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Computer Vision – Lecture 2

Linear Filters

15.04.2019

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Organizational Remarks

- Presenting today
 - István Sárándi (sarandi@vision.rwth-aachen.de)
- No lecture tomorrow
 - Next lecture: Tue, 23.04.

Course Schedule			
Date	Title	Content	Material
Tue, 2019-04-09	Introduction	Why vision? Applications, Challenges, Image Formation	6on1 fullpage
Mon, 2019-04-15	Image Processing I	Linear Filters, Gaussian Smoothing, Multi-scale Representations	6on1 fullpage
Tue, 2019-04-16	--	no class	
Mon, 2019-04-22	--	no class (Easter Monday)	
Tue, 2019-04-23	Image Processing II	Image Derivatives, Edge detection, Canny	

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Course Outline

- Image Processing Basics
 - Image Formation
 - Linear Filters
 - Edge & Structure Extraction
 - Color
- Segmentation
- Local Features & Matching
- Object Recognition and Categorization
- Deep Learning
- 3D Reconstruction



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Motivation

- Noise reduction/image restoration
 
- Structure extraction
 

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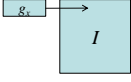
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Topics of This Lecture

- Linear filters
 - What are they? How are they applied?
 - Application: smoothing
 - Gaussian filter
 - What does it mean to filter an image?
- Nonlinear Filters
 - Median filter
- Multi-Scale representations
 - How to properly rescale an image?
- Filters as templates
 - Correlation as template matching



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Common Types of Noise

- Salt & pepper noise
 - Random occurrences of black and white pixels
- Impulse noise
 - Random occurrences of white pixels
- Gaussian noise
 - Variations in intensity drawn from a Gaussian ("Normal") distribution.
- Basic Assumption
 - Noise is i.i.d. (independent & identically distributed)


Original


Salt and pepper noise


Impulse noise


Gaussian noise

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Source: Steve Seitz

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Gaussian Noise

Ideal Image Noise process Gaussian i.i.d. ("white") noise:
 $f(x,y) = \tilde{f}(x,y) + \eta(x,y)$
 $\eta(x,y) \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma)$

```
>> noise = randn(size(im)).*sigma;
>> output = im + noise;
```

Slide credit: Kristen Grauman B. Leibe Image Source: Marial Heber

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First Attempt at a Solution

- Assumptions:
 - Expect pixels to be like their neighbors
 - Expect noise processes to be independent from pixel to pixel ("i.i.d. = independent, identically distributed")
- Let's try to replace each pixel with an average of all the values in its neighborhood...

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Moving Average in 2D

$F[x, y]$

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0

$G[x, y]$

			0						

B. Leibe Source: S. Seitz

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Moving Average in 2D

$F[x, y]$

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0

$G[x, y]$

			0	10					

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Moving Average in 2D

$F[x, y]$

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0

$G[x, y]$

			0	10	20				

B. Leibe Source: S. Seitz

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Moving Average in 2D

$F[x, y]$

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90	0

$G[x, y]$

			0	10	20	30			

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Moving Average in 2D

$F[x, y]$

$G[x, y]$

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Source: S. Saito

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Moving Average in 2D

$F[x, y]$

$G[x, y]$

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Source: S. Saito

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Correlation Filtering

- Say the averaging window size is $2k+1 \times 2k+1$:

$$G[i, j] = \frac{1}{(2k+1)^2} \sum_{u=-k}^k \sum_{v=-k}^k F[i+u, j+v]$$

Attribute uniform weight to each pixel
Loop over all pixels in neighborhood around image pixel $F[i, j]$

- Now generalize to allow different weights depending on neighboring pixel's relative position:

$$G[i, j] = \sum_{u=-k}^k \sum_{v=-k}^k H[u, v] F[i+u, j+v]$$

Non-uniform weights

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Correlation Filtering

$$G[i, j] = \sum_{u=-k}^k \sum_{v=-k}^k H[u, v] F[i+u, j+v]$$

- This is called cross-correlation, denoted $G = H \otimes F$
- Filtering an image
 - Replace each pixel by a weighted combination of its neighbors.
 - The filter "kernel" or "mask" is the prescription for the weights in the linear combination.

