

Images & Image Filtering

Abe Davis,

Jan 27, 2020

CS5670: Introduction to Computer Vision

Today's Lecture

- What are images?
 - How do they form?
 - How can we represent them mathematically?
- What is image filtering?
 - Why do we care?
 - How do we perform it mathematically?

Today's Lecture

- What are images?
 - How do they function?
 - How can we read them?
- What is image theory?
 - Why do we care?
 - How do we use it?

Side Note:

- Standing in for Noah today
- Slides are a mix of his slides from previous years and slides I made over the weekend
- If anything seems out of place, please don't hesitate to ask about it

Reading

- Szeliski, Chapter 3.1-3.2

Announcements

- You should have been invited to Piazza
- We will add students to CMS this week

Announcements

- Project 1 (Hybrid Images) will be released tomorrow
 - This project will be done solo
 - Other projects planned to be done in groups of 2
- More on what hybrid images are toward the end of this lecture

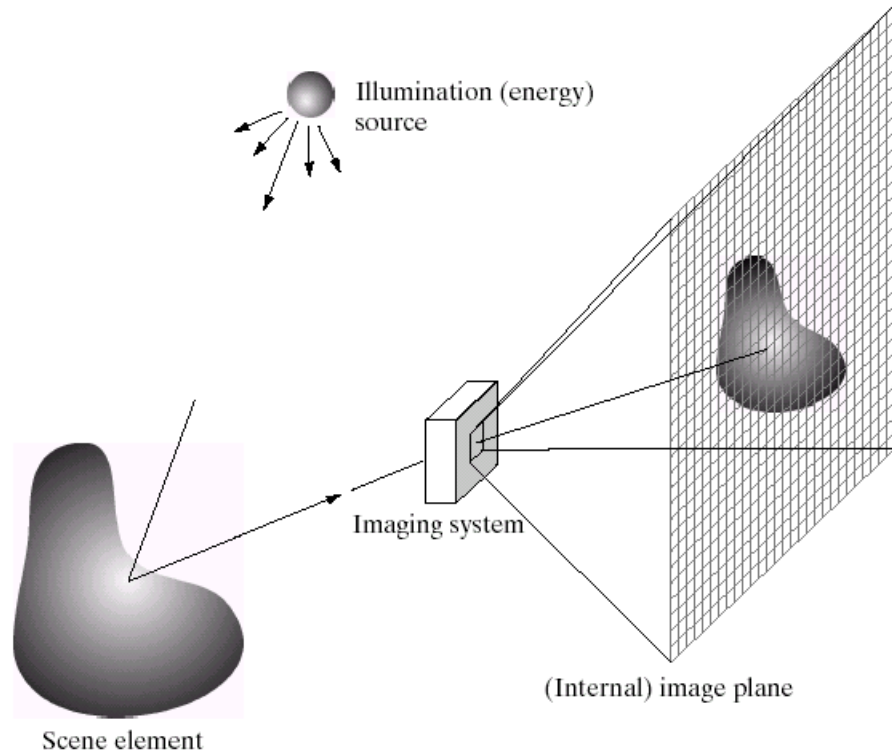
Announcements

- We provide a walkthrough for setting up a python environment for the project
- As a backup, we also have a course virtual machine (VM) for you to run the assignments
- The assignment also works on lab machines

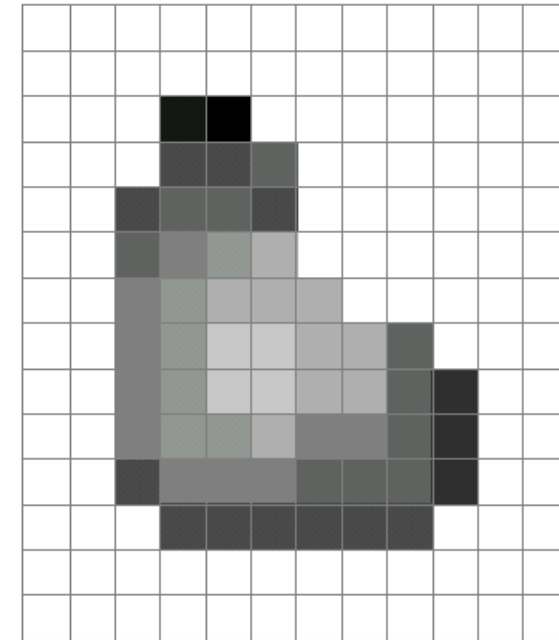
What is an image?



What is an image?

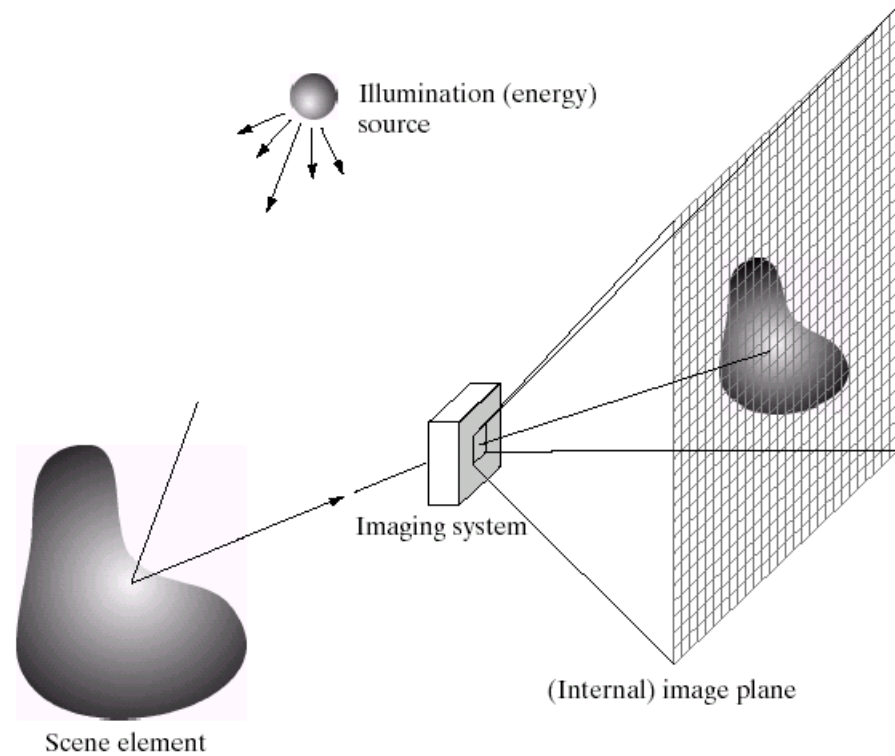


What do they represent?

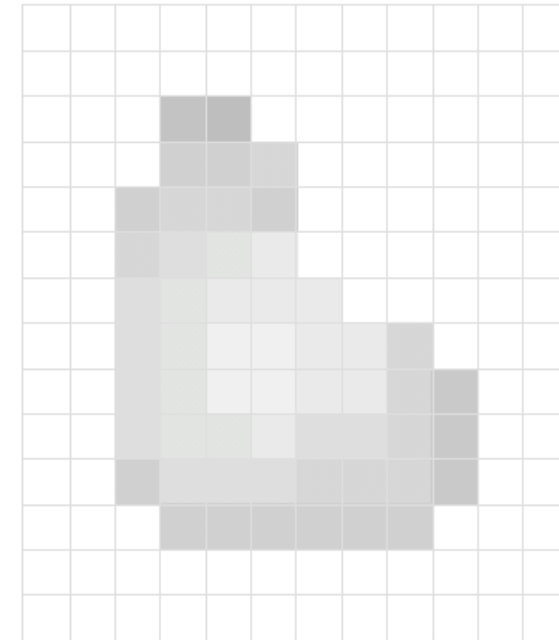


How do they represent it?

What is an image?

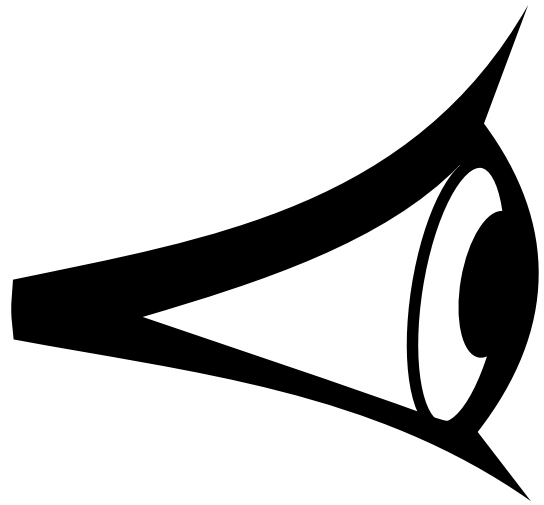


What do they represent?



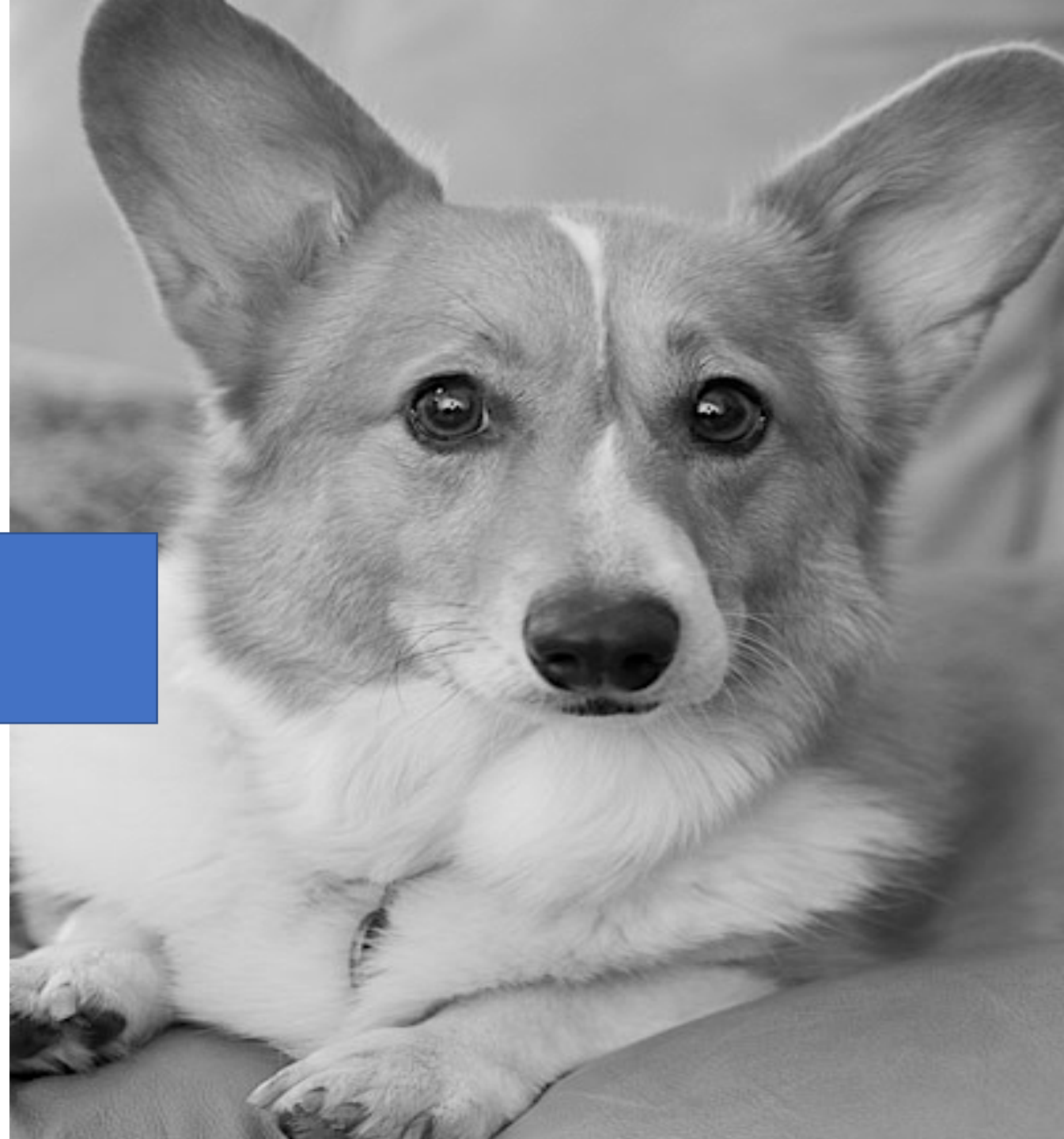
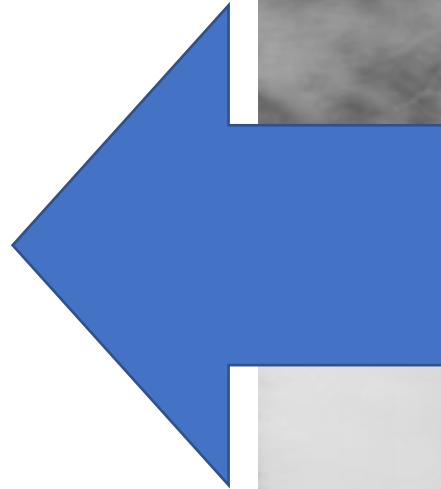
How do they represent it?

