

Spring 2022

INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER VISION

Atlas Wang

Assistant Professor, The University of Texas at Austin

Visual Informatics Group@UT Austin

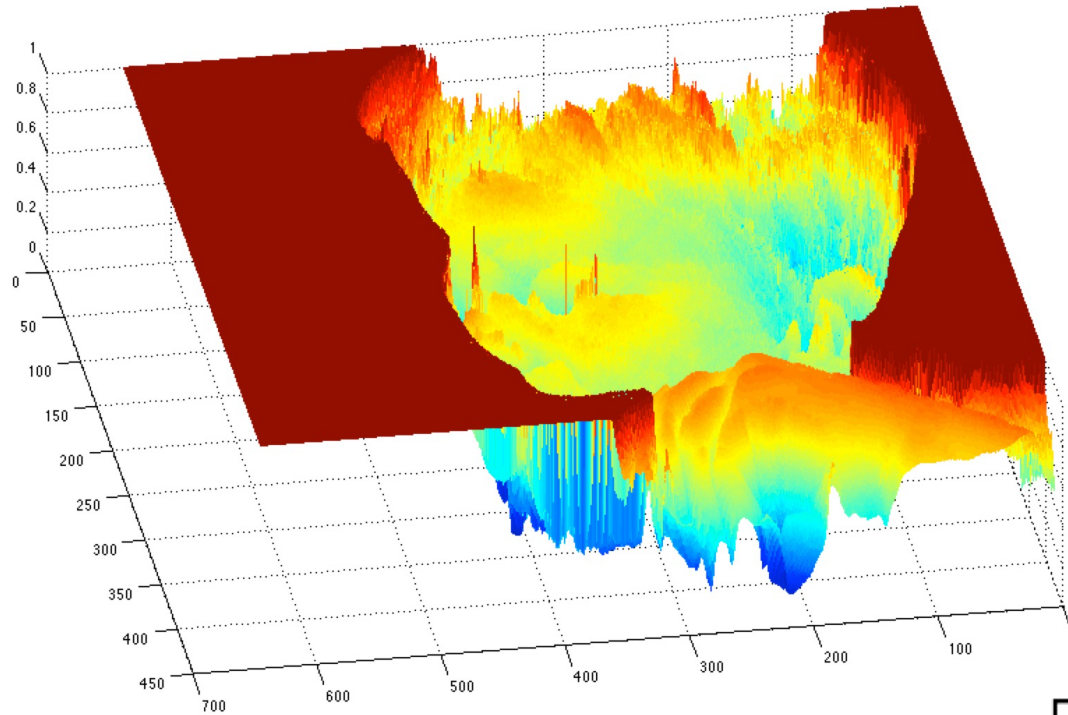
<https://vita-group.github.io/>

What is an image?

$f(\mathbf{x})$



grayscale image



domain $\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$

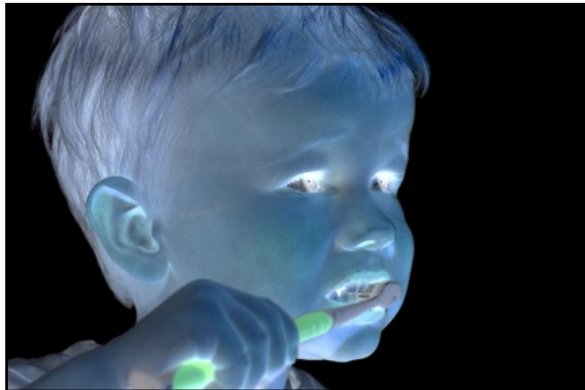
A (grayscale) image is a 2D function.

What is the range of the image function f ?

What types of image transformations can we do?



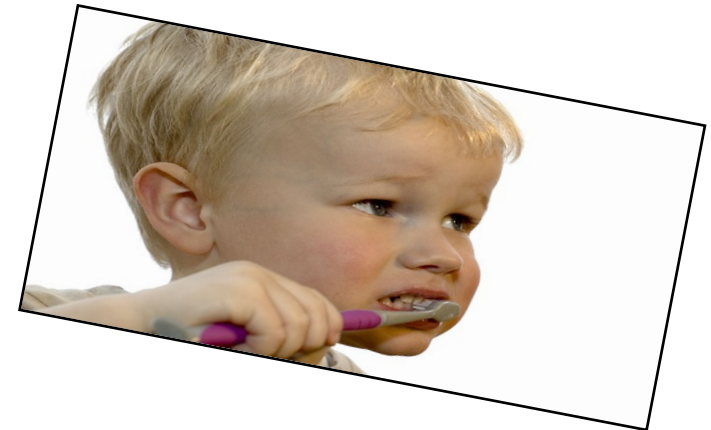
Filtering



changes pixel *values*



Warping



changes pixel *locations*

What types of image transformations can we do?

F



Filtering



$$G(\mathbf{x}) = h\{F(\mathbf{x})\}$$

G



changes *range* of image function

F

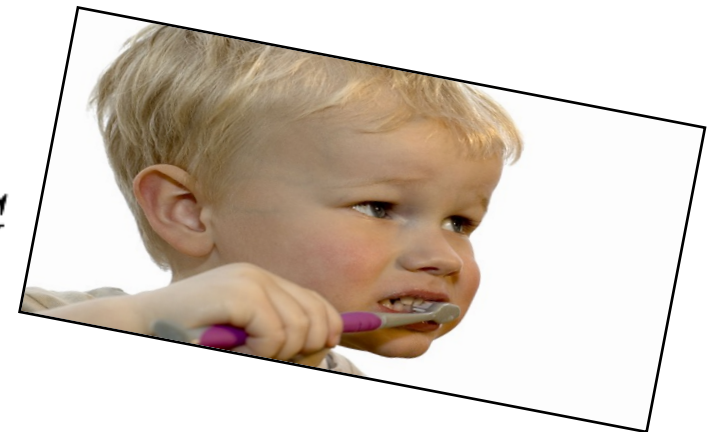


Warping



$$G(\mathbf{x}) = F(h\{\mathbf{x}\})$$

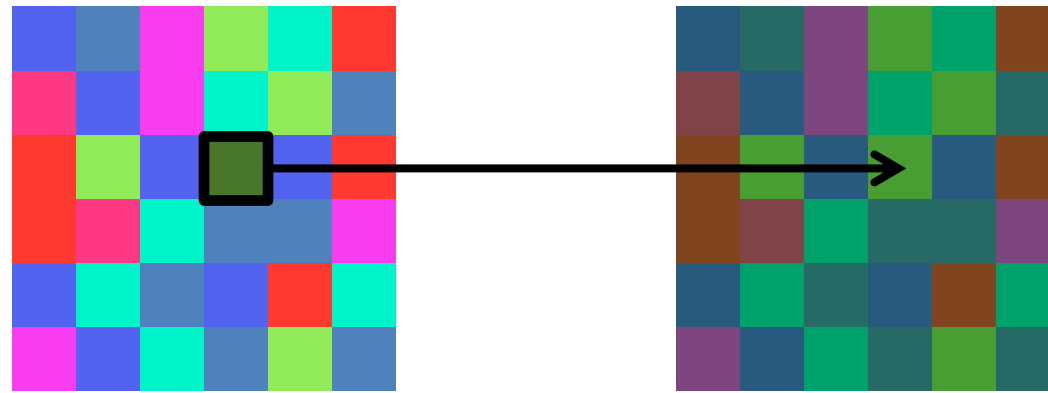
G



changes *domain* of image function

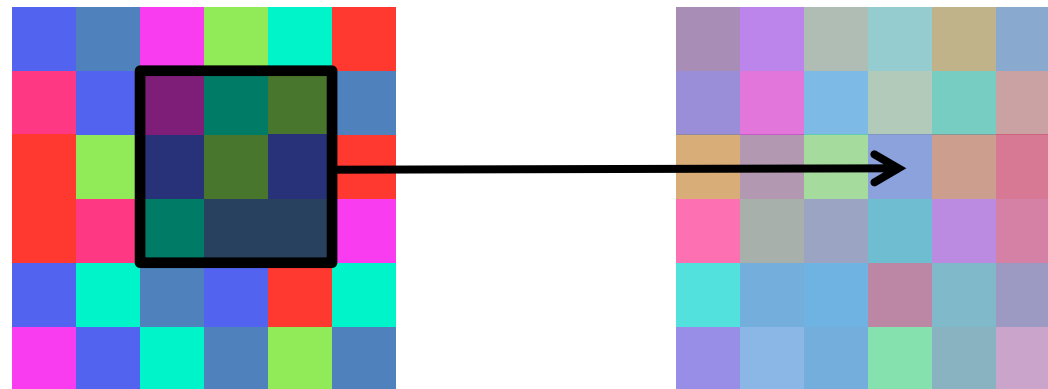
What types of image filtering can we do?

Point Operation



point processing

Neighborhood Operation



“filtering”

Examples of point processing

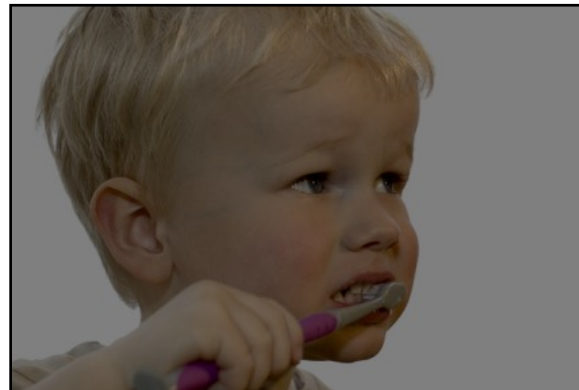
original



darken



lower contrast



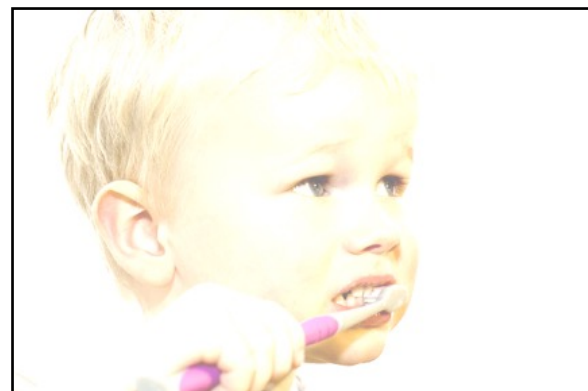
non-linear raise contrast



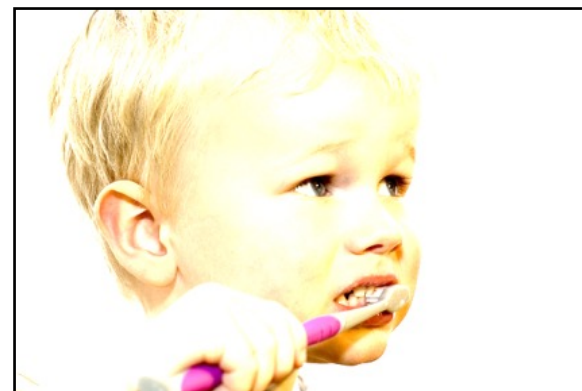
invert



lighten



raise contrast



non-linear lower contrast



How would you
implement these?

Examples of point processing

original



darken



lower contrast

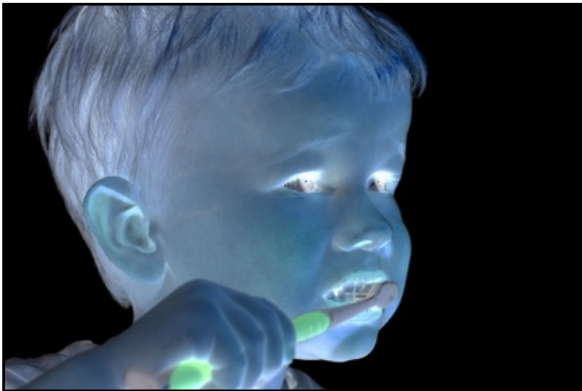


non-linear raise contrast

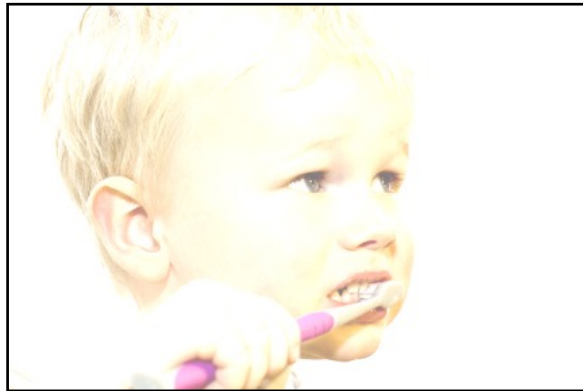


x

invert



lighten



raise contrast



non-linear lower contrast



How would you
implement these?

Examples of point processing

original



x

darken



$x - 128$

lower contrast



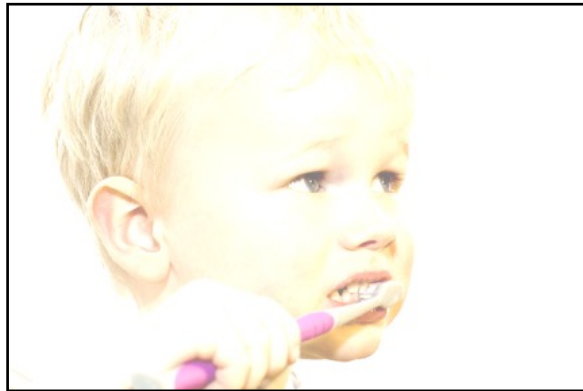
non-linear raise contrast



invert



lighten



raise contrast



non-linear lower contrast



How would you
implement these?

Examples of point processing

original



$$x$$

darken



$$x - 128$$

lower contrast



$$\frac{x}{2}$$

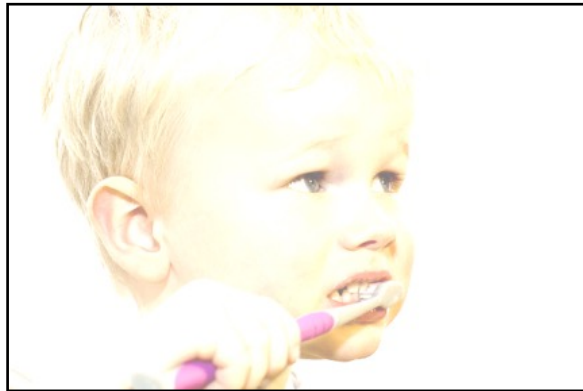
non-linear raise contrast



invert



lighten



raise contrast



non-linear lower contrast



How would you
implement these?

Examples of point processing

original



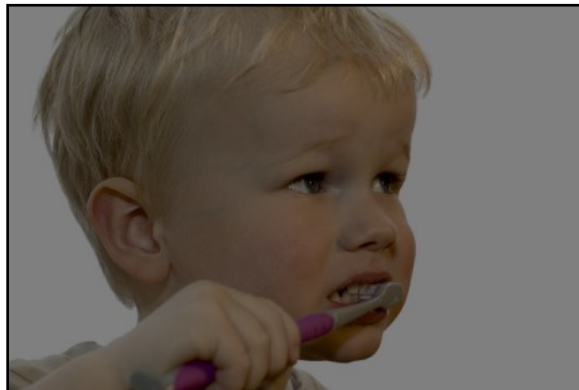
$$x$$

darken



$$x - 128$$

lower contrast



$$\frac{x}{2}$$

non-linear raise contrast

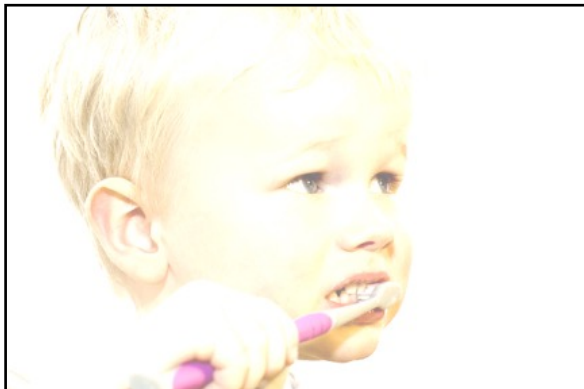


$$\left(\frac{x}{255}\right)^{1/3} \times 255$$

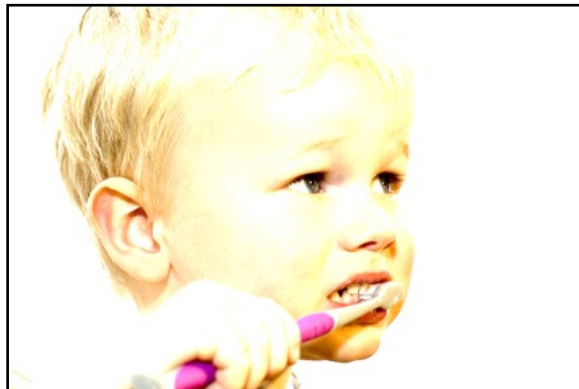
invert



lighten



raise contrast



non-linear lower contrast



How would you
implement these?

Examples of point processing

original



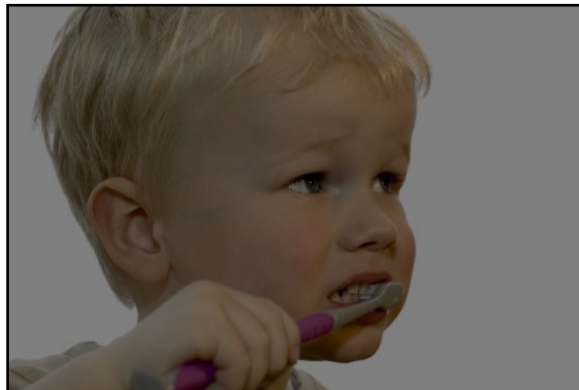
$$x$$

darken



$$x - 128$$

lower contrast



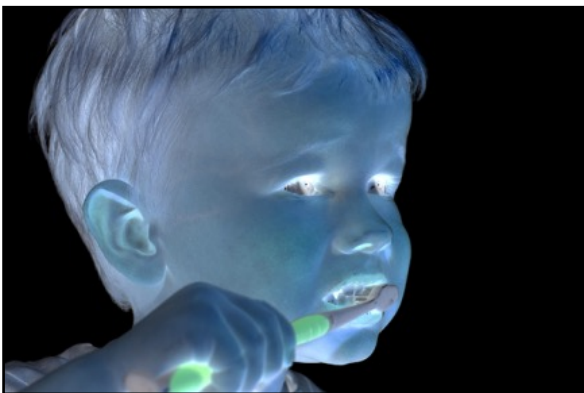
$$\frac{x}{2}$$

non-linear raise contrast



$$\left(\frac{x}{255}\right)^{1/3} \times 255$$

invert



$$255 - x$$

lighten



raise contrast



non-linear lower contrast



How would you
implement these?

