Computer Vision for Robotics

Thanks to Brad Nelson
For use of the slides
Image Processing Algorithm
Image Intensities & Data reduction

- Monochrome image $\rightarrow$ matrix of intensity values

- Typical sizes:
  - $320 \times 240$ (QVGA)
  - $640 \times 480$ (VGA)
  - $1280 \times 720$ (HD)

- Intensities sampled to 256 grey levels $\rightarrow$ 8 bits

- Images capture a lot of information

Color Images: 3 channels (e.g. RGB)
8 bits per channel = 24 bits total

$\Rightarrow$ Reduce the amount of input data:
  preserving useful info & discarding redundant info
Commonly Used Algorithms

- Statistical Operations
- Segmentation and Edge Detection
- Finding Shapes
- Frequency Domain Techniques
- Spatial Operations and Transformations
- Morphological Operations
- Pattern Recognition
- Labeling
Spatial filters

- $S_{xy}$: neighborhood of pixels around the point $(x,y)$ in an image $I$
- Spatial filtering operates on $S_{xy}$ to generate a new value for the corresponding pixel at output image $J$

For example, an averaging filter is:

$J(x, y) = \frac{\sum_{(r, c) \in S_{xy}} I(r, c)}{(2M + 1)(2N + 1)}$
Constructing Filter from a Continuous Fn

- Common practice for image smoothing: use a Gaussian

\[ G(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}} \]

- Near-by pixels have a bigger influence on the averaged value rather than more distant ones

\( \mu = 0 \)

\( \sigma \) : controls the amount of smoothing

Normalize filter so that values always add up to 1
• **Mean Averaging Filter:** This filter just averages the pixel values in a neighborhood around a pixel. Neighborhood sizes are variable, depending upon the spatial extent of the filter needed. Common sizes are 3x3, 5x5, 7x7 etc. A 3x3 mean filter uses the following set of local weights:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
0.1 & 0.1 & 0.1 \\
0.1 & 0.1 & 0.1 \\
0.1 & 0.1 & 0.1 \\
\end{array}
\]

• **Gaussian Smoothing Filter:** Another smoothing filter is the Gaussian filter, which uses a neighborhood that approximates the fall-off of a Gaussian centered on the pixel of interest. This filter has larger weights for the central pixels and nearest neighbors rather than the mean filter which treats all pixels in the neighborhood with equal weights. See figure 1 above.

\[
\begin{array}{cccc}
123 & 123 & 126 & 130 \\
122 & 124 & 126 & 127 \\
118 & 120 & 150 & 125 \\
119 & 115 & 119 & 123 \\
111 & 116 & 110 & 120 \\
\end{array}
\]

**Neighbourhood values:**

115, 119, 120, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 150

**Median value:** 124

Figure 2: Median filter. Noisy pixel in center (150) is removed by median of its neighborhood.

• **Median Filter:** This filter is used to remove outlier noise values in a region. It is based upon order statistics, and is a non-linear filter. In this filter, pixels in a neighborhood are sorted by value, and the median value of the pixel’s in the neighborhood is taken to be the filter’s response. If the pixel being processed is an outlier, it will be replaced by the median value. This filter is useful for “shot” or “salt-and-pepper” noise. See figure 2.
3.2 Enhancement

Often, most of the image values will be centered within a limited range of the full 256 gray levels of an image. *Contrast stretching* performs a linear remapping from the gray level range \((I_{\text{low}}, I_{\text{high}})\) to \((0, 255)\), effectively “stretching” the contrast in the image. See figure 3. Before the stretching can be performed it is necessary to specify the upper and lower pixel value limits over which the image is to be normalized. Often these limits will just be the minimum and maximum pixel values in the image. For example for 8-bit graylevel images the lower and upper limits might be 0 and 255. Call the lower and the upper limits \(a\) and \(b\) respectively.

