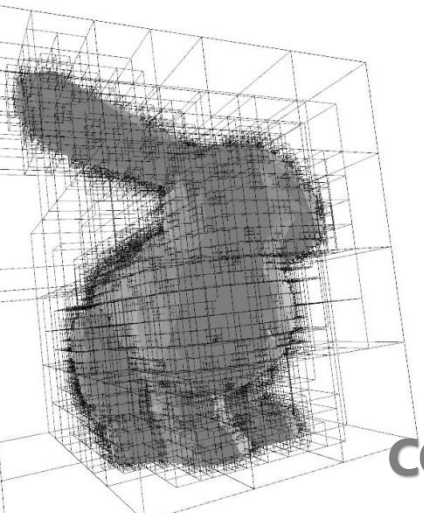


Image-Based Computer Graphics



Advanced image editing and processing tools

Image Composition



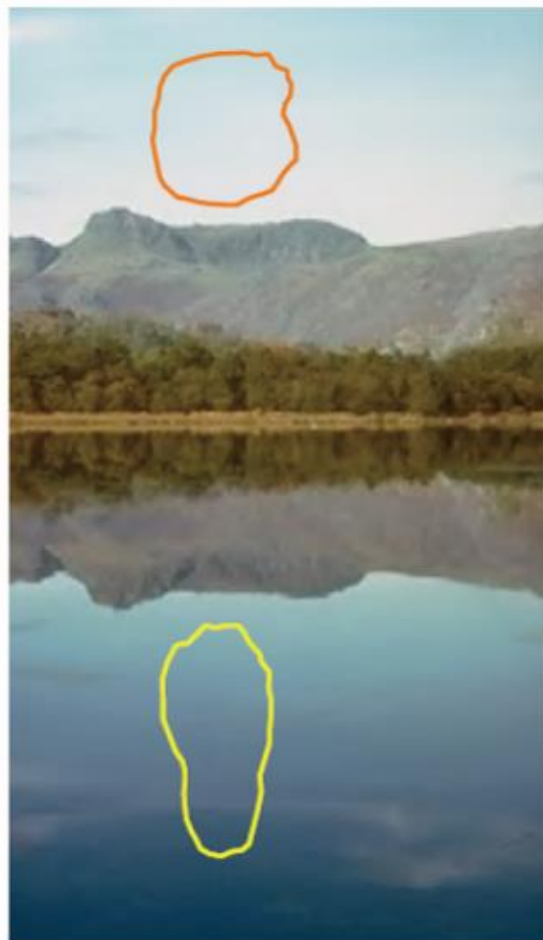


How to insert new objects?

- **Key idea:** Retain the gradient information as best as possible



sources



destinations



cloning

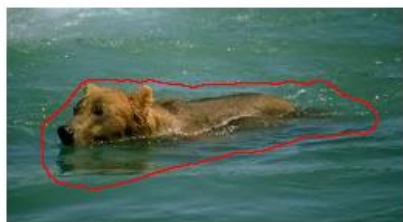


seamless cloning

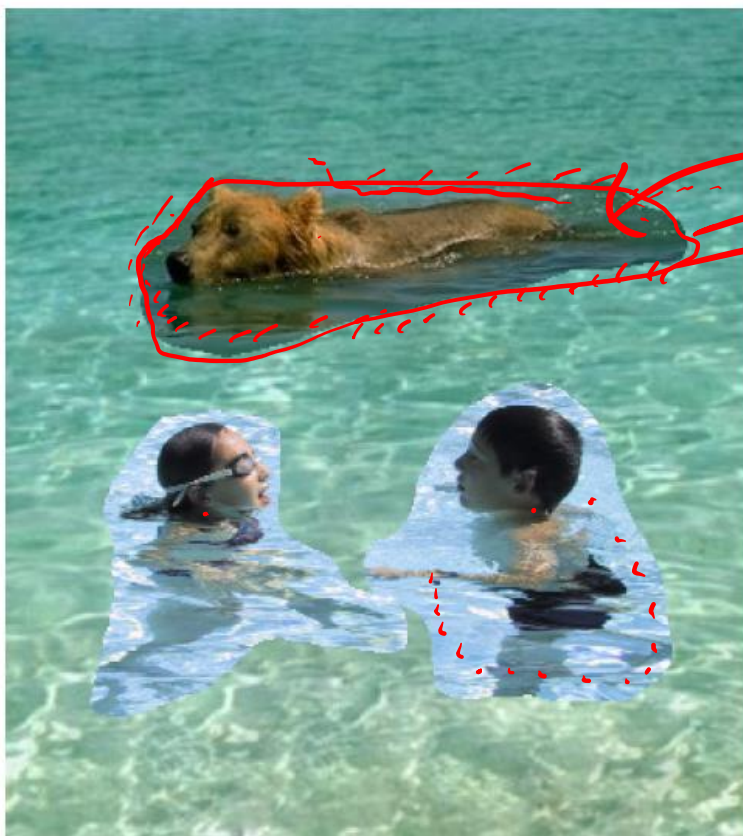


Poisson editing for seamless cloning

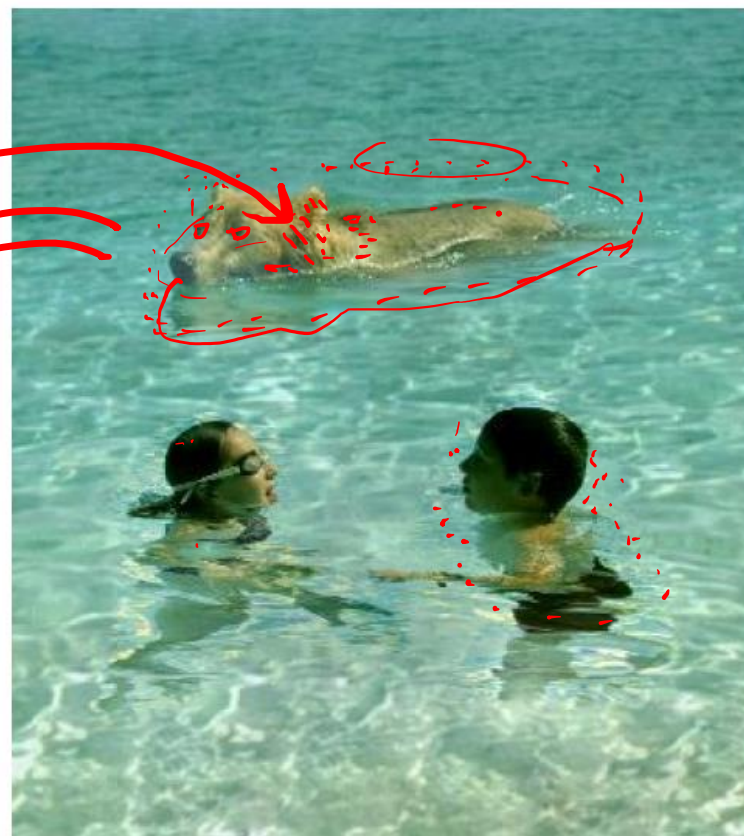
- *What happened to the color after cloning?*



