

# Mean-shift, continued

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CSE598C Fall 2012

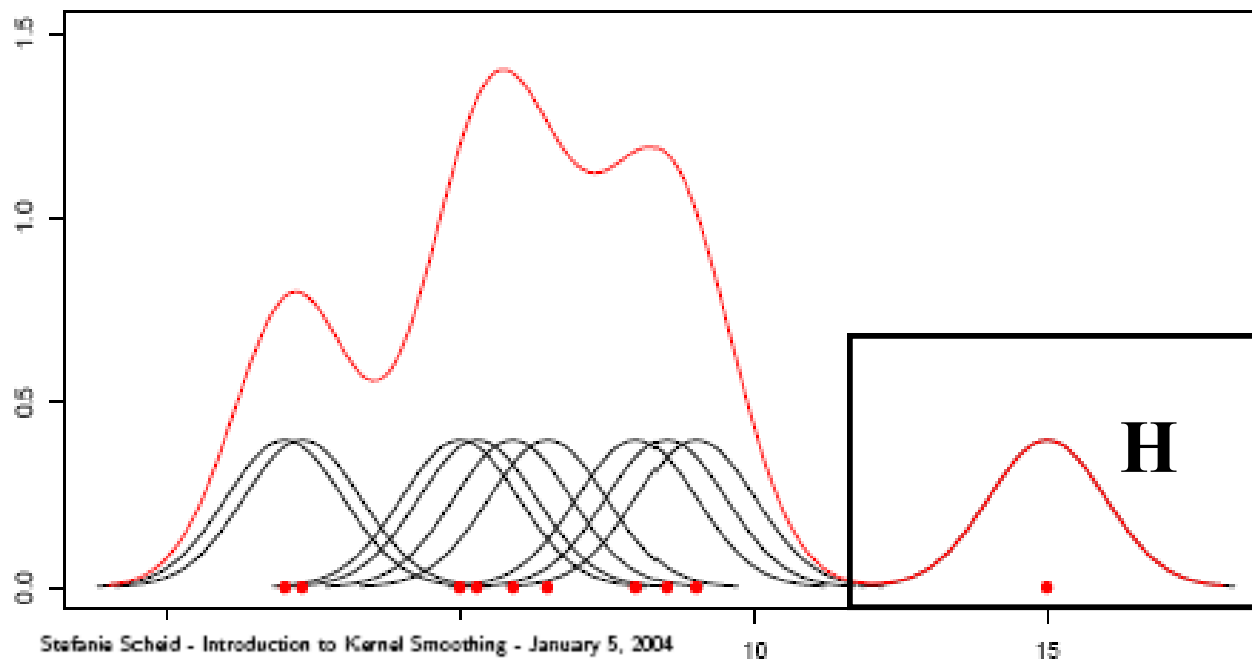
# Background: Kernel Density Estimation

Given a set of data samples  $x_i; i=1...n$

Convolve with a kernel function  $H$  to generate a smooth function  $f(x)$

Equivalent to superposition of multiple kernels centered at each data point

Gaussian kernel density estimate



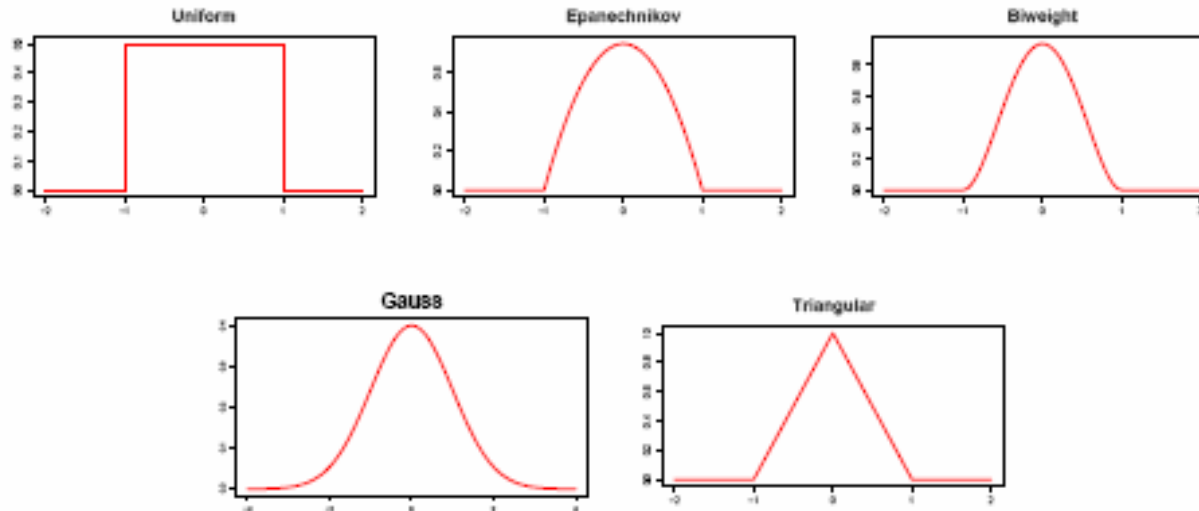
# Kernel Density Estimation

For kernel  $H$  with bandwidth  $h$ , estimated function value  $f$  at location  $x$  is

