

# *A contrario* matching of SIFT-like descriptors

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# Introduction

Most of computer vision problems are based on **local representation** of images:  
*Image registration, indexation, classification, mosaicing, motion segmentation, object detection, object recognition, camera calibration, etc.*

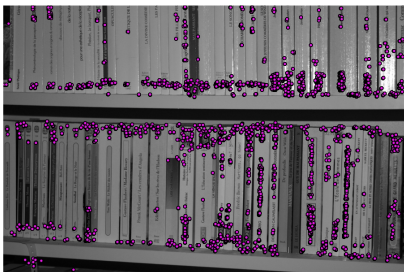
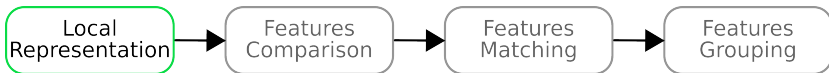
Dealing with local features requires some specific processing tasks.

# Object Recognition example



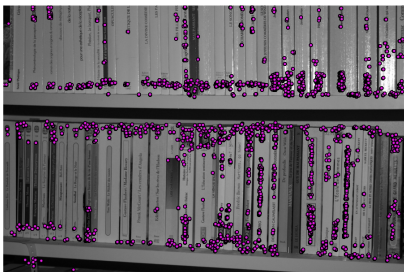
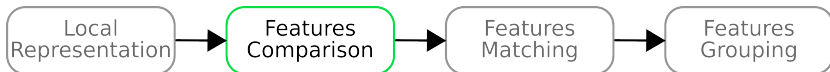
Is there any similar **objects** between these images ?

# Preliminary step: Local representation of images



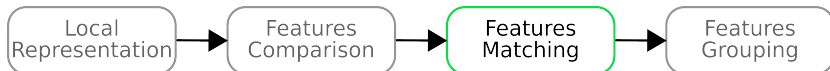
▷ Extract local and invariant descriptors, SIFT [Lowe 1999], Shape Context [Belongie and Malik, 2000], MSER [Matas *et al.* 2002], *etc.*

# Step 1: Local features comparison



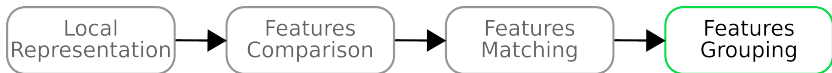
- ▷ Define a **robust** dissimilarity measure between local features

## Step 2: Local features matching

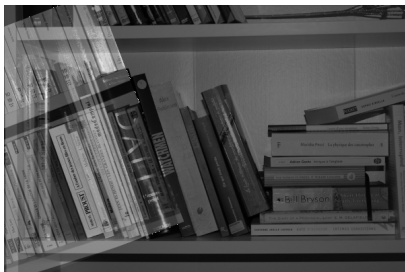
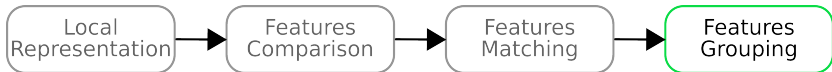


▷ Select **reliable (multiple)** correspondences between local features

## Step 3: Local features grouping



- ▷ Detect a **group** and estimate the **geometrical model's parameters** related to the recognized object



- ▷ Detect a **group** and estimate the **geometrical model's parameters** related to the recognized object



# Problem statement

Why the feature matching step is **critical**?

Testing a tentative match between two interest points has 4 different issues (hypothesis testing)

Ground truth \ Test	Positive	Negative
Correct	True-Positive (tp)	False-Negative (fn) [Type II error]
Incorrect	False-Positive (fp) [Type I error]	True-Negative (tn)

The grouping step in the processing chain is very sensitive to “outliers” (irrelevant correspondences).

⇒ need to control type I error

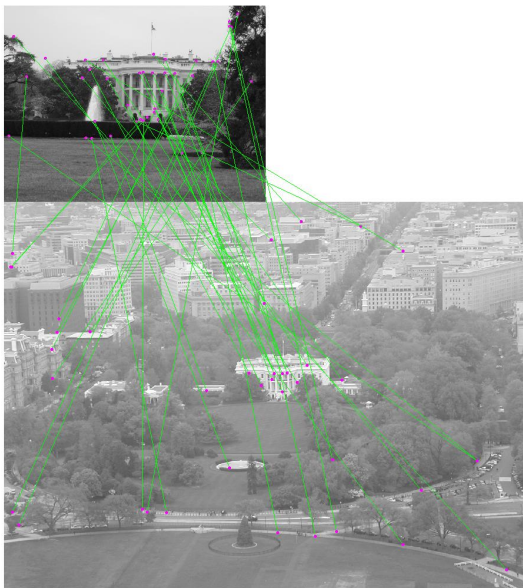
# Examples using the original SIFT method



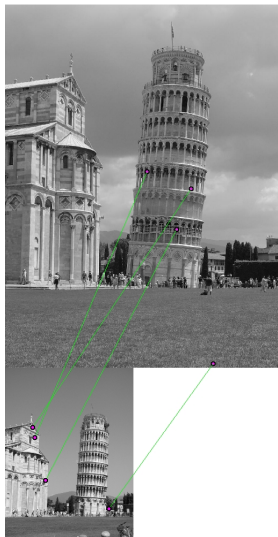
# Examples using the original SIFT method



