



# GrabCut

## Interactive Foreground Extraction using Iterated Graph Cuts



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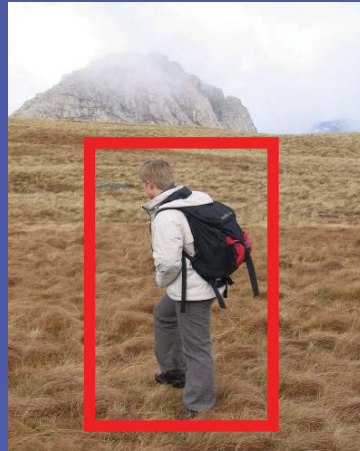


**Microsoft Research Cambridge-UK**

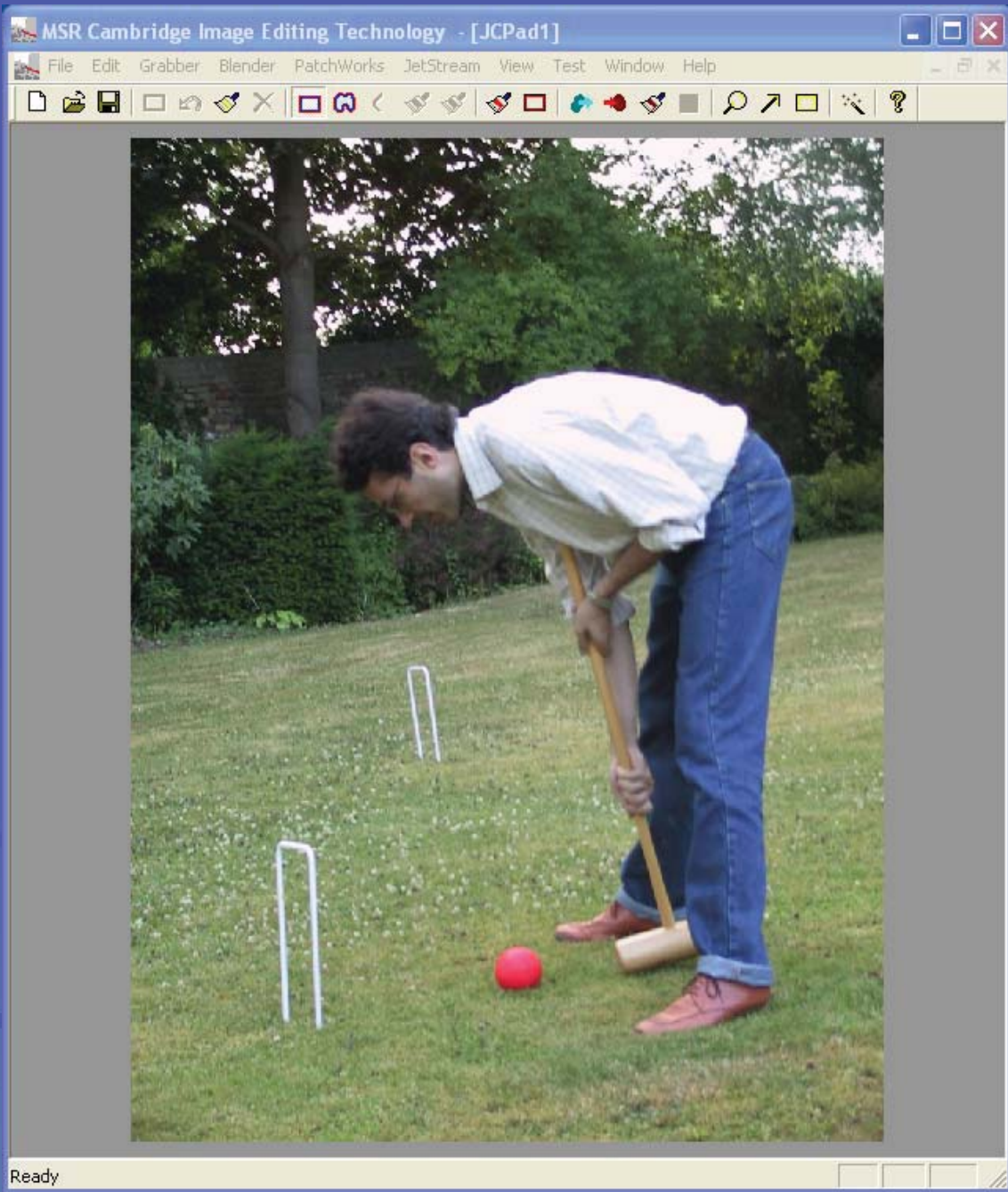
# Photomontage



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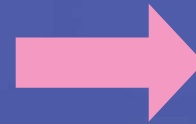
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[video](#)

# Problem



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Fast &  
Accurate ?



