BBM 413 Fundamentals of Image Processing

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Spatial Filtering

Filtering

- The name "filter" is borrowed from frequency domain processing (next week's topic)
- Accept or reject certain frequency components
- <u>Fourier (1807):</u> Periodic functions could be represented as a weighted sum of sines and cosines

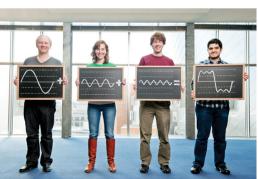


Image courtesy of Technology Review

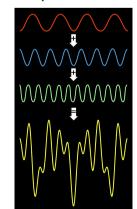
Image Filtering

- <u>Image filtering:</u> computes a function of a *local neighborhood* at each pixel position
- Called "Local operator," "Neighborhood operator," or "Window operator"
- f: image → image
- Uses:
 - Enhance images
 - Noise reduction, smooth, resize, increase contrast, recolor, artistic effects, etc.
 - Extract features from images
 - Texture, edges, distinctive points, etc.
 - Detect patterns
 - Template matching, e.g., eye template

Slide credit: D. Hoiem

Signals

 A signal is composed of low and high frequency components



low frequency components: smooth / piecewise smooth Neighboring pixels have similar brightness values You're within a region

high frequency components: oscillatory Neighboring pixels have different brightness values You're either at the edges or noise points

Low/high frequencies vs. fine/coarse-scale details





Original image

Low-frequencies

(coarse-scale details) boosted

High-frequencies (fine-scale details) boosted

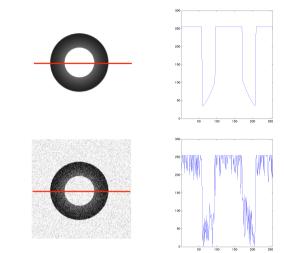
L. Karacan, E. Erdem and A. Erdem, Structure Preserving Image Smoothing via Region Covariances, TOG, 2013

Motivation: noise reduction

- Assume image is degraded with an additive model.
- Then,

Observation = True signal + noise Observed image = Actual image + noise low-pass high-pass filters filters smooth the image

Signals – Examples



Common types of noise

- Salt and 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



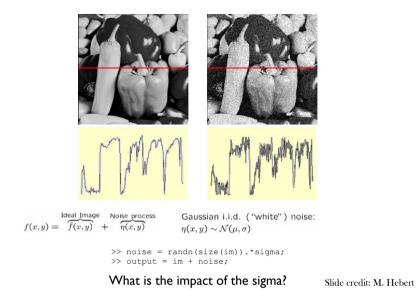
Salt and pepper noise



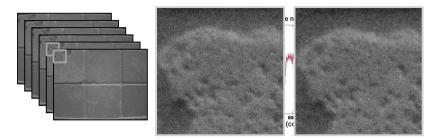
Impulse noise

Gaussian noise Slide credit: S. Seitz

Gaussian noise



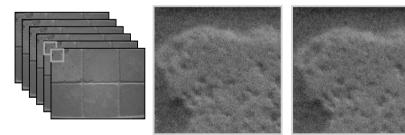
Motivation: noise reduction



- Make multiple observations of the same static scene
- Take the average
- Even multiple images of the same static scene will not be identical.

Adapted from: K. Grauman

Motivation: noise reduction



- Make multiple observations of the same static scene
- Take the average
- Even multiple images of the same static scene will not be identical.
- What if we can't make multiple observations?
 What if there's only one image?
 Adapted from: K. Grauman

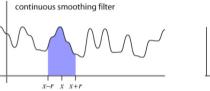
Image Filtering

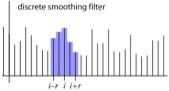
- <u>Idea:</u> Use the information coming from the neighboring pixels for processing
- Design a transformation function of the local neighborhood at each pixel in the image
 - Function specified by a "filter" or mask saying how to combine values from neighbors.
- Various uses of filtering:
 - Enhance an image (denoise, resize, etc)
 - Extract information (texture, edges, etc)
 - Detect patterns (template matching)

Adapted from: K. Grauman

Filtering

- Processing done on a function
- can be executed in continuous form (e.g. analog circuit)
- but can also be executed using sampled representation
- Simple example: smoothing by averaging





Slide credit: S. Marschner

First attempt at a solution

- Let's replace each pixel with an average of all the values in its neighborhood
- Assumptions:
 - Expect pixels to be like their neighbors (spatial regularity in images)
 - Expect noise processes to be independent from pixel to pixel

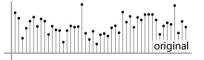
Linear filtering

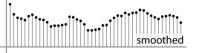
- Filtered value is the linear combination of neighboring pixel values.
- Key properties
- linearity: filter(f + g) = filter(f) + filter(g)
- shift invariance: behavior invariant to shifting the input
 - delaying an audio signal
 - sliding an image around
- Can be modeled mathematically by convolution

