

# **Visual Motion Analysis and Tracking**

## **Part I**

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# Outline

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## Optical Flow and 2D Tracking:

- Optical flow estimation  
(iterative refinement, coarse to fine, robust estimation, mixture models)
- Motion-based tracking  
(EigenTracking, WSL, Feature Correspondence)

## Model-Based Tracking:

- Bayesian filtering / smoothing
- Kalman Filter
- Particle filters
- Lessoned learned
- ...

Unofficial Title of Part 1

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**A Brief and Biased History of Image  
Motion Computation**

# Introduction

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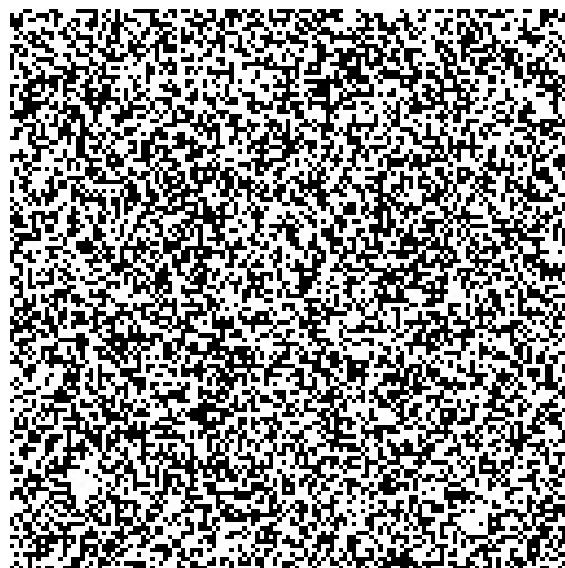
Flower garden sequence



Bill's class

# Introduction: Visual Perception

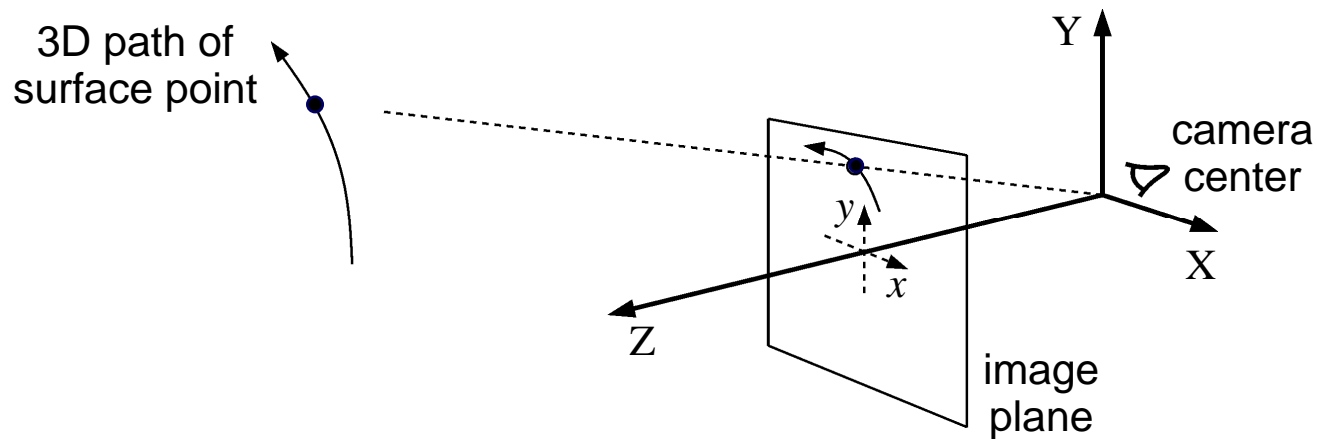
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Motion defined form

# Introduction

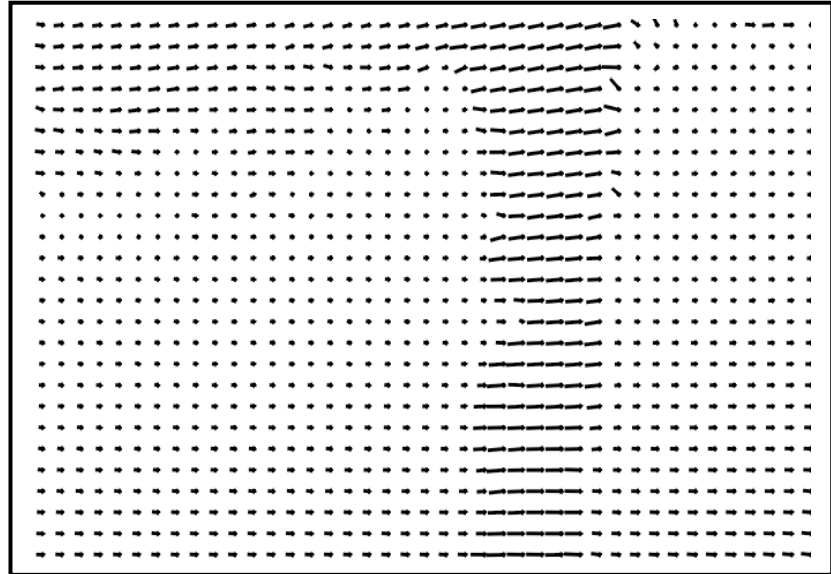
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- 3D point  $\vec{X}$  traverses a space-time path  $\vec{X}(t)$ .
- Projection onto the image plane produces a 2D path, the derivative of which is the 2D instantaneous velocity.
- 2D Motion Field: 2D velocities for all visible points.
- Optical Flow Field: Estimate of the 2D motion field.

# Introduction

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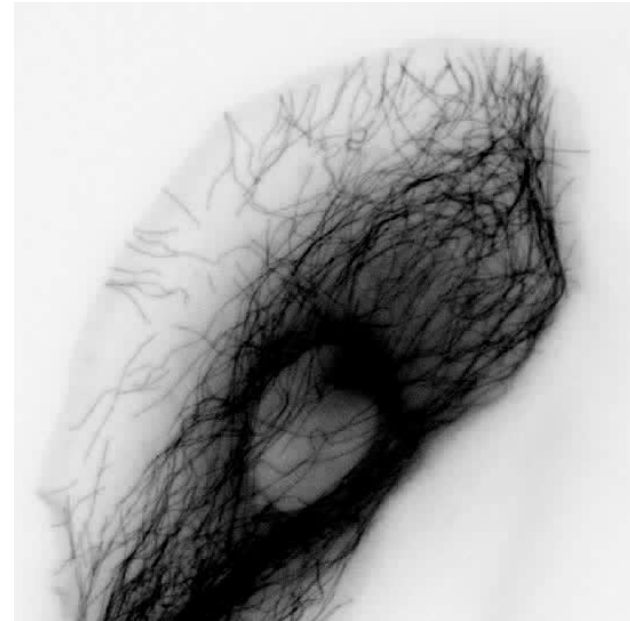
$$\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}) = (u(\mathbf{x}), v(\mathbf{x}))$$

# Optical Flow

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To estimate optical flow:

- Determine what image property to track
- Determine how to track it



Microtubule dynamics

# Optical Flow: Brightness Conservation

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Assume that we want to find the space-time paths along which image intensity is constant:

$$f(x(t), y(t), t) = c$$

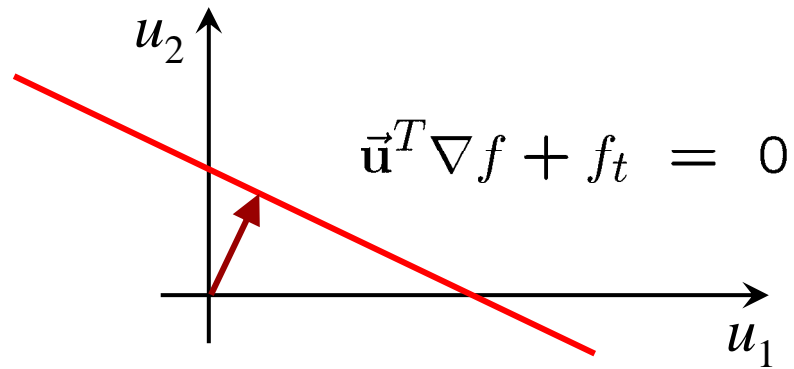
The total derivative must therefore be zero,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} f(x(t), y(t), t) &= f_x u_1 + f_y u_2 + f_t \\ &= \vec{\mathbf{u}}^T \vec{\nabla} f + f_t = 0 \end{aligned}$$

This is called the Linearized Brightness Constancy Constraint (LBCC).

# Optical Flow: Brightness Constancy Constraint Line

The LBCC provides one constraint in 2 unknowns. It defines a line in velocity space:



Only constrains the component of velocity in the gradient direction.

Aside: when the gradient magnitude is zero we get no constraint!

# Optical Flow: Area-Based Regression

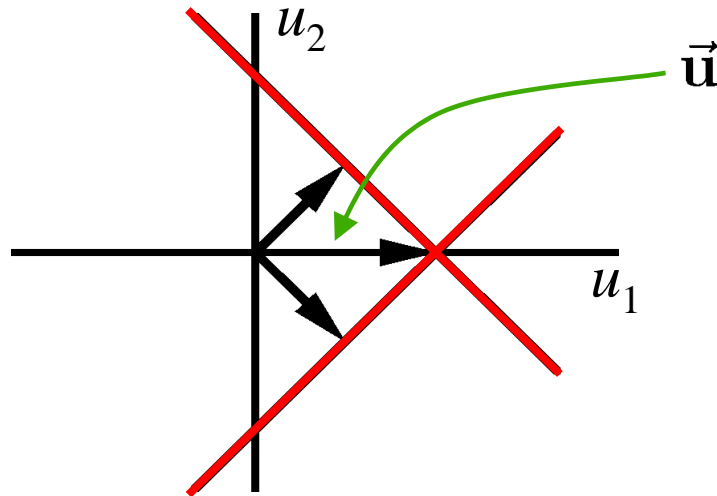
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## Assumption of Smoothness

2D motion is smooth in the local image neighborhood of the point at which we are estimating optical flow.

E.g., estimate the flow using two local gradient constraints:

$$\begin{bmatrix} f_x(x_1, y_1, t) & f_y(x_1, y_1, t) \\ f_x(x_2, y_2, t) & f_y(x_2, y_2, t) \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} f_t(x_1, y_1, t) \\ f_t(x_2, y_2, t) \end{bmatrix} = \vec{0},$$



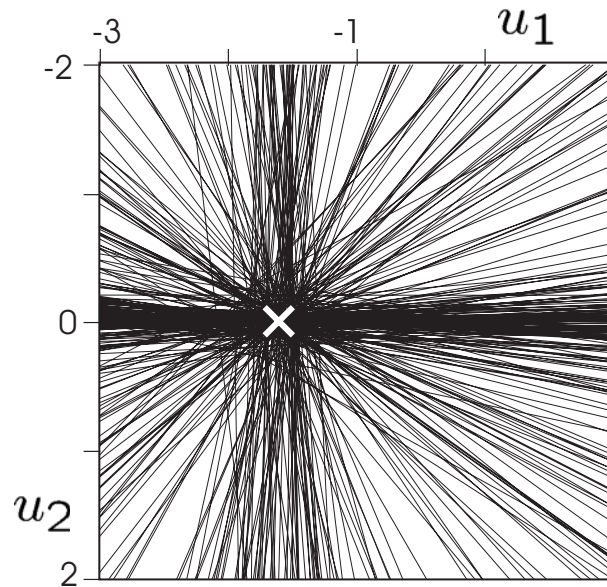
# Optical Flow: Area-Based Regression

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More generally, minimize the squared residual error in each constraint: (a linear least squares problem for  $(u_1, u_2)$ ):

$$E(u_1, u_2) = \sum_{x,y} g(x, y) [u_1 f_x(x, y, t) + u_2 f_y(x, y, t) + f_t(x, y, t)]^2$$

where  $g(x, y)$  is a low-pass window that helps give more weight to constraints at the center of the region. (Linear least squares.)



# Optical Flow: Iterative Estimation

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**Issue 1:** The least-squares estimate was based on an approximate objective function (the LBCC).

