

Category-level Localization

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What we would like to be able to do...

- Visual scene understanding
- <u>What</u> is in the image and <u>where</u>



• Object categories, identities, properties, activities, relations, ...

Recognition Tasks

- Image Classification
 - Does the image contain an aeroplane?

Object Class Detection/Localization
Where are the aeroplanes (if any)?

Object Class Segmentation

 Which pixels are part of an aeroplane (if any)?







Things vs. Stuff

Thing (n): An object with a specific size and shape.



Ted Adelson, Forsyth et al. 1996.

Stuff (n): Material defined by a homogeneous or repetitive pattern of fine-scale properties, but has no specific or distinctive spatial extent or shape.







Slide: Geremy Heitz

Recognition Task

Object Class Detection/Localization

- Where are the aeroplanes (if any)?

Challenges

- Imaging factors e.g. lighting, pose, occlusion, clutter
- Intra-class variation

Compared to Classification

- Detailed prediction e.g. bounding box
- Location usually provided for training







Challenges: Background Clutter



Challenges: Occlusion and truncation



Challenges: Intra-class variation













Object Category Recognition by Learning

Difficult to define model of a category. Instead, <u>learn</u> from <u>example images</u>



Level of Supervision for Learning

Image-level label



Bounding box



Pixel-level segmentation

"Parts"





Preview of typical results













bicycle

aeroplane



car

cow



motorbike

horse

Class of model: Pictorial Structure

- Intuitive model of an object
- Model has two components
 - 1. parts (2D image fragments)
 - 2. structure (configuration of parts)
- Dates back to Fischler & Elschlager 1973



Is this complexity of representation necessary? Which features?

Restrict deformations























Problem of background clutter

- Use a sub-window
 - At correct position, no clutter is present
 - Slide window to detect object
 - Change size of window to search over scale



Outline

- 1. Sliding window detectors
- 2. Features and adding spatial information

3. Histogram of Oriented Gradients (HOG)

4. Two state of the art algorithms and PASCAL VOC

5. The future and challenges

Outline

- 1. Sliding window detectors
 - Start: feature/classifier agnostic
 - Method
 - Problems/limitations
- 2. Features and adding spatial information
- 3. Histogram of Oriented Gradients (HOG)
- 4. Two state of the art algorithms and PASCAL VOC
- 5. The future and challenges

• Basic component: binary classifier



• Detect objects in clutter by search



• Sliding window: exhaustive search over position and scale

• Detect objects in clutter by search



• Sliding window: exhaustive search over position and scale

• Detect objects in clutter by search



• **Sliding window**: exhaustive search over position and scale (can use same size window over a spatial pyramid of images)

Window (Image) Classification

Training Data



Classifier learnt from data

Problems with sliding windows ...

- aspect ratio
- granuality (finite grid)
- partial occlusion
- multiple responses
- See recent work by
- Christoph Lampert et al CVPR 08, ECCV 08







Outline

- 1. Sliding window detectors
- 2. Features and adding spatial information
 - Bag of visual word (BoW) models
 - Beyond BoW I: Constellation and ISM models
 - Beyond BoW II: Grids and spatial pyramids
- 3. Histogram of Oriented Gradients (HOG)
- 4. Two state of the art algorithms and PASCAL VOC
- 5. The future and challenges

Recap: Bag of (visual) Words representation

- Detect affine invariant local features (e.g. affine-Harris)
- Represent by high-dimensional descriptors, e.g. 128-D for SIFT
- How to summarize sliding window content in a fixed-length vector for classification?
- Map descriptors onto a common vocabulary of visual words
- Represent image as a histogram over visual words a bag of words





Local region descriptors and visual words



- Normalize regions to fixed size and shape
- Describe each region by a SIFT descriptor
- Vector quantize into visual words, e.g. using k-means

NB: aff. detectors/SIFT/visual words originally for view point invariant matching

Example Visual Words



Intuition



Visual Vocabulary

- Visual words represent "iconic" image fragments
- Feature detectors and SIFT give invariance to local rotation and scale
- Discarding spatial information gives configuration invariance



Learning from positive ROI examples







Sliding window detector

- Classifier: SVM with linear kernel
- BOW representation for ROI



Example detections for dog



Lampert et al CVPR 08

Discussion: ROI as a Bag of Visual Words

Advantages

- No explicit modelling of spatial information ⇒ high level of invariance to position and orientation in image
- Fixed length vector \Rightarrow standard machine learning methods applicable
- Disadvantages
 - No explicit modelling of spatial information ⇒ less discriminative power
 - Inferior to state of the art performance