Adapted from: S. Marschner

First attempt at a solution

- Let's replace each pixel with an average of all the values in its neighborhood
- Moving average in ID:





Slide credit: S. Marschner, K. Grauman

Convolution warm-up

• Same moving average operation, expressed mathematically:

$$b_{\text{smooth}}[i] = \frac{1}{2r+1} \sum_{j=i-r}^{i+r} b[j]$$

Discrete convolution

• Simple averaging:

$$b_{\text{smooth}}[i] = \frac{1}{2r+1} \sum_{j=i-r}^{i+r} b[j]$$

- every sample gets the same weight
- Convolution: same idea but with weighted average

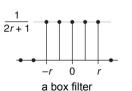
$$(a \star b)[i] = \sum_{j} a[j]b[i-j]$$

- each sample gets its own weight (normally zero far away)
- This is all convolution is: it is a **moving weighted average**

Slide credit: S. Marschner

Filters

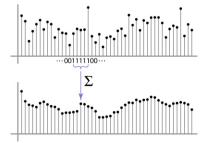
- Sequence of weights *a*[*j*] is called a *filter*
- Filter is nonzero over its region of support
- usually centered on zero: support radius r
- Filter is normalized so that it sums to 1.0
- this makes for a weighted average, not just any old weighted sum
- Most filters are symmetric about 0
- since for images we usually want to treat left and right the same



Slide credit: S. Marschner

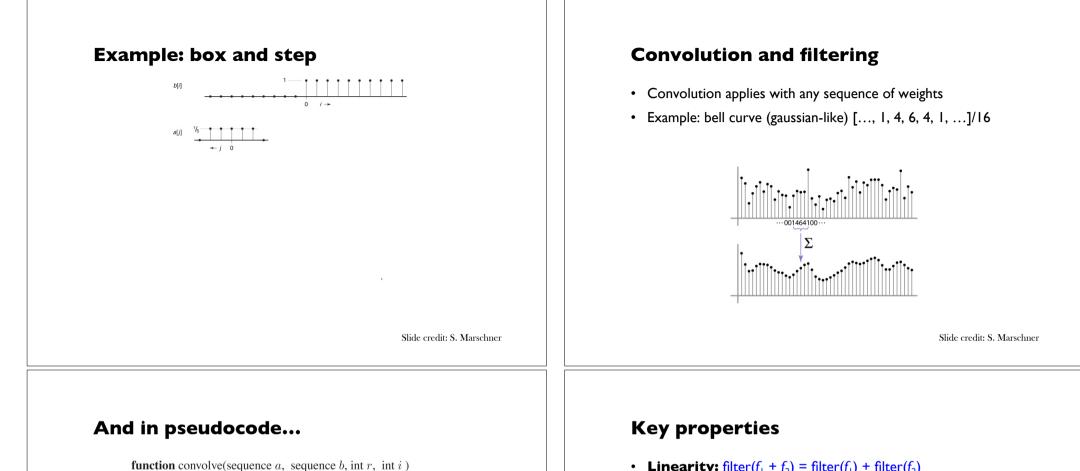
Convolution and filtering

- Can express sliding average as convolution with a box filter
- $a_{\text{box}} = [..., 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, ...]$



