

## From the 3D to 2D



## Extract useful building blocks



## The big picture...



## Image Filtering



Computer Vision
James Hays, Brown

## Next three classes: three views of filtering

- Image filters in spatial domain
- Filter is a mathematical operation of a grid of numbers
- Smoothing, sharpening, measuring texture
- Image filters in the frequency domain
- Filtering is a way to modify the frequencies of images
- Denoising, sampling, image compression
- Templates and Image Pyramids
- Filtering is a way to match a template to the image
- Detection, coarse-to-fine registration


## Image filtering

- Image filtering: compute function of local neighborhood at each position
- Really important!
- Enhance images
- Denoise, resize, increase contrast, etc.
- Extract information from images
- Texture, edges, distinctive points, etc.
- Detect patterns
- Template matching


## Example: box filter



Slide credit: David Lowe (UBC)

Image filtering

$$
\mathrm{g}[\cdot, \cdot] \frac{1}{9} \frac{1}{9} \frac{1}{\frac{1}{9}} \begin{gathered}
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\end{gathered}
$$

$$
f[., .] \quad h[., .]
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$$
h[m, n]=\sum_{k, l} g[k, l] f[m+k, n+l]
$$

Image filtering

## $f[. .$,

## $h[. .$,

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Image filtering

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\mathrm{g}[\cdot, \cdot] \frac{1}{9} \frac{1}{9} \frac{1}{\frac{1}{9}} \begin{gathered}
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\end{gathered}
$$

## $f[. .$,

## $h[. .$,

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

## Image filtering

## $f[. .$,

$h[.$, .]

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| 0 | 0 | 0 | 90 | 0 | 90 | 90 | 90 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 90 | 90 | 90 | 90 | 90 | 0 | 0 |
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$$
h[m, n]=\sum_{k, l} g[k, l] f[m+k, n+l]
$$

## Image filtering

## $f[. .$,

## $h[.,$.

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| 0 | 0 | 0 | 90 | 0 | 90 | 90 | 90 | 0 | 0 |
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| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
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$$
h[m, n]=\sum_{k, l} g[k, l] f[m+k, n+l]
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Image filtering

## $f[. .$,

$h[.,$.

| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
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$$
h[m, n]=\sum_{k, l} g[k, l] f[m+k, n+l]
$$

Image filtering

$$
\mathrm{g}[\cdot, \cdot] \frac{1}{9} \frac{1}{9} \frac{1}{\frac{1}{9}} \begin{gathered}
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\end{gathered}
$$

## $f[. .$,

$h[.,$.

| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
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$$
h[m, n]=\sum_{k, l} g[k, l] f[m+k, n+l]
$$

Image filtering

$$
\mathrm{g}[\cdot \cdot \cdot]
$$

## $f[. .$,

$h[.,$.

| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
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|  | 0 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 20 | 10 |  |
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|  | 10 | 10 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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

## Box Filter

What does it do?

- Replaces each pixel with an average of its neighborhood
- Achieve smoothing effect (remove sharp features)



## g[•, $]$

Slide credit: David Lowe (UBC)

## Smoothing with box filter



## Practice with linear filters



| 0 | 0 | 0 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 |

$?$

Original

## Practice with linear filters



Original

| 0 | 0 | 0 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 |

Filtered
(no change)

## Practice with linear filters



| 0 | 0 | 0 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 |

$?$

Original

## Practice with linear filters



Original

| 0 | 0 | 0 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 |

Shifted left
By 1 pixel

## Practice with linear filters


(Note that filter sums to 1 )
?

## Practice with linear filters



Original

| 0 | 0 | 0 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 0 | 2 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 |



Sharpening filter

- Accentuates differences with local average



## Sharpening



## Other filters




Vertical Edge (absolute value)

## Other filters



Horizontal Edge (absolute value)

## Filtering vs. Convolution

- 2d filtering $\mathrm{g}=$ filter $\mathrm{f}=\mathrm{image}$

$$
\begin{gathered}
-\mathrm{h}=\mathrm{filter} 2(\mathrm{~g}, \mathrm{f}) ; \text { or } \\
\text { h}=\text { imfilter }(\mathrm{f}, \mathrm{~g}) ;
\end{gathered}
$$

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

- 2d convolution
- h=conv2 ( $\mathrm{g}, \mathrm{f}$ );

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

## Key properties of linear filters

## Linearity:

filter $\left(\mathrm{f}_{1}+\mathrm{f}_{2}\right)=$ filter $\left(\mathrm{f}_{1}\right)$ + filter $\left(\mathrm{f}_{2}\right)$

