Mid-level representations

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Announcements

- Reminder: Assignment 1 due Friday
- Assignment 2 out today, due Friday Mar 4
- Presenters: send slides after class

Last time

- Intro to categorization problem
- Object categorization as discriminative classification
  - Boosting + fast face detection example
  - Nearest neighbors + scene recognition example
  - Support vector machines + pedestrian detection example
    - Pyramid match kernels, spatial pyramid match
  - Convolutional neural networks + ImageNet example
- Some new representations along the way
  - Rectangular filters
  - GIST
  - HOG

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

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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

original image (Lena)

Slide credit: Steve Seitz

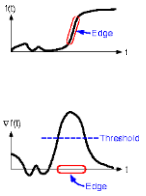
The Canny edge detector

norm of the gradient

The Canny edge detector

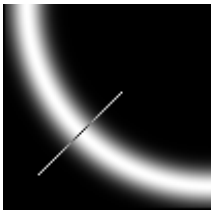
thresholding

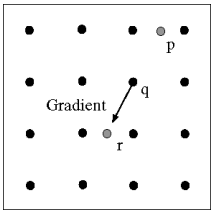
The Canny edge detector



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');`
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Source: D. Lowe, L. Fei-Fei

Low-level edges vs. perceived contours

Background

Shadows

Texture

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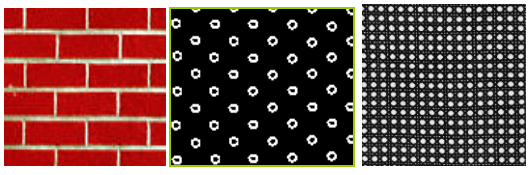
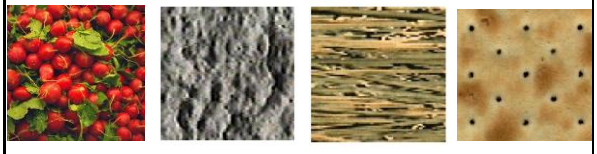
Texture

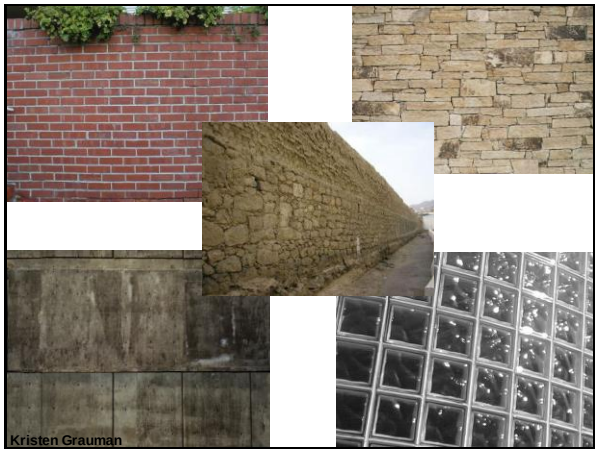
What defines a texture?

Includes: more regular patterns



Includes: more random patterns

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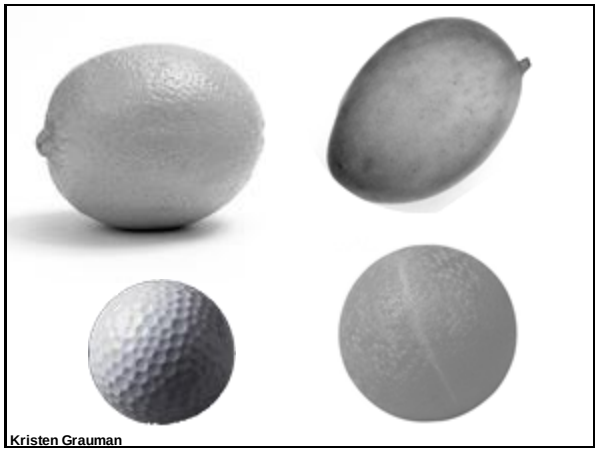
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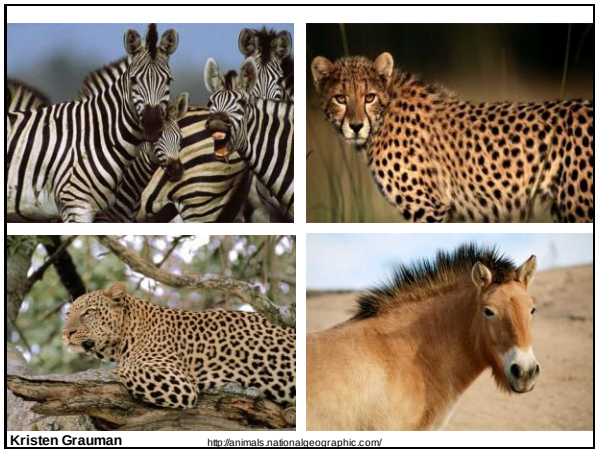
Kristen Grauman http://animals.nationalgeographic.com/