Slide credit: S. Marschner

Slide credit: S. Marschner

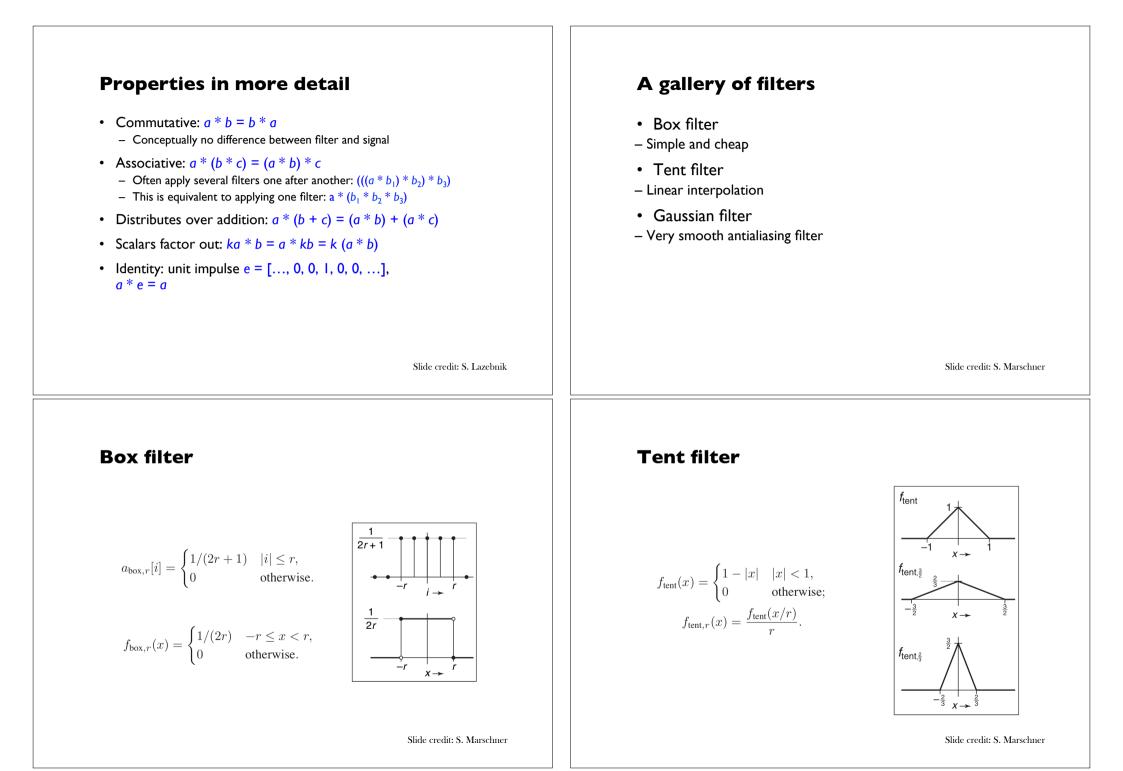


s = 0for j = -r to rs = s + a[j]b[i - j]

return s

- Linearity: filter $(f_1 + f_2) = filter(f_1) + filter(f_2)$
- **Shift invariance:** filter(shift(f)) = shift(filter(f))
 - same behavior regardless of pixel location, i.e. the value of the output depends on the pattern in the image neighborhood, not the position of the neighborhood.
- Theoretical result: any linear shift-invariant operator can be represented as a convolution

