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# Mid Level Image Features : Shapes

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# I N D E X

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## Shapes

### Approaches to Shape description

- Region based shape descriptors
- Boundary based descriptors
- Interest Operator + Descriptor

## Applications





- Shape goes one step further than color and texture.
- Color and Texture are both global attributes of an image; shape is not an image attributes
  - Shape tends to refer to a specific region of an image
  - Segmentation is still a crucial problem to be solved, so interests operator is employed for shape description
- Two-dimensional shape recognition is an important aspect of image analysis (image matching/retrieval)

# Shape descriptors



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- There are three approaches to defining shapes
  1. Shape represented by its region descriptors – Simple !!
  2. Shape represented by its Boundary
  3. Shape represented by its interests points (corners)



# Region based Shape Descriptors

# Geometric and Shape Properties



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- area
- centroid
- perimeter
- perimeter length
- circularity, elongation
- mean and standard deviation of radial distance
- second order moments (row, column, mixed)
- bounding box
- extremal axis length from bounding box
- lengths and orientations of axes of best-fit ellipse

Often want features independent of position, orientation, scale



- Why use moments?
  - Geometric moments of different orders represent spatial characteristics of the image distribution

- Zero-order moment

$$A = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m B[i, j]$$

- Total intensity of image
- For binary image  $\rightarrow$  area



- An object's position in the image determines its spatial location.
- center of area (a centroid, center of mass) : first order moment
  - Intensity centroid
  - Geometrical center in binary image

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \bar{x} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n jB[i, j]}{A} \quad : \text{average (mean) of } j \text{ coordinates of object (1) pixels} \\ \bar{y} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n iB[i, j]}{A} \quad : \text{average of } i \text{ coordinates of object (1) pixels} \end{array} \right.$$

- A precision of tenths of a pixel is often justifiable for the centroid.
- Centroids of regions can be interesting points for analysis and matching





There are three second-order spatial moments of a region

- Second-order row moment

$$\mu_{rr} = \frac{1}{A} \sum_{(r,c) \in R} (r - \bar{r})^2$$

- Second-order mixed moment

$$\mu_{rc} = \frac{1}{A} \sum_{(r,c) \in R} (r - \bar{r})(c - \bar{c})$$

- Second-order column moment

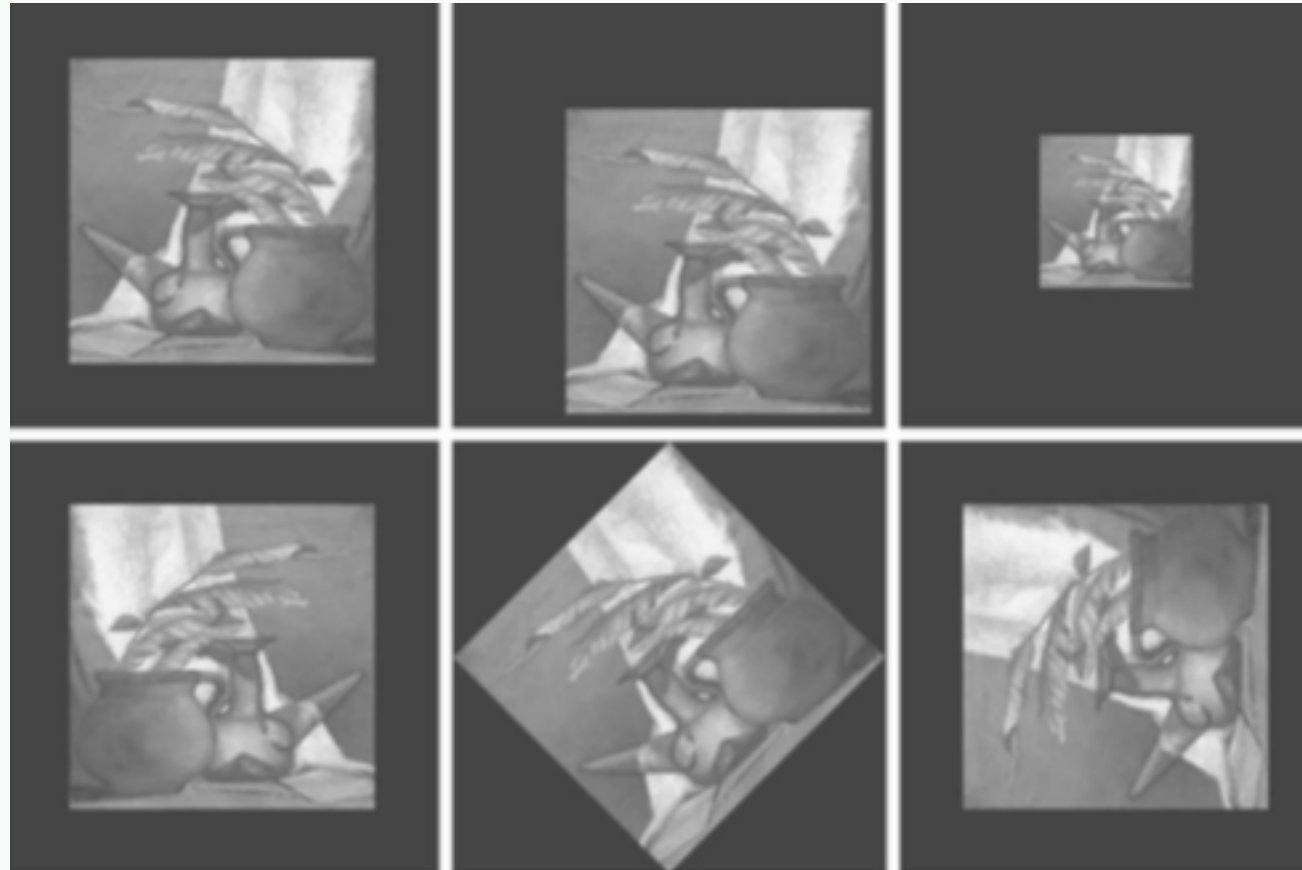
$$\mu_{cc} = \frac{1}{A} \sum_{(r,c) \in R} (c - \bar{c})^2$$

# Moment Invariants



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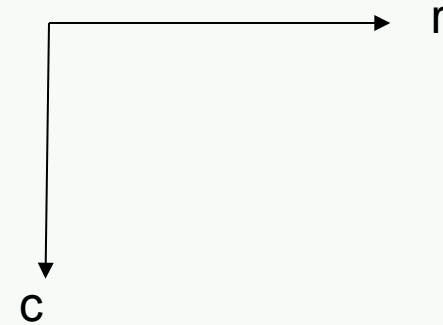
- Geometric transformation: translation, scale, mirroring, rotation



# Contrast second moments



- For the letter 'I'
- Versus the letter 'O'
- Versus the underline '\_'



# Perimeter and Perimeter Length



Perimeter  $P_4 = \{ (r, c) \in R \mid N_8(r, c) - R \neq \emptyset \}$

$$P_8 = \{ (r, c) \in R \mid N_4(r, c) - R \neq \emptyset \}$$

Perimeter Length

$$|P| = |\{k \mid (r_{k+1}, c_{k+1}) \in N_4(r_k, c_k)\}| + \sqrt{2} |\{k \mid (r_{k+1}, c_{k+1}) \in N_8(r_k, c_k) - N_4(r_k, c_k)\}|$$

Perimeter can vary significantly with object orientation





- Common measure of circularity of a region is length of the perimeter squared divided by area

- Circularity (1):

$$C_1 = \frac{|P|^2}{A}$$

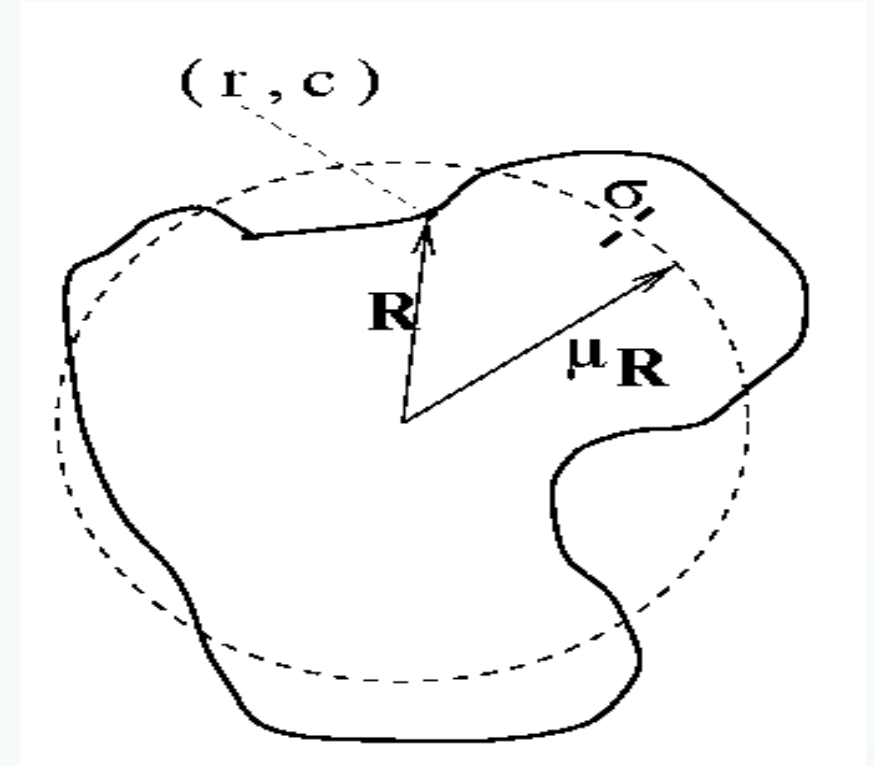
# Circularity as variance of “radius”



- A second measure uses variation off of a circle
- Circularity (2):
$$C_2 = \frac{\mu_R}{\sigma_R}$$
  - $\mu_R$  and  $\sigma_R^2$  are the mean and variance of the distance from the centroid of the shape to the boundary pixels  $(r_k, c_k)$ .

$$\mu_R = \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=0}^{K-1} \|(r_k, c_k) - (\bar{r}, \bar{c})\|$$