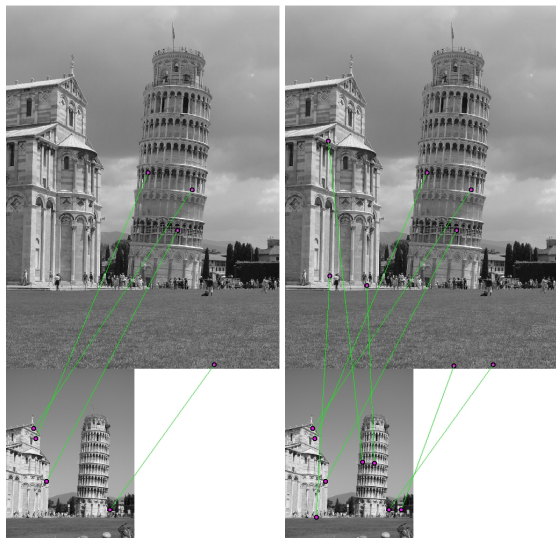
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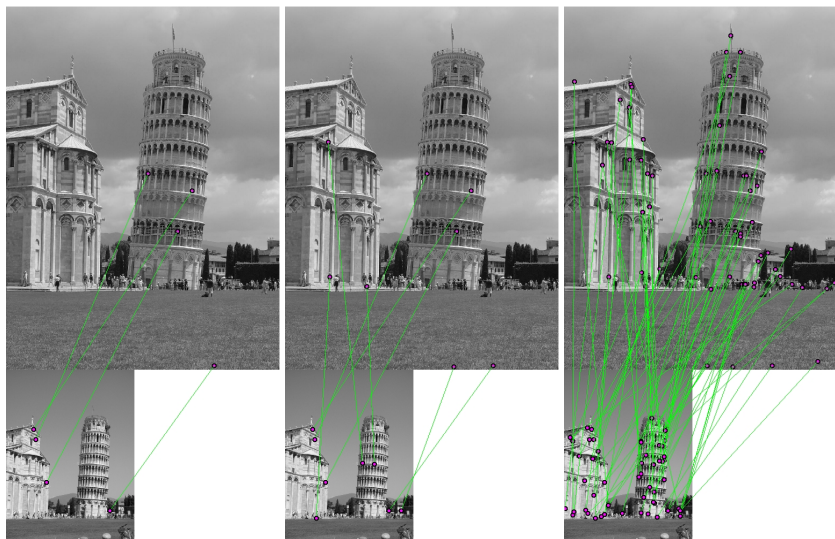
# Examples using the original SIFT method



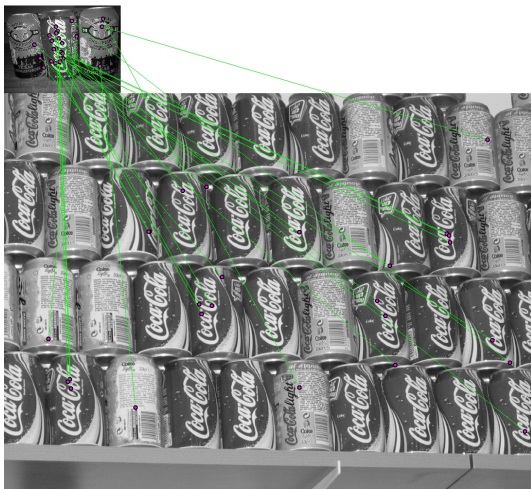
# Examples using the original SIFT method



# Examples using the original SIFT method



# Examples using the original SIFT method





# Objectives

Each of the previous tasks relies on **decision criteria**.

In this course, we will study decision criteria based on the *a contrario* methodology [Desolneux et al., 2000], applied to the two following tasks:

- ▷ SIFT orientation assignment,
- ▷ SIFT matching

# Outline

Part I. Local features **detection**

Part II. *A contrario* methodology

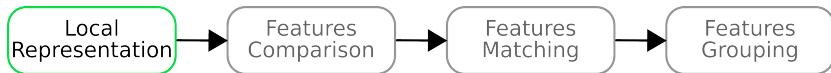
Part III. Histogram **mode selection**

Part IV. SIFT **matching**

Part V. IPOL Projects

## Part I

### SIFT overview - local descriptors



# Local features



- 1 Discrete image  $u$

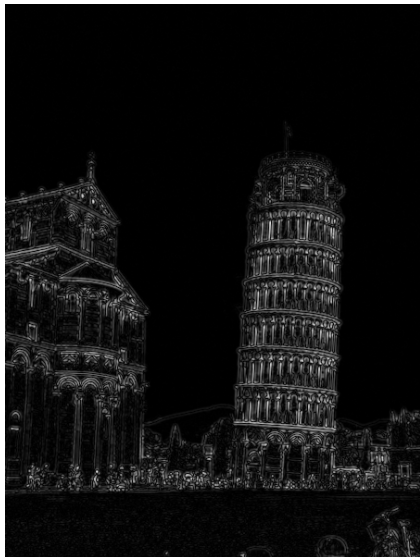
# Local features



## 2 Scale-space representation

$$\forall \sigma, u_\sigma = g_\sigma * u$$

# Local features



- 8 Local extrema  $(\vec{x}, \sigma)$  in space and scale of  $\sigma^2 \Delta u_\sigma$

# Local features



- 4 Harris (or Hessian) multiscale criterion to eliminate edge points  
→ interest points  $(\vec{x}, \sigma)$ .

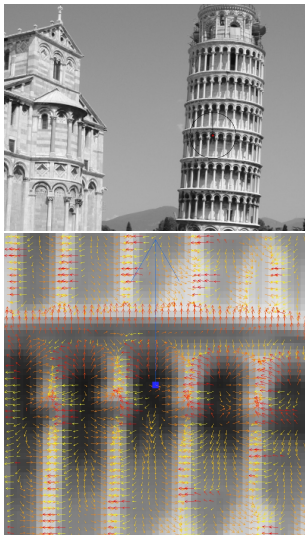
# Local features



- 4 Harris (or Hessian) multiscale criterion to eliminate edge points  
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## Local features



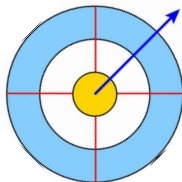
- 5 Main **orientations** (directions of  $\nabla u_\sigma$ ) assigned at each point  $\rightarrow$  interest points  $(\vec{x}, \sigma, \alpha)$ .

# Local features: example of SIFT descriptors [Lowe, 1999]

Construction of a **local descriptor**  $a$  at each interest point  $(\vec{x}, \sigma, \alpha)$ .

**Mask** (e.g. a square, a disk) around  $\vec{x}$ :

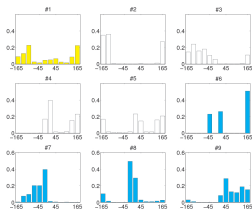
- $M$  sectors,
- size proportional to  $\sigma$ .
- orientation given by  $\alpha$



**Descriptor**  $a = (a_1, \dots, a_M)$

$a_m =$  normalized **histogram** of the gradient orientation (\*), weighted by the gradient magnitude, in the  $m^{\text{th}}$  sector.

(\*) Orientations defined with respect to the reference direction  $\alpha$ .



