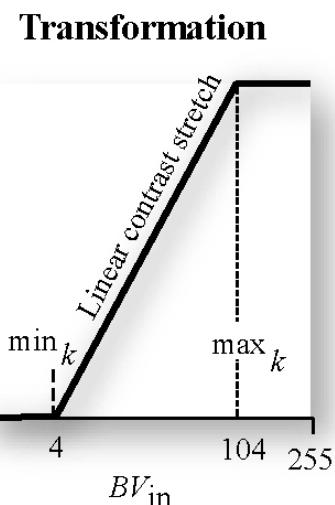
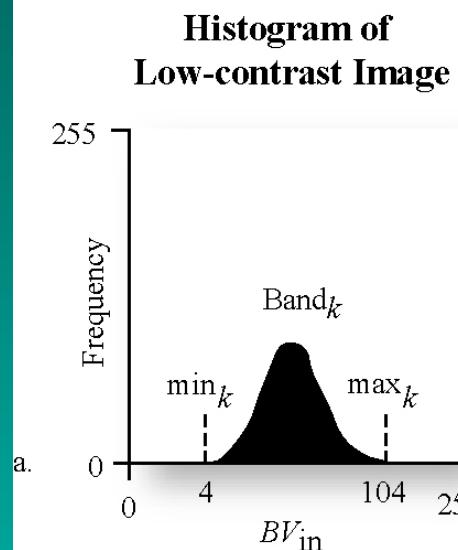




## Common Symmetric and Skewed Distributions in Remotely Sensed Data

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## Min-Max Contrast Stretch



+1 Standard Deviation  
Contrast Stretch

Jensen, 2011



## Linear Contrast Enhancement: Minimum- Maximum Contrast Stretch

$$BV_{out} = \left( \frac{BV_{in} - \min_k}{\max_k - \min_k} \right) quant_k$$

where:

- $BV_{in}$  is the original input brightness value
- $quant_k$  is the range of the brightness values that can be displayed on the CRT (e.g., 255),
- $\min_k$  is the minimum value in the image,
- $\max_k$  is the maximum value in the image, and
- $BV_{out}$  is the output brightness value



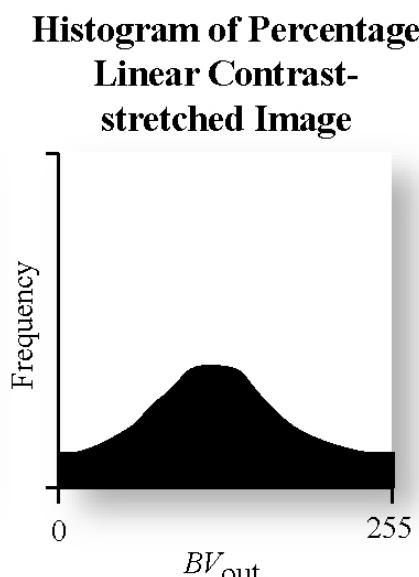
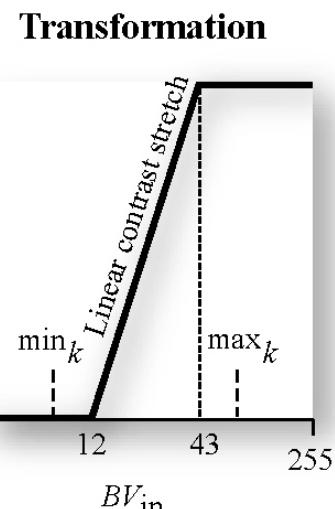
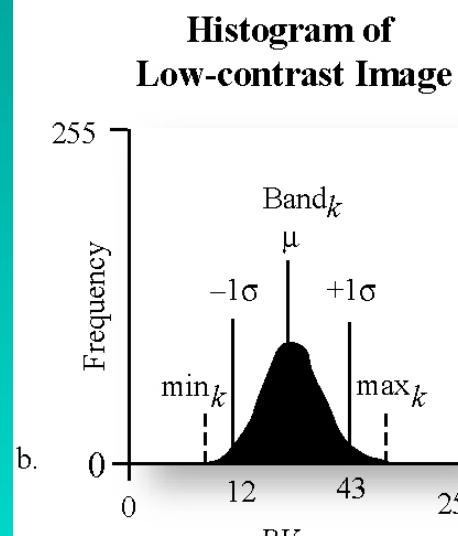
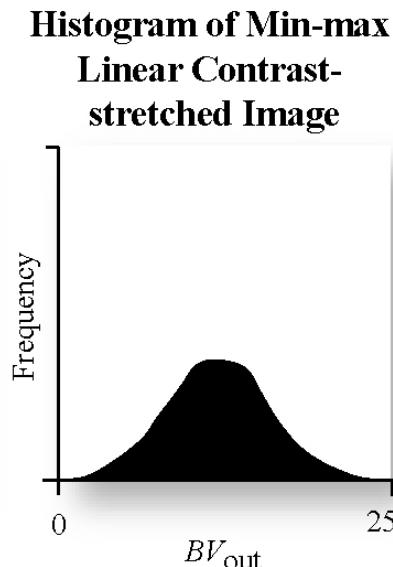
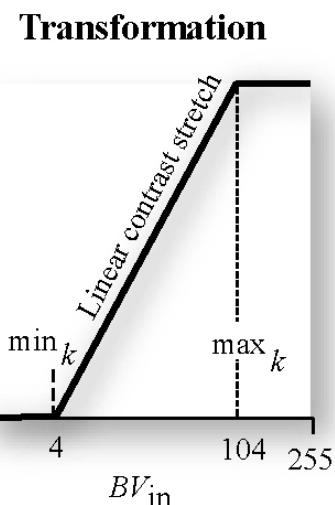
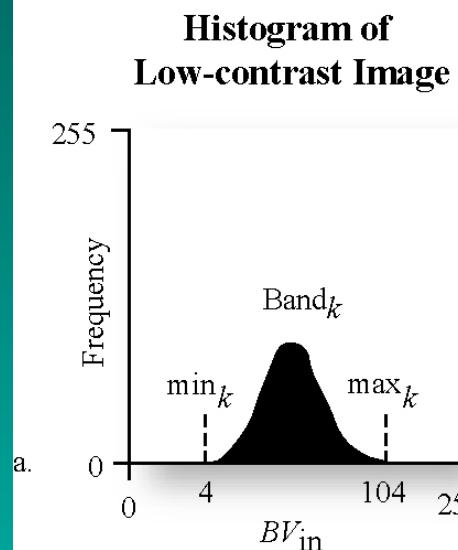
## Linear Contrast Enhancement: Minimum- Maximum Contrast Stretch

$$BV_{out} = \left( \frac{4_{in} - 4_{\min}}{105_{\max} - 4_{\min}} \right) 255 = 0$$

$$BV_{out} = \left( \frac{105_{in} - 4}{105 - 4} \right) 255 = 255$$

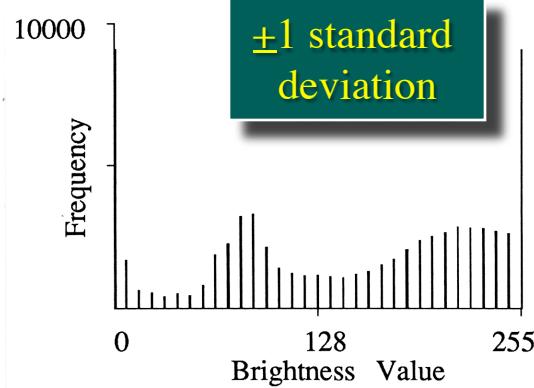
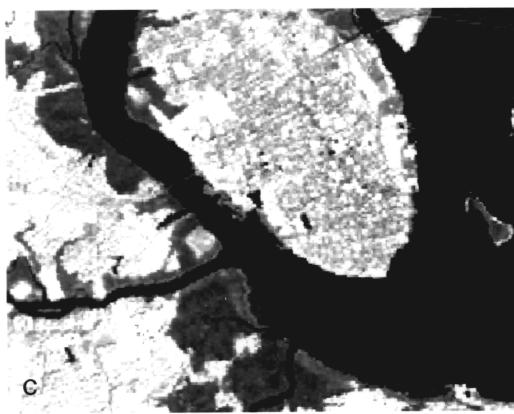
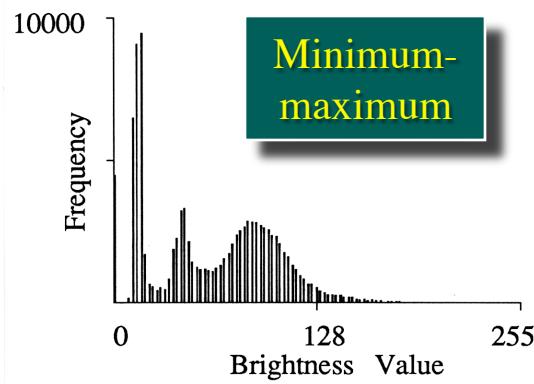
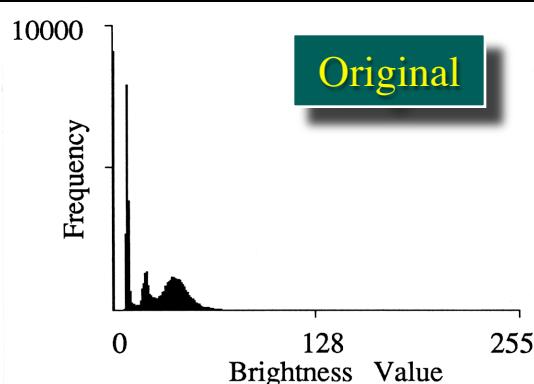
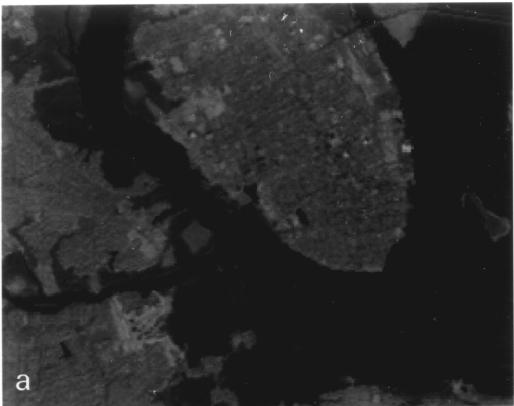
All other original brightness values between 5 and 104 are linearly distributed between 0 and 255.

