### Edge Detection

Goal: Identify sudden changes in image intensity

This is where most shape information is encoded

**Example**: artist's line drawing (but artist also is using object-level knowledge)



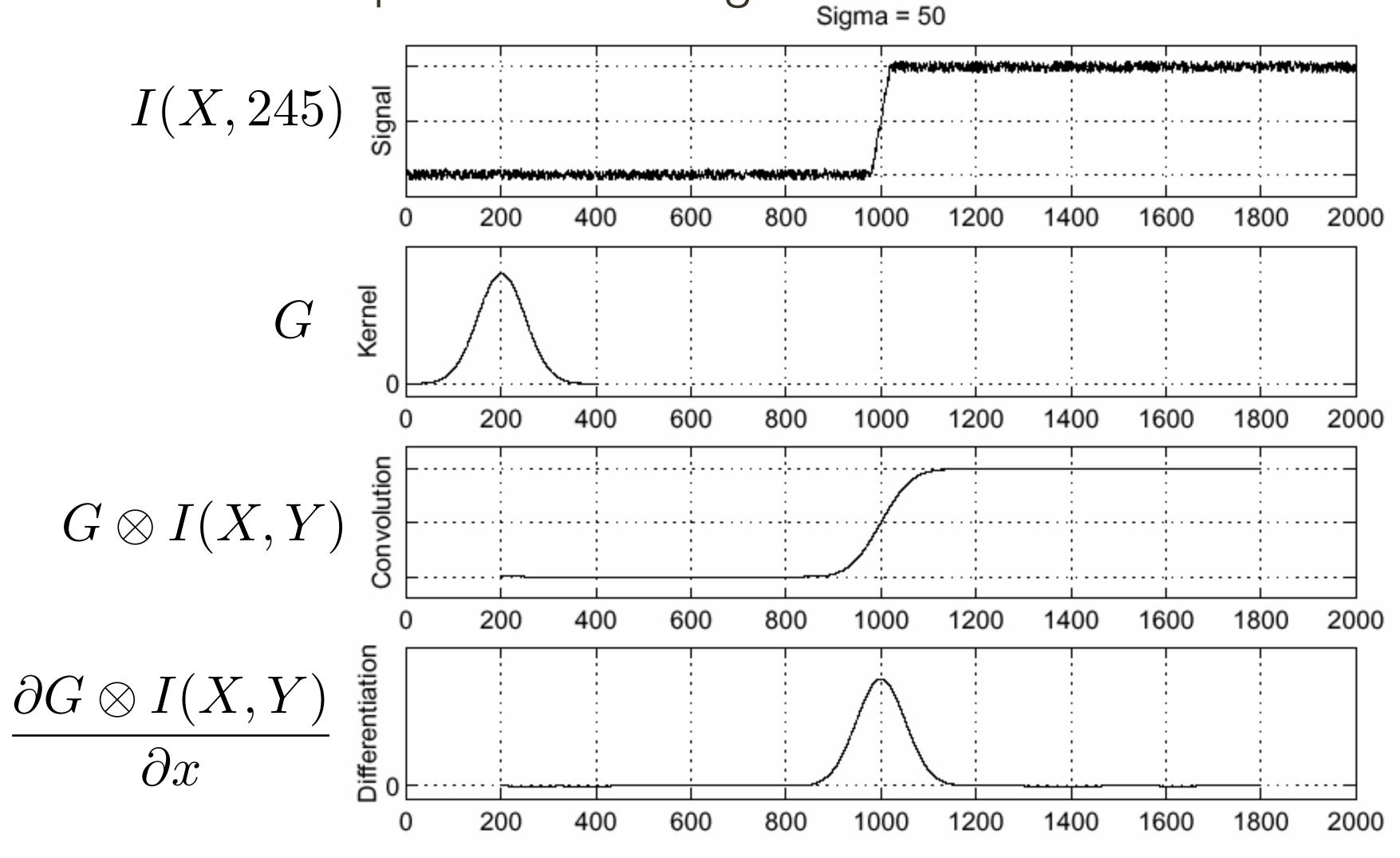
## Derivative Approximations: Forward, Backward, Centred





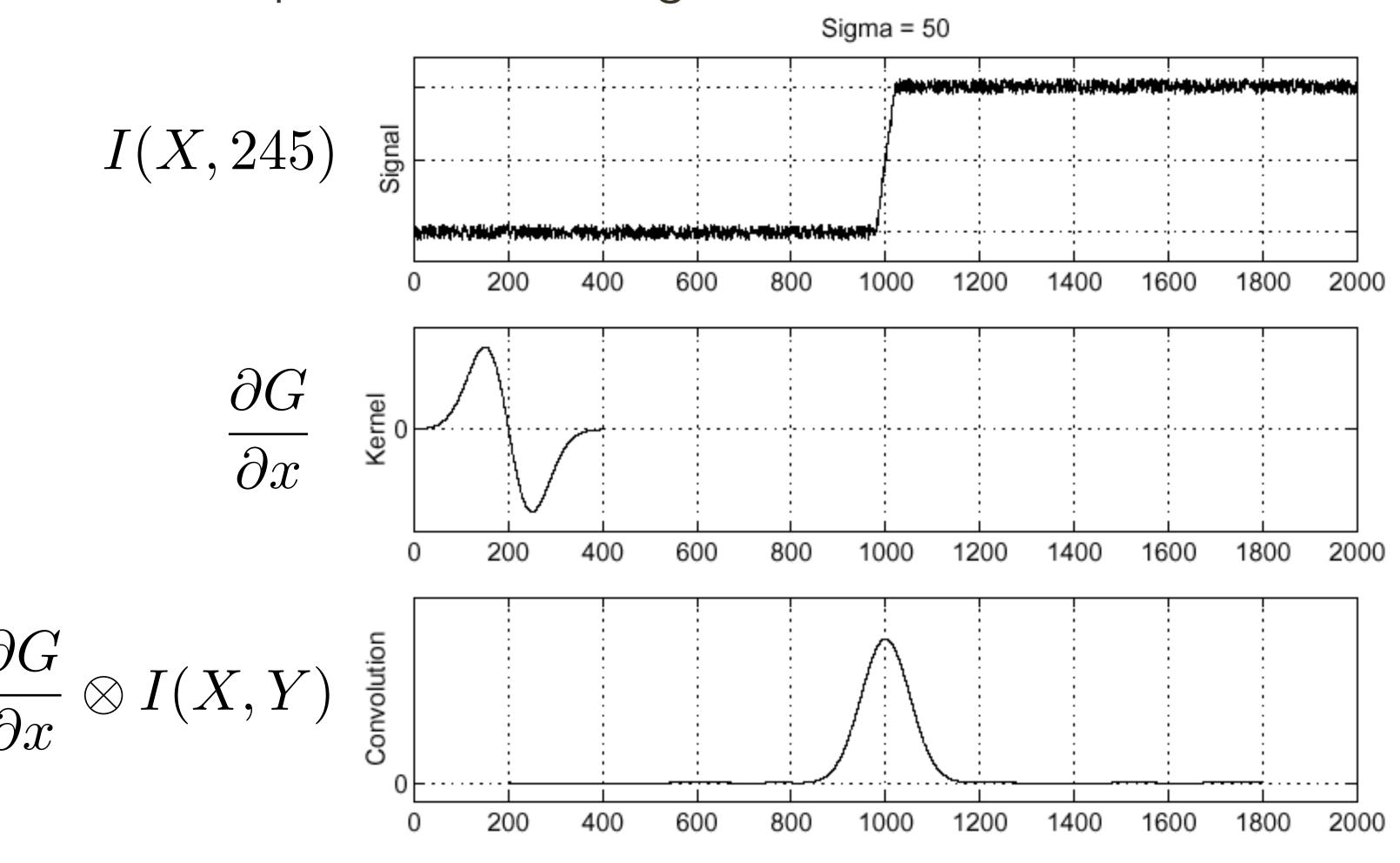
### 1D Example: Smoothing + Derivative

Lets consider a row of pixels in an image:



### 1D Example: Smoothing + Derivative

Lets consider a row of pixels in an image:



## Sobel Edge Detector

1. Use central differencing to compute gradient image (instead of first

forward differencing). This is more accurate.

2. Threshold to obtain edges



Original Image



**Sobel** Gradient



Sobel Edges

Thresholds are brittle, we can do better!

## Canny Edge Detector

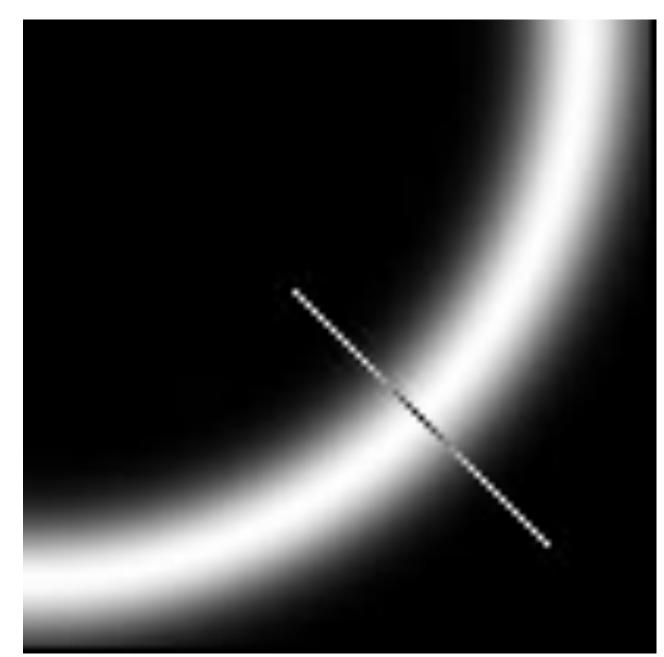
#### Steps:

- 1. Apply directional derivatives of Gaussian
- 2. Compute gradient magnitude and gradient direction
- 3. Non-maximum suppression
  - thin multi-pixel wide "ridges" down to single pixel width
- 4. Linking and thresholding
  - Low, high edge-strength thresholds
  - Accept all edges over low threshold that are connected to edge over high threshold

## Non-maxima Suppression

Idea: suppress near-by similar detections to obtain one "true" result

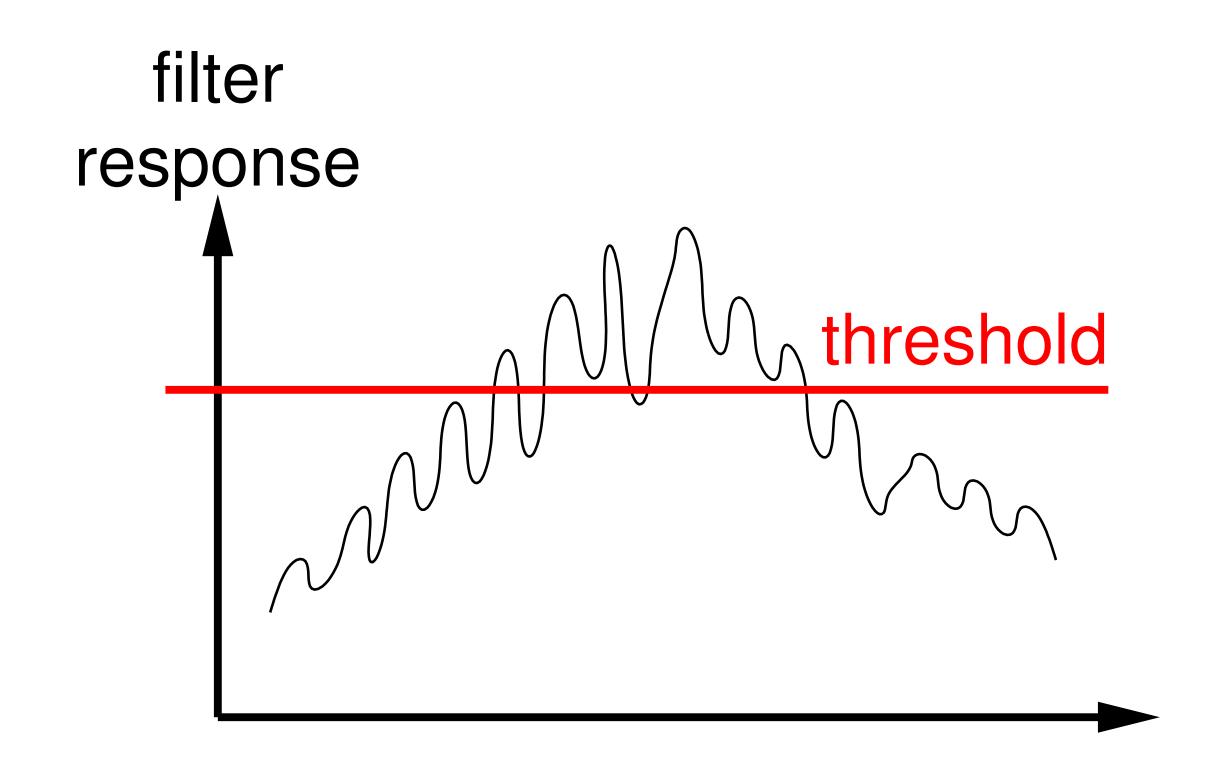




Non-maximal suppression (keep points where  $|\nabla I|$  is a maximum in directions  $\pm \nabla I$  )

Select the image maximum point across the width of the edge

## Example: Edge Detection



Question: How many edges are there?

Question: What is the position of each edge?

## Canny Edge Detector

Original Image



Strong +
connected
Weak Edges

**Strong**Edges





courtesy of G. Loy

Weak Edges



# CPSC 425: Computer Vision

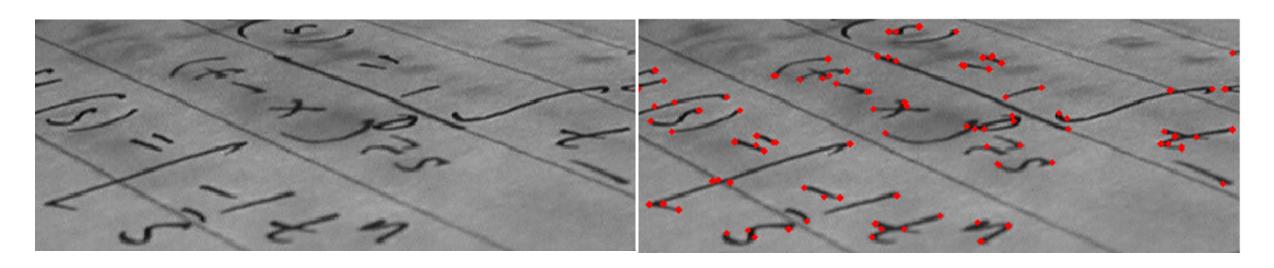


Image Credit: <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corner\_detection">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corner\_detection</a>

Lecture 10: Corner Detection

( unless otherwise stated slides are taken or adopted from **Bob Woodham, Jim Little** and **Fred Tung** )

## Menu for Today

#### **Topics:**

- Corner Detection
- Image Structure

— Harris Corner Detection

#### Readings:

— Today's Lecture: Szeliski 7.1-7.2, Forsyth & Ponce 5.3.0 - 5.3.1

#### Reminders:

- Assignment 2: Scaled Representations, Face Detection and Image Blending (due Feb 14 23:59)
- -Midterm: Feb 26th 3:30 pm in class, 75 minutes, closed book

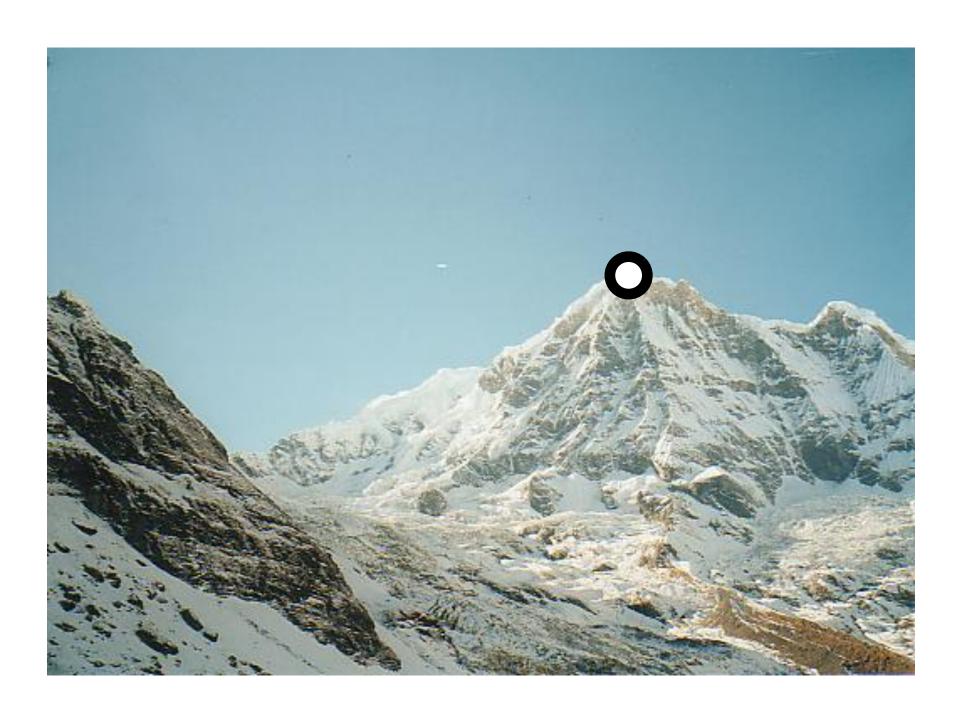
## Learning Goals

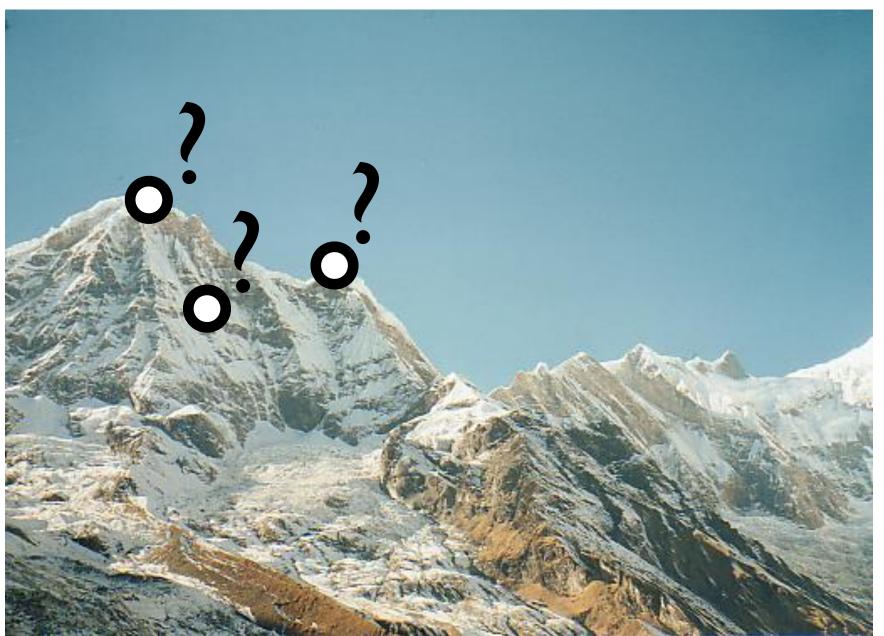
Why corners (blobs)?
What are corners (blobs)?

### Correspondence Problem

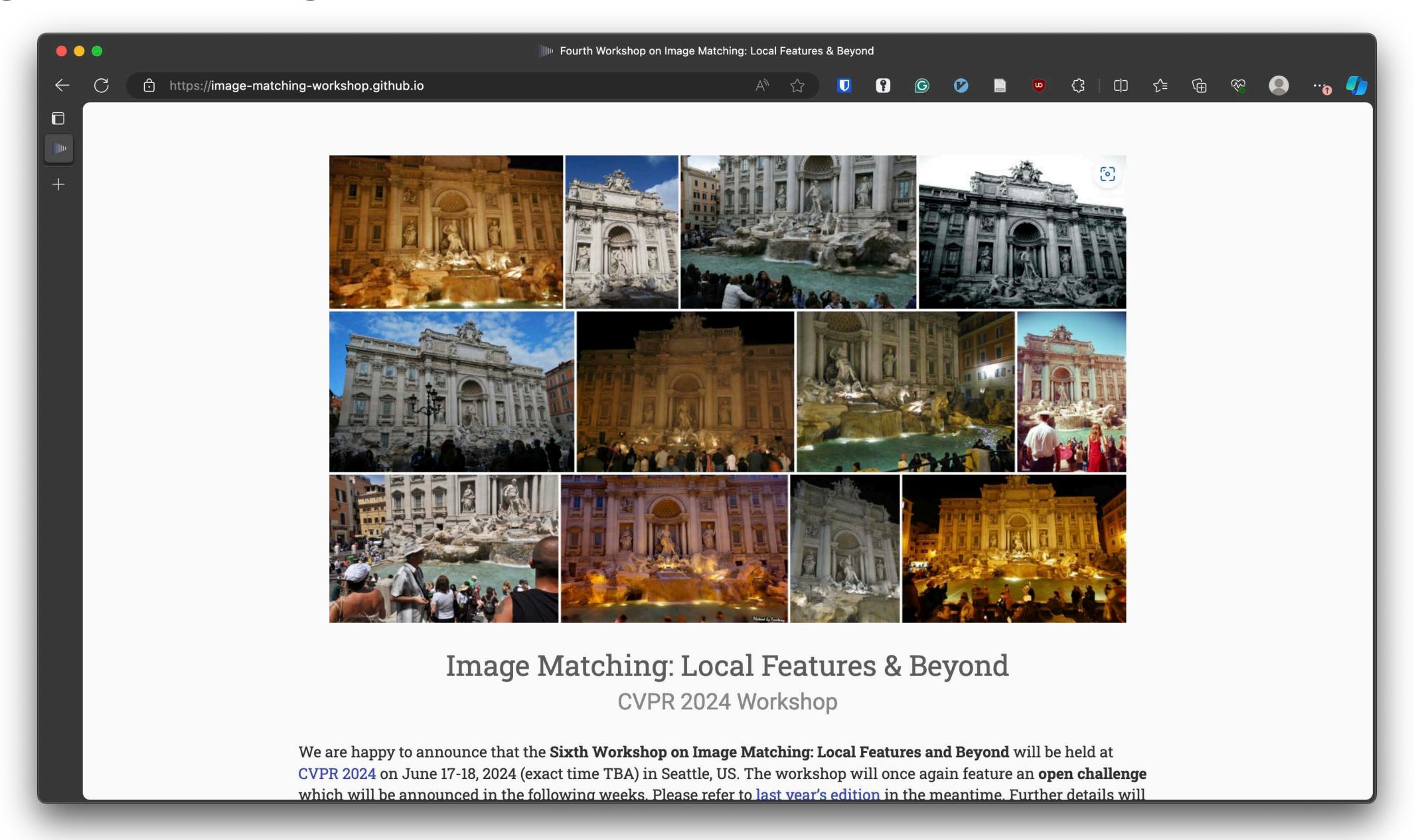
A basic problem in Computer Vision is to establish matches (correspondences) between images

This has **many** applications: rigid/non-rigid tracking, object recognition, image registration, structure from motion, stereo...