## Part II

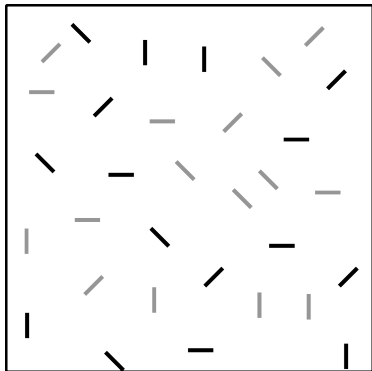
# A Contrario detection theory

# Gestalt theory and the Helmholtz Principle

«no structure should be detected in a noise image.»

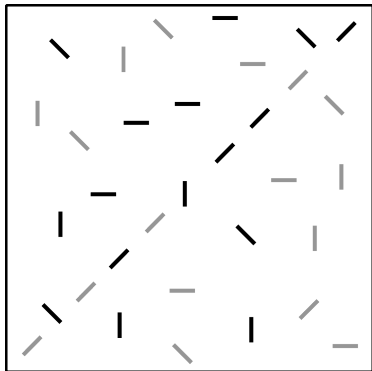
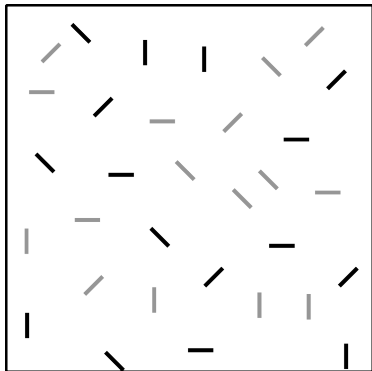
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## A *contrario* methodology

**Basic principles of a *contrario* methodology** [Desolneux, Moisan and Morel, 00]:

**Null hypothesis:** The background model rejection in the *a contrario* approach rely on a **null hypothesis** testing, denoted  $\mathcal{H}_0$ , that states that the observed features are **mutually independent**.

**Similarity measure:** Now, given a group of features  $G$ , a similarity measure  $S$  has to be defined to evaluate the adequacy of this group with the type of structure we want to detect.

**P-value:** the probability of observing a random group of features  $\mathbf{G}$  following the null hypothesis with a better similarity measure than  $G$ :

$$\mathbb{P}_{\mathcal{H}_0}(S(\mathbf{G}) \geq S(G)) . \quad (1)$$

**Significativity measure with multiple tests:** Let  $\{G_i\}_i$  be the set of tested structures and  $\mathcal{N} = |\{G_i\}_i|$  be the total number of tests. We call NFA, the significativity measure

$$\mathbf{NFA}(G_i, S(G_i)) := \mathcal{N} \times \mathbb{P}_{\mathcal{H}_0}(S(\mathbf{G}) \geq S(G_i)) . \quad (2)$$

## A contrario methodology (II)

### Group validation:

#### Definition ( $\varepsilon$ -meaningful group)

The group  $G_i$  is validated if

$$\text{NFA}(G_i, S(G_i)) \leq \varepsilon$$

### Fundamental property:

«The expected number of  $\varepsilon$ -meaningful groups following the null hypothesis is smaller than  $\varepsilon$ .»

### Automatic thresholds on the similarity measure:

$$t_i(\varepsilon) = \min\{t, \text{NFA}(G_i, t) \leq \varepsilon\} \quad (3)$$

Thus, a group is  $\varepsilon$ -meaningful *only if*  $S(G_i) > t_i(\varepsilon)$ .



# Overview of the *a contrario* philosophy

To sum up:

- Detect groups of features that are very unlikely under the hypothesis that features are *independent* (*null hypothesis*)
- Unlikelihood ensured by *controlling the expected number of false alarms*.

Many applications since [Desolneux, Moisan, Morel, 00].

## Part III

### SIFT orientation assignment

## Original SIFT approach

The key idea of D. Lowe in [Lowe, 1999] is to estimate the main orientation of a given keypoint by looking at the **statistical distribution of the gradient orientation** in the vicinity of the interest point. To do so, an histogram is first built in which **peaks** are then detected.

**Circular histogram:** Let consider a circular histogram  $H$  defined from  $M$  samples  $\{\theta_1, \dots, \theta_M\}$  (orientations) quantized uniformly on  $L$  values for the interval  $[-\pi, \pi[$ :

$$\forall i \in \{1, \dots, L\} H[i] = \left| \left\{ \theta_m \in \left[ \frac{2\pi}{L}(i-1) - \pi, \frac{2\pi}{L}i - \pi \right[ , m = 1, \dots, M \right\} \right| . \quad (4)$$

**Peack detection:** In [Lowe, 2004], the histogram of the local gradient orientation is quantized on  $L = 36$  accumulators and is built from gradient samples extracted in the neighborhood of the interest point  $mi : (x_i, y_i, \sigma_i)$ . Each entry in the histogram is weighted by the gradient norm and by a Gaussian kernel  $G_{3\sigma_i}(\cdot - x_i, \cdot - y_i)$  with variance  $9\sigma_i^2$  and mean  $(x_i, y_i)$ .

The peaks in the histogram are then simply defined as local maxima, where local maxima lower than 80% to the global maximum are pruned, that is

$$P = \left\{ i \in \mathcal{I}, H[i-1] \leq H[i] \text{ and } H[i] \geq H[i+1] \text{ and } H[i] \geq 0.8 \max_{j \in \mathcal{I}} H[j] \right\} \quad (5)$$

# Original SIFT approach

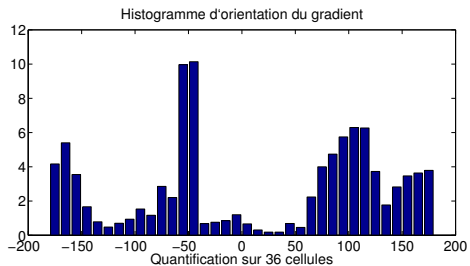
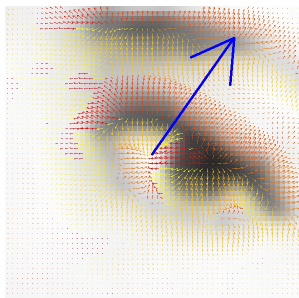
The location of each peak is then refined as the vertex  $\alpha$  of the parabola fitted to the 3 histogram values around the peak, that is

$$\forall i \in P, \alpha_i = -\frac{\pi b}{La} [2\pi] \text{ with } \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} (i-1)^2 & i-1 & 1 \\ i^2 & i & 1 \\ (i+1)^2 & i+1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} H[i-1] \\ H[i] \\ H[i+1] \end{bmatrix}, \quad (6)$$

where  $H[0] = H[L]$  and  $H[L+1] = H[1]$ .

