

# Image Composition

COS 526  
Princeton University

Modeled after lecture by Alexei Efros.  
Slides by Efros, Durand, Freeman, Hays, Fergus, Lazebnik, Agarwala, Shamir, and Perez.

# Image Composition



Jurassic Park

# Image Blending

1. Extract Sprites (e.g using *Intelligent Scissors* in Photoshop)



2. Blend them into the composite (in the right order)



Composite by David Dewey

Slide credit: A. Efros

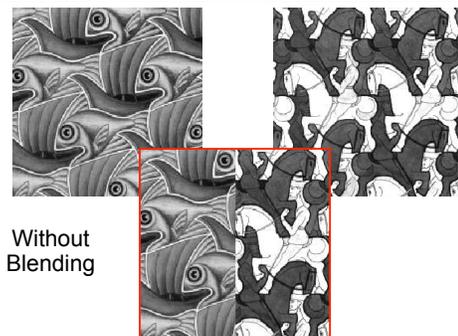
# Image Composition

- Laplacian pyramid blending
- Graphcut seams
- Poisson cloning

# Image Composition

- Laplacian pyramid blending ←
- Graphcut seams
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# Image Blending



Without Blending

Slide credit: A. Efros

### Alpha Blending / Feathering

$I_{\text{blend}} = \alpha I_{\text{left}} + (1-\alpha) I_{\text{right}}$

Slide credit: A. Efros

### Affect of Window Size

Slide credit: A. Efros

### Affect of Window Size

Slide credit: A. Efros

### Good Window Size

Slide credit: A. Efros

“Optimal” Window: smooth but not ghosted

### What is the Optimal Window?

To avoid seams

- window = size of largest prominent feature

To avoid ghosting

- window  $\leq 2^2$  size of smallest prominent feature

Natural to cast this in the *Fourier domain*

- largest frequency  $\leq 2^2$  size of smallest frequency
- image frequency content should occupy one “octave” (power of two)

Slide credit: A. Efros

### What if the Frequency Spread is Wide

Idea (Burt and Adelson)

- Different window sizes for different frequencies

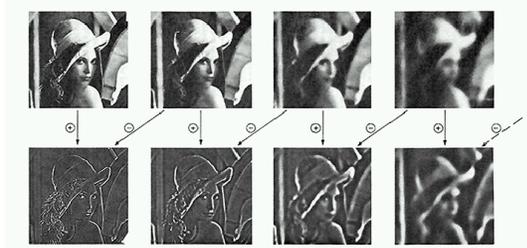
Method

- Decompose image into octaves (frequency bands)
- Feather each octave with appropriate window size
- Sum feathered octave images to reconstruct blended image

