

Object Proposal

Siyang Li

Advisor: C-C Jay Kuo



Outline

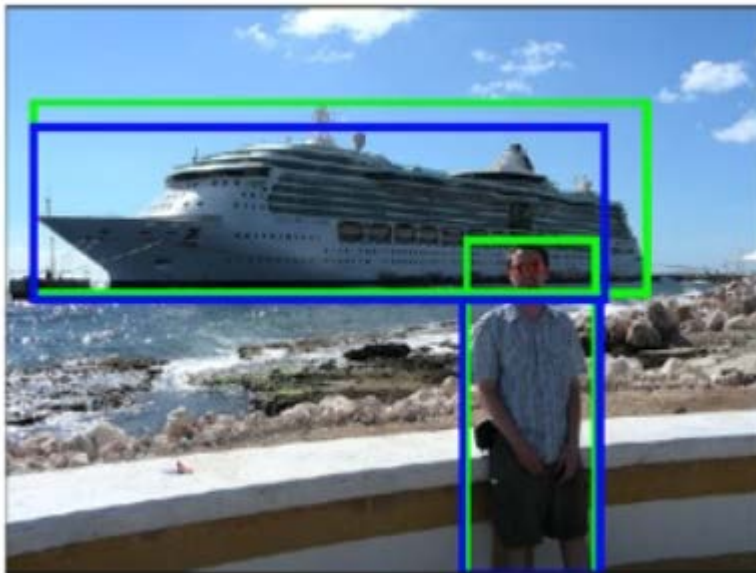
- Problem definition
- Motivation
- History
- Challenges
- Evaluation
- Popular approaches
- Recent work
- Future research

Problem definition

- What is object proposal?
 - Find a small set of **regions** that are highly likely to contain objects
 - The proposed regions are **category-independent usually**, but **category-dependent proposals are possible**

Problem definition

- Proposals as bounding boxes
- Proposals as segmentation masks



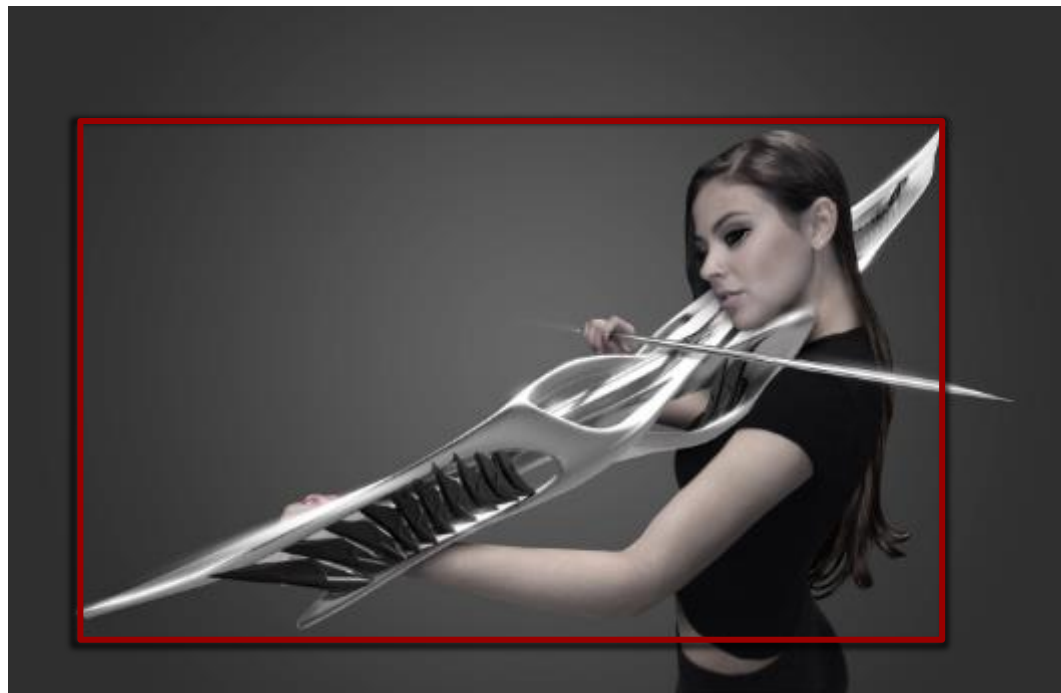
Motivation

➤ Observations

- All object of interest **share common visual properties** that distinguish them from the background
- Human have the ability to localize objects without recognizing them