sources/destinations



cloning

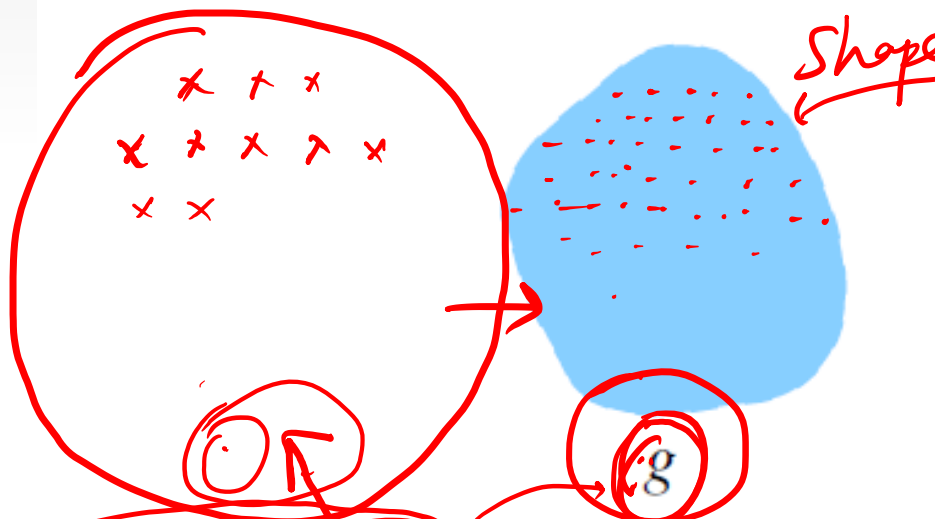
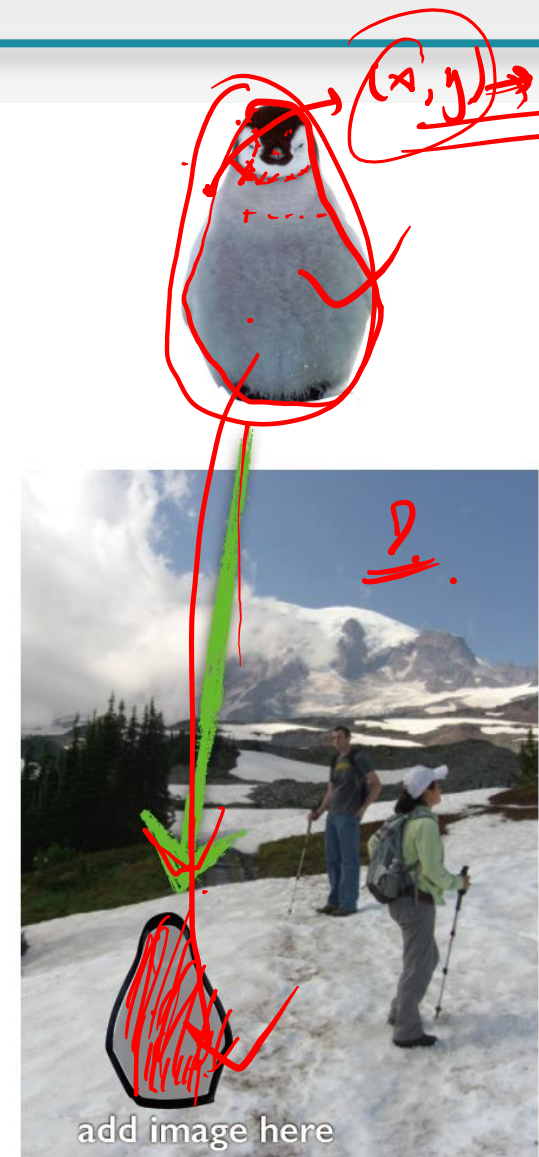


seamless cloning

[Perez 2003]

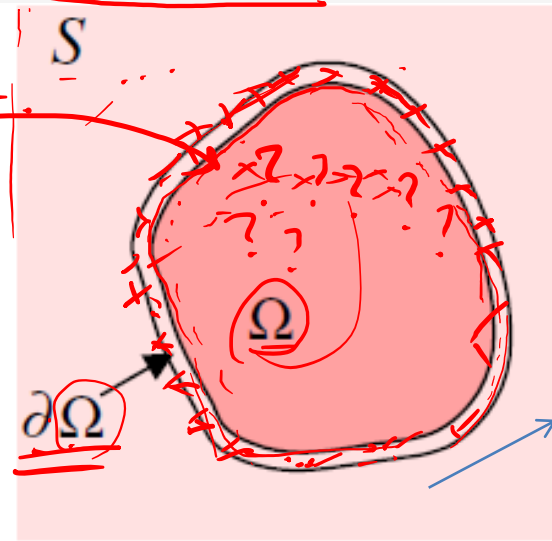
How to insert new objects?

Mapping $f(x,y) \rightarrow (V, \vec{v})$
 Long \rightarrow 2D function



Source function g
 (The original region to insert)

S: Image domain



f^* : Destination function
 f : Unknown function

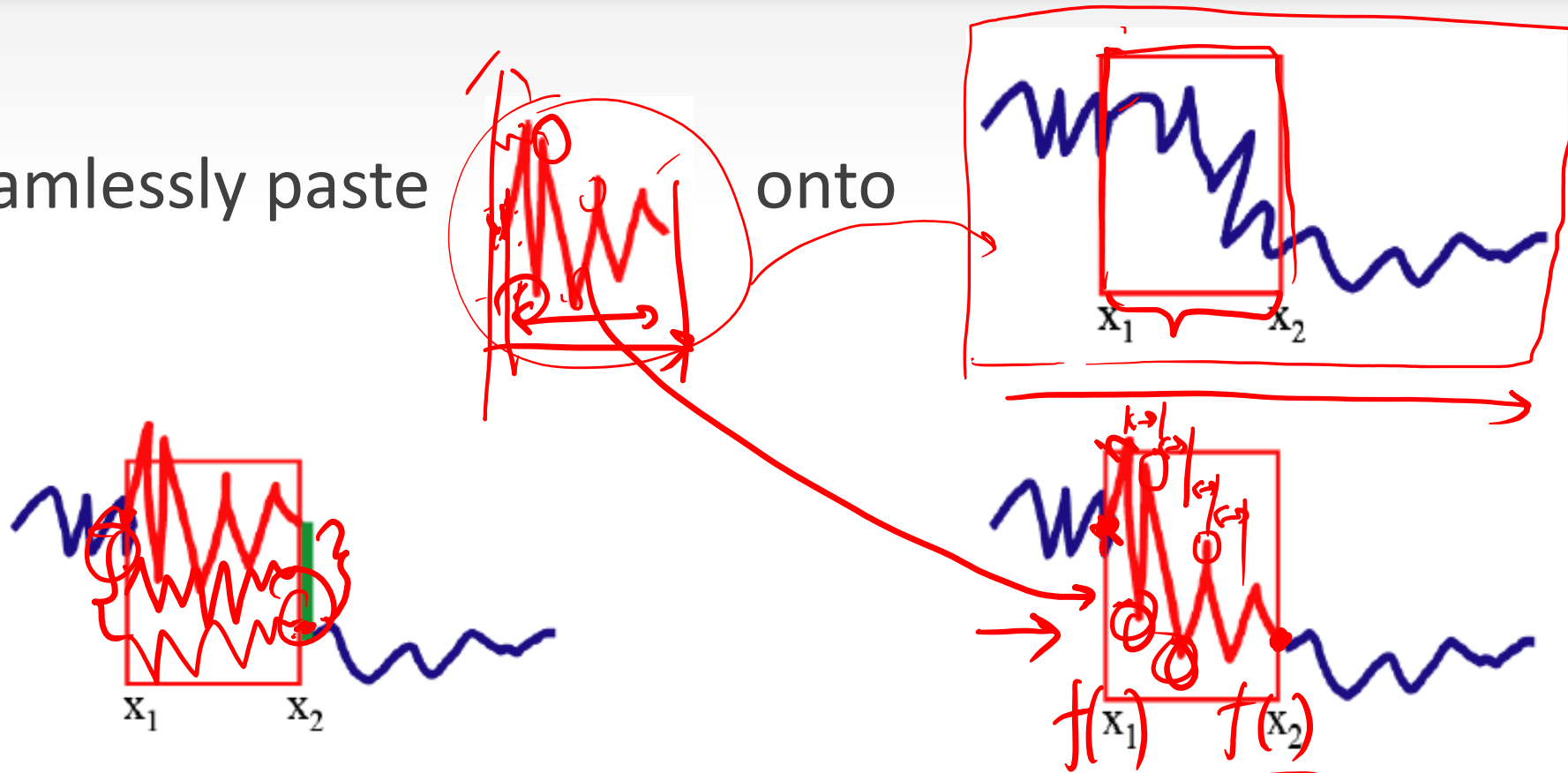
Should f look like g ?
 Should f look like f^* ? X

