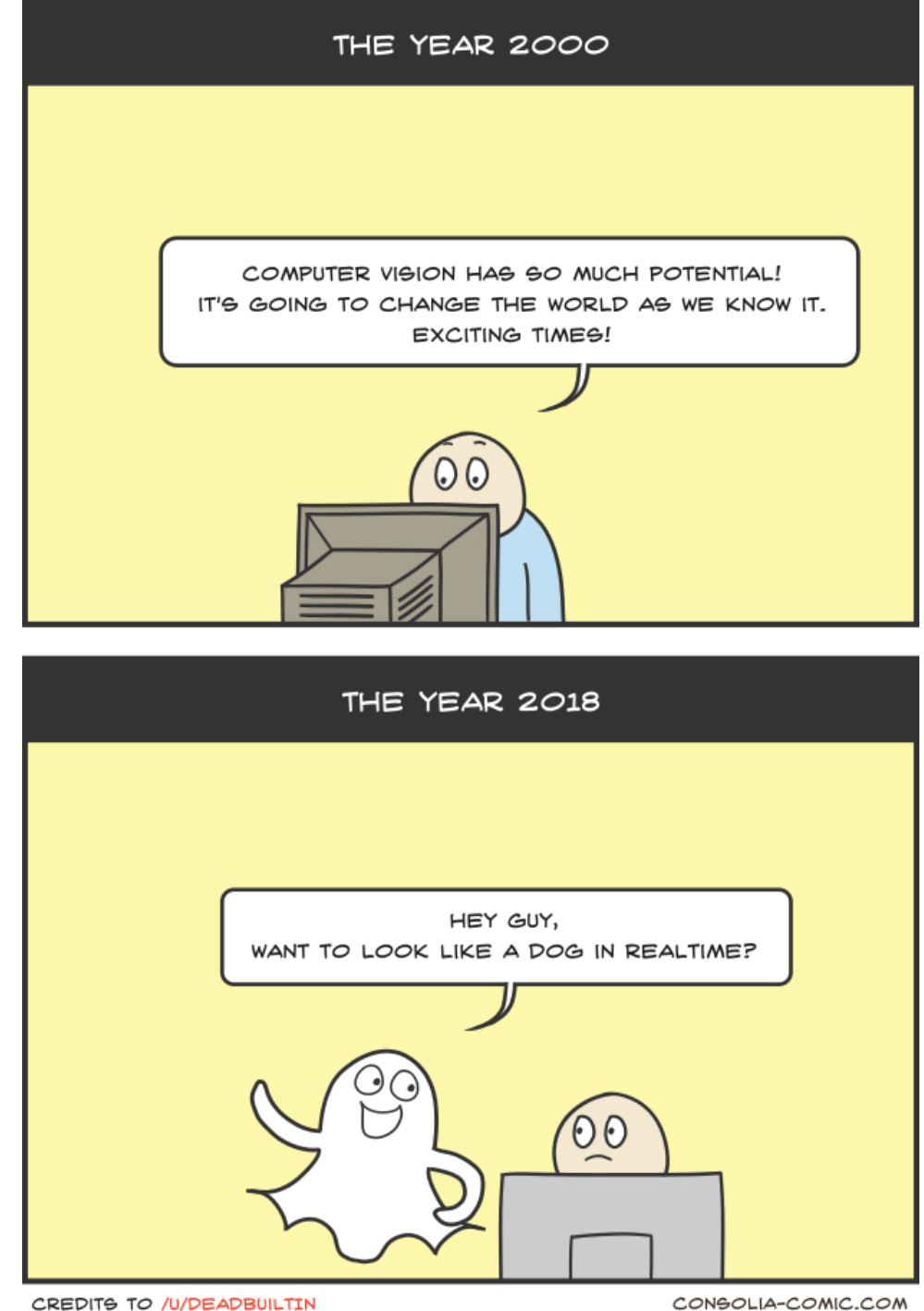


CMSC 472/672

# Lecture 1

# Computer Vision

Some slides from Jayasuriya, Turaga, Szeliski



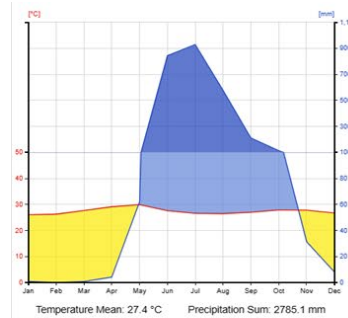
# Tejas Gokhale ~

Tejas:  
Gokhale:

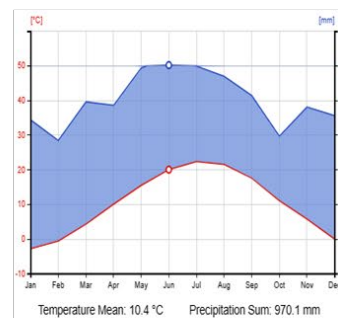
Tay + Juss  
Go + Clay



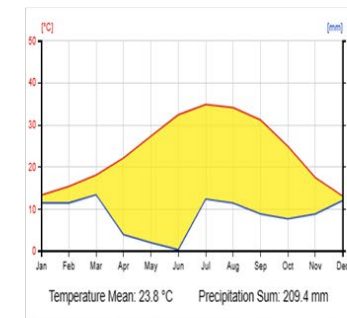
**Assistant Professor**  
Computer Science  
University of Maryland, Baltimore County



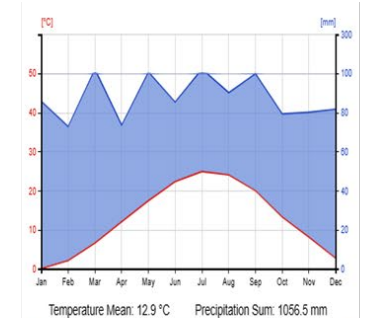
2011—2015  
B.E. (Honours)  
BITS Pilani  
(Goa)



2016-2018:  
M.S.  
Carnegie Mellon  
University



2018—2023:  
Ph.D.  
Arizona State  
University



2023—present  
Assistant Professor  
University of Maryland  
Baltimore County

<https://www.tejasgokhale.com/>

# Course Staff

Instructor: Tejas Gokhale  
Assistant Professor, CSEE



Wednesday 2:30 – 3:30 PM

**ITE 342-B**

[gokhale@umbc.edu](mailto:gokhale@umbc.edu)

**Office  
Hours**

TA: ???

...



TBD

# Class Website

- This is your primary source for class material (slides, notes, readings, references, etc.)
- Assignments & Grades will be released on Blackboard

<https://courses.cs.umbc.edu/graduate/672/>



# Quick Round of Introductions

1. Name
2. Major (e.g. CS, CE, EE, etc.)
3. Level (e.g. BS, MS, Ph.D. etc.)
4. Why are you taking this class?

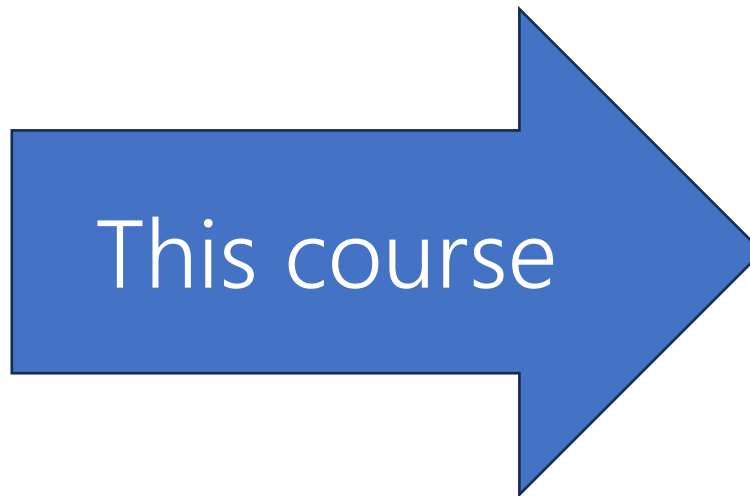


# **What is this course about ?**

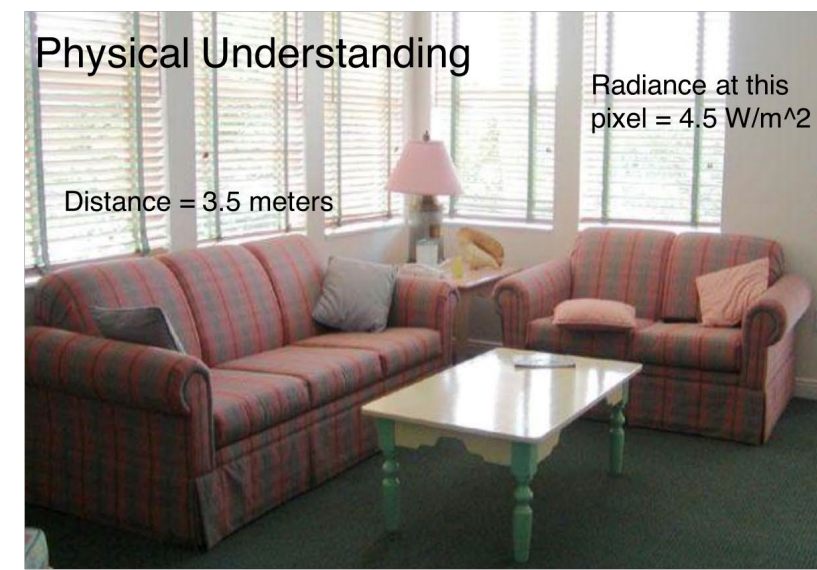
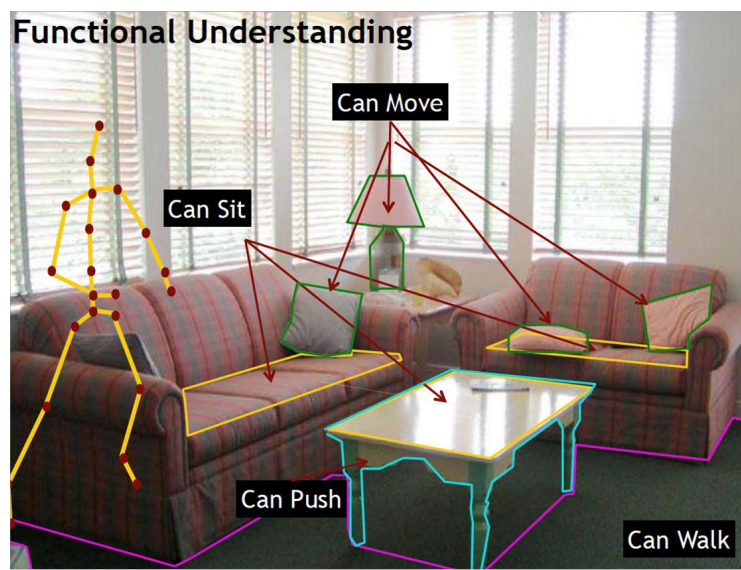
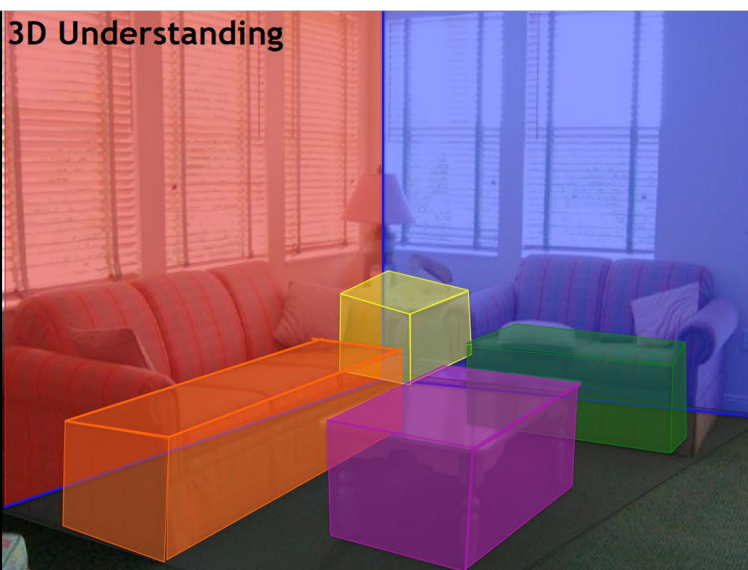
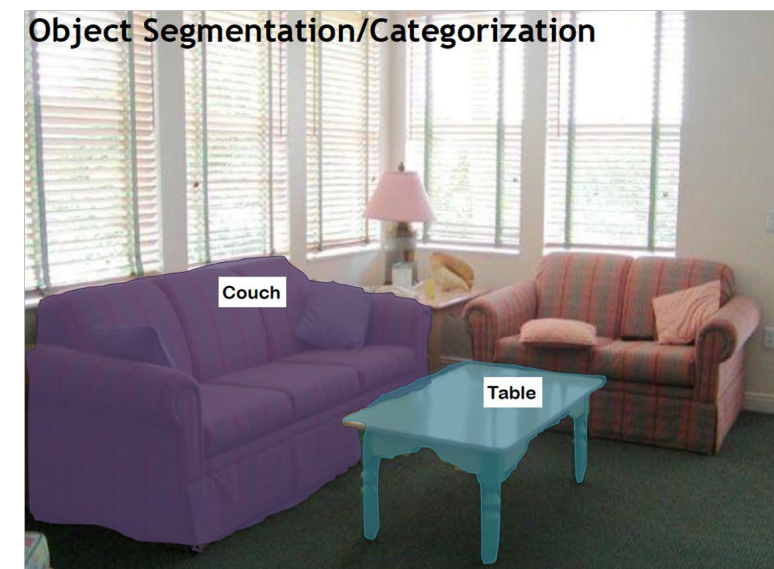
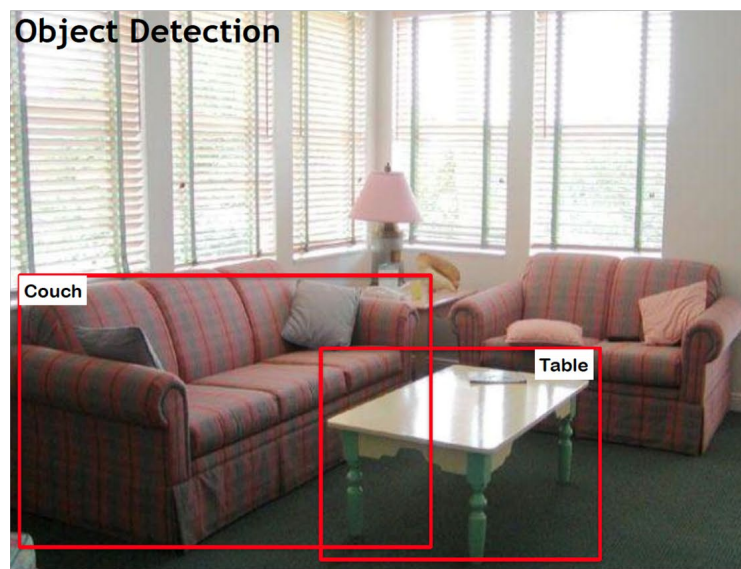
“Understanding Images”

# What is this course about ?

“Understanding Images”



# Computer Vision: Understanding Images





# Why is CV difficult?

What I see





# Why is CV difficult?

What I see



What a computer sees

08	02	22	97	38	15	00	40	00	75	04	05	07	78	52	12	50	77	91	08
49	49	99	40	17	81	18	57	60	87	17	40	98	43	69	48	04	56	62	00
81	49	31	73	55	79	14	29	93	71	40	67	53	88	30	03	49	13	36	65
52	70	95	23	04	60	11	42	69	24	68	56	01	32	56	71	37	02	36	91
22	31	16	71	51	67	63	89	41	92	36	54	22	40	40	28	66	33	13	80
24	47	32	60	99	03	45	02	44	75	33	53	78	36	84	20	35	17	12	50
32	98	81	28	64	23	67	10	26	38	40	67	59	54	70	66	18	38	64	70
67	26	20	68	02	62	12	20	95	63	94	39	63	08	40	91	66	49	94	21
24	55	58	05	66	73	99	26	97	17	78	78	96	83	14	88	34	89	63	72
21	36	23	09	75	00	76	44	20	45	35	14	00	61	33	97	34	31	33	95
78	17	53	28	22	75	31	67	15	94	03	80	04	62	16	14	09	53	56	92
16	39	05	42	96	35	31	47	55	58	88	24	00	17	54	24	36	29	85	57
86	56	00	48	35	71	89	07	05	44	44	37	44	60	21	58	51	54	17	58
19	80	81	68	05	94	47	69	28	73	92	13	86	52	17	77	04	89	55	40
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88	36	68	87	57	62	20	72	03	46	33	67	46	55	12	32	63	93	53	69
04	42	16	73	38	25	39	11	24	94	72	18	08	46	29	32	40	62	76	36
20	69	36	41	72	30	23	88	34	62	99	69	82	67	59	85	74	04	36	16
20	73	35	29	78	31	90	01	74	31	49	71	48	86	81	16	23	57	05	54
01	70	54	71	83	51	54	69	16	92	33	48	61	43	52	01	89	19	67	48