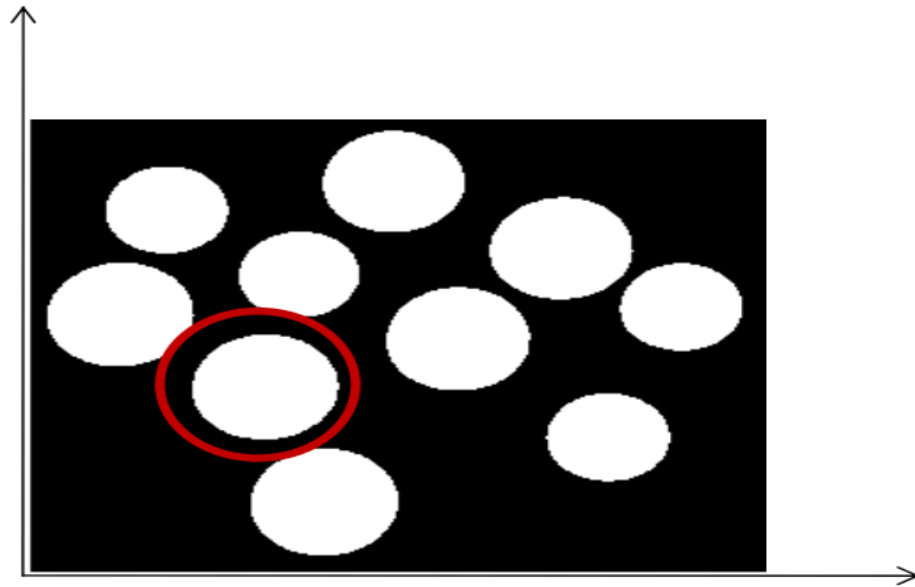
$$\sigma_R^2 = \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=0}^{K-1} [\|(r_k, c_k) - (\bar{r}, \bar{c})\| - \mu_R]^2$$



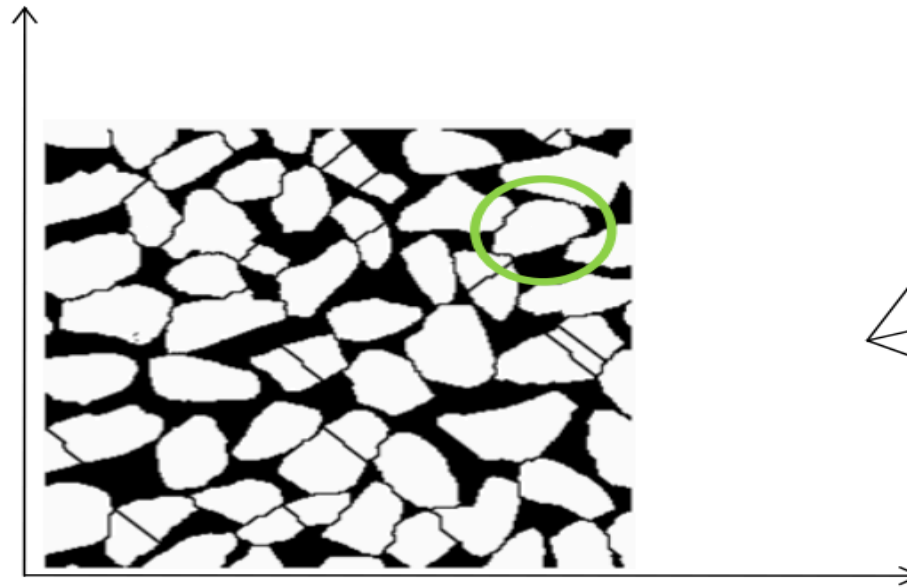
# Invariant descriptors



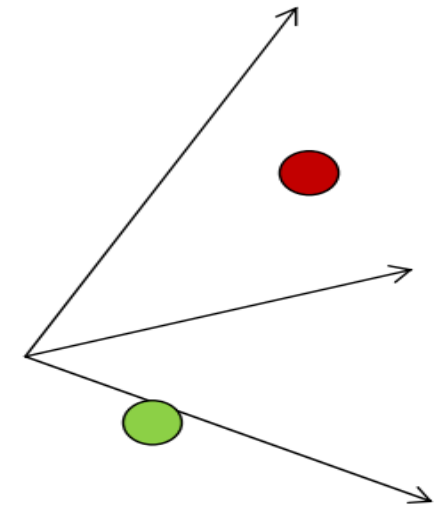
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$[a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots]$



$[b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots]$



Feature  
space  
distance





- Define the orientation of an object as the orientation of the axis of elongation.  
≡ axis of least second order moment  
variation(分散) = spread of data  
≡ axis of least inertia
- The axis of least second moment for an object is the line which gives

$$\min_{line} \chi^2 = \min_{line} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n r_{ij}^2 B[i, j]$$

where  $r_{ij}$  the perpendicular distance from an object point  $[i, j]$  to the line (axis)

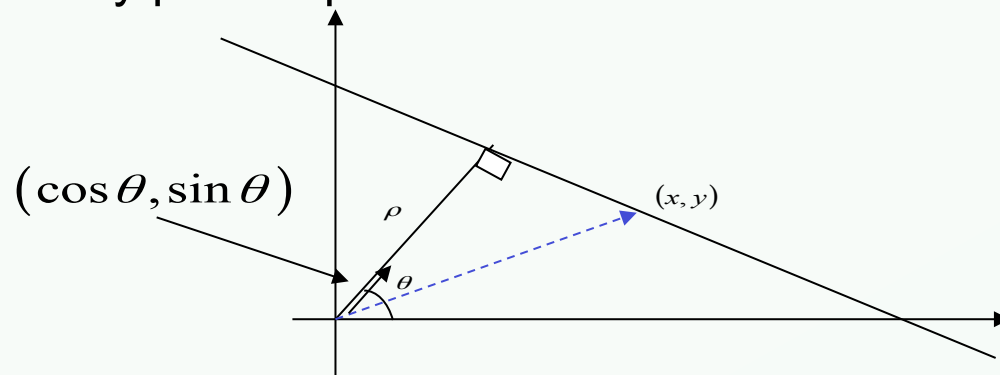
# Orientation (2)



## Polar representation of a straight line

why polar representation instead of

$y = ax + b$  cannot represent the vertical line



$$\frac{(x, y) \cdot (\cos \theta, \sin \theta) = \rho}{x \cos \theta + y \sin \theta = \rho}$$

projection of  
ion

onto the direct  
(cos θ, sin θ)

Then,

$$r^2 = (x \cos \theta + y \sin \theta - \rho)^2$$

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n (x_{ij} \cos \theta + y_{ij} \sin \theta - \rho)^2 B[i, j]$$

Problem: Find  $\rho$  and  $\theta$  that minimizes  $\chi^2$ .

# Orientation (3)

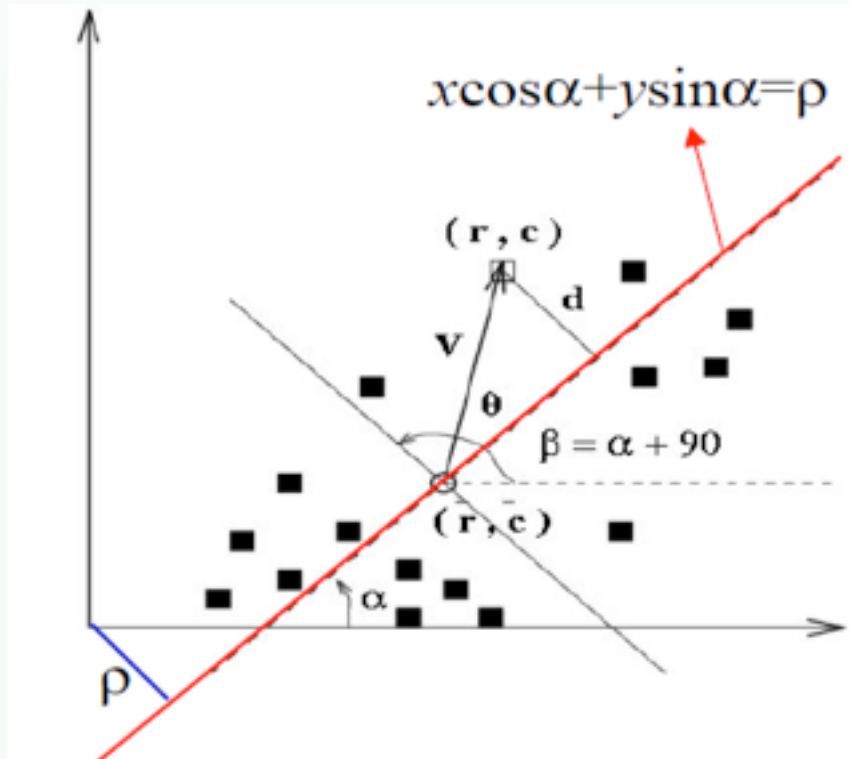


Solution:  $\frac{\partial \chi^2}{\partial \rho} = 0$  and  $\frac{\partial \chi^2}{\partial \theta} = 0$

•The elongation E of the object  $\equiv \frac{\chi_{\max}}{\chi_{\min}}$

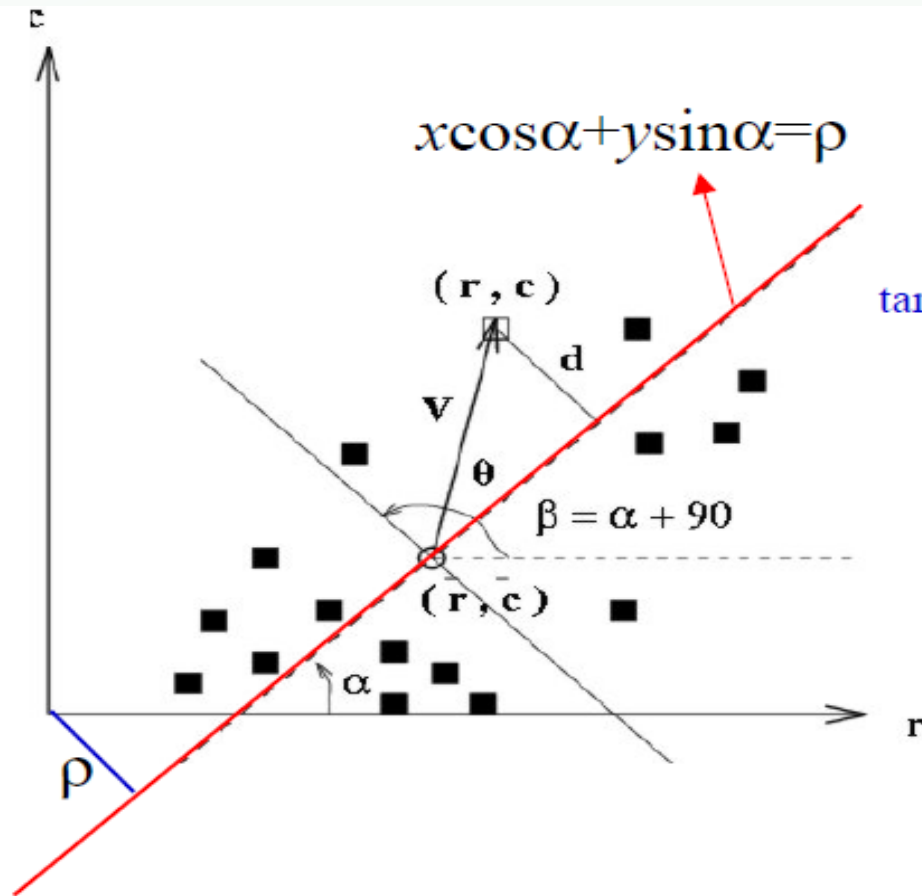
# Orientation (4)