Finally, the orientation  $\alpha_i$  is assign to the interest point  $m_i$  so that  $m_i : (x_i, y_i, \sigma_i, \alpha_i)$ .

# Example



## A *contrario* detection of meaningful intervals

Let first define a “meaningful interval” as an interval containing significantly more sample than the expected value.

**Null hypothesis  $\mathcal{H}_0$ :**

**Definition (Null Hypothesis (background model))**

the samples  $\{\theta_m\}_{m=1,\dots,M}$  are mutually independent random variables, identically and uniformly distributed in  $[-\pi, \pi[$ .

Observe that this null hypotheses corresponds to a background model of white noise image, since the orientation of the discrete gradient is uniformly distributed [Desolneux et al., 2002].

Then, the probability that one sample  $\theta_m$  fall into  $[a, b]$  under the null hypothesis  $\mathcal{H}_0$  (*i.e.* assuming that the sample has been drawn using the background model) is hence:

$$p(a, b) = \frac{|[a, b]|}{L} = \frac{1}{L} \begin{cases} b - a + 1 & \text{if } b \geq a \\ a - b + 1 + L & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

# Meaningful intervals

**P-value:** Let denote by  $k(a, b)$  the number of samples  $\{\theta_m\}_m$  which belong to the discrete circular interval  $[a, b]$ . Then, the probability that at least  $k(a, b)$  random samples of points among  $M$  fall into interval  $[a, b]$  under the null hypothesis is given by the tail of the binomial distribution  $\mathcal{B}(M, k(a, b), p(a, b))$  defined as:

$$\mathbb{P}_{\mathcal{H}_0}(\mathbf{k} \geq k(a, b)) = \mathcal{B}(M, k(a, b), p(a, b)) = \sum_{i=k(a, b)}^M \binom{M}{i} p(a, b)^i (1 - p(a, b))^{M-i} . \quad (8)$$

**Number of tests:** In our setting, the number of tests is the total number of distinctive circular intervals

$$\mathcal{N} := |\{(a, b), a \in \mathcal{I}, b \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \{a-1\}\} \cup \{[1, L]\}| = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}, j \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \{i-1\}} 1 + 1 = L(L-1) + 1 . \quad (9)$$

**Significativity measure:** Then, we define the following quality measure, called NFA, for a given interval  $[a, b]$  with  $k(a, b)$  samples as:

$$\text{NFA}([a, b]) = \mathcal{N} \mathcal{B}(M, k(a, b), p(a, b)) . \quad (10)$$

# Meaningful intervals

## Definition (Meaningful interval)

An interval  $I$  is a  $\varepsilon$  – *meaningful* interval when

$$\text{NFA}(I) = \mathcal{N} \mathcal{B}(M, k(a, b), p(a, b)) \leq \varepsilon .$$

Recall that a false alarm is a validated interval that follows the null-hypothesis.

## Proposition

*Let  $H$  be an histogram built from  $M$  random samples following the null hypothesis  $\mathcal{H}_0$ . The expected number of false alarms when validating  $\varepsilon$ -meaningful intervals is smaller than  $\varepsilon$ .*



## Meaningful gaps and modes

The previous definitions enables us to define a meaningful interval as an interval containing sufficiently more samples than it is expected from the background model. Nevertheless, it is insufficient in practice to select main modes of an histogram, since **a meaningful interval can contains some “gaps”**.

To take this into account, we first define meaningful gaps and then meaningful modes.

**Gap:** The definition of a meaningful gap is straight-forward: it is an interval that contains sufficiently *few* samples than expected from the background model. More precisely, the probability that at most  $k(a, b)$  samples of points among  $M$  fall into interval  $[a, b]$  under the null hypothesis is given by

$\mathbb{P}_{\mathcal{H}_0}(\mathbf{k} \leq k(a, b)) = \sum_{i=0}^{k(a, b)} \binom{M}{i} p(a, b)^i (1 - p(a, b))^{M-i}$ , which can be expressed from again from the tail of the binomial distribution

$$\mathbb{P}_{\mathcal{H}_0}(\mathbf{k} \leq k(a, b)) = \mathcal{B}(M, M - k(a, b), 1 - p(a, b)) . \quad (11)$$

### Definition (Meaningful gap)

An interval  $I$  is a  $\varepsilon$  – *meaningful gap* when

$$\text{NFA}'(I) = \mathcal{N} \mathcal{B}(M, M - k(a, b), 1 - p(a, b)) \leq \varepsilon . \quad (12)$$

# Meaningful gaps and modes

## Mode:

### Definition (Meaningful mode)

An interval  $I$  is a  $\varepsilon$ -meaningful mode if it is a  $\varepsilon$ -meaningful interval that does not contain any  $\varepsilon$ -meaningful gap.

**Maximal Meaningful Mode:** several meaningful modes with overlaps could be detected (redundant detections). Therefore we need a maximality criterion to select only non-overlapping modes.

### Definition (Maximal meaningful mode)

An interval  $I$  is a maximal- $\varepsilon$ -meaningful mode if it is a  $\varepsilon$ -meaningful mode and if for all  $\varepsilon$ -meaningful mode  $J \subset I$ ,  $NFA(J) \geq NFA(I)$  and for all  $\varepsilon$ -meaningful mode  $J \not\subset I$ ,  $NFA(J) > NFA(I)$ .

# Algorithm

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**Algorithm:** Automatic mode selection.

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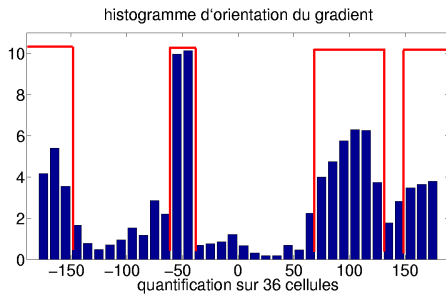
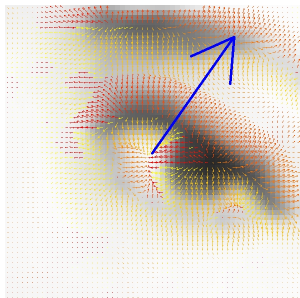
**Input:** Histogram  $H$  with  $M$  samples and  $L$  bins.  
parameter  $\varepsilon = 1$ .

