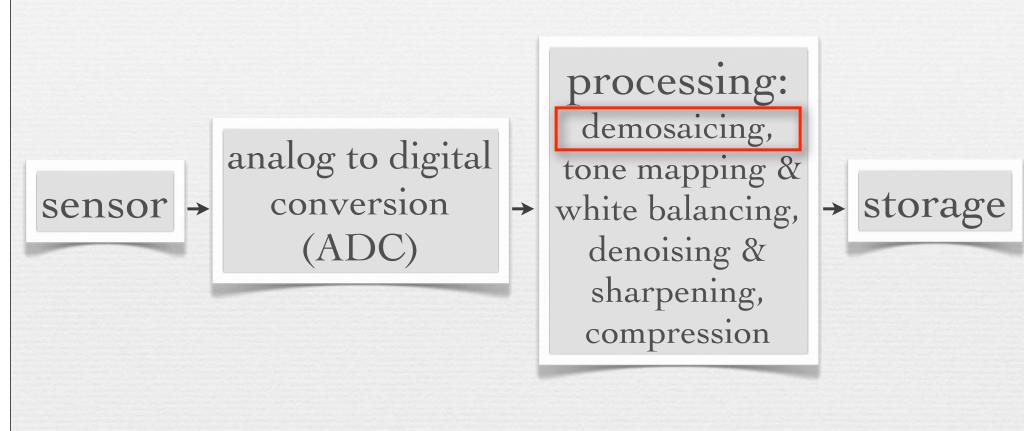
# Post-processing pipeline

#### CS 178, Spring 2013



Marc Levoy Computer Science Department Stanford University

# Camera pixel pipeline



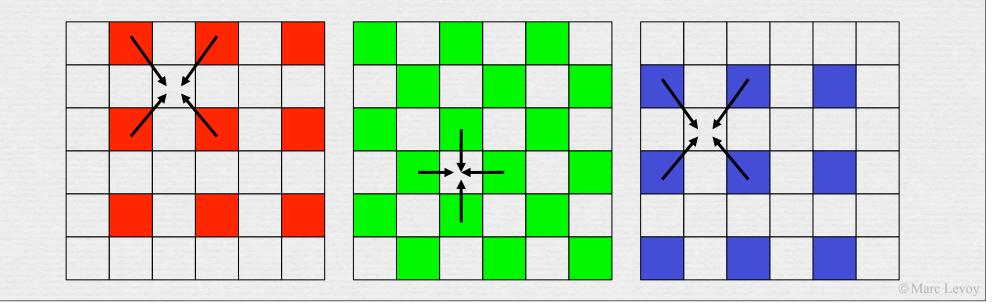
- every camera uses different algorithms
- the processing order may vary
- most of it is proprietary

#### Demosaicing (review)

linear interpolation

3

- average of the 4 nearest neighbors of the same color
- cameras typically use more complicated scheme
  - try to avoid interpolating across feature boundaries
  - demosaicing is often combined with denoising, sharpening...



### Camera pixel pipeline

analog to digital sensor → conversion  $\rightarrow$ (ADC)

processing: demosaicing, tone mapping & white balancing, denoising & sharpening, compression

storage

#### Gamma and gamma correction

- the goal of digital imaging is to accurately reproduce <u>relative</u> scene luminances on a display screen
  - absolute luminance is impossible to reproduce
  - humans are sensitive to relative luminance anyway
- in some workflows, pixel value is made proportional to scene luminance, in other systems to perceived brightness
  - in CRTs luminance was proportional to voltage<sup> $\gamma$ </sup> with  $\gamma \approx 2.5$ , so TV cameras were designed to output voltage  $\propto$  scene luminance<sup>1/ $\gamma$ </sup>
  - pixel value ∝ luminance<sup>1/2.5</sup> is roughly perceptually uniform, so in CG and digital photography it's a good space for quantization, JPEG, etc.





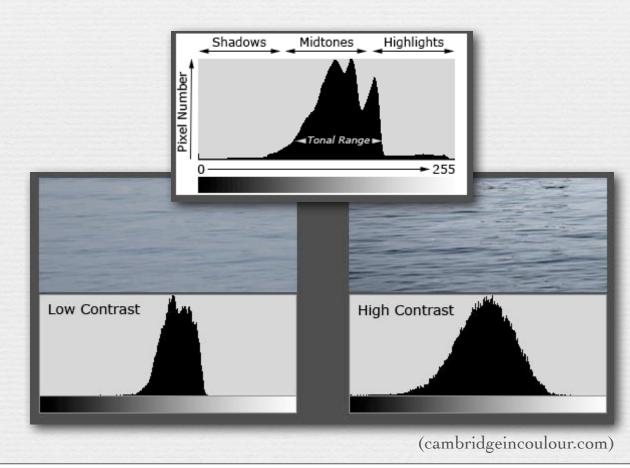
http://graphics.stanford.edu/courses/cs178/applets/gamma.html



#### manual editing

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• capture image in RAW mode, then fiddle with histogram in Photoshop, dcraw, Canon Digital Photo Professional, etc.



#### manual editing

- capture image in RAW mode, then fiddle with histogram in Photoshop, dcraw, Canon Digital Photo Professional, etc.
- ★ gamma transform (in addition to RAW→JPEG gamma)
  - output = input<sup> $\gamma$ </sup> (for  $0 \le I_i \le 1$ )
  - simple but crude

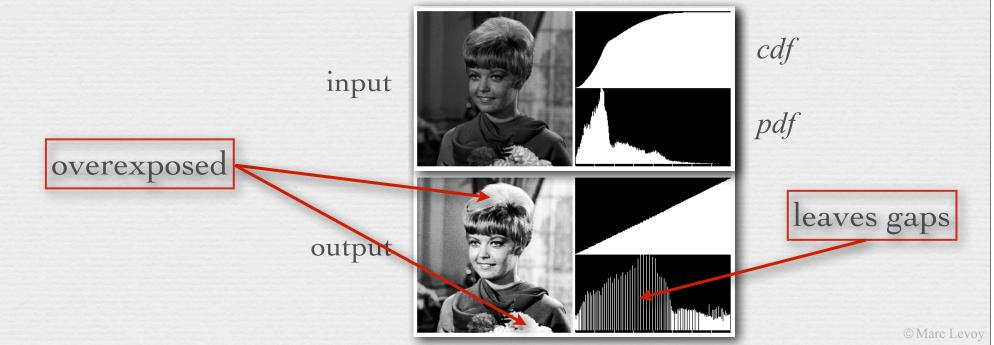


#### manual editing

- capture image in RAW mode, then fiddle with histogram in Photoshop, dcraw, Canon Digital Photo Professional, etc.
- ★ gamma transform (in addition to RAW→JPEG gamma)
  - output = input<sup> $\gamma$ </sup> (for  $0 \le I_i \le 1$ )
  - simple but crude
- histogram equalization

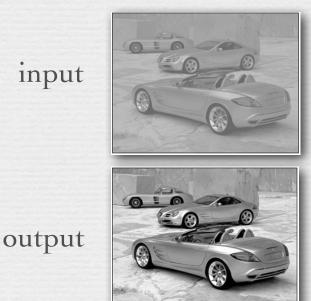
#### Histogram equalization

- 1. convert image to range [0,1]
- 2. calculate histogram of intensity, i.e.  $pdf(i) = \frac{N_i}{N}$ where  $N_i$  is the number of pixels of intensity *i*, and *N* is the total number of pixels
- 3. calculate cumulative density function  $cdf(i) = \sum pdf(j)$
- 4. re-map each pixel using  $I_{out} = cdf(I_{in}) \times 255 / N$  (for 8-bit pixels)



#### Histogram equalization

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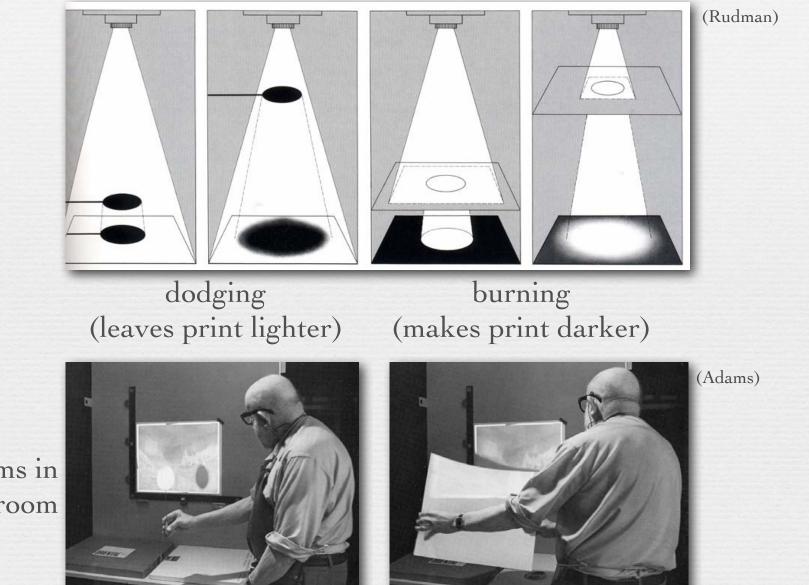
works better on this example

#### manual editing

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- capture image in RAW mode, then fiddle with histogram in Photoshop, dcraw, Canon Digital Photo Professional, etc.
- ◆ gamma transform (in addition to RAW→JPEG gamma)
  - output = input<sup> $\gamma$ </sup> (for  $0 \le I_i \le 1$ )
  - simple but crude
- histogram equalization
- global versus local transformations

# Traditional dodging and burning



Ansel Adams in his darkroom

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© Marc Levoy



straight print

Ansel Adams, Clearing Winter Storm, 1942



toned print

#### Ansel Adams, Clearing Winter Storm, 1942

# Recap

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- in CRTs luminance = voltage<sup> $\gamma$ </sup> where  $\gamma \approx 2.5$ , so television cameras output luminance<sup> $1/\gamma$ </sup> to compensate
  - NTSC cameras use luminance<sup>0.5</sup>, yielding a *system gamma*, to compensate for human *dark adaptation* during viewing
- digital cameras also gamma transform sensed pixels before storing them in JPEG files
  - while this matches television cameras, another good reason is perceptual uniformity, thereby reducing quantization artifacts
  - for sRGB cameras,  $\gamma = 1/2.2$
- tone mapping methods may include
  - contrast expansion
  - additional gamma mapping
  - histogram equalization
  - local methods, like dodging & burning

Questions?

# High dynamic range (HDR) imaging

- step 1: capturing HDR images
- step 2a: direct display of HDR images, or
- step 2b: tone mapping to create an LDR image for display

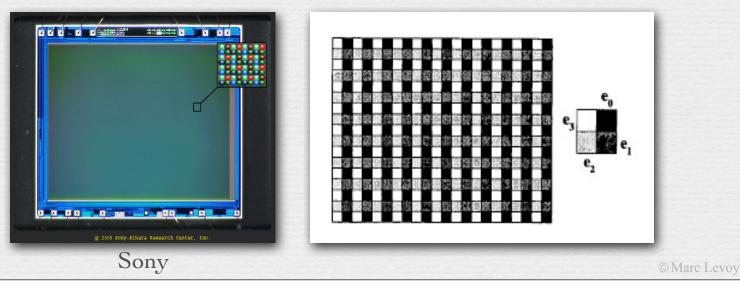
### Capturing HDR images

assorted pixels

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- per-pixel neutral density filters [Nayar CPVR 2000]
  - throws away photons
  - trades spatial resolution for dynamic range





