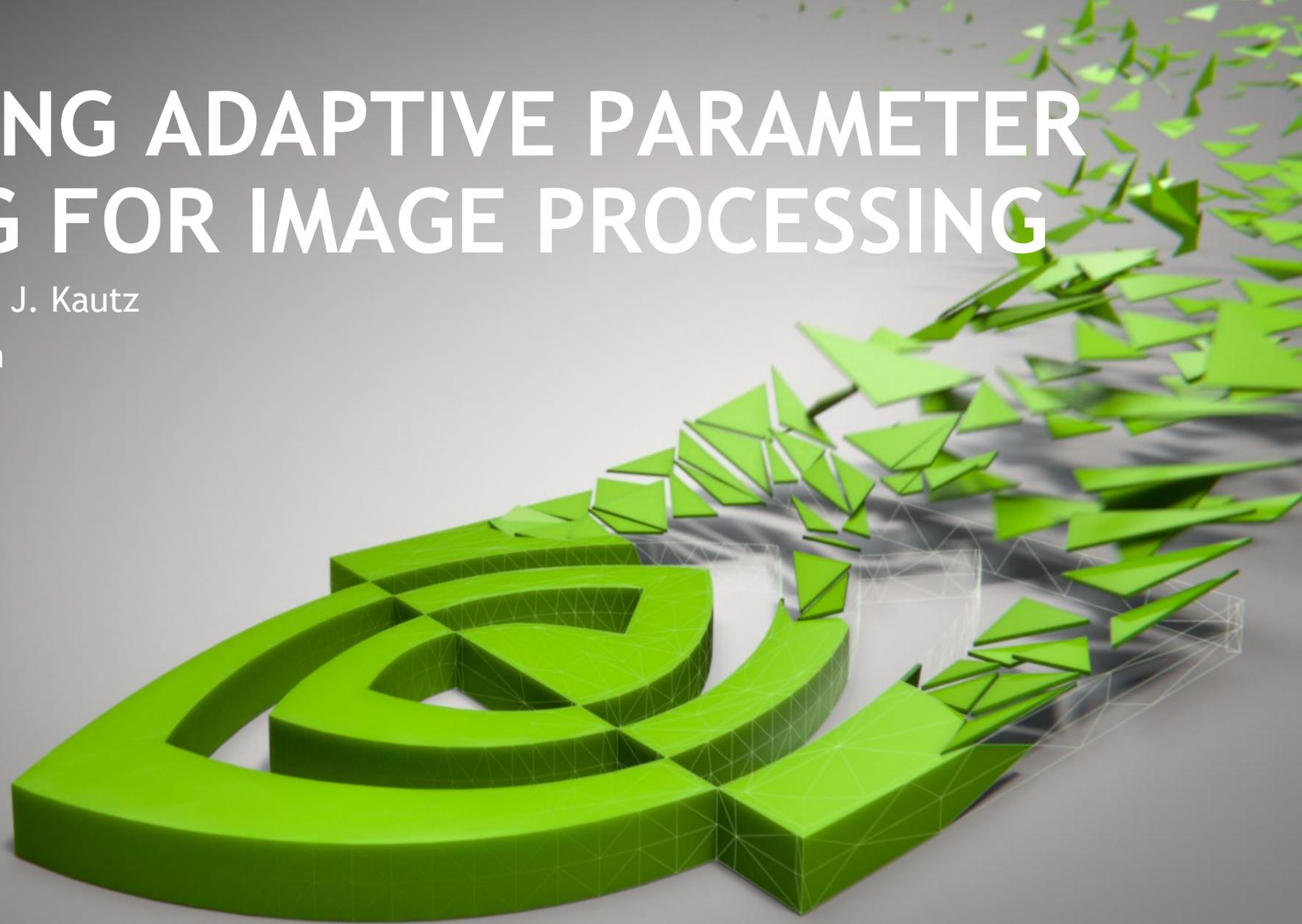


# LEARNING ADAPTIVE PARAMETER TUNING FOR IMAGE PROCESSING

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ifrosio@nvidia.com



**MOTIVATION**

# NON-ADAPTIVE VS. ADAPTIVE FILTERING

## Box-filtering example

Ground truth



Noisy, PSNR = 18.61dB



# NON-ADAPTIVE VS. ADAPTIVE FILTERING

## Box-filtering example

Ground truth



Noisy + 3x3 box filter, PSNR = 23.47dB



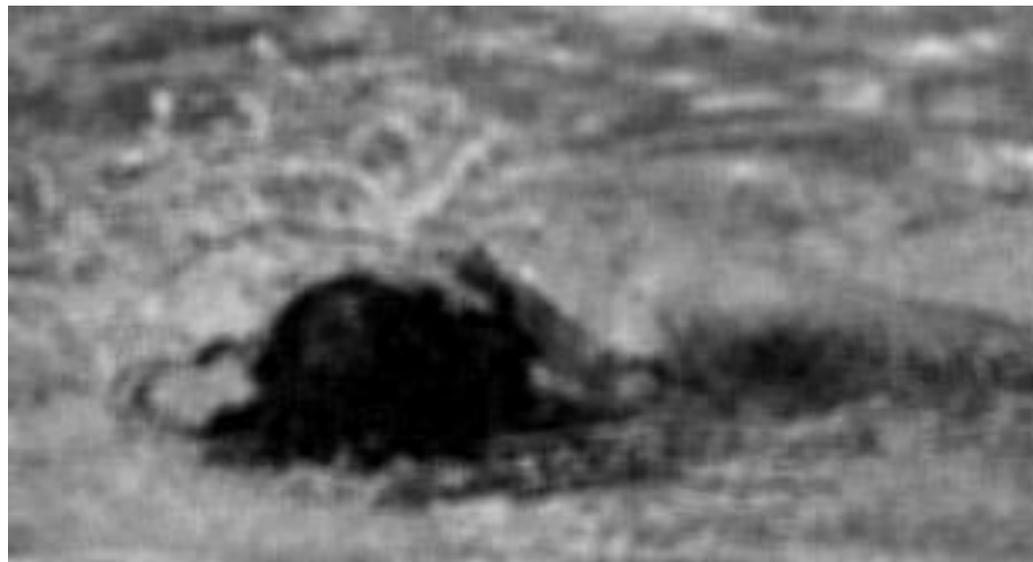
# NON-ADAPTIVE VS. ADAPTIVE FILTERING

## Box-filtering example

Ground truth



Noisy + 5x5 box filter, PSNR = 22.14dB



# NON-ADAPTIVE VS. ADAPTIVE FILTERING

## Box-filtering example

Ground truth



Noisy + 7x7 box filter, PSNR = 21.12dB



