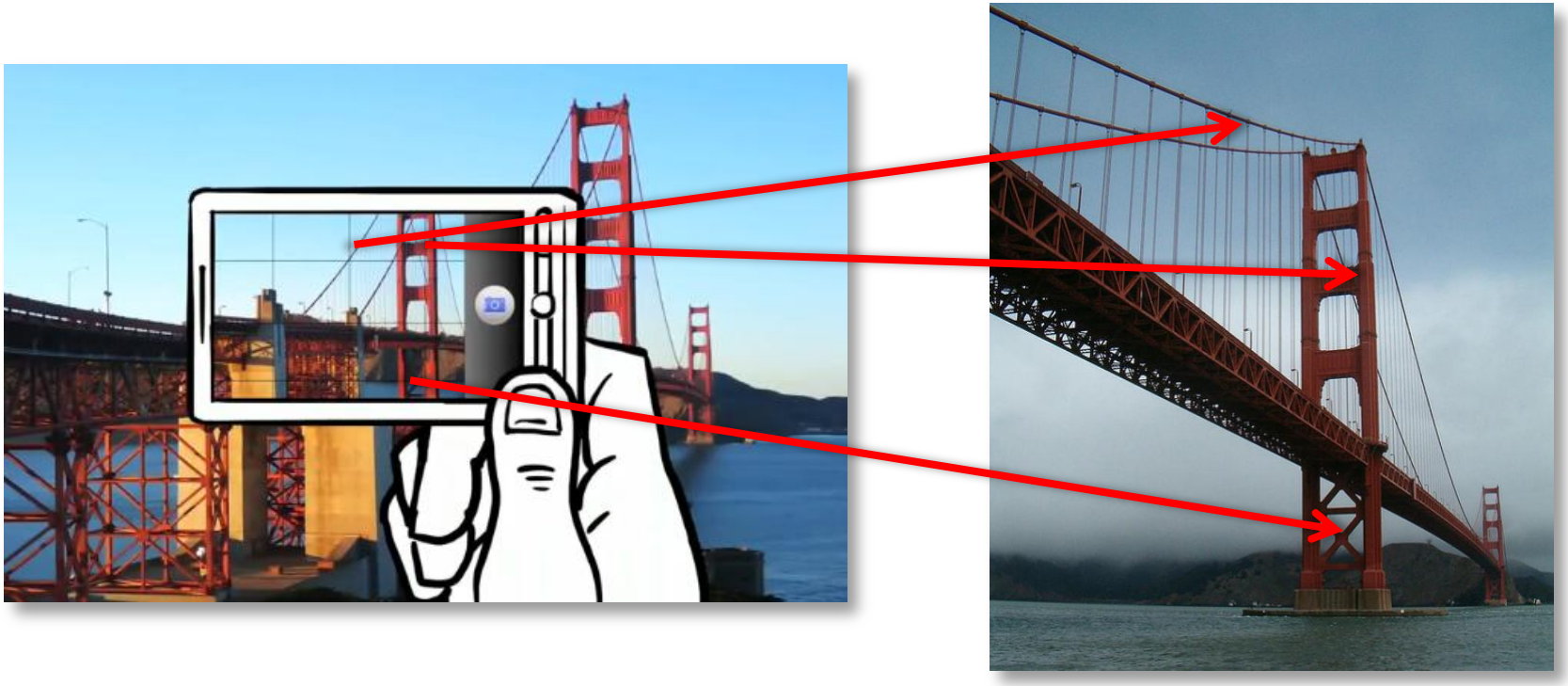
CS4670: Computer Vision

Noah Snavely

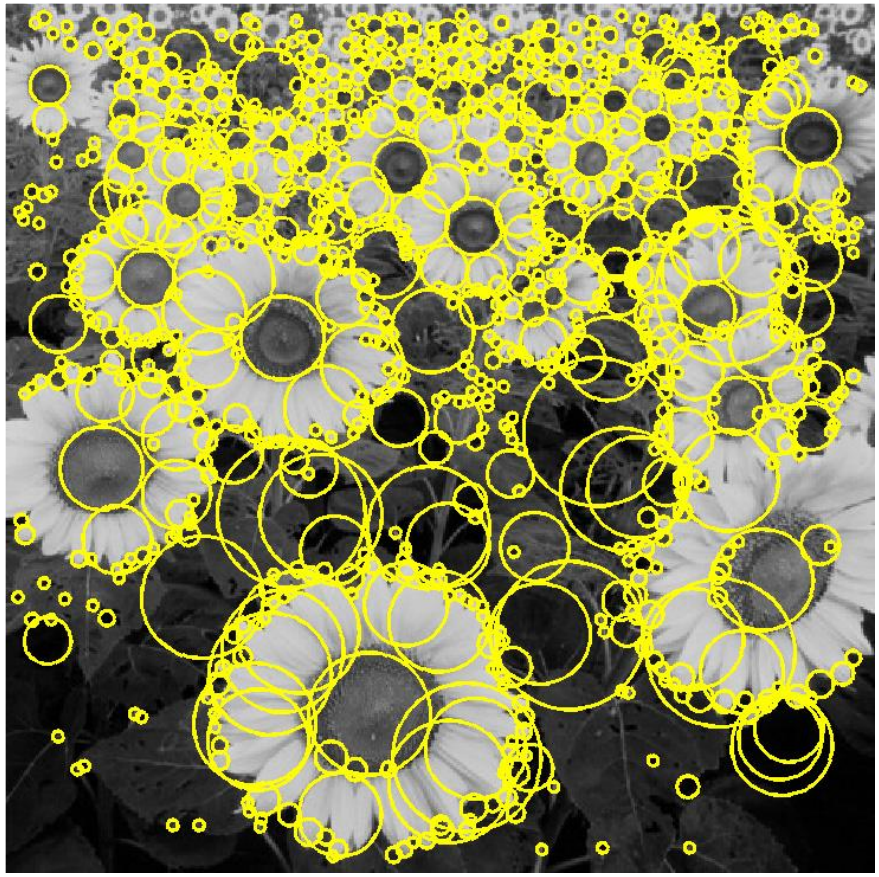
Lecture 6: Feature matching



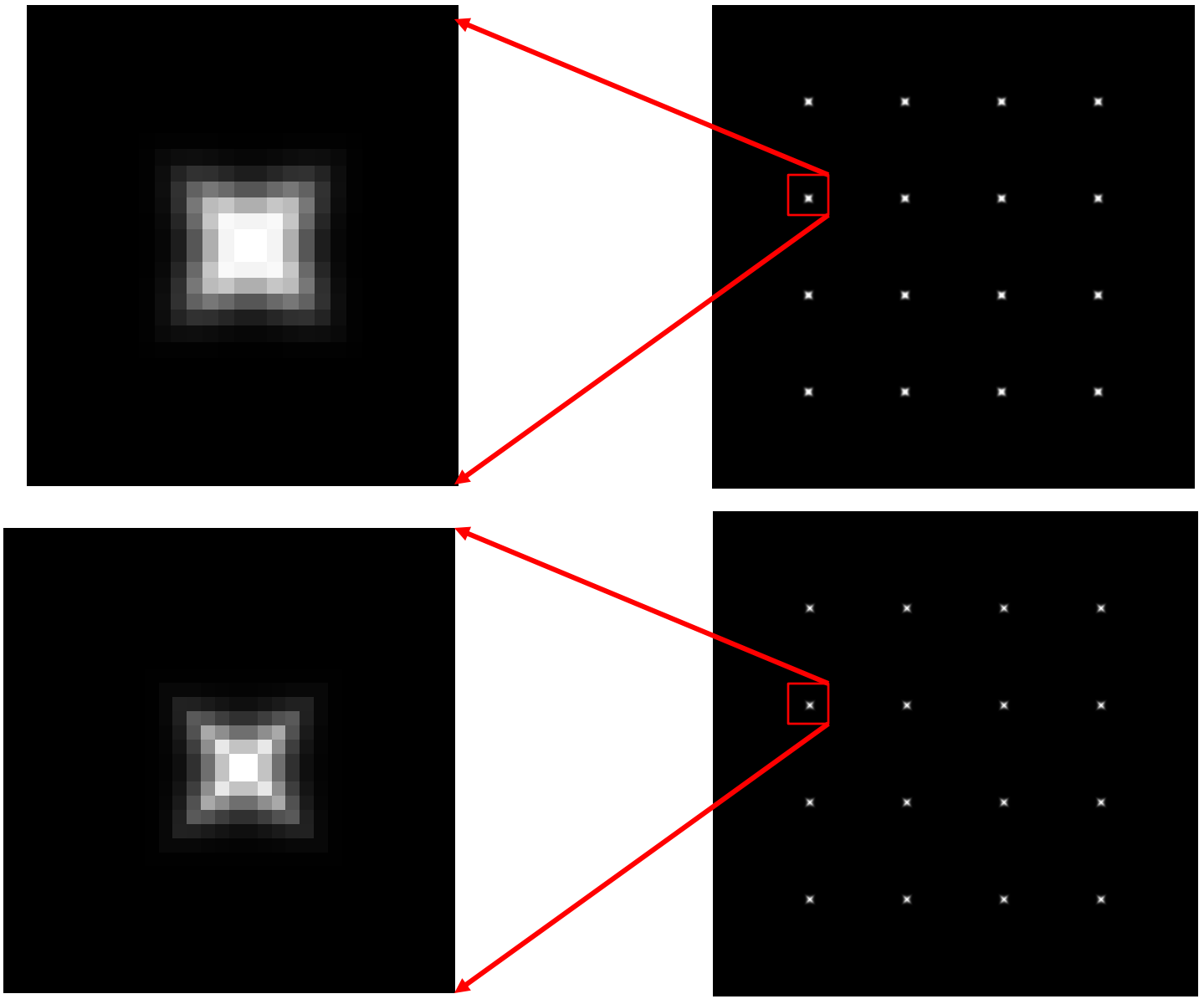
Reading

- Szeliski: 4.1

Feature extraction: Corners and blobs



The Harris operator



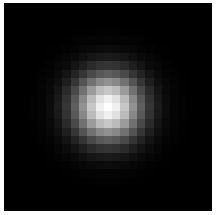
Weighting the derivatives

- In practice, using a simple window *W* doesn't work too well

