



Saliency  
Detection

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Aggregation

# Saliency Detection

## 显著性检测

Zhu Yafei

CVBIOUC

<http://vision.ouc.edu.cn/~zhenghaiyong>

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# What?

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# Saliency(显著)

■ 明显、引入注目



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Saliency(显著)  $\iff$   
■ 明显、引入注目



# What?

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Saliency(显著)       $\Leftarrow$       Visual  
■ 明显、引入注目      Attention



# What?

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A rich stream of visual data enters our eyes every second<sup>1</sup>.

---

<sup>1</sup>K. Koch *et al.*, “How much the eye tells the brain”, Current Biology, 2006.



# What?

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A rich stream of visual data enters our eyes every second<sup>1</sup>.

$$10^8 \sim 10^9 \text{ bits}$$

---

<sup>1</sup>K. Koch *et al.*, “How much the eye tells the brain”, Current Biology, 2006.



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分辨率:  
500\*375



# What?

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分辨率:  
 500\*375

$$500 \times 375 \times 3 \times 8 = 4500000 \text{ bits}$$



# What?

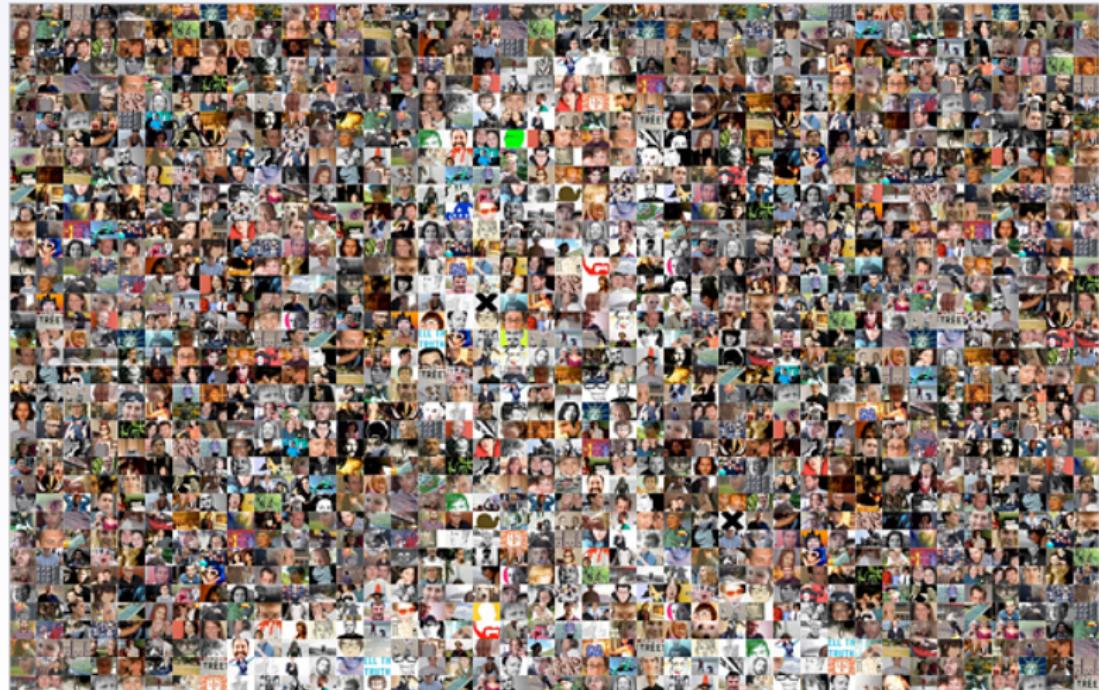
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# Vision as data reduction

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- Raw feed from camera/eyes:
  - $10^{7-9}$  Bytes/s
- Extraction of edges and salient features
  - $10^{3-4}$  Bytes/s
- High-level interpretation of scene
  - $10^{1-2}$  Bytes/s





# Visual Attention

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# Visual Attention

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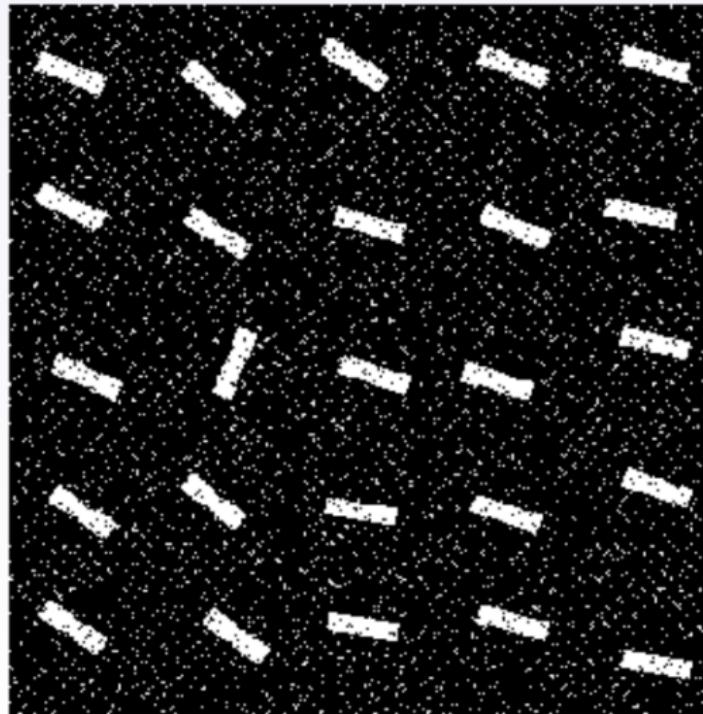
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# Visual Attention