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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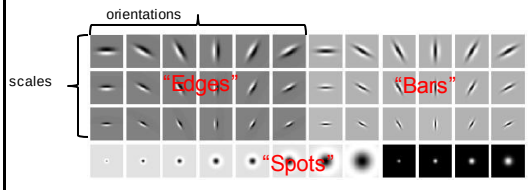
Filter banks



- 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

Image from http://www.texasexplorer.com/austincap2.jpg

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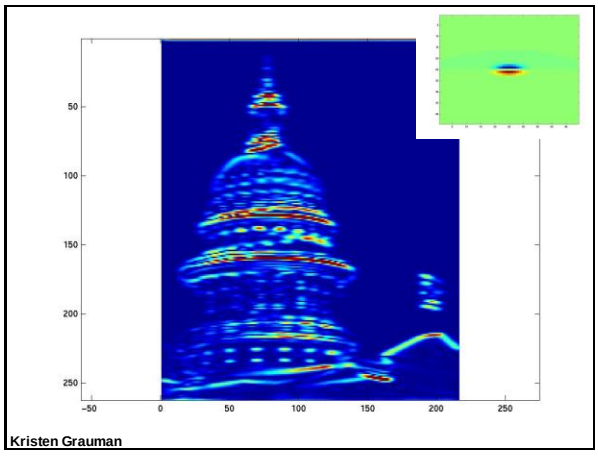

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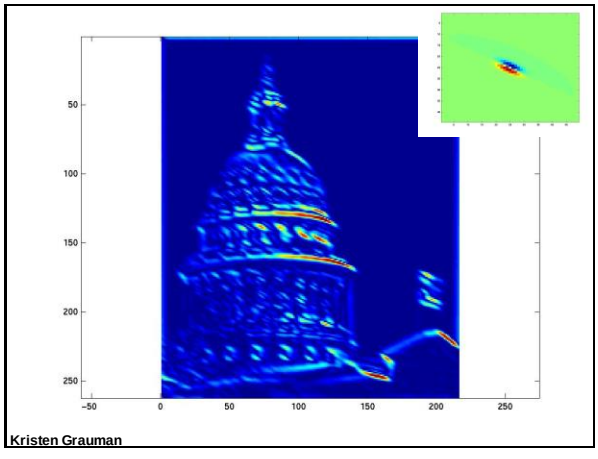

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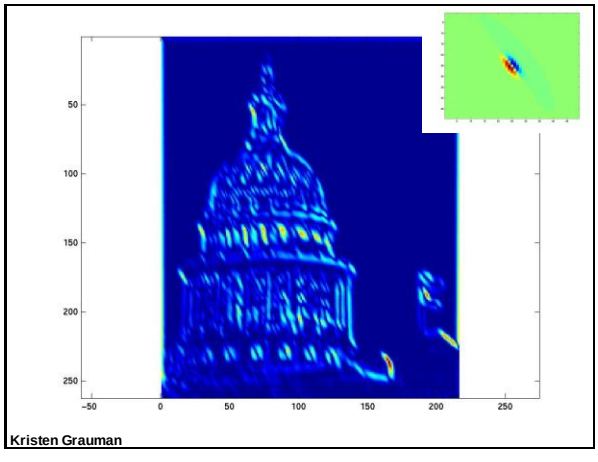

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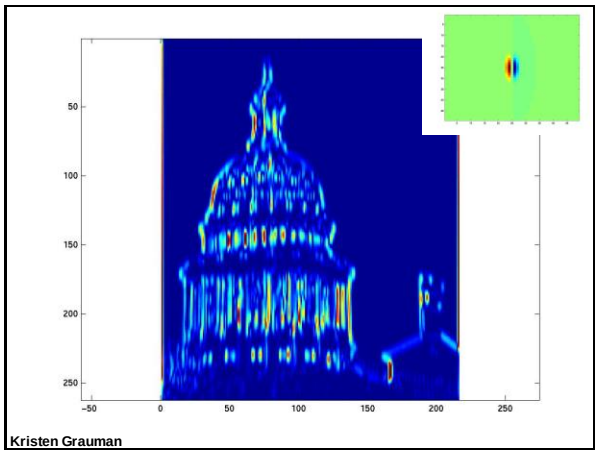

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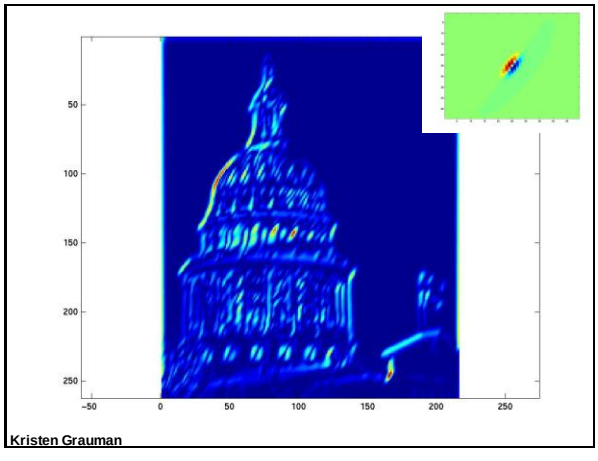

