



# **Machine Vision**

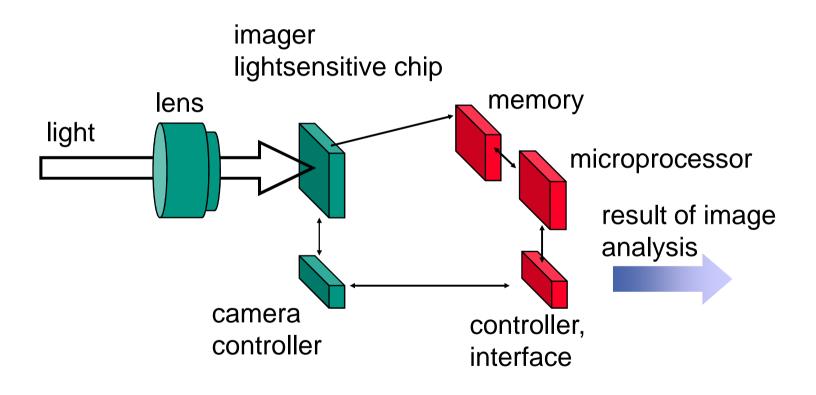
### **Chapter 2: Image Preprocessing**

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### Image Formation and Analysis

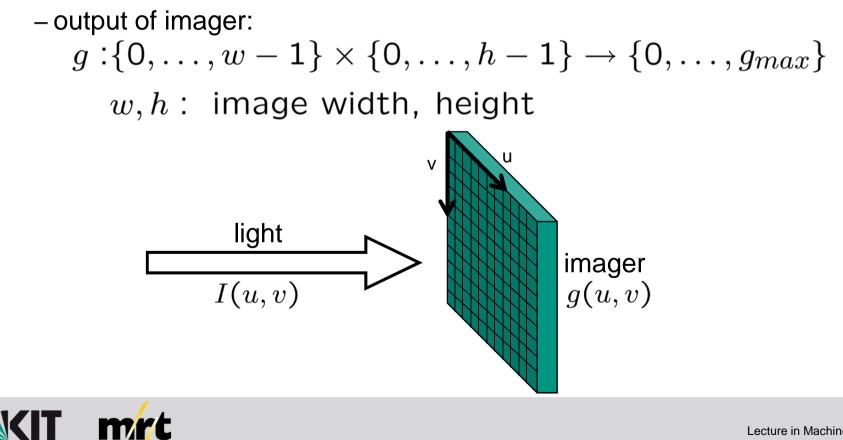
electronic camera<br/>(formation)ECU (electronic control unit)<br/>(image processing)





#### Imager

- Process of image formation:
  - incident light intensity:
    - $I: \mathbb{R}^2 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$



#### Imager

- Process of image formation:
  - sampling

evaluate light intensity on a regular grid of points

#### - quantization

map continuous signals to discrete values (natural numbers)

#### - blur and noise

- color

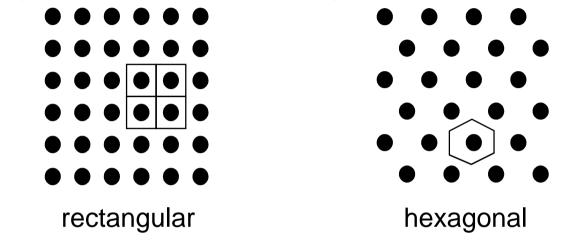
will be discussed later. Here: only light intensity/grey level images



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## Sampling

• 2D grids used for sampling



- electronic cameras: rectangular, equidistant grids
- biology: hexagonal grids with varying resolution



## Sampling: Moiré Patterns

- Moiré patterns
  - sampling might cause artifacts



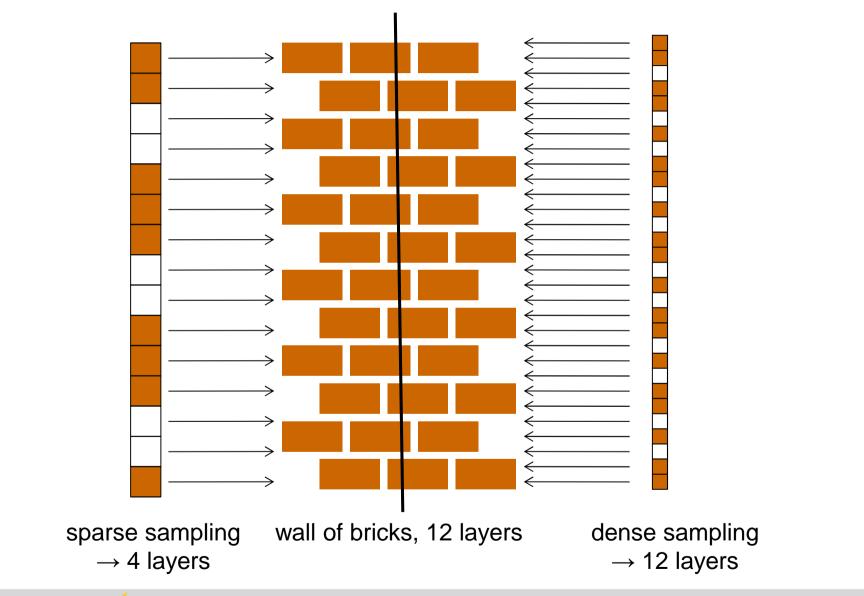
original picture



picture with Moiré pattern



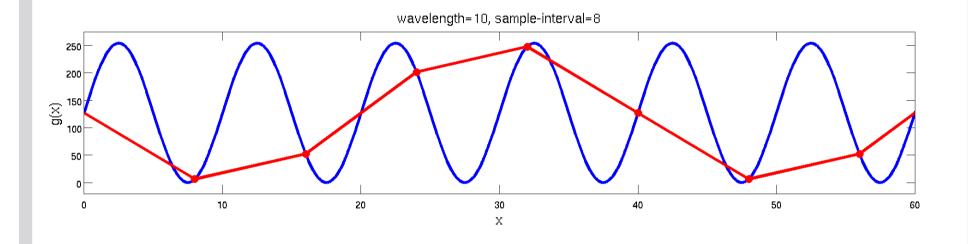
## Sampling: Moiré Patterns





## Sampling: Moiré Patterns cont.

• 1D-example of Moiré patterns:



The occurrence of Moiré patterns depends on the sampling rate compared to the maximal frequency of the signal (image)



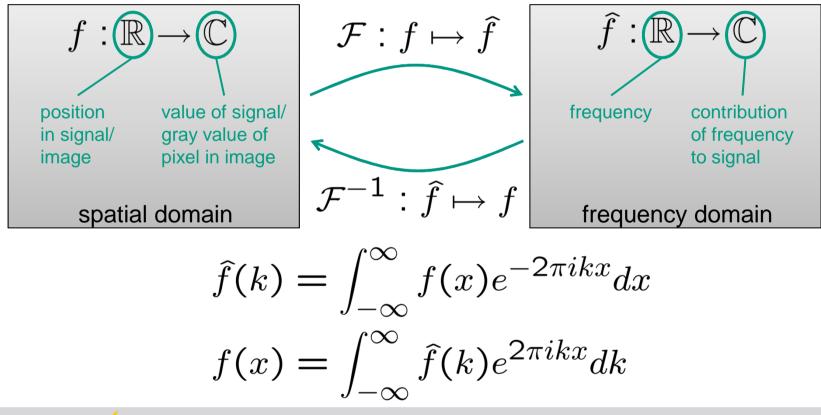
## **Nyquist-Shannon Sampling Theorem**

If *f* is band bounded signal with cutoff frequency  $k_0$ then it is completely determined by giving its ordinates at a series of points spaced at most  $\frac{1}{2k_0}$ , i.e. the sample frequency must be larger than  $2k_0$ 

- Questions:
  - what is a band-bounded signal?
  - what is a cutoff frequency?



