

# CMP717

# Image Processing



## Introduction

Erkut Erdem

Hacettepe University

Computer Vision Lab (HUCVL)

# Today

- About me
- About you
- Course outline and logistics
- Introduction to Image Processing

# Today

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- About you
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## Erkut Erdem

Computer Vision Lab

<http://web.cs.hacettepe.edu.tr/~erkut>

My research interests concern computer vision and machine learning. I specifically investigate the use of spatial, temporal and cross-modal context in visual processing. My recent research activities cover topics such as saliency prediction, integrated vision and language, image editing and HDR image processing.

2001

BSc, Comp. Eng.  
METU, Ankara

2004

Visiting Research Scholar  
Virginia Tech, Blacksburg

2008

PhD, Comp. Eng.  
METU, Ankara

2014

Asst. Prof.  
Hacettepe,  
Ankara

2003

MSc, Comp. Eng.  
METU, Ankara

2006

Visiting Student  
UCLA, Los Angeles

2009

Post-doc  
Telecom ParisTech  
(ENST), Paris

2012

Founder  
Computer  
Vision Lab

2018

Assoc. Prof.  
Hacettepe,  
Ankara





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# Structure Preserving Image Smoothing via Region Covariances

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Levent Karacan,  
Erkut Erdem,  
Aykut Erdem

2013

ACM Transactions on Graphics (Proceedings of SIGGRAPH Asia 2013)

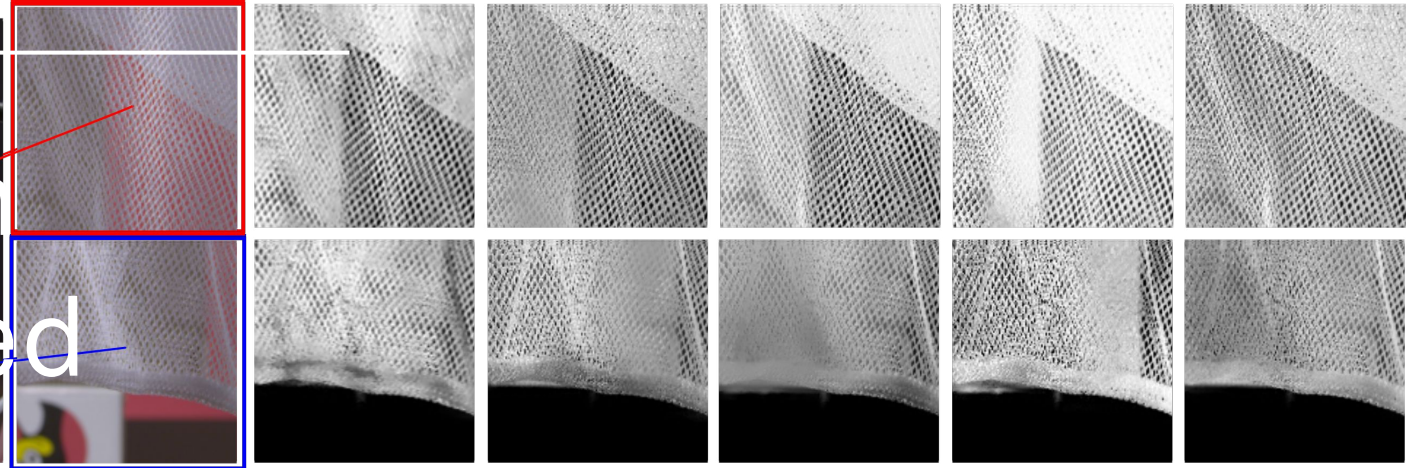


# Image Matting with KL-Divergence Based Sparse Sampling

Levent Karacan,  
Aykut Erdem,  
Erkut Erdem

2015

IEEE International Conference on Computer Vision (ICCV 2015)





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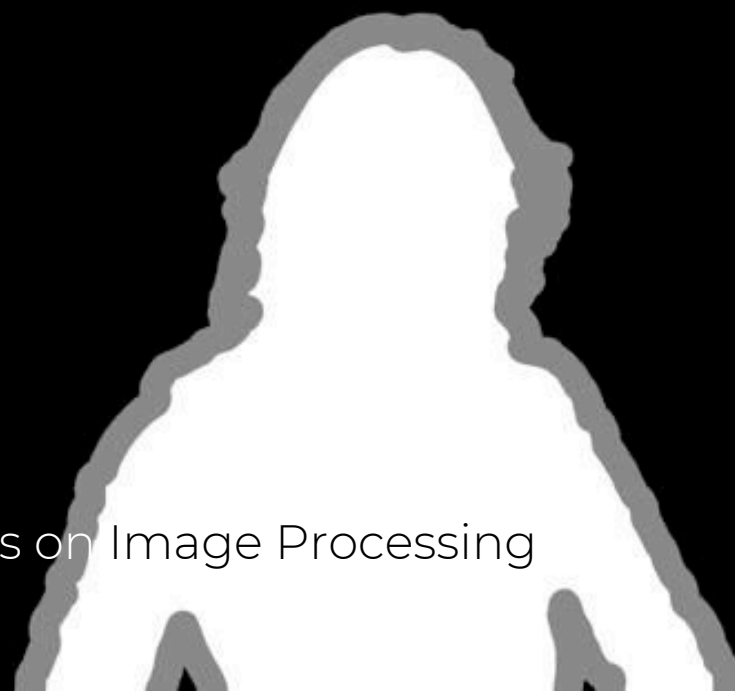
# Alpha Matting with KL-Divergence Based Sparse Sampling

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Levent Karacan,  
Aykut Erdem,  
Erkut Erdem

2017

IEEE Transactions on Image Processing





Night

Sunset

Winter

Spring & Clouds

Moist,  
Rain  
& Fog



*input image*



*layout*

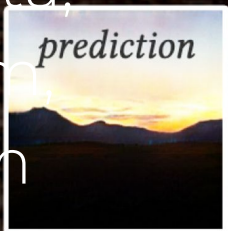
# Manipulating Attributes of Natural Scenes via Hallucination

Levent Karacan,  
Zeynep Akata,

Aykut Erdem  
Erkut Erdem



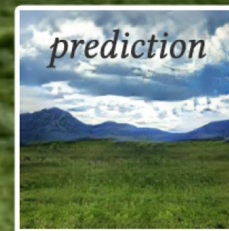
*prediction*



*prediction*



*prediction*



*prediction*



*prediction*

2020

ACM Transactions on Graphics

# Visual saliency estimation by nonlinearly integrating features using region covariances

Erkut Erdem,  
Aykut Erdem

2013

Journal of Vision





# A Comparative Study for Feature Integration

# Strategies in Dynamic Saliency Estimation

Yasin Kavak,  
Erkut Erdem,  
Aykut Erdem



2017

Signal Processing: Image Communication



Input Video

SSNet

TSNet

# Spatio-Temporal Saliency Networks for Dynamic Saliency Prediction

Ground Truth

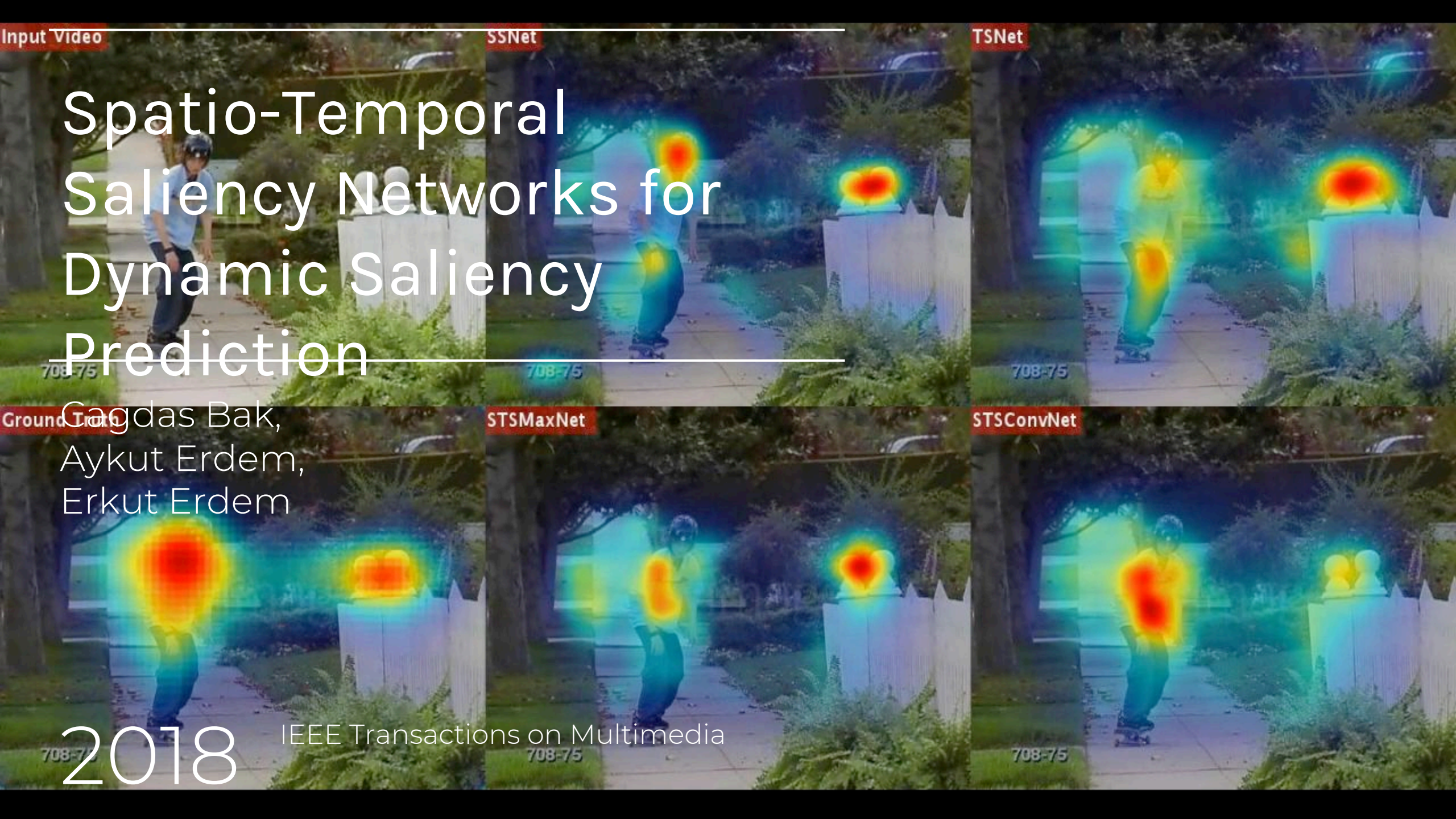
STSMaXNet

STSCoNvNet

Cagdas Bak,  
Aykut Erdem,  
Erkut Erdem

2018

IEEE Transactions on Multimedia





# The State of the Art in HDR Deghosting: A Survey and Evaluation

Okan Tarhan Tursun,  
Ahmet Oguz Akyuz,  
Aykut Erdem,  
Erkut Erdem

2015

Computer Graphics Forum (Eurographics STAR 2015)

## HDR Deghosting Experiment

HDR imaging techniques aim at capturing the amplitude of the light correctly. One way to obtain an HDR image is to combine multiple images with different exposures. However, in the real life conditions, objects may move and the scene may change during the acquisition. If there is movement in the scene, this may result in semi-transparent objects in the output HDR.

HDR deghosting algorithms focus on alleviating the effects of ghosting artifacts. In this study, you will be asked to compare outputs of HDR deghosting algorithms and select which one looks the best for you.

Please do not use Refresh, Back and Forward buttons of your browser during the experiment.

Please tell us a little bit about yourself first.  
Afterwards, you'll start a trial session for warm-up.

Name:

Age:

Gender:  Male  Female

Rate your experience in Image Processing/Computer Graphics

## Warmup

Please select the image that you think is the better deghosting result created from the multiple exposures.

