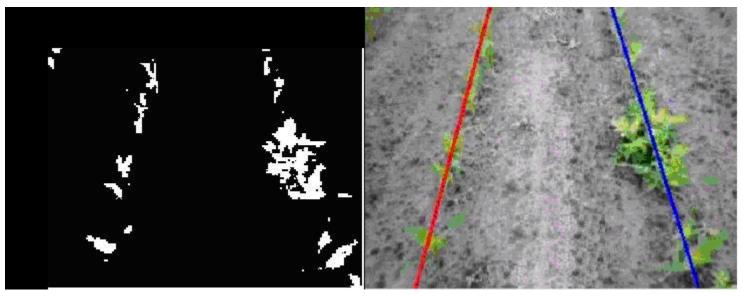


Example



Edge points

Strongest lines



## Lane Detection and Departure Warning



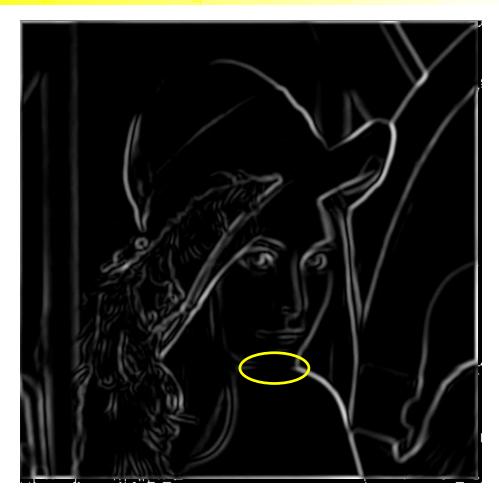


### Edge Linking Rationale

- Edge maps are still in an *image* format
- Image to data structure transform
- Two issues
  - □ *Identity*: there are so many edge points, which ones should be grouped together?
  - Representation: now that a group of edge pixels are identified, how best to represent them?



#### The Canny edge detector



Problem: pixels along this edge didn't survive the thresholding

thinning (non-maximum suppression)

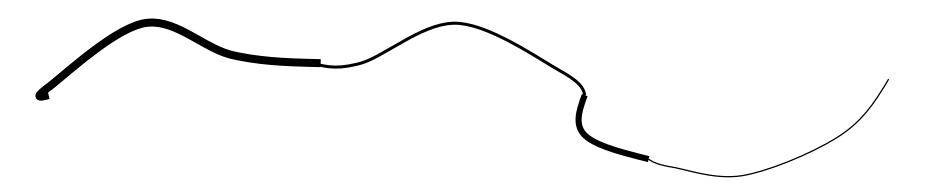


#### Hysteresis thresholding

# Check that maximum value of gradient value is sufficiently large

drop-outs? use hysteresis

> use a high threshold to start edge curves and a low threshold to continue them.





#### Hysteresis thresholding



original image



high threshold (strong edges)



low threshold (weak edges)



hysteresis threshold



#### Object boundaries vs. edges











Background

Texture

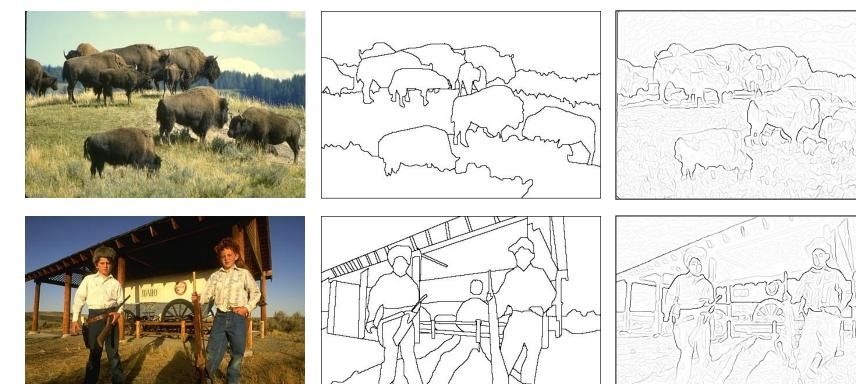
#### Edge detection is just the beginning...

#### image

#### human segmentation

gradient magnitude

Source: Left azebnik



Berkeley segmentation database: http://www.eecs.berkeley.edu/Research/Projects/CS/vision/grouping/segbench/

Much more on segmentation later in term

#### Identity

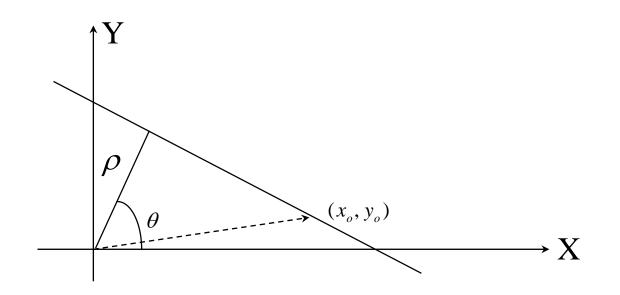
Measurement space clustering

- **c**urve fitting
- □ *global* technique
- Image space grouping
  - □ tracing or following
  - with known templates
  - local technique



#### Intuition

Q: If several points fall on the same line, what "commonality" is there?

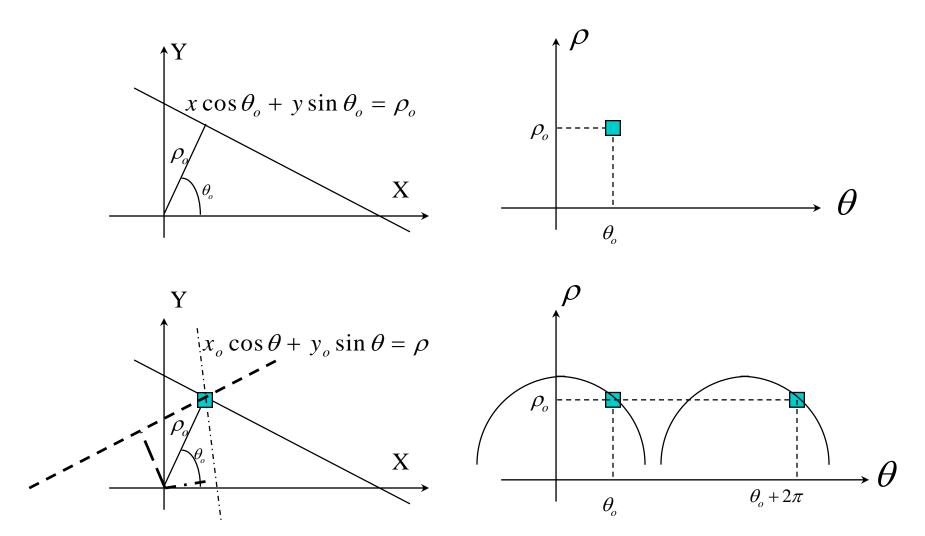


 $(x_o, y_o) \cdot (\cos \theta, \sin \theta) = \rho$  $x_o \cos \theta + y_o \sin \theta = \rho$ 