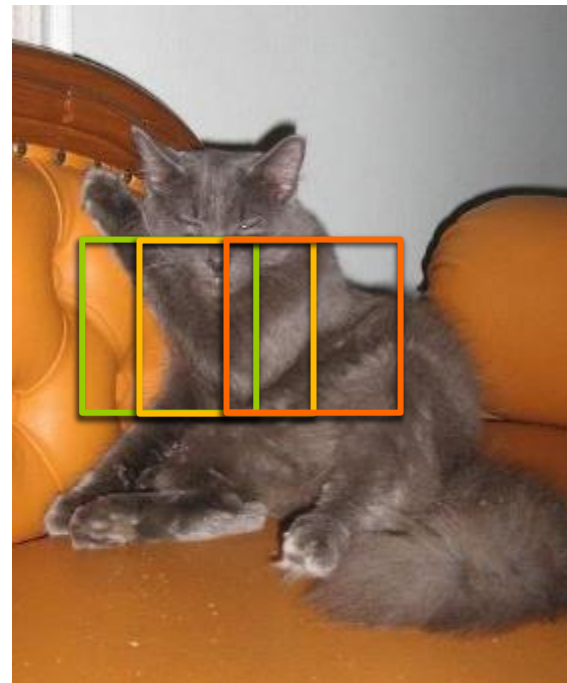
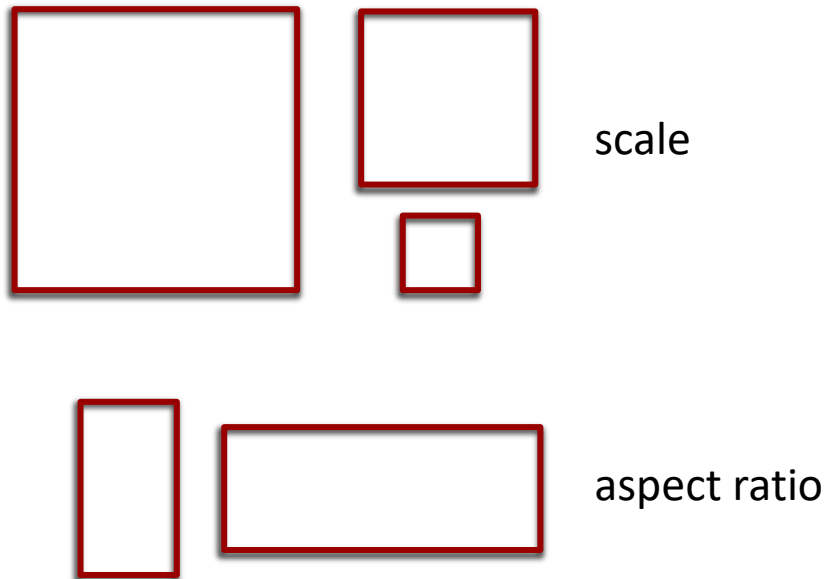
Motivation

- In the following images, you can find the strange instrument as an object without knowing what it exactly is.



