

*Multidimensional image  
selection and classification system  
based on visual feature  
extraction and scaling*

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# *OVERVIEW*

- Aims
- Choice of image features
- Definition of algorithms
- Business Intelligence (BI) structure
- Image similarity
- Psychophysical investigation
- Results and conclusions

# *AIMS*

To provide an alternative method for classifying and searching images.

- **Innovative answer** by going beyond the use of text descriptors
- **Use of image feature extraction** as main browsing variable
- **Creation of relevant 'feature' scales** that correlate with visual perception.
- **Assist the selection** of test images employed in Image Quality investigations.

# CHOICE OF VISUAL FEATURES

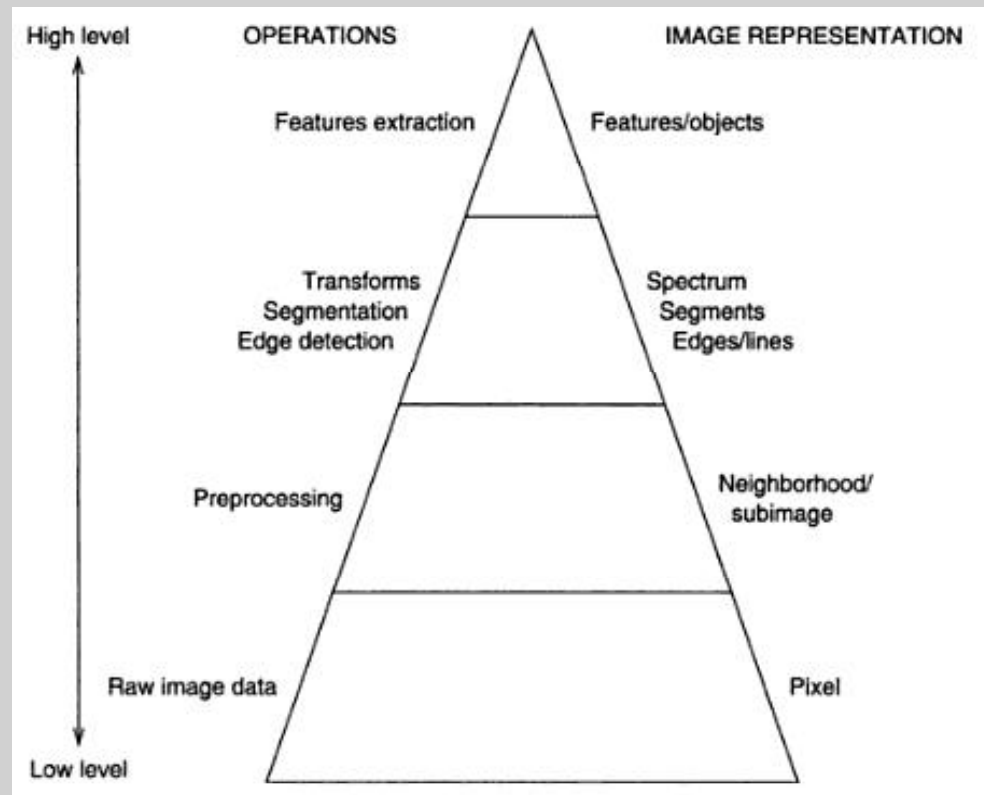
Image Analysis involves:

- **Low-level based:**

Structural and visual analysis

- **Global analysis:**

No use of local image / salience info

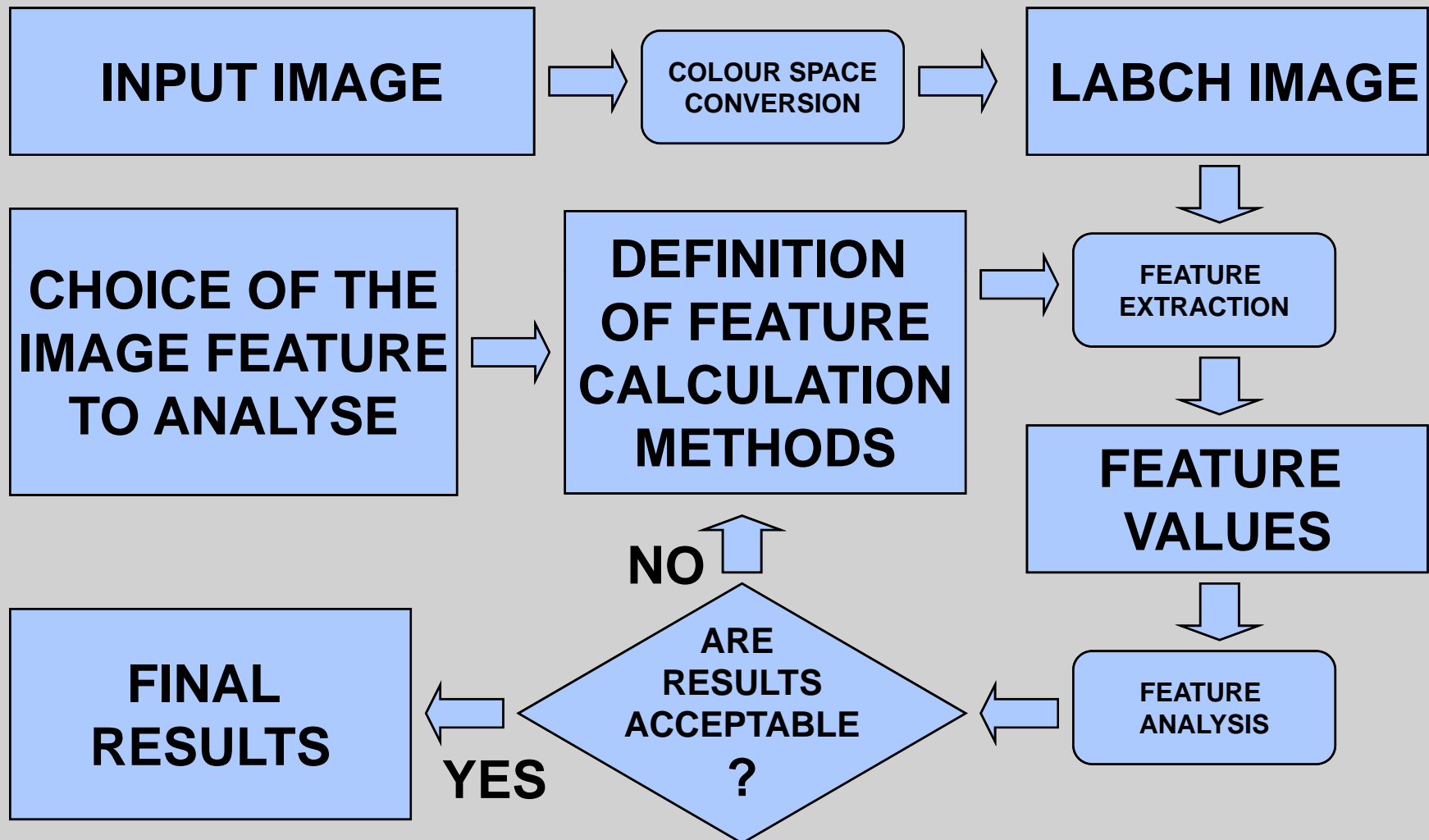


\*Image analysis diagram on low and high level information from  
Umbaugh S. E. – “Computer Imaging: Digital Image Analysis and Processing”

# CHOICE OF VISUAL FEATURES

- **Tonal information:** retrieved from CIELAB  $L^*$  channel:
  - *Lightness*
  - *Contrast*
- **Chromatic information:** retrieved from CIELAB  $h^*$  and  $C^*$  channels:
  - *Colourfulness*
  - *Colour Contrast*
  - *Dominant Hue(s)*
- **Amount of the detail:** retrieved from CIELAB  $L^*$  channel:
  - *Busyness*

# ALGORITHM DEFINITION



# ALGORITHM DEFINITION

## LABCH Colour Space specifications:

- Coordinates derived from CIELAB  $L^*_{ab}$ ,  $a^*$ ,  $b^*$  coordinates
- Values rescaled to fit a [0, 100] range
  - **L**  $\in$  [0, 100] rescaled from  $L^*_{ab}$
  - **A**  $\in$  [-50, 50] rescaled from  $a^*$
  - **B**  $\in$  [-50, 50] rescaled from  $b^*$
  - **C**  $\in$  [0, 100] rescaled from  $C^*_{ab}$
  - **H**  $\in$  [-50, 50] rescaled from  $h^*_{ab}$

# ALGORITHM DEFINITION

**Lightness =  $\mu (\mu(L), m(L))$**

Mean and median both contribute to our perception of Lightness

• **Contrast =  $10^* (\sigma(L))$**

Standard deviation as index of contrast

• **Colourfulness =  $\mu(10^* \sigma(C), \mu(C), m(C))$**

Colour contrast contributes to our perception of Colourfulness.

