Circles Finding

with

Clustering Method

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### Introduction – Other Methods

- One way to find circle is using the Hough transform.
- This method have some problems:
  - It's based on gradient edge detector
  - gradient edge detector is sensitive to noise
  - the angles the edge can have are discrete

Introduction – My Idea

- What if we don't have to find the edge angle?
- What if we already have the shape center, and we just need to check if it a circle?
- The new problem: how to find the shapes centers?

Brief Description of the Algorithm

The 5 steps of the algorithm:

- Finding the clusters in the picture
- Creating the edge map
- Finding the clusters' centers
- Finding the symmetric shapes
- Finding the circles

# Clustering – What Can It Do?

- Clustering is a way to find all the points that are "close" to each other, and define them as a cluster.
- "close" is a matter of definition:
  for points in space it can be the Euclidian distance.
  For pictures it can be the Euclidian distance in pixels and the distance in the color/intensity between the two pixels.

# Clustering – What Can It Do?

- So, we can find all the "close" pixels in the picture, and define them as a cluster.
- One of the first assumptions was that all the pixels of one REAL object have "close" parameters.
- Therefore, each cluster represent one REAL object.

Finding the Cluster

Each cluster has its own label

Original picture







Creating the Edge Map

After I have the cluster, it easy to find the edges



Finding the Centers

The mean value of the pixels with the same label is the shape's center



## Finding the Center – Continue

- In the last picture there are shape on top of the other
- I need to consider that in the mean value calculation



Finding the Symmetric Shapes

#### The results after finding the symmetric shapes



And for last – the Circles



Circles Vs. Ellipses



Noise

• Noise is a problem of the clustering algorithm

• After the clustering there is no noise



Noise – Another Example









## Summery

- This algorithm can find circles
- It has one exception: if part of the edge of the circle is hidden.
- On the other hand, it will be a circle only if it is one object, and not several object that look like a circle.

# Advantages & Disadvantages

### • Advantages

- The algorithm can find all king of symmetric shapes
- The edge is very thin
- Disadvantages
  - Needs the edge to be seen
  - Depending on the clustering, especially with noise