Sum of squared errors (SSE) objective function:

$$E(u_1, u_2) = \sum_{x,y} g(x, y) [f(x, y, t + \delta t) - f(x - u_1, y - u_2, t)]^2$$

Approximate objective function:

$$\hat{E}(u_1, u_2) = \sum_{x,y} g(x, y) [u_1 f_x(x, y, t) + u_2 f_y(x, y, t) + f_t(x, y, t)]^2$$

**Aside:** These objective functions agree up to higher order terms

$$E(u_1, u_2) = (\delta t)^2 \hat{E}(u_1, u_2) + \text{hots}$$

For small motions,  $\hat{E}(u_1, u_2)$  is a good approximation of  $E(u_1, u_2)$

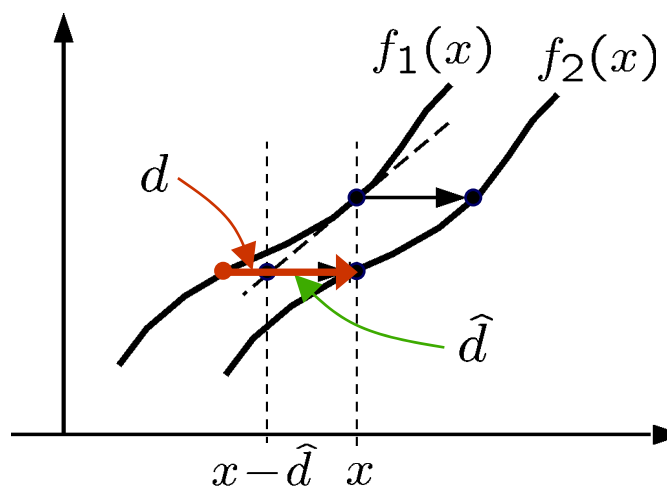
*[Jepson & Black, "EigenTracking: Robust matching and tracking of articulated objects using a view-based representation." IJCV, 1998]*

# Optical Flow: Iterative Estimation

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The errors resulting from this approximation are second-order in the magnitude of the displacement:

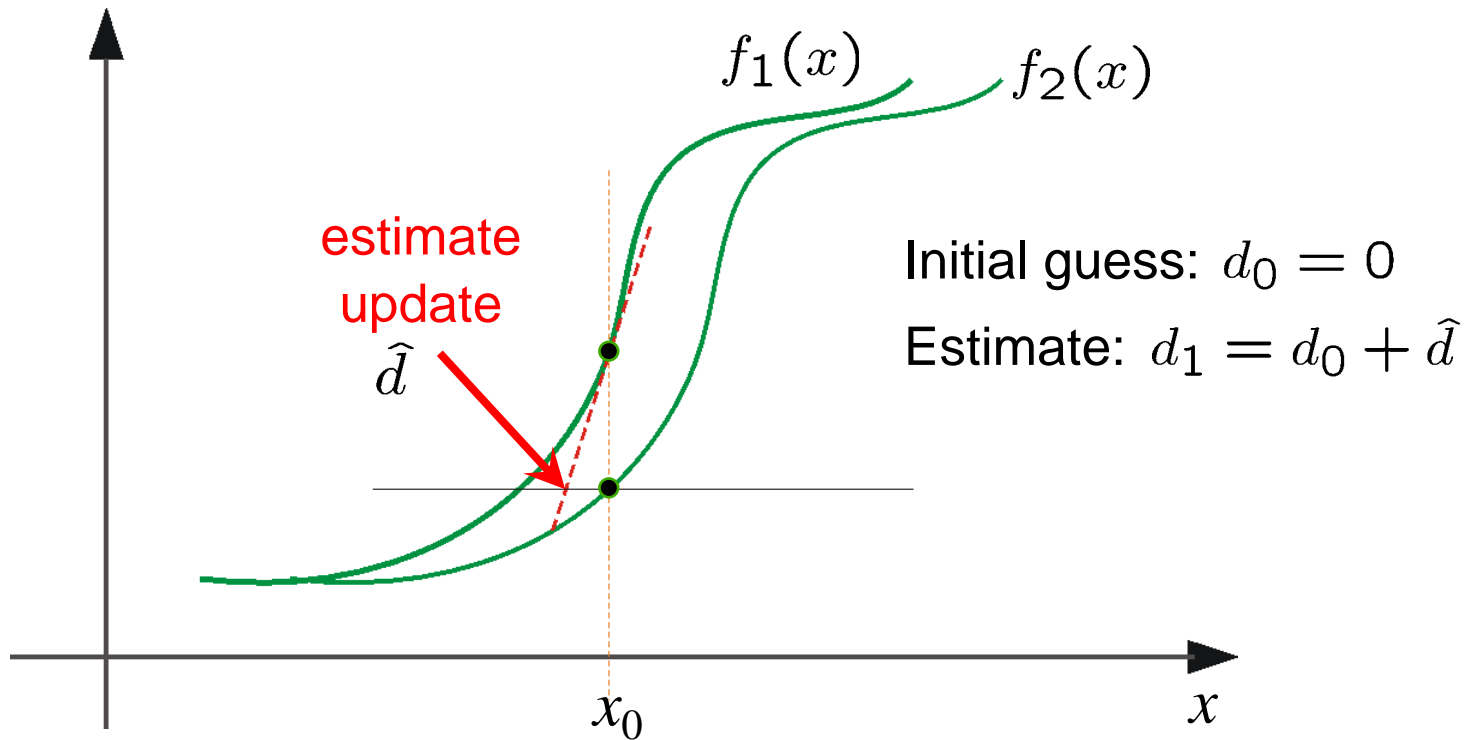
$$|\hat{d} - d| \leq \frac{d^2 |f_1''(x)|}{2 |f_1'(x)|}$$



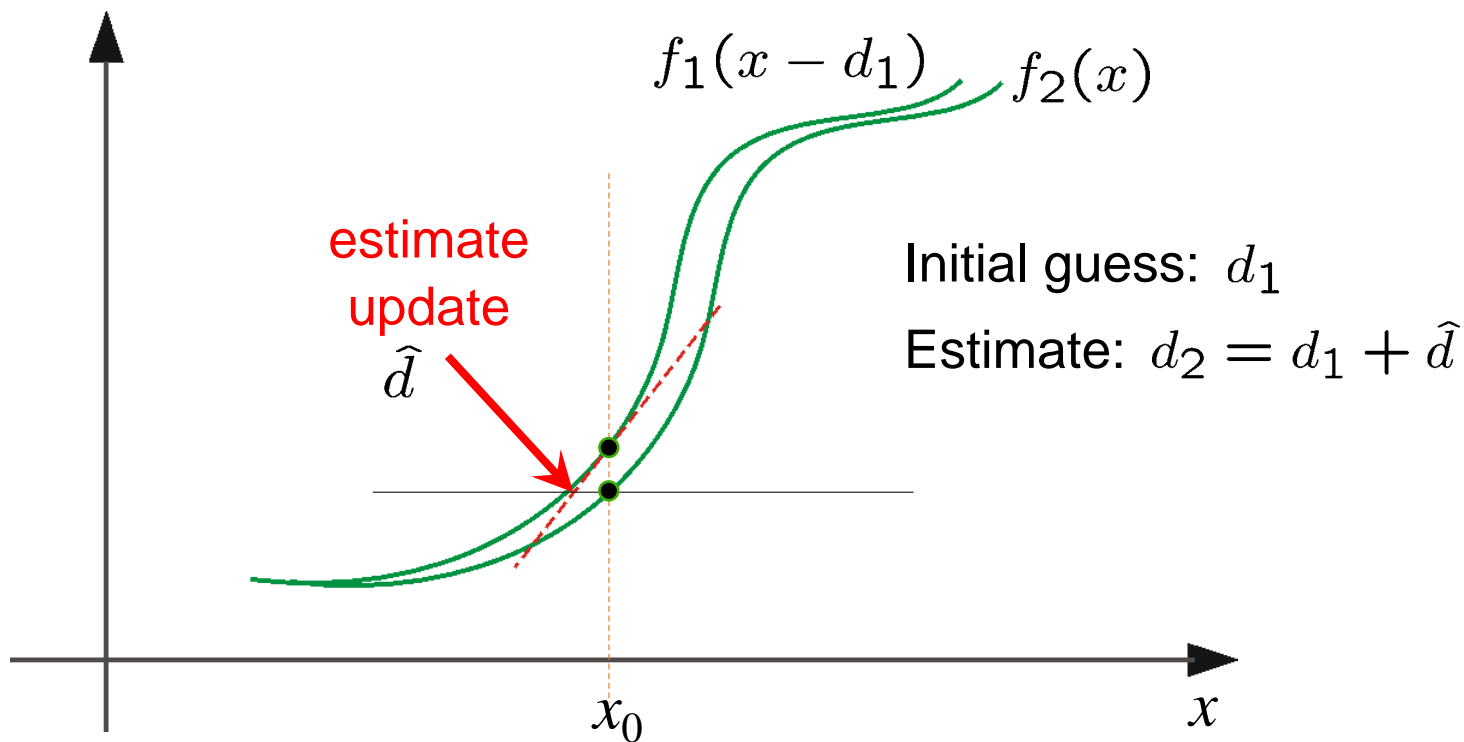
So we can converge to a solution by iterating the estimation:

- 1) estimate the shift given the two images,
- 2) warp one image toward the other
- 3) repeat

# Optical Flow: Iterative Estimation

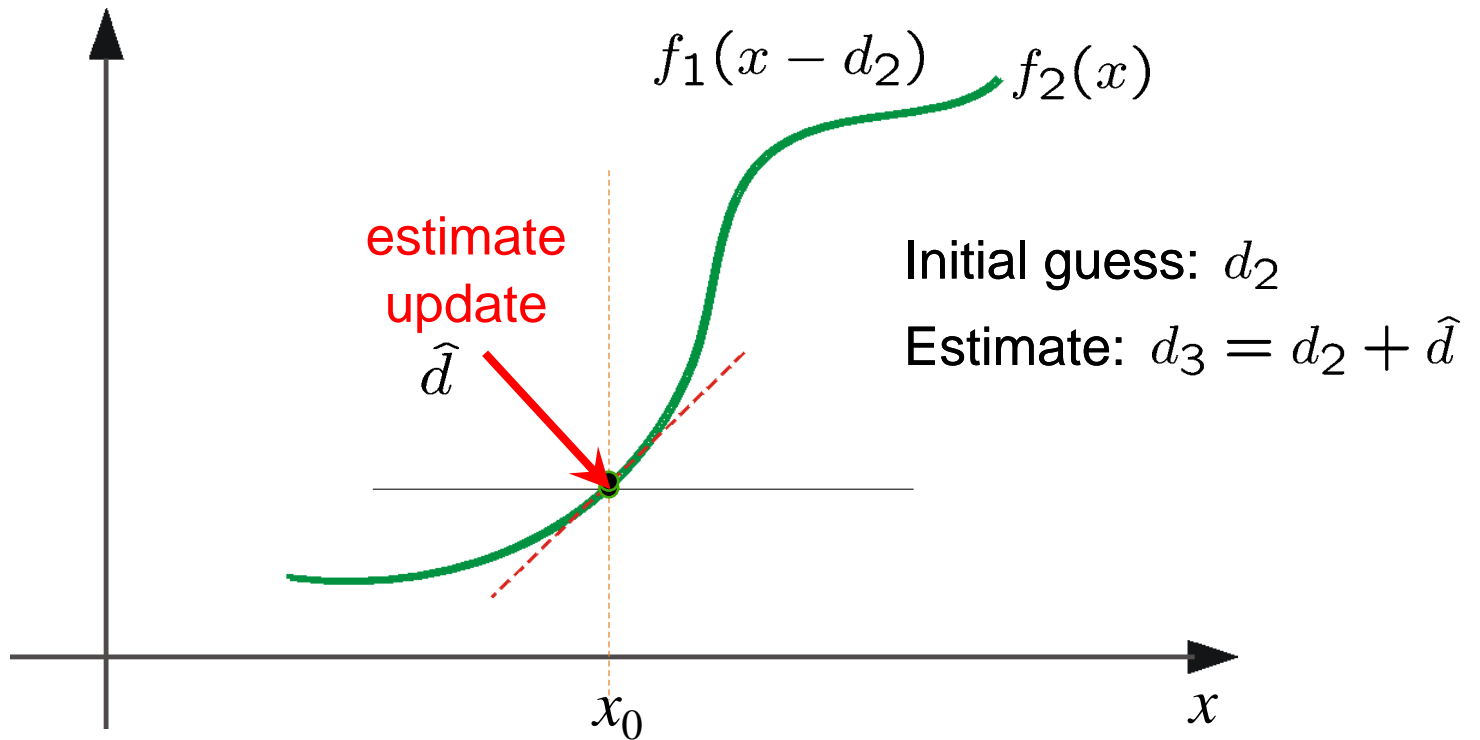


# Optical Flow: Iterative Estimation



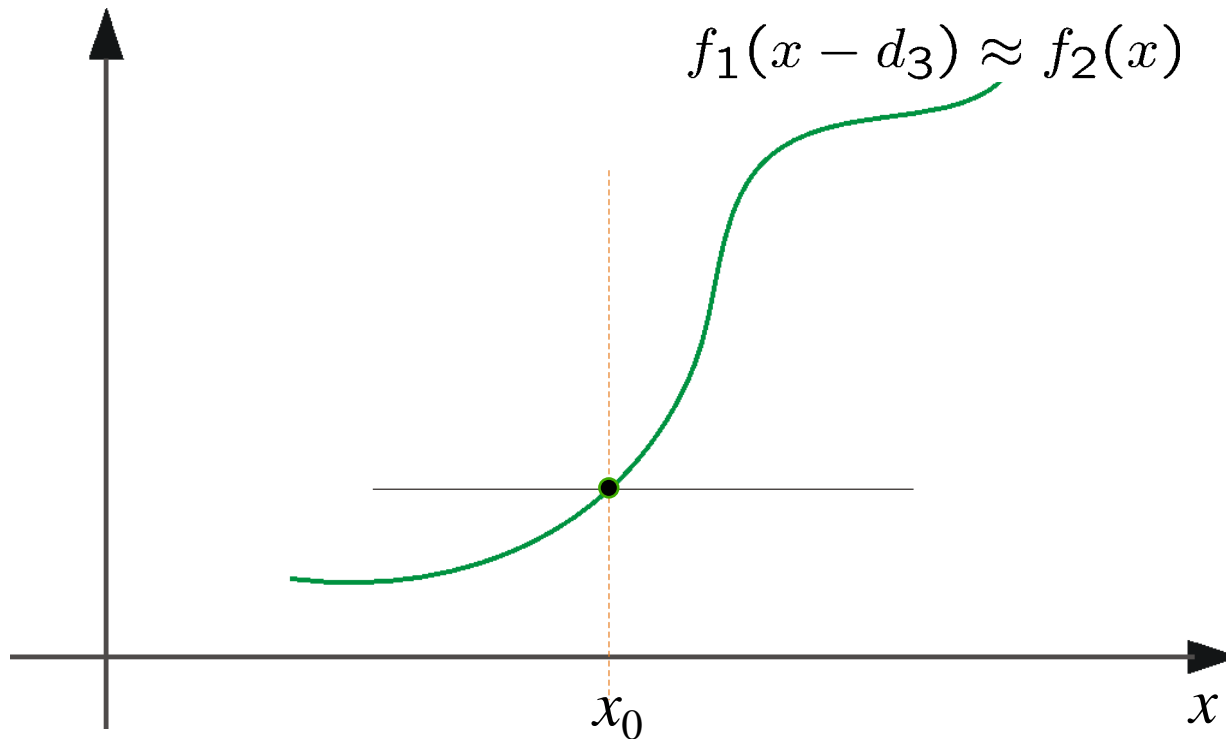
# Optical Flow: Iterative Estimation

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# Optical Flow: Iterative Estimation

