What is an image?

An image is a two-dimensional function $f(x,y)$, where $x$ and $y$ are the spatial (plane) coordinates, and the amplitude of $f$ at any pair of coordinates $(x,y)$ is called the intensity of the image at that level.

What is a digital image?

If $x,y$ and the amplitude values of $f$ are finite and discrete quantities, we call the image a digital image. A digital image is composed of a finite number of elements called pixels, each of which has a particular location and value.
In 8-bit representation, pixel intensity values change between 0 (Black) and 255 (White).

Consider the following image (1024 x 1024 pixels) to be a 2D function or a matrix with rows and columns.

\[ f(1,1) = 21 \]

\[ f(1024,1024) = 15 \]

\[ f(520:525,375:380) = \]

\[
\begin{array}{cccccccc}
152 & 148 & 144 & 152 & 181 & 203 \\
144 & 138 & 156 & 152 & 184 & 208 \\
141 & 141 & 138 & 156 & 181 & 203 \\
136 & 138 & 144 & 158 & 177 & 196 \\
144 & 138 & 148 & 154 & 177 & 208 \\
149 & 138 & 152 & 160 & 188 & 205 \\
\end{array}
\]
What is Digital Image Processing?

**Definition:** Digital image processing refers to processing of digital images by using digital computers.

**Sources of Digital Images**

- *The principal source for the images is the electromagnetic (EM) energy spectrum.*

- *The spectral bands are grouped according to energy per photon ranging from the gamma rays (highest energy) to the radio waves (lowest energy).*

![Electromagnetic Spectrum](image-url)

**FIGURE 1.5** The electromagnetic spectrum arranged according to energy per photon.
The Electromagnetic Spectrum

Energy of one photon (electron volts)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency (Hz)</th>
<th>Wavelength (meters)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10^21</td>
<td>10^{-12}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10^20</td>
<td>10^{-11}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10^{19}</td>
<td>10^{-10}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10^{18}</td>
<td>10^{-9}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10^{17}</td>
<td>10^{-8}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10^{16}</td>
<td>10^{-7}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10^{15}</td>
<td>10^{-6}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10^{14}</td>
<td>10^{-5}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10^{13}</td>
<td>10^{-4}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10^{12}</td>
<td>10^{-3}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10^{11}</td>
<td>10^{-2}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10^{10}</td>
<td>10^{-1}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10^{9}</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10^{8}</td>
<td>10^1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10^{7}</td>
<td>10^2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10^{6}</td>
<td>10^3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FIGURE 2.10** The electromagnetic spectrum. The visible spectrum is shown zoomed to facilitate explanation, but note that the visible spectrum is a rather narrow portion of the EM spectrum.
The Electromagnetic Spectrum

Increasing energy

Increasing wavelength

0.0001 nm 0.01 nm 10 nm 1000 nm 0.01 cm 1 cm 1 m 100 m

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gamma rays</th>
<th>X-rays</th>
<th>Ultraviolet</th>
<th>Infrared</th>
<th>Radio waves</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Radar TV FM AM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Visible light

400 nm 500 nm 600 nm 700 nm
Digital Images based on the EM Spectrum

**Gamma Ray Imaging**: Used in nuclear medicine and astronomical observations.

- Gamma-Ray Imaging in nuclear medicine
- Gamma-Ray Imaging Cherenkov Telescope
- Gamma-Ray imaging of a starburst galaxy about 12 million light-years away

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Digital Images based on the EM Spectrum

**X-ray Imaging:** Used in medical diagnostic, industrial applications and astronomy.

X-ray images from the space
The Chandra X-Ray Observatory

FIGURE 1.7 Examples of X-ray imaging: (a) Chest X-ray, (b) Aortic angiogram, (c) Head CT, (d) Circuit boards, (e) Cygnus Loop. (Images courtesy of (a) and (c) Dr. David R. Pickens, Dept. of Radiology & Radiological Sciences, Vanderbilt University Medical Center; (b) Dr. Thomas R. Gest, Division of Anatomical Sciences, University of Michigan Medical School; (d) Mr. Joseph E. Pascente; Lixi, Inc., and (e) NASA.)
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Ultraviolet Band Imaging: Applications of ultraviolet light includes microscopy, lasers, biological imaging and astronomy.

