Univerza *v Ljubljani* 



#### Machine perception Image formation & Image processing 1

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#### **IMAGE FORMATION**

#### Let's design a camera!



• Idea 1: put an object in front of a film...

• Do we get a good image of the object?

## Let's design a camera!



- Add a punctured barrier that blocks most of the rays
  - Significantly reduces blurring
  - The "hole" is known as aperture

## A pinhole camera

- Earliest and remarkably correct written description: ~500 BC Mohist canon (ancient Chinese texts)
- A simple standard camera model
  - A box with a small aperture
  - Works in practice





#### A pinhole camera: a taste of geometry



## **Effects of the aperture size**

- Too large multiple directions averaging, resulting in a blurred image.
- Too small light starts diffracting, causing blurred image.
- In general small number of rays hit the film, which results in a dark image.
- How do we deal with this?





- The lens focuses light to film
  - The rays that travel through the center do not refract.



- The lens focuses light to film
  - The rays that travel through the center do not refract.
  - Points at particular distance remain in-focus.
  - Points at other distances are blurred.

#### Focus and the depth-of-field

• Thin lens: Points at different depths get focused at different depths of image plane.

(Real-world lens have a greater depth of field)



• Depth of field: distance between image planes at which the blurring effect is sufficiently small..

#### Focus and the depth-of-field

• Effects of aperture on the depth-of-field



- Small aperture increases the depth-of-field.
- But due to reduced illumination we have to increase the exposure time.





#### **Field of view**

• Field of view (FOV)  $(2 \times \varphi)$  is an angular measure of space perceived by the camera.



• Larger focal length  $\rightarrow$  Smaller field of view

#### **Field of view**

- Small *f* results in wide-angle image (Large field of view) \_\_\_\_\_\_
  - More 3D points project to the sensor.



28 mm lens, 65.5° × 46.4°



50 mm lens, 39.6° × 27.0

- Large *f* results in a telescopic image (small FOV) \_\_\_\_\_\_
  - Smaller portion of 3D scene is projected to the sensor.



70 mm lens, 28.9° × 19.5°

 $\varphi = \tan^{-1}($ 



210 mm lens, 9.8° × 6.5°

#### Field of view and focal length





Small FOV, large *f* Camera far away from the car



Large FOV, small *f* Camera close to the car

#### **Chromatic aberration**

• Different wave-lengths refract at different angle and focus at slightly different distances:



#### Close to image center



#### Close to image edge



#### **Spherical aberration**

- Spherical lenses do not focus the light perfectly.
- Rays close to lens edge focus closer than those at the center.





http://photographylife.com/what-is-spherical-aberration

#### http://www.dofpro.com/sagallery.htm?

## Vignetting



#### **Radial distortion**



- Due to lens imperfections or fisheye.
- Most apparent at the edge of the image.

#### **Digital image**



- Instead of film, use matrix (array) of sensors.
- *Discretize* image into pixels.
- Quantize light into intensity levels.

#### Sensor: Camera



## Visible light cams: CCD vs CMOS



Complementary metal-oxide-semiconductor (CMOS)



- In both: Photons cause charge on each sensor "cell".
- CCD reads out the charge (FIFO) serially and digitizes.
- CMOS performs digitization on each cell separately.
- CCD used to deliver better images, but CMOS technology has progressed.
- CMOS is cheaper to produce and is thus wide-spread.

#### **Color perception in digital cameras**

Bayer sensor



In classical design, we cannot read out R, G and B channel at a single pixel.

Why twice as many greens compared to blue and red?

Luminance is mostly determined by the green values.

Human visual system much more sensitive to changes in intensity than in chroma (color).

#### **Color perception in digital cameras**



#### Your camera sees





De-mosaicking: The missing color channels at a pixel need to be interpolated!



http://www.cambridgeincolour.com/tutorials/camera-sensors.htm

#### **Color perception : Foveon X3**

- CMOS-based sensor.
- Based on the fact, that red, green and blue color penetrate the silicon at different depths.



http://www.foveon.com/article.php?a=67

# Better image quality Image description Image descrinte Image d

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Foveon\_X3\_sensor

#### Bayer-like



#### From camera to perception



- How does a human perceive the bottles, plates, forks,..., using only brightness?
- How do we perceive depth?
- Can a computer program do that?

