

# Segmentation and localization

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## Announcements

- Reminder: Assignment 1 due Friday
- Assignment 2 out today, due Sept 30 and followup Oct 3
- Presenters: please send slides after class (naming instructions on website)

## Today: Mid-level cues

Tokens beyond pixels and filter responses  
but before object/scene categories

- Edges, contours
- Texture
- Regions
- Surfaces



## Gradients -> edges



Primary edge detection steps:

1. Smoothing: suppress noise
2. Edge enhancement: filter for contrast
3. Edge localization

Determine which local maxima from filter output  
are actually edges vs. noise

- Threshold, Thin

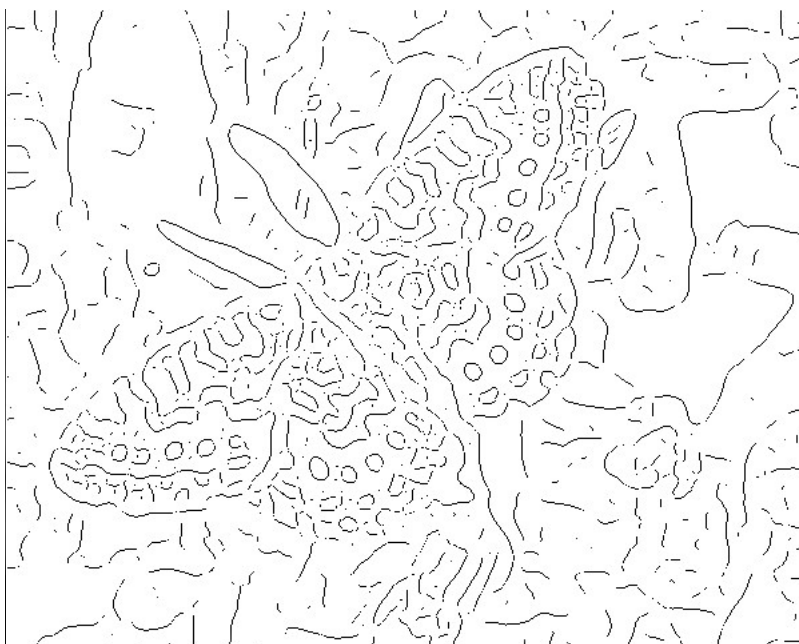
Original image



Gradient magnitude image



Thresholding gradient with a lower threshold



Thresholding gradient with a higher threshold



## Canny edge detector

- Filter image with derivative of Gaussian
- Find magnitude and orientation of gradient
- **Non-maximum suppression:**
  - Thin wide “ridges” down to single pixel width
- **Linking and thresholding (hysteresis):**
  - Define two thresholds: low and high
  - Use the high threshold to start edge curves and the low threshold to continue them
- MATLAB: `edge(image, 'canny');`
- `>>help edge`

Source: D. Lowe, L. Fei-Fei

## The Canny edge detector

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original image (Lena)

Slide credit: Steve Seitz

## The Canny edge detector



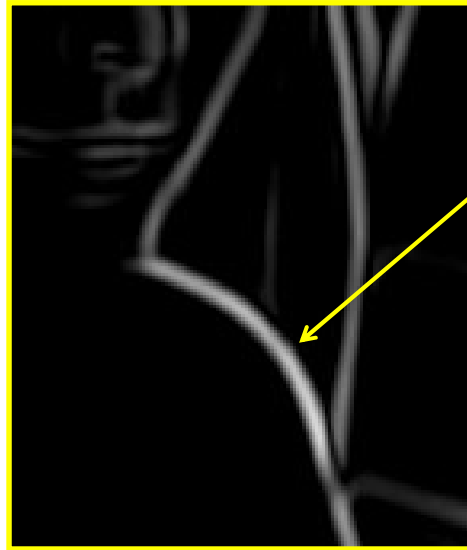
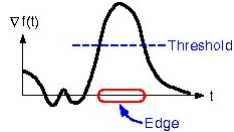
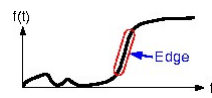
norm of the gradient

## The Canny edge detector



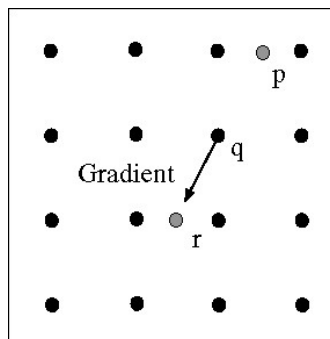
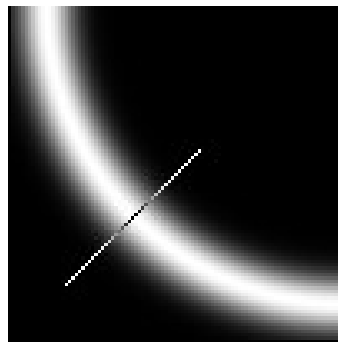
thresholding

## The Canny edge detector



How to turn these thick regions of the gradient into curves?

## Non-maximum suppression



Check if pixel is local maximum along gradient direction, select single max across width of the edge

- requires checking interpolated pixels  $p$  and  $r$

## The Canny edge detector

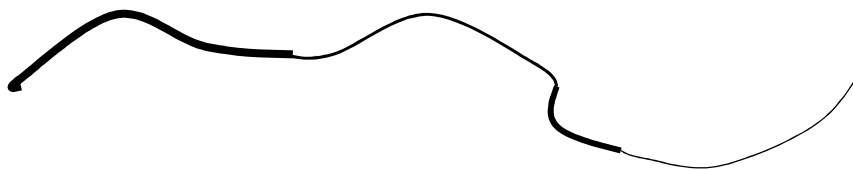


Problem:  
pixels along  
this edge  
didn't  
survive the  
thresholding

thinning  
(non-maximum suppression)

## Hysteresis thresholding

- Use a high threshold to start edge curves, and a low threshold to continue them.



Source: Steve Seitz



## Hysteresis thresholding



original image



high threshold  
(strong edges)



low threshold  
(weak edges)



hysteresis threshold

Source: L. Fei-Fei

## Hysteresis thresholding



high threshold  
(strong edges)



low threshold  
(weak edges)



hysteresis threshold

Source: L. Fei-Fei

## Recap: Canny edge detector

- Filter image with derivative of Gaussian
- Find magnitude and orientation of gradient
- **Non-maximum suppression:**
  - Thin wide “ridges” down to single pixel width
- **Linking and thresholding (hysteresis):**
  - Define two thresholds: low and high
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- MATLAB: `edge(image, 'canny');`
- `>>help edge`

Source: D. Lowe, L. Fei-Fei

## Low-level edges vs. perceived contours



Background

Shadows

Texture

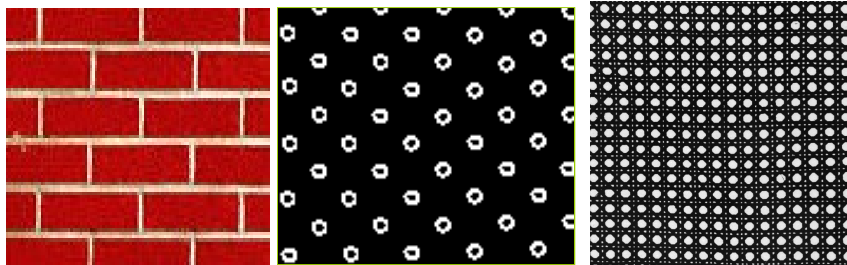
Kristen Grauman

## Texture

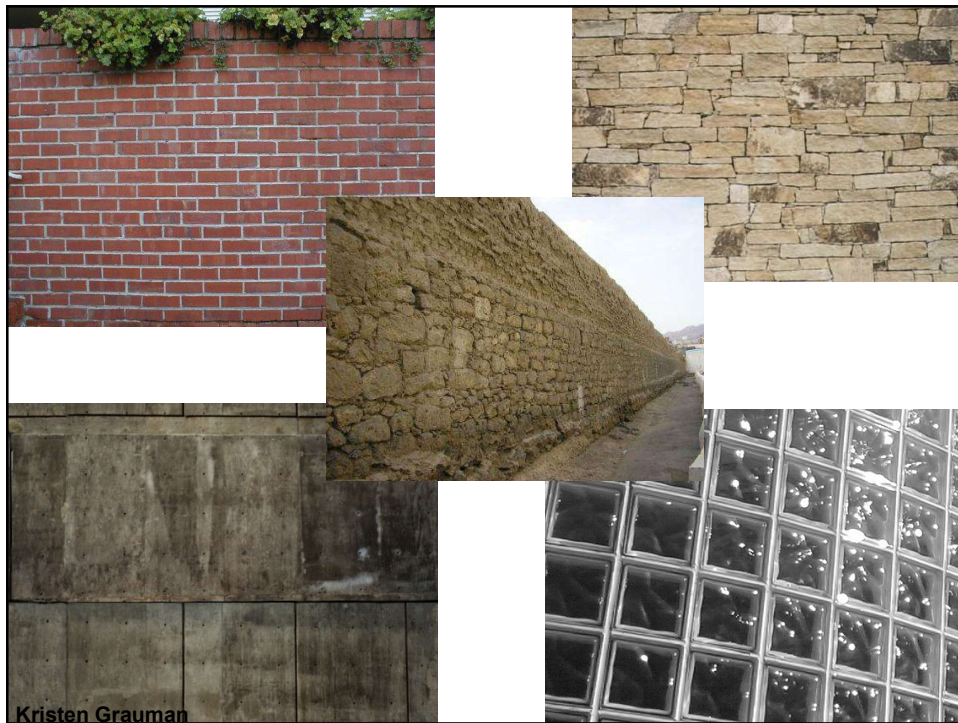
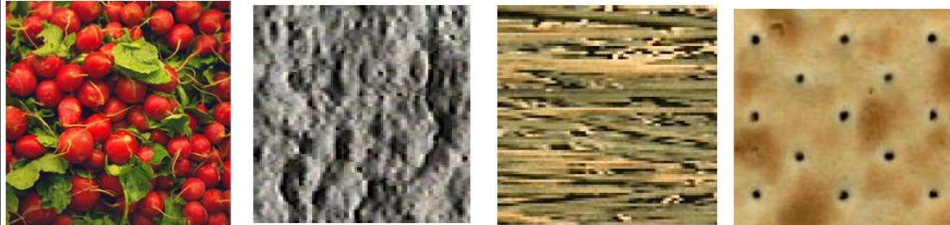


What defines a texture?

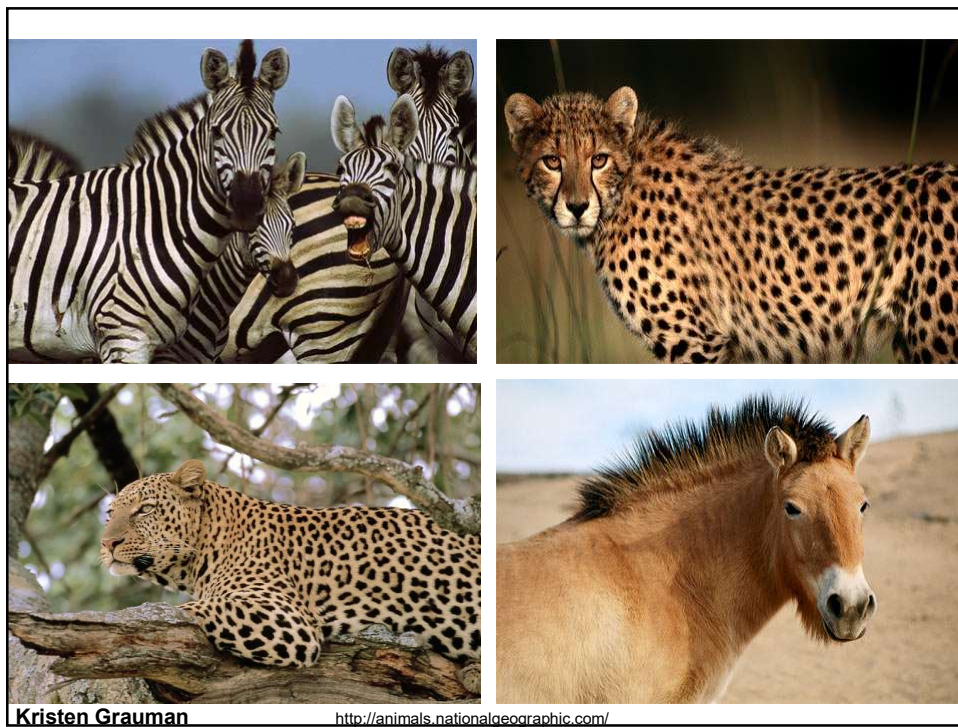
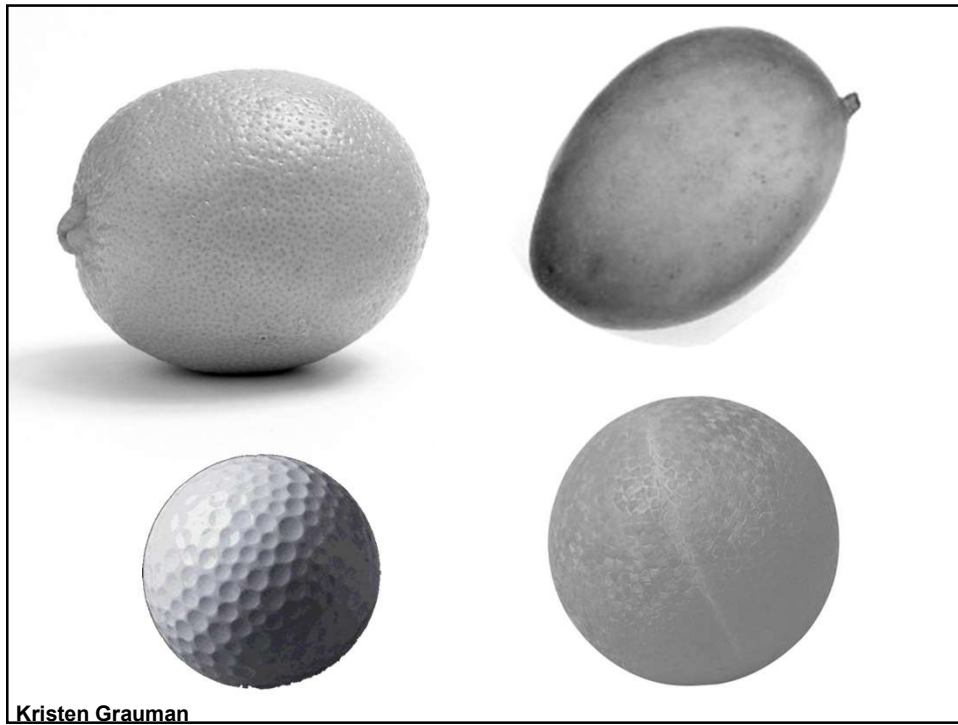
Includes: more regular patterns



