

# Weakly Supervised Learning in Semantic Segmentation

Sheng Zeng

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- Problems in Image Understanding
- Motivation of Weakly Supervised Learning

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- Definition of Image Segmentation
- Image Segmentation Algorithms

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- Traditional Semantic Segmentation
- Weakly Supervised Semantic Segmentation
  - Graph-based Method
  - Cluster-based Method
  - Classifier-based Method

## 4 Object Detection and Localization\*

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# Image Understanding



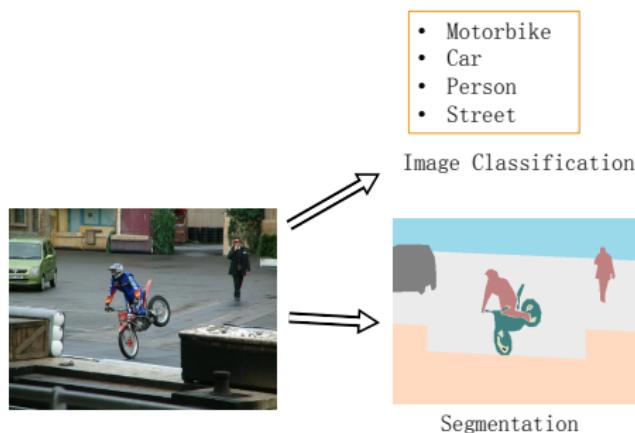
# Image Understanding



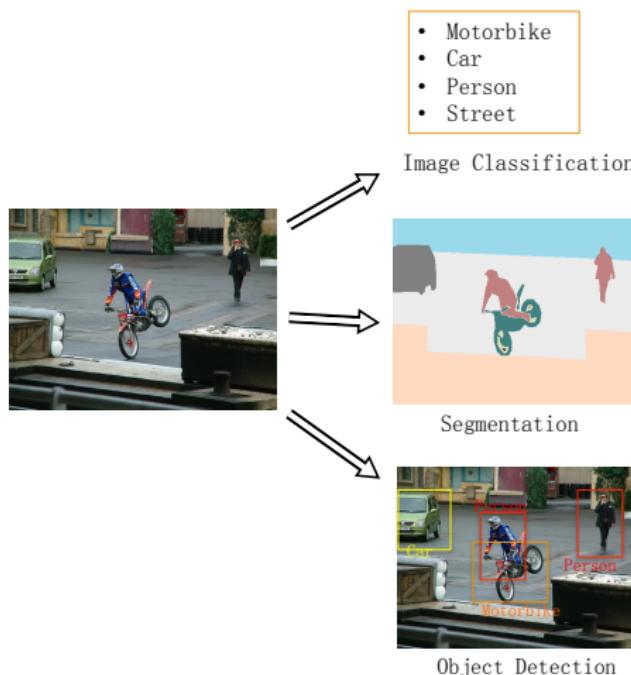
- Motorbike
- Car
- Person
- Street

Image Classification

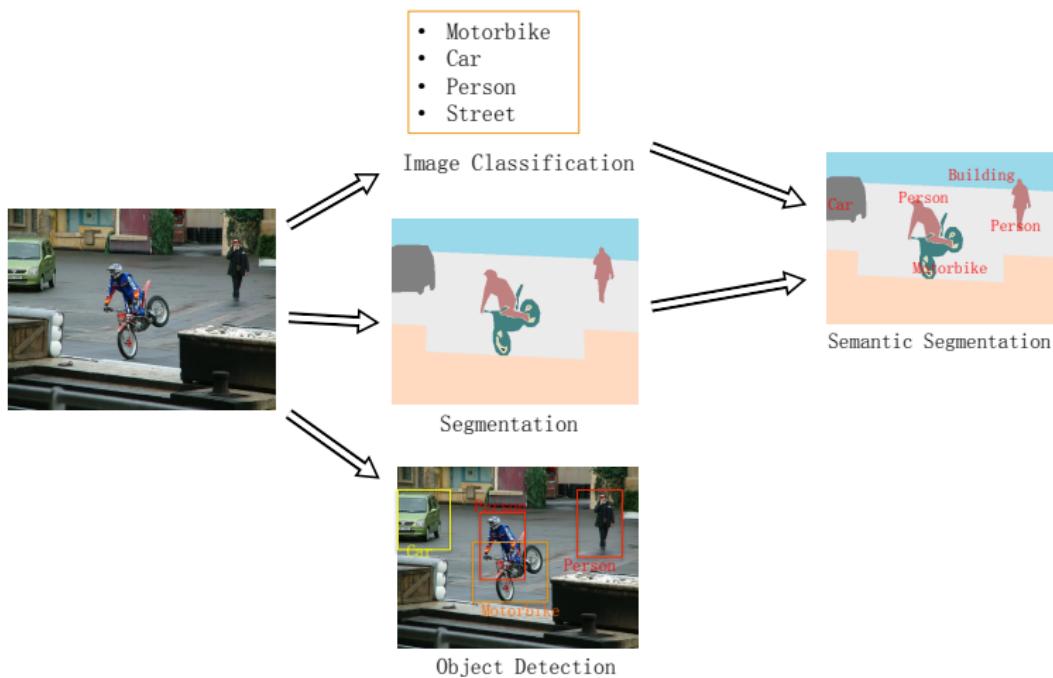
# Image Understanding



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# Image Understanding



# Common Challenges in Image Understanding

intra-class variability

bird



# Common Challenges in Image Understanding

intra-class variability



deformation



# Common Challenges in Image Understanding

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deformation



viewpoint changes



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occlusion



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# Motivation

- The labeled data is **limited!**

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- Large scale image annotating is **time-consuming.**

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- The labeled data is **limited!**
- Large scale image annotating is **time-consuming.**
- Weakly labeled data can be **easily obtained** from the internet.