$$H = \sum_{(x,y)\in W} \begin{bmatrix} I_x^2 & I_x I_y \\ I_x I_y & I_y^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Instead, we'll *weight* each derivative value based on its distance from the center pixel

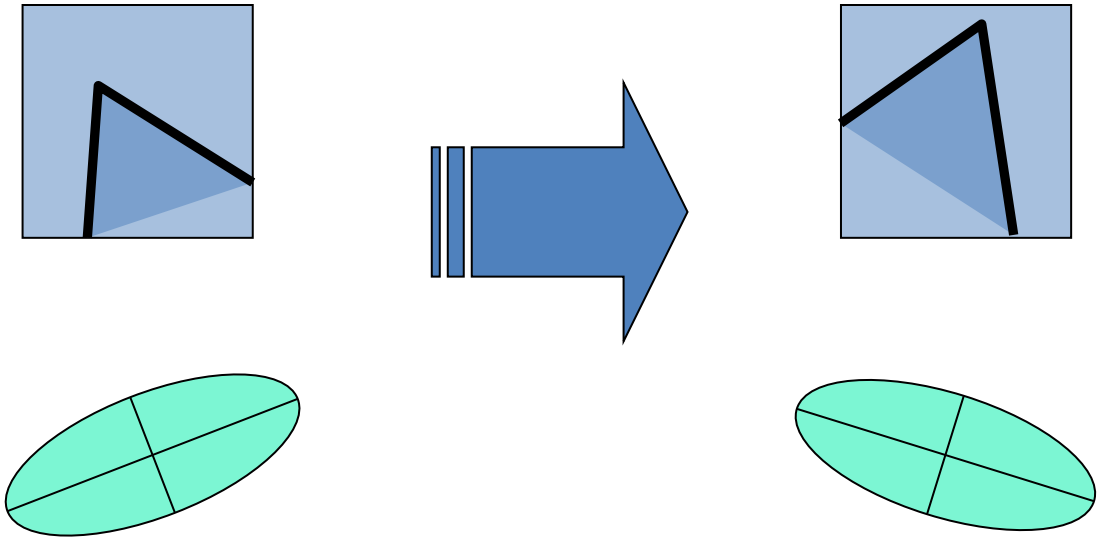
$$H = \sum_{(x,y)\in W} w_{x,y} \begin{bmatrix} I_x^2 & I_x I_y \\ I_x I_y & I_y^2 \end{bmatrix}$$



