

# Digital Image Processing (CSE/ECE 478)

## Lecture # 11:Interest point detection and description

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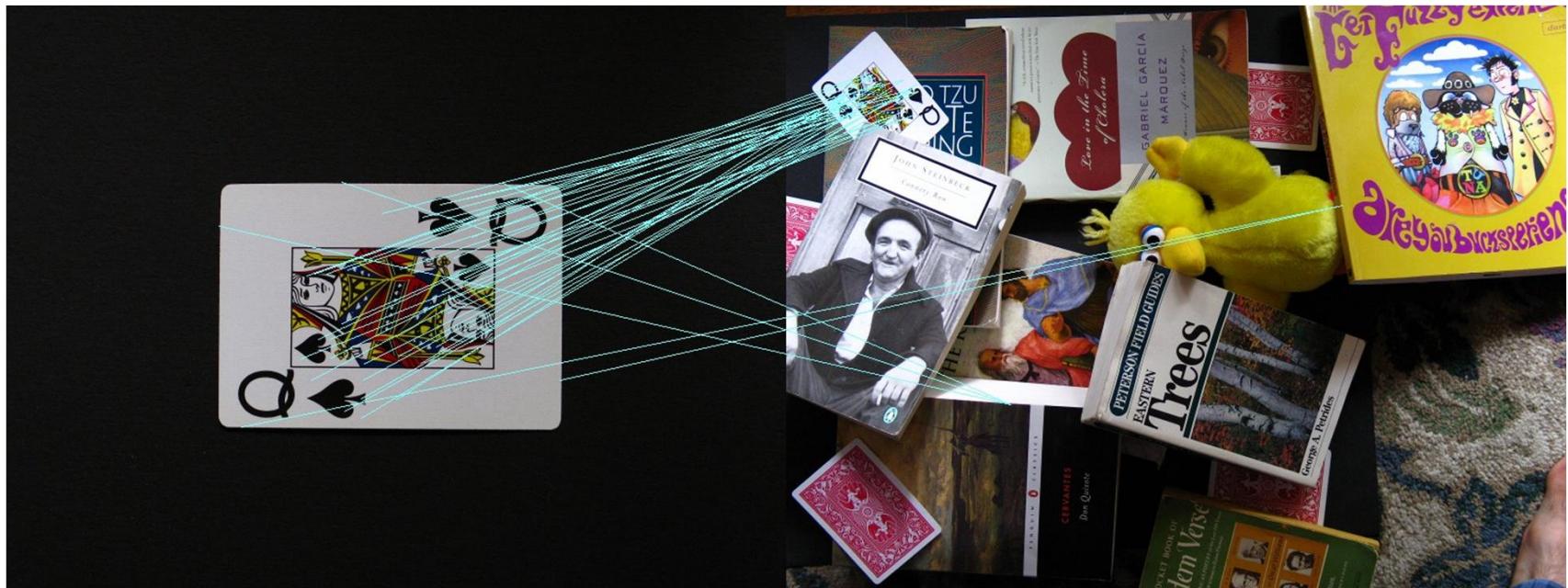


## Applications: Feature matching



Invariance: image transformations + illumination changes

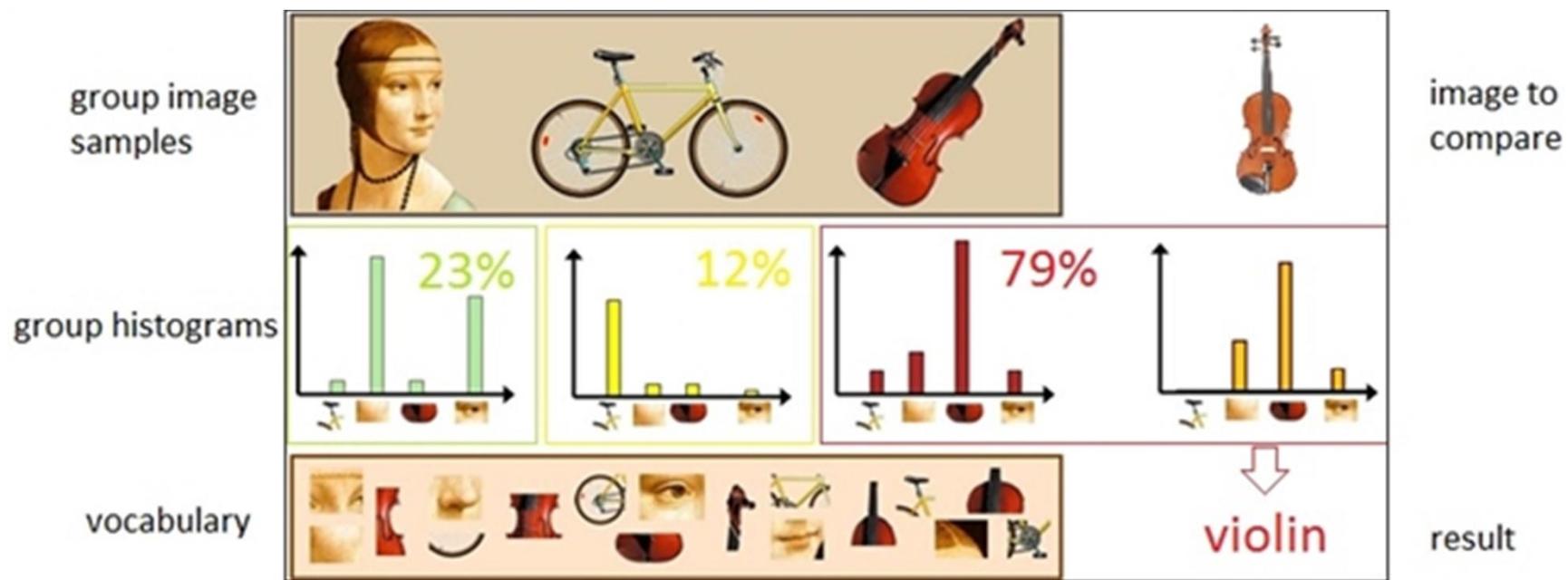
# Applications: Feature matching



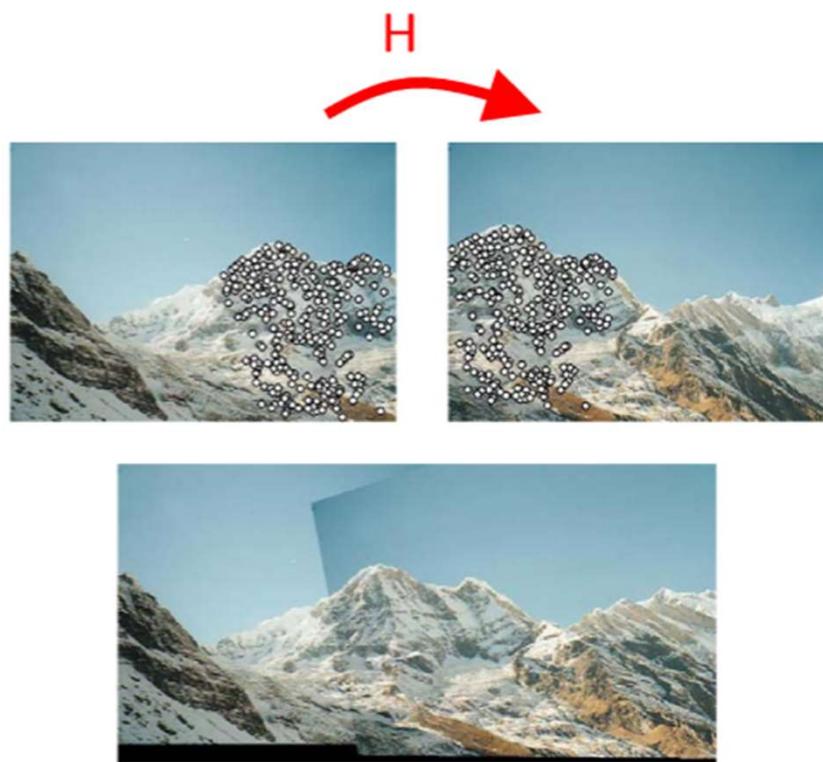
# Applications: Object Detection



# Applications: Object Recognition



## Applications: Image stitching



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## Applications: Image puzzles



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# Applications: Image stitching



## Applications: Augmented Reality



(a)



(b)