How are Images Formed?

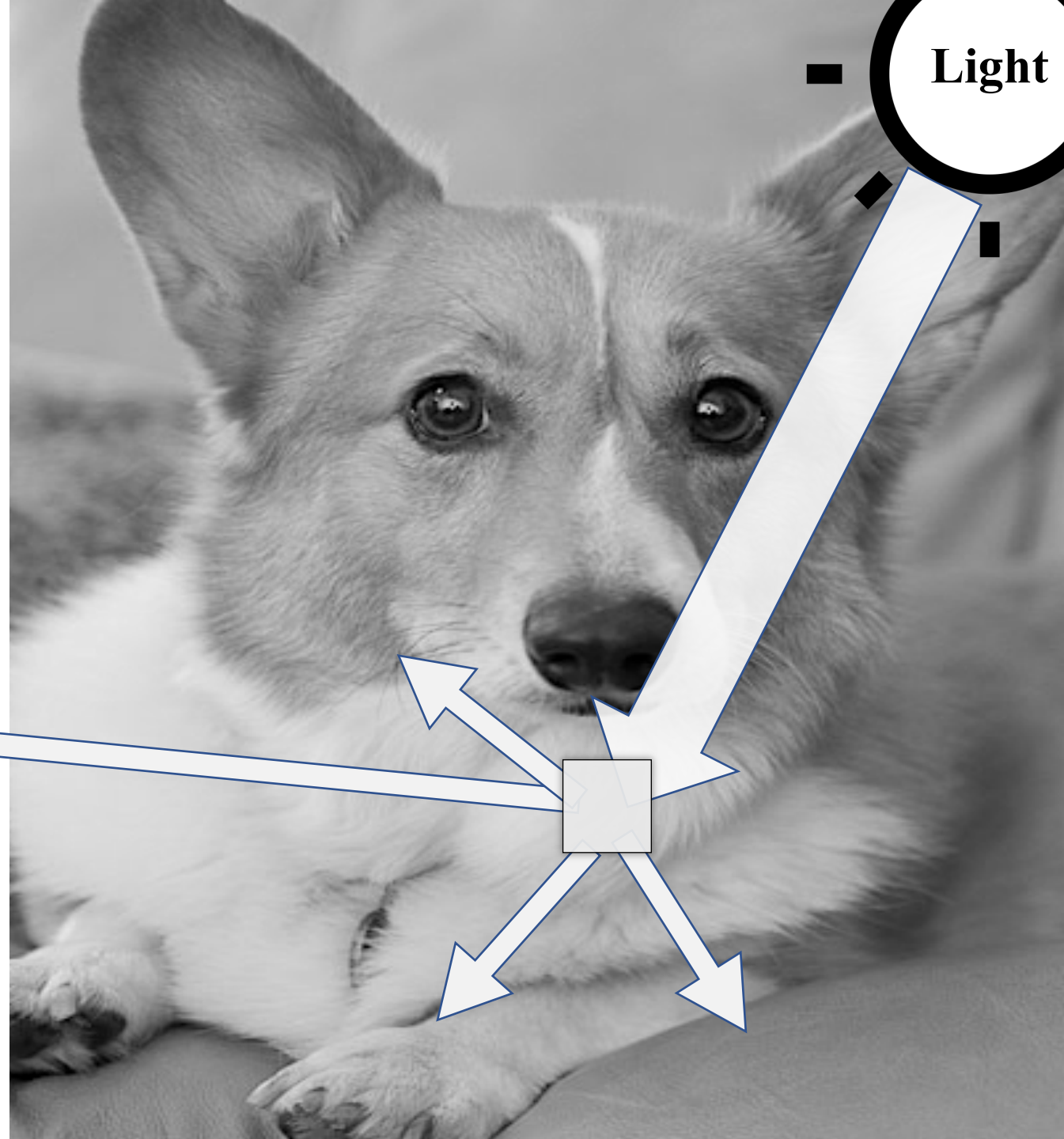
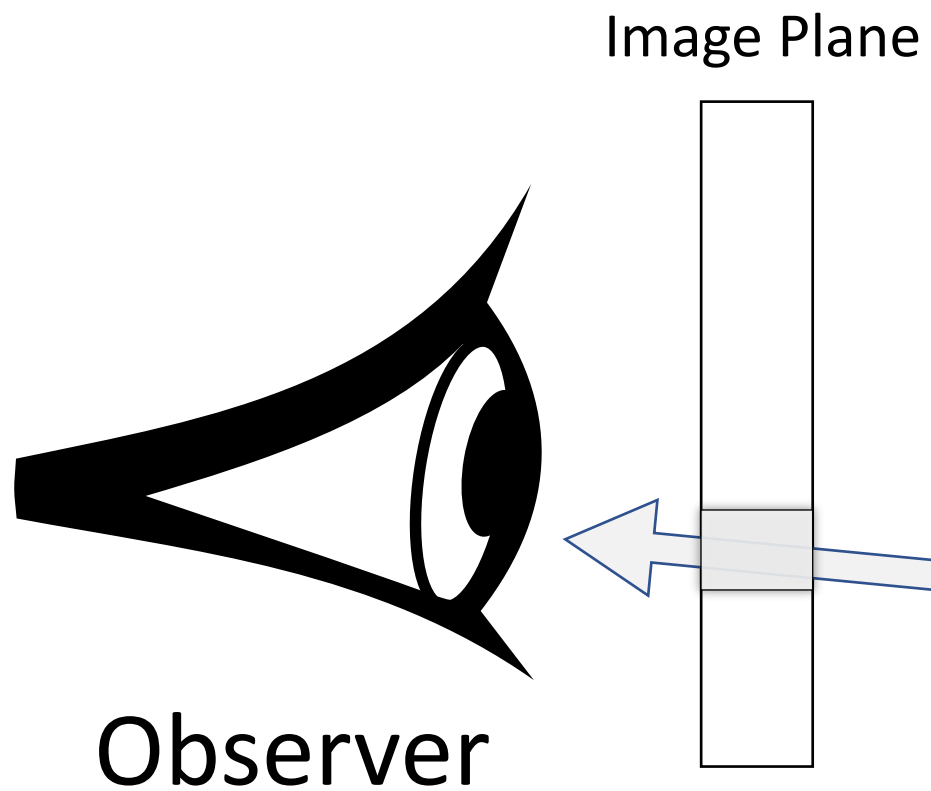


Observer

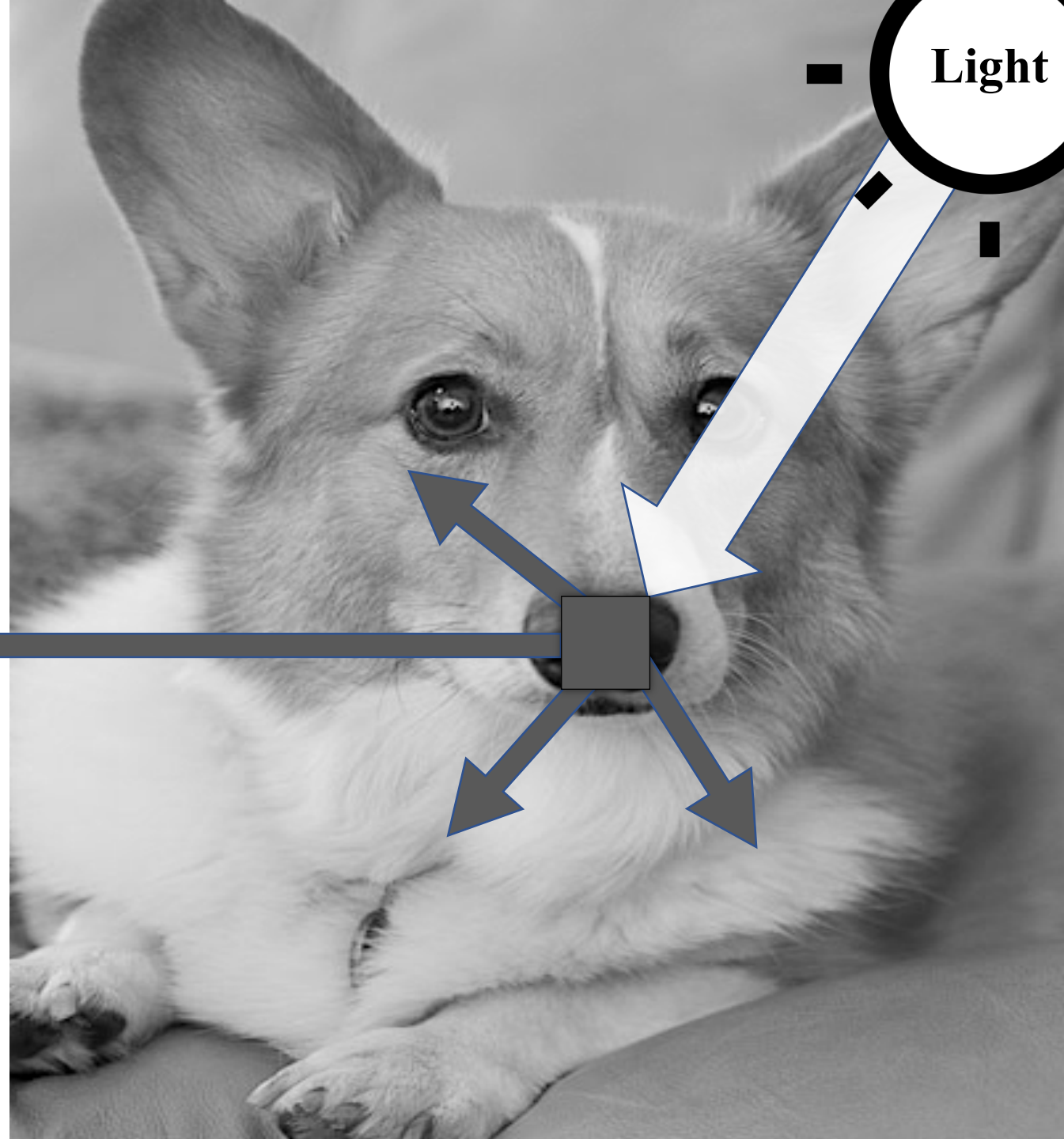
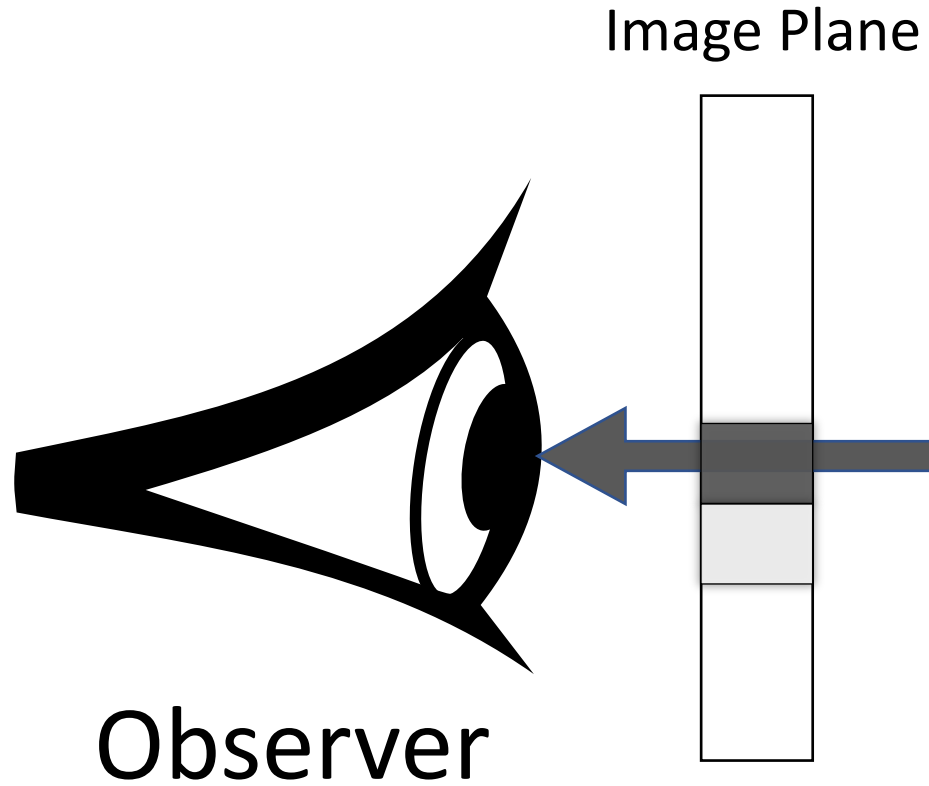
Image Plane



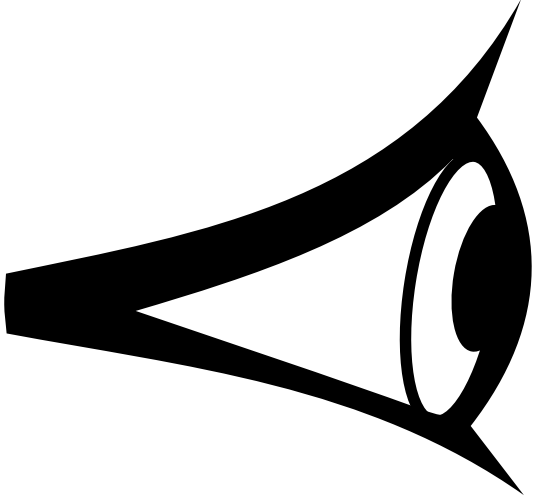
How are Images Formed?