Beyond BOW I: Pictorial Structure

- Intuitive model of an object
- Model has two components
 - 1. parts (2D image fragments)
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- Dates back to Fischler & Elschlager 1973



Two approaches that have investigated this spring like model:

- Constellation model
- Implicit shape model

Spatial Models Considered



"Star" shape model



e.g. Constellation Model Parts fully connected Recognition complexity: O(N^P) Method: Exhaustive search e.g. ISM

Parts mutually independent Recognition complexity: O(NP) Method: Gen. Hough Transform

Constellation model

Fergus, Perona & Zisserman, CVPR 03

- Explicit structure model Joint Gaussian over all part positions
- Part detector determines position and scale
- Simultaneous learning of parts and structure
- Learn from images alone using EM algorithm



Given detections: learn a six part model by optimizing part and configuration similarity



Example – Learnt Motorbike Model





position of object determined

Airplanes

INCORRECT





Correct







Correct



Correct



Correct




Spotted cats



Discussion: Constellation Model

- Advantages
 - Works well for many different object categories
 - Can adapt well to categories where
 - Shape is more important
 - Appearance is more important
 - Everything is learned from training data
 - Weakly-supervised training possible

Disadvantages

- Model contains many parameters that need to be estimated
- Cost increases exponentially with increasing number of parameters
- \Rightarrow Fully connected model restricted to small number of parts.

Implicit Shape Model (ISM)

Leibe, Leonardis, Schiele, 03/04

- Basic ideas
 - Learn an appearance codebook
 - Learn a star-topology structural model
 - Features are considered independent given object centre

- X_{1} X_{6} X_{2} X_{3} X_{4}
- Algorithm: probabilistic Generalized Hough Transform Good engineering:
 - Soft assignment
 - Probabilistic voting
 - Continuous Hough space

Codebook Representation

- Extraction of local object features
 - Interest Points (e.g. Harris detector)
 - Sparse representation of the object appearance



- Collect features from whole training set
- Example:





Class specific vocabulary

Leibe & Schiele 03/04: Generalized Hough Transform

• Learning: for every cluster, store possible "occurrences"



Recognition: for new image, let the matched patches vote for possible object positions



Leibe & Schiele 03/04: Generalized Hough Transform

Interest Points



Matched Codebook Entries









Backprojection of Maximum

Scale Voting: Efficient Computation



- Mean-Shift formulation for refinement
 - Scale-adaptive balloon density estimator

$$\hat{p}(o_n, x) = \frac{1}{V_b} \sum_k \sum_j p(o_n, x_j | f_k, \ell_k) K(\frac{x - x_j}{b})$$

Detection Results

- Qualitative Performance
 - Recognizes different kinds of cars
 - Robust to clutter, occlusion, low contrast, noise



Discussion: ISM and related models

Advantages

- Scale and rotation invariance can be built into the representation from the start
- Relatively cheap to learn and test (inference)
- Works well for many different object categories
- Max-margin extensions possible, Maji & Malik, CVPR09



Disadvantages

- Requires searching for modes in the Hough space
- Similar to sliding window in this respect
- Is such a degree of invariance required? (many objects are horizontal)

Beyond BOW II: Grids and spatial pyramids

Start from BoW for ROI

- no spatial information recorded
- sliding window detector







Adding Spatial Information to Bag of Words



Tiling defines (records) the spatial correspondence of the words



If codebook has V visual words, then representation has dimension 4V

Fergus et al ICCV 05

Spatial Pyramid – represent correspondence



• As in scene/image classification can use pyramid kernel

[Grauman & Darrell, 2005] [Lazebnik et al, 2006]

Dense Visual Words

- Why extract only **sparse** image fragments?
- Good where lots of invariance is needed, but not relevant to sliding window detection?



Extract dense visual words on an overlapping grid



[Luong & Malik, 1999] [Varma & Zisserman, 2003] [Vogel & Schiele, 2004] [Jurie & Triggs, 2005] [Fei-Fei & Perona, 2005] [Bosch et al, 2006]

- More "detail" at the expense of invariance
- Pyramid histogram of visual words (PHOW)

Outline

- 1. Sliding window detectors
- 2. Features and adding spatial information
- 3. Histogram of Oriented Gradients + linear SVM classifier
 - Dalal & Triggs pedestrian detector
 - HOG and history
 - Training an object detector
- 4. Two state of the art algorithms and PASCAL VOC
- 5. The future and challenges

