



Saliency
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Features
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Saliency Detection

显著性检测

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Saliency(显著)

■ 明显、引入注目



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



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A rich stream of visual data enters our eyes every second.¹

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



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A rich stream of visual data enters our eyes every second.¹

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

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



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分辨率:
500*375



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分辨率:
 500*375

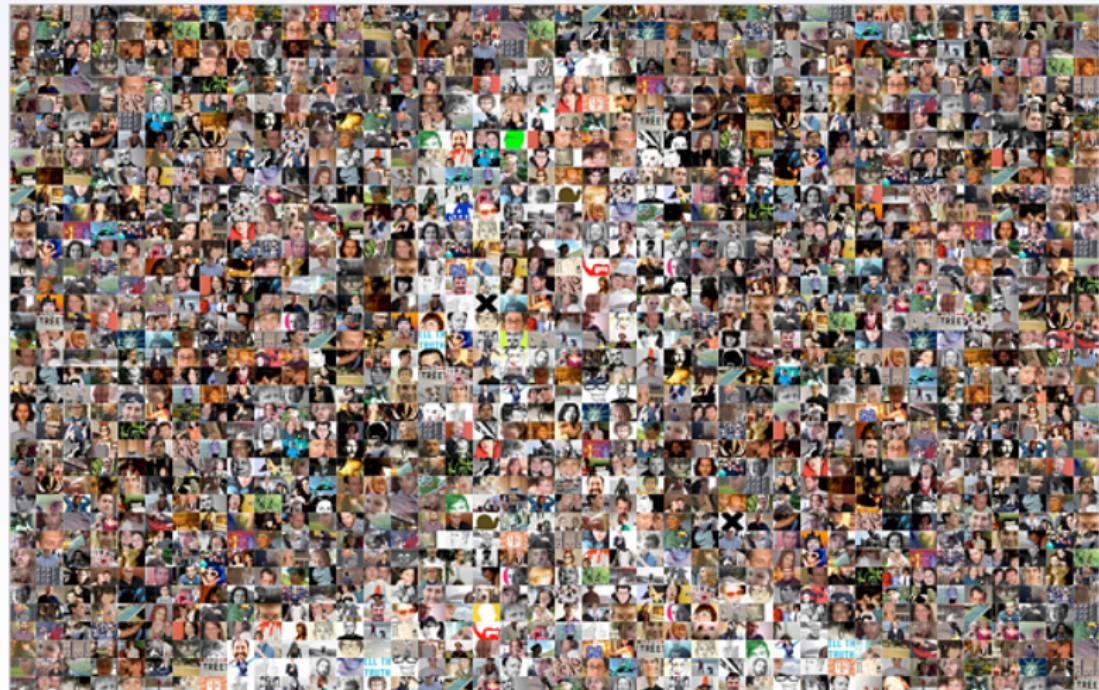
$$500 \times 375 \times 3 \times 8 = 4500000 \text{ bits}$$