# Humans are good at it ...



# ***Are Humans good at it ?***





# Challenges: object intra-class variation



## Challenges: Motion





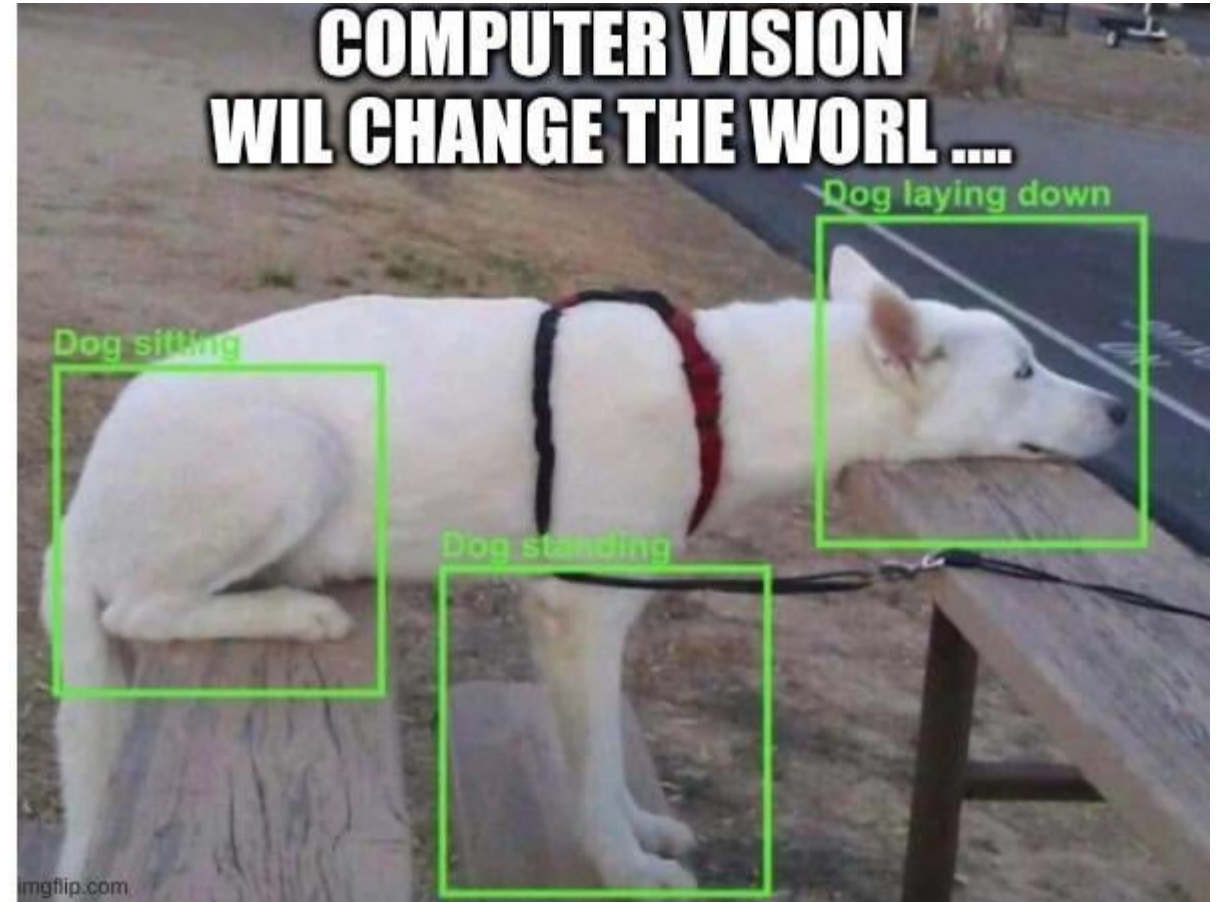
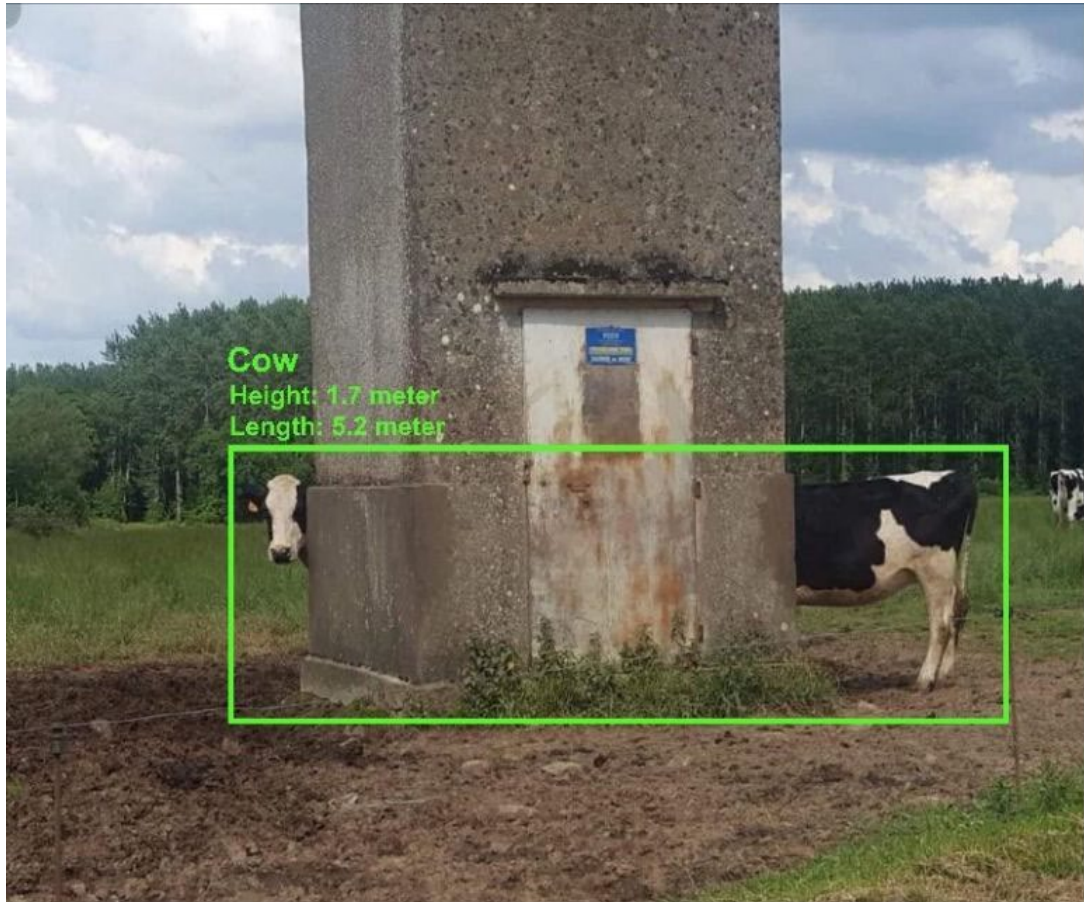
# Challenges: background clutter



Emperor shrimp and commensal crab on a sea cucumber in Fiji  
Photograph by Tim Laman



# Challenges: “Commonsense”





# Robustness Challenge: T-Shirt Lady at CVPR



# What is computer science?

Typical answers: programming, coding, algorithms ...

An attempt to develop a theory of computation  
to represent, understand, and interact with the world  
in the form of computations.

# What is computer vision?

An attempt to develop a theory  
to represent, understand, and interact  
with the visual world  
in the form of computations



Describe this image ...





Describe this image ...

# People, Objects, Nature, Buildings





Describe this image ...

People, Objects, Nature, Buildings

Actions, Abilities, Affordances



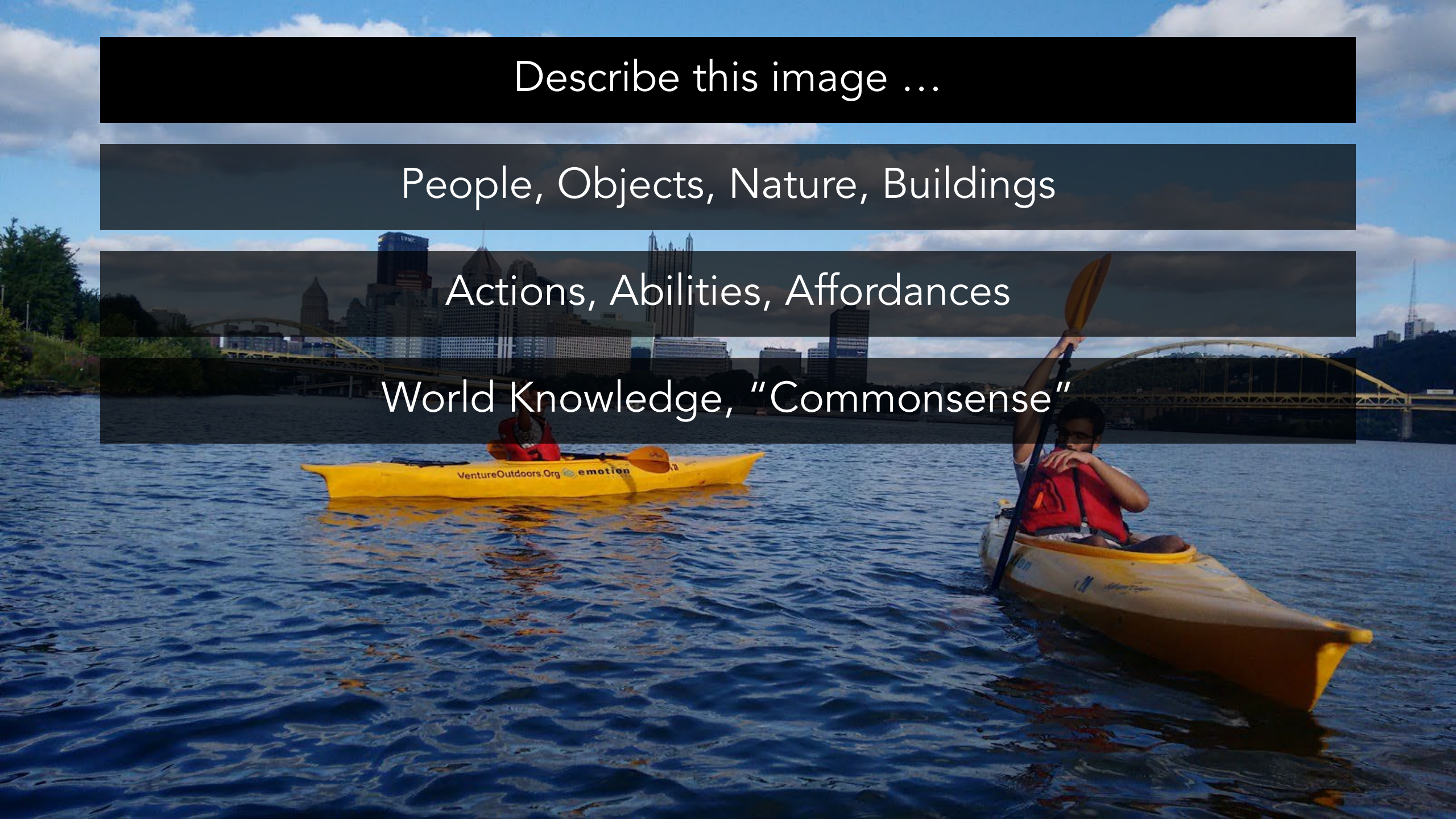


Describe this image ...

People, Objects, Nature, Buildings

Actions, Abilities, Affordances

World Knowledge, "Commonsense"





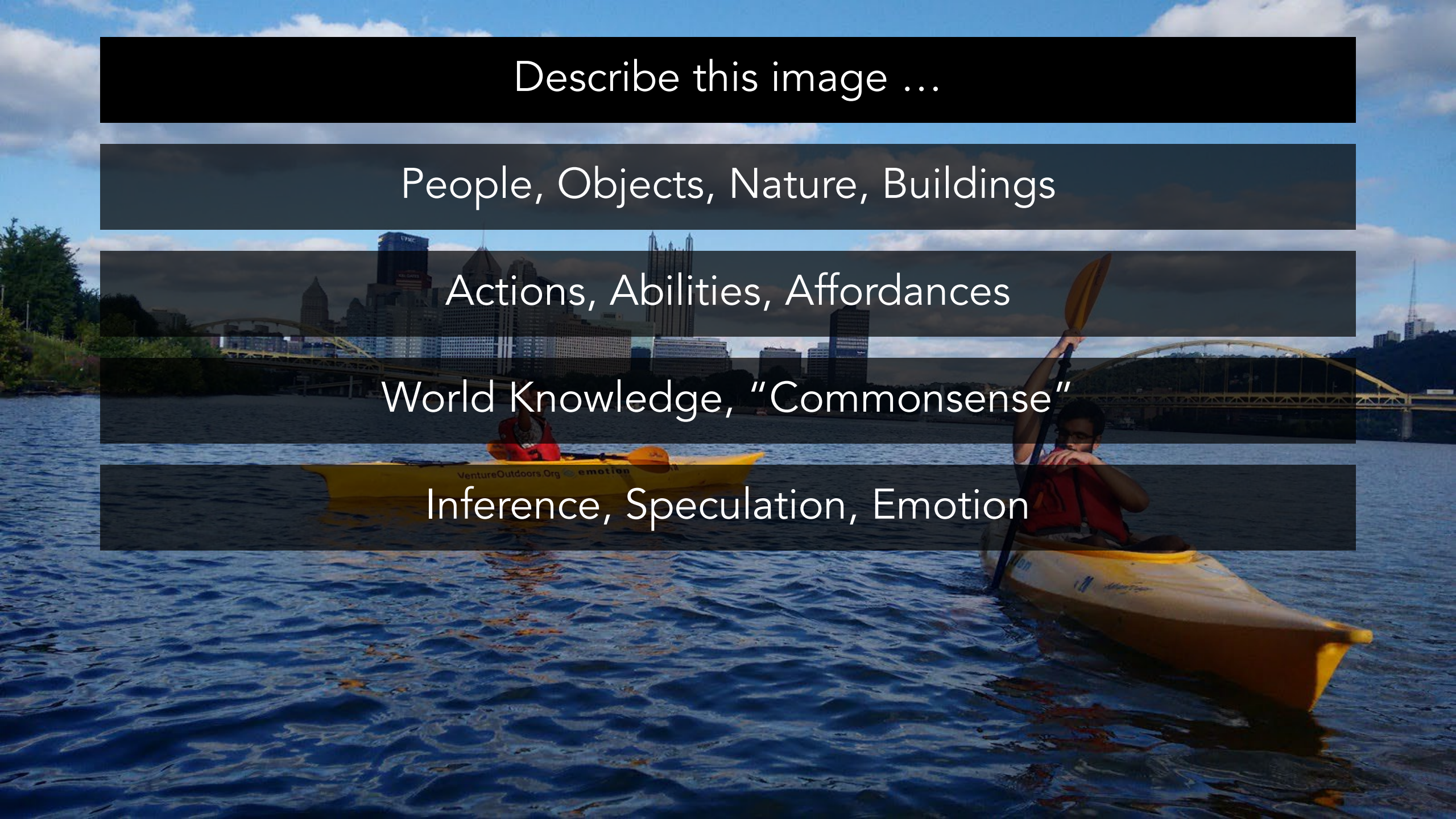
Describe this image ...

People, Objects, Nature, Buildings

Actions, Abilities, Affordances

World Knowledge, "Commonsense"

Inference, Speculation, Emotion

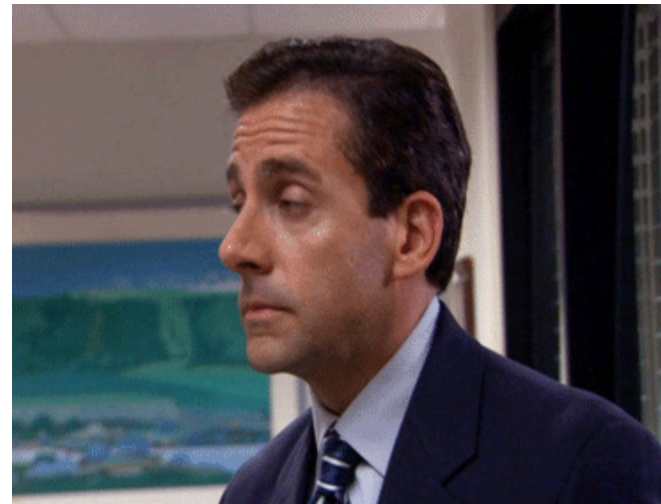
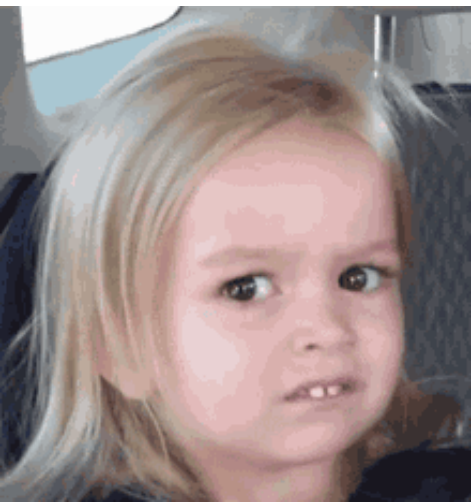




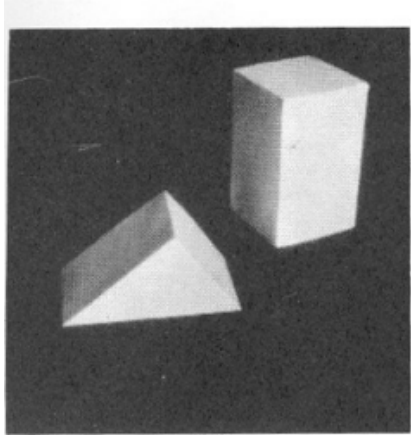
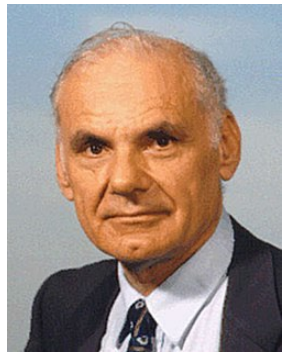
Visuals convey *meaning*



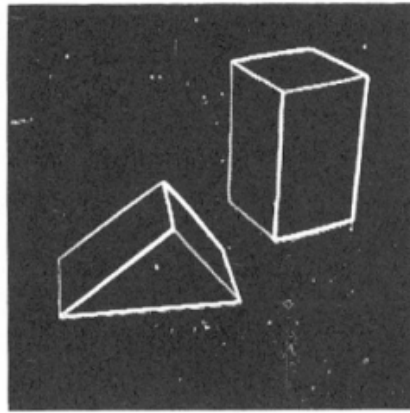
Visuals convey *emotions*



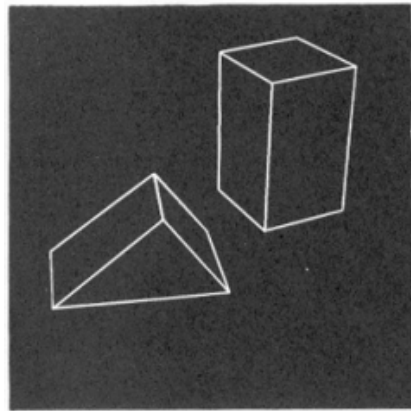
# Some history ...



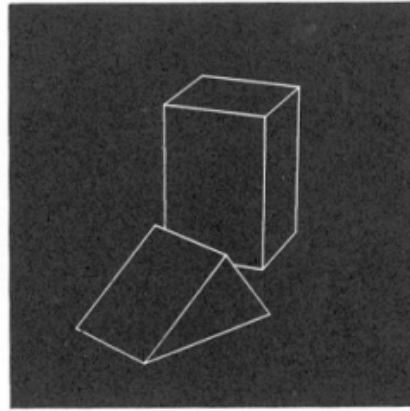
(a) Original picture.



