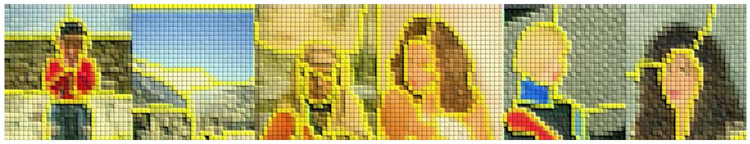


Segmentation & Grouping

Kristen Grauman
UT Austin

Tues Feb 7

Announcements

- A0 on Canvas
- No office hours today
  - TA office hours this week as usual
- Guest lecture Thursday by Suyog Jain
  - Interactive segmentation
- Check in on pace

Last time

- Optical flow: estimating motion in video
- Background subtraction

Outline

- What are grouping problems in vision?
- Inspiration from human perception
  - Gestalt properties
- Bottom-up segmentation via clustering
  - Algorithms:
    - Mode finding and mean shift: k-means, mean-shift
    - Graph-based: normalized cuts
  - Features: color, texture, …
    - Quantization for texture summaries

Grouping in vision

- Goals:
  - Gather features that belong together
  - Obtain an intermediate representation that compactly describes key image or video parts

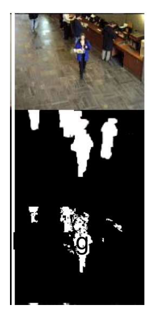
Examples of grouping in vision

[Figure by J. Shi]

Determine image regions

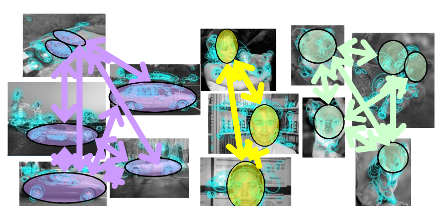
[http://poseidon.csd.auth.gr/LAB_RESEARCH/Latest/imgs/SpeakDepVidIndex_img2.jpg]

Group video frames into shots



[Figure by Wang & Suter]

Figure-ground



[Figure by Grauman & Darrell]

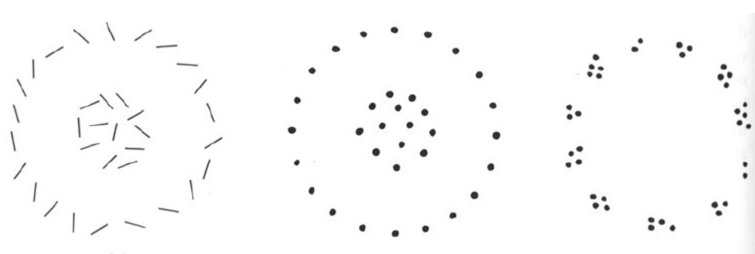
Object-level grouping

Slide credit: Kristen Grauman

Grouping in vision

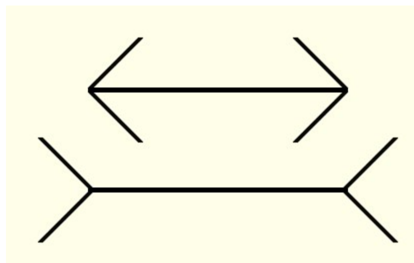
- Goals:
  - Gather features that belong together
  - Obtain an intermediate representation that compactly describes key image (video) parts
- Top down vs. bottom up segmentation
  - Top down: pixels belong together because they are from the same object
  - Bottom up: pixels belong together because they look similar
- Hard to measure success
  - What is interesting depends on the app.

Slide credit: Kristen Grauman



What are meta-cues for grouping?

Muller-Lyer illusion



What things should be grouped?
What cues indicate groups?

Gestalt

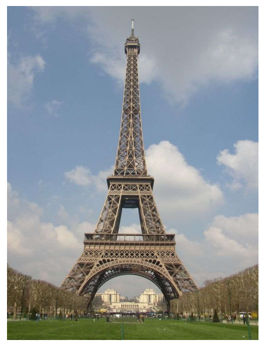
- Gestalt: whole or group
  - Whole is greater than sum of its parts
  - Relationships among parts can yield new properties/features

- Psychologists identified series of factors that predispose set of elements to be grouped (by human visual system)

Similarity

http://chicagoist.com/attachments/chicagoist_alicia/GEESE.jpg, http://wwwdelivery.superstock.com/WI/223/1532/PreviewComp/SuperStock_1532R-0831.jpg Slide credit: Kristen Grauman

Symmetry



http://seedmagazine.com/news/2006/10/beauty_is_in_the_processingtim.php

Slide credit: Kristen Grauman

Common fate

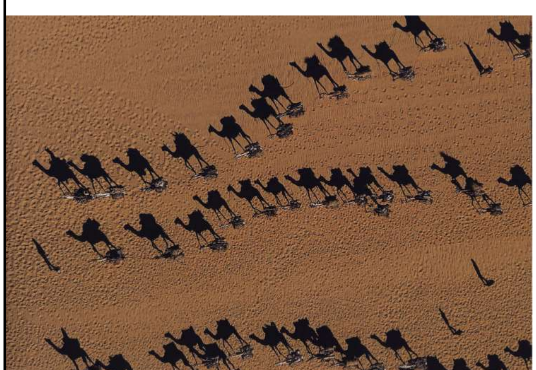


Image credit: Arthus-Bertrand (via F. Durand)

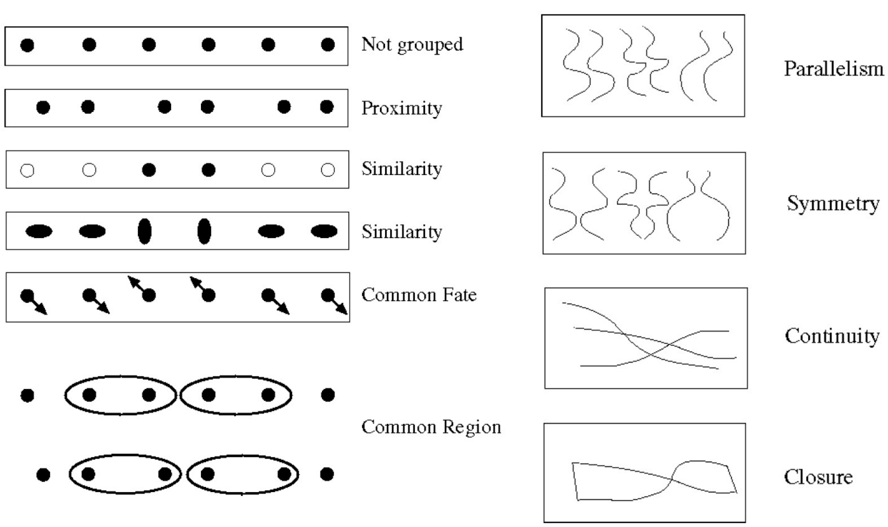
Slide credit: Kristen Grauman

Proximity

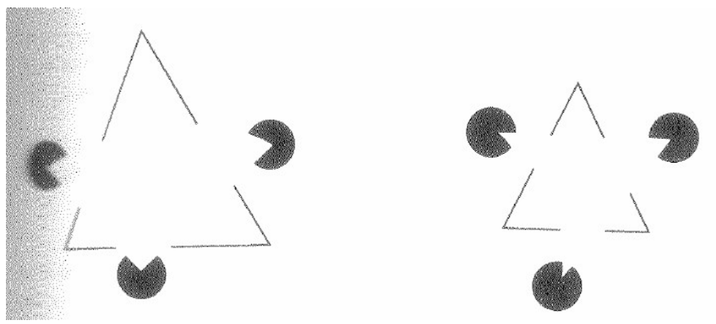
http://www.capital.edu/Resources/Images/outside6_035.jpg

