

**CS9840**  
**Learning and Computer Vision**  
**Prof. Olga Veksler**

## Lecture 2

Some Concepts from Computer Vision

Some Slides are from Cornelia, Fermüller, [Mubarak Shah](#),

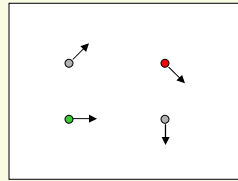
Gary Bradski,  
Sebastian Thrun

### **Outline**

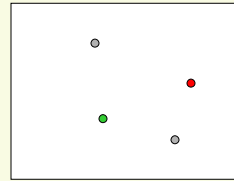
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- Some Concepts in Image Processing/Vision
  - Optical Flow Field (related to motion field)
  - Correlation
- Next time:
  - *"Recognizing Action at a Distance" by A. Efros, A. Berg, G. Mori, Jitendra Malik*
    - *Also maybe: "80 million tiny images: a large dataset for non-parametric object and scene recognition", A. Torralba, R. Fergus, W. Freeman*
  - there should be a link to PDF file on our web site
  - Discuss the paper and watch video

## Optical flow



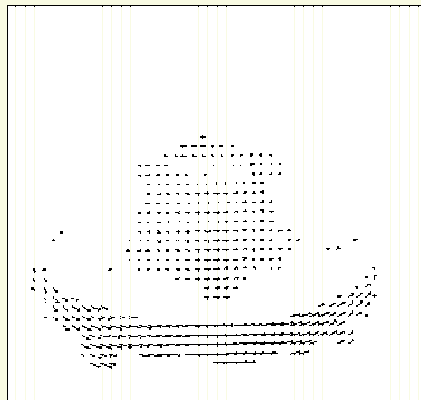
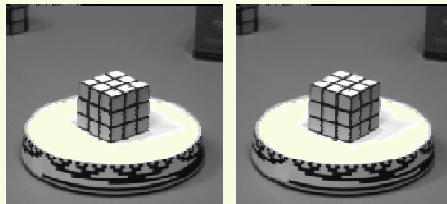
first image  $I_1$



second image  $I_2$

- How to estimate pixel motion from image  $I_1$  to image  $I_2$ ?
  - Solve pixel correspondence problem
    - given a pixel in  $I_1$ , look for **nearby** pixels of the **same** color in  $I_2$
- Key assumptions
  - **color constancy**: a point in  $I_1$  looks the same in  $I_2$ 
    - For grayscale images, this is **brightness constancy**
  - **small motion**: points do not move very far
- This is called the **optical flow** problem

## Optical Flow Field



## ***Optical Flow and Motion Field***

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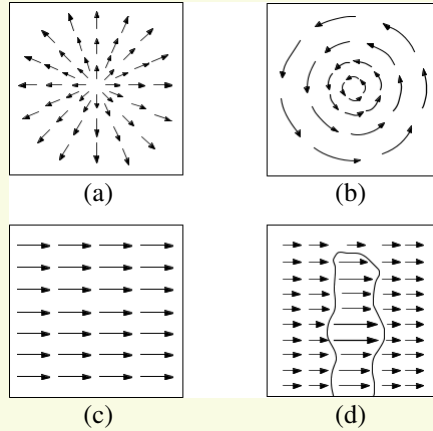
- Optical flow field is the apparent motion of brightness patterns between 2 (or several) frames in an image sequence
- Why does brightness change between frames?
- Assuming that illumination does not change:
  - changes are due to the **RELATIVE MOTION** between the scene and the camera
  - There are 3 possibilities:
    - Camera still, moving scene
    - Moving camera, still scene
    - Moving camera, moving scene

## ***Motion Field (MF)***

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- The **MF** assigns a velocity vector to each pixel in the image
- These velocities are INDUCED by the RELATIVE MOTION between the camera and the 3D scene
- The **MF** is the projection of the 3D velocities on the image plane

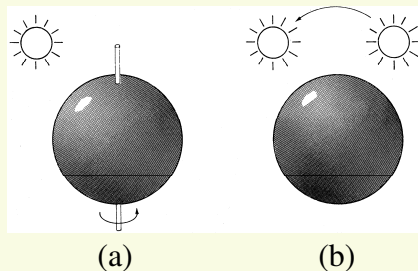
## Examples of Motion Fields



(a) Translation perpendicular to a surface. (b) Rotation about axis perpendicular to image plane. (c) Translation parallel to a surface at a constant distance. (d) Translation parallel to an obstacle in front of a more distant background.

