

# Re: Canny edge detection and close contours

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- *From:* "ImageAnalyst" <[imageanalyst@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:imageanalyst@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* 5 Apr 2007 15:10:33 -0700
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Effort vs. time? An "effort curve" rather than a "learning curve"?  
So the longer you study something, the more difficult it becomes (it takes more effort)? You have a point for some things, like perhaps physics or engineering, where it's relatively simple as a first year college student but then as you move along in your Ph.D. or career it may become more difficult and the new problems you encounter become more challenging. And the more you learn, the more you realize that you don't know one minute fraction of one percent of what there is to possibly know. On the other hand with things that can only take a finite amount of learning to master the thing (e.g. a software program, or some algorithm) I don't think effort increases. Once you've mastered it, it's relatively easy to use from then on. On the third hand (borrowing one of my friend's) there are some things that may have fairly constant effort over time ( maybe you're working just as hard now as you were 5, 10, and 15 years ago) but some things require more effort (e.g. my constant effort at understanding a scientific article may be less than my constant effort at learning how to play the piano well) so in that case, effort is really the derivative of the "amount learned" curve, i.e. effort is the slope of the amount learned.

Semantics can be fun.  
Regards,  
ImageAnalyst

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On Apr 5, 3:16 pm, Martin Leese <[ple...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:ple...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>  
wrote:

ImageAnalyst wrote:

I love steep learning curves. If you plot knowledge gained on the vertical axis by time on the horizontal axis (as time always is), then a steep learning curve means you gain a lot of knowledge in a short amount of time. Or did you mean it was hard to learn (flat learning curve)?

Try plotting "effort" on the vertical axis.

Re: Canny edge detection and close contours

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Regards,

Martin Leese

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