FUNDAMENTALS OF COMPUTATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Lecture #05 – Edge-Aware Filtering

HACETTEPE UNIVERSITY COMPUTER VISION LAB Erkut Erdem // Hacettepe University // Spring 2025

Today's Lecture

- Gaussian filtering
- Sharpening
- Bilateral filter
- Non-local means filter
- RegCov smoothing
- Rolling guidance filter

Disclaimer: The material and slides for this lecture were borrowed from

- Ioannis Gkioulekas' 15-463/15-663/15-862 "Computational Photography" class
- Wojciech Jarosz's CS 89.15/189.5 "Computational Aspects of Digital Photography" class
- Steve Marschner's CS6640 "Computational Photography" class
- Kaiming He's slides on Guided Image Filtering

Filtering

- The name "filter" is borrowed from frequency domain processing
- Accept or reject certain frequency components
- Fourier (1807): Periodic functions could be represented as a weighted sum of sines and cosines

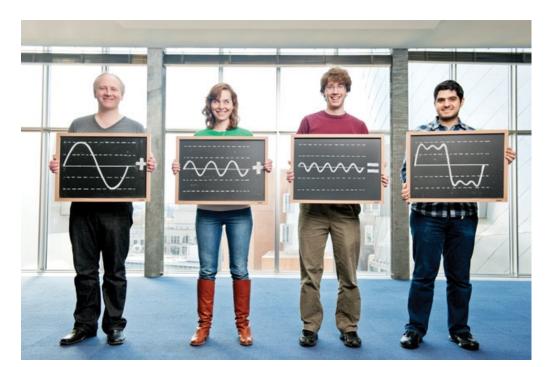
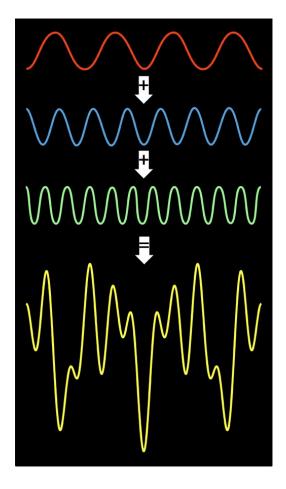


Image courtesy of Technology Review

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

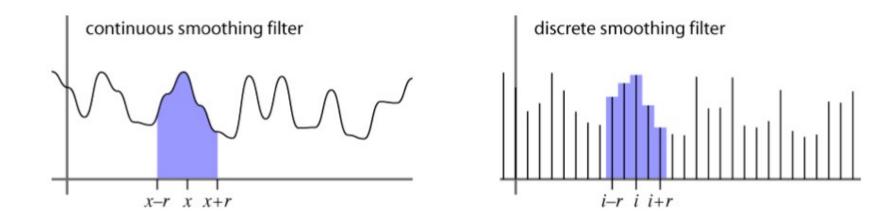
high frequency components: oscillatory Neighboring pixels have different brightness values You're either at the edges or noise points

Image Filtering

- Idea: 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)

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
- Can be modeled mathematically by <u>convolution</u>



Discrete convolution

• Simple averaging:

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

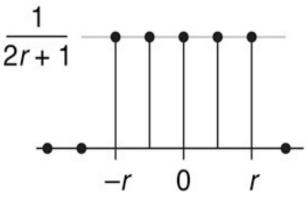
- every sample gets the same weight
- Convolution: same idea but with <u>weighted</u> average

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

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

Filters

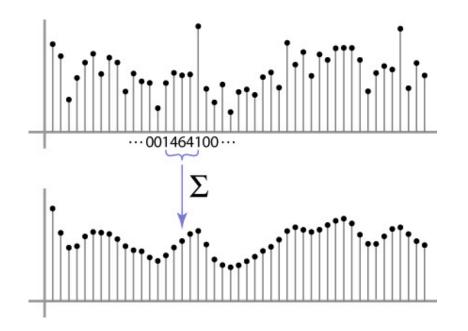
- Sequence of weights a[j] is called a filter
- Filter is nonzero over its region of support
 - usually centered on zero: support radius r
- Filter is normalized so that it sums to 1.0
 - this makes for a weighted average, not just any old weighted sum
- Most filters are symmetric about 0
 - since for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



a box filter

Convolution and filtering

- Convolution applies with any sequence of weights
- Example: bell curve (gaussian-like) [..., 1, 4, 6, 4, 1, ...]/16



Discrete filtering in 2D

• Same equation, one more index

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

- 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: $a * (b_1 * b_2 * b_3)$

Moving Average In 2D

F[x, y]

G[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	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	0	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

0				

Moving Average In 2D

F[x, y]

G[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	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	0	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

0	10				
_					

Moving Average In 2D

F[x, y]

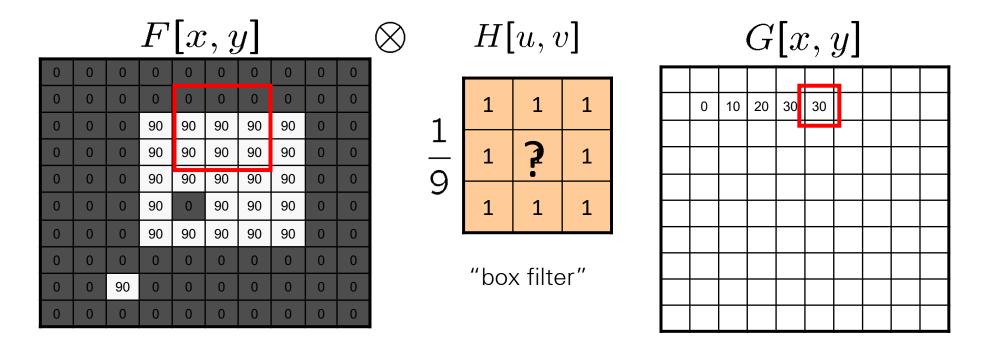
G[x, y]

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

 0	10	20	30	30	30	20	10	
 0	20	40	60	60	60	40	20	
0	30	60	90	90	90	60	30	
0	30	50	80	80	90	60	30	
0	30	50	80	80	90	60	30	
0	20	30	50	50	60	40	20	
10	20	30	30	30	30	20	10	
10	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	

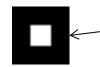
Averaging Filter

• What values belong in the kernel H for the moving average example?



 $G = H \otimes F$

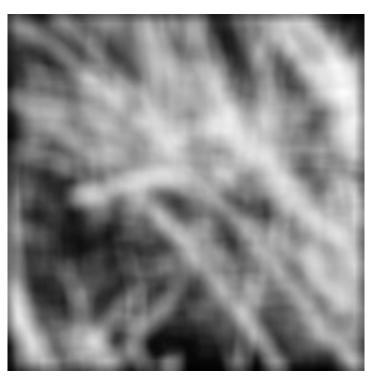
Smoothing by averaging



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



original

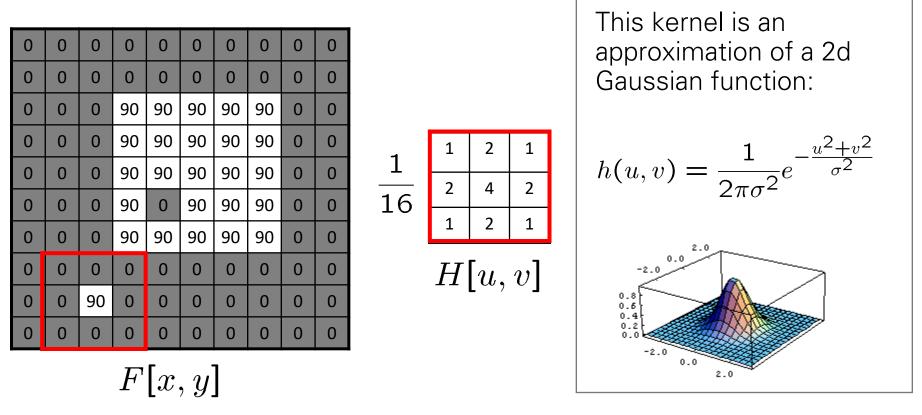


filtered

Gaussian Filtering

Gaussian Filter

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



• Removes high-frequency components from the image ("low-pass filter").

Smoothing with a Gaussian



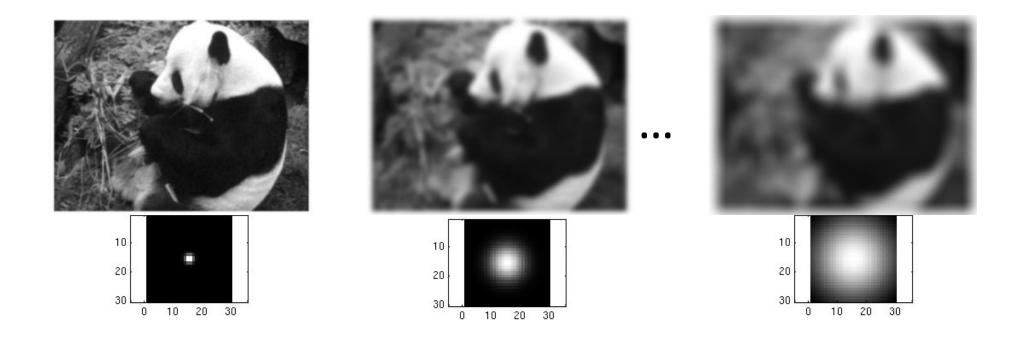




Slide adapted from K. Grauman

Smoothing with a Gaussian

Parameter σ is the "scale" / "width" / "spread" of the Gaussian kernel, and controls the amount of smoothing.



Strategy for Smoothing Images

- Images are not smooth because adjacent pixels are different.
- Smoothing = making adjacent pixels look more similar.
- Smoothing strategy pixel ~ average of its neighbors

Sharpening

How can we sharpen?

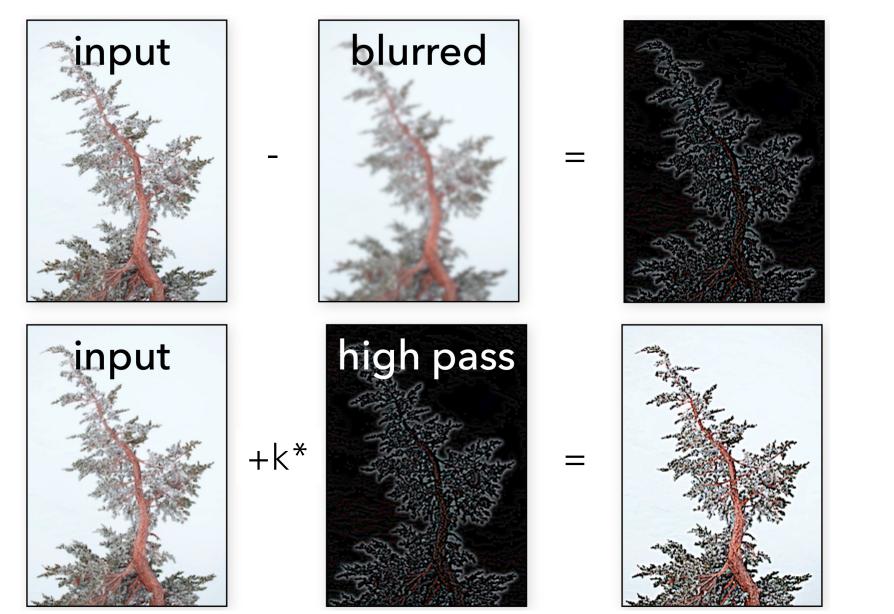
- Blurring was easy
- Sharpening is not as obvious

How can we sharpen?

- Blurring was easy
- Sharpening is not as obvious

- Idea: amplify the stuff not in the blurry image
- output = input + k*(input-blur(input))

Sharpening



high pass

sharpened image

Sharpening: kernel view

Recall

 $f' = f + k * (f - f \otimes g)$

f is the input f' is a sharpened image g is a blurring kernel k is a scalar controlling the strength of sharpening

Sharpening: kernel view

• Recall

$$ff' = ff_{+} k_{*} (f_{-} f_{\otimes g})$$

• Denote δ the Dirac kernel (pure impulse)

$$f = f \otimes \delta$$

Sharpening: kernel view

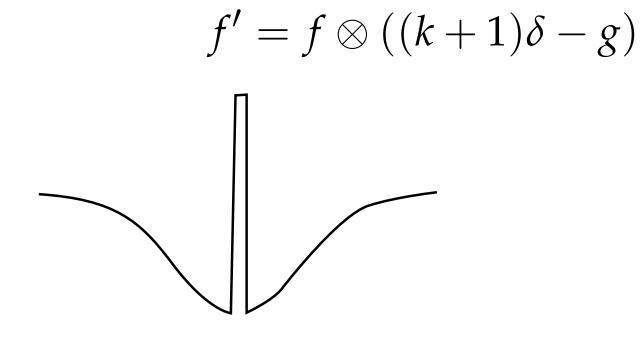
• Recall

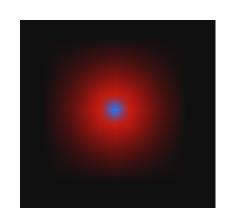
$$f' = f + k * (f - f \otimes g)$$
$$f' = f \otimes \delta + k * (f \otimes \delta - f \otimes g)$$
$$f' = f \otimes ((k+1)\delta - g)$$

• Sharpening is also a convolution

Sharpening kernel

- Note: many other sharpening kernels exist (just like we saw multiple blurring kernels)
- Amplify the difference between a pixel and its neighbors





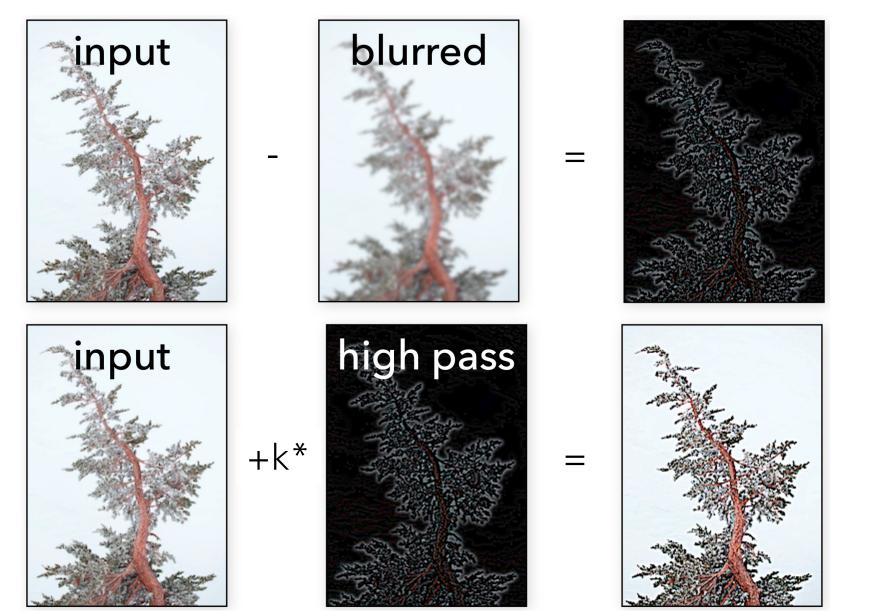
blue: positive red: negative

Alternate interpretation

- out = input + k*(input-blur(input))
- out = (1 + k)*input k*blur(input)
- out = lerp(blur(input), input, 1+k)

linearly extrapolate from the blurred image "past" the original input image

Sharpening



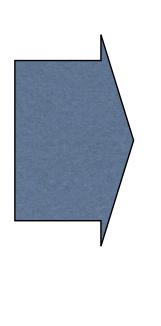
high pass

sharpened image

Unsharp mask

• Sharpening is often called "unsharp mask" because photographers used to sandwich a negative with a blurry positive film in order to sharpen







http://www.tech-diy.com/UnsharpMasks.htm

Unsharp mask

Fig.4: The two examples here show a detail of the brickwork to the left of the church door. The one on the left was printed with the negative alone - the one on the right was printed with both negative and mask as a sandwich. The increase in local contrast and edge sharpness is minute, but clearly visible. Grade 2.5 was used for the straight print but increased to 4.5 for the sandwiched image to compensate for the reduced contrast.

Fig.5: These two examples show a detail of the lower right hand side of the church door. Here the difference in sharpness is clearly visible between the (left) negative and (right) sandwich prints.



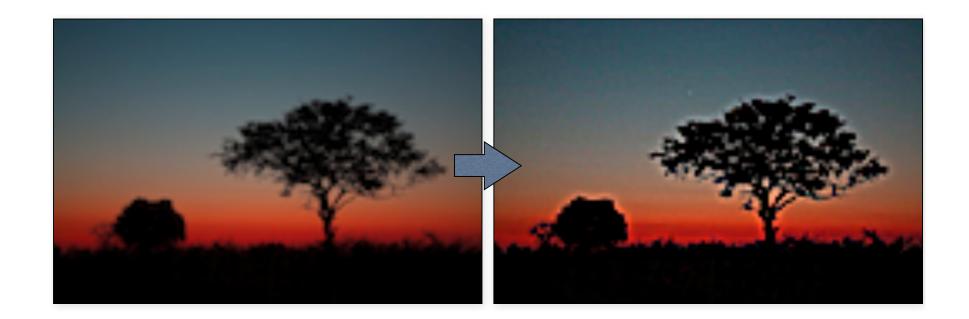




All photos 0 Reiph W Lembrecht

Problem with excess

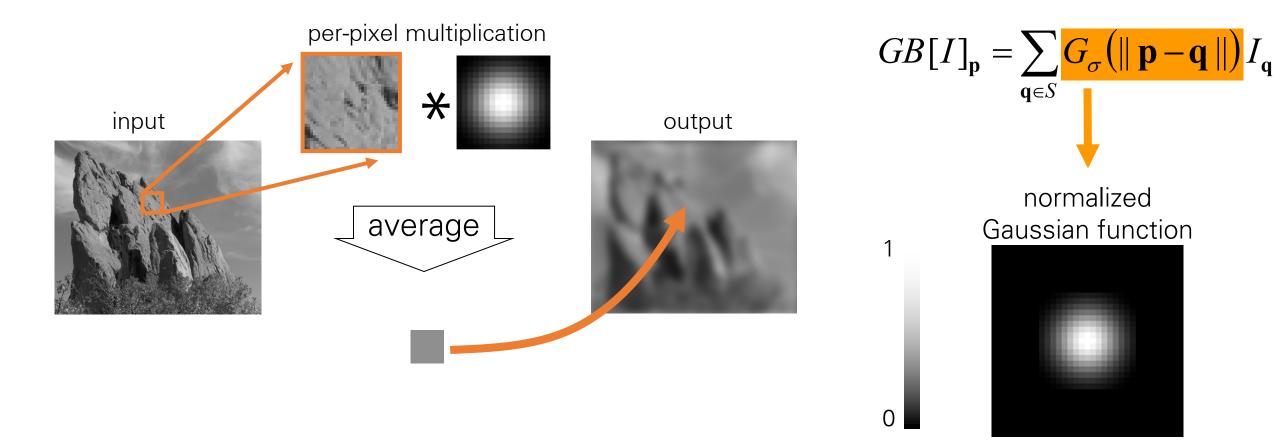
• Haloes around strong edges



Bilateral Filter

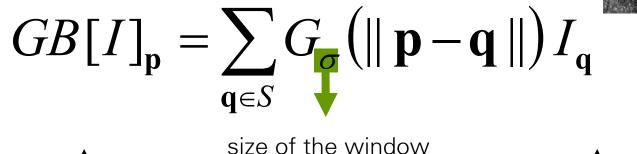
Gaussian Filter

Idea: weighted average of pixels.

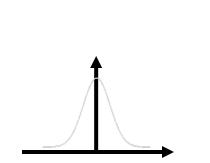


Spatial Parameter





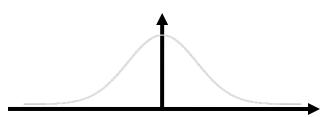
input



small σ



limited smoothing



large σ



strong smoothing

Properties of Gaussian Blur

- Weights independent of spatial location
 - linear convolution
 - well-known operation
 - efficient computation (recursive algorithm, FFT...)
- Does smooth images
- But smoothes too much: edges are blurred.
 - Only spatial distance matters
 - No edge term



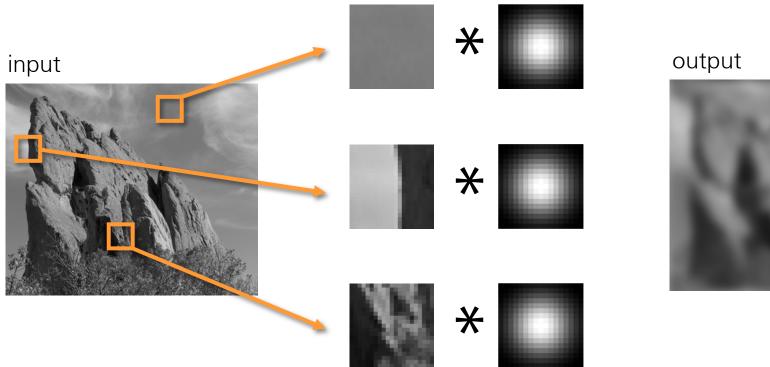
input







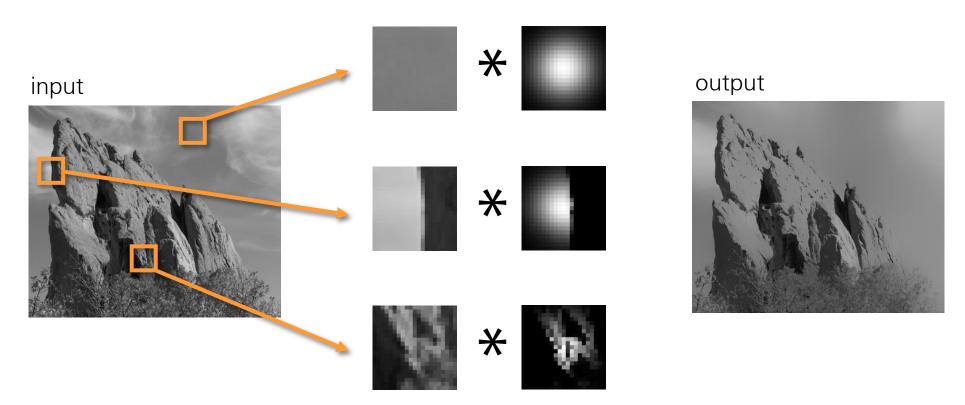
Blur Comes from Averaging across Edges





Same Gaussian kernel everywhere.