Slide credit: A. Efros

## Laplacian Pyramid

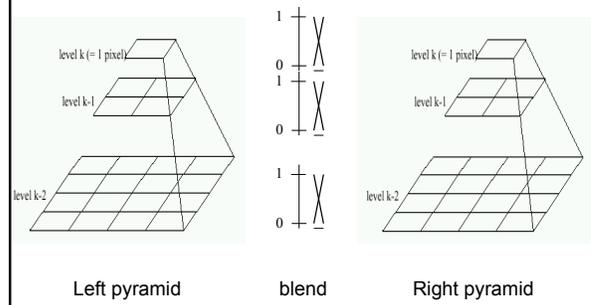
Lowpass Images



Bandpass Images

Slide credit: A. Efros

## Laplacian Pyramid Blending



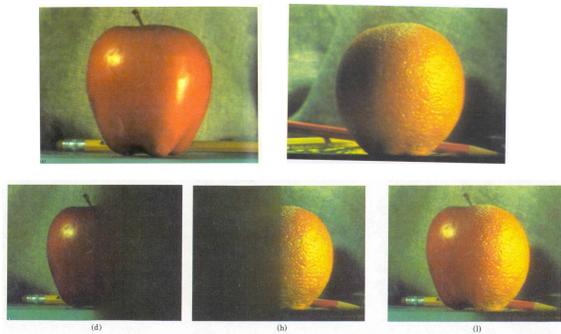
Left pyramid

blend

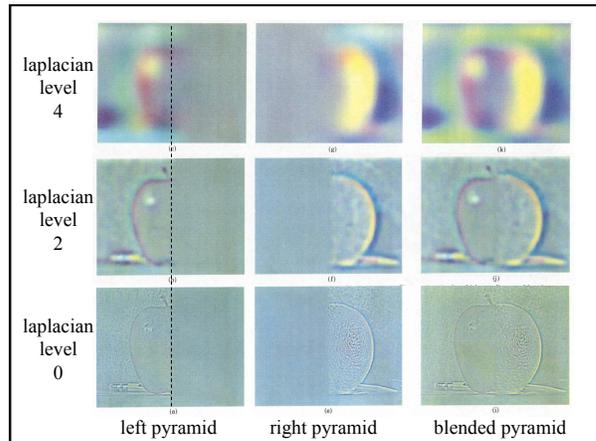
Right pyramid

Slide credit: A. Efros

## Laplacian Pyramid Blending



Slide credit: A. Efros

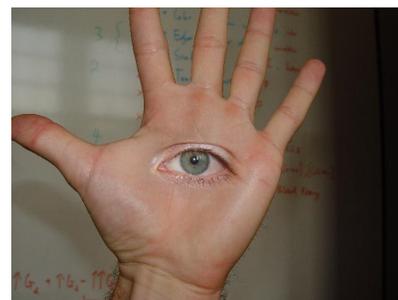


## Laplacian Pyramid Blending



Slide credit: A. Efros

## Laplacian Pyramid Blending



© david d martin (Boston College)

Slide credit: A. Efros

## Problem with blending



Misaligned (moving) objects become ghosts

Slide credit: A. Efros

## Image Composition

Laplacian pyramid blending

Graph cut seams ←

Poisson cloning

## Graph Cuts

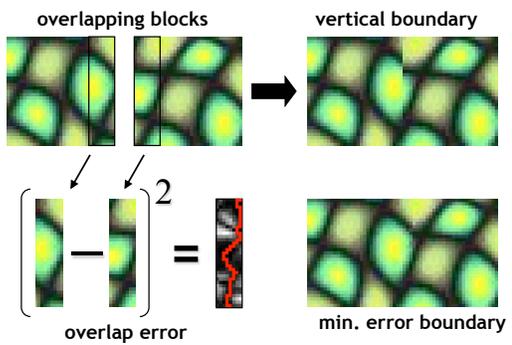
General idea

- Single source image per segment (avoids blurring)
- Careful cut placement, plus optional blending (avoids seams)