- Assume a periodic signal  $f: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{C}$
- Then, we can define the Fourier transform of f





- Properties:
  - the Fourier transform is linear

$$\mathcal{F}\left\{\alpha f(x) + \beta g(x)\right\}(k) = \alpha \widehat{f}(k) + \beta \widehat{g}(k)$$

 shifting a signal along the x-axis only changes the complex angles in frequency domain but not the amplitudes

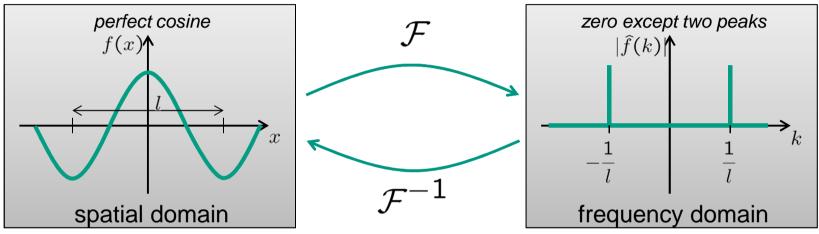
$$\mathcal{F}\left\{f(x-\xi)\right\}(k) = e^{-2\pi i\xi k}\widehat{f}(k)$$

 rescaling the x-axis in the spatial domain rescales the frequency axis in a reciprocal way

$$\mathcal{F}\left\{f(\alpha x)\right\}(k) = \frac{1}{|\alpha|}\widehat{f}(\frac{k}{\alpha})$$



- Properties:
  - a cosine in spatial domain generates two peaks in frequency domain



- the peaks are located at position reciprocal to the period length

- if the signal in spatial domain is a linear combination of cosines, the Fourier transform will be a set of peaks in frequency domain
- intuitive interpretation: the Fourier transform decomposes a periodic signal into a (potentially infinite) linear combination of cosines



### Observation

- smooth periodic functions with small slope can be composed out of cosines with large period
- periodic functions with large slope require cosines with small period
- periodic functions that are discontinuous or have discontinuous derivatives require cosines with unbounded frequencies

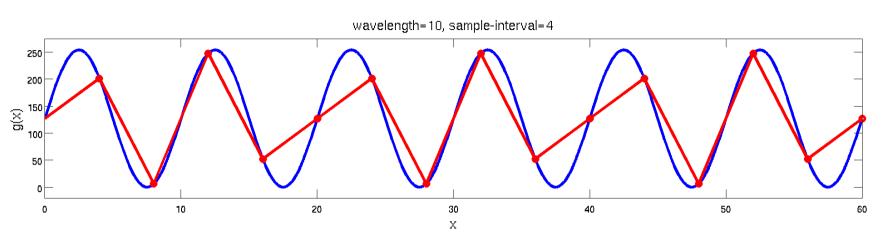
#### Definition

A signal f is band bounded with cutoff frequency  $k_0$  if its Fourier transform is zero for all frequencies larger than the cutoff frequency, i.e.

 $\widehat{f}(k) = 0$  for all k with  $|k| \ge k_0$ 



## **Nyquist-Shannon Sampling Theorem**



- signal is band bounded (sine function)
- sampling frequency high enough

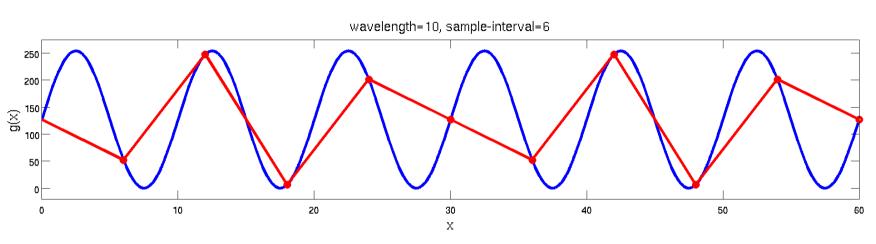
$$f_{sample} = \frac{1}{4} > 2f_{signal} = \frac{2}{10}$$

• reconstruction of the signal possible

If *f* is band bounded signal with cutoff frequency  $k_0$ then it is completely determined by giving its ordinates at a series of points spaced at most  $\frac{1}{2k_0}$ , i.e. the sample frequency must be larger than  $2k_0$ 



## **Nyquist-Shannon Sampling Theorem**



- signal is band bounded (sine function)
- but

$$f_{sample} = \frac{1}{6} < 2f_{signal} = \frac{2}{10}$$

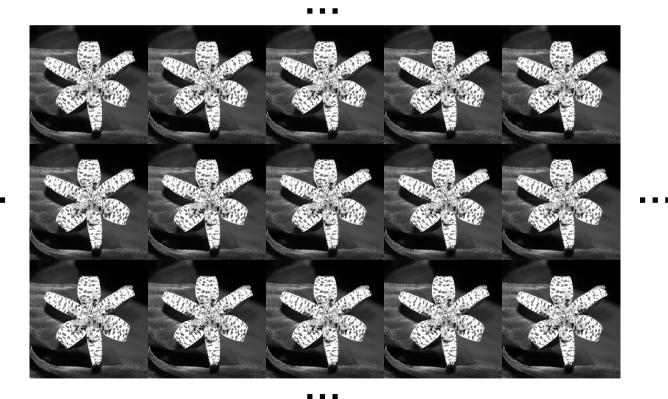
• reconstruction of the signal impossible

If *f* is band bounded signal with cutoff frequency  $k_0$ then it is completely determined by giving its ordinates at a series of points spaced at most  $\frac{1}{2k_0}$ , i.e. the sample frequency must be larger than  $2k_0$ 



## **Sampling Theorem and Images**

- Remarks:
  - analysis analogously possible for 2d signals
  - image is not periodic, but we can make it periodic by copying it repeatedly to the left, right, top, and bottom





## **Sampling Theorem and Images**

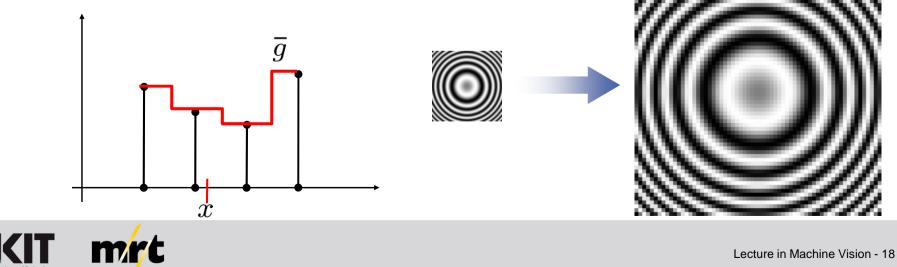
#### • Questions:

- how can we determine the sampling frequency of a camera?
- what can we do if we find that the sampling theorem is violated?



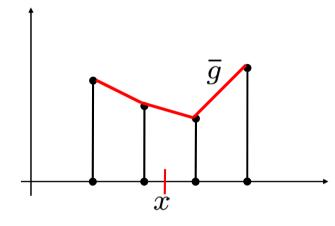
## Image Scaling and Interpolation

- changing the image size
- scaling needs evaluation of the image at non-integer positions  $\rightarrow$  interpolation
- nearest neighbor interpolation:
  - approximating the grey level function with a step function
  - take the grey value of the nearest integer position
  - problem: aliasing



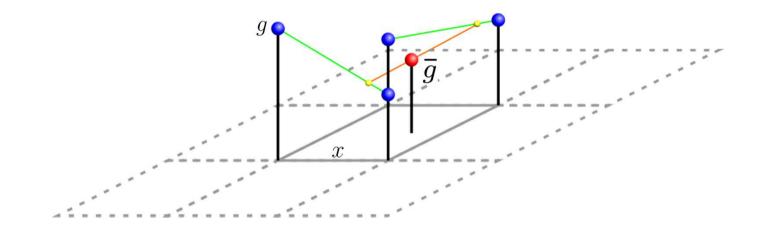
- linear interpolation in ID
  - fit linear function locally around x

$$\bar{g}(x) = g(\lfloor x \rfloor) + (x - \lfloor x \rfloor)(g(\lfloor x \rfloor + 1) - g(\lfloor x \rfloor))$$





• extension of linear interpolation to 2D:



- interpolate from 4 neighboring pixels



- cubic interpolation
  - fit cubic polynomial to the grey level

- solve  

$$\overline{g}(x) = a \cdot (x - \lfloor x \rfloor)^3 + b \cdot (x - \lfloor x \rfloor)^2 + c \cdot (x - \lfloor x \rfloor) + d$$
yields:  

$$a = -\frac{1}{6}g(\lfloor x \rfloor - 1) + \frac{1}{2}g(\lfloor x \rfloor) - \frac{1}{2}g(\lfloor x \rfloor + 1) + \frac{1}{6}g(\lfloor x \rfloor + 2)$$

$$b = \frac{1}{2}g(\lfloor x \rfloor - 1) - g(\lfloor x \rfloor) + \frac{1}{2}g(\lfloor x \rfloor + 1)$$

$$c = -\frac{1}{3}g(\lfloor x \rfloor - 1) - \frac{1}{2}g(\lfloor x \rfloor) + g(\lfloor x \rfloor + 1) - \frac{1}{6}g(\lfloor x \rfloor + 2)$$