# What GrabCut does



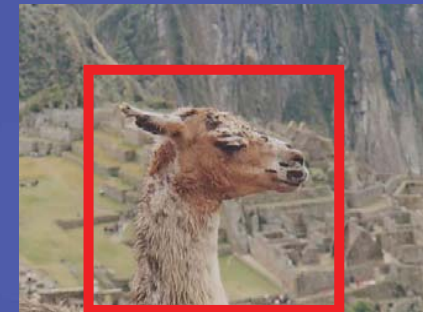
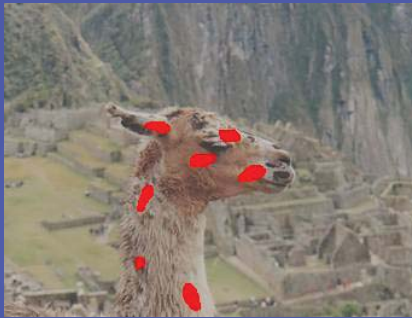
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Magic Wand  
(198?)

Intelligent Scissors  
Mortensen and Barrett (1995)

GrabCut

User  
Input



Result



Regions

Boundary

Regions & Boundary



# Framework



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- **Input:** Image  $\mathbf{x} \in \{\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{G}, \mathbf{B}\}^n$
- **Output:** Segmentation  $\mathbf{S} \in \{0, 1\}^n$
- **Parameters:** Colour  $\Theta$ , Coherence  $\lambda$
- **Energy:**  $E(\Theta, \mathbf{S}, \mathbf{x}, \lambda) = E_{Col} + E_{Coh}$
- **Optimization:**  $\arg \min_{\mathbf{S}, \Theta} E(\mathbf{S}, \Theta, \mathbf{x}, \lambda)$

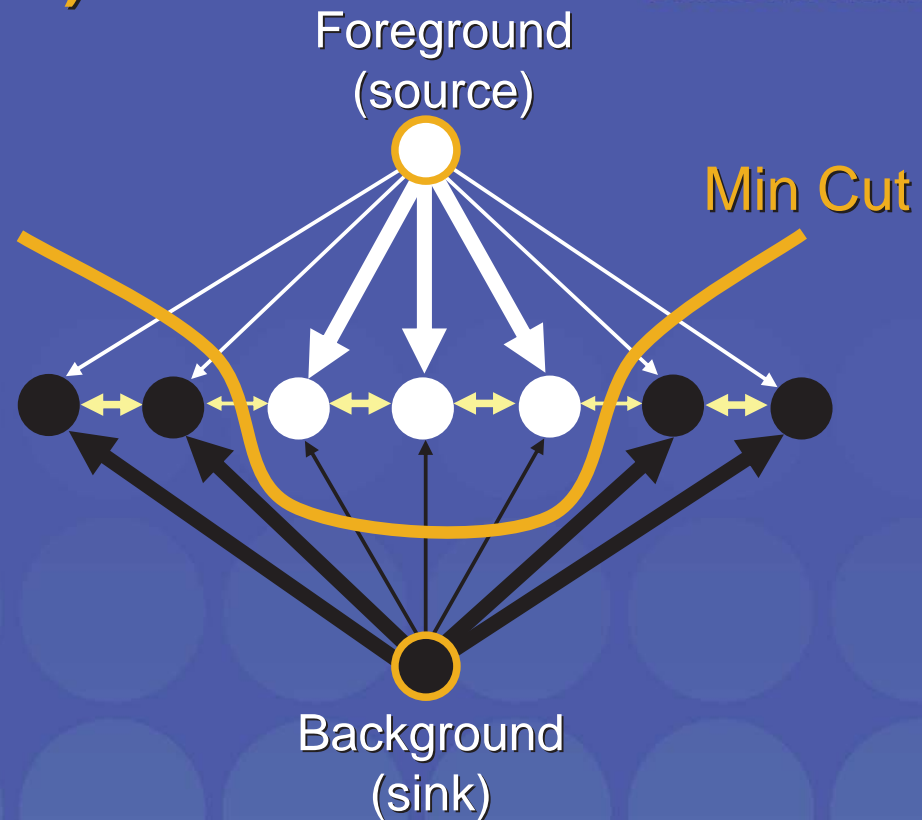
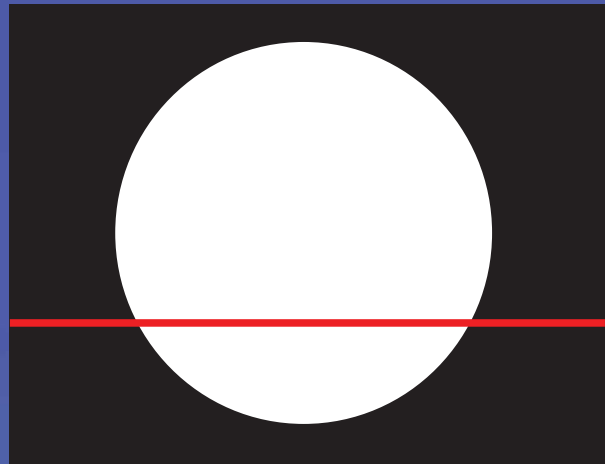
# Graph Cuts