The simplest sort of normalization then scans the image to find the lowest and highest pixel values currently present in the image. Call these \(c\) and \(d\). Then each pixel \(P\) is scaled using the following function:

\[
P_{\text{out}} = (P_{\text{in}} - c) \frac{b-a}{d-c} + a
\]

![Figure 3: Contrast stretching. Original image and histogram and stretched image and histogram.](image)

*Histogram equalization* is used to change the response over the entire range of gray values. Often, it is used to create a *uniform* histogram that has all gray values used at the same frequency. This may or may not be useful: large homogeneous regions can get remapped into many gray levels, introducing texture (see figure 4). If an image has \(R\) rows and \(C\) columns, and there are \(N\) gray levels \(z_1, z_2, z_3, \ldots, z_n\) total (e.g. 256) then uniform histogram equalization requires each gray value to occur \(q = \frac{R \times C}{N}\) times. Using the original histogram, we define \(H_{\text{in}}[i]\) as the number of pixels in the original image having gray level \(z_i\). The first gray level threshold \(t_1\) is found by advancing \(i\) in the input image histogram until \(q\) pixels are used. All input image pixels with gray level \(< t_1\) will be mapped to gray level \(z_1\) in the output image:

\[
\sum_{i=1}^{t_1-1} H_{\text{in}}[i] \leq q < \sum_{i=1}^{t_1} H_{\text{in}}[i]
\]

This means that \(t_1\) is the smallest gray level such that the original histogram contains no more than \(q\) pixels with lower gray values. The \(k\)th threshold \(t_k\) is defined by continuing the iteration:

\[
\sum_{i=1}^{t_k-1} H_{\text{in}}[i] \leq k \cdot q < \sum_{i=1}^{t_k} H_{\text{in}}[i]
\]
3.3 Edge Detection

Find the gradients at each pixel in the image using a gradient operator. Common edge detection masks look for a derivative of the image intensity values in a certain direction. Derivatives are found by differencing the intensity values. The simplest edge detector masks are:

Vertical Oriented Edge: \( \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \)  
Horizontal Oriented Edge: \( \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \)

Each edge detector essentially generates a gradient in the \( X \) and \( Y \) directions, \( G_x, G_y \). We can calculate the gradient magnitude of the filter’s response as:

\[
\|G\| = \sqrt{G_x^2 + G_y^2} \quad \text{or} \quad ||G|| = |G_x| + |G_y|
\]

and the edge’s orientation (direction) will be \( \theta = \text{atan2}(G_y, G_x) \).

More sophisticated masks include the Sobel Operators:

Vertical: \( \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -2 & 0 & 2 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \)  
Horizontal: \( \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \)
Edge = intensity discontinuity in one direction

- Edges correspond to sharp changes of intensity
- Change is measured by 1\textsuperscript{st} order derivative in 1D
- Big intensity change $\Rightarrow$ magnitude of derivative is large
- Or 2\textsuperscript{nd} order derivative is zero.
Edge Detection

- Ultimate goal of edge detection: an idealized line drawing.
- Edge contours in the image correspond to important scene contours.
What is **USEFUL**, What is **REDUNDANT**?
What is **USEFUL**, What is **REDUNDANT**?
What is **USEFUL**, What is **REDUNDANT**?
Edge Detection

- Sobel
- Roberts
- Prewitt
- Laplacian of Gaussian (LOG)
Edge Detection

• 1-D edge detection

- edge operator
- intensity edge
- edge

\[ f \ast g \]
Taking derivatives with Correlation

- Derivative of an image: quantifies how quickly intensities change (along the direction of the derivative)

- Approximate a derivative operator:

\[
J(x) = \frac{I(x+1) - I(x-1)}{2}
\]
1D Edge detection

- Image intensity shows an obvious change

![Graph showing edge detection]

- Where is the edge? ⇒ image noise cannot be ignored
Solution: smooth first

\[ I(x) \]

\[ G_\sigma(x) \]

\[ s(x) = I(x) * G_\sigma(x) \]

\[ s'(x) = \frac{d}{dx} (s(x)) \]

- Where is the edge? At the extrema of \( s'(x) \)
Derivative theorem of convolution

\[ s'(x) = \frac{d}{dx} \left( G_\sigma(x) * I(x) \right) = G'_\sigma(x) * I(x) \]

This saves us one operation:

\[ s'(x) = G'_\sigma(x) * I(x) \]