H

F

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Convolution

- Convolution:
 - Flip the filter in both dimensions (bottom to top, right to left)
 - Then apply cross-correlation

$$G[i, j] = \sum_{u=-k}^k \sum_{v=-k}^k H[u, v] F[i-u, j-v]$$

$G = H \star F$

H

F

Notation for convolution operator

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Correlation vs. Convolution

- Correlation

$$G[i, j] = \sum_{u=-k}^k \sum_{v=-k}^k H[u, v] F[i+u, j+v]$$

$$G = H \otimes F$$

Matlab: `filter2`
`imfilter`
- Convolution

$$G[i, j] = \sum_{u=-k}^k \sum_{v=-k}^k H[u, v] F[i-u, j-v]$$

$$G = H \star F$$

Matlab: `conv2`
- Note
 - If $H[-u, -v] = H[u, v]$, then correlation = convolution.

Note the difference!

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Shift Invariant Linear System

- Shift invariant:
 - Operator behaves the same everywhere, i.e. the value of the output depends on the pattern in the image neighborhood, not the position of the neighborhood.
- Linear:
 - Superposition: $h \star (f_1 + f_2) = (h \star f_1) + (h \star f_2)$
 - Scaling: $h \star (kf) = k(h \star f)$

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Properties of Convolution

- Linear & shift invariant
- Commutative: $f \star g = g \star f$
- Associative: $(f \star g) \star h = f \star (g \star h)$
 - Often apply several filters in sequence: $((a \star b_1) \star b_2) \star b_3$
 - This is equivalent to applying one filter: $a \star (b_1 \star b_2 \star b_3)$
- Identity: $f \star e = f$
 - for unit impulse $e = [\dots, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, \dots]$.
- Differentiation: $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(f \star g) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \star g$

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Averaging Filter

- What values belong in the kernel $H[u,v]$ for the moving average example?

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

\otimes

1	1	1
1	?	1
1	1	1

$=$

0	10	20	30
---	----	----	----

$G = H \otimes F$

"box filter"

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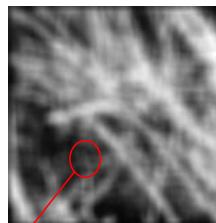
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Smoothing by Averaging

depicts box filter:
white = high value, black = low value



Original



Filtered

"Ringing" artifacts!

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Smoothing with a Gaussian



Original



Filtered


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B. Leibe Image Source: Forsyth & Ponce

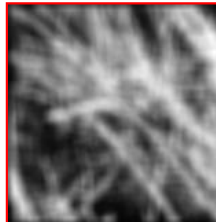
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Smoothing with a Gaussian – Comparison



Original



Filtered

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B. Leibe Image Source: Forsyth & Ponce

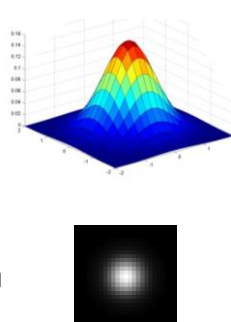
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Gaussian Smoothing

- Gaussian kernel

$$G_{\sigma} = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2} e^{-\frac{(x^2+y^2)}{2\sigma^2}}$$
- Rotationally symmetric
- Weights nearby pixels more than distant ones
 - This makes sense as 'probabilistic' inference about the signal
- A Gaussian gives a good model of a fuzzy blob



