Linear filtering

Roadmap

Machine Vision Technology							
Semantic information				Metric 3D information			
Pixels	Segments	Images	Videos	Camera		Multi-view Geometry	
Convolutions Edges & Fitting Local features Texture	Segmentation Clustering	Recognition Detection	Motion Tracking	Camera Model	Camera Calibration	Epipolar Geometry	SFM

Types of Images

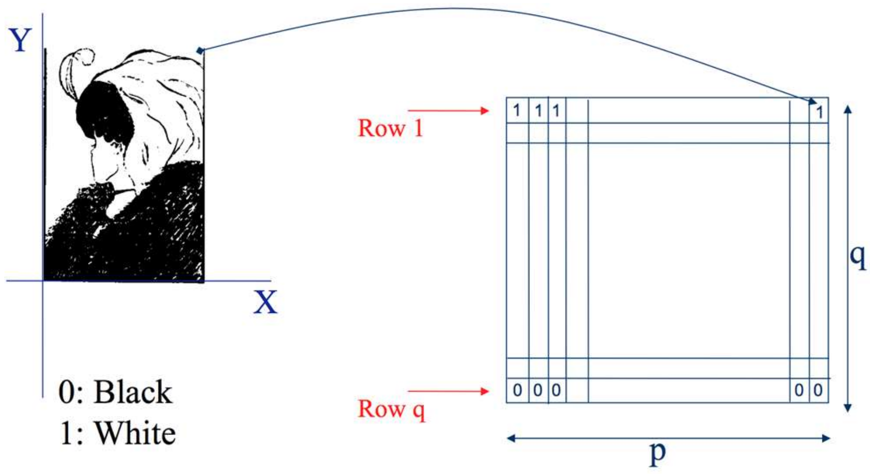
Binary

Gray Scale

Color

Source：Ulas Bagci

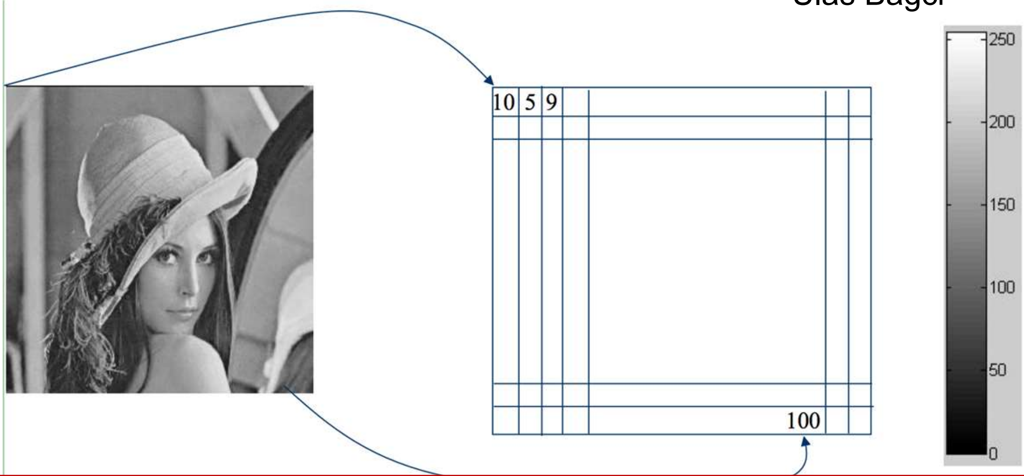
Binary image representation



Source：Ulas Bagci

Grayscale image representation

Slide credit:
Ulas Bagci

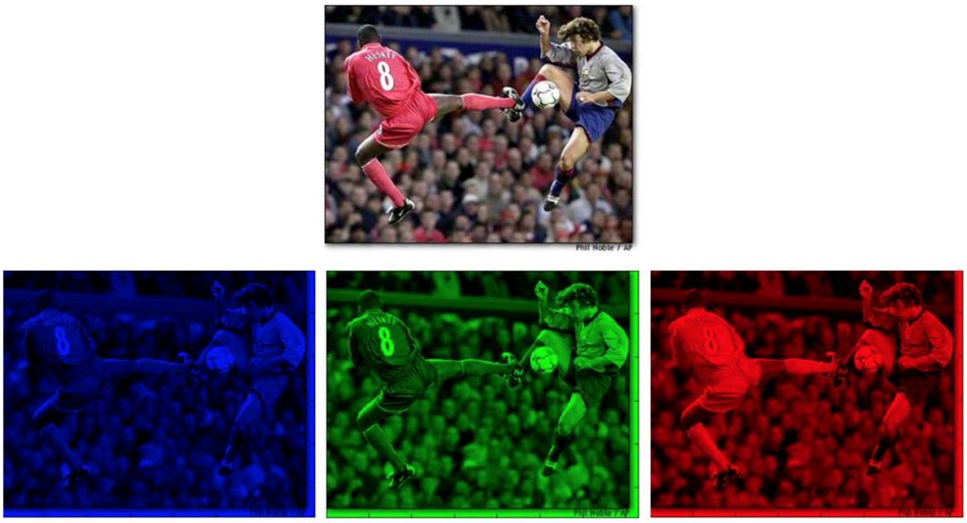


Source: Ulas Bagci

Color Image - one channel

Source: Ulas Bagci

Color image representation



Source: Ulas Bagci

Motivation: Image denoising

- How can we reduce noise in a photograph?

Source: S. Lazebnik

Moving average

- Let’s replace each pixel with a *weighted* average of its neighborhood
- The weights are called the *filter kernel*
- What are the weights for the average of a 3x3 neighborhood?

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

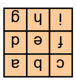
“box filter”

Source： S. Lazebnik

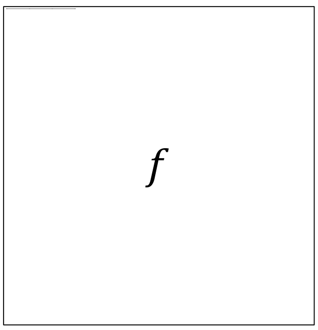
Defining convolution

- Let f be the image and g be the kernel. The output of convolving f with g is denoted $f * g$.

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



Convention:
kernel is “flipped”



Key properties

- **Linearity:** filter($f_1 + f_2$) = filter(f_1) + filter(f_2)