1/500s, f/5.6, ISO 800

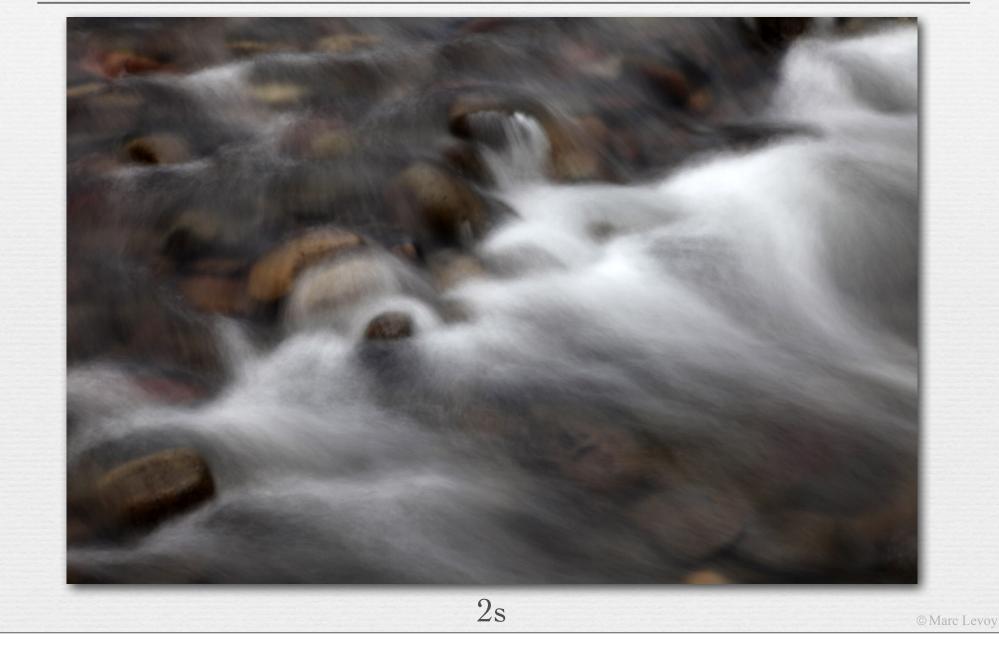


20







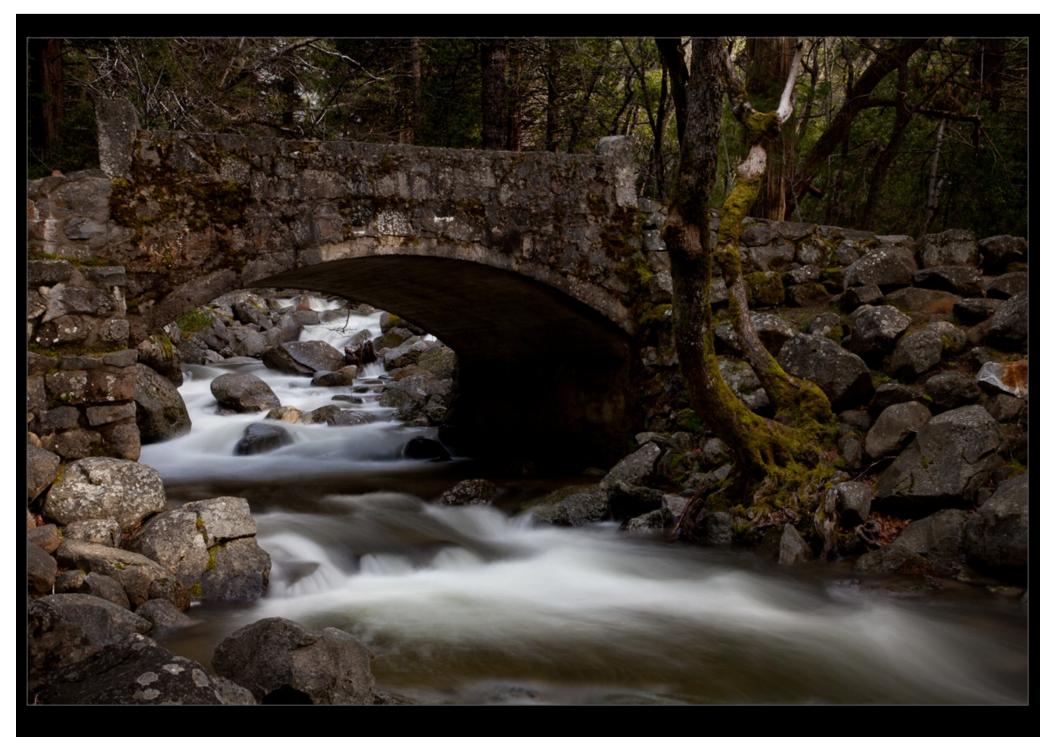


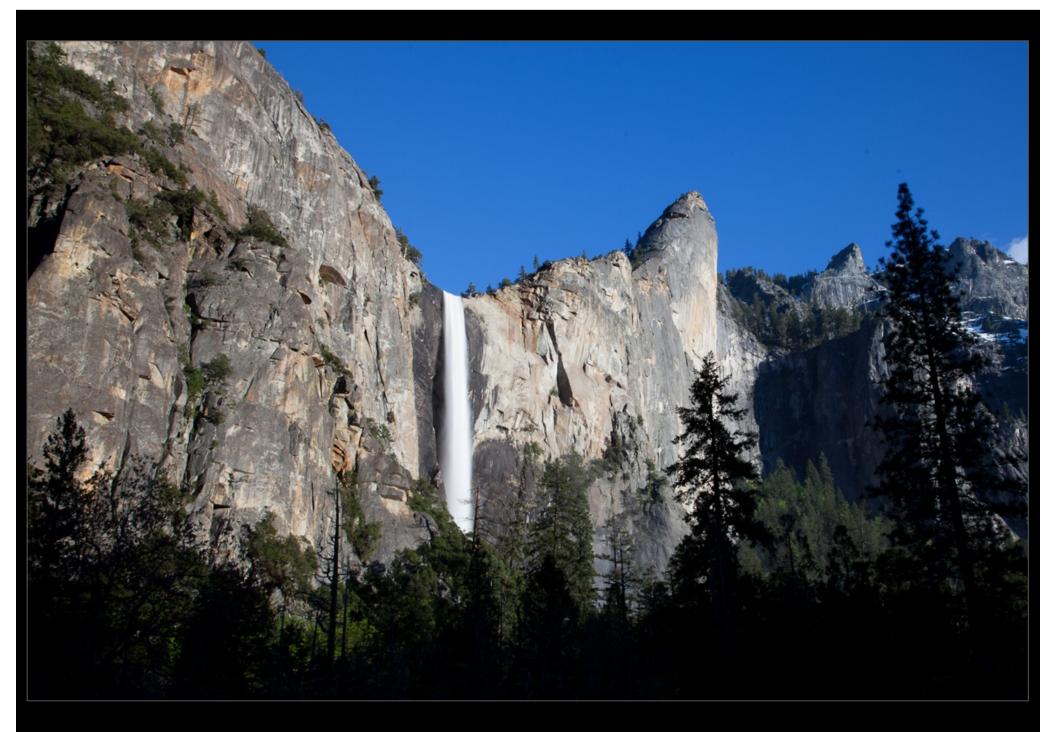


$1/500s \rightarrow 8s$	-12 stops
$f/5.6 \rightarrow f/22$	-4 stops
ISO $800 \rightarrow$ ISO 100	-3 stops
no filters $\rightarrow$ ND 8× + ND 4×	-5 stops

25

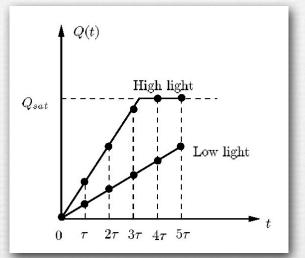
8s





# Capturing HDR images

- non-destructive readout of pixels
   [Gamal 1999]
  - measures light by counting time to saturation
  - improves dynamic range, but SNR at low brightness levels is no better than an ordinary camera



To expand on this last point, remember that SNR is a metric that is different for every scene brightness. As we learned in the noise lecture, if the scene is dim, then the number of photons is low, in which case the photon shot noise is high relative to the number of photons, and SNR is poor. Reading out pixel values more frequently lets us reliably measure intensity in bright pixels (because we read them before they saturate), but it doesn't provide any improvement in our measurement in dim pixels.



normal

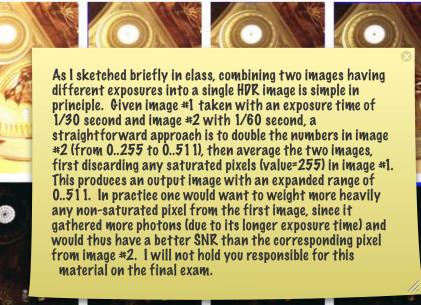


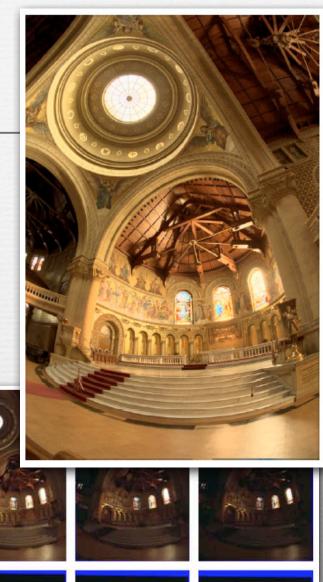
Pixim

# Capturing HDR images

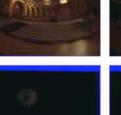
- multiple bracketed exposures [Debevec SIGGRAPH 1997]
- changing the exposure time is usually better than changing the aperture

#### Q. How about changing the ISO?





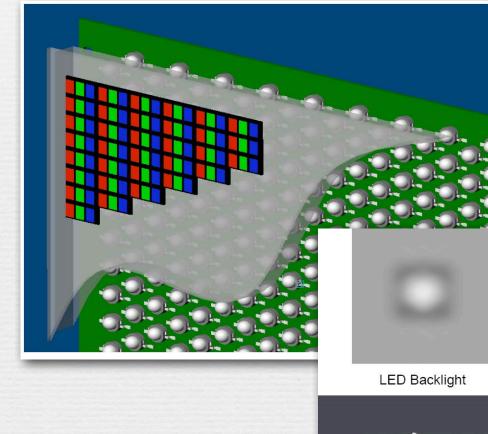


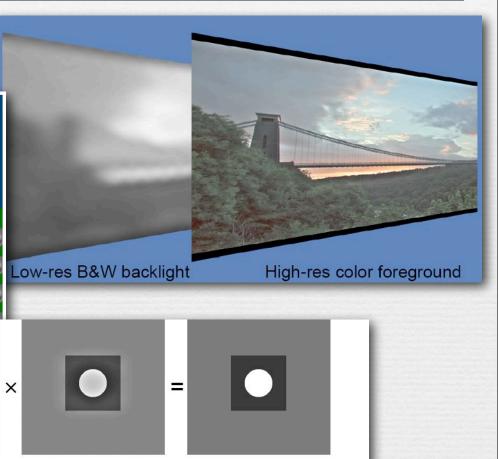




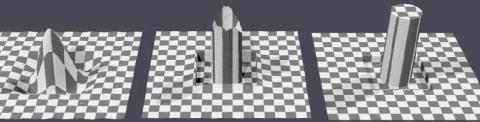
# Direct display of HDR images

Sunnybrook HDR display





**Combined Result** 



LCD Screen

© Marc Levoy



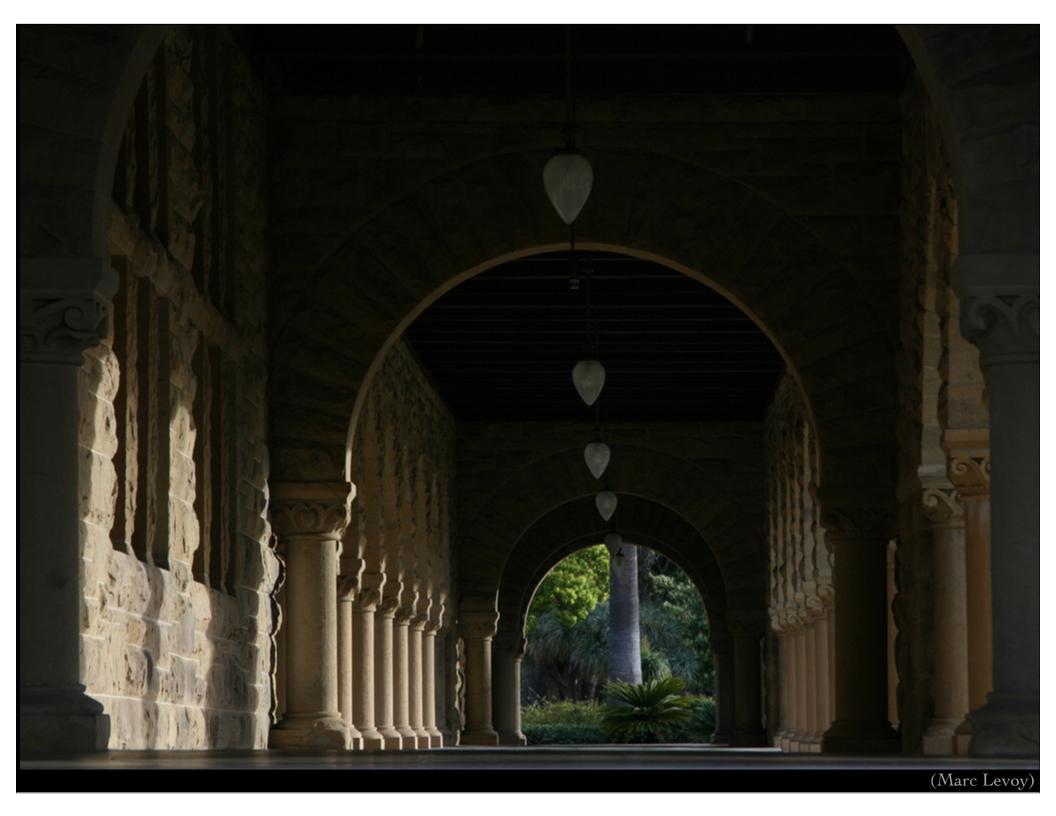
#### Brightside HDR display

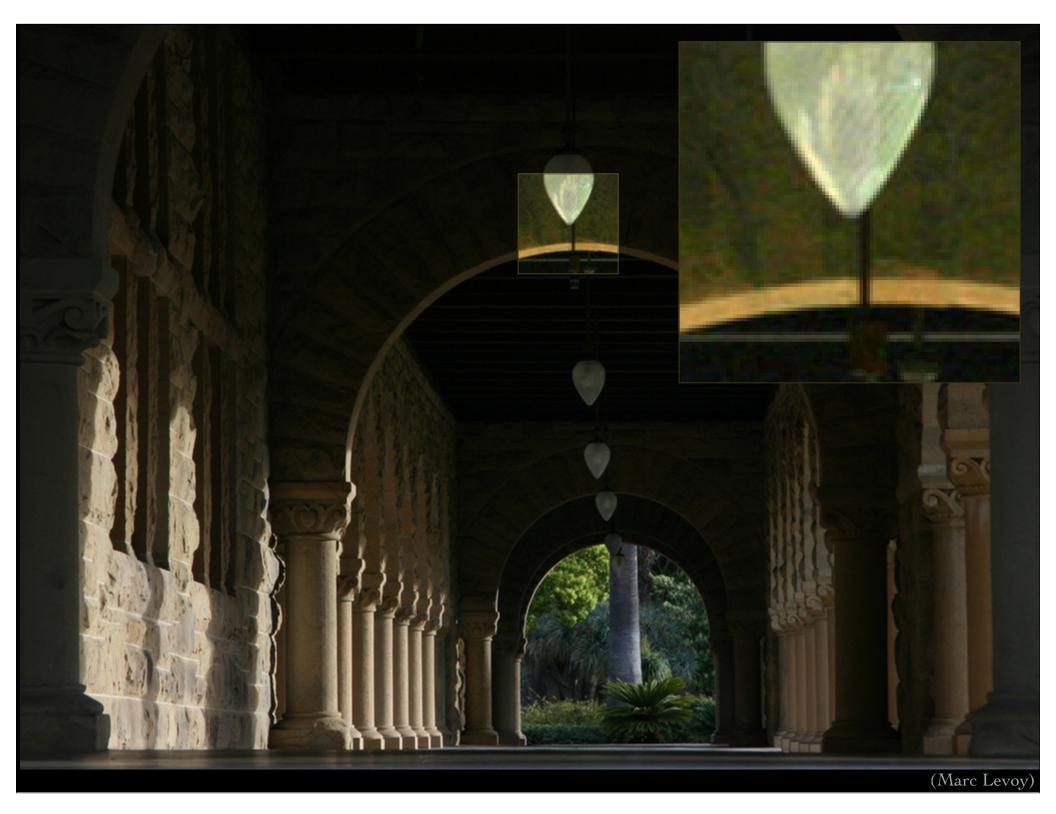
# High dynamic range (HDR) imaging

- step 1: capturing HDR images
- step 2a: direct display of HDR images, or
- step 2b: tone mapping to create an LDR image for display

you're not responsible for HDR tone mapping on your final

- goals of HDR  $\rightarrow$  LDR tone mapping
  - squeeze >12 bits of HDR image into 8 bits for JPEG
  - apply mapping for human adaption if scene was very dark
  - or bright...





