Filtering

Separating what you want from what you have











Signals are all around us

- Image, video, audio, radio, medical and musical signals...
- These signals contain a lot of information



We can also filter signals



signal (we want) + noise (we don't)

signal (we want)

Digital Filters

When an image is being processed by a computer/iPhone...

...we can filter it using computation (also known as digital signal processing or DSP)

What can filtering achieve?



Noise-cancelling headphones reduce unwanted ambient sounds (noise) by generating an antinoise sound wave to cancel the noise, letting just the music be heard

What can filtering achieve?





noisy image

de-noised image

The concept of *frequency*

• Describes how quickly a signal moves



• Plays an important role in many types of filters

Frequency in music









Spectrum of a "real-world" signal



Real-world signals can be thought of as combinations of different frequency components





Many filters act by

keeping some frequencies (the ones we want)

and throwing away others (the ones we don't)

Low-pass filter



Low-pass filter



Low-pass filter



High-pass filter



High-pass filter



High-pass filter



Band-pass filter



Band-pass filter

Band-pass filter

Notch filter

Notch filter

Notch filter

tinyurl.com/filterdemo