$w_{x,y}$

Harris Detector: Invariance Properties

- Rotation



Ellipse rotates but its shape (i.e. eigenvalues) remains the same

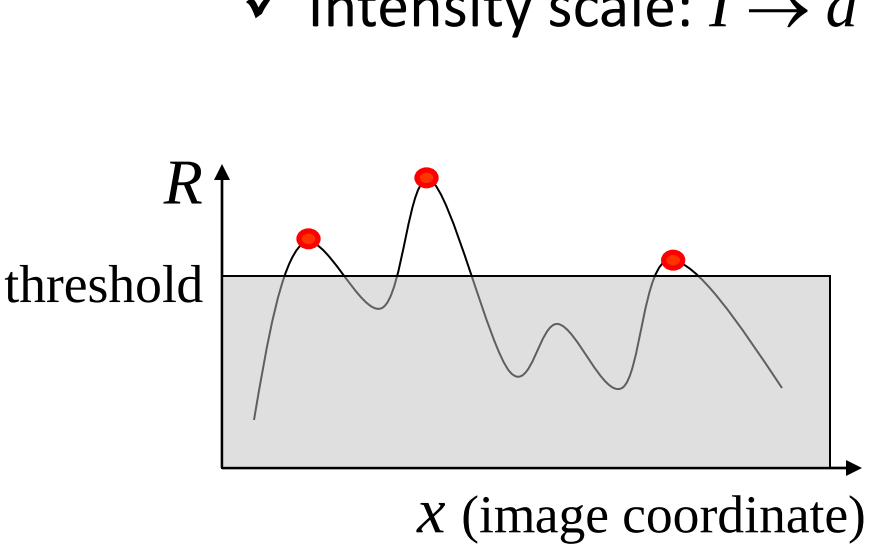
Corner response is invariant to image rotation

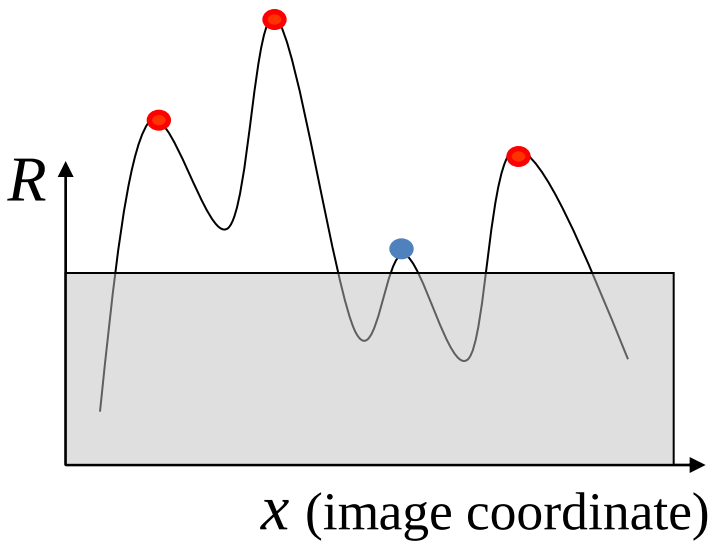
Harris Detector: Invariance Properties

- Affine intensity change: $I \rightarrow aI + b$

  ✓ Only derivatives are used =>
  invariance to intensity shift $I \rightarrow I + b$

