

Action Search: Spotting Actions in Videos and Its Application to Temporal Action Localization



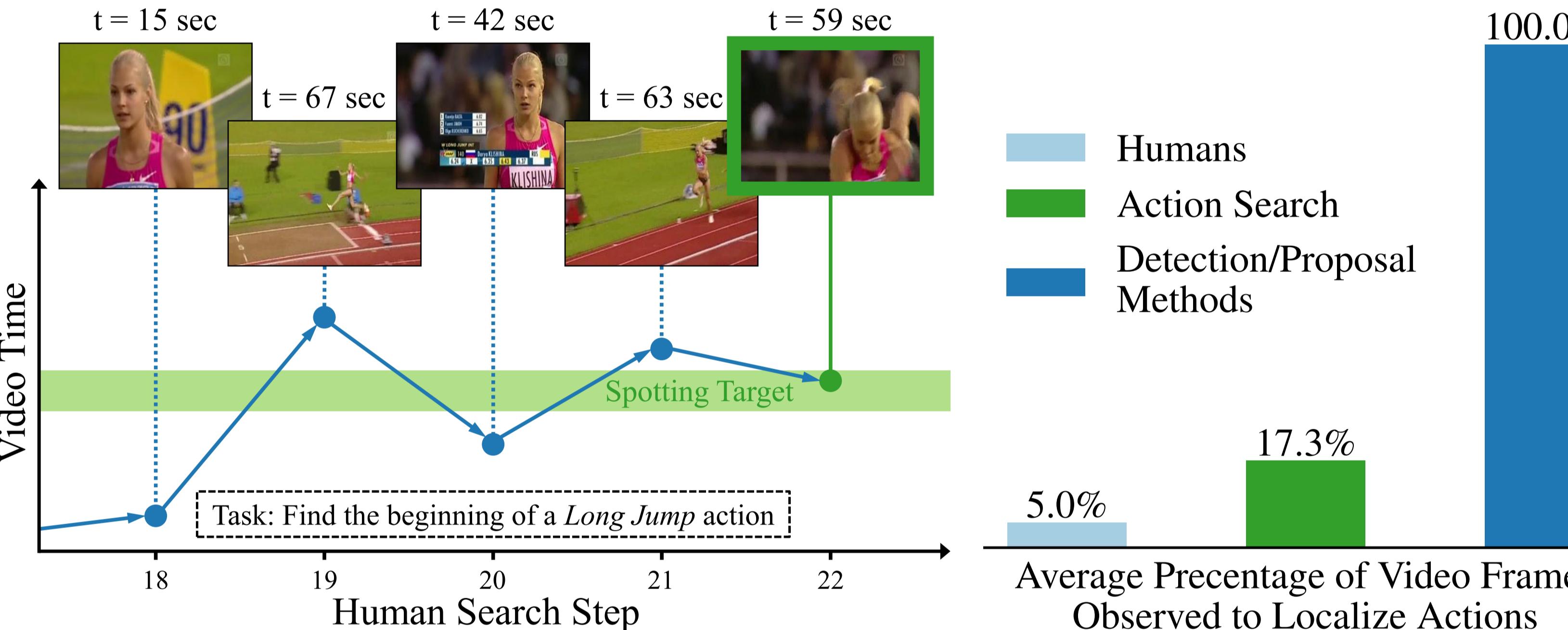
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Motivation: Need for Efficiency

- Current algorithms search exhaustively for actions in videos, but Humans only observe 5%.
- Action Spotting:** finding an action while observing as little as possible of the video.



Action Spotting: What do Humans do?