Bilateral Filter: No Averaging across Edges

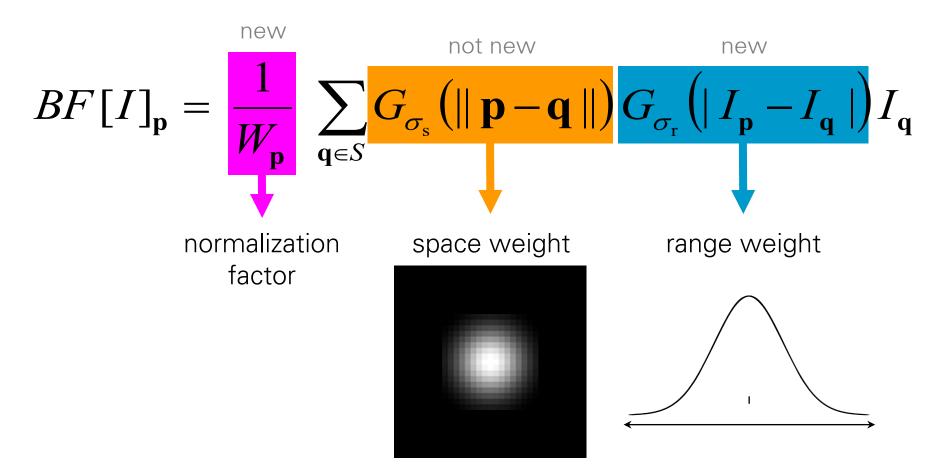


The kernel shape depends on the image content.

[Aurich 95, Smith 97, Tomasi 98]

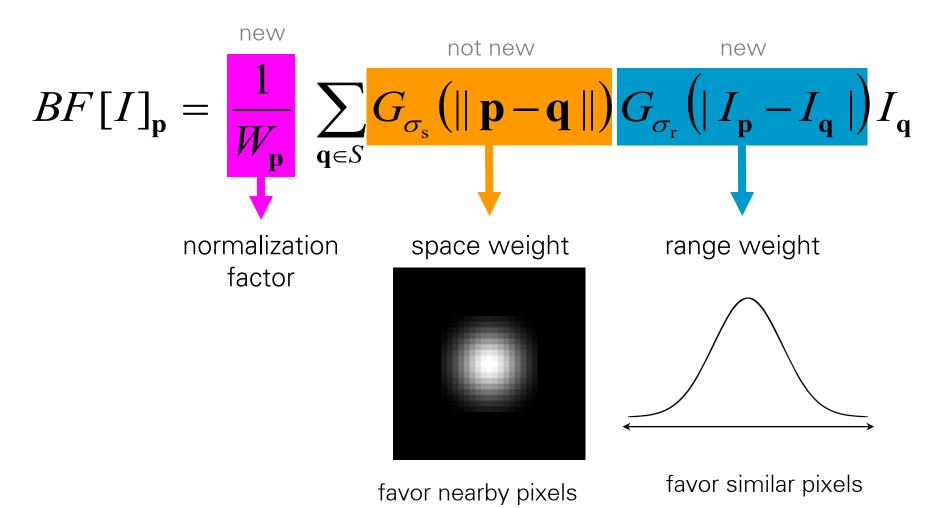
Bilateral Filter: An Additional Edge Term

Same idea: weighted average of pixels.



Bilateral Filter: An Additional Edge Term

Same idea: weighted average of pixels.

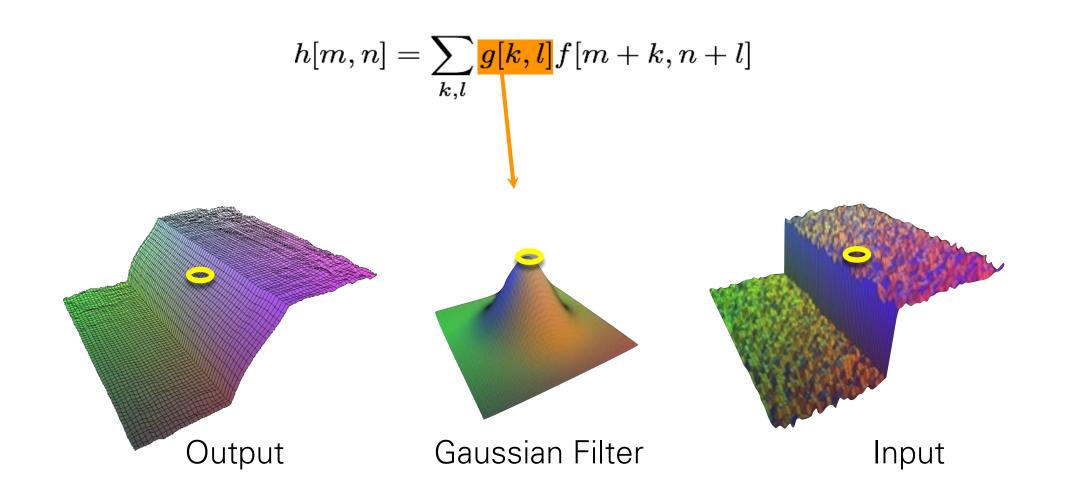


Space and Range Parameters

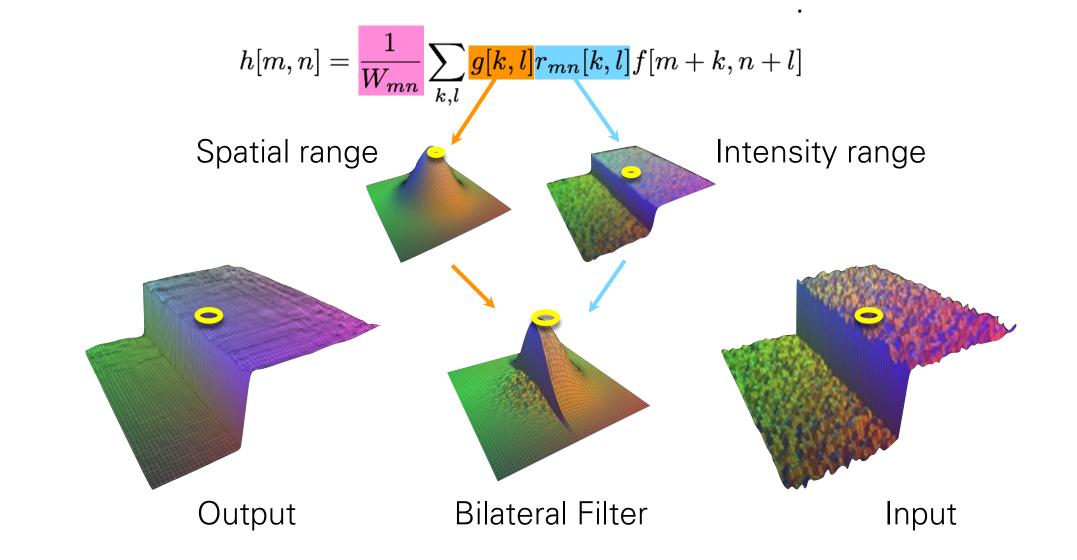
$$BF[I]_{\mathbf{p}} = \frac{1}{W_{\mathbf{p}}} \sum_{\mathbf{q} \in S} G_{\sigma_{s}} (\|\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}\|) G_{\sigma_{r}} (\|I_{\mathbf{p}} - I_{\mathbf{q}}\|) I_{\mathbf{q}}$$

- space $\sigma_{\rm s}$: spatial extent of the kernel, size of the considered neighborhood.
- range $\sigma_{\rm r}$: "minimum" amplitude of an edge

Gaussian filtering visualization



Bilateral filtering visualization



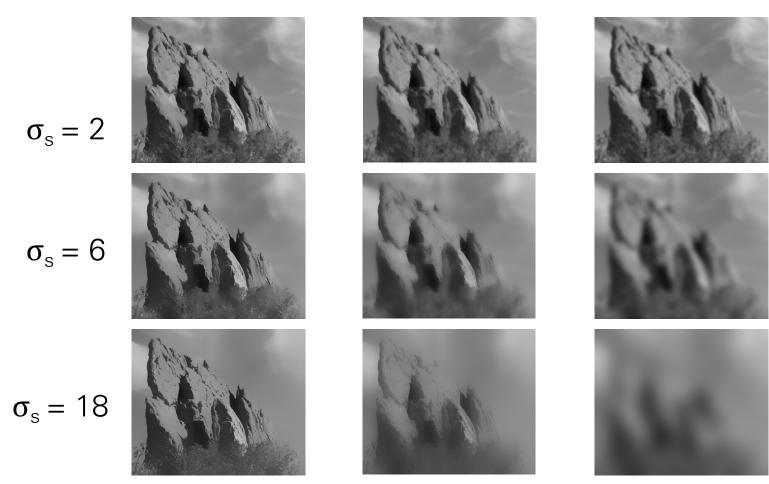
Exploring the Parameter Space

input

 $\sigma_r = 0.1$

 $\sigma_r = 0.25$ (Gaussian blur)

 $\sigma_r = \infty$



Bilateral Filtering Color Images

For gray-level images

$$BF[I]_{\mathbf{p}} = \frac{1}{W_{\mathbf{p}}} \sum_{\mathbf{q} \in S} G_{\sigma_{s}} (\|\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}\|) G_{\sigma_{r}} (\underbrace{|I_{\mathbf{p}} - I_{\mathbf{q}}|}_{\text{scalar}}) I_{\mathbf{q}}$$
For color images

$$BF[I]_{\mathbf{p}} = \frac{1}{W_{\mathbf{p}}} \sum_{\mathbf{q} \in S} G_{\sigma_{s}} (\|\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}\|) G_{\sigma_{r}} (\underbrace{|\mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{p}} - \mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{q}}|}_{\text{Scalar}}) C_{\mathbf{q}}$$

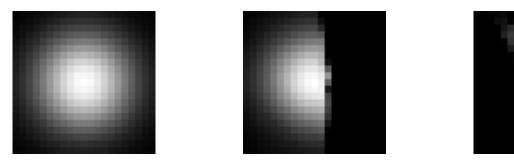
$$3D \text{ vector}$$
(RGB, Lab)

Hard to Compute

• Nonlinear

$$BF[I]_{\mathbf{p}} = \frac{1}{W_{\mathbf{p}}} \sum_{\mathbf{q} \in S} G_{\sigma_{s}} (\|\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}\|) G_{\sigma_{r}} (|I_{\mathbf{p}} - I_{\mathbf{q}}|) I_{\mathbf{q}}$$

- Complex, spatially varying kernels
- Cannot be precomputed, no FFT...

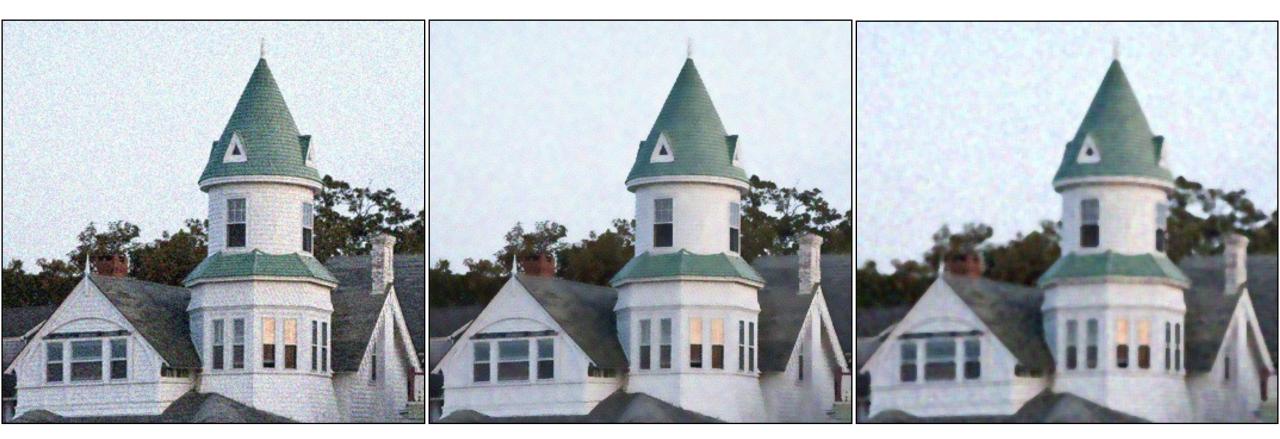




• Brute-force implementation is slow > 10min

<u>Additional Reading:</u> S. Paris and F. Durand, A Fast Approximation of the Bilateral Filter using a Signal Processing Approach, In Proc. ECCV, 2006

Denoising



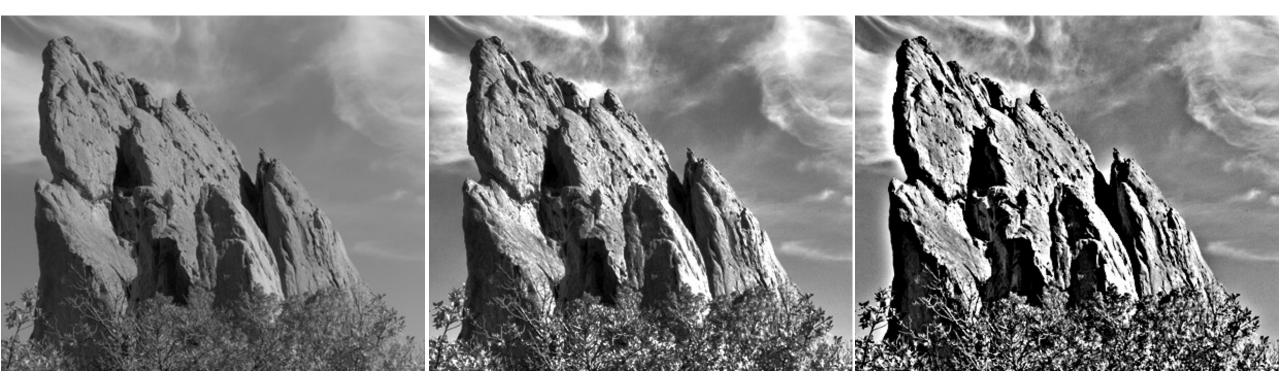
noisy input

bilateral filtering

median filtering

Contrast enhancement

How would you use bilateral filtering for sharpening?



input

sharpening based on bilateral filtering

sharpening based on Gaussian filtering

Photo retouching





Photo retouching



digital pore removal (aka bilateral filtering)

original

Before



After



Close-up comparison



original

digital pore removal (aka bilateral filtering)

Cartoonization



input

cartoon rendition

Cartoonization



How would you create this effect?

Cartoonization





edges from bilaterally filtered image bilaterally filtered image

+

cartoon rendition







Note: image cartoonization and abstraction are very active research areas.

Is the bilateral filter:

Linear?

Shift-invariant?

Is the bilateral filter:

Linear?

• No.

Shift-invariant?

• No.

Does this have any bad implications?

The bilateral grid

Real-time Edge-Aware Image Processing with the Bilateral Grid

Jiawen Chen

Sylvain Paris Frédo Durand

Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory Massachusetts Institute of Technology



Figure 1: The bilateral grid enables edge-aware image manipulations such as local tone mapping on high resolution images in real time. This 15 megapixel HDR panorama was tone mapped and locally refined using an edge-aware brush at 50 Hz. The inset shows the original input. The process used about 1 MB of texture memory. Data structure for fast edge-aware image processing.

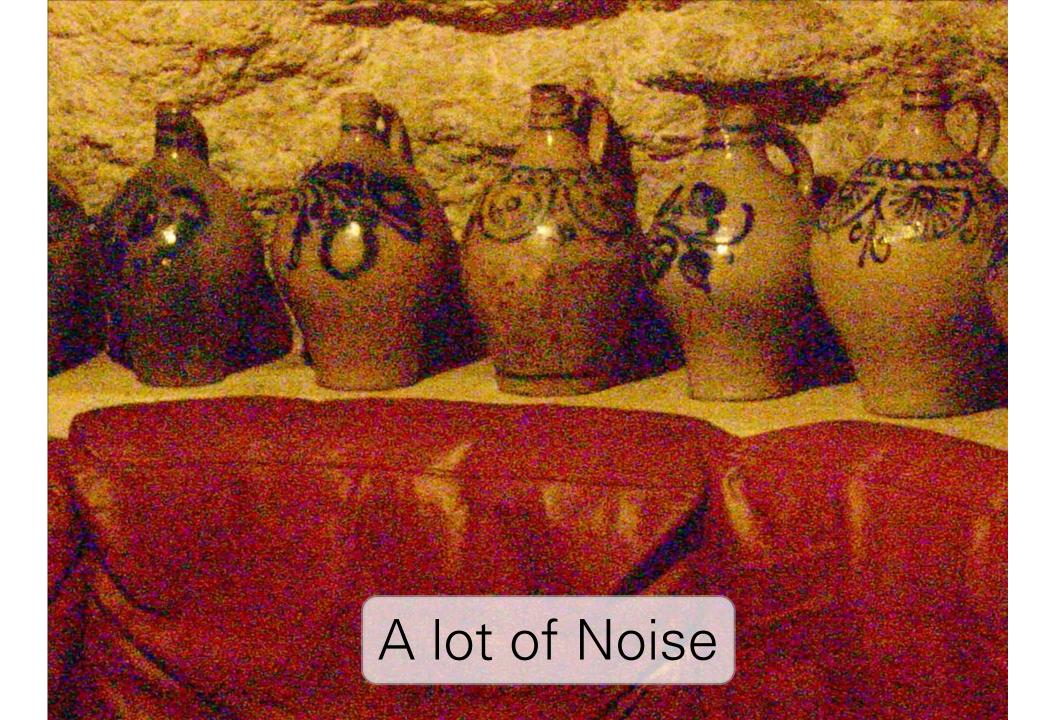
Flash/no-flash photography via bilateral filtering





Motion Blur







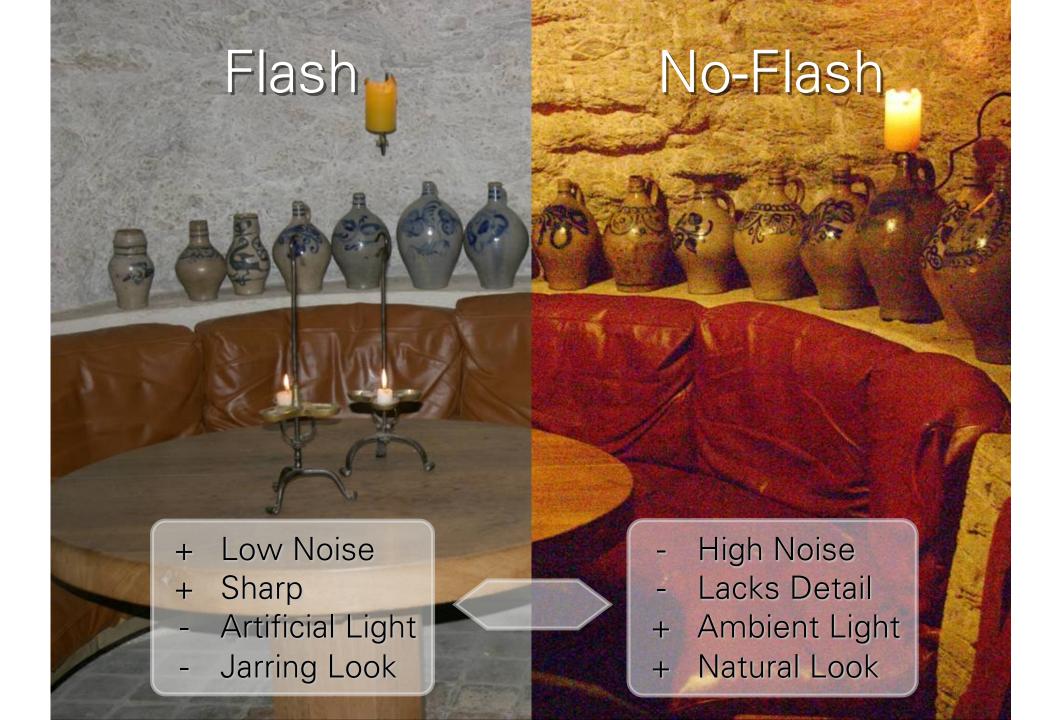
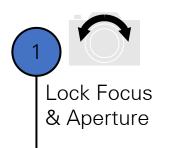


Image acquisition



time

Image acquisition

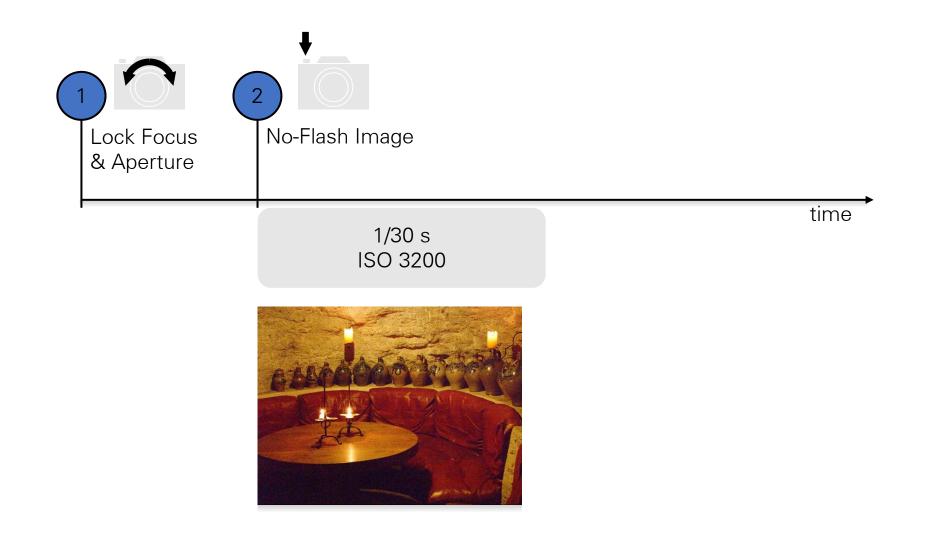
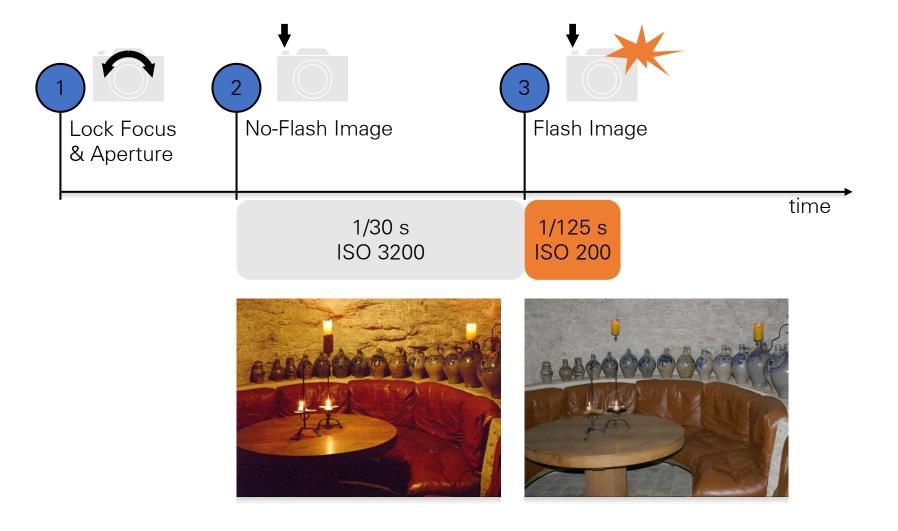
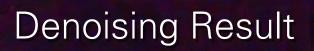


Image acquisition









Key idea

Denoise the no-flash image while maintaining the edge structure of the flash image

• How would you do this using the image editing techniques we've learned about?