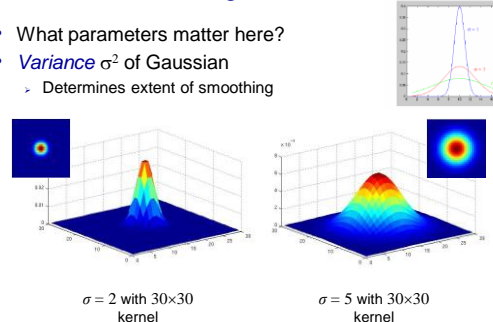
B. Leibe Image Source: Forsyth & Ponce

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Gaussian Smoothing

- What parameters matter here?
- Variance σ^2 of Gaussian
 - Determines extent of smoothing



$\sigma = 2$ with 30x30 kernel $\sigma = 5$ with 30x30 kernel

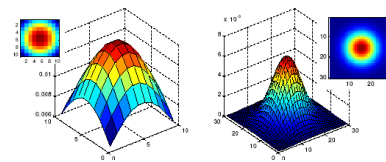
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Gaussian Smoothing

- What parameters matter here?
- Size of kernel or mask
 - Gaussian function has infinite support, but discrete filters use finite kernels



$\sigma = 5$ with 10x10 kernel $\sigma = 5$ with 30x30 kernel

- Rule of thumb: set filter half-width to about $3\sigma!$

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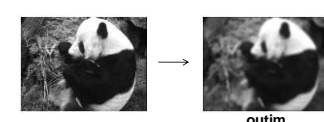
Gaussian Smoothing in Matlab

```

>> hsize = 10;
>> sigma = 5;
>> h = fspecial('gaussian' hsize, sigma);

>> mesh(h);
>> imagesc(h);

>> outim = imfilter(im, h);
>> imshow(outim);
  
```



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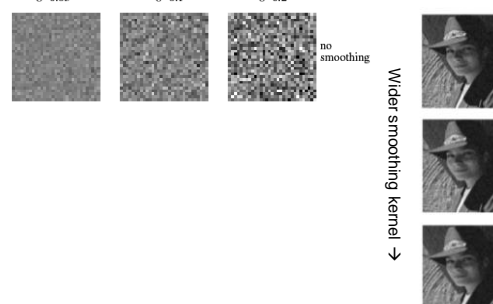
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Effect of Smoothing

More noise →

$\sigma=0.05$ $\sigma=0.1$ $\sigma=0.2$ no smoothing



Wider smoothing kernel →

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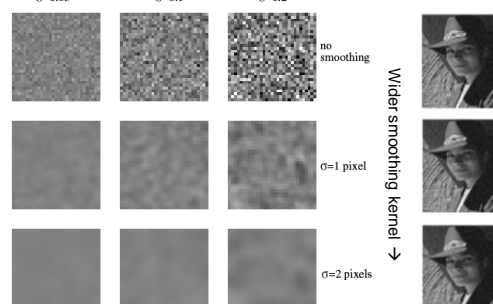
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Effect of Smoothing

More noise →

$\sigma=0.05$ $\sigma=0.1$ $\sigma=0.2$ no smoothing



Wider smoothing kernel →

$\sigma=1$ pixel

$\sigma=2$ pixels

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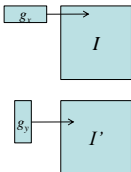
Efficient Implementation

- Both, the BOX filter and the Gaussian filter are separable:
 - First convolve each row with a 1D filter

$$g(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp(-x^2/(2\sigma^2))$$
 - Then convolve each column with a 1D filter

$$g(y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp(-y^2/(2\sigma^2))$$
- Remember:
 - Convolution is linear – associative and commutative

$$g_x \star g_y \star I = g_x \star (g_y \star I) = (g_x \star g_y) \star I$$



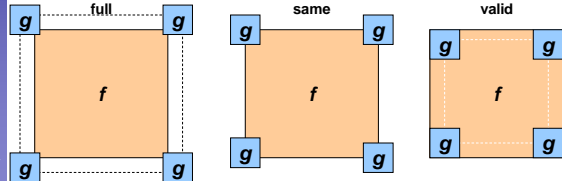
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Filtering: Boundary Issues

