Convolution, Edge Detection, Sampling



15-463: Computational Photography Alexei Efros, CMU, Fall 2006

Some slides from Steve Seitz

Fourier spectrum





Fun and games with spectra





Gaussian filtering

A Gaussian kernel gives less weight to pixels further from the center of the window



This kernel is an approximation of a Gaussian function:

Convolution

Remember cross-correlation: $G = H \otimes F$

$$G[i,j] = \sum_{u=-k}^{k} \sum_{v=-k}^{k} H[u,v]F[i+u,j+v]$$

A **convolution** operation is a cross-correlation where the filter is flipped both horizontally and vertically before being applied to the image:

$$G[i,j] = \sum_{u=-k}^{k} \sum_{v=-k}^{k} H[u,v]F[i-u,j-v]$$

It is written:

$$G = H \star F$$

Suppose H is a Gaussian or mean kernel. How does convolution differ from cross-correlation?

The Convolution Theorem

The greatest thing since sliced (banana) bread!

- The Fourier transform of the convolution of two functions is the product of their Fourier transforms F[g * h] = F[g]F[h]
- The inverse Fourier transform of the product of two Fourier transforms is the convolution of the two inverse Fourier transforms

$$F^{-1}[gh] = F^{-1}[g] * F^{-1}[h]$$

• **Convolution** in spatial domain is equivalent to **multiplication** in frequency domain!

Fourier Transform pairs



2D convolution theorem example



Low-pass, Band-pass, High-pass filters

low-pass:



band-pass:



what's high-pass?

Edges in images



Image gradient

The gradient of an image:

$$\nabla f = \left[\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}\right]$$

The gradient points in the direction of most rapid change in intensity

$$\nabla f = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\nabla f = \begin{bmatrix} 0, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\nabla f = \begin{bmatrix} 0, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \end{bmatrix}$$

The gradient direction is given by:

$$\theta = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} / \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right)$$

how does this relate to the direction of the edge?
 The edge strength is given by the gradient magnitude

$$\|\nabla f\| = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}\right)^2}$$

Effects of noise

Consider a single row or column of the image

• Plotting intensity as a function of position gives a signal



Where is the edge?

Solution: smooth first



Where is the edge? Look for peaks in $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(h \star f)$

Derivative theorem of convolution

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(h \star f) = (\frac{\partial}{\partial x}h) \star f$$

This saves us one operation:



Laplacian of Gaussian



Where is the edge?

Zero-crossings of bottom graph

2D edge detection filters



 ∇^2 is the **Laplacian** operator:

$$\nabla^2 f = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2}$$

```
g = fspecial('gaussian',15,2);
imagesc(g)
surfl(q)
gclown = conv2(clown,g,'same');
imagesc(conv2(clown,[-1 1],'same'));
imagesc(conv2(gclown,[-1 1],'same'));
dx = conv2(g, [-1 \ 1], 'same');
imagesc(conv2(clown,dx,'same'));
lg = fspecial('log', 15, 2);
lclown = conv2(clown,lg,'same');
imagesc(lclown)
imagesc(clown + .2*lclown)
```

Image Scaling

This image is too big to fit on the screen. How can we reduce it?

How to generate a halfsized version?



Image sub-sampling







1/8

1/4

Throw away every other row and column to create a 1/2 size image - called *image sub-sampling*

Image sub-sampling



1/2 1/4 (2x zoom)

1/8 (4x zoom)

Why does this look so crufty?

Even worse for synthetic images



Really bad in video

Imagine a spoked wheel moving to the right (rotating clockwise). Mark wheel with dot so we can see what's happening.

If camera shutter is only open for a fraction of a frame time (frame time = 1/30 sec. for video, 1/24 sec. for film):



Without dot, wheel appears to be rotating slowly backwards! (counterclockwise)

Alias: n., an assumed name



Picket fence receding Into the distance will produce aliasing...



Input signal:

Aliasing

- occurs when your sampling rate is not high enough to capture the amount of detail in your image
- Can give you the wrong signal/image—an alias

Where can it happen in images?

- During image synthesis:
 - **sampling** continous singal into discrete signal
 - e.g. ray tracing, line drawing, function plotting, etc.
- During image processing:
 - **resampling** discrete signal at a different rate
 - e.g. Image warping, zooming in, zooming out, etc.

To do sampling right, need to understand the structure of your signal/image

Enter Monsieur Fourier...

Fourier transform pairs



Sampling



Reconstruction



What happens when the sampling rate is too low?



Nyquist Rate

What's the minimum Sampling Rate 1/w to get rid of overlaps?



Sampling Rate ≥ 2 * max frequency in the image
 this is known as the Nyquist Rate

Antialiasing

What can be done?

Sampling rate \geq 2 * max frequency in the image

- 1. Raise sampling rate by oversampling
 - Sample at k times the resolution
 - continuous signal: easy
 - discrete signal: need to interpolate
- 2. Lower the max frequency by prefiltering
 - Smooth the signal enough
 - Works on discrete signals
- 3. Improve sampling quality with better sampling
 - Nyquist is best case!
 - Stratified sampling (jittering)
 - Importance sampling (salaries in Seattle)
 - Relies on domain knowledge



jittered, 9 samples per pixel

Sampling



Gaussian pre-filtering







G 1/8

G 1/4

Gaussian 1/2

Solution: filter the image, then subsample

Subsampling with Gaussian pre-filtering



G 1/8

Gaussian 1/2 G 1/4 Solution: filter the image, *then* subsample

Compare with...



1/2

1/4 (2x zoom)

1/8 (4x zoom)