## : Axis with Least Second Moment



# Orientation (4)

## : Axis with Least Second Moment



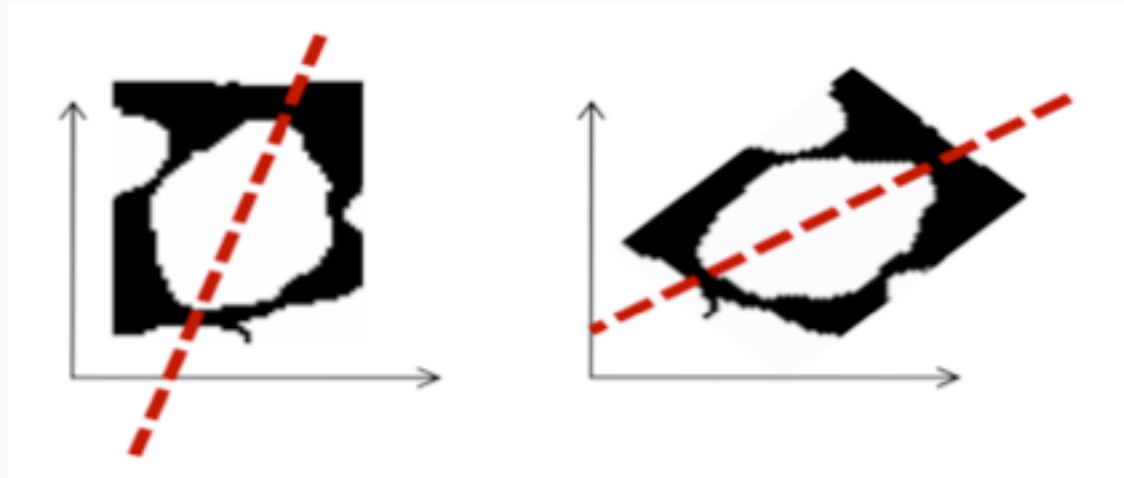
$$\begin{aligned}\tan 2\alpha &= \frac{2\sum (r - \bar{r})(c - \bar{c})}{\sum (r - \bar{r})(r - \bar{r}) - \sum (c - \bar{c})(c - \bar{c})} \\ &= \frac{\frac{1}{A} 2\sum (r - \bar{r})(c - \bar{c})}{\frac{1}{A} \sum (r - \bar{r})(r - \bar{r}) - \frac{1}{A} \sum (c - \bar{c})(c - \bar{c})} \\ &= \frac{2\mu_{rc}}{\mu_{rr} - \mu_{cc}}\end{aligned}$$

# Orientation (5)

## : Axis with Least Second Moment

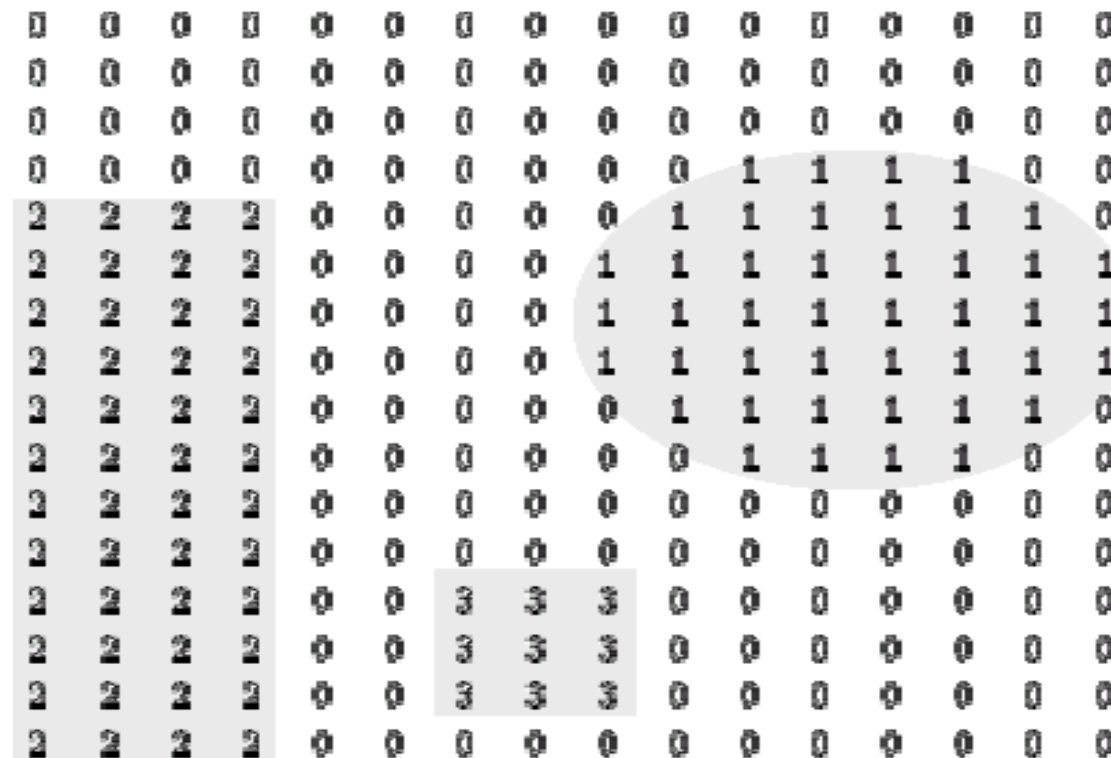


- Invariance to orientation?  
: Need a common alignment



Axis for which the squared distance to 2d object points is minimized

# Basic Properties of a Region



region num.	region area	row of center	col of center	perim. length	circu-larity <sub>1</sub>	circu-larity <sub>2</sub>	radius mean	radius var.
1	44	6	11.5	21.2	10.2	15.4	3.33	.05
2	48	9	1.5	28	16.3	2.5	3.80	2.28
3	9	13	7	8	7.1	5.8	1.2	0.04

# Topological Region Descriptors

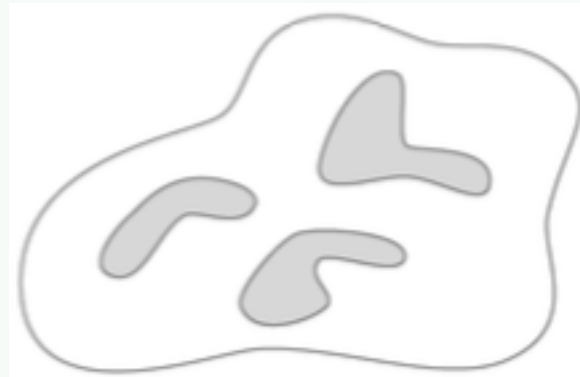


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- Topological properties: properties of image preserved **under rubber-sheet distortions**
  - # holes in the image
  - # connected components



$H=2, C=1$



$H=0, C=3$



$H=1, C=1$

$H=2, C=1$



# Topological Region Descriptors : Hole Counting



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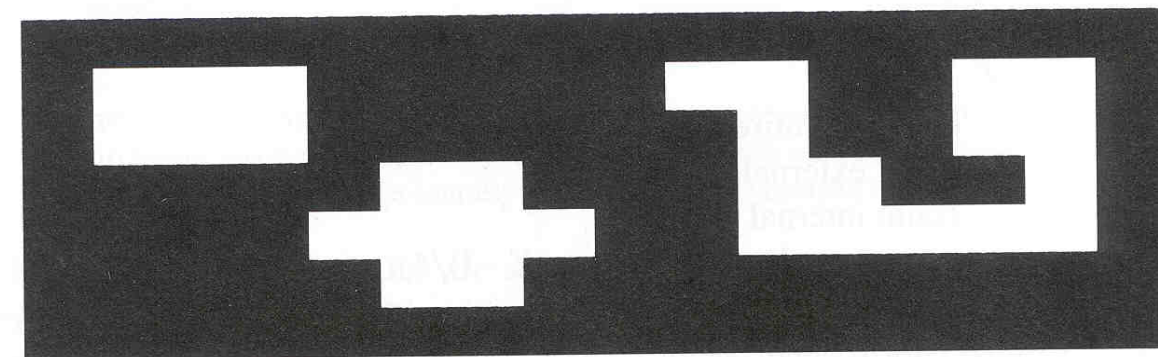
- “external corner” has 3(1)s and 1(0)
- “internal corner” has 3(0)s and 1(1)
- Holes computed from only these patterns!

1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1
1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1

(a)  $2 \times 2$  external corner patterns

0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0

(b)  $2 \times 2$  internal corner patterns



(c) Three bright holes in dark background

# Topological Region Descriptors : Hole Counting Algorithm



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**Input a binary image and output the number of holes it contains.**

**M** is a binary image of **R** rows of **C** columns.

1 represents material through which light has not passed;

0 represents absence of material indicated by light passing.

Each region of 0s must be 4-connected and all image border pixels must be 1s.