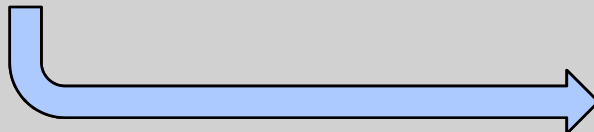
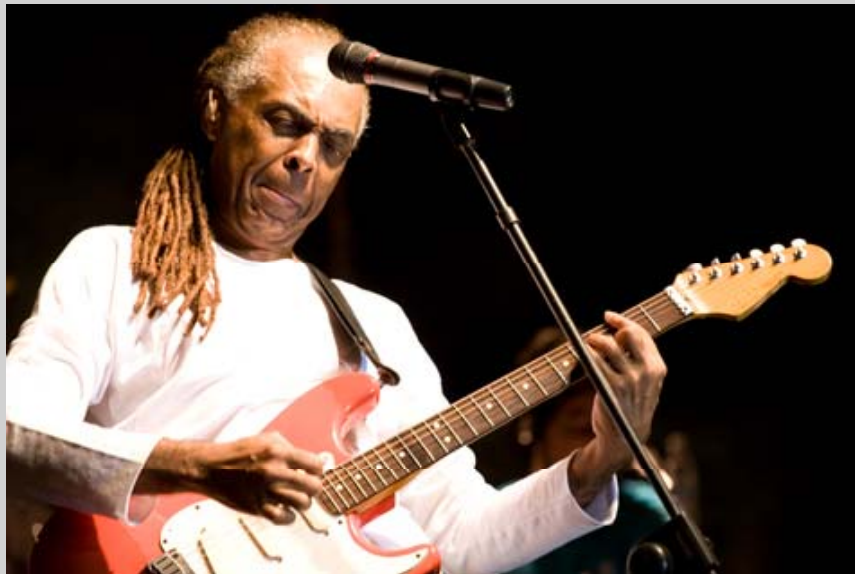
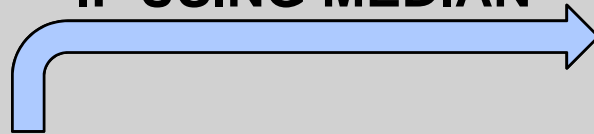
• **Colour Contrast =  $10^* (\sigma(C))$**