# NON-ADAPTIVE VS. ADAPTIVE FILTERING

## Box-filtering example

Ground truth



Noisy + 9x9 box filter, PSNR = 20.62dB



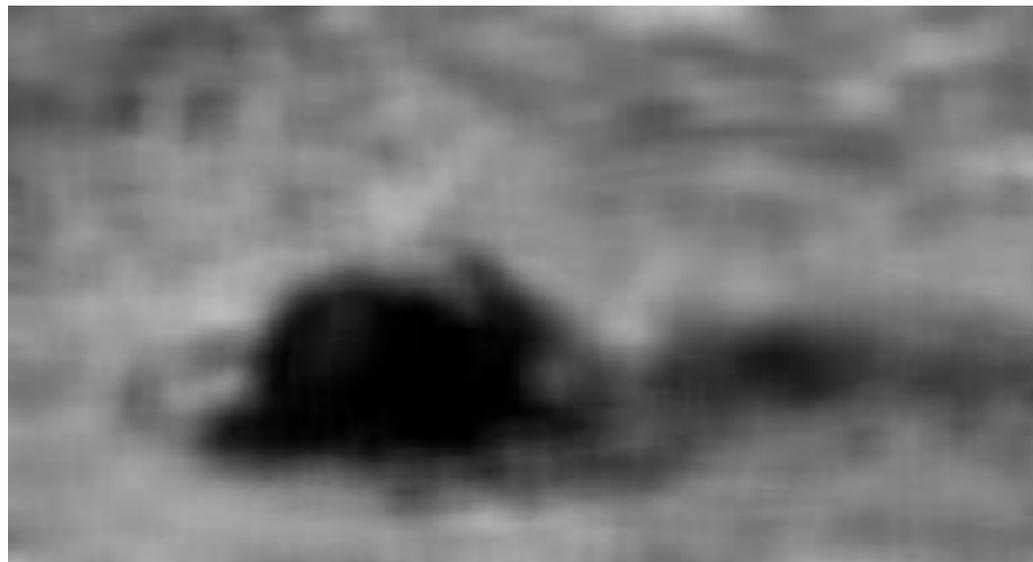
# NON-ADAPTIVE VS. ADAPTIVE FILTERING

## Box-filtering example

Ground truth



Noisy + 13x13 box filter, PSNR = 19.81dB



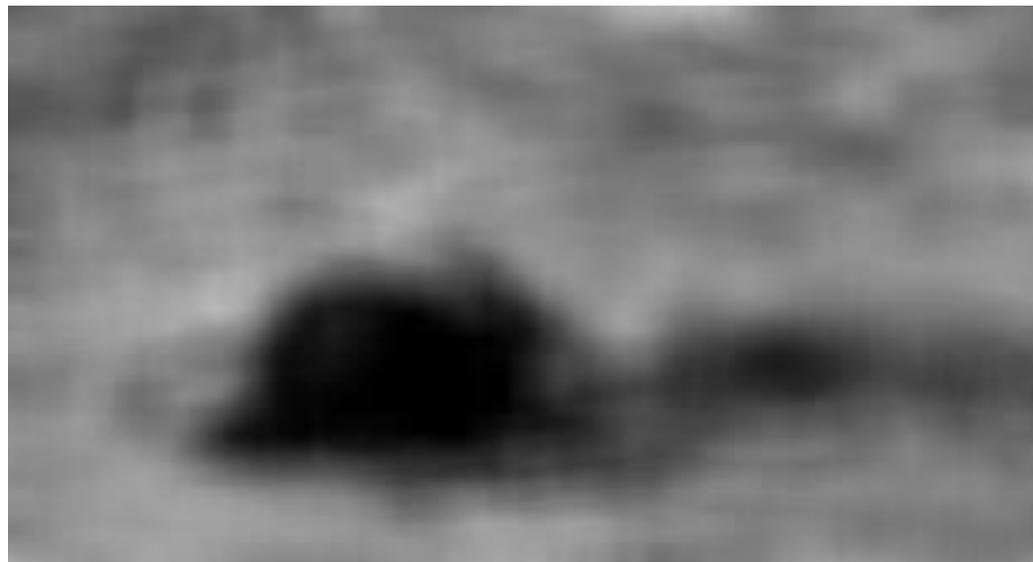
# NON-ADAPTIVE VS. ADAPTIVE FILTERING

## Box-filtering example

Ground truth



Noisy + 17x17 box filter, PSNR = 19.28dB



# NON-ADAPTIVE VS. ADAPTIVE FILTERING

## Box-filtering example

Ground truth



Noisy + 21x21 box filter, PSNR = 18.90dB



# NON-ADAPTIVE VS. ADAPTIVE FILTERING

## Box-filtering example

Ground truth



Noisy + 29x29 box filter, PSNR = 18.41dB



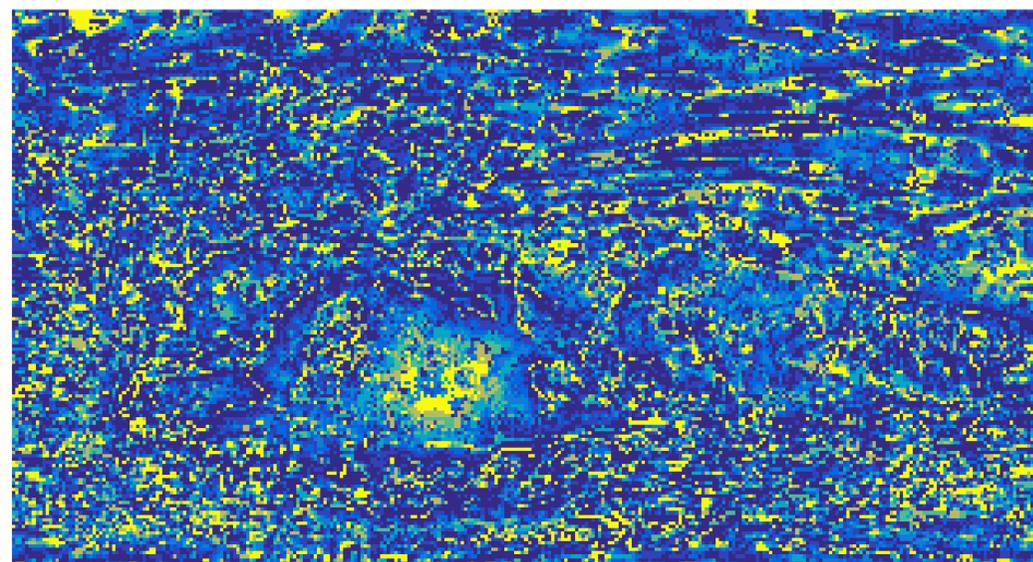