Q1: action spotting vs. localization

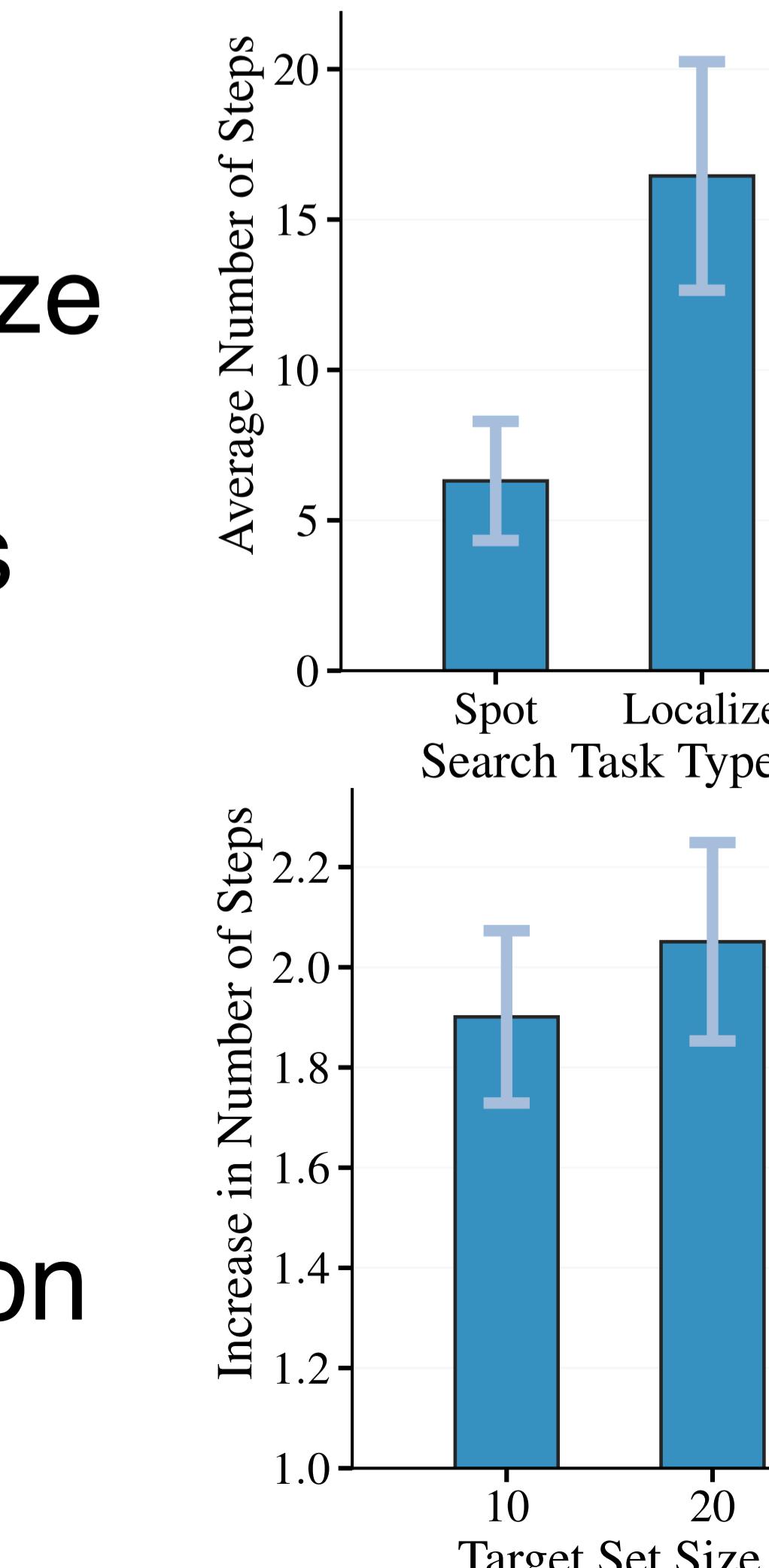
A1: 3x more search steps to localize

Q2: spotting one vs. many classes

A2: Spotting is more efficient with a smaller number of classes

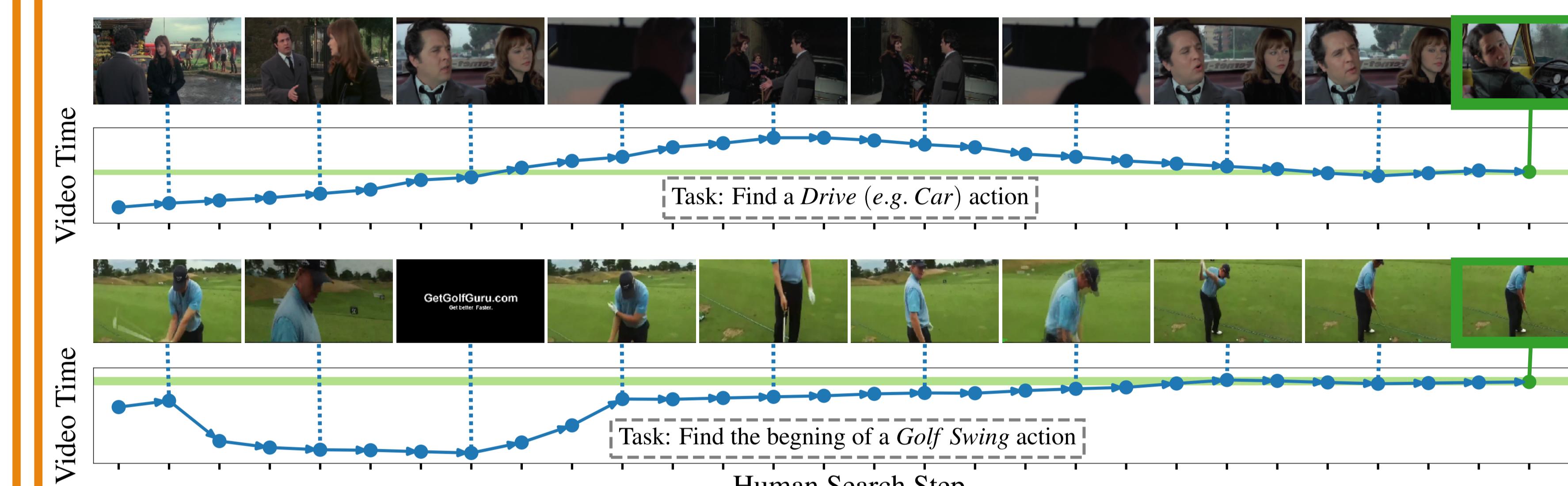
Observations: action spotting

