

Gradient domain operations

Digital Visual Effects

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with slides by Fredo Durand, Ramesh Raskar, Amit Agrawal

Gradient domain operators



Gradient Domain Manipulations

DigiVFX

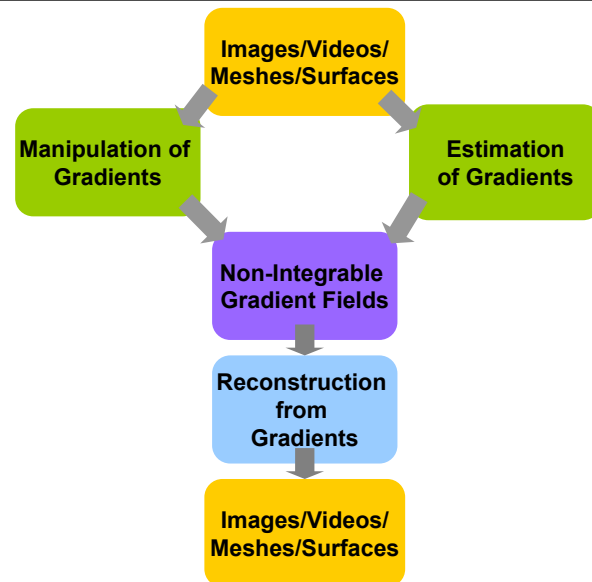
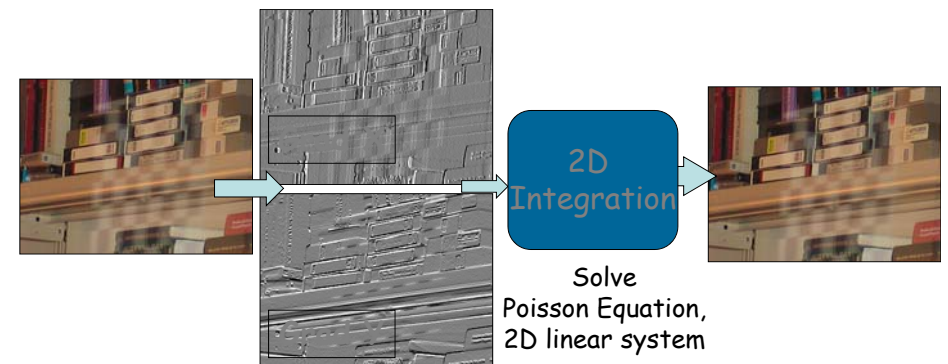


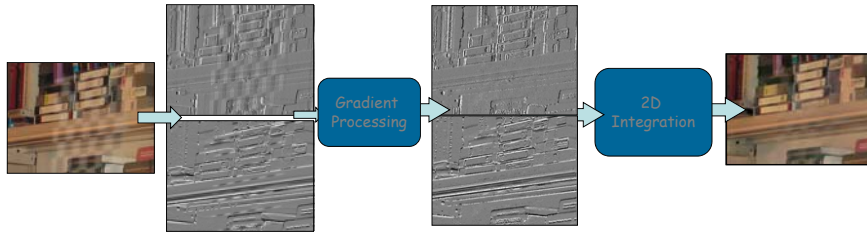
Image Intensity Gradients in 2D

DigiVFX



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



PhotoshopGray



Color2Gray

Color to Gray Conversion



High Dynamic Range Compression



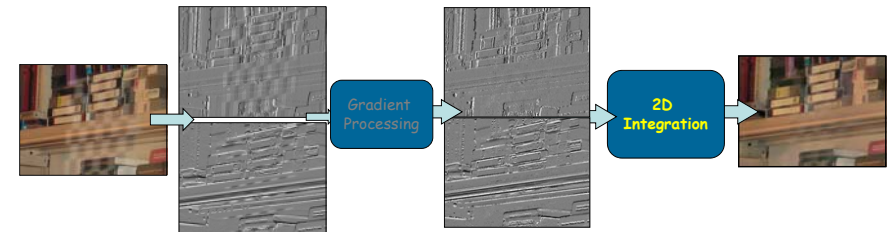
Edge Suppression under Significant Illumination Variations