(b) Differentiated picture.



(c) Line drawing.



(d) Rotated view.

L. G. Roberts (later also created ARPANET – precursor to the internet)  
Machine Perception of Three Dimensional Solids  
Ph.D. Dissertation  
MIT Dept of Electrical Engineering  
1963

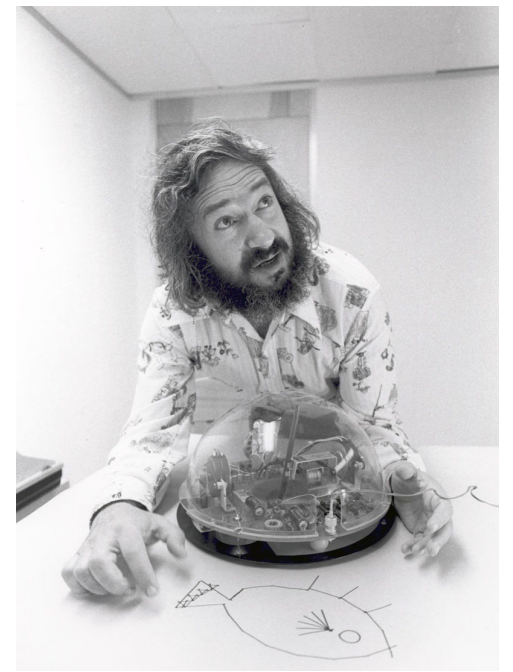
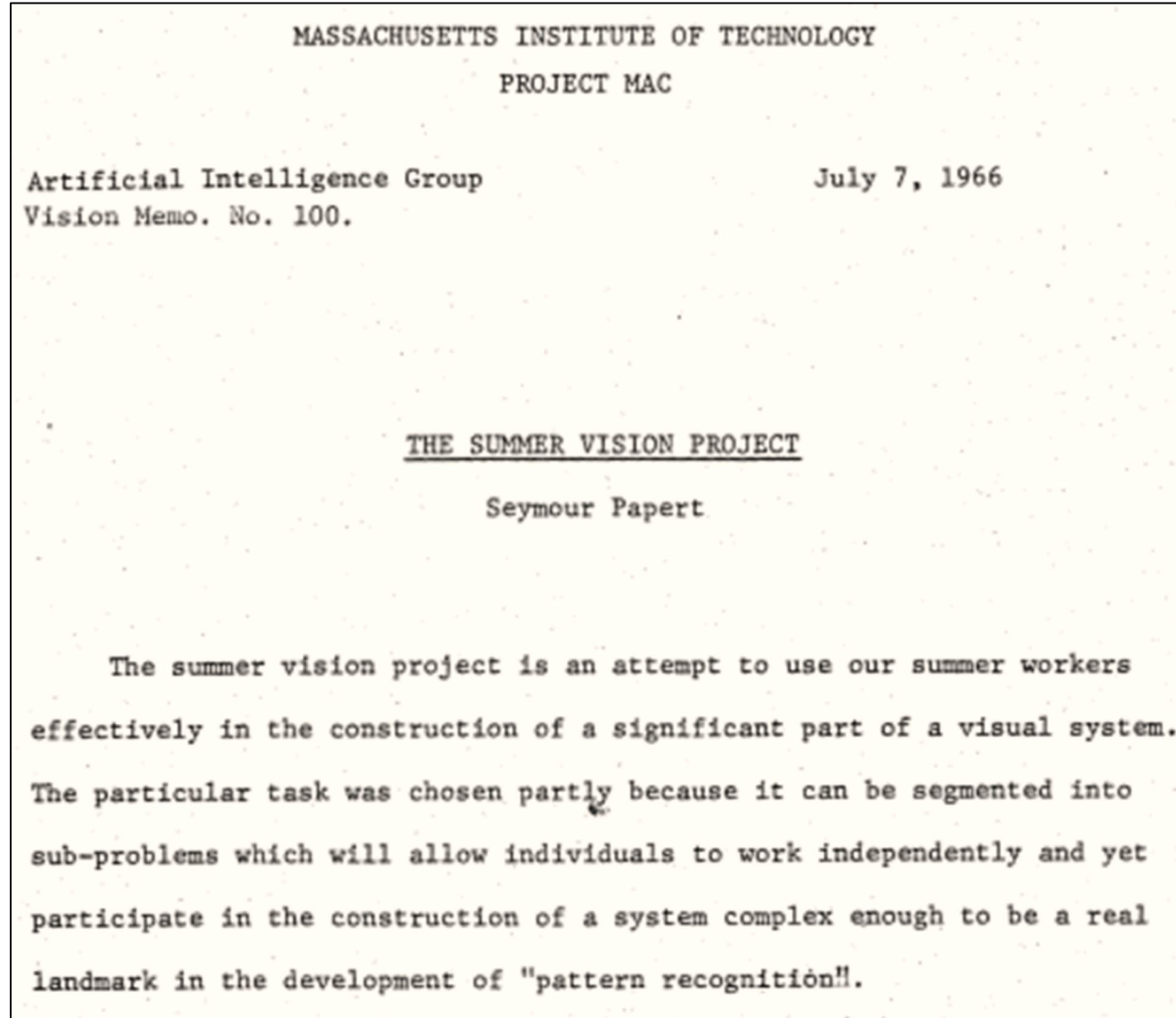
Computer Vision

is older than

MIT's Computer Science Program (1970s)

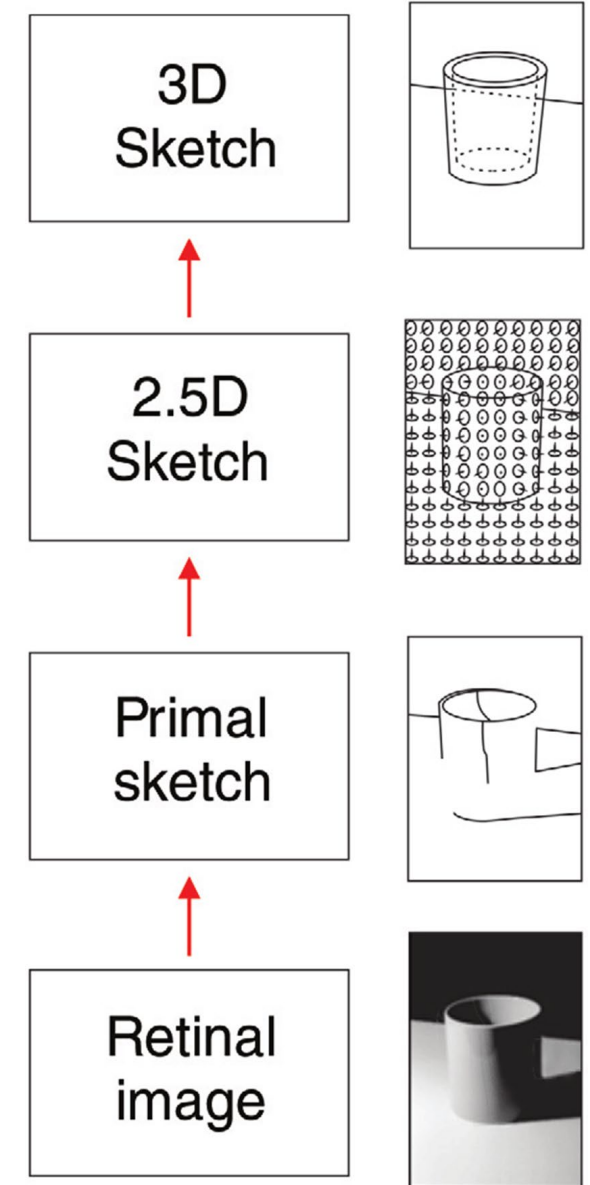


# Some history ...



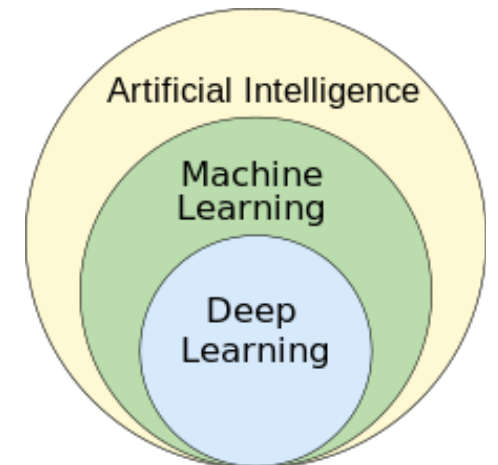
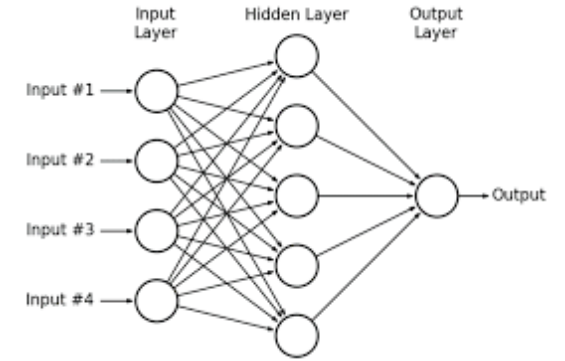
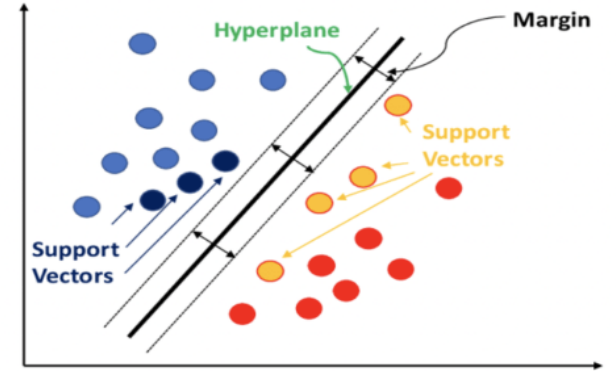
# Marr's Vision (1982)

- British neuroscientist David Marr was very influential with his computational theory of vision
- Marr believed that visual understanding could be progressively grown from primitive lines/edges to 2.5D information and textures to finally 3D shapes
- It is still an open question of whether the brain *actually* works in this way, but many engineers and scientists found inspiration in making artificial vision systems based on Marr's model of vision.



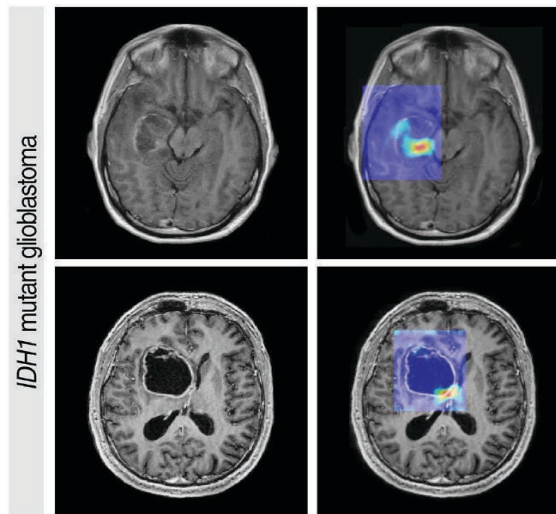
# Counterpoint: Machine Learning & Statistical Methods

- To counter the computational theories of Marr, statistics and data-driven methods were being invented in the 1980s
- Such methods ***had*** limited application due to lack of available data and compute power (more on this later)
- Deep learning (by 2012 onward) has become a backbone of most computer vision systems



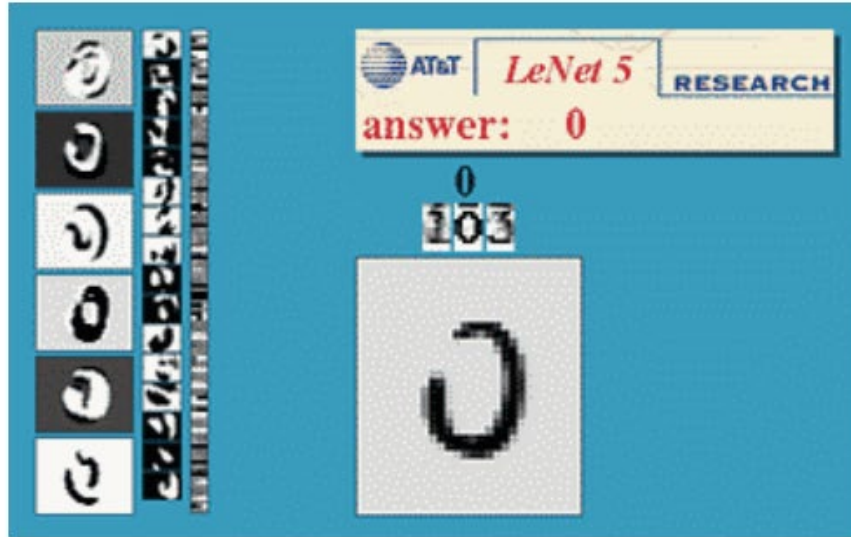


# Fast Forward to Today





# Optical character recognition (OCR)



Digit recognition  
[yann.lecun.com](http://yann.lecun.com)



License plate readers  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Automatic\\_number\\_plate\\_recognition](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Automatic_number_plate_recognition)



Automatic check processing

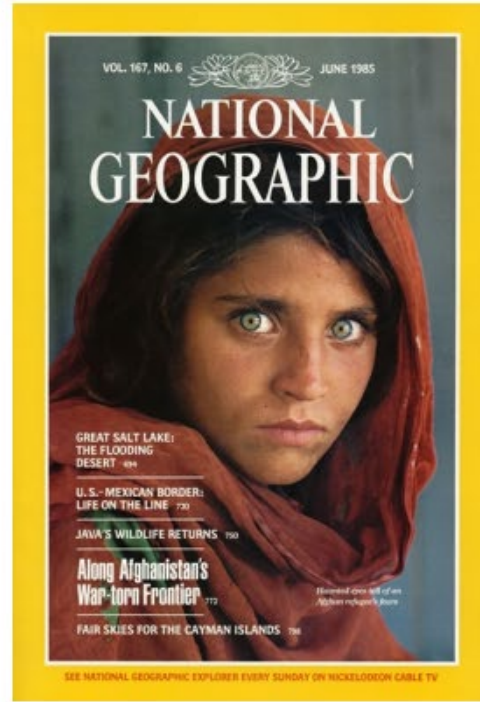


Sudoku grabber  
<http://sudokugrab.blogspot.com/>

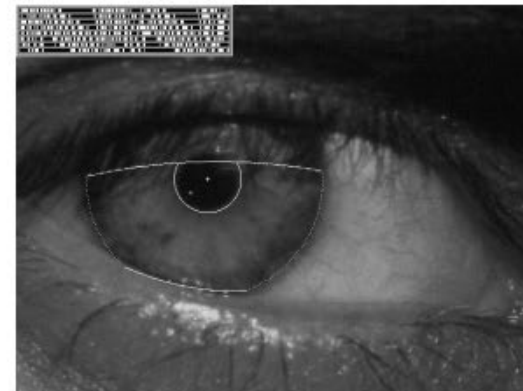
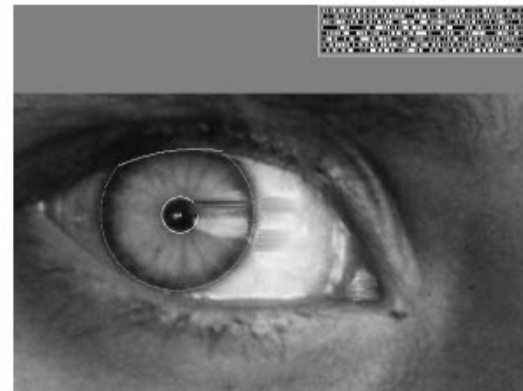


# Biometrics

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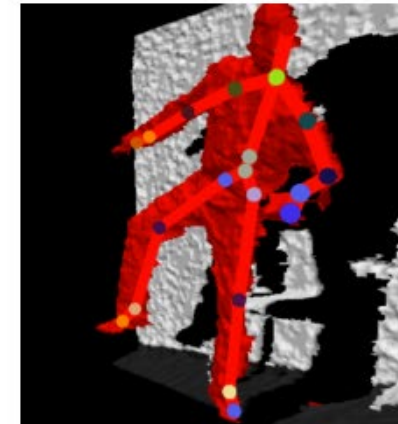
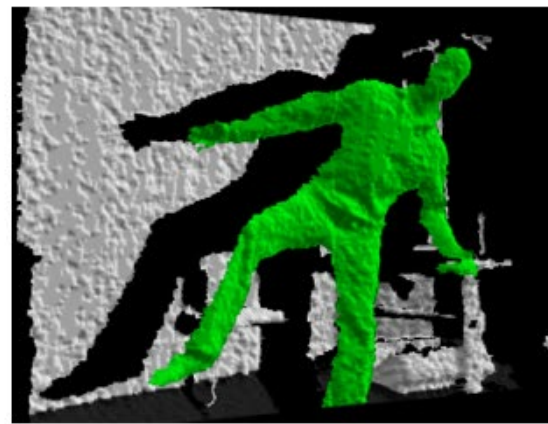
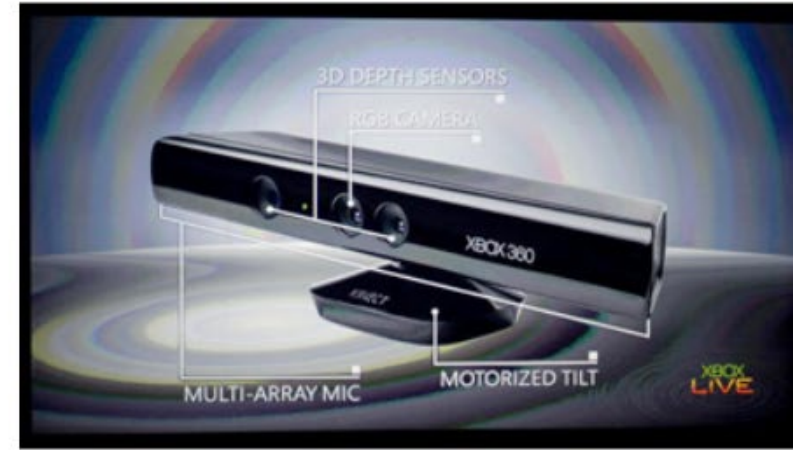
## How the Afghan Girl was Identified by Her Iris Patterns



Source: S. Seitz

# Vision-based interaction: Xbox Kinect

---



<http://blogs.howstuffworks.com/2010/11/05/how-microsoft-kinect-works-an-amazing-use-of-infrared-light/>