Dalal & Triggs CVPR 2005 Pedestrian detection

- Objective: detect (localize) standing humans in an image
- sliding window classifier
- train a binary classifier on whether a window contains a standing person or not
- Histogram of Oriented Gradients (HOG) feature
- although HOG + SVM originally introduced for pedestrians has been used very successfully for many object categories

Feature: Histogram of Oriented Gradients (HOG)

image





dominant direction



HOG



- tile 64 x 128 pixel window into 8 x 8 pixel cells
- each cell represented by histogram over 8 orientation bins (i.e. angles in range 0-180 degrees)

Histogram of Oriented Gradients (HOG) continued



- Adds a second level of overlapping spatial bins renormalizing orientation histograms over a larger spatial area
- Feature vector dimension (approx) = 16 x 8 (for tiling) x 8 (orientations) x 4 (for blocks) = 4096

Window (Image) Classification







































Averaged examples







Classifier: linear SVM

Advantages of linear SVM:

$$f(x) = \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x} + b$$

- Training (Learning)
 - Very efficient packages for the linear case, e.g. LIBLINEAR for batch training and Pegasos for on-line training.
 - Complexity O(N) for N training points (cf O(N^3) for general SVM)
- Testing (Detection)

Non-linear
$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i}^{S} \alpha_{i} k(\mathbf{x}_{i}, \mathbf{x}) + b$$

linear $f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i}^{S} \alpha_{i} \mathbf{x}_{i}^{\top} \mathbf{x} + b$

S = # of support vectors = (worst case) N

size of training data

$$\vec{\mathbf{x}}_{i}$$
 = $\mathbf{w}^{\top}\mathbf{x} + b$ Independent of size of training data



Dalal and Triggs, CVPR 2005

Learned model

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x} + b$$





average over positive training data

What do negative weights mean? wx > 0 $(w_{+} - w_{-})x > 0$ $w_+ > w_- x$ pedestrian pedestrian background > model model

Complete system should compete pedestrian/pillar/doorway models Discriminative models come equipped with own bg (avoid firing on doorways by penalizing vertical edges)

Slide from Deva Ramanan

Why does HOG + SVM work so well?

- Similar to SIFT, records spatial arrangement of histogram orientations
- Compare to learning only edges:
 - Complex junctions can be represented
 - Avoids problem of early thresholding
 - Represents also soft internal gradients
- Older methods based on edges have become largely obsolete



Chamfer Matching





- Match points between template and image
- Measure mean distance
- Template edgel matches <u>nearest</u> image edgel

$$D(T,I) = \frac{1}{|T|} \sum_{\mathbf{p}\in T} \min_{\mathbf{q}\in I} d(\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q})$$

Distance Transform



- Distance transform reduces min operation to array lookup
- Computable in linear time
- Localize by sliding window search

Best match



[Gavrila & Philomin, 1999]

Chamfer Matching





Hierarchy of Templates

Detections

- In practice performs poorly in clutter
- Unoriented edges are not discriminative enough (too easy to find...)

[Gavrila & Philomin, 1999]

Contour-fragment models

Shotton et al ICCV 05, Opelt et al ECCV 06

- Generalized Hough like representation using contour fragments
- Contour fragments learnt from edges of training images

• Hough like voting for detection









Training a sliding window detector

 Object detection is inherently asymmetric: much more "non-object" than "object" data



- Classifier needs to have very low false positive rate
- Non-object category is very complex need lots of data

Bootstrapping



- 1. Pick negative training set at random
- 2. Train classifier
- 3. Run on training data
- 4. Add false positives to training set
- 5. Repeat from 2
- Collect a finite but diverse set of non-object windows
- Force classifier to concentrate on hard negative examples
- For some classifiers can ensure equivalence to training on entire data set

Example: train an upper body detector

- Training data used for training and validation sets
 - 33 Hollywood2 training movies
 - 1122 frames with upper bodies marked
- First stage training (bootstrapping)
 - 1607 upper body annotations jittered to 32k positive samples
 - 55k negatives sampled from the same set of frames
- Second stage training (retraining)
 - 150k hard negatives found in the training data



Training data – positive annotations

















Positive windows



Note: common size and alignment

Jittered positives



Jittered positives


Random negatives



Random negatives



Window (Image) first stage classification



find high scoring false positives detections



- these are the hard negatives for the next round of training
- cost = # training images x inference on each image

Hard negatives



Hard negatives



First stage performance on validation set



Precision – Recall curve



First stage performance on validation set



Performance after retraining



Effects of retraining



Side by side

before retraining



after retraining







Side by side

before retraining



after retraining







Side by side

before retraining







after retraining







Tracked upper body detections





Accelerating Sliding Window Search

• Sliding window search is slow because so many windows are needed e.g. $x \times y \times$ scale \approx 100,000 for a 320 \times 240 image



- Most windows are clearly not the object class of interest
- Can we speed up the search?

