Computer Vision – Lecture 13

Local Features II

09.12.2014

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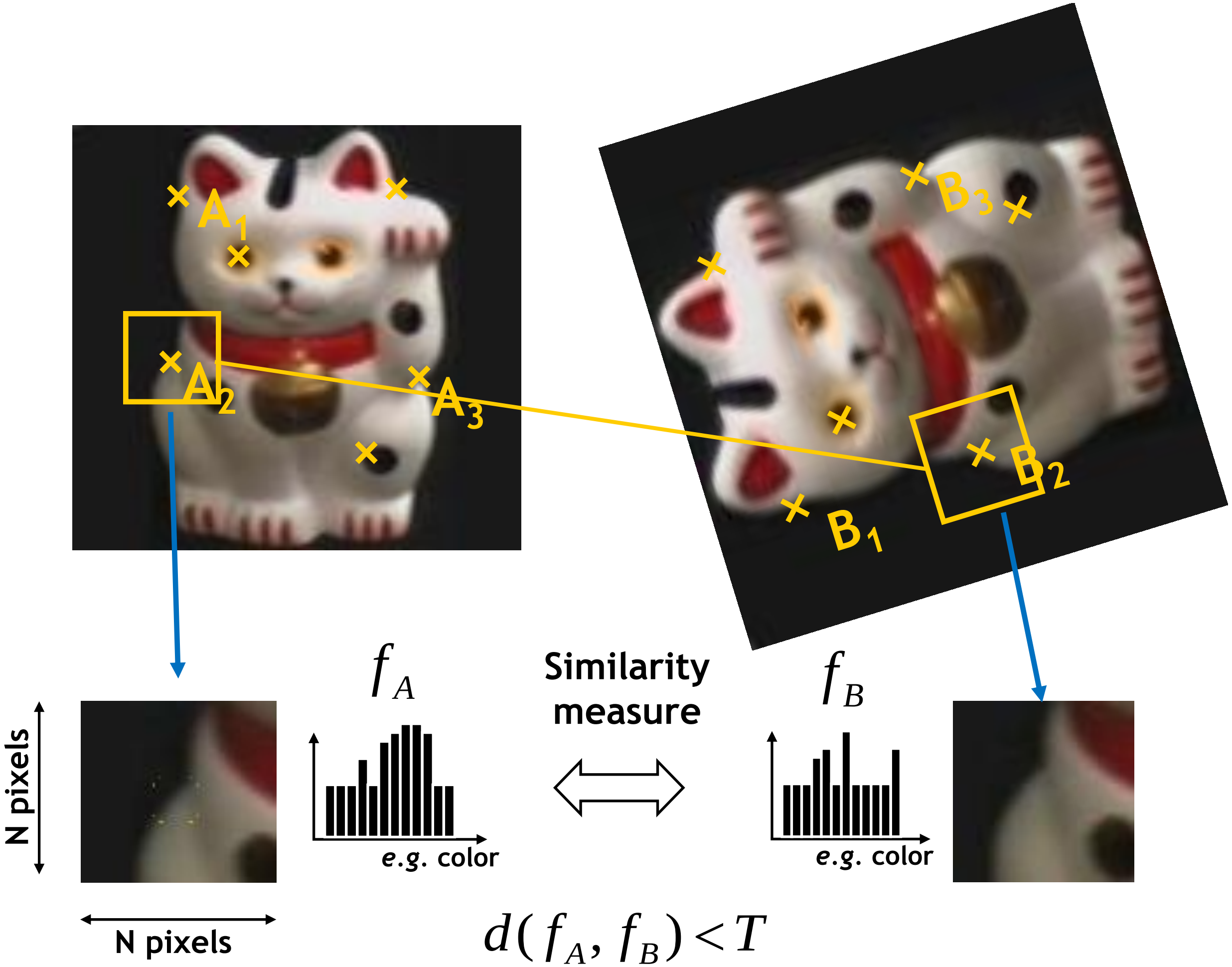
Course Outline

- Image Processing Basics
- Segmentation & Grouping
- Object Recognition
- Object Categorization I
  - Sliding Window based Object Detection
- Local Features & Matching
  - Local Features - Detection and Description
  - Recognition with Local Features
- Object Categorization II
  - Part based Approaches
- 3D Reconstruction
- Motion and Tracking

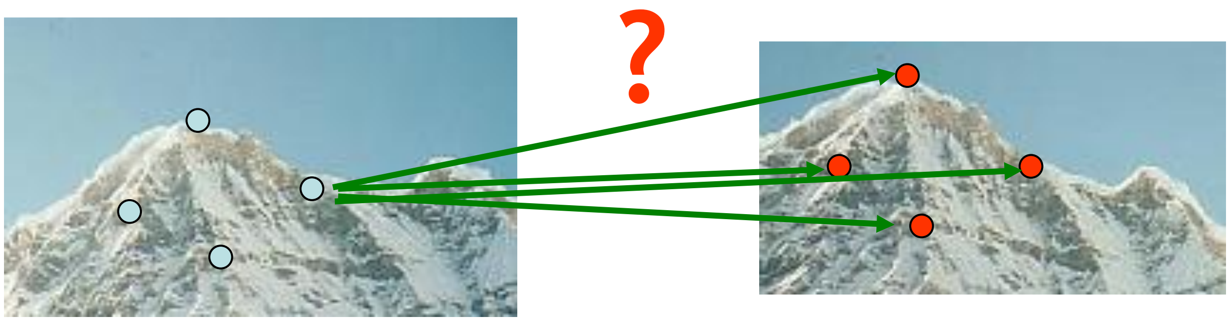
Recap: Local Feature Matching Outline



1. Find a set of distinctive key-points
2. Define a region around each keypoint
3. Extract and normalize the region content
4. Compute a local descriptor from the normalized region
5. Match local descriptors

Recap: Requirements for Local Features

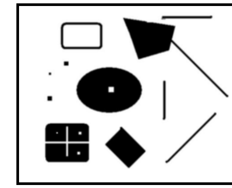
- **Problem 1:**
  - Detect the same point *independently* in both images
- **Problem 2:**
  - For each point correctly recognize the corresponding one



We need a repeatable detector!

We need a reliable and distinctive descriptor!

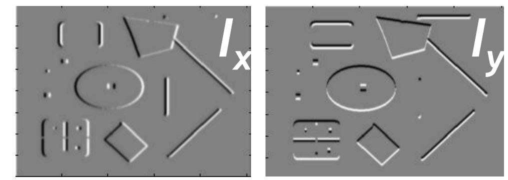
Recap: Harris Detector [Harris88]



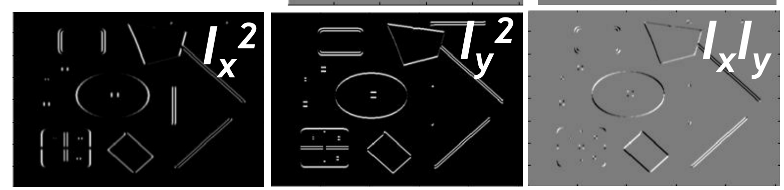
- Compute second moment matrix (autocorrelation matrix)

$$M(\sigma_I,\sigma_D)=g(\sigma_I)*\begin{bmatrix} I_x^2(\sigma_D) & I_xI_y(\sigma_D) \\ I_xI_y(\sigma_D) & I_y^2(\sigma_D) \end{bmatrix}$$

1. Image derivatives



2. Square of derivatives



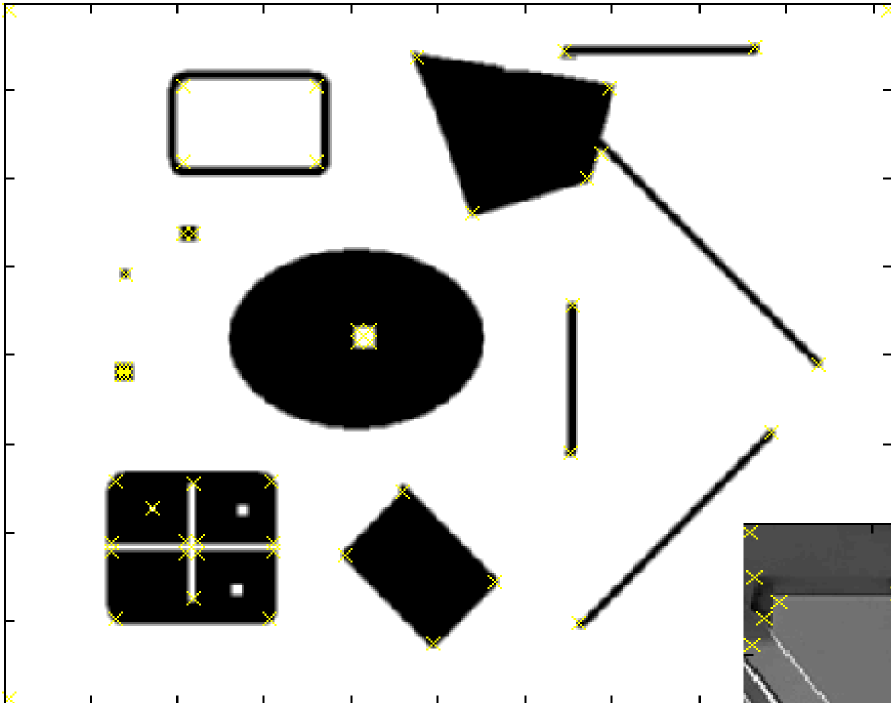
3. Gaussian filter $g(\sigma_I)$

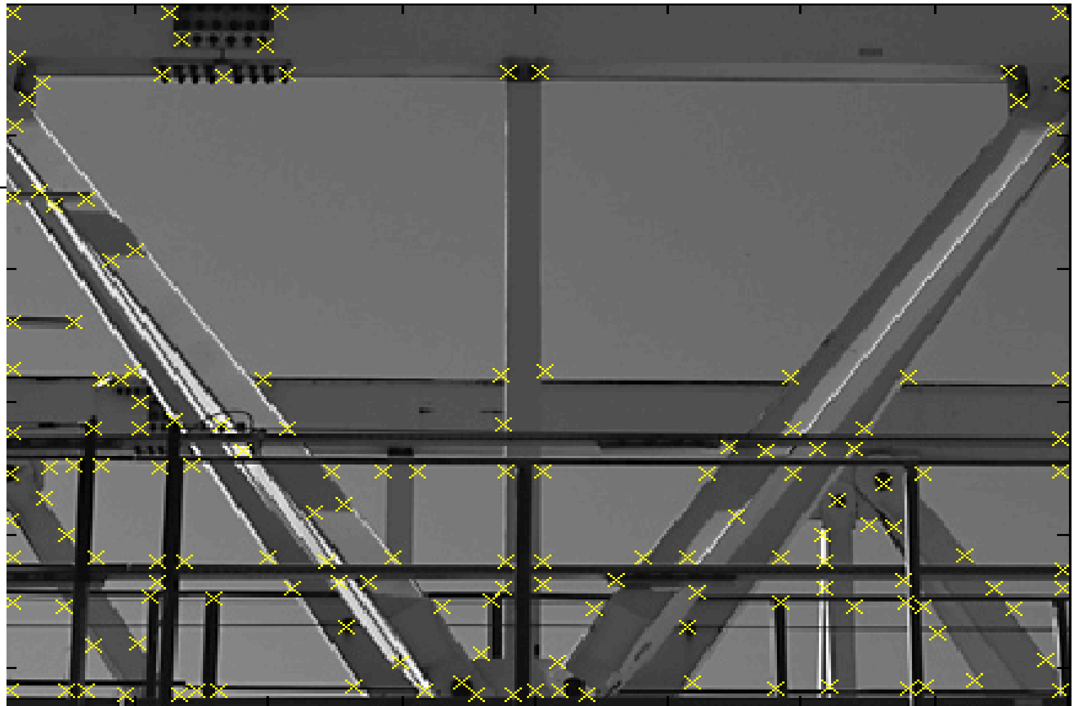
4. Cornerness function - two strong eigenvalues

$$R=\det[M(\sigma_I,\sigma_D)]-\alpha[\operatorname{trace}(M(\sigma_I,\sigma_D))]^2$$
$$=g(I_x^2)g(I_y^2)-[g(I_xI_y)]^2-\alpha[g(I_x^2)+g(I_y^2)]^2$$

5. Perform non-maximum suppression

Recap: Harris Detector Responses [Harris88]





Effect: A very precise corner detector.

Slide credit: Krystian Mikolajczyk

Recap: Hessian Detector [Beaudet78]

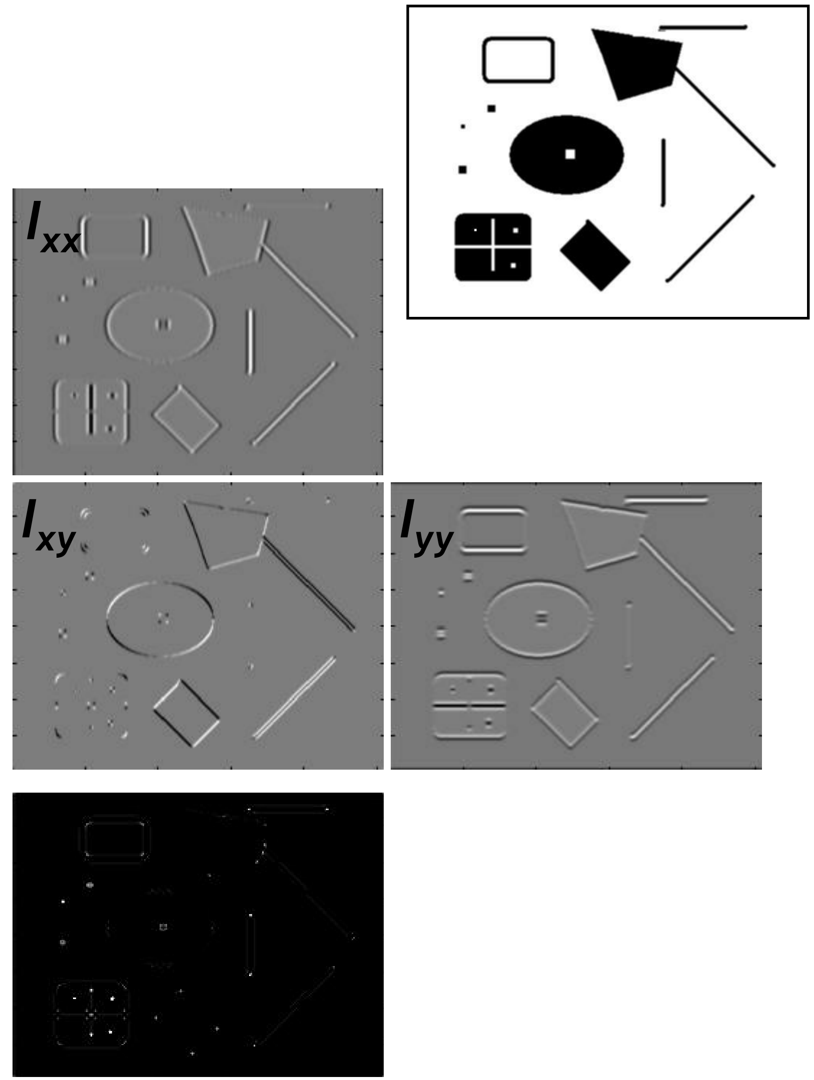
- **Hessian determinant**

$$Hessian(I) = \begin{bmatrix} I_{xx} & I_{xy} \\ I_{xy} & I_{yy} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det(Hessian(I)) = I_{xx} I_{yy} - I_{xy}^2$$

In Matlab:

$$I_{xx} .* I_{yy} - (I_{xy}).\wedge 2$$



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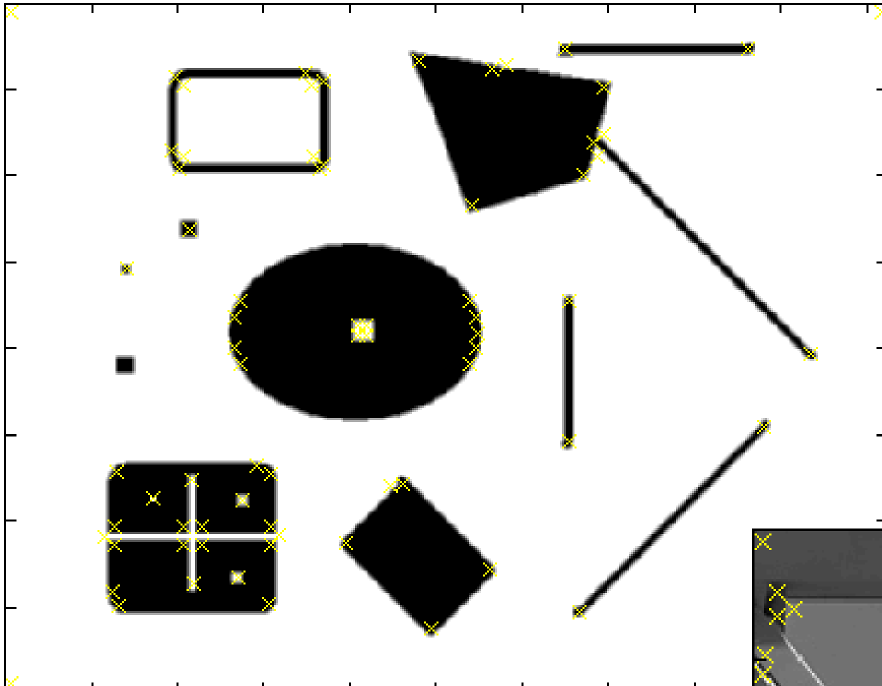
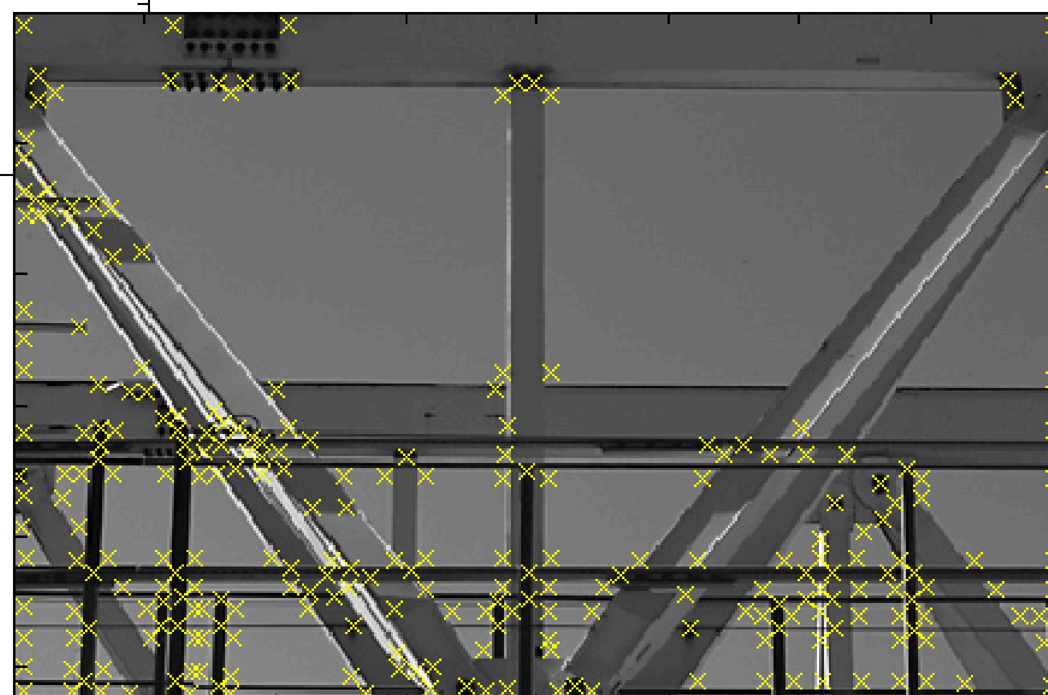
Recap: Hessian Detector Responses [Beaudet78]





