

Computer Vision: Corner detection

Siheng Chen 陈思衡

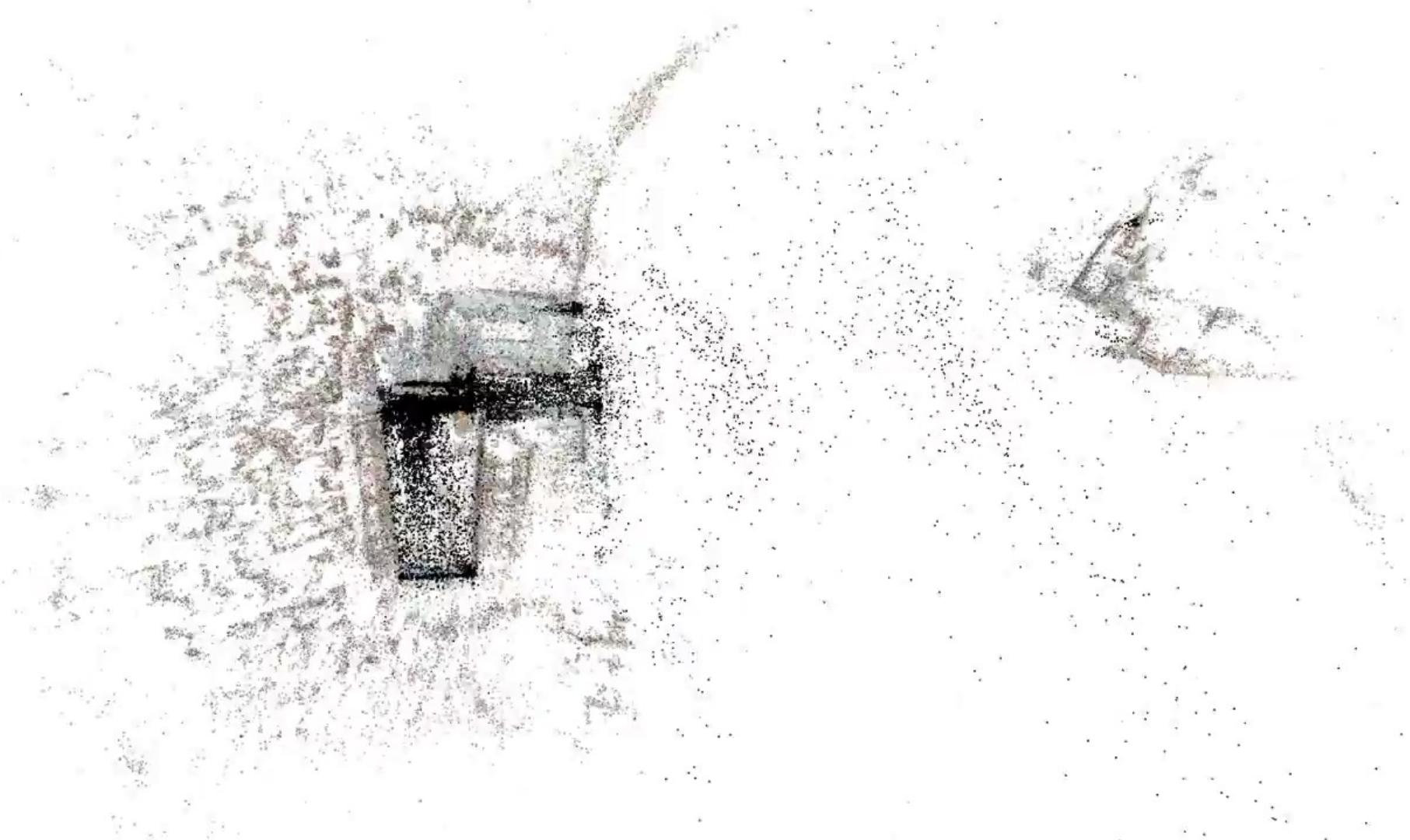
Corner detection

Why detect corners

Harris corner detector

Why detect corners

Why detect corners



Why detect corners

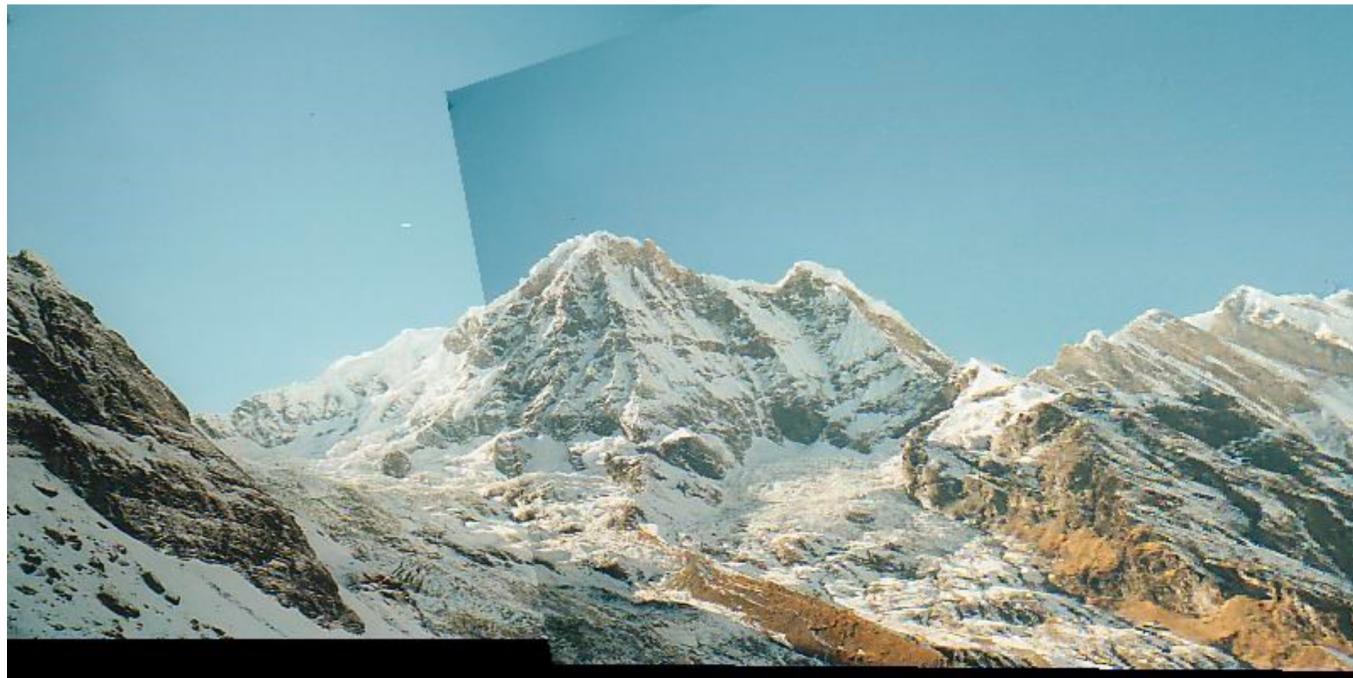
Given two images: how would you align them?



These aren't off by a small 2D translation but instead by a 3D rotation + translation of the camera

Why detect corners

Given two images: how would you align them?



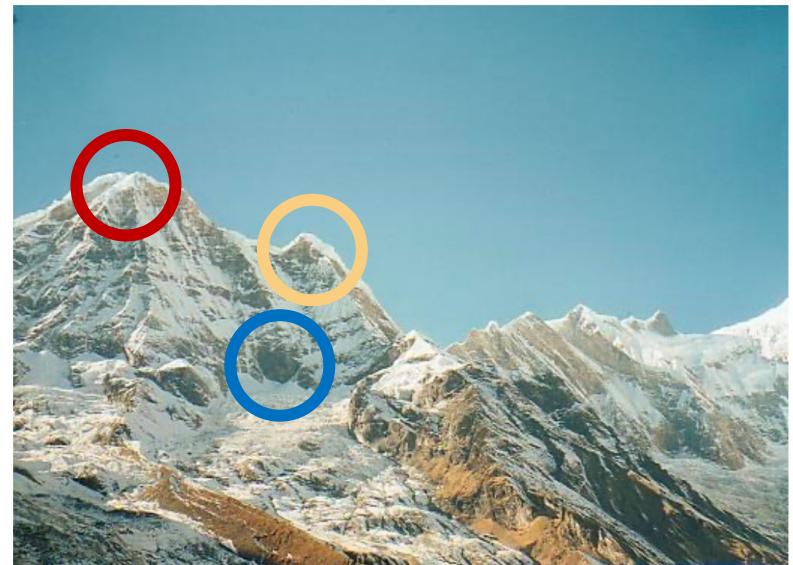
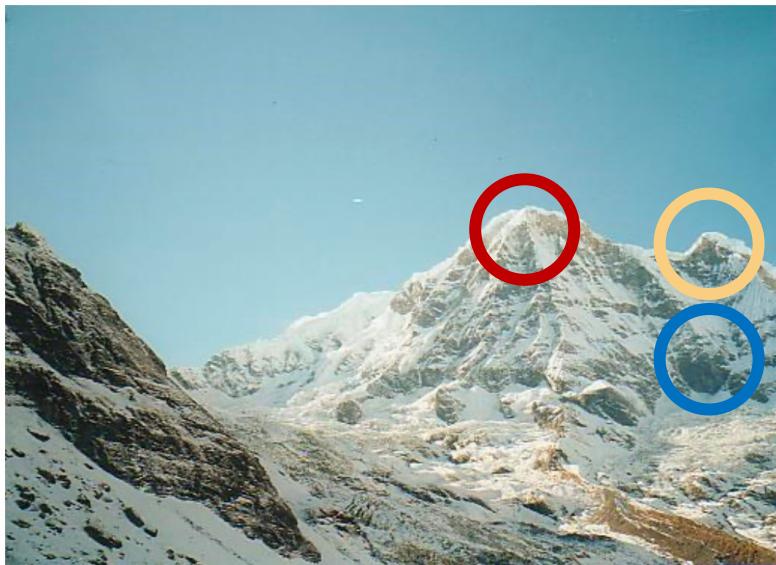
Blend Them Together

Why detect corners

```
for y in yRange:  
    for x in xRange:  
        for z in zRange:  
            for xRot in xRotVals:  
                for yRot in yRotVals:  
                    for zRot in zRotVals:  
                        #touches all HxW pixels!  
                        check_alignment_with_images()  
  
Too expensive!
```

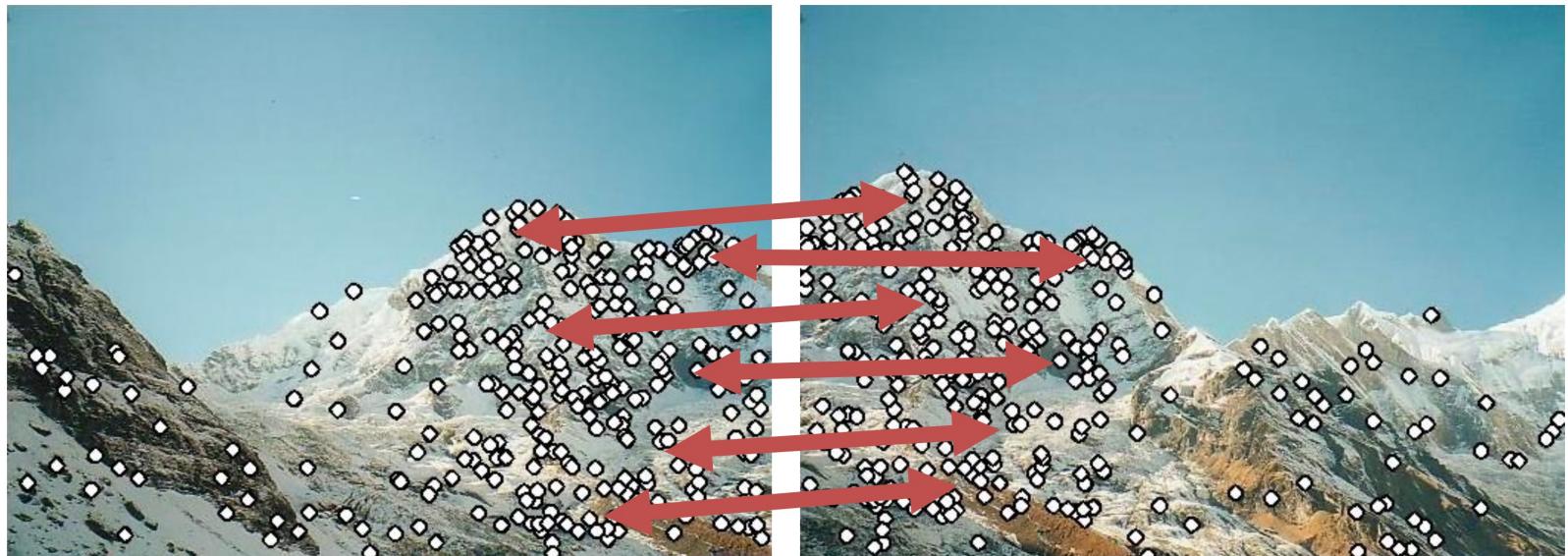
Why detect corners

Given two images: how would you align them?



Why detect corners

Given two images: how would you align them?