<http://electronics.howstuffworks.com/microsoft-kinect.htm>

<http://www.xbox.com/en-US/Live/EngineeringBlog/122910-HowYouBecometheController>

<http://www.ismashphone.com/2010/12/kinect-hacks-more-interesting-than-the-devices-original-intention.html>



# Earth viewers (3D modeling)

---

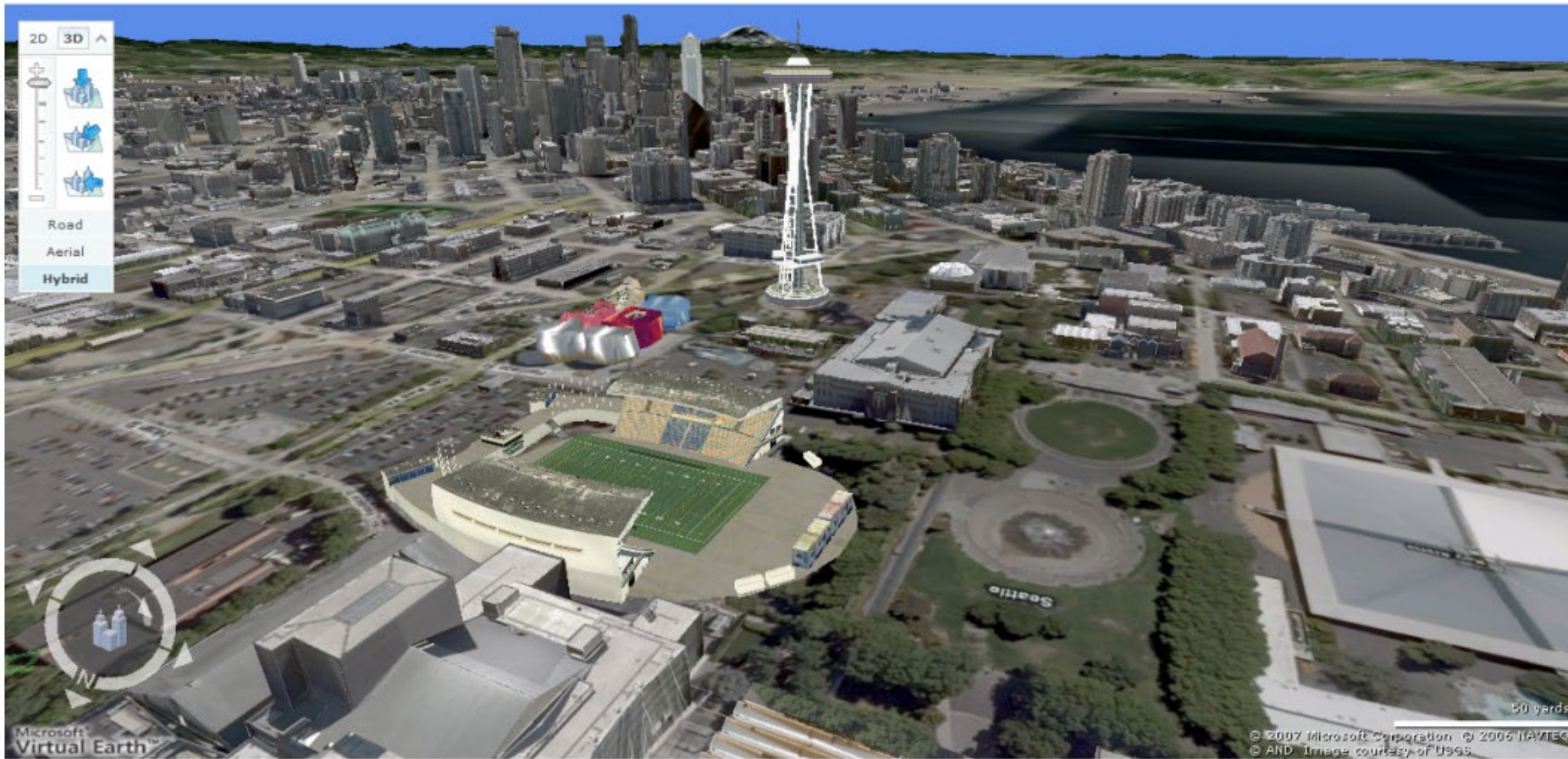


Image from Microsoft's [Virtual Earth](#)

(see also: [Google Earth](#))

# Vision for robotics, space exploration

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[NASA'S Mars Exploration Rover Spirit](#) captured this westward view from atop a low plateau where Spirit spent the closing months of 2007.

## Vision systems (JPL) used for several tasks

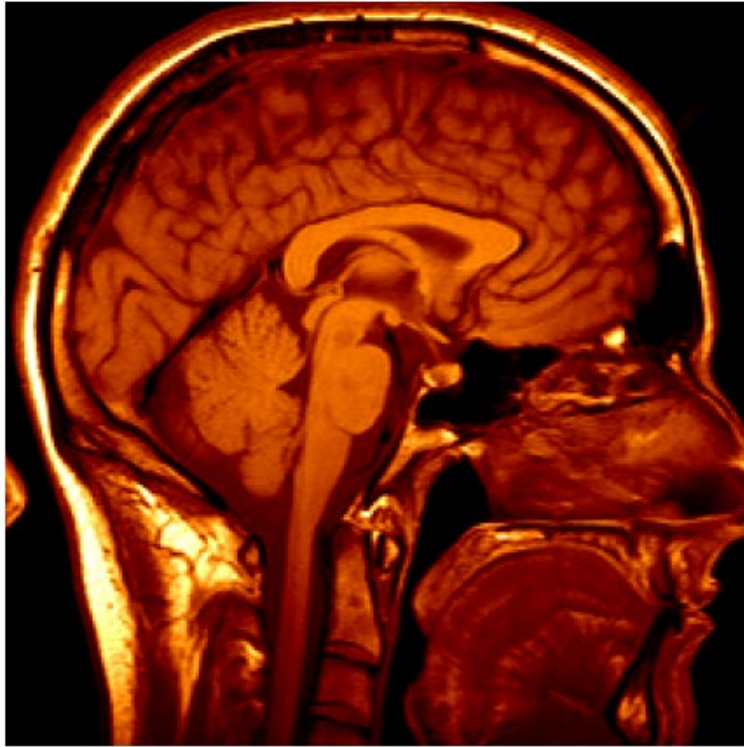
- Panorama stitching
- 3D terrain modeling
- Obstacle detection, position tracking
- For more, read "[Computer Vision on Mars](#)" by Matthies et al.

Source: S. Seitz



# Medical imaging

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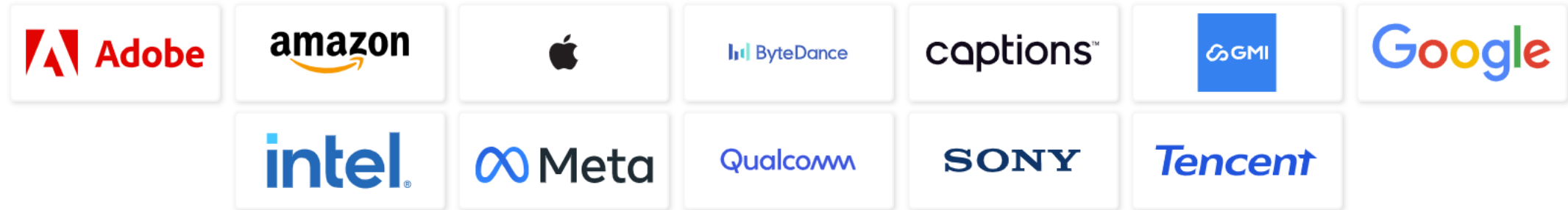
3D imaging  
MRI, CT



Image guided surgery  
[Grimson et al., MIT](#)

# LOTS (!!!) of Industry

## PLATINUM



## GOLD



## SILVER





# What this course **is NOT** about ...

- ❌ A “review” of the state-of-the-art:
  - we will talk about some recent work, but the main goal is to learn fundamentals
- ❌ Just another ML course but with a focus on image-based applications
  - only one part of the course has ML / NN
- ❌ Broad introduction to “AI”: CMSC 471/671: Artificial Intelligence
- ❌ “Hands-on” coding
  - We expect you to be proficient in Python programming
  - The TA will organize a PyTorch tutorial (during regular class hours)
  - Homework and Projects: implementation.
  - Lectures: mathematical concepts

# What this course **is about** ...

First principles of computer vision

- Image Acquisition
- Image Processing and Features
- Geometry and Reconstruction
- Image Semantics (Recognition) – some ML here
- Temporality (Video Understanding)
- Image Synthesis (Generation)



# In short, this course expects:

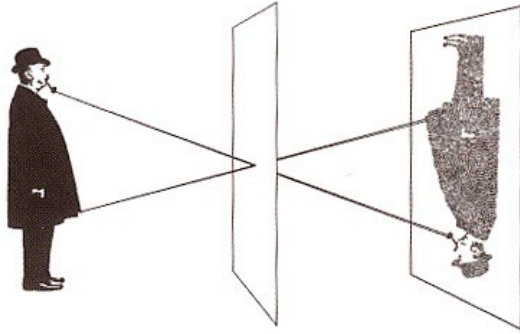
- mathematical rigor
- interest in fundamentals
- programming proficiency



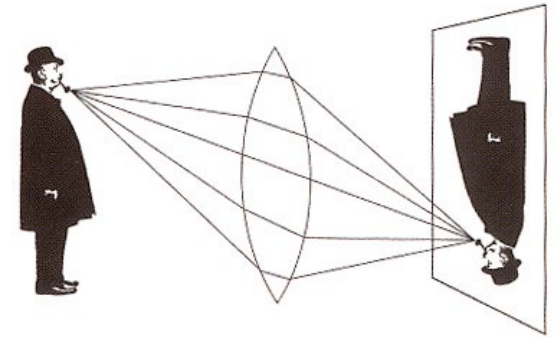
# Class Topics

## (1) Image Acquisition

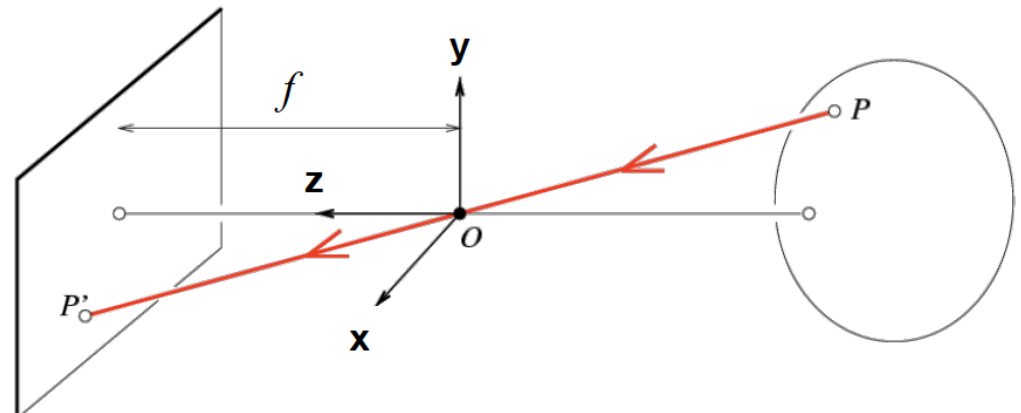
Photograph made with small pinhole



Photograph made with lens



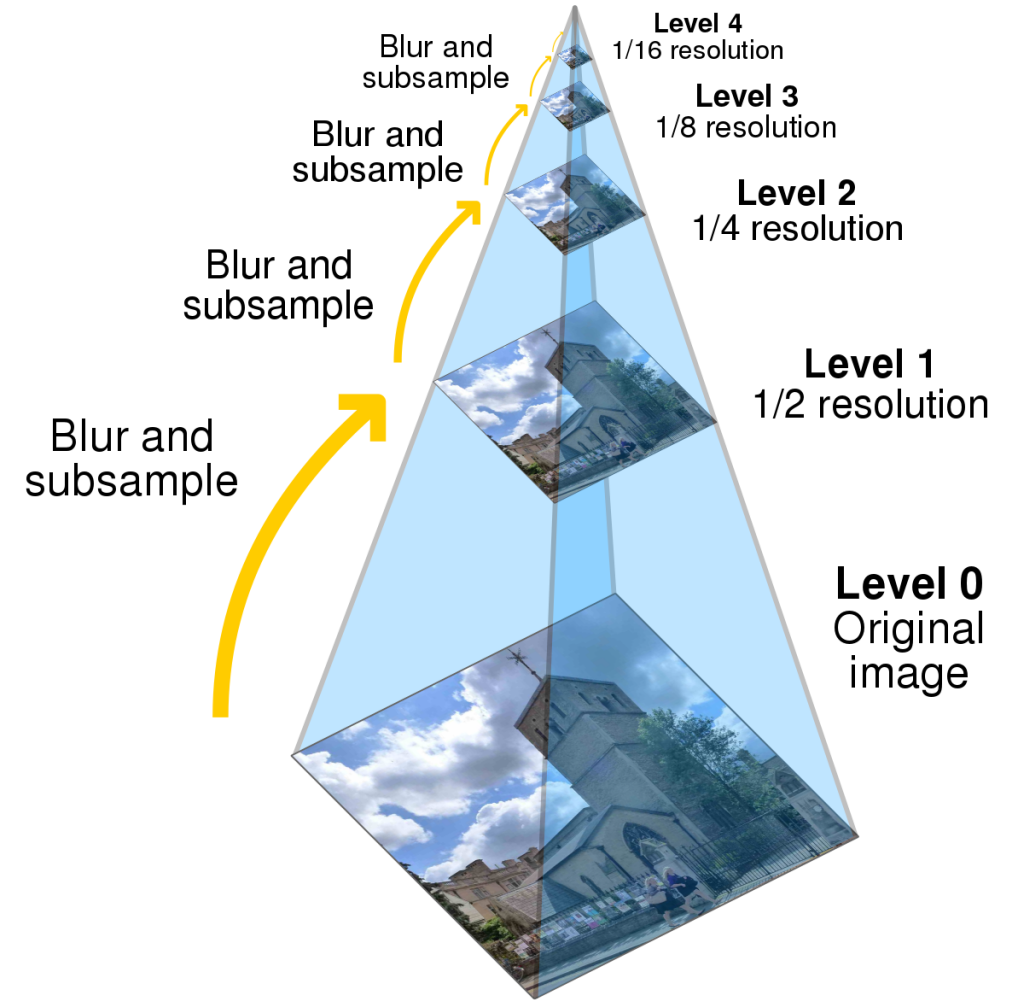
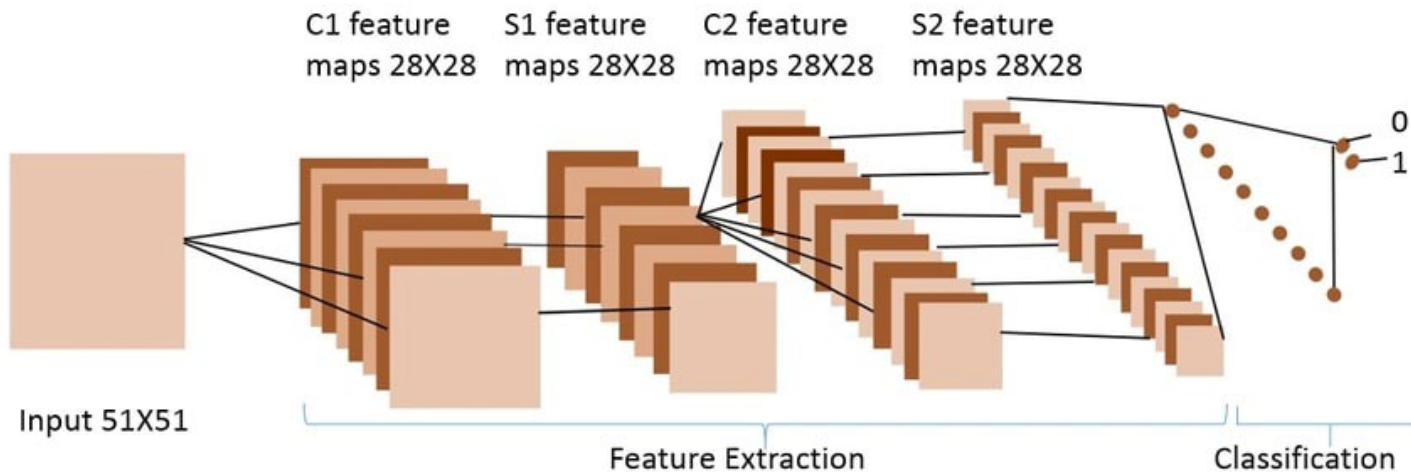
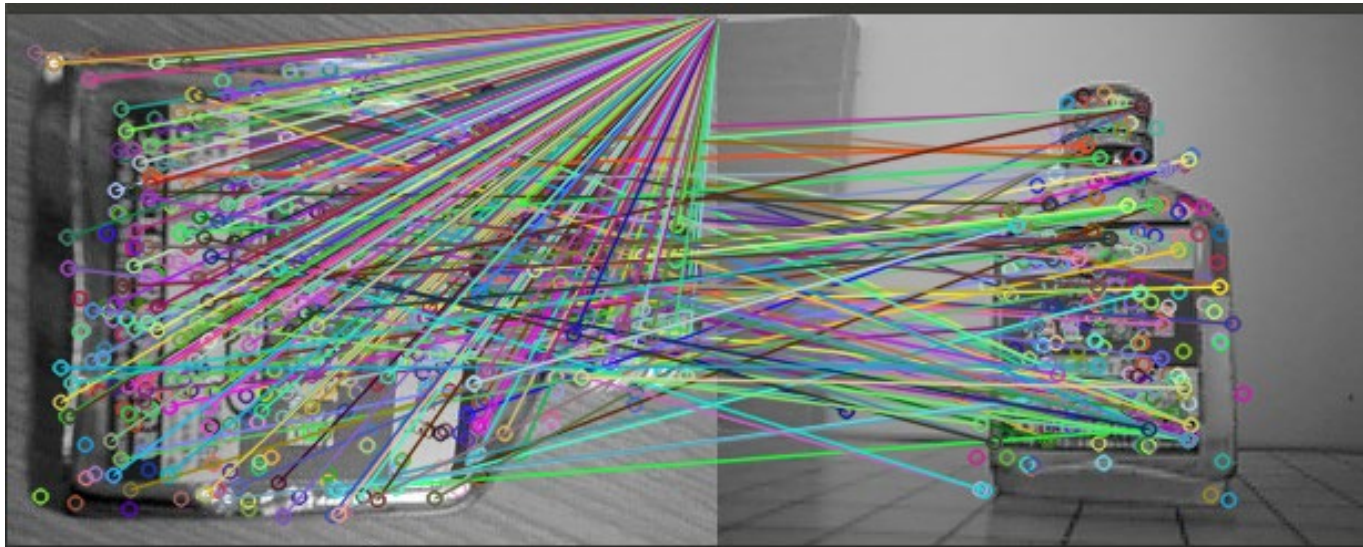
### Modeling projection