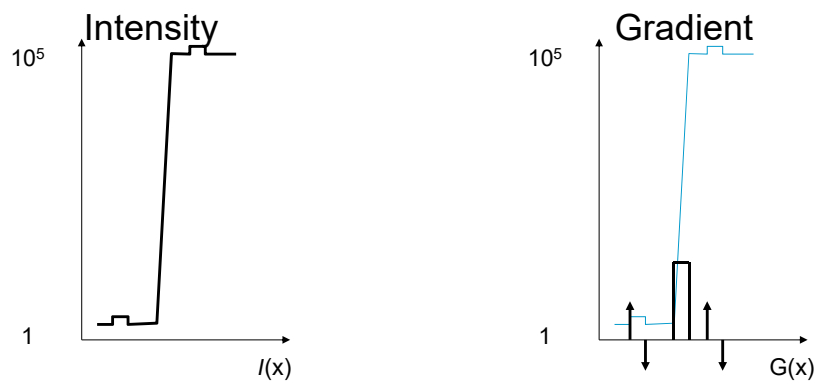
Fusion of day and night images

Intensity Gradient Manipulation

A Common Pipeline



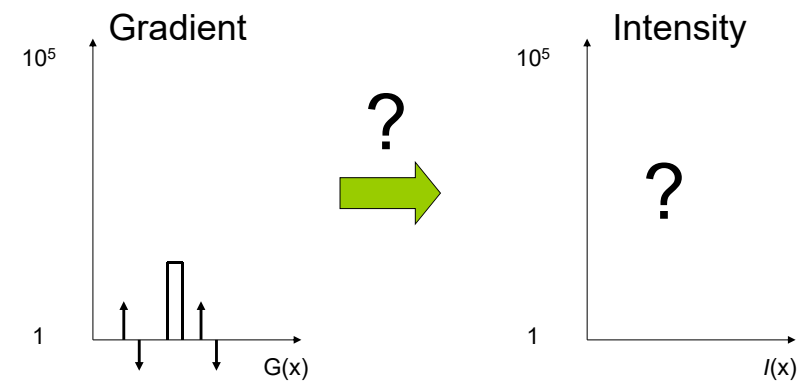
Intensity Gradient in 1D



Gradient at x ,

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

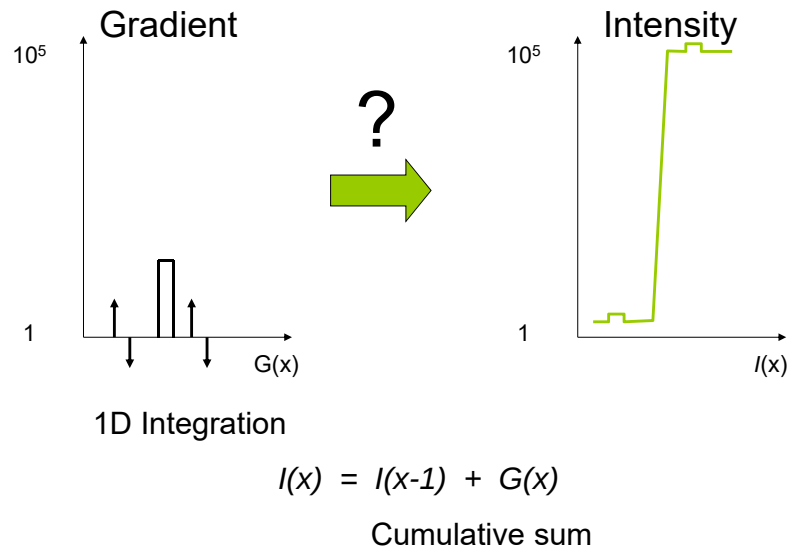
Reconstruction from Gradients



For n intensity values, about n gradients

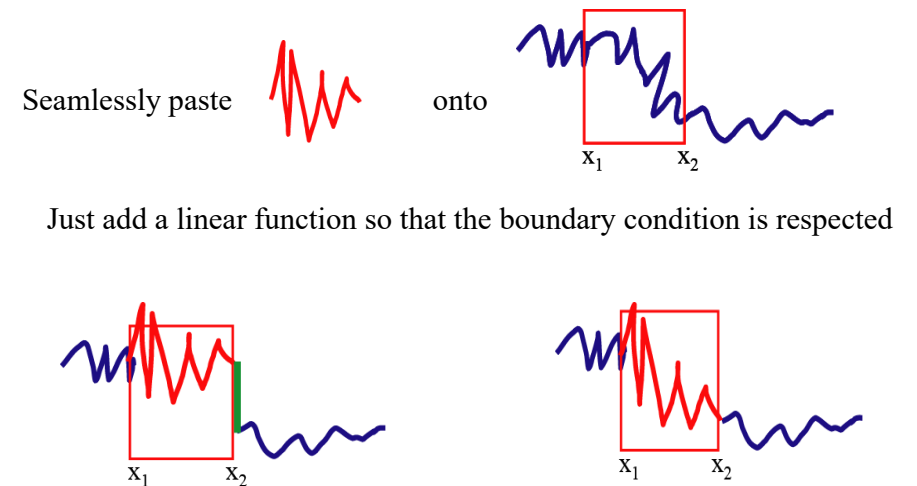
Reconstruction from Gradients

DigiVFX



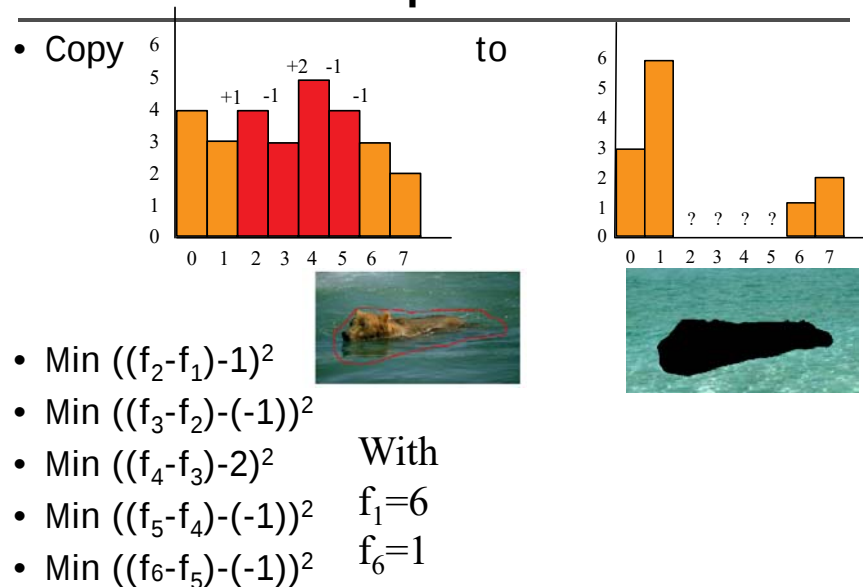
1D case with constraints

DigiVFX



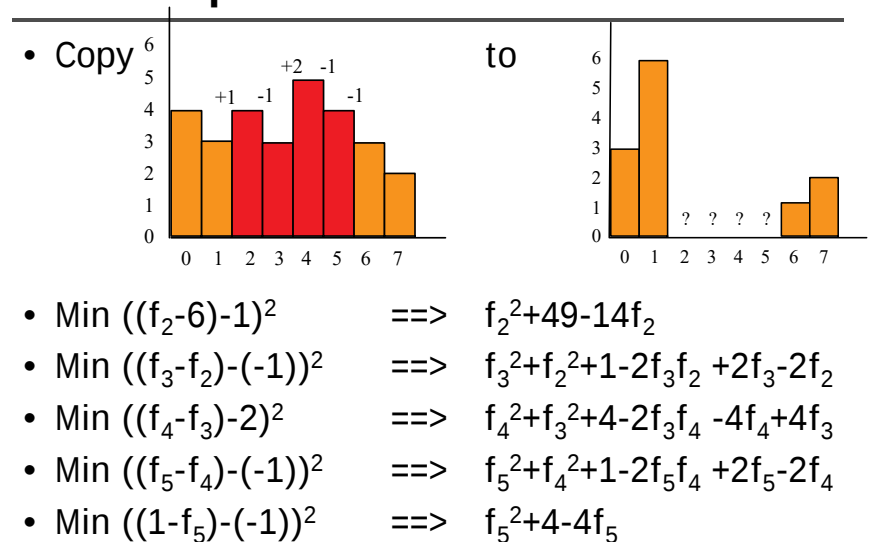
Discrete 1D example: minimization

DigiVFX



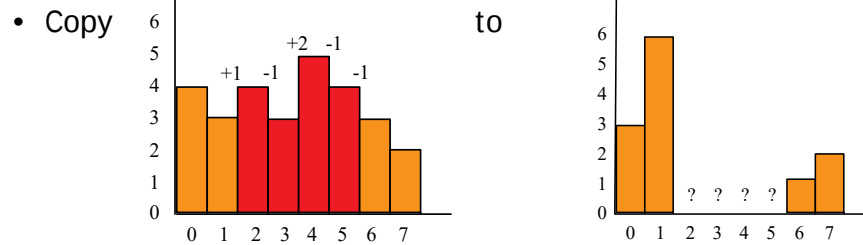
1D example: minimization

DigiVFX



1D example: big quadratic

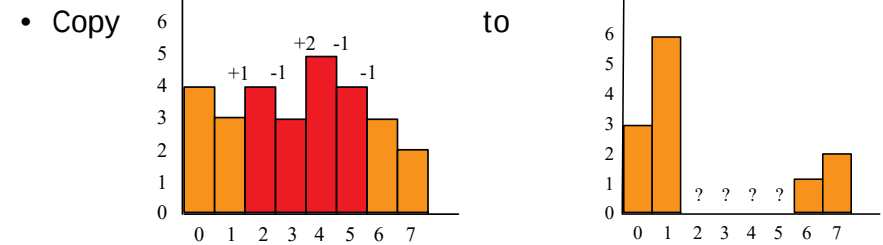
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- Min ($f_2^2 + 49 - 14f_2$
 $+ f_3^2 + f_2^2 + 1 - 2f_3f_2 + 2f_3 - 2f_2$