- **Shift invariance:** same behavior regardless of pixel location: filter(shift(f)) = shift(filter(f))
- Theoretical result: any linear shift-invariant operator can be represented as a convolution

Source: S. Lazebnik

Properties in more detail

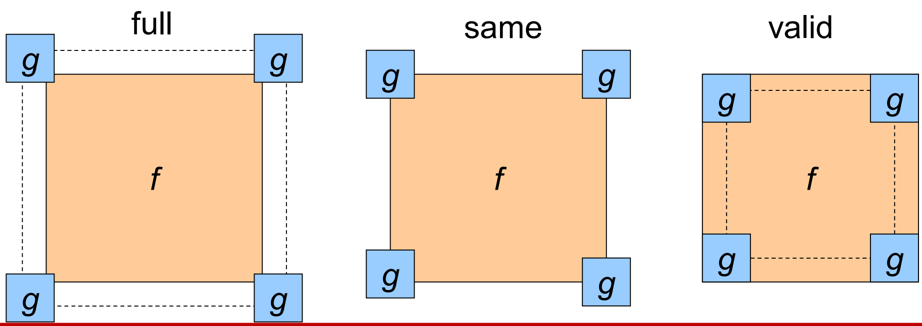
- Commutative: $a * b = b * a$
  - Conceptually no difference between filter and signal
- Associative: $a * (b * c) = (a * b) * c$
  - Often apply several filters one after another: $(((a * b_1) * b_2) * b_3)$
  - This is equivalent to applying one filter: $a * (b_1 * b_2 * b_3)$
- Distributes over addition: $a * (b + c) = (a * b) + (a * c)$
- Scalars factor out: $ka * b = a * kb = k (a * b)$
- Identity: unit impulse $e = [\ldots, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, \ldots]$,
  $a * e = a$

Source: S. Lazebnik

Annoying details

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



Source: S. Lazebnik

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Annoying details

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

Source: S. Marschner

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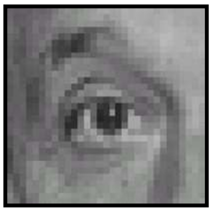
Annoying details

What about near the edge?

- the filter window falls off the edge of the image
- need to extrapolate
- 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')

Source: S. Marschner

Practice with linear filters



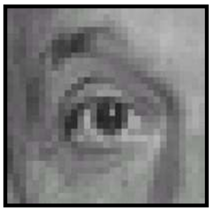
Original

0	0	0
0	1	0
0	0	0

?