Multiple Exposures



Deghosting Results (pick one)



Progress

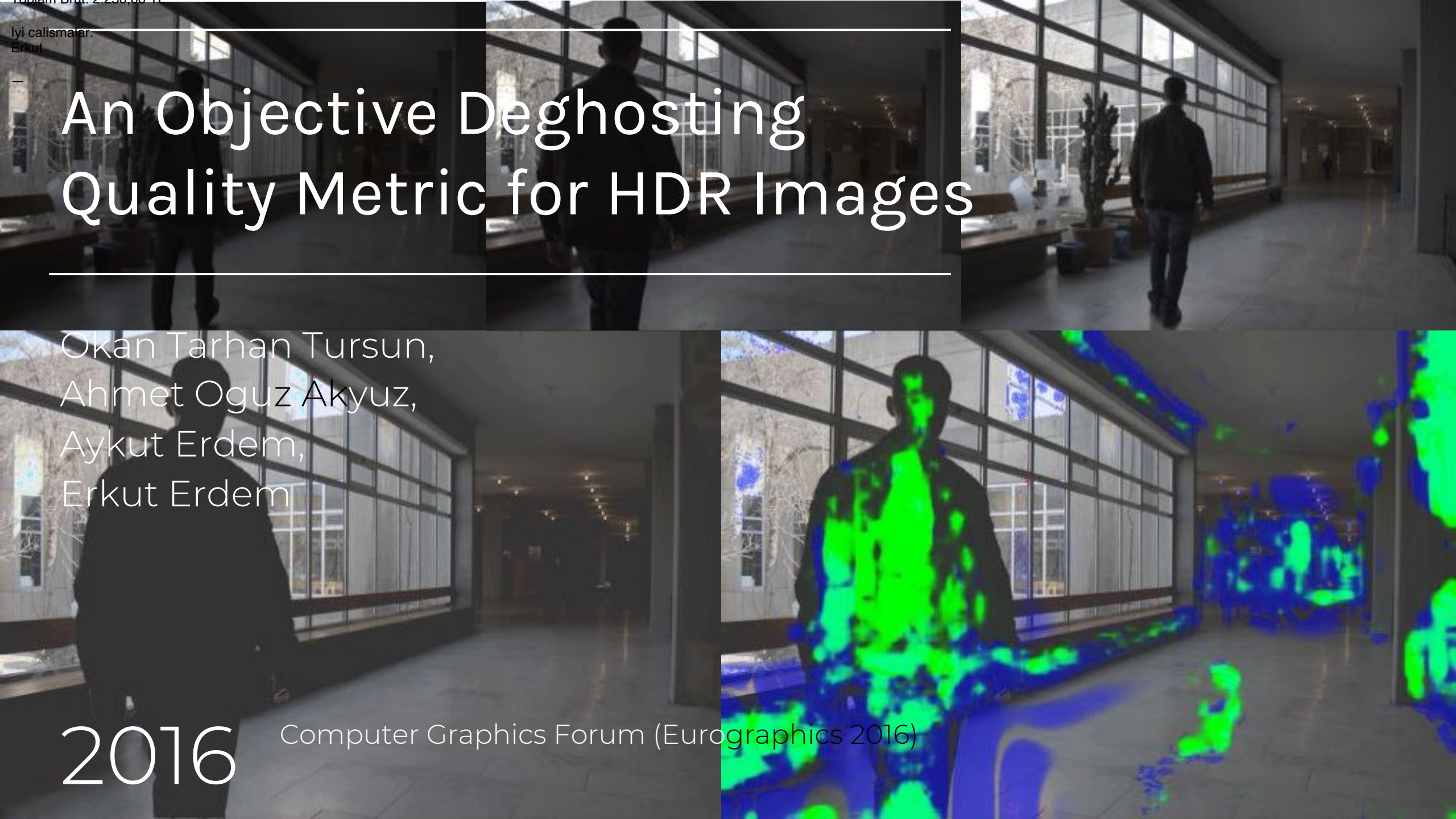
2015

# An Objective Deghosting Quality Metric for HDR Images

Okan Tarhan Tursun,  
Ahmet Oguz Akyuz,  
Aykut Erdem,  
Erkut Erdem

2016

Computer Graphics Forum (Eurographics 2016)



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# Introduce yourselves

- Who are you?
  - What do you know about image processing?
  - Why you want to take CMP717?
- 
- Send me a short e-mail including your answers to these questions.

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# Logistics

- Assoc. Prof. Erkut ERDEM
- [erkut@cs.hacettepe.edu.tr](mailto:erkut@cs.hacettepe.edu.tr)
- Office: 112
  
- Lectures: Friday, 13:00-16:00
- Office Hour: *By appointment.*

# About CMP717

- This course provides a comprehensive overview of fundamental topics in image processing for graduate students.
- The goal of this course is to provide a deeper understanding of the state-of-the-art methods in image processing literature and to study their connections.
- The course makes the students gain knowledge and skills in key topics and provides them the ability to employ them in their advanced-level studies.

# Communication

- The course webpage will be updated regularly throughout the semester with lecture notes, programming and reading assignments and important deadlines.

<http://web.cs.hacettepe.edu.tr/~erkut/cmp717.f20>

- All other communications will be carried out through Piazza. Please enroll it by following the link

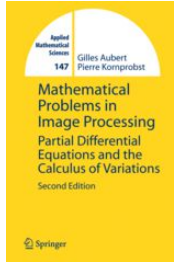
<https://piazza.com/hacettepe.edu.tr/fall2020/cmp717>



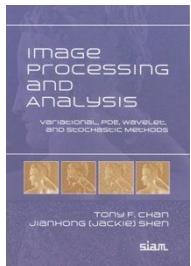
# Prerequisites

- Good programming skills (for practicals and the course project)
- Calculus (differentiation, chain rule) and linear algebra (vectors, matrices, eigenvalues/vectors)
- Basic probability and statistics (random variables, expectations, multivariate Gaussians, Bayes rule, conditional probabilities)
- Undergraduate level image processing (e.g. BBM413)
- Machine learning (e.g. BBM406 and CMP712)
- Optimization (cost functions, taking gradients, regularization)

# Reference Books



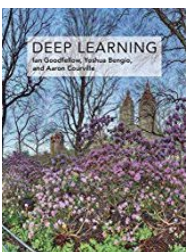
- Mathematical Problems in Image Processing: Partial Differential Equations and the Calculus of Variations, G. Aubert and P. Kornprobst, 2nd Edition, Springer-Verlag, 2006



- Image Processing And Analysis: Variational, PDE, Wavelet, And Stochastic Methods, T. Chan and J. Shen, Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics, 2005



- Markov Random Fields For Vision And Image Processing, Edited by A. Blake, P. Kohli and C. Rother, MIT Press, 2011



- Deep Learning, Ian Goodfellow, Aaron Courville, and Yoshua Bengio, preparation for MIT Press,

# Reading Material

- Lecture notes and handouts
- Papers and journal articles

# Grading Policy

- Paper Presentations (14%)  
(6% overview, 4% pros, and 4% cons)
- Weekly Quizzes (12%)
- Practicals (18%)
- Course Project (presentations and reports) (36%)
- Final Exam (20%)

# Paper presentations and Quizzes

- An important part of the course includes discussions of a number papers related to certain research topics.
- These papers should be read by every student as the quizzes about the presented papers will be given on the weeks of the presentations.
- The schedule for the presentations will be determined shortly.



# Structure of paper presentations

- Each paper discussion will be led by three students:
  - One student will be responsible from providing an overview of the paper.
  - One student will present the strengths of the paper.
  - One student will discuss the weaknesses of the paper.

# Grading Rubric - Paper Overview

Criterion	Max	Points
<b>Problem statement and motivation</b> Clear definition of the problem, why it is interesting and important	10	
<b>High-level overview of the paper</b> Main contributions	10	
<b>Key technical ideas</b> Overview of the approach, related work	30	
<b>Experimental set-up</b> Datasets, evaluation metrics, applications	15	
<b>Overall effectiveness of slide text/visuals</b> Good balance of text and figures	10	
<b>Overall effectiveness of the presentation</b> Good oral skills, ability to answer follow-on questions, good leading of the class discussions	15	
<b>Time</b> Effective usage of time (~12 minutes long)	10	

# Grading Rubric - Paper Strengths

Criterion	Max	Points
<b>Summary of the paper</b> One slide summary of the proposed approach	5	
<b>Connections with other work</b> How the method relates to other approaches	10	
<b>Strengths of the approach</b> Discuss the novelty of the approach, how it improves the existing work	25	
<b>Strengths of the evaluation protocol</b> Discuss the baselines and the ablation procedure	25	
<b>Overall effectiveness of slide text/visuals</b> Good balance of text and figures	10	
<b>Overall effectiveness of the presentation</b> Good oral skills, ability to answer follow-on questions, good leading of the class discussions	15	
<b>Time</b> Effective usage of time (~9 minutes long)	10	

# Grading Rubric - Paper Weaknesses

Criterion	Max	Points
<b>Summary of the paper</b> One slide summary of the proposed approach	5	
<b>Weaknesses of the approach</b> Describe some cases in which you expect the approach performs poorly	25	
<b>Weaknesses of the evaluation protocol</b> Describe how the evaluation could be improved	25	
<b>Future direction</b> Open research questions, possible improvements over the approach	10	
<b>Overall effectiveness of slide text/visuals</b> Good balance of text and figures	10	
<b>Overall effectiveness of the presentation</b> Good oral skills, ability to answer follow-on questions, good leading of the class discussions	15	
<b>Time</b> Effective usage of time (~9 minutes long)	10	

# Practicals

- Three programming assignments that involve implementation, analysis, and reporting.
  - Should be done individually
  - 18% of your overall grade
  - No late policy
- 
- PA 1 out: Oct 30, 2020 due: Nov 13, 2020
  - PA 2 out: Nov 13, 2020 due: Nov 27, 2020
  - PA 3 out: Nov 27, 2020, due: Dec 11, 2020
- (these dates are tentative)

# Project

- Aim: To give the students some experience on conducting research.
- Students should work individually or groups in two.
- This project may involve
  - design of a novel approach and its experimental analysis,
  - an extension to a recent study of non-trivial complexity and its experimental analysis
- <https://web.cs.hacettepe.edu.tr/~erkut/cmp717.f20/project.html>

# Project

- Deliverables
  - Proposals: Nov 6, 2020
  - Project progress presentations: Dec 18, 2020
  - Project progress reports: Dec 25, 2020
  - Final project presentations: Jan 15, 2021
  - Final reports: Jan 30, 2021
- Grading
  - Proposal (2%)
  - Progress report (7%)
  - Progress presentation (5%)
  - Project presentation (10%)
  - Final report and code (12%)

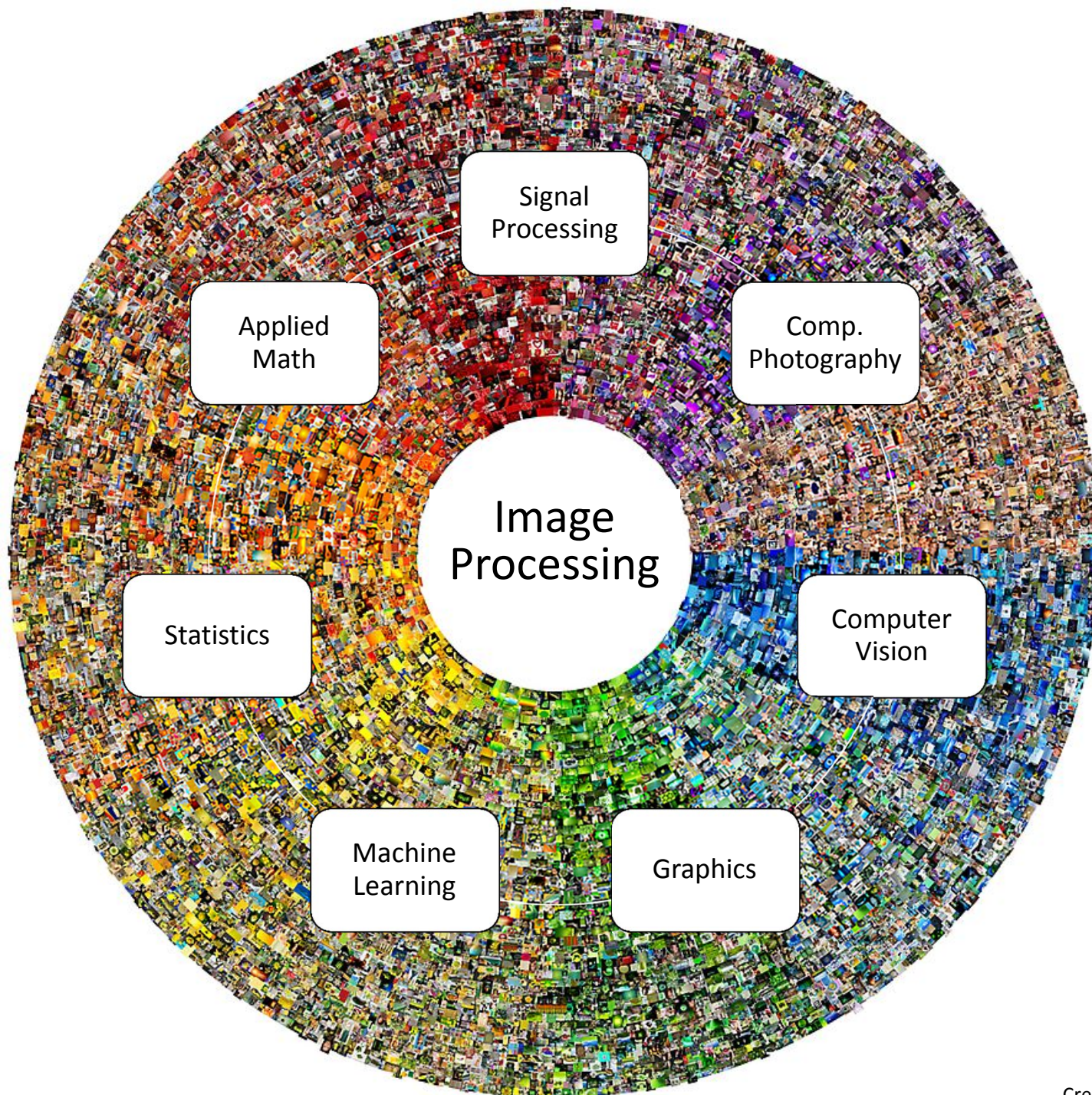
# Tentative Outline

- Overview of Image Processing
- Linear Filtering, Edge/Boundary Detection, Image Segmentation
- Nonlinear Filtering
- Sparse Coding
- Graphical Models
- Deep Learning Basics
- Convolutional Neural Networks
- Deep Generative Networks
- Image to Image Translation
- Image Deblurring
- Visual Saliency
- Semantic Segmentation