## Optical Flow vs. Motion Field

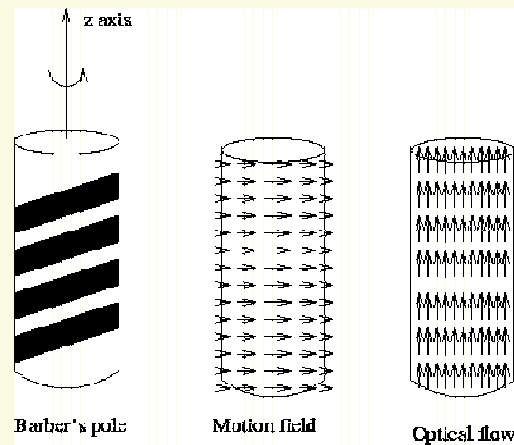
- Recall that Optical Flow is the apparent motion of brightness patterns
- We equate Optical Flow Field with Motion Field
- Frequently works, but now always:



- (a) A smooth sphere is rotating under constant illumination. Thus the optical flow field is zero, but the motion field is not
- (b) A fixed sphere is illuminated by a moving source—the shading of the image changes. Thus the motion field is zero, but the optical flow field is not

## Optical Flow vs. Motion Field

- Often (but not always) optical flow corresponds to the true motion of the scene



## Computing Optical Flow: Brightness Constancy Equation

- Let  $P$  be a moving point in 3D:
  - At time  $t$ ,  $P$  has coordinates  $(X(t), Y(t), Z(t))$
  - Let  $p=(x(t), y(t))$  be the coordinates of its image at time  $t$
  - Let  $E(x(t), y(t), t)$  be the brightness at  $p$  at time  $t$ .
- Brightness Constancy Assumption:
  - As  $P$  moves over time,  $E(x(t), y(t), t)$  remains constant

## **Computing Optical Flow: Brightness Constancy Equation**

$$E(x(t), y(t), t) = \text{Constant}$$

Taking derivative wrt time:

$$\frac{dE(x(t), y(t), t)}{dt} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial E}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt} + \frac{\partial E}{\partial t} = 0$$

## **Computing Optical Flow: Brightness Constancy Equation**

**1 equation with 2 unknowns**

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial E}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt} + \frac{\partial E}{\partial t} = 0$$

Let

$$\nabla E = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial E}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial E}{\partial y} \end{bmatrix} \quad (\text{Frame spatial gradient})$$

$$v = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{dx}{dt} \\ \frac{dy}{dt} \end{bmatrix} \quad (\text{optical flow})$$

and

$$E_t = \frac{\partial E}{\partial t} \quad (\text{derivative across frames})$$

## Computing Optical Flow: Brightness Constancy Equation

- How to get more equations for a pixel?
  - Basic idea: impose additional constraints
    - most common is to assume that the flow field is smooth locally
    - one method: pretend the pixel's neighbors have the same (u,v)
      - If we use a 5x5 window, that gives us 25 equations per pixel!

$$E_t(p_i) + \nabla E(p_i) \cdot [u \ v] = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} E_x(p_1) & E_y(p_1) \\ E_x(p_2) & E_y(p_2) \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ E_x(p_{25}) & E_y(p_{25}) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix} = - \begin{bmatrix} E_t(p_1) \\ E_t(p_2) \\ \vdots \\ E_t(p_{25}) \end{bmatrix}$$