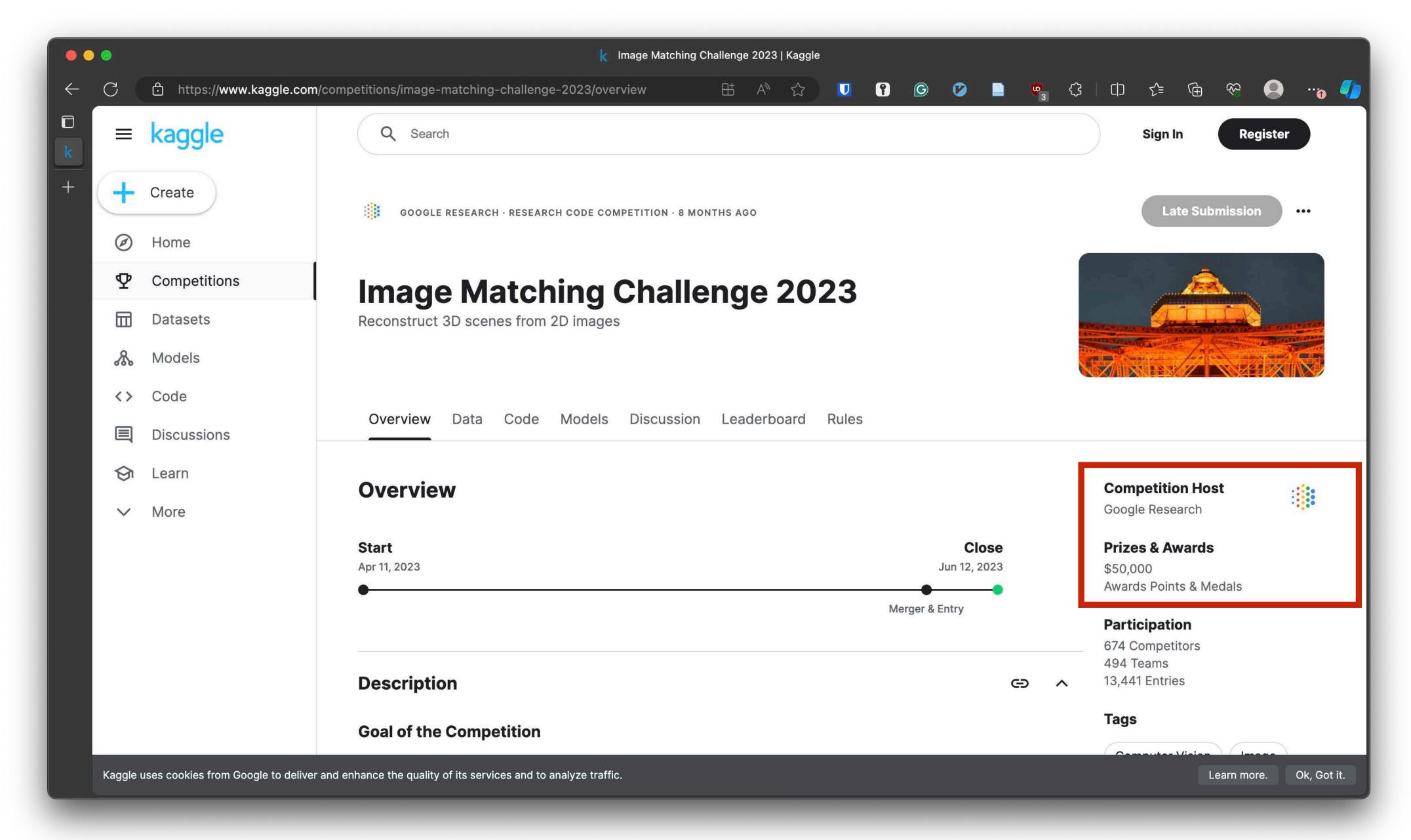




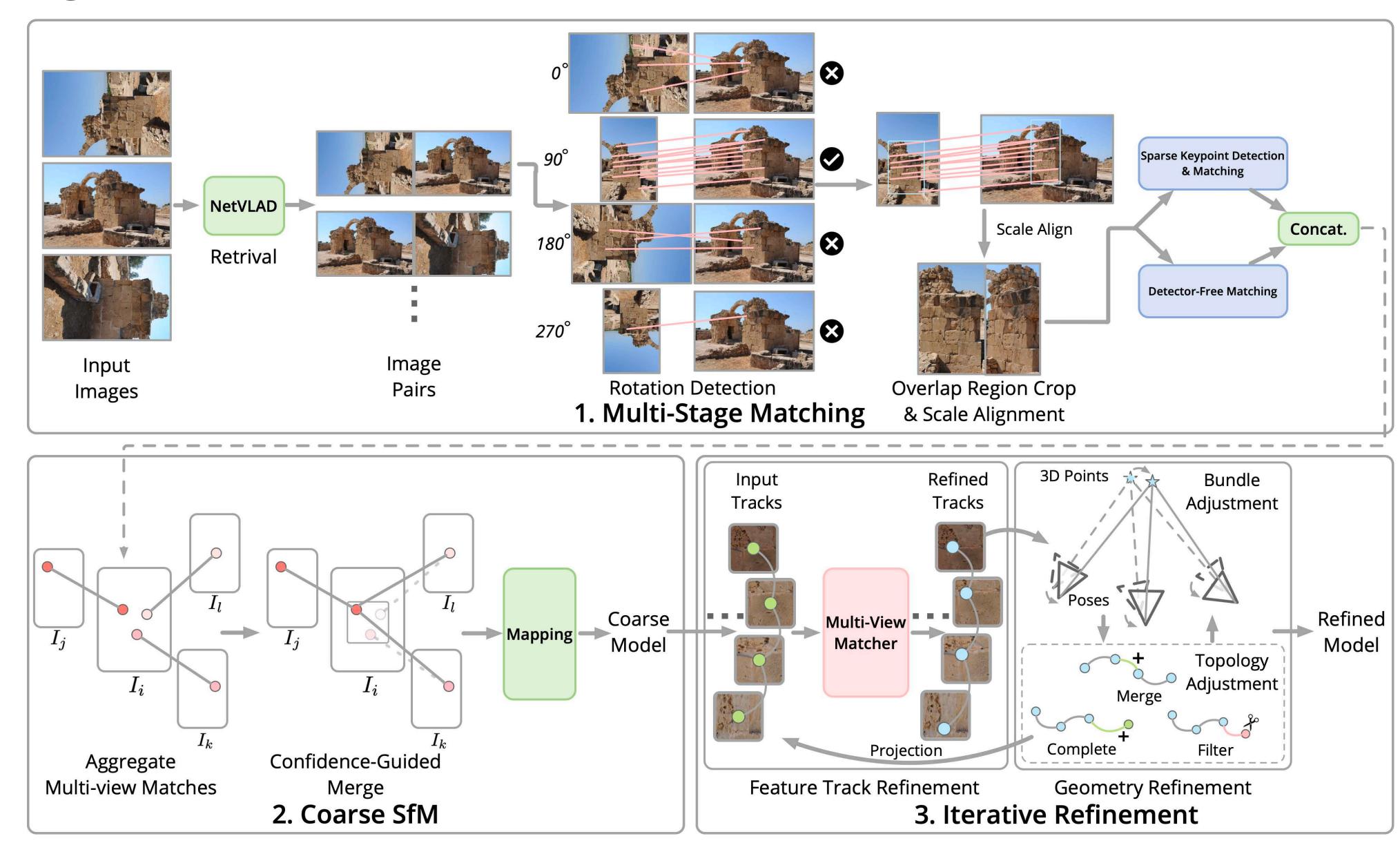
## Image Matching Workshop



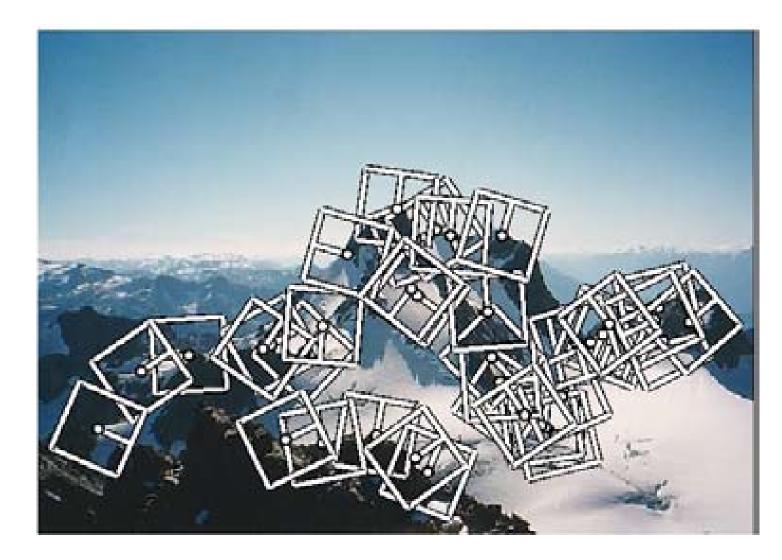
## Image Matching Challenge



## Winning solution of 2023



### Feature Detectors



Corners/Blobs



Edges



Regions



Straight Lines

## Feature Descriptors

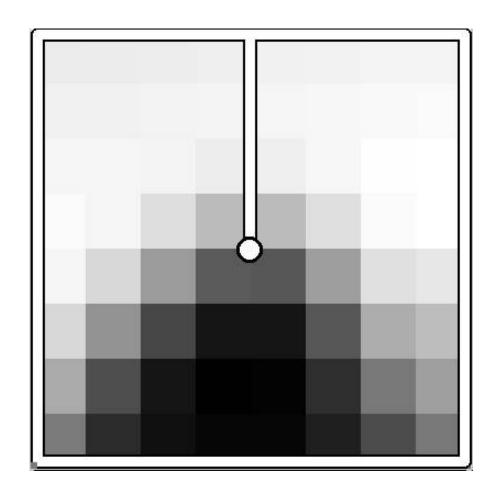
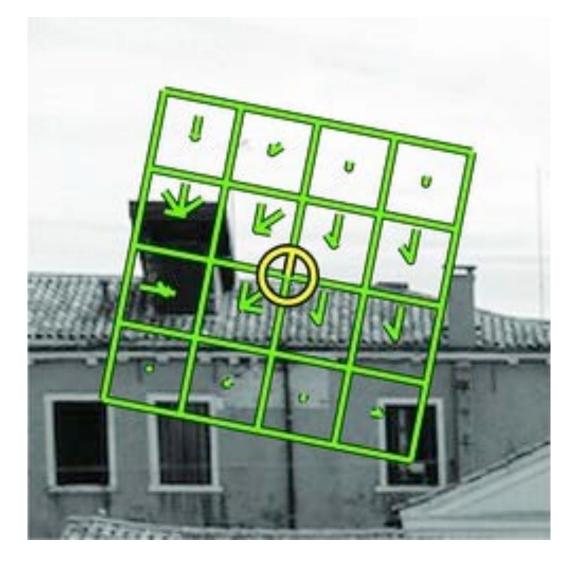
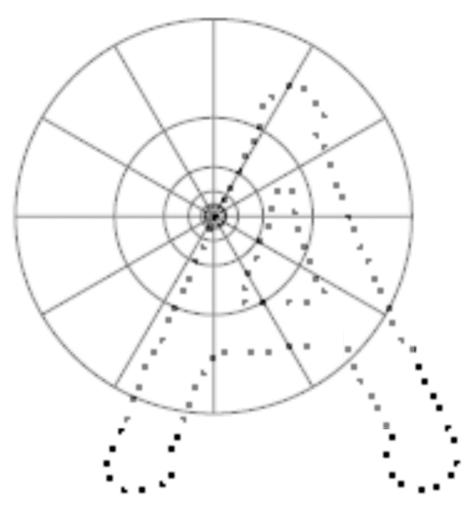


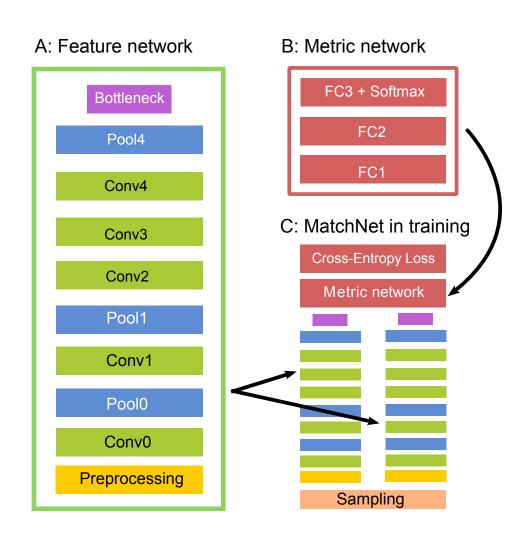
Image Patch



SIFT



Shape Context



Learned Descriptors

#### What is a Good Feature Detector?

Local: features are local, robust to occlusion and clutter

Accurate: precise localization

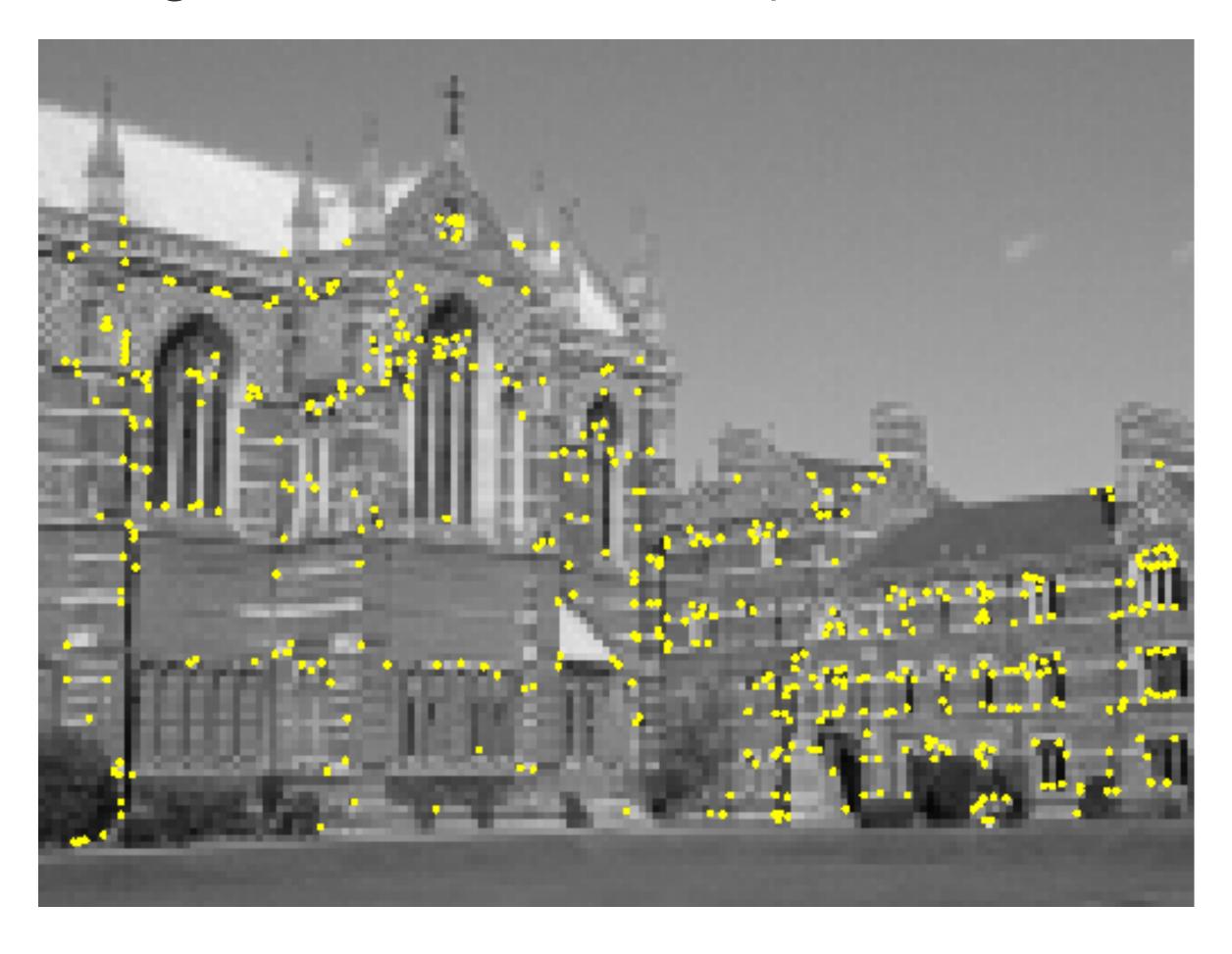
Robust: noise, blur, compression, etc. do not have a big impact on the feature.

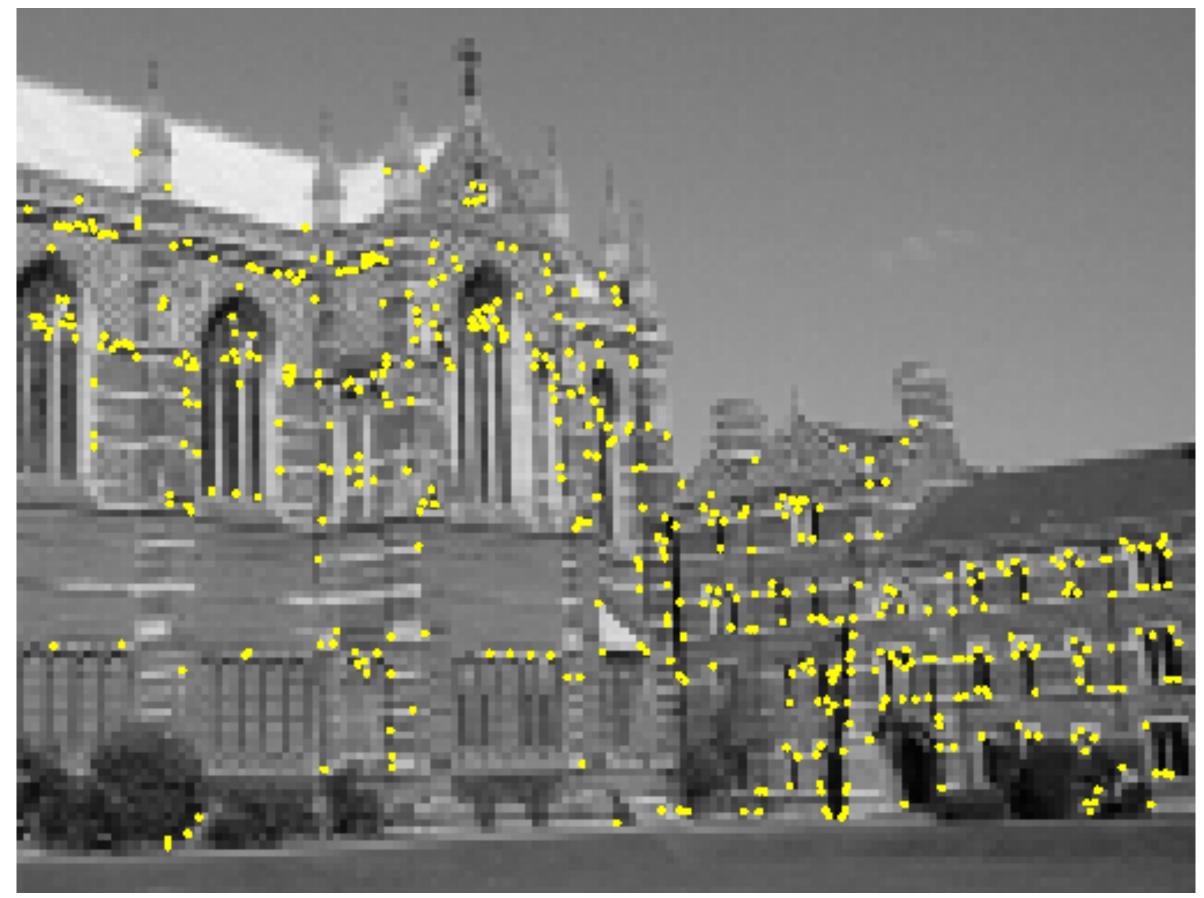
Distinctive: individual features can be easily matched

Efficient: close to real-time performance

### Corner Detection

e.g., Harris corners are peaks of a local similarity function

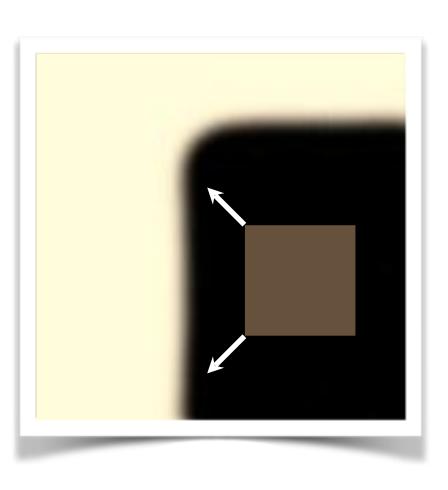




A corner can be localized reliably.

Thought experiment:

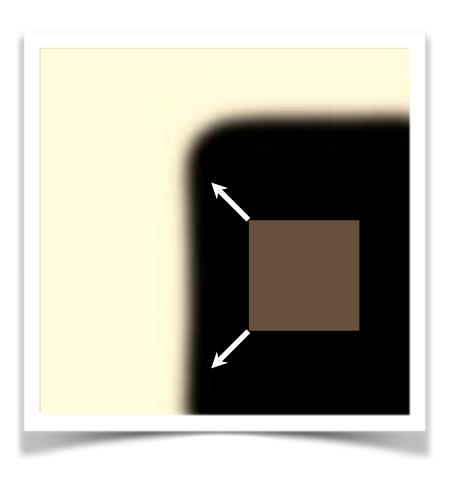
- Place a small window over a patch of constant image value.



"flat" region:

A corner can be localized reliably.

Thought experiment:

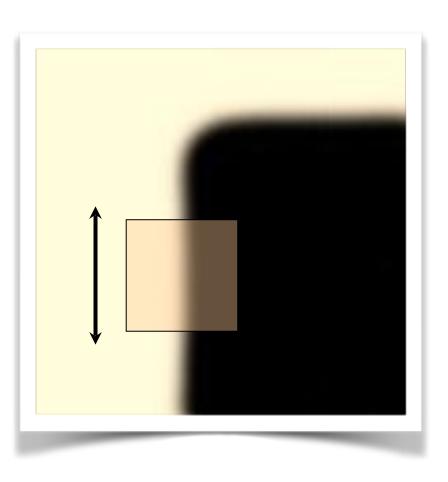


"flat" region:
no change in all
directions

A corner can be localized reliably.

#### Thought experiment:

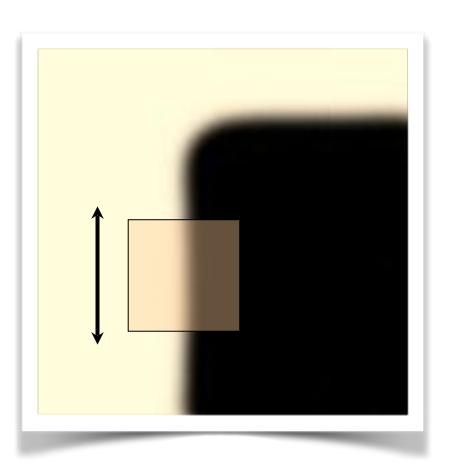
- Place a small window over a patch of constant image value.
   If you slide the window in any direction, the image in the window will not change.
- Place a small window over an edge.



"edge":

A corner can be localized reliably.

Thought experiment:

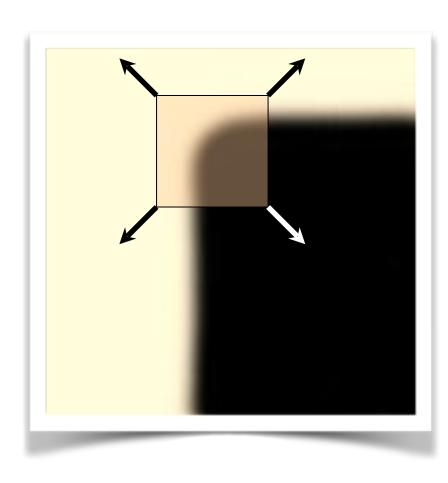


"edge":
no change along
the edge direction

- Place a small window over an edge. If you slide the window in the direction of the edge, the image in the window will not change
  - → Cannot estimate location along an edge (a.k.a., aperture problem)

A corner can be localized reliably.

#### Thought experiment:

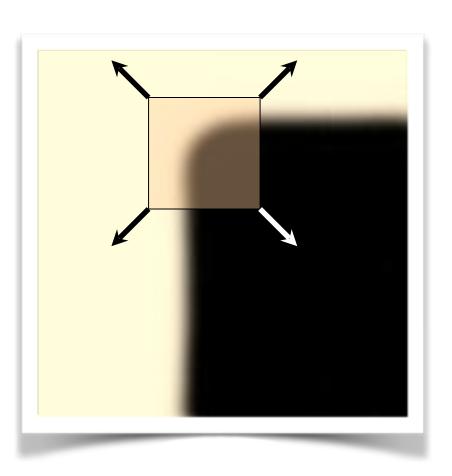


"corner":

- Place a small window over an edge. If you slide the window in the direction of the edge, the image in the window will not change
  - → Cannot estimate location along an edge (a.k.a., aperture problem)
- Place a small window over a corner.

A corner can be localized reliably.

#### Thought experiment:



"corner":
significant change
in all directions

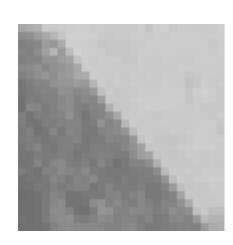
- Place a small window over an edge. If you slide the window in the direction of the edge, the image in the window will not change
  - → Cannot estimate location along an edge (a.k.a., aperture problem)
- Place a small window over a corner. If you slide the window in any direction, the image in the window changes.

## Image Structure

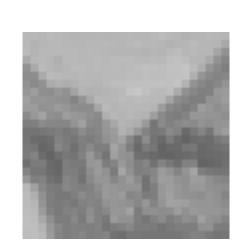
What kind of structures are present in the image locally?



**OD Structure**: not useful for matching



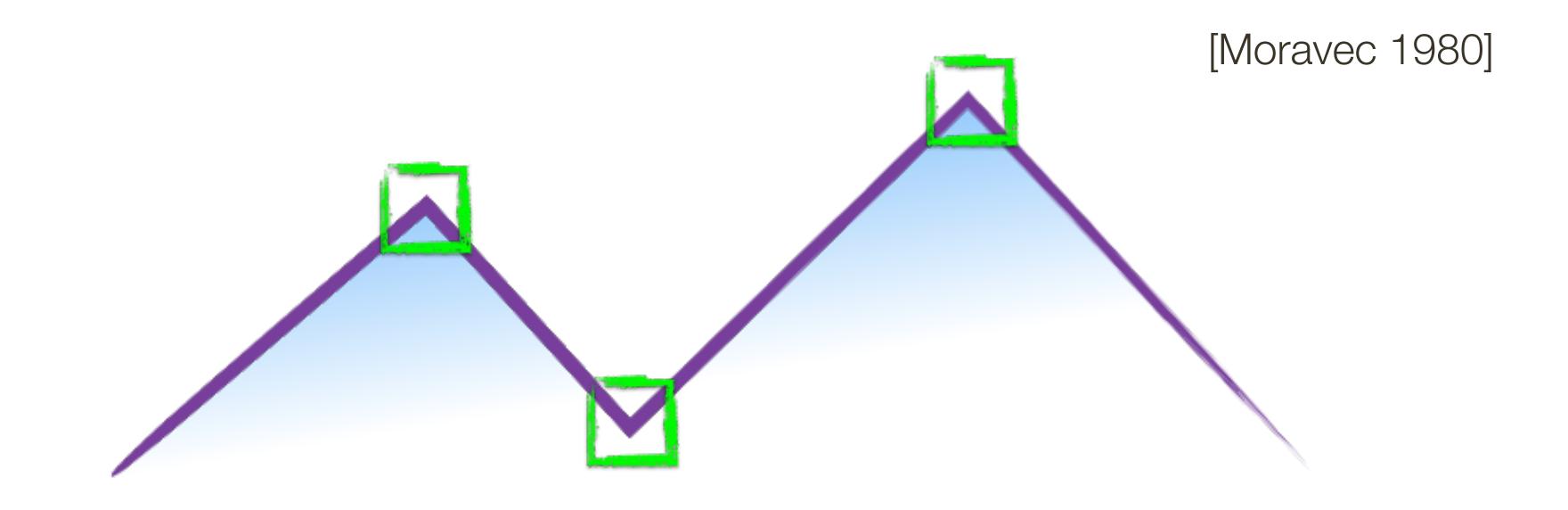
1D Structure: edge, can be localised in one direction, subject to the "aperture problem"



**2D Structure**: corner, or interest point, can be localised in both directions, good for matching

Edge detectors find contours (1D structure), Corner or Interest point detectors find points with 2D structure.