 $+ f_4^2 + f_3^2 + 4 - 2f_3f_4 - 4f_4 + 4f_3$
 $+ f_5^2 + f_4^2 + 1 - 2f_5f_4 + 2f_5 - 2f_4$
 $+ f_5^2 + 4 - 4f_5$)
 Denote it Q

1D example: derivatives

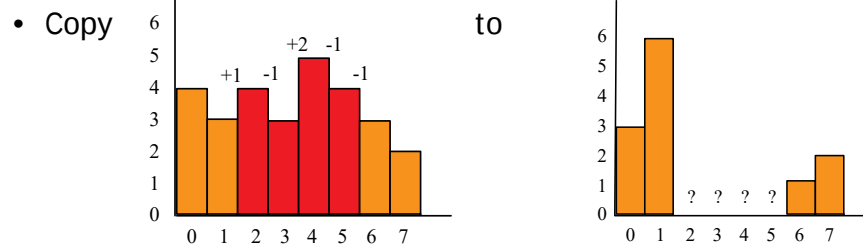
DigiVFX



$$\begin{aligned} \text{Min } (f_2^2 + 49 - 14f_2) & \quad \frac{dQ}{df_2} = 2f_2 + 2f_2 - 2f_3 - 16 \\ & + f_3^2 + f_2^2 + 1 - 2f_3f_2 + 2f_3 - 2f_2 \\ & + f_4^2 + f_3^2 + 4 - 2f_3f_4 - 4f_4 + 4f_3 \quad \frac{dQ}{df_3} = 2f_3 - 2f_2 + 2 + 2f_3 - 2f_4 + 4 \\ & + f_5^2 + f_4^2 + 1 - 2f_5f_4 + 2f_5 - 2f_4 \quad \frac{dQ}{df_4} = 2f_4 - 2f_3 - 4 + 2f_4 - 2f_5 - 2 \\ & + f_5^2 + 4 - 4f_5) \\ \text{Denote it Q} & \quad \frac{dQ}{df_5} = 2f_5 - 2f_4 + 2 + 2f_5 - 4 \end{aligned}$$

1D example: set derivatives to zero

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

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

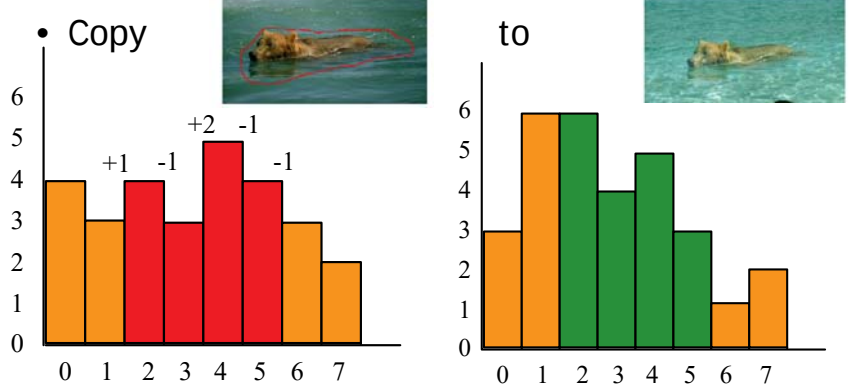
$$\frac{dQ}{df_4} = 2f_4 - 2f_3 - 4 + 2f_4 - 2f_5 - 2$$