Effect: **Responses mainly on corners and strongly textured areas.**

Topics of This Lecture

- Local Feature Extraction (cont'd)
  - Scale Invariant Region Selection
  - Orientation normalization
  - Affine Invariant Feature Extraction
- Local Descriptors
  - SIFT
- Applications

From Points to Regions…

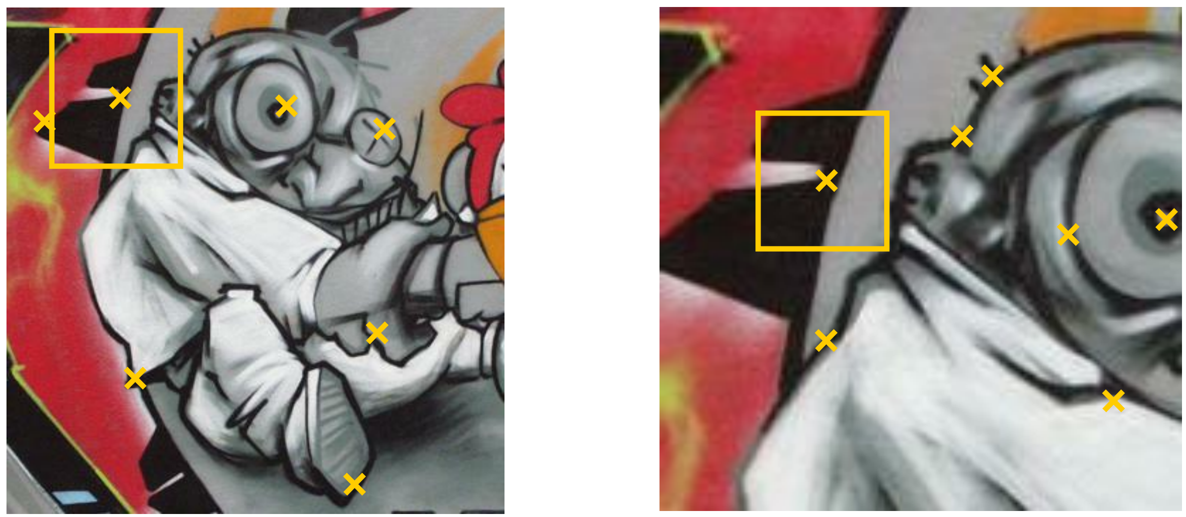
- The Harris and Hessian operators define interest points.
  - Precise localization
  - High repeatability

- In order to compare those points, we need to compute a descriptor over a region.
  - How can we define such a region in a scale invariant manner?

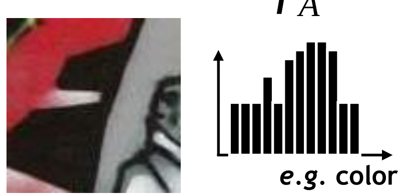
- *I.e. how can we detect scale invariant interest regions?*

Naïve Approach: Exhaustive Search

- **Multi-scale procedure**
  - Compare descriptors while varying the patch size



f_A

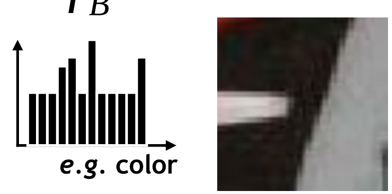


Similarity measure

$\neq$

$d(f_A, f_B)$

f_B



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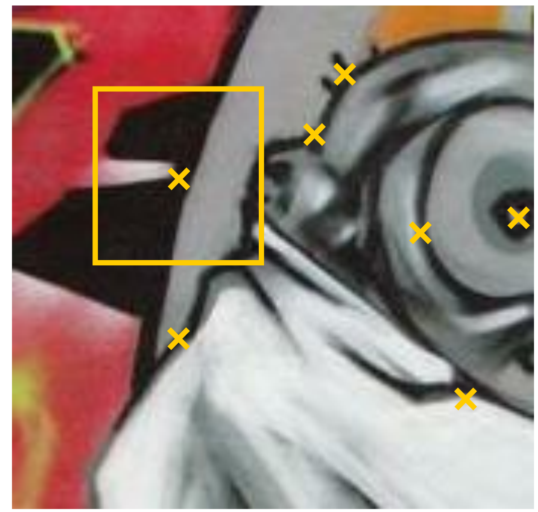

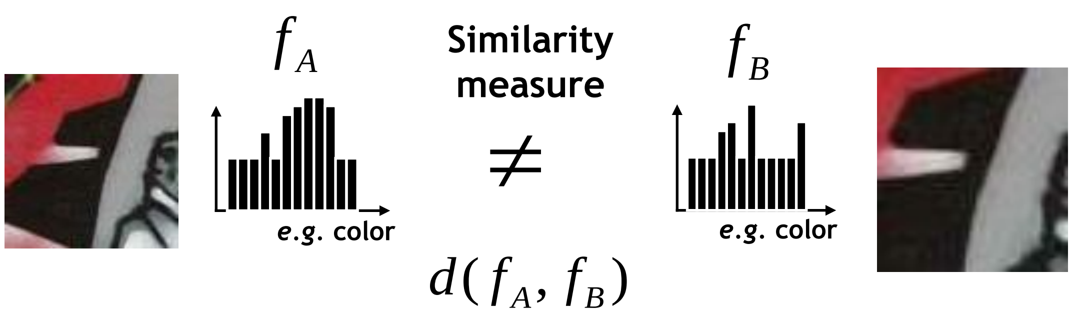

Naïve Approach: Exhaustive Search

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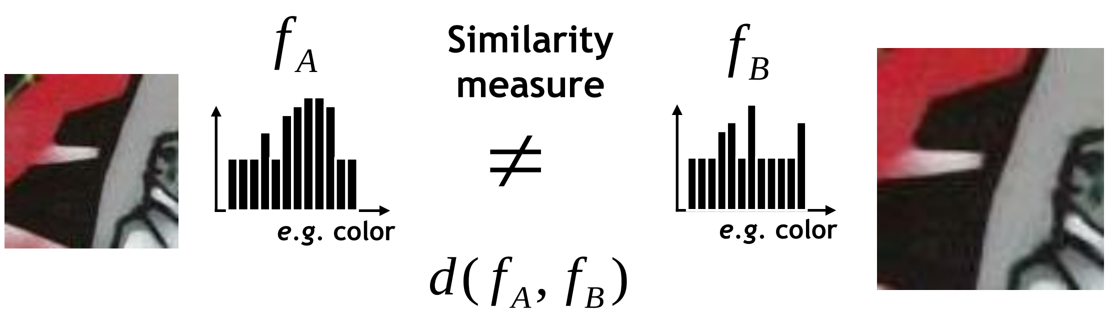

Naïve Approach: Exhaustive Search

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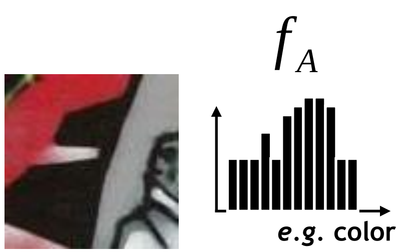


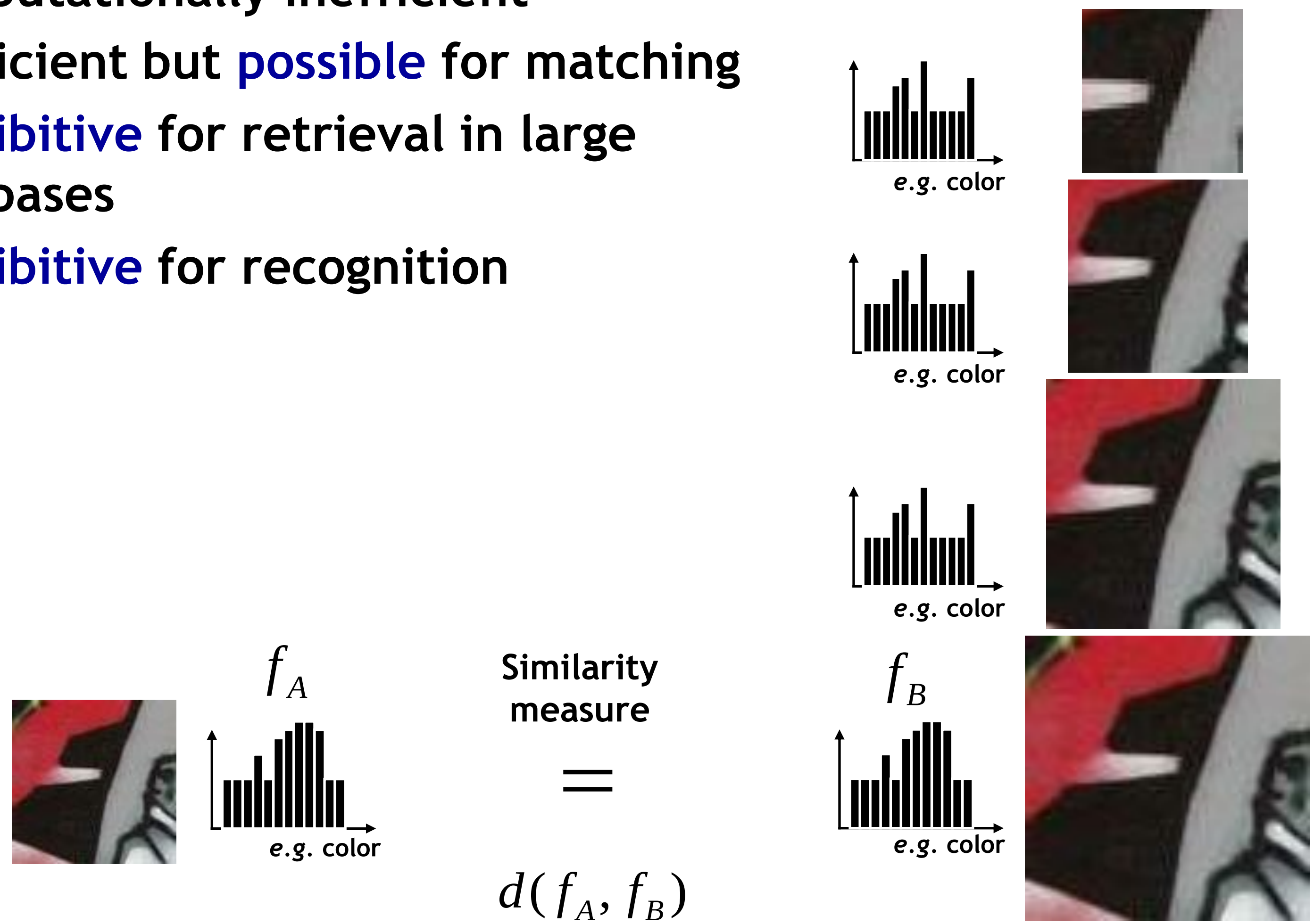
Similarity measure

$$=$$

$$d(f_A, f_B)$$

Naïve Approach: Exhaustive Search

- Comparing descriptors while varying the patch size
  - Computationally inefficient
  - Inefficient but possible for matching
  - Prohibitive for retrieval in large databases
  - Prohibitive for recognition

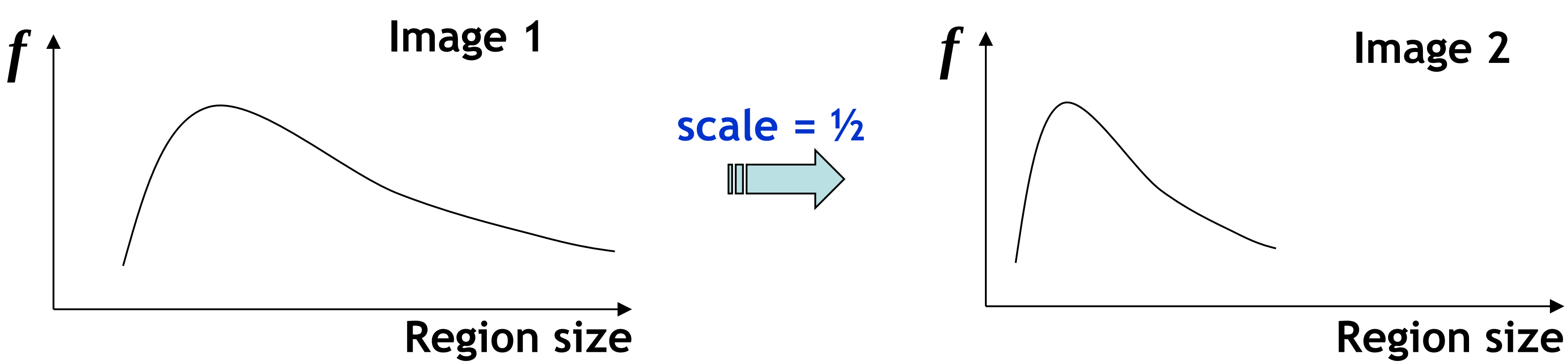


Automatic Scale Selection

- **Solution:**
  - Design a function on the region, which is “scale invariant” (*the same for corresponding regions, even if they are at different scales*)

    > Example: average intensity. For corresponding regions (even of different sizes) it will be the same.

  - For a point in one image, we can consider it as a function of region size (patch width)

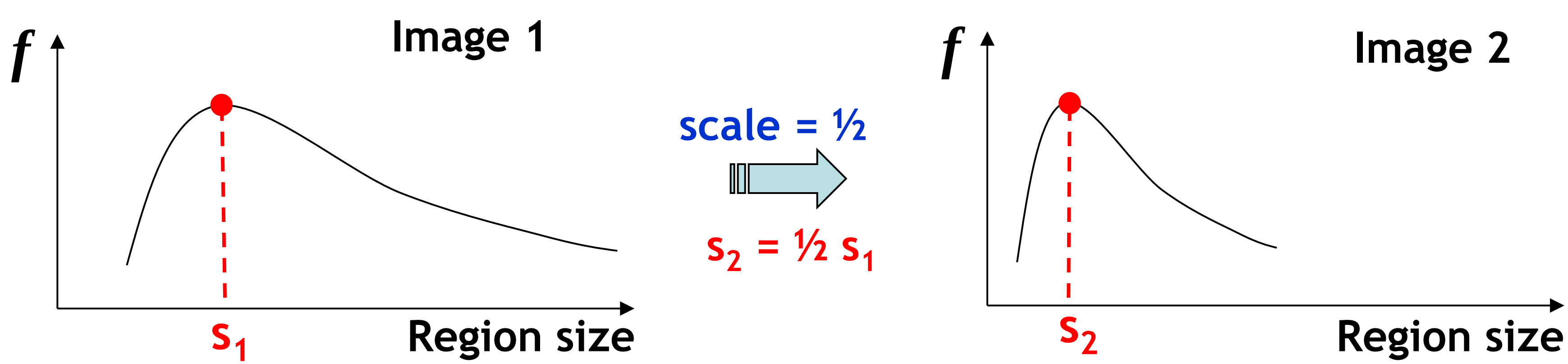


Slide credit: Kristen Grauman

Automatic Scale Selection

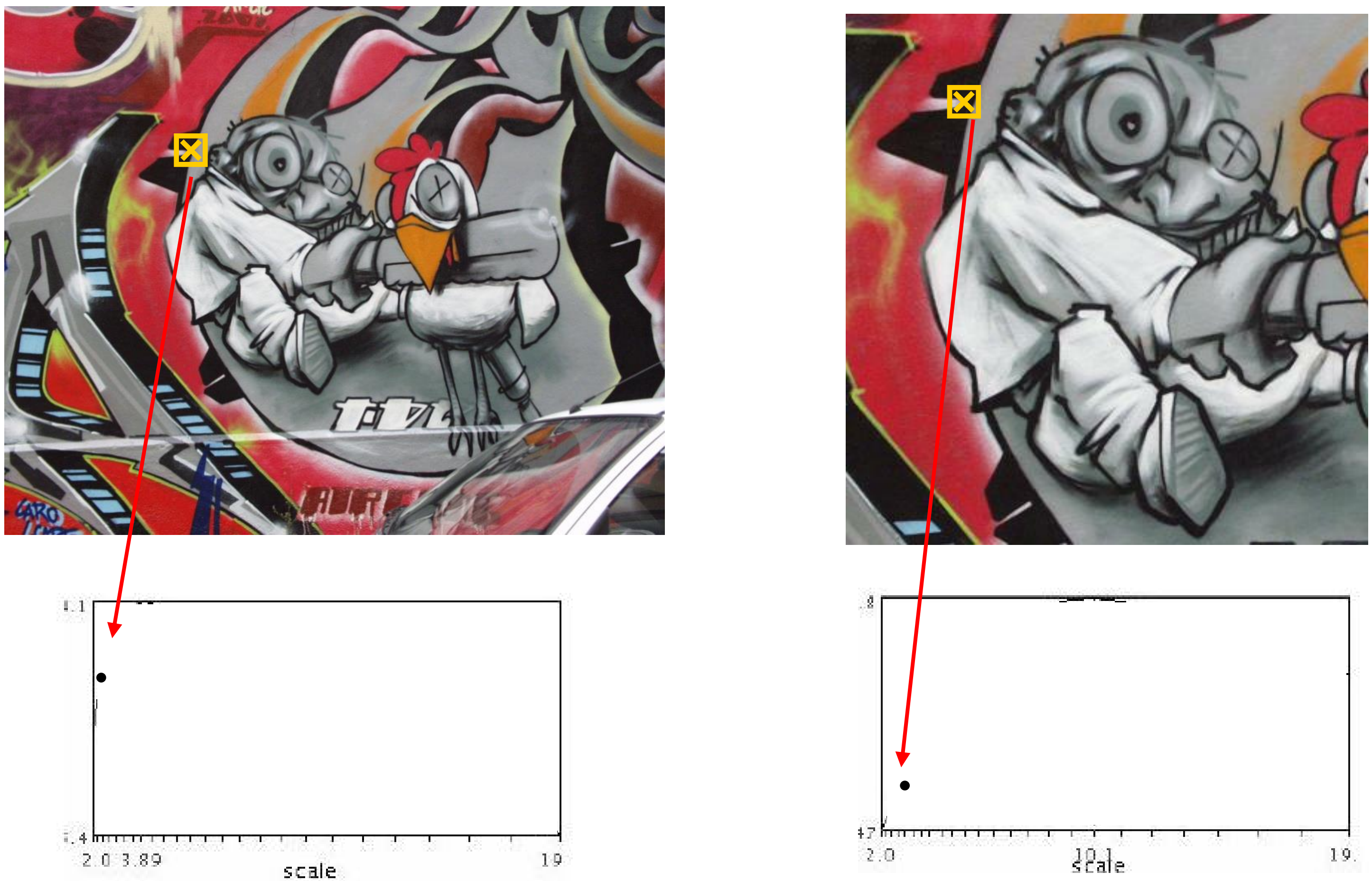
- Common approach:
  - Take a local maximum of this function.
  - Observation: region size for which the maximum is achieved should be *invariant* to image scale.