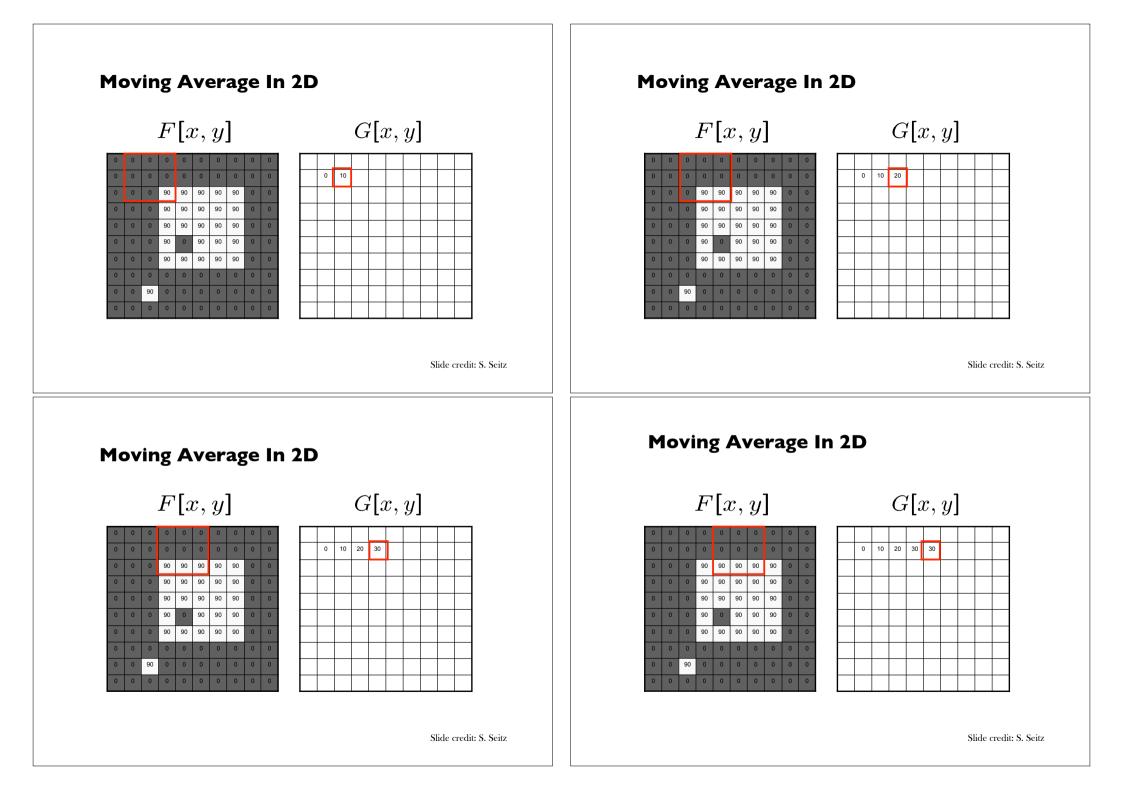
Slide credit: S. Marschner

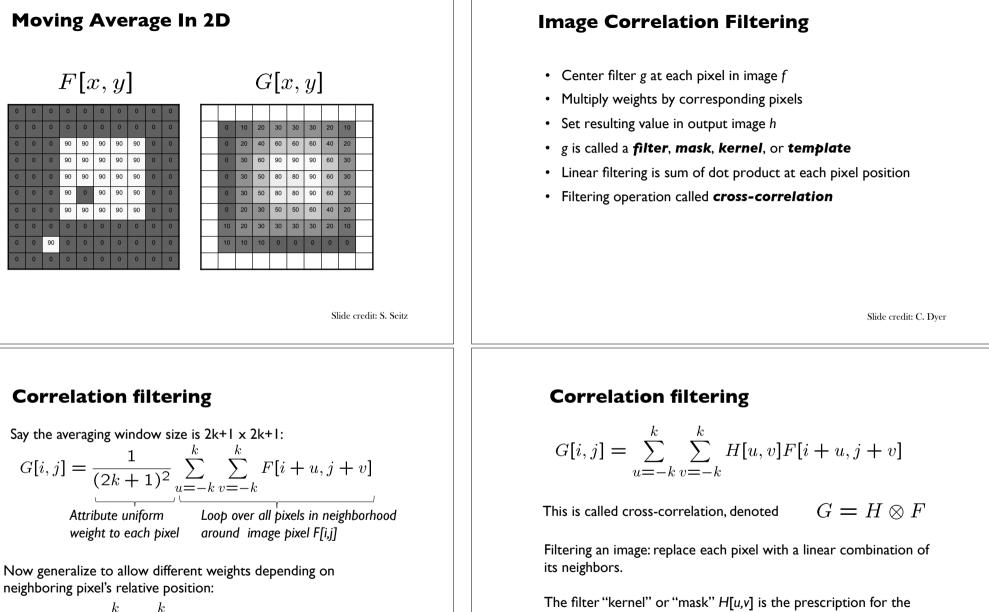


Gaussian filter Discrete filtering in 2D • Same equation, one more index $(a \star b)[i, j] = \sum_{i', j'} a[i', j']b[i - i', j - j']$ 0.5 + $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$ - now the filter is a rectangle you slide around over a grid of numbers • Usefulness of associativity - often apply several filters one after another: $(((a * b_1) * b_2) * b_3)$ - this is equivalent to applying one filter: $a * (b_1 * b_2 * b_3)$ $f_g(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-x^2/2}.$ Slide credit: S. Marschner Slide credit: S. Marschner And in pseudocode... **Moving Average In 2D** F[x, y]G[x, y]**function** convolve2d(filter2d a, filter2d b, int i, int j) s = 0r = a.radius for i' = -r to r do 0 for j' = -r to r do 90 90 90 90 90 s = s + a[i'][j']b[i - i'][j - j']90 90 90 90 90 return s 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90

Slide credit: S. Marschner

Slide credit: S. Seitz





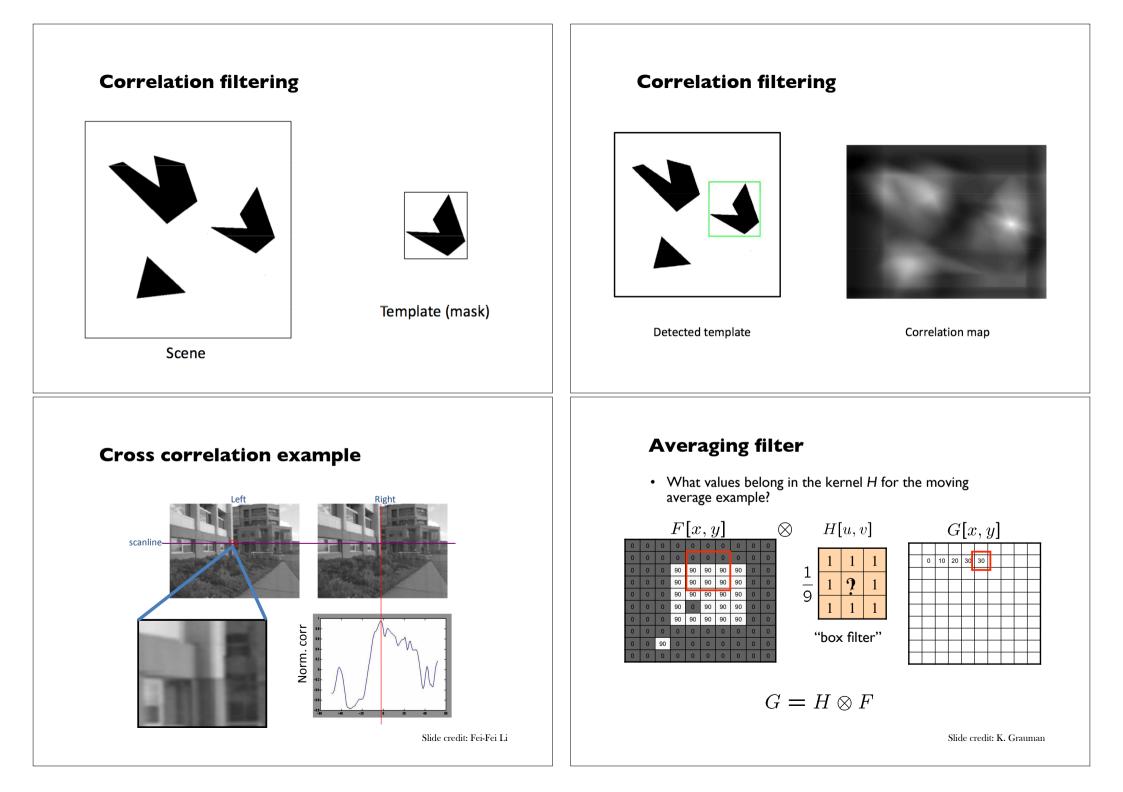
weights in the linear combination.

