



上海科技大学
ShanghaiTech University

CS283: Robotics Fall 2020: Vision II

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VISION

Image Processing

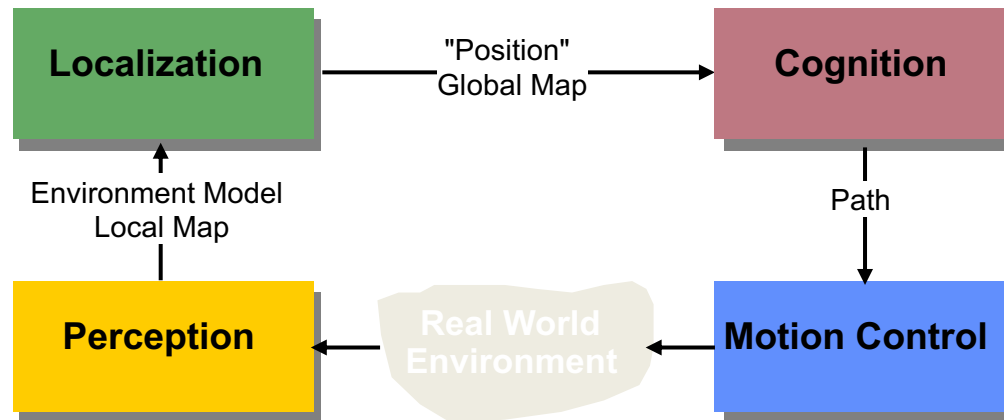
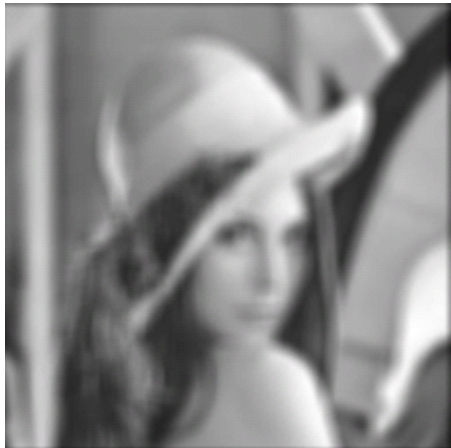
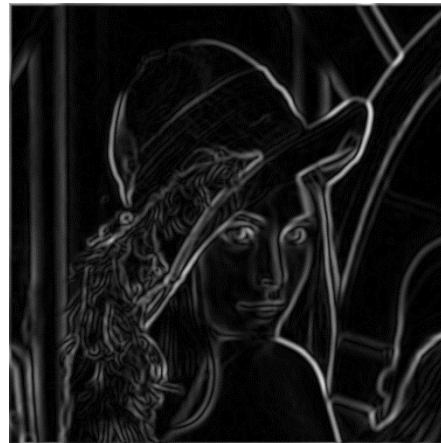


Image filtering

- Filter: frequency domain processing where “filtering” refers to the process of accepting or rejecting certain frequency components. E.g.:
 - Lowpass filter: pass only low frequencies => blur (smooth) an image
 - **spatial filters** (also called masks or kernels): same effect



Lowpass filtered image



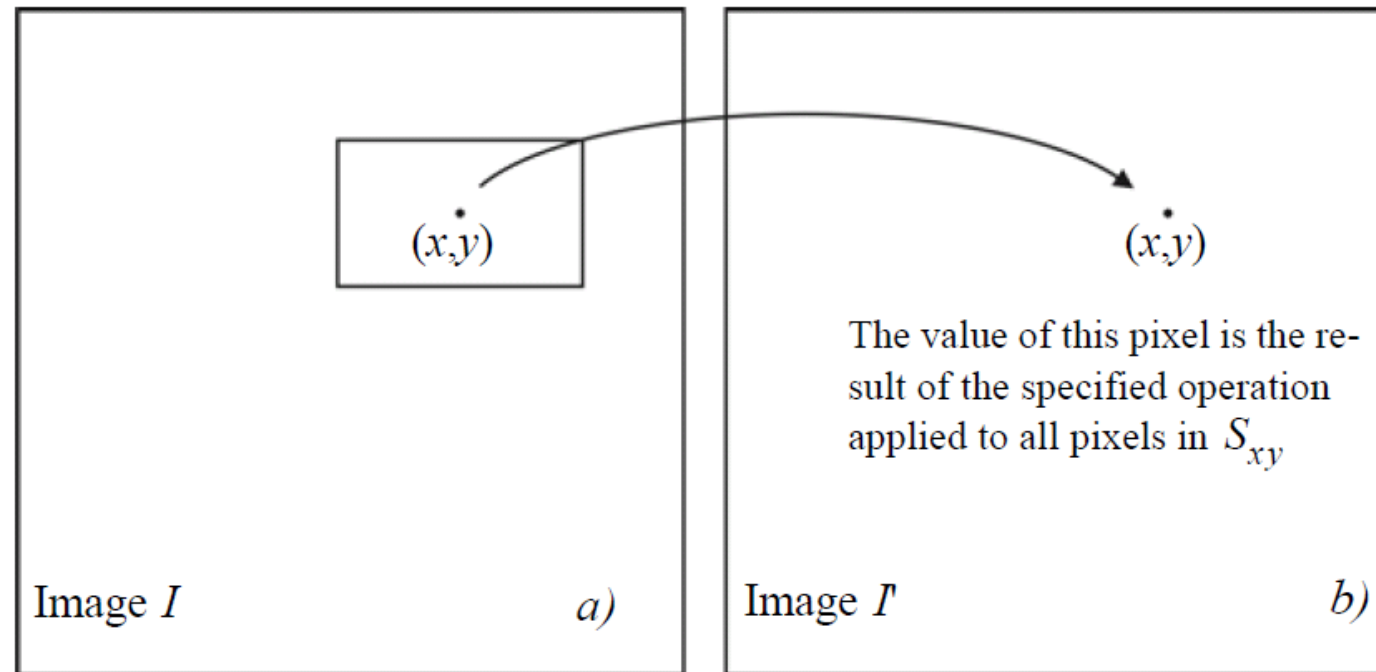
Highpass filtered image



Lena: Image processing standard test picture (512x512) since 1972

Spatial filters

- Let S_{xy} denote the set of coordinates of a neighborhood centered on an arbitrary point (x,y) in an image I
- Spatial filtering generates a corresponding pixel at the same coordinates in an output image I' where the value of that pixel is determined by a specified operation on the pixels in S_{xy}



- For example, an averaging filter is:
- $$I' = \frac{1}{mn} \sum_{(r,c) \in S_{xy}} I(r,c)$$

Linear filters

- In general, linear spatial filtering of an image with a filter w of size $m \times n$ is given by the expression

$$I'(x, y) = \sum_{s=-a}^a \sum_{t=-b}^b w(s, t) \cdot I(x + s, y + t)$$

where $m=2a+1$ and $n=2b+1$ are usually assumed odd integers. The filter w is also called **kernel**, **mask**, or **window**.

- As observed in this formula, linear filtering is the process of moving a filter mask over the entire image and computing the sum of products at each location. In signal processing, this particular operation is also called correlation with the kernel w or alternatively, convolution with the kernel w
- The operation of convolution with the kernel w can be written in a more compact way as

$$I'(x, y) = w(x, y) * I(x, y)$$

where $*$ denotes the operator of convolution

Smoothing filters (1)

- A constant averaging filter yields the standard average of all the pixels in the mask. For a 3x3 mask this writes:

$$w = \frac{1}{9} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- where notice that all the coefficients sum to 1. This normalization is important to keep the same value as the original image if the region by which the filter is multiplied is uniform.



This example was generated with a 21x21 mask

Smoothing filters (2)

- A Gaussian averaging write as

$$G_{\sigma}(x, y) = e^{-\frac{x^2 + y^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

- To generate, say, a 3x3 filter mask from this function, we sample it about its center. For example, with $\sigma=0.85$, we get

$$G = \frac{1}{16} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Very popular: Such low-pass filters effectively removes high-frequency noise =>
- First derivative and especially the second derivative of intensity far more stable
- Gradients and derivatives very important in image processing =>
- Gaussian smoothing preprocessing popular first step in computer vision algorithms

Smoothing Example: SIST Lobby Scan

- Scanner: Faro Focus 3D X330
- 1 scan 20265 x 8533 pixel – about 173 million pixel
- Including color information
- Scan time: about 15 minutes





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8 Scans of the lobby of the new SIST building

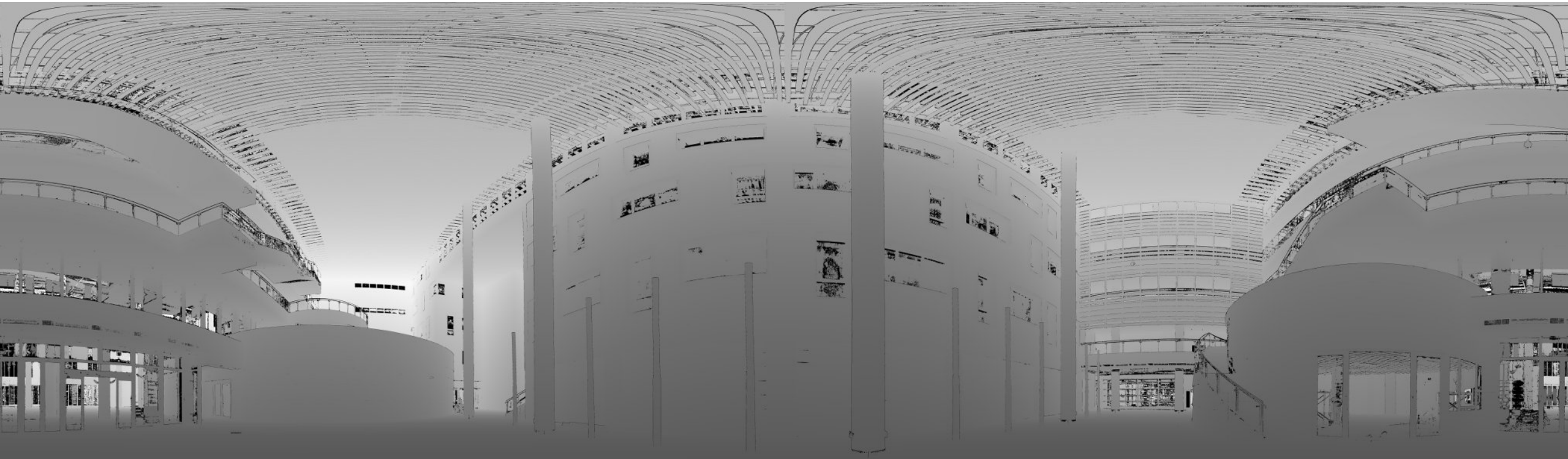
More than 400 million colored points

Rough alignment by hand and fine registration using ICP

SIST Lobby: RGB image 360 degrees



SIST Lobby: Depth image 360 degrees



Depth image smoothing: kernel size 15, std. deviation 4

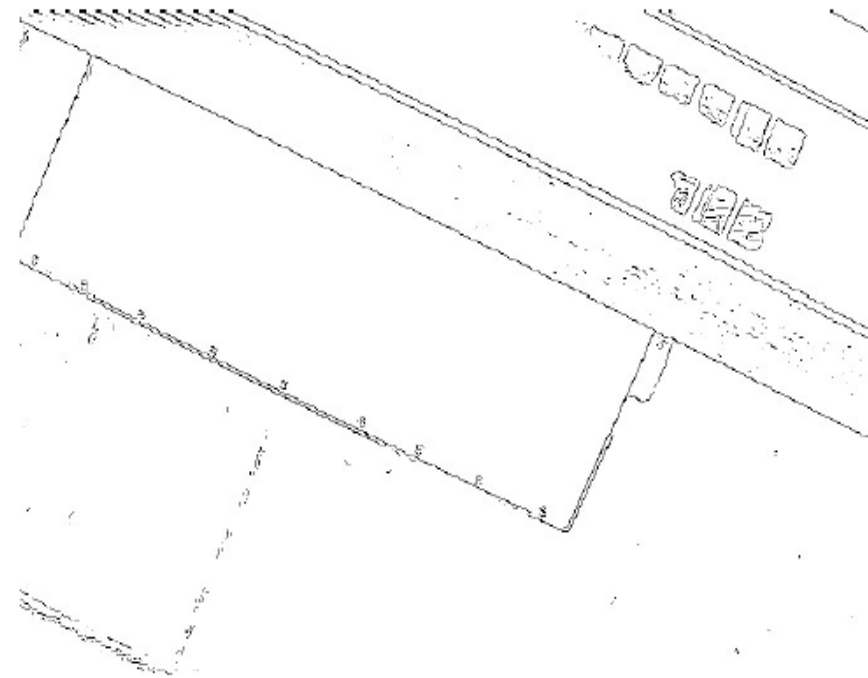
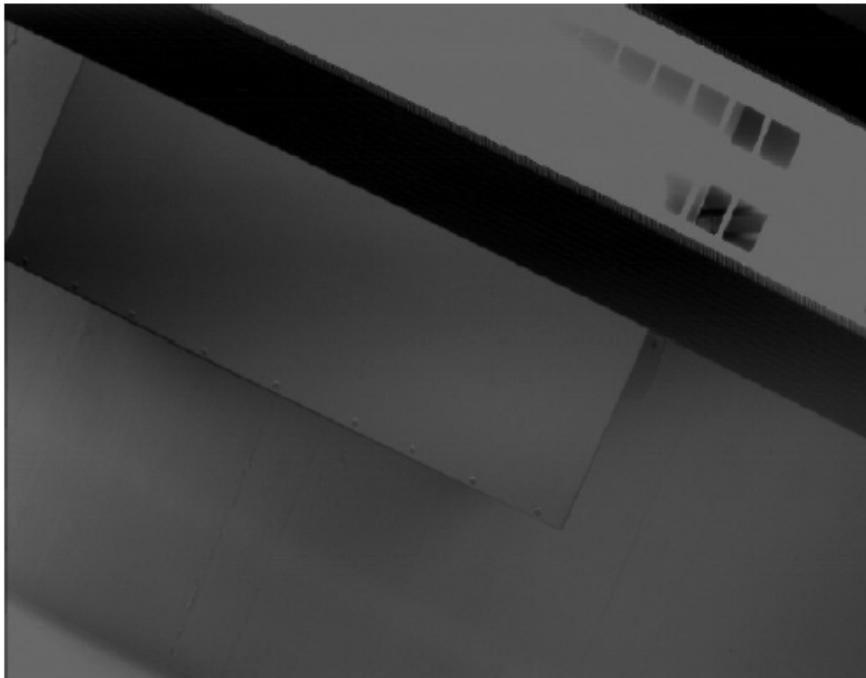


