

# BSB663

# Image Processing

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Slides are adapted from  
Selim Aksoy

# Importance of neighborhood



- Both zebras and dalmatians have black and white pixels in similar numbers.
- The difference between the two is the characteristic appearance of small group of pixels rather than individual pixel values.

# Outline

- We will discuss neighborhood operations that work with the values of the image pixels in the neighborhood.
- Spatial domain filtering
- Frequency domain filtering
- Image enhancement
- Finding patterns

# Spatial domain filtering

3	3	3
3	3	3
3	3	3

- What is the value of the center pixel?

3	4	3
2	3	3
3	4	2

- What assumptions are you making to infer the center value?

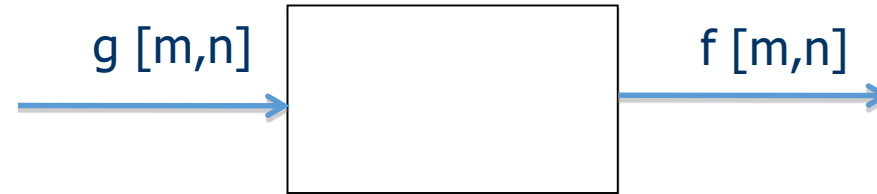
# Spatial domain filtering

- Some neighborhood operations work with
  - the values of the image pixels in the neighborhood, and
  - the corresponding values of a subimage that has the same dimensions as the neighborhood.
- The subimage is called a **filter** (or mask, kernel, template, window).
- The values in a filter subimage are referred to as **coefficients**, rather than pixels.

# Spatial domain filtering

- Operation: modify the pixels in an image based on some function of the pixels in their neighborhood.
- Simplest: **linear filtering** (replace each pixel by a linear combination of its neighbors).
- Linear spatial filtering is often referred to as “convolving an image with a filter”.

# Linear filtering



For a linear spatially invariant system

$$f[m, n] = I \otimes g = \sum_{k,l} h[m-k, n-l]g[k, l]$$

m=0 1 2 ...

111	115	113	111	112	111	112	111
135	138	137	139	145	146	149	147
163	168	188	196	206	202	206	207
180	184	206	219	202	200	195	193
189	193	214	216	104	79	83	77
191	201	217	220	103	59	60	68
195	205	216	222	113	68	69	83
199	203	223	228	108	68	71	77

g[m,n]

⊗

-1	2	-1
-1	2	-1
-1	2	-1

h[m,n]

=

?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
?	-5	9	-9	21	-12	10	?
?	-29	18	24	4	-7	5	?
?	-50	40	142	-88	-34	10	?
?	-41	41	264	-175	-71	0	?
?	-24	37	349	-224	-120	-10	?
?	-23	33	360	-217	-134	-23	?
?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?

f[m,n]

# Spatial domain filtering

- Be careful about indices, image borders and padding during implementation.



zero



fixed/clamp



periodic/wrap



reflected/mirror

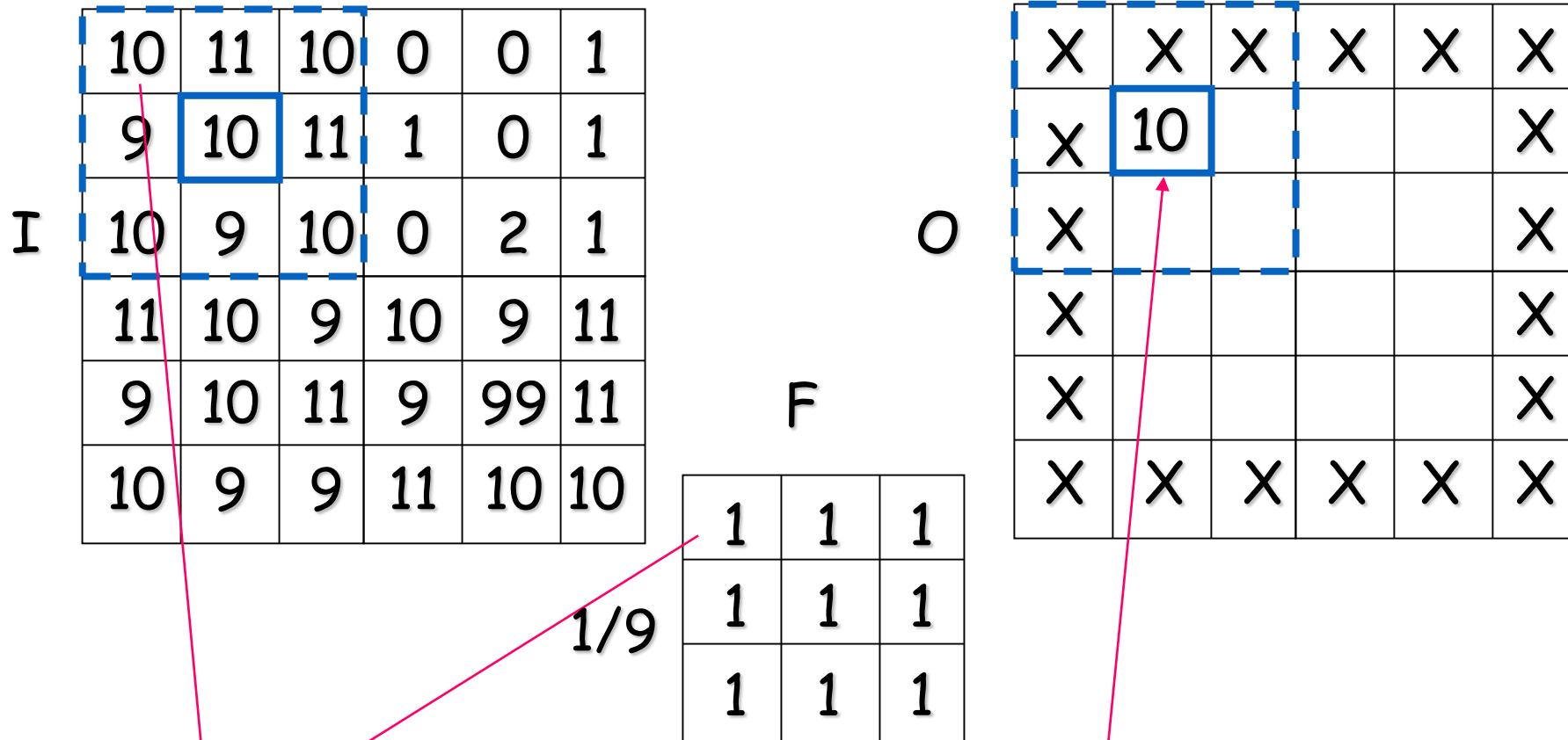
Border padding examples.



# Smoothing spatial filters

- Often, an image is composed of
  - some underlying ideal structure, which we want to detect and describe,
  - together with some random noise or artifact, which we would like to remove.
- Smoothing filters are used for blurring and for noise reduction.
- Linear smoothing filters are also called **averaging filters**.

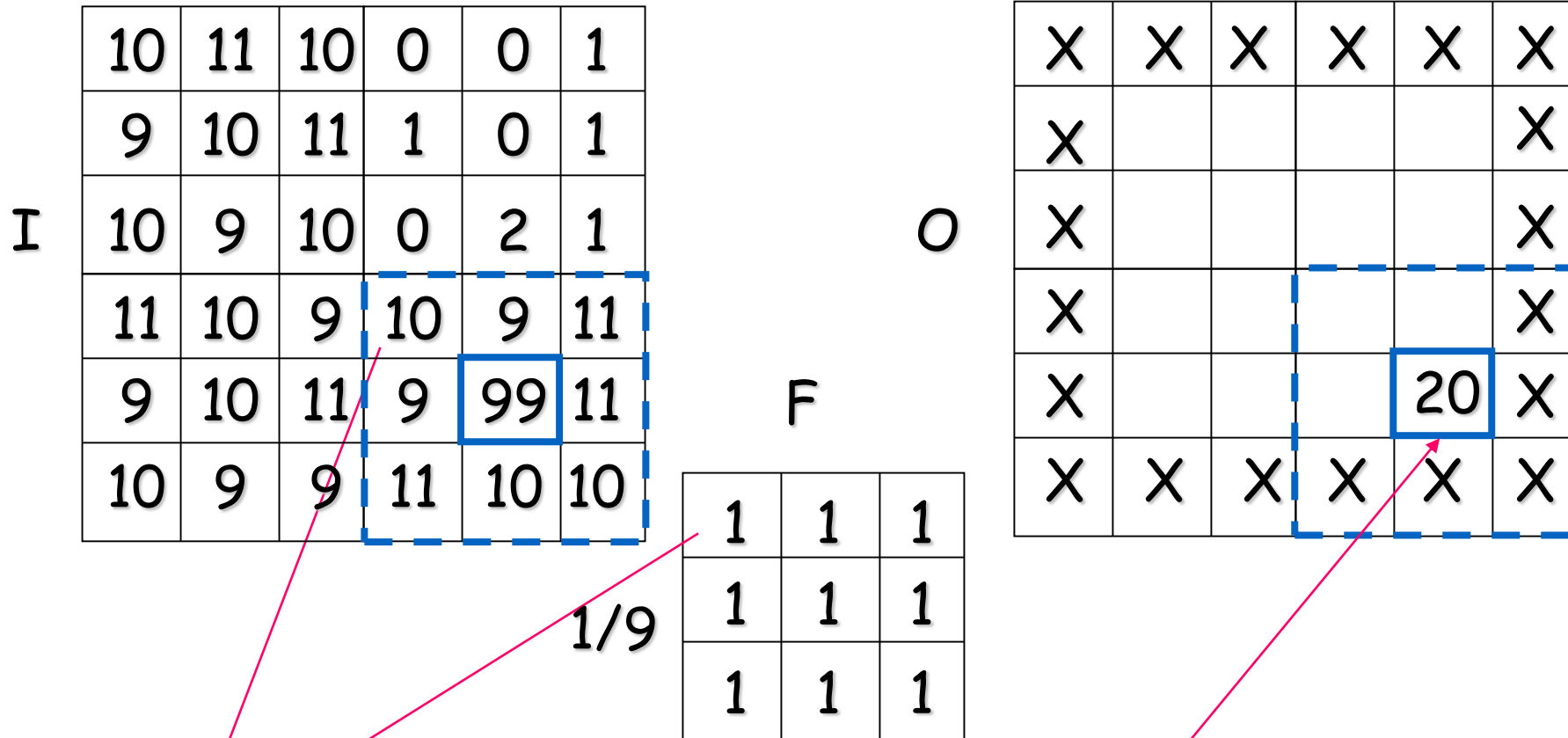
# Smoothing spatial filters



$$1/9.(10 \times 1 + 11 \times 1 + 10 \times 1 + 9 \times 1 + 10 \times 1 + 11 \times 1 + 10 \times 1 + 9 \times 1 + 10 \times 1) = 1/9.(90) = 10$$

Adapted from Octavia Camps, Penn State

# Smoothing spatial filters



$$1/9.(10 \times 1 + 9 \times 1 + 11 \times 1 + 9 \times 1 + 99 \times 1 + 11 \times 1 + 11 \times 1 + 10 \times 1 + 10 \times 1) = 1/9.(180) = 20$$

Adapted from Octavia Camps, Penn State

# Smoothing spatial filters

- Common types of noise:
  - **Salt-and-pepper noise:** contains random occurrences of black and white pixels.
  - **Impulse noise:** contains random occurrences of white pixels.
  - **Gaussian noise:** variations in intensity drawn from a Gaussian normal distribution.