Edges occur at maxima/minima of \( s'(x) \)
Zero-crossings

- Locations of Maxima/minima in \( s'(x) \) are equivalent to zero-crossings in \( s''(x) \)

\[
G''_\sigma(x) = \frac{d^2}{dx^2} G_\sigma(x)
\]

\[
s''(x) = G''_\sigma(x) * I(x)
\]
2D Edge detection

- Find gradient of smoothed image in both directions

\[
\nabla S = \nabla(G \ast I) = \begin{bmatrix}
\frac{\partial (G \ast I)}{\partial x} \\
\frac{\partial (G \ast I)}{\partial y}
\end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix}
\frac{\partial G}{\partial x} \ast I \\
\frac{\partial G}{\partial y} \ast I
\end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix}
G'(x)G(y) \ast I \\
G(x)G'(y) \ast I
\end{bmatrix}
\]

- Discard pixels with \(|\nabla S|\) below a certain below a certain threshold

- **Non-maximal suppression**: identify local maxima of \(|\nabla S|\) along the directions \(\pm |\nabla S|\)

Usually use a separable filter such that:

\[
G_\sigma(x, y) = G_\sigma(x)G_\sigma(y)
\]
2D Edge detection: Example

$I$ : original image (Lena image)
\[ \nabla S = \nabla (G_\sigma \ast I) \]

\[ |\nabla S| : \text{Edge strength} \]
2D Edge detection: Example

Thresholding $|\nabla S|$
2D Edge detection: Example

Thinning: non-maximal suppression
Labeling

- Labeling parts and regions
Segmentation: Morphological Operations

- **Erosion** - Shrinking
- **Dilation** - Growing

Separation of touching objects by SHRINK operations. Here objects (chocolates) in (a) are shrunk (b) in order to separate them so that they may be counted reliably.
Middle Level Vision

Middle level vision tries to move beyond the pixel level to larger abstractions including shape and geometry.

Region Labeling: Recursive Region Growing

Recursive region growing is a simple method. Starting from a binary image, it scans the image for any foreground pixels (not black). For each foreground pixel, it labels that pixel with a unique label, “grows” the pixel by coloring any of its non-black 4-neighbors with this unique color label, and pushing these pixels on a queue. The queue is then processed until empty. All 4-connected pixels in the region will be labeled consistently. Recursive method can be slow however, and may need large memory for recursive calls.
# Recursive Region Grower
# Do the following for every unvisited SEED pixel.....

Input: Binary image – White(255) = foreground, Black(0) = background. Output: labeled regions

Choose a foreground SEED pixel (pixel whose value = White), I(c,r) Enqueue(c,r), and mark (c,r) as Visited
Label = K  # random color
While Queue !Empty do
    (c,r) = Dequeue
    Out_image(c,r) = K
    if I(c-1,r) !Visited && I(c-1,r) == White # WEST neighbor pixel, hasn’t been Visited and is foreground pixel
        enqueue(c-1,r), mark (c-1,r) as Visited
    if I(c+1,r) !Visited && I(c+1,r) == White # EAST neighbor pixel, hasn’t been Visited and is foreground pixel
        enqueue(c+1,r), mark (c+1,r) as Visited
    if I(c,r-1) !Visited && I(c,r-1) == White # NORTH neighbor pixel, hasn’t been Visited and is foreground pixel
        enqueue(c,r-1), mark (c,r-1) as Visited
    if I(c,r+1) !Visited && I(c,r+1) == White # SOUTH neighbor pixel, hasn’t been Visited and is foreground pixel
        enqueue(c,r+1), mark (c,r+1) as Visited
Recursive Region Grower - Seed Pixel is (2,2)

Queue
2,2
Queue
2,3
Queue
2,4
Queue
3,4
Queue
2,5
Queue
2,6
Queue
1,6
Queue
3,5
Queue
2,6
Queue
empty
4.2 Region Labeling: Blob Coloring

This algorithm uses 2 passes. The first pass labels each pixel and the second pass merges the labels into a consistent labeling.