**E** is the count of *external corners* (3 ones and 1 zero)

**I** is the count of *internal corners* (3 zeros and 1 one)

```
integer procedure Count_Holes(M)
{
    examine entire image, 2 rows at a time;
    count external corners E;
    count internal corners I;
    return(number_of_holes = (E - I)/4);
}
```

# Topological Region Descriptors : Hole Counting Example



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$(E-I)/4$

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

(d) Binary input image 7 rows high and 16 columns wide

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

(e) External corners marked with e; internal corners marked i

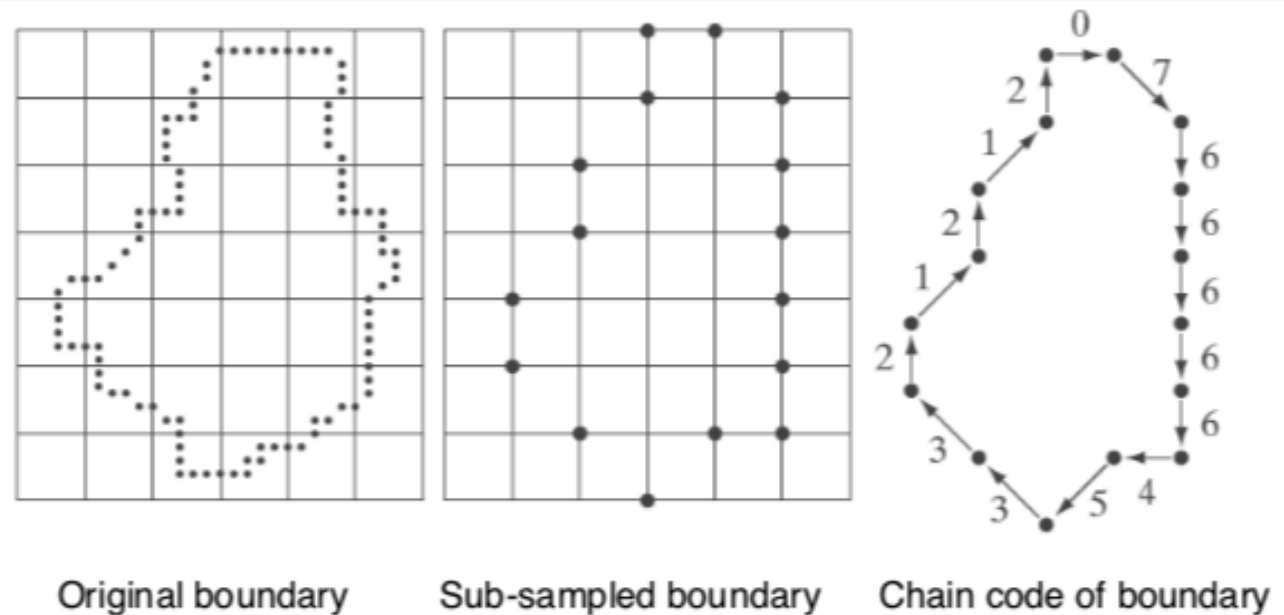


# Boundary based Shape Descriptors

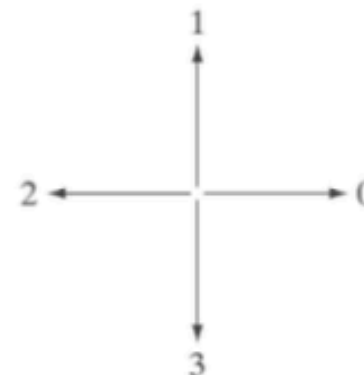
# Boundary Representation



- (Freeman) Chain Code
- Boundary representation  
= 0766666453321212

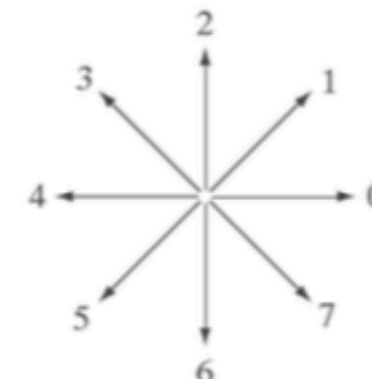


Chain code for  
4-neighborhood



4/15/2008

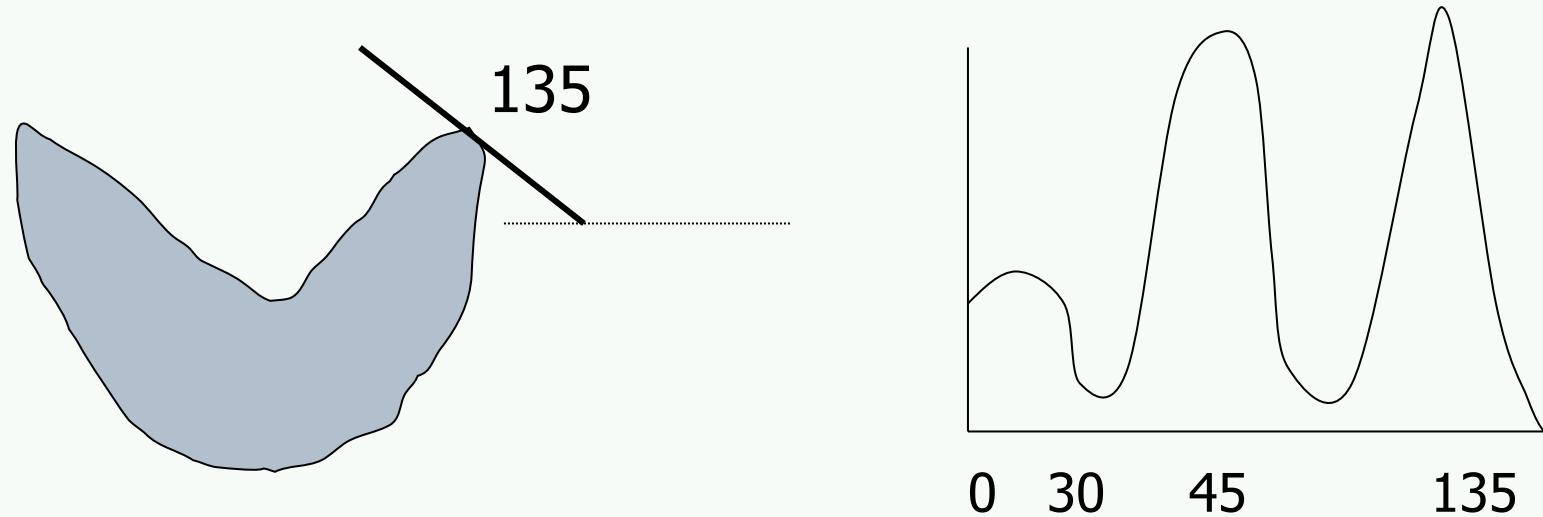
Chain code for  
8-neighborhood



# Boundary Representation



- Tangent-Angle histograms



Is this feature invariant to starting point?  
Is it invariant to size, translation, rotation?



# Interest Operator + Descriptor

- Harris operator
- Multi-scaled operator
- SIFT (scale invariant feature transform)
- HOG (histogram of oriented gradient)



# Introduction to Interest Operators



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- Find “interesting” pieces of the image
  - E.g. corners, salient regions
  - Focus attention of algorithms
  - Speed up computation
- Many possible uses in matching/recognition
  - Search
  - Object recognition
  - Image alignment & stitching
  - Stereo
  - Tracking
  - ...

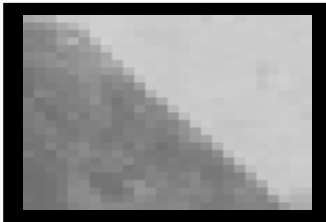


# Interest points



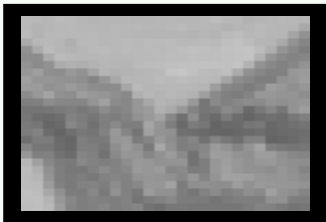
**0D structure:** **single points**

➡ not useful for matching



**1D structure:** **lines**

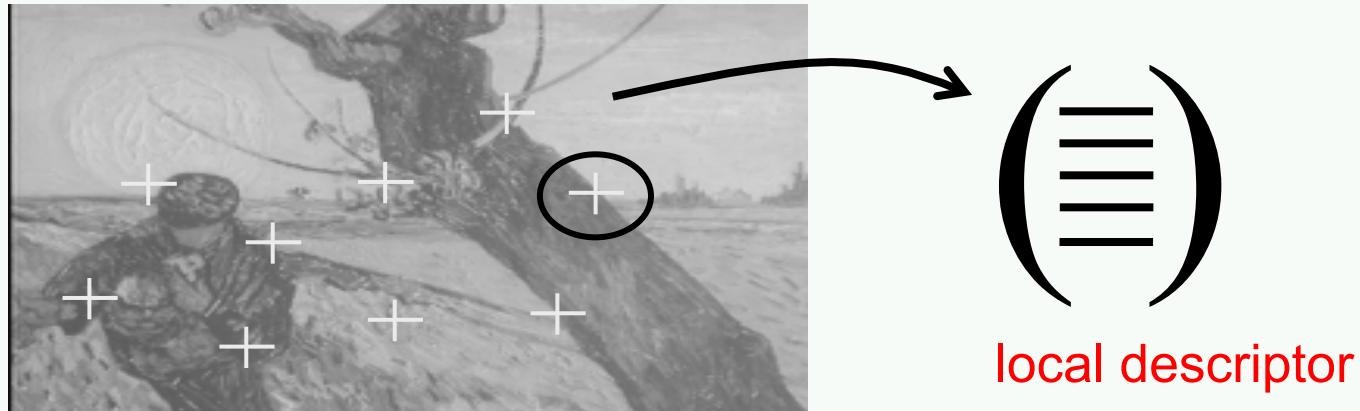
➡ edge, can be localised in 1D, subject to the aperture problem



**2D structure:** **corners**

➡ corner, or **interest point**, can be localised in 2D, good for matching

**Interest Points** have **2D** structure.



- *Local* : robust to occlusion/clutter + no segmentation
- *Photometric* : (use pixel values) distinctive descriptions
- *Invariant* : to image transformations + illumination changes