Examples of point processing

original



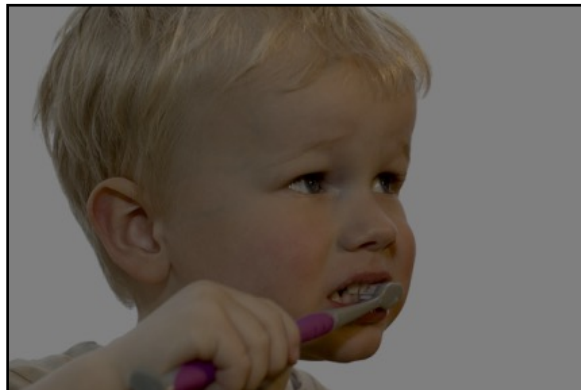
$$x$$

darken



$$x - 128$$

lower contrast



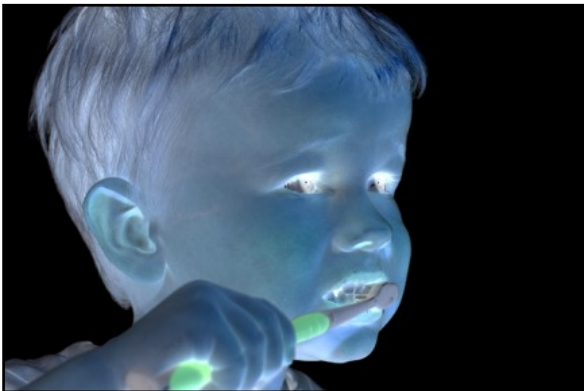
$$\frac{x}{2}$$

non-linear raise contrast



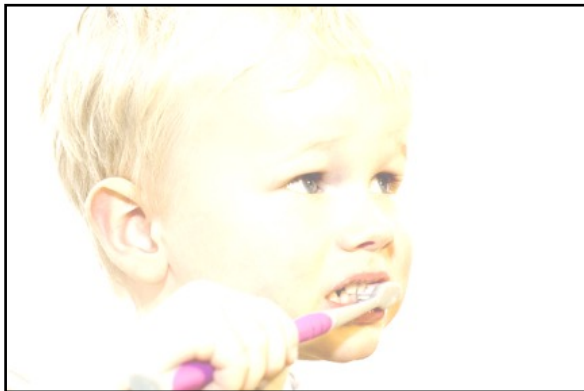
$$\left(\frac{x}{255}\right)^{1/3} \times 255$$

invert



$$255 - x$$

lighten



$$x + 128$$

raise contrast



non-linear lower contrast



How would you
implement these?

Examples of point processing

original



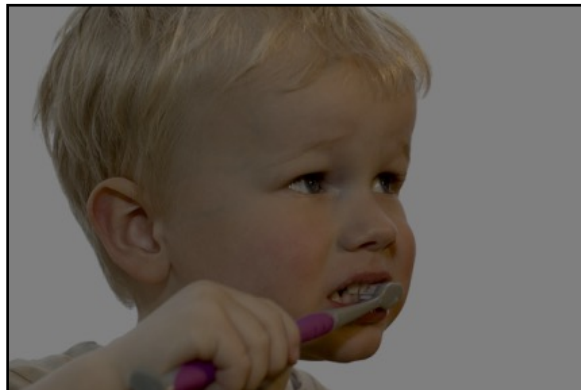
$$x$$

darken



$$x - 128$$

lower contrast



$$\frac{x}{2}$$

non-linear raise contrast



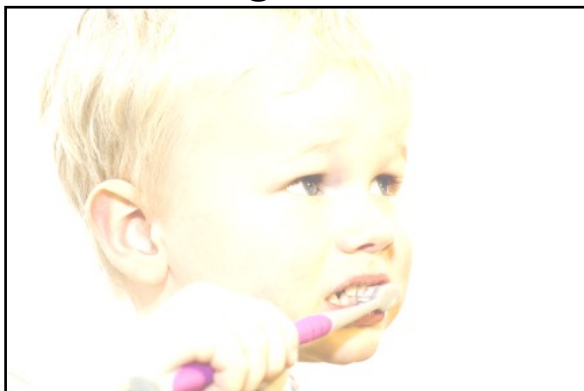
$$\left(\frac{x}{255}\right)^{1/3} \times 255$$

invert



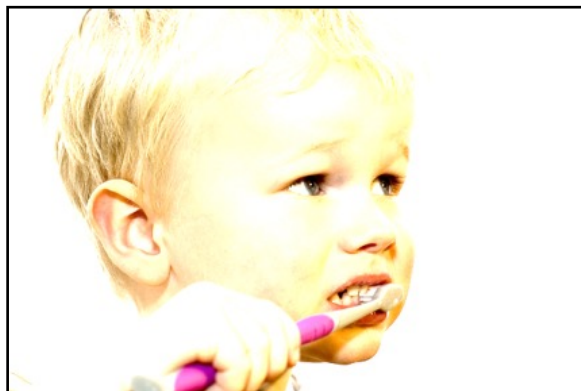
$$255 - x$$

lighten



$$x + 128$$

raise contrast



$$x \times 2$$

non-linear lower contrast



How would you
implement these?

Examples of point processing

original



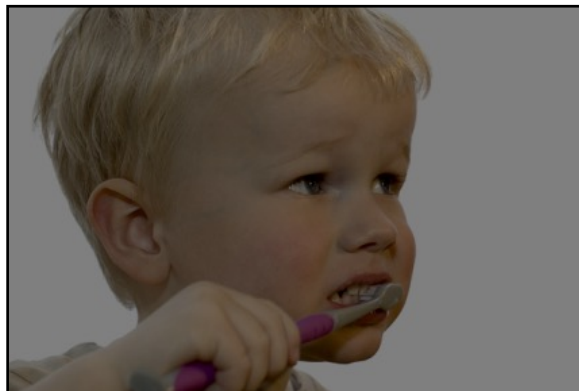
$$x$$

darken



$$x - 128$$

lower contrast



$$\frac{x}{2}$$

non-linear raise contrast



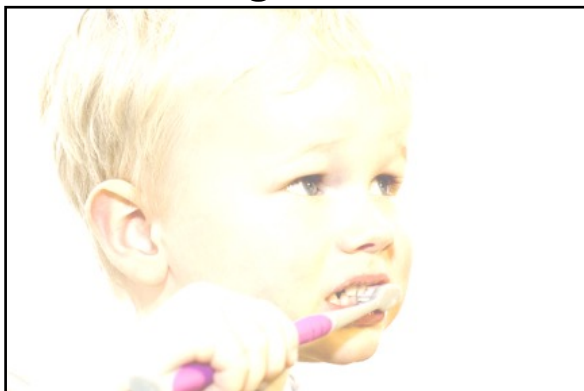
$$\left(\frac{x}{255}\right)^{1/3} \times 255$$

invert



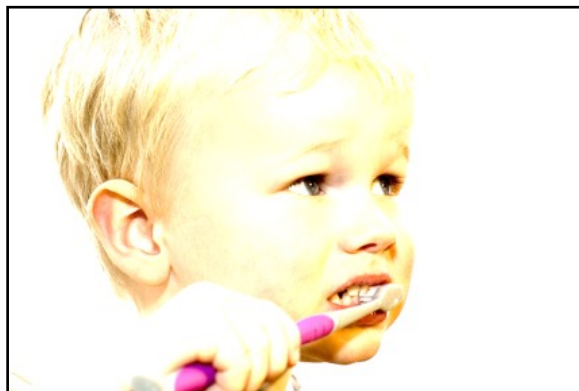
$$255 - x$$

lighten



$$x + 128$$

raise contrast



$$x \times 2$$

non-linear lower contrast



$$\left(\frac{x}{255}\right)^2 \times 255$$

Many other types of point processing

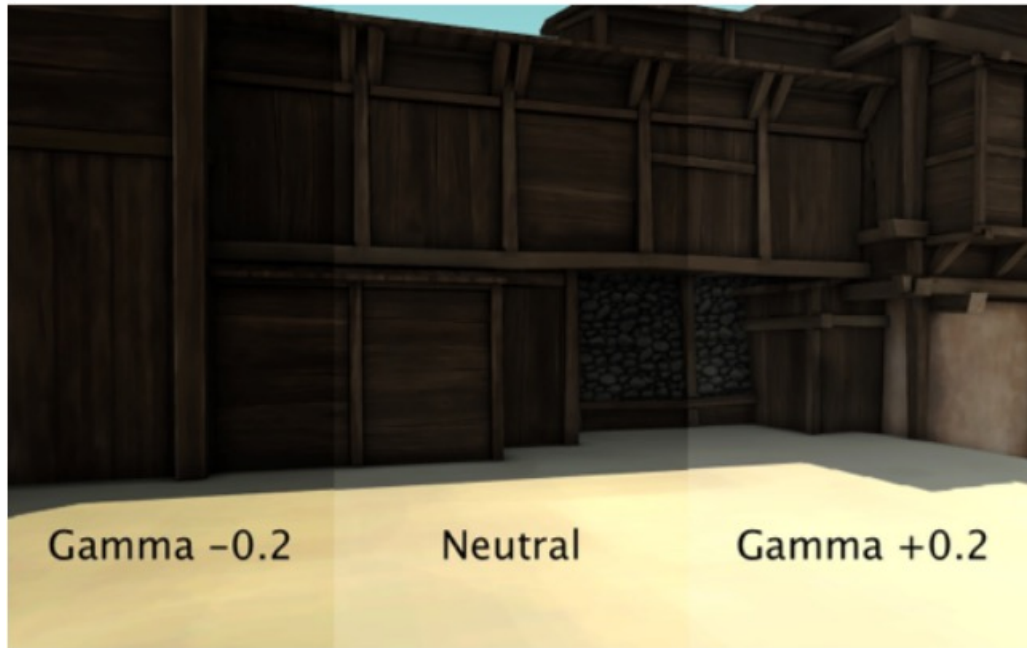


camera output



image after stylistic tone mapping

Many other types of point processing







Linear shift-invariant image filtering

- Replace each pixel by a *linear* combination of its neighbors (and possibly itself).
- The combination is determined by the filter's *kernel*.
- The same kernel is *shifted* to all pixel locations so that all pixels use the same linear combination of their neighbors.
- **Modern name?** [Convolution](#) (*yes, the same guy in convolutional neural network*)

Convolution for 1D continuous signals

Definition of filtering as convolution:

$$(f * g)(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(y)g(x - y)dy$$

filtered signal  notice the flip  filter  input signal 

Convolution for 1D continuous signals

Definition of filtering as convolution:

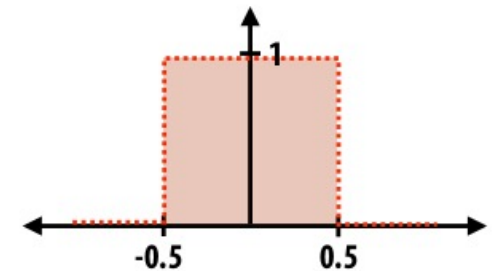
$$(f * g)(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(y)g(x - y)dy$$

filtered signal \nearrow \nwarrow notice the flip \nwarrow
filter \nwarrow input signal

Consider the box filter example:

1D continuous
box filter

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & |x| \leq 0.5 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



filtering output is a
blurred version of g

$$(f * g)(x) = \int_{-0.5}^{0.5} g(x - y)dy$$

Convolution for 2D discrete signals

Definition of filtering as convolution:

$$(f * g)(x, y) = \sum_{i, j = -\infty}^{\infty} f(i, j) I(x - i, y - j)$$

filtered image \nearrow $f(i, j)$ filter \nwarrow $I(x - i, y - j)$ input image \nwarrow notice the flip

Convolution for 2D discrete signals

Definition of filtering as convolution:

$$(f * g)(x, y) = \sum_{i, j = -\infty}^{\infty} f(i, j) I(x - i, y - j)$$

filtered image \nearrow \nwarrow filter \nwarrow input image \nwarrow notice the flip

If the filter $f(i, j)$ is non-zero only within $-1 \leq i, j \leq 1$, then

$$(f * g)(x, y) = \sum_{i, j = -1}^1 f(i, j) I(x - i, y - j)$$

The kernel we saw earlier is the 3x3 matrix representation of $f(i, j)$.

Convolution vs correlation

Definition of discrete 2D convolution:

$$(f * g)(x, y) = \sum_{i, j = -\infty}^{\infty} f(i, j) I(x - i, y - j)$$

notice the flip
←

Definition of discrete 2D correlation:

$$(f * g)(x, y) = \sum_{i, j = -\infty}^{\infty} f(i, j) I(x + i, y + j)$$

notice the lack of a flip
←

- Most of the time won't matter, because our kernels will be symmetric.
- Will be important when we discuss frequency-domain filtering

Simplest Convolution: the box filter

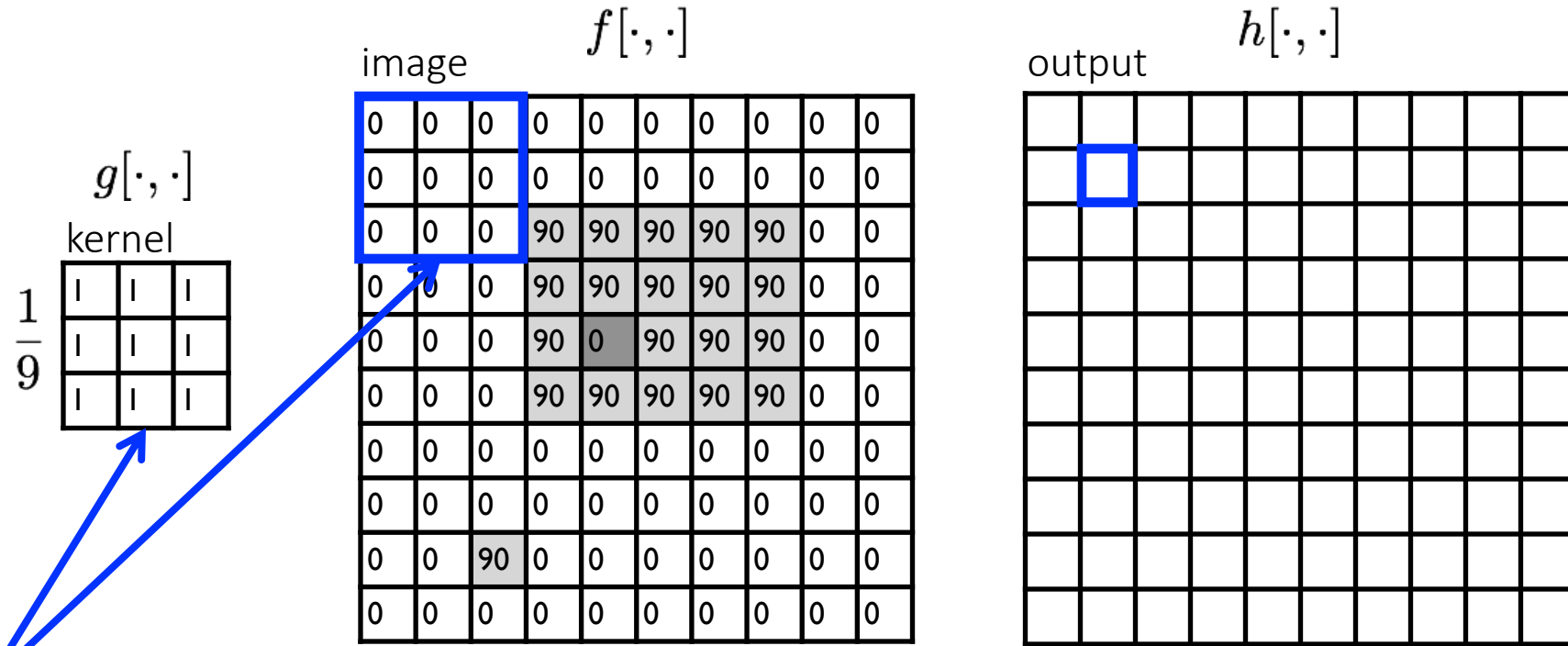
- also known as the 2D rectangular filter
- also known as the square mean filter

$$\text{kernel } g[\cdot, \cdot] = \frac{1}{9} \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

- replaces pixel with local average
- has smoothing (blurring) effect



Let's run the box filter

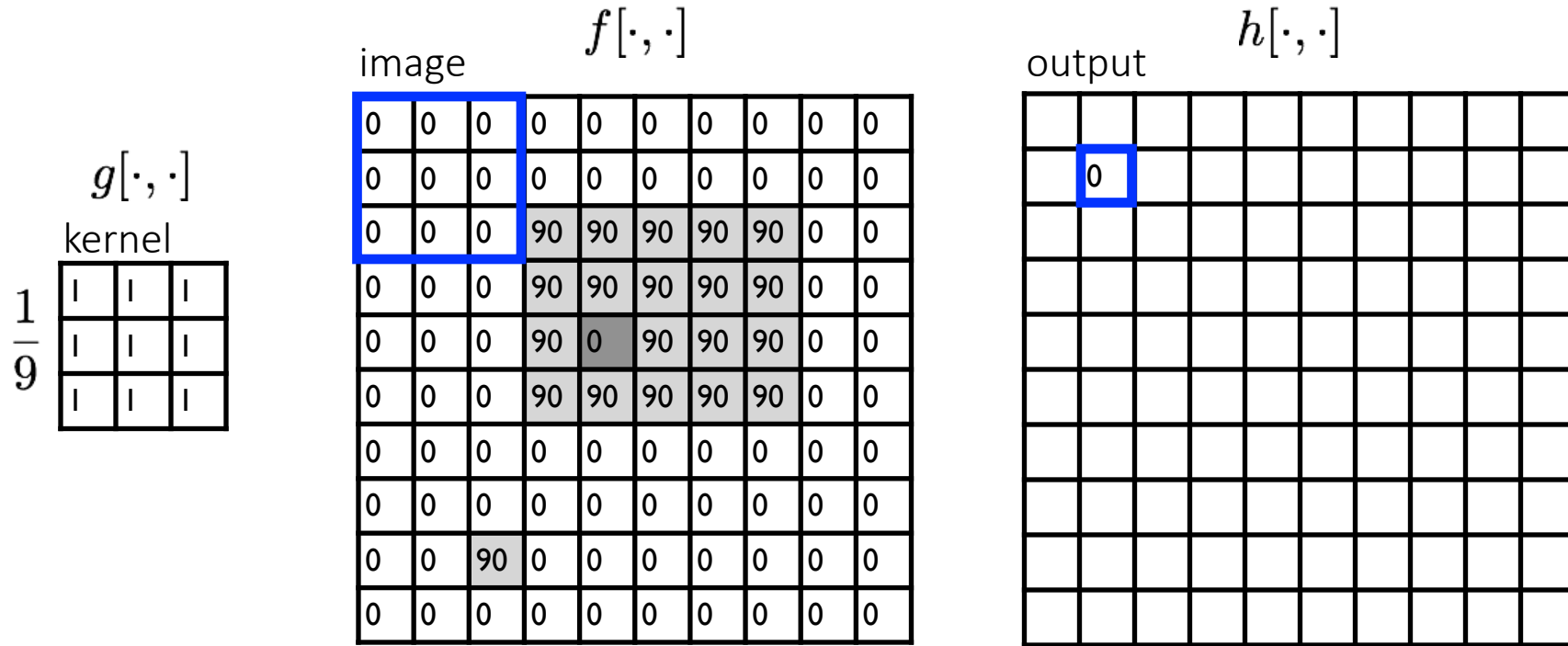


note that we assume that the kernel coordinates are centered

$$h[m, n] = \sum_{k, l} g[k, l] f[m + k, n + l]$$

output
 k, l filter
image (signal)

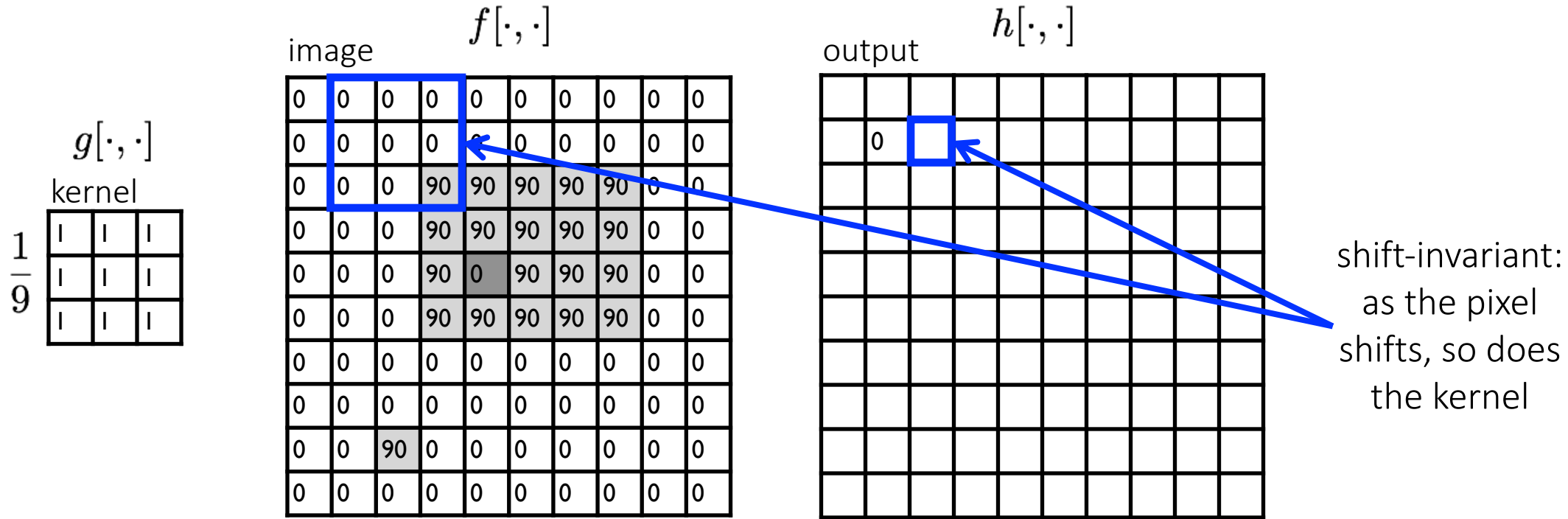
Let's run the box filter



$$h[m, n] = \sum_{k, l} g[k, l] f[m + k, n + l]$$

output
 k, l
filter
image (signal)