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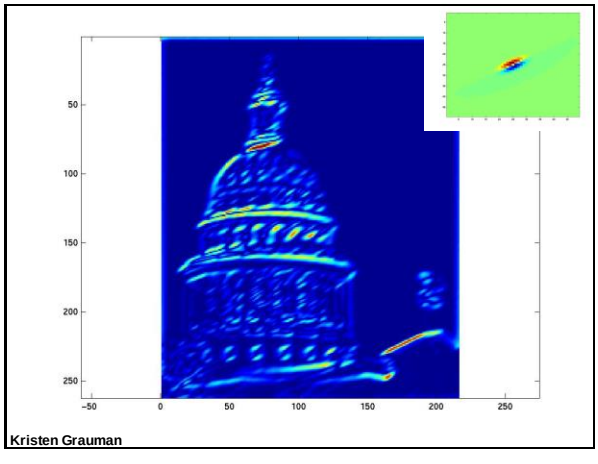

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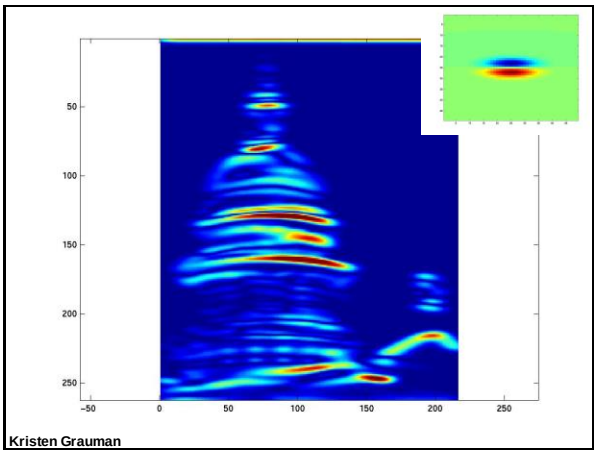

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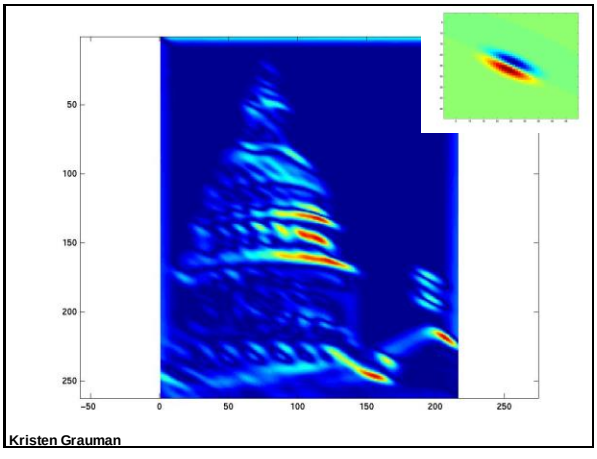

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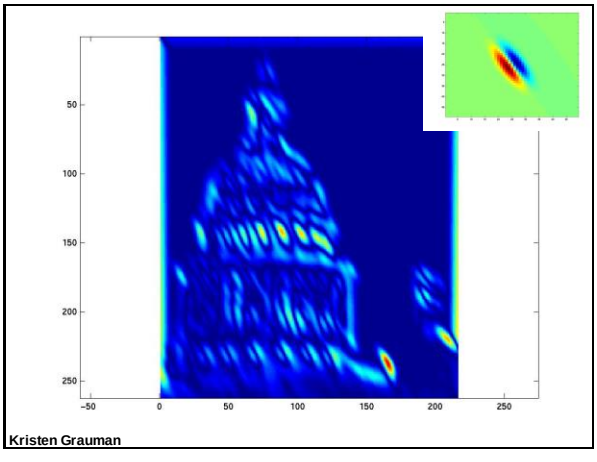

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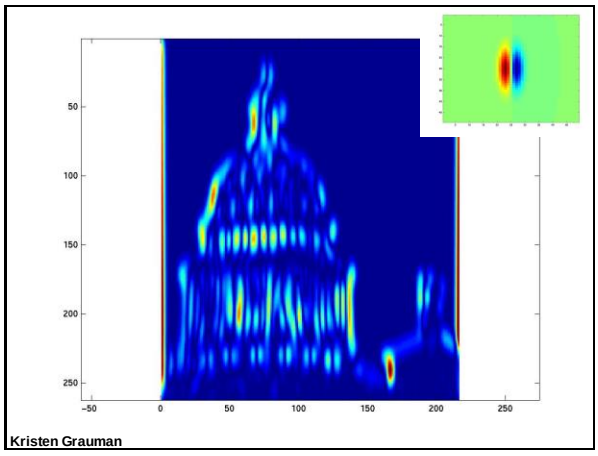