$f|_{\partial\Omega} = f^*|_{\partial\Omega}$

1D example

Seamlessly paste

onto

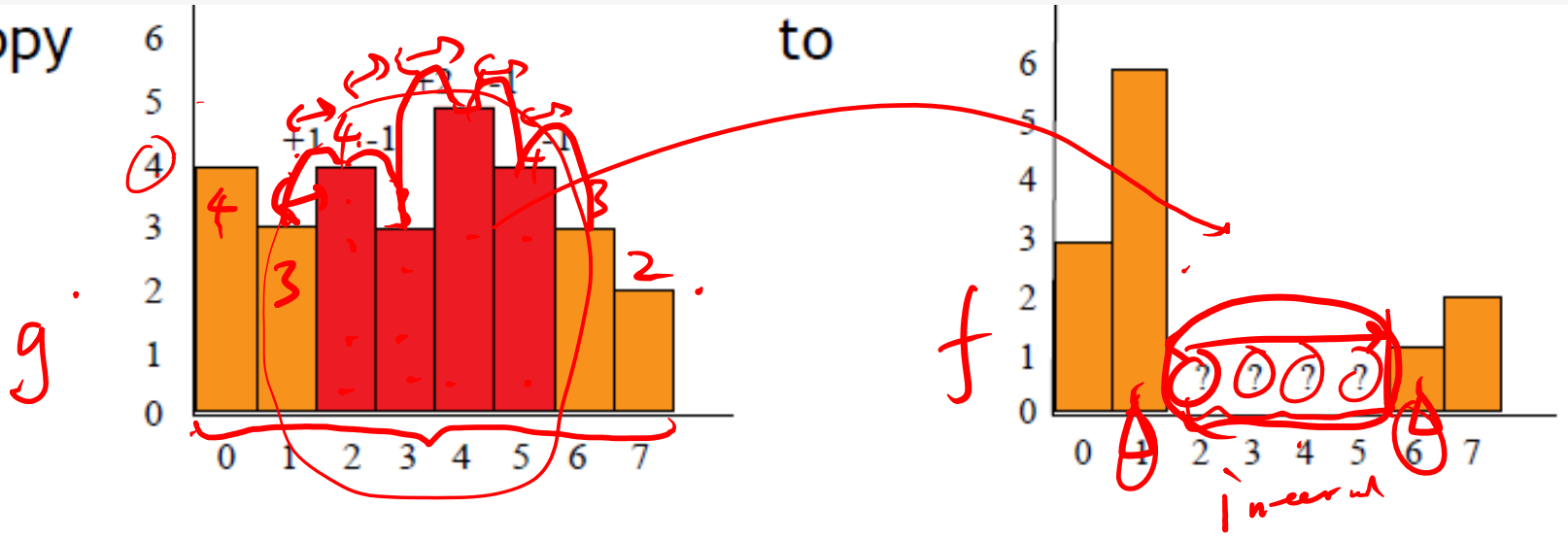


Directly put it here, obviously not a good idea

Adjust the values to maintain the differences between neighboring pixels while satisfying boundary conditions.

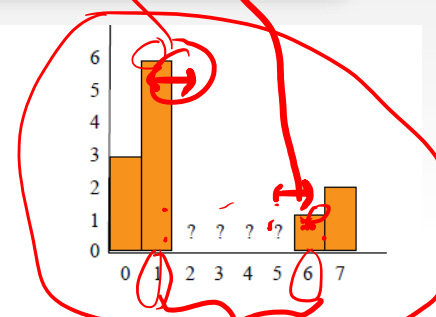
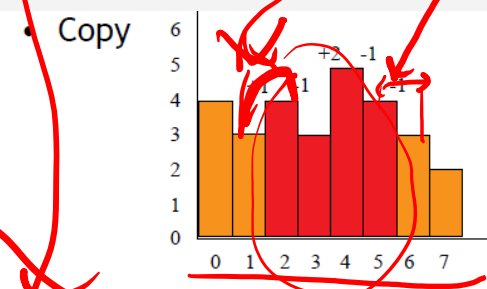
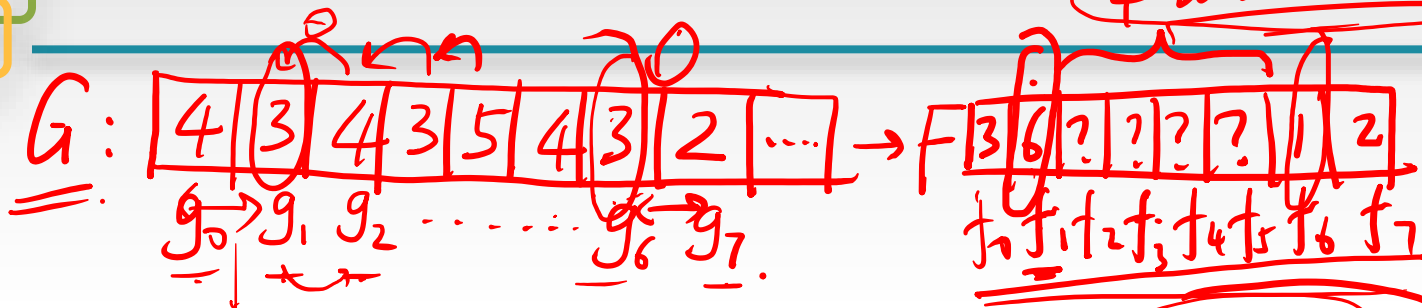
How we can do that

• Copy



$f_2? f_3? f_4? f_5?$
 4 unknowns

$f \rightarrow$ unknown
 f^*



Δg
 $\Delta g_1 = +1, \Delta g_2 = -1,$
 $\Delta g_3 = +2, \Delta g_4 = -1, \Delta g_5 = -1.$

$\Delta f_1 \approx \Delta g_1$
 $\Delta f_2 \approx \Delta g_2$
 $\dots \Delta f_5 \approx \Delta g_5$

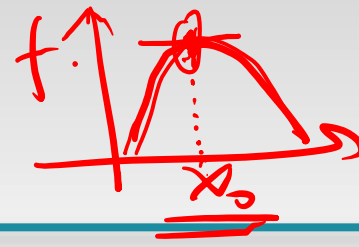
$f_1 = f^*$
 $f_6 = f^*$

Obj: $\min (\Delta f_1 - \Delta g_1)^2 + (\Delta f_2 - \Delta g_2)^2 + \dots + (\Delta f_5 - \Delta g_5)^2$

$\Delta f_1 = f_2 - f_1$ $\Delta g_1 = g_2 - g_1$ ✓ constant.

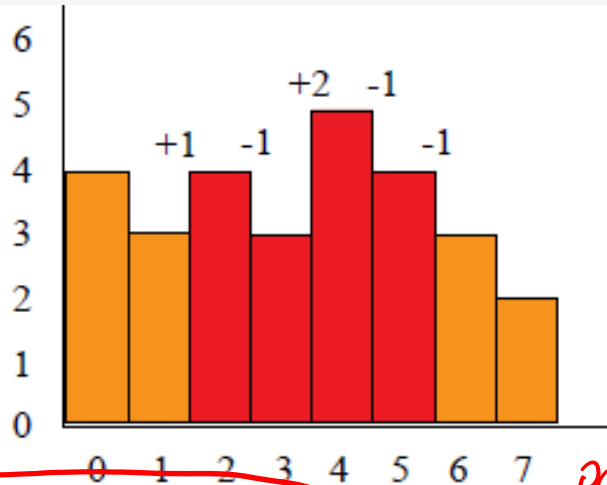
$\min [(f_2 - \underline{f_1} - 1)^2 + (f_3 - f_2 - (-1))^2 + \dots]$
 $\min [(f_2 - 6 - 1)^2 + (f_3 - f_2 + 1)^2 + \dots] = F(f_2, f_3, f_4, f_5)$

