
Object Recognition from Local Scale-Invariant Features (SIFT)

David G. Lowe

Presented by David Lee

3/20/2006

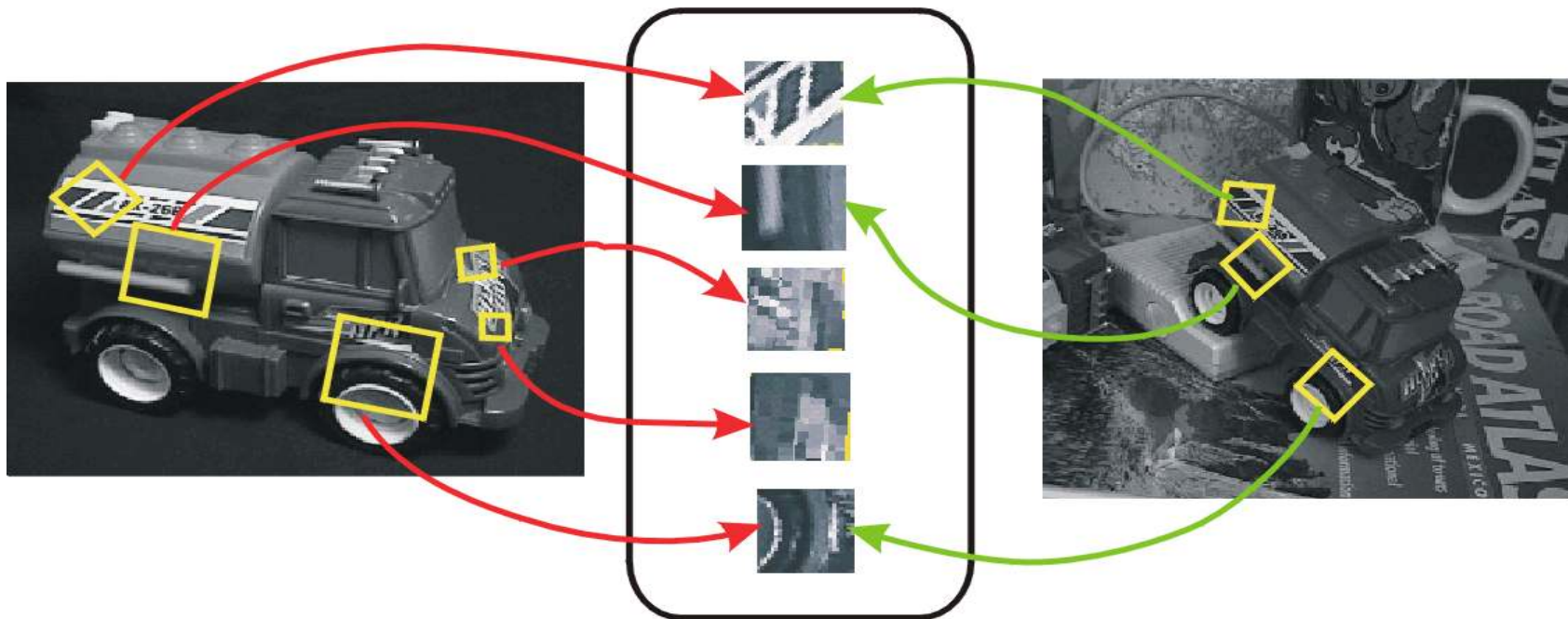
Introduction

- Well engineered local descriptor



Introduction

- Image content is transformed into local feature coordinates that are invariant to translation, rotation, scale, and other imaging parameters