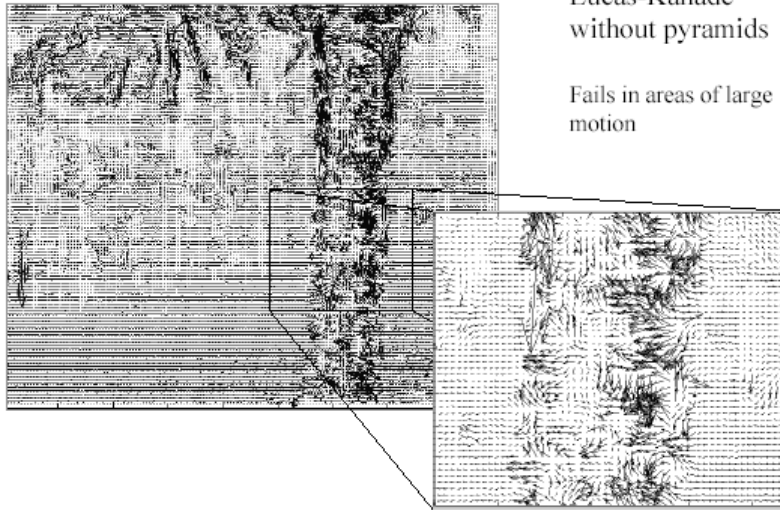
matrix  $E$       vector  $d$       vector  $b$   
 25x2              2x1              25x1

## Video Sequence



\* Picture from Khurram Hassan-Shafique CAP5415 Computer Vision 2003

## *Optical Flow Results*



\* From Khurram Hassan-Shafique CAP5415 Computer Vision 2003

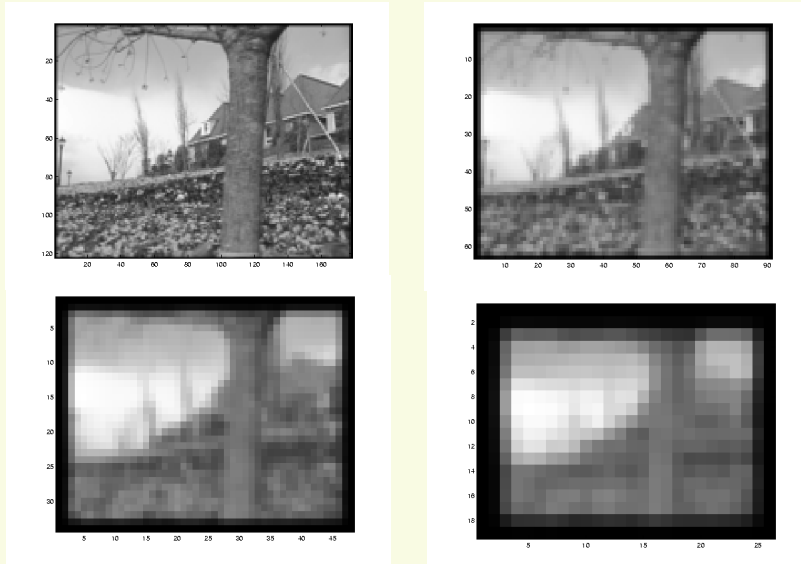
## *Revisiting the small motion assumption*



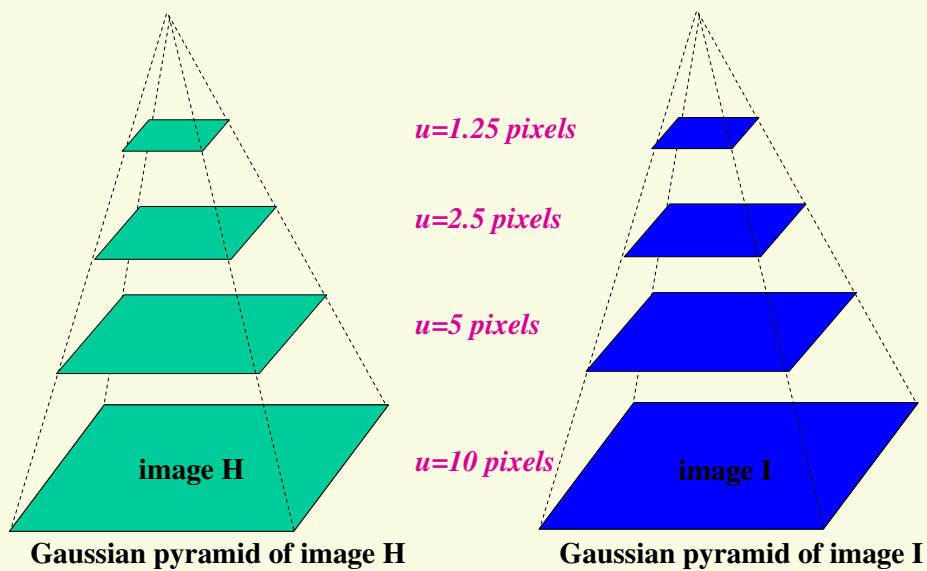
- Is this motion small enough?
  - Probably not—it's much larger than one pixel (2<sup>nd</sup> order terms dominate)
  - How might we solve this problem?