Slide credit: A. Efros

## Graph Cuts in Texture Synthesis



Slide credit: A. Efros

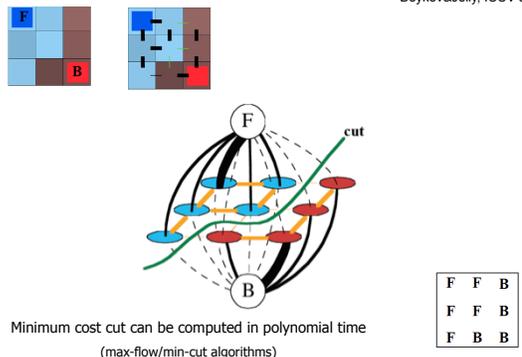
## Graph Cuts in Image Segmentation



Lazy Snapping [Li 2004]  
Interactive segmentation using graphcuts

## Graph Cut Algorithm

Boykov&Jolly, ICCV'01



### Graph cuts in Image Retargeting



Cropping

Seam Carving

Scaling

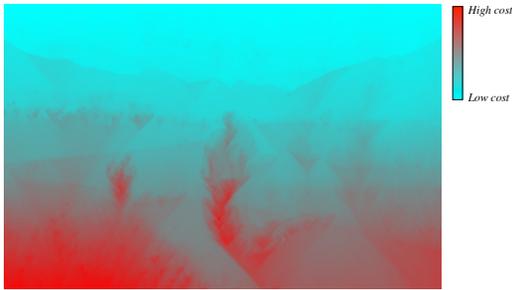
Shamir

### Seam Carving



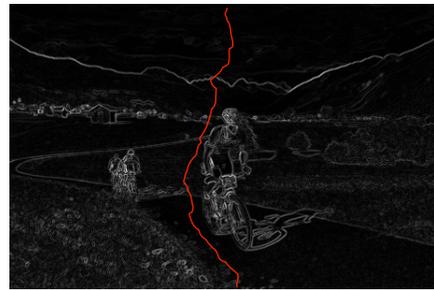
Shamir

### Seam Carving



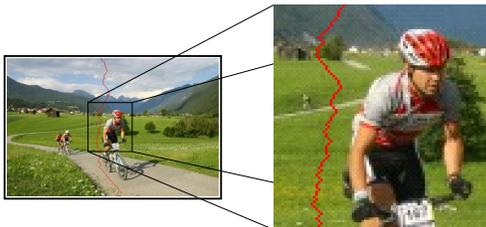
Shamir

### Seam Carving



Shamir

### Seam Carving



Shamir

### Seam Carving



Shamir

## Problem with graph cuts

What if colors/intensities are different?



sources/destinations

cloning

Slide credit: F. Durand

## Image Composition

Laplacian pyramid blending

Graphcut seams

Poisson cloning ←

## Gradient domain image editing

Motivation:

Human visual system is very sensitive to gradient  
Gradient encode edges and local contrast quite well

Approach:

Edit in the gradient domain  
Reconstruct image from gradient

Slide credit: F. Durand

## Gradient domain image editing



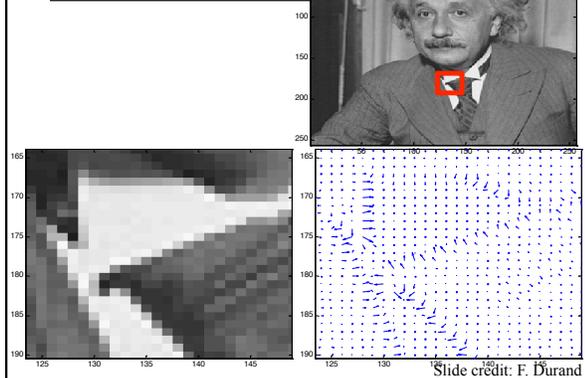
sources/destinations

cloning

seamless cloning

Slide credit: F. Durand

## Gradient domain

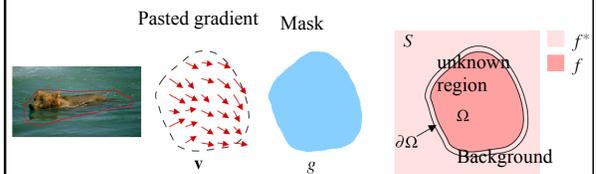


Slide credit: F. Durand

## Seamless Poisson cloning

Given vector field  $v$  (pasted gradient), find the value of  $f$  in unknown region that optimizes:

$$\min_f \iint_{\Omega} |\nabla f - v|^2 \text{ with } f|_{\partial\Omega} = f^*|_{\partial\Omega}$$



Slide credit: F. Durand

## Discrete Poisson solver

Minimize variational problem  $\min_f \iint_{\Omega} |\nabla f - v|^2$  with  $f|_{\partial\Omega} = f^*|_{\partial\Omega}$ .

$$\min_{f|_{\Omega}} \sum_{(p,q) \in \Omega \times \Omega, (p,q) \cap \partial\Omega \neq \emptyset} (f_p - f_q - v_{pq})^2, \text{ with } f_p = f_p^*, \text{ for all } p \in \partial\Omega$$

Discretized gradient
Discretized v: g(p)-g(q)
Boundary condition

Rearrange and call  $N_p$  the neighbors of  $p$

$$\text{for all } p \in \Omega, |N_p|f_p - \sum_{q \in N_p \cap \Omega} f_q = \sum_{q \in N_p \cap \partial\Omega} f_q^* + \sum_{q \in N_p} v_{pq}$$

