



# Lecture 17: object detection

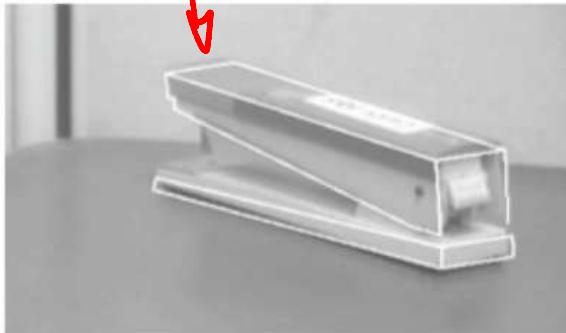
Professor Fei-Fei Li  
Stanford Vision Lab

*segmentation*

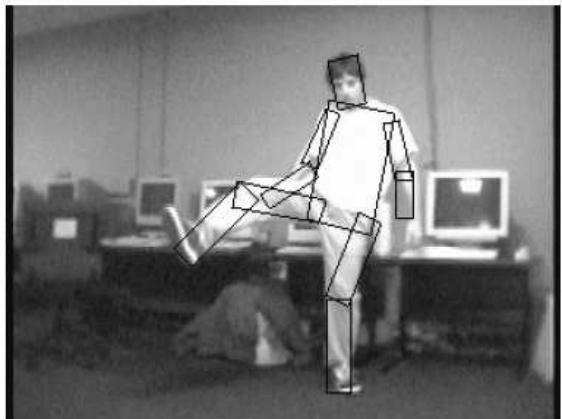
# Object detection

*→ bounding box*

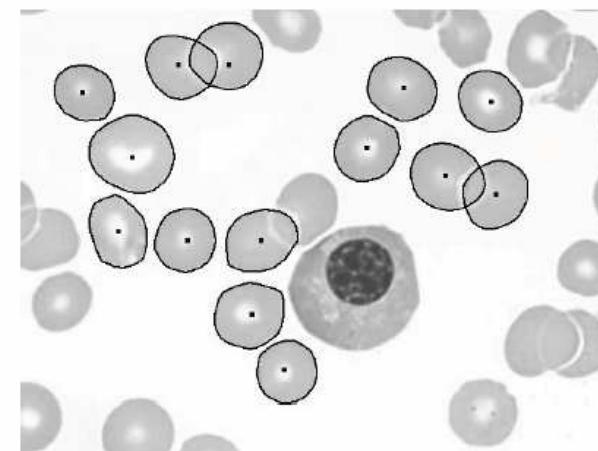
Detecting rigid objects



PASCAL challenge



Medical image  
analysis



Segmenting cells

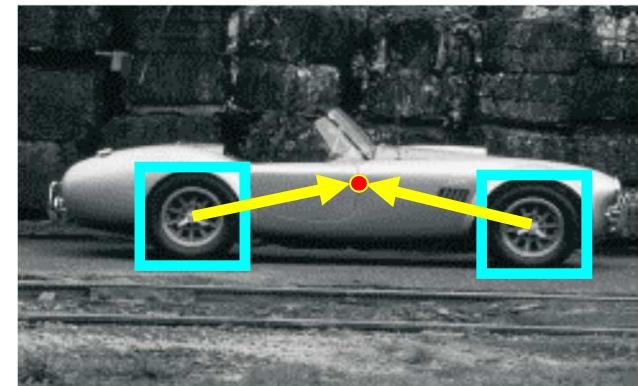
Detecting non-rigid objects

# What we will learn today?

- Implicit Shape Model
  - Representation
  - Recognition
  - Experiments and results
- Deformable Models
  - The PASCAL challenge
  - Latent SVM Model

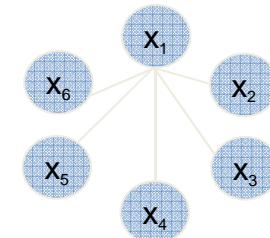
# What we will learn today?

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# Implicit Shape Model (ISM)

- Basic ideas
  - Learn an appearance codebook
  - Learn a star-topology structural model
    - Features are considered independent given obj. center

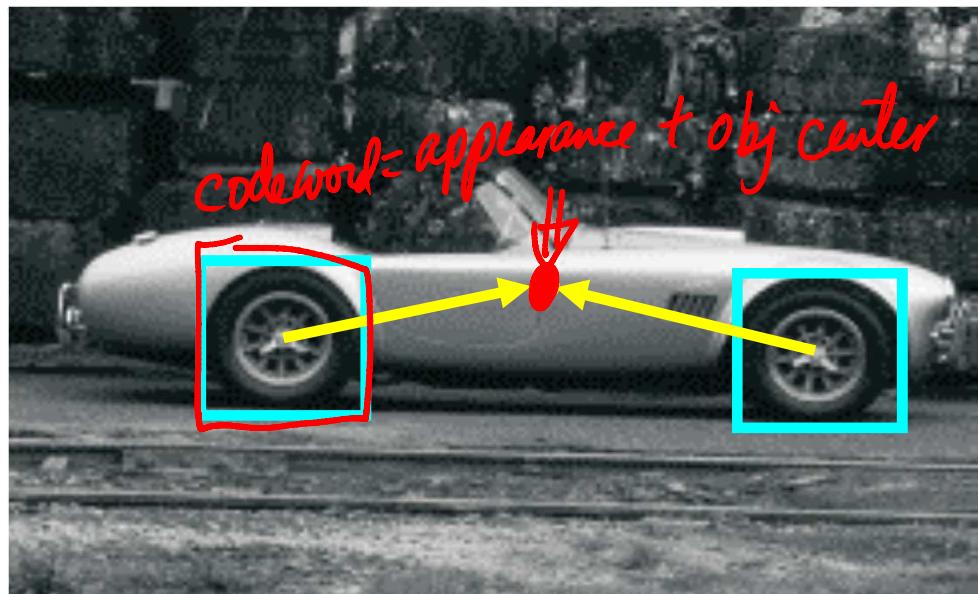


- Algorithm: probabilistic Gen. Hough Transform
  - Exact correspondences → Prob. match to object part
  - NN matching → Soft matching
  - Feature location on obj. → Part location distribution
  - Uniform votes → Probabilistic vote weighting
  - Quantized Hough array → Continuous Hough space

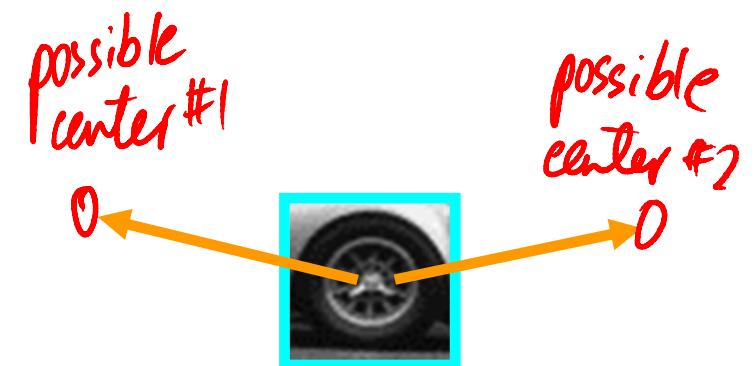
Source: Bastian Leibe

# Implicit Shape Model: Basic Idea

- Visual vocabulary is used to index votes for object position [a visual word = “part”].



Training image



Visual codeword with  
displacement vectors

B. Leibe, A. Leonardis, and B. Schiele, [Robust Object Detection with Interleaved Categorization and Segmentation](#), International Journal of Computer Vision, Vol. 77(1-3), 2008.

Source: Bastian Leibe

# Implicit Shape Model: Basic Idea

- Objects are detected as consistent configurations of the observed parts (visual words).

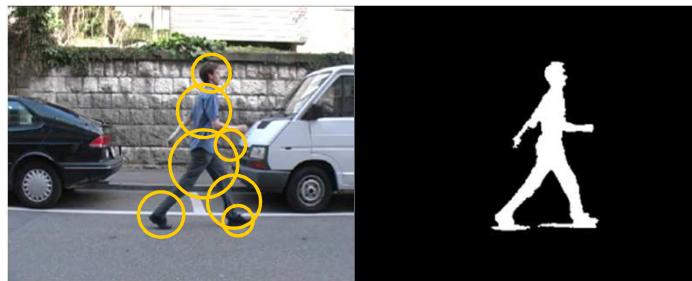


Test image

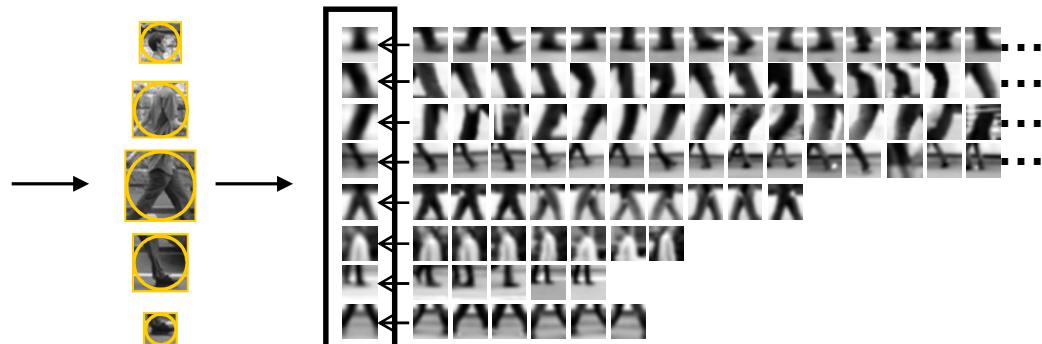
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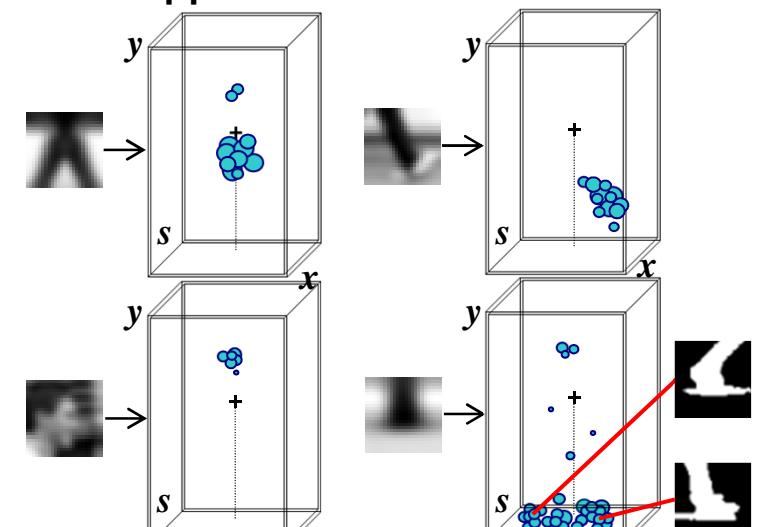
# Implicit Shape Model - Representation



Training images  
(+reference segmentation)