Slide credit: Kristen Grauman

Some Gestalt factors

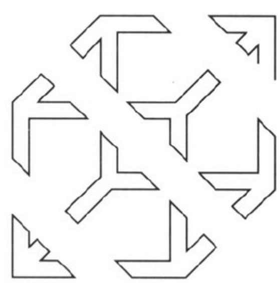


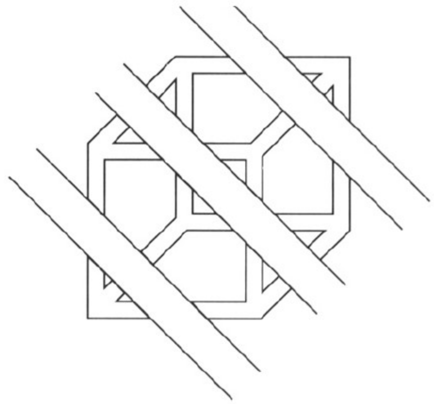
Illusory/subjective contours



Interesting tendency to explain by occlusion

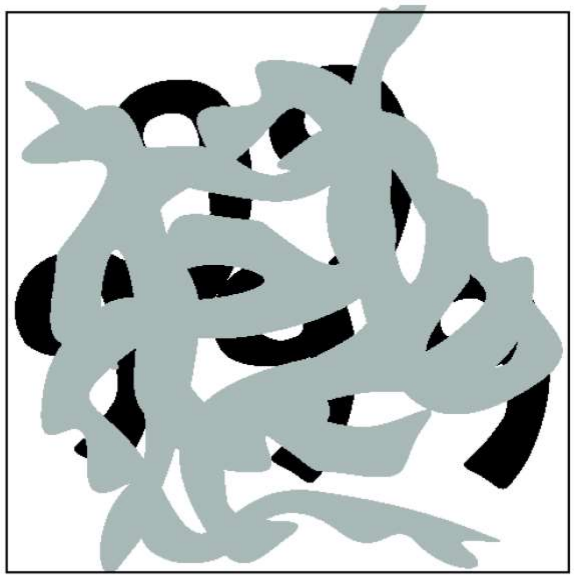
In *Vision*, D. Marr, 1982





Continuity, explanation by occlusion

D. Forsyth



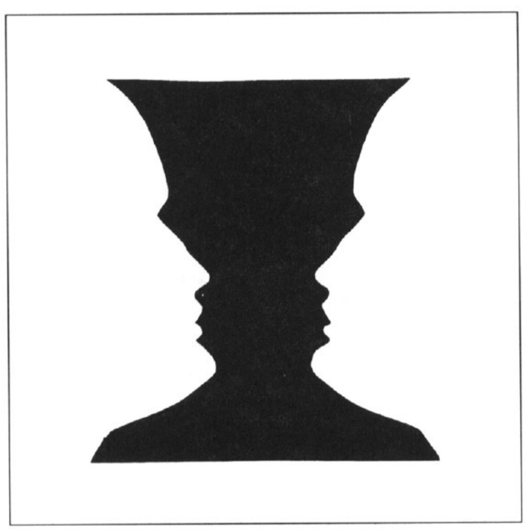
Continuity, explanation by occlusion

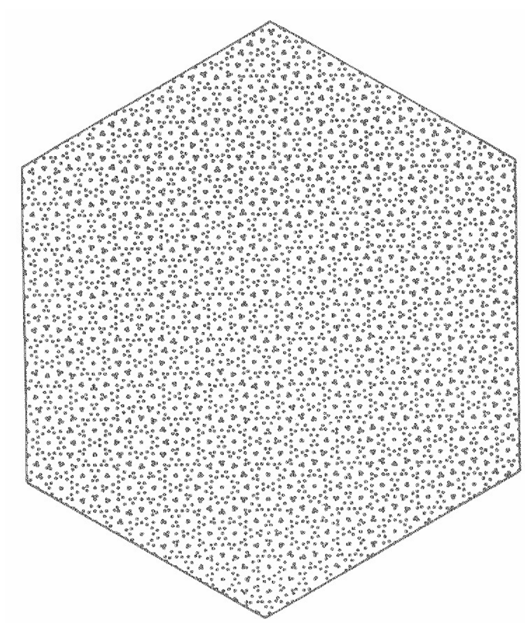
Slide credit: Kristen Grauman

http://entertainthis.usatoday.com/2015/09/09/how-tom-hardys-legend-poster-hid-this-hilariously-bad-review/

Slide credit: Kristen Grauman

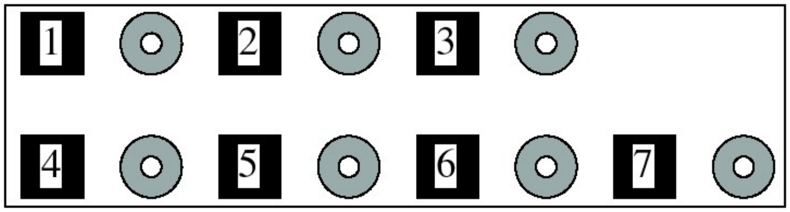
Figure-ground





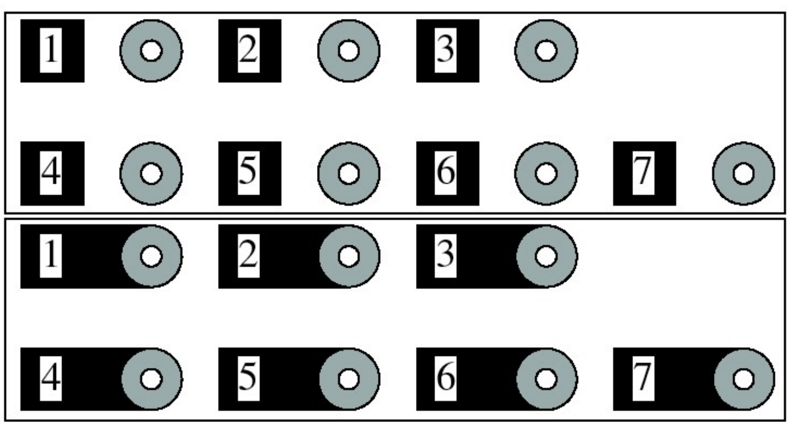
In *Vision*, D. Marr, 1982; from J. L. Marroquin, “Human visual perception of structure”, 1976.

Grouping phenomena in real life



Forsyth & Ponce, Figure 14.7

Grouping phenomena in real life



Forsyth & Ponce, Figure 14.7

Gestalt

- Gestalt: whole or group
  - Whole is greater than sum of its parts
  - Relationships among parts can yield new properties/features
- Psychologists identified series of factors that predispose set of elements to be grouped (by human visual system)
- Inspiring observations/explanations; challenge remains how to best map to algorithms.

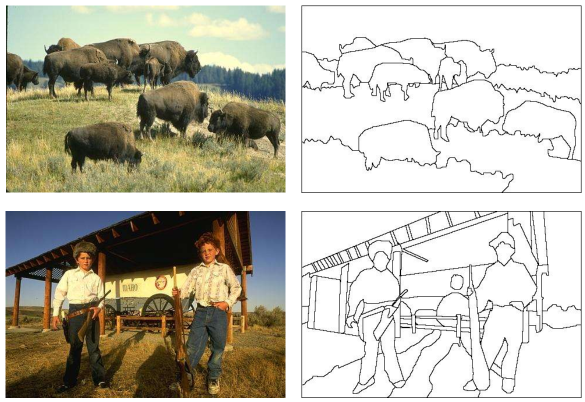
Outline

- What are grouping problems in vision?
- Inspiration from human perception
  - Gestalt properties
- Bottom-up segmentation via clustering
  - Algorithms:
    - Mode finding and mean shift: k-means, EM, mean-shift
    - Graph-based: normalized cuts
  - Features: color, texture, …
    - Quantization for texture summaries

The goals of segmentation

Separate image into coherent "objects"

image　　human segmentation



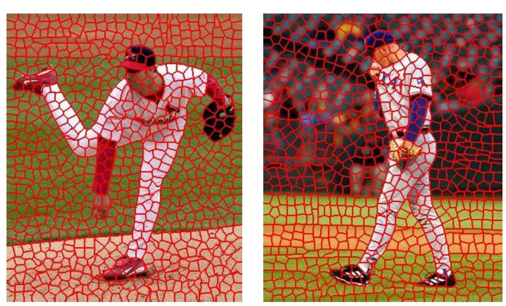
Source: Lana Lazebnik

The goals of segmentation

Separate image into coherent "objects"

Group together similar-looking pixels for efficiency of further processing

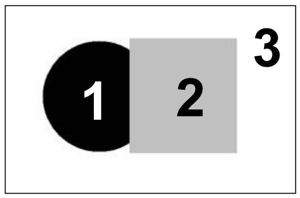
"superpixels"



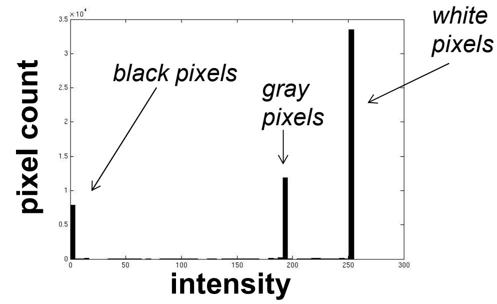
X. Ren and J. Malik. [Learning a classification model for segmentation.] ICCV 2003.