How we can do that

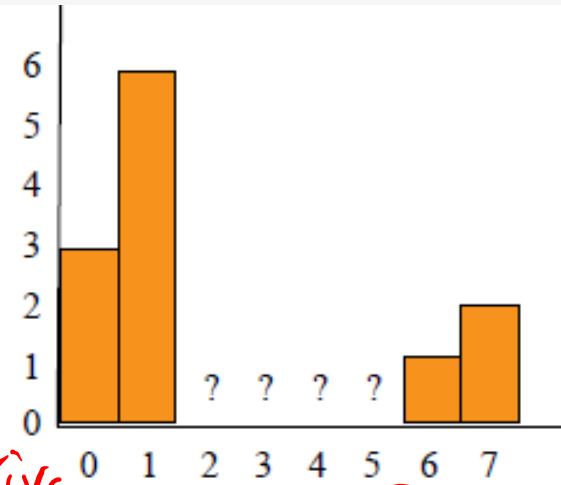


$$f'(x_0) = \underline{\underline{0}}$$

• Copy



to



$$\begin{aligned} \text{Min } & (f_2^2 + 49 - 14f_2 \\ & + f_3^2 - f_2^2 - 1 - 2f_3f_2 + 2f_3 - 2f_2 \\ & + f_4^2 + f_3^2 + 4 - 2f_3f_4 - 4f_4 + 4f_3 \\ & + f_5^2 + f_4^2 + 1 - 2f_5f_4 + 2f_5 - 2f_4 \\ & + f_5^2 + 4 - 4f_5) \end{aligned}$$

Denote it Q

$$\frac{dQ}{df_2}$$

$$\frac{dQ}{df_3}$$

$$\frac{dQ}{df_4}$$

$$\frac{dQ}{df_5}$$

partial derivative $= 0$

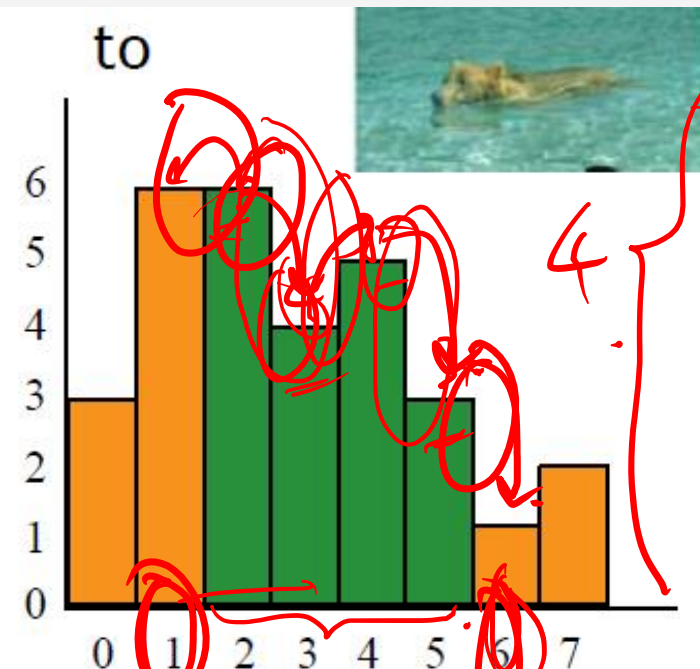
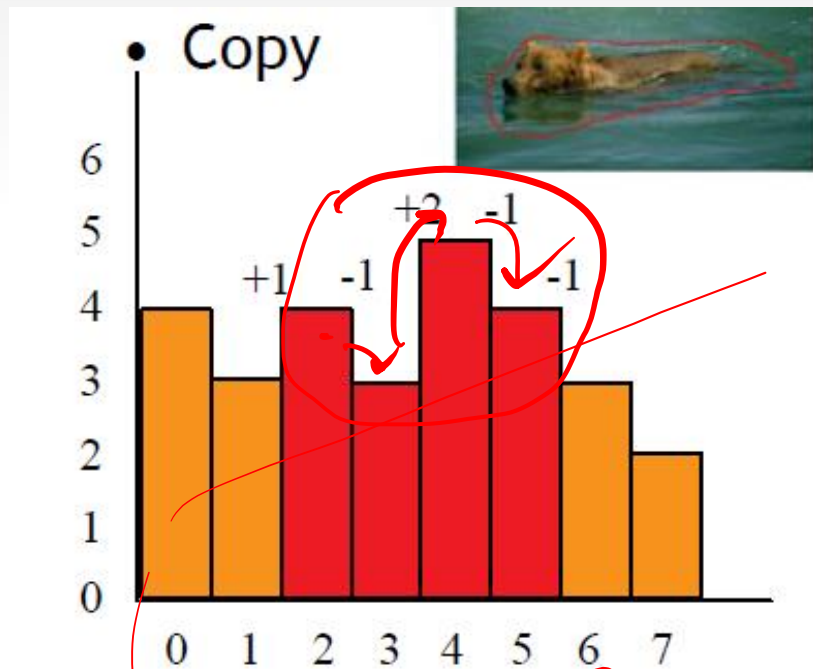
$$2f_2 + 2f_2 - 2f_3 - 16 = 0$$

$$2f_3 - 2f_2 + 2 + 2f_3 - 2f_4 + 4 = 0$$

$$2f_4 - 2f_3 - 4 + 2f_4 - 2f_5 - 2 = 0$$

$$2f_5 - 2f_4 + 2 + 2f_5 - 4 = 0$$

Minimize it by solving linear systems



$$4f_2 - 2f_3 + 0 \cdot f_4 + 0 \cdot f_5 = 16$$

$$-2f_2 + 4f_3 - 2f_4 + 0 \cdot f_5 = -6$$

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

4x4 4x4 4x4

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

$$\begin{pmatrix} f_2 \\ f_3 \\ f_4 \\ f_5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 16 \\ \dots \\ \dots \\ \dots \end{pmatrix}$$

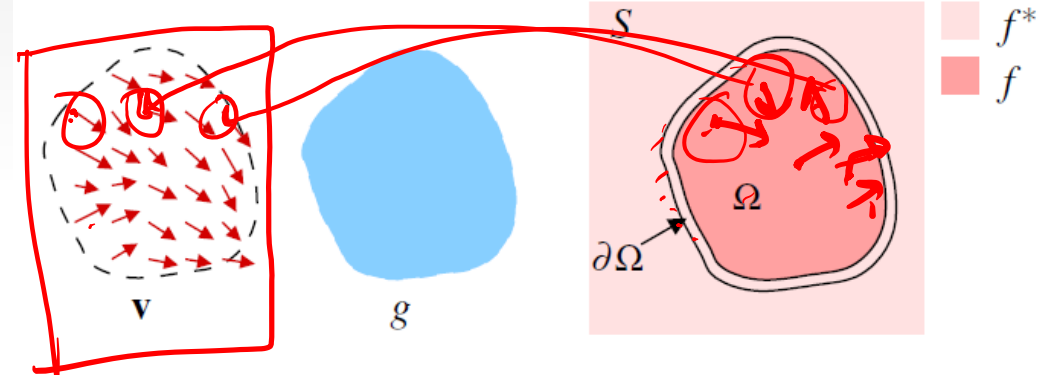
→ X ✓

$$A \cdot x = B$$

2D poisson blending

$\partial\Omega$

- In 2D, the gradient of the source image region is a vector field \mathbf{v} .
- We want to minimize the difference:



$$\sum \sum (\nabla f - \vec{v})^2$$

$$\min_f \iint_{\Omega} |\nabla f - \mathbf{v}|^2$$

what does this term do?

Gradient of f looks like gradient of g

$$f|_{\partial\Omega} = f^*|_{\partial\Omega}$$

what does this term do?

f is equivalent to f^* at the boundaries

$$\mathbf{v} = (u, v) = \nabla g$$

\mathbf{v} is known, since the source function g is known

Image gradient

$$\nabla f = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \end{bmatrix}$$

2



2D poisson blending

$$\min_f \iint_{\Omega} |\nabla f - \mathbf{v}|^2 \text{ with } f|_{\partial\Omega} = f^*|_{\partial\Omega}$$

$$|\nabla f - \mathbf{v}|^2 = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} - u\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} - v\right)^2 \quad \boxed{(u, v) = \nabla g}$$

2D poisson blending

$$\min_f \iint_{\Omega} |\nabla f - \mathbf{v}|^2 \text{ with } f|_{\partial\Omega} = f^*|_{\partial\Omega}$$

$$|\nabla f - \mathbf{v}|^2 = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} - u\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} - v\right)^2 \quad \boxed{(u, v) = \nabla g}$$

- The solution for minimization is the unique solution for this Poisson equation (with Dirichlet boundary conditions)

$$\Delta f = \operatorname{div} \mathbf{v} \quad \text{over } \Omega, \quad \text{with } f|_{\partial\Omega} = f^*|_{\partial\Omega}$$

$$\Delta f = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2}$$

Laplacian

$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{v} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}$$

Divergence



$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}$$

2D poisson blending

So what does this mean ...