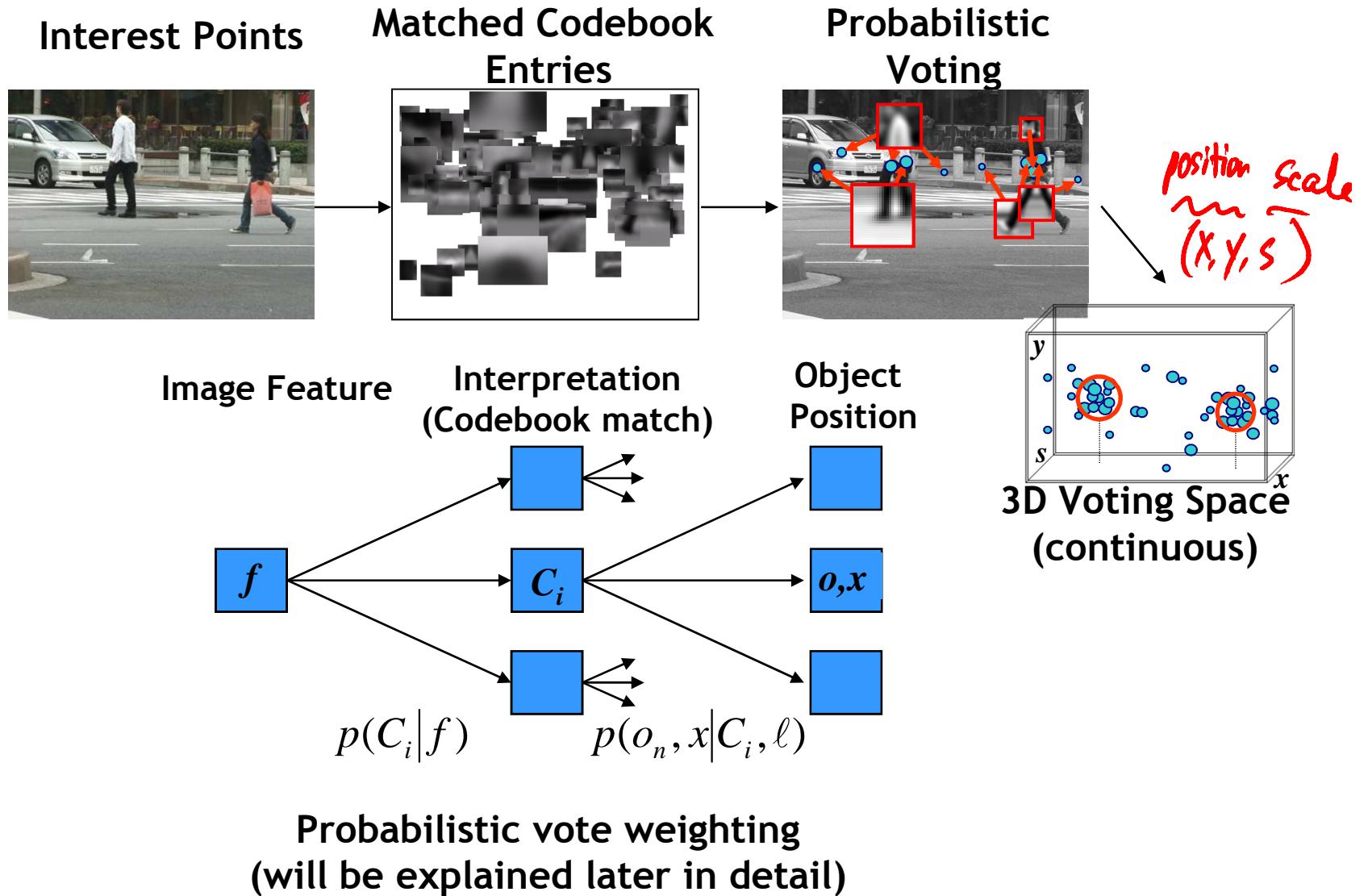
Appearance codebook



Spatial occurrence distributions  
+ local figure-ground labels

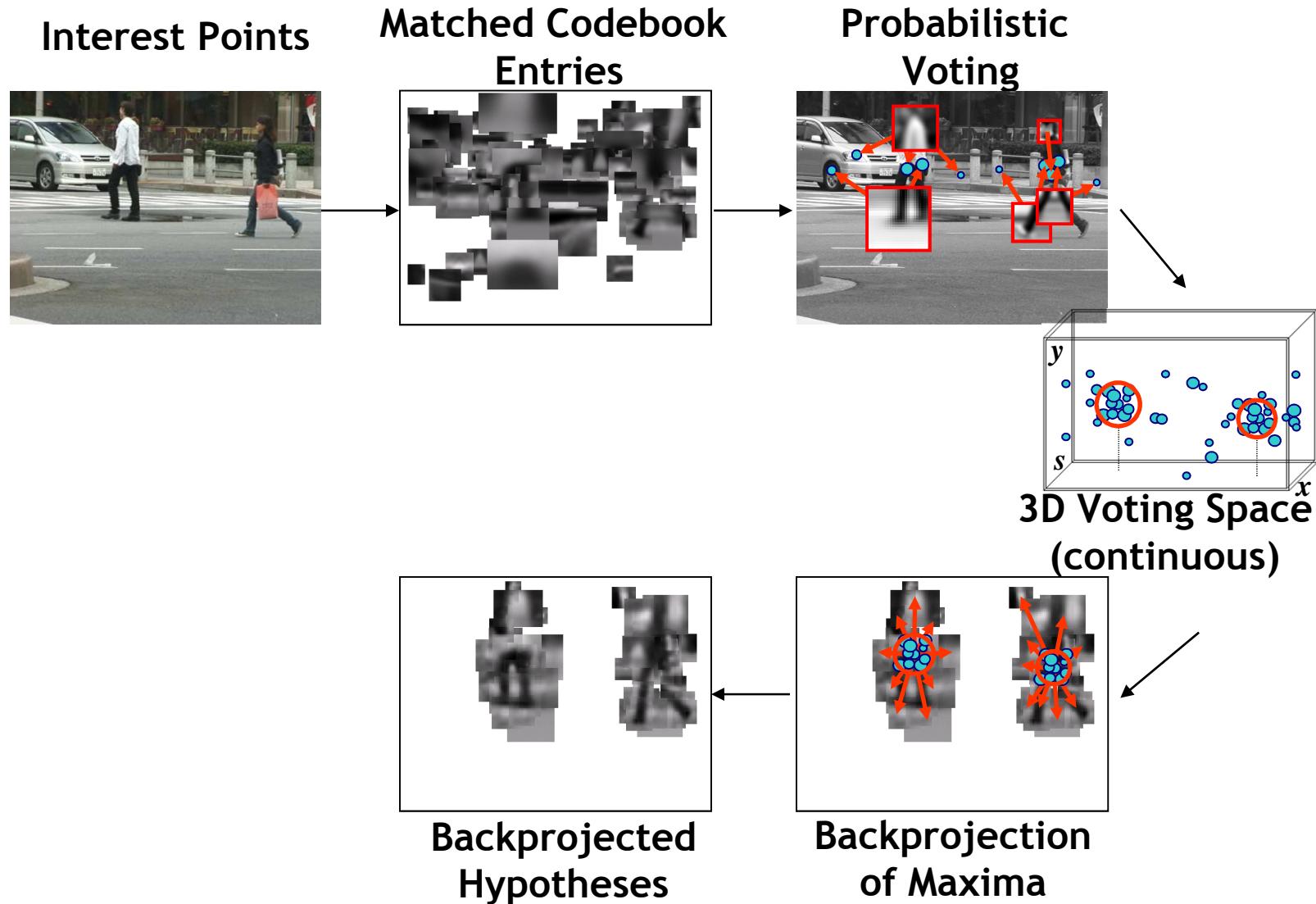
Source: Bastian Leibe

# Implicit Shape Model - Recognition



[Leibe, Leonardis, Schiele, SLCV'04; IJCV'08]

# Implicit Shape Model - Recognition



[Leibe, Leonardis, Schiele, SLCV'04; IJCV'08]

# Example: Results on Cows



Original image

Source: Bastian Leibe

# Example: Results on Cows



Interest points

Source: Bastian Leibe

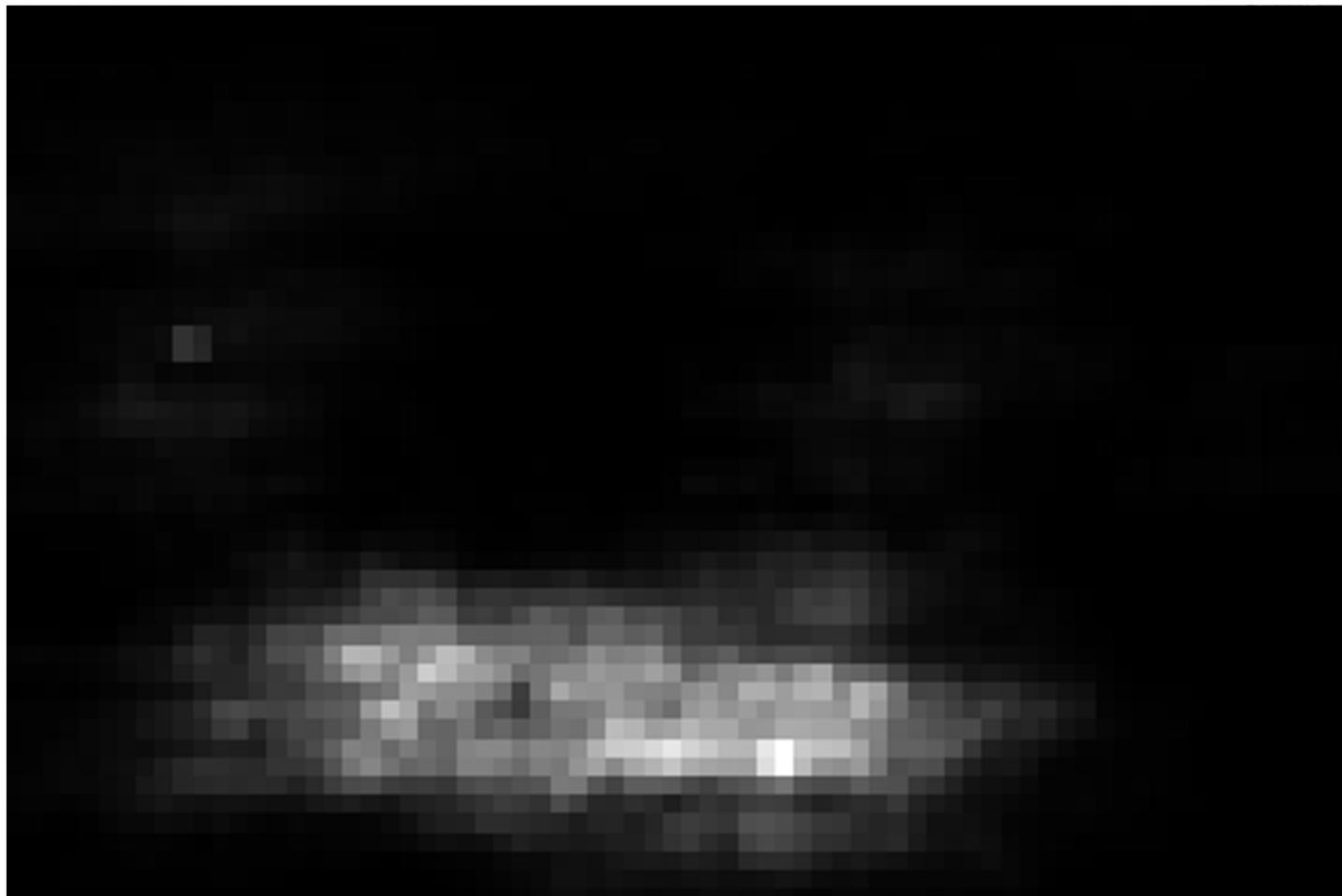
# Example: Results on Cows



Matched patches

Source: Bastian Leibe

# Example: Results on Cows



Prob. Votes

Source: Bastian Leibe

# Example: Results on Cows



Source: K. Grauman & B. Leibe

# Example: Results on Cows



2<sup>nd</sup> hypothesis

Source: Bastian Leibe

# Example: Results on Cows



3<sup>rd</sup> hypothesis

Source: Bastian Leibe

# Scale Invariant Voting

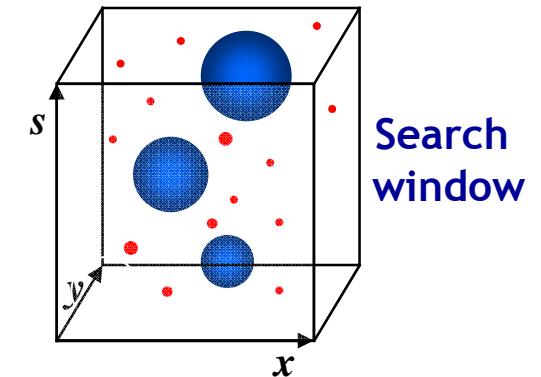
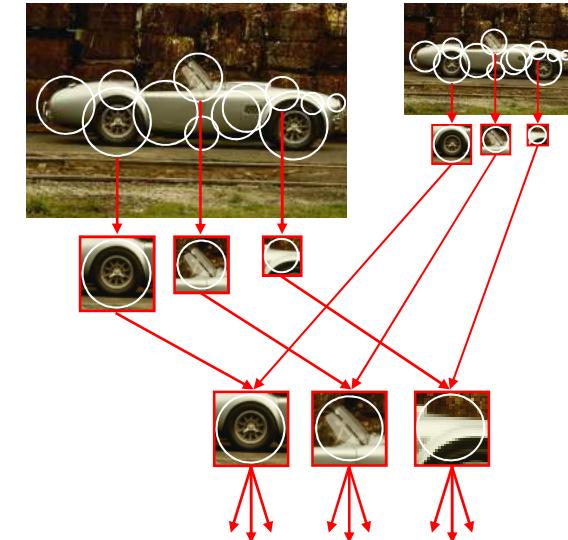
- Scale-invariant feature selection
  - Scale-invariant interest points
  - Rescale extracted patches
  - Match to constant-size codebook
- Generate scale votes
  - Scale as 3<sup>rd</sup> dimension in voting space

$$x_{vote} = x_{img} - x_{occ}(s_{img}/s_{occ})$$

$$y_{vote} = y_{img} - y_{occ}(s_{img}/s_{occ})$$

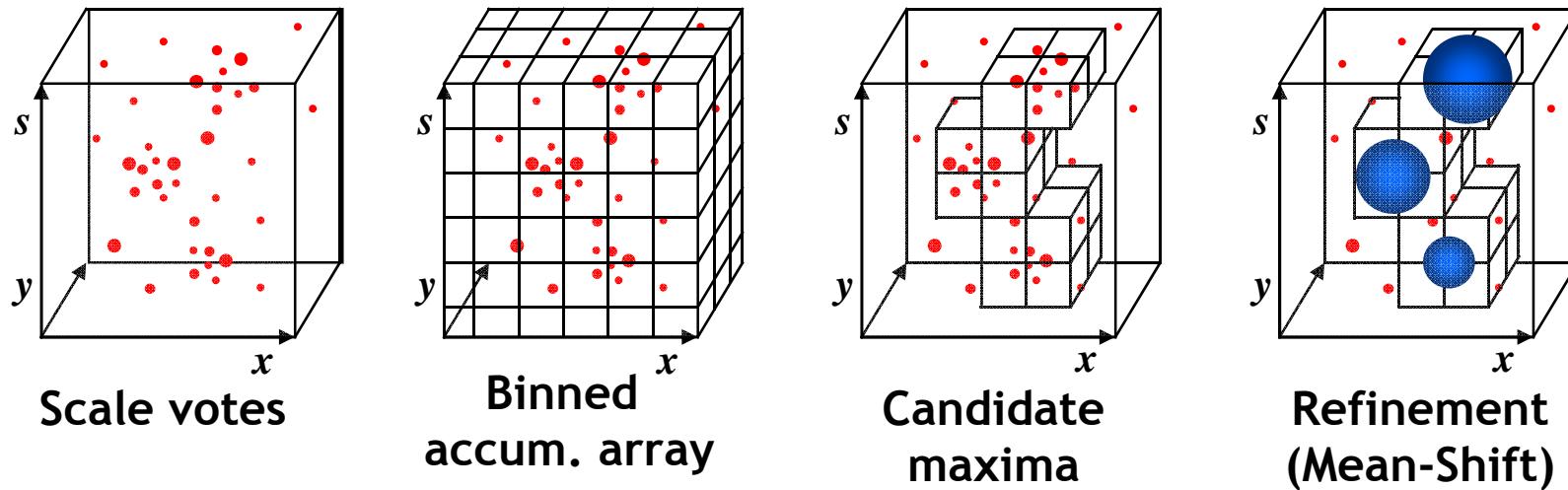
$$s_{vote} = (s_{img}/s_{occ}).$$

- Search for maxima in 3D voting space



Source: Bastian Leibe

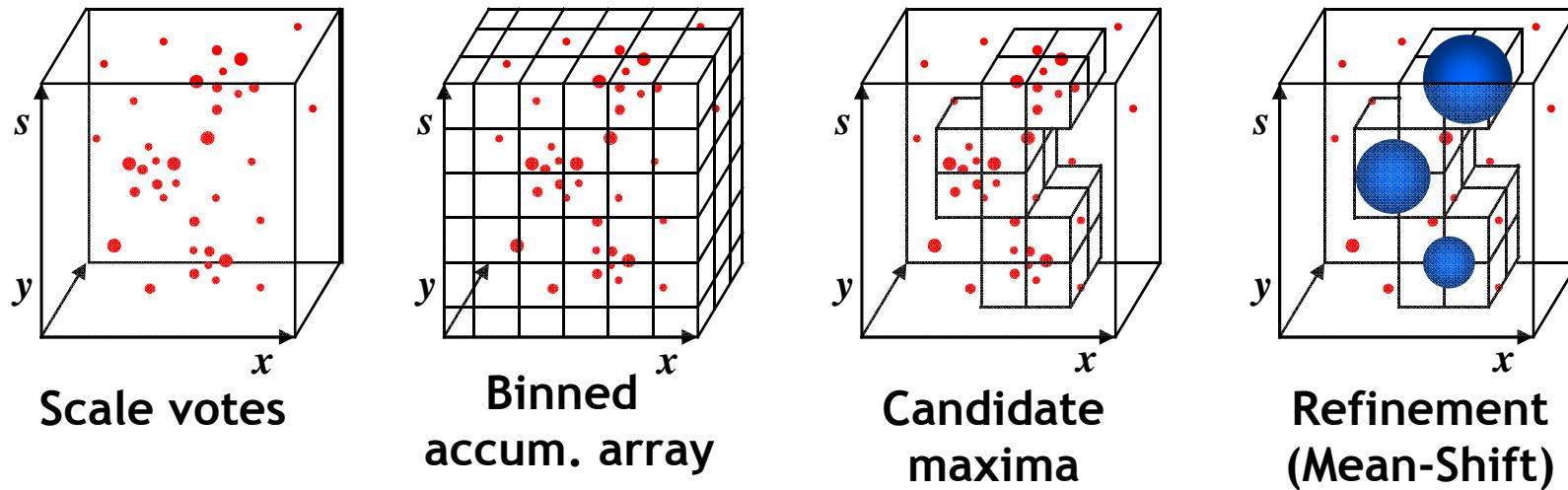
# Scale Voting: Efficient Computation



- Continuous Generalized Hough Transform
  - Binned accumulator array similar to standard Gen. Hough Transf.
  - Quickly identify candidate maxima locations
  - Refine locations by Mean-Shift search only around those points
  - ⇒ Avoid quantization effects by keeping exact vote locations.
  - ⇒ Mean-shift interpretation as kernel prob. density estimation.