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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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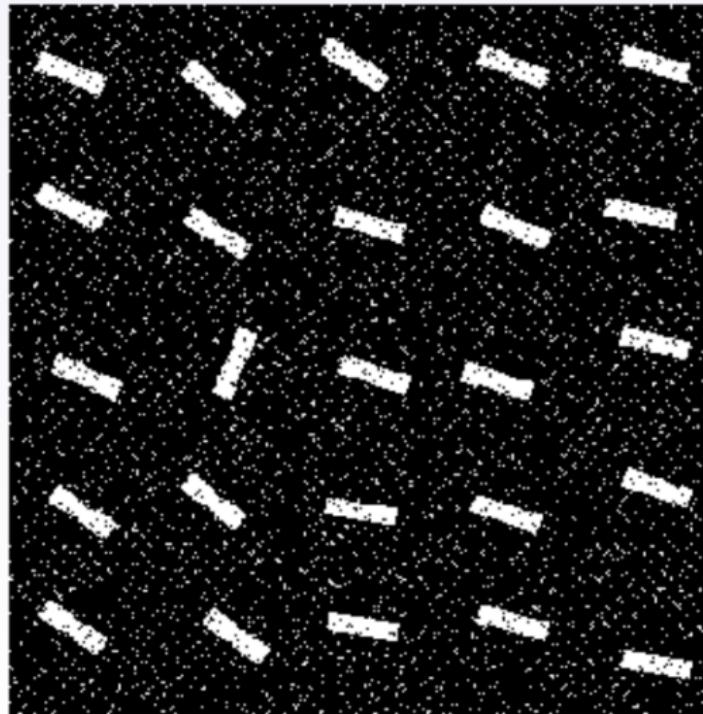
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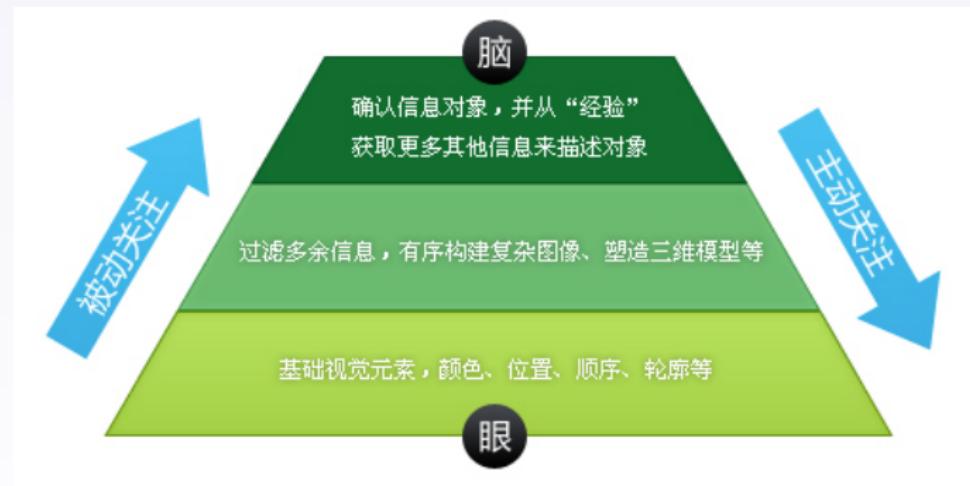




Bottom-up vs Top-down

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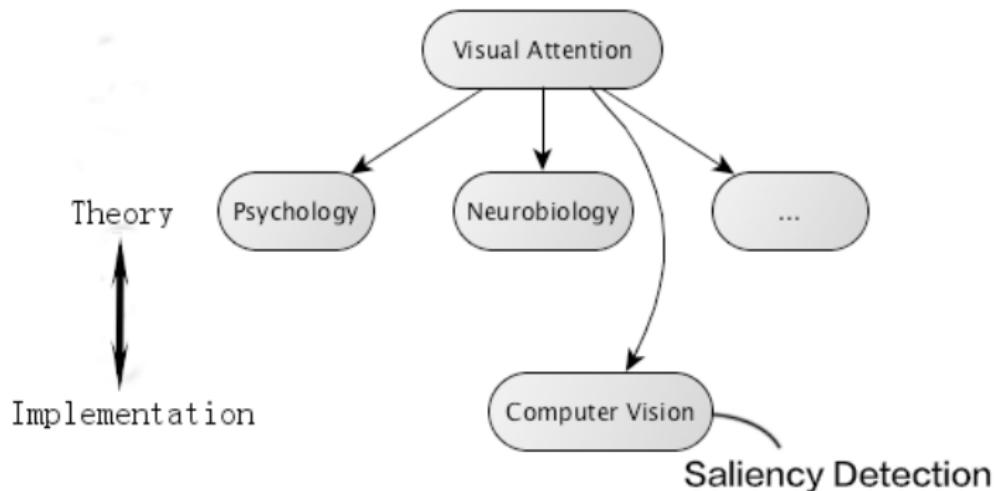




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Theory

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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 Ullman² 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 Model³

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

³Eriksen, 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.

