

# GrabCut

## Interactive Foreground Extraction using Iterated Graph Cuts

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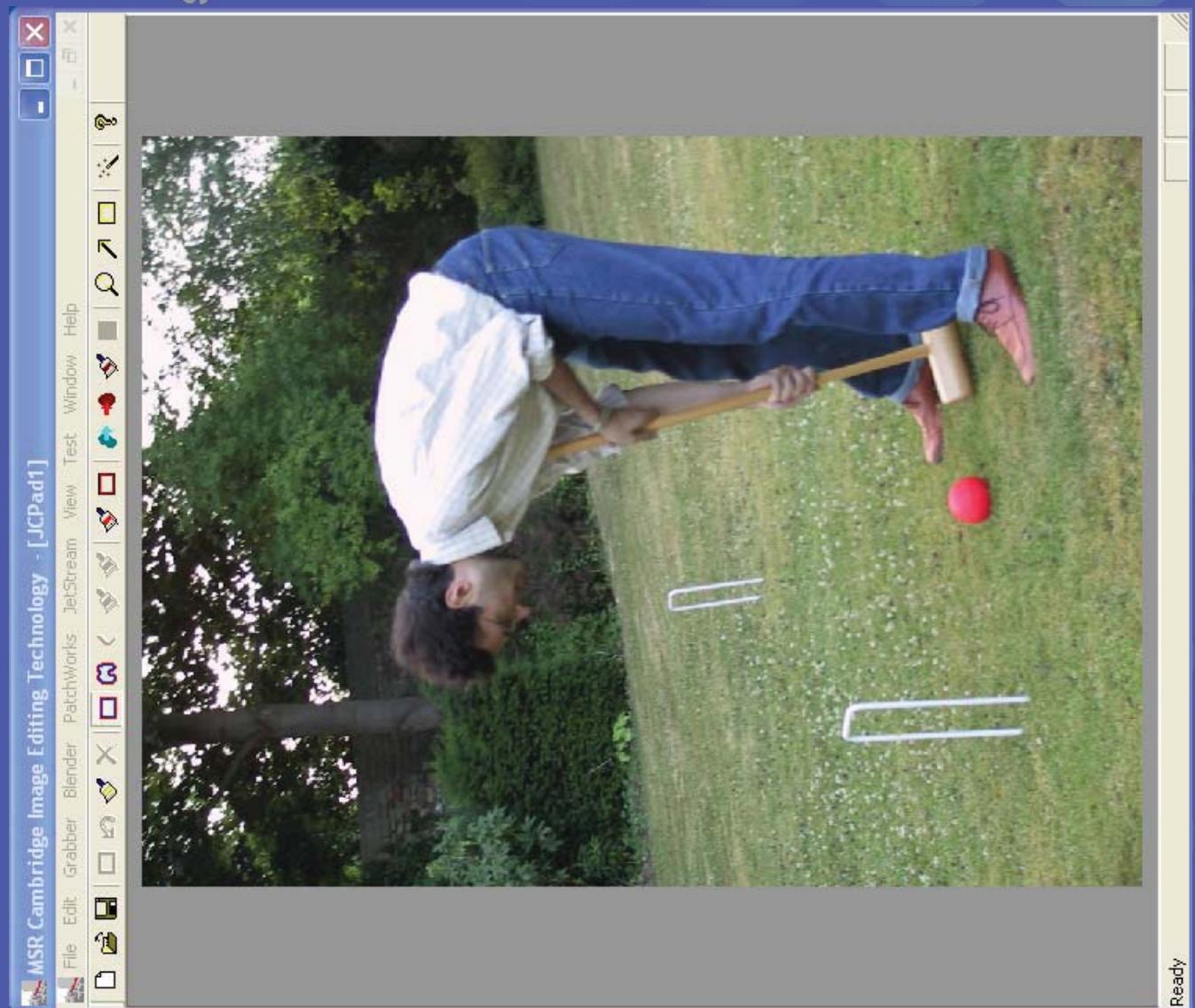
**Microsoft Research Cambridge-UK**

# Photomontage



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video

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# Problem



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Fast &  
Accurate ?

# What GrabCut does

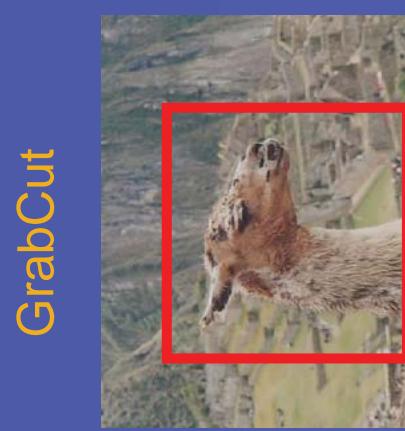
Magic Wand  
(198?)