Source: Bastian Leibe

# Scale Voting: Efficient Computation



- Scale-adaptive Mean-Shift search for refinement
  - Increase search window size with hypothesis scale
  - Scale-adaptive *balloon density estimator*



Source: Bastian Leibe

# Detection Results

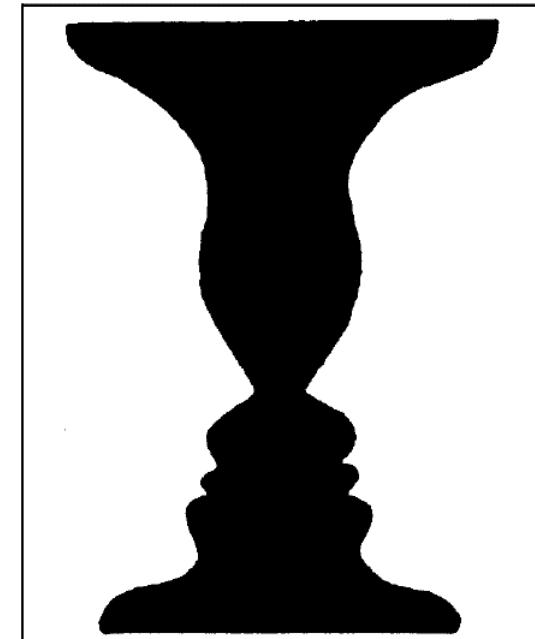
- Qualitative Performance
  - Recognizes different kinds of objects
  - Robust to clutter, occlusion, noise, low contrast



Source: Bastian Leibe

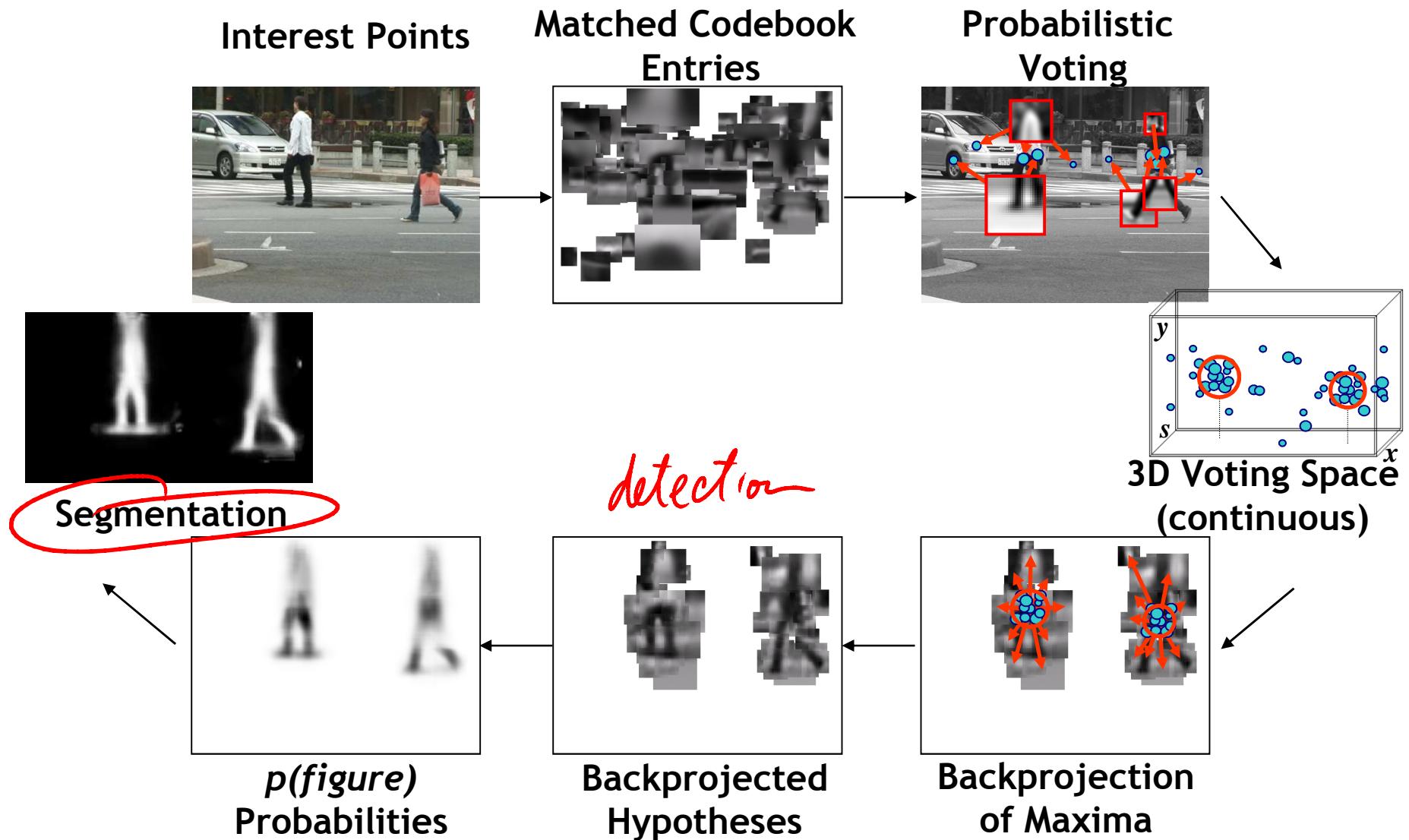
# Figure-Ground Segregation

- What happens first – segmentation or recognition?
- Problem extensively studied in Psychophysics
- Experiments with ambiguous figure-ground stimuli
- Results:
  - Evidence that object recognition can and does operate before figure-ground organization
  - Interpreted as Gestalt cue *familiarity*.



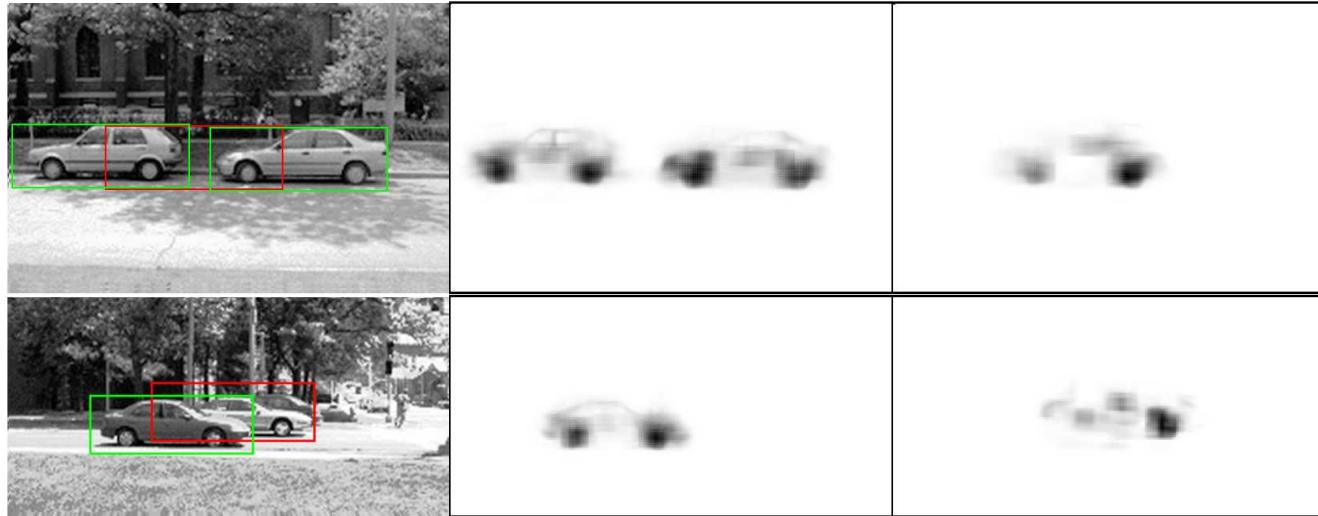
M.A. Peterson, “Object Recognition Processes Can and Do Operate Before Figure-Ground Organization”, *Cur. Dir. in Psych. Sc.*, 3:105-111, 1994.

# ISM – Top-Down Segmentation



[Leibe, Leonardis, Schiele, SLCV'04; IJCV'08]

# Top-Down Segmentation: Motivation



- Secondary hypotheses (“mixtures of cars/cows/etc.”)
  - Desired property of algorithm!  $\Rightarrow$  robustness to occlusion
  - Standard solution: reject based on bounding box overlap  
 $\Rightarrow$  Problematic - may lead to missing detections!

Source: Bastian Leibe

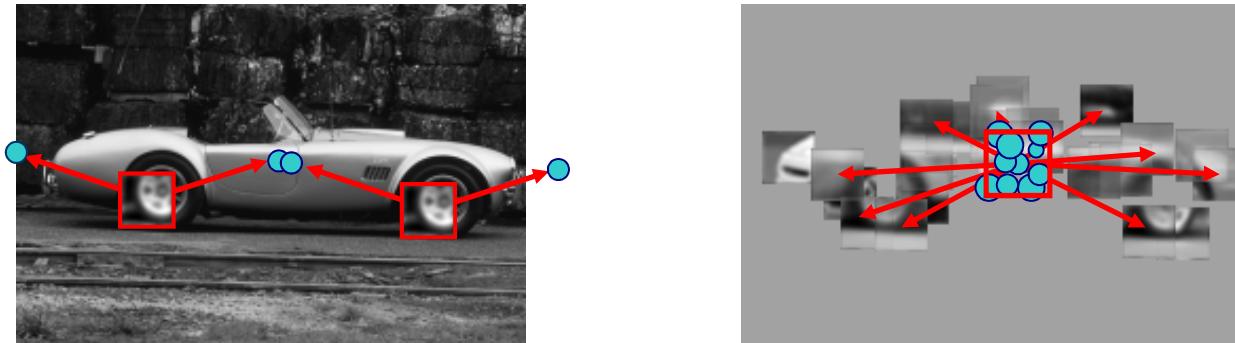
# Top-Down Segmentation: Motivation



- Secondary hypotheses (“mixtures of cars/cows/etc.”)
  - Desired property of algorithm!  $\Rightarrow$  robustness to occlusion
  - Standard solution: reject based on bounding box overlap  
 $\Rightarrow$  Problematic - may lead to missing detections!  
 $\Rightarrow$  Use segmentations to resolve ambiguities instead.
  - Basic idea: each observed pixel can only be explained by (at most) one detection.

Source: Bastian Leibe

# Segmentation: Probabilistic Formulation



- Influence of patch on object hypothesis (vote weight)

$$p(f, \ell | o_n, x) = \frac{\sum_i p(o_n, x | C_i) p(C_i | f) p(f, \ell)}{p(o_n, x)}$$

**Backprojection to features  $f$  and pixels  $p$ :**

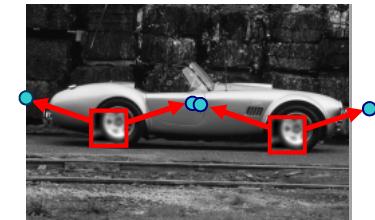
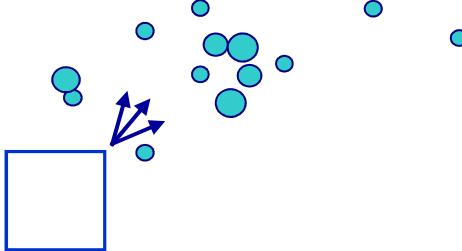
$$p(\mathbf{p} = \text{figure} | o_n, x) = \underbrace{\sum_{\mathbf{p} \in (f, \ell)} p(\mathbf{p} = \text{figure} | f, \ell, o_n, x)}_{\text{Segmentation information}} \underbrace{p(f, \ell | o_n, x)}_{\text{Influence on object hypothesis}}$$

[Leibe, Leonardis, Schiele, SLCV'04; IJCV'08]

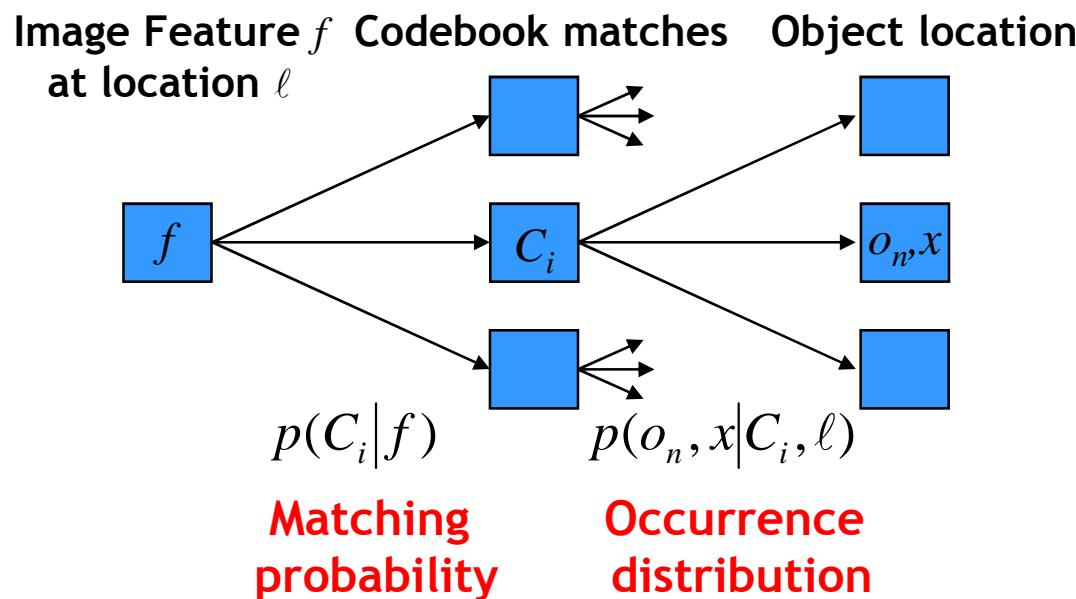
# Derivation: ISM Recognition

- Algorithm stages

1. Voting
2. Mean-shift search
3. Backprojection



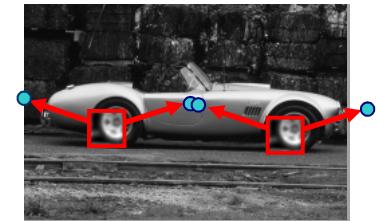
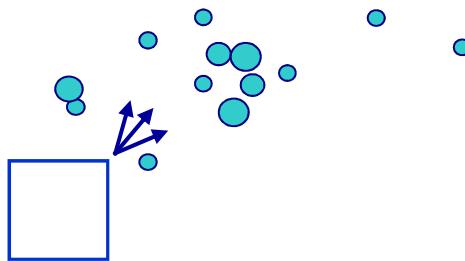
- Vote weights: contribution of a single feature  $f$