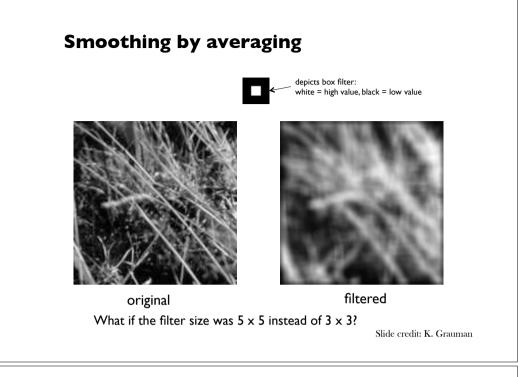
$$G[i, j] = \sum_{u=-k}^{k} \sum_{v=-k}^{k} \frac{H[u, v]}{V} F[i + u, j + v]$$

Non-uniform weights

Slide credit: K. Grauman

Slide credit: K. Grauman





Boundary issues

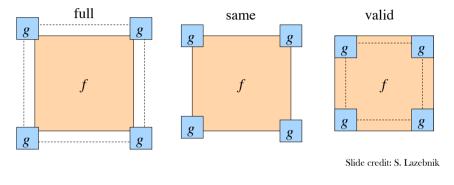
- What about near the edge?
 - the filter window falls off the edge of the image
 - need to extrapolate
 - methods:
 - clip filter (black)
 - wrap around
 - copy edge
 - reflect across edge



Slide credit: S. Marschner

Boundary issues

- What is the size of the output?
- MATLAB: output size / "shape" options
 - 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



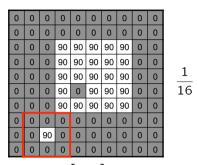
Boundary issues

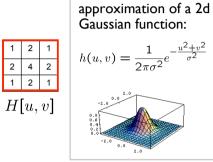
- What about near the edge?
 - the filter window falls off the edge of the image
 - need to extrapolate
 - methods (MATLAB):
 - clip filter (black): imfilter (f, g, 0)
 - wrap around: imfilter(f, g, 'circular')
 - copy edge: imfilter(f, g, 'replicate')
 - reflect across edge: imfilter(f, g, 'symmetric')



Gaussian filter

• What if we want nearest neighboring pixels to have the most influence on the output?





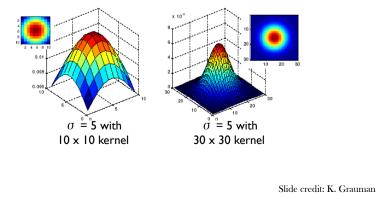
This kernel is an

F[x, y]

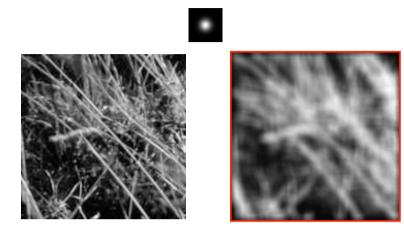
Removes high-frequency components from the image
 ("low-pass filter").
 Slide credit: S. Seitz

Gaussian filters

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



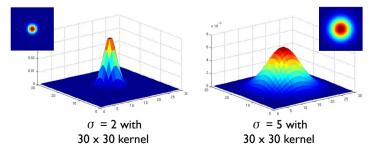
Smoothing with a Gaussian



Slide credit: K. Grauman

Gaussian filters

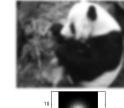
- What parameters matter here?
- **Variance** of Gaussian: determines extent of smoothing