# Two Settings of Weakly Supervised Learning

- 1 Only weakly labeled data. e.g. [Verbeek and Triggs, 2007]

# Two Settings of Weakly Supervised Learning

- 1 Only weakly labeled data. e.g. [Verbeek and Triggs, 2007]
- 2 A few precisely annotated data + a large mount of weakly labeled data. e.g. [Hoffman et al., ]
  - Domain Adaptation (DA)

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# Definition

- Image segmentation is the process of partitioning a digital image into **multiple segments** (sets of pixels, also known as superpixels).

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- Image segmentation is typically used to locate **objects** and **boundaries** (lines, curves, etc.) in images.
- Image segmentation is the process of **assigning a label** to every pixel in an image such that pixels with the same label share certain characteristics.

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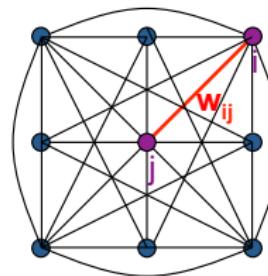
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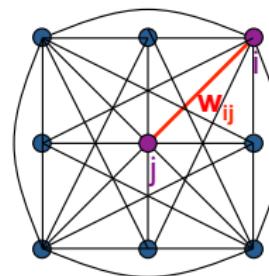
# Graph-based Segmentation

- Treating the images as graphs
  - node for every pixel
  - link between every pair of pixels
  - similarity  $W_{ij}$  for each link

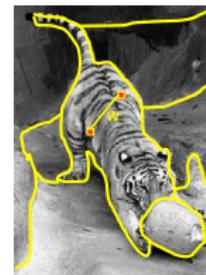
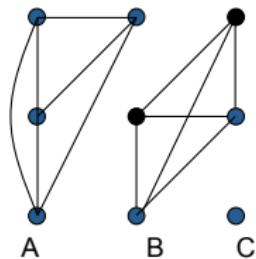


# Graph-based Segmentation

- Treating the images as graphs
  - node for every pixel
  - link between every pair of pixels
  - similarity  $W_{ij}$  for each link
- Method
  - minimum cut
  - Normalized cut
  - MRFs Graph cuts



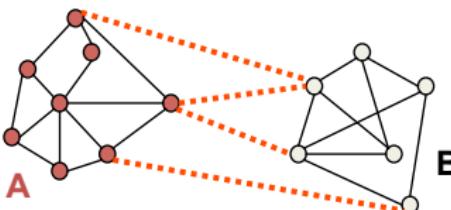
# Segmentation by Graph cuts



## ■ Break Graph into Segments

- Delete links that cross between segments
- Easiest to break links that have low cost (low similarity)
  - similar pixels should be in the same segments
  - dissimilar pixels should be in the different segments

# Cut in Graphs



## ■ Link Cut

- set of links whose removal makes a graph disconnected
- cost of a cut:

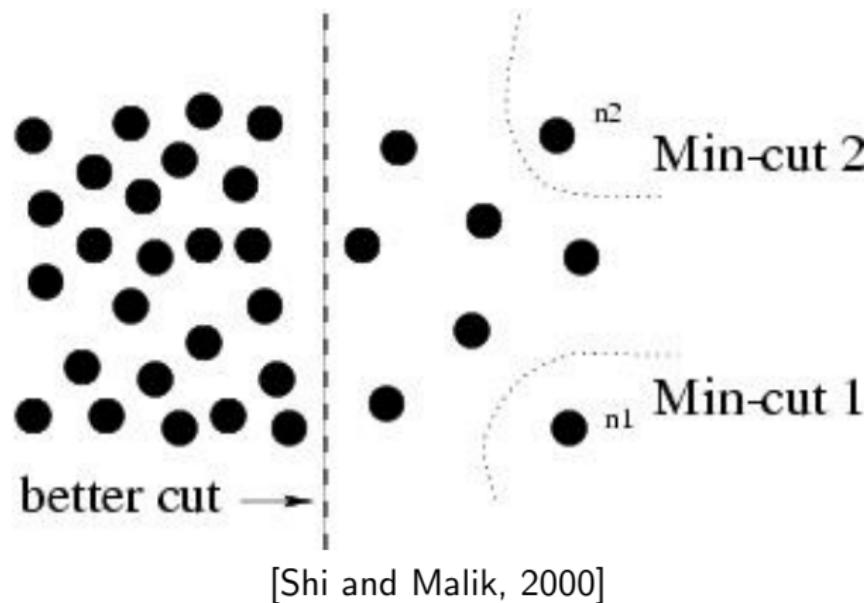
$$cut(A, B) = \sum_{p \in A, q \in B} c_{p,q} \quad (1)$$

## ■ One idea: Find the minimum cut.

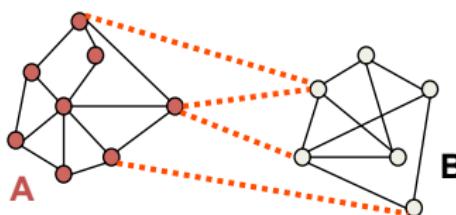
- fast algorithms exist for doing this

# Cut in Graphs

But min cut is not always the best cut...