Source: Lana Lazebnik

Image segmentation: toy example

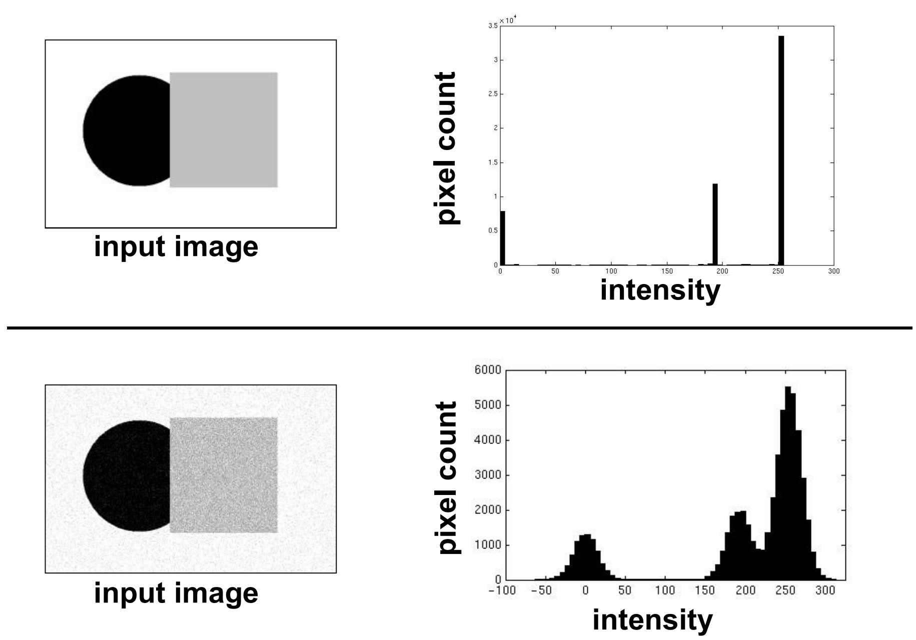


input image

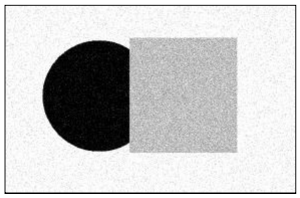


- These intensities define the three groups.
- We could label every pixel in the image according to which of these primary intensities it is.
  - i.e., *segment* the image based on the intensity feature.
- What if the image isn't quite so simple?

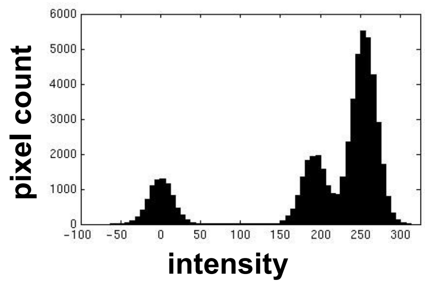
Slide credit: Kristen Grauman



Slide credit: Kristen Grauman



input image



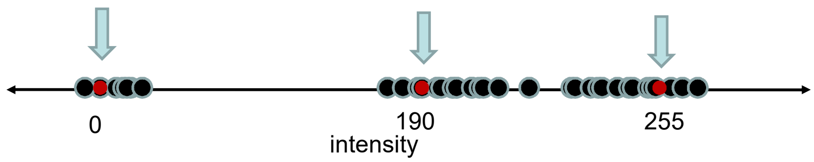
- Now how to determine the three main intensities that define our groups?
- We need to ***cluster.***

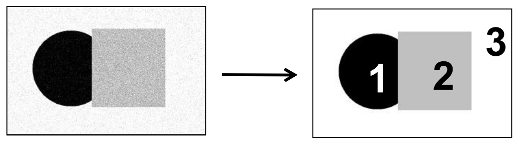
Slide credit: Kristen Grauman

Clustering

- Clustering algorithms:
  - Unsupervised learning
  - Detect patterns in unlabeled data
    - E.g. group emails or search results
    - E.g. find categories of customers
    - E.g. group pixels into regions
  - Useful when don't know what you're looking for
  - Requires data, but no labels
  - Often get gibberish

Slide credit: Dan Klein





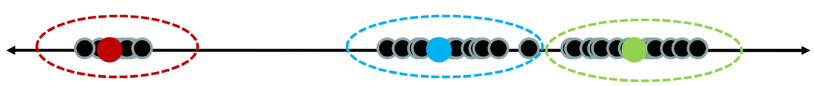
- Goal: choose three "centers" as the representative intensities, and label every pixel according to which of these centers it is nearest to.
- Best cluster centers are those that minimize SSD between all points and their nearest cluster center c_i:

$$\sum_{\text{clusters } i} \sum_{\text{points p in cluster } i} ||p - c_i||^2$$

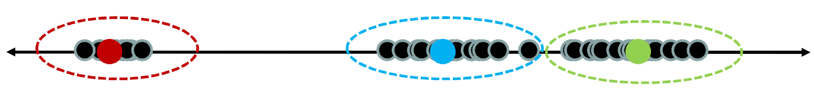
Slide credit: Kristen Grauman

Clustering

- With this objective, it is a "chicken and egg" problem:
  – If we knew the **cluster centers**, we could allocate points to groups by assigning each to its closest center.



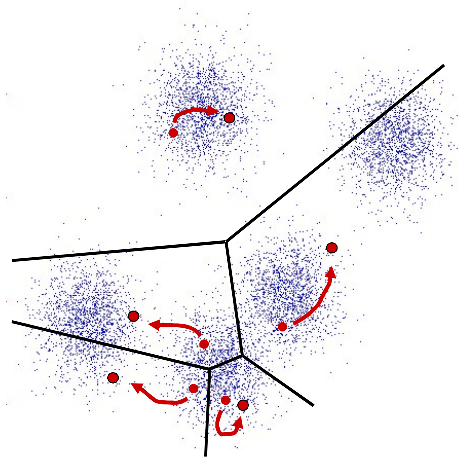
  – If we knew the **group memberships**, we could get the centers by computing the mean per group.



Slide credit: Kristen Grauman

K-Means

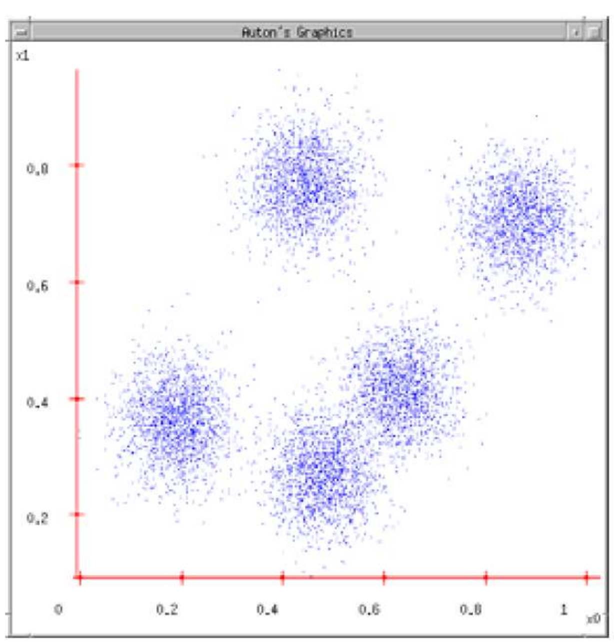
- An iterative clustering algorithm
  - Pick K random points as cluster centers (means)
  - Alternate:
    - Assign data instances to closest mean
    - Assign each mean to the average of its assigned points
  - Stop when no points' assignments change