# Class Topics

## (2) Image Processing & Features

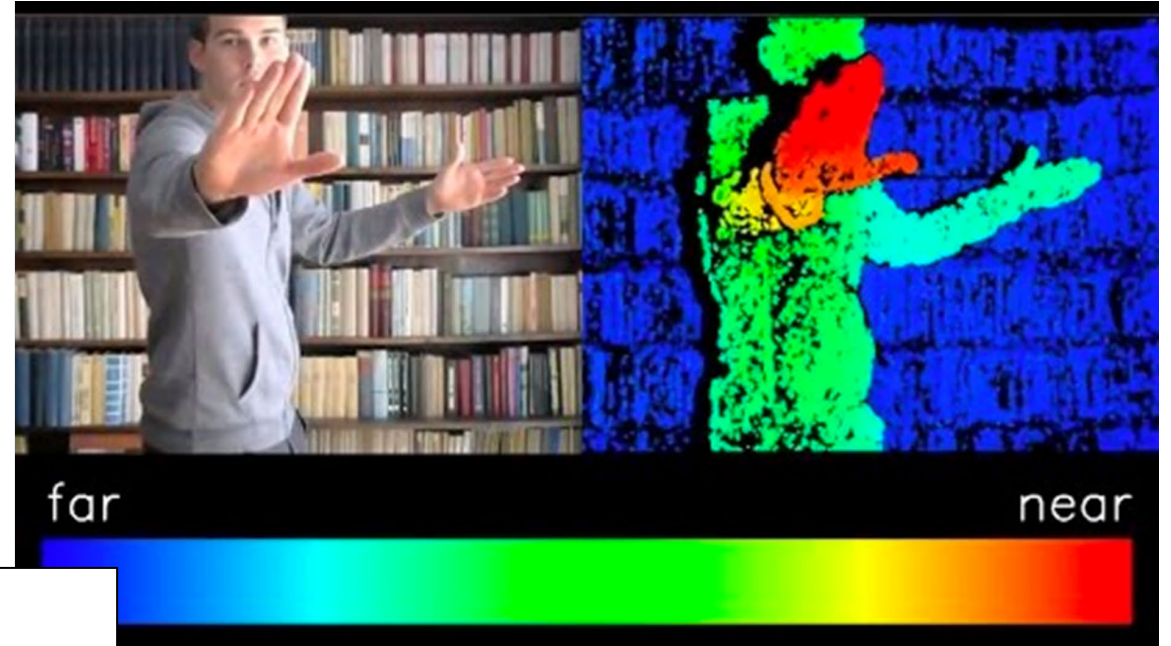


# Class Topics

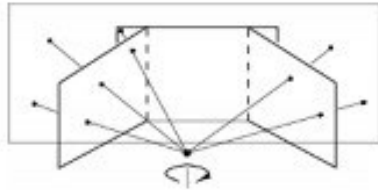
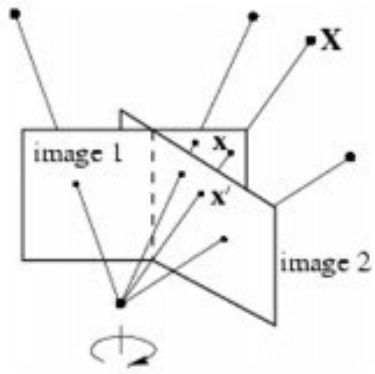
## (3) Geometry (3D)

Topics:

- Epipolar Geometry and Stereo
- 3D geometry estimation
- Structure-from-motion



Rotating camera, arbitrary world



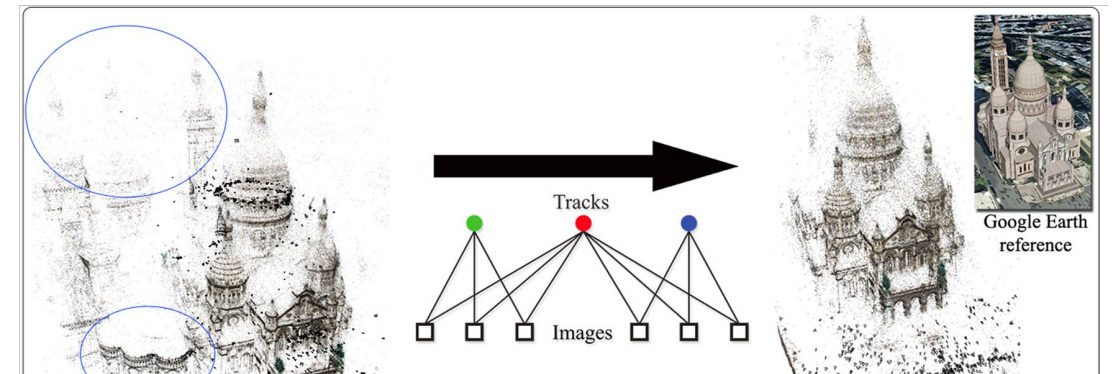
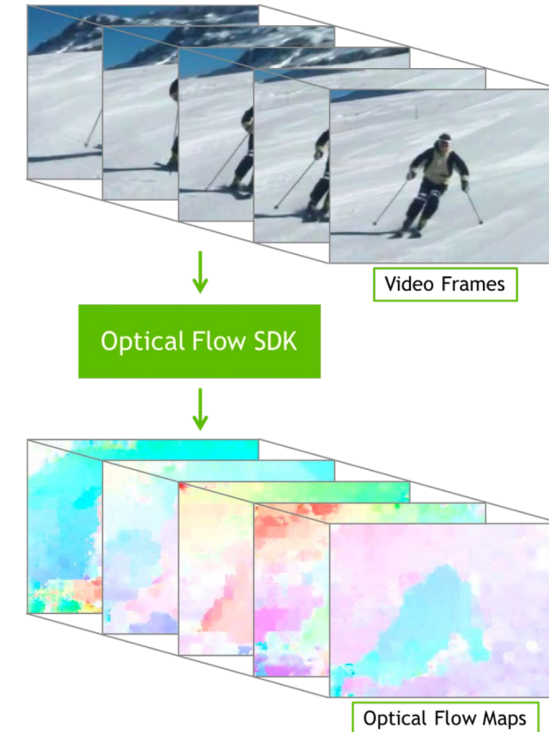


# Class Topics

## (4) Video (Temporal)

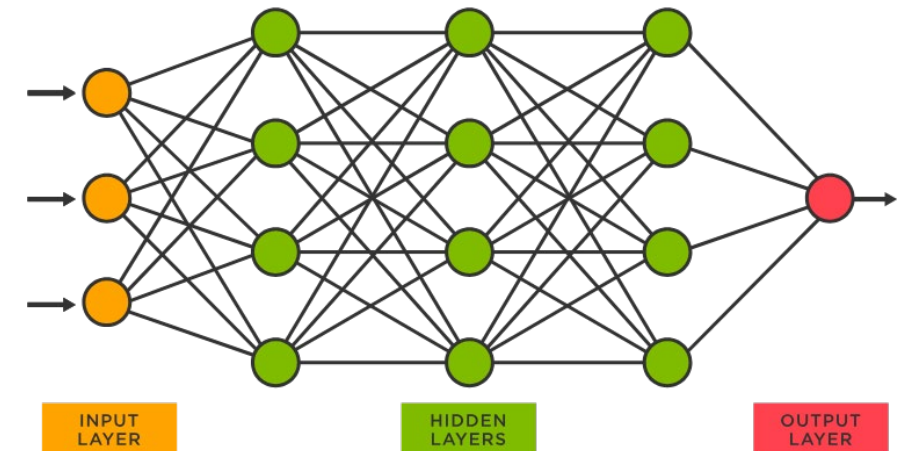
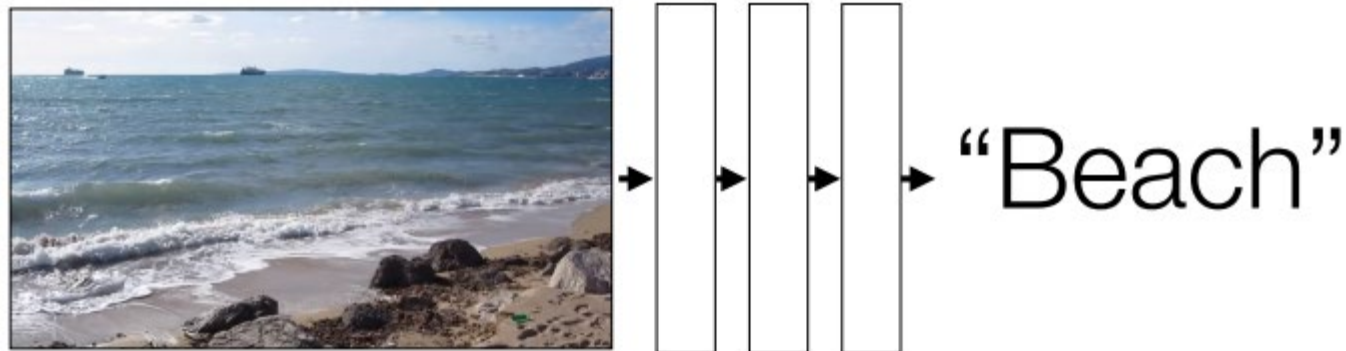
Topics:

- Motion/optical flow
- Video segmentation, tracking
- Simultaneous localization and mapping (SLAM)



# Class Topics

## (5) Machine Learning for Vision





# Advanced Topics: Vision + Language

## Generating Text from Images



Caption  
Generator

A bird flying over  
water

## Answering Questions about Images



What is the mustache  
made of?

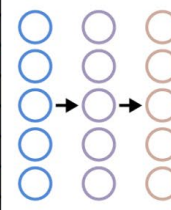
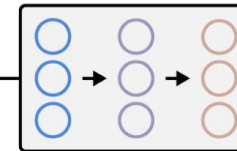
AI System

bananas

## Generating Images from Text

"a corgi  
playing a  
flame  
throwing  
trumpet"

text  
encoder

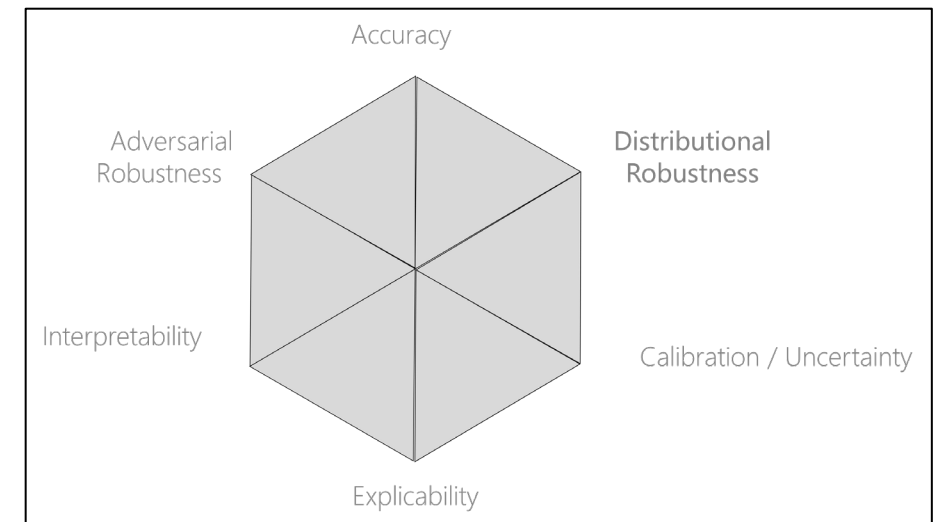
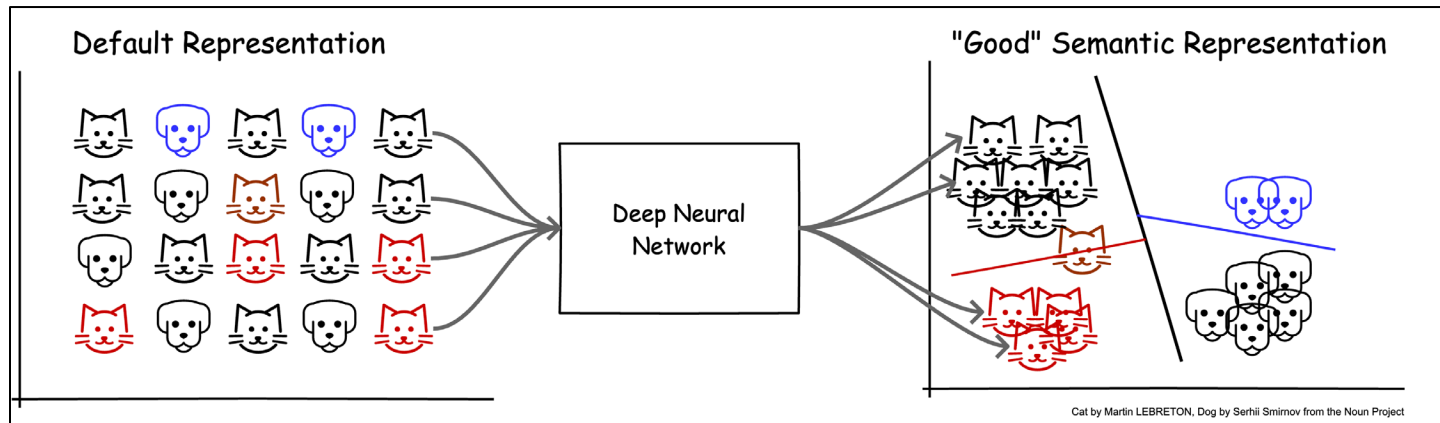
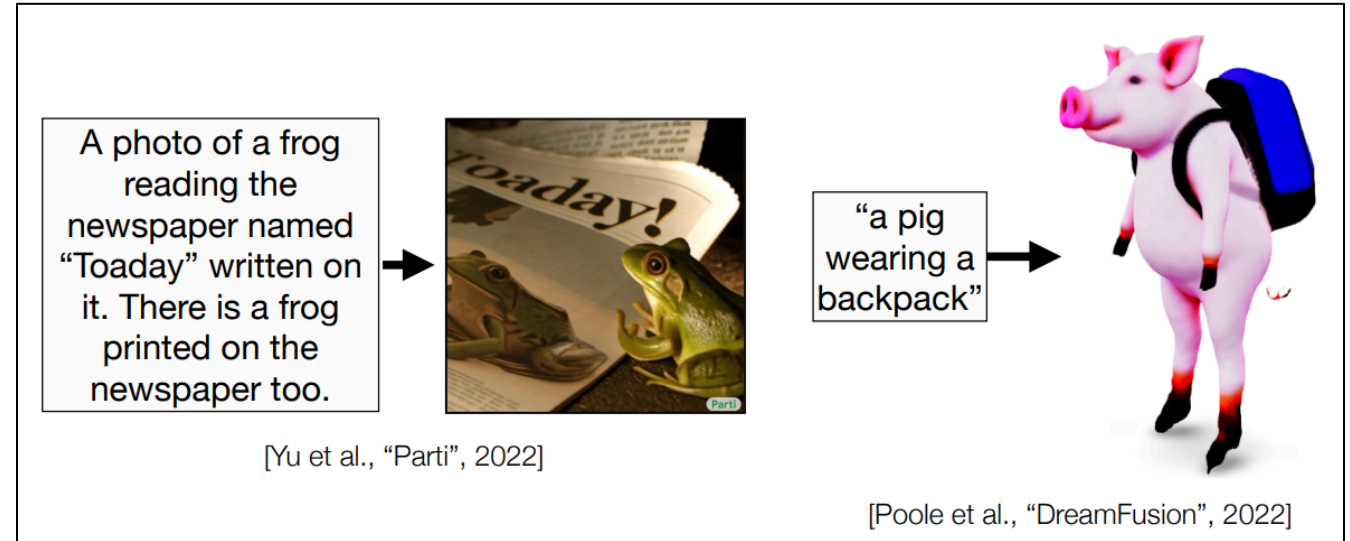
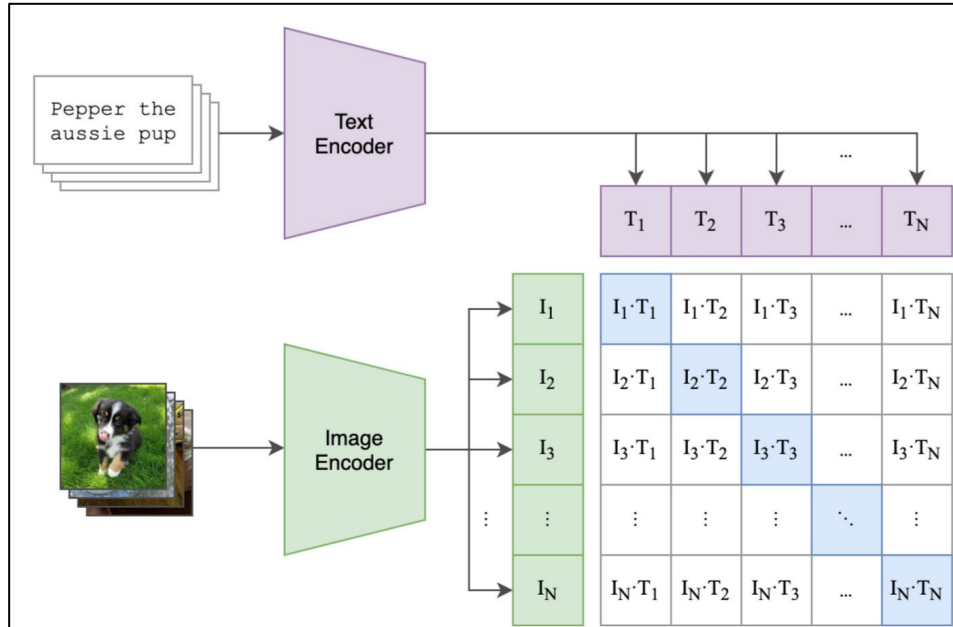


