



**UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI  
DELLA BASILICATA**

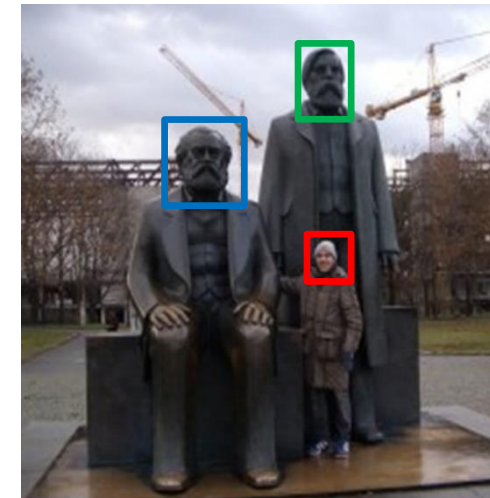
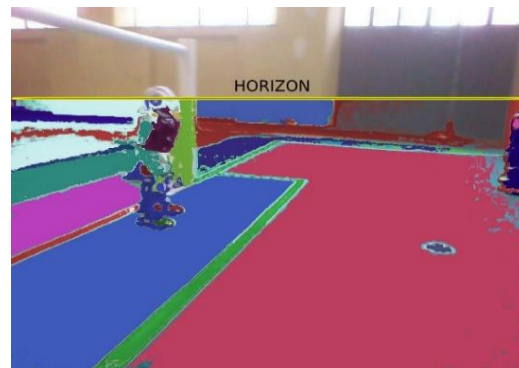
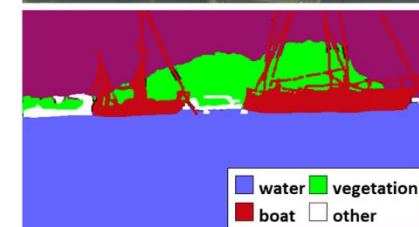
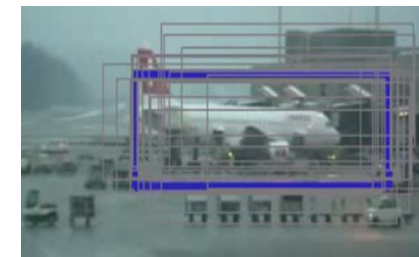
*Corso di Visione e Percezione*

# Features



Docente

Domenico D. Bloisi



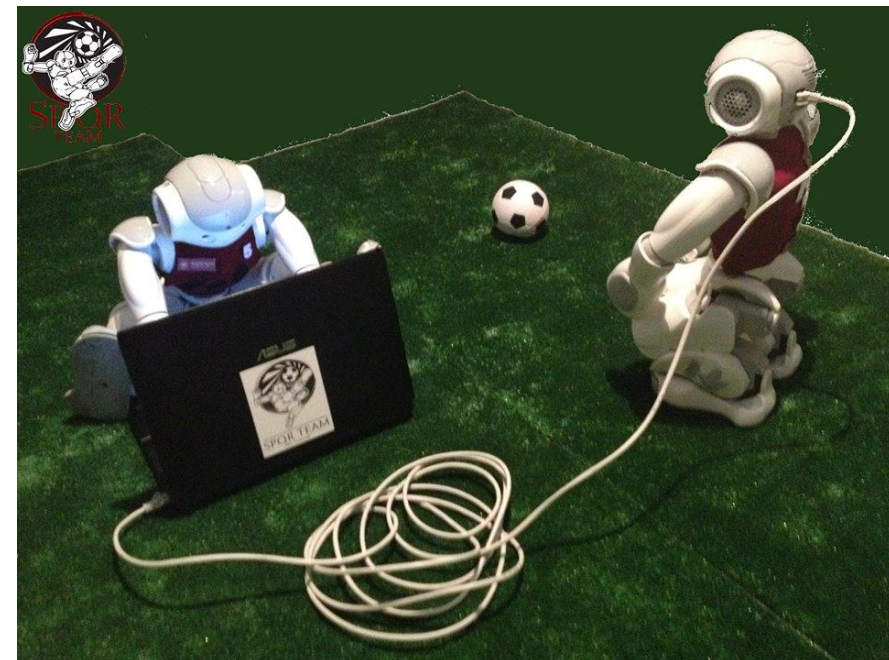
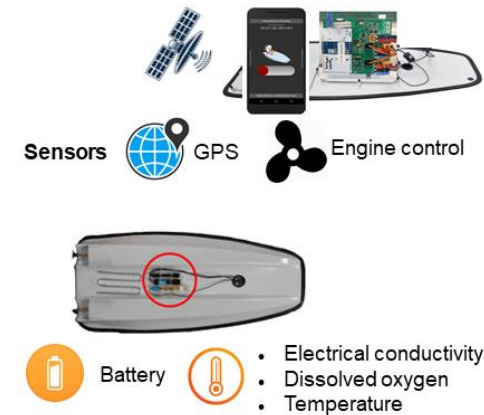
# Domenico Daniele Bloisi

- Professore Associato  
Dipartimento di Matematica, Informatica  
ed Economia  
Università degli studi della Basilicata

<http://web.unibas.it/bloisi>

- SPQR Robot Soccer Team  
Dipartimento di Informatica, Automatica  
e Gestionale Università degli studi di  
Roma “La Sapienza”

<http://spqr.diag.uniroma1.it>





# UNIBAS Wolves <https://sites.google.com/unibas.it/wolves>



- UNIBAS WOLVES is the robot soccer team of the University of Basilicata. Established in 2019, it is focussed on developing software for NAO soccer robots participating in RoboCup competitions.

- UNIBAS WOLVES team is twinned with [SPQR Team](#) at Sapienza University of Rome.



# Informazioni sul corso

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- Home page del corso:  
<https://web.unibas.it/bloisi/corsi/visione-e-percezione.html>
- Docente: Domenico Daniele Bloisi
- Periodo: **Il semestre** marzo 2022 – giugno 2022
  - Martedì dalle 15:00 alle 17:00 (Aula Copernico)
  - Mercoledì dalle 8:30 alle 10:30 (Aula Copernico)

# Ricevimento

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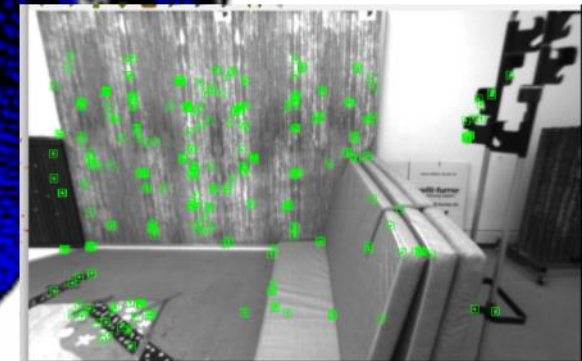
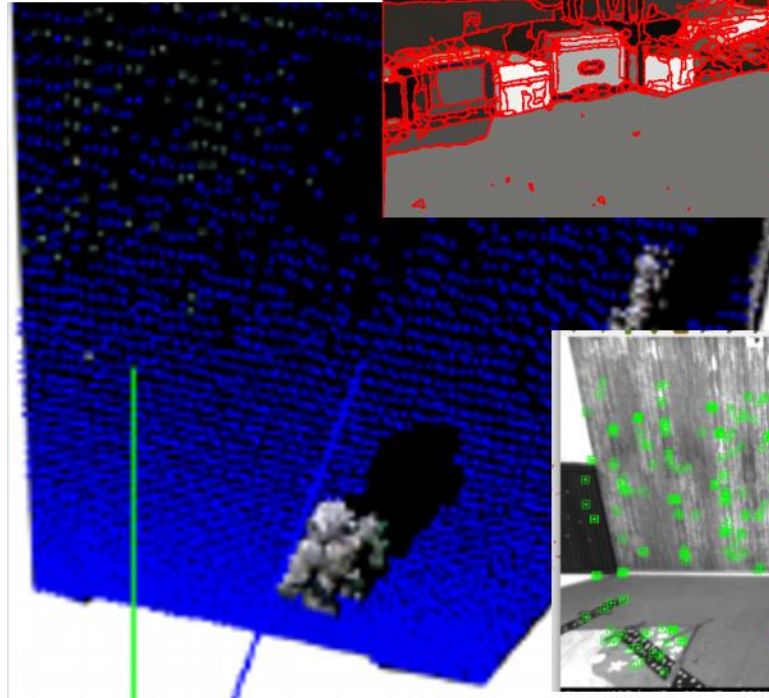
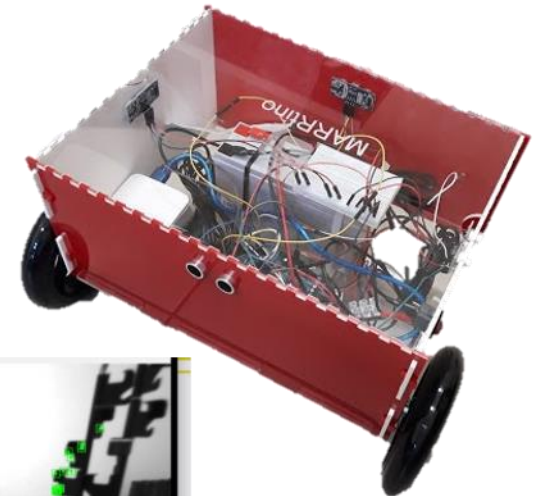
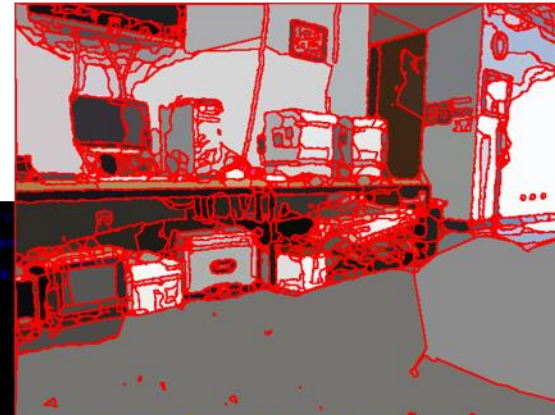
- Durante il periodo delle lezioni:  
Mercoledì dalle 11:00 alle 12:30 → Edificio 3D, Il piano, stanza 15  
**Si invitano gli studenti a controllare regolarmente la [bacheca degli avvisi](#) per eventuali variazioni**
- Al di fuori del periodo delle lezioni:  
da concordare con il docente tramite email

Per prenotare un appuntamento inviare  
una email a  
[domenico.bloisi@unibas.it](mailto:domenico.bloisi@unibas.it)



# Programma – Visione e Percezione

- Introduzione al linguaggio Python
- Elaborazione delle immagini con Python
- Percezione 2D – OpenCV
- Introduzione al Deep Learning
- ROS
- Il paradigma publisher and subscriber
- Simulatori
- Percezione 3D - PCL



# Riferimenti

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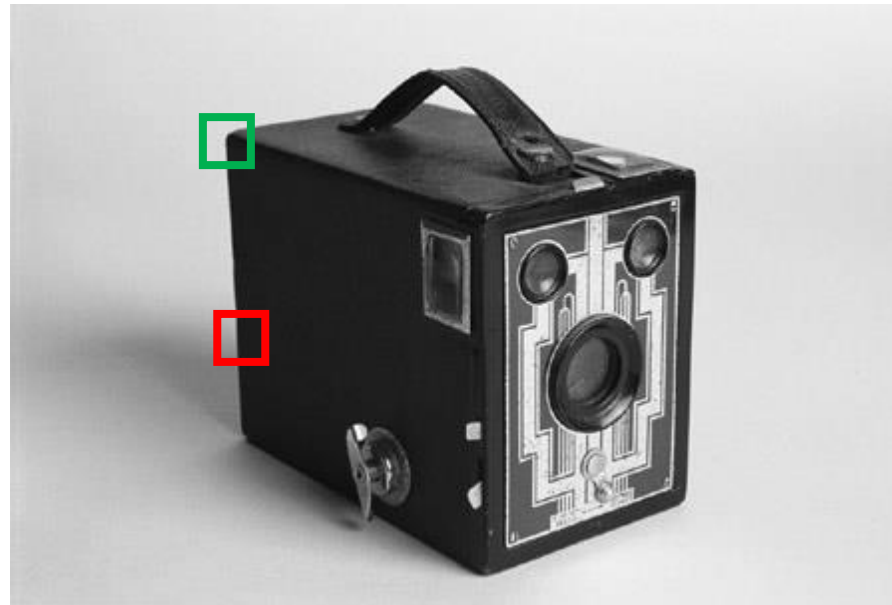
- La maggior parte di queste slide sono adattate da Noah Snavely - CS5670: Computer Vision  
["Lecture 4: Intro to local features and Harris corner detection"](#)
- Per le slide adattate da altri autori vengono fornite le relative citazioni
- I contenuti fanno riferimento al capitolo 4 del libro "Computer Vision: Algorithms and Applications" di Richard Szeliski, disponibile al seguente indirizzo <http://szeliski.org/Book/>



# Corners

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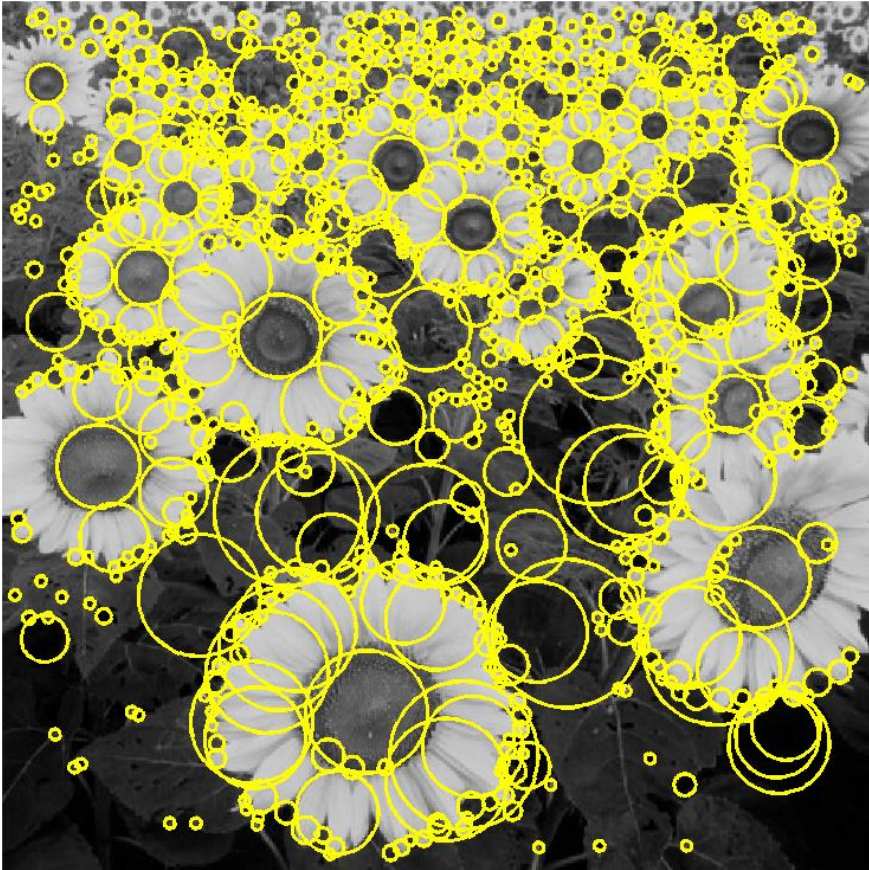
Large gradients in more than one direction





# Blobs

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A blob is a region of an image in which some properties like intensity or colour are approximately constant

# Distinctive Features

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- A point is distinctive when it looks different from its neighbors
- A blob also looks different from neighbors at different scales

# Feature matching

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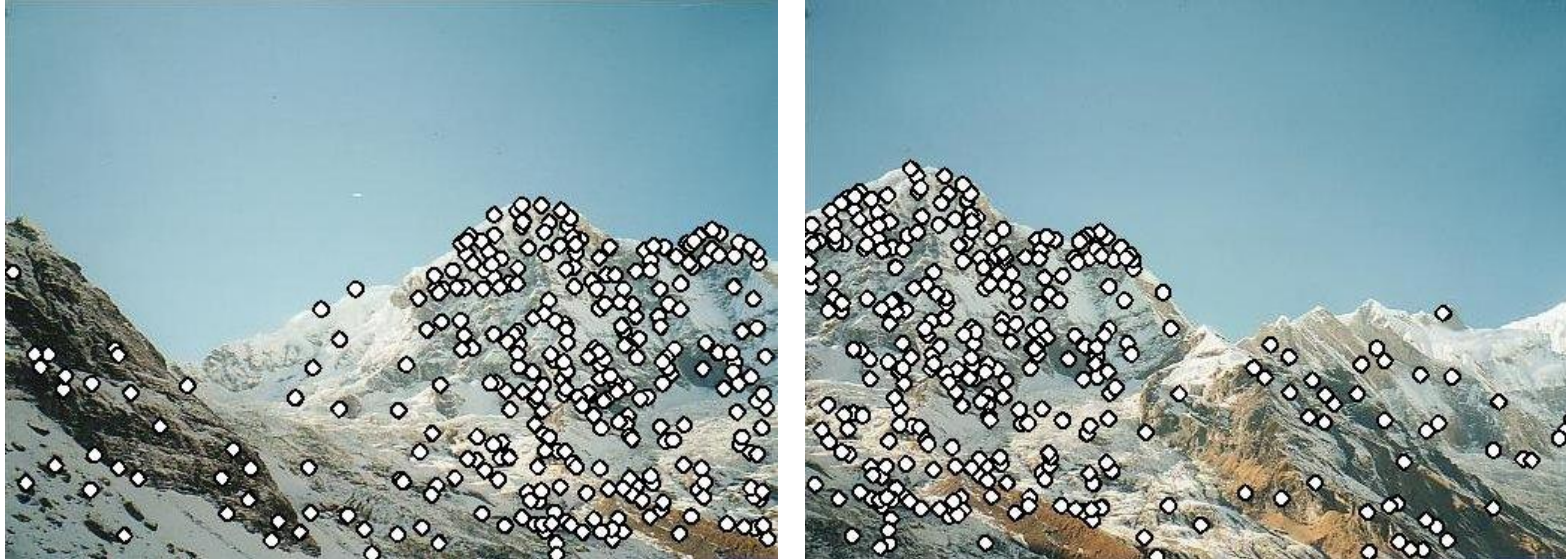
We have two images, how do we combine them?



