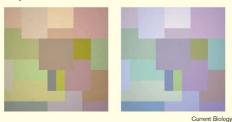


Color Constancy Research in Human Vision

Often Mondrian images were used as stimuli in color constancy experiments. Humans were asked to match patches in the scene to isolated patches under white light.

From these images the importance of color statistics, spatial mean, maximum flux for color constancy was established.



Human color constancy was still only partially explained by these experiments.

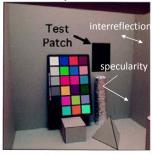
Drawbacks: do not resemble real 3D surfaces, no interreflections, no specularities, shading etc.

Edwin Lan. The retinex, Am Sci 1964 Anya Hurlbert: Is colour constancy real ? Current Biology 1999

Color Constancy Research in Human Vision

Kraft and Brainard designed a more realistic setting for color constancy. Where illuminant and test patch color could be adjusted.

Obeservers task to adjust the colour of the test patch to be achromatic.

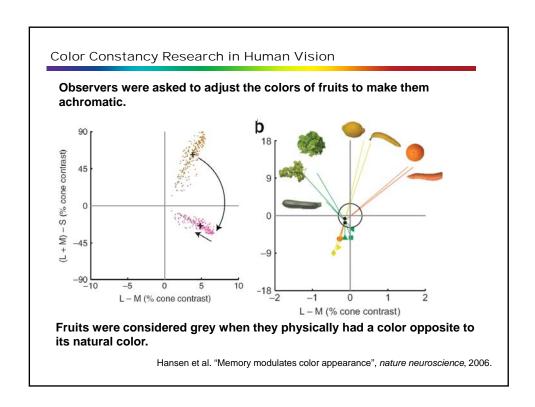




Successive subtraction of cues found them all to be important

- local contrast
- global contrast
- interreflections, specularities

Kraft J M , Brainard D H PNAS 1999;96:307-312 Anya Hurlbert: Is colour constancy real ? Current Biology 1999



Color Constancy at a Pixel

The state of the

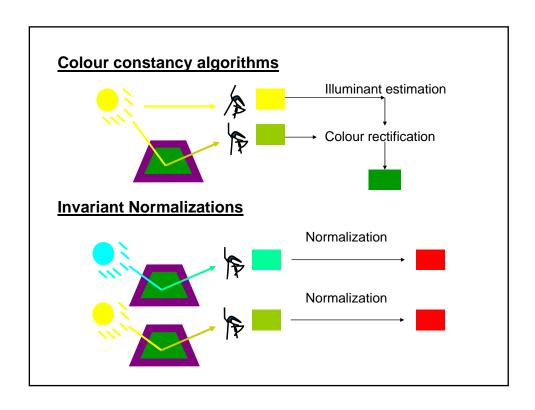
problem statement

How do we recognize colors to be the same under varying light sources?





color constancy : the ability to recognize colors of objects invariant of the color of the light source.

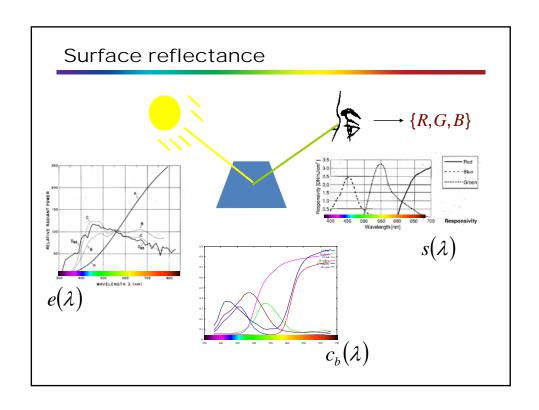


color constancy at a pixel

Assumptions:

- 1. Lambertian model:
 - linear relation pixel values and intensity light.
 - no specularities and interreflections.
- 2. perfectly narrow-band sensors (Dirac delta functions).
- 3. the illuminants are Planckian.

However, the final algorithm is shown to be robust to deviations from the assumptions.



Dirac delta functions

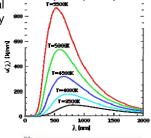
Planckian illuminants

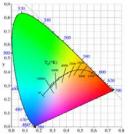
Planck's law of black body radiation states the spectral intensity of electromagnetic radiation from a black body at temperature T as a function of wavelength:

Wien's approx:

body as the blackbody temperature changes.

 $E(\lambda,T) = \frac{c_1}{\lambda^5} e^{-\frac{c_2}{T\lambda}}$ The **Planckian locus** is the path that the color of a black

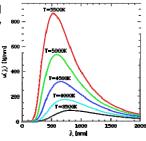




Planckian illuminants

Planck's law of black body radiation states the spectral intensity of electromagnetic radiation from a black body at temperature T as a function of wavelength:

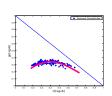
Wien's approx: $E(\lambda,T) = \frac{c_1}{\lambda^5} e^{-\frac{c_2}{T\lambda}}$



The **Planckian locus** is the path that the color of a black body as the blackbody temperature changes.

Daylight illuminants can be approximated by Planckian illuminants.