- is a valid precursor to localization
- should be class-specific

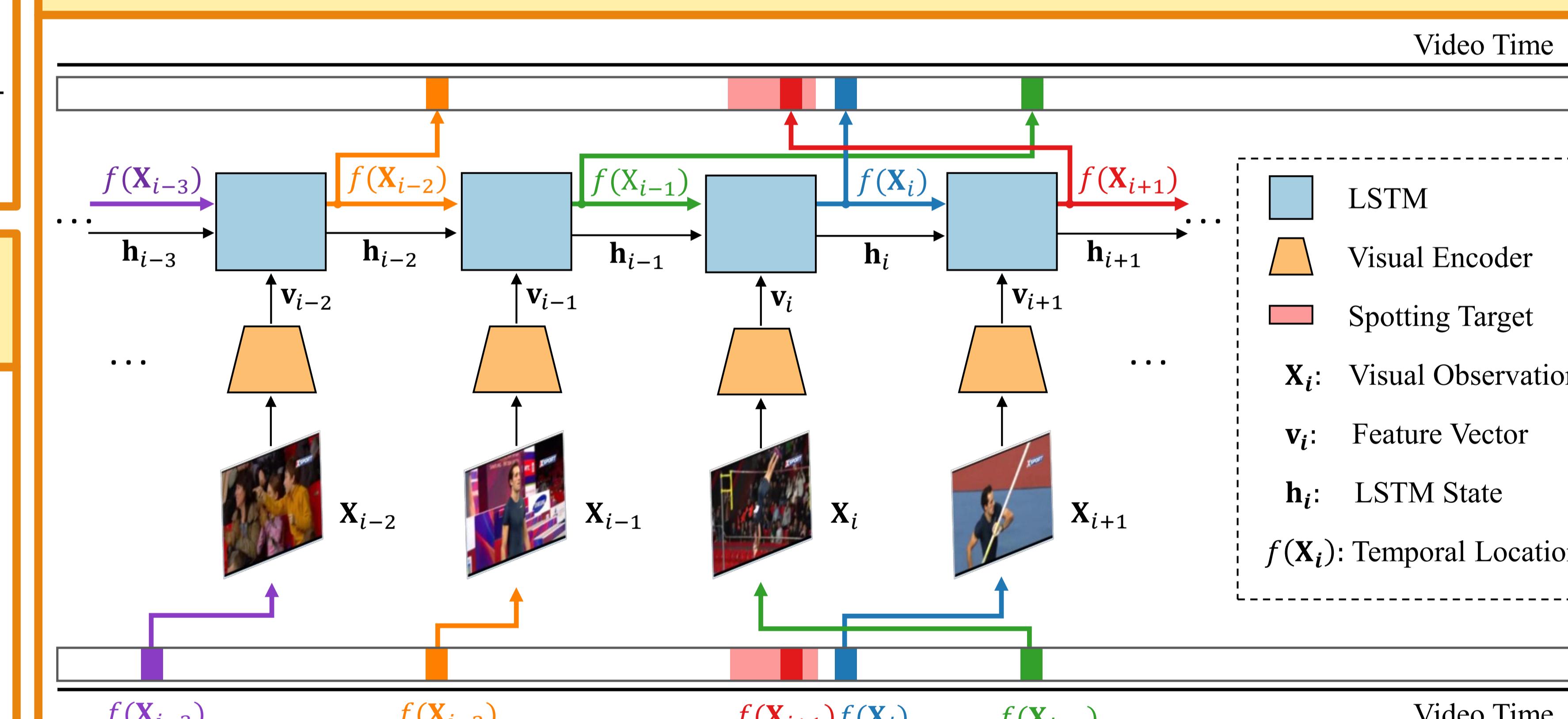


Human Searches Dataset

- Human search sequences on AVA & THUMOS14



Proposed Action Search Model



$$L = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n H_\delta(y_i, f(X_i)),$$