Let the initial color, $k = init_{\text{color}}$, and choose a color_increment to change the color each time a new blob is found. Scan the image from left to right and top to bottom. Assign colors to each non-zero pixel in pass 1. In pass 2, we merge the regions whose colors are equivalent. To maintain the equivalence table between merged colors, we can use a standard disjoint set Union-Find data structure.

If $I(x_C) = 0$ then continue
else begin

if $I(x_U) = 1$ and $I(x_L) = 0$
then color $x_C := color x_U$

if $I(x_L) = 1$ and $I(x_U) = 0$
then color $x_C := color x_L$

if $I(x_L) = 1$ and $I(x_U) = 1$
then begin /* two colors are equivalent. */
    color $x_C := color x_L$
    color $x_L$ is equivalent to color $x_U$
end

if $I(x_L) = 0$ and $I(x_U) = 0$ /* new color */
then color $x_C := k; k := k + \text{color}\_\text{increment}$

end

Figure 6: Image topology of $x_u, x_c, x_l$ for region growing
Figure 7: Blob coloring. Left: original binary image. Middle: blob color assignment after first pass. Right: Blob color assignment after merging colors.

Below are 3 ascii images, showing the original test pattern in figure 6, the first pass results, and the final image after region labels are merged. The initial color=80 and the color increment is 50.

```
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 1 0 0 1 1 1 1 0
0 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 0
0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0
0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0
0 1 0 1 1 1 0 1 0
0 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 0
0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 0

0 0 80 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 80 0 0 130 130 130 130 0
0 80 0 0 0 0 0 130 0
0 80 0 180 0 230 0 130 0
0 80 0 180 0 230 0 130 0
0 80 0 180 180 180 0 130 0
0 80 0 0 0 0 0 130 0
0 80 0 0 0 0 0 130 0

0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 130 0 0 130 130 130 130 0
0 130 0 0 0 0 0 130 0
0 130 0 230 0 230 0 130 0
0 130 0 230 0 230 0 130 0
0 130 0 230 230 230 0 130 0
0 130 0 0 0 0 0 130 0
0 130 130 130 130 130 130 130 0
```

5 Simple Shape Matching

- Template Matching: Simple matching of masks (templates) that contain object's image structure
- Object is represented as a region of pixels. Region is compared against all other positions in the image.
- Measure is absolute value of difference between template pixels and image pixels - zero means exact match. Find minimum response for template operator and this is best match
- Problems: Translation, Rotation, Scaling, Lighting changes between image and template
- Translation is handled by applying template everywhere in image
- Rotation handled by using a set of templates oriented every few degrees. Increases cost
Object Classification

• Object measures
  – area
  – perimeter
  – length
  – width
  – shape analysis
    • rectangularity
    • circularity
Pattern Recognition

- Optical Character Recognition
Figure 7: Blob coloring. Left: original binary image. Middle: blob color assignment after first pass. Right: Blob color assignment after merging colors.