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Digital Images based on the EM Spectrum

**Visible Light** and Infrared Band Imaging: Applications include all the images acquired by our cameras, electron microscope, and monitoring environmental conditions.

- **Binary image** (1-bit)
- **Grayscale** (Monochrome) image (8-bit)
- **Color image** (24-bit)

Respective RGB components of a color image.

Some visible light image examples.

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Digital Images based on the EM Spectrum

**Visible Light and Infrared Band Imaging:** Applications include all the images acquired by our cameras, electron microscope, and monitoring environmental conditions.

- **infrared ("thermal") image:**
  - Snake around the arm.
  - A soldier with a rifle.

Messier 51 in ultraviolet (GALEX), visible (DSS), and near infrared (2MASS).

Courtesy of James Fanson.
Digital Images based on the EM Spectrum

Visible Light and Infrared Band Imaging

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Band No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Wavelength (µm)</th>
<th>Characteristics and Uses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Visible blue</td>
<td>0.45-0.52</td>
<td>Maximum water penetration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Visible green</td>
<td>0.52-0.60</td>
<td>Good for measuring plant vigor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Visible red</td>
<td>0.63-0.69</td>
<td>Vegetation discrimination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Near infrared</td>
<td>0.76-0.90</td>
<td>Biomass and shoreline mapping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Middle infrared</td>
<td>1.55-1.75</td>
<td>Moisture content of soil and vegetation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Thermal infrared</td>
<td>10.4-12.5</td>
<td>Soil moisture; thermal mapping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Middle infrared</td>
<td>2.08-2.35</td>
<td>Mineral mapping</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Visible and Infrared Bands used in Satellite imaging

**TABLE 1.1**
Thematic bands in NASA's LANDSAT satellite.

**FIGURE 1.10** LANDSAT satellite images of the Washington, D.C. area. The numbers refer to the thematic bands in Table 1.1. (Images courtesy of NASA.)
Digital Images based on the EM Spectrum

**Microwave Band Imaging**: Applications include all the radar applications including military applications and environmental applications.

**FIGURE 1.16**
Spaceborne radar image of mountains in southeast Tibet. (Courtesy of NASA.)

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**Synthetic Aperture Radar System**

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Digital Images based on the EM Spectrum

**Radio Band Imaging**: Applications include medical imaging (i.e. Magnetic Resonance Imaging- MRI) and astronomy.

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**Figure 1.17** MRI images of a human (a) knee, and (b) spine. (Image (a) courtesy of Dr. Thomas R. Gest, Division of Anatomical Sciences, University of Michigan Medical School, and (b) Dr. David R. Pickens, Department of Radiology and Radiological Sciences, Vanderbilt University Medical Center.)

MRI image slices from the brain
Digital Images based on the EM Spectrum

An example showing Imaging in all of the bands

**FIGURE 1.18** Images of the Crab Pulsar (in the center of images) covering the electromagnetic spectrum.
(Courtesy of NASA.)

Visible light
Digital Images based on the **Ultrasound**

**Ultrasound Imaging:** Ultrasound is a cyclic sound pressure wave with a frequency greater than the upper limit of human hearing. The most well-known application of ultrasound is its use in **sonography** to produce pictures of fetuses in the human womb.
Fundamental Steps in Image Processing

FIGURE 1.23
Fundamental steps in digital image processing.

Outputs of these processes generally are images

- CHAPTER 6: Color image processing
- CHAPTER 7: Wavelets and multiresolution processing
- CHAPTER 8: Compression
- CHAPTER 9: Morphological processing
- CHAPTER 5: Image restoration
- CHAPTERS 3 & 4: Image enhancement
- CHAPTER 2: Image acquisition
- CHAPTER 10: Segmentation
- CHAPTER 11: Representation & description
- CHAPTER 12: Object recognition

Knowledge base

Problem domain
Consider a tree of 15m high at 100 m. Then the retinal image height can be calculated by:

\[
\frac{15}{100} = \frac{h}{17} \Rightarrow h = 2.55\text{mm}
\]
Acquisition of Images.