# Cut in Graphs



Normalized Cut [Shi and Malik, 2000]

- a cut penalizes large segments
- fix by normalizing for size of segments

$$Ncut(A, B) = \frac{cut(A, B)}{volume(A)} + \frac{cut(A, B)}{volume(B)} \quad (2)$$

- $volume(A)$  = sum of costs of all edges that touch  $A$

# Recursive Normalized Cut

- 1 Given an image or image sequence, set up a weighted graph:  
 $G = (V, E)$

- Vertex for each pixel
- Edge weight for nearby pairs of pixels

$$\min_x Ncut(x) = \min_y \frac{\mathbf{y}^T (\mathbf{D} - \mathbf{W}) \mathbf{y}}{\mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{D} \mathbf{y}} \quad (3)$$

<sup>1</sup>Details: <http://www.cs.berkeley.edu/~malik/papers/SM-ncut.pdf>

# Recursive Normalized Cut

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- Solve for eigenvectors with the smallest eigenvalues:  
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  - Note: this is an approximation

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 $(\mathbf{D} - \mathbf{W})\mathbf{y} = \lambda \mathbf{D}\mathbf{y}$
- 3 Use the eigenvector with the second smallest eigenvalue to bipartition the graph
  - Note: this is an approximation
- 4 Recursively repartition the segmented parts if necessary<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Details: <http://www.cs.berkeley.edu/~malik/papers/SM-ncut.pdf>

# Normalized Cut: Pros and Cons

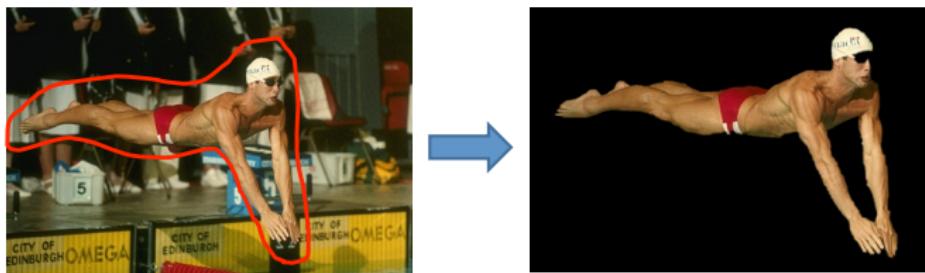
## ■ Pros

- Generic framework, can be used with many different features and affinity formulations
- Provides regular segments

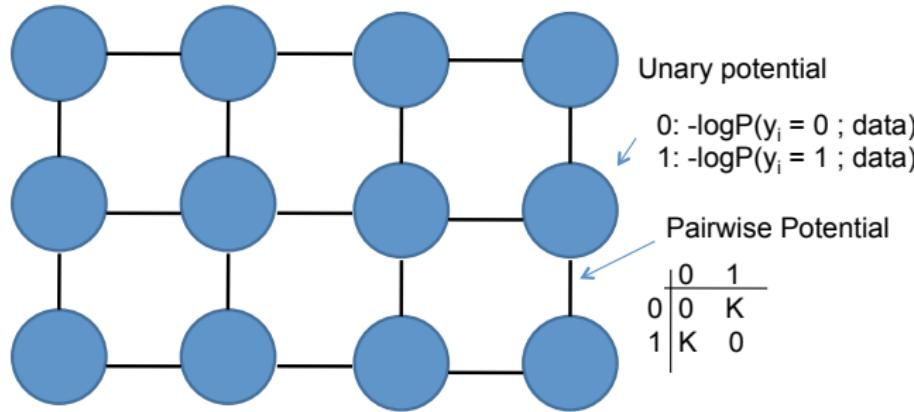
## ■ Cons

- Need to chose number of segments
- High storage requirement and time complexity
- Bias towards partitioning into equal segments

# Graph cuts Segmentation

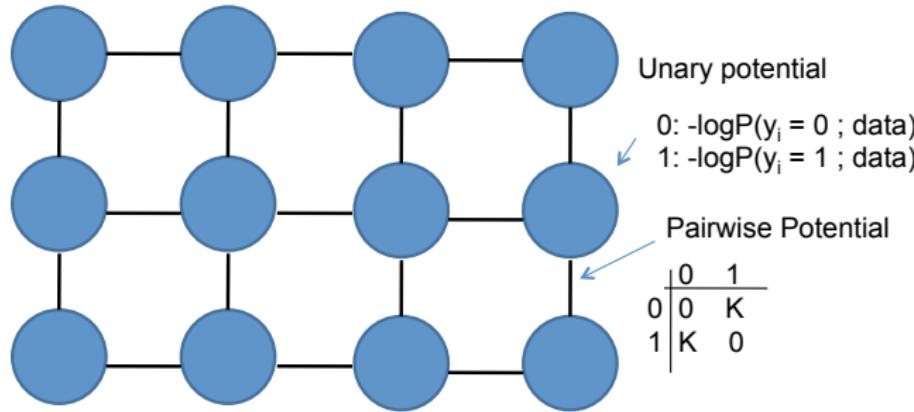


# Markov Random Fields



$$\text{Energy}(\mathbf{y}; \theta, \text{data}) = \sum_i \psi_1(y_i, \theta, \text{data}) + \sum_{i,j \in \text{edges}} \psi_2(y_i, y_j, \theta, \text{data})$$