Depth image smoothing: kernel size 255, std. deviation 20



Edge Detection

- Ultimate goal of edge detection
 - an idealized line drawing.
- Edge contours in the image correspond to important scene contours.



Edge is Where Change Occurs

- Edges correspond to sharp changes of intensity
- Change is measured by 1st derivative in 1D
- Biggest change, derivative has maximum magnitude
- Or 2nd derivative is zero.

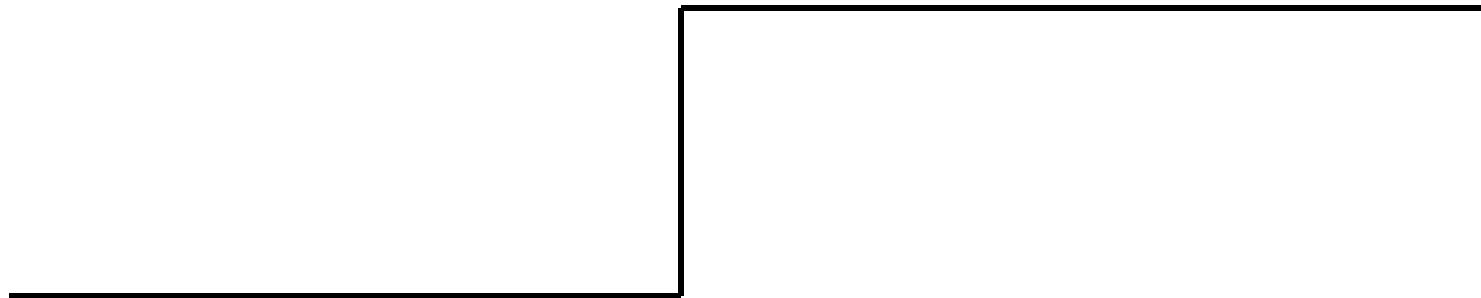
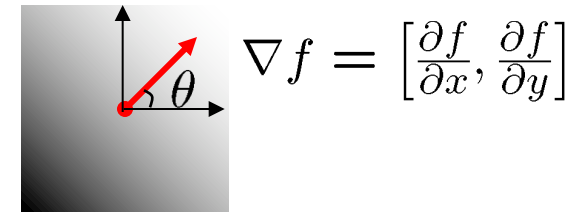
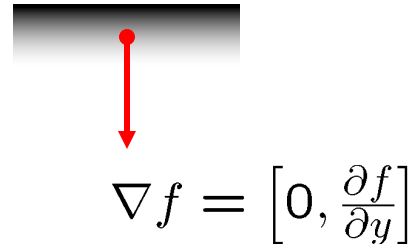
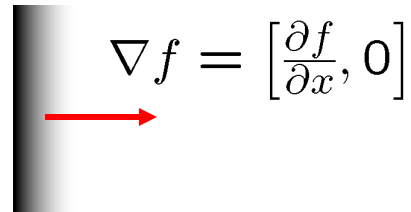


Image gradient

- The gradient of an image: $\nabla f = \left[\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right]$

- The gradient points in the direction of most rapid change in intensity



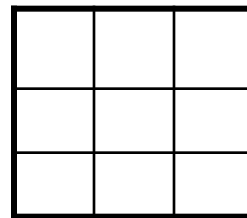
- The gradient direction is: $\theta = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} / \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right)$
- The gradient magnitude is: $\|\nabla f\| = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right)^2}$

The discrete gradient

- How can we differentiate a *digital* image $f[x,y]$?
 - Option 1: reconstruct a continuous image, then take gradient
 - Option 2: take discrete derivative (finite difference)

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}[x, y] \approx f[x + 1, y] - f[x, y]$$

- How to implement this as a spatial filter?



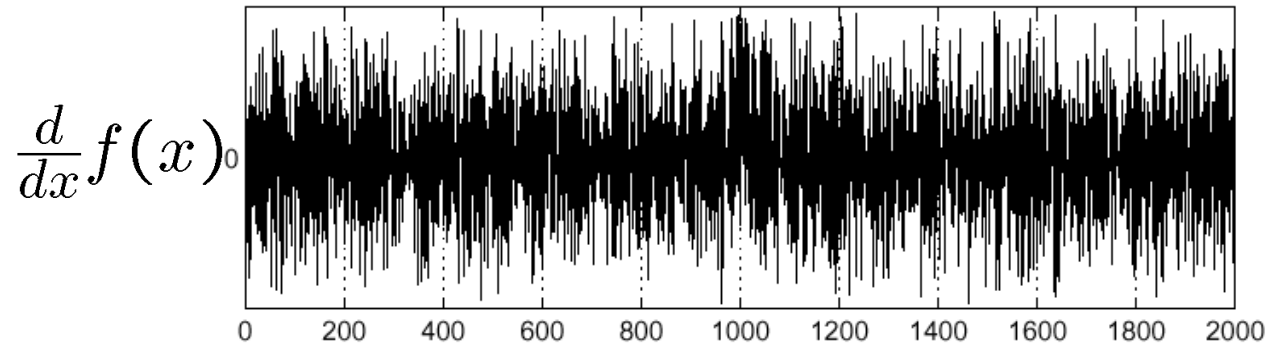
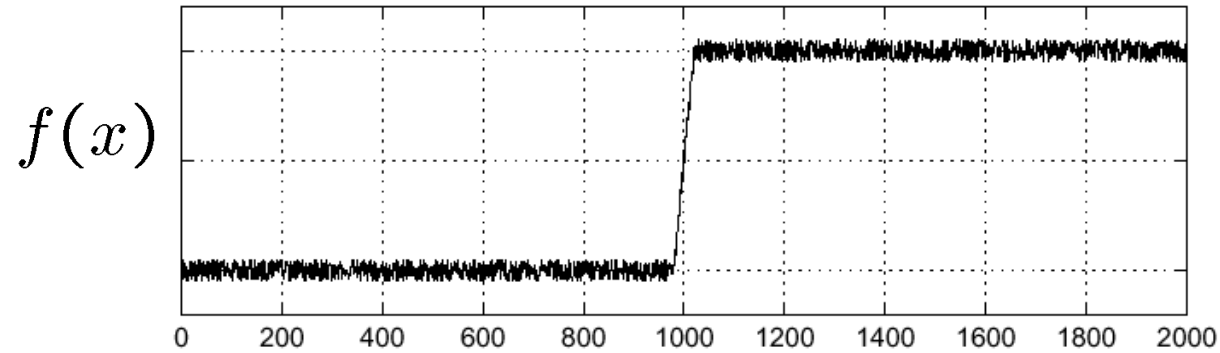
W

Gradient Edge Detectors

- **Roberts** $|G| \cong \sqrt{r_1^2 + r_2^2}$; $r_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$; $r_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$
- **Prewitt** $|G| \cong \sqrt{p_1^2 + p_2^2}$; $\theta \cong \text{atan}\left(\frac{p_1}{p_2}\right)$; $p_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$; $p_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$
- **Sobel** $|G| \cong \sqrt{s_1^2 + s_2^2}$; $\theta \cong \text{atan}\left(\frac{s_1}{s_2}\right)$; $s_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$; $s_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -2 & 0 & 2 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

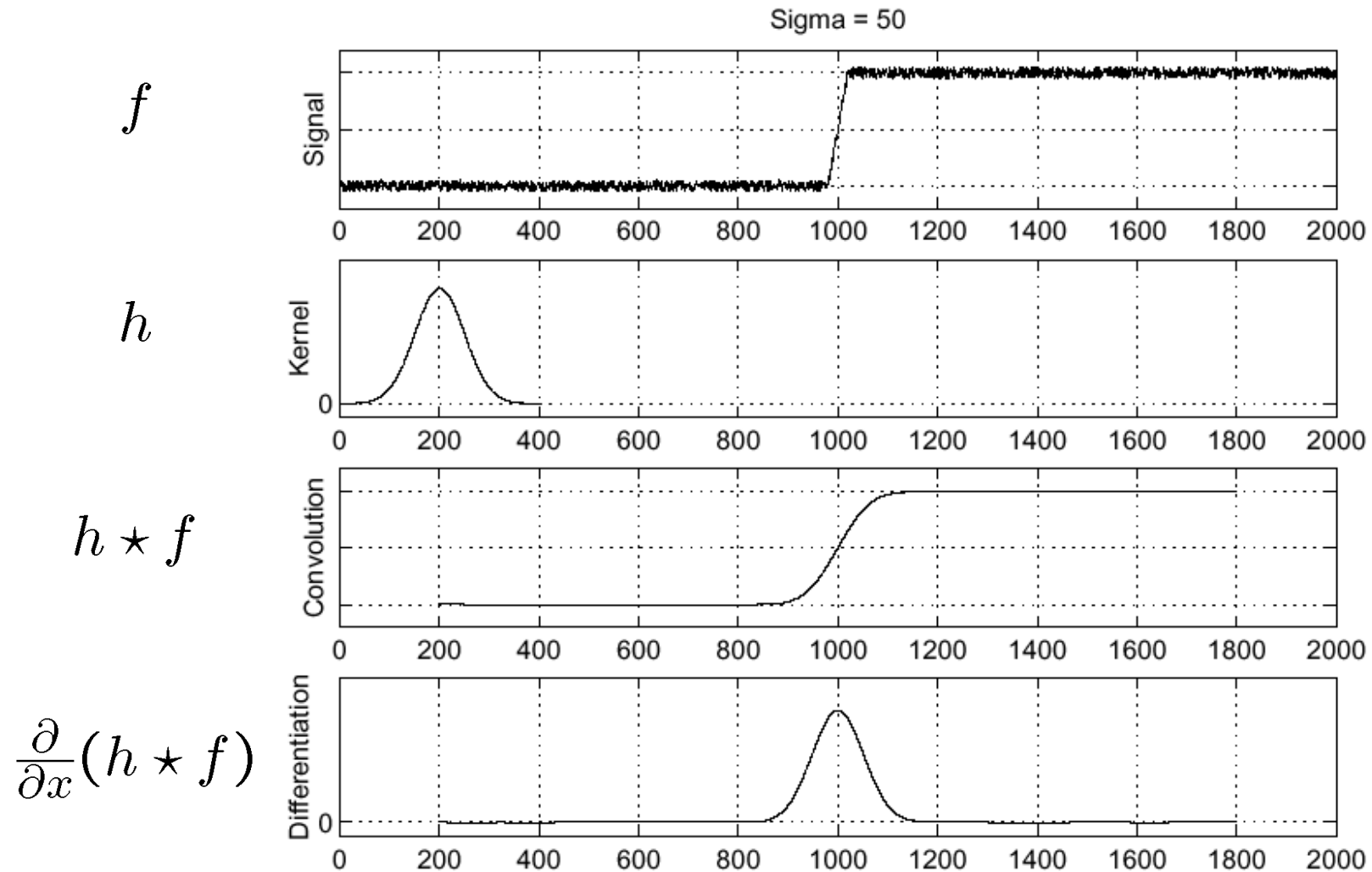
Effects of noise

- Consider a single row or column of the image
 - Plotting intensity as a function of position gives a signal



- Where is the edge?