## Min-Max Contrast Stretch



+1 Standard Deviation  
Contrast Stretch

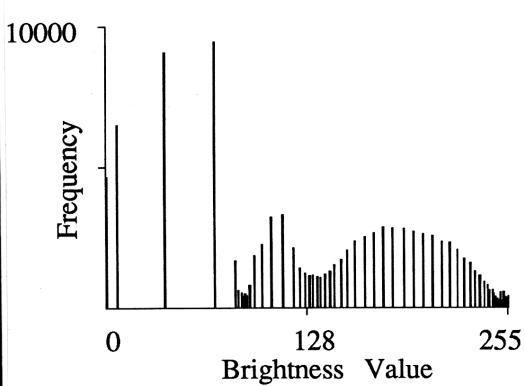
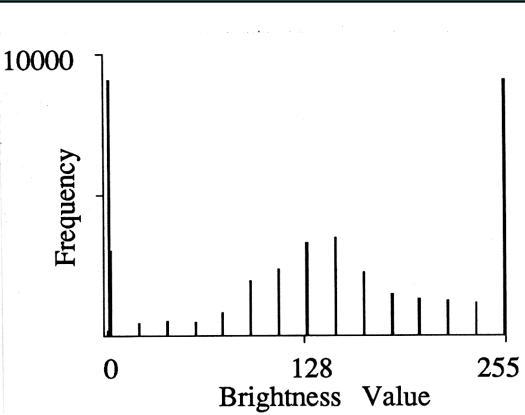
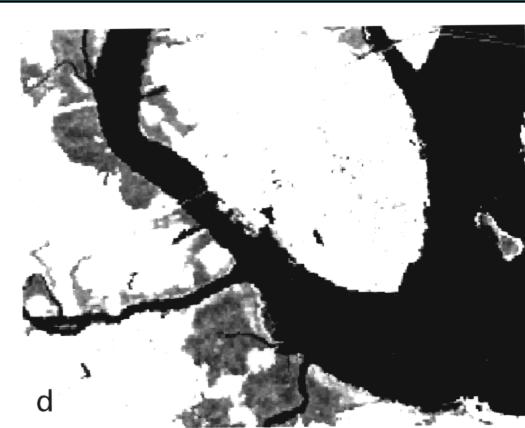
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## Contrast Stretch of Charleston, SC Landsat Thematic Mapper Band 4 Data

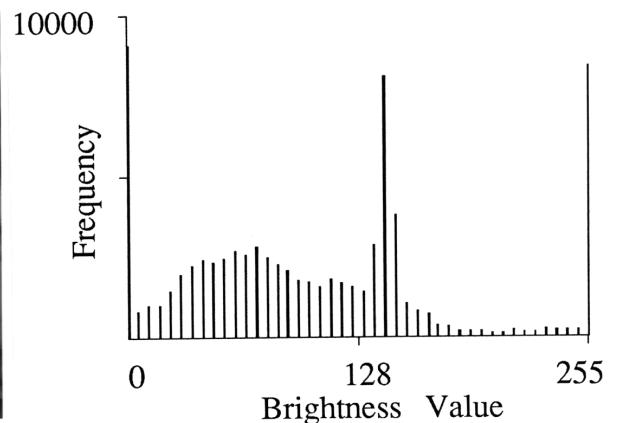
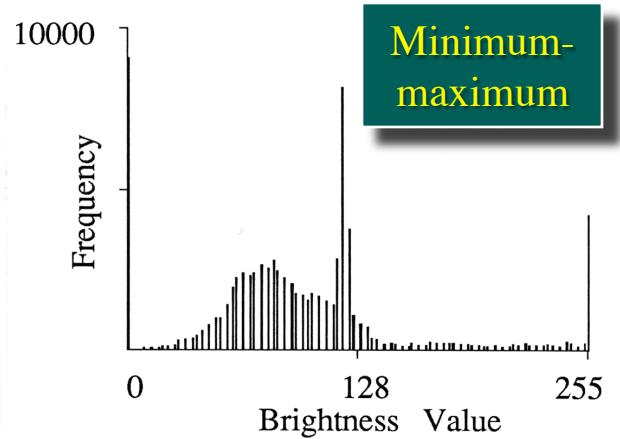
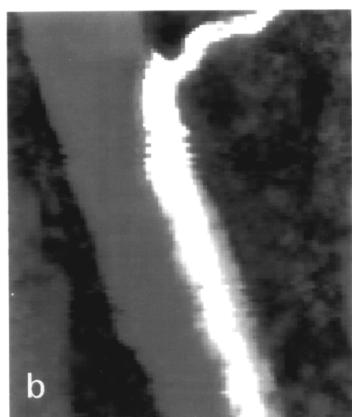
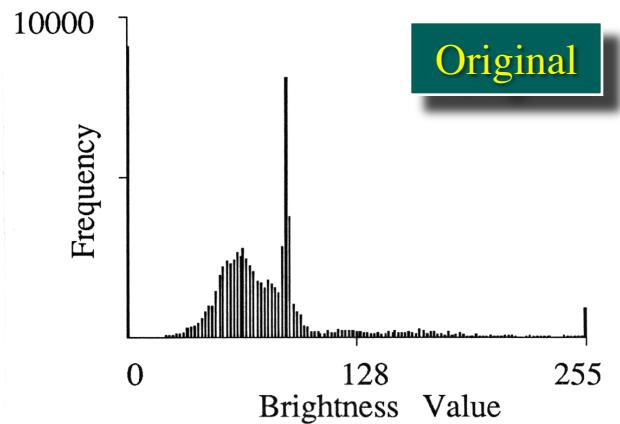
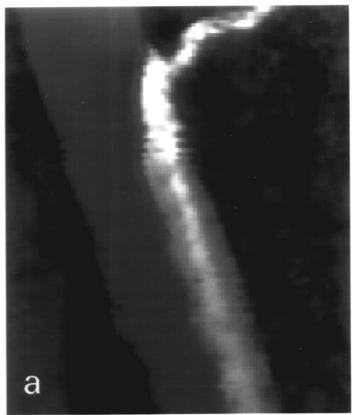
Jensen, 2011

## Contrast Stretching of Charleston, SC Landsat Thematic Mapper Band 4 Data



Specific percentage linear contrast stretch designed to highlight wetland

Histogram Equalization

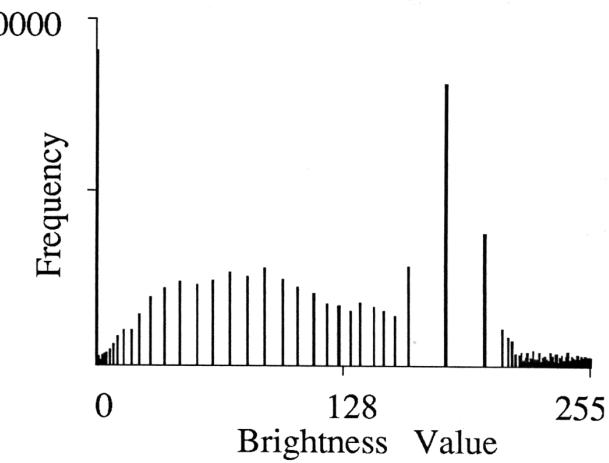
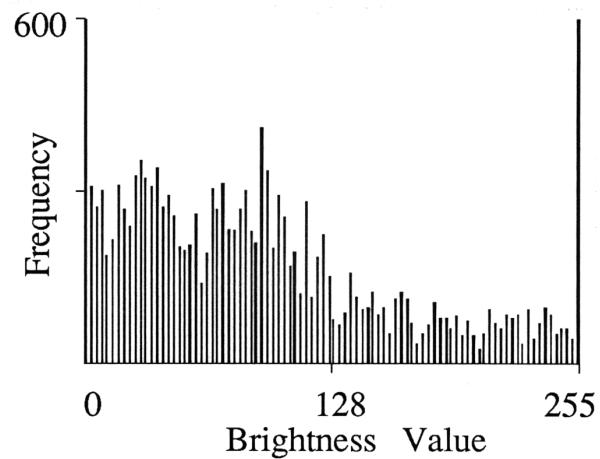