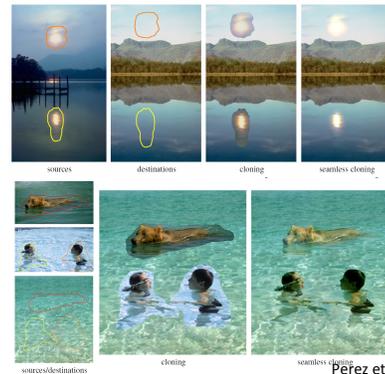
Big yet sparse linear system



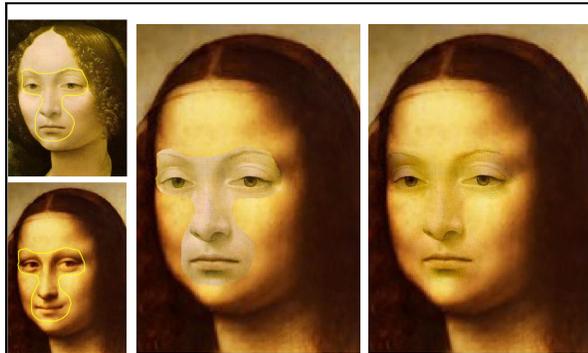
Only for boundary pixels

Slide credit: F. Durand

## Image Composition Results



Pérez et al. SIGGRAPH 03



Perez et al. SIGGRAPH 03



Figure 2: **Concealment.** By importing seamlessly a piece of the background, complete objects, parts of objects, and undesirable artifacts can easily be hidden. In both examples, multiple strokes (not shown) were used.

Perez et al. SIGGRAPH 03

## Putting it all together

### Compositing images

- Have a clever blending function
  - Feathering
  - Laplacian pyramid
  - Poisson cloning
- Choose the right pixels from each image
  - Graphcuts

Now, let's put it all together:

- Photomontage [Agarwala et al. 2004]
- Scene Completion [Hayes et al. 2007]

Slide credit: A. Efros

## Interactive Digital Photomontage

Aseem Agarwala, Mira Dontcheva  
 Maneesh Agrawala, Steven Drucker, Alex Colburn  
 Brian Curless, David Salesin, Michael Cohen



## Interactive Digital Photomontage



Composite Family Photo

Agarwala et al. SIGGRAPH 04

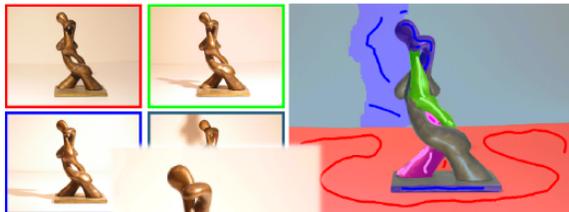
## Interactive Digital Photomontage



Input: Macro photos at different focal lengths.  
Output: Global max-contrast image  
(uses automatic graph cut labels)