## How do you find a corner?

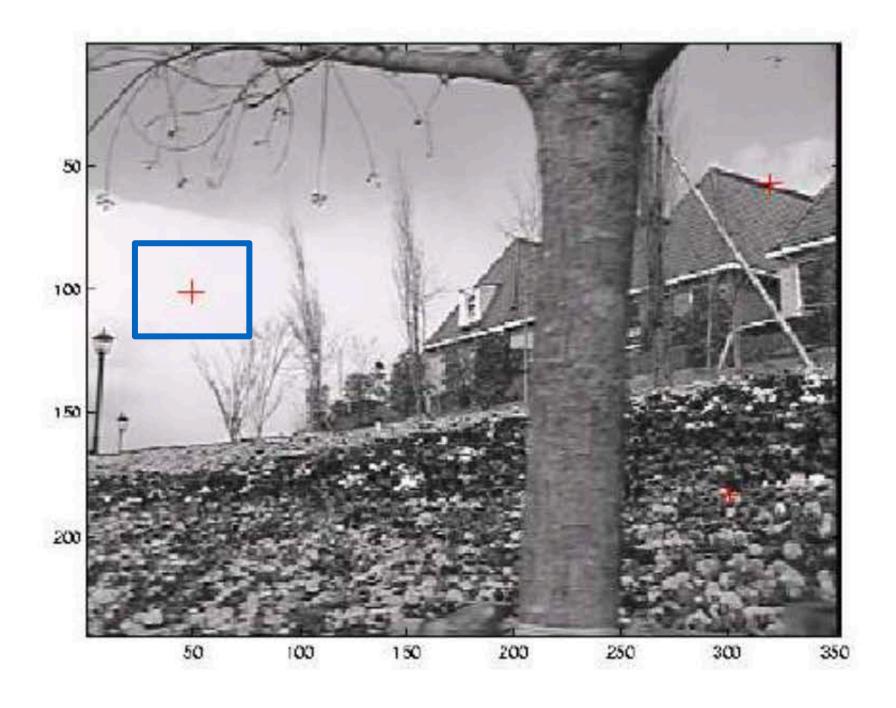


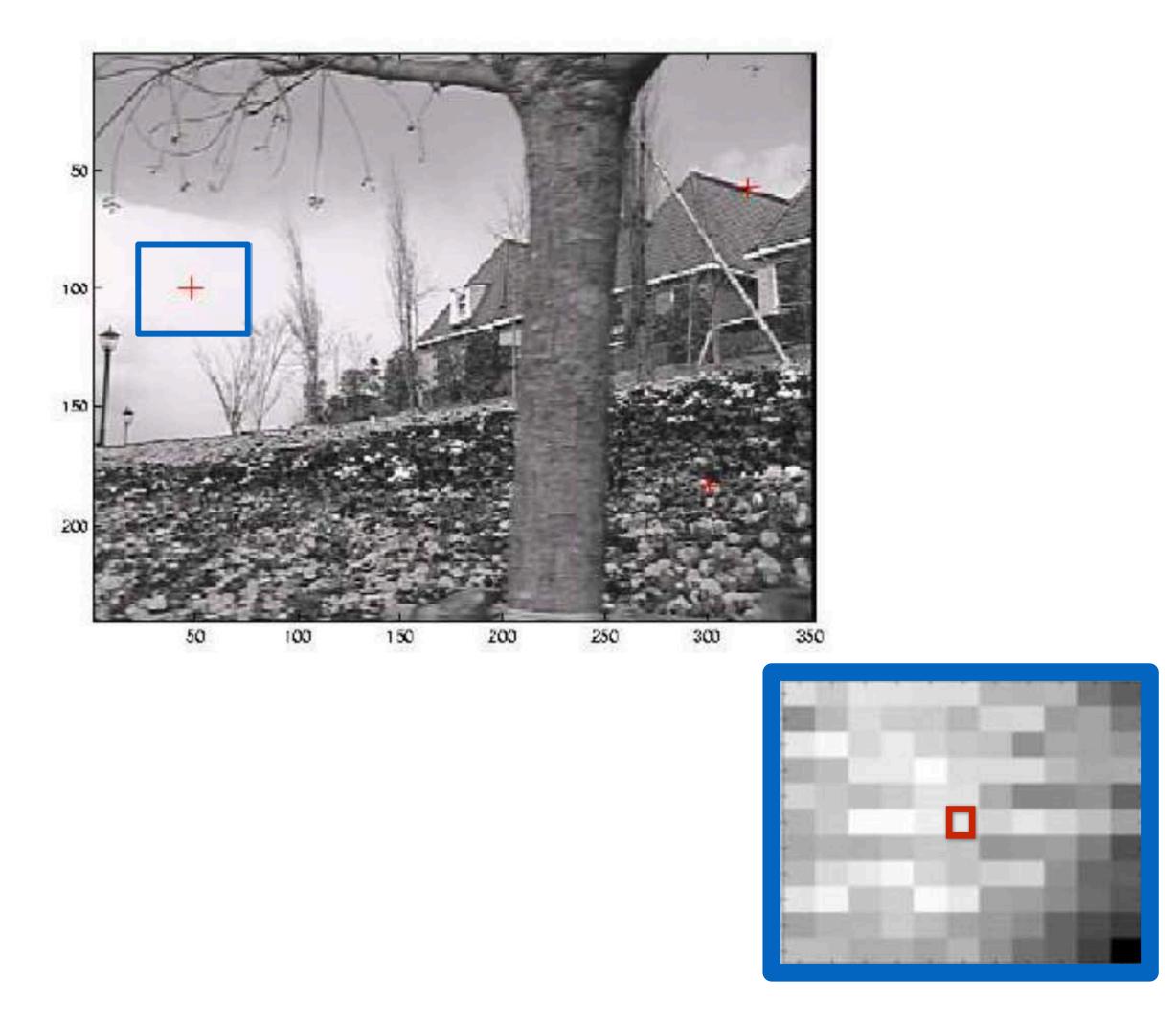
Easily recognized by looking through a small window

Shifting the window should give large change in intensity

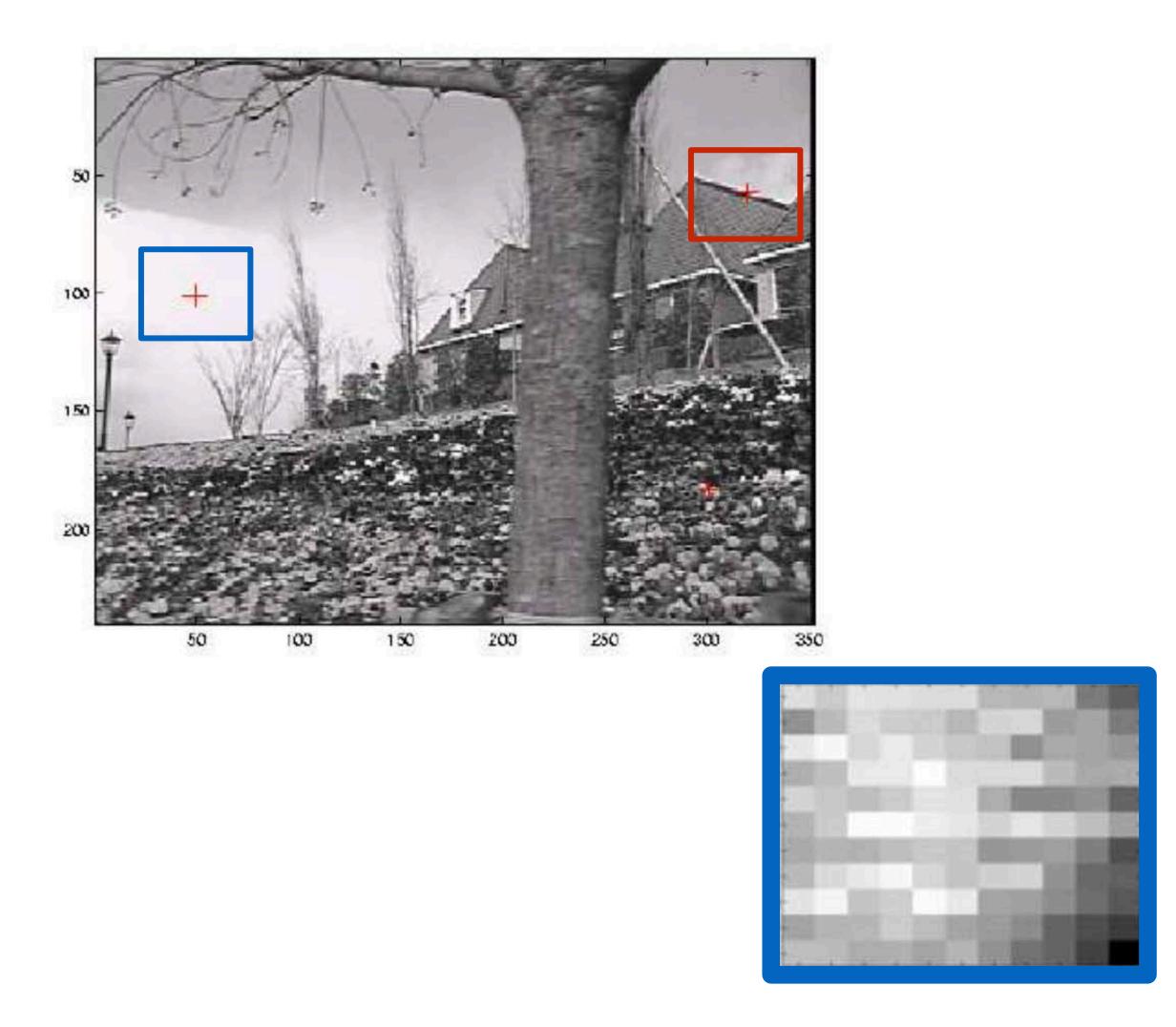
Autocorrelation is the correlation of the image with itself.

- Windows centered on an edge point will have autocorrelation that falls off slowly in the direction along the edge and rapidly in the direction across (perpendicular to) the edge.
- Windows centered on a corner point will have autocorrelation that falls of rapidly in all directions.

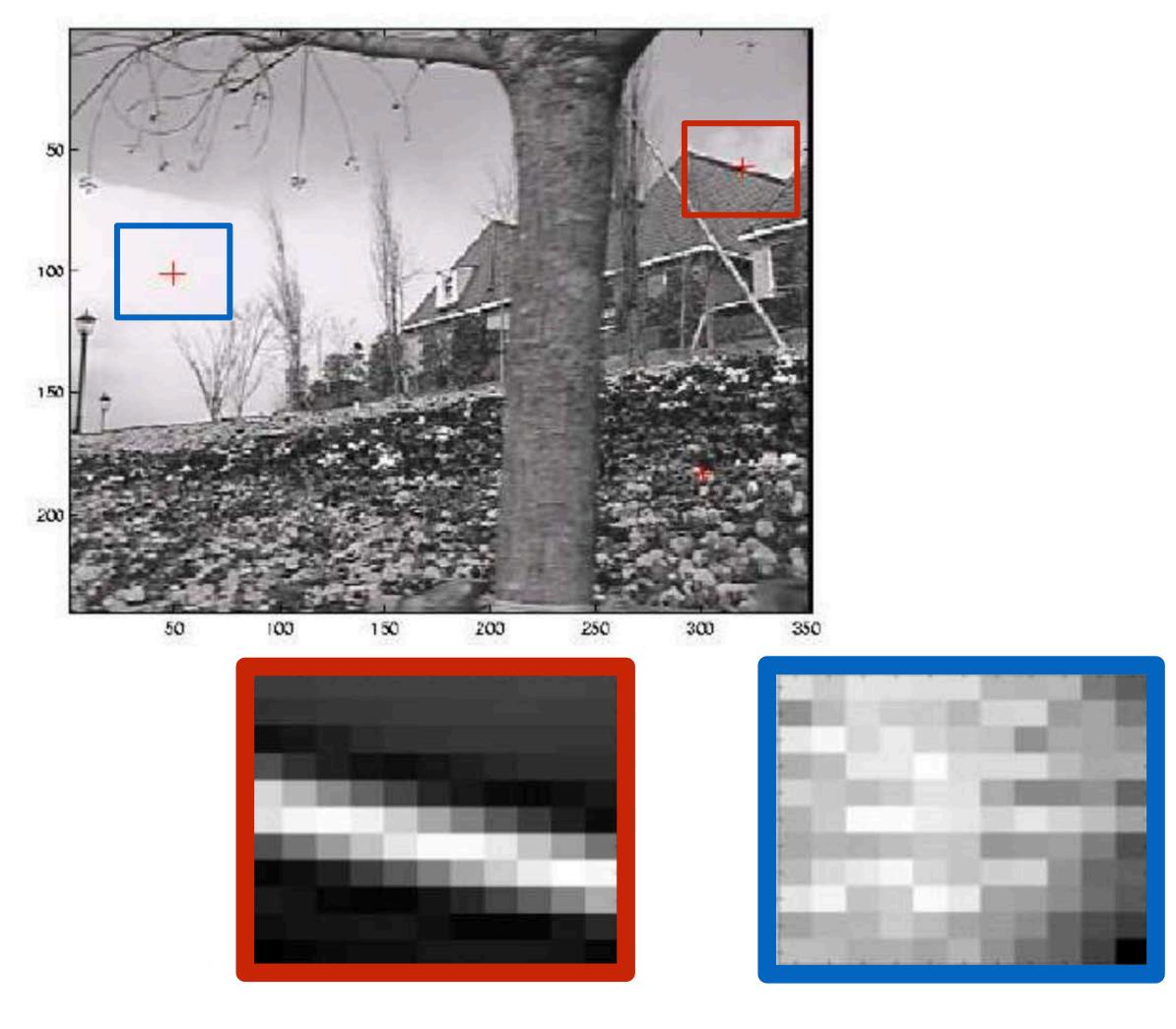




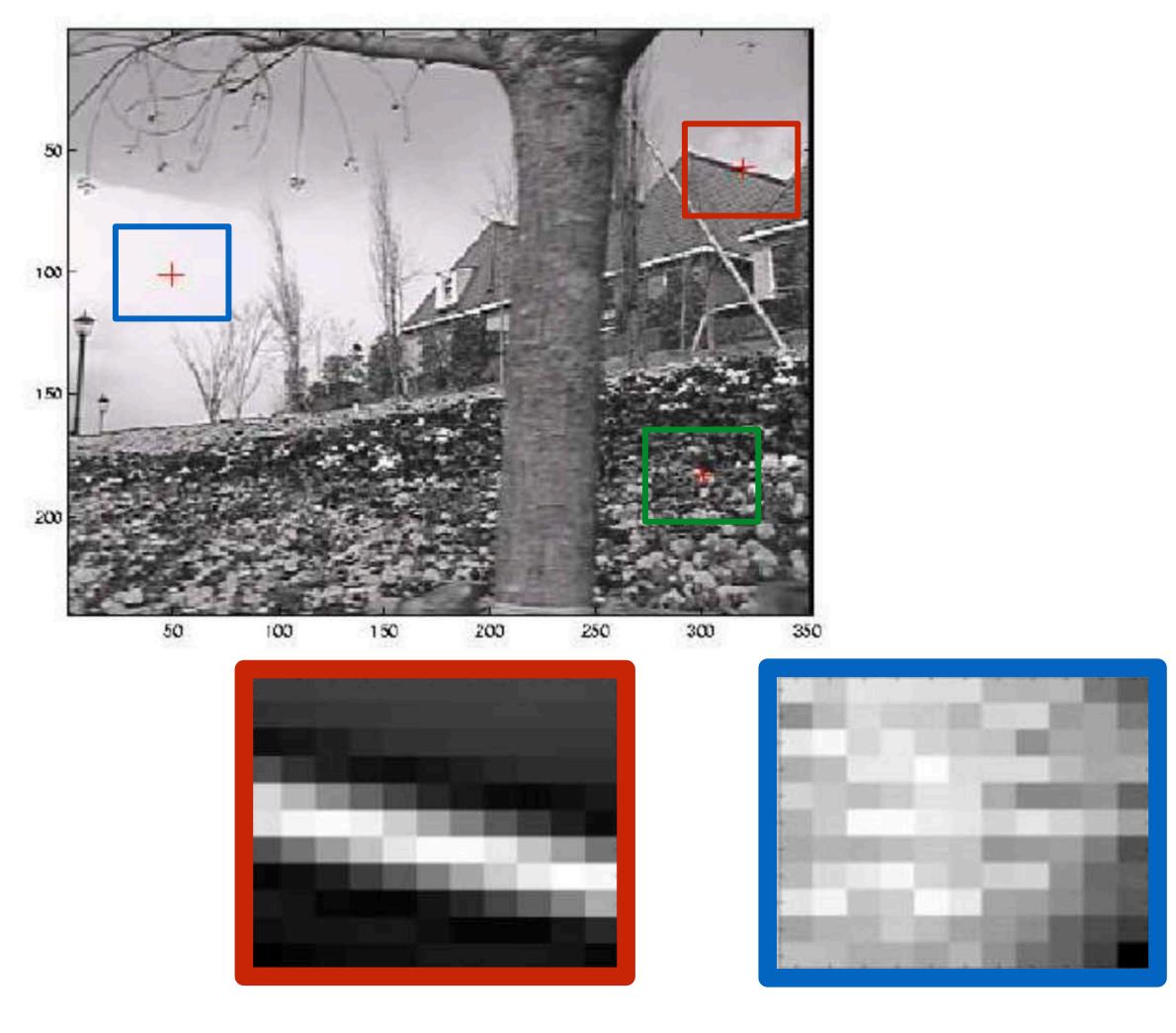
Szeliski, Figure 4.5



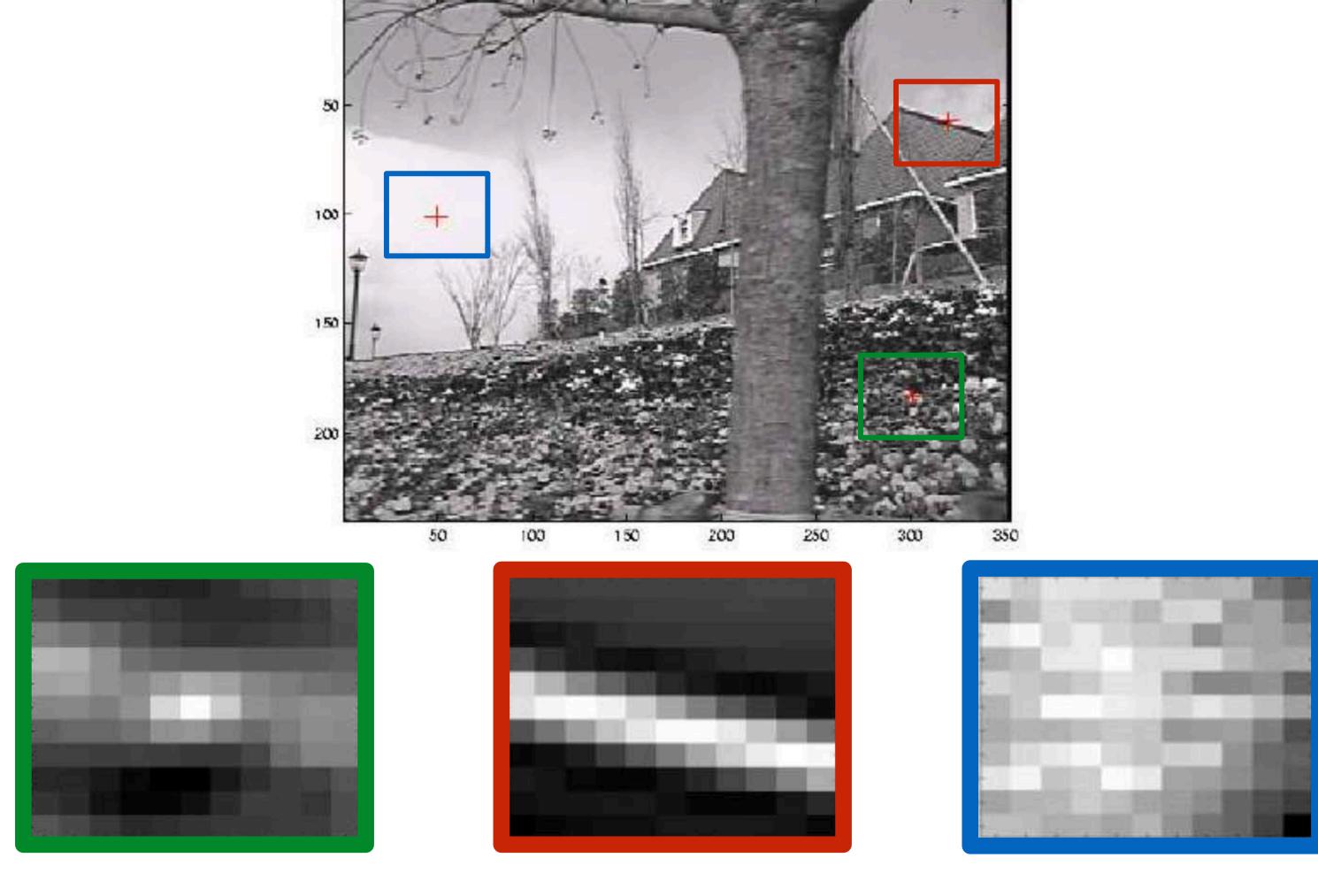
Szeliski, Figure 4.5



Szeliski, Figure 4.5



Szeliski, Figure 4.5



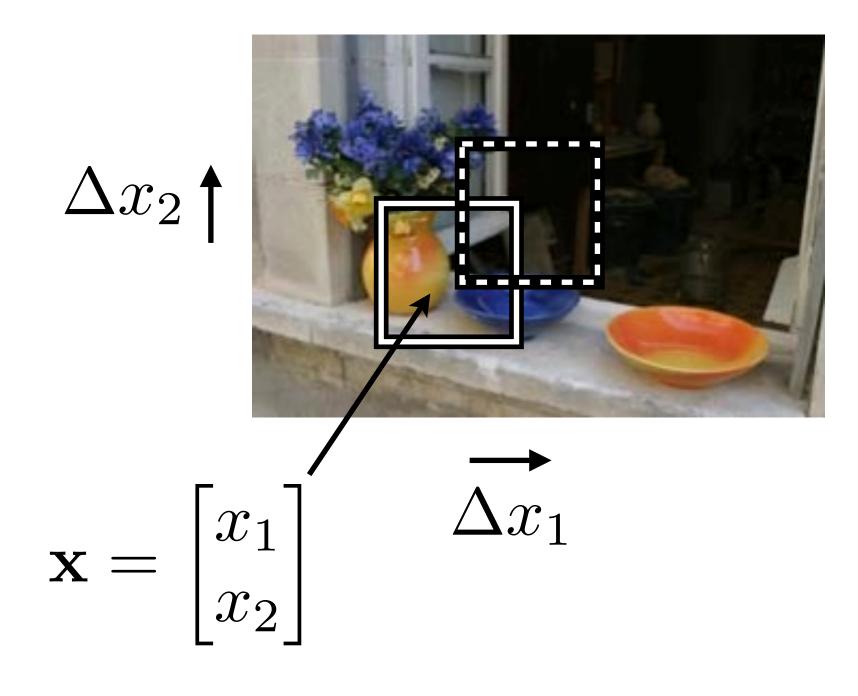
Szeliski, Figure 4.5

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#### Local SSD Function

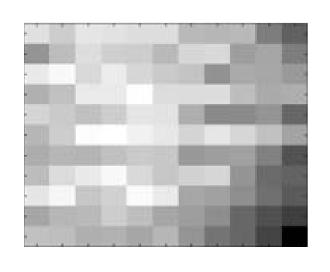
Consider the sum squared difference (SSD) of a patch with its local neighbourhood

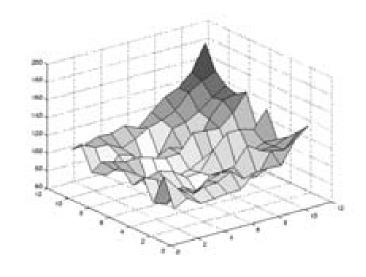


$$SSD = \sum_{\mathcal{R}} |I(\mathbf{x}) - I(\mathbf{x} + \Delta \mathbf{x})|^2$$