How are Images Formed?

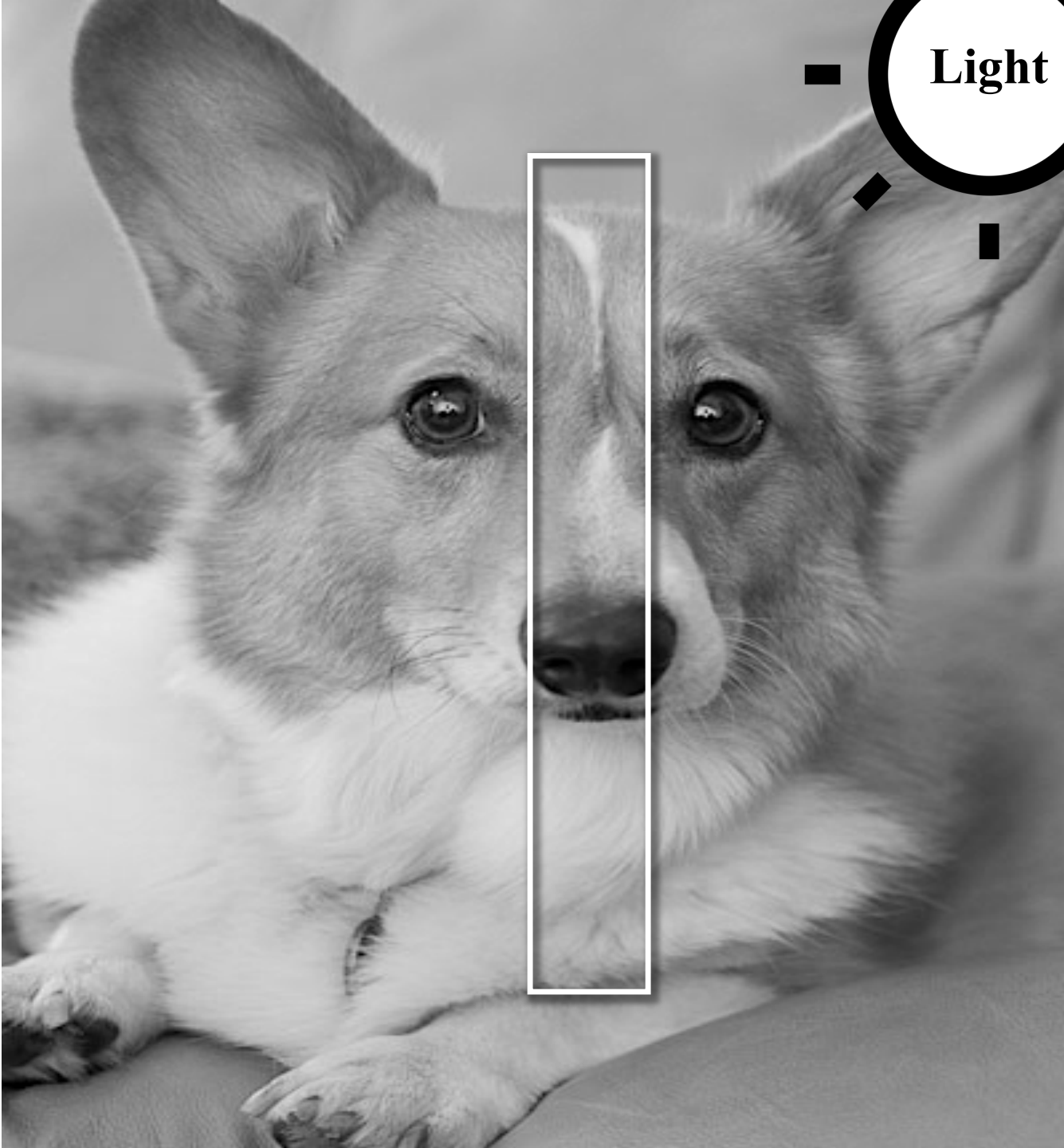
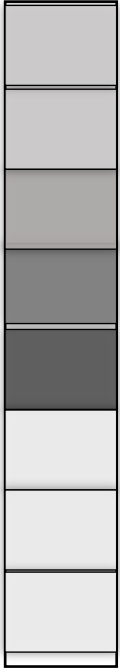


How are Images Formed?

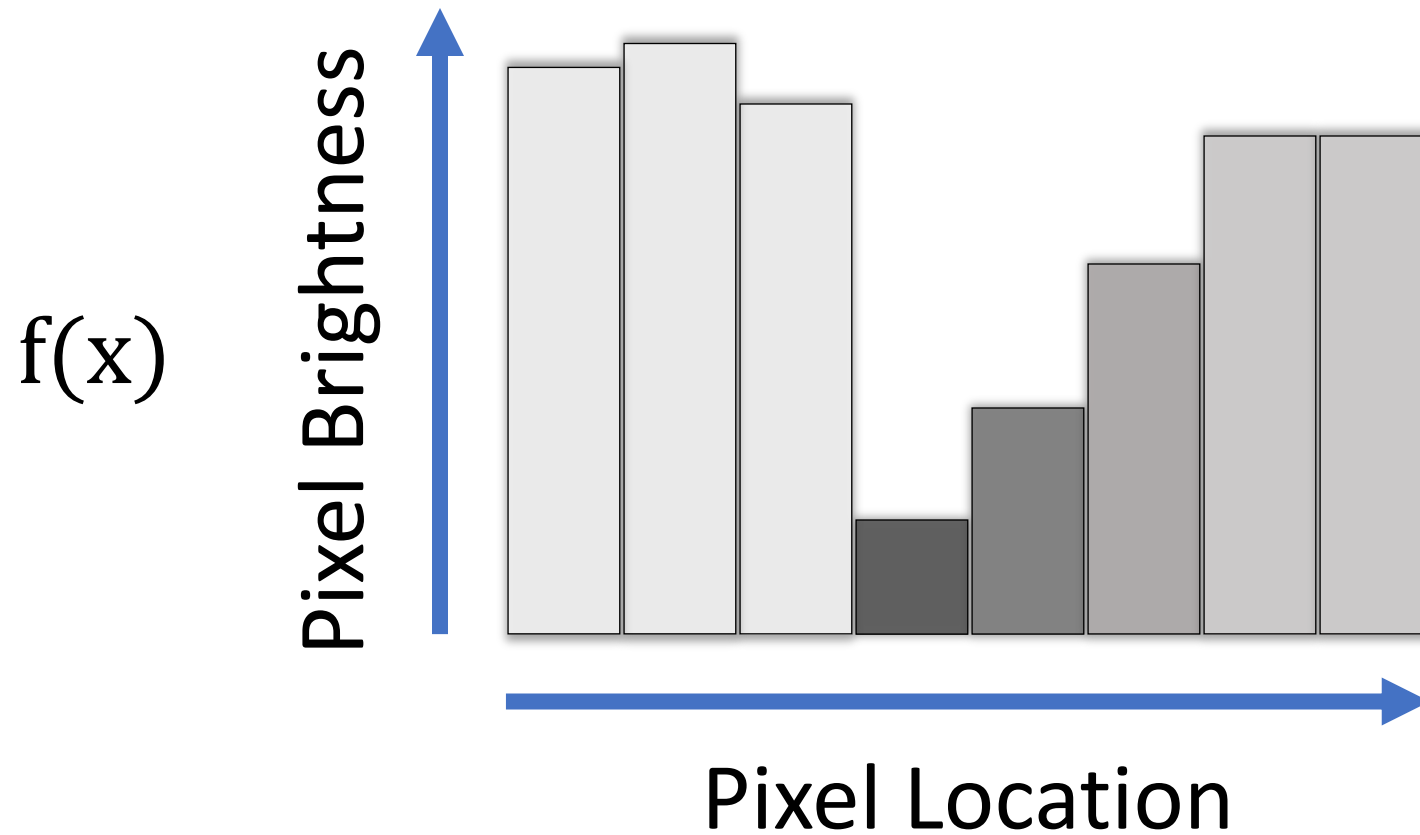


Observer

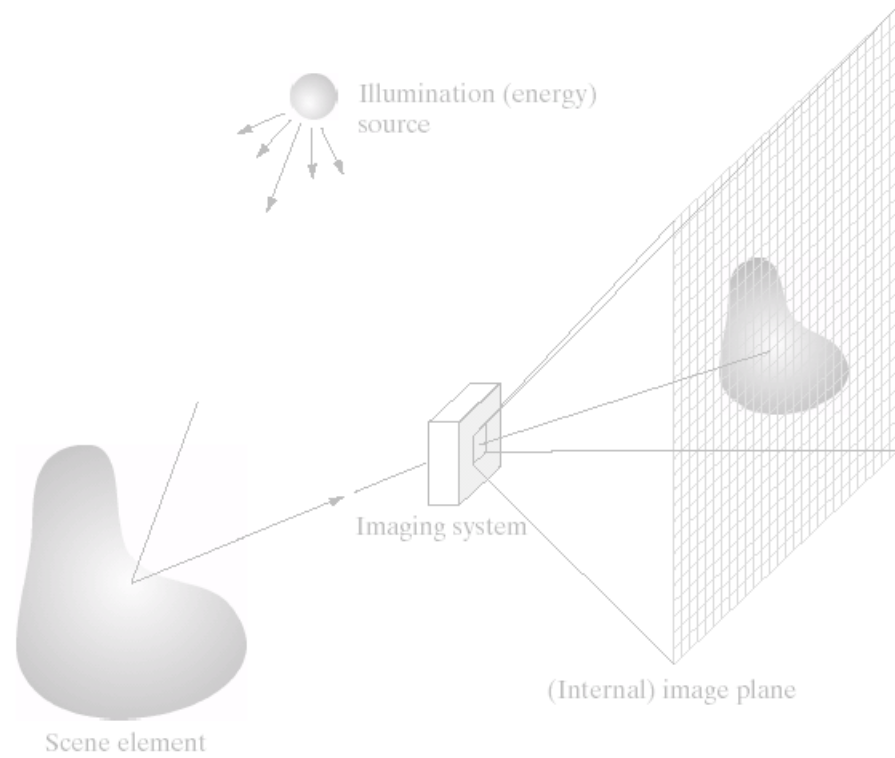
Image Plane



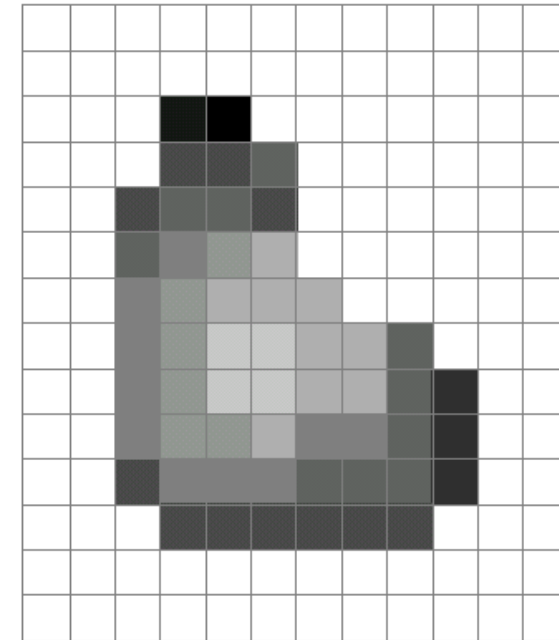
Thinking About Images as Functions



What is an image?