Standard deviation as index of contrast

**$\mu$  = mean,  $m$  = median,  $\sigma$  = standard deviation**

# ALGORITHM DEFINITION

DARKER THAN THIS  
IF USING MEDIAN

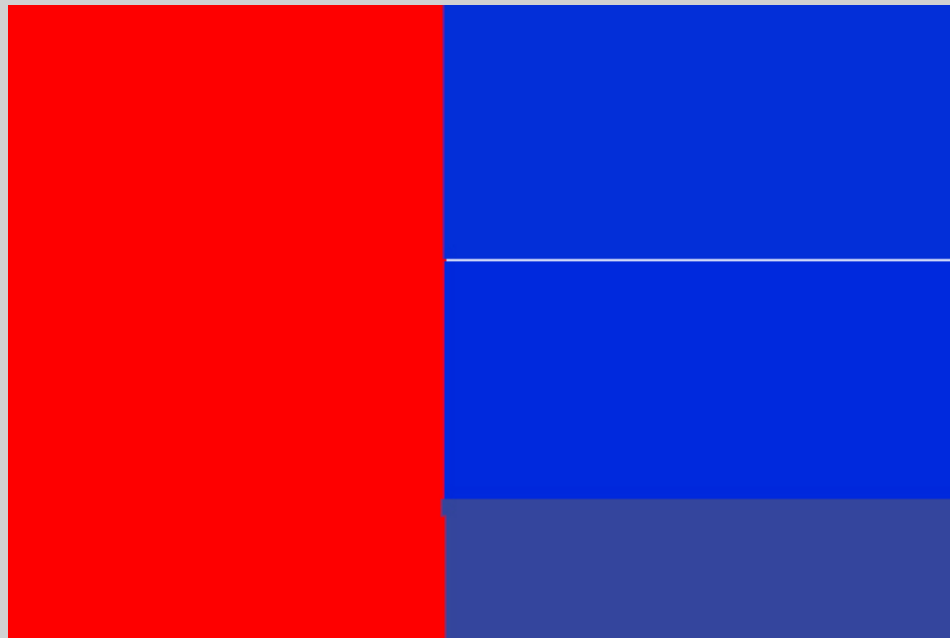


LIGHTER THAN THIS  
IF USING MEAN



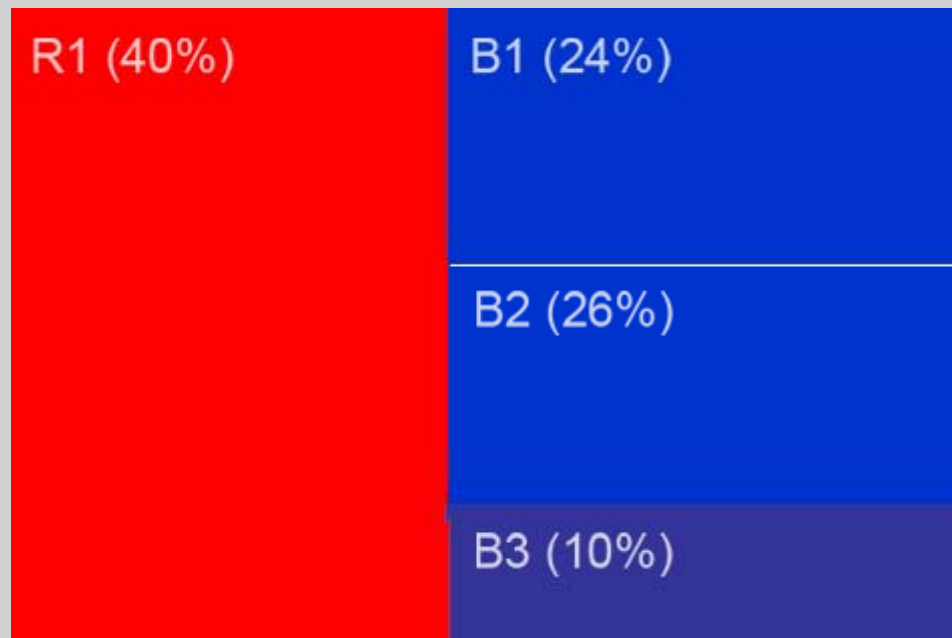
# *ALGORITHM DEFINITION*

**Which is the most dominant hue in this image?**

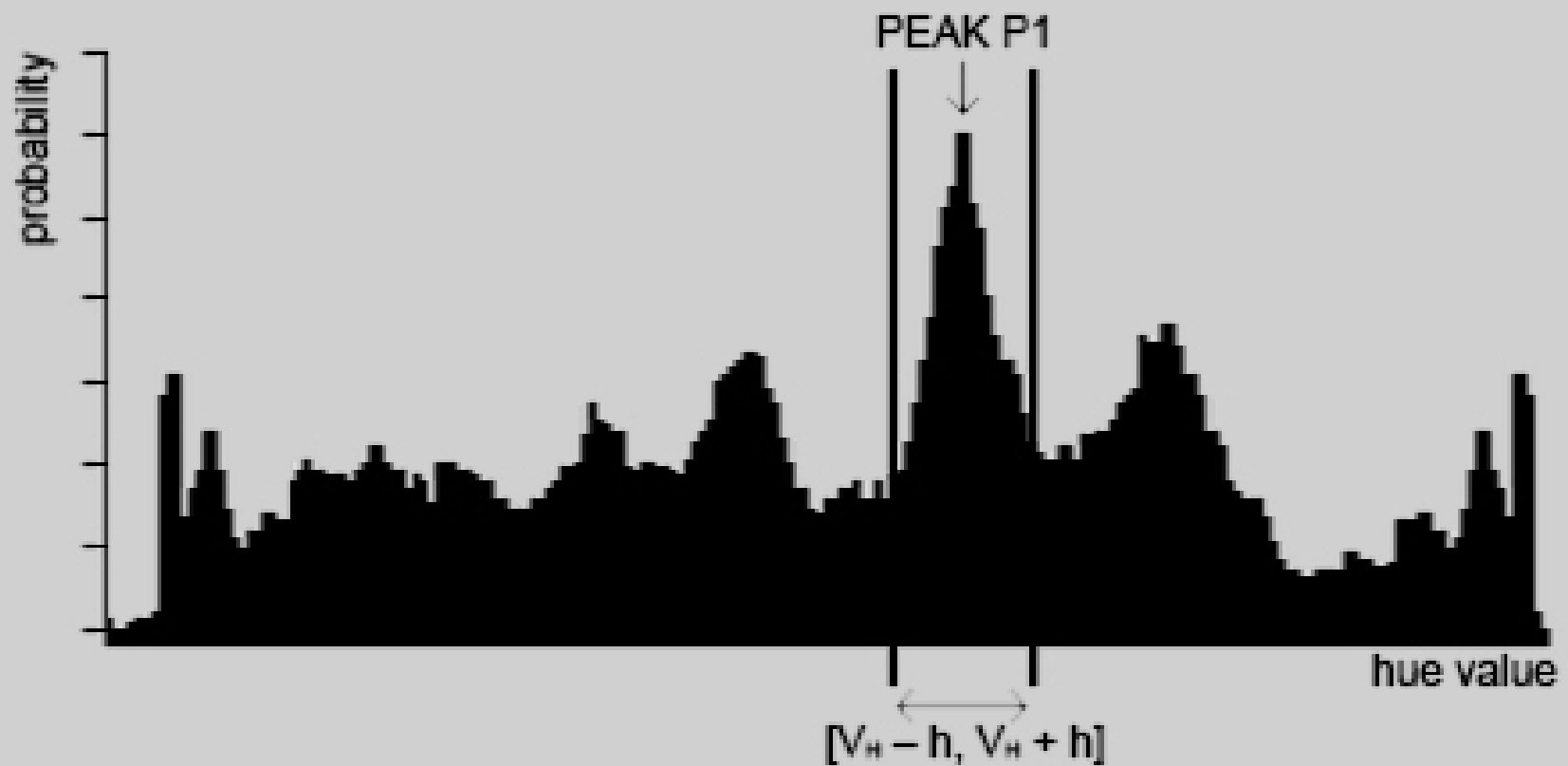


# *ALGORITHM DEFINITION*

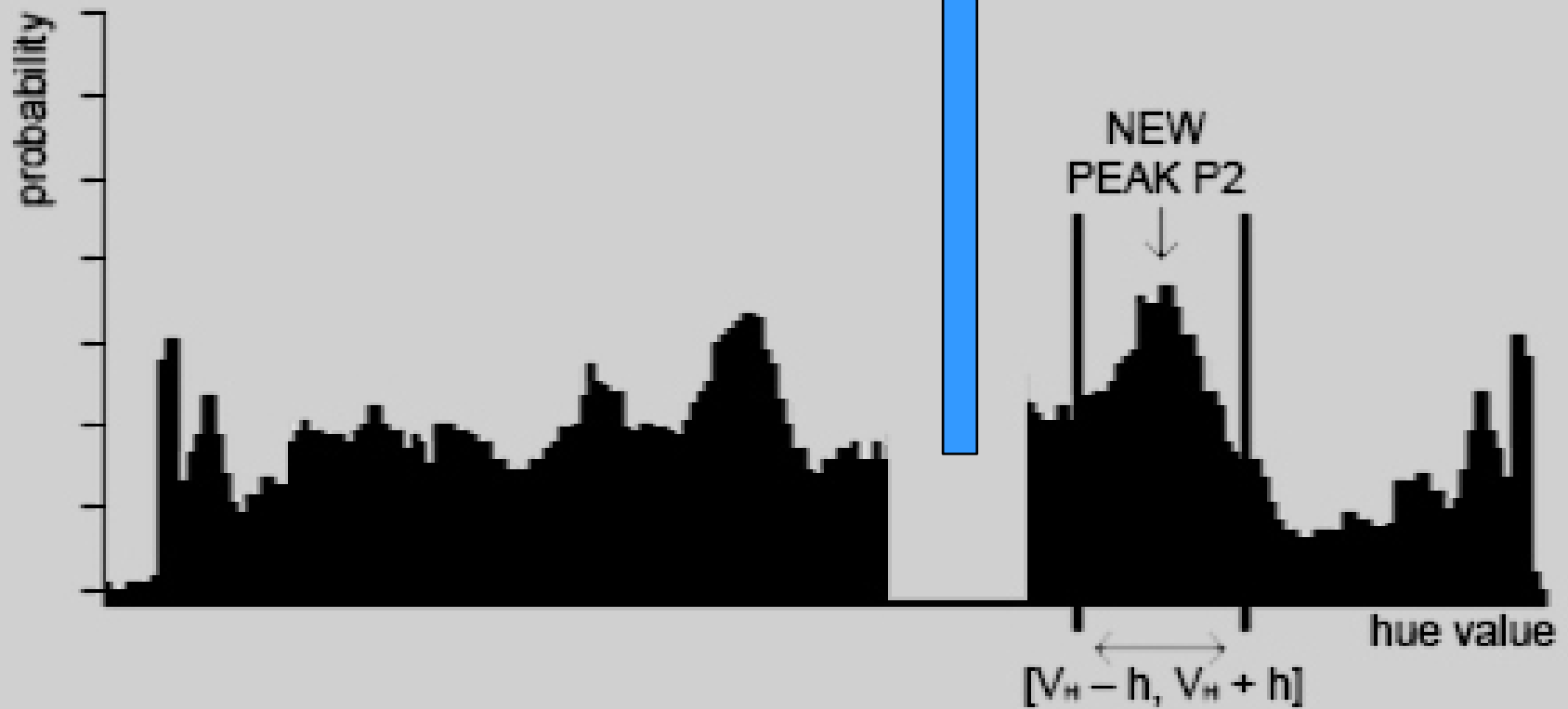
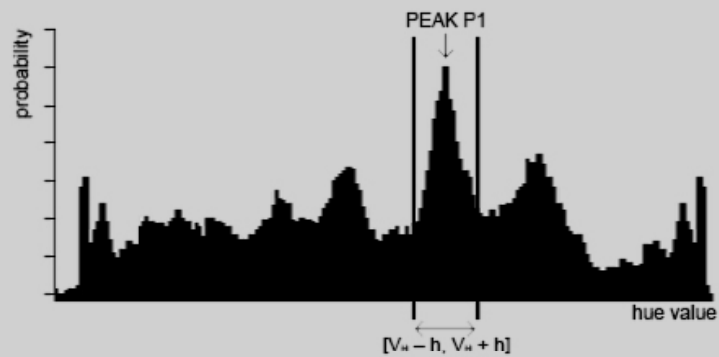
**Which is the most dominant hue in this image?**