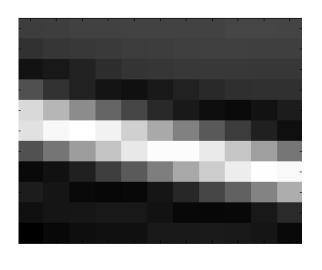
#### Local SSD Function

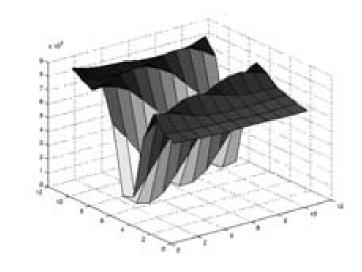
Consider the local SSD function for different patches



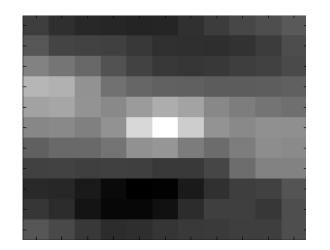


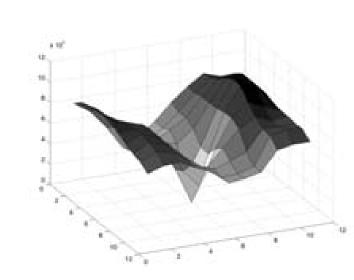
High similarity locally





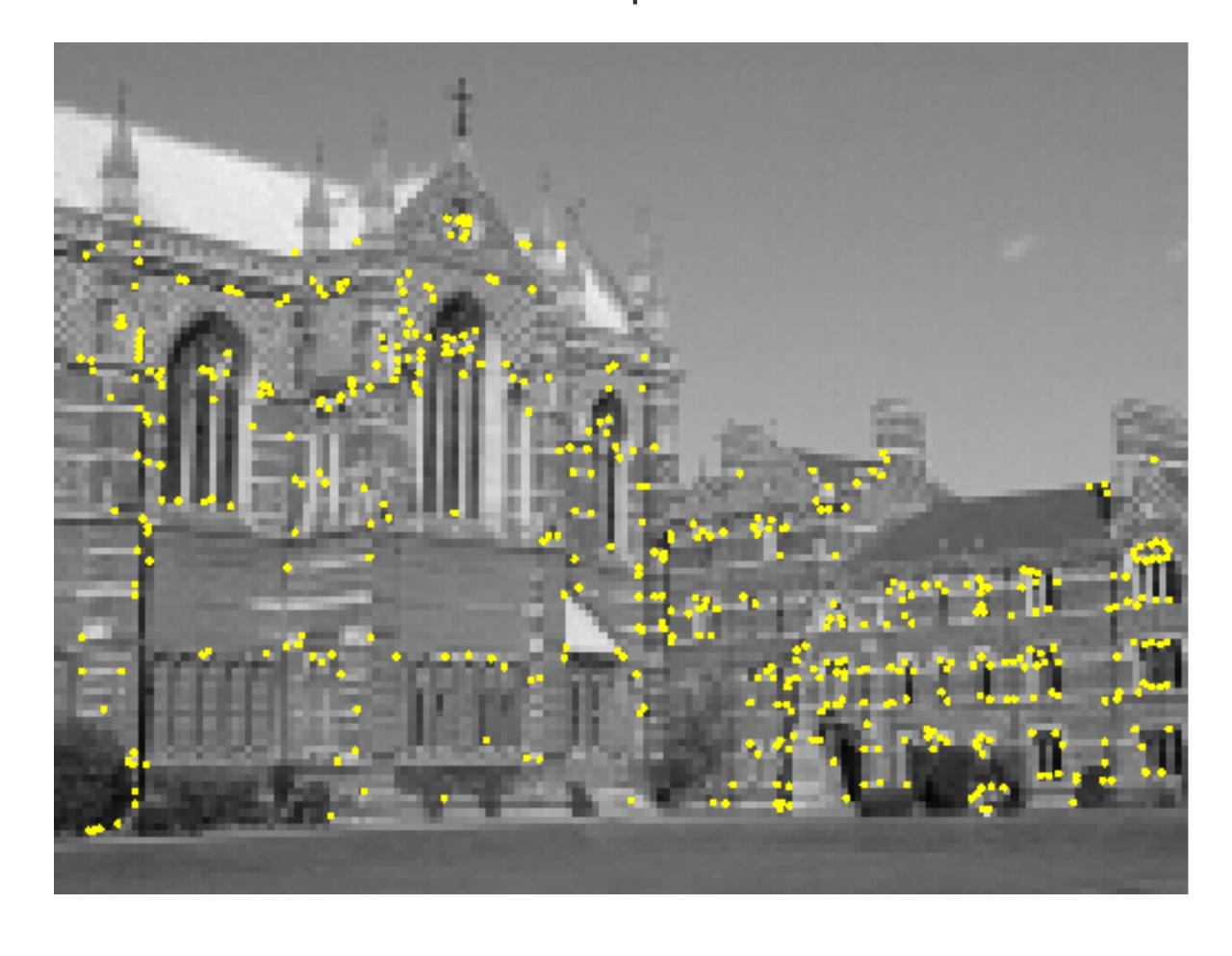
High similarity along the edge

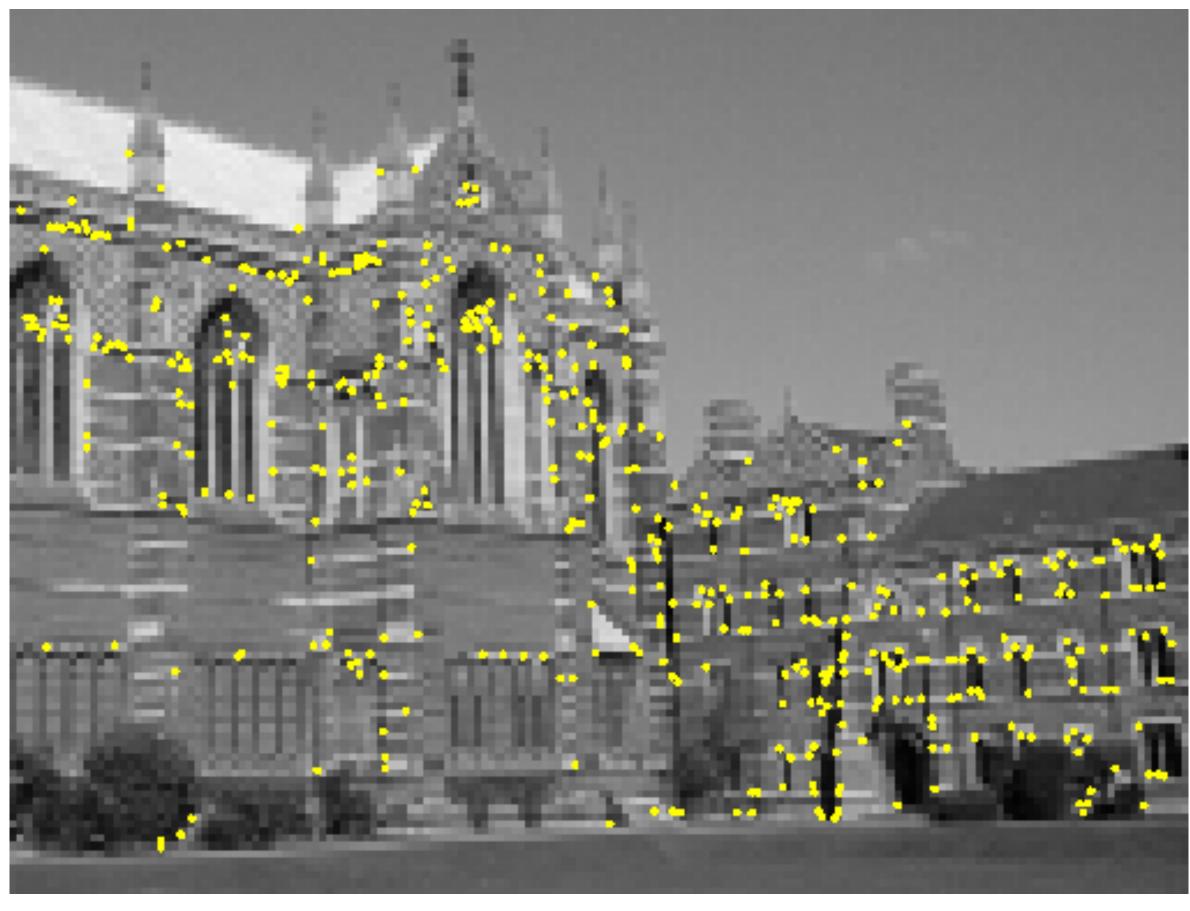




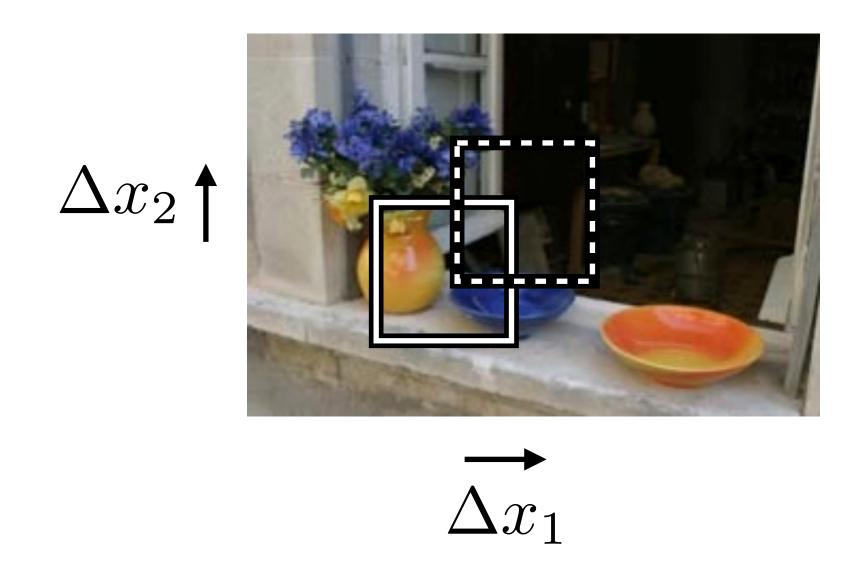
Clear peak in similarity function

Harris corners are peaks of a local similarity function

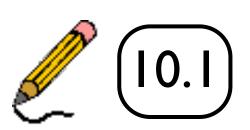




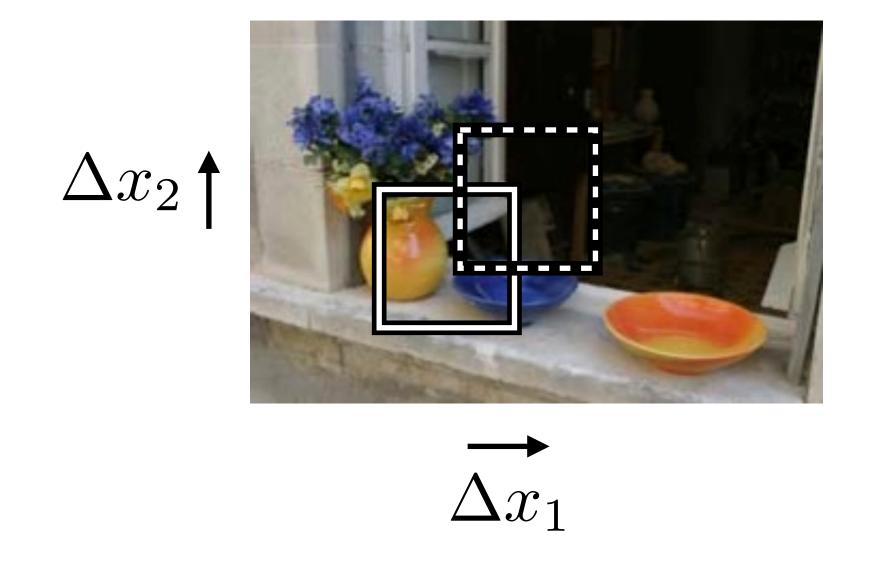
We will use a first order approximation to the local SSD function



$$SSD = \sum_{\mathcal{R}} |I(\mathbf{x}) - I(\mathbf{x} + \Delta \mathbf{x})|^2$$



We will use a first order approximation to the local SSD function



$$SSD = \sum_{\mathcal{R}} |I(\mathbf{x}) - I(\mathbf{x} + \Delta \mathbf{x})|^2$$
$$= \Delta \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{H} \Delta \mathbf{x}$$

$$\mathbf{H} = \sum_{\mathcal{R}} \begin{bmatrix} I_x^2 & I_x I_y \\ I_x I_y & I_y^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

### Compute the covariance matrix (a.k.a. 2nd moment matrix)

**Sum** over small region around the corner

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{p \in P} I_x I_x & \sum_{p \in P} I_x I_y \\ \sum_{p \in P} I_y I_x & \sum_{p \in P} I_y I_y \end{bmatrix}$$

### Compute the covariance matrix (a.k.a. 2nd moment matrix)

**Sum** over small region around the corner

**Gradient** with respect to x, times gradient with respect to y

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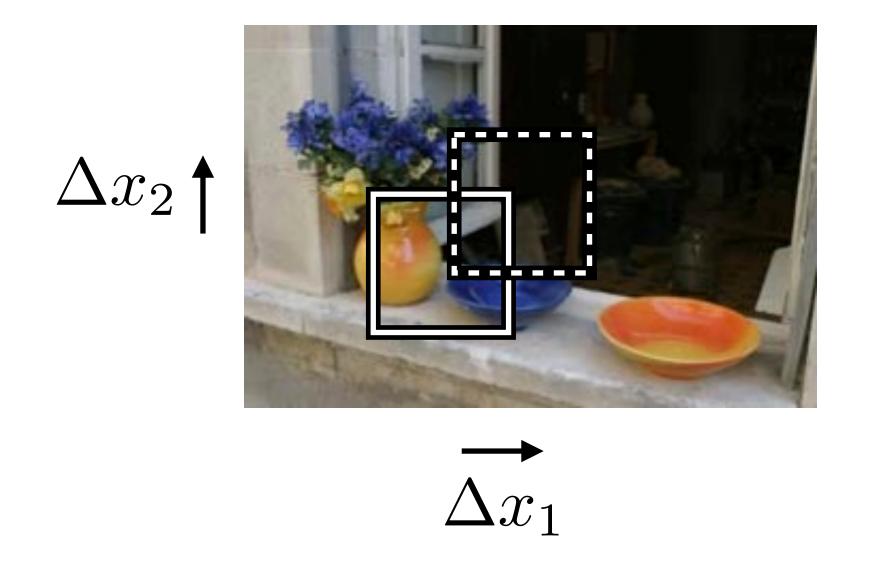
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$$I_x=rac{\partial I}{\partial x}$$
  $I_y=rac{\partial I}{\partial y}$   $\sum_{m p\in P}I_xI_y$  =Sum( .\* ) array of x gradients



$$SSD = \sum_{\mathcal{R}} |I(\mathbf{x}) - I(\mathbf{x} + \Delta \mathbf{x})|^2$$
$$= \Delta \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{H} \Delta \mathbf{x}$$

$$\mathbf{H} = \sum_{\mathcal{R}} \begin{bmatrix} I_x^2 & I_x I_y \\ I_x I_y & I_y^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

**SSD** function must be large for all shifts  $\Delta \mathbf{x}$  for a corner / 2D structure

This implies that both eigenvalues of  $\,H\,$  must be large

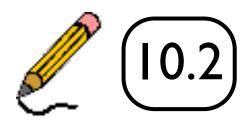
Note that H is a 2x2 matrix

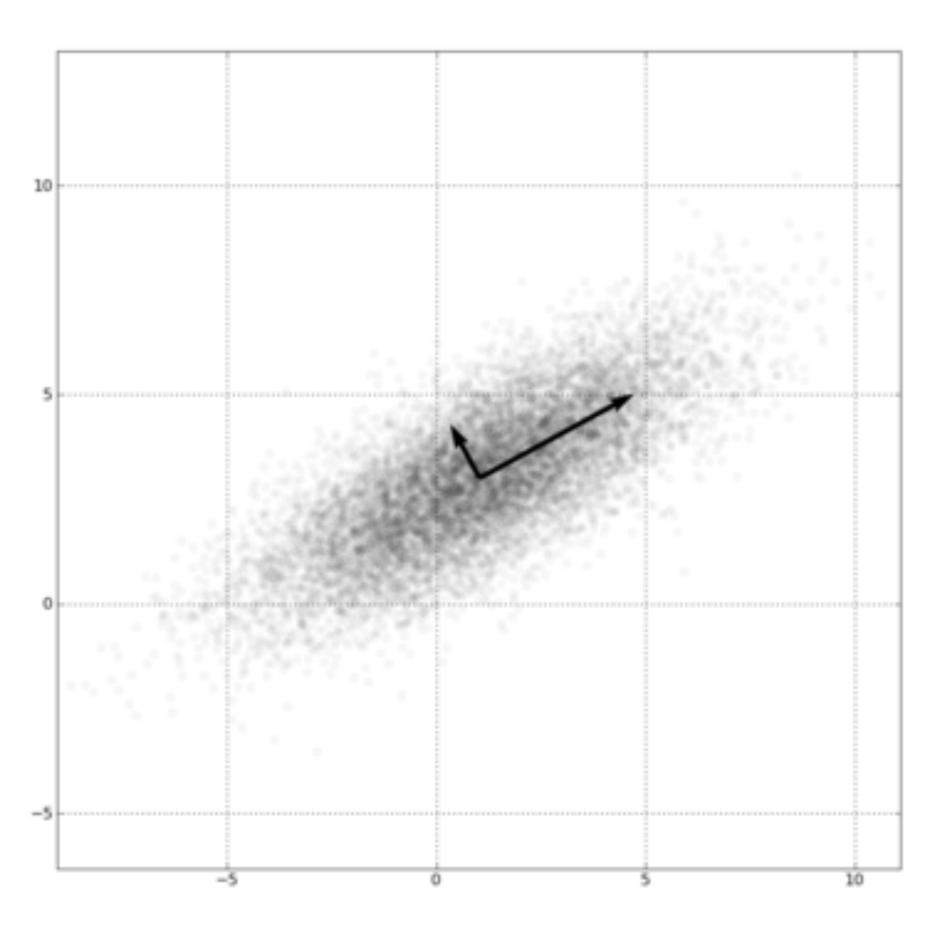
## Recap: Computing Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors





## Recap: Computing Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors





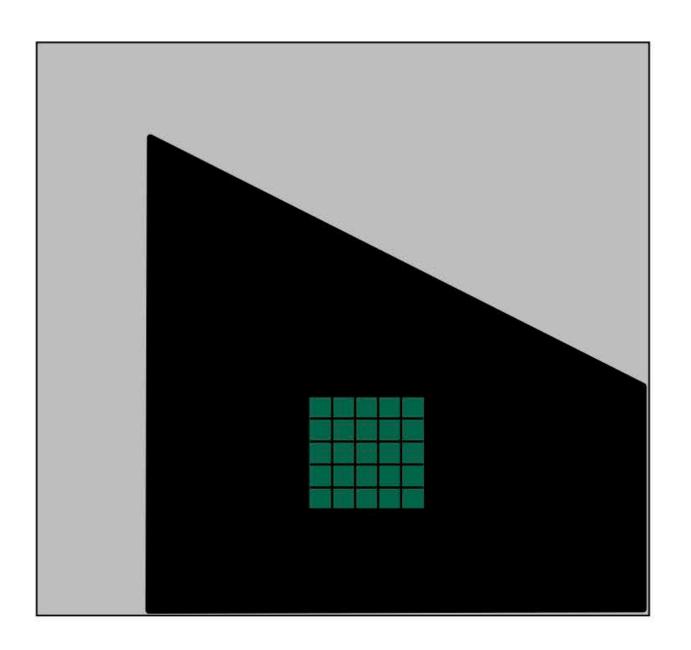
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eigenvalues\_and\_eigenvectors

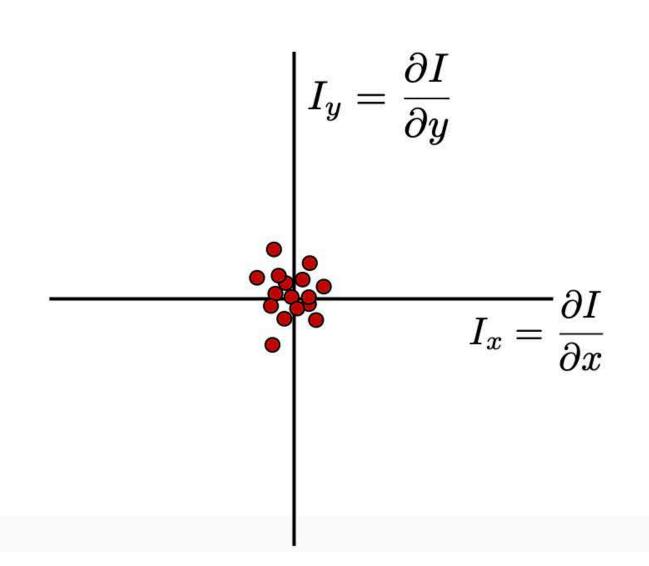
## Recap: Computing Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors





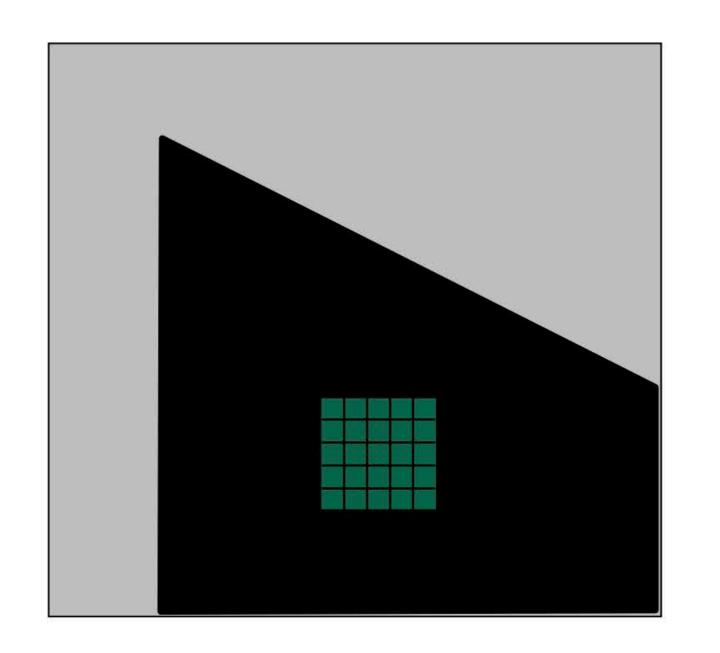
## Distribution of Ix and Iy

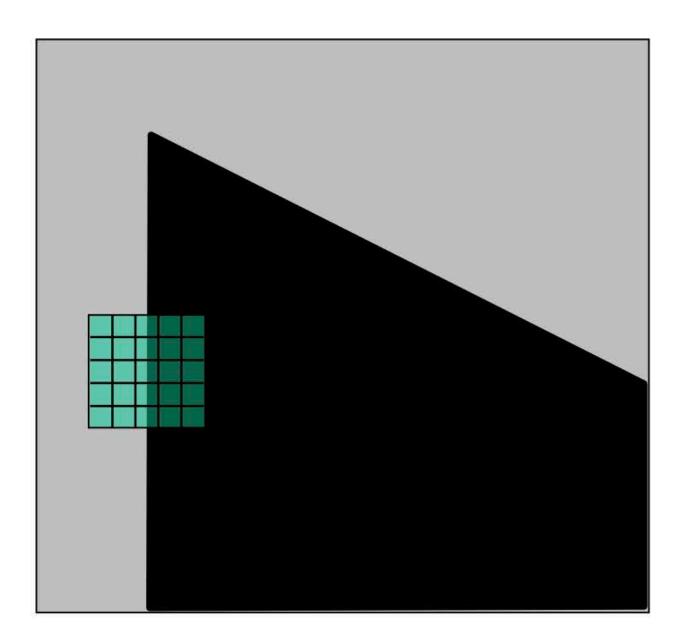


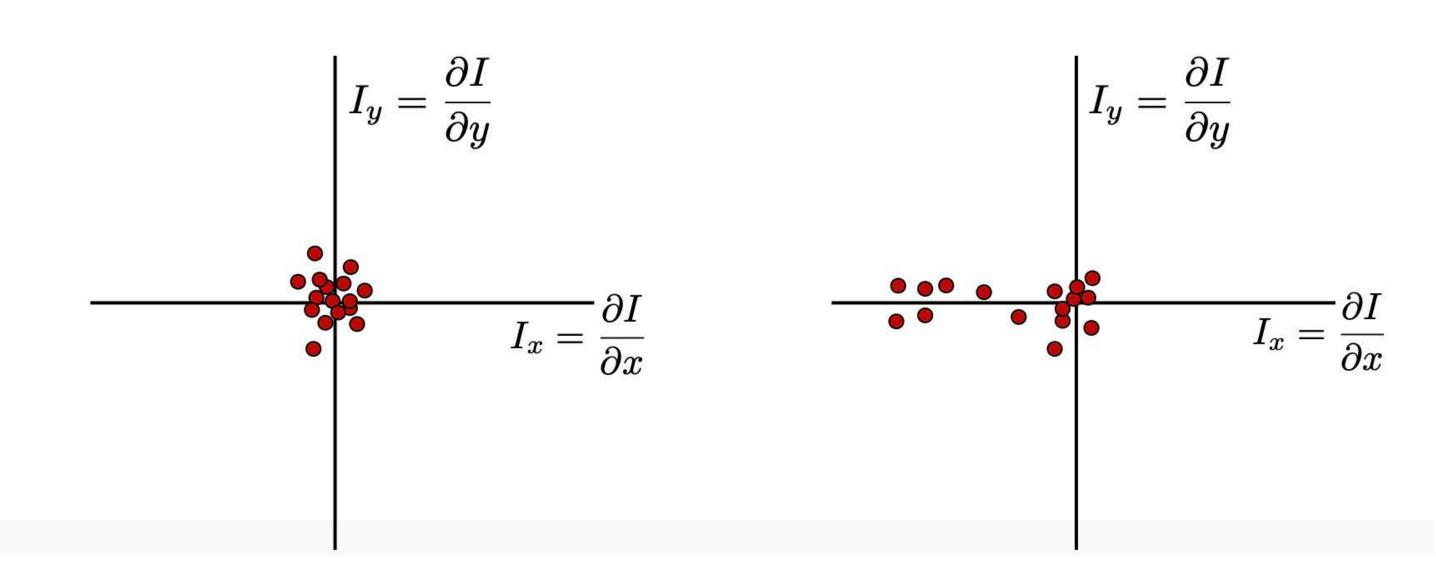


Slide Credit: Kris Kitani (CMU)