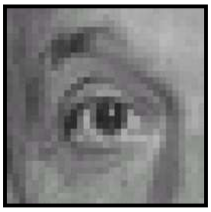
Source: D. Lowe

Practice with linear filters



Original

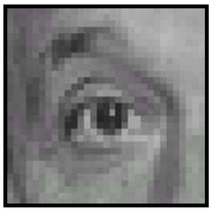
0	0	0
0	1	0
0	0	0



Filtered
(no change)

Source: D. Lowe

Practice with linear filters



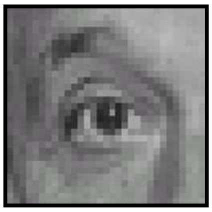
Original

0	0	0
0	0	1
0	0	0

?

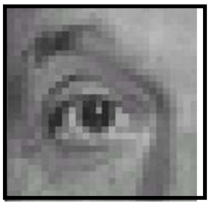
Source: D. Lowe

Practice with linear filters



Original

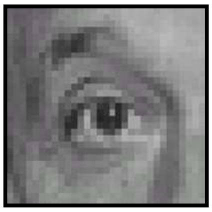
0	0	0
0	0	1
0	0	0



Shifted *left*
By 1 pixel

Source: D. Lowe

Practice with linear filters



Original

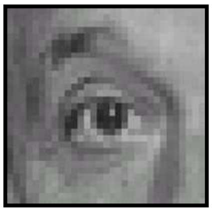
$\frac{1}{9}$

1	1	1
1	1	1
1	1	1

?

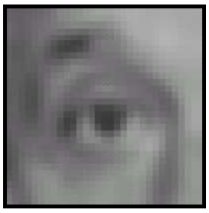
Source: D. Lowe

Practice with linear filters



Original

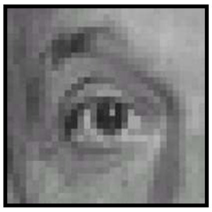
$$\frac{1}{9}\begin{bmatrix}1&1&1\\1&1&1\\1&1&1\end{bmatrix}$$



Blur (with a box filter)

Source: D. Lowe

Practice with linear filters



Original

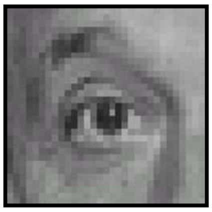
$$\begin{bmatrix}0&0&0\\0&2&0\\0&0&0\end{bmatrix} - \frac{1}{9}\begin{bmatrix}1&1&1\\1&1&1\\1&1&1\end{bmatrix}$$

?

(Note that filter sums to 1)

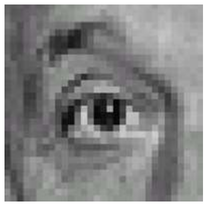
Source: D. Lowe

Practice with linear filters



Original

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} - \frac{1}{9}\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

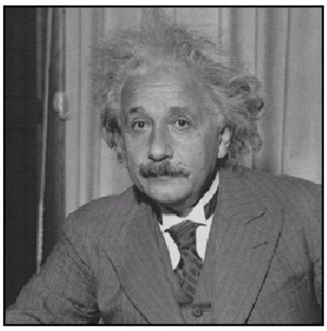


Sharpening filter

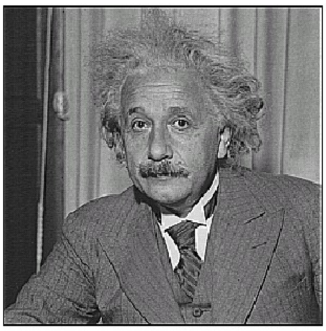
- Accentuates differences with local average

Source: D. Lowe

Sharpening



before



after

Source: D. Lowe

Sharpening

What does blurring take away?

–

=

Source: D. Lowe

Sharpening

What does blurring take away?

