## CMSC 426: Image Processing (Computer Vision)

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### Vision

- ``to know what is where, by looking." (Marr).
- Where
- What

## Why is Vision Interesting?

- Psychology
  - $-\sim 50\%$  of cerebral cortex is for vision.
  - Vision is how we experience the world.
- Engineering
  - Want machines to interact with world.
  - Digital images are everywhere.







movie





## Computer Vision

- Inference  $\rightarrow$  Computation
- Building machines that see
- Modeling biological perception

A Quick Tour of Computer Vision

Boundary Detection: Local cues





















































#### Vision depends on:

- Geometry
- Physics
- The nature of objects in the world (This is the hardest part).

# Approaches to Vision

#### Modeling + Algorithms

- Build a simple model of the world (eg., flat, uniform intensity).
- Find provably good algorithms.
- Experiment on real world.
- Update model.

*Problem:* Too often models are simplistic or intractable.

#### **Bayesian inference**

- Bayes law: P(A|B) = P(B|A)\*P(A)/P(B).
- P(world|image) = P(image|world)\*P(world)/P(image)
- P(image|world) is computer graphics
  Geometry of projection.
  - Physics of light and reflection.
- P(world) means modeling objects in world. Leads to statistical/learning approaches.
- *Problem:* Too often probabilities can't be known and are invented.

## Engineering

- Focus on definite tasks with clear requirements.
- Try ideas based on theory and get experience about what works.
- Try to build reusable modules.

Problem: Solutions that work under specific conditions may not generalize.

#### Marr

- Theory of Computation
- Representations and algorithms
- Implementations.
- Primal Sketch
- 2½D Sketch
- 3D Representations
- Problem: Are things really so modular?

#### The State of Computer Vision

- Science
  - Study of intelligence seems to be hard.
  - Some interesting fundamental theory about specific problems.
  - Limited insight into how these interact.

#### The State of Computer Vision

- Technology
  - Interesting applications: inspection, graphics, security, internet....
  - Some successful companies. Largest ~100-200 million in revenues. Many inhouse applications.
  - Future: growth in digital images exciting.

## **Related Fields**

- Graphics. "Vision is inverse graphics".
- Visual perception.
- Neuroscience.
- Al
- Learning
- Math: eg., geometry, stochastic processes.
- Optimization.

#### Contact Info

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#### **Tools Needed for Course**

Math

- Calculus
- Linear Algebra (can be picked up).
- Computer Science
  - Algorithms
  - Programming, we'll use Matlab.
- Signal Processing (we'll teach a little).

### **Rough Syllabus**

# **Course Organization**

- Reading assignments in Forsyth & Ponce, plus some extras.
- ~6-8 Problem sets
- Programming and paper and pencil
- Two quizzes, Final Exam.
- Grading: Problem sets 30%, quizzes: first quiz 10%; second quiz 20%; final 40%.
- Web page: www.cs.umd.edu/~djacobs/CMSC426/CMSC426.htm

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