Solution: smooth first



- Where is the edge?
- Look for peaks in $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(h \star f)$

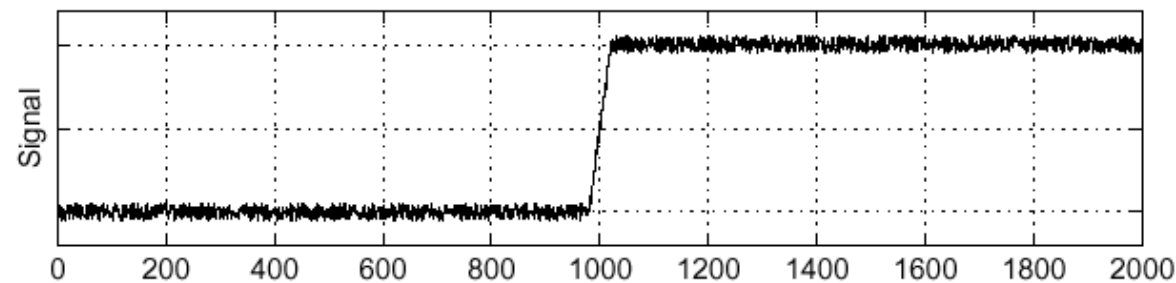
Derivative theorem of convolution

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(h \star f) = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x}h\right) \star f$$

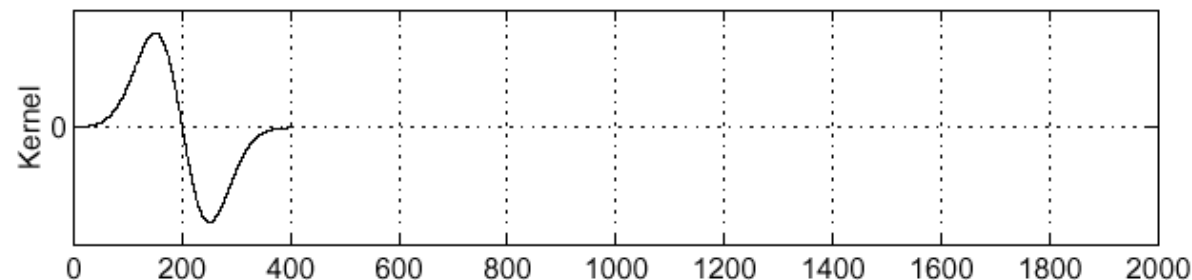
- This saves us one operation:

Sigma = 50

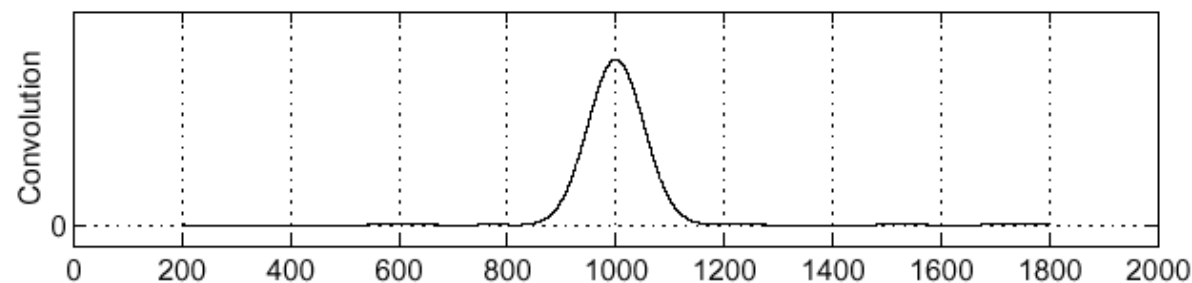
f



$\frac{\partial}{\partial x}h$



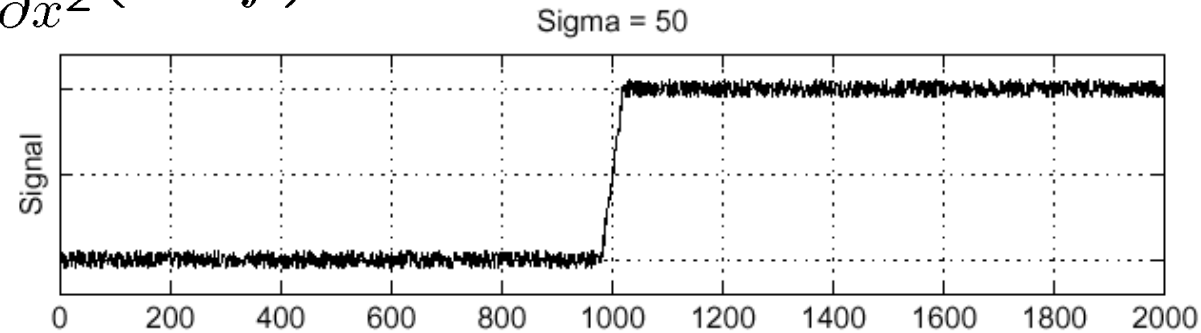
$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x}h\right) \star f$



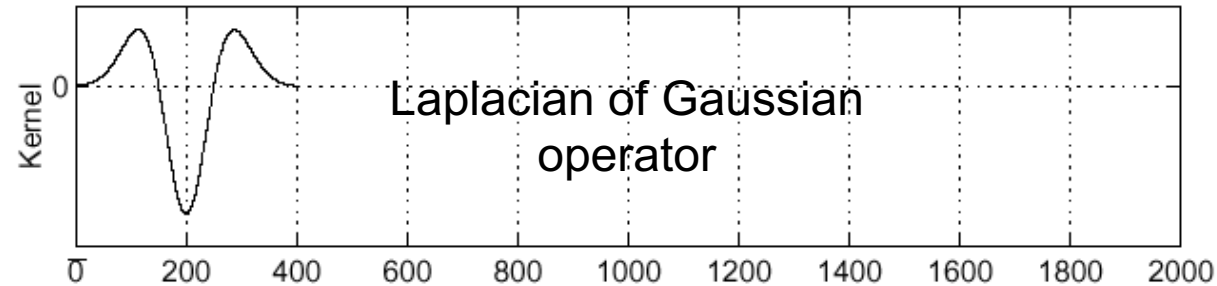
The Canny Edge Detector

- Consider $\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}(h \star f)$

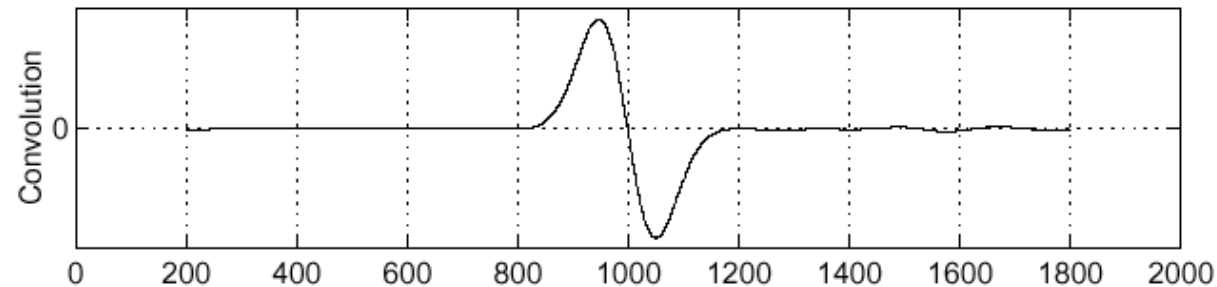
f



$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}h$

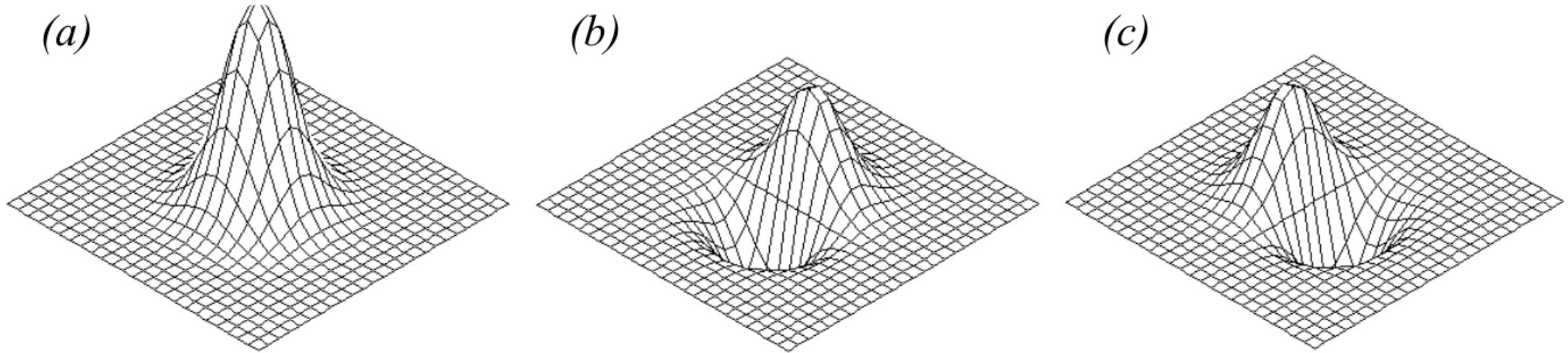


$(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}h) \star f$



- Where is the edge?
- Zero-crossings of bottom graph

2D Canny edge detector



$$G_\sigma(x, y) = G_\sigma(x)G_\sigma(y) \quad f_V(x, y) = G'_\sigma(x)G_\sigma(y) \quad f_H(x, y) = G'_\sigma(y)G_\sigma(x)$$

- Two perpendicular filters:
 - Convolve image $I(x, y)$ with $f_V(x, y)$ and $f_H(x, y)$ – obtaining $R_V(x, y)$ and $R_H(x, y)$
 - Use square of gradient magnitude: $R(x, y) = R_V^2(x, y) + R_H^2(x, y)$
 - Mark peaks in $R(x, y)$ above a threshold

The Sobel edge detector



original image (Lena image)

The Sobel edge detector



norm of the gradient

The Sobel edge detector



thresholding

The Sobel edge detector



thinning
(non-maxima suppression)

IMAGE FEATURES

- Lines
- Points
 - Harris
 - SIFT

Example: Build a Panorama



This panorama was generated using **AUTOSTITCH** (freeware), available at <http://www.cs.ubc.ca/~mbrown/autostitch/autostitch.html>

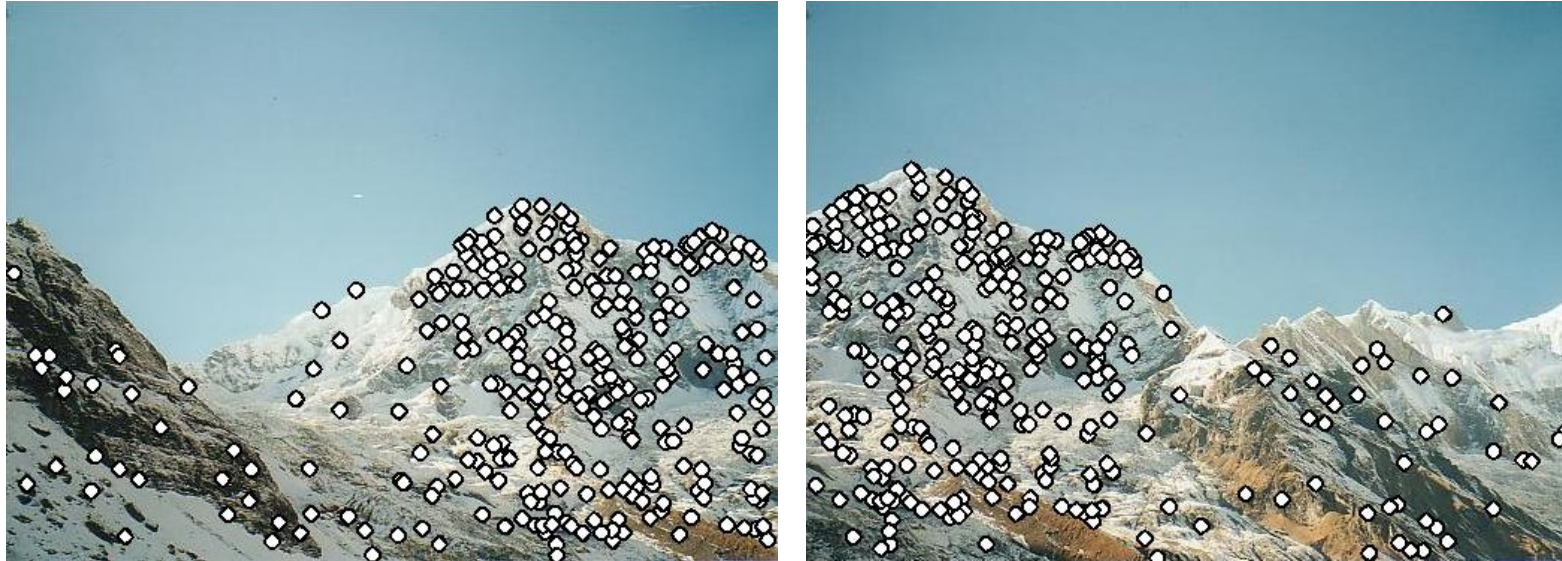
How do we build panorama?