## Contrast Stretching of Predawn Thermal Infrared Data of the the Savannah River

$\pm 1$  standard deviation

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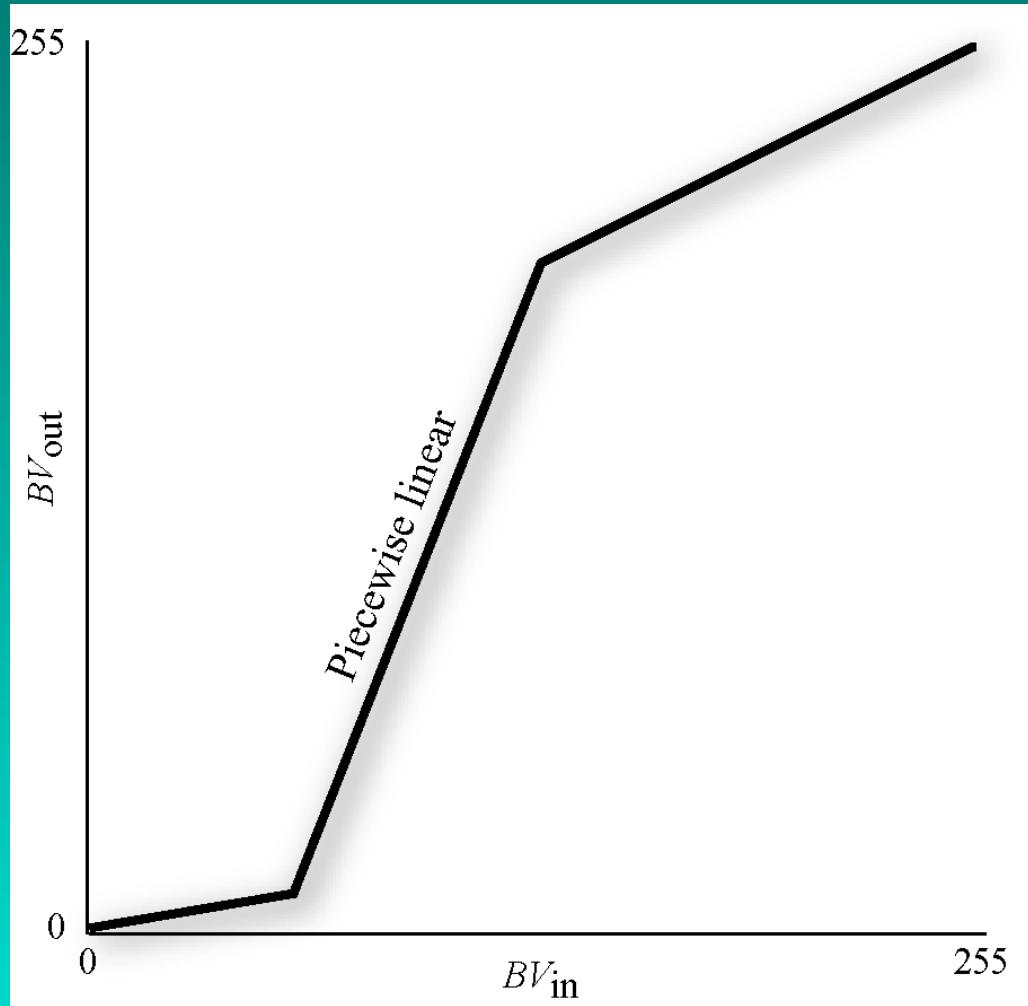
# Contrast Stretching of Predawn Thermal Infrared Data of the Savannah River



Specific percentage linear contrast stretch designed to highlight the thermal plume

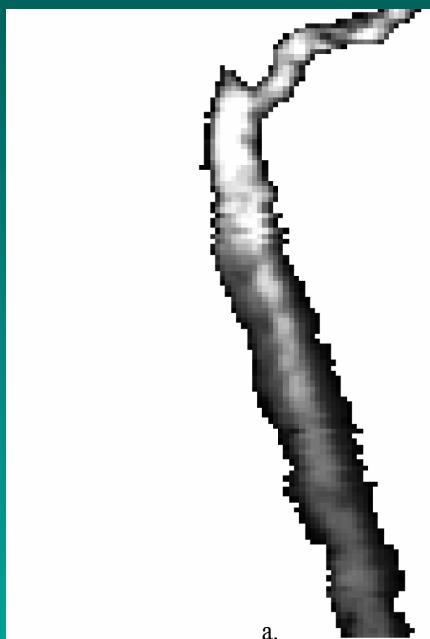
Histogram Equalization

## Non-linear Contrast Stretching



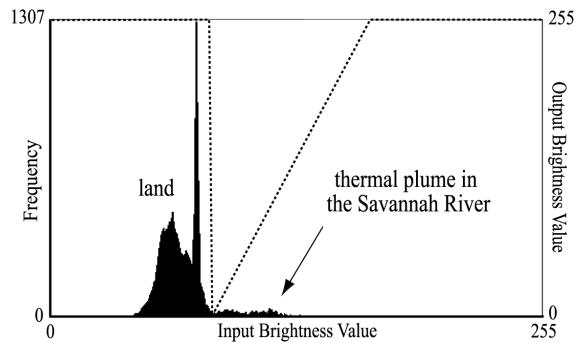
Piecewise contrast stretching (sometimes referred to as using breakpoints)

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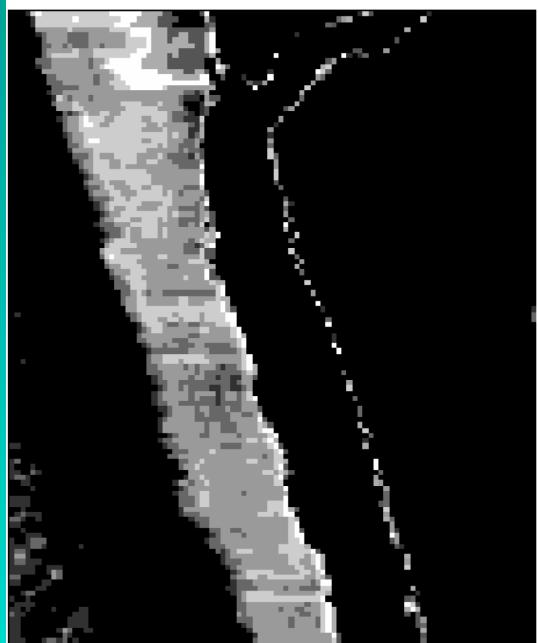


a.

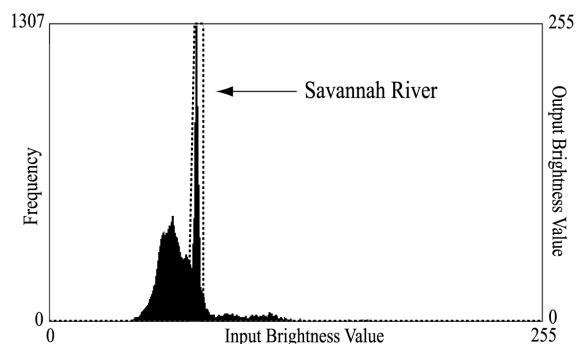
### Piecewise Linear Contrast Stretching



b. Enhancing the Thermal Plume in the Savannah River.



c.

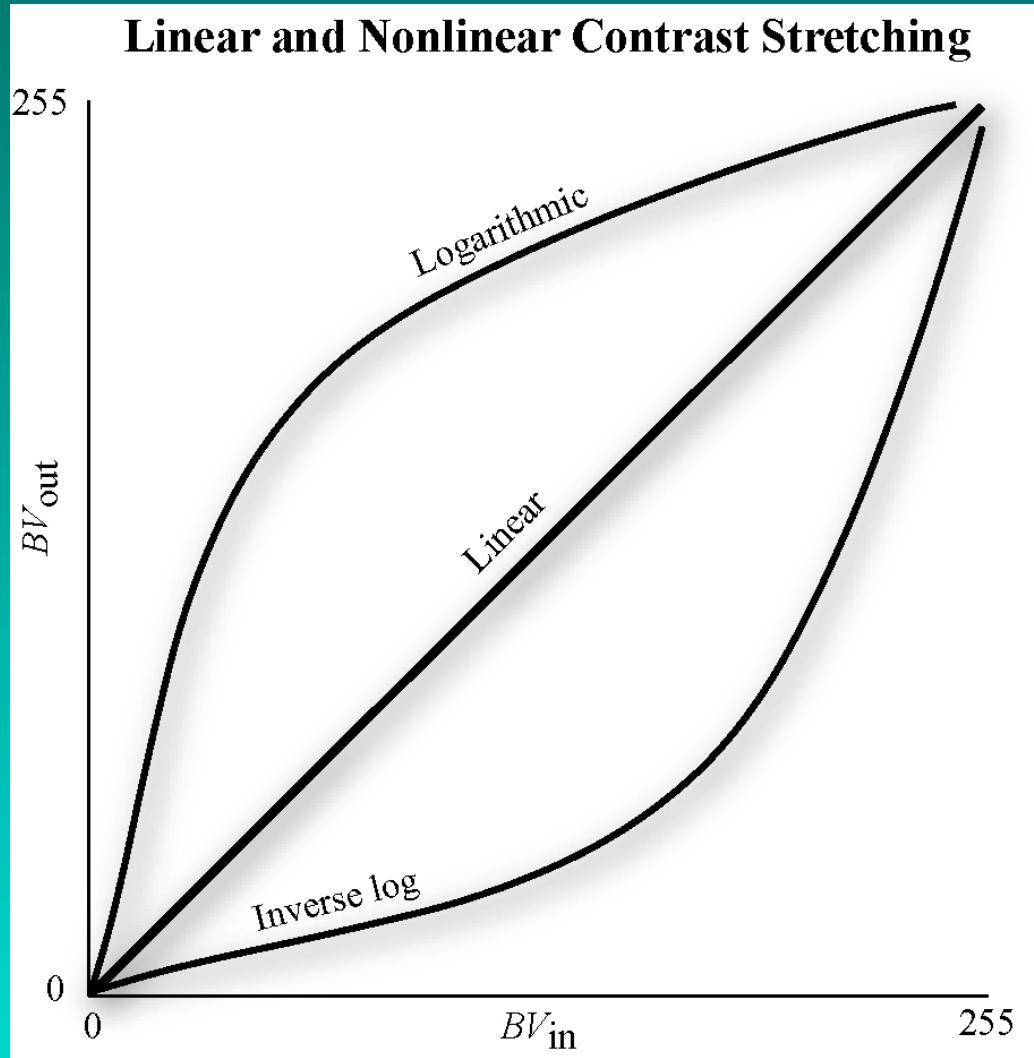


d. Enhancing the Savannah River.

## Piecewise Linear Contrast Stretching

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# Non-linear Contrast Stretching



Logarithmic and  
Inverse Log

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## Spatial Filtering to Enhance Low- and High-Frequency Detail and Edges

A characteristic of remotely sensed images is a parameter called *spatial frequency*, defined as the number of changes in brightness value per unit distance for any particular part of an image.