Includes: more random patterns





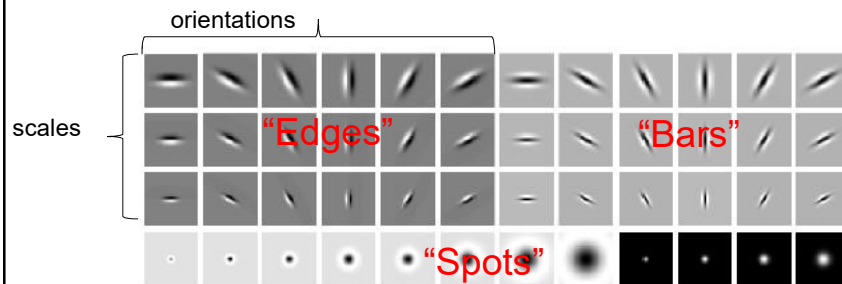


## Texture representation

- Textures are made up of repeated local patterns, so:
  - Find the patterns
    - Use filters that look like patterns (spots, bars, raw patches...)
    - Consider magnitude of response
  - Describe their statistics within each local window
    - Mean, standard deviation
    - Histogram
    - Histogram of “prototypical” feature occurrences

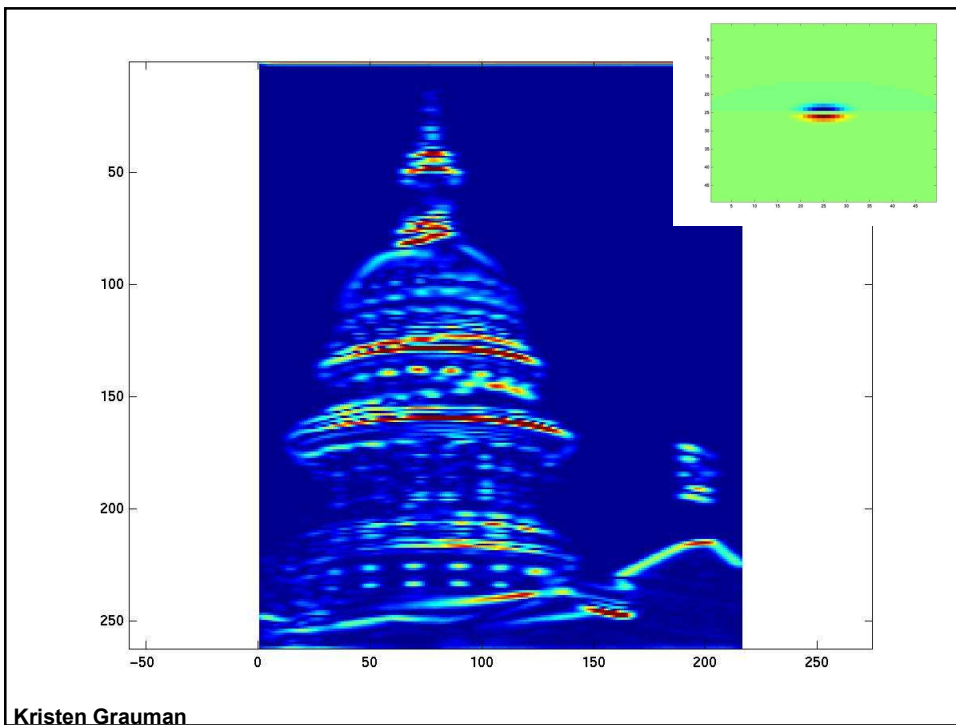
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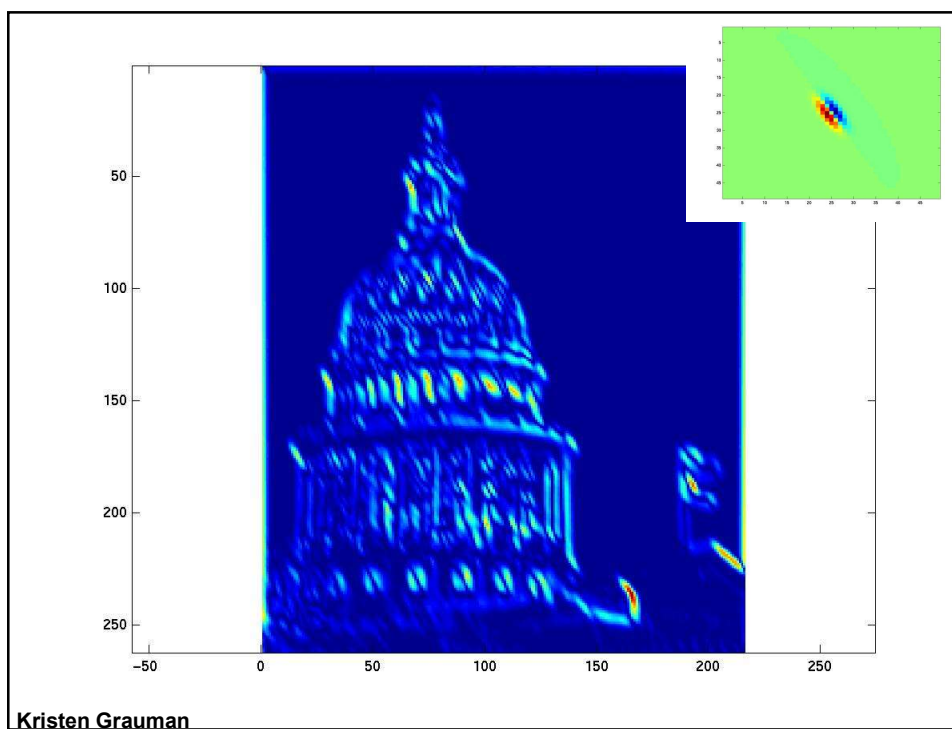
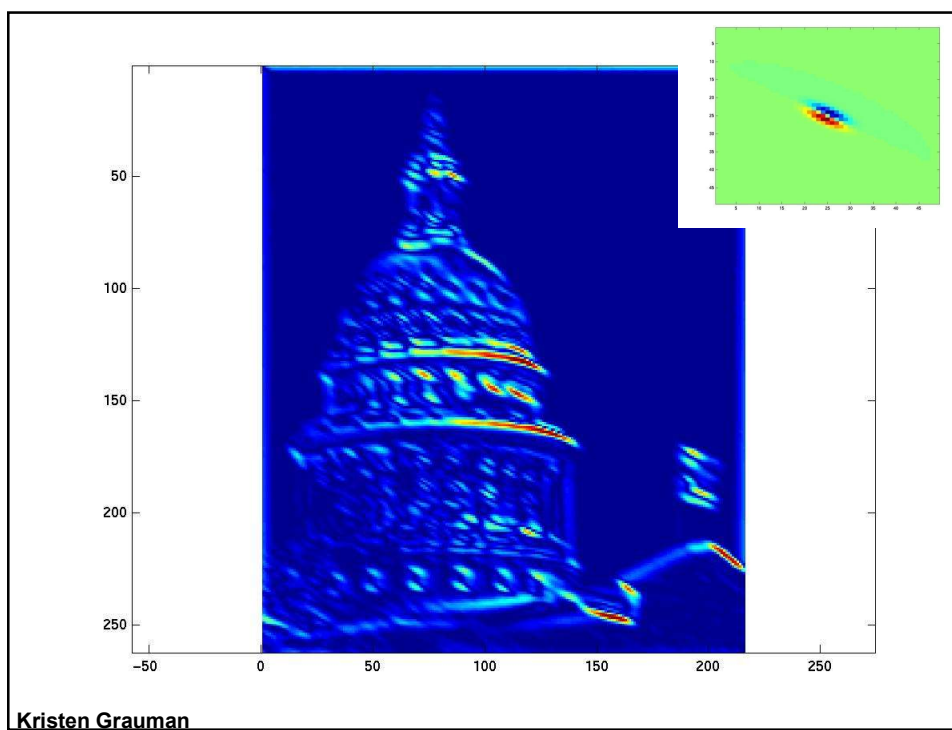
## Filter banks



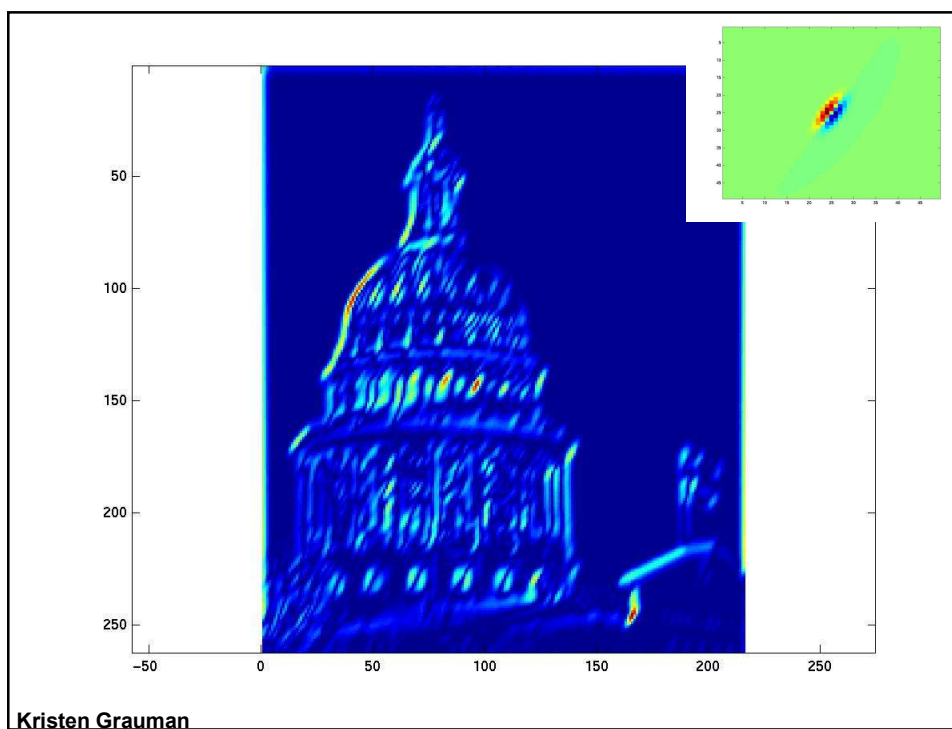
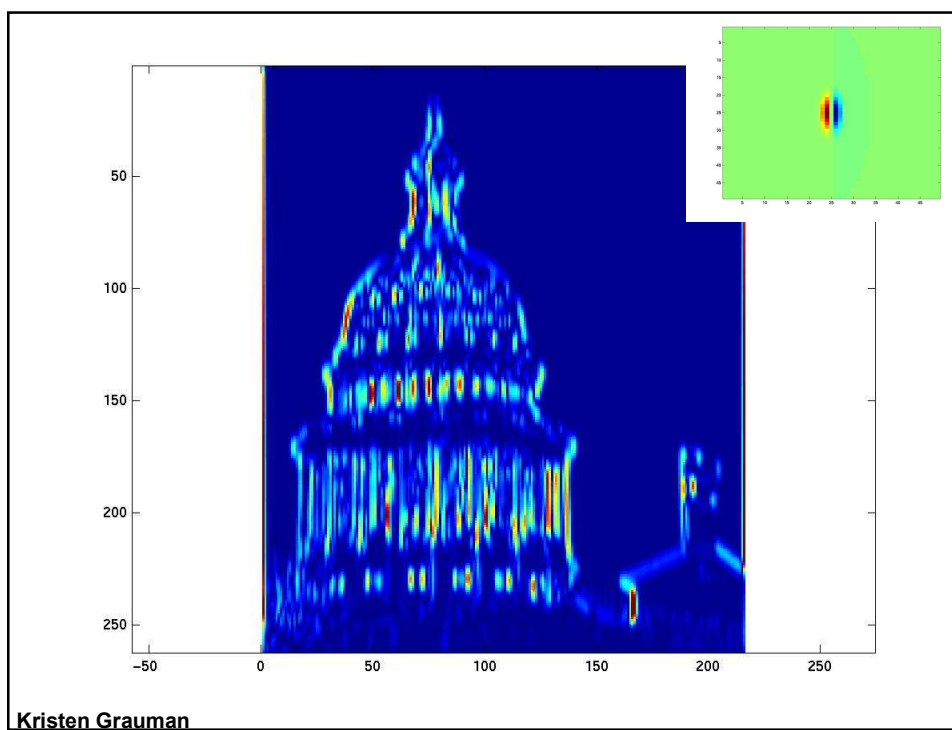
- What filters to put in the bank?
  - Typically we want a combination of scales and orientations, different types of patterns.