Joint bilateral filtering

Denoising with bilateral filtering



noisy input

bilateral filtering

median filtering

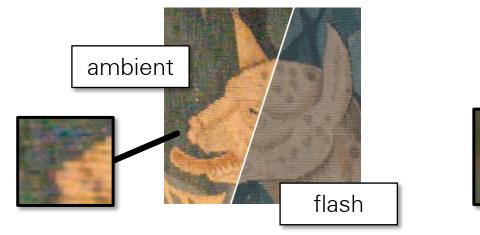
Denoising with bilateral filtering

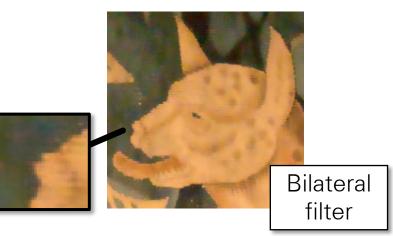
spatial kernel

$$A_{p(col)}^{Base} = \frac{1}{k(p(col))} \sum_{p' \in \Omega} \frac{g_d(|p - p'|)}{g_r(A_{p(col)} - A_{p'(col)})} A_{p'(col)}$$
intersection

intensity kernel

• However, results still have noise or blur (or both)





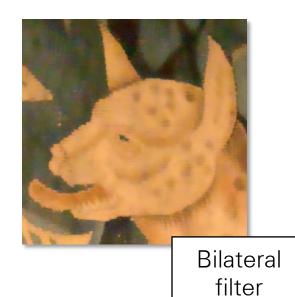
Denoising with joint bilateral filtering

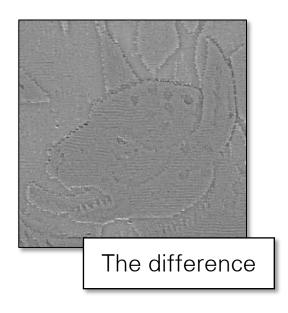
$$A_{p(col)}^{NR} = \frac{1}{k(p(col))} \sum_{p' \in \Omega} g_d(|p - p'|)$$
$$g_r(F_{p(col)} - F_{p'(col)}) A_{p'(col)}$$

- In the flash image there are many more details
- Use the flash image F to find edges

Denoising with joint bilateral filtering

$$A_{p(col)}^{NR} = \frac{1}{k(p(col))} \sum_{p' \in \Omega} g_d(|p - p'|)$$
$$g_r(F_{p(col)} - F_{p'(col)}) A_{p'(col)}$$





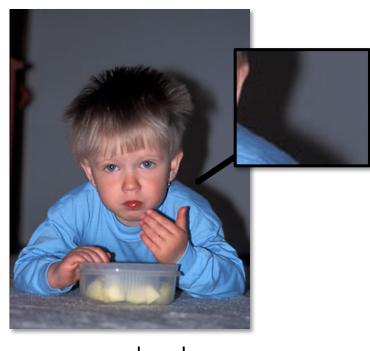


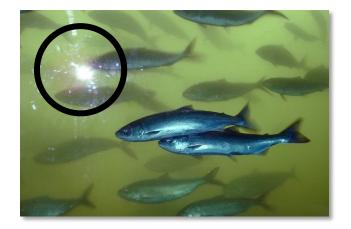
Joint Bilateral filter

Not all edges in the flash image are real

Can you think of any types of edges that may exist in the flash image but not the ambient one?

Not all edges in the flash image are real





specularities

- shadows
- May cause over- or under-blur in joint bilateral filter
- We need to eliminate their effect

substantially less noisy

Detecting shadows

- Observation: the pixels in the flash shadow should be similar to the ambient image.
- Not identical:
 - 1. Noise.
 - 2. Inter-reflected flash.

• Compute a shadow mask.
$$M^{Shad} = \begin{cases} 1 \text{ when } F^{Lin} - A^{Lin} \leq \tau_{Shad} \\ 0 \text{ otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- Take pixel p if $F_{p(col)}^{Lin} A_{p(col)}^{Lin} \le \tau_{Shadow}$
- τ_{Shadow} is manually adjusted
- Mask is smoothed and dilated

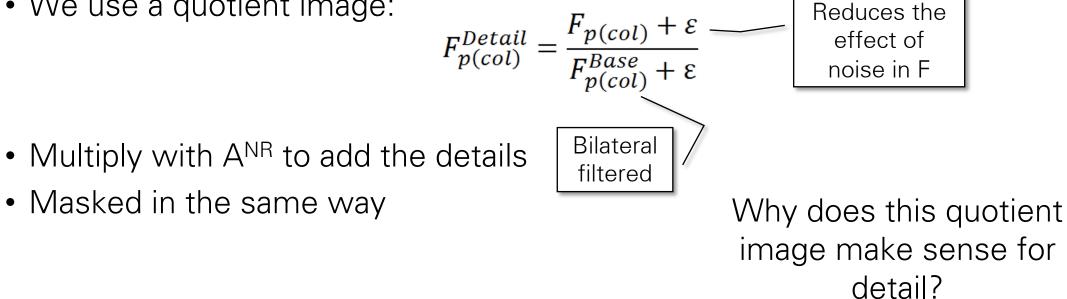
Detecting specularities

- Take pixels where sensor input is close to maximum (very bright).
 - Over fixed threshold τ_{Spec}
- Create a specularity mask.
- Also smoothed.
- M the combination of shadow and specularity masks:

Where $M_p=1$, we use A^{Base} . For other pixels we use A^{NR} .

Detail transfer

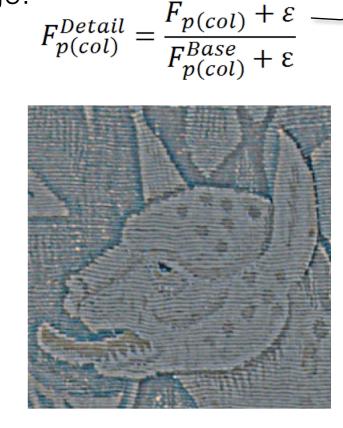
- Denoising cannot add details missing in the ambient image
- Exist in flash image because of high SNR
- We use a quotient image:



Detail transfer

- Denoising cannot add details missing in the ambient image
- Exist in flash image because of high SNR
- We use a quotient image:





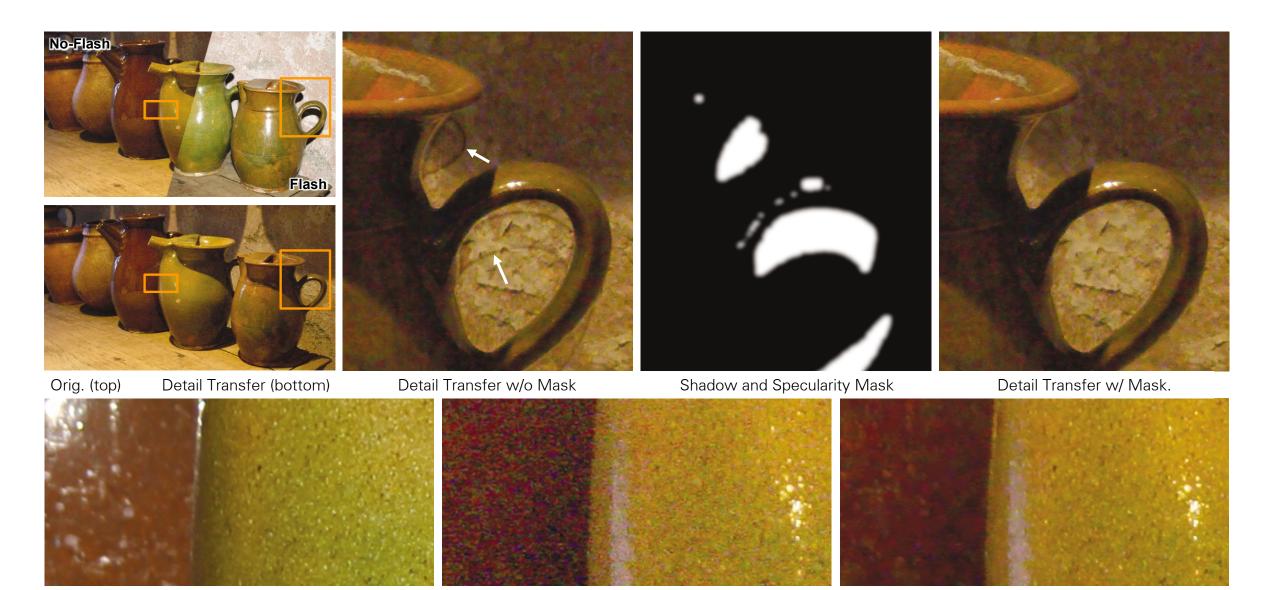


Reduces the

effect of

noise in F

Detail transfer



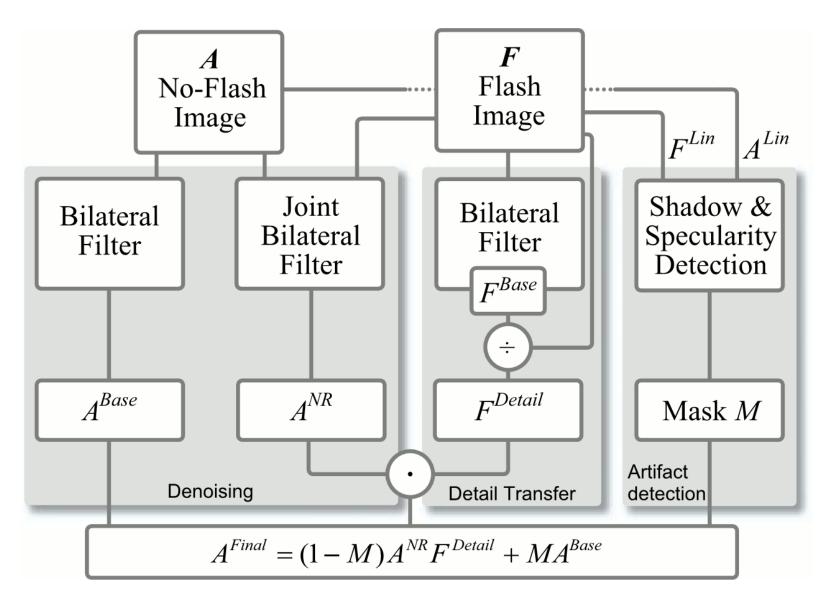
Flash

No-Flash

Detail Transfer w/ Denoising Figure 8: (top row) The tlash image does not contain true detail information in shadows and specular regions. When we havely apply our denoising and

87

Full pipeline



Demonstration



ambient-only



joint bilateral and detail transfer



























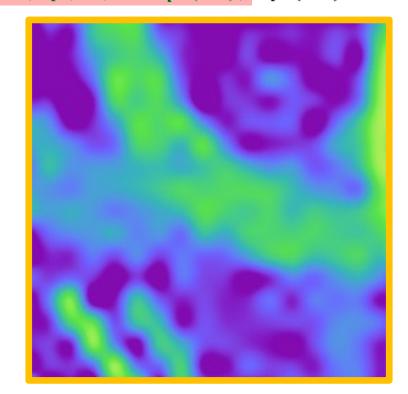
Joint bilateral filtering other applications

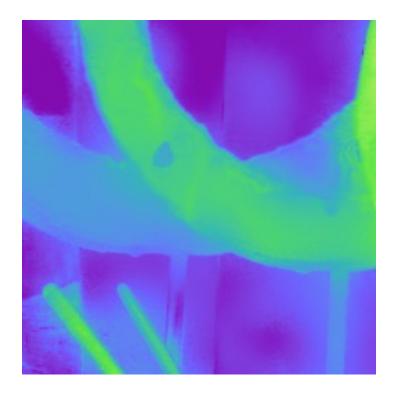
Edge-aware depth denoising

$$A_{p(col)} = \frac{1}{k(p(col))} \sum_{p' \in \Omega} g_d(|p - p'|)$$
$$g_r(F_{p(col)} - F_{p'(col)}) A_{p'(col)}$$

Use joint bilateral filtering, with the input image as guide.







One of two input images

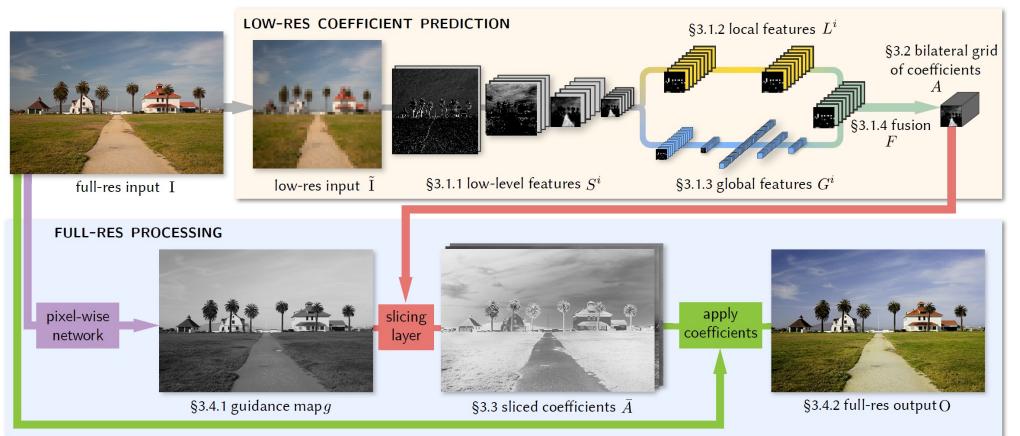
Depth from disparity

Guided filtering

Other applications of joint bilateral filtering

Deep Bilateral Learning for Real-Time Image Enhancement

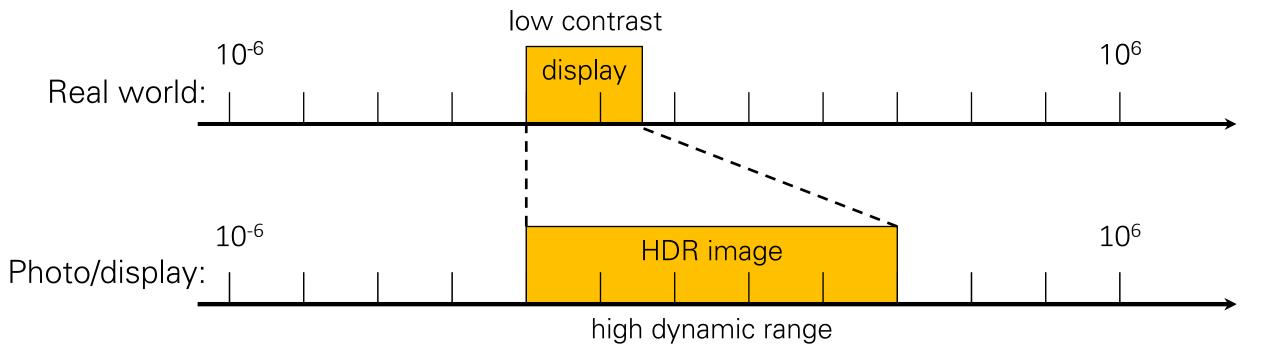
MICHAËL GHARBI, MIT CSAIL JIAWEN CHEN, Google Research JONATHAN T. BARRON, Google Research SAMUEL W. HASINOFF, Google Research FRÉDO DURAND, MIT CSAIL / Inria, Université Côte d'Azur



Tonemapping via bilateral filtering

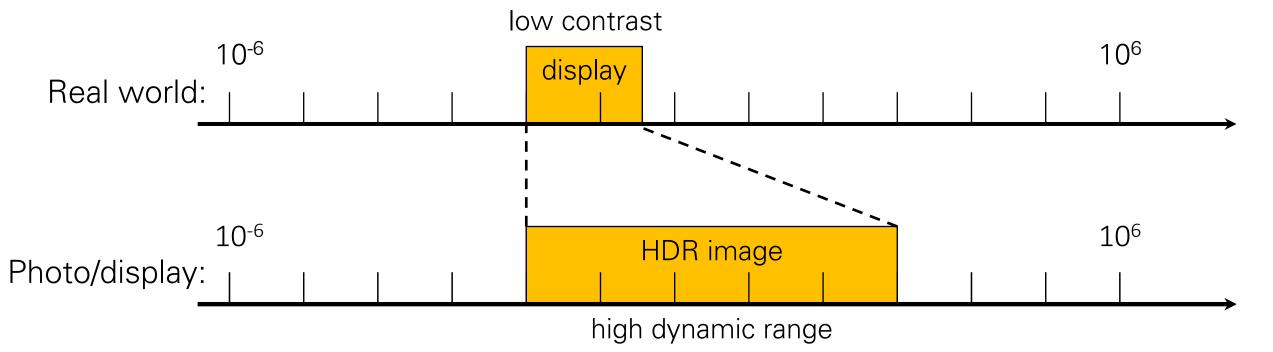
Display the information

- Recall our HDR class
- Match limited contrast of the medium while preserving details



Display the information

- Recall our HDR class
- Match limited contrast of the medium while preserving details



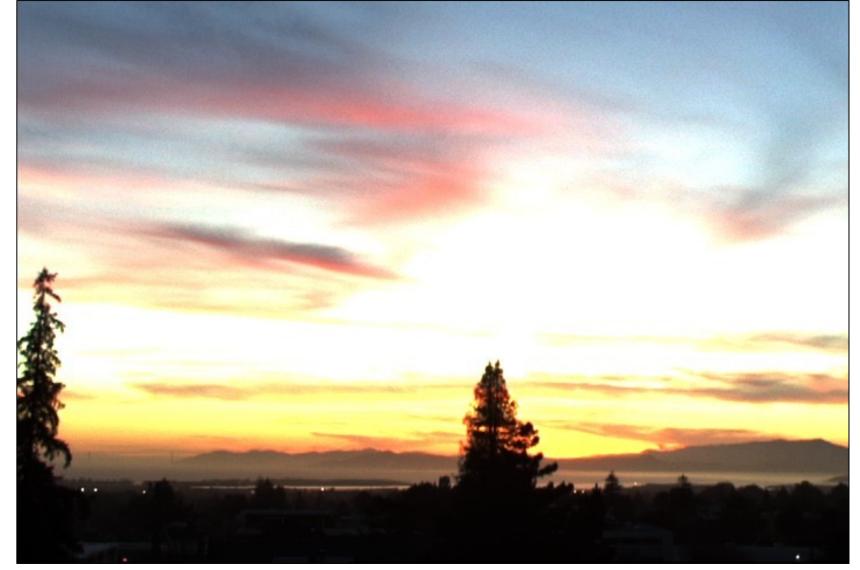
Tonemapping

Tonemapping

- Called tone mapping operators
- Two general categories:
 - Global (spatially invariant)
 - Local (spatially varying)

Tone mapping for very HDR scenes

- sun overexposed
- foreground too dark



Tone mapping for very HDR scenes

- Scene has >100,000:1 dynamic range, JPEG has 255:1
- How can we compress the scene's dynamic range?