Gradient $\mathbf{v} = (u, v) = \nabla g$

Laplacian $\Delta f = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2}$

$$\begin{aligned}\operatorname{div} \mathbf{v} &= \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \\ &= \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial y^2} \\ &= \Delta g\end{aligned}$$

Laplacian of f same as g

$$\Delta f = \operatorname{div} \mathbf{v} \quad \text{over } \Omega, \quad \text{with } f|_{\partial\Omega} = f^*|_{\partial\Omega}$$

Dirichlet boundary condition

It specifies **the values of a solution** needs to take on the boundary of the domain



2D poisson blending

- Let's first recall gradient again

first-order
finite difference

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + 0.5h) - f(x - 0.5h)}{h}$$

derivative filter

1	0	-1
---	---	----

second-order
finite difference

$$f''(x) \approx \frac{\delta_h^2[f](x)}{h^2} = \frac{f(x+h) - 2f(x) + f(x-h)}{h^2}$$

Laplace filter

1	-2	1
---	----	---

It is $I(x+1) + I(x-1) - 2I(x)$

For 2D

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta f &= \frac{\partial f^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial f^2}{\partial y^2} = I(x+1, y) + I(x-1, y) - 2I(x, y) + I(x, y+1) + I(x, y-1) - 2I(x, y) \\ &= I(x+1, y) + I(x-1, y) + I(x, y+1) + I(x, y-1) - 4I(x, y) \end{aligned}$$

0	1	0
1	-4	1
0	1	0

2D Laplace filter

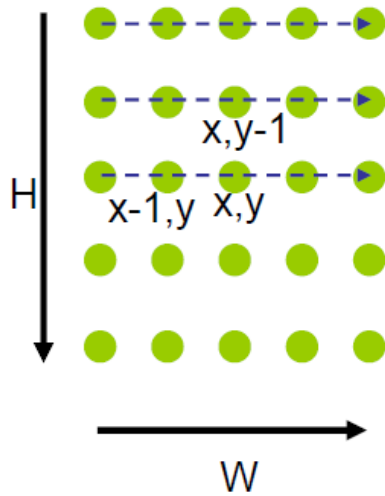
Linear System

So for each pixel p

$$\Delta f_p = \Delta g_p$$

$$\sum_{q \in N_p} f_q - 4f_p = \sum_{q \in N_p} g_q - 4g_p$$

What's known, what's unknown?



$$\underbrace{[\quad 1 \quad \dots \quad 1 \quad -4 \quad 1 \quad \dots \quad 1 \quad]}_{w} \underbrace{\left[\begin{array}{c} \vdots \\ I(x, y-1) \\ \vdots \\ I(x-1, y) \\ I(x, y) \\ I(x+1, y) \\ \vdots \\ I(x, y+1) \\ \vdots \end{array} \right]}_x = \underbrace{\left[\begin{array}{c} \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \end{array} \right]}_b = \Delta g$$

A
x
b

$$I(x + 1, y) + I(x - 1, y) + I(x, y + 1) + I(x, y - 1) - 4I(x, y) = \Delta g$$

We have know G, so the second derivative is know for every point.

Δg

Linear System

General form of linear least squares

(Warning: change of notation. x is a vector of parameters!)

$$\begin{aligned} E_{LLS} &= \sum_i |a_i x - b_i|^2 \\ &= \|\mathbf{A}x - \mathbf{b}\|^2 \quad (\text{matrix form}) \end{aligned}$$

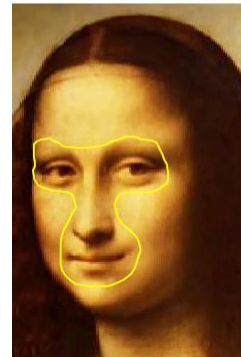
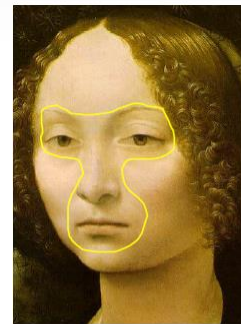
Minimize the error:

Expand

$$E_{LLS} = x^\top (\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A}) x - 2x^\top (\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{b}) + \|\mathbf{b}\|^2$$

Take derivative $(\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A})x = \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{b}$ (normal equation)

Solve for x $x = (\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{b}$



source/destination



cloning



seamless cloning

OpenCV and Matlab both provide linear system solvers, if you can define your problem in this form, use them!

What if we do not want to do color blending?



Plate 94 *A composite image created for the film Titanic.*



Plate 95 *An element that features a miniature of the ship.*



Plate 96 *An intermediate element that contains computer-generated water and an animated sky.*



Plate 97 *A computer-generated dock element.*



Plate 98 *An element used to control the atmosphere on the dock.*



Plate 99 *An element featuring people that were on the ship.*



Plate 100 *An element featuring a group of people on the dock.*

In many occasions, we do not want to change the color of the inserted objects.

From the Art & Science of Digital Compositing

What if we do not want to do color blending?



Magazine covers
We also need composite
things with different
background



If we only use binary mask...

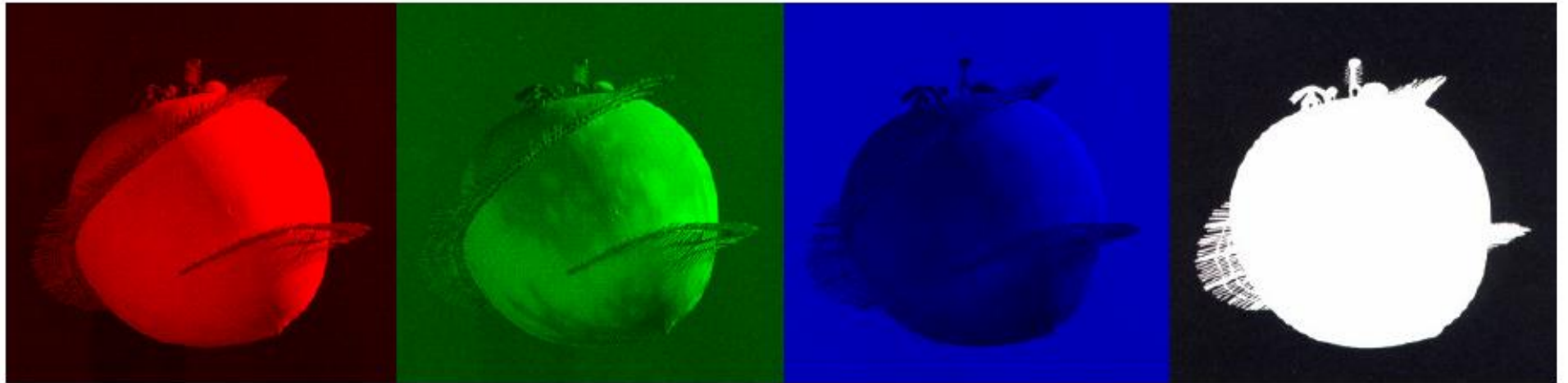
[Chuang et al. / Corel]



causes jaggy artifacts similar to point-sampled rasterization
Is this pixel part of the foreground? Only yes or no for a binary mask

Alpha matting

- **Key Idea:** pixels near boundary are not strictly foreground or background -- adding an **Alpha channel**



An extra alpha channel:
 $\alpha=1$ means opaque, $\alpha=0$ means
transparent

Why do we need fractional alpha?