(indoor illuminants to some extend
2500K Household light bulbs
3000K Studio lights, photo floods
4000K Clear flashbulbs
5000K Typical daylight; electronic flash)



Color constancy at a pixel

Planckian light

$$p_k = e(\lambda_k)c_b(\lambda_k)q_k \longrightarrow p_k = \frac{c_1}{\lambda_k^5}e^{-\frac{c_2}{T\lambda}}c_b(\lambda_k)q_k$$

Consider the logarithm of the chromaticity coordinates:

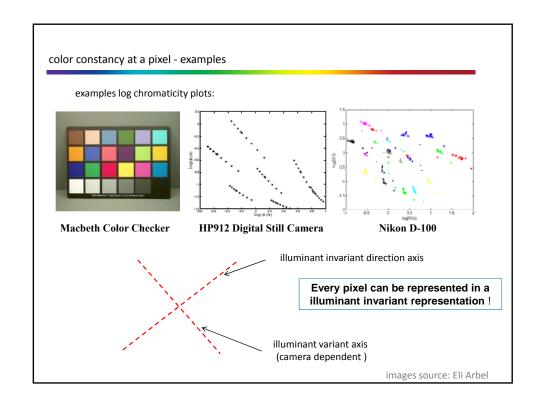
$$\chi_{j} = \log\left(\frac{p_{k}}{p_{p}}\right) = \log\left(\frac{\lambda^{-5}e^{\frac{-c_{2}}{T\lambda}}c_{b}(\lambda_{k})q_{k}}{\lambda^{-5}e^{\frac{-c_{2}}{T\lambda}}c_{b}(\lambda_{p})q_{p}}\right)$$

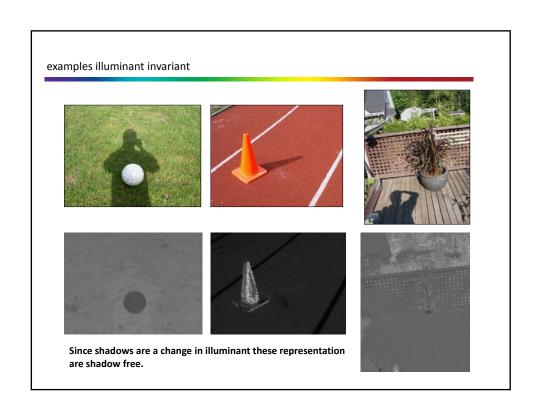
$$\chi = \mathbf{s} + \frac{1}{T} \mathbf{e}$$

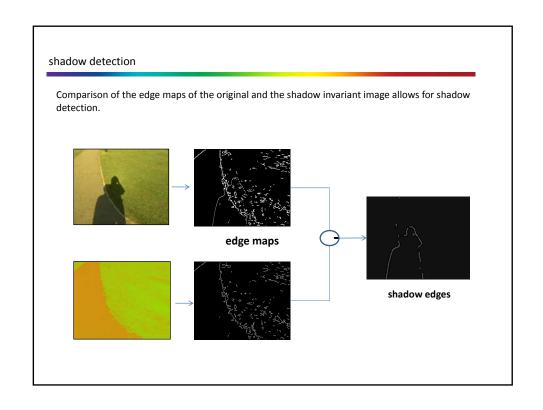
$$\chi_{j} = \log \left(\frac{s_{k}}{s_{p}} \right) + \frac{1}{T} \left(e_{k} - e_{p} \right)$$

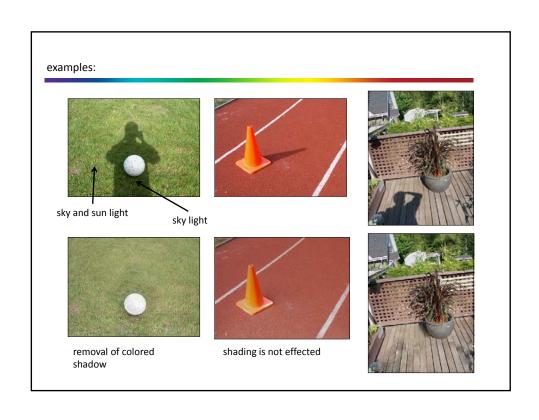
depends on surface color

olor $e_{_k} \equiv -\,c_{_2}/\lambda_{_3}$ depends on illuminant color $s_{_k} = \lambda_{_k}^{-5}c_{_b}(\lambda_{_k})q_{_k}$









references:

- 1. B. H. Tenenbau. *Recovering intrinsic scene characteristics from images.* **Computer Vision Systems, 1978**.
- 2. Y. Weiss. Deriving intrinsic images from image sequences. ICCV 2001.
- 3. G. D. Finlayson, S.D. Hordley. Color Constancy at a Pixel. JOSA 2001.
- 4. G.D. Finlayson, S.D. Hordley, C. Lu, M.S. Drew, *On the reomoval of shadows from images.* **PAMI 2006**.
- 5. E. Arbel, H Hel-Or, *Texture-Preserving Shadow Removal in color Images Containing Curved Surfaces.* **CVPR 2007**.
- 6. F. Liu, M. Gleicher. Texture-Consistent Shadow Removal. ECCV 2008.