# Markov Random Fields

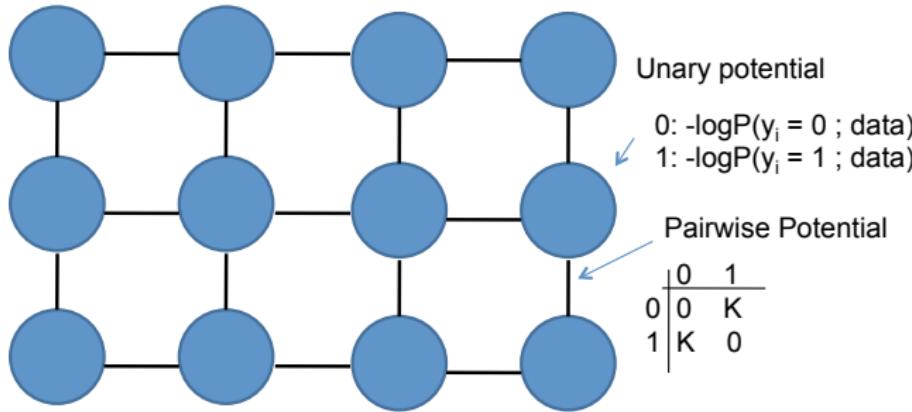


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■ Cost to assign a label to each pixel

<sup>1</sup>Derek Hoiem@MRFs and Graph Cuts Segmentation

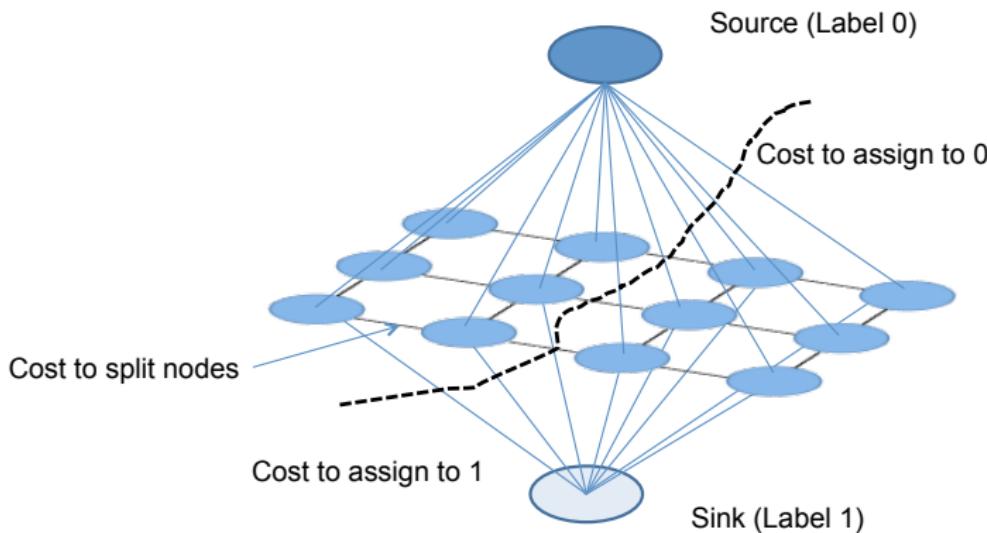
# Markov Random Fields



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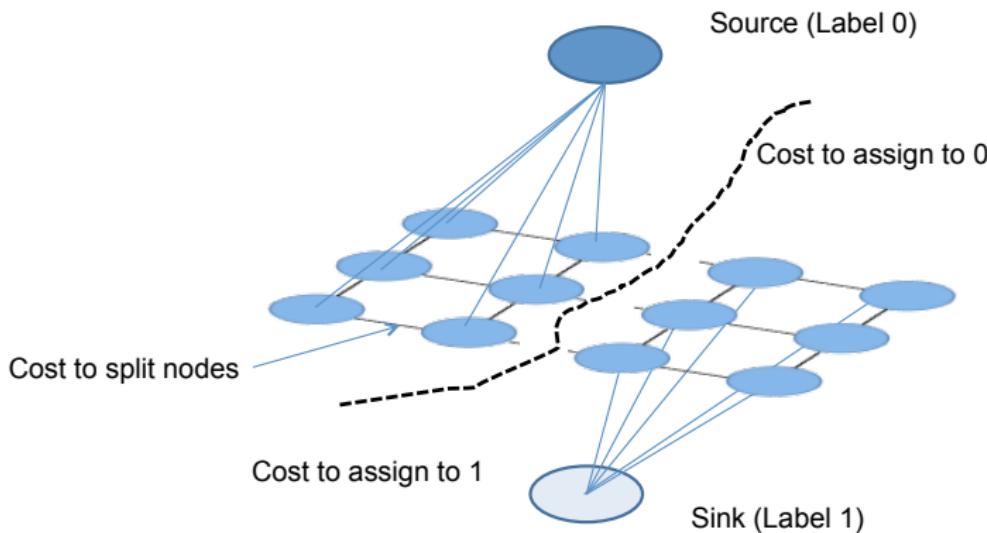
- Cost to assign a label to each pixel
- Cost to assign a pair of labels to connected pixels