Tone mapping for very HDR scenes

- Scene has >100,000:1 dynamic range, JPEG has 255:1
- How can we compress the scene's dynamic range?
- Scale linearly?
 - If we scaled linearly from 100,000:1 to 255:1, everything but the sun would be black!

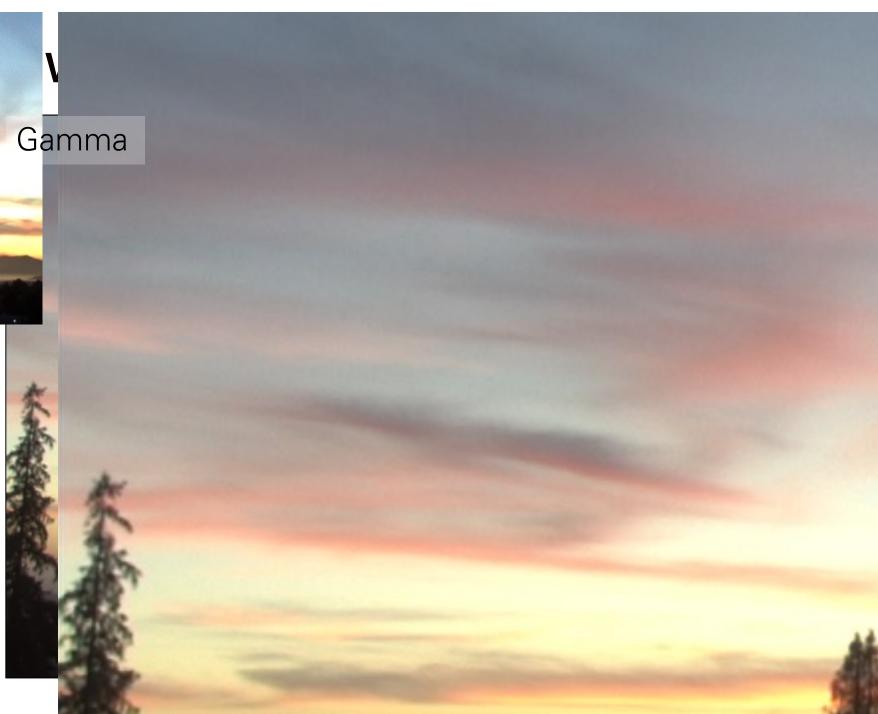




 gamma correction, applied independently on R, G, B:

$$I = I^{\gamma}$$

- global tonemapping
- colors are washed out



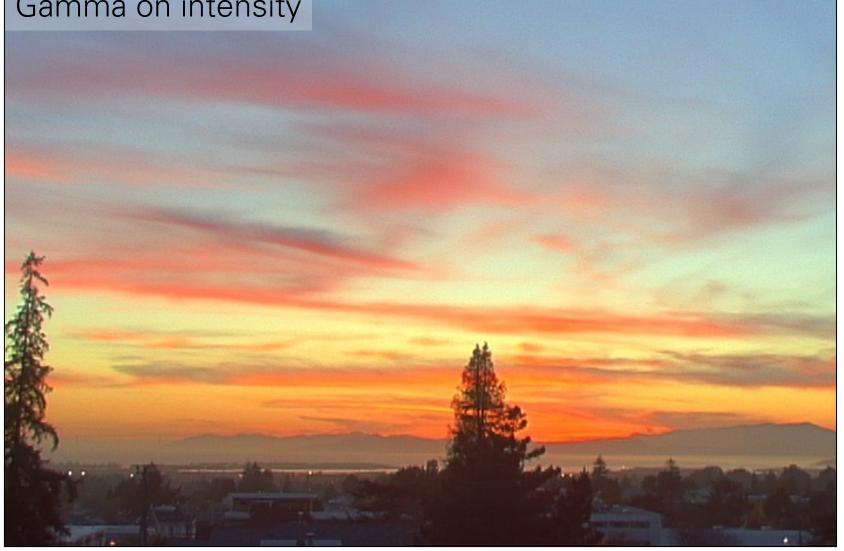
Tonemapping w/ Simple Gamma



- gamma in intensity only!
- Intensity details lost

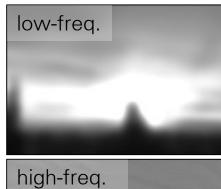


Gamma on intensity



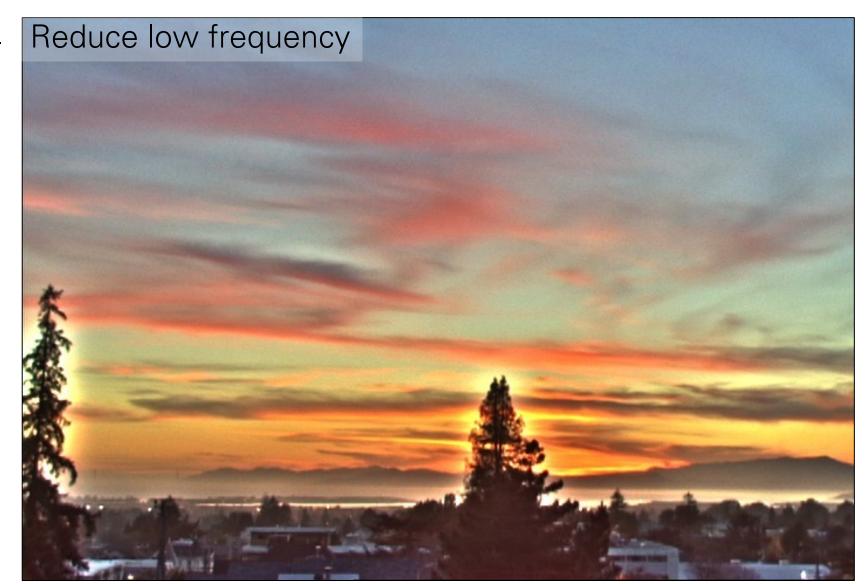
Oppenheim 1968, Chiu et al. 1993

 Reduce contrast of lowfrequencies, preserve high frequencies



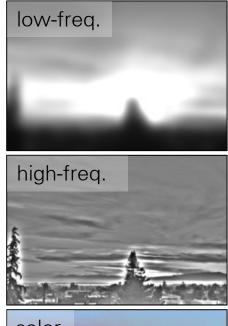






The halo nightmare

• For strong edges; because they contain high frequency



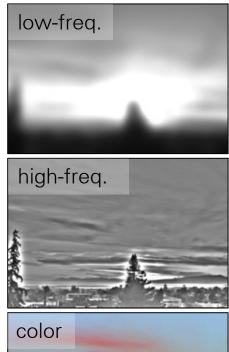


Reduce low frequency



The halo nightmare

 Similar to unsharp mask of luminance in log domain

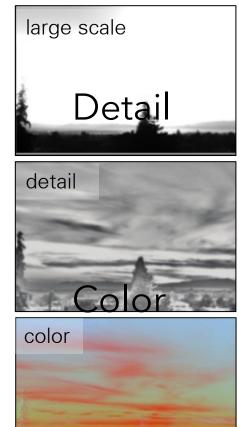




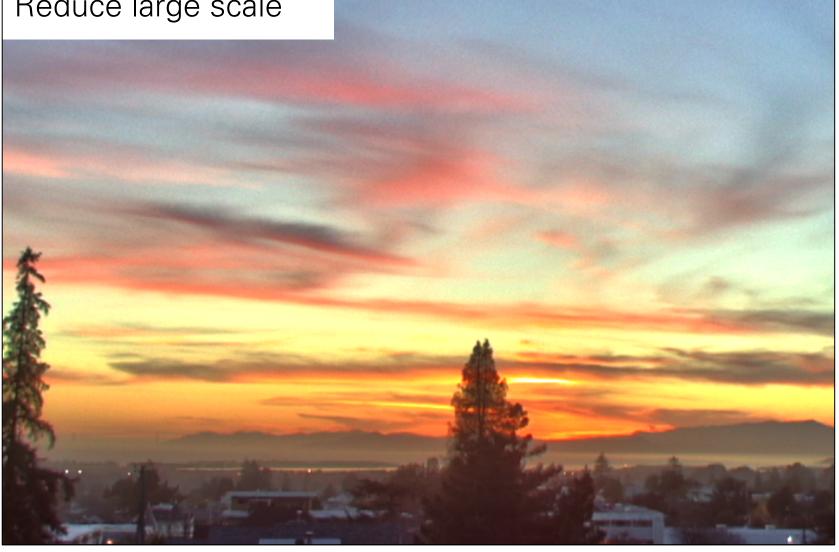
Reduce low frequency

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 Don<u>itakogecses</u>edges, decompose using bilateral filter



Reduce large scale



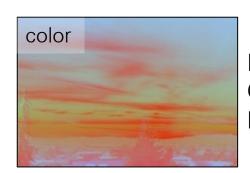


Contrast too high!





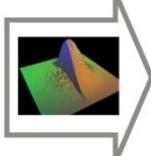
Intensity = 0.3R+0.6G+0.1B



R'=R/intensity G'=G/intensity B'=B/intensity Important to use ratios (makes it luminance invariant)









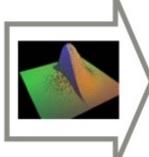
Bilateral Filter in log



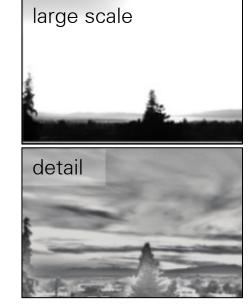
Spatial sigma: 2-5% image size Range sigma: 0.4 (in log 10)



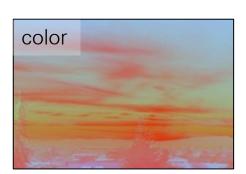




Bilateral Filter in log

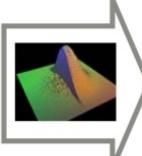


detail = log intensity - large scale (residual)









Bilateral Filter in log



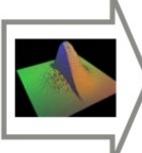




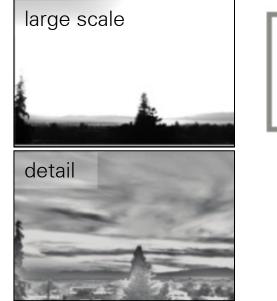


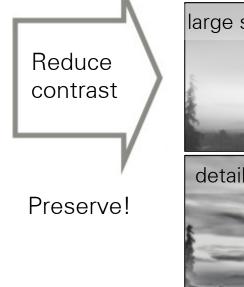






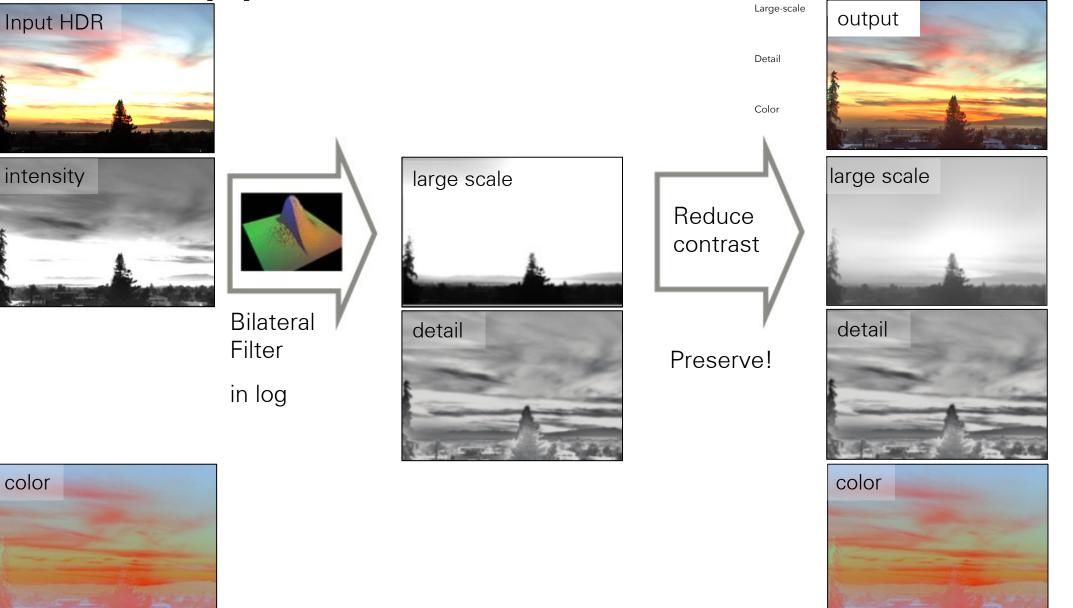
Bilateral Filter in log











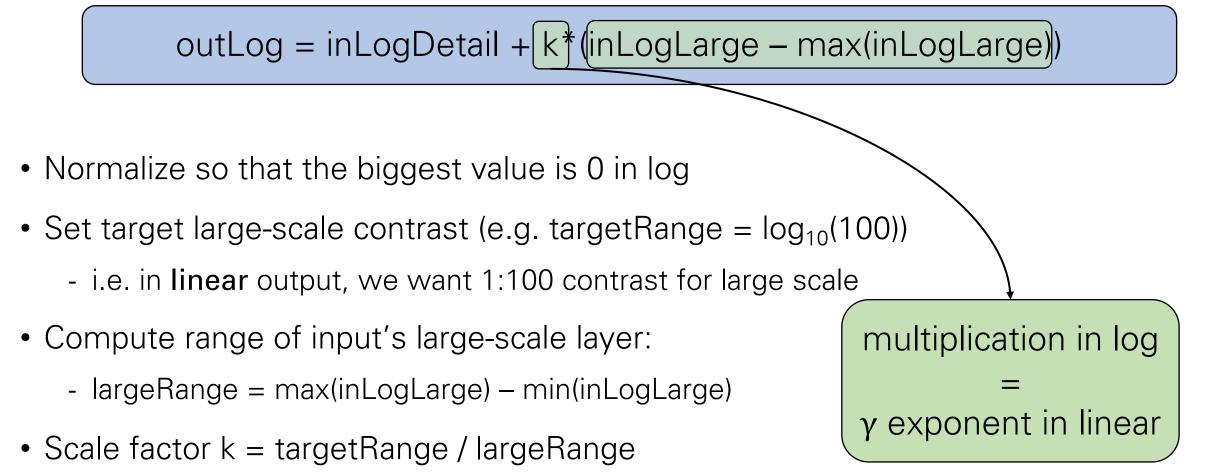
Log domain

- Very important to work in the log domain
- Recall: humans are sensitive to multiplicative contrast
- With log domain, our notion of "strong edge" always corresponds to the same contrast

Scale decomposition in log domain

- inLog = log_{10} (intensity)
- inLogLarge = bilateralFilter(inLog)
- inLogDetail = inLog inLogLarge
- hence:
 - inLog = inLogDetail + inLogLarge, or
 - intensity = 10^{inLogDetail} * 10^{inLogLarge}
- Now manipulate large-scale and detail separately

Contrast reduction in log domain



Contrast reduction in log domain

outLog = detailAmp*inLogDetail + k*(inLogLarge - max(inLogLarge))

- Normalize so that the biggest value is 0 in log
- Set target large-scale contrast (e.g. targetRange = $log_{10}(100)$)
 - i.e. in **linear** output, we want 1:100 contrast for large scale
- Compute range of input's large-scale layer:
 - largeRange = max(inLogLarge) min(inLogLarge)
- Scale factor k = targetRange / largeRange
- Optional: amplify detail by detailAmp

Contrast reduction in log domain

outLog = detailAmp*inLogDetail + k*(inLogLarge - max(inLogLarge))

- outIntensity = 10^{outLog}
- Recall that R',G',B' is the intensity-normalized RGB color
 - outR=outIntensity * R'
 - outG=outIntensity * G'
 - outB=outIntensity * B'

What matters

- Spatial sigma: not very important
- Range sigma: quite important
- Use of the log domain for range: critical
 - Because HDR and because perception sensitive to multiplicative contrast

Modern edge-aware filtering: domain transform

Domain Transform for Edge-Aware Image and Video Processing Eduardo S. L. Gastal* Manuel M. Oliveira[†] Instituto de Informática - UFRGS (a) Photograph **(b)** *Edge-aware smoothing* (c) Detail enhancement

(e) Recoloring

(d) Stylization

Lots of great examples at: https://www.inf.ufrgs.br/~eslgastal/DomainTransform/

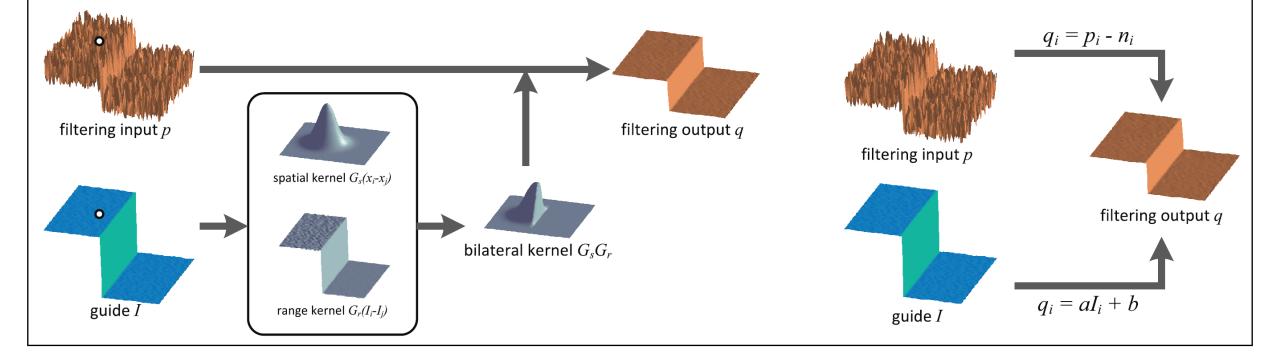
(g) Depth-of-field

(f) Pencil drawing

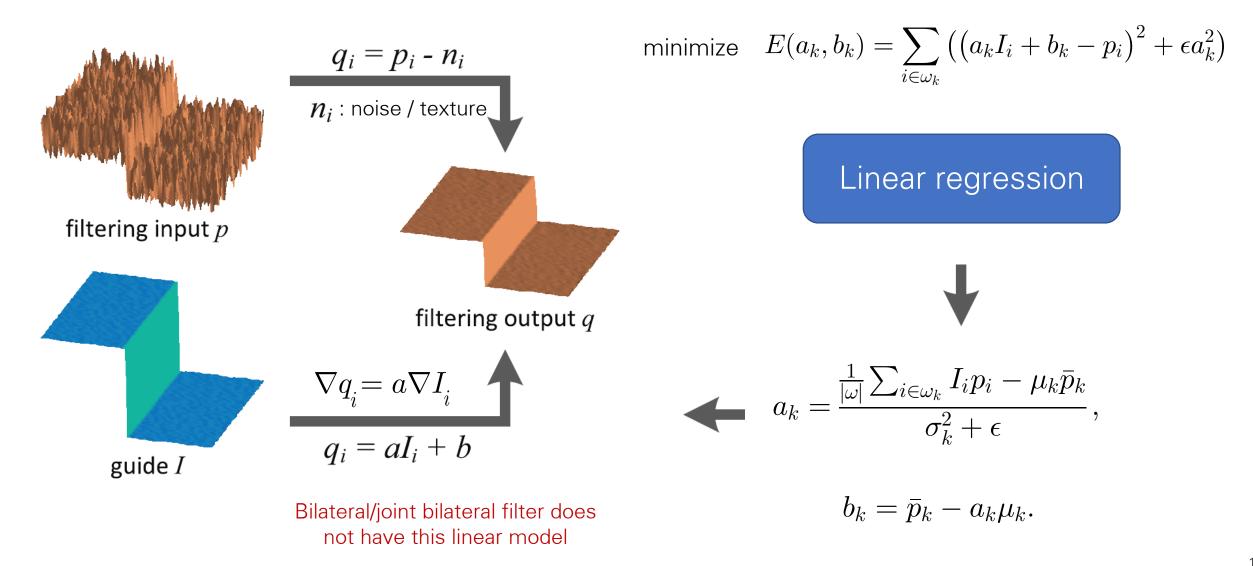
Modern edge-aware filtering: guided filter



Kaiming He, Member, IEEE, Jian Sun, Member, IEEE, and Xiaoou Tang, Fellow, IEEE

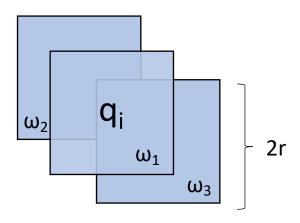


Guided Image Filtering



Guided Image Filtering

- Extend to the entire image
 - In all local windows ω_k , compute the linear coefficients
 - Compute the average of $a_k I_i + b_k$ in all ω_k that covers pixel q_i



Definition

$$n_k = \frac{\frac{1}{|\omega|} \sum_{i \in \omega_k} I_i p_i - \mu_k \bar{p}_k}{\sigma_k^2 + \epsilon},$$