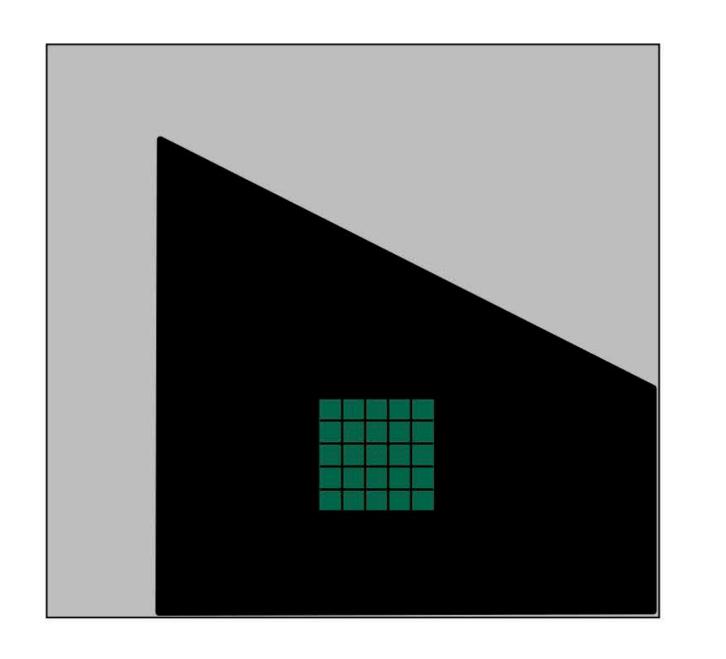
# Distribution of Ix and Iy

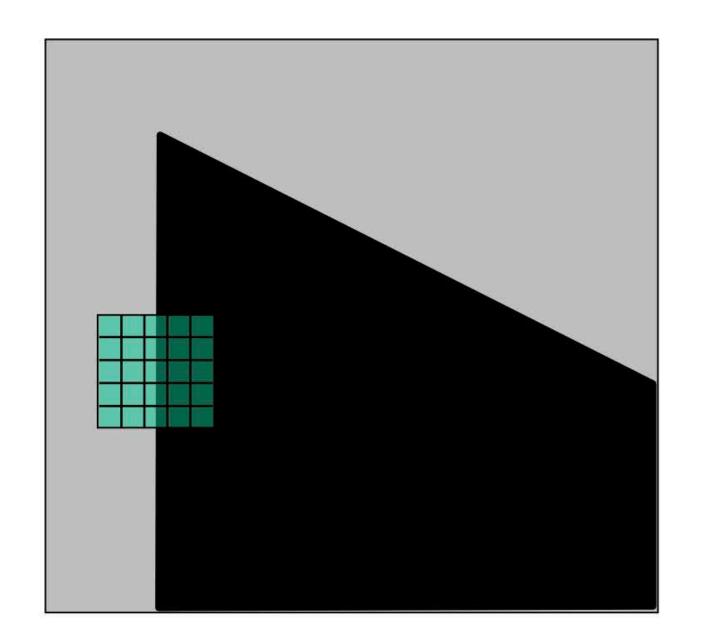


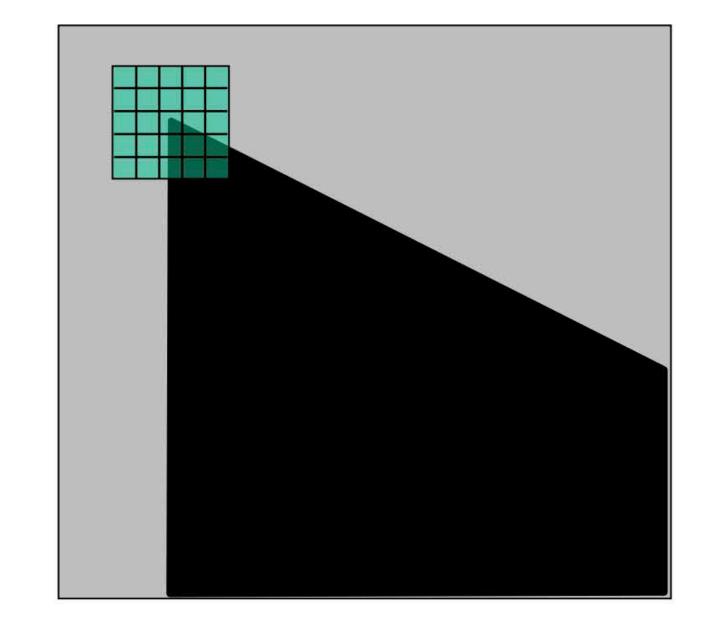


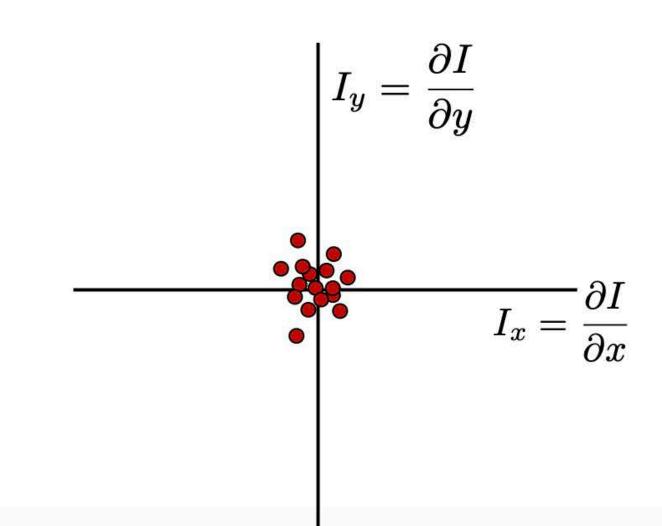


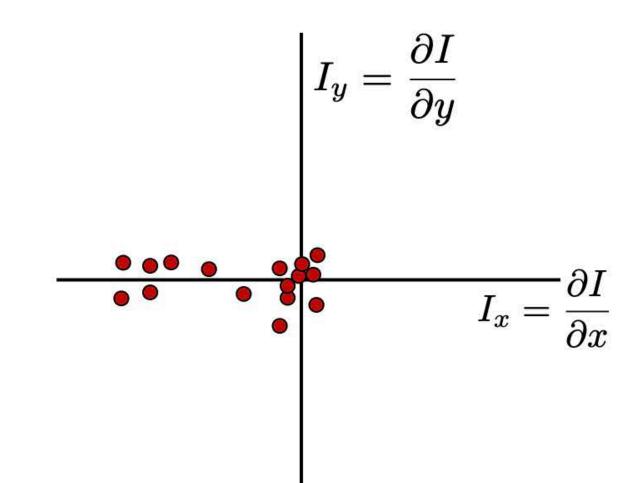
# Distribution of Ix and Iy

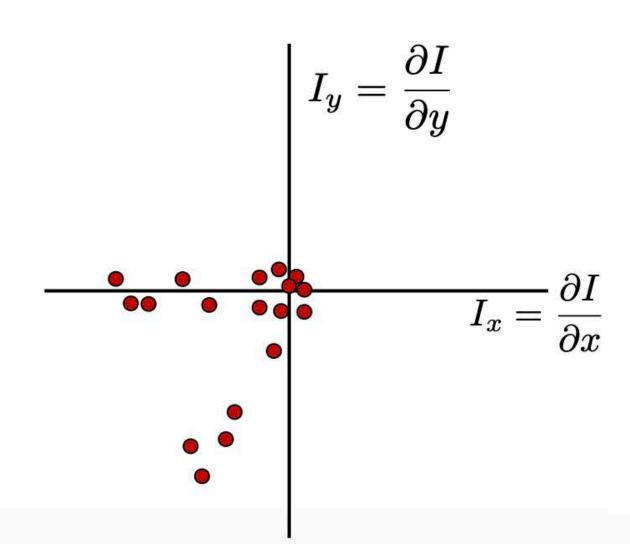




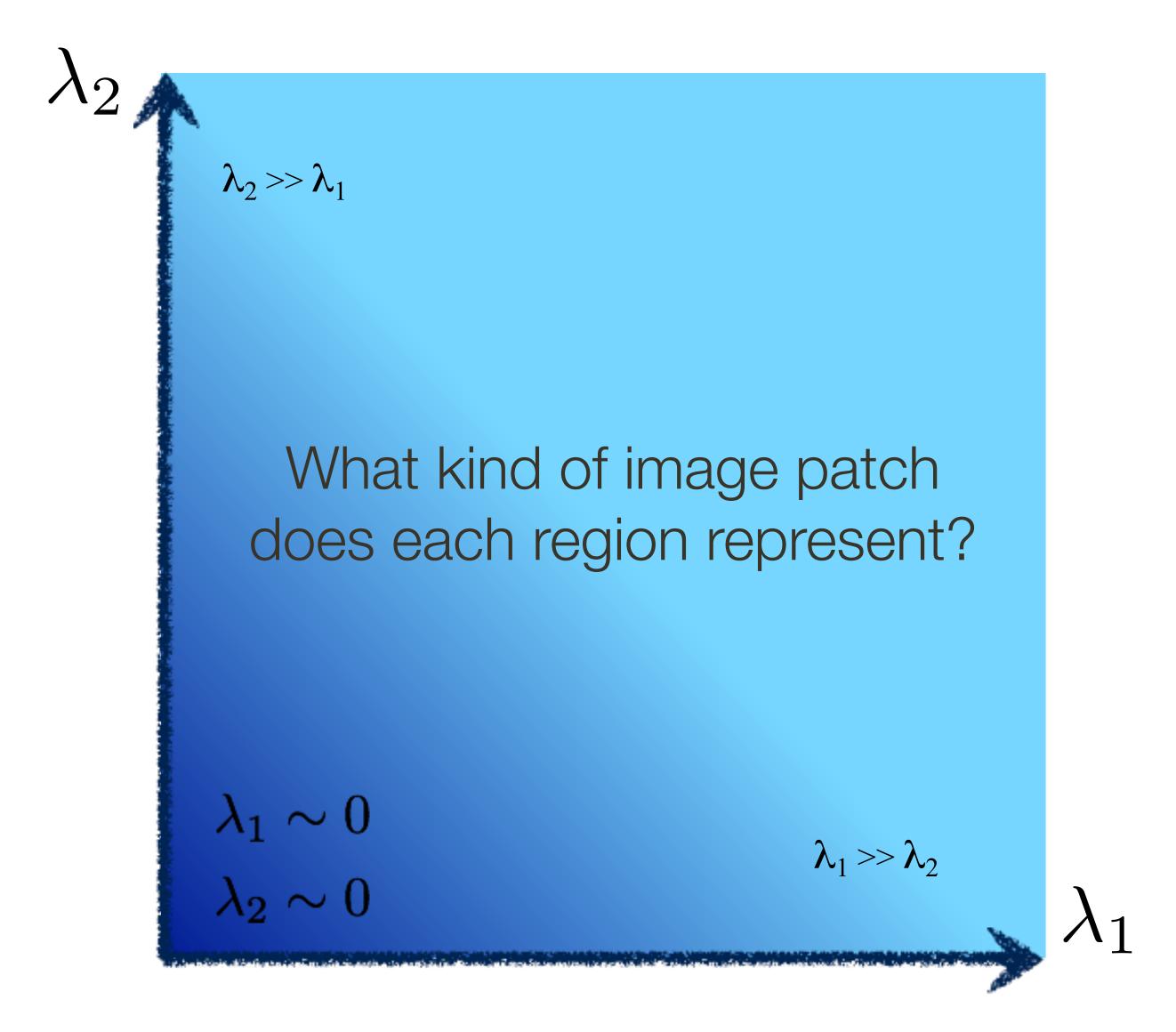


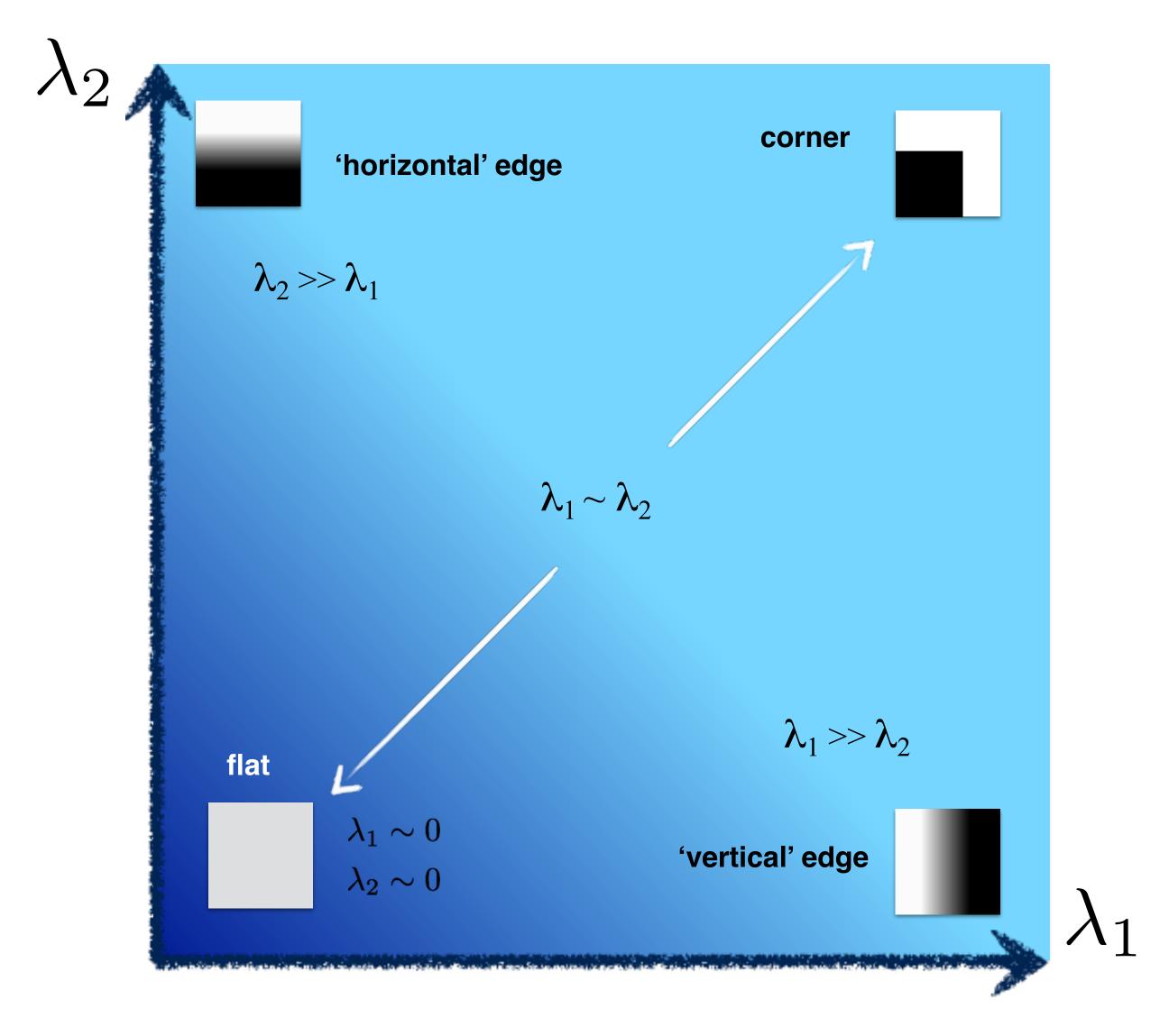


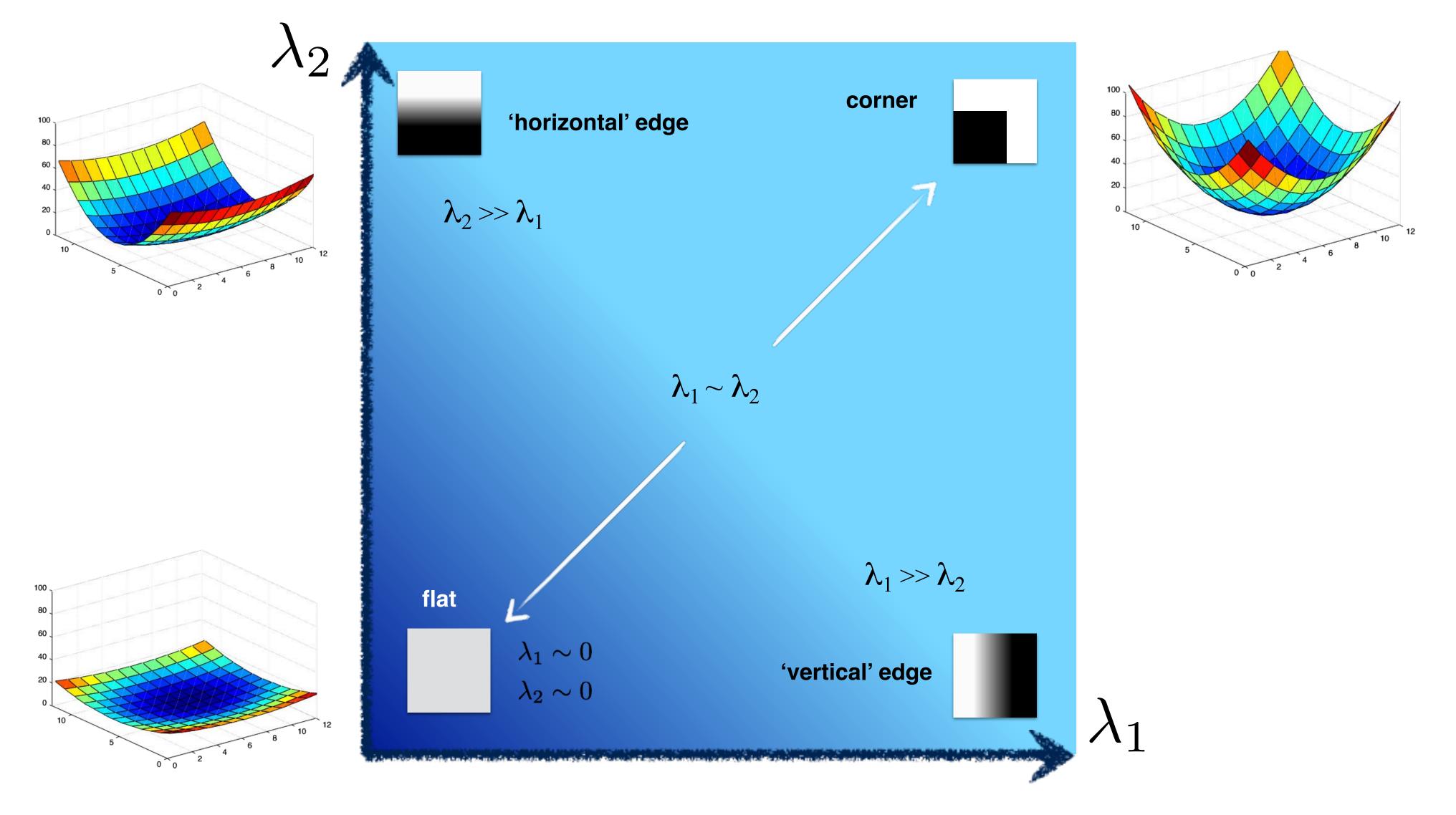


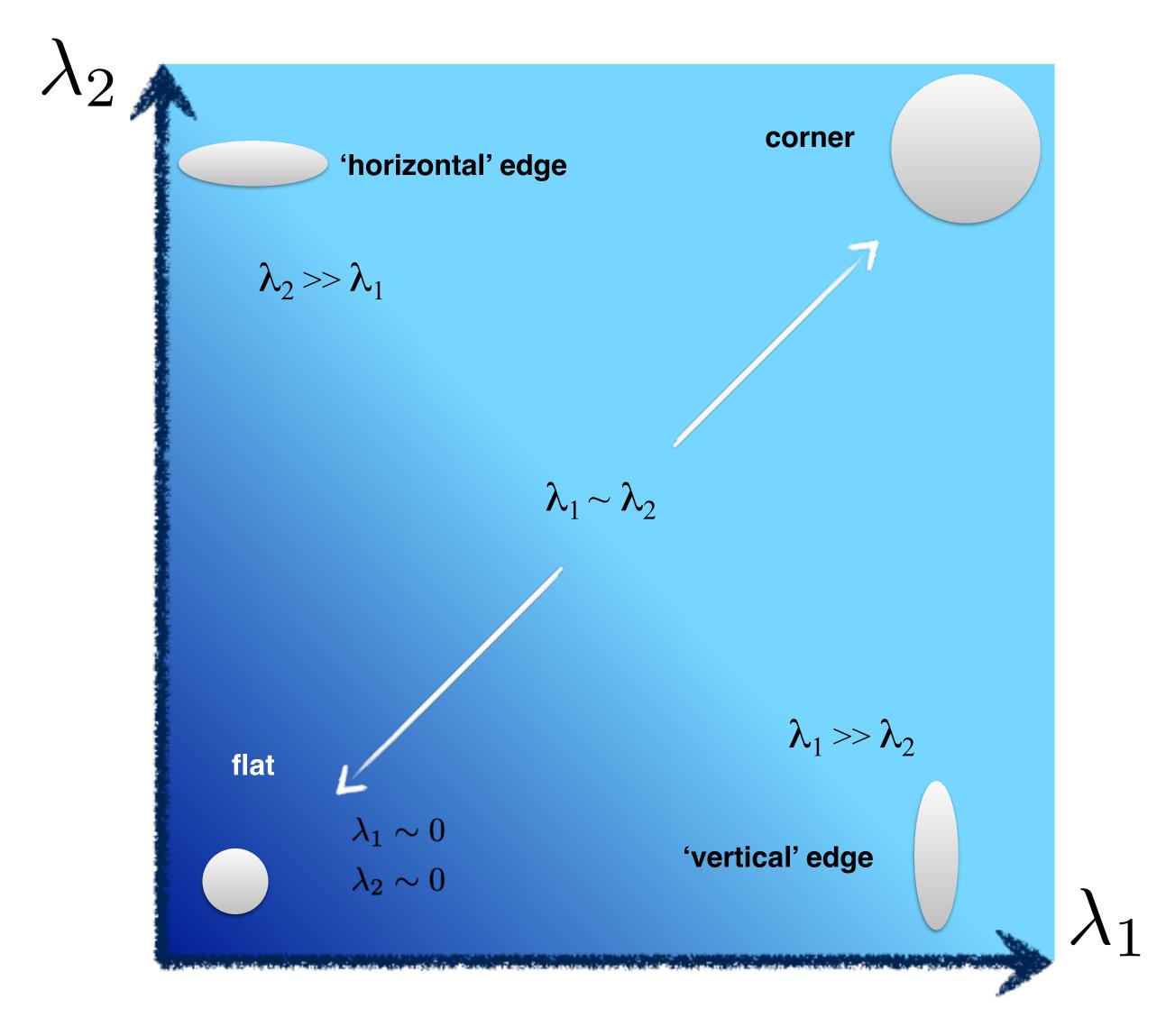


Slide Credit: Kris Kitani (CMU)









#### Harris Corner Detection

- 1.Compute image gradients over small region
- 2. Compute the covariance matrix
- 3.Compute eigenvectors and eigenvalues
- 4.Use threshold on eigenvalues to detect corners