Important: this scale invariant region size is found in each image independently!



Automatic Scale Selection

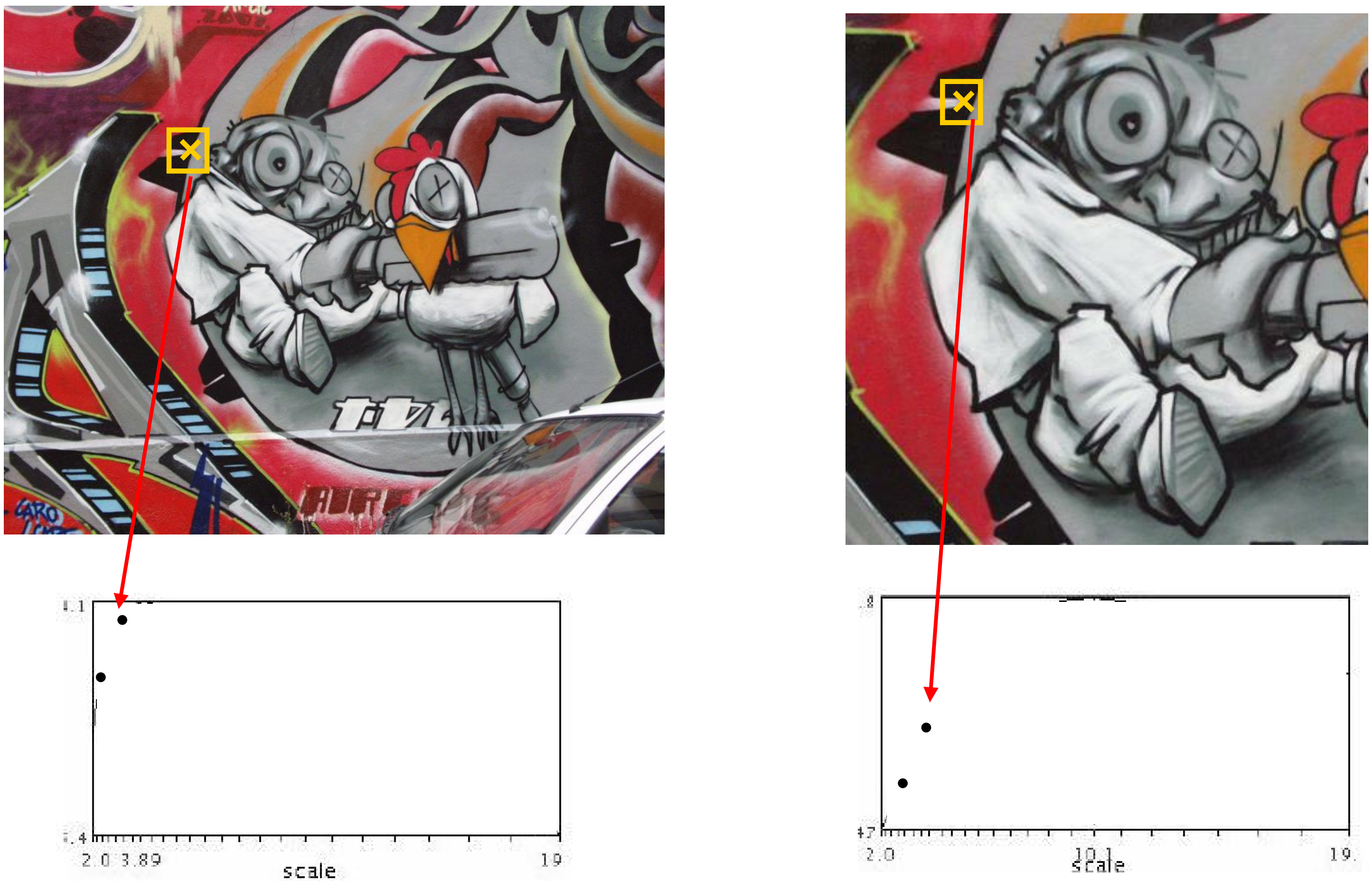
- Function responses for increasing scale (scale signature)



$f(I_{i_1 \ldots i_m}(x, \sigma))$ $\quad$ $f(I_{i_1 \ldots i_m}(x', \sigma))$

Automatic Scale Selection

- Function responses for increasing scale (scale signature)



$f(I_{i_1 \ldots i_m}(x,\sigma))$ $\qquad$ $f(I_{i_1 \ldots i_m}(x',\sigma))$

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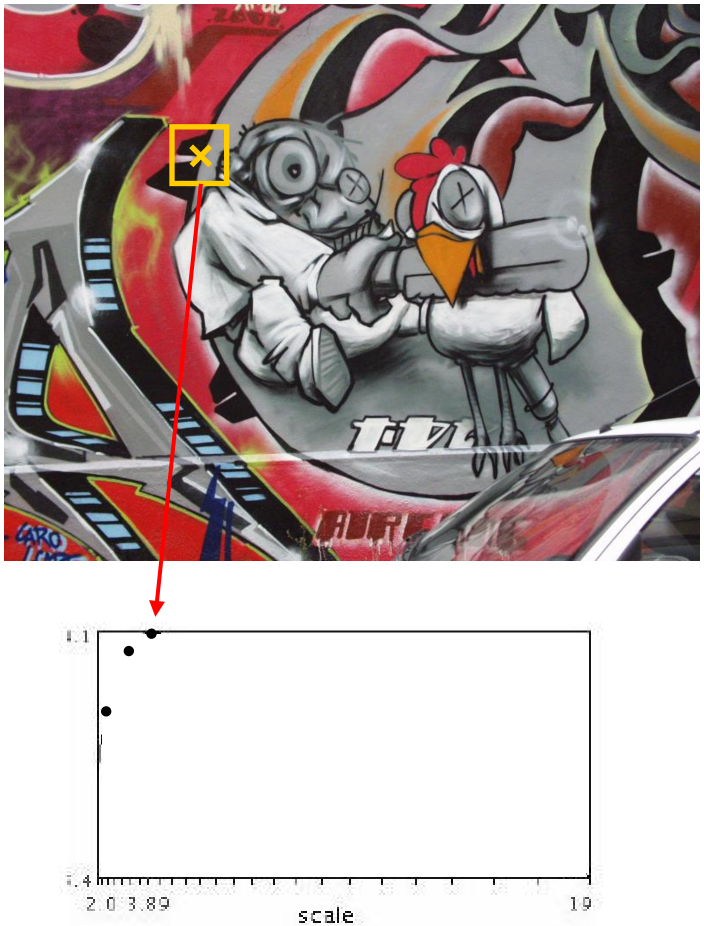
Automatic Scale Selection

- Function responses for increasing scale (scale signature)



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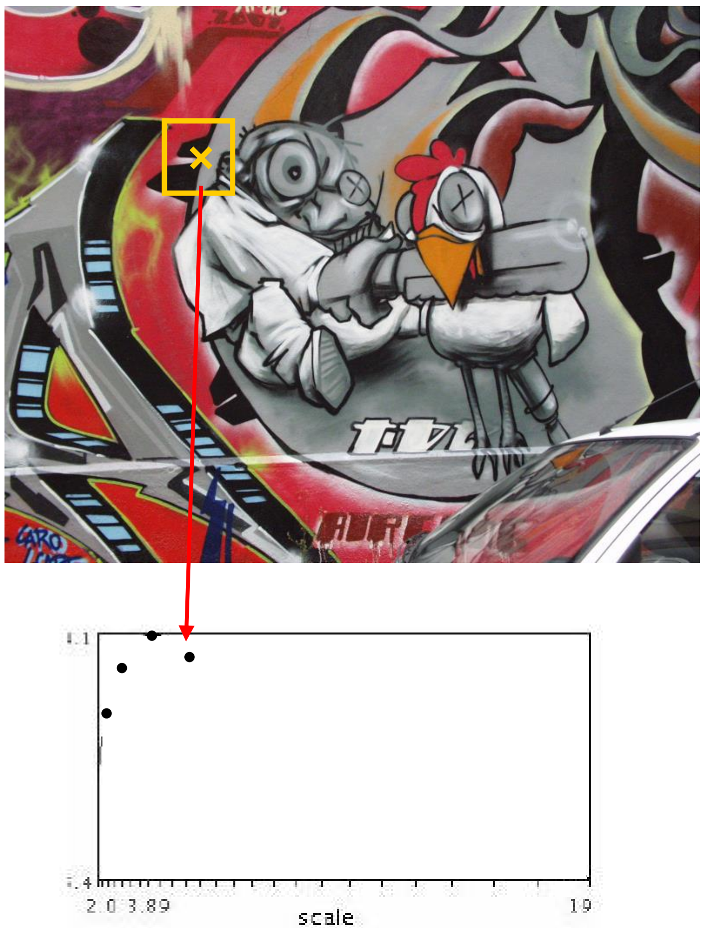

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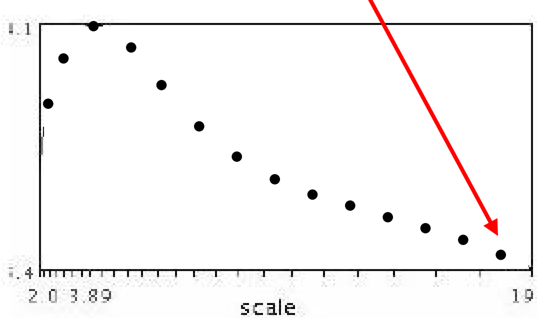
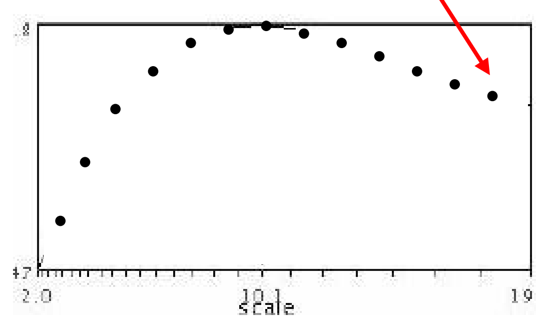


$f(I_{i_1 \ldots i_m}(x, \sigma))$



$f(I_{i_1 \ldots i_m}(x', \sigma))$

Slide credit: Krystian Mikolajczyk

Automatic Scale Selection

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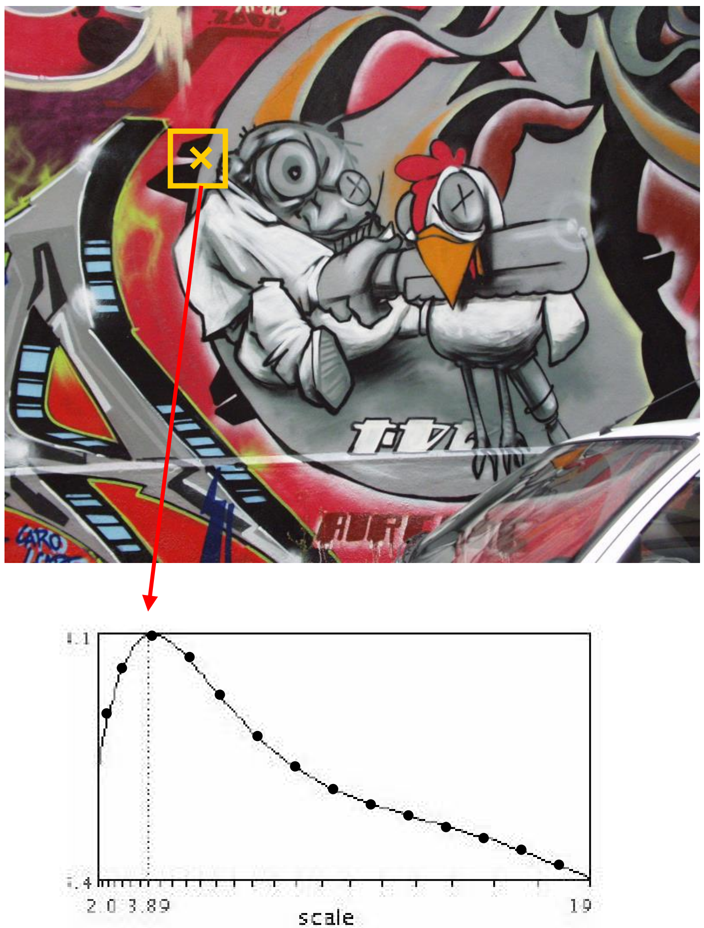
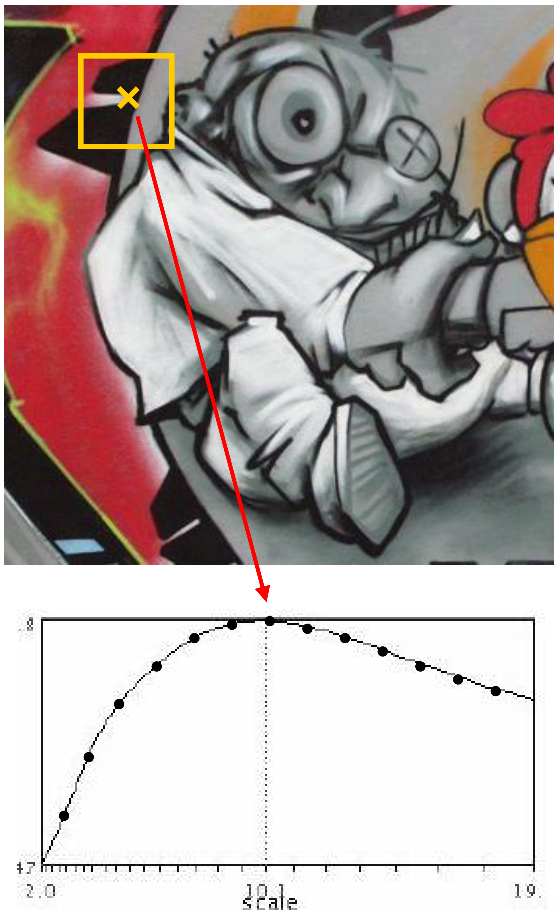