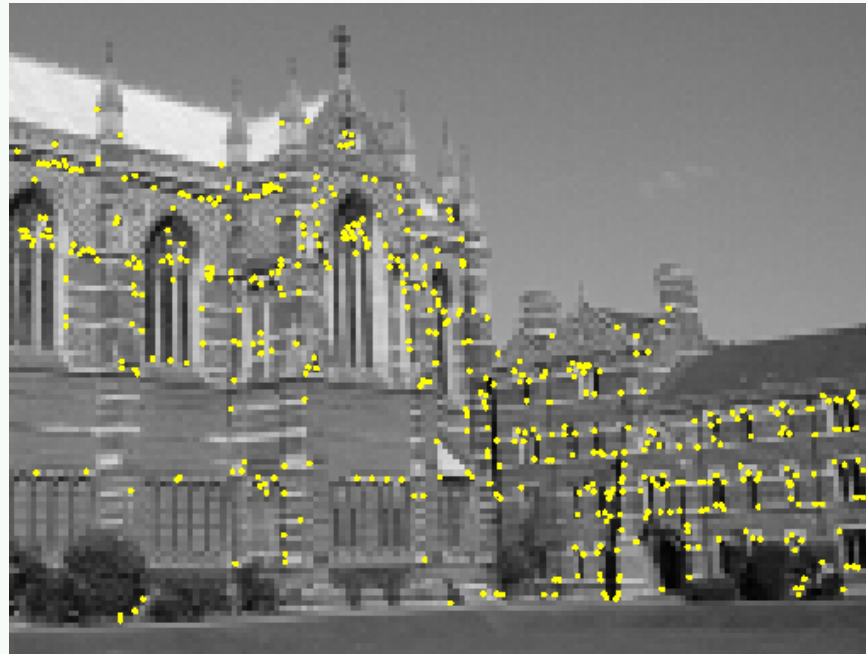
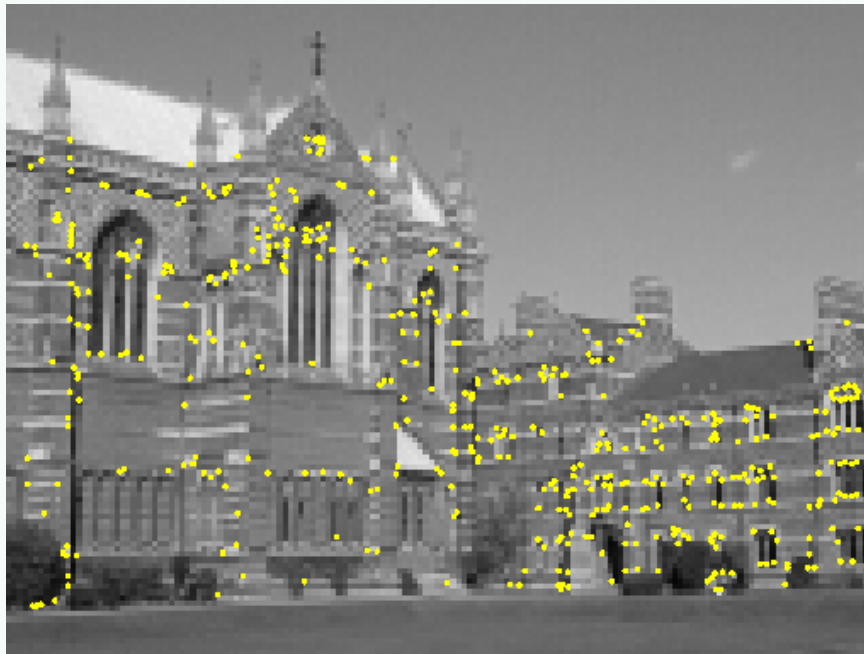
- Extraction of interest points with the Harris detector
- Comparison of points with cross-correlation
- Verification with the fundamental matrix

The fundamental matrix maps points from the first image to corresponding points in the second matrix using a homography, that is determined through the solution of a set of equations that usually minimizes a least square error.

# Preview: Harris detector



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Interest points extracted with Harris ( $\sim 500$  points)

# Cross-correlation matching



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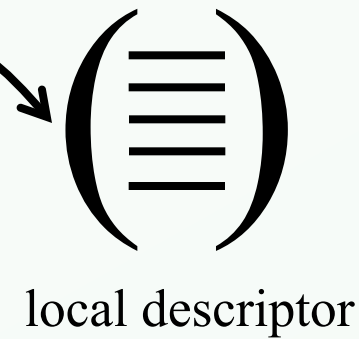
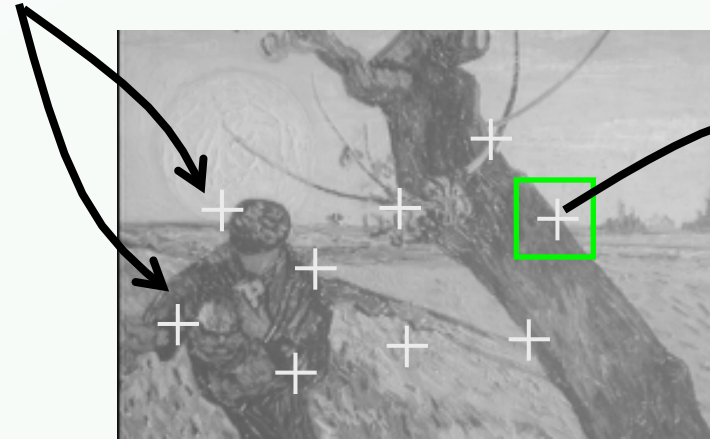
Initial matches – motion vectors (188 pairs)

# General Interest Detector/Descriptor Approach



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interest points



local descriptor

- 1) Extraction of **interest points**
- 2) Computation of **local descriptors**
- 3) Determining **correspondences**
- 4) Selection of **similar images**

# 1. Harris detector



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Based on the idea of auto-correlation



Important difference in all directions => interest point

# Background : Moravec Corner Detector



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- take a window  $w$  in the image
- shift it in four directions  
 $(1,0)$ ,  $(0,1)$ ,  $(1,1)$ ,  $(-1,1)$
- compute a difference for each
- compute the min difference at each pixel
- local maxima in the min image are the corners

$$E(x,y) = \sum_{u,v \text{ in } w} w(u,v) |I(x+u,y+v) - I(u,v)|^2$$



# Shortcomings of Moravec Operator



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- Only tries 4 shifts. We'd like to consider “all” shifts.
- Uses a discrete rectangular window. We'd like to use a smooth circular (or later elliptical) window.
- Uses a simple min function. We'd like to characterize variation with respect to direction.

Result: Harris Operator



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

$$f(x, y) = \sum_{(x_k, y_k) \in W} (I(x_k, y_k) - I(x_k + \Delta x, y_k + \Delta y))^2$$

SSD means summed square difference

Discrete shifts can be avoided with the auto-correlation matrix

with 
$$I(x_k + \Delta x, y_k + \Delta y) = \overbrace{I(x_k, y_k) + (I_x(x_k, y_k) \quad I_y(x_k, y_k))}^{\text{what is this?}} \begin{pmatrix} \Delta x \\ \Delta y \end{pmatrix}$$

$$f(x, y) = \sum_{(x_k, y_k) \in W} \left( \begin{pmatrix} I_x(x_k, y_k) & I_y(x_k, y_k) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Delta x \\ \Delta y \end{pmatrix} \right)^2$$

# Harris detector



Rewrite as inner (dot) product

$$\begin{aligned} f(x, y) &= \sum_{(x_k, y_k) \in W} \left( \begin{bmatrix} I_x(x_k, y_k) & I_y(x_k, y_k) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta x \\ \Delta y \end{bmatrix} \right)^2 \\ &= \sum_{(x_k, y_k) \in W} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta x & \Delta y \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_x(x_k, y_k) \\ I_y(x_k, y_k) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_x(x_k, y_k) & I_y(x_k, y_k) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta x \\ \Delta y \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

The center portion is a 2x2 matrix

Have we seen  
this matrix before?

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sum_W \begin{bmatrix} \Delta x & \Delta y \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_x^2 & I_x I_y \\ I_x I_y & I_y^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta x \\ \Delta y \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \Delta x & \Delta y \end{bmatrix} \sum_W \begin{bmatrix} I_x^2 & I_x I_y \\ I_x I_y & I_y^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta x \\ \Delta y \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

# Harris detector



$$= \begin{pmatrix} \Delta x & \Delta y \end{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{(x_k, y_k) \in W} (I_x(x_k, y_k))^2 & \sum_{(x_k, y_k) \in W} I_x(x_k, y_k) I_y(x_k, y_k) \\ \sum_{(x_k, y_k) \in W} I_x(x_k, y_k) I_y(x_k, y_k) & \sum_{(x_k, y_k) \in W} (I_y(x_k, y_k))^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Delta x \\ \Delta y \end{pmatrix}$$

Auto-correlation matrix M

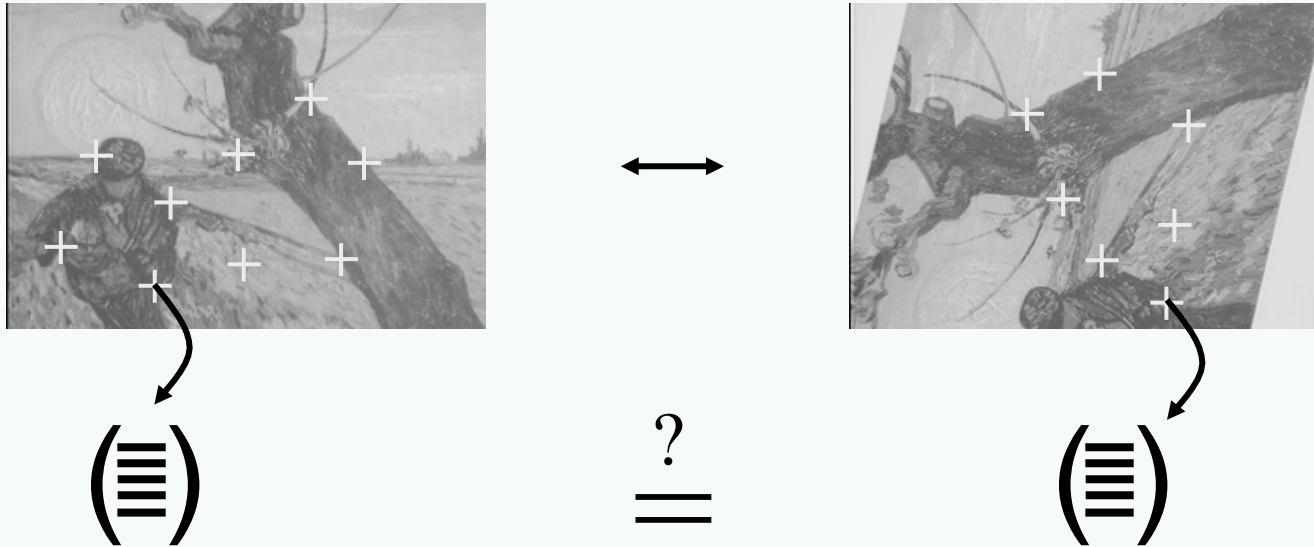


- Auto-correlation matrix
  - captures the structure of the local neighborhood
  - measure based on **eigenvalues** of  $M$ 
    - 2 strong eigenvalues  $\Rightarrow$  interest point
    - 1 strong eigenvalue  $\Rightarrow$  contour
    - 0 eigenvalue  $\Rightarrow$  uniform region
- Interest point detection
  - threshold on the eigenvalues
  - local maximum for localization

# Determining correspondences



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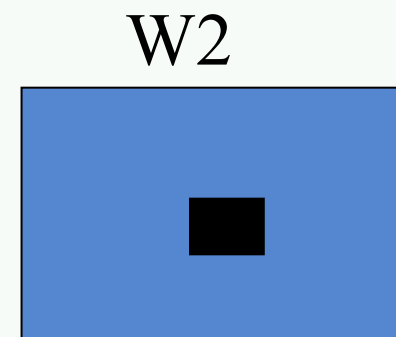
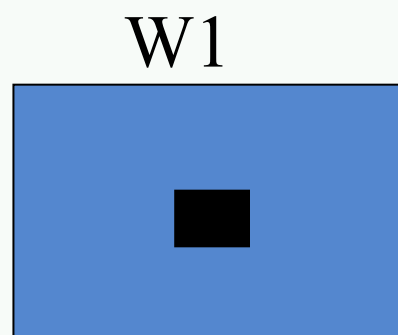


Vector comparison using a distance measure

What are some suitable distance measures?