1: find corners at each image

2: find the correspondence

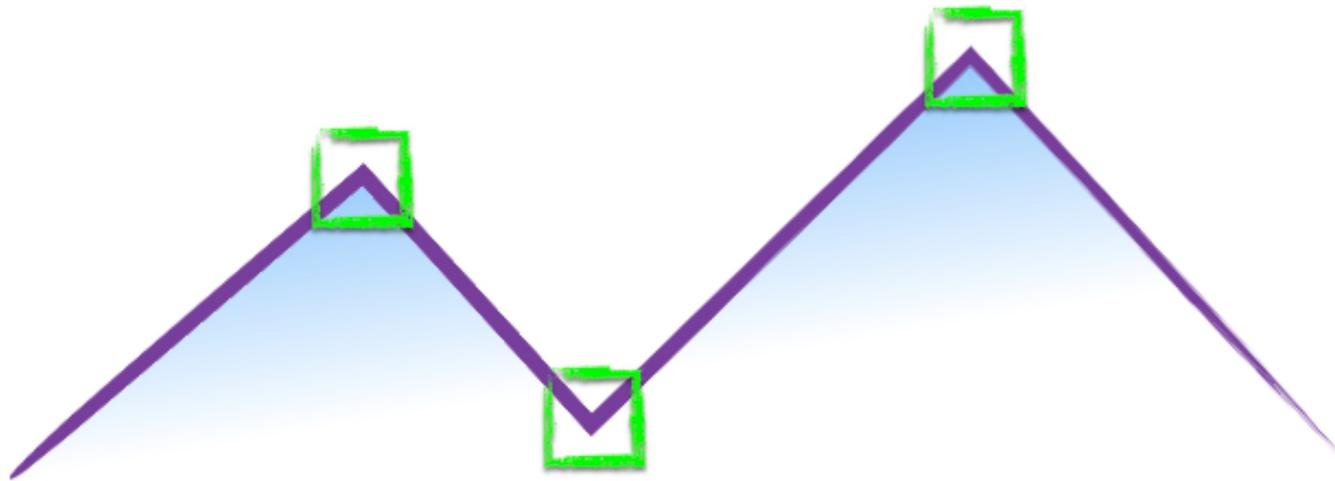
Corner detection

Why detect corners

Harris corner detector

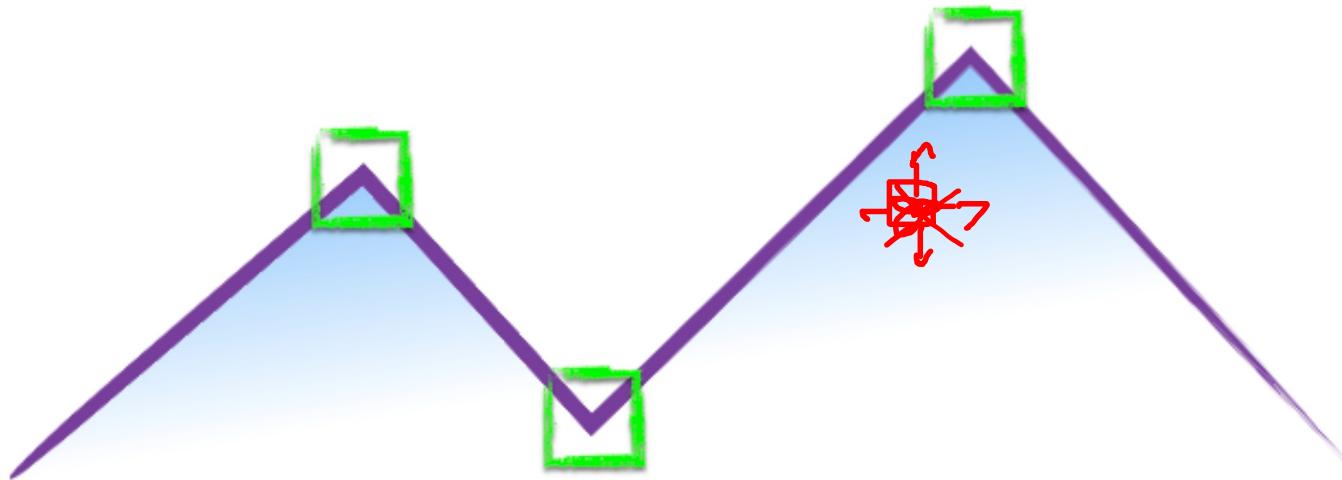
Harris corner detector

How do you find a corner?



Harris corner detector

How do you find a corner?

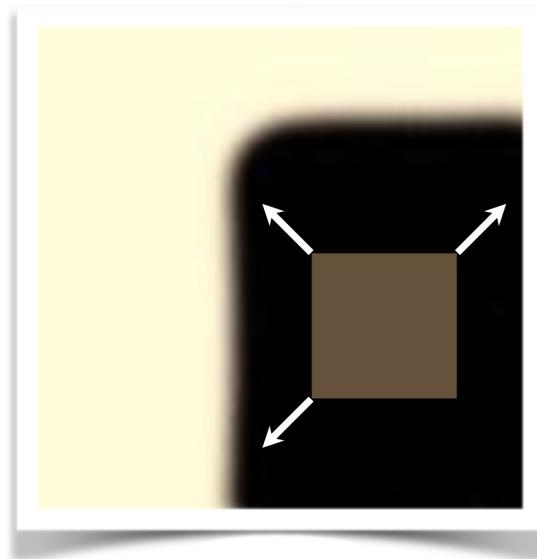


Easily recognized by looking through a small window.

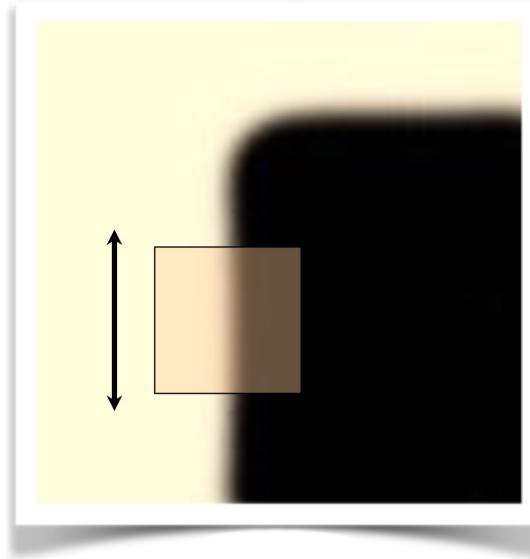
Shifting the window should give large change in intensity

Harris corner detector

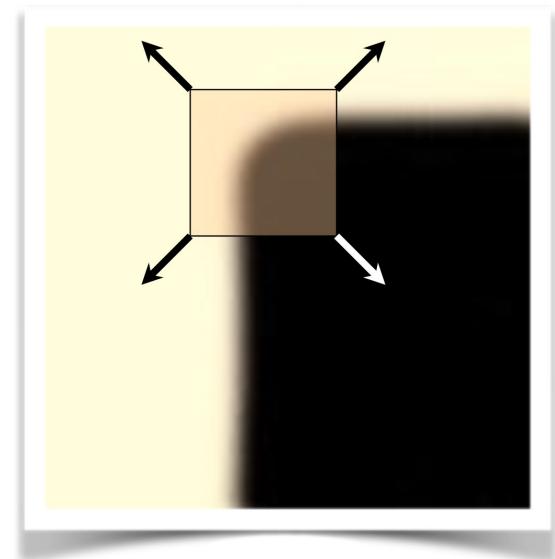
“flat” region: no change in all directions



“edge”: no change along the edge direction



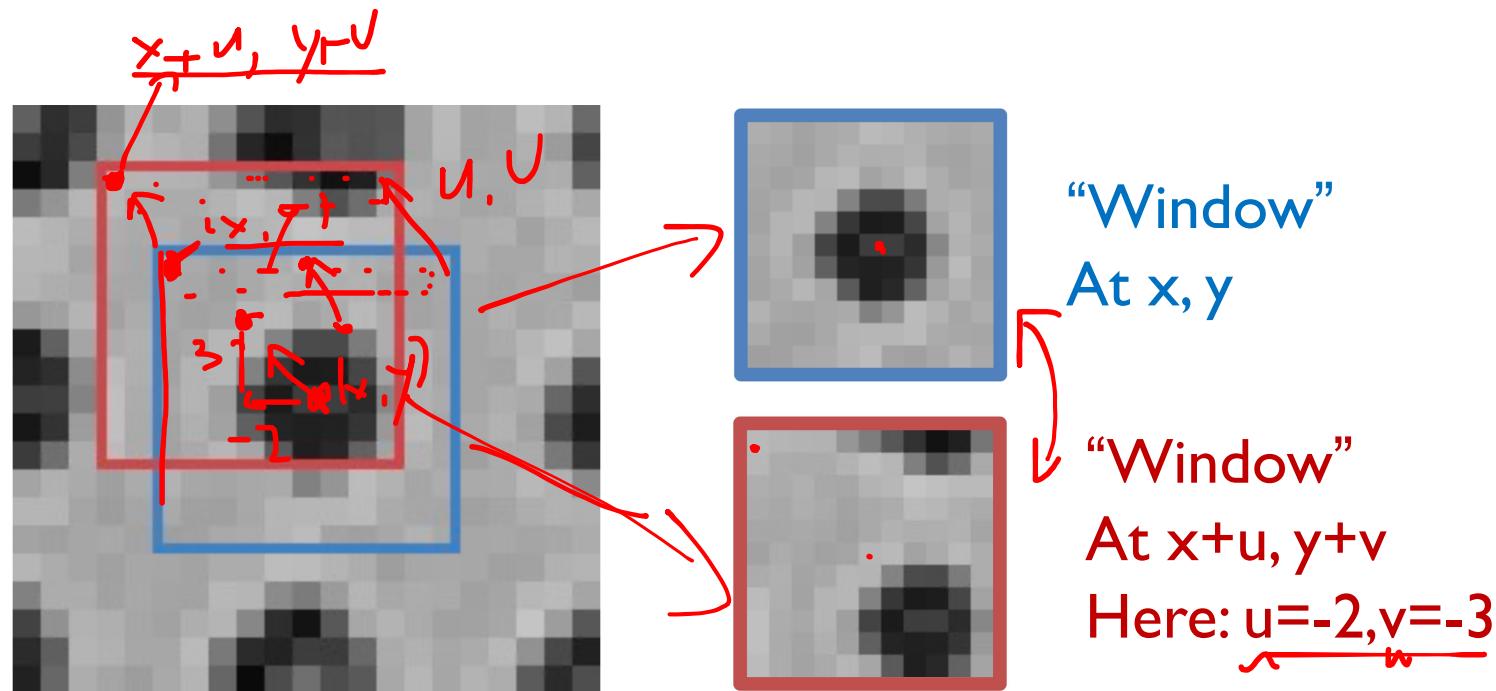
“corner”: significant change in all directions



Easily recognized by looking through a small window.

Shifting the window should give large change in intensity

Harris corner detector



How to measure variation?

$$\left(\begin{array}{c} \text{Red Window} \\ - \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} \text{Blue Window} \\ + \end{array} \right)^2 \\ \| x_1 - x_2 \|^2$$

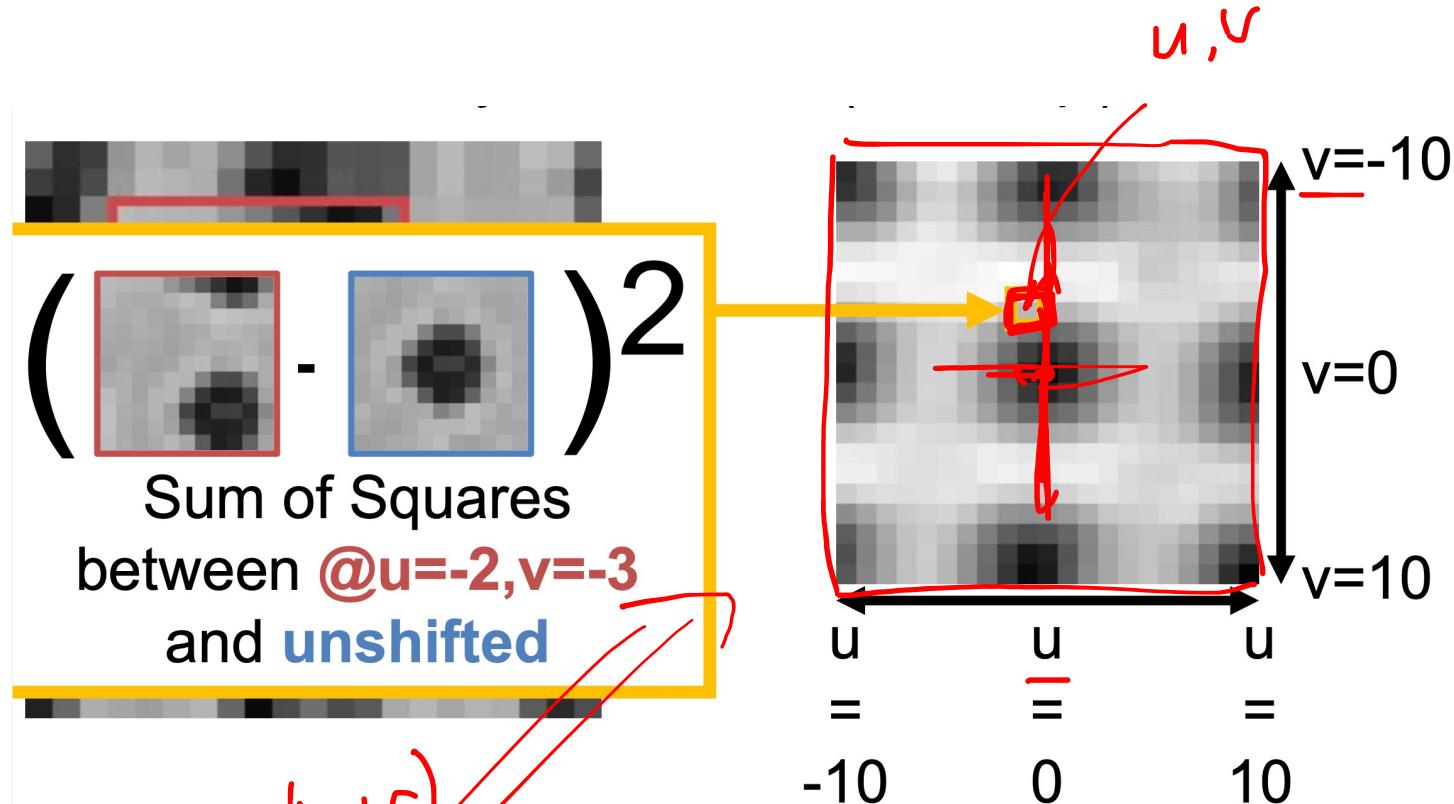
$u, v \Rightarrow$ ~~for ω~~

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

ℓ_1 ℓ_2

14

Harris corner detector



Shifting windows around is expensive!