Gamut Mapping

"In real-world images, for a given illuminant, one observes only a limited number of different colors." Solux 4700K Solux 4700K + Roscolux filter White Fluorescent

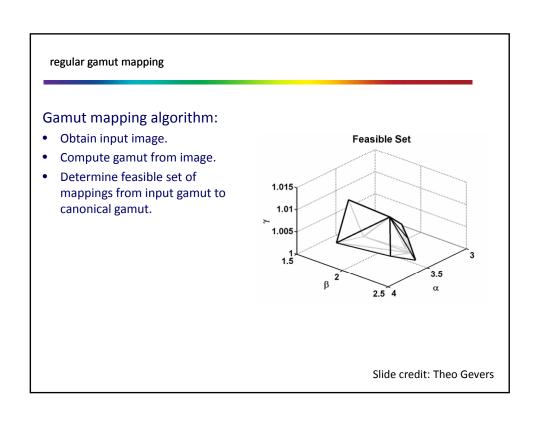
regular gamut mapping

Gamut mapping algorithm:

• Obtain input image.



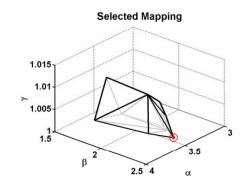
Slide credit: Theo Gevers



regular gamut mapping

Gamut mapping algorithm:

- Obtain input image.
- Compute gamut from image.
- Determine feasible set of mappings from input gamut to canonical gamut.
- Apply some estimator, to select one mapping from this set.



Slide credit: Theo Gevers

regular gamut mapping

Gamut mapping algorithm:

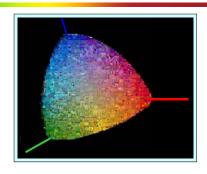
- Obtain input image.
- Compute gamut from image.
- Determine feasible set of mappings from input gamut to canonical gamut.
- Apply some estimator, to select one mapping from this set.
- Use mapping on input image to recover the corrected image, or on canonical illuminant to estimate the color of the unknown illuminant.



Slide credit: Theo Gevers

33

Color Constancy from **Color Derivatives**



Color Constancy

color constancy: the ability to recognize colors of objects invariant of the color of the light source.

Grey world hypothesis: the average reflectance in a scene is grey.

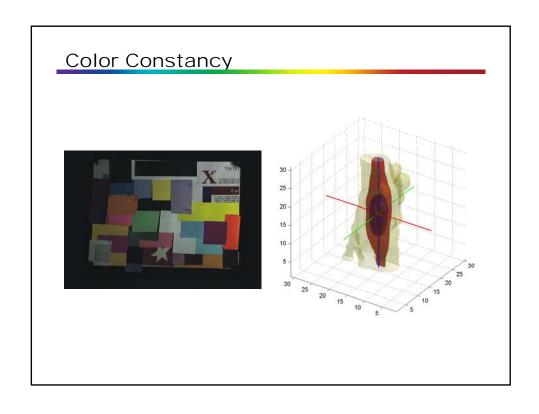
White patch hypothesis: the highest value in the image is white.

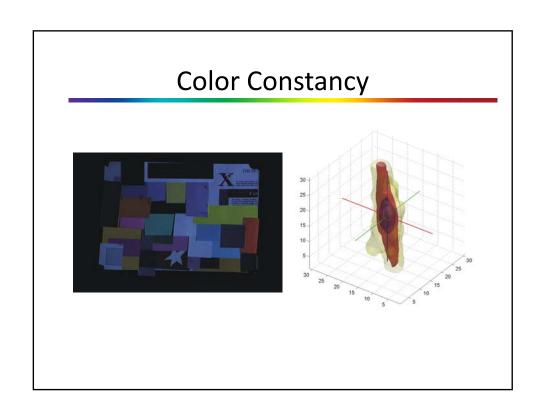
Grey-world:

 $\sum_{m=1}^{M} \mathbf{f}_{i}(\mathbf{x}) \propto \mathbf{c}$ $\left(\sum_{m=1}^{M} (\mathbf{f}_{i}(\mathbf{x}))^{\infty}\right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \propto \mathbf{c}$ white-patch:

Shades of Grey hypothesis: the n-Minkowsky norm based average of a scene is achromatic.

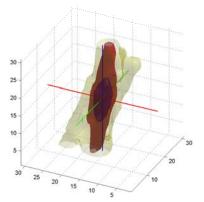
- unifies Grey-World and White Patch: $e^p \approx \sqrt[p]{\int |\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})|^p d\mathbf{x}}$





Color Constancy





Color Constancy

color constancy : the ability to recognize colors of objects invariant of the color of the light source.

Grey world hypothesis: the average reflectance in a scene is grey.

White patch hypothesis: the highest value in the image is white.

generalization I: the L-norm:

$$\left(\sum_{m=1}^{M} (\mathbf{f}_{i}(\mathbf{x}))^{k}\right)^{\frac{1}{k}} \propto \mathbf{c}$$

Grey edge hypothesis: the average edge in a scene is grey.

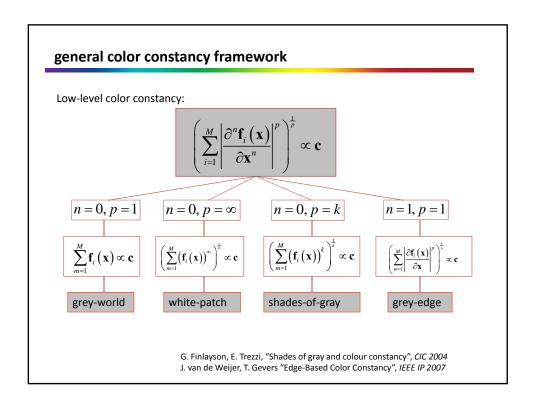
generalization II: L-norm + differentiation order:

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^{M} \left| \frac{\partial^{n} \mathbf{f}_{i}(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \mathbf{x}^{n}} \right|^{p} \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \propto \mathbf{c}$$

Color Constancy in 4 lines of matlab code!