#### Measurement Space Clustering

#### Example: Hough transform



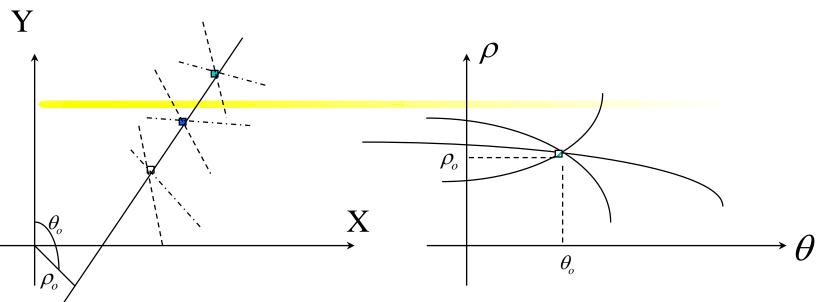
#### Duality of Representation

- Image spacea line
  - a point

- Measurement space
  - a point
  - a sinusoidal curve

$$\rho = x_o \cos \theta + y_o \sin \theta$$
  
=  $\sqrt{x_o^2 + y_o^2} (\frac{x_o}{\sqrt{x_o^2 + y_o^2}} \cos \theta + \frac{y_o}{\sqrt{x_o^2 + y_o^2}} \sin \theta)$   
=  $\sqrt{x_o^2 + y_o^2} \cos(\theta - \alpha)$   
where  $\alpha = \tan^{-1} \frac{y_o}{x_o}$ 





A *voting* (evidence accumulation) scheme

- \* A point votes for all lines it is on
- All points (on a single line) vote for the single line they are on
- Tolerate a certain degree of occlusion
- \* Must know the parametric form



### Hough Transform Algorithm

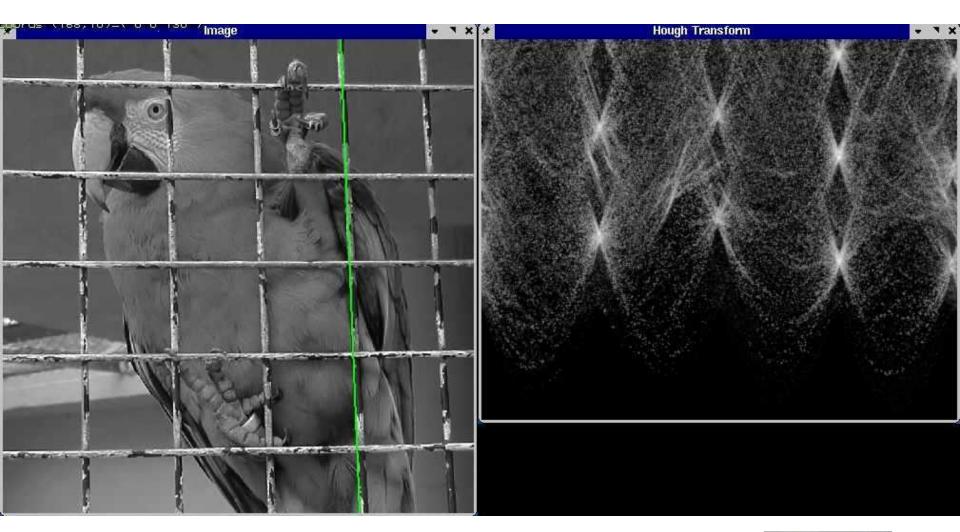
- Select a parametric form
- Quantize measurement space
- For each edge pixel, increment all cells satisfying the parametric form
- Locate maximum in the measurement space

 $\rho - \theta$ 

 $\theta$ : min : 0°, max : 359°, inc : 1°  $\rho$ : min : 0, max :  $N\sqrt{2}$ , inc : 1 pxl

for  $\theta = 0$  to 360 inc 1  $\rho = x_o \cos \theta + y_o \sin \theta$   $(\rho, \theta) + +$ end