# Feature matching

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Step 1: extract features



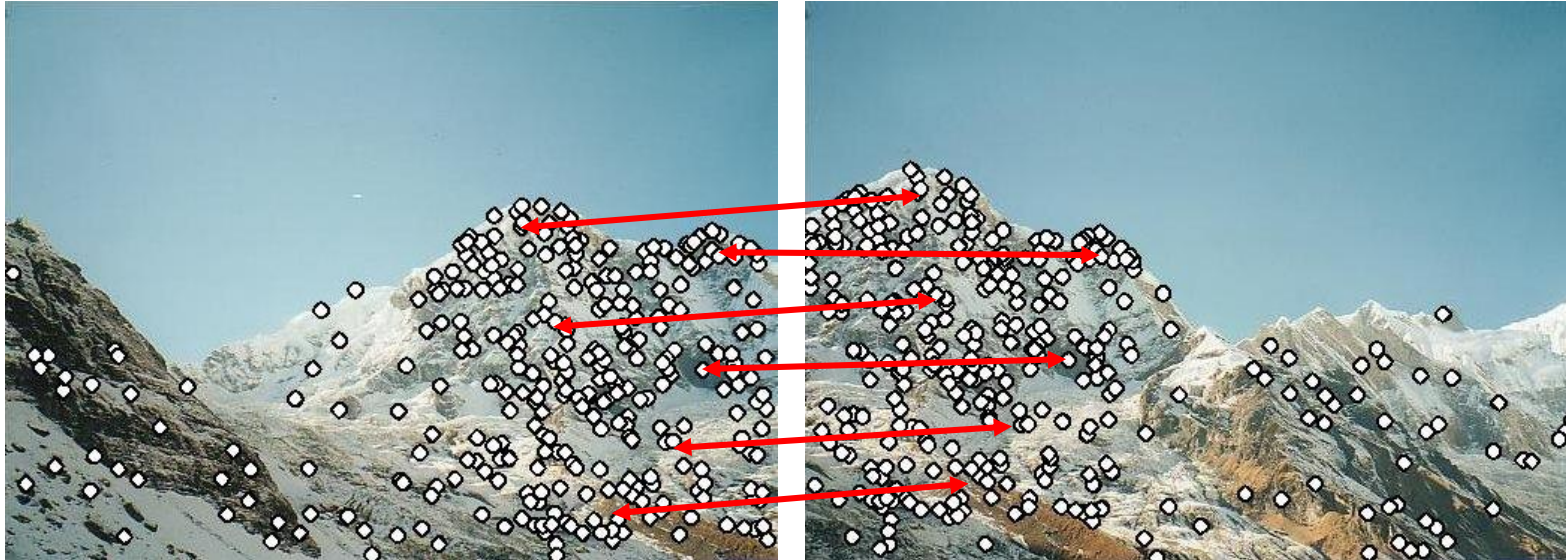


# Feature matching

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Step 1: extract features

Step 2: match features



# Feature matching

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Step 1: extract features

Step 2: match features

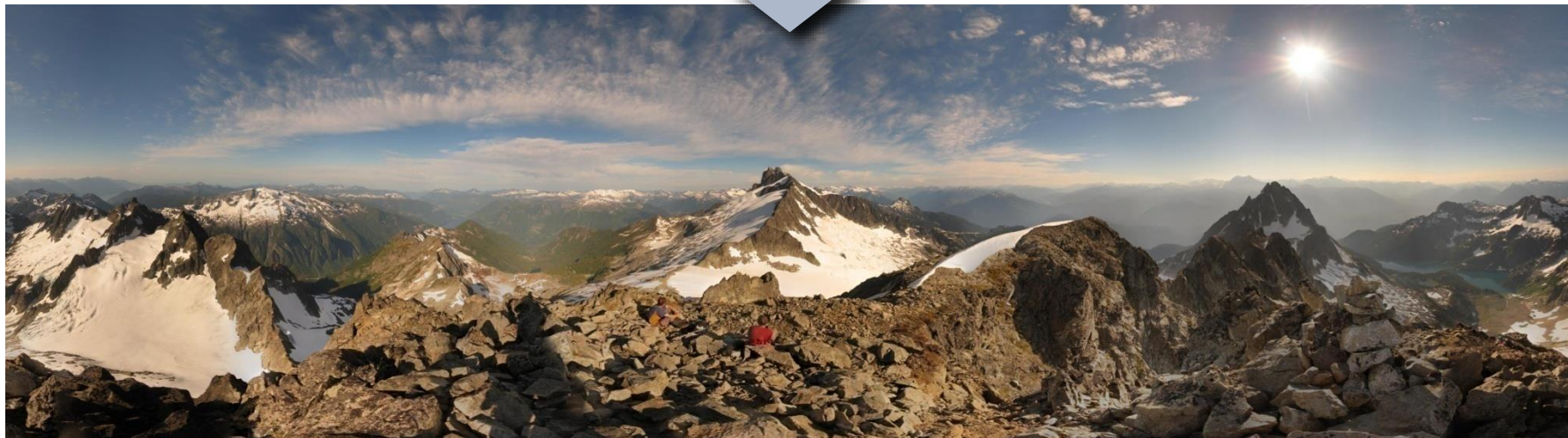
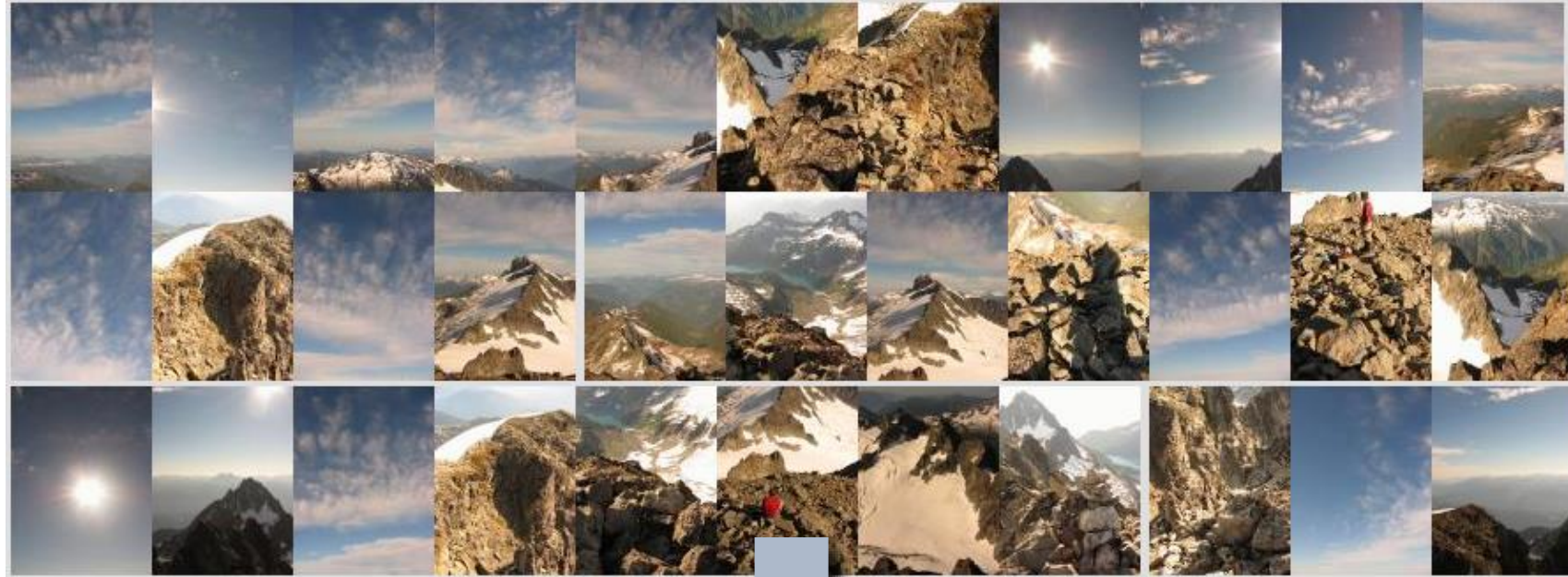
Step 3: align images





# Automatic panoramas

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# Automatic panoramas

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<http://gigapan.com>



# Visual SLAM

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DPLh6MoxPAk>

# Image matching

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by [Diva Sian](#)



by [swashford](#)



# Harder case

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by [Diva Sian](#)



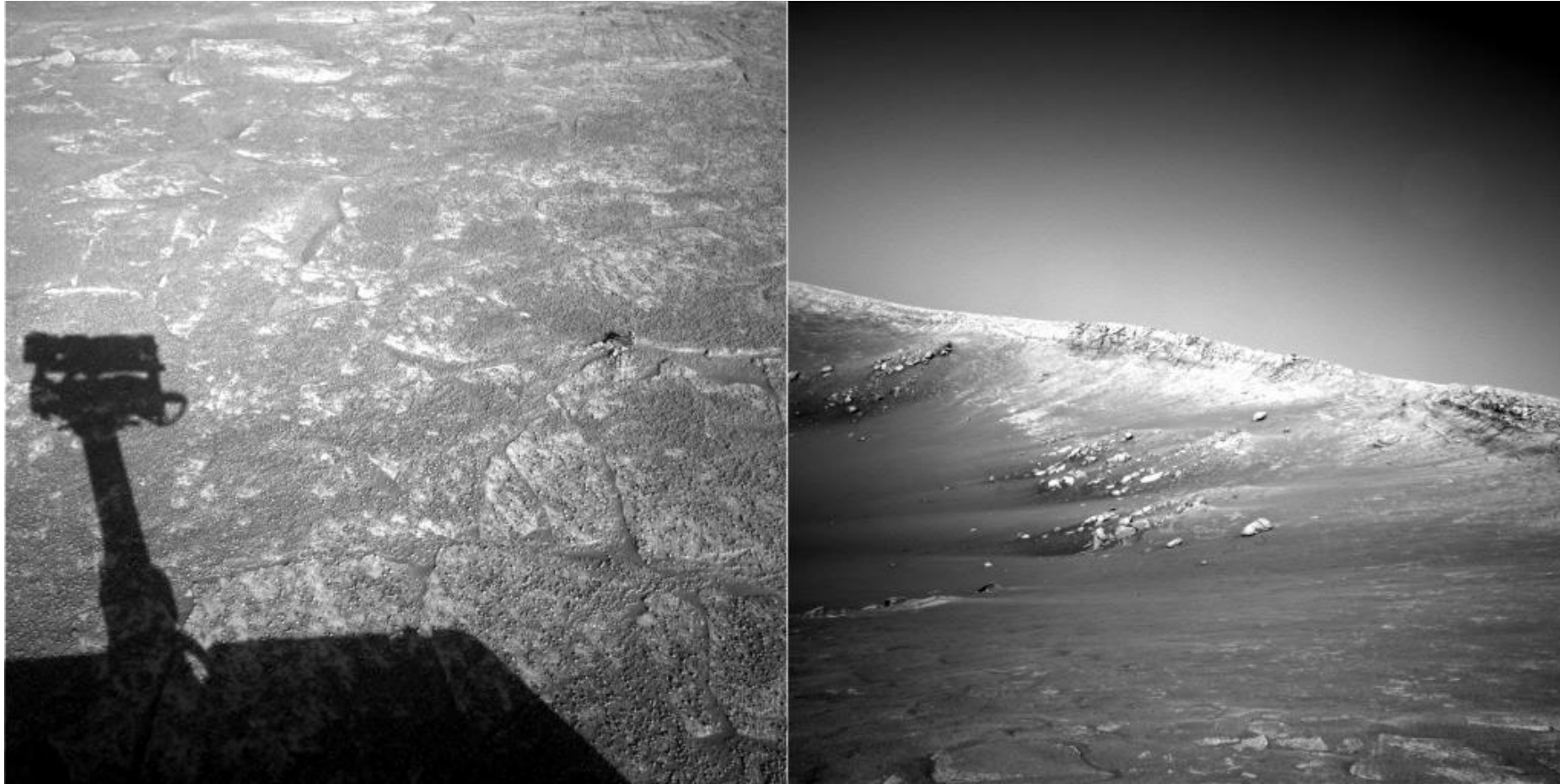
by [scgbt](#)





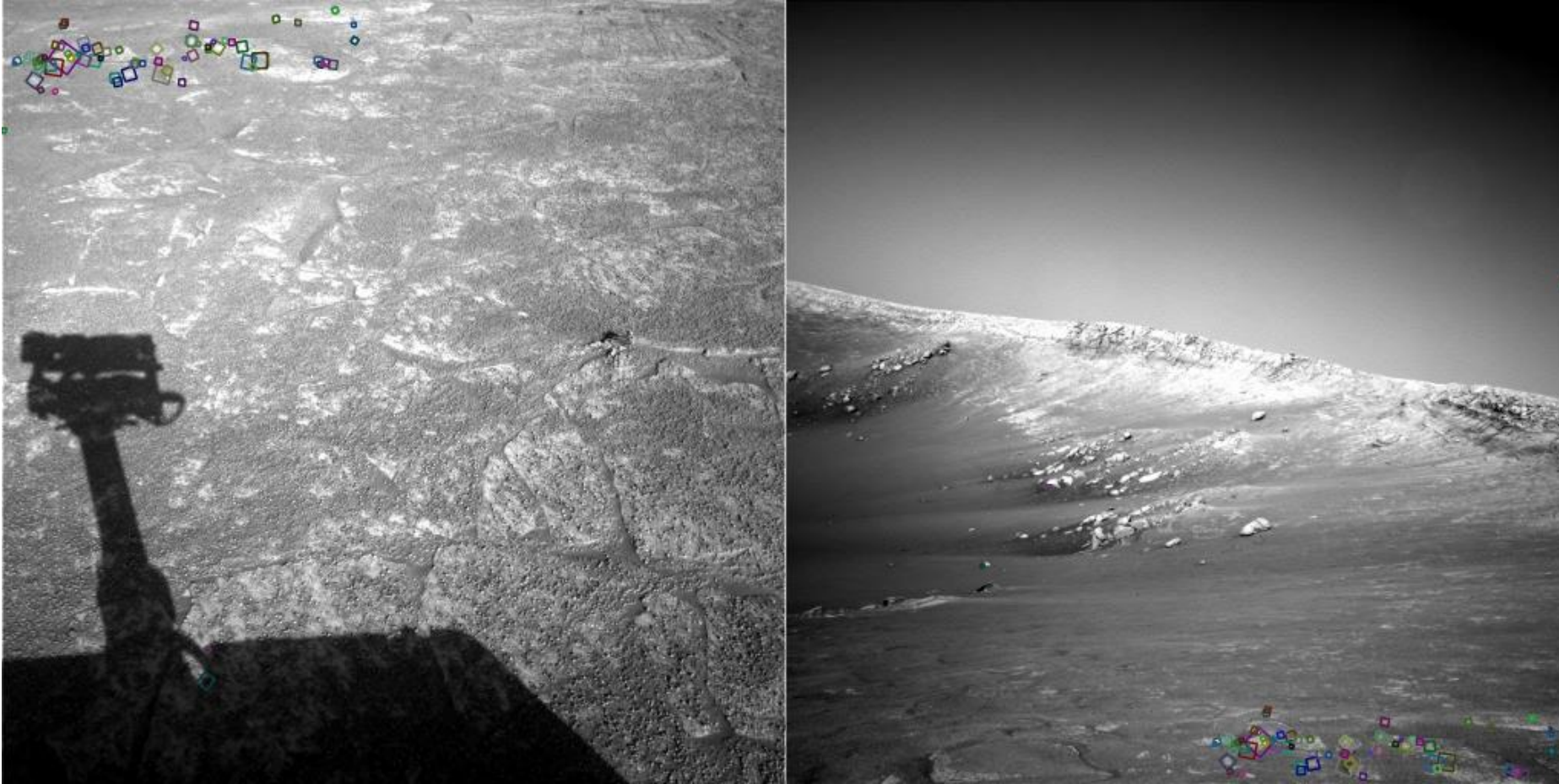
# Image matching on Mars

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# Image matching on Mars

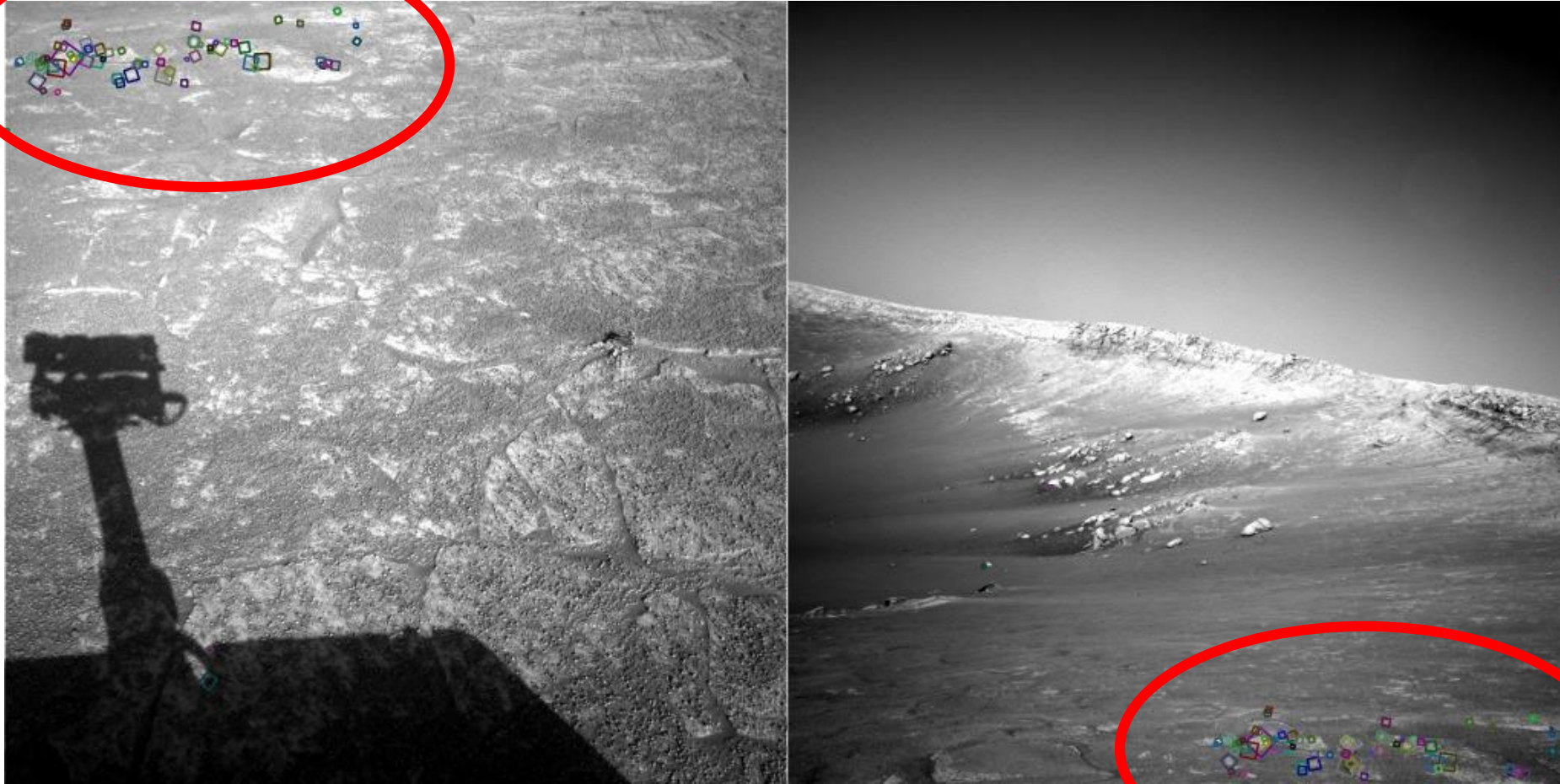
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NASA Mars Rover images  
with SIFT feature matches