Cascaded Classification

• Build a sequence of classifiers with increasing complexity



• Reject easy non-objects using simpler and faster classifiers

Cascaded Classification



- Slow expensive classifiers only applied to a few windows \Rightarrow significant speed-up
- Controlling classifier complexity/speed:
 - Number of support vectors
 - Number of features
 - Type of SVM kernel

- [Romdhani et al, 2001]
- [Viola & Jones, 2001]
- [Vedaldi et al, 2009]

Summary: Sliding Window Detection

- Can convert any image classifier into an object detector by sliding window. Efficient search methods available.
- Requirements for invariance are reduced by searching over e.g. translation and scale

• Spatial correspondence can be "engineered in" by spatial tiling







Outline

- 1. Sliding window detectors
- 2. Features and adding spatial information
- 3. HOG + linear SVM classifier
- 4. Two state of the art algorithms and PASCAL VOC
 - VOC challenge
 - Vedaldi et al multiple kernels and features, cascade
 - Felzenswalb et al multiple parts, latent SVM
- 5. The future and challenges

The PASCAL Visual Object Classes (VOC) Dataset and Challenge

Mark Everingham Luc Van Gool Chris Williams John Winn Andrew Zisserman



The PASCAL VOC Challenge

- Challenge in visual object recognition funded by PASCAL network of excellence
- Publicly available dataset of annotated images



- Main competitions in classification (is there an X in this image), detection (where are the X's), and segmentation (which pixels belong to X)
- "Taster competitions" in 2-D human "pose estimation" (2007present) and static action classes
- Standard evaluation protocol (software supplied)

Dataset Content

- 20 classes: aeroplane, bicycle, boat, bottle, bus, car, cat, chair, cow, dining table, dog, horse, motorbike, person, potted plant, sheep, train, TV
- Real images downloaded from flickr, not filtered for "quality"



• Complex scenes, scale, pose, lighting, occlusion, ...

Annotation

- Complete annotation of all objects
- Annotated in one session with written guidelines



Difficult Not scored in evaluation

Pose Facing left





Bus















Chair







Cow







Dining Table





Dog









Motorbike





Train







TV/Monitor















Horse

Sofa



Main Challenge Tasks

Classification

- Is there a dog in this image?
- Evaluation by precision/recall



Detection

- Localize all the people (if any) in this image
- Evaluation by precision/recall based on bounding box overlap



Detection: Evaluation of Bounding Boxes

• Area of Overlap (AO) Measure



True Positives - Bicycle

UoCTTI_LSVM-MDPM











OXFORD_MKL



NECUIUC_CLS-DTCT



False Positives - Bicycle

UoCTTI_LSVM-MDPM



OXFORD_MKL



NECUIUC_CLS-DTCT





True Positives – TV/monitor







OXFORD_MKL





UoCTTI_LSVM-MDPM









LEAR_CHI-SVM-SIFT-HOG-CLS



False Positives – TV/monitor

OXFORD_MKL











UoCTTI_LSVM-MDPM











LEAR_CHI-SVM-SIFT-HOG-CLS





Precision/Recall - Aeroplane



Precision/Recall - Car



Precision/Recall – Potted plant



AP by Class Detection



Wide variety of methods: sliding window, combination with whole image classifiers, segmentation based

Multiple Kernels for Object Detection

Andrea Vedaldi, Varun Gulshan, Manik Varma, Andrew Zisserman ICCV 2009


- Three stage cascade
 - Each stage uses a more powerful and more expensive classifier
- Multiple kernel learning for the classifiers over multiple features
- Jumping window first stage

Multiple Kernel Classification



Multiple Kernel Detection: Challenges

• Goal: sliding window MK classifier

- Inference space is huge
- #windows = 100 millions
- TMK = seconds



Excruciatingly slow (days per image)

Cascade



Architecture



Cascade



Non-linear sliding SVM



Cascade



Quasi-linear SVM



Quasi-linear (or additive) kernel decompose as:

$$K(x,y) = \sum_{j=1}^{d} k(x_j, y_j)$$

Thus SVM score rewrites:



Pre-compute look-up table.