Example



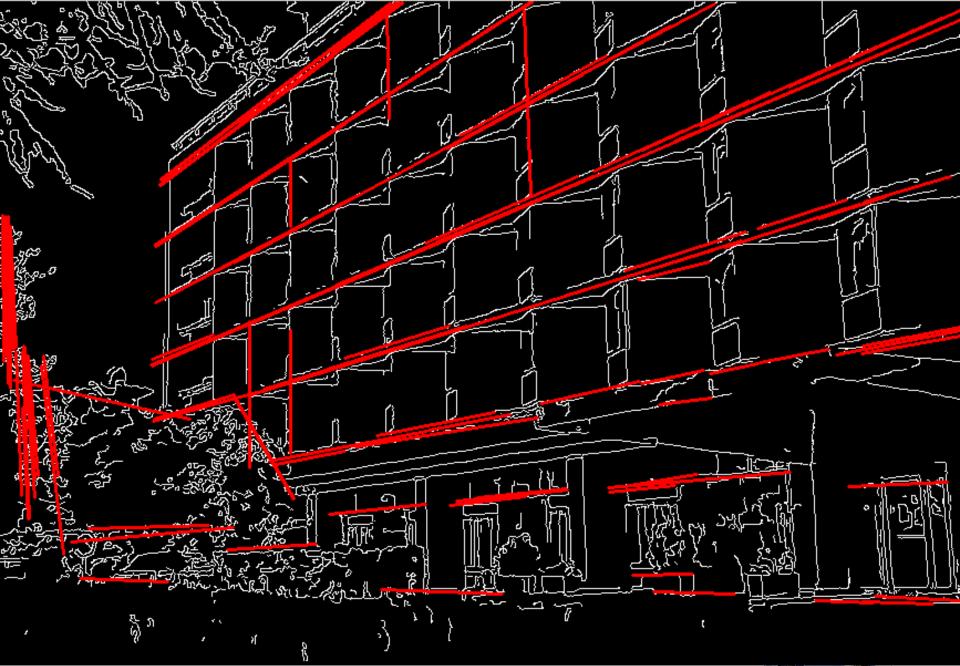


Accumulator array

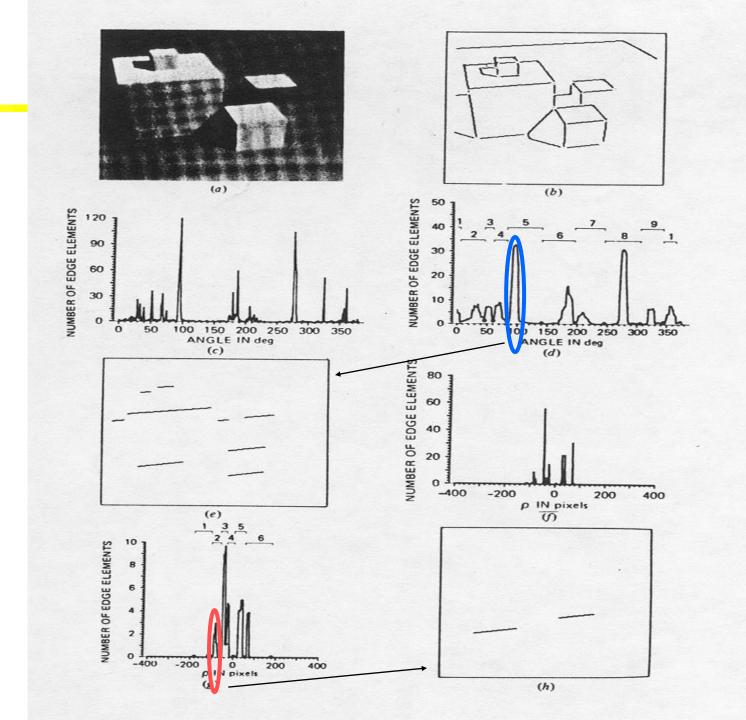












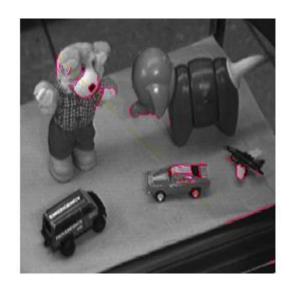




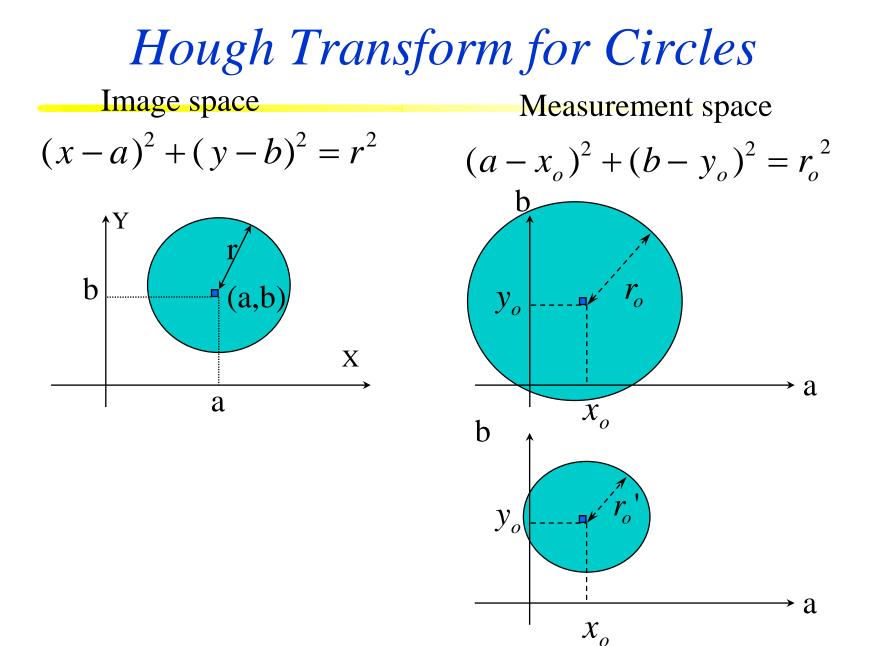






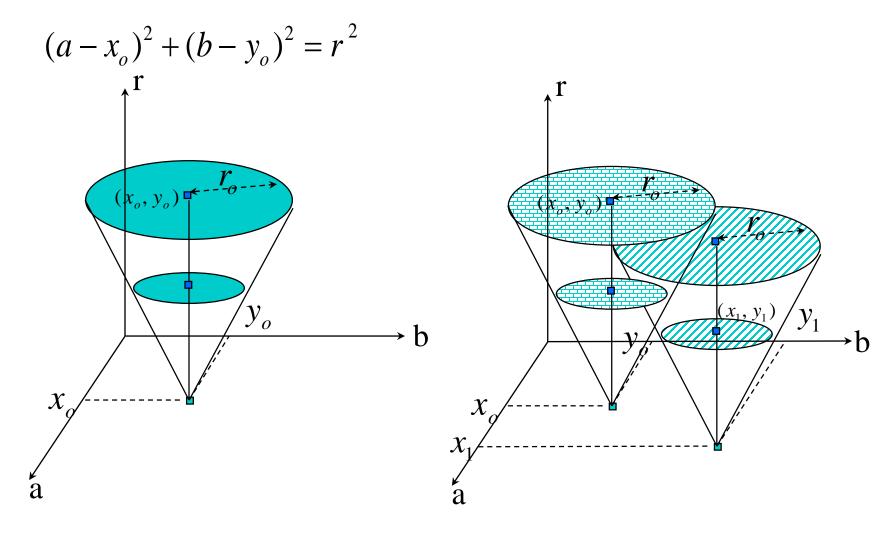








#### General 3D Measurement Space



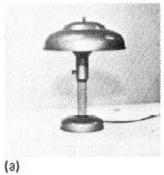


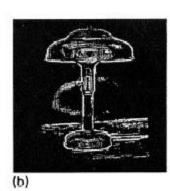
## Hough Transform (cont.)

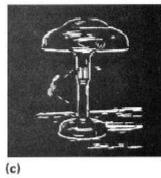
## Theoretically, Hough transform can be constructed for any parametric curve

- a curve with n parameters
- n-dimensional measurement space
- (n-1)-dimensional surfaces for each image point
- □ highly computationally intensive if n>3
- used mainly for lines, circles, ellipses, etc.







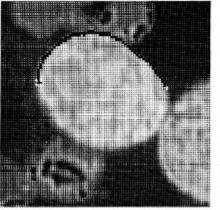




(d)



(f)

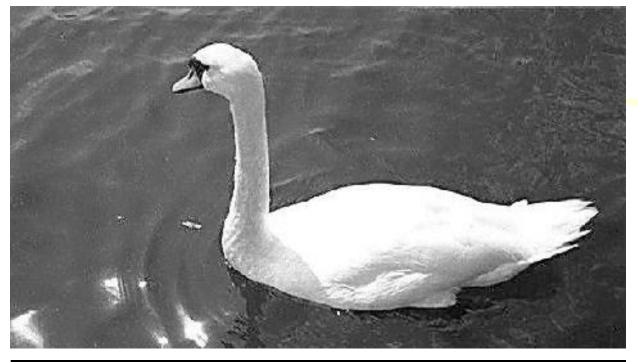


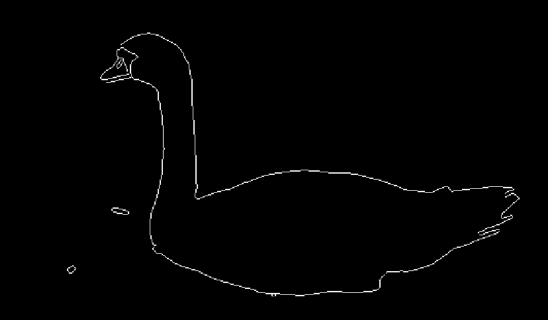
(a)

(b)







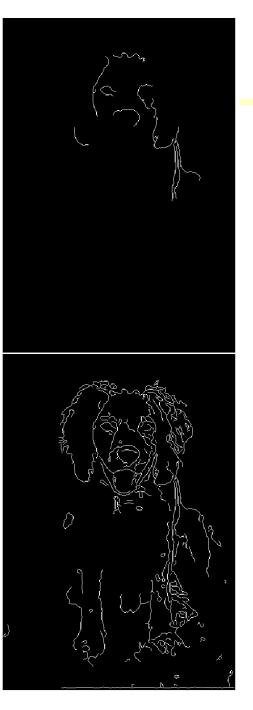


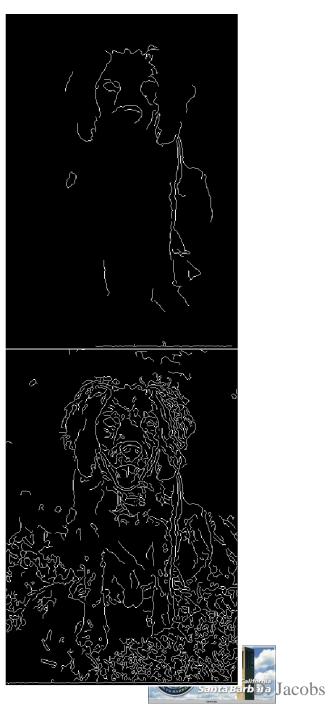
Sometimes edge detectors find the boundary pretty well