## *Reduce the resolution!*



## *Coarse-to-fine optical flow estimation*



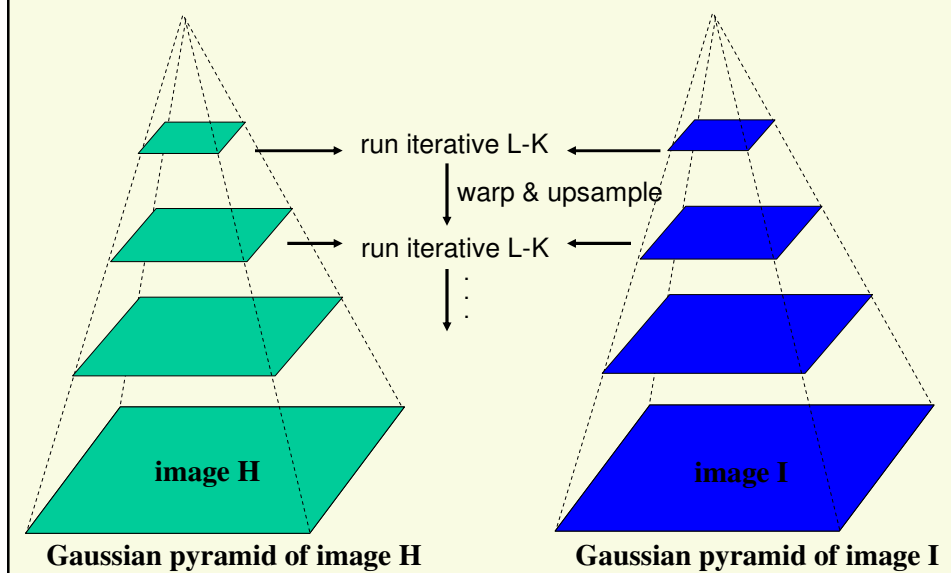
## ***Iterative Refinement***

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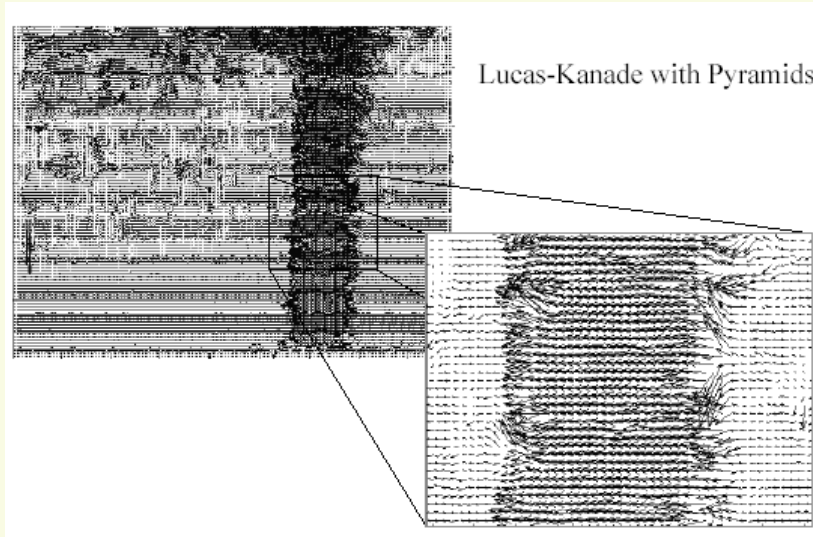
- **Iterative Lukas-Kanade Algorithm**
  1. Estimate velocity at each pixel by solving Lucas-Kanade equations
  2. Warp H towards I using the estimated flow field
    - use image warping techniques
  3. Repeat until convergence