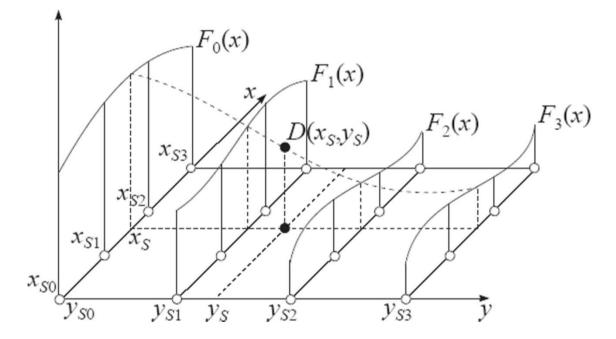
$$d = g(\lfloor x \rfloor)$$

$$\overline{g}$$



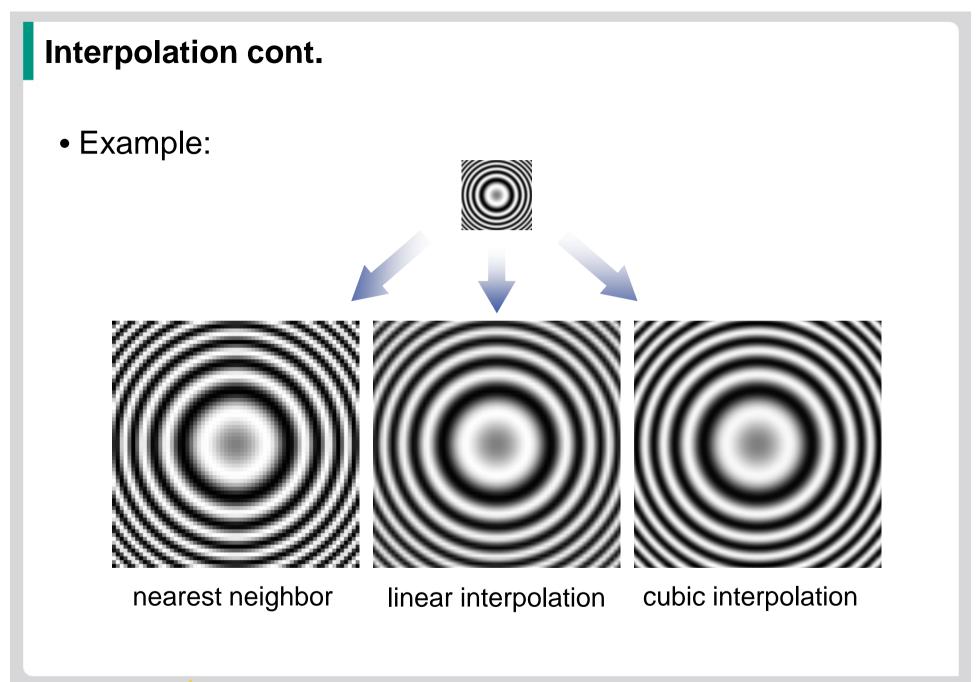


• extension of cubic interpolation to 2D:



– interpolation from 16 neighboring pixels







#### Imager

- Process of image formation:
  - sampling

evaluate light intensity on a regular grid of points

#### - quantization

map continuous signals to discrete values (natural numbers)

#### - blur and noise

- color

will be discussed later. Here: only light intensity/grey level images

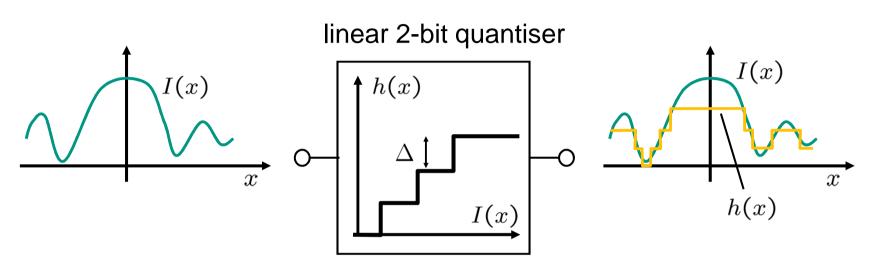


## Quantization

- incident light:  $I: \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}$
- digital camera signals:  $g: \{0, \dots, w-1\} \times \{0, \dots, h-1\} \rightarrow \{0, \dots, g_{max}\}$ w, h: image width, height
- need transformation from real valued light intensity to discrete digital signals (analog-to-digital converter)



## Quantization cont.



• characteristic with equidistant steps ("linear") of size  $\Delta$ :

$$g(x) = \max\{0, \min\{g_{max}, \left\lfloor \frac{I(x)}{\Delta} + \frac{1}{2} \right\rfloor\}\}$$
$$h(x) = \Delta g(x)$$

• error of non-overdriven quantiser:

$$I(x) - h(x) \in [-\frac{\Delta}{2}, \frac{\Delta}{2}]$$



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## **Quantization cont.**

- characteristic of digital cameras:
  - -linear
  - logarithmic
- grey level cutoff value
  - -1 (binary images, "bitmaps")  $\rightarrow 1$  bit/pixel
  - $-255 \rightarrow 8 \text{ bit/pixel} = 1 \text{ byte/pixel}$
  - $-4095 \rightarrow 12$  bit/pixel = 1.5 byte/pixel
  - $-65535 \rightarrow 16$  bit/pixel = 2 byte/pixel
- correction of grey level distribution
  - image too dark/too bright
  - low contrast
  - non-linear camera characteristic



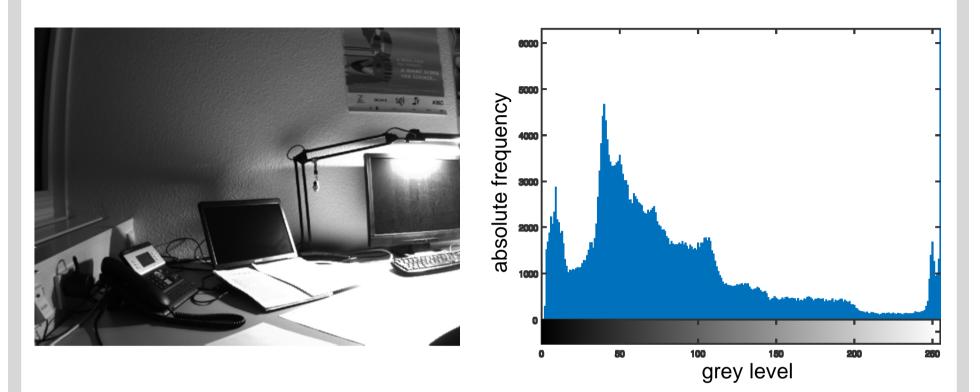
linear characteristic



logarithmic characteristic



## Grey Level Histogram



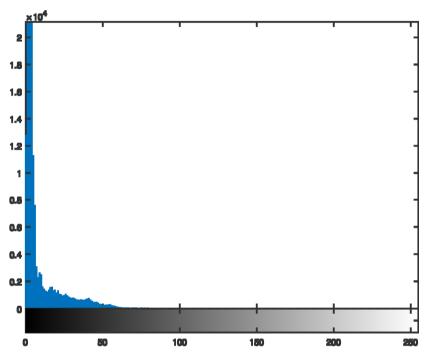
• grey level histograms display distribution of grey levels



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## **Grey Level Histogram cont.**





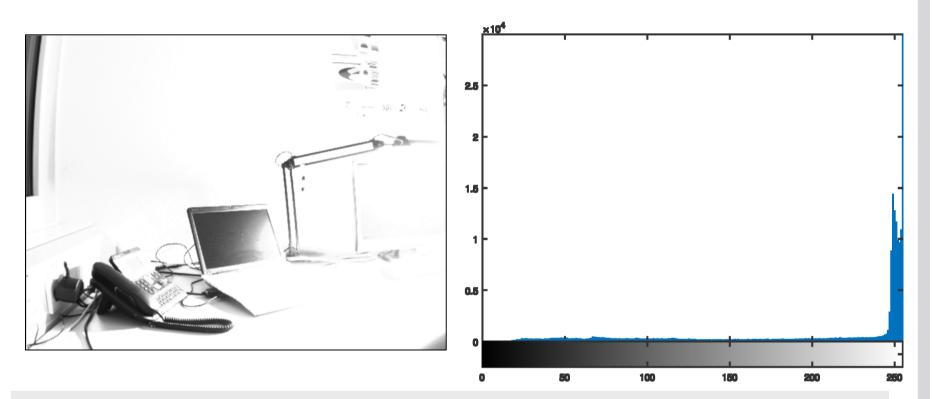
#### Underexposed images:

- open aperture of camera
- increase exposure time of camera
- increase gain
- add additional light sources

- multiply grey values by a constant
- auto-exposure implemented in many digital cameras



## Grey Level Histogram cont.



#### **Overexposed images:**

- information loss due to cutoff value, no reconstruction possible
- close aperture of camera
- reduce exposure time of camera
- auto-exposure