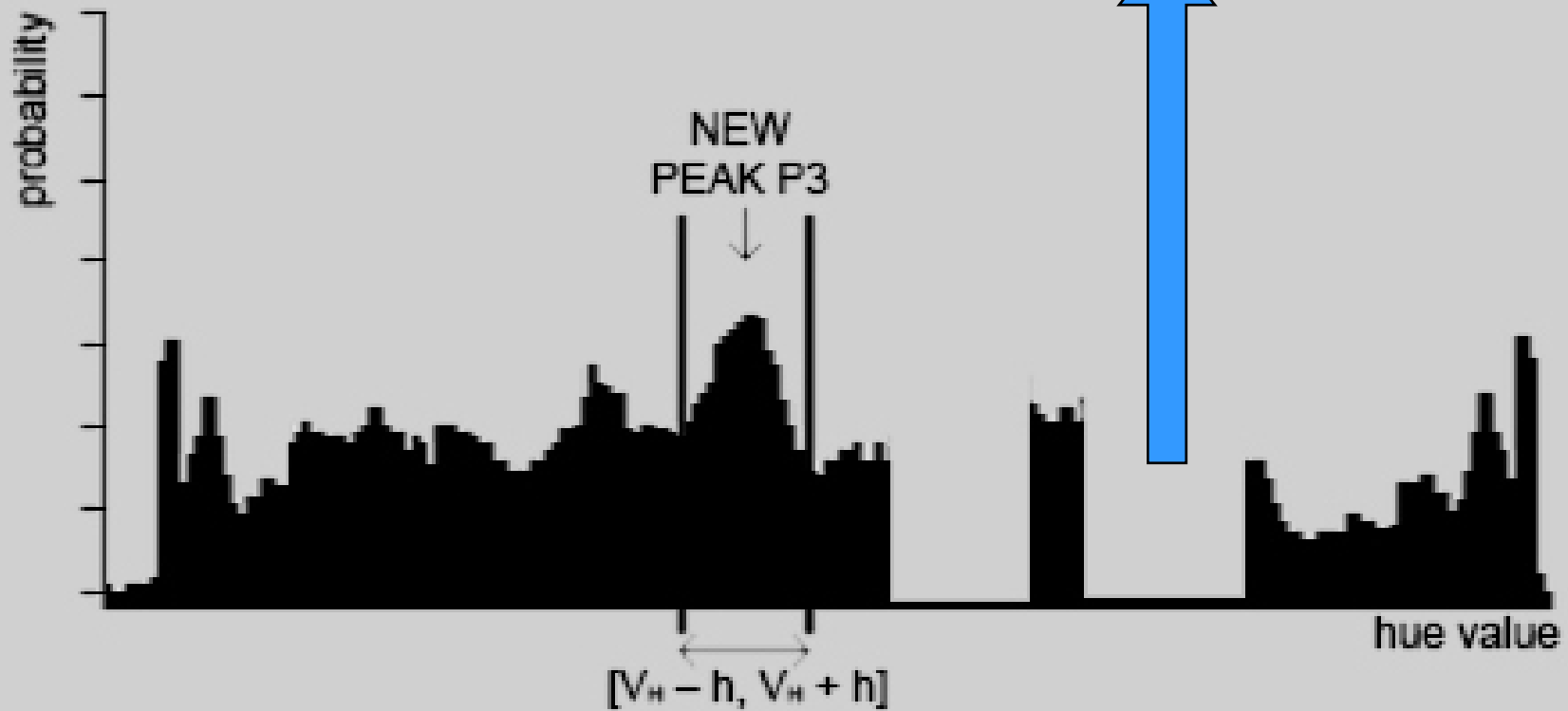
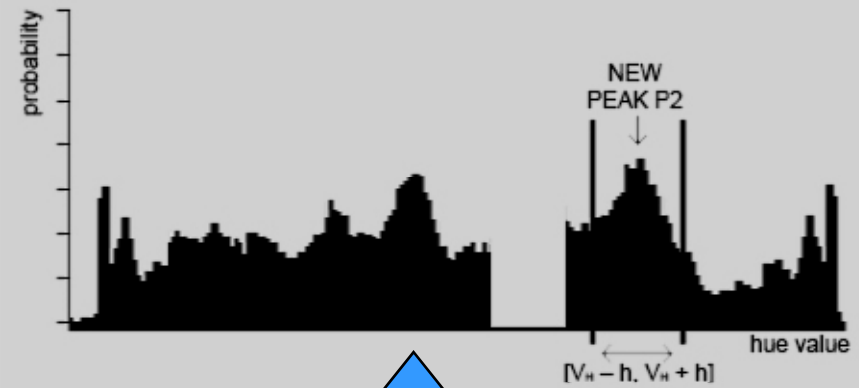
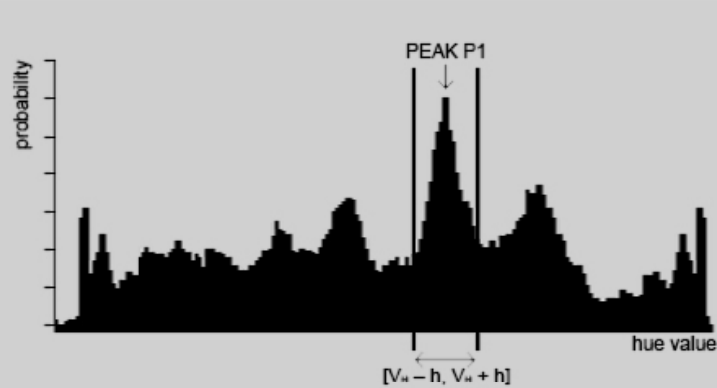
# *ALGORITHM DEFINITION*



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# ALGORITHM DEFINITION



# *ALGORITHM DEFINITION*

Given a HUE VALUE  $V_H$  and its width  $W_H$  :

- $V_H = \text{Hue value} = \text{MODE}$
- **Width  $W_H = [V_H - h, V_H + h]$**   
where  $h$  min that has  $\mu(W_H) > P_{\text{MIN}}$
- **$P(W_H) = \text{Sum } (P(V_i))$**   
where  $V_i \in [V_H - h, V_H + h]$

$P_1, P_2$  and  $P_3$  sorted according to cumulative  $P(W_{H1,2,3})$  to find:

**Dominant Hue = Hue with Highest  $P(W_H)$**

# ALGORITHM DEFINITION

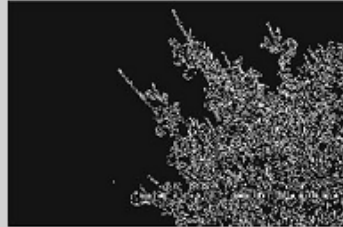
**Busyness** was defined using segmental approach:

- **ratios** between “detailed” and “flat” areas
- **different sensitivity** achieved if changing thresholds