$f(I_{i_1 \dots i_m}(x, \sigma))$

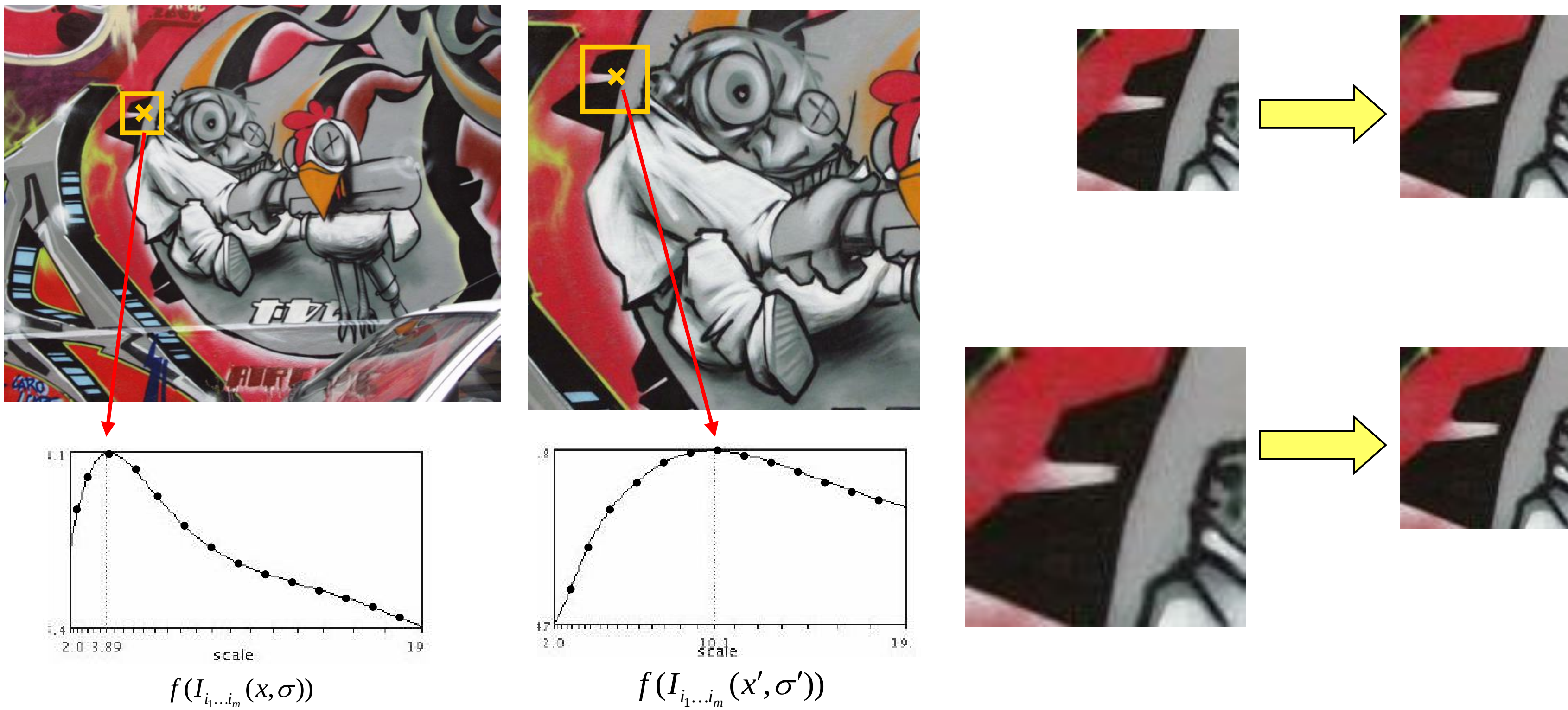


$f(I_{i_1 \dots i_m}(x', \sigma'))$

Slide credit: Krystian Mikolajczyk

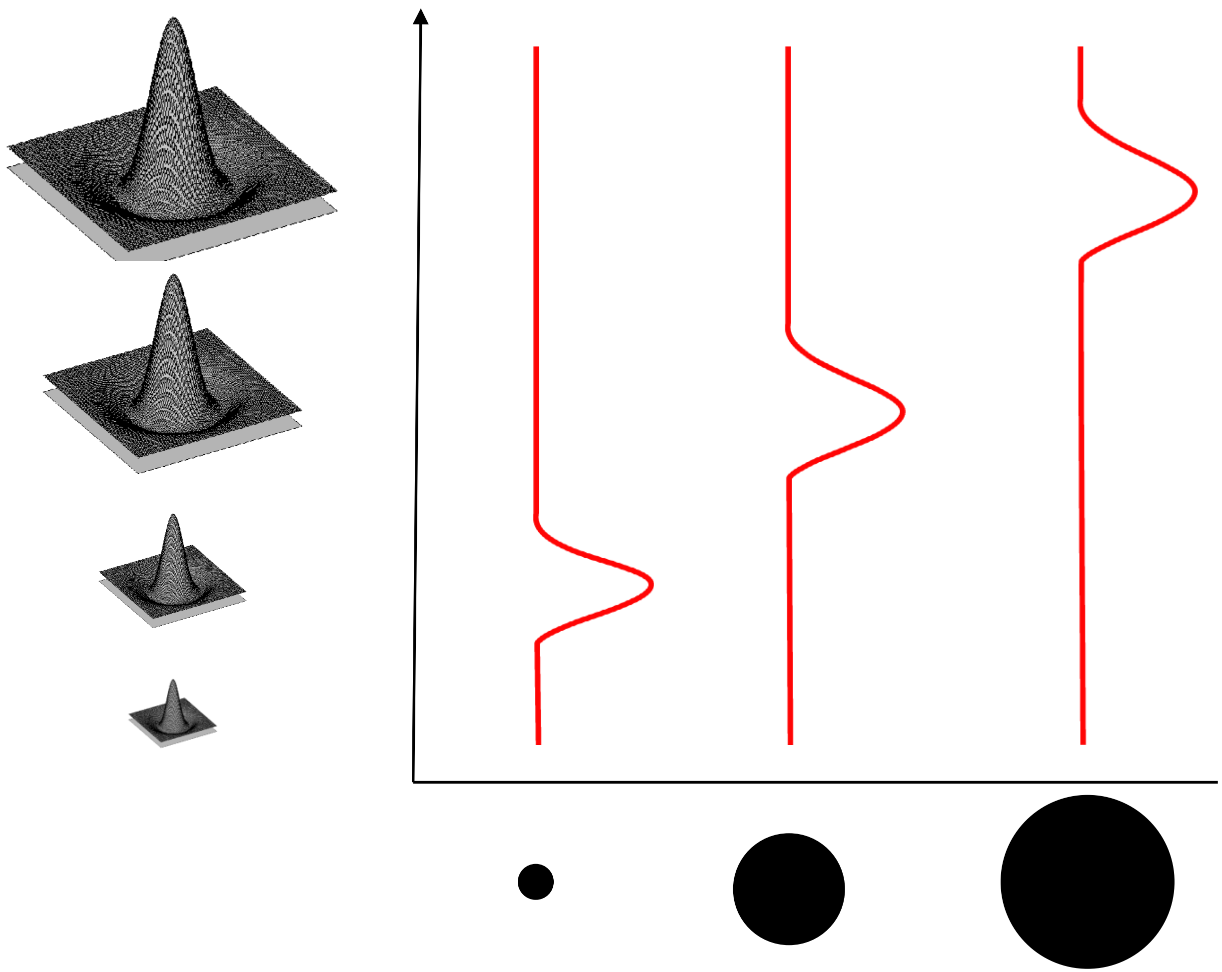
Automatic Scale Selection

- Normalize: Rescale to fixed size



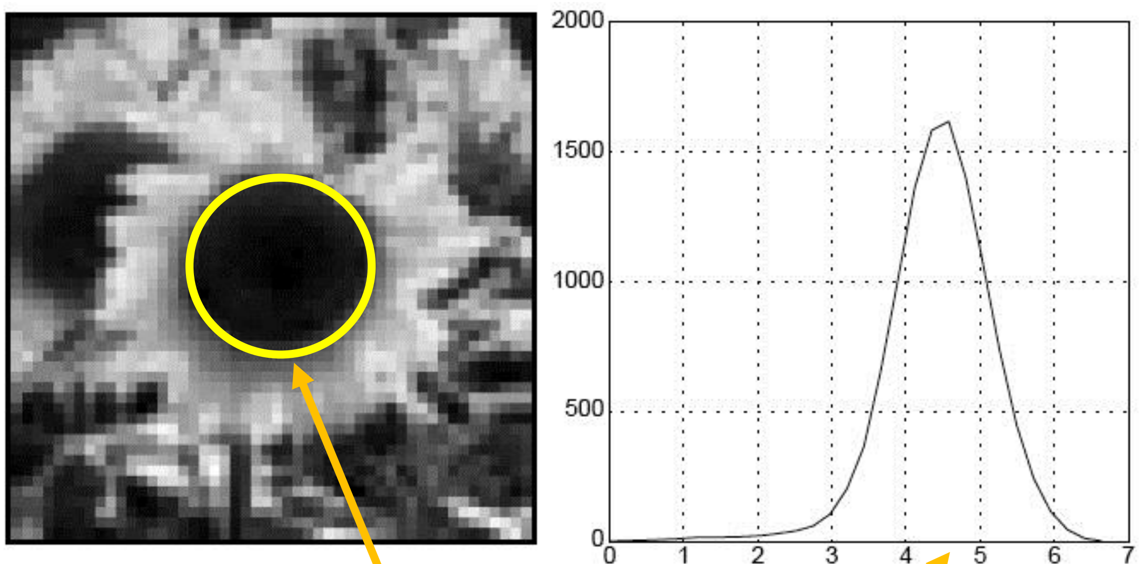
What Is A Useful Signature Function?

- Laplacian-of-Gaussian = “blob” detector



Characteristic Scale

- We define the *characteristic scale* as the scale that produces peak of Laplacian response



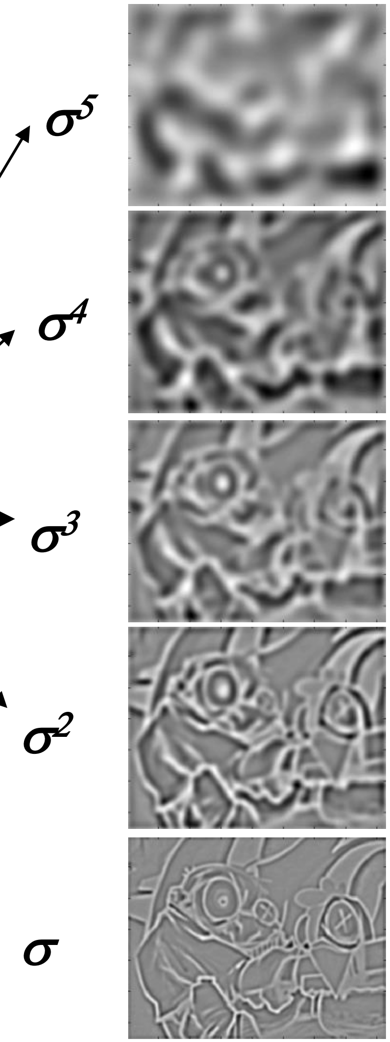
Characteristic scale

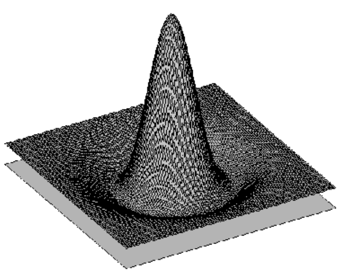
T. Lindeberg (1998). "Feature detection with automatic scale selection." *International Journal of Computer Vision* 30 (2): pp 77--116.

Laplacian-of-Gaussian (LoG)

- **Interest points:**
  - Local maxima in scale space of Laplacian-of-Gaussian

$$L_{xx}(\sigma)+L_{yy}(\sigma)$$





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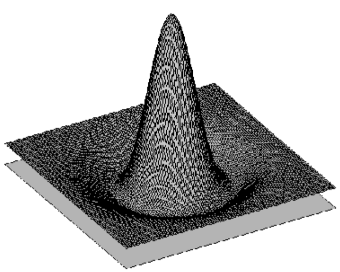
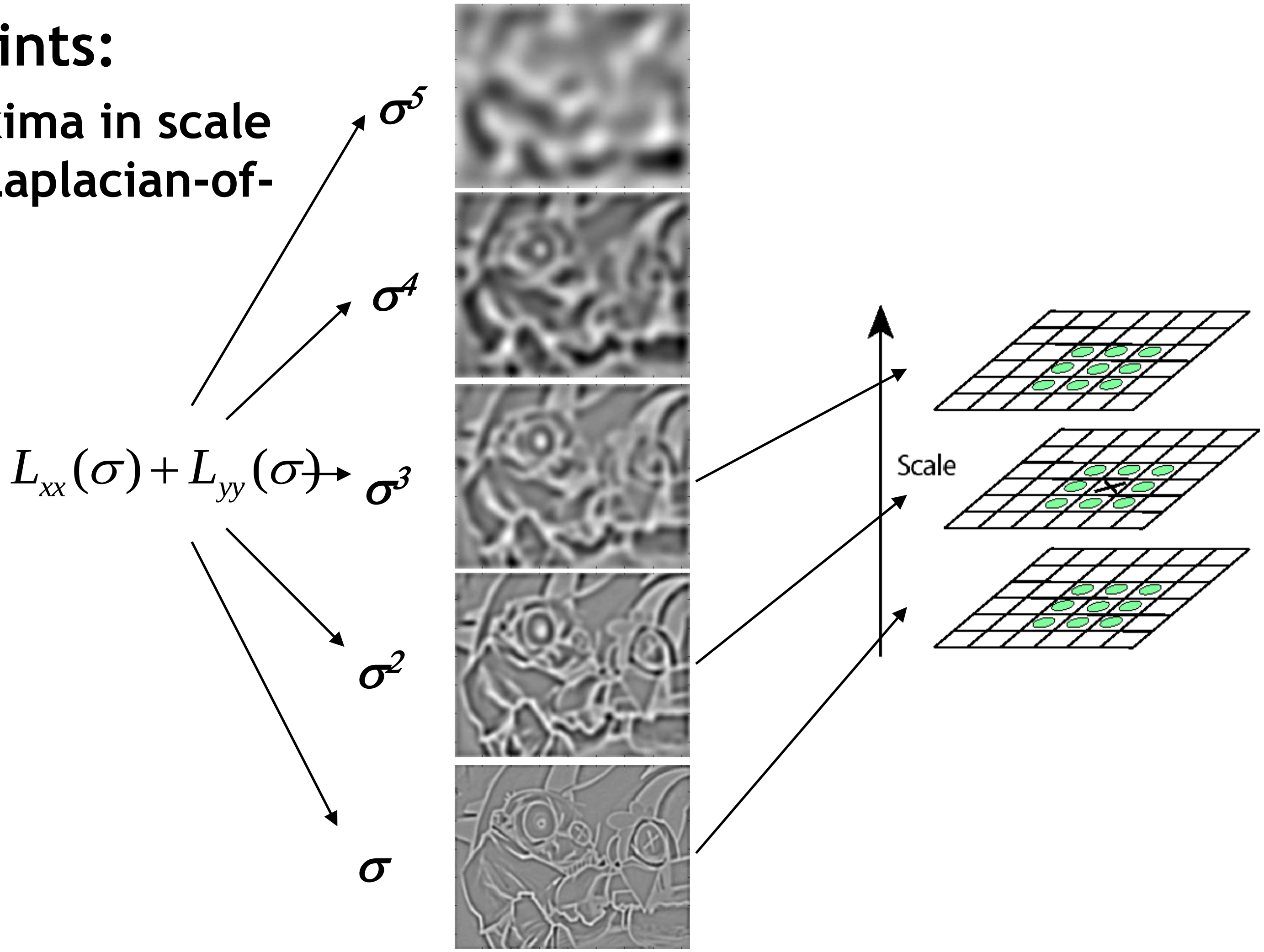
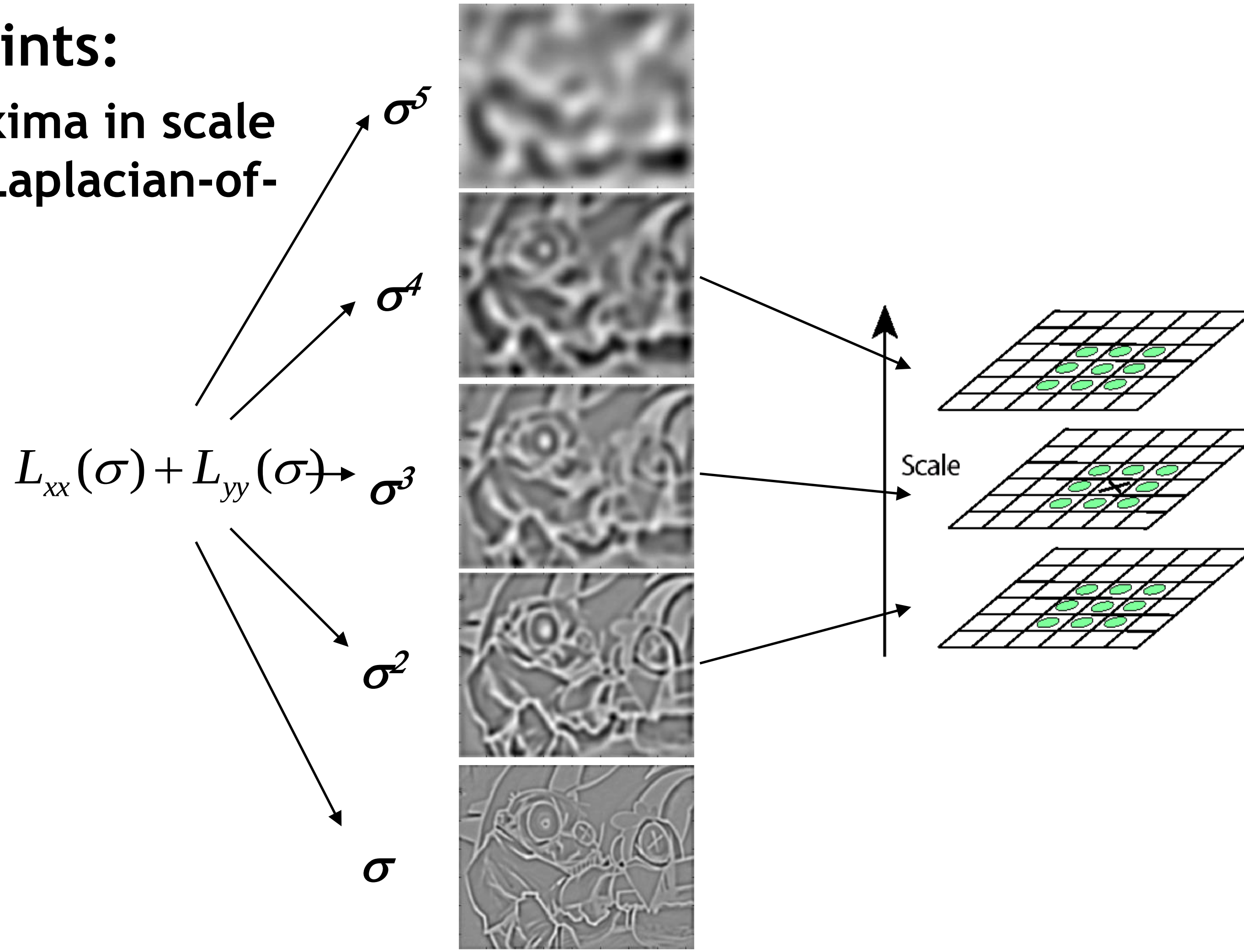
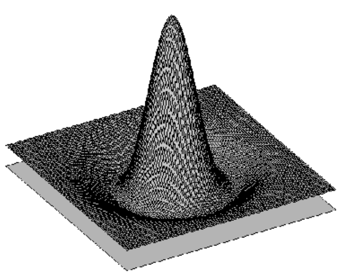




Laplacian-of-Gaussian (LoG)

- **Interest points:**
  - **Local maxima in scale space of Laplacian-of-Gaussian**





Laplacian-of-Gaussian (LoG)