  ✓ Intensity scale: $I \rightarrow a\,I$

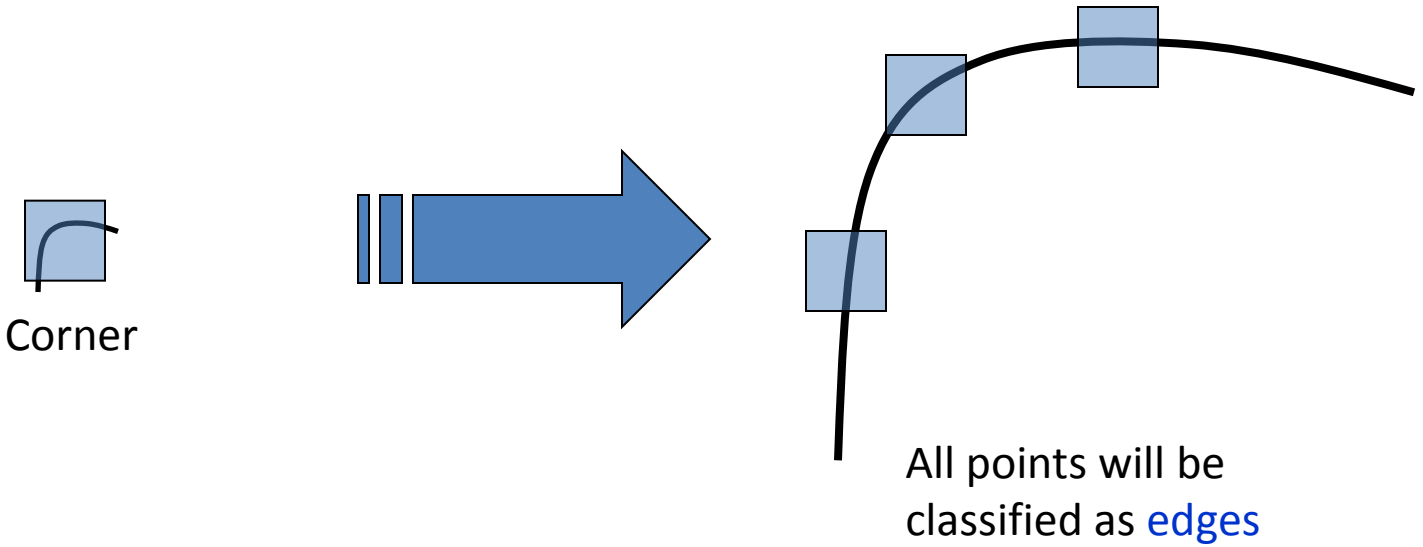




Partially invariant to affine intensity change

Harris Detector: Invariance Properties

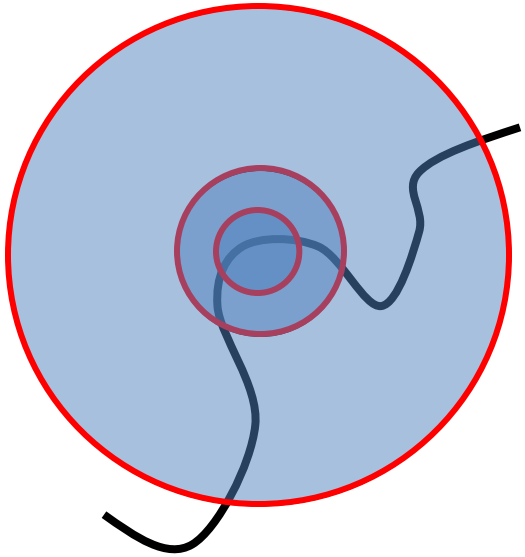
- Scaling



Not invariant to scaling

Scale invariant detection

Suppose you're looking for corners

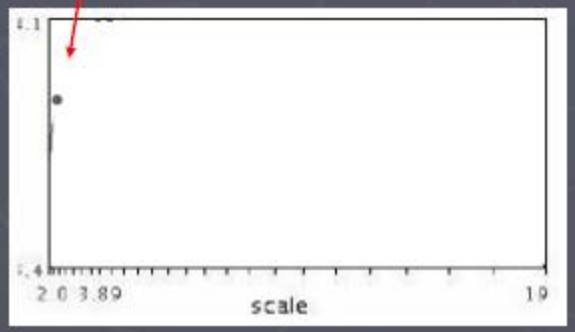


Key idea: find scale that gives local maximum of *f*

- in both position and scale
- One definition of *f*: the Harris operator

Automatic scale selection

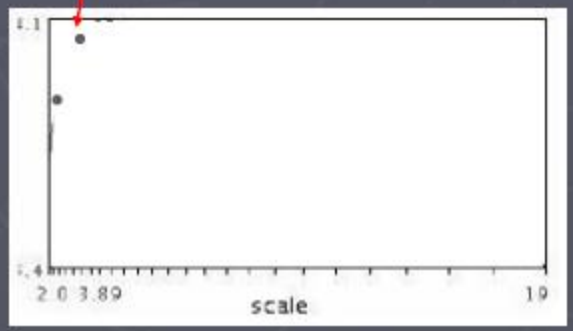
Lindeberg et al., 1996



$$f(I_{i_1 \ldots i_m}(x,\sigma))$$

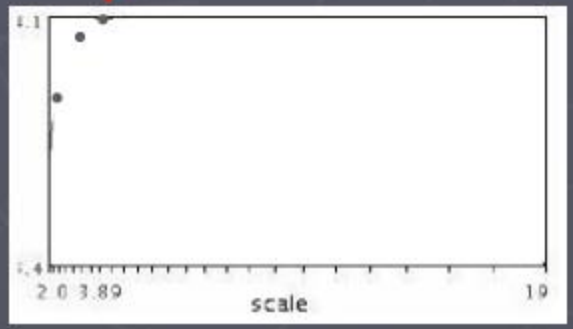
Slide from Tinne Tuytelaars

Automatic scale selection



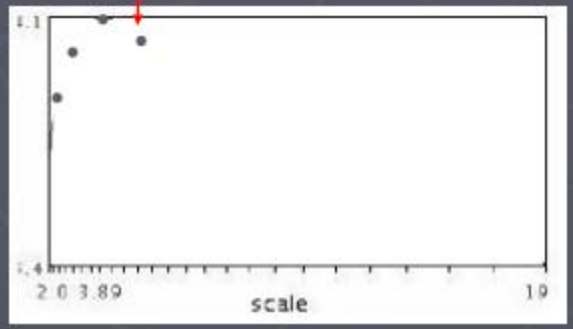
$$f(I_{i_1 \ldots i_m}(x,\sigma))$$

Automatic scale selection



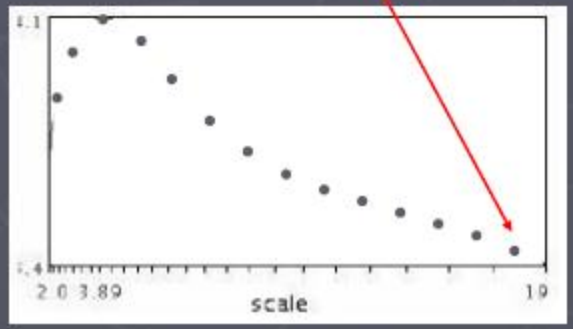