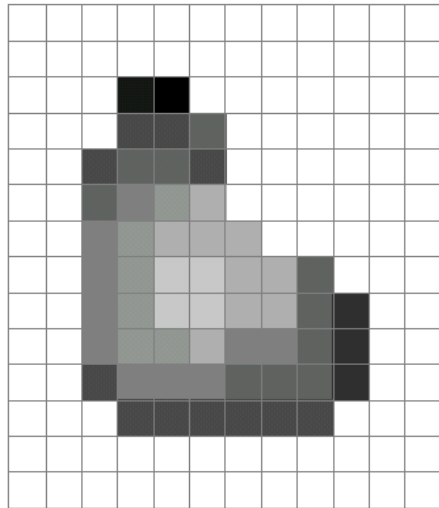
What do they represent?



How do they represent it?

What is an image?

- A grid (matrix) of intensity values



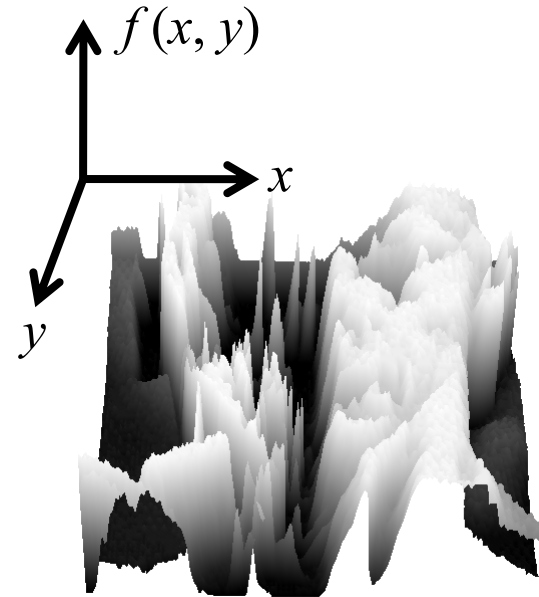
=

255	255	255	255	255	255	255	255	255	255	255	255
255	255	255	255	255	255	255	255	255	255	255	255
255	255	255	20	0	255	255	255	255	255	255	255
255	255	255	75	75	75	255	255	255	255	255	255
255	255	75	95	95	75	255	255	255	255	255	255
255	255	96	127	145	175	255	255	255	255	255	255
255	255	127	145	175	175	175	255	255	255	255	255
255	255	127	145	200	200	175	175	95	255	255	255
255	255	127	145	200	200	175	175	95	47	255	255
255	255	127	145	145	175	127	127	95	47	255	255
255	255	74	127	127	127	95	95	95	47	255	255
255	255	255	74	74	74	74	74	74	255	255	255
255	255	255	255	255	255	255	255	255	255	255	255
255	255	255	255	255	255	255	255	255	255	255	255

(common to use one byte per value: 0 = black, 255 = white)

What is an image?

- We can think of a (grayscale) image as a **function**, f , from \mathbb{R}^2 to \mathbb{R} :
 - $f(x,y)$ gives the **intensity** at position (x,y)

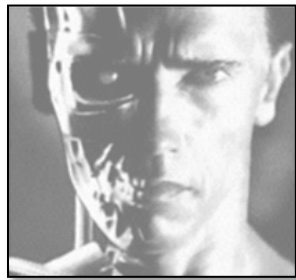


[3D view](#)

- A **digital** image is a discrete (**sampled, quantized**) version of this function

Image transformations

- As with any function, we can apply operators to an image



$$g(x,y) = f(x,y) + 20$$



$$g(x,y) = f(-x,y)$$

- Today we'll talk about a special kind of operator, *convolution* (linear filtering)

Filters

- Filtering
 - Form a new image whose pixels are a combination of the original pixels
- Why?
 - To get useful information from images
 - E.g., extract edges or contours (to understand shape)
 - To enhance the image
 - E.g., to remove noise
 - E.g., to sharpen and “enhance image” a la CSI (sort of...)

Examples of Image Processing problems

- Image Restoration
 - denoising
 - deblurring
- Image Compression
 - JPEG, JPEG2000, MPEG..
- Computing Field Properties
 - optical flow
 - disparity
- Locating Structural Features
 - corners
 - edges

Question: Noise reduction

- Given a camera and a still scene, how can you reduce noise?



Take lots of images and average them!

What's the next best thing?

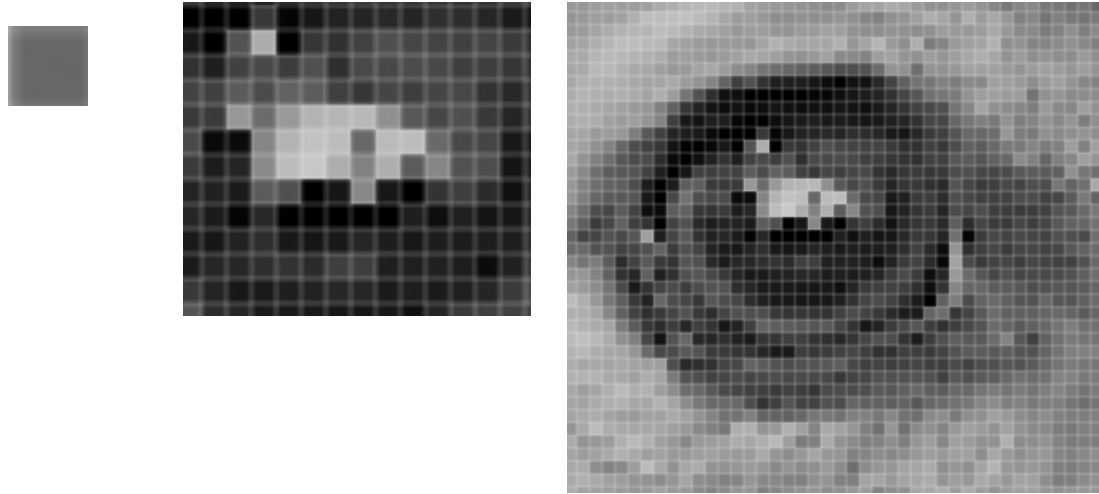
Image Filtering:

Thinking About Areas Instead of Just Points

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Putting Pixels in Context



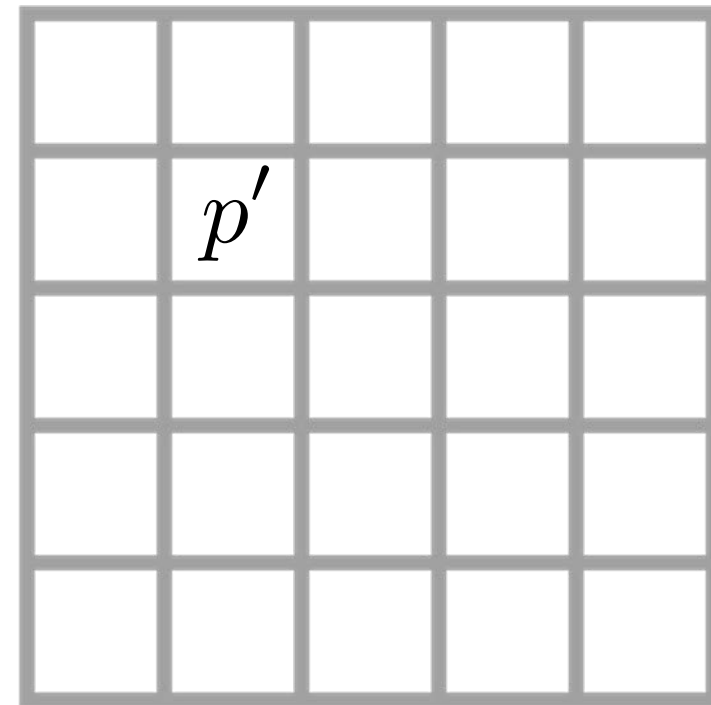
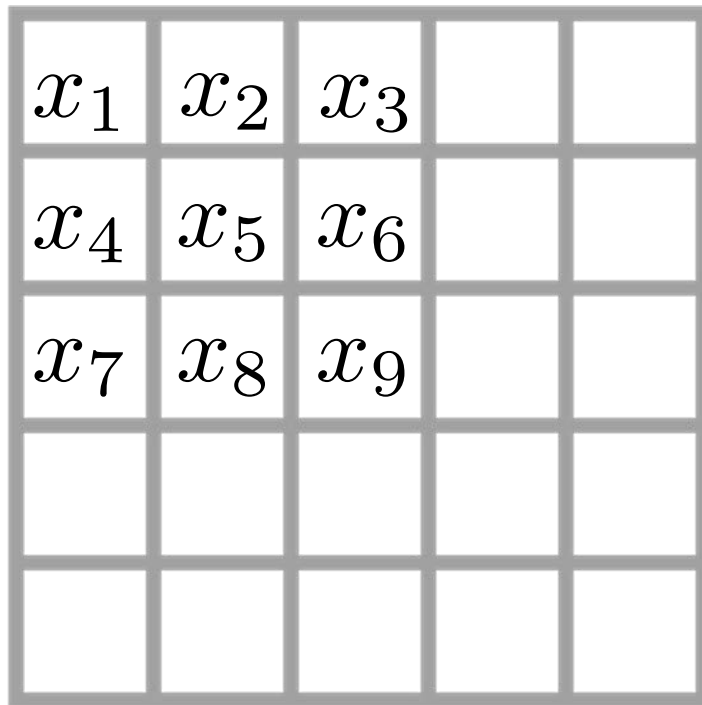
A single pixel doesn't tell us much out of context...

How do we represent this context mathematically?



Image Filtering: Operations on Image Regions

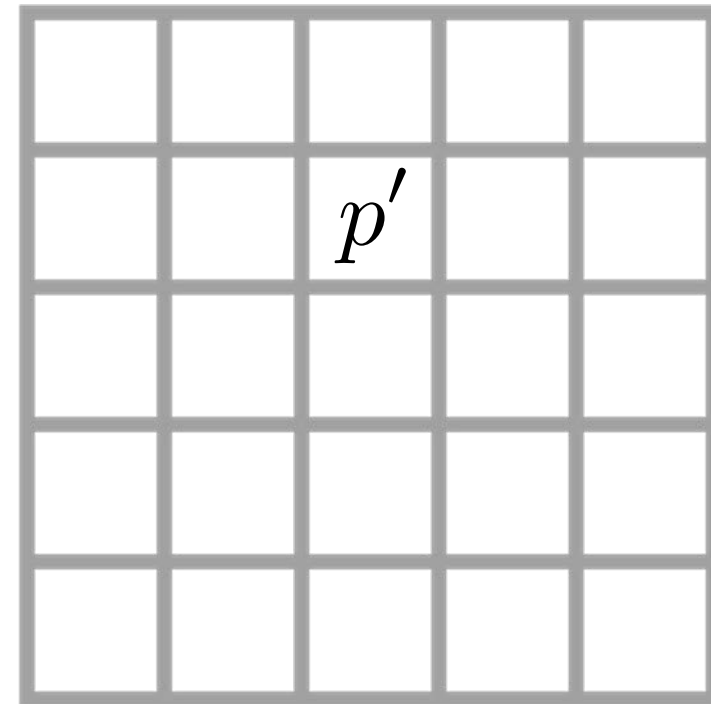
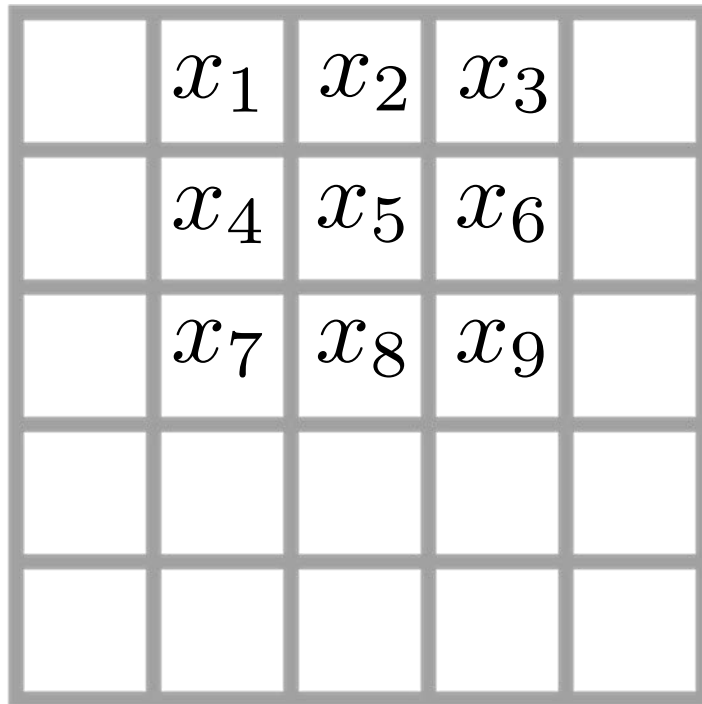
- Transforms each pixel into some function of the neighborhood around it