Agarwala et al. SIGGRAPH 04

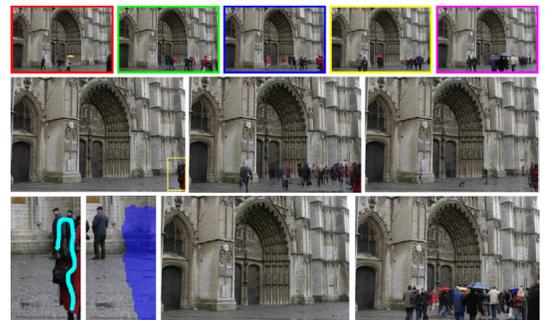
## Interactive Digital Photomontage



Composite lit from many directions

Agarwala et al. SIGGRAPH 04

## Interactive Digital Photomontage



Agarwala et al. SIGGRAPH 04

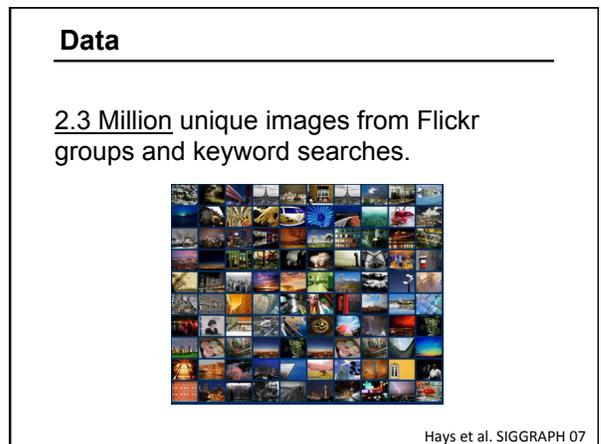
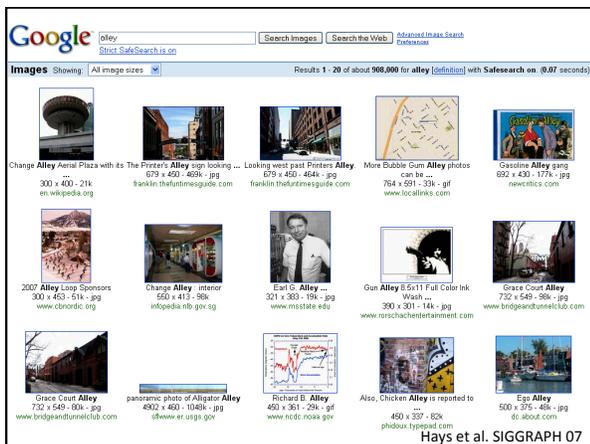
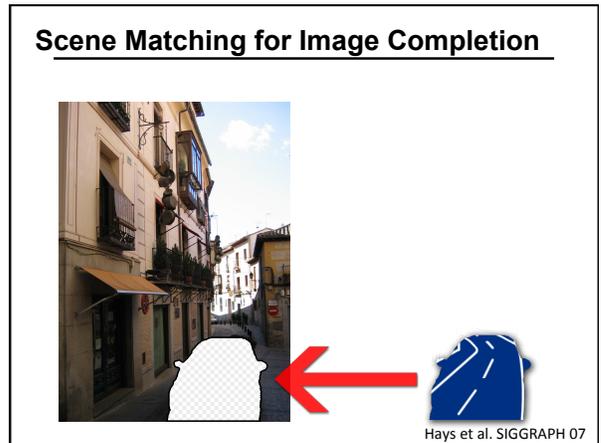
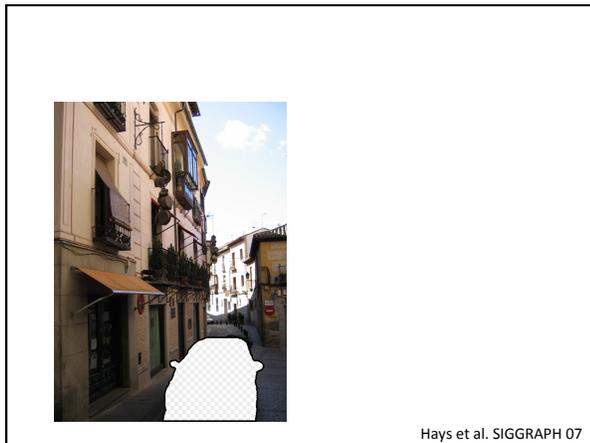
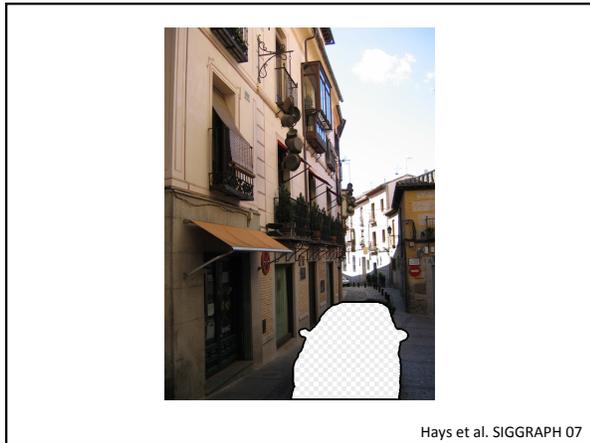
## Scene Completion Using Millions of Photographs