Boykov and Jolly (2001)



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Image



**Cut:** separating source and sink; Energy: collection of edges

**Min Cut:** Global minimal energy in polynomial time

# Iterated Graph Cut



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User Initialisation

$$\arg \min_{\Theta} E(S, \Theta, x, \lambda)$$

**K-means for learning  
colour distributions**

$$\arg \min_S E(S, \Theta, x, \lambda)$$

**Graph cuts to  
infer the  
segmentation**



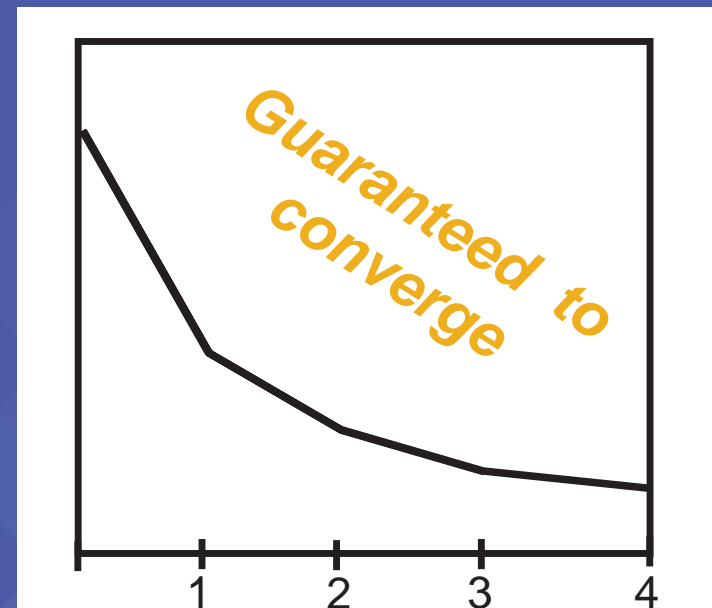
# Iterated Graph Cuts



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Result

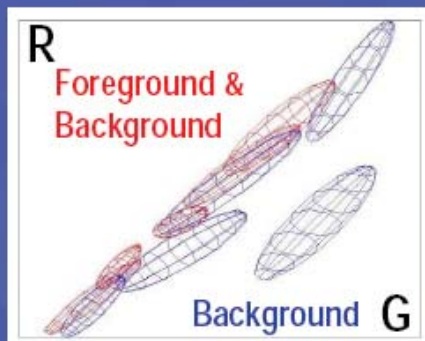


Energy after each Iteration

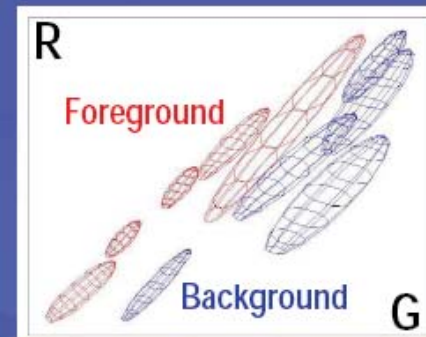
# Colour Model



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Iterated  
graph cut



Gaussian Mixture Model (typically 5-8 components)

$$E_{Col}(\Theta, S, \mathbf{x}) = \sum_{\mathbf{n}} D(S_{\mathbf{n}}, \Theta, \mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{n}})$$