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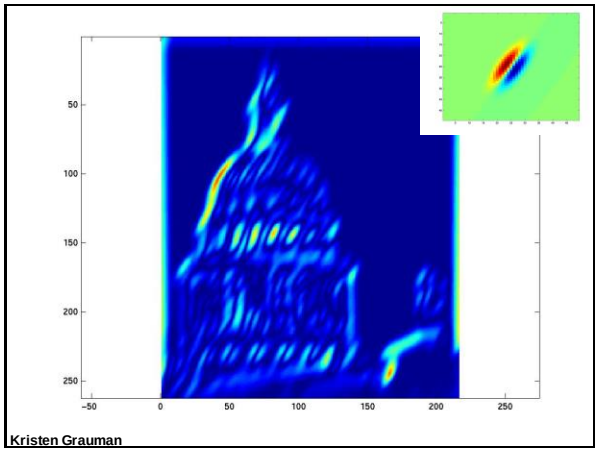

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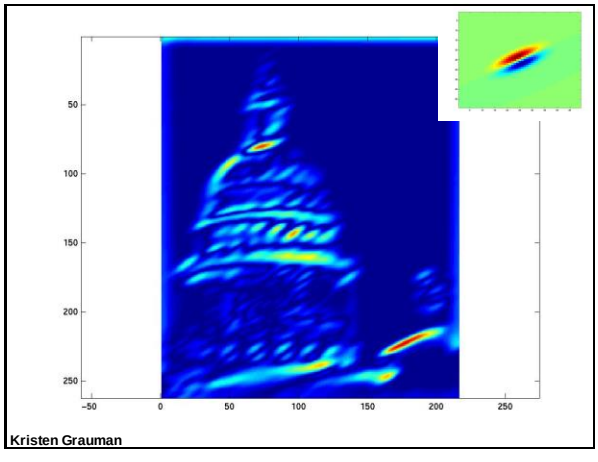

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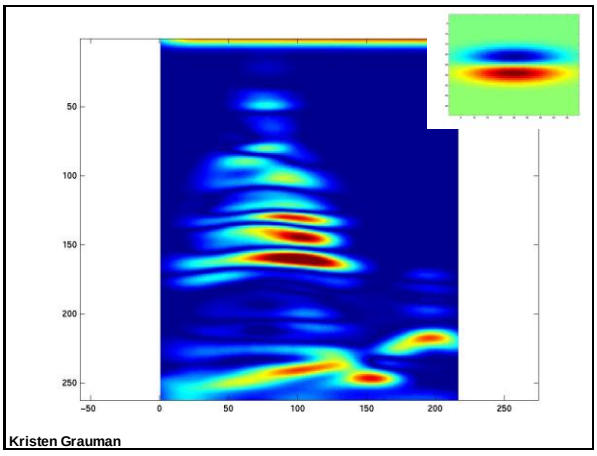

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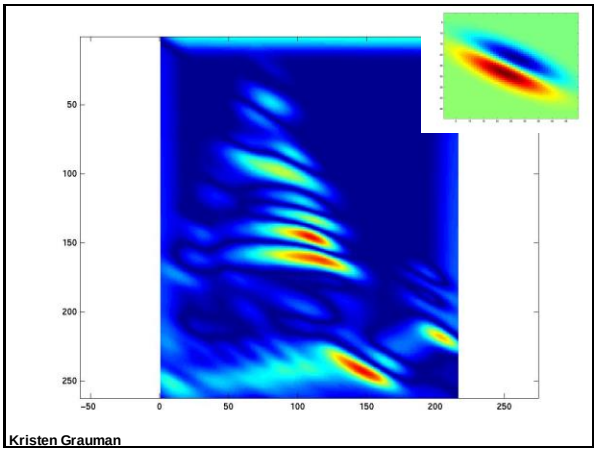

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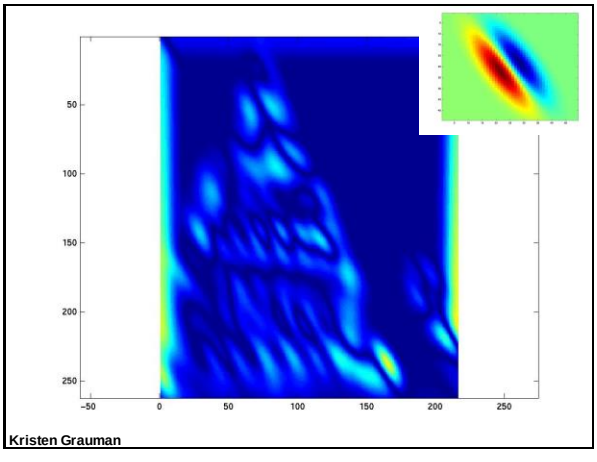