# NON-ADAPTIVE VS. ADAPTIVE FILTERING

## Box-filtering example

Ground truth



Best filter size for each pixel



# NON-ADAPTIVE VS. ADAPTIVE FILTERING

## Box-filtering example

Ground truth



Adaptive box filter, PSNR = 26.34dB



# NON-ADAPTIVE VS. ADAPTIVE FILTERING

## Box-filtering example

Ground truth



Noisy + 3x3 box filter,  
PSNR = 23.47dB



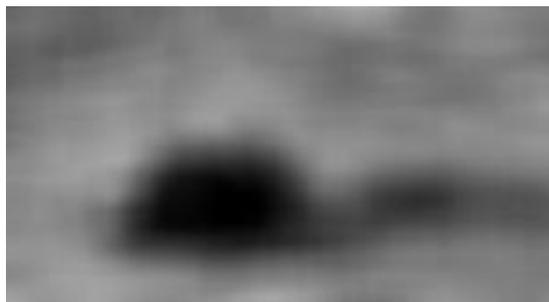
Adaptive box filter,  
PSNR = 26.34dB



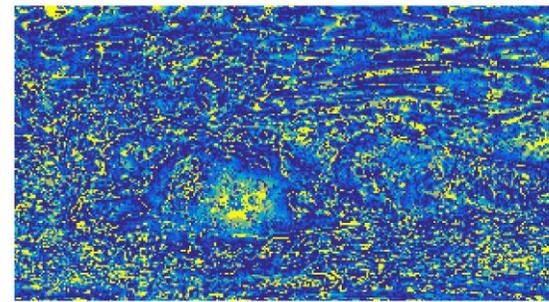
Noisy, PSNR = 18.61dB



Noisy + 29x29 box filter,  
PSNR = 18.41dB



Best filter size for each  
pixel



# A LIST OF PROS...

... For adaptive filters

A generalization of an existing filtering technique:

- **Explainability** (vs. pure ML)
- Power / computationally **efficient** (vs. pure ML)