$$\hat{f}(x) = \sum H(x_i - x)$$

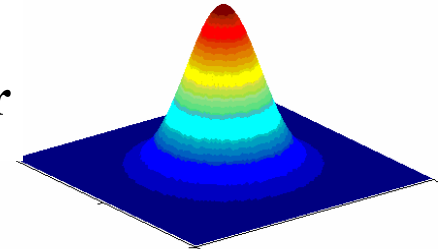
superposition of kernels centered at  $x_i$

some sample kernels:



# Radially Symmetric Kernels

Height at point is function only of distance from center



Can be written in terms of a 1D Profile function that is  
is a function of the radius (we will use squared radius below)

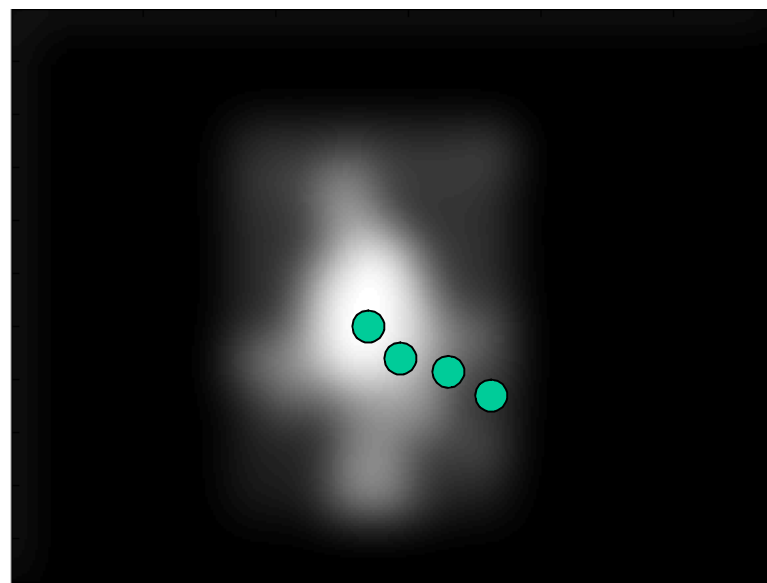
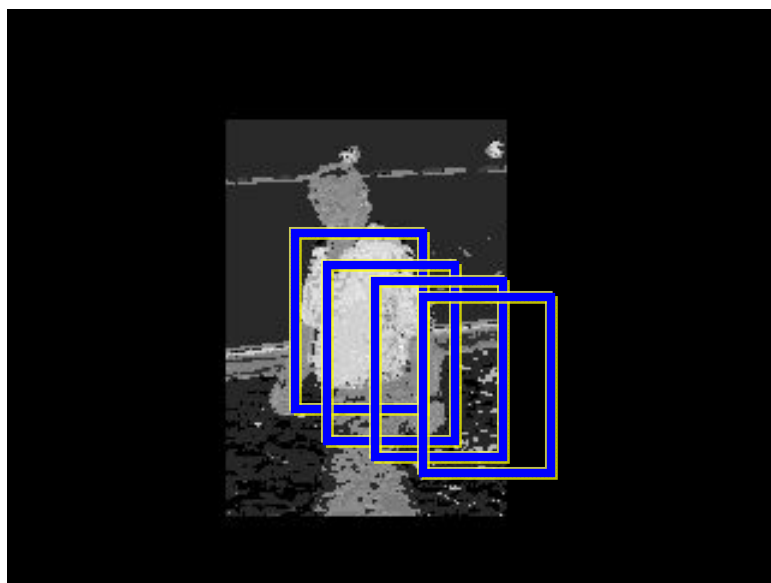
$$H(x_i - x) \equiv h(\|x_i - x\|^2)$$