- Thin features (e.g. hair) cause mixed pixels

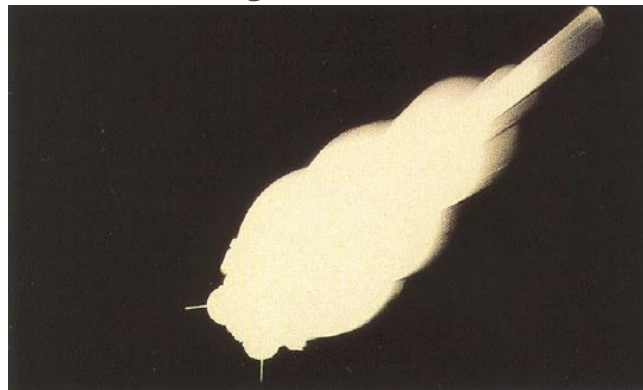
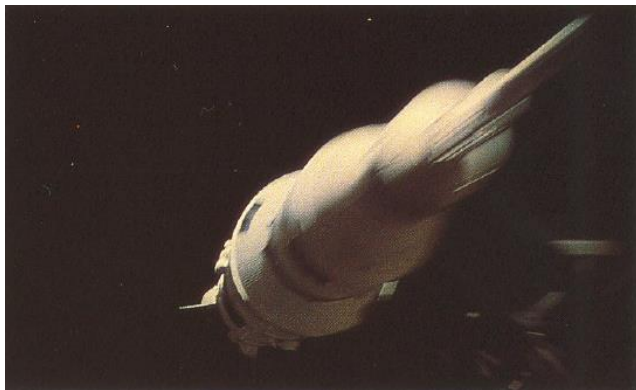


Alpha Matte

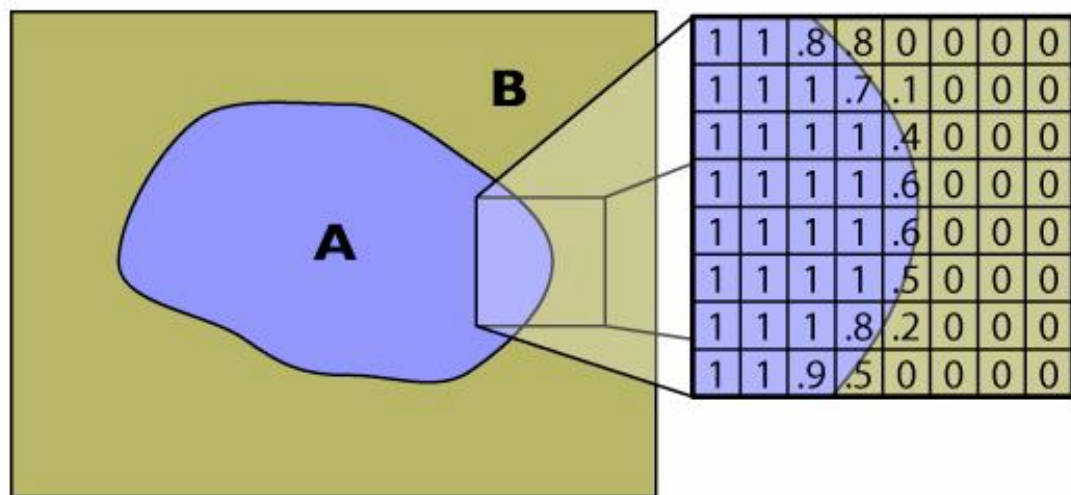
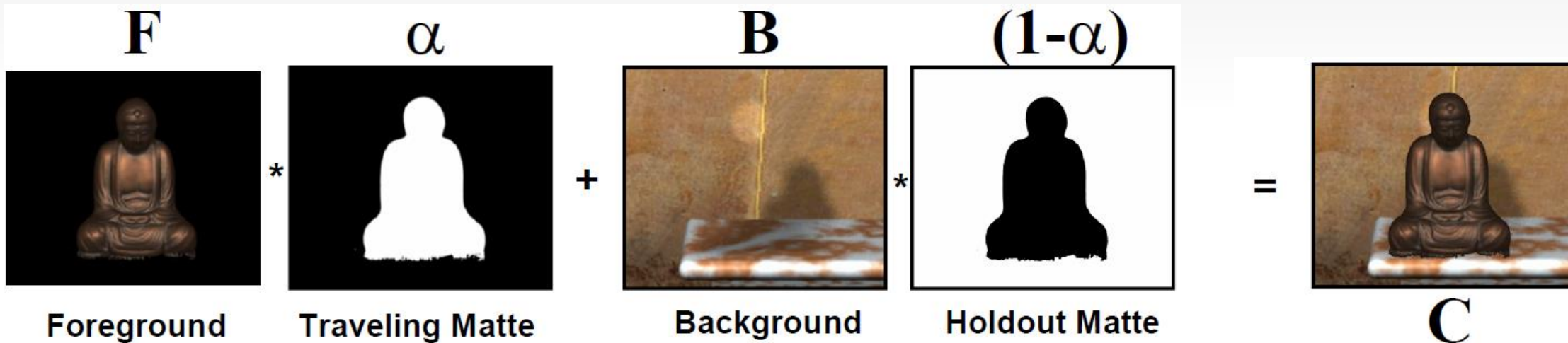


Composite

- Motion blurs “smears” objects into background



Alpha matting



The matting equation:

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

α is a floating point number from 0 to 1



Why matting is hard

- $C = \alpha F + (1 - \alpha)B$ for three channels

Equations: **3**
3 channels of the
observed color

$$C_r = \alpha F_r + (1 - \alpha)B_r$$

$$C_g = \alpha F_g + (1 - \alpha)B_g$$

$$C_b = \alpha F_b + (1 - \alpha)B_b$$

Unknowns: **7**

3 channels of the
foreground/background color, and α

- We have to **get fewer unknowns**
(or more equations)

Traditional blue/green screen matting

- Invented by Petro Vlahos (Technical Academy Award 1993)



Petro Vlahos
GORDON E. SAWYER AWARD
66TH ACADEMY AWARDS
1993



Initially for film, then video, then digital

- Assume that the foreground has no blue/green
- Assume background is mainly blue/green

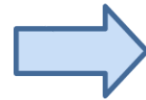
Traditional blue/green screen matting

- Idealized version:

- no blue in foreground. Only blue in background $F_b = 0$ and $B_r = B_g = 0$

- Equations can be simplified:

$$\begin{aligned}C_r &= \alpha F_r + (1 - \alpha) B_r \\C_g &= \alpha F_g + (1 - \alpha) B_g \\C_b &= \alpha F_b + (1 - \alpha) B_b\end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}C_r &= \alpha F_r \\C_g &= \alpha F_g \\C_b &= (1 - \alpha) B_b\end{aligned}$$

3 equations in 3 unknowns

Problem Solved!



Issues



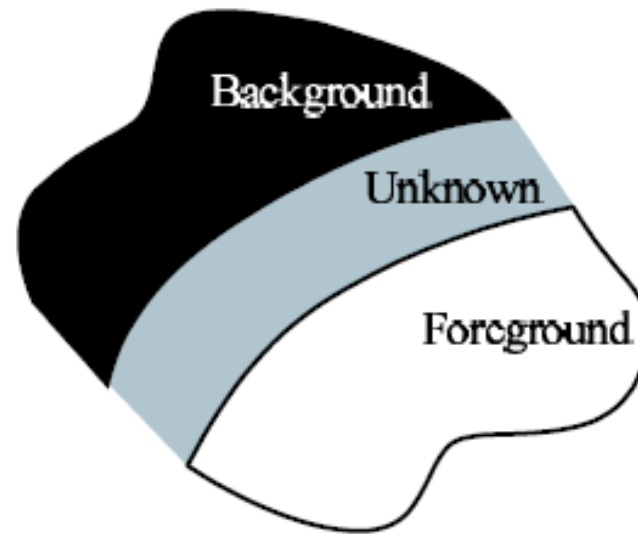
The background illuminates the foreground,
blue/green at silhouettes



The background blue screen reflects blue on the wing surfaces

Natural Image Matting

- Someone has to specify which part is supposed to be extracted
- Normally take an initial binary map as input, then analyze the pixels along the boundaries.