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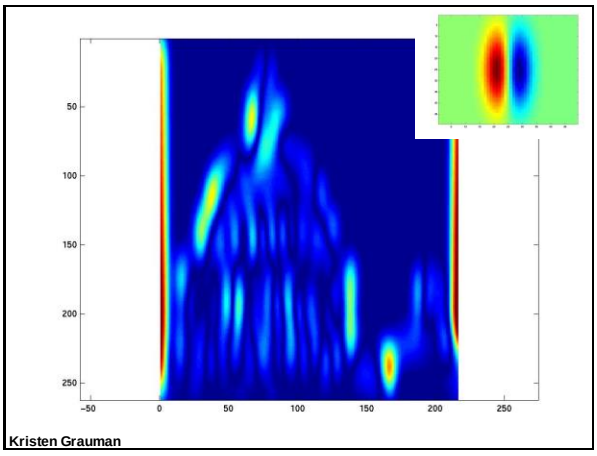

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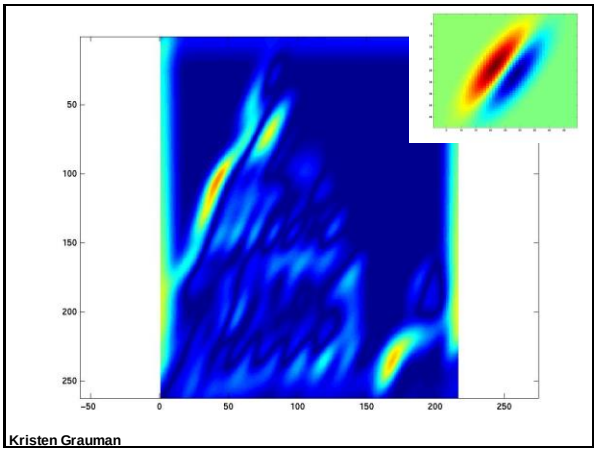

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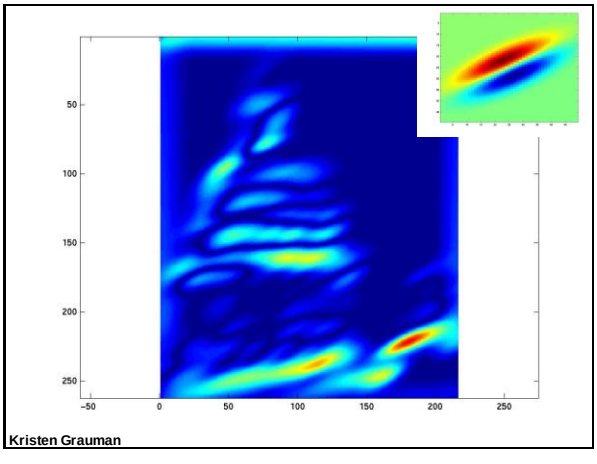

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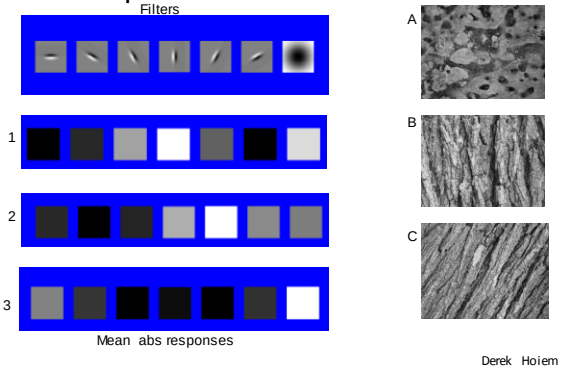
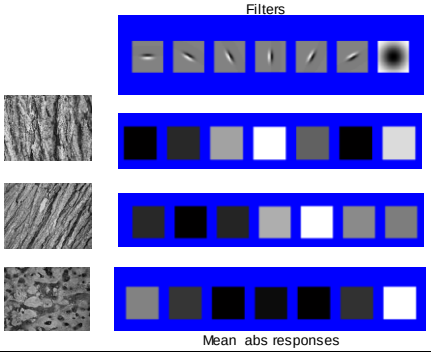
You try: Can you match the texture to the response?

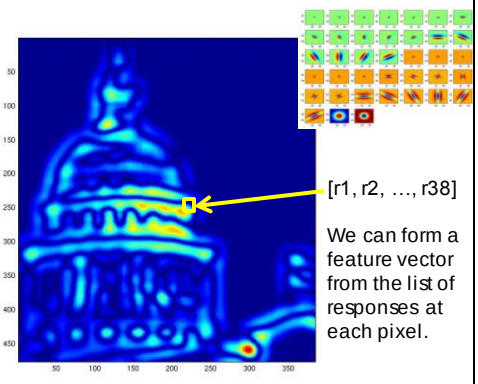


Derek Hoiem

Representing texture by mean abs response



Derek Hoiem



[r1, r2, …, r38]

We can form a feature vector from the list of responses at each pixel.