[Leibe, Leonardis, Schiele, SLCV'04; IJCV'08]

# Derivation: ISM Recognition

- Algorithm stages
  - Voting
  - Mean-shift search
  - Backprojection



- Vote weights: contribution of a single feature  $f$ 
  - Probability that object  $O_n$  occurs at location  $x$  given  $(f, \ell)$

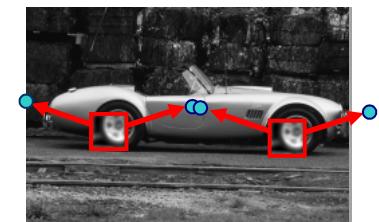
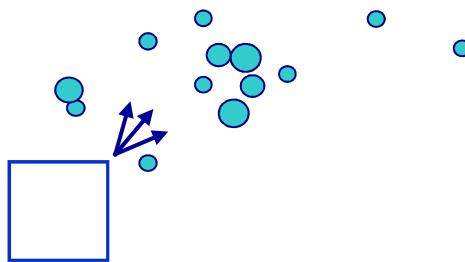
$$p(o_n, x | f, \ell) = \sum_i p(C_i | f) p(o_n, x | C_i, \ell)$$

**Matching probability      Occurrence distribution**

[Leibe, Leonardis, Schiele, SLCV'04; IJCV'08]

# Derivation: ISM Recognition

- Algorithm stages
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- Vote weights: contribution of a single feature  $f$

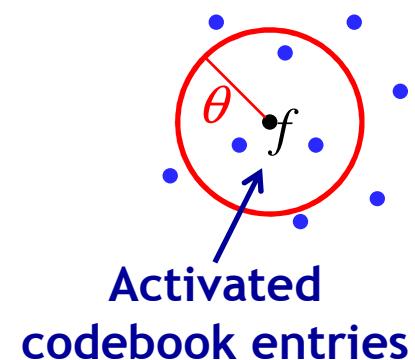
Probability that object  $O_n$  occurs at location  $x$  given  $(f, \ell)$

$$p(o_n, x | f, \ell) = \sum_i p(C_i | f) p(o_n, x | C_i, \ell)$$

How to measure those probabilities?

$$p(C_i | f) = \frac{1}{|C|}, \text{ where } C = \{C_i | d(C_i, f) \leq \theta\}$$

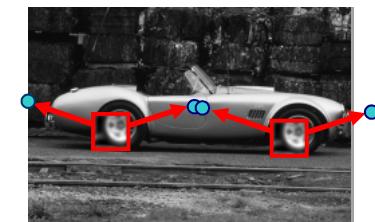
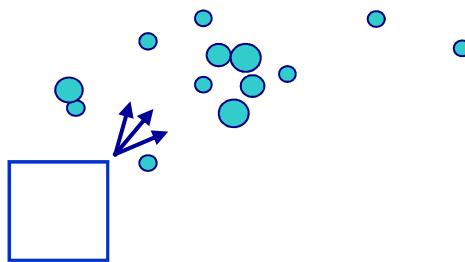
$$p(o_n, x | C_i, \ell) = \frac{1}{\#occurrences(C_i)}$$



[Leibe, Leonardis, Schiele, SLCV'04; IJCV'08]

# Derivation: ISM Recognition

- Algorithm stages
  - Voting
  - Mean-shift search
  - Backprojection



- Vote weights: contribution of a single feature  $f$

➤ Probability that object  $O_n$  occurs at location  $x$  given  $(f, \ell)$

$$p(o_n, x | f, \ell) = \sum_i p(C_i | f) p(o_n, x | C_i, \ell)$$

➤ Likelihood of the observed features given the object hypothesis

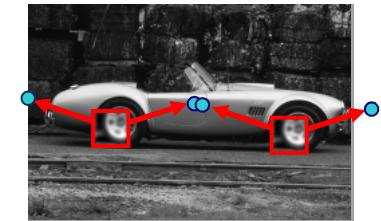
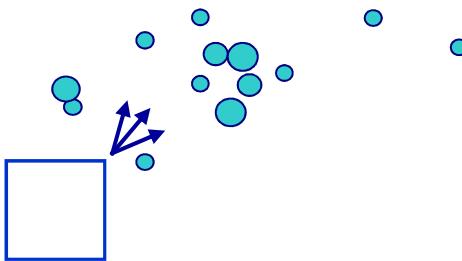
$$p(f, \ell | o_n, x) = \frac{p(o_n, x | f, \ell) p(f, \ell)}{p(o_n, x)} = \frac{\sum_i p(o_n, x | C_i, \ell) p(C_i | f) p(f, \ell)}{p(o_n, x)}$$

$p(f, \ell)$ : Indicator variable for sampled features

$p(o_n, x)$ : Prior for the object location

# Derivation: ISM Recognition

- Algorithm stages
  - Voting
  - Mean-shift search
  - Backprojection



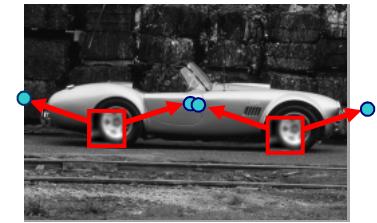
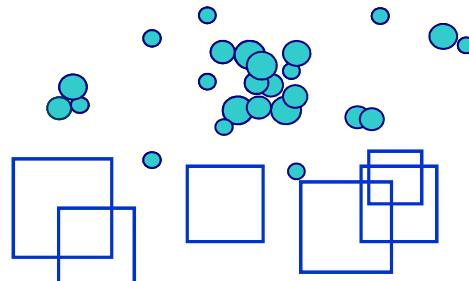
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[Leibe, Leonardis, Schiele, SLCV'04; IJCV'08]

# Derivation: ISM Recognition

- Algorithm stages
  1. Voting
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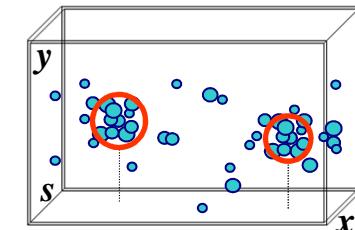
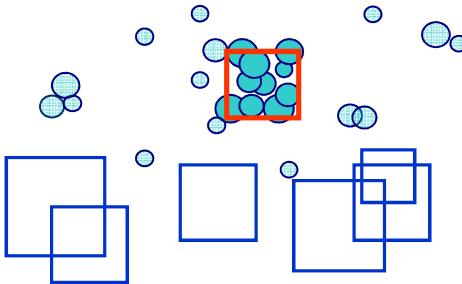


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[Leibe, Leonardis, Schiele, SLCV'04; IJCV'08]

# Derivation: ISM Recognition

- Algorithm stages
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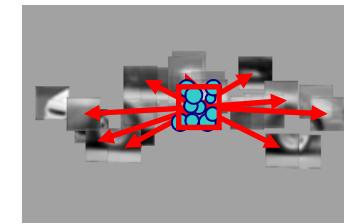
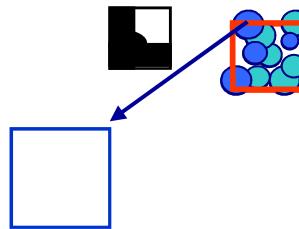
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[Leibe, Leonardis, Schiele, SLCV'04; IJCV'08]

# Derivation: ISM Top-Down Segmentation

- Algorithm stages
  1. Voting
  2. Mean-shift search
  3. Backprojection



- Vote weights: contribution of a single feature  $f$

$$p(f, \ell | o_n, x) = \frac{p(o_n, x | f, \ell) p(f, \ell)}{p(o_n, x)} = \frac{\sum_i p(o_n, x | C_i, \ell) p(C_i | f) p(f, \ell)}{p(o_n, x)}$$

- Figure-ground backprojection

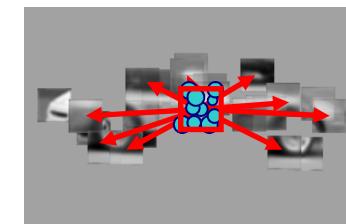
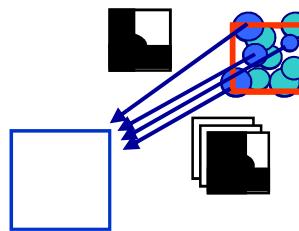
$$p(\mathbf{p} = \text{figure} | o_n, x, f, C_i, \ell) = p(\mathbf{p} = \text{fig.} | o_n, x, C_i, \ell) \frac{p(o_n, x | C_i, \ell) p(C_i | f) p(f, \ell)}{p(o_n, x)}$$

Fig./Gnd. label  
for each occurrenceInfluence on  
object hypothesis

# Derivation: ISM Top-Down Segmentation

- Algorithm stages

1. Voting
2. Mean-shift search
3. Backprojection



- Vote weights: contribution of a single feature  $f$

$$p(f, \ell | o_n, x) = \frac{p(o_n, x | f, \ell) p(f, \ell)}{p(o_n, x)} = \frac{\sum_i p(o_n, x | C_i, \ell) p(C_i | f) p(f, \ell)}{p(o_n, x)}$$

- Figure-ground backprojection

$$p(\mathbf{p} = \text{figure} | o_n, x, f, \ell) = \sum_i p(\mathbf{p} = \text{fig.} | o_n, x, C_i, \ell) \frac{p(o_n, x | C_i, \ell) p(C_i | f) p(f, \ell)}{p(o_n, x)}$$

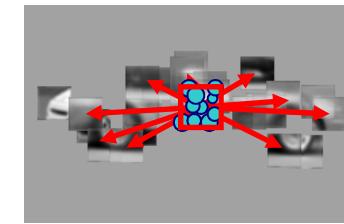
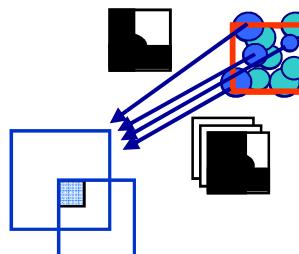
Marginalize over all codebook entries matched to  $f$ 
Fig./Gnd. label for each occurrence
Influence on object hypothesis

[Leibe, Leonardis, Schiele, SLCV'04; IJCV'08]

# Derivation: ISM Top-Down Segmentation

- Algorithm stages

1. Voting
2. Mean-shift search
3. Backprojection



- Vote weights: contribution of a single feature  $f$

$$p(f, \ell | o_n, x) = \frac{p(o_n, x | f, \ell) p(f, \ell)}{p(o_n, x)} = \frac{\sum_i p(o_n, x | C_i, \ell) p(C_i | f) p(f, \ell)}{p(o_n, x)}$$

- Figure-ground backprojection

$$p(\mathbf{p} = \text{figure} | o_n, x) = \sum_{\mathbf{p} \in (f, \ell)} \sum_i p(\mathbf{p} = \text{fig.} | o_n, x, C_i, \ell) \frac{p(o_n, x | C_i, \ell) p(C_i | f) p(f, \ell)}{p(o_n, x)}$$

Marginalize over all features containing pixel  $\mathbf{p}$

Fig./Gnd. label for each occurrence

Influence on object hypothesis

[Leibe, Leonardis, Schiele, SLCV'04; IJCV'08]

# Top-Down Segmentation Algorithm

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**Algorithm 5** The top-segmentation algorithm.