Function Illuminant=GreyEdgeCC(im,mink,sigma,dif)

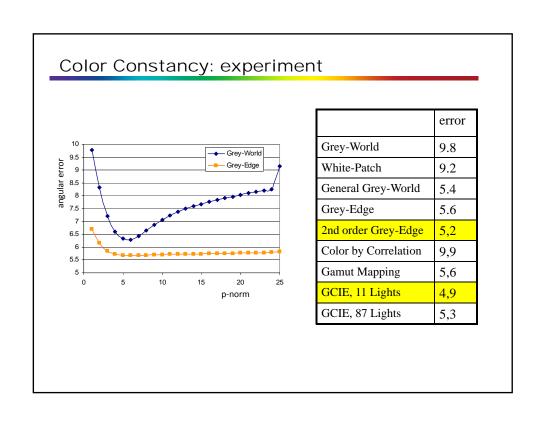
```
im = gauss_derivative(im,sigma,dif);
im = reshape(im,size(im,1)*size(im,2),3);
Illuminant= 1./power( sum ( power( im, mink) ), 1/mink );
Illuminant = Illuminant./norm(Illuminant);
```



Color Constancy: experiment

- test set: 23 objects under 11 illuminants (Computational Vision Lab: Simon Fraser)
- angular error = $\cos(\hat{e} \cdot e)$





Color Constancy: experiment

• real-world data set (F. Ciurea and B. Funt : Vision Lab - Simon Fraser)













Color Constancy: experiment

• real-world data set (F. Ciurea and B. Funt : Vision Lab - Simon Fraser)



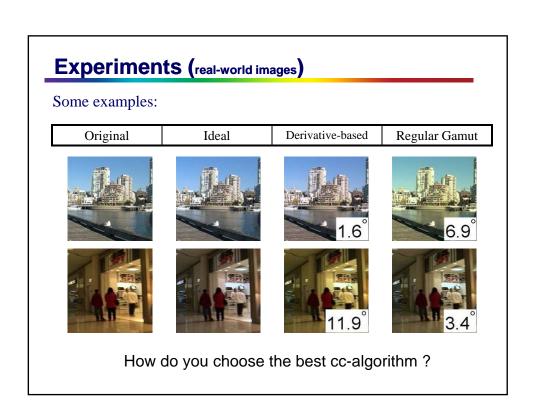






| | median |
|---------------------|--------|
| Grey-World | 7.3 |
| White-Patch | 6.7 |
| General Grey-World | 4.7 |
| Grey-Edge | 4.1 |
| 2nd order Grey-Edge | 4.3 |

"In real-world images, for a given illuminant, one observes only a limited number of different colored edges." A. Gijsenij, T. Gevers, J. van de Weijer, "Generalized Gamut Mapping using Image Derivative Structures for Color Constancy", UCV 2010



High-Level Color Constancy

Natural Image Statistics

• Could it be that different scenes prefer different color constancy methods ?

Geusebroek and Smeulders (2005) – Weibulls Examples:













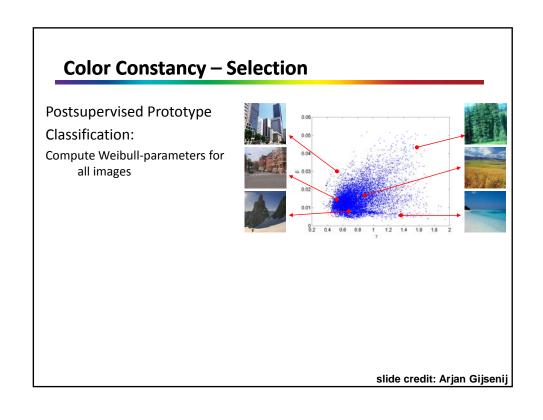




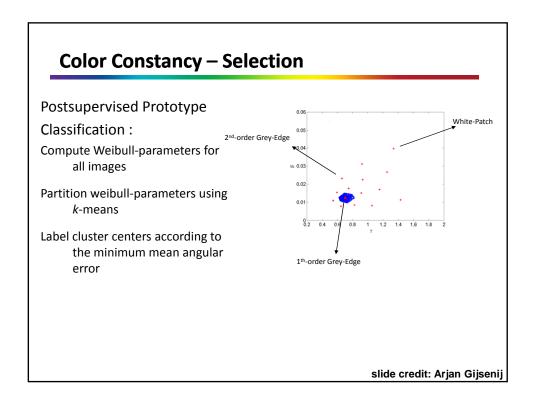




Natural Image Statistics Distribution of edge responses follows Weibull Beta: high distribution. Gamma: high Gamma: high Two parameters: β – Contrast of the image. A higher value Beta: low Beta: high indicates more contrast. Gamma: γ - Grain size. A higher value indicates more fine textures. slide credit: Arjan Gijsenij



Color Constancy — Selection Postsupervised Prototype Classification: Compute Weibull-parameters for all images Partition weibull-parameters using k-means