## Applications: Face landmark detection

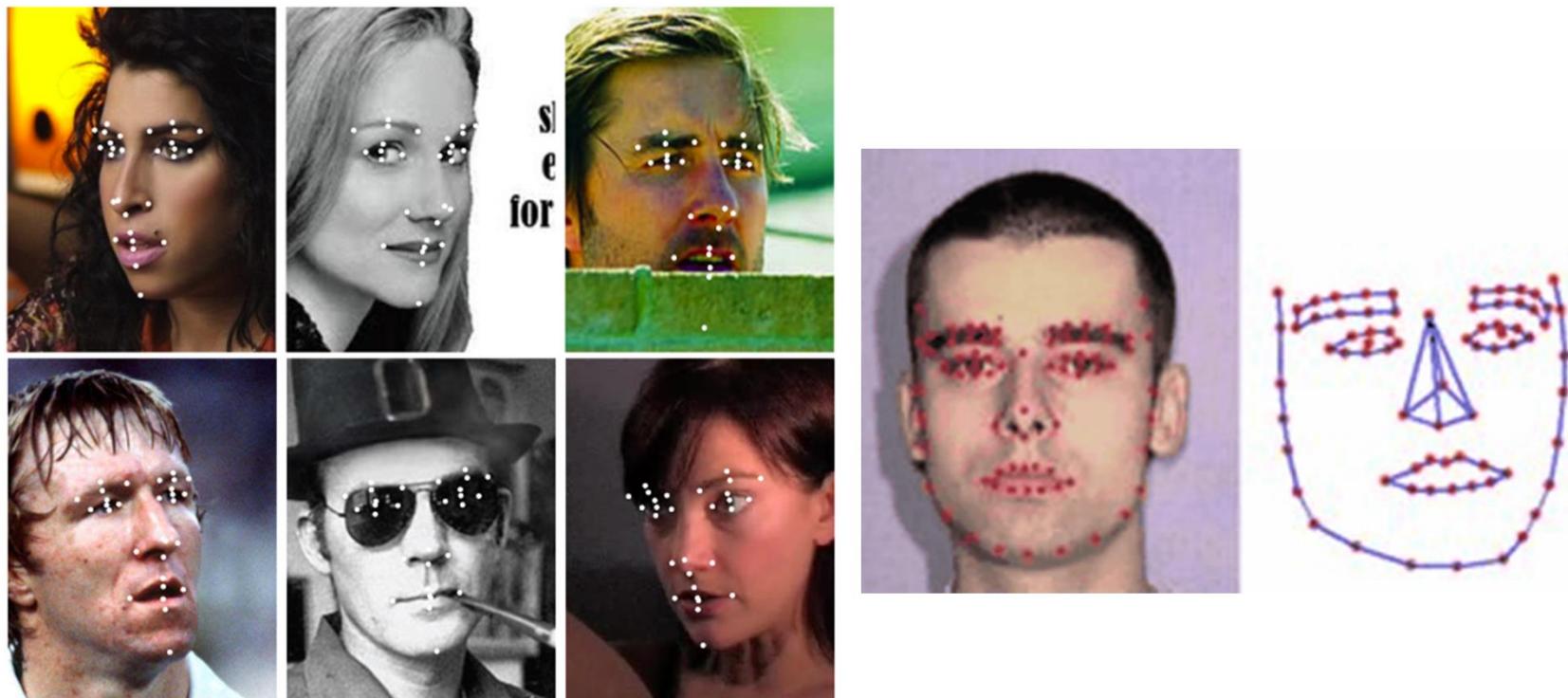


Figure 1. Results of our face part localizer.

Belhumeur et al. 2011

# Applications: Take a picture, get related content

## PRENEZ EN PHOTO L'AFFICHE !

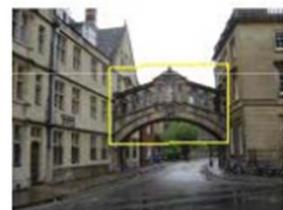
Accédez à la bande annonce, à tous les horaires et à la réservation.

Avec la participation de

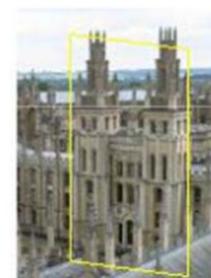
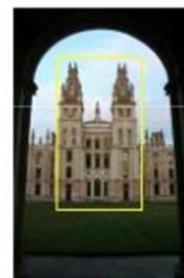


Source: Cordelia Schmid

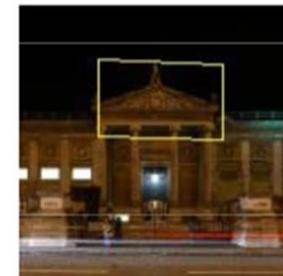
## Example Challenges (recognition)



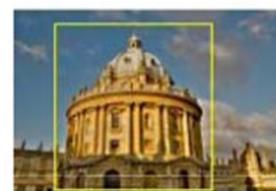
Scale



Viewpoint



Lighting



Occlusion

# Today's Lecture

Three tasks gain importance in most of these applications:

- Feature Detection
- Feature Extraction
- Feature Matching

We will discuss the first two in detail!

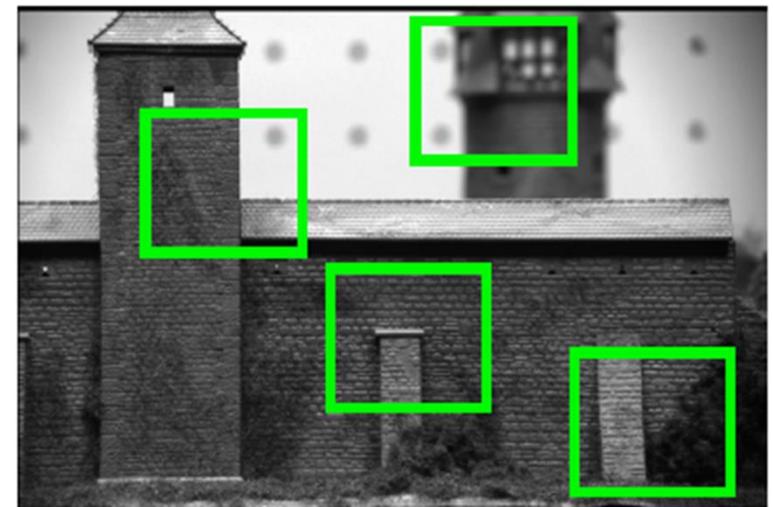
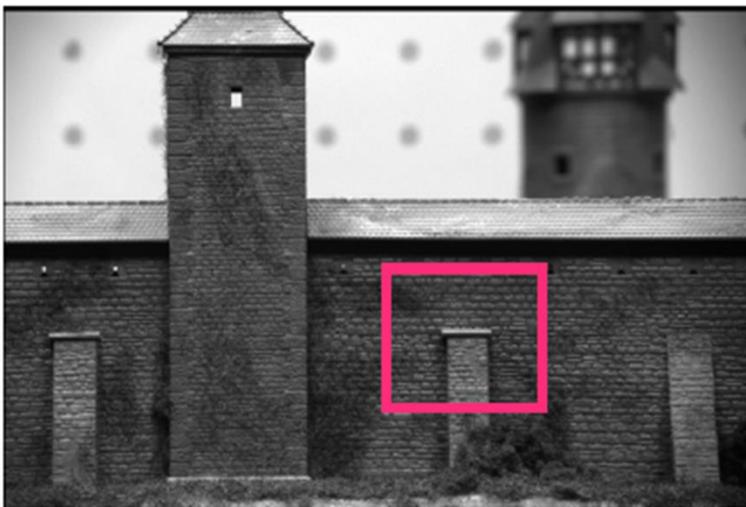
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# Today's Lecture

- Feature detection
  - Harris feature detector
  - SIFT feature detector
- Feature Descriptors
  - SIFT feature descriptor



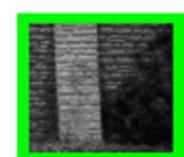
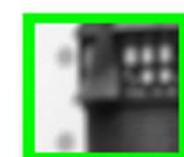
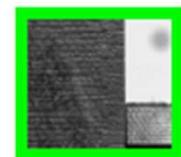
## Matching patches, why interest points (corners)?



Task: find the most similar patch in the second image



?  
=



Source: Robert Collins

## Matching patches, why interest points (corners)?



Task: find the most similar patch in the second image

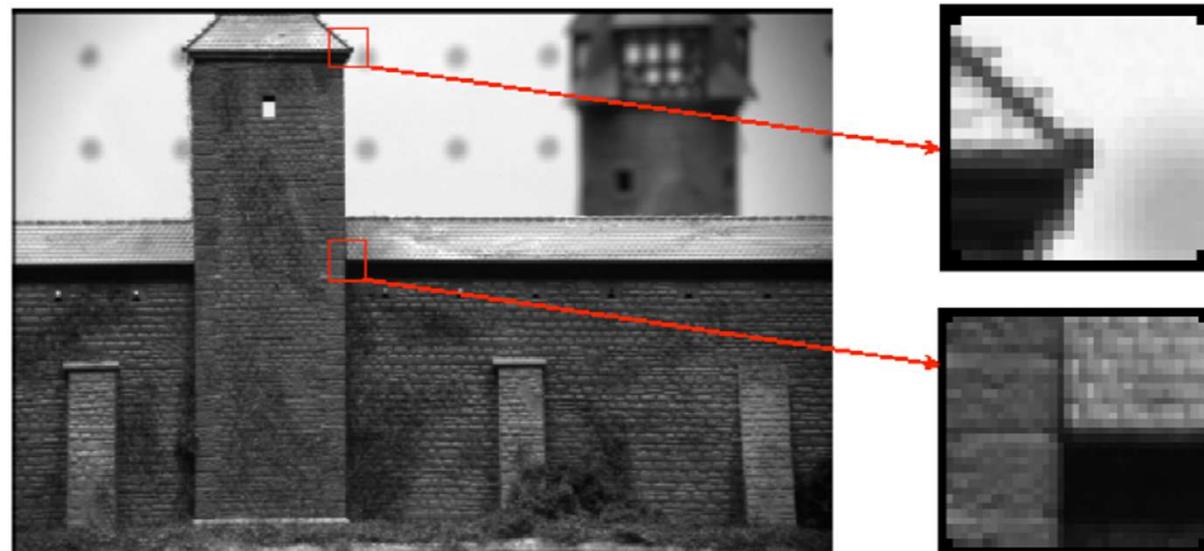


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Source: Robert Collins

## What interest points (corners)?

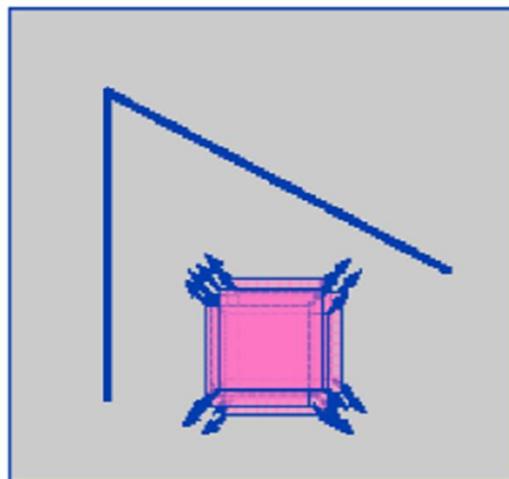


- Junctions of contours
- Generally more stable over changes of viewpoint
- Large variations in neighbourhood of the point in all directions
- Good features to match!