Original



Salt and pepper noise



Impulse noise



Gaussian noise

Gaussian  
noise

Salt and pepper  
noise

3x3



5x5

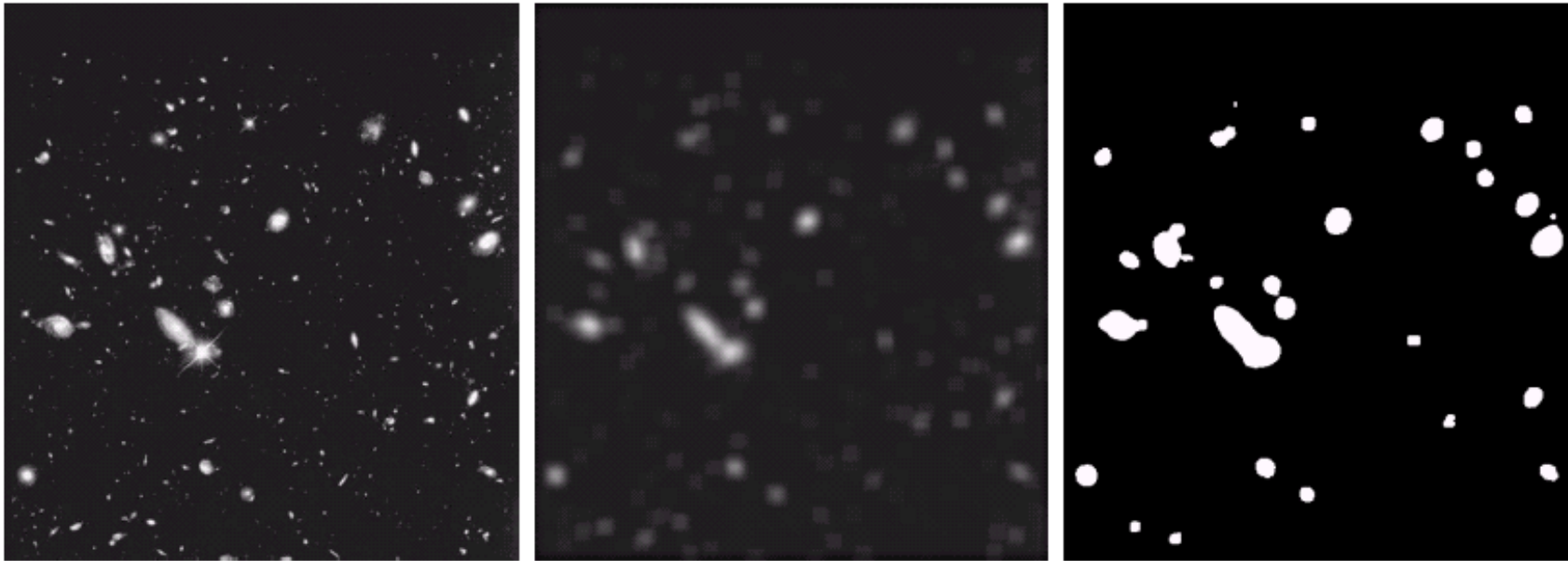


7x7



Adapted from Linda Shapiro,  
U of Washington

# Smoothing spatial filters

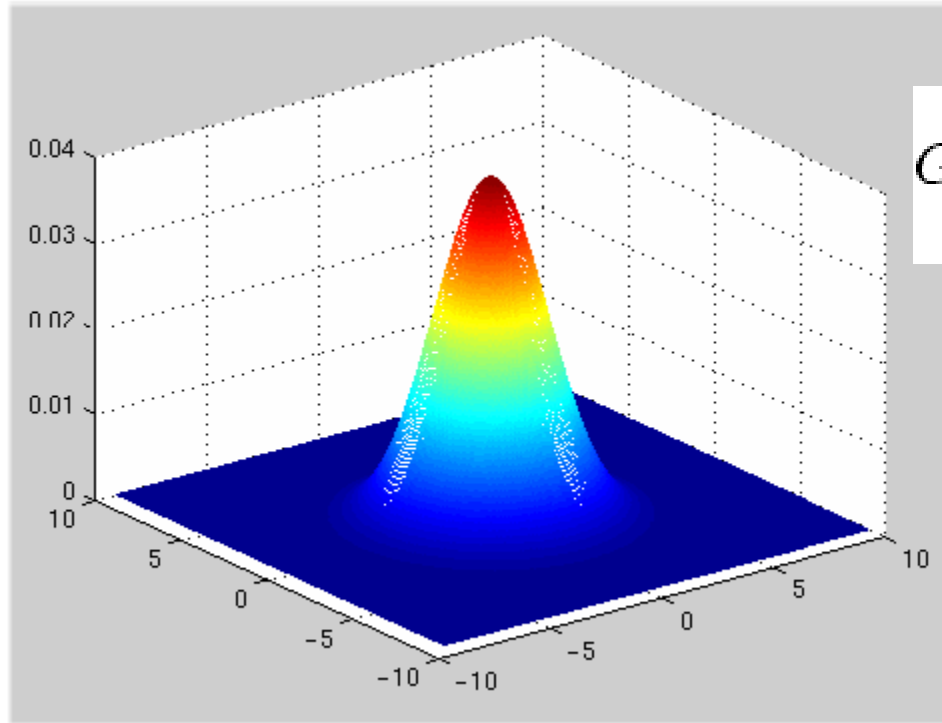


a b c

**FIGURE 3.36** (a) Image from the Hubble Space Telescope. (b) Image processed by a  $15 \times 15$  averaging mask. (c) Result of thresholding (b). (Original image courtesy of NASA.)

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# Smoothing spatial filters



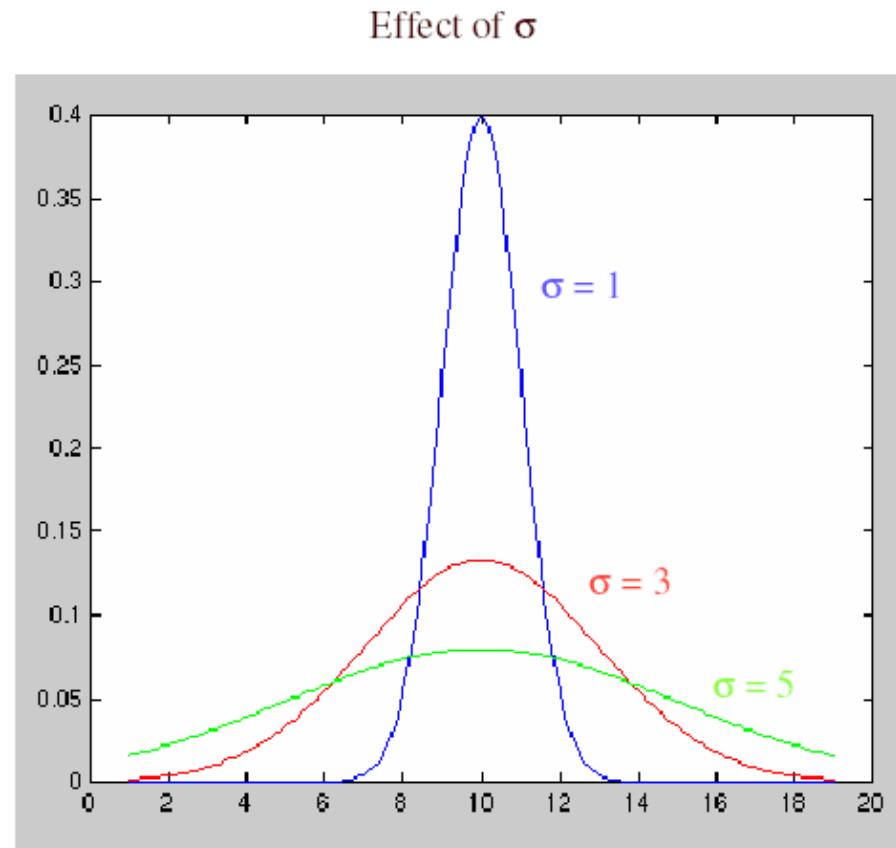
$$G_{\sigma}(x, y) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2} \exp\left(-\frac{(x^2 + y^2)}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

A weighted average that weighs pixels at its center much more strongly than its boundaries.

2D Gaussian filter

# Smoothing spatial filters

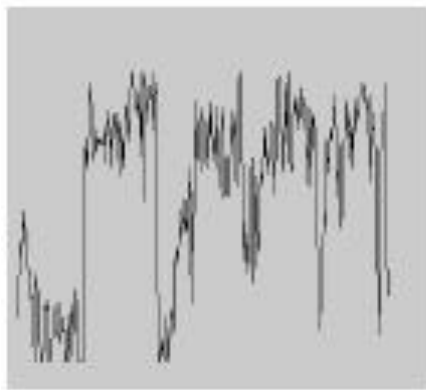
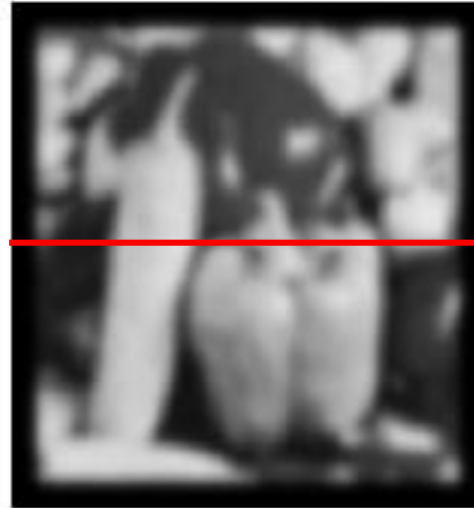
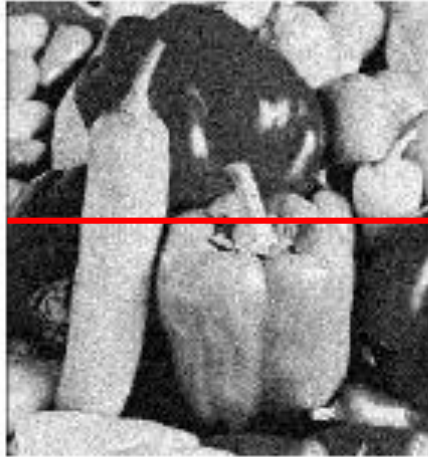
- If  $\sigma$  is small: smoothing will have little effect.
- If  $\sigma$  is larger: neighboring pixels will have larger weights resulting in consensus of the neighbors.
- If  $\sigma$  is very large: details will disappear along with the noise.