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#### **IMAGE PROCESSING 1**

## **Binary images**

- Only two possible gray levels
- Foreground vs. background

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



#### **Usage: Machine vision, OCR, etc.**



R. Nagarajan et al. "A real time marking inspection scheme for semiconductor industries", 2006

#### **Usage: Medical imaging**



Source: D. Kim et al., Cytometry 35(1), 1999





#### Use case: Count the "round" cells



#### Localize, Describe, Classify

## **Localize: Sequence of processing steps**

- Convert gray image to a binary image
  - Thresholding
- Clean binary image
  - Morphologic filtering
- Extract individual regions
  - Connected components

... then describe each localized region and classify





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#### **IMAGE THRESHOLDING**



## Thresholding

- Transform an image into a Binary Mask
- Various approaches
  - Apply a single threshold

$$F_T[i,j] = \begin{cases} 1, \text{ if } F[i,j] \leq T \\ 0, \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

• Apply two thresholds

$$F_{T}[i, j] = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } T_{1} \leq F[i, j] \leq T_{2} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

• A general view: apply a classifier

$$F_{T}[i, j] = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } F[i, j] \in Z \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

#### Object/background separation





#### A simple example: Bimodal histogram



Ideal case: bright object on dark background.





## A more realistic noisy image.

#### A not so simple example...

• What to do here?



- Generally thresholding is a difficult problem
  - Domain knowledge helps a great deal.
  - E.g., the portion on letters on a page.
  - E.g., size of the structure we want to detect...

#### **Global binarization [Otsu '79]**

• Find a threshold *T*, that minimizes intensity variances within classes separated by *T*:

$$\sigma_{within}^2(T) = n_1(T)\sigma_1^2(T) + n_2(T)\sigma_2^2(T)$$

$$n_1(T) = \left| \left\{ I_{(x,y)} < T \right\} \right|, n_2(T) = \left| \left\{ I_{(x,y)} \ge T \right\} \right|$$



• This equals to maximization of between class variance  $\sigma_{between}$ :

$$\sigma_{between}^{2}(T) = \sigma^{2} - \sigma_{within}^{2}(T) = n_{1}(T)n_{2}(T)[\mu_{1}(T) - \mu_{2}(T)]^{2}$$

Otsu, N (1979), "<u>A threshold selection method from gray-level histograms</u>", IEEE SMC
For threshold value T

- 1. Separate the pixels into two groups by intensity threshold T
- 2. For each group get an average intensity and calculate  $\sigma^2_{between}$  .

Select the T<sup>\*</sup>, that maximizes the variance:

$$T^* = \arg\max_{T} [\sigma_{between}^2(T)]$$



Used in several thousand modern algorithms in particular in medical imaging

# State-of-the-art: Generalization of Otsu (CVPR2020)

- Recently, Otsu's method revisited:
- Formulate the problem as fitting 2 Gaussians to the histogram with priors on means and variances (Bayesian view)
- Efficiently computed by a single pass through the histogram (like Otsu)
- Outperforms all single-pass algorithms and all deep learning algorithms on the text binarization benchmark





Barron, J.T., A Generalization of Otsu's Method and Minimum Error Thresholding, CVPR2020 ; link to video

## Local binarization [Niblack'86]

• Estimate a local threshold in neighborhood W:

$$T_W = \mu_W + k \cdot \sigma_W$$

with  $k \in [-1,1]$  set by user.

• Calculate the threshold separately for each pixel.





Niblack, W (1986), An introduction to Digital Image Processing, Prentice-Hall

## **Examples of thresholding**



Original



Global (Otsu)



Local (Niblack)

### **Additional improvements**

- The shade in documents is often smooth...
- $\Rightarrow$ *Try to model it by a polynomial!*



full set SVM of 1434 support vectors (bold solid line), two reduced set methods of 10 and 100 reduced sets (both in dashed line). The dashed line of the 100 reduced sets (both in dashed line). The dashed line of the 100 reduced set coincide almost entirely with the full set of support vectors. In addition, we show two element sets of 200 and 576 elements (both in solid line). Note that an element set of 576 elements is equivalent to a *single* support vector. Hence, the 576 element set is equivalent to the 10 reduced set in terms of classification power but uses much less memory.