# Coherence Model



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An object is a coherent set of pixels:

$$E_{coh}(\mathbf{S}, \mathbf{x}, \lambda) =$$

$$\lambda \sum_{i,j \text{ adj.}} (S_i \neq S_j) \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \|x_i - x_j\|^2\right\}$$



$\lambda = 0$



$\lambda = 50$



$\lambda = 1000$

**Blake et al. (2004):** Learn  $\Theta, \lambda$  jointly



# Moderately straightforward examples



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... GrabCut completes automatically

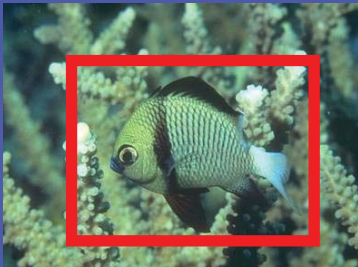
# Difficult Examples



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## Camouflage & Low Contrast

Initial Rectangle



Initial Result



## Fine structure



## No telepathy



# Evaluation – Labelled Database



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Available online: <http://research.microsoft.com/vision/cambridge/segmentation/>



# Comparison

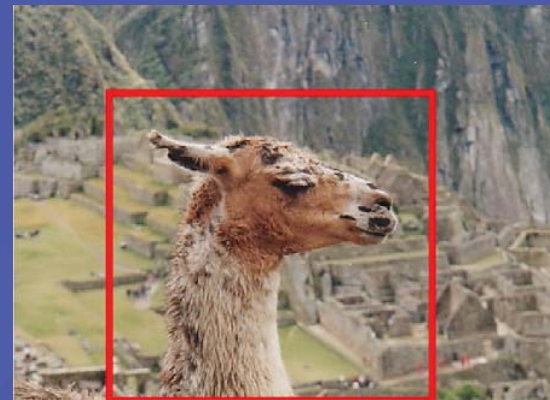
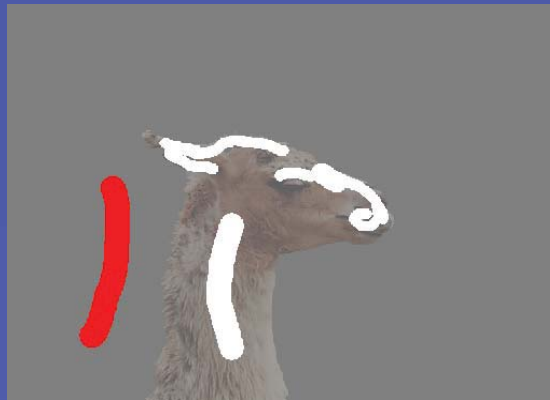


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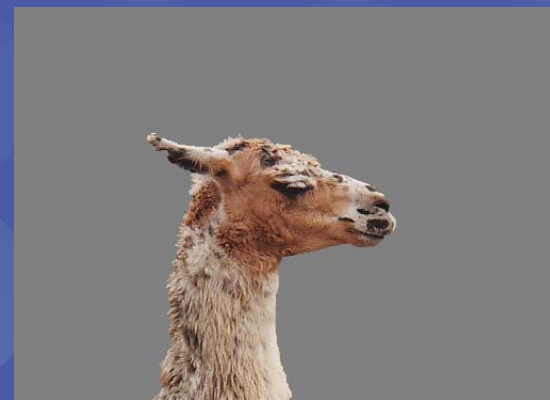
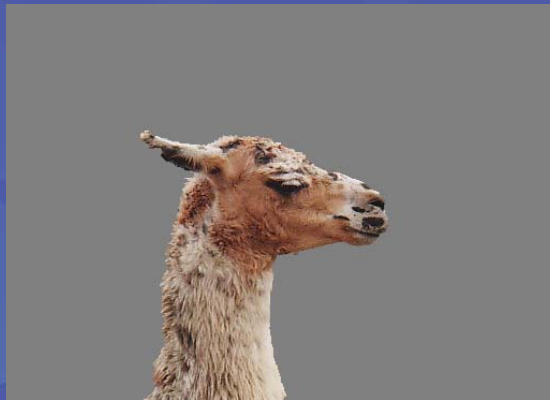
Boykov and Jolly (2001)

GrabCut

User  
Input



Result



Error Rate: 0.72%

Error Rate: 0.72%

# Summary



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Magic Wand  
(198?)

Intelligent Scissors  
Mortensen and  
Barrett (1995)

Graph Cuts  
Boykov and  
Jolly (2001)

LazySnapping  
Li et al. (2004)

GrabCut  
Rother et al.  
(2004)