

# Kanade-Lucas-Tomasi (KLT) Tracker

16-385 Computer Vision (Kris Kitani)  
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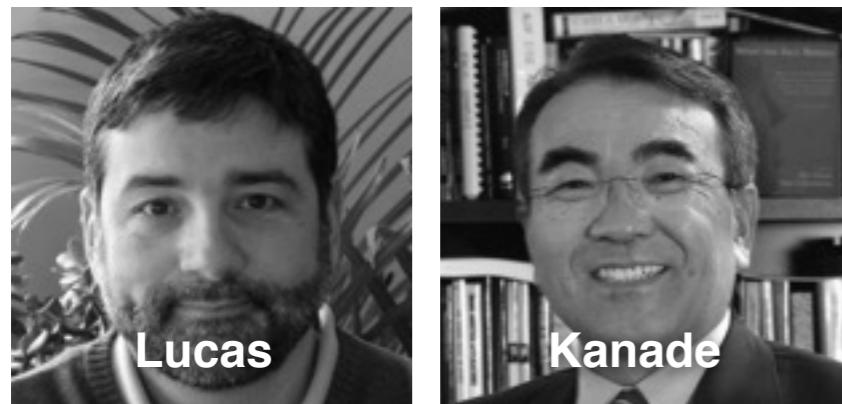


# Feature-based tracking

Up to now, we've been aligning entire images but we can also track just small image regions too!

How should we select features?

How should we track them from frame to frame?



An Iterative Image Registration Technique  
with an Application to Stereo Vision.

# History of the Kanade-Lucas-Tomasi (KLT) Tracker

**1981**



Detection and Tracking of Feature Points.

**1991**

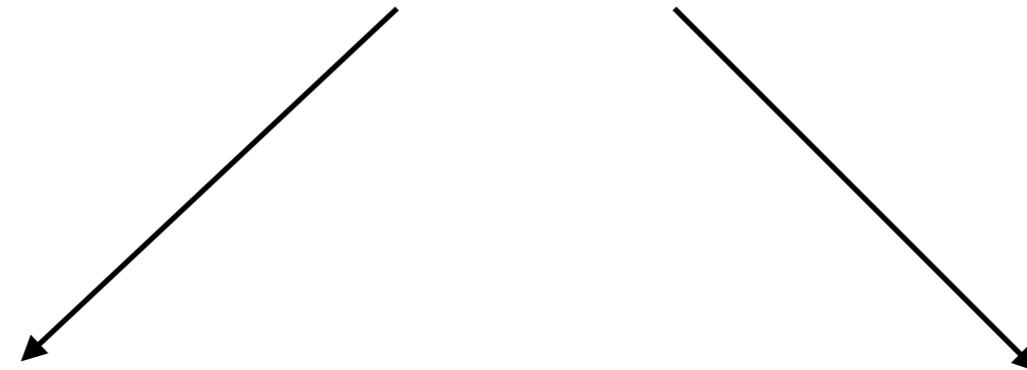
The original KLT algorithm



Good Features to Track.

**1994**

# Kanade-Lucas-Tomasi



## Lucas-Kanade

Method for aligning (tracking) an image patch

## Tomasi-Kanade

Method for choosing the best feature (image patch) for tracking

*What are good features for tracking?*

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Intuitively, we want to avoid smooth regions and edges. But is there a more principled way to define good features?

*What are good features for tracking?*

Can be derived from the tracking algorithm

*What are good features for tracking?*

Can be derived from the tracking algorithm

*‘A feature is good if it can be tracked well’*

Recall the Lucas-Kanade image alignment method:

error function (SSD) 
$$\sum_{\mathbf{x}} [I(\mathbf{W}(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{p})) - T(\mathbf{x})]^2$$

incremental update 
$$\sum_{\mathbf{x}} [I(\mathbf{W}(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{p} + \Delta\mathbf{p})) - T(\mathbf{x})]^2$$

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linearize 
$$\sum_{\mathbf{x}} \left[ I(\mathbf{W}(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{p})) + \nabla I \frac{\partial \mathbf{W}}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \Delta \mathbf{p} - T(\mathbf{x}) \right]^2$$

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Gradient update 
$$\Delta \mathbf{p} = H^{-1} \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \left[ \nabla I \frac{\partial \mathbf{W}}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \right]^\top [T(\mathbf{x}) - I(\mathbf{W}(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{p}))]$$

$$H = \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \left[ \nabla I \frac{\partial \mathbf{W}}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \right]^\top \left[ \nabla I \frac{\partial \mathbf{W}}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \right]$$

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$$H = \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \left[ \nabla I \frac{\partial \mathbf{W}}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \right]^\top \left[ \nabla I \frac{\partial \mathbf{W}}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \right]$$