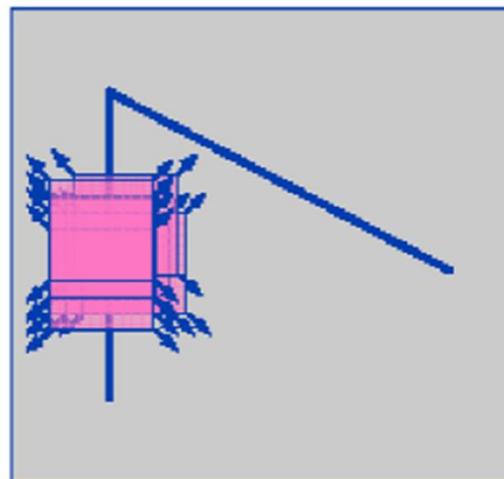
Source: Robert Collins

## Corner detection: basic idea

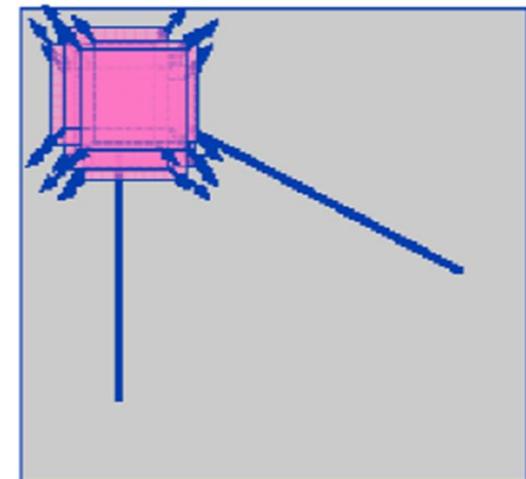
Take a window around the point of interest and move around



“flat” region: no change  
in all directions



“edge”: no change  
along edge direction

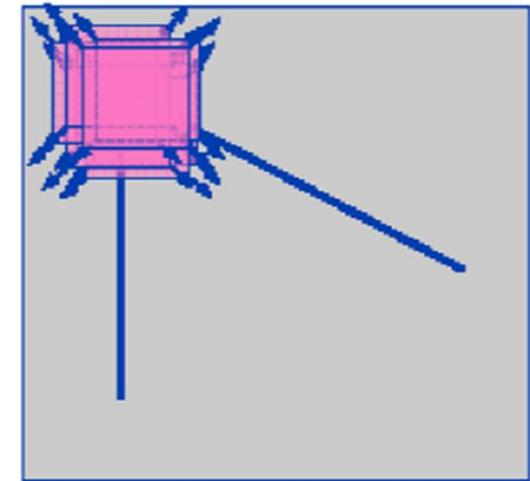
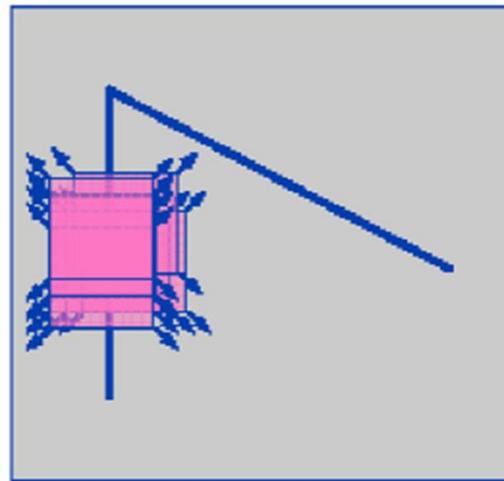
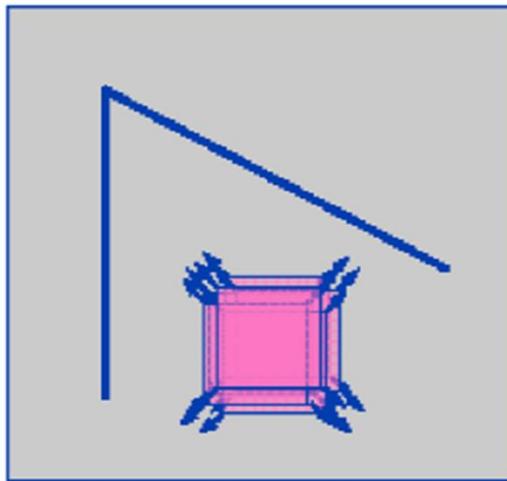


“corner”: significant  
change in all directions

Source: Robert Collins

# Harris corner detection

Harris and Stephens\* proposed a mathematical approach to determine which case holds

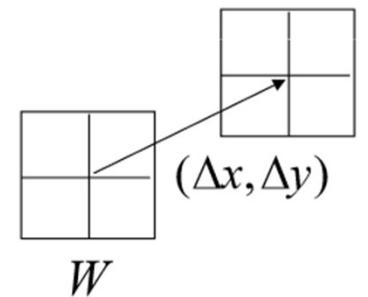


\*C. Harris and M. Stephens (1988). ["A combined corner and edge detector"](#). Proceedings of the 4th Alvey Vision Conference. pp. 147–151

## Harris corner detection: Auto-correlation function

- Auto-correlation function for a point  $(x, y)$  and a shift  $(\Delta x, \Delta y)$

$$A(x, y) = \sum_{W(x,y)} (I(x, y) - I(x + \Delta x, y + \Delta y))^2$$



$A(x, y)$  {

- small in all directions  $\rightarrow$  uniform region
- large in one direction  $\rightarrow$  contour
- large in all directions  $\rightarrow$  interest point



# Taylor series expansion

- Taylor series expansion (1D)

$$\begin{aligned} F(x_0 + \Delta x) \approx & F(x_0) + F'(x_0)\Delta x + \frac{1}{2!}F''(x_0)\Delta x^2 \\ & + \frac{1}{3!}F^{(3)}(x_0)\Delta x^3 + \dots + \frac{1}{n!}F^{(n)}(x_0)\Delta x^n \end{aligned}$$



# Taylor series expansion

- Taylor series expansion (2D)

$$F(x_0 + \Delta x, y_0 + \Delta y) \approx F(x_0, y_0) + F_x(x_0, y_0)\Delta x + F_y(x_0, y_0)\Delta y +$$

First partial derivative

$$\frac{1}{2!} [F_{xx}(x_0, y_0)\Delta x^2 + F_{xy}(x_0, y_0)\Delta x\Delta y + F_{yy}(x_0, y_0)\Delta y^2] +$$

Second partial derivative

$$\frac{1}{3!} [F_{xxx}(x_0, y_0)\Delta x^3 + F_{xxy}(x_0, y_0)\Delta x^2\Delta y + F_{xyy}(x_0, y_0)\Delta x\Delta y^2 + F_{yyy}(x_0, y_0)\Delta y^3]$$

Third partial derivative

.... + higher order terms



## Harris corner detection: Auto-correlation function

$$A(x, y) = \sum_{W(x,y)} (I(x, y) - I(x + \Delta x, y + \Delta y))^2$$

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

First order approximation

$$A(x, y) \approx \sum (I(x, y) - I(x, y) - I_x(x, y)\Delta x - I_y(x, y)\Delta y)^2$$

$$= \sum (I_x\Delta x)^2 + (I_y\Delta y)^2 + 2 I_x I_y \Delta x \Delta y$$

$$= [\Delta x \ \Delta y] \left( \sum \begin{bmatrix} I_x^2 & I_x I_y \\ I_x I_y & I_y^2 \end{bmatrix} \right) [\Delta x \ \Delta y]$$

$$A(x, y) = [\Delta x \ \Delta y] M \begin{bmatrix} \Delta x \\ \Delta y \end{bmatrix}$$

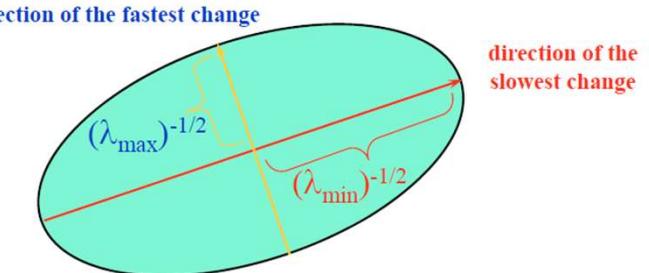
Equation of an ellipse, where  $M$  is the covariance matrix

## Harris corner detection: Auto-correlation matrix

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

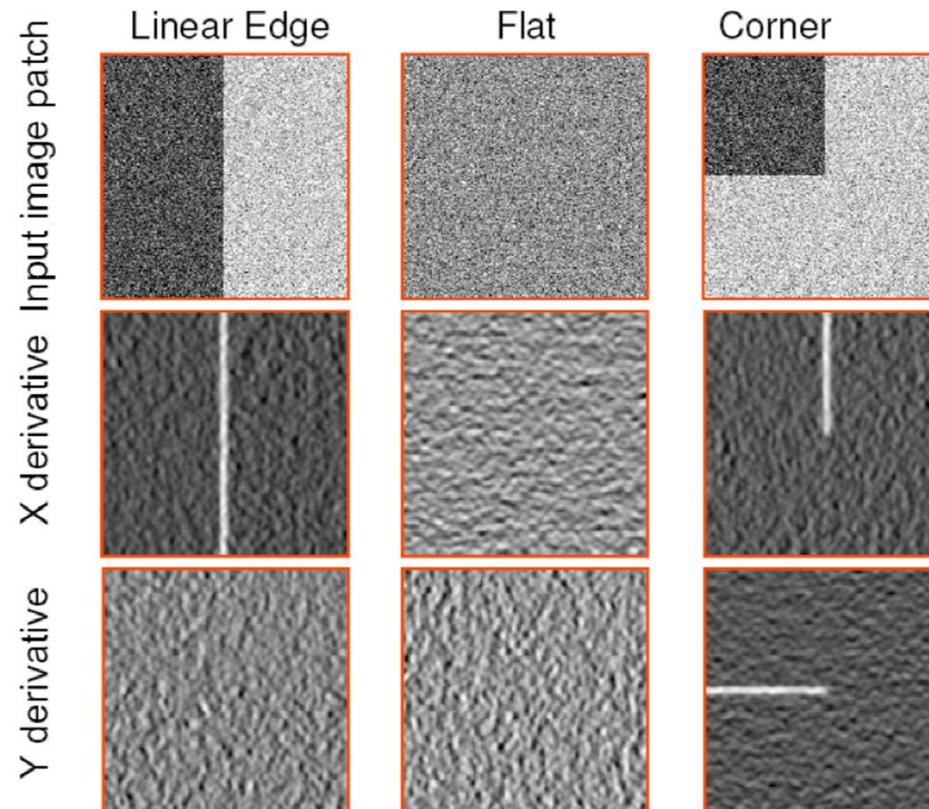
- M is a  $2\times 2$  covariance matrix computed from image derivatives.
- It is also common practice to smooth each individual component before computing the sum.