- What is the size of the output?
 - MATLAB: `filter2(g, f, shape)`
 - `shape = 'full'`: output size is sum of sizes of f and g
 - `shape = 'same'`: output size is same as f
 - `shape = 'valid'`: output size is difference of sizes of f and g




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Filtering: Boundary Issues

- How should the filter behave near the image boundary?
 - The filter window falls off the edge of the image
 - Need to extrapolate
 - Methods:
 - Clip filter (black)



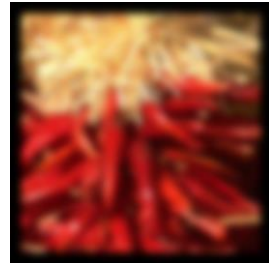
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Filtering: Boundary Issues

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Filtering: Boundary Issues

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 - Methods:
 - Clip filter (black)




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Filtering: Boundary Issues

- How should the filter behave near the image boundary?
 - The filter window falls off the edge of the image
 - Need to extrapolate
 - Methods:
 - Clip filter (black)
 - Wrap around




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Filtering: Boundary Issues

- How should the filter behave near the image boundary?
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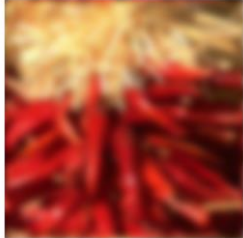
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Filtering: Boundary Issues

- How should the filter behave near the image boundary?
 - The filter window falls off the edge of the image
 - Need to extrapolate
 - Methods:
 - Clip filter (black)
 - Wrap around




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Filtering: Boundary Issues

- How should the filter behave near the image boundary?
 - The filter window falls off the edge of the image
 - Need to extrapolate
 - Methods:
 - Clip filter (black)
 - Wrap around
 - Copy edge




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Filtering: Boundary Issues

- How should the filter behave near the image boundary?
 - The filter window falls off the edge of the image
 - Need to extrapolate
 - Methods:
 - Clip filter (black)
 - Wrap around
 - Copy edge



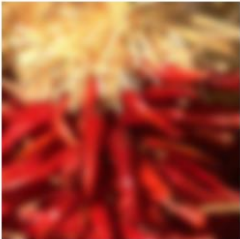
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Filtering: Boundary Issues

- How should the filter behave near the image boundary?
 - The filter window falls off the edge of the image
 - Need to extrapolate
 - Methods:
 - Clip filter (black)
 - Wrap around
 - Copy edge




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Filtering: Boundary Issues

- How should the filter behave near the image boundary?
 - The filter window falls off the edge of the image
 - Need to extrapolate
 - Methods:
 - Clip filter (black)
 - Wrap around
 - Copy edge
 - Reflect across edge



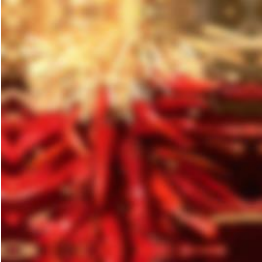
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Filtering: Boundary Issues

- How should the filter behave near the image boundary?
 - The filter window falls off the edge of the image
 - Need to extrapolate
 - Methods:
 - Clip filter (black)
 - Wrap around
 - Copy edge
 - Reflect across edge




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Filtering: Boundary Issues

- How should the filter behave near the image boundary?
 - The filter window falls off the edge of the image
 - Need to extrapolate
 - Methods:
 - Clip filter (black)
 - Wrap around
 - Copy edge
 - Reflect across edge



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Filtering: Boundary Issues

- How should the filter behave near the image boundary?
 - The filter window falls off the edge of the image
 - Need to extrapolate
 - Methods (MATLAB):
 - Clip filter (black): `imfilter(f,g,0)`
 - Wrap around: `imfilter(f,g,'circular')`
 - Copy edge: `imfilter(f,g,'replicate')`
 - Reflect across edge: `imfilter(f,g,'symmetric')`