Color Constancy – Selection Postsupervised Prototype Classification: Compute Weibull-parameters for all images Partition weibull-parameters using Grey-Edge *k*-means Label cluster centers according to the minimum mean angular 2nd-order Grey-Edge Build 1-NN Classifier on these cluster centers slide credit: Arjan Gijsenij

Experiments

Data set consisting of 11000+ images

The true illuminants are known (ground truth)

Grey sphere is masked during experiments

Performance measure → angular error:

 $\cos^{-1}(\hat{\mathbf{e}}_l \cdot \hat{\mathbf{e}}_e)$



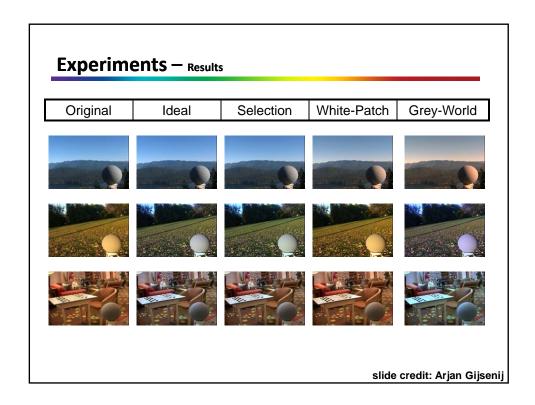












Experiments — Performance

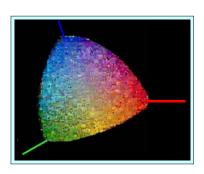
| Method | Mean | Median |
|----------------------------------|------|--------|
| Grey-World | 7.9° | 7.0° |
| White-Patch | 6.8° | 5.3° |
| General Grey-World | 6.2° | 5.3° |
| 1 th -Order Grey-Edge | 6.2° | 5.2° |
| 2 nd -Order Grey-Edge | 6.1° | 5.2° |
| Gamut mapping | 8.5° | 6.8° |
| Color-by-Correlation | 6.4° | 5.2° |

Experiments — Performance

| Method | Mean | Median |
|---|------------|-------------|
| 2 nd -Order Grey-Edge (baseline) | 6.1° | 5.2° |
| Selection – 5 methods | 5.7° (-7%) | 4.7° (-10%) |
| Combining – 5 methods | 5.6° (-8%) | 4.6° (-12%) |
| Combining – 75 methods | 5.0°(-18%) | 3.7° (-29%) |

slide credit: Arjan Gijsenij

Color Constancy from High-Level Visual Information



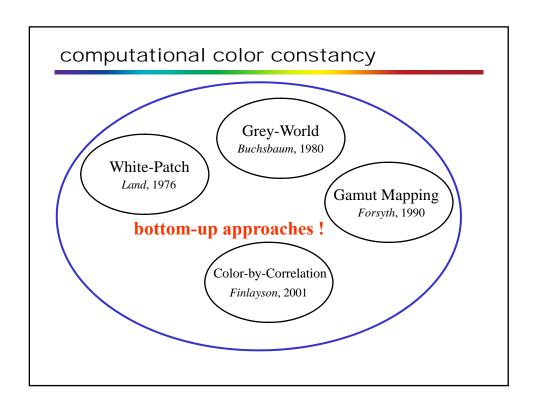
problem statement

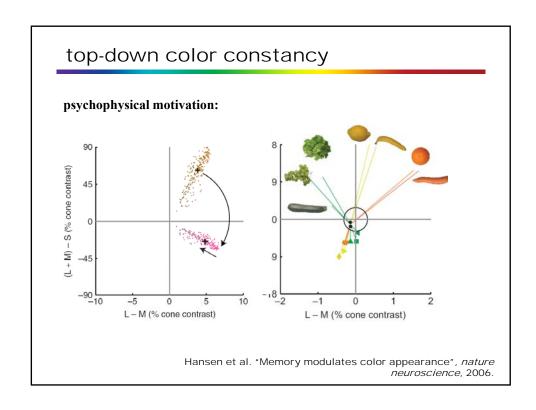
How do we recognize colors to be the same under varying light sources?





color constancy : the ability to recognize colors of objects invariant of the color of the light source.





problem statement

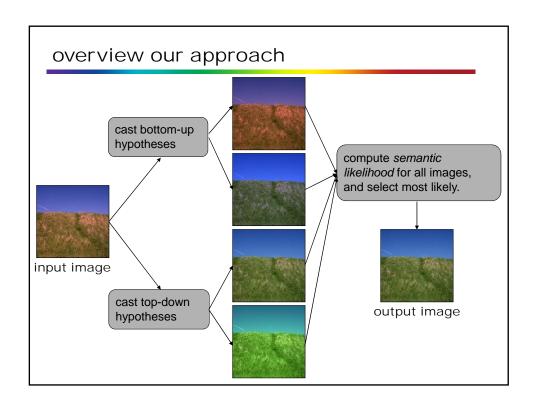
How do we recognize colors to be the same under varying light sources?

