

Lecture 6:

Outlook / Related topics

Version July 2, 2019

Multi-Object Tracking

Lennart Svensson

Section 1:

Extended object tracking

Multi-Object Tracking

Lennart Svensson

Extended object tracking – motivation

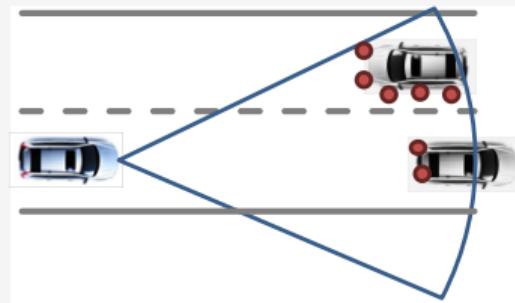
Multi-Object Tracking

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EXTENDED OBJECT TRACKING – DEFINITION

Extended object tracking

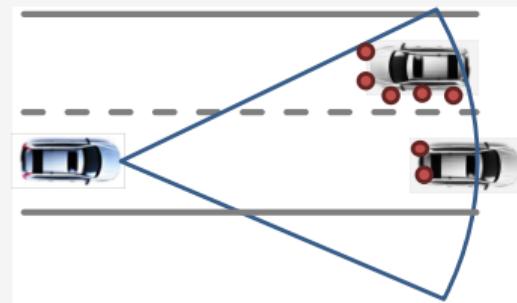
- Tracking objects that may generate multiple detections per time step.



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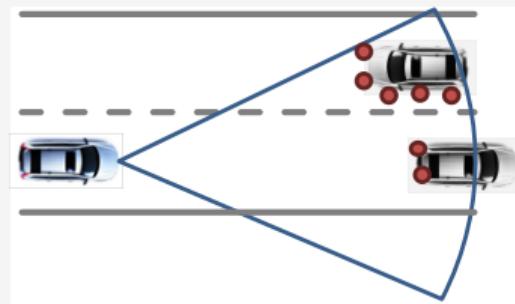


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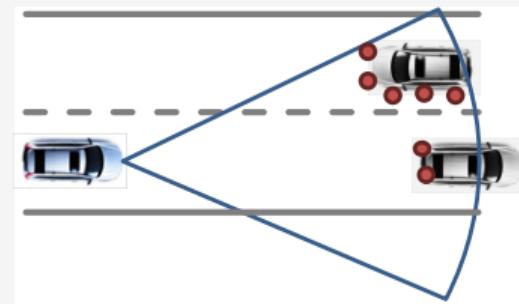


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- Are cars extended?

EXTENDED OBJECT TRACKING – DEFINITION

Extended object tracking

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- An extended object occupies more than one sensor resolution cell.
- Are cars extended?
Depends on sensor and distance to sensor.

WHY EXTENDED OBJECT TRACKING?

- In autonomous applications, extended object tracking is useful for:

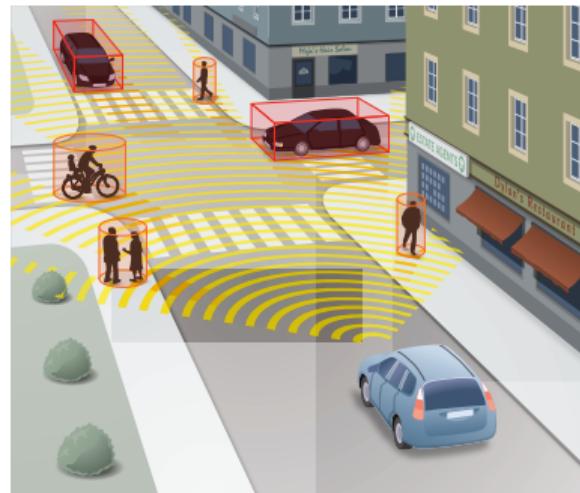


Illustration by Per Thorneus, reproduced from Granström et al (2013), "Random set methods: Estimation of multiple extended objects", *IEEE robotics & automation magazine* 21(2), 73-82.

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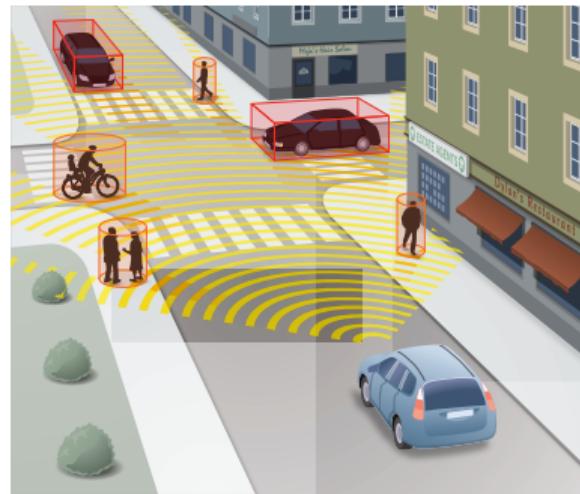


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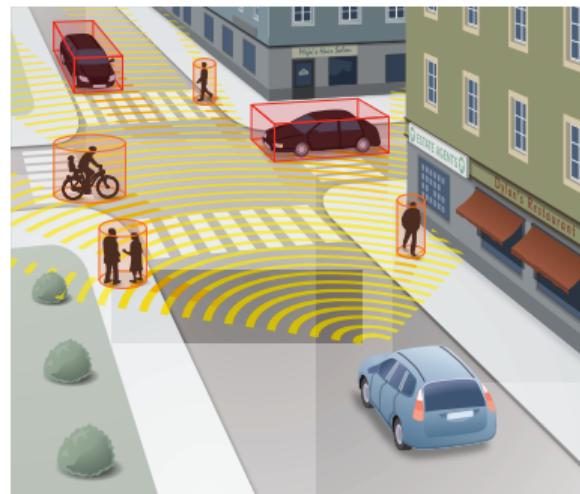
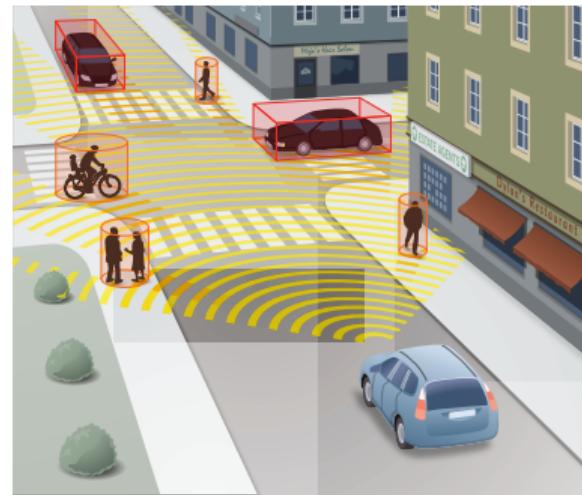


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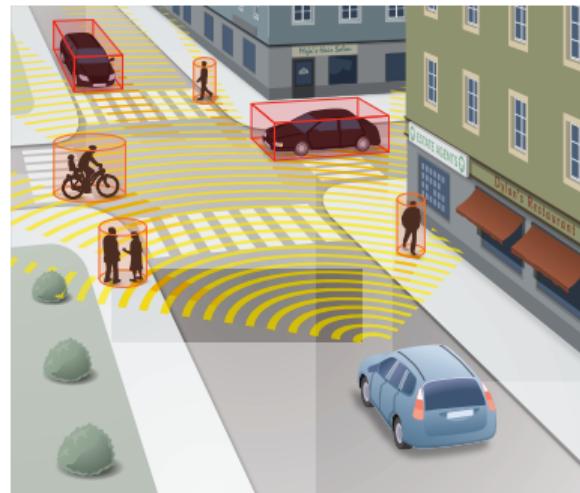


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- In general, multiple detections from a single object may enable us to estimate the object’s **shape** and **orientation**.



WHAT'S NEW?

Bayesian filtering recursions – standard equations

Prediction:
$$p(\mathbf{x}_k | \mathbf{z}_{1:k-1}) = \int p(\mathbf{x}_k | \mathbf{x}_{k-1}) p(\mathbf{x}_{k-1} | \mathbf{z}_{1:k-1}) \delta \mathbf{x}_{k-1}$$

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Differences:

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- Data association hypothesis trees are different which requires new algorithms.
- The single object state x_k often contains shape information.

Single object measurement models

Multi-Object Tracking

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MULTI-BERNOULLI RFSs

- **Objective:** model single object measurements, $\mathbf{o}_k | \{x_k\}$.

MULTI-BERNOULLI RFSs

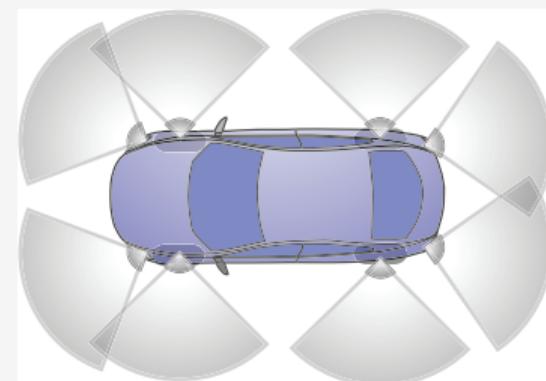
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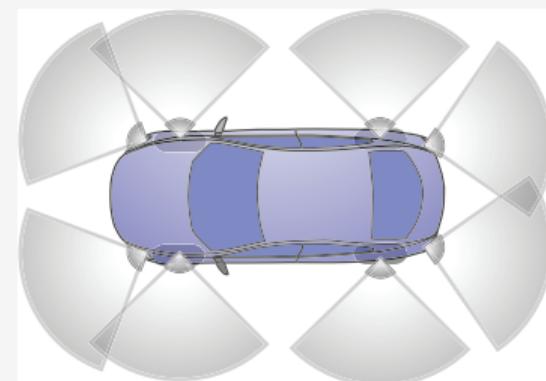


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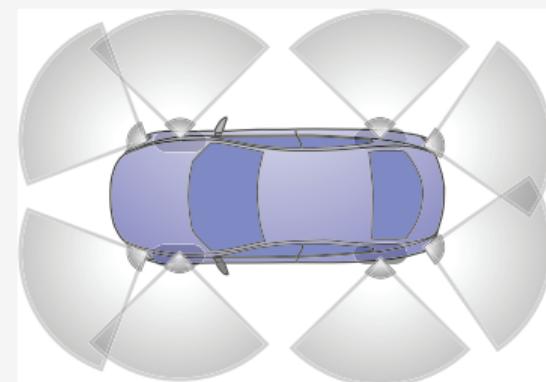


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- One Bernoulli for each “reflector point”.
- Both r^i and $p^i(o | x_k)$ depend on x_k .



THE POISSON POINT PROCESS AND ITS INTENSITY FUNCTION

- The PPP is arguably the **standard object measurement model** for extended object tracking.

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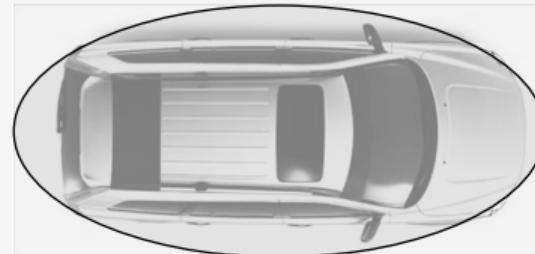
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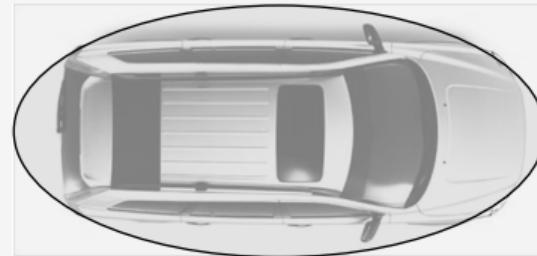


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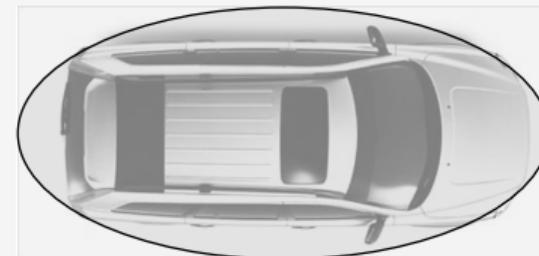


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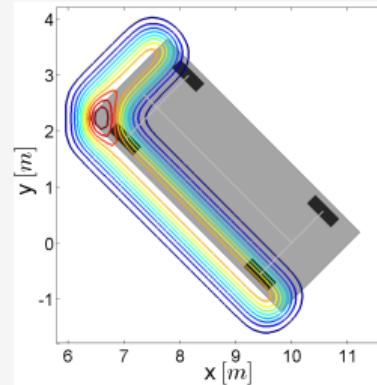
- **Note:** measurements are often described in a different coordinate system.

THE POISSON POINT PROCESS AND ITS INTENSITY FUNCTION

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- How can we **model the intensity function** $\lambda_o(o|x_k)$?

Rectangular shapes

- Intensity is high along visible edges of object.
- Object dimensions may be part of x_k .
- Can be generalised to, e.g., 3D boxes.



FLEXIBLE PARAMETRISATIONS OF THE INTENSITY FUNCTION

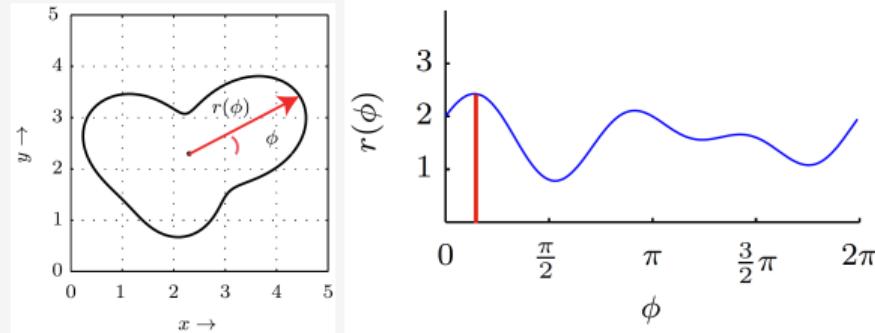
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Star-convex contour

- Object contour is determined by $r(\phi)$.

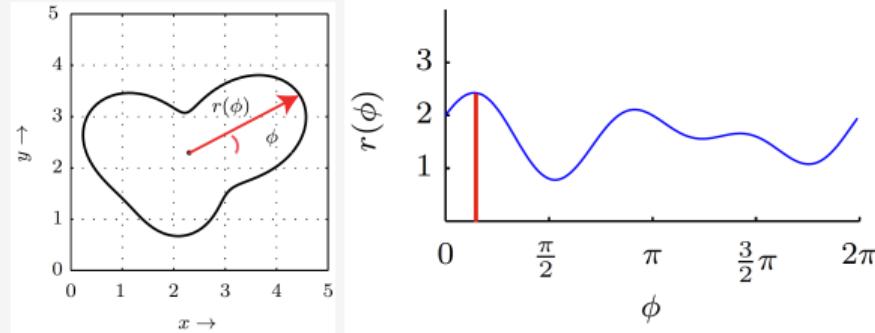


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- Here, $r(\phi)$ could be, e.g., a Fourier series.



Extended object tracking algorithms and conjugate priors

Multi-Object Tracking

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EXTENDED OBJECT TRACKING ALGORITHMS

- Fairly rich literature on extended object tracking (EOT) algorithms, e.g.,
 - joint probabilistic data associations (JPDA),
 - particle filters,
 - probability hypothesis density (PHD) filter,
 - cardinalized probability hypothesis density (CPHD) filter,
 - probabilistic multi-hypothesis tracking (PMHT),
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- **Key difference:** the family of distributions used to approximate $p(\mathbf{x}_k | \mathbf{z}_{1:k})$ or $p(X_k | Z_{1:k})$.

CONJUGATE PRIORS FOR EXTENDED OBJECT TRACKING (EOT)

PMBM conjugate prior

- The pdf $\mathcal{PMBM}_{k|k}(\mathbf{x}_k)$ is a conjugate prior to the standard models for EOT (Poisson birth, PPP object measurements):

Prediction:
$$\mathcal{PMBM}_{k|k-1}(\mathbf{x}_k) = \int p(\mathbf{x}_k | \mathbf{x}_{k-1}) \mathcal{PMBM}_{k-1|k-1}(\mathbf{x}_{k-1}) \delta \mathbf{x}_{k-1}$$

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 - Describes the exact posterior: useful to understand EOT.
 - PMBM filters arguably yield state of the art performance.

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One term in the mixture **for every global data association hypothesis!**

GLOBAL HYPOTHESES IN PMBM

- We obtain **one global hypothesis for every possible partition** of $z_{1:k}$.