- **Interest points:**
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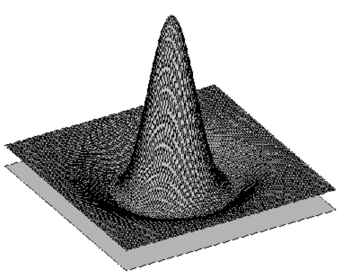
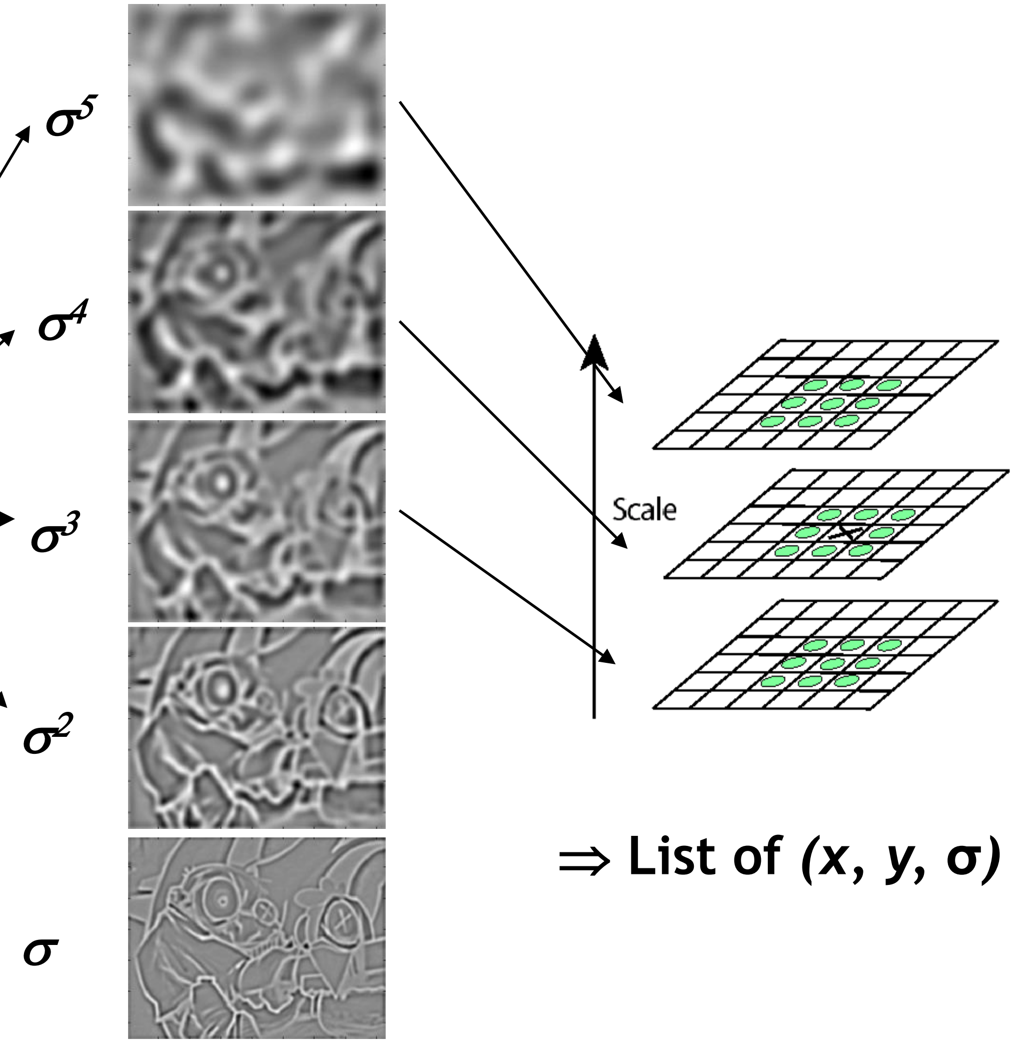


$$L_{xx}(\sigma) + L_{yy}(\sigma) \rightarrow$$



⇒ List of *(x, y, σ)*

LoG Detector: Workflow

Slide credit: Svetlana Lazebnik

LoG Detector: Workflow

sigma = 11.9912

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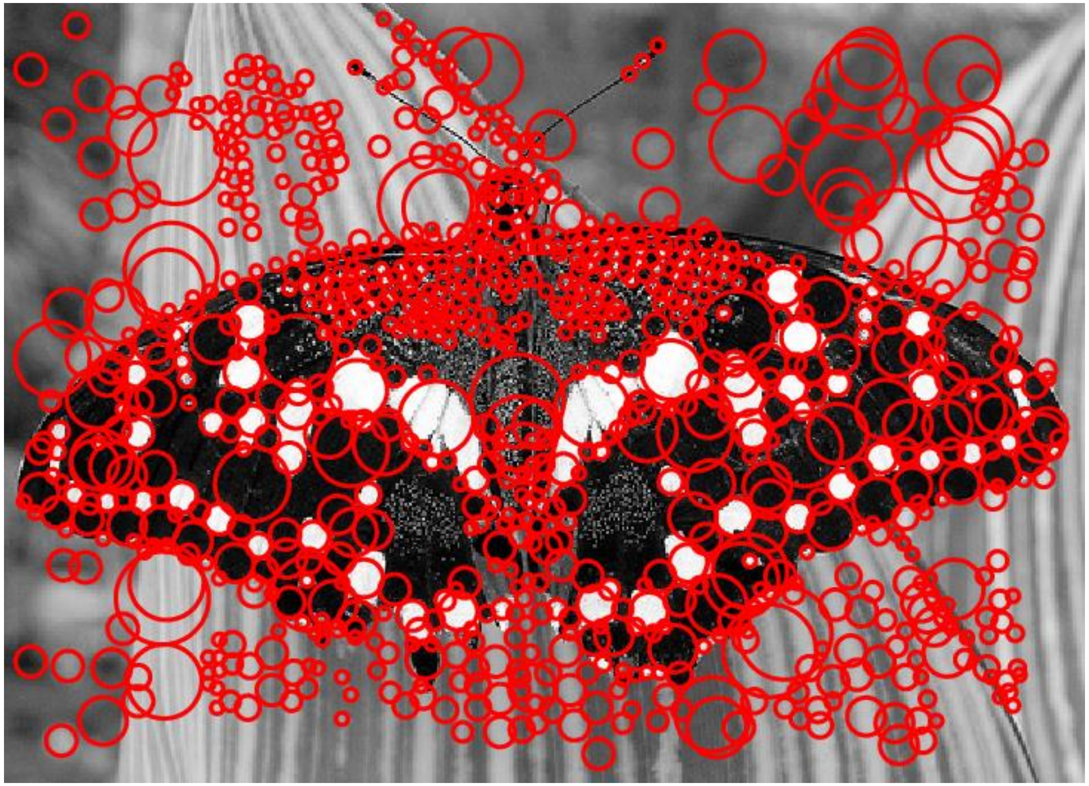
LoG Detector: Workflow



Difference-of-Gaussian (DoG)

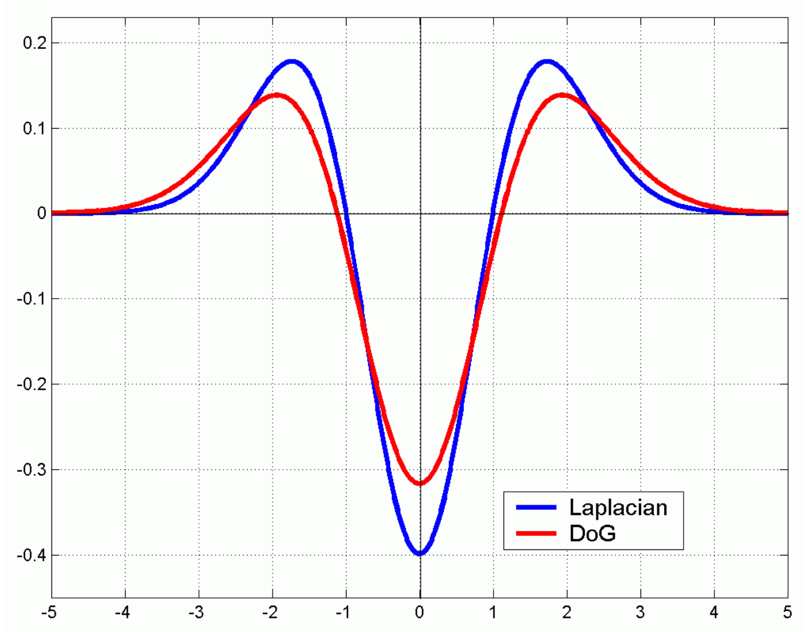
- We can efficiently approximate the Laplacian with a difference of Gaussians:

$$L = \sigma^2 \left(G_{xx}(x,y,\sigma) + G_{yy}(x,y,\sigma) \right)$$

(Laplacian)

$$DoG = G(x,y,k\sigma) - G(x,y,\sigma)$$

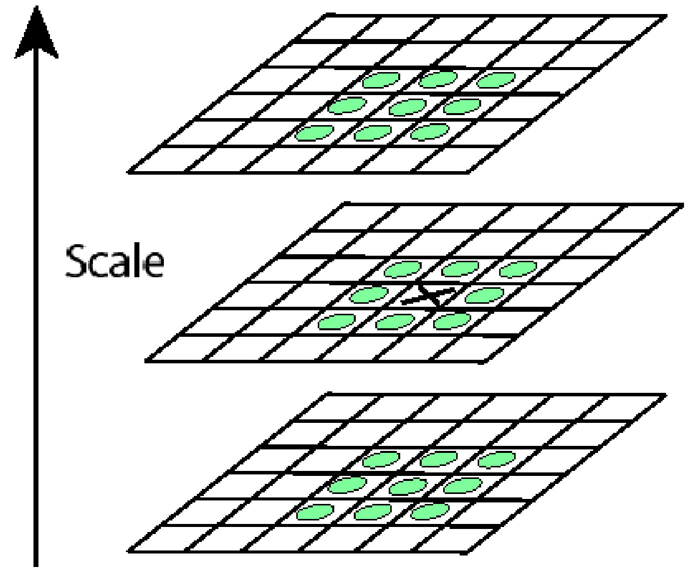
(Difference of Gaussians)



- Advantages?
  - No need to compute 2nd derivatives.
  - Gaussians are computed anyway, e.g. in a Gaussian pyramid.

Key point localization with DoG

- Detect maxima of difference-of-Gaussian (DoG) in scale space
- Then reject points with low contrast (threshold)
- Eliminate edge responses



Candidate keypoints:
list of (x,y,σ)

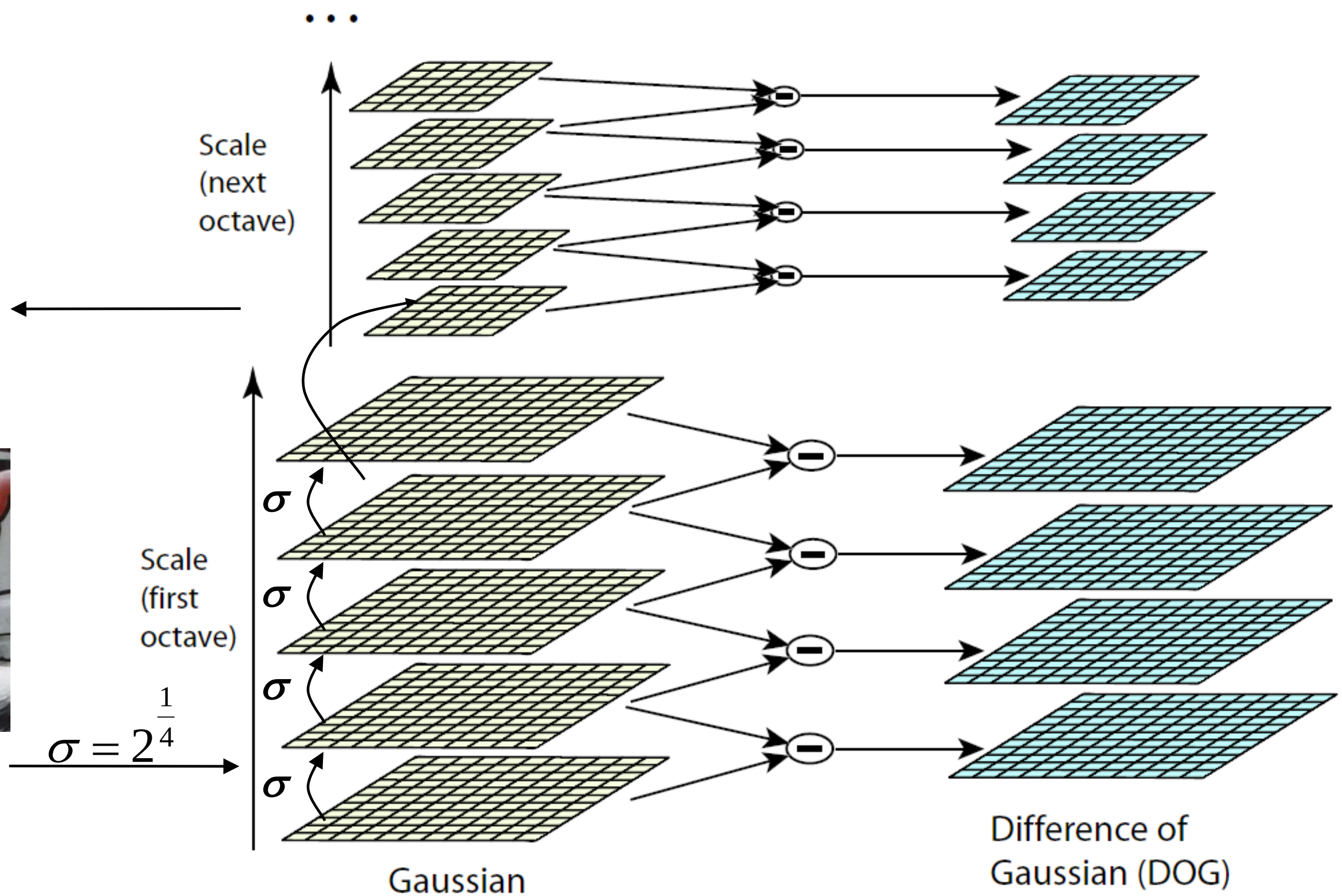
Slide credit: David Lowe

DoG – Efficient Computation

- **Computation in Gaussian scale pyramid**

Sampling with step $\sigma^4 = 2$

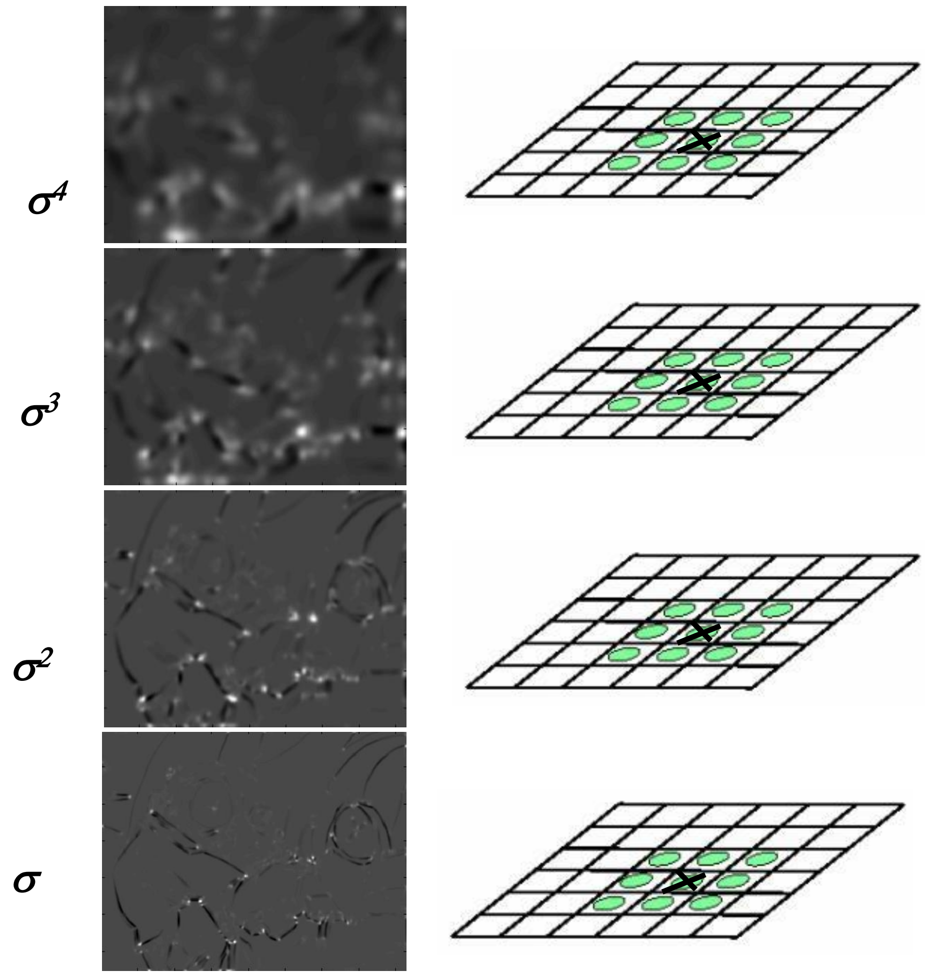
Original image



Results: Lowe's DoG

Harris-Laplace [Mikolajczyk '01]

1. Initialization: Multiscale Harris corner detection



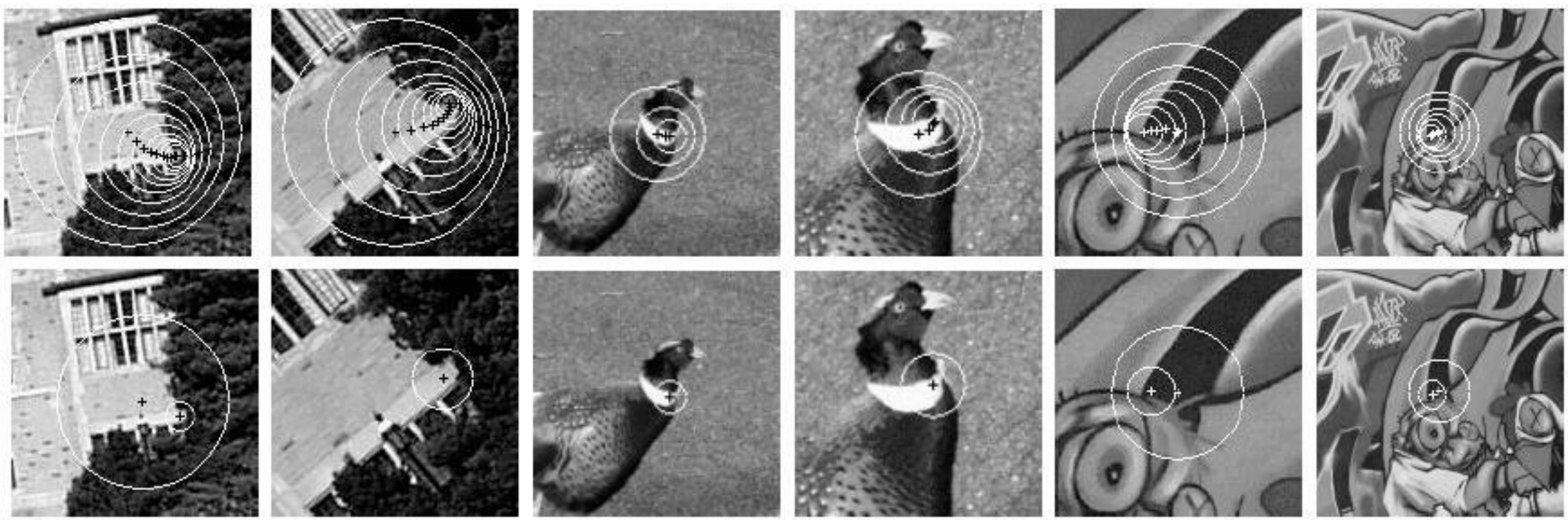
Computing Harris function   Detecting local maxima

Slide adapted from Krystian Mikolajczyk

Harris-Laplace [Mikolajczyk '01]

1. Initialization: Multiscale Harris corner detection
2. Scale selection based on Laplacian
   (same procedure with Hessian ⇒ Hessian-Laplace)

Harris points



Harris-Laplace points

Summary: Scale Invariant Detection

- **Given:** Two images of the same scene with a large *scale difference* between them.
- **Goal:** Find *the same* interest points *independently* in each image.
- **Solution:** Search for *maxima* of suitable functions in *scale* and in *space* (over the image).