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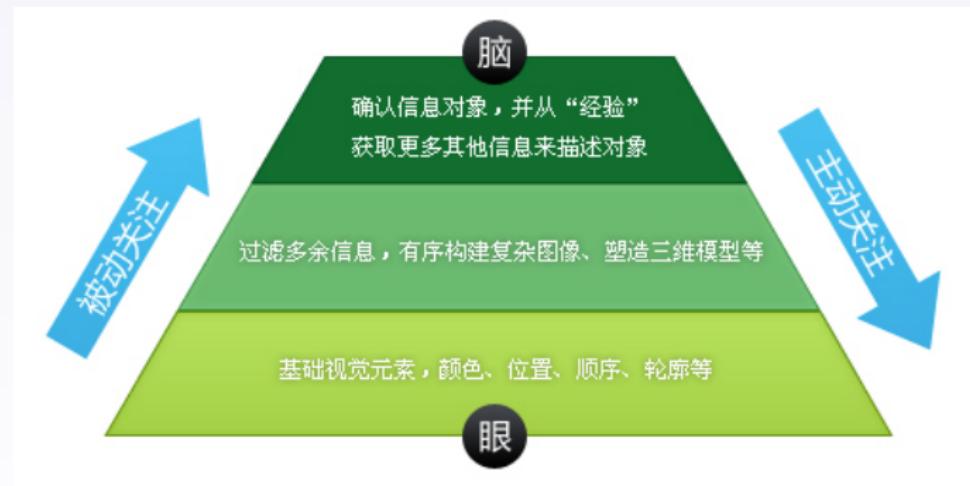




# Bottom-up vs Top-down

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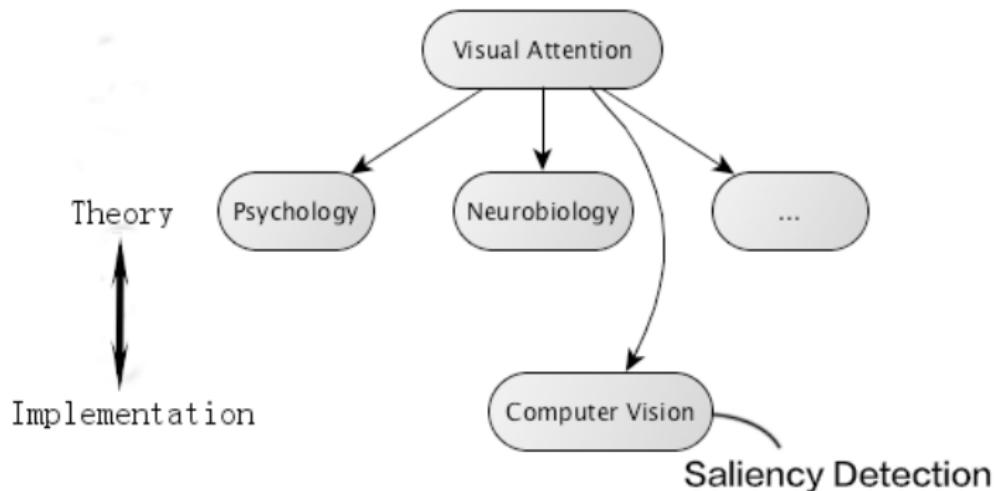




# Visual Attention

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# Theory

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- “*Feature Integration Theory*”, Treisman & Gelade, 1980.
- “*Guided Search Theory*”, Wolfe & Cave, 1989.
- “*Integrated Competition Theory*”, Desimone & Duncan, 1995.



# Framework

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- Koch and Ullman<sup>2</sup> proposed a feed-forward model to combine features and introduced the concept of a *saliency map* which is a topographic map that represents conspicuousness of scene locations.
- Zoom Lens Model<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>C. Koch and S. Ullman, “Shifts in selective visual attention: towards the underlying neural circuitry”, Human Neurobiology, 1985.

<sup>3</sup>Eriksen, C. W. and J. D. St. James, “Visual attention within and around the field of focal attention: a zoom lens model”, Perception and Psychophysics, 1986.