$$\equiv h((x_i - x)^T (x_i - x))$$

$$\equiv h(r) \quad r(x) = (x_i - x)^T (x_i - x)$$

# Recall: Nice Property

Running mean-shift with kernel  $K$  on weight image  $w$  is equivalent to performing gradient ascent in a (virtual) image formed by convolving  $w$  with some “shadow” kernel  $H$ .



**Computational savings: only have to compute convolution values at the relatively small number of points you visit on the path to the mode.**

# Kernel-Shadow Pairs

Given a convolution kernel  $H$ , what is the corresponding mean-shift kernel  $K$ ?

Perform change of variables  $r = \|x_i - x\|^2$

Rewrite  $H(x_i - x) \Rightarrow h(\|x_i - x\|^2) \Rightarrow h(r)$ .

Then kernel  $K$  must satisfy

$$h'(r) = -c k(r)$$

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## Examples

Epanichnikov

$$h(r) = 1 - r \quad h'(r) = -1 \Rightarrow k(r) = 1$$

Flat

Biweight

$$h(r) = (1 - r)^2 \quad h'(r) = -2(1 - r) \Rightarrow k(r) = 1 - r$$

Epanichnikov

Gaussian

$$h(r) = e^{-\beta r} \quad h'(r) = -\beta e^{-\beta r} \Rightarrow k(r) = e^{-\beta r}$$

Gaussian

**self-replicating!**

# Kernel-Shadow Pairs

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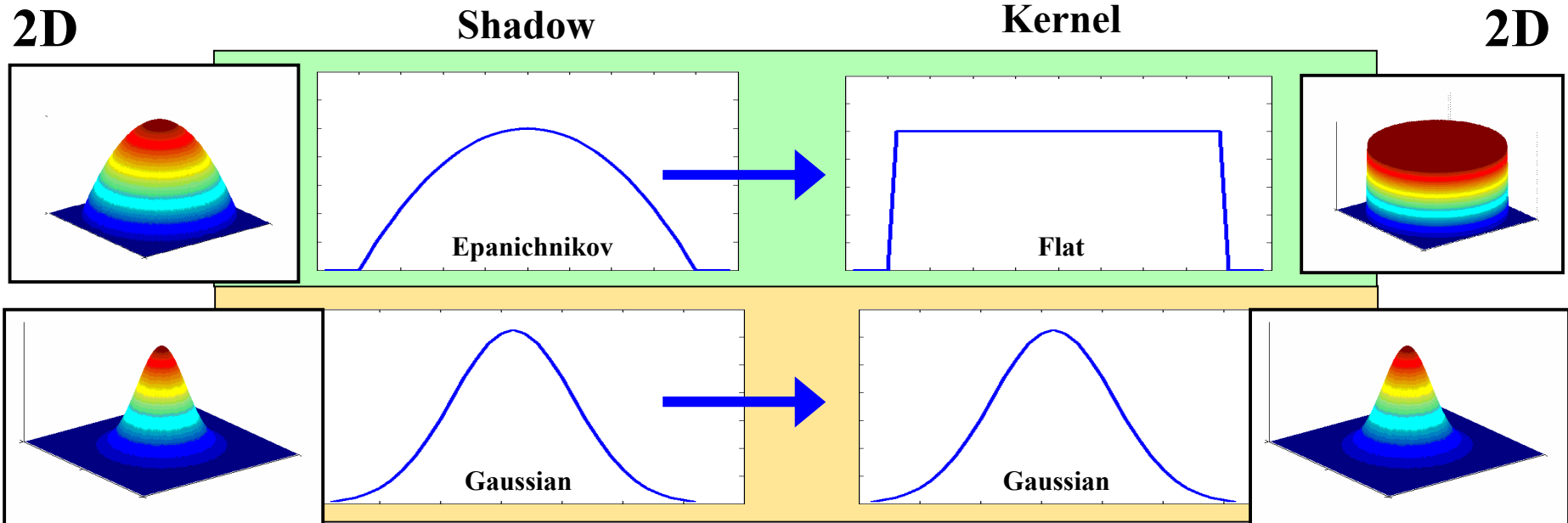
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## Examples