We'll find a trick to approximate this.



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

Harris corner detector

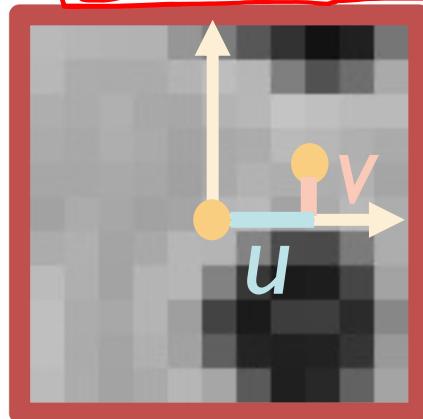
Taylor Series: linearizing a function

$$f(x + d) \approx f(x) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} d$$

Taylor Series for Images

discrete

$$I(x + u, y + v) \approx I(x, y) + I_x u + I_y v$$



gradient along the y-axis

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

gradient along the x-axis

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

difference

$$f_{[k]} - f_{[n]}$$

Harris corner detector

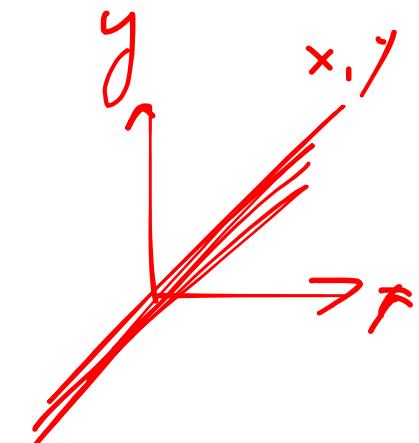
Taylor Series for Images

~~☆~~ $E(u, v) = \sum_{(x,y) \in W} (I[x + u, y + v] - I[x, y])^2$

Taylor series $\approx \sum_{(x,y) \in W} (I[x, y] + I_x u + I_y v - I[x, y])^2$

algebra $= \sum_{(x,y) \in W} (I_x u + I_y v)^2$

$$= \sum_{(x,y) \in W} (I_x^2 u^2 + 2I_x I_y u v + I_y^2 v^2)$$



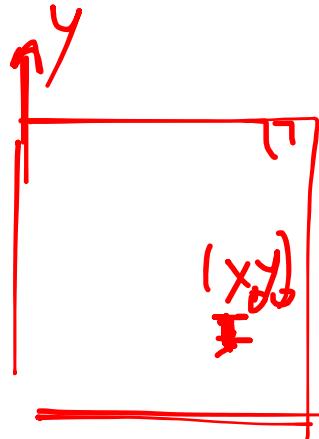
Harris corner detector

By **linearizing** image, we can approximate $E(u,v)$ with quadratic function of u and v

variation

$$E(u, v) \approx \sum_{(x,y) \in W} (I_x^2 u^2 + 2I_x I_y uv + I_y^2 v^2)$$
$$= [u, v] \mathbf{M} [u, v]^T$$

second moment matrix



$$\mathbf{M} =$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sum_{x,y \in W} I_x^2 & \sum_{x,y \in W} I_x I_y \\ \sum_{x,y \in W} I_x I_y & \sum_{x,y \in W} I_y^2 \end{bmatrix}$$



$$= \begin{bmatrix} (x_0, y_0) & \cdot \\ \cdot & (x_0, y_0) \end{bmatrix}$$

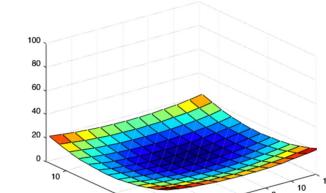
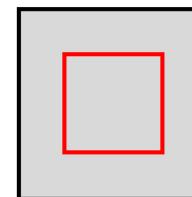
Harris corner detector

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{x,y \in W} I_x^2 & \sum_{x,y \in W} I_x I_y \\ \sum_{x,y \in W} I_x I_y & \sum_{x,y \in W} I_y^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

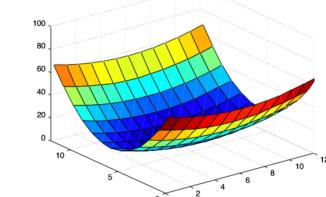
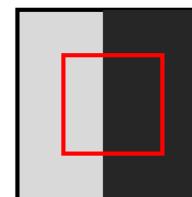
Assume off-diagonal is zero

$$= \begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & b \end{bmatrix}$$

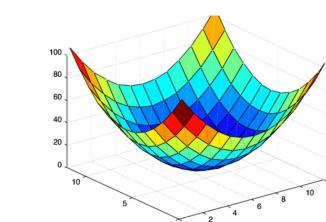
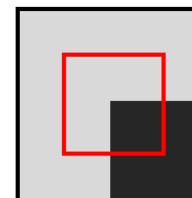
If a,b are both small: flag



If one is big, one is small: edge



If a,b both big: corner



Harris corner detector

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{x,y \in W} I_x^2 & \sum_{x,y \in W} I_x I_y \\ \sum_{x,y \in W} I_x I_y & \sum_{x,y \in W} I_y^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

eigen-decomposition

$$= R^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix} R$$

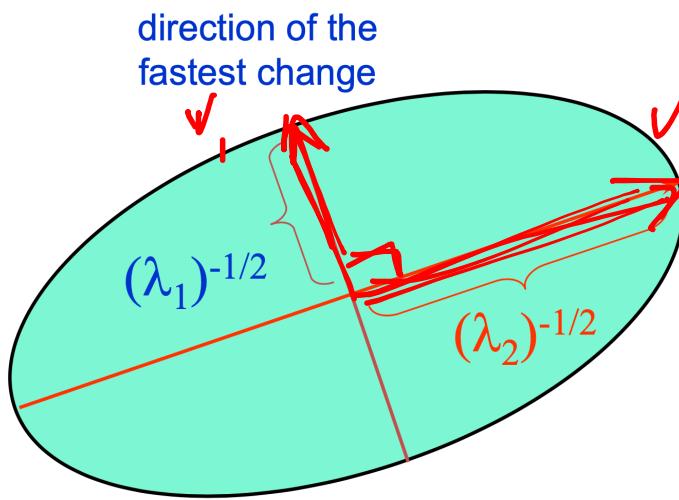
Directions

Magnitude $R \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$

$$M = M^T$$

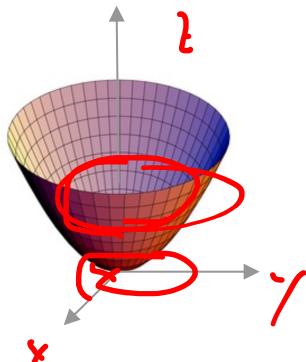
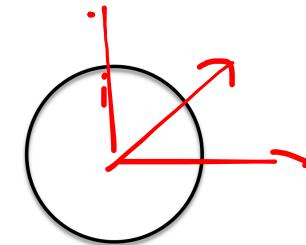
real, sym

$$R^T = R^{-1}$$



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

Eigen-decomposition



$$\begin{aligned}1 &= x^2 + y^2 \\z = f(x, y) &= x^2 + y^2 \\&= \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

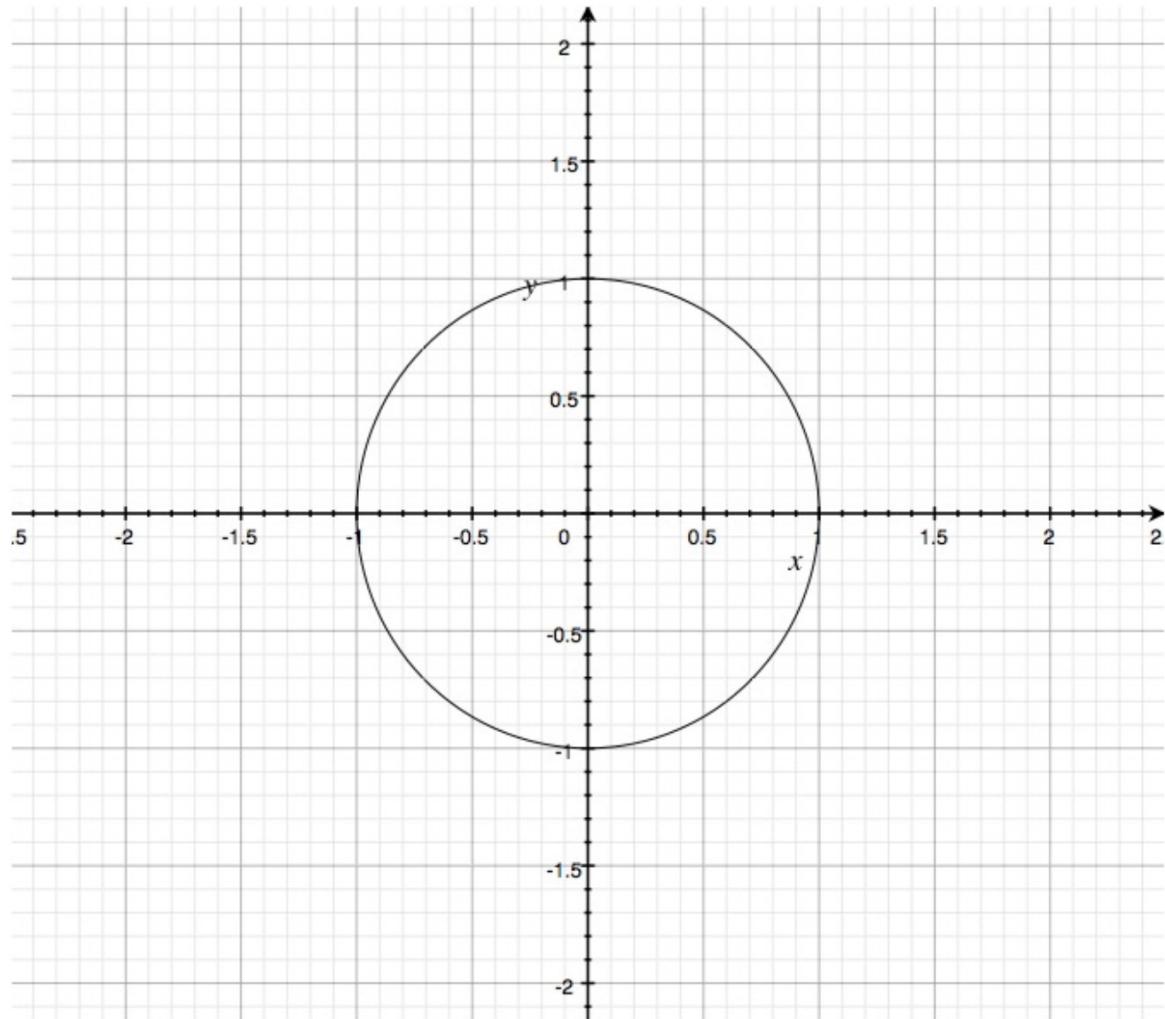
if you slice the bowl at $f(x, y) = 1$ what do you get?