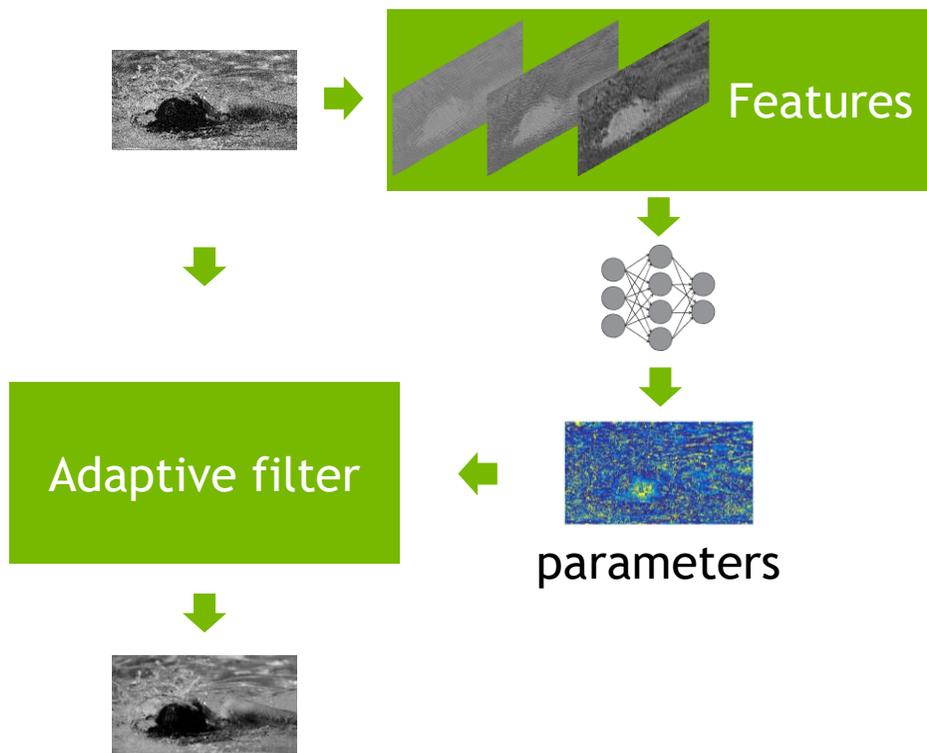
Open question:

- **Learn** parameter tuning (requires ML)

# SUMMARY

# SUMMARY

## Learning Adaptive Parameter Tuning for Image Processing



$$\mathbf{f}_{x,y} = [f_{x,y}^0 \ f_{x,y}^1 \ \dots \ f_{x,y}^{F-1}]^\top$$

$$h(\mathbf{f}_{x,y}; \boldsymbol{\theta}_k) = \theta_k^0 + \boldsymbol{\theta}_k^1 \top \mathbf{f}_{x,y} + \mathbf{f}_{x,y}^\top \boldsymbol{\Theta}_k^2 \mathbf{f}_{x,y}$$

$$p_{x,y}^k = p_{\min}^k + \frac{p_{\max}^k - p_{\min}^k}{1 + e^{-h(\mathbf{f}_{x,y}; \boldsymbol{\theta}_k)}}$$

# SUMMARY

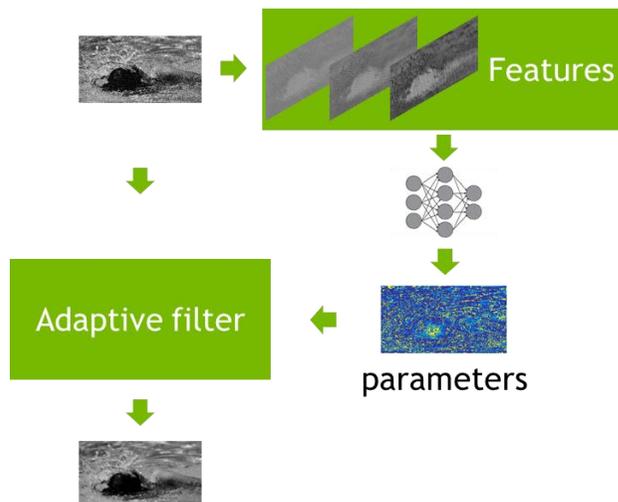
## Learning Adaptive Parameter Tuning for Image Processing

### 1. Method:

1. Feature design
2. Training

### 2. Results:

1. NLM denoising
2. Demosaicing



$$\mathbf{f}_{x,y} = [f_{x,y}^0 \ f_{x,y}^1 \ \dots \ f_{x,y}^{F-1}]^\top$$

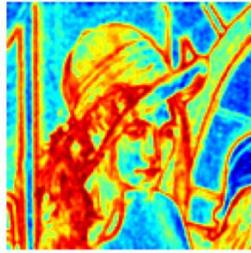
$$h(\mathbf{f}_{x,y}; \boldsymbol{\theta}_k) = \theta_k^0 + \boldsymbol{\theta}_k^1 \top \mathbf{f}_{x,y} + \mathbf{f}_{x,y} \top \boldsymbol{\Theta}_k^2 \mathbf{f}_{x,y}$$

$$p_{x,y}^k = p_{\min}^k + \frac{p_{\max}^k - p_{\min}^k}{1 + e^{-h(\mathbf{f}_{x,y}; \boldsymbol{\theta}_k)}}$$

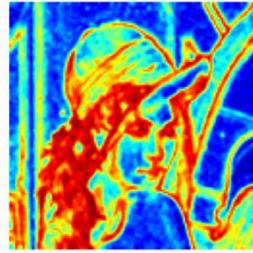
# METHOD

# METHOD: HAND PICKED FEATURES

Local entropy / gradient entropy (noise free)