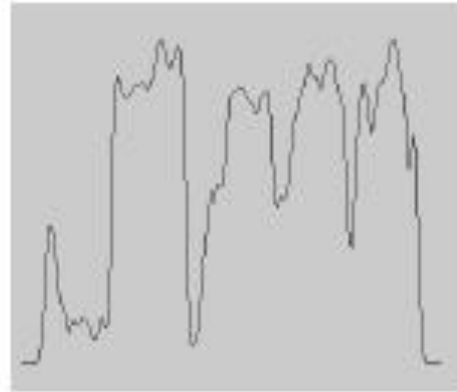
Adapted from Martial Hebert, CMU



# Smoothing spatial filters



No smoothing



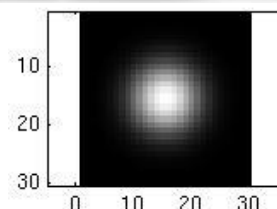
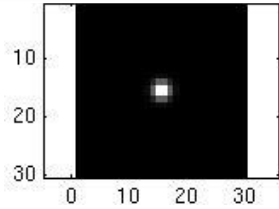
$\sigma = 2$



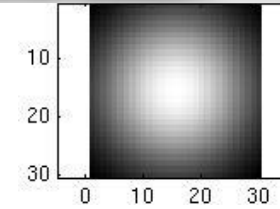
$\sigma = 4$

Adapted from Martial Hebert, CMU

# Smoothing spatial filters



...



Width of the Gaussian kernel controls the amount of smoothing.

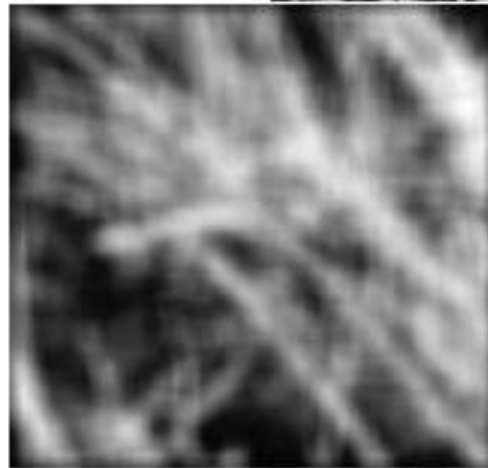
Adapted from K. Grauman

# Smoothing spatial filters

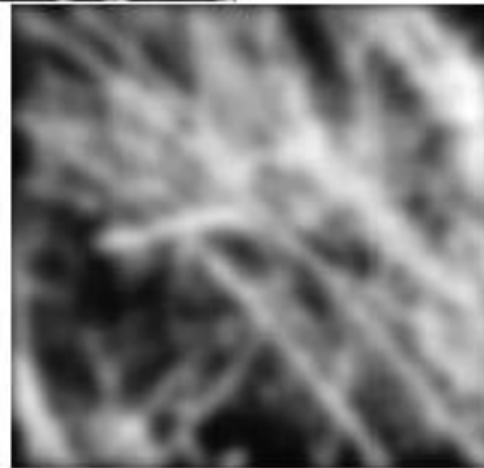


Result of blurring using a uniform local model.

Produces a set of narrow horizontal and vertical bars – ringing effect.

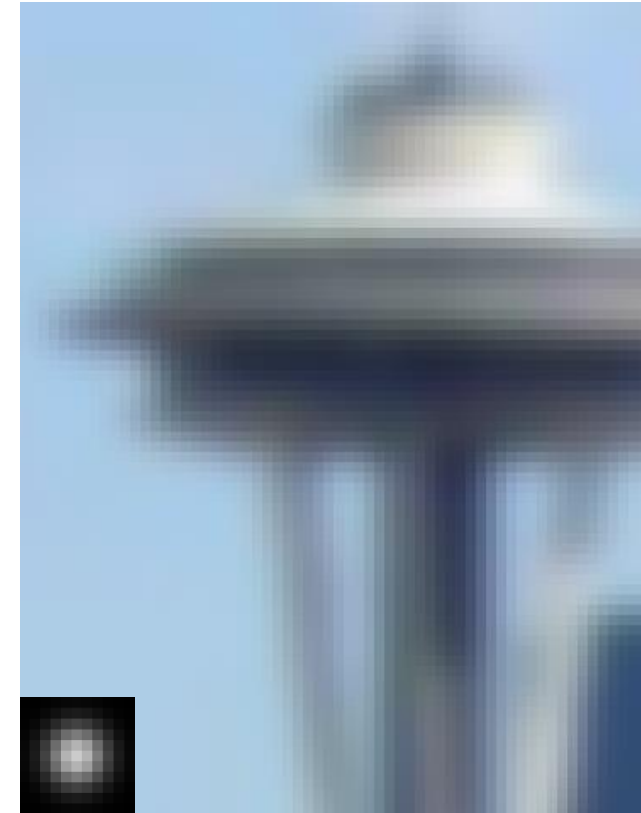
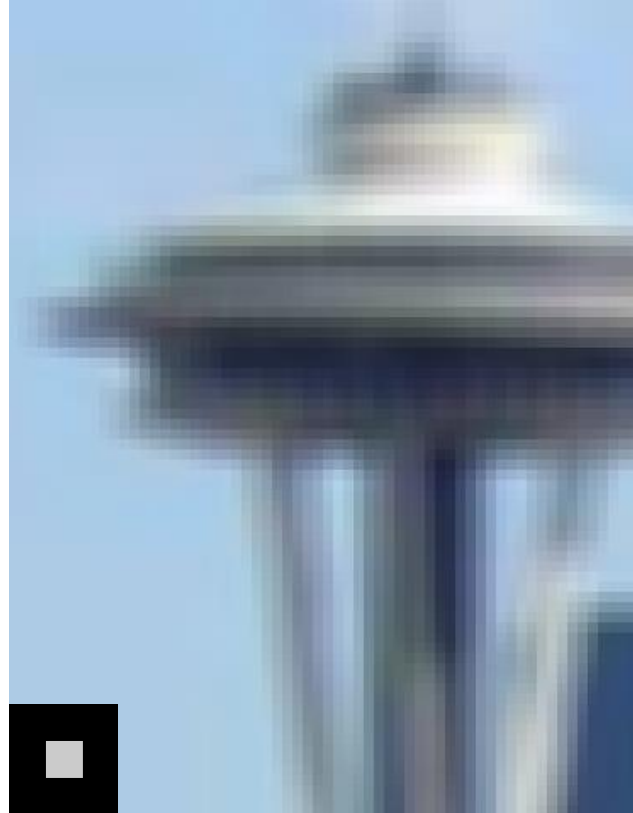


Result of blurring using a Gaussian filter.



Adapted from David Forsyth, UC Berkeley

# Smoothing spatial filters



Gaussian versus mean filters

Adapted from CSE 455, U of Washington

# Order-statistic filters

- Order-statistic filters are **nonlinear spatial filters** whose response is based on
  - ordering (ranking) the pixels contained in the image area encompassed by the filter, and then
  - replacing the value of the center pixel with the value determined by the ranking result.
- The best-known example is the **median filter**.
- It is particularly effective in the presence of impulse or salt-and-pepper noise, with considerably less blurring than linear smoothing filters.

# Order-statistic filters

I

10	11	10	0	0	1
9	10	11	1	0	1
10	9	10	0	2	1
11	10	9	10	9	11
9	10	11	9	99	11
10	9	9	11	10	10

10, 11, 10, 9, 10, 11, 10, 9, 10

sort  
→

O

X	X	X	X	X	X
X	10				X
X					X
X					X
X					X
X	X	X	X	X	X

9, 9, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 11, 11

median

Adapted from Octavia Camps, Penn State

# Order-statistic filters

I

10	11	10	0	0	1
9	10	11	1	0	1
10	9	10	0	2	1
11	10	9	10	9	11
9	10	11	9	99	11
10	9	9	11	10	10