SIFT Features

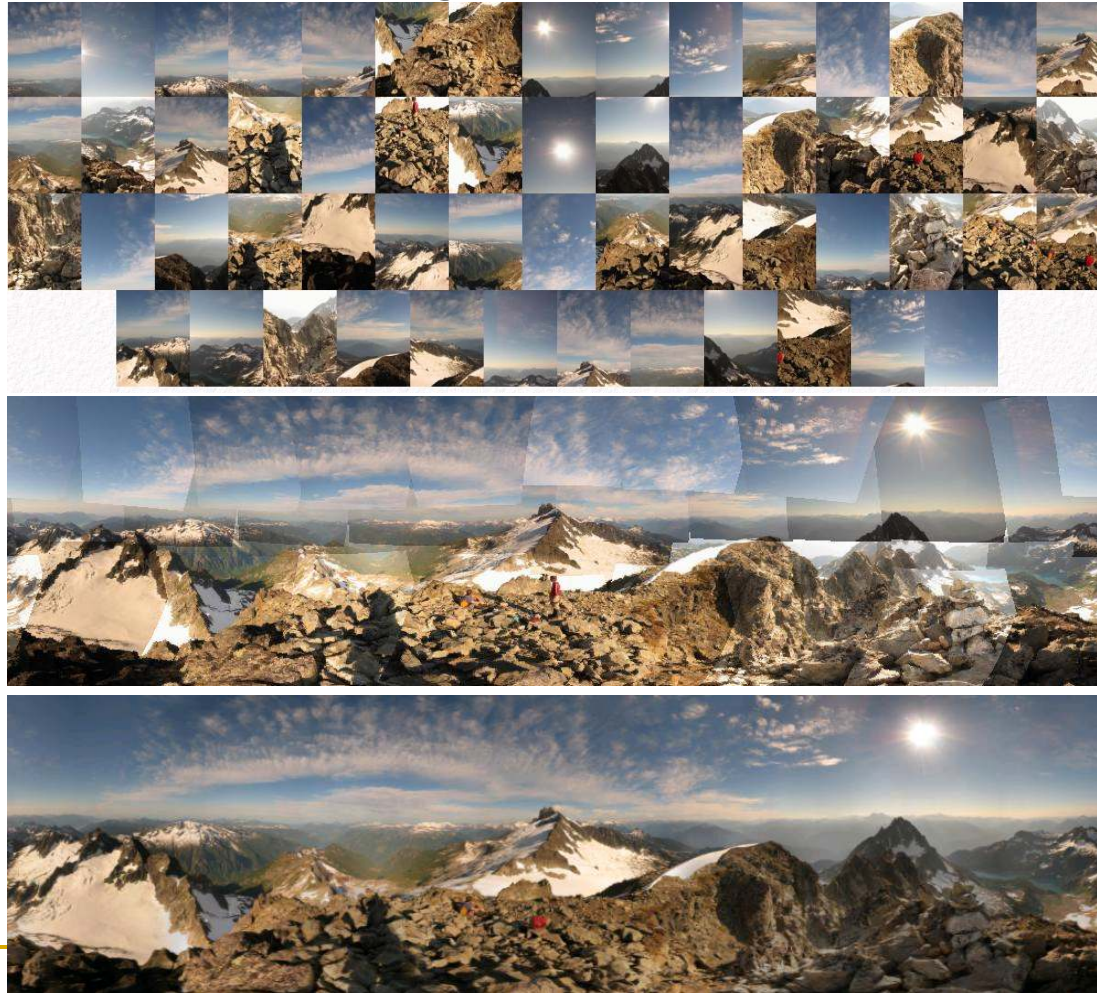
Introduction

- Initially proposed for correspondence matching
 - Proven to be the most effective in such cases according to a recent performance study by Mikolajczyk & Schmid (ICCV '03)



Introduction

- Automatic Mosaicing



- <http://www.cs.ubc.ca/~mbrown/autostitch/autostitch.html>
-

Introduction

- Now being used for general object class recognition (e.g. 2005 Pascal challenge)
- Histogram of gradients
 - Human detection, Dalal & Triggs CVPR '05



