

Gradient domain operations

Digital Visual Effects, Spring 2009

Yung-Yu Chuang

2009/6/4

with slides by Fredo Durand, Ramesh Raskar, Amit Agrawal

Gradient domain operators



Gradient Domain Manipulations

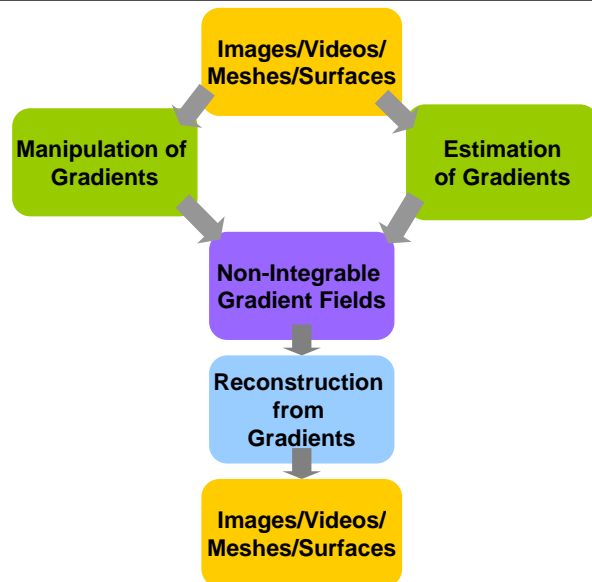
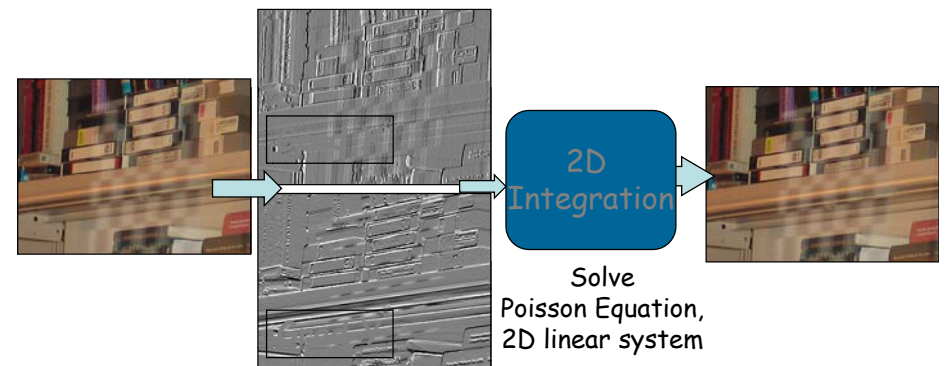
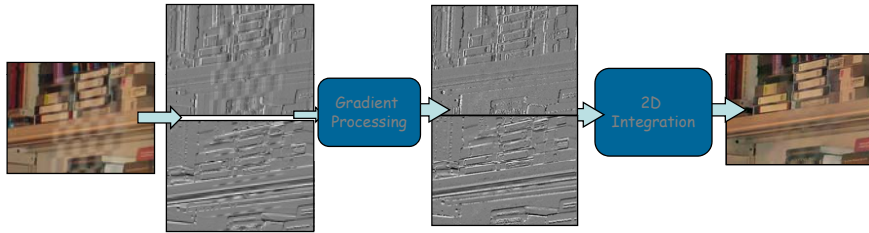


Image Intensity Gradients in 2D



Intensity Gradient Manipulation

A Common Pipeline



1. Gradient manipulation
2. Reconstruction from gradients

Example Applications



Removing Glass Reflections



Seamless Image Stitching

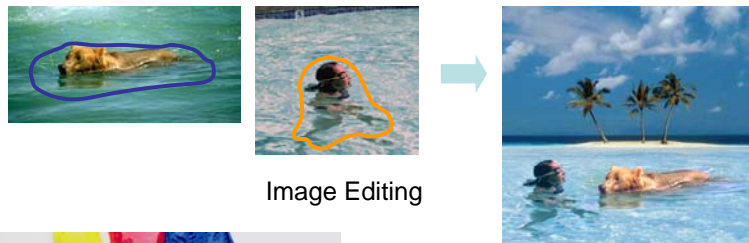
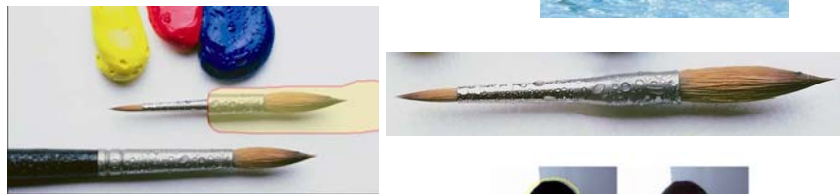


Image Editing



Changing Local Illumination



Original

PhotoshopGrey

Color2Gray

Color to Gray Conversion



High Dynamic Range Compression



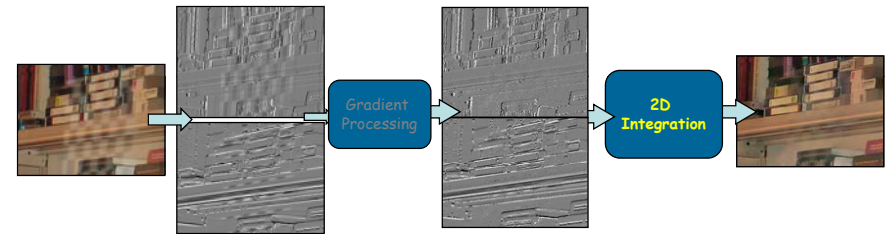
Edge Suppression under Significant Illumination Variations



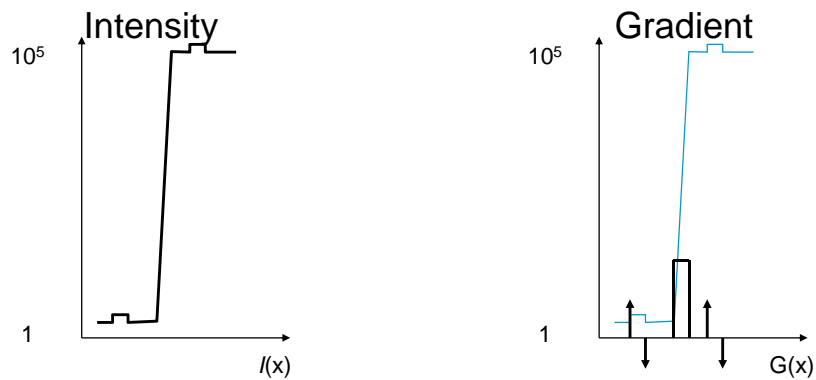
Fusion of day and night images

Intensity Gradient Manipulation

A Common Pipeline



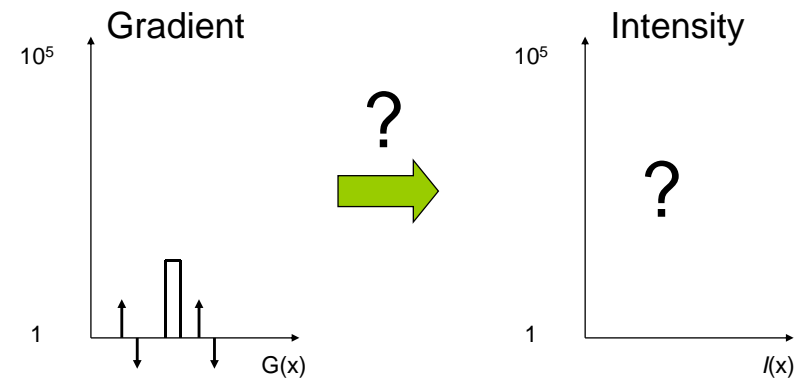
Intensity Gradient in 1D



Gradient at x ,

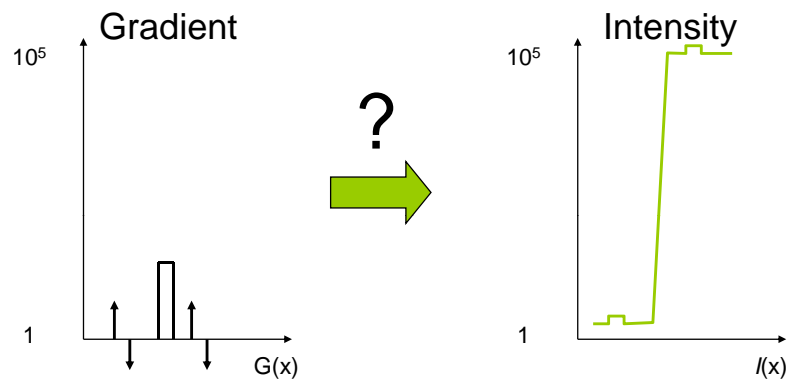
$$G(x) = I(x+1) - I(x)$$
 Forward Difference