$$f(I_{i_1 \ldots i_m}(x,\sigma))$$

Automatic scale selection



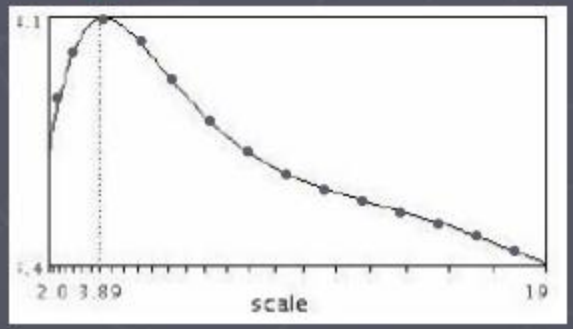
$$f(I_{i_1 \ldots i_m}(x,\sigma))$$

Automatic scale selection



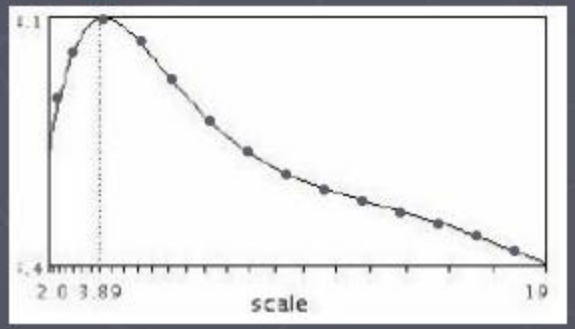
$$f(I_{i_1 \ldots i_m}(x,\sigma))$$

Automatic scale selection

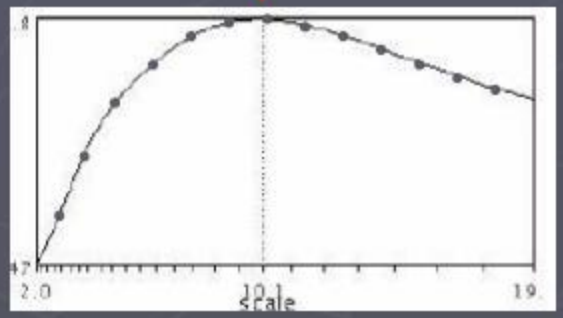


$$f(I_{i_1 \ldots i_m}(x,\sigma))$$

Automatic scale selection



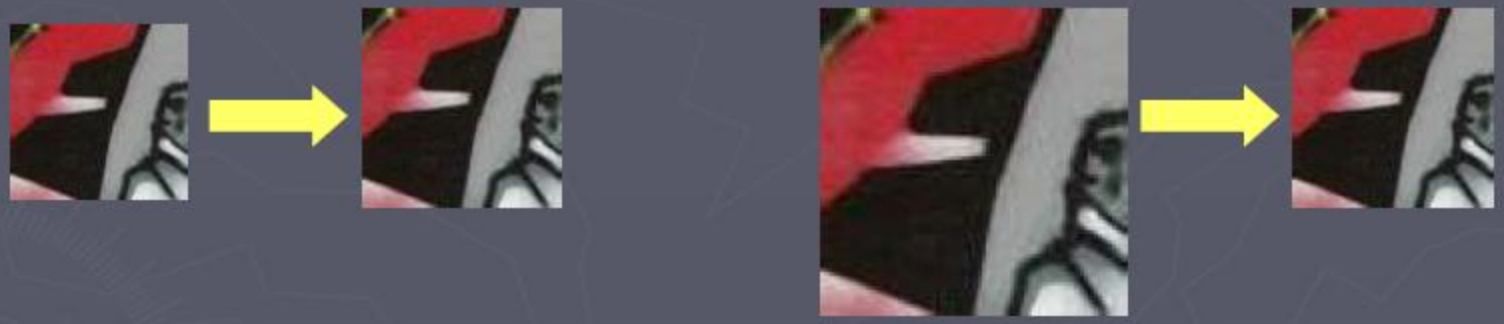
$f(I_{i_1 \ldots i_m}(x,\sigma))$



$f(I_{i_1 \ldots i_m}(x',\sigma'))$

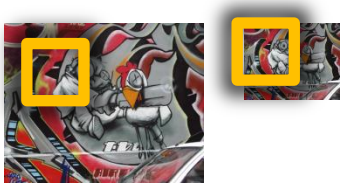
Automatic scale selection

Normalize: rescale to fixed size



Implementation

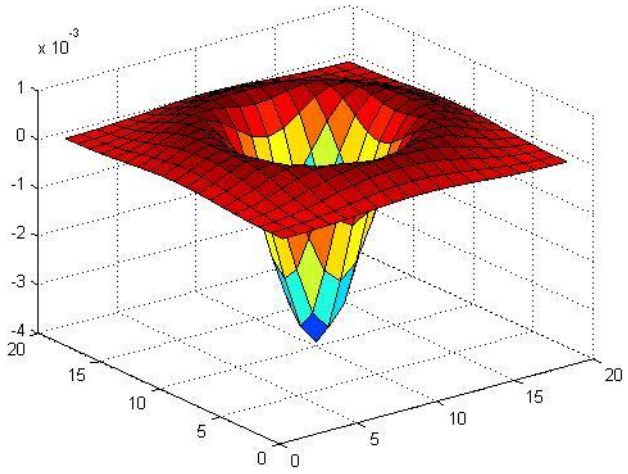
- Instead of computing *f* for larger and larger windows, we can implement using a fixed window size with a Gaussian pyramid

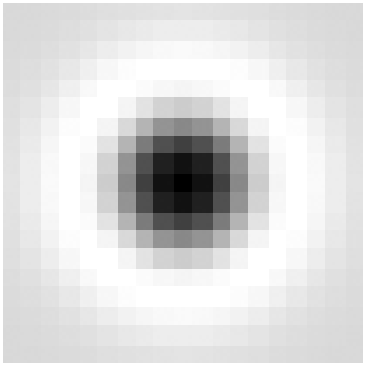


(sometimes need to create in-between levels, e.g. a ¾-size image)