Jensen, 2011



## Spatial Filtering to Enhance Low- and High-Frequency Detail and Edges

*Spatial frequency* in remotely sensed imagery may be enhanced or subdued using two different approaches:

- *Spatial convolution filtering* based primarily on the use of convolution masks, and
- *Fourier analysis* which mathematically separates an image into its spatial frequency components.



## Spatial Convolution Filtering

A linear *spatial filter* is a filter for which the brightness value ( $BV_{i,j,out}$ ) at location  $i,j$  in the output image is a function of some weighted average (linear combination) of brightness values located in a particular spatial pattern around the  $i,j$  location in the input image.

The process of evaluating the weighted neighboring pixel values is called *two-dimensional convolution filtering*.



## Spatial Convolution Filtering

The size of the neighborhood *convolution mask* or *kernel* ( $n$ ) is usually  $3 \times 3$ ,  $5 \times 5$ ,  $7 \times 7$ ,  $9 \times 9$ , etc.

We will constrain our discussion to  $3 \times 3$  convolution masks with *nine* coefficients,  $c_i$ , defined at the following locations:

$$\text{Mask template} = \begin{matrix} c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \\ c_4 & c_5 & c_6 \\ c_7 & c_8 & c_9 \end{matrix}$$

3 x 3		
1	1	1
1	1	1
1	1	1



## Spatial Convolution Filtering

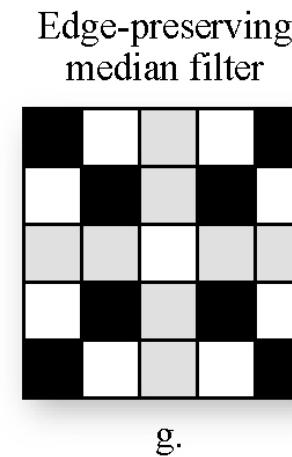
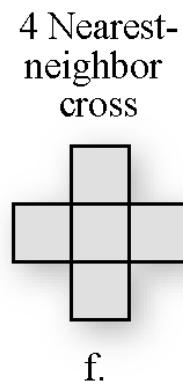
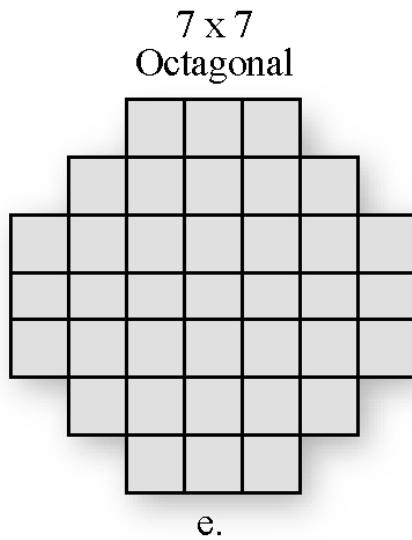
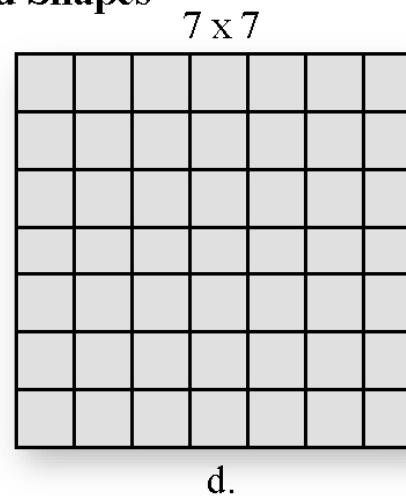
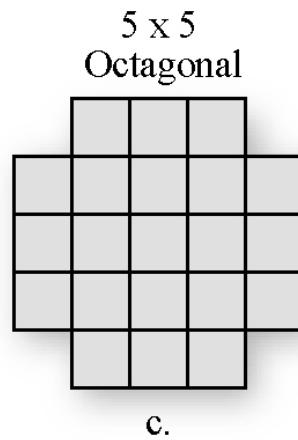
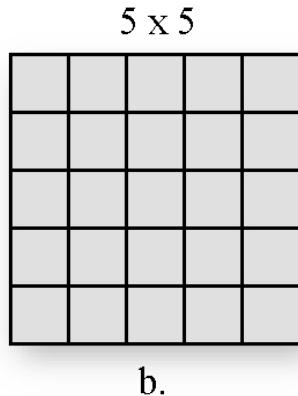
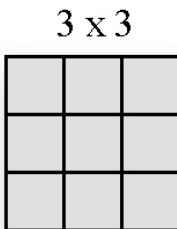
The coefficients,  $c_i$ , in the mask are multiplied by the following individual brightness values ( $BV_i$ ) in the input image:

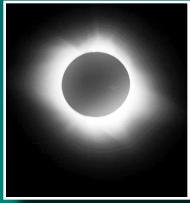
$$\begin{array}{ccc} c_1 \times BV_1 & c_2 \times BV_2 & c_3 \times BV_3 \\ \text{Mask template} = & c_4 \times BV_4 & c_5 \times BV_5 & c_6 \times BV_6 \\ & c_7 \times BV_7 & c_8 \times BV_8 & c_9 \times BV_9 \end{array}$$

*The primary input pixel under investigation at any one time is  $BV_5 = BV_{i,j}$*

# Various Convolution Mask Kernels

## Convolution Masks of Various Sizes and Shapes





## Spatial Convolution Filtering: Low Frequency Filter

$$LFF_{5,out} = \text{int} \left( \frac{\sum_{i=1}^9 c_i \times BV_i}{n} \right)$$
$$= \text{int} \left( \frac{BV_1 + BV_2 + BV_3 + \dots + BV_9}{9} \right)$$

3 x 3		
1	1	1
1	1	1
1	1	1

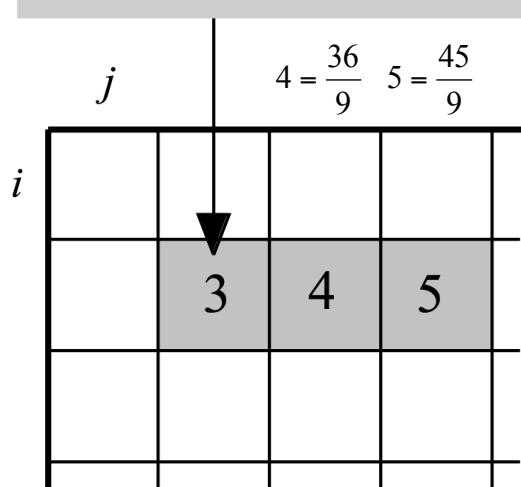
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Original Image

	0	1	3	4	7
	2	5	4	9	7
	8	3	1	6	4

$$3 = \frac{27}{9}$$

Average value of  $3 \times 3$  spatial moving window

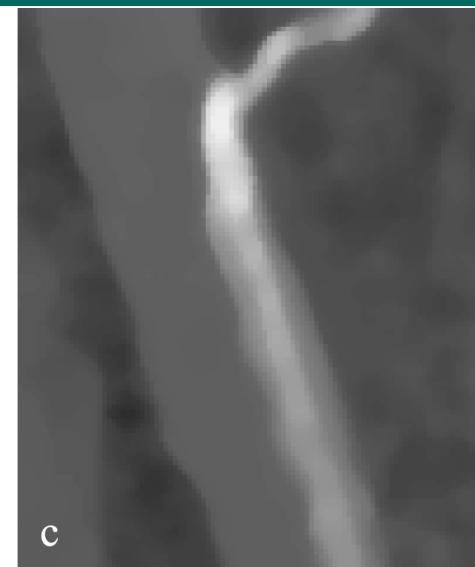
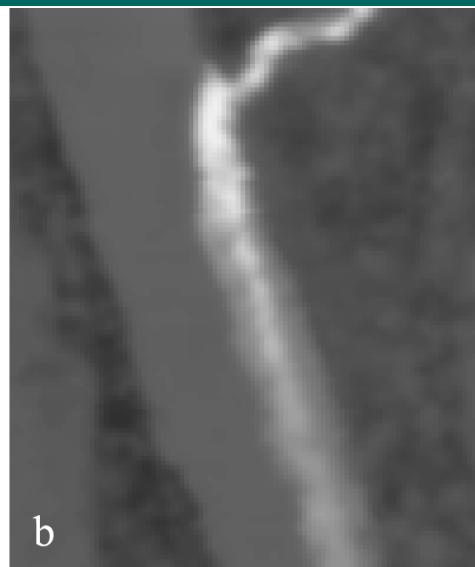


Filtered Image

Low Pass Filter

Jensen, 2011

## Spatial Frequency Filtering



Jensen, 2011

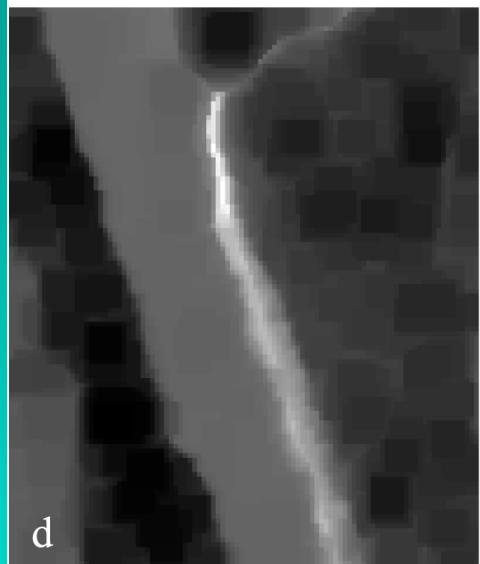
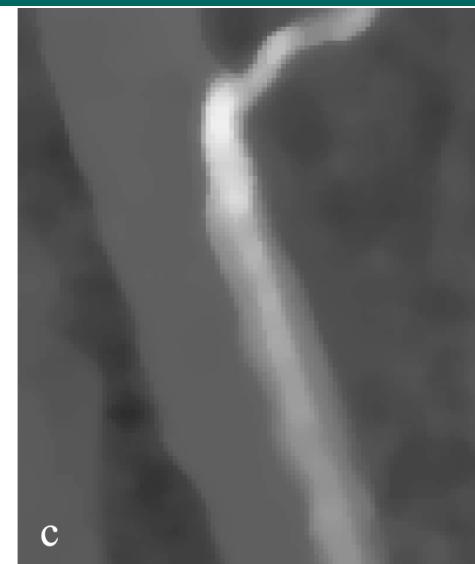


## Spatial Convolution Filtering: Median Filter

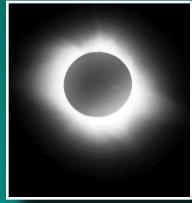
A *median filter* has certain advantages when compared with weighted convolution filters, including: 1) it does not shift boundaries, and 2) the minimal degradation to edges allows the median filter to be applied repeatedly which allows fine detail to be erased and large regions to take on the same brightness value (often called posterization).