Maji, Berg, Malik, CVPR 08

Cascade



Fast linear SVM



Jumping window



Position of visual word with respect to the object





learn the position/scale/aspect ratio of the ROI with respect to the visual word





Hypothesis

Handles change of aspect ratio

SVMs overview

• First stage

- linear SVM
- (or jumping window)
- time: #windows

Second stage

- quasi-linear SVM
- $-\chi^2$ kernel
- time: #windows × #dimensions

• Third stage

- non-linear SVM
- χ^2 -RBF kernel
- time:

#windows × #dimensions × #SVs



Results









Results



Results









Single Kernel vs. Multiple Kernels

- Multiple Kernels gives substantial boost
- Multiple Kernel Learning:
 - small improvement over averaging
 - sparse feature selection



Precision/Recall: VOC2009 Aeroplane



Object Detection with Discriminatively Trained Part Based Models

Pedro F. Felzenszwalb, David Mcallester, Deva Ramanan, Ross Girshick PAMI 2010

Approach



- Mixture of deformable part-based models
 - One component per "aspect" e.g. front/side view
- Each component has global template + deformable parts
- Discriminative training from bounding boxes alone

Example Model

• One component of person model





root filters coarse resolution part filters finer resolution

deformation models

Starting Point: HOG Filter





Score of *F* at position *p* is $F \cdot \varphi(p, H)$

 $\varphi(p, H)$ = concatenation of HOG features from subwindow specified by p

- Search: sliding window over position and scale
- Feature extraction: HOG Descriptor
- Classifier: Linear SVM

Dalal & Triggs [2005]

Object Hypothesis

- Position of root + each part
- Each part: HOG filter (at higher resolution)





Score of a Hypothesis

Appearance term Spatial prior

$$score(p_0, \dots, p_n) = \sum_{i=0}^{n} F_i \cdot \phi(H, p_i) - \sum_{i=1}^{n} d_i \cdot (dx_i^2, dy_i^2)$$

$$filters \qquad filters \qquad filte$$



• Linear classifier applied to feature subset defined by hypothesis

Training

- Training data = images + bounding boxes
- Need to learn: model structure, filters, deformation costs



Latent SVM (MI-SVM)



Classifiers that score an example *x* using

$$f_{\beta}(x) = \max_{s \in Z(x)} \beta \cdot \Phi(x, z)$$

 β are model parameters
z are latent values

$$\bullet$$
 Which component?

$$\bullet$$
 Where are the parts?

Training data $D = (\langle x_1, y_1 \rangle, \dots, \langle x_n, y_n \rangle)$ $y_i \in \{-1, 1\}$ We would like to find β such that: $y_i f_\beta(x_i) > 0$

Minimize

$$L_D(\beta) = \frac{1}{2} ||\beta||^2 + C \sum_{i=1}^n \max(0, 1 - y_i f_\beta(x_i))$$

SVM objective

Latent SVM Training

$$L_D(eta) = rac{1}{2} ||eta||^2 + C \sum_{i=1}^n \max(0, 1 - y_i f_eta(x_i))$$

- Convex if we fix z for positive examples
- Optimization:
 - Initialize β and iterate:
 - Pick best *z* for each positive example
 Optimize *R* with *z* fixed
 Alternation strategy
 - Optimize β with z fixed
- Local minimum: needs good initialization
 - Parts initialized heuristically from root

Person Model





root filters part filters deformation coarse resolution finer resolution models

Handles partial occlusion/truncation

Car Model













root filters coarse resolution

part filters finer resolution

deformation models

Car Detections

high scoring true positives



high scoring false positives





Person Detections

high scoring true positives







high scoring false positives (not enough overlap)





Precision/Recall: VOC2008 Person



Precision/Recall: VOC2008 Bicycle



Comparison of Models



Summary

- Multiple features and multiple kernels boost performance
- Discriminative learning of model with latent variables for single feature (HOG):
 - Latent variables can learn best alignment in the ROI training annotation
 - Parts can be thought of as local SIFT vectors
 - Some similarities to Implicit Shape Model/Constellation models but with discriminative/careful training throughout





NB: Code available for latent model !

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Current Research Challenges

- Context
 - from scene properties: GIST, BoW, stuff
 - from other objects
 - from geometry of scene, e.g. Hoiem et al CVPR 06
- Occlusion/truncation
 - Winn & Shotton, Layout Consistent Random Field, CVPR 06
 - Vedaldi & Zisserman, NIPS 09
 - Yang et al, Layered Object Detection, CVPR 10

• 3D

- Scaling up thousands of classes
 - Torralba et al, Feature sharing
 - ImageNet
- Weak and noisy supervision