Update 
$$\mathbf{p} \leftarrow \mathbf{p} + \Delta \mathbf{p}$$

Stability of gradient decent iterations depends on ...

$$\Delta p = \cancel{H^{-1}} \sum_x \left[ \nabla I \frac{\partial \mathbf{W}}{\partial p} \right]^\top [T(\mathbf{x}) - I(\mathbf{W}(\mathbf{x}; p))] \quad \text{[Equation 1]}$$

Stability of gradient decent iterations depends on ...

$$\Delta p = H^{-1} \sum_x \left[ \nabla I \frac{\partial \mathbf{W}}{\partial p} \right]^\top [T(\mathbf{x}) - I(\mathbf{W}(\mathbf{x}; p))]$$

Inverting the Hessian

$$H = \sum_x \left[ \nabla I \frac{\partial \mathbf{W}}{\partial p} \right]^\top \left[ \nabla I \frac{\partial \mathbf{W}}{\partial p} \right]$$

*When does the inversion fail?*

Stability of gradient decent iterations depends on ...

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Inverting the Hessian

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*When does the inversion fail?*

H is singular. But what does that mean?

Above the noise level

$$\lambda_1 \gg 0$$

$$\lambda_2 \gg 0$$

both Eigenvalues are large

Well-conditioned

both Eigenvalues have similar magnitude

Concrete example: Consider translation model

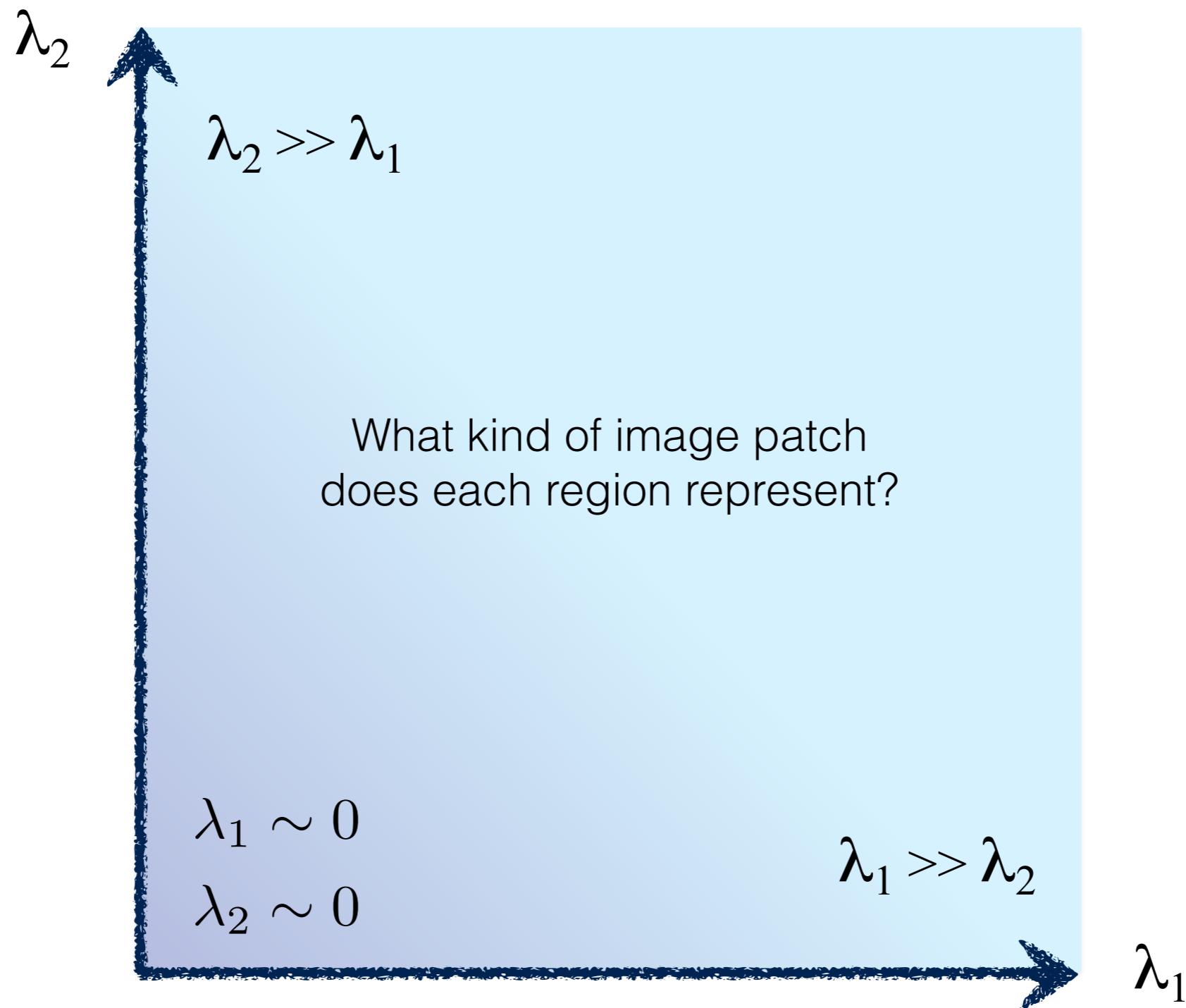
$$\mathbf{W}(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{p}) = \begin{bmatrix} x + p_1 \\ y + p_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \frac{\mathbf{W}}{\partial \mathbf{p}} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Hessian