# Image matching on Mars

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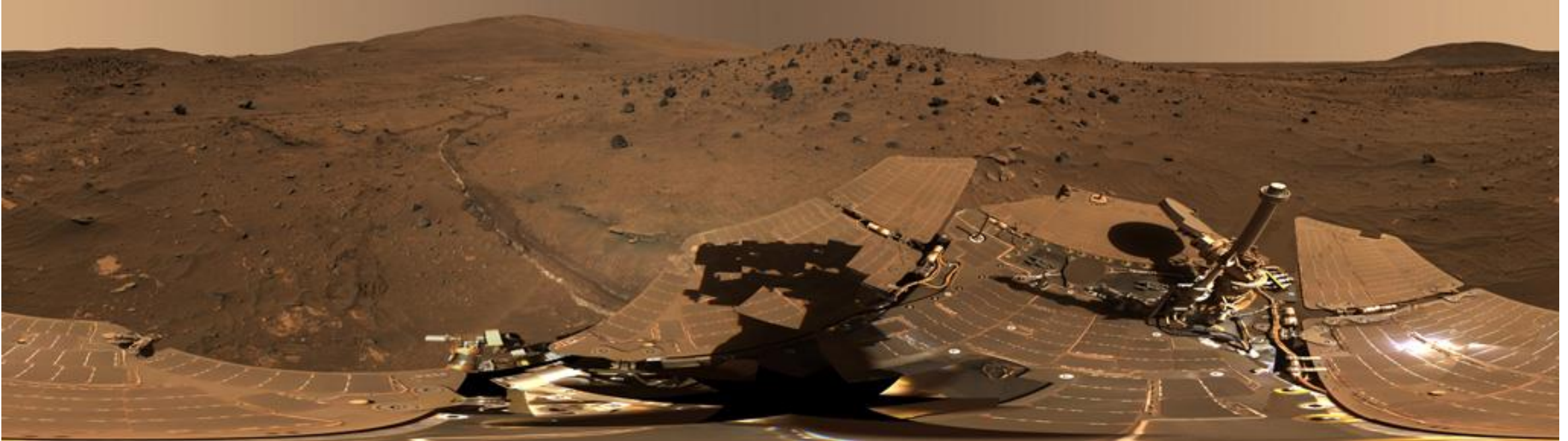


NASA Mars Rover images  
with SIFT feature matches



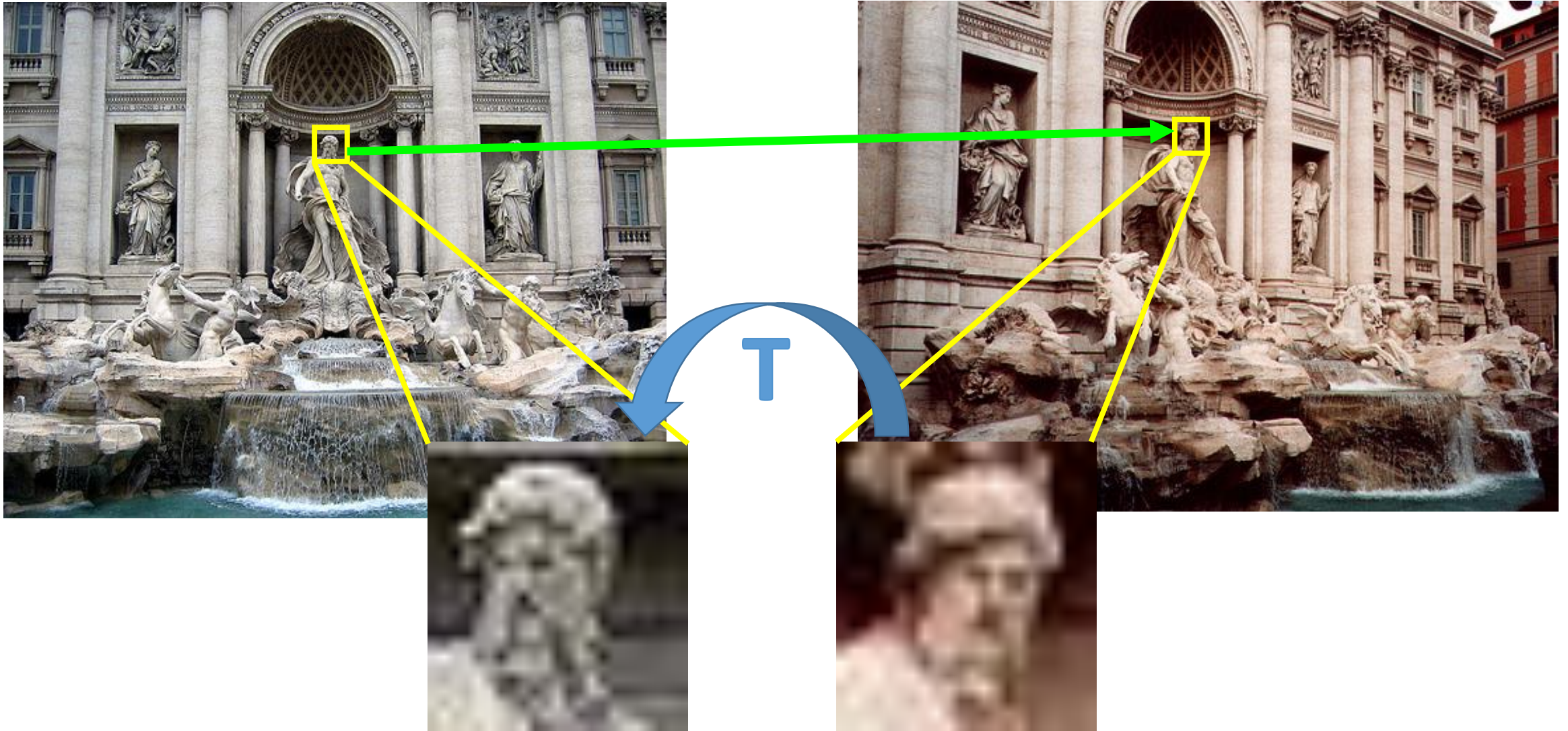
# Spirit Mars Rover Panorama

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<https://mars.nasa.gov/mer/multimedia/panoramas/spirit/>

# Challenges in feature matching

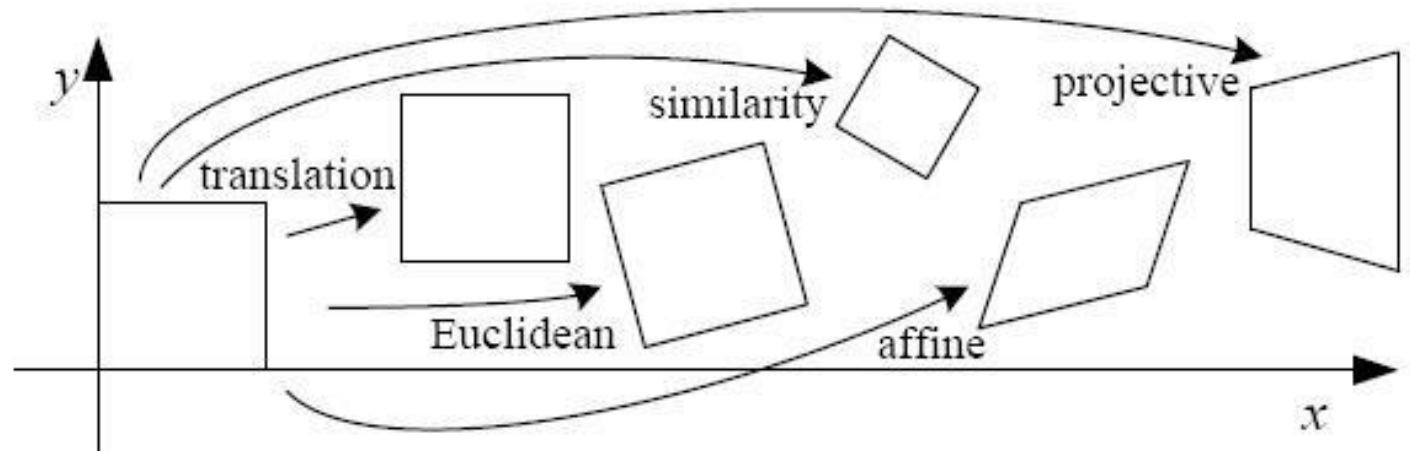




# Geometric transformations

- Translation
- Euclidean (translation + rotation)
- Similarity (translation + rotation + scale)
- Affine transformations
- Projective transformations

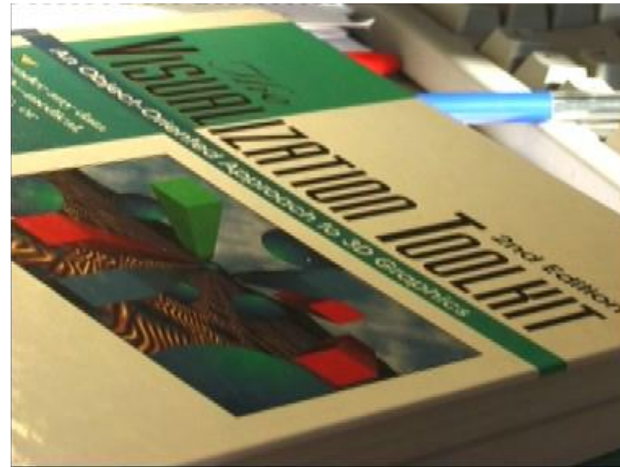
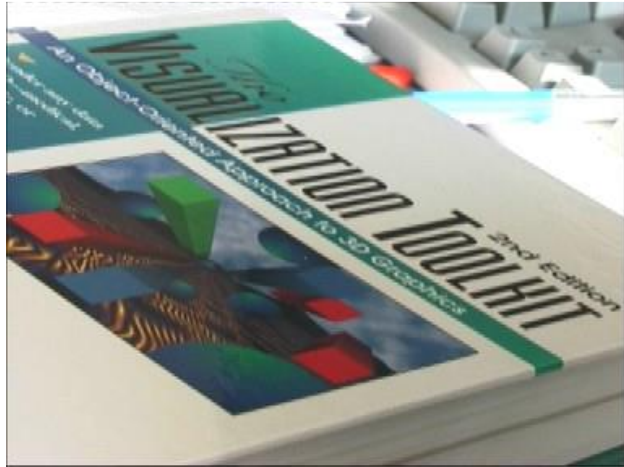
Only holds  
for planar patches





# Photometric transformations

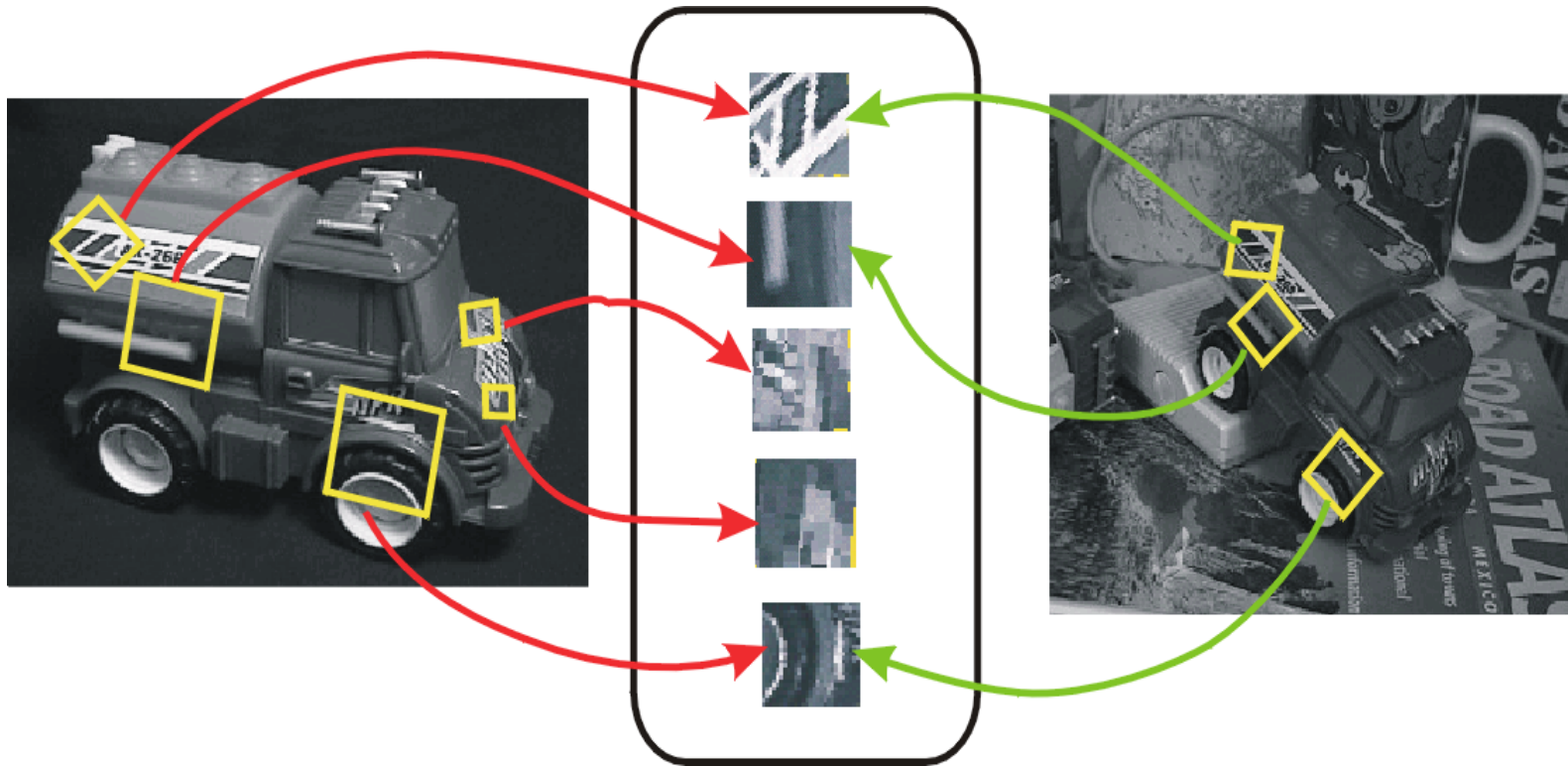
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# Invariant Local Features

Find features that are invariant to transformations

- geometric invariance: translation, rotation, scale
- photometric invariance: brightness, exposure, ...



