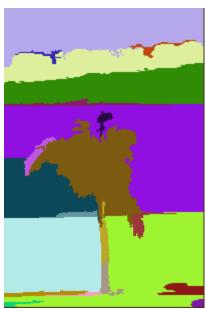
7.10 Image Segmentation

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http://people.cs.uchicago.edu/~pff/segment/

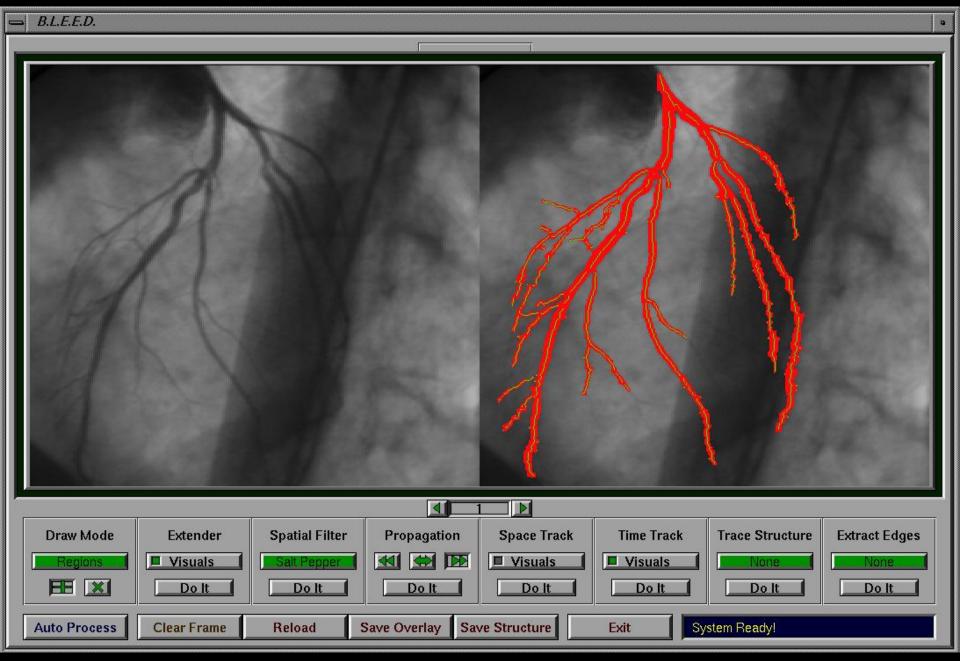


Image segmentation.

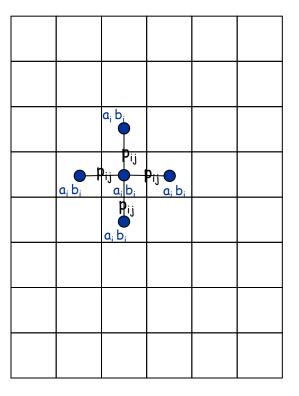
- Divide image into coherent regions.
- Central problem in image processing.

Ex: Three people standing in front of complex background scene. Identify each person as a coherent object.



Foreground / background segmentation.

- Label each pixel in picture as belonging to foreground or background.
- V = set of pixels, E = pairs of neighboring pixels.
- $a_i \ge 0$ is likelihood pixel i in foreground.
- $b_i \ge 0$ is likelihood pixel i in background.
- $p_{ij} \ge 0$ is separation penalty for labeling one of i and j as foreground, and the other as background.

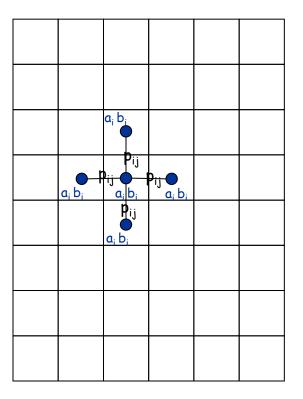


Goals.

- Accuracy: if $a_i > b_i$ in isolation, prefer to label i in foreground.
- Smoothness: if many neighbors of i are labeled foreground, we should be inclined to label i as foreground.
- Q. What function would we like to optimize (in terms of a_i , b_i and p_{ij})?

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A. Find partition (A, B) that maximizes:
$$\sum a_i + \sum b_j - \sum p_{ij}$$
 foreground background $i \in A$ $j \in B$ $(i,j) \in E$: $A \mid \{i,j\} \mid = 1$

Q. How to formulate this as a max-flow or min-cut problem? (1 min)



Formulate as min cut problem.

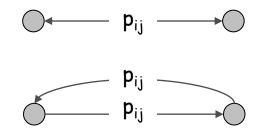
Turn into minimization problem.

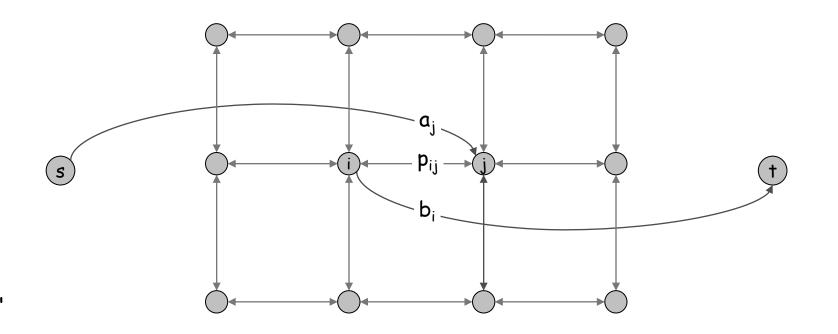
is equivalent to minimizing
$$\sum a_j + \sum b_i + \sum p_{ij}$$
 $j \in B$ $i \in A$ $(i,j) \in E$: $A \mid \{i,j\} \mid = 1$



Formulate as min cut problem.

- G' = (V', E').
- Add source to correspond to foreground;
 add sink to correspond to background
- Use two anti-parallel edges instead of undirected edge.





G

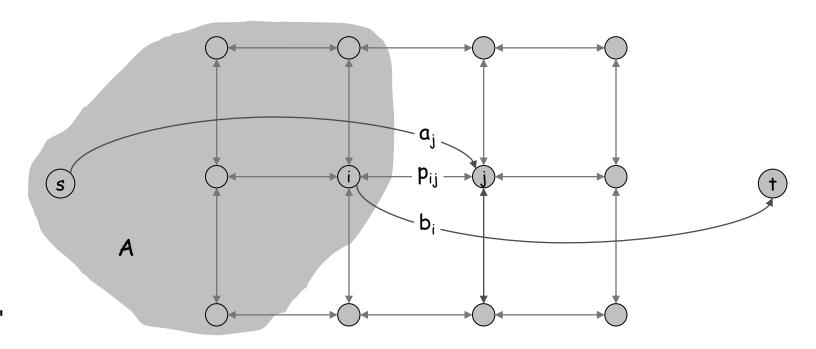
Consider min cut (A, B) in G'.

 \bullet A = foreground.

$$cap\;(A,B) \;\; = \;\; \sum_{j \in B} a_j + \sum_{i \in A} b_i \; + \;\; \sum_{j \in B} p_{ij} \qquad \text{if i and j on different sides,} \\ j \in B \qquad i \in A \qquad (i,j) \in E \; : \qquad \qquad p_{ij} \; \text{counted exactly once}$$

$$i \in A, \; j \in B$$

Precisely the quantity we want to minimize.



G