GLOBAL HYPOTHESES IN PMBM

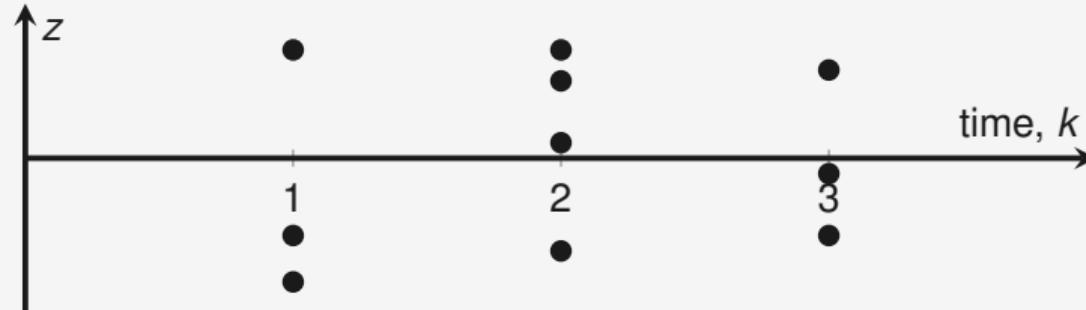
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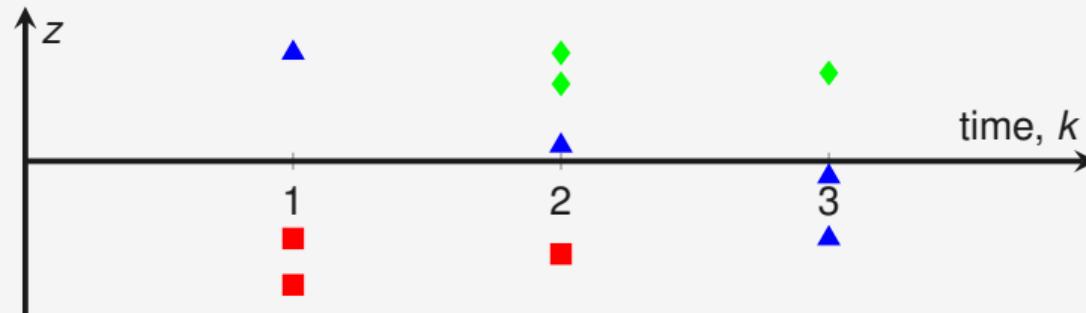


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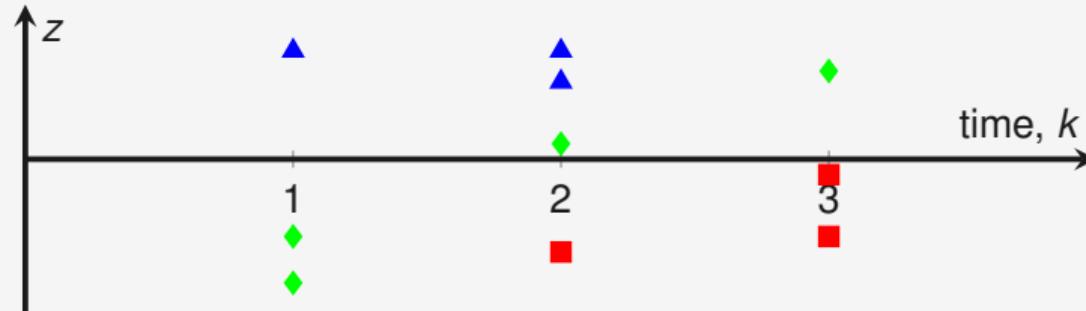


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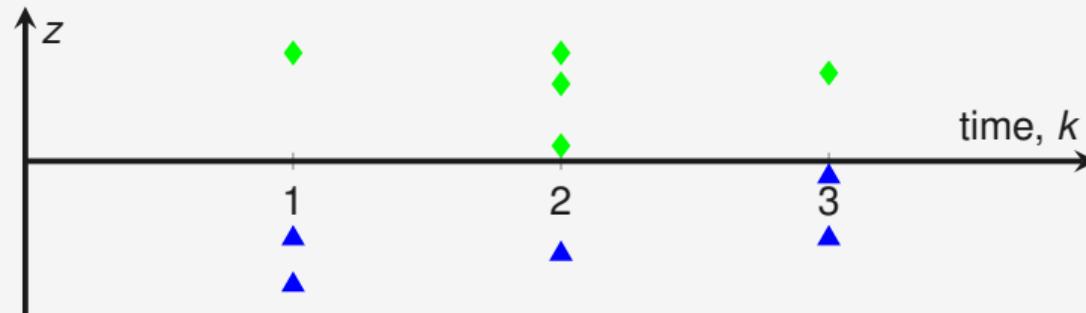


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PMBM recursions for EOT

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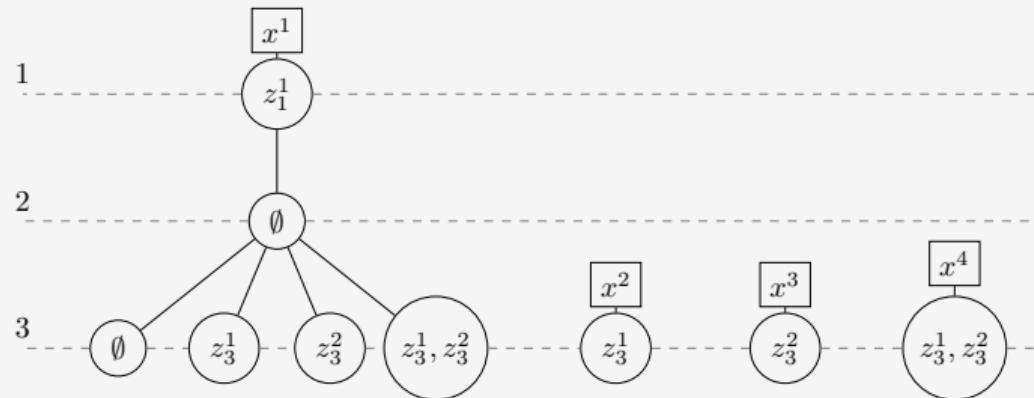
Time

0

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2

3



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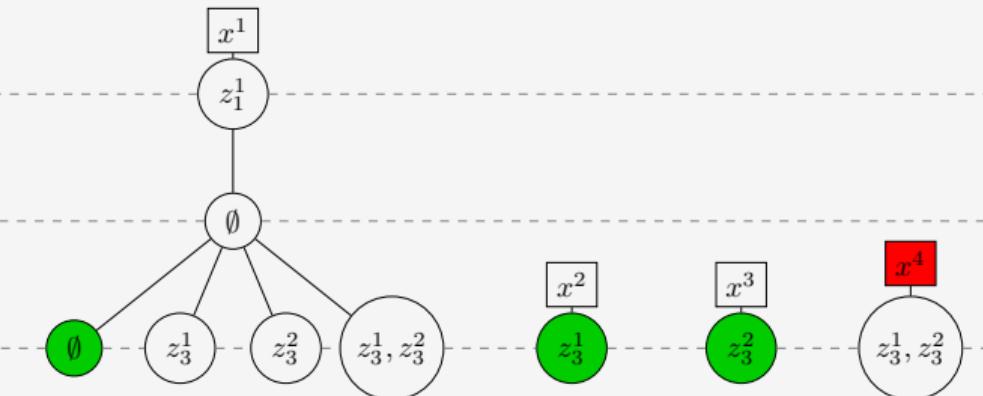
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Look-up table:

1	1	1	0
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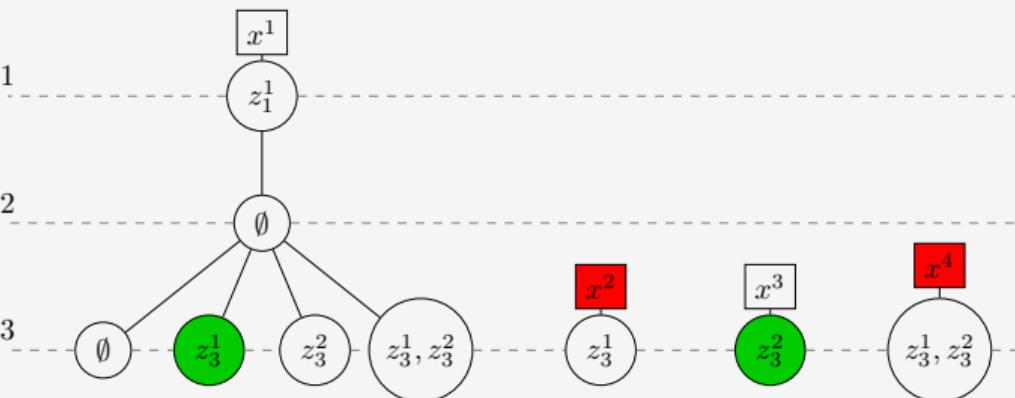
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$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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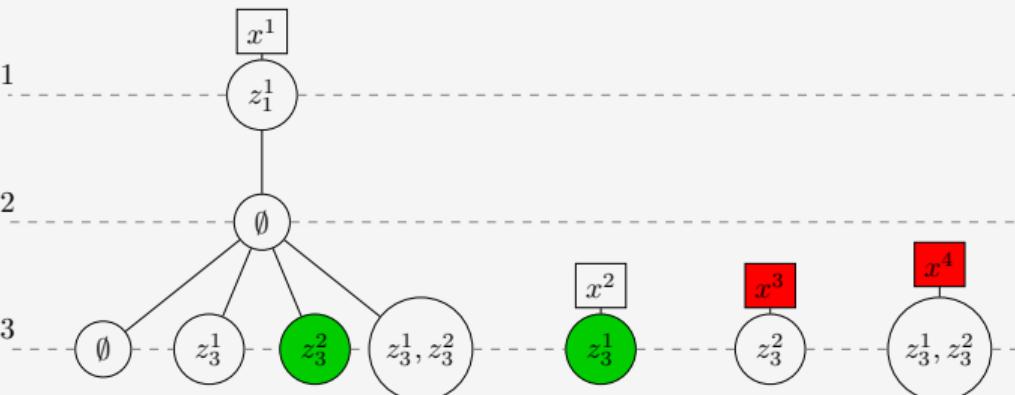
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Look-up table:

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2	0	1	0
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Local hypotheses indexed from left to right.

TRACK ORIENTED REPRESENTATION OF HYPOTHESES

- **Recursive algorithms:** useful to express global hypotheses as combinations of local hypotheses.

Local and global hypotheses, $z_1 = \{z_1^1\}$, $z_2 = \emptyset$, $z_3 = \{z_3^1, z_3^2\}$

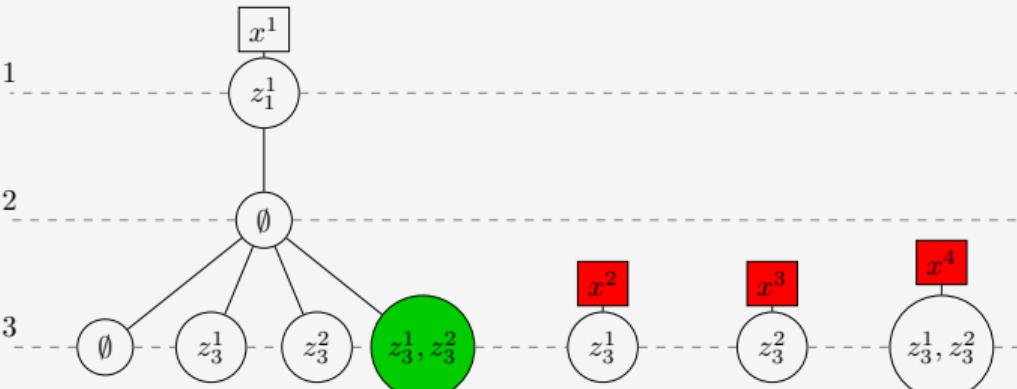
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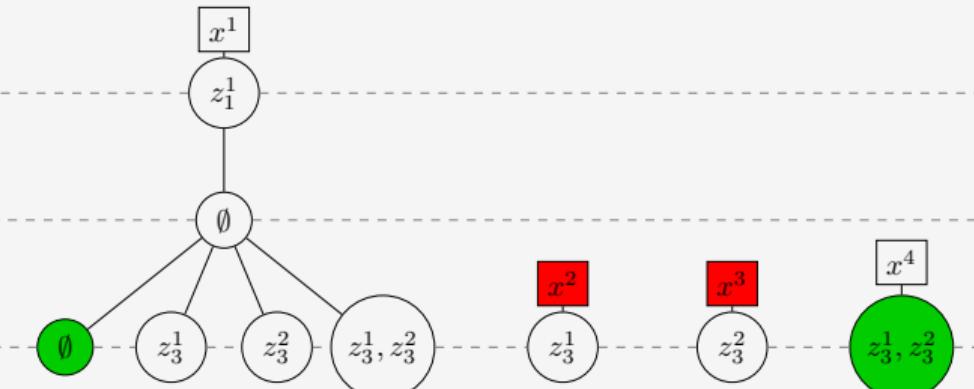
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 - **Note:** assignments methods (auction, Murty's, ...) assume *at most one measurement per object* and cannot be used (directly) to find probably global hypotheses.

Pruning and clustering

Multi-Object Tracking

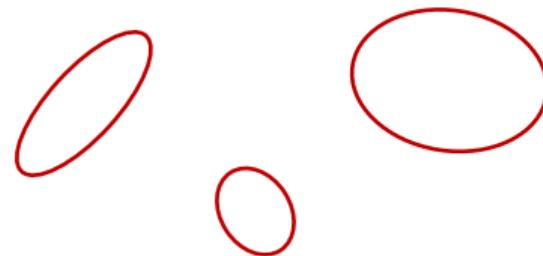
Lennart Svensson

PROBLEM FORMULATION

Problem formulation

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MB with 3 components: predicted measurements

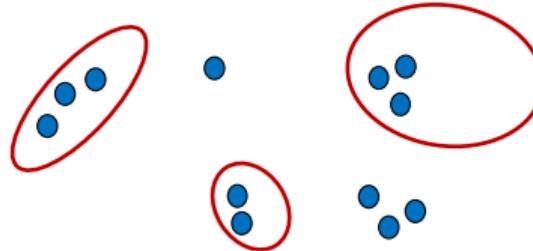


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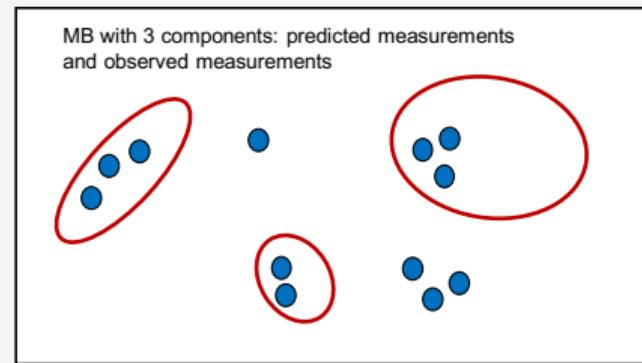
MB with 3 components: predicted measurements and observed measurements



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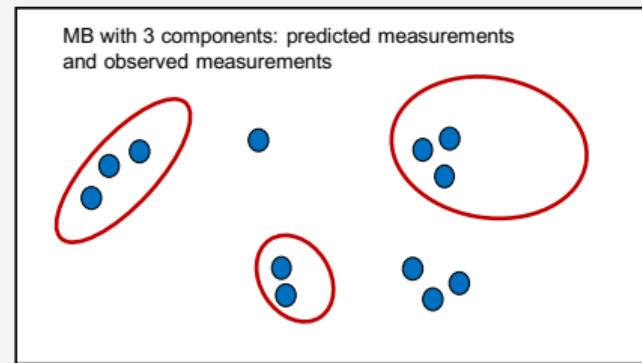
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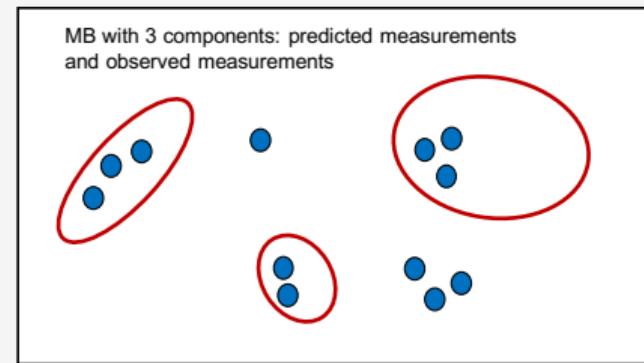


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CLUSTERING AND ASSIGNMENT ALGORITHMS?

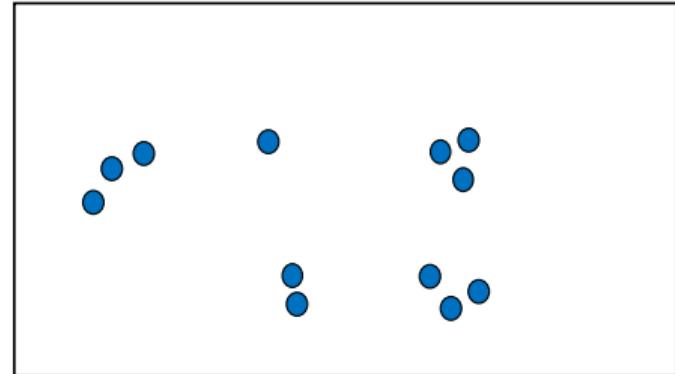
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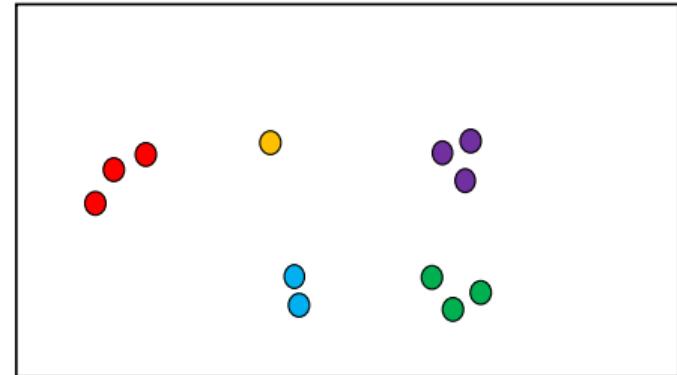
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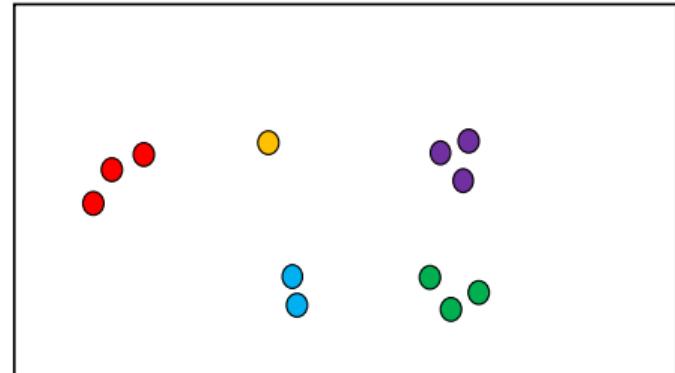
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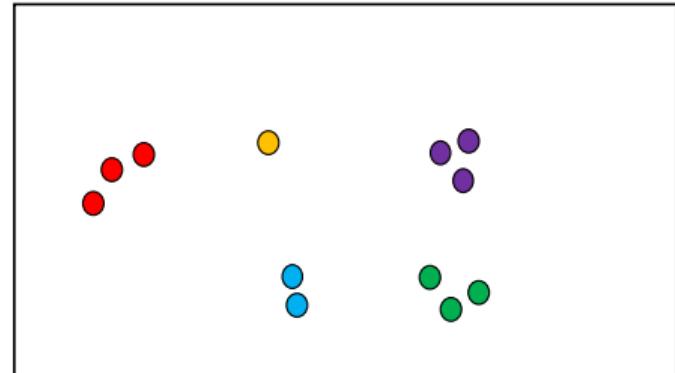
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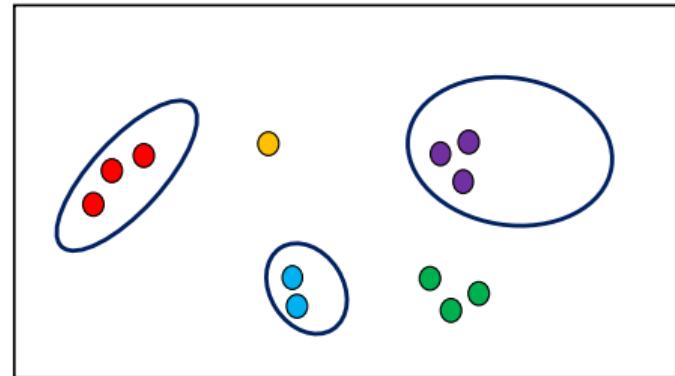
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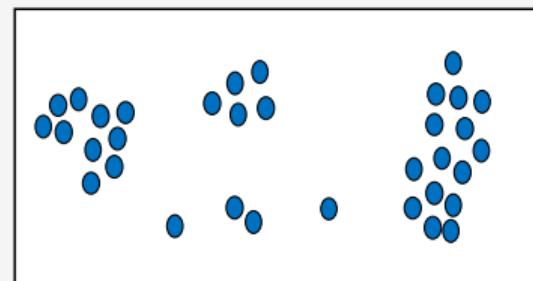
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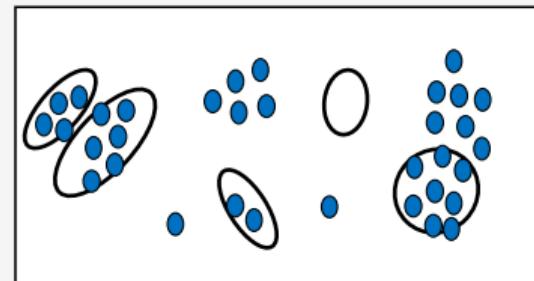
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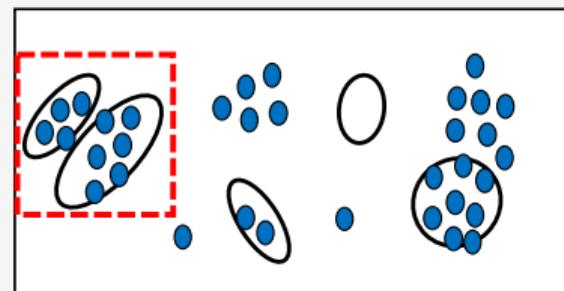
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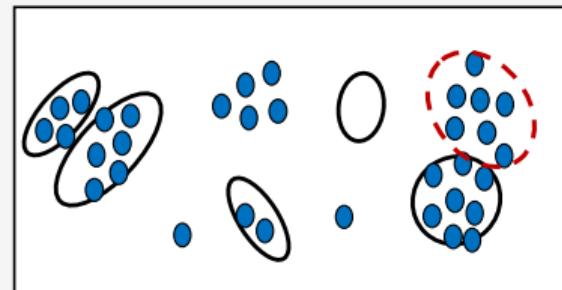
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Sampling methods to find likely associations