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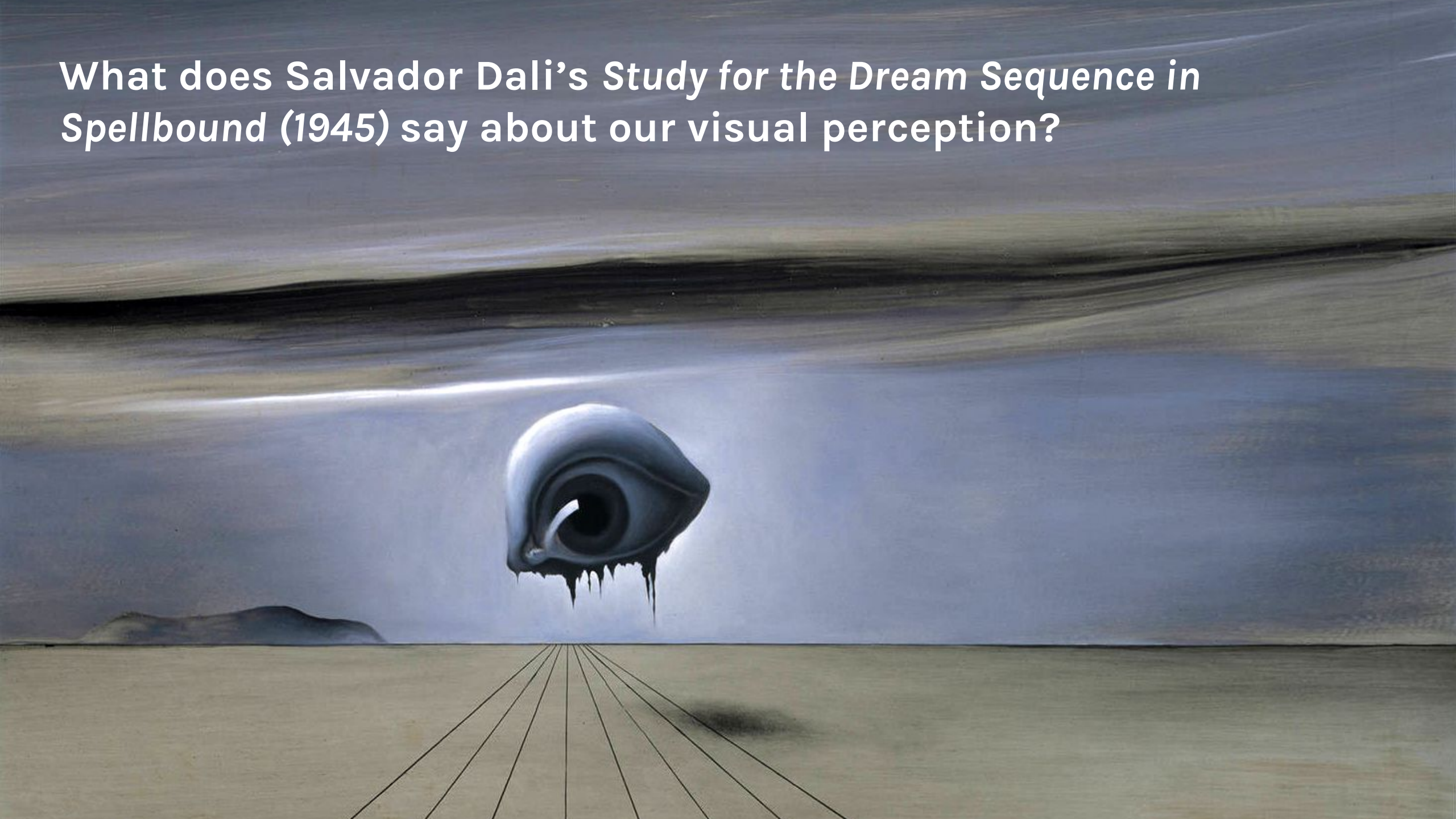


# What does it mean, to see?

- *“The plain man’s answer (and Aristotle’s, too) would be, to know what is where by looking. In other words, vision is the process of discovering from images what is present in the world, and where it is.”* David Marr, Vision, 1982
- Our brain is able to use an image as an input, and interpret it in terms of objects and scene structures.

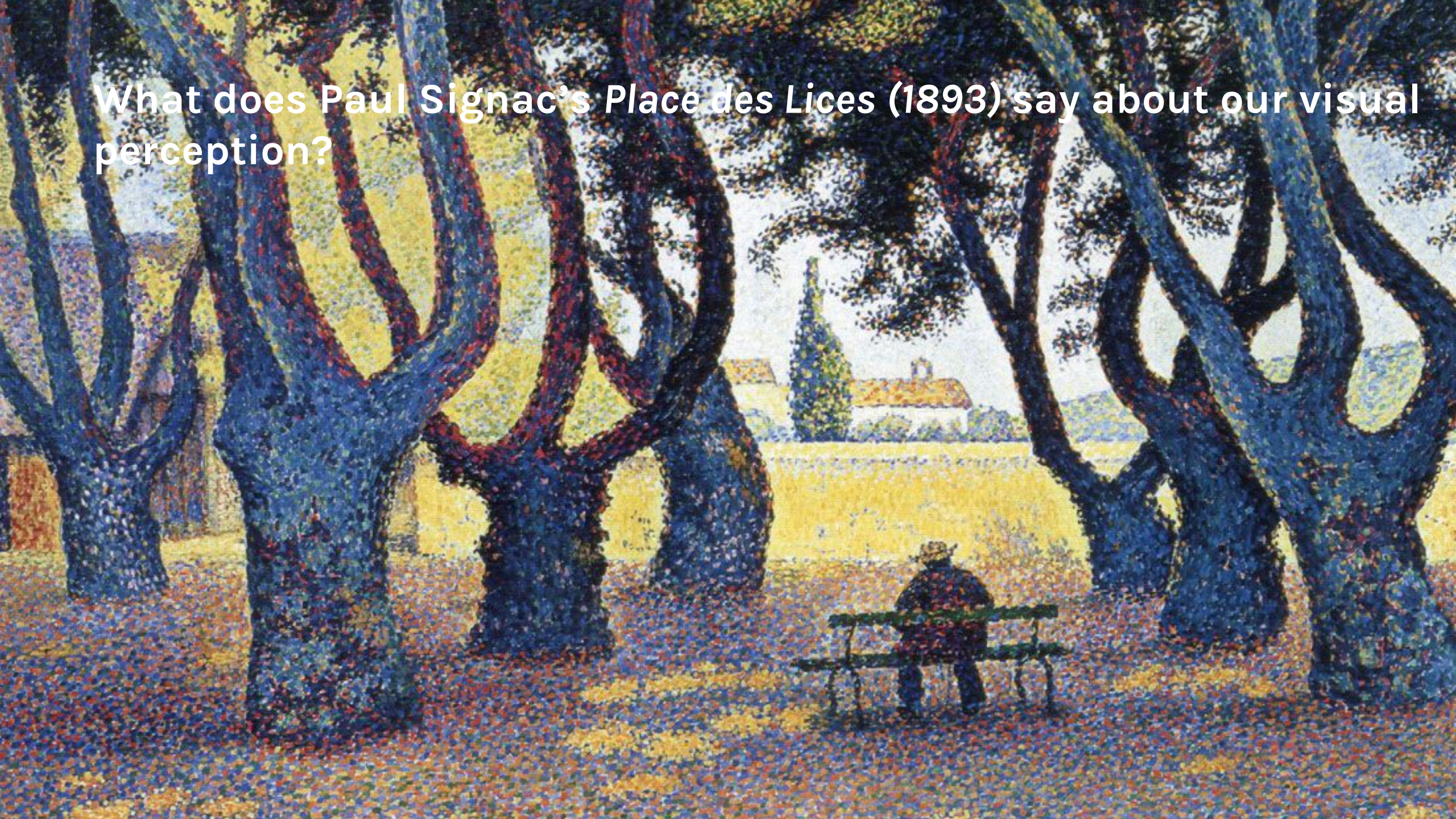


What does Salvador Dali's *Study for the Dream Sequence in Spellbound* (1945) say about our visual perception?





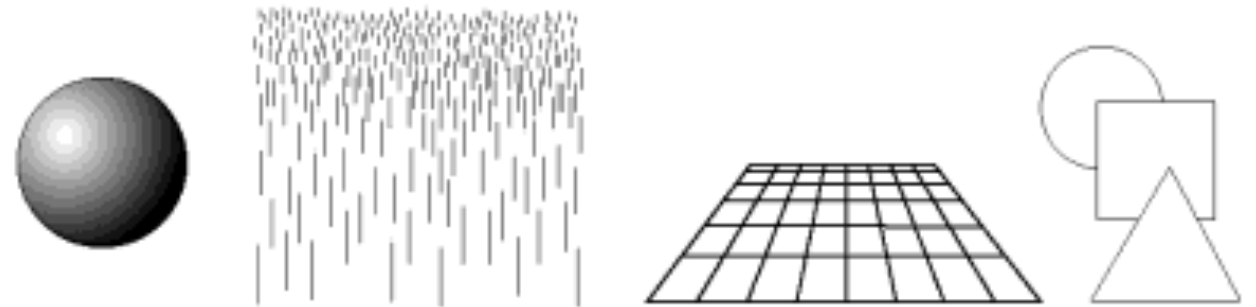
What does Paul Signac's *Place des Lices* (1893) say about our visual perception?





# Why does vision appear easy to humans?

- Our brains are specialized to do vision.
- Nearly half of the cortex in a human brain is devoted to doing vision (cf. motor control ~20-30%, language ~10-20%)
- *“Vision has evolved to convert the ill-posed problems into solvable ones by adding premises: assumptions about how the world we evolved in is, on average, put together”*  
Steven Pinker, How the Mind Works, 1997
- Gestalt Theory (Laws of Visual Perception),  
Max Wertheimer, 1912



Figures: Steven Pinker, How the Mind Works, 1997

# Computer Vision

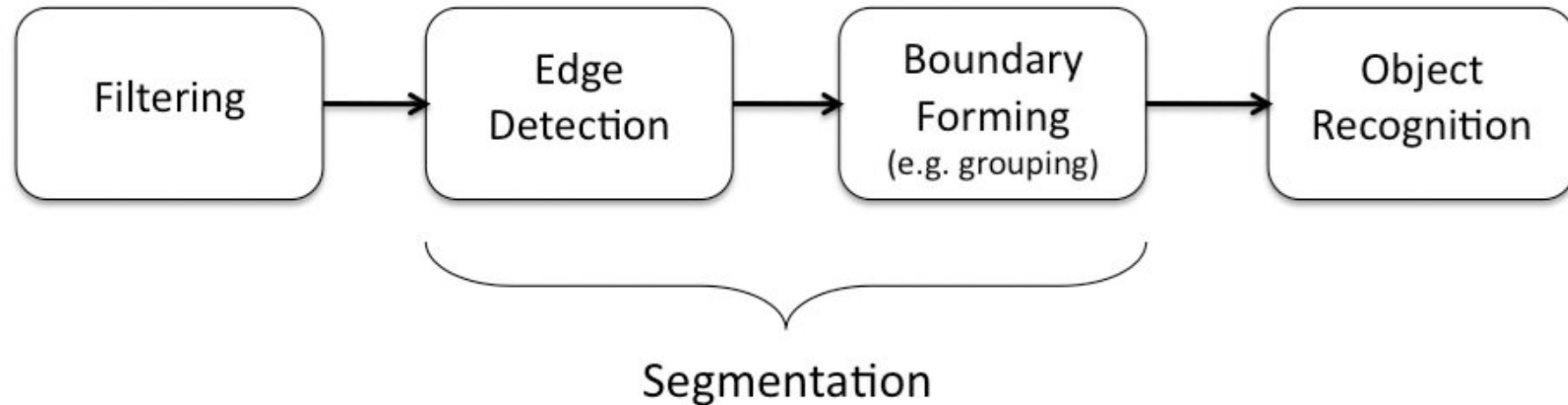
- “Vision is a process that produces from images of the external world a description that is useful to the viewer and not cluttered with irrelevant information” ~David Marr
- The goal of Computer Vision:  
To develop artificial machine vision systems that make inferences related to the scene being viewed through the images acquired with digital cameras.

# Marr's observation: Studying vision at three different levels

- Vision as an information processing task  
[David Marr, 1982]
- Three levels of understanding:
  1. Computational theory
    - What is computed? Why it is computed?
  2. Representation and Algorithm
    - How it is computed?
    - Input, Output, Transformation
  3. Physical Realization
    - Hardware