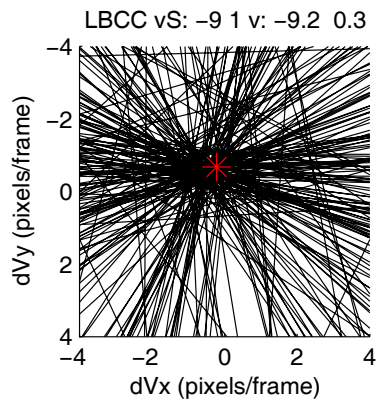
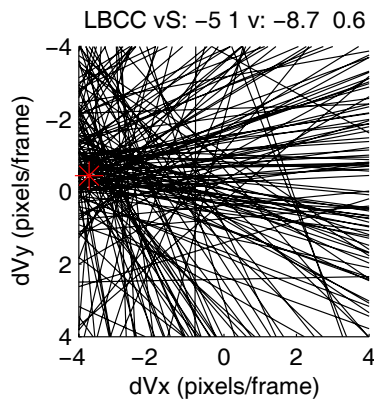
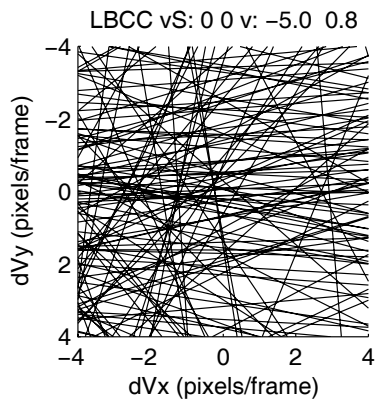
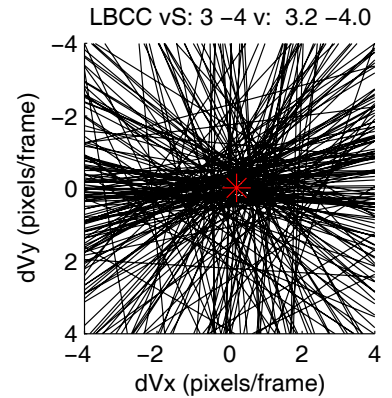
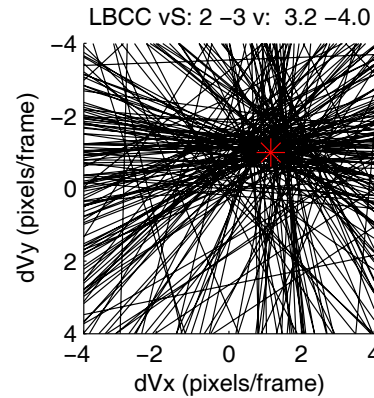
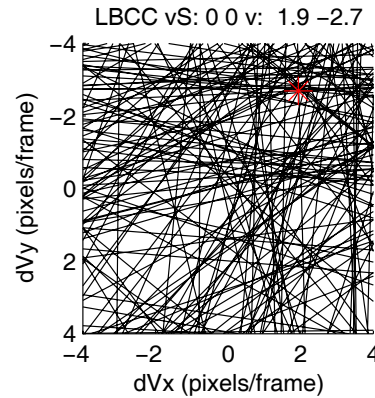
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**Aside:** In 1D, this process is simply Newton's method applied to

$$F(d) \equiv f_1(x - d) - f_2(x) = 0.$$

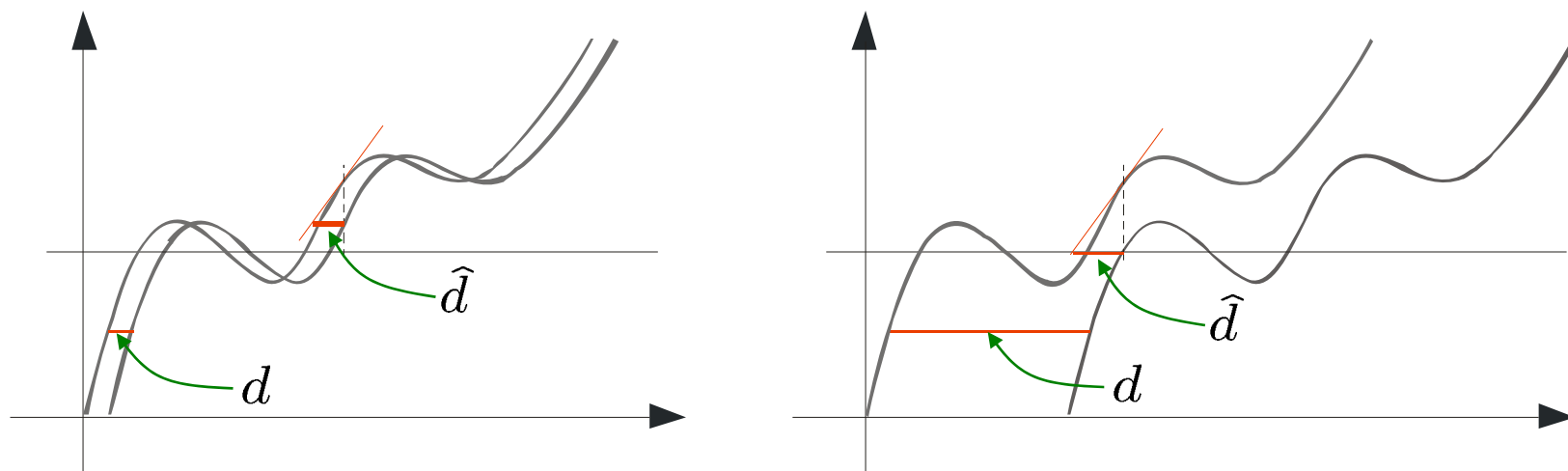
# Optical Flow: Iterative Estimation



# Optical Flow: Temporal Aliasing

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**Issue 2:** Image sequences produced by most cameras can be temporally aliased. The displacement of image structure from one frame to the next can be large relative to that structure's spatial scale.



Small versus large displacement relative to signal's frequency content

# Optical Flow: Temporal Aliasing

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To avoid suffering from temporal aliasing we need a good prediction for the motion parameters at the current time (relative to the spatial scale of the local image structure).

Strategies for dealing with temporal aliasing:

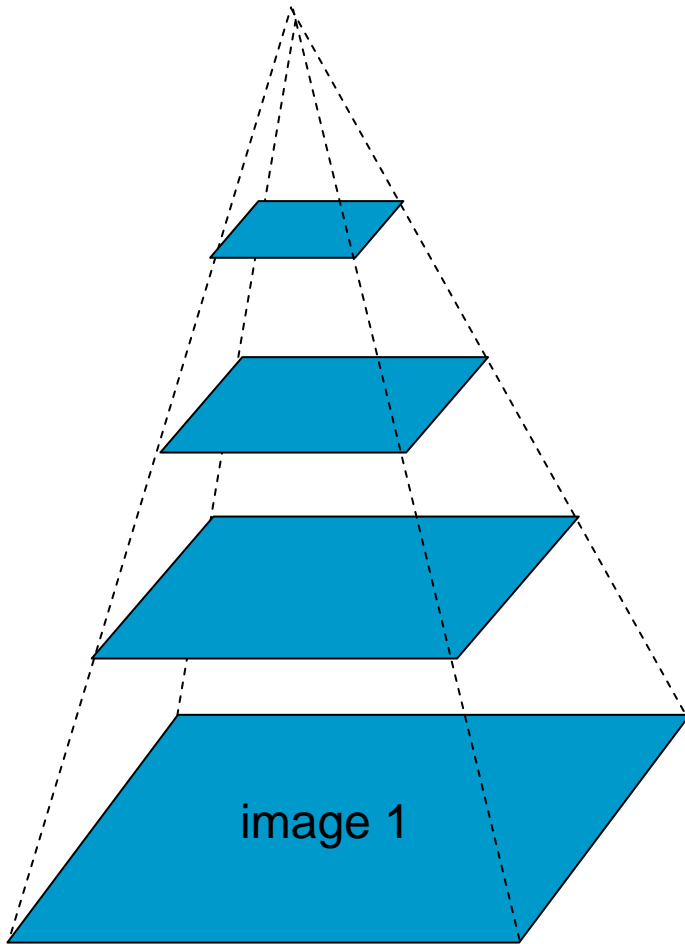
- Predict the motion from previous frames, i.e. use a model of the dynamics (e.g. no acceleration).

See the Matlab tutorial, `motionTutorial.m`.

- Use coarse to fine processing in space.
- Use features from the current frame to do a rough initial alignment.

# Optical Flow: Coarse-to-Fine Estimation

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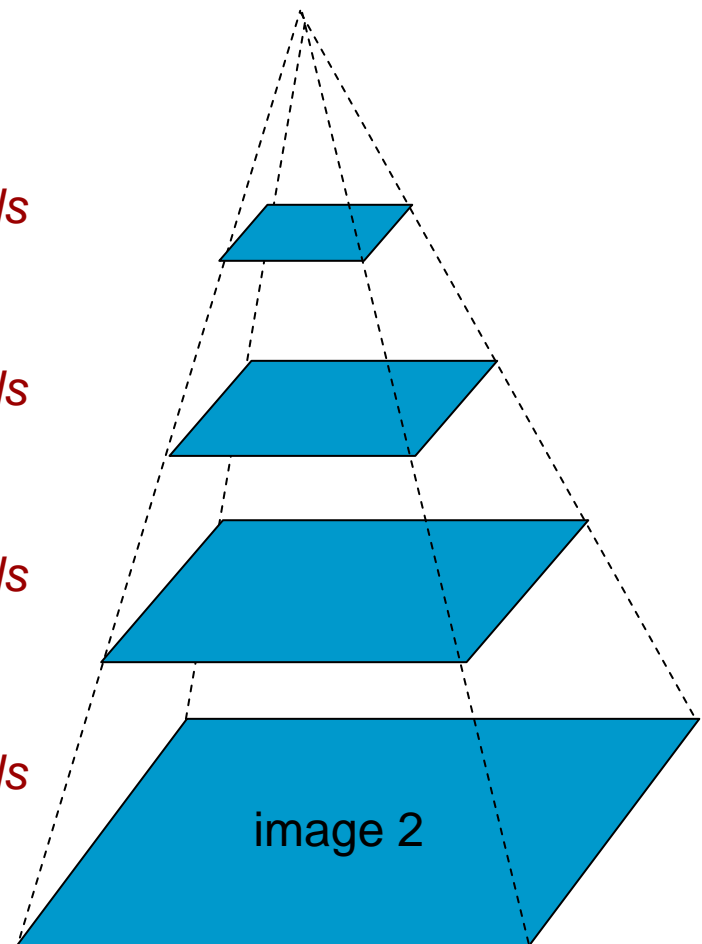
Gaussian pyramid  
of image 1

$u=1$  pixels

$u=2$  pixels

$u=4$  pixels

$u=8$  pixels



Gaussian pyramid  
of image 2

# Optical Flow: Coarse-to-Fine Estimation

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So we can converge to a solution by iterating the estimation, within a level, starting with the coarsest level first.

Given low-pass Gaussian pyramids for 2 images and an initial guess for the optical flow,  $\vec{u}_{n+1}$

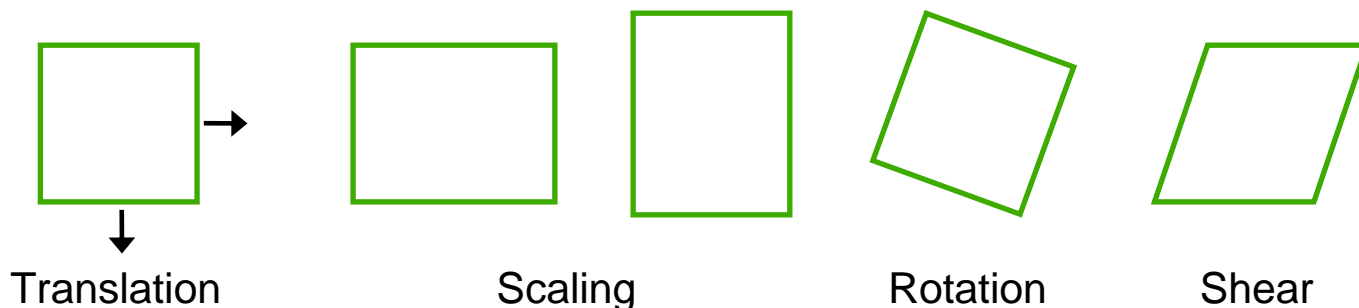
- Starting at level  $k=n$  (coarsest level), warp images using initial guess, then apply warp-estimate iteration, until convergence. Let the cumulative flow estimate be  $\vec{u}_n$
- Warp level  $k=n-1$  using  $\vec{u}_n$ , then apply iterative estimation until convergence with flow estimate  $\vec{u}_{n-1}$
- ...
- Warp level  $k=0$  using  $\vec{u}_1$ , then apply warp-estimate iteration, until convergence with final flow estimate  $\vec{u} = \vec{u}_0$

# Optical Flow: Affine Deformation Model

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**Issue 3:** Assumption of constant optical flow within an image neighborhood is often a relatively poor assumption.