Slide credit: Andrew Moore

K-means

1. Ask user how many clusters they'd like. *(e.g. k=5)*

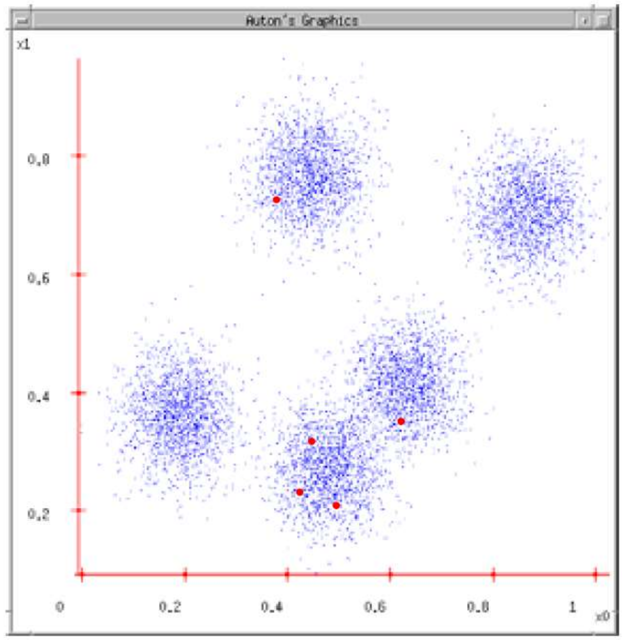


K-means slides by Andrew Moore

Slide credit: Andrew Moore

K-means

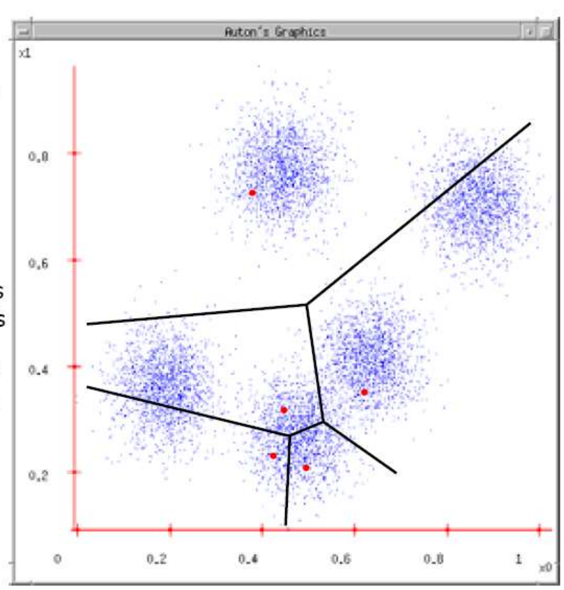
1. Ask user how many clusters they'd like. *(e.g. k=5)*
2. Randomly guess k cluster Center locations



Slide credit: Andrew Moore

K-means

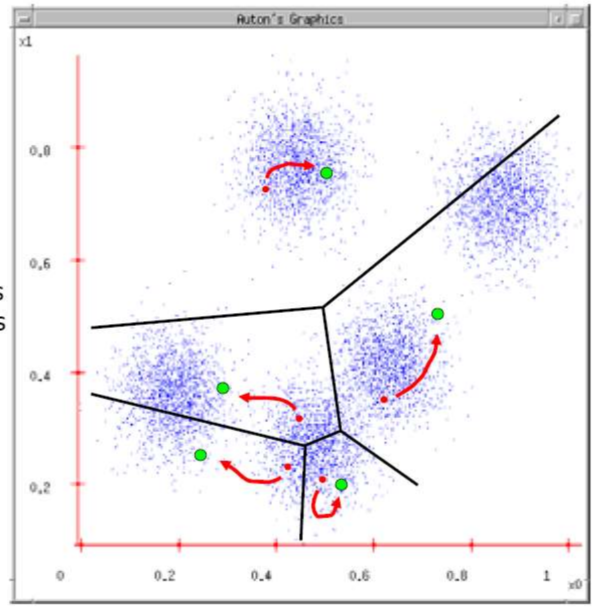
1. Ask user how many clusters they'd like. *(e.g. k=5)*
2. Randomly guess k cluster Center locations
3. Each datapoint finds out which Center it's closest to. (Thus each Center "owns" a set of datapoints)



Slide credit: Andrew Moore

K-means

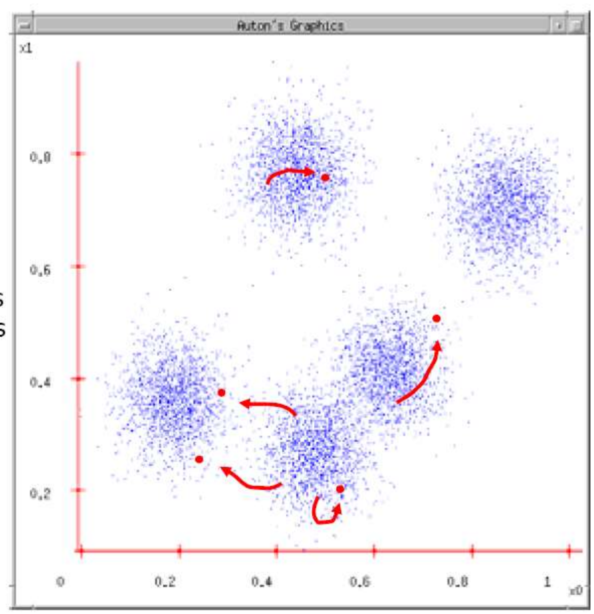
1. Ask user how many clusters they'd like. *(e.g. k=5)*
2. Randomly guess k cluster Center locations
3. Each datapoint finds out which Center it's closest to.
4. Each Center finds the centroid of the points it owns



Slide credit: Andrew Moore

K-means

1. Ask user how many clusters they'd like. *(e.g. k=5)*
2. Randomly guess k cluster Center locations
3. Each datapoint finds out which Center it's closest to.
4. Each Center finds the centroid of the points it owns…
5. …and jumps there
6. …Repeat until terminated!



Slide credit: Andrew Moore

K-means clustering

- Basic idea: randomly initialize the *k* cluster centers, and iterate between the two steps we just saw.
  1. Randomly initialize the cluster centers, $c_1, ..., c_K$
  2. Given cluster centers, determine points in each cluster
     - For each point p, find the closest c_i. Put p into cluster i
  3. Given points in each cluster, solve for c_i
     - Set c_i to be the mean of points in cluster i
  4. If c_i have changed, repeat Step 2

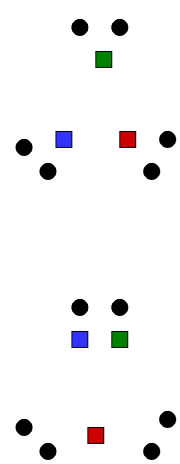
Properties
- Will always converge to *some* solution
- Can be a "local minimum"
  - does not always find the global minimum of objective function:

$$\sum_{\text{clusters } i} \sum_{\text{points p in cluster } i} ||p - c_i||^2$$

Source: Steve Seitz

Initialization

- K-means is non-deterministic
  - Requires initial means
  - It does matter what you pick!
  - What can go wrong?
  - Various schemes for preventing this kind of thing

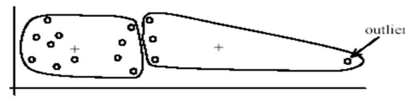


Slide credit: Dan Klein

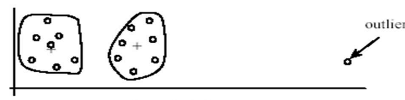
K-means: pros and cons

<u>Pros</u>
- Simple, fast to compute
- Converges to local minimum of within-cluster squared error

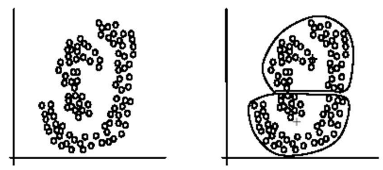
<u>Cons/issues</u>
- Setting k?
- Sensitive to initial centers
- Sensitive to outliers
- Detects spherical clusters
- Assuming means can be computed



(A): Undesirable clusters



(B): Ideal clusters



(A): Two natural clusters

(B): k-means clusters

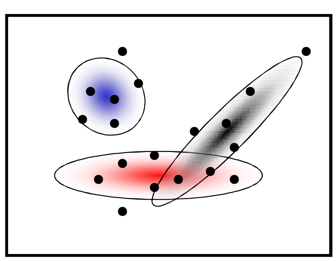
Slide credit: Kristen Grauman

Probabilistic clustering

Basic questions
- what's the probability that a point **x** is in cluster m?
- what's the shape of each cluster?