Reconstruction from Gradients



For n intensity values, about n gradients

Reconstruction from Gradients

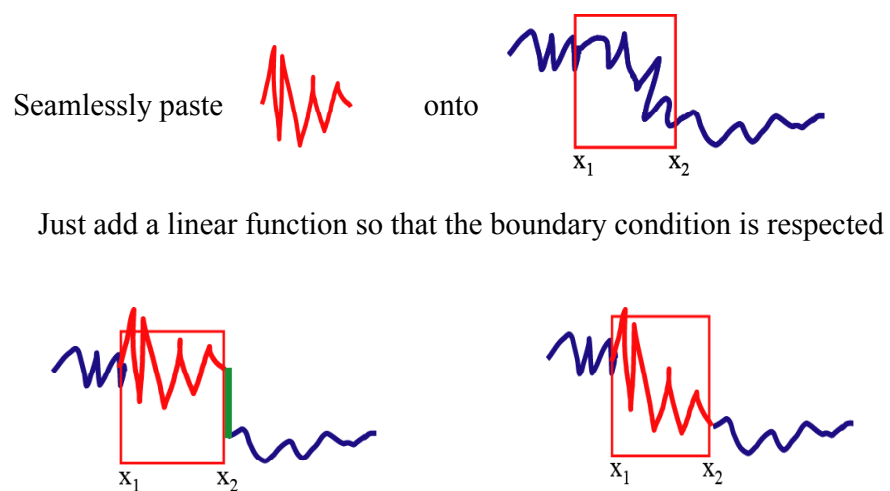


1D Integration

$$I(x) = I(x-1) + G(x)$$

Cumulative sum

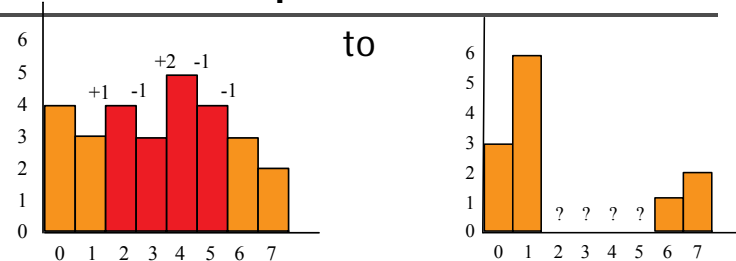
1D case with constraints



Just add a linear function so that the boundary condition is respected

Discrete 1D example: minimization

• Copy



to

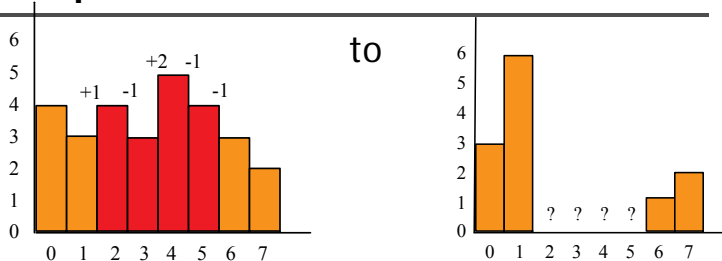
- $\text{Min} ((f_2 - f_1) - 1)^2$
- $\text{Min} ((f_3 - f_2) - (-1))^2$
- $\text{Min} ((f_4 - f_3) - 2)^2$
- $\text{Min} ((f_5 - f_4) - (-1))^2$
- $\text{Min} ((f_6 - f_5) - (-1))^2$

With
 $f_1 = 6$
 $f_6 = 1$



1D example: minimization

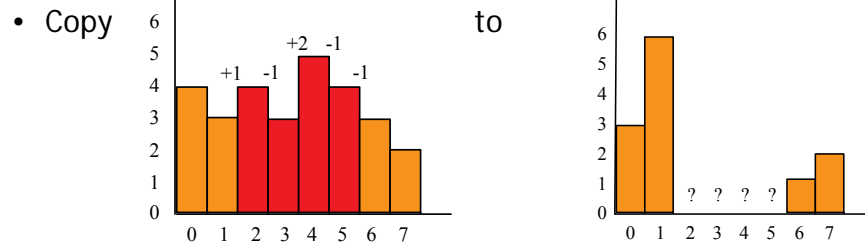
• Copy



to

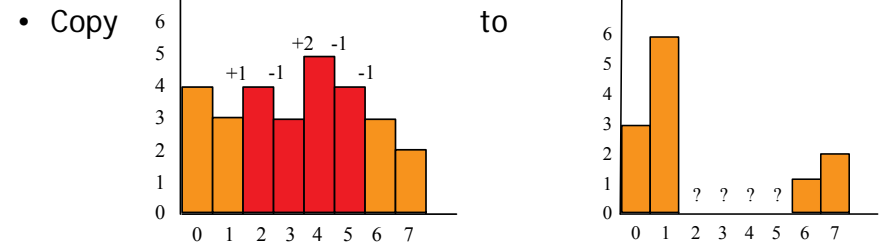
- $\text{Min} ((f_2 - 6) - 1)^2 \implies f_2^2 + 49 - 14f_2$
- $\text{Min} ((f_3 - f_2) - (-1))^2 \implies f_3^2 + f_2^2 + 1 - 2f_3f_2 + 2f_3 - 2f_2$
- $\text{Min} ((f_4 - f_3) - 2)^2 \implies f_4^2 + f_3^2 + 4 - 2f_3f_4 - 4f_4 + 4f_3$
- $\text{Min} ((f_5 - f_4) - (-1))^2 \implies f_5^2 + f_4^2 + 1 - 2f_5f_4 + 2f_5 - 2f_4$
- $\text{Min} ((1 - f_5) - (-1))^2 \implies f_5^2 + 4 - 4f_5$

1D example: big quadratic



• Min $(f_2^2+49-14f_2$
 $+ f_3^2+f_2^2+1-2f_3f_2 +2f_3-2f_2$
 $+ f_4^2+f_3^2+4-2f_3f_4 -4f_4+4f_3$
 $+ f_5^2+f_4^2+1-2f_5f_4 +2f_5-2f_4$
 $+ f_5^2+4-4f_5)$
 Denote it Q

1D example: derivatives



Min $(f_2^2+49-14f_2$
 $+ f_3^2+f_2^2+1-2f_3f_2 +2f_3-2f_2$
 $+ f_4^2+f_3^2+4-2f_3f_4 -4f_4+4f_3$
 $+ f_5^2+f_4^2+1-2f_5f_4 +2f_5-2f_4$
 $+ f_5^2+4-4f_5)$
 Denote it Q

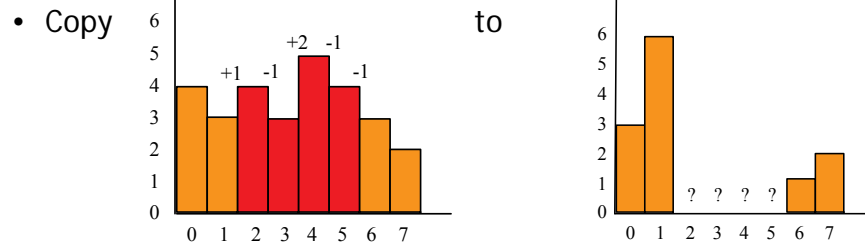
$$\frac{dQ}{df_2} = 2f_2 + 2f_2 - 2f_3 - 16$$

$$\frac{dQ}{df_3} = 2f_3 - 2f_2 + 2 + 2f_3 - 2f_4 + 4$$

$$\frac{dQ}{df_4} = 2f_4 - 2f_3 - 4 + 2f_4 - 2f_5 - 2$$

$$\frac{dQ}{df_5} = 2f_5 - 2f_4 + 2 + 2f_5 - 4$$

1D example: set derivatives to zero



$$\frac{dQ}{df_2} = 2f_2 + 2f_2 - 2f_3 - 16$$

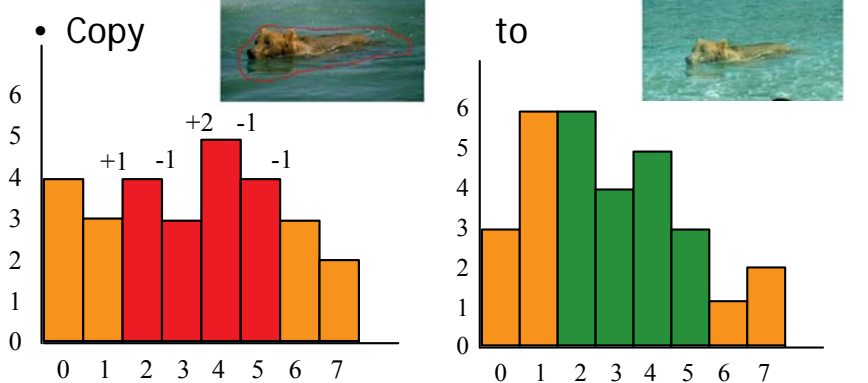
$$\frac{dQ}{df_3} = 2f_3 - 2f_2 + 2 + 2f_3 - 2f_4 + 4$$

$$\frac{dQ}{df_4} = 2f_4 - 2f_3 - 4 + 2f_4 - 2f_5 - 2$$

$$\frac{dQ}{df_5} = 2f_5 - 2f_4 + 2 + 2f_5 - 4$$

$$\implies \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -2 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 4 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 4 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} f_2 \\ f_3 \\ f_4 \\ f_5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 16 \\ -6 \\ 6 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

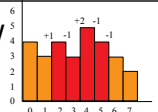
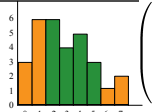
1D example



$$\begin{pmatrix} 4 & -2 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 4 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 4 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} f_2 \\ f_3 \\ f_4 \\ f_5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 16 \\ -6 \\ 6 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} f_2 \\ f_3 \\ f_4 \\ f_5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 4 \\ 5 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

1D example: remarks

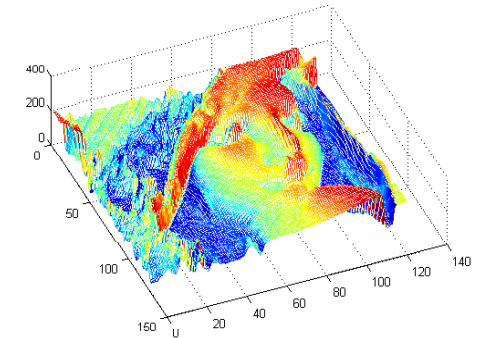
• Copy  to  to
$$\begin{pmatrix} 4 & -2 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 4 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 4 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} f_2 \\ f_3 \\ f_4 \\ f_5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 16 \\ -6 \\ 6 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Matrix is sparse
- Matrix is symmetric
- Everything is a multiple of 2
 - because square and derivative of square
- Matrix is a convolution (kernel -2 4 -2)
- Matrix is independent of gradient field. Only RHS is
- Matrix is a second derivative

2D example: images

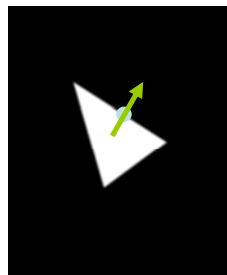
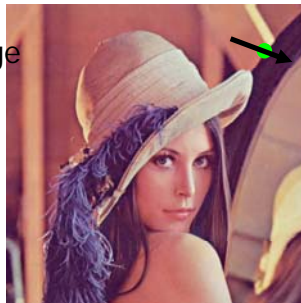
- Images as scalar fields

- $R^2 \rightarrow R$



Gradients

- Vector field (gradient field)
 - Derivative of a scalar field
- Direction
 - Maximum rate of change of scalar field
- Magnitude
 - Rate of change



Gradient Field

- Components of gradient
 - Partial derivatives of scalar field

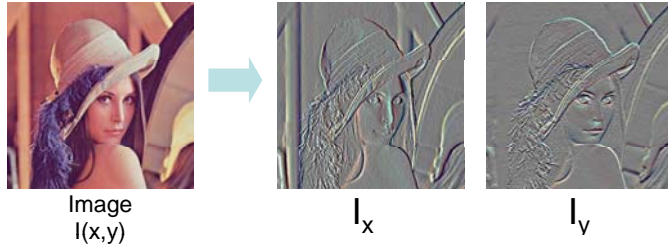
$$I(x, y)$$

$$\nabla I = \left\{ \frac{\partial I}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial I}{\partial y} \right\}$$

$$I(x, y, t)$$

$$\nabla I = \left\{ \frac{\partial I}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial I}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial I}{\partial t} \right\}$$

