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# Recurrent Neural Networks for object detection

Bin Qassim Ahmad  
Technical University of Munich  
Department of Informatics  
Munich, Germany  
ahmad.qasim@tum.de

Pettirsch Arnd  
Technical University of Munich  
Department of Informatics  
Munich, Germany  
a.pettirsch@outlook.de

**Abstract**—ToDo  
**Index Terms**—TBD.

## I. INTRODUCTION

### A. Image and Video Object Detection in general

- Image object detection history.
  - Bayesian methods before deep learning
  - ImageNet challenge and VID [15]
  - Deep Learning and AlexNet [16]
- Single stage and 2-stage image object detectors.
  - A two-stage pipeline firstly generates region proposals, which are then classified and refined. [17]
  - A single-stage method is often more efficient but less accurate. Directly regress on bounding boxes and classes. [18], [19]
- Why is video object detection harder?
  - Large size
  - Motion blur
  - Quality of the dataset
  - Partial occlusion
  - Unconventional Poses

### B. Recurrent Neural Networks in general

#### 1) Delimitation to non-recurrent Neural Networks:

Non-recurrent Neural Networks process on single inputs. In the field of image classification this could be for example a single image.

Recurrent Neural Networks process on sequences of data. In the field of classification those sequences consist often multiple frames. Recurrent Neural Network's core concept to enable the sequence processing is parameter sharing across different parts of a model. Parameter sharing can be reached by cycles in the architecture. [?]

2) *Common Types of Recurrent Neural Networks:* Most of the paper which are described in this work use two pretty common approaches of Recurrent Neural Networks. The first one are LSTMs, first mentioned in [?] in 1991. The key of LSTMs is the inner cell state. LSTMs consist of four layers. Those four layers are able to remove or add information to the inner cell state. [?]

The second type of Recurrent Neural Networks is Gated Recurrent Units (GRUs). The main difference to LSTMs is, that those GRUs consist out of a single gated unit which can simultaneously control the forgetting factor and decide to update the inner cell state. [?]

## II. FEATURE-BASED VIDEO OBJECT DETECTION

### A. Definition

First, we want to introduce feature-based Video Object Detection methods. As defined, for example, in [?] feature-based Video Object Detection methods fuse detectors which integrate features from multiple frames into their video detection. In most of our papers those detectors use recurrent units to integrate the visual features from different frames.

### B. Recurrent Multi-frame Single Shot Detector for Video Object Detection

Broad, Jones and Lee have in [?] and [?] the idea to insert a fusion-layer into a classical Single Shot Detector (SSD) meta-architecture. Based on this idea they research in two main fields: On the one hand, they investigate different fusion methods and on the other hand they try several SSD meta-architectures. The final architecture is shown in **Fig. 1**

SSDs is generally consist of two main components. First, an so called Feature Extractor which consist of convolutional and pooling layers. As an input the feature extractor gets an image and it outputs feature-maps. The other component is an Detection head which consists of convolutional layers and creates bounding boxes and class probabilities out of the feature maps created by the feature extractor.

As mentioned above Broad, Jones and Lee have the idea to insert a fusion layer in between those two components. As fusion techniques they test simple element-wise operations (e.g.: add or max), simple concatenations of features maps and recurrent layers. Their experiments show that the recurrent layers perform best. Element-wise operations do not lead to an improvement in the mAP. And concatenations just add another depth to the network, which increases the mAP slightly. Only the Recurrent Units add new parameters, to learn temporal context, to the Network. In addition, they observe that recurrent units do not slow down the computational speed significantly. The state of the art SSD, which is used

to test the different fusion techniques performs on 55 fps the recurrent one on 50 fps. As a recurrent unit they use GRU because they observe that the results were similar to the results when they use LSTMs but the GRUs perform faster.

In addition to the investigation on the type of fusion layer, Broad, Jones and Lee test different types of SSDs as a baseline for their architecture. They find out that for all baseline SSDs the mAP was higher in comparison to the non-recurrent models. The mAP increase by 2.7 to 5 percent on KITTI dataset. The best results is made with SqueezeNet+ as a baseline SSD network.

Unfortunately, there is only a little information on the training of the Recurrent Multi-frame Single Shot Detector. They use the SqueezeNet Training strategies and a pre-trained version of the baseline SSD. Finally, they use the SqueezeNet fine tuning strategy to train the whole network afterwards.

**Figure 1**

### C. Mobile Video Object Detection with Temporally Aware Feature Maps

Liu and Zhu have the goal to design a video object detection architecture, which can run real-time on low-powered mobile and embedded devices. The key of their method is to combine convolutional layers with convolutional LSTMs. On this core idea they do some further research. They test the benefit from adding an LSTM into the baseline SSD, different types of Recurrent Layers (LSTM, GRU and bottleneck LSTMs), different dimensions of their bottleneck LSTMs and different LSTM placement strategies (Single LSTM placement and multiple LSTM placement)

In the beginning they simply add one LSTM to their baseline SSDs architecture - MobileNet. They observe that adding the LSTM improves the mAP in comparison to their baseline SSD architecture. Moreover, they investigate that the greatest improve is by adding the LSTM after the 13th convolutional Layer of the SSD.