- Captures the structure of the local neighbourhood
- Measure based on Eigen values of this matrix
  - 2 strong eigenvalues → interest point
  - 1 strong eigenvalue → line (contour)
  - 0 strong eigenvalue → uniform region



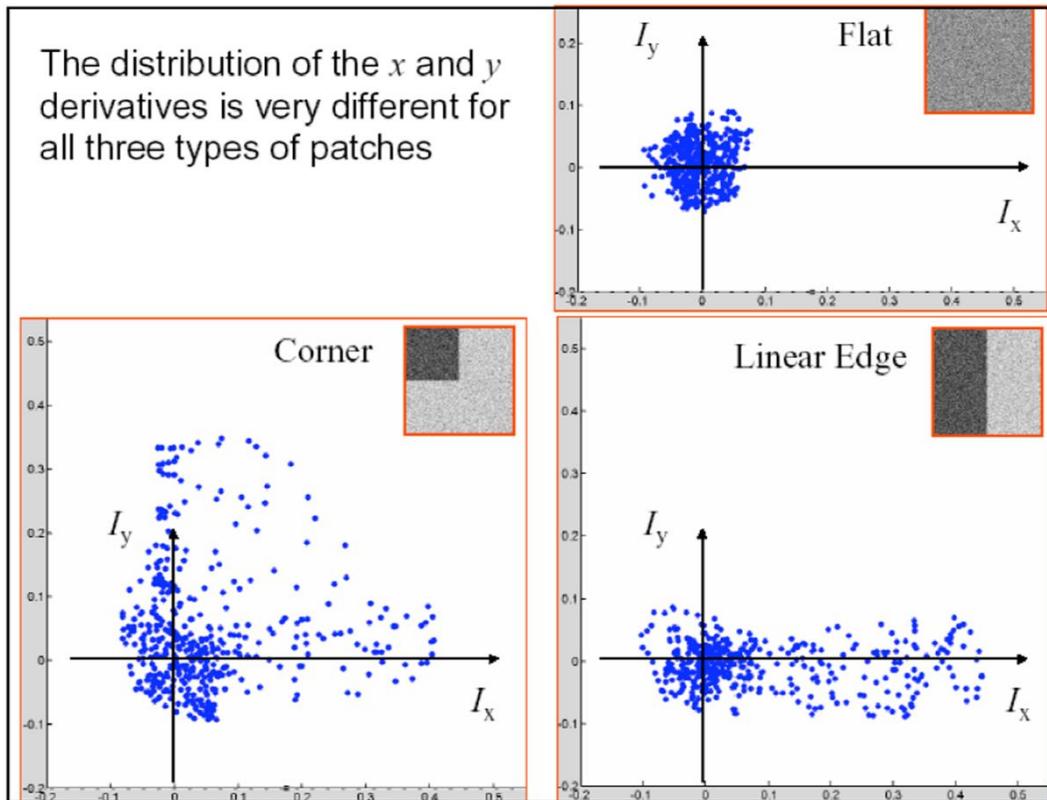
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## Harris corner detection: Intuition



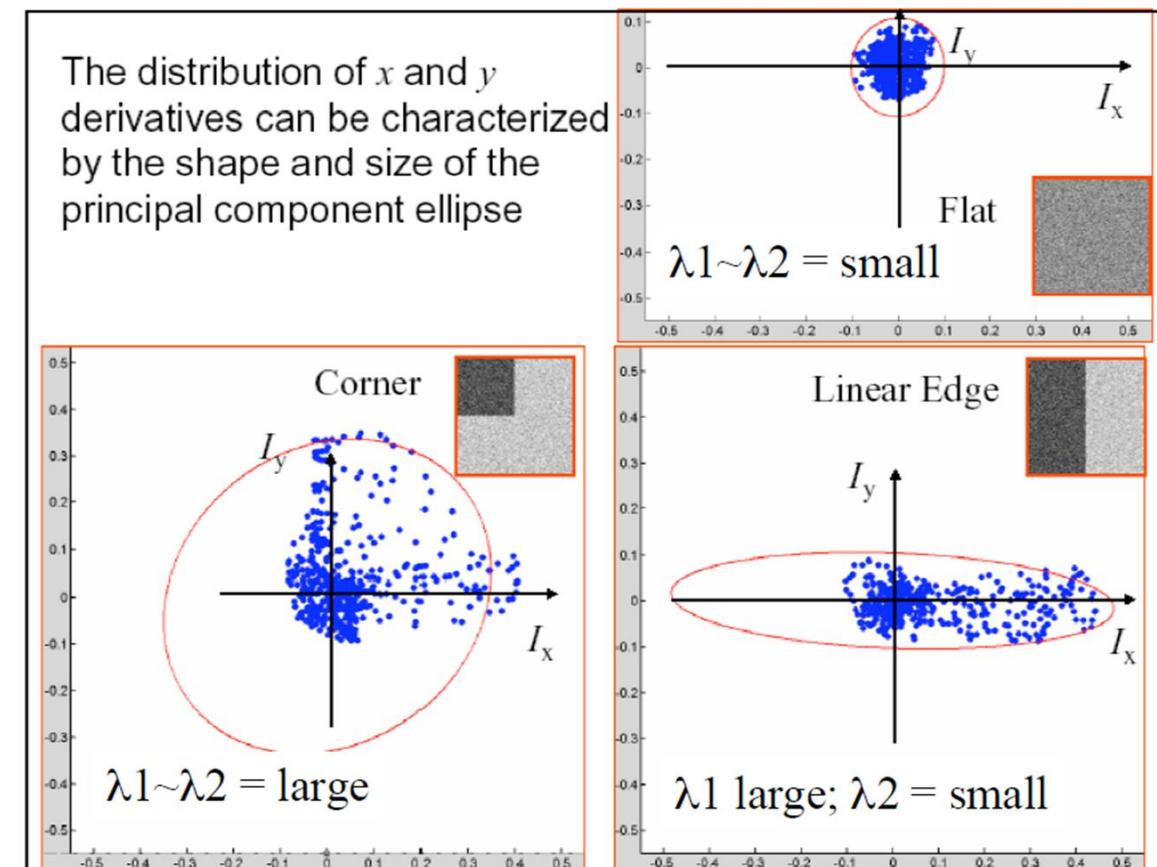
Source: Robert Collins

# Harris corner detection: Intuition



Source: Robert Collins

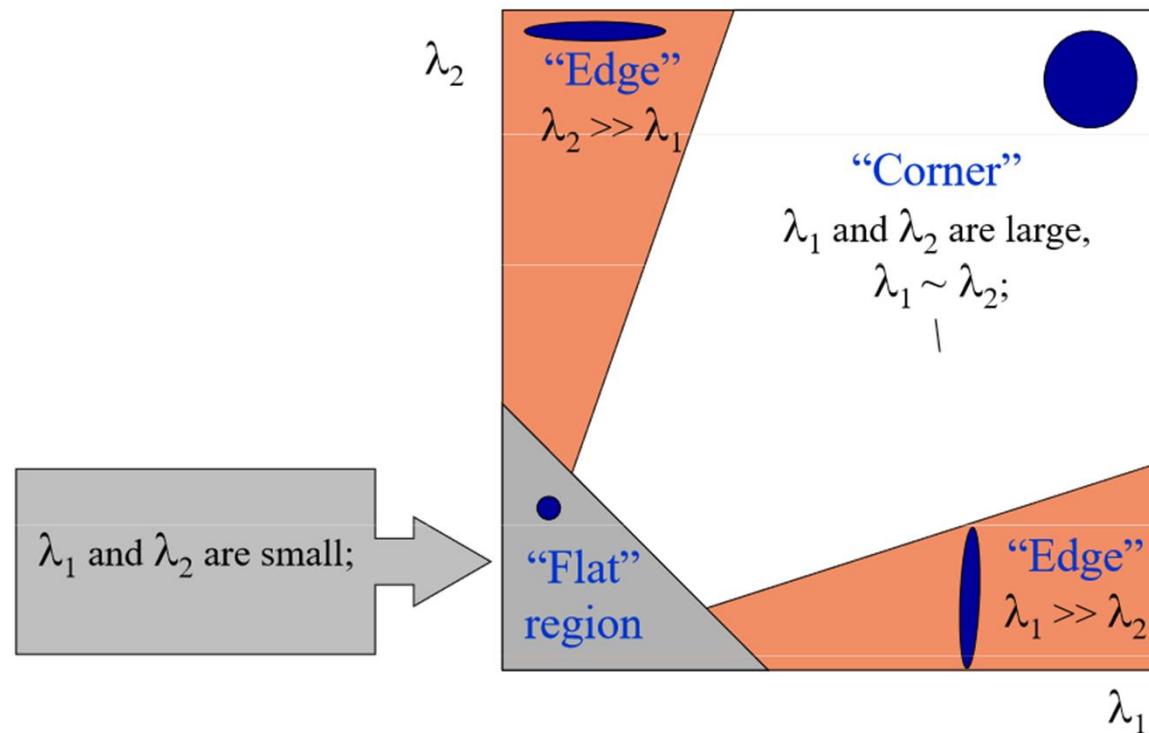
## Harris corner detection: Intuition



Source: Robert Collins

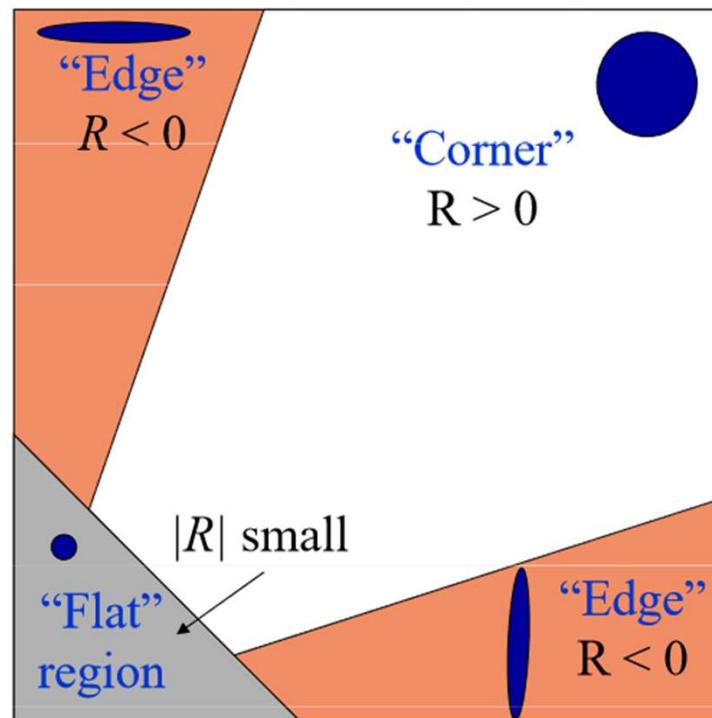
# Interpreting the eigenvalues

- Classification of image points using eigenvalues of autocorrelation matrix



## Corner response function

$$R = \det(M) - \alpha (\text{trace}(M))^2 = \lambda_1 \lambda_2 - \alpha(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)^2$$



