

IMAGE RESTORATION  
VIA  
N-NEAREST NEIGHBOUR  
CLASSIFICATION

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This is a modified version of the slides used in presenting the paper:

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At the ICIP'96 Conference, Lausanne, Switzerland. This paper is number 96:7 in the list of publications at the authors download center,

<http://homepage.cs.latrobe.edu.au/image/papers>

# IMAGE RESTORATION VIA N-NEAREST NEIGHBOUR CLASSIFICATION

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## ABSTRACT

A novel and powerful perspective on image reconstruction and restoration is to regard the computational objective as the classification of corrupt (= unclassified) pixels using the classification of the nearest uncorrupt (=classified) pixels. In N-nearest neighbour (NNN) restoration, the distance transform is used to determine the set of N-or-more classified pixels which are as close, or closer, than the Nth nearest to each corrupt pixel. NN classification includes classic restoration algorithms, but new algorithms are implied, especially for color and gray-scale images that are very sparse or highly corrupt. We present experimental results for an NNN restoration algorithm, for N=1, using for nearest set classification the median of the one-or-more nearest 'good' neighbours. At low corruption levels this algorithm is equivalent to classic median filtering; for images with random pixel loss of 50% to 90%, satisfactory restoration has been achieved for both gray-scale and colour images.

a new perspective on image restoration

restoration of sparse and heavily corrupted images

=

classifying corrupt or unknown pixels using  
classification of the N nearest neighbours



Family of Algorithms for which

⌋ Pixel = object with attributes gray-scale,  
colo(u)r, and location

⌋ Determine the N nearest neighbours

⌋ Use a (sensible) classifying function

e.g. [ weighted median  
[ distance weighted mean  
[ fuzzy mean

Restoration as classifying:

## Simple example

MEDIAN FILTERING in 3x3 window  
to eliminate isolated shot noise:  
(all 8 immediate neighbours 'good')

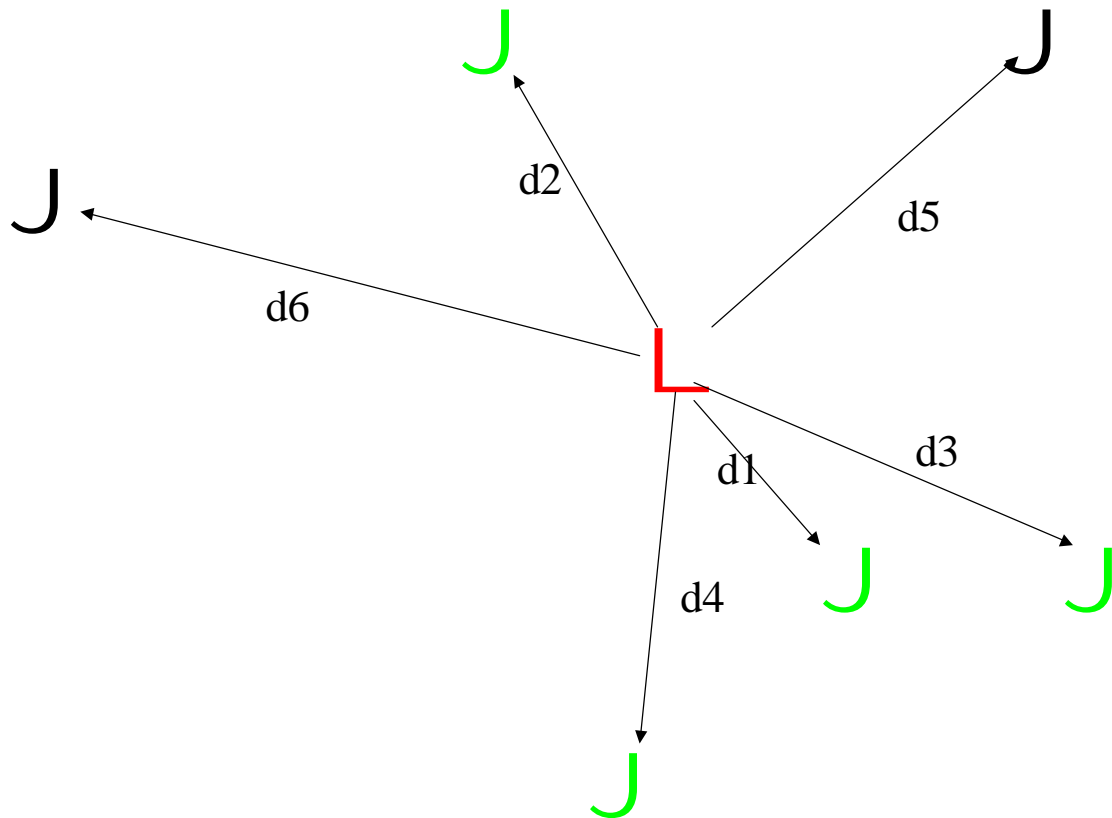
J 1	J 2	J 3
J 4	L	J 5
J 6	J 7	J 8

(Using chessboard metric - 8 nearest neighbours )

## Quasi-Median filtering

Replace **L** by median of  
J 1, J 2, J 3, J 4, J 5, J 6, J 7,  
and J 8

NN Classification - restoring a sparse image -  
massively corrupted image



4-Nearest Neighbour Classification:  
Replace **L** by function of the  
classification of the 4 nearest  
neighbours, **J 1, J 2, J 3, J 4**  
AND **d1, d2, d3, d4**

How to compute distances?  
What are the NN's? Which  
classifier function ?