# Advanced Topics

Representation Learning

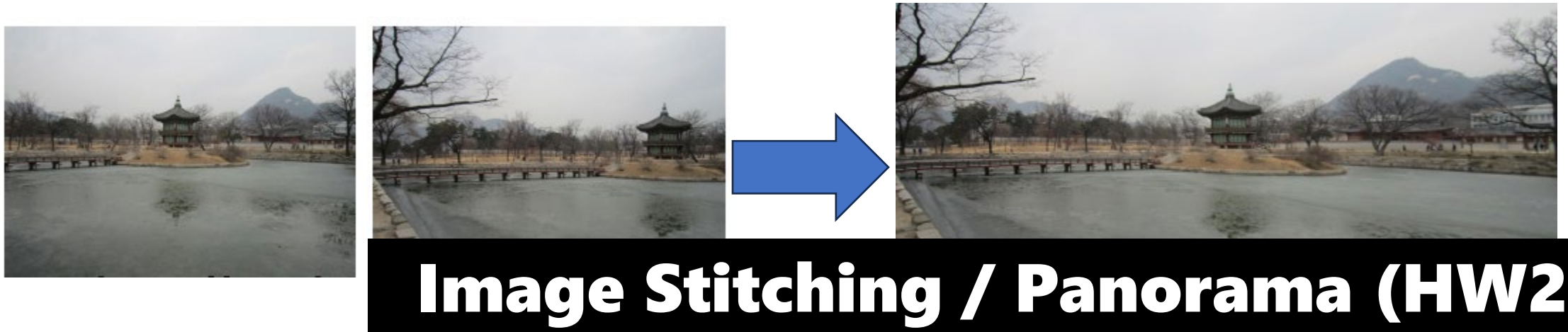
Generative Models

Robustness & Reliability





# What we will learn to do



# What we will learn to do

**Classification**



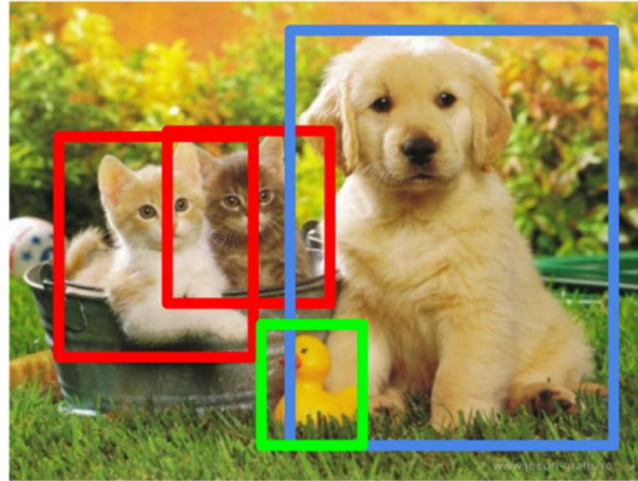
CAT

**Classification  
+ Localization**



CAT

**Object Detection**



CAT, DOG, DUCK

**Instance  
Segmentation**



CAT, DOG, DUCK

Single object

Multiple objects

# Course Logistics



# Class Website

<https://redirect.cs.umbc.edu/courses/graduate/672/>



## CMSC 472/672: Computer Vision

UMBC. Fall 2025

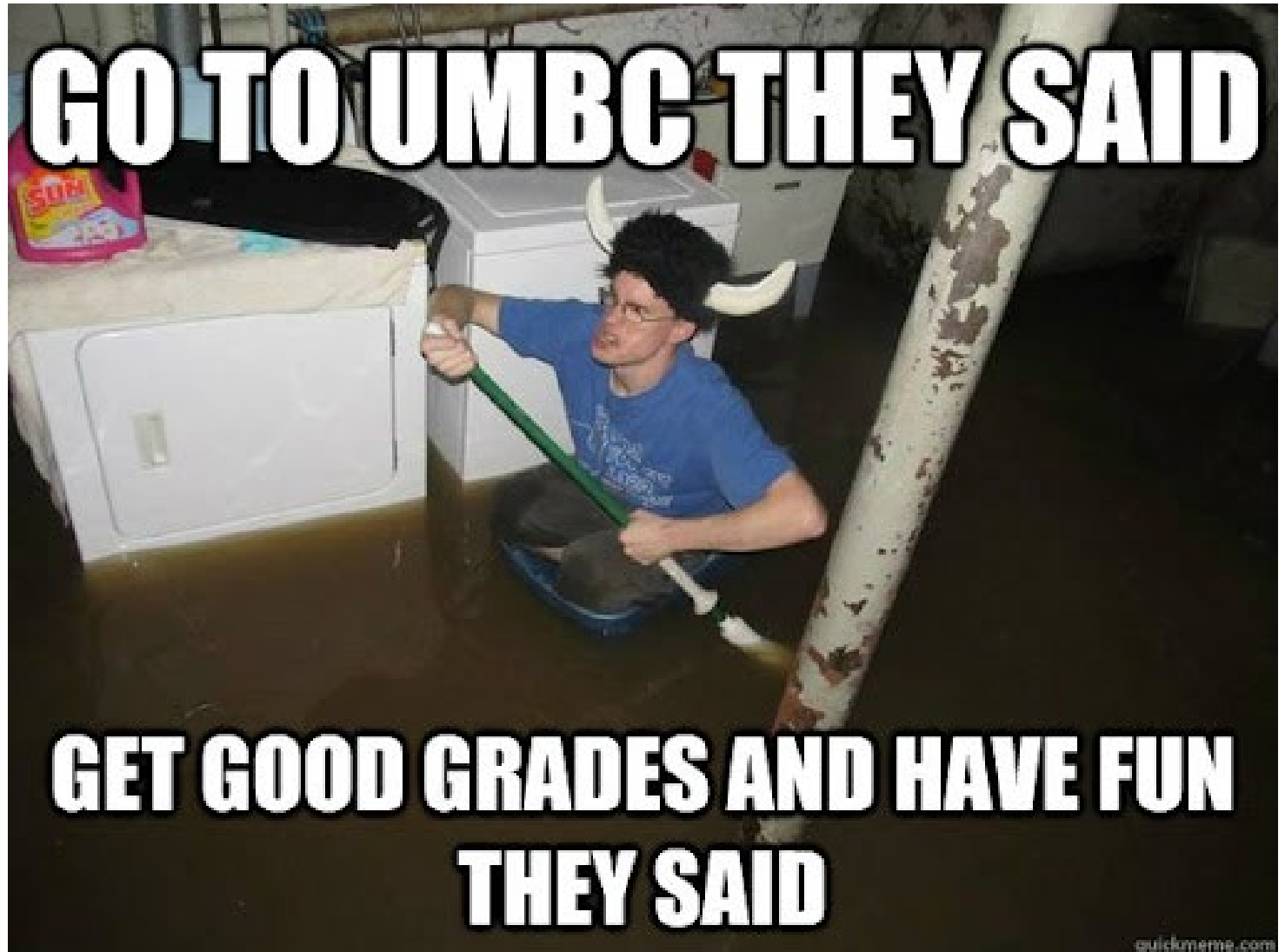
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Instructor: [Tejas Gokhale](#) (OH: Wednesday 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM or by appointment; ITE 214);  
Teaching Assistant: [TBD](#) ;  
Time: Monday and Wednesday 4:00pm - 5:15pm  
Location: ITE 229

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[Course Description](#) | [Schedule](#) | [Grading](#) | [Syllabus](#)

Grading



# Evaluation Components

Homework	3-5 assignments including conceptual questions, exercises, and Python implementation and system design.	30%
Project	Course project in groups of 3-4 (smaller or individual groups only for PhD students with the professor's consent). <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 5% for project proposal</li><li>• 5% for status update video</li><li>• 4% for individual reflection</li><li>• 10% for final presentation</li><li>• 8% for final report</li><li>• 3% for summarizing other projects</li></ul>	35%
Quizzes	short quizzes during class	10%
Scribing	Take notes and typeset them for one lecture in the semester	5%
Midterm Exam	October 20 <sup>th</sup> or 22 <sup>nd</sup> (TBD) during class (4PM – 5PM)	20%

**There is no Final Exam**

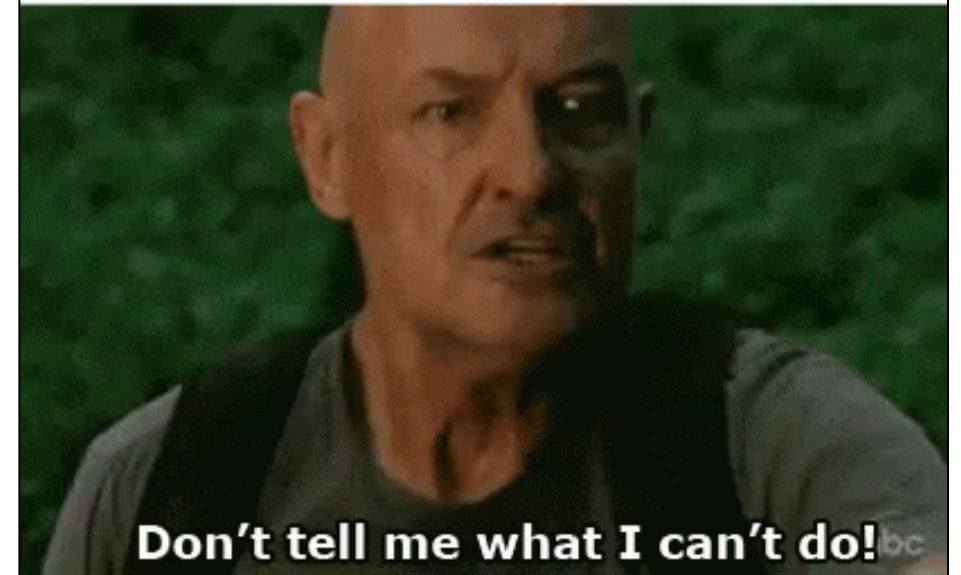
There will be opportunities for extra credit (max 10% of total grade)  
Open-ended questions, writing assignments, creative assignments etc.



# Homework

- Two major types of tasks:
  - Conceptual Questions (pen & paper)
  - Programming mini-projects in Python/Pytorch
- Conceptual:
  - Will be proofs / derivations
  - Points for steps (your thought process)
  - Show all of your work when answering
- Programming:
  - Most will be open-ended (exploratory). No right or wrong answers! Do your best!
  - Some tasks will result in bad results (by design). Evaluation will be based on your analysis and conclusions drawn from successful as well as failure cases.

**When the teacher says  
you won't be able to do all  
the homework in one  
night**



# Quizzes (in class)

- Multiple-choice / True-False / “draw a diagram” / short answer questions about previous lecture(s)
- Take notes during class (in your favorite format)
  - The very act of writing stuff down while you hear something new *really really* helps with information retention
- We will consider your “top  $k$ ” grades out of “ $q$ ” quizzes, with  $q - k \geq 2$ 
  - E.g.  $q = 7$ ;  $k = 5$
  - There will be no make-up quizzes if you miss a class

# Scribing



- Scribing ==
  - Taking high-quality detailed notes during a lecture
  - Typesetting them using Overleaf/LaTeX
  - *CVPR template is available on the Class Website*
- All students are required to scribe **at least once**
  - You can sign-up for your preferred lectures (*signup sheet: QR code*)
- ***Due Dates:***
  - *Notes for Monday lectures are due before class next Monday*
  - *Notes for Wednesday lectures are due before class next Wednesday*



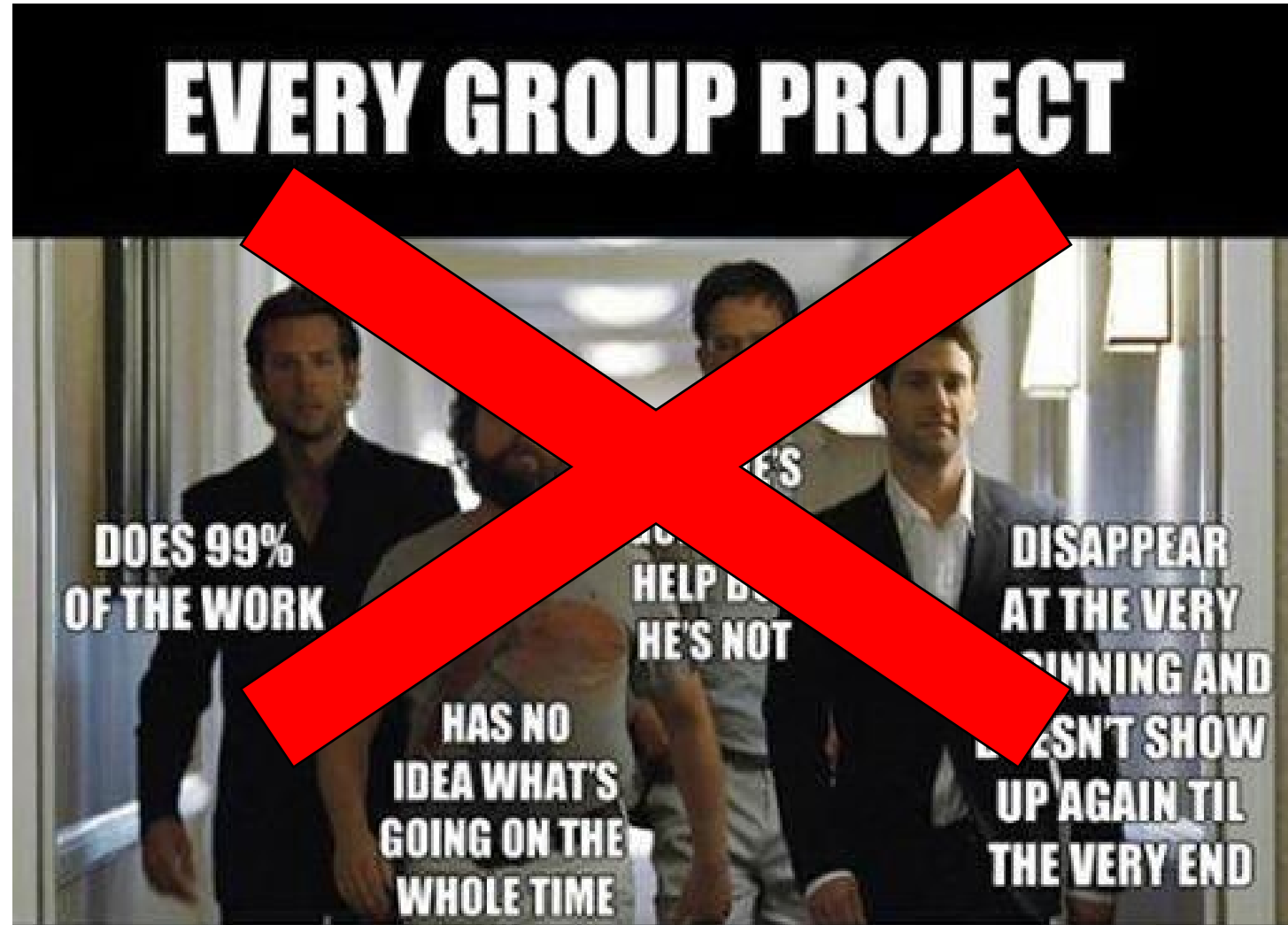
# Extra Credit

- HW will have some optional problems (but for extra credit!)
  - Open ended questions or tasks where your creativity is required
  - We may showcase best outcomes of these in class
- Extra credit is capped at 10%
  - 5 extra points and 91 in the rest of the class → your final grade = 96
  - 18 extra points and 91 in the rest of the class → your final grade = 101

# Project

- **Intention:** an opportunity for
  - Doing original research in computer vision
  - Learning how to write coherent research reports based on your results
- **Expectation:** a simple original idea that
  - you can *describe clearly*
  - relate the idea to existing work,
  - *implement and test* the idea on some real-world problem(s)
- How?
  - Write code, run it on some data, make some figures/tables to present results
  - read relevant background papers, collect some references
  - write a report describing your model, algorithm, and results.

# Project





# Project



- 5% for project proposal
- 5% for status update video
- 4% for individual reflection
- 10% for final presentation
- 8% for final report
- 3% for summarizing other projects

**Regular, steady, well-planned work** towards the final goal  
is the best way to complete your project

# Project

*Each student will be graded separately*

## Project Topic

Pick from our list or choose your own \*

*\* needs approval from Tejas*

## Group Size: 3 to 4 students

*Declare group by March 1  
PhD / MS thesis students: can work alone\**

*\* needs approval from Tejas*

## Deliverables

- 5% for project proposal
- 5% for status update video
- 4% for individual reflection
- 10% for final presentation
- 8% for final report
- 3% for summarizing other projects

## Deadlines (tentative)

Oct 3

Nov 7

Nov 7

Dec 3 or Dec 8

Dec 12

Dec 12

# Deadlines & Late Days

- Late Days: each student will get 10 late days (for projects and HW only)
  - Each late day extends the deadline by 24 hours
  - Using a late day does not influence the grade.
  - Late submissions turned in *after all 10 late days have been exhausted* **will receive 0 points**
- Projects: *if a group uses 1 late day → 1 late day deducted from all group members!*
- Quizzes: *we will drop 2 (or more) lowest scores.* **No make up quizzes.**
- Late days are provided to help you deal with illness or injury, emergencies, paper deadlines, conference travel, interviews, computer problems, or other personal reasons.

Do not use the late days as an excuse for procrastination 😊



# Attending Classes



- Attendance is mandatory
  - Exceptions: health reasons and personal emergencies.
  - Impossible to do a good job at homework, quizzes, and midterm (70% of your grade) without your attendance and attention in class.
- Perks:
  - Classes have (relatively easy) quizzes.
  - Meet your future project team! Make new friends

*You don't wanna miss these memes*



# Academic Integrity

I take academic integrity very seriously. You should too.  
If you're unsure about something, ask us.  
You are at a top-tier (R1) research university.  
Use this privilege to learn. A good grade will follow.  
Don't throw this opportunity away by cheating.

- Presentations, Survey Papers, Quizzes, Exams must be done independently.
- Do not plagiarize. Consequences will not be pleasant.
- Do not use "AI" assistants for any part of any assignment. Consequences will not be pleasant.
- Familiarize yourself with UMBC policy on plagiarism and other forms of cheating:  
<https://academicconduct.umbc.edu/resources-for-students/>
- Read the syllabus for consequences of academic integrity violations.



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## 3.4 Use of AI Assistants

This is a class that teaches you how to design AI systems. Using AI systems to do class work is therefore an obvious form of cheating. The use of AI systems or AI assistants (including but not limited to language models such as ChatGPT) for completing *any* part of assignments in this class is considered cheating. There are no exceptions to this rule.