- We can use the sum-square difference of the values of the pixels in a square neighborhood about the points being compared. **This is the simplest measure.**



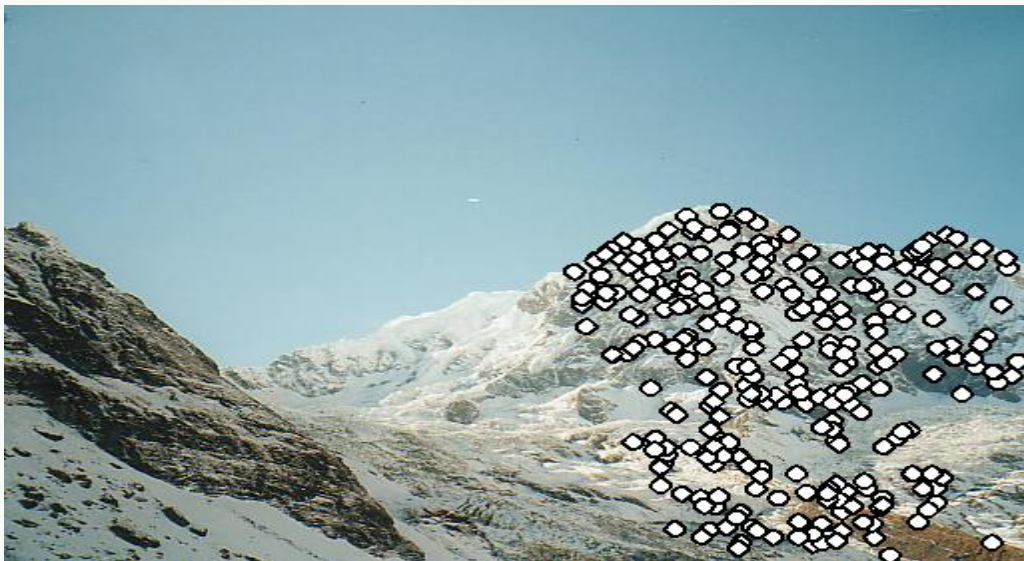
$$SSD = \sum \sum (W1_{i,j} - W2_{i,j})^2$$



# Some Matching Results from Matt Brown



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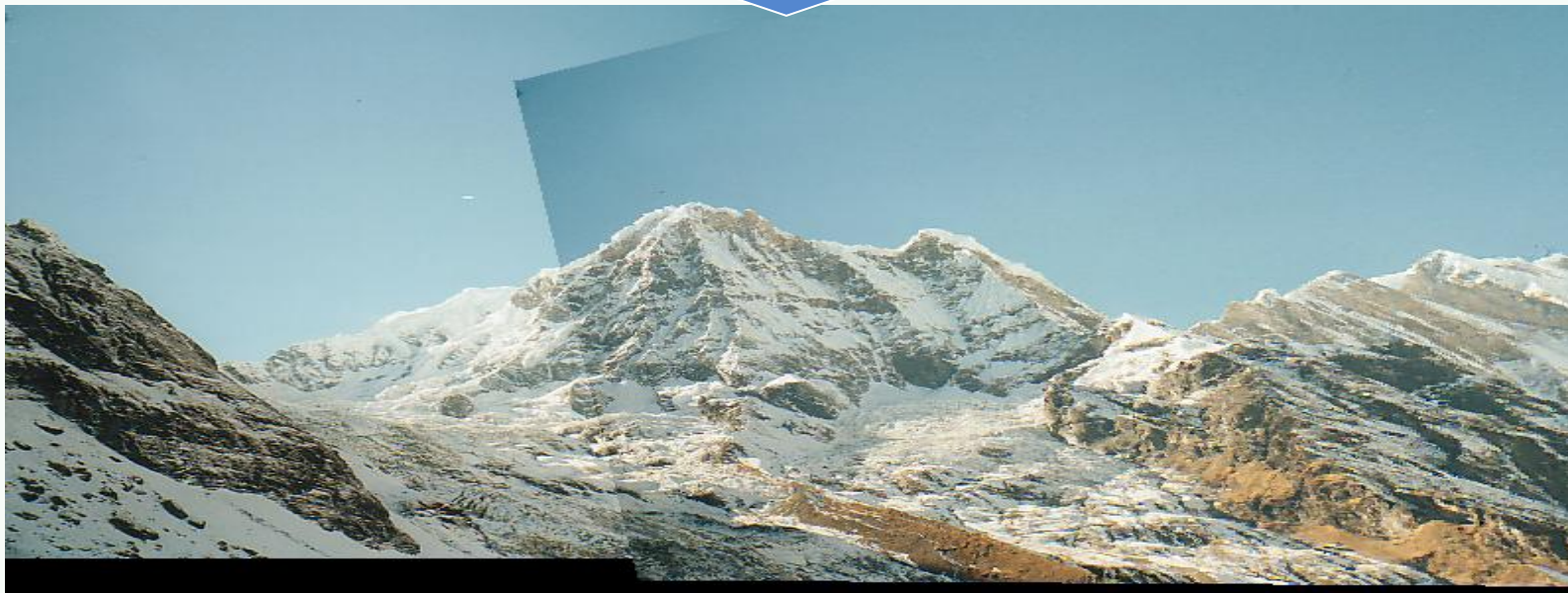




# Some Matching Results



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- Basic feature matching = **Harris Corners & Correlation**
- Very good results in the presence of occlusion and clutter
  - local information
  - discriminant greyvalue information
  - invariance to image rotation and illumination
- Not invariance to scale and affine changes
- Solution for more general view point changes
  - local invariant descriptors to scale and rotation
  - extraction of invariant points and regions

# Rotation/Scale Invariance



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original

translated

rotated

scaled

	Translation	Rotation	Scale
<b>Is Harris invariant?</b>	?	?	?
Is correlation invariant?	?	?	?



# Rotation/Scale Invariance



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original

translated

rotated

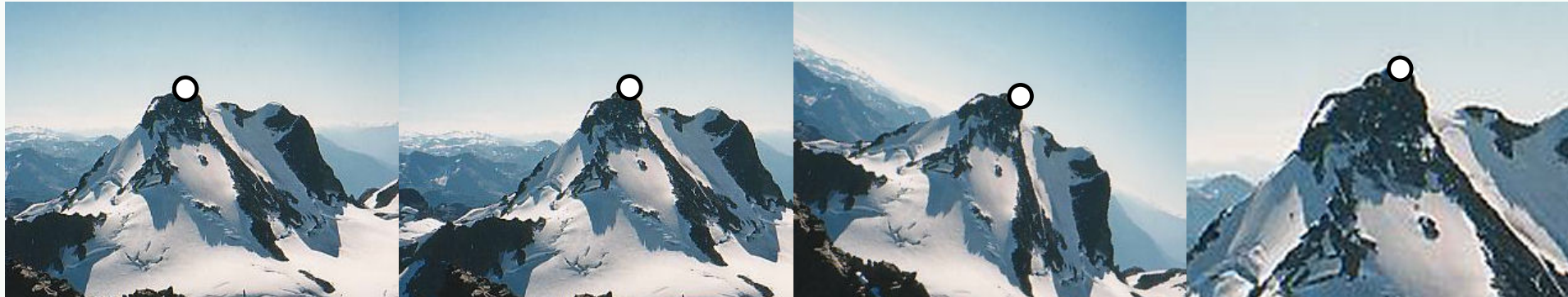
scaled

	Translation	Rotation	Scale
<b>Is Harris invariant?</b>	?	?	?
Is correlation invariant?	?	?	?

# Rotation/Scale Invariance



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Laboratory



original

translated

rotated

scaled

	Translation	Rotation	Scale
<b>Is Harris invariant?</b>	YES	?	?
Is correlation invariant?	?	?	?

# Rotation/Scale Invariance



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original

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	Translation	Rotation	Scale
<b>Is Harris invariant?</b>	YES	YES	?
Is correlation invariant?	?	?	?

# Rotation/Scale Invariance



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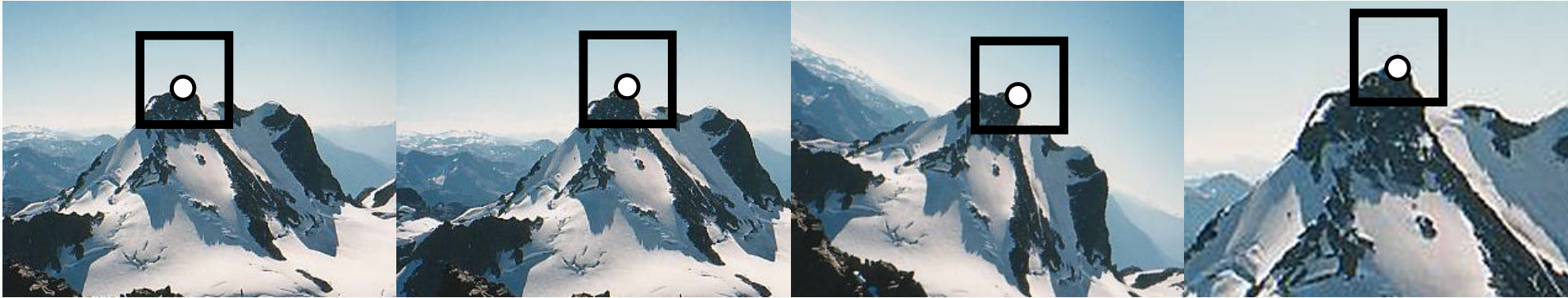
	Translation	Rotation	Scale
<b>Is Harris invariant?</b>	YES	YES	NO
Is correlation invariant?	?	?	?