$$p' = f_p(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_9)$$

Image Filtering: Operations on Image Regions

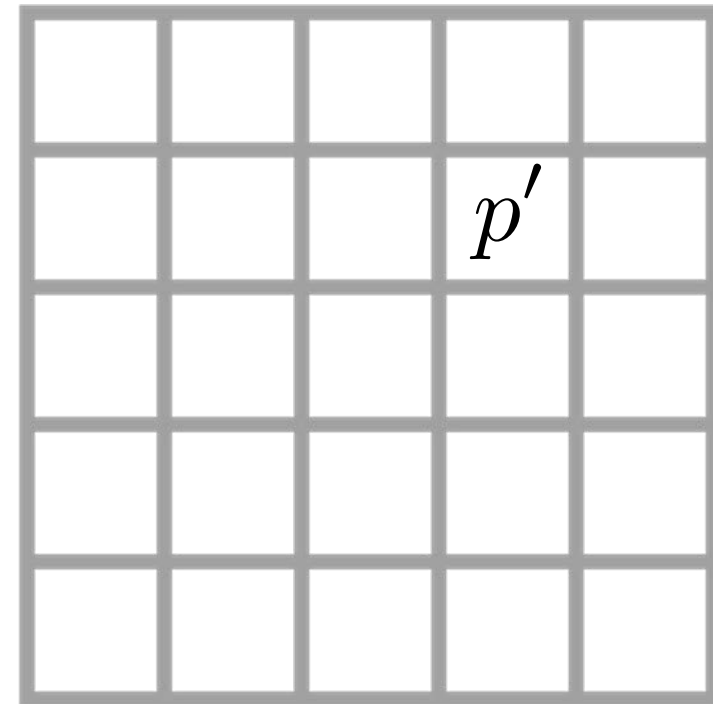
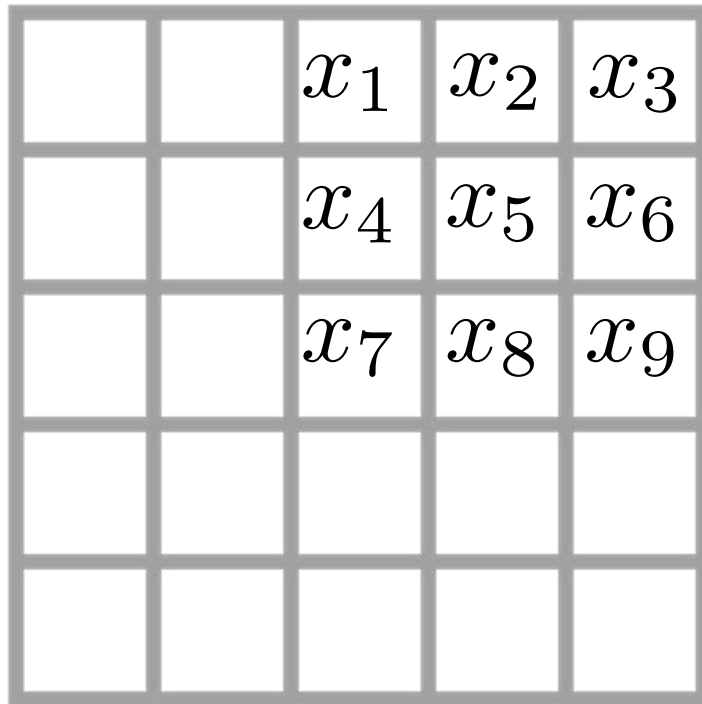
- Transforms each pixel into some function of the neighborhood around it



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Image Filtering: Operations on Image Regions

- Transforms each pixel into some function of the neighborhood around it



$$p' = f_p(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_9)$$

Linear Filtering

- Filters where the function $p' = f_p(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_9)$ is just a linear combination

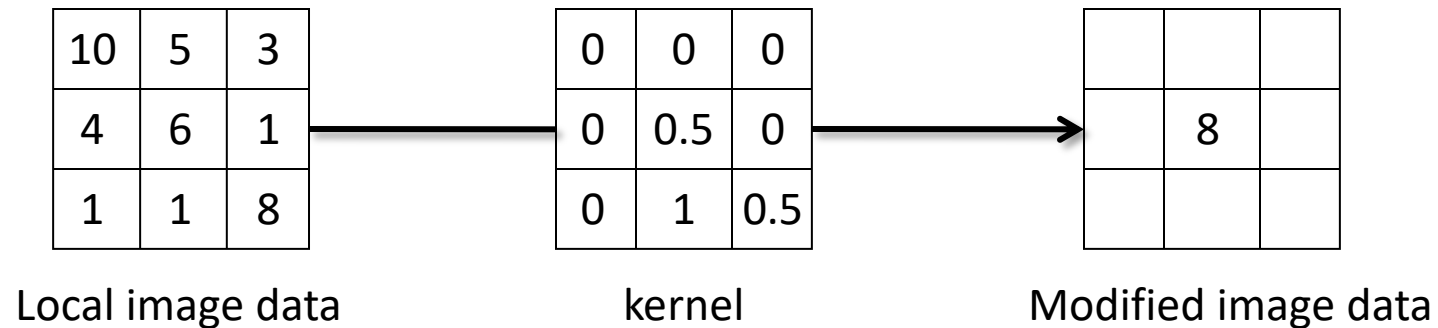
		x_1	x_2	x_3
		x_4	x_5	x_6
		x_7	x_8	x_9

			p'	

$$p' = f_p(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_9)$$

Linear filtering

- One simple version of filtering: linear filtering (cross-correlation, convolution)
 - Replace each pixel by a linear combination (a weighted sum) of its neighbors
- The prescription for the linear combination is called the “kernel” (or “mask”, “filter”)



Cross-correlation

Let F be the image, H be the kernel (of size $2k+1 \times 2k+1$), and G be the output image

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

This is called a **cross-correlation** operation:

$$G = H \otimes F$$

- Can think of as a “dot product” between local neighborhood and kernel for each pixel

Convolution

- Same as cross-correlation, except that the kernel is “flipped” (horizontally and vertically)

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

This is called a **convolution** operation:

$$G = H * F$$

- Convolution is **commutative** and **associative**

Convolution

- Same as cross-correlation, except that the kernel is “flipped”

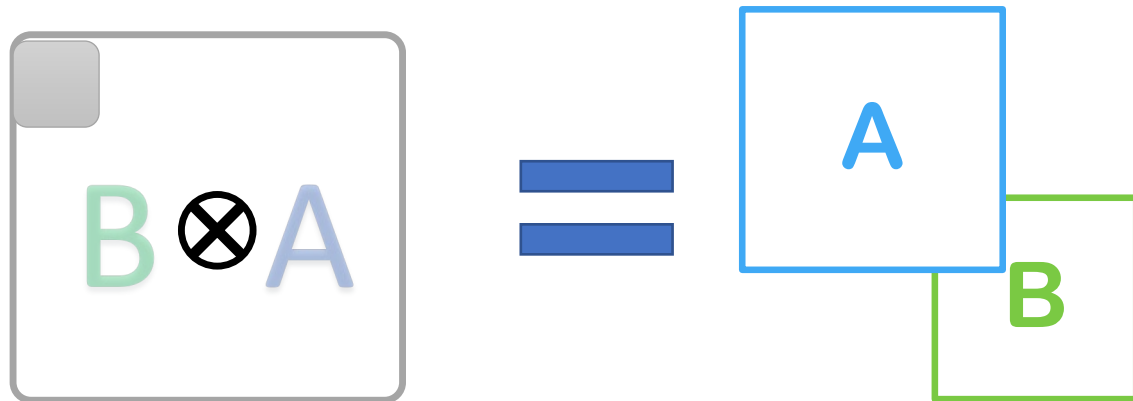
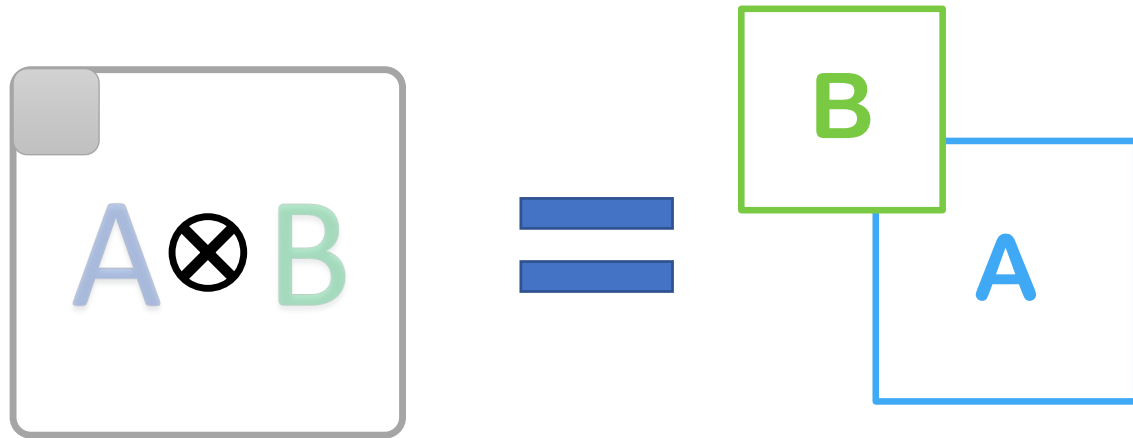
Side Note:

- Associativity: $(A * B) * C = A * (B * C)$
- Commutativity: $(A * B) = (B * A)$

- Convolution is **commutative** and **associative**

Why Correlation is *not* Commutative

- What does it mean for filtering to be commutative?
 - $f(A,B) = f(B,A)$



Question:

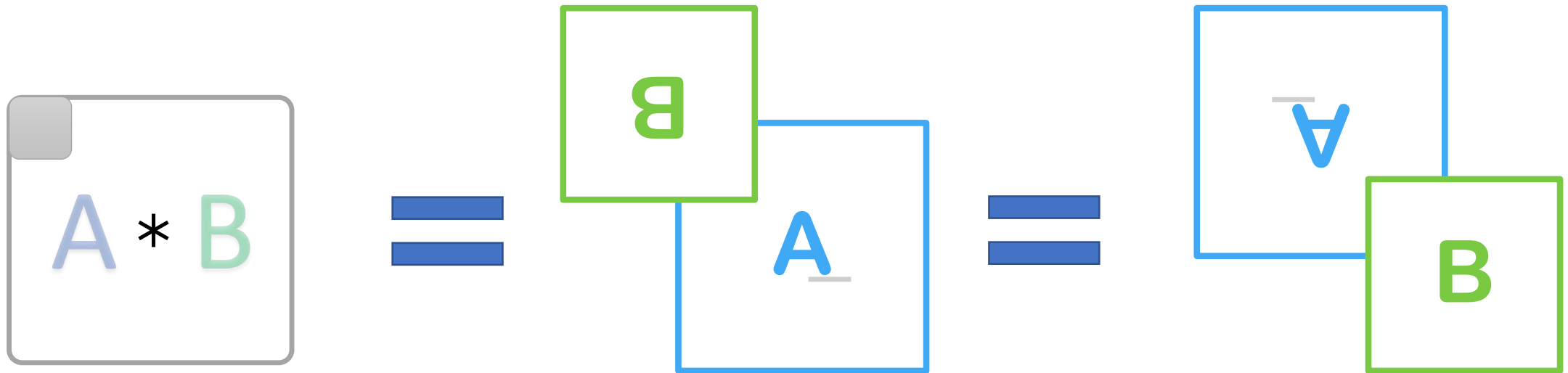
How do we make the same parts of A and B match up regardless of order?