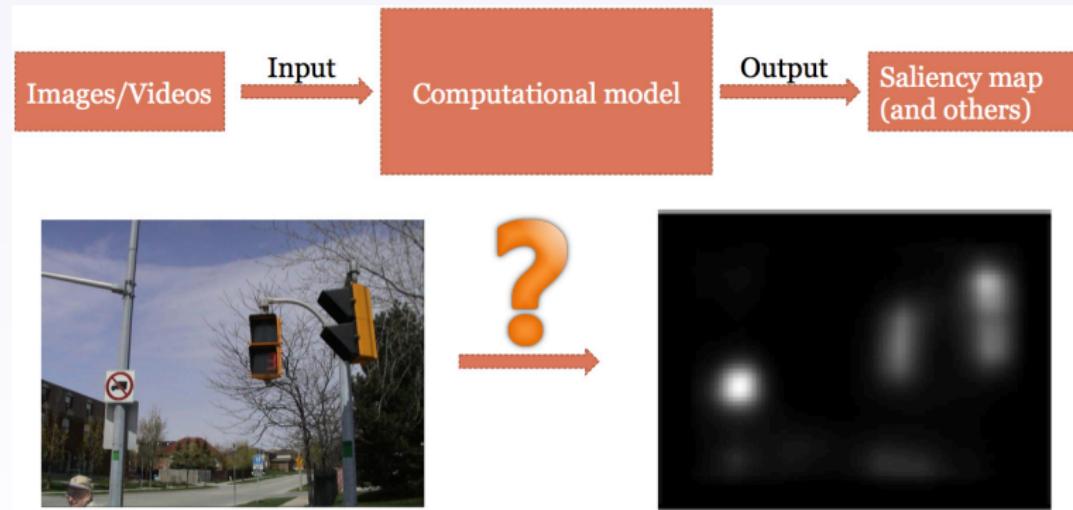


# Basic Structure of Computational Models

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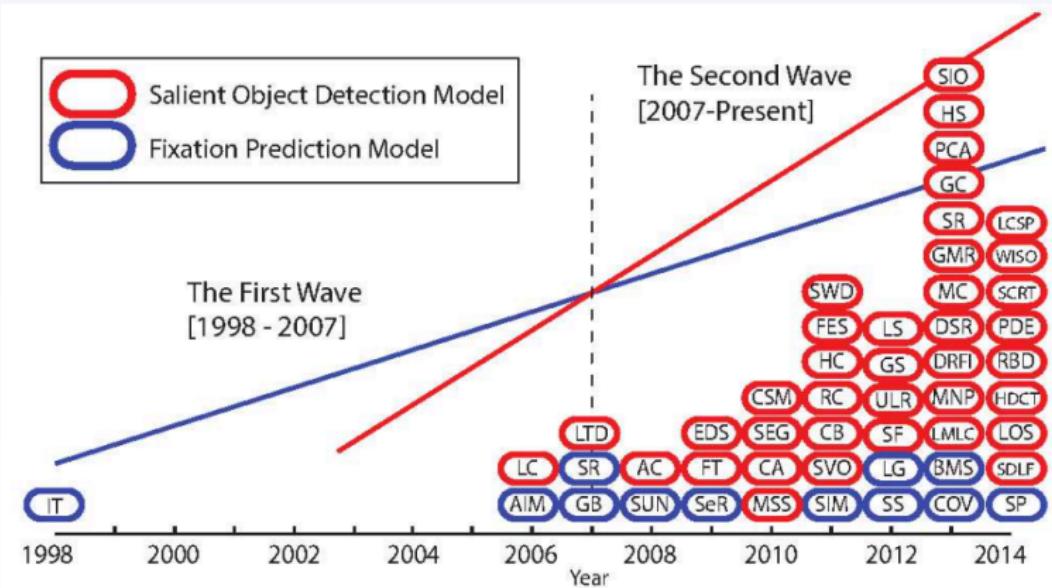




# Two Waves<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup>Ali Borji *et al.*, "Salient object detection: a survey", 2014.



# Fixation Prediction

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Fixation prediction models are constructed originally to understand human visual attention and eye movement prediction.