Feature Descriptors

# Advantages of local features

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- **Locality**  
features are local, so robust to occlusion and clutter
- **Quantity**  
hundreds or thousands in a single image
- **Distinctiveness**  
can differentiate a large database of objects
- **Efficiency**  
real-time performance achievable



# More motivations...

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Feature points are used for:

- Image alignment (e.g., mosaics)
- 3D reconstruction
- Motion tracking (e.g. for AR)
- Object recognition
- Image retrieval
- Robot/car navigation
- ... other



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kr0W7io5rHw>

# Approach

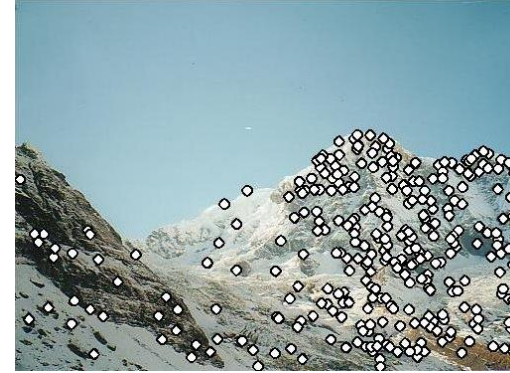
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- 1. Feature detection:** find it
- 2. Feature descriptor:** represent it
- 3. Feature matching:** match it

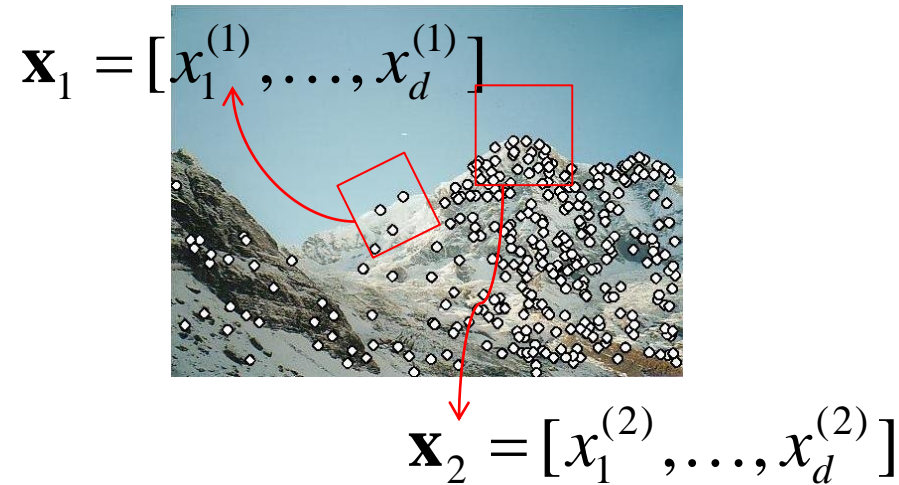
**Feature tracking:** track it, when motion

# Local features: main components

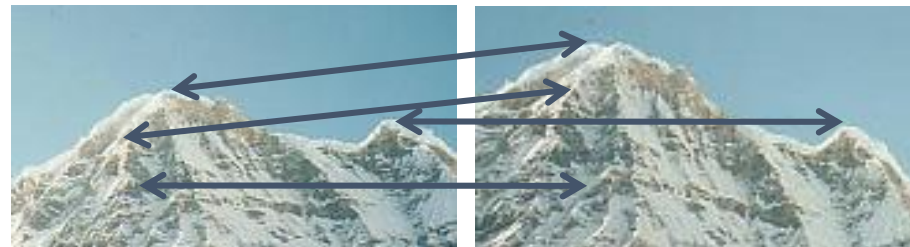
1) Detection: Identify the interest points



2) Description: Extract vector feature descriptor surrounding each interest point

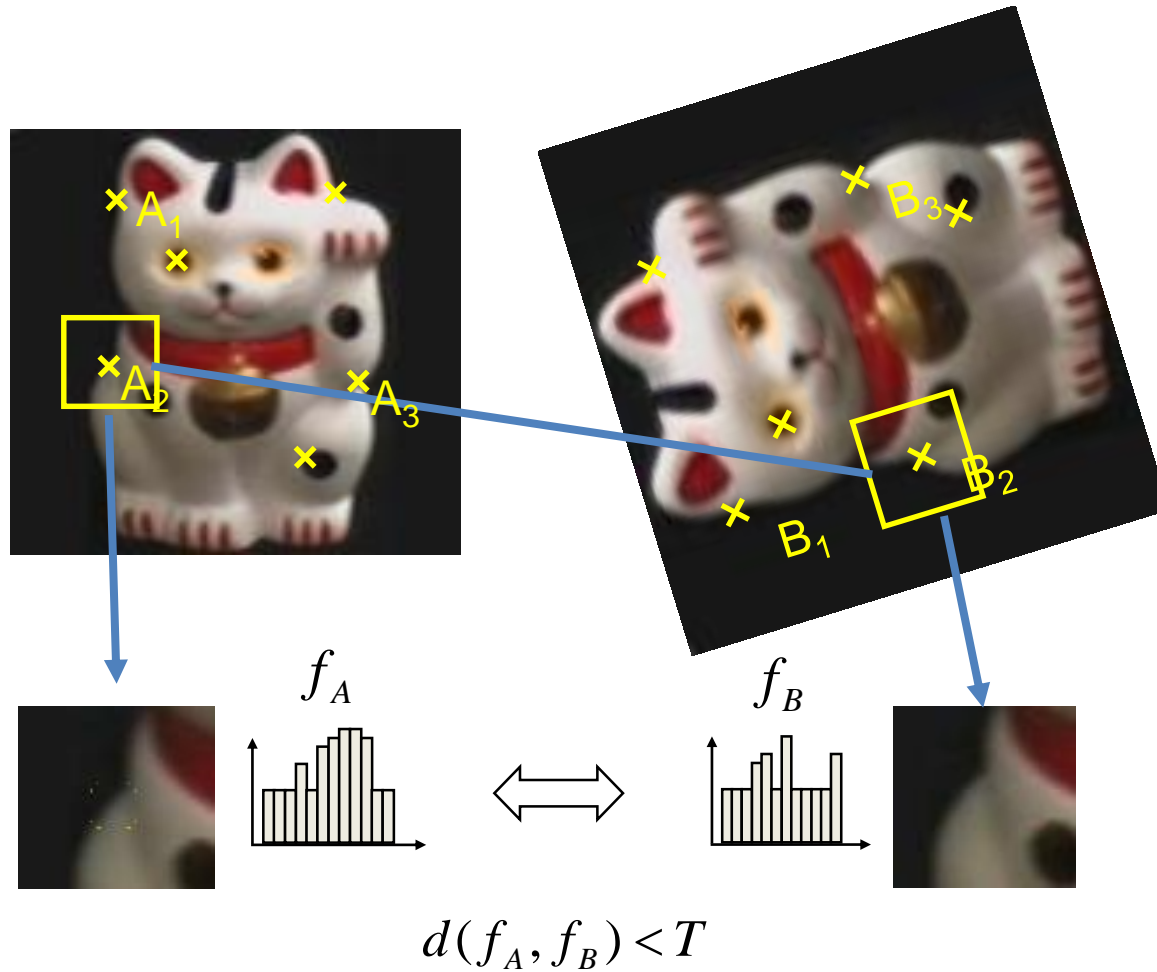


3) Matching: Determine correspondence between descriptors in two views





# Overview of Keypoint Matching



1. Find a set of distinctive key-points
2. Define a region around each keypoint
3. Extract and normalize the region content
4. Compute a local descriptor from the normalized region
5. Match local descriptors

# What points to choose?

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# Low-texture region?

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NO

- Textureless patches are nearly impossible to localize
- Gradients have small magnitude



# Edge?



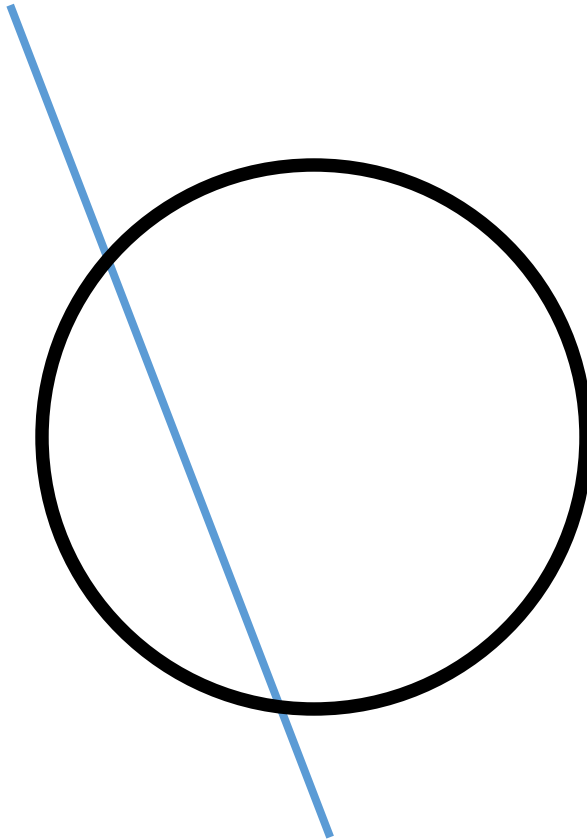
Gradients  
very large  
(or very  
small)

NO

- Patches with large contrast changes (gradients) are easier to localize, BUT
- Straight line segments at a single orientation suffer from the aperture problem, i.e., it is only possible to align the patches along the direction normal to the edge direction

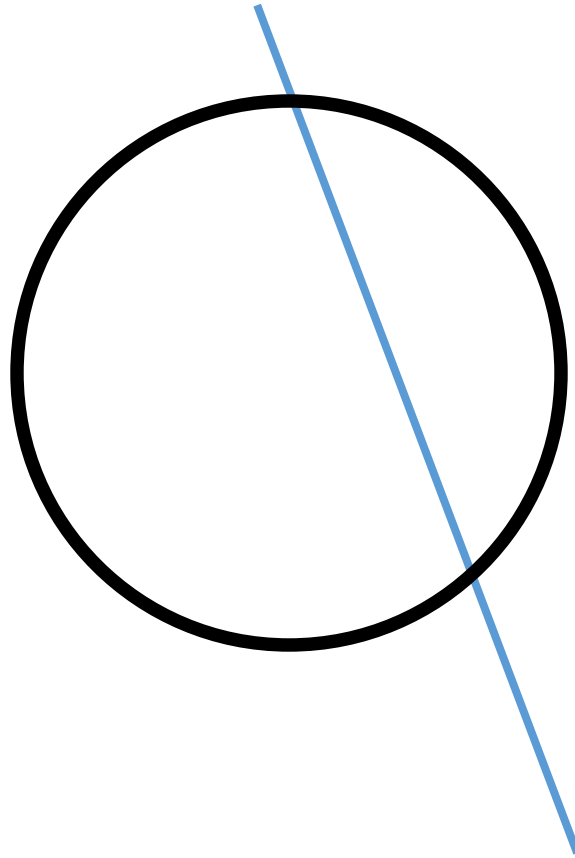
# The aperture problem

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# The aperture problem

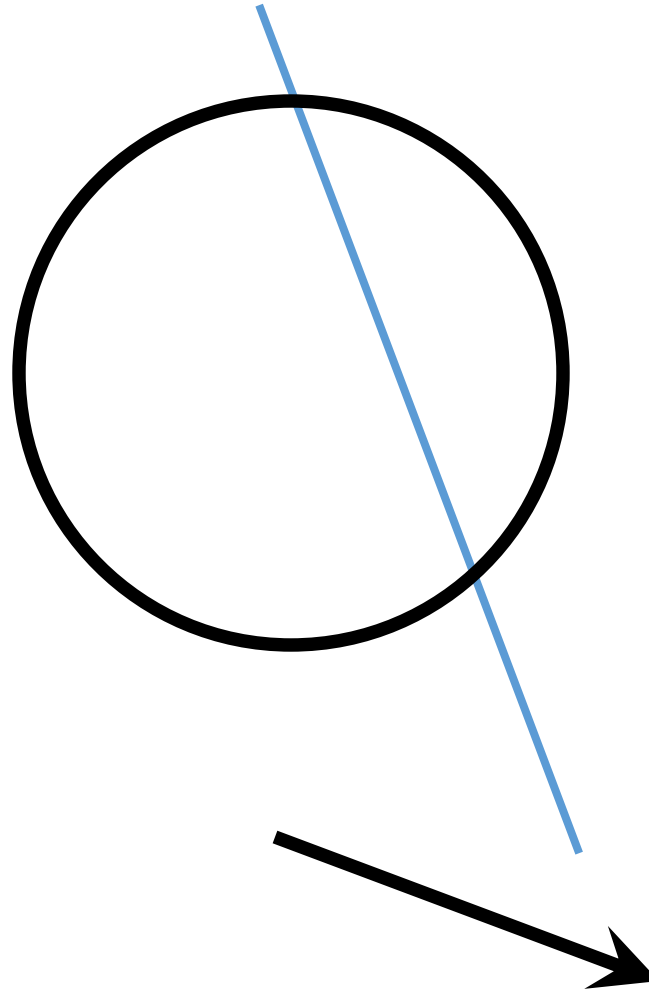
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# The aperture problem

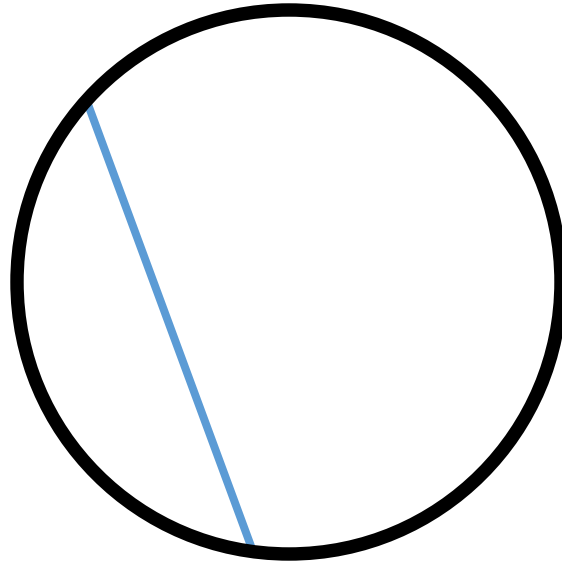
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**Actual motion**

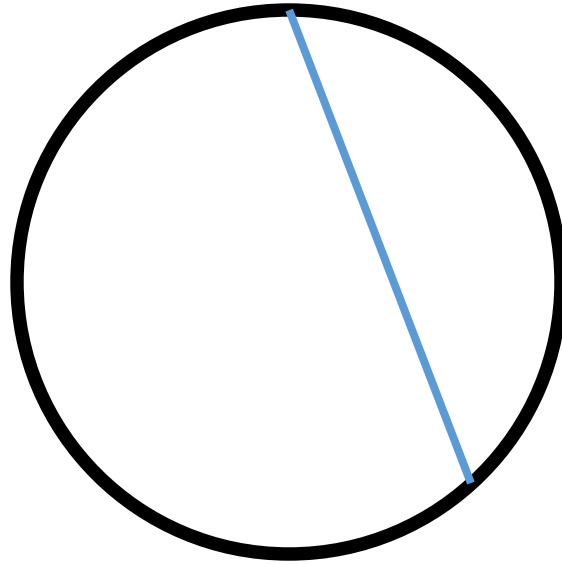
# The aperture problem

---



# The aperture problem

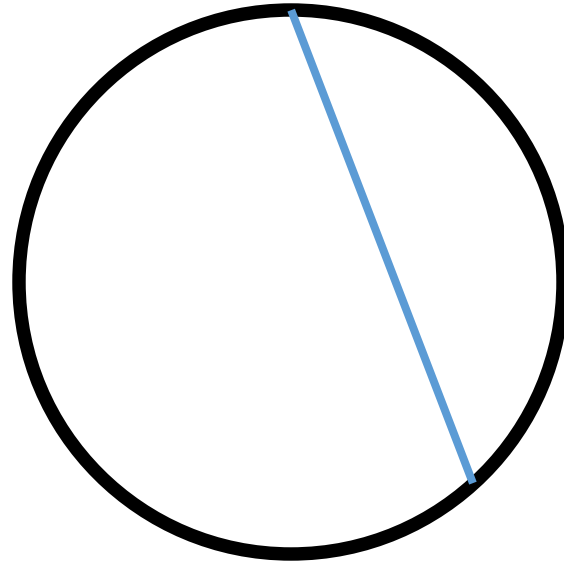
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# The aperture problem

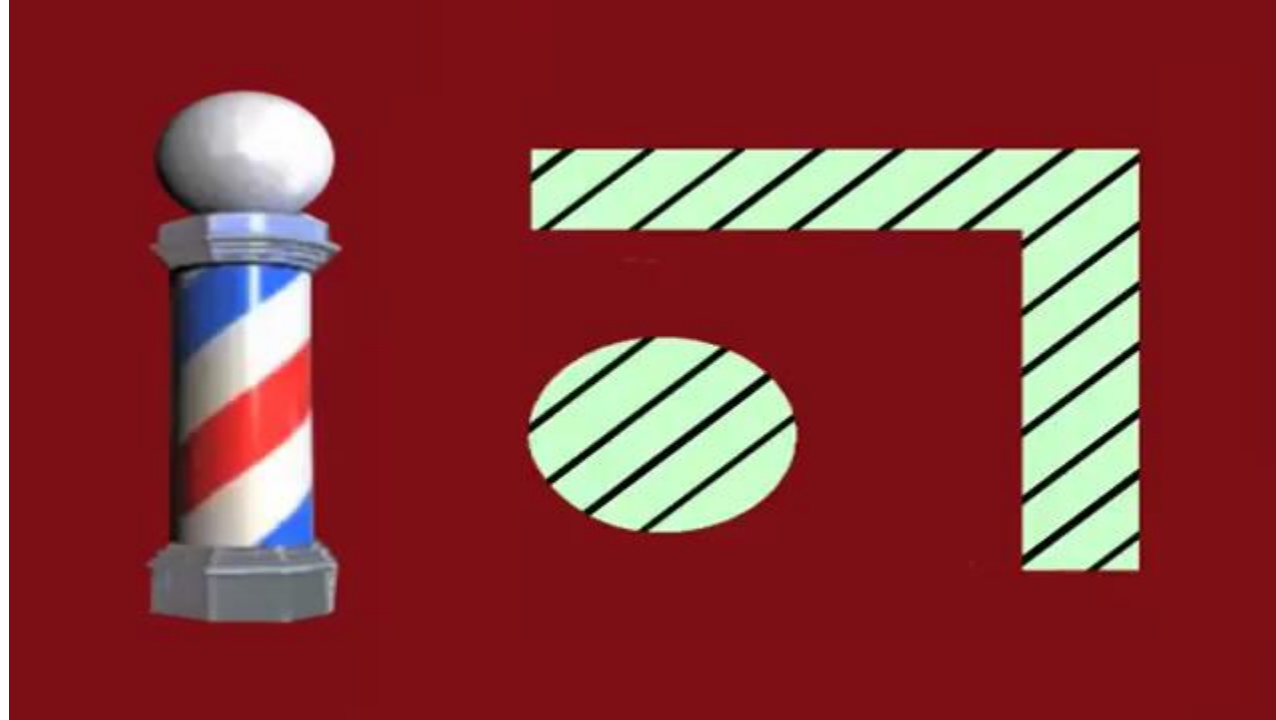
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**Perceived motion**

# The barber pole illusion

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# So, what makes a good feature?