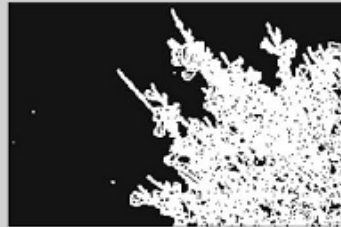
1 - Original image



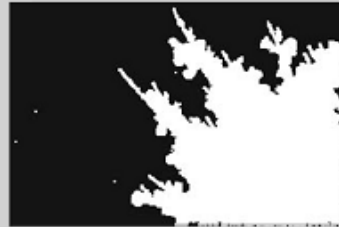
2 - Binary gradient mask



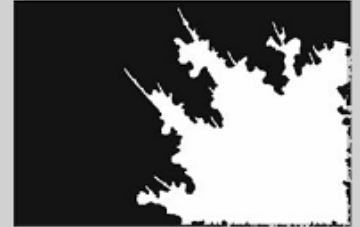
3 - Dilated edge



4 - Holes filled



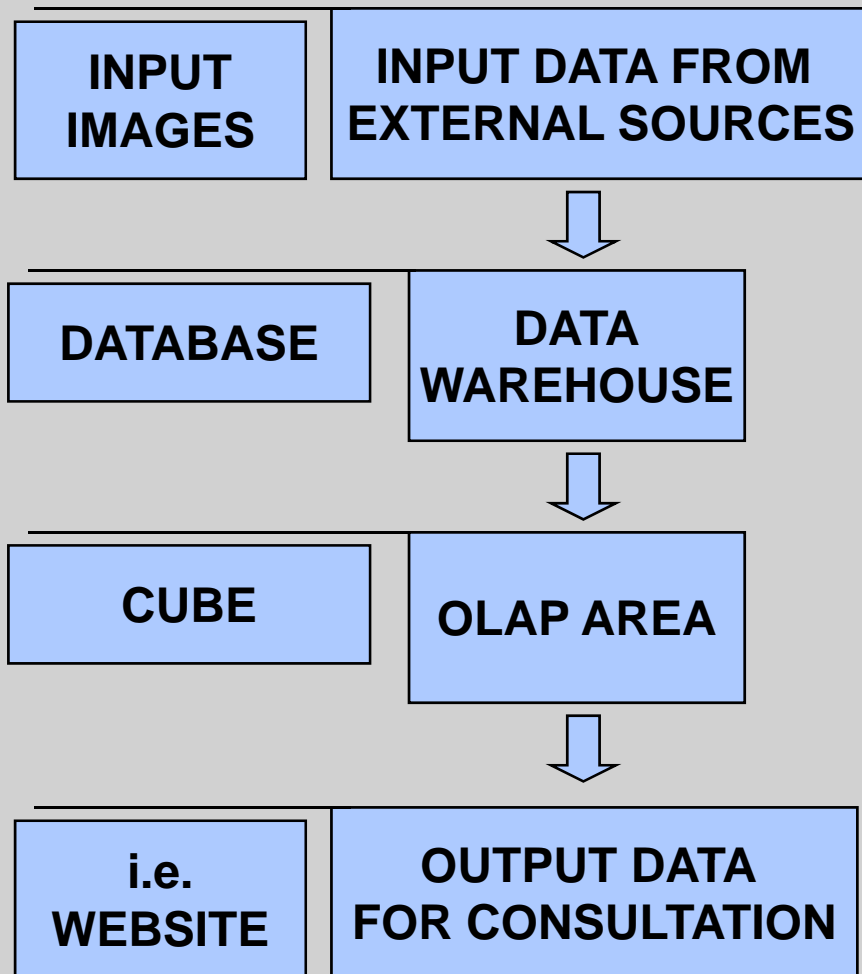
5 - Eroded (final) image



- **$Busyness = \text{BUSY (white) AREA} / \text{IMAGE AREA}$**

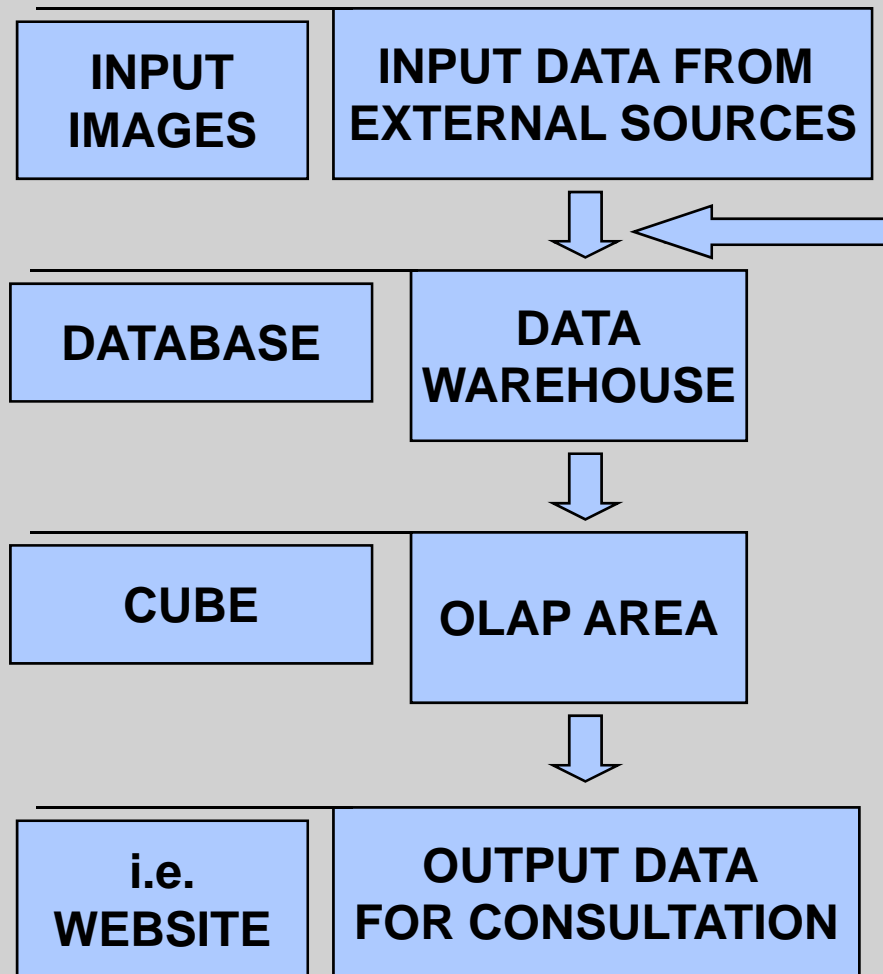
# DATA STRUCTURE

*Use of “Business Intelligence” (BI) structure.*



# DATA STRUCTURE

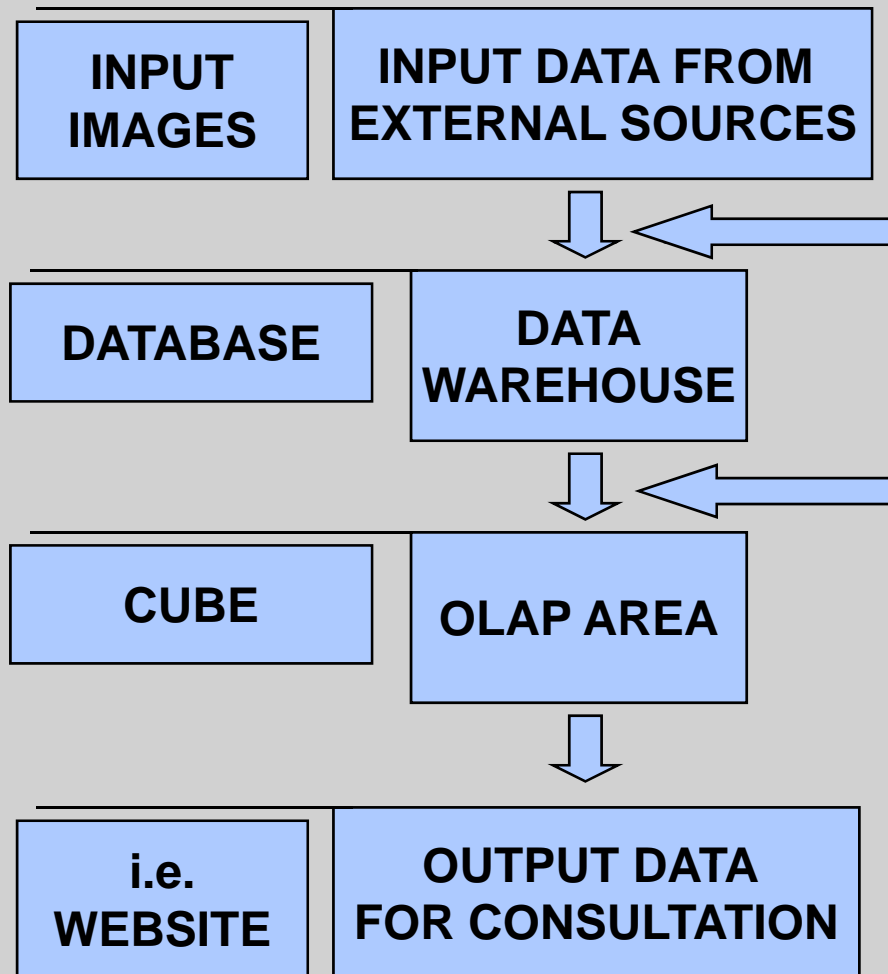
Use of “Business Intelligence” (BI) structure.