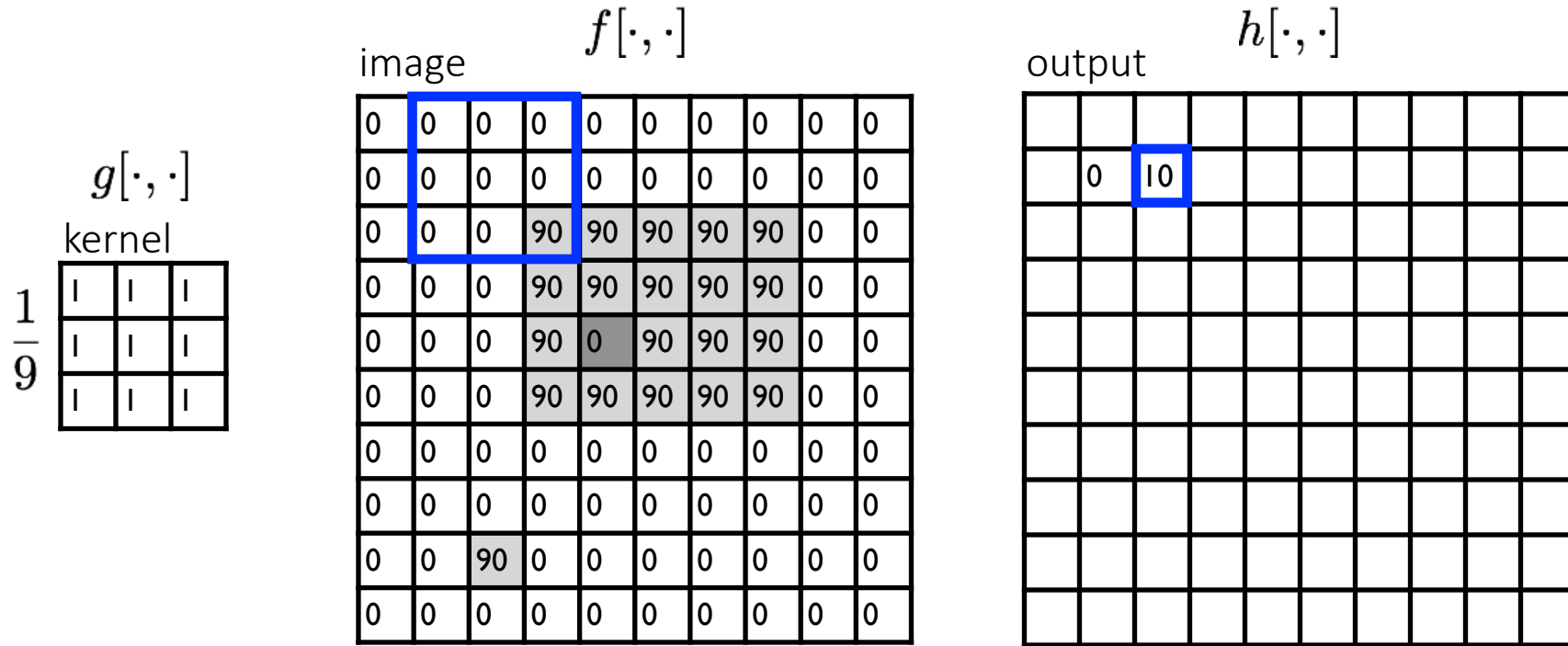
Let's run the box filter



$$h[m, n] = \sum_{k, l} g[k, l] f[m + k, n + l]$$

output
 k, l
filter
image (signal)

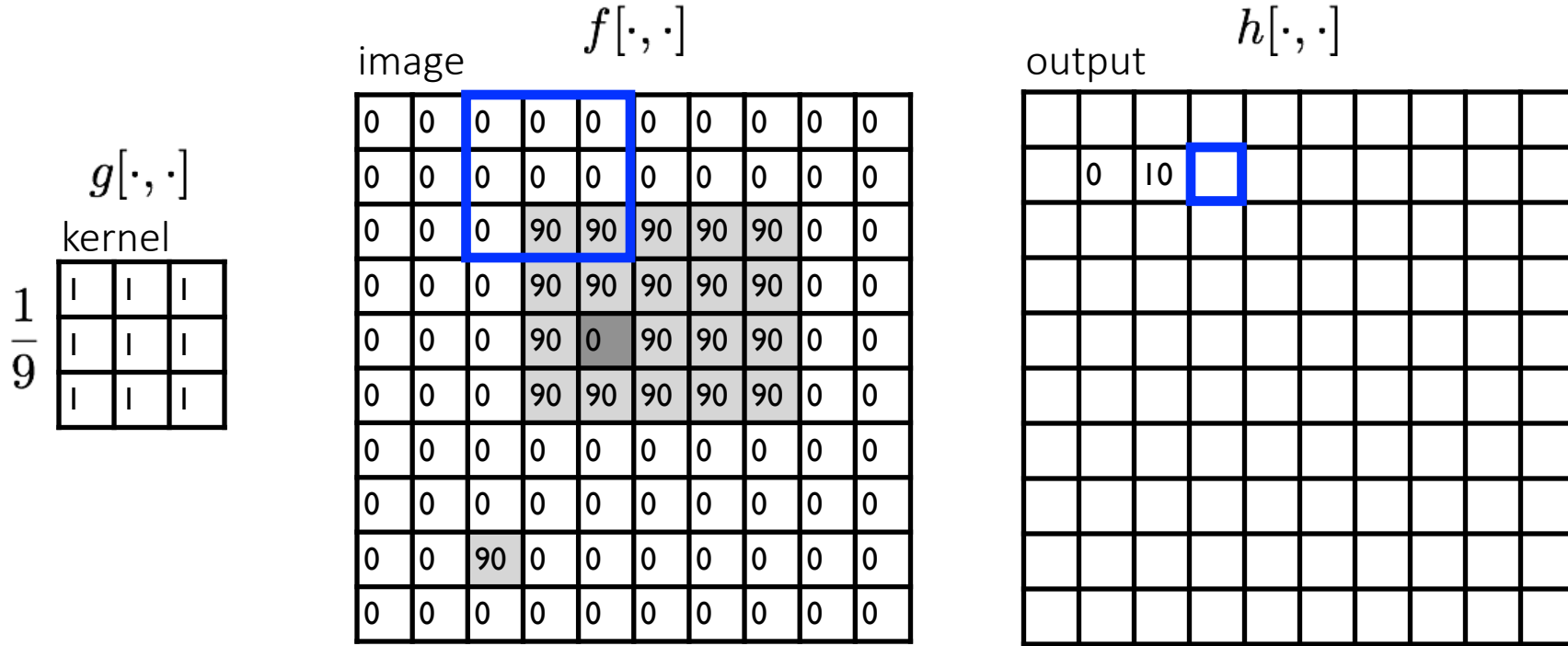
Let's run the box filter



$$h[m, n] = \sum_{k, l} g[k, l] f[m + k, n + l]$$

output
 k, l
filter
image (signal)

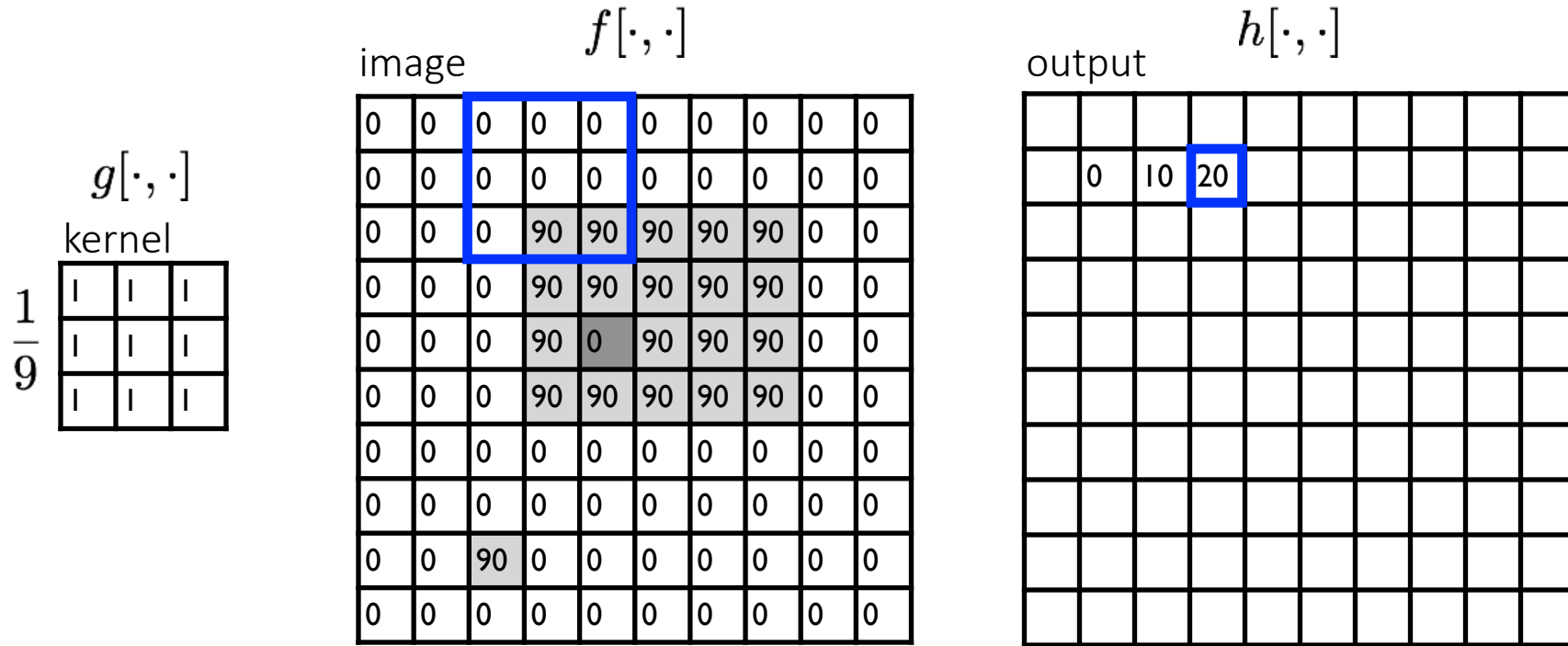
Let's run the box filter



$$h[m, n] = \sum_{k, l} g[k, l] f[m + k, n + l]$$

output
 k, l
filter
image (signal)

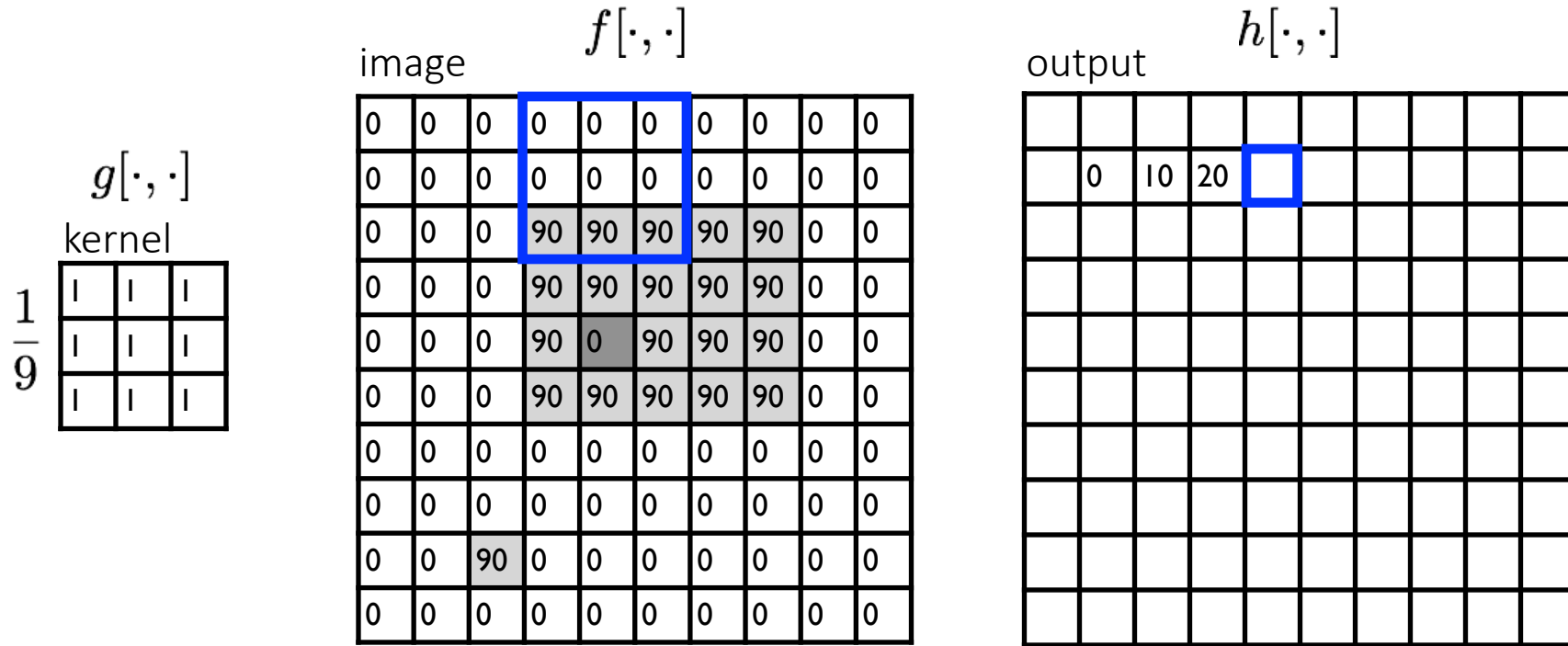
Let's run the box filter



$$h[m, n] = \sum_{k, l} g[k, l] f[m + k, n + l]$$

output
filter
image (signal)

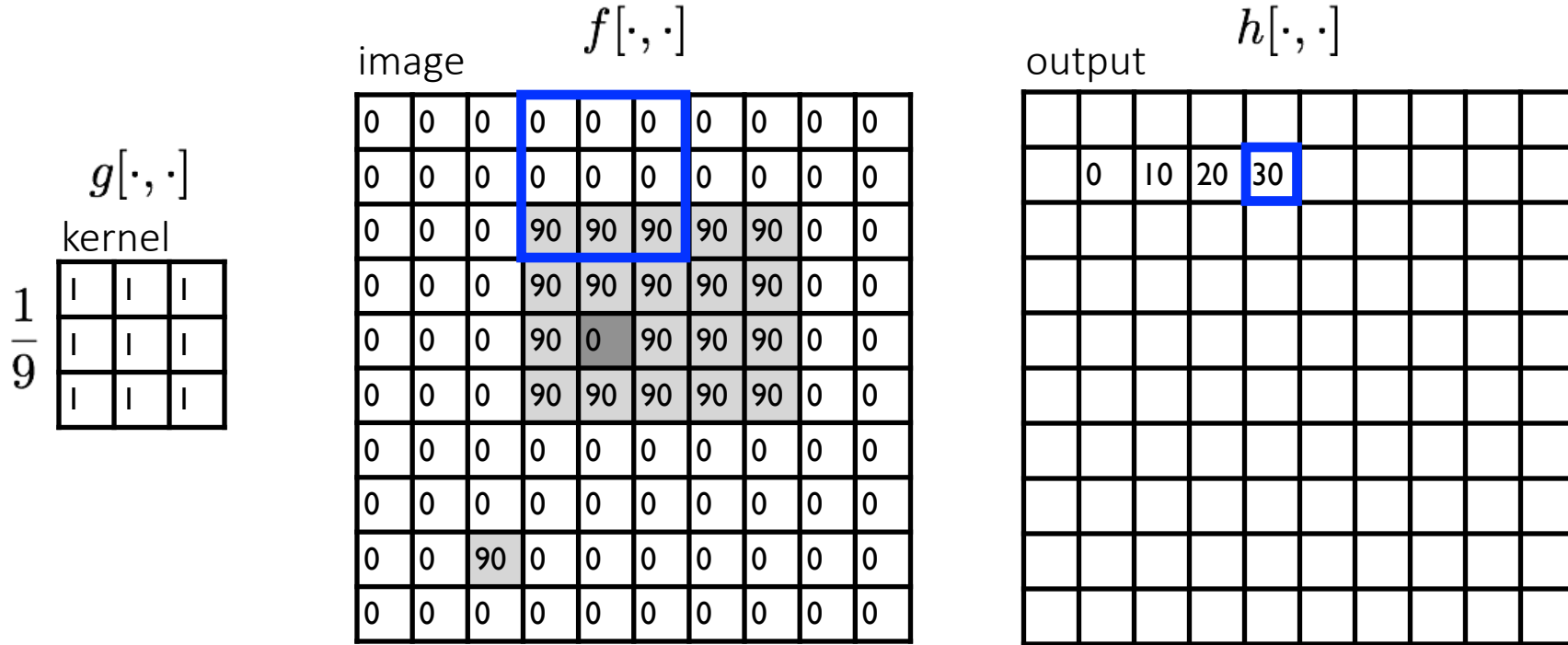
Let's run the box filter



$$h[m, n] = \sum_{k, l} g[k, l] f[m + k, n + l]$$

output
 k, l
filter
image (signal)