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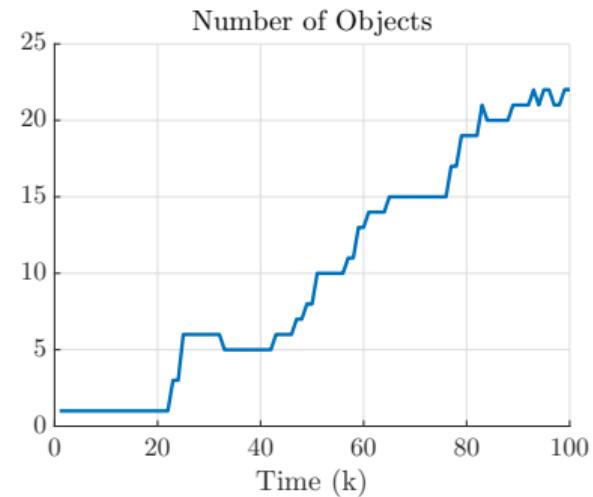
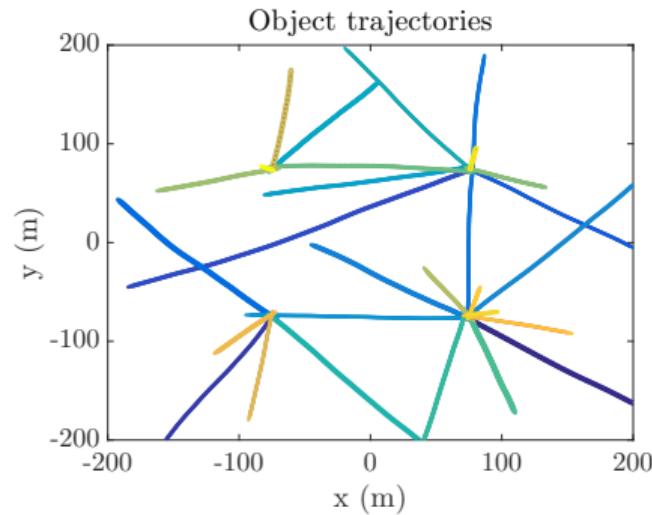
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- Yields very good performance.
- Difficult to analyse convergence.

Simulation example

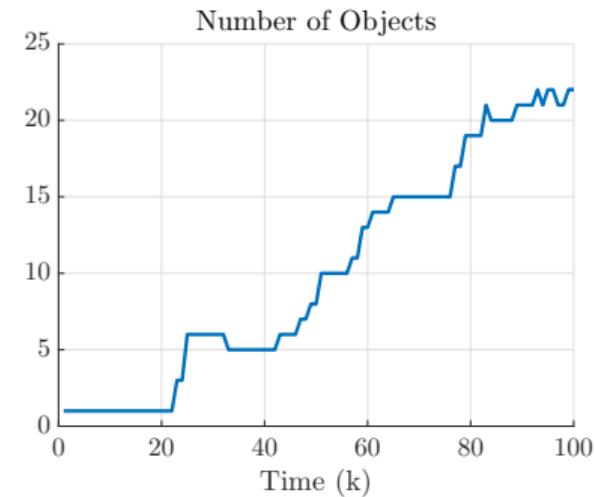
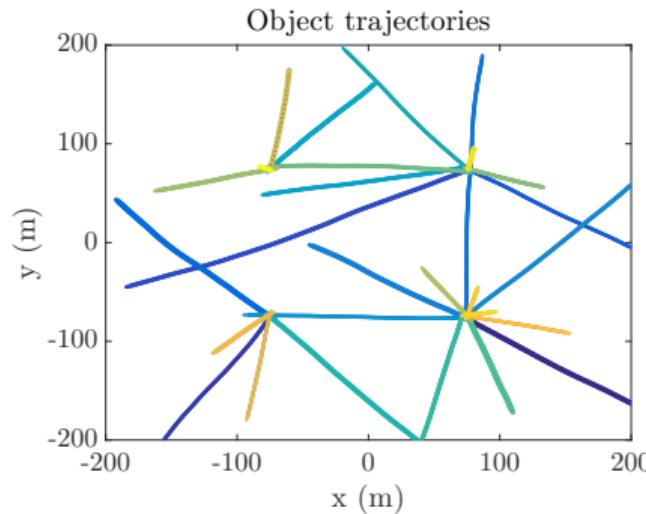
Multi-Object Tracking

Lennart Svensson

SIMULATION SCENARIO

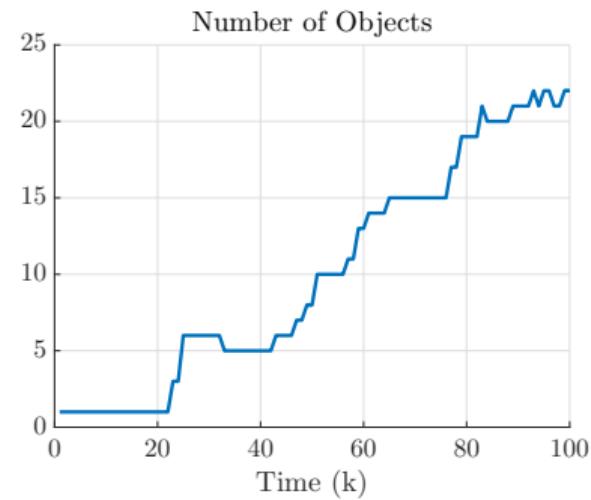
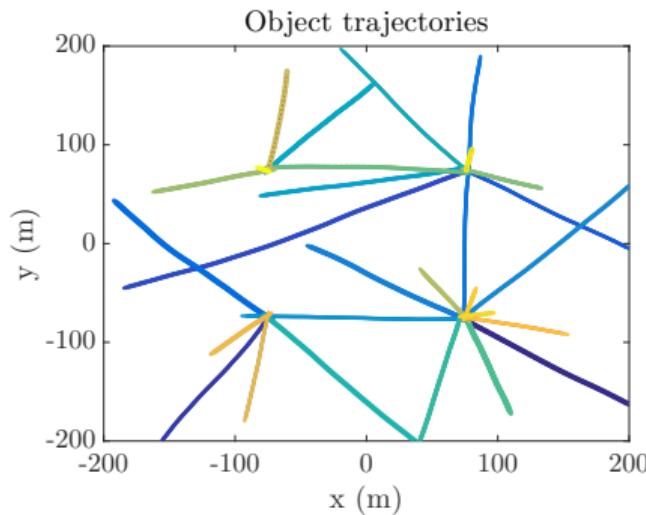


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- **Motion model:**
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 - Birth intensity: peaks around $(\pm 75, \pm 75)$.

SIMULATION RESULTS

Section 2: Sets of trajectories

Multi-Object Tracking

Lennart Svensson

Sets of trajectories – motivation

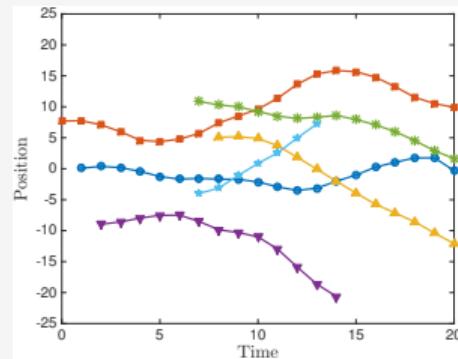
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POSSIBLE PROBLEM FORMULATIONS (1)

The set of all trajectories

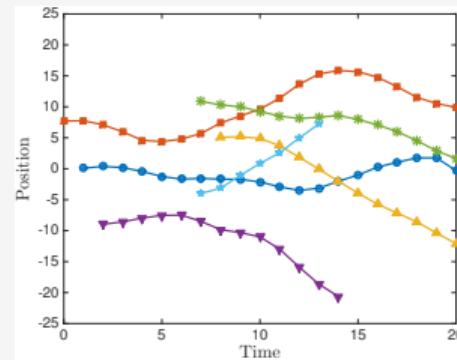
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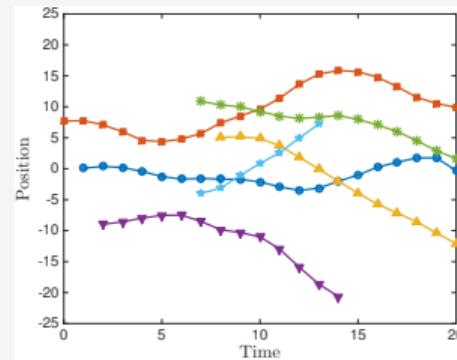
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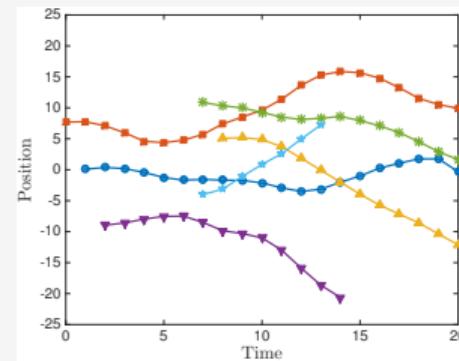
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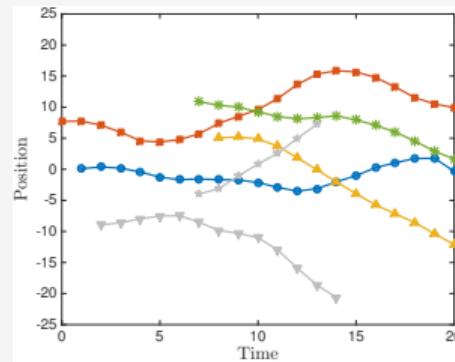


- We focus on recursive estimation algorithms, but batch solutions are also important.

POSSIBLE PROBLEM FORMULATIONS (2)

The set of current trajectories

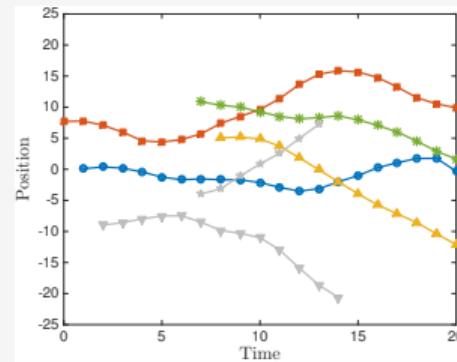
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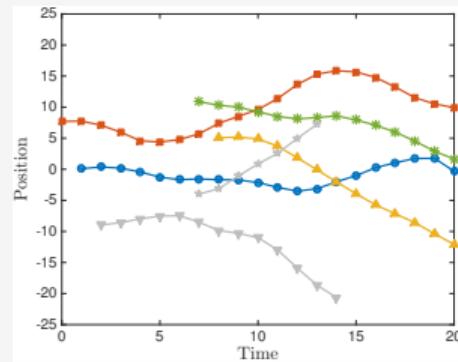
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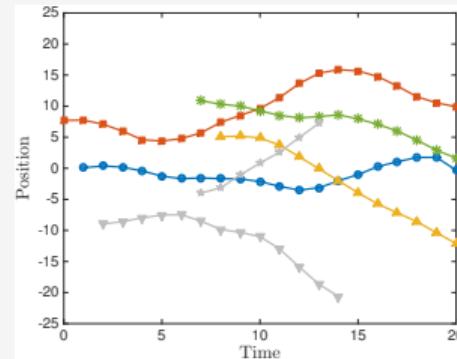
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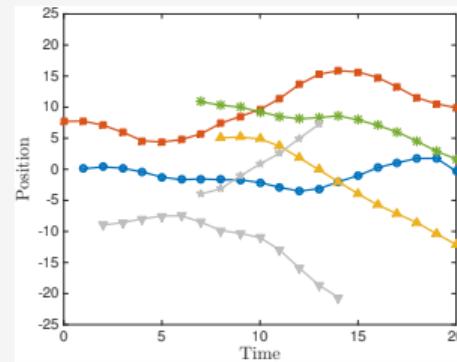


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- In upcoming videos, **multi-object tracking** refers to recursively estimating the set of trajectories.

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- We want to find the set of trajectories.

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- **Basic idea:** use the **set of trajectories as state variable**.

SINGLE TRAJECTORY: PARAMETRISATION

Single trajectory parametrisation

- We write single trajectories as

$$X_k = (\beta, \epsilon, x_{\beta:\epsilon})$$

where β is the time of birth, ϵ is the time of trajectory's most recent state and $x_{\beta:\epsilon}$ is the sequence of states.

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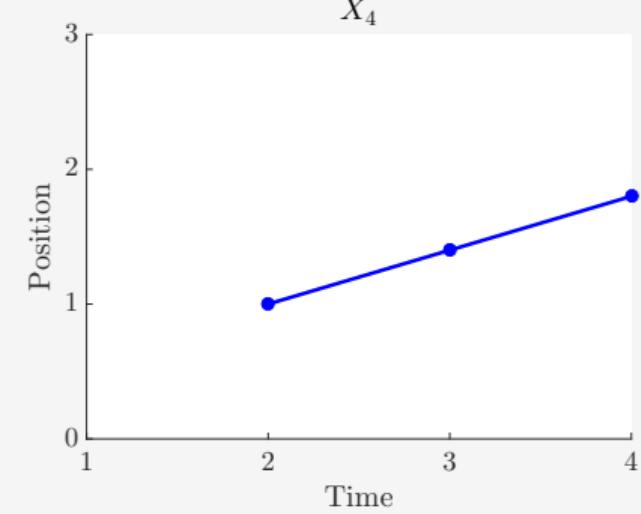
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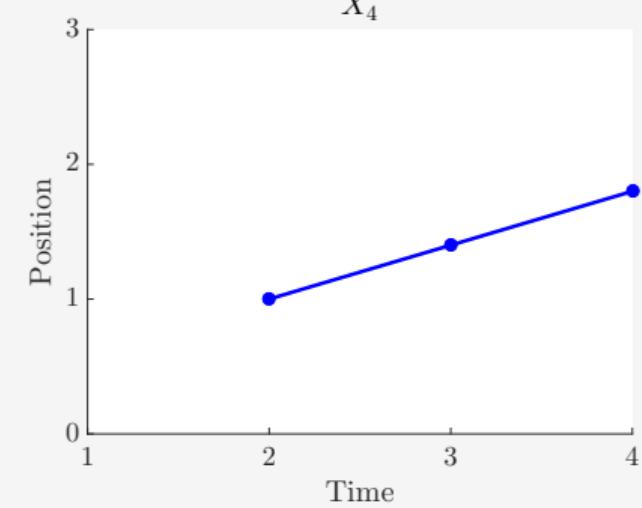
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- **Note:** $\epsilon = k$ means that trajectory is ongoing, whereas $\epsilon < k$ means that it ended at time ϵ .