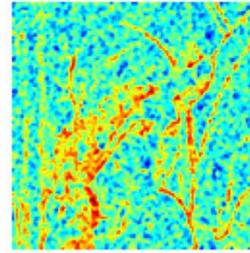


(a)  $e_i(x, y), \sigma_n = 0.$

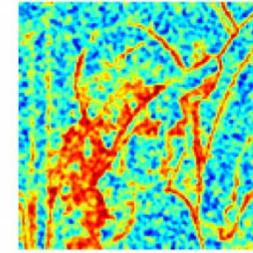


(b)  $e_g(x, y), \sigma_n = 0.$

Local entropy / gradient entropy (noisy)



(c)  $e_i(x, y), \sigma_n = 20.$



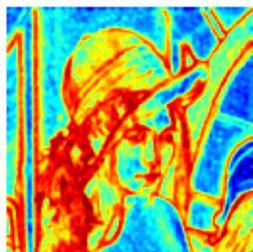
(d)  $e_g(x, y), \sigma_n = 20.$

## ▶ Computationally efficient features [1]:

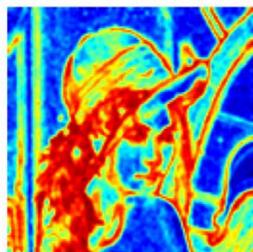
- ▶ Local (3x3, 5x5) variance
- ▶ Local (3x3, 7x7) entropy
- ▶ Local (3x3, 7x7) gradient entropy

# METHOD: HAND PICKED FEATURES

Local entropy / gradient entropy (noise free)

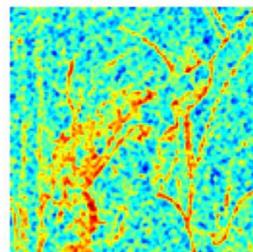


(a)  $e_i(x, y)$ ,  $\sigma_n = 0$ .

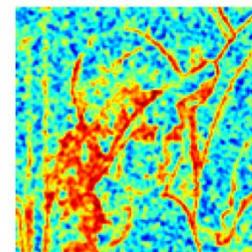


(b)  $e_g(x, y)$ ,  $\sigma_n = 0$ .

Local entropy / gradient entropy (noisy)



(c)  $e_i(x, y)$ ,  $\sigma_n = 20$ .



(d)  $e_g(x, y)$ ,  $\sigma_n = 20$ .

- ▶ Computationally efficient features [1]:
  - ▶ Local (3x3, 5x5) variance: **edge / texture / noise intensity**
  - ▶ Local (3x3, 7x7) entropy: **how many sets (homogeneous / textured / edge area)**
  - ▶ Local (3x3, 7x7) gradient entropy: **how many gradient sets (texture / edge area)**

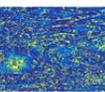
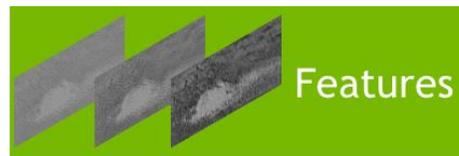
# METHOD: TRAINING

## Cost function

Ground truth



Corrupt image



parameters

Adaptive filter

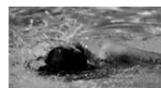


Image quality metric

$\Delta\theta$

$$\mathbf{f}_{x,y} = [f_{x,y}^0 \ f_{x,y}^1 \ \dots \ f_{x,y}^{F-1}]^\top$$

$$h(\mathbf{f}_{x,y}; \boldsymbol{\theta}_k) = \theta_k^0 + \boldsymbol{\theta}_k^{1\top} \mathbf{f}_{x,y} + \mathbf{f}_{x,y}^\top \boldsymbol{\Theta}_k^2 \mathbf{f}_{x,y}$$

$$p_{x,y}^k = p_{\min}^k + \frac{p_{\max}^k - p_{\min}^k}{1 + e^{-h(\mathbf{f}_{x,y}; \boldsymbol{\theta}_k)}}$$

# METHOD: TRAINING

Differentiable / not differentiable cost function / filter

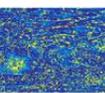
Ground truth



Corrupt image

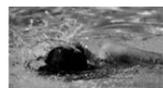


Features



parameters

Adaptive filter



$\Delta\theta$

RMSE,  
PSNR,  
MSSSIM,  
FSIM, ...

Can be not  
differentiable

$$\mathbf{f}_{x,y} = [f_{x,y}^0 \ f_{x,y}^1 \ \dots \ f_{x,y}^{F-1}]^\top$$

$$h(\mathbf{f}_{x,y}; \boldsymbol{\theta}_k) = \theta_k^0 + \boldsymbol{\theta}_k^{1\top} \mathbf{f}_{x,y} + \mathbf{f}_{x,y}^\top \boldsymbol{\Theta}_k^2 \mathbf{f}_{x,y}$$

$$p_{x,y}^k = p_{\min}^k + \frac{p_{\max}^k - p_{\min}^k}{1 + e^{-h(\mathbf{f}_{x,y}; \boldsymbol{\theta}_k)}}$$