## Harris Detector: Steps

1. Compute horizontal and vertical derivatives of an image ( $I_x, I_y$ )
2. Compute products of derivatives at every pixel

$$I_{xx} = I_x \cdot I_x \quad I_{yy} = I_y \cdot I_y \quad I_{xy} = I_x \cdot I_y$$

3. Compute local sum at each pixel (often weighted by gaussian)

$$S1 = G * I_{xx} \quad S2 = G * I_{yy} \quad S3 = G * I_{xy}$$

4. For each pixel define R matrix

$$R = [S1 \ S3; \ S3 \ S2]$$

5. Compute the corner response function at each pixel

6. Threshold the resulting matrix then compute non maximal suppression



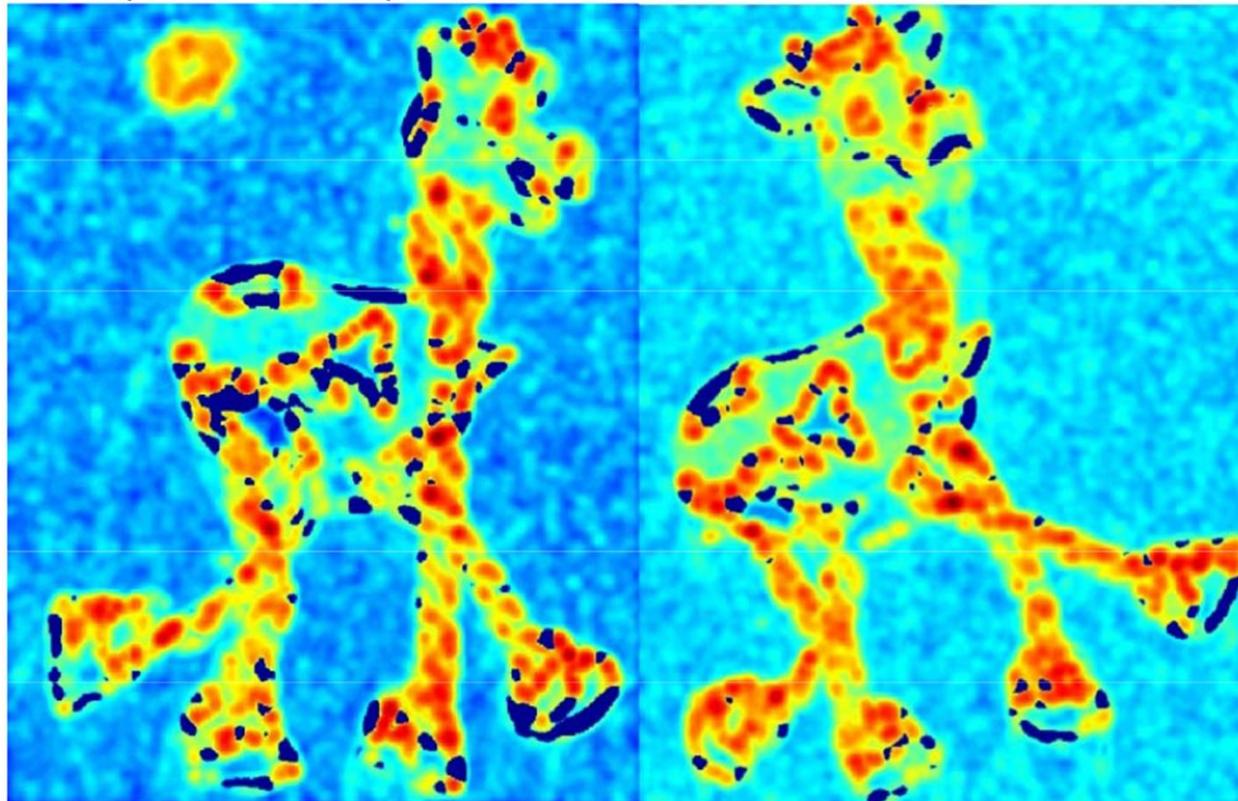
## Harris Detector: Steps



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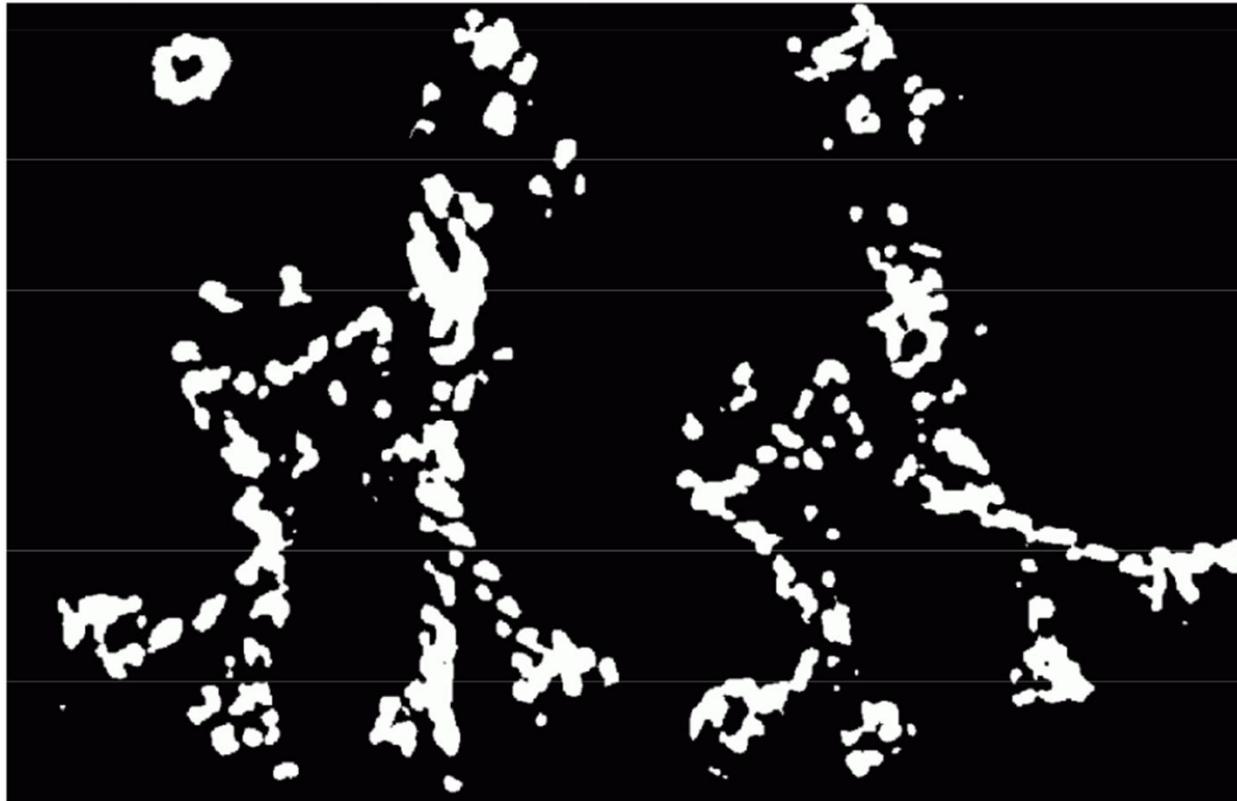
## Harris Detector: Steps