Which distance ? And How?

Which pixels are the N-closest  
?

# Rosenfeld-Pfaltz Algorithm

## Chess-board Distance Masks

1 1 1            \* 1  
1 \*            1 1 1

Forward    Backward    Masks

## Manhattan Distance Masks

$\infty$  1  $\infty$             \* 1  
1 \*             $\infty$  1  $\infty$

Forward                      Backward            Masks

## 3,4 Chamfer Distance Masks

4 3 4            \* 3  
3 \*            4 3 4

Forward                      Backward            Masks

Fig 1 DT masks. An asterisk (\*) is used to denote the mask centre.

$\infty$  is taken as the largest number in the number-set used.

## Distance Image

Tells how far any (corrupted) pixel is from the corrupted ones --

Geometry of DTs determines where to search to locate ALL the pixels that are closest:

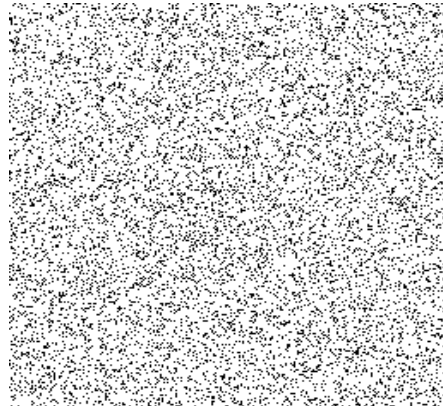
## **NNN restoration**

Classify corrupt pixel with median of all the equi-distant nearest pixels  
( extension of quasi-median to heavily corrupt)

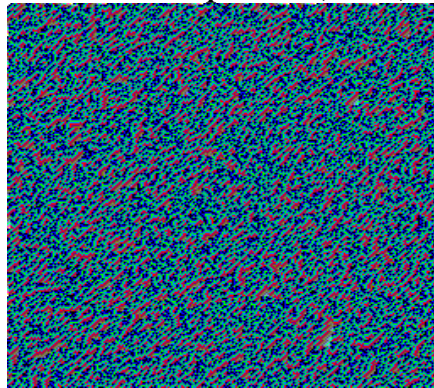


# K-NN Restoration

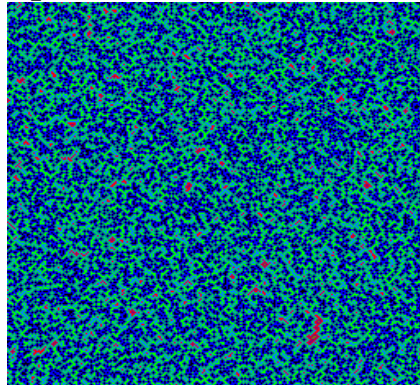
Need a REVERSE Distance transform (wait for it)



Locations of GOOD pixels (15%) Black = 0



After forward pass with Manhattan FWD DT mask



After the backward pass with Manhattan BK DT mask

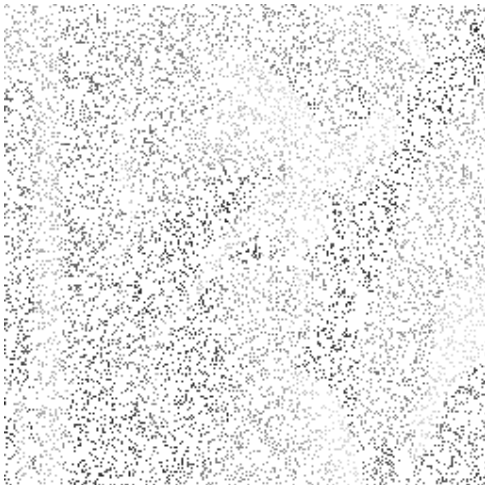
Distance Colour Coding (Periodic)

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	B	C	D	E	F
Black	Dark Blue	Bright Green	Blue	Red	Purple	Olive Green	Grey	Light Grey	Teal	Bright Green	Cyan	Brown	Magenta	Yellow	White

Distances from good pixels  
= Distance Image for the 85% corrupted Lena image.

## NNN - Restoration Classification by Nearest Neighbour

LENA



LENA  
85%  
corrupted

PSNR = 5.9 dB



LENA  
NNN  
Restored

PSNR = 22.7dBs



Fig 5 From top: 320x200 8-bit colour Clown; Clown corrupted by 85% black pepper noise, PSNR = 9.0452; restored using Manhattan Distance DT and NN restoration. PSNR = 21.6795