- 1) Find  $\varepsilon$ -meaningful intervals (definition 3);
- 2) Find  $\varepsilon$ -meaningful gaps (definition 4);
- 3) Find  $\varepsilon$ -meaningful modes (definition 5);
- 4) Find maximal  $\varepsilon$ -meaningful modes (definition 6).

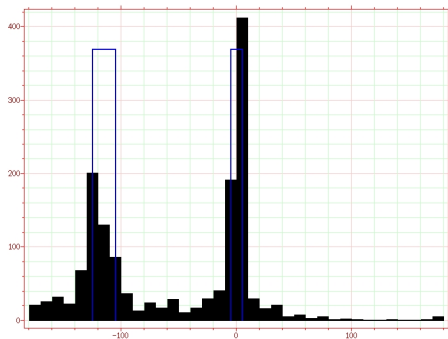
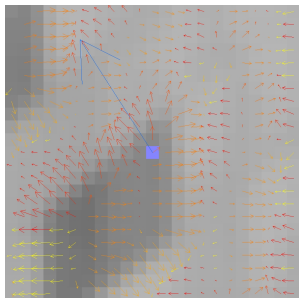
**Output:** List of intervals.

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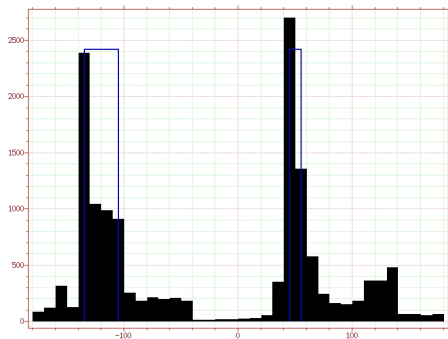
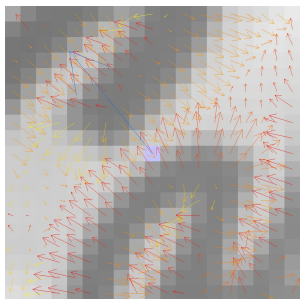
# Example



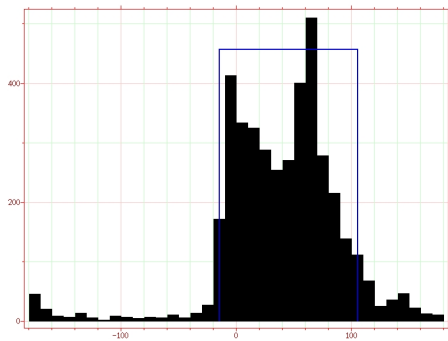
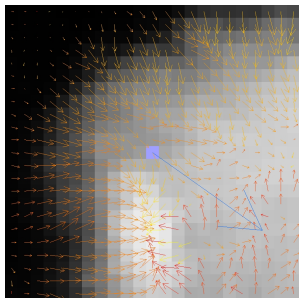
# Example



# Example



# Example



# Interest point filtering and orientation assignment

For a given 1-meaningful mode  $[a, b]$ , the corresponding orientation  $\alpha_{[a,b]}$  is simply defined as the *circular barycenter* of the histogram values in this interval, *i.e.*

$$\alpha_{[a,b]} = \frac{2\pi}{L} \begin{cases} \sum_{i=a}^b i \cdot H[i] & \text{if } a \leq b \\ \sum_{i=a}^L i \cdot H[i] + \sum_{i=1}^b (i+L) \cdot H[i] & \text{if } a > b \end{cases} [2\pi]. \quad (13)$$

Eventually, observe that the *a contrario* mode selection makes it also possible to discard interest points that lies on edges structures. Indeed, only interest points with at least two orientation assignments should be kept.



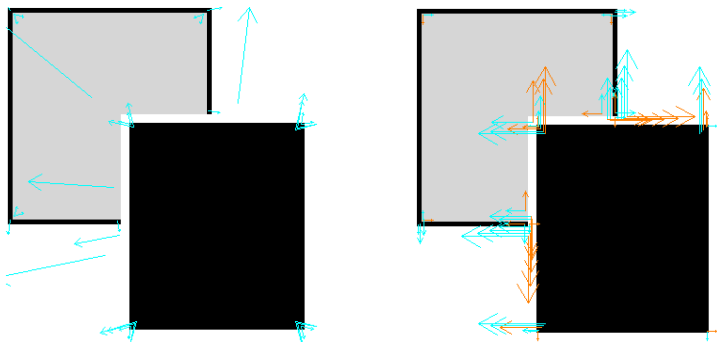
# Example



# Example

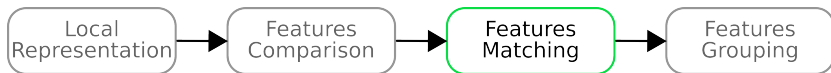


## Example



## Part IV

## SIFT matching



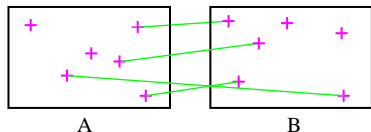
# Matching framework with SIFT-like descriptors

**Query descriptors:**  $a^1, \dots, a^{N_Q}$ .

- each descriptor  $a^i$  is made of  $M$  histograms,  $a^i = (a_1^i, \dots, a_M^i)$

statement

**Candidate descriptors** (database):  $b^1, \dots, b^{N_C}$ .



$\Leftrightarrow$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a^1 \\ \vdots \\ a^i \\ \vdots \\ a^{N_Q} \end{pmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} b^1 \\ \vdots \\ b^j \\ \vdots \\ b^{N_C} \end{pmatrix}$$

**Problem statement:** Among all  $N_Q \times N_C$  possible matches, which ones are relevant?

# Matching framework with SIFT-like descriptors

Define a **dissimilarity measure  $D$**  between descriptors. For instance:

$$D_{L^p}(a, b) := \left( \sum_{m=1}^M \sum_{i=1}^N |a_m[i] - b_m[i]|^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \quad (14)$$

$$D_{\chi^2}(a, b) := \sum_{m=1}^M \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{(a_m[i] - b_m[i])^2}{a_m[i] + b_m[i]} \quad (15)$$

$$D_M(a, b) := \left( \sum_{m,n=1}^M \sum_{i,j=1}^N (a_m[i] - b_m[i]) \cdot w_{i,j,m,n} \cdot (a_n[j] - b_n[j]) \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}, \quad (16)$$

**Assumption:** Dissimilarity measures  $\{D(a^i, b^j)\}_{\{i,j\}}$  have been computed for all  $N_Q \times N_C$  possible matches.