Why Convolution *is* Commutative

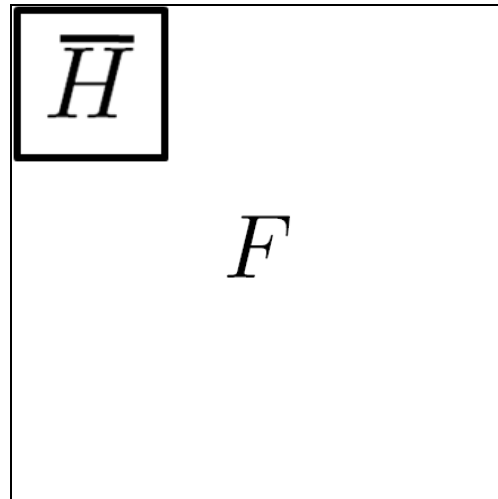
- What does it mean for filtering to be commutative?
 - $f(A,B) = f(B,A)$

Answer:

Flip one of them



Convolution



Linear filters: examples



Original



0	0	0
0	1	0
0	0	0



Identical image

Linear filters: examples



Original



0	0	0
1	0	0
0	0	0



Shifted left
By 1 pixel

Linear filters: examples

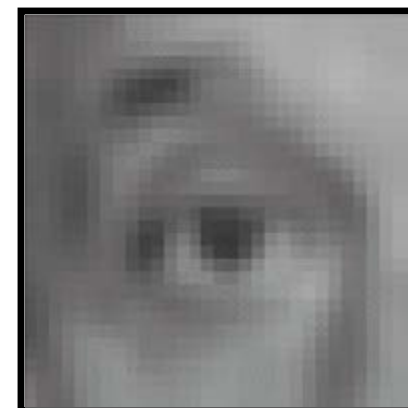


Original



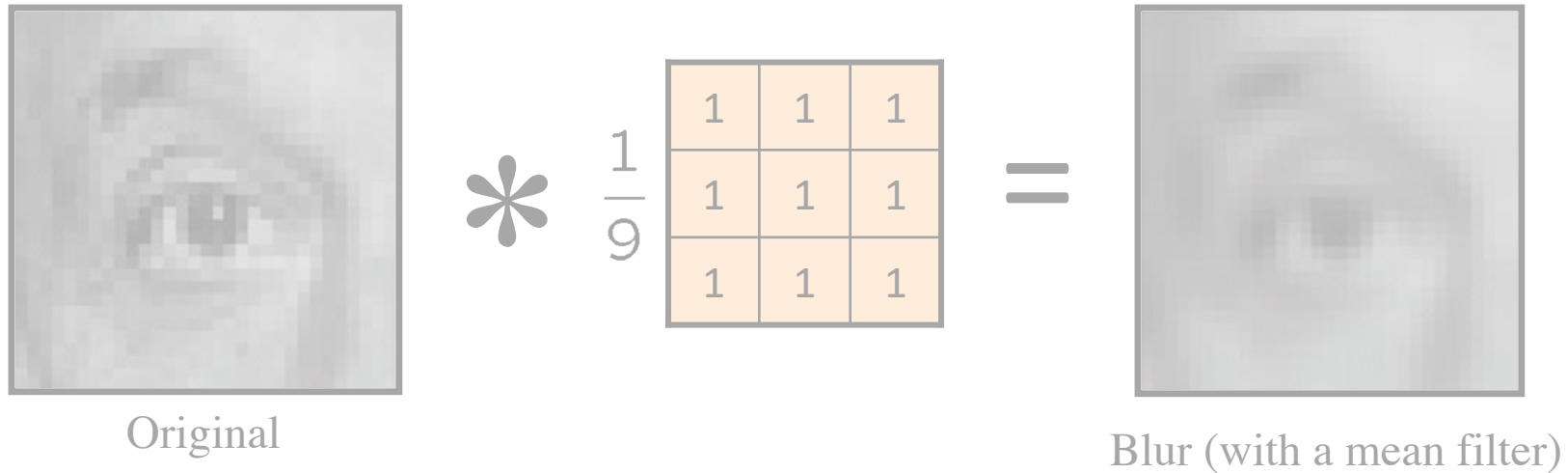
$\frac{1}{9}$

1	1	1
1	1	1
1	1	1



Blur (with a mean filter)

Linear filters: examples



Can anyone guess a filter we might use to sharpen an image?

Linear filters: examples



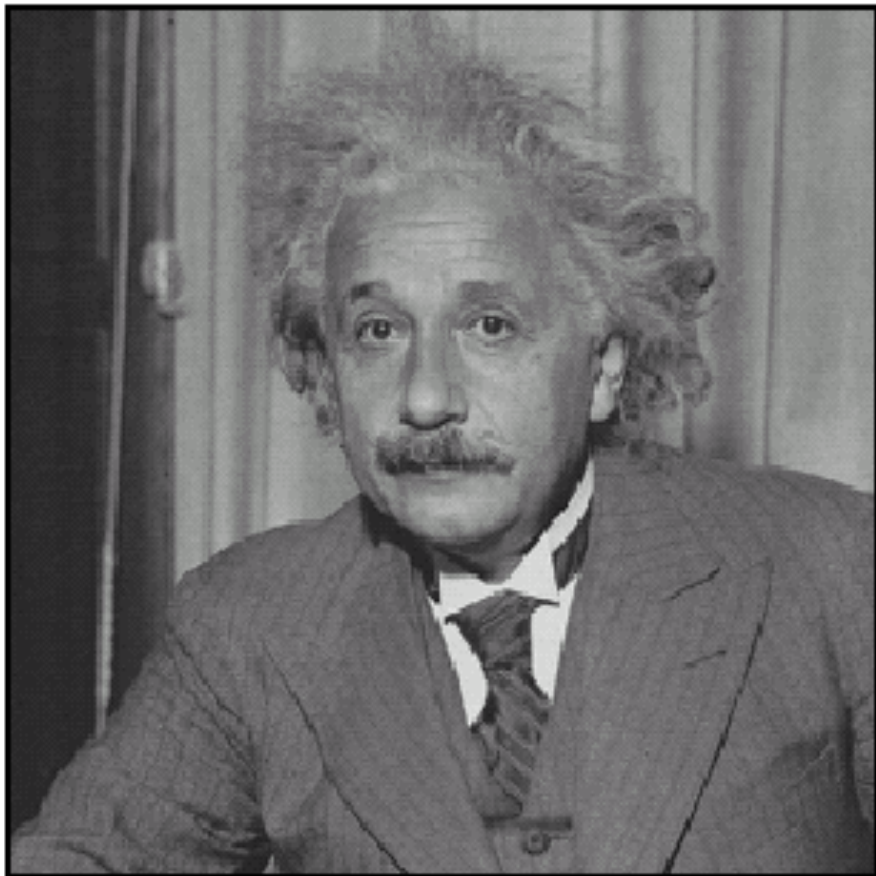
Original

$$* \left(\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 2 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline \end{array} - \frac{1}{9} \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \right) =$$

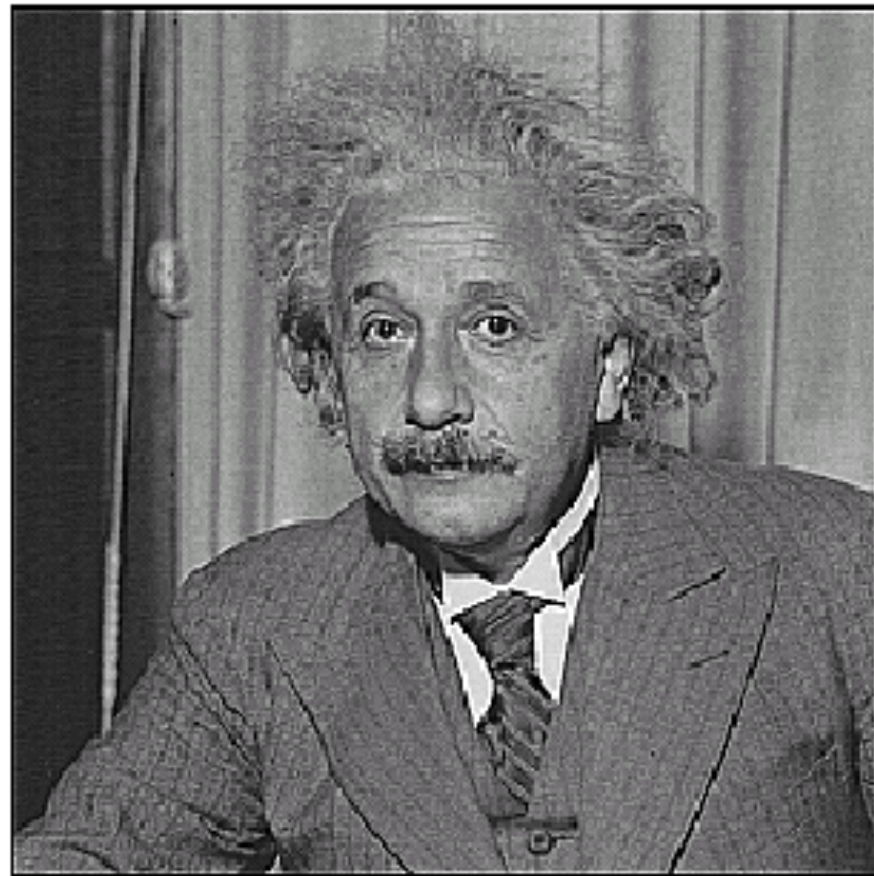


Sharpening filter
(accentuates edges)