–

=

Let's add it back:

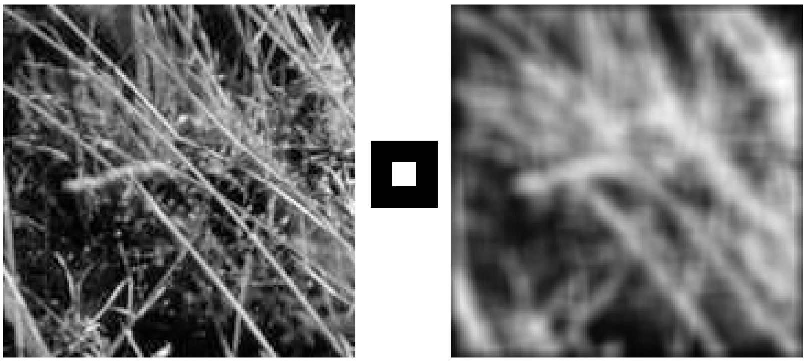
+

=

Source: D. Lowe

Smoothing with box filter revisited

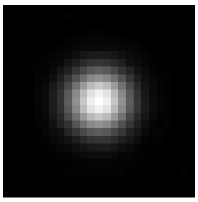
- What's wrong with this picture?
- What's the solution?



Source: D. Forsyth

Smoothing with box filter revisited

- What's wrong with this picture?
- What's the solution?
  - To eliminate edge effects, weight contribution of neighborhood pixels according to their closeness to the center

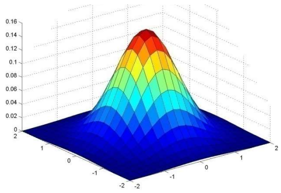


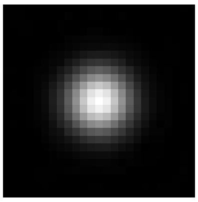
"fuzzy blob"

Source：S. Lazebnik

Gaussian Kernel

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





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

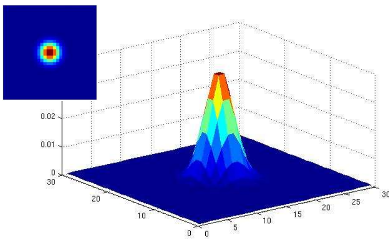
5 x 5, σ = 1

- Constant factor at front makes volume sum to 1 (can be ignored when computing the filter values, as we should renormalize weights to sum to 1 in any case)

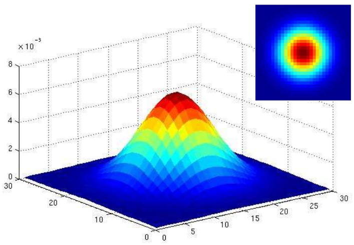
Source: C. Rasmussen

Gaussian Kernel

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



σ = 2 with 30 x 30 kernel



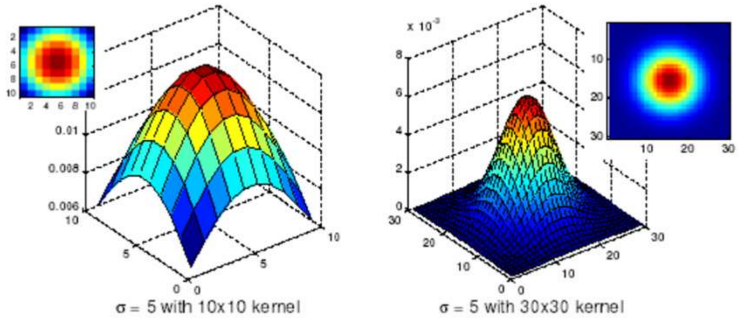
σ = 5 with 30 x 30 kernel

- Standard deviation σ: determines extent of smoothing

Source: K. Grauman

Choosing kernel width

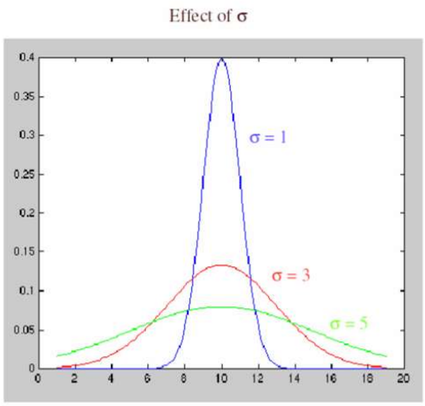
- The Gaussian function has infinite support, but discrete filters use finite kernels