Need of a **decision criterion**  $\leftrightarrow$  thresholds on  $D$ .

# DT matching criterion

The simplest matching criterion, that we call DT (Distance Threshold), relies on a global threshold on distances. That is, each query  $a^i$  is simply matched with candidates  $\{b^j\}$  that are at a distance  $d(a^i, b^j)$  smaller than the threshold.

## Definition (DT Criterion)

The set of matches is defined as:

$$\mathcal{C}_{DT} := \{(a^i, b^j), i \in \{1, \dots, N_Q\} \text{ and } j \in \{1, \dots, N_C\} : D(a^i, b^j) \leq t\}$$

## NN-DT matching criterion

Usually, matches are restricted to the nearest neighbor [Baumberg, 2000, Jia and Tang, 2008] for each query descriptor, in order to limit multiple false detections that often affect some query descriptors. We will refer to this criterion as NN-DT (Nearest Neighbor Distance Threshold).

### Definition (NN-DT Criterion)

The set of matches is defined as:

$$\mathcal{C}_{\text{NN-DT}} := \left\{ (a^i, b^{J(i)}) , i \in \{1, \dots, N_Q\} : D(a^i, b^{J(i)}) \leq t \text{ s.t. } J(i) = \underset{j \in \{1, \dots, N_C\}}{\arg \min} D(a^i, b^j) \right\}$$

Two main drawbacks inherent to this approach still restrict its use in practice:

- ❶ Impossible to define an optimal threshold for different queries and database (“universal” threshold does not exist!);
- ❷ No multiple detections.



## NN-DR matching criterion

In order to reduce the variability of the chosen threshold, Lowe [Lowe, 2004] introduces another criterion by comparing the distances between  $a^i$  and its closest and second-closest neighbors respectively. If the ratio between the two distances is below a threshold  $r$ , the match with the closest neighbor is validated.

### Definition (NN-DR Criterion)

The set of matches is defined as:

$$C_{\text{NN-DR}} := \left\{ (a^i, b^{J1(i)}), i \in \{1, \dots, N_Q\} : \frac{D(a^i, b^{J1(i)})}{D(a^i, b^{J2(i)})} \leq r, \text{ s.t.} \right. \\ \left. J1(i) = \arg \min_{j \in \{1, \dots, N_C\}} D(a^i, b^j) \text{ et } J2(i) = \arg \min_{j \in \{1, \dots, N_C\} \setminus J1(i)} D(a^i, b^j) \right\}$$

This popular criterion, that we call NN-DR (Nearest Neighbor Distance Ratio), benefits from its simplicity and the fact that it is by far more robust than a simple threshold on distances.

Nevertheless, it suffers from the following drawbacks:

- ❶ Discard matches related to **self similarity and multiple occurrences** [Zhang and Kosecka 06], [Noury, Sur and Berger 10];
- ❷ No multiple detections (NN restriction);
- ❸ The significance of the statistic test based on the two nearest neighbors is strongly dependent to the picture size;

## ADT matching criterion

Another interesting alternative matching criterion has been proposed by J-L. Lisani in [Cao et al., 2008] to adapt the distance ratio test in such a way that it **tolerates multiple detections**.

To do so, one consider an alternative database  $B'$  composed of  $N'_C$  descriptors in which we look for the nearest neighbor for each query descriptor. Now, a match is validated if the ratio between the distance from the query to a given candidate in  $B$  and the distance from the query to its most similar candidate in  $B'$  is below a fixed threshold  $r$ .

### Definition (ADT Criterion)

The set of matches is defined as:

$$C_{\text{ADT}} := \left\{ (a^i, b^j), i \in \{1, \dots, N_Q\} \text{ and } j \in \{1, \dots, N_C\} : D(a^i, b^j) \leq r \cdot \min_{j \in \{1, \dots, N'_C\}} D(a^i, b^{j'}) \right\}$$

This method can be seen as an *a contrario* approach in which one estimates *adaptive thresholds* on the dissimilarity measure depending on the query and a background model (the database  $B'$ ).

Nevertheless, it requires some extra computations with the database  $B'$ . Moreover, contrary to the *a contrario* methodology introduced in Part II, it does not make it possible to set the threshold  $r$  in such way that we control the expected number of false alarms.

## The null hypothesis

We assume that

$$D(a^i, b^j) = \sum_{m=1}^M d(a_m^i, b_m^j)$$

Let  $\mathbf{b}$  be a **random descriptor**, and  $a^i$  any query descriptor.

### Definition (Null hypotheses)

Given a query descriptor  $a^i$ , a random descriptor  $b$  satisfies the hypothesis  $\mathcal{H}_0^i$  : **“the distances  $d(a_m^i, b_m)$  ( $m \in \{1, \dots, M\}$ ) are mutually independent random variables.”**

Then

$$\mathbb{P} \left( D(a^i, \mathbf{b}) \leq \delta \mid \mathcal{H}_0^i \right) = \int_{-\infty}^{\delta} \prod_{m=1}^M p_m^i(x) dx,$$

where  $p_m^i$  is the pdf of the random variable  $d(a_m^i, b_m)$ .

**In practice** : for every  $m \in \{1, \dots, M\}$ ,  $p_m^i$  is **empirically** estimated over the database  $\{b^1, \dots, b^{N_C}\}$ ,

$$p_m^i(x) = \frac{1}{N_C} \# \left\{ b^j ; d(a_m^i, b_m^j) = x \right\}.$$

$\Rightarrow$  for each  $i$  and each value of  $\delta$ , one can estimate  $\mathbb{P} \left( D(a^i, \mathbf{b}) \leq \delta \mid \mathcal{H}_0^i \right)$ .

# Meaningful matches

## Definition:

$$\text{NFA}(a^i, \delta) := N_Q N_C \mathbb{P} \left( D(a^i, \mathbf{b}) \leq \delta \mid \mathcal{H}_0^i \right)$$

## Adaptive threshold computation:

$$\tilde{\delta}_i(\varepsilon) = \arg \max_{\delta} \left\{ \text{NFA}(a^i, \delta) \leq \varepsilon \right\}$$

**A Contrario (AC) Matching criterion:** A match between  $a^i$  and  $b^j$  is

- **validated** if  $\text{NFA}(a^i, D(a^i, b^j)) \leq \varepsilon \Leftrightarrow D(a^i, b^j) \leq \tilde{\delta}_i(\varepsilon)$ ,
- **rejected** if  $\text{NFA}(a^i, D(a^i, b^j)) > \varepsilon \Leftrightarrow D(a^i, b^j) > \tilde{\delta}_i(\varepsilon)$ .