O

X	X	X	X	X	X
X					X
X					X
X					X
X				10	X
X	X	X	X	X	X

10, 9, 11, 9, 99, 11, 11, 10, 10

sort  
→

9, 9, 10, 10, 10, 11, 11, 11, 99

median

Adapted from Octavia Camps, Penn State

# Salt-and-pepper noise

Mean

Gaussian

Median

3x3



5x5



7x7



Adapted from Linda Shapiro,  
U of Washington



# Gaussian noise

Mean

Gaussian

Median

3x3



5x5



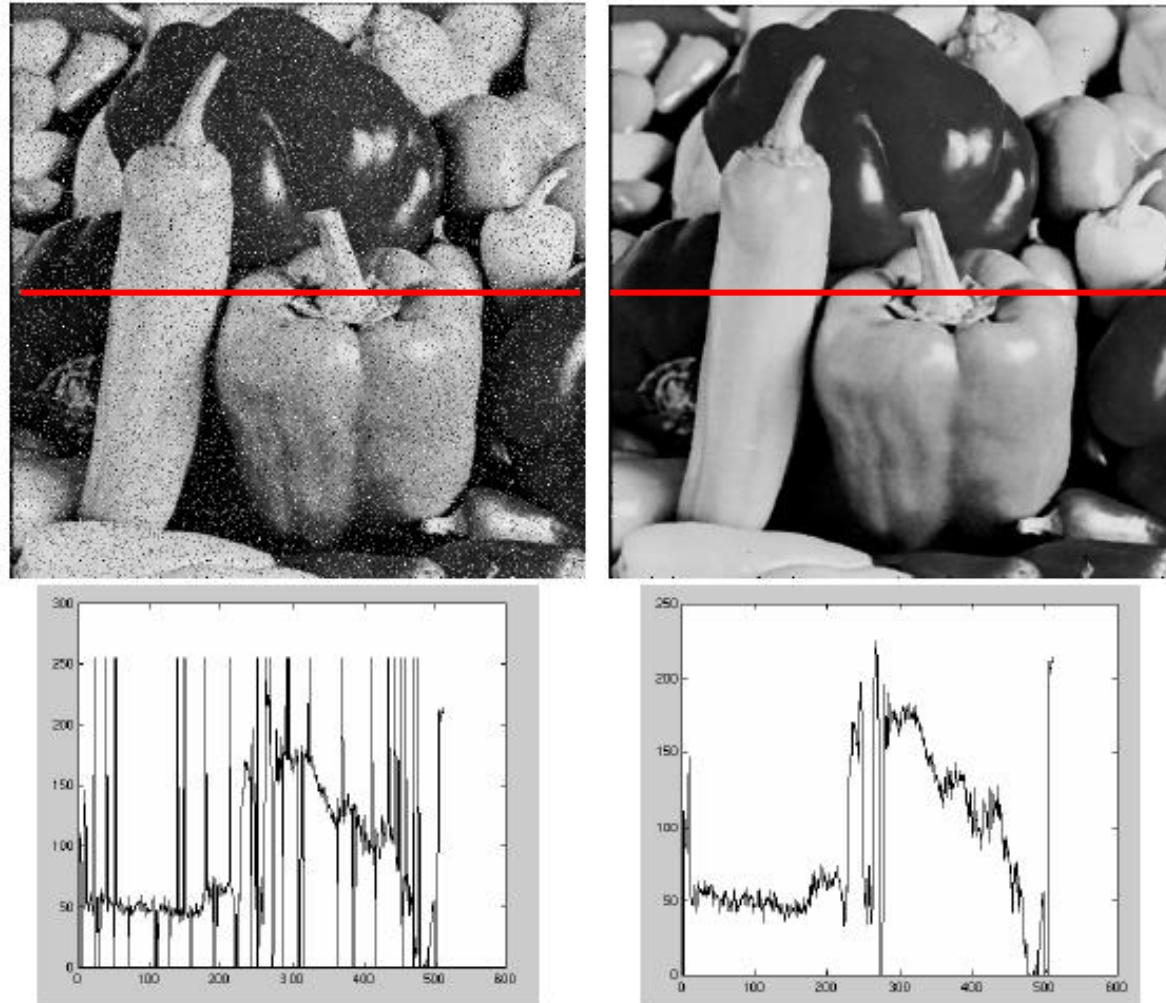
7x7



Adapted from Linda Shapiro,  
U of Washington

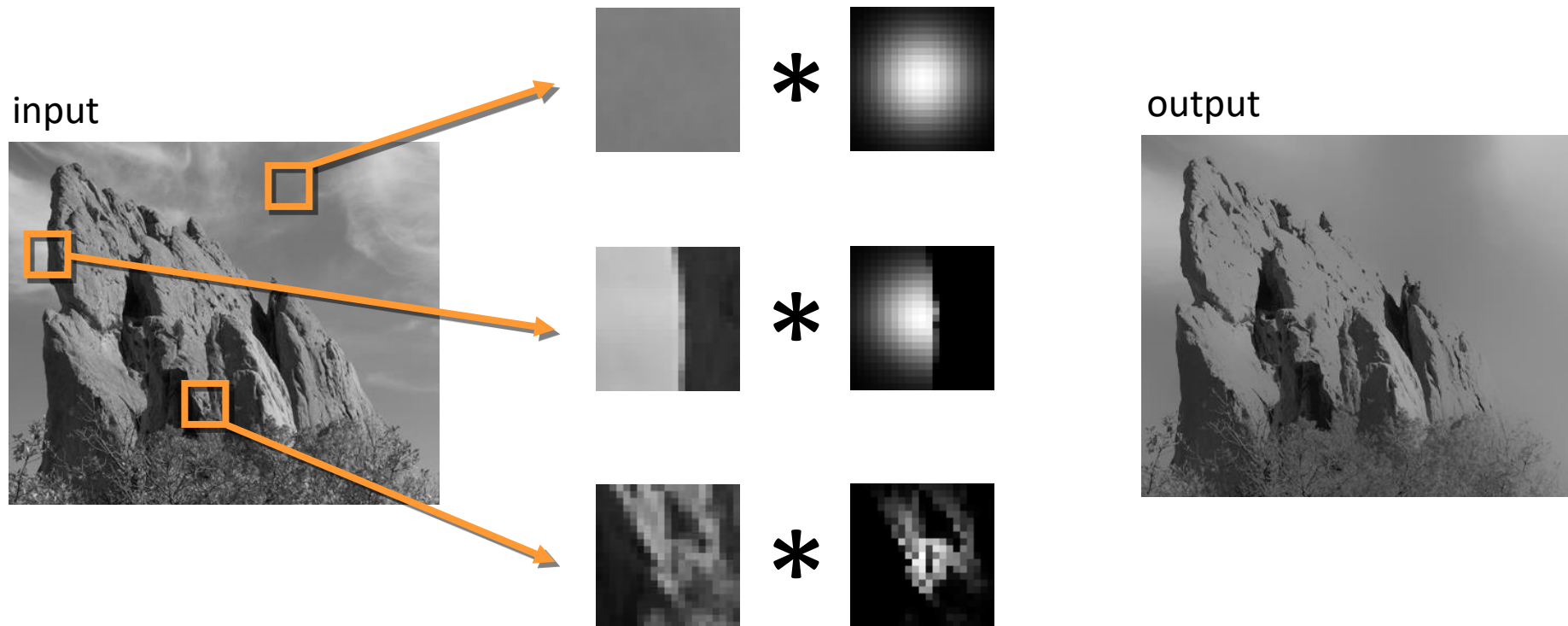
# Order-statistic filters

Effect of median filter on salt and pepper noise



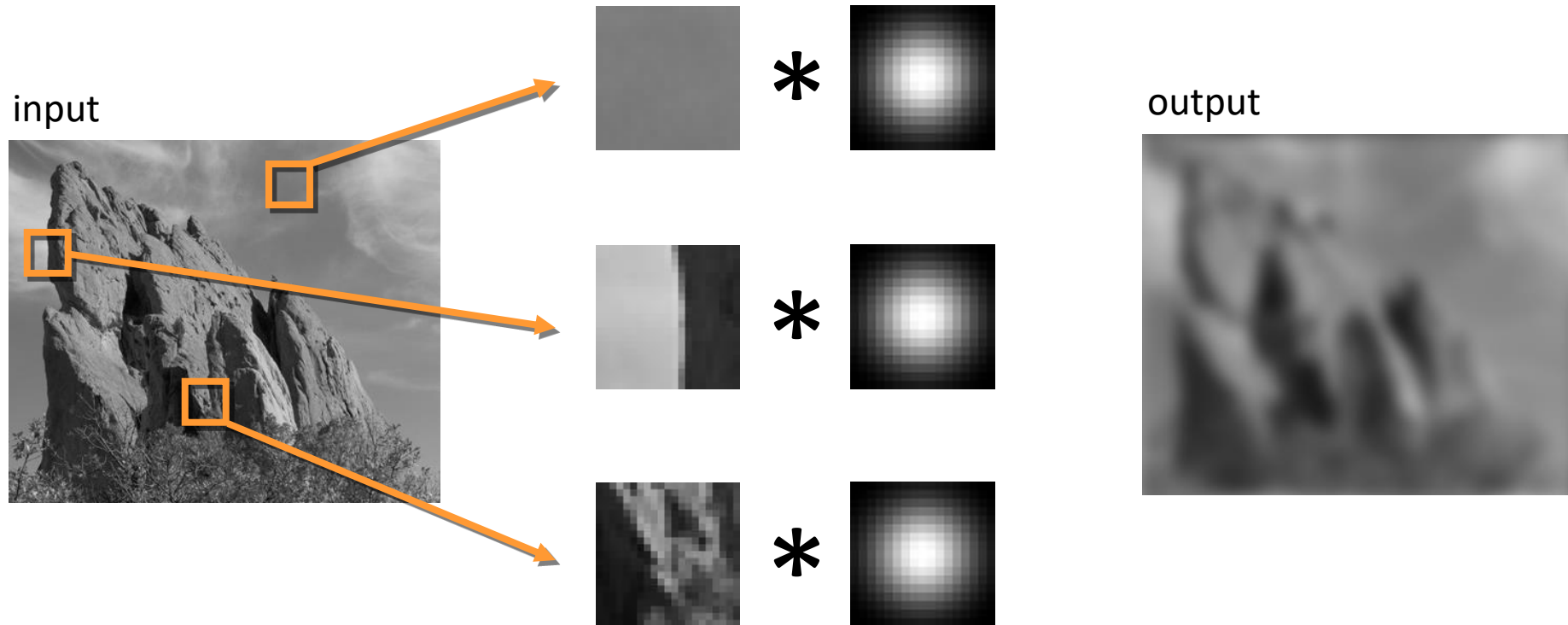
Adapted from Martial Hebert, CMU

# Spatially varying filters



Bilateral filter: kernel depends on the local image content.  
See the Szeliski book for the math.

# Spatially varying filters



Compare to the result of using the same Gaussian kernel everywhere

# Sharpening spatial filters

- Objective of sharpening is to highlight or enhance fine detail in an image.
- Since smoothing (averaging) is analogous to integration, sharpening can be accomplished by spatial differentiation.
- First-order derivative of 1D function  $f(x)$   
 $f(x+1) - f(x)$ .
- Second-order derivative of 1D function  $f(x)$   
 $f(x+1) - 2f(x) + f(x-1)$ .

# Sharpening spatial filters

- For a function  $f(x, y)$ , the *gradient* at  $(x, y)$  is defined as

$$\nabla f = \left[ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right]^T$$

where its magnitude can be used to implement first-order derivatives.

-1	0	0	-1
0	1	1	0

Robert's cross-gradient operators

-1	-2	-1	-1	0	1
0	0	0	-2	0	2
1	2	1	-1	0	1

Sobel gradient operators

# Sharpening spatial filters

- *Laplacian* of a function (image)  $f(x, y)$  of two variables  $x$  and  $y$

$$\nabla^2 f = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2}$$

is a second-order derivative operator.

0	1	0	1	1	1
1	-4	1	1	-8	1
0	1	0	1	1	1
0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1
-1	4	-1	-1	8	-1
0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1

a b  
c d

**FIGURE 3.39**

(a) Filter mask used to implement the digital Laplacian, as defined in Eq. (3.7-4).

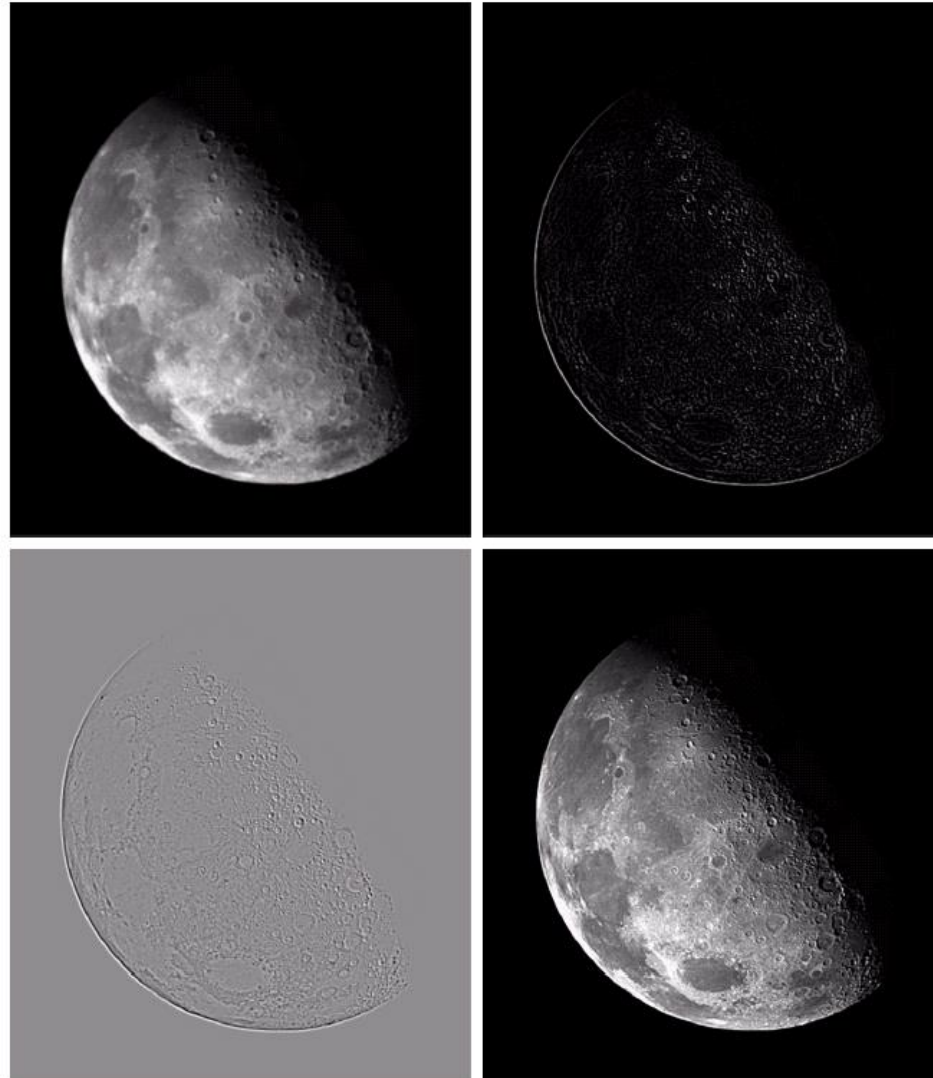
(b) Mask used to implement an extension of this equation that includes the diagonal neighbors. (c) and (d) Two other implementations of the Laplacian.