Another common definition of *f*

- The *Laplacian of Gaussian* (*LoG*)



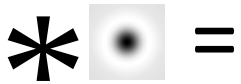


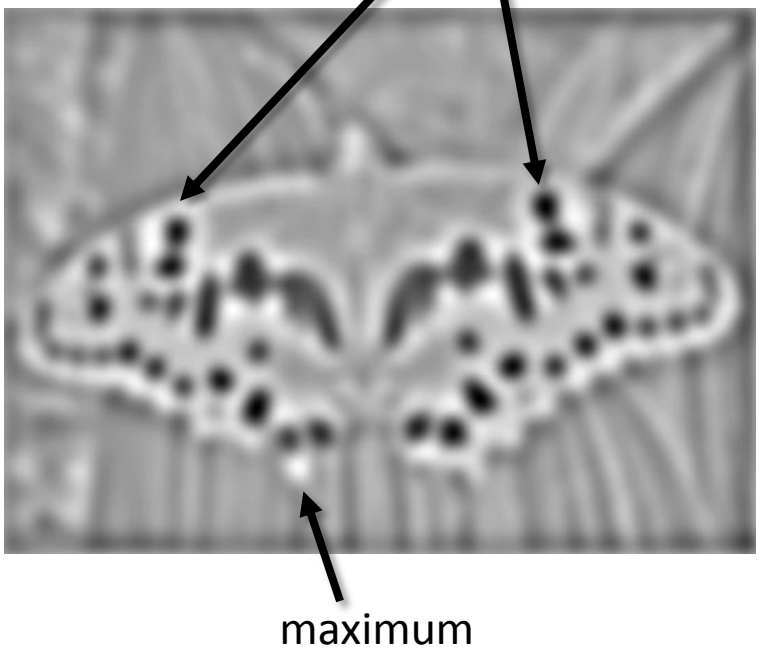
$$\nabla^2 g = \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial y^2}$$

(very similar to a Difference of Gaussians (DoG) – i.e. a Gaussian minus a slightly smaller Gaussian)

Laplacian of Gaussian

- “Blob” detector

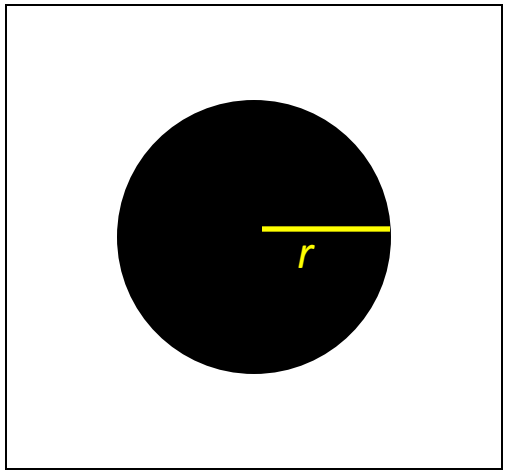




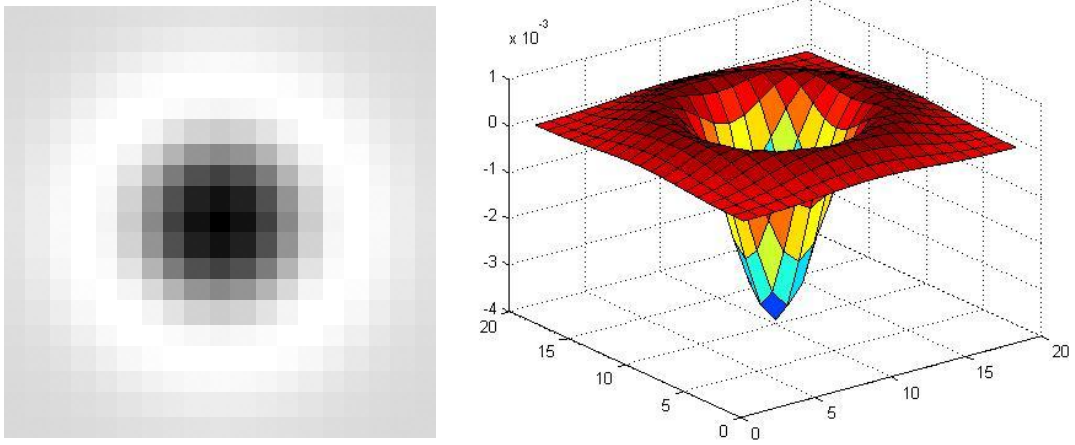
- Find maxima *and minima* of LoG operator in space and scale

Scale selection

- At what scale does the Laplacian achieve a maximum response for a binary circle of radius r?