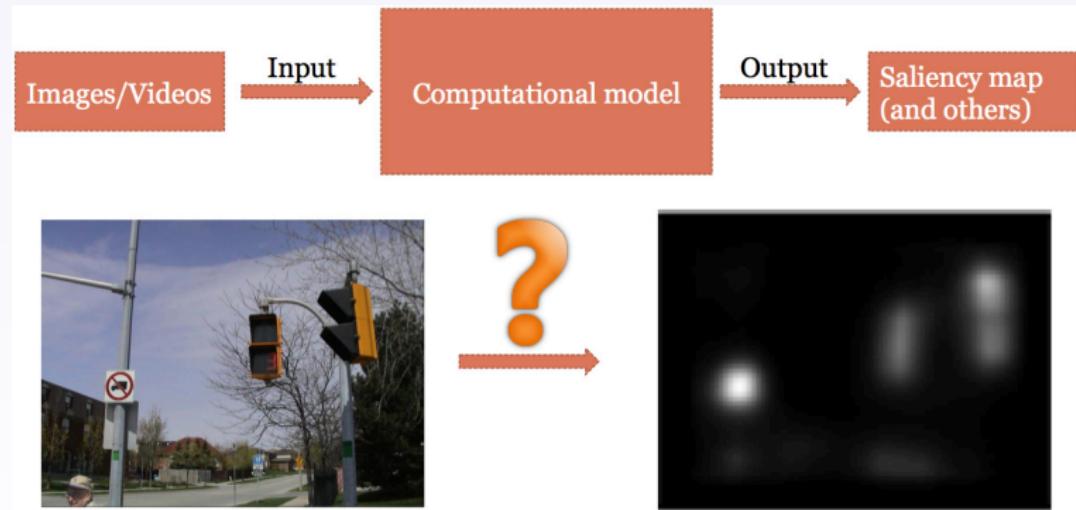


Basic Structure of Computational Models

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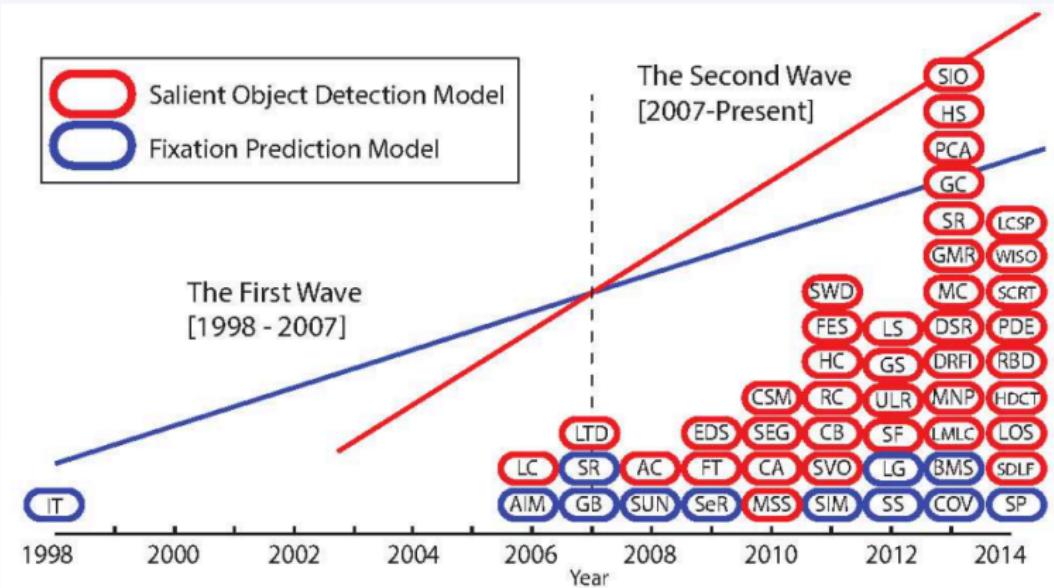




Two Waves⁴

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⁴Ali 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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Representative Work

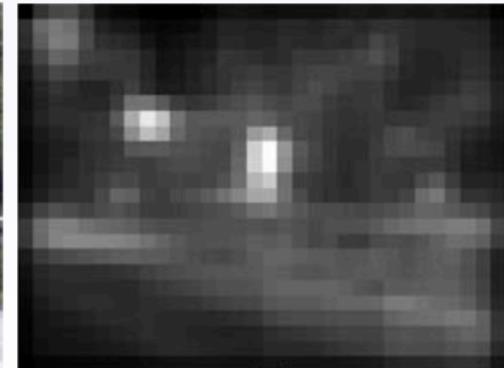
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- A model of saliency-based visual attention for rapid scene analysis. PAMI 1998, Itti *et al.*