# Mean-Shift and Gradient Ascent

We will derive an explicit equation relating the mean-shift procedure using kernel  $K$  with gradient ascent on the KDE surface formed by using the shadow kernel  $H$ .

$$\text{KDE } f(x) = \sum H(x_i - x)$$

$$= \sum h(\|x_i - x\|^2) \quad \text{rewrite using profile function}$$

gradient of KDE

$$\nabla f(x) = \nabla \sum h(\|x_i - x\|^2) = \sum \nabla h(\|x_i - x\|^2)$$



# Mean-Shift and Gradient Ascent

$$\nabla f(x) = \nabla \sum h(\|x_i - x\|^2) = \sum \nabla h(\|x_i - x\|^2)$$

Sidebar derivation:

$$\nabla h = \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial h(r)}{\partial x}$$

change of variables

$$r(x) = (x_i - x)^T (x_i - x)$$

$$= \frac{\partial h}{\partial r} \frac{\partial r(x)}{\partial x}$$

chain rule

$$= h'(r) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (x_i^T x_i - 2x^T x_i + x^T x)$$

$$= h'(r) [-2x_i + 2x]$$

$$= -2h'(r)(x_i - x)$$

$$= -2h'(\|x_i - x\|^2)(x_i - x)$$

change variables back

# Mean-Shift and Gradient Ascent

We will derive an explicit equation relating the mean-shift procedure using kernel  $K$  with gradient ascent on the KDE surface formed by using the shadow kernel  $H$ .

$$\text{KDE } f(x) = \sum H(x_i - x)$$

$$= \sum h(\|x_i - x\|^2) \quad \text{rewrite using profile function}$$

gradient of KDE

$$\nabla f(x) = \sum \nabla h(\|x_i - x\|^2)$$

$$= -2 \sum h'(\|x_i - x\|^2) (x_i - x) \quad \text{change of vars + chain rule}$$

$$= c \sum k(\|x_i - x\|^2) (x_i - x) \quad \text{definition of kernel shadow pairs } h'(r) = -c k(r)$$

$$= c \sum K(x_i - x) (x_i - x) \quad \text{rewrite as kernel } K$$

# Mean-Shift and Gradient Ascent

cont.

$$\nabla f(x) = c \sum K(x_i - x) (x_i - x)$$

$$\frac{\nabla f(x)}{c} = \sum K(x_i - x) x_i - \left[ \sum K(x_i - x) \right] x$$

x this does not depend on i, so  
can come out of the summation

↑  
call this p(x).  
It is another KDE, using  
kernel K instead of H

$$= \left[ \sum K(x_i - x) x_i - p(x) x \right] \left[ \frac{p(x)}{p(x)} \right]$$

this is just 1 !

$$\frac{\nabla f(x)}{c p(x)} = \frac{\sum K(x_i - x) x_i}{\sum K(x_i - x)} - x$$

this is the relationship we  
wanted to derive.