Motivation

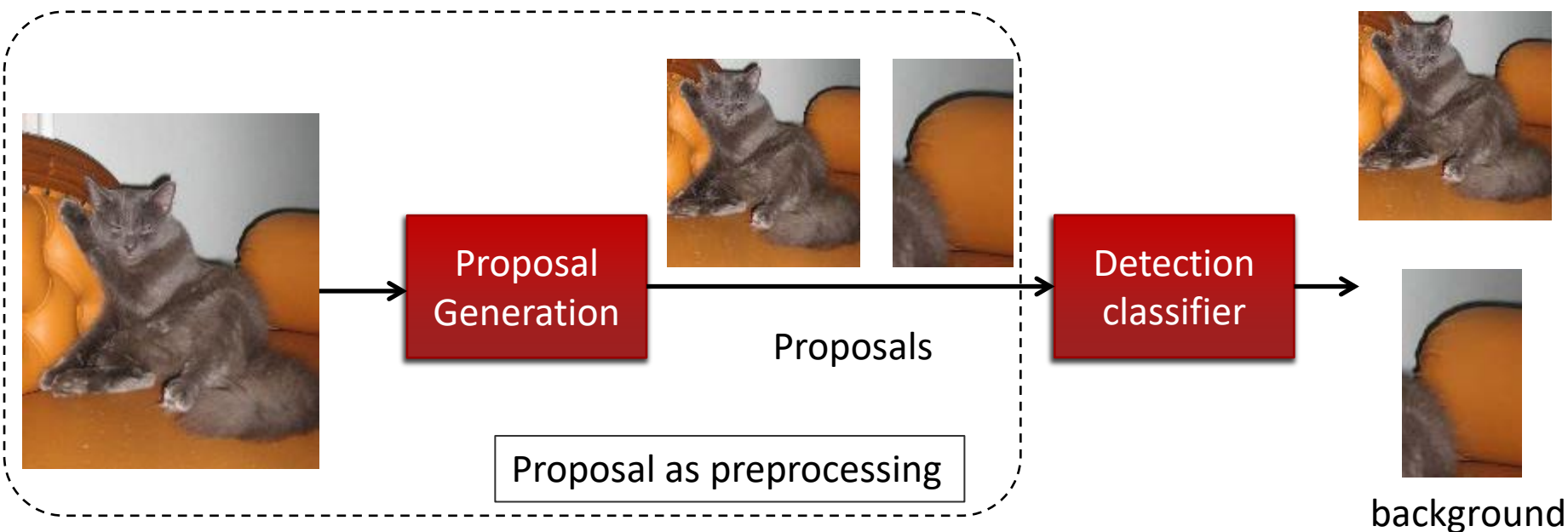
- Problems with traditional detectors
 - Sliding windows paradigm
 - About **a million windows** to evaluate per image