# Sharpening spatial filters

a b  
c d

**FIGURE 3.40**

(a) Image of the North Pole of the moon.  
(b) Laplacian-filtered image.  
(c) Laplacian image scaled for display purposes.  
(d) Image enhanced by using Eq. (3.7-5).  
(Original image courtesy of NASA.)



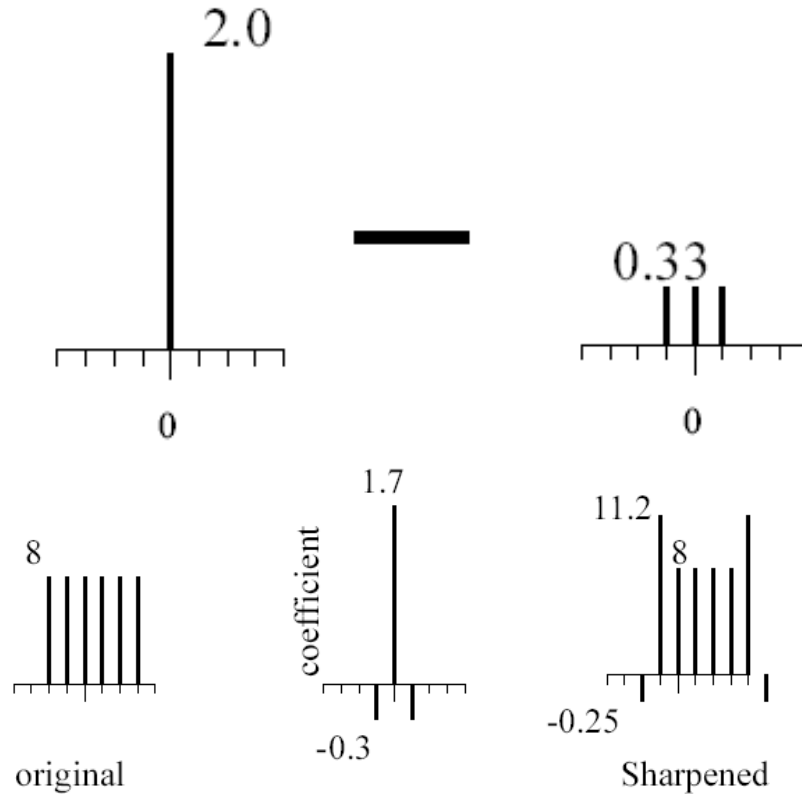
Adapted from Gonzales and Woods



# Sharpening spatial filters



original

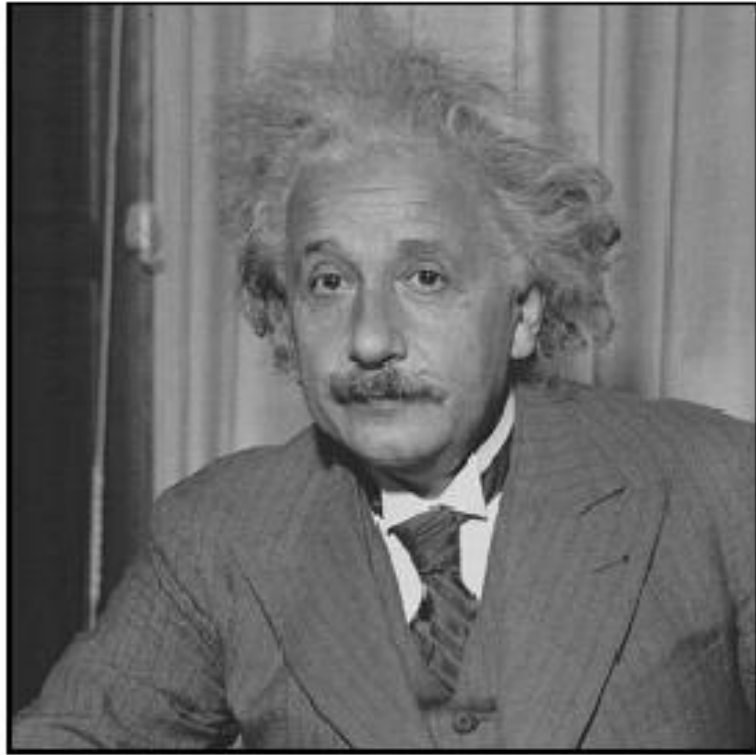


Sharpened original

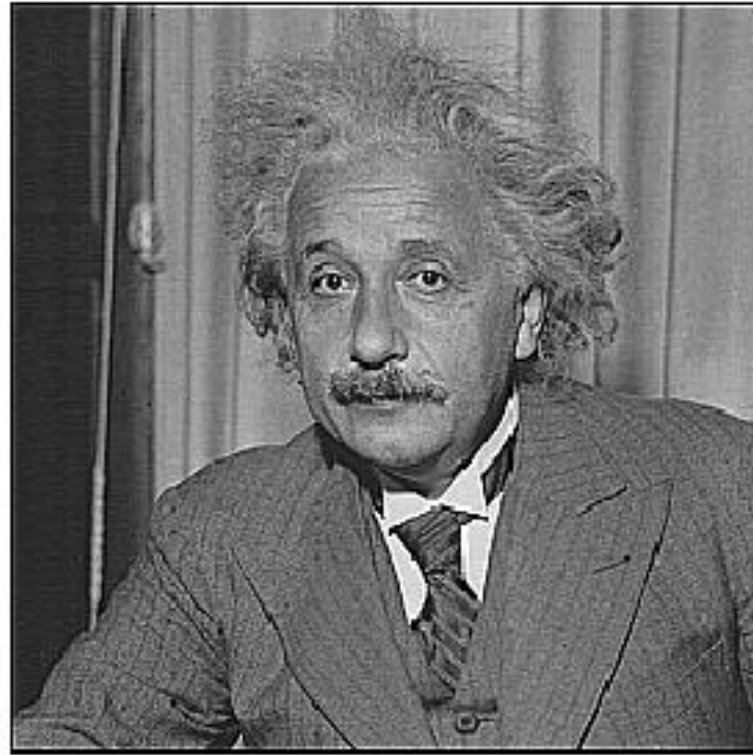
## High-boost filtering

Adapted from Darrell and Freeman, MIT

# Sharpening spatial filters



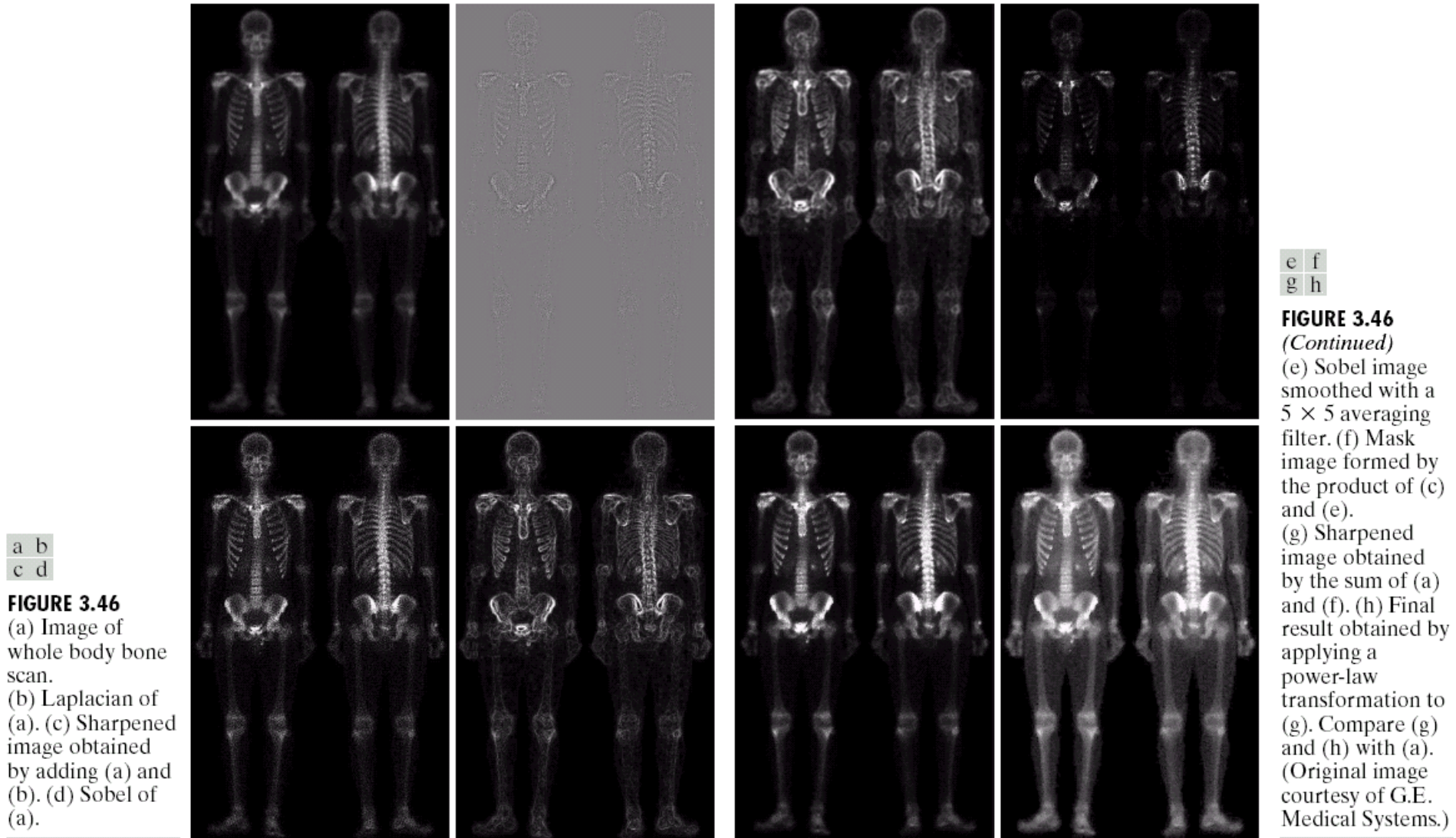
**before**



**after**

Adapted from Darrell and Freeman, MIT

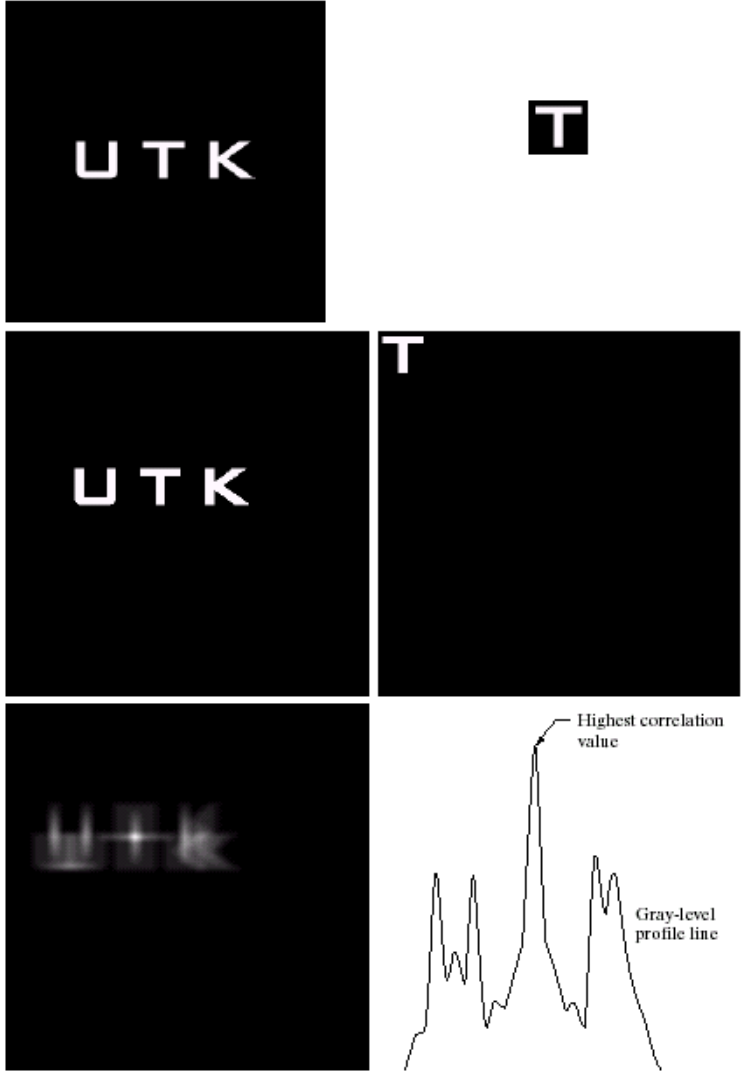
# Combining spatial enhancement methods



# Template matching

- Correlation can also be used for **matching**.
- If we want to determine whether an image  $f$  contains a particular object, we let  $h$  be that object (also called a **template**) and compute the correlation between  $f$  and  $h$ .