## Sometimes not well at all

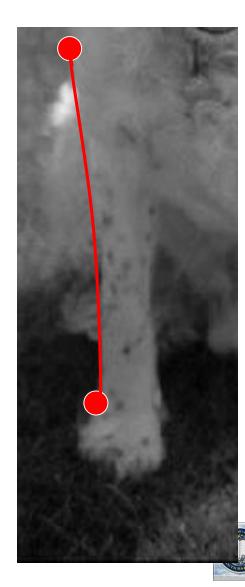




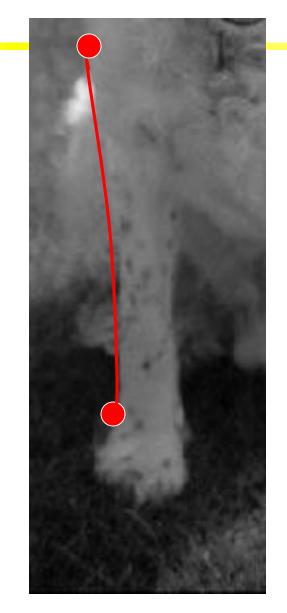
At times we want to find a complete bounding contour of an object:

At other times we want to find an internal or partial contour. E.g., the best path between two points:





acobs



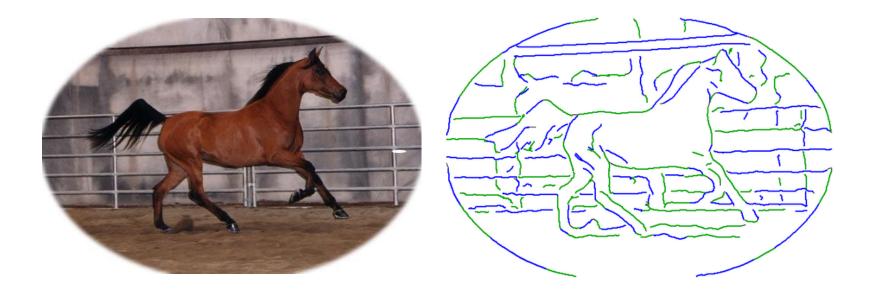
Which of these two paths is better?

How do we decide how good a path is?





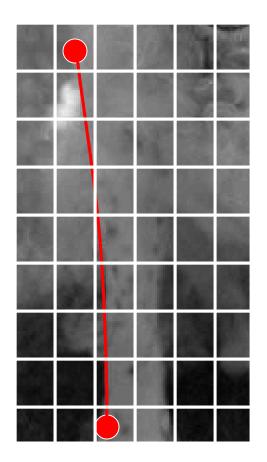
# Example: edgels to line segments to contours



#### Original image

#### Contours derived from edgels



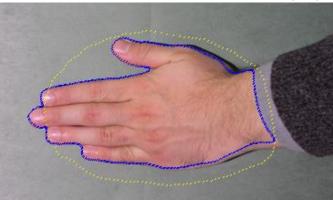


Desired properties of an image contour:

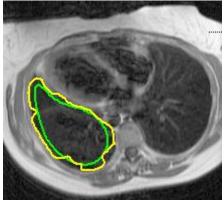
- Contour should be near/on edges
  Strength of gradient
- Contour should be smooth (good continuation)
  - Low curvature



## Active Contours (deformable contours, snakes)







- Points, corners, lines, circles, etc., do not characterize well many objects, especially non-man-made ones
- We want other ways to describe and represent objects and image regions: Contour representations
- In particular, *active contours* are contour representations that conform to the (2D) shape by combining geometry and physics to make elastic, deformable shape models
  - These are often used to <u>track</u> contours in time, so the shape deforms to stay with the changing object

#### Active Contours

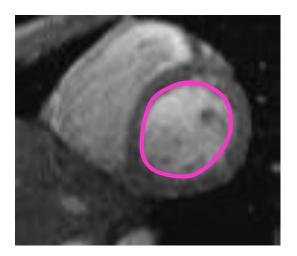
- Given an initial contour estimate, find the best match to the image data evolve the contour to fit the object boundary
  - □ This is an optimization problem
    - Often uses dynamic programming, or something similar, in its solution
    - > Iterates until final solution, or until a time limit
  - □ Visual evidence (support) for the contour can come from edges, corners, detected features, or even user input
- Current best contour fit can be the initial estimate for the subsequent frame (e.g., in tracking over time)
- Active contours are particularly useful when dealing with deformable (non-rigid) objects and surfaces

□ These are not easily described by edges, corners, etc.



#### Active Contours





- Applications:
  - Object segmentation (for object recognition, medical imaging, etc.)
  - Tracking through time
  - Region selection (e.g., in Photoshop) human in the loop

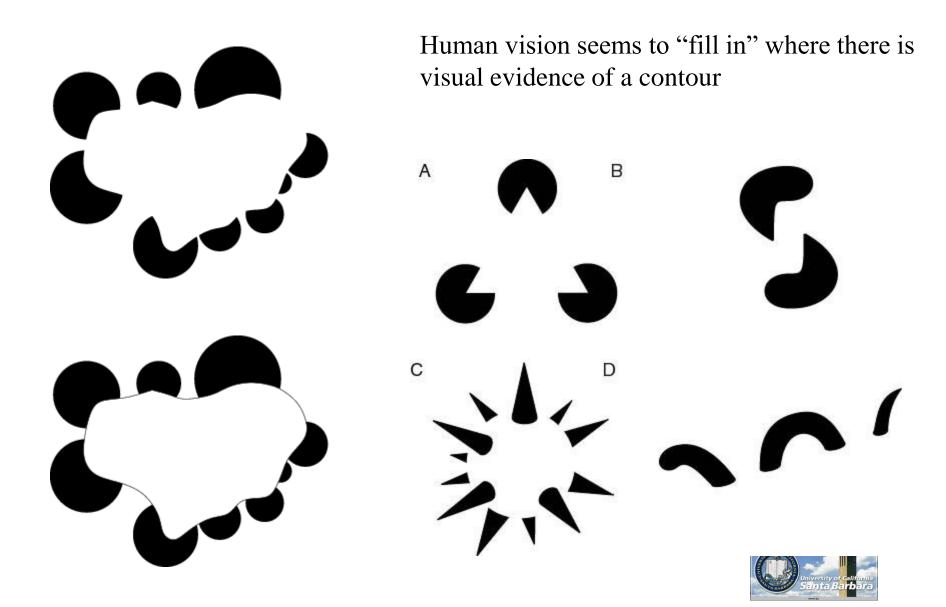


#### Contour tracking examples

- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=laiykNbPkgg
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5se69vcbqxA
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ARIZzcE11Es
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OFTDqGLa2p0

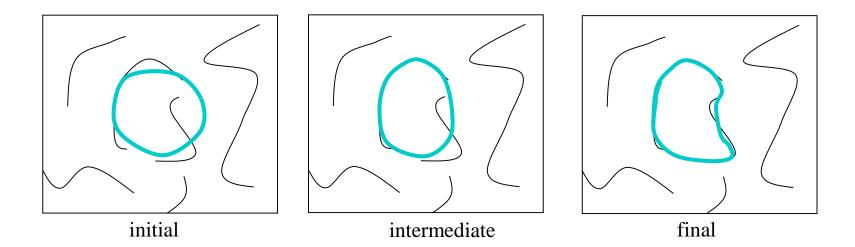


#### Illusory contours



#### Partial contours

Active contours can deal with occluded or missing image data





#### Active contours

- Think of an active contour as an elastic band, with an initial default (low energy) shape, that gets pulled or pushed to be near image positions that satisfy various criteria
  - Be near high gradients, detected points, user input, etc.
  - Don't get stretched too much
  - □ Keep a smooth shape
- How is the current contour adjusted to find the new contour at each iteration?
  - Define a cost function ("energy" function) that says how good a possible configuration is.
  - Seek next configuration that minimizes that cost function.