# Rotation/Scale Invariance



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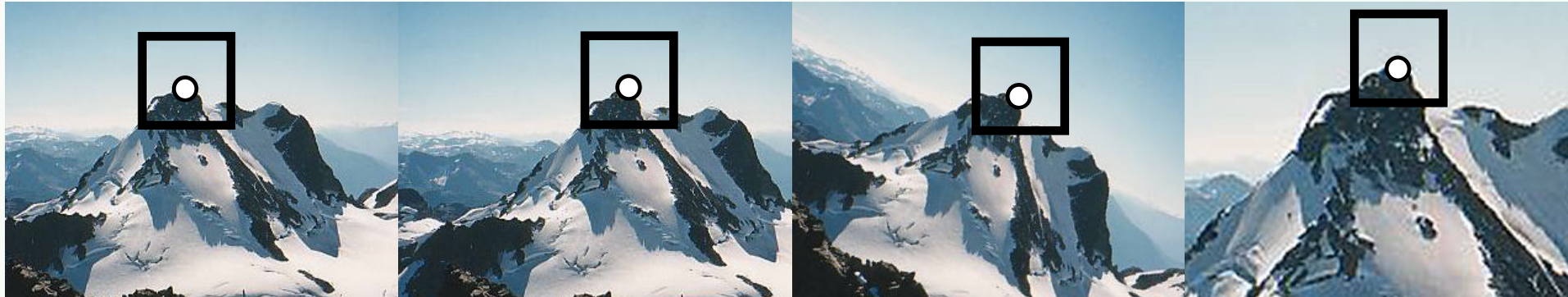
	Translation	Rotation	Scale
<b>Is Harris invariant?</b>	YES	YES	NO
Is correlation invariant?	?	?	?



# Rotation/Scale Invariance



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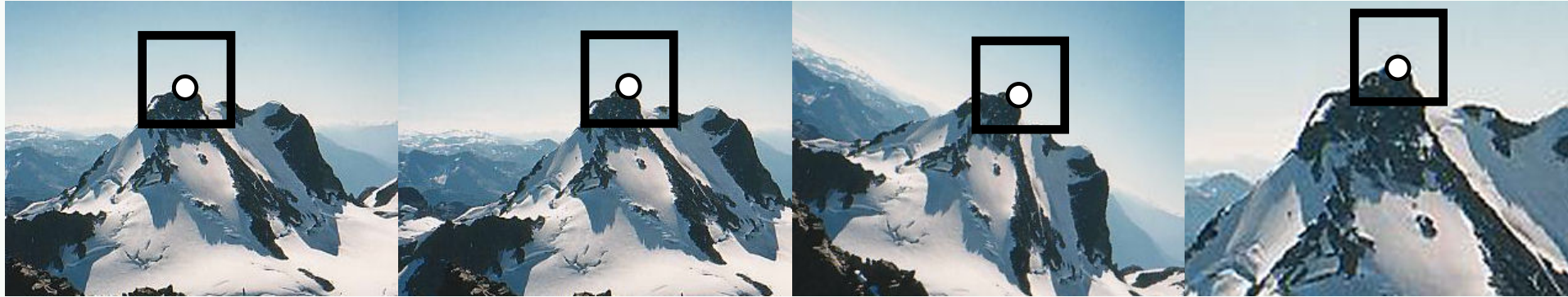
scaled

	Translation	Rotation	Scale
<b>Is Harris invariant?</b>	YES	YES	NO
Is correlation invariant?	YES	?	?

# Rotation/Scale Invariance



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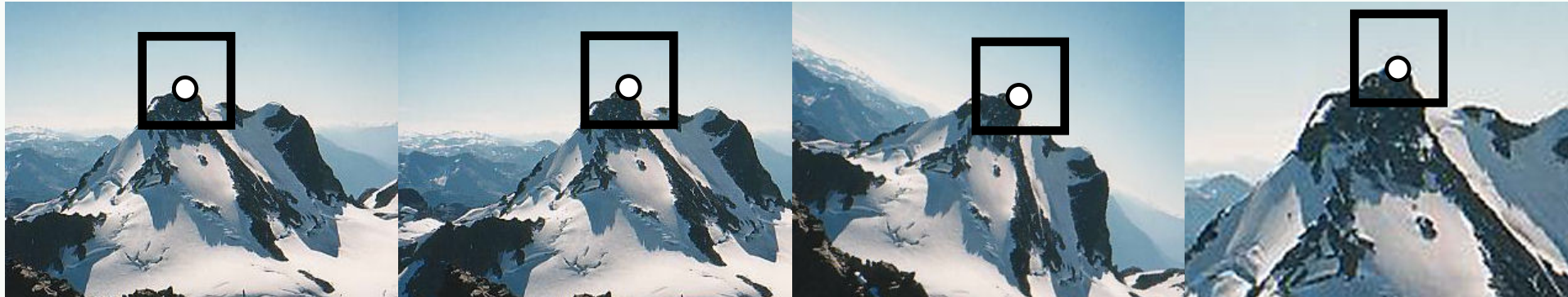
scaled

	Translation	Rotation	Scale
<b>Is Harris invariant?</b>	YES	YES	NO
Is correlation invariant?	YES	NO	?

# Rotation/Scale Invariance



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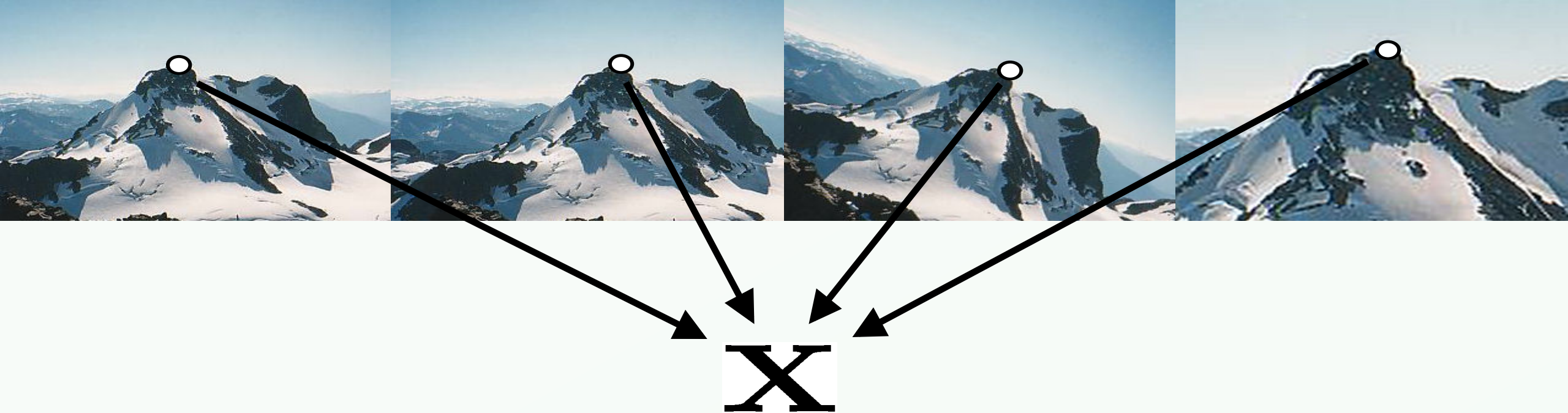
	Translation	Rotation	Scale
<b>Is Harris invariant?</b>	YES	YES	NO
Is correlation invariant?	YES	NO	NO



# Matt Brown's Invariant Features



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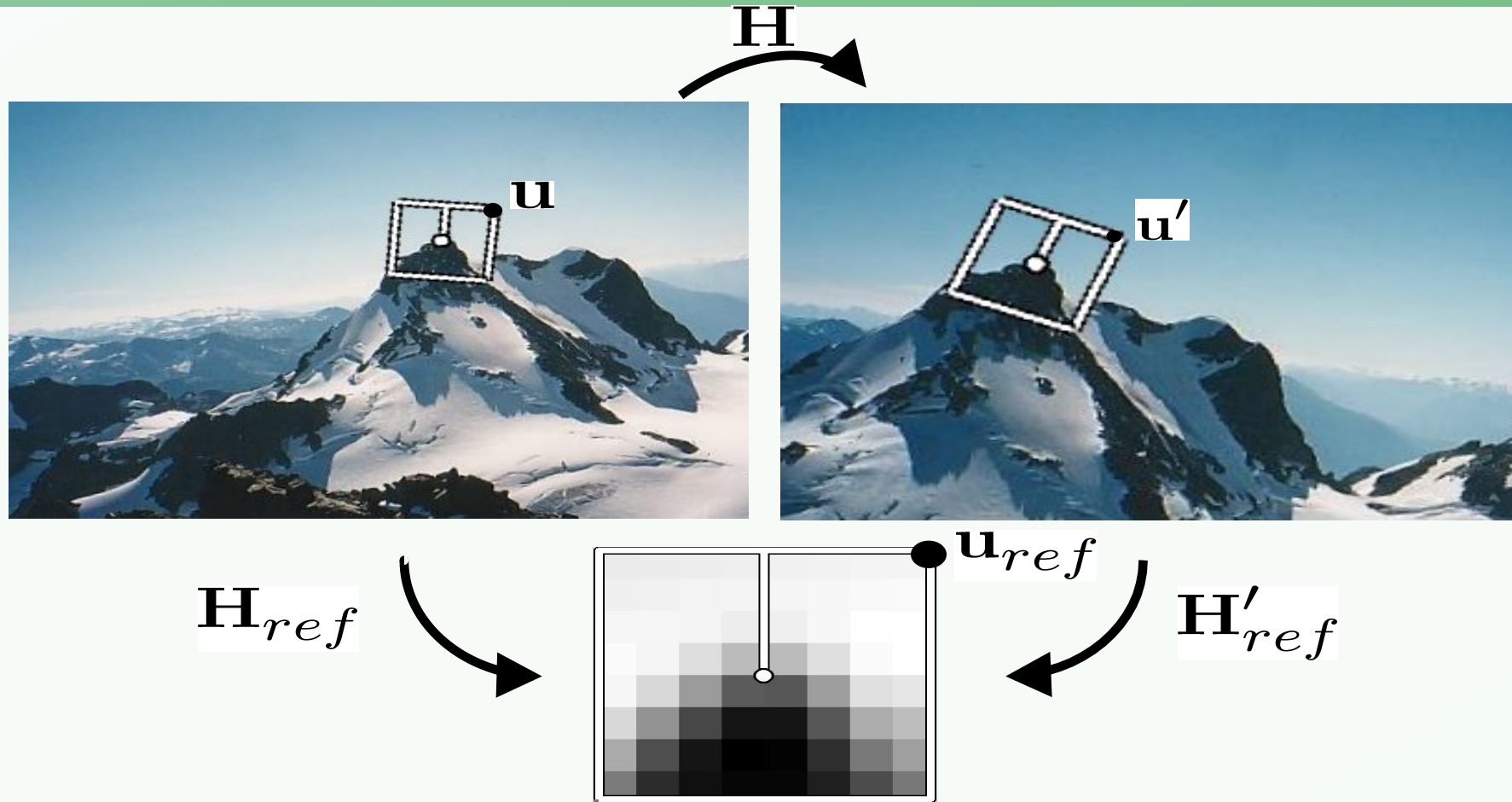


- Local image descriptors that are *invariant* (unchanged) under image transformations

# Canonical Frames



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Rotation-invariant descriptor.