- Two strategies
  - Laplacian-of-Gaussian (LoG)
  - Difference-of-Gaussian (DoG) as a fast approximation

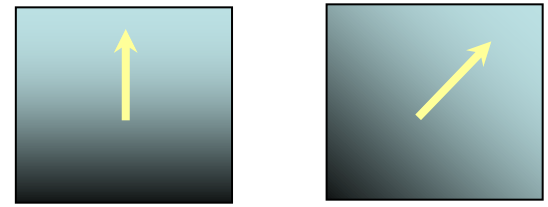
  - *These can be used either on their own, or in combinations with single-scale keypoint detectors (Harris, Hessian).*

Topics of This Lecture

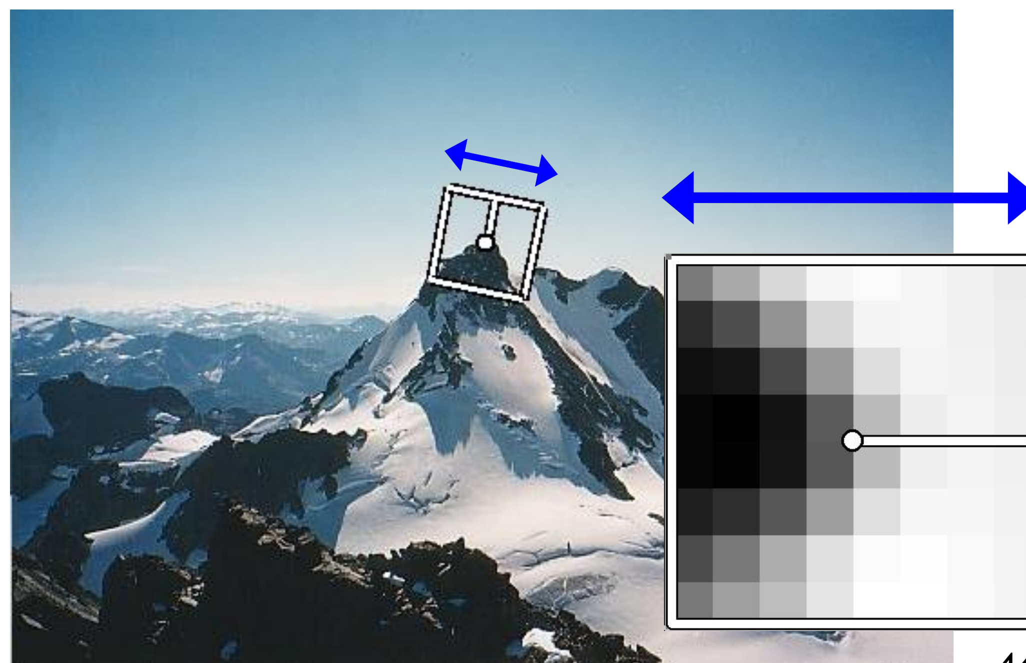
- Local Feature Extraction (cont'd)
  - Scale Invariant Region Selection
  - Orientation normalization
  - Affine Invariant Feature Extraction
- Local Descriptors
  - SIFT
- Applications

Rotation Invariant Descriptors

- Find local orientation
  - Dominant direction of gradient for the image patch



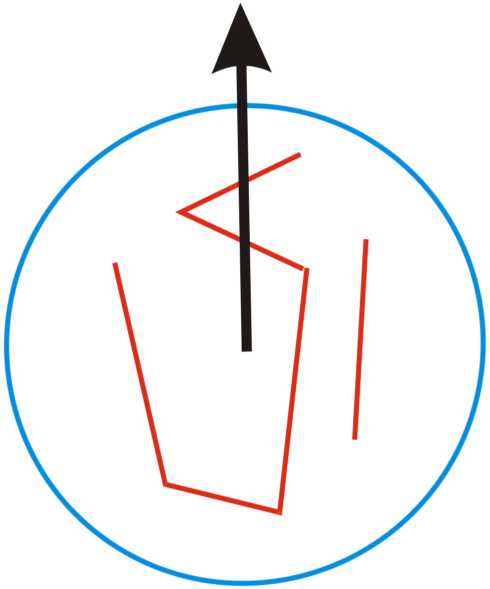
- Rotate patch according to this angle
  - This puts the patches into a canonical orientation.

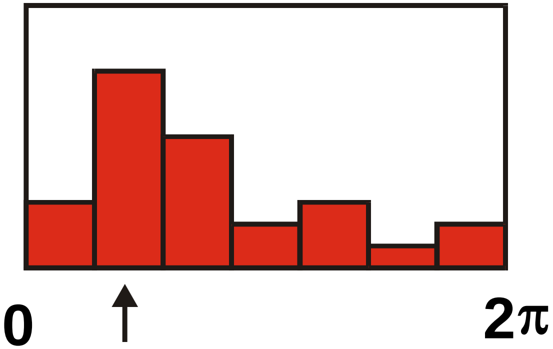


Slide credit: Svetlana Lazebnik, Matthew Brown

Orientation Normalization: Computation

- Compute orientation histogram [Lowe, SIFT, 1999]
- Select dominant orientation
- Normalize: rotate to fixed orientation





Slide adapted from David Lowe

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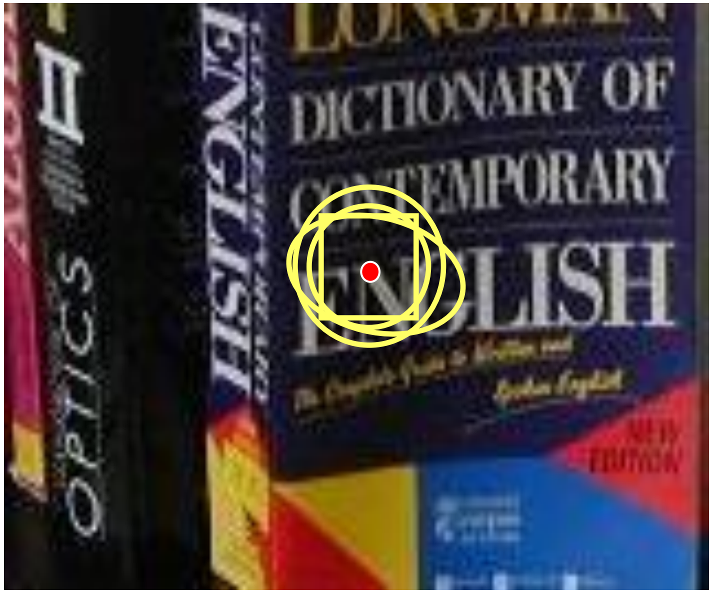
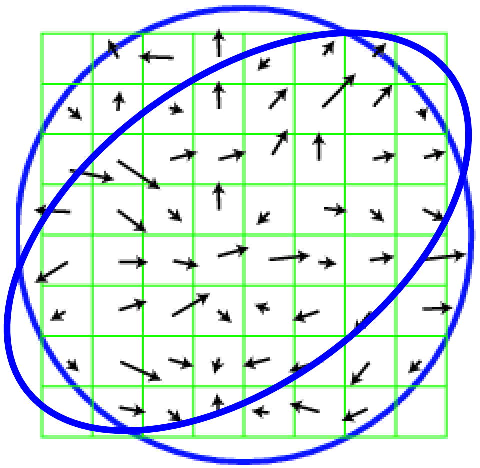
The Need for Invariance



- Up to now, we had invariance to
  - Translation
  - Scale
  - Rotation
- Not sufficient to match regions under viewpoint changes
  - For this, we need also affine adaptation

Affine Adaptation

- **Problem:**
  - Determine the characteristic shape of the region.
  - Assumption: shape can be described by "local affine frame".
- **Solution: iterative approach**
  - Use a circular window to compute second moment matrix.
  - Compute eigenvectors to adapt the circle to an ellipse.
  - Recompute second moment matrix using new window and iterate…



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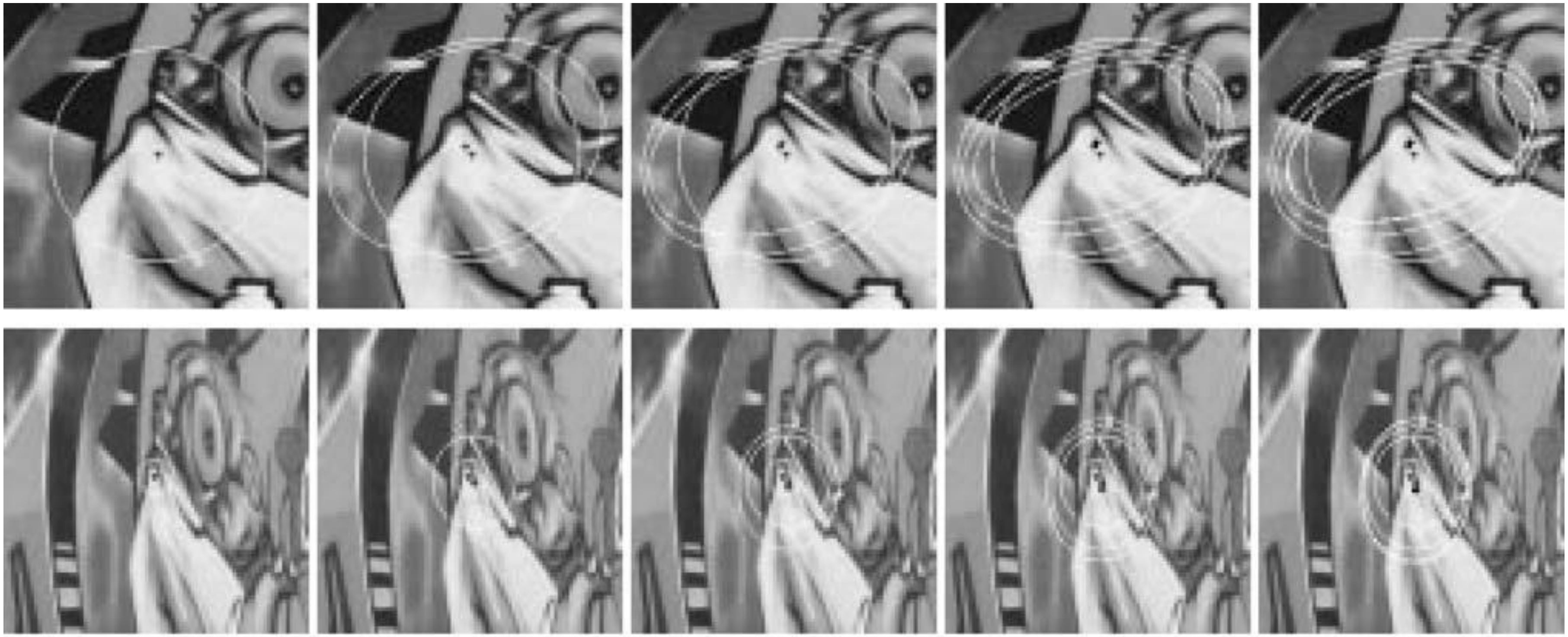
Iterative Affine Adaptation



1. Detect keypoints, e.g. multi-scale Harris
2. Automatically select the scales
3. Adapt affine shape based on second order moment matrix
4. Refine point location

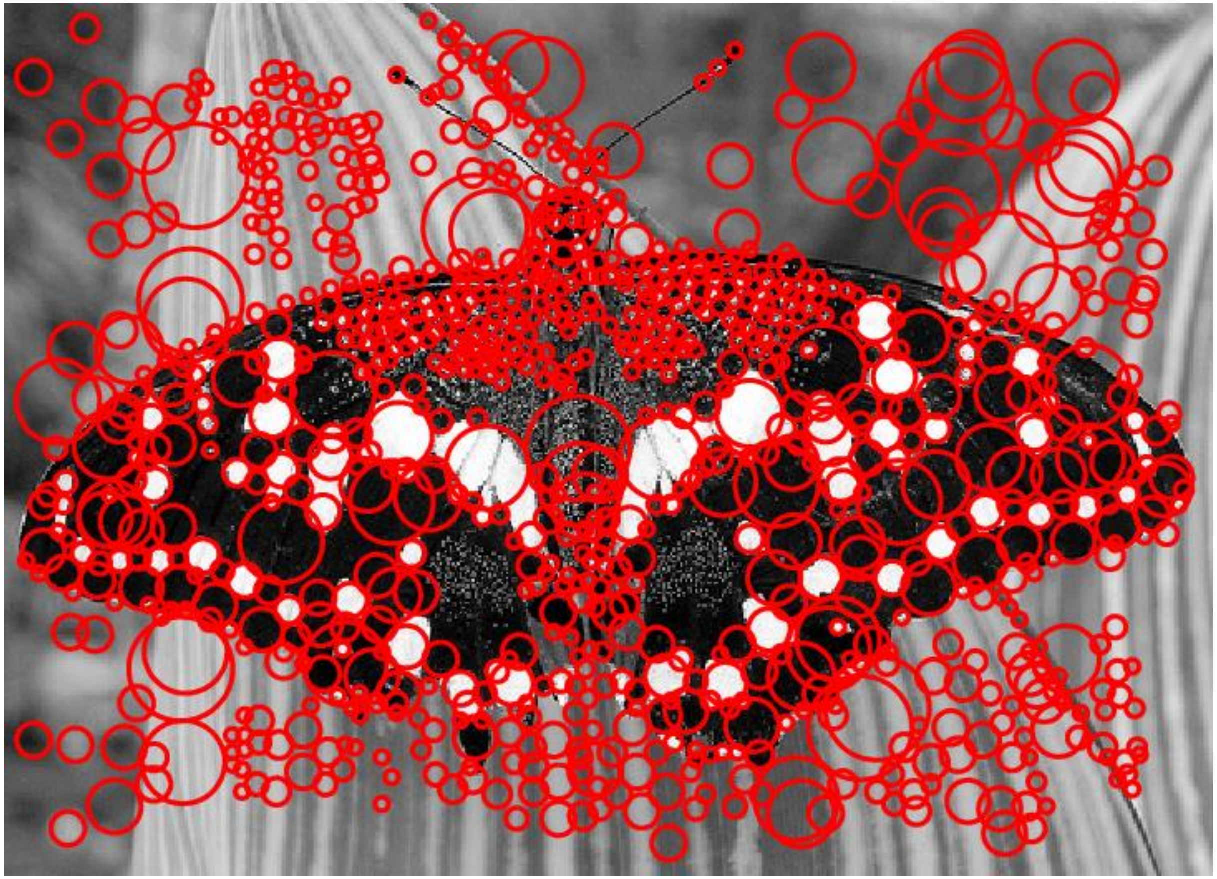
K. Mikolajczyk and C. Schmid, Scale and affine invariant interest point detectors, IJCV 60(1):63-86, 2004.

Slide credit: Tinne Tuytelaars

Affine Normalization/Deskewing

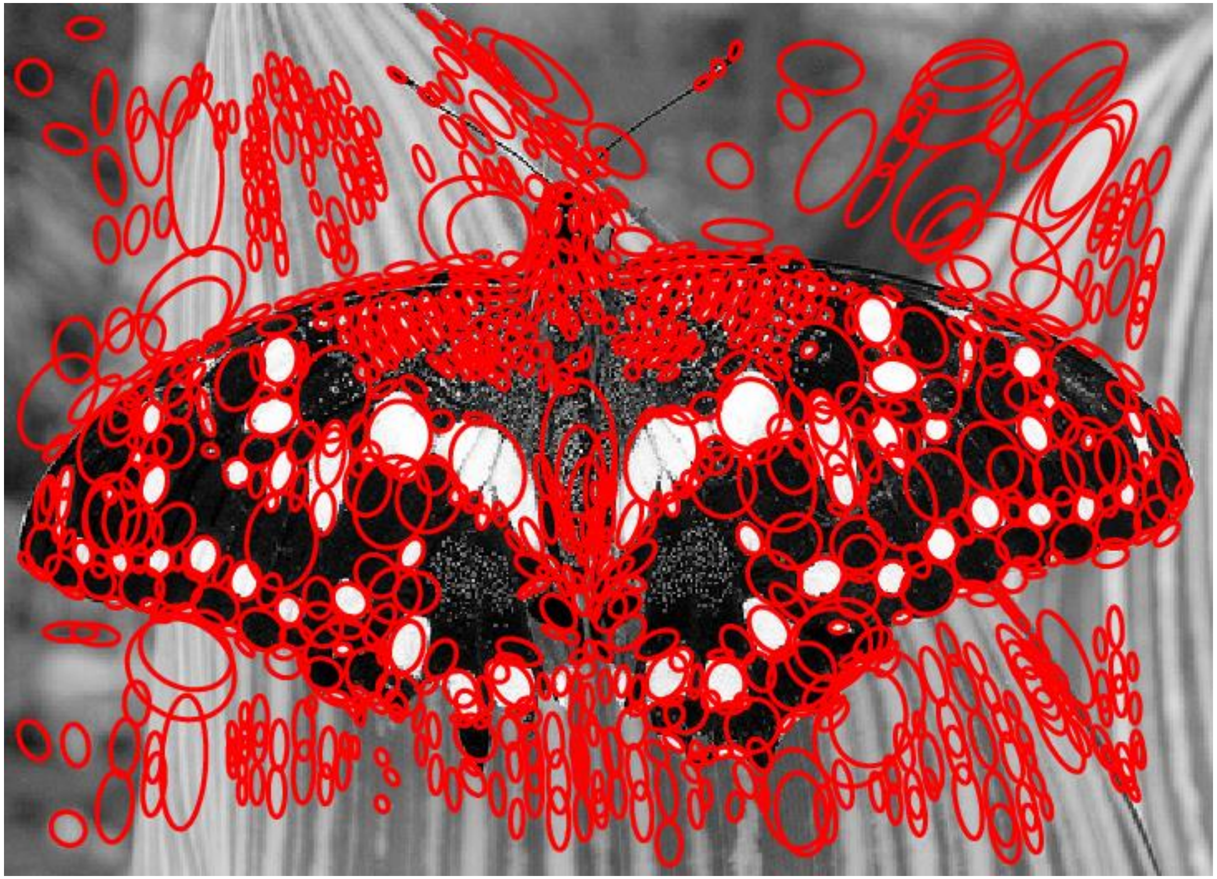
- **Steps**
  - Rotate the ellipse's main axis to horizontal
  - Scale the x axis, such that it forms a circle

Affine Adaptation Example



Scale-invariant regions (blobs)