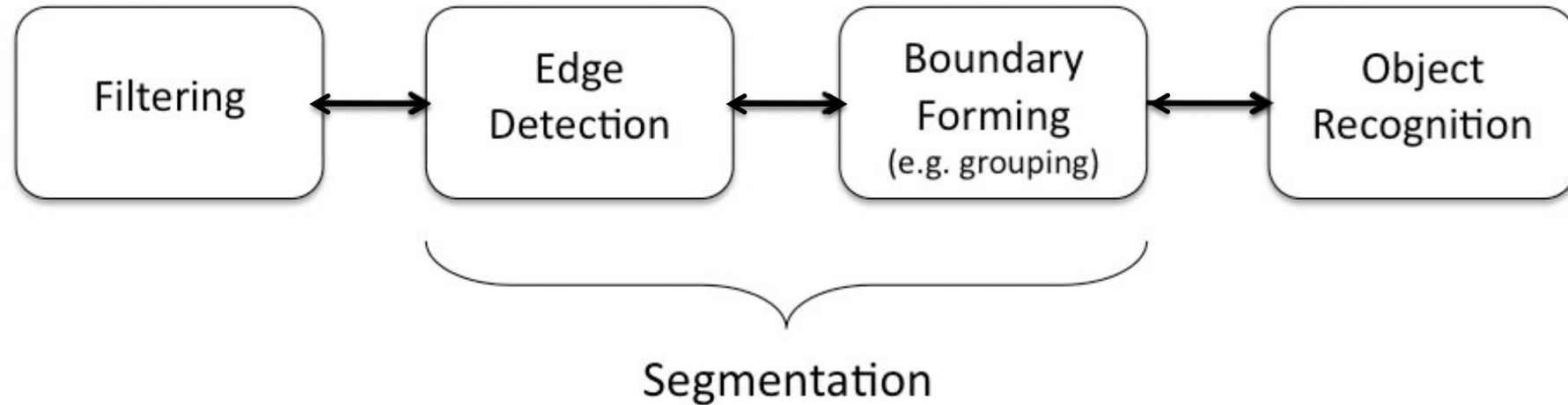


# Visual Modules and the Information Flow



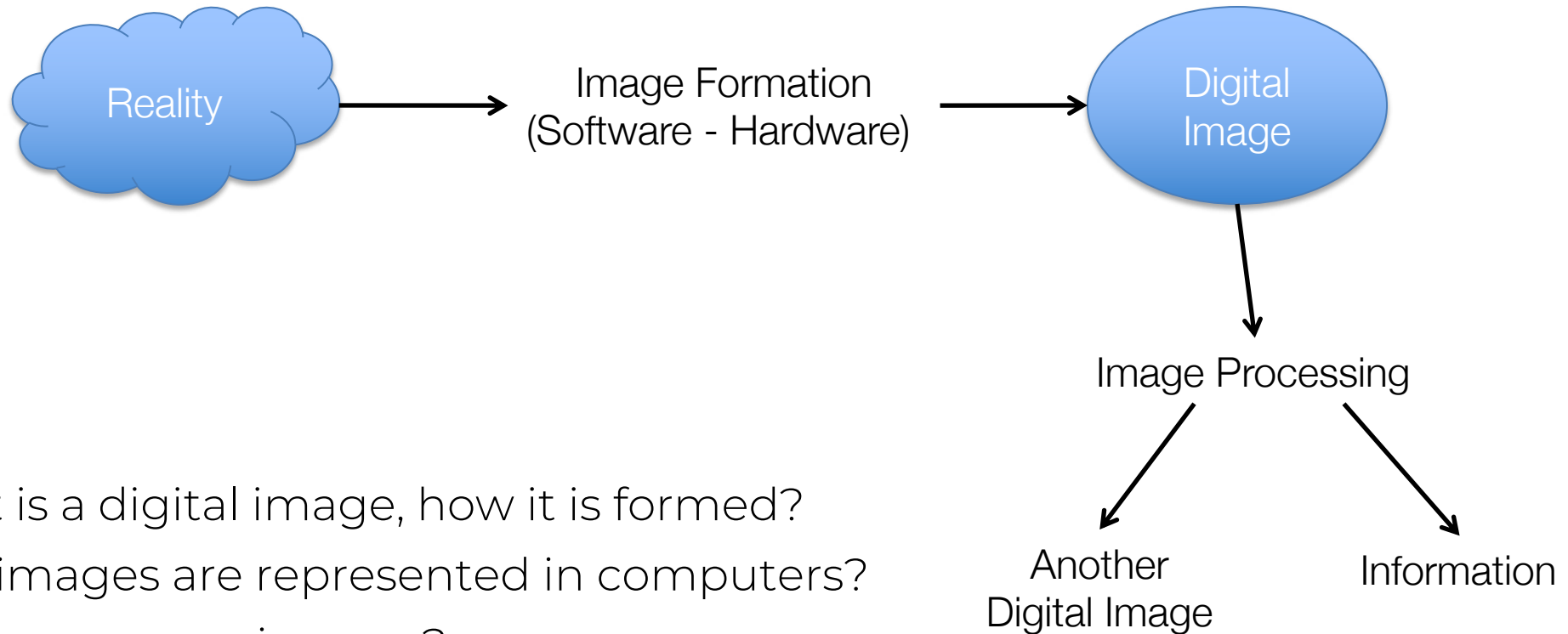
- Visual perception as a data-driven, bottom-up process (traditional view since D. Marr)
- Unidirectional information flow
- Simple low-level cues >> Complex abstract perceptual units

# Visual Modules and the Information Flow



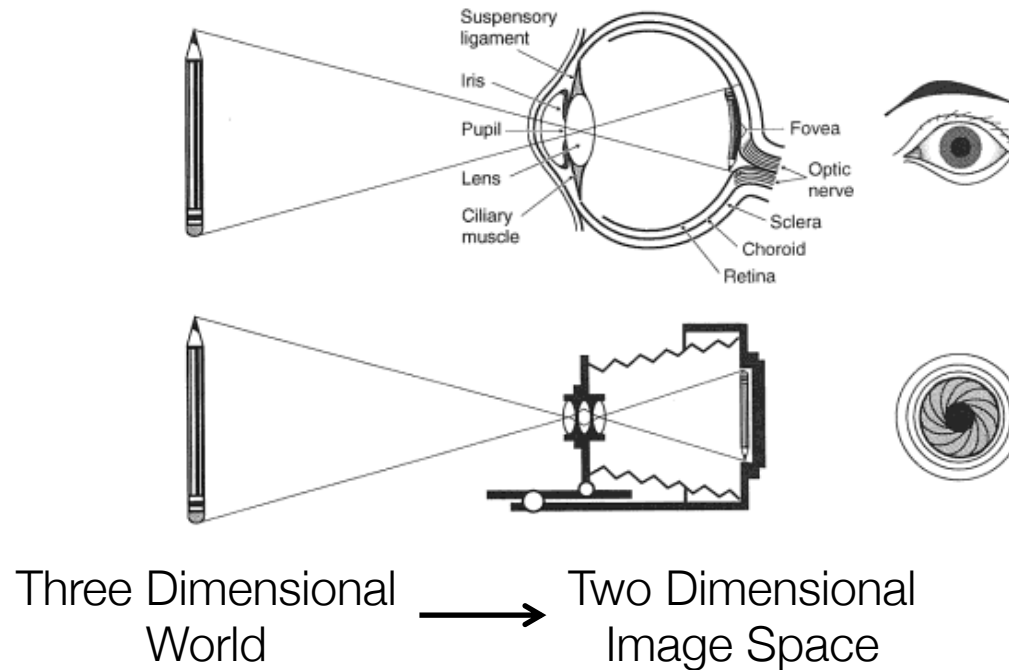
- Vision modules can be categorized into three groups according to their functionality:
  - Low-level vision: filtering out irrelevant image data
  - Mid-level vision: grouping pixels or boundary fragments together
  - High-level vision: complex cognitive processes

# Fundamentals of Image Processing



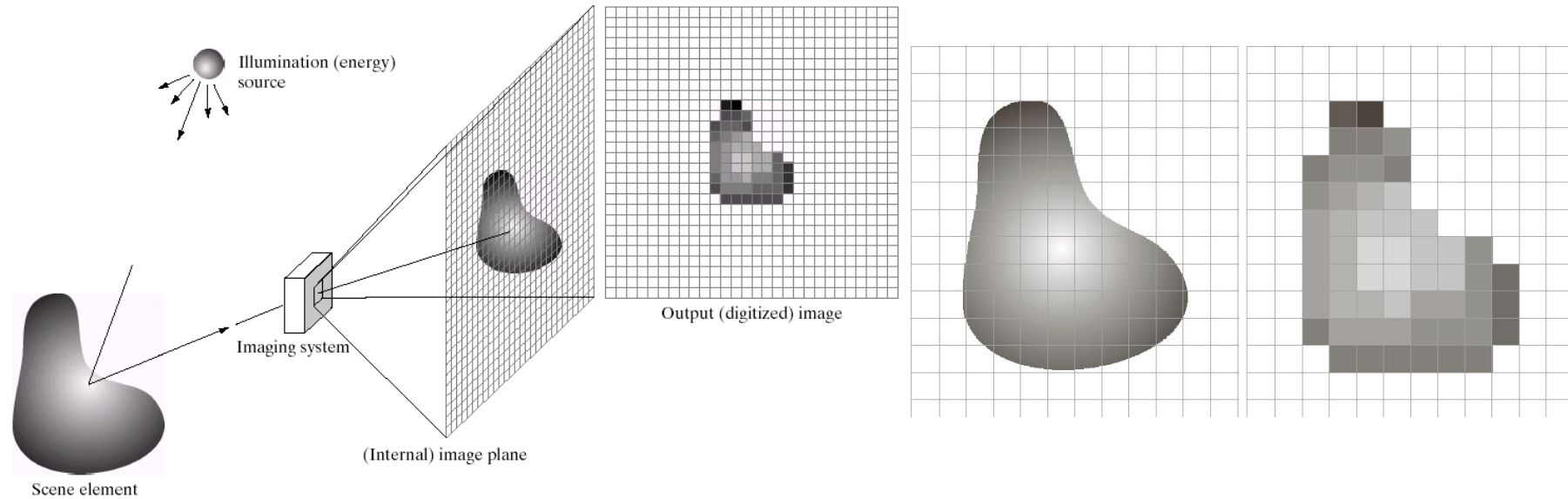
- What is a digital image, how it is formed?
- How images are represented in computers?
- Why we process images?
- How we process images?

# Image Formation



- What is measured in an image location?
    - brightness
    - color
- << viewpoint  
illumination conditions  
local geometry  
local material properties

# Image Formation



- Discretization
  - in image space - sampling
  - In image brightness - quantization

# Image Representation

- Digital image: 2D discrete function  $f$
- Pixel: Smallest element of an image  $f(x,y)$

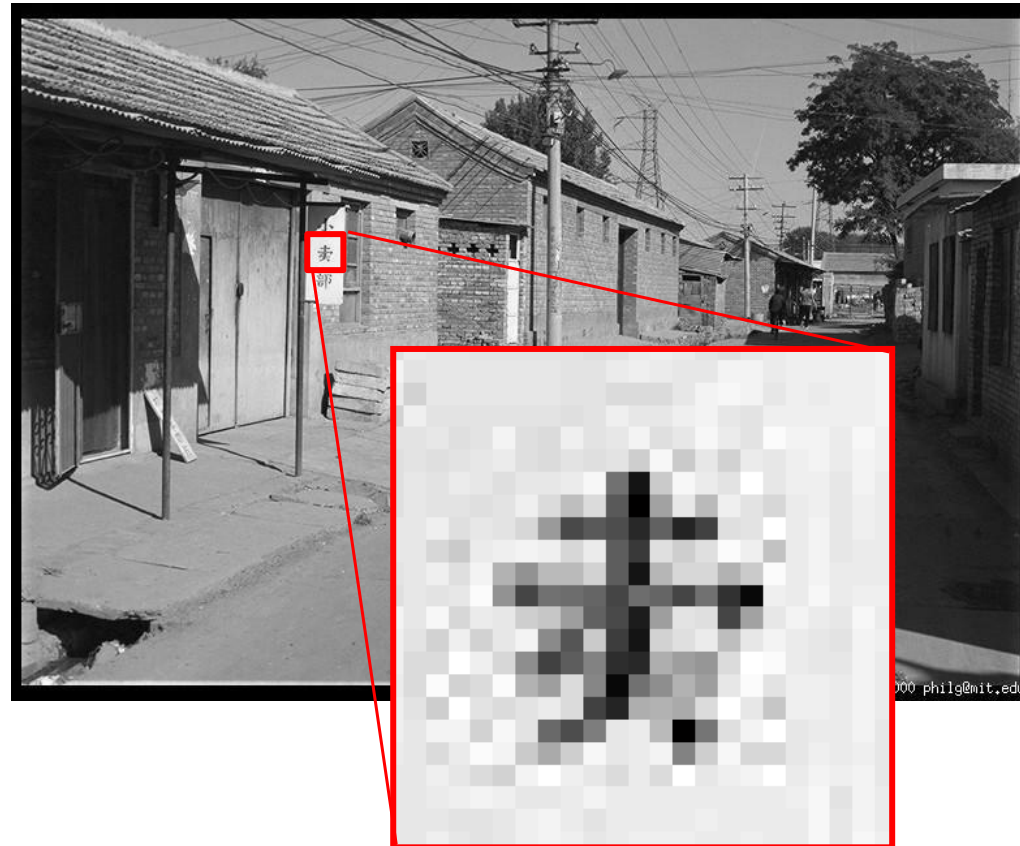


Figure: M. J. Black

# Image Representation

- Digital image: 2D discrete function  $f$
- Pixel: Smallest element of an image  $f(x,y)$