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

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

1D example

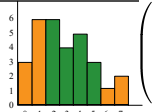
DigiVFX



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

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

1D example: remarks

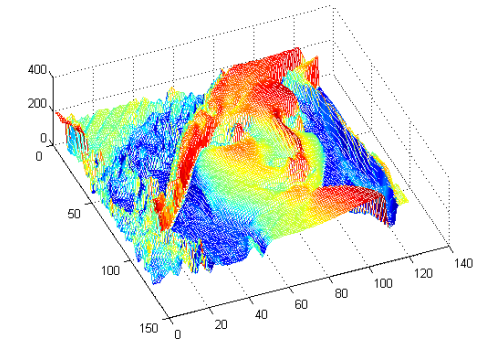
- Copy  to  to
$$\begin{pmatrix} 4 & -2 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 4 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 4 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} f_2 \\ f_3 \\ f_4 \\ f_5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 16 \\ -6 \\ 6 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

- 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

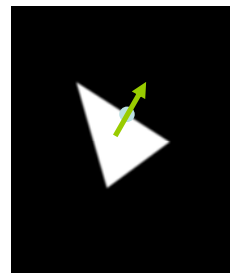
- Images as scalar fields

- $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$



Gradients

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



Example

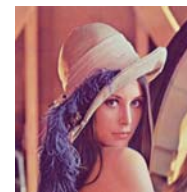


Image
 $I(x,y)$



I_x



I_y

Gradient at x,y as Forward Differences

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

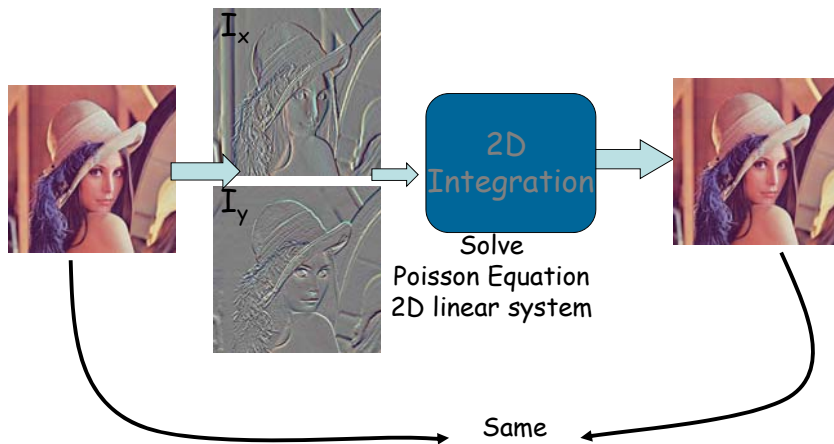
$$G_y(x,y) = I(x, y+1) - I(x,y)$$

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

Reconstruction from Gradients

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Sanity Check:
Recovering Original Image



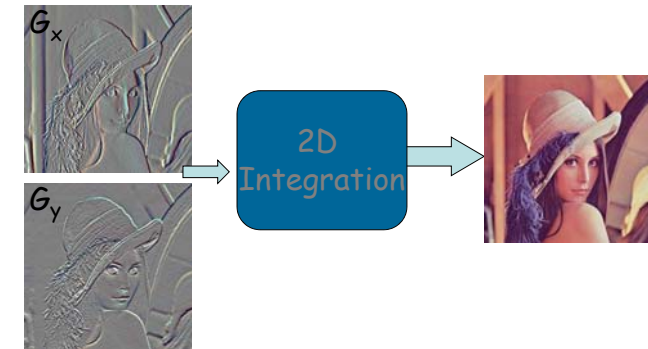
Reconstruction from Gradients

DigiVFX

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

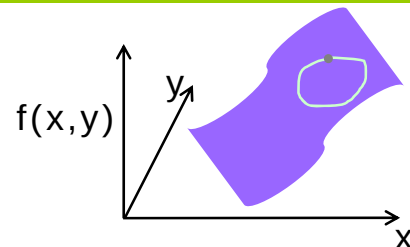
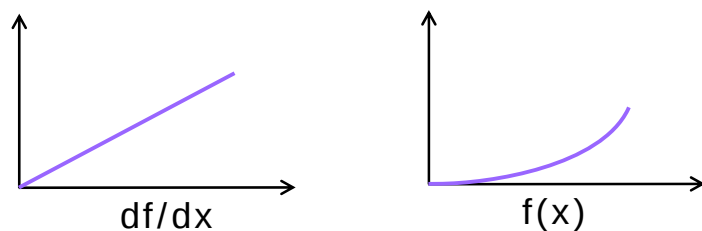
How to compute $I(x,y)$ for the image ?

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



2D Integration is non-trivial

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Reconstruction depends on chosen path

Reconstruction from Gradient Field G

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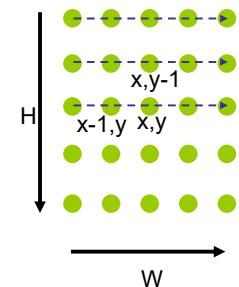
- Look for image I with gradient closest to G in the least squares sense.
- I minimizes the integral: $\iint F(\nabla I, G) dx dy$

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

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

Linear System

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



$$\begin{bmatrix} \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix}
 \begin{bmatrix} \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \end{bmatrix}
 =
 \begin{bmatrix} \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \end{bmatrix}$$

$\underbrace{[\quad 1 \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad 1 \quad -4 \quad 1 \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad 1 \quad \cdot]}_{\text{H}}$
 $\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{H}} = u(x, y)$

$\underbrace{\quad}_{\text{A}} \quad \underbrace{\quad}_{\text{x}} \quad \underbrace{\quad}_{\text{b}}$

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

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

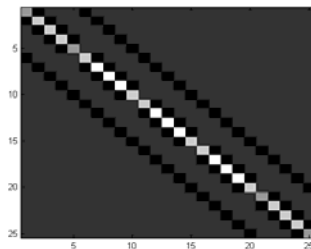
$$\begin{bmatrix} \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix}
 \begin{bmatrix} \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \end{bmatrix}
 =
 \begin{bmatrix} \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \end{bmatrix}$$