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# Want uniqueness

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Look for image regions that are unusual

- Lead to unambiguous matches in other images

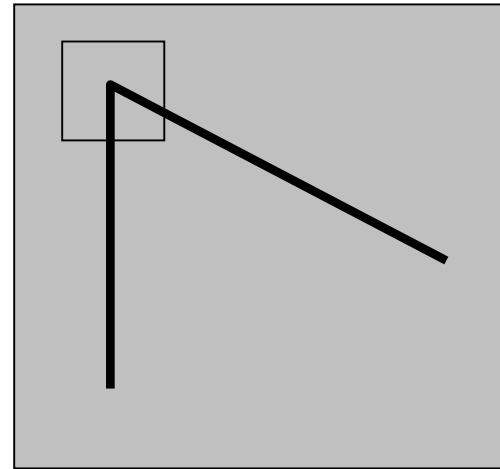
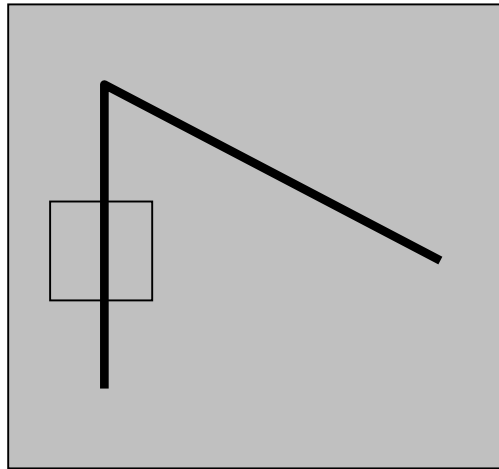
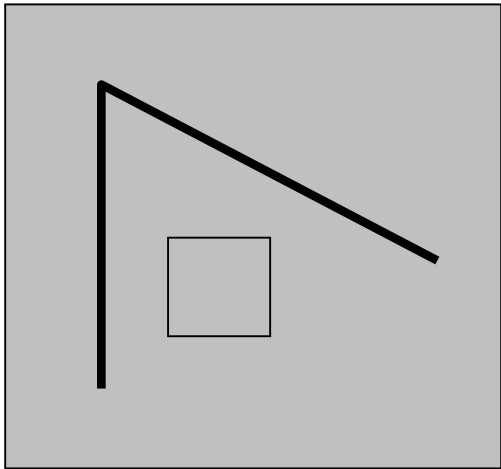
How to define “unusual”?

# Want uniqueness

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Suppose we only consider a small window of pixels

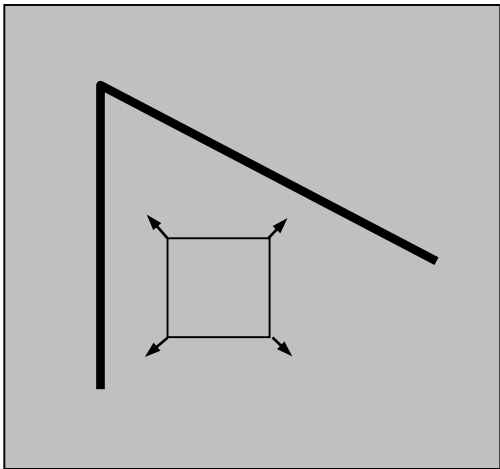
- What defines whether a feature is a good or bad candidate?



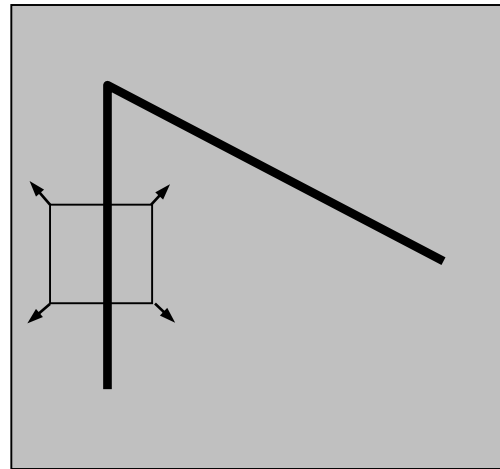
# Want uniqueness

---

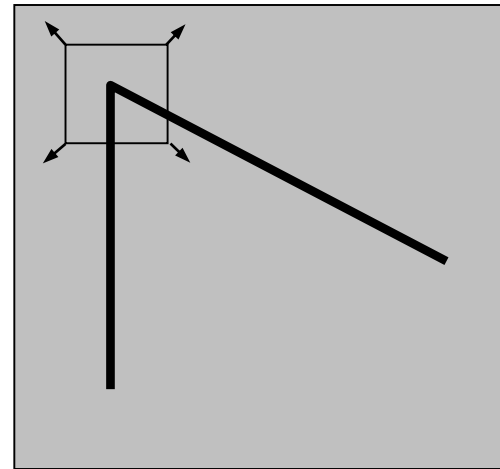
- How does the window change when you shift it?
- Shifting the window in any direction causes a big change



“flat” region:  
no change in all  
directions



“edge”:  
no change along the  
edge direction



“corner”:  
significant change in  
all directions



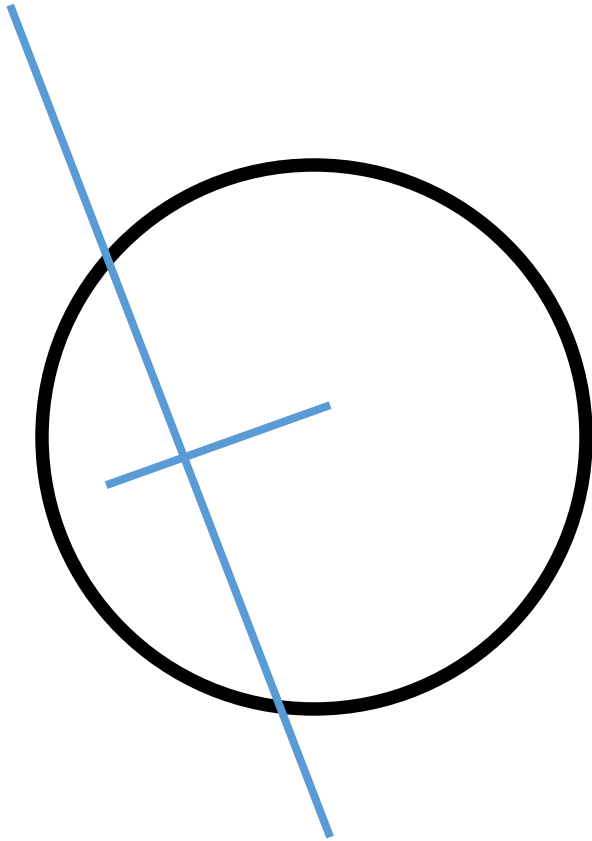
# Corners

---

- Textureless patches are nearly impossible to localize
- Patches with large contrast changes (gradients) are easier to localize
- But straight line segments at a single orientation suffer from the aperture problem, i.e., it is only possible to align the patches along the direction normal to the edge direction
- Gradients in at least two (significantly) different orientations are the easiest, e.g., [corners](#)

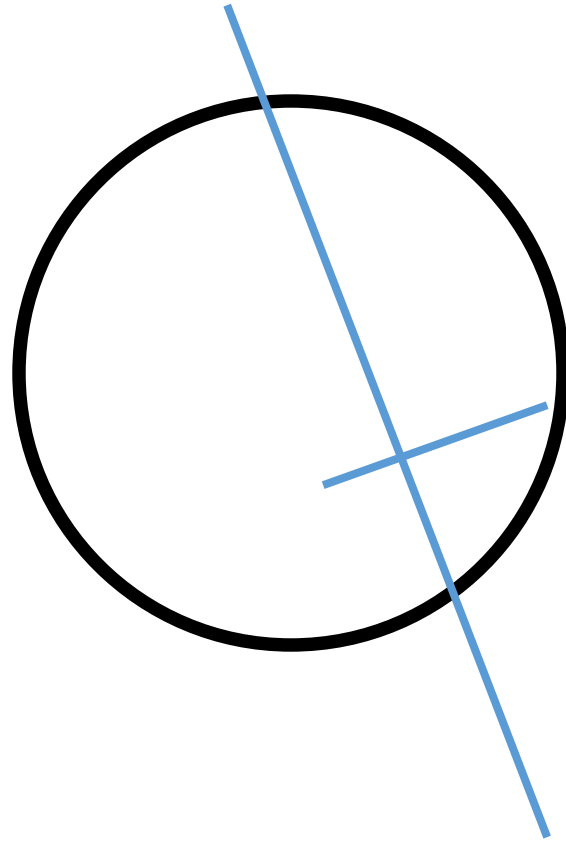
# The aperture problem resolved

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# The aperture problem resolved

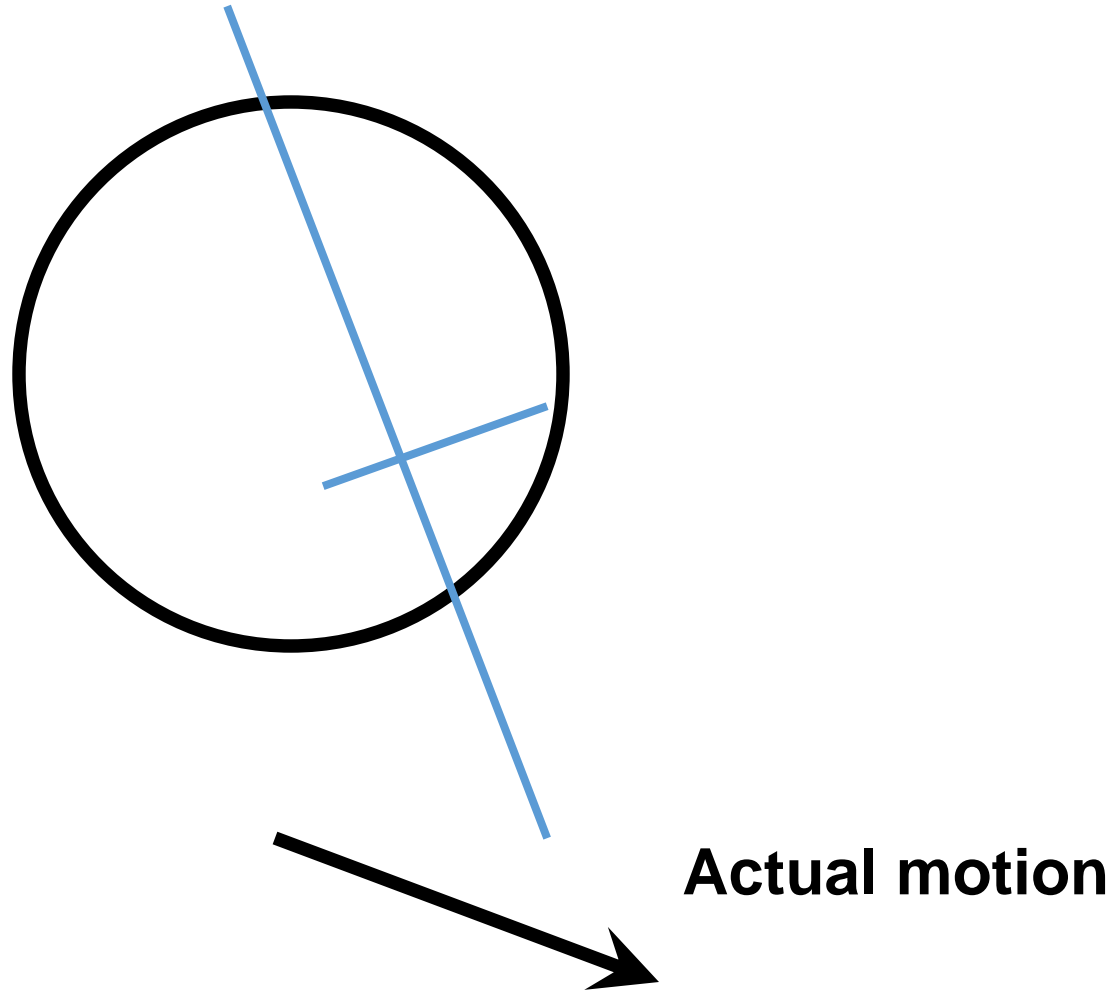
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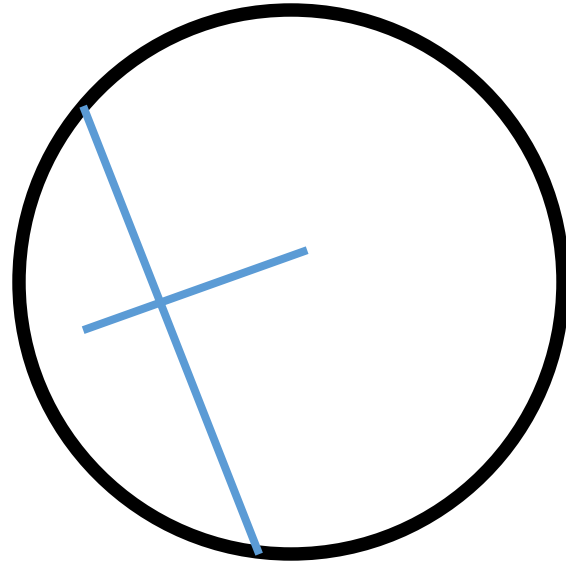
# The aperture problem resolved

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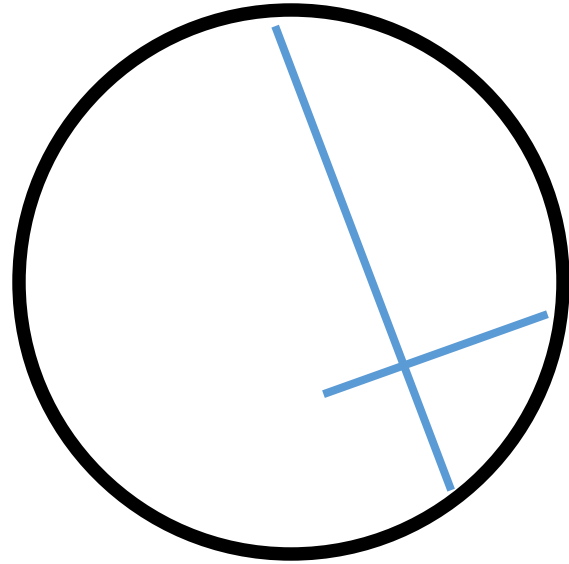
# The aperture problem resolved

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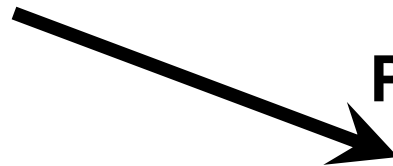
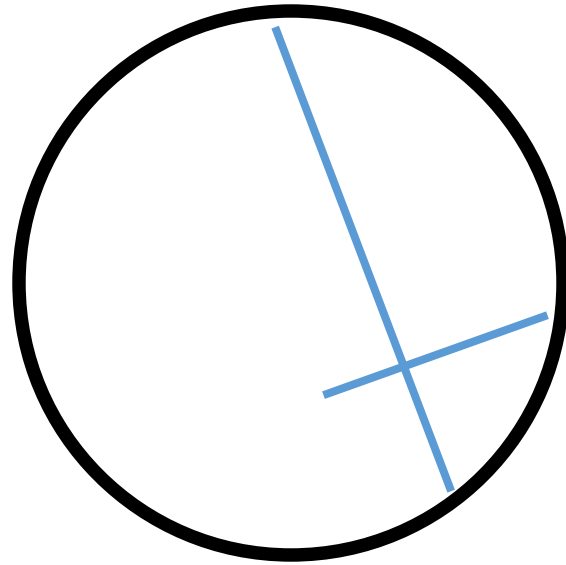
# The aperture problem resolved

---



# The aperture problem resolved

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**Perceived motion**

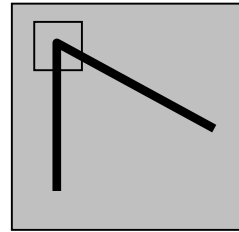
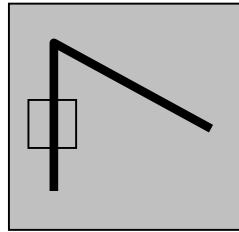
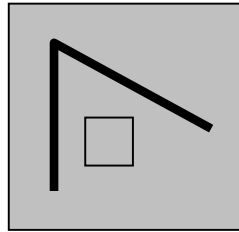


# Harris corner detection

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1. Generate a **cornerness score** for each image

window



2. Find points whose surrounding window gave large corner response ( $f > \text{threshold}$ )
3. Take the points of local maxima, i.e., perform non-maximum suppression

# Harris detector steps

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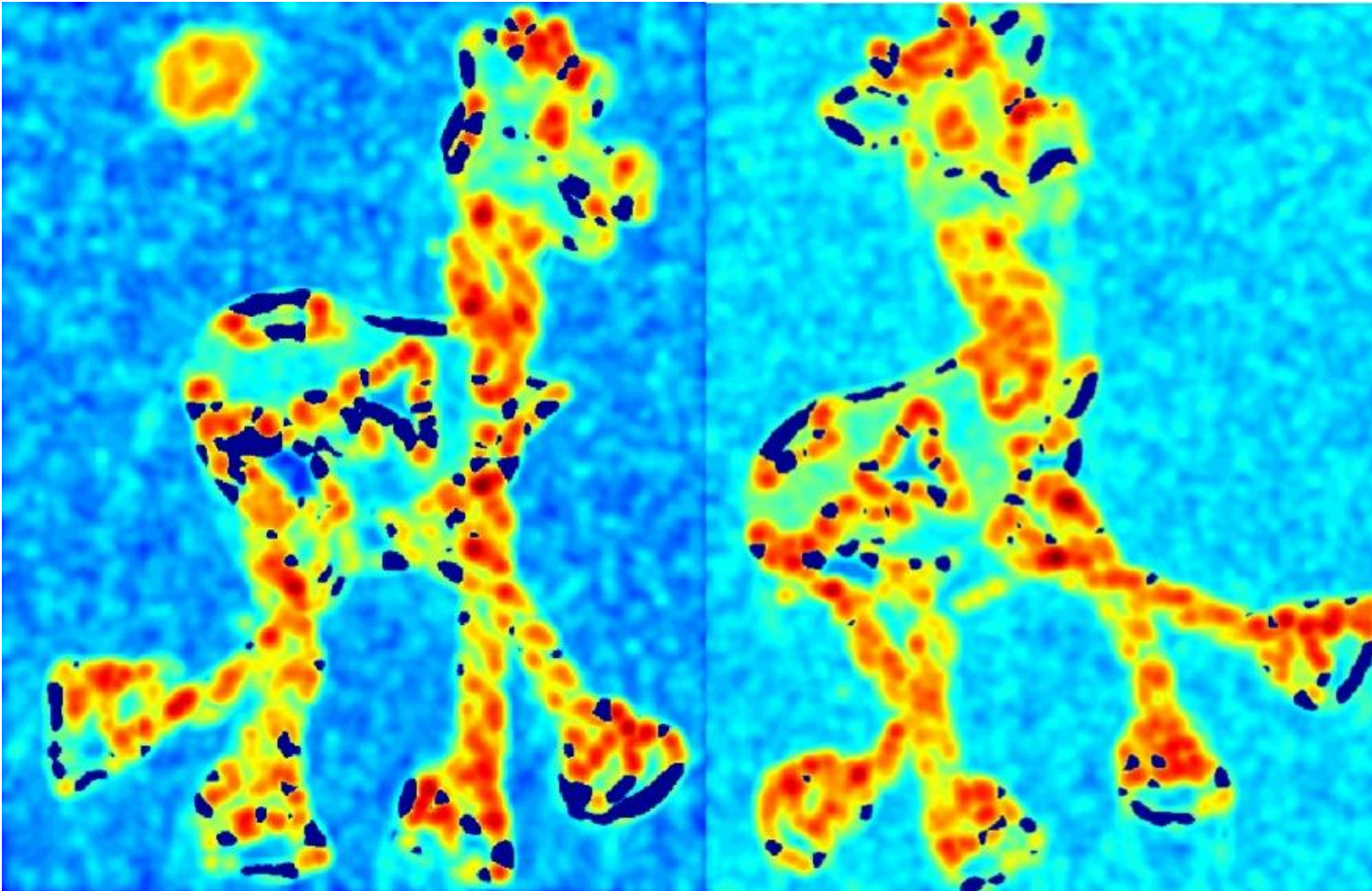