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Topics of This Lecture

- Linear filters
 - What are they? How are they applied?
 - Application: smoothing
 - Gaussian filter
 - *What does it mean to filter an image?*
- Nonlinear Filters
 - Median filter
- Multi-Scale representations
 - How to properly rescale an image?
- Filters as templates
 - Correlation as template matching

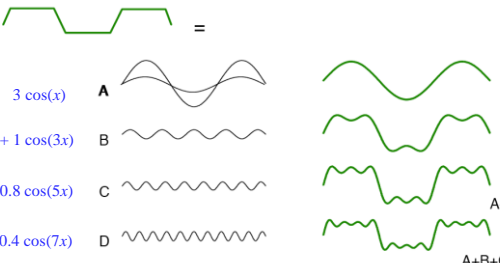
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Why Does This Work?

- A small excursion into the Fourier transform to talk about spatial frequencies...



$3 \cos(x)$ A
 $+ 1 \cos(3x)$ B
 $+ 0.8 \cos(5x)$ C
 $+ 0.4 \cos(7x)$ D
 + ...

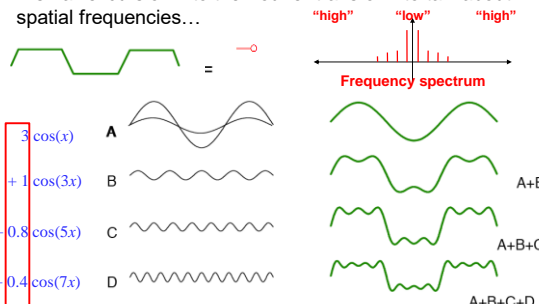
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Source: Michel Irat

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The Fourier Transform in Cartoons

- A small excursion into the Fourier transform to talk about spatial frequencies...



$3 \cos(x)$ A
 $+ 1 \cos(3x)$ B
 $+ 0.8 \cos(5x)$ C
 $+ 0.4 \cos(7x)$ D
 + ... **Frequency coefficients**

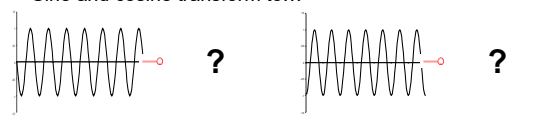
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Fourier Transforms of Important Functions

- Sine and cosine transform to...



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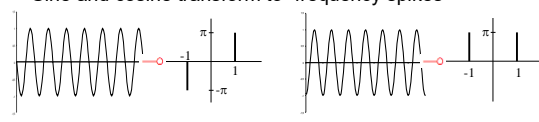
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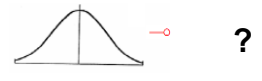
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Fourier Transforms of Important Functions

- Sine and cosine transform to "frequency spikes"



- A Gaussian transforms to...



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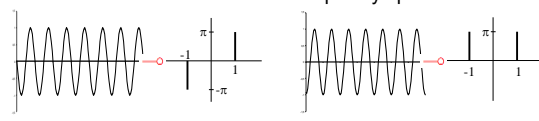
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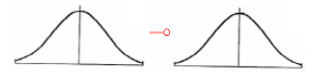
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Fourier Transforms of Important Functions

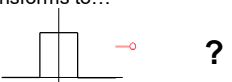
- Sine and cosine transform to "frequency spikes"



- A Gaussian transforms to a Gaussian



- A box filter transforms to...



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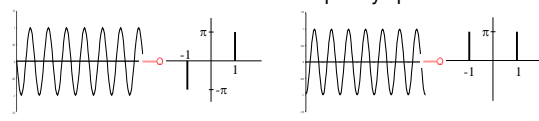
B. Leibe Image Source: S. Chennu 52

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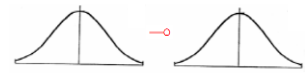
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Fourier Transforms of Important Functions

- Sine and cosine transform to "frequency spikes"

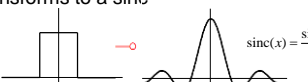


- A Gaussian transforms to a Gaussian



All of this is symmetric!