Example



Gradient at x,y as Forward Differences

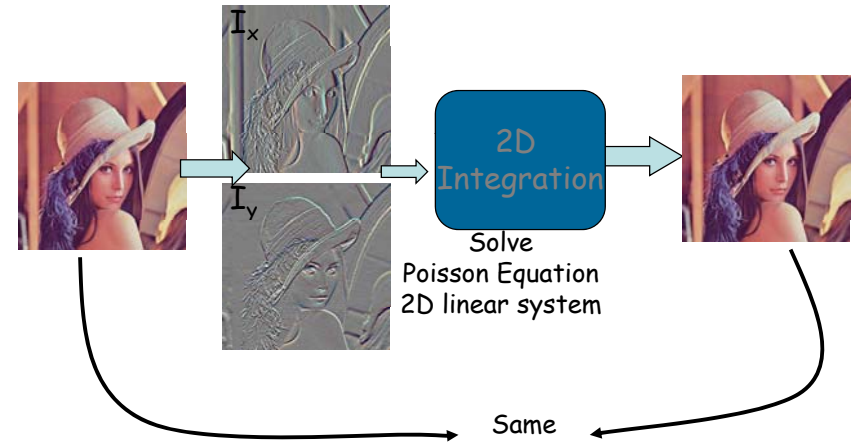
$$G_x(x,y) = I(x+1, y) - I(x,y)$$

$$G_y(x,y) = I(x, y+1) - I(x,y)$$

$$G(x,y) = (G_x, G_y)$$

Reconstruction from Gradients

Sanity Check:
Recovering Original Image

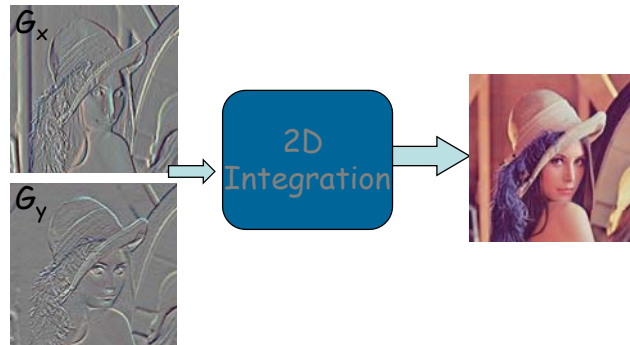


Reconstruction from Gradients

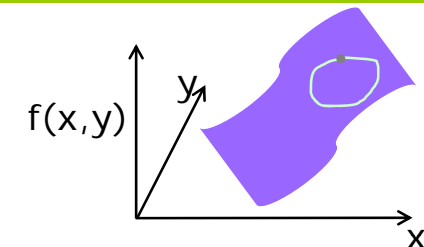
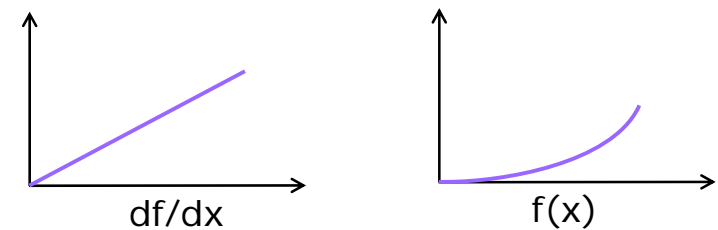
Given $G(x,y) = (G_x, G_y)$

How to compute $I(x,y)$ for the image ?

For n^2 image pixels, $2 n^2$ gradients !



2D Integration is non-trivial



Reconstruction depends on chosen path

Reconstruction from Gradient Field DigiVFX

- Look for image I with gradient closest to G in the least squares sense.
- I minimizes the integral: $\iint F(\nabla I, G) dxdy$

$$F(\nabla I, G) = \|\nabla I - G\|^2 = \left(\frac{\partial I}{\partial x} - G_x\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial I}{\partial y} - G_y\right)^2$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 I}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 I}{\partial y^2} = \frac{\partial G_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial G_y}{\partial y}$$

$$\text{Solve } \frac{\partial^2 I}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 I}{\partial y^2} = \frac{\partial G_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial G_y}{\partial y}$$

$G_x(x, y) - G_x(x-1, y) + G_y(x, y) - G_y(x, y-1)$

$$I(x+1, y) + I(x-1, y) + I(x, y+1) + I(x, y-1) - 4I(x, y)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dots 1 \dots & 1 & -4 & 1 \dots & 1 \dots \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ I \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

Linear System DigiVFX

$$-4I(x, y) + I(x, y+1) + I(x, y-1) + I(x+1, y) + I(x-1, y) = u(x, y)$$

Diagram illustrating the linear system structure. A grid of size $H \times W$ is shown. The central point is labeled (x, y) . The neighbors are labeled $(x-1, y)$, $(x, y-1)$, $(x, y+1)$, and $(x+1, y)$.

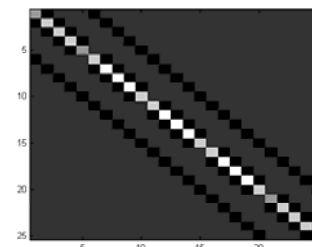
$$\begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

A **x** **b**

Sparse Linear system DigiVFX

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -4 & 1 & & & & & 1 \\ & 1 & -4 & 1 & & & & 1 \\ 1 & & & 1 & -4 & 1 & & 1 \\ & 1 & & & 1 & -4 & 1 & & 1 \\ & & 1 & & & 1 & -4 & 1 & \\ & & & 1 & & & & 1 & -4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

A matrix



Solving Linear System

DigiVFX

- Image size $N \times N$
- Size of $A \sim N^2$ by N^2
- Impractical to form and store A

- Direct Solvers
- Basis Functions
- Multigrid
- Conjugate Gradients

Approximate Solution for Large Scale Problems

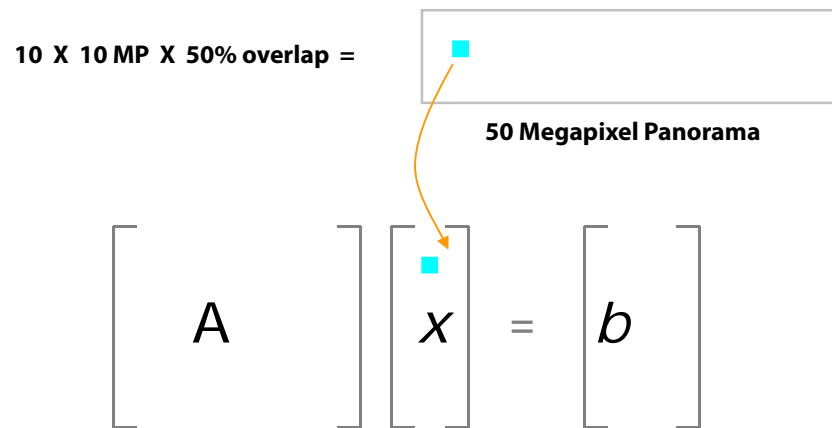
DigiVFX

- Resolution is increasing in digital cameras

- Stitching, Alignment requires solving large linear system

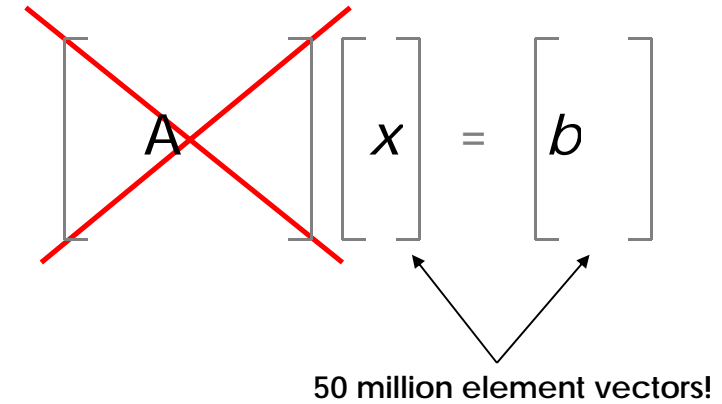
Scalability problem

DigiVFX



Scalability problem

DigiVFX



Approximate Solution

- Reduce size of linear system
- Handle high resolution images
- Part of Photoshop CS3

Aseem Agarwala. "Efficient gradient-domain compositing using quadtrees," ACM Transactions on Graphics (Proceedings of SIGGRAPH 2007)

The key insight

Desired solution x



—

Initial Solution x_0

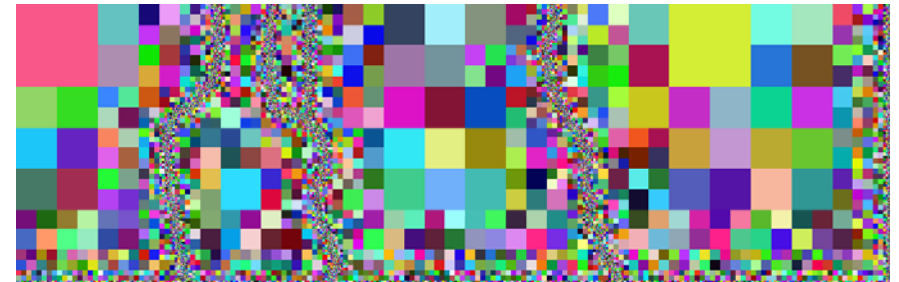
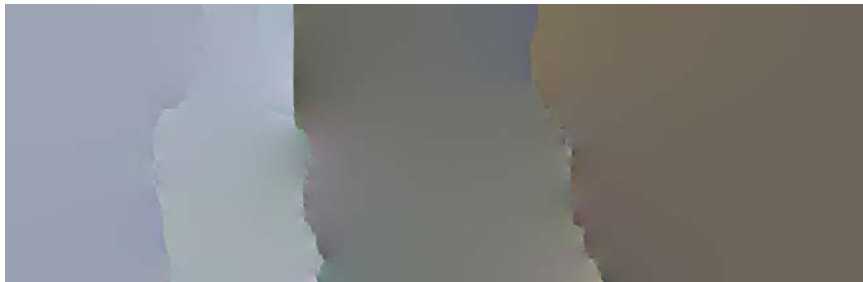