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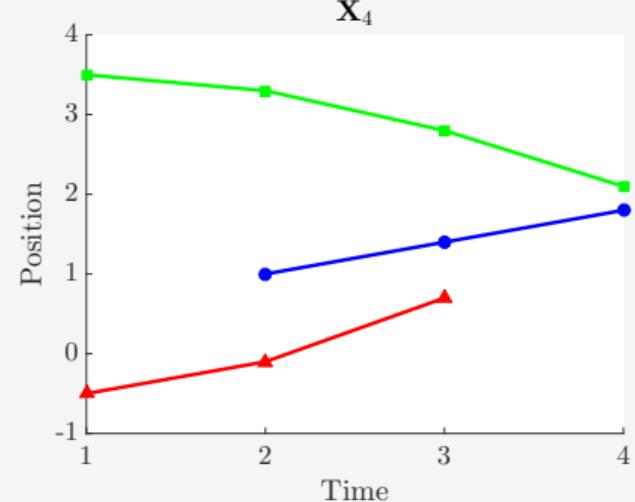
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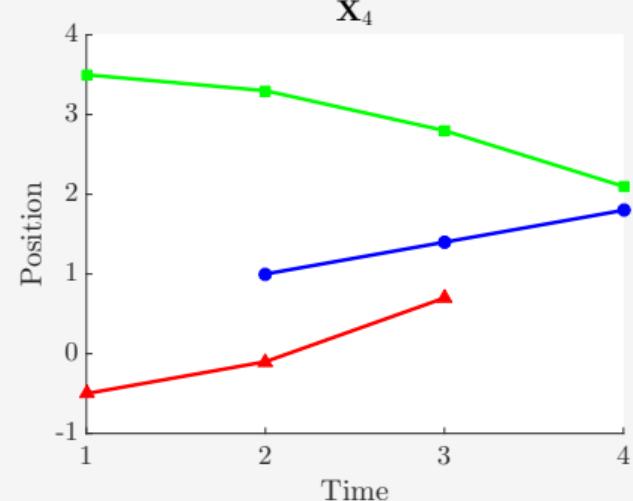
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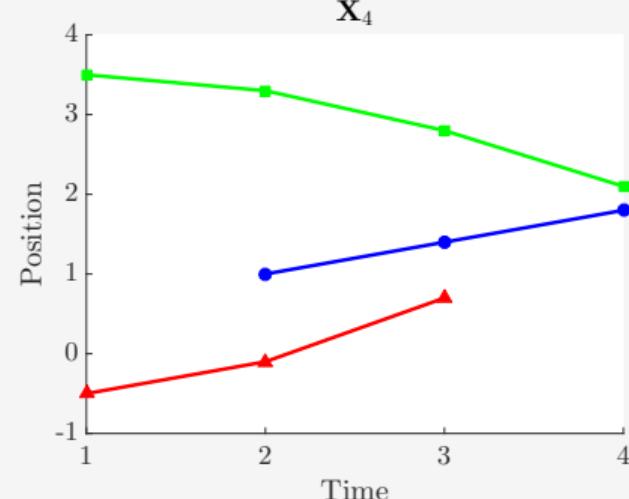
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Example

- A set $\mathbf{X}_4 = \{X_4^1, X_4^2, X_4^3\}$:



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- Sets of trajectories can be used to develop performance metrics.
- Have been used to develop efficient and accurate tracking algorithms for both point objects and extended objects.

Sets of trajectories – basic concepts

Multi-Object Tracking

Lennart Svensson

Single trajectory integral

- Suppose we consider trajectories up to time step t . The single trajectory integral is then defined as

$$\int f(X) dX = \sum_{(\beta, \epsilon) \in \mathbf{i}_t} \int f((\beta, \epsilon, x_{\beta:\epsilon})) dx_{\beta:\epsilon}$$

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Set integrals

- The set integral is defined as

$$\int f(\mathbf{X}) \delta \mathbf{X} = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{i!} \int f(\{X^1, \dots, X^i\}) dX^{1:i}.$$

BAYESIAN FILTERING RECURSION FOR MOT

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Bayesian filtering recursions

Prediction:
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- Standard equations: Chapman-Kolmogorov for prediction and Bayes' rule for update.

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 2. Tracking objects present at time k : remove X_{k-1} from set of trajectories.

COMMON RFSs: BERNOUlli

Bernoulli RFSs

- A Bernoulli RFS \mathbf{X} has the multitrajectory pdf

$$p(\mathbf{X}) = \begin{cases} 1 - r & \text{if } \mathbf{X} = \emptyset \\ r p_X(X) & \text{if } \mathbf{X} = \{X\} \\ 0 & \text{if } |\mathbf{X}| > 1, \end{cases}$$

where $0 \leq r \leq 1$ and $p_X(X)$ is a single trajectory density.

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Sampling a Bernoulli RFS

- Suppose $r = 0.8$ and

$$p_X((\beta, \epsilon, x_{\beta:\epsilon})) = \delta_{\beta-2}\delta_{\epsilon-3} \times \mathcal{N}(x_2; 2, 0.1) \mathcal{N}(x_3; 2.5, 0.3).$$

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- **Note:** r and $p_X(X)$ jointly determine existence probability at a specific time step t .

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- A Poisson RFS \mathbf{X} , with intensity function $\lambda(X)$, has the multitrajectory pdf

$$p(\mathbf{X}) = \exp(-\bar{\lambda}) \prod_{X \in \mathbf{X}} \lambda(X),$$

where $\bar{\lambda} = \int \lambda(X) dX$ is the Poisson rate.

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PMBM trackers – part 1

Multi-Object Tracking

Lennart Svensson

SET OF TRAJECTORY CONJUGACY

PMBM conjugate prior

- The Poisson Multi-Bernoulli Mixture (PMBM) multitrajectory pdf $\mathcal{PMBM}_{k|k}(\mathbf{X}_k)$ is a conjugate prior to the standard models (point objects, Poisson birth):

Prediction:
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- Conjugacy also holds for MBM birth and for extended objects.

PPP INTERPRETATION

The PPP component

- Models trajectories of the set of undetected objects.

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MBM RFS INTERPRETATION

The MBM

- Models trajectories of objects that have been detected (in one of observed measurement sets).

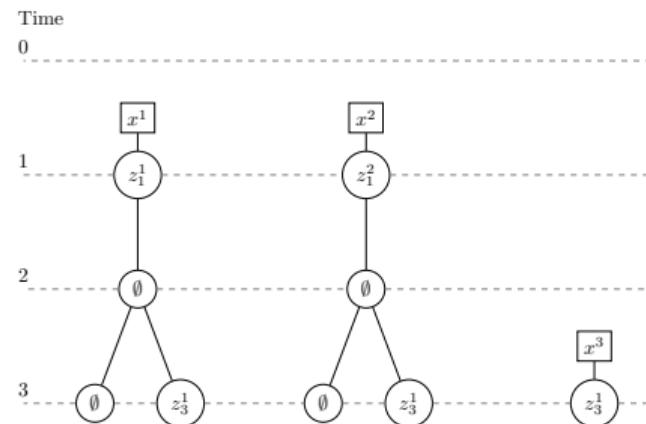
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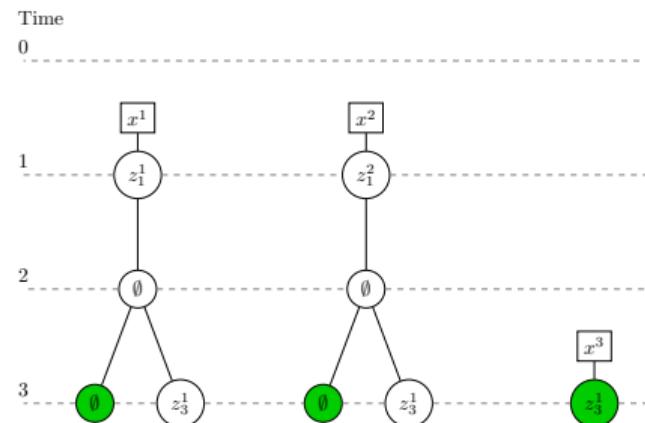
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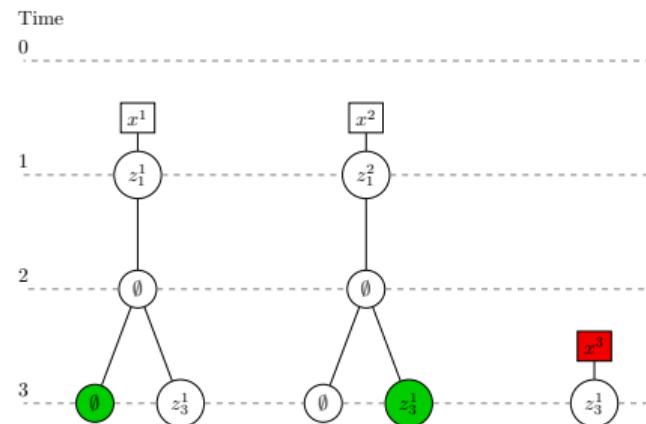
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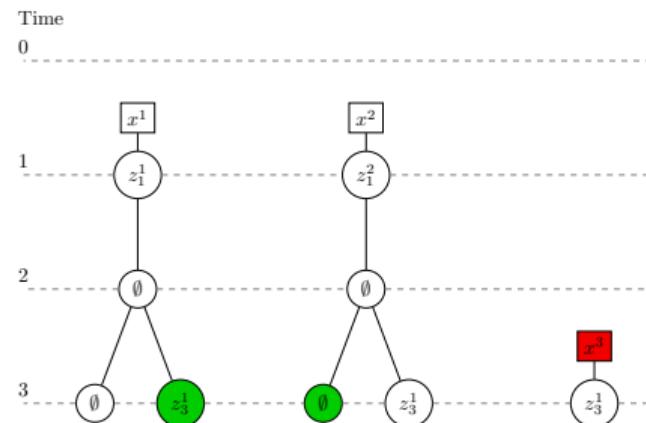
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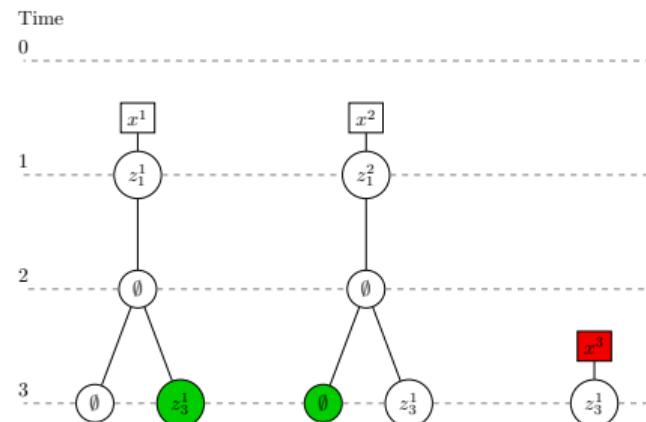
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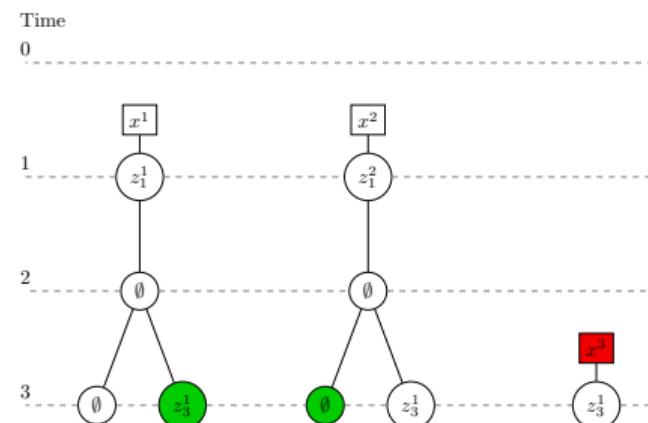
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 - Mixture: multiple global hypotheses.
 - MB RFS: set of detected trajectories for a global hypothesis.
- **Note:** we describe the distribution of \mathbf{X}_k , not just \mathbf{x}_k .



PMBM trackers – part 2

Multi-Object Tracking

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BERNOULLI RFS: INTERPRETATION

The Bernoulli RFS

- The Bernoulli RFSs model a single potential trajectory given a sequence of associations.

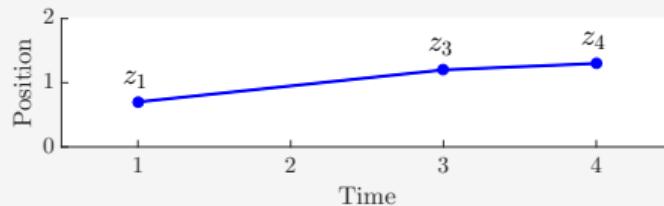
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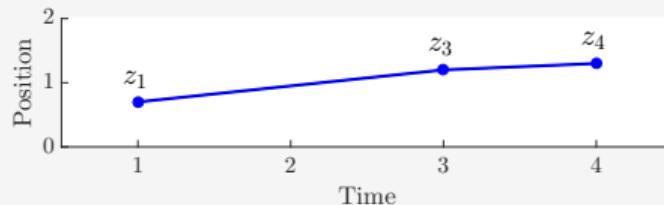
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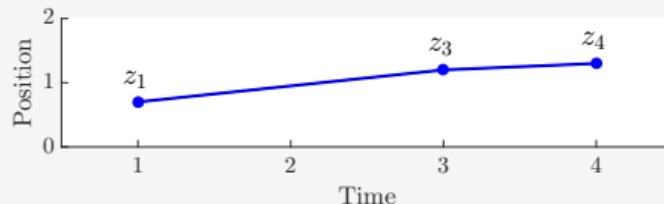
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- Bottom line:** hypotheses describe the association history
⇒ enables us to compute trajectory distribution!

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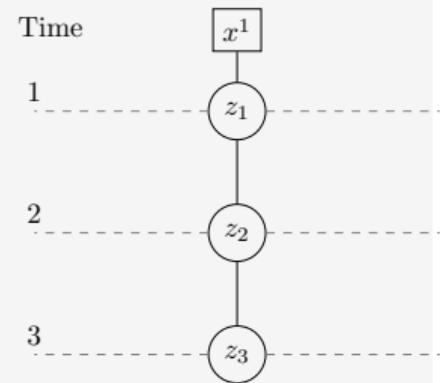
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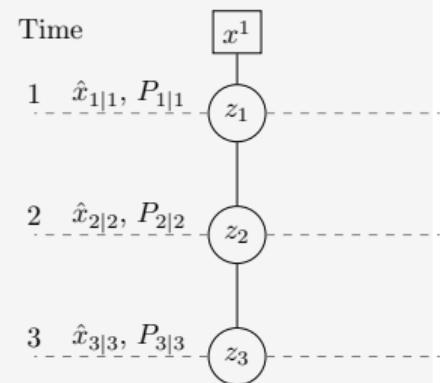
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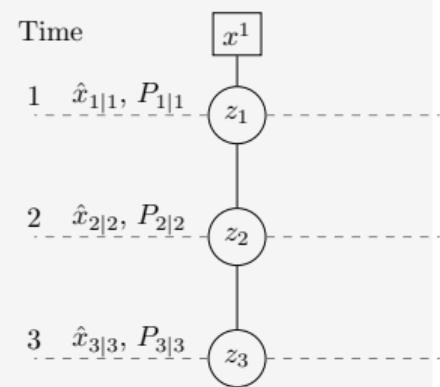
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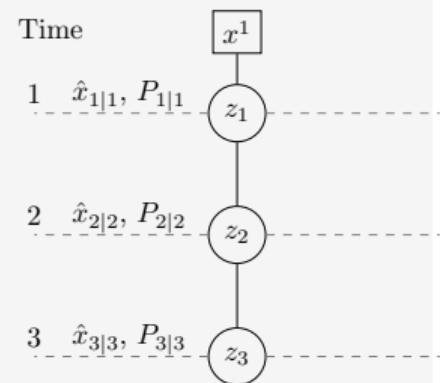
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- \Rightarrow same computational complexity as PMBM filtering.



MARGINALIZATION

- Consider a trajectory Bernoulli RFS, with parameters

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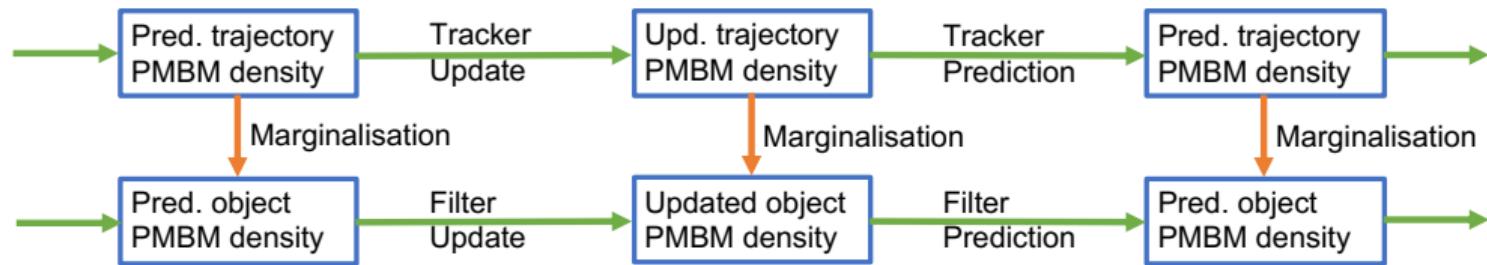
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- This Bernoulli RFS has parameters

$$r_{k|k'}^m = r_{k|k'} \sum_{\beta=1}^k \Pr_{k|k'}(\beta, k)$$

$$p_{k|k'}^m(x_k) = \frac{r_{k|k'}}{r_{k|k'}^m} \sum_{\beta=1}^k \Pr_{k|k'}(\beta, k) \int p_{k|k'}^x(x_{\beta:\epsilon} | \beta, \epsilon) dx_{\beta:k-1}.$$

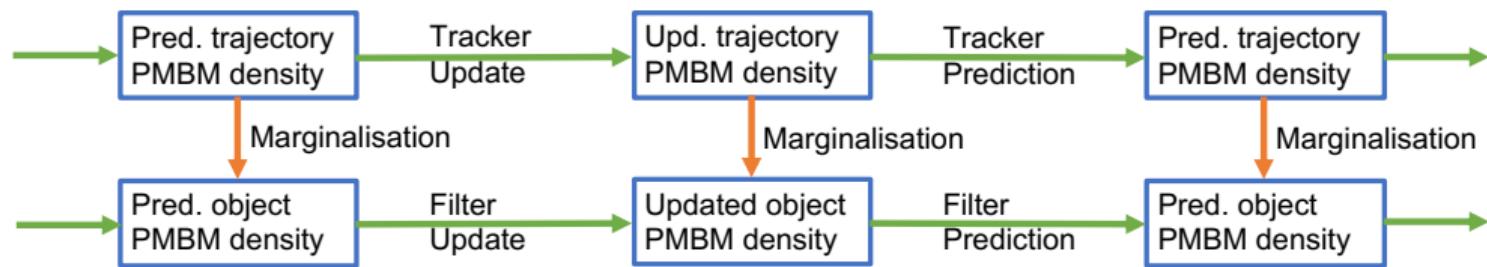
PMBM TRACKERS VS PMBM FILTERS

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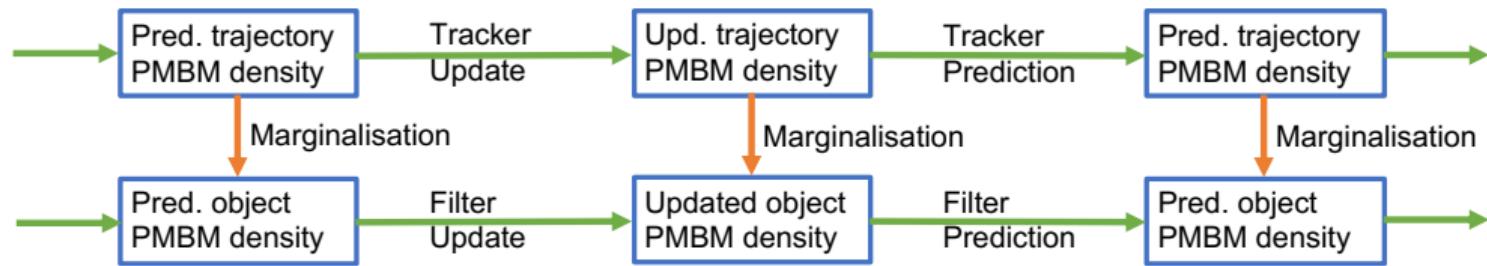
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- Key insight:**
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PMBM TRACKERS VS PMBM FILTERS

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- Key insight:**

- In PMBM filtering we marginalize out the history in every prediction step.
- In PMBM trackers, we maintain knowledge about the past which enables us to estimate trajectories.