## Grey Level Histogram cont.



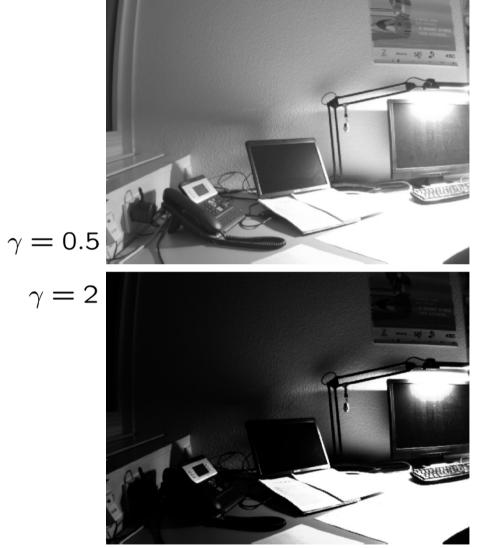
 $\gamma = 2$ 

 $\gamma = 1$ 

**Gamma correction:** 

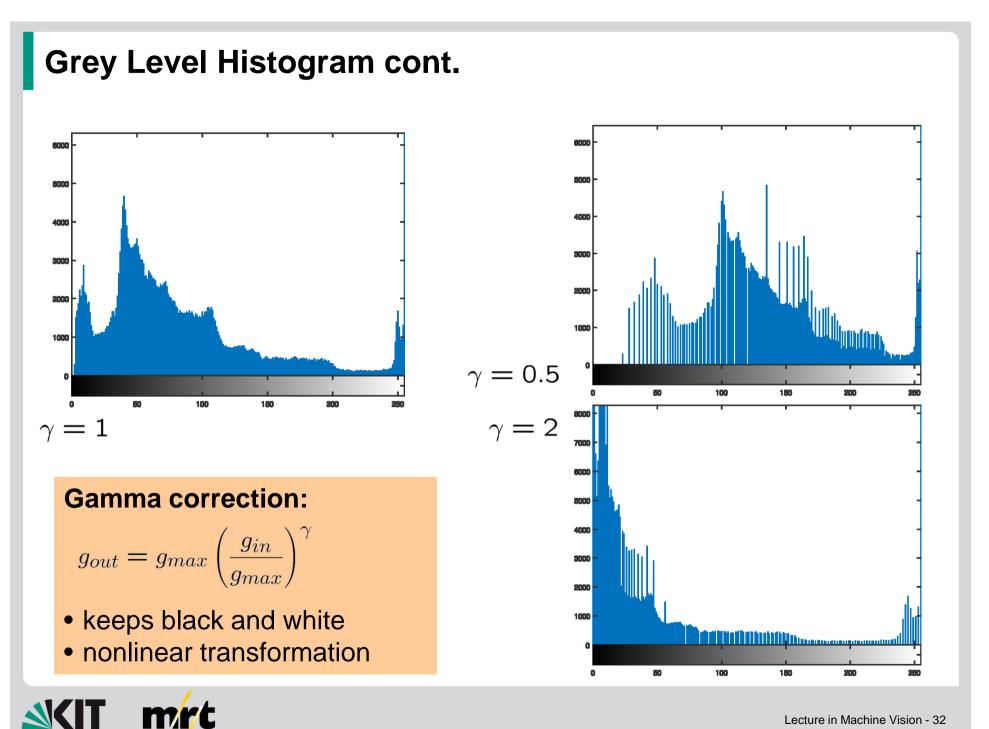
$$g_{out} = g_{max} \left( \frac{g_{in}}{g_{max}} \right)$$

- keeps black and white
- nonlinear transformation



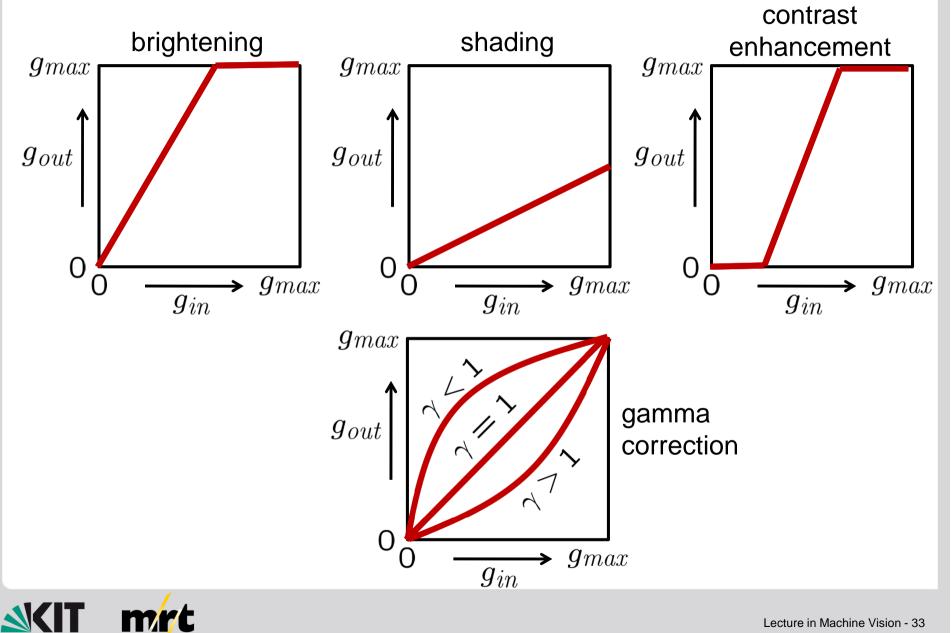


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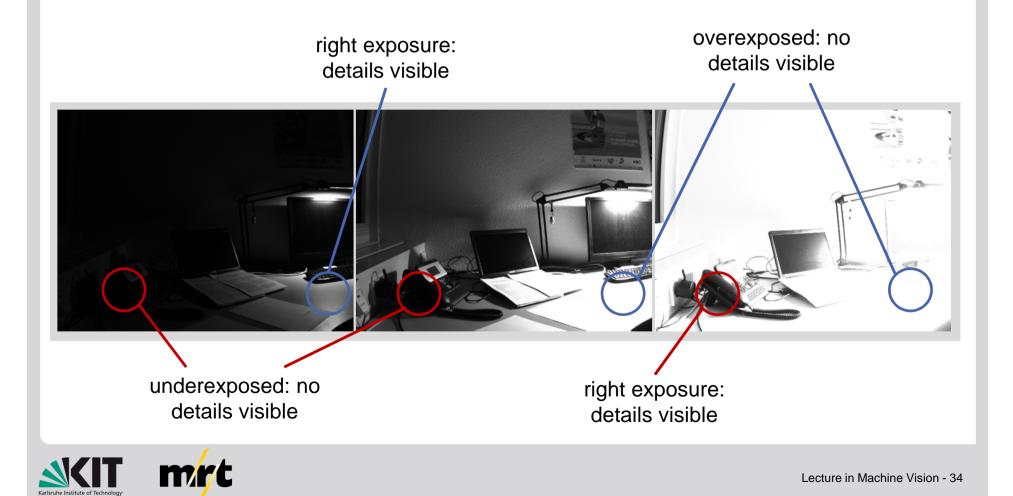
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## **Grey Level Transformations**

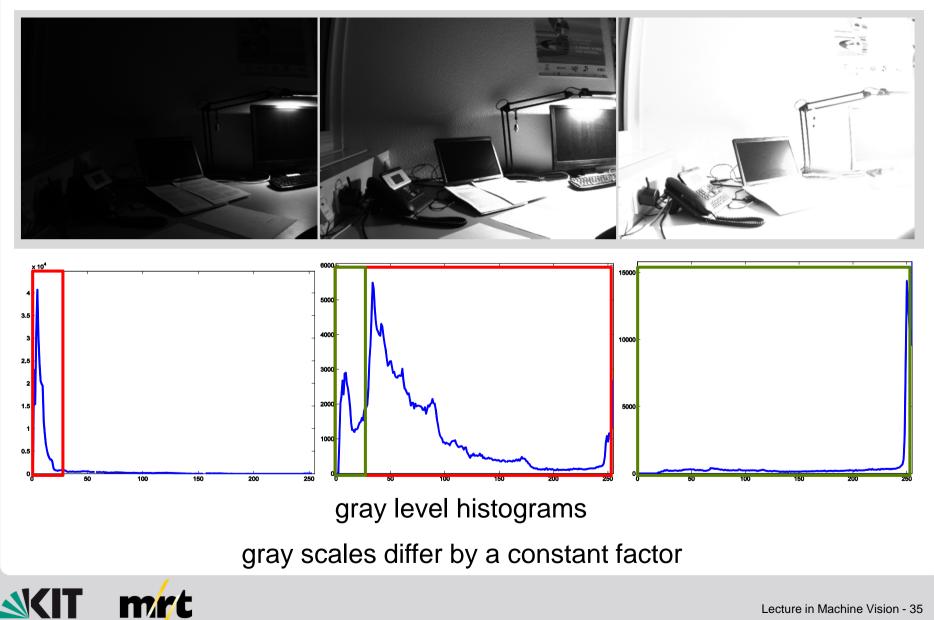


#### **Exposure Series**

 exposure bracketing, high dynamic range imaging (HDRI): increase the grey value resolution combining over- and underexposed images