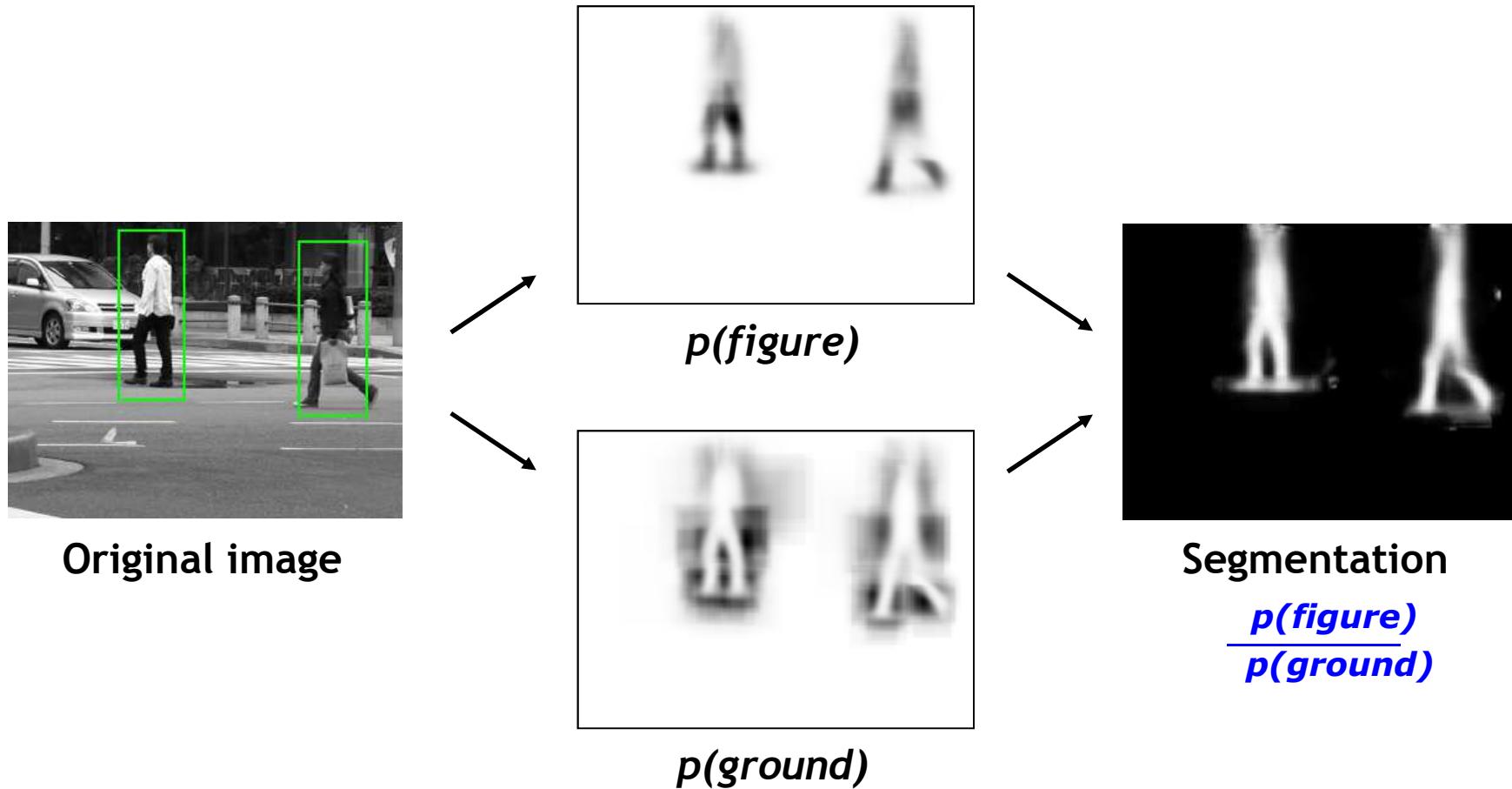
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```
// Given: hypothesis  $h$  and supporting votes  $\mathcal{V}_h$ .
for all supporting votes  $(x, w, occ, \ell) \in \mathcal{V}_h$  do
    Let  $img_{mask}$  be the segmentation mask corresponding to  $occ$ .
    Let  $sz$  be the size at which the interest region  $\ell$  was sampled.
    Rescale  $img_{mask}$  to  $sz$ .
     $u_0 \leftarrow (\ell_x - \frac{1}{2}sz)$ 
     $v_0 \leftarrow (\ell_y - \frac{1}{2}sz)$ 
    for all  $u \in [0, sz - 1]$  do
        for all  $v \in [0, sz - 1]$  do
             $img_{pfig}(u - u_0, v - v_0) += w \cdot img_{mask}(u, v)$ 
             $img_{pgnd}(u - u_0, v - v_0) += w \cdot (1 - img_{mask}(u, v))$ 
        end for
    end for
end for
```

---

- This may sound quite complicated, but it boils down to a very simple algorithm...

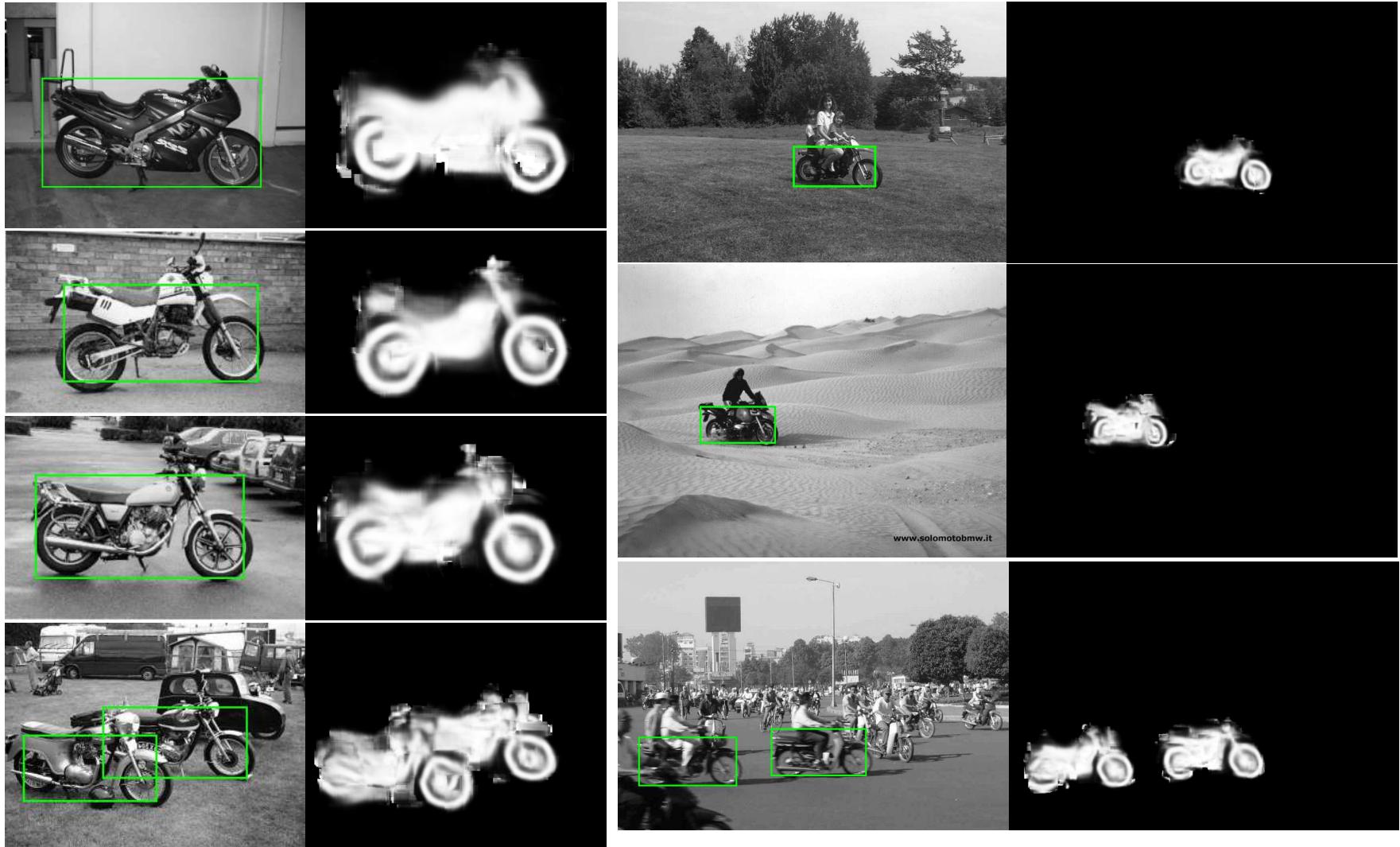
# Segmentation



- Interpretation of  $p(\text{figure})$  map
  - per-pixel confidence in object hypothesis
  - Use for hypothesis verification

[Leibe, Leonardis, Schiele, SLCV'04; IJCV'08]

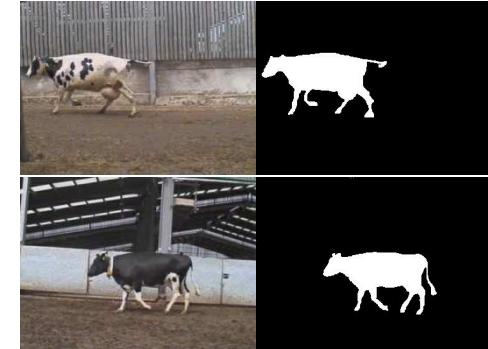
# Example Results: Motorbikes



[Leibe, Leonardis, Schiele, SLCV'04; IJCV'08]

# Example Results: Cows

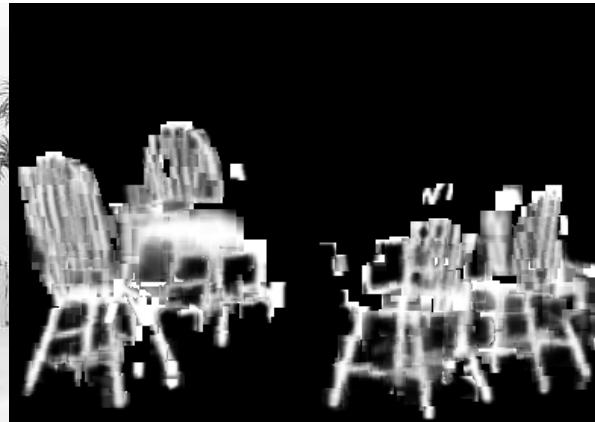
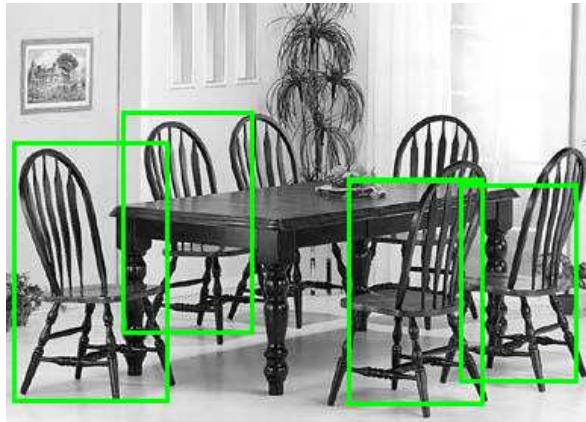
- Training
  - 112 hand-segmented images
- Results on novel sequences:



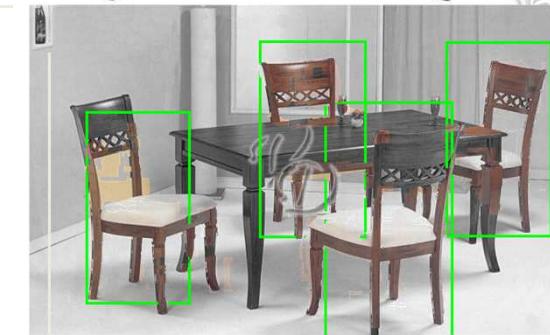
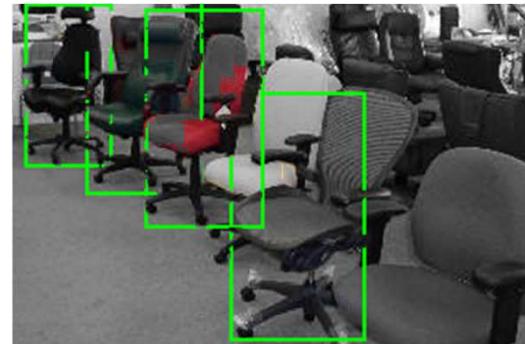
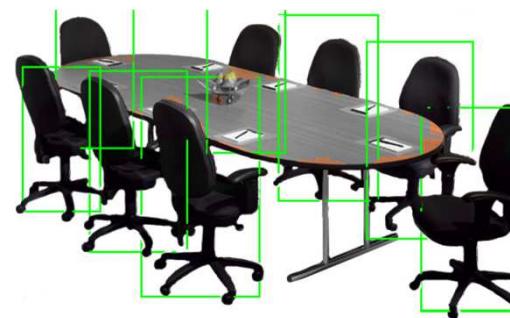
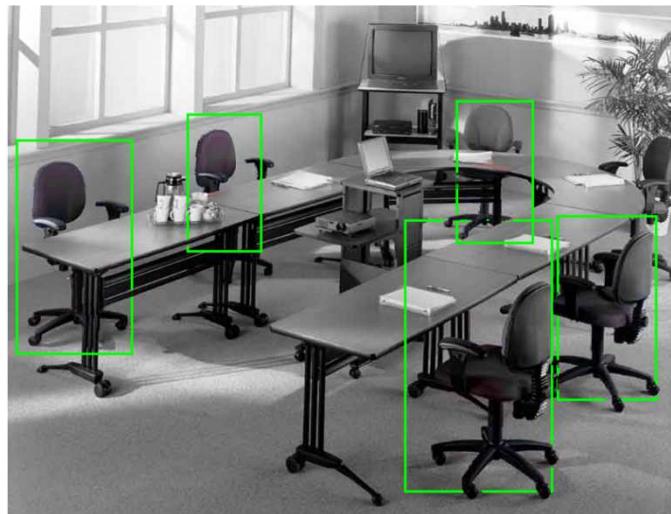
Single-frame recognition - No temporal continuity used!

[Leibe, Leonardis, Schiele, SLCV'04; IJCV'08]

# Example Results: Chairs



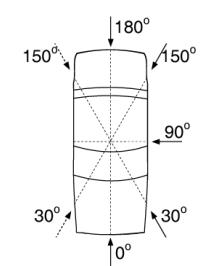
Dining room chairs



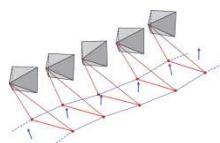
Office chairs

Source: Bastian Leibe

# Detections Using Ground Plane Constraints



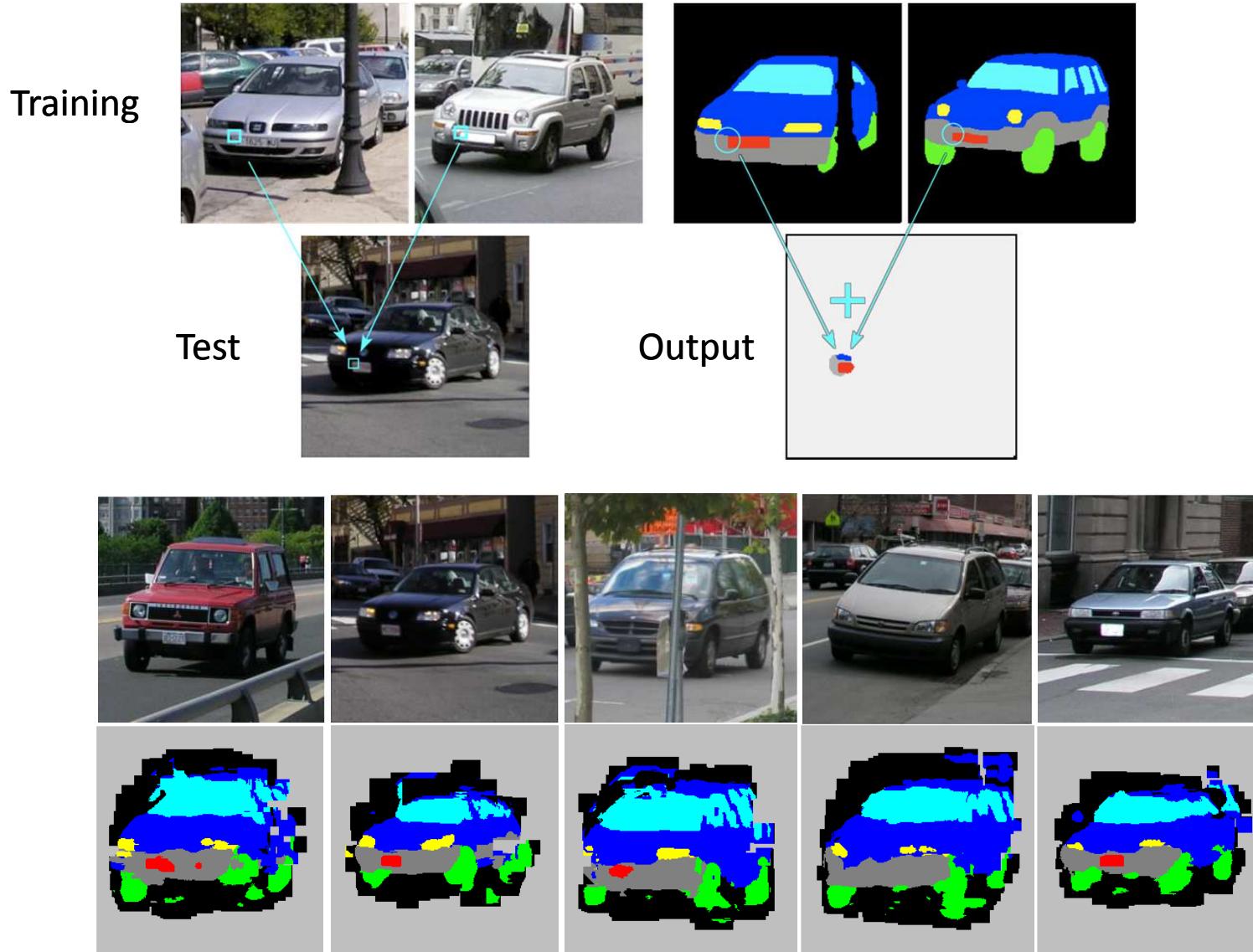
Battery of 5  
ISM detectors  
for different  
car views



left camera  
1175 frames

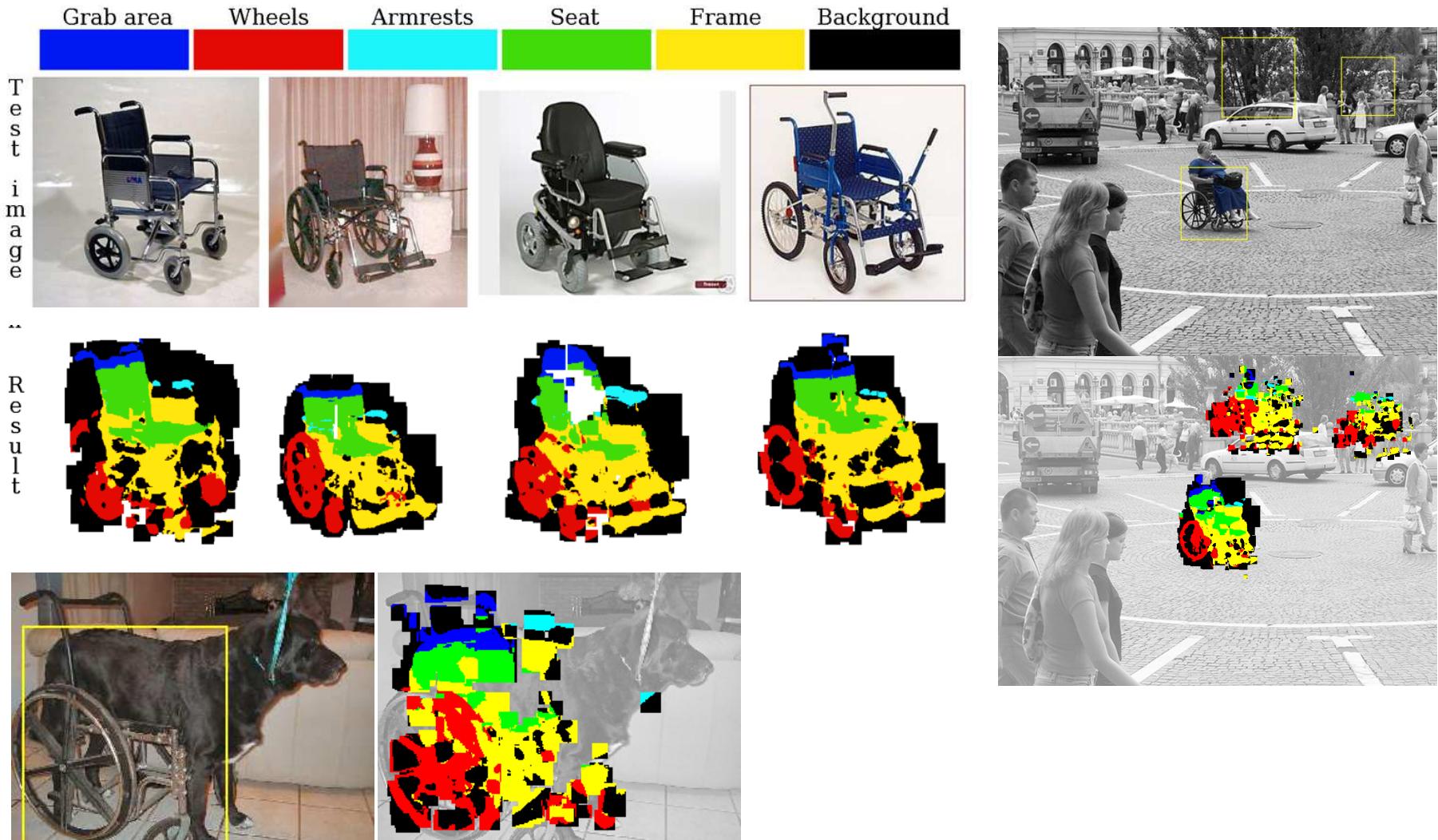
[Leibe, Leonardis, Schiele, SLCV'04; IJCV'08]

# Inferring Other Information: Part Labels (1)



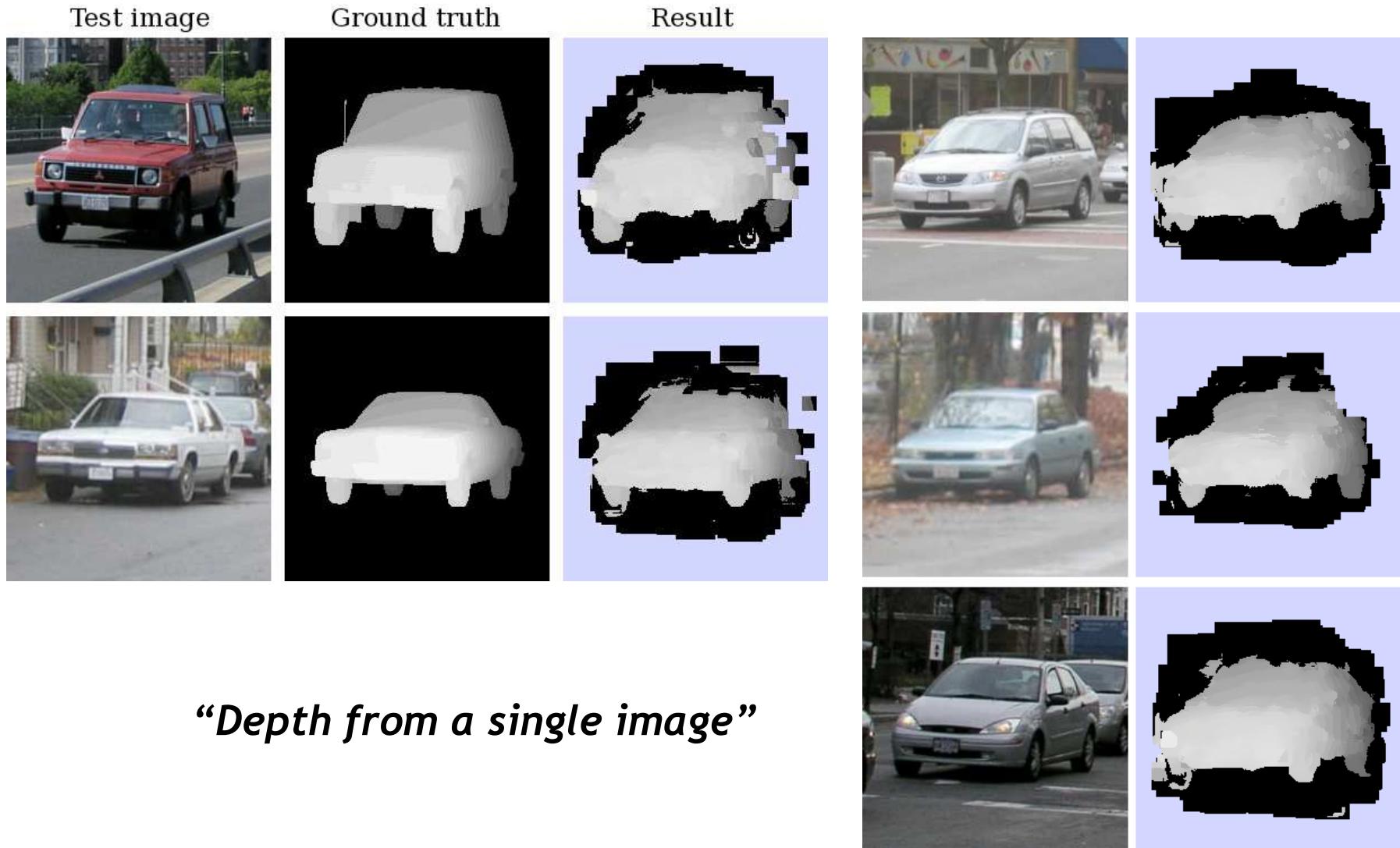