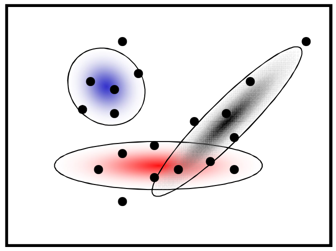
K-means doesn't answer these questions

Probabilistic clustering (basic idea)
- Treat each cluster as a Gaussian density function



Slide credit: Steve Seitz

Expectation Maximization (EM)



A probabilistic variant of K-means:

- E step: "soft assignment" of points to clusters
  - estimate probability that a point is in a cluster
- M step: update cluster parameters
  - mean and variance info (covariance matrix)
- maximizes the likelihood of the points given the clusters

Slide credit: Steve Seitz

Segmentation as clustering

Depending on what we choose as the *feature space*, we can group pixels in different ways.

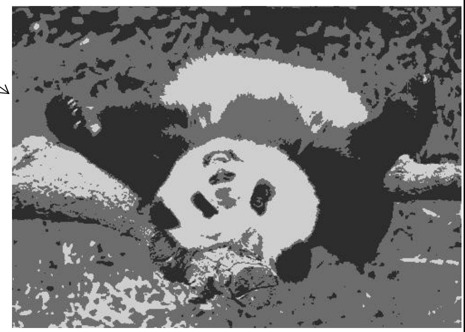
Grouping pixels based on **intensity** similarity

Feature space: intensity value (1-d)

Slide credit: Kristen Grauman

K=2

K=3



quantization of the feature space;
segmentation label map

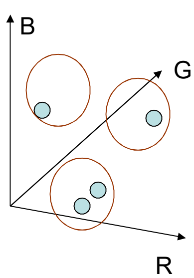
```
img_as_col = double(im(:));
cluster_membs = kmeans(img_as_col, K);

labelim = zeros(size(im));
for i=1:k
   inds = find(cluster_membs==i);
   meanval = mean(img_as_column(inds));
   labelim(inds) = meanval;
end
```

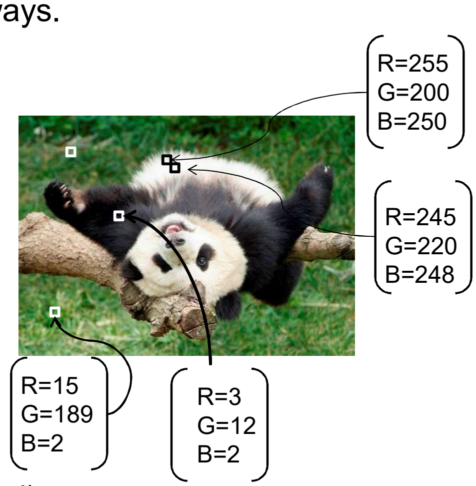
Slide credit: Kristen Grauman

Segmentation as clustering

Depending on what we choose as the *feature space*, we can group pixels in different ways.

Grouping pixels based on **color** similarity





Feature space: color value (3-d)

Slide credit: Kristen Grauman

Segmentation as clustering

Depending on what we choose as the *feature space*, we can group pixels in different ways.

Grouping pixels based on **intensity** similarity

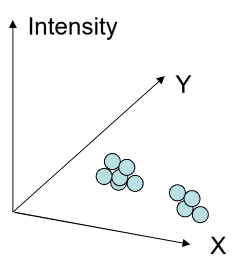
Clusters based on intensity similarity don't have to be spatially coherent.

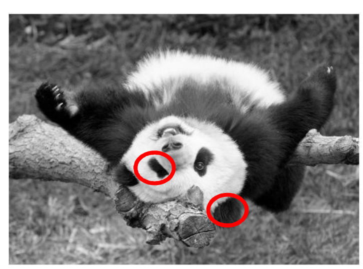
Slide credit: Kristen Grauman

Segmentation as clustering

Depending on what we choose as the *feature space*, we can group pixels in different ways.

Grouping pixels based on **intensity+position** similarity





Both regions are black, but if we also include **position (x,y),** then we could group the two into distinct segments; way to encode both similarity & proximity.

Slide credit: Kristen Grauman

Segmentation as clustering

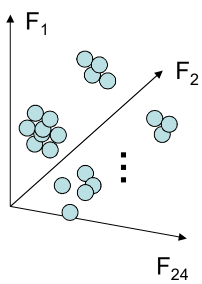
- Color, brightness, position alone are not enough to distinguish all regions…

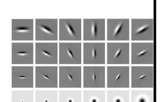


Segmentation as clustering

Depending on what we choose as the *feature space*, we can group pixels in different ways.

Grouping pixels based on **texture** similarity

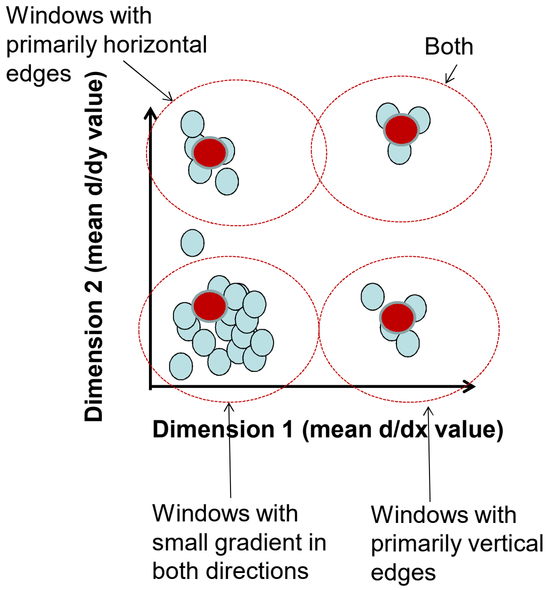


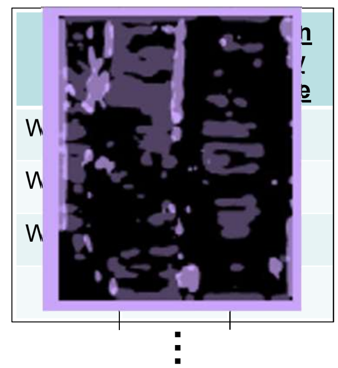


Filter bank of 24 filters

Feature space: filter bank responses (e.g., 24-d)

Recall: texture representation example





statistics to summarize patterns in small windows

Slide credit: Kristen Grauman

Segmentation with texture features

- Find "textons" by **clustering** vectors of filter bank outputs
- Describe texture in a window based on *texton histogram*

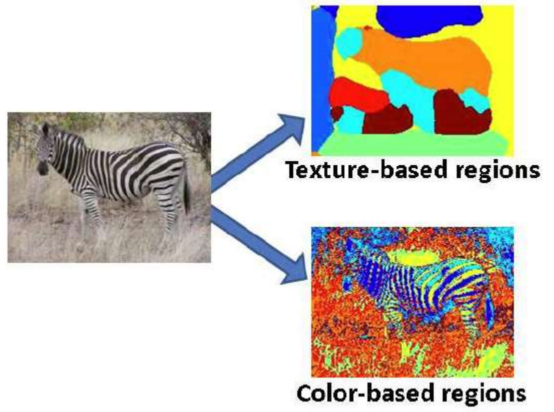
Image

Texton map

Malik, Belongie, Leung and Shi. IJCV 2001.

Adapted from Lana Lazebnik

Image segmentation example



Slide credit: Kristen Grauman

Pixel properties vs. neighborhood properties

These look very similar in terms of their color distributions (histograms).