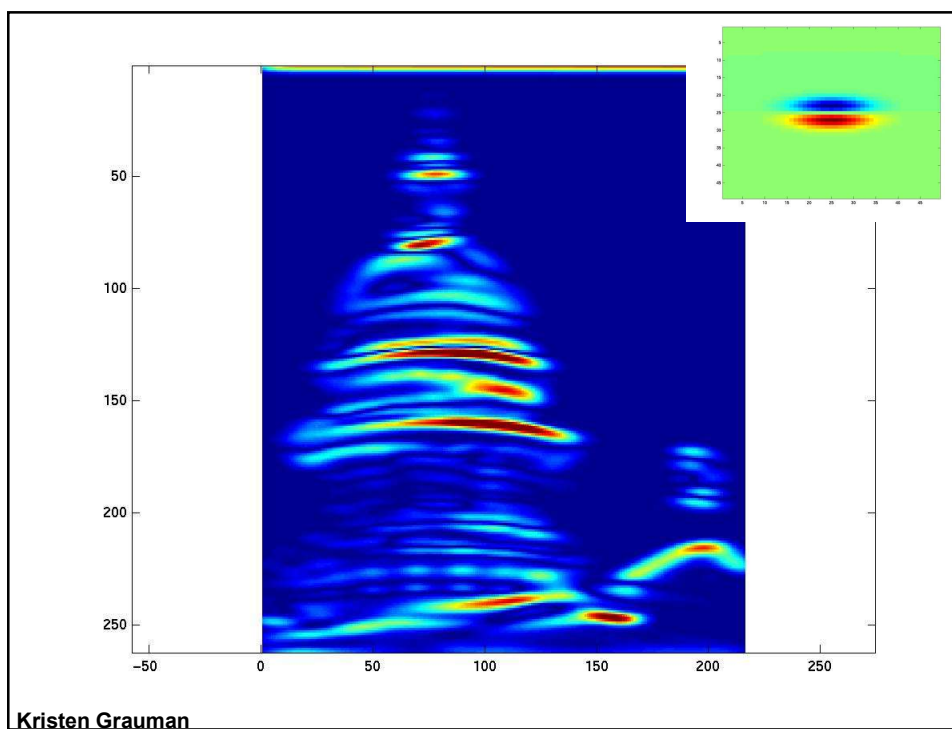
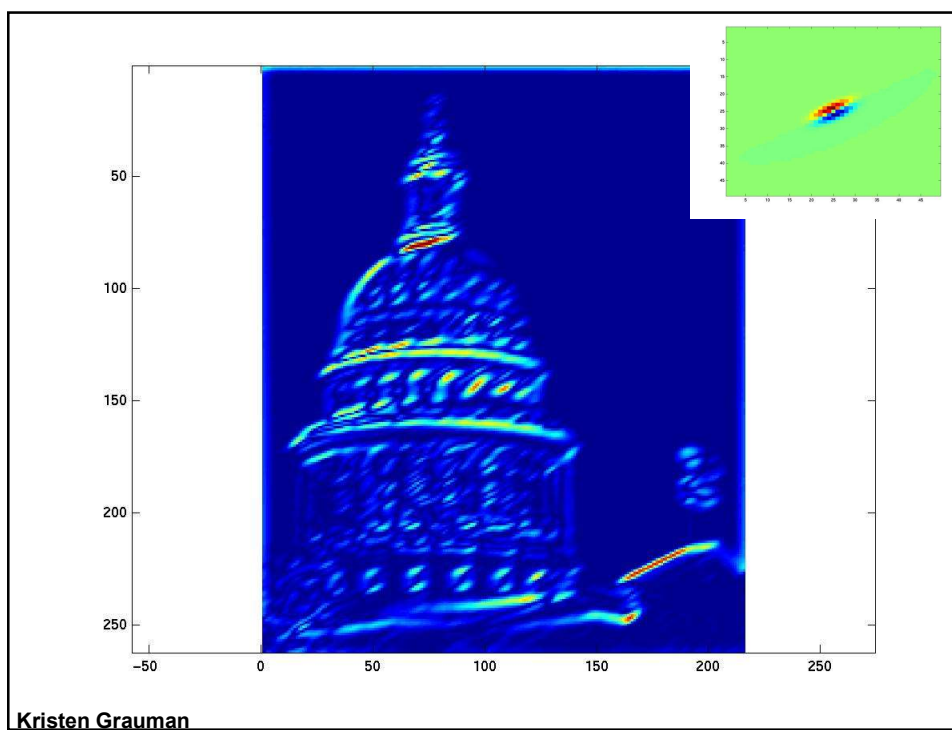
Matlab code available for these examples:  
<http://www.robots.ox.ac.uk/~vgg/research/texclass/filters.html>

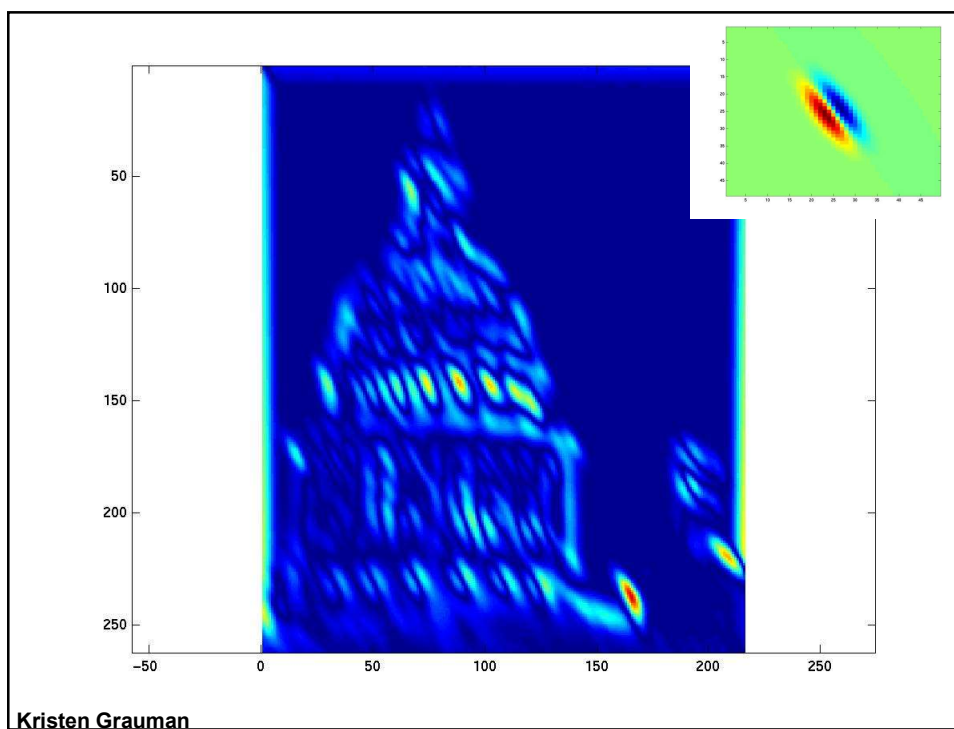
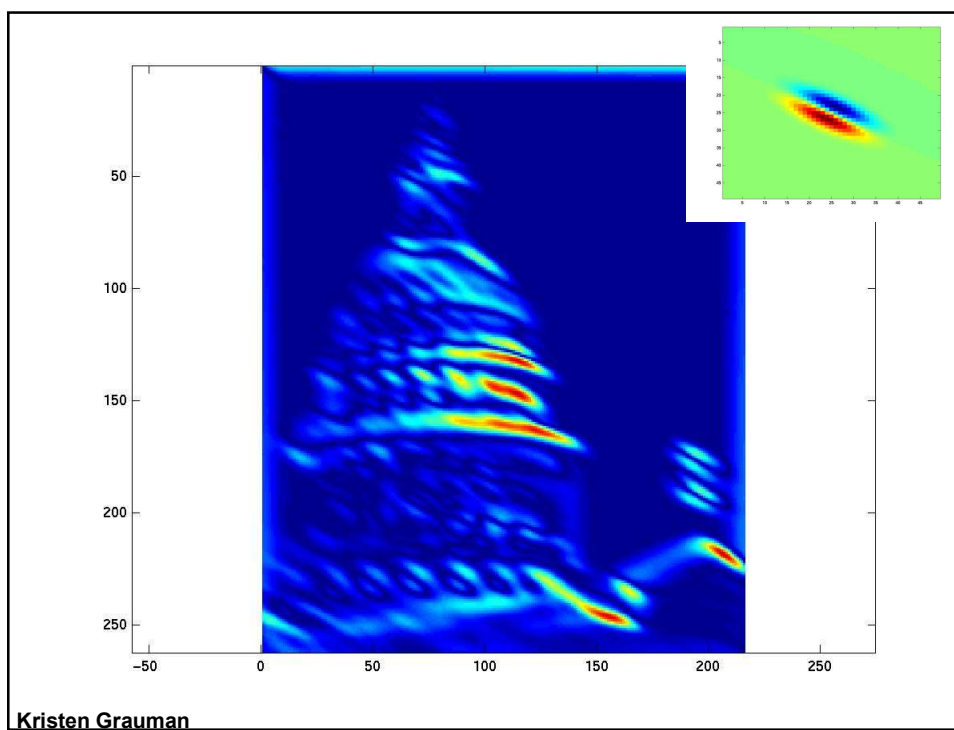