Sharpening

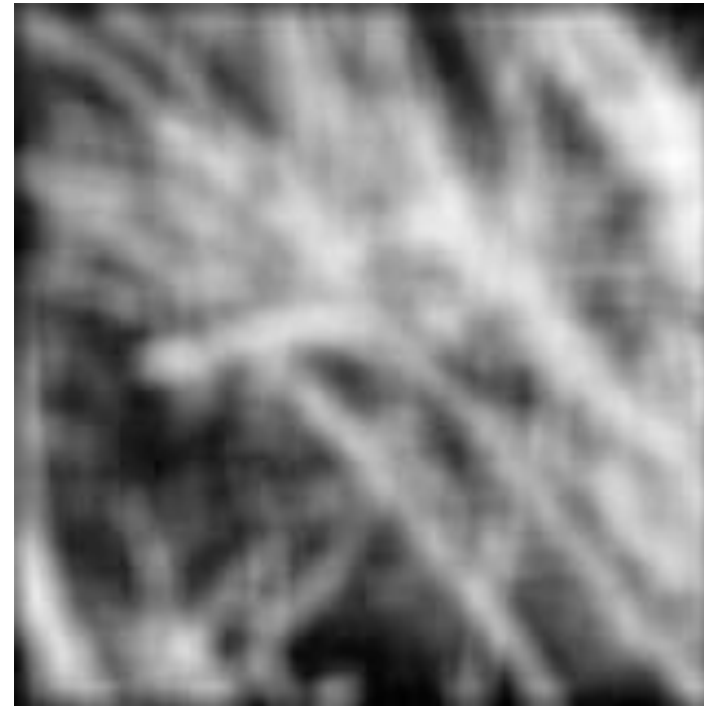


before

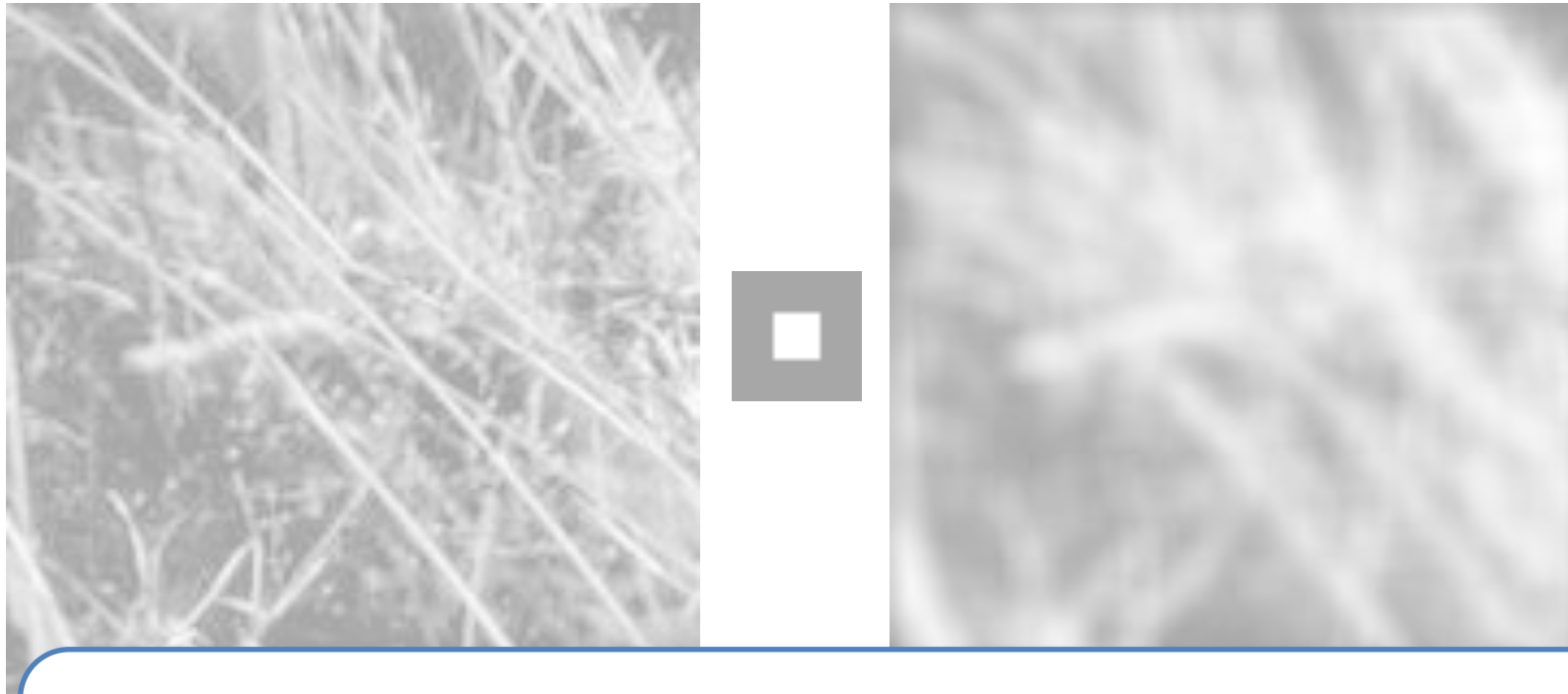


after

Smoothing with box filter revisited

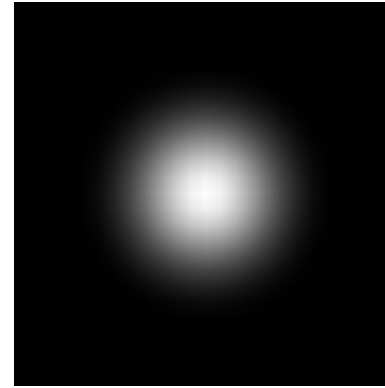
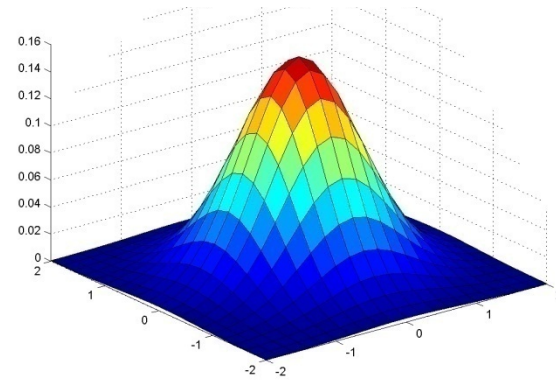


Smoothing with box filter revisited



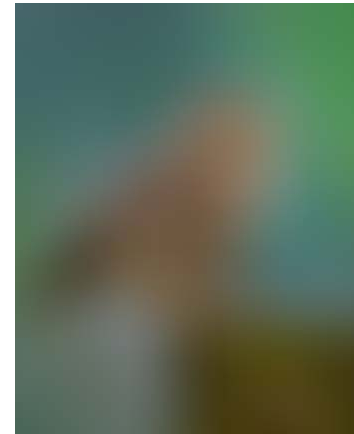
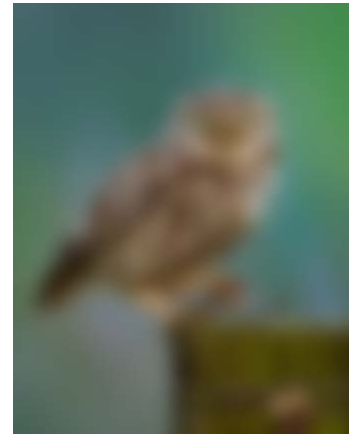
Can anyone think of a better smoothing kernel?

Gaussian Kernel

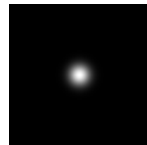


$$G_{\sigma} = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2} e^{-\frac{(x^2+y^2)}{2\sigma^2}}$$

Gaussian filters



$\sigma = 1$ pixel



$\sigma = 5$ pixels

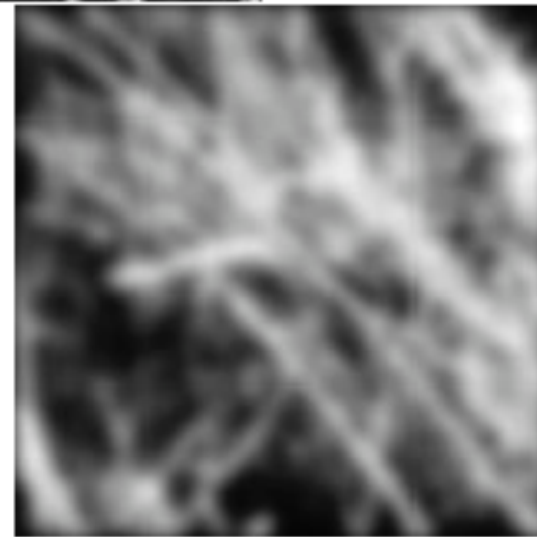


$\sigma = 10$ pixels



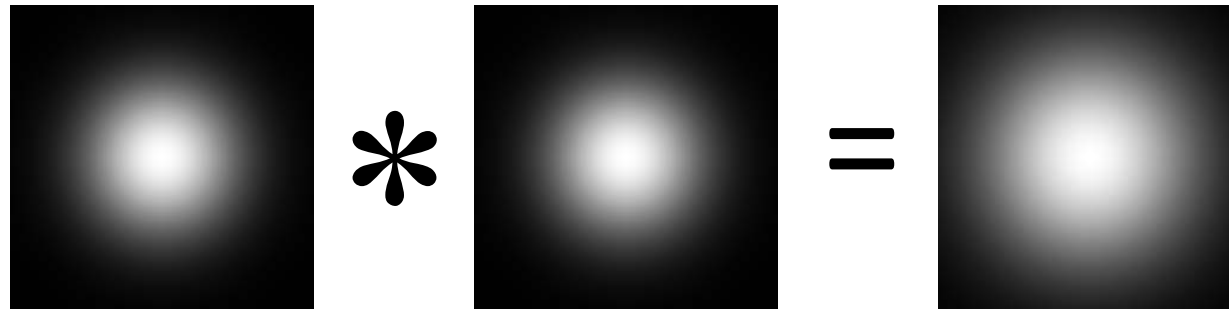
$\sigma = 30$ pixels

Mean vs. Gaussian filtering



Gaussian filter

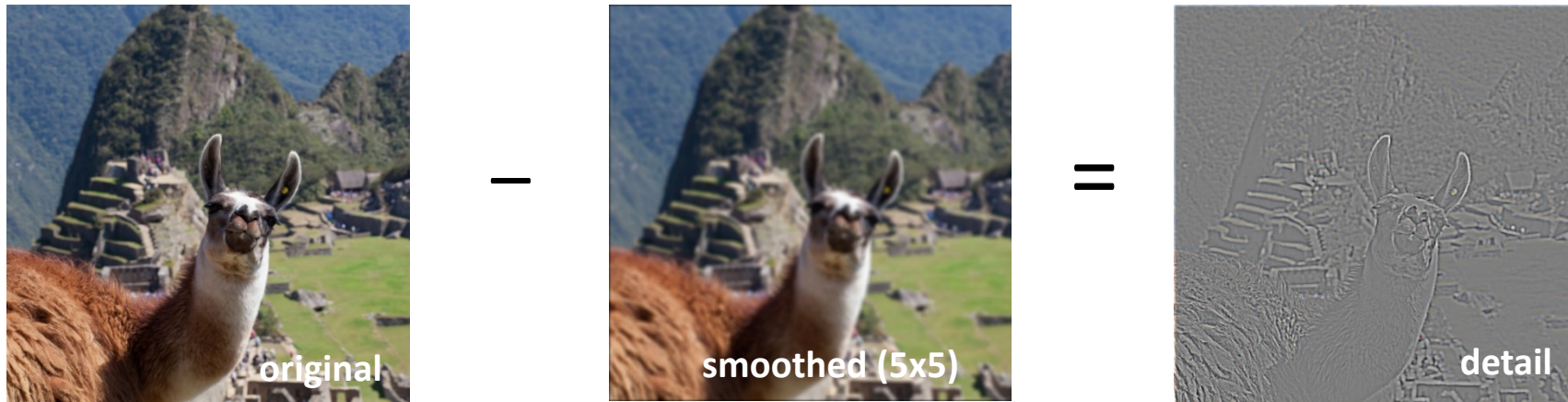
- Removes “high-frequency” components from the image (low-pass filter)
- Convolution with self is another Gaussian



- Convolving twice with Gaussian kernel of width σ
= convolving once with kernel of width $\sigma\sqrt{2}$

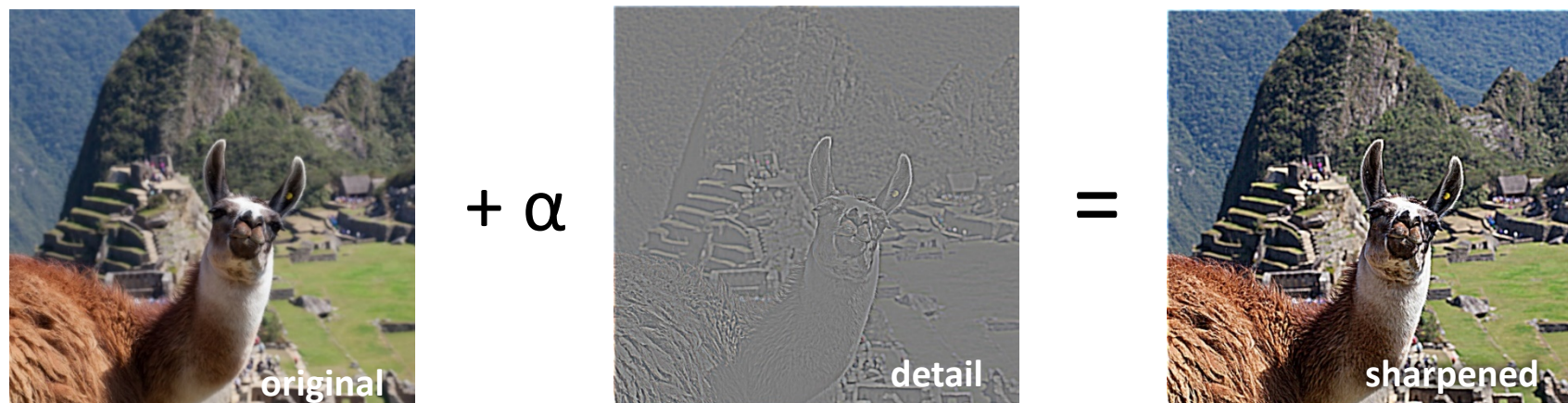
Sharpening revisited

- What does blurring take away?



(This “detail extraction” operation is also called a *high-pass filter*)

Let's add it back:



Sharpen filter

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Sharpening amount} \\ \downarrow \\ F + \alpha (F - \underbrace{F * H}_{\text{Blurred image}}) \\ \uparrow \\ \text{image} \quad \text{"detail layer"} \end{array} = (1 + \alpha) F - \alpha (F * H) = F * ([1 + \alpha] \underbrace{e}_{\uparrow} - \alpha H)$$

Sharpen filter

Sharpening amount

Blurred image

image

"detail layer"

Multiplying out alpha and collecting like terms

$$F + \alpha (F - F * H) = (1 + \alpha) F - \alpha (F * H) = F * ([1 + \alpha] e - \alpha H)$$

Sharpen filter

Sharpening amount

Blurred image

(a unit impulse)

$$F + \alpha (F - F * H) = (1 + \alpha) F - \alpha (F * H) = F * ([1 + \alpha] e - \alpha H)$$

image

"detail layer"

Multiplying out alpha and collecting like terms

Distribute to represent as convolution with a single kernel

Sharpen filter

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Sharpening amount} \\ \downarrow \\ F + \alpha (F - F * H) \\ \uparrow \\ \text{image} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{Blurred} \\ \text{image} \\ \uparrow \\ F * H \\ \text{"detail layer"} \end{array} = \underbrace{(1 + \alpha) F - \alpha (F * H)}_{\text{Multiplying out alpha and collecting like terms}} = \underbrace{F * ([1 + \alpha] e - \alpha H)}_{\text{Distribute to represent as convolution with a single kernel}}$$