Simulation example 1 – missed detections

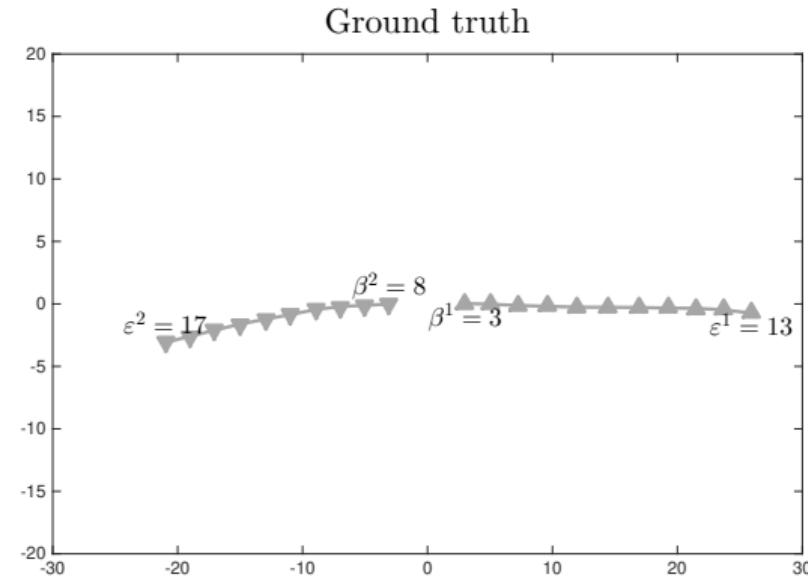
Multi-Object Tracking

Lennart Svensson

SCENARIO WITH MISSED DETECTIONS: SETUP

Two objects

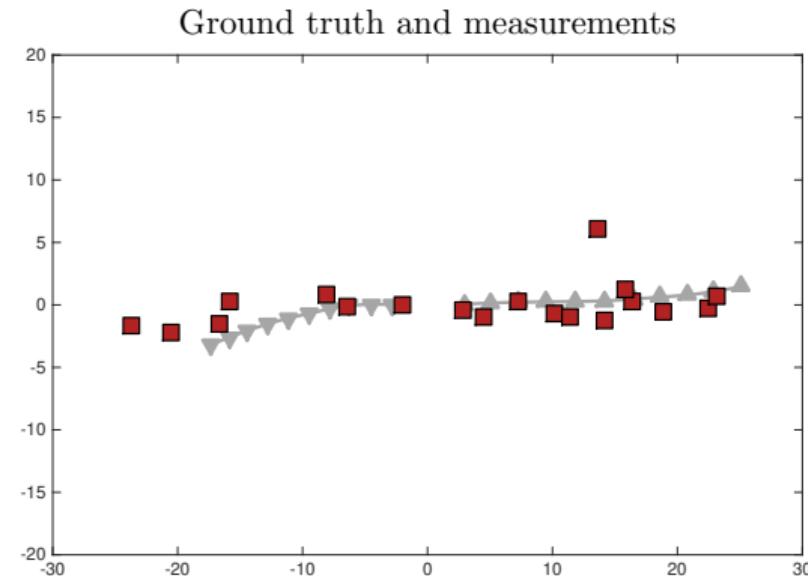
- Twenty time steps
- Two objects appear at time step β^i , disappear at time step ε^i



SCENARIO WITH MISSED DETECTIONS: SETUP

Two objects

- Twenty time steps
- Two objects appear at time step β^i , disappear at time step ε^i
- Left object misdetected at times $k = 11, 12, 13$



SCENARIO WITH MISSED DETECTIONS: NO SMOOTHING

- PMBM tracker
 - Gaussian state densities and a constant velocity model.
 - Trajectory estimates computed at time k . No smoothing.

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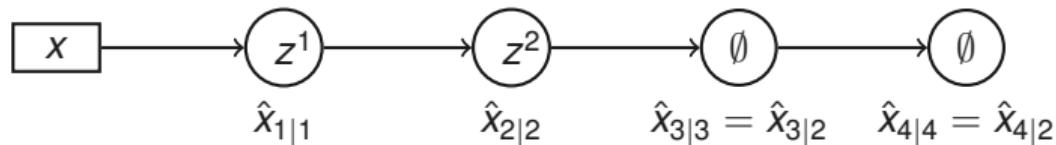
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 - Trajectory estimates are less accurate when object is not detected.

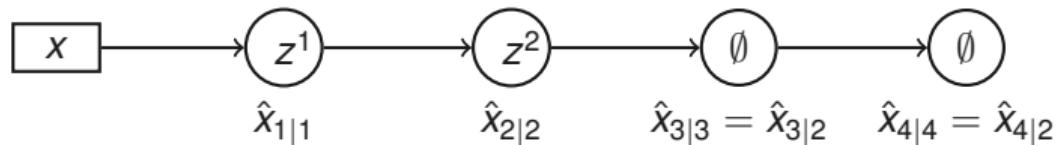
EXPLAINING THE TRACKING RESULTS

- Suppose there is only
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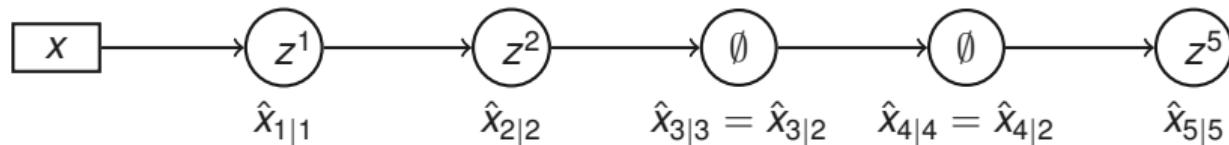
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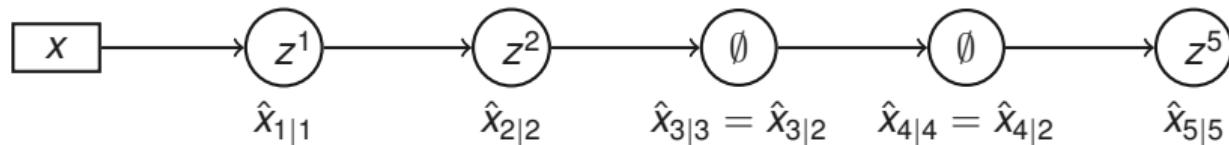


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- Of course, an even better estimate would be:

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 - Final trajectory estimates are accurate also at times when we have missed detections.
 - Both versions of the PMBM tracker provide trajectory estimates without gaps.

Simulation example 2 – closely spaced objects

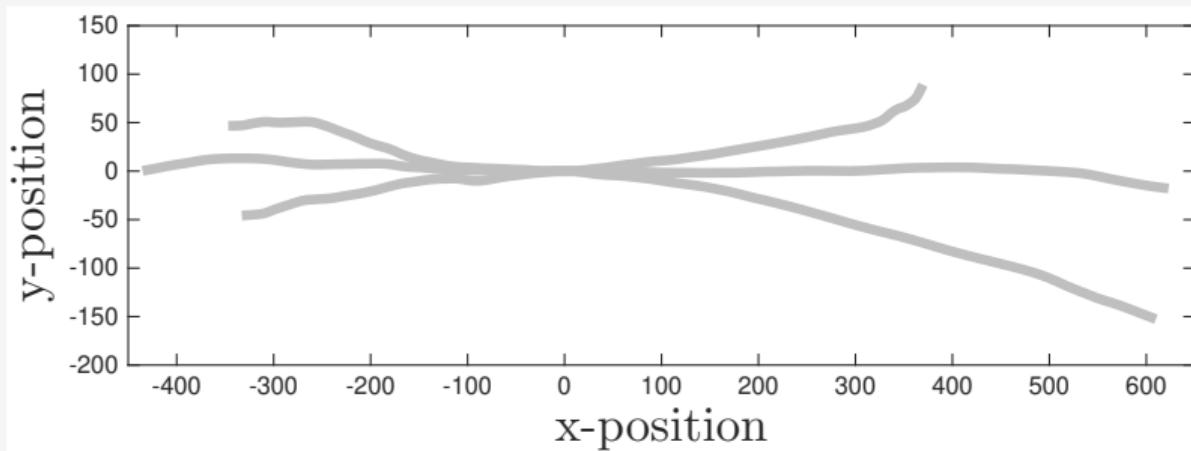
Multi-Object Tracking

Lennart Svensson

CLOSELY SPACED OBJECTS: SETUP

Three objects that become very close, and then separate

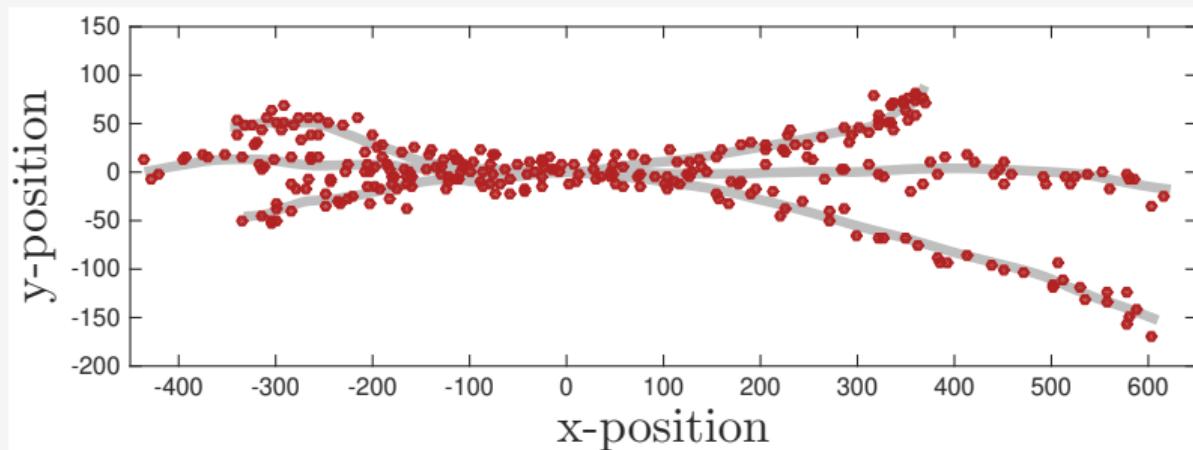
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CLOSELY SPACED OBJECTS: SETUP

Three objects that become very close, and then separate

- Objects move left to right, are initially well-separated.
- Sequences last 100 time steps. After time 50, ambiguous which object goes where.

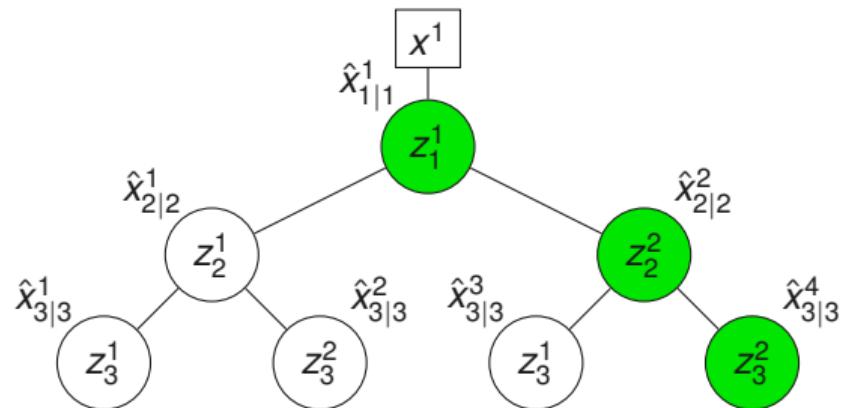


CLOSELY SPACED OBJECTS: TRACKING RESULTS

- PMBM tracker: 1) uses smoothing to improve trajectory estimates, 2) experiences track switching (at $k = 89$), 3) does not report trajectories with unrealistic switches.

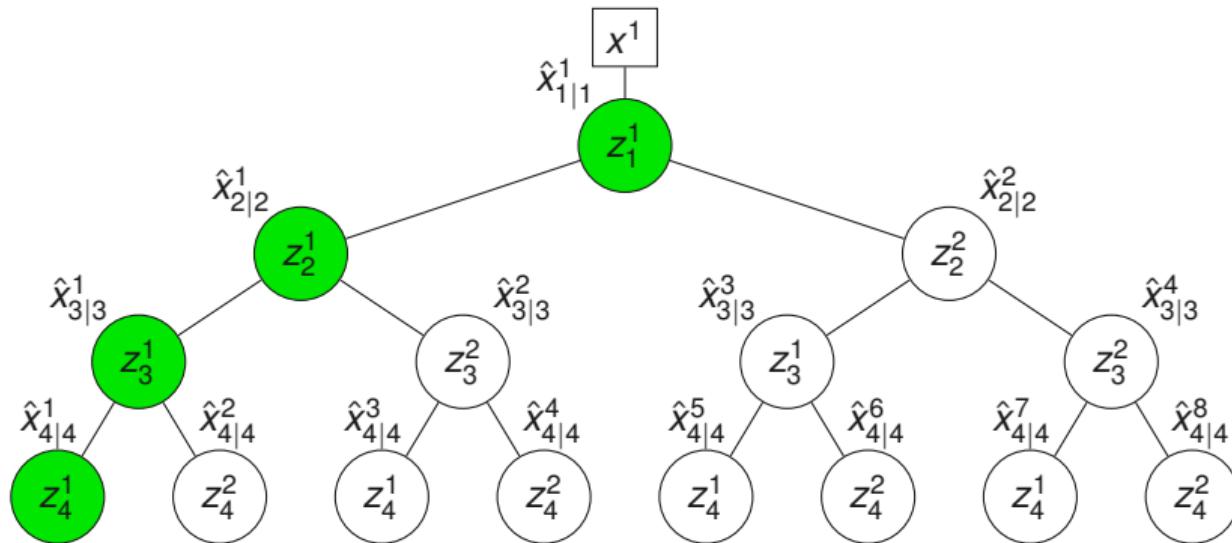
WHY NO TRACK SWITCHES?

- We select estimates from the most likely hypothesis, e.g., $\hat{\mathbf{X}}_3 = \{(1, 3, \hat{x}_{1|1}^1, \hat{x}_{2|2}^2, \hat{x}_{3|3}^4)\}$.



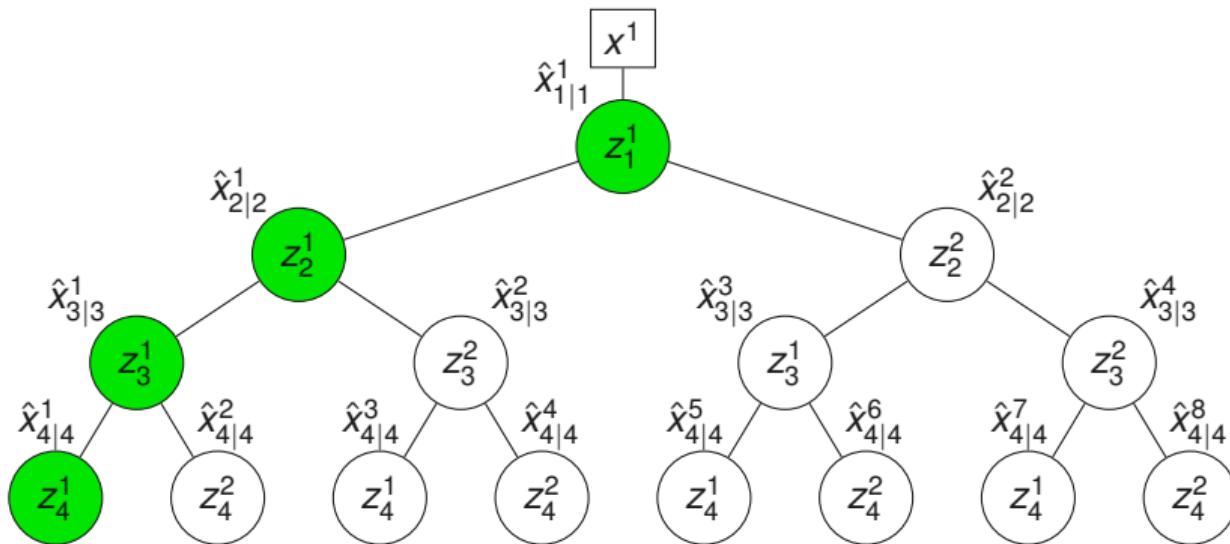
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- **Note:** all estimates are from **the same branch**.



SETS OF TRAJECTORIES: CONCLUSIONS

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- Using smoothing, we can improve performance further.
- Sets of trajectories can be used for point objects, extended objects, track-before-detect, etc.

Section 3: Deep learning

Multi-Object Tracking

Lennart Svensson

An introduction to deep learning

Multi-Object Tracking

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DEEP LEARNING VS ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

- The objective in **artificial intelligence** (A.I.) is to build “smart” machines.



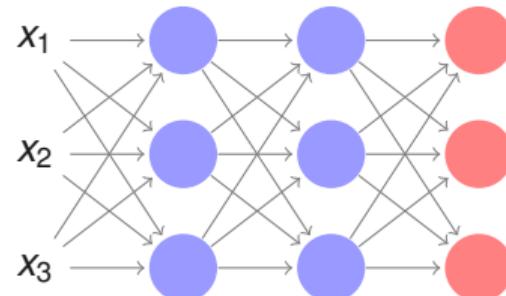
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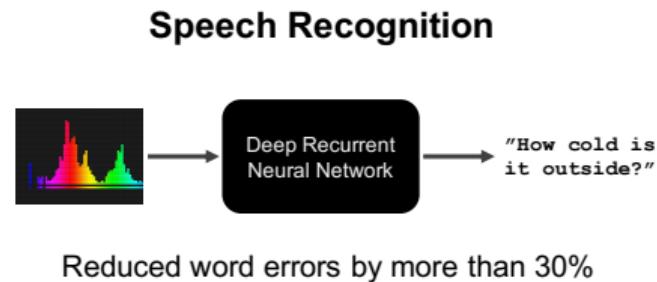
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- **Deep learning** is a subfield of machine learning where we use **deep neural networks** to make decisions.