User  
Input



Intelligent Scissors  
Mortensen and Barrett (1995)



GrabCut



Result



Result



Regions & Boundary

Boundary

# Framework

- **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:**  $\arg \min_{\mathbf{S}, \Theta} E(\mathbf{S}, \Theta, \mathbf{x}, \lambda)$

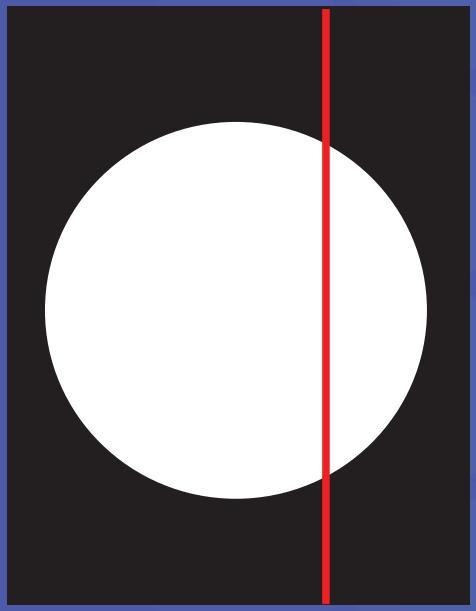


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# Graph Cuts

Boykov and Jolly (2001)

Image



Foreground  
(source)

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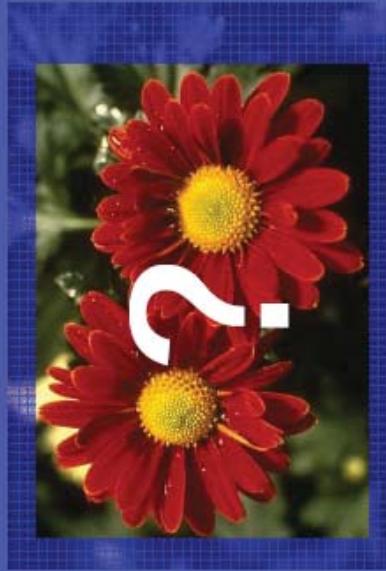
Min Cut

Background  
(sink)

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

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

# Iterated Graph Cut



User Initialisation



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

Graph cuts to  
infer the  
segmentation

K-means for learning  
colour distributions

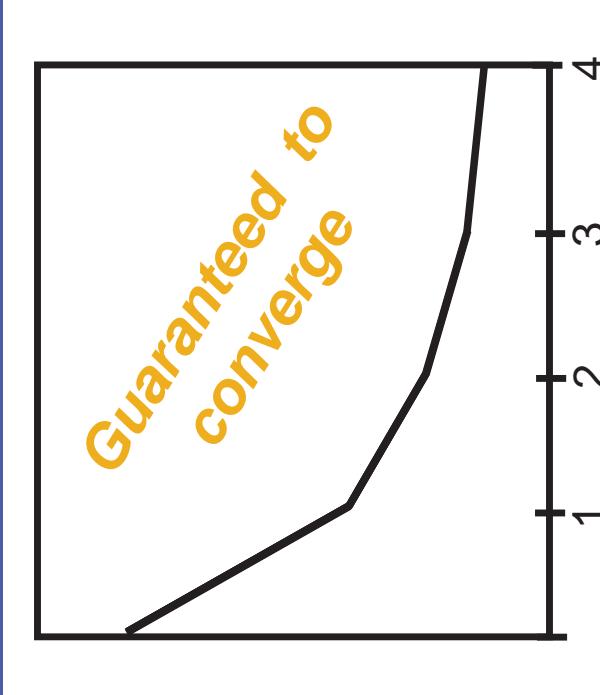
# Iterated Graph Cuts



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Result



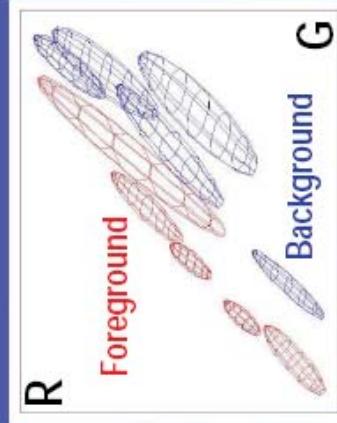
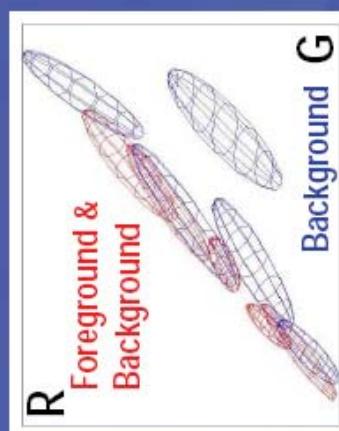
Energy after each Iteration