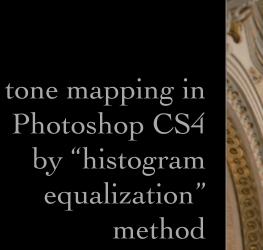




Cathedral, Valencia tone mapping in Photoshop CS4 by "exposure and gamma" method



Cathedral, Valencia

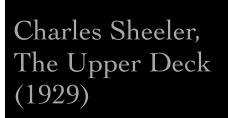


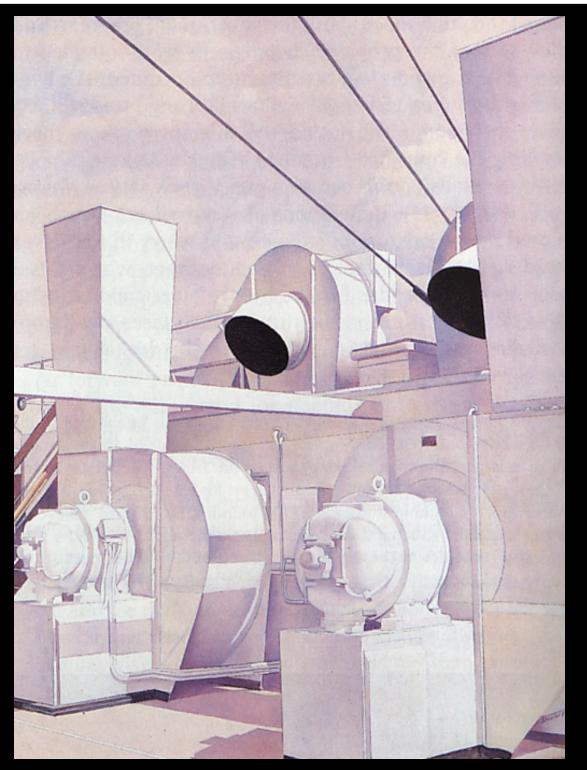
00000000000

Cathedral, Valencia



#### How do artists solve the tone mapping problem?







Joseph Wright, The Orrery (1765)

#### How do artists solve the tone mapping problem?

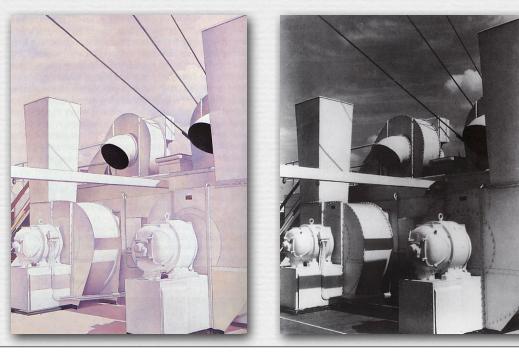
- for bright scenes
  - human vision is dazzled, compressing brightnesses
- for dark scenes

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 shadows are below threshold, so completely black



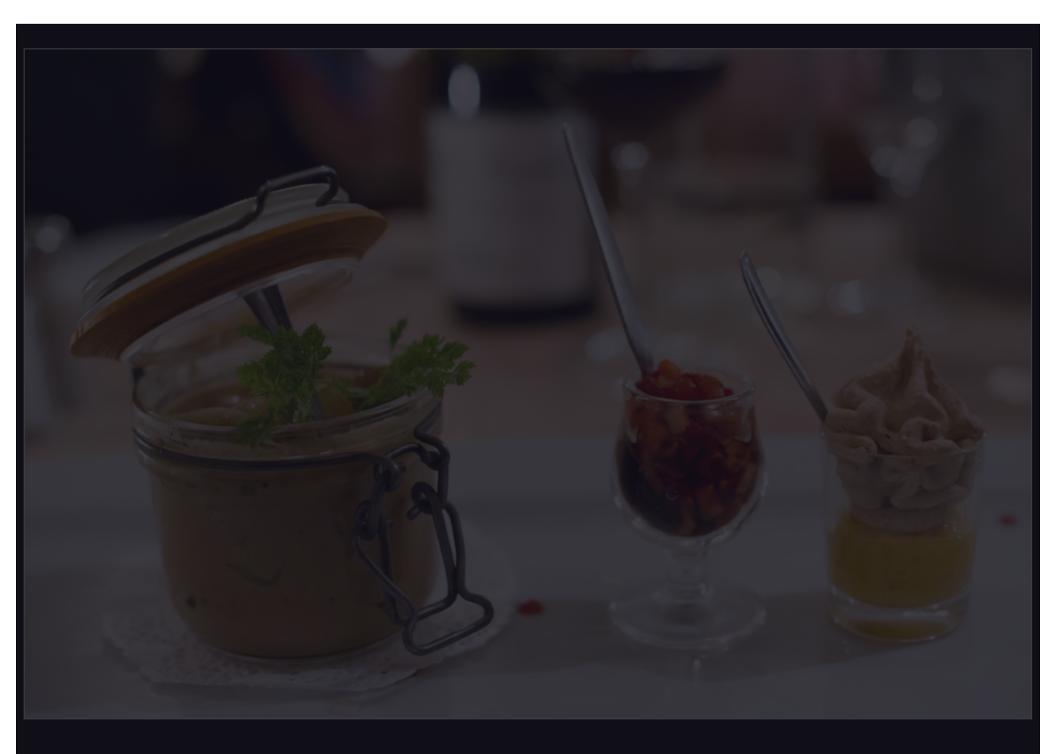
Hermann von Helmholtz (1821-1894) "The relation of optics to painting"

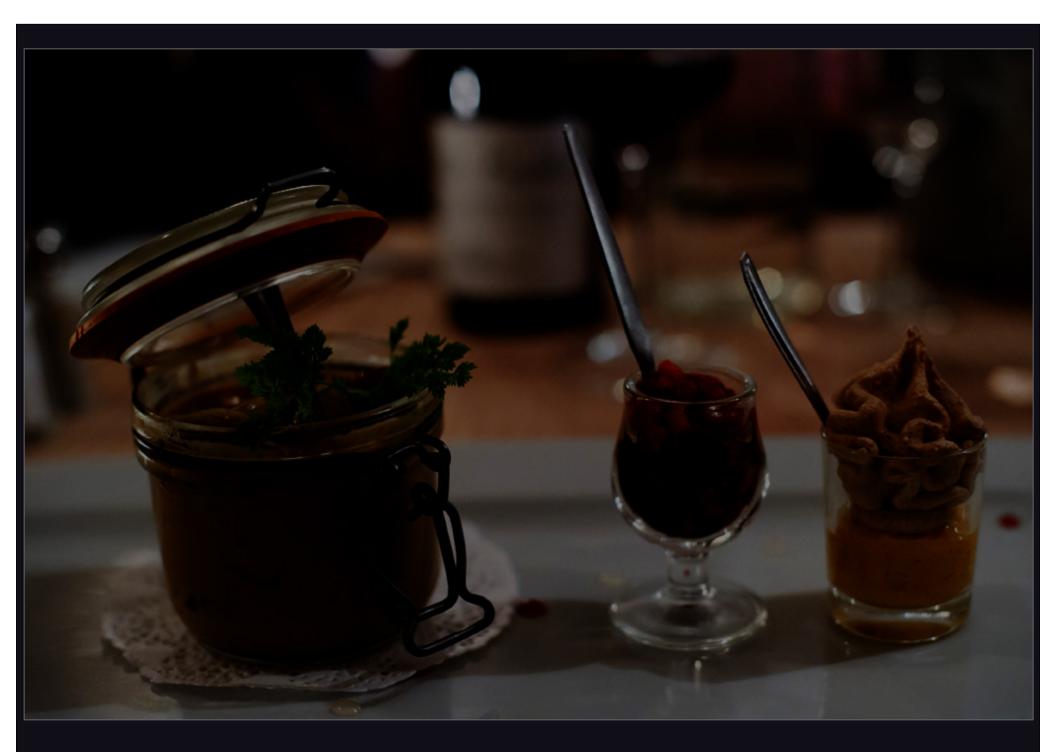


(Gardner)



(borrowed from lecture on noise)





#### Tone mapping techniques (slides from Fredo Durand)

- image has 10,000:1 dynamic range, projector has 1000:1
- + how can we compress the image's dynamic range?

A point I should have made clearer in class is that you could trivially reduce an HDR image (for example 10 bits per R,G,B) to an LDR image (for example 8 bits per R,G,B) simply by dividing each pixel value by 4x. However, in a sunset scene like this, most of the 10-bit range is taken up by the sun. The result of doing this naive division is exactly the image shown at right; the cityscape below the horizon is reduced to numbers in the singledigit range (on an 8-bit scale), making it look nearly all black. This is why reducing an HDR image to an LDR image must be accompanied by more intelligent tone mapping.



### Global tone mapping operators

gamma compression, applied independently on R,G,B
 output = input<sup>γ</sup> (γ = 0.5 here) in addition to the gamma

colors become washed out

in addition to the gamma transform during RAW → JPEG conversion

input

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 $(1.0, 0.4, 0.2)^{0.5} = (1.0, 0.63, 0.44)$ 

(try it yourself in Photoshop)

## Global tone mapping operators

gamma compression on intensity only

48

saturated but light colors become garish



(from our convolution applet)

0.00

-2.00

0.00

-2.00

9.00

-2.00

0.00

-2.00

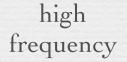
0.00

#### Local tone mapping operators

- reduce contrast of low frequencies, while preserving high frequencies [Oppenheim 1968, Chiu et al. 1993]
- produces halos!

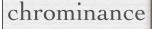
low frequency







(e.g. original minus Gaussian)



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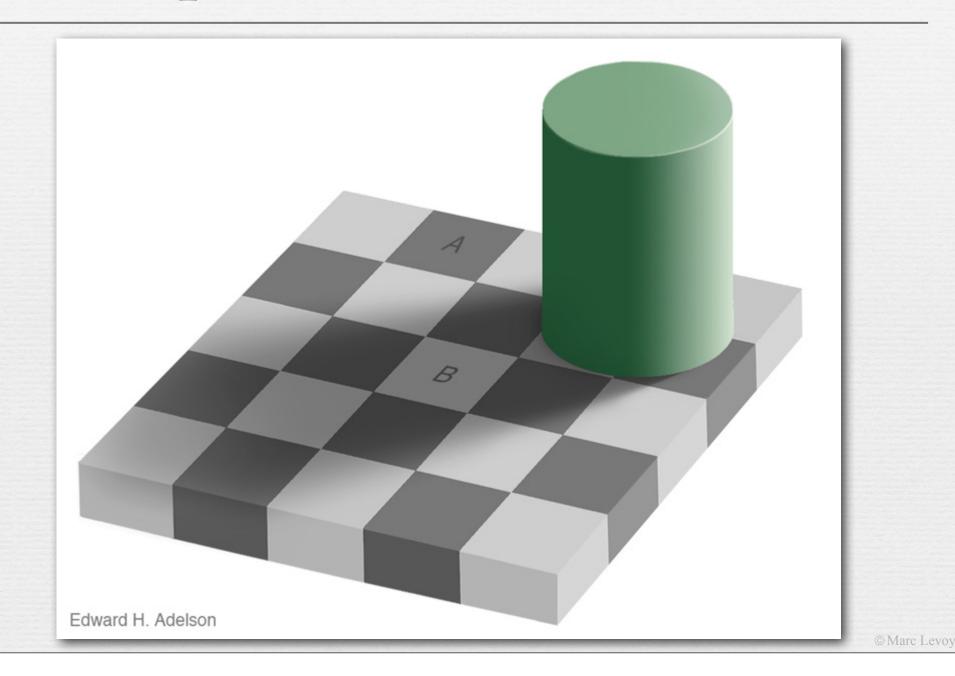


#### Local tone mapping operators

 bilateral filtering to compute large scale image without blurring across edges, remainder is detail image (no halos!); reduce contrast of large scale, while preserving details [Durand and Dorsey SIGGRAPH 2002]