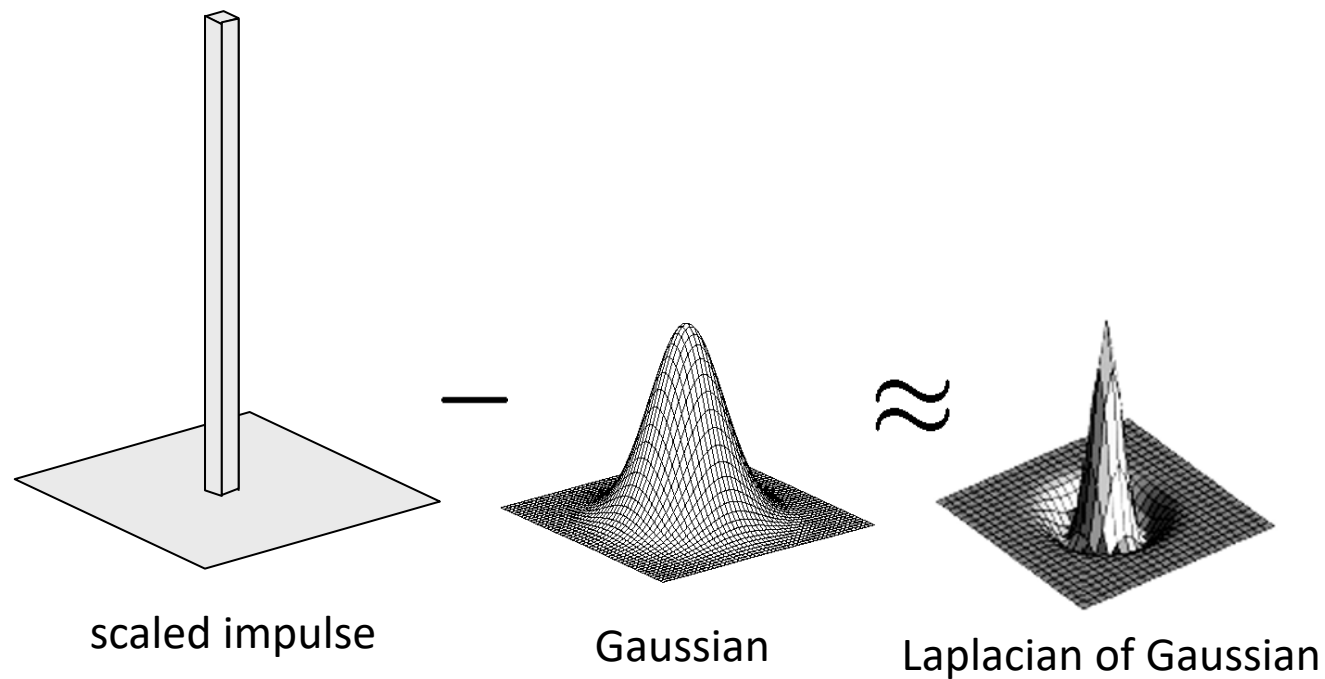
(a unit impulse)

In other words:

Boosting the detail layer of an image (i.e., sharpening) can be represented as a single convolution

Sharpen filter

$$F + \alpha (F - F * H) = (1 + \alpha) F - \alpha (F * H) = F * ([1 + \alpha] e - \alpha H)$$

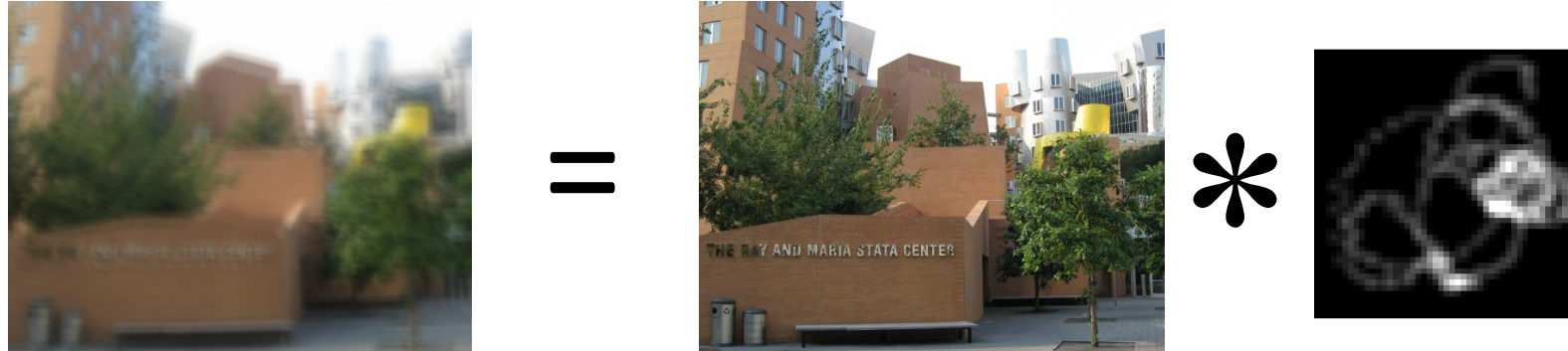


Sharpen filter



“Optical” Convolution

Camera shake



Source: Fergus, *et al.* “Removing Camera Shake from a Single Photograph”, SIGGRAPH 2006

Bokeh: Blur in out-of-focus regions of an image.



Source: <http://lullaby.homepage.dk/diy-camera/bokeh.html>

Filters: Thresholding

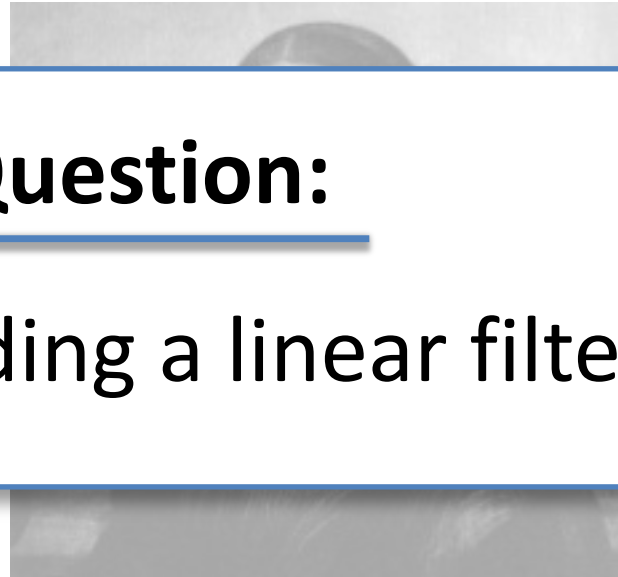


$$g(m, n) = \begin{cases} 255, & f(m, n) > A \\ 0 & \textit{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Filters: Thresholding

Question:

Is thresholding a linear filter?



$$g(m, n) = \begin{cases} 255, & f(m, n) > A \\ 0 & \textit{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Why is it Called Filtering?

Filtering lets us reason about images at different scales, e.g.:

- Mean filtering an image removes fine-scale detail and leaves only coarse-scale information
- Sharpening an image amplifies fine-scale details

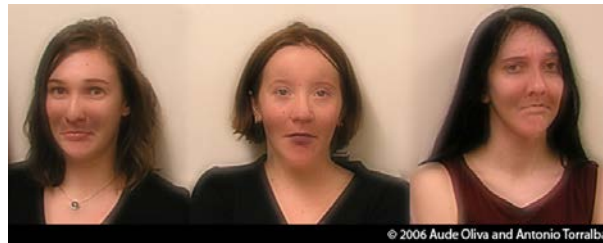


Hybrid Images: Do These People Look Happy or Sad?



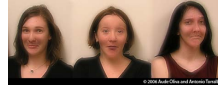
Hybrid Images, Oliva et al., <http://cvcl.mit.edu/hybridimage.htm>

Hybrid Images: Do These People Look Happy or Sad?



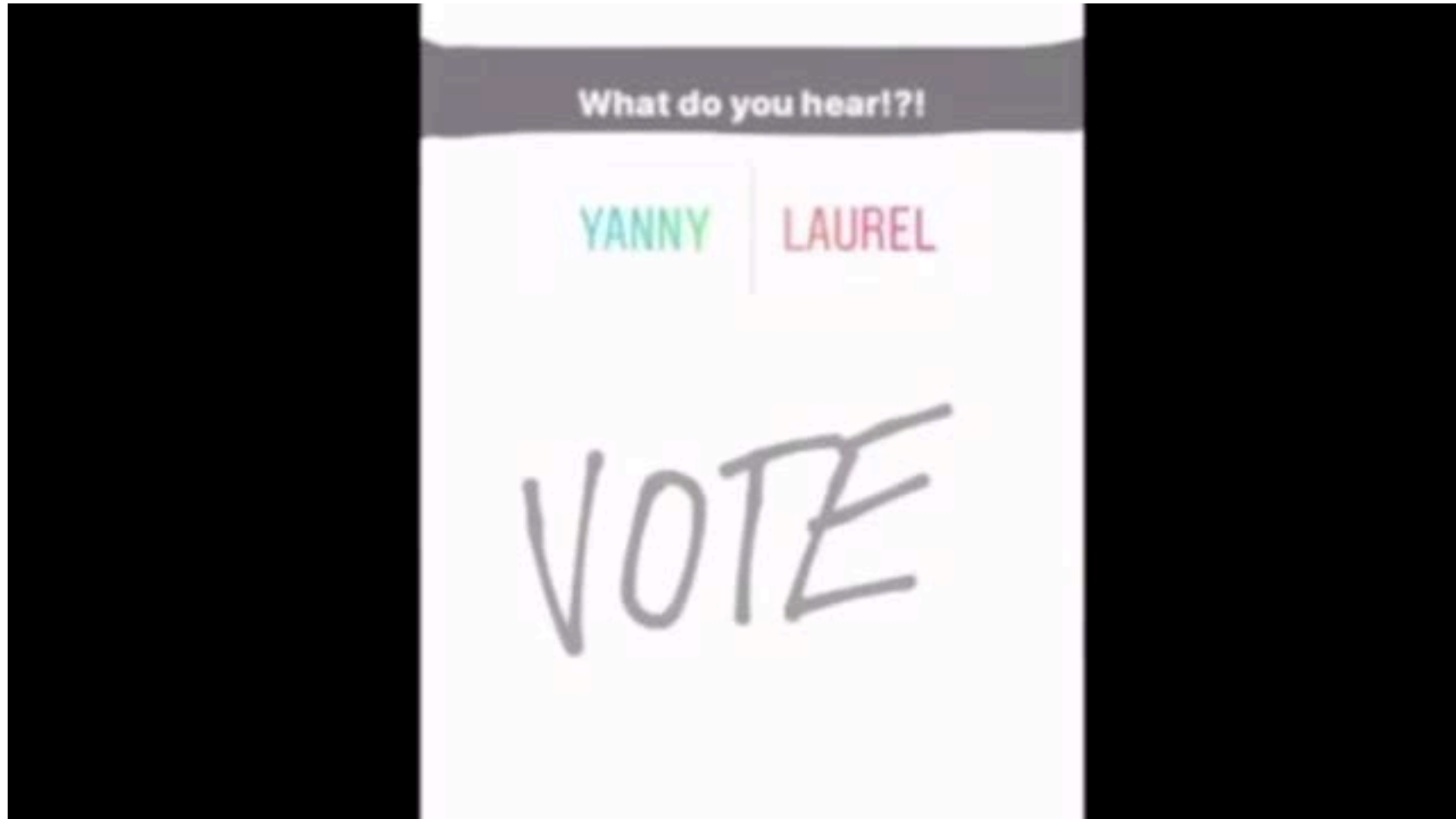
Hybrid Images, Oliva et al., <http://cvcl.mit.edu/hybridimage.htm>

Hybrid Images: Do These People Look Happy or Sad?



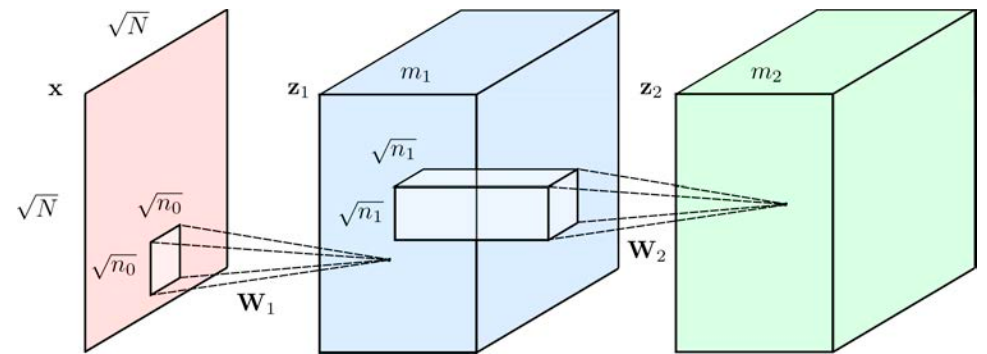
Hybrid Images, Oliva et al., <http://cvcl.mit.edu/hybridimage.htm>

Side Note: Remember Yanny and Laurel?



One Final Note: Non-Linear Filtering?

- Q: What's the most popular way to extend filtering to non-linear functions?
- A: Convolutional Neural Networks
 - Implemented as a series of convolutions separated by nonlinearities
 - More on this later in the course



****One more reason why we care about filtering and convolution****

Questions?