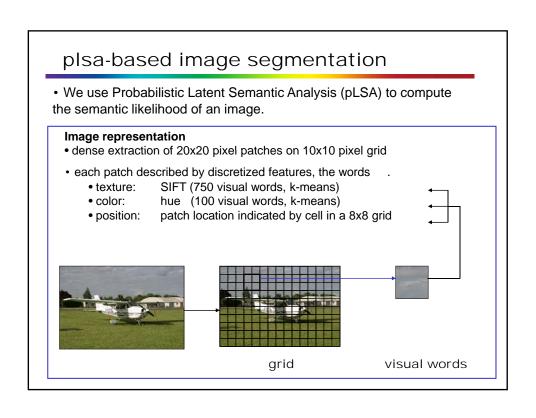




color constancy : the ability to recognize colors of objects invariant of the color of the light source.

How can we apply high-level visual information for computational color constancy ?





plsa-based image segmentation

• We use Probabilistic Latent Semantic Analysis (pLSA) to compute the semantic likelihood of an image.

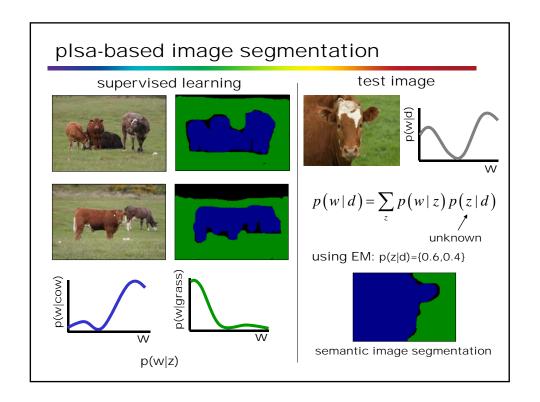
An image is modeled as a mixture of semantic topics: $p(w|d) = \sum_{z} p(w|z)p(z|d) \quad \text{image-specific mixture proportions}$ visual word image semantic topics

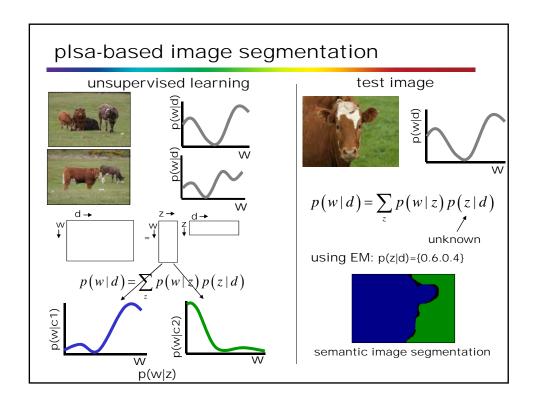
$$p(w \mid z) = \prod_{m=1}^{M} p(w^{m} \mid z)$$

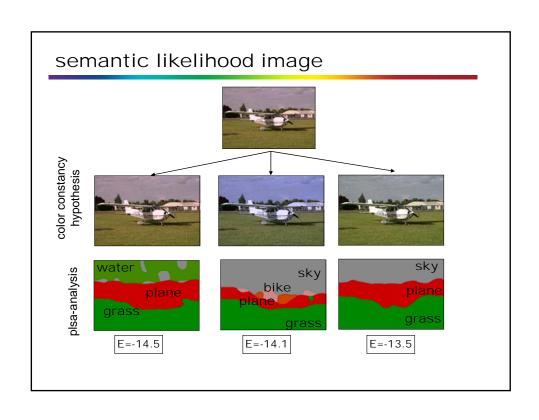
The $p(w^m \mid z)$ can either be learned supervised or unsupervised. We assume them to be learned from images taken under a white illuminant.

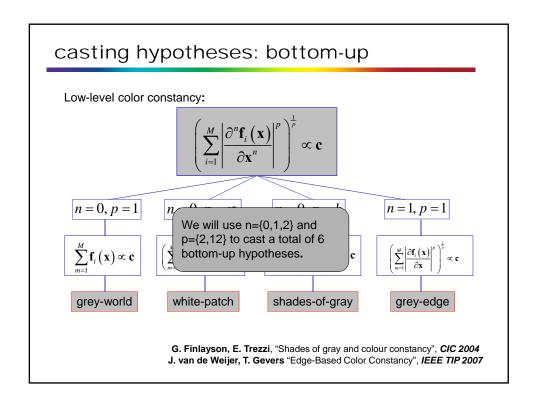


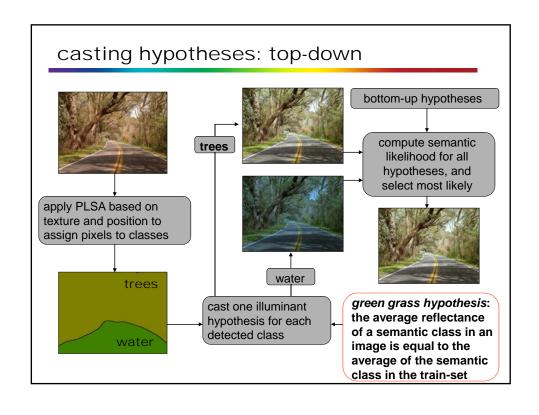
likelihood image $p(d) = \prod_{w} p(w|d)$











experiment: illuminant estimation

Data Set contains both indoor and outdoor scenes from a wide variety of locations (150 training, 150 testing)

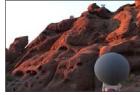
Topic-word distributions are learned unsupervised on the texture and position cue (color is ignored in training).