Introduction

- SIFT in one sentence
 - Histogram of gradients @ Harris-corner-like

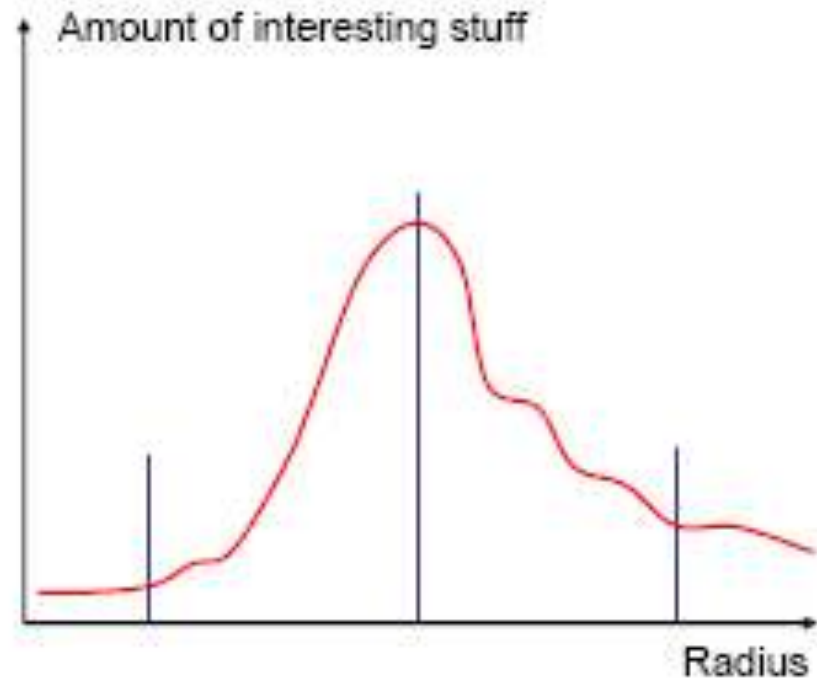
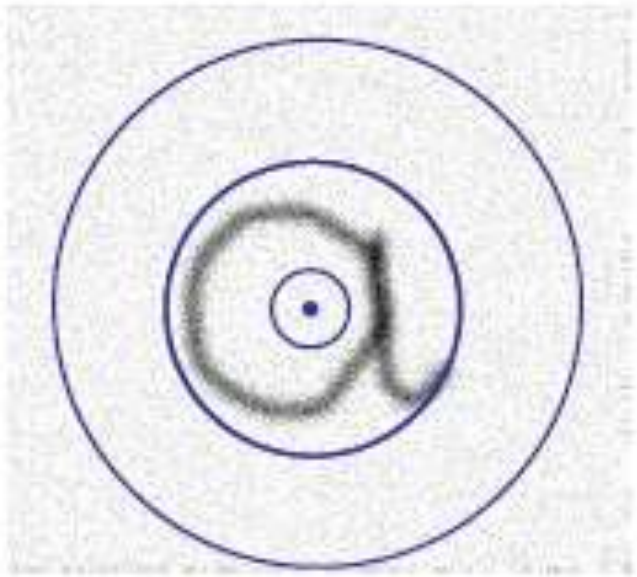


-
- Extract features
 - Find keypoints
 - Scale, Location
 - Orientation
 - Create signature

 - Match features
-

Finding Keypoints – Scale, Location

- How do we choose scale?