Affine models often provide more suitable model of the image deformation from one time to the next.



Affine flow for an image region centered at location  $\vec{x}_0$  is given by

$$\vec{u}(\vec{x}) = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix} (\vec{x} - \vec{x}_0) + \begin{pmatrix} a_5 \\ a_6 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Optical Flow: Affine Deformation Model

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Consider affine flow about  $\vec{x}_0 = \vec{0}$ :

$$\vec{u}(x, y) = A(x, y) \vec{a}$$
$$\vec{a} = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_6)^T$$
$$A = \begin{pmatrix} x & y & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & x & y & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Gradient constraint equation then becomes:

$$0 = \vec{u}(x, y)^T \nabla f(x, y, t) + f_t(x, y, t)$$
$$= \vec{a}^T (A(x, y)^T \nabla f(x, y, t)) + f_t(x, y, t)$$

Least Squares solution for the unknown 6-vector minimizes:

$$\hat{E}(\vec{a}) = \sum_{x, y} g(x, y) [\vec{a}^T A^T \nabla f + f_t]^2$$

[Fleet & Jepson, "Component velocity from local phase information." IJCV 1990;  
Bergen et al., "Hierarchical model-based motion estimation." Proc ECCV, 1992]

# Optical Flow: Similarity Deformation

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Similarity transform models uniform scaling, rotation and translation:

$$\vec{u}(\vec{x}) = \alpha \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} (\vec{x} - \vec{x}_0) + \begin{pmatrix} d_1 \\ d_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Similarity motion model about  $\vec{x}_0$ :

$$\vec{u}(x, y) = A(x, y) \vec{a}$$

where

$$\vec{a} = (\alpha \cos \theta, \alpha \sin \theta, d_1, d_2)^T$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} x - x_0 & -y + y_0 & 1 & 0 \\ y - y_0 & x - x_0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



# Optical Flow: Sub-Space Motion Models

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**Issue 4:** What about optical flow that is not effectively described by a simple generic model such as affine motion or a homography?



motion  
boundaries



non-rigid  
motion

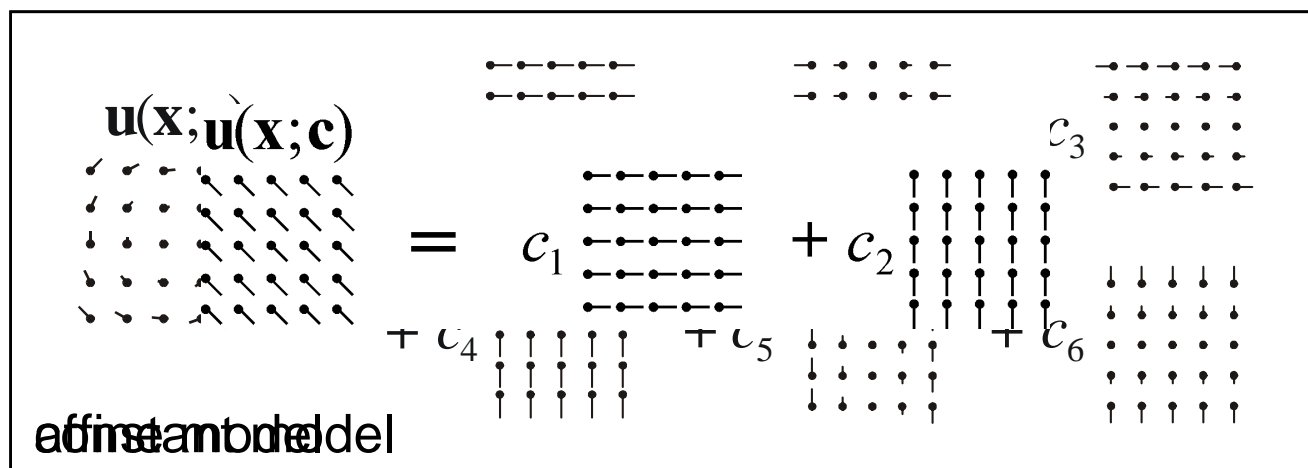


motion  
texture

# Optical Flow: Sub-Space Motion Models

Express the deformation as a linear basis of flow fields,  $\vec{b}_1(\vec{x}) \cdots \vec{b}_n(\vec{x})$  with coefficients  $\vec{c} = (c_1, \cdots, c_n)^T$

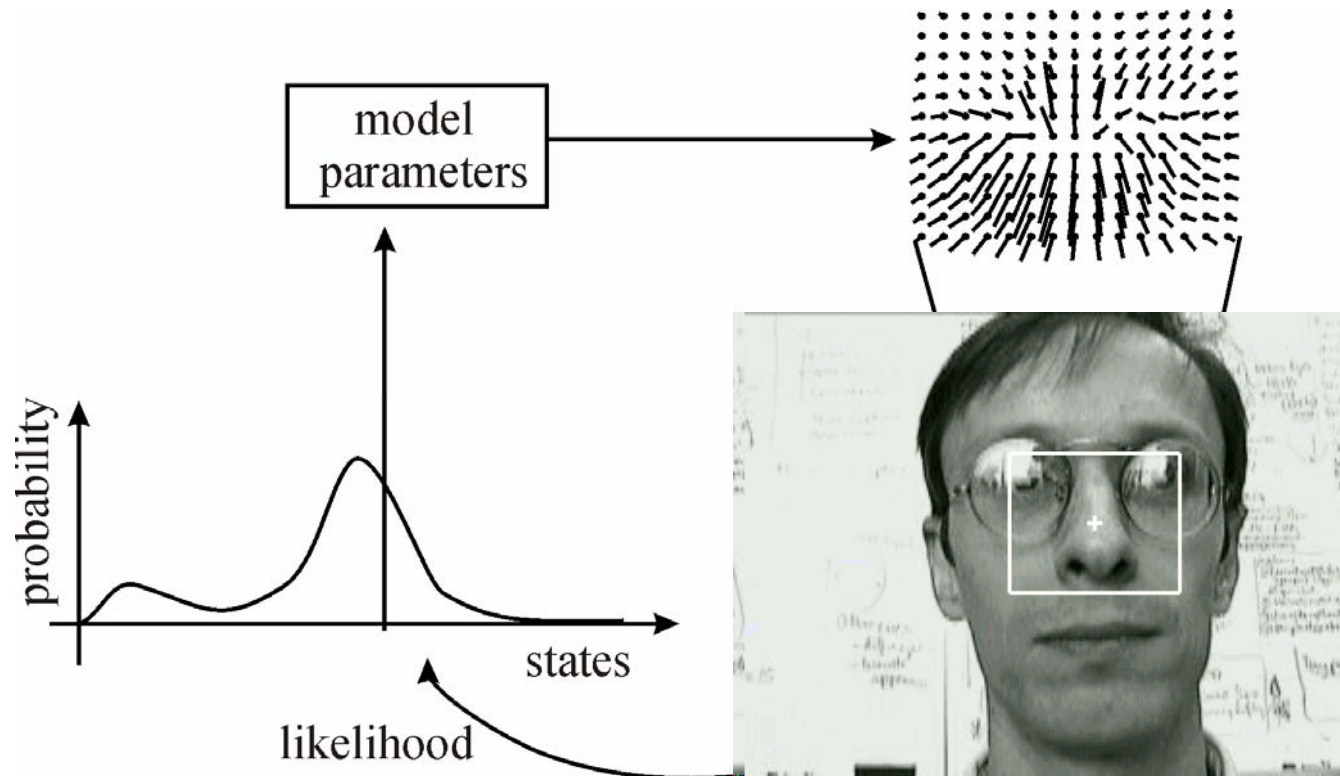
$$\vec{u}(\vec{x}; \vec{c}) = \sum_j c_j \vec{b}_j(\vec{x})$$



Gradient constraint is linear in  $\vec{u}(\vec{x}; \vec{c})$ , and  $\vec{u}(\vec{x}; \vec{c})$  is linear in the parameters of the motion model,  $\vec{c}$ .

# Optical Flow: Learned Motion Models

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Detection of mouths and  
simple word recognition

# Optical Flow: Steerable Flow Fields

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Linear parametric models can approximate motion discontinuities or arbitrary orientation in local neighborhoods (Fleet et al, 2000)

$$\begin{matrix} \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \end{matrix} \begin{matrix} \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow \end{matrix} = c_1^* \begin{matrix} \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow \end{matrix} + c_3^* \begin{matrix} \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \\ \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow \end{matrix} + c_7^* \begin{matrix} \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \\ \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow \end{matrix} + c_8^* \begin{matrix} \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \\ \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow \end{matrix} \dots$$

This flow field basis spans both smooth motion as well as an approximation to motion boundaries (e.g., at surface boundaries)

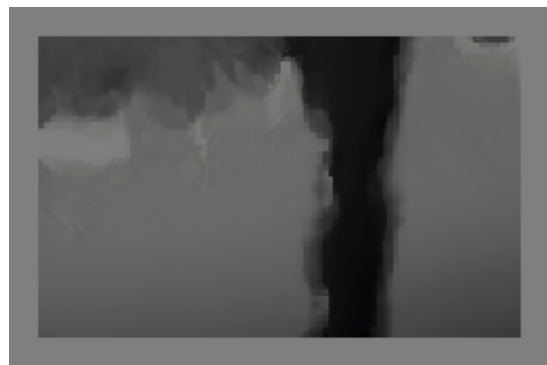
- So we can estimate both smooth flow and discontinuous flow with a single basis set.
- We can use the linear coefficients to detect locations at which flow is likely discontinuous, and the boundary orientation.

# Low-Level Detector: Flower Garden Results

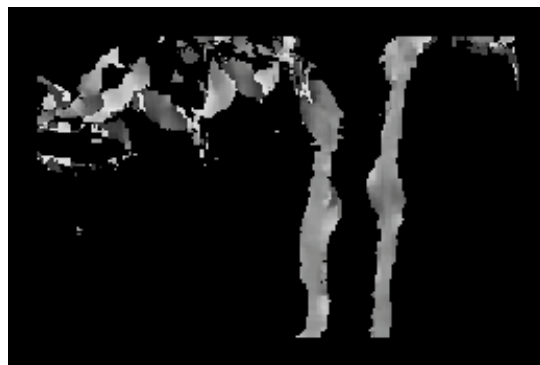
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Flower garden  
sequence



Horizontal Velocity



Edge Orientation



Velocity Difference

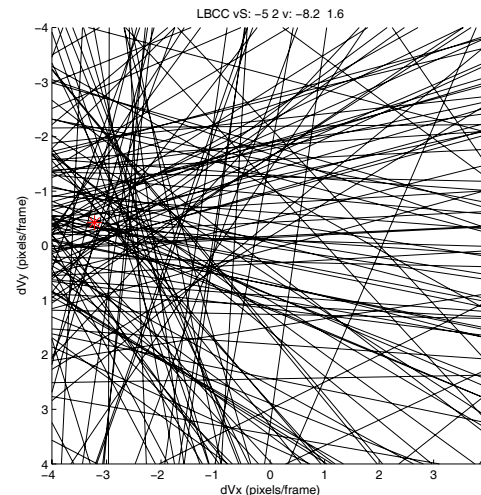
# Optical Flow: Measurement Outliers

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**Issue 5:** The assumptions of brightness constancy and smoothness are often violated. Noise distributions are often non-Gaussian, having heavier tails. Noise samples from the tails are called outliers.

Sources of outliers:

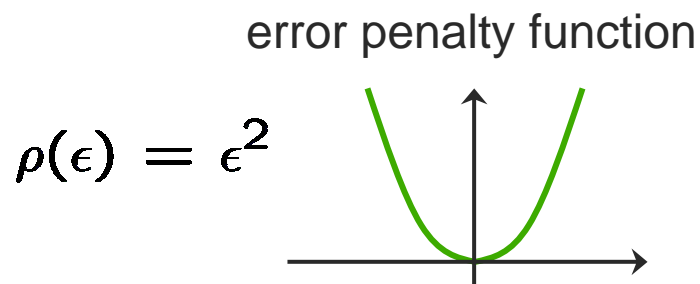
- temporal aliasing,
- specularities / highlights
- jpeg artifacts / interlacing / motion blur
- multiple motions (occlusion boundaries, transparency)



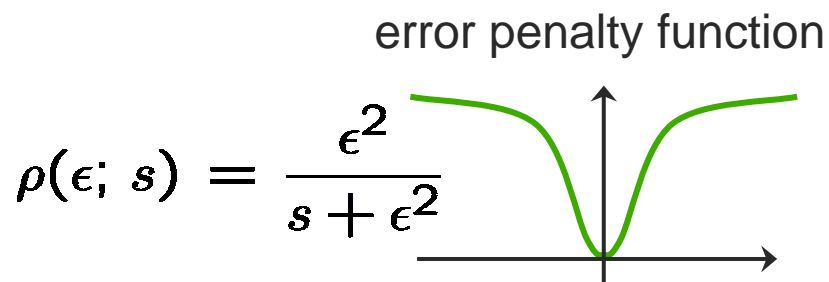
# Optical Flow: Robust Estimation

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Problem: Least-squares estimators penalize deviations between data & model with quadratic error (extremely sensitive to outliers)



Saturating error functions (e.g., Geman-McClure) help to reduce the influence of outlying measurements.