## ***Coarse-to-fine optical flow estimation***

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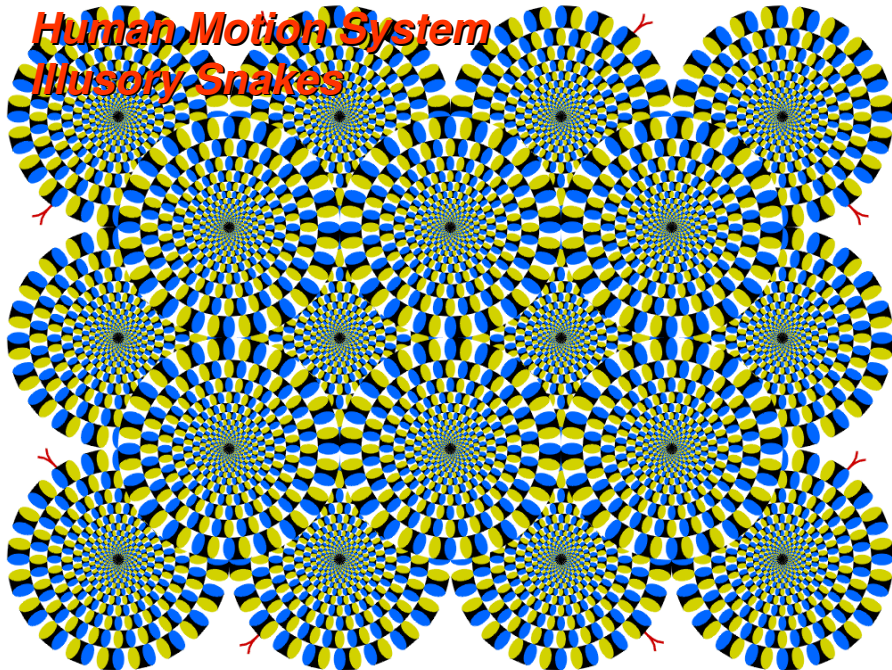


## Optical Flow Results



\* From Khurram Hassan-Shafique CAP5415 Computer Vision 2003

## Human Motion System Illusory Snakes



from Gary Bradski and Sebastian Thrun

## Other Concepts to Review

- Convolution is the operation of applying a “kernel” to each pixel of an image

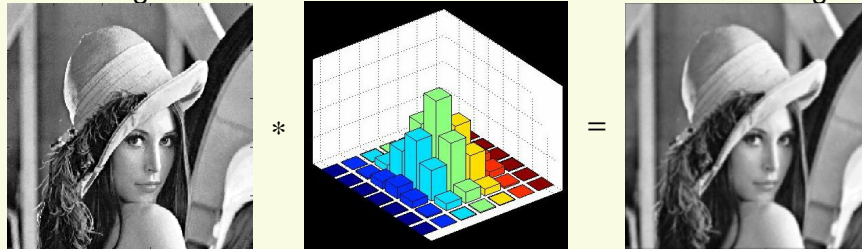
<i>image</i>									<i>kernel</i>		
I <sub>11</sub>	I <sub>12</sub>	I <sub>13</sub>	I <sub>14</sub>	I <sub>15</sub>	I <sub>16</sub>	I <sub>17</sub>	I <sub>18</sub>	I <sub>19</sub>	K <sub>11</sub>	K <sub>12</sub>	K <sub>13</sub>
I <sub>21</sub>	I <sub>22</sub>	I <sub>23</sub>	I <sub>24</sub>	I <sub>25</sub>	I <sub>26</sub>	I <sub>27</sub>	I <sub>28</sub>	I <sub>29</sub>	K <sub>21</sub>	K <sub>22</sub>	K <sub>23</sub>
I <sub>31</sub>	I <sub>32</sub>	I <sub>33</sub>	I <sub>34</sub>	I <sub>35</sub>	I <sub>36</sub>	I <sub>37</sub>	I <sub>38</sub>	I <sub>39</sub>			
I <sub>41</sub>	I <sub>42</sub>	I <sub>43</sub>	I <sub>44</sub>	I <sub>45</sub>	I <sub>46</sub>	I <sub>47</sub>	I <sub>48</sub>	I <sub>49</sub>			
I <sub>51</sub>	I <sub>52</sub>	I <sub>53</sub>	I <sub>54</sub>	I <sub>55</sub>	I <sub>56</sub>	I <sub>57</sub>	I <sub>58</sub>	I <sub>59</sub>			
I <sub>61</sub>	I <sub>62</sub>	I <sub>63</sub>	I <sub>64</sub>	I <sub>65</sub>	I <sub>66</sub>	I <sub>67</sub>	I <sub>68</sub>	I <sub>69</sub>			