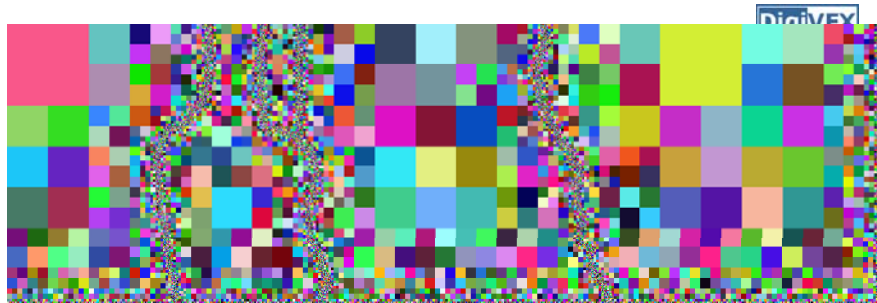
=

Difference x_δ



Quadtree decomposition



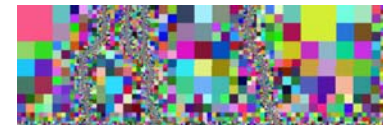


- Maximally subdivide quadtree along seams
- Variables placed at node corners
- Restricted quadtree
- Bi-linear interpolation reconstructs full solution
- Square nodes

Reduced space



x
 n variables



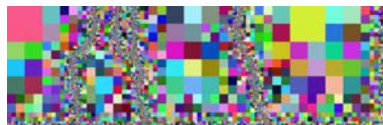
y
 m variables

$$m \ll n$$

Reduced space

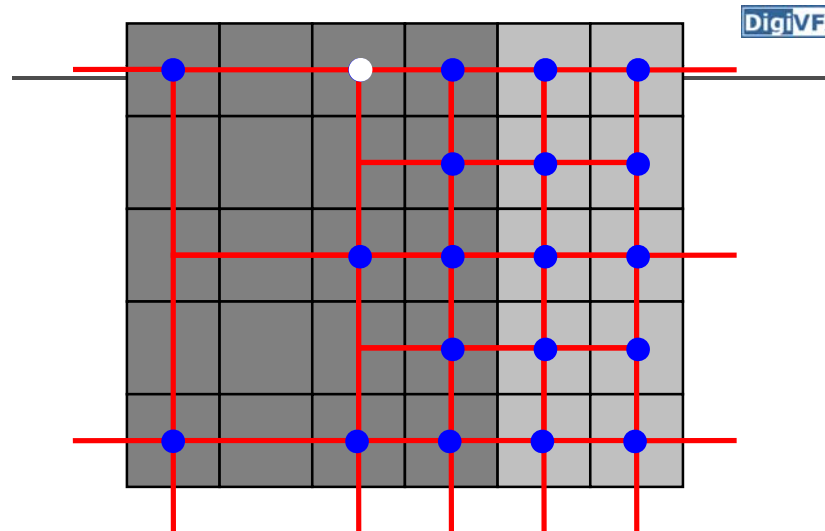


x
 n variables

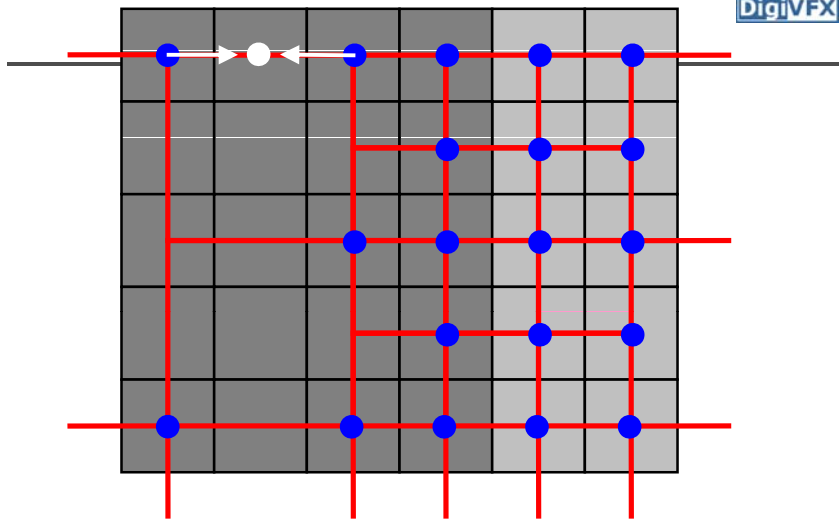


y
 m variables

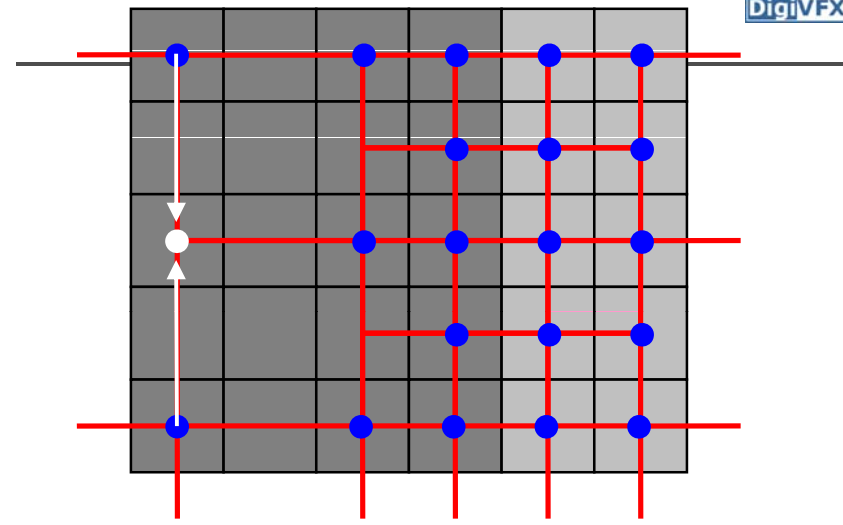
$$x = Sy$$



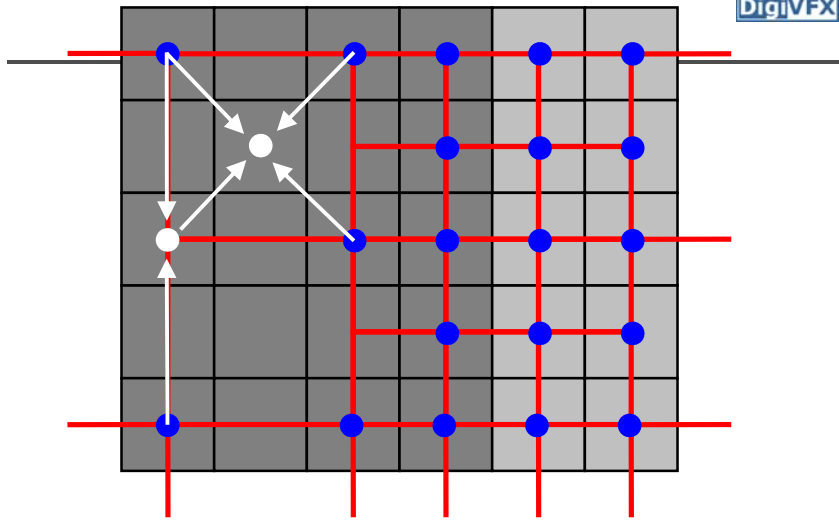
$$x = Sy$$



$$x = Sy$$

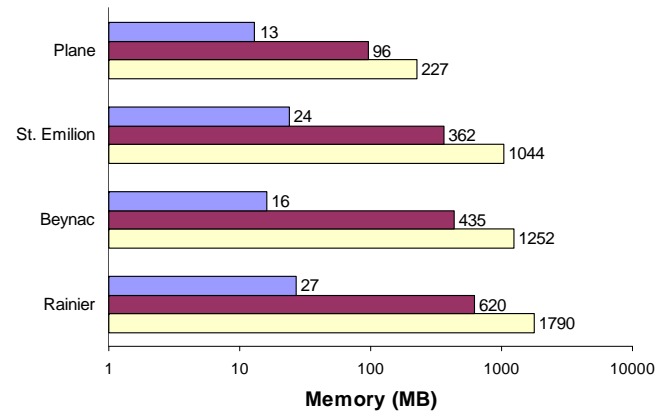


$$x = Sy$$



$$x = Sy$$

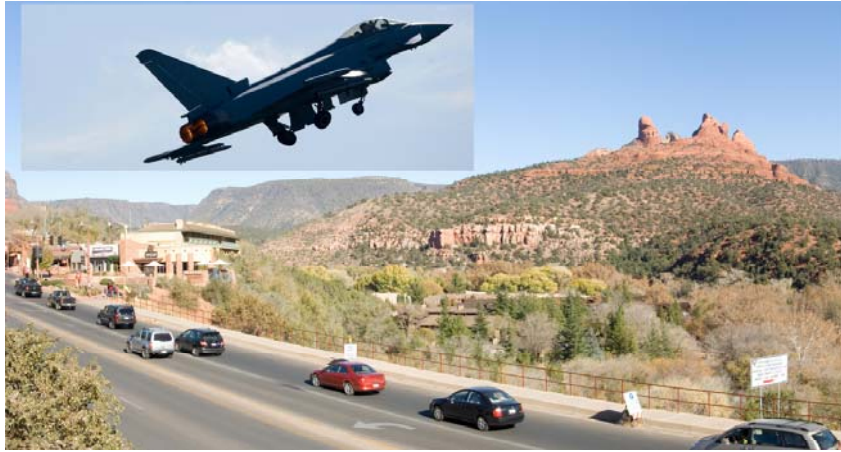
Performance



- Quadtree [Agarwala 07]
- Hierarchical basis preconditioning [Szeliski 90]
- Locally-adapted hierarchical basis preconditioning [Szeliski 06]

Cut-and-paste

DigiVFX



Cut-and-paste

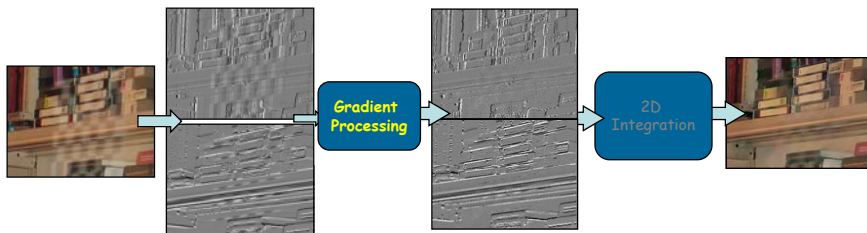
DigiVFX



Intensity Gradient Manipulation

DigiVFX

A Common Pipeline



Gradient Domain Manipulations: Overview

DigiVFX

- (A) Per pixel
- (B) Corresponding gradients in two images
- (C) Corresponding gradients in multiple images
- (D) Combining gradients along seams