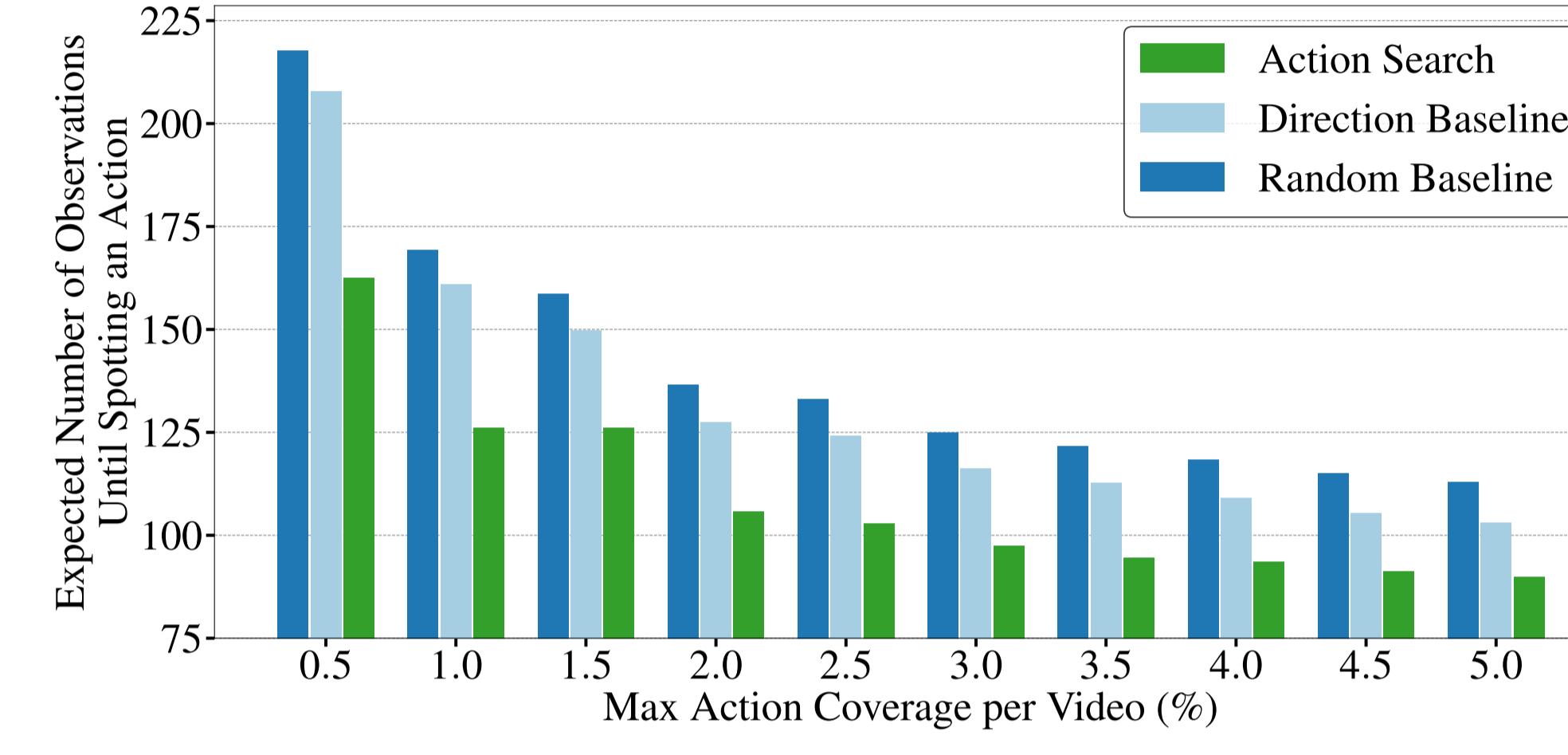
$$H_\delta(y, f(X)) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}(y - f(X))^2, & |y - f(X)| \leq \delta \\ \delta|y - f(X)| - \frac{1}{2}\delta^2, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