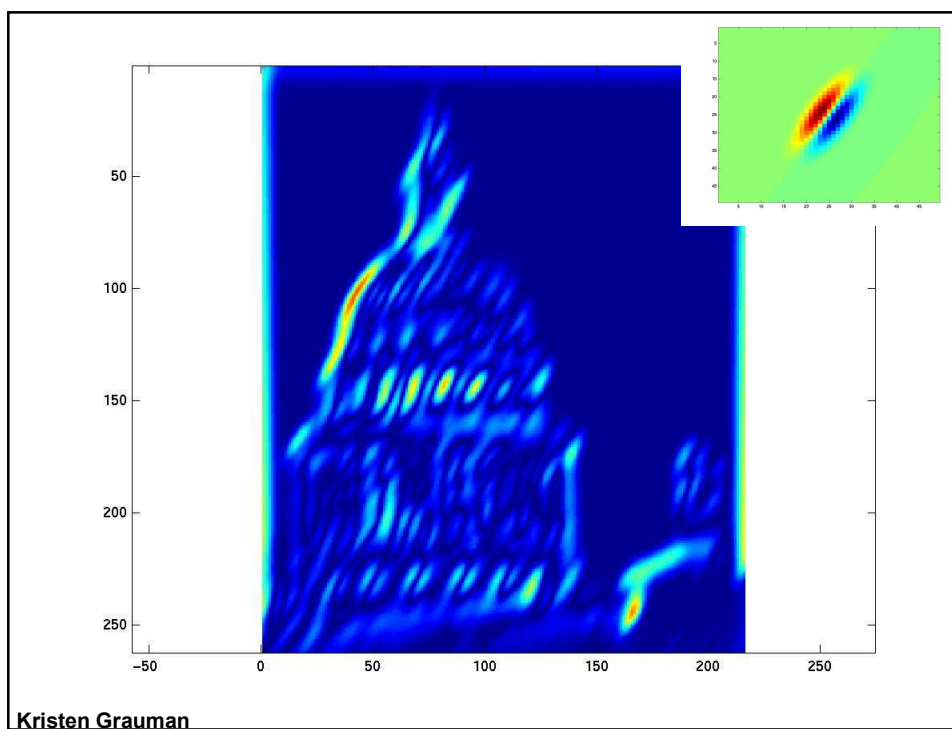
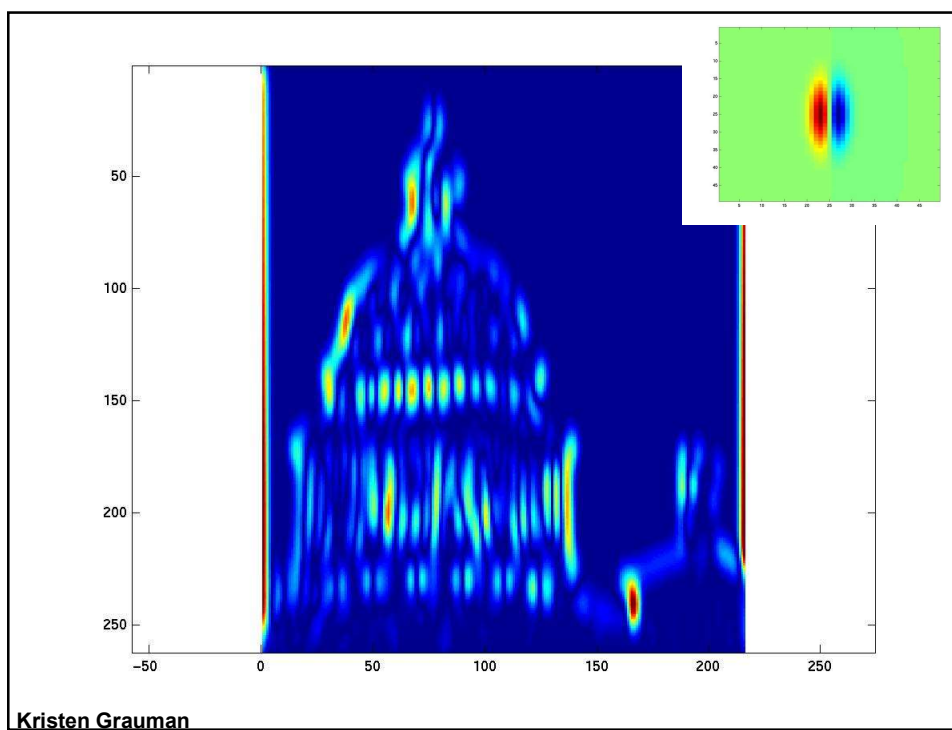


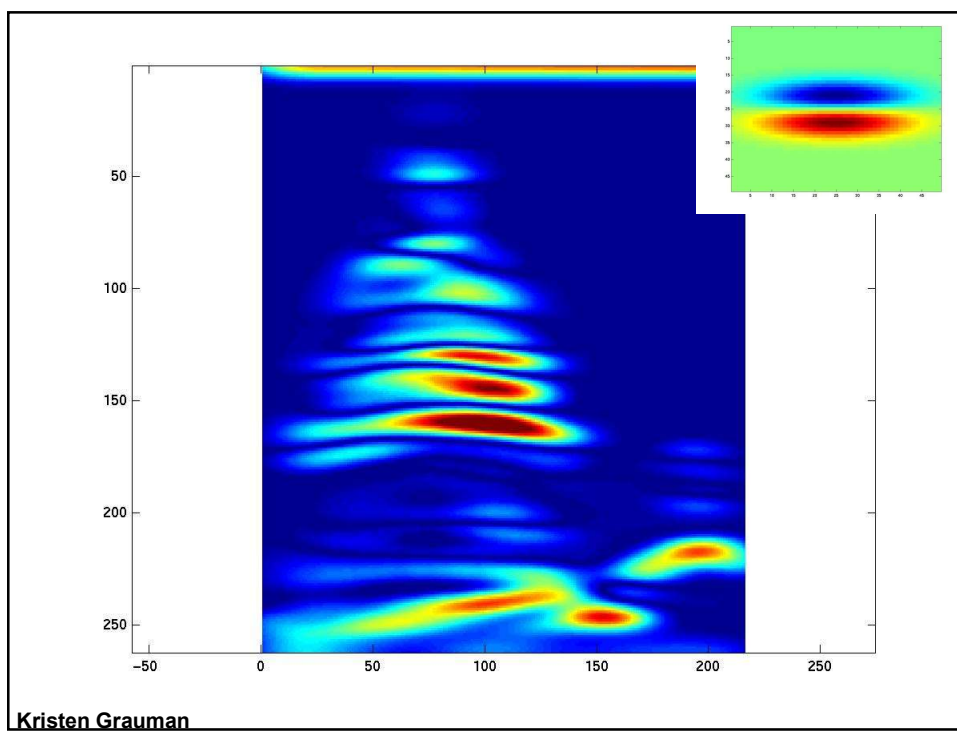
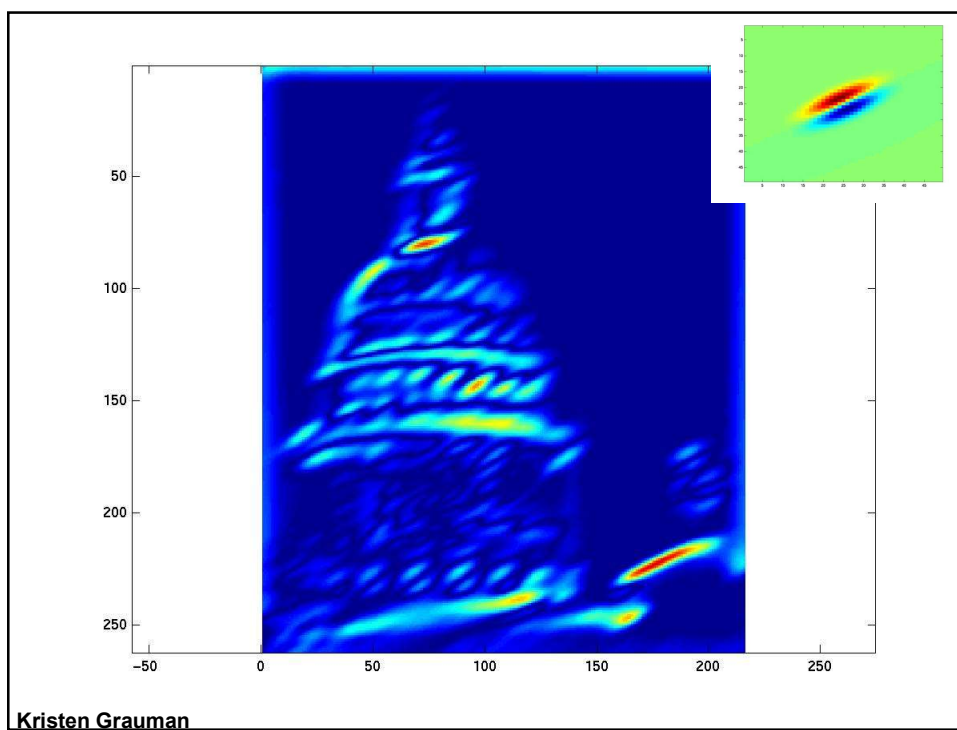


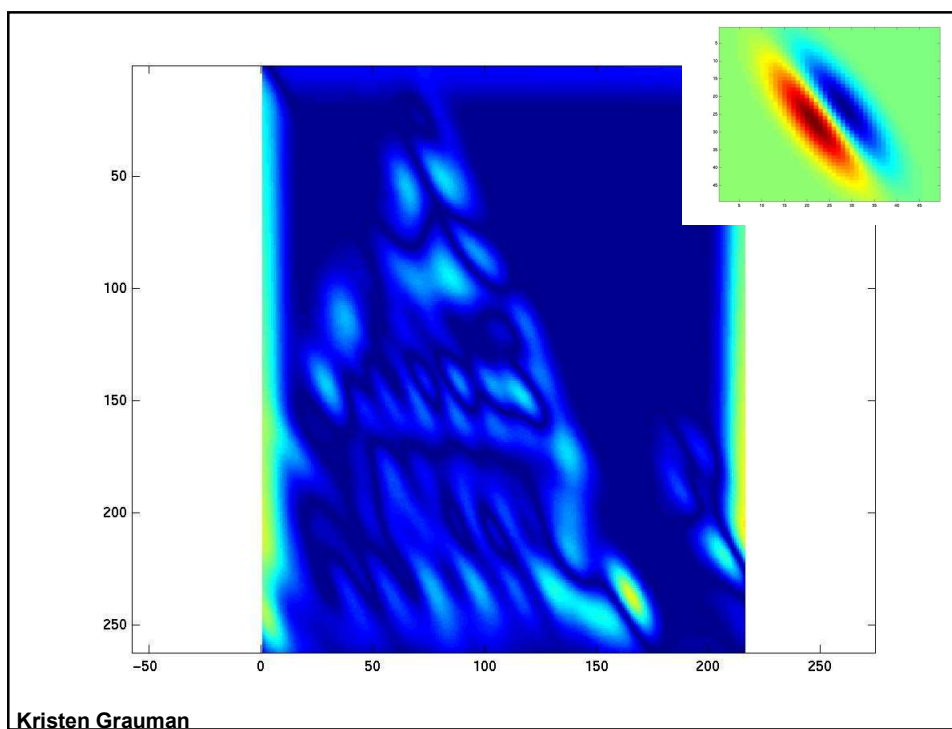
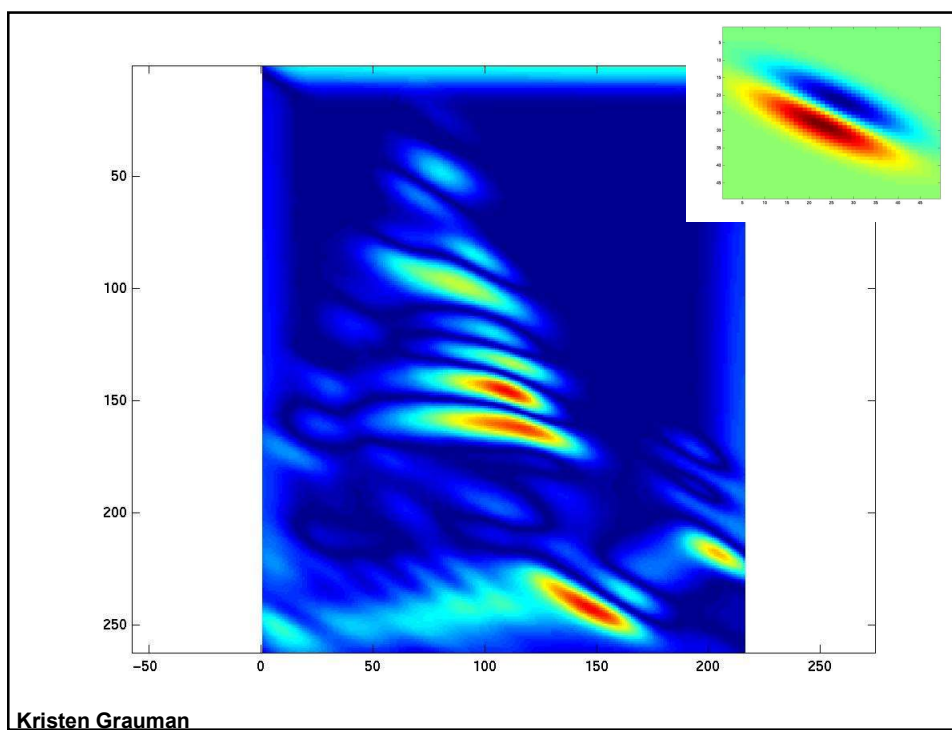