Gradient Domain Manipulations: Overview

(A) Per pixel

- Non-linear operations (HDR compression, local illumination change)
- Set to zero (shadow removal, intrinsic images, texture de-emphasis)
- Poisson Matting

(B) Corresponding gradients in two images

- Vector operations (gradient projection)
 - Combining flash/no-flash images, Reflection removal
- Projection Tensors
 - Reflection removal, Shadow removal
- Max operator
 - Day/Night fusion, Visible/IR fusion, Extending DoF
- Binary, choose from first or second, copying
 - Image editing, seamless cloning

Gradient Domain Manipulations

(C) Corresponding gradients in multiple images

- Median operator
 - Specularity reduction
 - Intrinsic images
- Max operation
 - Extended DOF

(D) Combining gradients along seams

- Weighted averaging
- Optimal seam using graph cut
 - Image stitching, Mosaics, Panoramas, Image fusion
 - A usual pipeline: Graph cut to find seams + gradient domain fusion

A. Per Pixel Manipulations

- Non-linear operations
 - HDR compression, local illumination change



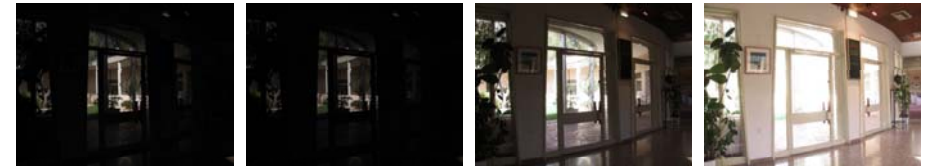
- Set to zero
 - Shadow removal, intrinsic images, texture de-emphasis



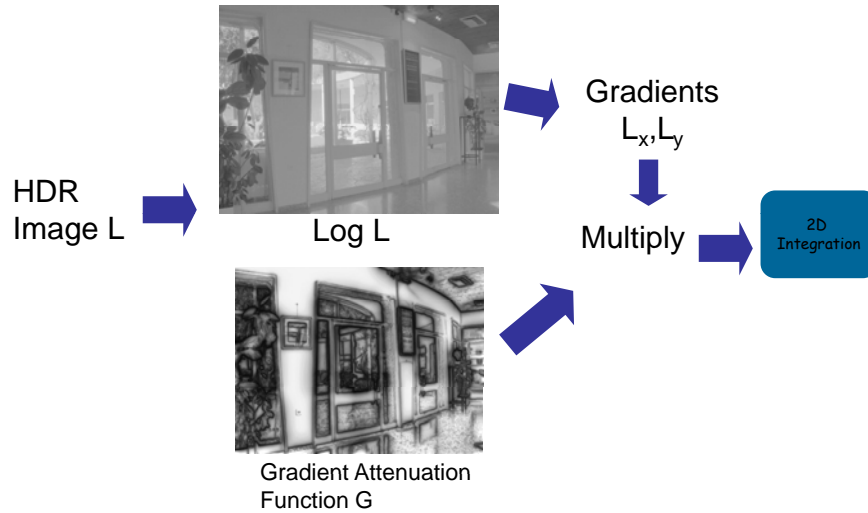
- Poisson Matting



High Dynamic Range Imaging



Gradient Domain Compression



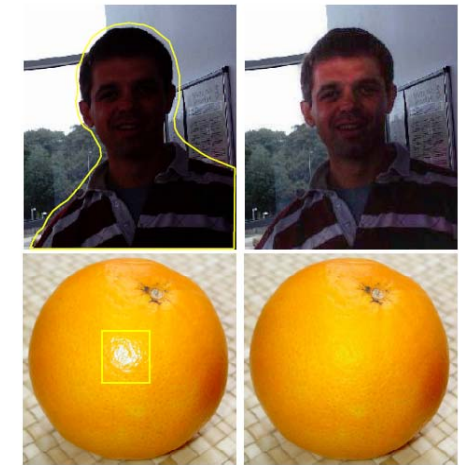
Local Illumination Change

Original Image: f

$$v = \alpha^\beta |\nabla f^*|^{-\beta} \nabla f^*$$

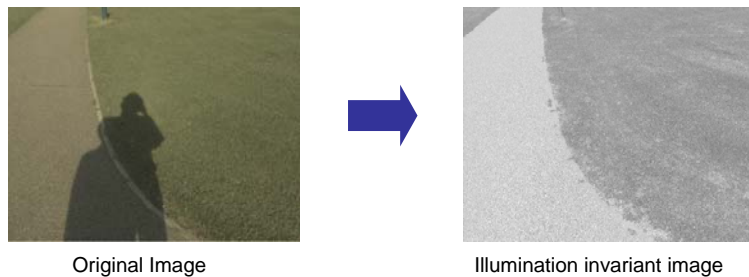
Original gradient field: ∇f^*

Modified gradient field: v



Perez et al. Poisson Image editing, SIGGRAPH 2003

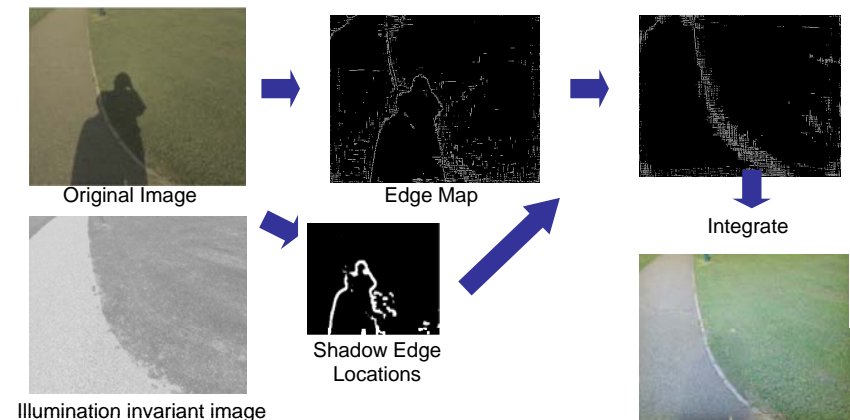
Illumination Invariant Image



- Assumptions
 - Sensor response = delta functions R, G, B in wavelength spectrum
 - Illumination restricted to Outdoor Illumination

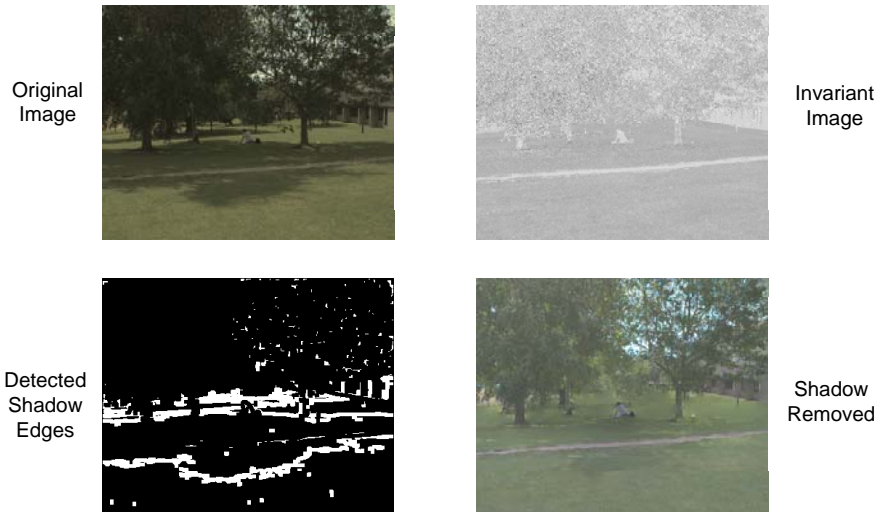
G. D. Finlayson, S.D. Hordley & M.S. Drew, Removing Shadows From Images, ECCV 2002

Shadow Removal Using Illumination Invariant Image



G. D. Finlayson, S.D. Hordley & M.S. Drew, Removing Shadows From Images, ECCV 2002

Illumination invariant image



G. D. Finlayson, S.D. Hordley & M.S. Drew, Removing Shadows From Images, ECCV 2002

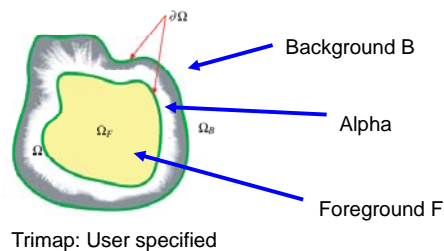
Intrinsic Image

- Photo = Illumination Image * **Intrinsic Image**
- Retinex [Land & McCann 1971, Horn 1974]
 - Illumination is smoothly varying
 - Reflectance, piece-wise constant, has strong edges
 - Keep strong image gradients, integrate to obtain reflectance

low-frequency attenuate more high-frequency attenuate less



Poisson Matting



Jian Sun, Jiaya Jia, Chi-Keung Tang, Heung-Yeung Shum, Poisson Matting, SIGGRAPH 2004

Poisson Matting

$$I = \alpha F + (1 - \alpha)B$$

$$\nabla I = (F - B)\nabla\alpha + \alpha\nabla F + (1 - \alpha)\nabla B$$

Approximate: Assume F and B are smooth

$$\nabla I = (F - B)\nabla\alpha$$

$$\nabla\alpha \approx \frac{1}{F - B}\nabla I$$



$$\Delta\alpha = \text{div}\left(\frac{\nabla I}{F - B}\right)$$

F and B in tri-map using nearest pixels

Poisson Equation

Poisson Matting

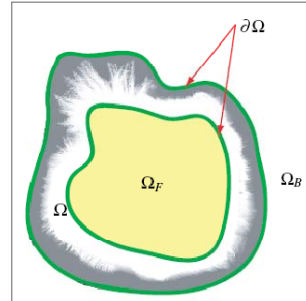
- Steps

- Approximate F and B in trimap Ω .