$\underbrace{[\quad \cdot \quad 1 \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad 1 \quad -4 \quad 1 \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad 1 \quad \cdot]}_{\text{H}}$
 $\underbrace{\quad}_{\text{I}} = \quad$

Sparse Linear system

$$\begin{bmatrix} \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix}$$

A matrix

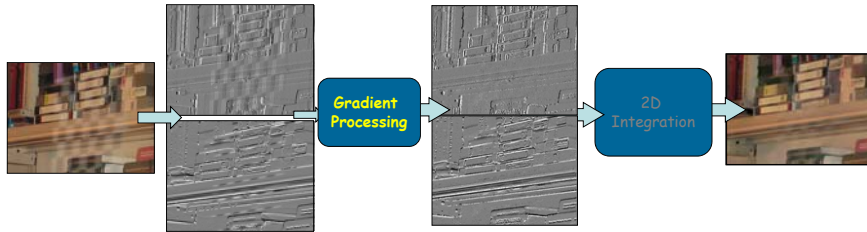


Solving Linear System

- 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

Intensity Gradient Manipulation

A Common Pipeline



Gradient Domain Manipulations: Overview

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

A. Per Pixel Manipulations

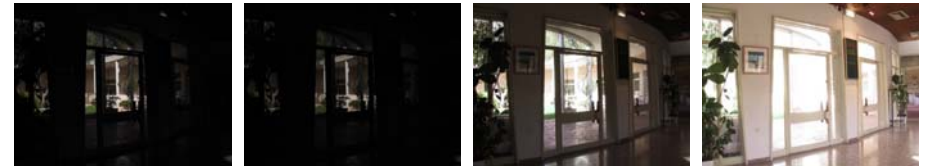
- Non-linear operations
 - HDR compression, local illumination change



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

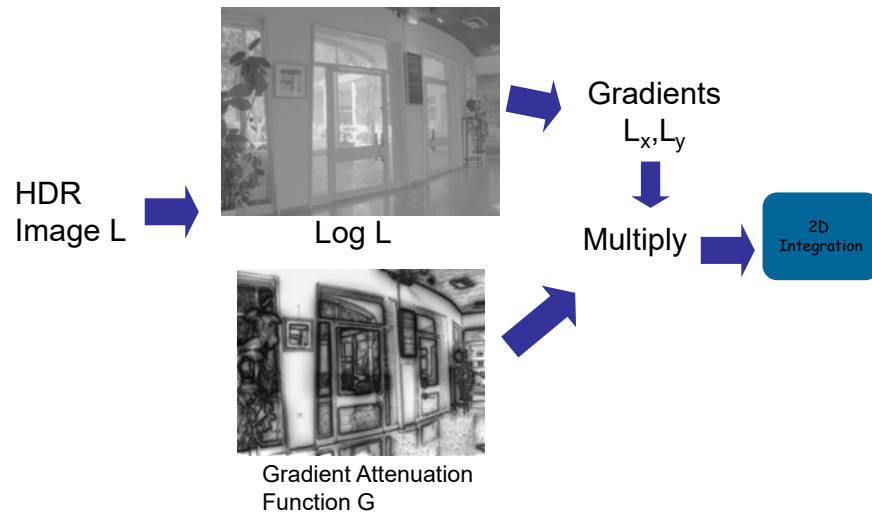


High Dynamic Range Imaging



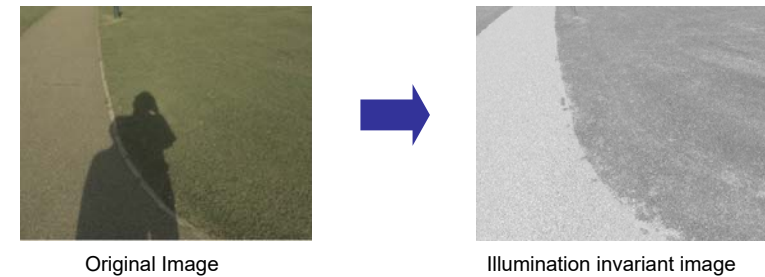
Gradient Domain Compression

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Illumination Invariant Image

DigiVFX

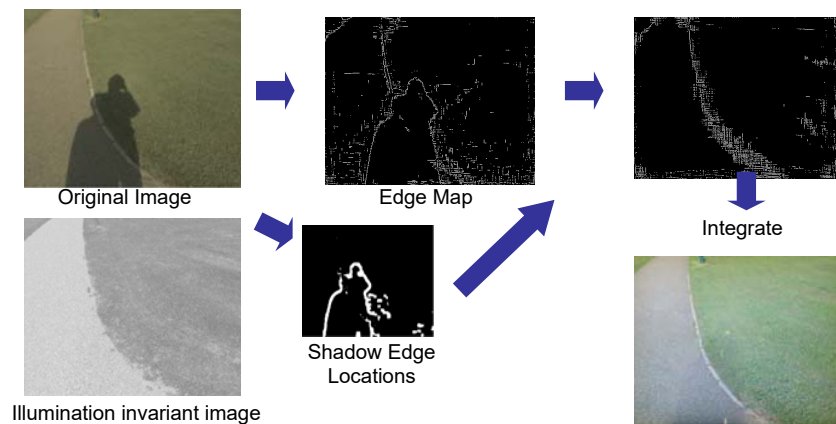


- Assumptions
 - Sensor response = delta functions R, G, B in wavelength spectrum
 - Illumination restricted to Outdoor Illumination

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

Shadow Removal Using Illumination Invariant Image

DigiVFX



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

Gradient Domain Manipulations: Overview

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Photography Artifacts: Flash Hotspot