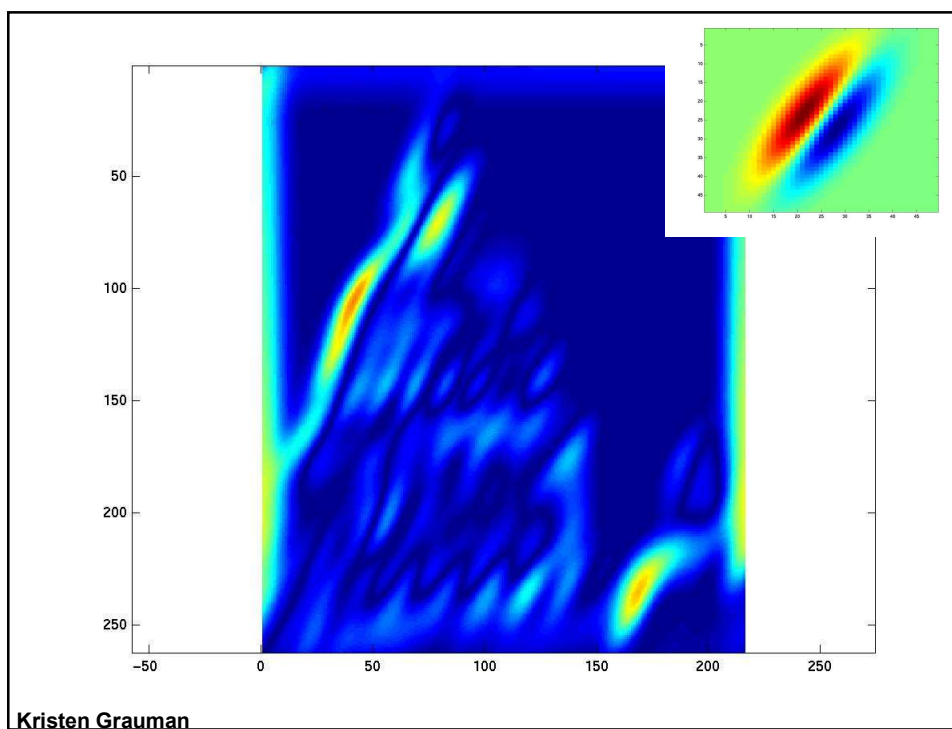
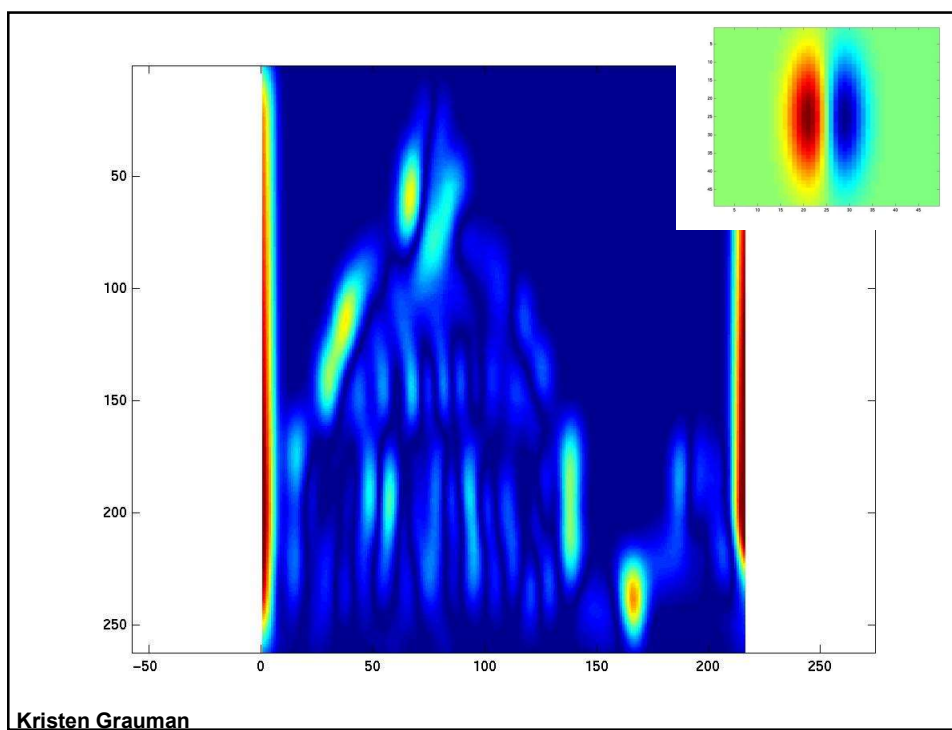




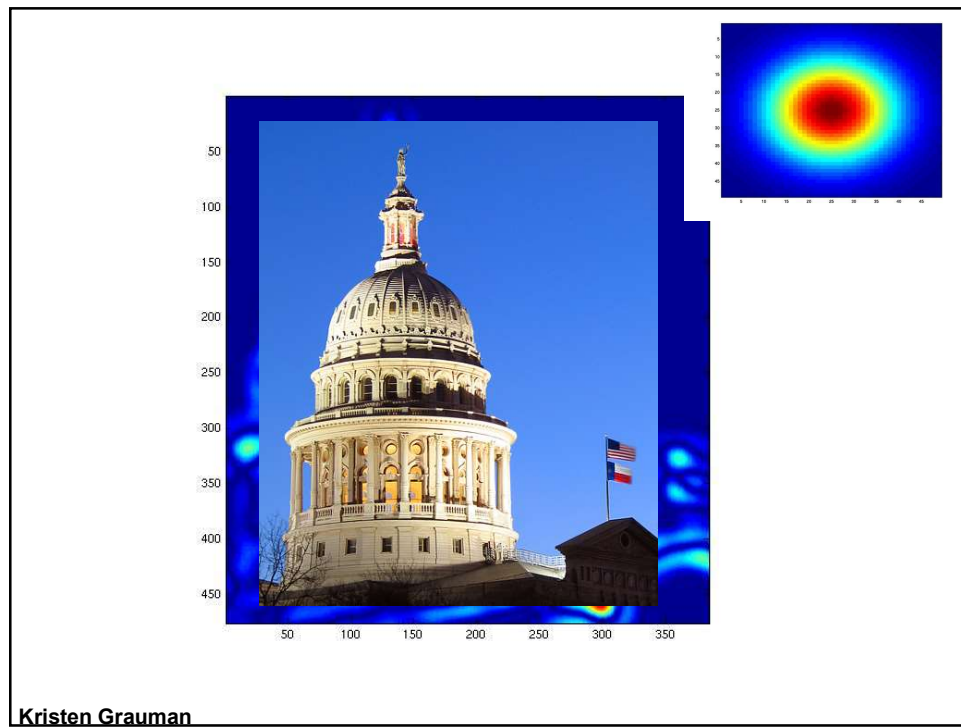
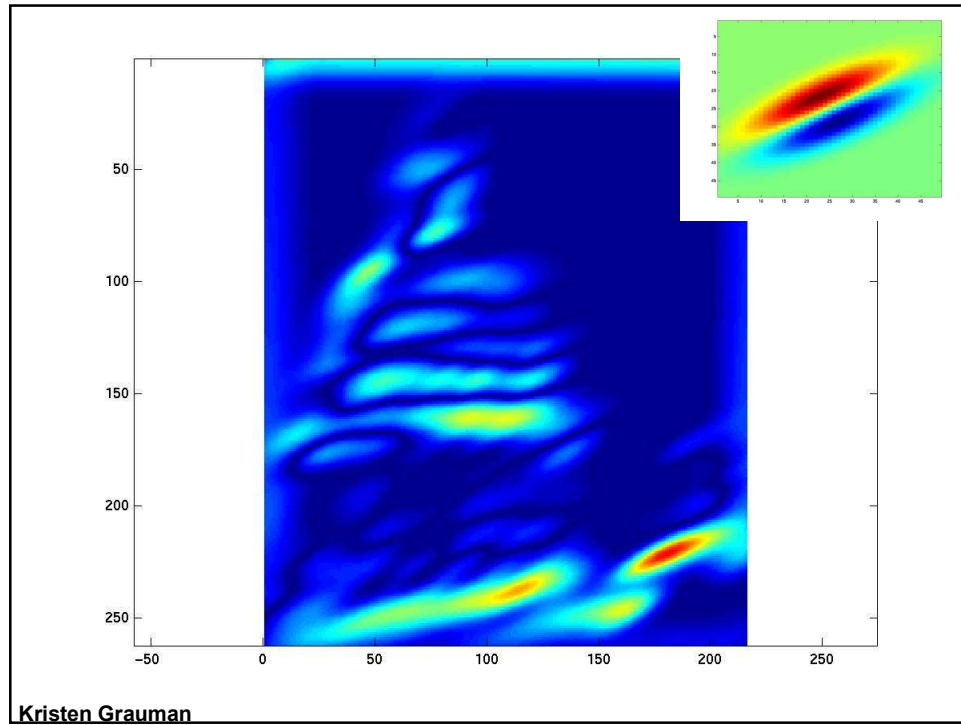






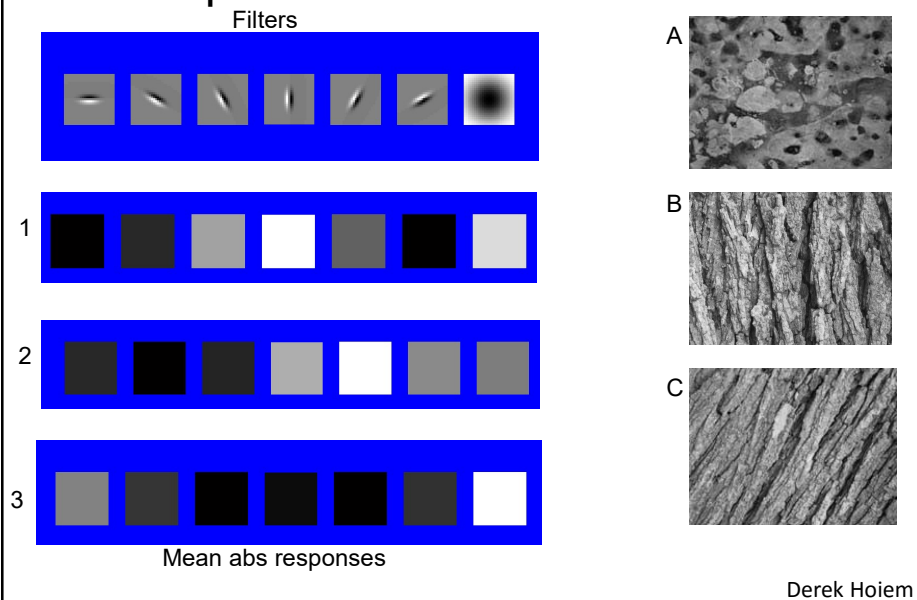




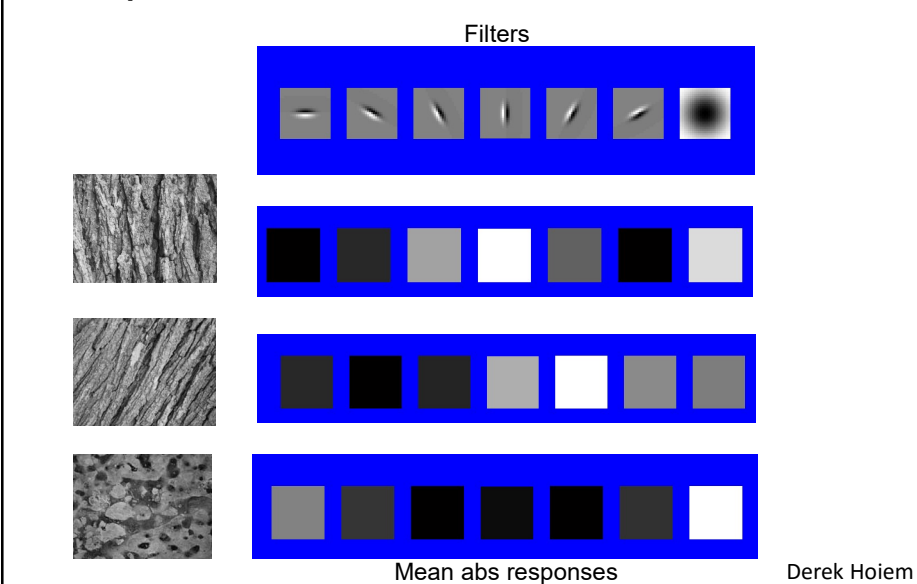


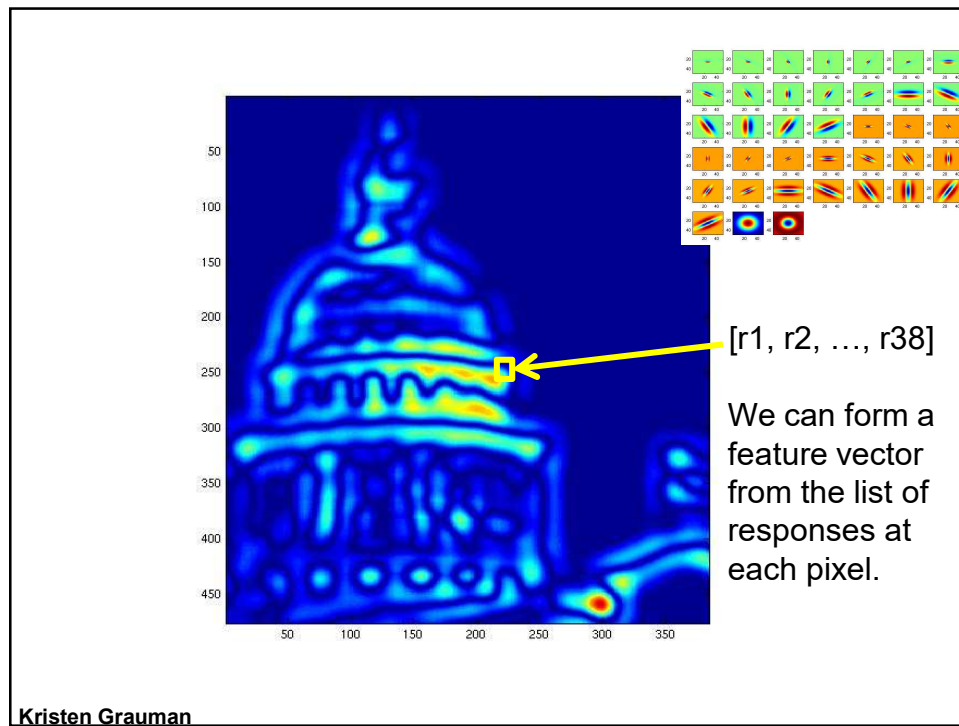


You try: Can you match the texture to the response?