Shift invariance: same behavior regardless of pixel location

```
filter(shift(f)) = shift(filter(f))
```

Any linear, shift-invariant operator can be represented as a convolution

## More properties

- Commutative: $a^{*} b=b^{*} a$
- Conceptually no difference between filter and signal
- But particular filtering implementations might break this equality
- Associative: $a^{*}\left(b^{*} c\right)=\left(a^{*} b\right)^{*} c$
- Often apply several filters one after another: $\left(\left(\left(a * b_{1}\right) * b_{2}\right) * b_{3}\right)$
- This is equivalent to applying one filter: $\mathrm{a} *\left(b_{1} * b_{2} * b_{3}\right)$
- Distributes over addition: $a^{*}(b+c)=\left(a^{*} b\right)+\left(a^{*} c\right)$
- Scalars factor out: $k a^{*} b=a^{*} k b=k\left(a^{*} b\right)$
- Identity: unit impulse $e=[0,0,1,0,0]$, $a^{*} e=a$


## Important filter: Gaussian

- Weight contributions of neighboring pixels by nearness



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| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 0.003 | 0.013 | 0.022 | 0.013 | 0.003 |
| 0.013 | 0.059 | 0.097 | 0.059 | 0.013 |
| 0.022 | 0.097 | 0.159 | 0.097 | 0.022 |
| 0.013 | 0.059 | 0.097 | 0.059 | 0.013 |
| 0.003 | 0.013 | 0.022 | 0.013 | 0.003 |
| $5 \times 5, \sigma=1$ |  |  |  |  |

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

## Smoothing with Gaussian filter



## Smoothing with box filter



## Gaussian filters

- Remove "high-frequency" components from the image (low-pass filter)
- Images become more smooth
- Convolution with self is another Gaussian
- So can smooth with small-width kernel, repeat, and get same result as larger-width kernel would have
- Convolving two times with Gaussian kernel of width $\sigma$ is same as convolving once with kernel of width ov2
- Separable kernel
- Factors into product of two 1D Gaussians


## Separability of the Gaussian filter

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{G}_{\sigma}(x, y) & =\frac{1}{2 \pi \sigma^{2}} \exp ^{-\frac{x^{2}+y^{2}}{2 \sigma^{2}}} \\
& =\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2 \pi} \sigma} \exp ^{\left.-\frac{x^{2}}{2 \sigma^{2}}\right)\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2 \pi} \sigma} \exp ^{-\frac{y^{2}}{2 \sigma^{2}}}\right)}\right.
\end{aligned}
$$

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

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

## Separability example



Followed by convolution
along the remaining column:

## Separability

- Why is separability useful in practice?


## Some practical matters

## Practical matters

How big should the filter be?

- Values at edges should be near zero
- Rule of thumb for Gaussian: set filter half-width to about $3 \sigma$


## Practical matters

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



## Practical matters

- methods (MATLAB):
- clip filter (black): imfilter(f, g, 0)
- wrap around: imfilter(f, g, 'circular’)
- copy edge: imfilter(f, g, 'replicate')
- reflect across edge: imfilter(f, g, 'symmetric')


## Practical matters

- What is the size of the output?
- MATLAB: filter2(g, f, shape)
- shape = 'full': output size is sum of sizes of $f$ and $g$
- shape = 'same': output size is same as f
- shape = 'valid': output size is difference of sizes of $f$ and $g$



## Median filters

- A Median Filter operates over a window by selecting the median intensity in the window.
- What advantage does a median filter have over a mean filter?
- Is a median filter a kind of convolution?


## Comparison: salt and pepper noise

Mean


Gaussian



Median


## Project 1: Hybrid Images



## Take-home messages

- Linear filtering is sum of dot product at each position
- Can smooth, sharpen, translate (among many other uses)

- Be aware of details for filter size, extrapolation, cropping



## Practice questions

1. Write down a $3 \times 3$ filter that returns a positive value if the average value of the 4 -adjacent neighbors is less than the center and a negative value otherwise
2. Write down a filter that will compute the gradient in the $x$-direction:
```
gradx(y,x) = im(y,x+1)-im(y,x) for each x, y
```


## Practice questions

3. Fill in the blanks: $\begin{aligned} & \text { a) }=D * B \\ & \text { b) } \bar{A}=D *- \\ & \text { c) } F=\bar{D} * \bar{x} \\ & \text { d) } \quad=D * \bar{D}\end{aligned}$


Filtering Operator


Next class: Thinking in Frequency