# Mean-Shift and Gradient Ascent

cont.

weighted center  
of mass

$$\frac{\nabla f(x)}{c p(x)} = \frac{\sum K(x_i - x) x_i}{\sum K(x_i - x)} - x$$

mean shift vector

$$\frac{\nabla \sum H(x_i - x)}{c \sum K(x_i - x)}$$

- same direction as gradient of  $\text{KDE}_H$
- step size is inversely proportional to  $\text{KDE}_K$
- mean-shift performs gradient ascent with adaptive step size

# Generalizing to Weighted Points

Let each point sample  $x_i$  have an associated nonnegative weight  $w(x_i)$

Can rederive the equations with  $w(x_i)$  factors in them:

$$f(x) = \sum H(x_i - x) w(x_i)$$

KDE using shadow kernel H

$$p(x) = \sum K(x_i - x) w(x_i)$$

KDE using kernel K

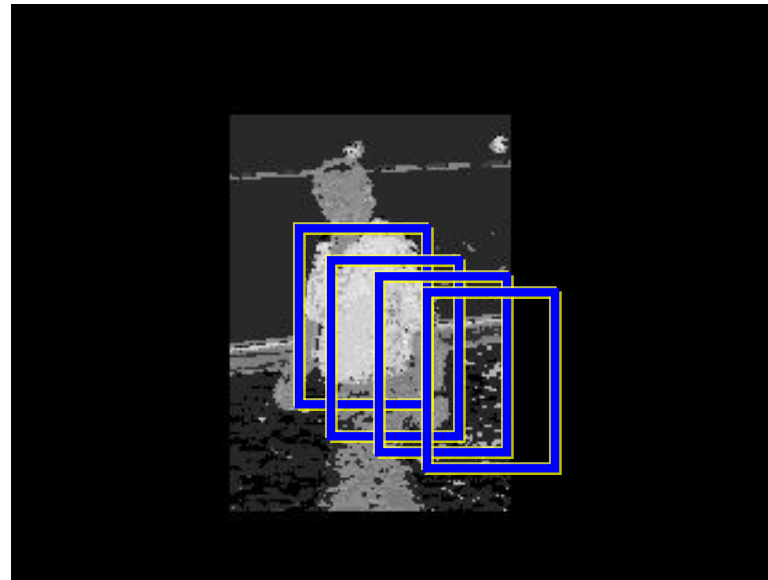
$$\frac{\nabla f(x)}{c p(x)} = \frac{\sum K(x_i - x) w(x_i) x_i}{\sum K(x_i - x) w(x_i)} - x$$

mean shift vector is still  
a gradient ascent process

**This is important for running on images. Since pixels form a lattice, spatial density of samples is fixed, so need a weight to denote sample density at each point.**

# Mean-Shift Tracking

Let pixels form a uniform grid of data points, each with a weight (pixel value) proportional to the “likelihood” that the pixel is on the object we want to track. Perform standard mean-shift algorithm using this weighted set of points.



$$\Delta \mathbf{x} = \frac{\sum_i \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}) w(\mathbf{x}_i) (\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x})}{\sum_i \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}) w(\mathbf{x}_i)}$$

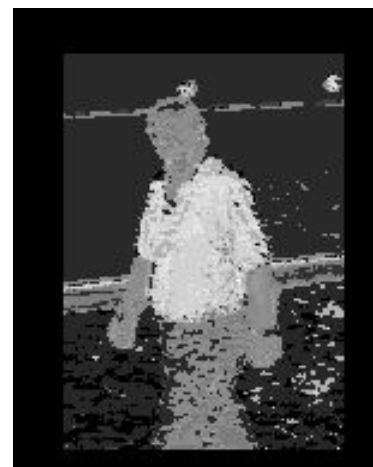
# Mean-shift on Weight Images

Ideally, we want an indicator function that returns 1 for pixels on the object we are tracking, and 0 for all other pixels

Instead, we compute likelihood maps where the value at a pixel is proportional to the likelihood that the pixel comes from the object we are tracking.

Computation of likelihood can be based on

- color
- texture
- shape (boundary)
- predicted location



**Claim: these weight images are all the mean-shift algorithm “sees”, whether they be explicitly computed (e.g. Bradski) or implicitly computed (e.g. Comaniciu, Ramesh and Meer).**