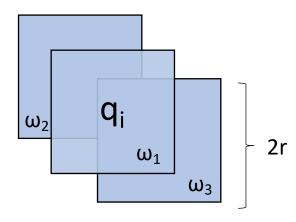
$$b_k = \bar{p}_k - a_k \mu_k.$$

$$q_i = \frac{1}{|\omega|} \sum_{k|i \in \omega_k} (a_k I_i + b_k)$$

Algorithm 1. Guided Filter.
Input: filtering input image
$$p$$
, guidance image I , radius r ,
regularization ϵ
Output: filtering output q .
1: mean_I = $f_{mean}(I)$
mean_p = $f_{mean}(I)$
corr_I = $f_{mean}(I \cdot * I)$
corr_I = $f_{mean}(I \cdot * p)$
2: var_I = corr_I - mean_I. * mean_I
cov_I = corr_I - mean_I. * mean_p
3: $a = cov_{Ip}./(var_I + \epsilon)$
 $b = mean_p - a. * mean_I$
4: mean_a = $f_{mean}(a)$
mean_b = $f_{mean}(b)$
5: $q = mean_a. * I + mean_b$
/* f_{mean} is a mean filter with a wide variety of O(N) time
methods. */

Guided Image Filtering

- Edge-preserving filter
- O(1) time, fast, accurate
- Gradient preserving
- Parameters
 - Window radius r
 - Regularization $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}$



Definition

$$a_k = \frac{\frac{1}{|\omega|} \sum_{i \in \omega_k} I_i p_i - \mu_k \bar{p}_k}{\sigma_k^2 + \epsilon},$$

$$b_k = \bar{p}_k - a_k \mu_k.$$

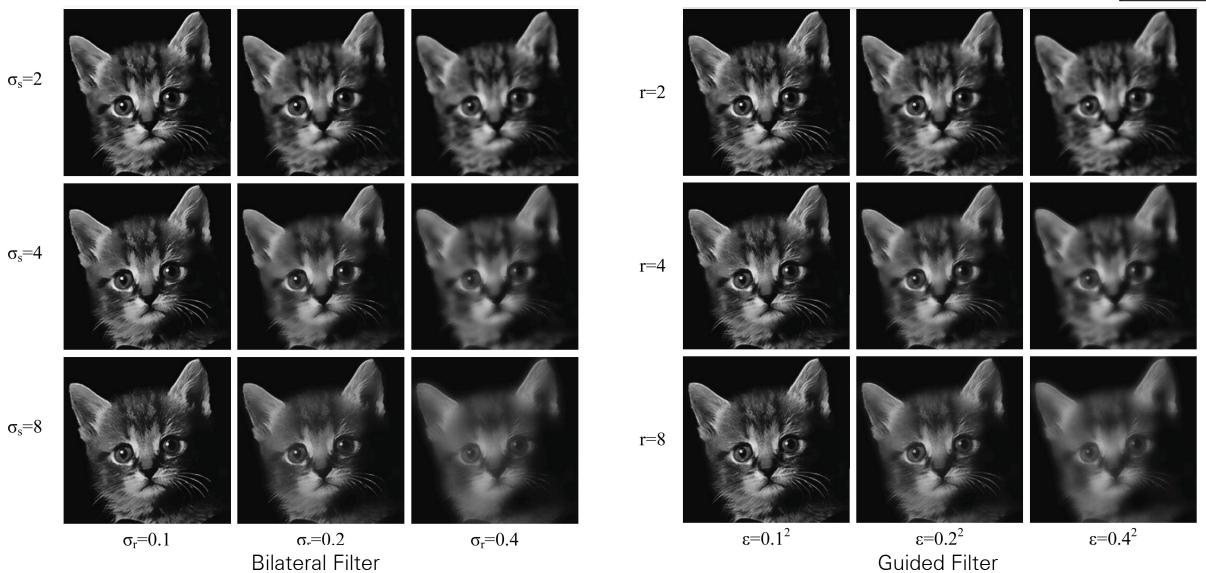
$$q_i = \frac{1}{|\omega|} \sum_{k|i \in \omega_k} (a_k I_i + b_k)$$

Algorithm 1. Guided Filter.
Input: filtering input image
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regularization ϵ
Output: filtering output q .
1: mean_I = $f_{mean}(I)$
mean_p = $f_{mean}(I)$
corr_I = $f_{mean}(I \cdot * I)$
corr_I = $f_{mean}(I \cdot * p)$
2: var_I = corr_I - mean_I. * mean_I
cov_I = corr_I - mean_I. * mean_p
3: $a = cov_{Ip}./(var_I + \epsilon)$
 $b = mean_p - a \cdot * mean_I$
4: mean_a = $f_{mean}(a)$
mean_b = $f_{mean}(b)$
5: $q = mean_a \cdot * I + mean_b$
/* f_{mean} is a mean filter with a wide variety of O(N) time
methods. */

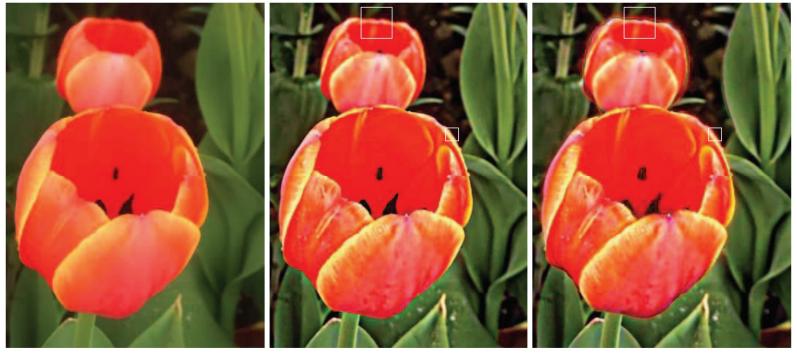
Example: Edge-Preserving Smoothing







Example: Detail Enhancement



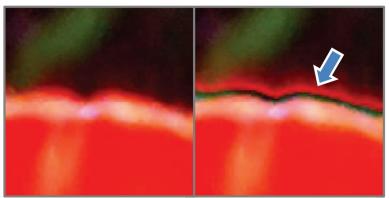
Original

GF

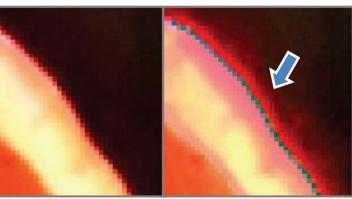




ΒF



ΒF



GF

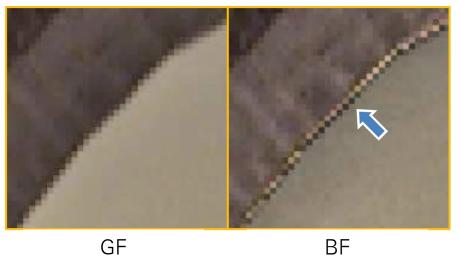
Example: Tonemapping

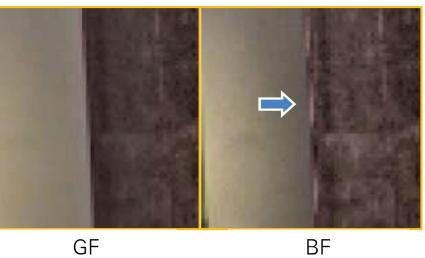


Original HDR

Guided Filter

Bilateral Filter









Example: Flash/No-Flash Photography



Guidance I

Guided Filter

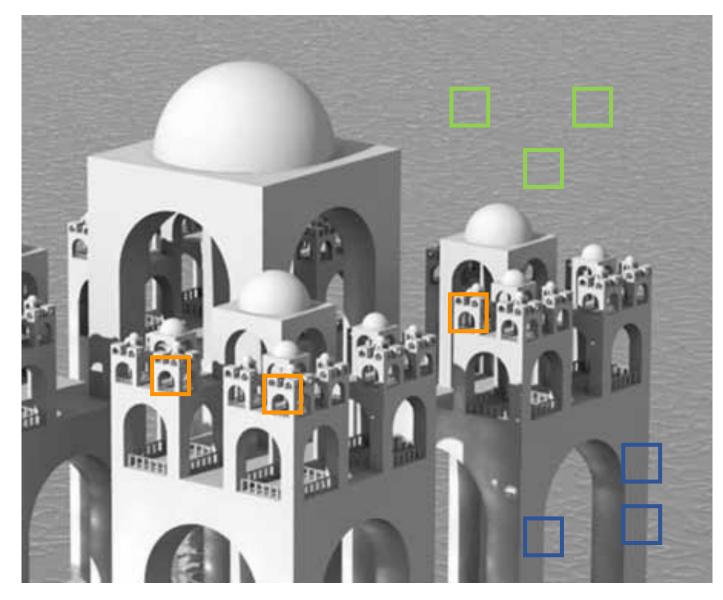


Filter Input p

Joint Bilateral Filter

Non-Local Means Filter

Redundancy in natural images



NL-Means Filter (Buades 2005)

- Same goals: 'Smooth within Similar Regions'
- KEY INSIGHT: Generalize, extend 'Similarity'
 - Bilateral:

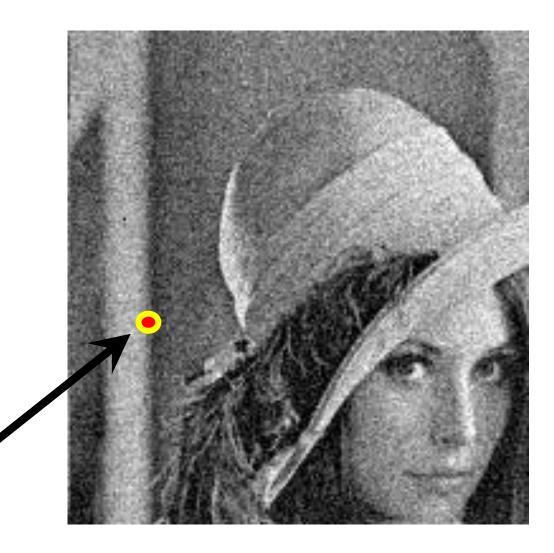
Averages neighbors with similar intensities;

• NL-Means:

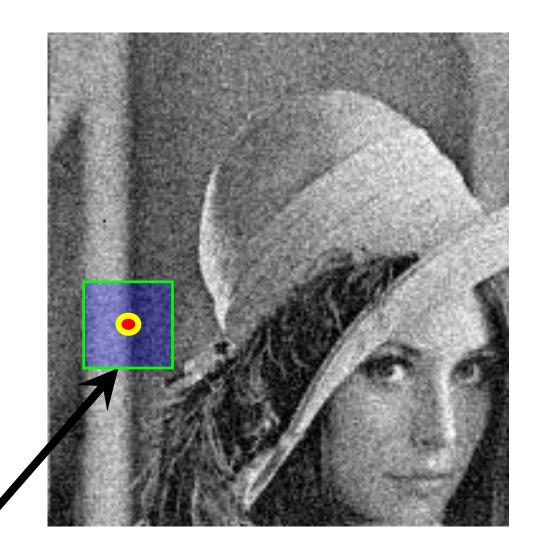
Averages neighbors with similar neighborhoods!

NL-Means Method

 For each and every pixel p:



- For each and every pixel p:
 - Define a small, simple fixed size neighborhood;



0.74

0.32 0.41

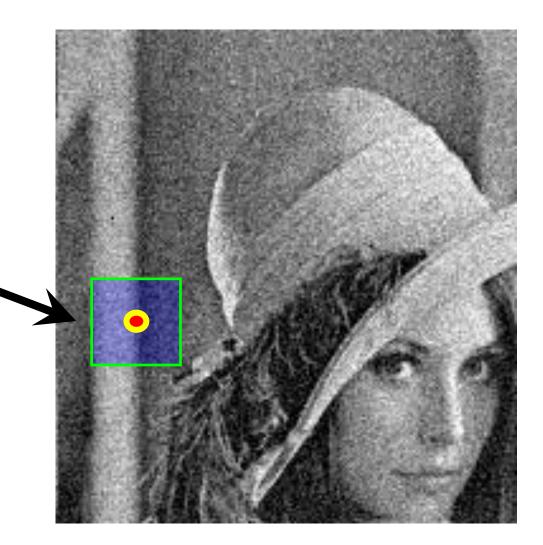
0.55

. . .

• For each and [...] every pixel **p**:

 V_p

- Define a small, simple fixed size neighborhood;
- Define vector Vp: a list of neighboring pixel values.

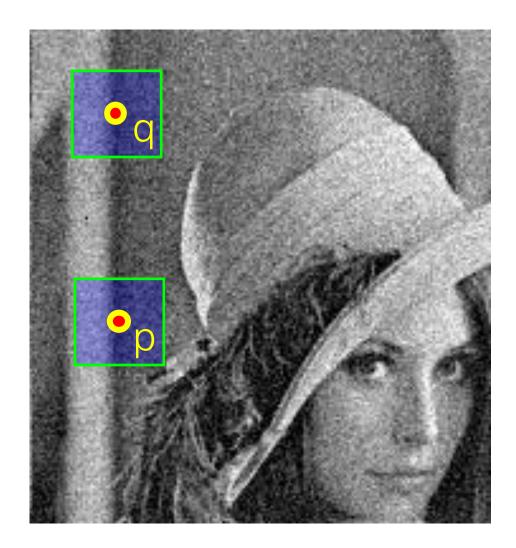


<u>'Similar'</u> pixels **p**, **q**

\rightarrow SMALL

vector distance;

$$|V_p - V_q||^2$$

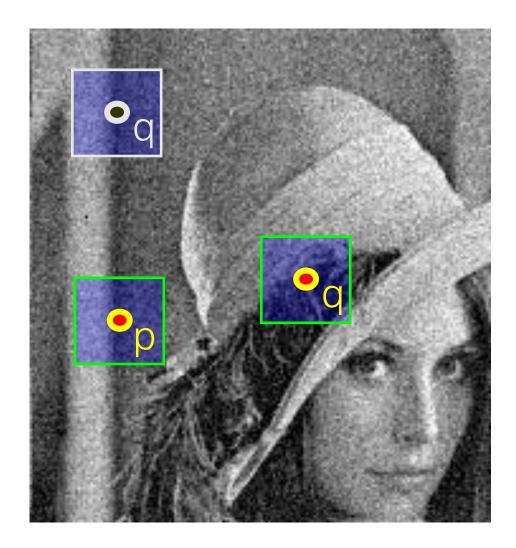


<u>'Dissimilar'</u> pixels **p, q**

→ LARGE

vector distance;

$$|V_p - V_q||^2$$

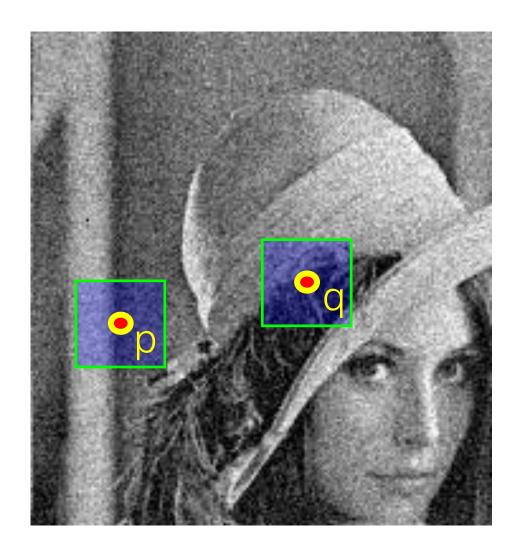


<u>'Dissimilar'</u> pixels p, q

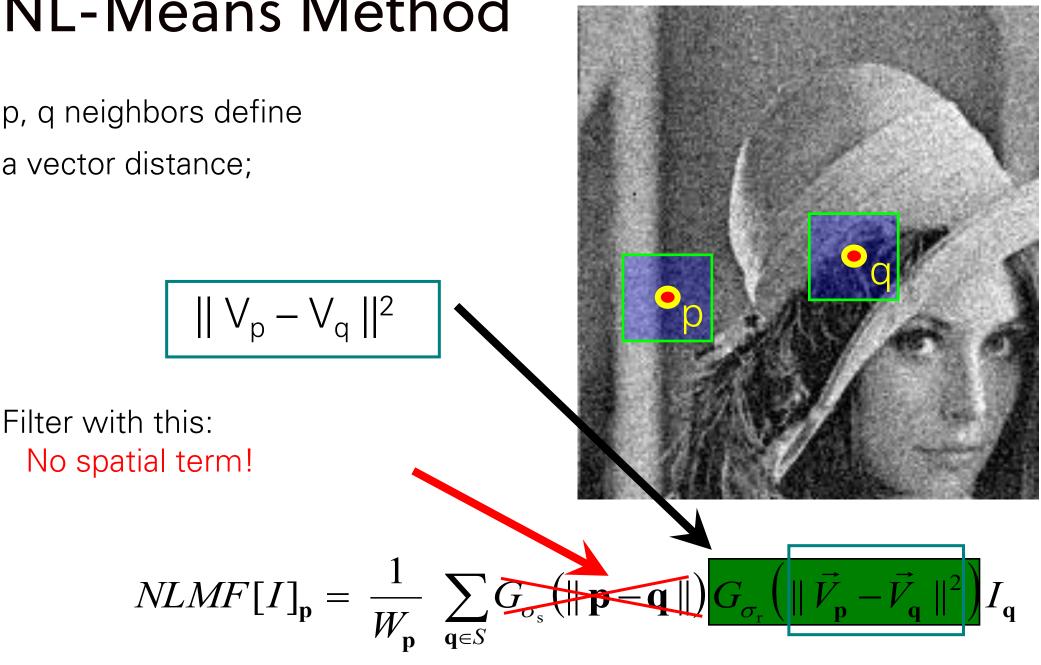
→ LARGE vector distance;

$$\|V_{p} - V_{q}\|^{2}$$

Filter with this!

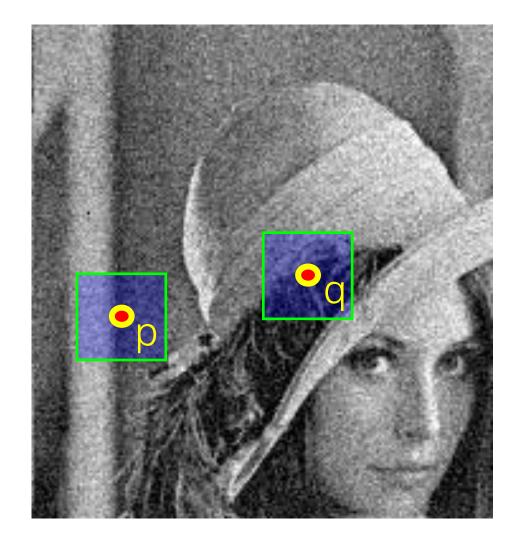


p, q neighbors define a vector distance;



pixels p, q neighbors Set a vector distance;

$$||V_{p} - V_{q}||^{2}$$



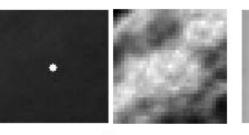
Vector Distance to p sets weight for each pixel q

$$NLMF[I]_{\mathbf{p}} = \frac{1}{W_{\mathbf{p}}} \sum_{\mathbf{q} \in S} G_{\sigma_{\mathbf{r}}} \left(\|\vec{V}_{\mathbf{p}} - \vec{V}_{\mathbf{q}}\|^2 \right) I_{\mathbf{q}}$$





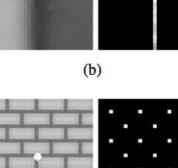




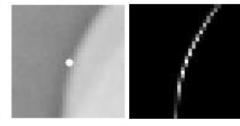
(a)



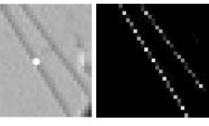
(d)



(e)



(c)



(f)

• Noisy source image:



• Gaussian Filter

Low noise, Low detail



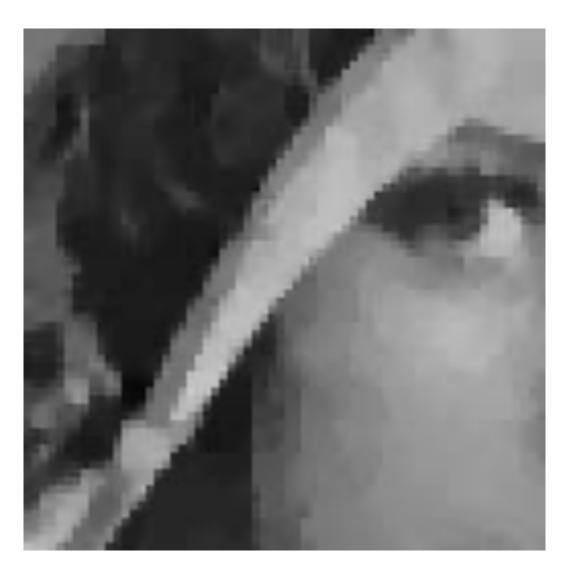
Anisotropic
 Diffusion

Note 'stairsteps': ~ piecewise constant



• Bilateral Filter

Better, but similar 'stairsteps':



• NL-Means:

Sharp, Low noise, Few artifacts.