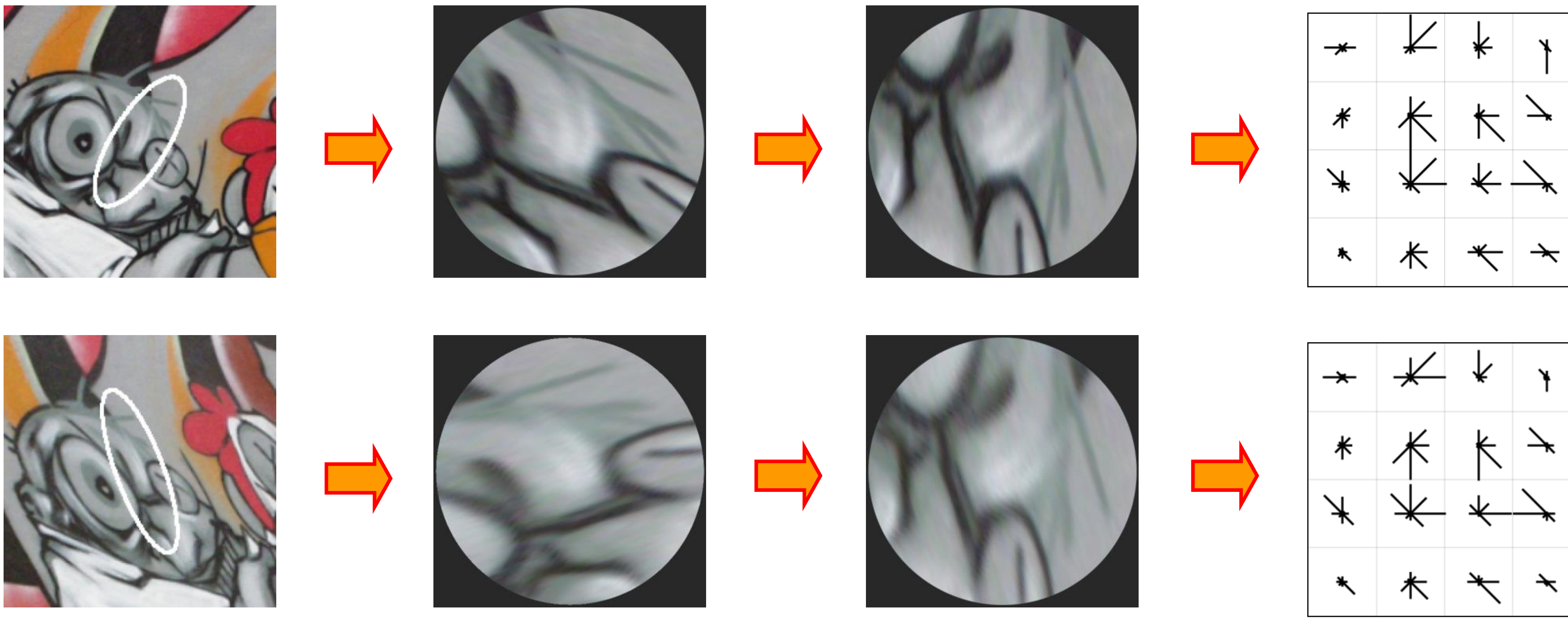
Affine Adaptation Example



Affine-adapted blobs

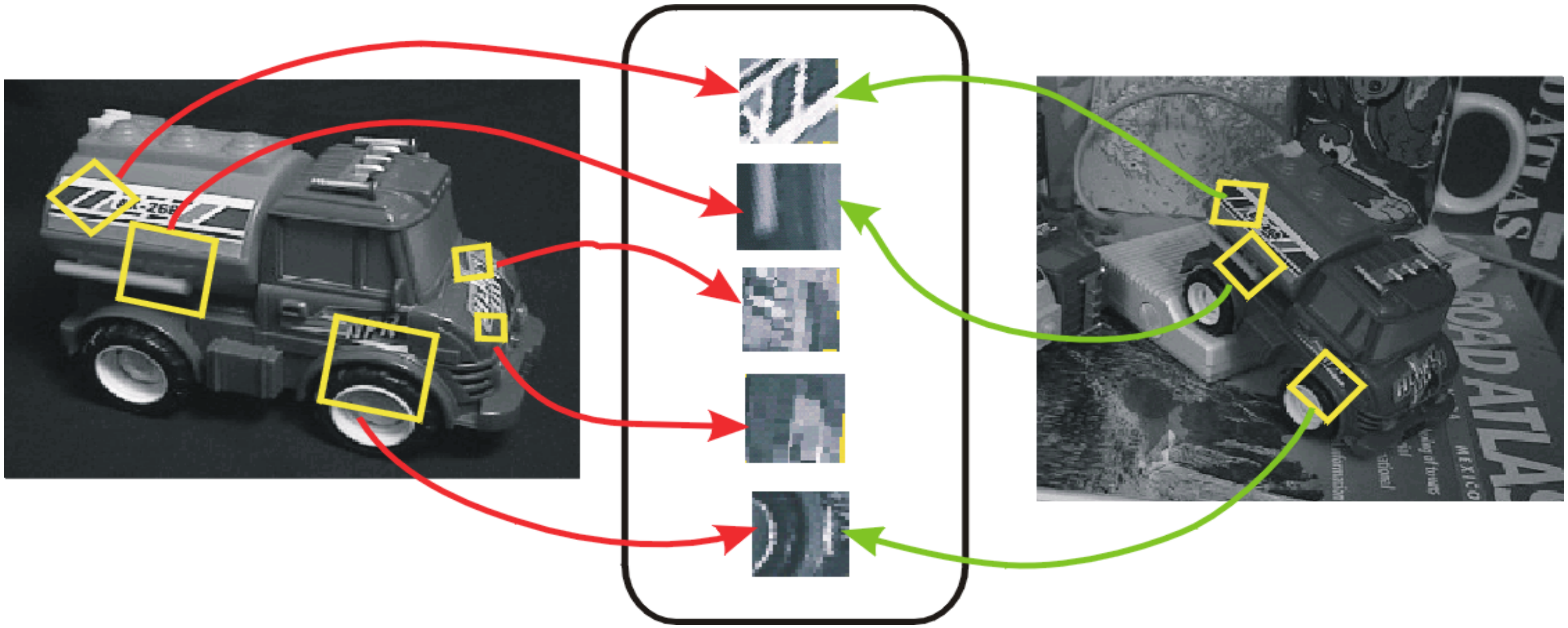
Summary: Affine-Inv. Feature Extraction

Extract affine regions | Normalize regions | Eliminate rotational ambiguity | Compare descriptors



Invariance vs. Covariance

- **Invariance:**
  - features(transform(image)) = features(image)
- **Covariance:**
  - features(transform(image)) = transform(features(image))



Covariant detection ⇒ invariant description

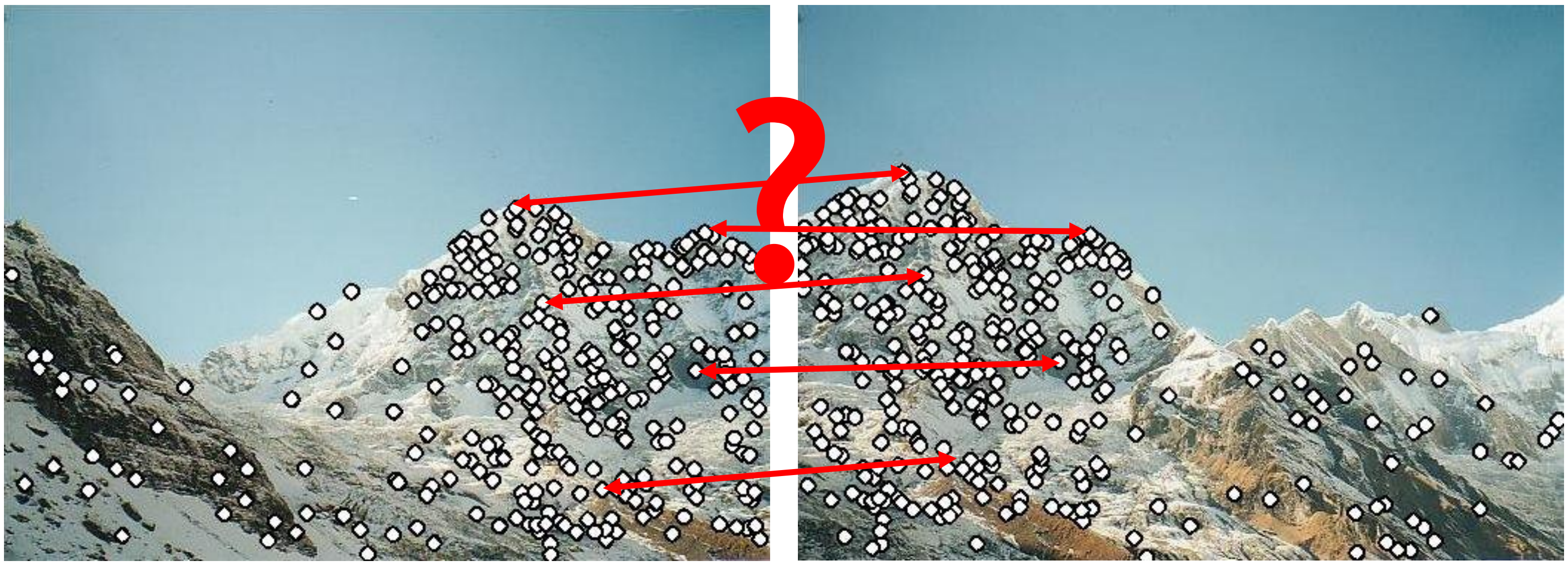
Topics of This Lecture

- Local Feature Extraction (cont'd)
  - Orientation normalization
  - Affine Invariant Feature Extraction
- Local Descriptors
  - SIFT
  - Applications
- Recognition with Local Features
  - Matching local features
  - Finding consistent configurations
  - Alignment: linear transformations
  - Affine estimation
  - Homography estimation

Local Descriptors

- We know how to detect points
- Next question:

How to *describe* them for matching?



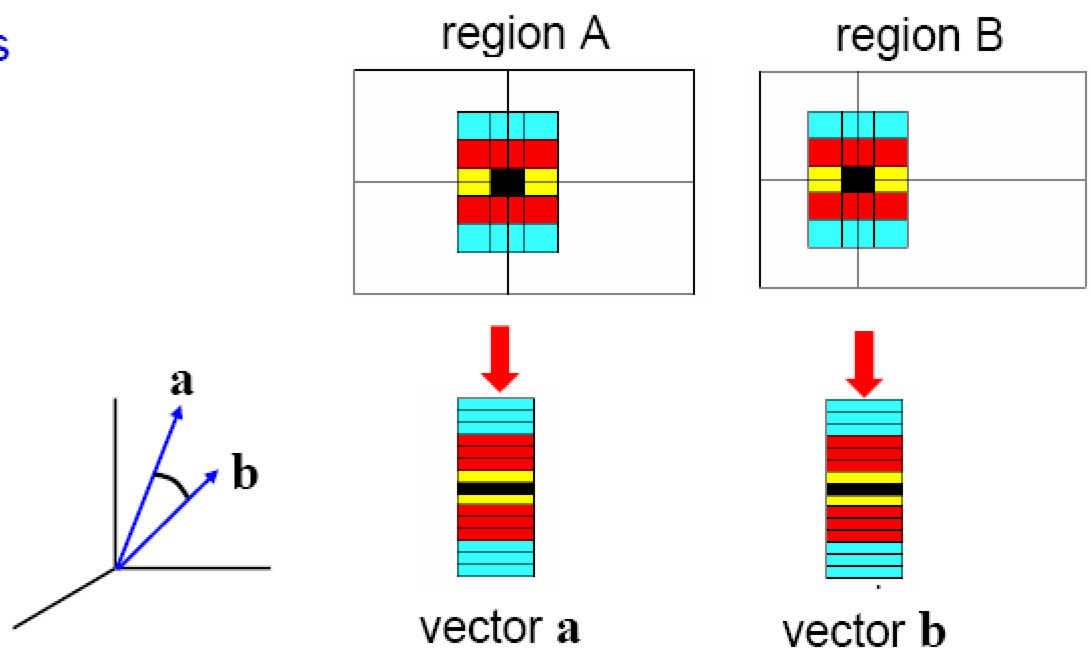
Point descriptor should be:
1. Invariant
2. Distinctive

Local Descriptors

- Simplest descriptor: list of intensities within a patch.
- What is this going to be invariant to?

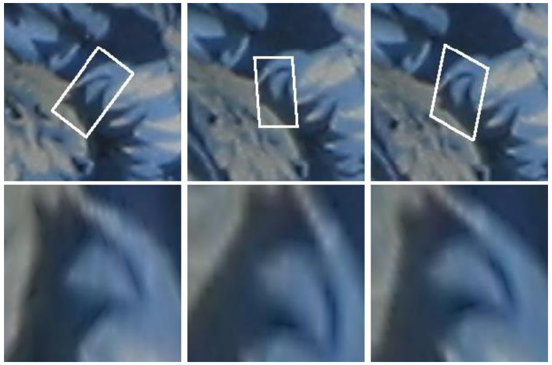
Write regions as vectors

$$A \rightarrow a, \;\; B \rightarrow b$$

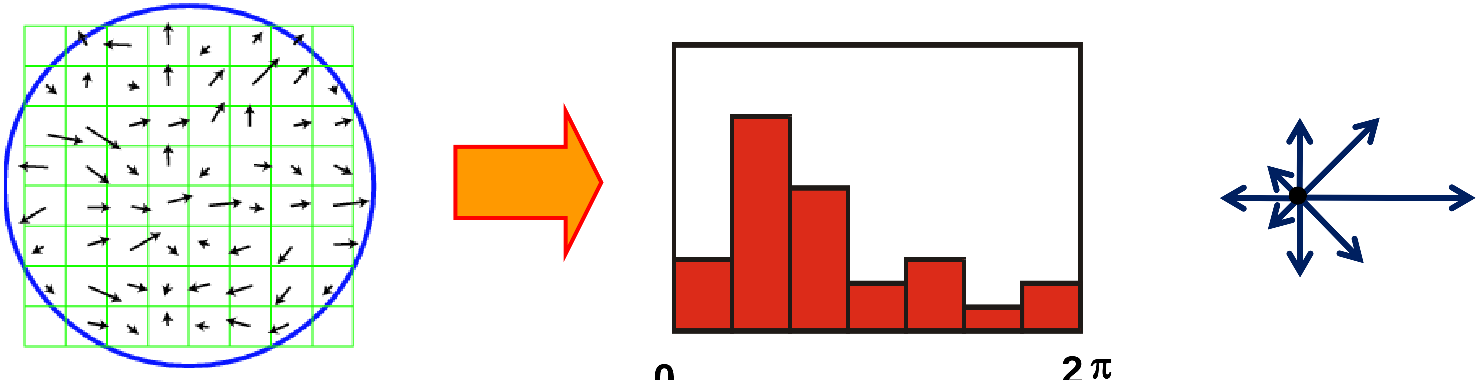


Feature Descriptors

- Disadvantage of patches as descriptors:
  - Small shifts can affect matching score a lot

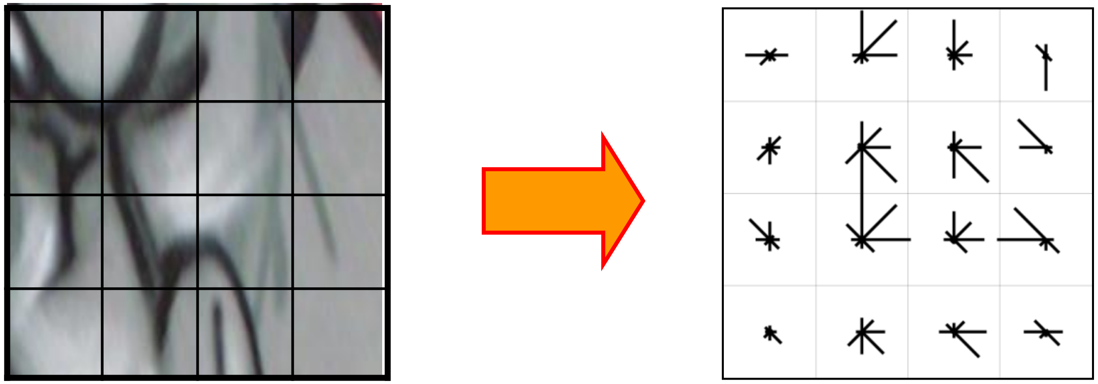


- Solution: histograms



Feature Descriptors: SIFT

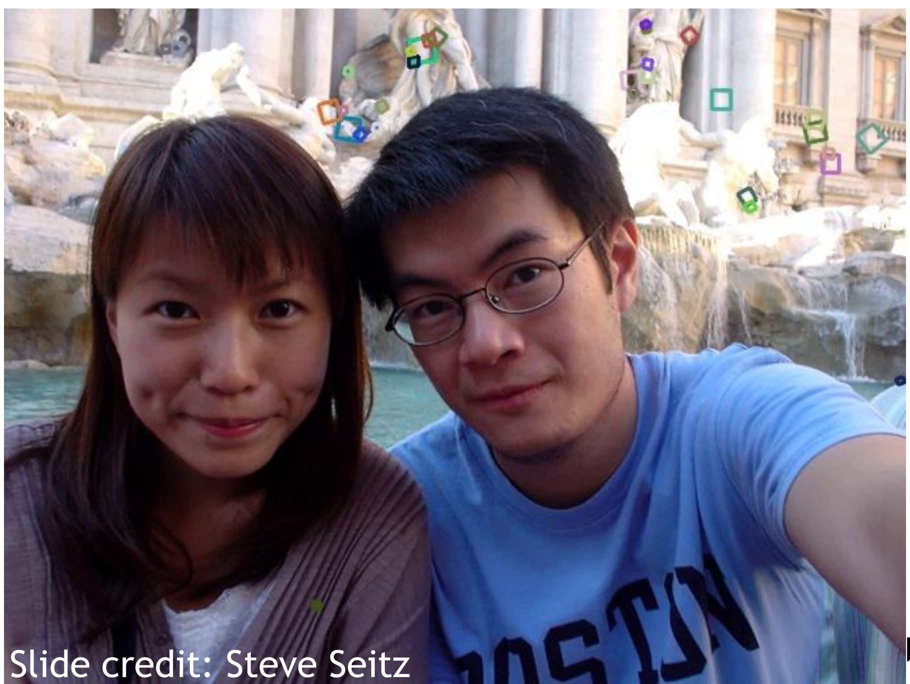
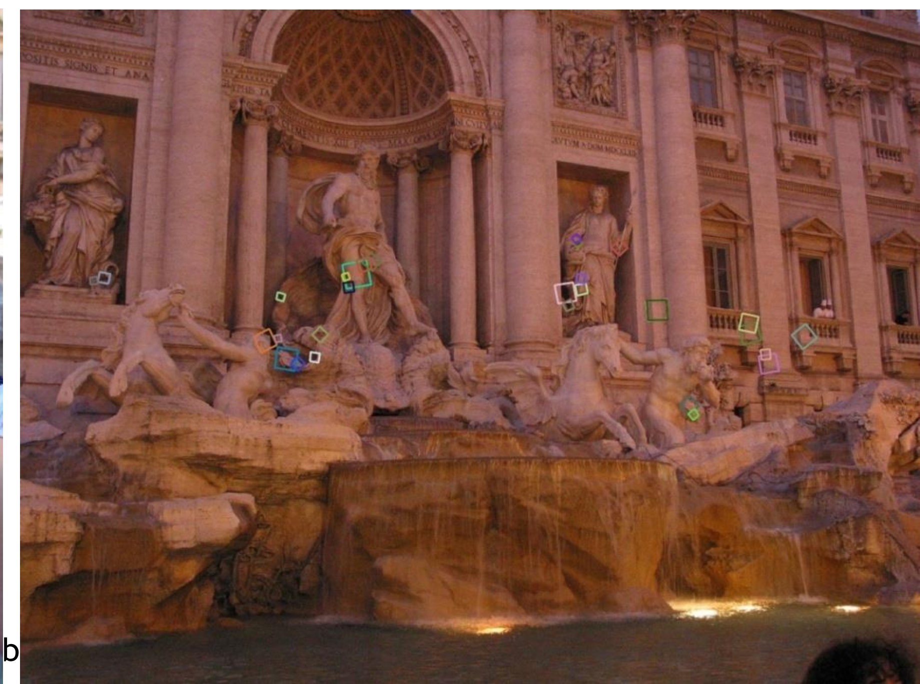
- **Scale Invariant Feature Transform**
- **Descriptor computation:**
  - Divide patch into 4x4 sub-patches: 16 cells
  - Compute histogram of gradient orientations (8 reference angles) for all pixels inside each sub-patch
  - Resulting descriptor: 4x4x8 = 128 dimensions



David G. Lowe. "Distinctive image features from scale-invariant keypoints." *IJCV* 60 (2), pp. 91-110, 2004.