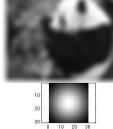


Slide credit: K. Grauman

Matlab **Choosing kernel width** >> hsize = 10; >> sigma = 5; • Rule of thumb: set filter half-width to about 3σ >> h = fspecial('gaussian' hsize, sigma); Effect of σ >> mesh(h); $\sigma = 1$ >> imagesc(h); >> outim = imfilter(im, h); % correlation >> imshow(outim); $\sigma = 3$ 0.1 2 8 10 12 14 16 outim Slide credit: S. Lazebnik Slide credit: K. Grauman **Smoothing with a Gaussian Gaussian Filters** Parameter σ is the "scale" / "width" / "spread" of the Gaussian kernel, and controls the amount of smoothing.







for sigma=1:3:10
 h = fspecial('gaussian', fsize, sigma);
 out = imfilter(im, h);
 imshow(out);
 pause;
end

Slide credit: K. Grauman

 σ = 1 pixel σ = 5 pixels σ = 10 pixels σ = 30 pixels

Slide credit: C. Dyer

Spatial Resolution and Color Blurring the G Component R R G G В В processed original original Slide credit: C. Dyer Slide credit: C. Dyer Blurring the R Component Blurring the B Component



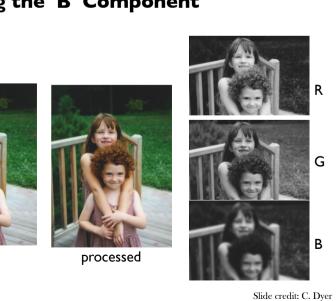
original



processed



Slide credit: C. Dyer



original

"Lab" Color Representation





- A transformation of the colors into a color space that is more
- perceptually meaningful: L: luminance, a: red-green, b: blue-yellow

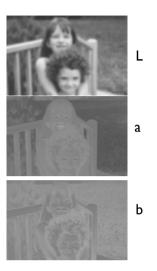
Slide credit: C. Dyer

Blurring L









Slide credit: C. Dyer

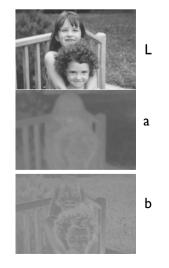
Blurring a



original



processed



Slide credit: C. Dyer

Blurring b



original







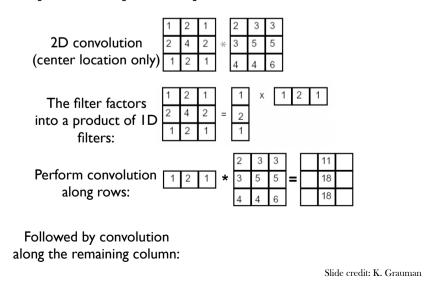
Slide credit: C. Dyer

Separability

- In some cases, filter is separable, and we can factor into two steps:
 - Convolve all rows
 - Convolve all columns

Slide credit: K. Grauman

Separability example



Separability of the Gaussian filter

$$G_{\sigma}(x,y) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2} \exp^{-\frac{x^2 + y^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$
$$= \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}} \exp^{-\frac{x^2}{2\sigma^2}}\right) \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}} \exp^{-\frac{y^2}{2\sigma^2}}\right)$$

The 2D Gaussian can be expressed as the product of two functions, one a function of x and the other a function of y

In this case, the two functions are the (identical) 1D Gaussian

Slide credit: D. Lowe

Why is separability useful?

- What is the complexity of filtering an $n \times n$ image with an $m \times m$ kernel?

 $-O(n^2 m^2)$

What if the kernel is separable?
 O(n² m)

Slide credit: S. Lazebnik

Properties of smoothing filters

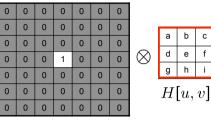
- Smoothing
 - Values positive
 - Sum to $I \rightarrow$ constant regions same as input
 - Amount of smoothing proportional to mask size
 - Remove "high-frequency" components; "low-pass" filter

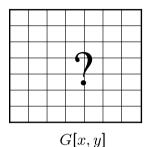
Filtering an impulse signal

What is the result of filtering the impulse signal (image) Fwith the arbitrary kernel *H*?

b

f





F[x, y]

Slide credit: K. Grauman

Convolution

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

Slide credit: K. Grauman

- Then apply cross-correlation

Convolution vs. Correlation

• A **convolution** is an integral that expresses the amount of overlap of one function as it is shifted over another function.