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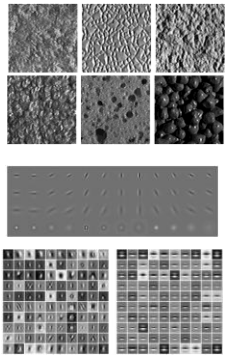
Textons

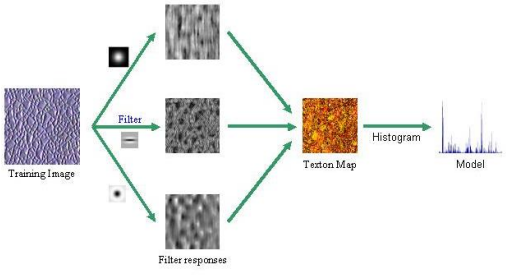
- *Texton* = cluster center of filter responses over collection of images
- Describe textures and materials based on distribution of prototypical texture elements.



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/texclass/with.htr

Materials as textures: example

Varma & Zisserman, 2002

Segmenting aerial imagery by textures

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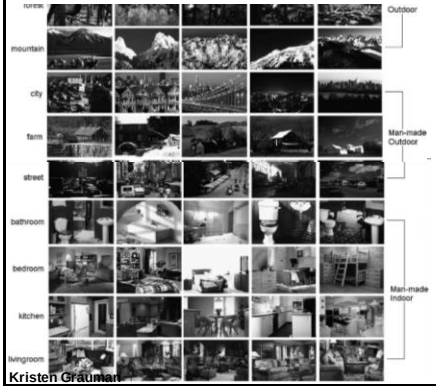
http://www.airventure.org/2004/gallery/images/073104_satellite.jpg

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_alida/GEESE.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_processingtim.php

Common fate

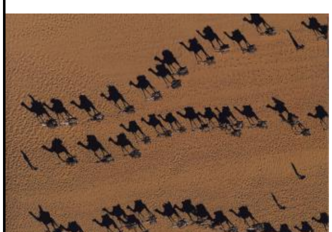
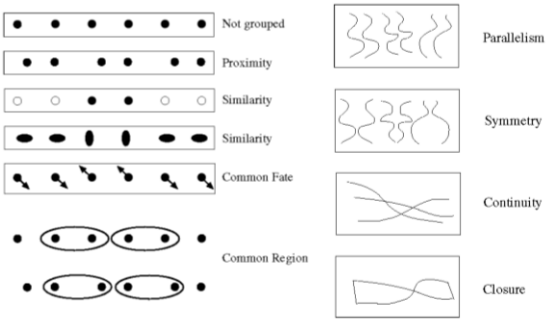


Image credit: Arthus-Bertrand (via F. Durand)

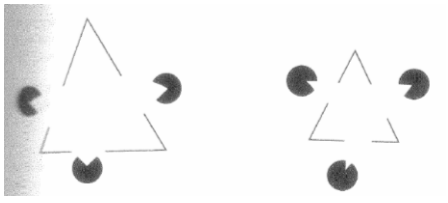
Proximity

http://www.capital.edu/Resources/Images/tatsid6_035.jpg

Some Gestalt factors

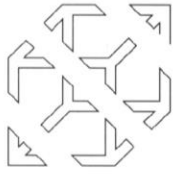


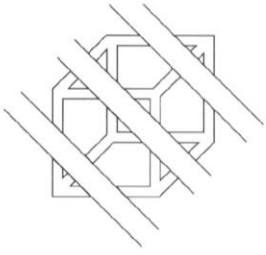
Illusory/subjective contours



Interesting tendency to explain by occlusion

In *Vision*, D. Marr, 1982

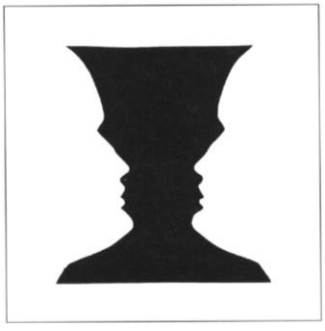


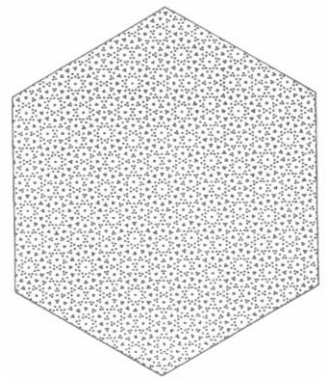


Continuity, explanation by occlusion

D. Forsyth

Figure-ground



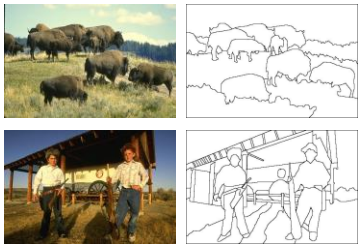


In *Vision*, D. Marr, 1982; from J. L. Marroquin, "Human visual perception of structure", 1976.