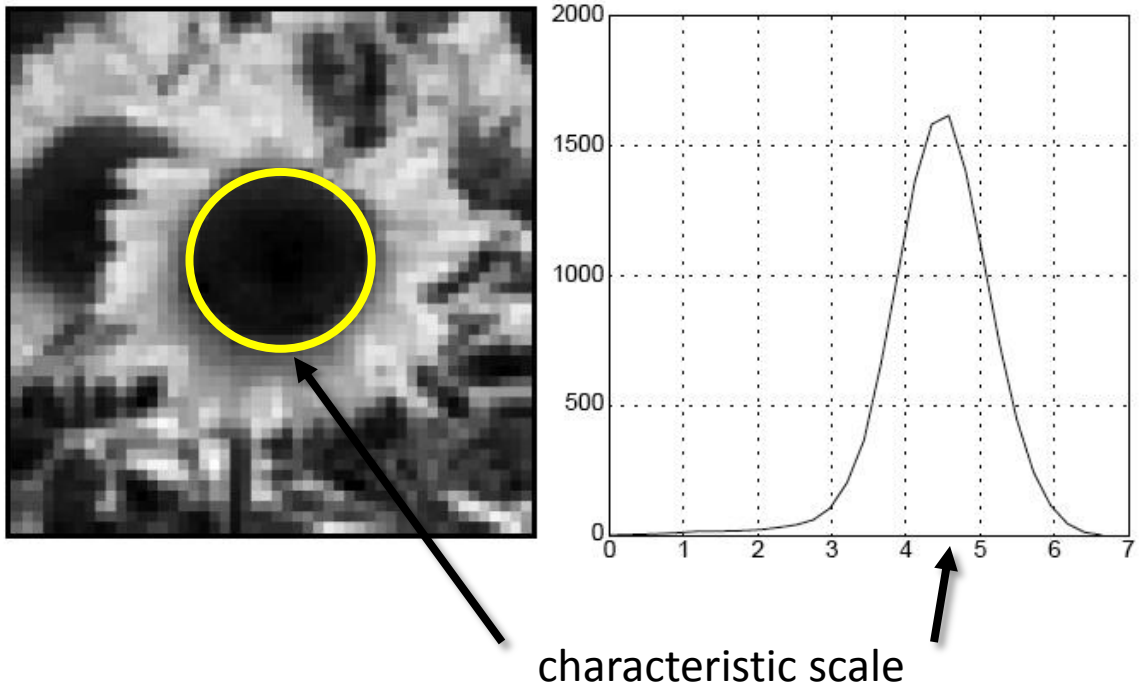
image



Laplacian

Characteristic scale

- We define the characteristic scale as the scale that produces peak of Laplacian response



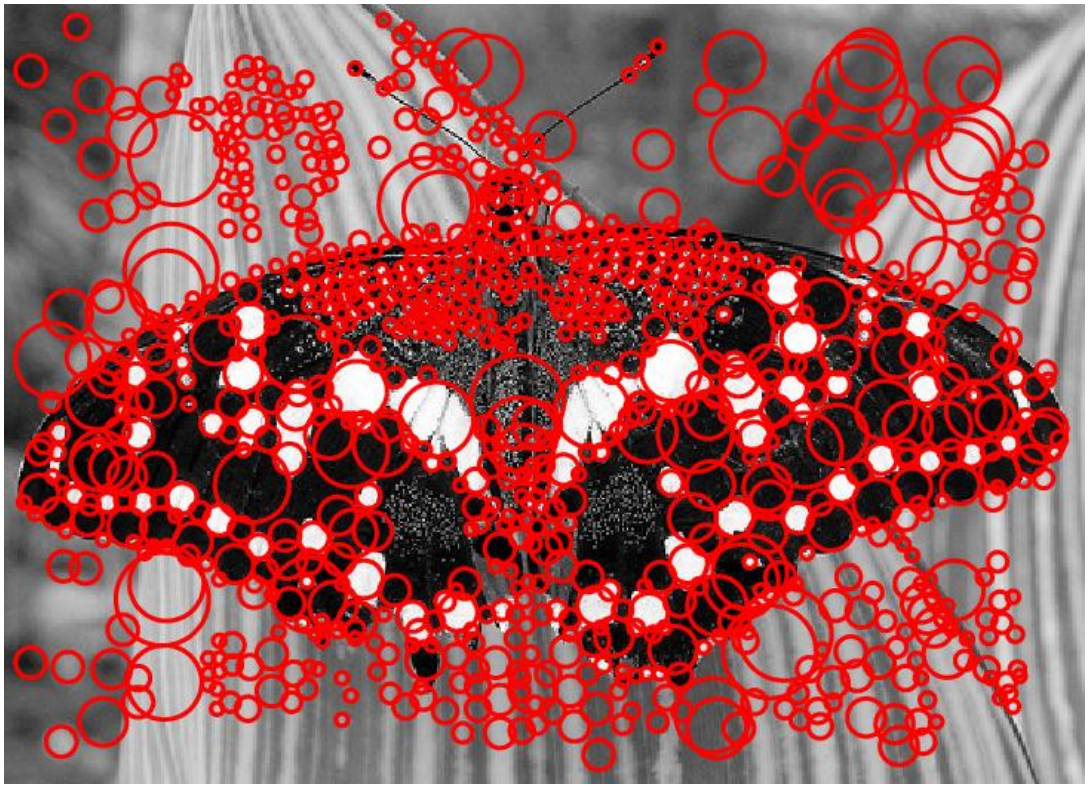
T. Lindeberg (1998). "Feature detection with automatic scale selection." *International Journal of Computer Vision* **30** (2): pp 77--116.