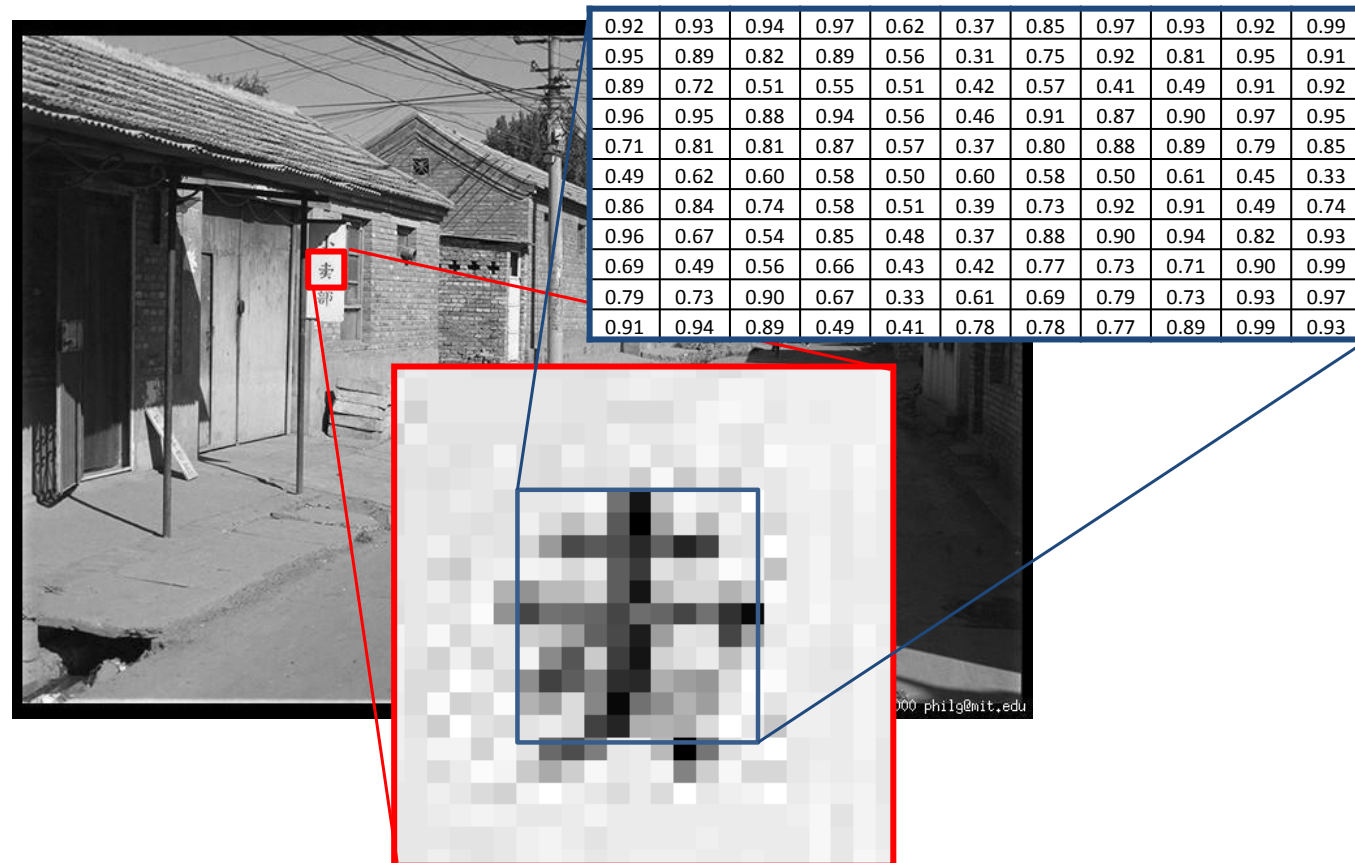


Figure: M. J. Black

# Sample Problems and Techniques

- Edge Detection
- Image Denoising
- Image Smoothing
- Image Deblurring
- Image Segmentation
- Visual Saliency
- Semantic Segmentation
- PDEs and Variational models
- MRFs
- Graph Theory
- Sparse Coding
- Deep Learning



# Image Filtering

- Filtering out the irrelevant information

$$\begin{array}{ccc} f(x) = u(x) + n(x) \\ \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ \text{observed} & \text{desired} & \text{irrelevant} \\ \text{image} & \text{image} & \text{data} \end{array}$$

- Image denoising, image sharpening, image smoothing, image deblurring, etc.
- Edge detection

# Edge Detection

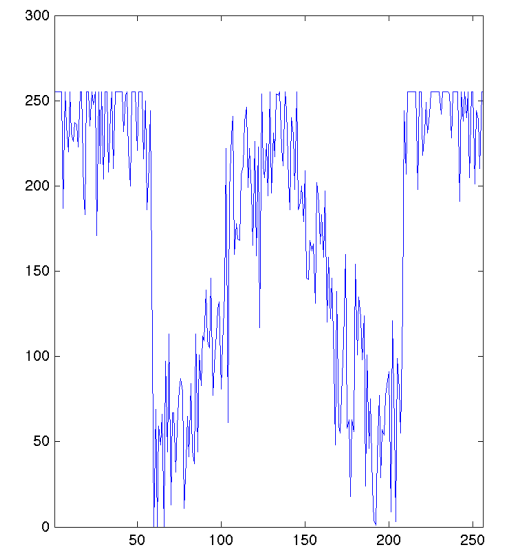
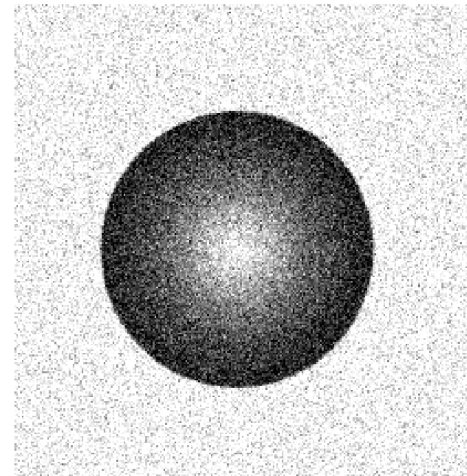
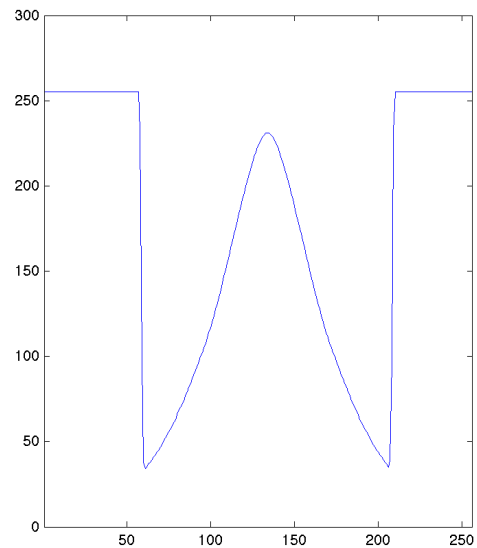
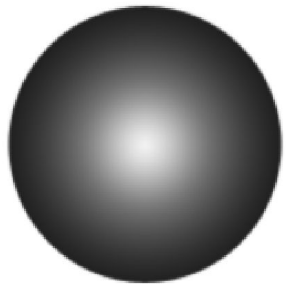


Canny edge detector

- Edges: abrupt changes in the intensity
  - Uniformity of intensity or color
- Edges to object boundaries

# Image Filtering

- Difficulty: Some of the irrelevant image information have characteristics similar to those of important image features



# Image Smoothing - A Little Bit of History

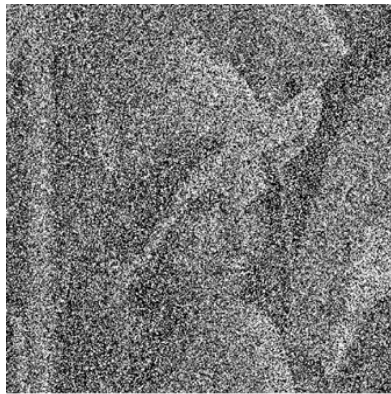
- Gaussian Filtering / linear diffusion  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot (\nabla u) = \nabla^2 u$ 
  - the most widely used method



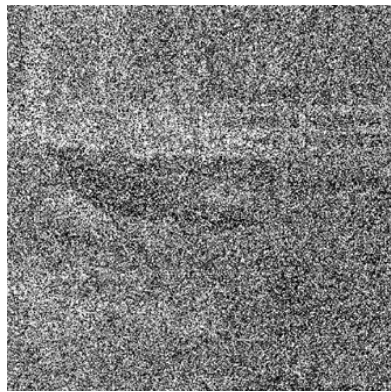
- mid 80's – unified formulations
  - methods that combine smoothing and edge detection
  - Geman & Geman'84, Blake & Zisserman'87, Mumford & Shah'89, Perona & Malik'90

# Image Denoising

- Images are corrupted with 70% salt-and-pepper noise



What do these examples demonstrate?



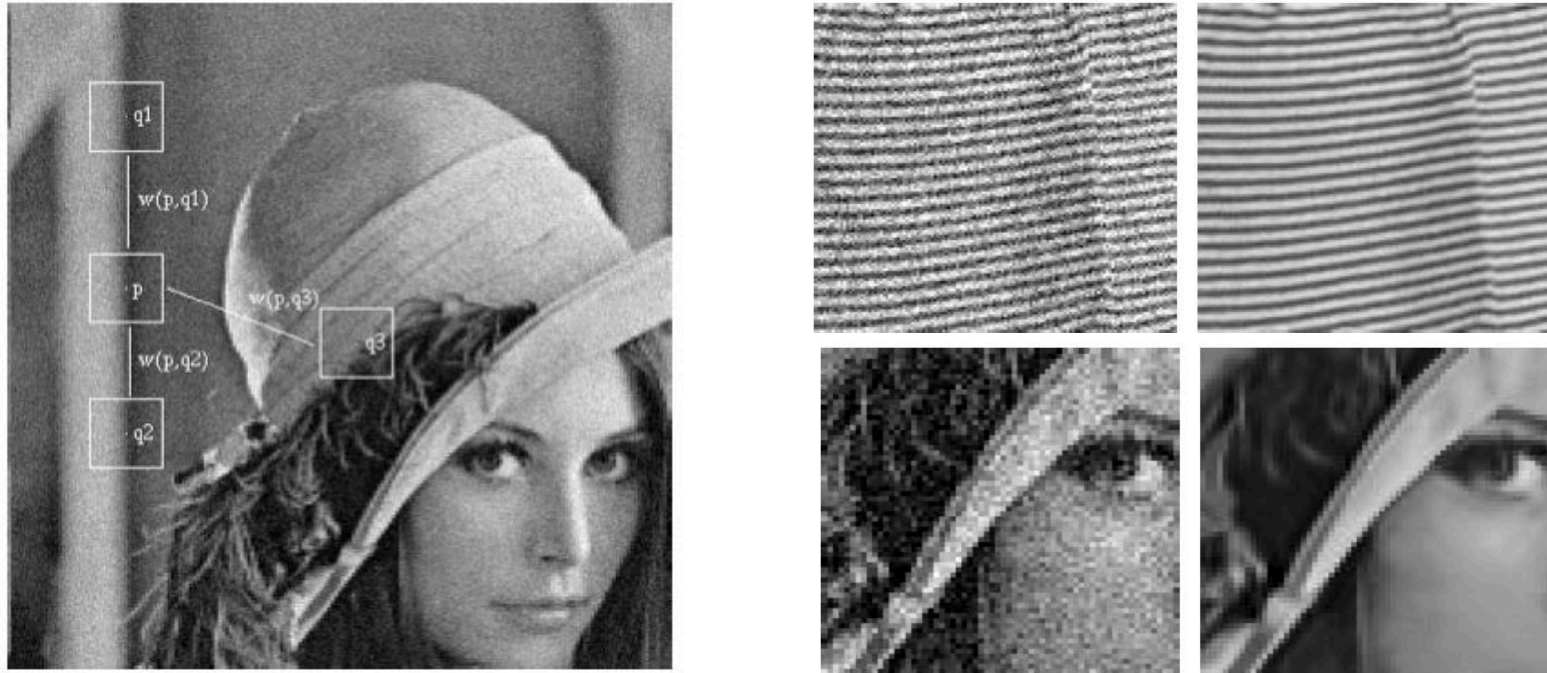
Noisy input

Recovered image

Original image



# Non-local Means Denoising

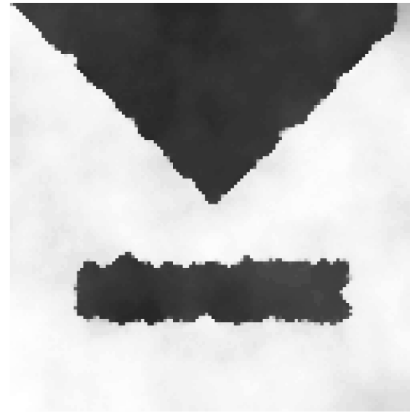
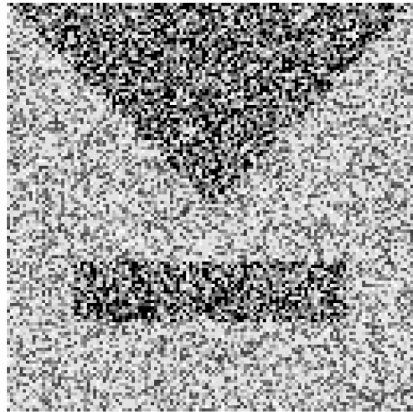


**Figure 1. Scheme of NL-means strategy. Similar pixel neighborhoods give a large weight,  $w(p,q_1)$  and  $w(p,q_2)$ , while much different neighborhoods give a small weight  $w(p,q_3)$ .**