\therefore

Eigen-decomposition

$$f(x, y) = \begin{bmatrix} x & y \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

'sliced at 1'



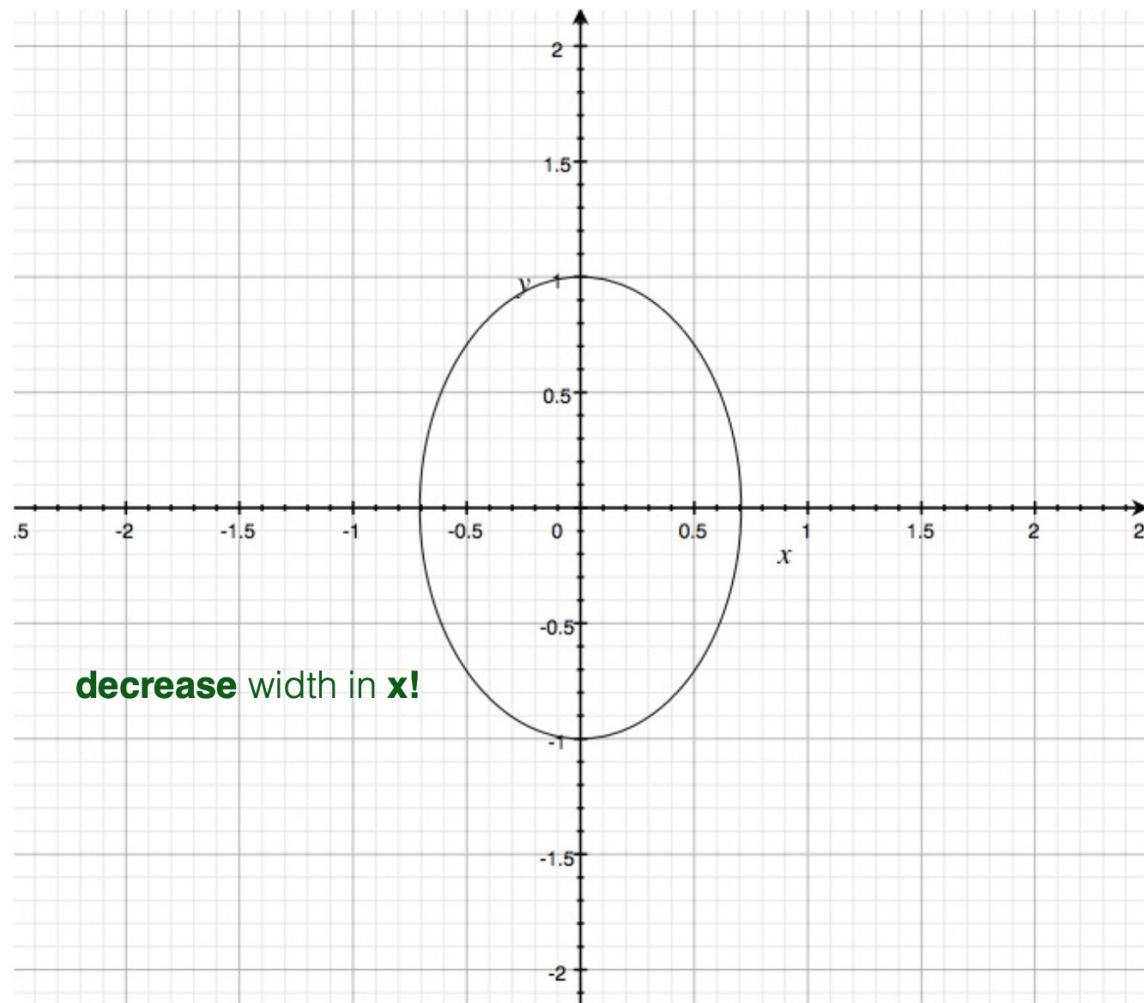
Eigen-decomposition

What happens if you **increase** coefficient on x ?

$$f(x, y) = \begin{bmatrix} x & y \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

and slice at 1

decrease width in x !

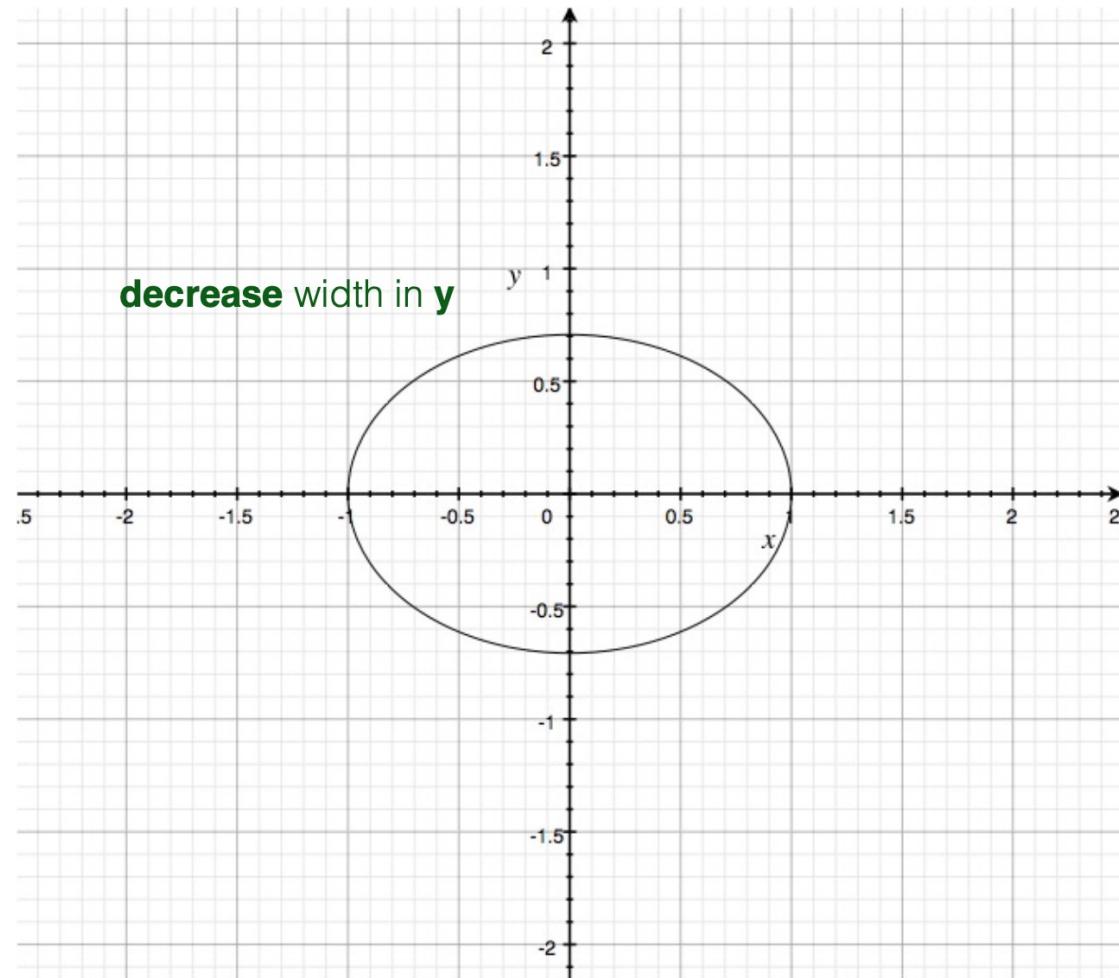


Eigen-decomposition

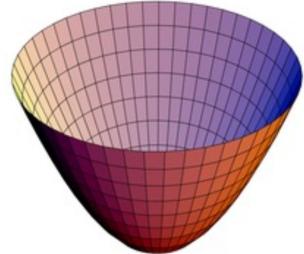
What happens if you **increase** coefficient on **y**?

$$f(x, y) = \begin{bmatrix} x & y \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