- We need to match (align) images



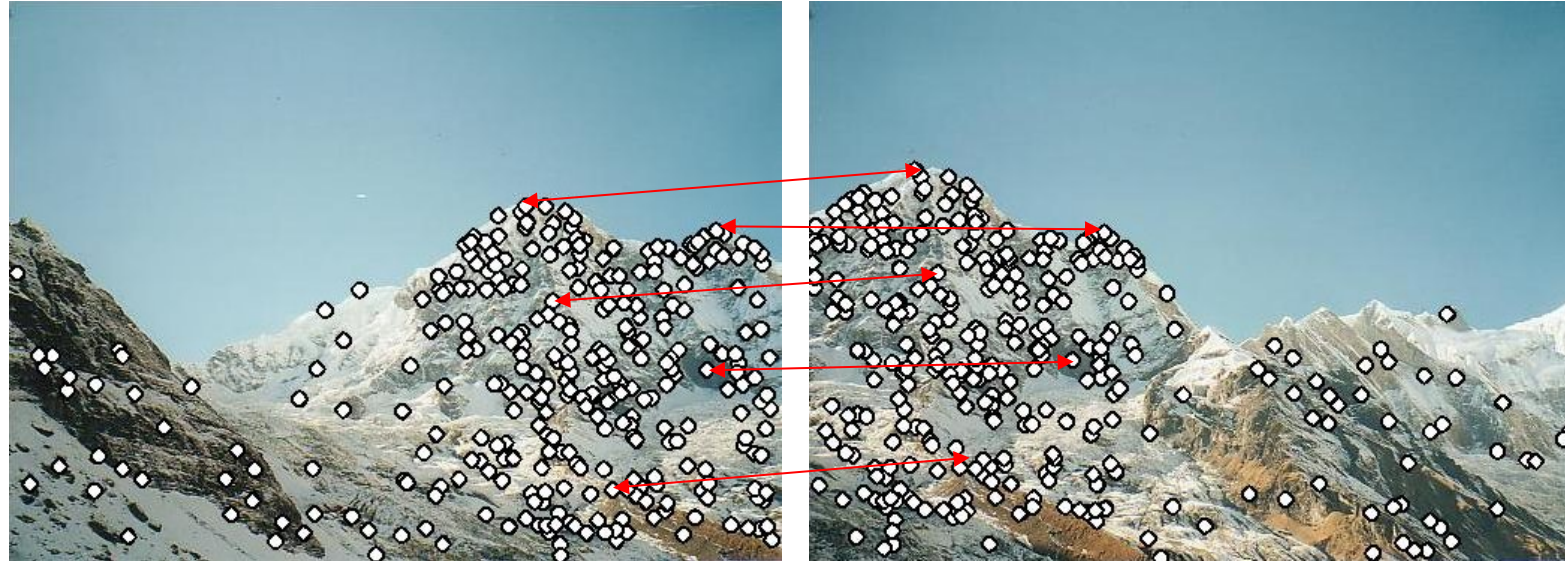
Matching with Features

- Detect feature points in both images



Matching with Features

- Detect feature points in both images
- Find corresponding pairs
 - Use RANSAC to find inliers and outliers



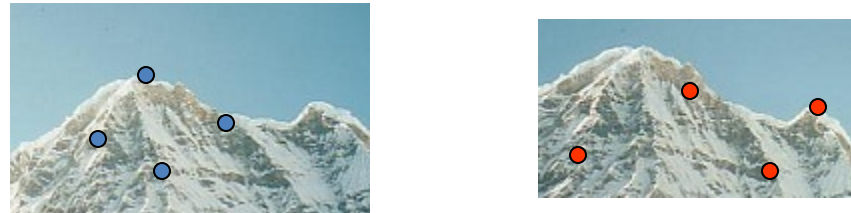
Matching with Features

- Detect feature points in both images
- Find corresponding pairs
- Use these pairs to align images



Matching with Features

- Problem 1:
 - Detect the *same* point *independently* in both images



no chance to match!

We need a repeatable detector

Matching with Features

- Problem 2:
 - For each point correctly recognize the corresponding one



We need a reliable and distinctive descriptor

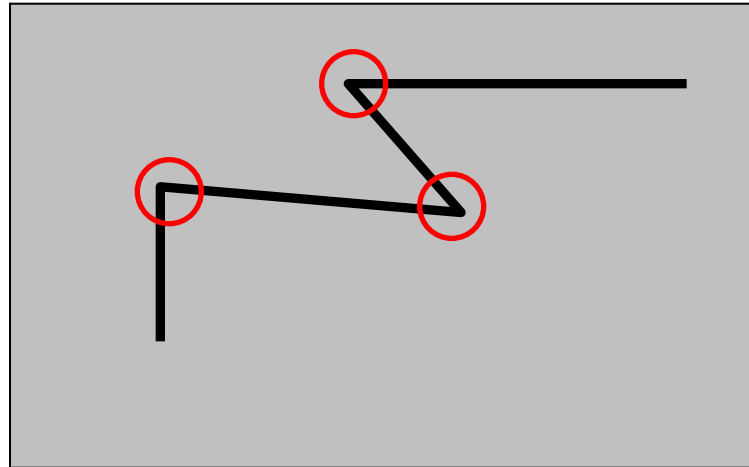
More motivation...

- Feature points are used also for:
 - Robot navigation
 - Object recognition
 - Image alignment (panoramas)
 - 3D reconstruction
 - Motion tracking
 - Indexing and database retrieval -> Google Images
 - ... other

Most Famous Feature Detectors

- Overview
 - Harris Detector (1988)
 - SIFT Detector (2004)

HARRIS CORNER DETECTOR



C.Harris, M.Stephens. "A Combined Corner and Edge Detector". 1988

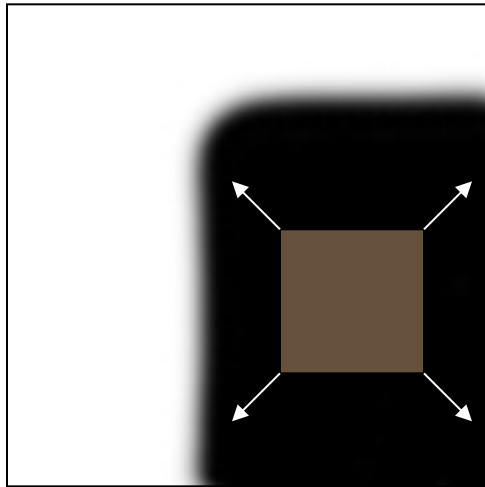
Finding Corners



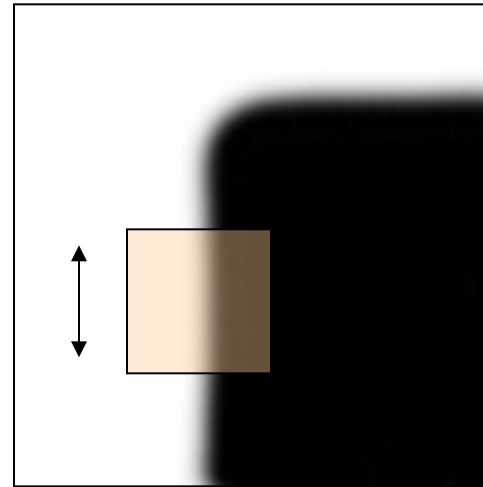
- Key property: in the region around a corner, image gradient has two or more dominant directions
- Corners are repeatable and distinctive

The basic idea

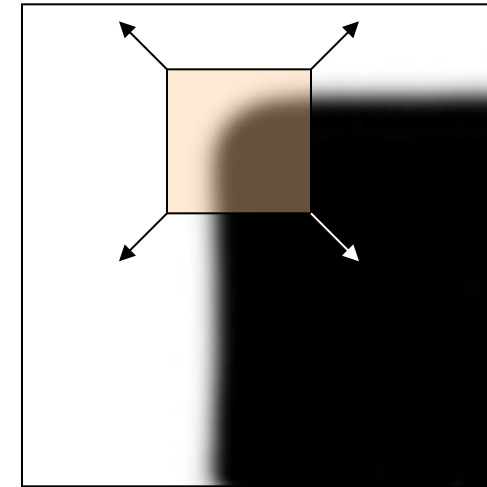
- We should easily recognize the point by looking through a small window
- Shifting a window in *any direction* should give a *large change* in intensity
- => define a corner response function



“flat” region:
no change in all
directions



“edge”:
no change along the
edge direction



“corner”:
significant change in
all directions

How do we implement this?

- Let I be a grayscale image. Consider taking an image patch centered on (u,v) and shifting it by (x,y) . The Sum of Squared Differences between these two patches is given by:

$$SSD(x, y) = \sum_u \sum_v ((I(u, v)) - I(u + x, v + y))^2$$

- $I(u + x, v + y)$ can be approximated by a first order Taylor expansion. Let I_x and I_y be the partial derivatives of I , such that

$$I(u + x, v + y) \approx I(u, v) + I_x(u, v)x + I_y(u, v)y$$

- This produces the approximation

$$SSD(x, y) \approx \sum_u \sum_v (I_x(u, v)x + I_y(u, v)y)^2$$

- Which can be written in a matrix form as $SSD(x, y) \approx \begin{bmatrix} x & y \end{bmatrix} M \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$

How do we implement this?

$$SSD(x, y) \approx \begin{bmatrix} x & y \end{bmatrix} M \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

- M is the “second moment matrix”
- Since M is symmetric, we can rewrite M as

$$M = \sum_u \sum_v \begin{bmatrix} I_x^2 & I_x I_y \\ I_x I_y & I_y^2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sum \sum I_x^2 & \sum \sum I_x I_y \\ \sum \sum I_x I_y & \sum \sum I_y^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

where λ_1 and λ_2 are the eigenvalues of M

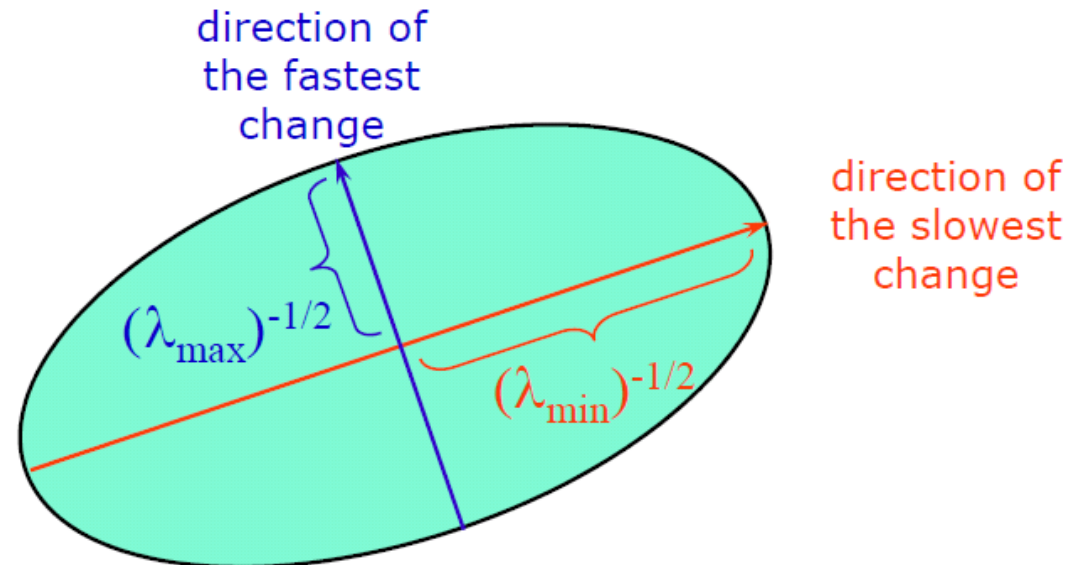
$$M = R^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix} R$$

How do we implement this?