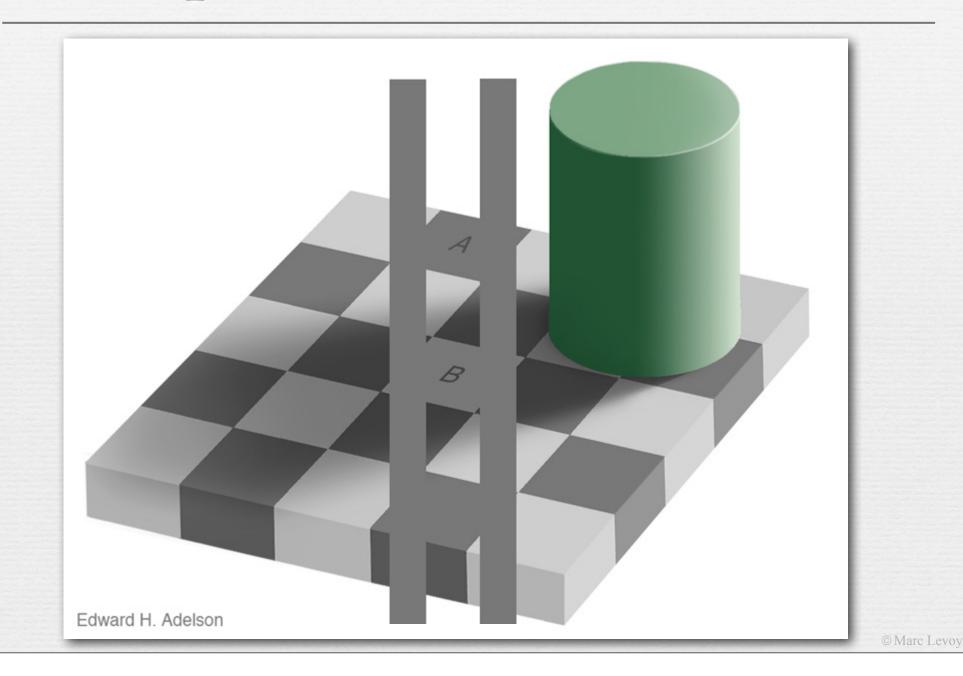


## The importance of local contrast

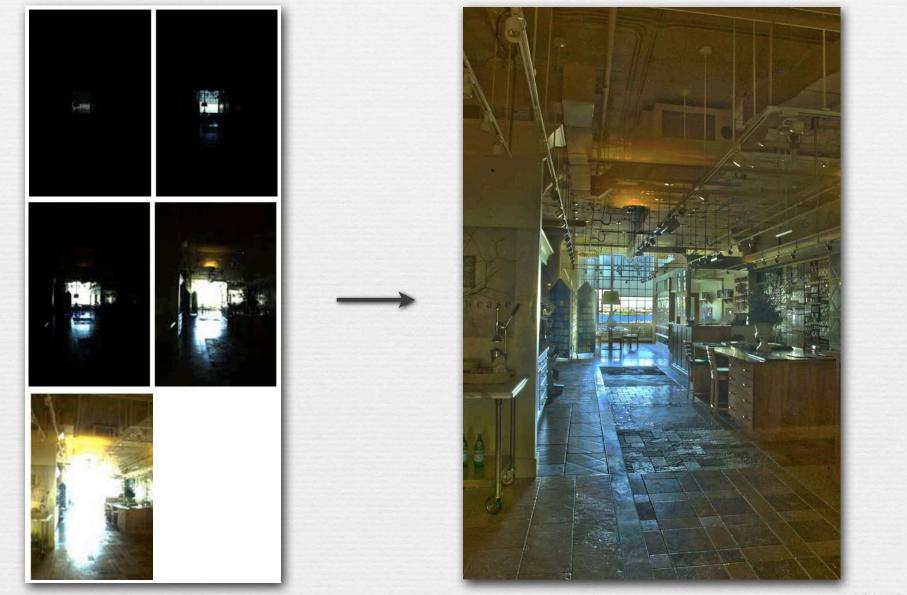


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## The importance of local contrast



#### Tone mapping using bilateral filters [Durand and Dorsey SIGGRAPH 2002]



(Panasonic ZS3, 1/30s, ISO 125)



(Panasonic ZS3, 1/30s, ISO 250)



(Panasonic ZS3, 1/25s, ISO 400)



(Panasonic ZS3, 1/13s, ISO 400)

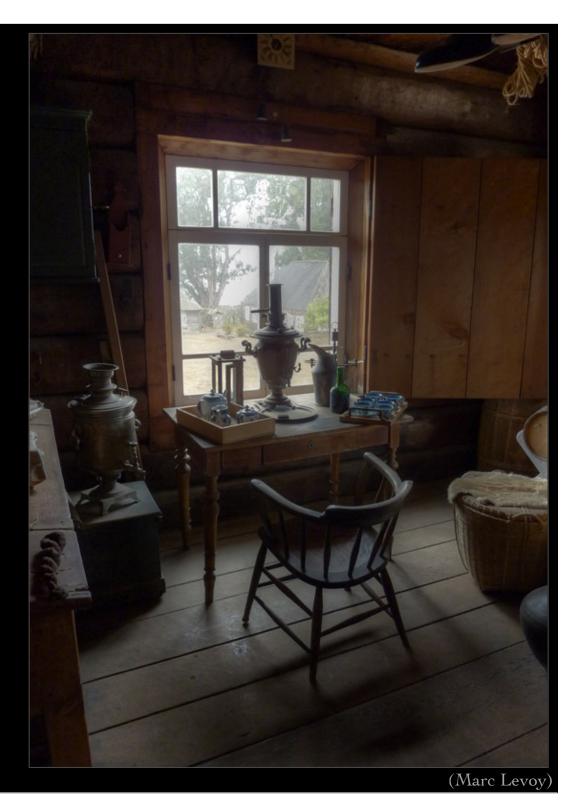


(Panasonic ZS3, 1/8s, ISO 400)



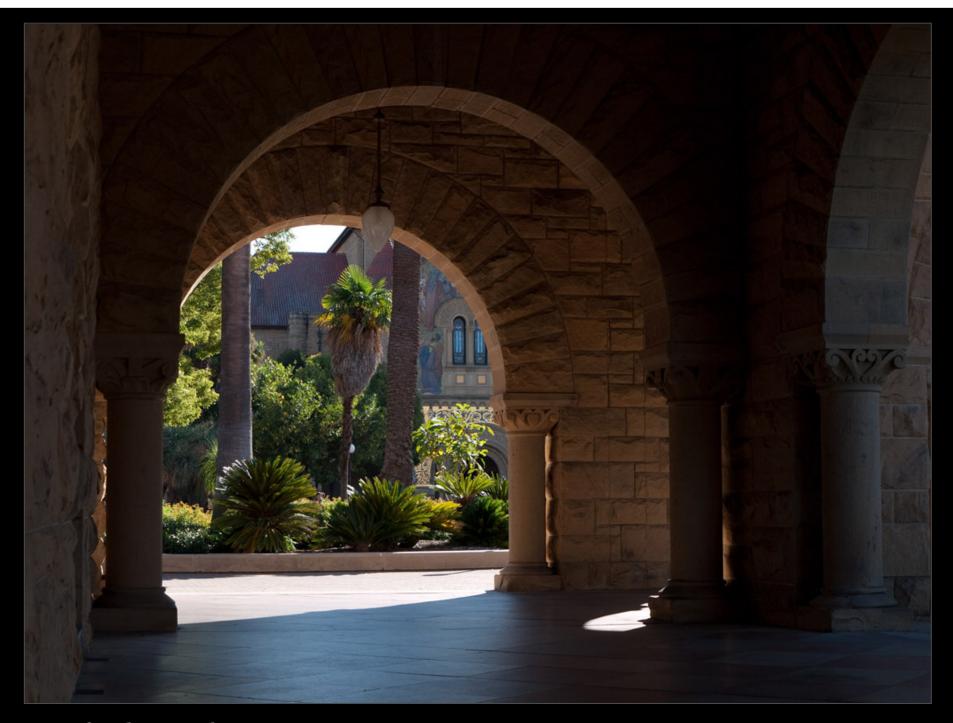
(Marc Levoy)

(tone mapped HDR using Photomatix v3.3.2's "detail enhancer" algorithm)

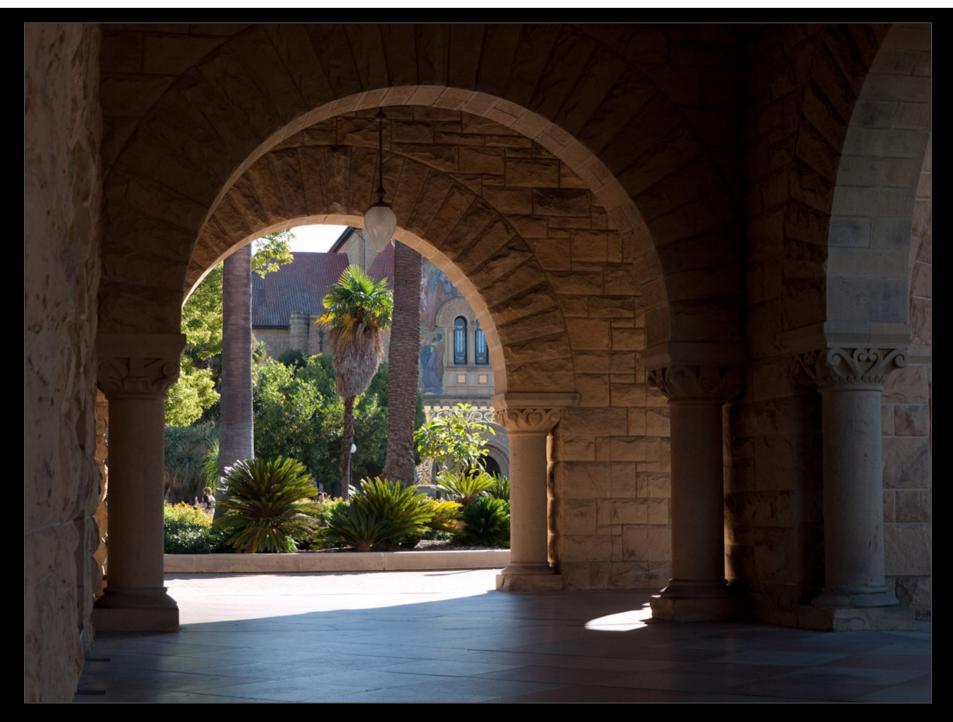


(tone mapped HDR using Photomatix v3.3.2's "tone compressor" algorithm)

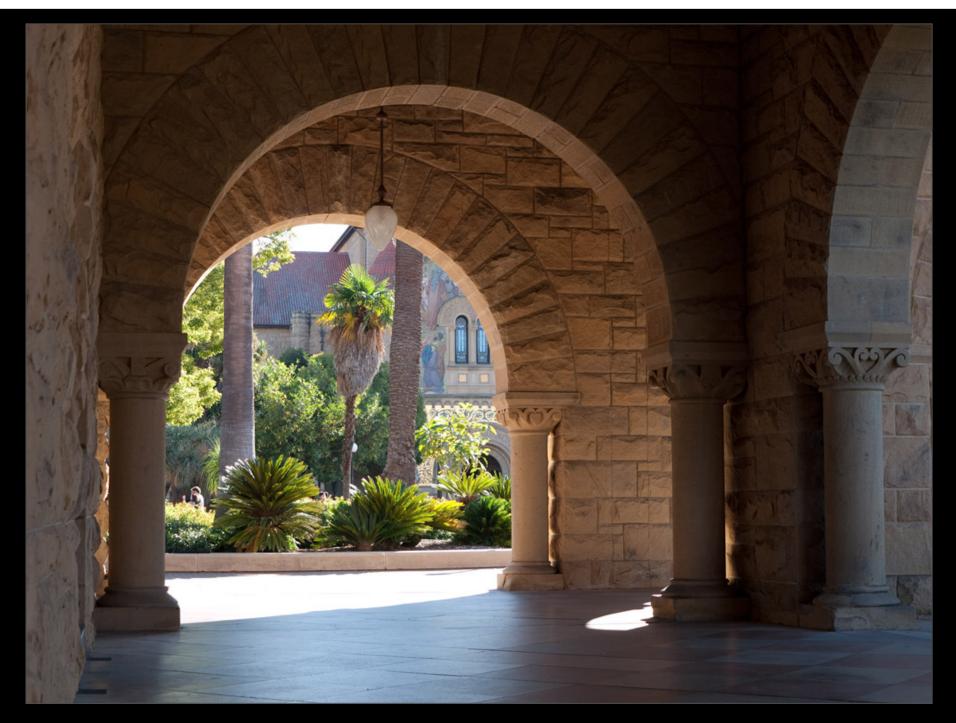




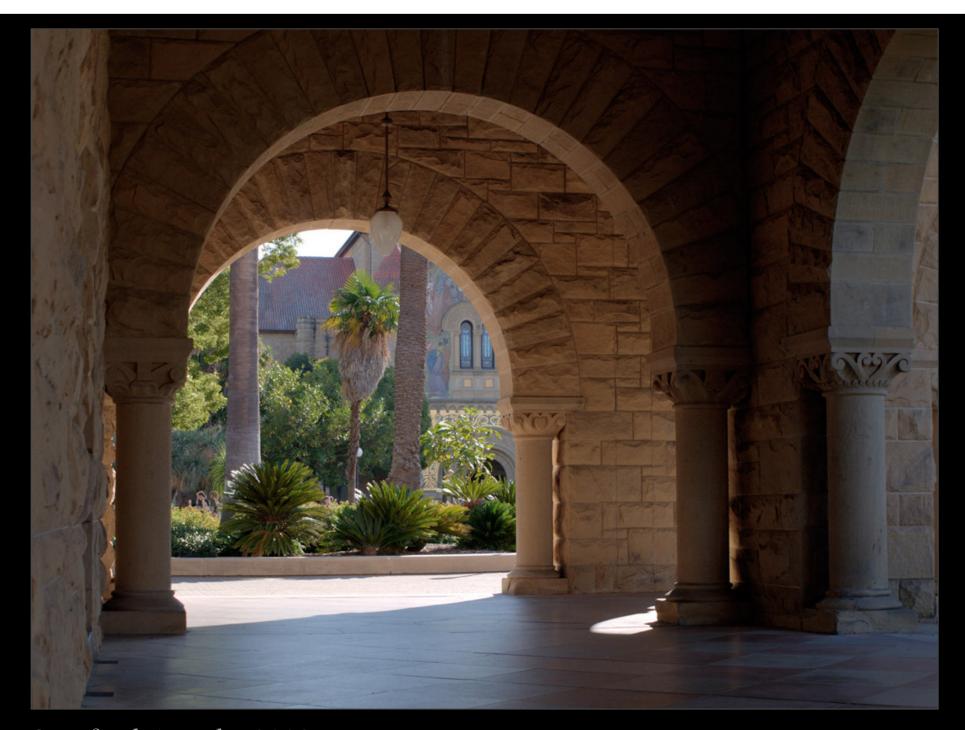
Stanford Arcade, 2009 (1/160s, f/6.3, ISO 100)