- convolution is a filtering operation

- Correlation compares the similarity of two sets of data. Correlation computes a measure of similarity of two input signals as they are shifted by one another. The correlation result reaches a maximum at the time when the two signals match best .
 - correlation is a measure of relatedness of two signals

Slide credit: Fei-Fei Li

Convolution vs. correlation

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

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

 $G = H \otimes F$

For a Gaussian or box filter, how will the outputs differ? If the input is an impulse signal, how will the outputs differ?

Slide credit: K. Grauman

Practice with linear filters

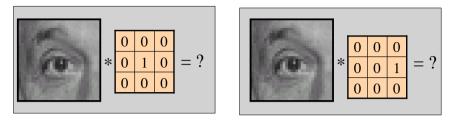


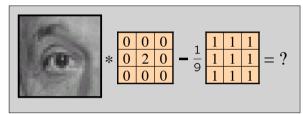


0

Original







Slide credit: K. Grauman

Practice with linear filters



Original

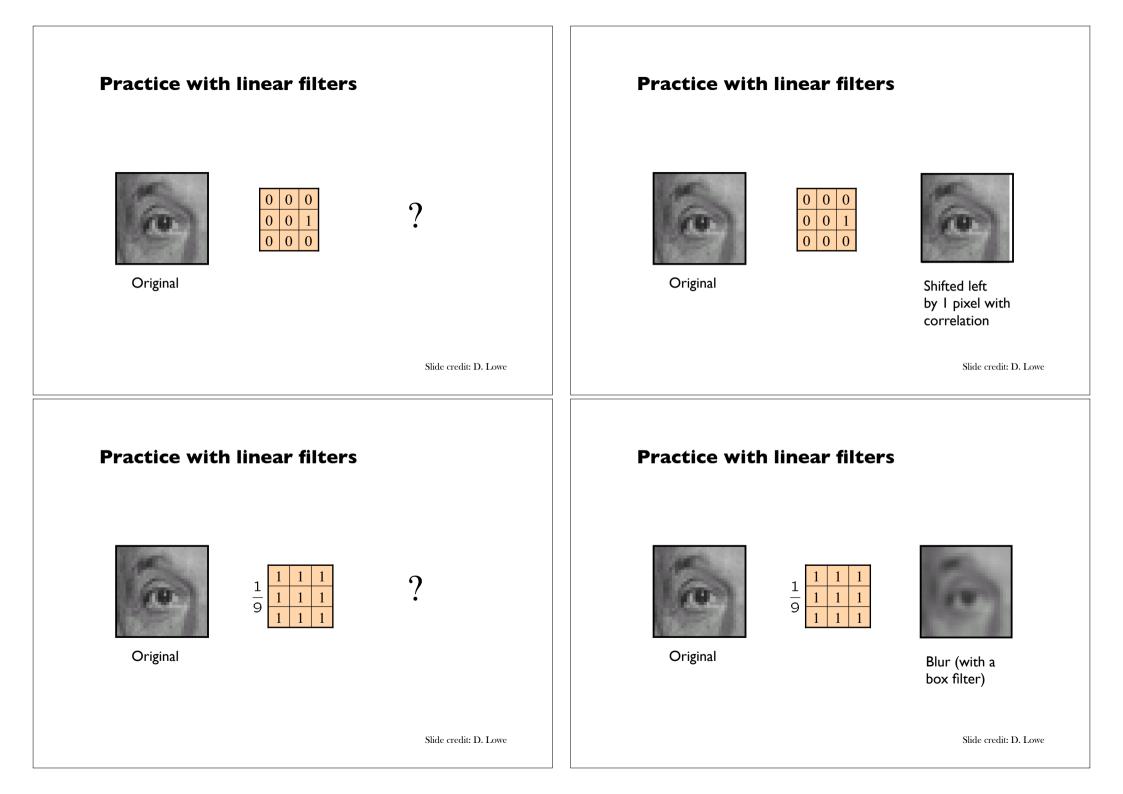


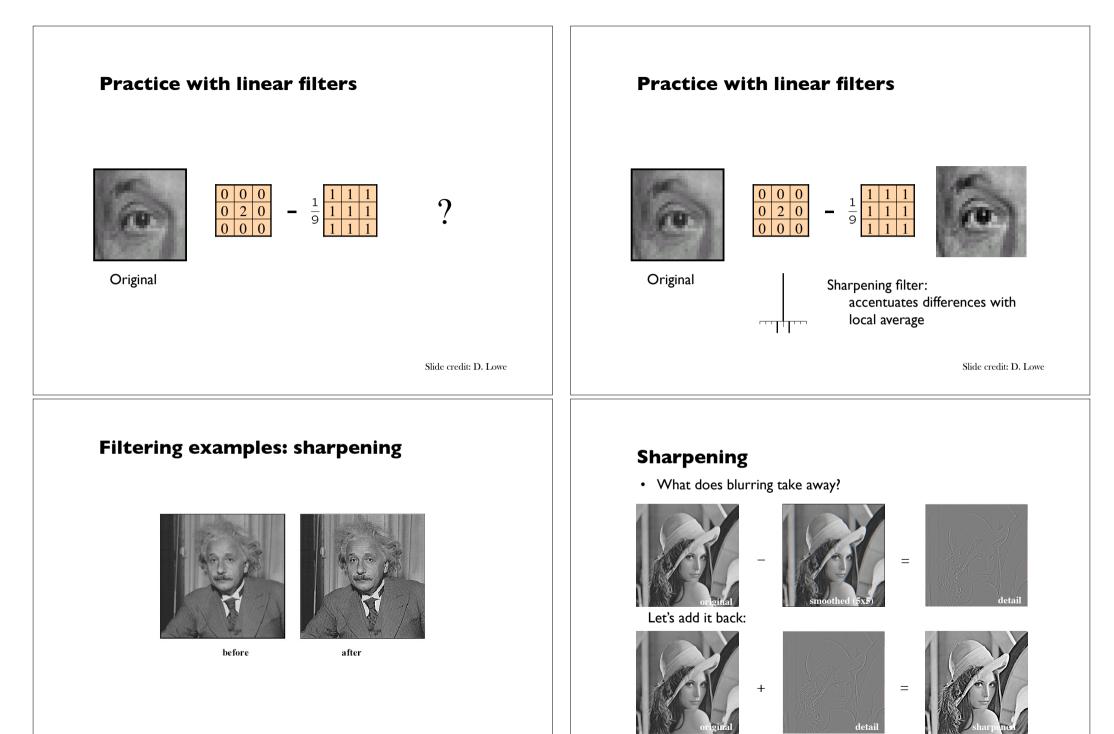


Filtered (no change)

Slide credit: D. Lowe

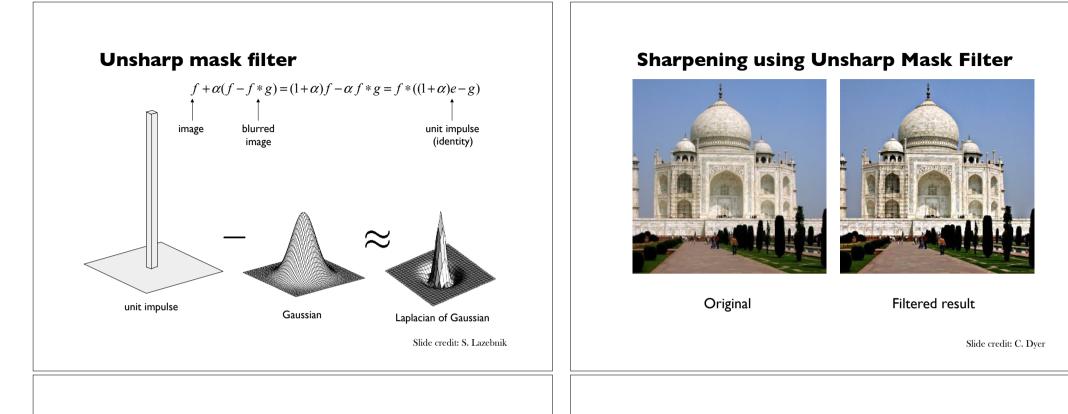
9





Slide credit: K. Grauman

Slide credit: S. Lazebnik