# Solving MRFs with Graph cuts



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# Graph cuts Segmentation

## 1 Define graph

- usually 4-connected or 8-connected

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## 2 Define unary potentials

- Color histogram or mixture of Gaussians for background and foreground

$$\text{unary\_potential}(x) = -\log \left( \frac{P(c(x); \theta_{foreground})}{P(c(x); \theta_{background})} \right)$$

# Graph cuts Segmentation

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## 3 Define pairwise potentials

$$\text{pairwise\_potential}(x, y) = k_1 + k_2 \exp \left\{ \frac{-\|c(x) - c(y)\|}{2\sigma^2} \right\}$$

# Graph cuts Segmentation

## 1 Define graph

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## 4 Apply graph cuts [Kolmogorov and Zabin, 2004]

---

<sup>1</sup>Derek Hoiem@MRFs and Graph Cuts Segmentation

# Graph cuts: Pros and Cons

## ■ Pros

- Very fast inference
- Can incorporate recognition or high-level priors
- Applies to a wide range of problems (image labeling, recognition)

## ■ Cons

- Need unary terms (not used for generic segmentation)

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<sup>1</sup>Derek Hoiem@MRFs and Graph Cuts Segmentation

# Other Segmentation Algorithms

- Cluster-based Segmentation
  - Mean Shift
  - K-means
  - ...
- Edge-based Segmentation
  - Watershed Segmentation
    - Hierarchical segmentation from soft boundaries
  - ...

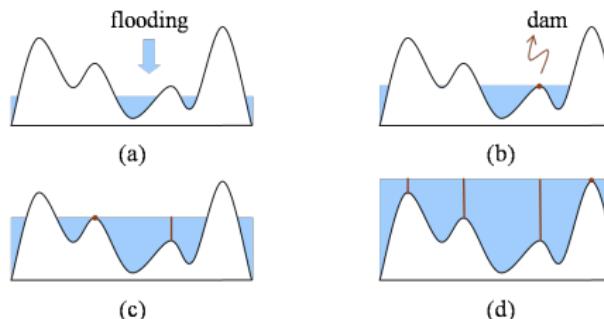


Figure: The concept of watershed

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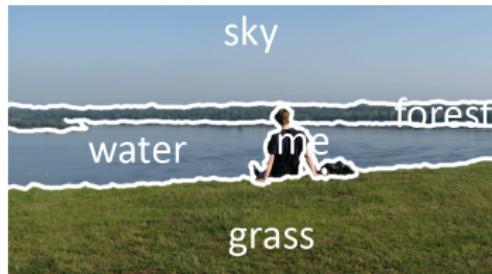
### ■ Traditional Semantic Segmentation

- Weakly Supervised Semantic Segmentation
  - Graph-based Method
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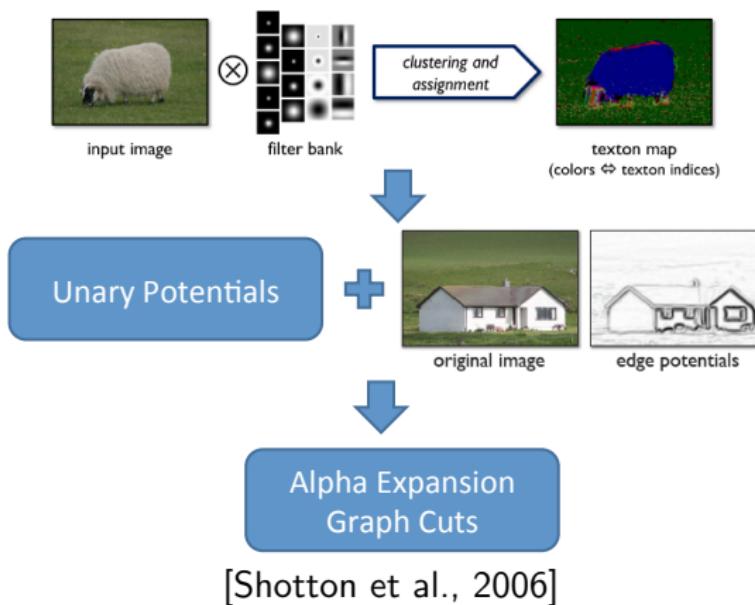
## 4 Object Detection and Localization\*

# Definition

- **Semantic segmentation** (or pixel classification) associates one of the **pre-defined** class labels to each pixel
- The input image is divided into the regions, which correspond to the objects of the scene or 'stuff'



# Overview



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## 4 Object Detection and Localization\*