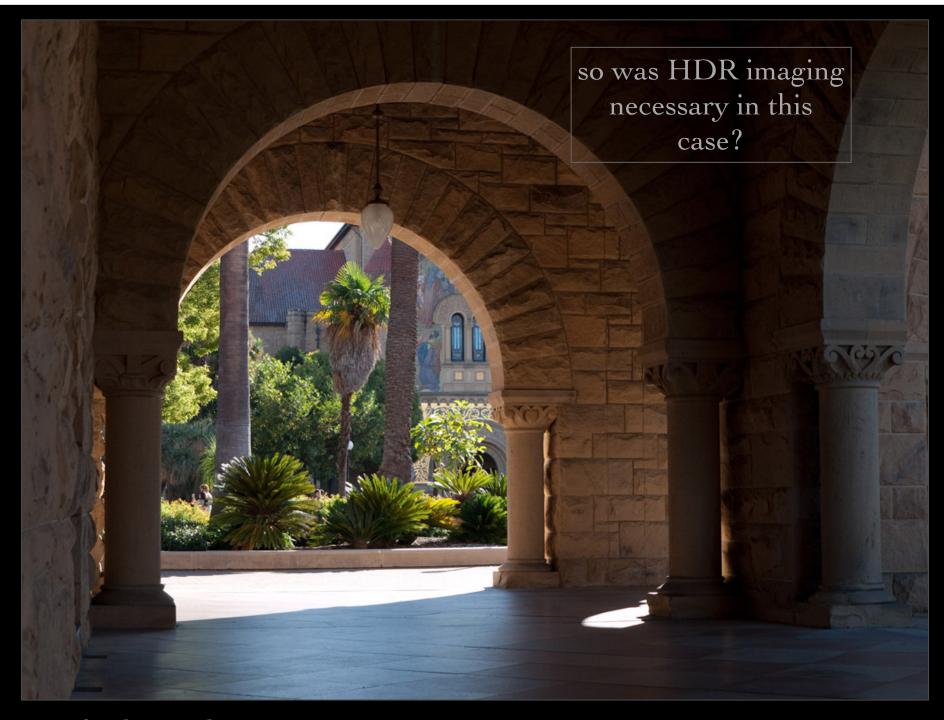
Stanford Arcade, 2009 (1/125s, f/5.6, ISO 100)



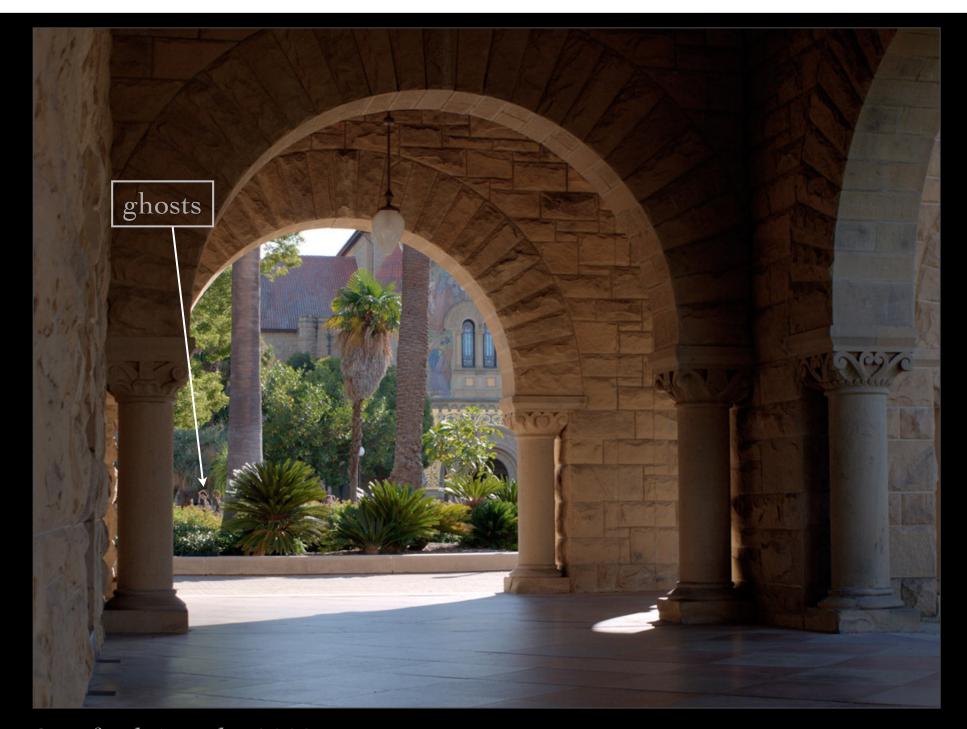
Stanford Arcade, 2009 (1/100s, f/5.4, ISO 100)



Stanford Arcade, 2009 (Photomatix 3.3.2, "tone compressor" algorithm)



Stanford Arcade, 2009 (1/125s, f/5.6, ISO 100)



Stanford Arcade, 2009 (Photomatix 3.3.2, "tone compressor" algorithm)

# The HDR "look"



# The HDR "look"



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## The HDR "look"

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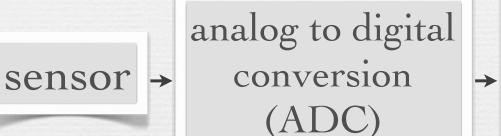


© Marc Levoy

#### Recap

- high dynamic range (HDR) imaging is useful, and a new aesthetic, but is not necessary in most photographic situations
  - SLRs have more useful dynamic range (~12 bits) than pointand-shoot cameras or cell phones, i.e. w/o shadows being noisy
- Iow dynamic range (LDR) tone mapping methods apply to HDR, but reducing 12 bits to 8 bits using only global methods is hard
  the reduction is needed for JPEG, display, and printing
- successful methods reduce large-scale luminance changes (across the image) while preserving *local contrast* (across edges)
  - use bilateral filtering to isolate large-scale luminance changes

#### Camera pixel pipeline

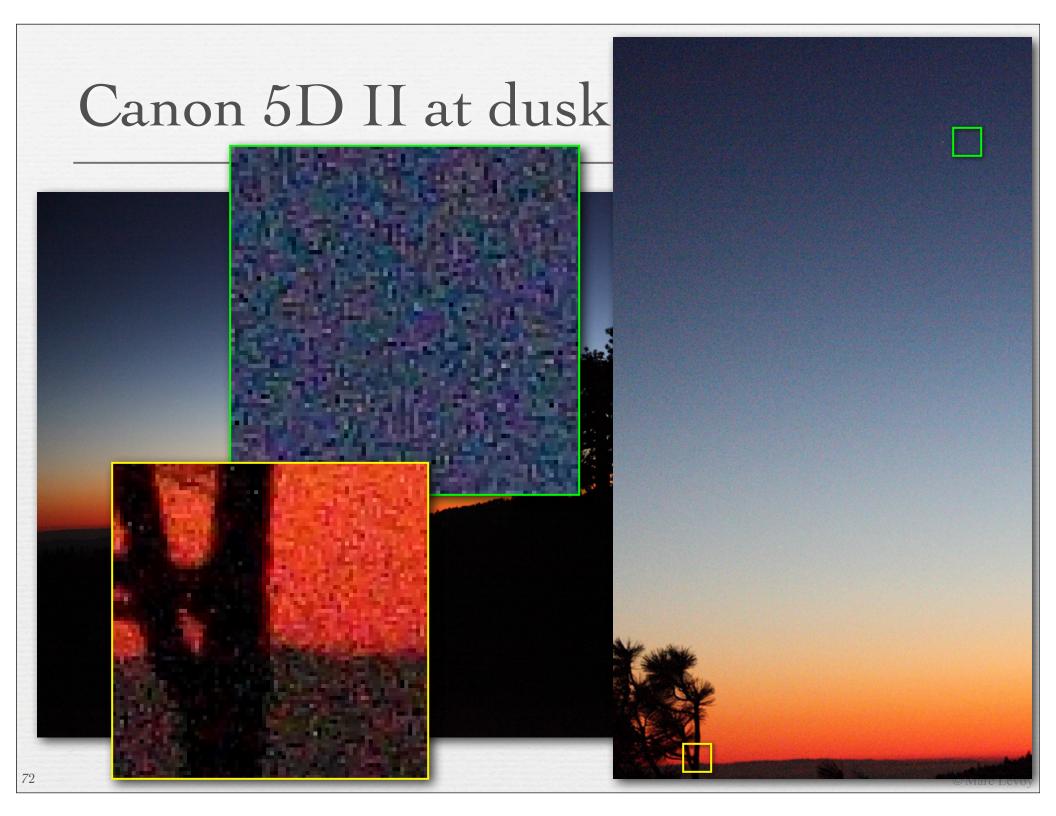


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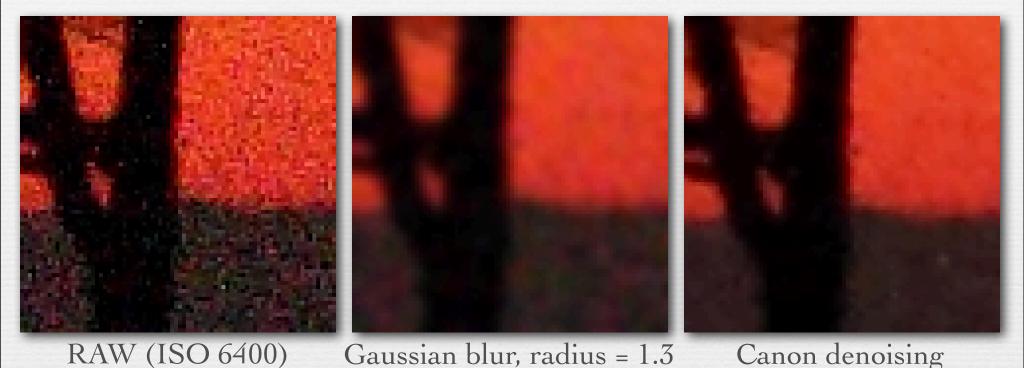
processing: demosaicing, tone mapping & white balancing, denoising & sharpening, compression

© Marc Levoy

storage







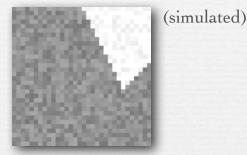
### Gaussian blur, radius = 1.3

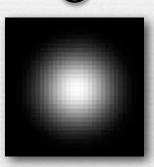
### Canon denoising

- ✤ goal is to remove sensor noise
  - blurring works, but also destroys edges
  - I don't know what Canon does, but here's something that works...

# Bilateral filtering [Tomasi ICCV 1998]

- images are often <u>piecewise constant</u> with noise added
  - in this case, nearby pixels are often a different noisy measurement of the same data
- simple blurring doesn't work
  - because it also blurs the edges
- we should blur only within each constant-colored scene region
  - not across edges between regions

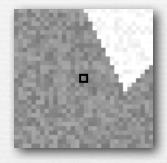




# Bilateral filtering

 if the pixels are similar in intensity, they are probably from the same region of the scene

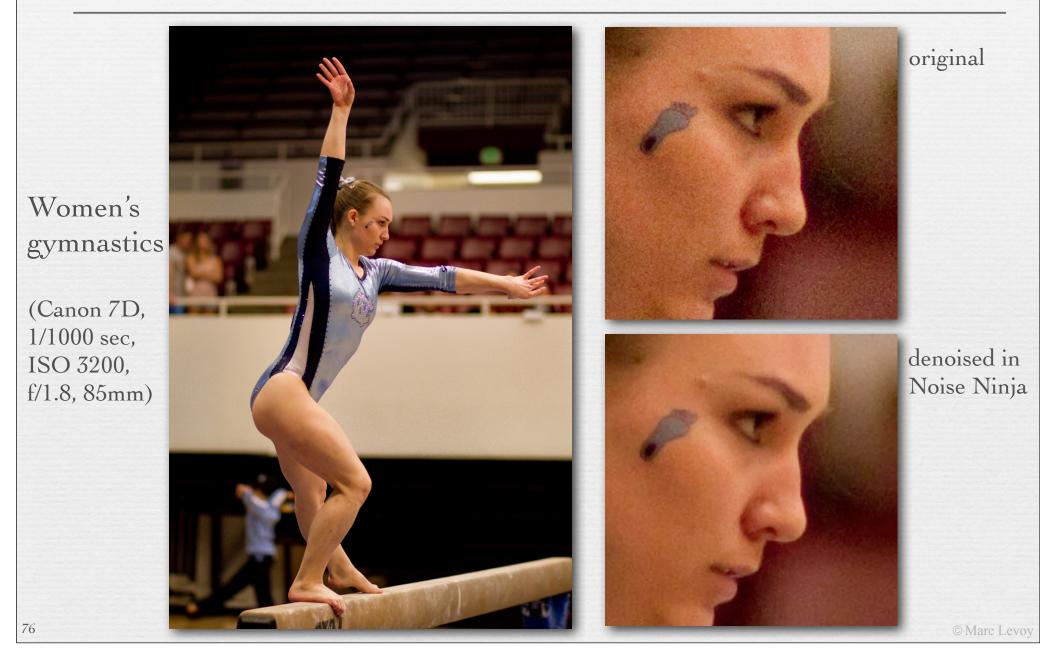
effective filter weights are thus different for each pixel of input

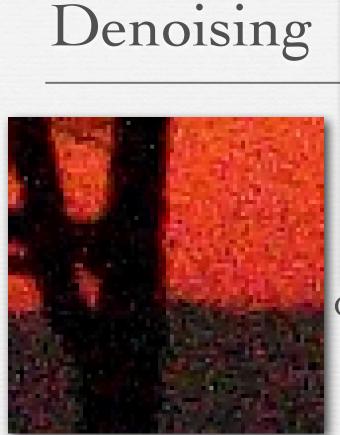


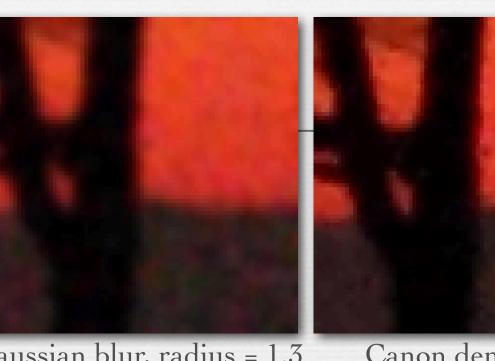
 so perform a convolution where the weight applied to nearby pixels in the summation falls off

- with increasing (*x*,*y*) distance from the pixel being blurred, and
- with increasing intensity difference from the pixel being blurred
- ◆ i.e. blur in ∂omain and range dimensions!