Source: K. Grauman

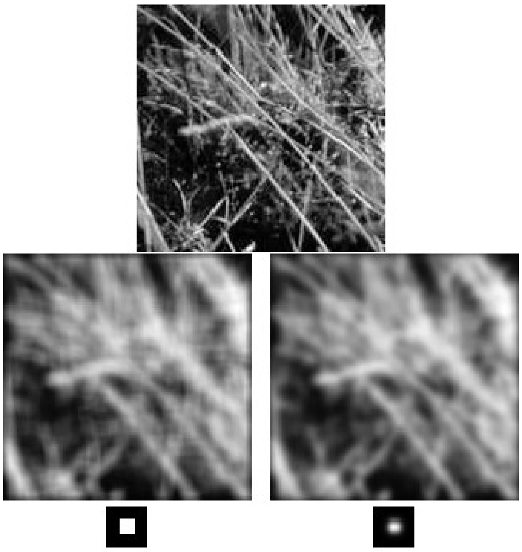
Choosing kernel width

- Rule of thumb: set filter half-width to about 3σ



Source：S. Lazebnik

Gaussian vs. box filtering



Source： S. Lazebnik

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Gaussian filters

- Remove “high-frequency” components from the image (low-pass filter)
- Convolution with self is another Gaussian
  - So can smooth with small-σ kernel, repeat, and get same result as larger-σ kernel would have
  - Convolving two times with Gaussian kernel with std. dev. σ is same as convolving once with kernel with std. dev. $\sigma\sqrt{2}$
- *Separable* kernel
  - Factors into product of two 1D Gaussians

Source: K. Grauman

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Separability of the Gaussian filter

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

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

Source: D. Lowe

Separability example

2D convolution (center location only)

$$
\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}\hline 1 & 2 & 1 \\ \hline 2 & 4 & 2 \\ \hline 1 & 2 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array} * \begin{array}{|c|c|c|}\hline 2 & 3 & 3 \\ \hline 3 & 5 & 5 \\ \hline 4 & 4 & 6 \\ \hline \end{array}
$$

The filter factors into a product of 1D filters:

$$
\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}\hline 1 & 2 & 1 \\ \hline 2 & 4 & 2 \\ \hline 1 & 2 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|}\hline 1 \\ \hline 2 \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \times \begin{array}{|c|c|c|}\hline 1 & 2 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array}
$$

Perform convolution along rows:

$$
\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}\hline 1 & 2 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array} * \begin{array}{|c|c|c|}\hline 2 & 3 & 3 \\ \hline 3 & 5 & 5 \\ \hline 4 & 4 & 6 \\ \hline \end{array} =
$$

Followed by convolution along the remaining column:

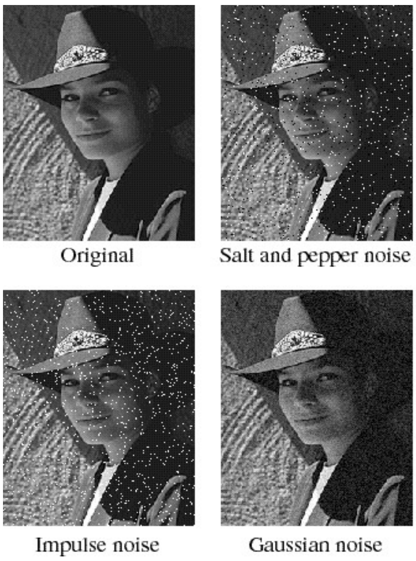
Source: K. Grauman

Why is separability useful?

- What is the complexity of filtering an $n \times n$ image with an $m \times m$ kernel?
  - $O(n^2 m^2)$
- What if the kernel is separable?
  - $O(n^2 m)$

Source: S. Lazebnik

Noise

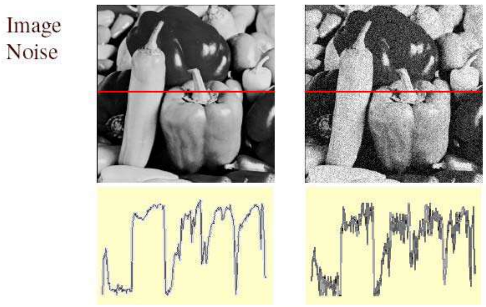


- **Salt and pepper noise**: contains random occurrences of black and white pixels
- **Impulse noise:** contains random occurrences of white pixels
- **Gaussian noise**: variations in intensity drawn from a Gaussian normal distribution

Source: S. Seitz

Gaussian noise

- Mathematical model: sum of many independent factors
- Good for small standard deviations
- Assumption: independent, zero-mean noise