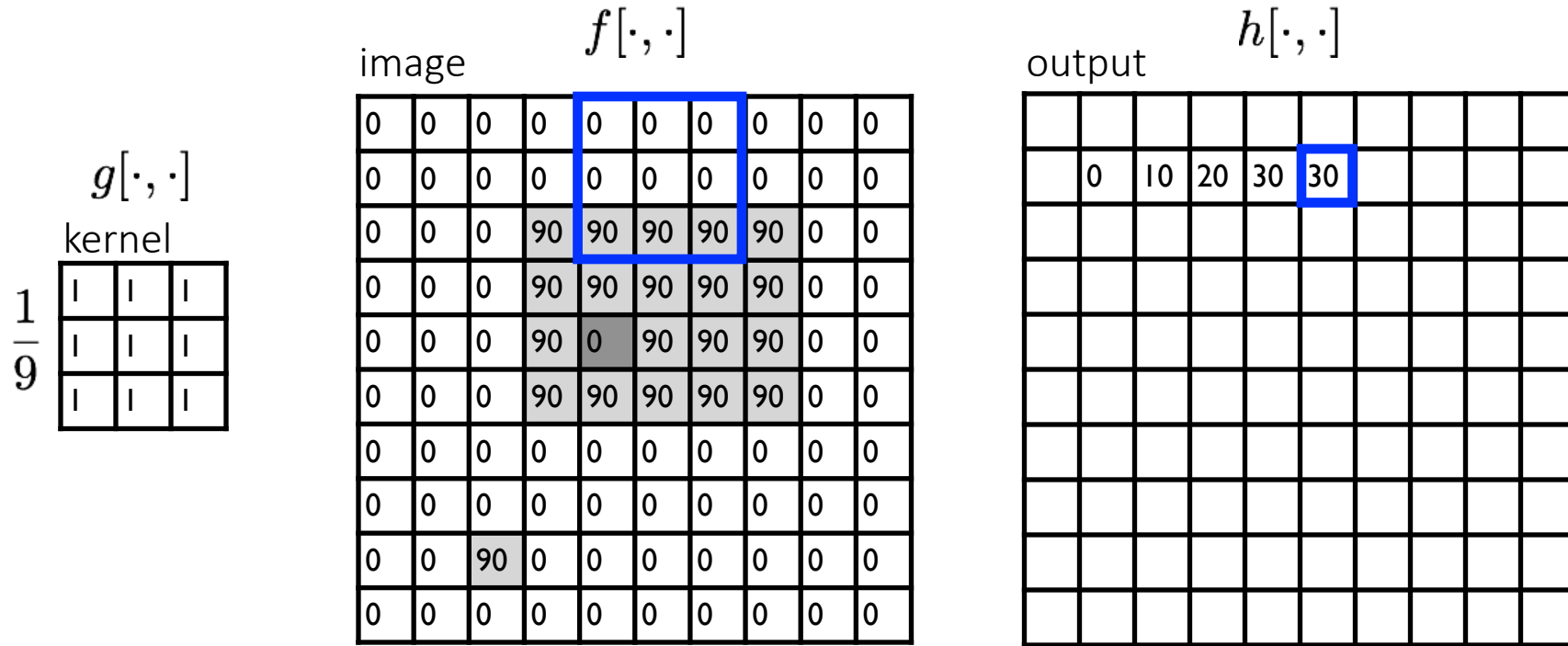
Let's run the box filter



$$h[m, n] = \sum_{k, l} g[k, l] f[m + k, n + l]$$

output
 k, l
filter
image (signal)

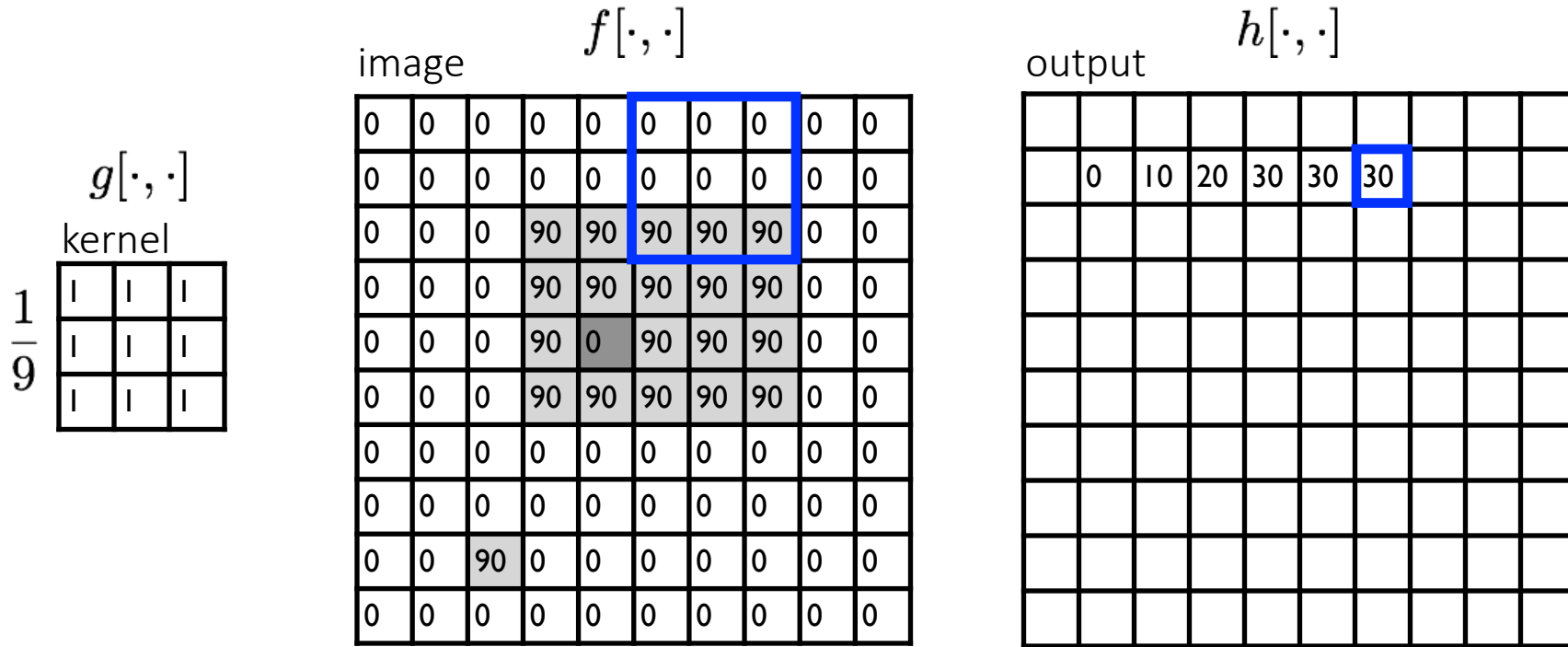
Let's run the box filter



$$h[m, n] = \sum_{k, l} g[k, l] f[m + k, n + l]$$

output
 k, l
filter
image (signal)

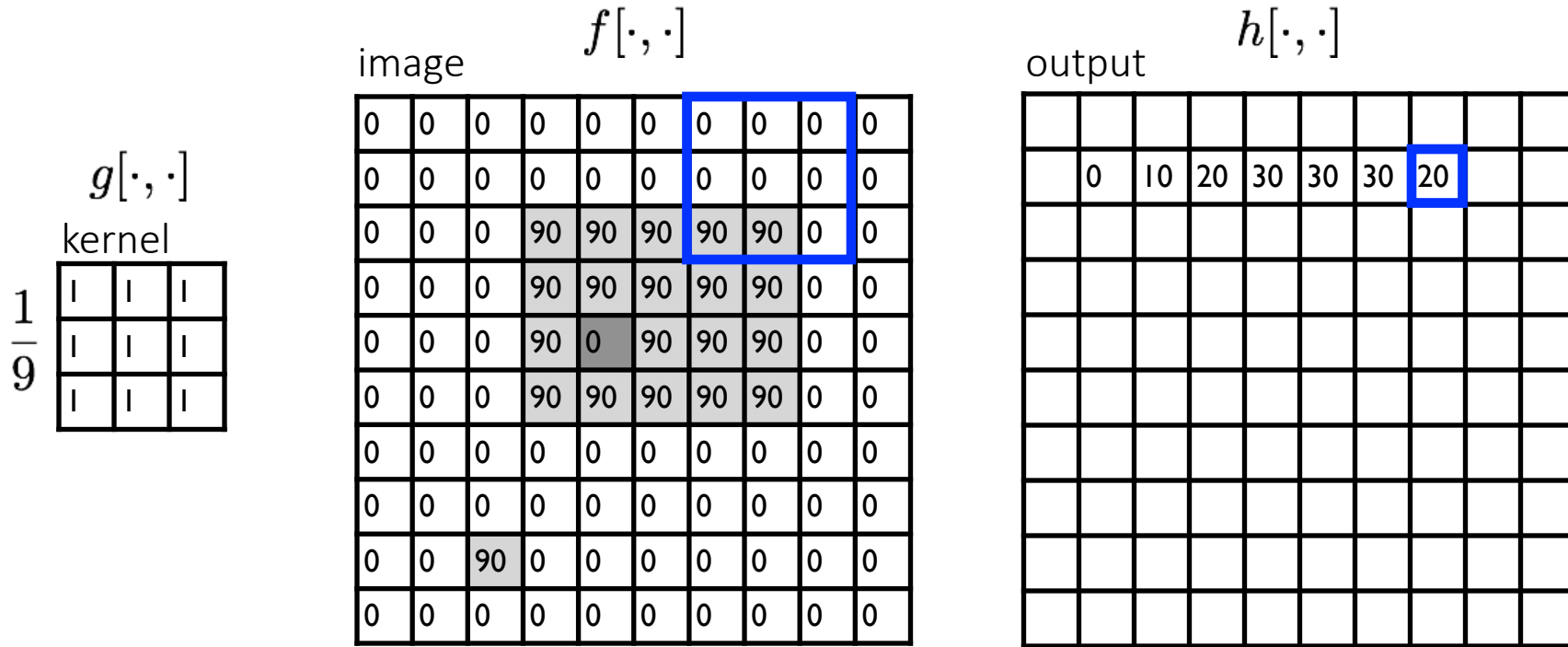
Let's run the box filter



$$h[m, n] = \sum_{k, l} g[k, l] f[m + k, n + l]$$

output
filter
image (signal)

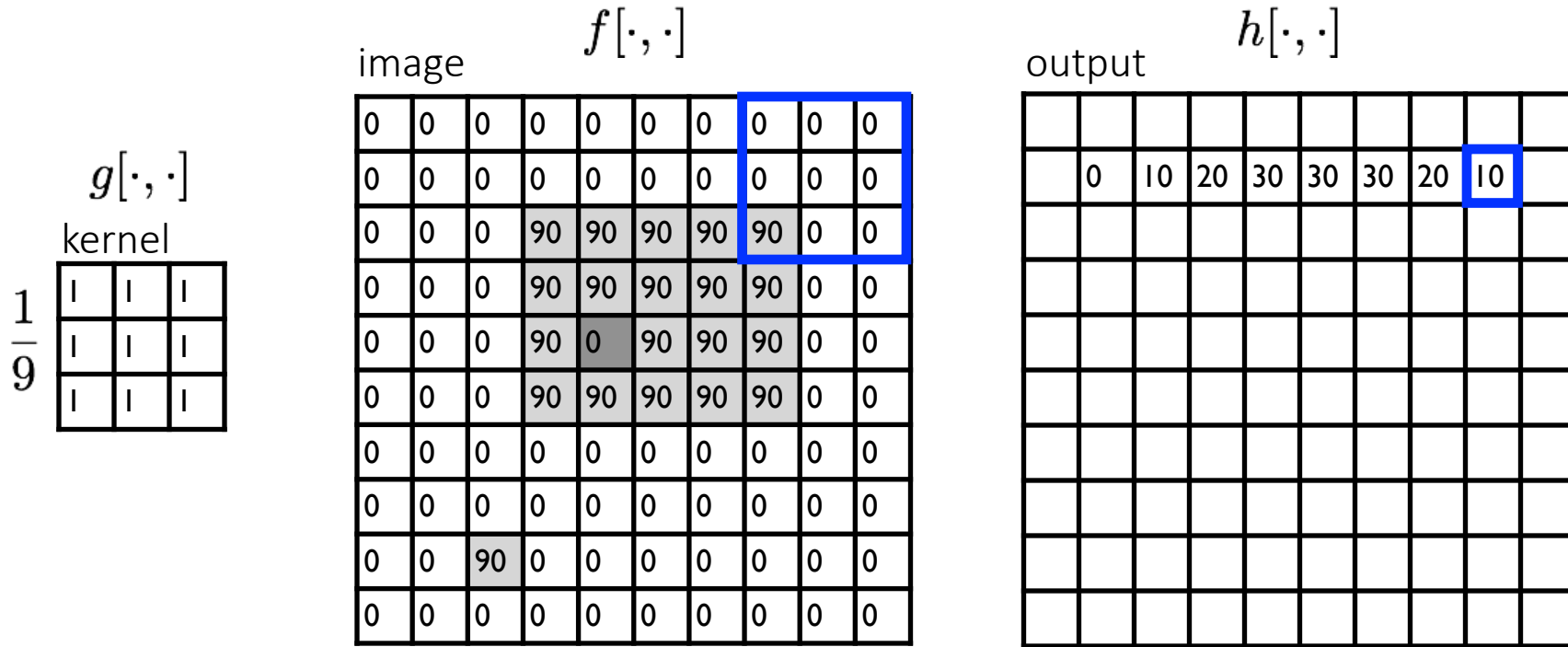
Let's run the box filter



$$h[m, n] = \sum_{k, l} g[k, l] f[m + k, n + l]$$

output
 k, l filter
image (signal)

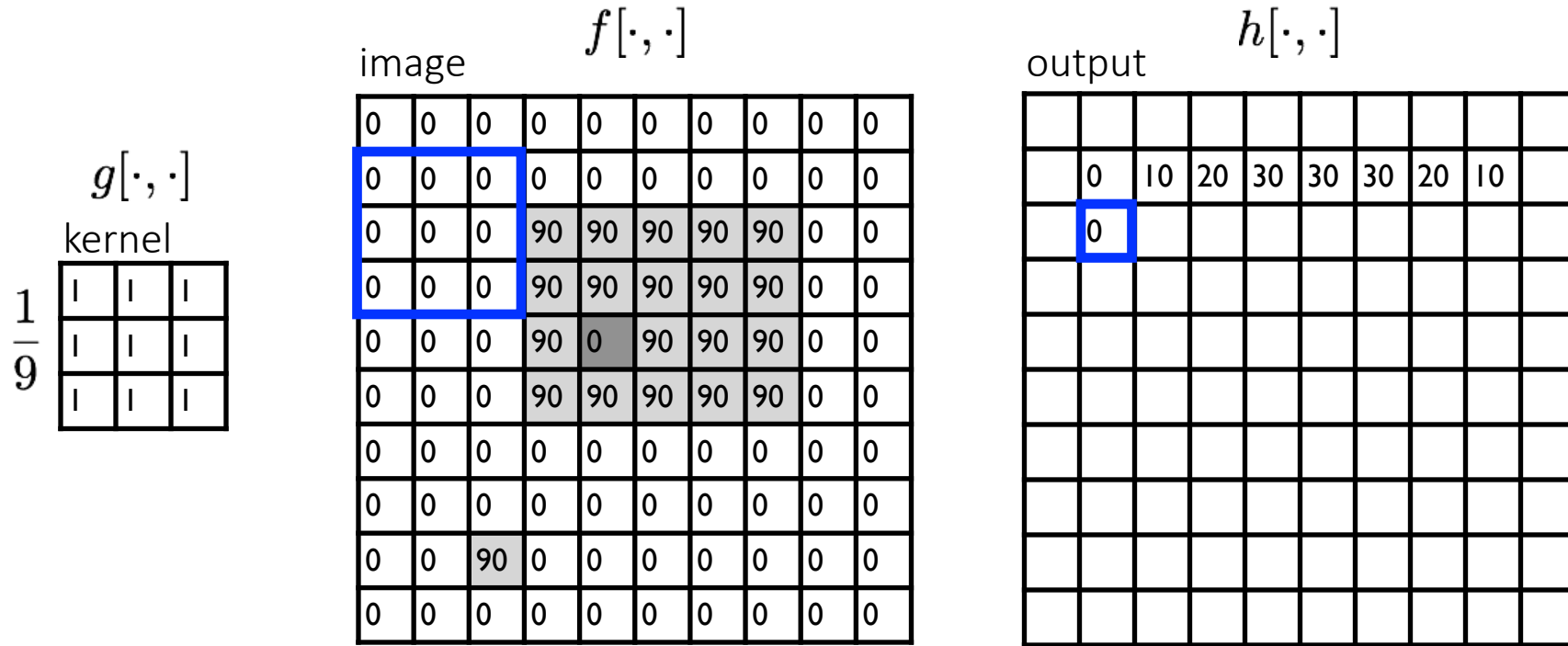
Let's run the box filter



$$h[m, n] = \sum_{k, l} g[k, l] f[m + k, n + l]$$

output
 k, l filter
image (signal)

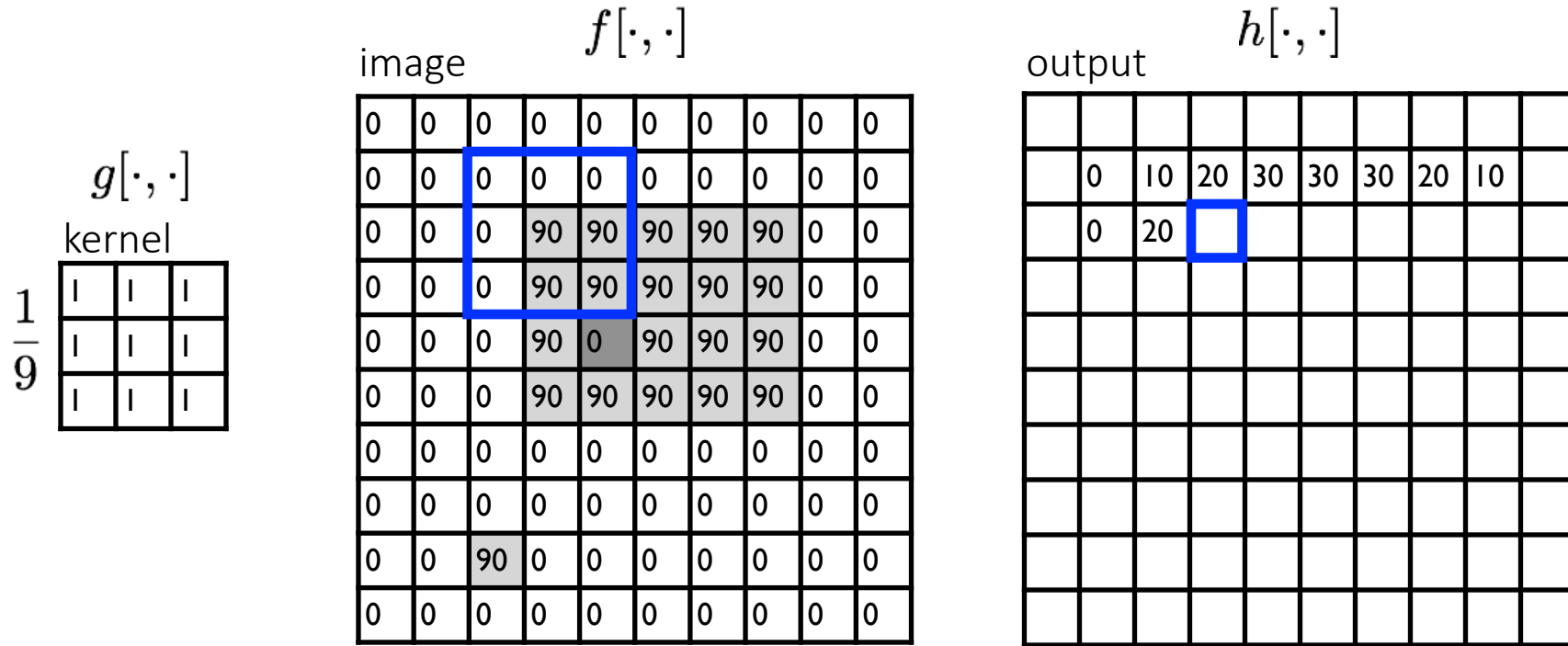
Let's run the box filter



$$h[m, n] = \sum_{k, l} g[k, l] f[m + k, n + l]$$

output
 k, l
filter
image (signal)