F. Ciurea and B. Funt "A large database for color constancy research", CIC 2004.

experiment: illuminant estimation

results in angular error:

| | | standard color constancy | | high- | level s | selection |
|---------|-------|--------------------------|---------|-------|---------|-----------|
| | no cc | worst BU | best BU | BU | TD | BU & TD |
| indoor | 12.8 | 12.3 | 6.1 | 5.3 | 5.6 | 5.3 |
| outdoor | 5.5 | 7.4 | 4.9 | 4.7 | 4.7 | 4.5 |













input image

bottom-up

top-down

experiment: semantic segmentation

Data Set training: labelled images of Microsoft Research Cambridge (MSRC) set, together with ten images collected from Google Image for each class. Training: 350 images. Test: 36 images.

Topic-word distributions are learned supervised.

Classes: building, grass, tree, cow, sheep, sky, water, face and road.





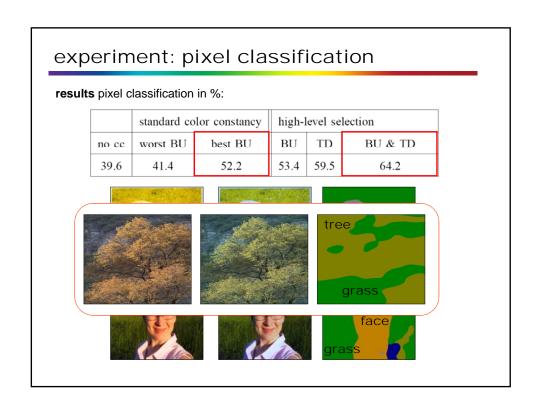




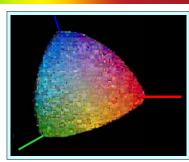




J. Shotton et al. "Textonboost", ECCV 2006.



Blur Robust and Color Constant Image description



problem statement

How do we recognize colors to be the same under varying light sources?

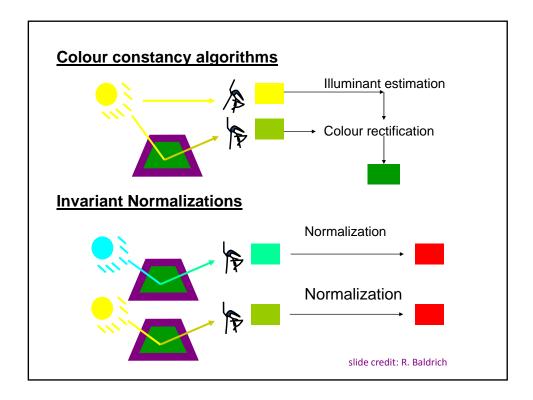


$$\begin{pmatrix}
R' \\
G' \\
B'
\end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix}
\alpha & 0 & 0 \\
0 & \beta & 0 \\
0 & 0 & \gamma
\end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix}
R \\
G \\
B
\end{pmatrix}$$



color constancy: the ability to recognize colors of objects invariant of the color of the light source.

Change of illuminant can be modeled by the *diagonal model*.



Color Constant Derivatives

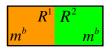
- A color constant representation of a single color patch is
- The difference between two color patches can be represented invariant to the color illuminant.

Funt and Finlayson:

Mondrian-world:
$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = m^b \mathbf{c}^b(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{e}$$

$$p = \frac{R^{1}}{R^{2}} = \frac{m^{b} c_{1}^{R} e^{R}}{m^{b} c_{2}^{R} e^{R}} = \frac{c_{1}^{R}}{c_{2}^{R}}$$

$$\ln p = \ln \frac{R^1}{R^2} = \ln R^1 - \ln R^2 = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \ln R$$



Gevers and Smeulders:

3D-world:
$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = m^b(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{c}^b(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{e}$$

$$p = \frac{R^{1}}{R^{2}} = \frac{m^{b} c_{1}^{R} e^{R}}{m^{b} c_{2}^{R} e^{R}} = \frac{c_{1}^{R}}{c_{2}^{R}}$$

$$m = \frac{R^{1} G^{2}}{R^{2} G^{1}} = \frac{m_{1}^{b} c_{1}^{R} e^{R}}{m_{2}^{b} c_{2}^{R} e^{R}} \frac{m_{2}^{b} c_{2}^{G} e^{G}}{m_{1}^{b} c_{1}^{G} e^{G}} = \frac{c_{1}^{R} c_{2}^{G}}{c_{2}^{R} c_{1}^{G}}$$

$$\ln p = \ln \frac{R^{1}}{R^{2}} = \ln R^{1} - \ln R^{2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \ln R \qquad \ln m = \ln \frac{R^{1}G^{2}}{R^{2}G^{1}} = \ln \frac{R^{1}}{G^{1}} - \ln \frac{R^{2}}{G^{2}} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \ln \frac{R}{G}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} R^1 & R^2 \\ m_1^b & G^1 & G^2 & m_2^b \end{bmatrix}$$

Color Constant Derivatives

- A color constant representation of a single color patch is
- The difference between two color patches can be represented invariant to the color illuminant.