# METHOD: TRAINING

Differentiable / not differentiable cost function / filter

Ground truth



Corrupt image



Features

$$\mathbf{f}_{x,y} = [f_{x,y}^0 \ f_{x,y}^1 \ \dots \ f_{x,y}^{F-1}]^\top$$



parameters

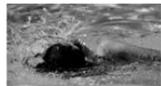
$$h(\mathbf{f}_{x,y}; \boldsymbol{\theta}_k) = \theta_k^0 + \boldsymbol{\theta}_k^{1\top} \mathbf{f}_{x,y} + \mathbf{f}_{x,y}^\top \boldsymbol{\Theta}_k^2 \mathbf{f}_{x,y}$$

$$p_{x,y}^k = p_{\min}^k + \frac{p_{\max}^k - p_{\min}^k}{1 + e^{-h(\mathbf{f}_{x,y}; \boldsymbol{\theta}_k)}}$$

Can be not differentiable



Adaptive filter



RMSE,  
PSNR,  
MSSSIM,  
FSIM, ...



$\Delta\theta$



[1] A. Buades, B. Coll, and J. M. Morel, "A review of image denoising algorithms, with a new one", 2005.

[2] I. Frosio, C. Olivieri, M. Lucchese, N. Borghese, and P. Boccacci, "Bayesian denoising in digital radiography: A comparison in the dental field", 2013.

# METHOD: TRAINING

Differentiable / not differentiable cost function / filter

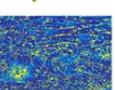
Ground truth



Corrupt image



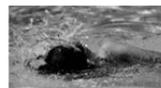
Features



parameters



Adaptive filter



RMSE,  
PSNR,  
MSSSIM,  
FSIM, ...

Can be not differentiable



$\Delta\theta$



Nelder-Mead simplex (does not require derivatives)

$$\mathbf{f}_{x,y} = [f_{x,y}^0 \ f_{x,y}^1 \ \dots \ f_{x,y}^{F-1}]^\top$$

$$h(\mathbf{f}_{x,y}; \boldsymbol{\theta}_k) = \theta_k^0 + \boldsymbol{\theta}_k^{1\top} \mathbf{f}_{x,y} + \mathbf{f}_{x,y}^\top \boldsymbol{\Theta}_k^2 \mathbf{f}_{x,y}$$

$$p_{x,y}^k = p_{\min}^k + \frac{p_{\max}^k - p_{\min}^k}{1 + e^{-h(\mathbf{f}_{x,y}; \boldsymbol{\theta}_k)}}$$

# RESULTS

# RESULTS: NLM DENOISING

## Non-adaptive filter

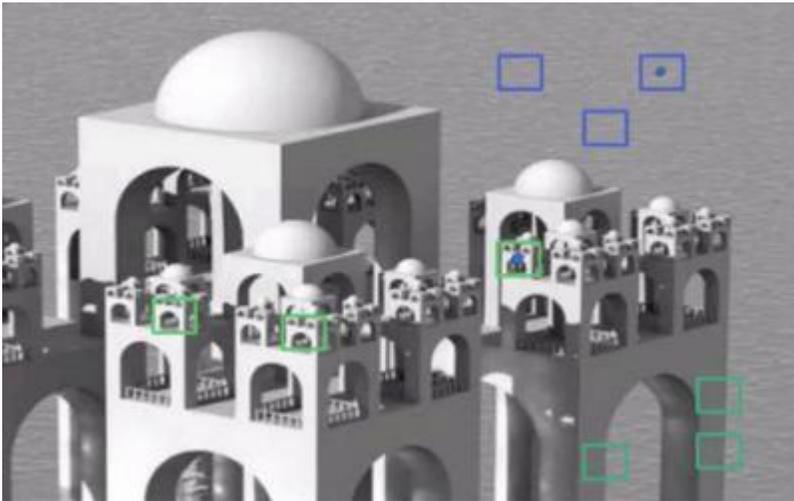


image from opencv.org

$$\mathbf{q}^d = \sum_{j=1}^N w_j \mathbf{r}_j, \quad (1)$$

$$w_j = e^{-\max\{d^2(\mathbf{q}^n, \mathbf{r}_j)/(p^0)^2 - 2\sigma^2, 0\}/(p^1\sigma)^2}, \quad (2)$$

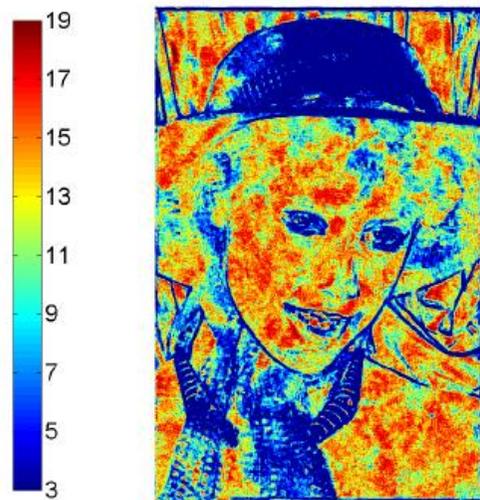
$p^0$ : patch size [optimal image scale]

$p^1$ : affinity measure [bias/variance tradeoff]