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```
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 1 0 0 1 1 1 1 0
0 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 0
0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0
0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0
0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0
0 1 0 1 1 1 0 1 0
0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 130 0 0 130 130 130 130 0
0 130 0 0 0 0 0 130 0
0 130 0 180 0 230 0 130 0
0 130 0 0 0 0 0 130 0
0 130 0 230 0 230 0 130 0
0 130 0 230 0 230 0 130 0
0 130 0 0 0 0 0 130 0
0 130 130 130 130 130 130 130 0
```

Simple Shape Matching

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- Measure is absolute value of difference between template pixels and image pixels - zero means exact match. Find minimum response for template operator and this is best match
- Problems: Translation, Rotation, Scaling, Lighting changes between image and template
- Translation is handled by applying template everywhere in image
- Rotation handled by using a set of templates oriented every few degrees. Increases cost
Matching using Correlation

- Find locations in an image that are similar to a template
- Filter = template

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
3 & 8 & 3
\end{bmatrix}
\Rightarrow \text{test it against all image locations}
\]

\[
I : \begin{bmatrix}
3 & 2 & 4 & 1 & 3 & 8 & 4 & 0 & 3 & 8 & 7 & 7
\end{bmatrix}
\]

- Similarity measure: Sum of Squared Differences (SSD)

\[
\sum_{i=-N}^{N} (F(i) - I(x+i))^2
\]

\[
J : \begin{bmatrix}
26 & 37 & 21 & 50 & 54 & 1 & 50 & 65 & 59 & 16 & 42 & 17
\end{bmatrix}
\]
• Scaling is more difficult. Can scale templates but not easily. Not clear how many scales to use.
• Lighting changes can be alleviated by using normalized correlation. Use correlation operator and scale template responses by average intensities of image and template.
• Method of Moments: Use statistical properties of object to match.

\[
\text{Continuous : } M_{ij} = \int \int x^i y^j f(x,y) dx dy; \ \text{Discrete : } M_{ij} = \sum \sum x^i y^j f(x,y)
\]

• If we assume \(f(x, y)\) is a mass function that calculates object mass at each point of the object \(x, y\), then these are the moments of inertia from physics.
• If we further assume \(f(x, y)\) is binary valued (1= object present in image, 0= no object at \(x, y\)) then we can use these moments as shape descriptors
• \(M_{00}\) is simply the area of the object in the image. Counts the pixels that contain the object.
• We can calculate the centroid of the object. This is equivalent to the point where an object of uniform mass balances. The mass is equally distributed in all directions.

\[
X_c = \frac{M_{10}}{M_{00}}, \ Y_c = \frac{M_{01}}{M_{00}}
\]

• By translating the object coordinates by \(X_c, Y_c\), we can move the object to a known coordinate system. These are central moments. Creates translational invariance in moment computation.
• Rotational Invariance can be achieved by finding principal axis of object. This is the axis of the moment of least inertia. We can always align an object’s principal axis with \(X\ Y\) or \(Z\) axis.
• Scaling invariance is possible using normalized moments which scales by an area measure.
• Higher order moments can be used as unique shape descriptors for an object. Problem: simple scalar measures like this are not robust.

5.1 Finding the Principal Axis

Assume a point set centered on the origin: \((x - x_c, y - y_c)\), where the centroid of the points is \((x_c, y_c)\). To find the principal axis we want to find the rotation angle that will align the axis of minimum inertia with the X axis:

We rotate the points by \(-\theta\) to align the dataset with the \(x\) axis:

\[
\text{ROT}(Z, -\theta) \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} ; \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x \cos \theta - y \sin \theta \\ -x \sin \theta + y \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}
\]
Figure 8: Left: Principal Axis of a 2D object whose centroid is at the origin. Right: rotated object so principal axis is aligned with X axis.

So we can calculate the moments of order 2 for a rotated point set by:
$$\sum \sum (-x \sin \theta + y \cos \theta)^2$$

These are the moments of order 2 about the X axis for the rotated point set. The term $(-x \sin \theta + y \cos \theta)$ is the vertical distance from the X axis (i.e. the Y coordinate value) of the transformed point set.