# Colour Model

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↑  
Iterated  
graph cut



Gaussian Mixture Model (typically 5-8 components)

$$E_{Col}(\Theta, S, x) = \sum_n D(S_n, \Theta, x_n)$$

# Coherence Model

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An object is a coherent set of pixels:

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



$$\lambda = 0$$



$$\lambda = 50$$



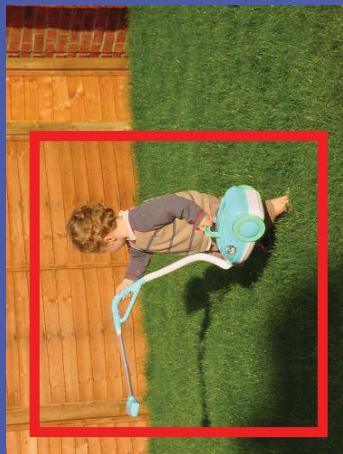
$$\lambda = 1000$$

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

# Moderately straightforward examples



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... GrabCut completes automatically

# Difficult Examples



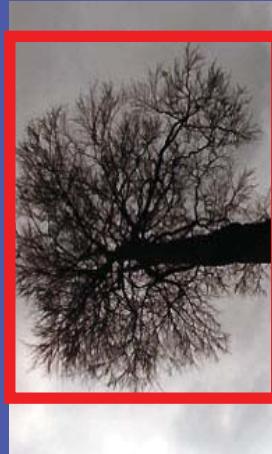
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Camouflage &  
Low Contrast



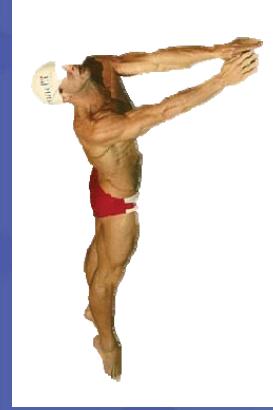
Initial  
Rectangle

Fine structure



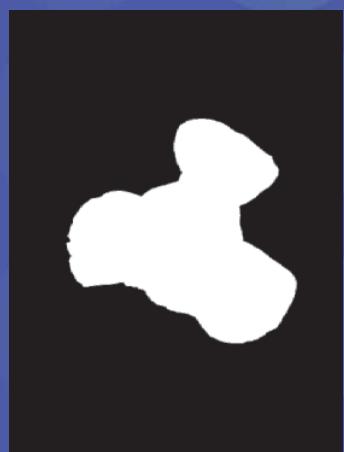
Initial  
Result

No telepathy



# Evaluation – Labelled Database

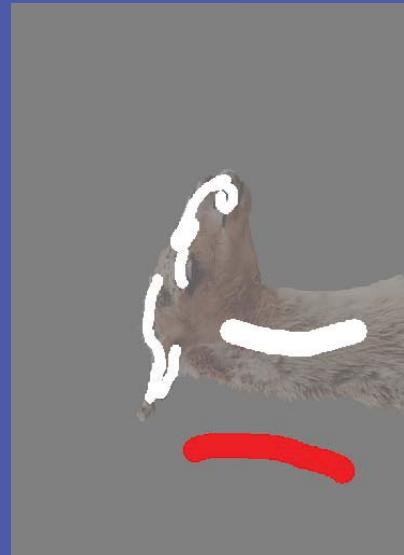
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Available online: <http://research.microsoft.com/vision/cambridge/segmentation/>

# Comparison

Boykov and Jolly (2001)



User  
Input

Result

Error Rate: 0.72%



GrabCut



Error Rate: 0.72%

# Summary

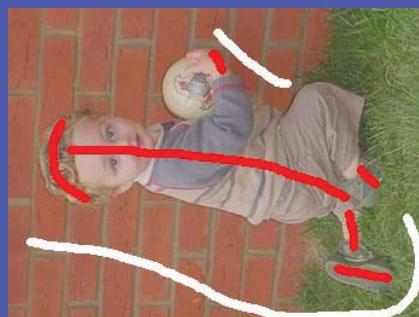
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GrabCut  
Rother et al.  
(2004)



LazySnapping  
Li et al. (2004)



Graph Cuts  
Boykov and  
Jolly (2001)



Intelligent Scissors  
Mortensen and  
Barrett (1995)



Magic Wand  
(198?)