and slice at 1

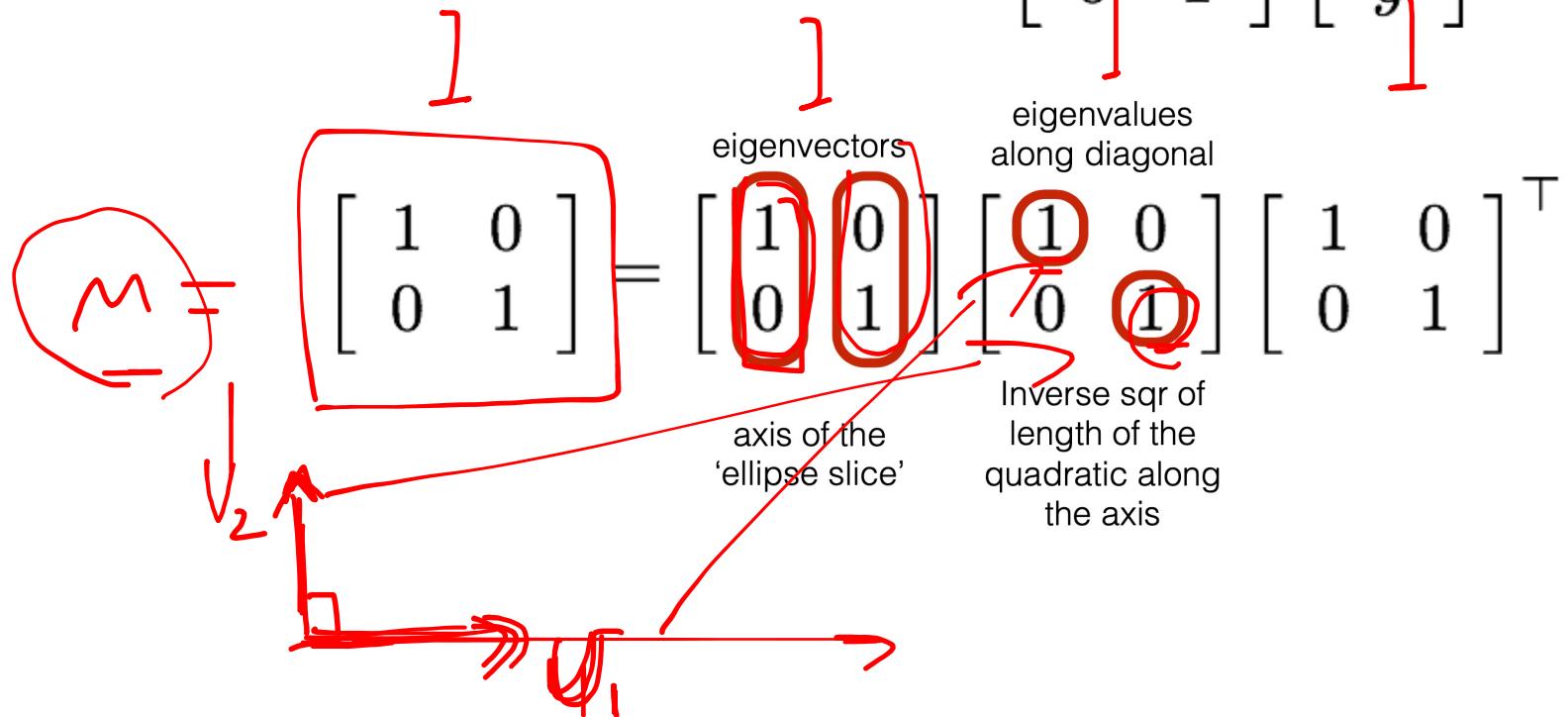


Eigen-decomposition

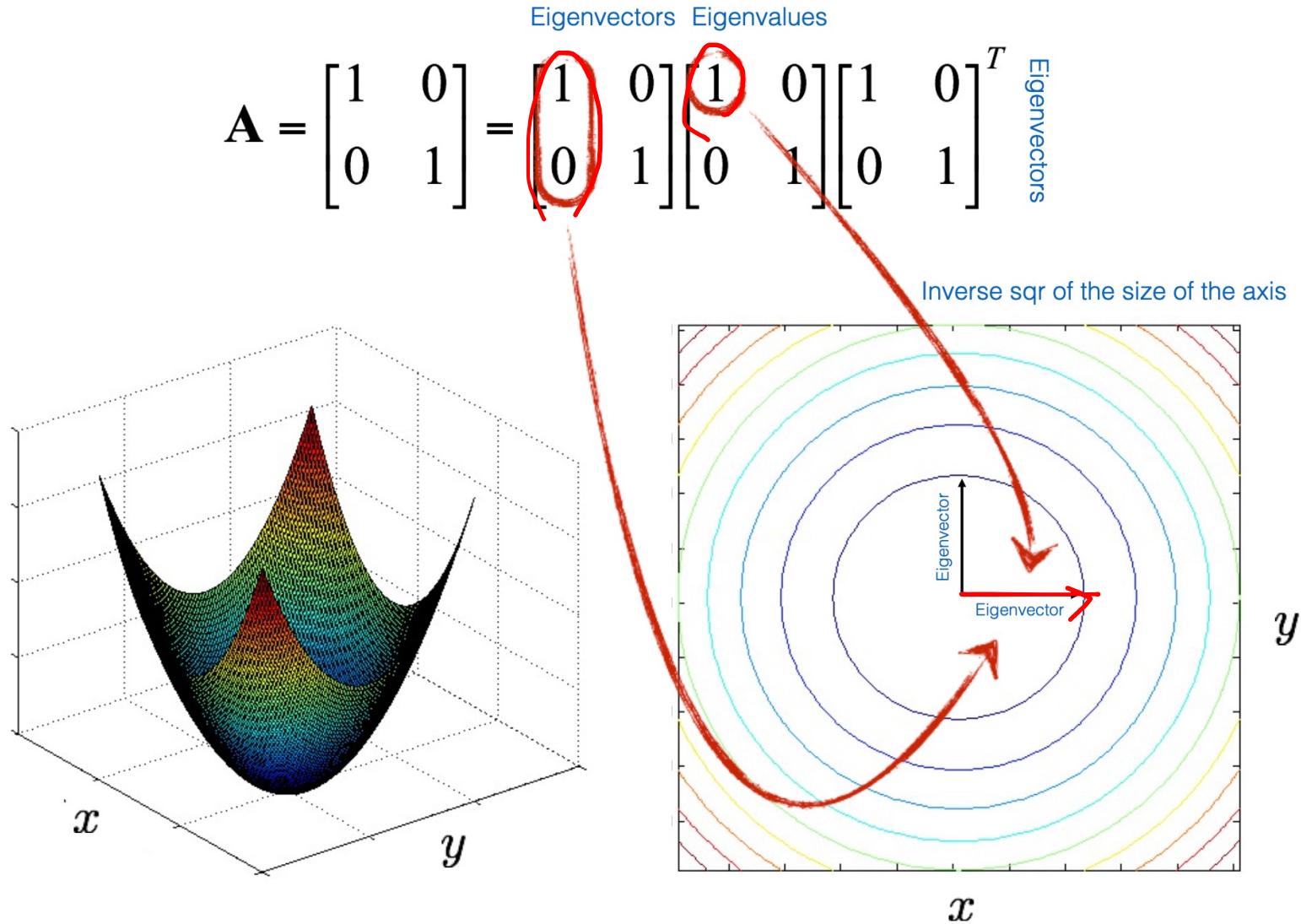


$$f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2$$

$$= [x \ y] \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$



Eigen-decomposition



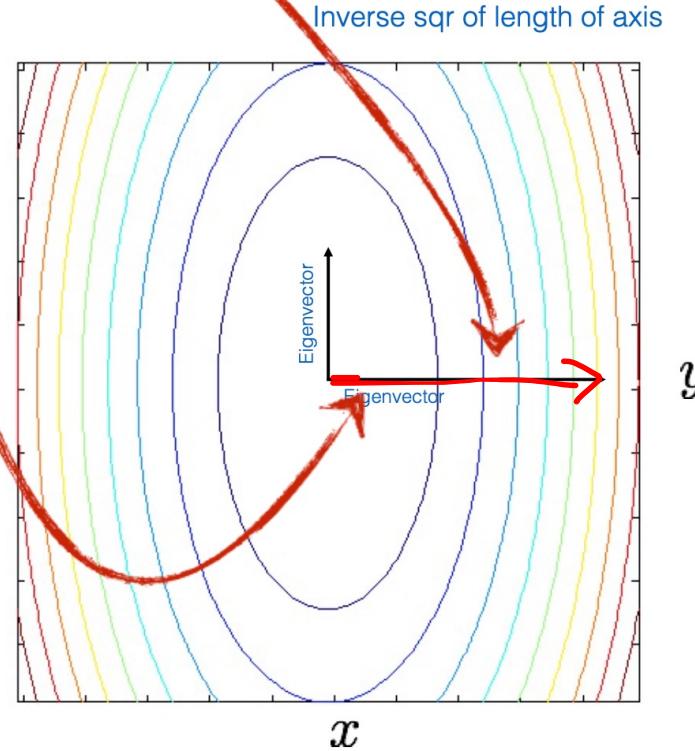
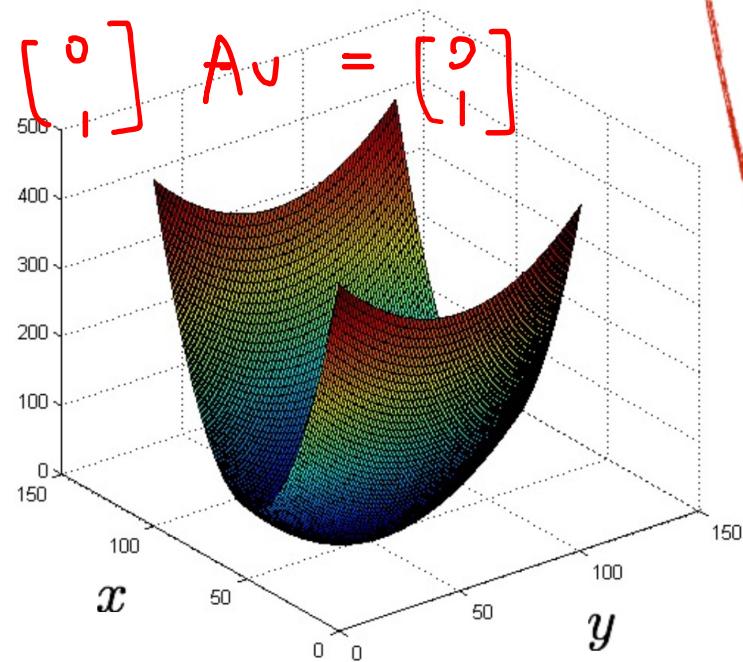
Eigen-decomposition

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^T$$

Eigenvalues
Eigenvectors
Eigenvectors

$$v = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad Av = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$v = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad Av = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

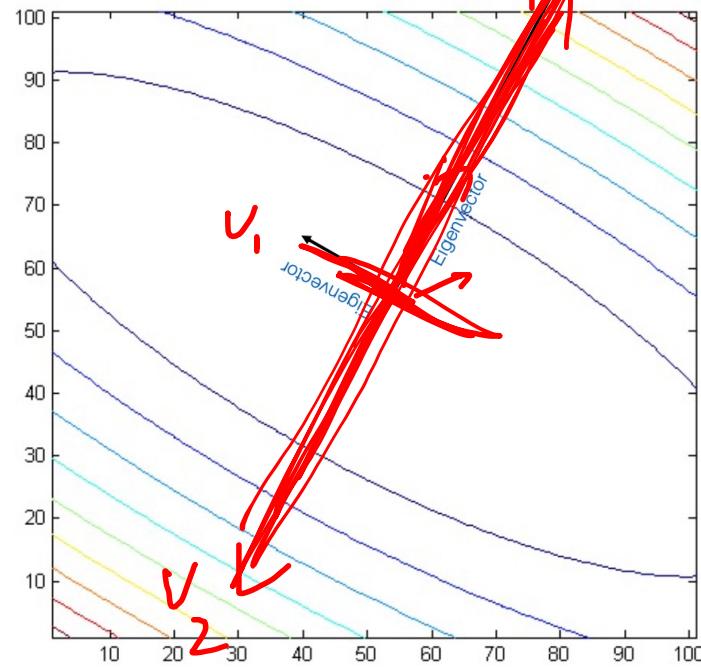
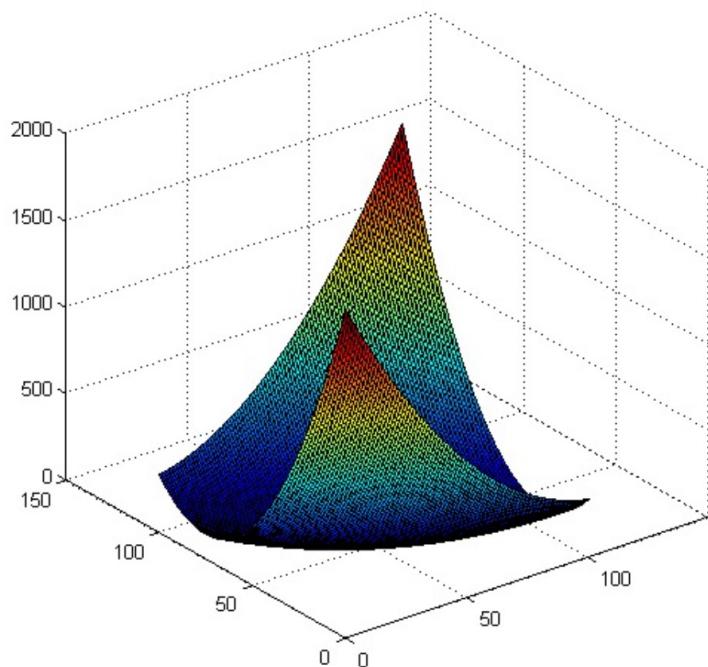


Eigen-decomposition

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 7.75 & 3.90 \\ 3.90 & 3.25 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.50 & -0.87 \\ -0.87 & 0.50 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 10 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.50 & -0.87 \\ -0.87 & -0.50 \end{bmatrix}^T$$

Eigenvectors Eigenvalues Eigenvectors

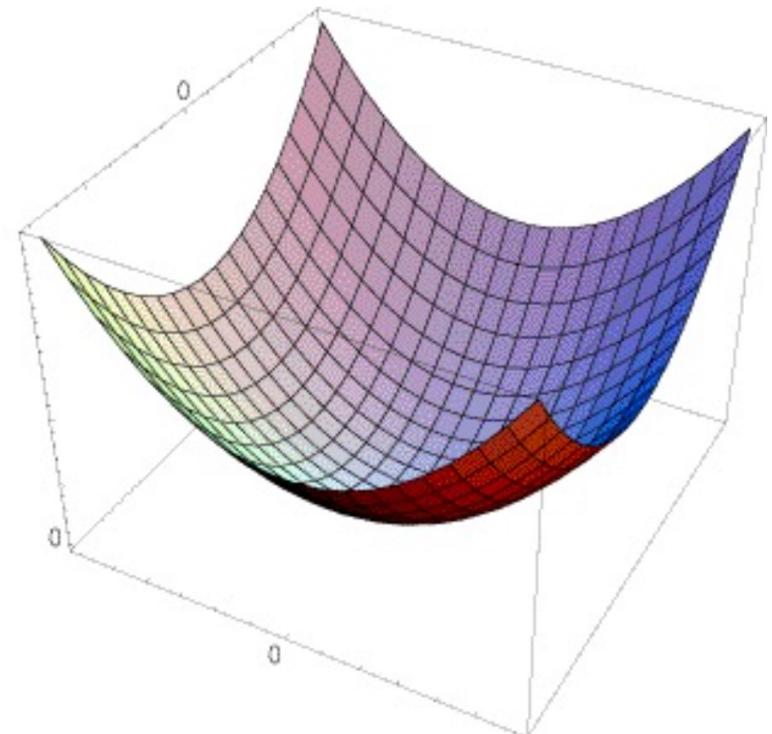
v_1 v_2



Harris corner detector

The surface $E(u,v)$ is locally approximated by a quadratic form

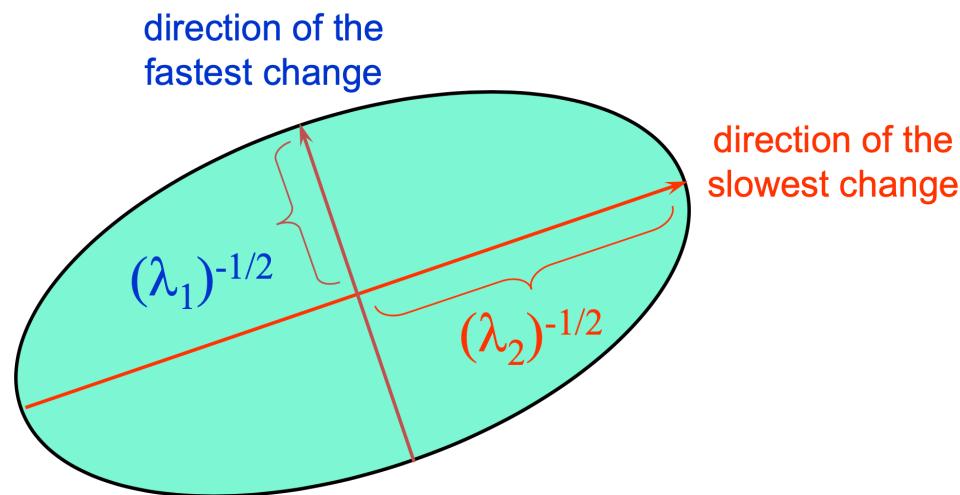
$$E(u, v) \approx [u \ v] M \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix}$$
$$M = \sum \begin{bmatrix} I_x^2 & I_x I_y \\ I_x I_y & I_y^2 \end{bmatrix}$$



Harris corner detector

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{x,y \in W} I_x^2 & \sum_{x,y \in W} I_x I_y \\ \sum_{x,y \in W} I_x I_y & \sum_{x,y \in W} I_y^2 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{R}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}$$

eigen-decomposition Directions
 Magnitude



Harris corner detector

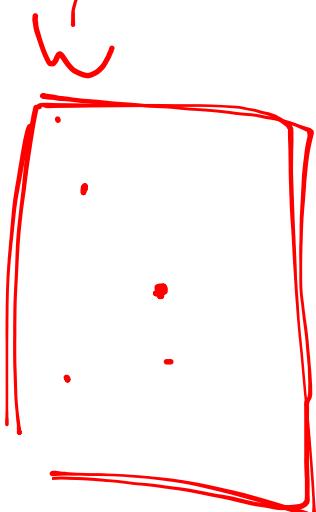
$$M = \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{x,y \in W} w(x,y) I_x^2 & \sum_{x,y \in W} w(x,y) I_x I_y \\ \sum_{x,y \in W} w(x,y) I_x I_y & \sum_{x,y \in W} w(x,y) I_y^2 \end{bmatrix} = R^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix} R$$

eigen-decomposition

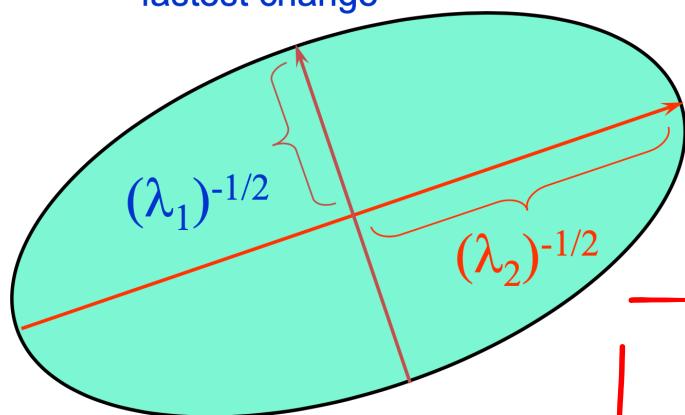
Directions

Magnitude

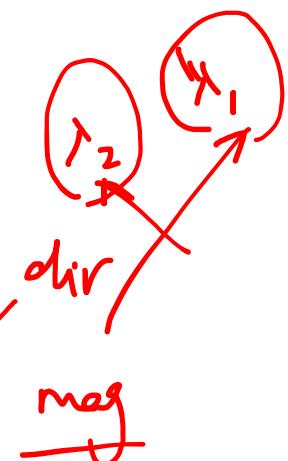
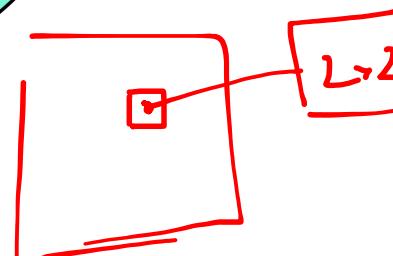
Extended form