# RESULTS: NLM DENOISING

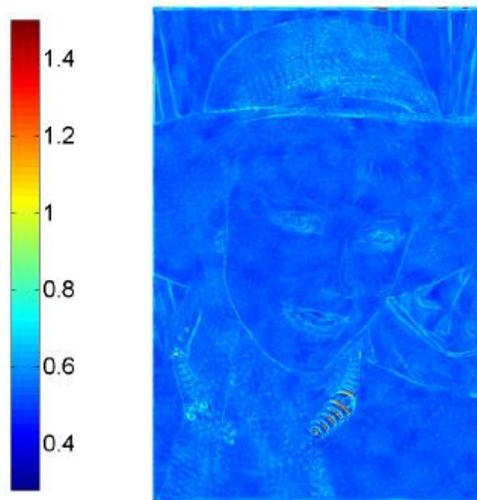
AWGN,  $\sigma=20$  - learned adaptive filter, maximize PSNR

Patch size



(a)  $aANLM_{PSNR}, p^0$

Filtering par



(b)  $aANLM_{PSNR}, p^1$

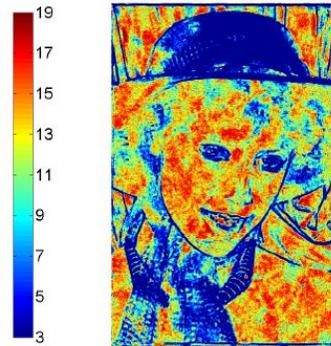
- ▶ Large patch size in homogeneous areas
- ▶ Small patch size for high frequency details
- ▶ Favor variance reduction in homogeneous areas
- ▶ Small bias close to the edges, use similarity
- ▶ Analytical results [1] suggesting a similar strategy

# RESULTS: NLM DENOISING

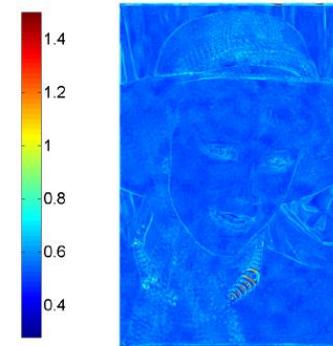
AWGN,  $\sigma=20$  - learned adaptive filter, maximize MS-SSIM