- A box filter transforms to a sinc



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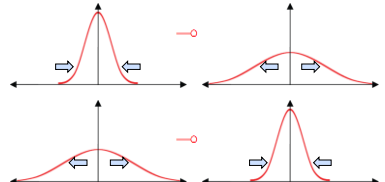
B. Leibe Image Source: S. Chennu 53

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Duality

- The better a function is localized in one domain, the worse it is localized in the other.



- This is true for any function



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Effect of Convolution

- Convoluting two functions in the image domain corresponds to taking the product of their transformed versions in the frequency domain.

$$f \star g \rightarrow \mathcal{F} \cdot \mathcal{G}$$

- This gives us a tool to manipulate image spectra.
 - A filter attenuates or enhances certain frequencies through this effect.

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B. Leibe Image Source: S. Chennu 55

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Effect of Filtering

- Noise introduces high frequencies. To remove them, we want to apply a "low-pass" filter.
- The ideal filter shape in the frequency domain would be a box. But this transfers to a spatial sinc, which has infinite spatial support.
- A compact spatial box filter transfers to a frequency sinc, which creates artifacts.
- A Gaussian has compact support in both domains. This makes it a convenient choice for a low-pass filter.

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Low-Pass vs. High-Pass

Original image

Low-pass filtered

High-pass filtered

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Image Source: S. Chentsova

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Quiz: What Effect Does This Filter Have?

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Source: D. Lowe

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Sharpening Filter

Original

Sharpening filter
- Accentuates differences with local average

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Source: D. Lowe

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Sharpening Filter

before

after

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Source: D. Lowe

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Application: High Frequency Emphasis

Original

High pass Filter

High Frequency Emphasis

High Frequency Emphasis + Histogram Equalization

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Slide credit: Michal Irani

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Motivation: Fast Search Across Scales

Irani & Basri

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Image Pyramid

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Low resolution

High resolution

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How Should We Go About Resampling?

Let's resample the checkerboard by taking one sample at each circle.

In the top left board, the new representation is reasonable. Top right also yields a reasonable representation.

Bottom left is all black (dubious) and bottom right has checks that are too big.

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Fourier Interpretation: Discrete Sampling

- Sampling in the spatial domain is like multiplying with a spike function.

- Sampling in the frequency domain is like...

?

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Fourier Interpretation: Discrete Sampling

- Sampling in the spatial domain is like multiplying with a spike function.

- Sampling in the frequency domain is like convolving with a spike function.

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Sampling and Aliasing

Signal

Fourier Transform

Sample

Copy and Shift

Sampled Signal

Fourier Transform

Cut out by multiplication with box filter

Inverse Fourier Transform

Magnitude Spectrum

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Sampling and Aliasing

Signal $\xrightarrow{\text{Fourier Transform}}$ Magnitude Spectrum
 Sample \downarrow Copy and Shift
 Sampled Signal $\xrightarrow{\text{Fourier Transform}}$ Magnitude Spectrum

- Nyquist theorem:
 - In order to recover a certain frequency f , we need to sample with at least $2f$.
 - This corresponds to the point at which the transformed frequency spectra start to overlap (the **Nyquist limit**)

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Image Source: Forsyth & Ponce

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Sampling and Aliasing

Signal $\xrightarrow{\text{Fourier Transform}}$ Magnitude Spectrum
 Sample \downarrow Copy and Shift
 Sampled Signal $\xrightarrow{\text{Fourier Transform}}$ Magnitude Spectrum
 Cut out by multiplication with box filter
 Magnitude Spectrum
 Inaccurately Reconstructed Signal $\xleftarrow{\text{Inverse Fourier Transform}}$

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Image Source: Forsyth & Ponce

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Aliasing in Graphics

Disintegrating textures

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Image Source: Alexei Filin

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Resampling with Prior Smoothing

256 x 256 128 x 128 64 x 64 32 x 32 16 x 16
 no smoothing
 Gaussian $\sigma = 1$
 Gaussian $\sigma = 2$

- Note: We cannot recover the high frequencies, but we can avoid artifacts by smoothing before resampling.