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## 3.6 Good Practices

If the integrity of your work in this course is challenged, you are responsible for demonstrating proof that the work submitted is your own. A good starting point is to enable versioning/tracking in Google Docs, Word, Pages, or other software so that your writing activities/progress during the semester can be logged if necessary. Keeping copies of research notes, scribbles, and related material may be helpful, too.

## 3.7 Viva or Oral Defense of Flagged Submissions

To ensure academic and professional integrity, I reserve the right to hold a one-on-one oral viva (defense) of submissions deemed questionable, to determine your knowledge and mastery of the topic/resources versus the material submitted. Failing that viva will result in an 'F' on the assignment and an Academic Integrity violation report filed with the Graduate School.

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If you're unsure about something, ask us.  
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Don't throw this opportunity away by cheating.

## 3.8 Penalties

Academic misconduct could result in disciplinary action that may include, but is not limited to, suspension or dismissal. The **absolute minimum penalty** for a first offense of academic dishonesty in this course is a grade of zero on the assignment and a one-letter-grade reduction in the final class grade. However, depending on the nature of the offense, the penalty may be more severe, including but not limited to an F for the course, suspension, or expulsion. The minimum penalty for a second offense of academic dishonesty is an F for the course without possibility of dropping, but may be more severe.

**I DON'T ALWAYS CARE  
ABOUT MY GRADE...**

**BUT WHEN I DO IT'S THE END OF  
THE SEMESTER AND EVEN  
THOUGH I DIDN'T DO ALL THE  
ASSIGNMENTS, I'LL ASK FOR  
EXTRA CREDIT NOW.**

Spanish  
Plans.org

**Seek Help Early!**



***Help us help you.***



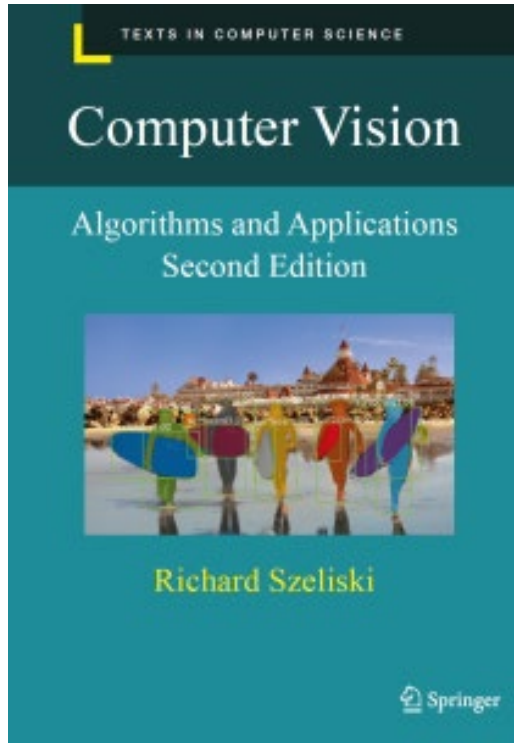
# Recommended Background

- Linear algebra + calculus + geometry + prob/stats (required)
  - 472/672 should not be your first introduction to these topics
  - Without these tools, you are likely to struggle with the course.
- Python programming with numerical libraries like `numpy`
  - TA will give a tutorial on computer vision with PyTorch
- Useful resources to brush up on these topics
  - [deeplearningbook.org/contents/linear\\_algebra.html](https://www.deeplearningbook.org/contents/linear_algebra.html)
  - [https://www.deeplearningbook.org/slides/02\\_linear\\_algebra.pdf](https://www.deeplearningbook.org/slides/02_linear_algebra.pdf)
  - [deeplearningbook.org/contents/prob.html](https://www.deeplearningbook.org/contents/prob.html)
  - [https://www.deeplearningbook.org/slides/03\\_prob.pdf](https://www.deeplearningbook.org/slides/03_prob.pdf)

# Readings

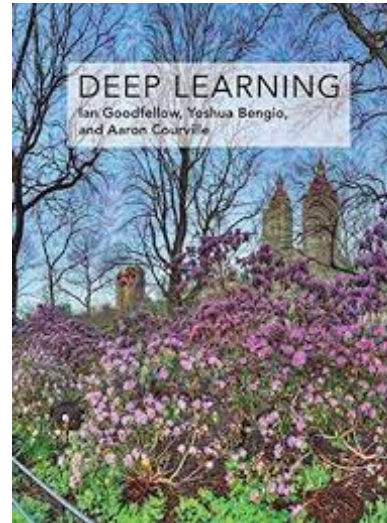
Topic-specific reading will be provided (pdf)

Other useful resources:



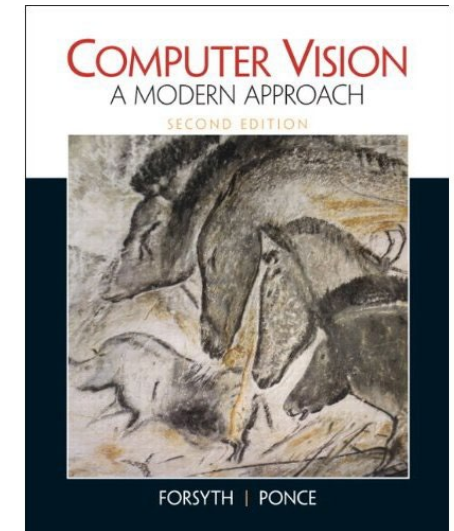
<https://szeliski.org/Book/>

Free download



[www.deeplearningbook.org/](http://www.deeplearningbook.org/)

Free download



# GPU Computing

- Homeworks do not require GPUs
- Projects (depending on the topic you choose) might need GPUs
- GPUs are very expensive.

PLEASE DON'T UPGRADE  
YOUR COMPUTER JUST FOR  
THIS CLASS !!!

- Google Colab is your friend
  - Collab Pro is free for students!



## New Google Colab features for higher education

Jul 18, 2025 · 2 min read

[Read AI-generated summary](#) ▼

[Share](#)

Students and professors can get Colab Pro free of charge for a year, plus check out new features like an interactive slideshow mode.



# 472 (undergrad) vs 672 (grad)

- We are confident that 472 students are at least as capable than their 672 classmates
- *No difference in class materials, exams, quizzes, majority of homework*
- Homework: additional parts for 672
- Grad projects will be evaluated at a higher standard

Grad student and undergrad sitting in the same class



# 472 (undergrad) vs 672 (grad)

## Main difference: projects (scope and novelty)

- Projects will be graded in terms of “relative growth”
  - *You may have previous research experience*
  - *You may be taking this class to get research experience*
- Grad projects:
  - Original & unique research hypothesis with a potential for publication
- Undergrads projects can be:
  - Original & unique research hypothesis with a potential for publication
  - Working on an idea that we provide (i.e. you get to skip “ideation”)
  - Innovative applications or combination of existing work

Grad student and undergrad sitting in the same class



# FAQ: I'm waitlisted – what can I do?

1. I'm sorry this is happening to you. Thanks for your patience.  
I (like you) am also bound by UMBC's waitlist policy.

09/03/2025	Waitlist Deadline	Last day to add yourself to a waitlist for a course
09/04/2025	Waitlists Deactivated	Waitlists are deactivated and purged
09/10/2025	Schedule Adjustment Deadline	Last day to make changes to your schedule
		Last day to change grade method
		Last day to drop a course without a W grade
		Last day to add internships, independent studies, or

2. On 09/08 if you're still interested, see me after class. No promises, but I'll try.



# FAQ: Access to Practice Quizzes and Midterm?

- This is a graduate-level class – we will test your concepts (and not your ability to do fast arithmetic / memorization)
  - Make sure you understand the concepts
  - Read the slides and references mentioned in class
- Enjoy the class. Be rigorous. Don't be afraid to fail.
- Don't study just for the grade
  - study because you enjoy the topic!
- There are no study guides, question bank, practice tests
  - this is not high school !
- Welcome to the real world!



# FAQ: How do I succeed in this class?

- Use pen-and-paper. Draw! Draw! Draw!
- Computer vision is a very popular *and open-source* topic
  - Feel free to read or watch lectures from other professors
- Focus on grasping fundamentals!
  - HW will become easy once you know the concepts behind the problems and projects.
- Ask for help
  - TA Office Hours
  - Tejas Office Hours

# FAQ: Can I join your research lab?

- The Cognitive Vision Group (CVG) broadly works on “conceptual characterization of visual scenes” with some goals including:
  - interpretation of visual data in presence of incomplete information,
  - recognizing and adapting to novelty and variations,
  - leveraging external knowledge and reasoning modules to generalize to new contexts, domains, environments, and tasks,
  - acquiring visual knowledge and communicating it to other machines and humans.
- Joining (See FAQ/note on my website)
  - Take this class and talk to me during office hours about your interests
  - [https://www.tejasgokhale.com/docs/cvg\\_starter\\_pack.pdf](https://www.tejasgokhale.com/docs/cvg_starter_pack.pdf)





# Other Questions?



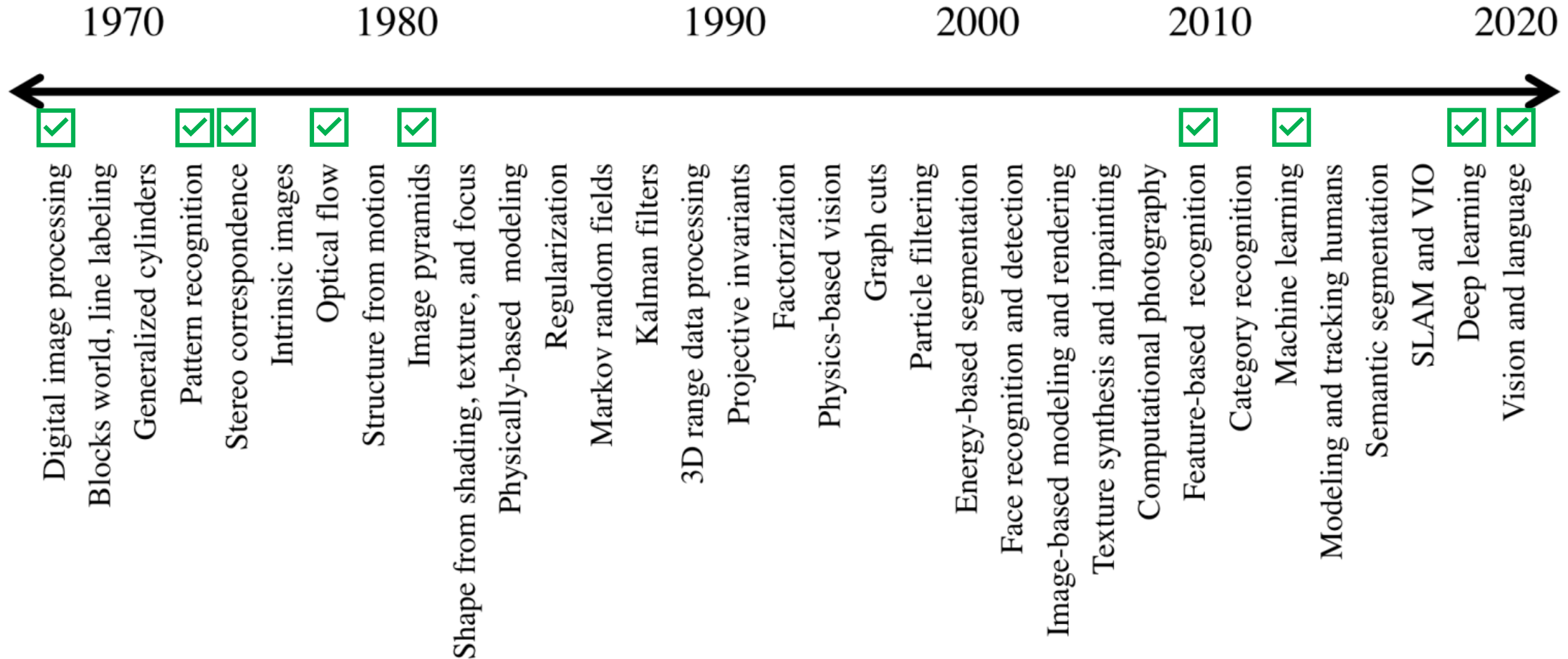
Scribing /  
Project Team  
Signup Sheet



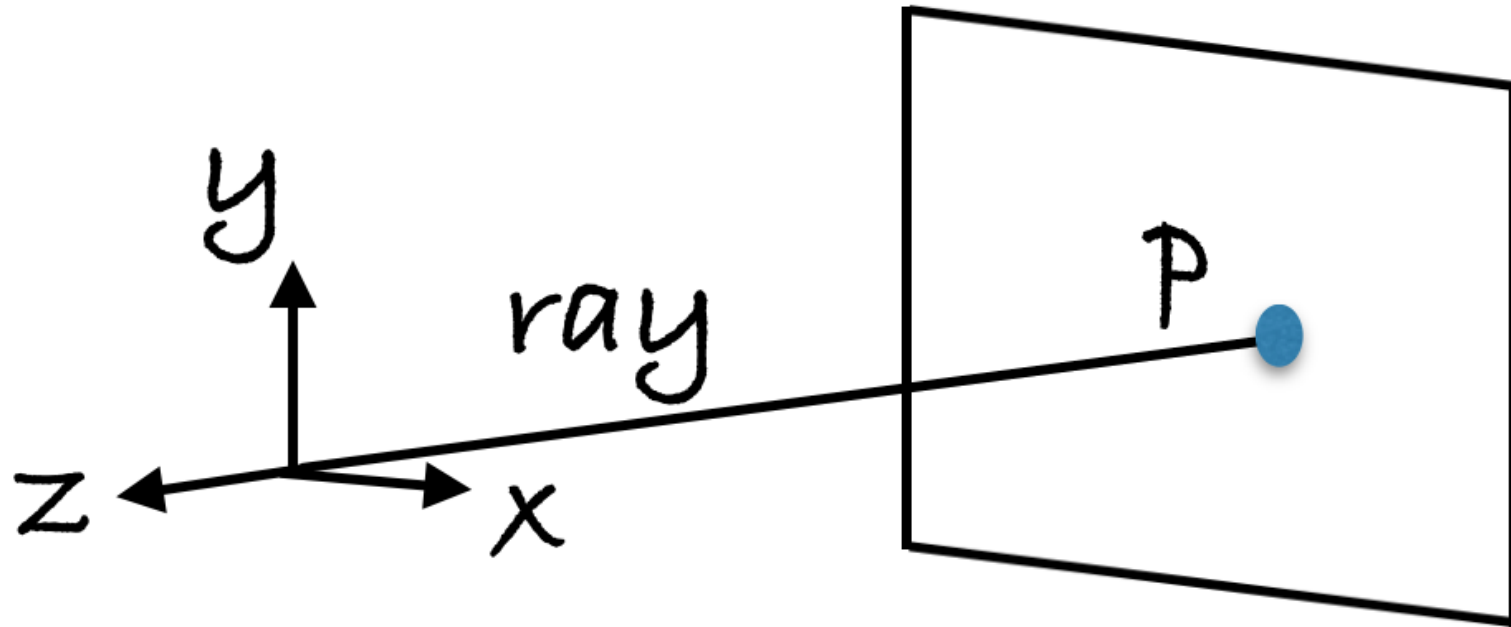
Class Website



# Timeline of Buzzwords in Vision



# Image Formation





Let's say we have a sensor...



digital sensor  
(CCD or CMOS)

... and an object we like to photograph

real-world  
object



digital sensor  
(CCD or CMOS)



What would an image taken like this look like?

# Bare-sensor imaging

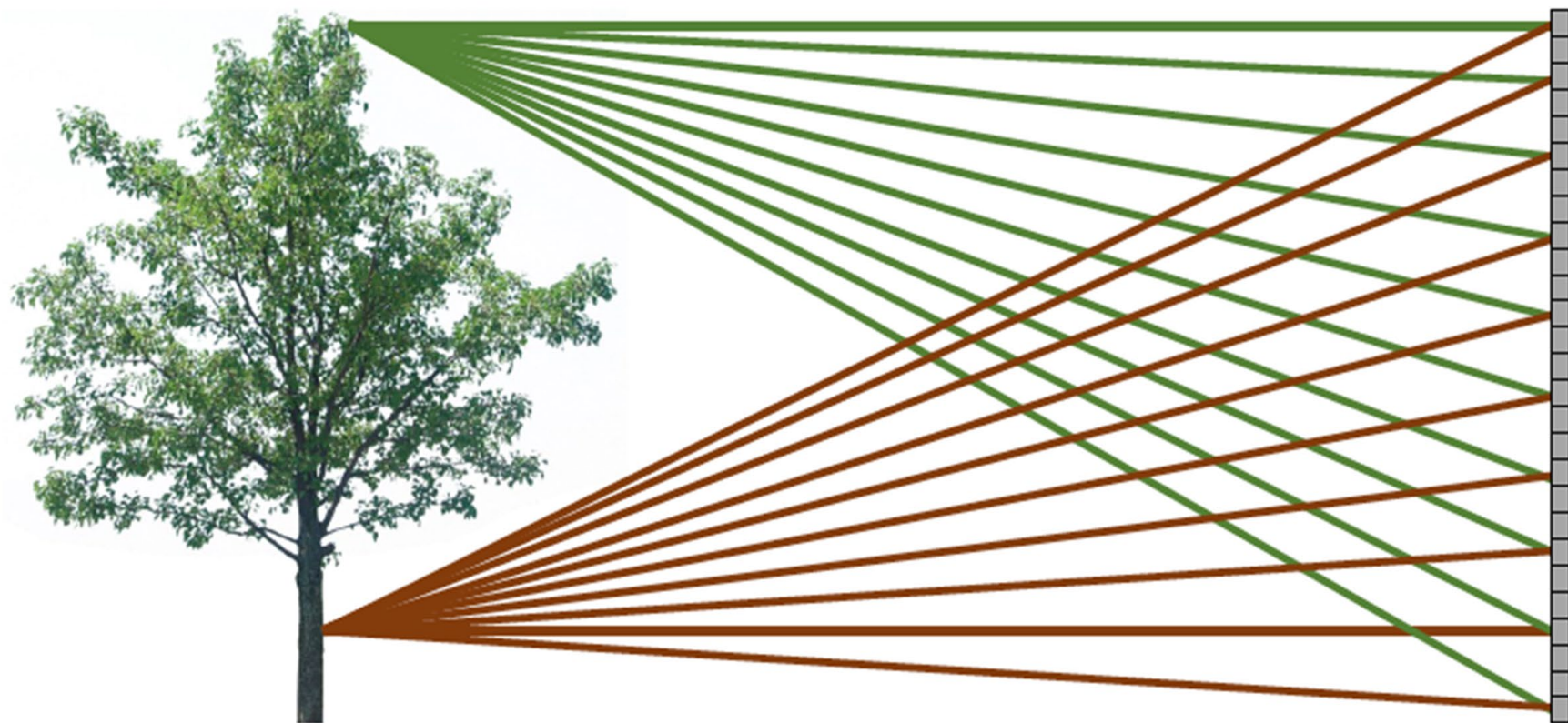
real-world  
object



digital sensor  
(CCD or CMOS)

What does the  
image on the  
sensor look like?