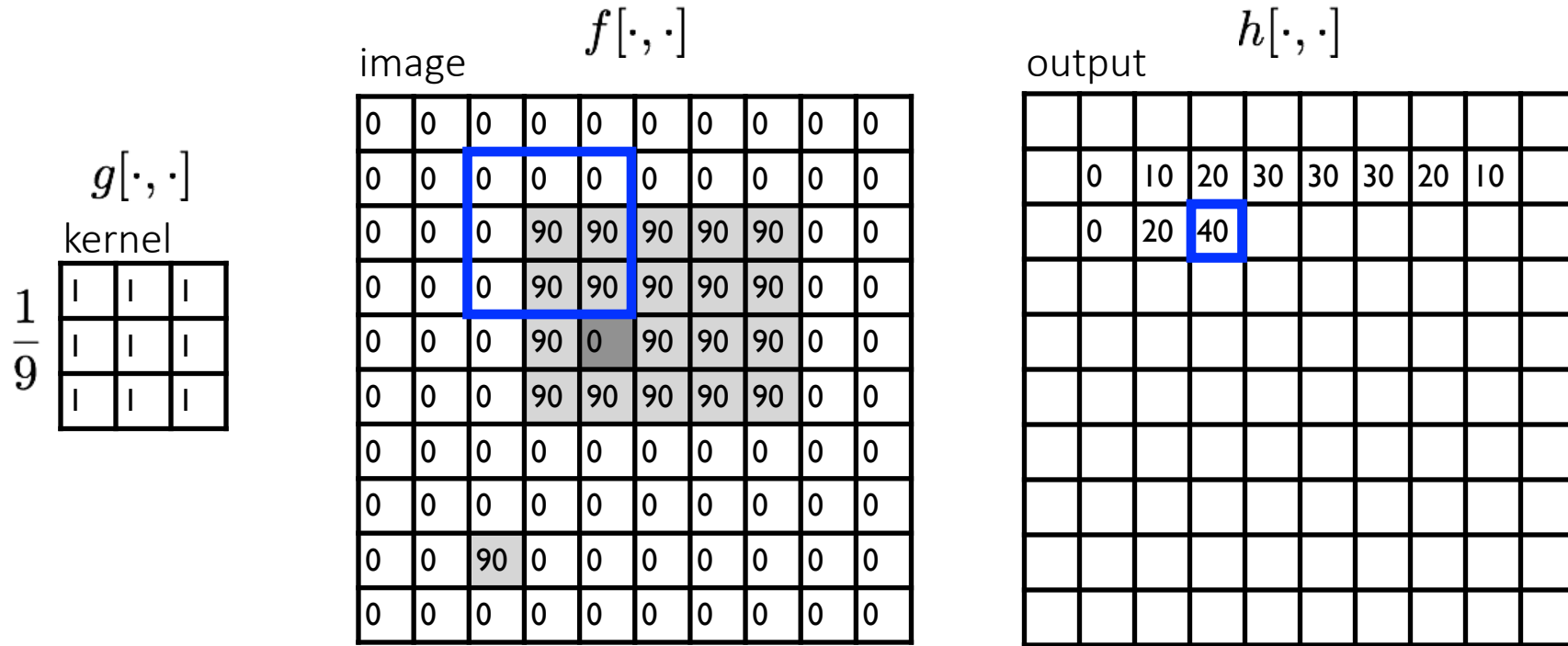
Let's run the box filter



$$h[m, n] = \sum_{k, l} g[k, l] f[m + k, n + l]$$

output
 k, l filter
image (signal)

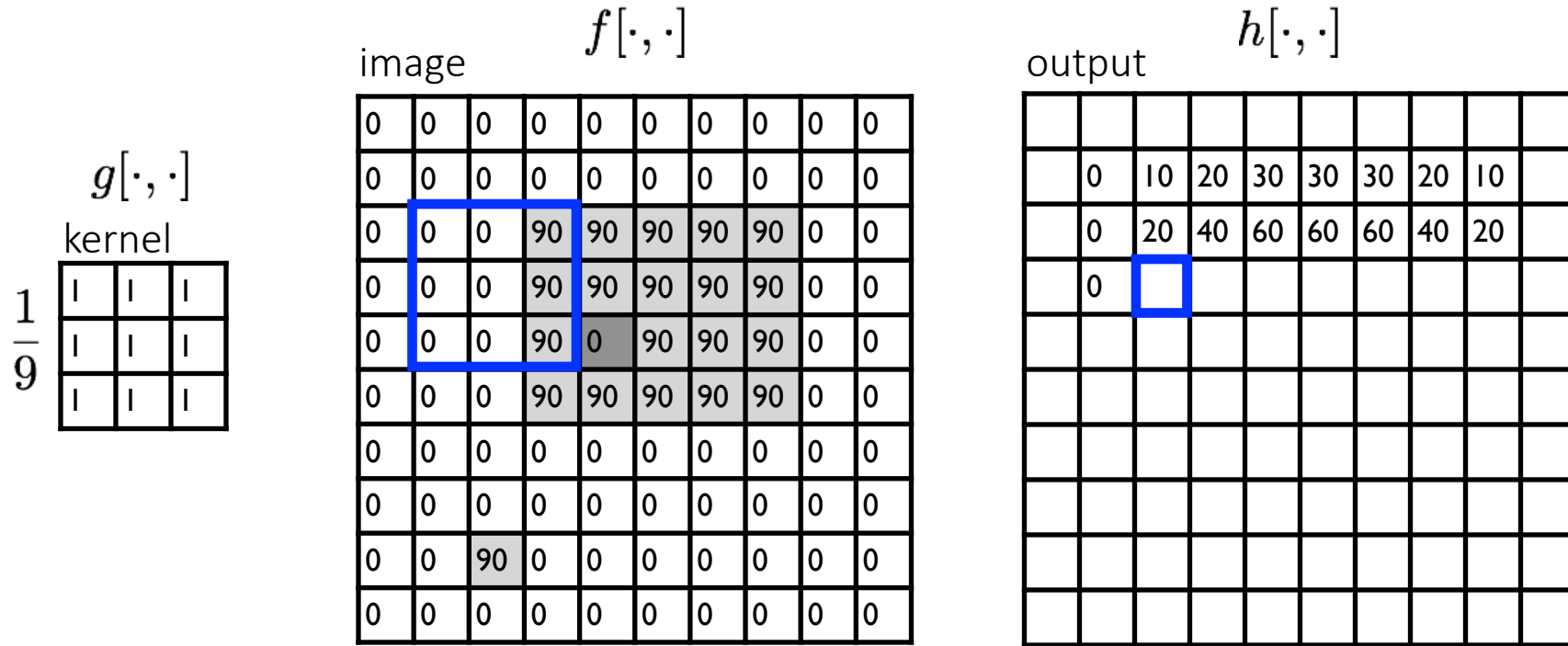
Let's run the box filter



$$h[m, n] = \sum_{k, l} g[k, l] f[m + k, n + l]$$

output
 k, l filter
image (signal)

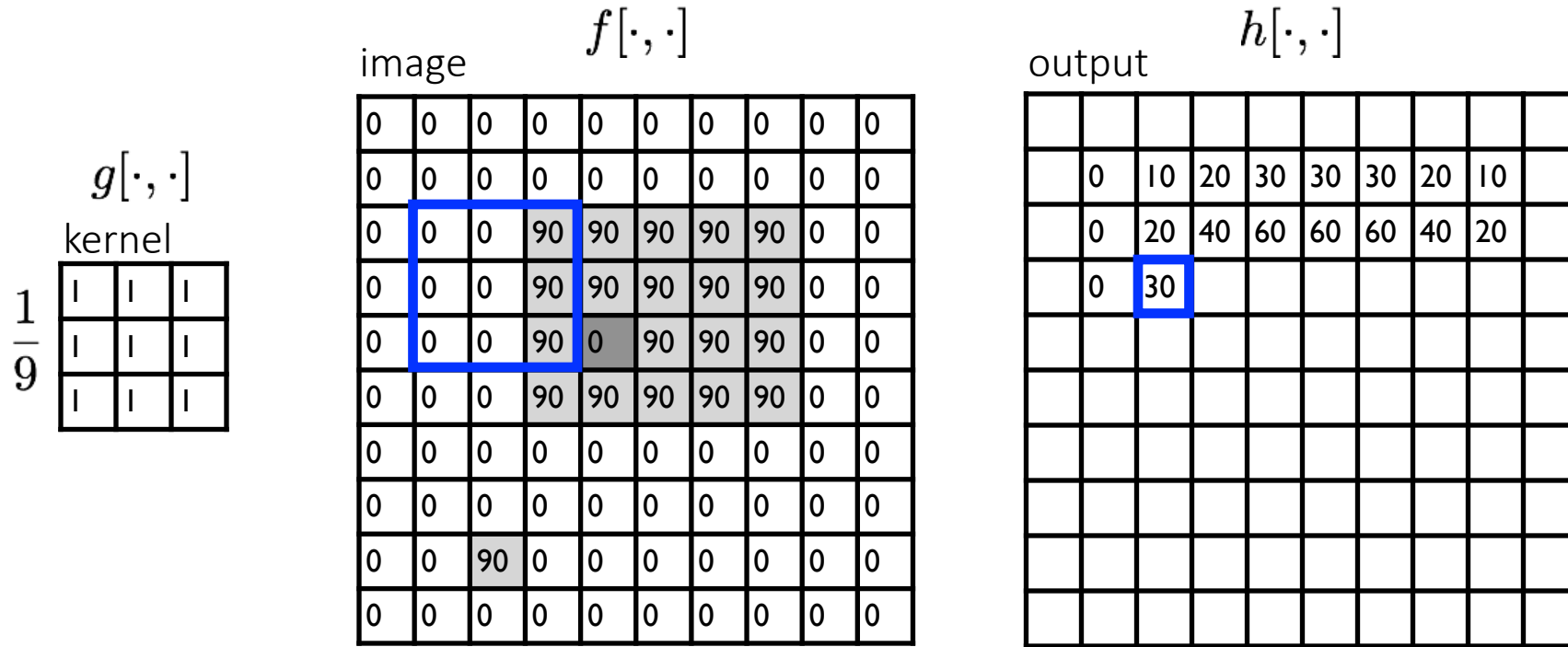
Let's run the box filter



$$h[m, n] = \sum_{k, l} g[k, l] f[m + k, n + l]$$

output
 k, l filter
image (signal)

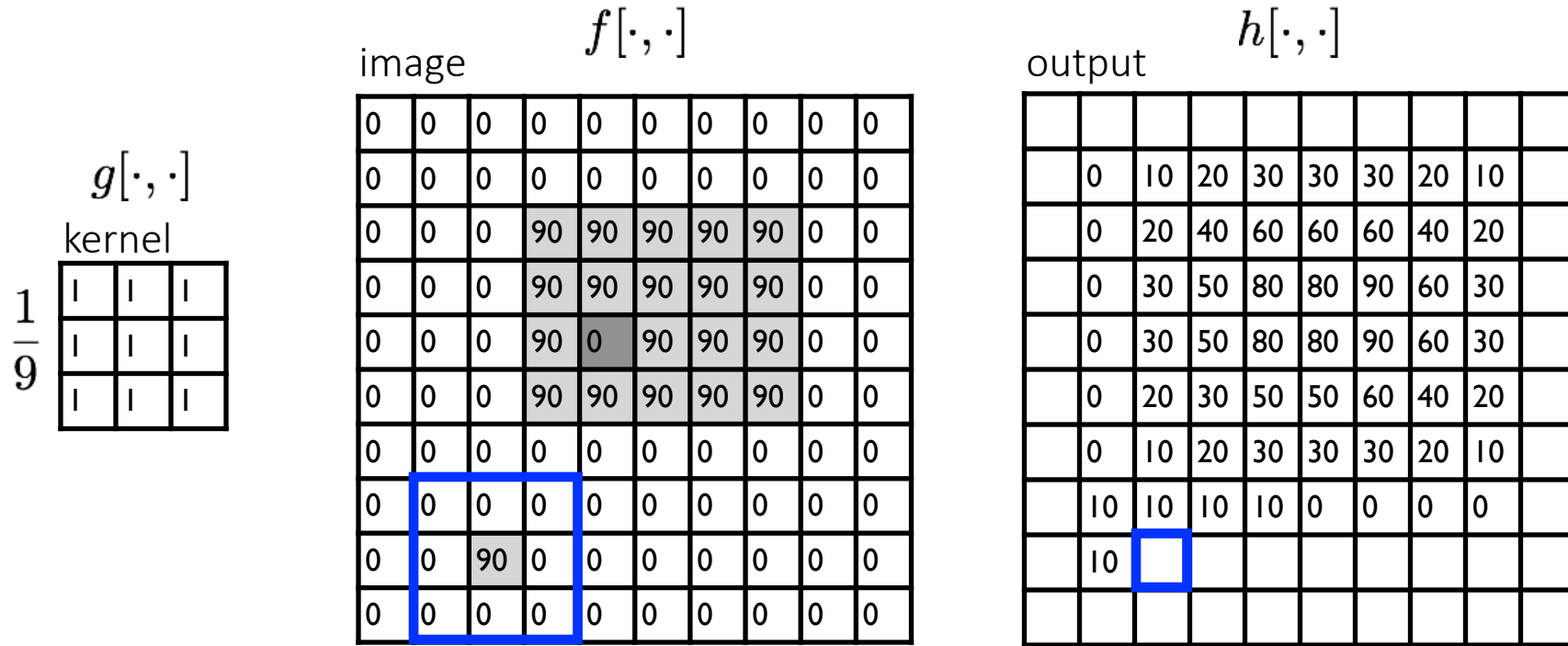
Let's run the box filter



$$h[m, n] = \sum_{k, l} g[k, l] f[m + k, n + l]$$

output
 k, l filter
image (signal)

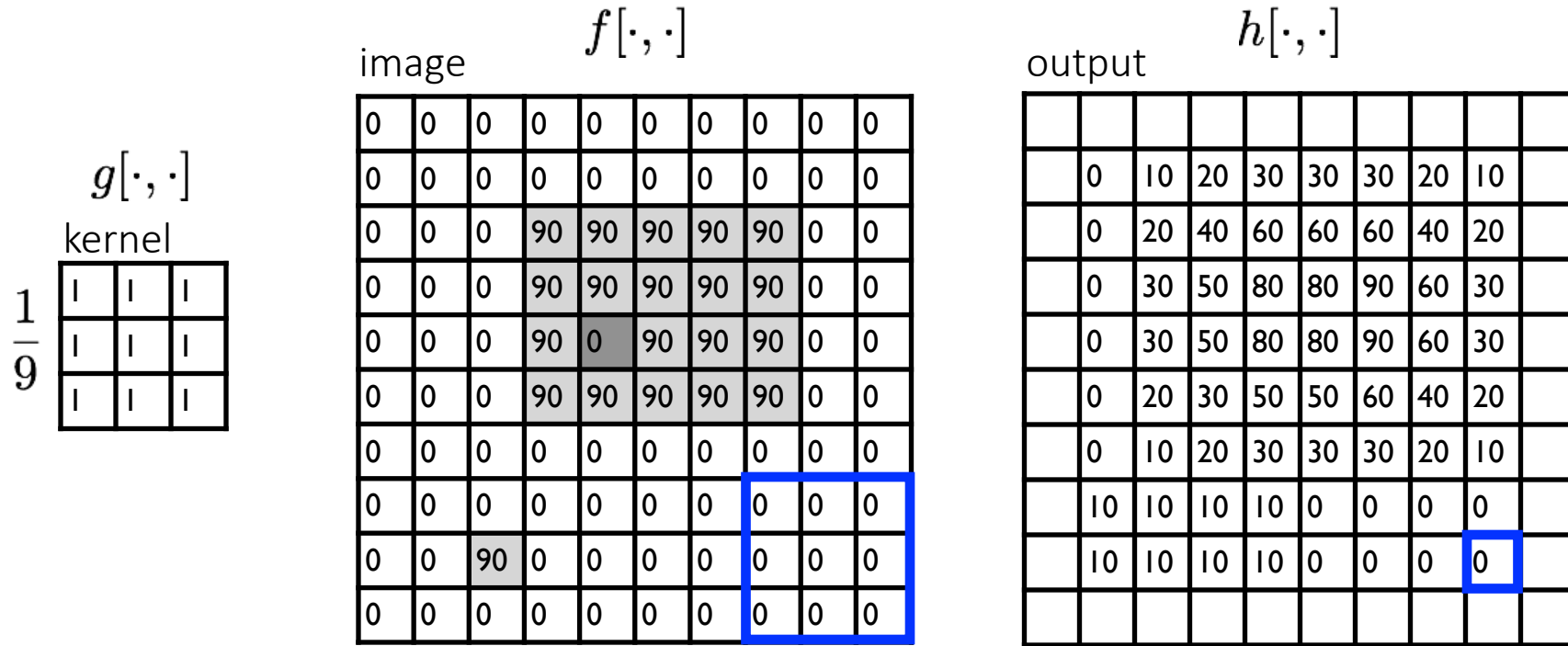
Let's run the box filter



$$h[m, n] = \sum_{k, l} g[k, l] f[m + k, n + l]$$

output
 k, l
filter
image (signal)

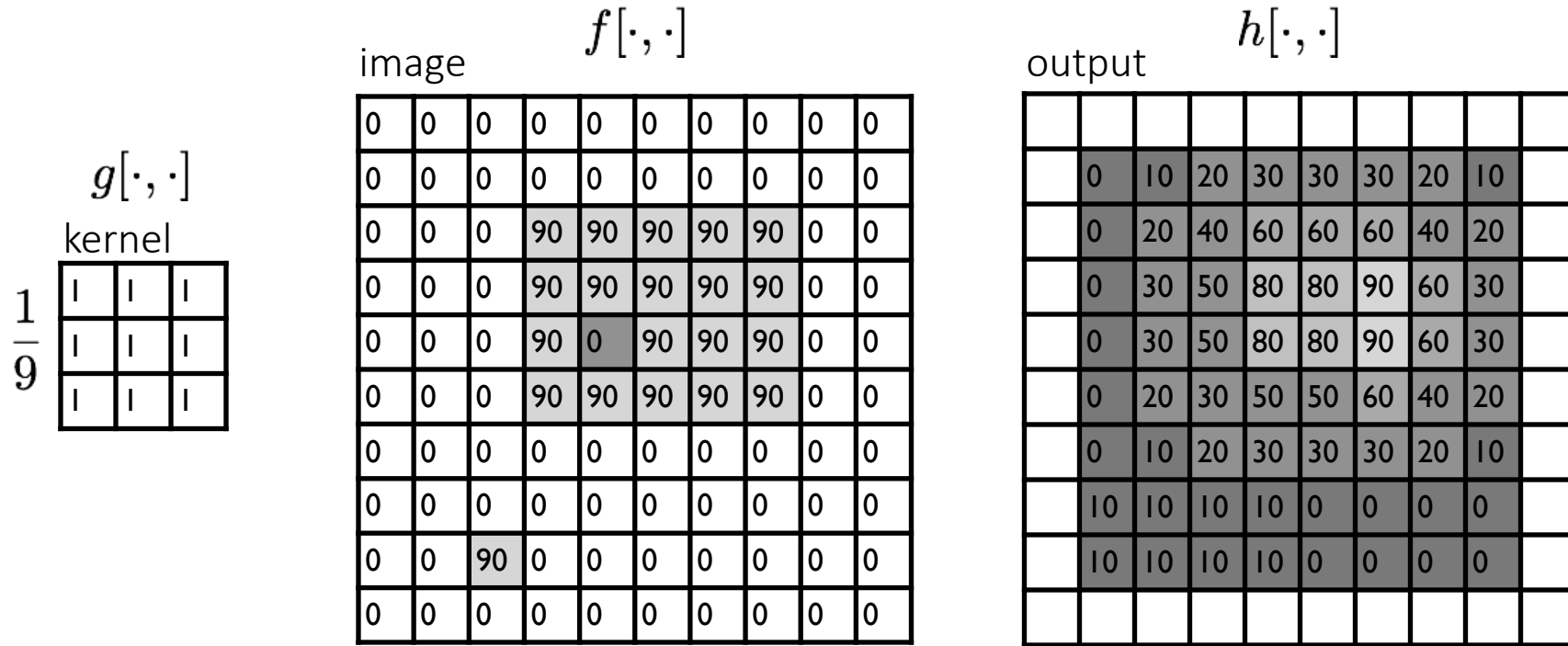
Let's run the box filter



$$h[m, n] = \sum_{k, l} g[k, l] f[m + k, n + l]$$

output
 k, l
filter
image (signal)