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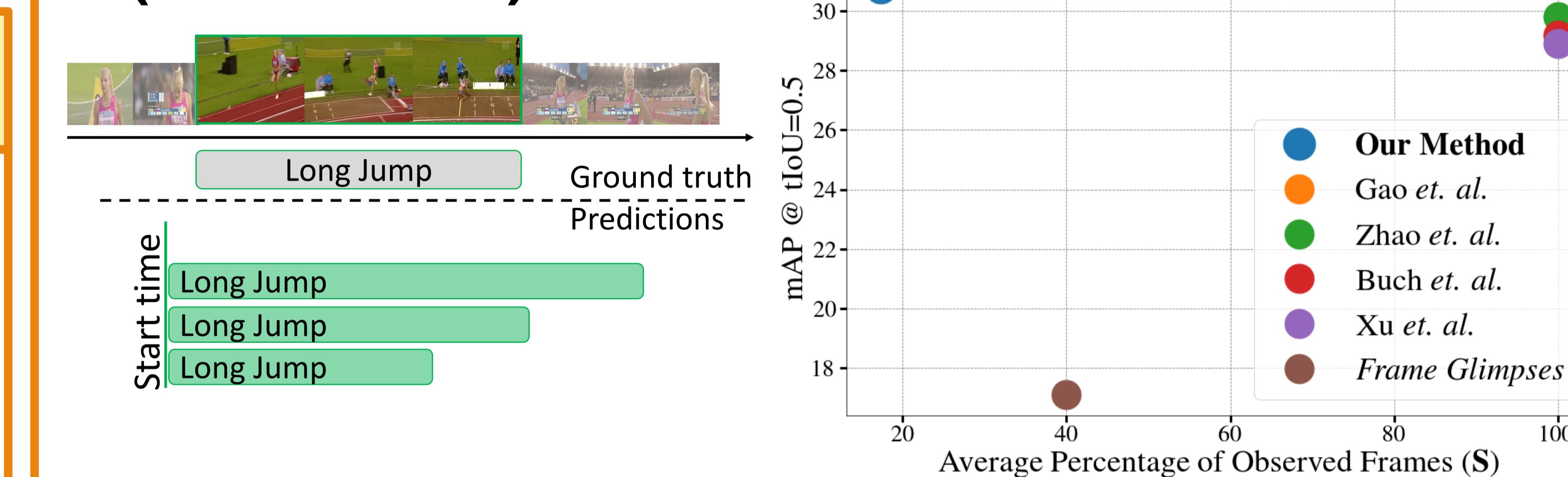
Experiments

- Action Search for Action Spotting (AVA)**

Model	Search Step	
	Direction	Length
Random Baseline	Random	Random
Direction Baseline	Learned	Random
Action Search	Learned	Learned



- Action Search for Action Localization (THUMOS14)**



Qualitative Results