- **ETL:** sequence of operation to extract, transform and load data from sources into a Data Warehouse.

# DATA STRUCTURE

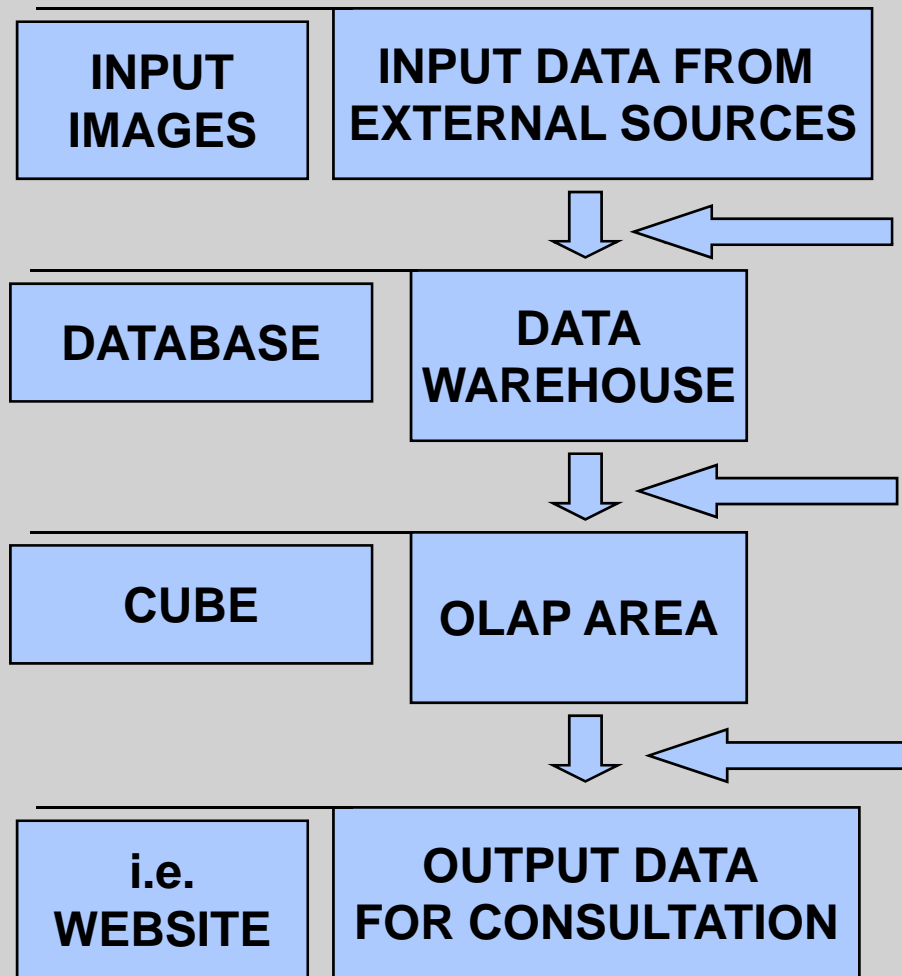
Use of “Business Intelligence” (BI) structure.



- **ETL**: sequence of operation to extract, transform and load data from sources into a Data Warehouse.
- **OLAP ENGINE**: manages the multidimensional structure of the BI project: the **Cube**.

# DATA STRUCTURE

Use of “Business Intelligence” (BI) structure.



- **ETL:** sequence of operation to extract, transform and load data from sources into a Data Warehouse.
- **OLAP ENGINE:** manages the multidimensional structure of the BI project: the **Cube**.
- **REPORTING TOOLS:** allow the visualization of the information of the Cube.

# DATA STRUCTURE

- **Dimensions:**

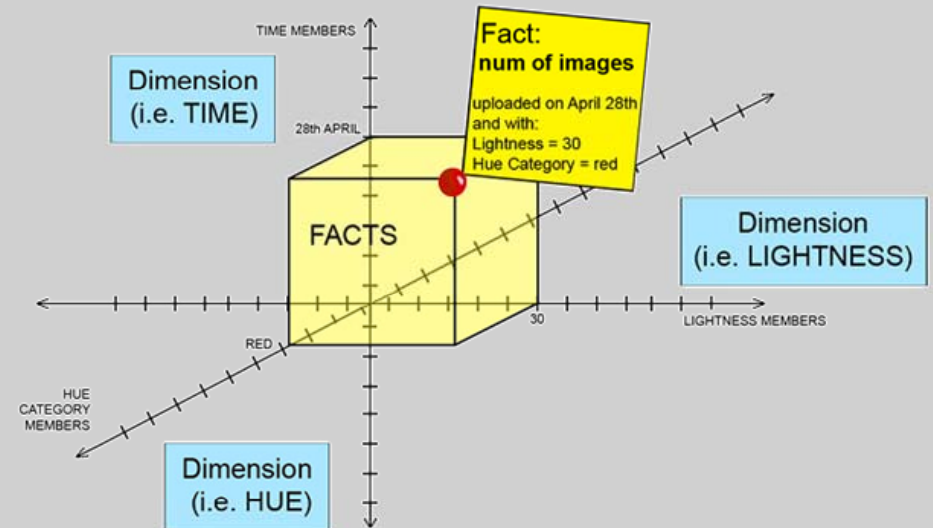
feature descriptors, expressed in Cartesian space.