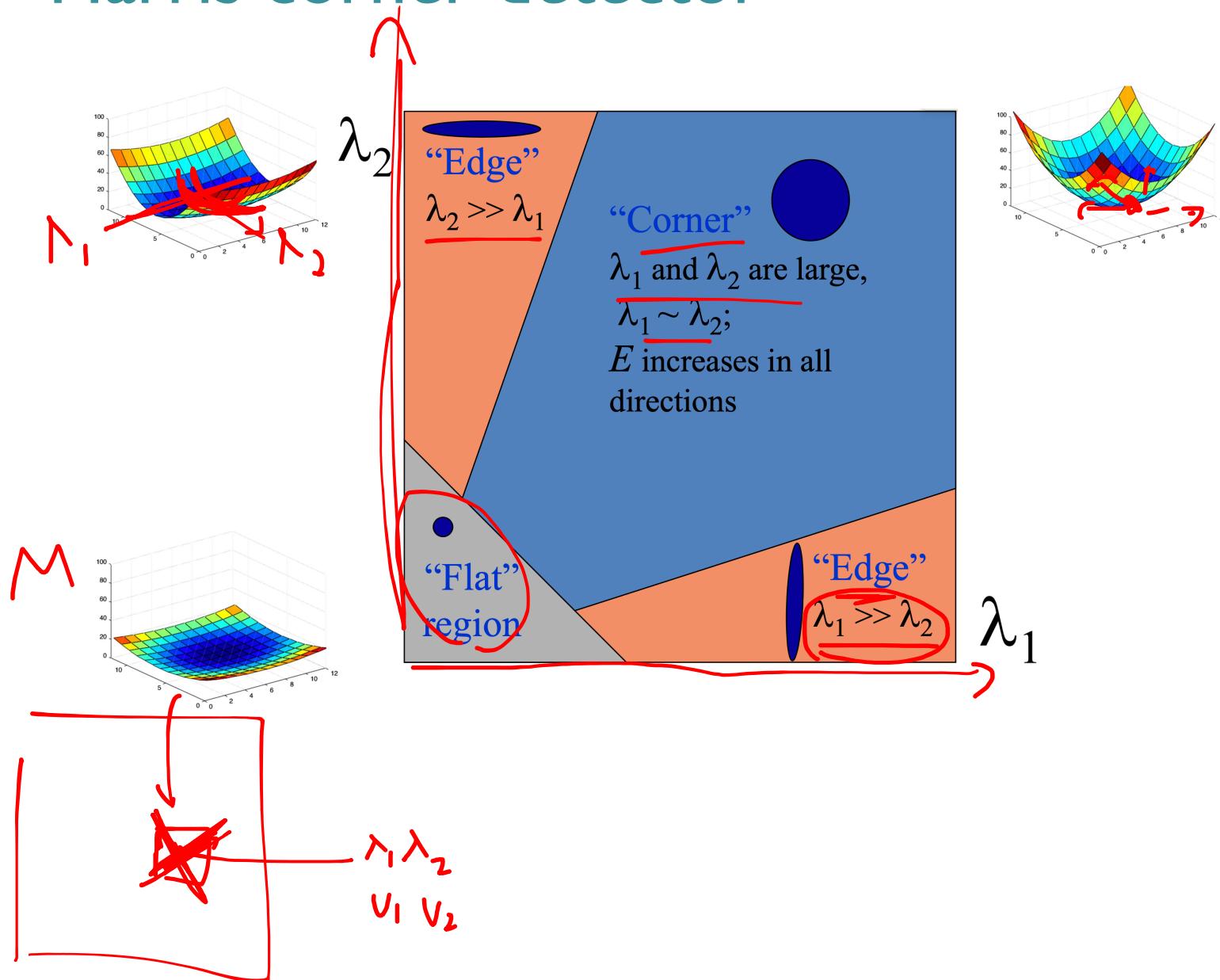
direction of the
fastest change



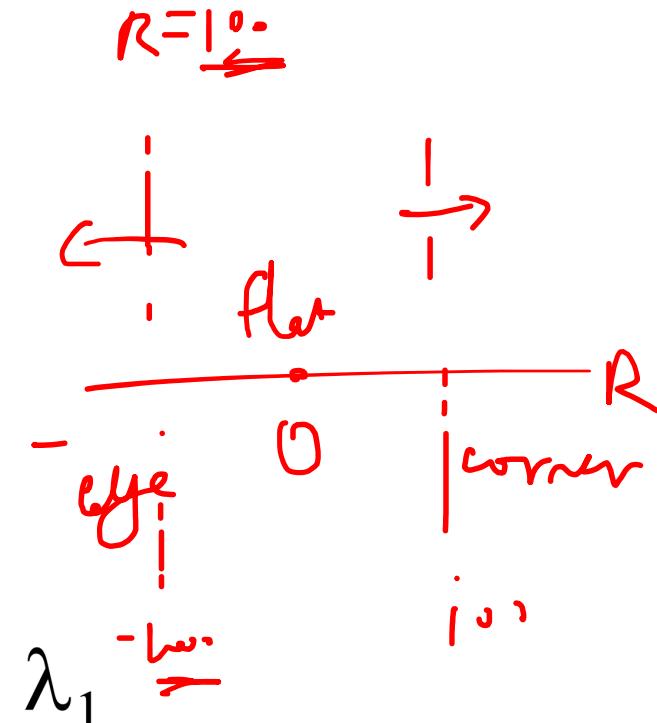
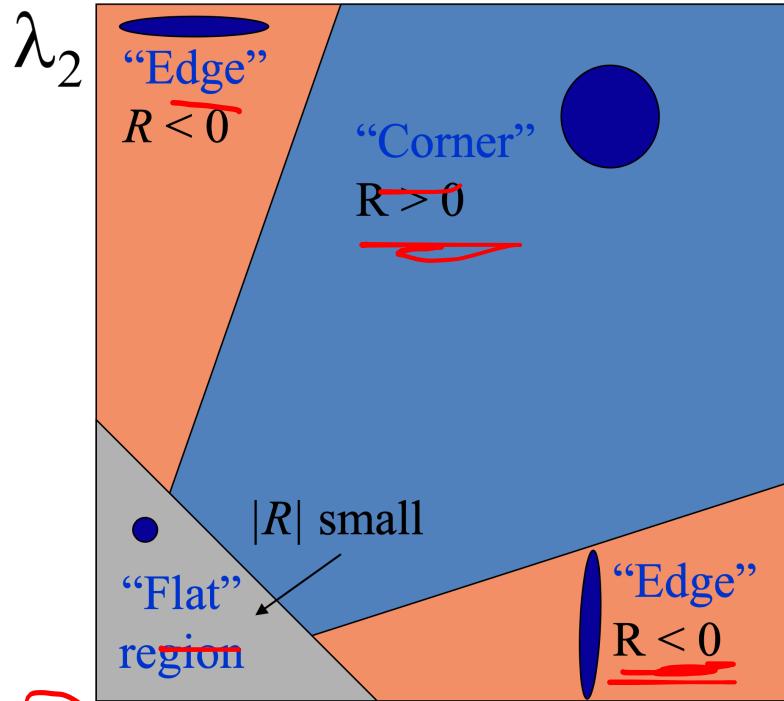
direction of the
slowest change



Harris corner detector



Harris corner detector



$$\det \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} = ad - bc$$

$$\text{trace} \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} = a + d$$

Harris corner detector

Harris & Stephens (1988)

$$R = \det(M) - \kappa \text{trace}^2(M)$$

Kanade & Tomasi (1994)

$$R = \min(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)$$

Nobel (1998)

$$R = \frac{\det(M)}{\text{trace}(M) + \epsilon}$$

Harris corner detector

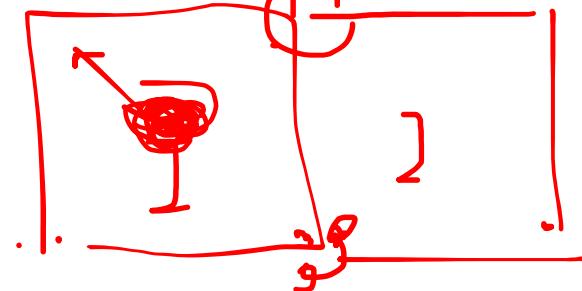
Algorithm

Difference

- Compute partial derivatives I_x, I_y per pixel
- Compute M at each pixel, using Gaussian weighting W

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{x,y \in W} w(x,y)I_x^2 & \sum_{x,y \in W} w(x,y)I_xI_y \\ \sum_{x,y \in W} w(x,y)I_xI_y & \sum_{x,y \in W} w(x,y)I_y^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$w(x,y) = 1$$



Harris corner detector

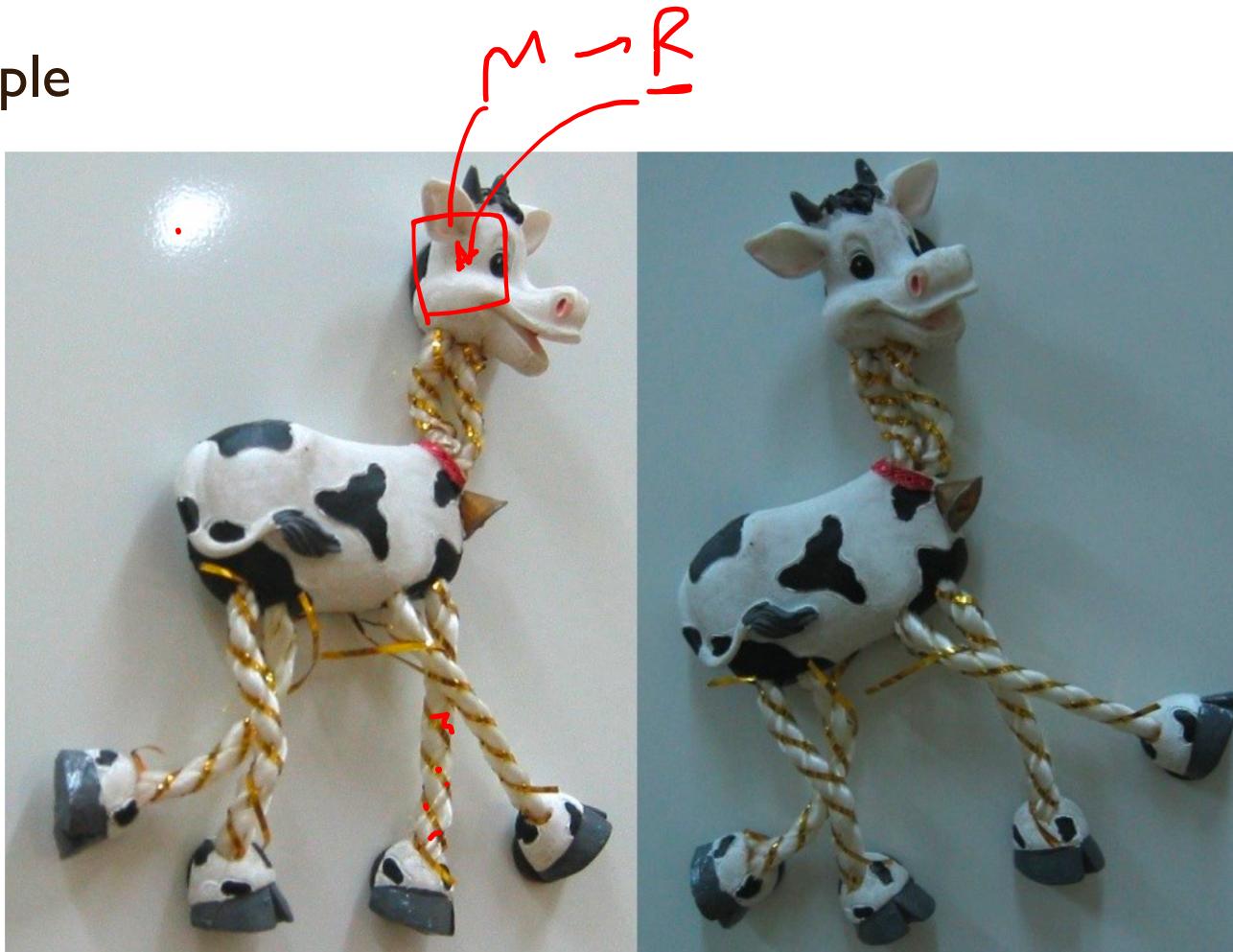
Algorithm

- Compute partial derivatives I_x, I_y per pixel
- Compute $\underline{\underline{M}}$ at each pixel, using Gaussian weighting W
- Compute response function R

$$\begin{aligned} R &= \det(\underline{\underline{M}}) - \alpha \operatorname{trace}(\underline{\underline{M}})^2 \\ &= \lambda_1 \lambda_2 - \alpha (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Harris corner detector