*[Black & Anandan, "The robust estimation of multiple models, parametric and piecewise smooth flow fields." CVIU 1996]*

# Optical Flow: Robust Estimation

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Previous objective function:

$$E(\vec{u}) = \sum_{x,y} g(\vec{x}) [f(\vec{x}, t+1) - f(\vec{x} - \vec{u}, t)]^2$$

Robust objective function:

$$E(\vec{u}) = \sum_{x,y} g(\vec{x}) \rho(f(\vec{x}, t+1) - f(\vec{x} - \vec{u}, t); s)$$

Solution:

- Iteratively re-weighted least-squares is a common method. The inner loop only involves solving weighted LBCCs.
- Initial Guess? It's common to anneal the solution by starting with  $s$  large, and slowly decreasing it to the desired level.

# Optical Flow: Probabilistic Flow Estimation

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## Issue 6:

- Confidence for least-squares optical flow estimates?
- How can we incorporate prior information about the flow?
- When the normal matrix is almost singular, what do we know?
- How do we take noise into account in the formulation?
- ...

We can reformulate optical flow estimation in terms of probability theory so we can address these issues.

*[Simoncelli et al., "Probability distributions of optical flow." Proc CVPR, 1991]*

# Optical Flow: Probabilistic Flow Estimation

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Let's assume, for example, that spatial derivatives are accurate, but temporal derivative measurements have additive Gaussian noise:

$$\tilde{f}_t(x, y, t) = f_t(x, y, t) + \eta(x, y, t)$$

where  $\eta(x, y, t)$  has a Gaussian density with mean zero and variance  $\sigma^2$ , i.e.

$$\vec{u}^T \nabla f + \tilde{f}_t \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$$

Therefore, if we know,  $\vec{u}$ , the likelihood of observing  $\nabla f, \tilde{f}_t$

$$p(\nabla f, \tilde{f}_t | \vec{u}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(\frac{-(\vec{u}^T \nabla f + \tilde{f}_t)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

Likelihood

In this case, maximum likelihood fitting of  $\vec{u}$  is identical to our previous least squares objective function (LBCC).

# Optical Flow: Probabilistic Flow Estimation

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Bayesian Estimation: Use *prior* belief about flow,  $p(\vec{u})$ , we can use Bayes' rule to express the *posterior* flow distribution:

$$p(\vec{u} | \{\nabla f, f_t\}_{\vec{x}}) = \frac{p(\{\nabla f, f_t\}_{\vec{x}} | \vec{u}) p(\vec{u})}{p(\{\nabla f, f_t\}_{\vec{x}})}$$

E.g., let's express our prior belief that flow is usually small with a Gaussian density:

$$p(\vec{u}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(\frac{-\vec{u}^T \vec{u}}{2\sigma_u^2}\right)$$

Maximum a posteriori (MAP) estimate for a constant flow model then becomes:

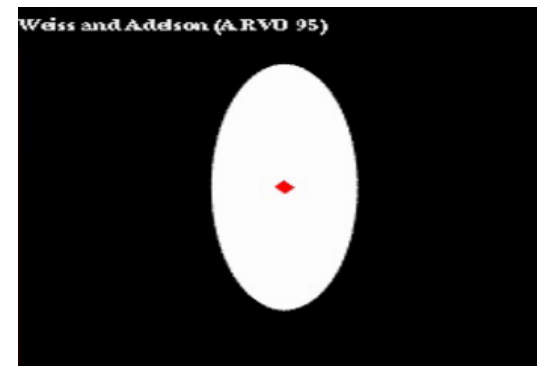
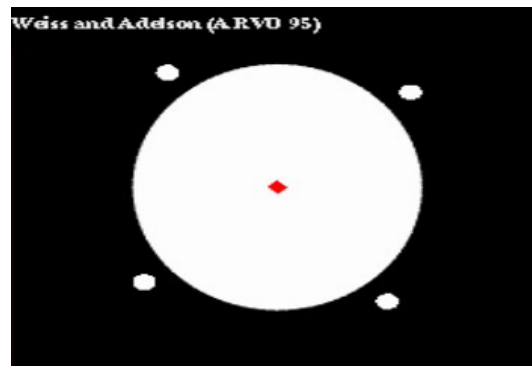
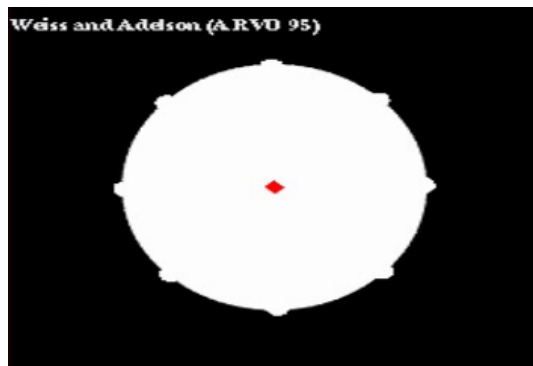
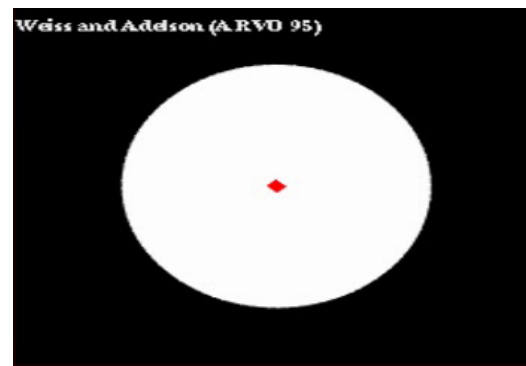
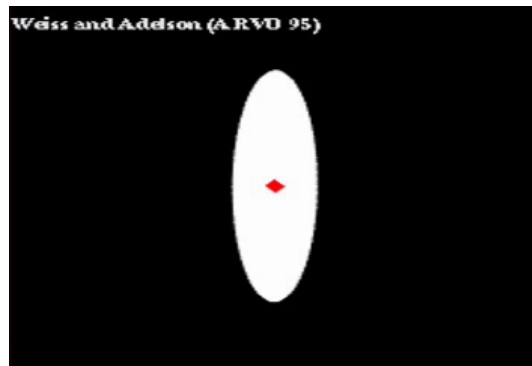
$$\hat{\mathbf{a}} = \left( M + \frac{1}{\sigma_u^2} \mathbf{I} \right)^{-1} \vec{\mathbf{b}}$$

2x2 identity

$$M = \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \sum_{x,y} \nabla f \nabla f^T$$
$$\vec{\mathbf{b}} = -\frac{1}{\sigma^2} \sum_{x,y} \nabla f f_t$$

# Slow and Smooth: Rigid vs Non-rigid Motion

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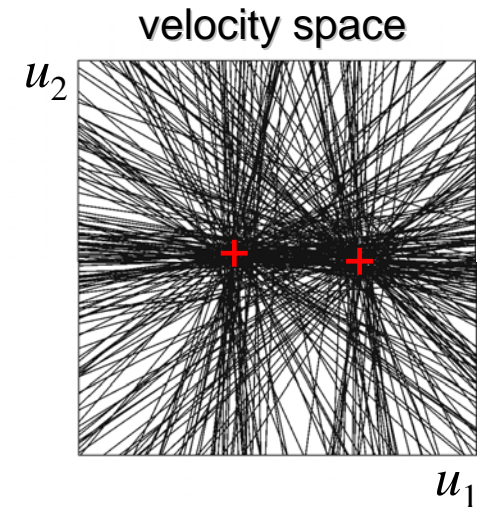
(Weiss & Adelson, 95)

# Optical Flow: Mixture Models

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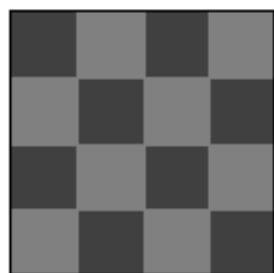
**Issue 7:** Structured outliers arise from multiple motions (occlusion boundaries, transparency, reflections).

Structured outliers can cause significant estimator bias away from the true solution, even when robust techniques are used (primarily in the case of nearby clusters).

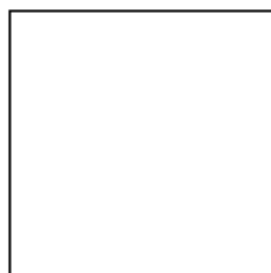


# Optical Flow: Layered Motion Models

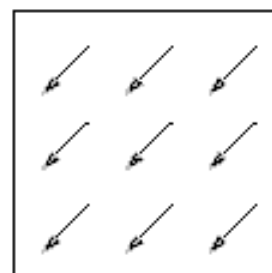
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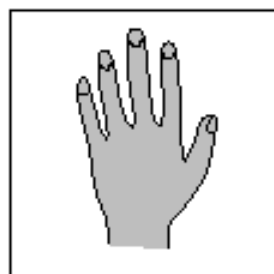
Intensity map



Alpha map



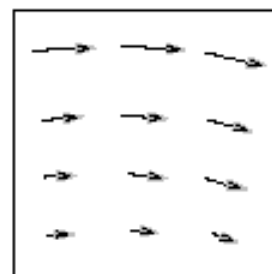
Velocity map



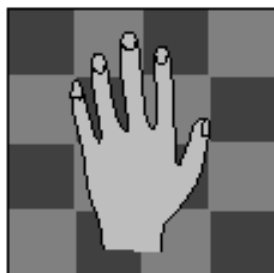
Intensity map



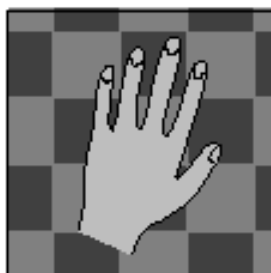
Alpha map



Velocity map



Frame 1



Frame 2



Frame 3

# Optical Flow: Mixture Models for Layered Motion

---

**General Idea:** The motion constraint at each pixel arises from a probabilistic mixture of several simple layers.

**Details:** Each individual layer consists of a parametric motion model (e.g. affine) along with a Gaussian likelihood function:

$$p_n(\vec{c}_k | \vec{x}_k, \vec{a}_n) = G(\vec{\nabla} f(\vec{x}_k) \cdot \vec{u} + f_t(\vec{x}_k); \sigma_v)$$

Here  $\vec{a}_k$  is the vector of parameters for the  $k^{\text{th}}$  motion and

$$\vec{c}_k = (\vec{\nabla} f(\vec{x}_k, t), f_t(\vec{x}_k, t)).$$

The probabilistic mixture model  $M$  is then

$$p(\vec{c}_k | \vec{x}_k, M) = m_0 p_0(\vec{c}_k) + \sum_{n=1}^N m_n p_n(\vec{c}_k | \vec{x}_k, \vec{a}_n) .$$

Here the mixing coefficients  $m_n \geq 0$  satisfy  $\sum_{n=0}^N m_n = 1$  and  $p_0(\vec{c}_k)$  is a broad density modeling outliers.

# Optical Flow: Mixture Models for Layered Motion

---

**Maximum Likelihood:** Assuming the observations are IID samples from the mixture model  $M$ , we fit the parameters in  $M$  by maximizing the log likelihood:

$$L(M) = \sum_k \log p(\vec{c}(\vec{x}_k) | M)$$

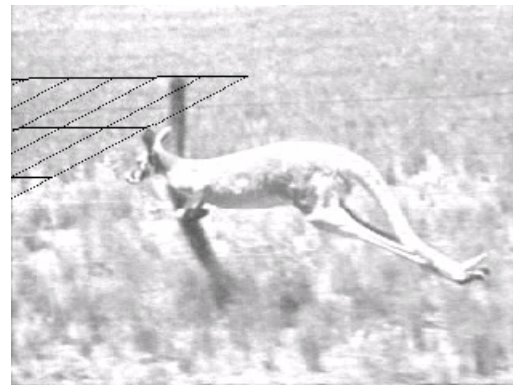
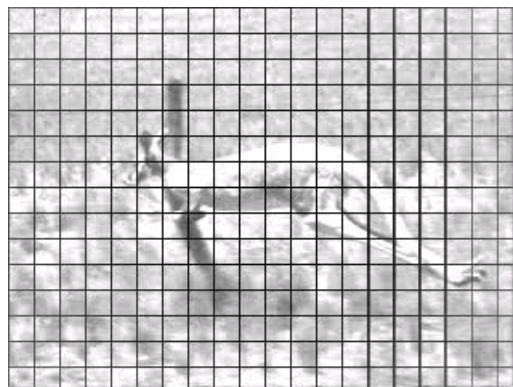
**Expectation-Maximization Algorithm:**

- **E-step:** Given the current model, compute the ownership probabilities which (softly) associate each constraint to each of the layers.
- **M-step:** Given these ownership probabilities, compute maximum likelihood estimates for the mixing proportions  $m_n$ , and for the motion parameters  $\vec{a}_k$  of each layer.

Iterate these two steps until convergence.