# Example of bilateral filtering







### Gaussian blur, radius = 1.3

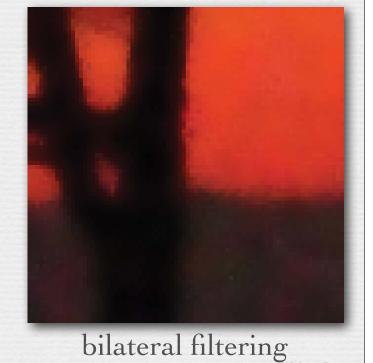
### Canon denoising

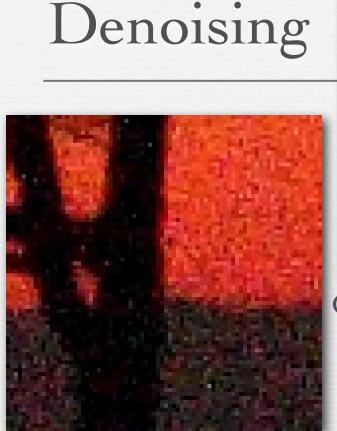
RAW (ISO 6400)

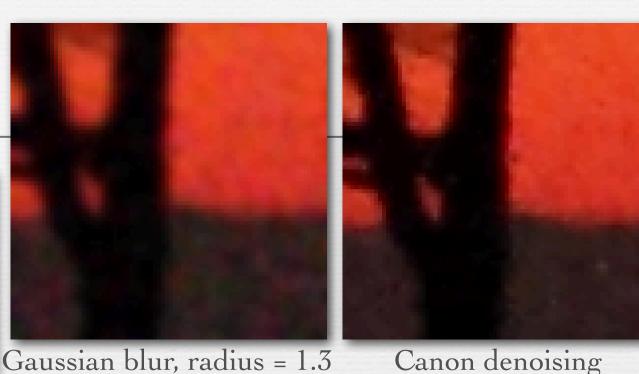
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bilateral filtering removes sensor noise without blurring edges

can easily be extended to RGB

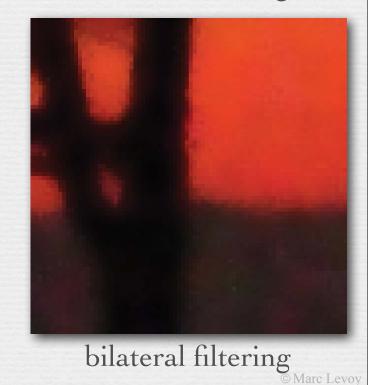






### RAW (ISO 6400)

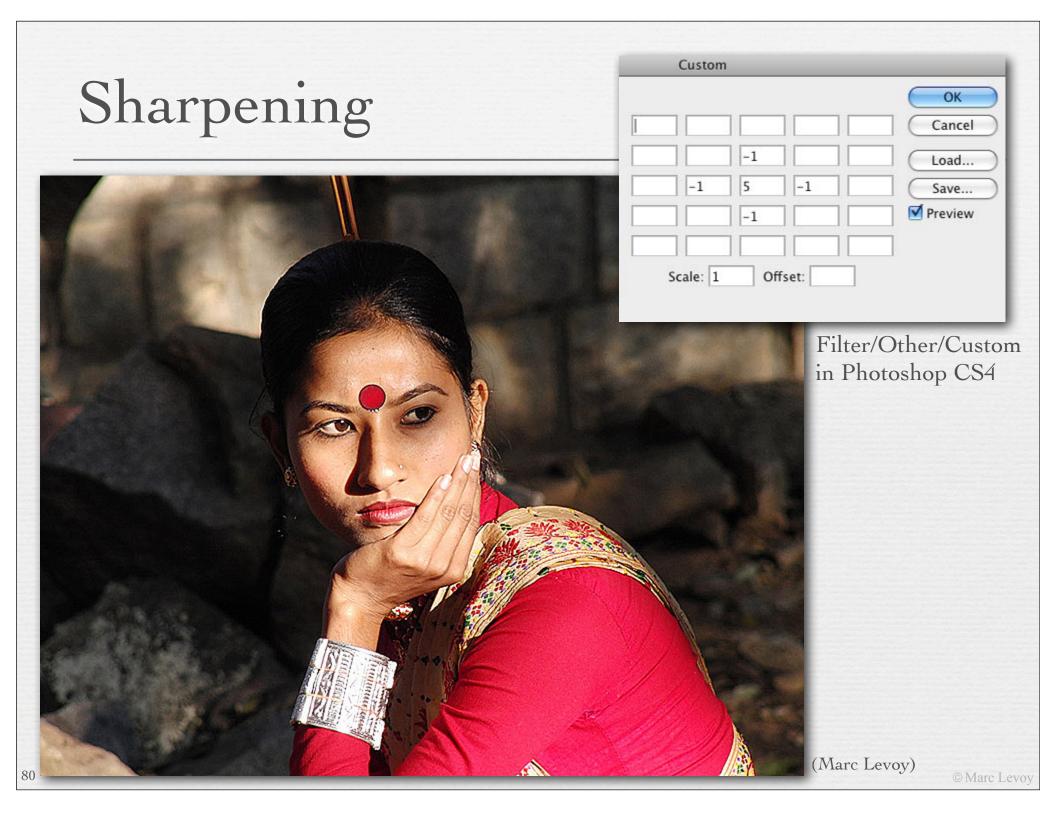
- can be applied more (or less) strongly to chrominance than luminance
- can be combined with demosaicing
- ♦ active area of research...

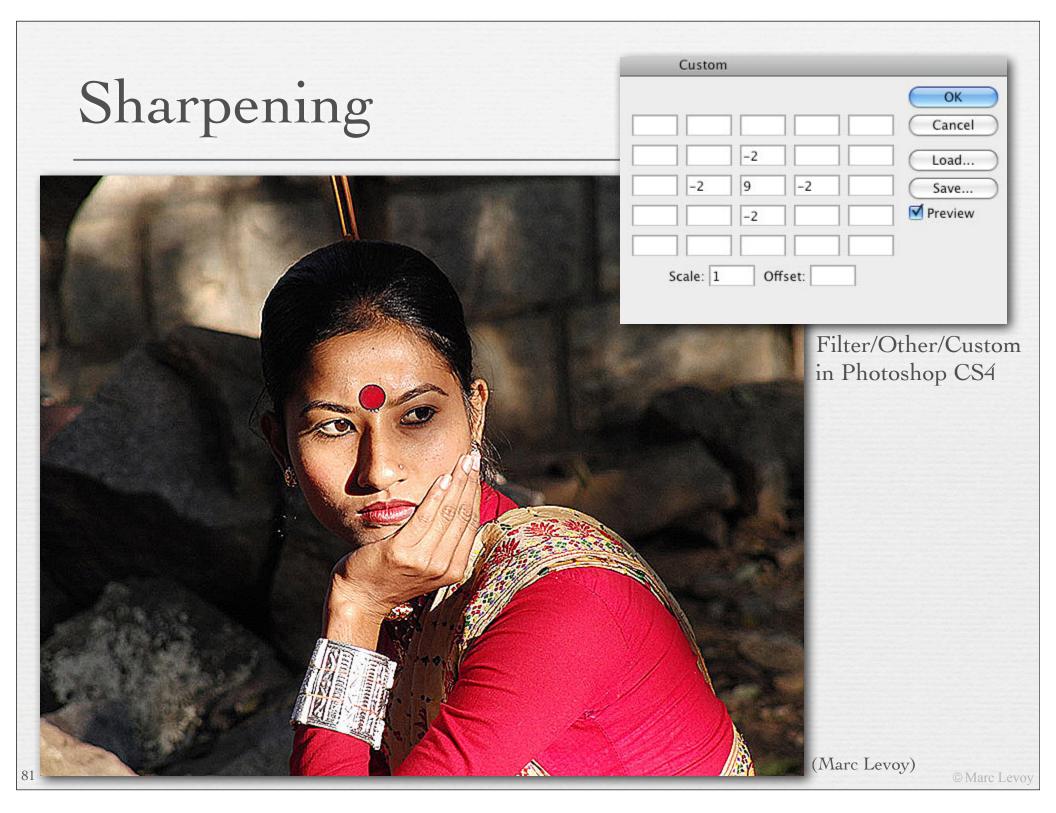


# Sharpening



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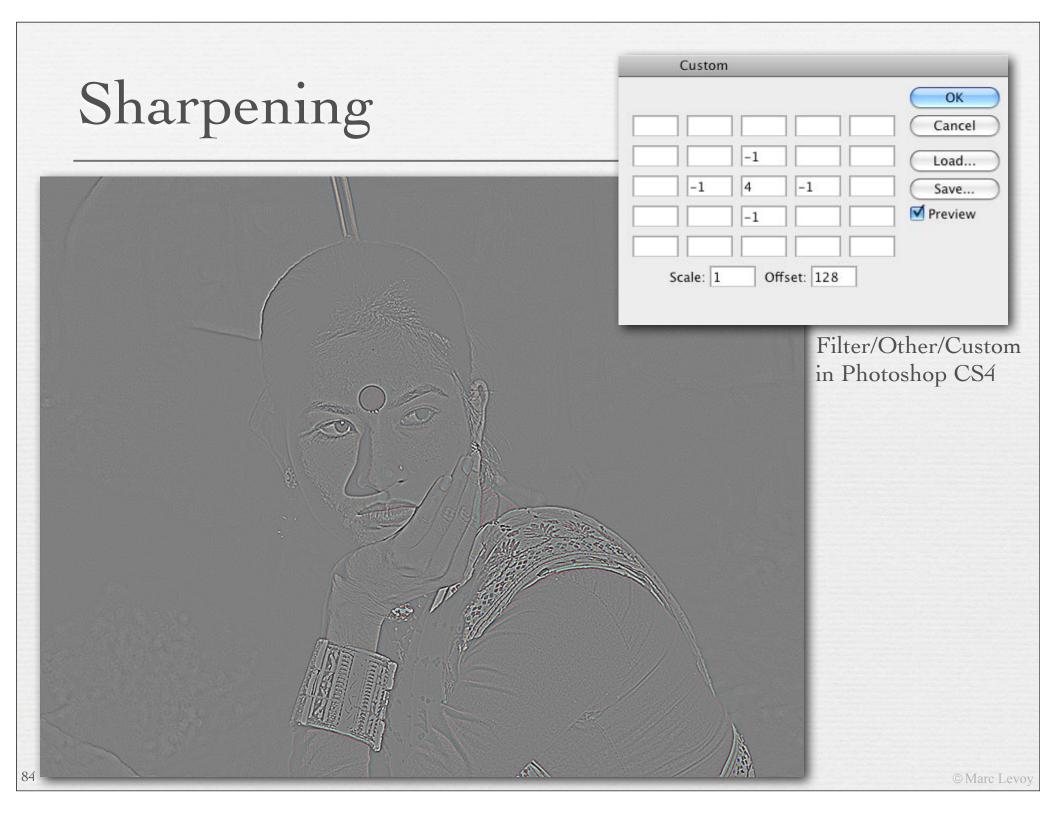