All scene points contribute to all sensor pixels





# Bare-sensor imaging



All scene points contribute to all sensor pixels

# Let's add something to this scene

real-world  
object



barrier (diaphragm)



pinhole  
(aperture)



digital sensor  
(CCD or CMOS)



What would an image taken like this look like?

# Pinhole imaging

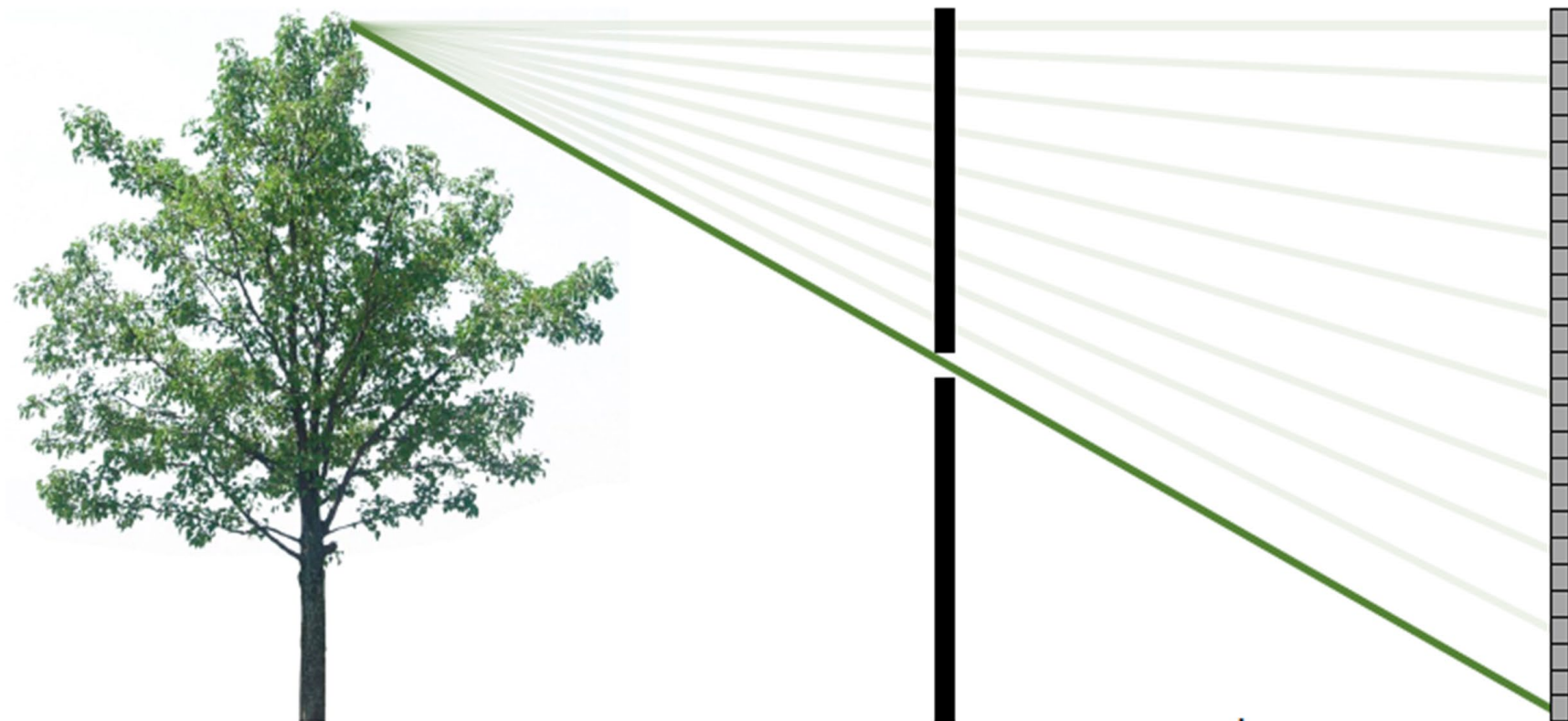
real-world  
object



most rays  
are blocked

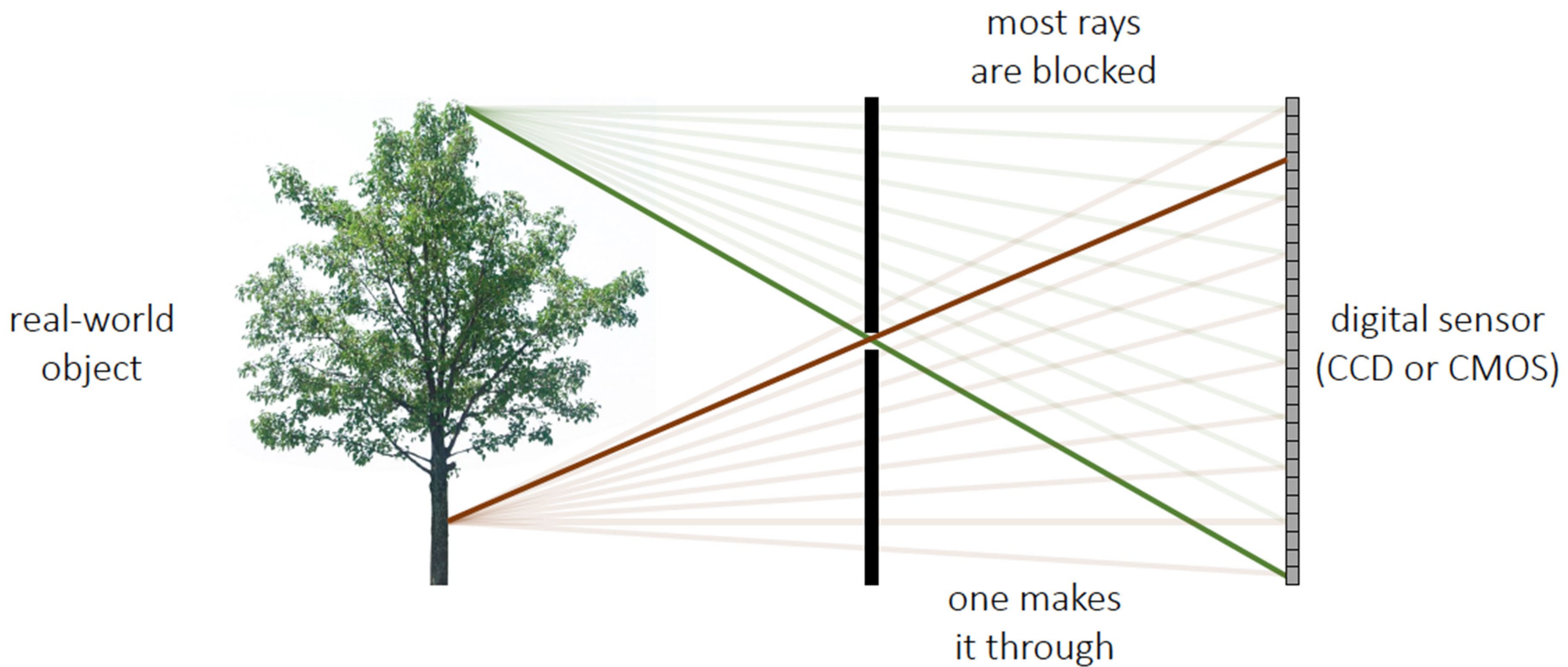
one makes  
it through

digital sensor  
(CCD or CMOS)



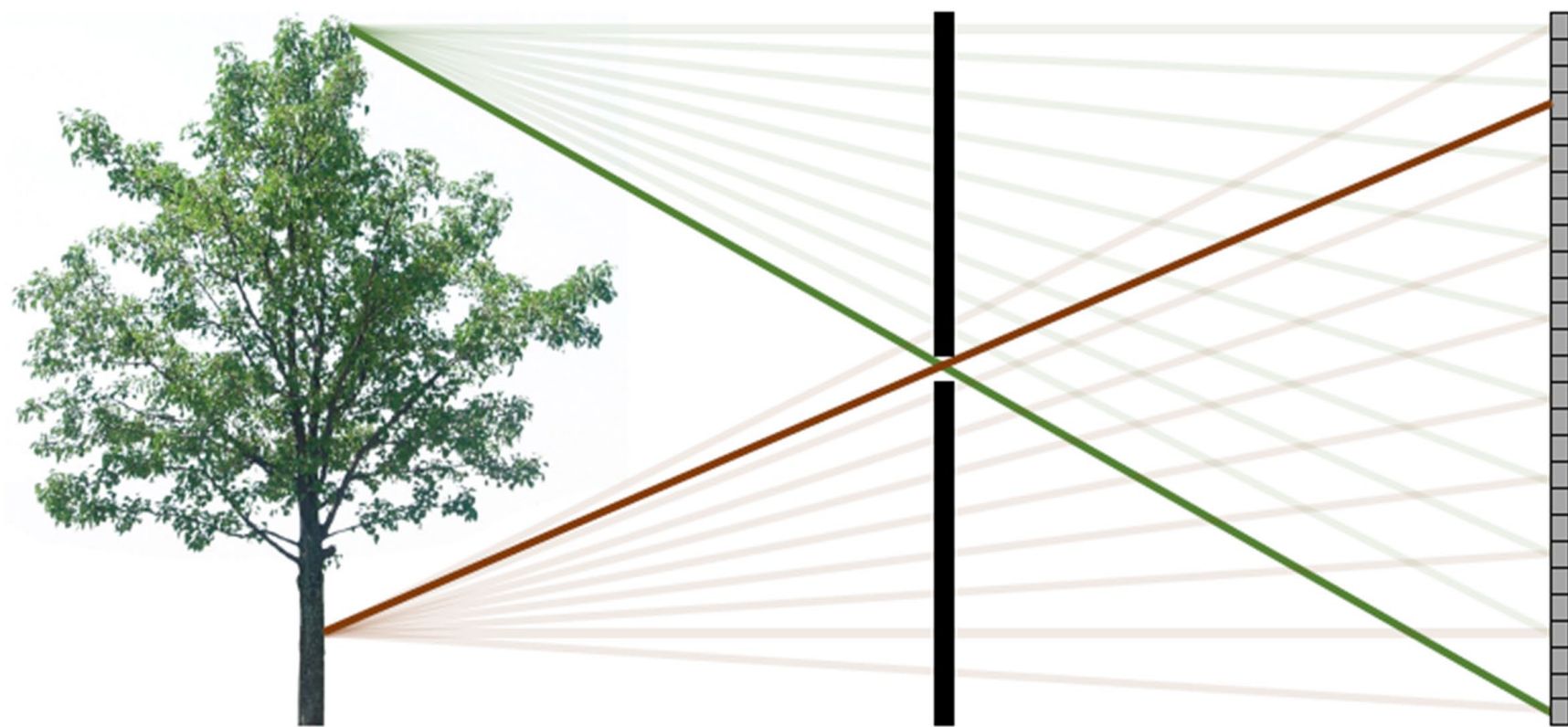


# Pinhole imaging



# Pinhole imaging

real-world  
object



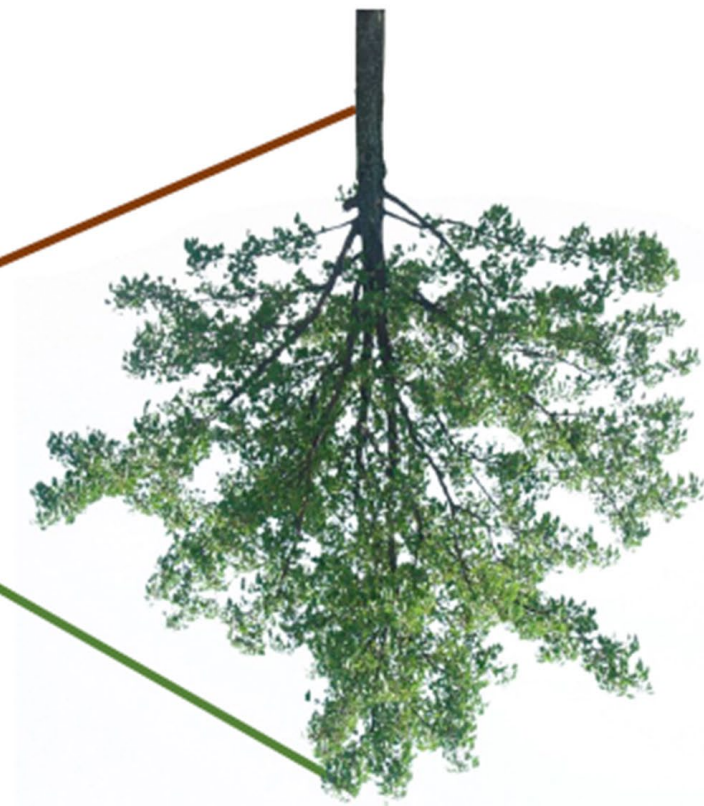
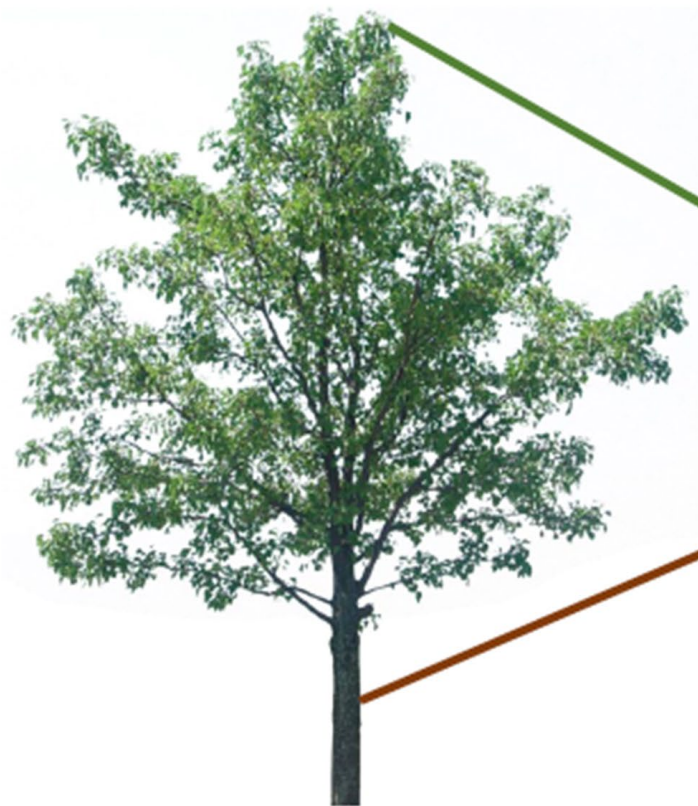
digital sensor  
(CCD or CMOS)

Each scene point contributes to only one sensor pixel

What does the  
image on the  
sensor look like?

# Pinhole imaging

real-world  
object



copy of real-world object  
(inverted and scaled)



# “Camera Obscura”

- Camera obscura = “dark chamber” in Latin
- Theorized to be the reason for distortions in prehistorical neolithic paintings ...
- Mozi (China, ~ 400 BC)
- Aristotle (Greece, ~ 350 BC)



# Ancient Architecture or Accidental Pinhole Camera?

- Shiva Temple in Hampi (India)
- inverted image can be seen
- Built in ~600 AD





# Make your own pinhole camera while the sun shines (Ancient Computer Vision Proverb)

Paper with a hole in it ... some creative friends ... an auspicious day ...

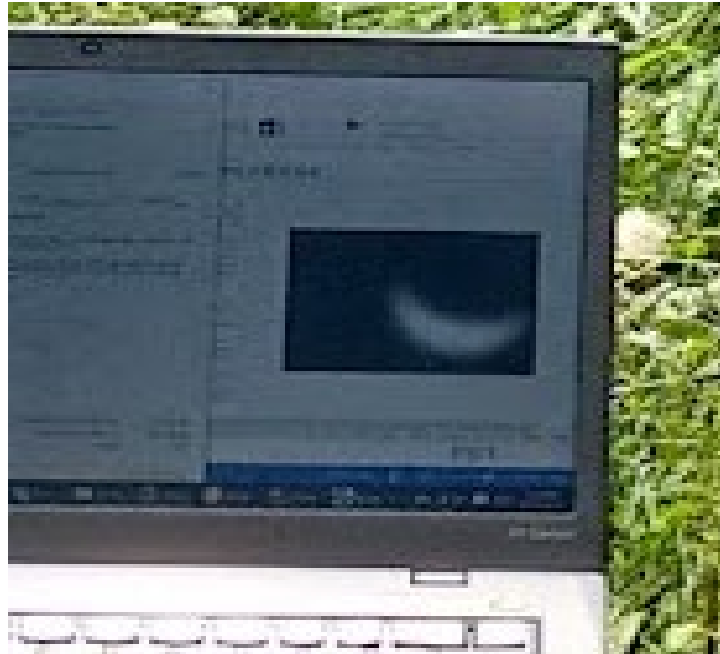


*Where are they now?* Faculty at UMBC, Faculty at UC Riverside; Fellow at Allen Institute; Research Scientist at Adobe ...



# **“Make your own pinhole camera while the sun shines” (Ancient Computer Vision Proverb)**

**“Great American Eclipse” of August 21, 2017**





# **“Make your own pinhole camera while the sun shines” (Ancient Computer Vision Proverb)**

**“Great North American Eclipse” of April 8, 2024 at UMBC**





# “Make your own pinhole camera while the sun shines” (Ancient Computer Vision Proverb)

Images produced by natural pinholes [\[ edit \]](#)

(Images of the eclipse created by natural [pinholes](#) formed by tree leaves)



[North Cascade mountains](#) (British Columbia and Washington).



[East Wenatchee, Washington](#)



[Moon, Pennsylvania](#)



# Pinhole camera terms

real-world  
object



barrier (diaphragm)



pinhole  
(aperture)



camera center  
(center of projection)



image plane



digital sensor  
(CCD or CMOS)