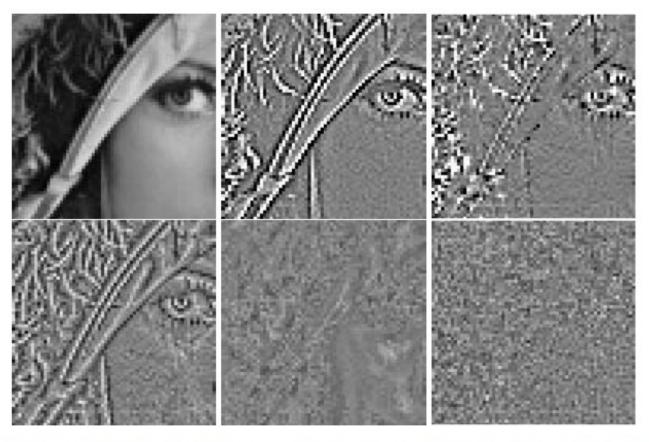
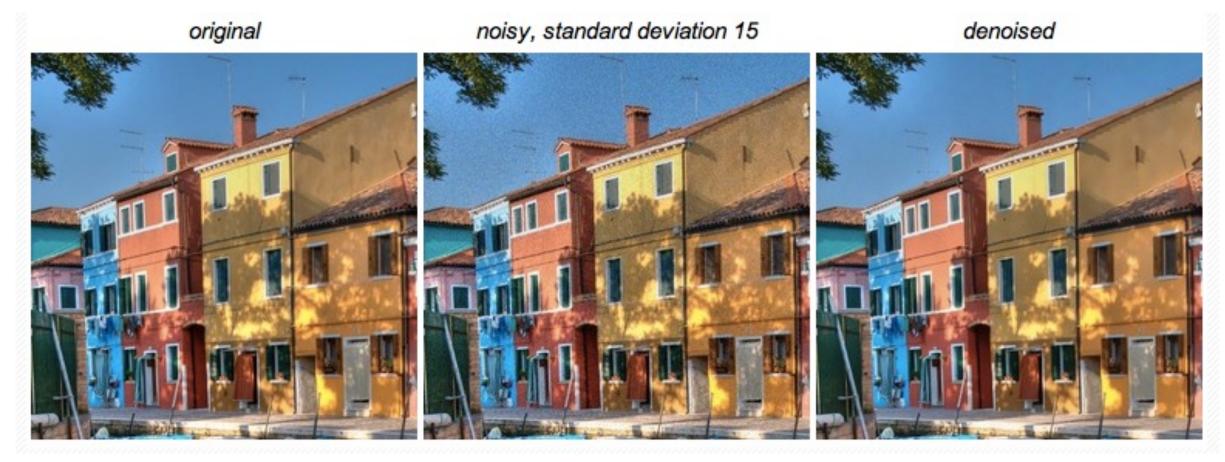


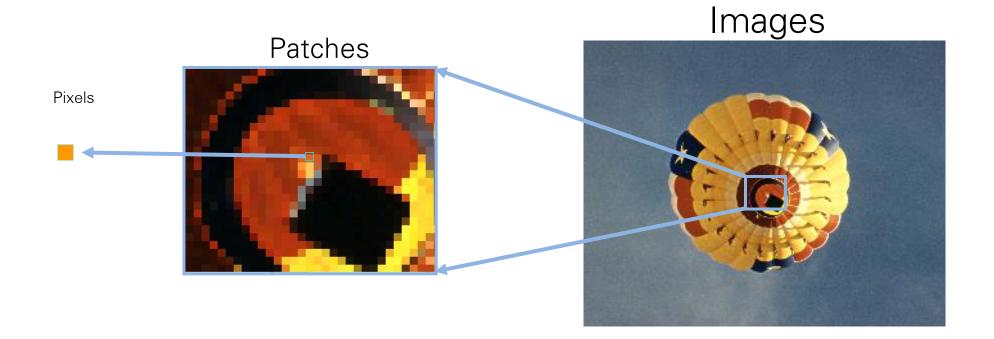
Figure 4. Method noise experience on a natural image. Displaying of the image difference $u - D_h(u)$. From left to right and from top to bottom: original image, Gauss filtering, anisotropic filtering, Total variation minimization, Neighborhood filtering and NL-means algorithm. The visual experiments corroborate the formulas of section 2.



http://www.ipol.im/pub/algo/bcm_non_local_means_denoising/

RegCov Smoothing

From pixels to patches and to images

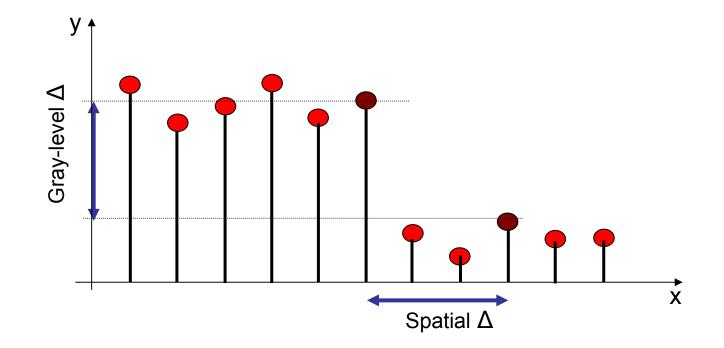


Slide credit: P. Milanfar

Similarities can be defined at different scales..

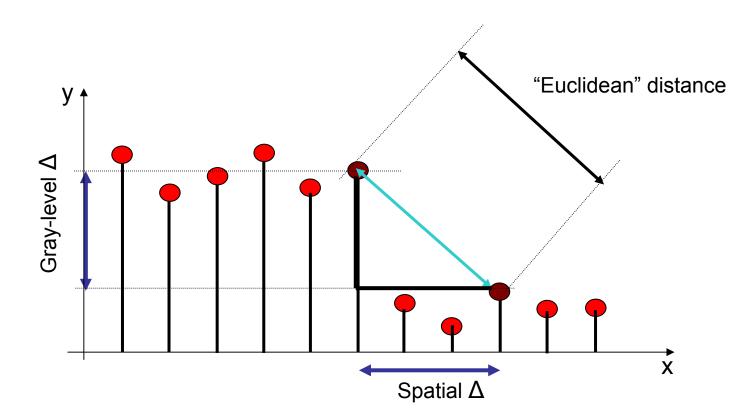
Pixelwise similarity metrics

- To measure the similarity of two pixels, we can consider
 - Spatial distance
 - Gray-level distance

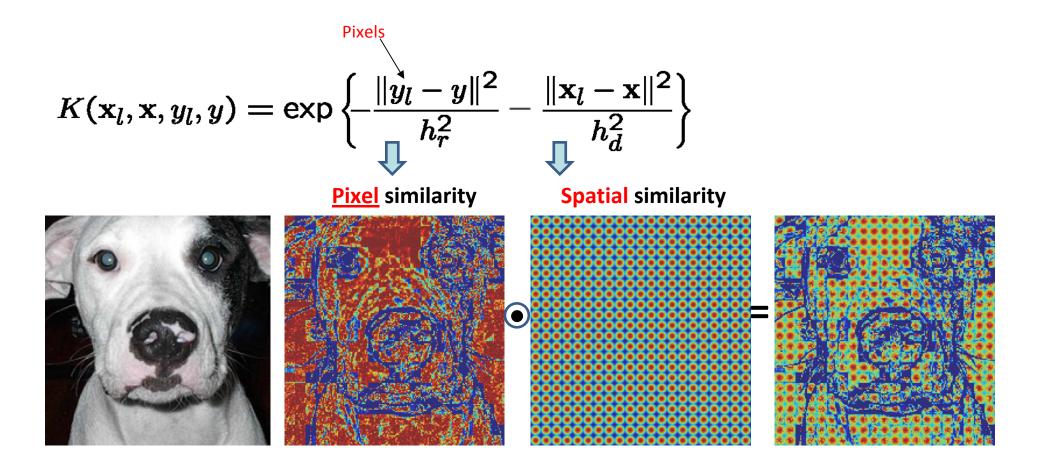


Euclidean metrics

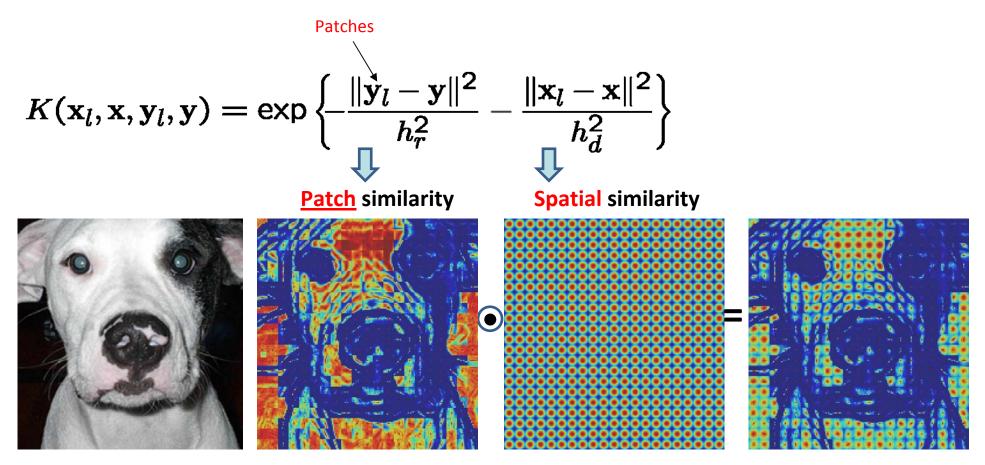
- Natural ways to incorporate the two Δ s:
 - Bilateral Kernel [Tomasi, Manduchi, '98] (pixelwise)
 - Non-Local Means Kernel [Buades, et al. '05] (patchwise)



Bilateral Kernel (BL) [Tomasi et al. '98]



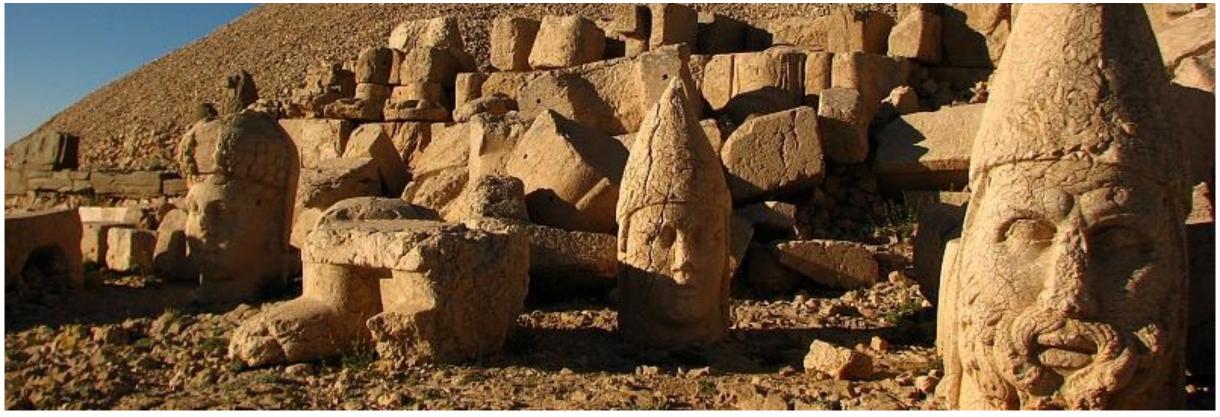
Non-local Means (NLM) [Buades et al. '05]



Smoothing effect

• Decomposing an image into structure and texture components

Input Image



• Decomposing an image into structure and texture components

Structure Component

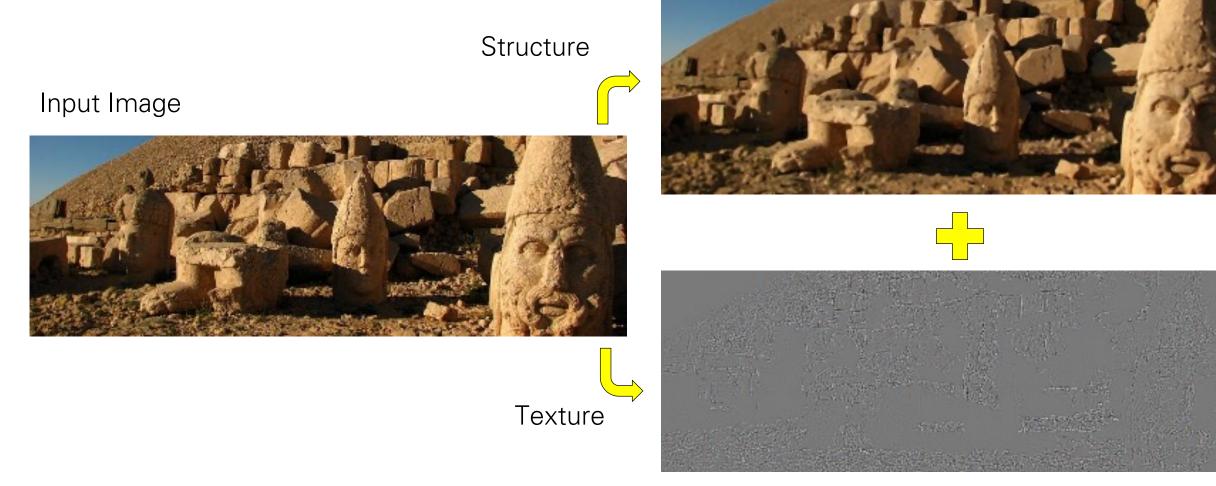


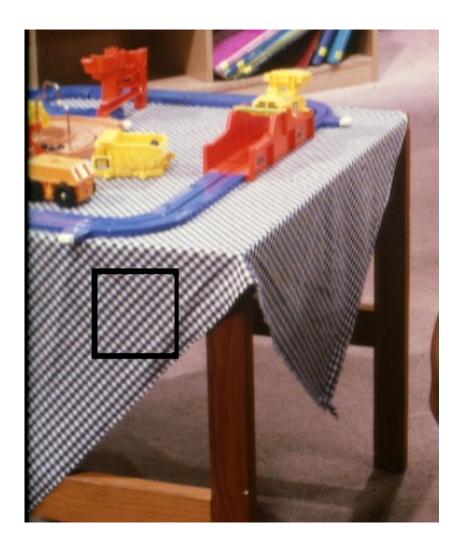
• Decomposing an image into structure and texture components

Texture Component



• Decomposing an image into structure and texture components

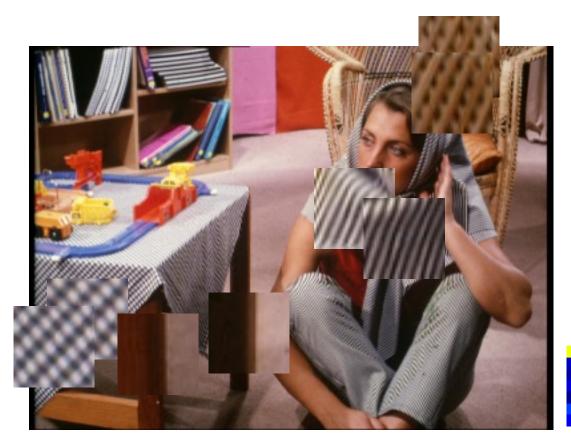




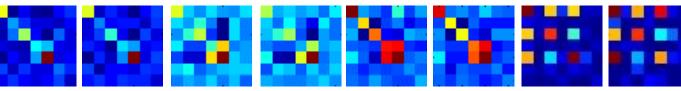
176:4 L. KaracaF(
$$\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}$$
) = $\phi(\mathbf{I}, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$
 $\mathbf{F}(x, y) = \begin{bmatrix} I(x, y) & \left| \frac{\partial I}{\partial x} \right| & \left| \frac{\partial I}{\partial y} \right| & \left| \frac{\partial^2 I}{\partial x^2} \right| & \left| \frac{\partial^2 I}{\partial y^2} \right| & x & y \end{bmatrix}^T$

 $\mathbf{C}_R = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=0}^n (\mathbf{z}_k - \mu) (\mathbf{z}_k - \mu)^T$

Tuzel et al., ECCV 2006



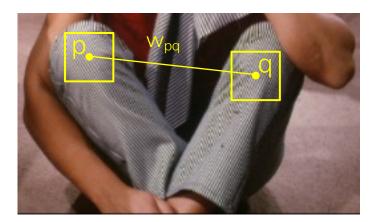
- Region covariances capture local structure and texture information.
- Similar regions have similar statistics.



RegCov Smoothing - Formulation

I = S + T

$$S(\mathbf{p}) = \frac{1}{Z_{\mathbf{p}}} \sum_{\mathbf{q} \in N(\mathbf{p}, r)} w_{\mathbf{p}\mathbf{q}} I(\mathbf{q})$$



- Structure-texture decomposition via smoothing
- Smoothing as weighted averaging
- Different kernels (w_{pq}) result in different types of filters.
- Three novel patch-based kernels for structure texture decomposition.
 - L. Karacan, A. Erdem, E. Erdem, "Structure Preserving Image Smoothing via Region Covariances", ACM TOG 2013 (SIGGRAPH Asia 2013)

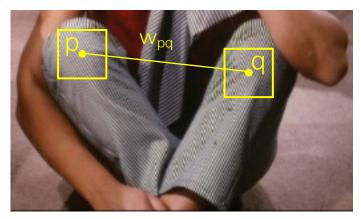
-Preserving Image Smoothing via Region Covariances • 176:3

RegCov Smoothing – Model 1

• Depends on sigma-points representation of covariance matrices (Hong et al., CVPR'09)

 $\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{L}^T$ Cholesky Decomposition

$$\mathcal{S} = \{\mathbf{s}_i\} \qquad \text{Sigma Points} \qquad \mathbf{s}_i = \begin{cases} \alpha \sqrt{d} \mathbf{L}_i & \text{if } 1 \le i \le d \\ -\alpha \sqrt{d} \mathbf{L}_i & \text{if } d+1 \le i \le 2d \end{cases}$$



Final representation

$$\Psi(\mathbf{C}) = (\mu, \mathbf{s}_1, \dots, \mathbf{s}_d, \mathbf{s}_{d+1}, \dots, \mathbf{s}_{2d})^T$$

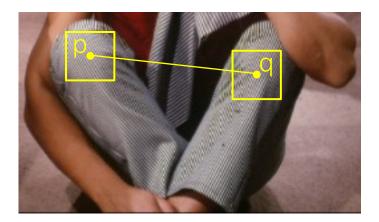
Resulting kernel function

$$w_{\mathbf{pq}} \propto \exp\left(-\frac{\|\Psi(\mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{p}}) - \Psi(\mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{q}})\|^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

RegCov Smoothing – Model 2

- An alternative way is to use statistical similarity measures.
- A Mahalanobis-like distance measure to compare to image patches.

$$d(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) = \sqrt{(\mu_{\mathbf{p}} - \mu_{\mathbf{q}})\mathbf{C}^{-1}(\mu_{\mathbf{p}} - \mu_{\mathbf{q}})^{T}}$$

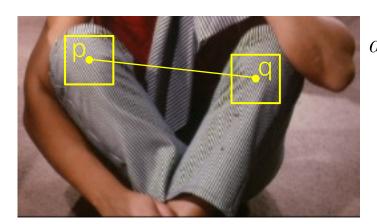


$$\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{p}} + \mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{q}}$$

Resulting kernel $w_{\mathbf{pq}} \propto \exp\left(-\frac{d(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q})^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$

RegCov Smoothing – Model 3

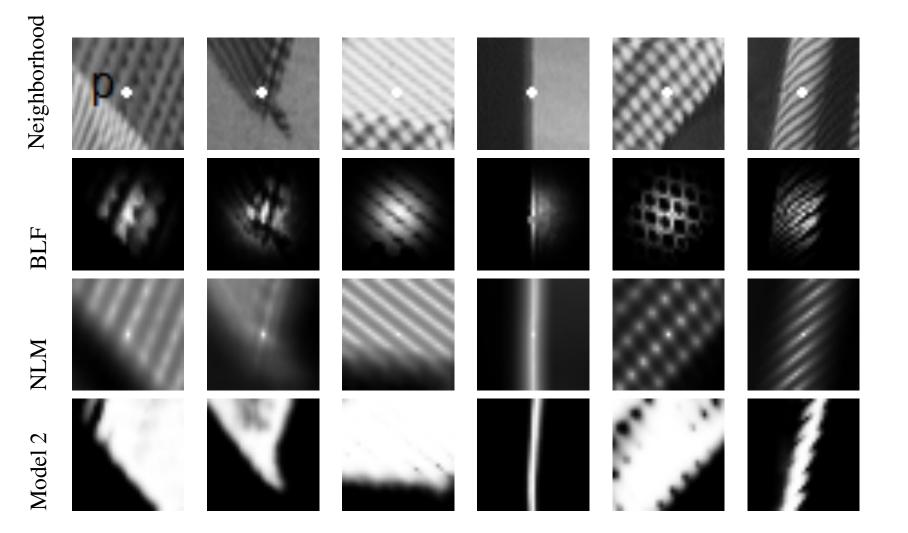
- We use Kullback-Leibler(KL)-Divergence measure from probability theory.
- A KL-Divergence form is used to calculate statistical distance between two multivariate normal distribution



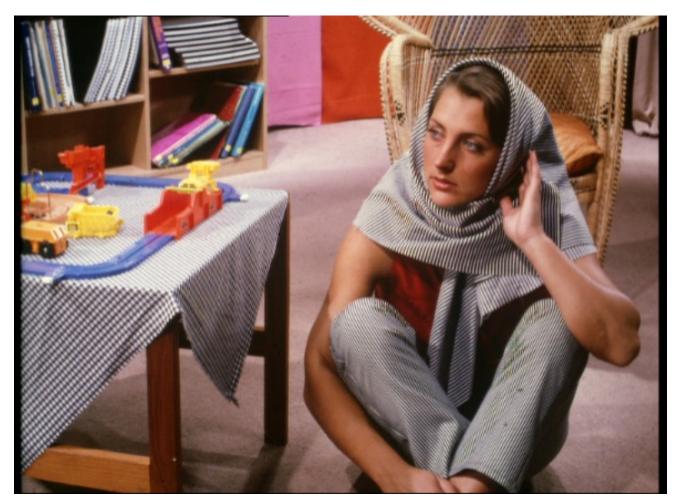
$$\begin{aligned} &l_{KL}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) = \frac{1}{2} \left(tr(\mathbf{C_q}^{-1} \mathbf{C_p}) + (\mu_p - \mu_q)^T \mathbf{C_q}^{-1} (\mu_p - \mu_q) - k - ln\left(\frac{\det \mathbf{C_p}}{\det \mathbf{C_q}}\right) \right) \end{aligned}$$
Resulting kernel
$$w_{pq} \propto \frac{d_{KL}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q})}{2\sigma^2}$$

resulted from a discussion with Rahul Narain (Berkeley University)