From the initial boundaries, we derive a TRIMAP, where the alpha values should be solved.
(Otherwise $\alpha = 1 / 0$ for foreground/background)



Natural Image Matting

- Important assumption: F, B are approximately constant in a window (Local smooth assumption)



Different weights for every pixel
to combine foreground color 
and background color 

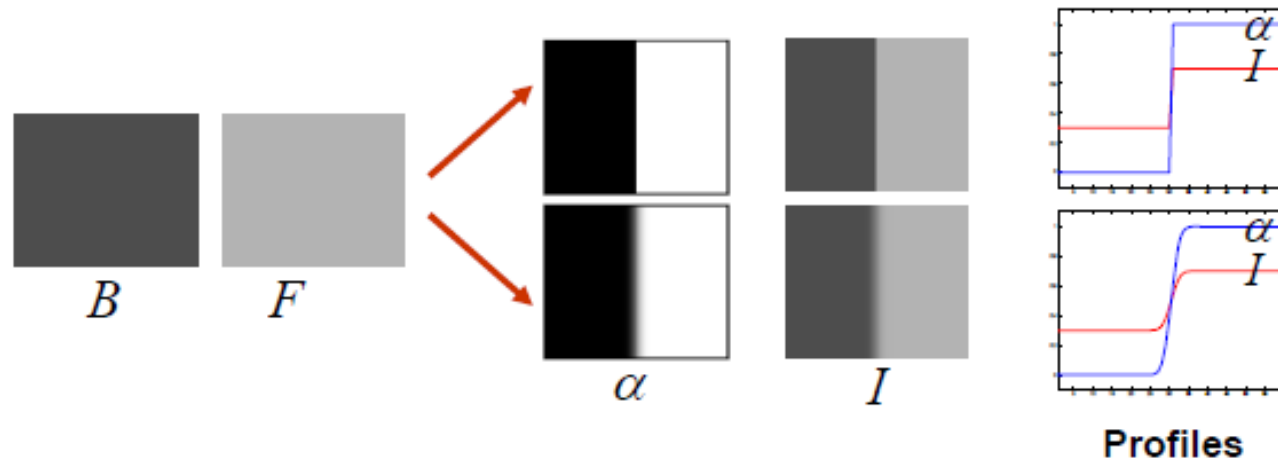
Natural Image Matting

- We can further assume that alpha is a linear transform of the input image within a local window

$$I_i \approx \alpha_i F + (1 - \alpha_i) B \quad i \in w$$



$$\alpha_i \approx a I_i + b \quad a = \frac{1}{F - B}, b = \frac{-B}{F - B}$$



Guided image filtering for fast matting

Guided image filtering:

- The key assumption of the guided filter is a local linear model between the guidance I and the filtering output q for input p . (The same as what we want to solve in the matting problem)

$$q_i = a_k I_i + b_k, \forall i \in \omega_k$$

some linear coefficients assumed to be constant in the window k

This local linear model ensures that q has an edge only if I has an edge

[He et al. TPAMI 2013]

$$\alpha_i \approx a I_i + b \quad a = \frac{1}{F - B}, b = \frac{-B}{F - B}$$

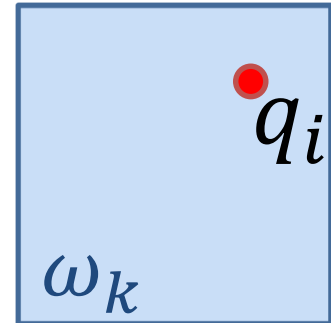
Guided image filtering

Guided image filtering:

Pixel in input image: p , output pixel: q , guidance map: I

- We seek a solution that minimizes the difference between q and p while maintaining that linear model

$$E(a_k, b_k) = \sum_{i \in \omega_k} ((a_k I_i + b_k - p_i)^2 + \epsilon a_k^2)$$



Using linear regression (see *Applied Regression Analysis. 2 edn*), the solution would be:

$$a_k = \frac{\frac{1}{|\omega|} \sum_{i \in \omega_k} I_i p_i - \mu_k \bar{p}_k}{\sigma_k^2 + \epsilon} \quad b_k = \bar{p}_k - a_k \mu_k.$$

μ_k and σ_k^2 are the mean and variance of I in ω_k , $\bar{p}_k = \frac{1}{|\omega|} \sum_{i \in \omega_k} p_i$ is the mean of p in ω_k .

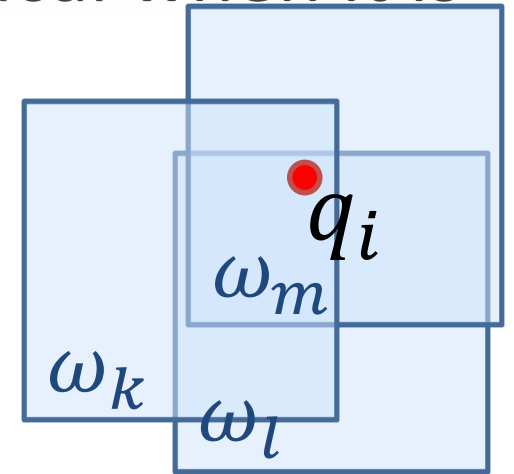
Guided image filtering

- However, a pixel i is involved in all the overlapping windows ω that covers i , so the value of output is not identical when it is computed in different windows.
- We average all the possible values

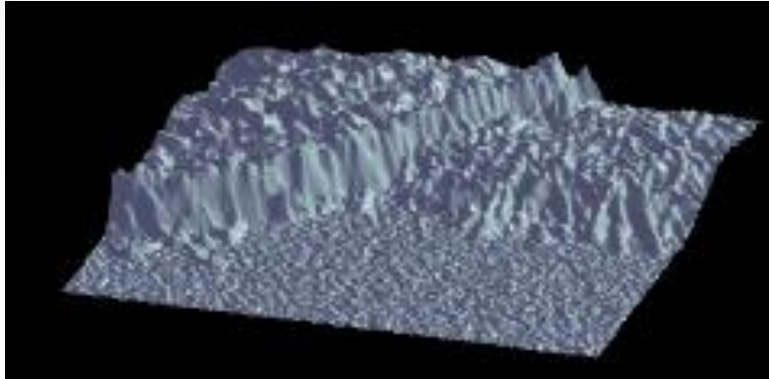
$$q_i = \frac{1}{|\omega|} \sum_{k|i \in \omega_k} (a_k I_i + b_k)$$

- Noticing that $\sum_{k|i \in \omega_k} a_k = \sum_{k \in \omega_i} a_k$
- Rewrite the above equation as:

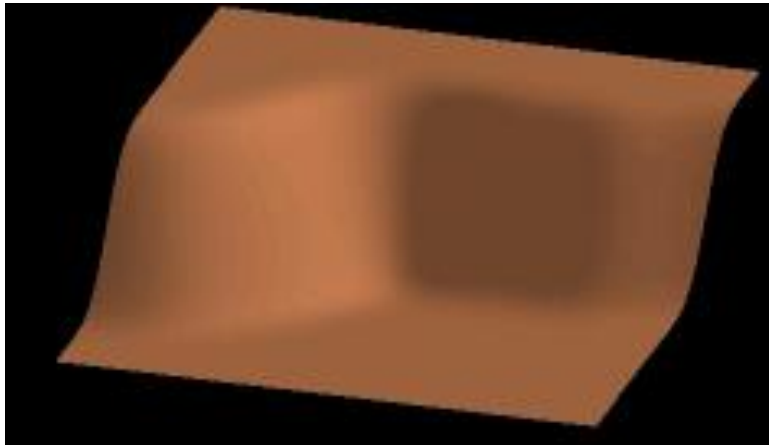
$$q_i = \bar{a}_i I_i + \bar{b}_i$$



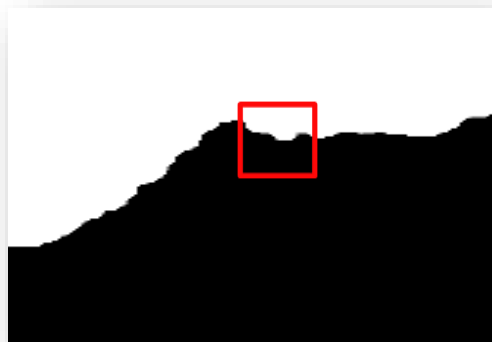
Filtering for matting



Guide Image, I

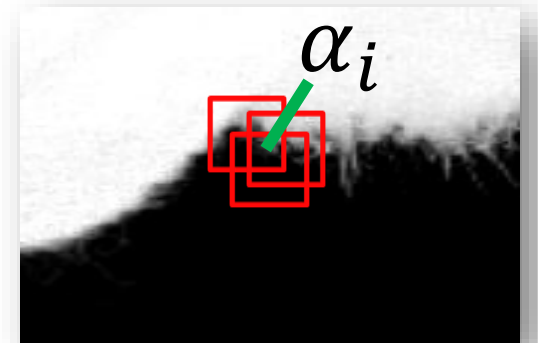


Input Image, p
(Initial α , 0 and 1)