Preserve fine image details<sup>i</sup>  
and texture during denoising

# Context-Guided Filtering

- Use local image context to steer filtering



Preserve main image structures during filtering



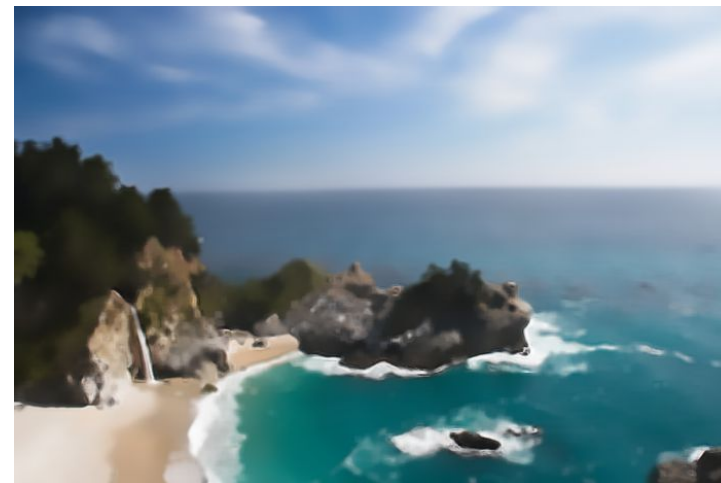


# Image Smoothing



L. Xu, C. Lu, Y. Xu, J. Jia, Image Smoothing via L0 Gradient Minimization, ACM Trans. Graphics 2011 (SIGGRAPH Asia 2011)

# Image Smoothing

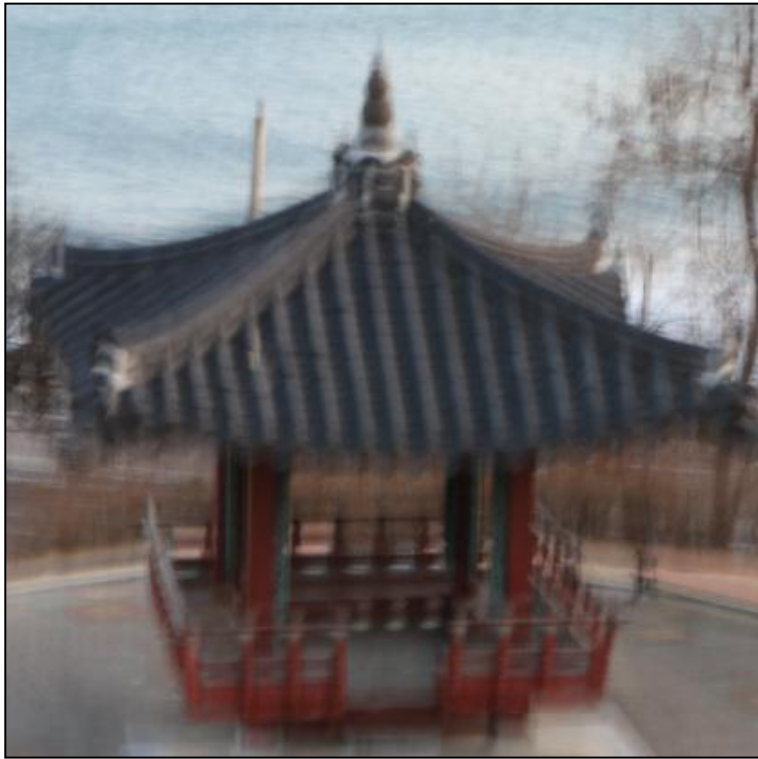


L. Karacan, E. Erdem, A. Erdem, Structure Preserving Image Smoothing via Region Covariances, ACM Trans. Graphics 2013 (SIGGRAPH Asia 2013)



# Image Deblurring

- Remove blur and restore a sharp image



from a given blurred image



find its latent sharp image

# Image Deblurring

- Remove blur and restore a sharp image



Input blurred image

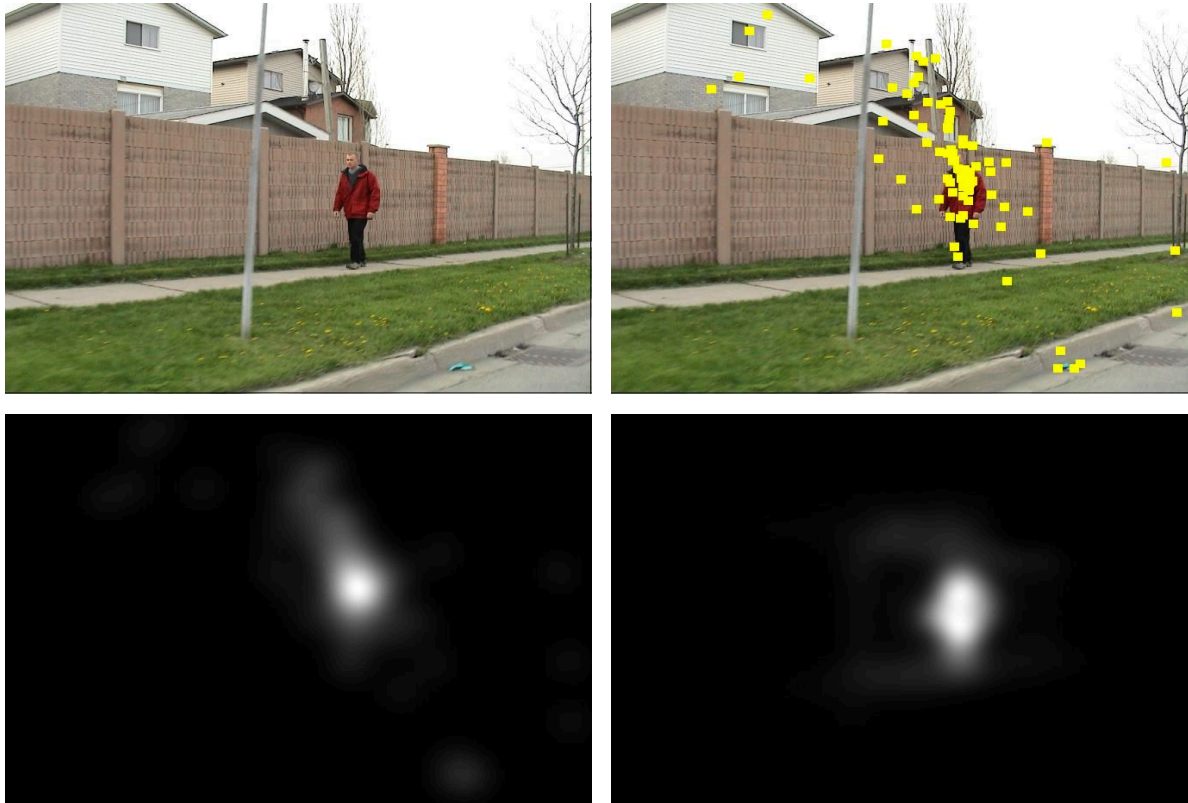


Levin et al. CVPR 2010



# Visual Saliency

- The problem of predicting where people look at images

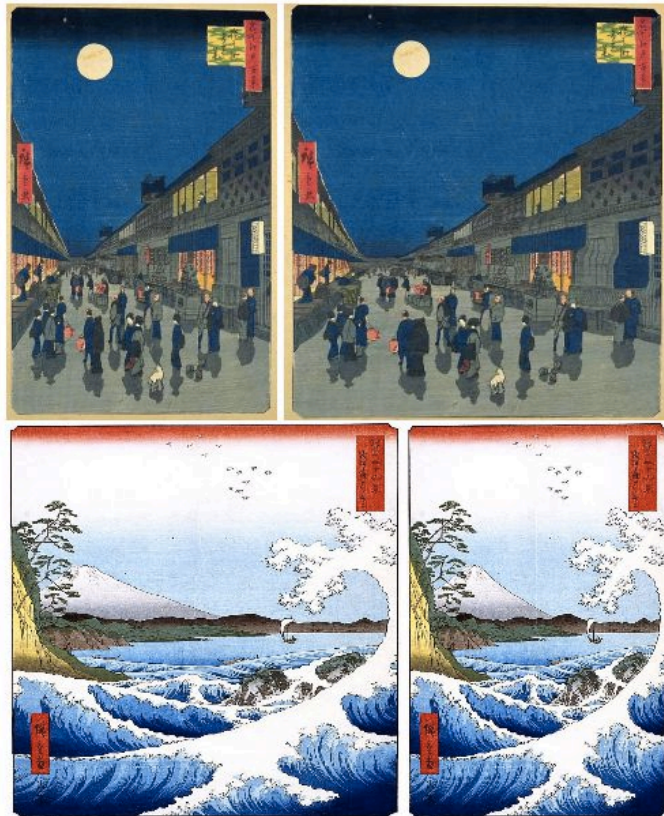


The squares shows where the observers looked in eye tracking experiments

# Image Retargetting

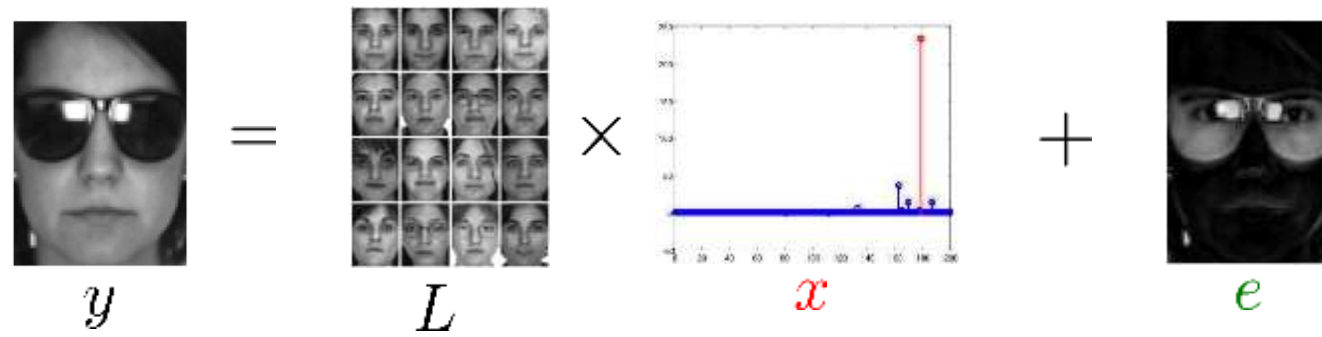
- automatically resize an image to arbitrary aspect ratios while preserving important image features

How we define the importance?



# Sparse Coding

- The problem of finding a small number of representative atoms from a dictionary which when combined with right weights represent a given signal.



The diagram illustrates the sparse coding process. On the left is the target image  $y$ , a grayscale photo of a woman wearing sunglasses. This is equal to the product of a dictionary  $L$  (a 4x4 grid of 16 grayscale face images) and a sparse coefficient vector  $x$  (a plot with a single prominent red spike at index 18 and several smaller blue spikes). This product is then added to a residual image  $e$ , which is a dark grayscale image showing the difference between the target and the dictionary reconstruction.

$$y = Lx + e$$

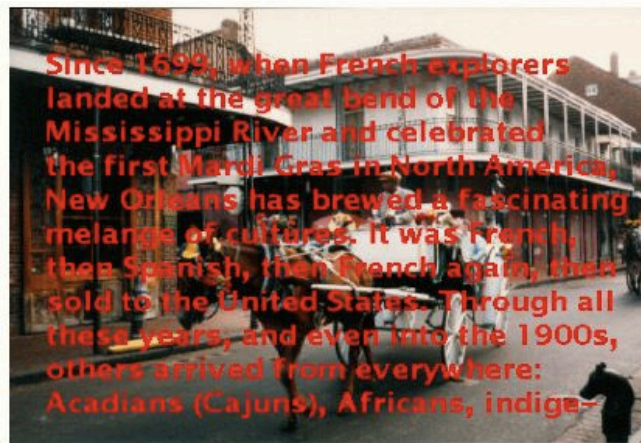


# Image Inpainting

- Reconstructing lost or deteriorated parts of images



What do these examples demonstrate?



# Image Segmentation

- Partition an image into meaningful regions that are likely to correspond to objects exist in the image



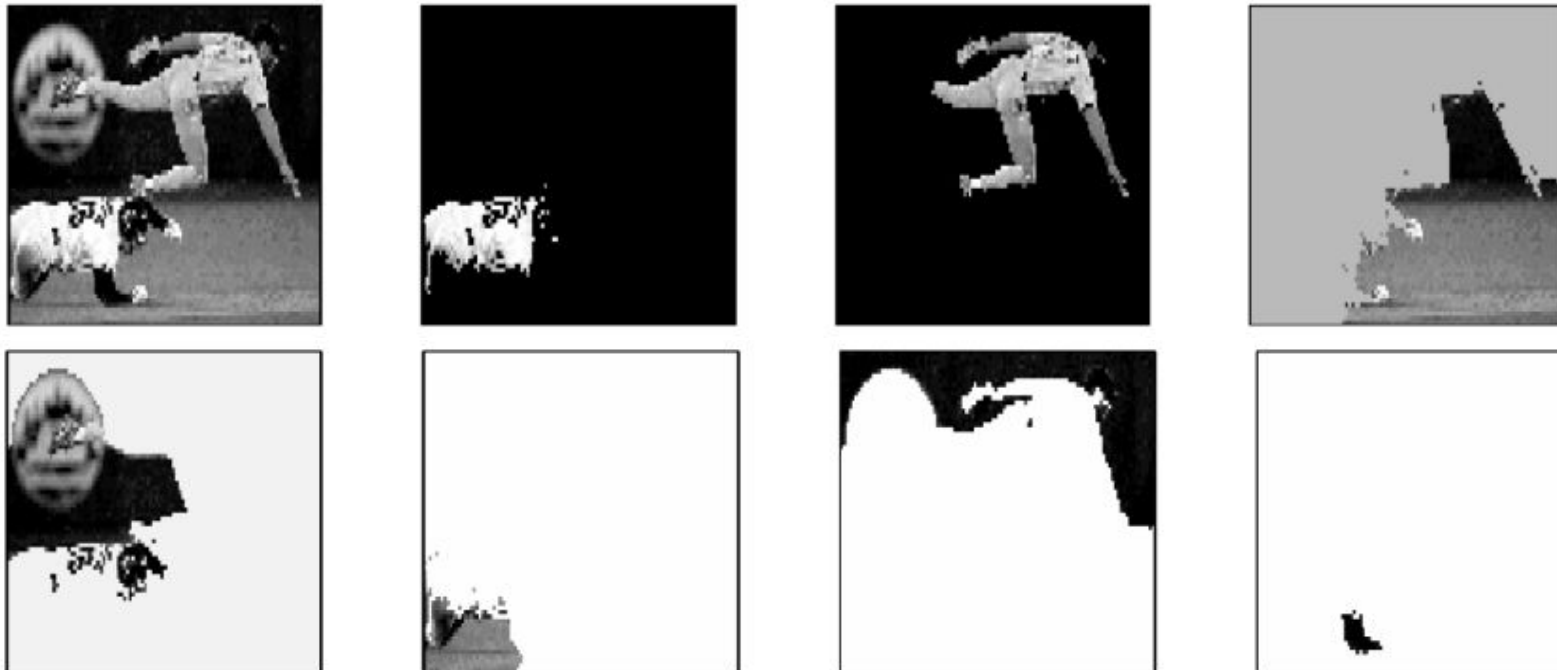
Grouping of pixels according to what criteria?

high-level object specific knowledge matters!