Compute corner response  $R$



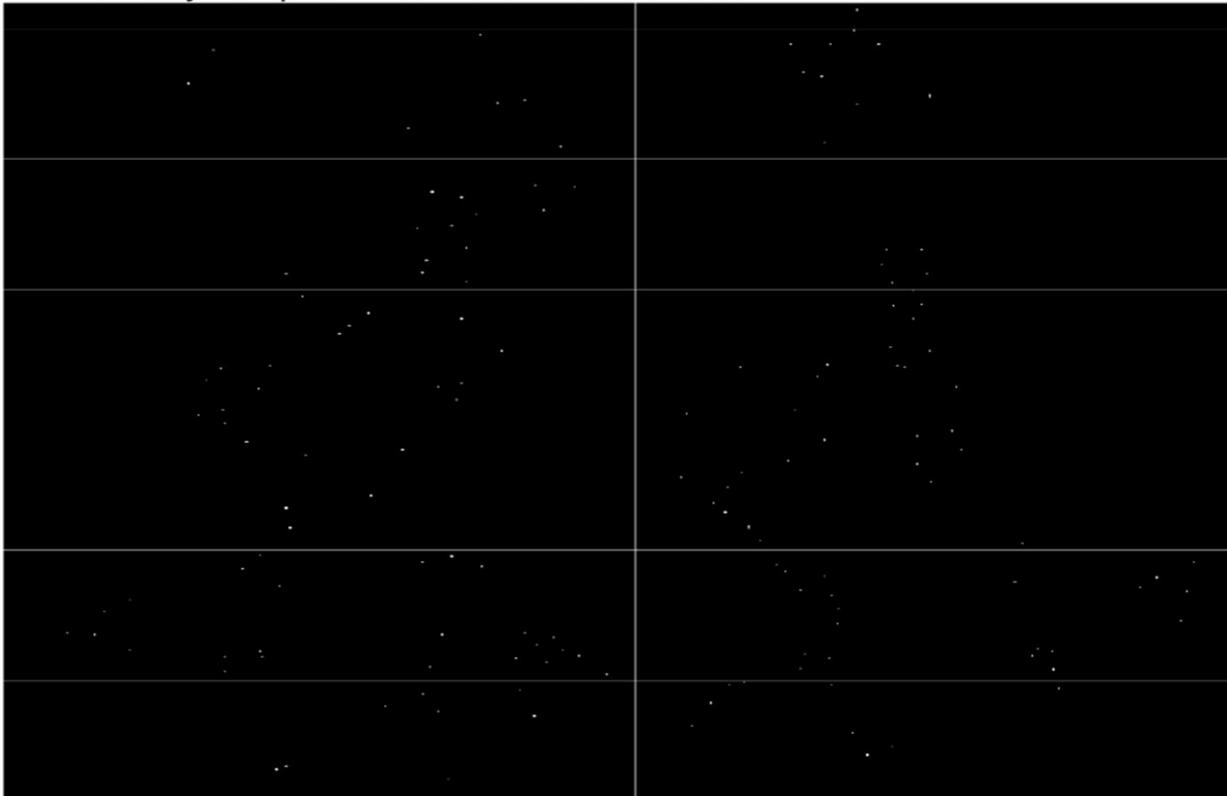
## Harris Detector: Steps

Find points with large corner response:  $R>\text{threshold}$



## Harris Detector: Steps

Take only the points of local maxima of  $R$

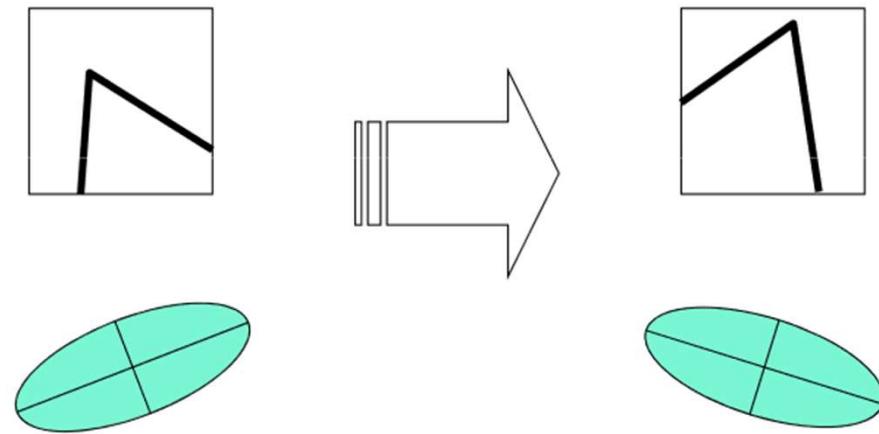


## Harris Detector: Steps



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## Invariance properties: Rotation



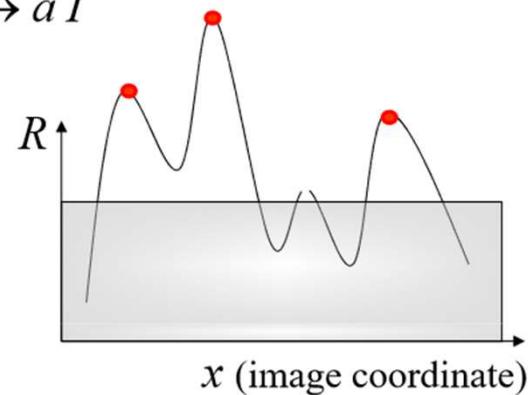
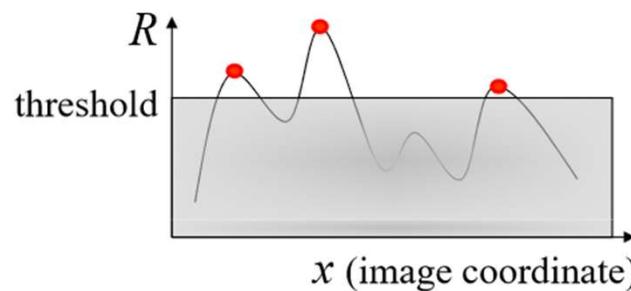
Ellipse rotates but its shape (i.e. eigenvalues)  
remains the same

**Corner response  $R$  is invariant of rotation**

Source: Cordelia Schmid

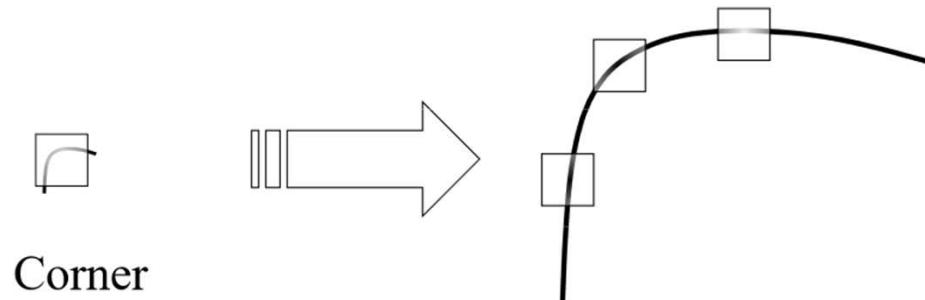
# Invariance properties: Intensity Scaling

- ✓ Only derivatives are used => invariance to intensity shift  $I \rightarrow I + b$
- ✓ Intensity scale:  $I \rightarrow a I$



Partially invariant to affine intensity change

## Invariance properties: Scaling



All points will  
be classified as  
**edges**

**Corner response R is not invariant of scaling**

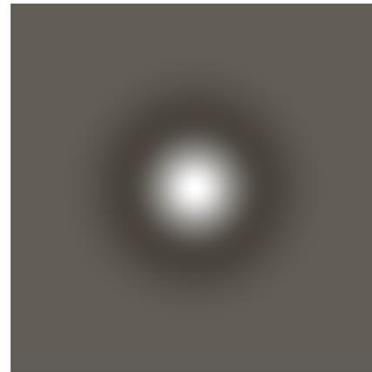
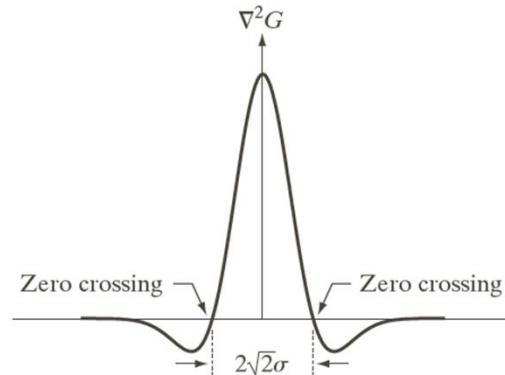
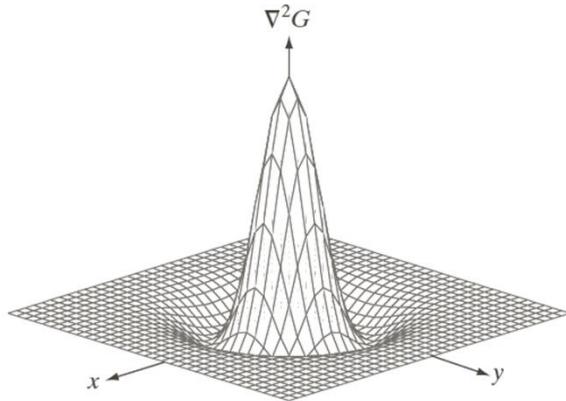
Source: Cordelia Schmid

## SIFT interest point detector

- Formulates scale invariance
- We go back to the ideas of scale space!



# Revision: Laplacian of a Gaussian



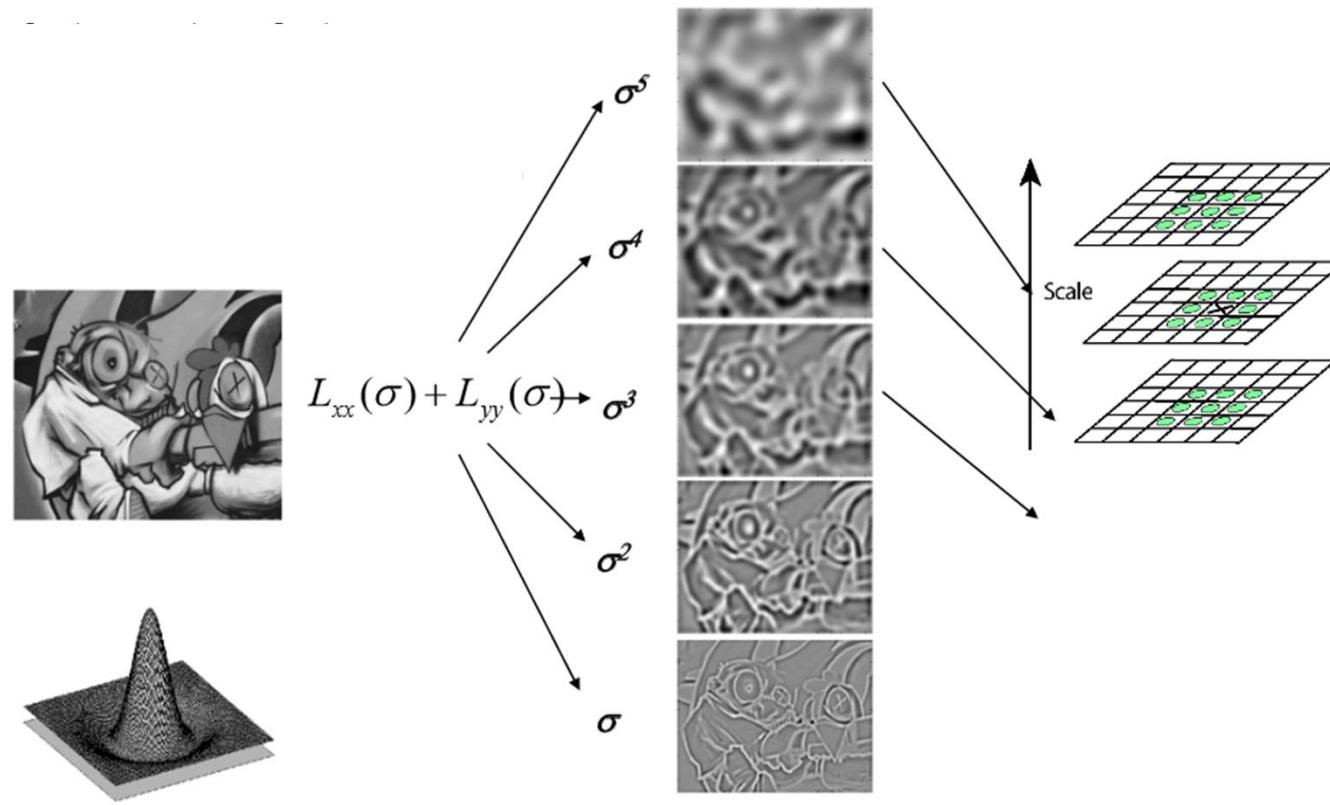
|   |   |
|---|---|
| a | b |
| c | d |

**FIGURE 10.21**  
 (a) Three-dimensional plot of the *negative* of the LoG. (b) Negative of the LoG displayed as an image. (c) Cross section of (a) showing zero crossings.  
 (d)  $5 \times 5$  mask approximation to the shape in (a). The negative of this mask would be used in practice.