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## Spatial Frequency Filtering



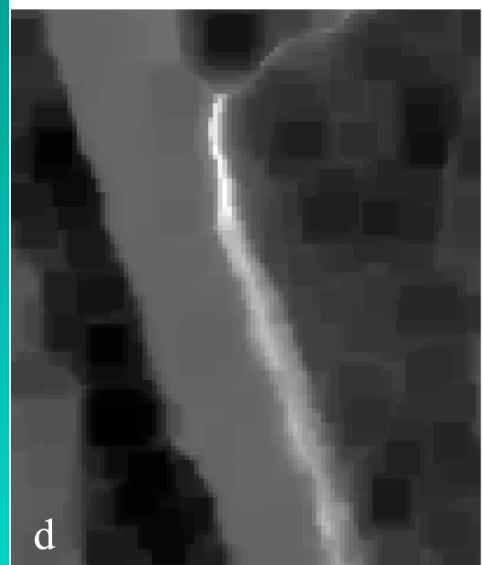
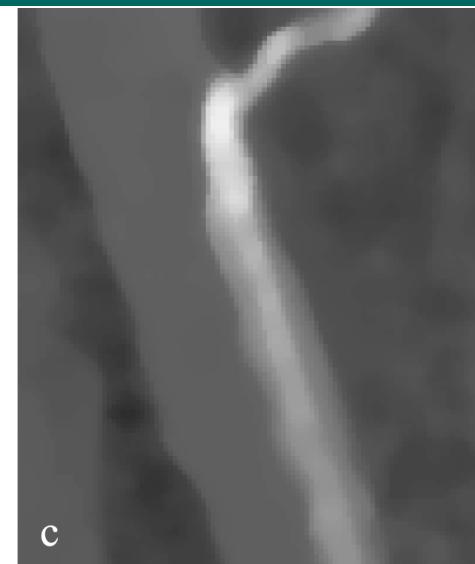
Jensen, 2011



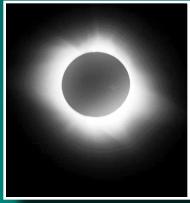
## Spatial Convolution Filtering: Minimum or Maximum Filters

Operating on one pixel at a time, these filters examine the brightness values of adjacent pixels in a user-specified radius (e.g., 3 x 3 pixels) and replace the brightness value of the current pixel with the *minimum* or *maximum* brightness value encountered, respectively.

## Spatial Frequency Filtering



Jensen, 2011

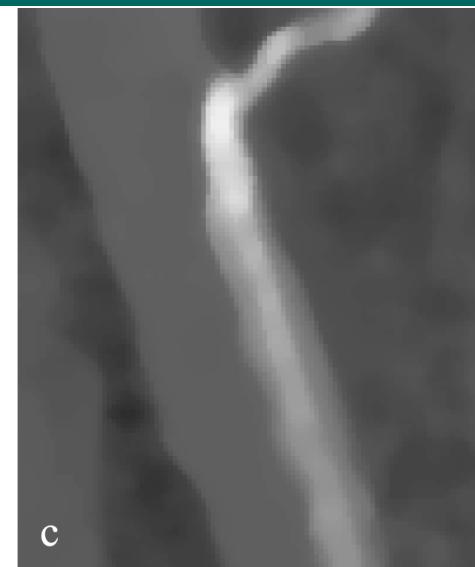
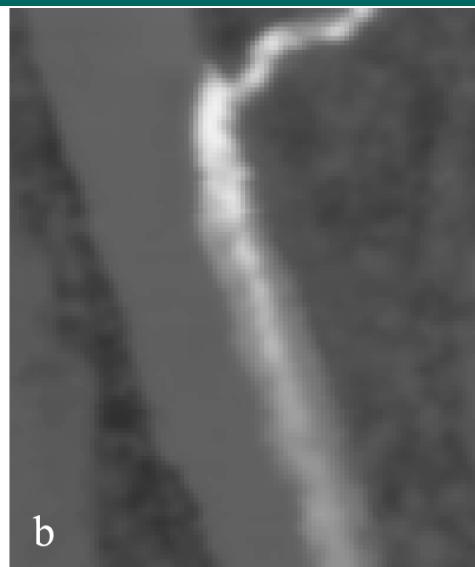


## Spatial Convolution Filtering: High Frequency Filter

*High-pass filtering* is applied to imagery to remove the slowly varying components and enhance the high-frequency local variations. One high-frequency filter ( $HFF_{5,out}$ ) is computed by subtracting the output of the low-frequency filter ( $LFF_{5,out}$ ) from twice the value of the original central pixel value,  $BV_5$ :

$$HFF_{5,out} = (2 \times BV_5) - LFF_{5,out}$$

# Spatial Frequency Filtering



Jensen, 2011



# Spatial Convolution Filtering: Unequal-weighted smoothing Filter

3 x 3

0.25	0.50	0.25
0.50	1	0.50
0.25	0.50	0.25

3 x 3

1	1	1
1	2	1
1	1	1

Jensen, 2011



## Spatial Convolution Filtering: Edge Enhancement

For many remote sensing Earth science applications, the most valuable information that may be derived from an image is contained in the *edges* surrounding various objects of interest. *Edge enhancement* delineates these edges and makes the shapes and details comprising the image more conspicuous and perhaps easier to analyze. Edges may be enhanced using either *linear* or *nonlinear edge enhancement* techniques.



# Spatial Convolution Filtering: Directional First-Difference Linear Edge Enhancement

$$\text{Vertical} = BV_{i,j} - BV_{i,j+1} + K$$

$$\text{Horizontal} = BV_{i,j} - BV_{i-1,j} + K$$

$$\text{NE Diagonal} = BV_{i,j} - BV_{i+1,j+1} + K$$

$$\text{SE Diagonal} = BV_{i,j} - BV_{i-1,j+1} + K$$

The result of the subtraction can be either negative or positive, therefore a constant,  $K$  (usually 127) is added to make all values positive and centered between 0 and 255



# Spatial Convolution Filtering: High-pass Filters that Accentuate or Sharpen Edges

3 x 3		
-1	-1	-1
-1	9	-1
-1	-1	-1

3 x 3		
1	-2	1
-2	5	-2
1	-2	1

Jensen, 2011



# Spatial Convolution Filtering: Linear Edge Enhancement - Embossing

3 x 3		
0	0	0
1	0	-1
0	0	0

Emboss East

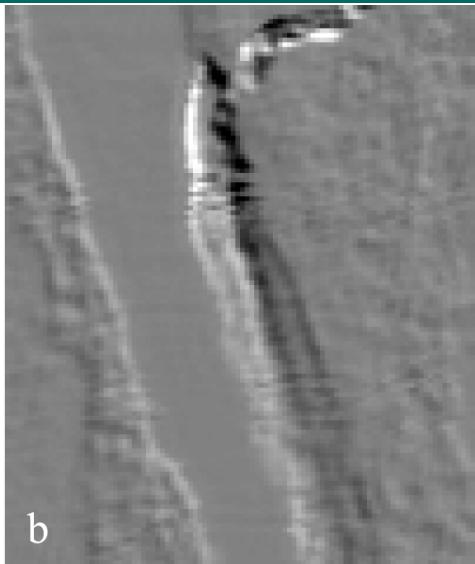
3 x 3		
0	0	1
0	0	0
-1	0	0

Emboss NW

# Spatial Frequency Filtering



Emboss East



Emboss NW



Southwest



East



Laplacian 8



Laplacian 17

Jensen, 2011



# Spatial Convolution Filtering: Compass Gradient Masks

3 x 3		
1	1	1
1	-2	1
-1	-1	-1

North

3 x 3		
1	1	1
-1	-2	1
-1	-1	1

Northeast

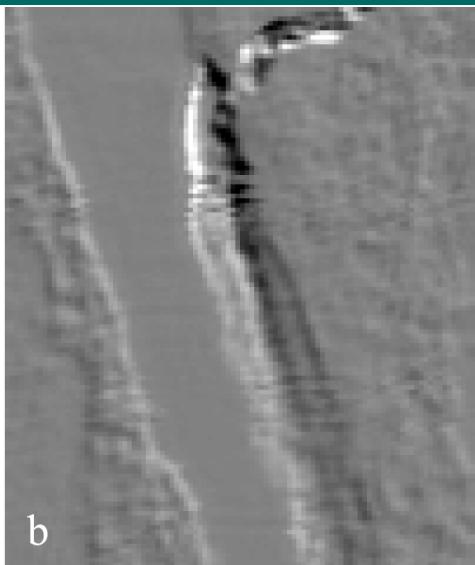
3 x 3		
-1	1	1
-1	-2	1
-1	1	1

East

# Spatial Frequency Filtering



Emboss East



Emboss NW



Southwest



East



Laplacian 8



Laplacian 17

Jensen, 2011



## Spatial Convolution Filtering: Edge Enhancement Using Laplacian Convolution Masks

The *Laplacian* is a second derivative (as opposed to the gradient which is a first derivative) and is invariant to rotation, meaning that it is insensitive to the direction in which the discontinuities (point, line, and edges) run.