- As mentioned before, a corner is characterized by a large variation of in all directions of the vector (x,y) . The Harris detector analyses the eigenvalues of M to decide if we are in presence of a corner or not.
- We can visualize M as an ellipse with axis lengths determined by the eigenvalues and orientation determined by R

Ellipse equation:

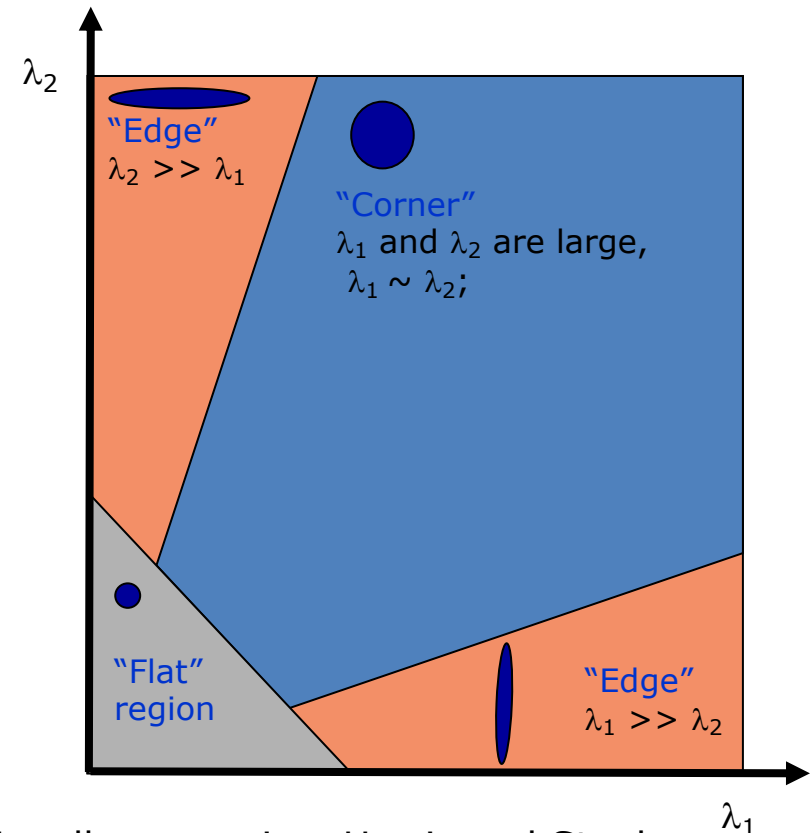
$$\begin{bmatrix} u & v \end{bmatrix} M \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix} = \text{const}$$



Corner response function

Based on the magnitudes of the eigenvalues, the following inferences can be made based on this argument:

- If both λ_1 and λ_2 are small, SSD is almost constant in all directions (i.e. we are in presence of a flat region).
- If either $\lambda_1 \gg \lambda_2$ or $\lambda_2 \gg \lambda_1$, we are in presence of an edge: SSD has a large variation only in one direction, which is the one perpendicular to the edge.
- If both λ_1 and λ_2 are large, SSD has large variations in all directions and then we are in presence of a corner.



Because the calculation of the eigenvalues is computationally expensive, Harris and Stephens suggested the use of the following "**cornerness function**" instead:

$$C = \lambda_1 \lambda_2 - \kappa(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)^2 = \det(M) - \kappa \cdot \text{trace}^2(M)$$

Where κ is a between 0.04 and 0.15

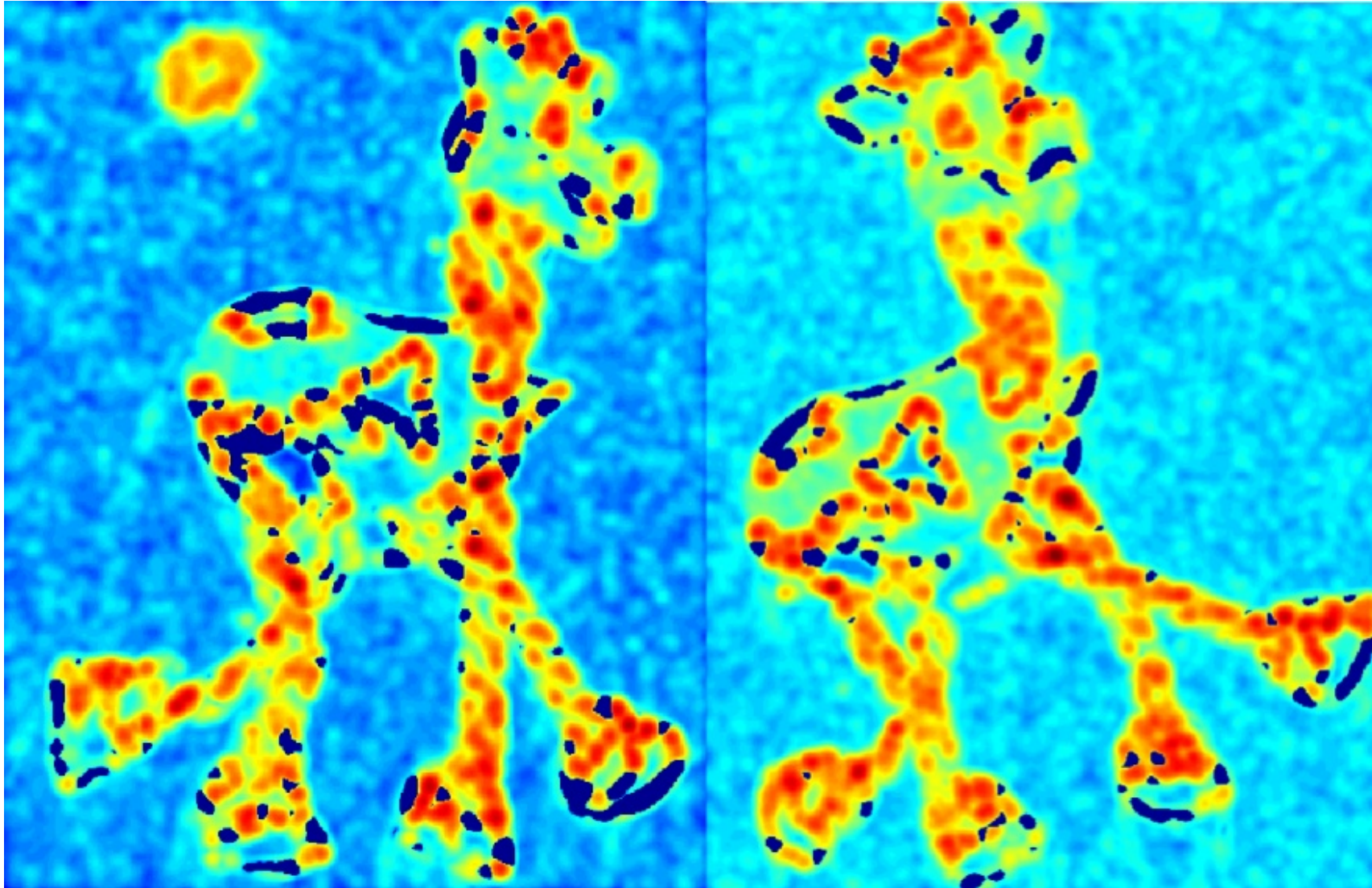
- Finally, the last step of the Harris corner detector consists in extracting the local maxima of the cornerness function

Harris Detector: Workflow



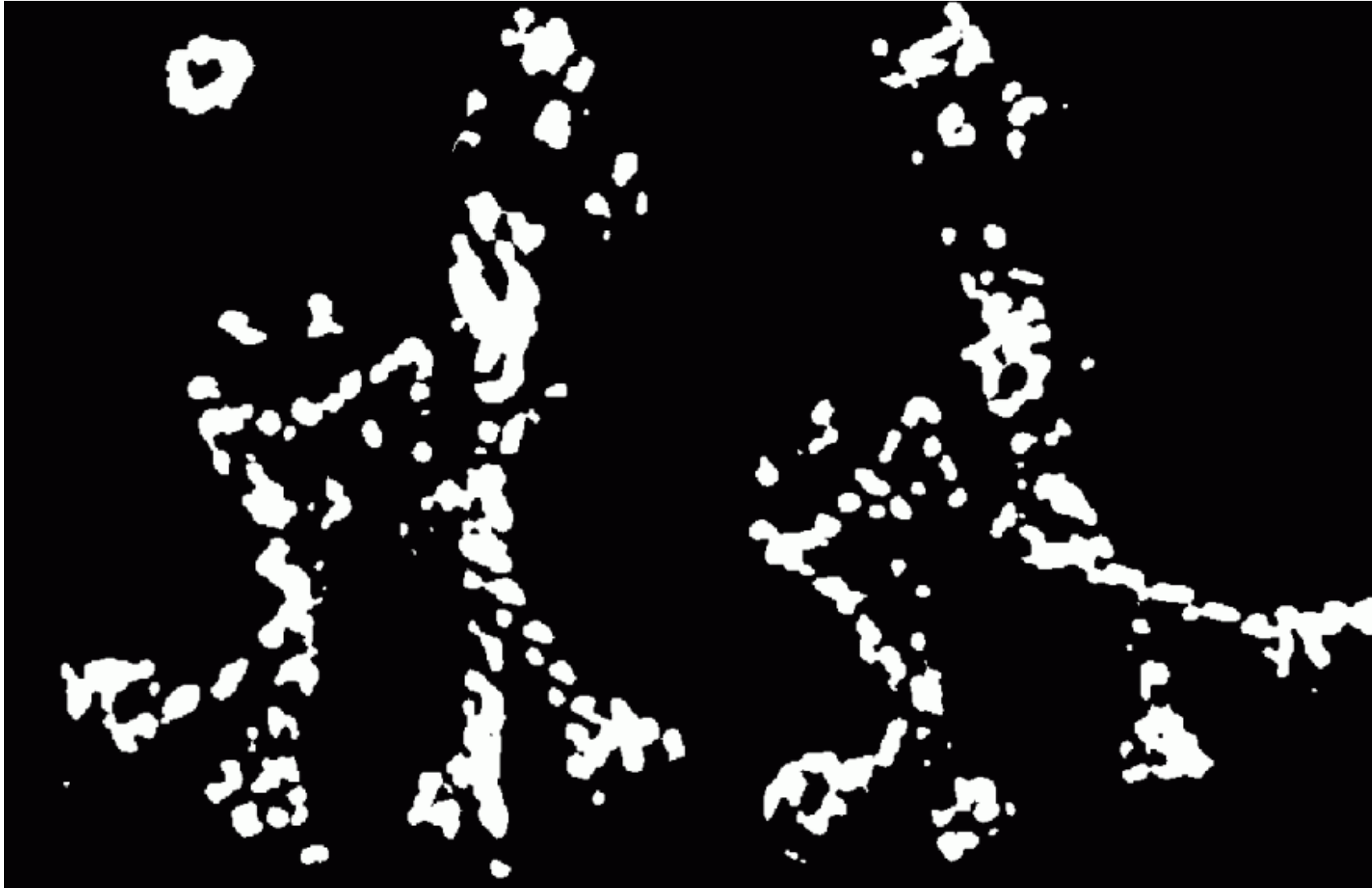
Harris Detector: Workflow

- Compute corner response R



Harris Detector: Workflow

- Find points with large corner response: $R > \text{threshold}$



Harris Detector: Workflow

- Take only the points of local maxima of R



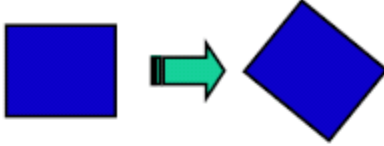
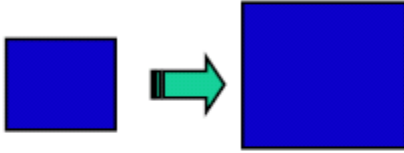


Harris Detector: Workflow



Harris detector: properties

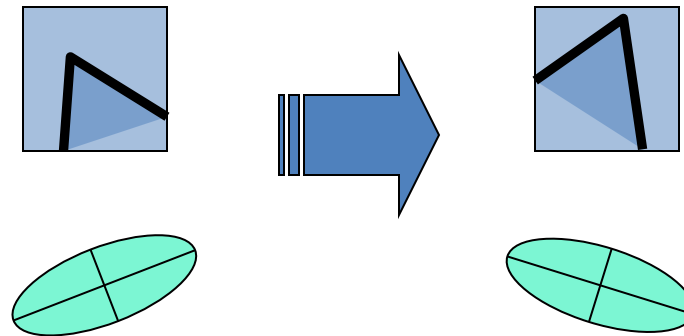
- How does the Harris detector behaves to image transformations?
- Will we be able to re-detect the same corners under
 - Rotations
 - View-point changes
 - Zoom changes
 - Illumination changes?
- In order to answer these questions, we need a model of these transformations.
- The detector can then be modified to be invariant to such transformations

Models of Image Change

- Geometric
 - Rotation 
 - Scale 
 - Affine 
valid for locally planar object
- Photometric
 - Affine intensity change ($I \rightarrow a I + b$) 

Harris Detector: Some Properties

- Rotation invariance

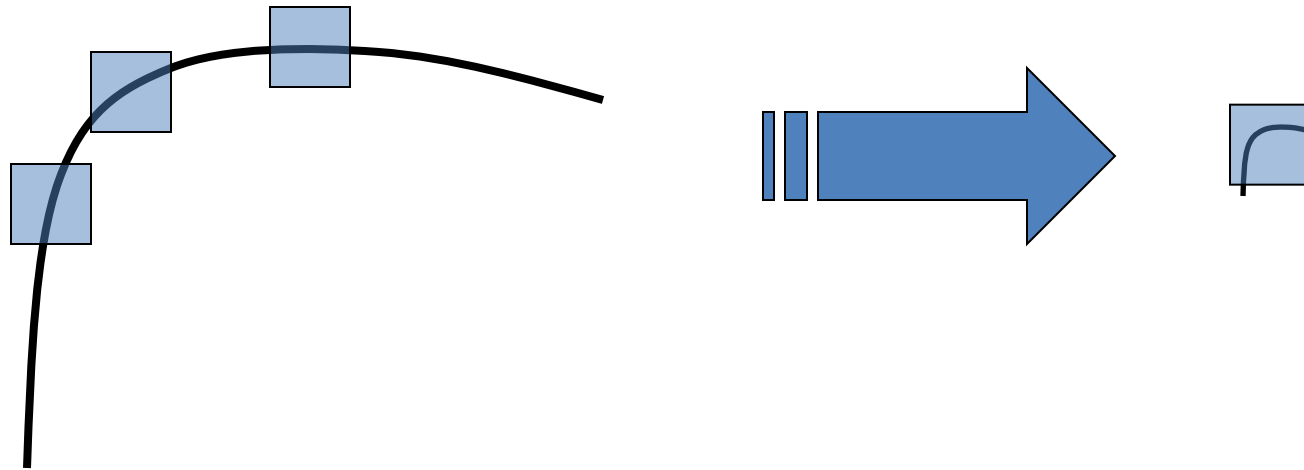


Ellipse rotates but its shape (i.e. eigenvalues) remains the same

Corner response R is invariant to image rotation

Harris Detector: Some Properties

- But: non-invariant to *image scale*!