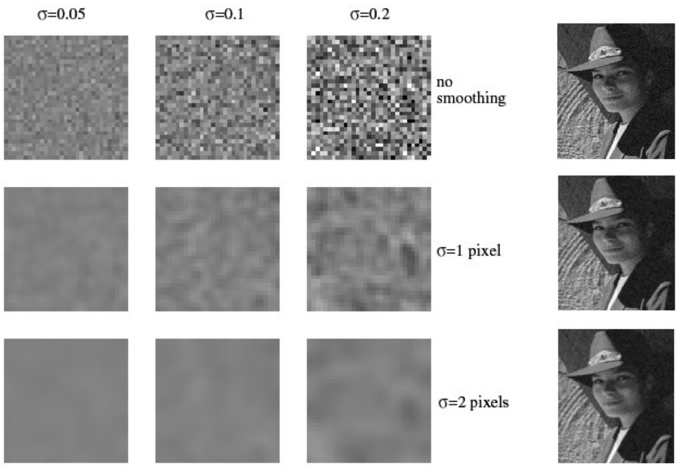


$$f(x,y) = \overbrace{f(x,y)}^{\text{Ideal Image}} + \overbrace{\eta(x,y)}^{\text{Noise process}}$$

Gaussian i.i.d. ("white") noise:
$\eta(x,y) \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu,\sigma)$

Source: M. Hebert

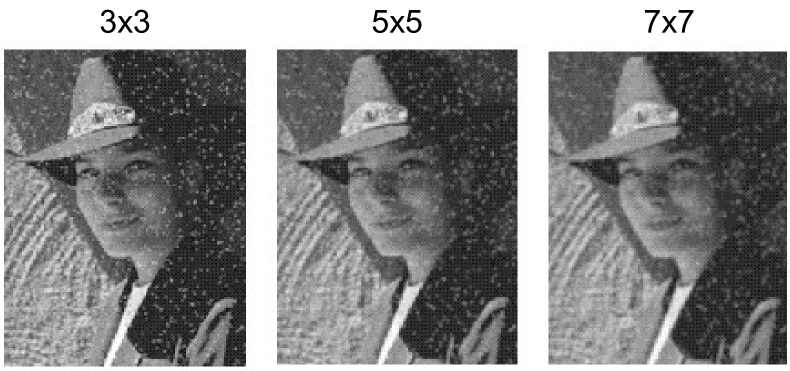
Reducing Gaussian noise



Smoothing with larger standard deviations suppresses noise, but also blurs the image

Source: S. Lazebnik

Reducing salt-and-pepper noise

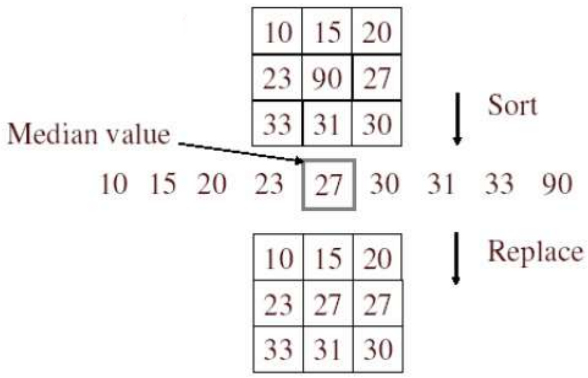


What's wrong with the results?

Source: S. Lazebnik

Alternative idea: Median filtering

- A **median filter** operates over a window by selecting the median intensity in the window

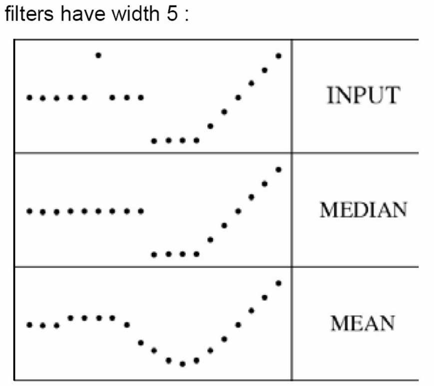


- Is median filtering linear?