RegCov Smoothing – Smoothing Kernels



Results



Input





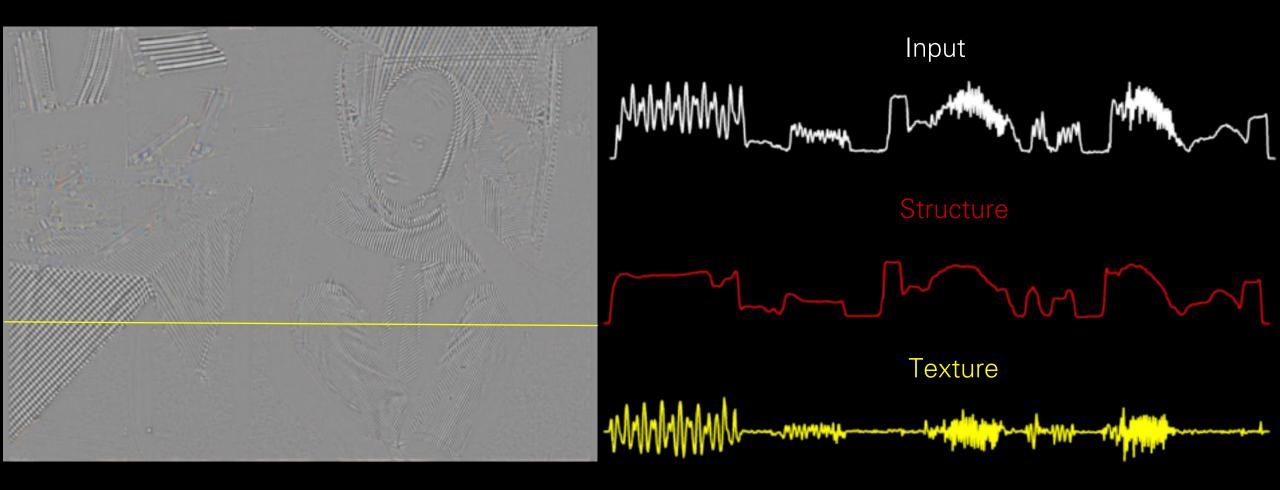


Input MMMMM Mmm MMM

Input

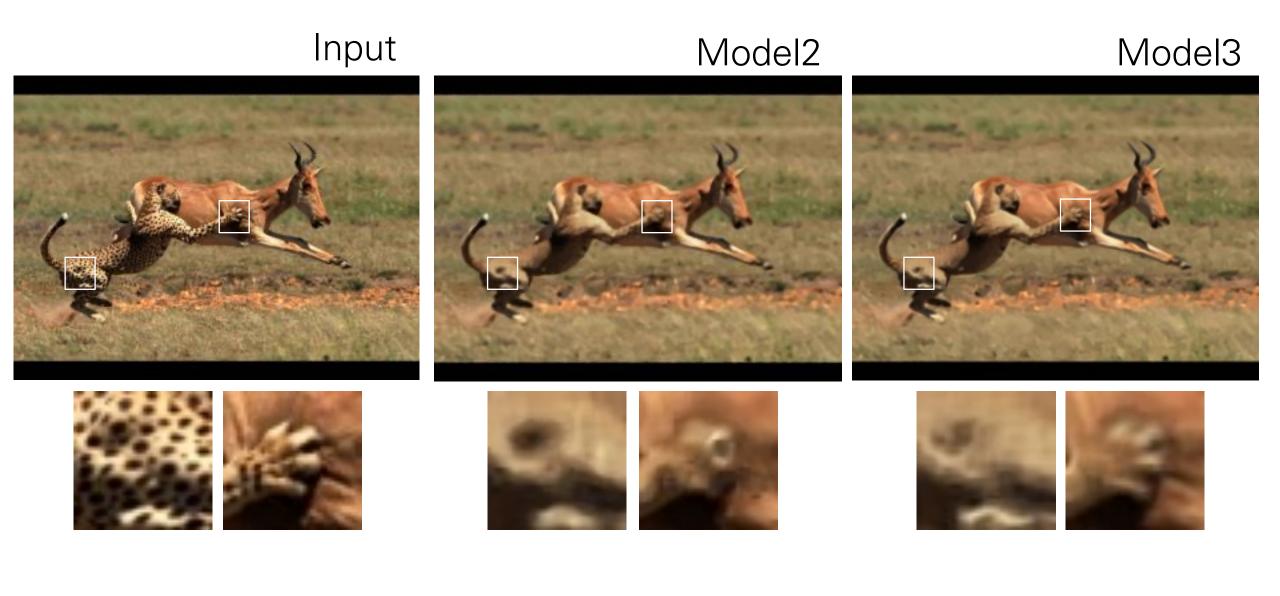


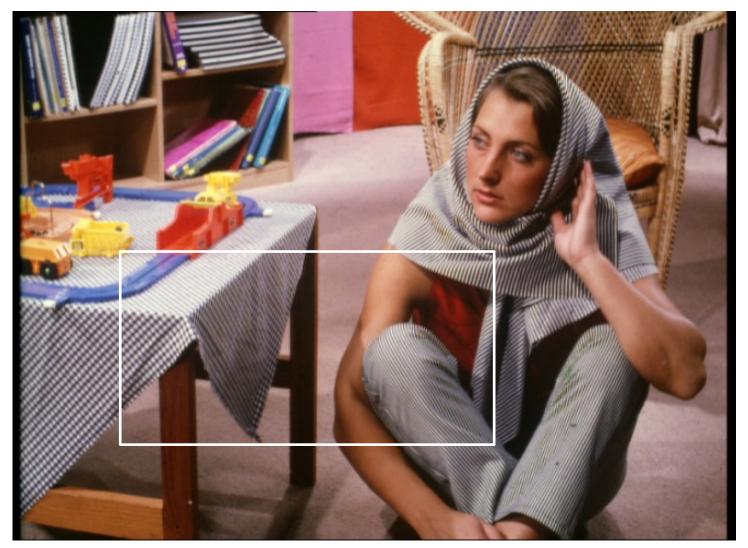
Model2 Structure



Model2 Texture

Results





Input



TV Rudin et al. 1992



Bilateral Filter

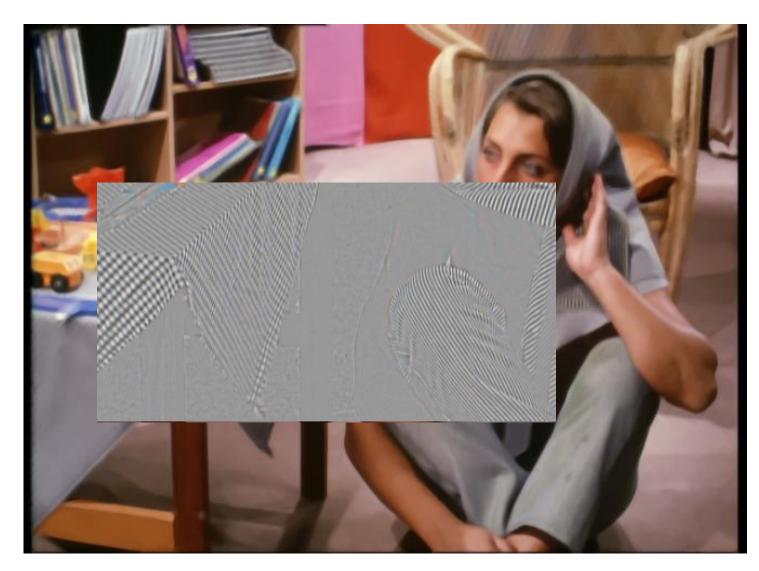


Envelope Extraction Subr et al. 2009



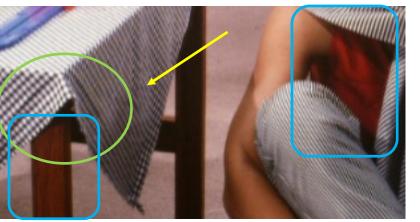
RTV Xu et al. 2012





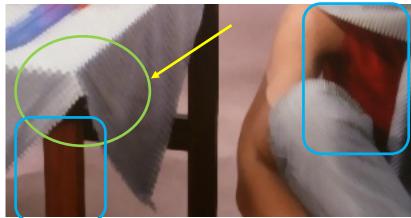






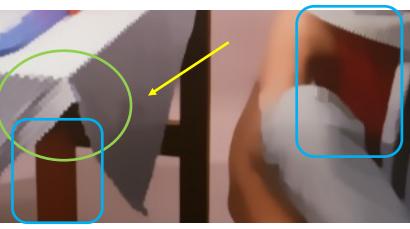


Local Exrema

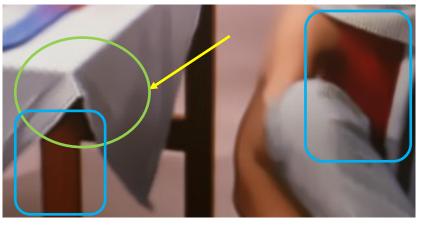


Model2

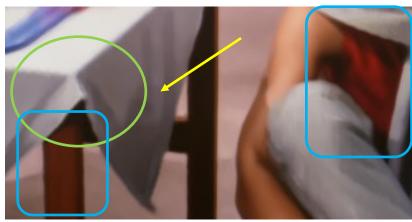
RTV



Model3



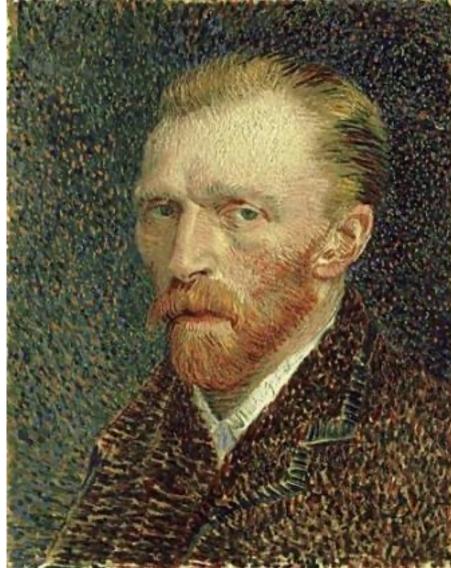
Shading preserved



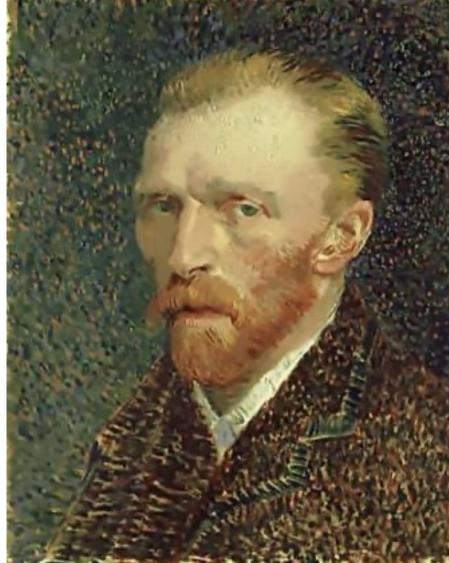
Structure preserved

No unintuitive edge









 $S_1(k = 5)$





 $S_2(k = 7)$





 $S_3(k = 9)$

Challenging cases

Input



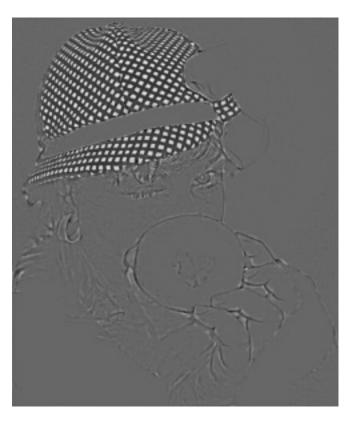


Challenging cases

Input



Model2 Texture



Model2+Model1



Edge detection



Edge detection



Edge detection

Canny edges of original image

Canny edges of smoothed image

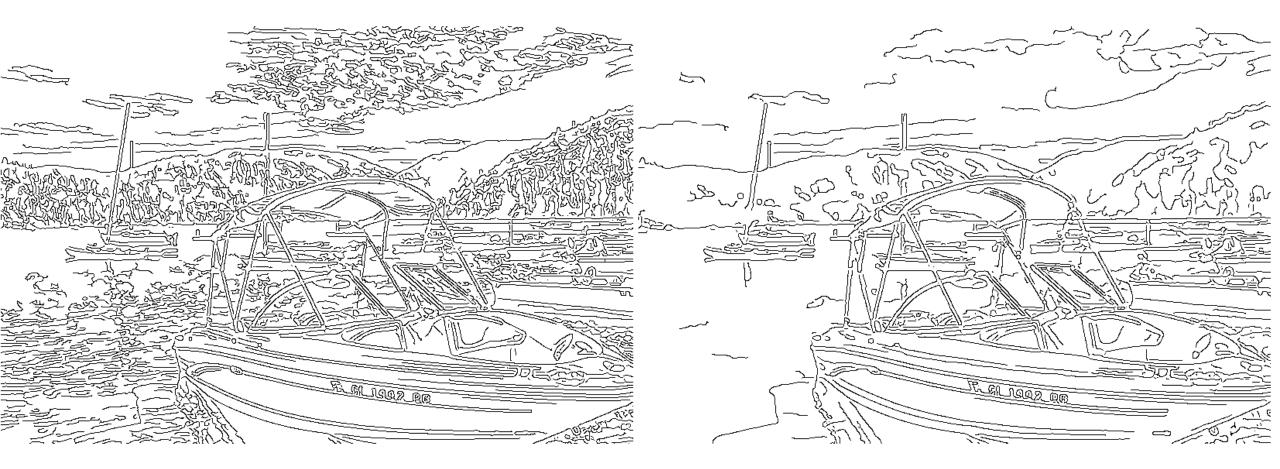


Image abstraction

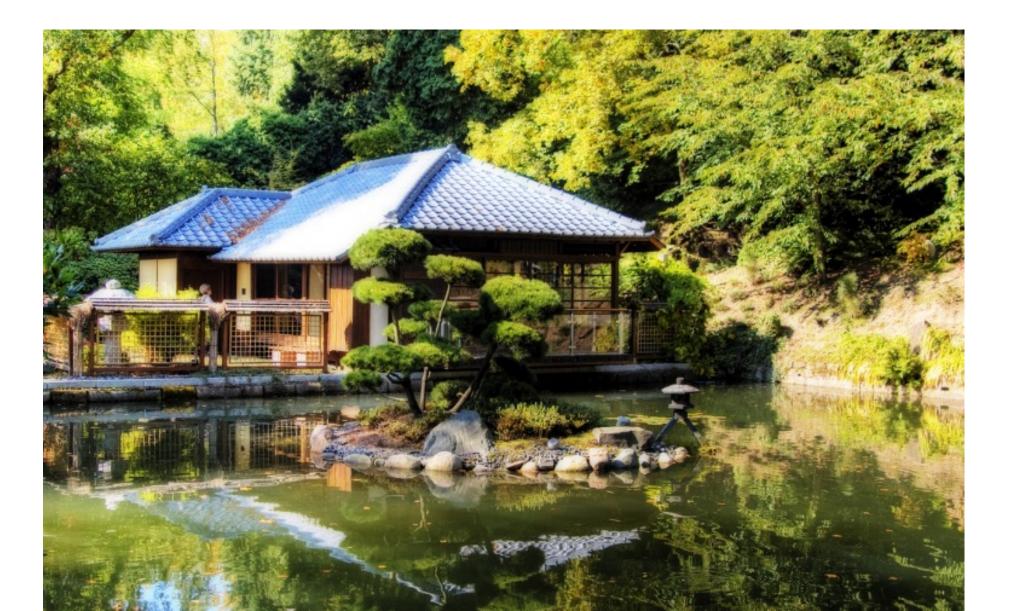
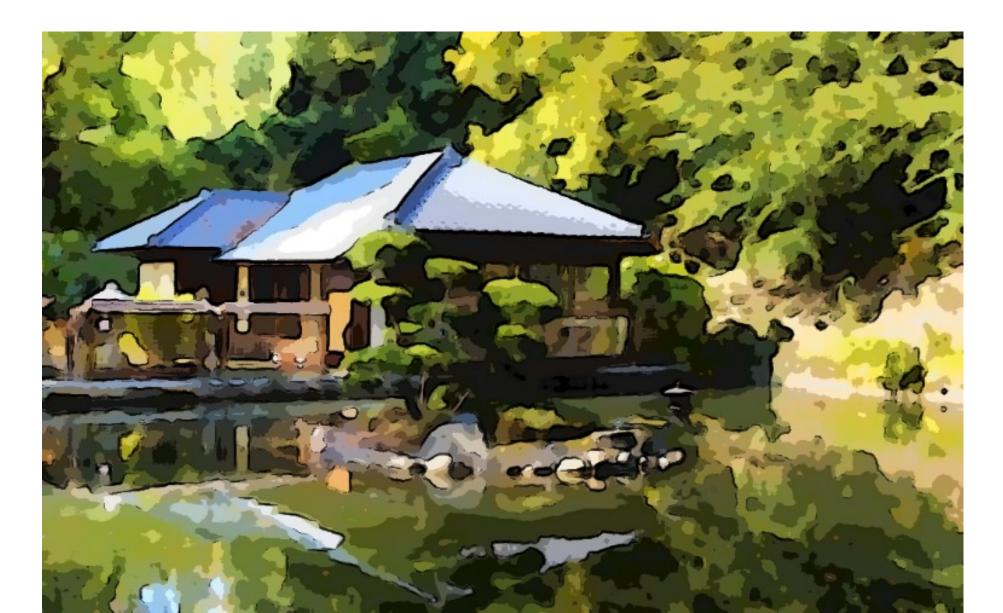


Image abstraction



Detail boosting

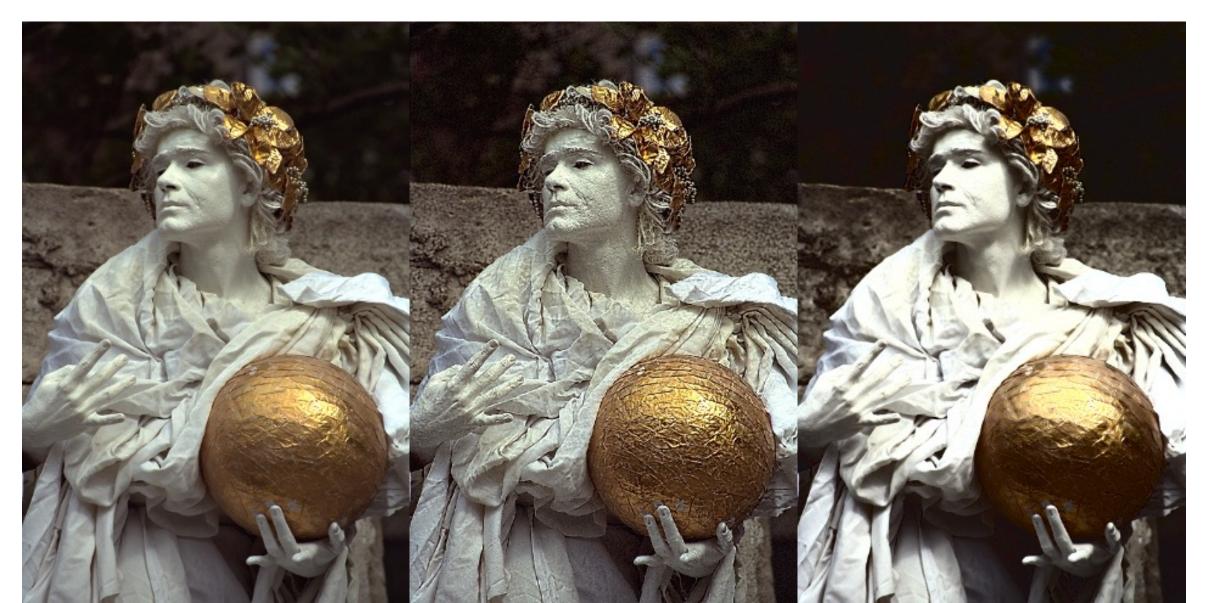


Image composition







Input halftone image



Smoothed image (Model 2)



Smoothed image (Model 2 + Shock filter)