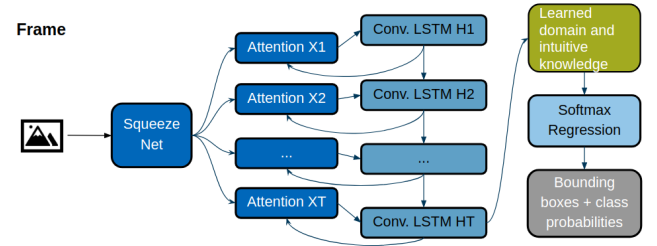
Afterwards, they compare LSTMs, GRUs and Bottleneck LSTMs as different types of Recurrent units by placing them after the 13th convolutional layer. Bottleneck-LSTMs have been designed by Liu and Zhu to increase the efficiency of LSTMs. For that purpose they use slightly unusual the ReLU function as activation for the LSTM. Moreover they, compute a so called Bottleneck feature map with less input channel than the originally feature map and feed this map into the LSTM to reduce computational power. They come to the conclusion that Bottleneck-LSTMs are more effective the LSTMs and in the case of a convolutional kernel greater 1x1 even more effective than GRUs while attaining comparable performance.

In addition to the bottleneck LSTMs Liu and Zhu extend their network with multipliers. They use  $\alpha_{base}$ ,  $\alpha_{ssd}$  and  $\alpha_{lstm}$  as multiplier to scale the channel dimension of each layer. During their research they find out that the accuracy of the model remains near constant up to  $\alpha_{ssd} = 0.25\alpha$  which means that the output of each LSTM is one-fourth the size of the input. For the other multipliers they use the values:  $\alpha_{base} = \alpha$  and  $\alpha_{ssd} = 0.5\alpha$ .

As shown in **Figure** the final model uses LSTMs after all feature maps, because Liu and Zhu observe that there a slight performance improve by adding LSTMs after every feature map and nearly no change in computational cost.

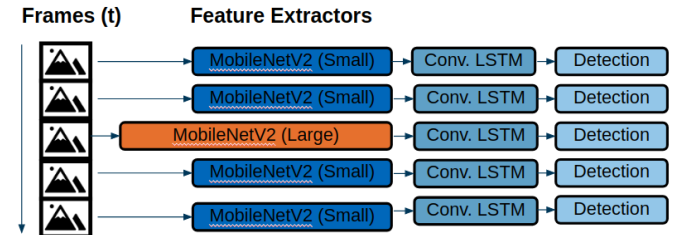
On the training strategy and the loss function Liu and Zhu do not provide any information.

### D. Feature Selective Small Object Detection via Knowledge-based recurrent attentive neural networks



- Compute feature maps using a modified SqueezeNet architecture.
- Propagate the features through a Recurrent Attentive Neural Network, comprised of:
  - Attention Mechanism to detect key areas within the feature maps.
  - Convolutional LSTM for temporal feature propagation.
- Reverse gaussian feature maps are combined with the maps obtained from Conv. LSTM.
  - These feature maps are based on learnable mean and covariance terms.
  - This prior knowledge is derived from the assumption that traffic signs are always located at the bias of the center.

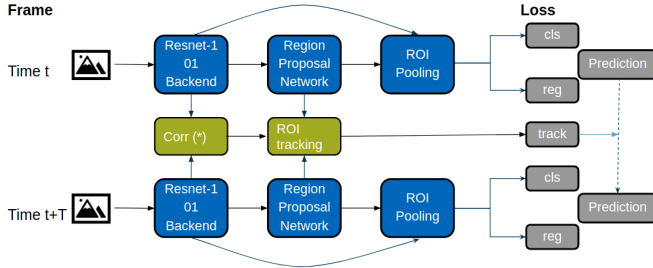
### E. Looking fast and slow: memory-guided mobile video object detection



- Run multiple feature extractors sequentially or concurrently to obtain feature maps.

- The idea is to use small and large feature extractors to optimize performance.
- Aggregate and refine these feature maps using convolutional LSTM based memory network.
  - To improve speed of LSTM network, add skip connections and LSTM state groups.
- Apply SSD-style detection on refined features to obtain classification and bounding boxes.
- Use a reinforcement learning based policy for selection of which feature extractor to run.
- Large and small frame extractors can run in parallel using asynchronous mode.