## Spatial Convolution Filtering: Laplacian Convolution Masks

3 x 3		
0	-1	0
-1	4	-1
0	-1	0

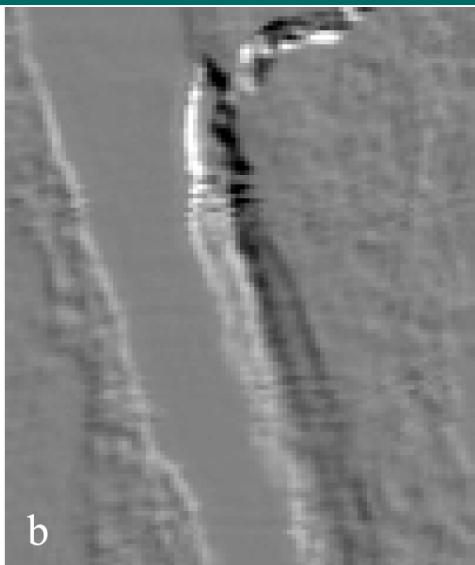
3 x 3		
-1	-1	-1
-1	8	-1
-1	-1	-1

3 x 3		
1	-2	1
-2	4	-2
1	-2	1

# Spatial Frequency Filtering



Emboss East



Emboss NW



Southwest



East



Laplacian 8



Laplacian 17

Jensen, 2011



## Spatial Convolution Filtering: Edge Enhancement Using Laplacian Convolution Masks

The following *Laplacian* operator may be used to subtract the Laplacian edges from the original image:

**3 x 3**

1	1	1
1	-7	1
1	1	1



## Spatial Convolution Filtering: Edge Enhancement Using Laplacian Convolution Masks

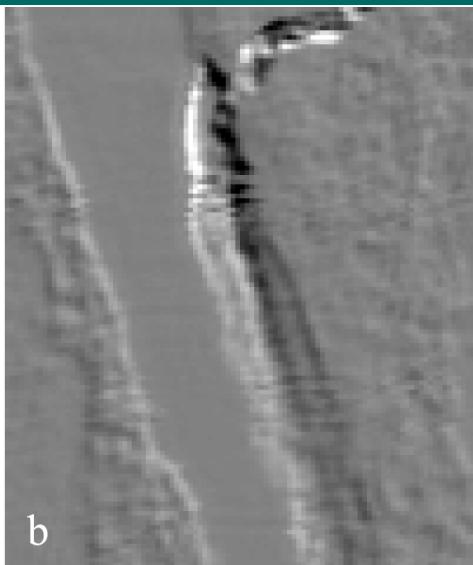
By itself, the *Laplacian* image may be difficult to interpret. Therefore, a Laplacian edge enhancement may be added back to the original image using the following mask:

3 x 3		
0	-1	0
-1	5	-1
0	-1	0

# Spatial Frequency Filtering



Emboss East



Emboss NW



Southwest



East



Laplacian 8



Laplacian 17



## Spatial Convolution Filtering: Non-linear Edge Enhancement Using the Sobel Operator

$$Sobel_{5,out} = \sqrt{X^2 + Y^2}$$

where

$$X = (BV_3 + 2BV_6 + BV_9) - (BV_1 + 2BV_4 + BV_7)$$

$$Y = (BV_1 + 2BV_2 + BV_3) - (BV_7 + 2BV_8 + BV_9)$$

order	1	2	3
4			6
7	8		9



The *Sobel* operator may also be computed by simultaneously applying the following 3 x 3 templates across the image:

3 x 3

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

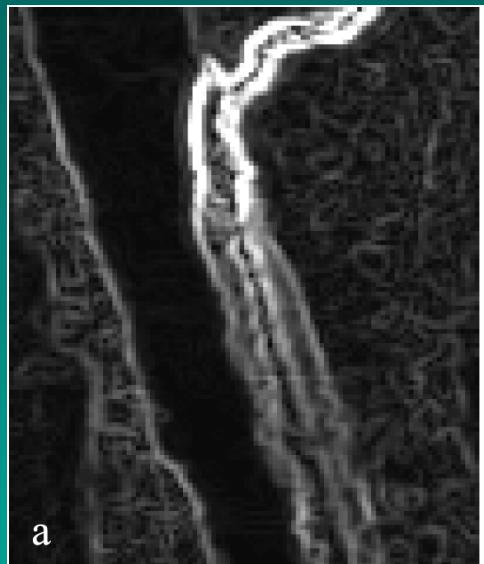
X =

3 x 3

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

Y =

# Spatial Frequency Filtering



Jensen, 2011



## Spatial Convolution Filtering: Non-linear Edge Enhancement Using the Robert's Edge Detector

The Robert's edge detector is based on the use of only four elements of a 3 x 3 mask.

$$Roberts_{5,out} = X + Y$$

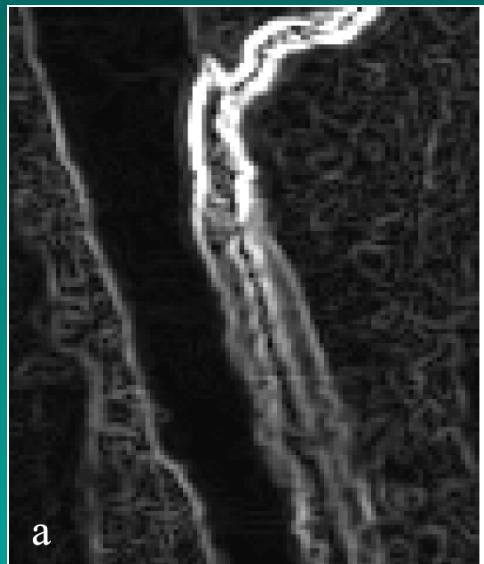
where

$$X = |BV_5 - BV_9|$$

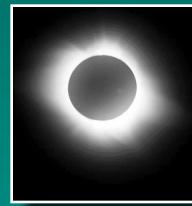
$$Y = |BV_6 - BV_8|$$

order	1	2	3
4	5	6	
7	8	9	

# Spatial Frequency Filtering



Jensen, 2011



The *Robert's Edge* operator may also be computed by simultaneously applying the following 3 x 3 templates across the image:

3 x 3

0	0	0
0	1	0
0	0	-1

X =

3 x 3

0	0	0
0	0	1
0	-1	0

Y =



## Spatial Convolution Filtering: Non-linear Edge Enhancement Using the Kirsch Edge Detector

The *Kirsch* nonlinear edge enhancement calculates the gradient at pixel location  $BV_{i,j}$ . To apply this operator, however, it is first necessary to designate a different 3 x 3 window numbering scheme.

$$\text{Kirsh window} = \begin{matrix} BV_0 & BV_1 & BV_2 \\ BV_7 & \textcolor{red}{BV_{i,j}} & BV_3 \\ BV_6 & BV_5 & BV_4 \end{matrix}$$



## Spatial Convolution Filtering: Non-linear Edge Enhancement Using the Kirsch Edge Detector

$$BV_{i,j} = \max \left\{ 1, \max_{i=0}^7 [Abs(5S_i - 3T_i)] \right\}$$

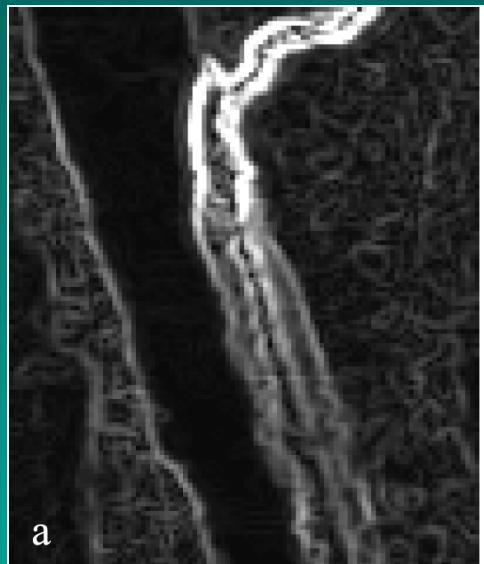
where

$$S_i = BV_i + BV_{i+1} + BV_{i+2}$$

$$T_i = BV_{i+3} + BV_{i+4} + BV_{i+5} + BV_{i+6} + BV_{i+7}$$

The subscripts of  $BV$  are evaluated modulo 8, meaning that the computation moves around the perimeter of the mask in eight steps. The edge enhancement computes the maximal compass gradient magnitude about input image points although the input pixel value  $BV_{i,j}$  is never used in the computation

# Spatial Frequency Filtering



Sobel



Edge map of Sobel



Robert's

Jensen, 2011

## Histogram Equalization

- evaluates the individual brightness values in a band of imagery and *assigns approximately an equal number of pixels to each of the user-specified output gray-scale classes* (e.g., 32, 64, and 256).
- applies the greatest contrast enhancement to the most populated range of brightness values in the image.
- reduces the contrast in the very light or dark parts of the image associated with the tails of a normally distributed histogram.