These theories overlook the fact that an edge operator measures two properties of the edge:

Mono 1. the color difference 2. the steepness of the edge
$$p = \frac{R}{R^2} = \frac{m \cdot c_1}{m^b c_2^R e^R} = \frac{c_1}{c_2^R} \qquad m = \frac{R \cdot G}{R^2 G^1} = \frac{m_1 \cdot c_1}{m_2^b c_2^R e^R} = \frac{m_2 \cdot c_2}{m_1^b c_1^G e^G} = \frac{c_1^R c_2^G}{c_2^R c_1^G}$$

$$\ln p = \ln \frac{R^1}{R^2} = \ln R^1 - \ln R^2 = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \ln R \qquad \ln m = \ln \frac{R^1 G^2}{R^2 G^1} = \ln \frac{R^1}{G^1} - \ln \frac{R^2}{G^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \ln \frac{R}{G}$$

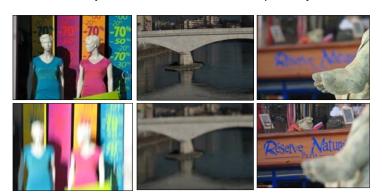
$$R^1 R^2$$

$$\ln p = \ln \frac{R^1}{R^2} = \ln R^1 - \ln R^2 = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \ln R \qquad \ln m = \ln \frac{R^1 G^2}{R^2 G^1} = \ln \frac{R^1}{G^1} - \ln \frac{R^2}{G^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \ln \frac{R}{G^2}$$



Why is this a problem?

- Image blur is frequently encountered phenomenon.
- Possible causes are : out-of-focus, relative motion between camera and object, and aberrations of the optical system.



Obtaining Invariance to Image Blur

- A color constant representation of a single color patch is impossible.
- The difference between two color patches can be represented invariant to the color illuminant.

Funt and Finlayson:

Mondrian-world: $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = m^b \mathbf{c}^b \mathbf{e}(\mathbf{x})$

$$p = \frac{R^{1}}{R^{2}} = \frac{m^{b} c_{1}^{R} e^{R}}{m^{b} c_{2}^{R} e^{R}} = \frac{c_{1}^{R}}{c_{2}^{R}}$$

$$\ln p = \ln \frac{R^1}{R^2} = \ln R^1 - \ln R^2 = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \ln R$$

 $R' = R \otimes G^{\sigma_s}$ Consider a blurred image:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x}^{\sigma_d} \ln R = \frac{R_x^{\sigma_d}}{R^{\sigma_d}} \qquad \frac{\partial}{\partial x}^{\sigma} \ln R' = \frac{R_x^{\sqrt{\sigma_d^2 + \sigma_s^2}}}{R^{\sqrt{\sigma_d^2 + \sigma_s^2}}}$$

$$R_{x}^{\sqrt{\sigma_{s}^{2}}} = R^{\sqrt{\sigma_{d}^{2} + \sigma_{s}^{2}}} \qquad R_{x}^{\sqrt{\sigma_{d}^{2}}} = C(\sigma_{s}) R_{x}^{\sqrt{\sigma_{d}^{2} + \sigma_{s}^{2}}}$$

Modulation works
$$\mathbf{I}(\mathbf{A}) = m \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{A})$$

$$p = \frac{R^1}{R^2} = \frac{m^b c_1^R e^R}{m^b c_2^R e^R} = \frac{c_1^R}{c_2^R}$$
On the edge the following holds:
$$R^{\sqrt{\sigma_s^2}} = R^{\sqrt{\sigma_d^2 + \sigma_s^2}} \qquad R_x^{\sqrt{\sigma_d^2}} = C(\sigma_s) R_x^{\sqrt{\sigma_d^2 + \sigma_s^2}}$$
Robustness with respect to blur is obtained by:
$$\varphi_p^1 = \arctan\left(\frac{R_x G}{G_x R}\right) \quad \varphi_p^1 = \arctan\left(\frac{G_x B}{B_x G}\right)$$

Retrieval Experiment I

- Twenty different objects where captured under 11 different object orientations and 11 different light sources (Simon Fraser).
- We compare the retrieval results of the color constant description with the color constant and blur robust description.
- Error given in Normalized Average Rank (NAR).

| ran | k | 1 | 2 | >2 | ANAR |
|----------------------------------|---|-----|----|----|-------|
| р | | 180 | 5 | 15 | 0.010 |
| $arphi_p$ | | 169 | 17 | 14 | 0.012 |
| m | | 155 | 22 | 23 | 0.024 |
| $\varphi_{\scriptscriptstyle m}$ | | 115 | 23 | 65 | 0.049 |







Retrieval Experiment II

- Twenty pairs of images with varying image blur.
- We compare the retrieval results of the color constant description with the color constant and blur robust description.

| rank | 1 | 2 | >2 | ANAR |
|----------------------------------|----|---|----|-------|
| р | 7 | 2 | 11 | 0.365 |
| $arphi_p$ | 16 | 3 | 1 | 0.018 |
| m | 6 | 2 | 12 | 0.303 |
| $\varphi_{\scriptscriptstyle m}$ | 13 | 1 | 6 | 0.053 |



Summary Color Constancy

• The Planckian locus describes natural light illuminants.



• Color constancy at the pixel allows for shadow removal.





•The general grey-world algorithm generalizes a set of low-level color constancy algorithms, including white patch, grey-world, grey-edge, and shades –of-grey.

 $\left| \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left| \frac{\partial \mathbf{I}_{i}(\mathbf{X})}{\partial \mathbf{X}^{n}} \right| \right| \propto \mathbf{c}$

• Top-down information improves both color constancy performance and semantic segmentation results.

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| Questions? | | |
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