# Energy minimization framework

Framework: energy minimization

- Bending and stretching curve = more energy
- Good features = less energy
- Curve evolves to minimize energy

Parametric representation of the curve v(s) = (x(s), y(s))

\* Minimize an energy function on v(s)

$$E_{total} = E_{internal} + E_{external} + E_{constraint}$$



# Energy minimization framewo

$$E_{total} = E_{internal} + E_{external} + E_{constraint}$$

- A good fit between the current deformable contour and the target shape in the image will yield a low value for this cost (energy) function
  - □ Internal energy: encourage prior shape preferences: e.g., smoothness, elasticity, particular known shape.
  - **External** energy ("image" energy): encourage contour to fit on places where image structures exist, e.g., edges.
  - Constraint energy: allow for specific (often user-specified) constraints that alter the contour locally



## Energy minimization

The energy functional typically consists of three terms:

$$\mathcal{E} = \int \left[ \mathcal{E}_{int} \left( \mathbf{v}(s) \right) + \mathcal{E}_{img} \left( \mathbf{v}(s) \right) + \mathcal{E}_{con} \left( \mathbf{v}(s) \right) \right] ds$$

$$\int \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ \text{Total & Internal & Image & Constraint \\ energy & (contour) & energy & energy \\ & \uparrow \\ \mathcal{E}_{int} \left( \mathbf{v}(s) \right) = \left( \alpha(s) \| \mathbf{v}_{s}(s) \|^{2} + \beta(s) \| \mathbf{v}_{ss}(s) \|^{2} \right) / 2 \right\}$$

$$\mathcal{E}_{int} \left( \mathbf{v}(s) \right) = \left( \alpha(s) \| \mathbf{v}_{s}(s) \|^{2} + \beta(s) \| \mathbf{v}_{ss}(s) \|^{2} \right) / 2$$

$$Minimize \text{ length and curvature of contour}$$

$$\varepsilon_{img} = -w \cdot \left\| \nabla I(x, y) \right\|^2$$

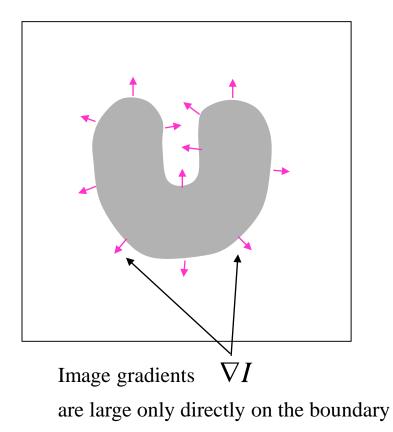
Maximize gradient along contour (Minimize the negative of this)

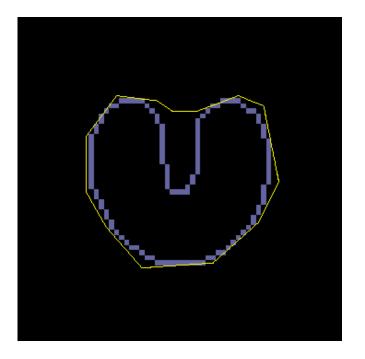
$$\varepsilon_{con} = \frac{k}{\left\|\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{x}\right\|^2}$$

Negative spring constraint (repulsion)



Examples

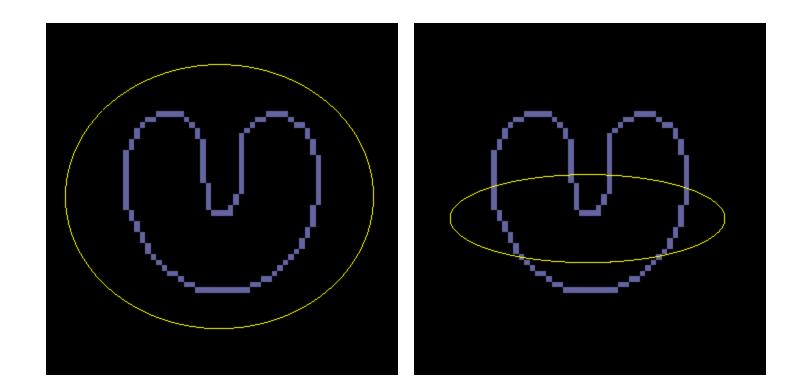




Internal model is too "tight"