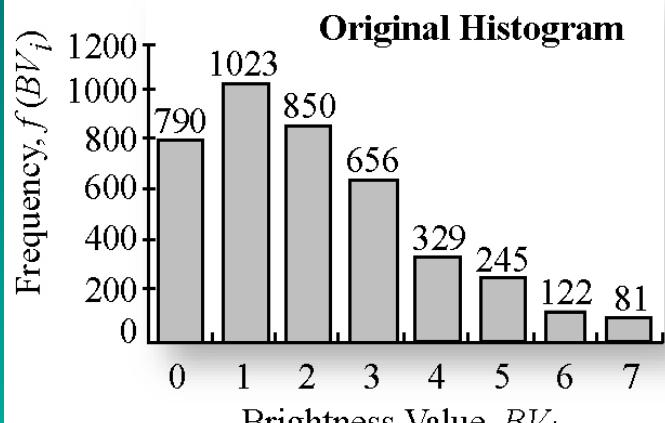
## Statistics for a 64 x 64 Hypothetical Image with Brightness Values from 0 to 7

Brightness Value, $BV_i$	$L_i$	Frequency $f(BV_i)$	Probability <sup>b</sup> $p_i = f(BV_i)/n$
$BV_0$	$0/7 = 0.00$	790	0.19
$BV_1$	$1/7 = 0.14$	1023	0.25
$BV_2$	$2/7 = 0.28$	850	0.21
$BV_3$	$3/7 = 0.42$	656	0.16
$BV_4$	$4/7 = 0.57$	329	0.08
$BV_5$	$5/7 = 0.71$	245	0.06
$BV_6$	$6/7 = 0.85$	122	0.03
$BV_7$	$7/7 = 1.00$	81	0.02

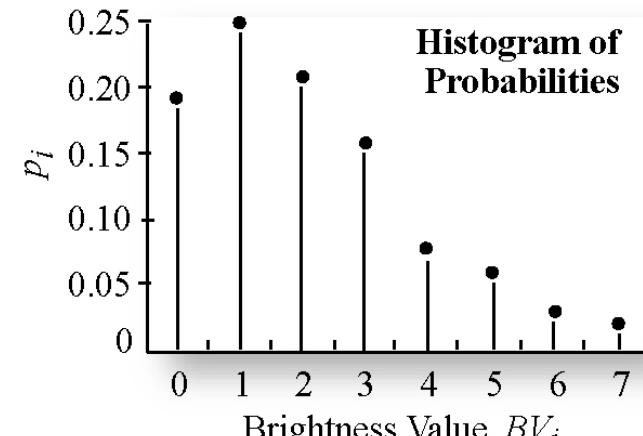
**4096 total**

# Histogram Equalization

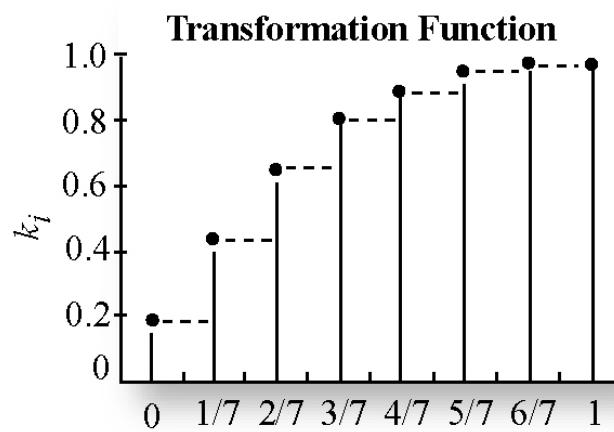
Histogram Equalization Contrast Enhancement



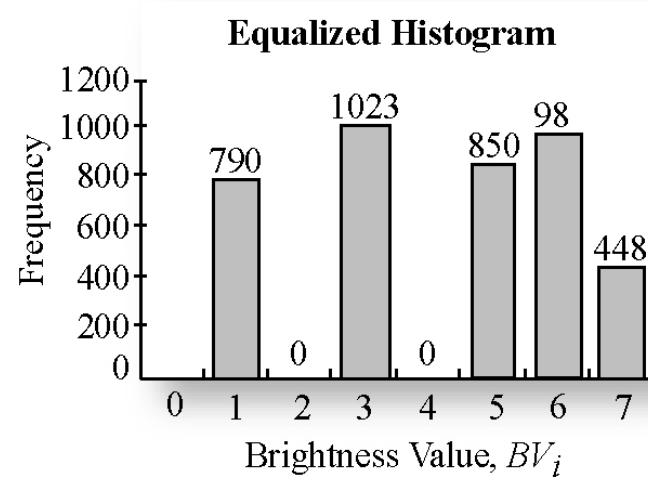
a.



b.



c.



d.

## Transformation Function, $k_i$ for each individual brightness value

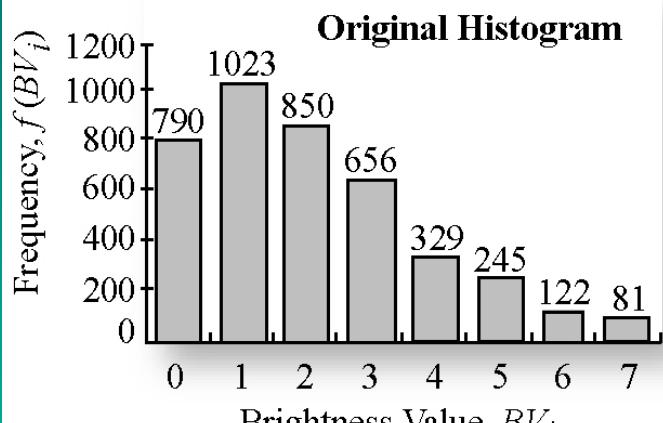
For each brightness value level  $BV_i$  in the  $quant_k$  range of 0 to 7 of the original histogram, a new cumulative frequency value  $k_i$  is calculated:

$$k_i = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^{quant_i} BV_i}{n}$$

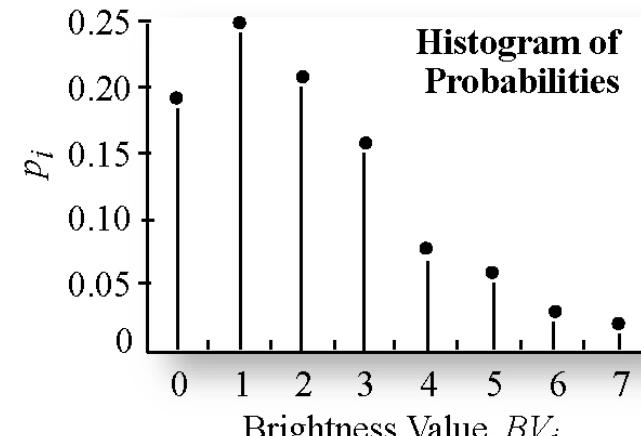
where the summation counts the frequency of pixels in the image with brightness values equal to or less than  $BV_i$ , and  $n$  is the total number of pixels in the entire scene (4,096 in this example).

# Histogram Equalization

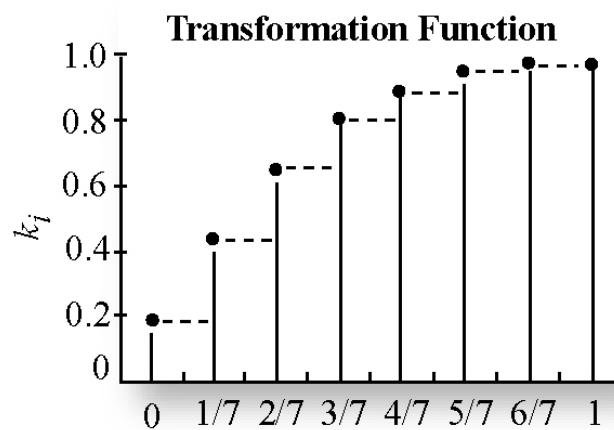
Histogram Equalization Contrast Enhancement



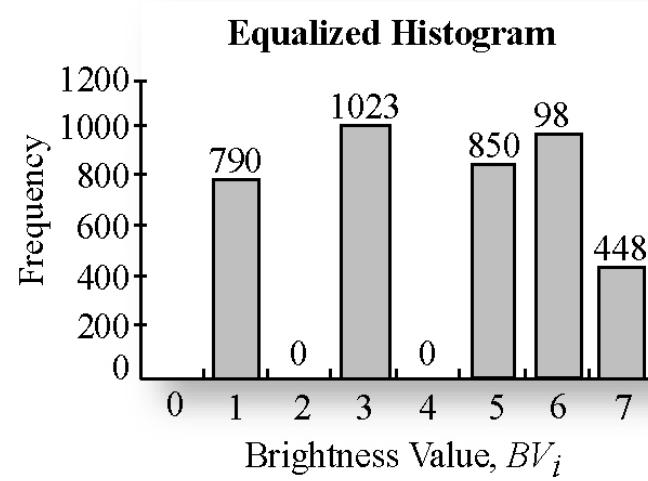
a.



b.



c.

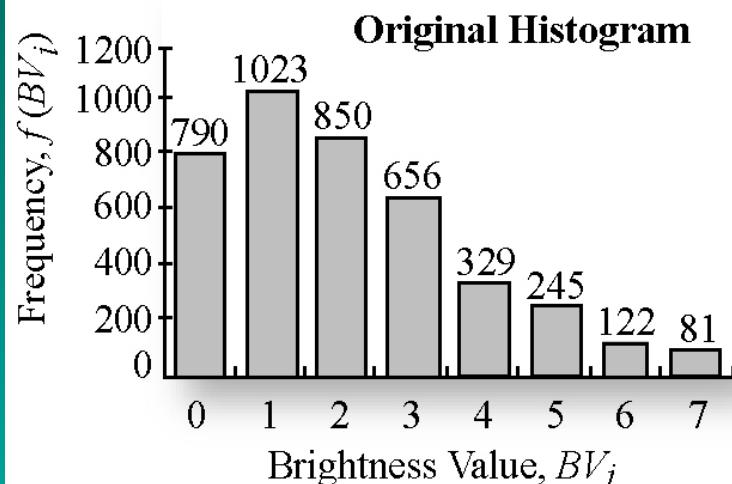


d.