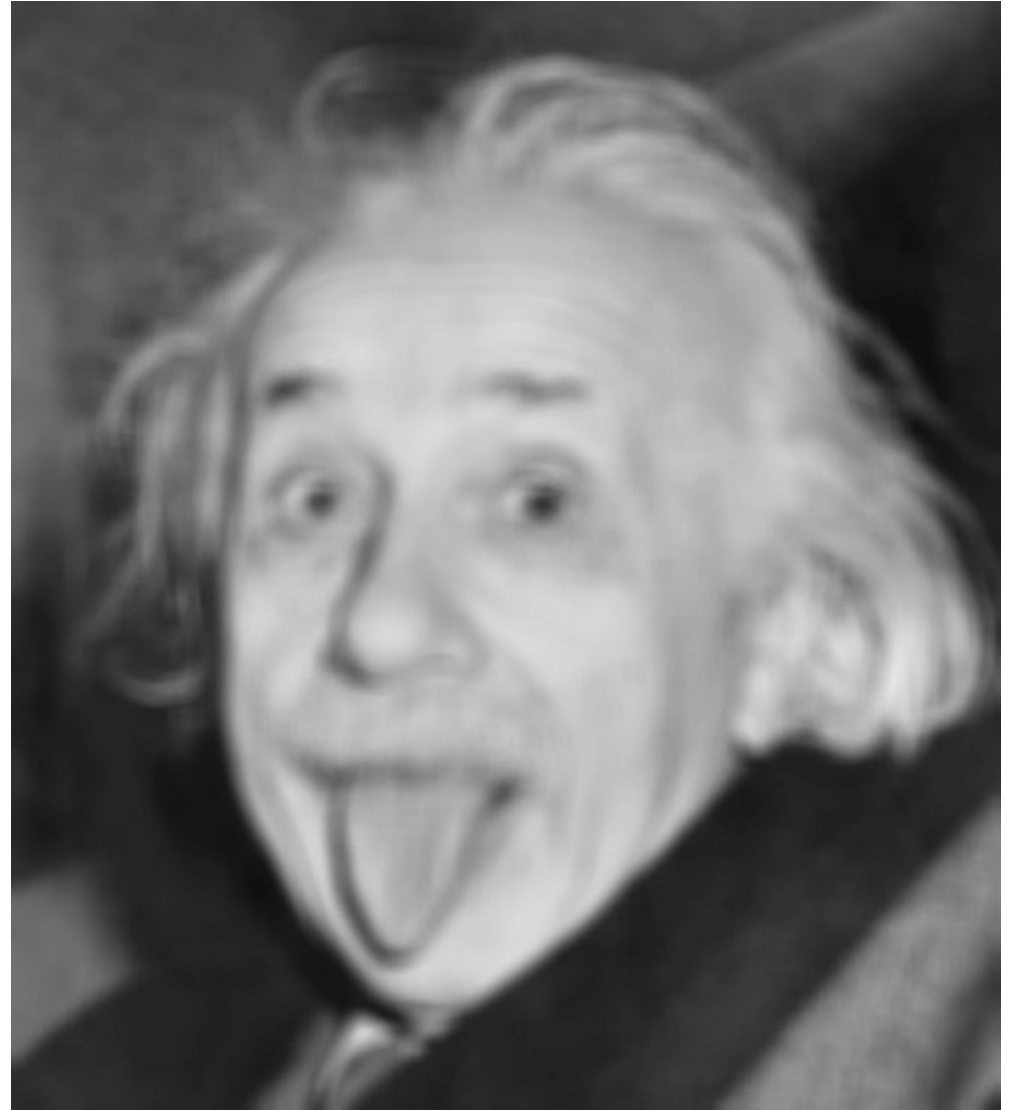
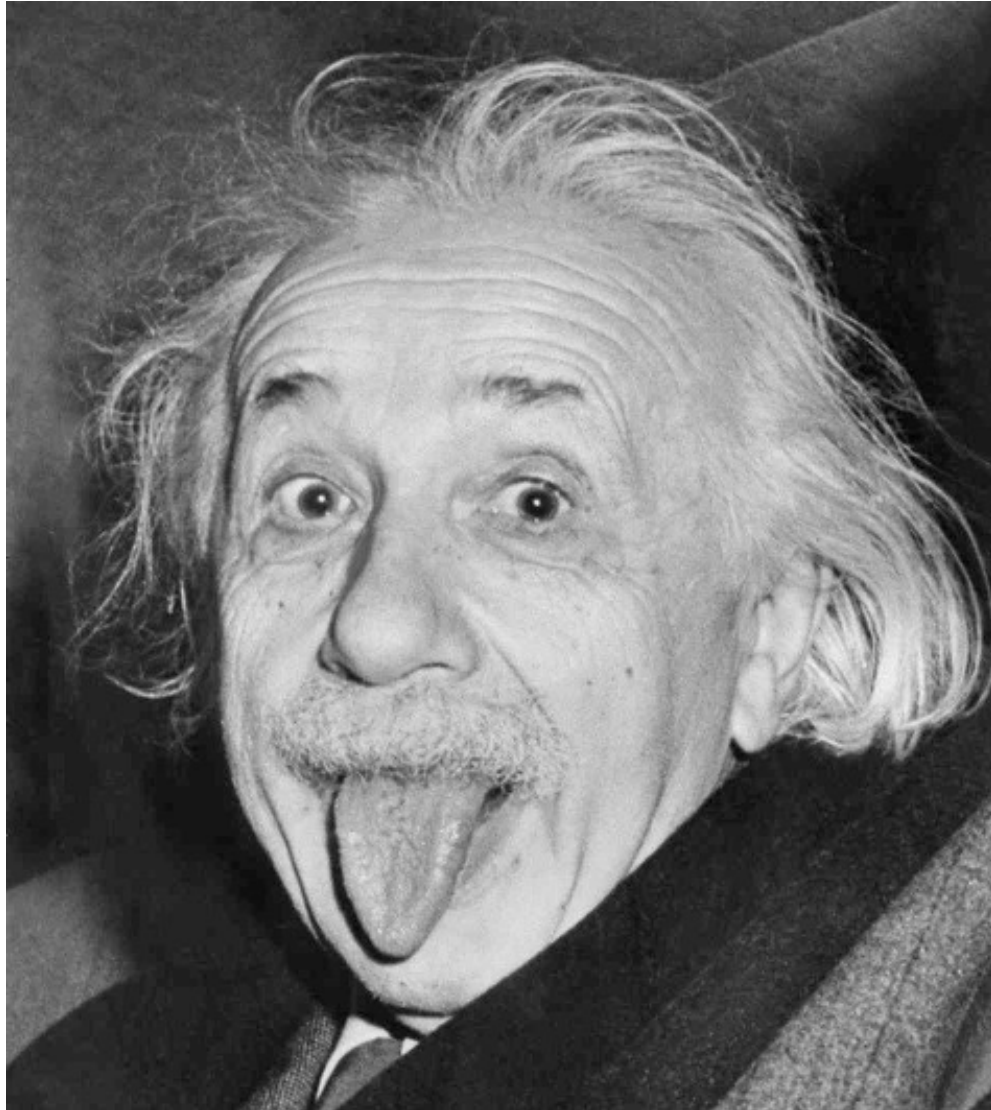
... and the result is



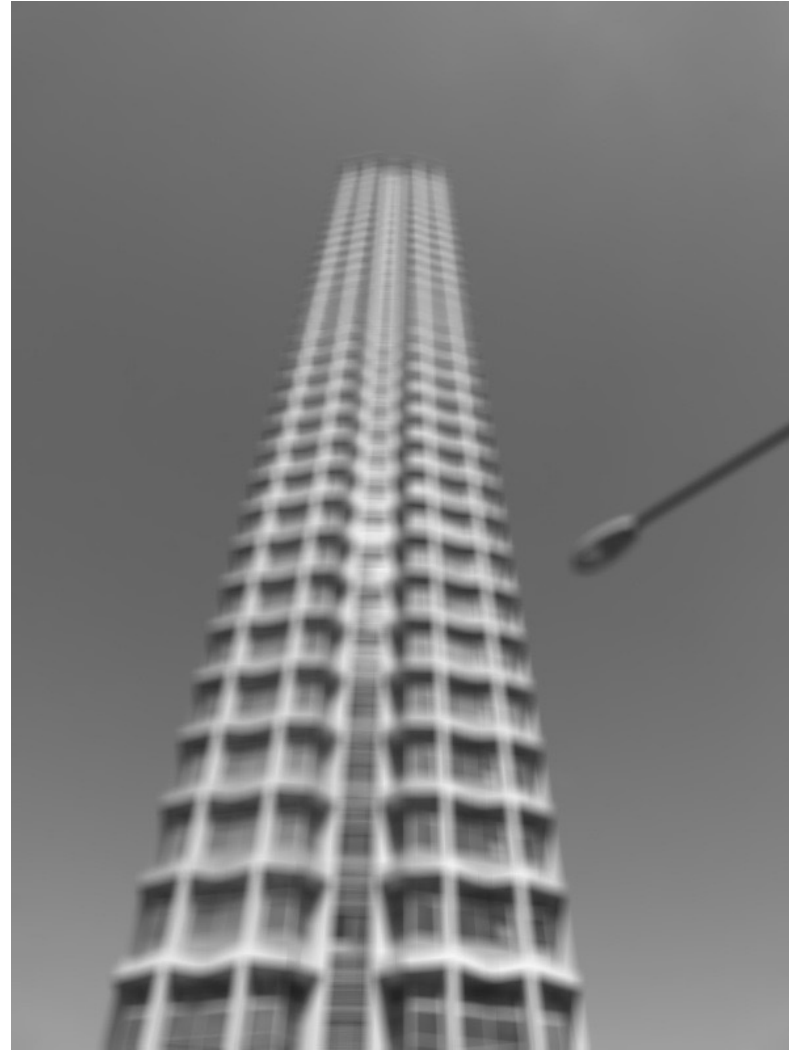
$$h[m, n] = \sum_{k, l} g[k, l] f[m + k, n + l]$$

output
 k, l filter
image (signal)

Some more realistic examples

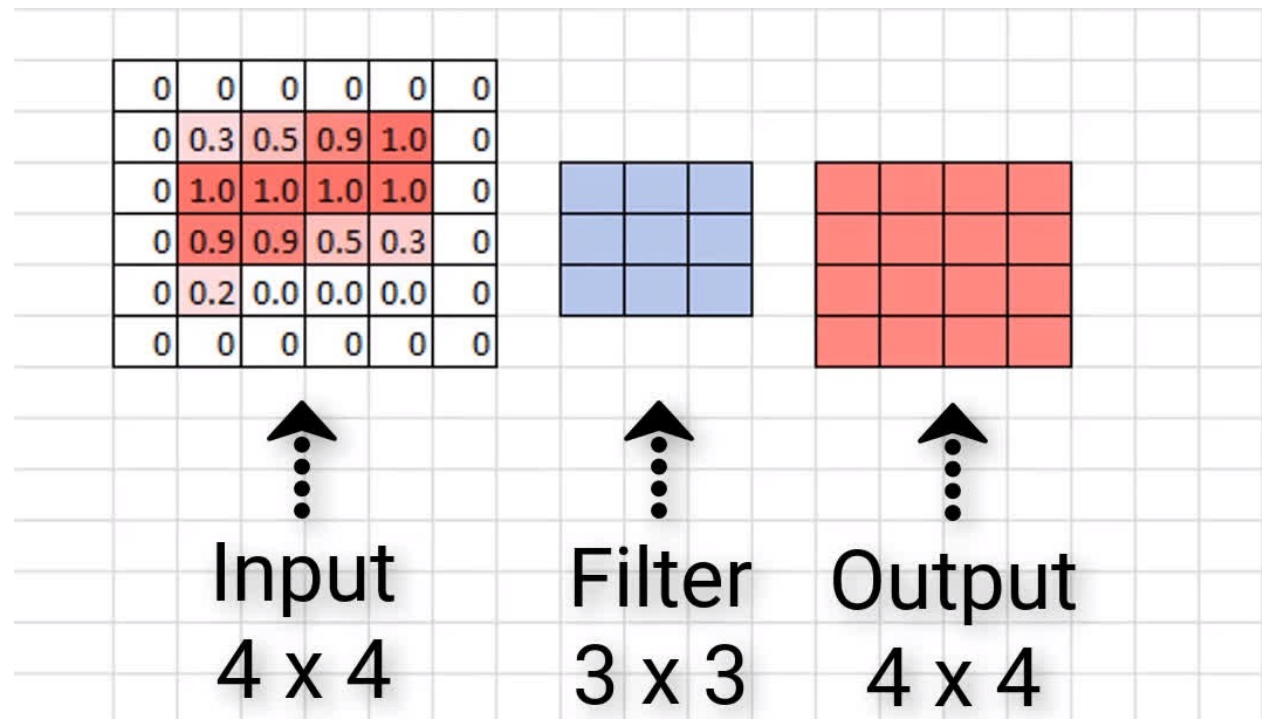


Some more realistic examples



Practical matters: what about near the edge?

- The filter window falls off the edge of the image
- Need to extrapolate!
- Common ways:
 - clip filter (black)
 - wrap around
 - copy edge
 - reflect across edge
 -



Separable filters

A 2D filter is separable if it can be written as the product of a “column” and a “row”.

example:
box filter

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} * \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

column

row

What is the rank of this filter matrix?

Separable filters

A 2D filter is separable if it can be written as the product of a “column” and a “row”.

example:
box filter

1	1	1
1	1	1
1	1	1

=

1
1
1

column

*

1	1	1
---	---	---

row

Why is this important?

Separable filters

A 2D filter is separable if it can be written as the product of a “column” and a “row”.

example:
box filter

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 1 \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array} * \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

column

row

2D convolution with a separable filter is equivalent to two 1D convolutions (with the “column” and “row” filters).

Separable filters

A 2D filter is separable if it can be written as the product of a “column” and a “row”.

example:
box filter

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 1 \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array} * \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

column row

2D convolution with a separable filter is equivalent to two 1D convolutions (with the “column” and “row” filters).

If the image has $M \times M$ pixels and the filter kernel has size $N \times N$:

- What is the cost of convolution with a non-separable filter?

Separable filters

A 2D filter is separable if it can be written as the product of a “column” and a “row”.

example:
box filter

1	1	1
1	1	1
1	1	1

=

1
1
1

column

*

1	1	1
---	---	---

row

2D convolution with a separable filter is equivalent to two 1D convolutions (with the “column” and “row” filters).

If the image has $M \times M$ pixels and the filter kernel has size $N \times N$:

- What is the cost of convolution with a non-separable filter? $\longrightarrow M^2 \times N^2$
- What is the cost of convolution with a separable filter?

Separable filters

A 2D filter is separable if it can be written as the product of a “column” and a “row”.

example:
box filter

1	1	1
1	1	1
1	1	1

=

1
1
1

column

*

1	1	1
---	---	---

row

2D convolution with a separable filter is equivalent to two 1D convolutions (with the “column” and “row” filters).

If the image has $M \times M$ pixels and the filter kernel has size $N \times N$:

- What is the cost of convolution with a non-separable filter? $\longrightarrow M^2 \times N^2$
- What is the cost of convolution with a separable filter? $\longrightarrow 2 \times N \times M^2$

A few more filters



original



3x3 box filter

do you see
any problems
in this image?

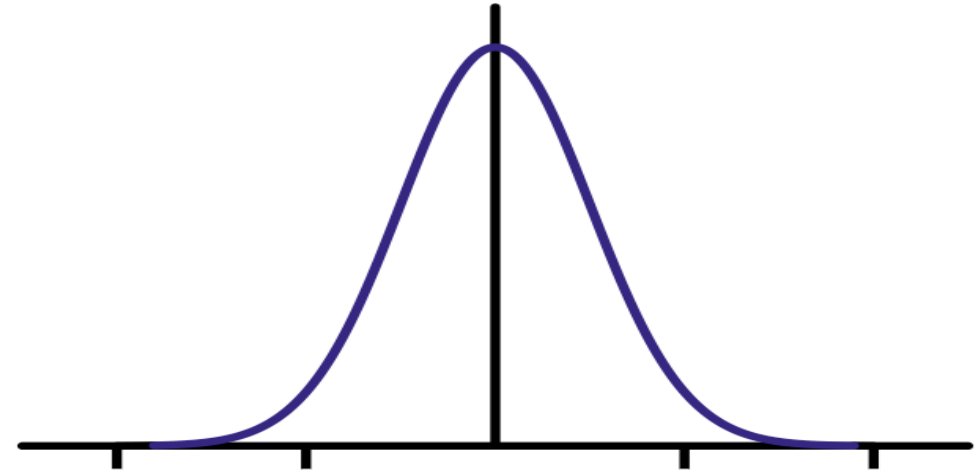
The Gaussian filter

- named (like many other things) after Carl Friedrich Gauss
- kernel values sampled from the 2D Gaussian function:

$$f(i, j) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2} e^{-\frac{i^2+j^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

- weight falls off with distance from center pixel
- theoretically infinite, in practice truncated to some maximum distance

Any heuristics for selecting where to truncate?



The Gaussian filter

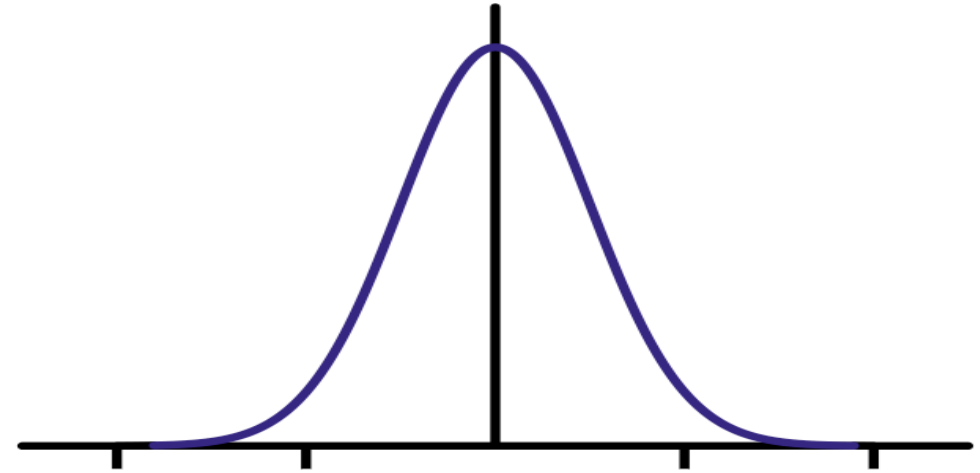
- named (like many other things) after Carl Friedrich Gauss
- kernel values sampled from the 2D Gaussian function:

$$f(i, j) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2} e^{-\frac{i^2+j^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

- weight falls off with distance from center pixel
- theoretically infinite, in practice truncated to some maximum distance

Any heuristics for selecting where to truncate?

- usually at $2-3\sigma$



Is this a separable filter?

kernel $\frac{1}{16}$

1	2	1
2	4	2
1	2	1

The Gaussian filter

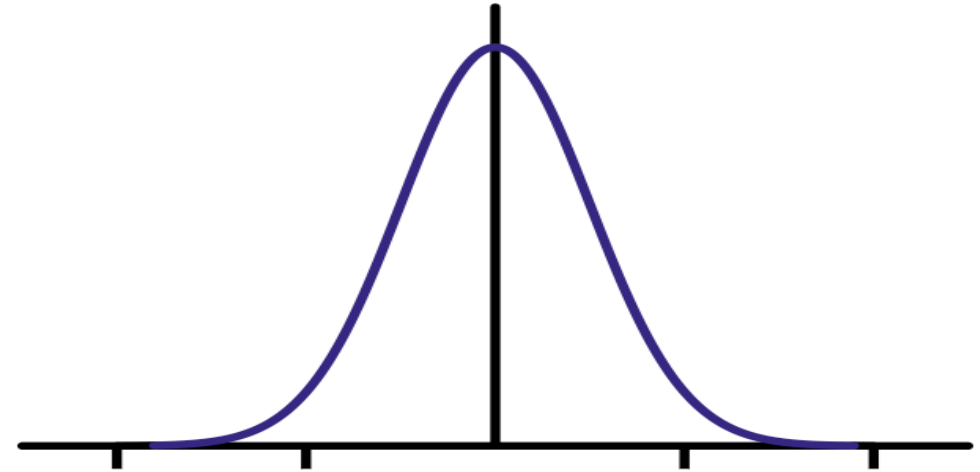
- named (like many other things) after Carl Friedrich Gauss
- kernel values sampled from the 2D Gaussian function:

$$f(i, j) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2} e^{-\frac{i^2+j^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

- weight falls off with distance from center pixel
- theoretically infinite, in practice truncated to some maximum distance

Any heuristics for selecting where to truncate?