[Thomas, Ferrari, Tuytelaars, Leibe, Van Gool, 3DRR'07; RSS'08]

# Inferring Other Information: Part Labels (2)



[Thomas, Ferrari, Tuytelaars, Leibe, Van Gool, 3DRR'07; RSS'08]

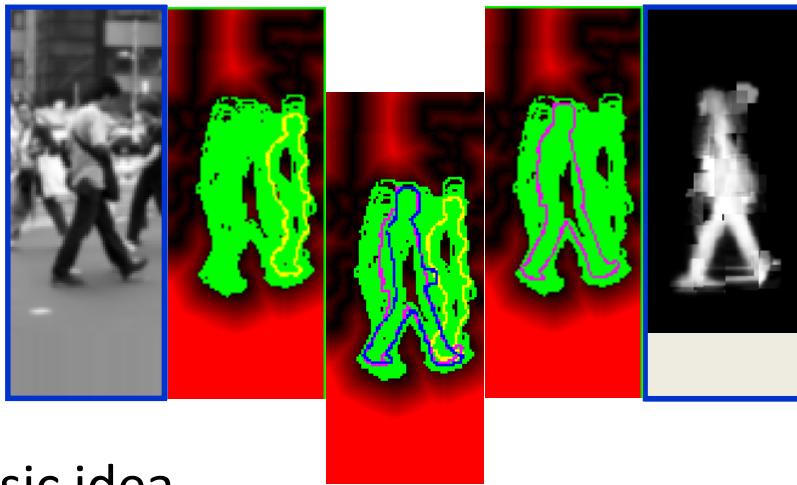
# Inferring Other Information: Depth Maps



[Thomas, Ferrari, Tuytelaars, Leibe, Van Gool, 3DRR’07; RSS’08]

# Extension: Estimating Articulation

- Try to fit silhouette to detected person

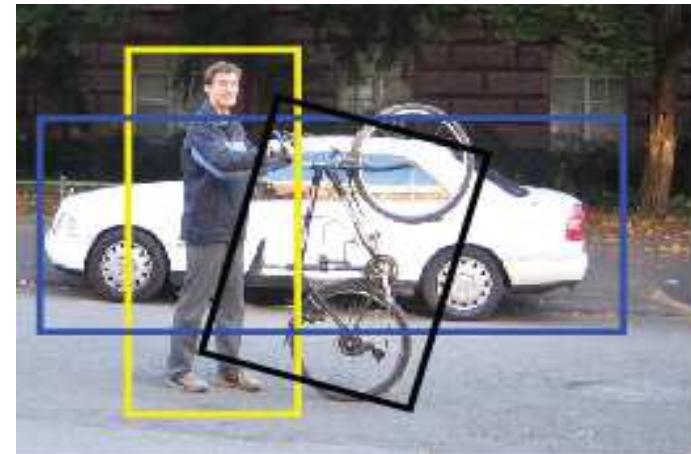
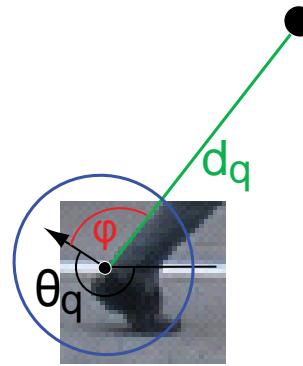
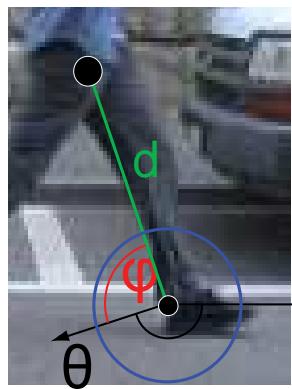


- Basic idea
  - Search for the silhouette that simultaneously optimizes the
    - Chamfer match to the distance-transformed edge image
    - Overlap with the top-down segmentation
  - Enforces global consistency
  - Caveat: introduces again reliance on global model

[Leibe, Seemann, Schiele, CVPR'05]

# Extension: Rotation-Invariant Detection

- Polar instead of Cartesian voting scheme



- Benefits:
  - Recognize objects under image-plane rotations
  - Possibility to share parts between articulations.
- Caveats:
  - Rotation invariance should only be used when it's really needed.  
(Also increases false positive detections)

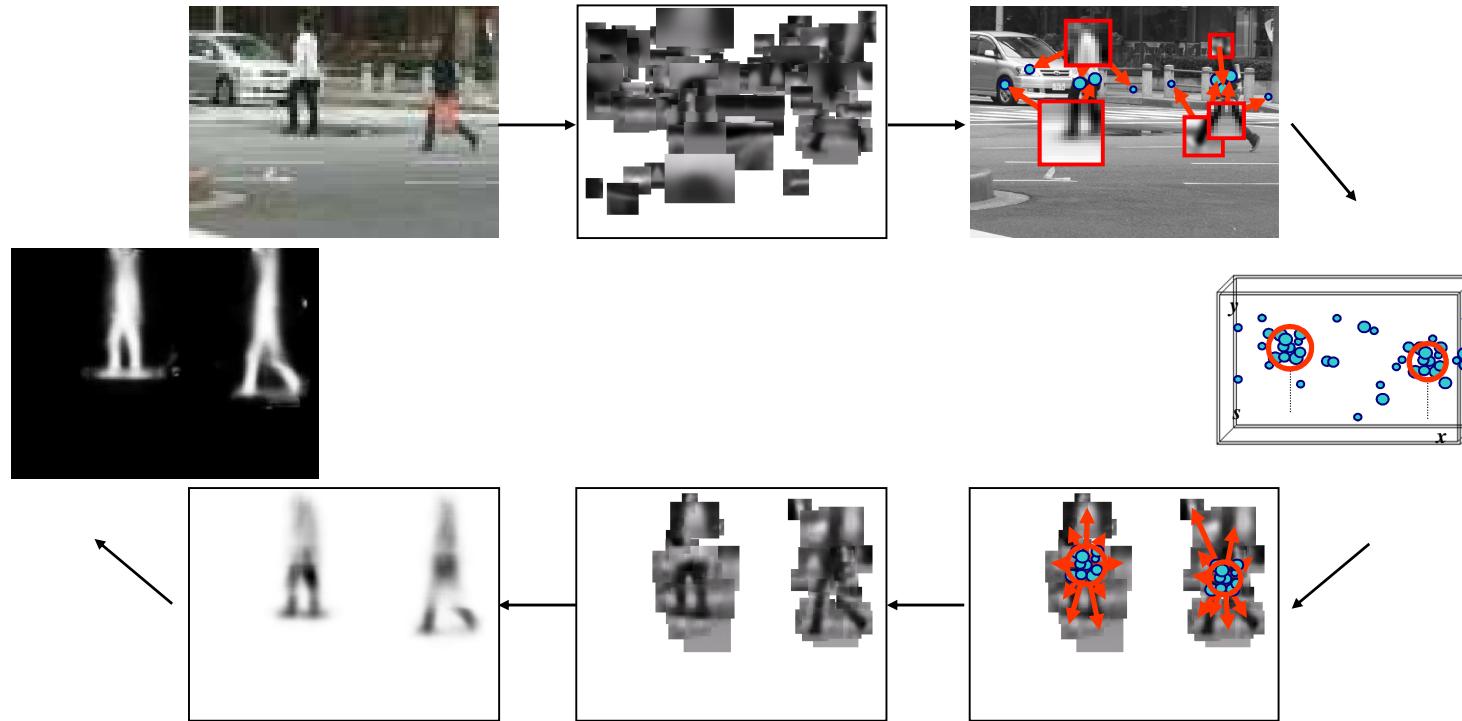
[Mikolajczyk, Leibe, Schiele, CVPR'06]

# Sometimes, Rotation Invariance Is Needed...



[Mikolajczyk et al., CVPR'06]

# You Can Try It At Home...

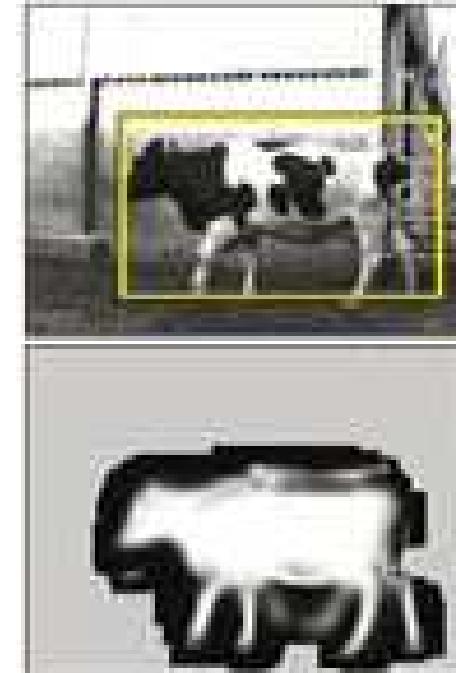


- Linux binaries available
  - Including datasets & several pre-trained detectors
  - <http://www.vision.ee.ethz.ch/bleibe/code>

Source: Bastian Leibe

# Discussion: Implicit Shape Model

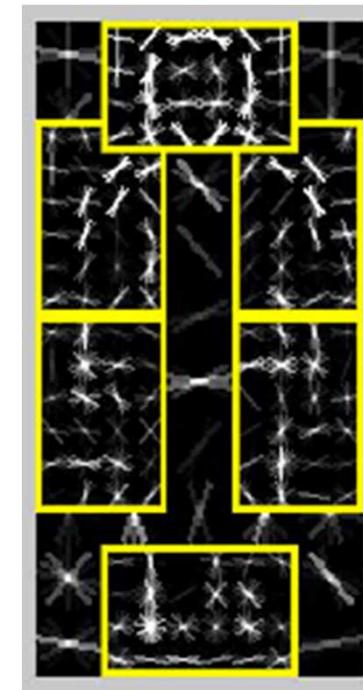
- Pros:
  - Works well for many different object categories
    - Both rigid and articulated objects
  - Flexible geometric model
    - Can recombine parts seen on different training examples
  - Learning from relatively few (50-100) training examples
  - Optimized for detection, good localization properties
- Cons:
  - Needs supervised training data
    - Object bounding boxes for detection
    - Reference segmentations for top-down segm.
  - Only weak geometric constraints
    - Result segmentations may contain superfluous body parts.
  - Purely representative model
    - No discriminative learning