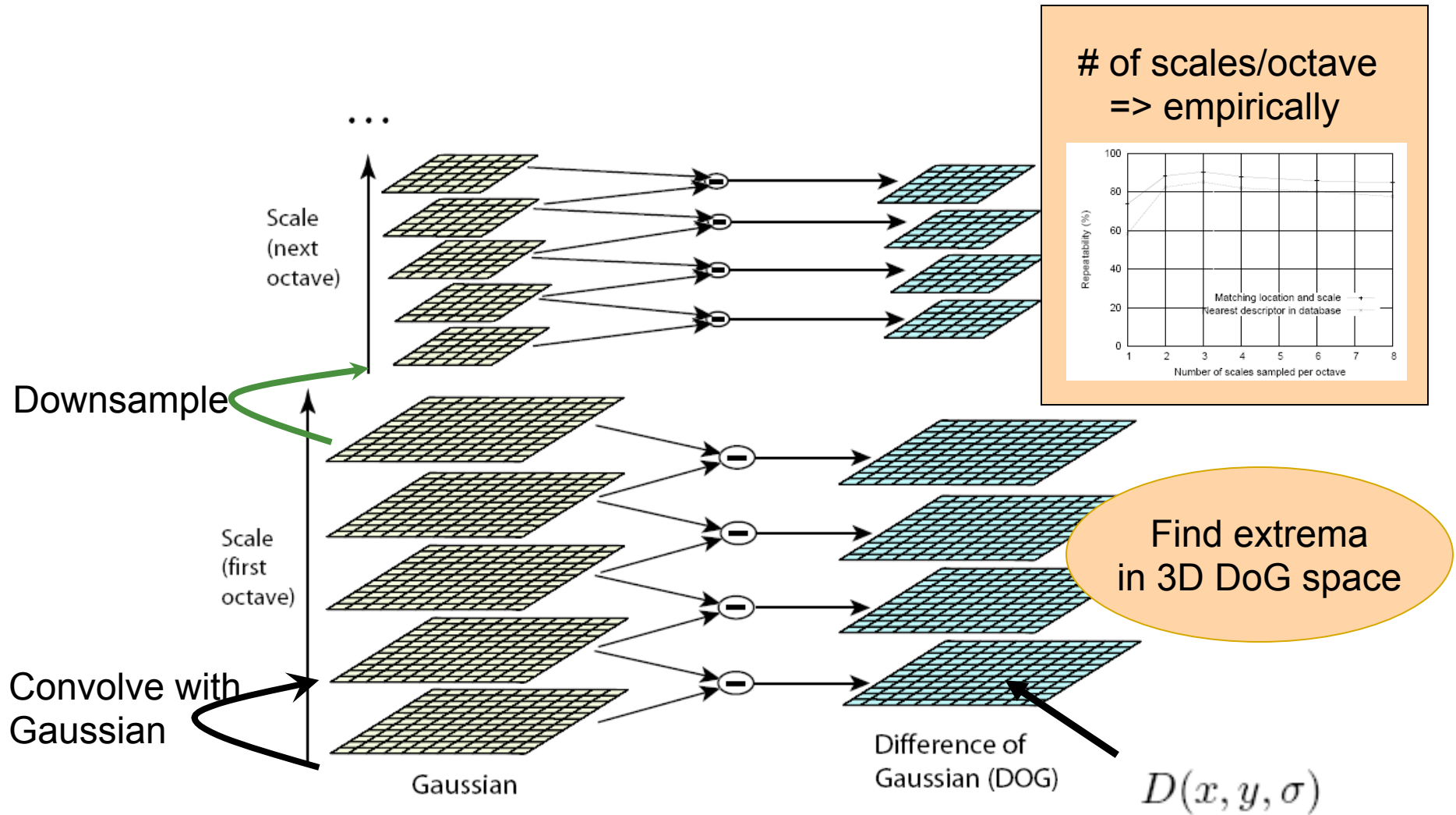
Finding Keypoints – Scale, Location

- **Scale selection principle (T. Lindeberg '94)**

- In the absence of other evidence, assume that a scale level, at which (possibly non-linear) combination of normalized derivatives assumes a local maximum over scales, can be treated as reflecting a characteristic length of a corresponding structure in the data.

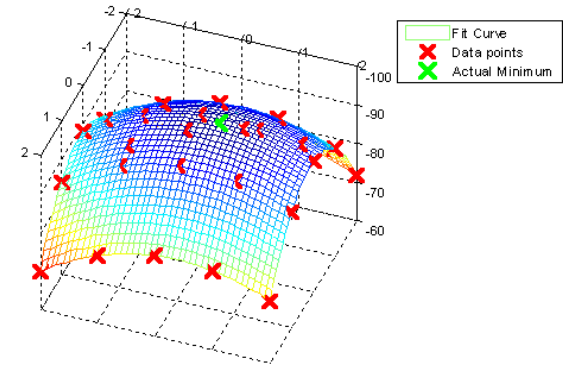
➔ **Maxima/minima of Difference of Gaussian**

Finding Keypoints – Scale, Location



Finding Keypoints – Scale, Location

- Sub-pixel Localization
 - Fit Trivariate quadratic to find sub-pixel extrema
- Eliminating edges
 - Similar to Harris corner detector



$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{bmatrix} D_{xx} & D_{xy} \\ D_{xy} & D_{yy} \end{bmatrix} \quad \frac{\text{Tr}(\mathbf{H})^2}{\text{Det}(\mathbf{H})} < \frac{(r+1)^2}{r}$$

Finding Keypoints – Scale, Location

- Key issue: **Stability (Repeatability)**

- Alternatives

- Multi-scale Harris corner detector

- Harris-Laplacian

- Kadir & Brady Saliency Detector

- ...