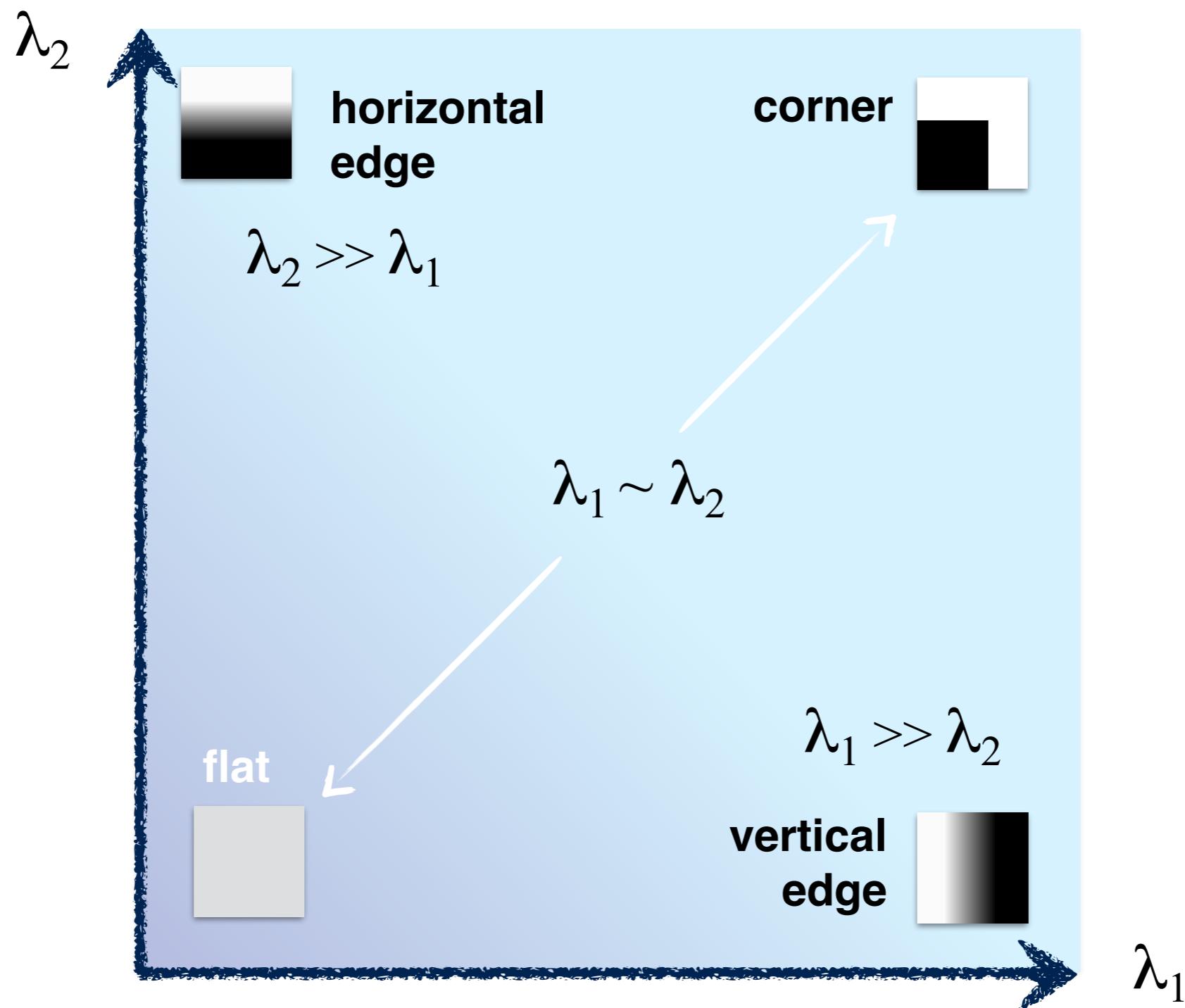
$$\begin{aligned} H &= \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \left[ \nabla I \frac{\partial \mathbf{W}}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \right]^\top \left[ \nabla I \frac{\partial \mathbf{W}}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \right] \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_x \\ I_y \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_x & I_y \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{\mathbf{x}} I_x I_x & \sum_{\mathbf{x}} I_y I_x \\ \sum_{\mathbf{x}} I_x I_y & \sum_{\mathbf{x}} I_y I_y \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