Source: James Hays

# Harris detector steps

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Compute corner response  $R$

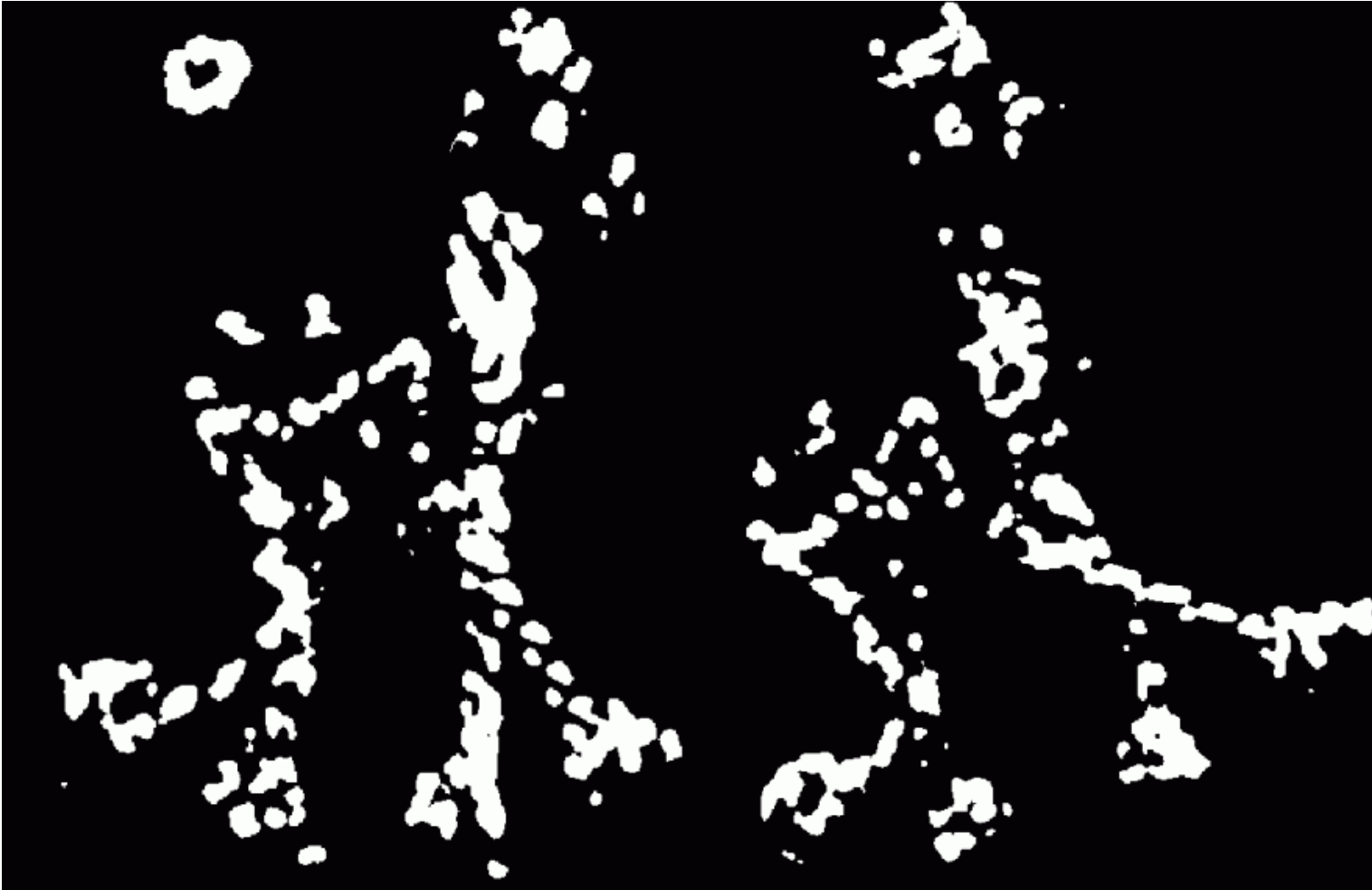


Source: James Hays

# Harris detector steps

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Find points with large corner response:  $R > \text{threshold}$



Source: James Hays



# Harris detector steps

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Take only the points of local maxima of R



Source: James Hays

# Harris detector steps

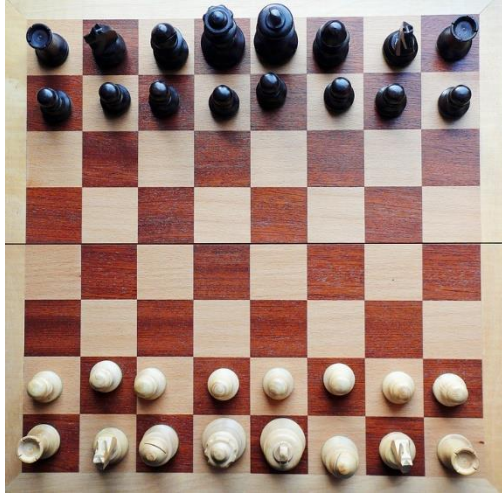
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Source: James Hays

# Harris corner detection: esempi

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# Harris corner detection: esempi

```
▶ from matplotlib import pyplot as plt
import urllib.request

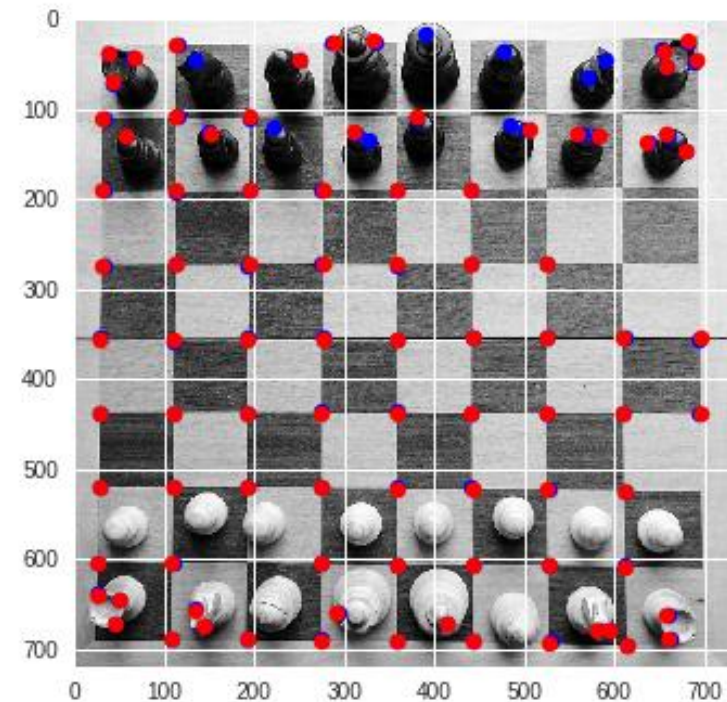
from skimage.io import imread
from skimage.color import rgb2gray
from skimage.feature import corner_harris, corner_subpix, corner_peaks

url = "https://dbloisi.github.io/corsi/images/chessboard-1.jpg"

image = imread(urllib.request.urlopen(url))
image = rgb2gray(image)

coords = corner_peaks(corner_harris(image), min_distance=10)
coords_subpix = corner_subpix(image, coords, window_size=13)

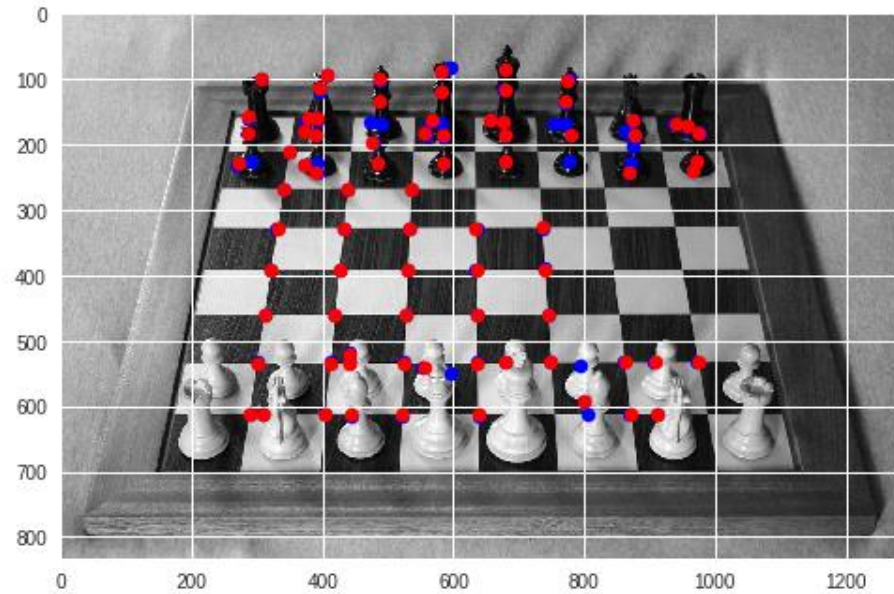
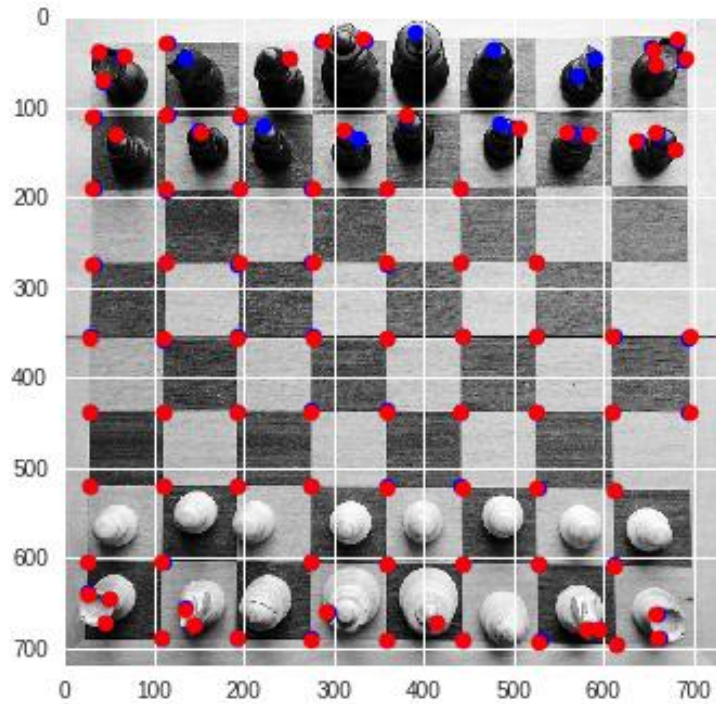
fig, ax = plt.subplots()
ax.imshow(image, interpolation='nearest', cmap=plt.cm.gray)
ax.plot(coords[:, 1], coords[:, 0], '.b', markersize=15)
ax.plot(coords_subpix[:, 1], coords_subpix[:, 0], '.r', markersize=15)
plt.show()
```



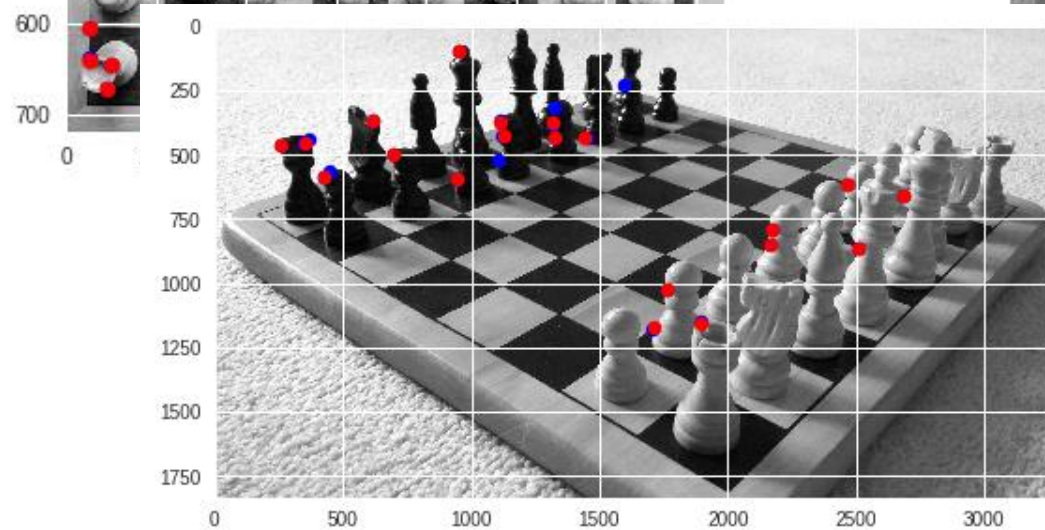
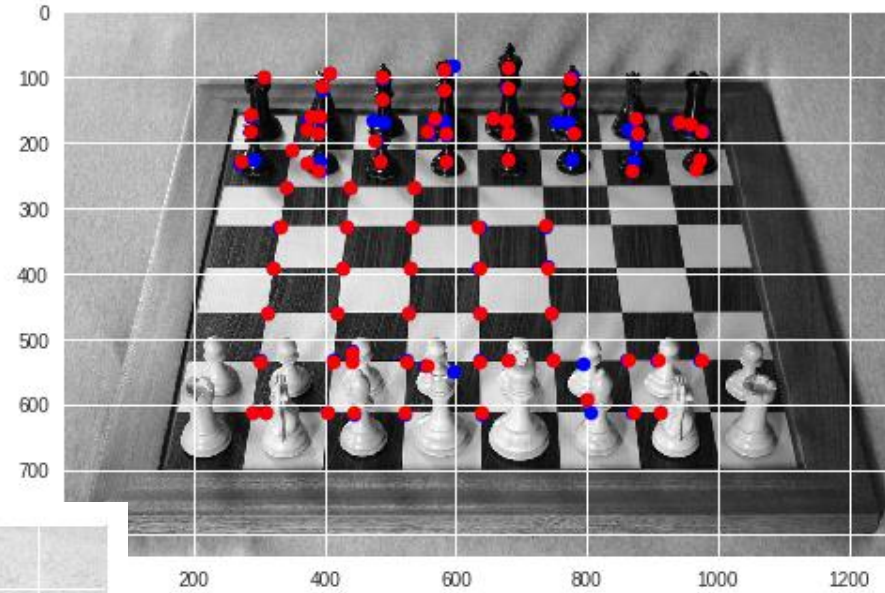
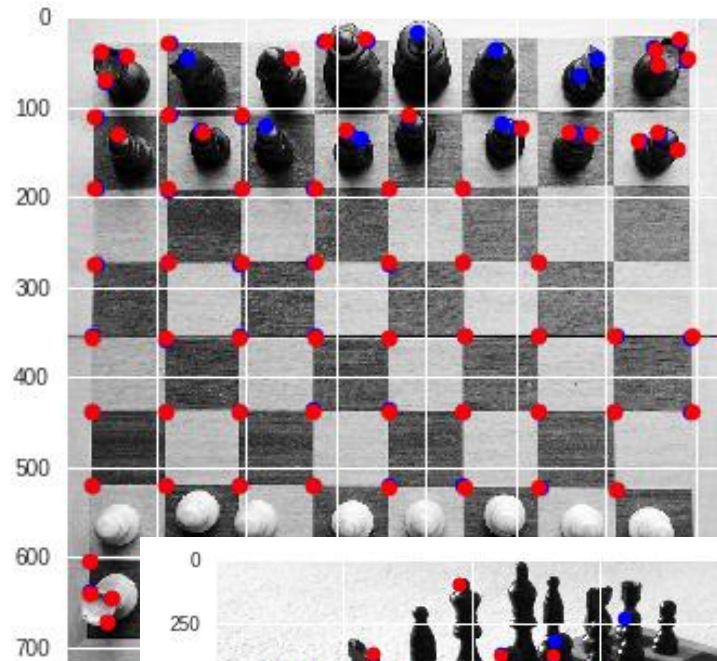