- Uni

- Ran

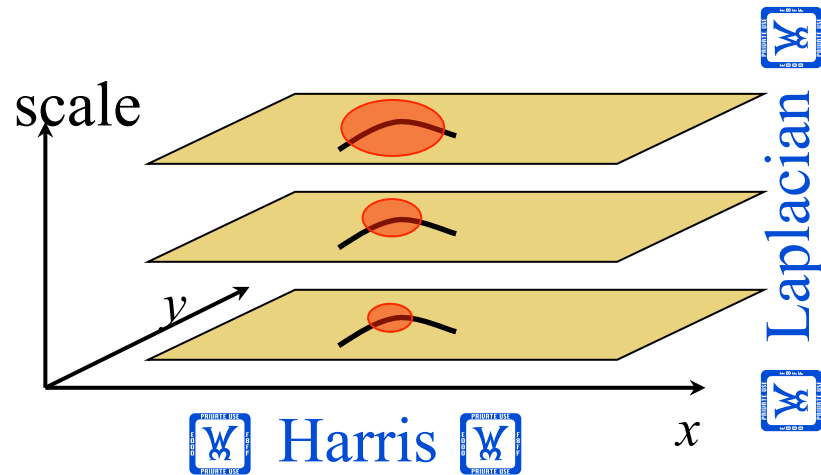
Recall Fei-fei's pLSA paper

Descriptor	Grid	Random	Saliency [4]	DoG [7]
11 × 11 Pixel	64.0%	47.5%	45.5%	N/A
128-dim Sift	65.2%	60.7%	53.1%	52.5%

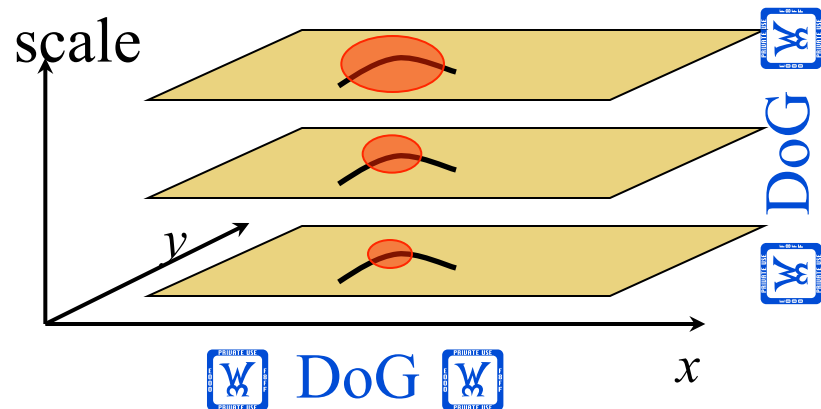
** Important Note ** Their application was scene classification
NOT correspondence matching

Finding Keypoints – Scale, Location

- **Harris-Laplacian**¹
Find local maximum of:
 - Laplacian in scale
 - Harris corner detector in space (image coordinates)