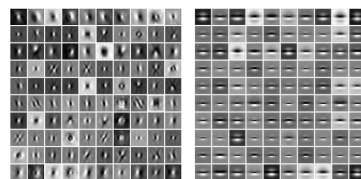
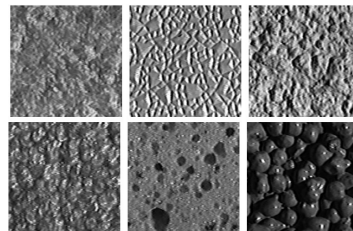
Representing texture by mean abs response





## Textons

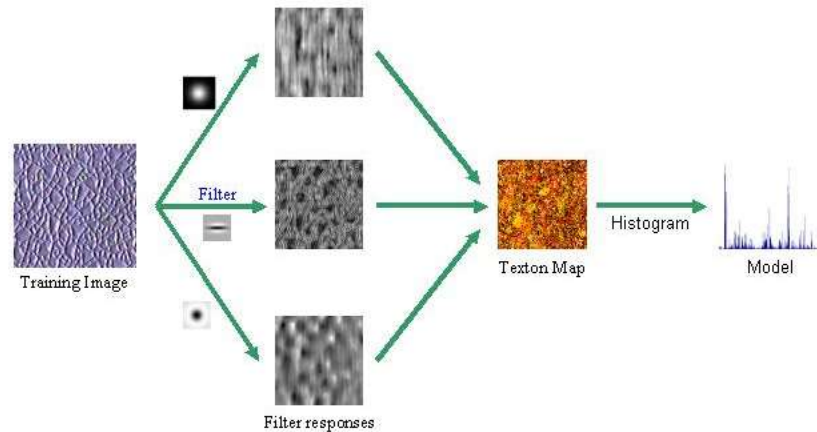
- *Texton* = cluster center of filter responses over collection of images
- Describe textures and materials based on distribution of prototypical texture elements.



Leung & Malik 1999; Varma & Zisserman, 2002

## Materials as textures: example

Allows us to summarize an image according to its distribution of textons (prototypical texture patterns).



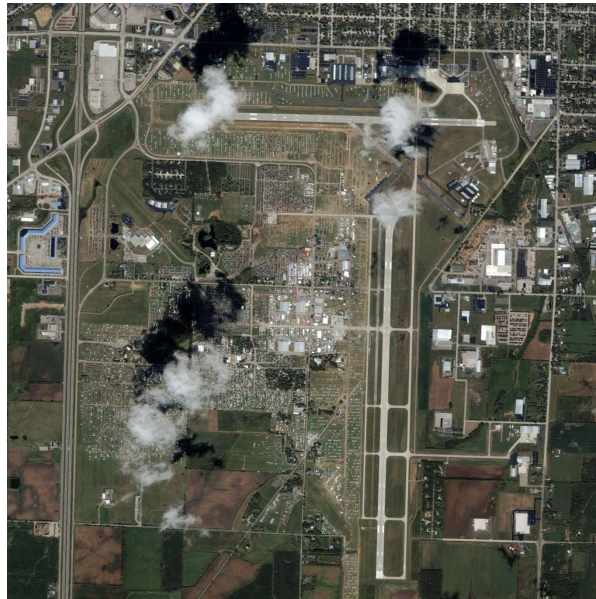
Varma & Zisserman, 2002

Manik Varma  
<http://www.robots.ox.ac.uk/~vgg/research/textclass/with.html>

## Materials as textures: example



Varma & Zisserman, 2002



Segmenting  
aerial imagery  
by textures

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[http://www.airventure.org/2004/gallery/images/073104\\_satellite.jpg](http://www.airventure.org/2004/gallery/images/073104_satellite.jpg)

## Scenes as textures: example



Characterizing  
scene  
categories by  
texture

L. W. Renninger and  
J. Malik. When is  
scene identification  
just texture  
recognition? Vision  
Research 44 (2004)  
2301–2311

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## Texture: recap

- Texture is a useful property that is often indicative of materials, appearance cues
- **Texture representations** attempt to summarize repeating patterns of local structure
- **Filter banks** useful to measure redundant variety of structures in local neighborhood

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## Mid-level cues

Tokens beyond pixels and filter responses  
but before object/scene categories

- Edges, contours
- Texture
- Regions
- Surfaces

# 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)

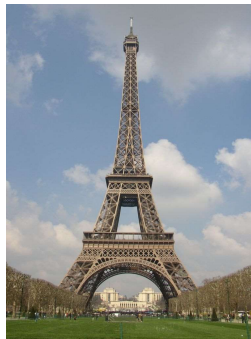
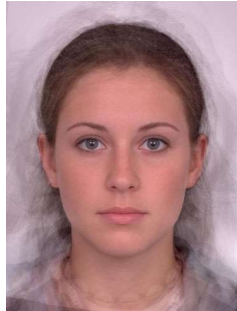
# Similarity



[http://chicagoist.com/attachments/chicagoist\\_alicia/GEESE.jpg](http://chicagoist.com/attachments/chicagoist_alicia/GEESE.jpg), [http://www.delivery.superstock.com/WI/223/1532/PreviewComp/SuperStock\\_1532R-0831.jpg](http://www.delivery.superstock.com/WI/223/1532/PreviewComp/SuperStock_1532R-0831.jpg)



## Symmetry



[http://seedmagazine.com/news/2006/10/beauty\\_is\\_in\\_the\\_processingim.php](http://seedmagazine.com/news/2006/10/beauty_is_in_the_processingim.php)

## Common fate



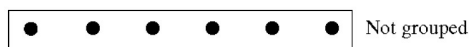
Image credit: Arthus-Bertrand (via F. Durand)

# Proximity



[http://www.capital.edu/Resources/Images/outside6\\_035.jpg](http://www.capital.edu/Resources/Images/outside6_035.jpg)

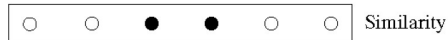
## Some Gestalt factors



Not grouped



Proximity



Similarity



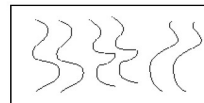
Similarity



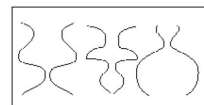
Common Fate



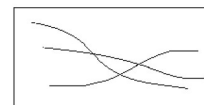
Common Region



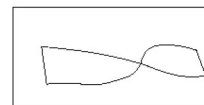
Parallelism



Symmetry



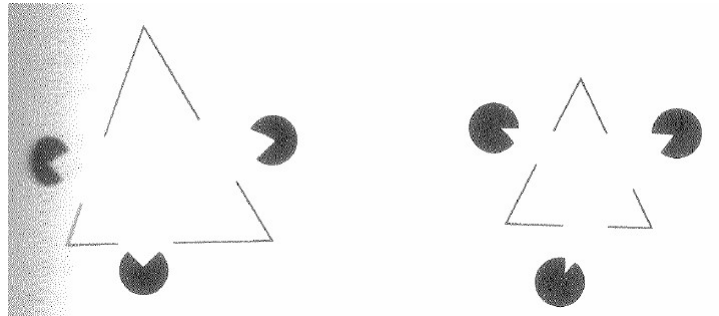
Continuity



Closure

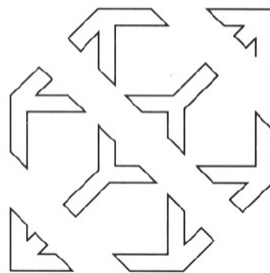


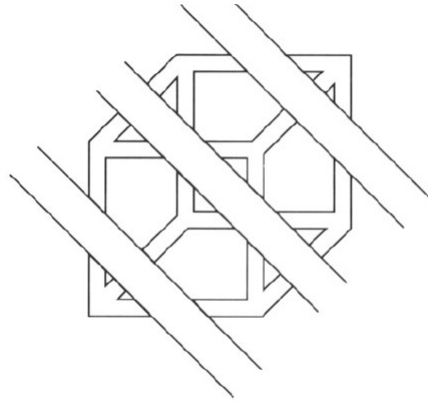
## Illusory/subjective contours



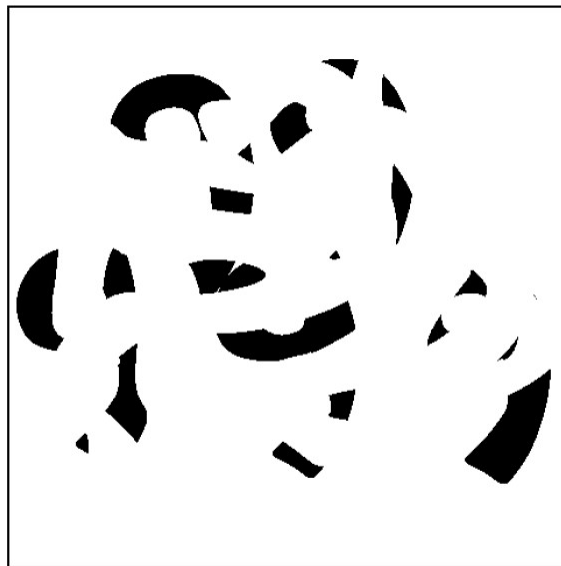
Interesting tendency to explain by occlusion

In *Vision*, D. Marr, 1982





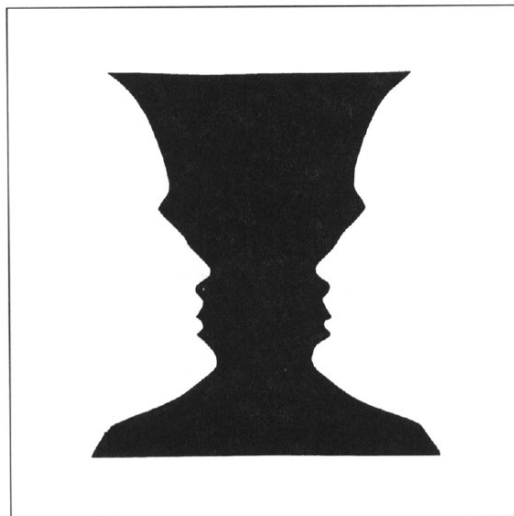
Continuity, explanation by occlusion

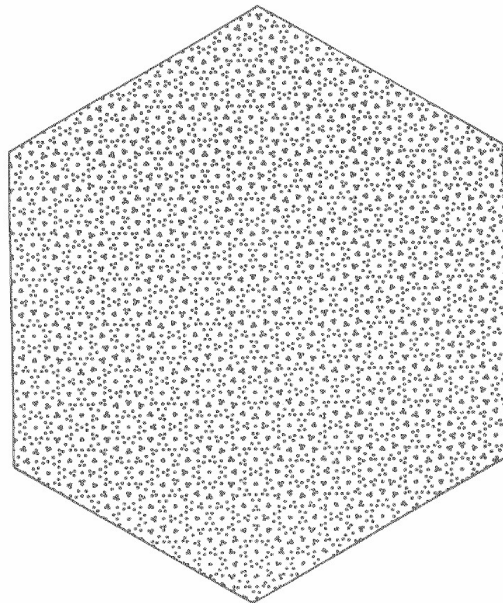


D. Forsyth



Figure-ground





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

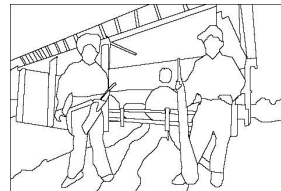
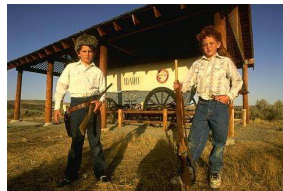
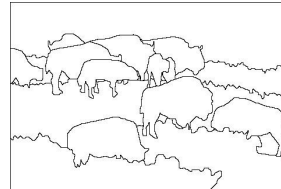
## The goals of segmentation