All points will be
classified as **edges**

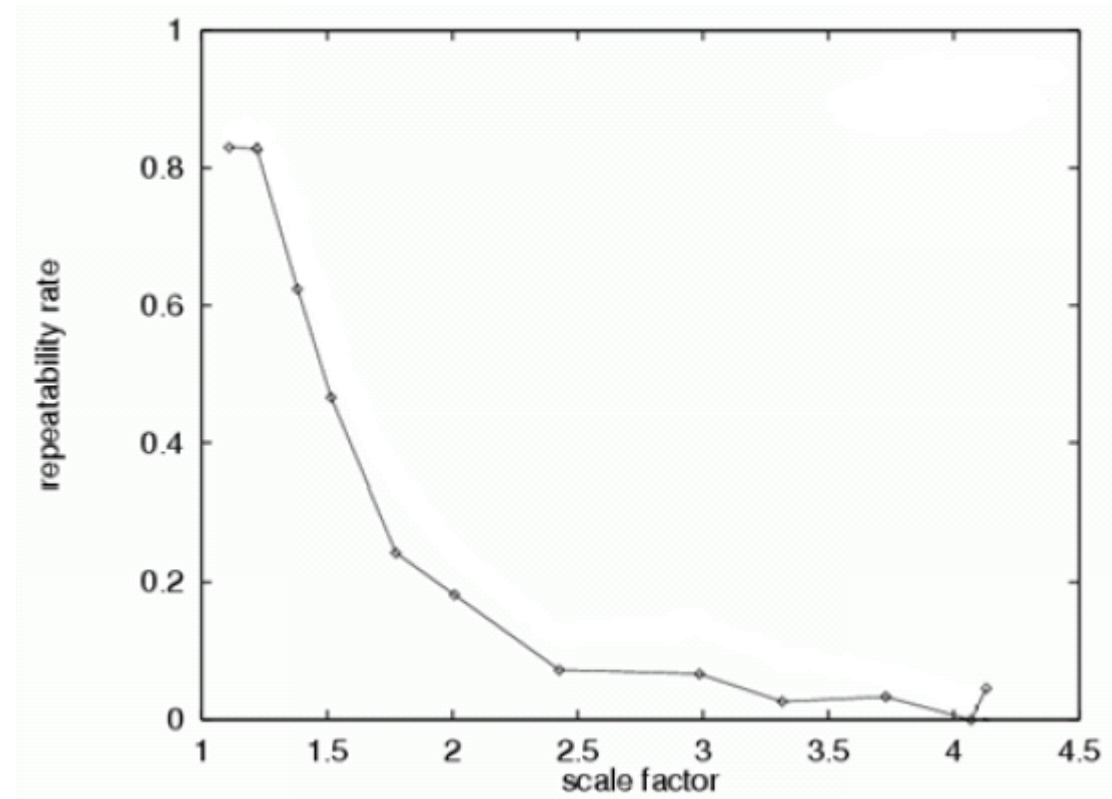
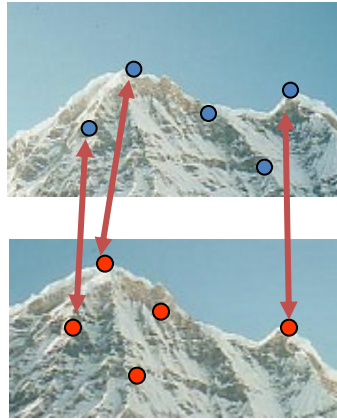
Corner !

Harris Detector: Some Properties

- Quality of Harris detector for different scale changes

Repeatability rate:

$$\frac{\# \text{ correspondences}}{\# \text{ possible correspondences}}$$

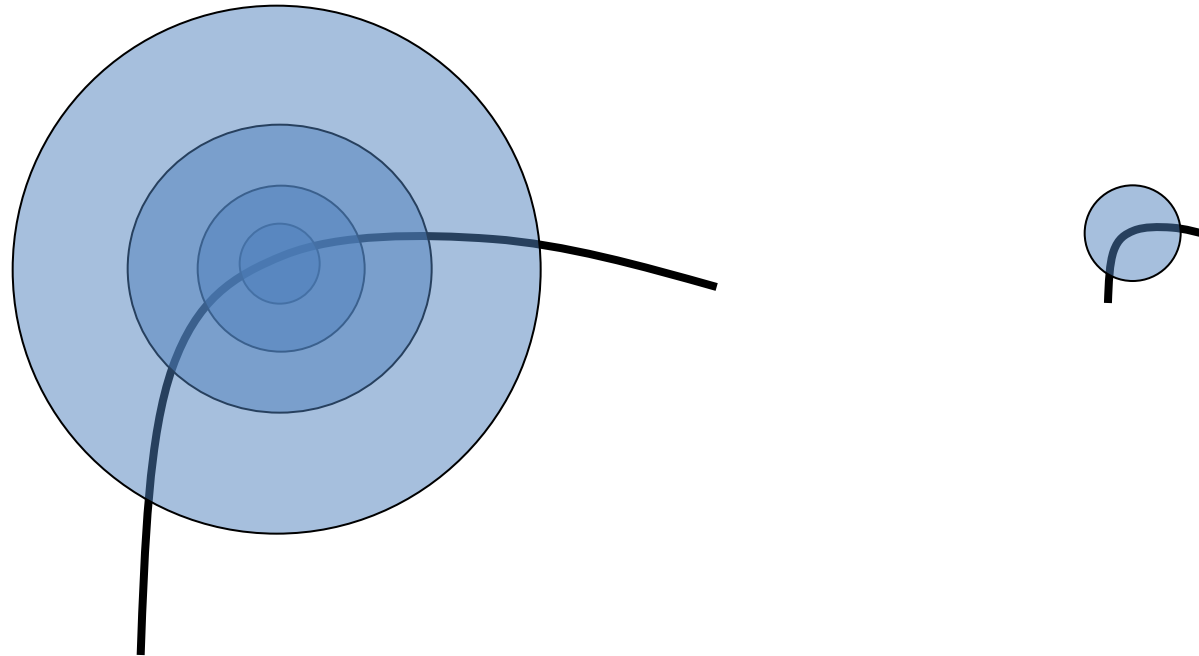


Summary on Harris properties

- Harris detector is an approach for detecting and extracting corners (i.e. points with high intensity changes in all directions)
- The detection is Invariant to
 - Rotation
 - Linear intensity changes
 - However, to make the matching invariant to these we need an appropriate matching criterion (for example, SSD is not Rotation nor affine invariant!)
- The detection is NOT invariant to
 - Scale changes
 - Geometric affine changes (Intuitively, an affine transformation distorts the neighborhood of the feature along the x and y directions and, accordingly, a corner can get reduced or increased its curvature)

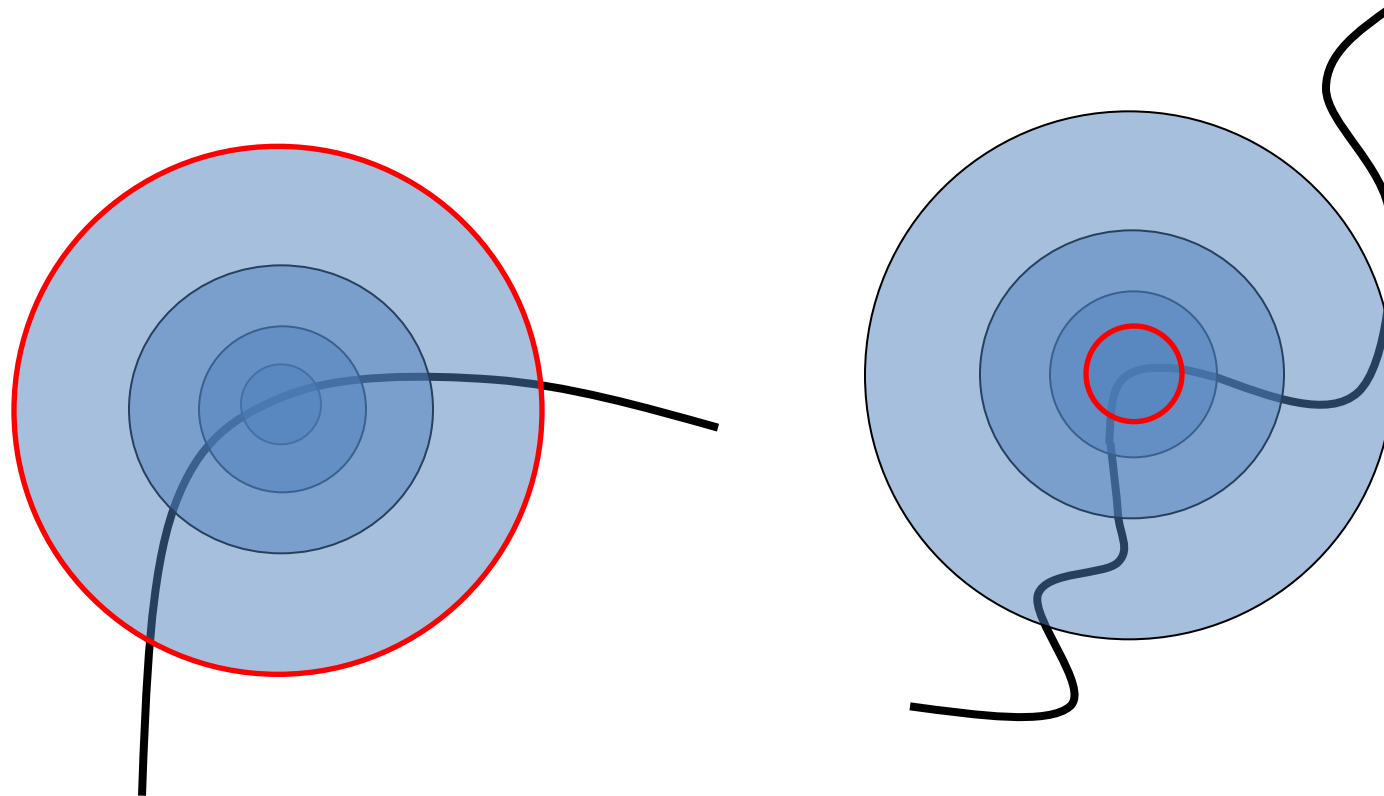
Scale Invariant Detection

- Consider regions (e.g. circles) of different sizes around a point
- Regions of corresponding sizes will look the same in both images



Scale Invariant Detection

- The problem: how do we choose corresponding circles *independently* in each image?