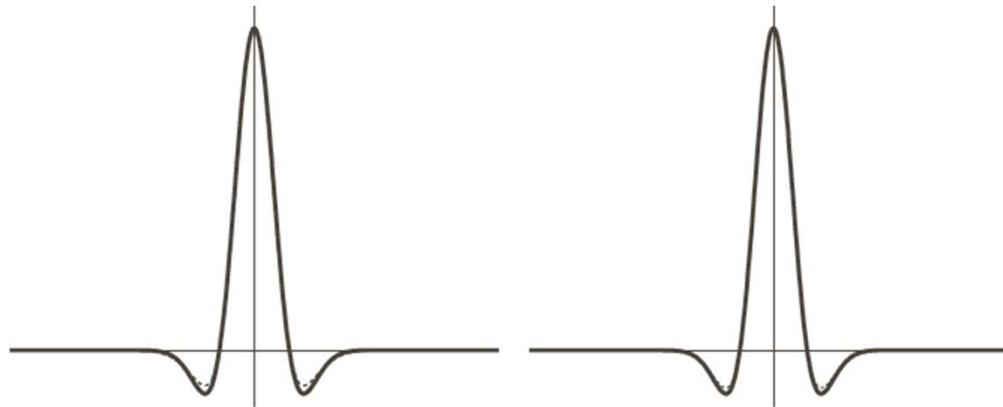
|    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|
| 0  | 0  | -1 | 0  | 0  |
| 0  | -1 | -2 | -1 | 0  |
| -1 | -2 | 16 | -2 | -1 |
| 0  | -1 | -2 | -1 | 0  |
| 0  | 0  | -1 | 0  | 0  |

$$\nabla^2 G(x, y) = \left[ \frac{x^2 + y^2 - 2\sigma^2}{\sigma^4} \right] e^{-\frac{x^2 + y^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

# SIFT interest point detector



# Laplacian of a Gaussian Vs Difference of Gaussian

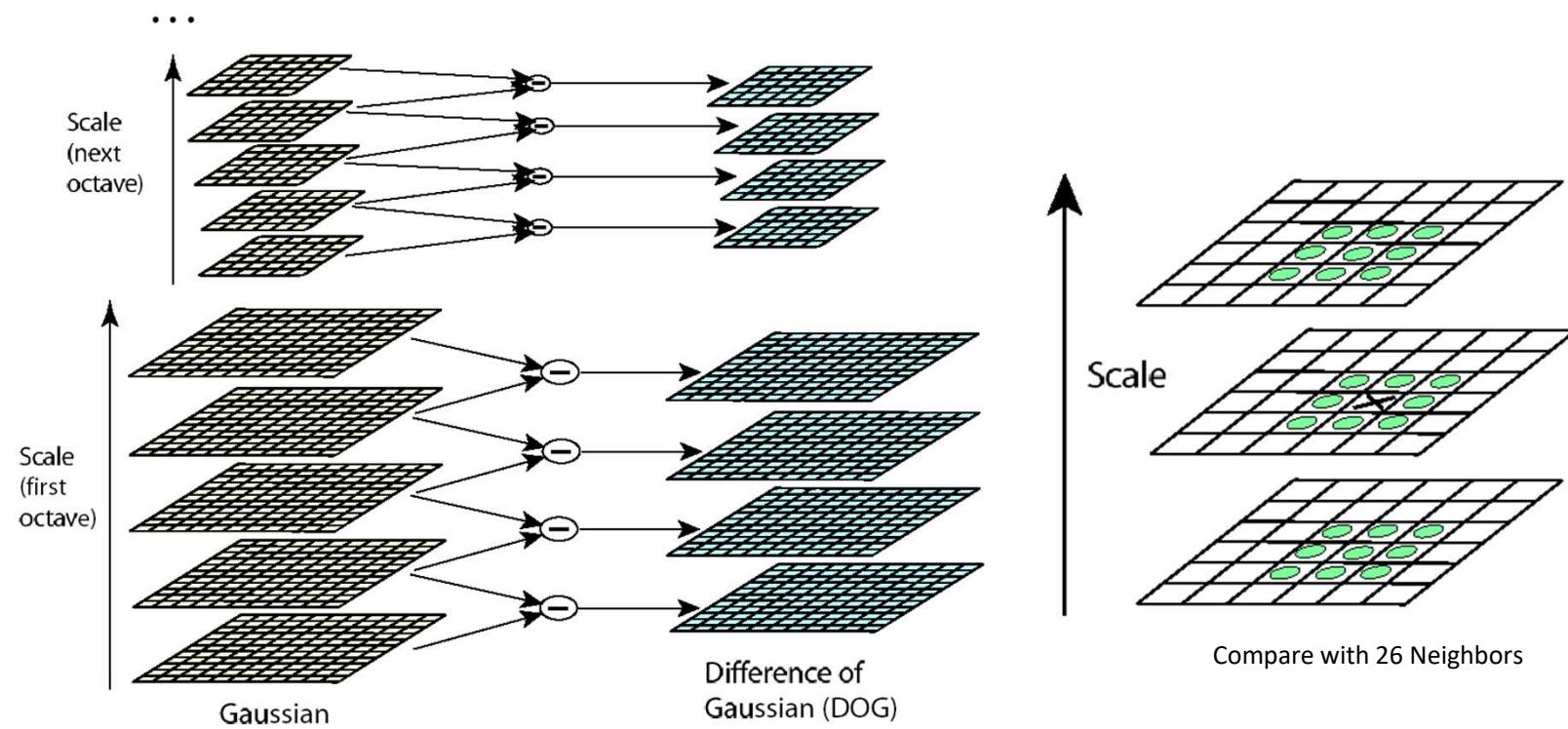


a b

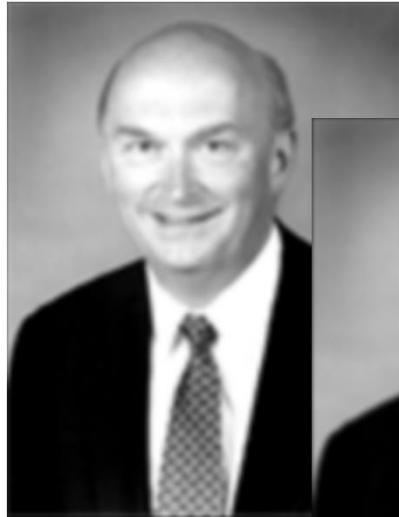
**FIGURE 10.23**  
(a) Negatives of the  
LoG (solid) and  
DoG (dotted)  
profiles using a  
standard deviation  
ratio of 1.75:1.  
(b) Profiles obtained  
using a ratio of 1.6:1.

$$\text{DoG}(x, y) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_1^2} e^{-\frac{x^2+y^2}{2\sigma_1^2}} - \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_2^2} e^{-\frac{x^2+y^2}{2\sigma_2^2}}$$