# Fixation Prediction: example

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# Fixation Prediction: example

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# Fixation Prediction: example

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# Fixation Prediction: example

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# Fixation Prediction: example

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# Representative Work

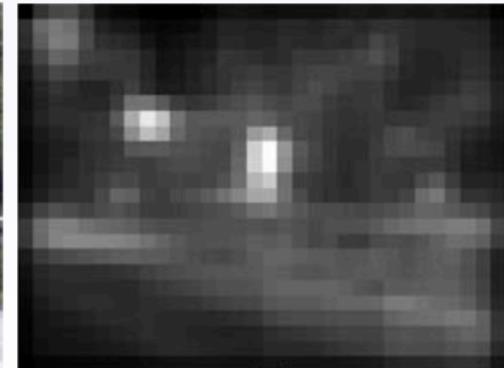
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- A model of saliency-based visual attention for rapid scene analysis. PAMI 1998, Itti *et al.*

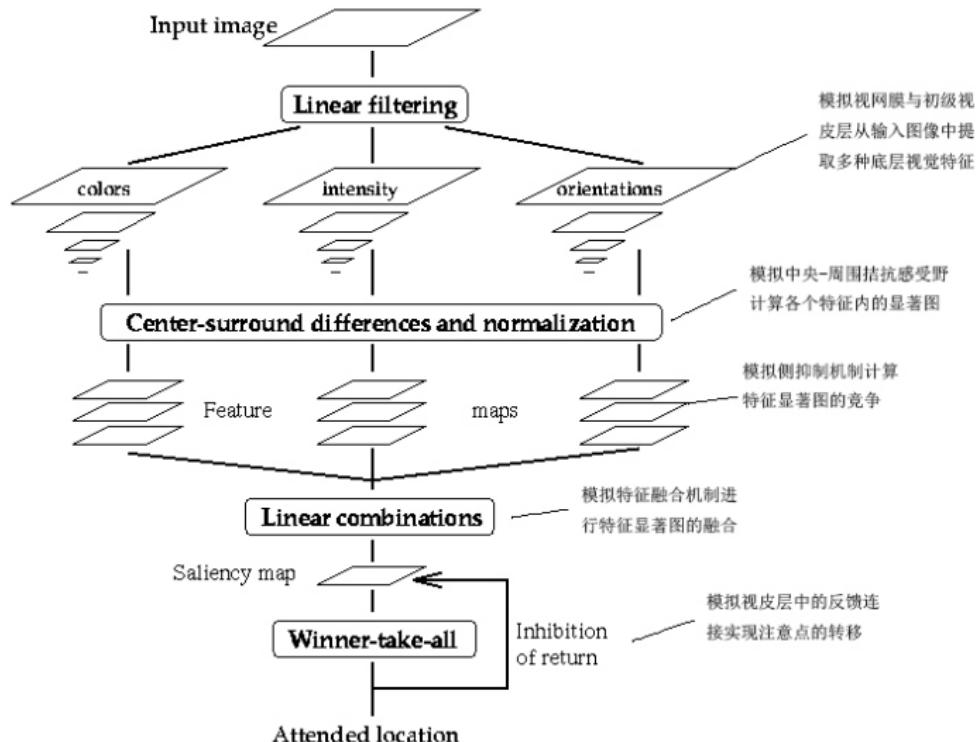




# Architecture

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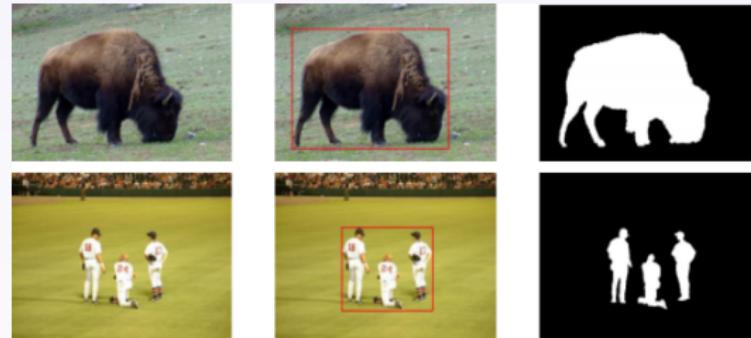




# Salient Object Detection

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- Learning to detect a salient object. CVPR 2007, Tie Liu *et al.*.
- Frequency-tuned salient region detection. CVPR 2009, Achanta *et al.*



# State-of-the-art

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From left to right: PBS<sup>5</sup>, DRFI<sup>6</sup>, RBD<sup>7</sup>, HDCT<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>5</sup>Chuan Yang *et al.*, “Graph-regularized saliency detection with convex-hull-based center prior”, Signal Processing Letters, 2013.

<sup>6</sup>Huaizu Jiang *et al.*, “Salient object detection: a discriminative regional feature integration approach”, in CVPR, 2013.

<sup>7</sup>Wangjiang Zhu *et al.*, “Saliency optimization from robust background detection”, in CVPR, 2014.

<sup>8</sup>Jiwhan Kim *et al.*, “Salient region detection via high-dimensional color transform”, in CVPR, 2014.



# Why?

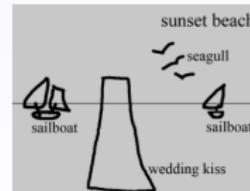
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The emergence of salient object detection models is driven by the requirement of saliency-based applications.