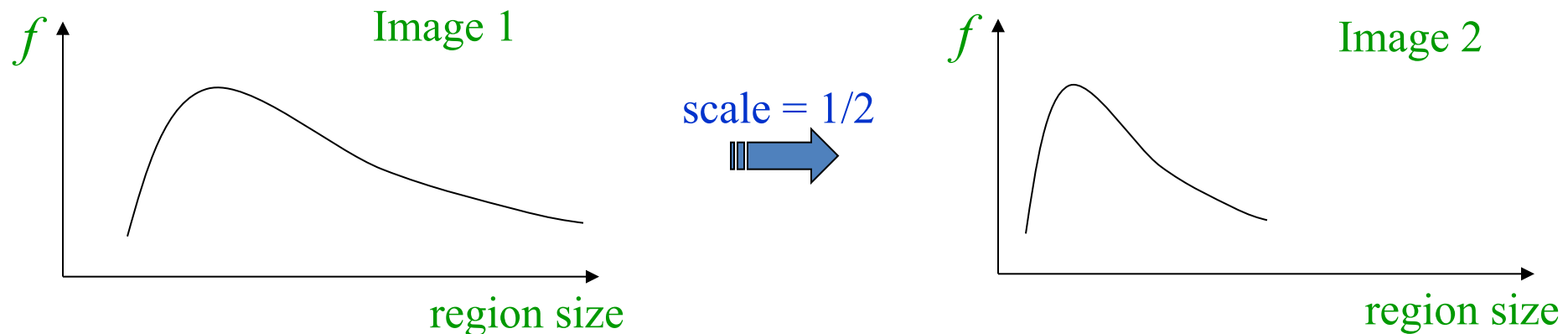


Scale Invariant Detection

- Solution:
 - Design a function on the region (circle), which is “scale invariant” (the same for corresponding regions, even if they are at different scales)

Example: average intensity. For corresponding regions (even of different sizes) it will be the same.

- For a point in one image, we can consider it as a function of region size (circle radius)



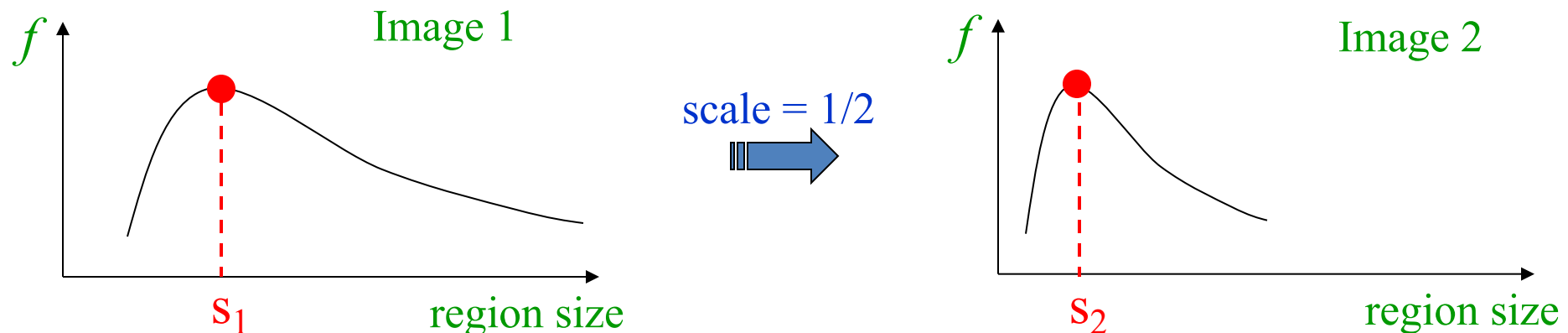
Scale Invariant Detection

- Common approach:

Take a local maximum of this function

Observation: region size, for which the maximum is achieved, should be *invariant* to image scale.

Important: this scale invariant region size is found in each image **independently!**



Scale Invariant Detection

- A “good” function for scale detection:
has one stable sharp peak



- For usual images: a good function would be a one which responds to contrast (sharp local intensity change)

Scale Invariant Detection

- Functions for determining scale

Kernels:

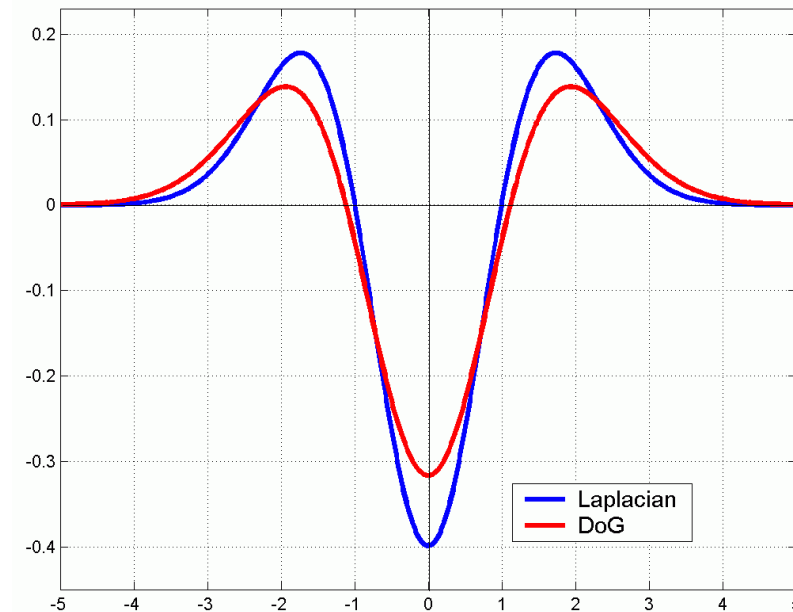
$$DoG = G(x, y, k\sigma) - G(x, y, \sigma)$$

(Difference of Gaussians)

where Gaussian

$$G(x, y, \sigma) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{-\frac{x^2 + y^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

$$f = \text{Kernel} * \text{Image}$$



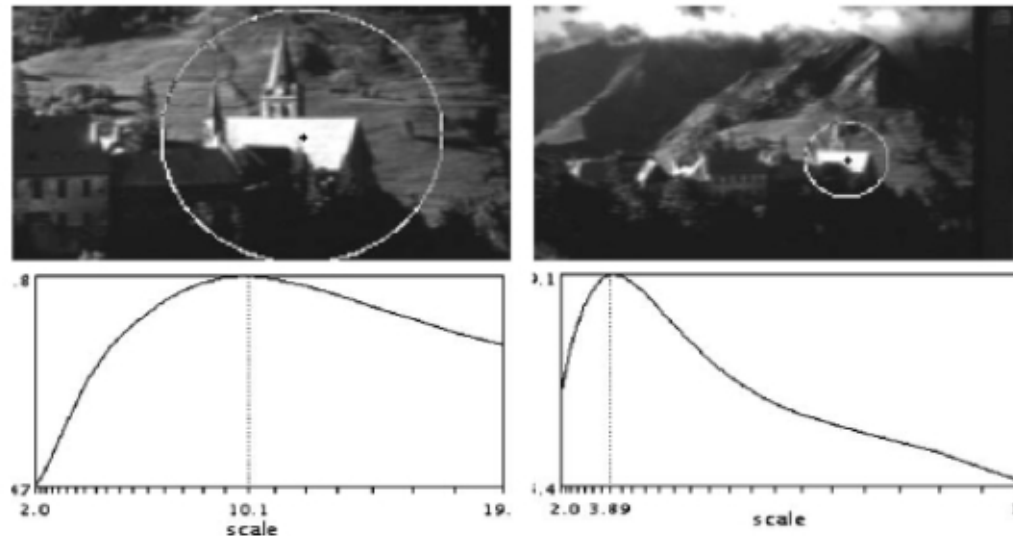
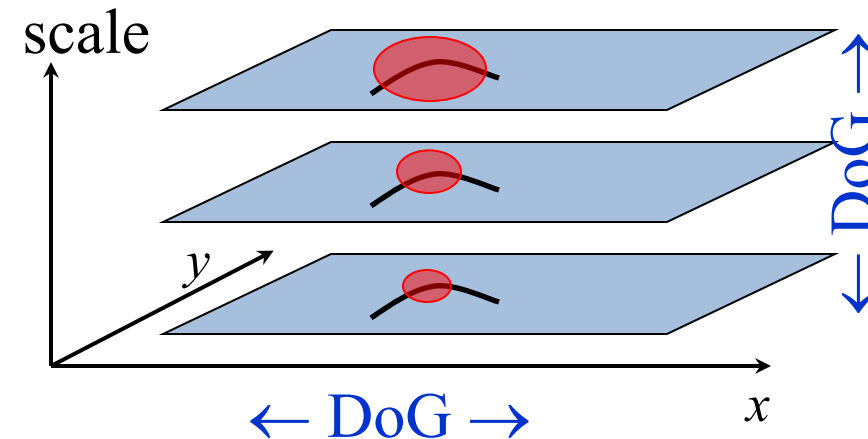
Note: This kernel is invariant to
scale and *rotation*

Scale Invariant Detectors

- **SIFT**

Find local maximum of:

- Difference of Gaussians in space and scale

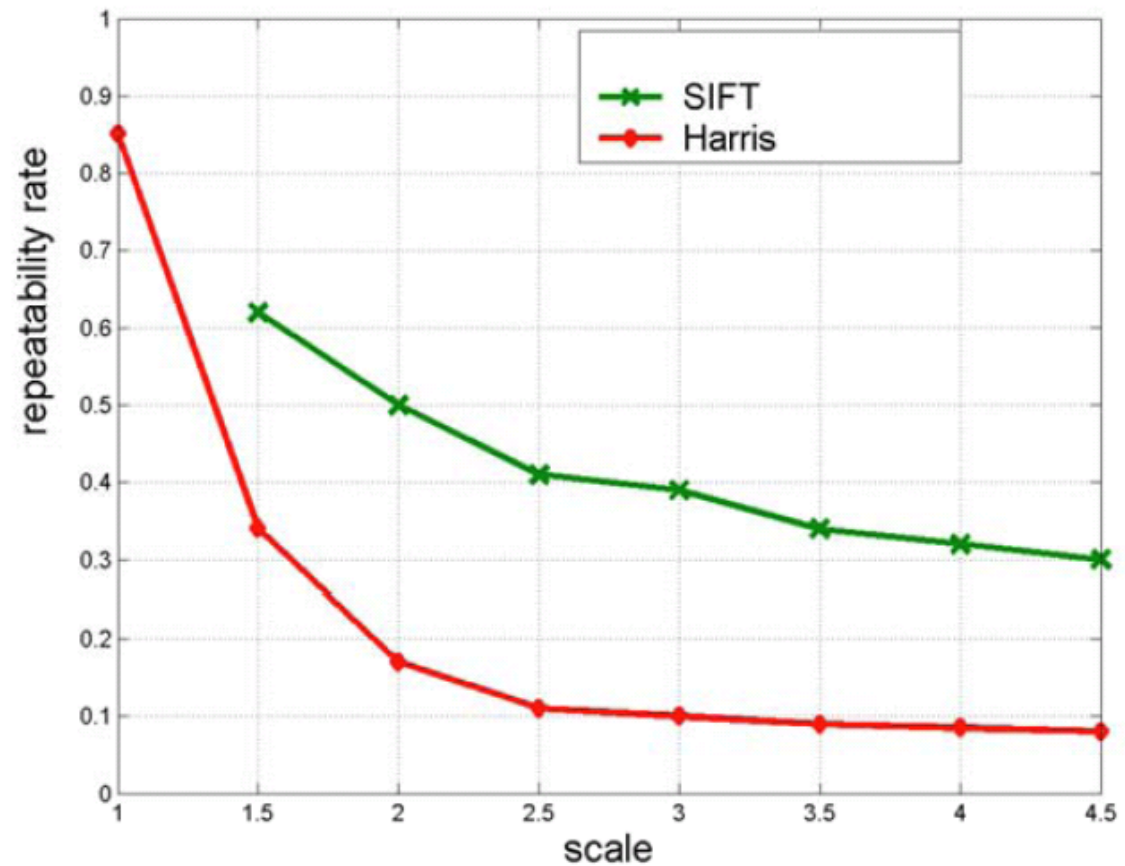
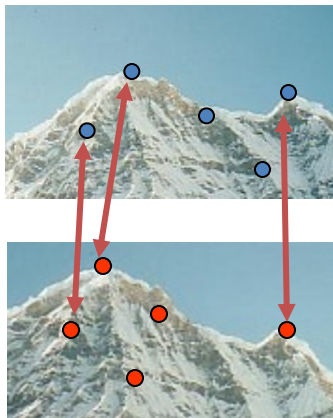