- Result of convolution has the same dimension as the image
- For example:  

$$O_{57} = I_{57}K_{11} + I_{58}K_{12} + I_{59}K_{13} + I_{67}K_{21} + I_{68}K_{22} + I_{69}K_{23}$$
- Convolution is frequently denoted by \*, for example I\*K

## Other Concepts to Review

- Gaussian smoothing (blurring): convolution operator that is used to ‘blur’ images and removes small detail and noise from an image



	1	4	7	4	1
	4	16	26	16	4
$\frac{1}{273}$	7	26	41	26	7
	4	16	26	16	4
	1	4	7	4	1

## Gaussian vs. Smoothing



Gaussian Smoothing

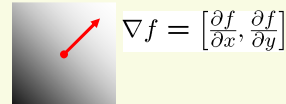
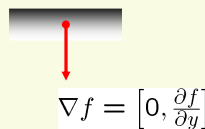
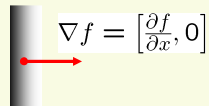
$$\frac{1}{273} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 7 & 4 & 1 \\ 4 & 16 & 26 & 16 & 4 \\ 7 & 26 & 41 & 26 & 7 \\ 4 & 16 & 26 & 16 & 4 \\ 1 & 4 & 7 & 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$


Smoothing by Averaging

$$\frac{1}{25} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Other Concepts to Review

- Image gradient: points in the direction of the most rapid increase in intensity of image  $f$

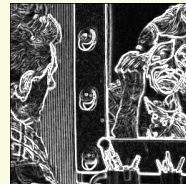


- Sobel operator to compute gradient:

$$\frac{1}{8} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -2 & 0 & 2 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$$

$$\frac{1}{8} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & -2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$$

- Results:



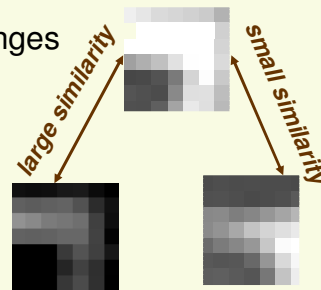
## Other Concepts to Review

- Cross-correlation

$$c(f, g) = \sum_{i=1}^d f(i)g(i)$$

- measures similarity between images (or image regions) f and g
- works OK if there is no change in intensity
- Normalized cross correlation, more popular in image processing
  - Insensitive to linear intensity changes between image patches f and g

$$NCC(f, g) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^d (f(i) - \bar{f})(g(i) - \bar{g})}{\left[ \sum_{i=1}^d (f(i) - \bar{f})^2 \sum_{k=1}^d (g(k) - \bar{g})^2 \right]^{1/2}}$$



## Next Time

- Paper: "Recognizing Action at a Distance" by A. Efros, A. Berg, G. Mori, Jitendra Malik
  - Also maybe: "80 million tiny images: a large dataset for non-parametric object and scene recognition", A. Torralba, R. Fergus, W. Freeman
- When reading the paper, think about following:
  - What is the problem paper tries to solve
  - What makes this problem difficult?
  - What is the method used in the paper to solve the problem
  - What is the contribution of the paper (what new does it do)?
  - Do the experimental results look "good" to you?