Content aware resizing



Object manipulation



Image montage

Image collage



# What can saliency not do?

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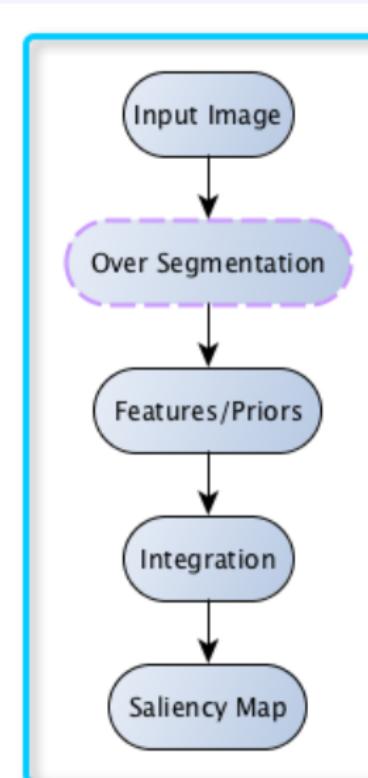




# General Procedure

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# Features

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Salient object detection: A discriminative regional feature integration approach, CVPR 2013

## ■ 26 维颜色纹理等对比度特征

Color and texture features		dim	Differences of features		Contrast	Backgroundness
	features		definition	dim		
$a_1$	the average RGB values	3	$d(a_1^R, a_1^S)$	3	$c_1 \sim c_3$	$b_1 \sim b_3$
$a_2$	the average L*a*b* values	3	$d(a_2^R, a_2^S)$	3	$c_4 \sim c_6$	$b_4 \sim b_6$
$r$	the absolute response of LM filters	15	$d(r^R, r^S)$	15	$c_7 \sim c_{21}$	$b_7 \sim b_{21}$
$r$	the max response among the LM filters	1	$d(r^R, r^S)$	1	$c_{22}$	$b_{22}$
$h_1$	the L*a*b* histogram	$8 \times 16 \times 16$	$\chi^2(h_1^R, h_1^S)$	1	$c_{23}$	$b_{23}$
$h_2$	the hue histogram	8	$\chi^2(h_2^R, h_2^S)$	1	$c_{24}$	$b_{24}$
$h_3$	the saturation histogram	8	$\chi^2(h_3^R, h_3^S)$	1	$c_{25}$	$b_{25}$
$h_4$	the texton histogram	65	$\chi^2(h_4^R, h_4^S)$	1	$c_{26}$	$b_{26}$

## ■ 34 维的区域特征

description		notation	dim	description		notation	dim
the average normalized x coordinates	$p_1$	1		the average normalized y coordinates	$p_2$	1	
the normalized perimeter	$p_7$	1		the 10th percentile of the normalized x coordinates	$p_3$	1	
the aspect ratio of the bounding box	$p_8$	1		the 10th percentile of the normalized y coordinates	$p_4$	1	
the variances of the RGB values	$p_9 \sim p_{11}$	3		the 90th percentile of the normalized x coordinates	$p_5$	1	
the variances of the L*a*b* values	$p_{12} \sim p_{14}$	3		the 90th percentile of the normalized y coordinates	$p_6$	1	
the variances of the HSV values	$p_{15} \sim p_{17}$	3		the variance of the response of the LM filters	$p_{18} \sim p_{32}$	15	
the normalized area	$p_{33}$	1		the normalized area of the neighbor regions	$p_{34}$	1	



# Features

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- Pixel-based
  - Contrast:  $U_p(x) = \sum_{x' \in I \setminus \{x\}} D(x', x)$
  - Property: Geometric features
- Patch/Region/Superpixel-based
  - Contrast:  $U_r(A_i) = \sum_{1 \leq k \leq N, k \neq i} |\Lambda| D(\Lambda_k, \Lambda_i)$
  - Property: Geometric features/Appearance features
- Multi-scale based



# ① Contrast

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- Color
- Texture



# Color

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- *Color* is the visual perceptual property corresponding in humans to the categories called red, blue, yellow and others.
- *Color Space* is defined to identify colors numerically by their coordinates.



# Three Elements of Color

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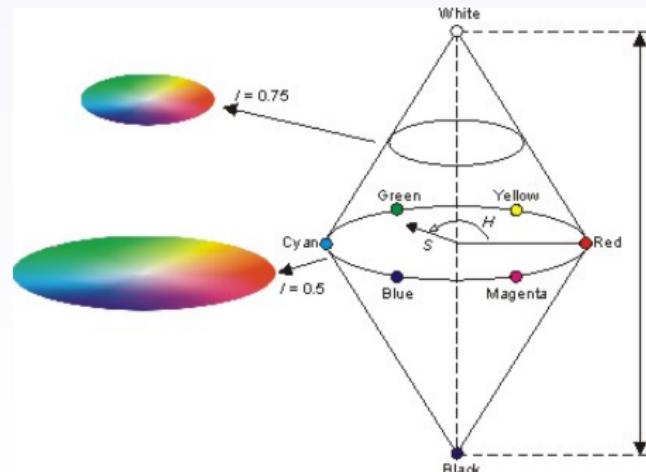
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- Hue: What we think as “color”—yellow, orange, cyan and magenta are examples of different hues
- Saturation: Saturation refers to the relative purity or the amount of white light mixed with a hue
- Intensity