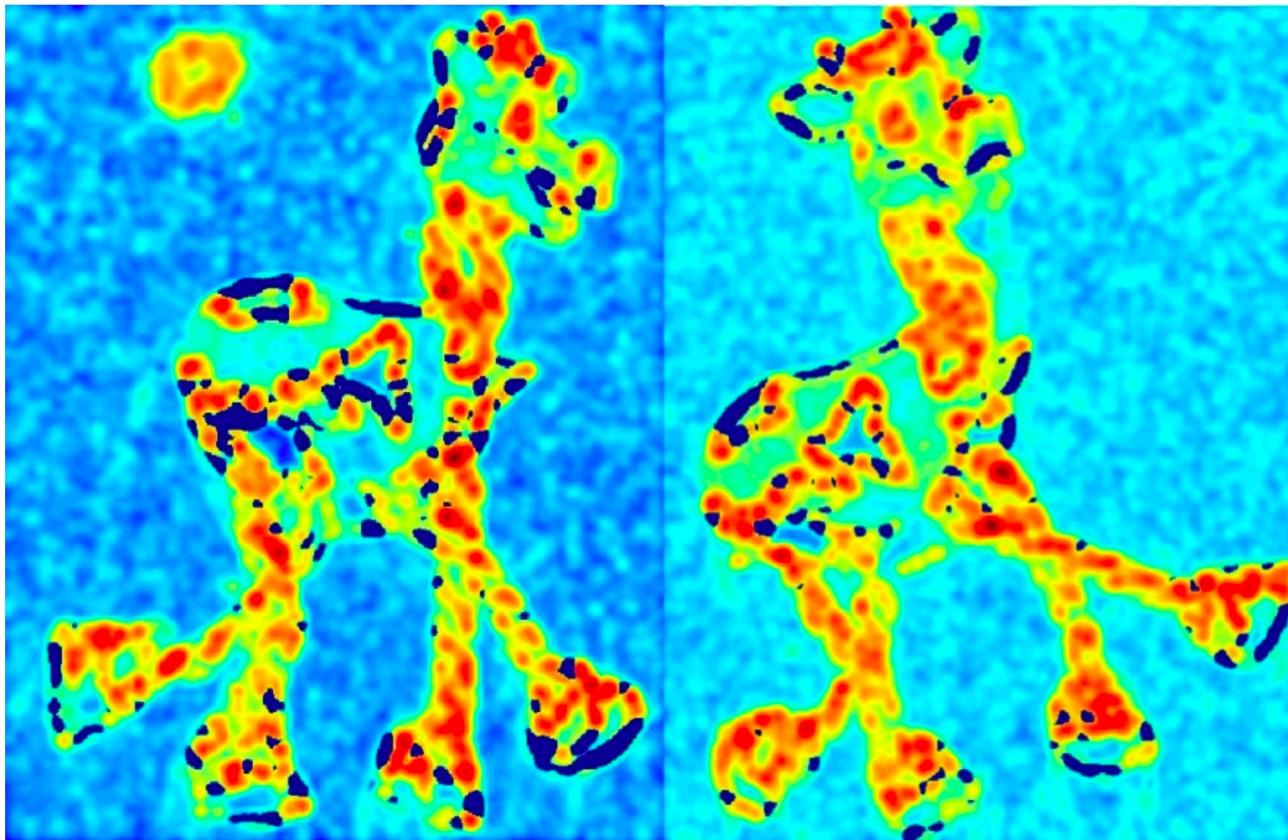
Example



Harris corner detector

Example

Compute R  \rightarrow



Harris corner detector

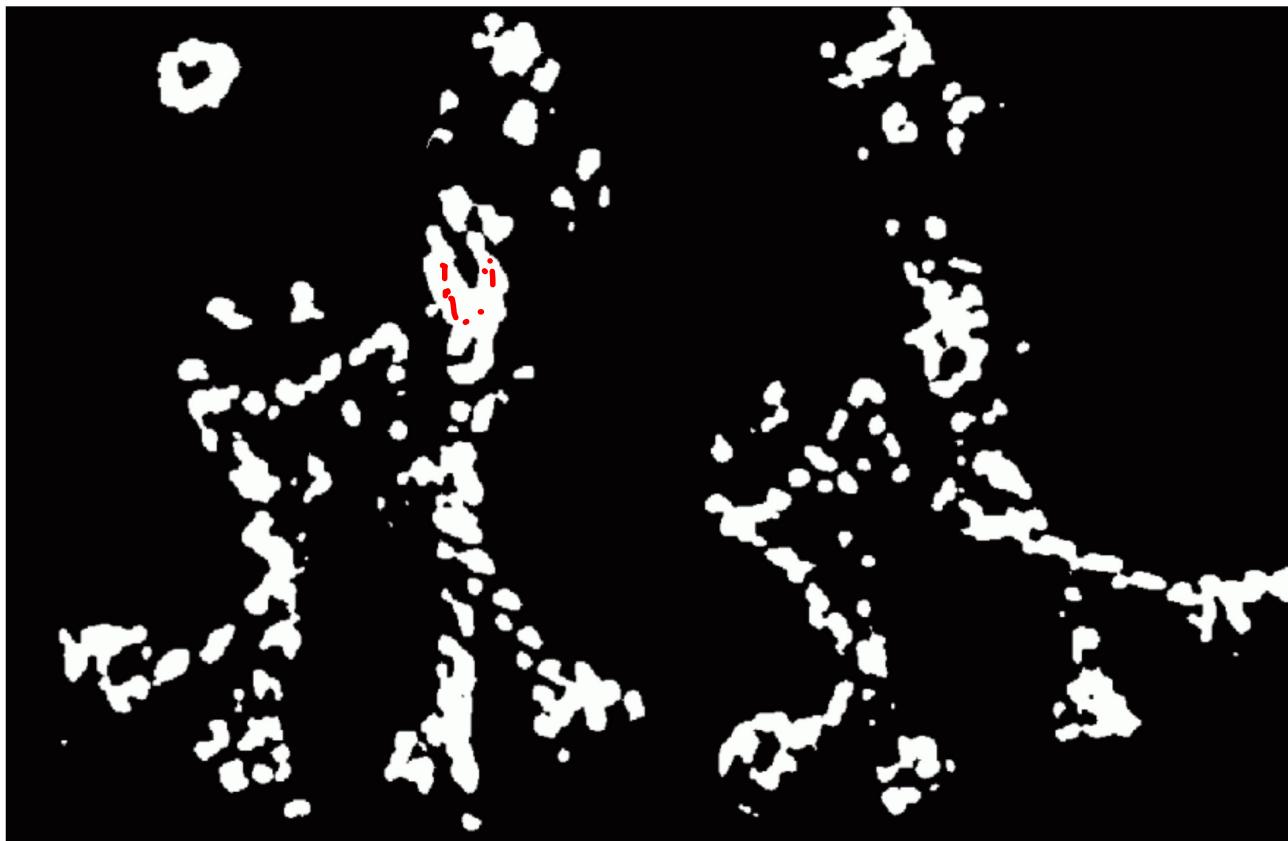
Algorithm

- Compute partial derivatives I_x, I_y per pixel
- Compute M at each pixel, using Gaussian weighting W
- Compute response function R
- Threshold R

Harris corner detector

Example

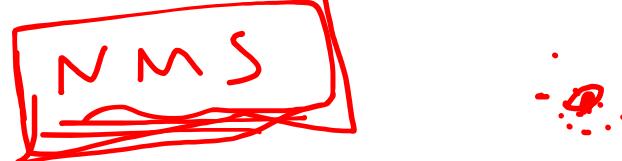
Threshold R



Harris corner detector

Algorithm

- Compute partial derivatives I_x, I_y per pixel
- Compute M at each pixel, using Gaussian weighting W
- Compute response function R
- Threshold R
- Take only local maxima (called non-maxima suppression)



Harris corner detector

Example



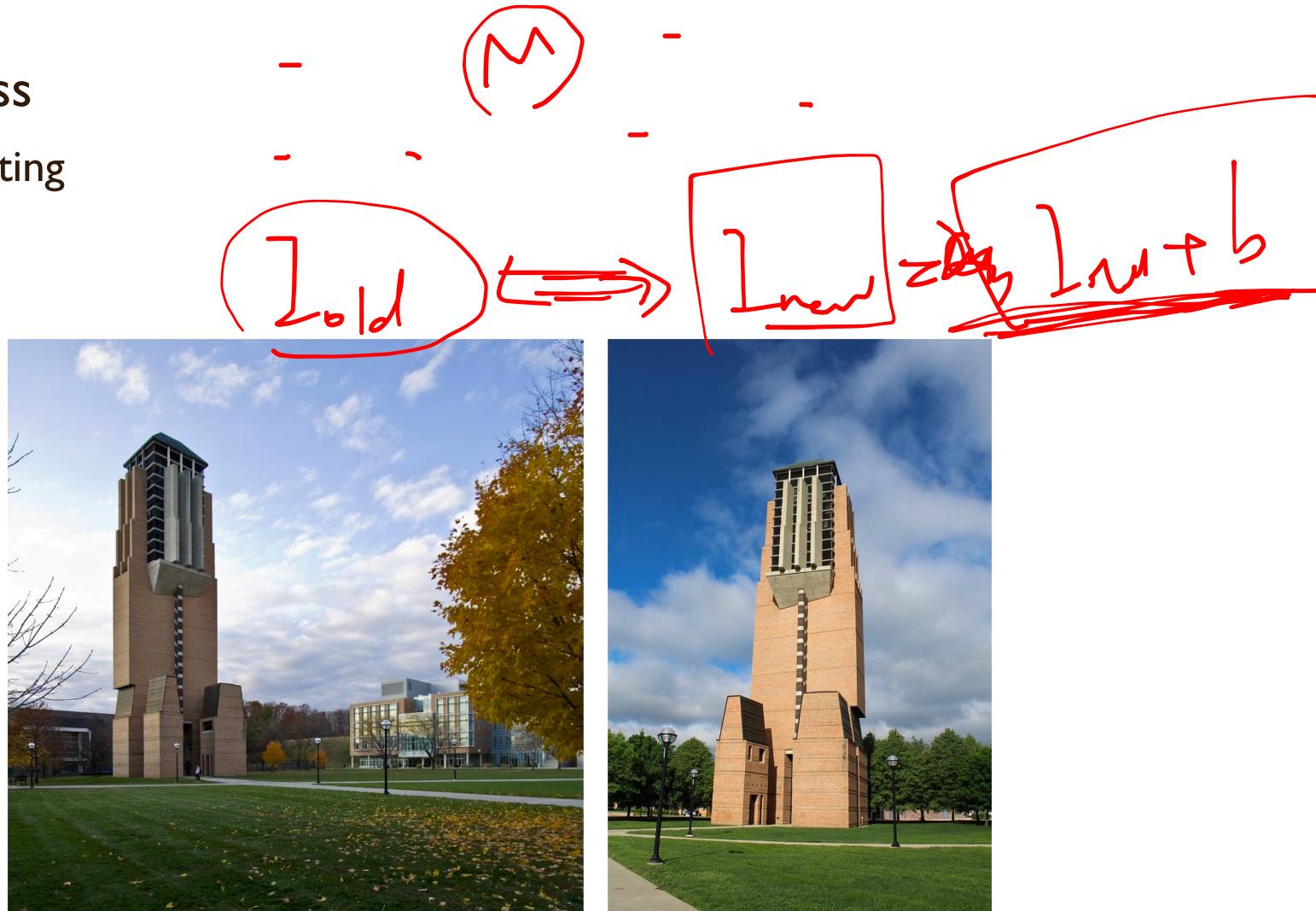
Final results



Harris corner detector

Robustness

- Lighting



Harris corner detector

Robustness

- Lighting (*affine intensity change*)

$$I_{new} = aI_{old} + b$$


Would the affine transformation effect \mathbf{M} ?

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{x,y \in W} I_x^2 & \sum_{x,y \in W} I_x I_y \\ \sum_{x,y \in W} I_x I_y & \sum_{x,y \in W} I_y^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

a will effect the scale
 b does not effect

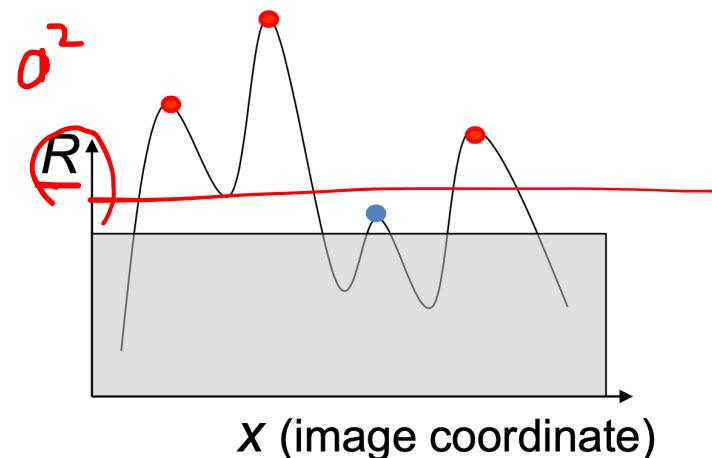
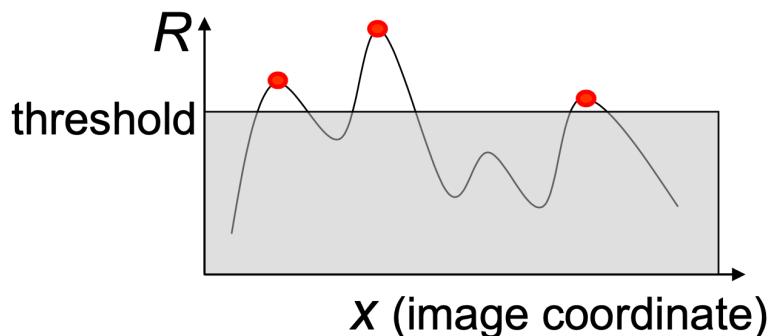
Harris corner detector

Robustness

- Lighting (*affine intensity change*)

$$I_{new} = aI_{old} + b$$

Would the affine transformation effect M ?