Separate image into coherent “objects”

image



human segmentation



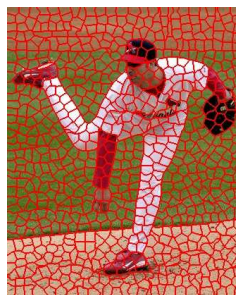
Source: Lana Lazebnik

## 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

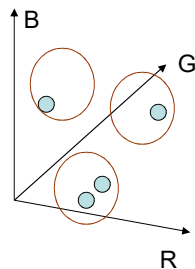
## Segmentation as clustering

- Families of clustering algorithms
  - K-means
  - Mean shift
  - Graph cuts: normalized cuts, min-cut,...
  - Hierarchical agglomerative

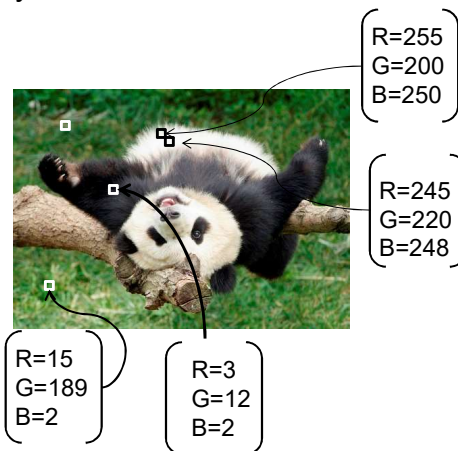
## Segmentation as clustering pixels

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)



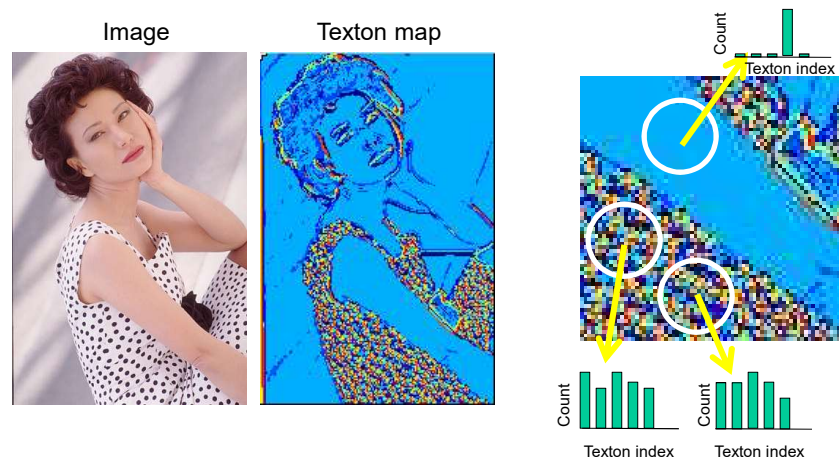
## Segmentation as clustering pixels

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



## Segmentation with texture features

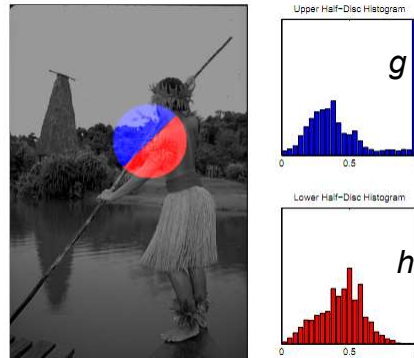
- Find “textons” by **clustering** vectors of filter bank outputs
- Describe texture in a window based on *texton histogram*



Malik, Belongie, Leung and Shi. IJCV 2001.

Adapted from Lana Lazebnik

## Representing a texture gradient

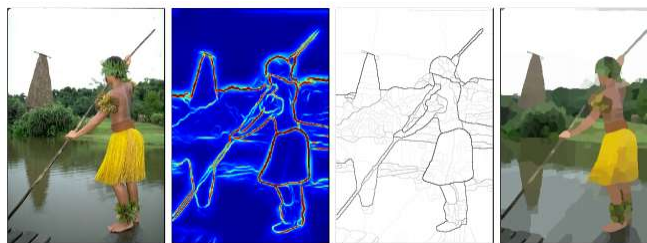


$$\chi^2(g, h) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i \frac{(g(i) - h(i))^2}{g(i) + h(i)}$$

Figure from Arbelaez et al PAMI 2011

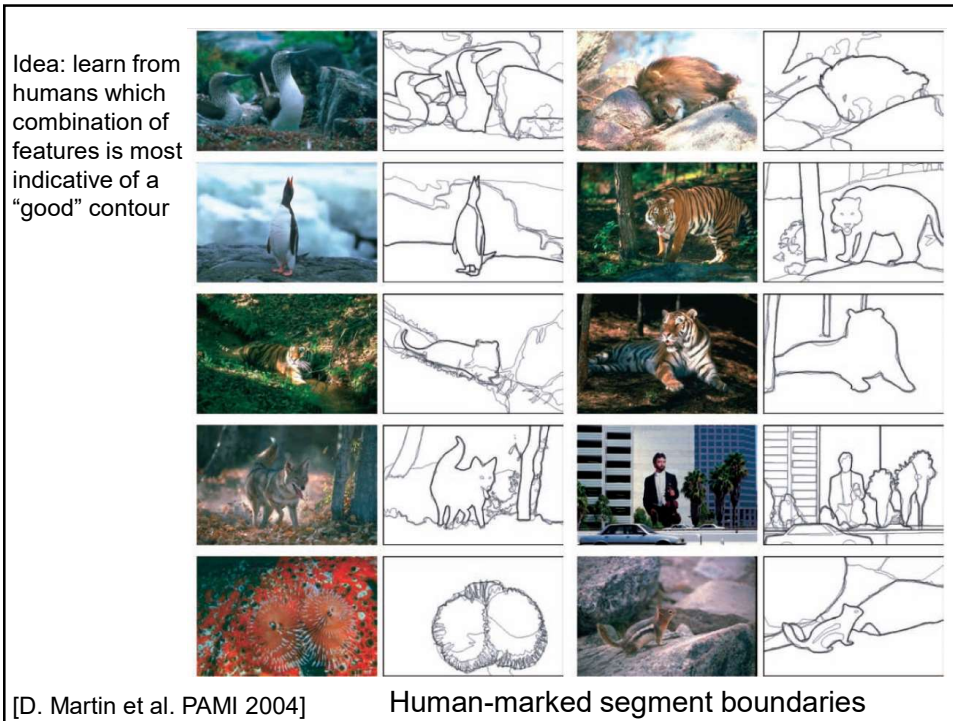
## Contour Detection and Hierarchical Image Segmentation

Pablo Arbelaez, Michael Maire, Charless Fowlkes, Jitendra Malik

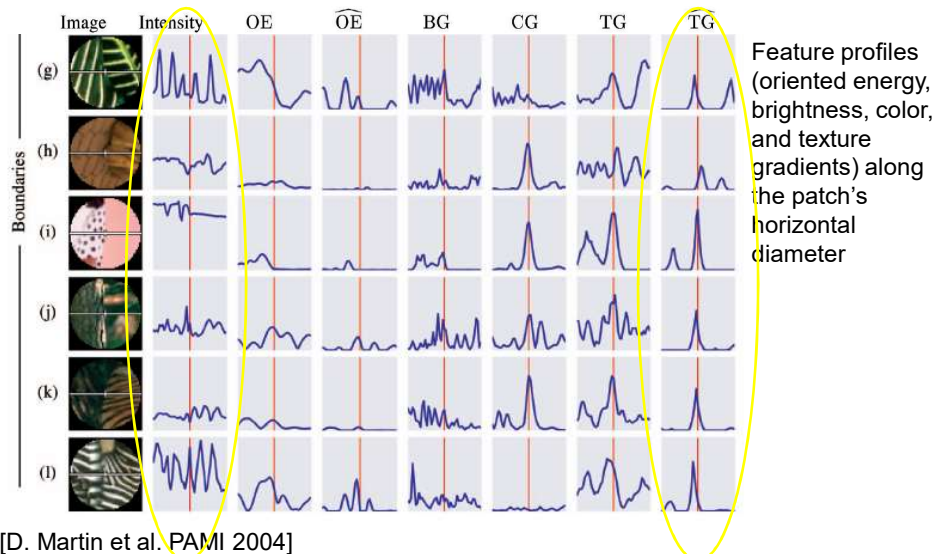


Predict contours based on oriented gradients  
Map to closed regions with watershed  
Hierarchy of segments as output

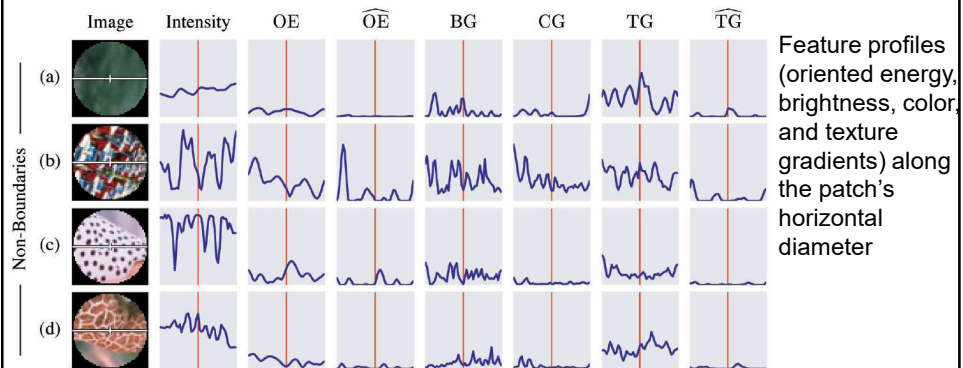




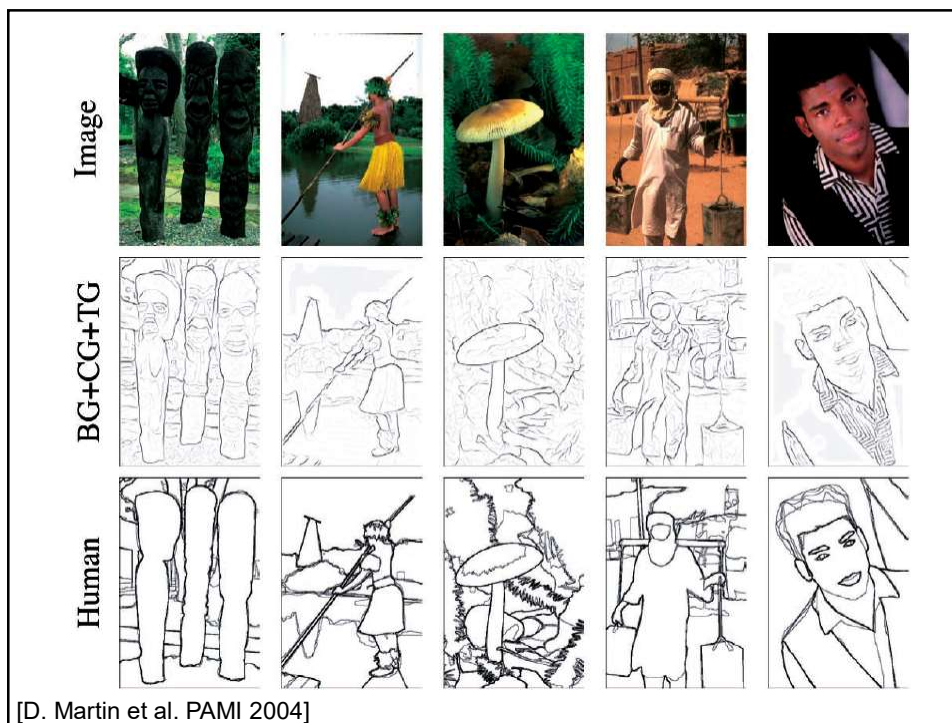
## What features are responsible for perceived edges?