# Difference from Traditional Model

- Only image-level labels for training stage
- How to calculate unary potential from weakly labeled images



road  
dog



road  
cat



water  
boat



water  
boat



car  
tree  
road



car  
tree  
road  
buildings



water  
buildings  
sky



dog  
tree  
body  
face

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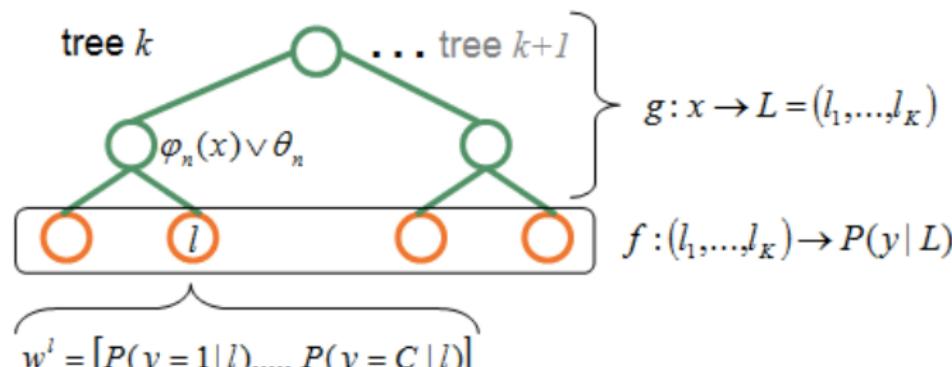
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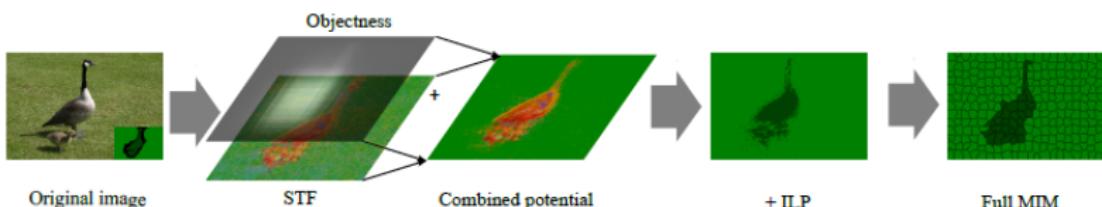
## 4 Object Detection and Localization\*

# Figure out Unary Potential from Weakly Labeled Images



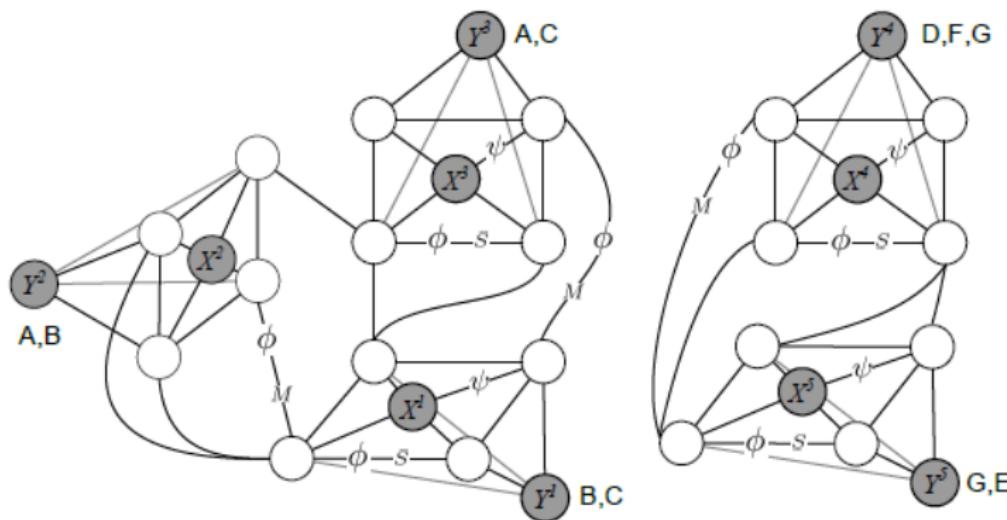
[Vezhnevets and Buhmann, 2010]

# Multi-Image Model



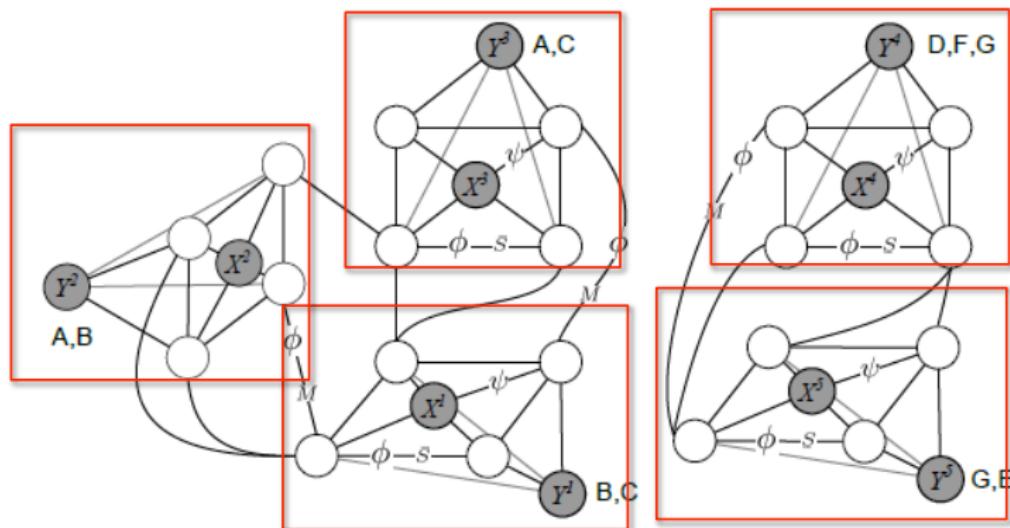
- Unary potential: Naive Bayes appearance model + Objectness prior
- Pairwise potential: Multi-Image Model [Vezhnevets et al., 2011]