- usually at $2-3\sigma$

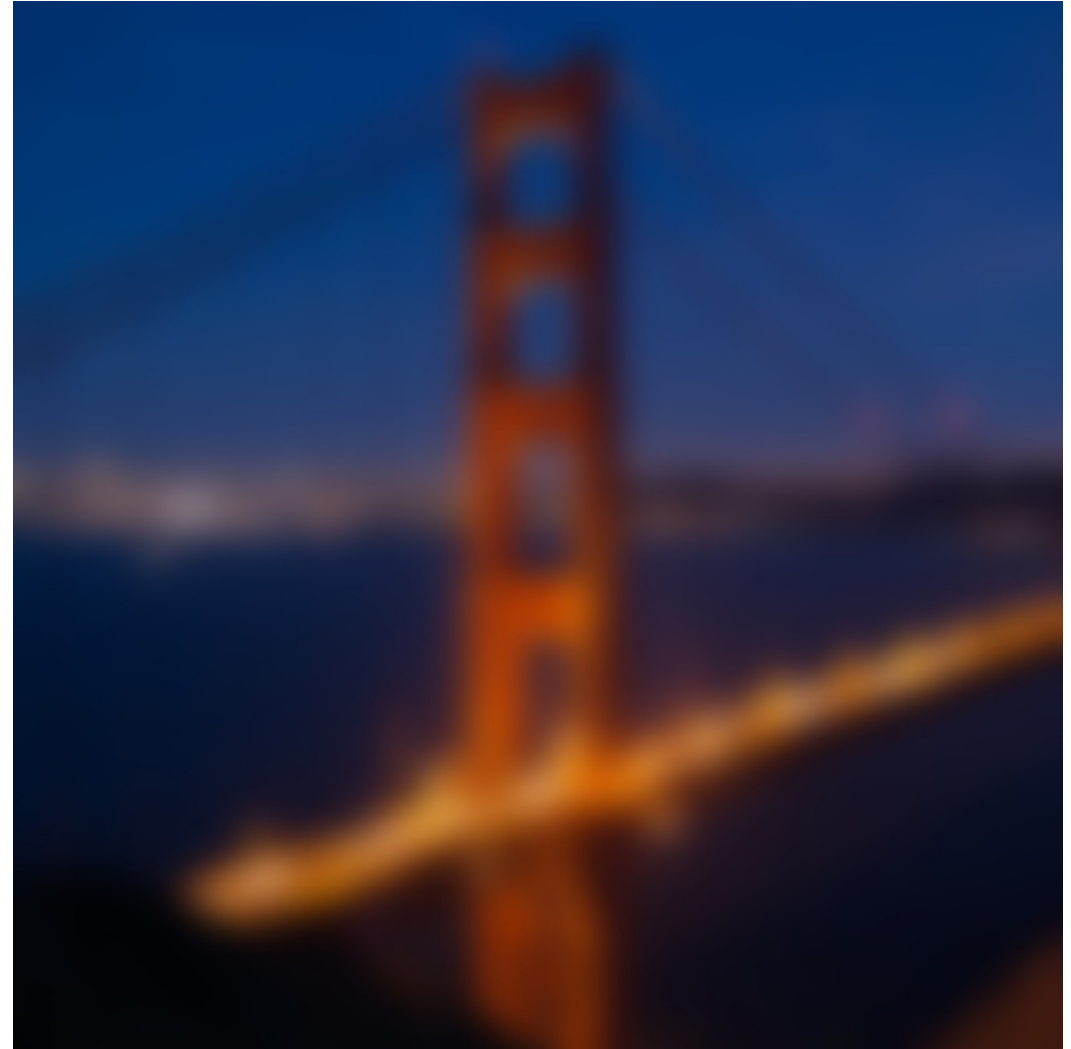


Is this a separable filter? **Yes!**

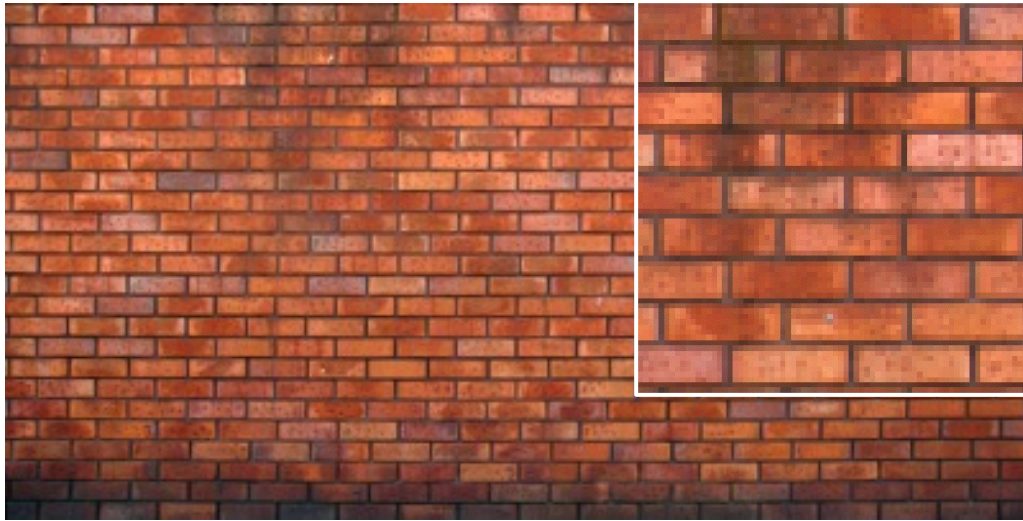
kernel $\frac{1}{16}$

1	2	1
2	4	2
1	2	1

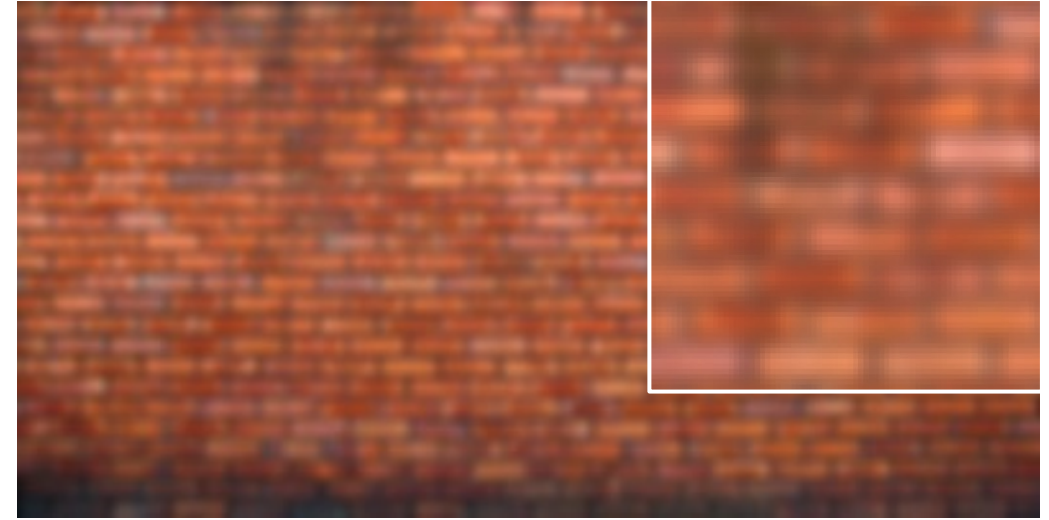
Gaussian filtering example



Gaussian vs box filtering



original



7x7 Gaussian



7x7 box

Which blur do you like better? Why?

Other filters

input



filter

0	0	0
0	1	0
0	0	0

output

?

Other filters

input



filter

0	0	0
0	1	0
0	0	0

output



unchanged

Other filters

input



filter

0	0	0
0	1	0
0	0	0

output



unchanged

input



filter

0	0	0
0	0	1
0	0	0

output

?

Other filters

input



filter

0	0	0
0	1	0
0	0	0

output



unchanged

input



filter

0	0	0
0	0	1
0	0	0

output



shift to left
by one

Other filters

input



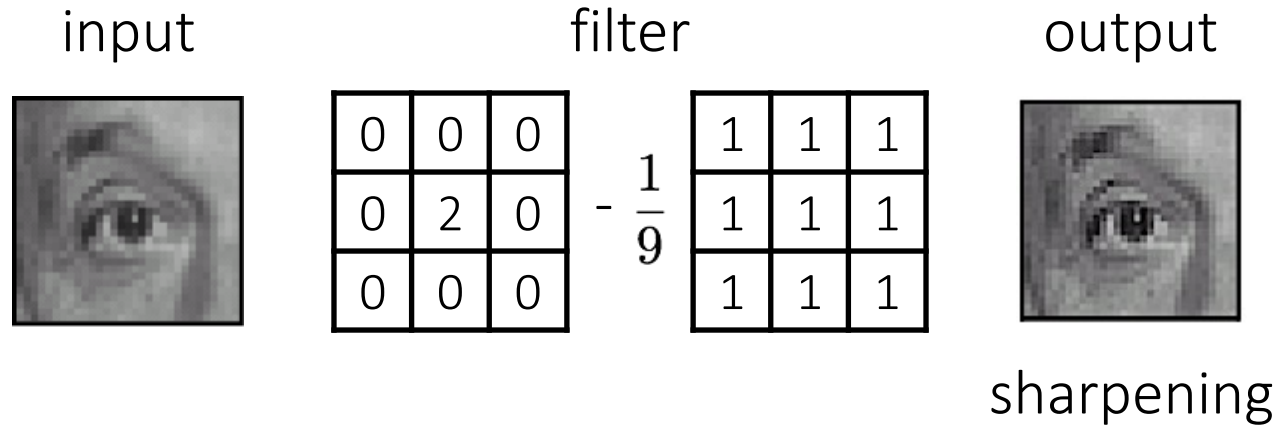
filter

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 2 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline \end{array} - \frac{1}{9} \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

output

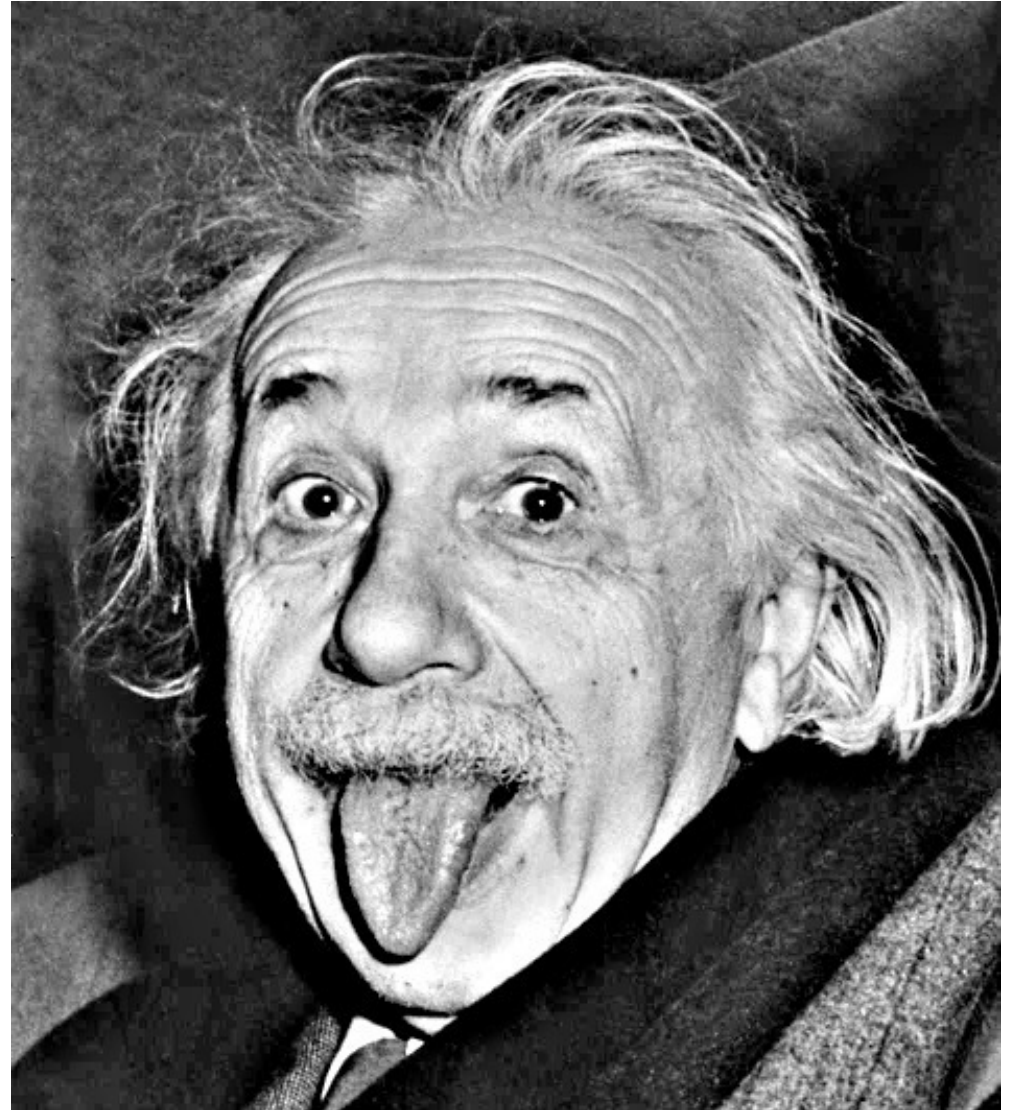
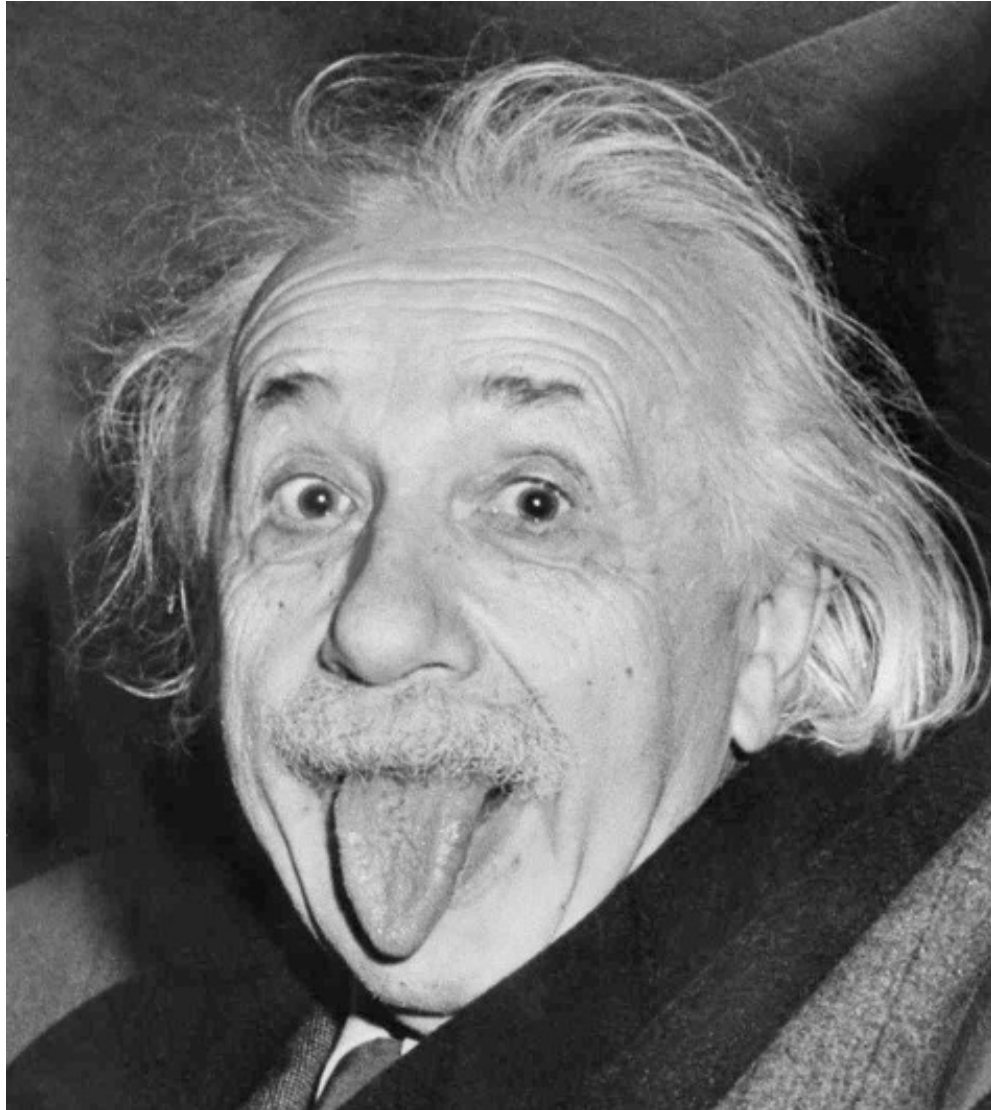
?

Other filters



- do nothing for flat areas
- stress intensity peaks

Sharpening examples



Sharpening examples



Do not overdo it with sharpening



original



sharpened



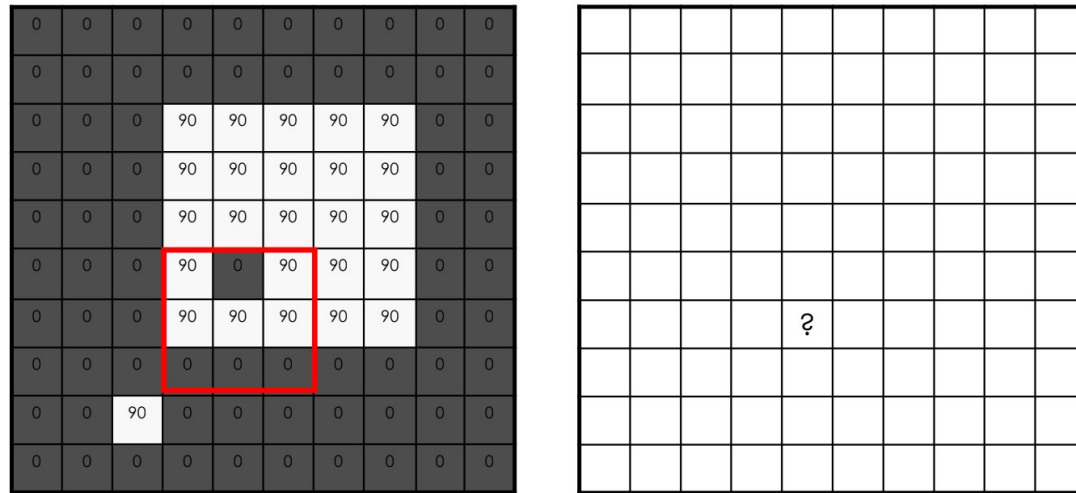
oversharpened

What is wrong in this image?

Not all simple filters are “linear transform”!

