Abstract: In this talk I will discuss current research on visual quality assessment (QA): where it is at, and where it is going. In particular I will focus on the role of Natural Scene Statistics, or NSS in addressing this problem, particularly in regards to the so-called no-reference (NR) or blind QA problem, where very good algorithms for predicting the perceptual quality of still pictures now exist. Models for accomplishing blind video QA are also being developed and promising algorithms are now available. It is my hope that the talk and this paper will stimulate promising avenues of research.

Biography: Al Bovik is the Curry/Cullen Trust Endowed Chair Professor at The University of Texas at Austin. He has received a number of major awards from the IEEE Signal Processing Society, including: the Society Award (2013); Best Paper Award (2009); Best Magazine Paper Award (2013); the Education Award (2007); the Technical Achievement Award (2005), Best Young Author Paper Award (2013); the Distinguished Lecturer Award (2000); and the Meritorious Service Award (1998). He received Honorary Membership of IS&T in 2013, the SPIE Technology Achievement Award in 2012, and was named “Imaging Scientist of the Year” by IS&T/SPIE in 2011. He is the author or co-author of The Handbook of Image and Video Processing, Modern Image Quality Assessment, and two recent books, The Essential Guides to Image and Video Processing.

Al co-founded and served as the longest-serving Editor-in-Chief of the IEEE Transactions on Image Processing (1996-2002), and created and served as the first General Chairman of the IEEE International Conference on Image Processing, held in Austin, Texas, in November, 1994.