The goals of segmentation

Separate image into coherent "objects"

image human segmentation



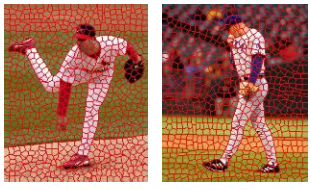
Source: Lana Lazebnik

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

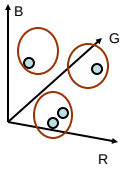
Segmentation as clustering

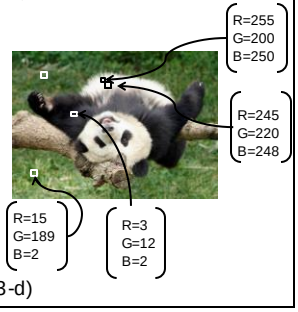
- Families of clustering algorithms
  - K-means
  - Mean shift
  - Graph cuts: normalized cuts, min-cut,…
  - Hierarchical agglomerative

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)

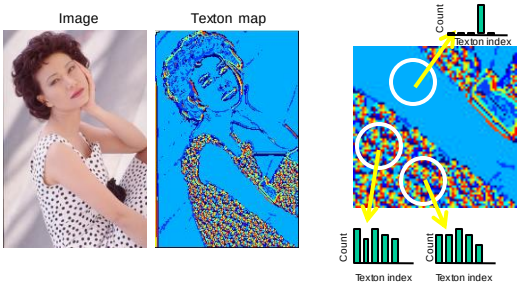
Segmentation as clustering pixels

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



Segmentation with texture features

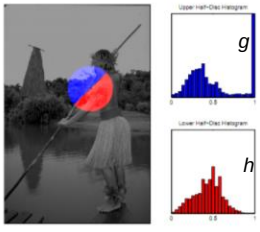
- Find "textons" by **clustering** vectors of filter bank outputs
- Describe texture in a window based on *texton histogram*



Malik, Belongie, Leung and Shi. IJCV 2001.

Adapted from Lana Lazebnik

Representing a texture gradient

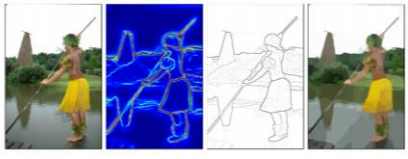


$$\chi^2(g,h) = \frac{1}{2}\sum_i \frac{(g(i)-h(i))^2}{g(i)+h(i)}$$

Figure from Arbelaez et al PAMI 2011

Contour Detection and Hierarchical Image Segmentation

Pablo Arbelaez, Michael Maire, Charless Fowlkes, Jitendra Malik

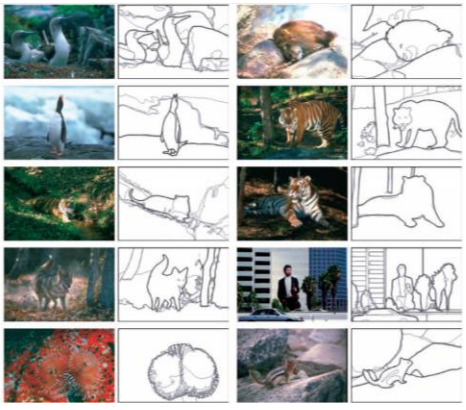


Predict contours based on oriented gradients

Map to closed regions with watershed

Hierarchy of segments as output

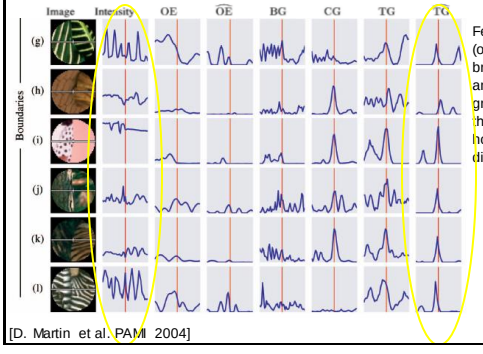
Idea: learn from humans which combination of features is most indicative of a "good" contour



[D. Martin et al. PAMI 2004]

Human-marked segment boundaries

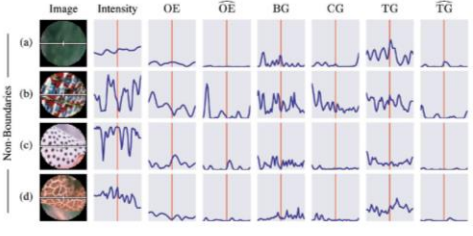
What features are responsible for perceived edges?