How would their *texture* distributions compare?

Slide credit: Kristen Grauman

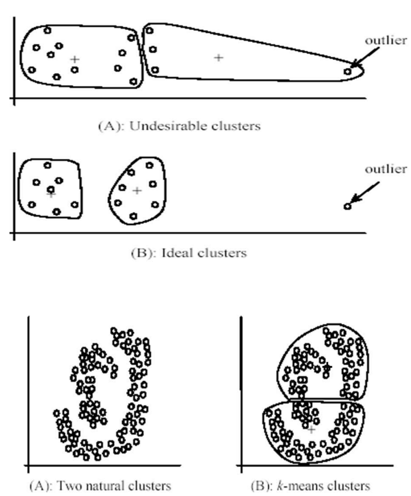
Outline

- What are grouping problems in vision?
- Inspiration from human perception
  - Gestalt properties
- Bottom-up segmentation via clustering
  - Algorithms:
    - Mode finding and mean shift: k-means, mean-shift
    - Graph-based: normalized cuts
  - Features: color, texture, …
    - Quantization for texture summaries

Recall: K-means pros and cons

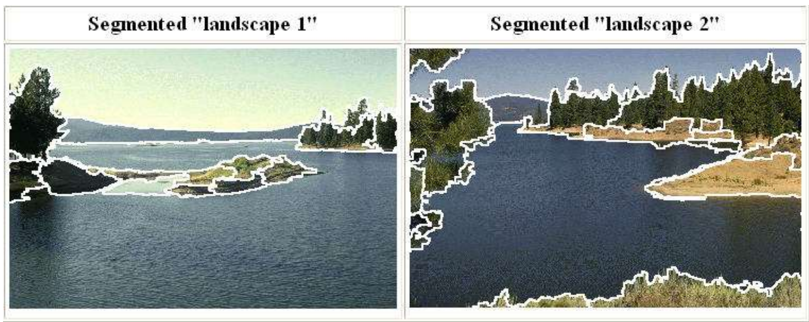
<u>Pros</u>
- Simple, fast to compute
- Converges to local minimum of within-cluster squared error

<u>Cons/issues</u>
- Setting k?
- Sensitive to initial centers
- Sensitive to outliers
- Detects spherical clusters
- Assuming means can be computed



Mean shift clustering and segmentation

- An advanced and versatile technique for clustering-based segmentation



http://www.caip.rutgers.edu/~comanici/MSPAMI/msPamiResults.html

D. Comaniciu and P. Meer, Mean Shift: A Robust Approach toward Feature Space Analysis, PAMI 2002.

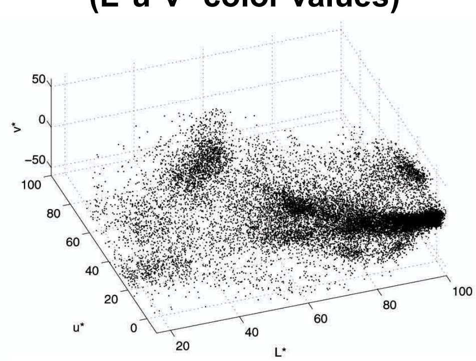
Slide credit: Lana Lazebnik

Mean shift algorithm

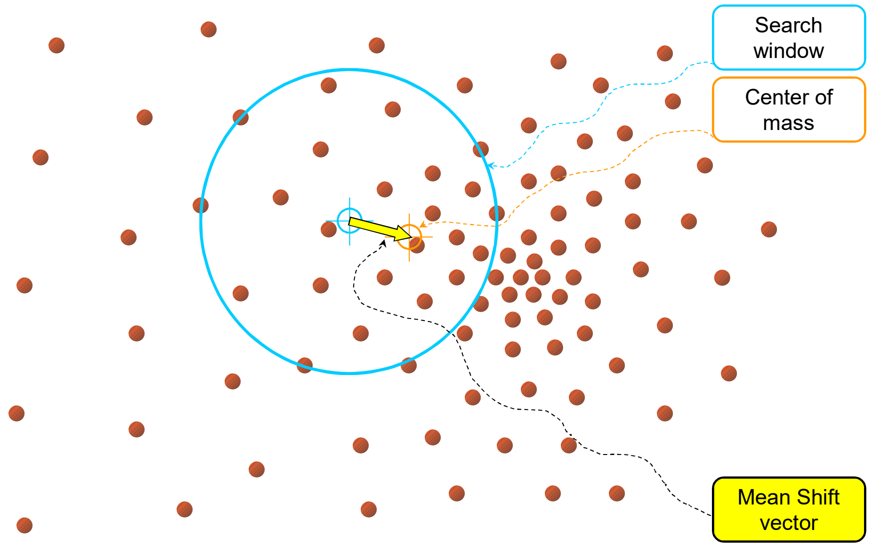
- The mean shift algorithm seeks *modes* or local maxima of density in the feature space

image

Feature space (L*u*v* color values)