- Solve for α $\Delta\alpha = \text{div}\left(\frac{\nabla I}{F - B}\right)$

- Refine F and B using α

- Iterate



Gradient Domain Manipulations: Overview

(A) Per pixel

(B) Corresponding gradients in two images

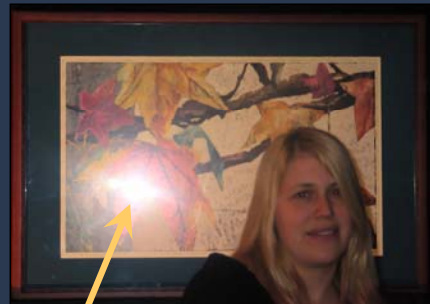
(C) Corresponding gradients in multiple images

(D) Combining gradients along seams

Photography Artifacts: Flash Hotspot

Ambient

Flash

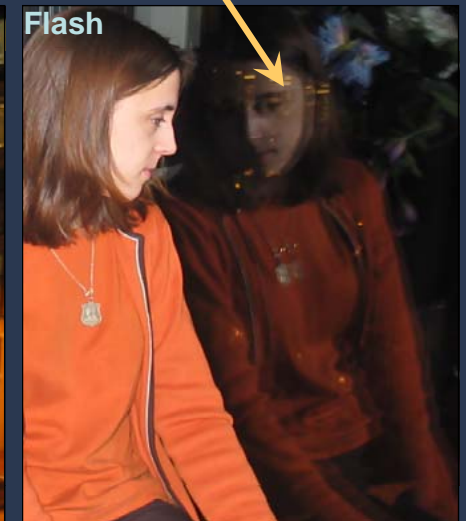
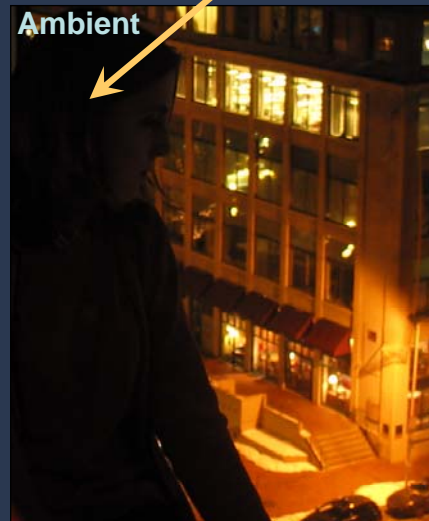


Flash Hotspot

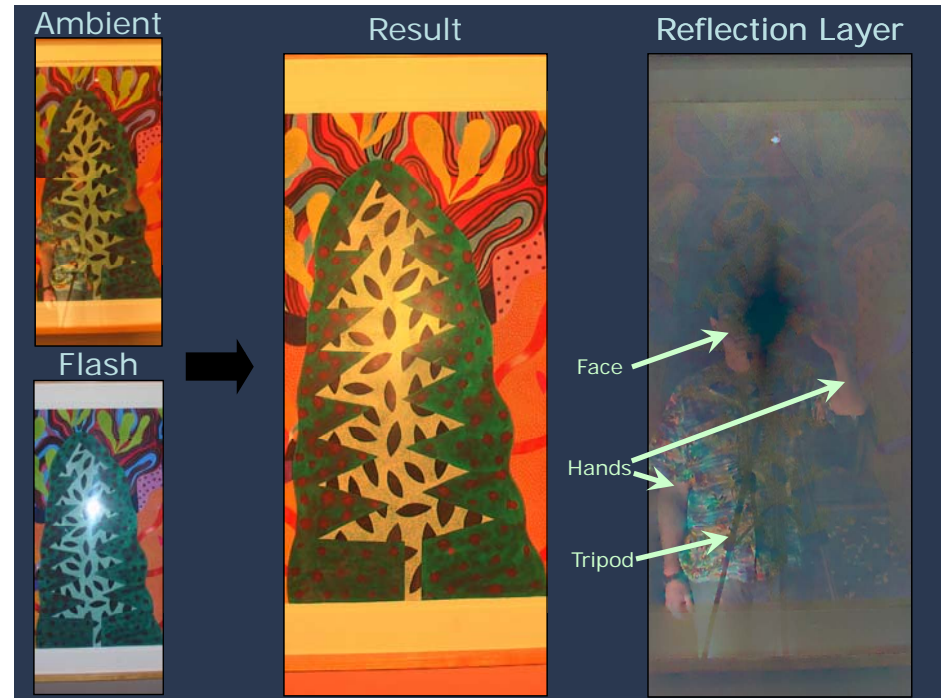
Reflections due to Flash

Underexposed

Reflections

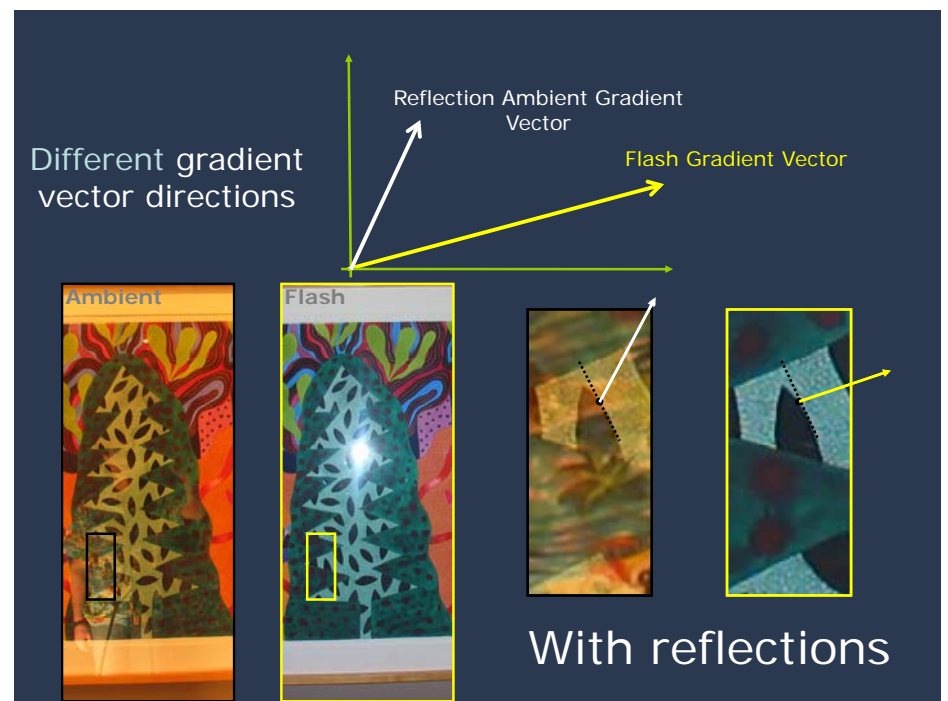
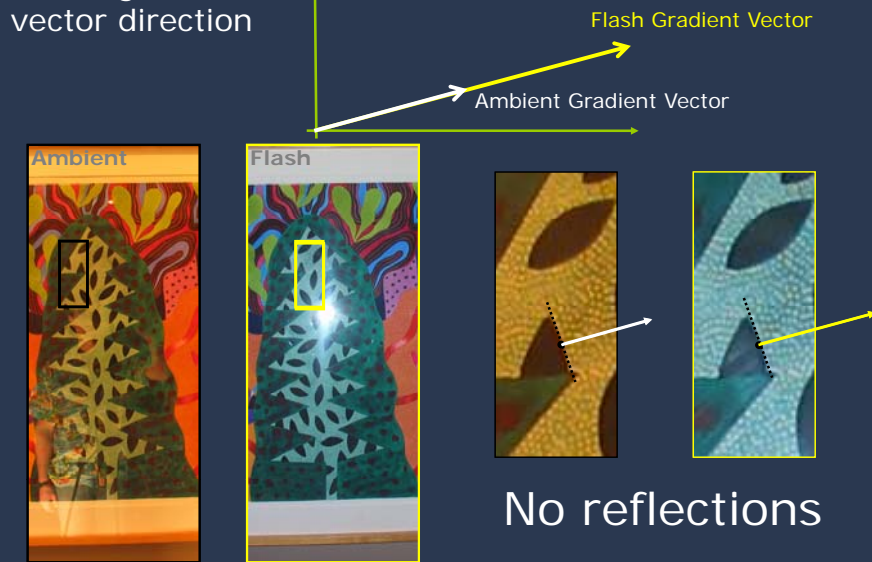