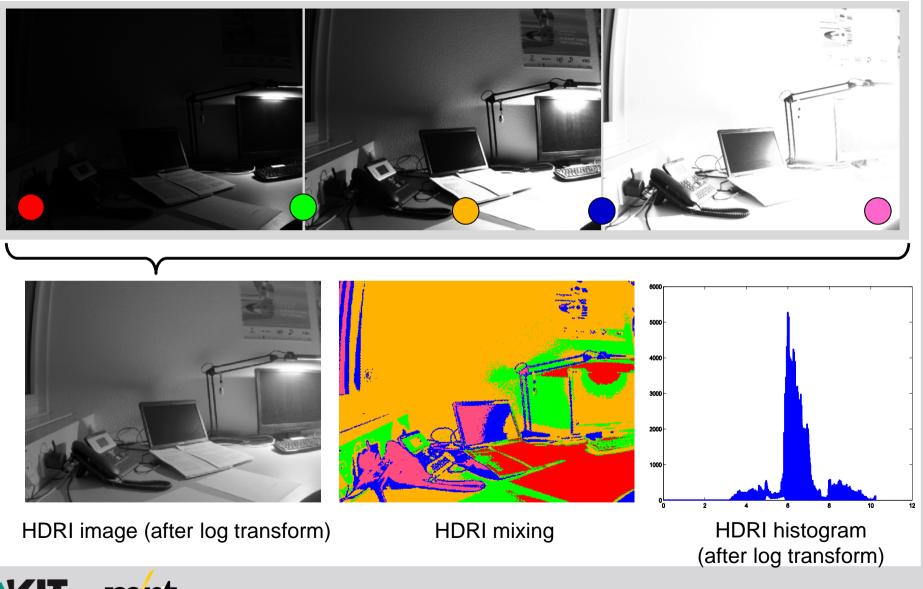


## **Exposure Series cont.**



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## **Exposure Series cont.**





#### Imager

- Process of image formation:
  - sampling

evaluate light intensity on a regular grid of points

#### - quantization

map continuous signals to discrete values (natural numbers)

#### - blur and noise

- color

will be discussed later. Here: only light intensity/grey level images



# **Convolution Operator**

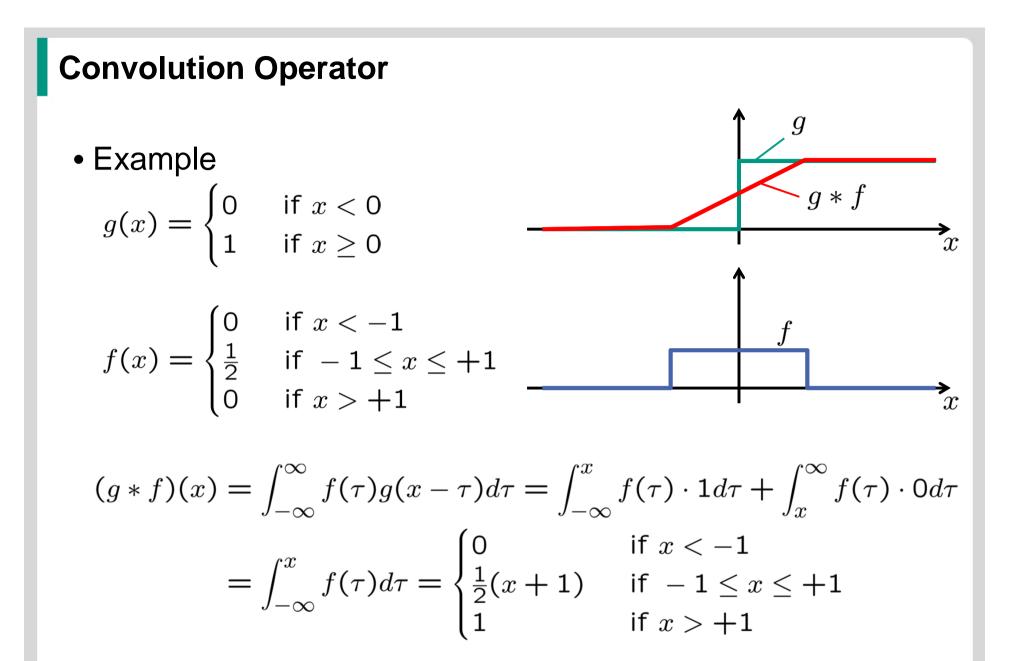
#### The convolution operator

- takes two functions f,g
- creates a new function h = g \* f
- which is defined pointwise by

$$h(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\tau)g(x-\tau)d\tau$$

- we interpret
  - ${\scriptstyle \bullet } g$  is a gray level image
  - $\bullet f$  is a filter function
  - ${\scriptstyle \bullet}\,h$  is a filtered image
- convolution implements a linear filter







# **Convolution Operator**

- Properties of convolution
  - commutativity

$$f \ast g = g \ast f$$

- associativity

$$(f * g) * h = f * (g * h)$$

- linearity

$$f * (\alpha g + \beta h) = \alpha (f * g) + \beta (f * h)$$

- relationship with Fourier transform

$$\mathcal{F}(f * g) = \mathcal{F}(f) \cdot \mathcal{F}(g)$$
$$\mathcal{F}(f \cdot g) = \mathcal{F}(f) * \mathcal{F}(g)$$



# **Convolution of Images**

- Convolution can be extended
  - to the 2d case

mrt

$$f,g: \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}$$
$$(g*f)(x,y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\tau,\rho)g(x-\tau,y-\rho)d\tau d\rho$$

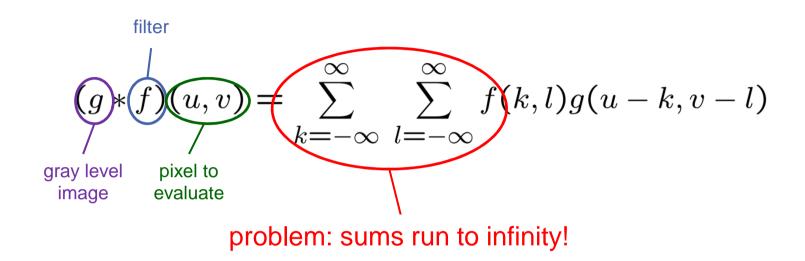
- to the case of function which we can evaluate only at integer positions

$$f,g:\mathbb{Z}\to\mathbb{R}$$
  
 $(g*f)(u)=\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty}f(k)g(u-k)$ 

$$f,g:\mathbb{Z}^2 \to \mathbb{R}$$
$$(g*f)(u,v) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{l=-\infty}^{\infty} f(k,l)g(u-k,v-l)$$



# **Convolution of Images**



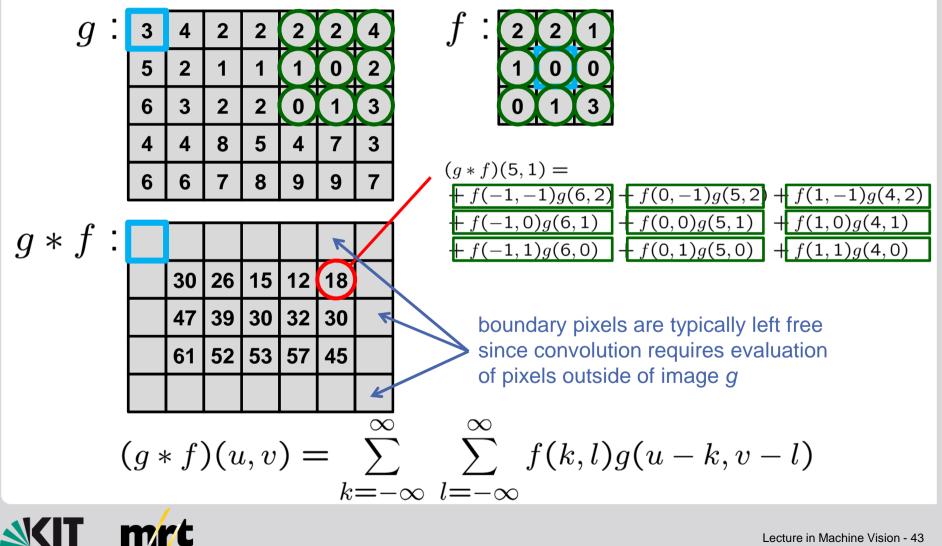
- in practice, filters and images have limited size.