# Multi-Image Model



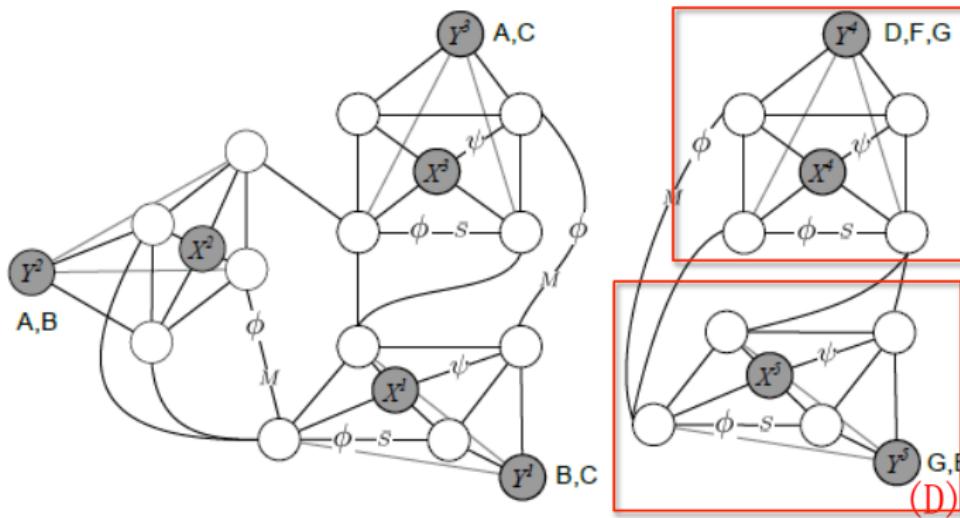
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# Multi-Image Model



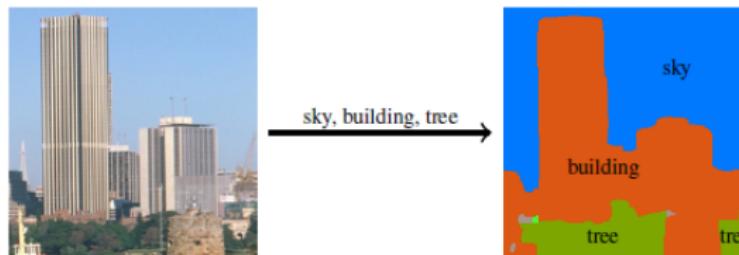
[Vezhnevets et al., 2011]

# Multi-Image Model



[Vezhnevets et al., 2011]

# Image Level Prior



[Xu et al., 2014]

- Significance of Image Level Prior
  - Truth-tag 44% vs. CNN-tag 28%

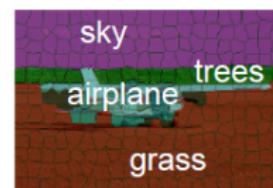
# Active Learning

Active learning



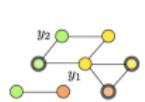
Which class are  
these superpixels?

Semantic segmentation on test set



[Vezhnevets et al., 2012]

# Active Learning



Current CRF state

- latent
- fixed (revealed)
- currently explored



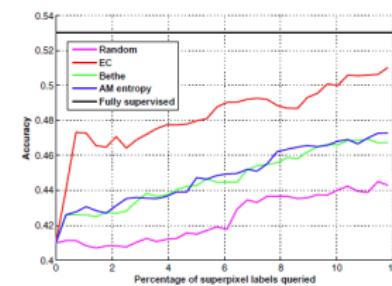
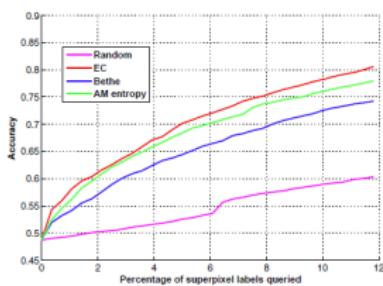
$$EC(y_1) = 6/3$$



$$EC(y_2) = 4/3$$



$$EC(y_3) = 3/3$$



[Vezhnevets et al., 2012]

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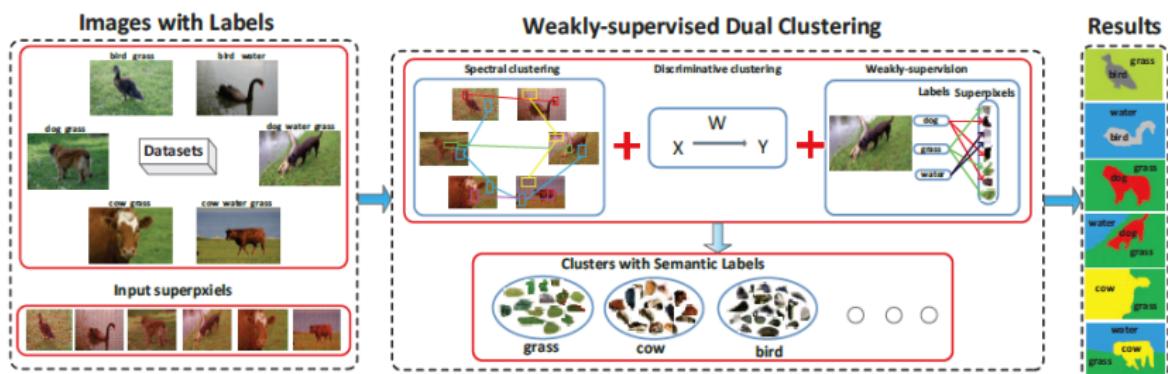
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# Dual Clustering for Semantic Segmentation