# Optical Flow: Mixture Models for Layered Motion

---

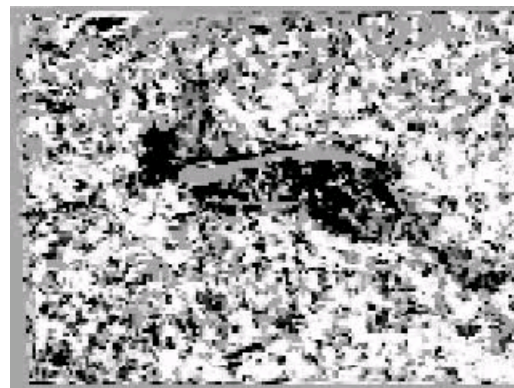
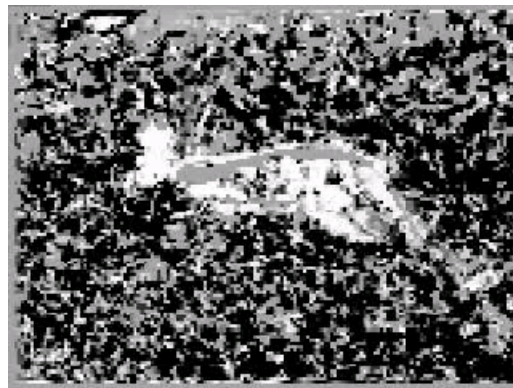
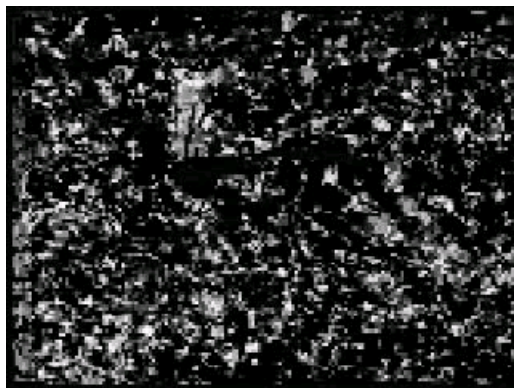


Layer Ownerships

Outliers

Foreground

Background



## 2D Tracking

---

Essentially the same image matching algorithms apply to tracking. For example, suppose we have an appearance model for an object to be tracked. For example,

$$B(\vec{x}, \vec{c}) = \sum_k B_k(\vec{x}) c_k$$

And we seek image warp parameters  $\vec{a}_t$  and appearance parameters  $\vec{c}_t$  such that

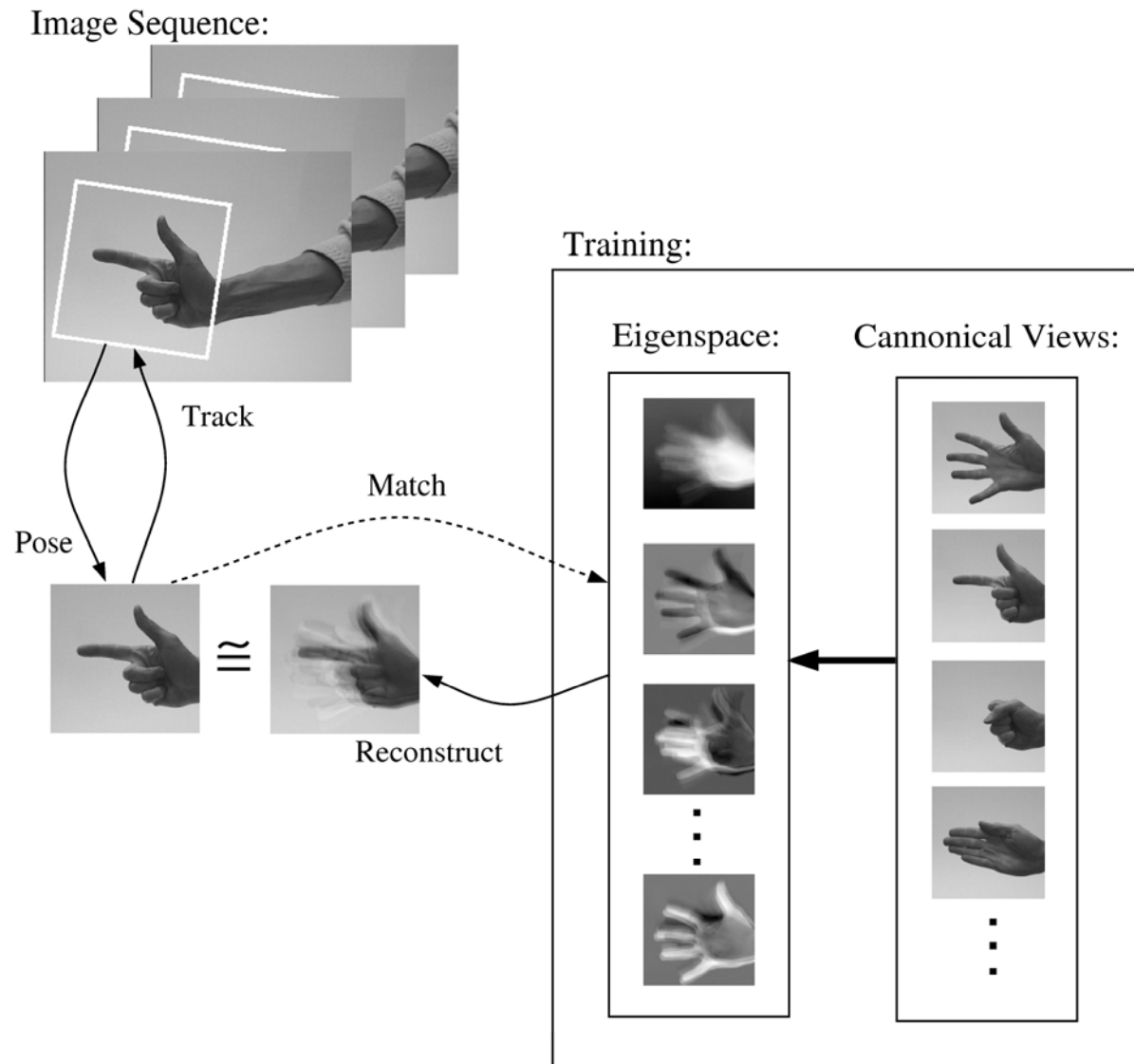
$$f(\vec{W}(\vec{x}, \vec{a}_t), t) \approx B(\vec{x}, \vec{c}_t)$$

The natural objective function is then

$$E(\vec{a}_t, \vec{c}_t) = \sum_{\vec{x}} \rho(f(\vec{W}(\vec{x}, \vec{a}_t), t) - B(\vec{x}, \vec{c}_t))$$

*[Jepson & Black, “EigenTracking: Robust matching and tracking of articulated objects using a view-based representation.” IJCV, 1998]*

# Eigen-Tracking



# Online Appearance Models for Visual Tracking

---

Adaptively model image appearance to identify and track stable image properties.



## Appearance Dynamics:

- ◆ slow/smooth deformation (3D motion, non-rigidity)
- ◆ abrupt changes (hair, glasses, smiling)
- ◆ outliers (occlusions, noise)

*[Jepson, Fleet & El-Maraghi, "Robust online appearance models for visual tracking." IEEE Trans PAMI, 2003]*

# Greg's Face

---



# WSL Predictive Model

---

Predictive components of appearance for a single stream of observed data  $d_t$

- ◆ **Wandering process** (first-order random walk):

$$p_w(d_t | d_{t-1}) = \mathcal{N}(d_t - d_{t-1}, \sigma_w^2)$$

- ◆ **Stable process** (given stable observation history):

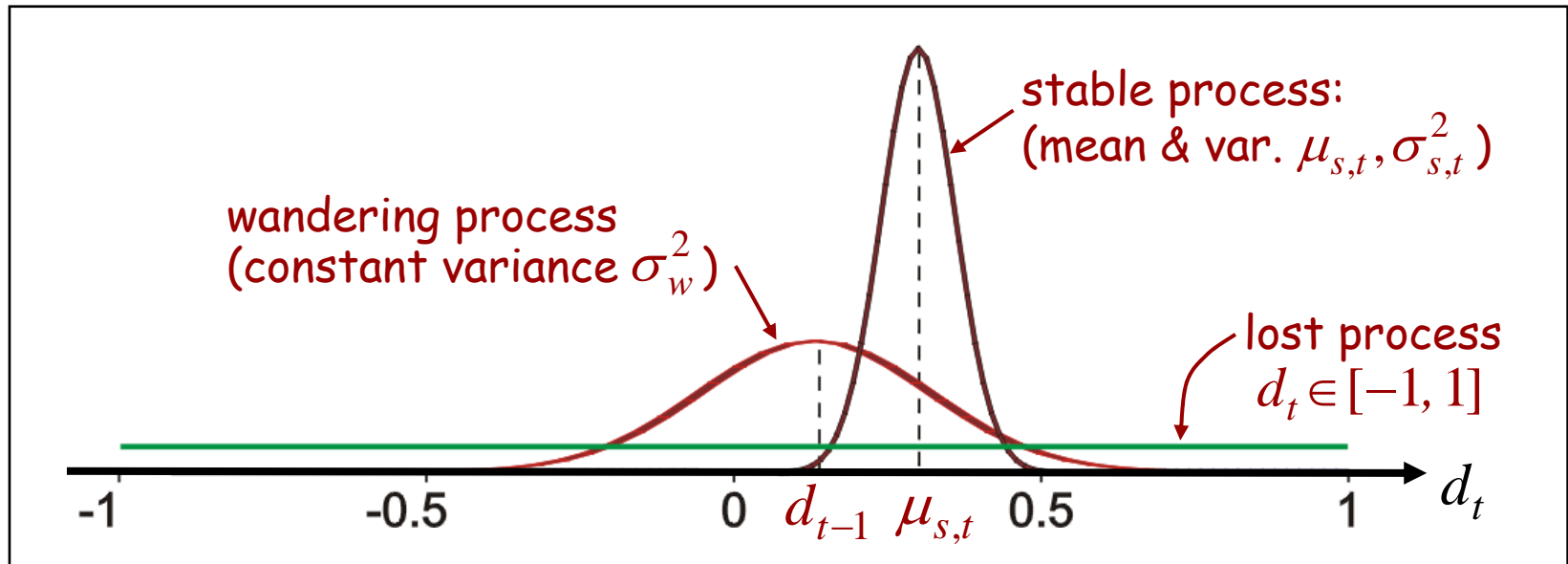
$$p_s(d_t | \mu_s, \sigma_s^2) = \mathcal{N}(d_t - \mu_s, \sigma_s^2)$$

- ◆ **Lost process** (outlier data):

$$p_l(d_t) = \mathcal{U}(d_t)$$

Parameters estimated recursively on-line.

# Predictive Mixture Model



Mixture model for prediction density:

$$p(d_t | \mathbf{q}_t, \mathbf{m}_t, d_{t-1}) = m_w p_w(d_t | d_{t-1}) + m_s p_s(d_t | \mathbf{q}_t) + m_l p_l(d_t)$$

stable parameters

$$\mathbf{q}_t = (\mu_{s,t}, \sigma_{s,t}^2)$$

mixing probabilities

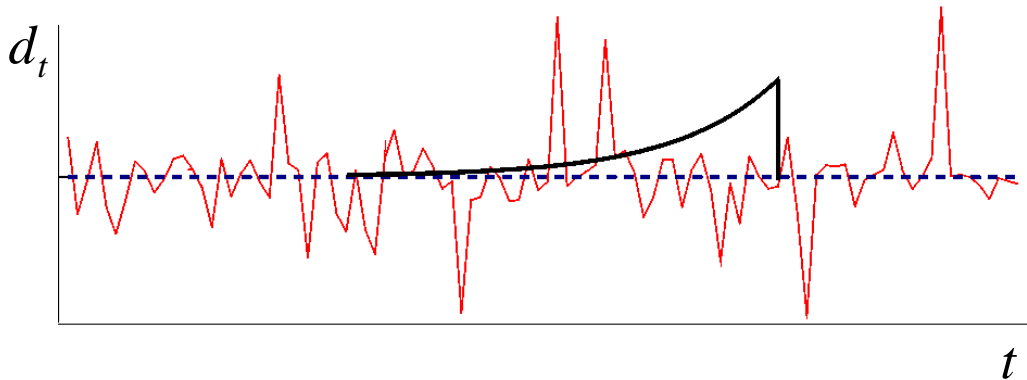
$$\mathbf{m}_t = (m_s, m_w, m_l)$$

# Local Parameter Estimation

---

Observed Data:

$$\mathbf{d}_t = \{d_k\}_{k=1}^t$$



Temporal support:

$$S_t(k) = \alpha e^{-(t-k)/\tau} \quad \text{where } \alpha = 1 - e^{-1/\tau}$$

Temporally windowed, data log likelihood:

$$\log p(\mathbf{d}_t | \mathbf{q}_t, \mathbf{m}_t, \mathbf{d}_{t-1}) = \sum_{k=t}^{-\infty} S_t(k) \log p(d_k | \mathbf{q}_t, \mathbf{m}_t, d_{k-1})$$

**Goal: Find model parameters that maximize log likelihood**

# Parameter Estimation via EM

---

**E-Step:** computer data ownerships

$$o_{j,t}(d_k) = \frac{m_{j,t} p_j(d_k | \mathbf{q}_t, d_{k-1})}{p(d_k | \mathbf{q}_t, \mathbf{m}_t, d_{k-1})} \quad k \leq t, \quad j \in \{s, w, l\}$$

**M-Step:** update weighted data moments

$$M_{j,t}^{(i)} = \sum_{k=t}^{-\infty} S_t(k) o_{j,t}(d_k) d_k^i \quad j \in \{s, w, l\}$$

update mixing probabilities (0<sup>th</sup> data moments)

$$m_{j,t} = M_{j,t}^{(0)} \quad j \in \{s, w, l\}$$

updated mean and variance of stable process

$$\mu_{s,t} = \frac{M_{s,t}^{(1)}}{M_{s,t}^{(0)}} \quad \sigma_{s,t}^2 = \frac{M_{s,t}^{(2)}}{M_{s,t}^{(0)}} - \mu_{s,t}^2$$

# On-Line (Approximate) EM

---

**One E-Step:** approximate ownerships

$$\text{assume } \underbrace{o_{j,t}(d_k)} \approx \underbrace{o_{j,k}(d_k)} \quad k \leq t, j \in \{s, w, l\}$$

**One M-Step:** recursive update of weighted data moments

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{M}_{j,t}^{(i)} &= \sum_{k=t}^{-\infty} S_t(k) o_{j,k}(d_k) d_k^i \\ &= \alpha o_{j,t}(d_t) d_t^i + (1-\alpha) \hat{M}_{j,t-1}^{(i)} \end{aligned}$$

With ‘stable’ data, the model parameters vary slowly:

⇒ ownerships also change slowly, so one-step updates at each frame produce similar updates to EM iterations.