Self-Reflections and Flash Hotspot



Intensity Gradient Vectors in Flash and Ambient Images

Same gradient vector direction



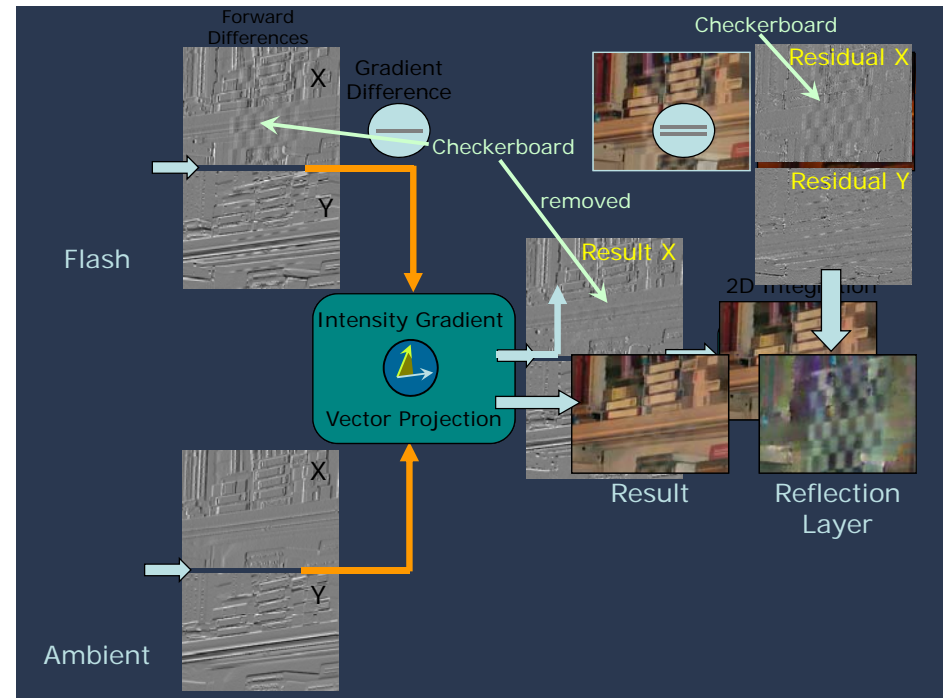
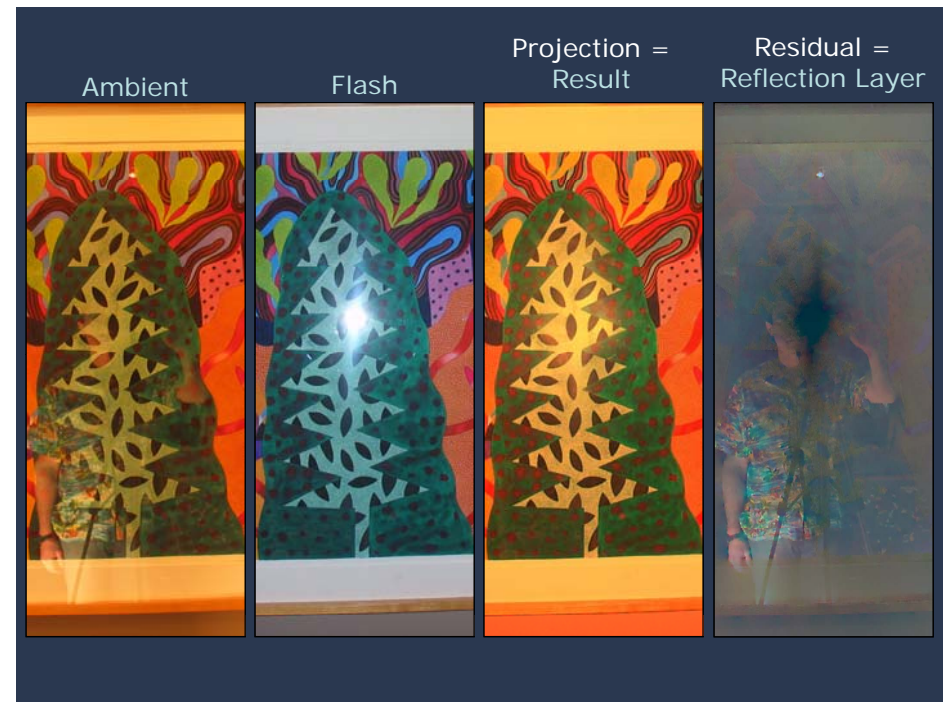
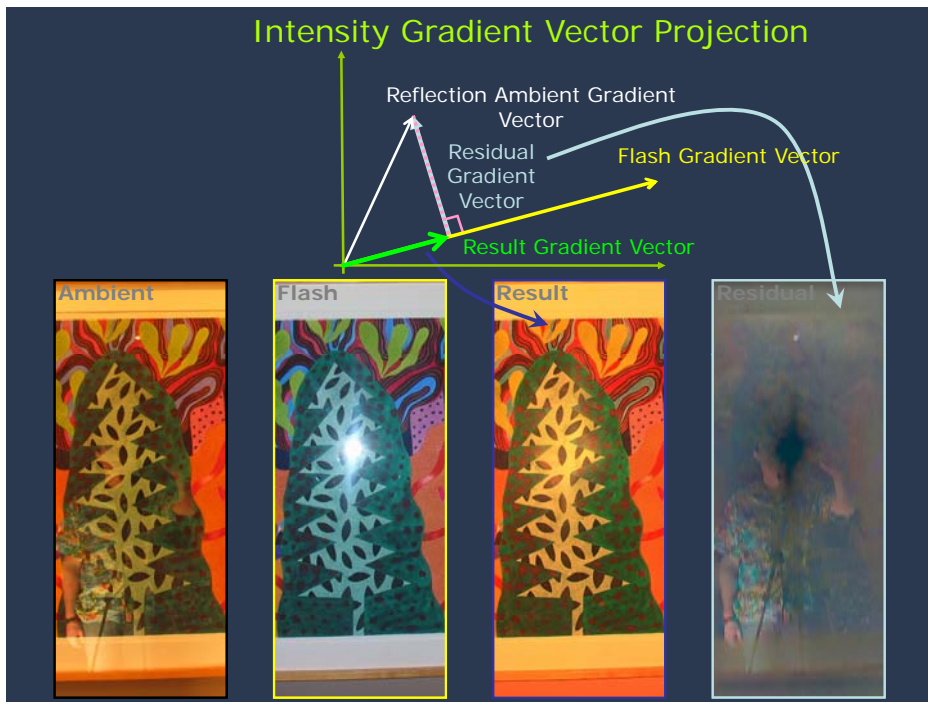


Image Fusion for Context Enhancement and Video Surrealism

Ramesh Raskar

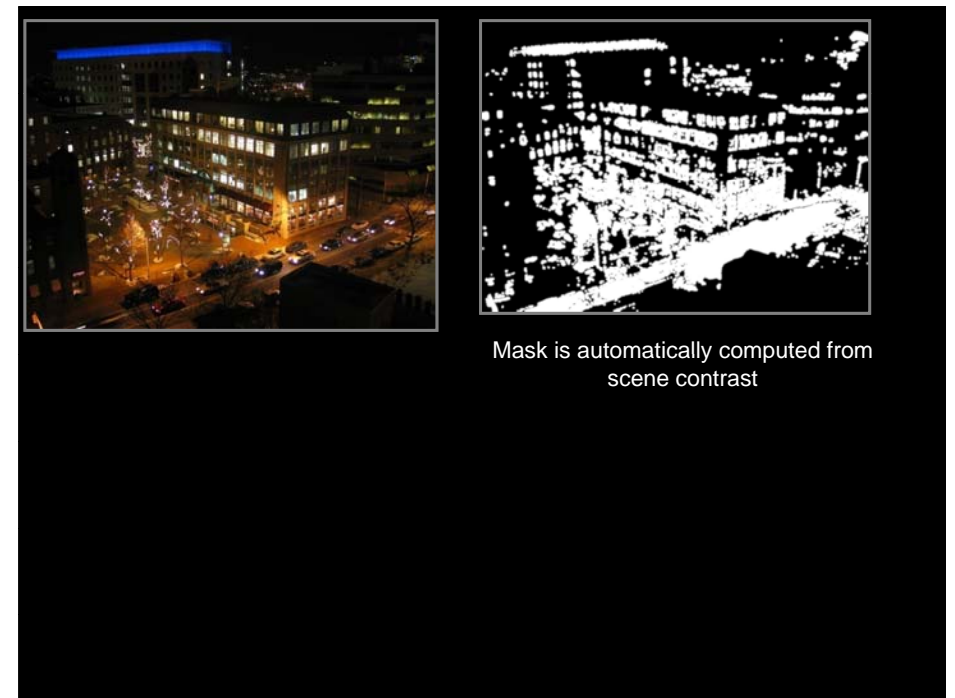
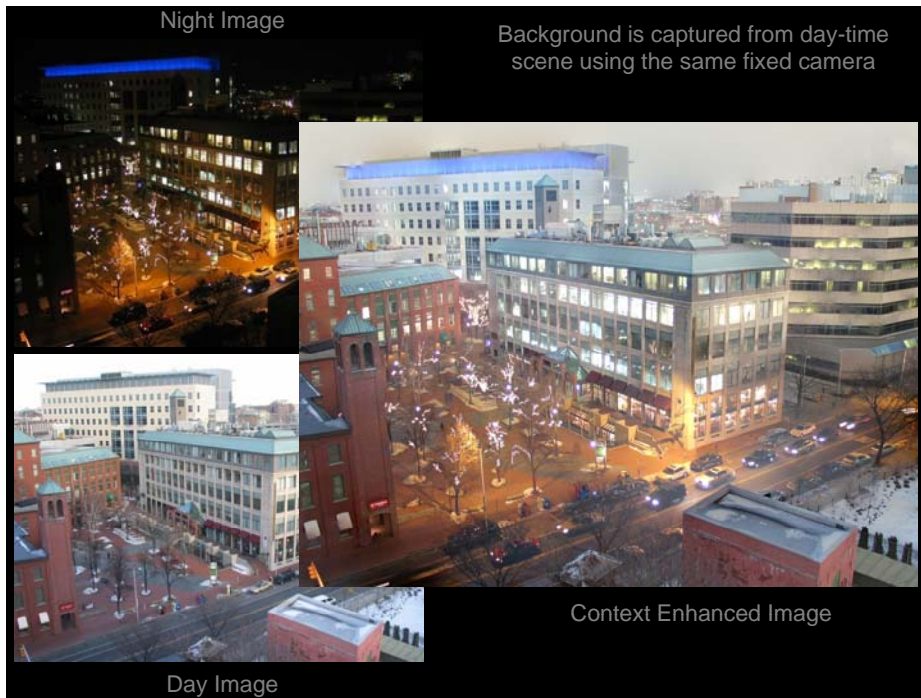
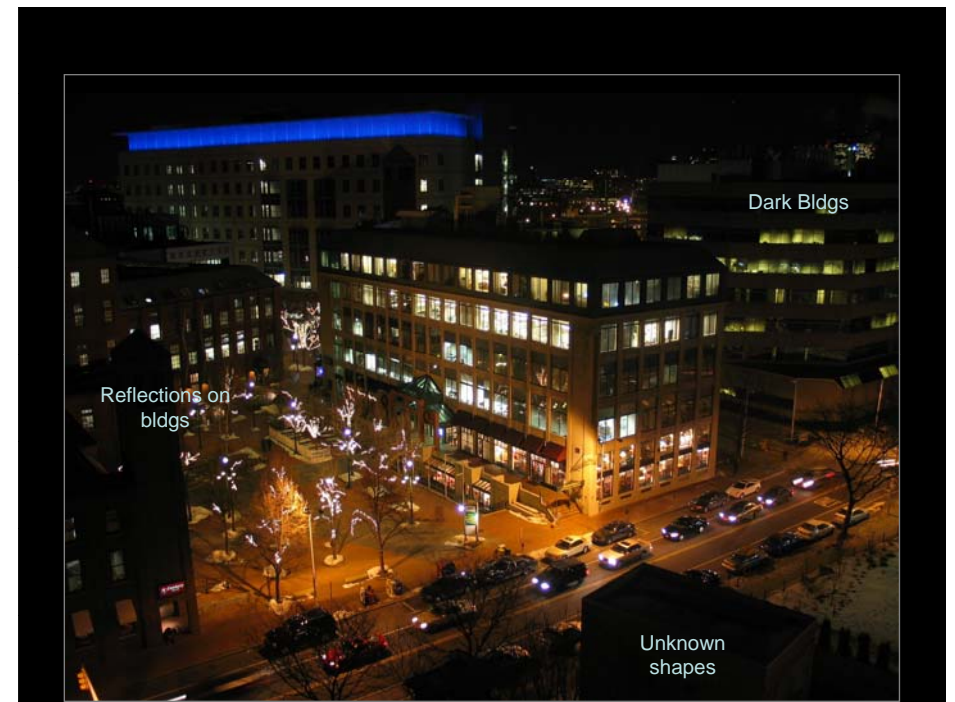
*Mitsubishi Electric
Research Labs,
(MERL)*