*How are the eigenvalues related to image content?*

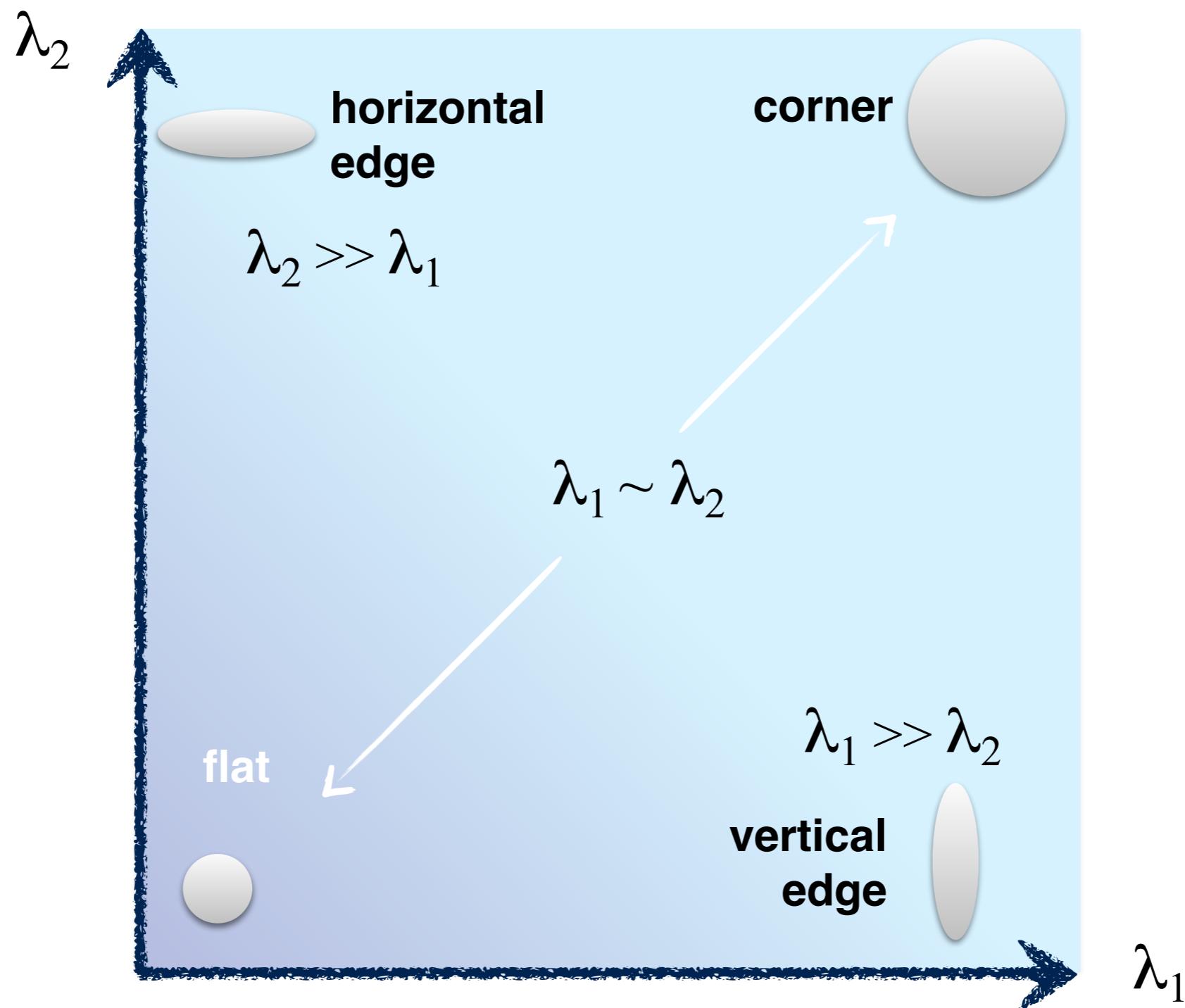
# interpreting eigenvalues



# interpreting eigenvalues



# interpreting eigenvalues



*What are good features for tracking?*

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$$\min(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) > \lambda$$

# KLT algorithm

1. Find corners satisfying  $\min(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) > \lambda$
2. For each corner compute displacement to next frame using the Lucas-Kanade method
3. Store displacement of each corner, update corner position
4. (optional) Add more corner points every M frames using 1
5. Repeat 2 to 3 (4)
6. Returns long trajectories for each corner point