- define *granularity*
- grouped into hierarchical categories.
- called *members*

- **Facts:**

Co-domain space of the Cartesian space

- numeric values
- aggregation apply
- e.g. # of images



# *SIMILARITY*

- Browsing the cube by querying for **facts** (i.e. images)
- The condition of the query is a **set of coordinates**

e.g. # of “red” images = sum of images for all lightness levels that respond to “hue = red”

- **Euclidean distance** within facts:
  - calculated in the **Cartesian space**
  - defines **how “close”** two images are
  - used to derive an index of **similarity**

# *SIMILARITY*

The *similarity* factor:

$$\text{SIMILARITY} = 100 - [(\sum_{i=1}^6 (D_{1i} - D_{2i})^2 )^{1/2} / (D_{\#})^{1/2} ]$$

- $D_{\#} = 6 =$  number of dimensions
- $D_{1i} =$  value  $[0, 100]$
- Smallest difference taken for hue angles

# *SIMILARITY*

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$$\text{SIMILARITY} = 100 - [(\sum_{i=1}^6 (D_{1i} - D_{2i})^2 )^{1/2} / (D_{\#})^{1/2} ]$$

- $D_{\#} = 6 =$  number of dimensions
- $D_{1i} =$  value  $[0, 100]$
- Smallest difference taken for hue angles
- Hypothesis of visual closeness:
  - feature extraction is linear with perception and
  - features are weighted on their visual importance

# *PSYCHO-VISUAL TEST*

- Feature extraction linear with perception:
  - Conduct psycho-visual tests
- Features weighted on their visual importance
  - Further work
- **Thesis:** Similarity = valid index for “visual closeness”

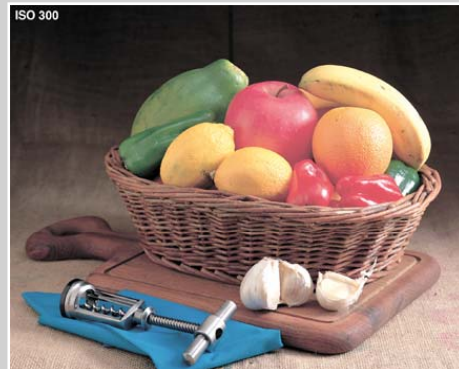
# *PSYCHO-VISUAL TEST*

- Aim: derive perceptual scales for the individual image features, i.e.:
  - perceived image lightness
  - perceived image contrast
  - perceived busyness
  - etc

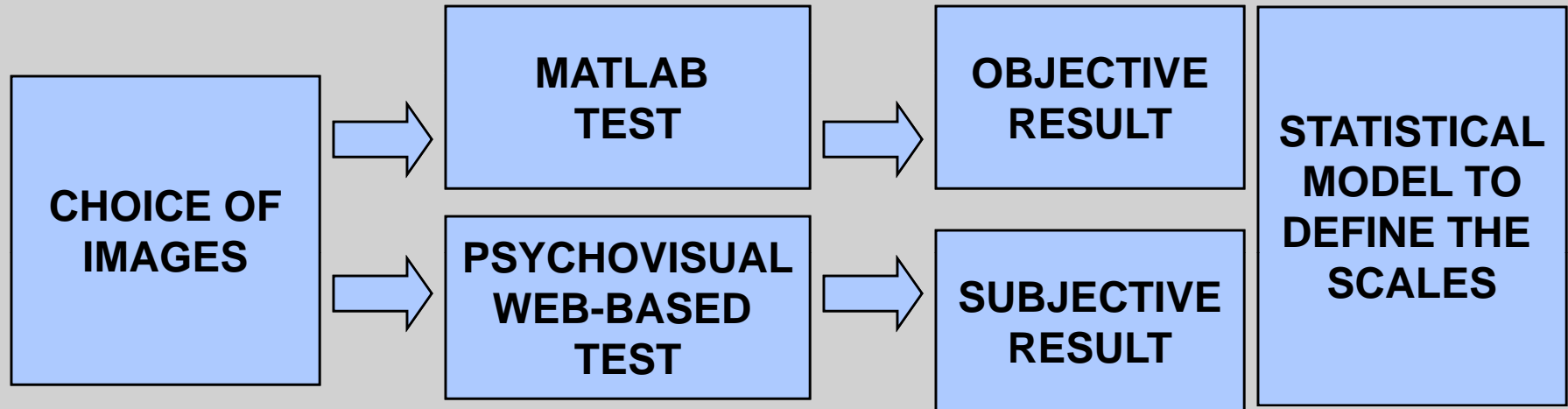
# *PSYCHO-VISUAL TEST*

- Aim: derive perceptual scales for the individual image features, i.e.:
  - perceived image lightness
  - perceived image contrast
  - perceived busyness
  - etc
- Categorical scaled was employed - 5 categories ranging from 'low' to 'high'
- Internet-based studies
- Relevant user information was collected:
  - age, sex, visual ability/deficiencies
  - computer/display/system info
  - perceived brightness, hue shift, gamma