- **SIFT**²
Find local maximum of:
 - Difference of Gaussians in space and scale

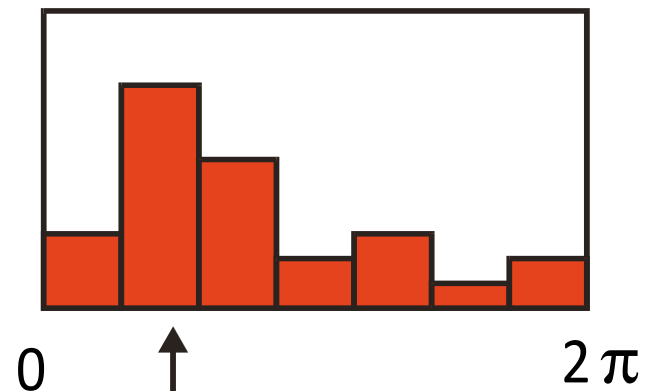
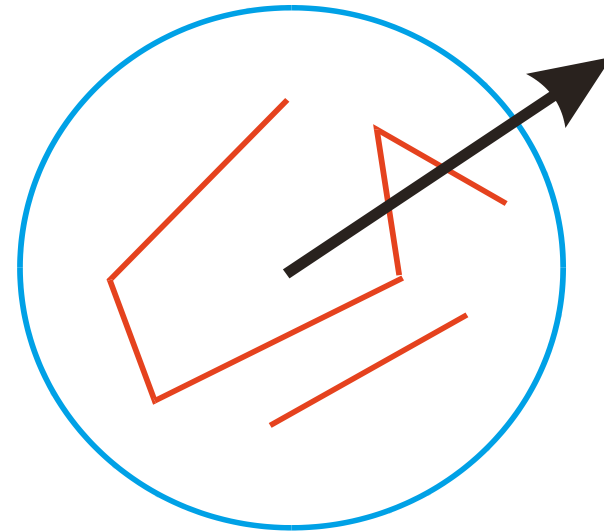


¹ K.Mikolajczyk, C.Schmid. “Indexing Based on Scale Invariant Interest Points”. ICCV 2001

² D.Lowe. “Distinctive Image Features from Scale-Invariant Keypoints”. IJCV 2004

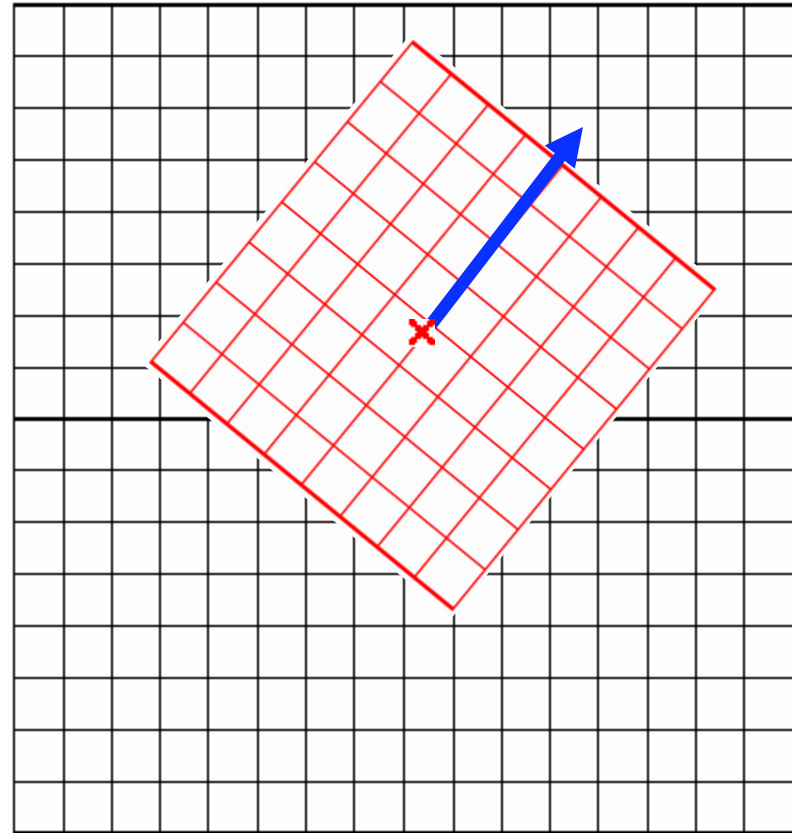
Finding Keypoints – Orientation

- Create histogram of local gradient directions computed at selected scale
- Assign canonical orientation at peak of smoothed histogram
- Each key specifies stable 2D coordinates (x , y , scale, orientation)



Finding Keypoints – Orientation

- Assign dominant orientation as the orientation of the keypoint



Finding Keypoints

- So far, we found...
 - where interesting things are happening
 - and its orientation
 - With the hope of
 - Same keypoints being found, even under some scale, rotation, illumination variation.
-