SPEECH RECOGNITION AND NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING

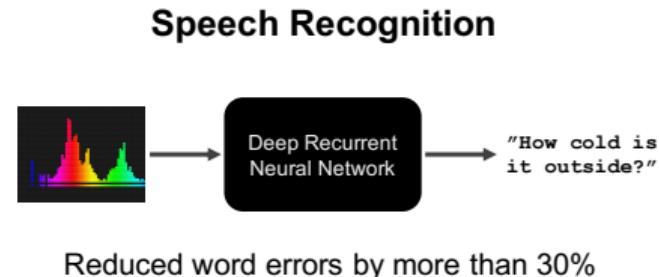
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Google Research Blog – August 2012, August 2015

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Reduced word errors by more than 30%

Google Research Blog – August 2012, August 2015

- It is also used by Google for **translations**.

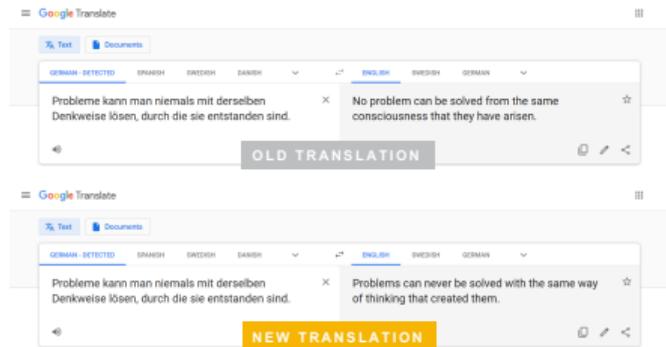


IMAGE CLASSIFICATION

- Top-5 ImageNet classification challenge:
 - 1000 categories,
 - 5 chances to guess,
 - > 1 million images.



Top-5 guesses:

74.21% : mountain bike
5.89% : bicycle-built-for-two
4.37% : crash helmet
2.02% : lakeside
0.76% : alp

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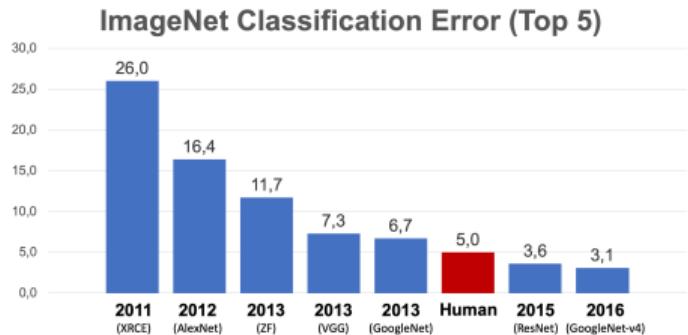
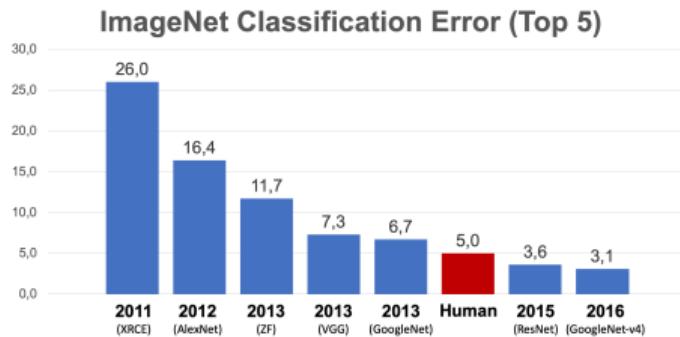


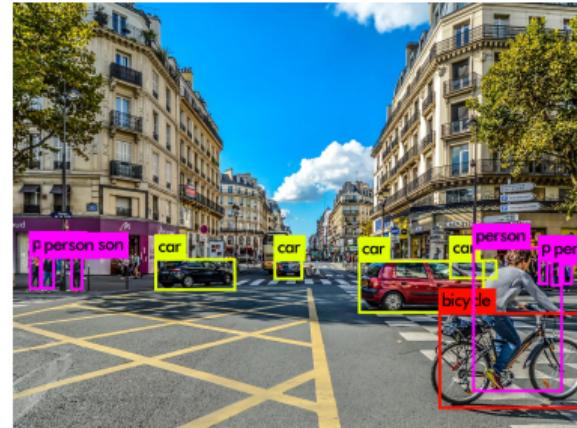
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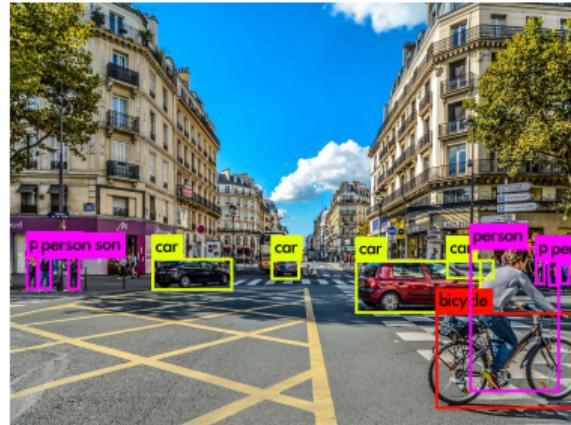
OBJECT DETECTION AND REINFORCEMENT LEARNING

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- In 2016, deep reinforcement learning won against the **world champion in Go**.



Deep neural networks

Multi-Object Tracking

Lennart Svensson

FEEDFORWARD NEURAL NETWORKS

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FEEDFORWARD NEURAL NETWORKS

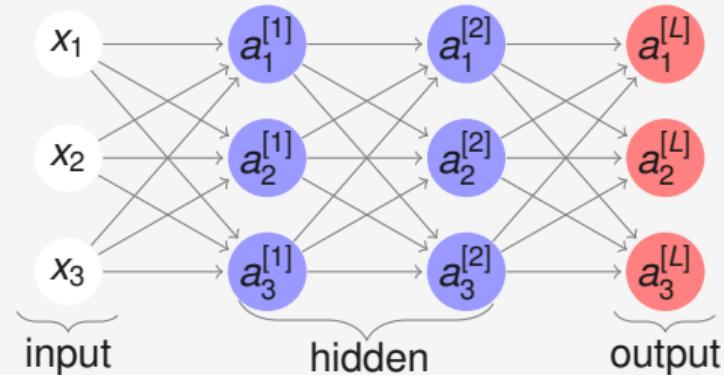
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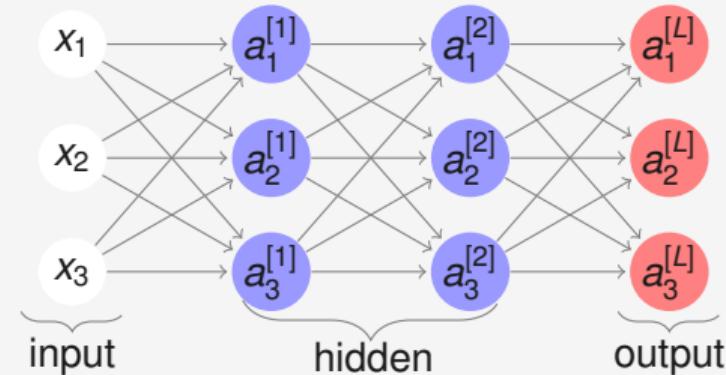


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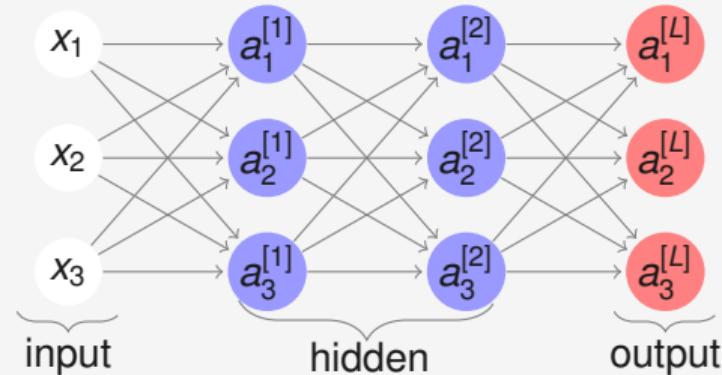


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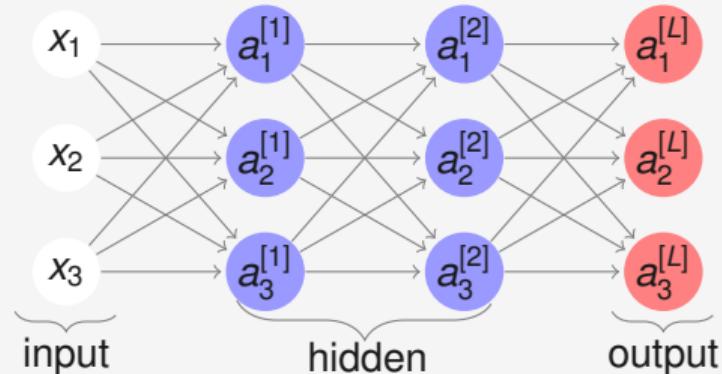


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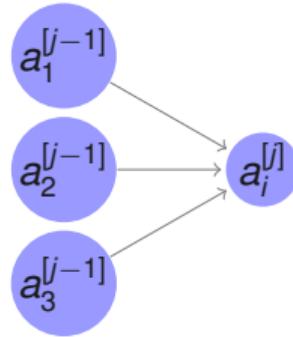


A SINGLE NEURON

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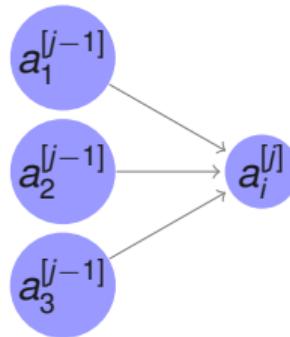
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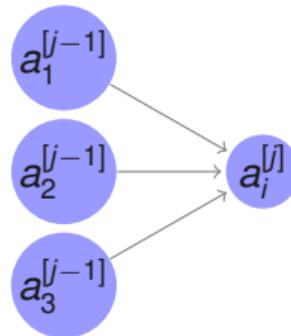
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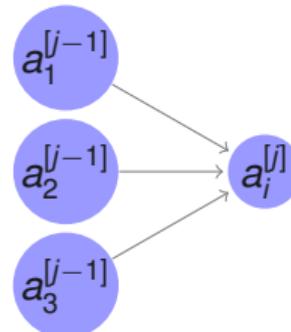
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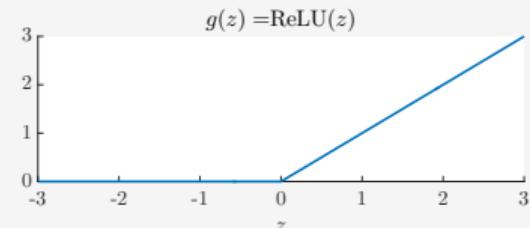
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Rectified linear units (ReLU)

- The rectified linear unit is a commonly used activation function:

$$g(z) = \text{ReLU}(z) = \max(0, z).$$



ACTIVATION FUNCTIONS – OUTPUT LAYER

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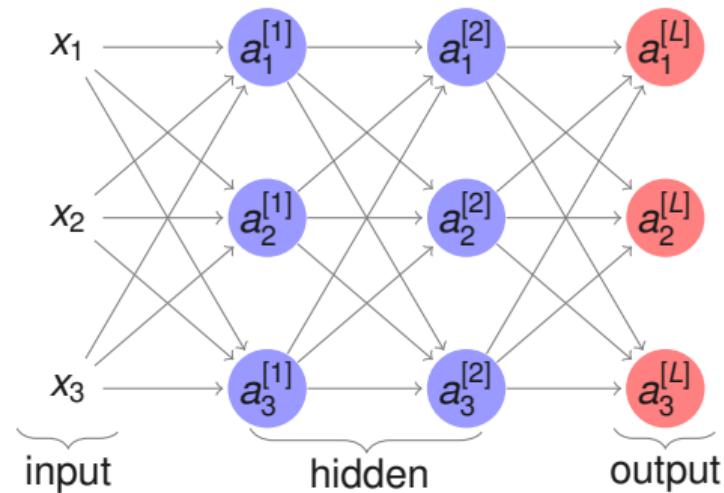
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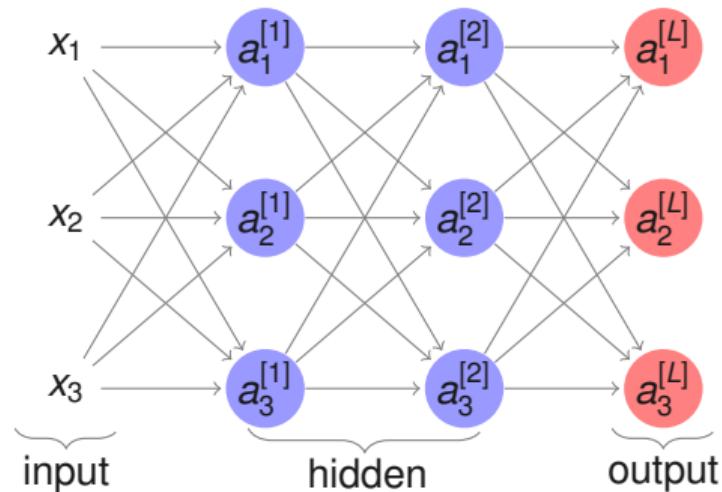
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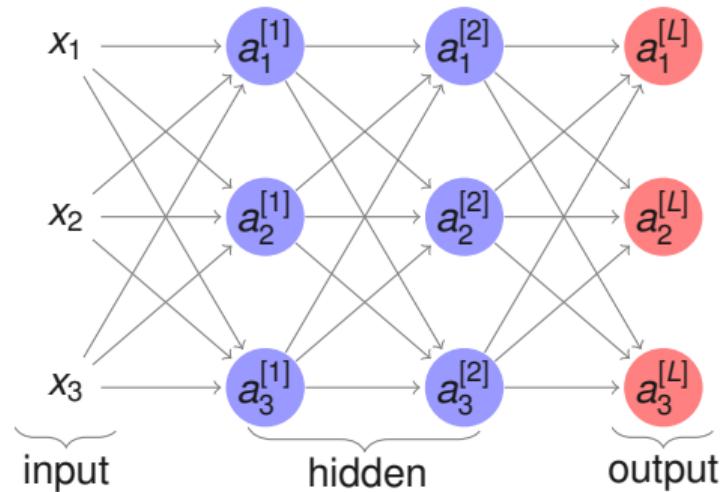
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- **Common adjustments:** remove edges and weight sharing.
- **Other techniques:** max-pooling, batch normalization, attention, etc.



Supervised learning

Multi-Object Tracking

Lennart Svensson

SUPERVISED LEARNING

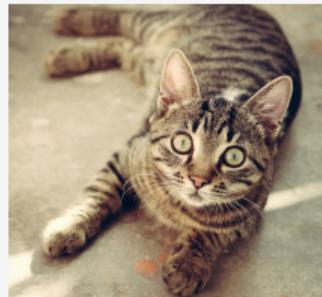
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Image classification

In:



Out: cat.

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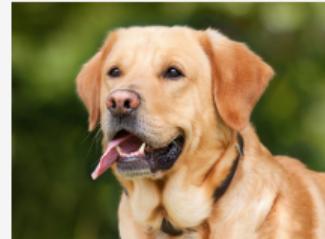
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- **More examples:**

- Translation: x sentence in German, y sentence in English.

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Common approach:

1. Collect a dataset of inputs x (e.g., images) and labels y .
2. Train algorithm to predict y from x .
That is, find θ such that

$$f(x; \theta) \approx y$$

(in some sense).

3. Evaluate algorithm on new data.

Image classification

In:



Out: dog.

- **More examples:**

- Translation: x sentence in German, y sentence in English.
- Object detections: x image, y object detections.

EMPIRICAL RISK

- Suppose we are given

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⇒ Optimisation based learning!
- We use modified versions of gradient descent to minimize $J(\theta)$.

LOSS FUNCTIONS

Loss function for regression

- If $f(x; \theta) = \hat{y}(x; \theta)$, we can use, e.g.,

$$L(f, y) = \|f - y\|_2^2 = (f_1 - y_1)^2 + (f_2 - y_2)^2 + \cdots + (f_n - y_n)^2.$$

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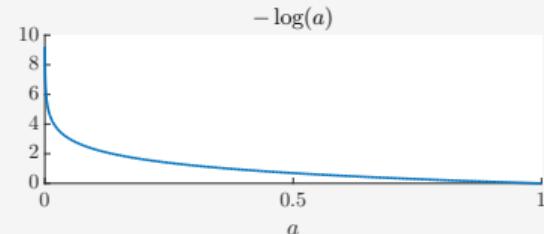
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An introduction to object detection

Multi-Object Tracking

Lennart Svensson

DEEP LEARNING AND MOT

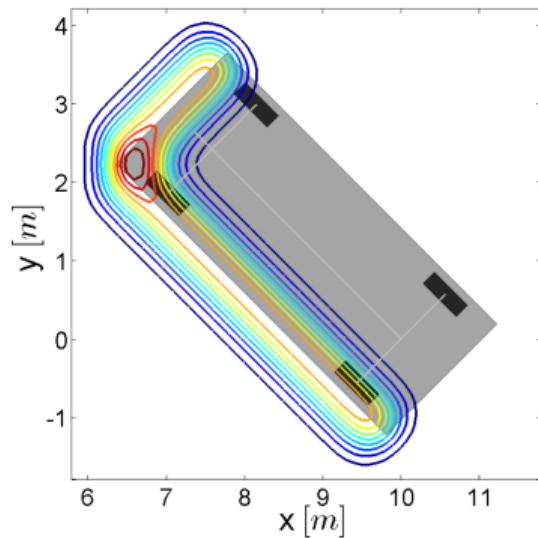
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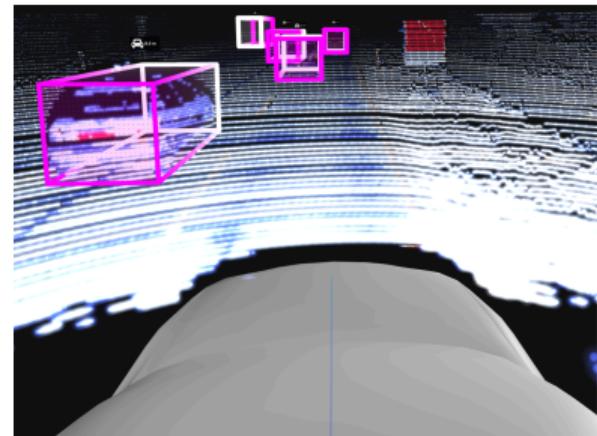


Image created using data from
Geiger et al (2012), "Are we ready for
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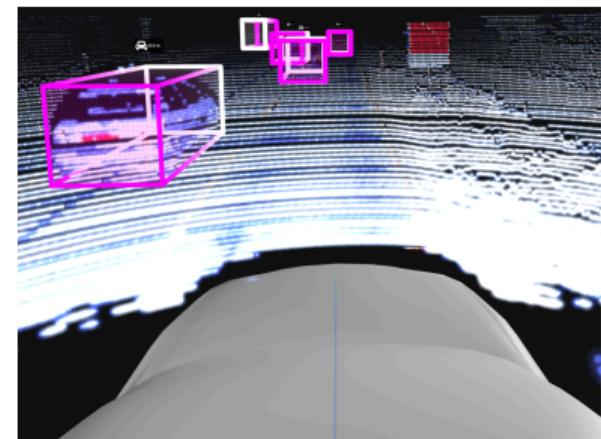


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 - **Perform MOT** purely based on deep learning.
Directly estimate object trajectories.