- If there is a match, the correlation will be maximum at the location where  $h$  finds a correspondence in  $f$ .
- Preprocessing such as scaling and alignment is necessary in most practical applications.

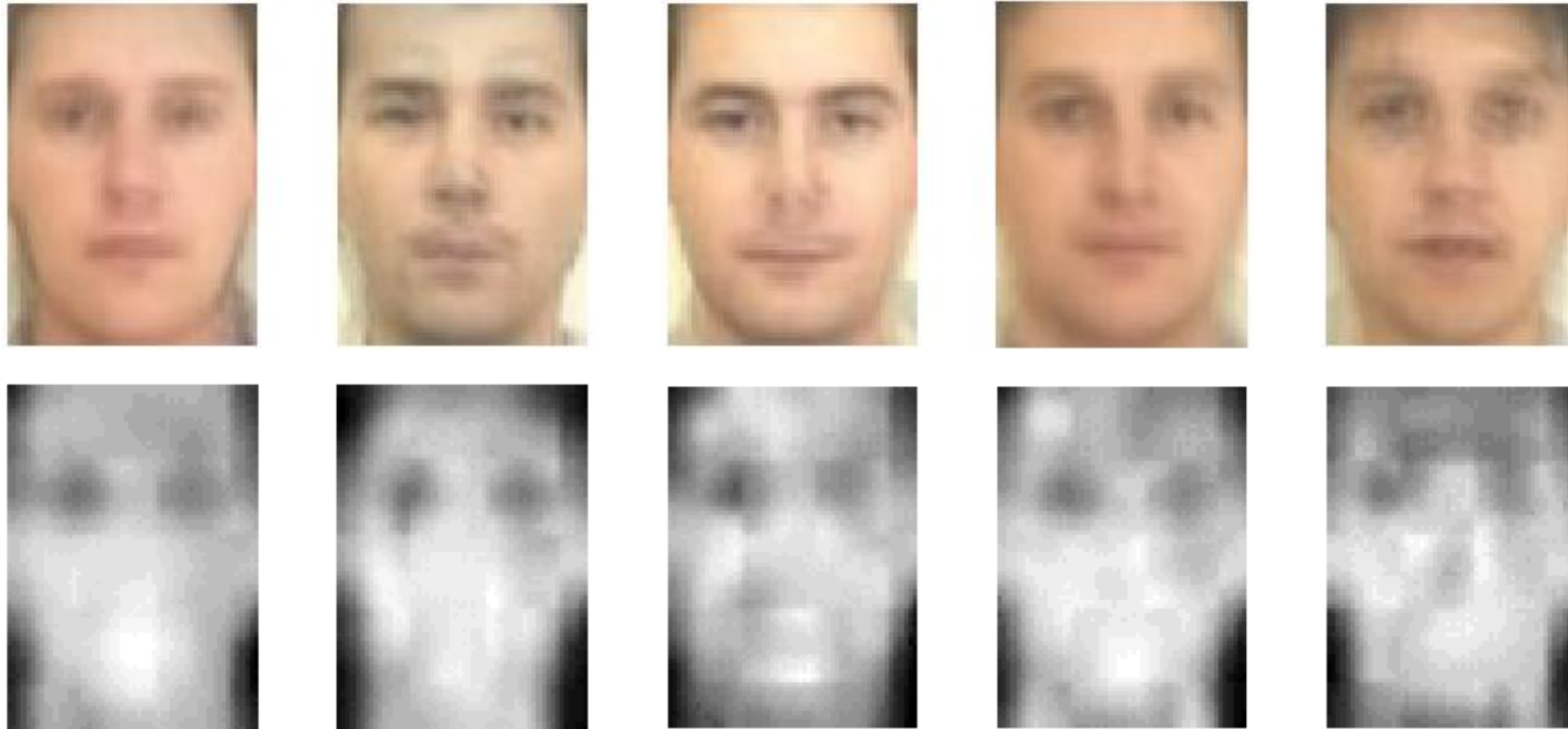
# Template matching



a b  
c d  
e f

**FIGURE 4.41**  
(a) Image.  
(b) Template.  
(c) and  
(d) Padded  
images.  
(e) Correlation  
function displayed  
as an image.  
(f) Horizontal  
profile line  
through the  
highest value in  
(e), showing the  
point at which the  
best match took  
place.

# Template matching



Face detection using template matching: face templates.

# Template matching



Face detection using template matching: detected faces.

# Template matching

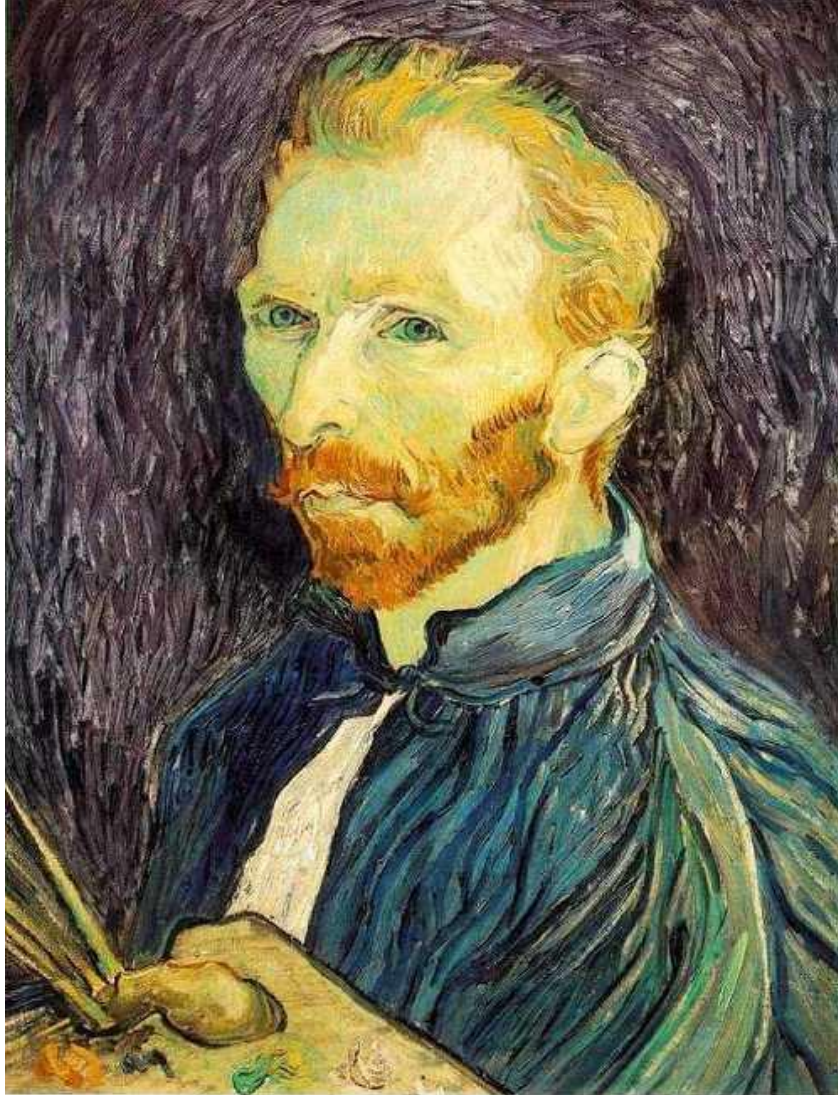


Where is Waldo?

<http://machinelearningmastery.com/using-opencv-python-and-template-matching-to-play-wheres-waldo/>



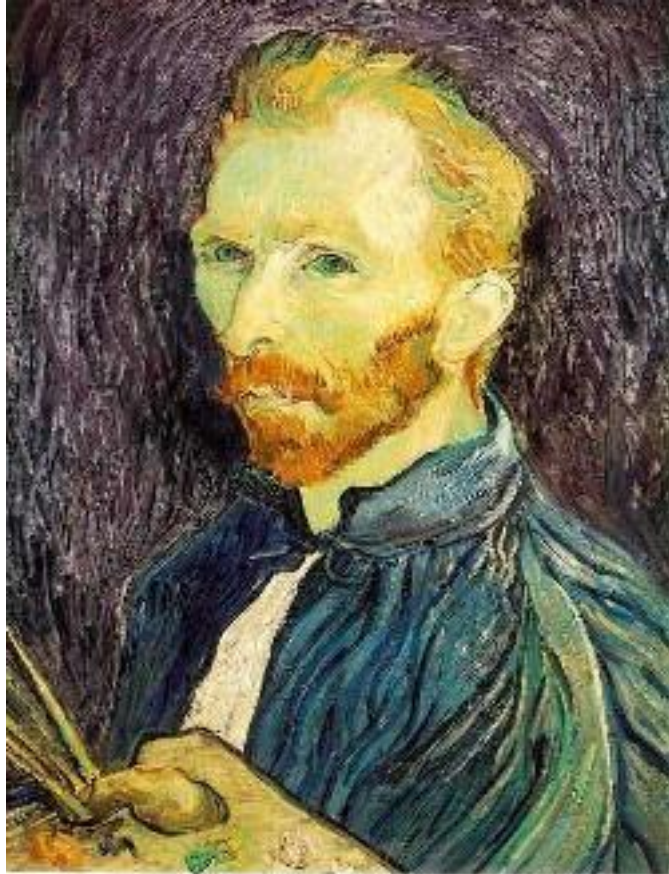
# Resizing images



How can we generate a half-sized version of a large image?