- Extract features

- Find keypoints

- Scale, Location

- Orientation

- Create signature

- Match features

Creating Signature

- Thresholded image gradients are sampled over 16x16 array of locations in scale space
- Create array of orientation histograms
- 8 orientations x 4x4 histogram array = 128 dimensions

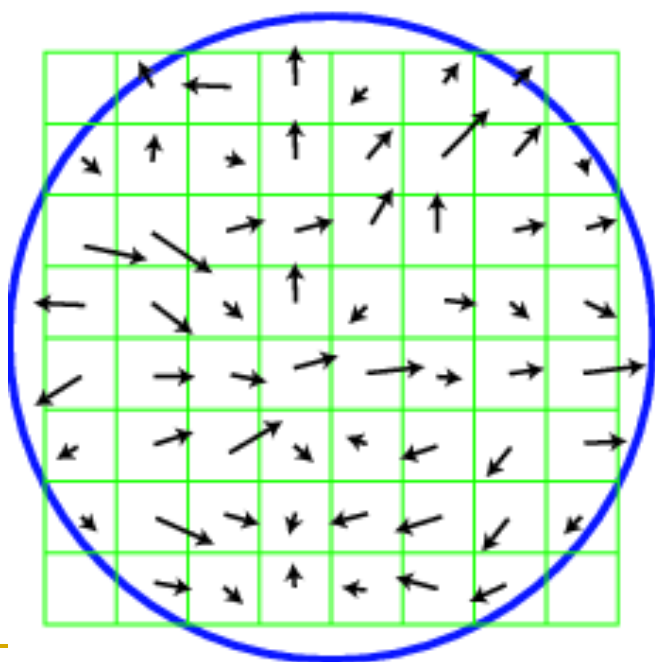
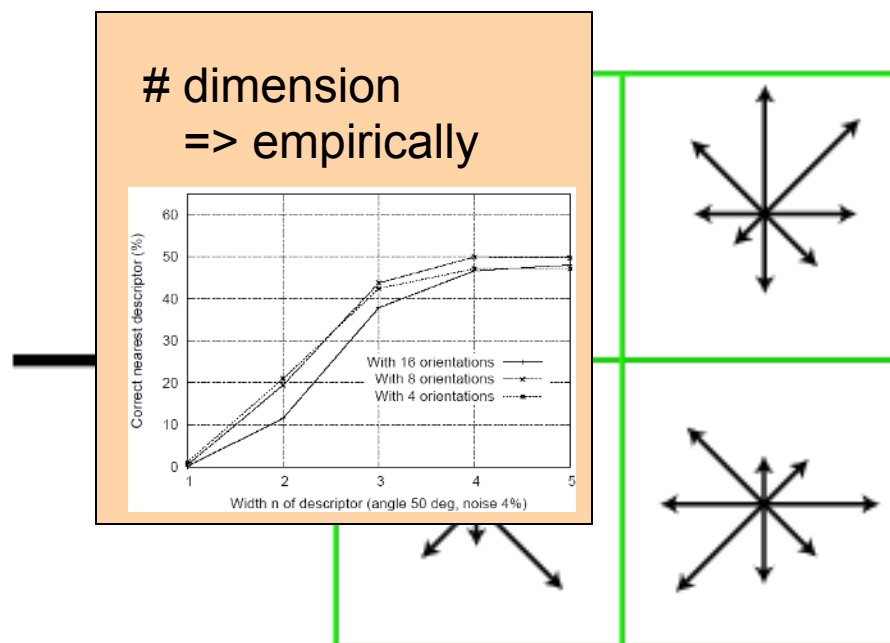