## Control of false alarms:

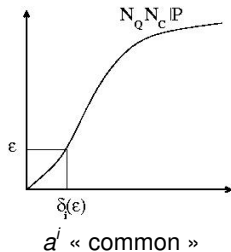
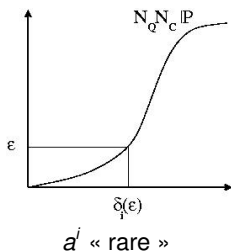
### Proposition

*Under the null hypothesis, the expected number of matches among the  $N_C \times N_Q$  possible matches is smaller than  $\varepsilon$ .*

# Adaptive distance thresholds

## Advantages of A Contrario criterion (AC):

- only one threshold  $\varepsilon \Rightarrow$  **adaptive thresholds**  $\tilde{\delta}_i(\varepsilon)$  in function of  $a^i$  and of the database
- total number of matches **not limited a priori**



# A Contrario (AC) matching algorithm

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**Algorithm:** Automatic distance threshold setting.

---

**Input:**  $N_Q$  query descriptors  $\{a^i\}$  and  $N_C$  candidate descriptors  $\{b^j\}$ , parameter  $\varepsilon > 0$ .

For each query descriptor  $a^i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, N_Q$ :

- 1) computation of distances  $d_m(a^i, b^j)$  for all  $m = 1, \dots, M$  and  $j = 1, \dots, N_C$ ;
- 2) estimation of probability density functions: for each  $m$ ,  $p_m^i$  computed as the empirical distribution of  $d_m(a^i, b^j)$ , when  $b^j$  spans the database;
- 3) computation of p-value  $\delta \mapsto \mathbb{P}(D(a^i, \mathbf{b}) \leq \delta \mid \mathcal{H}_0^i)$ ;
- 4) computation of threshold  $\delta_i(\varepsilon)$ ;
- 5) matching of  $a^i$  with each descriptor  $b^j$  such that  $D(a^i, b^j) \leq \delta_i(\varepsilon)$ ;

**Output:** List of correspondences.

---

# Can experiment

## Small dataset illustration



## Can experiment

## NN-DT matching criterion





# Can experiment

## NN-DR matching criterion

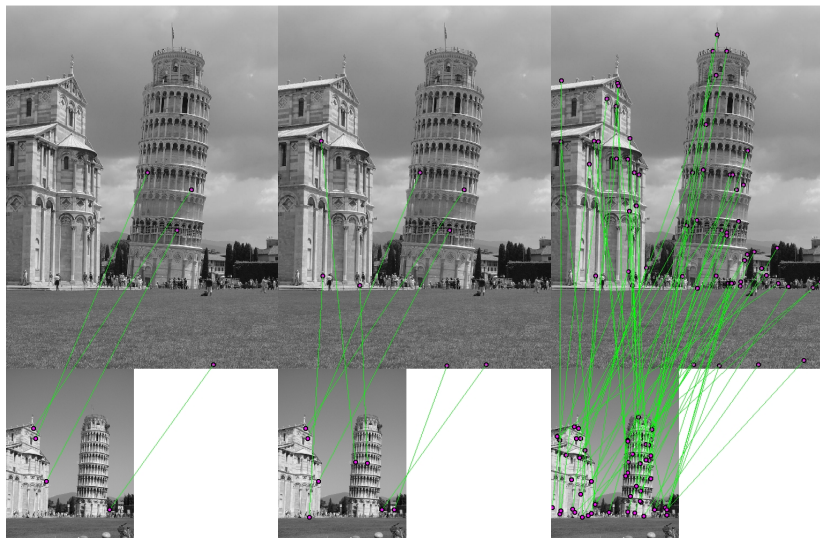


## Can experiment

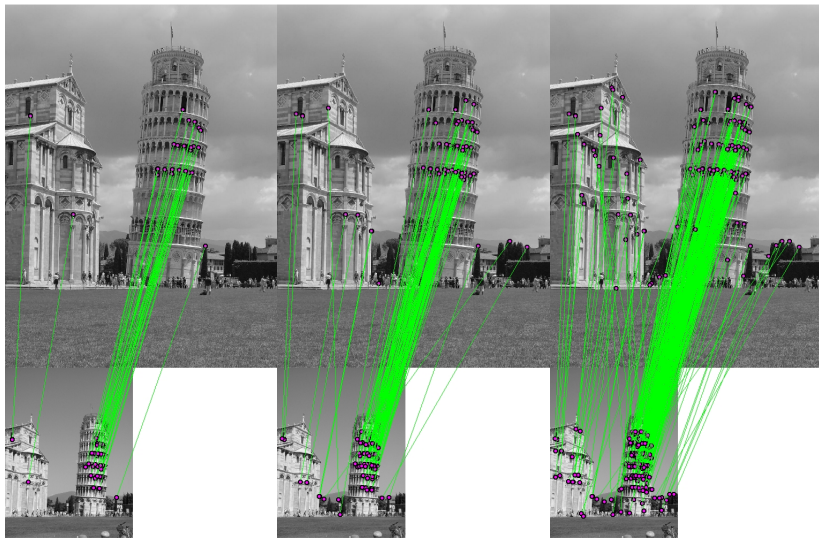
## AC matching criterion



## Pisa experiment

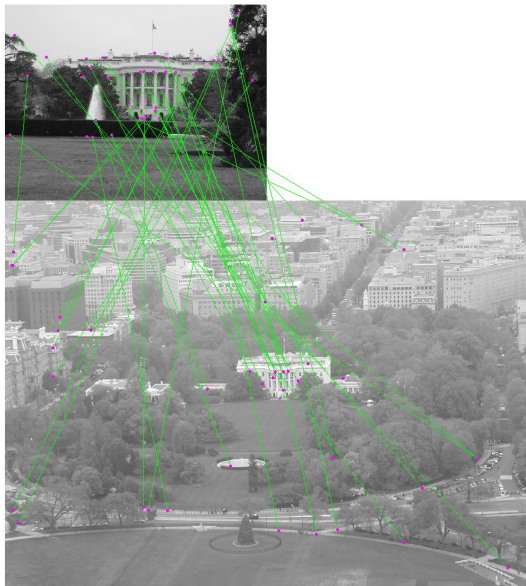
NN-DR with  $r = 0.65$ ,  $r = 0.7$ ,  $r = 0.8$ 

## Pisa experiment

AC with  $\epsilon = 10^{-2}$ ,  $\epsilon = 10^{-1}$ ,  $\epsilon = 1$ .