Model2+Shock Filter

Input halftone image

Kopf and Lischinski 2012

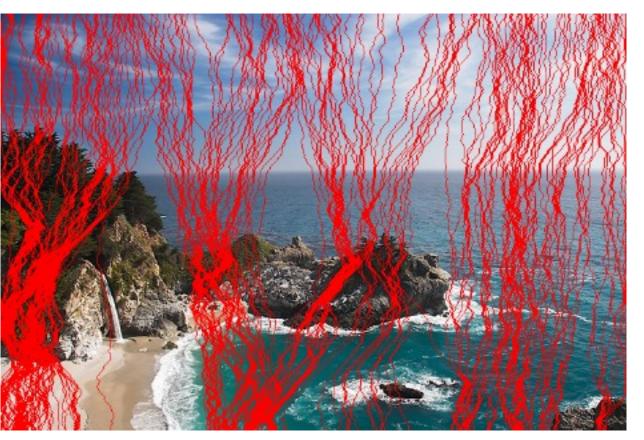
Image Retargeting



Input image

Smoothed image

Image Retargeting





Input image Extracted Seams

Smoothed image Extracted Seams

Seam Carving, Avidan and Shamir 2007

Image Retargeting



Input image Retargeting result

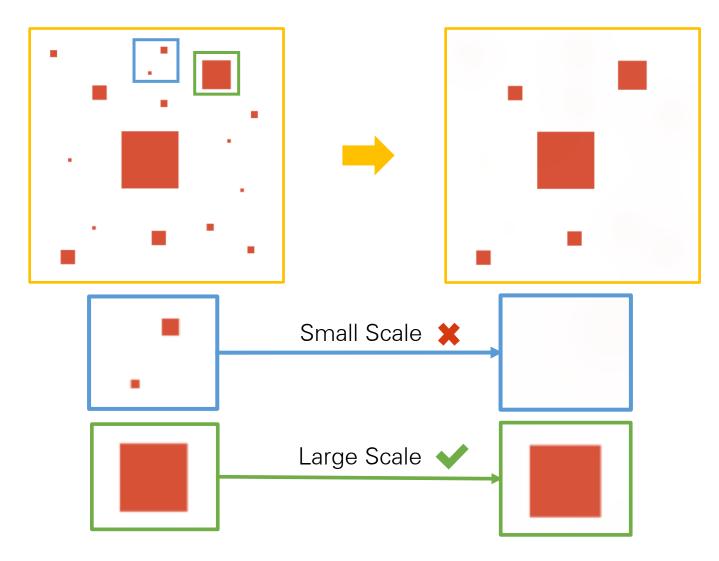


Smoothed image Retargeting result

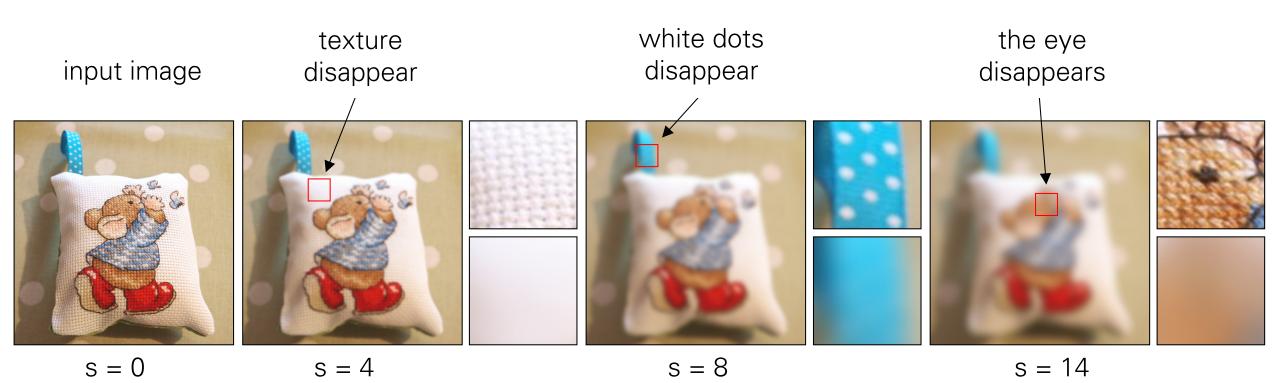
Seam Carving, Avidan and Shamir 2007

Rolling Guidance Filter

Scale-Aware Filtering



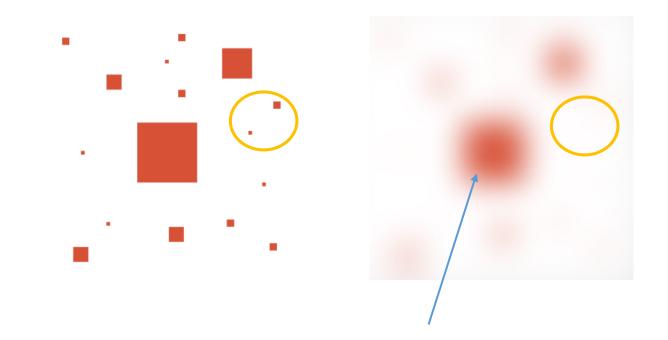
Notion of Scale in Filtering



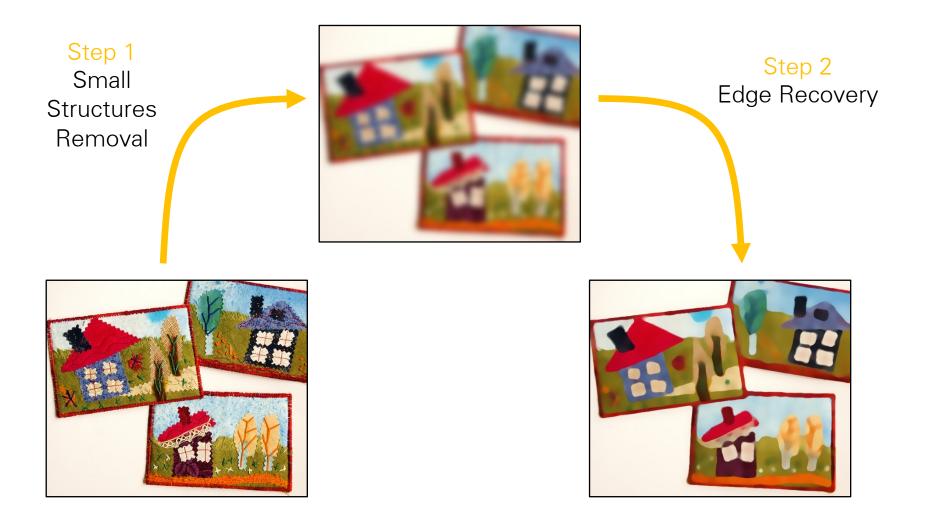
As the Gaussian kernel gets larger, more and more structures disappear.

Main Idea

- Scale Space Theory [Lindeberg, 1994]:
 - An object of size t, will be largely smoothed away with Gaussian filter of variance t².



RGF: A scale-aware Filter



Step 1: Small Structures Removal

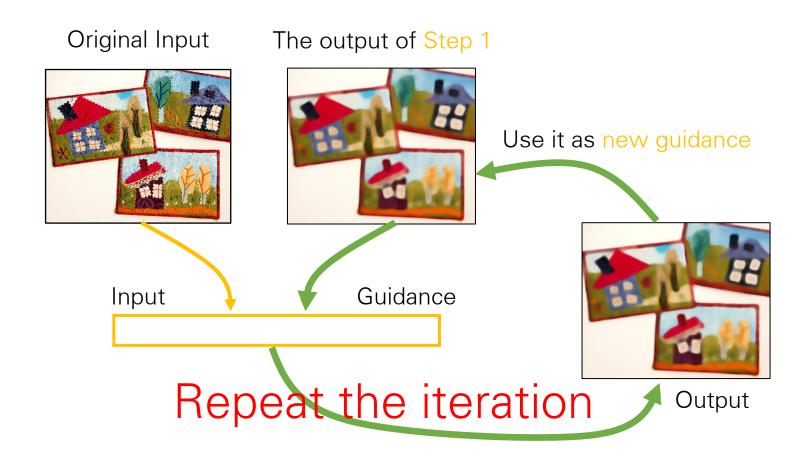
Gaussian Filter

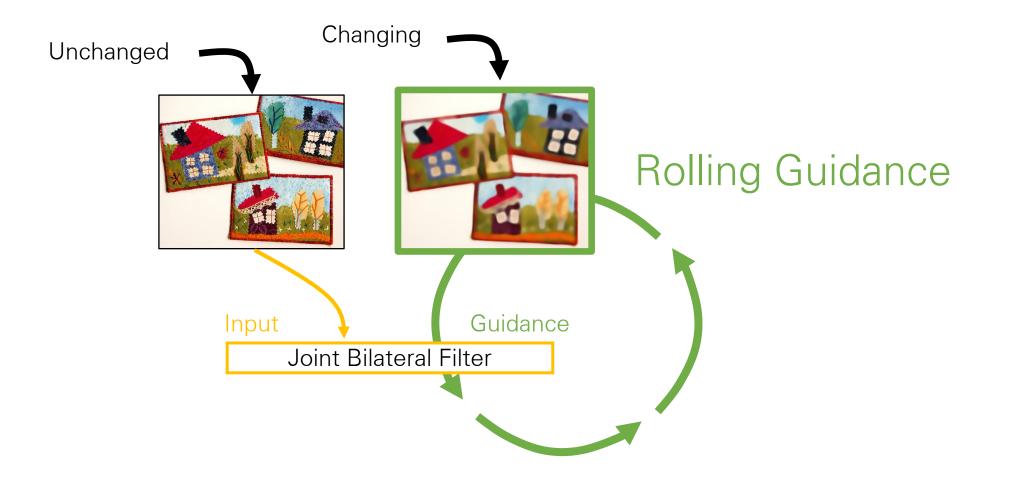


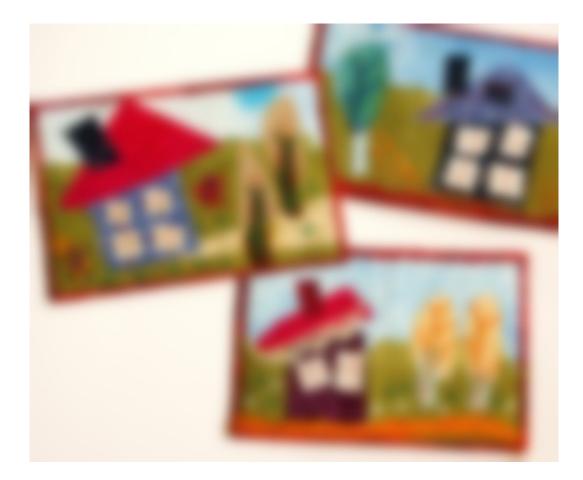


Step 2: Edge Recovery

• A rolling guidance







Guidance for the 1st iteration



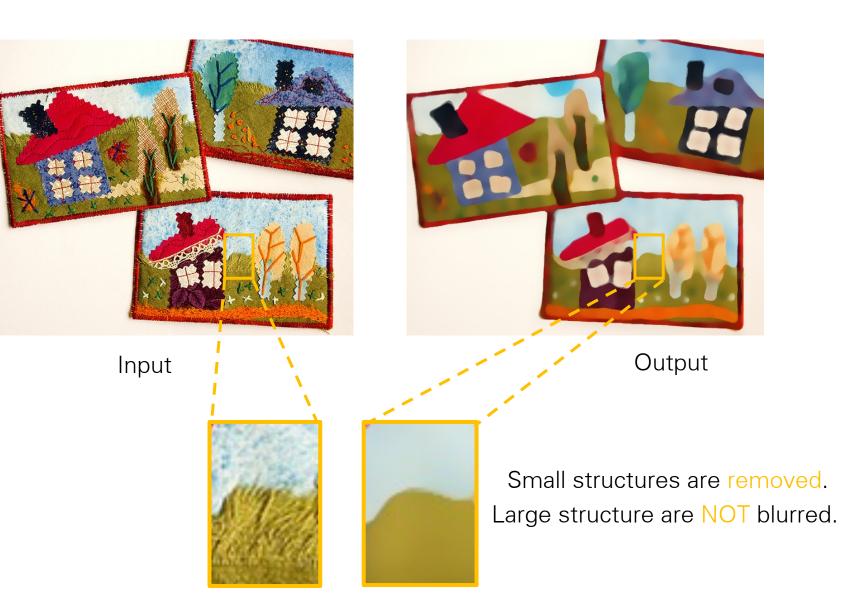
Guidance for the 2nd iteration



Guidance for the 3rd iteration



Guidance for the 5th iteration

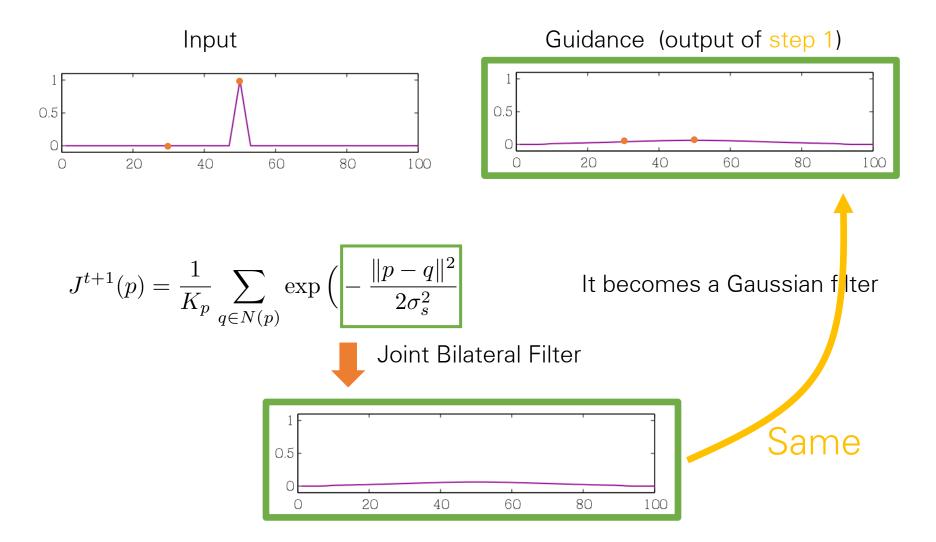


Implementation

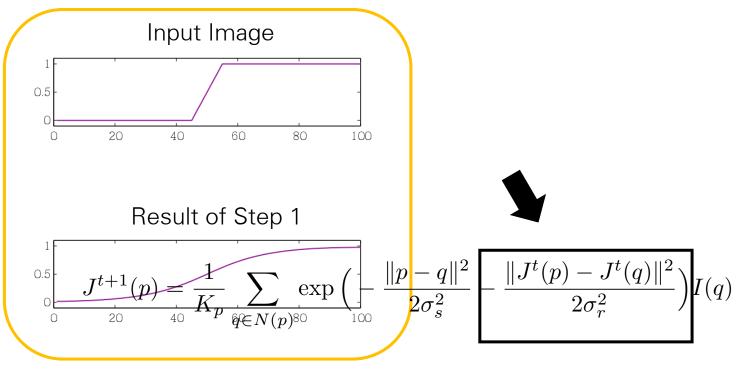
Rolling Guidance Filter (RGF) has only 1 line of code

1	Mat	<pre>rollingGuidanceFilter(Mat im, float scale, int iter){</pre>
2		Mat res = im.mul(0);
3		<pre>while(iter) res = bilateralFilter(im,res,scale,SIGMA_R);</pre>
4		return res;
5	}	

Small Structure

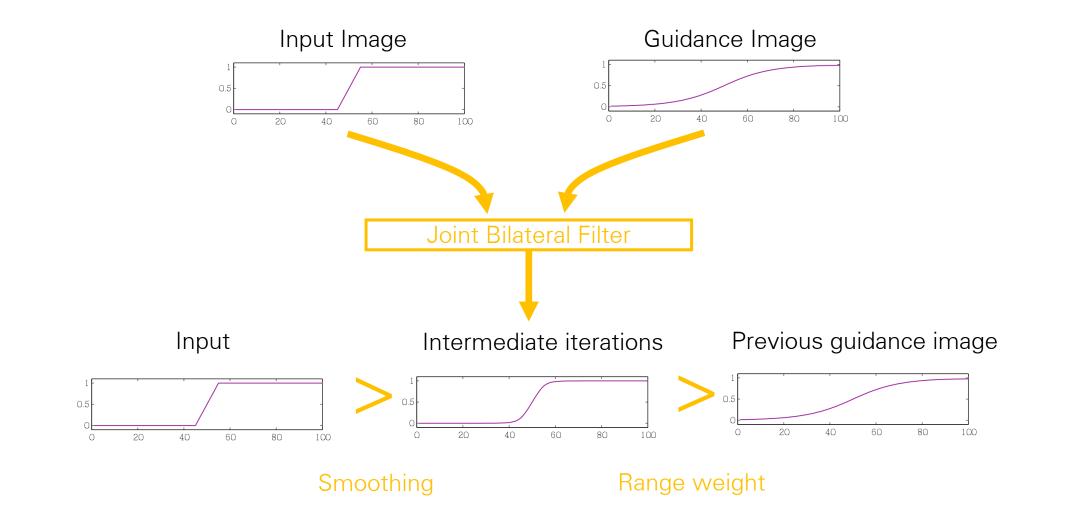


Large Structure

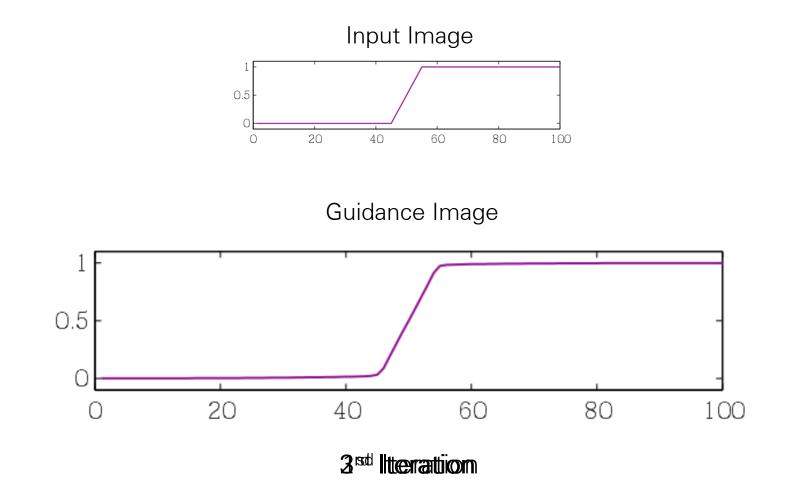


Due to this range weight It generates sharper results than Gaussian!

Processing



Processing



Large Structure

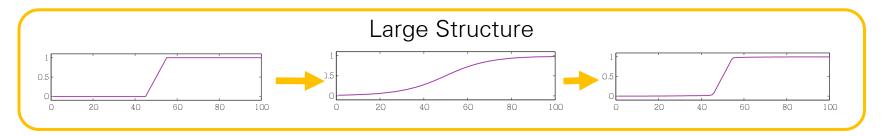


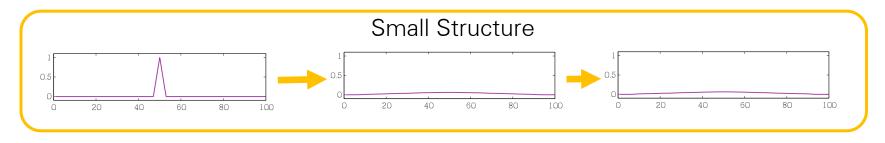
Take-home message

Rolling guidance recovers an edge as long as it still exists in the blurred image after Gaussian smoothing.

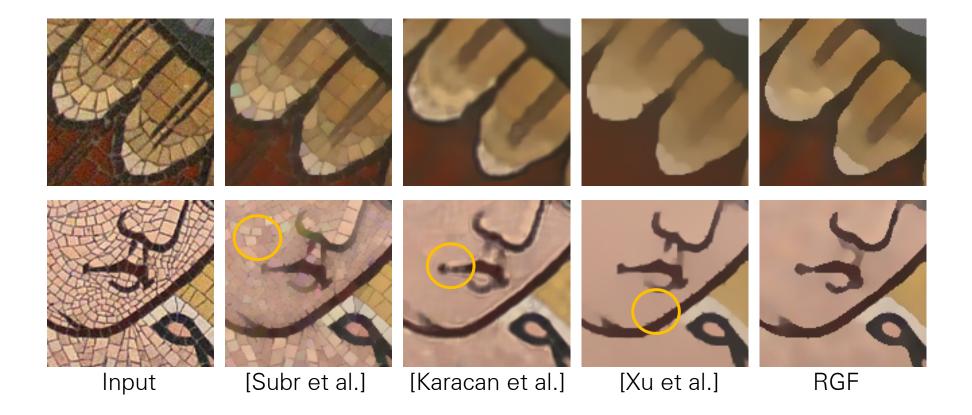
Rolling Guidance Filter



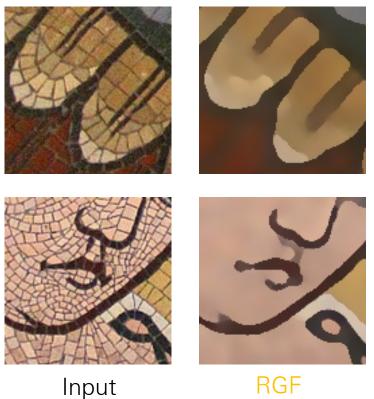




Result Comparison



Performance Comparison



For 4 Megapixel Image

seconds

2013]

Performance Comparison

Algorithms	Time (seconds/Megapixel)
Local Extrema [Subr et al., 2009]	95
RTV [Xu et al., 2012]	14
Region Covariance [Karacan et al., 2013]	240
RGF	0.05(Real-time)

Texture Removal



Texture Removal





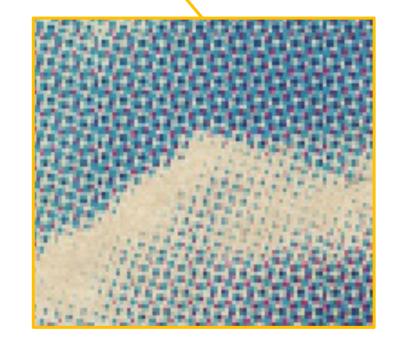


Halftone Image



Halftone Image







Boundary detection

Input



Boundary Detection



Filtered Input



Boundary Detection



Multi-Scale Filtering



determine the scale.

Limitations

- Sharp corners could be rounded
 - It is because sharp corner presents high frequency change.
 - In other words, sharp corners are small-scale structures.

Recap

- Filtering plays a key role for many applications.
- Filtering by taking into account image content generally gives better results.

Next Lecture: Gradient-domain image processing