Adapted from Steve Seitz, U of Washington

# Resizing images



1/4



1/8

Throw away every other row and column to create a 1/2 size image (also called sub-sampling).

# Resizing images



1/2

1/4 (2x zoom)

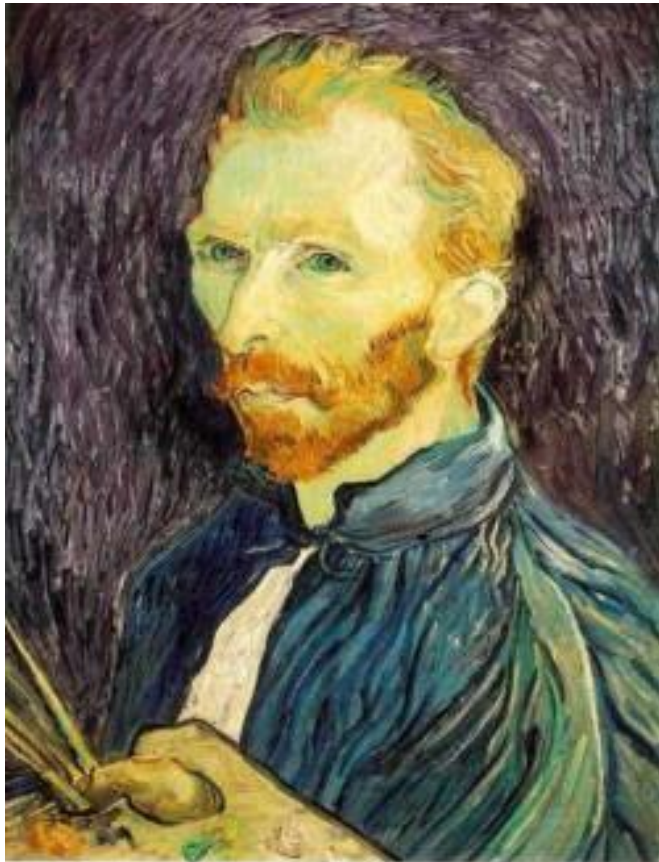
1/8 (4x zoom)

Does this look nice?

Adapted from Steve Seitz, U of Washington

# Resizing images

- We cannot shrink an image by simply taking every  $k$ 'th pixel.
- Solution: smooth the image, then sub-sample.



Gaussian  $1/2$

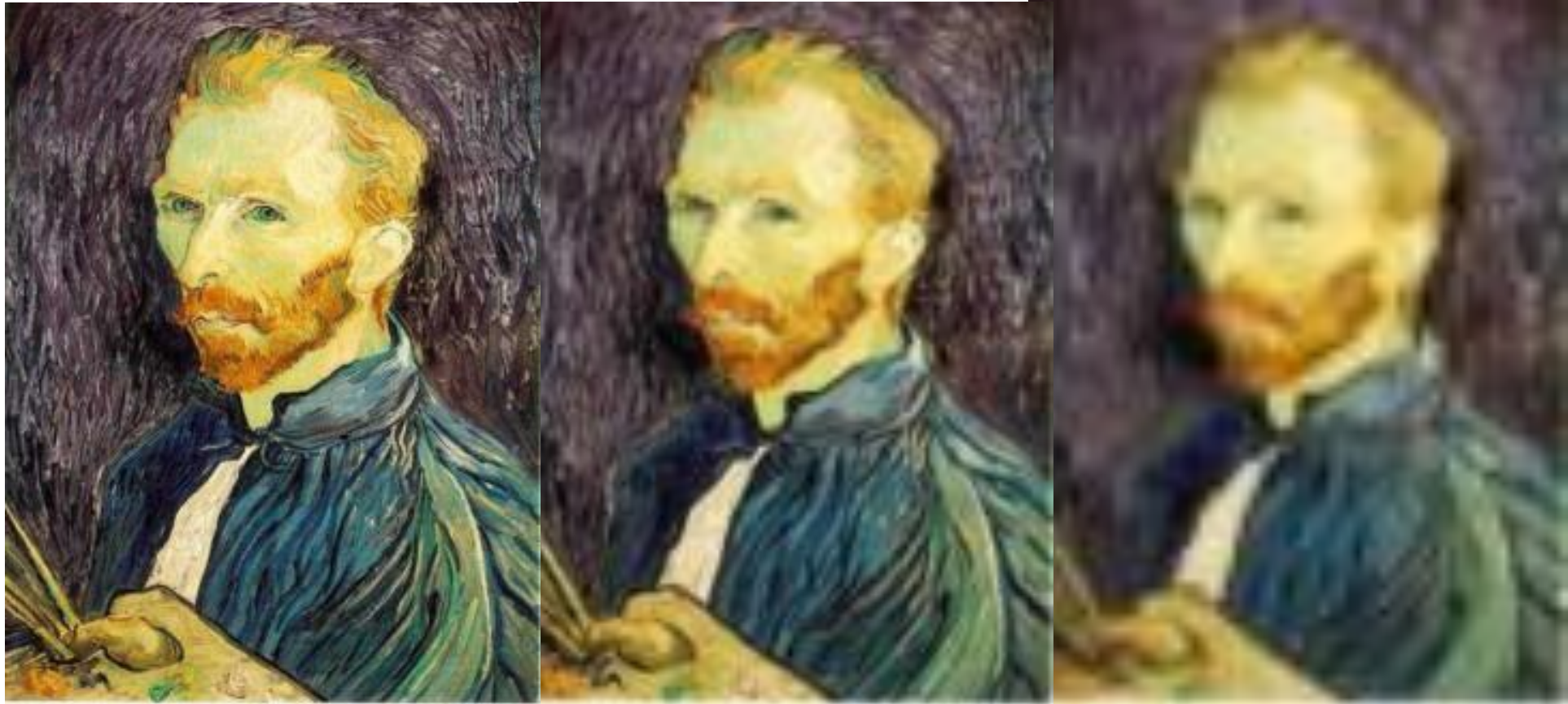


Gaussian  $1/4$



Gaussian  $1/8$

# Resizing images



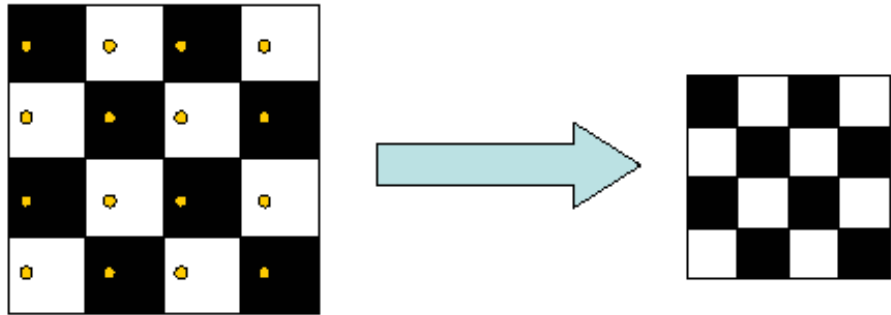
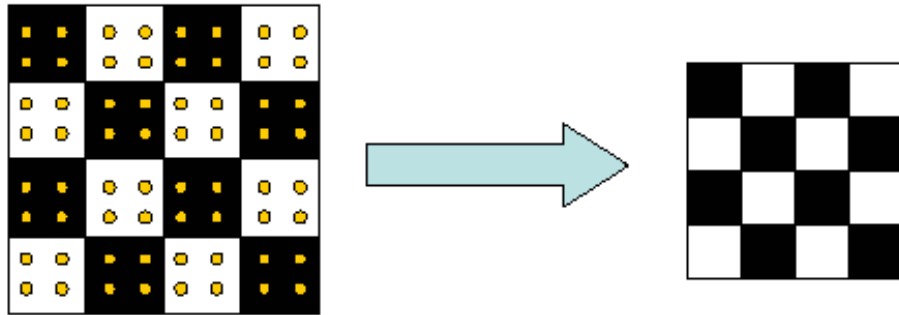
Gaussian 1/2

Gaussian 1/4  
(2x zoom)

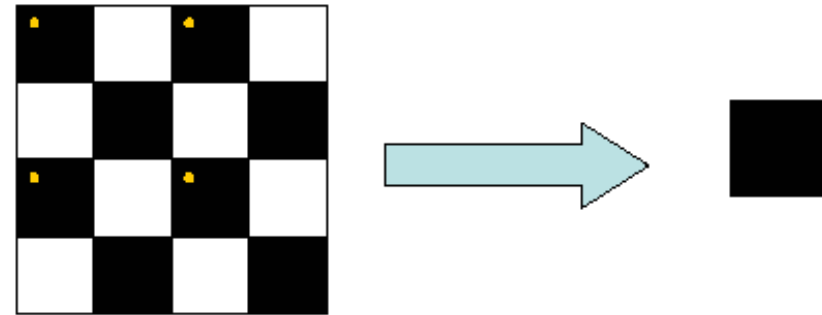
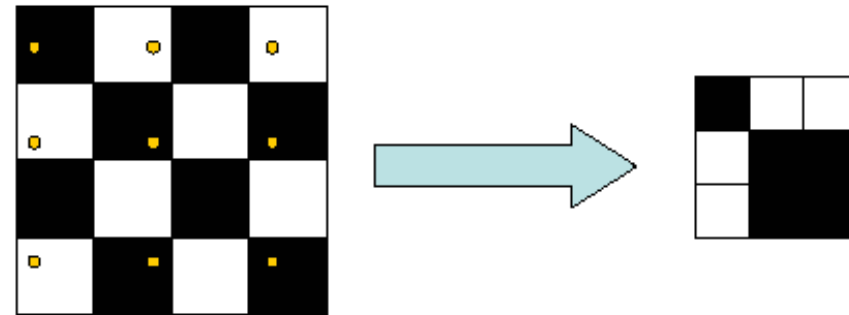
Gaussian 1/8  
(4x zoom)

Adapted from Steve Seitz, U of Washington

# Sampling and aliasing



Examples of GOOD sampling



Examples of BAD sampling -> Aliasing

# Sampling and aliasing

- Errors appear if we do not sample properly.
- Common phenomenon:
  - High spatial frequency components of the image appear as low spatial frequency components.
- Examples:
  - Wagon wheels rolling the wrong way in movies.
  - Checkerboards misrepresented in ray tracing.
  - Striped shirts look funny on color television.