The images are generated by the combination of an *illumination source* and the reflection or absorption of energy from that source by the elements of the *scene* being imaged.

*Imaging sensors* are used to transform the *illumination energy* into digital images.

Each *sensor* transforms the incoming energy into *voltage* by the combination of the input electrical power and the sensor material that is responsive to the particular type of energy being detected.
Types of Image Sensors

FIGURE 2.12
(a) Single imaging sensor.
(b) Line sensor.
(c) Array sensor.

- Single Sensor
- Line Sensor
- Array Sensor
Image Acquisition using **Single Sensor**

**FIGURE 2.13** Combining a single sensor with motion to generate a 2-D image.
Image Acquisition using **Line Sensor**

FIGURE 2.14 (a) Image acquisition using a linear sensor strip. (b) Image acquisition using a circular sensor strip.
Image Acquisition using **Sensor Array**

**FIGURE 2.15** An example of the digital image acquisition process. (a) Energy ("illumination") source. (b) An element of a scene. (c) Imaging system. (d) Projection of the scene onto the image plane. (e) Digitized image.
Image Sampling and Quantization

A digital image can be obtained by converting a continuous/analog image in a digital form by:

- Sampling and
- Quantization.

Given a continuous image, \( f(x,y) \), digitizing the coordinate values is called \textit{sampling} and digitizing the amplitude (intensity) values is called \textit{quantization}.
Image Sampling and Quantization

**FIGURE 2.16** Generating a digital image. (a) Continuous image. (b) A scan line from $A$ to $B$ in the continuous image, used to illustrate the concepts of sampling and quantization. (c) Sampling and quantization. (d) Digital scan line.
FIGURE 2.17 (a) Continuous image projected onto a sensor array. (b) Result of image sampling and quantization.
Matrix Representation of Images

A matrix representing an $N \times M$ image.

- $M$ and $N$ can be any positive integers.
- The number of gray levels, $L$, is an integer power of 2.
  \[ L = 2^k \]  ($k$ is # of bits per pixel)
- Number of bits required to store a digitized image:
  \[ b = N \times M \times k \]

[FIGURE 2.18]
Coordinate convention used in this book to represent digital images.
Number of bits used to represent an image

Assume that $M=N$. Therefore $b=N^2 \cdot k$

**TABLE 2.1**
Number of storage bits for various values of $N$ and $k$.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$N/k$</th>
<th>1 ($L = 2$)</th>
<th>2 ($L = 4$)</th>
<th>3 ($L = 8$)</th>
<th>4 ($L = 16$)</th>
<th>5 ($L = 32$)</th>
<th>6 ($L = 64$)</th>
<th>7 ($L = 128$)</th>
<th>8 ($L = 256$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>1,024</td>
<td>2,048</td>
<td>3,072</td>
<td>4,096</td>
<td>5,120</td>
<td>6,144</td>
<td>7,168</td>
<td>8,192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>4,096</td>
<td>8,192</td>
<td>12,288</td>
<td>16,384</td>
<td>20,480</td>
<td>24,576</td>
<td>28,672</td>
<td>32,768</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>128</td>
<td>16,384</td>
<td>32,768</td>
<td>49,152</td>
<td>65,536</td>
<td>81,920</td>
<td>98,304</td>
<td>114,688</td>
<td>131,072</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>256</td>
<td>65,536</td>
<td>131,072</td>
<td>196,608</td>
<td>262,144</td>
<td>327,680</td>
<td>393,216</td>
<td>458,752</td>
<td>524,288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>512</td>
<td>262,144</td>
<td>524,288</td>
<td>786,432</td>
<td>1,048,576</td>
<td>1,310,720</td>
<td>1,572,864</td>
<td>1,835,008</td>
<td>2,097,152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1024</td>
<td>1,048,576</td>
<td>2,097,152</td>
<td>3,145,728</td>
<td>4,194,304</td>
<td>5,242,880</td>
<td>6,291,456</td>
<td>7,340,032</td>
<td>8,388,608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2048</td>
<td>4,194,304</td>
<td>8,388,608</td>
<td>12,582,912</td>
<td>16,777,216</td>
<td>20,971,520</td>
<td>25,165,824</td>
<td>29,369,128</td>
<td>33,554,432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4096</td>
<td>16,777,216</td>
<td>33,554,432</td>
<td>50,331,648</td>
<td>67,108,864</td>
<td>83,886,080</td>
<td>100,663,296</td>
<td>117,440,512</td>
<td>134,217,728</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8192</td>
<td>67,108,864</td>
<td>134,217,728</td>
<td>201,326,592</td>
<td>268,435,456</td>
<td>335,544,320</td>
<td>402,653,184</td>
<td>469,762,048</td>
<td>536,870,912</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dr. Hasan Demirel, PhD
Sampling and Spatial Resolution