We assume that all gray levels outside of filter size are 0



# **Convolution of Images**

• Example



# **Blur and Noise**

- types of blur and noise:
  - motion blur
  - defocus aberration
  - statistical noise of sensor cells and amplifiers
  - malfunctioning sensor cells

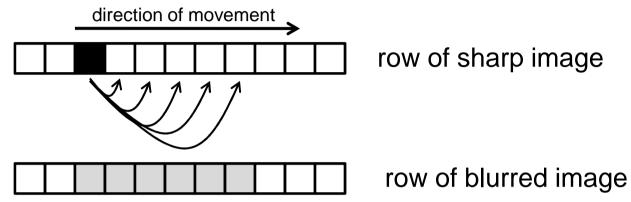




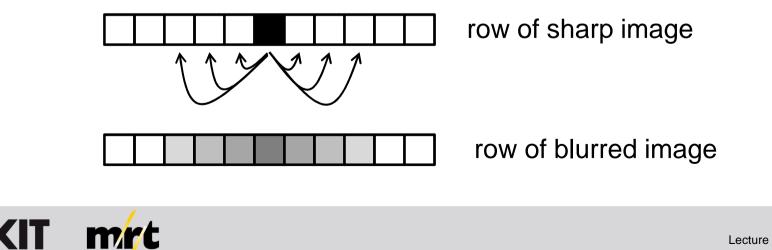


# **Models of Blur**

• Motion blur:



• Gaussian blur:

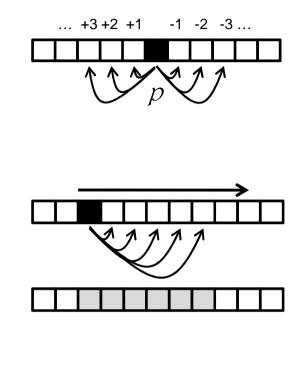


#### Models of Blur cont.

• blur can be modeled with convolution  $g_{blurred} = g_{sharp} * p$ 

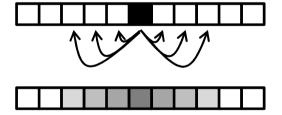
p : "point-spread-function" models blur

- motion blur (along x-axis by n pixels):  $p_{motion}(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{n} & \text{if } -n < x \leq 0\\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$ 



- Gaussian blur (with variance 
$$\sigma^2$$
):  

$$p_{Gauss}(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\frac{x^2}{\sigma^2}}$$





#### **Wiener Deconvolution**

 techniques to obtain sharp image from blurred image based on Wiener filter

 $g_{blurred} = g_{sharp} * p + v$ 

- p: point-spread-function
- v: pixel noise

assume  $g_{sharp}$  and  $\boldsymbol{v}$  be independent

 $g_{restored} = f * g_{blurred}$ 

```
find optimal f that minimizes:

e(k) = \mathbb{E} \left[ |\hat{g}_{sharp}(k) - \hat{g}_{restored}(k)|^2 \right]
(\hat{g} \text{ denotes Fourier transform of } g)
(\mathbb{E} \text{ denotes expectation value})
```



$$e(k) = \mathbb{E}\left[|\hat{g}_{sharp}(k) - \hat{g}_{restored}(k)|^{2}\right]$$

$$= \mathbb{E}\left[|\hat{g}_{sharp}(k) - \hat{f}(k)\hat{g}_{blurred}(k)|^{2}\right]$$

$$= \mathbb{E}\left[|\hat{g}_{sharp}(k) - \hat{f}(k)(\hat{p}(k)\hat{g}_{sharp}(k) + \hat{v}(k))|^{2}\right]$$

$$= \mathbb{E}\left[|(1 - \hat{f}(k)\hat{p}(k))\hat{g}_{sharp}(k) - \hat{f}(k)\hat{v}(k)|^{2}\right]$$

$$= (1 - \hat{f}(k)\hat{p}(k))(1 - \hat{f}(k)\hat{p}(k))^{*}\mathbb{E}\left[\hat{g}_{sharp}(k)\hat{g}_{sharp}^{*}(k)\right]$$

$$- (1 - \hat{f}(k)\hat{p}(k))\hat{f}^{*}(k)\mathbb{E}\left[\hat{g}_{sharp}(k)\hat{v}^{*}(k)\right]$$

$$- \hat{f}(k)(1 - \hat{f}(k)\hat{p}(k))^{*}\mathbb{E}\left[\hat{v}(k)\hat{g}_{sharp}^{*}(k)\right]$$
independence of signal and noise yields:
$$\mathbb{E}\left[\hat{g}_{sharp}(k)\hat{v}^{*}(k)\right] = \mathbb{E}\left[\hat{v}(k)\hat{g}_{sharp}^{*}(k)\right] = 0$$
denote:
$$S(k) = \mathbb{E}\left[\hat{g}_{sharp}(k)\hat{g}_{sharp}^{*}(k)\right], \quad N(k) = \mathbb{E}\left[\hat{v}(k)\hat{v}^{*}(k)\right]$$

$$e(k) = (1 - \hat{f}(k)\hat{p}(k))(1 - \hat{f}(k)\hat{p}(k))^{*}S(k) + \hat{f}(k)\hat{f}^{*}(k)N(k)$$



• zeroing the derivative of e to obtain the minimum yields:

$$\hat{f}(k) = \frac{\hat{p}^*(k)S(k)}{\hat{p}(k)\hat{p}^*(k)S(k) + N(k)} = \frac{\hat{p}^*(k)}{|\hat{p}(k)|^2 + (\frac{S(k)}{N(k)})^{-1}}$$

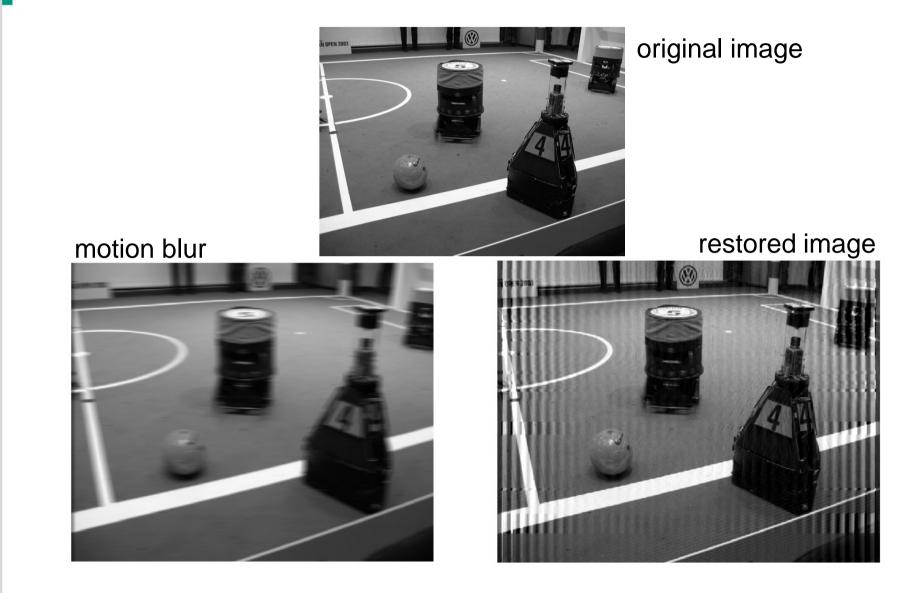
which defines the optimal linear filter (Wiener filter)

- $\frac{S(k)}{N(k)}$  is the signal-to-noise ratio
- in the noiseless case:

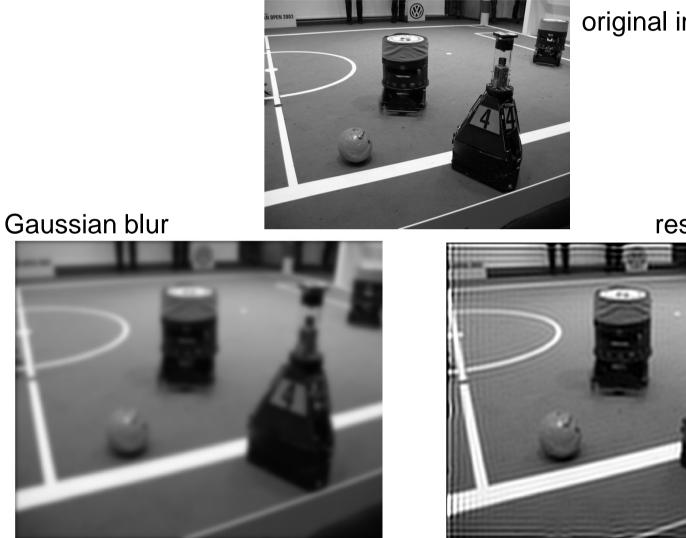
$$\widehat{f}(k) = \frac{1}{\widehat{p}(k)}$$
 (if  $N(k) = 0$ )

• but: 
$$\frac{S(k)}{N(k)}$$
 and  $\hat{p}(k)$  must be known



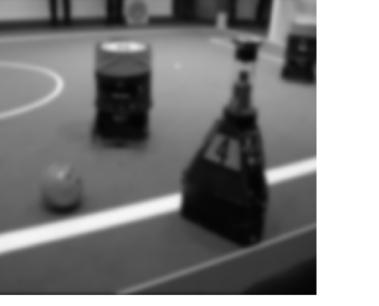






original image

#### restored image







# **Models of Noise**

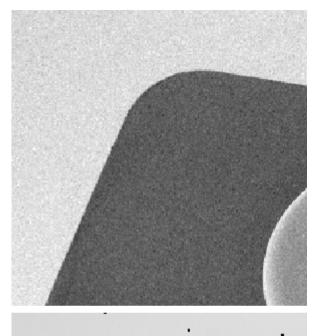
#### • statistical noise:

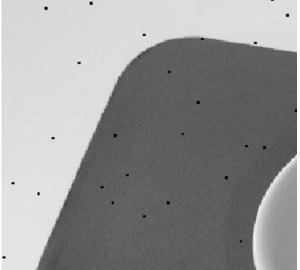
$$g_{noisy}(x,y) = g_{sharp}(x,y) + v(x,y)$$
$$v(x,y) \sim N(0,\sigma^2) \ i.i.d.$$

(i.i.d. = independent and identically distributed)