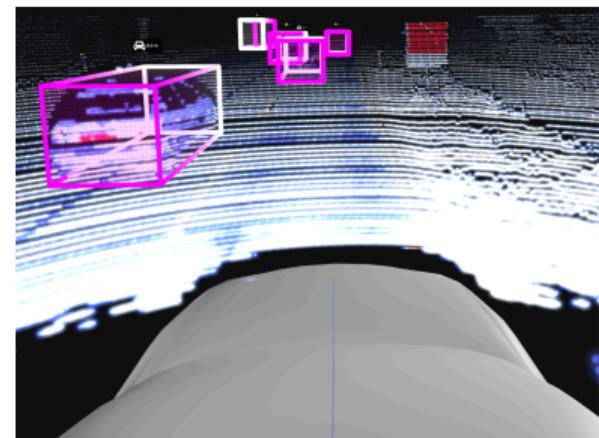


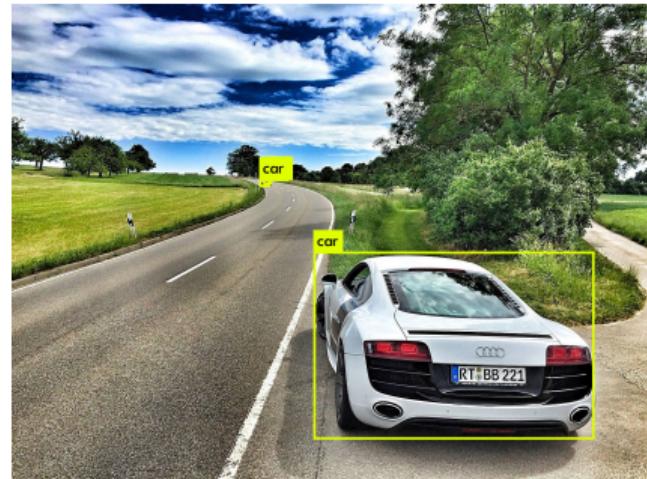
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WHY OBJECT DETECTION?

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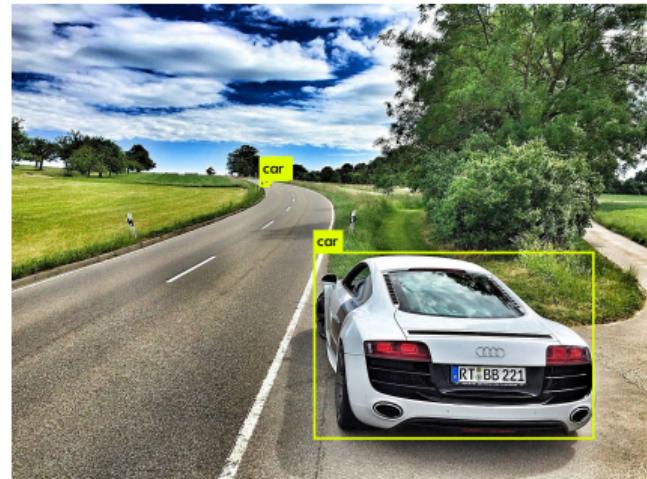
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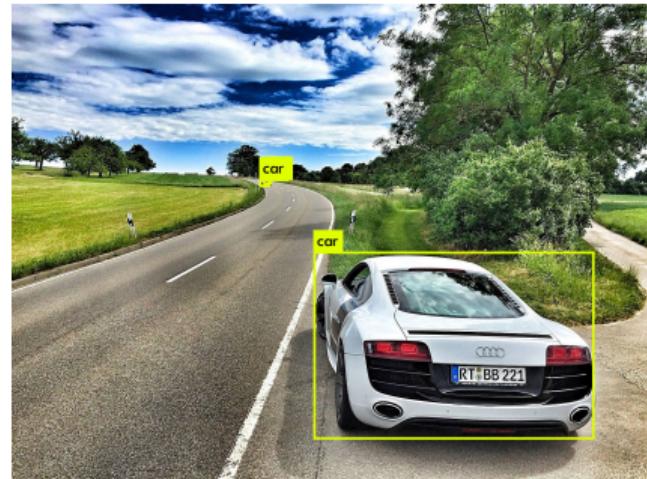
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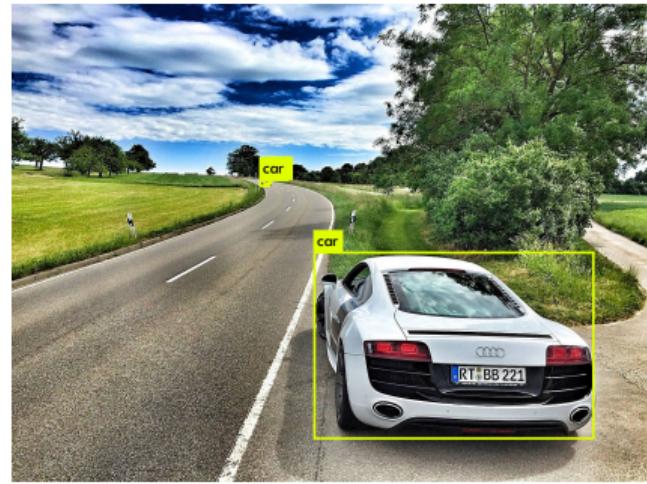
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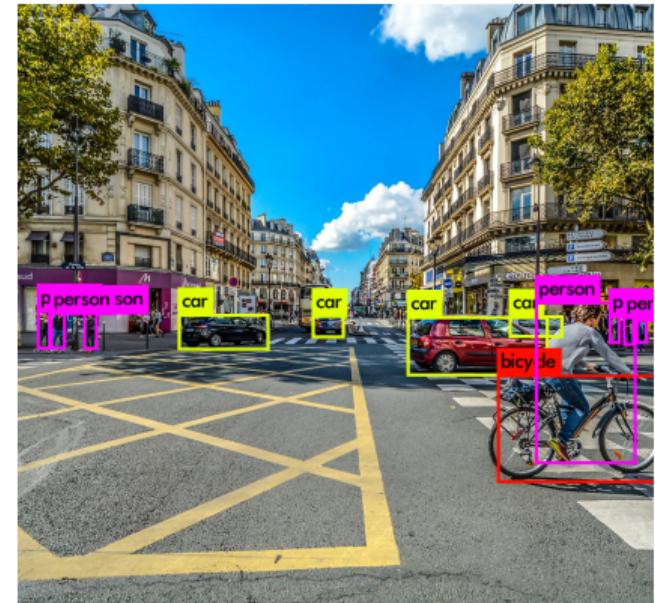
- Techniques are fairly “mature”: already yield good performance.
- Challenging to directly work with, e.g., raw images.
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- Often manageable to obtain the data needed to train an object detection algorithm.



WHAT IS OBJECT DETECTION?

Object detection

- Determine the number of objects (of relevant classes).

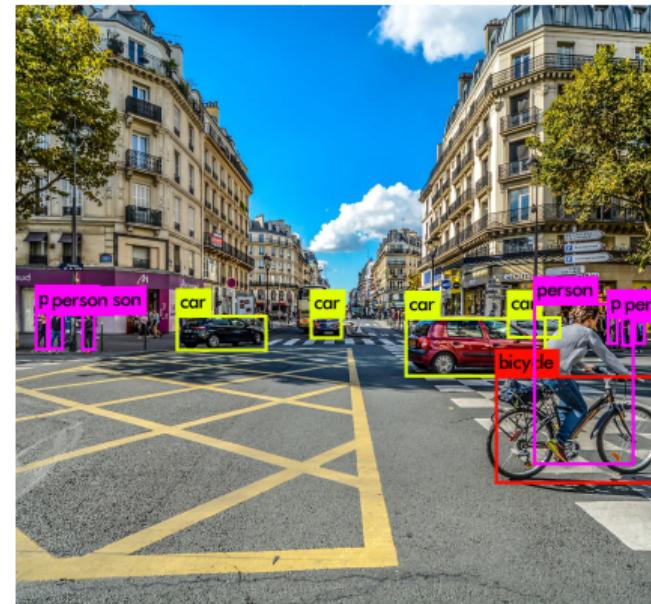


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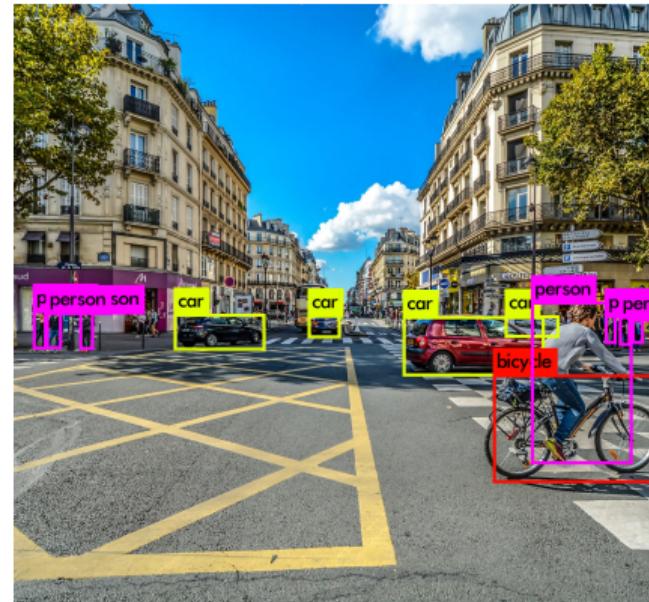
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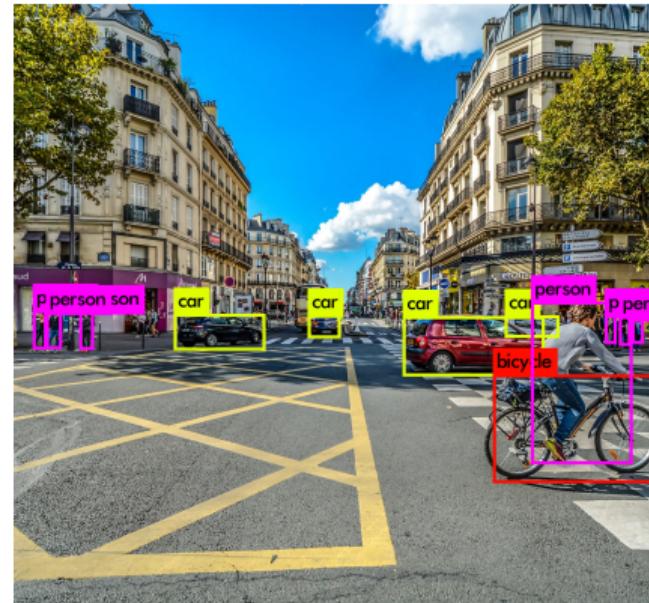
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- Object shape is often a bounding box in 2D or 3D.
- **Potential challenges:** many objects, partially occluded objects, objects of different sizes and distances, etc.



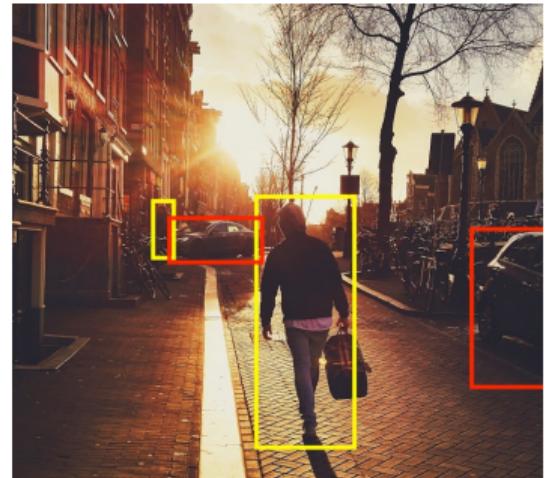
Single shot detectors – training

Multi-Object Tracking

Lennart Svensson

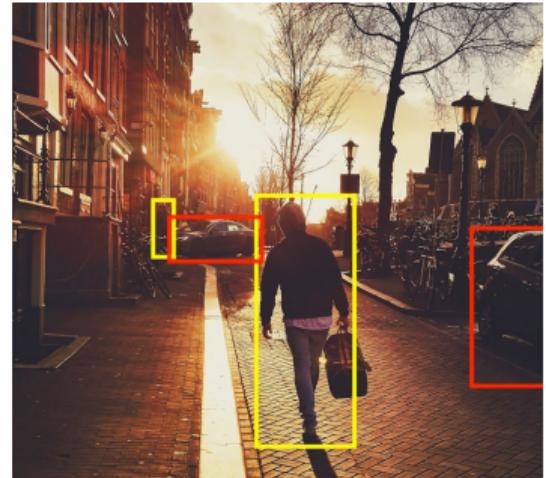
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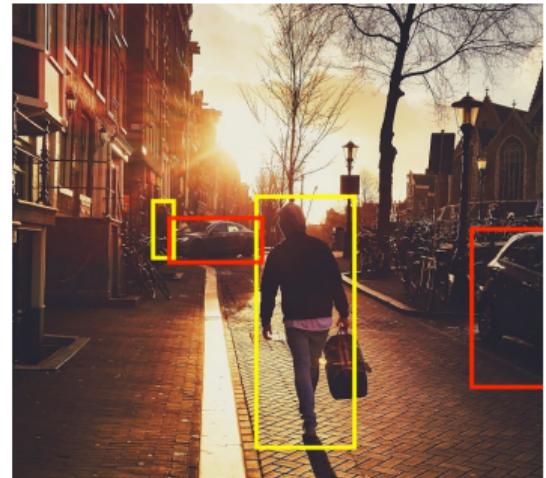


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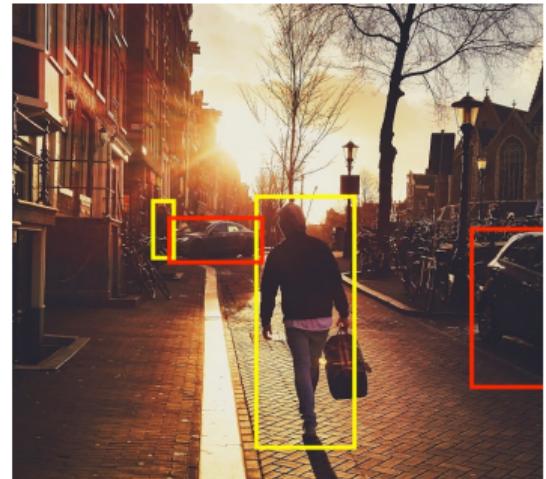


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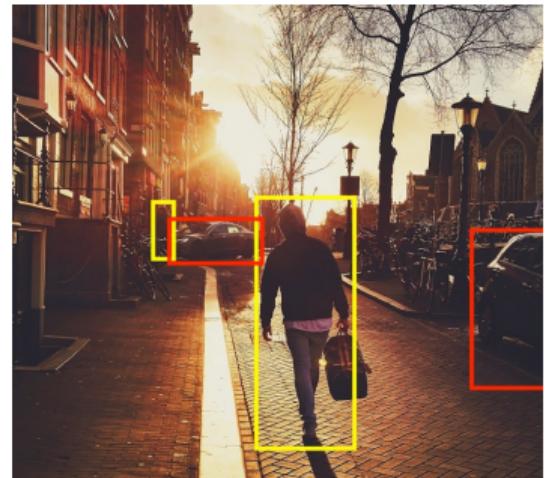


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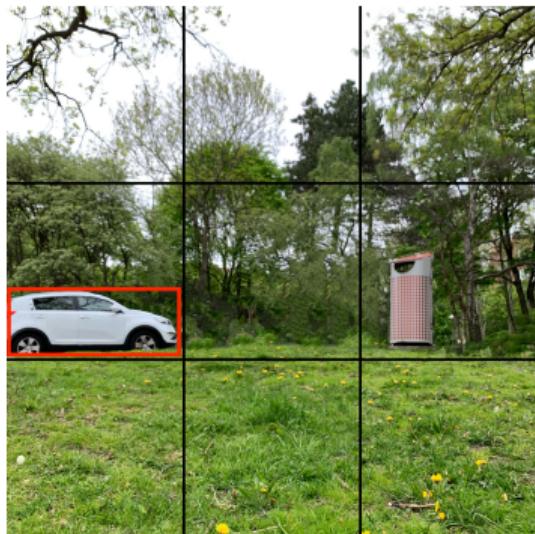
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- By only considering “objects” we produce a variable number of boxes+classifications.



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- Separate input into 3×3 cells.