Now, find the value of $\theta$ that minimizes that measure. We do this by differentiating with respect to $\theta$, and setting the resulting measure equal to zero:

$$\sum \sum 2(-x \sin \theta + y \cos \theta)(-x \cos \theta - y \sin \theta) = 0$$

$$2 \sum \sum (x^2 \sin \theta \cos \theta + x y \sin^2 \theta - x y \cos^2 \theta - y^2 \sin \theta \cos \theta) = 0$$

$$2 \sin \theta \cos \theta \sum \sum x^2 + 2(\sin^2 \theta - \cos^2 \theta) \sum \sum xy - 2 \cos \theta \sin \theta \sum \sum y^2 = 0$$

Using the definition of discrete moments $M_{ij}$:

$$2 \sin \theta \cos \theta M_{20} + 2(\sin^2 \theta - \cos^2 \theta) M_{11} - 2 \cos \theta \sin \theta M_{02} = 0$$

where $M_{ij}$ refers to Central Moments, moments where the centroid is translated to the origin.

Since $\sin 2\theta = 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta$ and $\cos 2\theta = \cos^2 \theta - \sin^2 \theta$, we can substitute to get:

$$\sin 2\theta M_{20} - 2 \cos 2\theta M_{11} - \sin 2\theta M_{02} = 0$$

and

$$\frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta} = \frac{2M_{11}}{M_{20} - M_{02}}$$

The principal angle is: $2\theta = \text{atan2}(2M_{11}, M_{20} - M_{02})$
5.2 Example: Moments

From the image above, we have a region R denoted by values = 1. We can calculate the discrete moments for the region as:

\[ M_{ij} = \sum \sum x^i y^j f(x, y) \]

and \( m_{00} = 9, m_{01} = 45, m_{10} = 36, m_{11} = 192, m_{02} = 255, m_{20} = 150. \)

We can create central moments by finding the centroid and translating the region so that the origin is the centroid, \((x_c, y_c)\):

\[ \text{Area} = m_{00} = 9 \ ; \ x_c = \frac{m_{10}}{m_{00}} = 4 \ ; \ y_c = \frac{m_{01}}{m_{00}} = 5 \]

Finally, the principal angle for the image on the left is computed as \( \beta = \frac{\text{atan2}(2M_{11}, M_{20} - M_{02})}{2} \):

\[ \beta = \frac{\text{atan2}(24, -24)}{2} = \frac{135}{2} = 67.5^\circ \]
Color Tracking
A Quick Overview

- Color Representations
- Choosing a Color to Track
- How to Find the Target
RGB vs HSV

- RGB is very sensitive to brightness
- HSV (Hue, Saturation, Value) is less sensitive
- Color Space Visualizer: http://colorizer.org/
HSV Color Space

- **Hue**: expressed as a number from 0 to 179 when using OpenCV image operations

- **Saturation**: How "pure" the color is. The closer to 0, the more grey the color looks. Range 0-255

- **Value**: (or Brightness) works in conjunction with saturation and describes the brightness or intensity of the color from 0 to 255.

- **Color conversion**: `cv2.cvtColor(input_image, flag)`

Where `flag` determines the type of conversion.
For BGR→Gray, flag is `cv2.COLOR_BGR2GRAY`
For BGR→HSV, flag is `cv2.COLOR_BGR2HSV`

Note:
For HSV, Hue range is [0,179], Saturation range is [0,255] and Value range is [0,255]. You will have to experiment to find the right settings for your lab.
Convert to HSV, Find HSV values

import cv2
import numpy as np

cap = cv2.VideoCapture(0)
while (1):
    # Take each frame
    _, frame = cap.read()
    # Convert BGR to HSV
    hsv = cv2.cvtColor(frame, cv2.COLOR_BGR2HSV)

# print out the HSV values for color green
#green = np.uint8([[0,255,0]])
#hsv_green = cv2.cvtColor(green,cv2.COLOR_BGR2HSV)
#print hsv_green
# [[60 255 255]]
Use Morphology to “clean up” image

**erode:**
The value of the output pixel is the *minimum* value of all the pixels in the input pixel's neighborhood

**dilate:**
The value of the output pixel is the *maximum* value of all the pixels in the input pixel's neighborhood

Tutorial: [https://docs.opencv.org/3.0-beta/doc/py_tutorials/py_imgproc/py_morphological_ops/py_morphological_ops.html](https://docs.opencv.org/3.0-beta/doc/py_tutorials/py_imgproc/py_morphological_ops/py_morphological_ops.html)
Connected-Component Labeling (a.k.a. Blob Extraction)
Finding the Target-Pseudocode

def get_target(hsv_image):
    #get pixels within threshold of target patch
    masked_image = mask_image(hsv_image, h_thresh, s_thresh, v_thresh)

    #morphologically erode and dilate the image
    eroded_image = erosion_filter(masked_image)
    cleaned_image = dilate_filter(eroded_image)

    #find the largest connected component (largest blob)
    big_blob = get_largest_blob(cleaned_image)

    # Compute centroid and area of big_blob to move the robot forward, back, left,, right
    centroid = get_centroid(big_blob)
    area = get_area(big_blob)

    return centroid, area
Example

- www.cs.columbia.edu/~allen/F19/NOTES/tracker_with_video_output_clean.py
- www.cs.columbia.edu/~allen/F19/NOTES/green_tracker_output.avi (video)