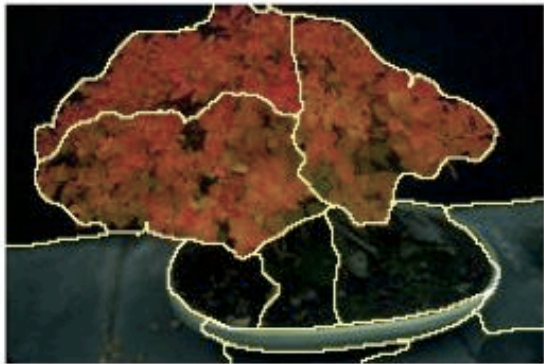
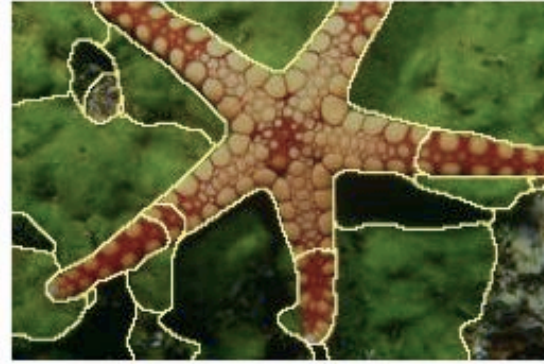


# Normalized Cuts

- A graph-theoretic formulation for segmentation

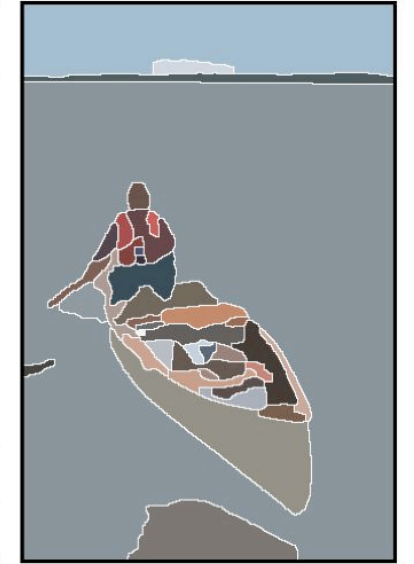
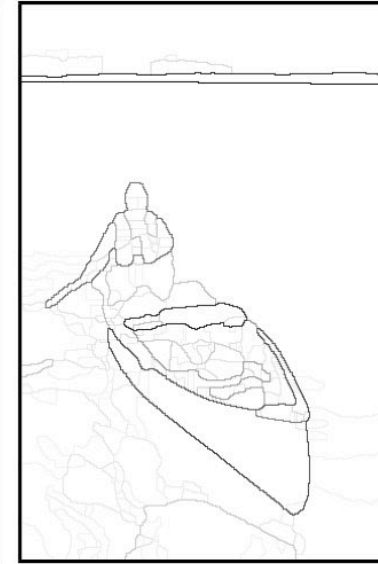
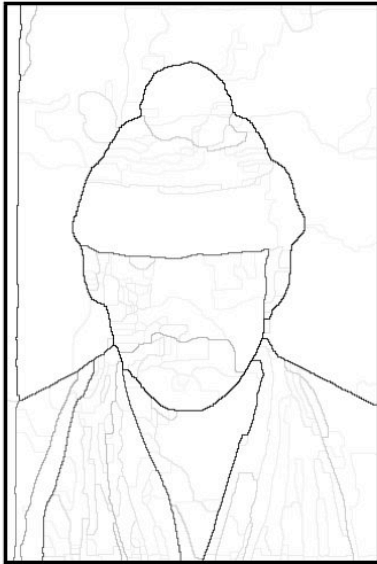


# Normalized Cuts



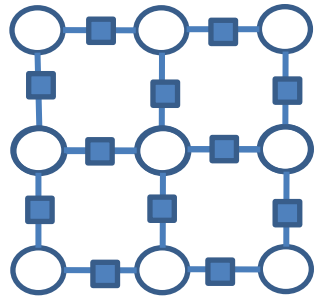
# From contours to regions

- gPb-owt-ucm segmentation algorithm





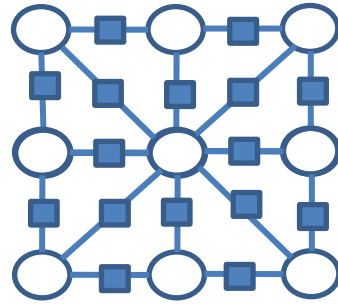
# Graphical Models in Vision



4-connected;  
pairwise MRF

$$E(x) = \sum_{ij \in N_4} \theta_{ij}(x_i, x_j)$$

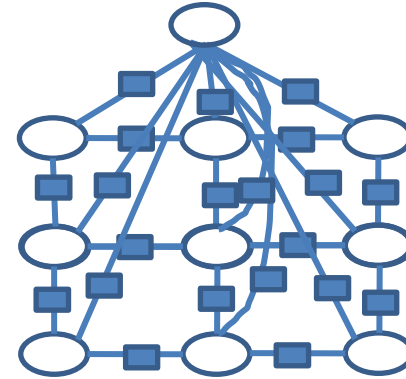
Order 2



higher(8)-connected;  
pairwise MRF

$$E(x) = \sum_{ij \in N_8} \theta_{ij}(x_i, x_j)$$

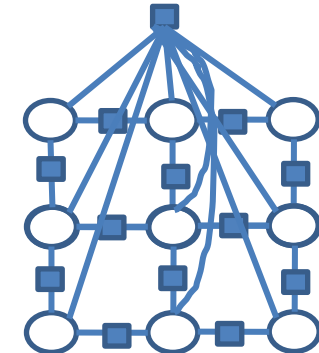
Order 2



MRF with  
global variables

$$E(x) = \sum_{ij \in N_8} \theta_{ij}(x_i, x_j)$$

Order 2



Higher-order MRF

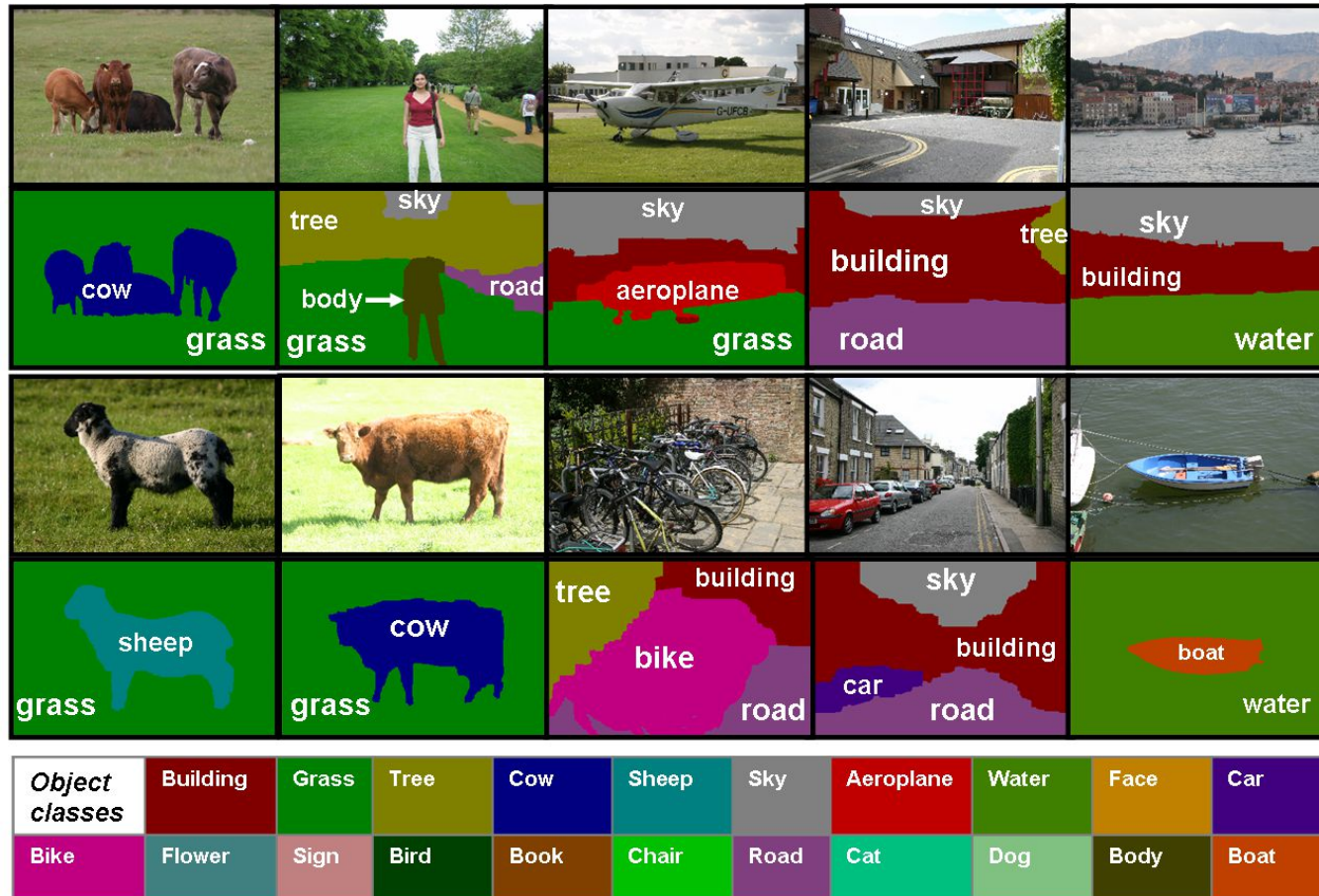
$$E(x) = \sum_{ij \in N_4} \theta_{ij}(x_i, x_j) + \theta(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

Order n



# Semantic Segmentation

- The problem of joint recognition and segmentation



[TextonBoost; Shotton et al, '06]

# Semantic Segmentation

- The problem of joint recognition and segmentation





# Top-down Saliency

- Task-oriented models (e.g. searching for a target object from a specific category)



# Top-down Saliency

- Task-oriented models (e.g. searching for a target object from a specific category)



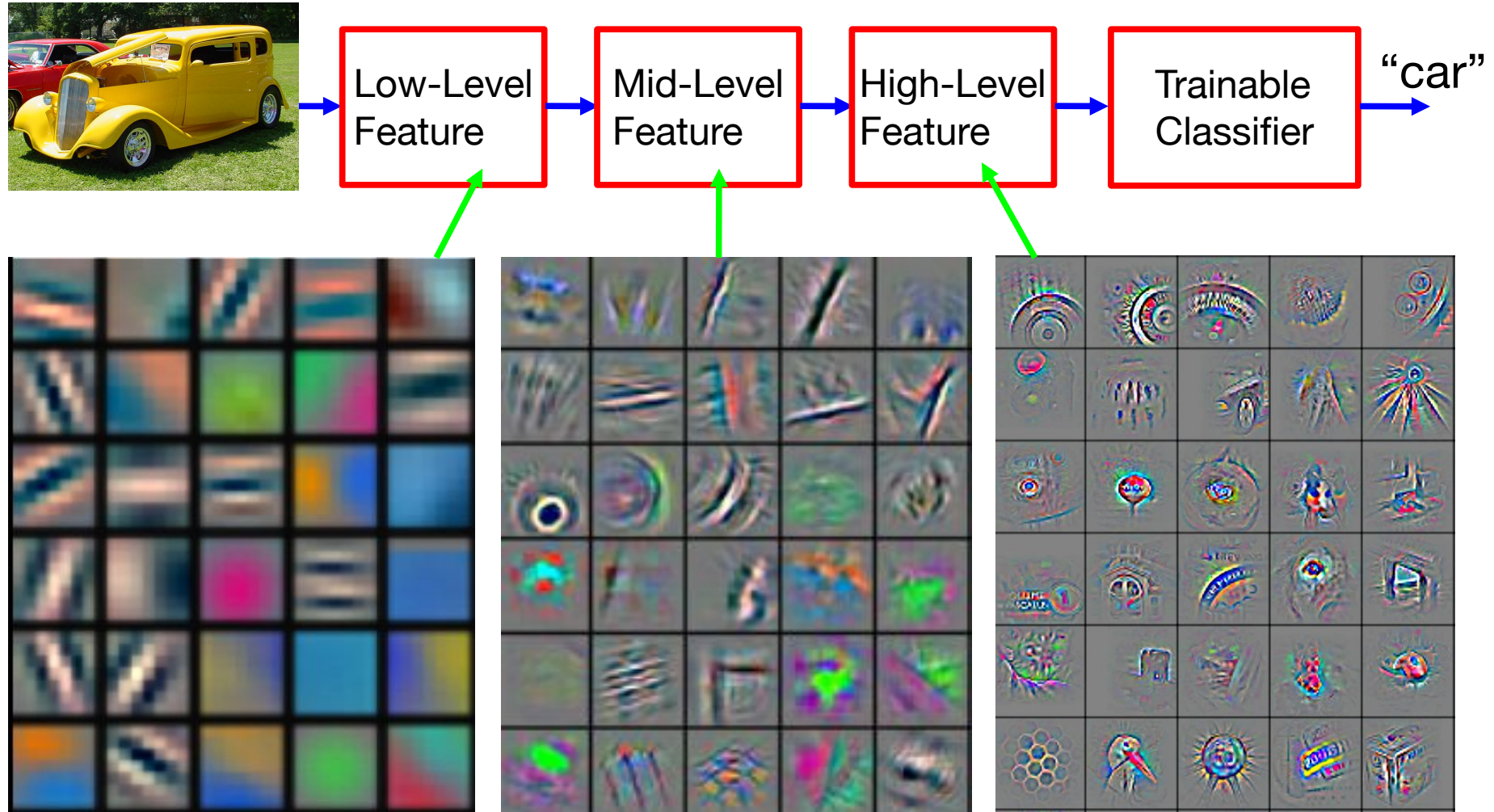


# Top-down Saliency

- Task-oriented models (e.g. searching for a target object from a specific category)