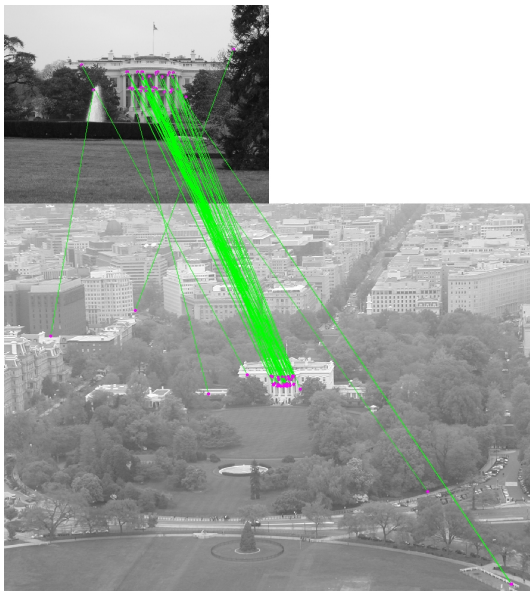
# White House

Lowe's algorithm at  $r = 0.8$ .

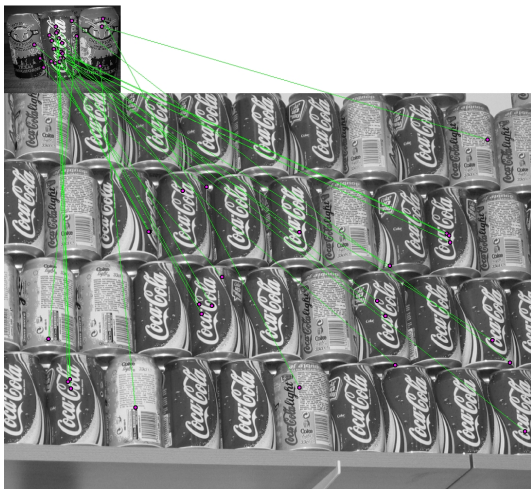


# White House

AC at  $\varepsilon = 10^{-1}$ .

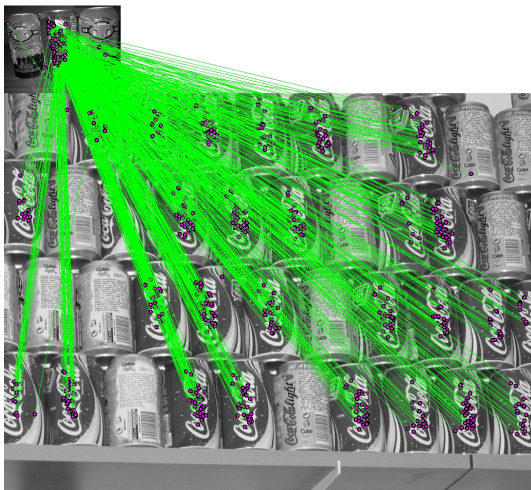


## Cans

NN-DR with  $r = 0.8$ 

## multiple soda cans

AC with  $\epsilon = 10^{-1}$  (1115 matches between the logos out of 1120)





## multiple soja cans



## multiple soja cans



# NN restriction for AC criterion



# NN restriction for AC criterion

AC criterion with NN restriction



## NN restriction for AC criterion

AC criterion without NN restriction



## Part V

# IPOL Projects

## Projects #1: histogram mode selection

This project is devoted to the study of the orientation assignment techniques previously described in part IV.

First, it is asked to study the *a contrario* mode detection approach to select SIFT orientation. More details may be found in [Desolneux, 2000] for the selection of modes in non-circular histograms.

The second goal of the project is to propose a detailed comparison with the original SIFT orientation assignment method described in [Lowe, 2004].

Codes are available for experimental study on demand.

An IPOL publication may be proposed, with a short description of both methods and a clean implementation.

## Projects #2: matching criterion

The goal of this project is to compare the matching criteria NN-DT, NN-DR and ADT described in Part V. Codes are available for experimental study on demand. An IPOL publication may be proposed, with a short description of both methods and a clean implementation.



## Projects #3: matching criterion

This project is devoted to the study of the *a contrario* matching criterion described in Part V. Codes are available for experimental study on demand.

An IPOL publication may be proposed, with a short description of both methods and a clean implementation.

# Some more experiments (repetitive structures)

Grouping with projective or epipolar geometry constraint



# Some more experiments (repetitive structures)

Grouping with projective or epipolar geometry constraint



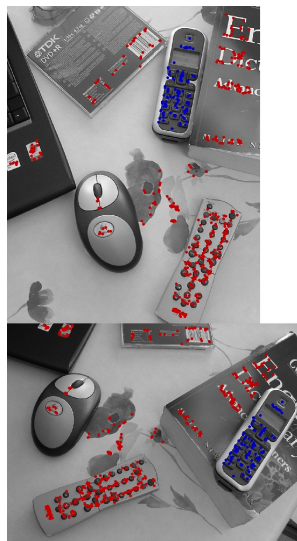
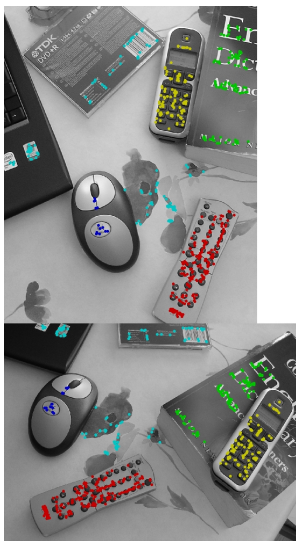
# Some more experiments

Grouping with projective or epipolar geometry constraint



# Some more experiments

## Grouping with projective or epipolar geometry constraint



# Some more experiments (Multiple occurrences)

Grouping with projective geometry constraint



## Some more experiments (Multiple occurrences)

Grouping with projective geometry constraint



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