Overview: SIFT

- **Extraordinarily robust matching technique**
  - Can handle changes in viewpoint up to ~60 deg. out-of-plane rotation
  - Can handle significant changes in illumination
    - Sometimes even day vs. night (below)
  - Fast and efficient—can run in real time
  - Lots of code available
    - http://people.csail.mit.edu/albert/ladypack/wiki/index.php/Known_implementations_of_SIFT

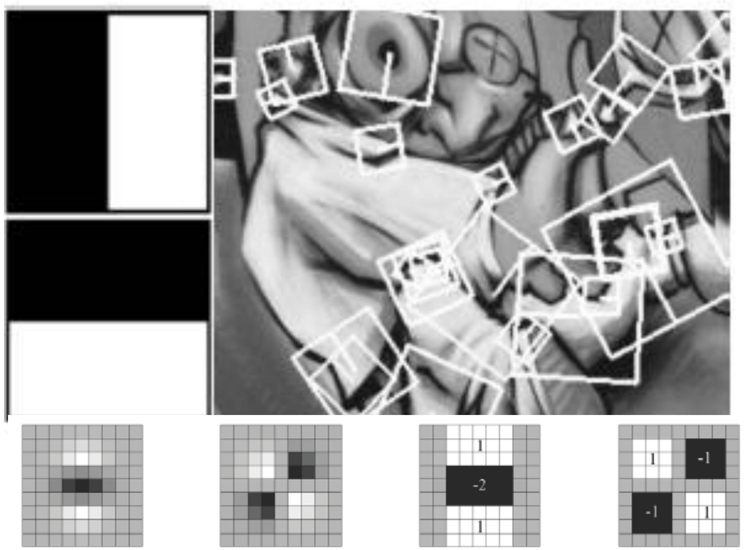



Slide credit: Steve Seitz

Working with SIFT Descriptors

- One image yields:
  - n 2D points giving positions of the patches
    - [n x 2 matrix]
  - n scale parameters specifying the size of each patch
    - [n x 1 vector]
  - n orientation parameters specifying the angle of the patch
    - [n x 1 vector]
  - n 128-dimensional descriptors: each one is a histogram of the gradient orientations within a patch
    - [n x 128 matrix]

Local Descriptors: SURF



- Fast approximation of SIFT idea
  - Efficient computation by 2D box filters & integral images
    ⇒ 6 times faster than SIFT
  - Equivalent quality for object identification
  - http://www.vision.ee.ethz.ch/~surf

- GPU implementation available
  - Feature extraction @ 100Hz (detector + descriptor, 640×480 img)
  - http://homes.esat.kuleuven.be/~ncorneli/gpusurf/

[Bay, ECCV’06], [Cornelis, CVGPU’08]

You Can Try It At Home…

- For most local feature detectors, executables are available online:
- http://robots.ox.ac.uk/~vgg/research/affine
- http://www.cs.ubc.ca/~lowe/keypoints/
- http://www.vision.ee.ethz.ch/~surf
- http://homes.esat.kuleuven.be/~ncorneli/gpusurf/

Affine Covariant Features

Collaborative work between: the Visual Geometry Group, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Inria Rhone-Alpes and the Center for Machine Perception.

Affine Covariant Region Detectors

Input image

→ Region detector

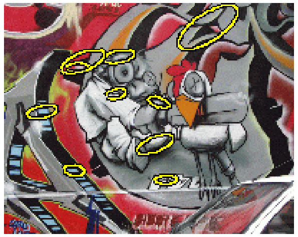
Detector output

format:
1.0
m
$u_1\ v_1\ a_1\ b_1\ c_1$
:
:
$u_m\ v_m\ a_m\ b_m\ c_m$

output example:
img1.haraff

→ display_features.m

Image with displayed regions



Parameters defining an affine region

`u,v,a,b,c` in `a(x-u)(x-u)+2b(x-u)(y-v)+c(y-v)(y-v)=1`
with `(0,0)` at image top left corner

Code

- provided by the authors, see publications for details and links to authors web sites.

Linux binaries	Example of use	Displaying r
Harris-Affine & Hessian-Affine	`prompt>./h_affine.ln -haraff -i img1.ppm -o img1.haraff -thres 1000`	`matlab>> d`
	`prompt>./h_affine.ln -hesaff -i img1.ppm -o img1.hesaff -thres 500`	`matlab>> d`
MSER - Maximaly stable extremal regions (also Windows)	`prompt>./mser.ln -t 2 -es 2 -i img1.ppm -o img1.mser`	`matlab>> d`
IBR - Intensity extrema based detector	`prompt>./ibr.ln img1.ppm img1.ibr -scalefactor 1.0`	`matlab>> d`
EBR - Edge based detector	`prompt> ./ebr.ln img1.ppm img1.ebr`	`matlab>> d`
Salient region detector	`prompt>./salient.ln img1.ppm img1.sal`	`matlab>> d`

http://www.robots.ox.ac.uk/~vgg/research/affine/detectors.html#binaries

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  - Homography estimation

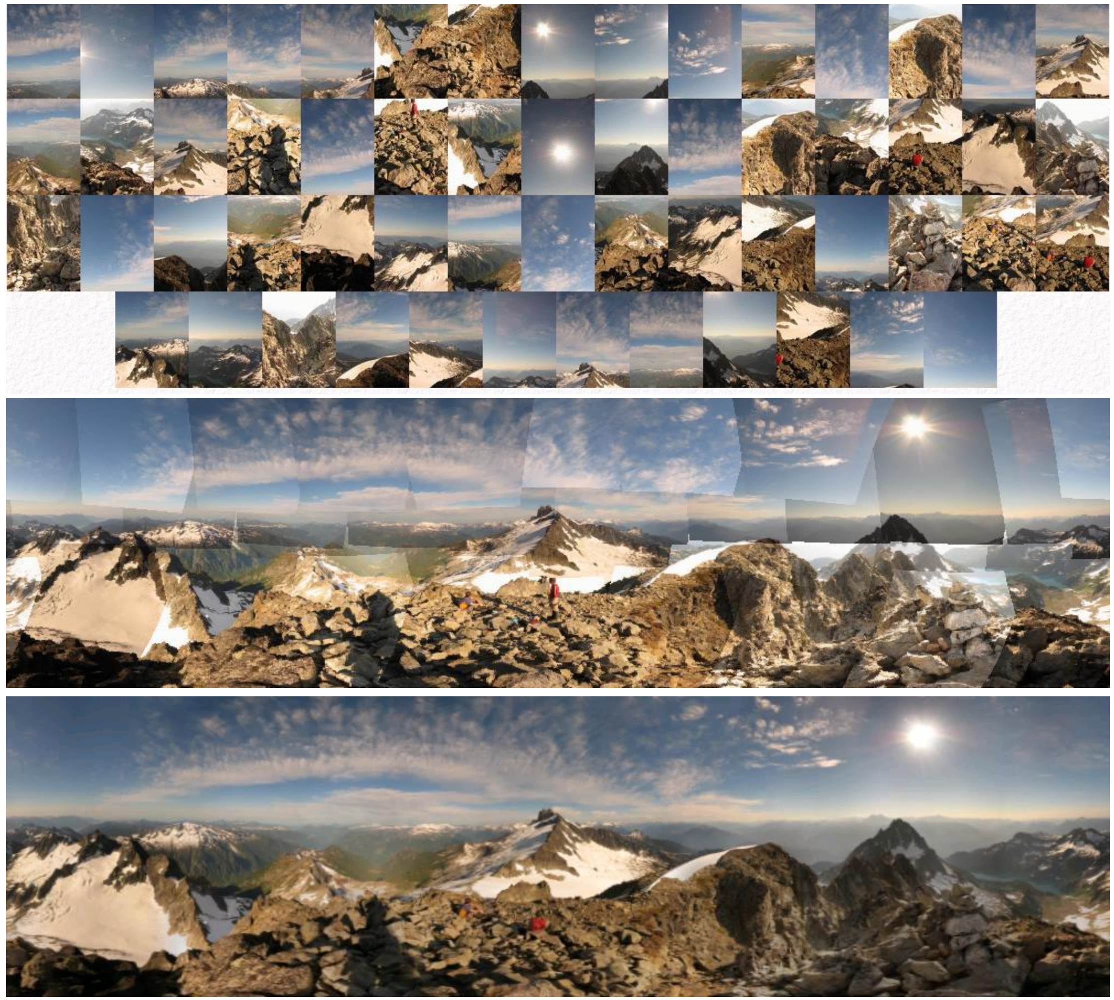
Applications of Local Invariant Features

- Wide baseline stereo
- Motion tracking
- Panoramas
- Mobile robot navigation
- 3D reconstruction
- Recognition
  - Specific objects
  - Textures
  - Categories
- …

Wide-Baseline Stereo

Image from T. Tuytelaars ECCV 2006 tutorial

Automatic Mosaicing



[Brown & Lowe, ICCV'03]

Panorama Stitching

(a) Matier data set (7 images)

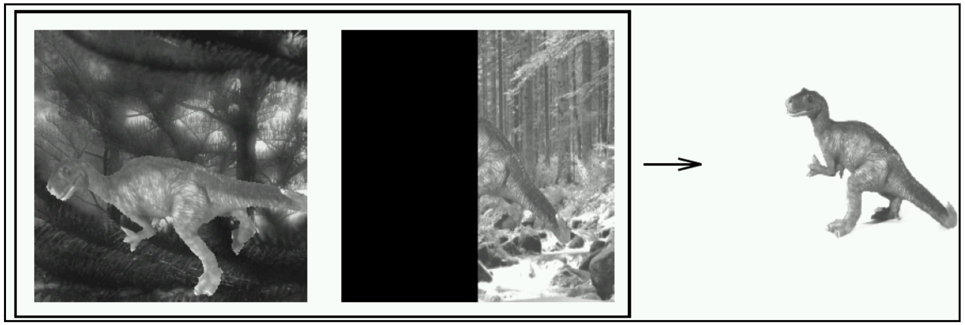
(b) Matier final stitch

http://www.cs.ubc.ca/~mbrown/autostitch/autostitch.html

iPhone version available

[Brown, Szeliski, and Winder, 2005]

Recognition of Specific Objects, Scenes



Schmid and Mohr 1997

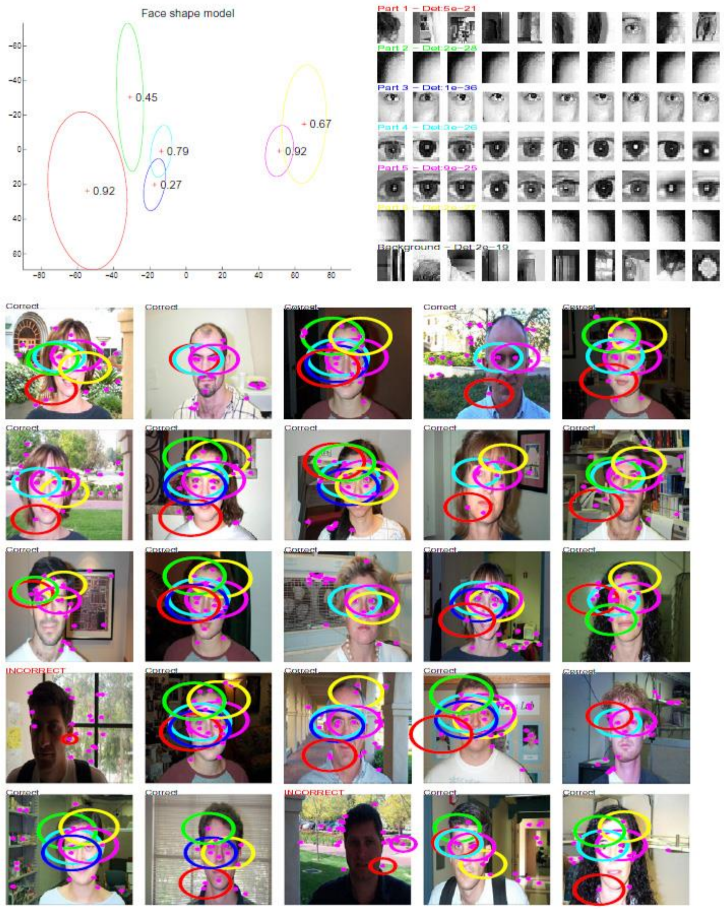
Sivic and Zisserman, 2003

Rothganger et al. 2003

Lowe 2002

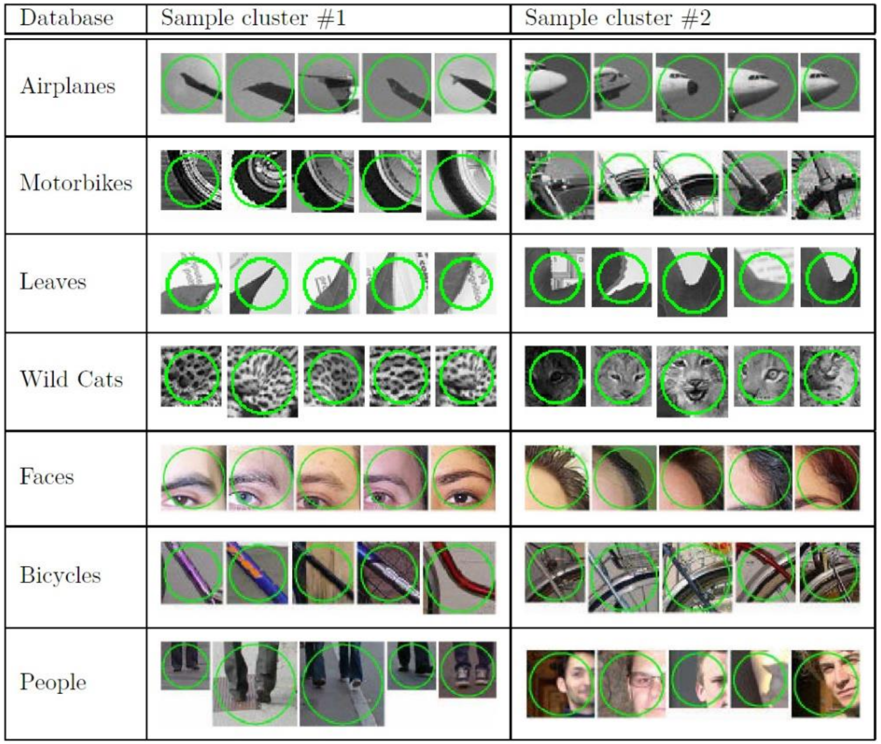
Recognition of Categories

Constellation model



Weber et al. (2000)
Fergus et al. (2003)

Bags of words



Csurka et al. (2004)
Dorko & Schmid (2005)
Sivic et al. (2005)
Lazebnik et al. (2006), …

Slide credit: Svetlana Lazebnik

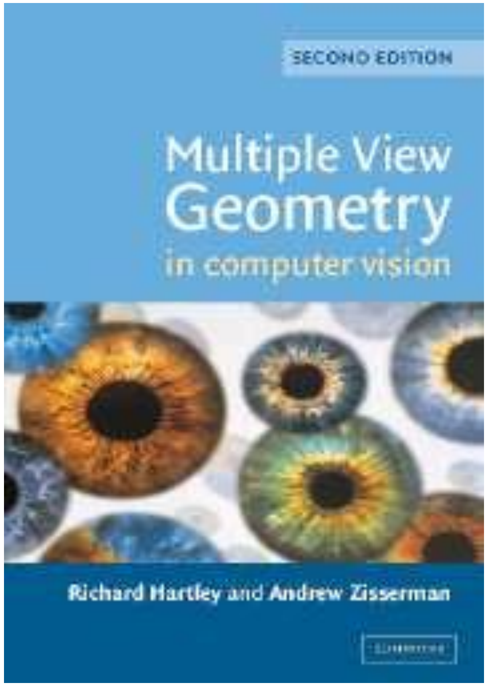
Value of Local Features

- Advantages
  - Critical to find distinctive and repeatable local regions for multi-view matching.
  - Complexity reduction via selection of distinctive points.
  - Describe images, objects, parts without requiring segmentation; robustness to clutter & occlusion.
  - Robustness: similar descriptors in spite of moderate view changes, noise, blur, etc.

- How can we use local features for such applications?
  - Next week: matching and recognition

References and Further Reading

- More details on homography estimation can be found in Chapter 4.7 of
  - R. Hartley, A. Zisserman
    Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision
    2nd Ed., Cambridge Univ. Press, 2004



- Details about the DoG detector and the SIFT descriptor can be found in
  - D. Lowe, Distinctive image features from scale-invariant keypoints, *IJCV* 60(2), pp. 91-110, 2004

- Try the available local feature detectors and descriptors
  - http://www.robots.ox.ac.uk/~vgg/research/affine/detectors.html#binaries