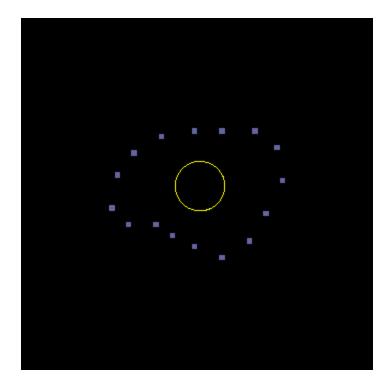


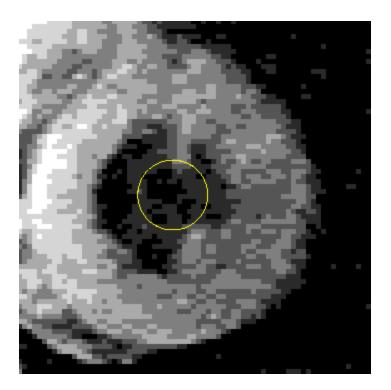
Examples





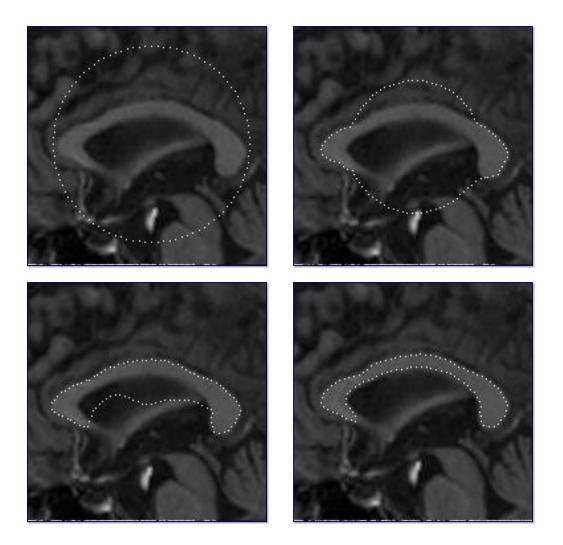
Examples





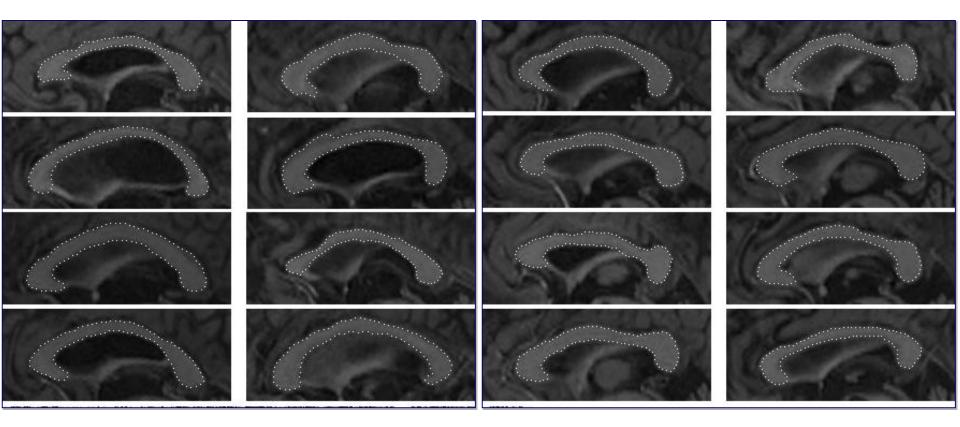


## Corpus callosum example



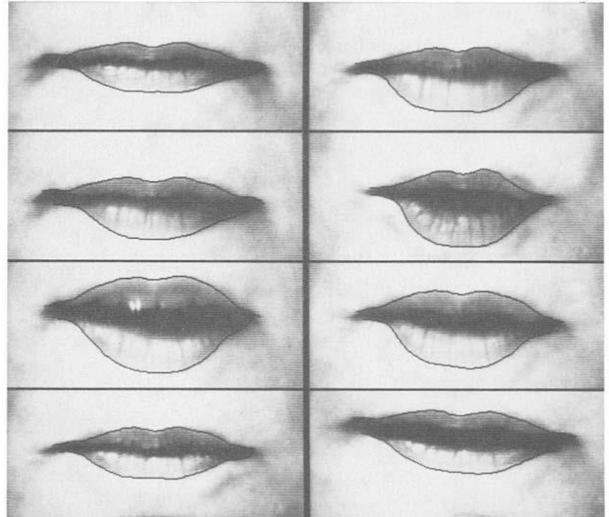


# Corpus callosum example





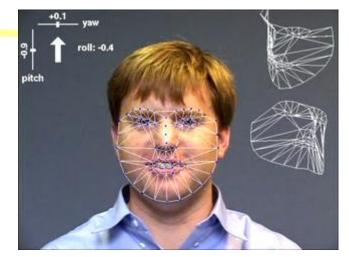
Lips example













## Active contours: pros and cons

Pros:

- Useful to track and fit non-rigid shapes
- Contour remains connected
- Possible to fill in "subjective" contours
- Flexibility in how energy function is defined, weighted.

Cons:

- Must have decent initialization near true boundary, may get stuck in local minimum
- Parameters of energy function must be set well based on prior information



# Devil in the Details

Snake: an energy minimizing spline

subject to

□ internal forces (*template shape*)

- resisting stretching and compression
  - maintain natural length
- resisting bending
  - maintain natural curvature
- resisting twisting
  - maintain natural torsion (for 3D snake)

external forces (*shape detector*)

> attract a snake to lines, edges, corners, etc.



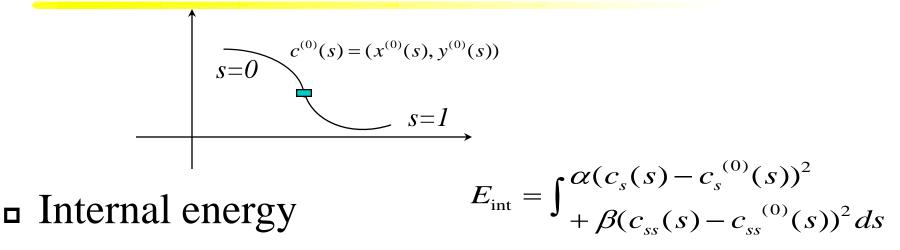
## **Physics Law**

\* A snake's final position and shape influenced by

- □ balance of all applied forces
- □ total potential energy is minimum
- a dynamic sequence is played out which is based on physics principle







- resisting stretching and compression

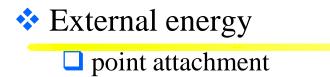
$$E_1 = \int (c_s(s) - c_s^{(0)}(s))^2 ds$$

resisting bending

$$E_2 = \int (c_{ss}(s) - c_{ss}^{(0)}(s))^2 ds$$

University of California Sain ta Barbara

**Programming Methods** 



$$E = l | (x_o, y_o) - (x(s_o), y(s_o)) |^2$$

- attach the snake to a bright line (not used in hw)

$$E = -\int I(c(s))ds$$

– attach the snake to an edge

$$E = -\int \left(\nabla I(c(s))\right)^2 ds$$



- Treated as an minimization problem, we are looking for a function c(s) or f(s,t) that minimizes the total energy (int+ext)
- Intuitively,
  - small internal energy, less stretching, bending, twisting, closer to the natural resting state
  - small external energy, confirming to external constraints (e.g., close to attachment points, image contours, etc.)

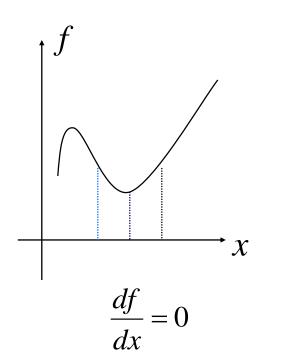


- For those of you who are mathematics-gifted, you probably recognize this as a calculus of variation problem
- The solution is the Euler equation (a partial differential equation)
- The energy expression is a "functional"
- Need a function to give the extremal value of the "functional"



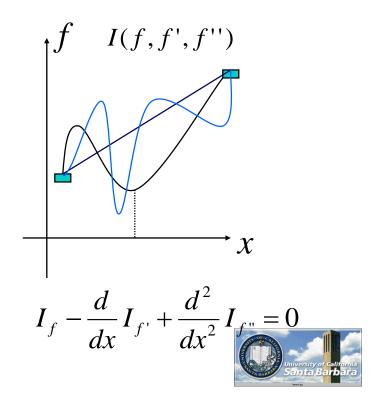
#### Calculus

- □ function
- □ locations (extremums of function)
- derivatives
- ordinary equations



Variational Calculus

- □ functional
- functions (extremums of functional)
- variational derivatives
- partial differential equations



# For those of you who are physics-gifted, you probably recognize this as a generalized force problem

Again, the solution is based on the Euler equation (a partial differential equation) of variational derivatives

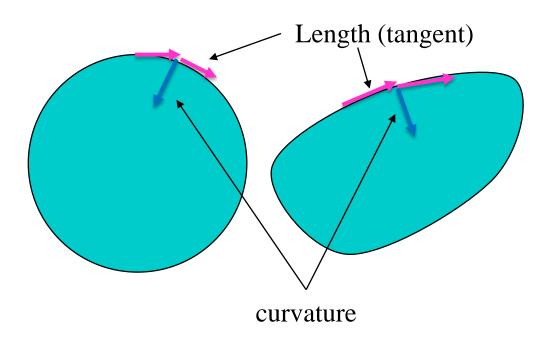


#### Math Detail

Need to maintain

- Length (no stretching)
- Curvature (no bending)

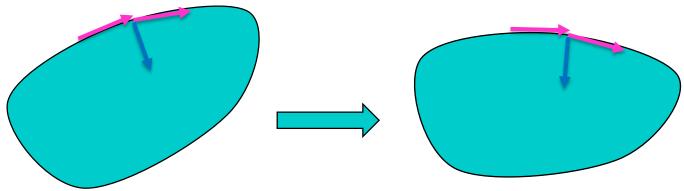
Both arc length and curvature are vectors!