#### Shadow compensation

#### **dutied** line). The dashed line of the 100 reduced set coincide almost entirely with the full set of support vectors. In addition, we show two element sets of 200 and 576 elements (both in solid line). Note that an element set of 576 elements is equivalent to a *single* support vector. Hence, the 576 element set is equivalent to the 10 reduced set in terms of classification power but uses much less memory.

reduced set methods of 10 and 100 reduced sets (both in

#### **Binarized result**

#### **Comparison of results**

Original image



#### Global (Otsu)

**Polynomial** + global

Parts

.

13

23

33

41.

Local (Sauvola)

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### **CLEANING THE IMAGE**



# **Cleaning the binary image**

• Thresholded image still includes noise



- Require post-processing to remove artefacts
- Morphological operators
  - Remove isolated points and small structures
  - Fill holes

## **Dilation: A sneak peak preview**

- Dilate the regions of "white" pixels
- Increases the size of the structures
- Fills holes in regions



Before dilation

After dilation

## **Erosion: A sneak peak preview**

- Erode the regions of "white" pixels
- Reduce the size of structures
- Remove bridges, branches, noise



Before erosion

After erosion

# **Central to morphology: Structuring element (SE)**



## **Fitting & Hitting**





Fit : All "1" elements in SE cover 1 Hit: Any "1" element in SE cover 1

#### **Erosion**

- Erosion of image f by structuring element s is given by  $g = f \ominus s$ .
- The structuring element s is positioned with its origin at (x, y) and the new pixel value is determined using the rule:

$$g(x, y) = \begin{cases} 1 \text{ if } s \text{ fits } f \\ 0 \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$



Fit: All "1" pixels in SE cover "1" pixels in the image.

#### SE placed on image at (2,2) 6 ... Ъ Ν ω ப

### **Erosion Example**



## **Erosion Example**







Fit :All 1 in SE covered in image

## **Dilation**

- Dilation of image f by structuring element s is given by  $g = f \oplus s$ .
- The structuring element s is positioned with its origin at (x, y) and the new pixel value is determined using the rule:

$$g(x, y) = \begin{cases} 1 \text{ if } s \text{ hits } f \\ 0 \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$



Hit: Any "1" pixels in SE cover "1" pixels in the image.

	SE placed on image at (2,2)													
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6							
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						
1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0						
2	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	0						
ω	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
4	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
л	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1						
. I	~	_	4	4	4	4	4	4						

## **Dilation Example**



## **Dilation Example**



Hit: Any 1 in SE covered in image



#### **Effects of erosion and dilation**



Original



Dilation by a round structuring element.



Source of images: http://homepages.inf.ed.ac.uk/rbf/HIPR2/

Erosion by a round structuring element.

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## **Combined operations: Opening**

- Definition
  - Apply erosion then dilation

 $A \circ B = (A \ominus B) \oplus B$ 



- Effect:
  - $\Rightarrow$  Removes small objects,

preserves rough shape.

## **Effects of opening**

• Can filter out structures by selecting the size of structuring element.



Original



Thresholded



Opening by a **small** structuring element



Opening by a large structuring element

## **Effects of opening**

• Choose the structure in image by choosing the shape of the structuring element.



Original image



Opening by a round structuring element

## **Combined operations: Closing**

- Definition
  - Apply dilation then erosion



• Effect

 $\Rightarrow$  Fill holes, preserves

the original shape.

 $A \cdot B = (A \oplus B) \ominus B$ 

## **Effects of closing**

• Fill holes in thresholded image (*eg., reflections*)



Original



Thresholded



Closing by a round structuring element

The size of structuring element determines the maximal size of holes that will be filled.





#### **Example:** opening + closing



## **Morphological operators in OpenCV**

- Main operations
  - Dilation (OpenCV: cv2.dilate)
  - Erosion (OpenCV: cv2.erode)
- Several important combinations
  - Opening (OpenCV: cv2.morphologyEx(img, cv2.MORPH\_OPEN, kernel))
  - Closing (OpenCV: cv2.morphologyEx(img, cv2.MORPH\_CLOSE, kernel))
  - Boundary extraction

Examples of structuring elements:









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## LABELLING REGIONS



#### **Connected components for labeling**

• Goal: find separate connected regions

1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	2
1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	2
1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	2
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>2</b>
1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	 3	3	3	3	0	4	0	2
0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	4	0	<b>2</b>
1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	5	5	0	3	0	0	0	2
1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	5	5	0	3	0	2	2	<b>2</b>

Binary image

connected components





#### **Examples of connected components**





connected components of 1's from thresholded image

### Connectivity

• Determines which pixels are considered neighbors.