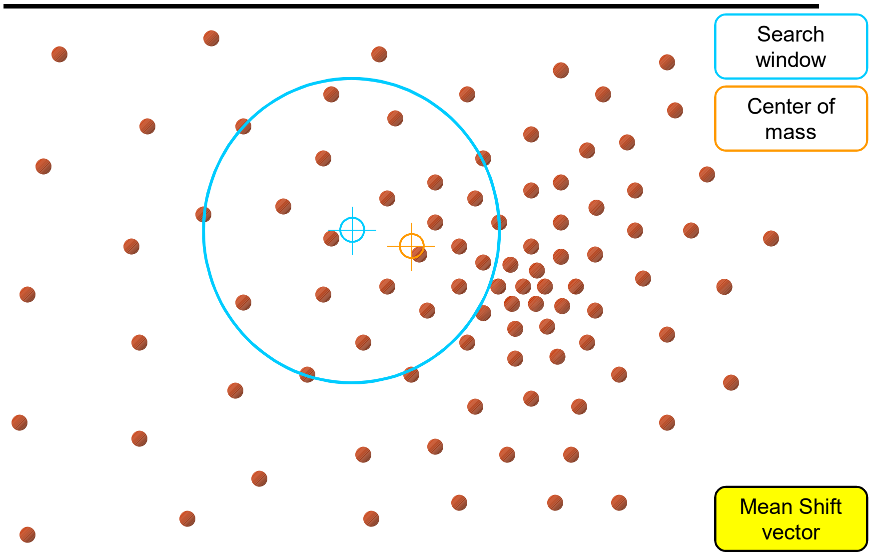


Mean shift

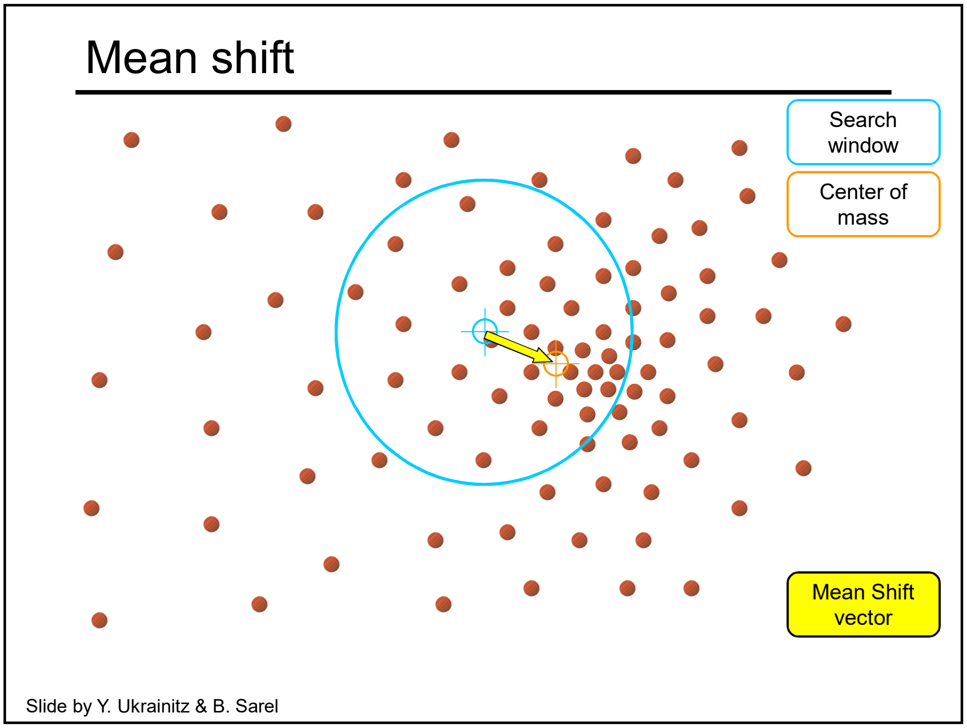


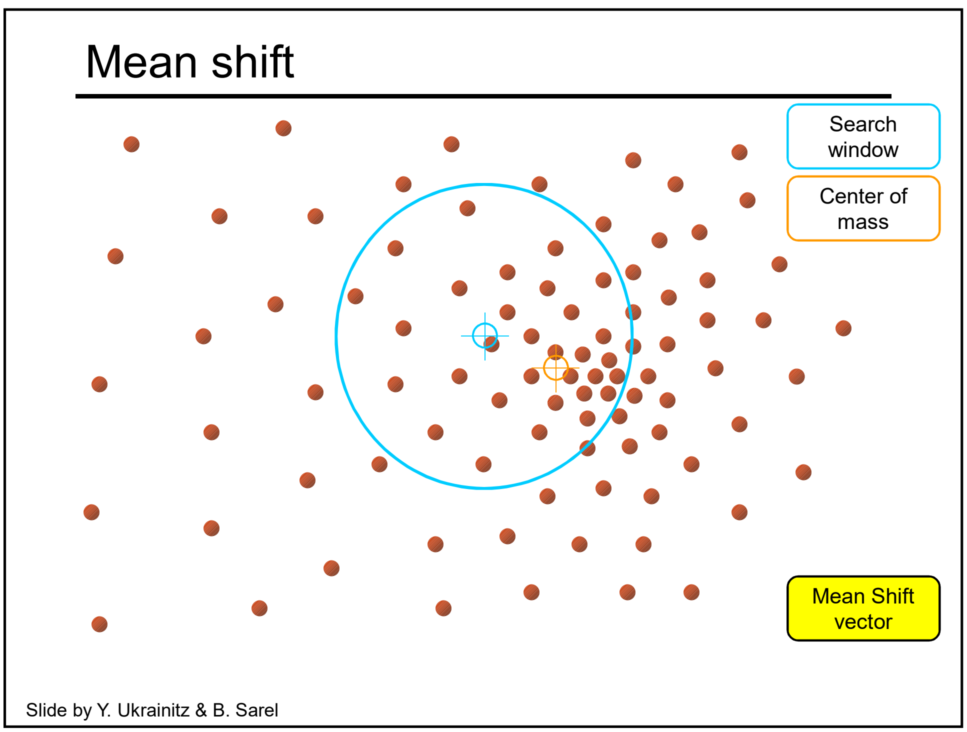
Slide by Y. Ukrainitz & B. Sarel

Mean shift



Slide by Y. Ukrainitz & B. Sarel


Mean shift
Search window
Center of mass
Mean Shift vector
Slide by Y. Ukrainitz & B. Sarel


Mean shift
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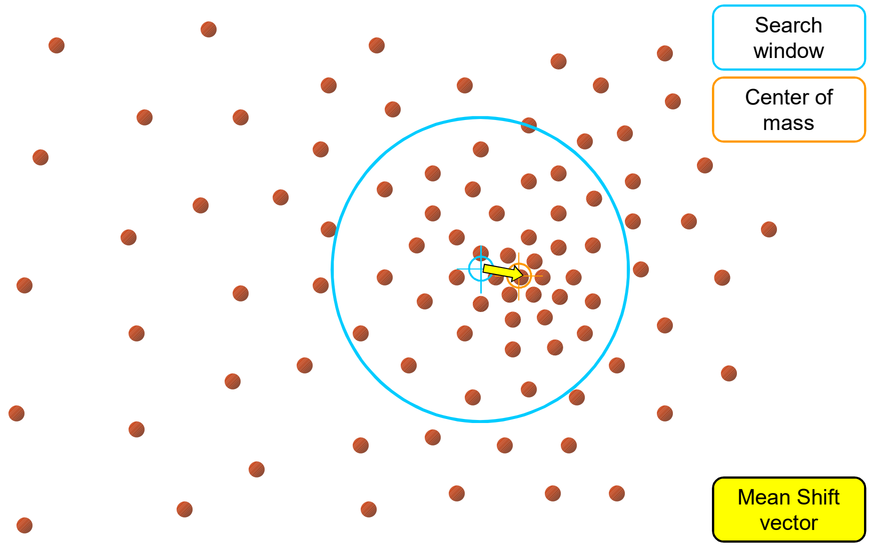
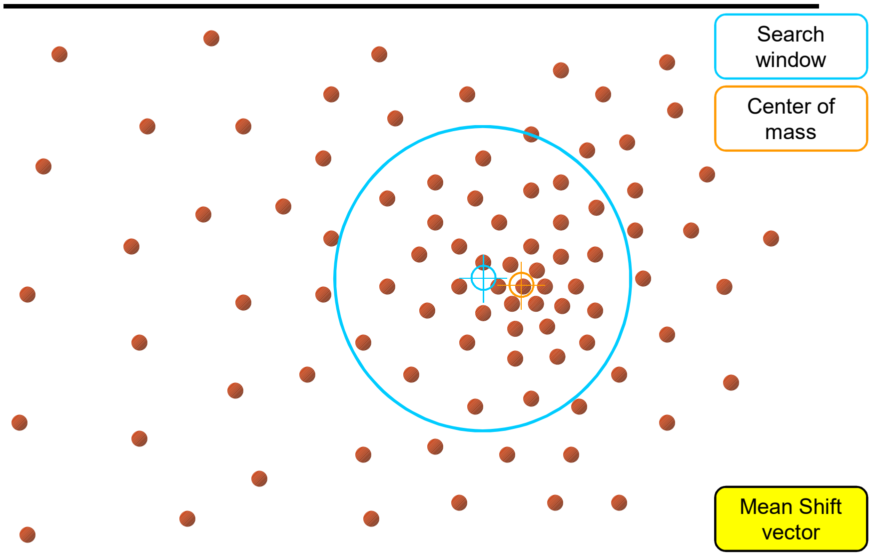
Mean shift



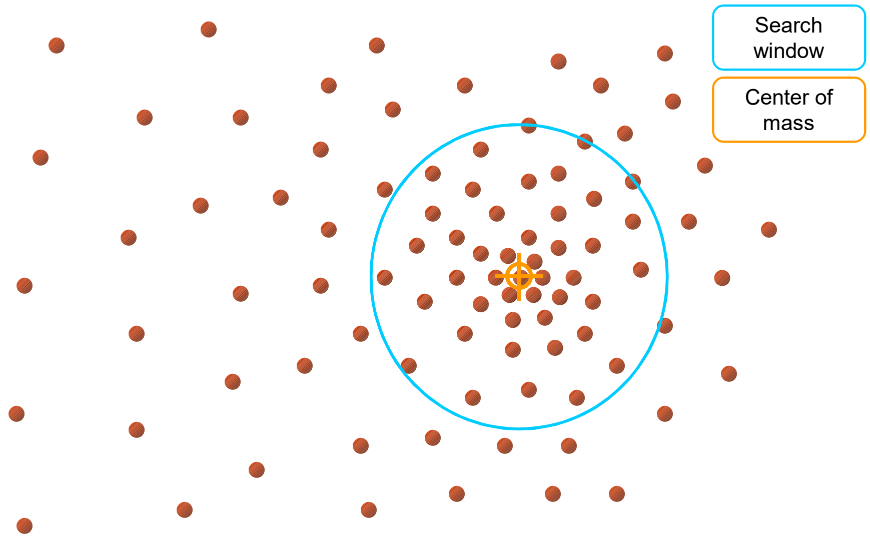
Slide by Y. Ukrainitz & B. Sarel

Mean shift



Slide by Y. Ukrainitz & B. Sarel

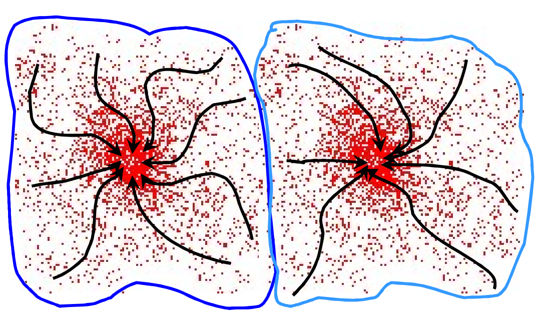
Mean shift



Slide by Y. Ukrainitz & B. Sarel

Mean shift clustering

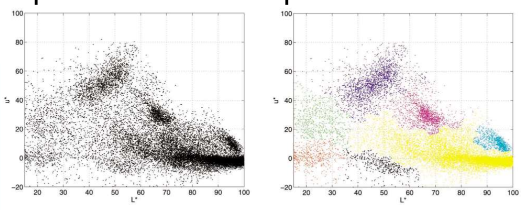
- Cluster: all data points in the attraction basin of a mode
- Attraction basin: the region for which all trajectories lead to the same mode