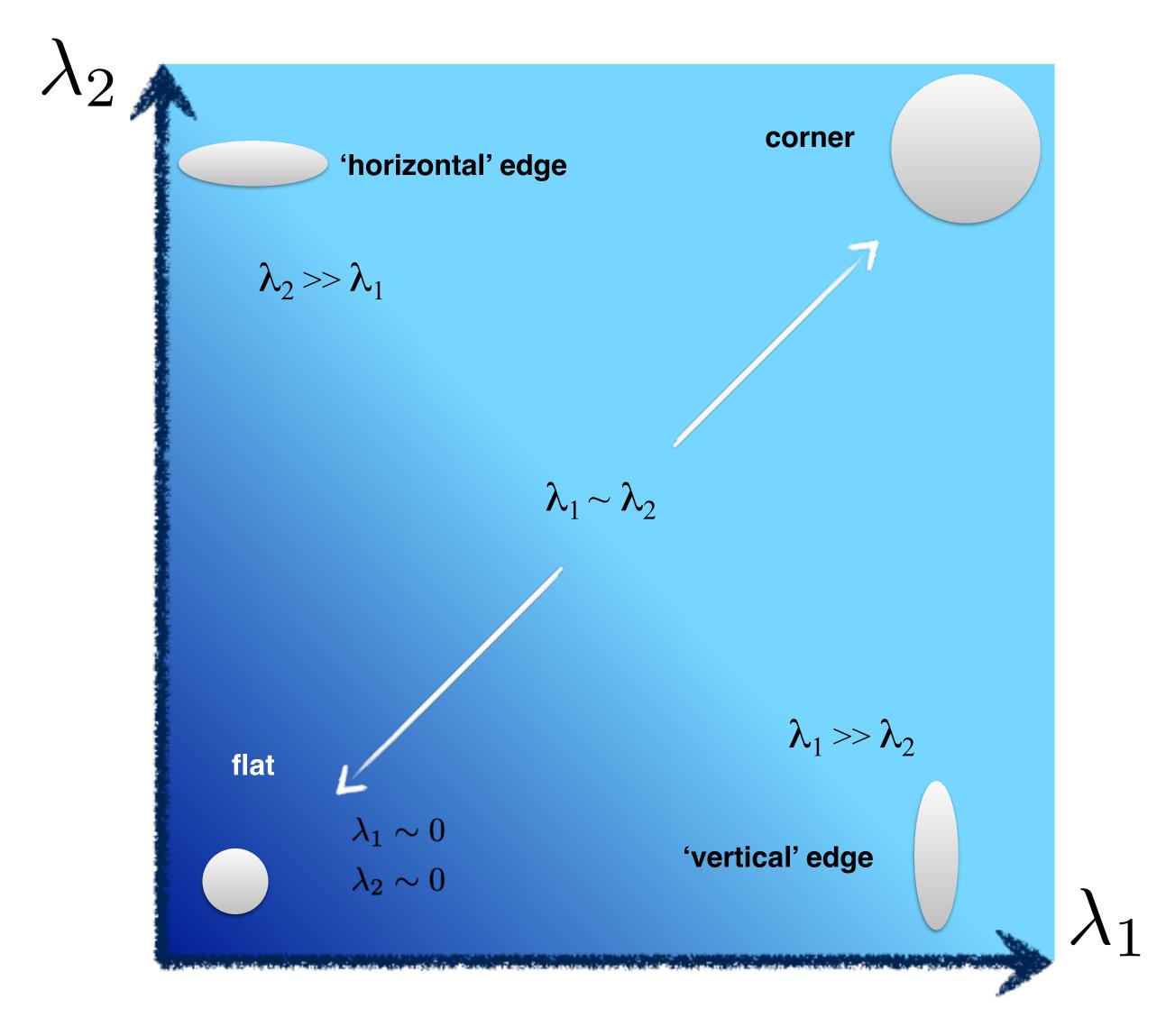
$$I_x = \frac{\partial I}{\partial x}$$



$$I_y = \frac{\partial I}{\partial y}$$



$$\left[egin{array}{ccc} \sum\limits_{p\in P}I_xI_x & \sum\limits_{p\in P}I_xI_y \ \sum\limits_{p\in P}I_yI_x & \sum\limits_{p\in P}I_yI_y \ \end{array}
ight]$$



# Threshold on Eigenvalues to Detect Corners

(a function of)

Harris & Stephens (1988)

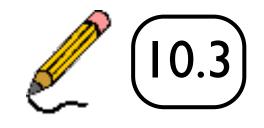
$$\det(C) - \kappa \operatorname{trace}^2(C)$$

Kanade & Tomasi (1994)

$$\min(\lambda_1,\lambda_2)$$

Nobel (1998)

$$\frac{\det(C)}{\operatorname{trace}(C) + \epsilon}$$



## Example 1: Wagon Wheel (Harris Results)



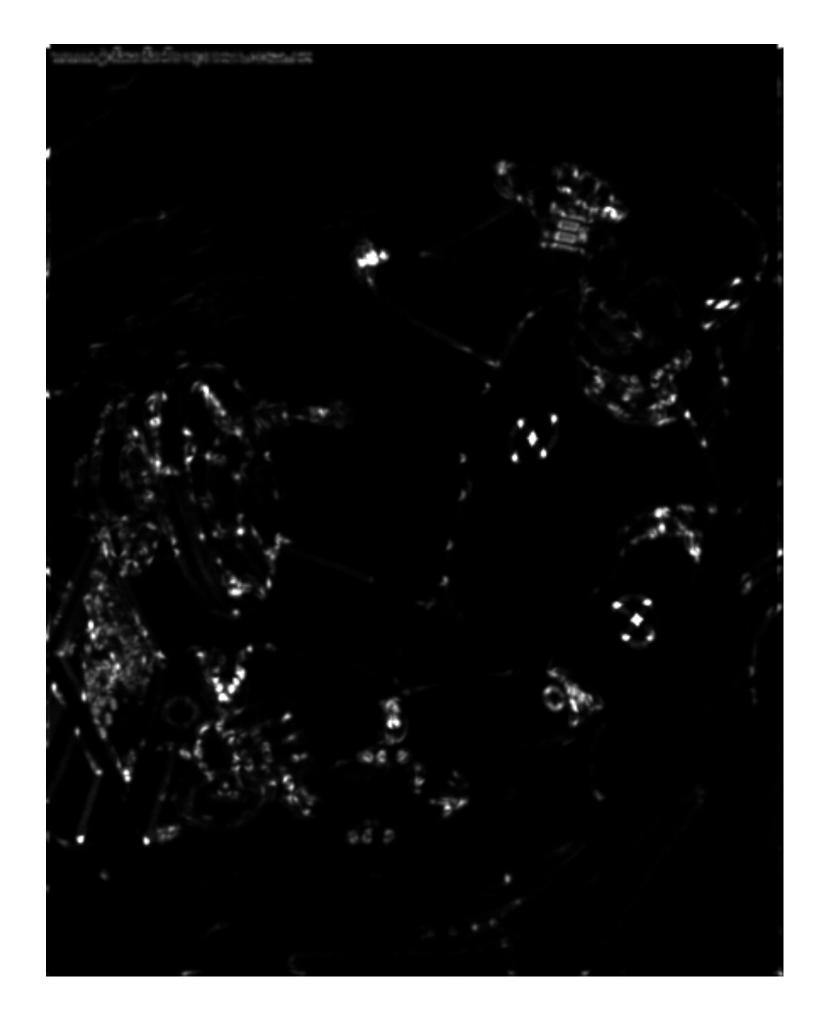


 $\sigma=1$  (219 points)  $\sigma=2$  (155 points)  $\sigma=3$  (110 points)  $\sigma=4$  (87 points)





## Example 2: Crash Test Dummy (Harris Result)



corner response image



 $\sigma = 1$  (175 points)

Original Image Credit: John Shakespeare, Sydney Morning Herald

#### Harris Corner Detection Review

- Filter image with Gaussian
- Compute magnitude of the x and y gradients at each pixel
- Construct C in a window around each pixel
  - Harris uses a Gaussian window
- Compute Harris corner strength function  $\det(C) \kappa \mathrm{trace}^2(C)$
- Threshold corner strength function, optionally apply non-maximal suppression

1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	0	1	1	1	0	1
1	0	0	0	0	1	1
1	0	0	0	0	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	1	1

1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	0	1	1	1	0	1
1	0	0	0	0	1	1
1	0	0	0	0	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	1	1

1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	0	1	1	1	0	1
1	0	0	0	0	1	1
1	0	0	0	0	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	1	1

1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	0	1	1	1	0	1
1	0	0	0	0	1	1
1	0	0	0	0	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	1	1

0	0	0	0	0	0	
-1	1	0	0	-1	1	
-1	0	0	0	1	0	
-1	0	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	

$$I_x = \frac{\partial I}{\partial x}$$

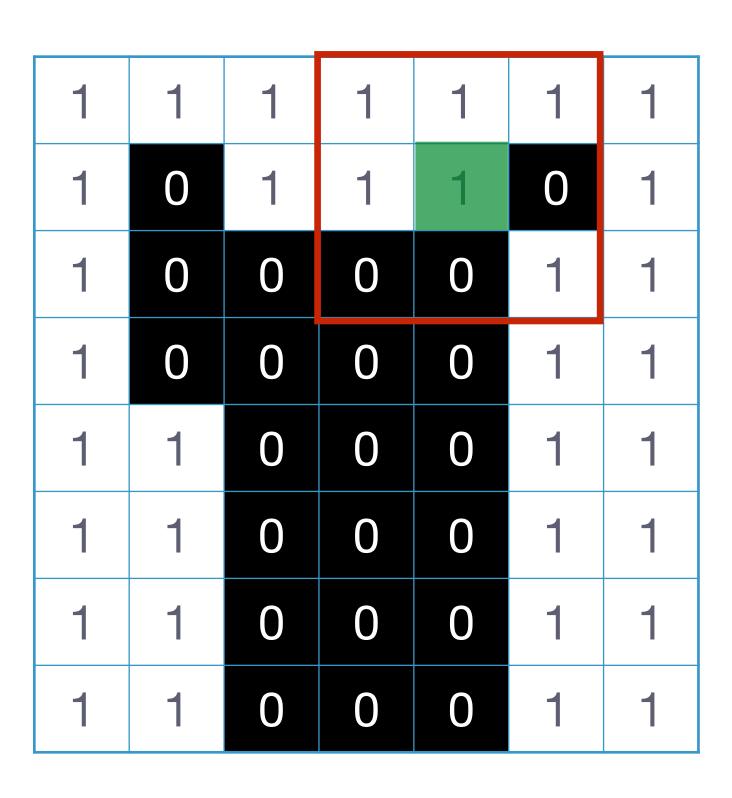
1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	0	1	1	1	0	1
1	0	0	0	0	1	1
1	0	0	0	0	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	1	1

0	0	0	0	0	0	
-1	1	0	0	-1	1	
-1	0	0	0	1	0	
-1	0	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	

$$\frac{\partial I}{\partial x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & x & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

0	-1	0	0	0	-1	0
0	0	-1	-1	-1	1	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	1	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0

$$I_x = \frac{\partial I}{\partial x}$$

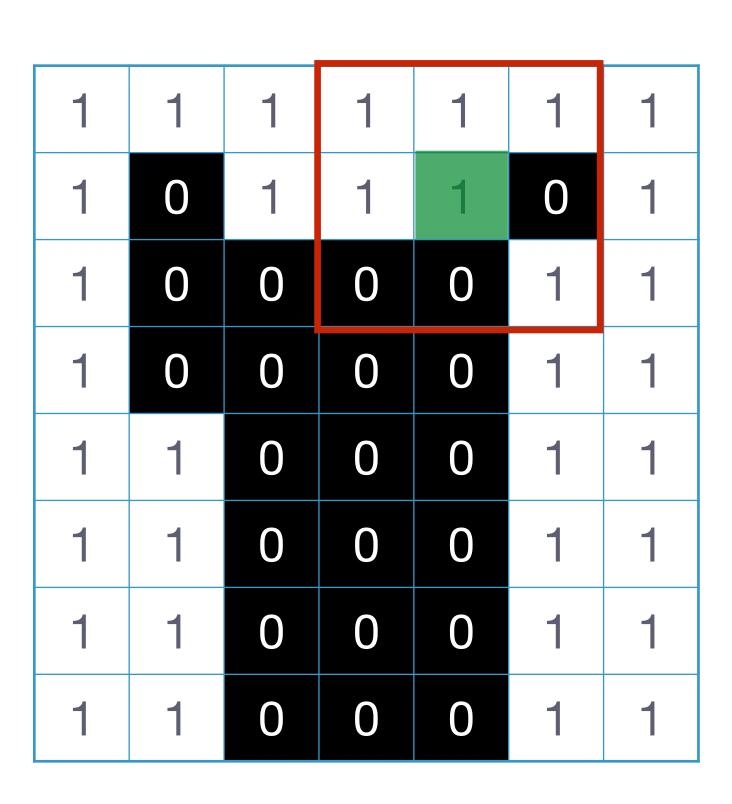


$$\sum \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \odot \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = 3$$

0	0	0	0	0	0	
-1	1	0	0	-1	1	
-1	0	0	0	1	0	
-1	0	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	

$$I_x = \frac{\partial I}{\partial x}$$

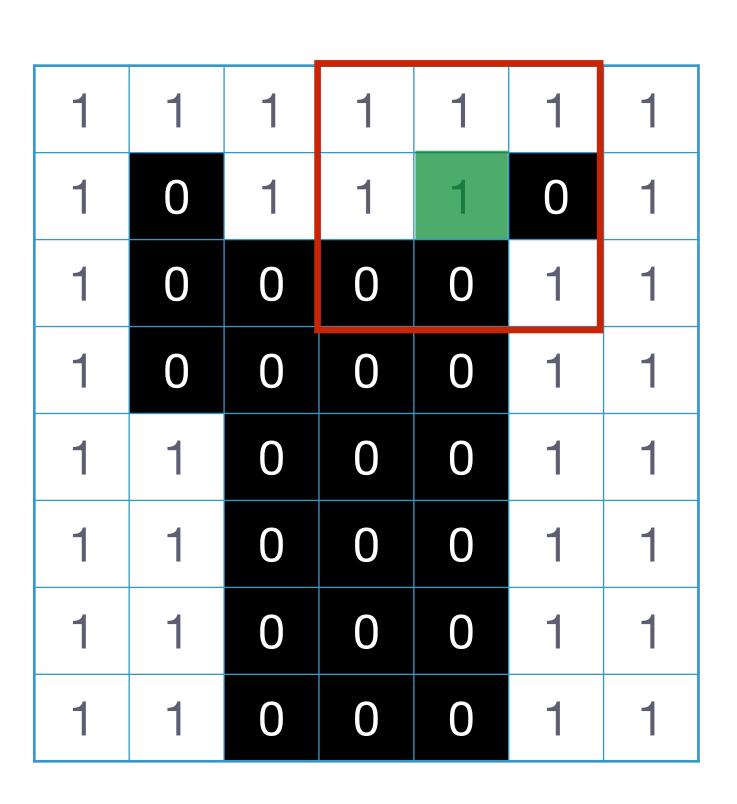
$$I_y = \frac{\partial I}{\partial y}$$



$$\mathbf{C} = \left[ \begin{array}{cc} 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 \end{array} \right]$$

0	0	0	0	0	0	
-1	1	0	0	-1	1	
-1	0	0	0	1	0	
-1	0	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	

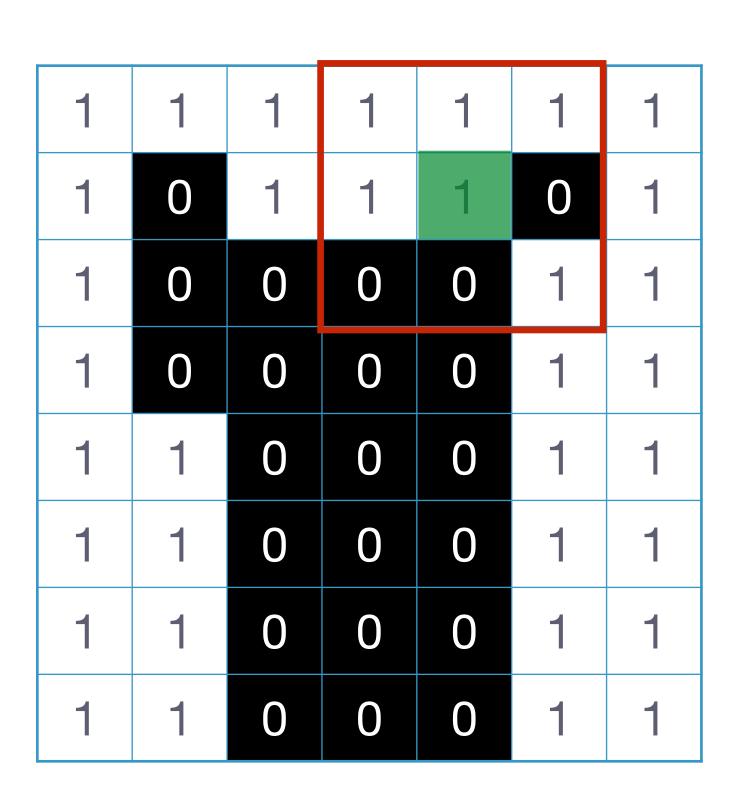
$$I_x = \frac{\partial I}{\partial x}$$



$$\mathbf{C} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} => \lambda_1 = 1.4384; \lambda_2 = 5.5616$$

0	0	0	0	0	0	
-1	1	0	0	-1	1	
-1	0	0	0	1	0	
-1	0	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	

$$I_x = \frac{\partial I}{\partial x}$$



$$\mathbf{C} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} => \lambda_1 = 1.4384; \lambda_2 = 5.5616$$
  
 $\det(\mathbf{C}) - 0.04 \operatorname{trace}^2(\mathbf{C}) = 6.04$ 

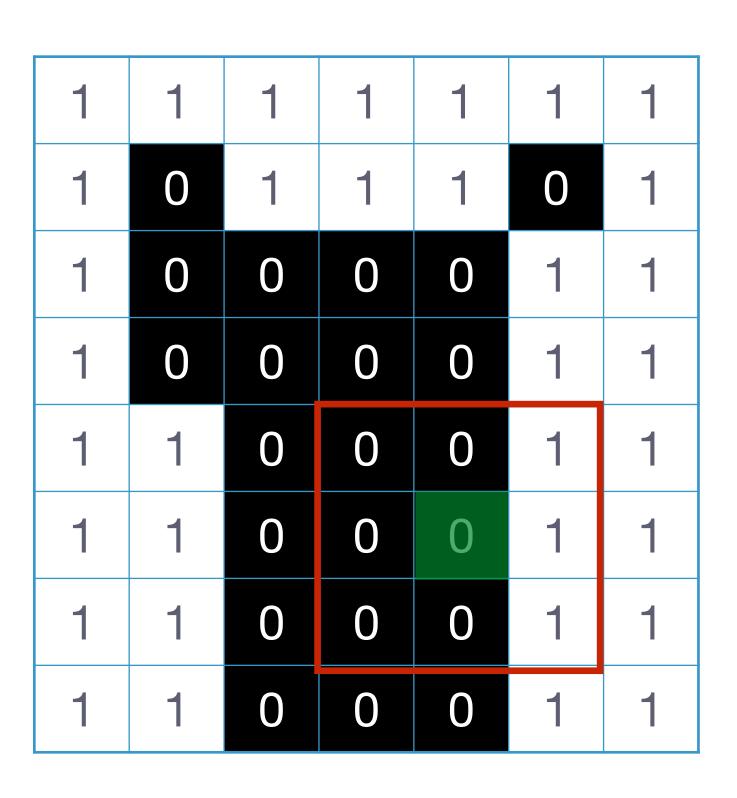
0	0	0	0	0	0	
-1	1	0	0	-1	1	
-1	0	0	0	1	0	
-1	0	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	

	•				•	
0	0	-1	-1	-1	1	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	1	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0

$$I_x = \frac{\partial I}{\partial x}$$

$$I_y = \frac{1}{6}$$

Lets compute a measure of "corner-ness" for the green pixel:



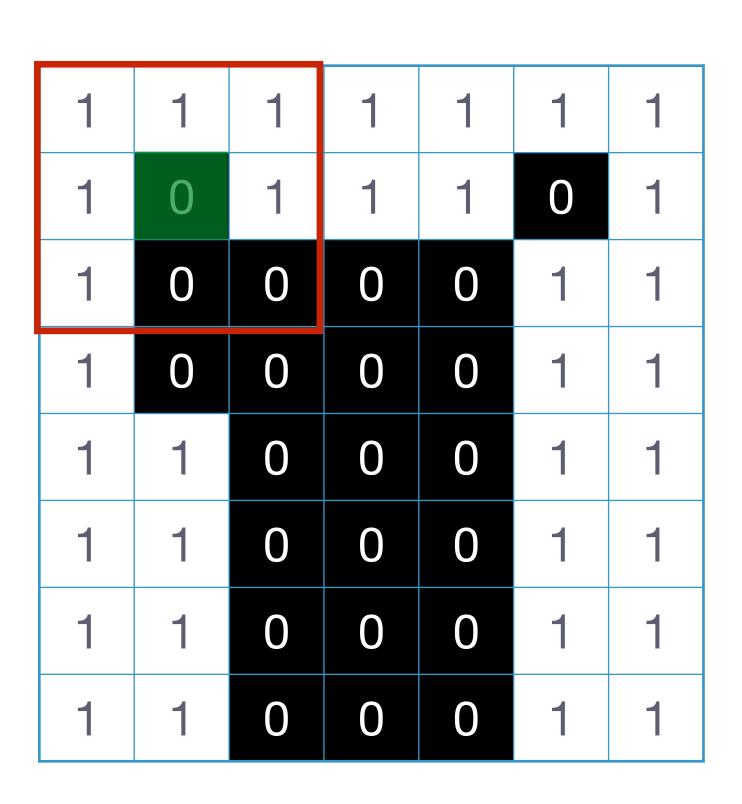
$$\mathbf{C} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} => \lambda_1 = 3; \lambda_2 = 0$$

 $\det(\mathbf{C}) - 0.04 \operatorname{trace}^{2}(\mathbf{C}) = -0.36$ 

0	0	0	0	0	0	
-1	1	0	0	-1	1	
-1	0	0	0	1	0	
-1	0	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	

$$I_x = \frac{\partial I}{\partial x}$$

$$I_y = \frac{\partial I}{\partial y}$$



$$\mathbf{C} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} => \lambda_1 = 3; \lambda_2 = 2$$
$$\det(\mathbf{C}) - 0.04 \operatorname{trace}^2(\mathbf{C}) = 5$$

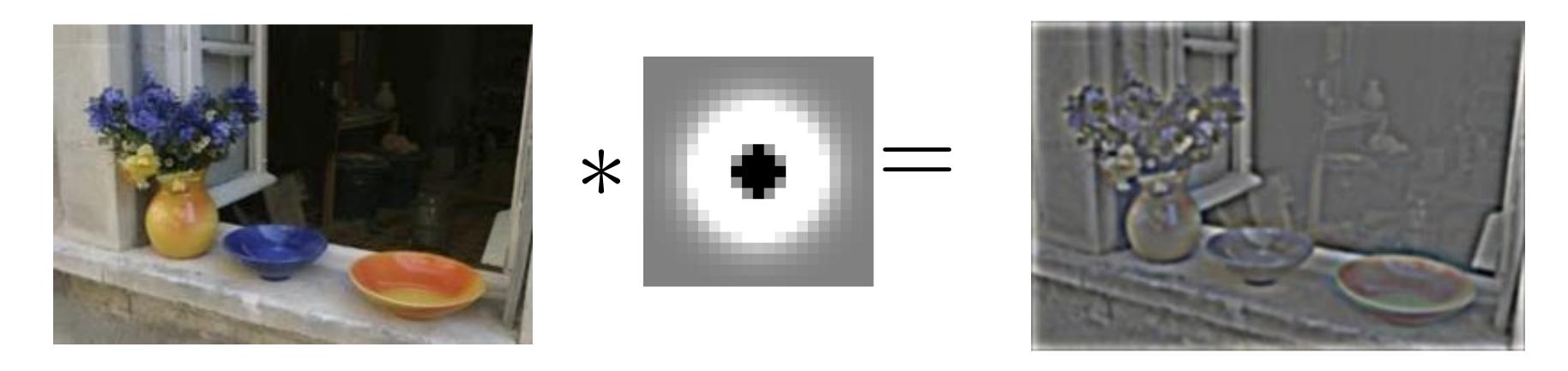
						_
0	0	0	0	0	0	
-1	1	0	0	-1	1	
-1	0	0	0	1	0	
-1	0	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	
0	-1	0	0	1	0	

0	-1	0	0	0	-1	0
0	0	-1	-1	-1	1	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	1	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0

$$I_x = \frac{\partial I}{\partial x}$$

#### Difference of Gaussian

DoG = centre-surround filter

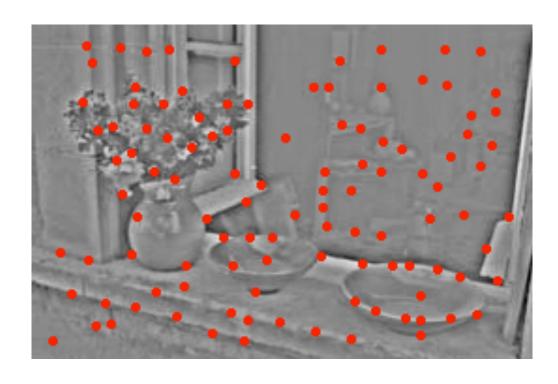


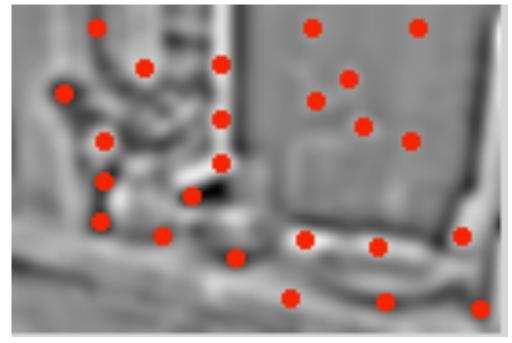
• Find local-maxima of the centre surround response