Source: Bastian Leibe

# What we will learn today?

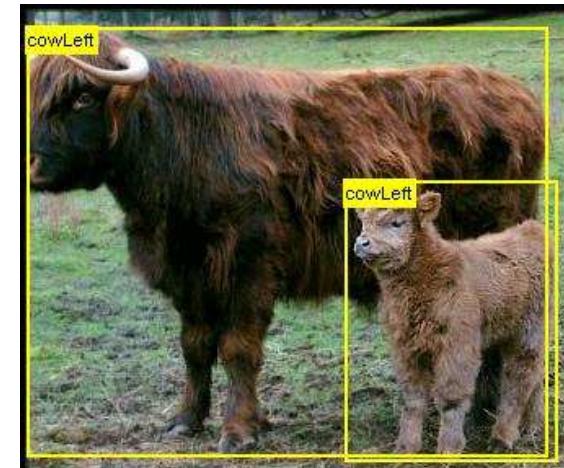
- Implicit Shape Model
  - Representation
  - Recognition
  - Experiments and results
- Deformable Models
  - The PASCAL challenge
  - Latent SVM Model



# Object Detection

## – the PASCAL Challenge

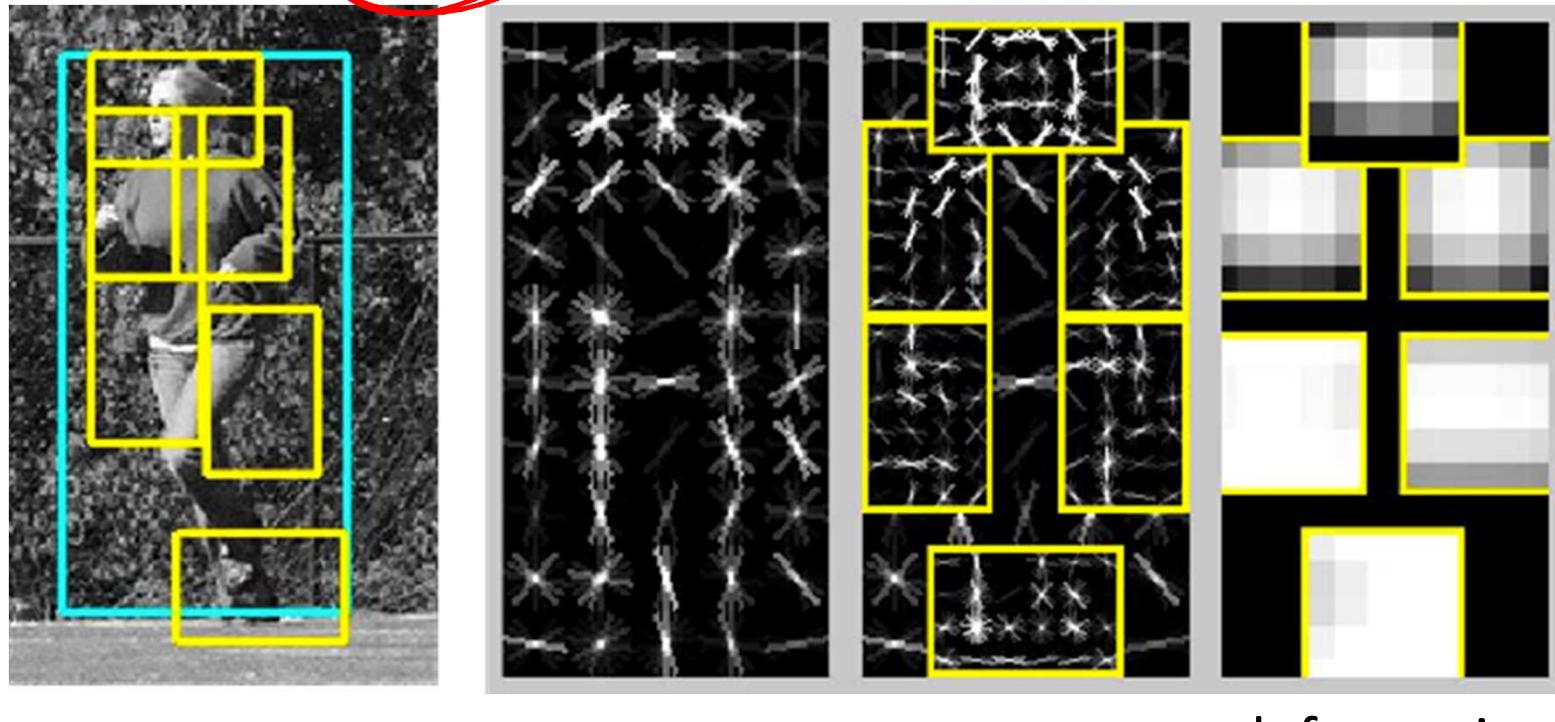
- ~10,000 images, with ~25,000 target objects.
  - Objects from 20 categories (person, car, bicycle, cow, table...).
  - Objects are annotated with labeled bounding boxes.



Source: Pedro Felzenswalb



# Latent SVM Model: an Overview



detection

root filter

part filters

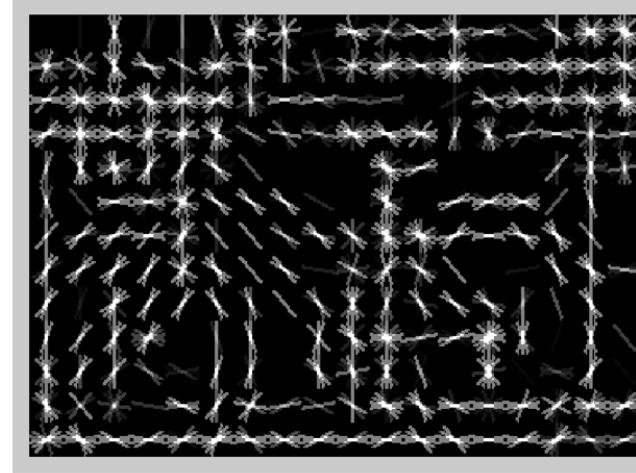
deformation  
models

- very similar to the constellation model

Source: Pedro Felzenszwalb

$\approx$  SIFT

# Histogram of Oriented Gradient (HOG) Features

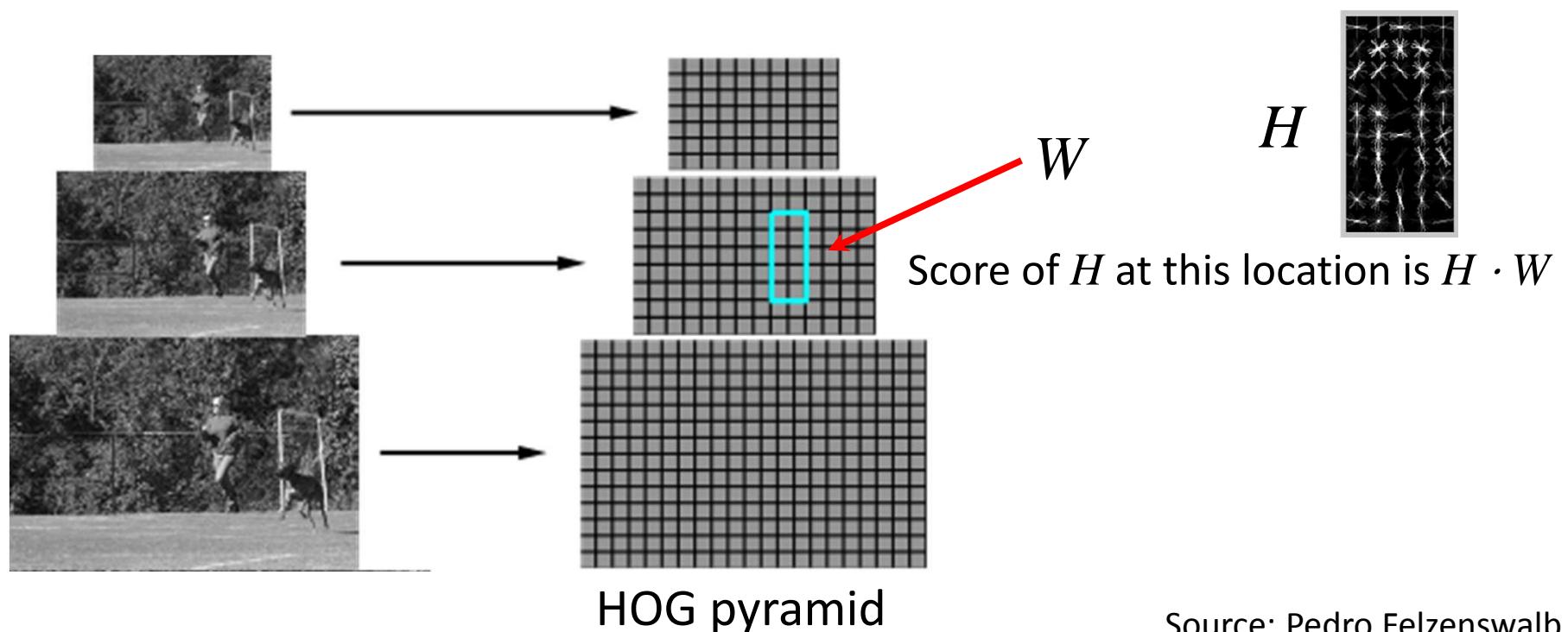


- Image is partitioned into 8x8 pixel blocks.
- In each block we compute a histogram of gradient orientations.
  - **Invariant** to changes in lighting, small deformations, etc.
- We compute features at different resolutions (pyramid).

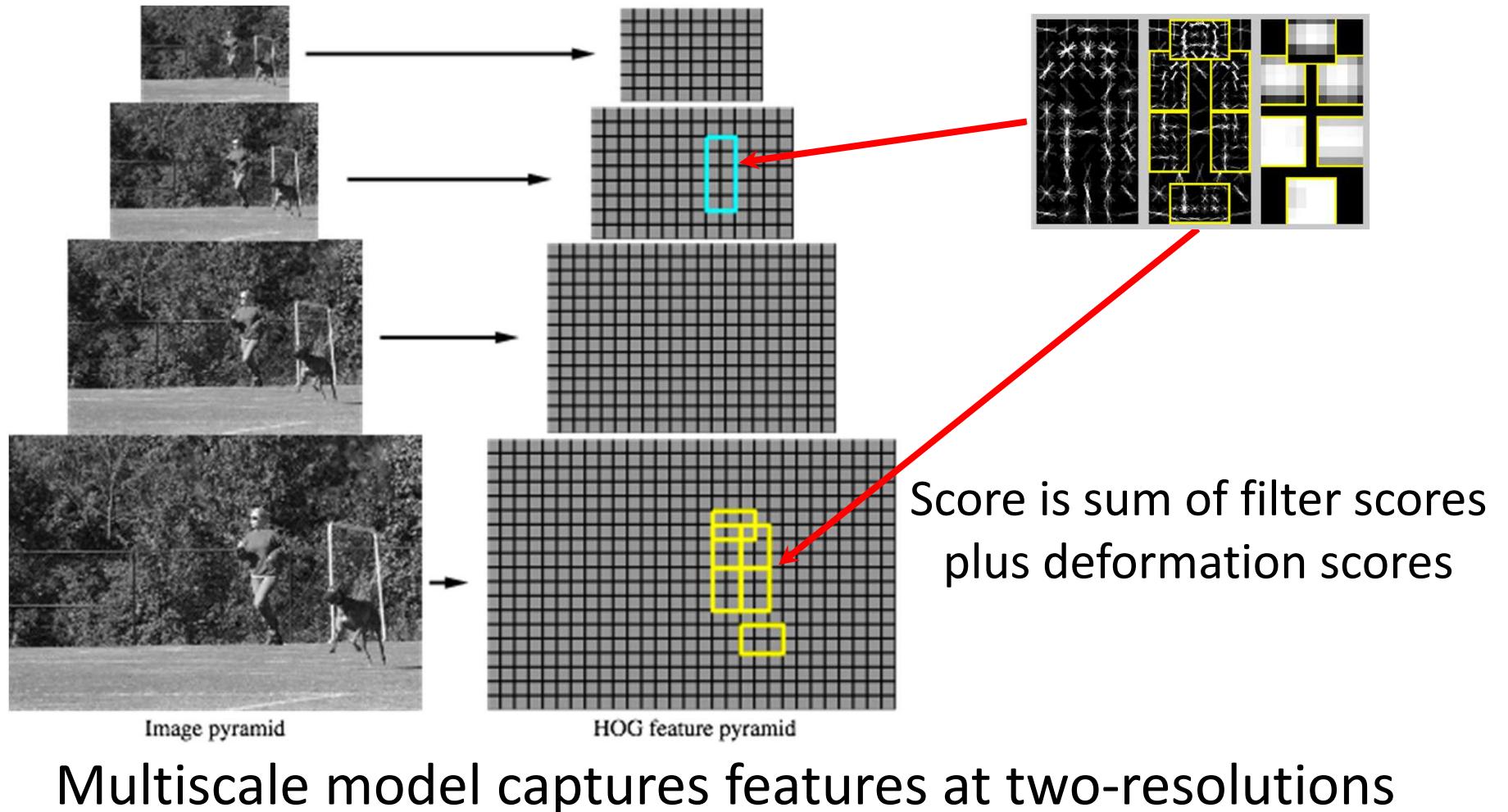
Source: Pedro Felzenswalb

# Filters

- Filters are rectangular templates defining weights for features.
- Score is dot product of filter and subwindow of HOG pyramid.



# Object Hypothesis

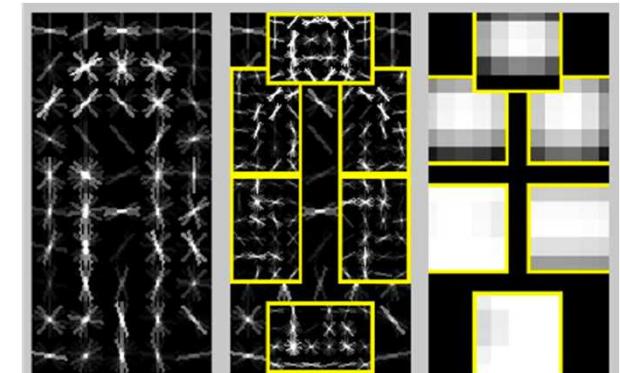


# Training the Latent SVM Model

- Training data consists of images with labeled bounding boxes.
- Need to learn the model structure, filters and deformation costs.



Training →



Source: Pedro Felzenswalb

# Connection with Linear Classifiers

- Score of model is sum of filter scores plus deformation scores
  - Bounding box in training data specifies that the score should be high for some placement in a range

**Standard SVM**

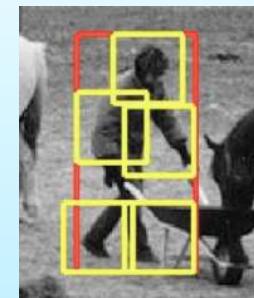


$$f_w(x) = w \cdot \Phi(x)$$

Weight vector

Features

**Latent SVM**



$w$  is a model  
 $x$  is a detection window  
 $z$  are filter placements

$$f_w(x) = \max_z w \cdot \Phi(x, z)$$

Concatenation of filters and deformation parameters

Concatenation of features and part displacements

# Latent SVM Training

$$f_w(x) = \max_z w \cdot \Phi(x, z)$$

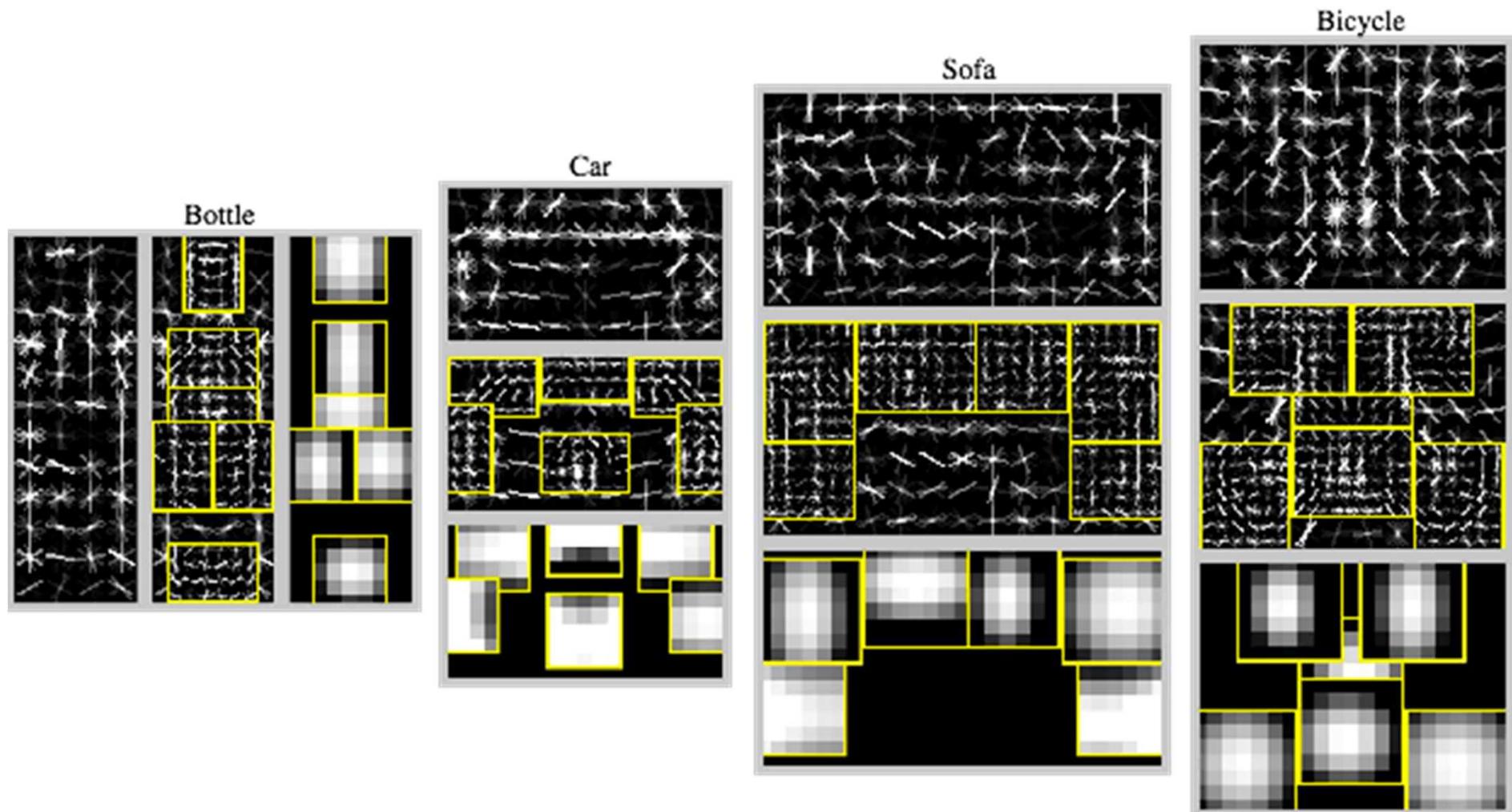