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Image Source: Forsyth & Ponce

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The Gaussian Pyramid

Low resolution
 High resolution
 $G_4 = (G_3 * \text{gaussian}) \downarrow 2$
 $G_3 = (G_2 * \text{gaussian}) \downarrow 2$
 $G_2 = (G_1 * \text{gaussian}) \downarrow 2$
 $G_1 = (G_0 * \text{gaussian}) \downarrow 2$
 $G_0 = \text{Image}$

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Source: Irani & Bodis

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Gaussian Pyramid – Stored Information

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Source: Irani & Bodis

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Summary: Gaussian Pyramid

- Construction: create each level from previous one
 - Smooth and sample
- Smooth with Gaussians, in part because
 - a Gaussian \times Gaussian = another Gaussian
 - $G(\sigma_1) \times G(\sigma_2) = G(\sqrt{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2})$
- Gaussians are low-pass filters, so the representation is redundant once smoothing has been performed.
 - \Rightarrow There is no need to store smoothed images at the full original resolution.

Slide credit: David Lowe

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The Laplacian Pyramid

Gaussian Pyramid $L_i = G_i - \text{expand}(G_{i+1})$
 $G_i = L_i + \text{expand}(G_{i+1})$

Laplacian Pyramid

G_n
 G_2
 G_1
 G_0

$L_n = G_n$
 L_2
 L_1
 L_0

Why is this useful?

Source: [1] & [2]

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Laplacian ~ Difference of Gaussian

DoG = Difference of Gaussians

Cheap approximation – no derivatives needed.

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Topics of This Lecture

- Linear filters
 - What are they? How are they applied?
 - Application: smoothing
 - Gaussian filter
 - What does it *mean* to filter an image?
- Nonlinear Filters
 - Median filter
- Multi-Scale representations
 - How to properly rescale an image?
- Filters as templates
 - Correlation as template matching

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Note: Filters are Templates

- Applying a filter at some point can be seen as taking a dot-product between the image and some vector.
- Filtering the image is a set of dot products.
- Insight
 - Filters look like the effects they are intended to find.
 - Filters find effects they look like.

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Where's Waldo?

Scene

Template

Slide credit: Kristen Grauman

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Where's Waldo?

Detected template

Template

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Where's Waldo?

Detected template

Correlation map

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Correlation as Template Matching

- Think of filters as a dot product of the filter vector with the image region
 - Now measure the angle between the vectors

$$a \cdot b = |a| |b| \cos \theta \quad \cos \theta = \frac{a \cdot b}{|a| |b|}$$
 - Angle (similarity) between vectors can be measured by normalizing length of each vector to 1.

Template

Image region

Vector interpretation

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Summary: Mask Properties

- Smoothing
 - Values positive
 - Sum to 1 \Rightarrow constant regions same as input
 - Amount of smoothing proportional to mask size
 - Remove "high-frequency" components; "low-pass" filter
- Filters act as templates
 - Highest response for regions that "look the most like the filter"
 - Dot product as correlation

Slide credit: Kristen Grauman B. Leibe

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Summary Linear Filters

- Linear filtering:
 - Form a new image whose pixels are a weighted sum of original pixel values
- Properties
 - Output is a shift-invariant function of the input (same at each image location)

Examples:

- Smoothing with a box filter
- Smoothing with a Gaussian
- Finding a derivative
- Searching for a template

Pyramid representations

- Important for describing and searching an image at all scales

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References and Further Reading

- Background information on linear filters and their connection with the Fourier transform can be found in Chapter 3 of the Szeliski book or Chapters 7 and 8 of Forsyth & Ponce.

R. Szeliski
Computer Vision – Algorithms and Applications
Springer, 2010

D. Forsyth, J. Ponce,
Computer Vision – A Modern Approach.
Prentice Hall, 2003

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