Ambient



Flash

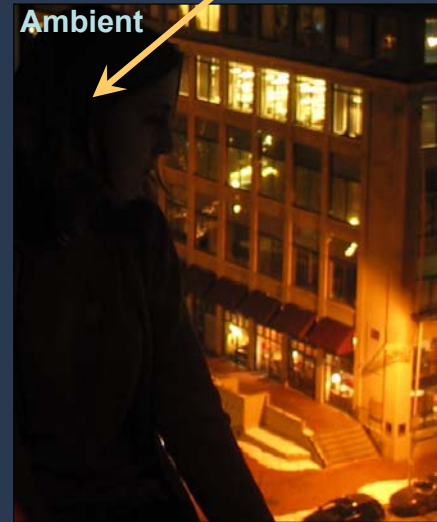


Flash
Hotspot

Reflections due to Flash

Underexposed

Ambient



Reflections

Flash



Self-Reflections and Flash Hotspot

Ambient

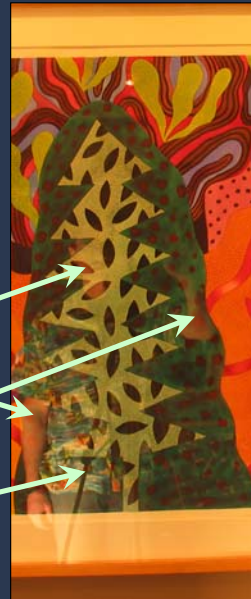
Flash



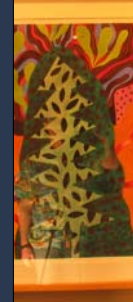
Face

Hands

Tripod