Source: K. Grauman

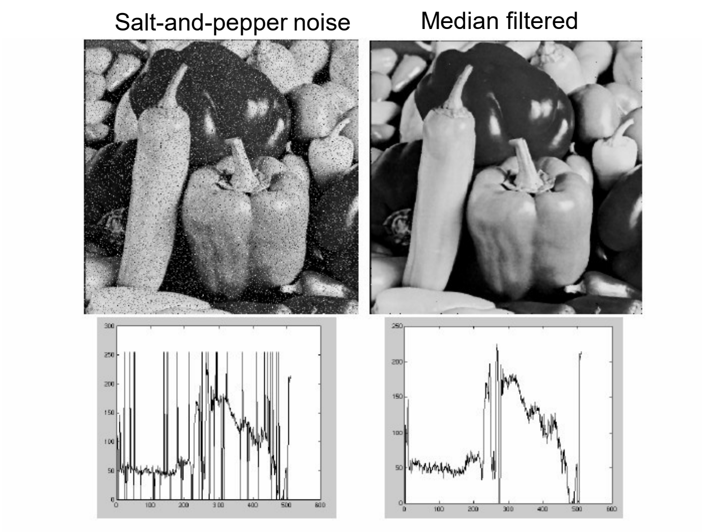
Median filter

- What advantage does median filtering have over Gaussian filtering?
  - Robustness to outliers



Source: K. Grauman

Median filter



Source: M. Hebert

Gaussian vs. median filtering

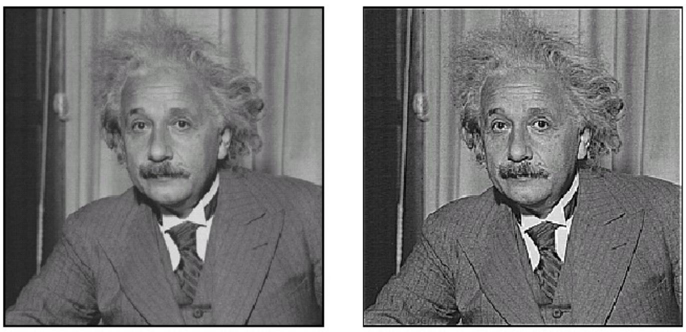
3x3 5x5 7x7

Gaussian

Median

Source： S. Lazebnik

Sharpening revisited



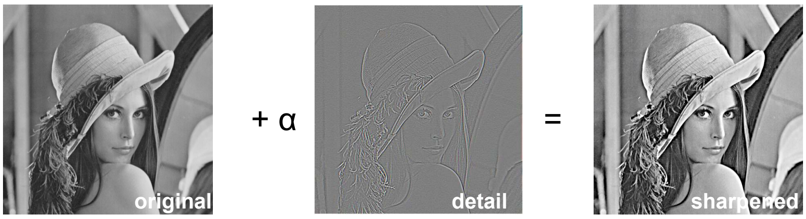
before after

Source: D. Lowe

Sharpening revisited

What does blurring take away?

Let's add it back:



Source： S. Lazebnik

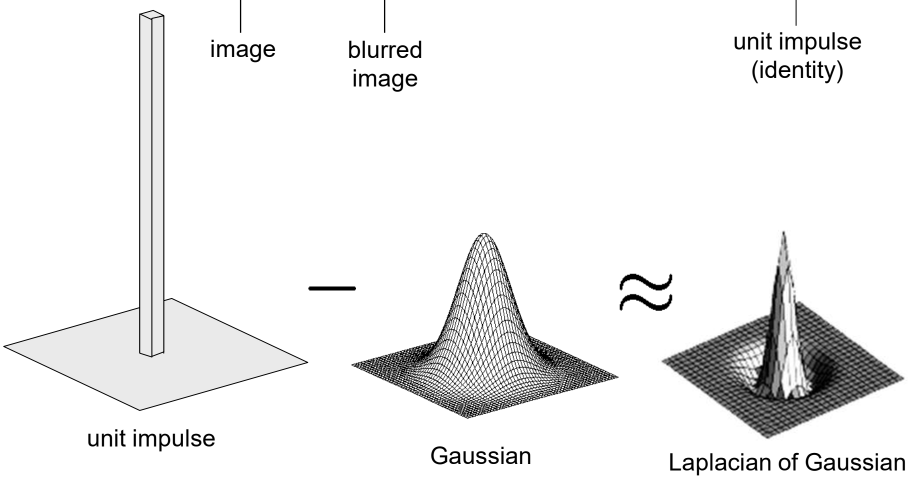
Unsharp mask filter

$$f + \alpha(f - f * g) = (1+\alpha)f - \alpha f * g = f * ((1+\alpha)e - \alpha g)$$

image

blurred image

unit impulse (identity)



Source： S. Lazebnik