# Coding methods for humans

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- **RGB** is an additive system (add colors to black) used for displays.
- **CMY** is a subtractive system for printing.
- **HSI** is a good perceptual space for art, psychology, and recognition.
- **YIQ** is used for TV and is good for compression.



# Color Space

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- RGB
- Lab
- HSV



# Color Histogram<sup>9</sup> (**Demo**)

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- Quantize each color channel to have 16 different values
- Compute matrix  $Q_{rgb}$
- Superpixel segmentation
- Compute color histogram of each superpixel
- Compute color histogram contrast feature of each superpixel

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<sup>9</sup>Huaizu Jiang *et al.*, “Salient object detection: a discriminative regional feature integration approach”, in CVPR, 2013.



# What is texture?

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*Texture* is actually a very nebulous concept, often attributed to human perception, as either the feel or the appearance of (woven) fabric<sup>10</sup>.



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<sup>10</sup>Mark S.Nixon and Alberto S.Aguado, “Feature Extraction & Image Processing for Computer Vision”, Publishing House of Electronics Industry, 2013.



# LBP (Local Binary Pattern)

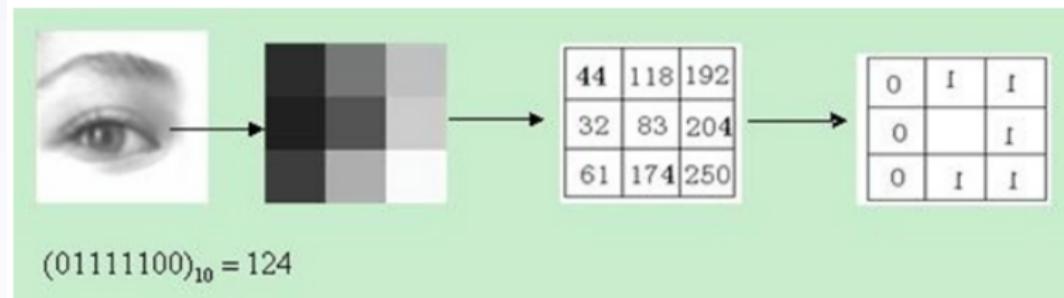
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# LBP

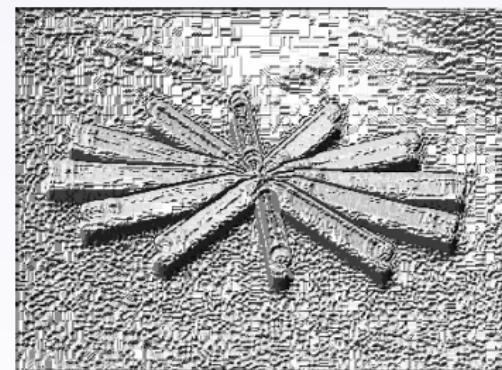
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## ② Regional property descriptor

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- Geometric feature descriptor
  - size
  - perimeter
  - position
  - area of the neighbor regions
- Appearance feature descriptor
  - the variances of the RGB values
  - the variances of the response of the LM filters



# Priors

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- 1 Center Prior/Location Prior
- 2 Backgroundness Prior
- 3 Boundary Connectivity Prior
- 4 Color Prior
- 5 Objectness Prior
- 6 Smoothness Prior



# ① Center Prior/Location Prior (**Demo**)

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Objects near the image center are more attractive to people<sup>11</sup>.

This prior can be simply and effectively modeled as a Gaussian map.



$$S_D(\mathbf{x}) = \exp\left(-\frac{||\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{c}||_2^2}{\sigma_D^2}\right) \quad (1)$$

---

<sup>11</sup>Lin Zhang *et al.*, “SDSP: A novel saliency detection method by combining simple priors”, in ICIP, 2013.



## ① Center Prior/Location Prior

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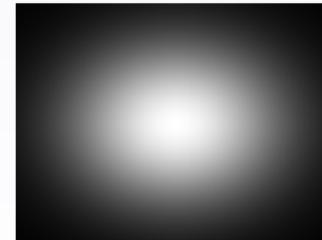
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The salient object in an image is most probably placed near the center of the image<sup>12</sup>.