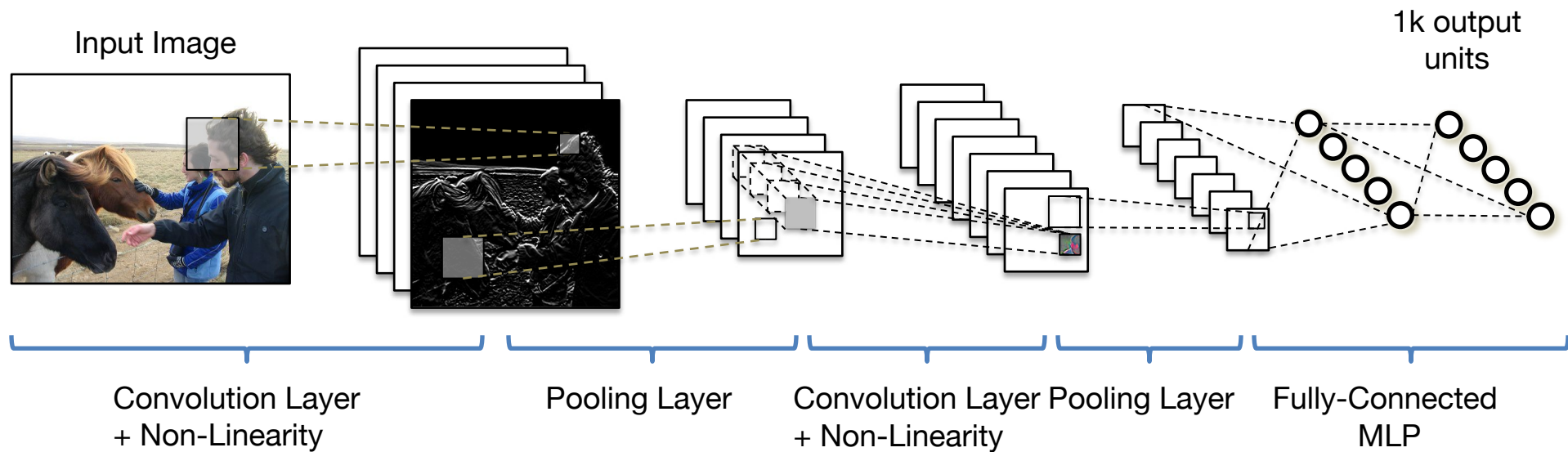
# Deep Learning



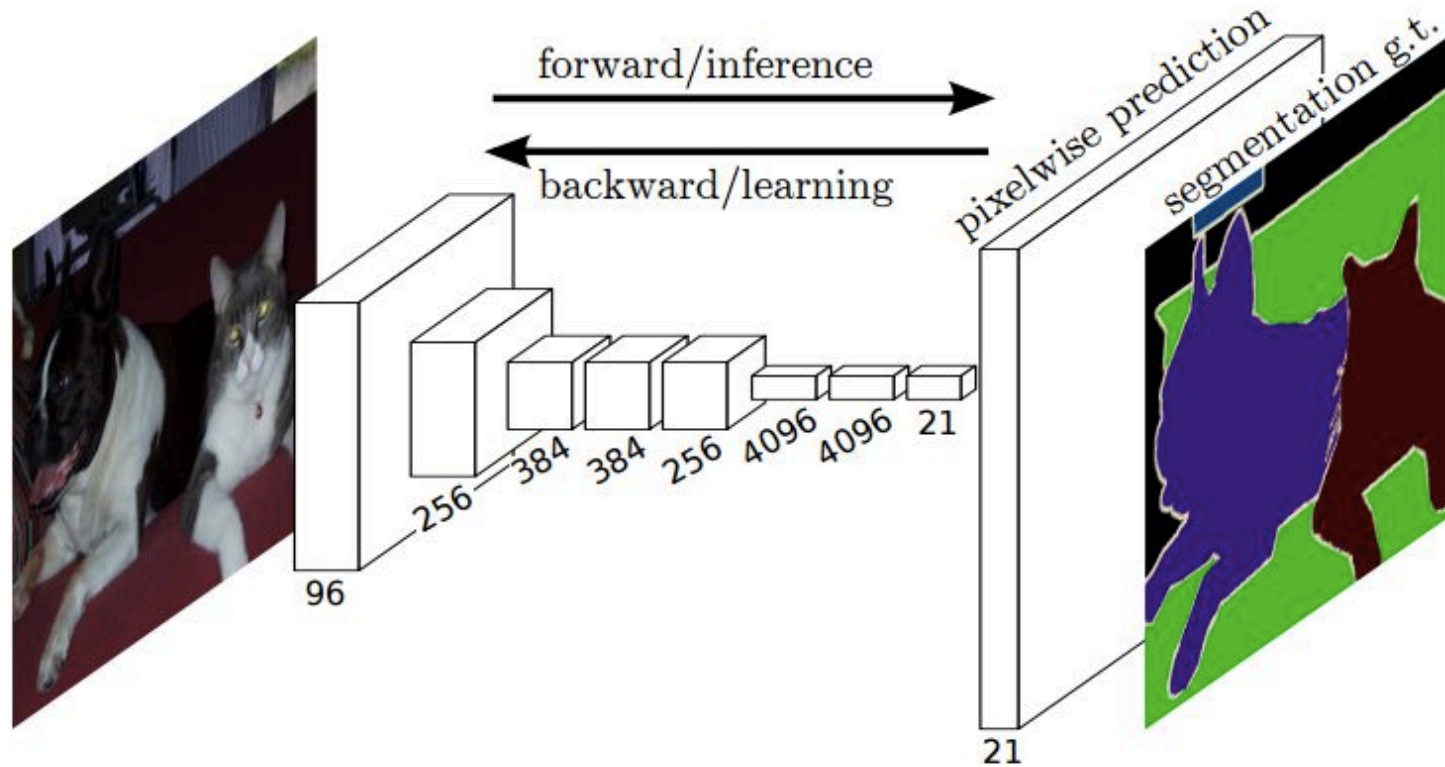
Feature visualization of convolutional net trained on ImageNet from [Zeiler & Fergus 2013]

# Deep Learning

- [Krizhevsky et al. NIPS12]
  - 54 million parameters; 8 layers (5 conv, 3 fully-connected)
  - Trained on 1.4M images in ImageNet



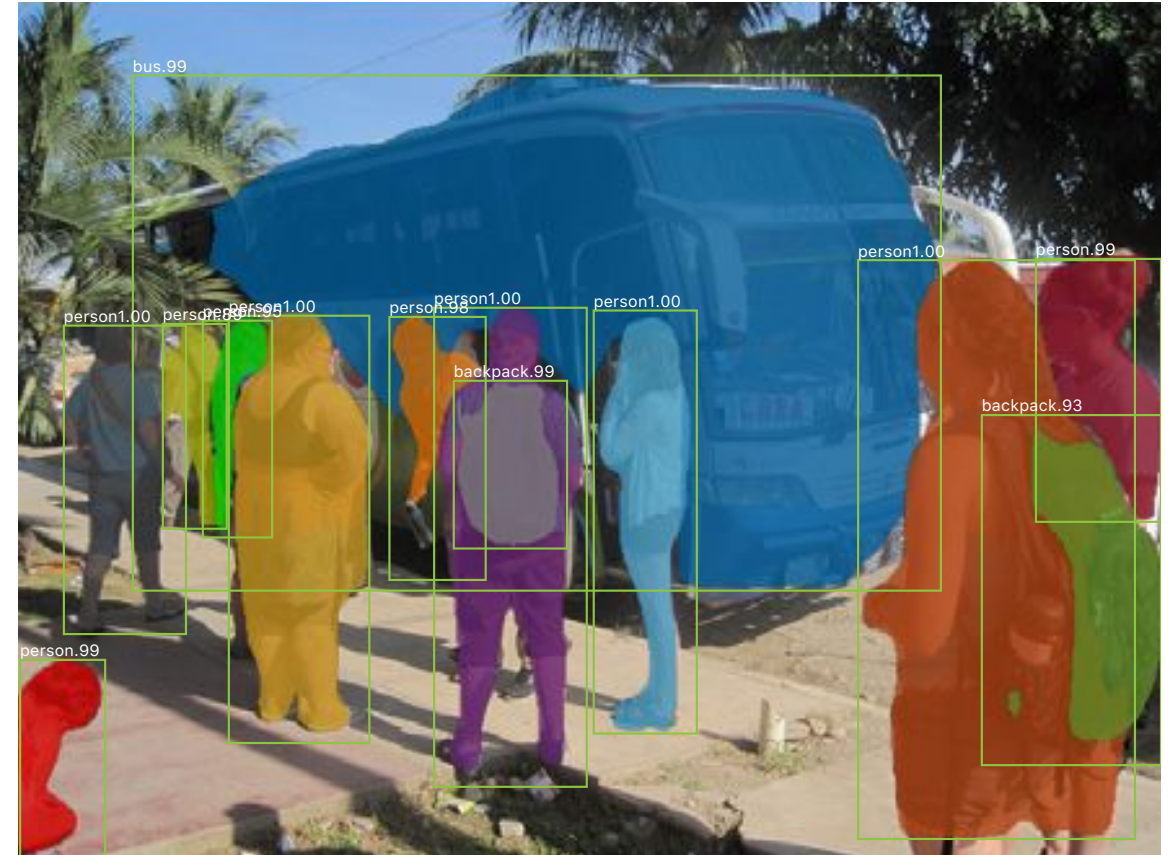
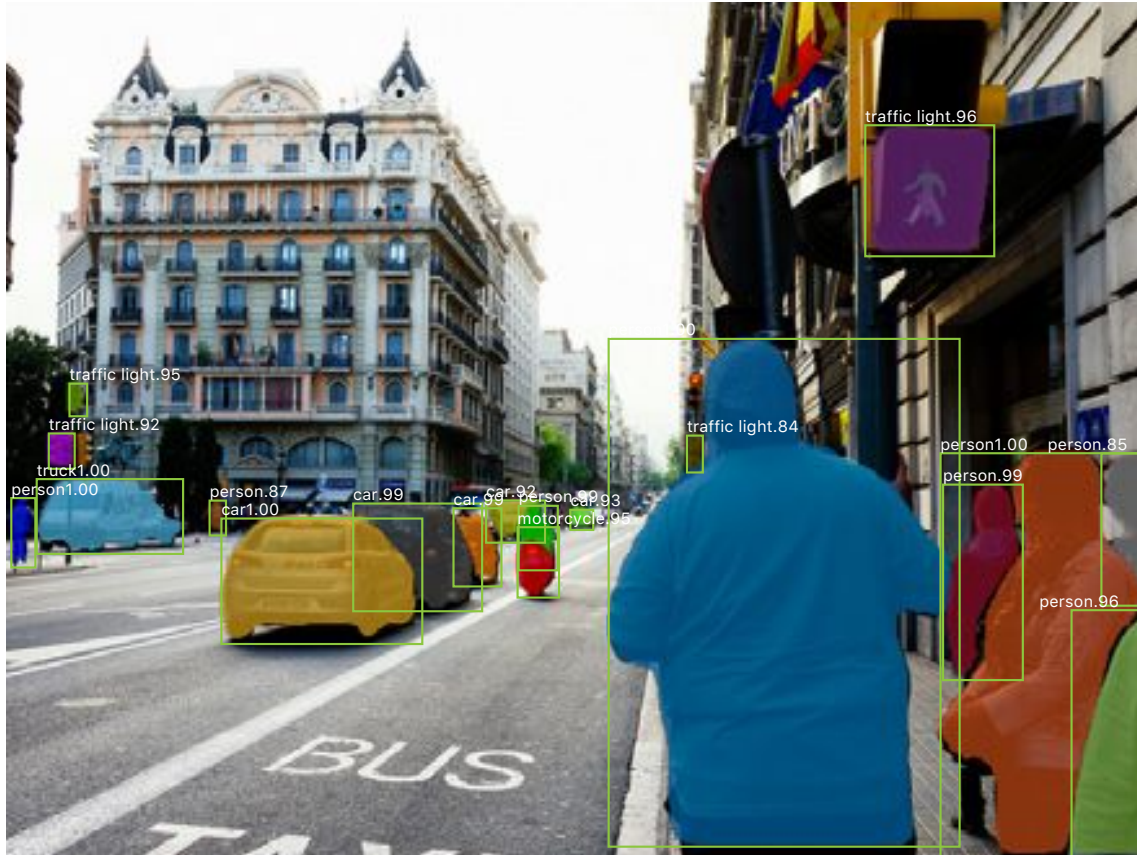
# Semantic Segmentation



Fully Convolutional Networks for Semantic Segmentation [Long, Shelmer & Darrell 2015]



# Instance Segmentation



Mask R-CNN [He et al., 2017]

# Deep Generative Networks



A Style-Based Generator Architecture for Generative Adversarial Networks [Karras et al., 2018]



# Deep Generative Networks

4× SRGAN (proposed)



original



Photo-Realistic Single Image Super-Resolution Using a Generative Adversarial Network [Ledig et al., 2017]



# Deep Generative Networks

4× SRGAN (proposed)



original



Photo-Realistic Single Image Super-Resolution Using a Generative Adversarial Network [Ledig et al., 2017]



# Image to Image Translation



Unpaired Image-to-Image Translation using Cycle-Consistent Adversarial Networks [Zhu et al., 2017]

# Next lecture

- Linear Filtering,
- Edge/Boundary Detection,
- Image Segmentation