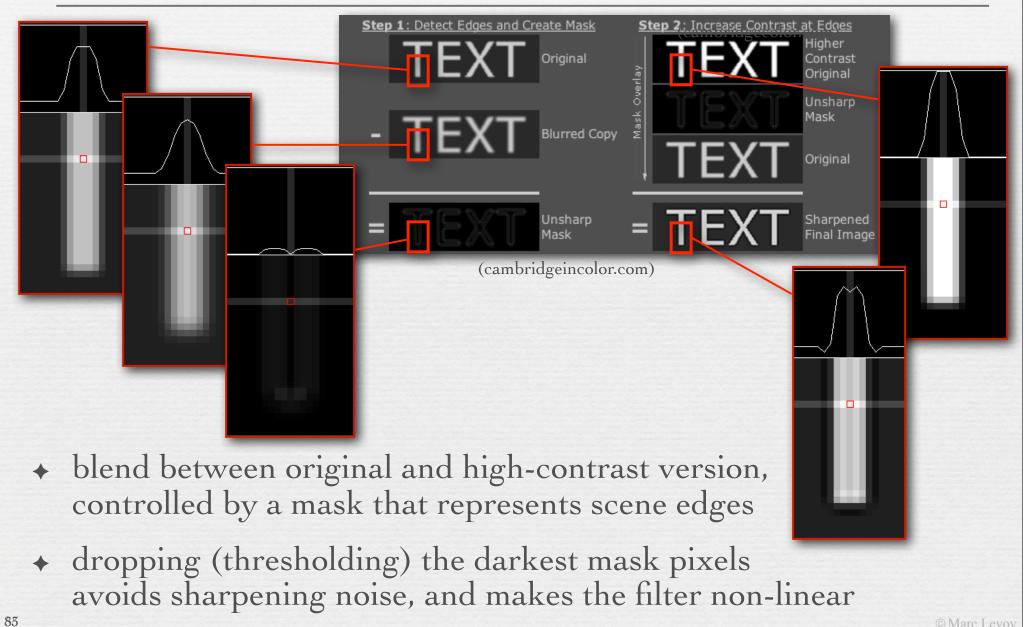
# Sharpening

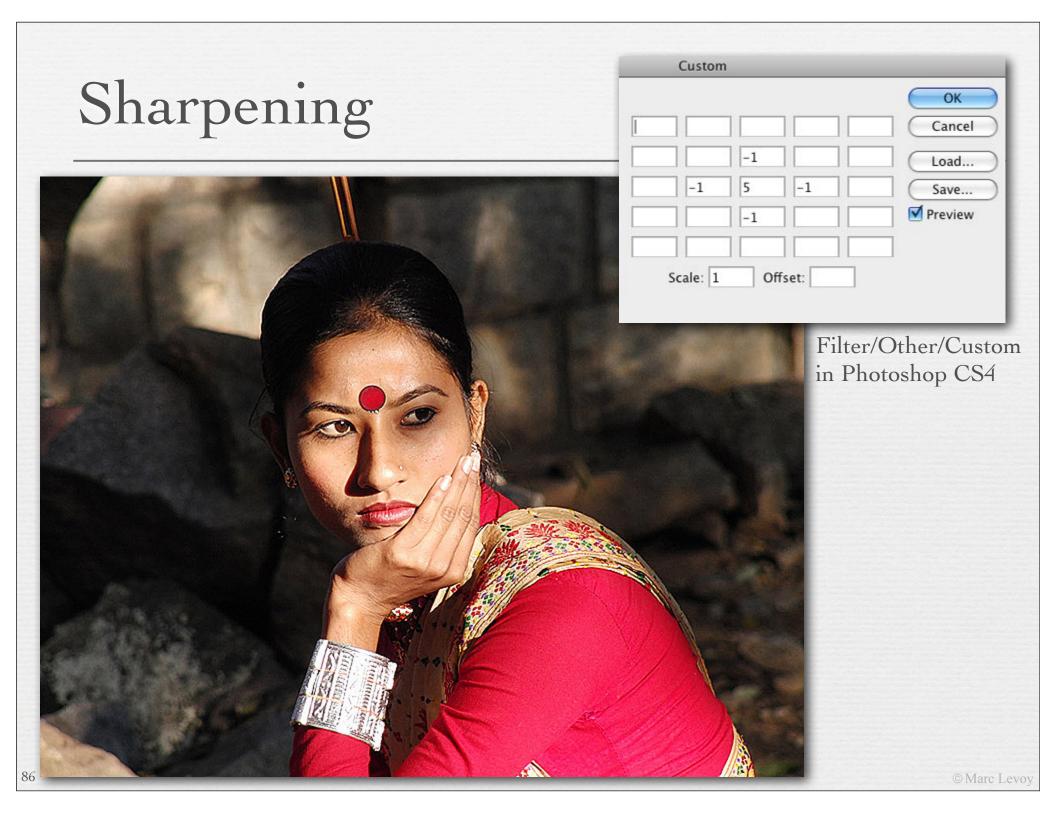




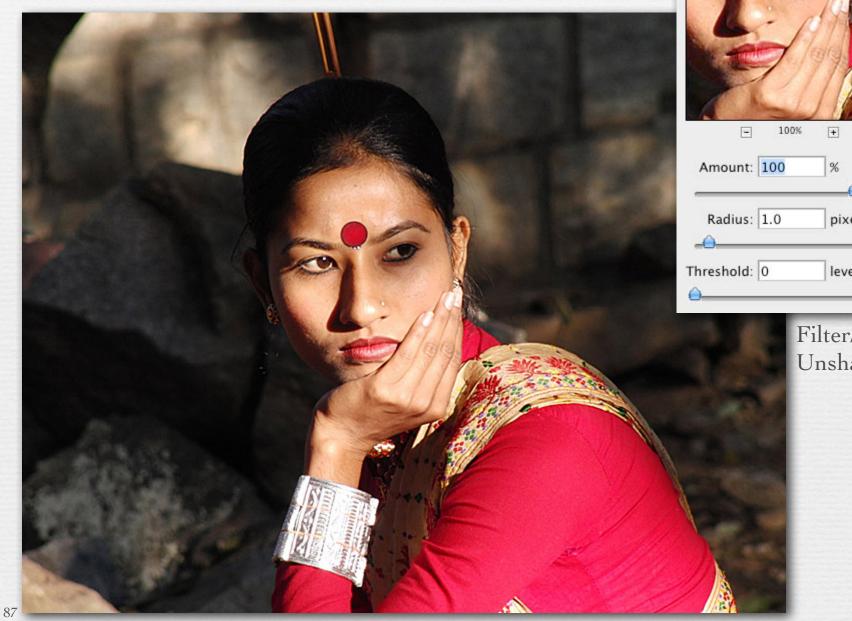


# Unsharp masking





# Sharpening



10	A	OK Cancel
- 100%	Ŧ	
Amount: 100	%	
Radius: 1.0	pixels	
reshold: 0	levels	
Fi	ilter/Sha	rpen/

Unsharp Mask

Unsharp Mask in CS4

© Marc Levoy

# Sharpening



original

## Recap

- *bilateral filtering* reduces noise while preserving edges
  - replaces each pixel with a weighted sum of its neighbors, where the weight drops with increasing distance from the pixel in X and Y and with increasing intensity difference
- unsharp masking sharpens edges but doesn't sharpen noise
  - replaces each pixel with a weighted sum of the original and a contrast-enhanced version, using the latter along edges, where the edge mask is threshold (original-blur (original))
- both are non-linear filters
  - i.e. they are not convolutions by a spatially invariant filter kernel



## Camera pixel pipeline

analog to digital conversion (ADC)

sensor →

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processing: demosaicing, tone mapping & white balancing, denoising & sharpening, compression

 $\rightarrow$ 

storage

### JPEG files

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### Joint Photographic Experts Group

- organized 1986, standard adopted 1994
- defines how an image is to be compressed (*codec*) into a stream of bytes, and the file format for storing that stream
  file format is JFIF, but people use .JPG or .JPEG extensions
- good for compressing images of natural scenes
  not so good for compressing drawings or graphics
- *↓ lossy*, so loses quality <u>each</u> time you open → edit → save *•* especially if you crop or shift pixels (hence block boundaries) *•* for *lossless* compression, use PNG or TIFF

### EXIF data

Exchangeable Image File Format

- created by Japan Electronic Industries Development Assoc.
- used by nearly every digital camera manufactured today
  - actually a file format
  - JPEG or TIFF file + metadata about the camera and shot
  - .JPG or .JPEG extension is used, not .EXIF

### EXIF data

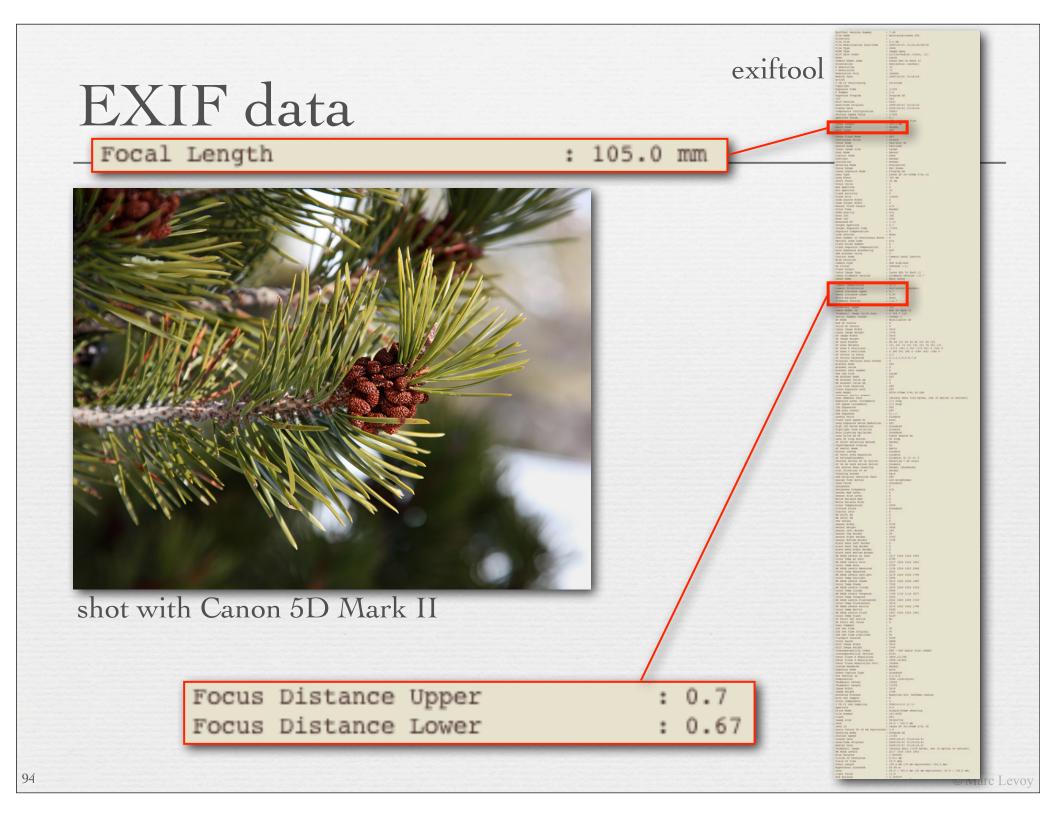
#### (Marc Levoy)



File/File Info in

Photoshop CS4

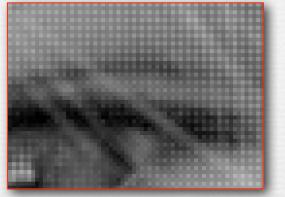
male-pine-cones.JPG Description IPTC Video Data Camera Data 1 1 Camera Data 1 Make: Canon Model: Canon EOS 5D Mark II Date Time: 2/1/2009 - 3:24 PM Shutter Speed: 1/250 sec Exposure Program: Normal program F-Stop: f/5.6 Aperture Value: f/5.6 Max Aperture Value: ISO Speed Ratings: 200 Focal Length: 105 mm Lens: Flash: Did not fire No strobe return detection (0) Compulsory flash suppression (2) Flash function present No red-eye reduction Metering Mode: Pattern Camera Data 2 Pixel Dimension X: 5616 Y: 3744 Orientation: Normal Resolution X: 72 Y: 72 Resolution Unit: Inch Compressed Bits per Pixel: Color Space: sRGB Light Source: File Source: Powered By Cancel OK Import... 🔻 ⊙Marc Le