Scale-space blob detector: Example

Scale-space blob detector: Example

sigma = 11.9912

Scale-space blob detector: Example

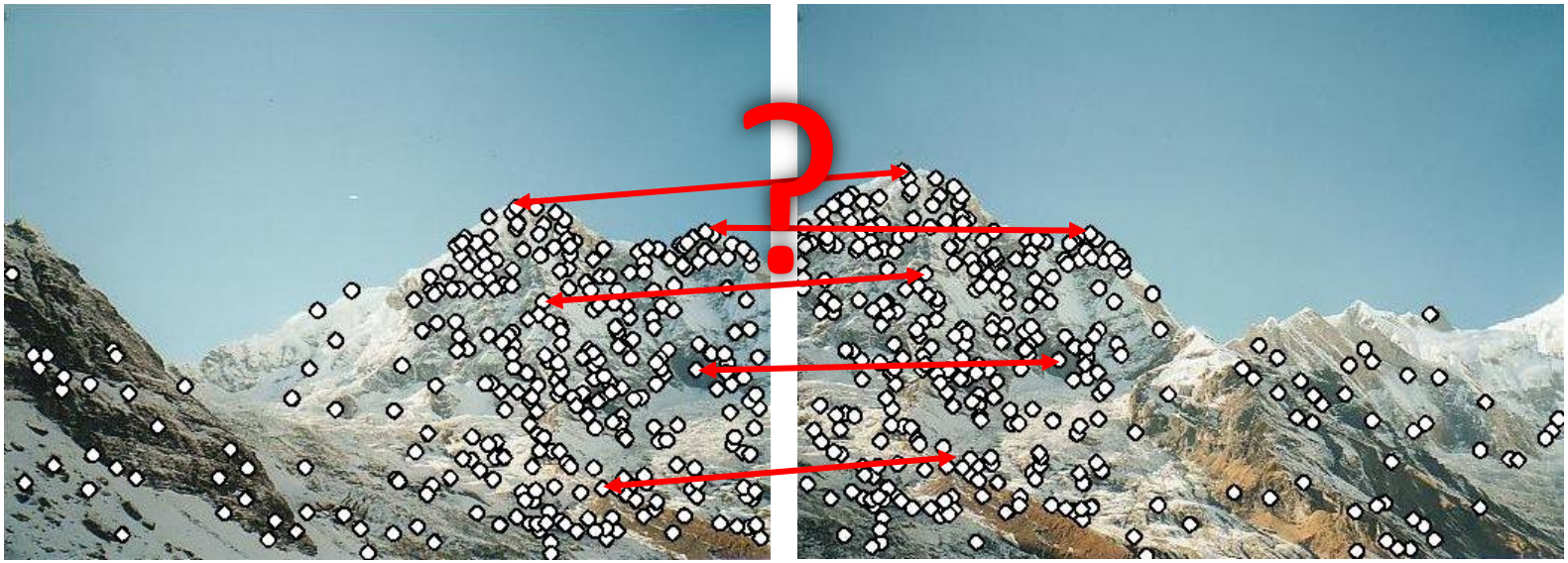


Questions?

Feature descriptors

We know how to detect good points

Next question: **How to match them?**

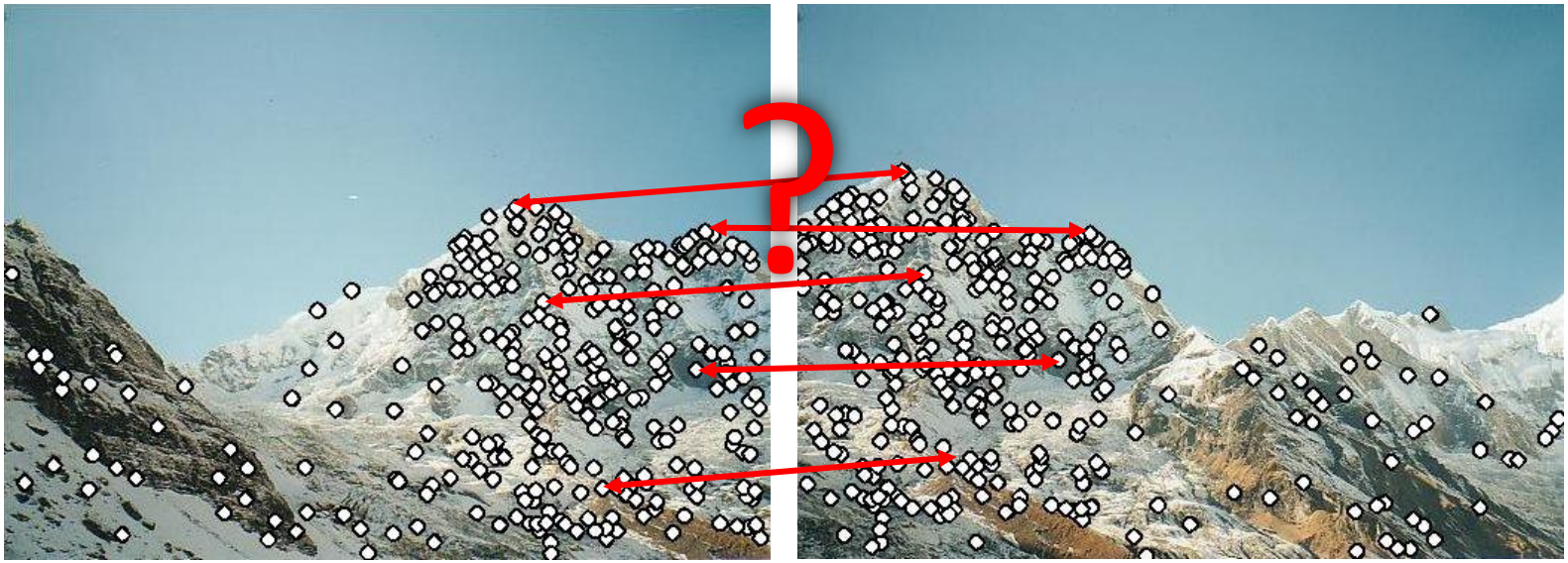


Answer: Come up with a *descriptor* for each point, find similar descriptors between the two images

Feature descriptors

We know how to detect good points

Next question: **How to match them?**



Lots of possibilities (this is a popular research area)

- Simple option: match square windows around the point
- State of the art approach: SIFT
  - David Lowe, UBC http://www.cs.ubc.ca/~lowe/keypoints/

Invariance vs. discriminability

- Invariance:
  - Descriptor shouldn’t change even if image is transformed
- Discriminability:
  - Descriptor should be highly unique for each point

Invariance

- Most feature descriptors are designed to be invariant to
  - Translation, 2D rotation, scale
- They can usually also handle
  - Limited 3D rotations (SIFT works up to about 60 degrees)
  - Limited affine transformations (some are fully affine invariant)
  - Limited illumination/contrast changes

How to achieve invariance

Need both of the following:

1. Make sure your detector is invariant
2. Design an invariant feature descriptor
   - Simplest descriptor: a single 0
     - What's this invariant to?
   - Next simplest descriptor: a square window of pixels
     - What's this invariant to?
   - Let's look at some better approaches…