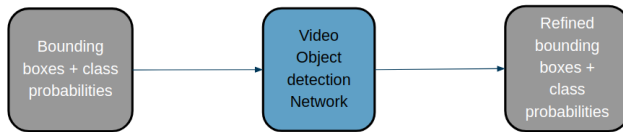
#### F. Detect to Track and track to detect



- Compute Convolutional feature maps using a Resnet-101 architecture.
- Use a RPN (region proposal network) to find candidate regions in the frame.
- ROI Pooling layer, to classify boxes and refine their coordinates (regression).
- Find correlation features between two frames' feature maps and do ROI tracking.
- Due to memory constraints, use tracklets, which are class-based optimal paths in video.

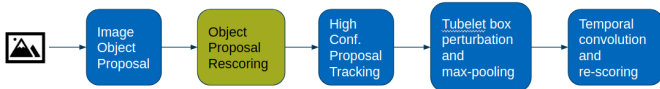
### III. BOX-LEVEL-BASED VIDEO OBJECT DETECTION

#### A. Definition



Bounding Boxes and Class probabilities are fed into the network and are refined temporally and/or spatially.

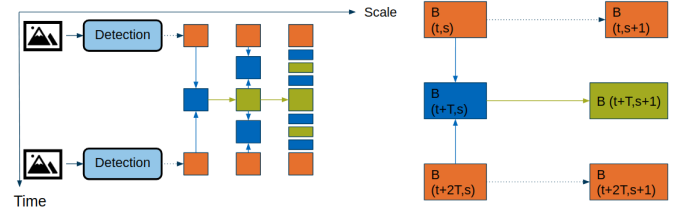
#### B. Object Detection from Video Tubelets with Convolutional Neural Networks



- Use selective search algorithm to generate around 2000 object proposals on each frame.
- Use GoogleNet for feature extraction and then 30 SVMs for 30 VID classes to generate object proposal scores for each object proposal.

- Track high confidence targets bi-directionally.
- Two kinds of Perturbations:
  - The first method is to generate new boxes around each tubelet box on each frame by randomly perturbing the boundaries of the tubelet box.
  - The second perturbation method is to replace each tubelet box with original object detections that have overlaps with the tubelet box beyond a threshold.
- Train a class-specific TCN using the tubelet features as input. The inputs are time series including detection scores, tracking scores and anchor offsets. The output values are probabilities whether each tubelet box contains objects of the class

#### C. Optimizing Video Object Detection via Scale-Time Lattice



- Apply object detection on keyframes extracted adaptively.
  - The extraction policy is based on number of objects and amount of movement in frames.
  - If higher number/movement of objects in frames then higher extraction rate.
- Propagation and refinement unit, propagates the frames temporally and refines spatially.
- For temporal propagation, use a small network such as resnet-18 to extract box features and a regressor to predict object movement from  $t$  to  $t + T$ .
- For spatial refinement, use a regressor to refine the bounding boxes over increasing scale.

#### D. Context Matters: Refining Object Detection in Video with Recurrent Neural Networks

Tripathi, Lipton, Belongie, Nguyen come up with a neural network architecture for video-based object detection. Their architecture consists two parts: A pseudo-labeler, which assigns labels to all video frames and a recurrent unit which refines those pseudo-labels by using the contextual information. Moreover, they describe a training strategy for their architecture and compare their approach to other models on the YouTube-Objects dataset.

The final architecture can be found in **Fig 2**. Tripathi, Lipton and Belongie first train the pseudo-labeler, which is an YOLO object detection network originally trained for 20-class PASCAL VOC on the YouTube-Video Dataset. As specified in YOLO [] they minimize the weighted squared detection loss and optimize classification and localization error simultaneously.

After training the pseudo-labeler they train the Recurrent Neural Network, which takes as an input the pseudo-labels and outputs improved prediction. The RNN consists of two GRU layers.

For training the whole network they use the following loss function to take both accuracy at the target frame and consistency of predictions across adjacent time steps into consideration:

$$loss = d_{loss} + \alpha \cdot s_{loss} + \beta \cdot c_{loss} + \gamma \cdot pc_{loss}$$

For the final output Tripathi, Lipton, Belongie and Nguyen use the object detection loss as described in YOLO [1]:

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The similarity loss considers the dissimilarity between the pseudo-labels and prediction at each frame  $t$ :

#### ToDo

The category loss takes wrong class probabilities into consideration:

•

And the prediction-consistency loss regularizes the model by encouraging smoothness predictions across the time-steps:

•

During the evaluation they find two possible areas of improvement for their approach. On the one hand the RNN is not able to recover from wrong predictions made by the pseudo-labeler after they have been fed into the RNN. On the other hand, they observe that their network is not robust to motion.