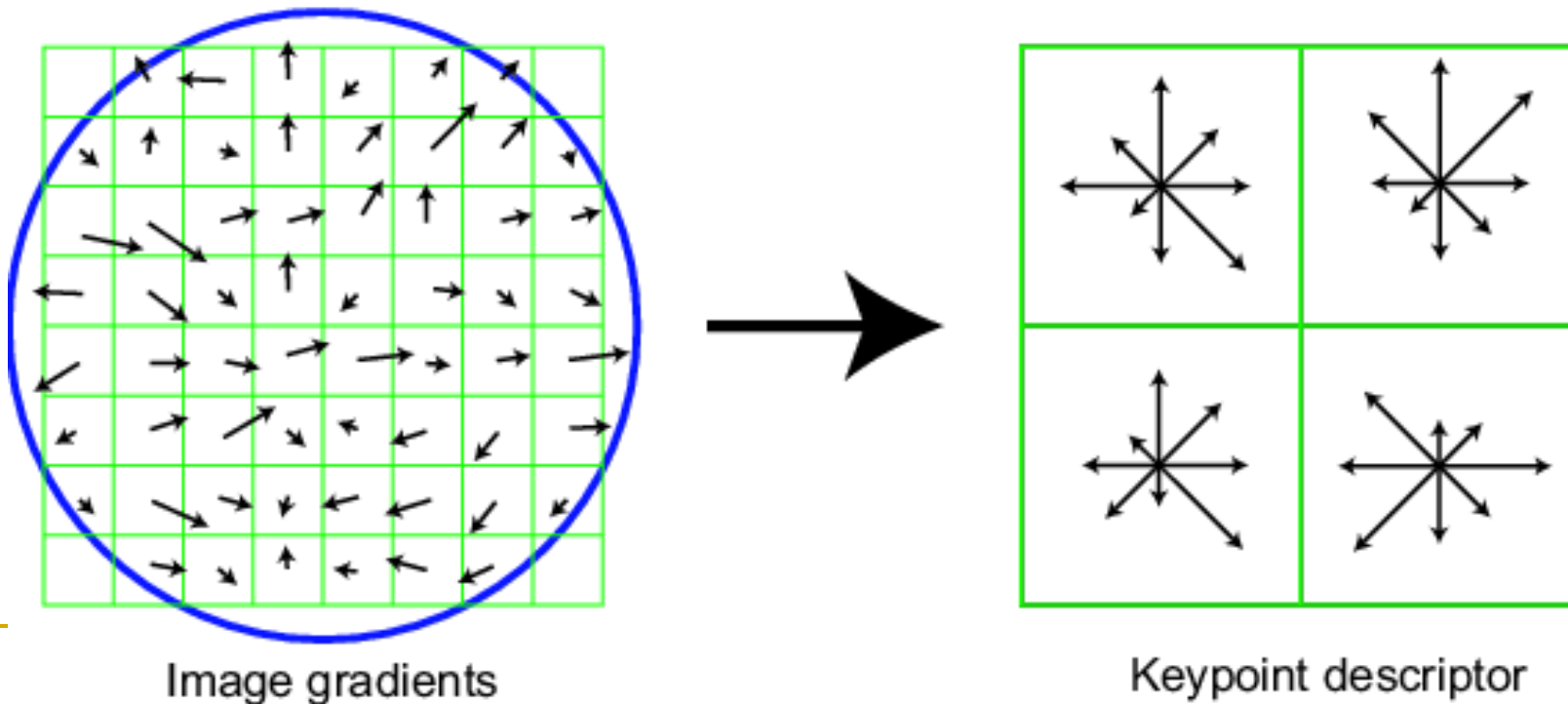
Image gradients



Keypoint descriptor

Creating Signature

- What kind of information does this capture?



Comparison with HOG (Dalal '05)

- Histogram of Oriented Gradients
 - General object class recognition (Human)
 - Engineered for a different goal
 - Uniform sampling
 - Larger cell (6-8 pixels)
 - Fine orientation binning
 - 9 bins/180° vs. 8 bins/360°
 - Both are well engineered
-

Comparison with MOPS (Brown '05)

- Multi-Oriented

- Simple

- Multiple
- No
- Simple

- Good



ng

- Extract features

- Find keypoints

- Scale, Location

- Orientation

- Create signature

- Match features

- Nearest neighbor, Hough voting, Least-square affine parameter fit

Conclusion

- A novel method for detecting interest points
 - Histogram of Oriented Gradients are becoming more popular
 - SIFT may not be optimal for general object classification
-