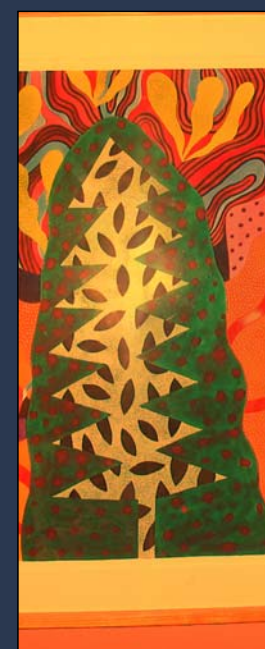
Ambient



Flash



Result

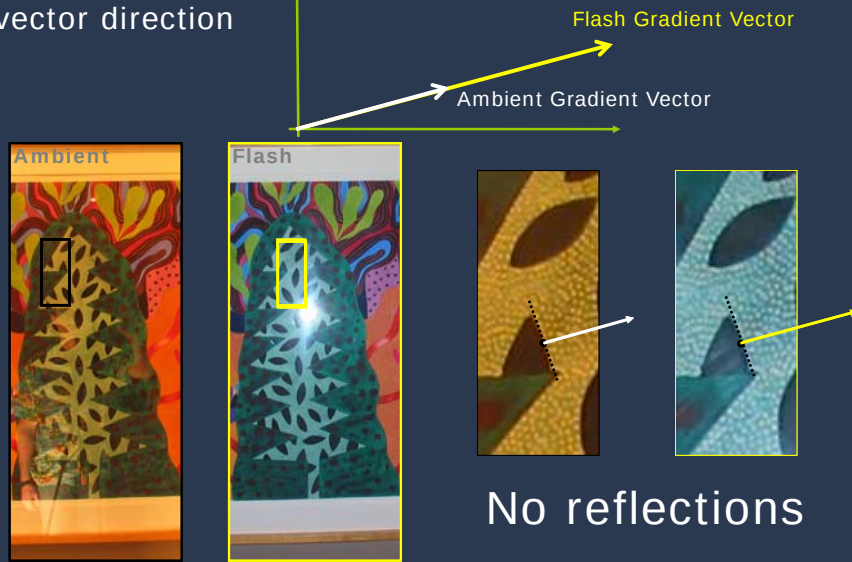


Reflection Layer

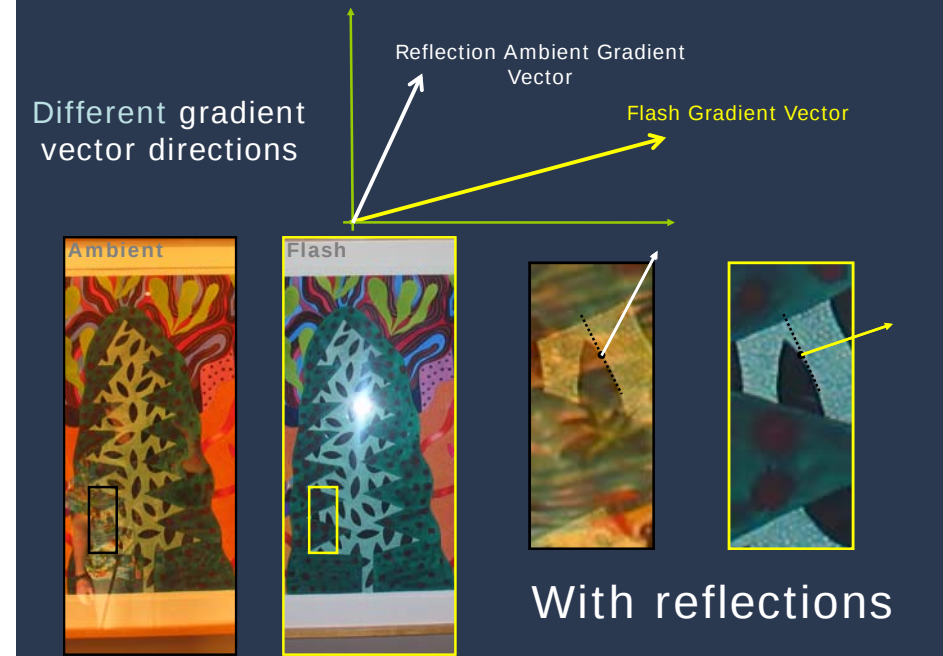


Intensity Gradient Vectors in Flash and Ambient Images

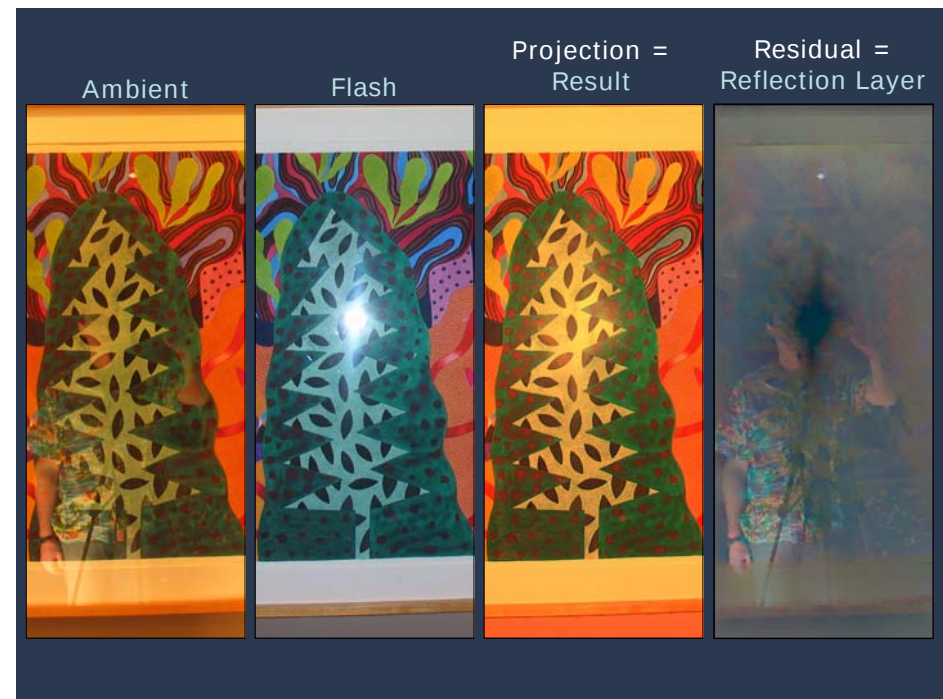
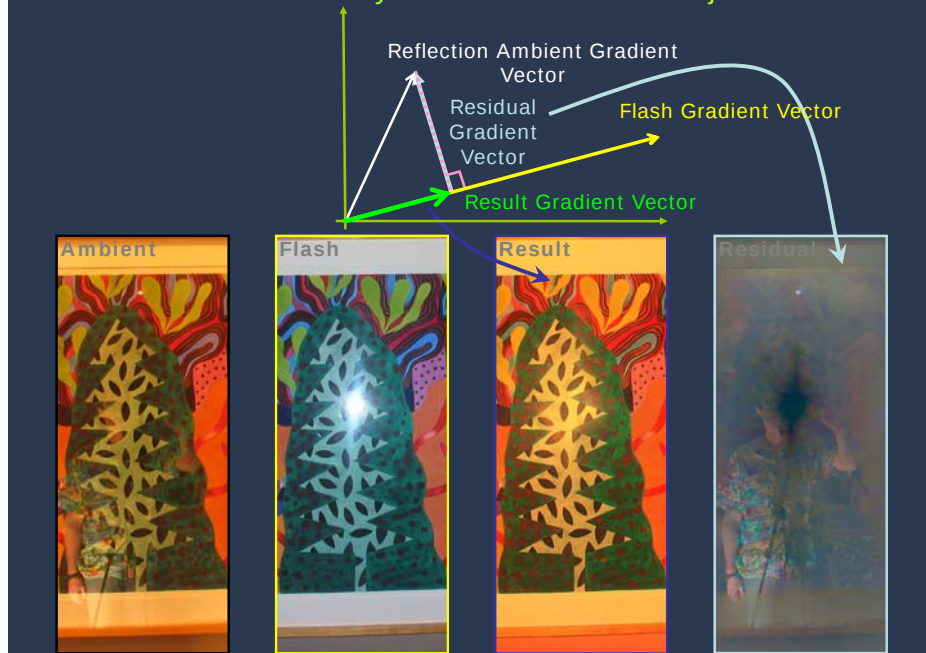
Same gradient vector direction