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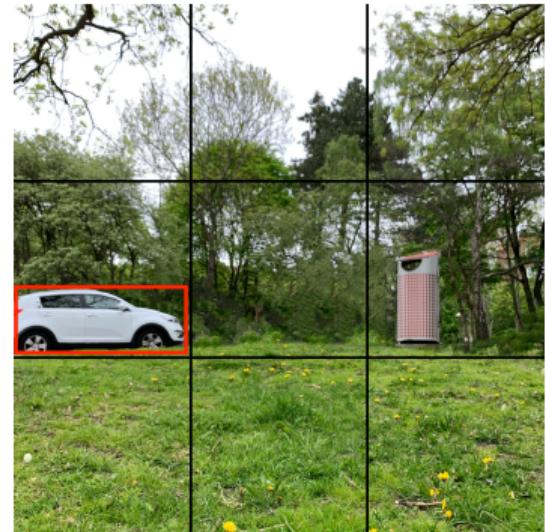
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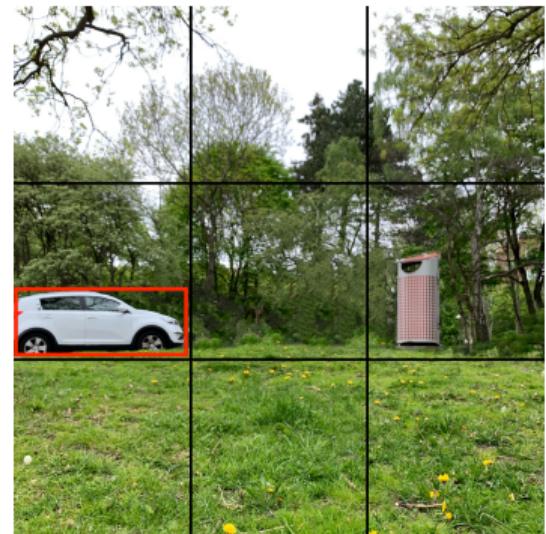
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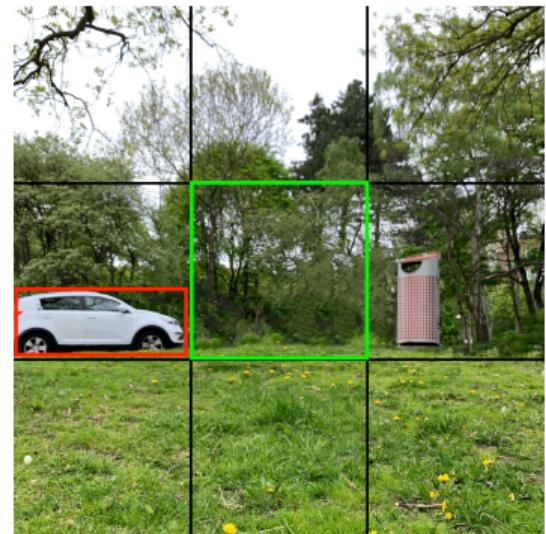
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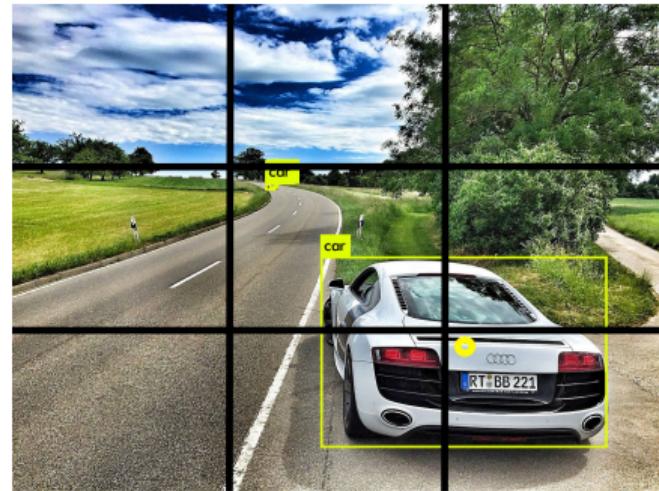
- During training, we try to make network output "similar" to these vectors.

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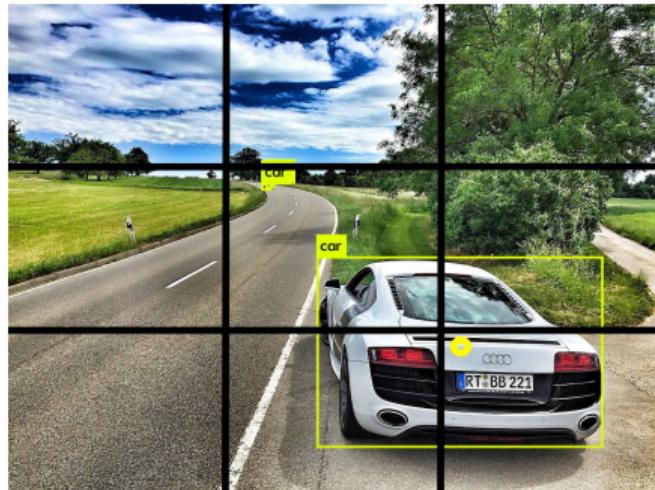
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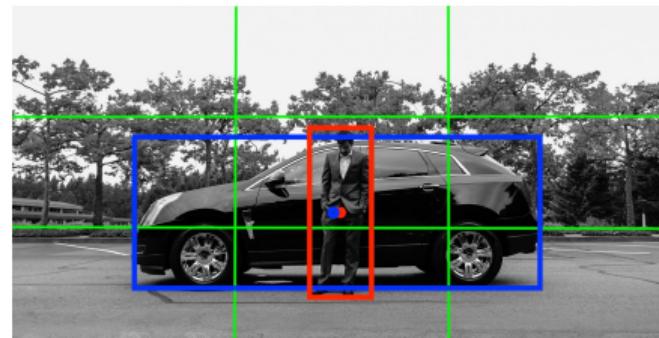
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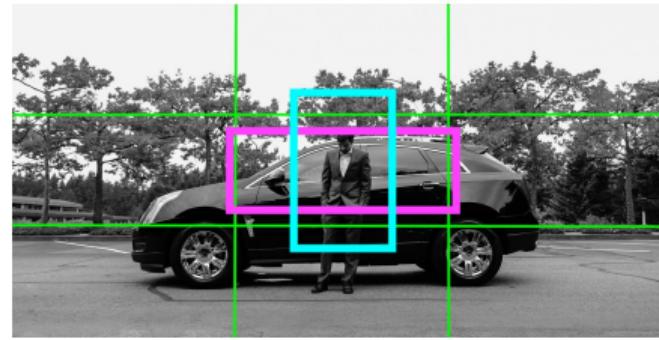
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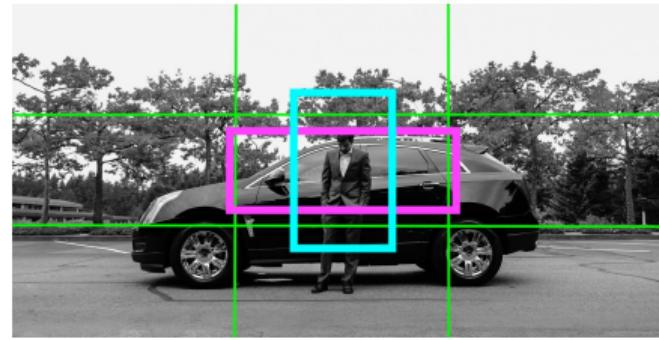
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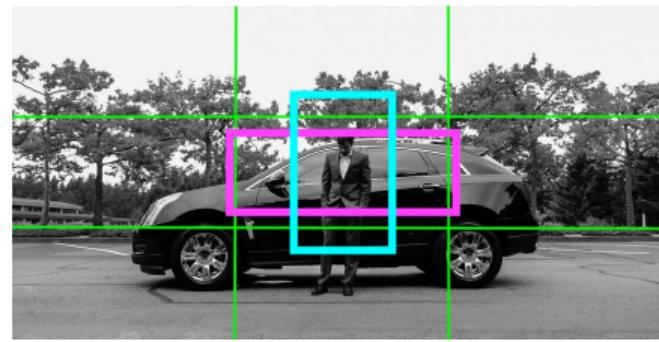
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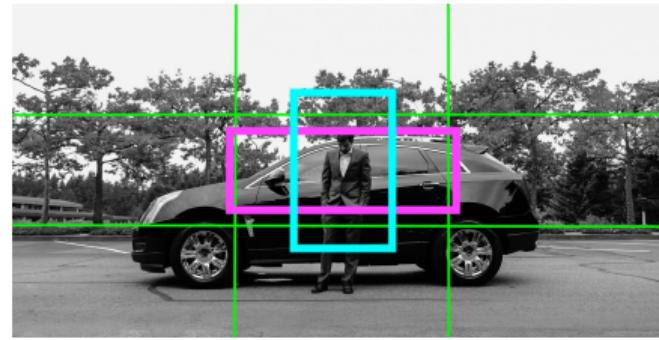
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ANCHOR BOXES

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Note: we associate the object to an anchor box, in that cell, with similar shape (highest IoU).
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Multi-Object Tracking

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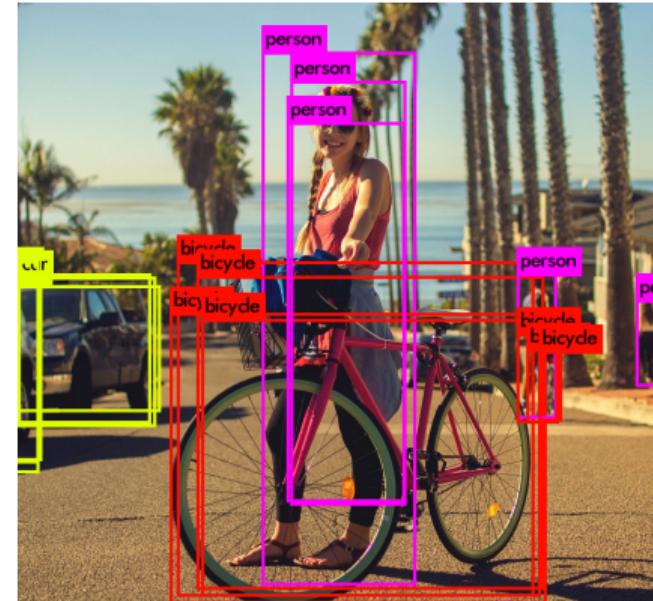
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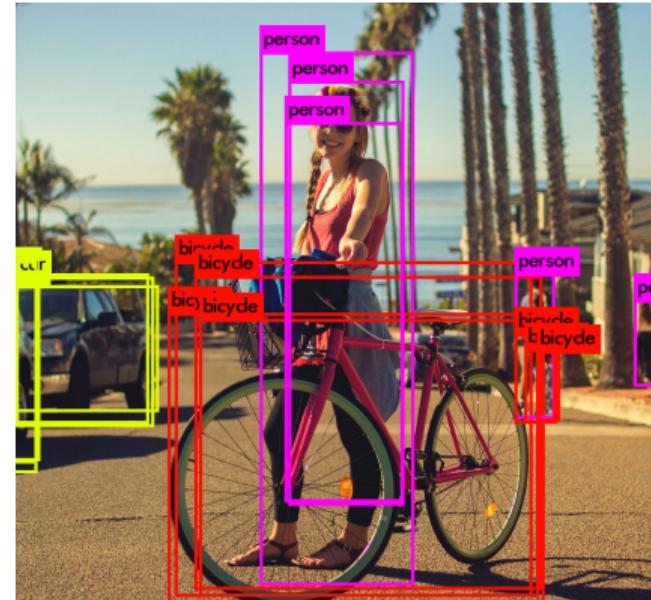


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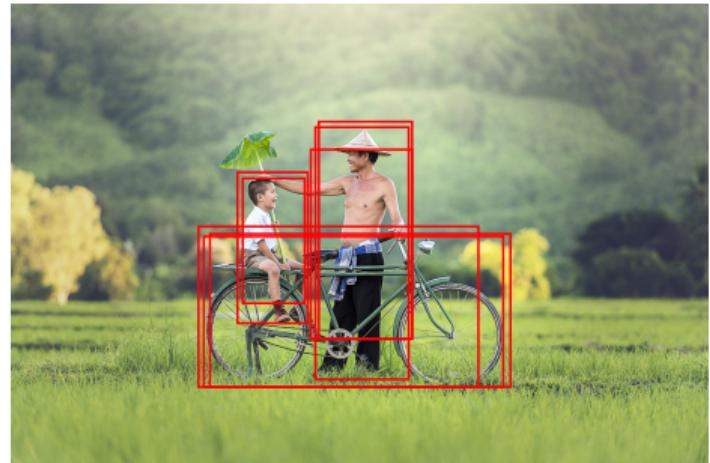
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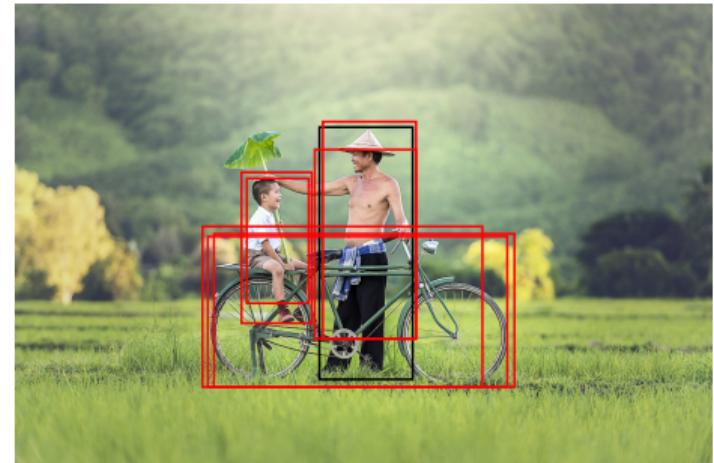
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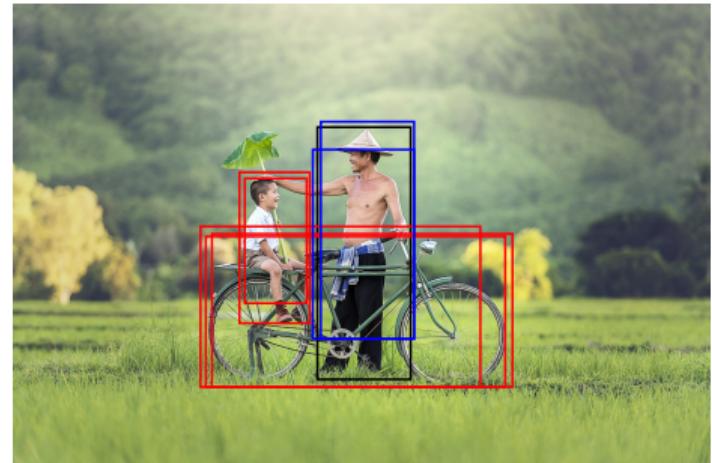
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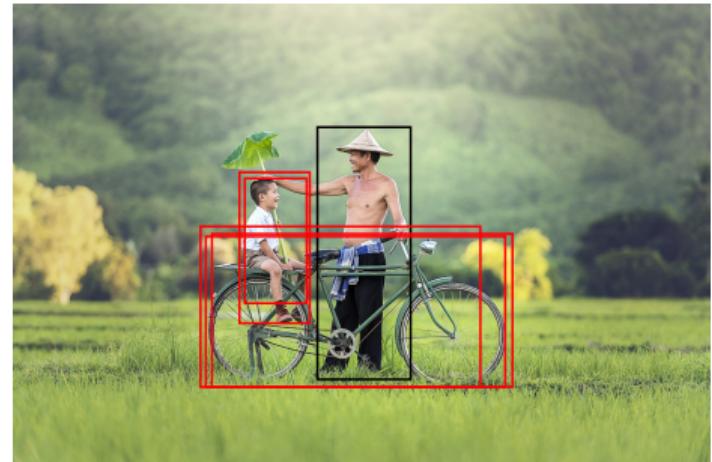
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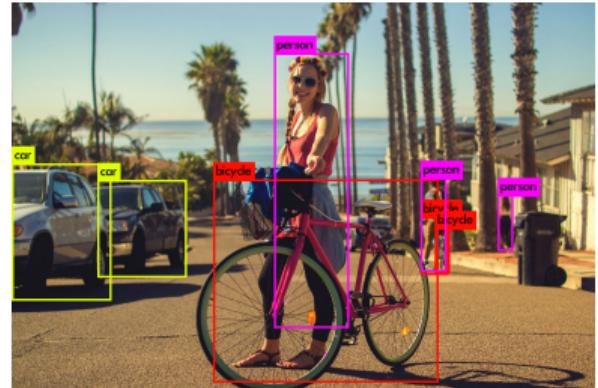
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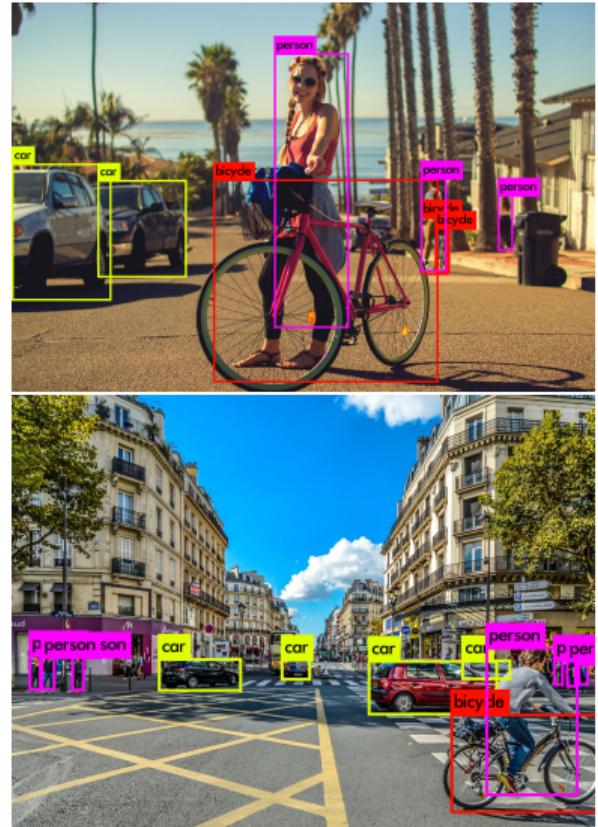
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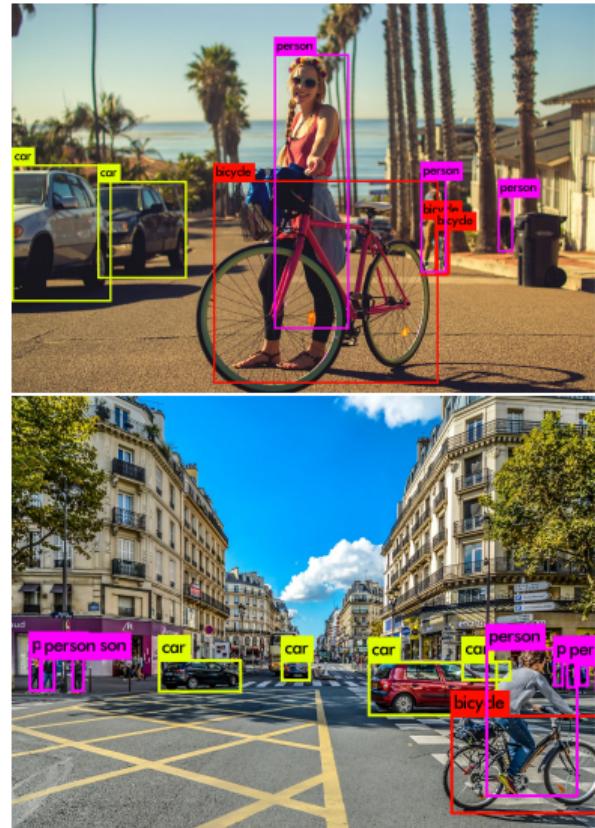
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- We have studied **object detection** using deep neural networks.
- For every object in the image, we want to produce a classification and a bounding box.
- Object detection can also be used for lidar data, stereo images, etc, and combined MOT algorithms.