#### E. Spatially Supervised Recurrent Convolutional Neural Networks for Visual Object Tracking

In [1]

### IV. FLOW-BASED OBJECT DETECTION

#### A. Definition

Another type of architectures for Video Object Detection defined, for example in [1], are architectures which use Flow-Networks to consider the temporal context. The flow network estimates the optical flow which means it projects back the location in the current frame to an earlier frame.

#### B. Deep Feature Flow for Video Recognition

Ning, Zhang, Huang, He, Ren and Wang design in [1] a combination of box-level and feature-level based Video detectors. They use the YOLO network to create high-level visual features and preliminary location inferences and feed both into a recurrent unit. The architecture, called ROLO, is shown in **figure**

They use three phases to train their model: The pre-training phase of the convolutional layers for feature learning, the traditional YOLO training phase for object proposal and the LSTM training phase for object tracking.

In the pre-training phase the convolutional layers, which create the feature maps are training on ImageNet data. Afterwards the YOLO-architecture is adopted as detection module. At least they add LSTMs for tracking. The LSTMs are fed with, the feature representations from the convolutional layers, the Bounding boxes from the detection module and the output states from the LSTM in the previous time-step. For training they use the Mean Squared Error (MSE):

$$L_{MSE} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2$$

As an alternative, Ning, Zhang, Huang, He, Ren and Wang mention a Heatmap as input for the LSTM. Therefore the prediction and the visual features are concatenated before adding them to the LSTM. This is helpful to visualize the intermediate results.

Special to this architecture is, that LSTM does regression in two folds. There is a regression within one frame between the location inferences and the high-level features and there is also regression over the different frames of the sequence.

### V. COMPARISON OF DIFFERENT APPROACHES

#### A. General

TABLE I: Results on KITTI Dataset

Model	MAP	FPS	Machine	Architecture
Recurrent [1]	86.0	50	Nvidia TITAN X	Feature-Level
Feature Selective [6]	81.3	30.8	Nvidia TITAN X	Feature-Level

TABLE II: Results on ImageNet Dataset

Model	MAP	FPS	Machine	Architecture
DT [8]	82.0	7	Nvidia TITAN X	Feature-Level
DT [8]	78.5	55	Nvidia TITAN X	Feature-Level
Scale-Time Lattice [10]	79.6	20	Nvidia TITAN X	Box-Level
Scale-Time Lattice [10]	79	62	Nvidia TITAN X	Box-Level
DeepFeature Flow [3]	73.9	3	-	Flow-Based
DeepFeature Flow [3]	73.1	20.5	-	Flow-Based
Looking Fast and Slow [7]	60.7	48.8	Pixel Phone	Feature-Level
Object Detection with Temporally-Aware [2]	54.4	15	Pixel Phone	Feature-Level

TABLE III: Results on COCO Dataset

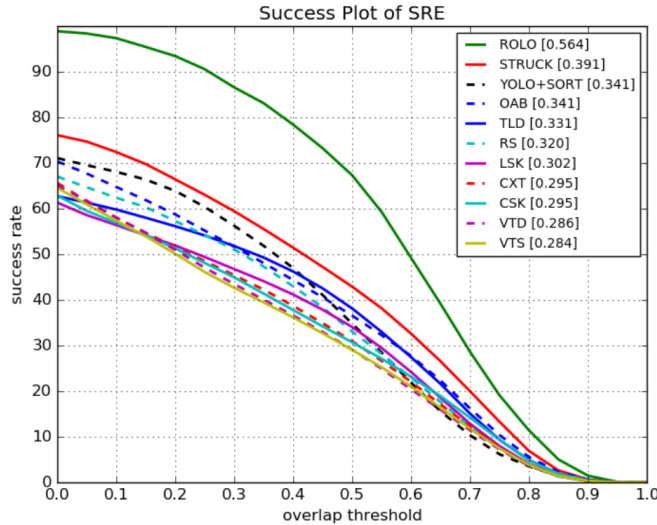
Model	MAP	FPS	Machine	Architecture
Feature Selective [6]	57.8	37.5	Nvidia TITAN X	Feature-Level

TABLE IV: Results on YT Dataset

Model	MAP	FPS	Machine	Architecture
Context Matters [4]	68.73	-	-	Box-Level

TABLE V: Results on OTB Challenge Dataset

Model	Success Rate	IoU	FPS	Machine
Spatially Supervised [5]	0.564	0.455	20/60	Nvidia TITAN X



## B. Conclusion Performance

Todo

## C. Conclusion Prediction Quality

Todo

## VI. OUTRO

### A. Conclusion

Todo

### B. Further work

Todo

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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## REFERENCES

Please number citations consecutively within brackets [1]. The sentence punctuation follows the bracket [2]. Refer simply to the reference number, as in [3]—do not use “Ref. [3]” or “reference [3]” except at the beginning of a sentence: “Reference [3] was the first . . .”

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For papers published in translation journals, please give the English citation first, followed by the original foreign-language citation [6].

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