Feature profiles (oriented energy, brightness, color, and texture gradients) along the patch's horizontal diameter

[D. Martin et al. PAMI 2004]

What features are responsible for perceived edges?

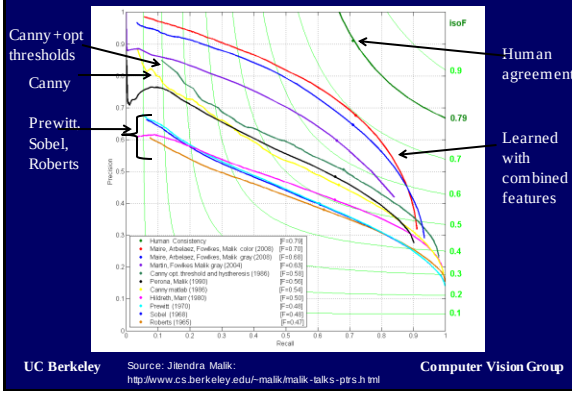


Feature profiles (oriented energy, brightness, color and texture gradients) along the patch's horizontal diameter

[D. Martin et al. PAMI 2004]

[D. Martin et al. PAMI 2004]

Contour Detection

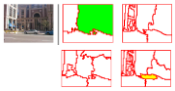


UC Berkeley Source: Jitendra Malik: http://www.cs.berkeley.edu/~malik/malik-talks-ptrs.html Computer Vision Group

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.

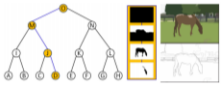


Varying parameters, grouping algorithms

Fig from Russell et al. 2006

Greedy combinations

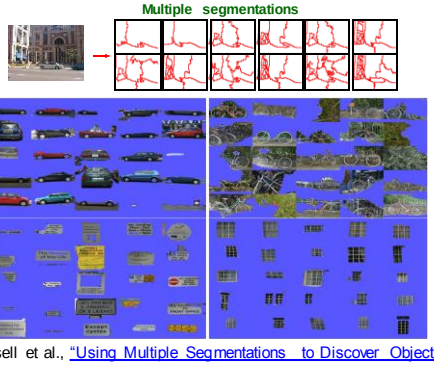
Fig from Hoiem et al. 2005



Hierarchy of segments

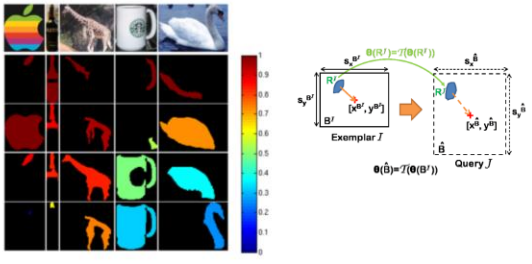
Fig from Mairet al. 2009

Segments as primitives for discovery



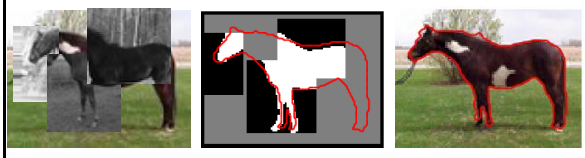
B. Russell et al., "Using Multiple Segmentations to Discover Objects and their Extent in Image Collections," CVPR 2006

Segments as object parts?



Gu et al. Recognition Using Regions, CVPR 2009

Top-down segmentation

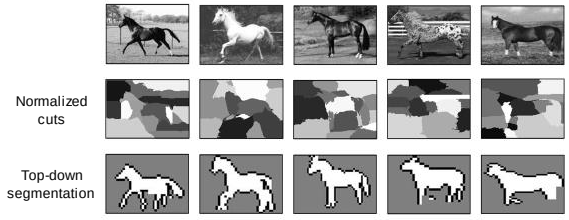


E. Borenstein and S. Ullman, "Class-specific, top-down segmentation," ECCV 2002

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

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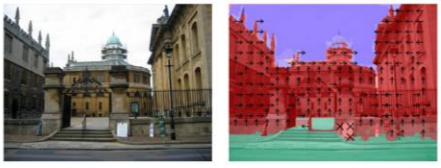
Slide credit: Lana Lazebnik

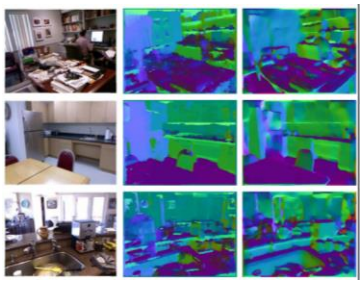
Regions to surfaces

Learn to categorize regions into geometric classes
Combining multiple segmentations



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

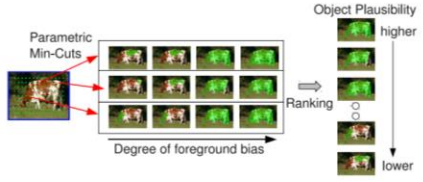
Surface normal estimation



- 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 segmentation

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