# Math Detail

- Most generally, allowing both translation and rotation (a rigid-body motion) that doesn't deform the shape
- Tangent and curvature vectors do not have to line up (under rotation), but their magnitude should be maintained
- Turn out the math becomes very messy



Simpler formulation: translation only (or small rotation)
Vectors should line up



Minimize

$$E_{total} = E_{int} + E_{ext}$$
  
=  $\int \alpha (|c_s(s)| - |c_s^{(0)}(s)|)^2 + \beta (|c_{ss}(s)| - |c_{ss}^{(0)}(s)|)^2 - \delta (s) - (\nabla I(c(s)))^2 ds$   
Simplify (translation only)

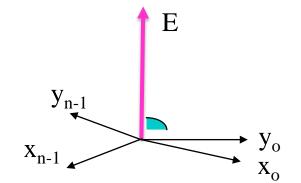
$$E_{total} = E_{int} + E_{ext}$$
  
=  $\int \alpha (c_s(s) - c_s^{(0)}(s))^2 + \beta (c_{ss}(s) - c_{ss}^{(0)}(s))^2 - \delta i \sum s (s) - (\nabla I(c(s)))^2 ds$ 

Discretize

$$c_{s}(s) = c_{i+1} - c_{i} = (x_{i+1} - x_{i}, y_{i+1} - y_{i})$$

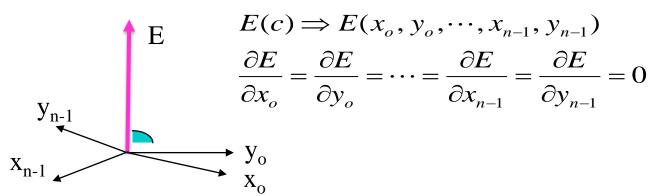
$$c_{ss}(s) = c_{i+1} - 2c_{i} + c_{i-1} = (x_{i+1} - 2x_{i} + x_{i-1}, y_{i+1} - 2y_{i} + y_{i-1})$$

$$E(c) \Longrightarrow E(x_{o}, y_{o}, \dots, x_{n-1}, y_{n-1})$$





- Turn a variational calculus problem into a standard calculus problem
- 2n variables
- 2n equations (linear equations)
- Can solve a (very sparse) matrix equation of AX=B using Matlab A\B (or iterative)
- Sparsity comes from 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> order derivative approximation using only neighboring points minimize





#### Minimize

$$E_{total} = E_{int} + E_{ext}$$
  
=  $\int \alpha (c_s(s) - c_s^{(0)}(s))^2 + \beta (c_{ss}(s) - c_{ss}^{(0)}(s))^2 - \delta V(s)) - (\nabla I(c(s)))^2 ds$ 

Discretize

$$c_{s}(s) = c_{i+1} - c_{i} = (x_{i+1} - x_{i}, y_{i+1} - y_{i})$$
  

$$c_{ss}(s) = c_{i+1} - 2c_{i} + c_{i-1} = (x_{i+1} - 2x_{i} + x_{i-1}, y_{i+1} - 2y_{i} + y_{i-1})$$
  
For a particular  $c_{i}$ :

$$(c_{s}(s) - c_{s}^{(0)}(s))^{2} = ([x_{i+1} - x_{i}, y_{i+1} - y_{i}] - [x^{(0)}_{i+1} - x^{(0)}_{i}, y^{(0)}_{i+1} - y^{(0)}_{i}])^{2}$$

$$= [(x_{i+1} - x_{i}) - (x^{(0)}_{i+1} - x^{(0)}_{i}), (y_{i+1} - y_{i}) - (y^{(0)}_{i+1} - y^{(0)}_{i})]^{2}$$

$$= ((x_{i+1} - x_{i}) - (x^{(0)}_{i+1} - x^{(0)}_{i}))^{2} + ((y_{i+1} - y_{i}) - (y^{(0)}_{i+1} - y^{(0)}_{i}))^{2}$$

$$\frac{\partial (c_{s}(s) - c_{s}^{(0)}(s))^{2}}{\partial x_{k}} = 2[-((x_{k+1} - x_{k}) - (x^{(0)}_{k+1} - x^{(0)}_{k})) + (x_{k} - x_{k-1}) - (x^{(0)}_{k} - x^{(0)}_{k-1})] + \cdots$$

$$\uparrow$$

$$1^{\text{st} derivatives of } x_{k+1} \text{ and } x_{k} \text{ involve } x_{k}$$
Pattern: -1, 2, -1



Minimize

$$E_{total} = E_{int} + E_{ext}$$
  
=  $\int \alpha (c_s(s) - c_s^{(0)}(s))^2 + \beta (c_{ss}(s) - c_{ss}^{(0)}(s))^2 - \sum_{ss} (c_s(s)) - (\nabla I(c(s)))^2 ds$ 

Discretize

$$c_{s}(s) = c_{i+1} - c_{i} = (x_{i+1} - x_{i}, y_{i+1} - y_{i})$$
  

$$c_{ss}(s) = c_{i+1} - 2c_{i} + c_{i-1} = (x_{i+1} - 2x_{i} + x_{i-1}, y_{i+1} - 2y_{i} + y_{i-1})$$

For a particular  $x_i$ :

$$\begin{aligned} (c_{ss}(s) - c_{ss}^{(0)}(s))^2 &= ([x_{i+1} - 2x_i + x_{i-1}, y_{i+1} - 2y_i + y_{i-1}] - [x^{(0)}_{i+1} - 2x^{(0)}_{i} + x^{(0)}_{i-1}, y^{(0)}_{i+1} - 2y^{(0)}_{i} + y^{(0)}_{i-1}])^2 \\ &= [(x_{i+1} - 2x_i + x_{i-1}) - (x^{(0)}_{i+1} - 2x^{(0)}_{i} + x^{(0)}_{i-1}), (y_{i+1} - 2y_i + y_{i-1}) - (y^{(0)}_{i+1} - 2y^{(0)}_{i} + y^{(0)}_{i-1})]^2 \\ &= ((x_{i+1} - 2x_i + x_{i-1}) - (x^{(0)}_{i+1} - 2x^{(0)}_{i} + x^{(0)}_{i-1}))^2 + ((y_{i+1} - 2y_i + y_{i-1}) - (y^{(0)}_{i+1} - 2y^{(0)}_{i} + y^{(0)}_{i-1}))^2 \\ &\frac{\partial (c_{ss}(s) - c_{ss}^{(0)}(s))^2}{\partial x_k} = \\ &2[((x_{k+2} - 2x_{k+1} + x_k) - (x^{(0)}_{k+2} - 2x^{(0)}_{k+1} + x^{(0)}_{k}))] + \\ &2[-2((x_{k+1} - 2x_k + x_{k-1}) - (x^{(0)}_{k+1} - 2x^{(0)}_{k} + x^{(0)}_{k-1}))] + \\ &2[((x_k - 2x_{k-1} + x_{k-2}) - (x^{(0)}_{k} - 2x^{(0)}_{k-1} + x^{(0)}_{k-2}))] \end{aligned}$$

2nd derivatives of  $x_{k+1}$ ,  $x_k$  and  $x_{k-1}$  involve  $x_k$ Pattern: 1, -4, 6, -4, 1



#### Minimize

$$E_{total} = E_{int} + E_{ext}$$
  
=  $\int \alpha (c_s(s) - c_s^{(0)}(s))^2 + \beta (c_{ss}(s) - c_{ss}^{(0)}(s))^2 - \delta \sum (s) - (\nabla I(c(s)))^2 ds$ 