Gaussian falloff weight:

$$w_i^{(n)} = \exp \left( -9 \frac{(dx_i^{(n)})^2}{w^2} - 9 \frac{(dy_i^{(n)})^2}{h^2} \right) \quad (2)$$



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<sup>12</sup>Huaizu Jiang *et al.*, "Automatic salient object segmentation based on context and shape prior", in BMVC, 2011



## ① Center Prior/Location Prior

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Assigning higher saliency to the image elements near the image center becomes invalid when the objects are placed far off the image center<sup>13</sup>.

- Compute a convex hull enclosing interesting points to estimate the location of salient region.
- Use the centroid of the convex hull as the center to get the convex-hull-based center prior map.



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<sup>13</sup>Chuan Yang *et al.*, “Graph-regularized saliency detection with convex-hull-based center prior”, Signal Processing Letters, 2013.



## ② Backgroundness Prior

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*Backgroundness prior* is more general than center prior because salient objects can be placed off the center, but they seldom touch the image boundary<sup>14</sup>.

- Assuming that a narrow border of the image is background region, regional saliency can be computed as the contrast versus “background”.

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<sup>14</sup>Yichen Wei *et al.*, “Geodesic saliency using background priors”, in ECCV, 2012.



## ② Backgroundness Prior (**Demo**)

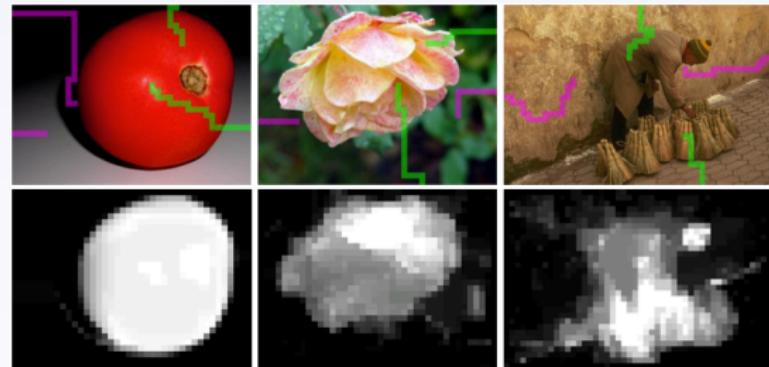
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$$saliency(P) = \min_{P_1 = P, P_2, \dots, P_n = B} \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} weight(P_i, P_{i+1}), \quad (3)$$
$$s.t. (P_i, P_{i+1}) \in \varepsilon$$



### ③ Boundary Connectivity Prior

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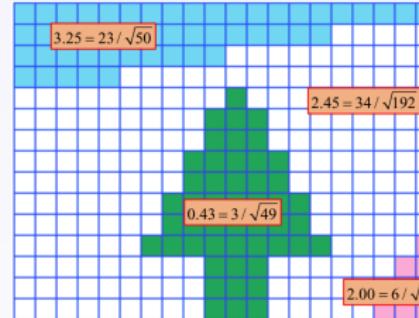
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Object regions are much less connected to image boundaries than background ones<sup>15</sup>.



*Boundary connectivity* is defined to quantify how heavily a region R is connected to the image boundaries.

$$BndCon(R) = \frac{|\{p | p \in R, p \in Bnd\}|}{\sqrt{|\{p | p \in R\}|}} \quad (4)$$

---

<sup>15</sup>Wangjiang Zhu et al., “Saliency optimization from robust background detection”, in CVPR, 2014.



## ④ Color Prior (Demo)

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Warm colors, such as red and yellow, are more pronounced to the human visual system than cold colors, such as green and blue<sup>16</sup>.

$$f_{an}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{f_a(x) - \min(a)}{\max(a) - \min(a)}, f_{bn}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{f_b(x) - \min(b)}{\max(b) - \min(b)} \quad (5)$$

$$S_c(\mathbf{x}) = 1 - \exp\left(-\frac{f_{an}^2(\mathbf{x}) + f_{bn}^2(\mathbf{x})}{\sigma_c^2}\right) \quad (6)$$

- $a^*$ -channel represents green-red information
- $b^*$ -channel represents blue-yellow information

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<sup>16</sup>Lin Zhang *et al.*, “SDSP: A novel saliency detection method by combining simple priors”, in ICIP, 2013.



## ⑤ Objectness Prior

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**Objectness** is defined as the probability of there being a complete object in a local window centered on each pixel<sup>17</sup>.

- Randomly sample  $N$  windows over the image
- Assign each window  $w$  a probability score  $P(w)$  to indicate its objectness
- Sum all the probability scores in windows that contains pixel  $x$

$$O_p(x) = \sum_{w \in W \text{ and } x \in w} P(W_x) \quad (7)$$

---

<sup>17</sup>Peng Jiang *et al.*, “Salient region detection by ufo: uniqueness, focusness and objectness”, in ICCV, 2013.