Scale Invariant Detectors

- Experimental evaluation of detectors w.r.t. scale change

Repeatability rate:

$$\frac{\# \text{ correspondences}}{\# \text{ possible correspondences}}$$

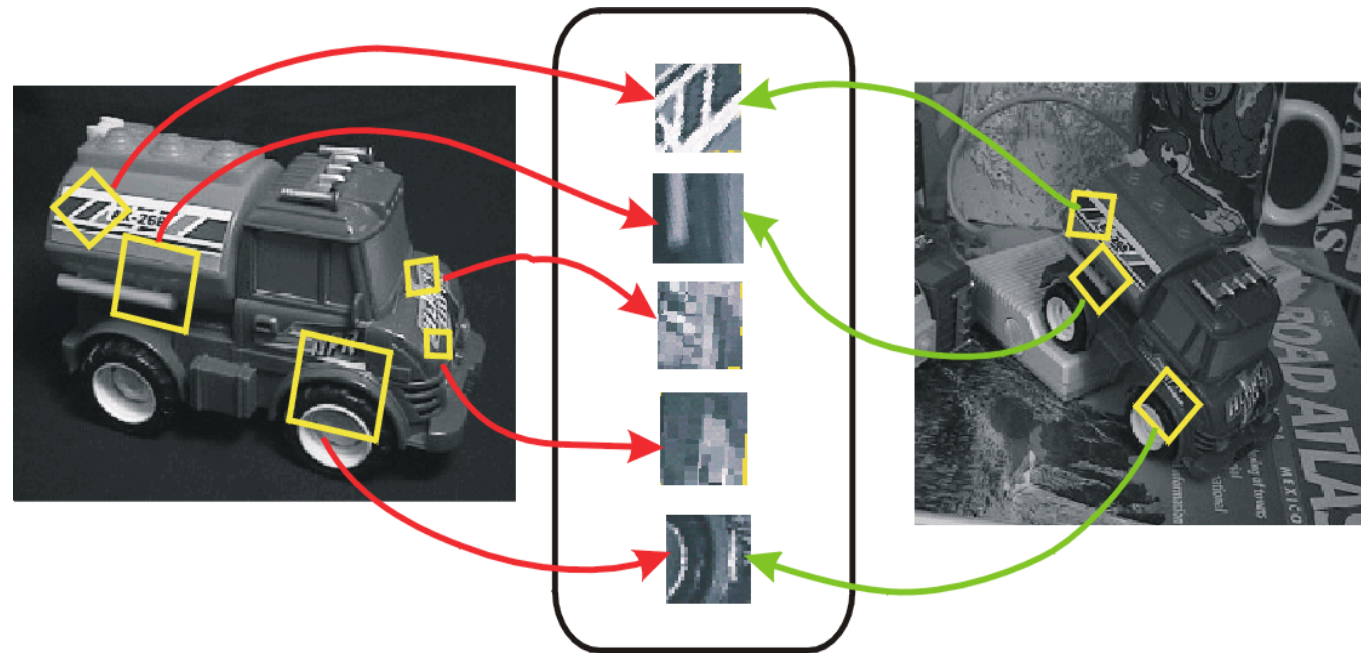


What is SIFT ?

- Scale Invariant Feature Transform (SIFT) is an approach for detecting and extracting local feature descriptors that are reasonably invariant to changes in:
 - rotation
 - scaling
 - small changes in viewpoint
 - illumination

Invariant Local Features

- Image content is transformed into local feature coordinates that are invariant to translation, rotation, scale, and slight view-point and illumination changes

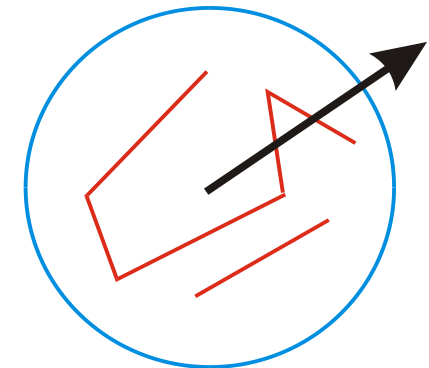
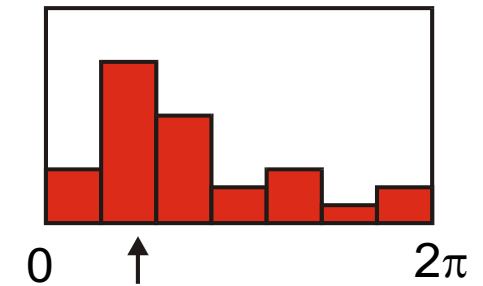
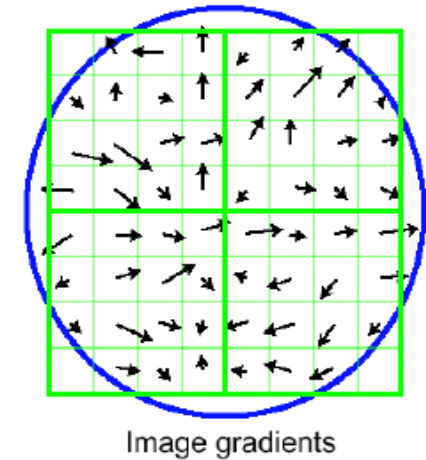


SIFT Descriptor

- SIFT matching features between different images invariant to:
 - Rotation
 - Small image scale
 - Small view point changes
- This is made possible by the use of an opportune feature descriptor (remember, Harris does not use a descriptor for matching)
- What is a descriptor? A descriptor is a “description”, identity card, which allows to recognize a given feature uniquely among many others!

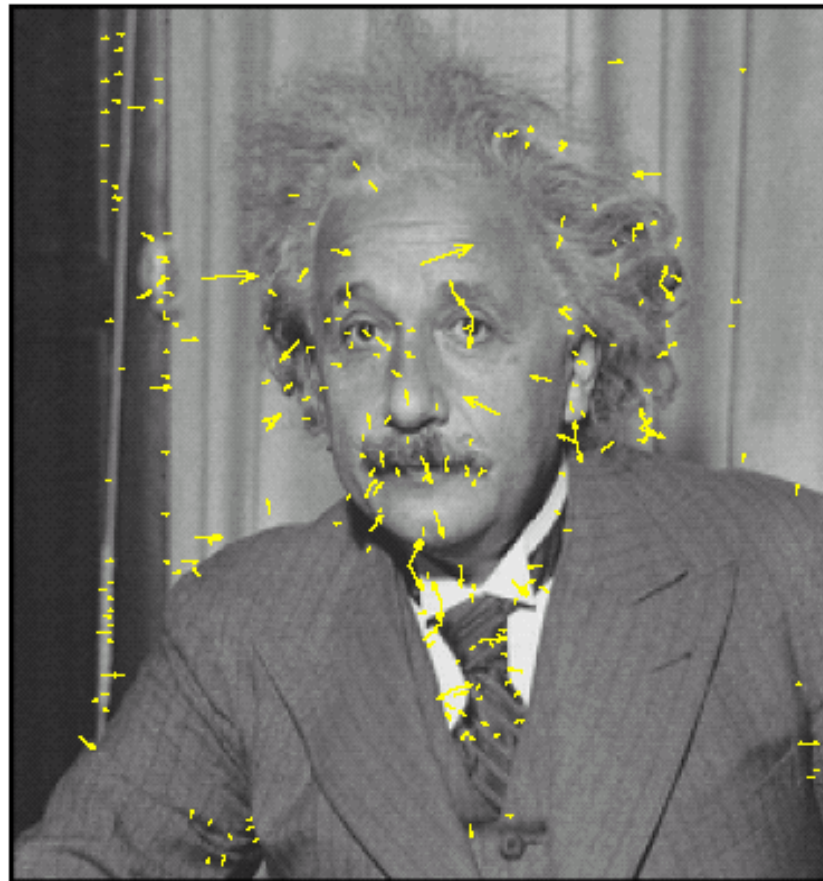
Generation of Keypoint Descriptor

- Keypoint descriptor: computing gradient magnitude and orientation at each image sample point in a region around the keypoint location
- Samples are accumulated into orientation histograms with the length of each bin corresponding to the sum of the gradient magnitudes near that direction within the region.
- The descriptor is therefore a vector containing the values of all the orientations histogram entries
- This vector is normalized to enhance invariance to changes in illumination
- Peaks in the histogram correspond to dominant orientations. If more than one peak is found, a separated feature is assigned to the same point location.
- All the properties of the keypoint are measured relative to the keypoint orientation, this provides invariance to rotation.

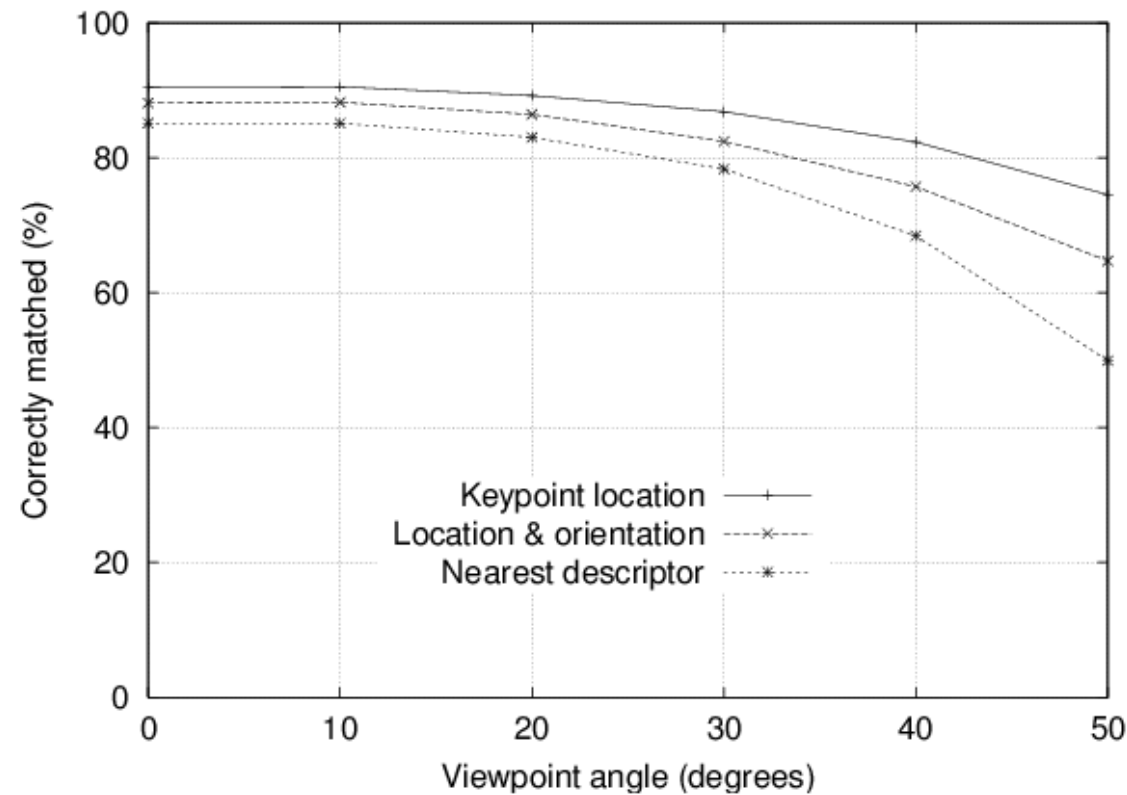


Key point localization

- Final keypoints with selected orientation and scale



Feature stability to view point change

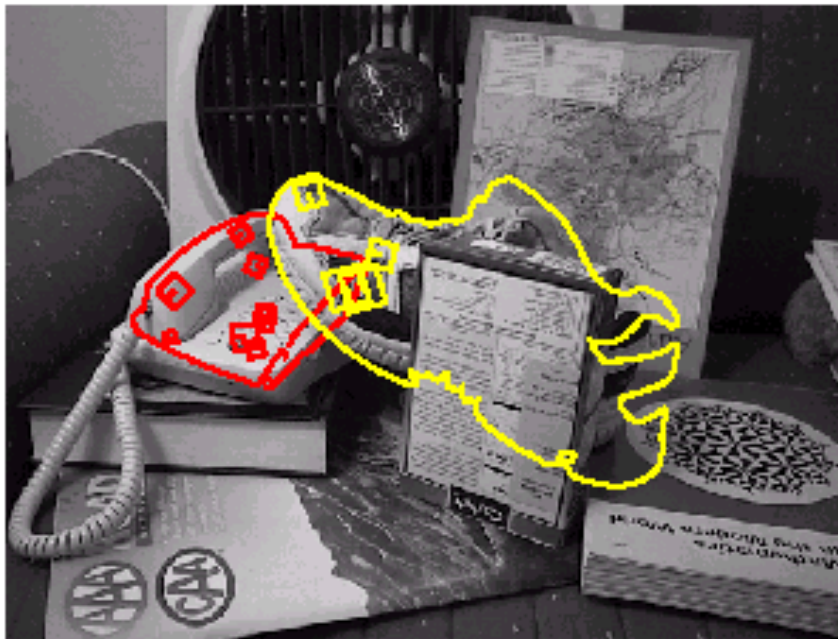


Planar recognition

- Planar surfaces can be reliably recognized at a rotation of 60° away from the camera
- Only 3 points are needed for recognition
- But objects need to possess enough texture (i.e. no monochrome objects!)



Recognition under occlusion



Place recognition



Multiple panoramas from an unordered image set

SIFT is used in current consumer cameras and smart phones to build panoramas from multiple shots!



Input images



Output panorama 1