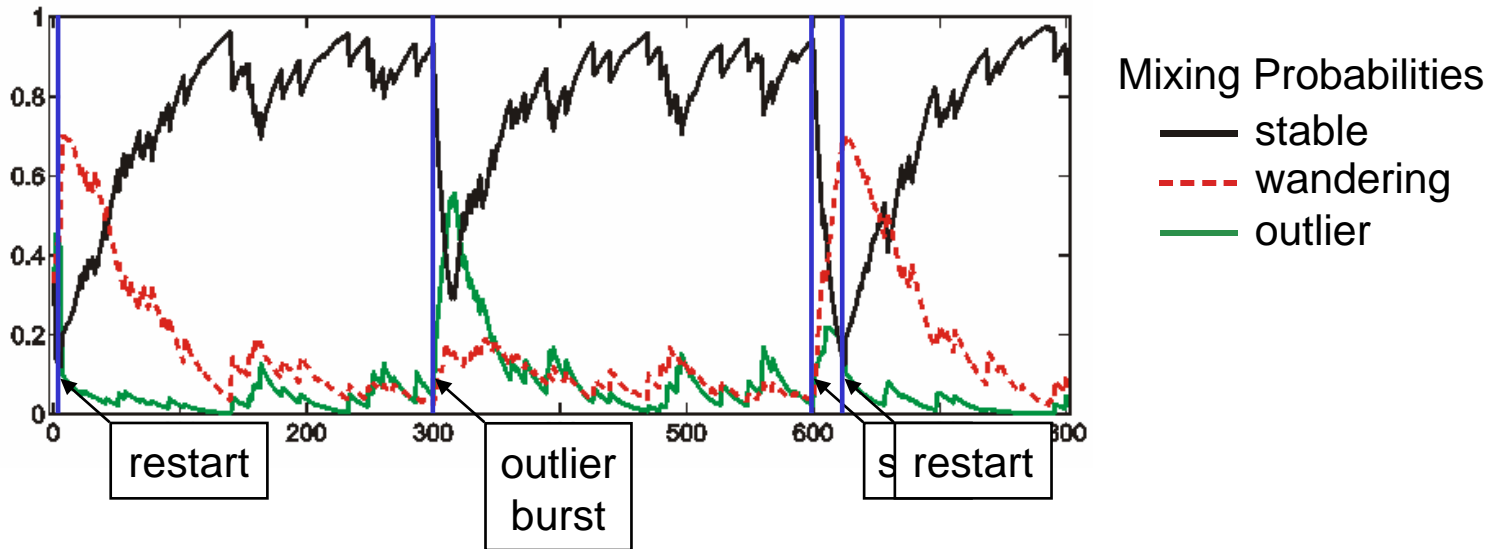
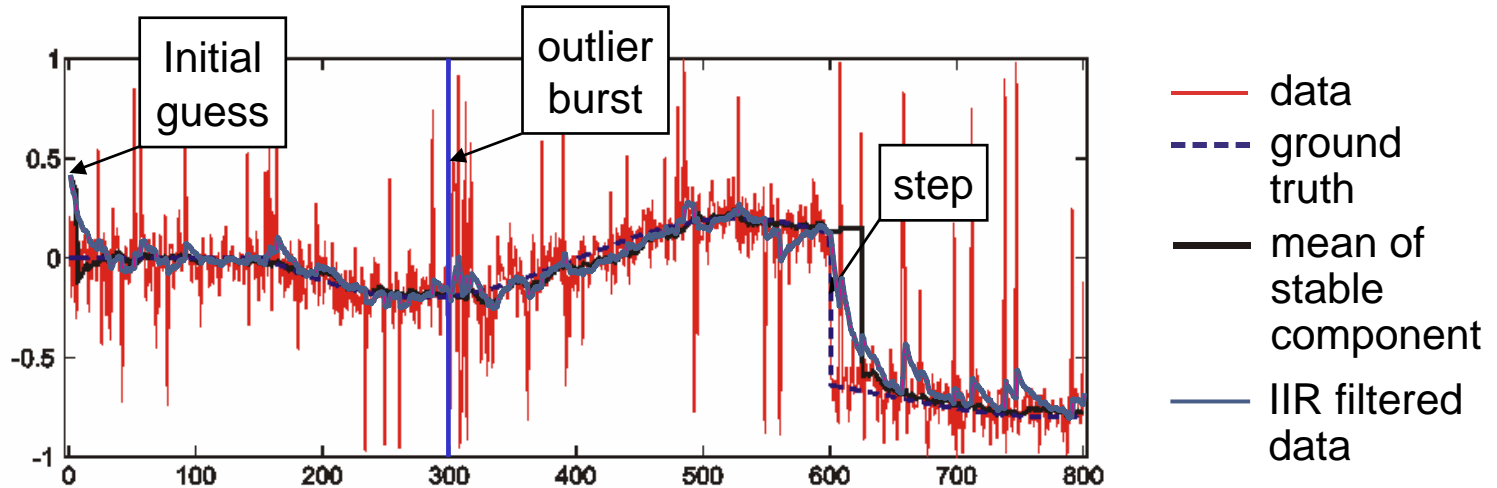
# Initialization and Restarts

---

**Problem:** Online, nonlinear optimization requires initial guesses to avoid getting trapped at local extrema.

At frame 0, and when the stable component makes poor predictions (e.g.,  $m_{s,t} < 0.1$ ), we re-start the model with the mean at the current data.

# Estimation Demo

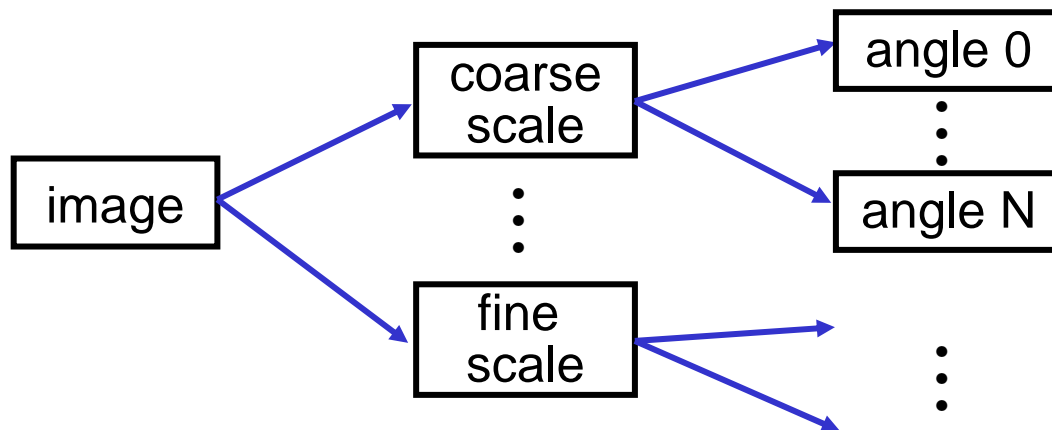


# Image Appearance Model

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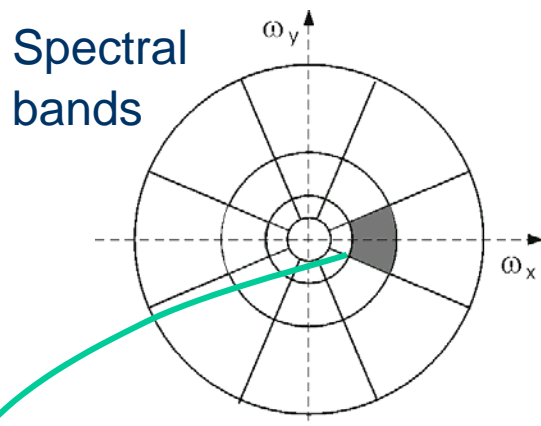
**Goal:** Identify stable image properties at different locations, scales and orientations.

**Approach:** Family of linear filters that are tuned to different scales and orientations (wavelets, QMFs, ...)

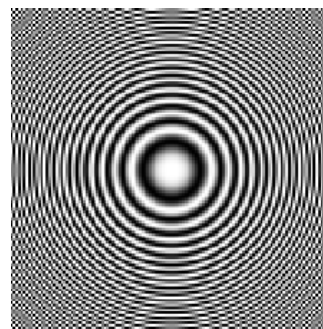


# Steerable Pyramid Transform

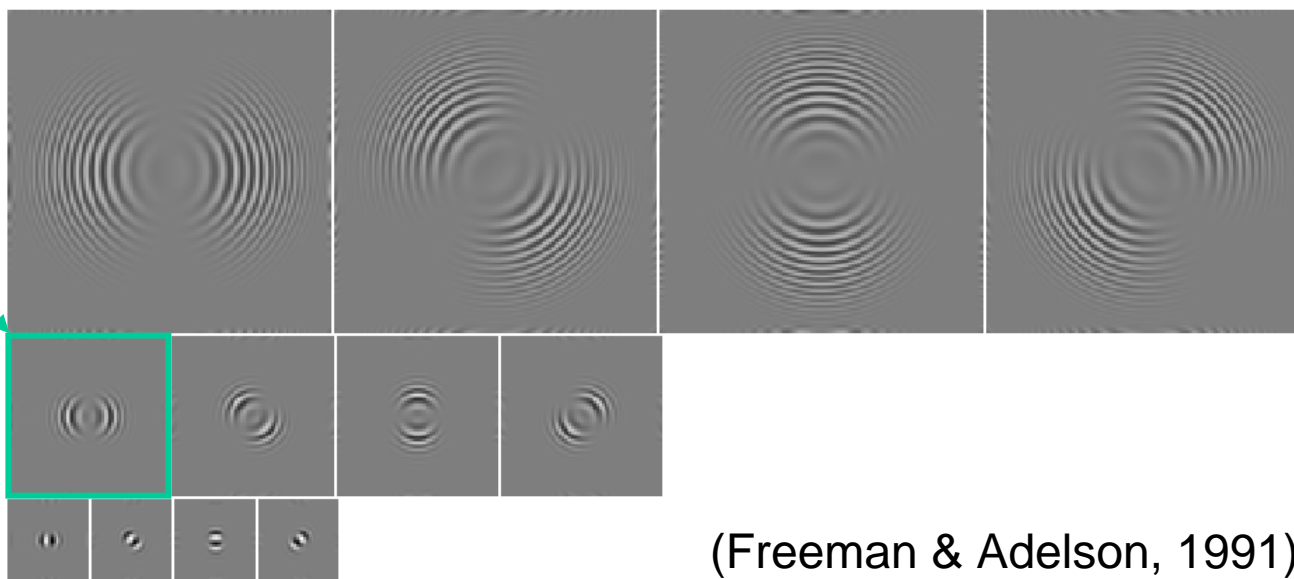
---



Zone Plate



Subsampled filter responses at 4 orientations & 3 scales



(Freeman & Adelson, 1991)

# Phase-Based Appearance

---

Band-pass filters at each scale/orientation produce complex-valued responses at each image position:

$$R(\mathbf{x}, t) = A(\mathbf{x}, t) e^{-i\phi(\mathbf{x}, t)}$$

- amplitude  $A(\mathbf{x}, t)$  captures signal strength
- phase  $\phi(\mathbf{x}, t)$  captures signal structure

Identify filters with stable phase responses:

- one data stream,  $d_t = \phi(\mathbf{x}, t) / \pi$ , for each filter output
- usually high-contrast oriented image edges & texture

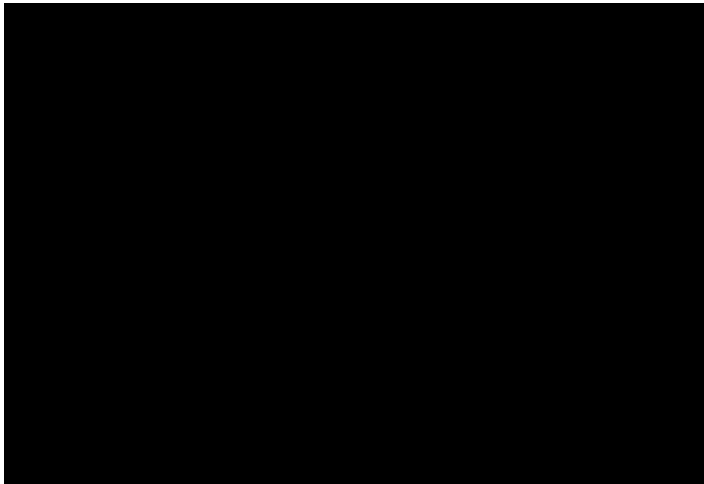
# Demo: Background Appearance

---

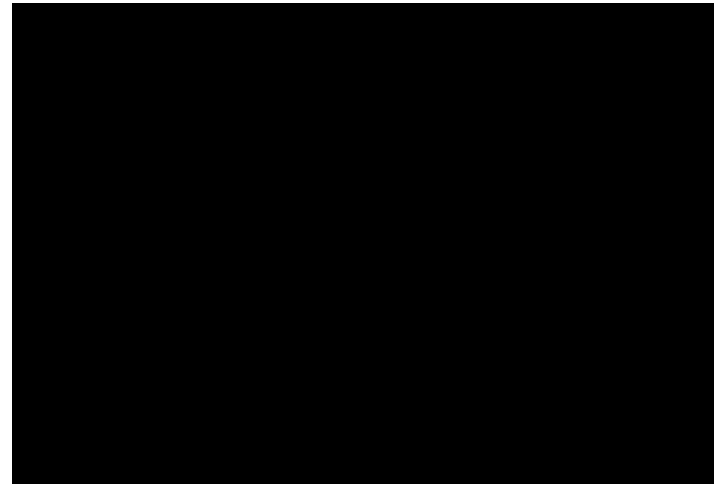


Goal: Learn background model over the entire image.