## ⑥ Smoothness Prior

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*Smoothness* constraint is often encoded by adding a pair-wise potential to the energy function which encourages neighboring pixels in the image to take the same label<sup>18</sup>.

$$w_{ij} = \exp\left(-\frac{\|c_i - c_j\|}{2\sigma_w^2}\right) \quad (8)$$

$$E(S) = \sum_i (S(i) - S_{in}(i))^2 + \lambda \sum_{i,j} w_{ij} (S(i) - S(j))^2 \quad (9)$$

---

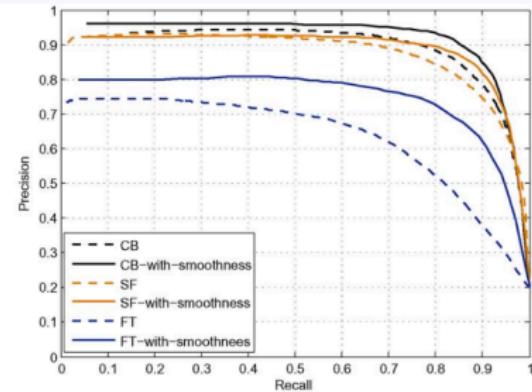
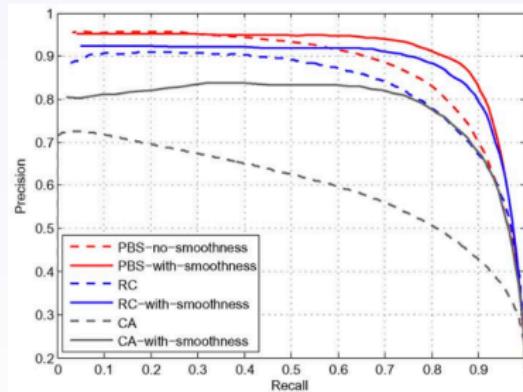
<sup>18</sup>Chuan Yang *et al.*, “Graph-regularized saliency detection with convex-hull-based center prior”, Signal Processing Letters, 2013.



## ⑥ Smoothness Prior

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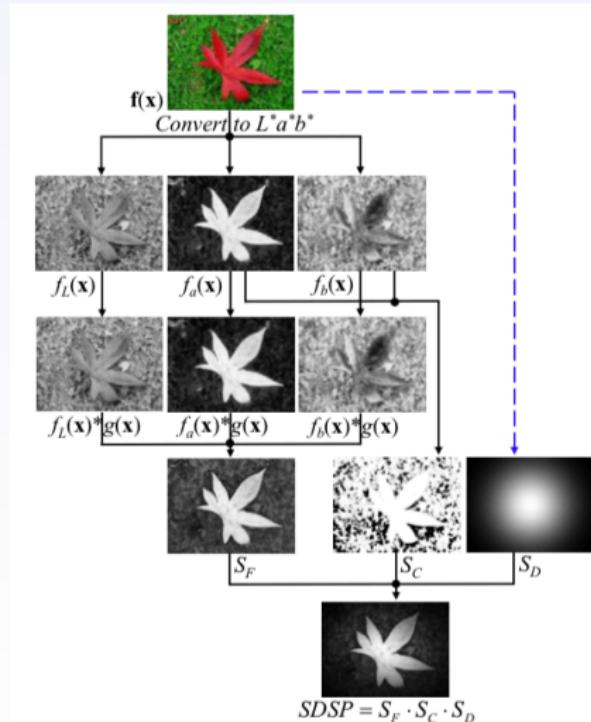




# Example: SDSP<sup>19</sup> (**Demo**)

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<sup>19</sup>Lin Zhang *et al.*, “SDSP: A novel saliency detection method by combining simple priors”, in ICIP, 2013.



# ① Non-linear<sup>20</sup>

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Combining the focusness, the objectness and the uniqueness maps:

$$S = \exp(F + U) \times O \quad (10)$$

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<sup>20</sup>Peng Jiang *et al.*, “Salient region detection by ufo: uniqueness, focusness and objectness”, in ICCV, 2013.



## ② Energy minimization<sup>21</sup>

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$$\underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^N w_i^{bg} s_i^2}_{background} + \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^N w_i^{fg} (s_i - 1)^2}_{foreground} + \underbrace{\sum_{i,j} w_{ij} (s_i - s_j)^2}_{smoothness} \quad (11)$$

---

<sup>21</sup>Wangjiang Zhu *et al.*, “Saliency optimization from robust background detection”, in CVPR, 2014.



## ③ Machine Learning<sup>22</sup>

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Training examples:

- a set of confident regions  $R = \{R_1, R_2, \dots, R_Q\}$
- the responding saliency scores  $A = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_Q\}$

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<sup>22</sup>Huaizu Jiang *et al.*, “Salient object detection: a discriminative regional feature integration approach”, in CVPR, 2013.



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Thanks

*Yafei Zhu*  
Ocean University of China  
*2015.03*