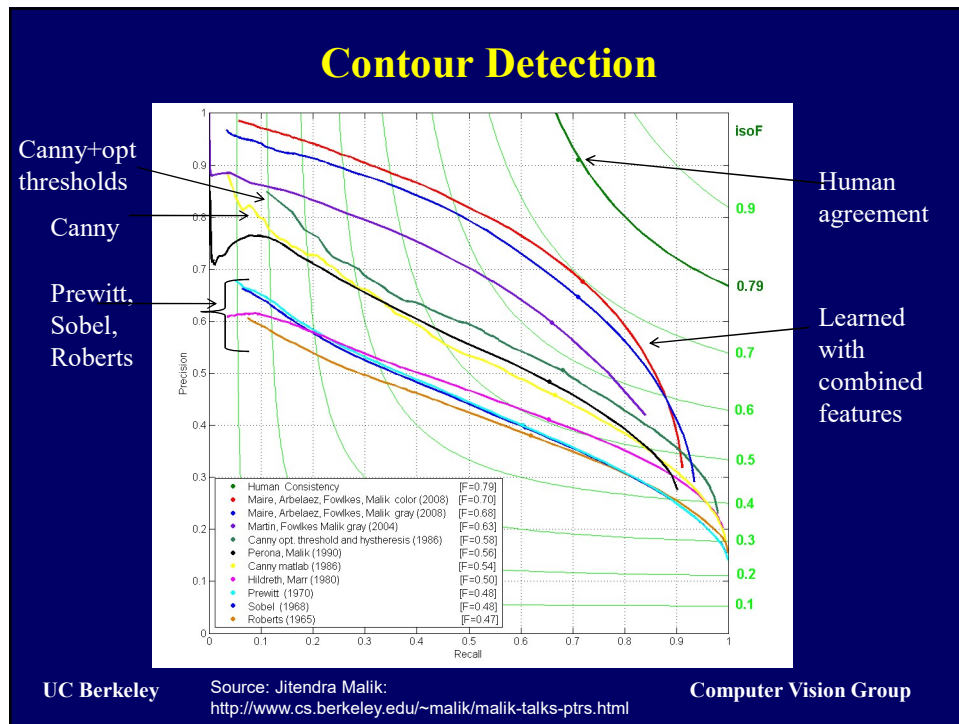


## What features are responsible for perceived edges?



[D. Martin et al. PAMI 2004]

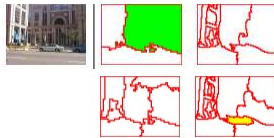




Ongoing topics in mid-level  
region representations

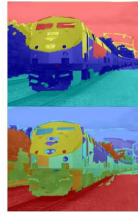
## Multiple segmentations

- Acknowledging difficulty of finding object boundaries in **single** multi-way segmentation, now often employ **multiple segmentations** as “hypotheses”
- Input to higher-level processes.



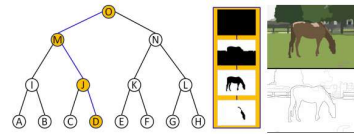
Varying parameters,  
grouping algorithms

Fig from Russell et al. 2006



Greedy  
combinations

Fig from Hoiem et al. 2005

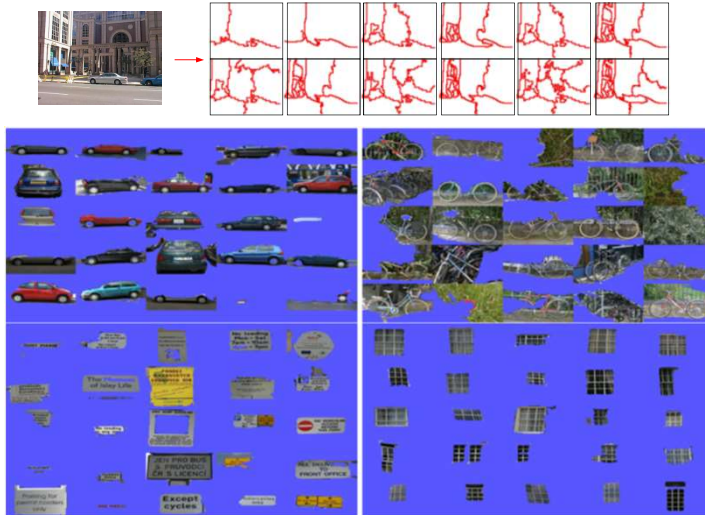


Hierarchy of segments

Fig from Maire et al. 2009

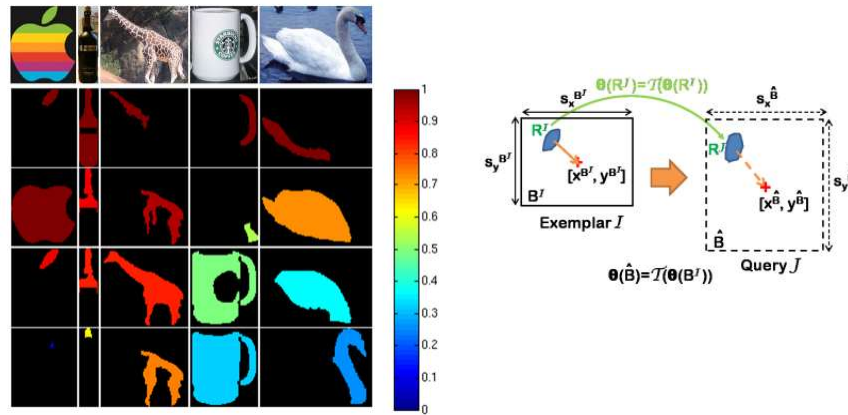
## Segments as primitives for discovery

Multiple segmentations



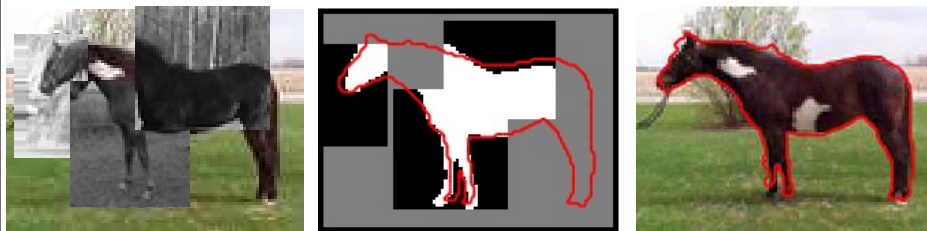
B. Russell et al., [“Using Multiple Segmentations to Discover Objects and their Extent in Image Collections.”](#) CVPR 2006

## Segments as object parts?



Gu et al. Recognition Using Regions, CVPR 2009

## Top-down segmentation



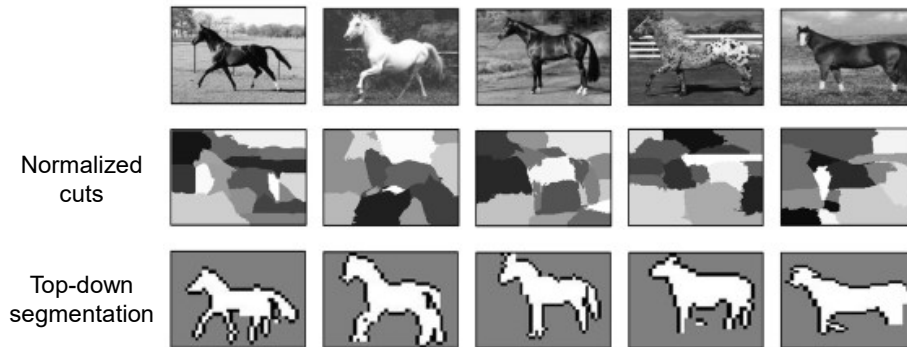
E. Borenstein and S. Ullman, "[Class-specific, top-down segmentation.](#)" ECCV 2002

A. Levin and Y. Weiss, "[Learning to Combine Bottom-Up and Top-Down Segmentation.](#)" ECCV 2006.

Slide credit: Lana Lazebnik



## Top-down segmentation

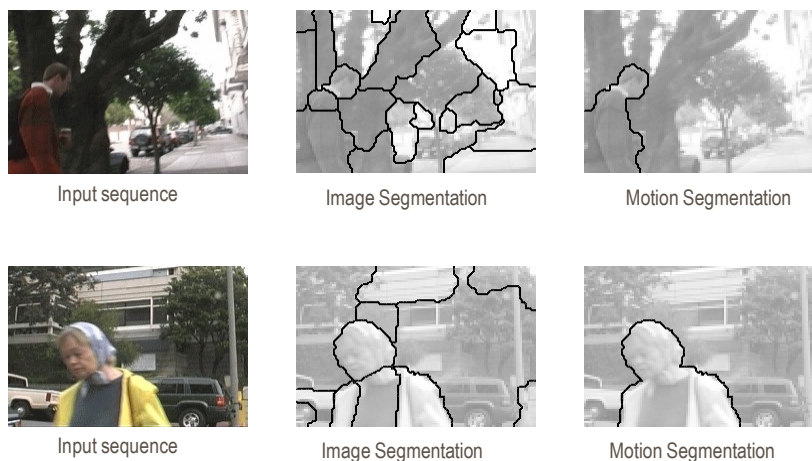


E. Borenstein and S. Ullman, "[Class-specific, top-down segmentation](#)," ECCV 2002

A. Levin and Y. Weiss, "[Learning to Combine Bottom-Up and Top-Down Segmentation](#)," ECCV 2006.

Slide credit: Lana Lazebnik

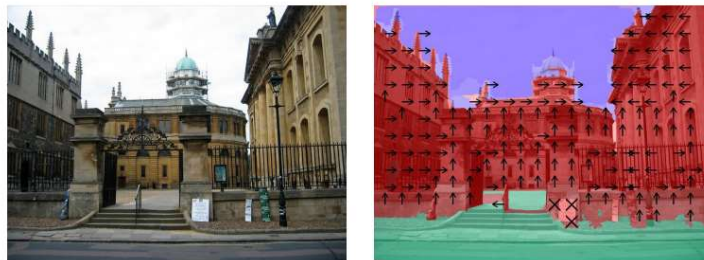
## Motion segmentation



A.Barbu, S.C. Zhu. Generalizing Swendsen-Wang to sampling arbitrary posterior probabilities, *IEEE Trans. PAMI*, August 2005.

## Regions to surfaces

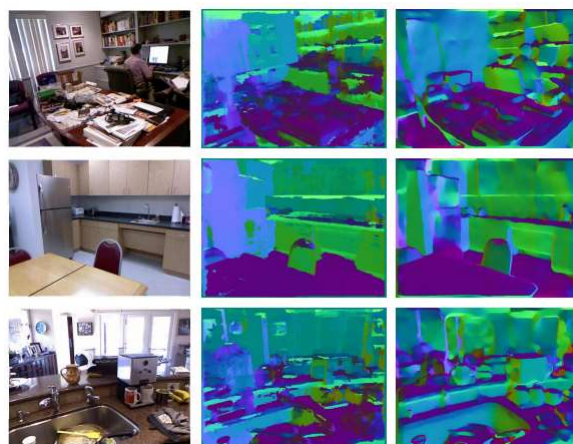
Learn to categorize regions into geometric classes  
Combining multiple segmentations



Geometric Context from a Single Image. Derek Hoiem, Alexei Efros, Martial Hebert. ICCV 2005

## Regions to surfaces

Predicting surface normals

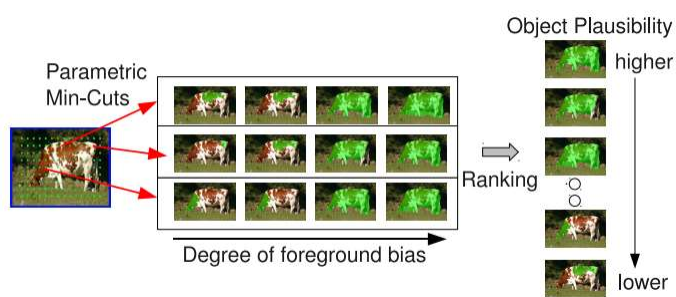


- Ladicky, Zeisl, Pollefeys. Discriminatively Trained Dense Surface Normal Estimation. ECCV 2014



## Category-independent ranking

How “object-like” is each candidate region?



Constrained Parametric Min-Cuts for Automatic Object Segmentation.  
Carreira and Sminchisescu. CVPR 2010

*Also see Ferrari et al CVPR 2010, Endres et al ECCV 2010*

## Video object segmentation



[Jain & Grauman, Supervoxel-Consistent Foreground Propagation  
in Video, ECCV 2014]

Kristen Grauman, UTCS

## Video object segmentation

# Bird of Paradise

Fanyi Xiao and Yong Jae Lee

[Track and Segment: An Iterative Unsupervised Approach for Video Object Proposals](#)

In *CVPR 2016*