# Harris corner detection: esempi

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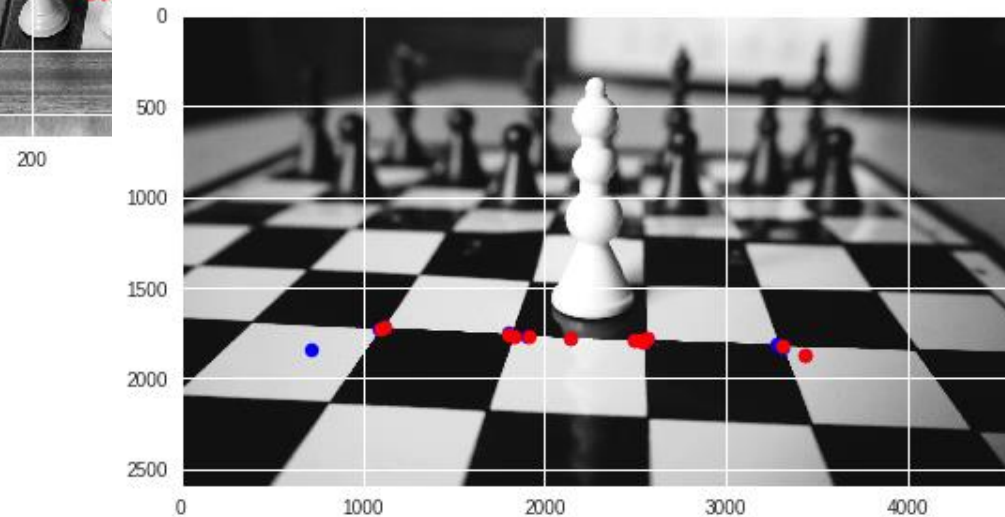
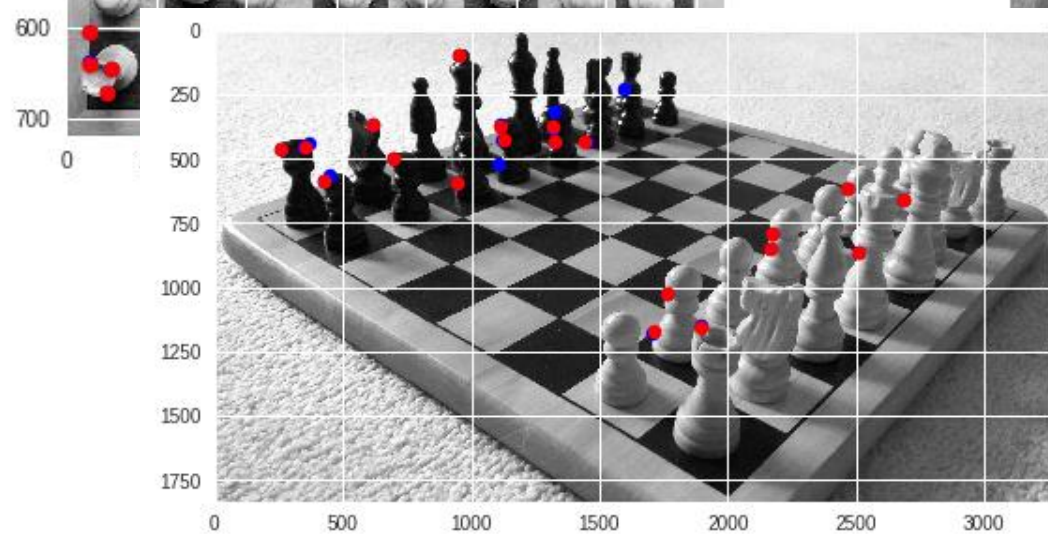
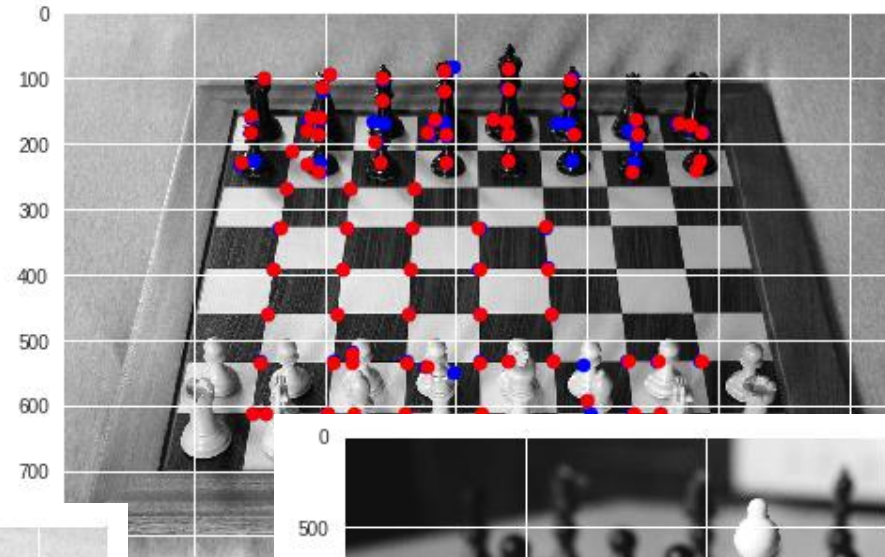
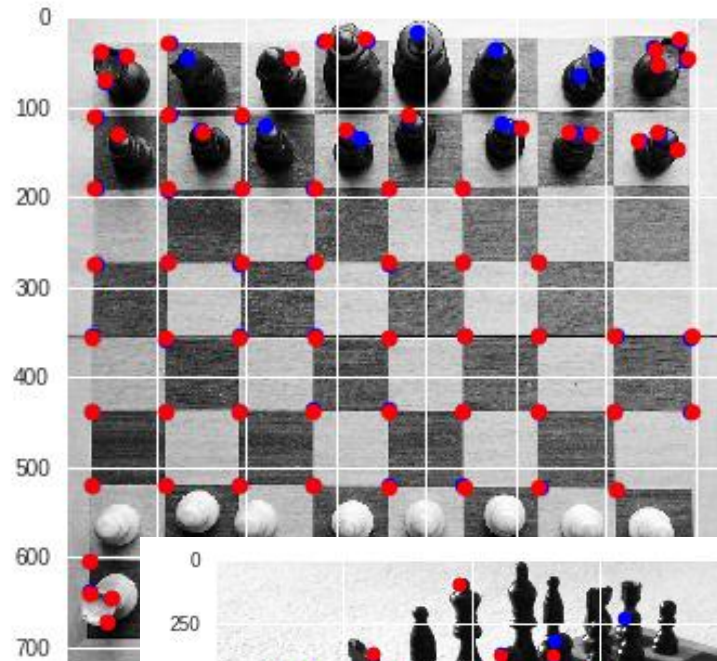


# Harris corner detection: esempi





# Harris corner detection: esempi



# Invariance and covariance of corner locations

---

We want corner locations to be *invariant* to photometric transformations and *covariant* to geometric transformations

- **Invariance:** image is transformed and corner locations do not change
- **Covariance:** if we have two transformed versions of the same image, features should be detected in corresponding locations



# Invariance and covariance of corner locations

---

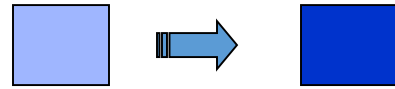
**Invariance:** image is transformed and corner locations do not change



**Covariance:** if we have two transformed versions of the same image, features should be detected in corresponding locations

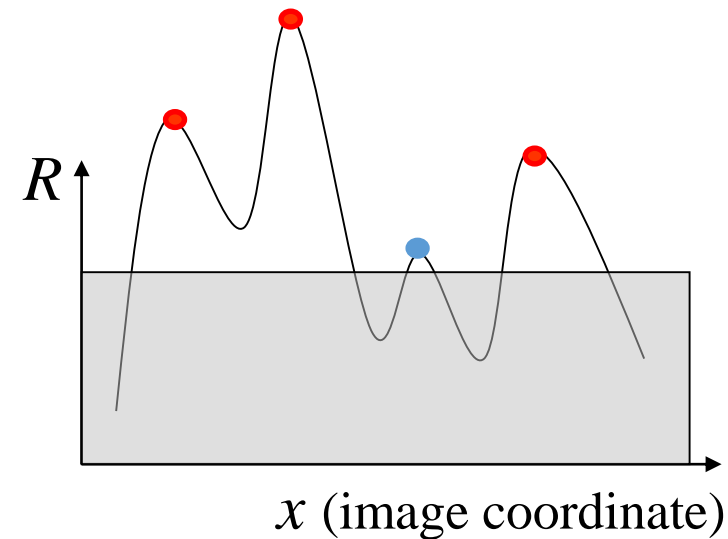
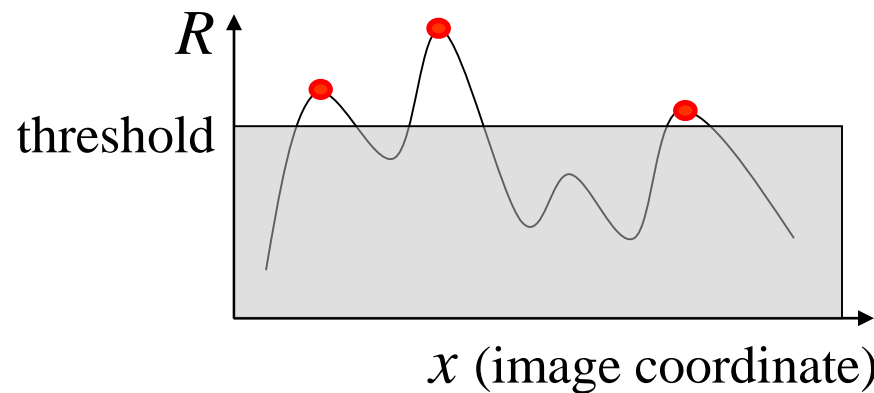


# Affine intensity change



$$I \rightarrow aI + b$$

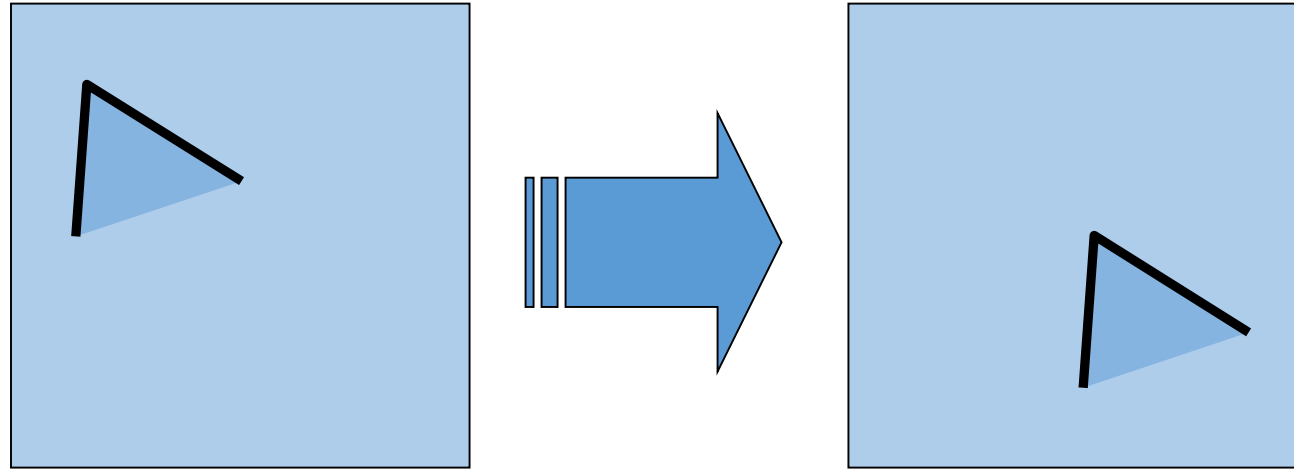
- Only derivatives are used  $\Rightarrow$  invariance to intensity shift  $I \rightarrow I + b$
- Intensity scaling:  $I \rightarrow aI$



*Partially invariant to affine intensity change*

# Translation

---



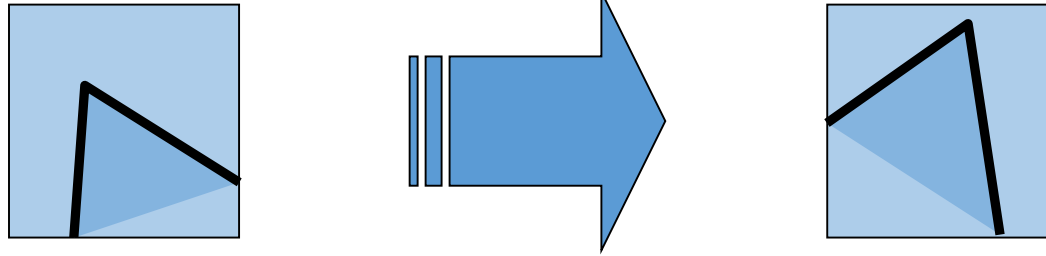
Derivatives and window function are shift-invariant

Corner location is covariant w.r.t. translation

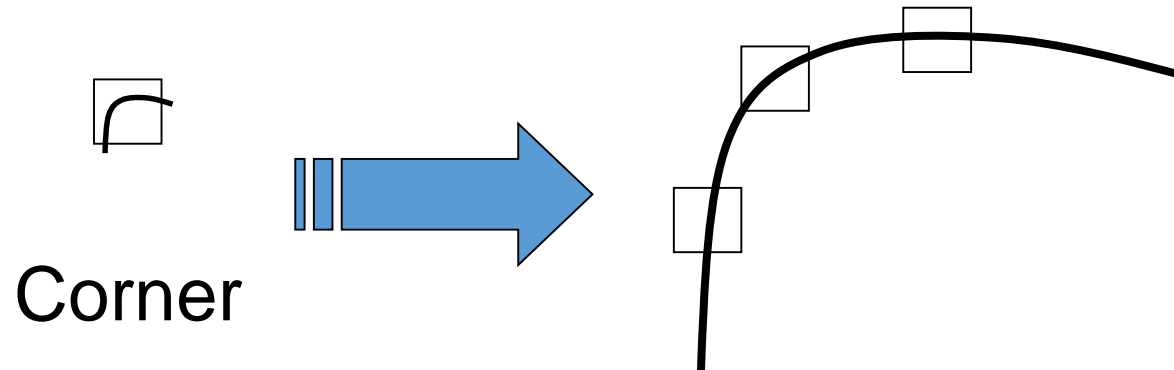
Source: James Hays

# Rotation and Scaling

---



Corner location is covariant w.r.t. rotation



All points will be classified as edges

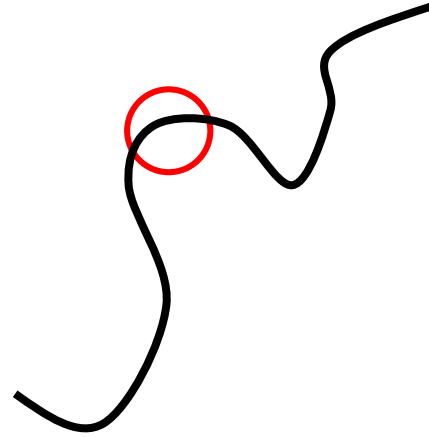
Corner location is not covariant to scaling!



# Scale invariant detection

---

Suppose you're looking for corners



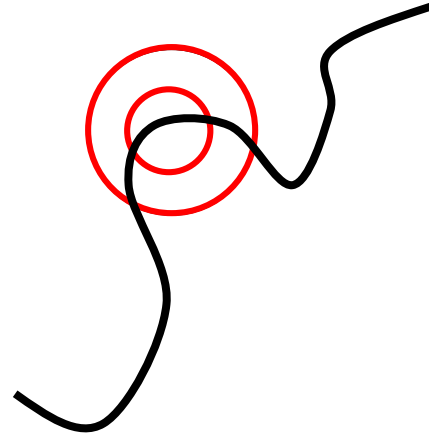
Key idea: find scale that gives local maximum of  $f$

- in both position and scale
- One definition of  $f$ : the Harris operator

# Scale invariant detection

---

Suppose you're looking for corners



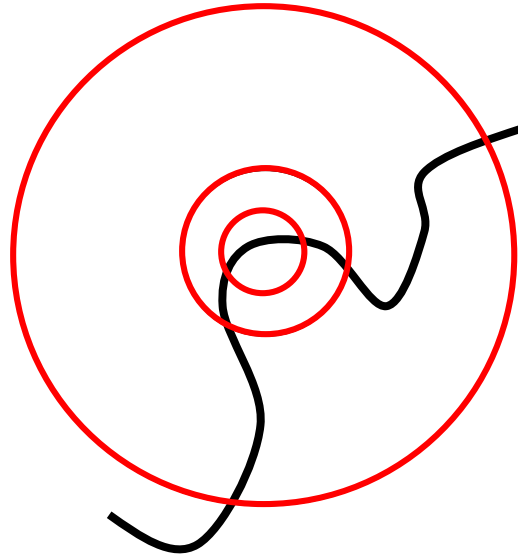
Key idea: find scale that gives local maximum of  $f$

- in both position and scale
- One definition of  $f$ : the Harris operator

# Scale invariant detection

---

Suppose you're looking for corners



Key idea: find scale that gives local maximum of  $f$

- in both position and scale
- One definition of  $f$ : the Harris operator

# Scale invariance

---

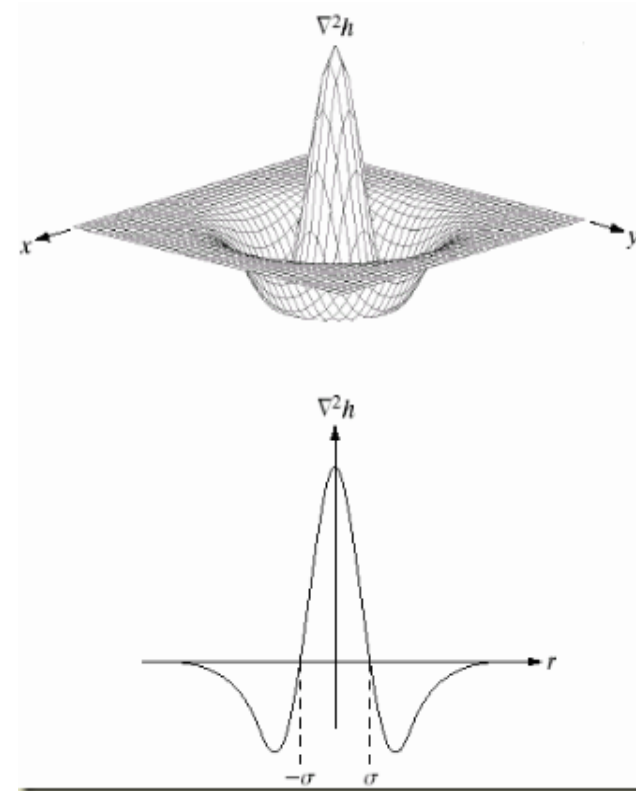
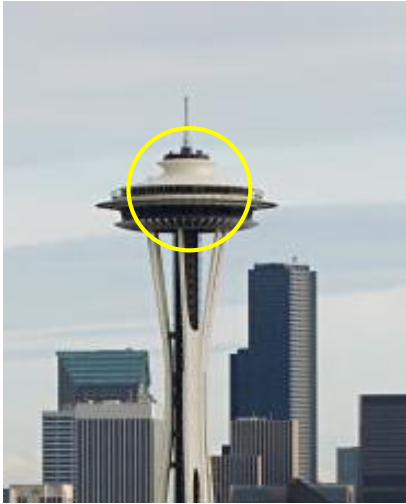


$$f(I_{i_1 \dots i_m}(x, \sigma)) = f(I_{i_1 \dots i_m}(x', \sigma'))$$

How can we independently select interest points in each image, such that the detections are repeatable across **different scales**?