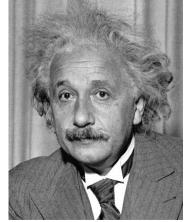


Unsharp Masking

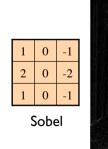


Slide credit: C. Dyer

Other filters



Slide credit: J. Hays





Vertical Edge (absolute value)

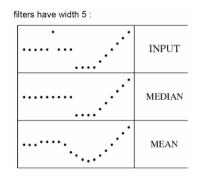
Other filters Median filters • A Median Filter operates over a window by selecting the median intensity in the window. • What advantage does a median filter have over a mean filter? • Is a median filter a kind of convolution? 2 1 0 0 -2 Sobel Horizontal Edge (absolute value) adapted from: S. Seitz Slide credit: J. Hays **Median filter Median filter** Salt and Median • No new pixel values 15 20 10 pepper filtered introduced 23 00 noise Sort 33 31 30 Median value • Removes spikes: good for 10 15 20 23 27 30 31 33 90 impulse, salt & pepper noise Replace 10 15 20 23 27 27 Non-linear filter 33 31 30 Plots of a row of the image Matlab:output im = medfilt2(im, [h w]);

Slide credit: K. Grauman

Slide credit: M. Hebert

Median filter

- What advantage does median filtering have over Gaussian filtering?
 - Robustness to outliers
 - Median filter is edge preserving



Slide credit: K. Grauman