[Liu et al., 2013]

# Dual Clustering for Semantic Segmentation

## ■ Spectral Clustering

$$\min_{Y, W} \text{Tr}[Y^T L Y] + \alpha \|X^T W - Y\|_F^2 + \beta \|W\|_{2,1} + \gamma \sum_{i=1}^I \sum_{c=1}^C \left| \max_{x_{ij} \in X_i} y_{ij}^c - g_{ic} \right|$$

# Dual Clustering for Semantic Segmentation

## ■ Spectral Clustering

$$\min_{Y, W} \text{Tr}[Y^T L Y]$$

$$+ \alpha \|X^T W - Y\|_F^2 + \beta \|W\|_{2,1}$$

$$+ \gamma \sum_{i=1}^I \sum_{c=1}^C \left| \max_{x_{ij} \in X_i} y_{ij}^c - g_{ic} \right|$$

## ■ Discriminative Clustering

# Dual Clustering for Semantic Segmentation

## ■ Spectral Clustering

$$\min_{Y, W} \text{Tr}[Y^T L Y] + \alpha \|X^T W - Y\|_F^2 + \beta \|W\|_{2,1}$$

$$+ \gamma \sum_{i=1}^I \sum_{c=1}^C \left| \max_{x_{ij} \in X_i} y_{ij}^c - g_{ic} \right|$$

## ■ Discriminative Clustering

## ■ Weakly-Supervised Constraint

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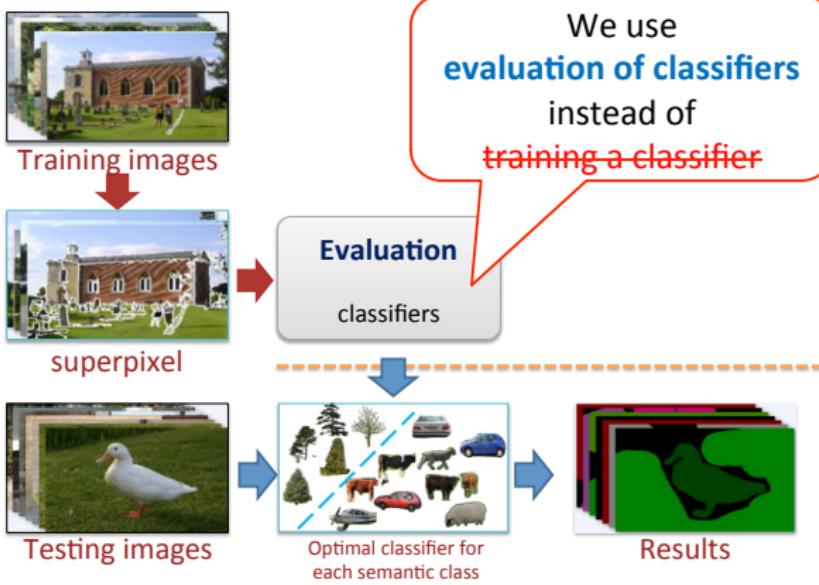
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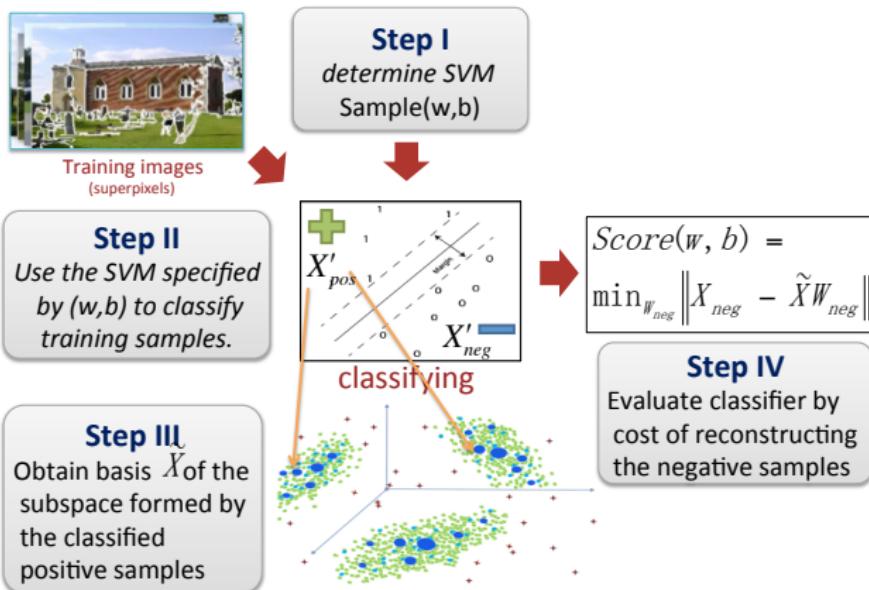
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# Classifier Evaluation for Weakly Supervised Learning



[Zhang et al., 2013]

# Classifier Evaluation for Weakly Supervised Learning



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Tell me what you see and i will show you where it is.

*interpretation*, 34:12.

# References III



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