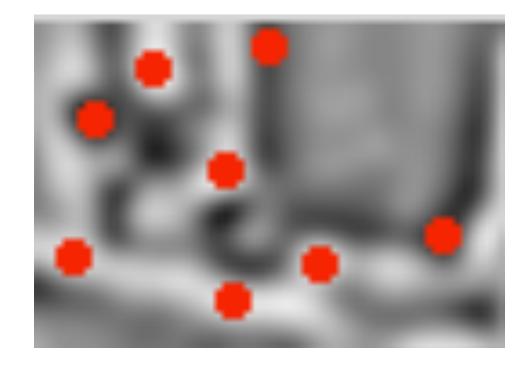
Non-maximal suppression:
These points are maxima in
a 10 pixel radius

#### Difference of Gaussian

DoG detects blobs at scale that depends on the Gaussian standard deviation(s)



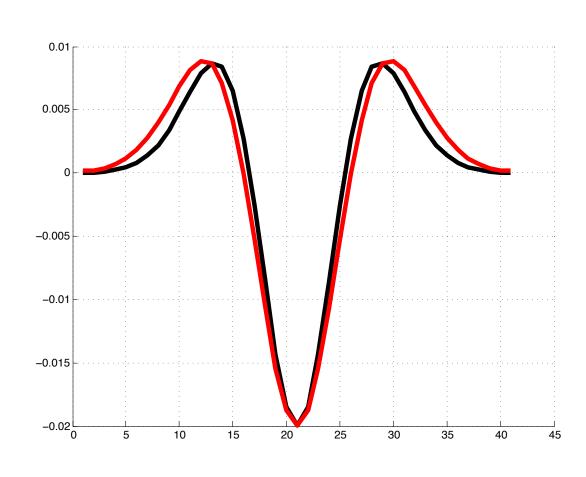




Note: DOG ≈ Laplacian of Gaussian

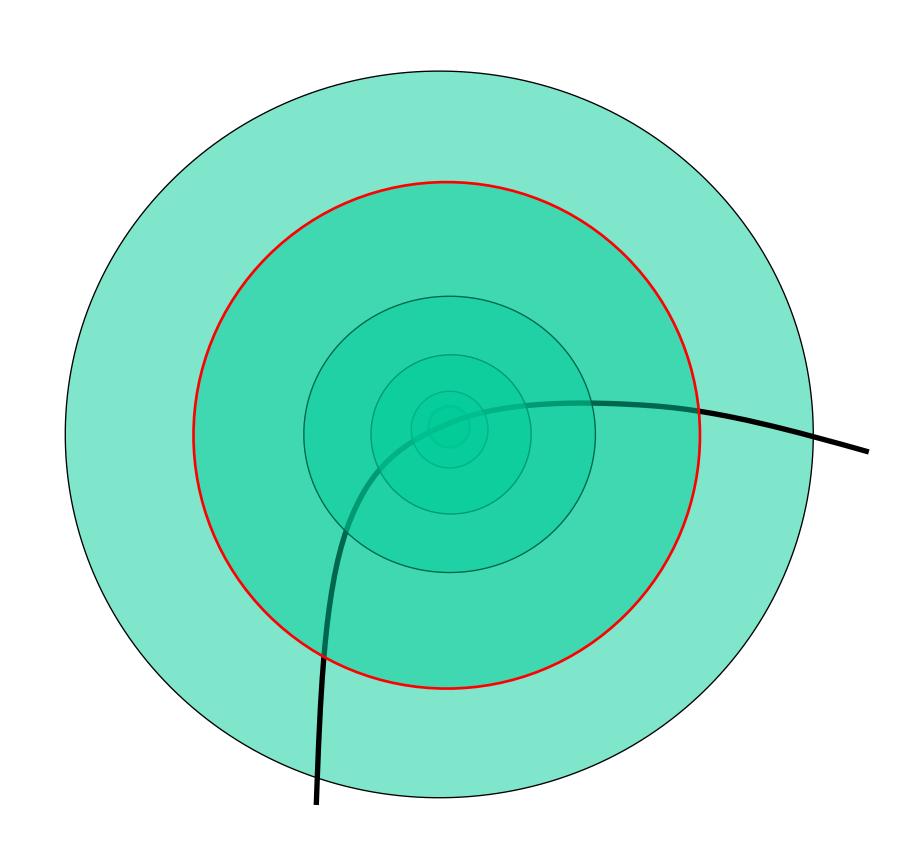
$$red = [1 -2 1] * g(x; 5.0)$$

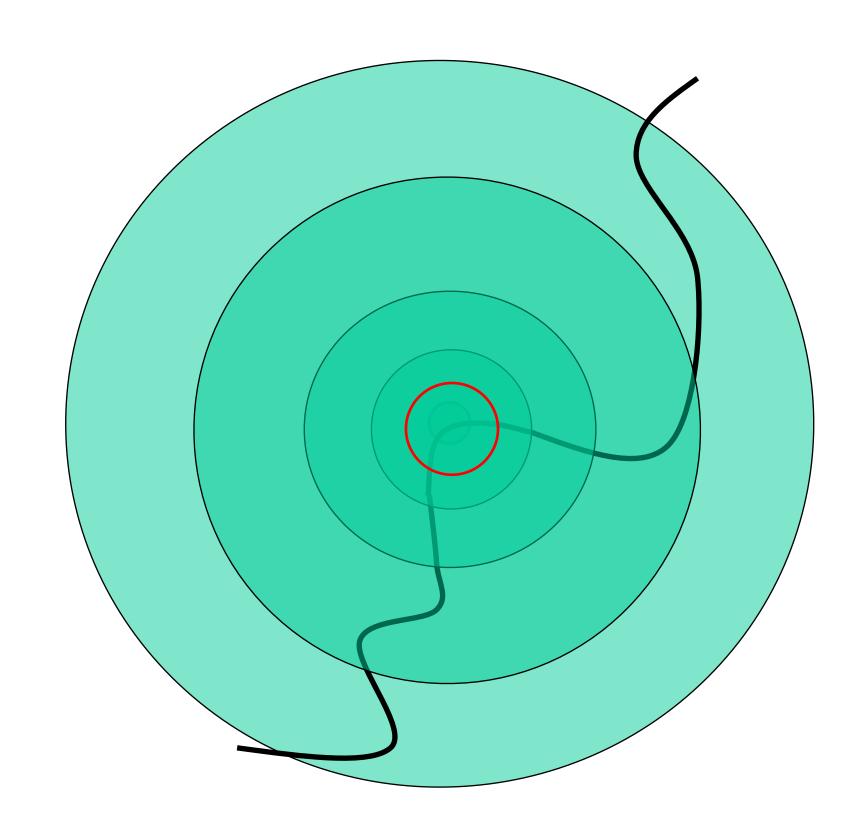
black = 
$$g(x; 5.0) - g(x; 4.0)$$



#### Scale Invariant Interest Point Detection

Find local maxima in both position and scale

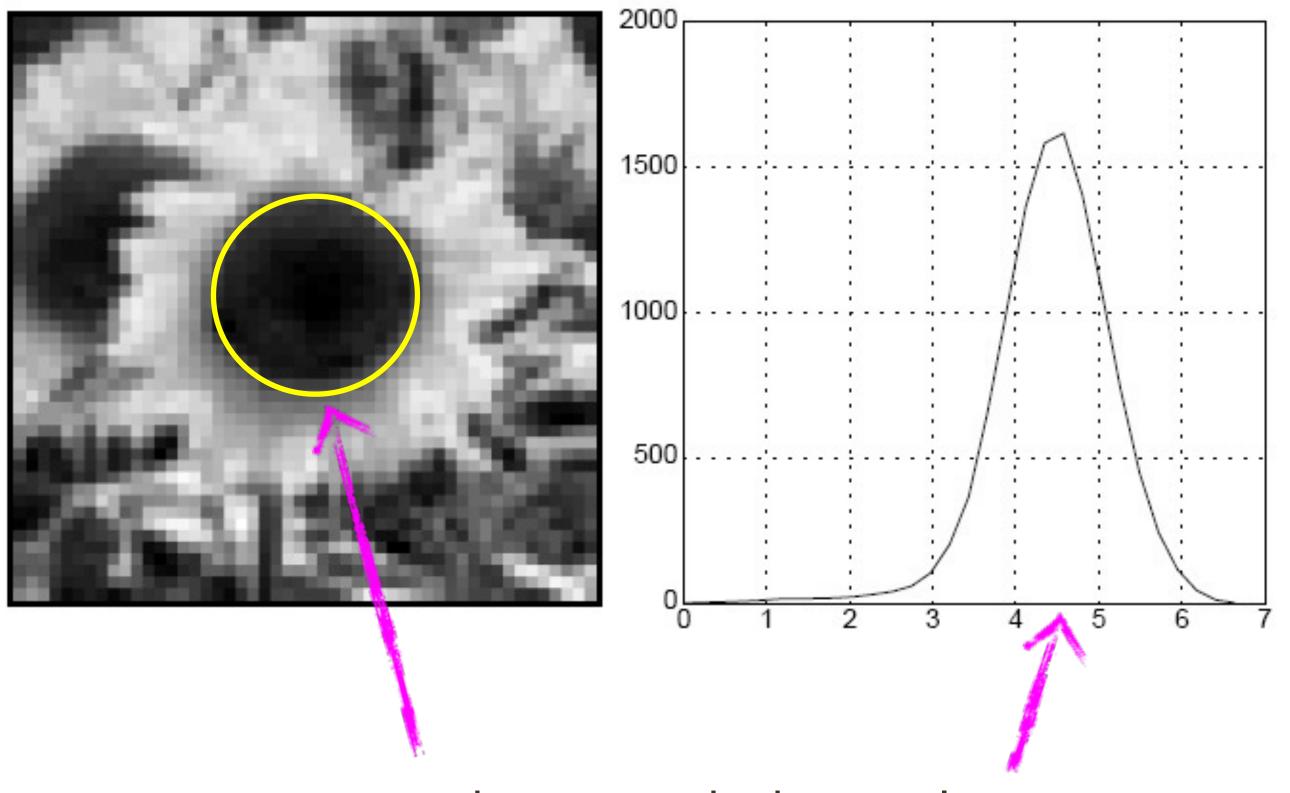






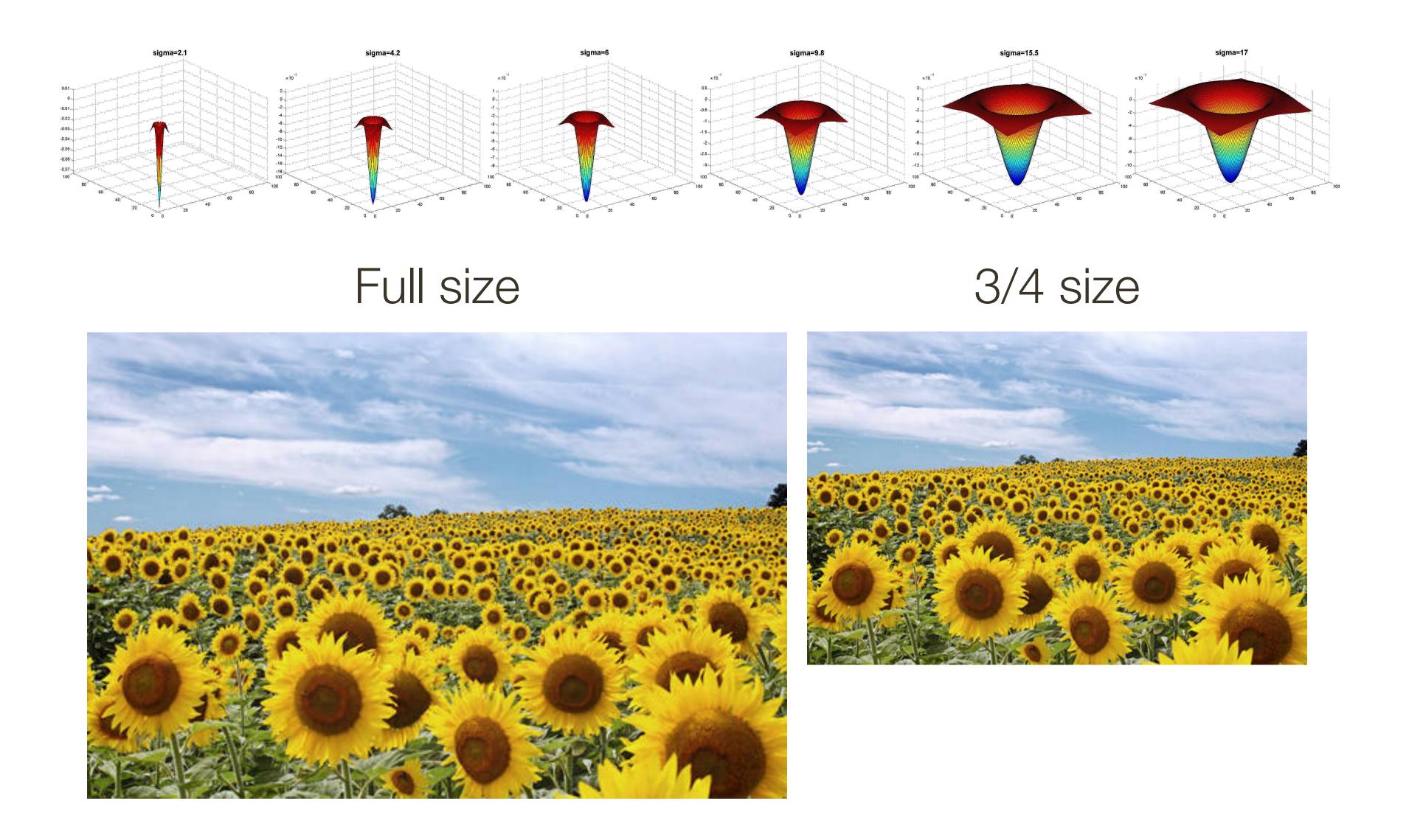
#### Characteristic Scale

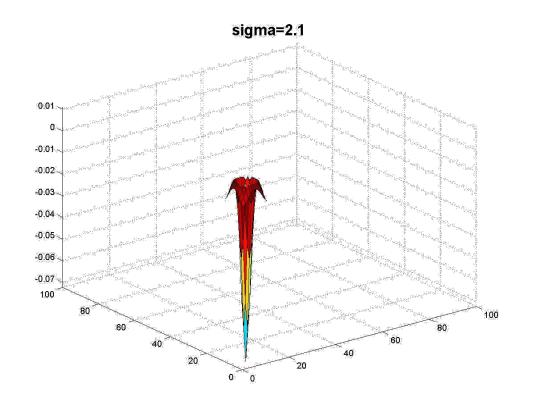
characteristic scale - the scale that produces peak filter response

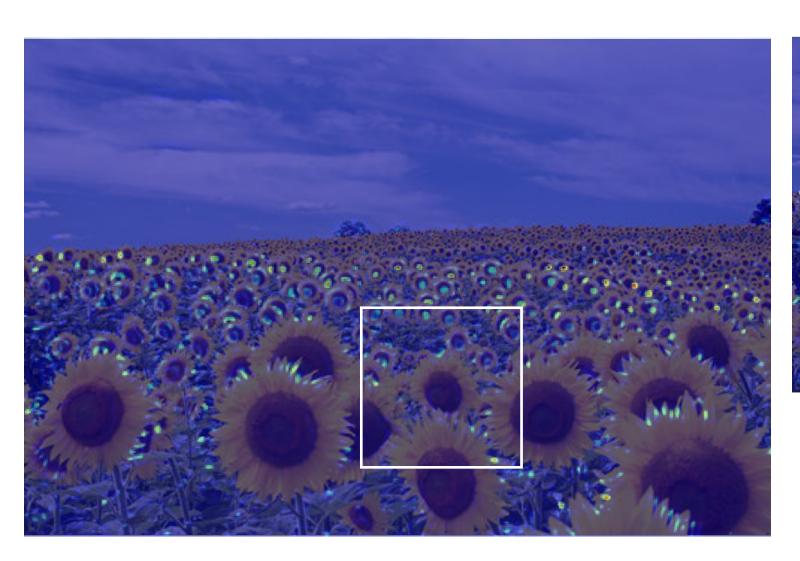


characteristic scale

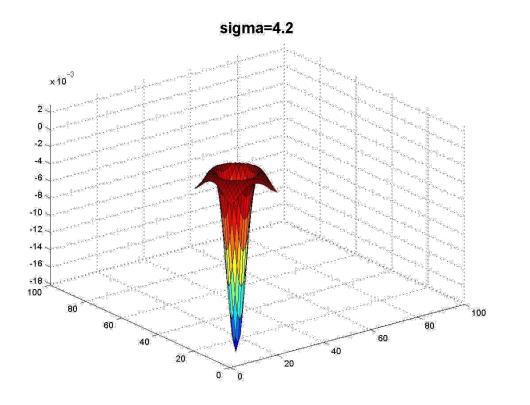
we need to search over characteristic scales