4-neighborhood



8-neighborhood

## **Sequential connected components**

• Process image from left to right, from top to bottom:

1.) If the current pixel value is 1

- i.) If only one neighbor (left or top) is 1, copy its label.
- ii.) If both neighbors are 1 and have same label,

copy that label.



- iii.) If they have different labels
  - Copy label from the left.
  - Update the table of equivalent labels.



iv.) Otherwise form a new label.



• Relabel with the smallest equivalent labels.

															Г
						1	1	1	1	1	1				Γ
		2	2	2	2	2				1	1	1	1		Γ
	3												1	1	Γ
4				5	5	5	5						1	1	Γ
		6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6			7	7		Γ
	8	8	8	8											Γ
								$ \land $							Γ
								11							Γ
								Ч							Γ
															Γ
															Γ
															Γ



#### **Example SCC: 8-connectivity**



## **Example SCC: 8-connectivity**

(	(c) exactly one neighbor label $\mathbf{i}$														
0	0	0	0	0	Ò	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0		
0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0		
0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0		
0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0		
0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0		
0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		

n	neighbor label is propagated														
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	1	1	0	1	0		
0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0		
0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0		
0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0		
0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0		
0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		

(	(d) two different neighbor labels														
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	3	3	0	4	0		
0	5	5	5	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0		
0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0		
0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0		
0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0		
0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		

one of the labels (2) is propagated (Update &quivalency table {2,5})

0	0	0	0	Ó	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	<b>O</b>	2	2	0	0	3	3	0	4	0
0	5	5	5	2	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0
0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0
0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

## **Example SCC: 8-connectivity**





Equivalency table

4

6

**I==2** 

Second pass: apply equivalences

— Г														
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	3	3	0	2	0
	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	0	0	3	0	0	2	0
	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	0
	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	0
	0			0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



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### **REGION DESCRIPTORS**

## **Simple region descriptors**

- A region can be detected using the connected components.
- How to describe it?
- Some examples:
  - Area A
  - Perimeter 1
  - Compactness c=l<sup>2</sup>/(4πA)
  - Circularity, roundness 1/c
  - · Centroid (center of mass)
  - Major and minor axes λ<sub>1</sub>, λ<sub>2</sub>
  - Eccentricity  $\|\lambda_1\| / \|\lambda_2\|$
  - Minimal bounding box area  $A_m = h b$
  - Rectangularity A/A<sub>m</sub>

#### Matlab: regionprops







(Easy to come up with your own)
# **Require a level of invariance (App dependent)**

- Ideal descriptor will map:
  - Two images of the same object close-by in feature space.
  - Two images of different objects to points far between each other.



#### **Task: Detect round cells**



## **Summary: Binarization**

- Pros
  - Fast, simple to store
  - Simple techniques
  - Works in constrained setups
- Cons
  - Difficult to get "clean" shapes
  - Many real-world scenarios contain noise
  - Often too coarse representation
  - Not robust in changes of 3D view changes

## **Python code**

import numpy as np

import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import cv2

img\_bgr = cv2.imread('C:/Users/matej/Documents/Articles/Lectures/Machine Perception/1\_Image processing 1/code/matlab/coins.jpg')
img\_rgb = cv2.cvtColor(img\_bgr, cv2.COLOR\_BGR2RGB)

plt.figure(1)
plt.imshow(img\_rgb)
plt.show()

a\_gray = cv2.cvtColor(img\_rgb, cv2.COLOR\_RGB2GRAY)
plt.imshow(a\_gray, cmap='gray')
plt.show()

a\_bin = a\_gray<170 a\_bin = a\_bin.astype(np.uint8)

plt.imshow(a\_bin, cmap='gray')
plt.show()

kernel = np.ones((5,5),np.uint8)

a\_close = cv2.morphologyEx(a\_bin, cv2.MORPH\_CLOSE, kernel)

plt.imshow(a\_close, cmap='gray')
plt.show()

ret, labels = cv2.connectedComponents(a\_close)

plt.imshow(labels==1, cmap='gray')
plt.show()

mask = labels==1
mask = mask.astype(np.uint8)

img\_masked = cv2.bitwise\_and(img\_rgb, img\_rgb, mask=mask)

plt.imshow(img\_masked, cmap='gray')

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