Linear in  $w$  if  $z$  is fixed      Observed variables      Latent variables

- Semi-convex optimization problem
  - $f_w(x) = \max_z w \cdot \Phi(x, z)$  is convex in  $w$
  - convex if we fix  $z$  for **positive** examples
- Iterative optimization procedure:
  - Initialize  $w$
  - Iterate:
    - Pick best  $z$  for each positive example
    - Optimize  $w$  via gradient descent with data mining

# Latent SVM Training: Initializing $w$

- For  $k$  component mixture model:
  - Split examples into  $k$  sets based on bounding box aspect ratio
- Learn  $k$  root filters using standard SVM
  - Training data: Warped positive examples and random windows from negative images (Dalal & Triggs)
- Initialize parts by selecting patches from root filters:
  - Sub-windows with strong coefficients
  - Interpolate to get higher resolution filters
  - Initialize spatial model using fixed spring constants

# Learned Models

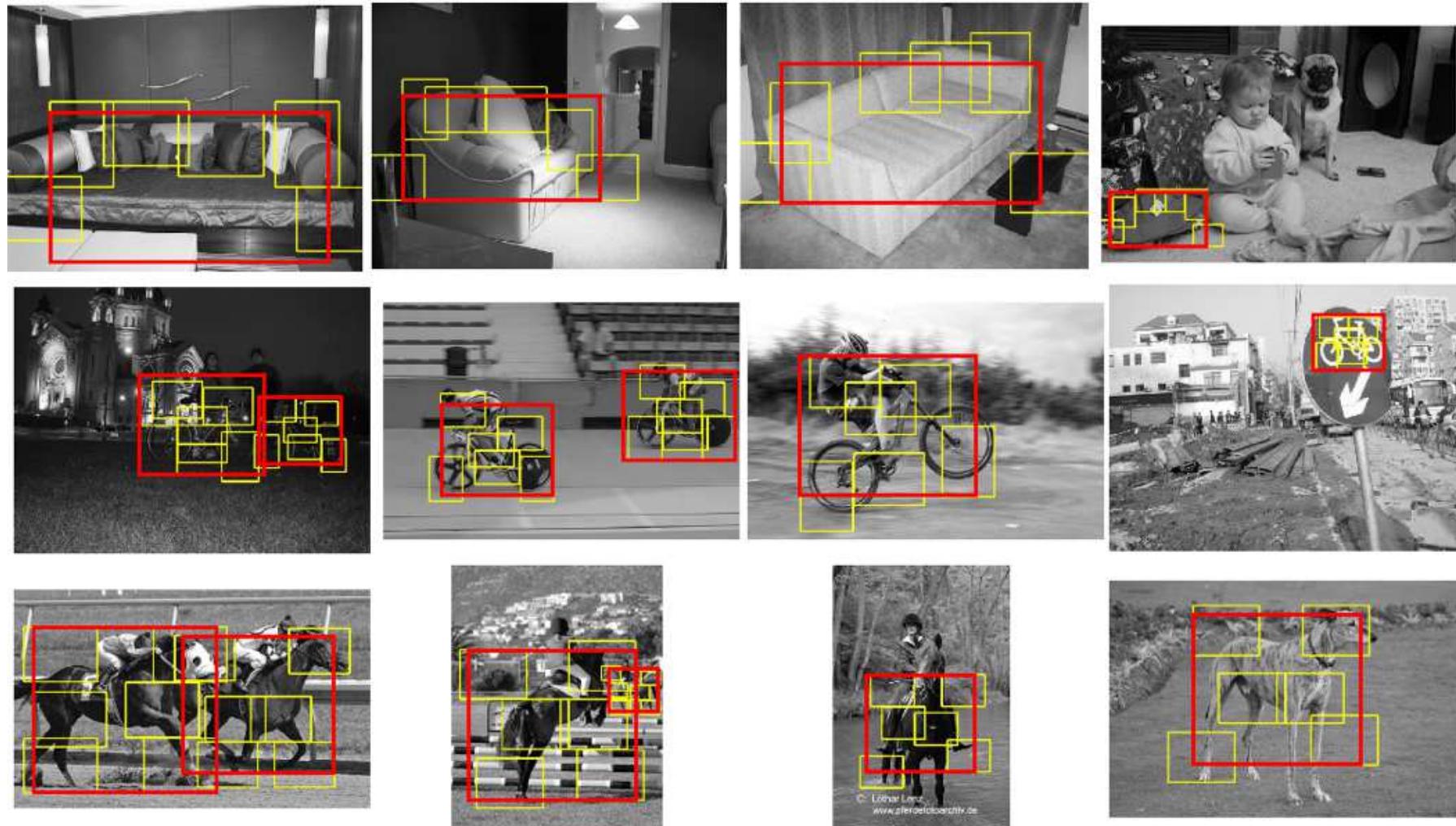


# Example Results



Source: Pedro Felzenswalb

# More Results



# Quantitative Results

- 9 systems competed in the 2007 challenge.
- Out of 20 classes:
  - First place in 10 classes
  - Second place in 6 classes
- Some statistics:
  - It takes ~2 seconds to evaluate a model in one image.
  - It takes ~3 hours to train a model.
  - MUCH faster than most systems.

Source: Pedro Felzenswalb

# Code for Latent SVM

Source code for the system and models  
trained on PASCAL 2006, 2007 and 2008  
data are available at:

<http://www.cs.uchicago.edu/~pff/latent>

Source: Pedro Felzenswalb

# Summary

- Deformable models provide an elegant framework for object detection and recognition.
  - Efficient algorithms for matching models to images.
  - Applications: pose estimation, medical image analysis, object recognition, etc.
- We can learn models from partially labeled data.
  - Generalized standard ideas from machine learning.
  - Leads to state-of-the-art results in PASCAL challenge.
- Future work: hierarchical models, grammars, 3D objects.

Source: Pedro Felzenswalb

# What we have learned today

- Implicit Shape Model
  - Representation
  - Recognition
  - Experiments and results
- Deformable Models
  - The PASCAL challenge
  - Latent SVM Model