*Sampling is the principal factor determining the spatial resolution of an image.*

*Sampling determines the number of pixels of a digitized image.*

**FIGURE 2.19** A 1024 × 1024, 8-bit image subsampled down to size 32 × 32 pixels. The number of allowable gray levels was kept at 256.
Sampling and Spatial Resolution

**FIGURE 2.20**  
(a) $1024 \times 1024$, 8-bit image. (b) $512 \times 512$ image resampled into $1024 \times 1024$ pixels by row and column duplication. (c) through (f) $256 \times 256$, $128 \times 128$, $64 \times 64$, and $32 \times 32$ images resampled into $1024 \times 1024$ pixels.
Quantization and Gray-level Resolution

Quantization is the most important factor determining the gray-level resolution of an image. Quantization determines the number of gray levels that each pixel can take.

False contouring effect is visible in 16 and less gray level images.
Resizing Images: Zooming and Shrinking

Zooming is a method of increasing the size of a given image. Zooming can be viewed as oversampling or upsampling of a given image.

Zooming requires 2 steps:
- Creation of new pixel locations
- Assigning new gray-level values to these locations by using interpolation.

Interpolation is defined to be the estimation of the value of unknown point by using the values of known points.
There are 3 main types of 2-D Interpolation techniques for zooming:
- nearest neighbor interpolation
- bilinear interpolation
- bicubic interpolation
Zooming: Interpolation Techniques

Nearest neighbor interpolation: Nearest neighbor interpolation is the simplest method and basically makes the pixels bigger. The intensity of a pixel in the new image is the intensity of the nearest pixel of the original image. If you enlarge 200%, one pixel will be enlarged to a 2 x 2 area of 4 pixels with the same color as the original pixel.

Bilinear interpolation: Bilinear interpolation considers the closest 2x2 neighborhood of known pixel values surrounding the unknown pixel. It then takes a weighted average of these 4 pixels to arrive at its final interpolated value. This results in much smoother looking images than nearest neighbor.

Bicubic interpolation: Bicubic goes one step beyond bilinear by considering the closest 4x4 neighborhood of known pixels - for a total of 16 pixels. Since these are at various distances from the unknown pixel, closer pixels are given a higher weighting in the calculation. Bicubic interpolation produces noticeably sharper images than the previous two methods, and is perhaps the ideal combination of processing time and output quality.
Zooming: Interpolation Techniques

Nearest Neighbour

128x128 $\Rightarrow$ 1024x1024

64x64 $\Rightarrow$ 1024x1024

32x32 $\Rightarrow$ 1024x1024

Bilinear

128x128 $\Rightarrow$ 1024x1024

64x64 $\Rightarrow$ 1024x1024

32x32 $\Rightarrow$ 1024x1024
Zooming: Interpolation Techniques

Bilinear

128x128 → 1024x1024
64x64 → 1024x1024
32x32 → 1024x1024

Bicubic

128x128 → 1024x1024
64x64 → 1024x1024
32x32 → 1024x1024
Zooming: Interpolation Techniques

Nearest neighbor interpolation:
- Fastest Processing
- Produces undesired checkboard/blocking (Aliasing) effect
- May be good for rectangular images
- Not suitable for detailed or photographic images

Bilinear interpolation:
- smoother looking images than nearest neighbor.
- has an anti-aliasing effect, therefore less blocking effect than nearest neighbor.

Bicubic interpolation:
- produces noticeably sharper images than the previous two methods.
- has an anti-aliasing effect (Almost no blocking).
- used as a standard in many image editing programs (i.e. Adobe Photoshop)