#### Discretize

$$c_{s}(s) = c_{i+1} - c_{i} = (x_{i+1} - x_{i}, y_{i+1} - y_{i})$$

$$c_{ss}(s) = c_{i+1} - 2c_{i} + c_{i-1} = (x_{i+1} - 2x_{i} + x_{i-1}, y_{i+1} - 2y_{i} + y_{i-1})$$
For a particular  $c_{i}$ :
$$(\nabla I(c(s)))^{2} = [I_{x}(x_{i}, y_{i}), I_{y}(x_{i}, y_{i})]^{2} = (I_{x}(x_{i}, y_{i}))^{2} + (I_{y}(x_{i}, y_{i}))^{2}$$

$$\frac{\partial (\nabla I(c(s)))^{2}}{\partial x_{k}} = 2[I_{x}(x_{k}, y_{k})\frac{\partial I_{x}}{\partial x_{k}} + I_{y}(x_{k}, y_{k})\frac{\partial I_{y}}{\partial x_{k}}] = 2[I_{x}(x_{k}, y_{k}), I_{y}(x_{k}, y_{k})][\frac{\partial I_{x}}{\partial x_{k}}, \frac{\partial I_{y}}{\partial x_{k}}]$$



#### Minimize

$$E_{total} = E_{int} + E_{ext}$$

$$= \int \alpha (c_s(s) - c_s^{(0)}(s))^2 + \beta (c_{ss}(s) - c_{ss}^{(0)}(s))^2 - \delta I(c(s)) - (\nabla I(c(s)))^2 ds$$

$$\frac{\partial (\nabla I(c(s)))^2}{\partial x_k} = 2[I_x(x_k, y_k)\frac{\partial I_x}{\partial x_k} + I_y(x_k, y_k)\frac{\partial I_y}{\partial x_k}] = 2[I_x(x_k, y_k), I_y(x_k, y_k)][\frac{\partial I_x}{\partial x_k}, \frac{\partial I_y}{\partial x_k}]$$

- Derivative of E (potential) is a gradient (force) field
- Minimization go in the negative gradient direction
- Pull the snake in the direction
  - Large gradient
  - Large increase in gradient
  - around a node



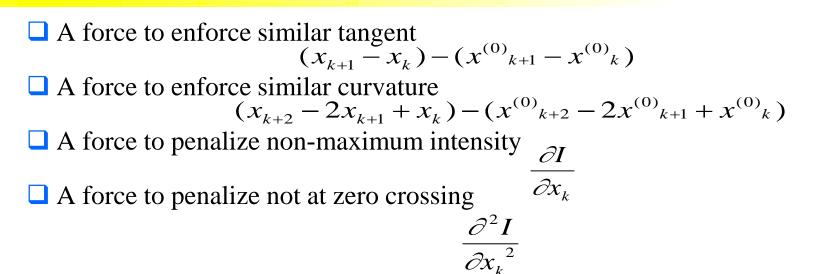
### **Details**

- (-1,2,-1) + (1 -4, 6, -4, 1) = (1, -5, 8, -5, 1)
  - □ Not diagonally dominant, need conditioning (regularization)
- Resulting in linear equations of form AX+B
  - $\Box$  A is pentdiagonal matrix of the form (1, -5, 8, -5, 1)
  - B has all constant terms
    - ➤ Template (x<sup>(0)</sup>,y<sup>(0)</sup>)
      - Fixed
      - Has the form of -AX<sup>(0)</sup>
    - External energy term <- varying</p>

$$[I_x(x_k, y_k), I_y(x_k, y_k)][\frac{\partial I_x}{\partial x_k}, \frac{\partial I_y}{\partial x_k}]$$



The equation represents balance of forces!





#### Caveat:

Snake needs good initial position
Provided by initial interactive placement
Smooth images to enlarge "potential field"
Snake won't move if

- > Gradient is zero or
- Change of gradient is zero



#### Numerical Methods - Iterative

Using Euler's method: expressions AX+B are gradient
Minimize  $E_{total} = E_{int} + E_{ext}$ gradient:  $\frac{\partial E_{total}}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial E_{int}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial E_{ext}}{\partial x}$ 

- Explicit Euler:
- Implicit Euler:
- ✤ Mixed Euler:

- $\begin{aligned} AX_{t-1} + B_{t-1} &= -\lambda (X_t X_{t-1}) \\ AX_t + B_t &= -\lambda (X_t X_{t-1}) \\ AX_t + B_{t-1} &= -\lambda (X_t X_{t-1}) \\ (A + \lambda I)X_t &= -B_{t-1} + \lambda X_{t-1} \\ X_t &= (A + \lambda I)^{-1} (-B_{t-1} + \lambda X_{t-1}) \end{aligned}$
- Justification for mixed Euler:
  - B cannot be evaluated without knowing X<sub>t</sub>, so use values at X<sub>t-1</sub>
     A can be easily inverted, so use X<sub>t</sub>



## Numerical Methods - Direct

Should result in a sparse, pentadiagonal matrix

#### **\***AX = B, solve with

□ Direct method  $\mathbf{X} = inv(\mathbf{A}) * \mathbf{B}$  (preferred for small system < 20 points and GOOD initialization)

Caveats:

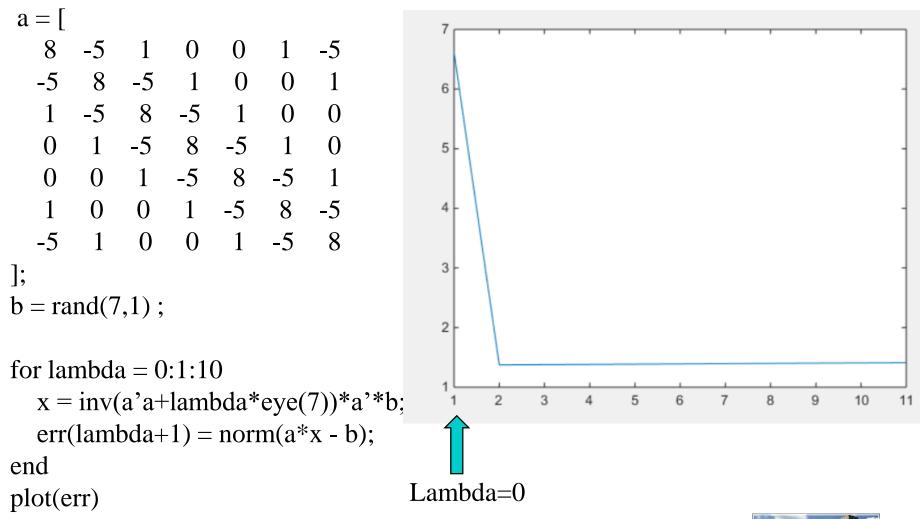
▲ A can be numerically ill-conditioned (not diagonally dominant – the |diagonal element| is larger than the sum of |off-diagonal elements|)

Fix: Regularization (a topic to be discussed more later)

- $\texttt{Minimize} \parallel AX-B \parallel^{2} + w \parallel X \parallel^{2}$
- (A'A+wI) X = A'B or X = inv(A'A+wI)\*A'B



#### Numerical Methods





### Direct or Iterative

#### No iteration

- Initial state must be close to final state (because external energy is position dependent), image smoothing is important
- Require good template and update of templates

#### Iterative

- Initial state does not have to be close to final state
- External energy terms must be updated through out