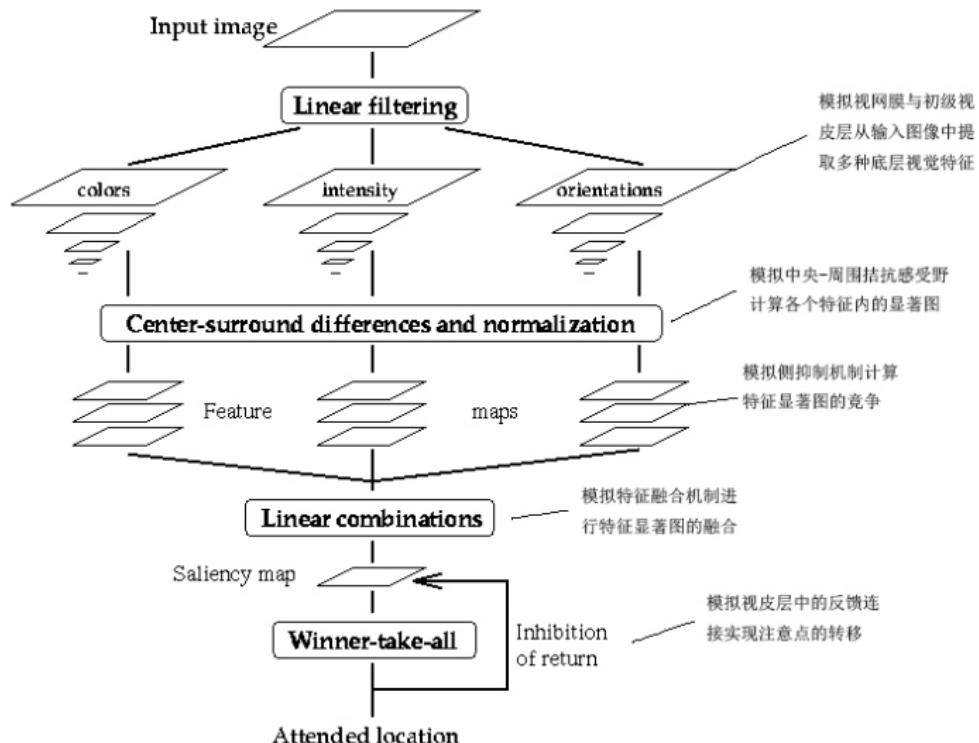




Architecture

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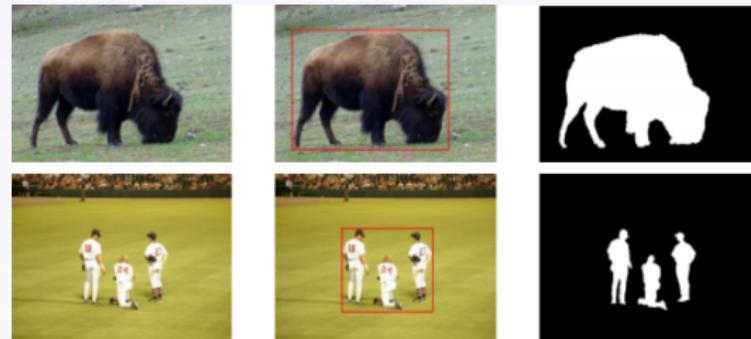




Salient Object Detection

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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: PBS⁵, DRFI⁶, RBD⁷, HDCT⁸

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

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

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

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



Why?

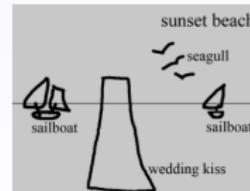
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The emergence of salient object detection models is driven by the requirement of saliency-based applications.



Content aware resizing



Object manipulation



Image montage

Image collage



What can saliency not do?

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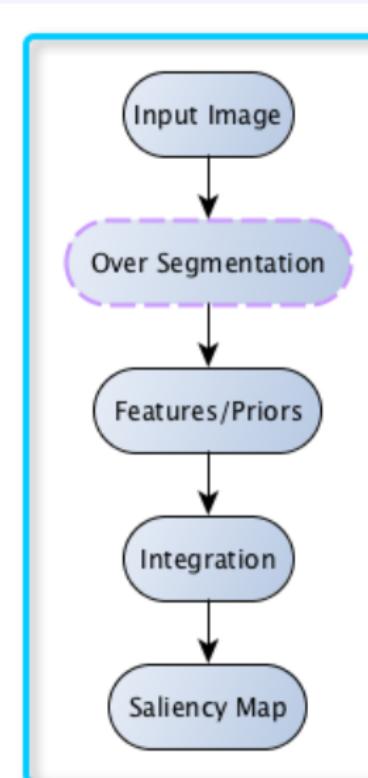