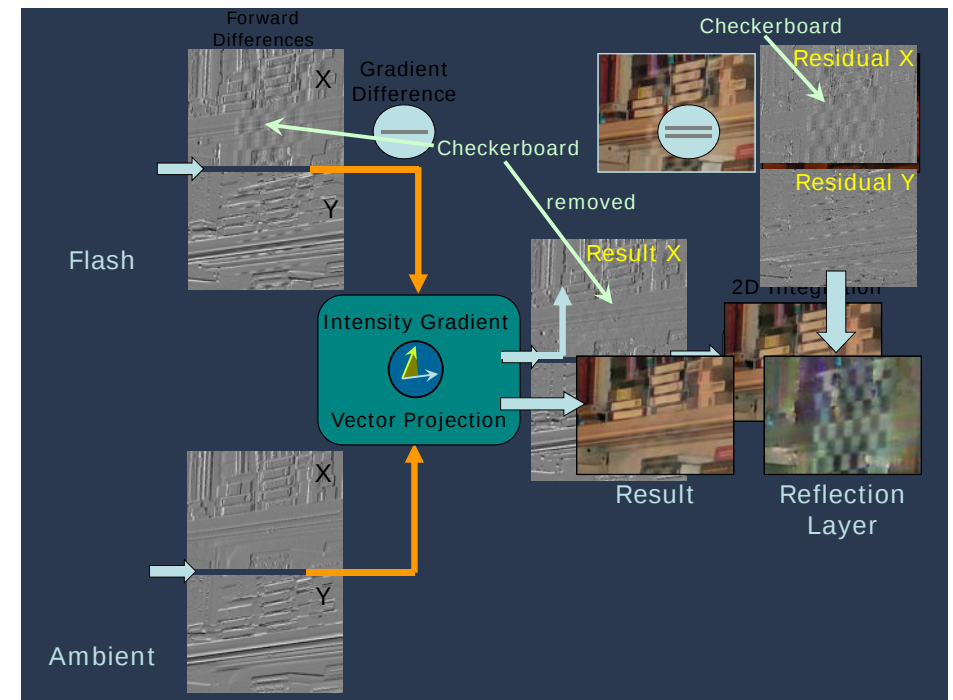


Different gradient vector directions



Intensity Gradient Vector Projection





Poisson Image Editing

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



Conceal

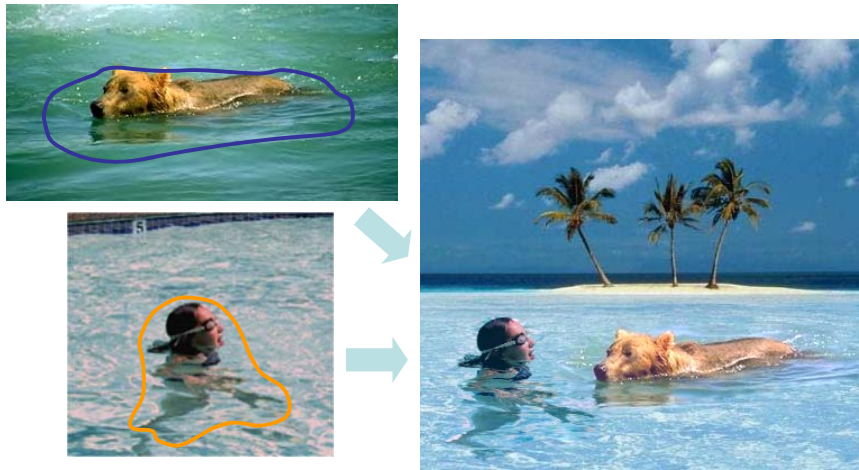
DigiVFX



Copy Background gradients (user strokes)

Compose

DigiVFX

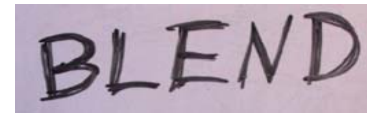


Source Images

Target Image

Transparent Cloning

DigiVFX



$$v = \frac{\nabla f^* + \nabla g}{\nabla g_{\max} + 2}$$

Largest variation from source and destination at each point

Gradient Domain Manipulations: Overview

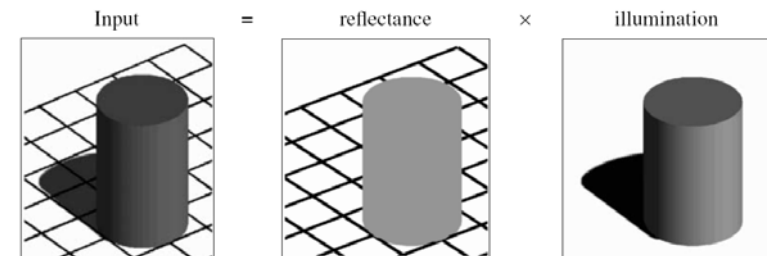
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- (A) Per pixel
- (B) Corresponding gradients in two images
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- (D) Combining gradients along seams

Intrinsic images

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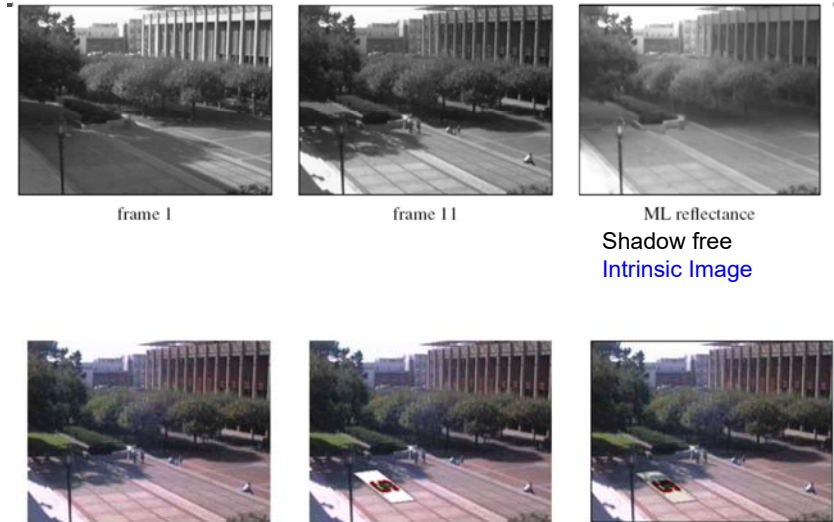
- $I = L * R$
- L = illumination image
- R = reflectance image



Intrinsic images

- 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

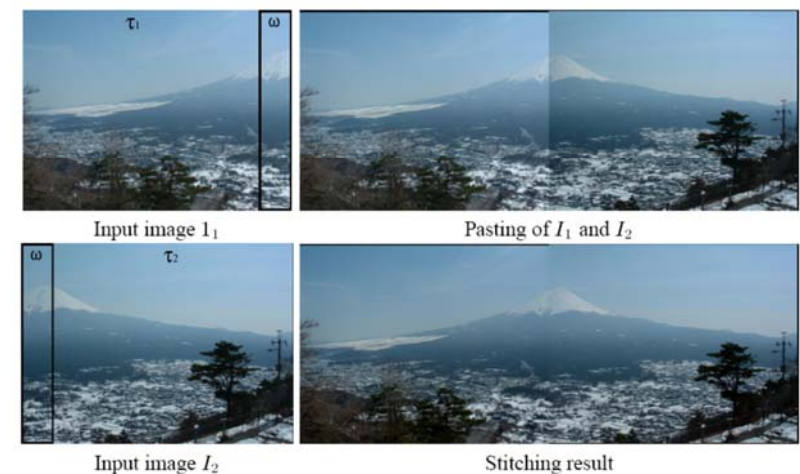


Result = Illumination Image * (Label in Intrinsic Image)

Gradient Domain Manipulations: Overview

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

Seamless Image Stitching



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