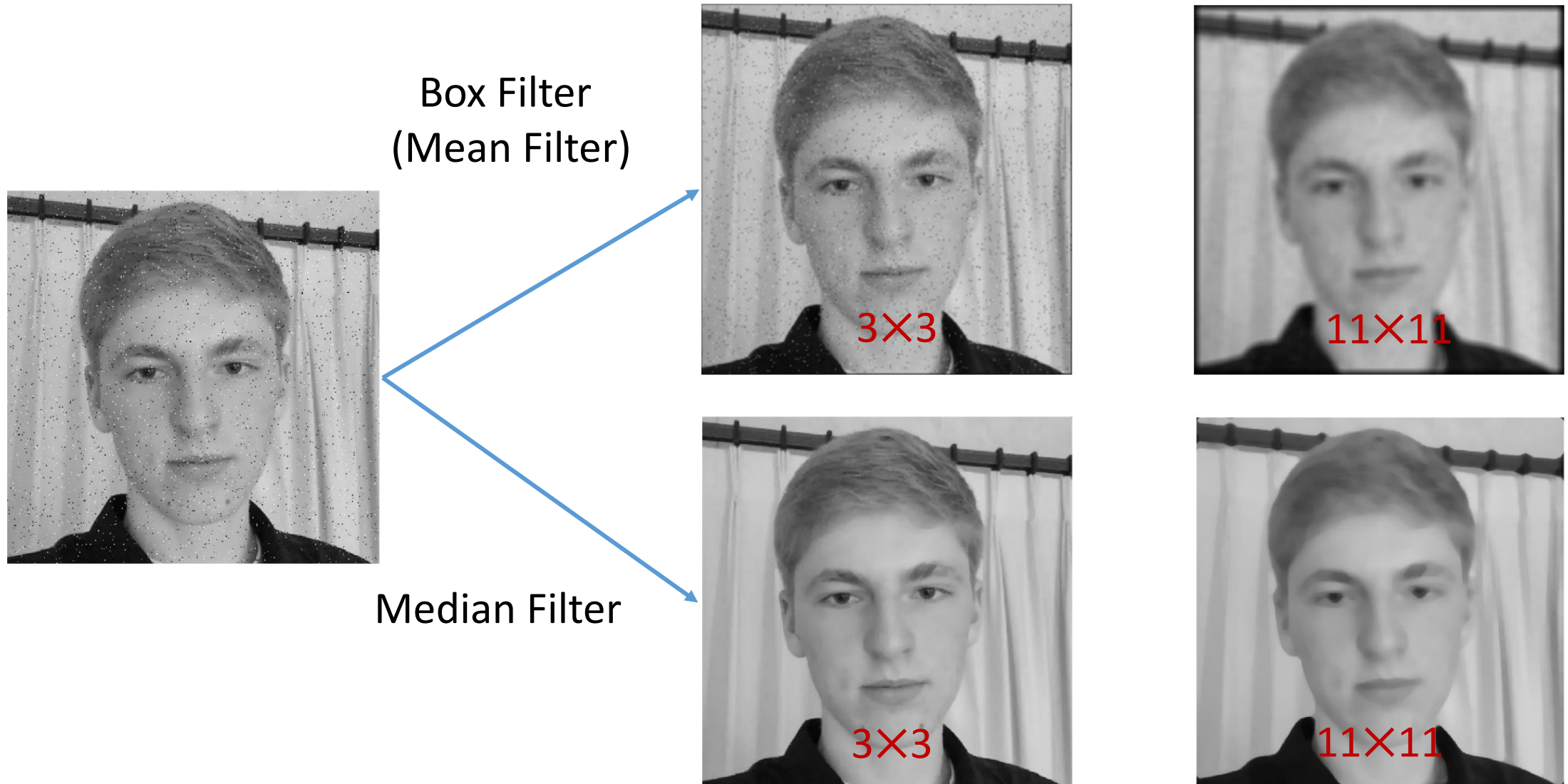
A Simple yet Important Exception: Median Filter

- Operates over a window by selecting the median intensity in the window



- Belong to the class of “**rank**” filter as based on sorting gray levels
 - More example: min, max, range...
 - “Modern name” in deep learning? “**Pooling**”

Median Filter: When/Why better than Box Filter?



The convolution theorem

The Fourier transform of the convolution of two functions is the product of their Fourier transforms:

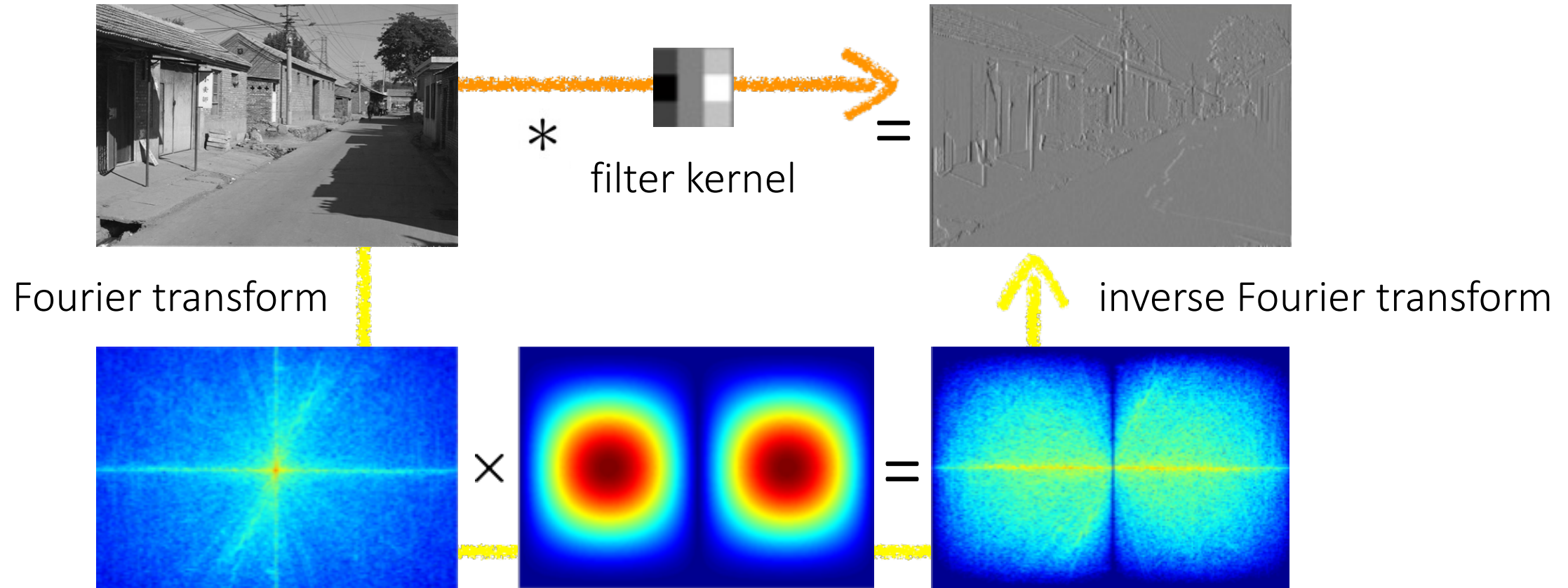
$$\mathcal{F}\{g * h\} = \mathcal{F}\{g\}\mathcal{F}\{h\}$$

The inverse Fourier transform of the product of two Fourier transforms is the convolution of the two inverse Fourier transforms:

$$\mathcal{F}^{-1}\{gh\} = \mathcal{F}^{-1}\{g\} * \mathcal{F}^{-1}\{h\}$$

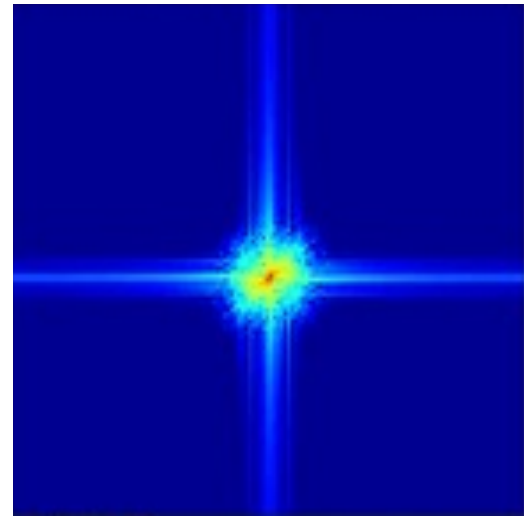
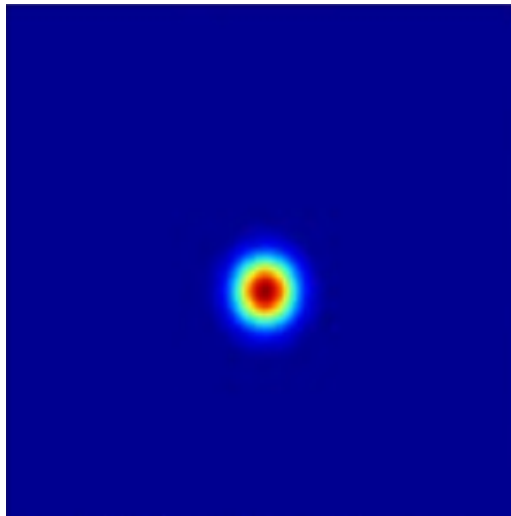
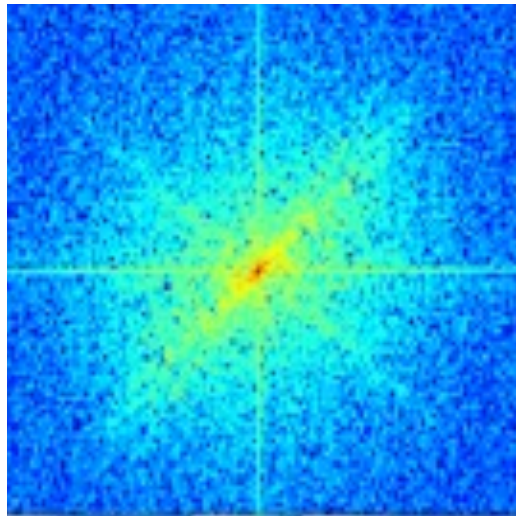
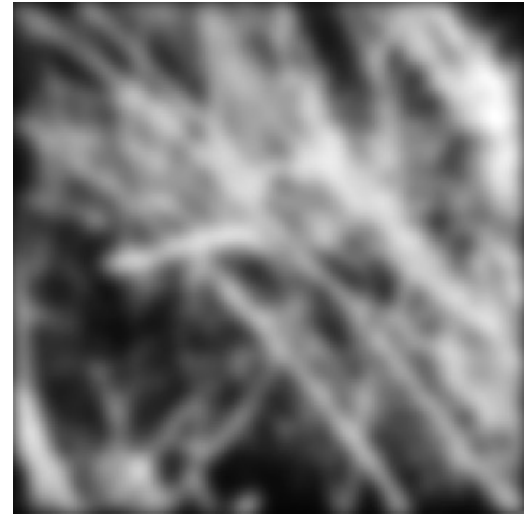
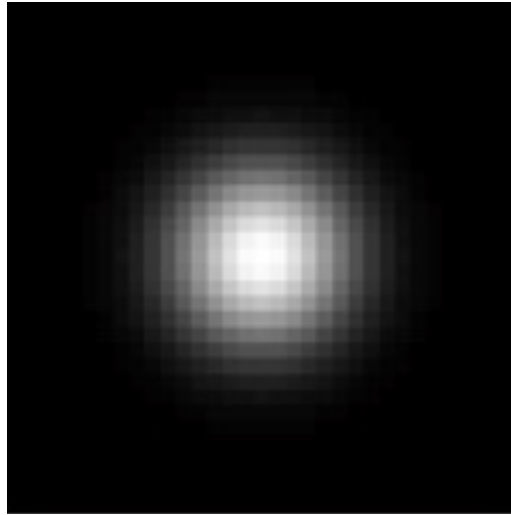
Convolution in spatial domain is equivalent to multiplication in frequency domain!

Spatial domain filtering

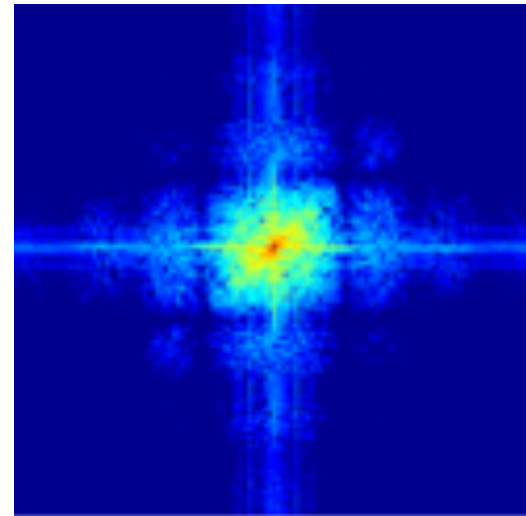
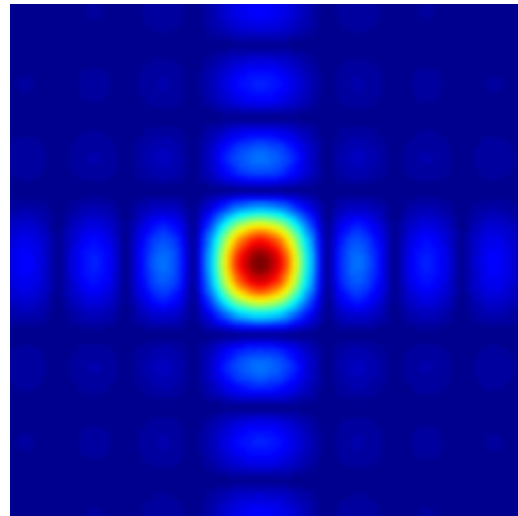
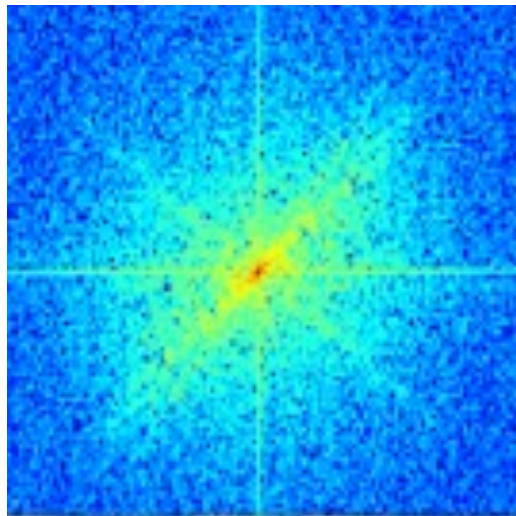
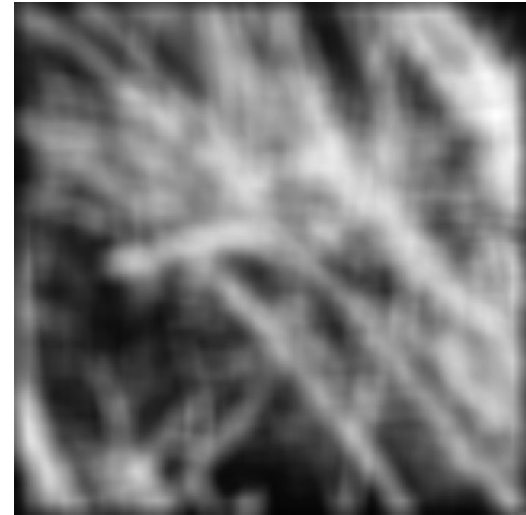


Frequency domain filtering

Gaussian blur

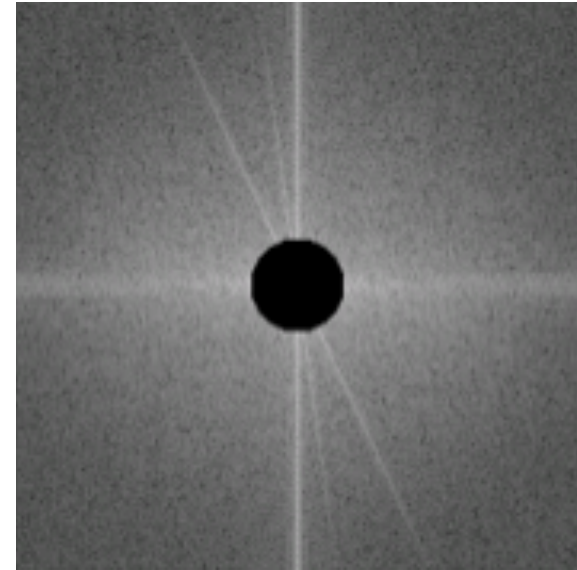


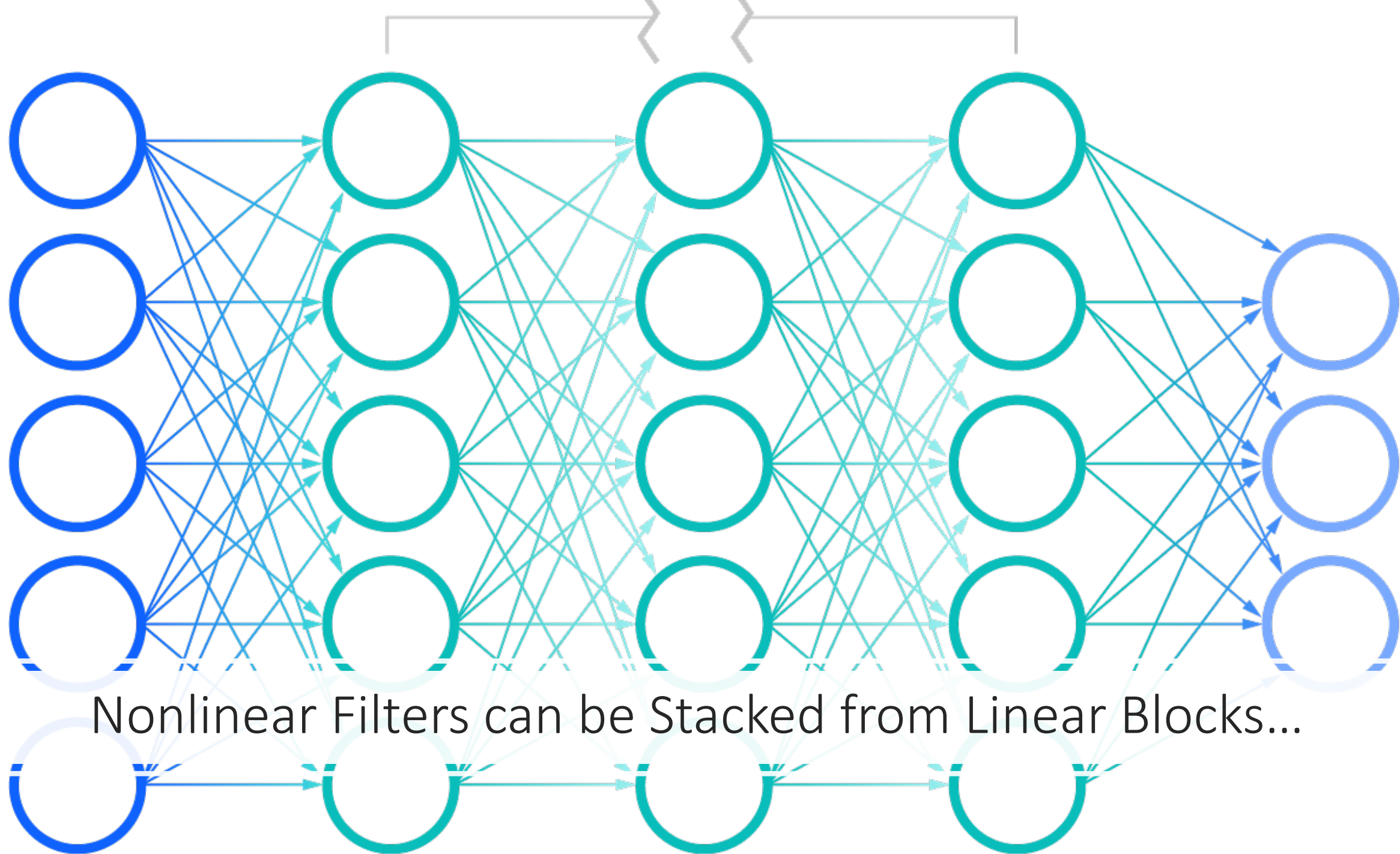
Box blur



More filtering examples

high-pass





Nonlinear Filters can be Stacked from Linear Blocks...



The University of Texas at Austin
**Electrical and Computer
Engineering**
Cockrell School of Engineering