Patch size

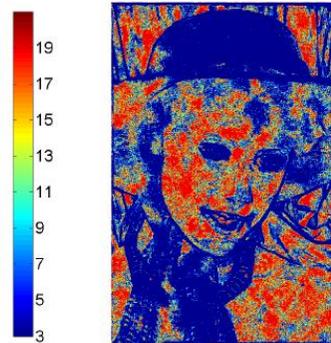
Filtering par



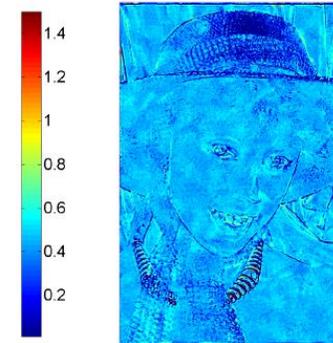
(a) aANLM<sub>PSNR</sub>,  $p^0$



(b) aANLM<sub>PSNR</sub>,  $p^1$



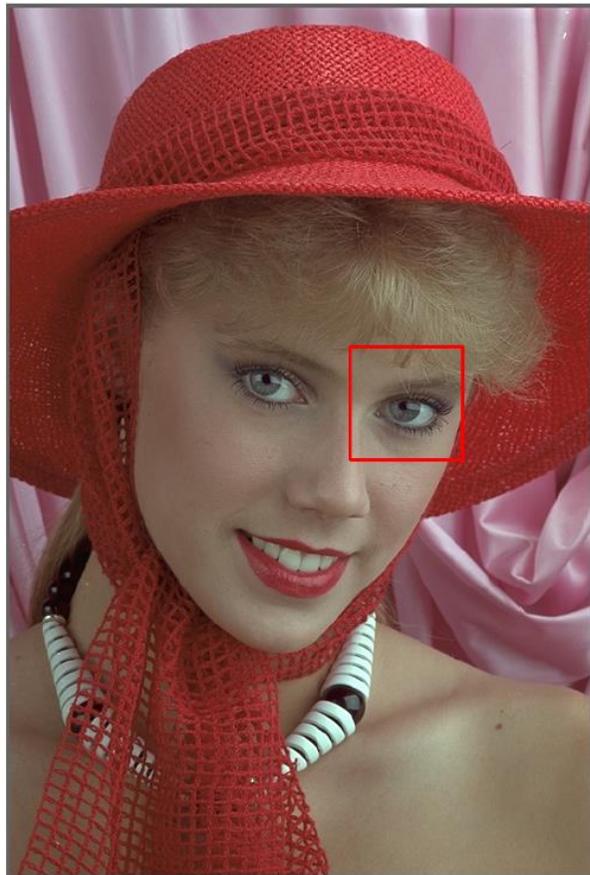
(c) aANLM<sub>MS-SSIM</sub>,  $p^0$



(d) aANLM<sub>MS-SSIM</sub>,  $p^1$

# RESULTS: NLM DENOISING

PSNR vs. MS-SSIM



(a) Original image



(b) Ground truth



(c) Noisy



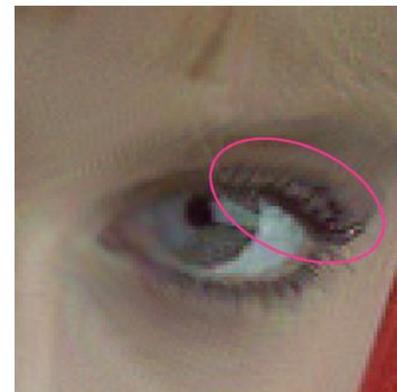
(d) ANLM



(e) ANLM<sub>PSNR</sub>



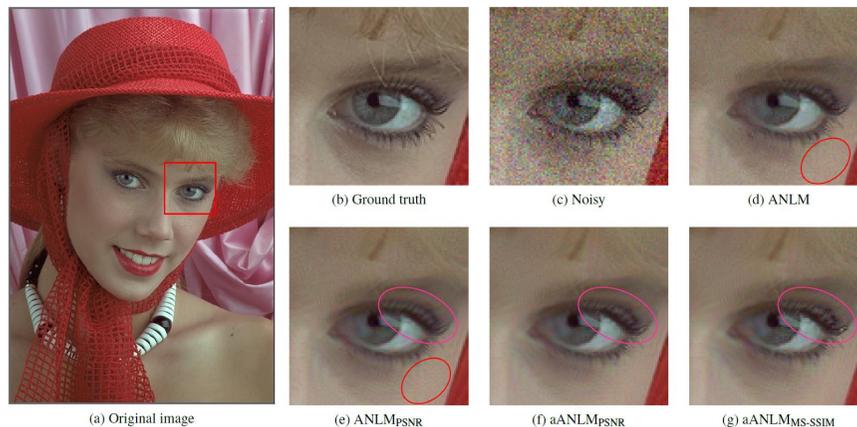
(f) aANLM<sub>PSNR</sub>



(g) aANLM<sub>MS-SSIM</sub>

# RESULTS: NLM DENOISING

## Numerical results



|                    | Noisy  | ANLM         | ANLM <sub>PSNR</sub> | ANLM <sub>MS-SSIM</sub> | aANLM <sub>PSNR</sub> | aANLM <sub>MS-SSIM</sub> |
|--------------------|--------|--------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| $p^0$              | -      | 5            | 9                    | 19                      | adaptive, learned     | adaptive, learned        |
| $p^1 \cdot \sigma$ | -      | $0.40\sigma$ | $0.51\sigma$         | $0.49\sigma$            | adaptive, learned     | adaptive, learned        |
| PSNR               | 22.11  | 30.06        | 30.27                | 30.00                   | <b>30.80</b>          | 30.48                    |
| SSIM               | 0.6750 | 0.8952       | 0.8992               | 0.9006                  | 0.9056                | <b>0.9084</b>            |
| MS-SSIM            | 0.8192 | 0.9417       | 0.9445               | 0.9461                  | 0.9480                | <b>0.9496</b>            |

# RESULTS: DEMOSAICKING

## Blending filters

- ▶ SOA algorithms for demosaicking:
  - ▶ ECC [1]
  - ▶ ARI [2]
  - ▶ CS [3]
- ▶ Blending outputs:
  - ▶  $p^0 * ECC + p^1 * ARI + p^2 * CS$
  - ▶  $p^0 + p^1 + p^2 = 1$



Figure 3: Blending factors learned by aMIX<sub>MS-SSIM</sub> (right column) for three images of the McMaster dataset [24]. The blending factor for ECC,  $p^0 / \sum p^k$ , is associated with the red channel, whereas those of ARI ( $p^1 / \sum p^k$ ) and CS ( $p^2 / \sum p^k$ ) are associated with the green and blue channels, respectively. ECC and ARI are the preferred methods for edges and textured areas, whereas CS has more importance in very dark or bright areas of the images.

[1] S. P. Jaiswal, O. C. Au, V. Jakhethiya, Y. Yuan, and H. Yang, "Exploitation of inter-color correlation for color image demosaicking," in ICIP, 2014.

[2] Y. Monno, D. Kiku, M. Tanaka, and M. Okutomi, "Adaptive residual interpolation for color image demosaicking," in ICIP, 2015.

[3] P. Getreuer, "Image demosaicking with contour stencils," IPOL, 2012.

# RESULTS: DEMOSAICING

## Numerical evaluation

|         | ECC    | ARI    | CS     | Mix <sub>PSNR</sub> | aMix <sub>PSNR</sub> | aMix <sub>SSIM</sub> | aMix <sub>MS-SSIM</sub> |
|---------|--------|--------|--------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| PSNR    | 38.85  | 38.37  | 36.67  | 39.71               | <b>39.81</b>         | 39.80                | <b>39.81</b>            |
| SSIM    | 0.9666 | 0.9633 | 0.9516 | 0.9717              | <b>0.9725</b>        | <b>0.9725</b>        | <b>0.9725</b>           |
| MS-SSIM | 0.9951 | 0.9945 | 0.9913 | 0.9963              | 0.9963               | 0.9963               | <b>0.9964</b>           |

**CONCLUSION**

# CONCLUSION

Learning Adaptive Parameter Tuning for  
Image Processing

J. Dong, I. Frosio\*, J. Kautz

ifrosio@nvidia.com

## Learnable adaptive filters

- Explainability
- Computational / power effectiveness
  - Tunability for different metrics

## Possible future directions

- Feature learning
- Reinforcement Learning
- Other applications (beyond image processing)