General Procedure

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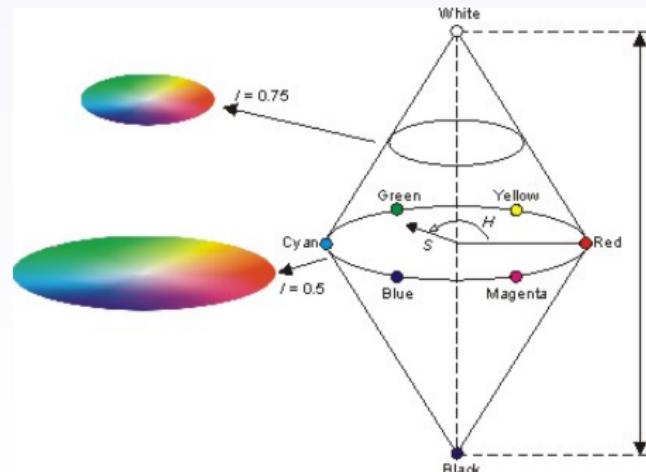
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- Hue: What we think as “color”—yellow, orange, cyan and magenta are examples of different hues
- Saturation: Saturation refers to the relative purity or the amount of white light mixed with a hue
- Intensity





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 Histogram⁹ (**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

⁹Huaizu 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) fabric¹⁰.



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



LBP (Local Binary Pattern)

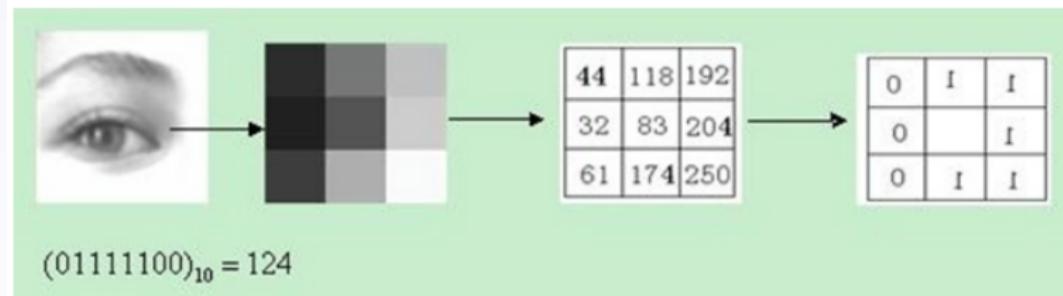
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LBP

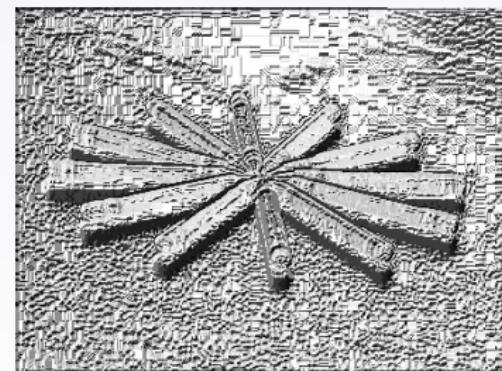
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② Regional property descriptor

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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 people¹¹.

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



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

¹¹Lin 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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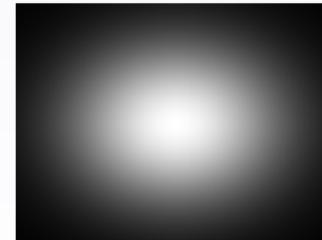
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The salient object in an image is most probably placed near the center of the image¹².

Gaussian falloff weight:

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



¹²Huaizu 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 center¹³.

- 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.



¹³Chuan 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 boundary¹⁴.

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

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



② Backgroundness Prior (**Demo**)

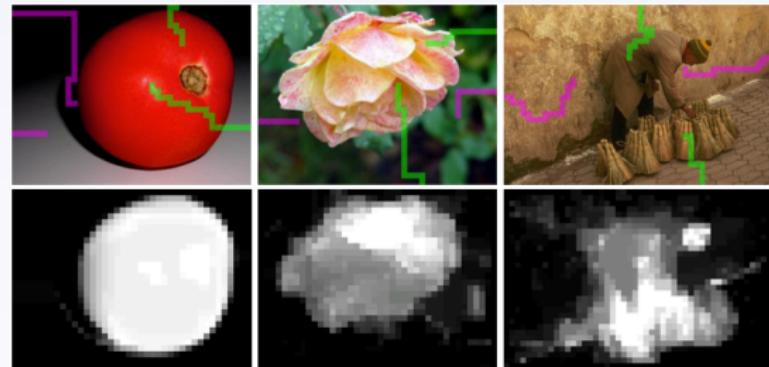
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$$saliency(P) = \min_{P_1 = P, P_2, \dots, P_n = B} \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} weight(P_i, P_{i+1}), \quad (3)$$
$$s.t. (P_i, P_{i+1}) \in \varepsilon$$