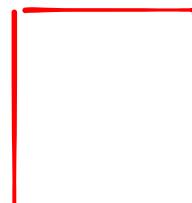
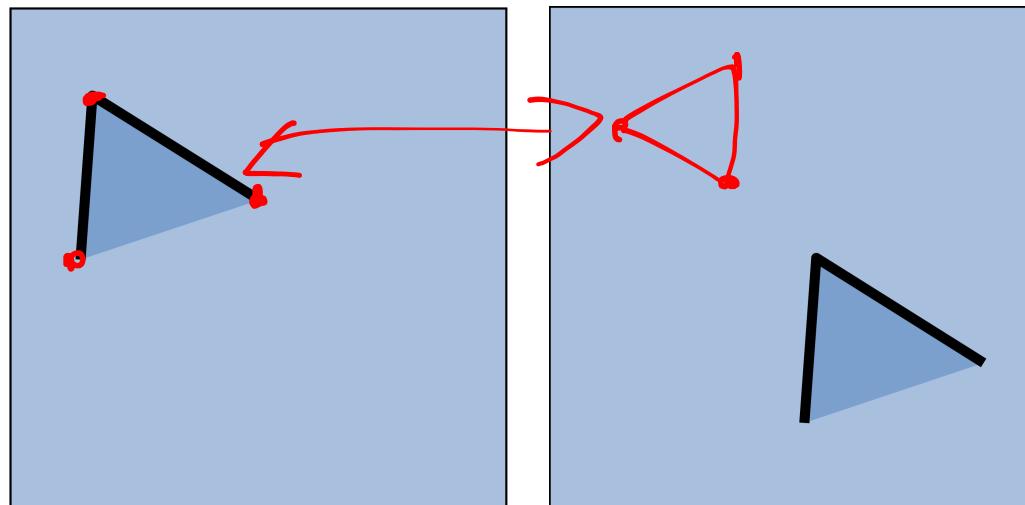
adaptive strategy to choose a threshold

Harris corner detector

Robustness

✓ Lighting (*affine intensity change*)

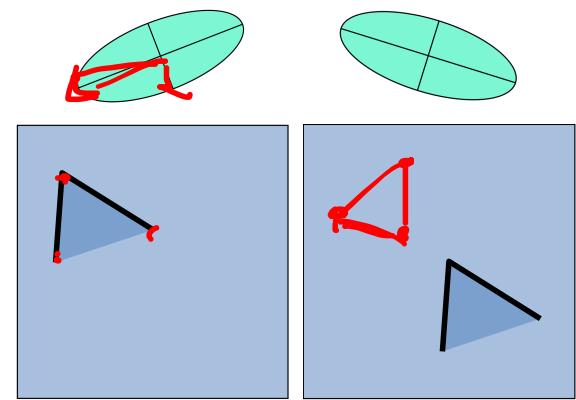
- Rotation



Harris corner detector

Algorithm

- Compute partial derivatives I_x, I_y per pixel
- Compute \mathbf{M} at each pixel, using Gaussian weighting \mathbf{W}
- Compute response function R



Will M change?

$$\begin{aligned} R &= \det(\mathbf{M}) - \alpha \operatorname{trace}(\mathbf{M})^2 \\ &= \lambda_1 \lambda_2 - \alpha (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)^2 \end{aligned}$$

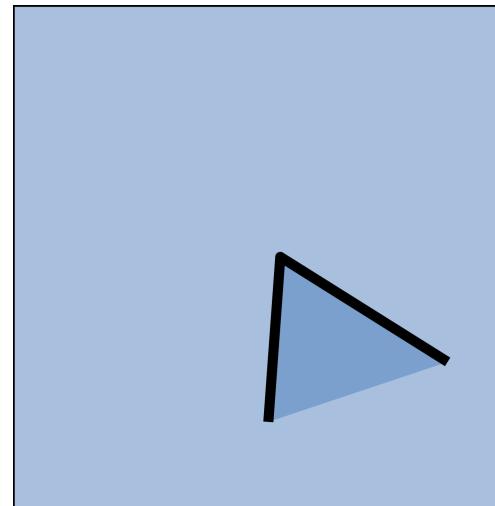
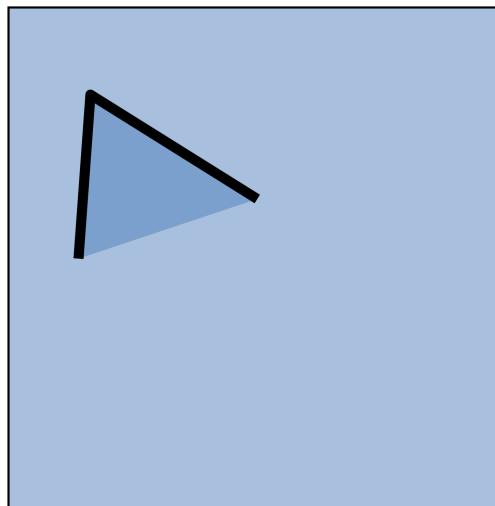
Will R change?

Rotations just cause the corner rotation to change.
Eigenvalues remain the same

Harris corner detector

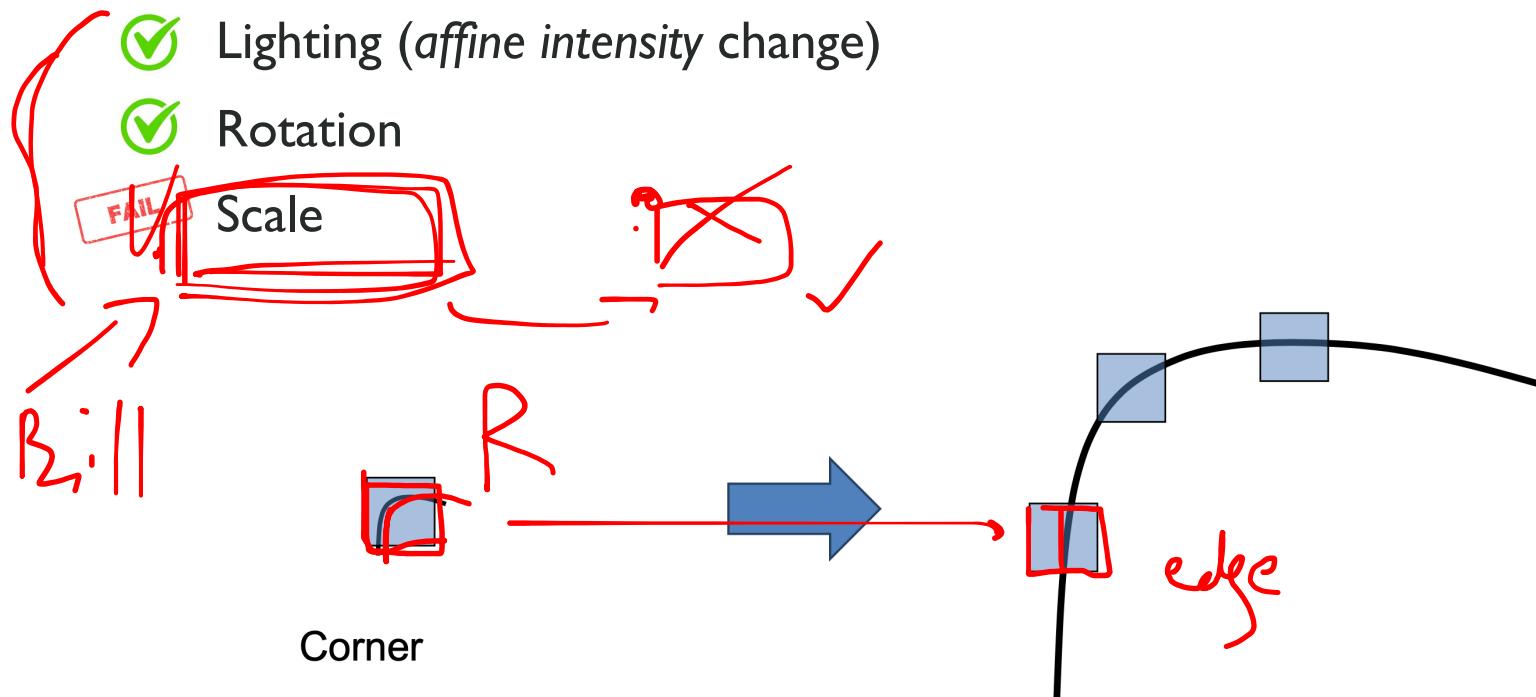
Robustness

- ✓ Lighting (*affine intensity change*)
- ✓ Rotation



Harris corner detector

Robustness



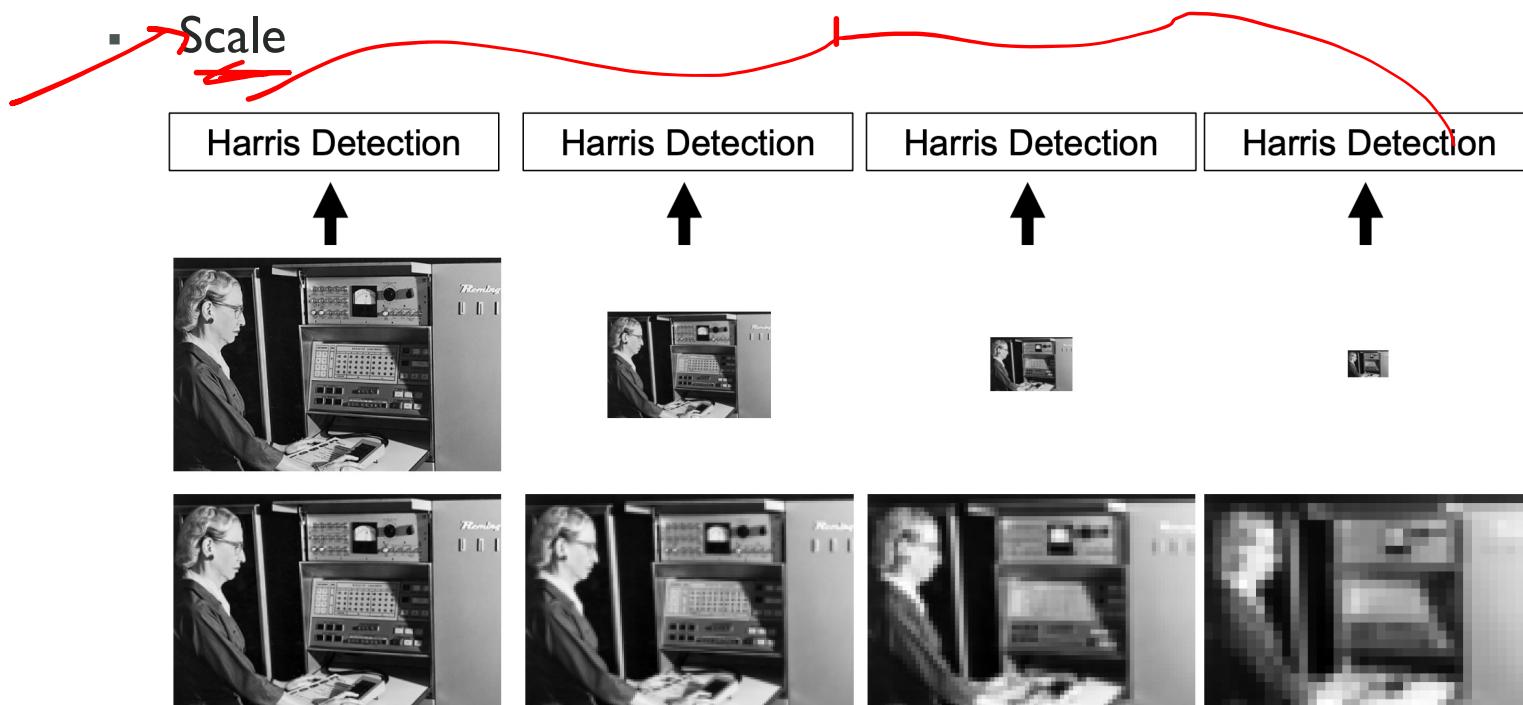
One pixel can become many pixels and vice-versa

Harris corner detector

Robustness

✓ Lighting (*affine intensity change*)

✓ Rotation



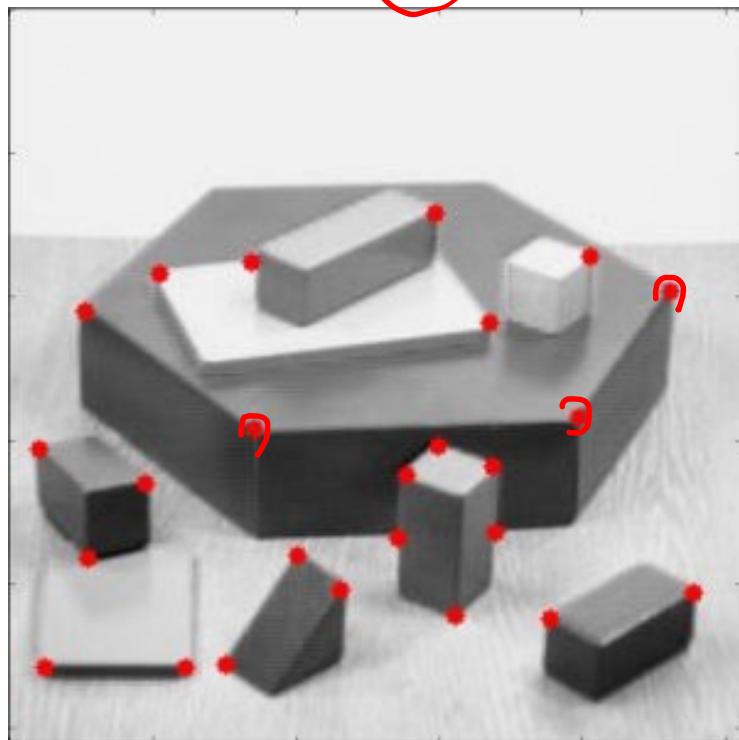
Harris corner detector

Experiments

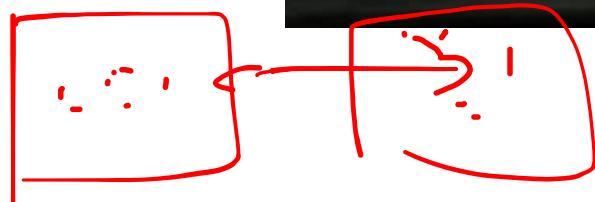


Harris corner detector

Experiments



Next lecture: Feature descriptor



Thank you very much!

sihengc@sjtu.edu.cn