- time constant = 20 frames



stable mixing probability



stable mean phase

# MAP Estimation of Motion Parameters

---

MAP estimate the motion (warp) parameters maximizes the sum of log likelihood and log prior :

$$O(\mathbf{u}_t) = \underbrace{\log L(D_t | \mathbf{u}_t, A_{t-1}, D_{t-1})}_{\text{likelihood}} + \underbrace{\log p(\mathbf{u}_t | \mathbf{u}_{t-1})}_{\text{prior}}$$

where:

warp parameters:  $\mathbf{u}_t$

data at time  $t-1$ :  $D_{t-1} = \{d(\mathbf{x}, t-1)\}_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{R}_{t-1}}$

appearance model:  $A_t = (\mathbf{q}_t, \mathbf{m}_t)$

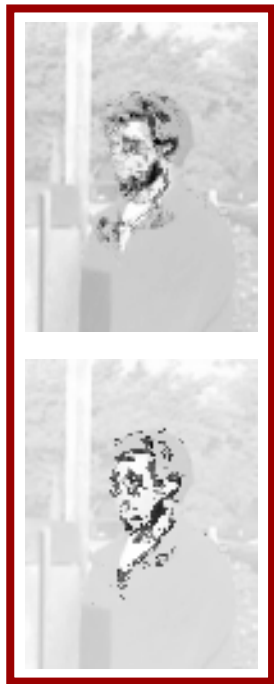
parametric motion:  $\mathbf{x}_t = \mathbf{w}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}; \mathbf{u}_t)$

# Demo: Occlusion

---



# Demo: Occlusion Details



frame 244



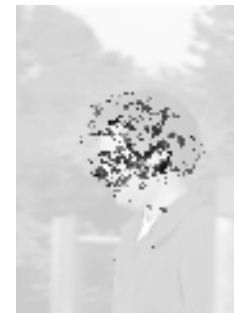
frame 257



frame 274



frame 289



mixing prob of  
stable process

data ownership  
of stable process

## Demo: Parking Lot

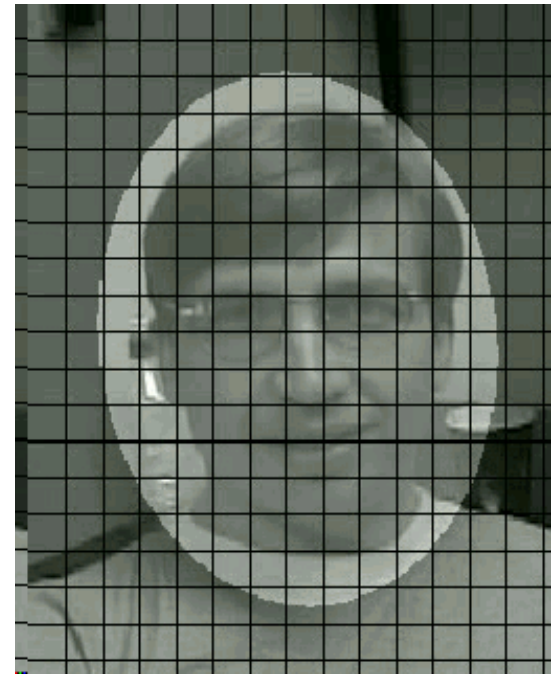
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**Failure Mode:** complete occlusion.

# Demo: Alignment Precision

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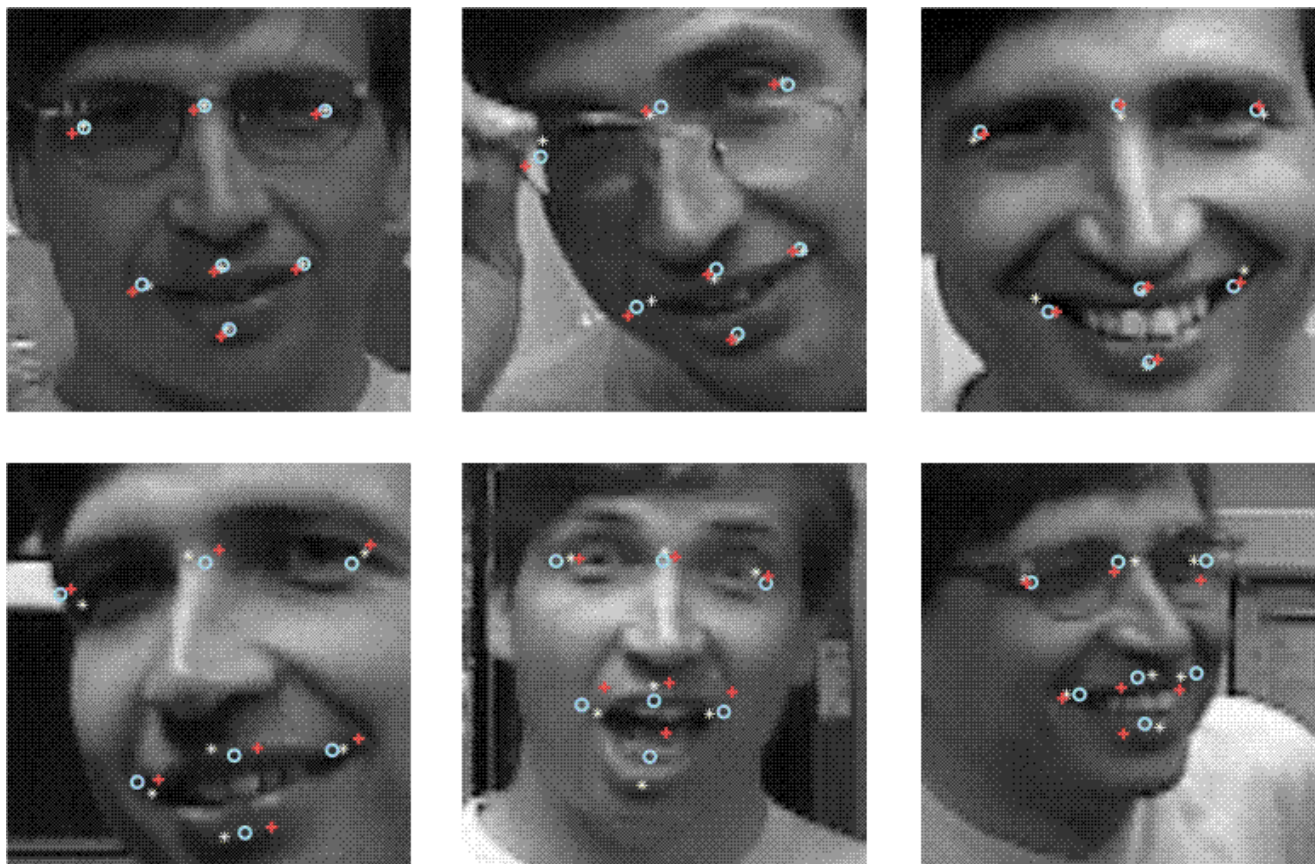


Precise alignment despite:

- smooth deformation (3D motion, non-rigidity)
- abrupt changes (hair, glasses, smiling)
- outliers (occlusions, noise)

# RMS Alignment Errors

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Manual ground truth (white stars)

Optimal similarity transform (blue circles, 3.1 RMS error)

WSL tracker (red crosses, 5.2 RMS error)

# Demo: Bill's Class

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# Demo: Bill's Class

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# Demo: Bill's Class

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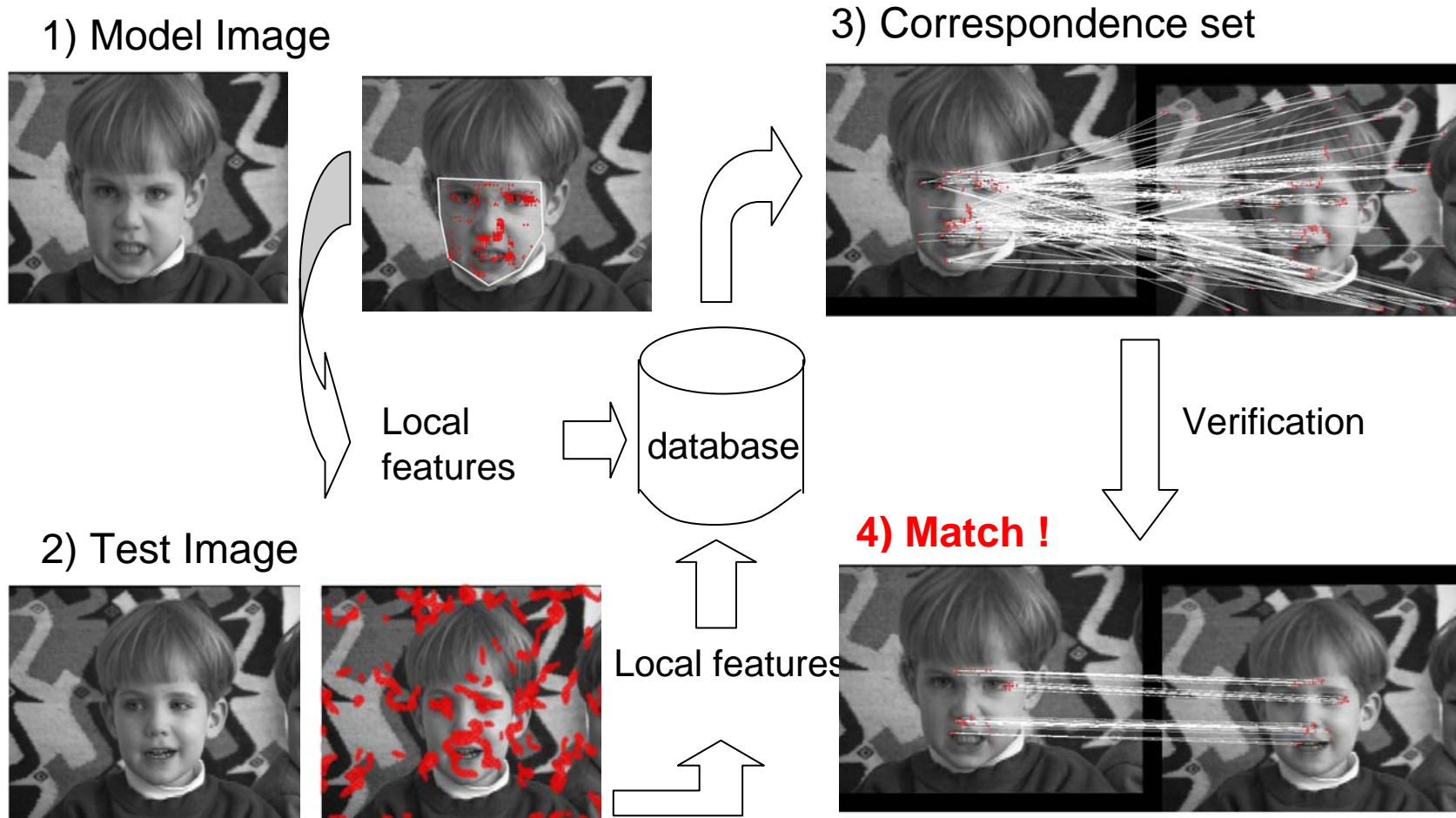


# Demo: Bill's Class

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# Long-Range Motion and Feature Matching



Strategy used for SIFT features introduced by Lowe.

# Flexible Matching

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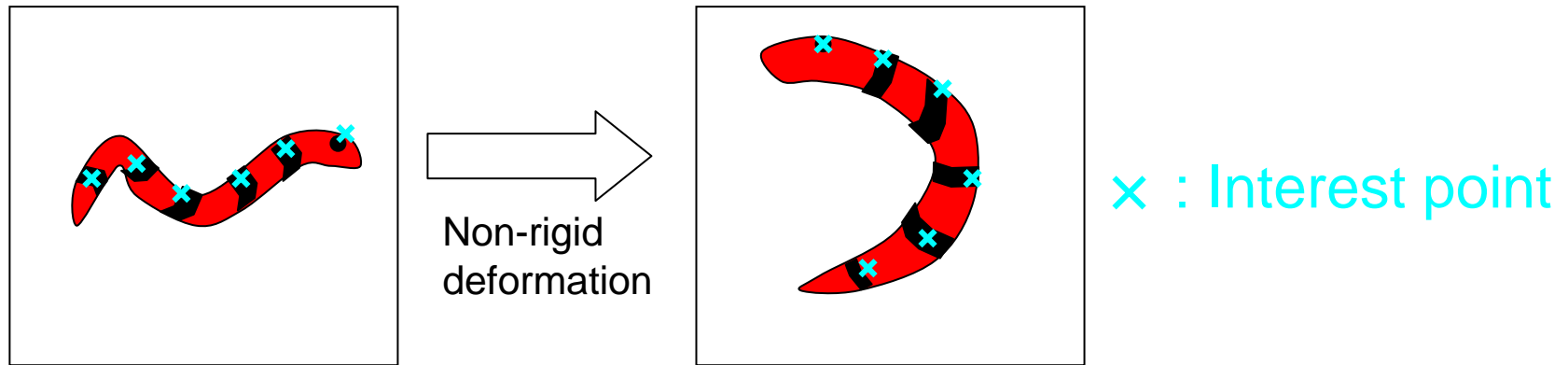


Image patches in interest point neighbourhoods are represented relative to a principal orientation and scale (i.e. local image features such as SIFT).

Flexible spatial arrangements of these local features can be encoded, and efficiently retrieved.

# Long-Range Matching Demos

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Image Model.



Matches.



Dudek