Slide by Y. Ukrainitz & B. Sarel

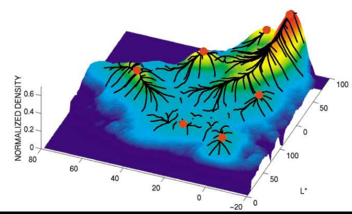
Mean shift clustering/segmentation

- Find features (color, gradients, texture, etc)
- Initialize windows at individual feature points
- Perform mean shift for each window until convergence
- Merge windows that end up near the same “peak” or mode



(a)

(b)



Mean shift segmentation results

http://www.caip.rutgers.edu/~comanici/MSPAMI/msPamiResults.html

Mean shift segmentation results

Mean shift segmentation results

Mean shift

- <u>Pros</u>:
  - Does not assume shape on clusters
  - One parameter choice (window size, aka "bandwidth")
  - Generic technique
  - Find multiple modes
- <u>Cons</u>:
  - Selection of window size
  - Does not scale well with dimension of feature space

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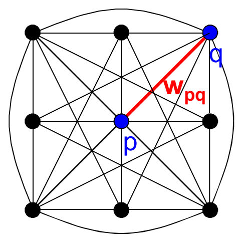
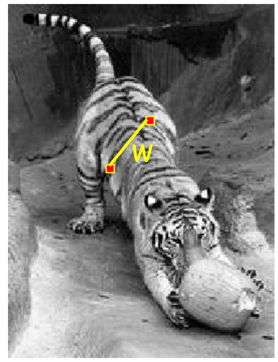
Images as graphs



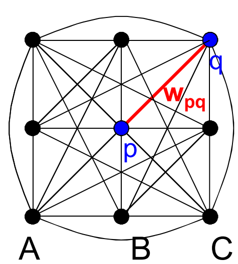


Fully-connected graph

- node (vertex) for every pixel
- link between *every* pair of pixels, **p**,**q**
- affinity weight $\mathbf{w_{pq}}$ for each link (edge)
  - $\mathbf{w_{pq}}$ measures *similarity*
    - » similarity is *inversely proportional* to difference (in color and position…)

Source: Steve Seitz

Segmentation by Graph Cuts



Break Graph into Segments

- Want to delete links that cross **between** segments
- Easiest to break links that have low similarity (low weight)
  - similar pixels should be in the same segments
  - dissimilar pixels should be in different segments

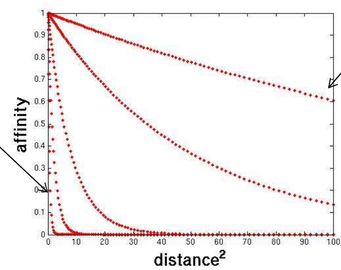
Source: Steve Seitz

Measuring affinity

- One possibility:

$$aff(x,y)=\exp\left\{-\left(\frac{1}{2\sigma_d^2}\right)\left(\|x-y\|^2\right)\right\}$$

Small sigma: group only nearby points

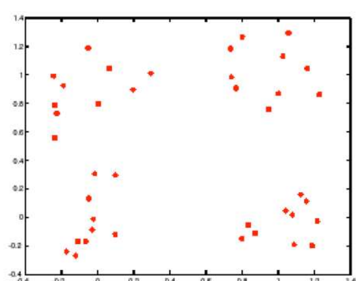


Large sigma: group distant points

Slide credit: Kristen Grauman

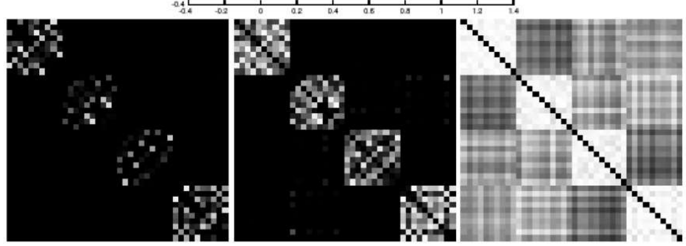
Measuring affinity

Data points



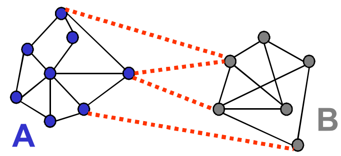
σ=.2

Affinity matrices



σ=.1 σ=.2 σ=1

Cuts in a graph: Min cut



Link Cut

- set of links whose removal makes a graph disconnected
- cost of a cut: $$cut(A,B) = \sum_{p \in A, q \in B} w_{p,q}$$

Find minimum cut

- gives you a segmentation
- fast algorithms exist for doing this

Source: Steve Seitz

Minimum cut

- Problem with minimum cut:
  Weight of cut proportional to number of edges in the cut; tends to produce small, isolated components.

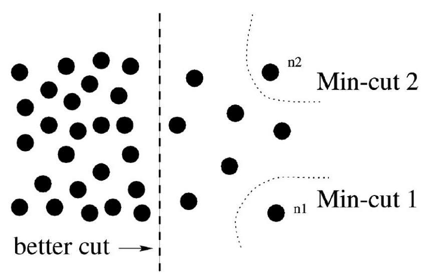
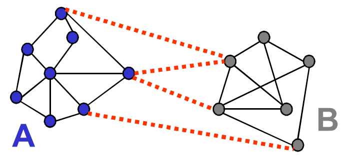


Fig. 1. A case where minimum cut gives a bad partition.

[Shi & Malik, 2000 PAMI]

Cuts in a graph: Normalized cut



Normalized Cut

- fix bias of Min Cut by **normalizing** for size of segments:

$$Ncut(A,B) = \frac{cut(A,B)}{assoc(A,V)} + \frac{cut(A,B)}{assoc(B,V)}$$

assoc(A,V) = sum of weights of all edges that touch A

- Ncut value small when we get two clusters with many edges with high weights, and few edges of low weight between them
- Approximate solution for minimizing the Ncut value : generalized eigenvalue problem.

J. Shi and J. Malik, Normalized Cuts and Image Segmentation, CVPR, 1997

Source: Steve Seitz

Example results

Results: Berkeley Segmentation Engine

http://www.cs.berkeley.edu/~fowlkes/BSE/

Normalized cuts: pros and cons

Pros:
- Generic framework, flexible to choice of function that computes weights (“affinities”) between nodes
- Does not require model of the data distribution

Cons:
- Time complexity can be high
  - Dense, highly connected graphs → many affinity computations
  - Solving eigenvalue problem
- Preference for balanced partitions

Slide credit: Kristen Grauman

Summary

- Segmentation to find object boundaries or mid-level regions, tokens.
- Bottom-up segmentation via clustering
  - General choices -- features, affinity functions, and clustering algorithms
- Grouping also useful for quantization, can create new feature summaries
  - Texton histograms for texture within local region
- Example clustering methods
  - K-means
  - Mean shift
  - Graph cut, normalized cuts

Coming up

- Interactive image and video segmentation

Results achieved with average of 2 user clicks

[Jain & Grauman, HCOMP 2016]