# Multi-Scale Oriented Patches



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- Sample scaled, oriented patch



# Multi-Scale Oriented Patches



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- Sample scaled, oriented patch
  - 8x8 patch, sampled at 5 x scale



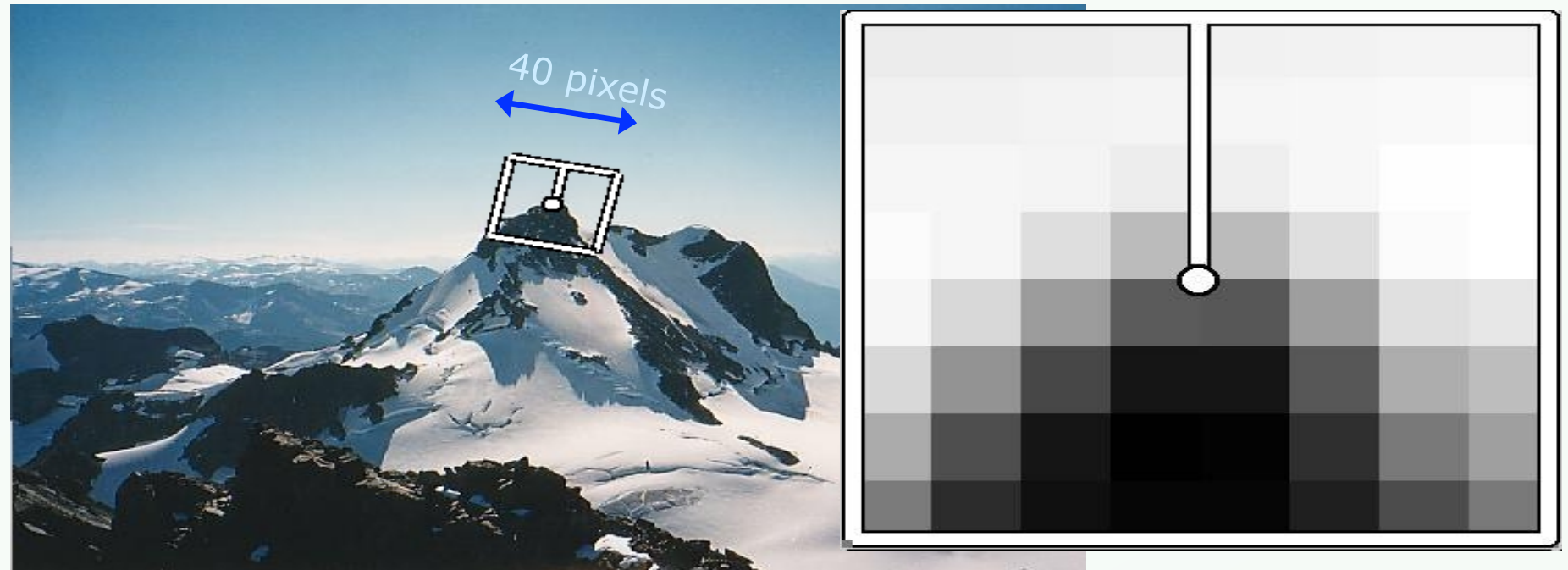


# Multi-Scale Oriented Patches



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- **Sample scaled, oriented patch**
  - 8x8 patch, sampled at 5 x scale

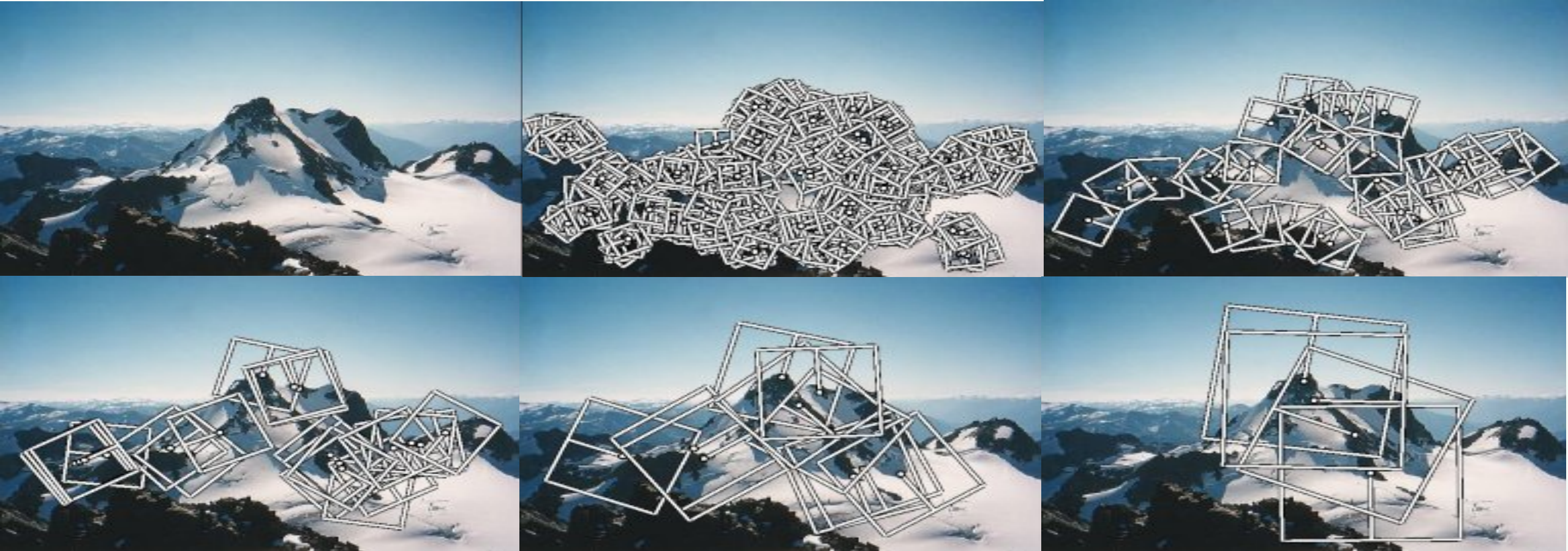




# Multi-Scale Oriented Patches



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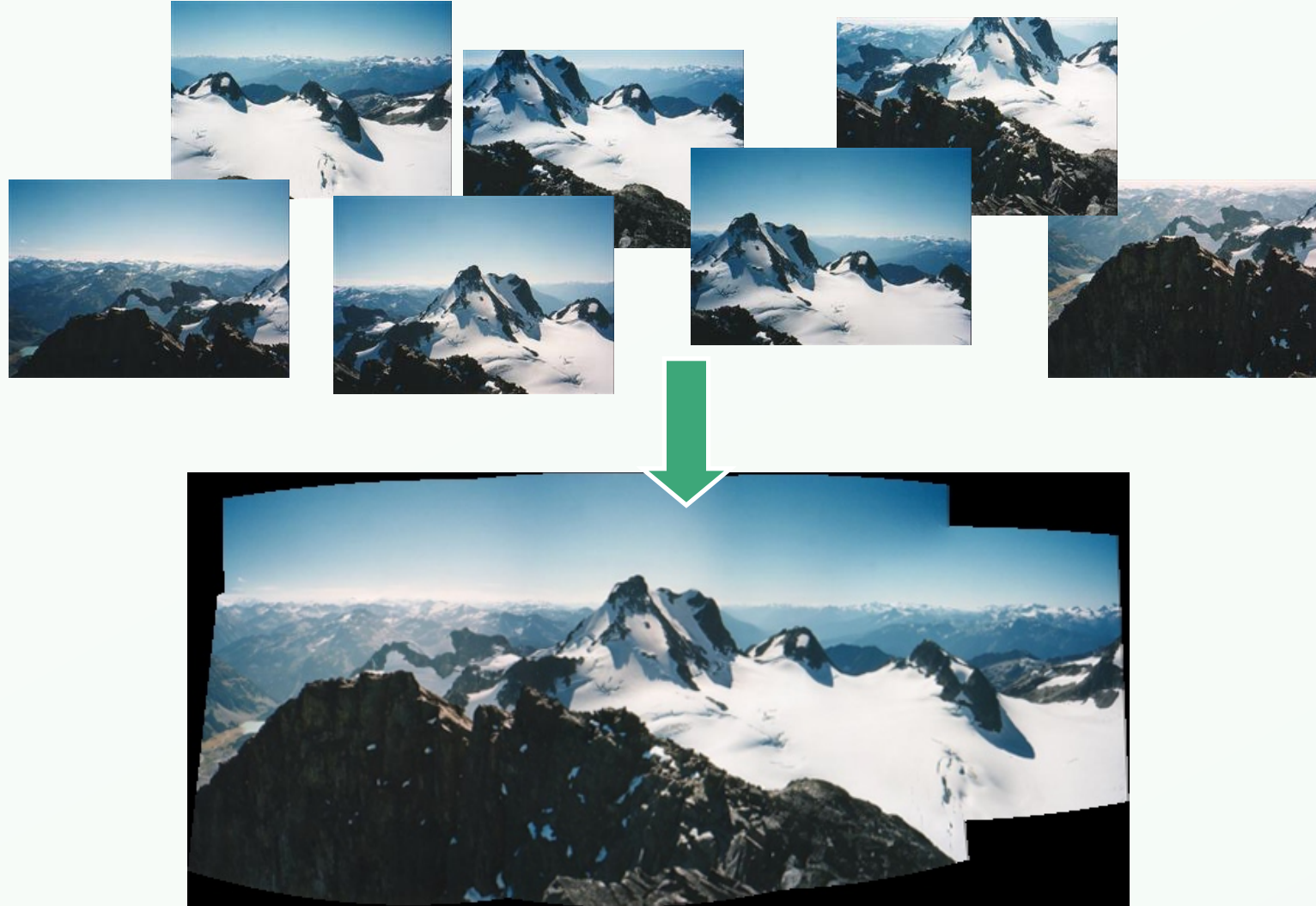


- Extract oriented patches at **multiple scales** using dominant orientation

# Application: Image Stitching



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[ Microsoft Digital Image Pro version 10 ]

# Matching Interest Points: Summary



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- Harris corners / correlation
  - Extract and match repeatable image features
  - Robust to clutter and occlusion
  - BUT **not invariant to scale and rotation**
- Multi-Scale Oriented Patches
  - Corners detected at multiple scales
  - Descriptors oriented using local gradient
    - Also, sample a blurred image patch
  - **Invariant to scale and rotation**

Leads to: **SIFT** – state of the art image features