Adrian Ilie

UNC Chapel Hill

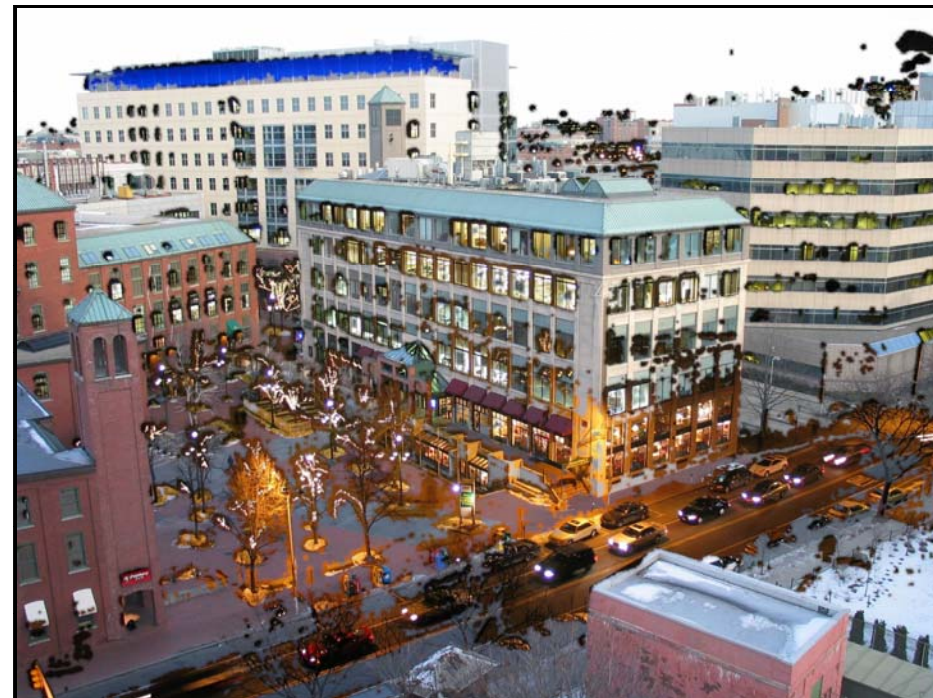
Jingyi Yu

MIT





But, Simple Pixel Blending Creates Ugly Artifacts



Pixel Blending

solution:
Integration of
blended Gradients

Nighttime image



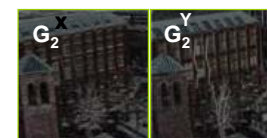
Gradient field



Importance image W



Daytime image



Gradient field

Mixed gradient field



Final result

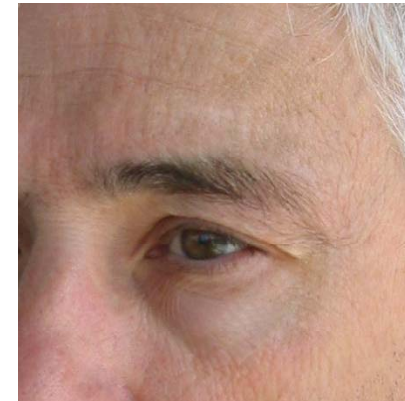


Poisson Image Editing

- Precise selection: tedious and unsatisfactory
- Alpha-Matting: powerful but involved
- **Seamless cloning**: loose selection but no seams?

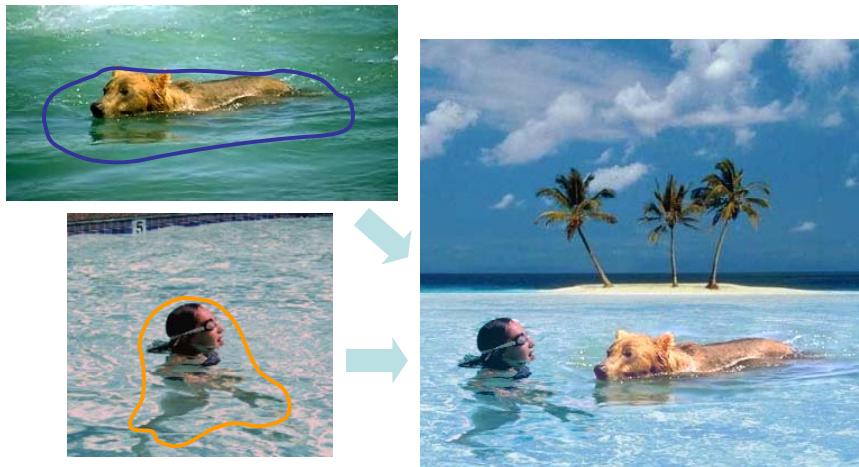


Conceal



Copy Background gradients (user strokes)

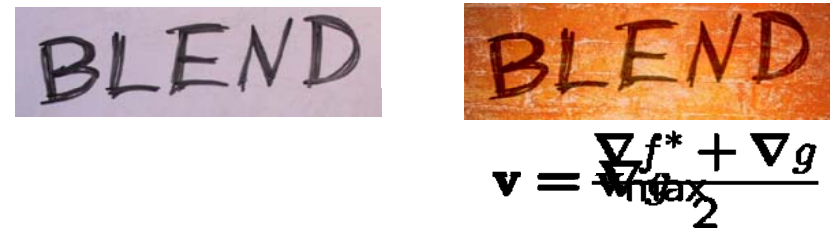
Compose



Source Images

Target Image

Transparent Cloning



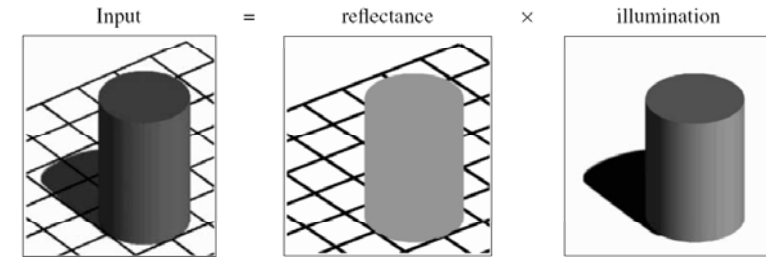
Largest variation from source and destination at each point

Gradient Domain Manipulations: Overview DigiVFX

- (A) Per pixel
- (B) Corresponding gradients in two images
- (C) [Corresponding gradients in multiple images](#)
- (D) Combining gradients along seams

Intrinsic images DigiVFX

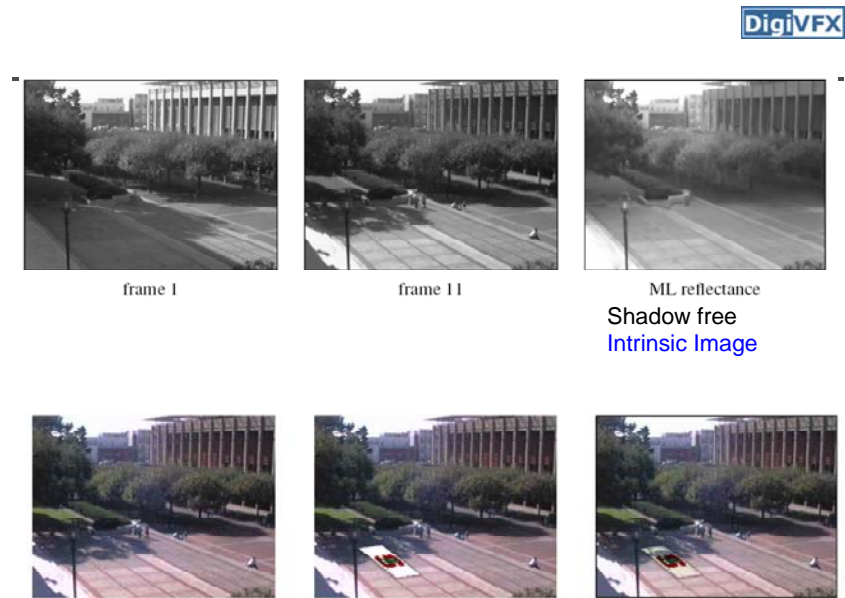
- $I = L * R$
- L = illumination image
- R = reflectance image



Intrinsic images DigiVFX

- Use multiple images under different illumination
- Assumption
 - Illumination image gradients = Laplacian PDF
 - Under Laplacian PDF, Median = ML estimator
- At each pixel, take [Median of gradients across images](#)
- Integrate to remove shadows

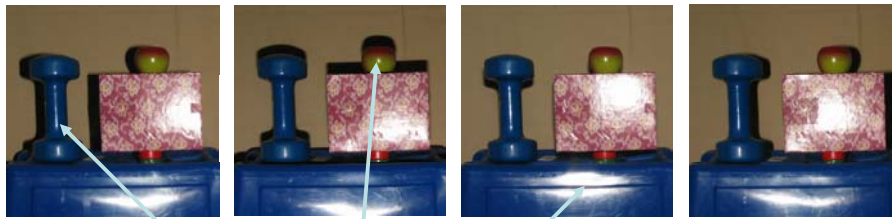
Yair Weiss, "Deriving intrinsic images from image sequences", ICCV 2001



Result = Illumination Image * (Label in Intrinsic Image)

Specularity Reduction in Active Illumination

DigiVFX



Line Specularity Point Specularity Area Specularity

Multiple images with same viewpoint, varying illumination

How do we remove highlights?



Specularity Reduced Image

Gradient Domain Manipulations: Overview

DigiVFX

- (A) Per pixel
- (B) Corresponding gradients in two images
- (C) Corresponding gradients in multiple images
- (D) Combining gradients along seams

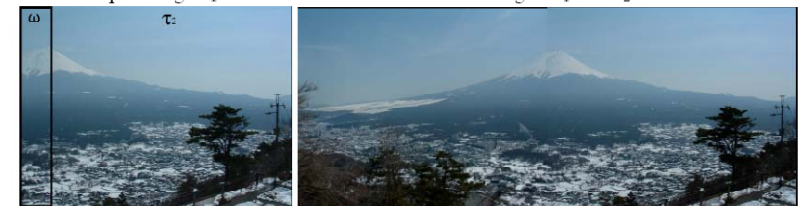
Seamless Image Stitching

DigiVFX



Input image I_1

Pasting of I_1 and I_2



Input image I_2

Stitching result

Anat Levin, Assaf Zomet, Shmuel Peleg and Yair Weiss, "Seamless Image Stitching in the Gradient Domain", ECCV 2004