#### • malfunctioning sensors:

 $g_{noisy}(x,y) = \begin{cases} g_{sharp}(x,y) & \text{with probability } p \\ \text{arbitrary} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$ 

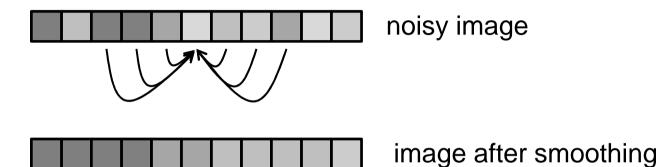




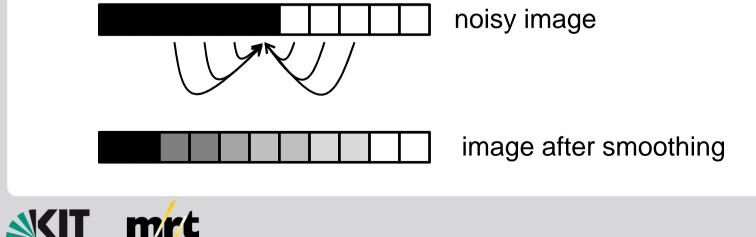


# **Statistical Noise**

• basic idea: averaging (smoothing)



 works well in homogeneous areas, but fails at grey level edges



# **Smoothing Filters**

• rectangular filter

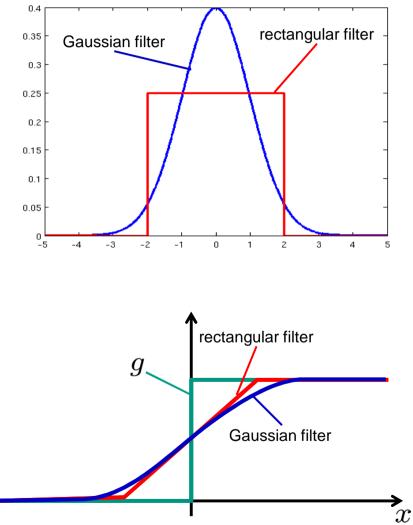
$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{a} & \text{ if } |x| < \frac{a}{2} \\ 0 & \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

the larger parameter  $\boldsymbol{a}$  , the stronge smoothing

• Gaussian filter

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\frac{x^2}{\sigma^2}}$$

the larger parameter  $\sigma$ , the stronger smoothing

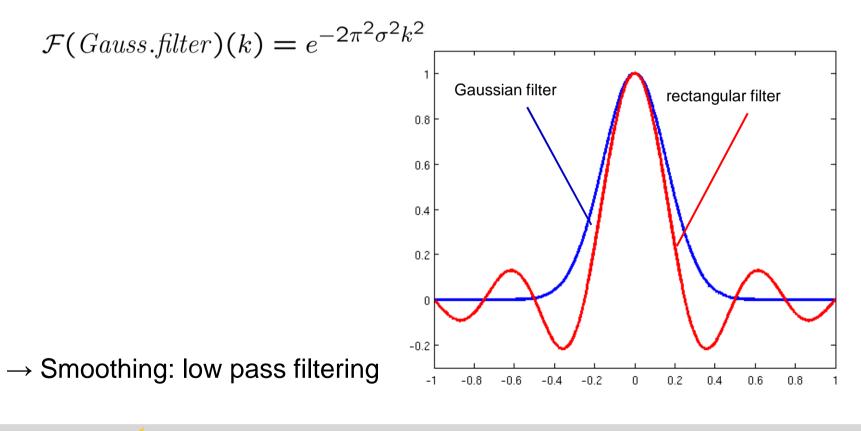




# **Smoothing Filters**

• Fourier transform of smoothing filters

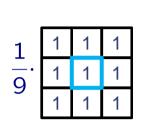
$$\mathcal{F}(rect.filter)(k) = sinc(ak) = \begin{cases} \frac{\sin(\pi x)}{\pi x} & \text{if } x \neq 0\\ 1 & \text{if } x = 0 \end{cases}$$

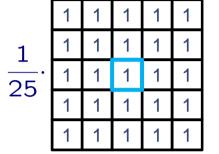




# **Smoothing Filters for Images**

- rectangular filter masks:





$\frac{1}{19.8}$ .	0.1	0.8	1	0.8	0.1
	0.8	1	1	1	0.8
	1	1	1	1	1
	0.8	1	1	1	0.8
	0.1	0.8	1	0.8	0.1

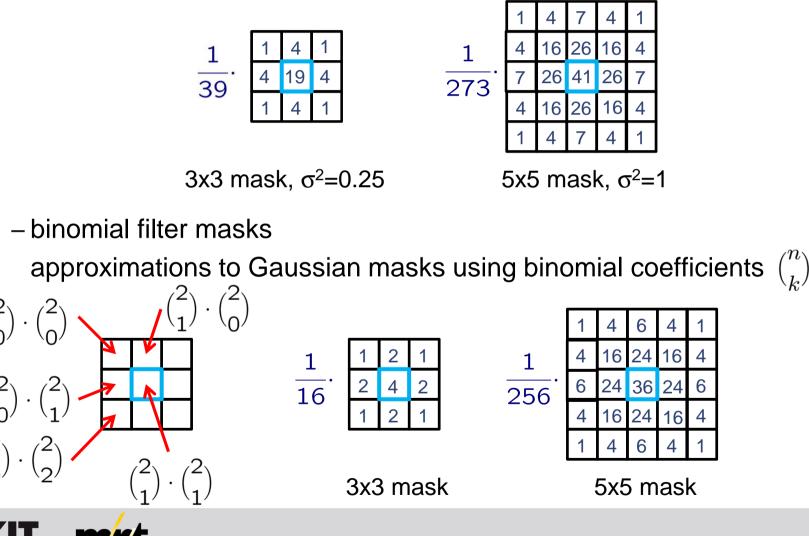
3x3 square mask 5x5 square mask

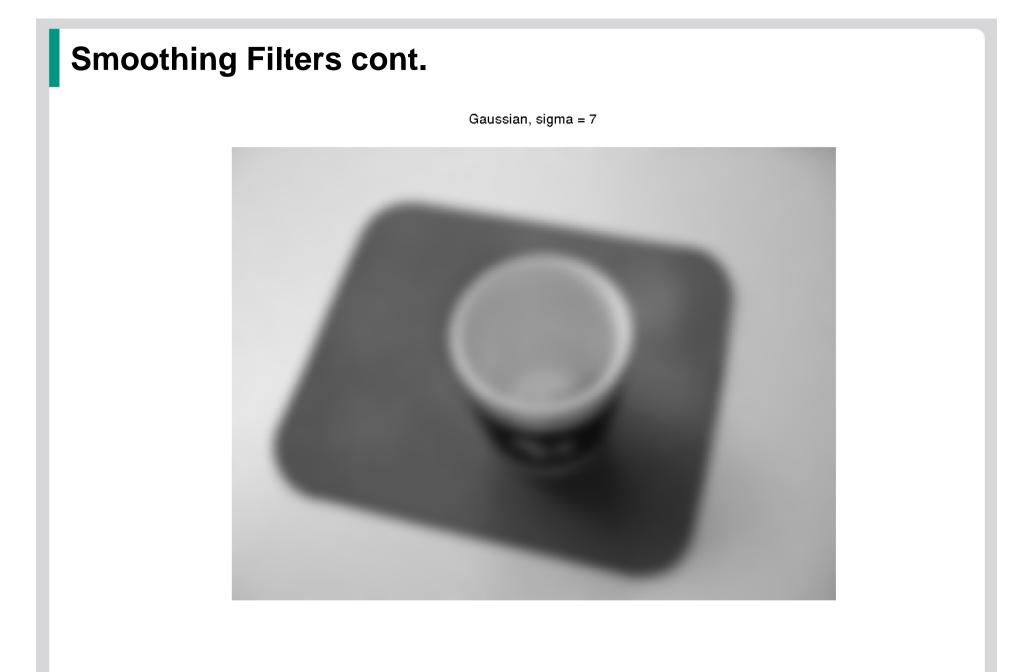
5x5 disc mask



#### **Discrete Convolution cont.**

– Gaussian filter masks:







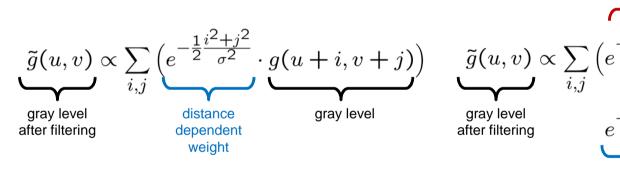
#### **Bilateral filter**

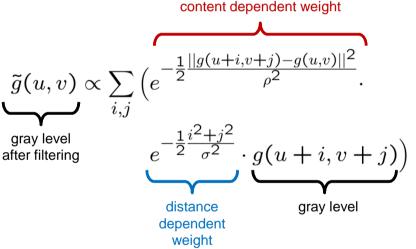
#### **Gaussian filter**

 filter mask independent of image content

#### **Bilateral filter**

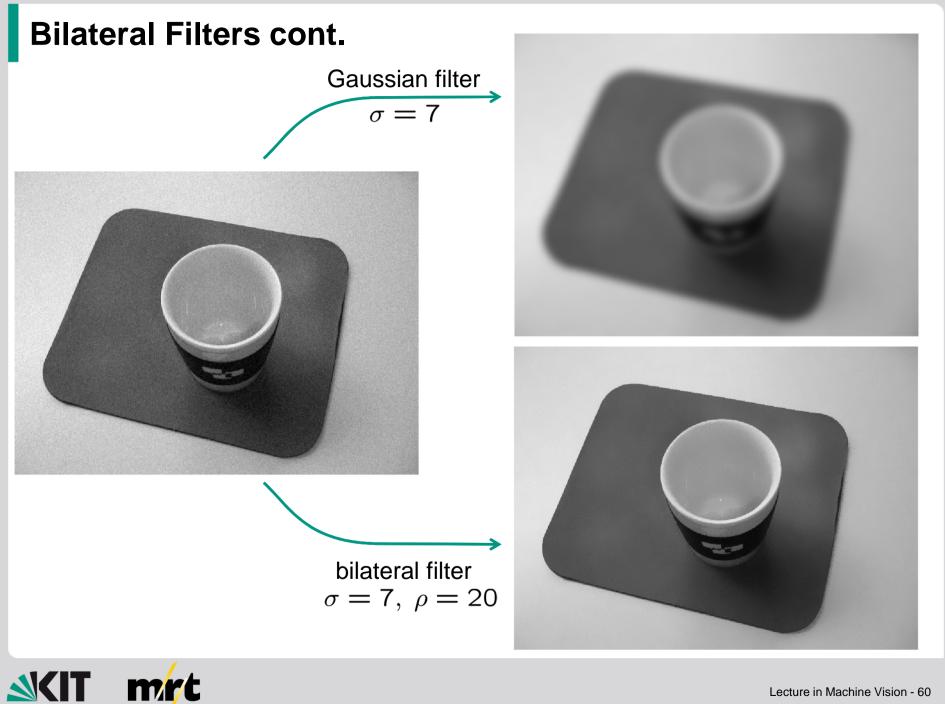
 filter mask dependent on image content



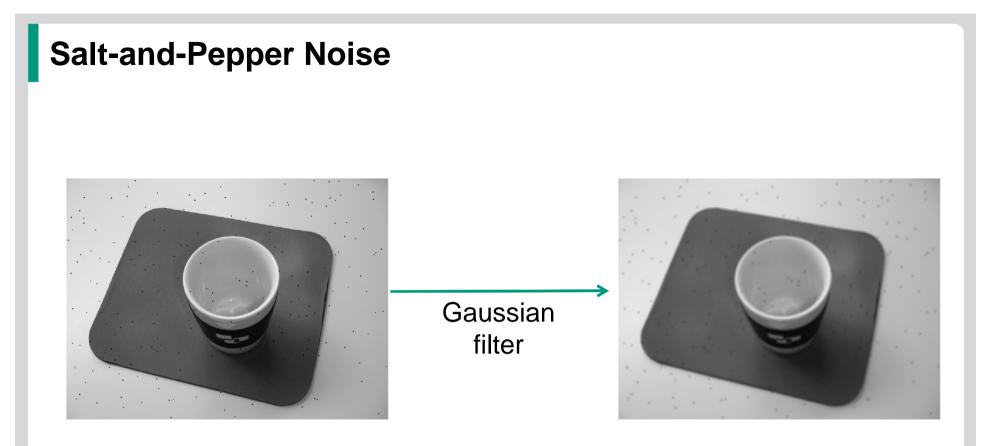


 smooth over edges and gross outliers  reduces smoothing at edges and gross outliers





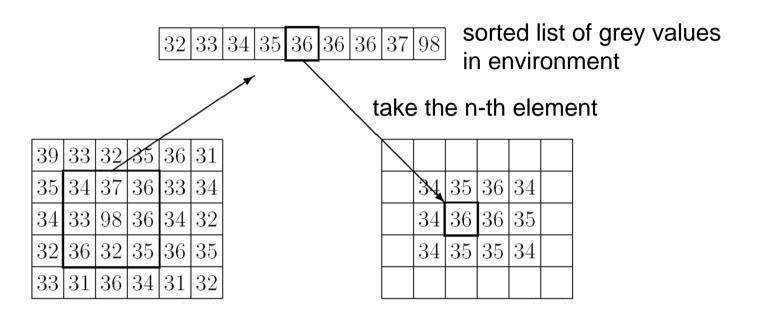




 $\rightarrow$  smoothing not appropriate for salt-and-pepper noise



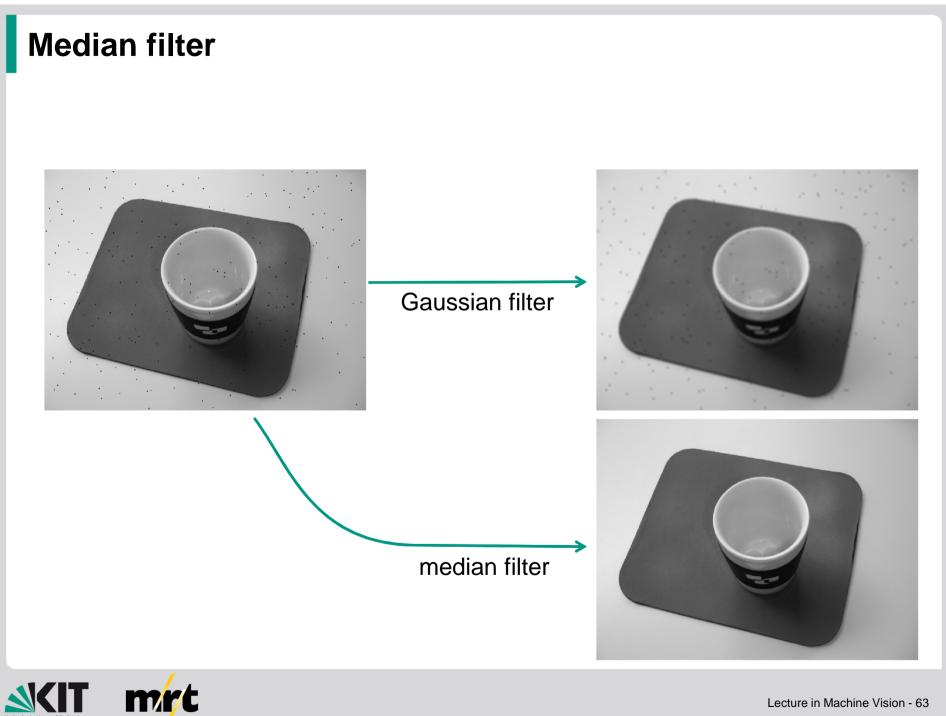
#### **Median filter**



#### median filter:

- sort grey values in environment around reference pixel
- take the grey value in the middle of the sorted list





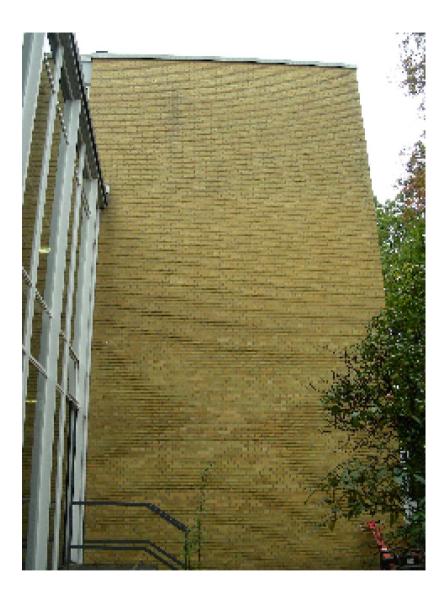
# **SUMMARY: IMAGE PREPROCESSING**



# Summary

#### - sampling

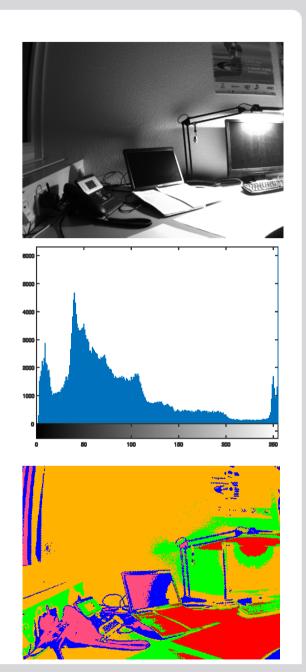
- Moiré patterns
- sampling theorem
- Fourier transform
- quantization
- blur and noise





### Summary cont.

- sampling
- quantization
  - discrete grey values
  - histogram transformation
  - high dynamic range imaging
- blur and noise





#### Summary cont.

- sampling
- quantization

#### blur and noise

- convolution
- models of blur and noise
- optimal image restoration (Wiener deconvolution)
- smoothing filters
  - rectangular
  - Gaussian
  - bilateral
- median filter