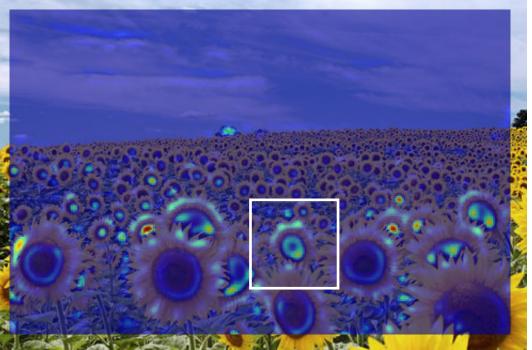


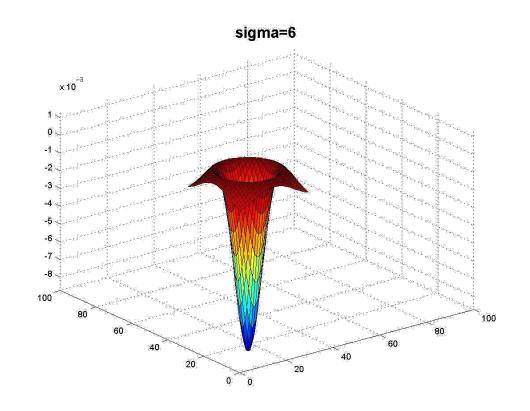


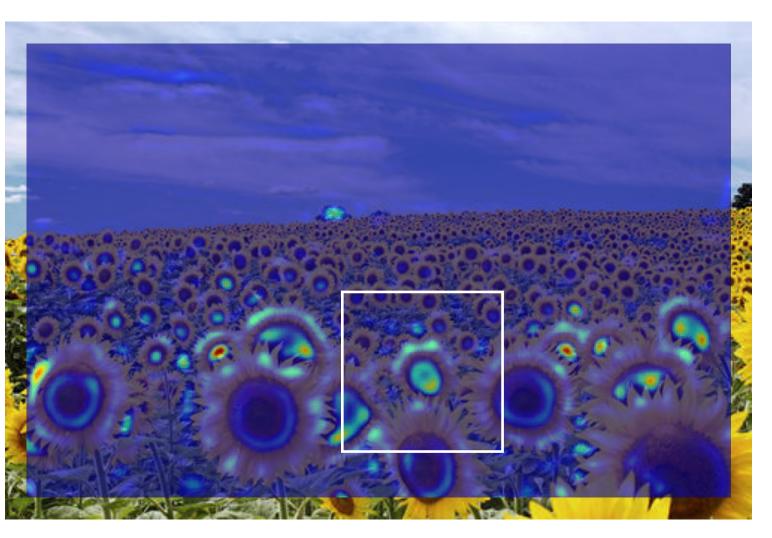




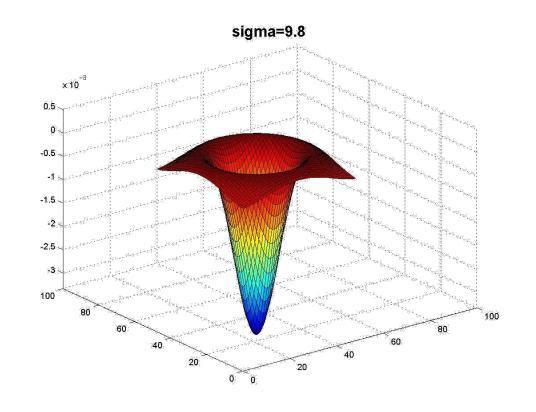


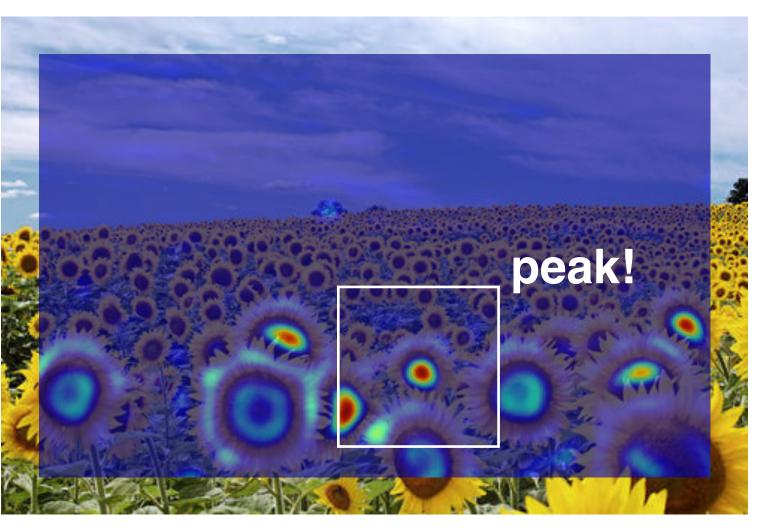


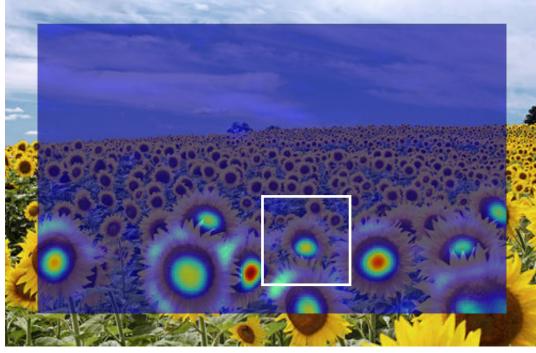


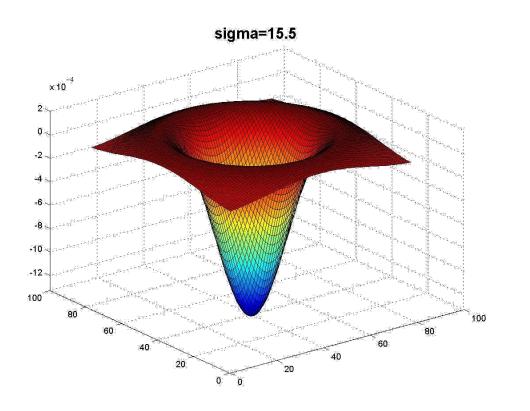


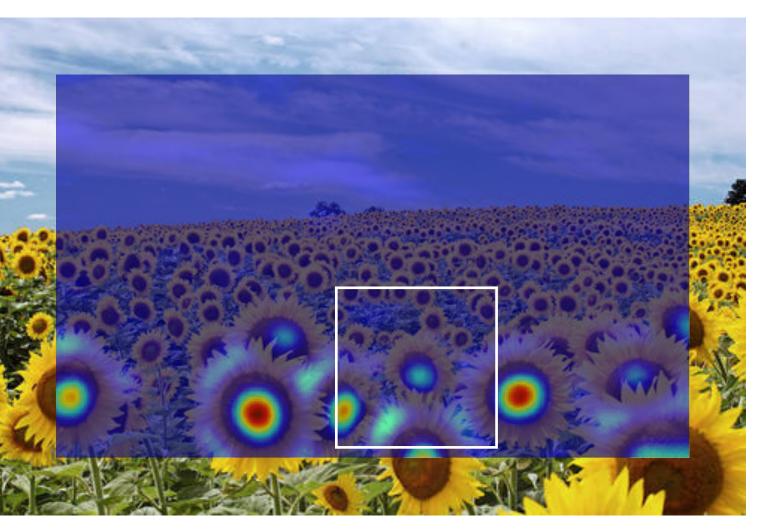


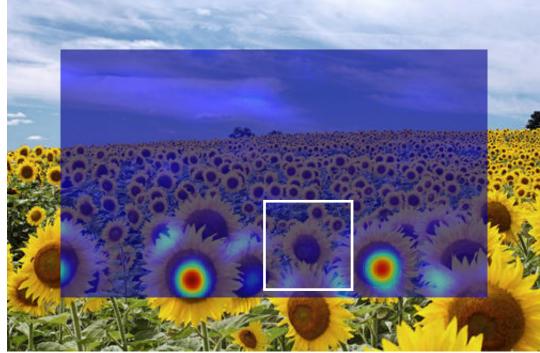


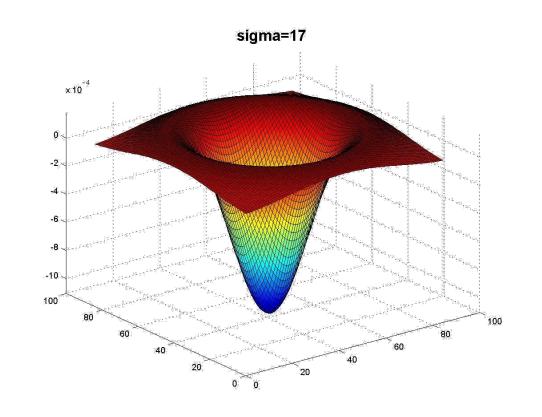


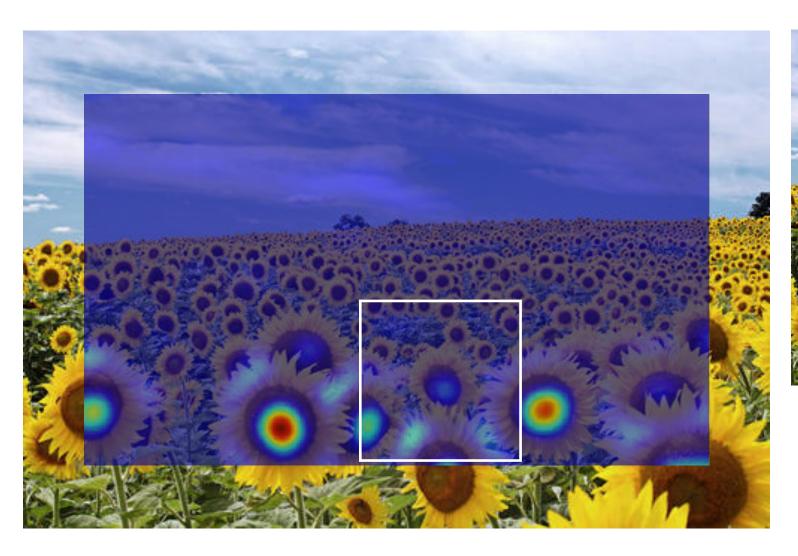


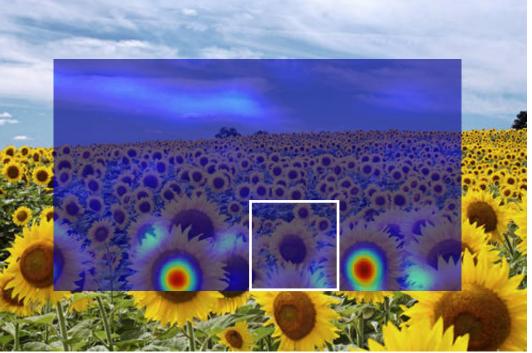


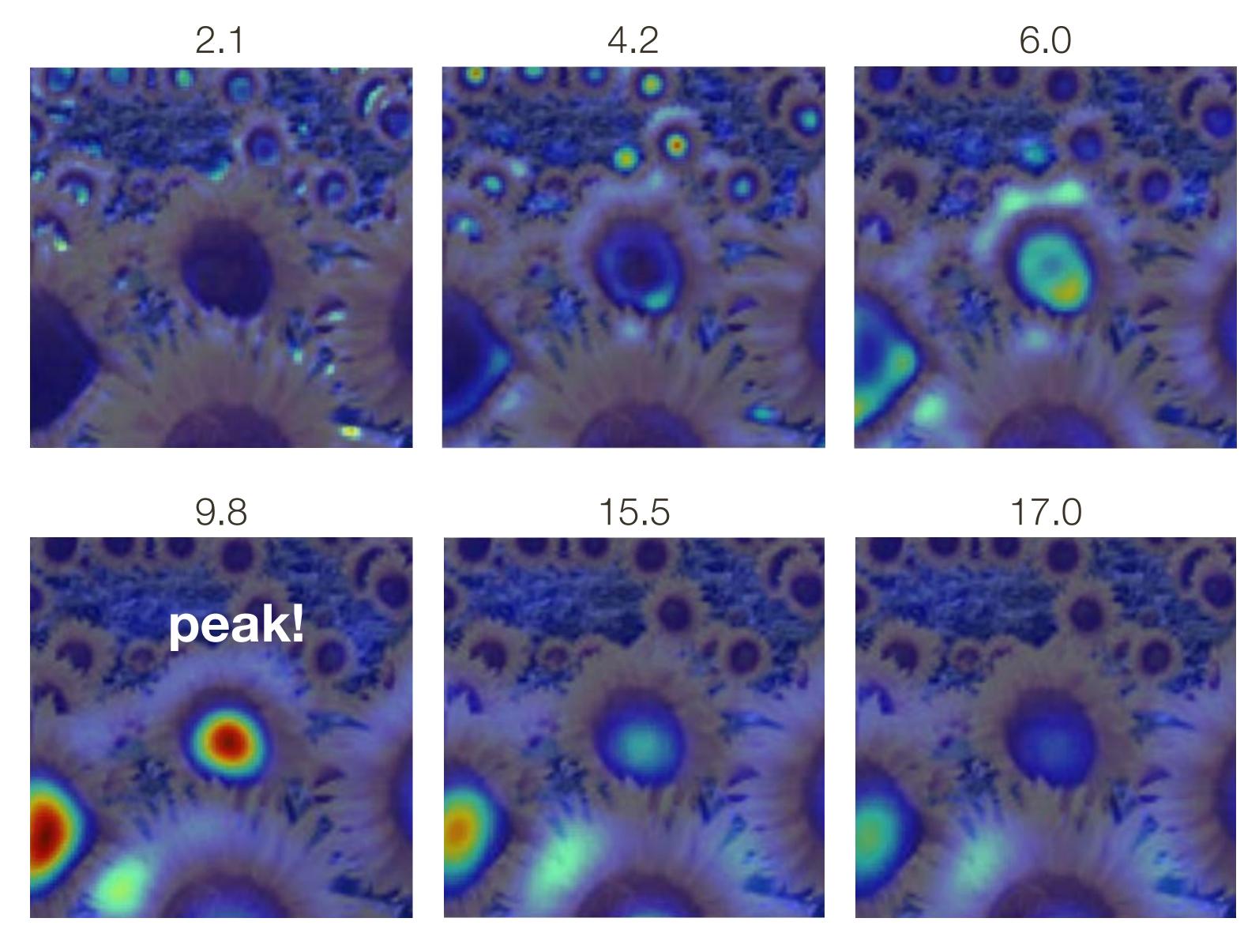




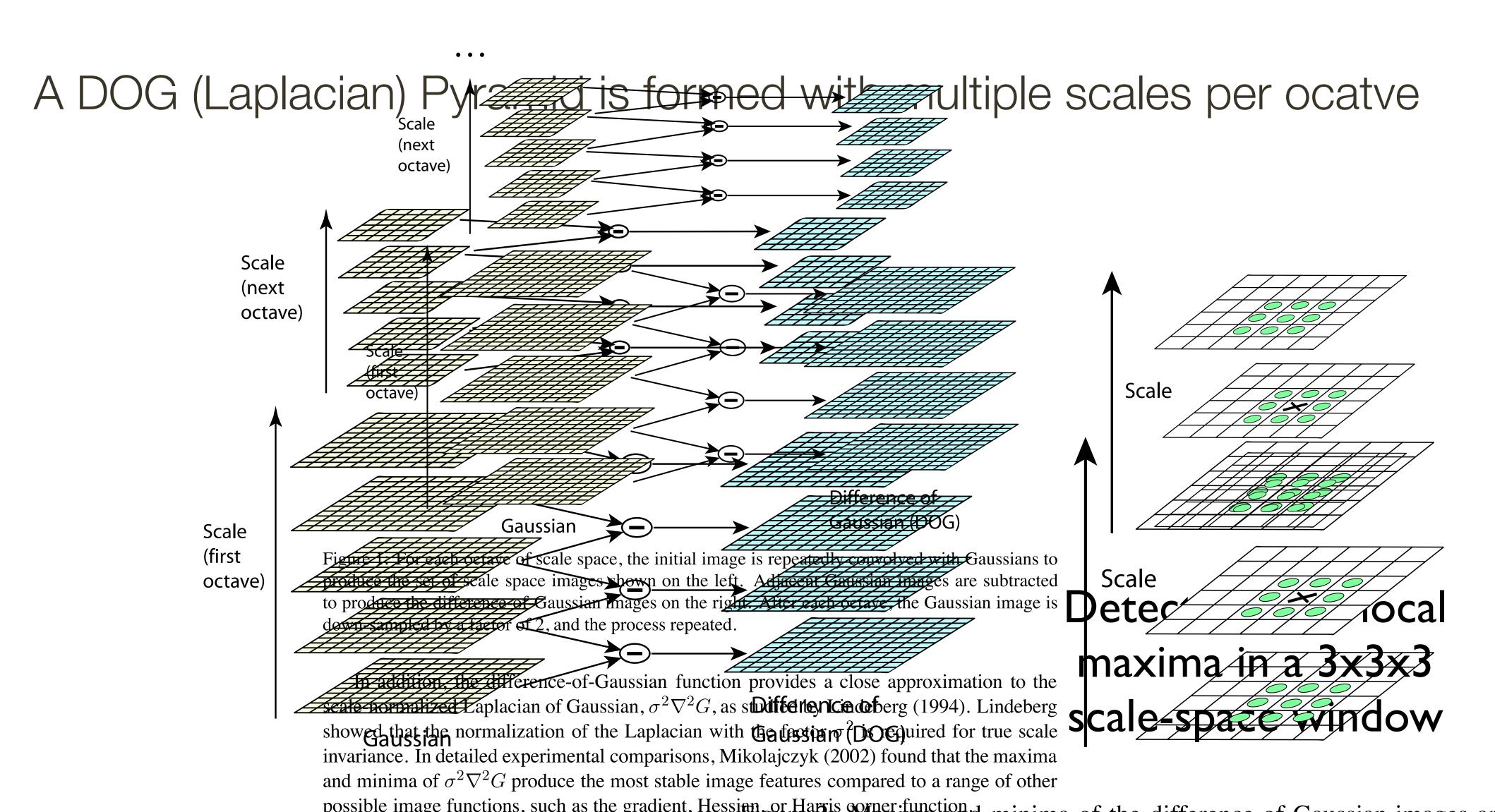








#### Scale Selection

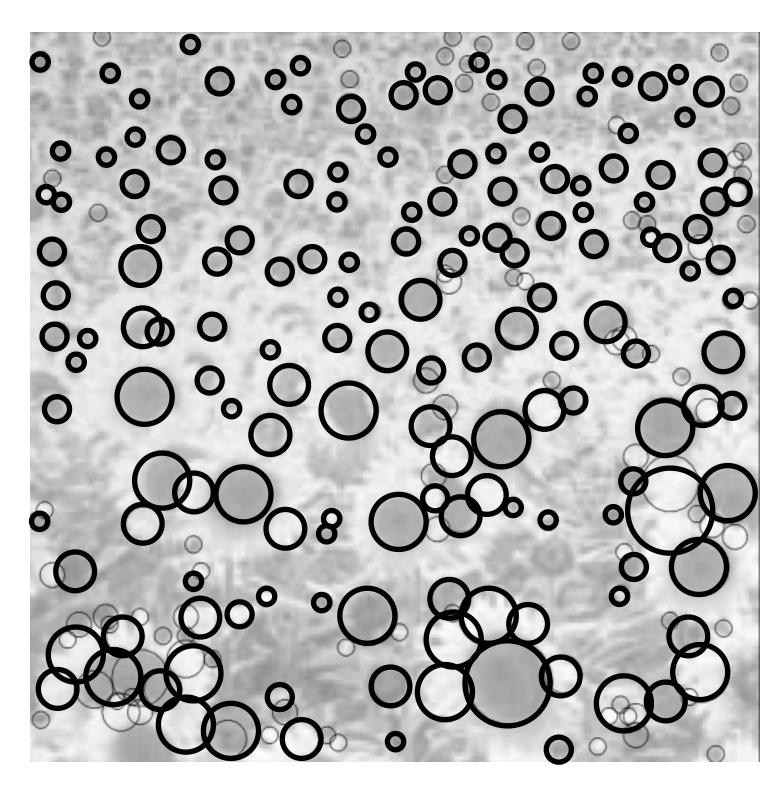


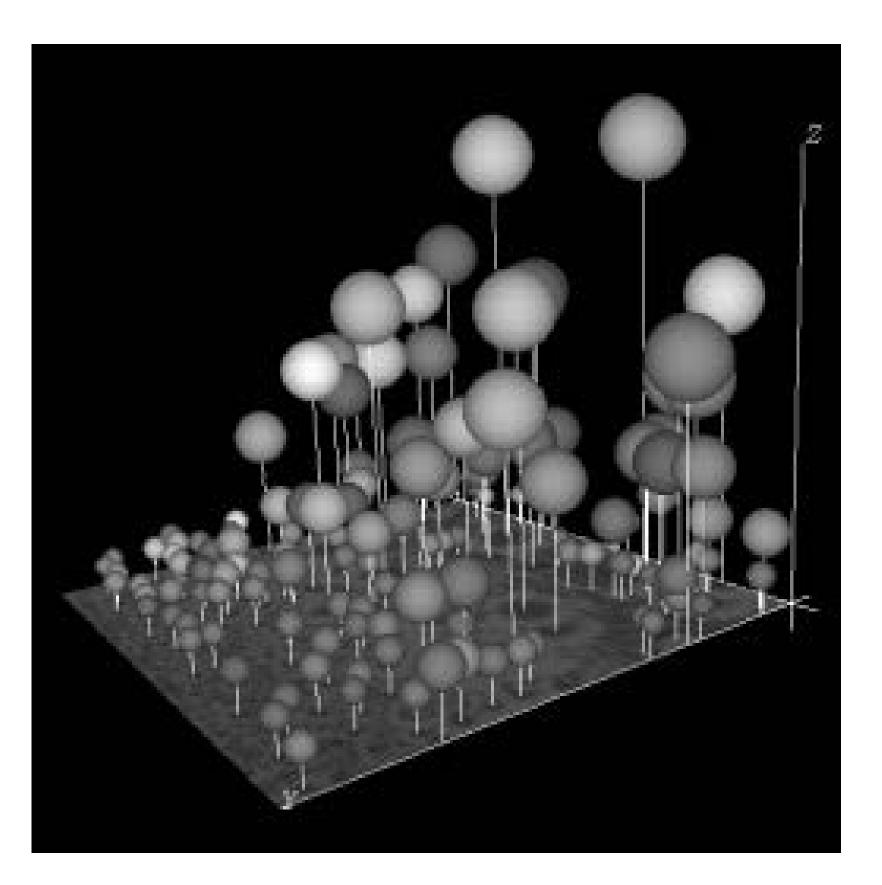
possible image functions, such as the gradient, Hessian or Harris corner function. The relationship between D and  $\sigma^2 \nabla^2 G$  can be understood from the heat diffusion equation (parameterized in terms of  $\sigma$  rather than the more usual  $t = \sigma^2$ ). Waxima and minima of the difference-of-Gaussian images are detected by comparing the relationship between D and  $\sigma^2 \nabla^2 G$  can be understood from the heat diffusion equation (parameterized in terms of  $\sigma$  rather than the more usual  $t = \sigma^2$ ). When  $t = \sigma^2$  is the content of  $t = \sigma^2$  is the content of  $t = \sigma^2$ . with circles).

#### Scale Selection

Maximising the DOG function in scale as well as space performs scale selection

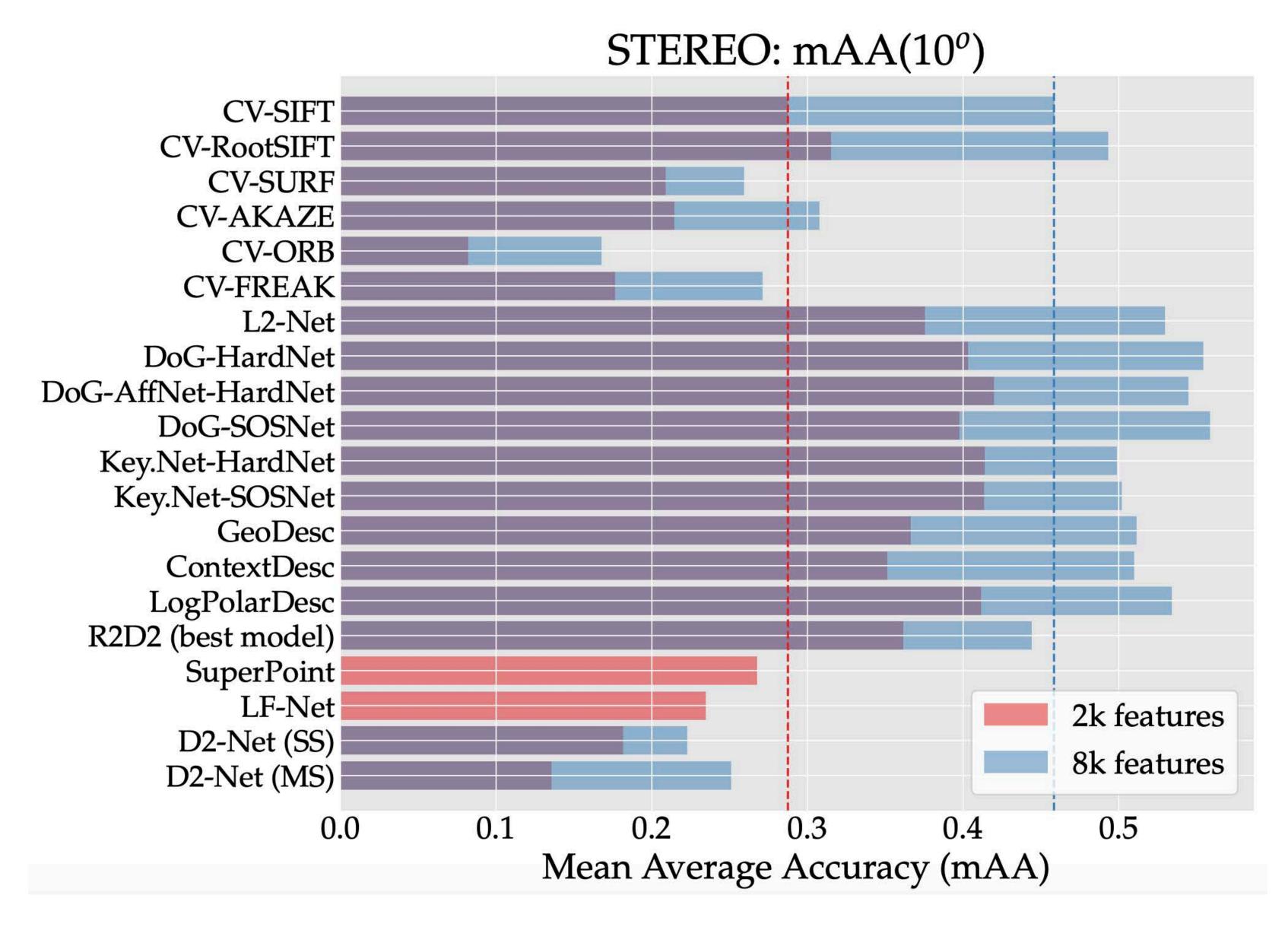






[T. Lindeberg]

#### Difference of Gaussian blobs in 2020



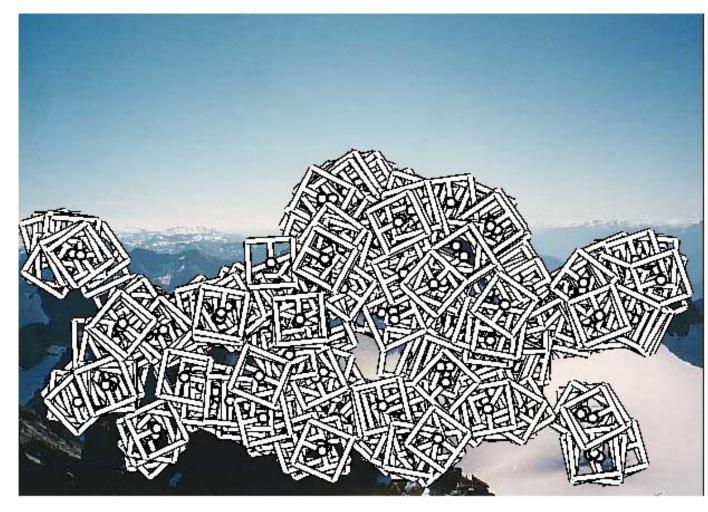
#### Multi-Scale Harris Corners

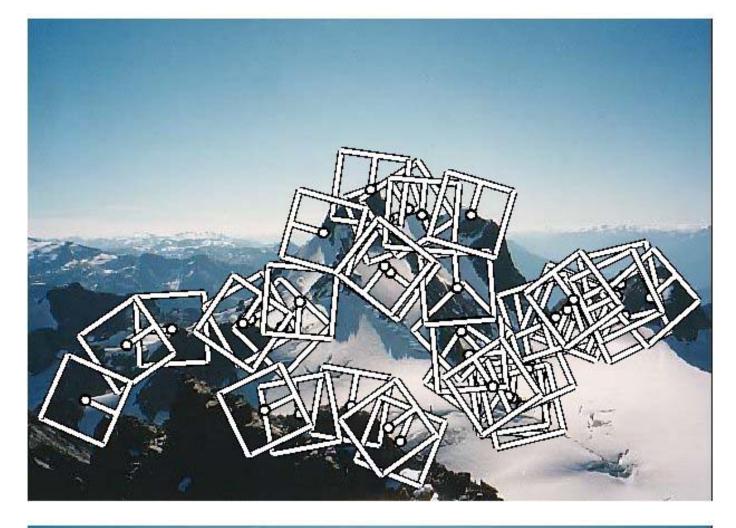
```
For each level of the Gaussian pyramid compute Harris feature response
```

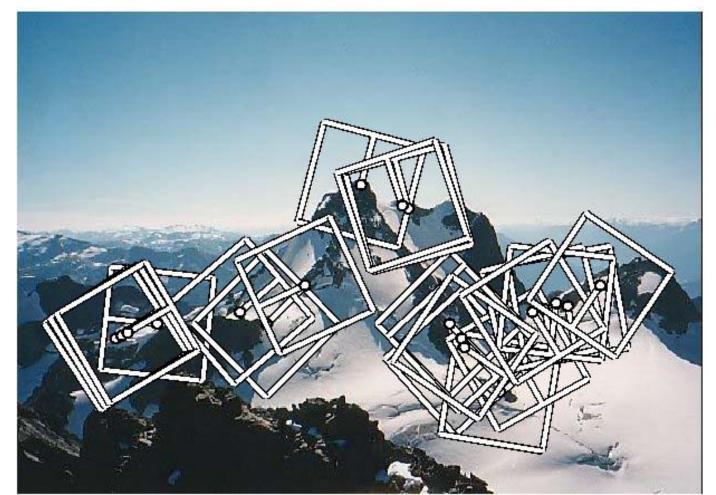
For each level of the Gaussian pyramid  $\begin{tabular}{l} if local maximum and cross-scale \\ \begin{tabular}{l} save scale and location of feature $(x,y,s)$ \\ \end{tabular}$ 

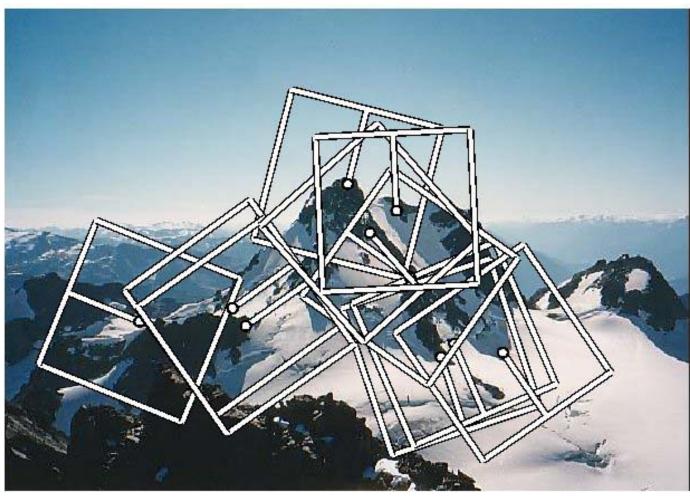
### Multi-Scale Harris Corners

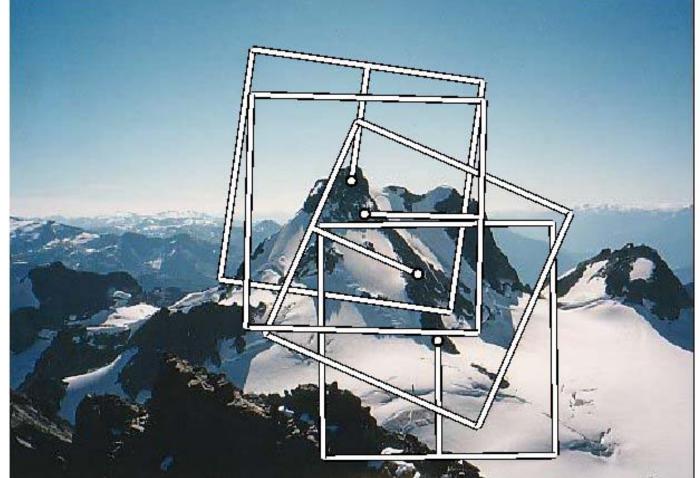












### Summary

**Edges** are useful image features for many applications, but suffer from the aperture problem

Canny Edge detector combines edge filtering with linking and hysteresis steps

**Corners / Interest Points** have 2D structure and are useful for correspondence

Harris corners are minima of a local SSD function

**DoG** maxima can be reliably located in scale-space and are useful as interest points