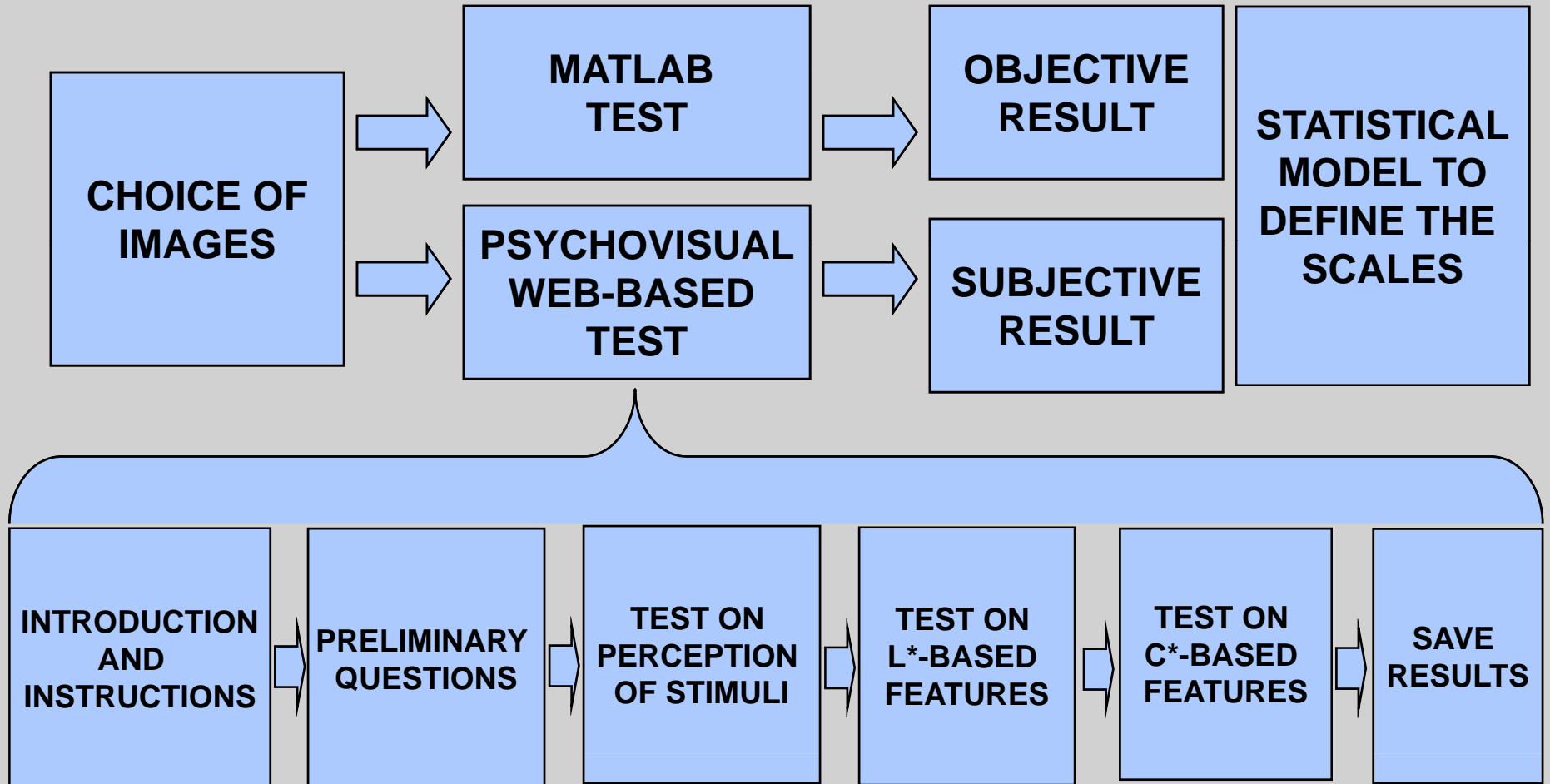
# TEST IMAGES



# *PSYCHO-VISUAL TEST*



# PSYCHO-VISUAL TEST



# PSYCHO-VISUAL TEST

## QUESTIONNAIRE



AGE <12 ▾

GENDER M ▾

VISUAL CORRECTION NO CORRECTION NEEDED ▾

COLOUR DEFICIENCY NO DEFICIENCY ▾

OPERATING SYSTEM WINDOWS ▾

BROWSER Internet Explorer ▾

DISPLAY TYPE LCD ▾

SCREEN SIZE 13" OR LESS ▾

SURROUNDING ILLUMINATION Room/ambient ▾

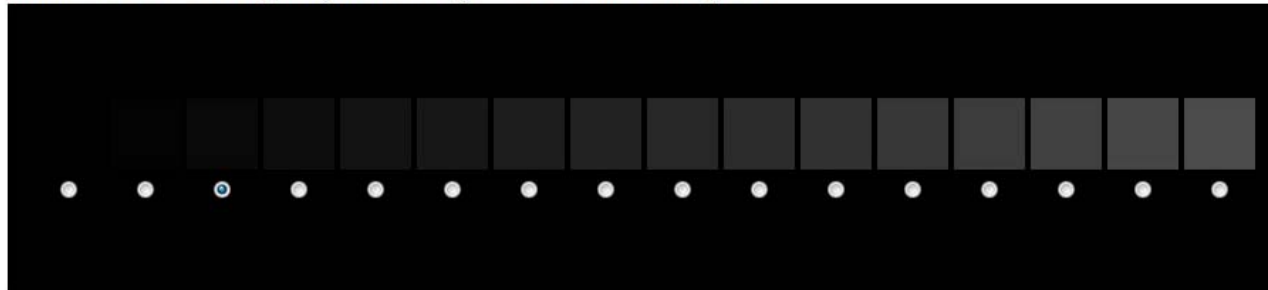
START WITH THE CALCULATION OF THE SCREEN PERFORMANCES

# PSYCHO-VISUAL TEST

## BLACK AND WHITE POINTS



Please select the darkest patch you can distinguish from the black background.



Please select the lightest patch you can distinguish from the white background.



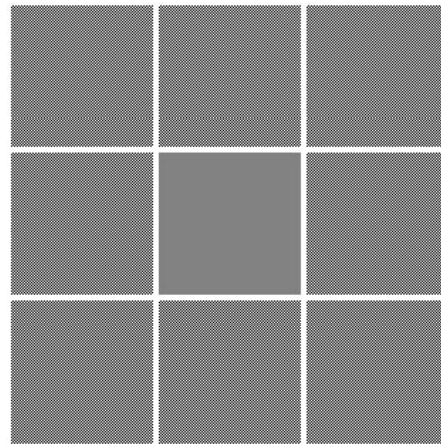
NEXT

# PSYCHO-VISUAL TEST

GAMMA CALCULATION



Please move the bar until the lightness of the inner patch matches the outer's one.



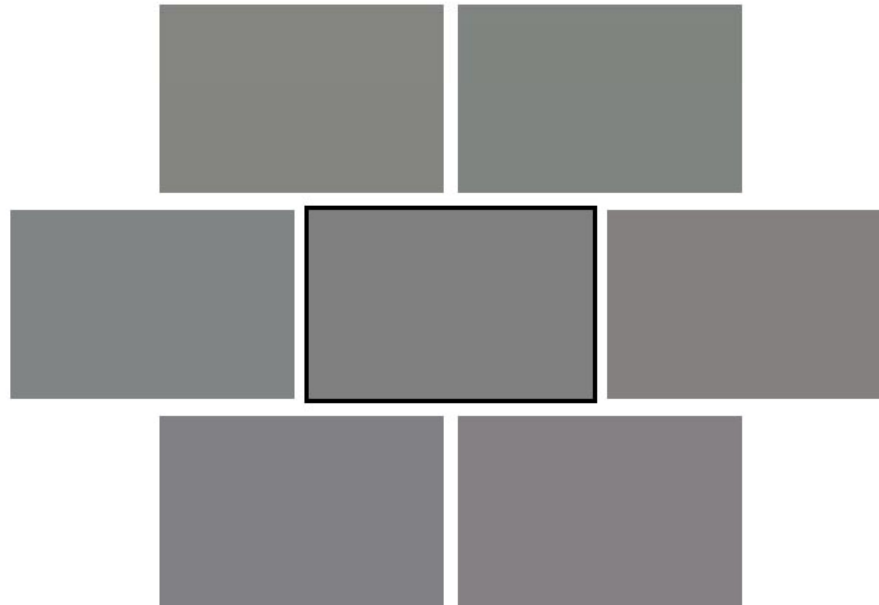
NEXT

# PSYCHO-VISUAL TEST

HUE SHIFT CALCULATION



Please select the grey patch that you consider to be the closest to NEUTRAL.  
In case you do not see any differences, please select the patch in the center.



START WITH THE PSYCHOVISUAL TEST

# PSYCHO-VISUAL TEST

Image 4 / 38



LIGHTNESS:  Very low  Low  Medium  High  Very high  
CONTRAST:  Very low  Low  Medium  High  Very high  
BUSYNESS:  Very low  Low  Medium  High  Very high

NEXT IMAGE

# PSYCHO-VISUAL TEST

Image 1 / 36



- COLOURFULNESS:  Very low  Low  Medium  High  Very high
- COLOUR CONTRAST:  Very low  Low  Medium  High  Very high
- MOST DOMINANT HUE:  Yellow  Red  Green  Cyan  Blue  Magenta
- Neutral  Caucasian skin tones  More than two hues

NEXT IMAGE

# RESULTS

<b>MODE/MEAN vs OBJECTIVE RESULTS (image Gilberto)</b>				
	<b>ID</b>	<b>Mean Description</b>	<b>Mode Description</b>	<b>Objective</b>
...				
L	33	Middle Lightness	Middle Lightness	Very Dark
...				
C	33	High Contrast	High Contrast	Very High Contrast
...				
B	33	Low Busyness	Medium Busyness	Low Busyness
...				
CI	33	Low Colourfulness	Middle Colourfulness	Middle Colourfulness
...				
CC	33	Medium Colour Contrast	Medium Colour Contrast	High Colour Contrast
...				
H	33	N/N	Neutral	Neutral

# CORRELATION TABLE

	% mode=mean	% obj=mean	% obj=mode
Lightness	60,53%	60,53%	42,11%
Contrast	55,26%	50,00%	28,95%
Busyness	55,26%	28,95%	44,74%
Colorfulness	63,16%	57,89%	47,37%
Color contrast	68,42%	42,11%	36,84%
Dominant Hue	0,00%	0,00%	42,11%

# *CONCLUSIONS*

- **RESULTS ARE PRELIMINARY:**
  - need more images
  - need more observations
  - statistical studies on possible models
- **FOLLOWING TASKS:**
  - Analysis of the scales
  - Evaluation of the feature weights
  - Evaluation of saliency to ameliorate measures

# *CONCLUSIONS*

- **IMAGES CLASSIFICATION ON INNER FEATURES**
- **GLOBAL APPROACH ON LOW LEVEL ANALYSIS**
- **FLEXIBLE MULTIDIMENSIONAL STRUCTURE**
- **FEATURE CLOSENESS AS INDEX OF SIMILARITY**
- **PSYCHOVISUAL TEST TO CORRELATE GLOBAL PERCEPTION WITH OBJECTIVE MEASURES**
- **FURTHER WORK TO WEIGHT FEATURES ON THEIR VISUAL IMPORTANCE**

# Many thanks for your attention

You can access the psycho-visual test  
and learn more about by visiting:

*[www.francescomancusi.com/IGLHUE](http://www.francescomancusi.com/IGLHUE)*

## Francesco Mancusi

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