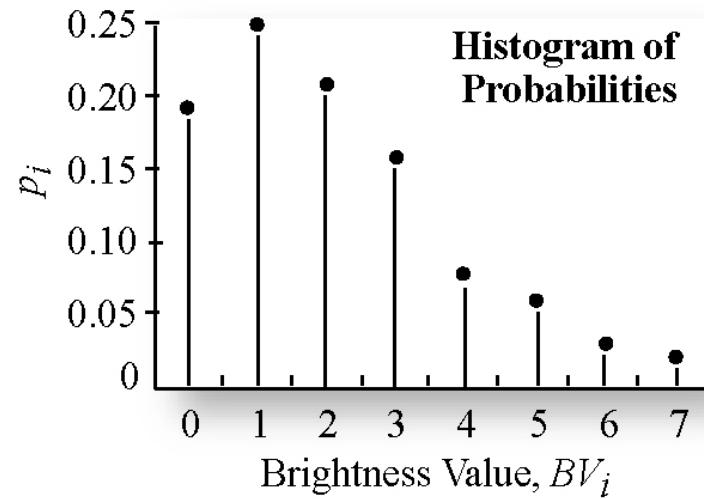
The histogram equalization process iteratively compares the transformation function  $k_i$  with the original values of  $l_i$ , to determine which are closest in value. *The closest match is reassigned to the appropriate brightness value.*

For example, we see that  $k_0 = 0.19$  is closest to  $L_1 = 0.14$ . Therefore, all pixels in  $BV_0$  (790 of them) will be assigned to  $BV_1$ . Similarly, the 1023 pixels in  $BV_1$  will be assigned to  $BV_3$ , the 850 pixels in  $BV_2$  will be assigned to  $BV_5$ , the 656 pixels in  $BV_3$  will be assigned to  $BV_6$ , the 329 pixels in  $BV_4$  will also be assigned to  $BV_6$ , and all 448 brightness values in  $BV_{5-7}$  will be assigned to  $BV_7$ . The new image will not have any pixels with brightness values of 0, 2, or 4. This is evident when evaluating the new histogram. *When analysts see such gaps in image histograms, it is usually a good indication that histogram equalization or some other operation has been applied.*

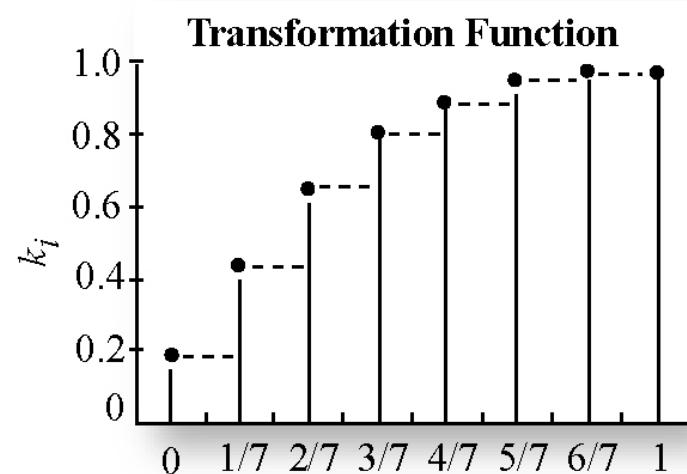
## Histogram Equalization Contrast Enhancement



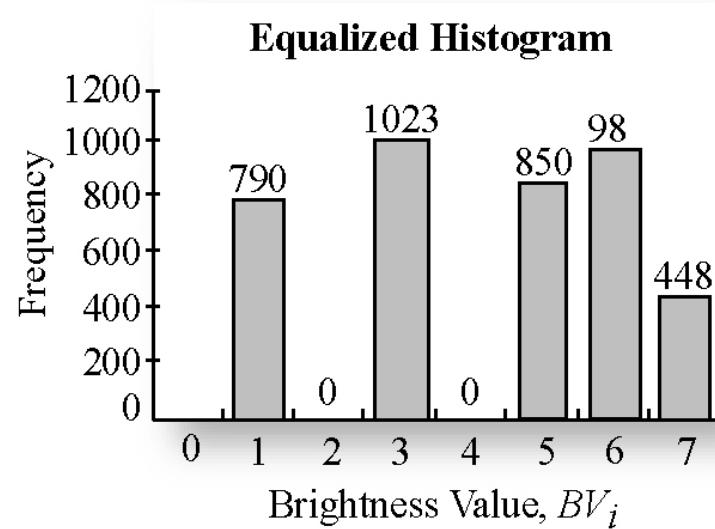
a.



b.



c.

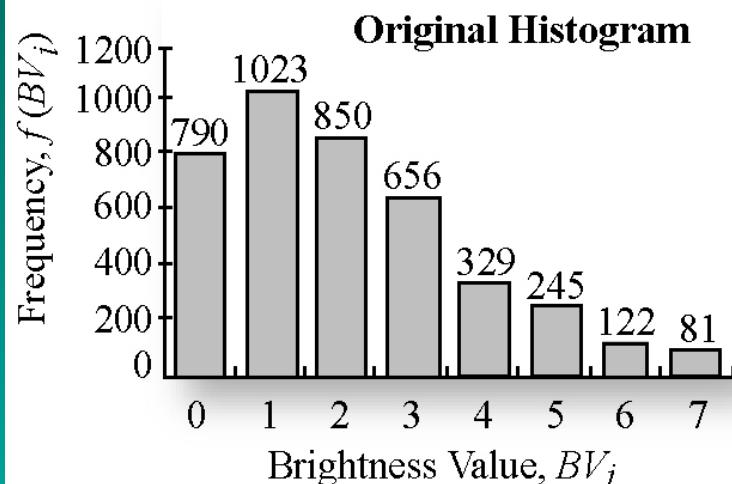


d.

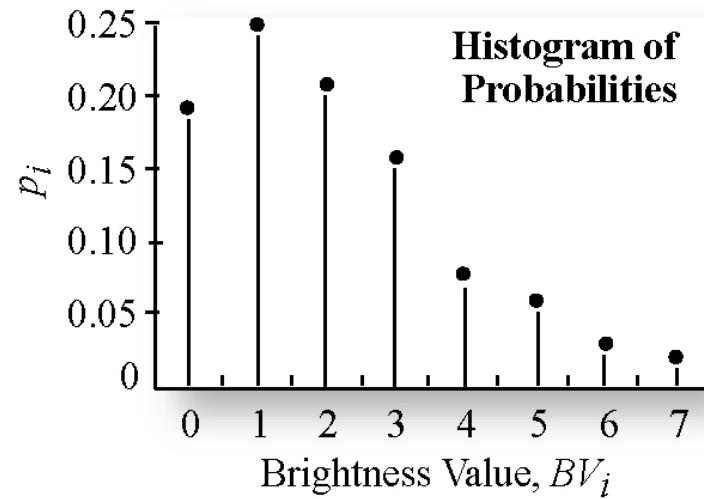
## Statistics of How a 64 x 64 Hypothetical Image with Brightness Values from 0 to 7 is Histogram Equalized

Frequency, $f(BV_i)$	790	1023	850	656	329	245	122	81
Original brightness value, $BV_i$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
$L_i = \frac{\text{brightness value}}{n}$	0	0.14	0.28	0.42	0.57	0.71	0.85	1.0
Cumulative frequency transformation:	$\frac{790}{4096} = 0.19$	$\frac{1813}{4096} = 0.44$	$\frac{2663}{4096} = 0.65$	$\frac{3319}{4096} = 0.81$	$\frac{3648}{4096} = 0.89$	$\frac{3893}{4096} = 0.95$	$\frac{4015}{4096} = 0.98$	$\frac{4096}{4096} = 1.0$
Assign original $BV_i$ class to the new class it is closest to in value	1	3	5	6	7	7	7	7

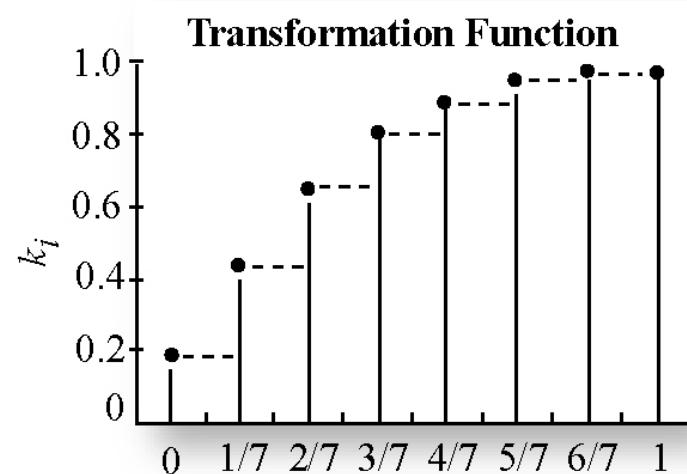
## Histogram Equalization Contrast Enhancement



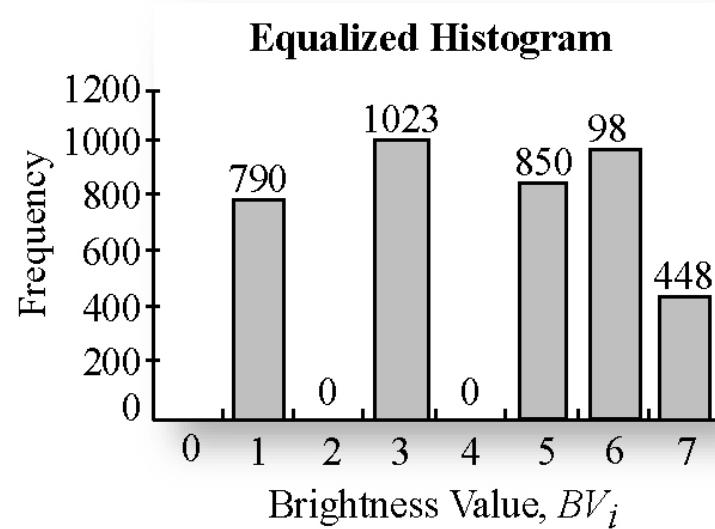
a.



b.



c.



d.