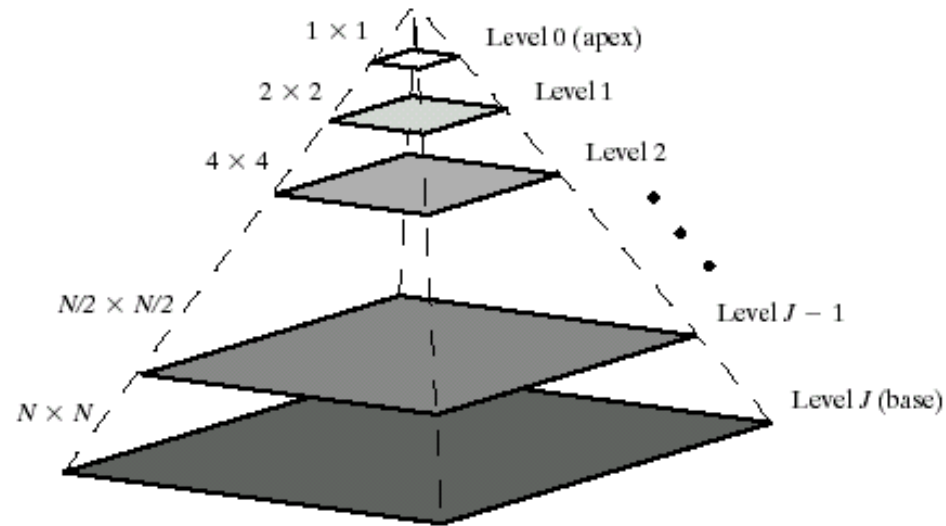
# Sampling and aliasing



Moiré patterns in real-world images. Here are comparison images by Dave Etchells of [Imaging Resource](#) using the Canon D60 (with an antialias filter) and the Sigma SD-9 (which has no antialias filter). The bands below the fur in the image at right are the kinds of artifacts that appear in images when no antialias filter is used. Sigma chose to eliminate the filter to get more sharpness, but the resulting apparent detail may or may not reflect features in the image.

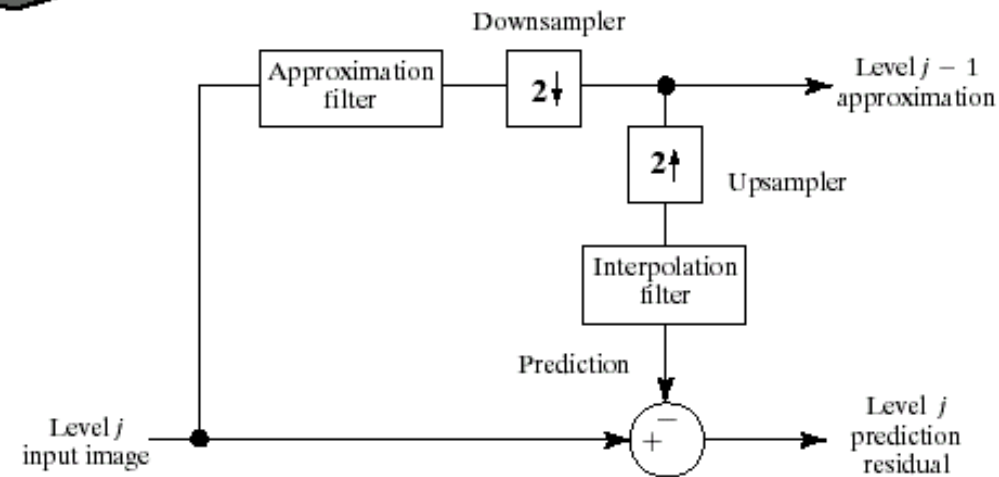


# Gaussian pyramids



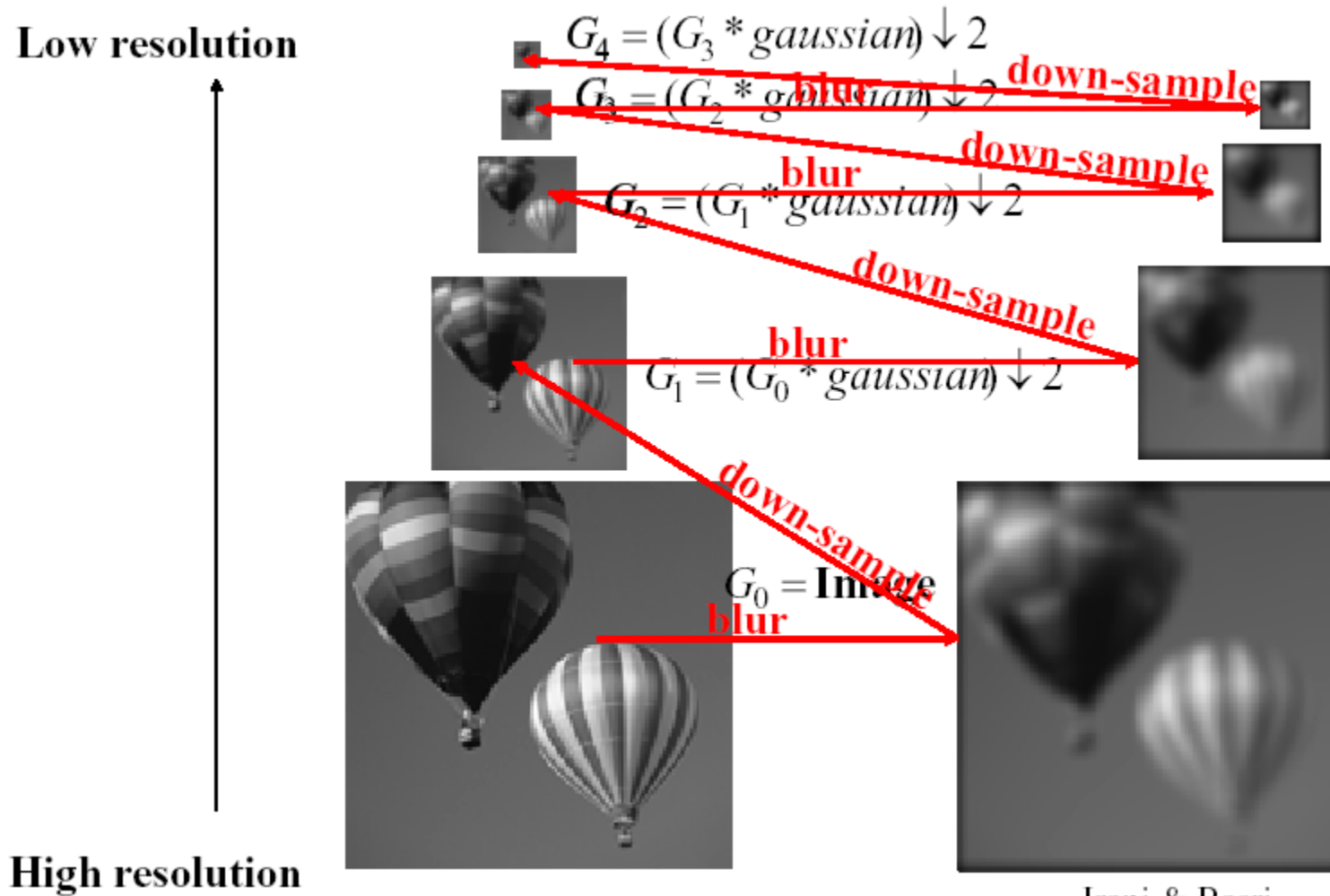
a  
b

**FIGURE 7.2** (a) A pyramidal image structure and (b) system block diagram for creating it.



Adapted from Gonzales and Woods

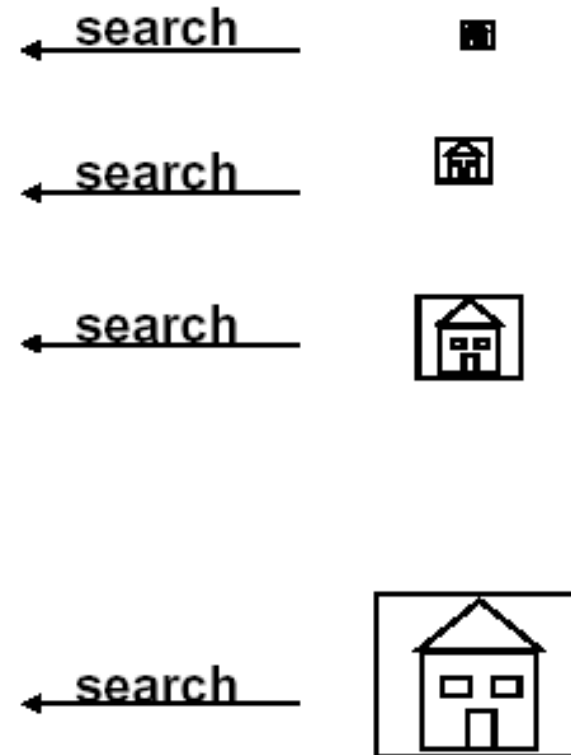
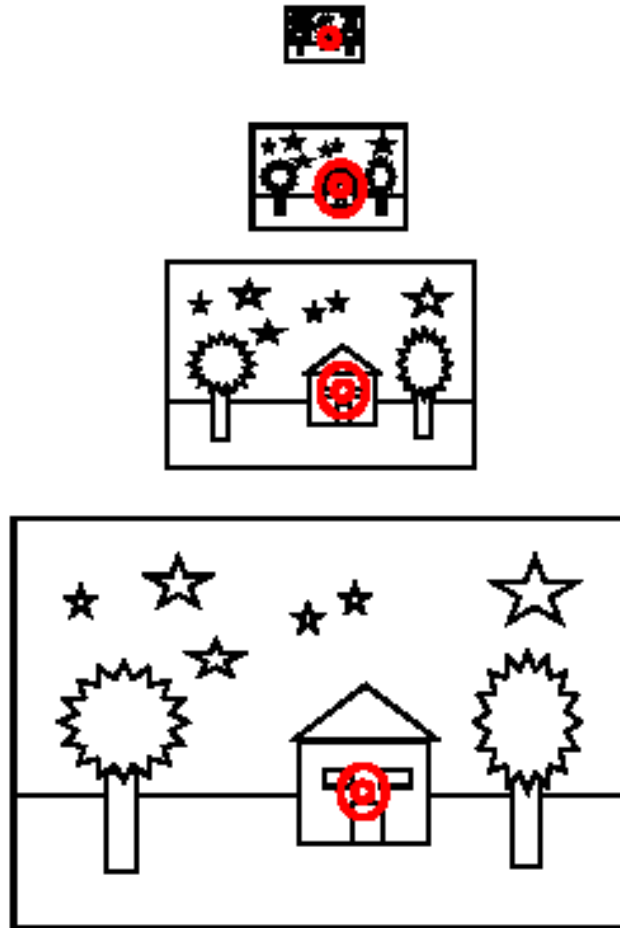
# Gaussian pyramids



Irani & Basri

Adapted from Michael Black, Brown University

# Gaussian pyramids



Irani & Basri

Adapted from Michael Black, Brown University