# SIFT interest point detector



Source: David Lowe

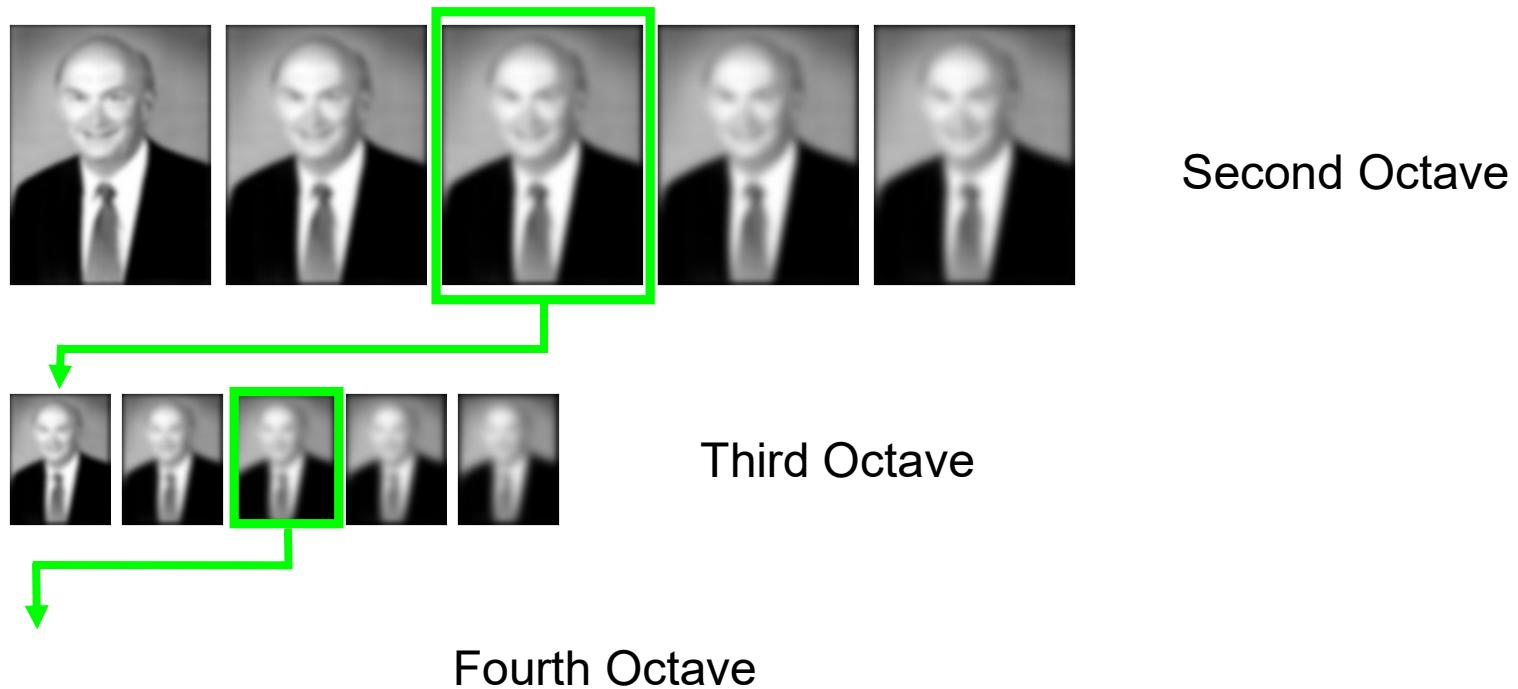


## SIFT interest point detector



ce: David Lowe

# SIFT interest point detector



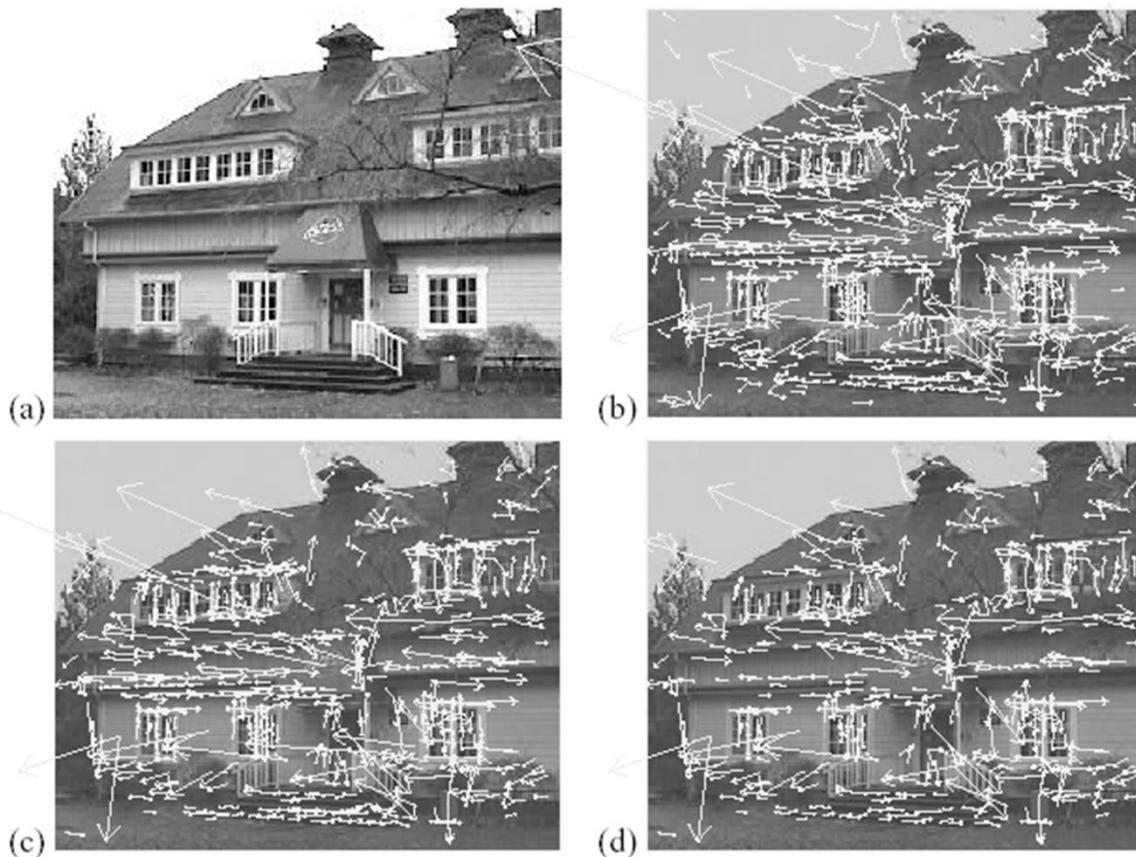
Source: David Lowe

## SIFT interest point detector



: David Lowe

# SIFT interest point detector



Source: David Lowe

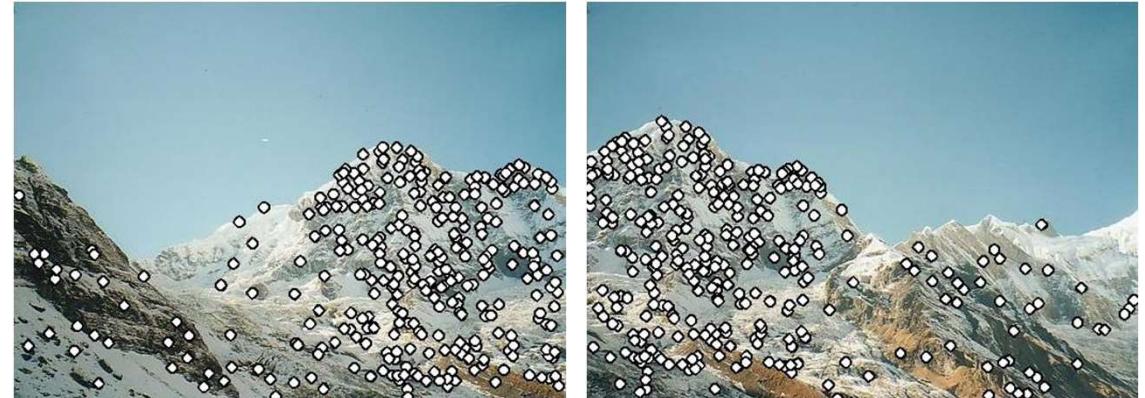
# Today's Lecture

- Feature detection
  - Harris feature detector
  - SIFT feature detector
- Feature Descriptors
  - SIFT feature descriptor



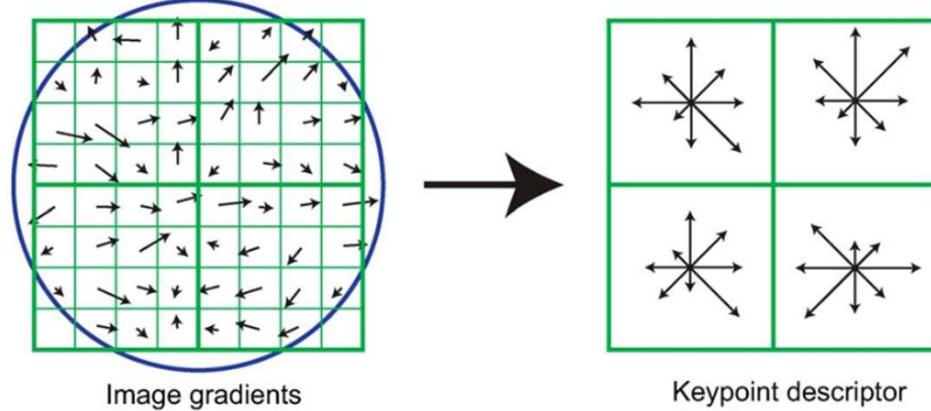
# How to match the interest points across images?

- Keypoints give only the positions of strong features
- To match them across different images, we need a way to describe them
- Important to understand clear distinction between interest point detections and description
- Description is usually based on nearby image region
  - Intensity values
  - Moments
  - Derivatives
  - SIFT



# SIFT descriptors

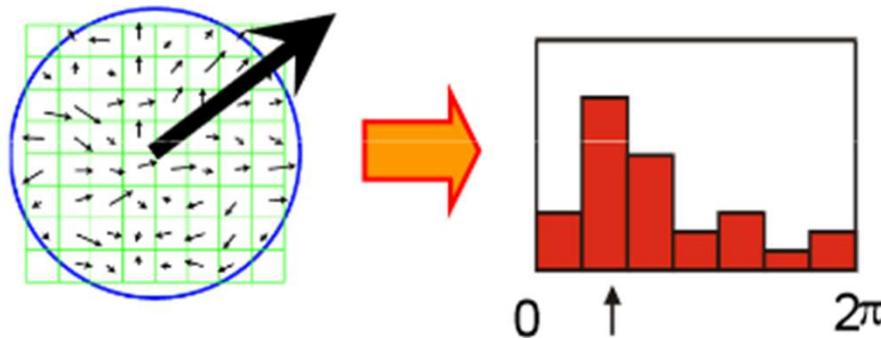
- Orientation of gradients
  - 8 orientations
  - 4×4 orientation grid
  - Dimension 128
  - Soft assignment
  - Weighted by a Gaussian



Source: David Lowe

## SIFT descriptors: Rotation invariance

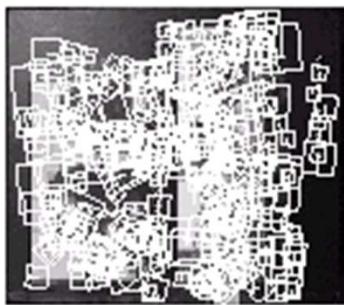
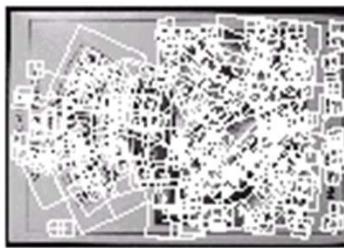
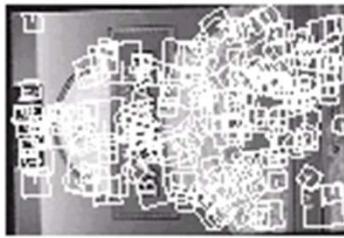
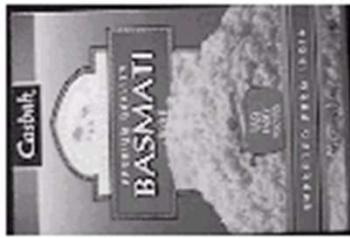
- Solution: Compute relative orientation



Compute the dominant orientation (peak in the histogram) and rotate the patch accordingly

Source: David Lowe

## One final example



Source: David Lowe