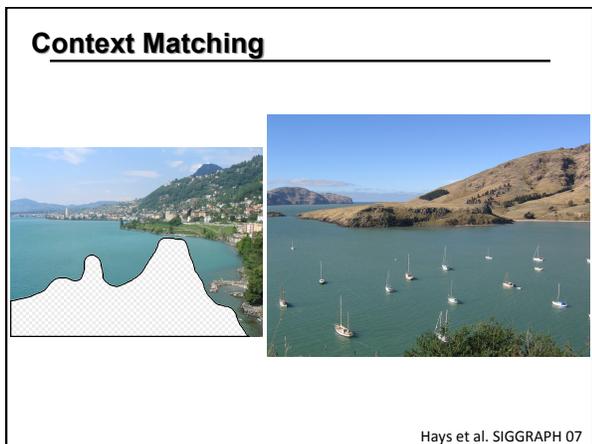
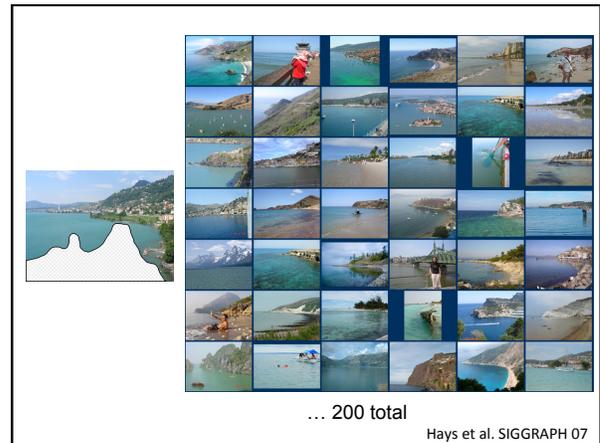
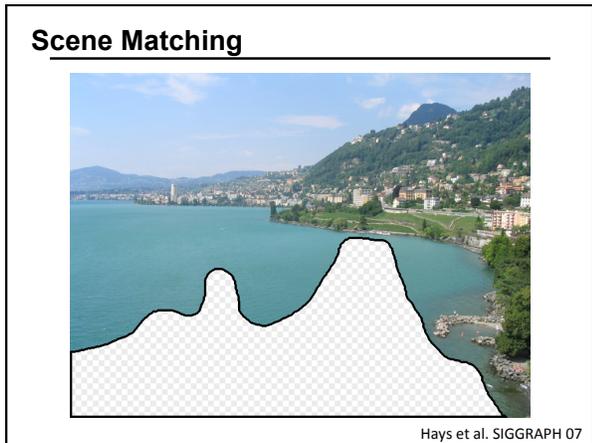
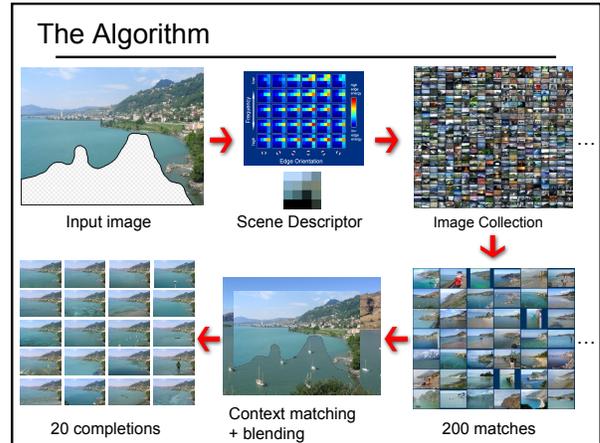
James Hays and Alexei A. Efros  
SIGGRAPH 2007

Slides by J. Hays and A. Efros



Hays et al. SIGGRAPH 07







Hays et al. SIGGRAPH 07

## Summary

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### Compositing images

- Have a clever blending function
  - Feathering
  - Laplacian pyramid
  - Poisson cloning
- Choose the right pixels from each image
  - Graphcuts

### Applications:

- Interactive Digital Photomontage
- Scene completion from millions of images

Slide credit: A. Efros