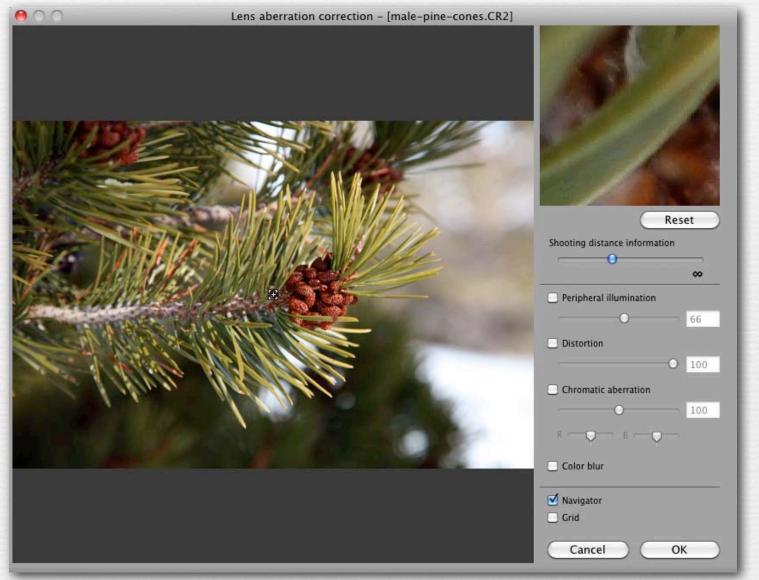


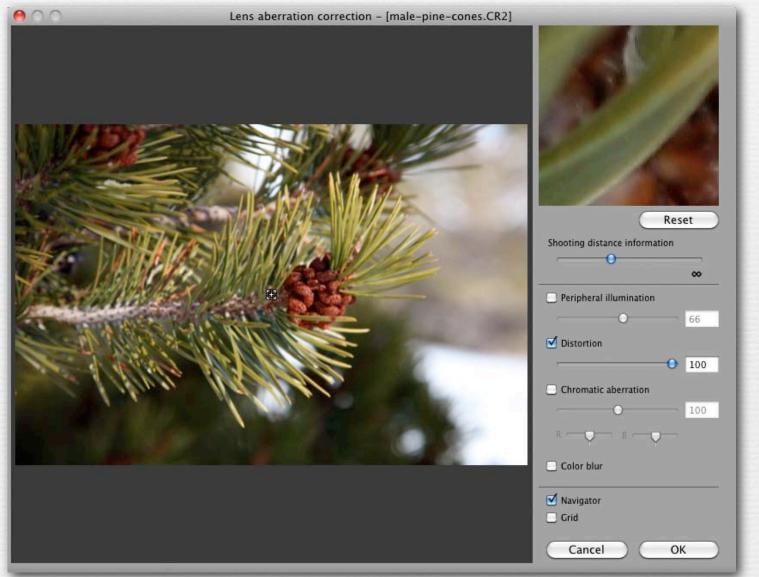
## RAW files

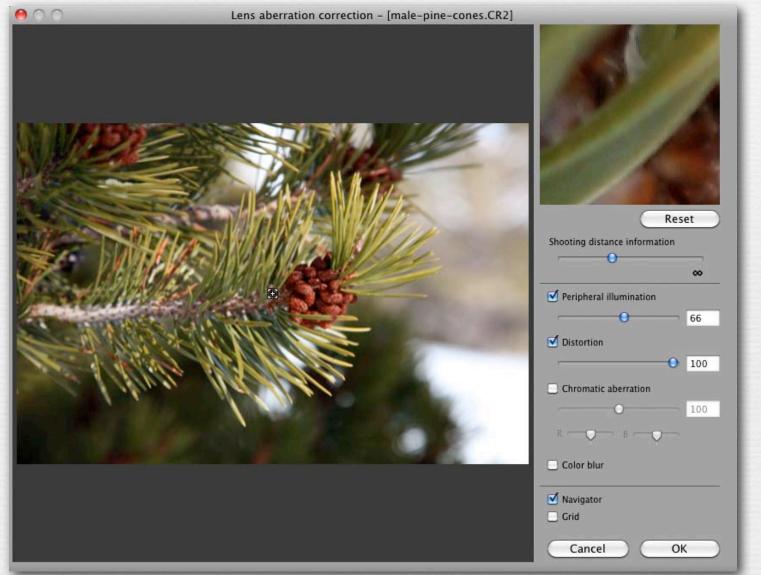
- minimally processed images, not even demosaiced
- uncompressed or losslessly compressed
- includes metadata, possibly encrypted
- file format varies by manufacturer

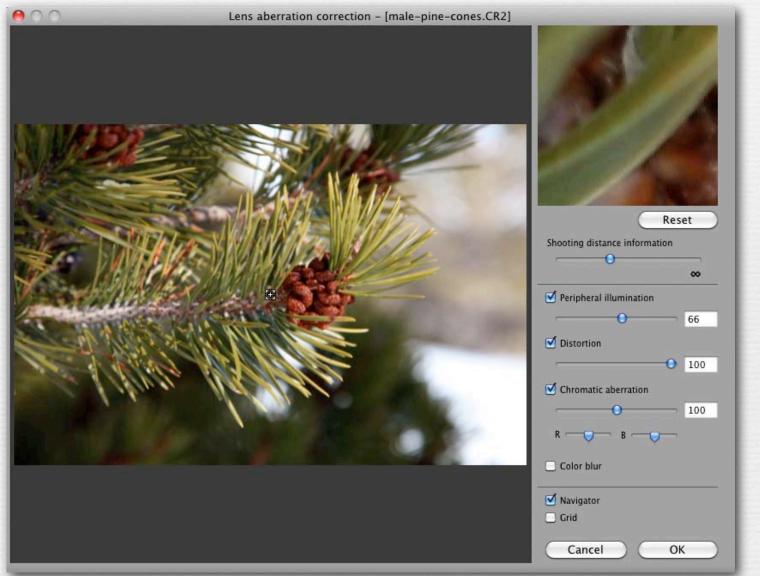


- + example extensions: .CR2, .NEF, .RW2, .ARW
- processed and converted to a JPEG file using
  - proprietary software (e.g. Canon Digital Photo Professional)
  - Photoshop or Lightroom (if they support your camera)
  - freeware programs like dcraw
  - or in your camera (every time you store a JPEG)
  - but their processing algorithms are all different!









### • compression (in camera)

Image split into blocks Forward Discrete (could also be Cosine Transform • input is Y'CbCr downsampled) • Cb and Cr typically Encoded JPEG image < downsampled by  $2 \times$ in X and Y Decoded image each component is **Reverse Discrete** reassembled from  $\leq$ Cosine Transform compressed separately blocks Encoded JPEG image  $\rightarrow$ 

Entropy decoding

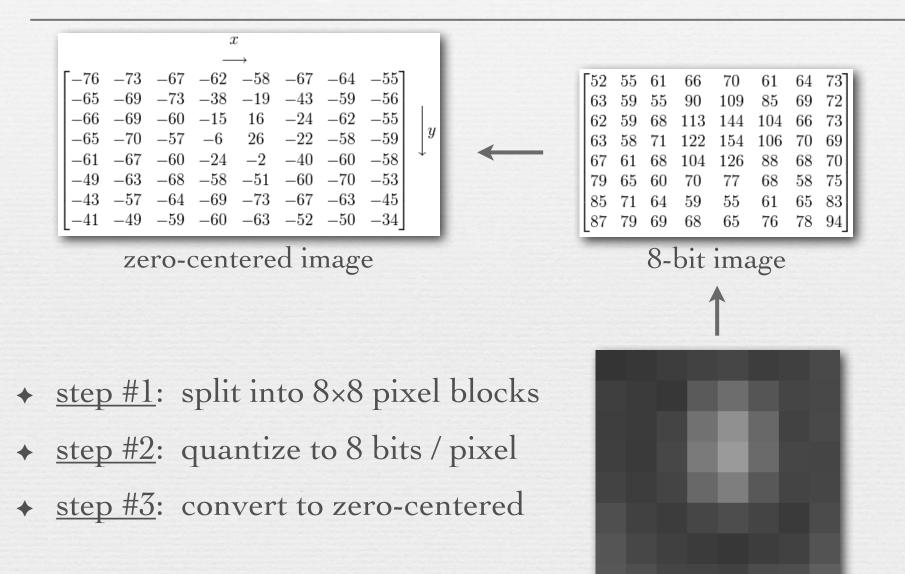
(wikipedia)

Quantization

Entropy encoding

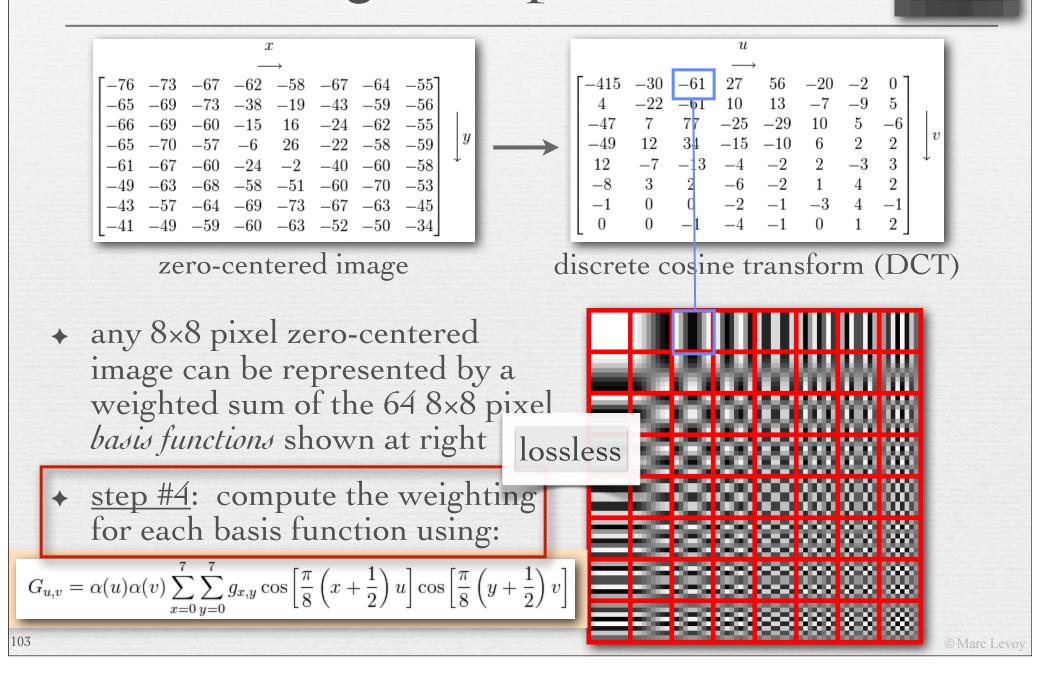
Dequantization

decompression (for display)



© Marc Levoy

8×8 pixel block



(									
	[16	11	10	16	24	40	51	61	
	12	12	14	19	26	$\frac{40}{58}$	60	55	
	14	13	16	24	40	57	69	56	
	14	17	22	29	51	87 109	80	62	
	18	22	37	56	68	109	103	77	
	24	35	55	64	81	104	113	92	
						121			
	72	92	95	98	112	100	103	99	
	-		0				0.4		
bin size for each coefficient									
-									

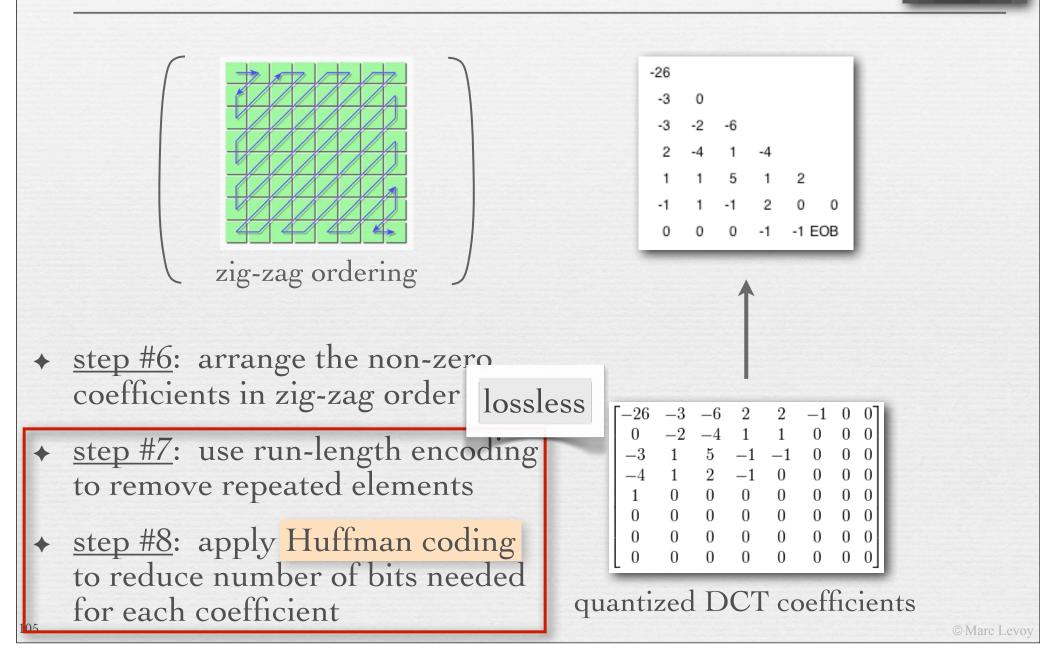
3				u					- 1
3				$\rightarrow$					
	-415	-30	-61	27	56	-20	-2	0 ]	
	4	-22	-61	10	13	-7			
3	-47	7	77	-25	-29	10	5	-6	
	-49	12	34	-15	-10	6	2	2	v
	12	-7	-13	-4	-2	2	-3	3	*
	-8	3	2	-6	-2	1	4	2	
	-1	0	0	-2	-1	-3	4	-1	
	LΟ	0	-1	-4	-1	0	1	2	- 1

discrete cosine transform (DCT)

- the human visual system is more sensitive to low & mid frequencies than very high frequencies, so quantize the latter coarsely lossy
- <u>step #5</u>: quantize the DCT coefficients using bins whose size increases with frequency

104

S  $\begin{bmatrix}
-26 & -3 & -6 & 2 & 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & -2 & -4 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
-3 & 1 & 5 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
-4 & 1 & 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0
\end{bmatrix}$ quantized DCT coefficients



Q = 25Q = 1Q = 100



2.6:1

106

23:1

144:1

144:1 looks fine if it's displayed small enough



 not easily comparable to Photoshop quality numbers, since Adobe uses its own (proprietary) encoder

# Recap

- ✤ RAW files is the direct output of the camera sensor
  - not demosaiced, 16 bits per pixel, losslessly compressed
  - contains metadata, usually proprietary
- JPEG files are a standard format for storing images
  - typically 8 bits per pixel, lossy compression
  - contains metadata in EXIF format
- JPEG's compression format is designed to discard details
  - images are partitioned into blocks of 8 × 8 pixels
  - each block is represented by a weighted sum of cosinusoids (DCT)
  - the coefficients of high frequency cosinusoids are heavily quantized, which reduces # of bits, hence file size, but also loses images quality
  - these coefficients are losslessly compressed using Huffman coding

# Questions?

### Slide credits

### Fredo Durand

- ♦ Wandell, B., Foundations of Vision, Sinauer, 1995.
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- Rudman, T., Photographer's Master Printing Course, Focal Press, 1998.
- Adams, A., *The Print*, Little, Brown and Co., 1980.
- Goldstein, B.E., Sensation and Perception, Wadsworth, 1999.
- ← Wolfe, J.M., Sensation and Perception, Sinauer, 2006.