

## More Histograms

- We'll again use Histograms as probability distributions, but with some new wrinkles.
  - Instead of comparing two distributions, we want to judge if a single sample comes from a distribution.
  - Want to build a distribution from a histogram with few samples (~100 instead of ~10,000)

## Background Subtraction


- Many images of same scene.
- A pixel is foreground or background.
- Many training examples of background.
- Classify pixels in new image

## The Problem

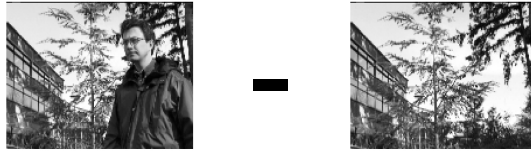


Look at each pixel individually

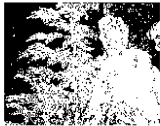


Then classify: 

## Just Subtract?



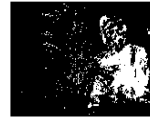
and threshold difference



10



80

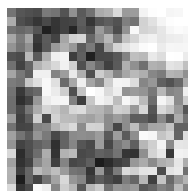


120

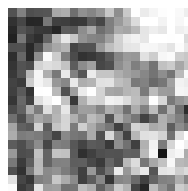
## Background isn't static



1



2



3



4



10



100

## Probability Distribution for Pixels

- $p(I(x,y)=k)$  for the probability that the pixel at  $(x,y)$  will have an intensity of  $k$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{255} p(I(x,y) = k) = 1$$

## Bayes' Law

$$P(C, D) = P(C | D)P(D) \text{ or } = P(D | C)P(C) \quad P(C | D) = \frac{P(D | C)P(C)}{P(D)}$$

This tells us how to reach a conclusions using evidence, if we know the probability that the evidence would occur.

Probability  $(x,y)$  is background if intensity is 107? Who knows?

Probability intensity is 107 if background? We can measure.

$$P(B(x,y) | I(x,y) = k) = \frac{P(I(x,y) = k | B(x,y))P(B(x,y))}{P(I(x,y) = k)}$$

## Bayes' law cont'd

$$P(B(x, y) | I(x, y) = k) = \frac{P(I(x, y) = k | B(x, y))P(B(x, y))}{P(I(x, y) = k)}$$

$$\frac{P(B(x, y) | I(x, y) = k)}{P(F(x, y) | I(x, y) = k)} = \frac{P(I(x, y) = k | B(x, y))P(B(x, y))}{P(I(x, y) = k | F(x, y))P(F(x, y))}$$

If we have uniform prior for foreground pixel, then key is to find probability distribution for background.

## Sample Distribution with Histogram

- **Histogram:** count # times each intensity appears.
- We estimate distribution from experience.
- If 1/100 of the time, background pixel is 17, then assume  $P(I(x, y) = 17 | B) = 1/100$ .
- May not be true, but best estimate.
- Requires *Ergodicity*, ie distribution doesn't change over time.

## Sample Distribution Problems

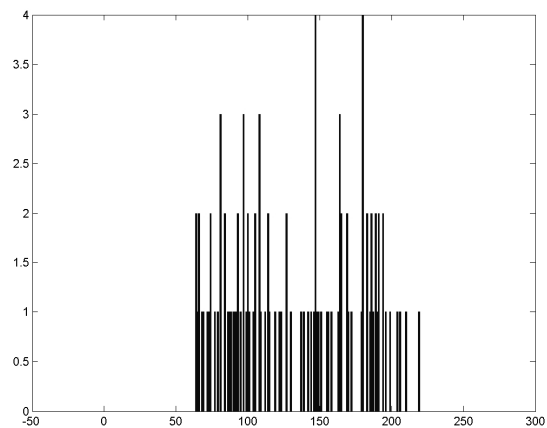
- This estimate can be noisy.

Try: `k=6; n=10; figure(1); hist(floor(k*rand(1,n)), 0:(k-1))`

for different values of  $k$  and  $n$ .

- Need a lot of data.

## Histogram of One Pixel Intensities



## Kernel Density Estimation

- Assume  $p(I(x,y)=k)$  similar for similar values of  $k$ .
- So observation of  $k$  tells us a new observation at **or near**  $k$  is more likely.
- Equivalent to smoothing distribution.  
(smoothing reduces noise)

## KDE vs. Sample Distribution

- Suppose we have one observation
  - Sample dist. says that event has prob. 1
    - All other events have prob. 0
  - KDE says there's a smooth dist. with a peak at that event.
- Many observations just average what happens with one.

## KDE cont'd

- To compute  $P(x,y)=k$ , for every sample we add something based on distance between sample and  $k$ .
- Let  $s_i$  be sample no.  $i$  of  $(x,y)$ ,  $N$  the number of samples,  $\sigma$  be a parameter.

$$P(I(x, y) = k) = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{N\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(k - s_i)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

## KDE for Background Subtraction

- For each pixel, compute probability background would look like this.
- Then threshold.





Naïve Subtraction



With Model of Background  
Distribution

## Background Subtraction



## KDE vs. Binning

- Previously, we use histogram directly to estimate distribution.
- If data is sparse we *bin* data uniformly or with K-means.
  - Eg., divide intensities into 0-15, 16-31, ...
- This is almost like KDE using a box filter.
  - 8 is treated like a uniform distribution from 0-15.
  - But 15 is treated the same way.
- Binning is very fast, but KDE makes more sense.
- The same principle can apply in comparing sparse histograms.
  - Eg, smooth histograms then compare with Chi-squared.