# Differences between inside and outside

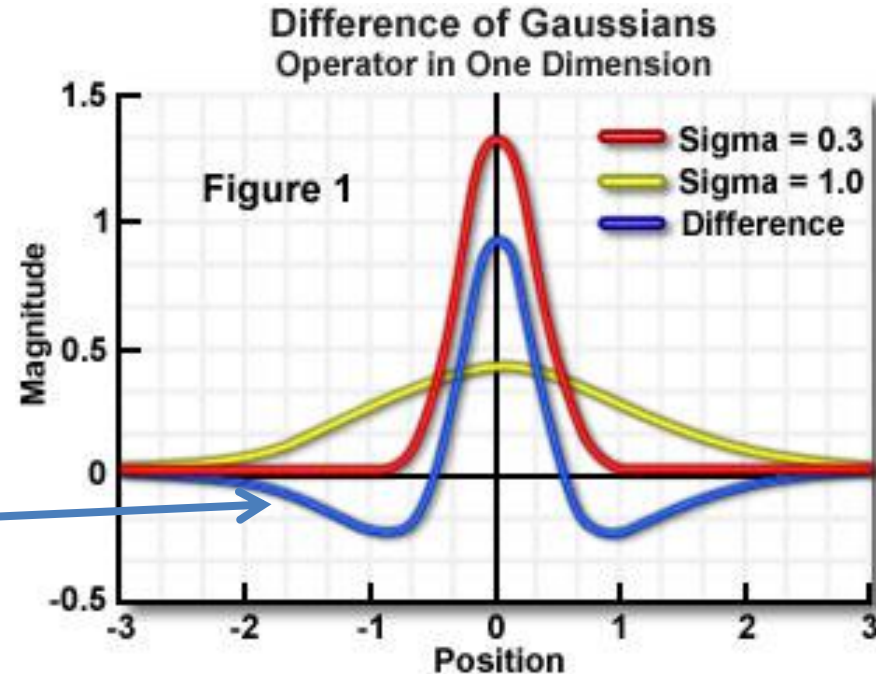
We can use a Laplacian function





# Difference-of-Gaussian (DoG)

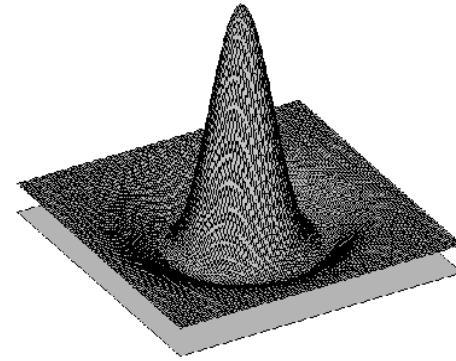
In practice, the Laplacian is approximated using a Difference of Gaussian (DoG)



Gaussian is invariant to scale change, i.e.,  $f * \mathcal{G}_\sigma * \mathcal{G}_{\sigma'} = f * \mathcal{G}_{\sigma''}$   
and has several other nice properties [Lindeberg, 1994]

# Difference-of-Gaussian (DoG)

---



**G1**

-

**G2**

=

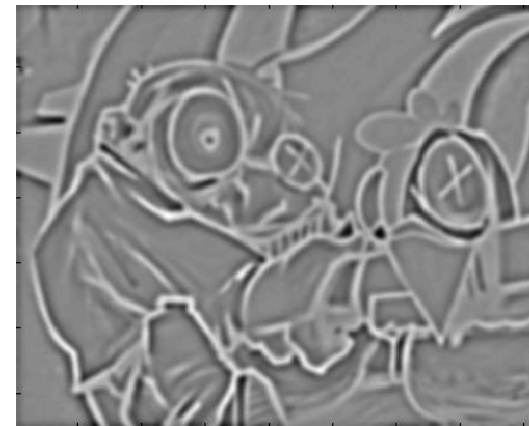
**DoG**



-

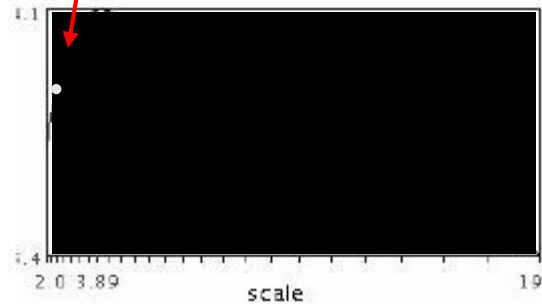


=

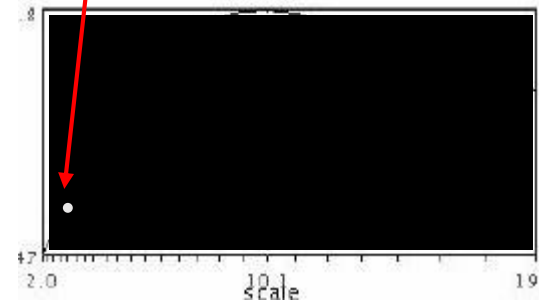


# Automatic scale selection

- Function responses for increasing scale (scale signature)



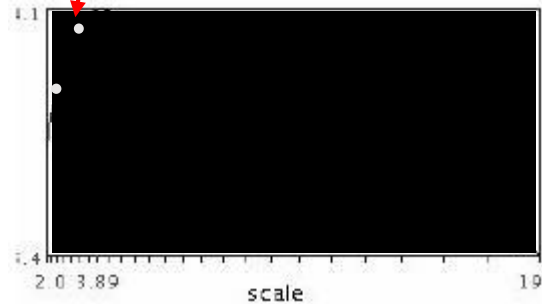
$$f(I_{i_1 \dots i_m}(x, \sigma))$$



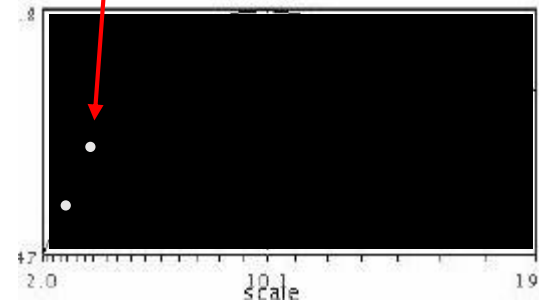
$$f(I_{i_1 \dots i_m}(x', \sigma))$$

# Automatic scale selection

- Function responses for increasing scale (scale signature)



$$f(I_{i_1 \dots i_m}(x, \sigma))$$

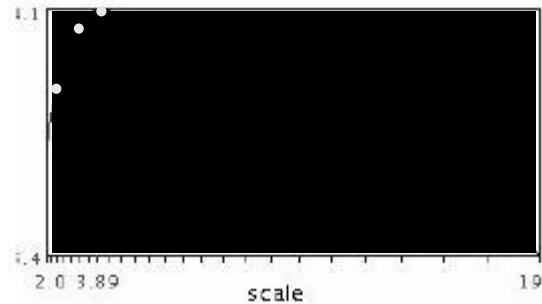
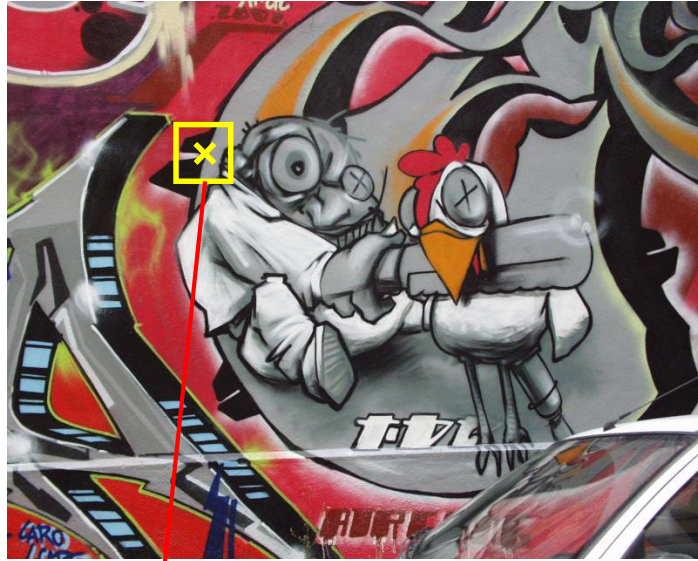


$$f(I_{i_1 \dots i_m}(x', \sigma))$$

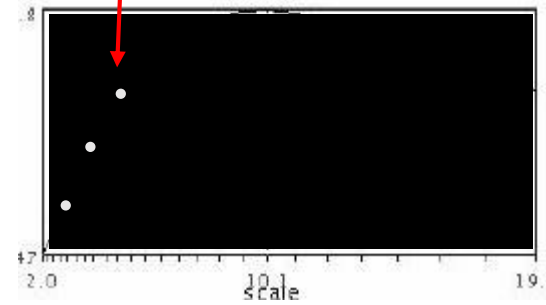


# Automatic scale selection

- Function responses for increasing scale (scale signature)



$$f(I_{i_1 \dots i_m}(x, \sigma))$$

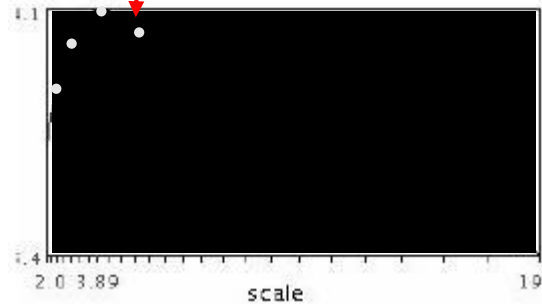
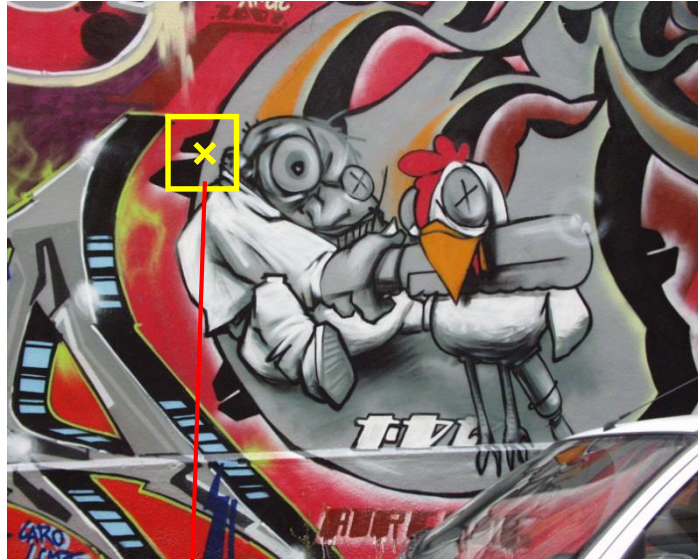


$$f(I_{i_1 \dots i_m}(x', \sigma))$$

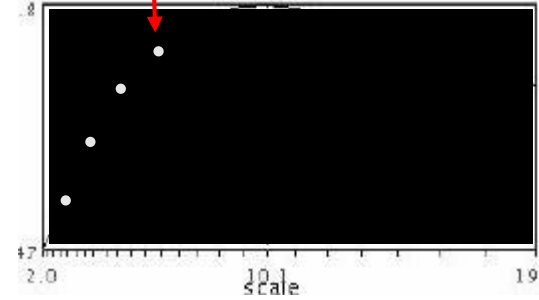


# Automatic scale selection

- Function responses for increasing scale (scale signature)



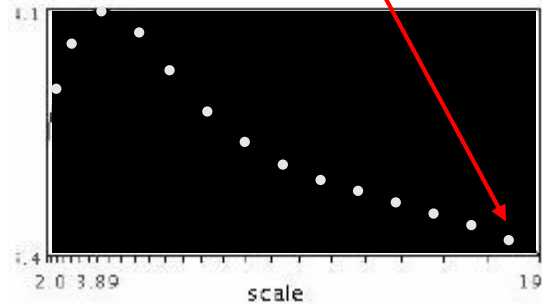
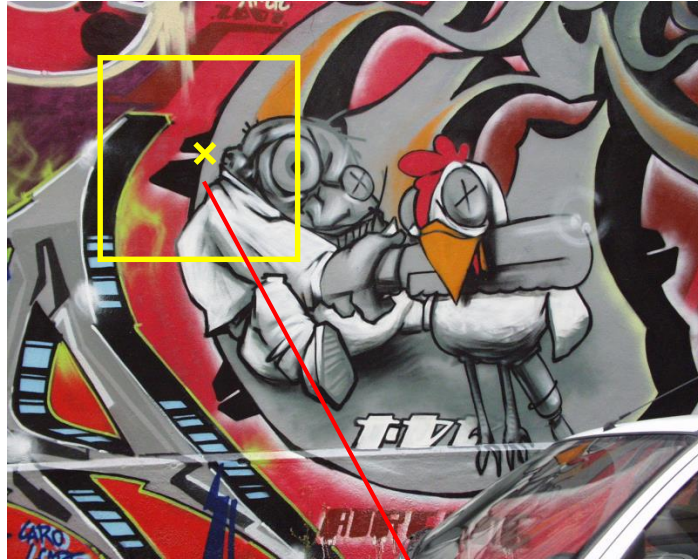
$$f(I_{i_1 \dots i_m}(x, \sigma))$$



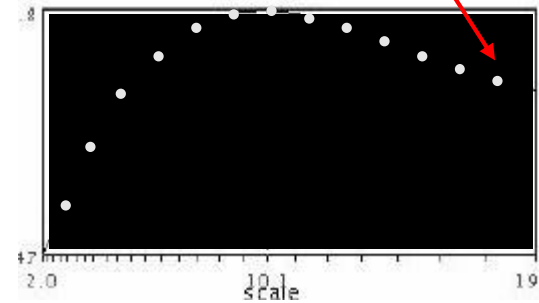
$$f(I_{i_1 \dots i_m}(x', \sigma))$$

# Automatic scale selection

- Function responses for increasing scale (scale signature)



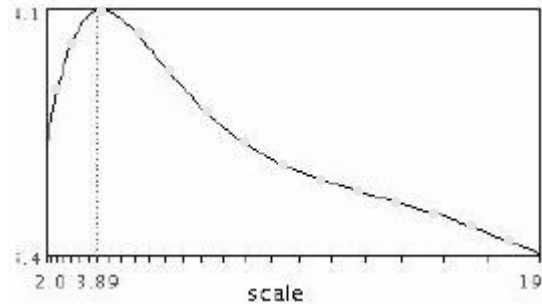
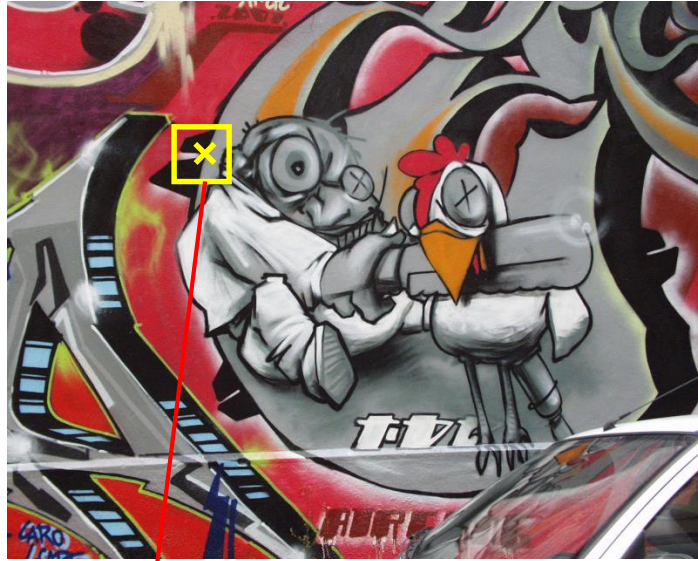
$$f(I_{i_1 \dots i_m}(x, \sigma))$$



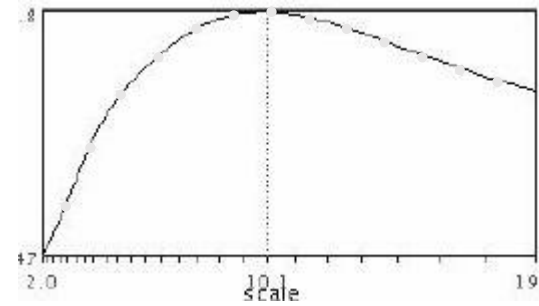
$$f(I_{i_1 \dots i_m}(x', \sigma))$$

# Automatic scale selection

- Function responses for increasing scale (scale signature)



$$f(I_{i_1 \dots i_m}(x, \sigma))$$



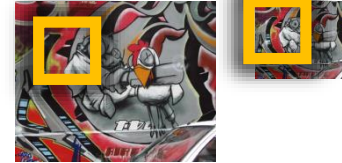
$$f(I_{i_1 \dots i_m}(x', \sigma'))$$



# Implementation

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- Instead of computing  $f$  for larger and larger windows, we can implement using a fixed window size with a Gaussian pyramid



(sometimes need to create in-between levels, e.g. a  $\frac{3}{4}$ -size image)



**UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI  
DELLA BASILICATA**

*Corso di Visione e Percezione*

# Features



Docente

Domenico D. Bloisi