③ Boundary Connectivity Prior

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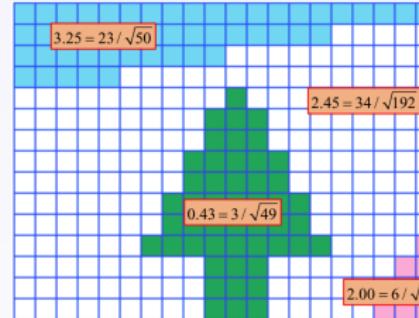
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Object regions are much less connected to image boundaries than background ones¹⁵.



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

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

¹⁵Wangjiang 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 blue¹⁶.

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

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

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

¹⁶Lin 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 pixel¹⁷.

- 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

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

¹⁷Peng 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 label¹⁸.

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

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

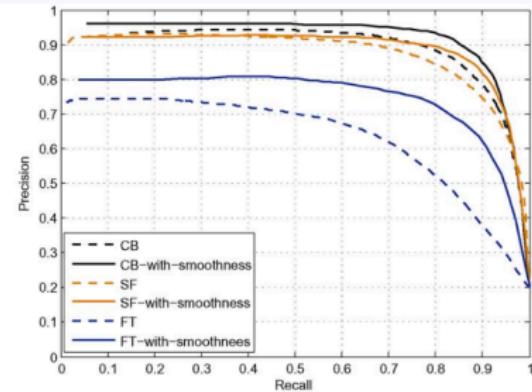
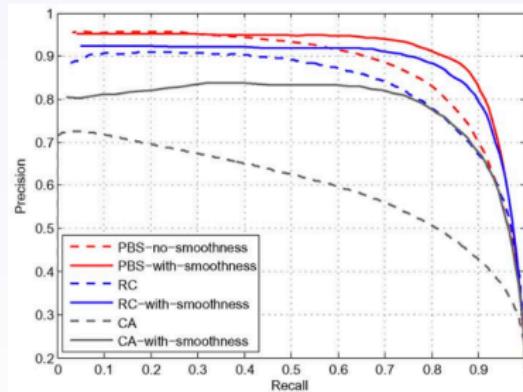
¹⁸Chuan Yang *et al.*, “Graph-regularized saliency detection with convex-hull-based center prior”, Signal Processing Letters, 2013.



⑥ Smoothness Prior

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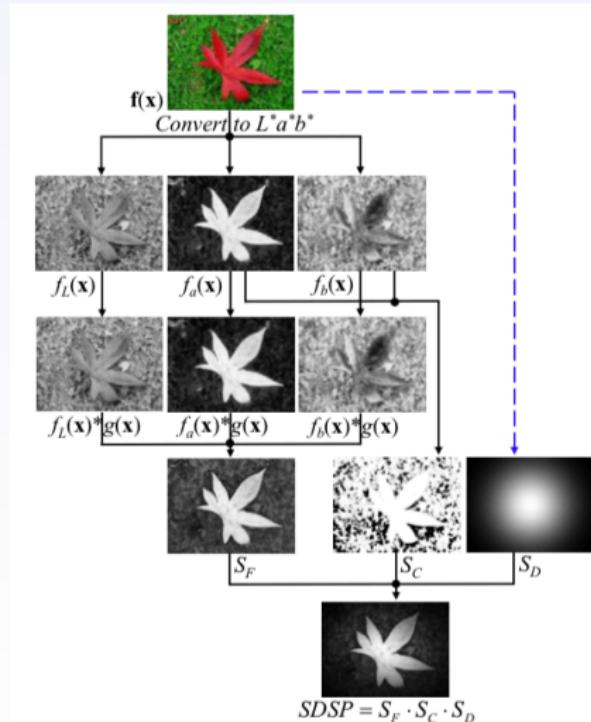




Example: SDSP¹⁹ (**Demo**)

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



① Non-linear²⁰

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Combining the focusness, the objectness and the uniqueness maps:

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

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



② Energy minimization²¹

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The ideal output of salient object detection is a clean binary object/background segmentation.

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

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



③ Machine Learning²²

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Training examples:

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

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



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Thanks

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