$$a_k = \frac{\frac{1}{|\omega|} \sum_{i \in \omega_k} I_i p_i - \mu_k \bar{p}_k}{\sigma_k^2 + \epsilon}$$

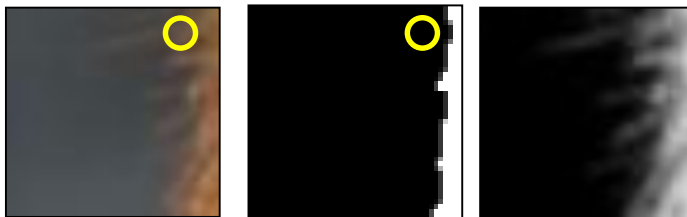
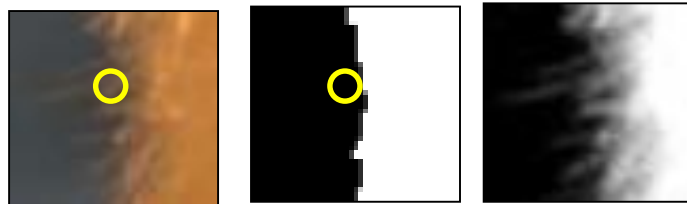
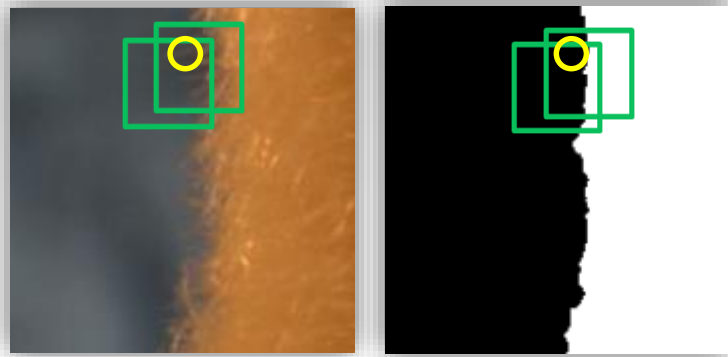
$$b_k = \bar{p}_k - a_k \mu_k.$$



$$\alpha_i = \frac{1}{|\omega|} \sum_{i \in \omega_k} (a_k I_i + b_k)$$

A window ω has
a width of $2r$

How to understand it?



Guide I Input, p α_i^k

$$\alpha_i \approx aI_i + b \quad a = \frac{1}{F-B}, b = \frac{-B}{F-B}$$

For each pixel in a window, we have

$$\alpha_i^k = a_k I_i + b_k = a_k I_i + (\bar{p}_k - a_k \mu_k) = a_k (I_i - \mu_k) + \bar{p}_k$$

$$a_k = \frac{\frac{1}{|\omega|} \sum_{i \in \omega_k} I_i p_i - \mu_k \bar{p}_k}{\sigma_k^2 + \epsilon}$$

$$b_k = \bar{p}_k - a_k \mu_k$$

$$a_k = \frac{\frac{1}{|\omega|} \sum_{i \in \omega_k} I_i p_i - \mu_k \bar{p}_k}{\sigma_k^2 + \epsilon}$$

Covariance shows the tendency in the linear relationship between the variables, if there are unwanted noisy parts, it will contribute less to the final result

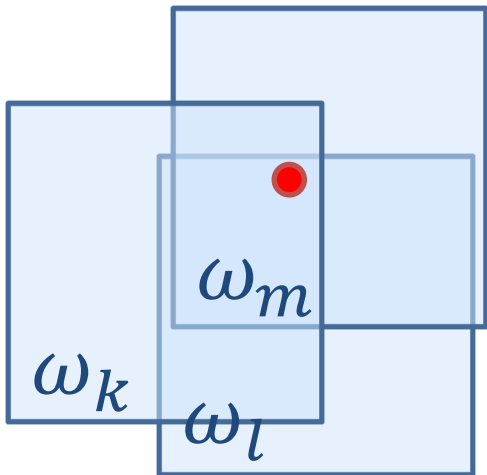


ϵ controls how smooth you want in the final results, normally you can take a small one like 0.1 to get finer details

So a_k controls how much it contributes to the transparency value (For the pixel with an initial alpha value of 1, imagine that we should reduce some transparency from 1)

Filtering for matting

Input: filtering input image p ,
guidance image I , radius r ,
regularization ϵ
Output: filtering output α .



For every window in the image,
compute all the values for a and
 b for all the covered pixels.

Then for every pixel, every
computed a values and b values
should be averaged

The abbreviations of correlation (corr),
variance (var), and covariance (cov) indicate
the intuitive meaning of these variables.

- 1: $\text{mean}_I = f_{\text{mean}}(I)$
 $\text{mean}_p = f_{\text{mean}}(p)$
 $\text{corr}_I = f_{\text{mean}}(I \cdot I)$
 $\text{corr}_{Ip} = f_{\text{mean}}(I \cdot p)$
- 2: $\text{var}_I = \text{corr}_I - \text{mean}_I \cdot \text{mean}_I$
 $\text{cov}_{Ip} = \text{corr}_{Ip} - \text{mean}_I \cdot \text{mean}_p$
- 3: $a = \text{cov}_{Ip} / (\text{var}_I + \epsilon)$
 $b = \text{mean}_p - a \cdot \text{mean}_I$
- 4: $\text{mean}_a = f_{\text{mean}}(a)$
 $\text{mean}_b = f_{\text{mean}}(b)$
- 5: $\alpha = \text{mean}_a \cdot I + \text{mean}_b$

One result



Guide I

One result



Input mask, only 0 and 255 (representing 0 and 1)

One result



Filtered image gray level (representing alpha value from 0 to 1)

Matting results



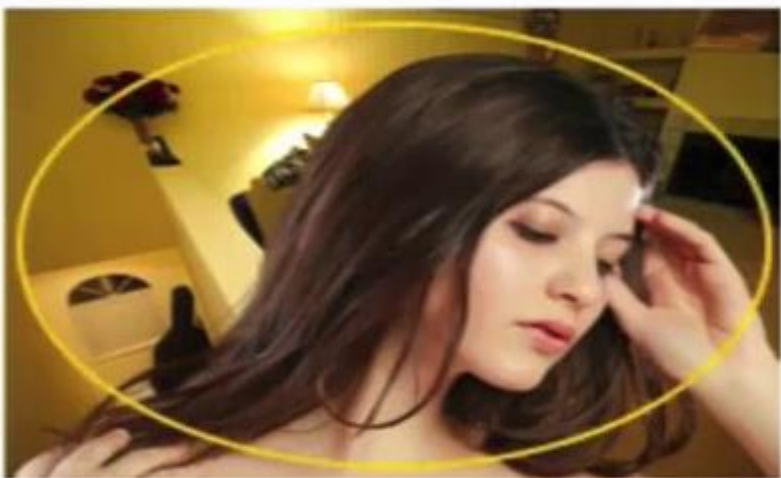
Image



Alpha Mattes



Foreground



Composition 1



Composition 2



Composition 3