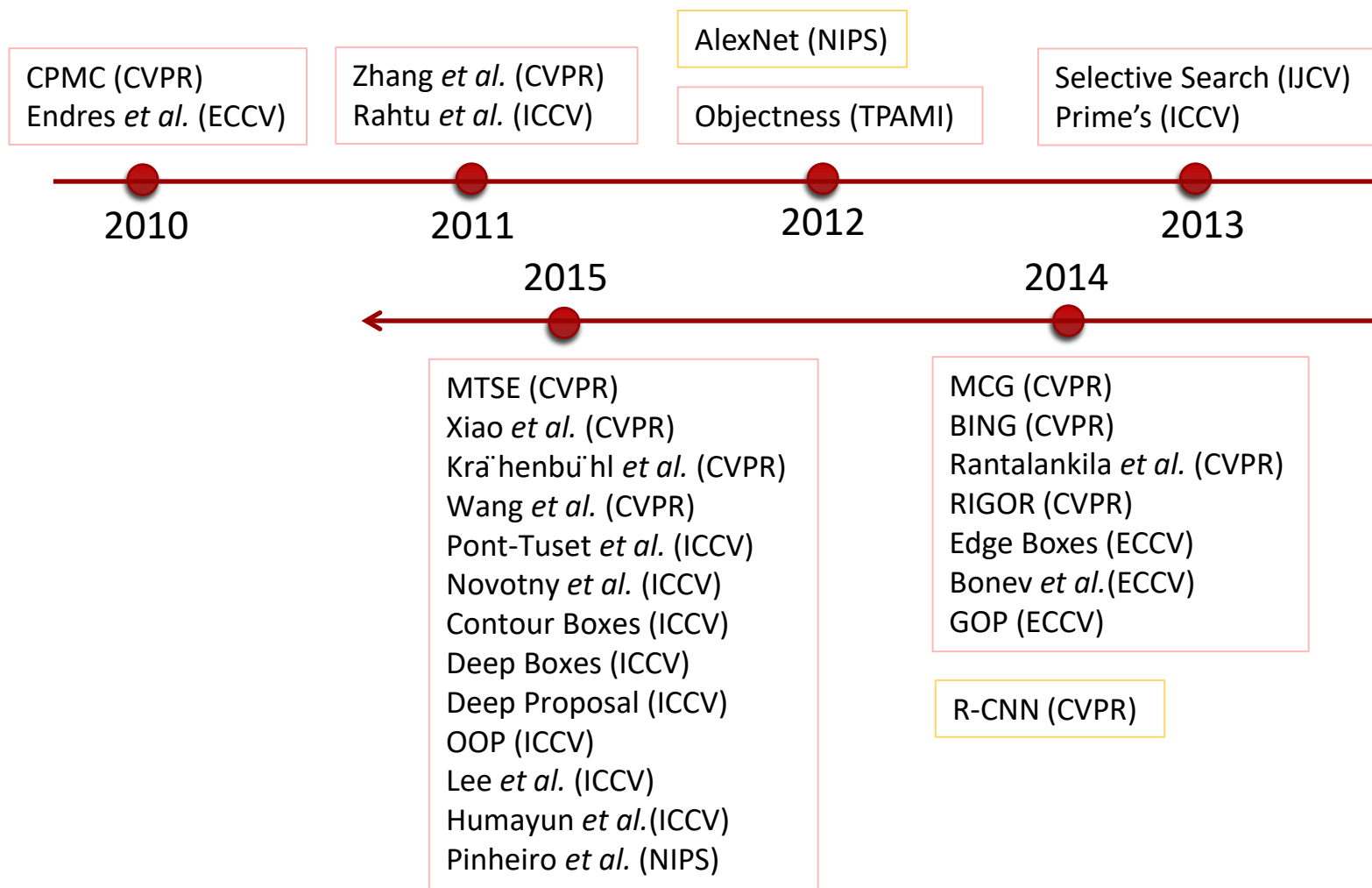
location

Motivation

- Object proposal serves as a pre-processing step
 - Do not propose obvious false window
 - Enable more complex classifier such as CNN detectors



History



Challenges

➤ Size variation



Small objects



Large objects

Challenges

➤ Illumination change



Challenges

➤ Occlusion



Person, chair



Person, laptop, bed

Evaluation

- A good proposal approach should
 - Achieve **high recall** (detection rate) given required localization accuracy
 - Generate a **small number** of proposals (~1000)
 - Obtain a **high computation efficiency**
 - Generalize **across object categories**

Evaluation

➤ Recall (detection rate)

➤ Overlap

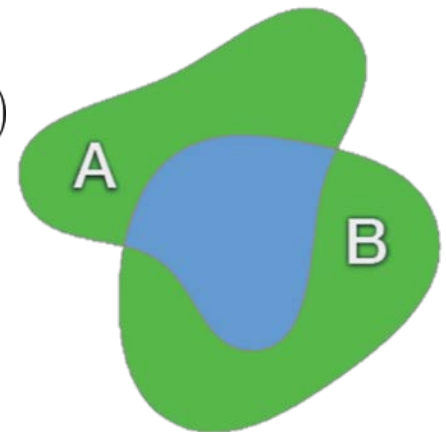
(Localization accuracy)

$$IoU(A, B) = \frac{A \cap B}{A \cup B}$$

➤ Best overlap $b(O_k) = \max_P \{IoU(O_k, P)\}$

➤ Average best overlap $\frac{1}{N} \sum_k b(O_k)$

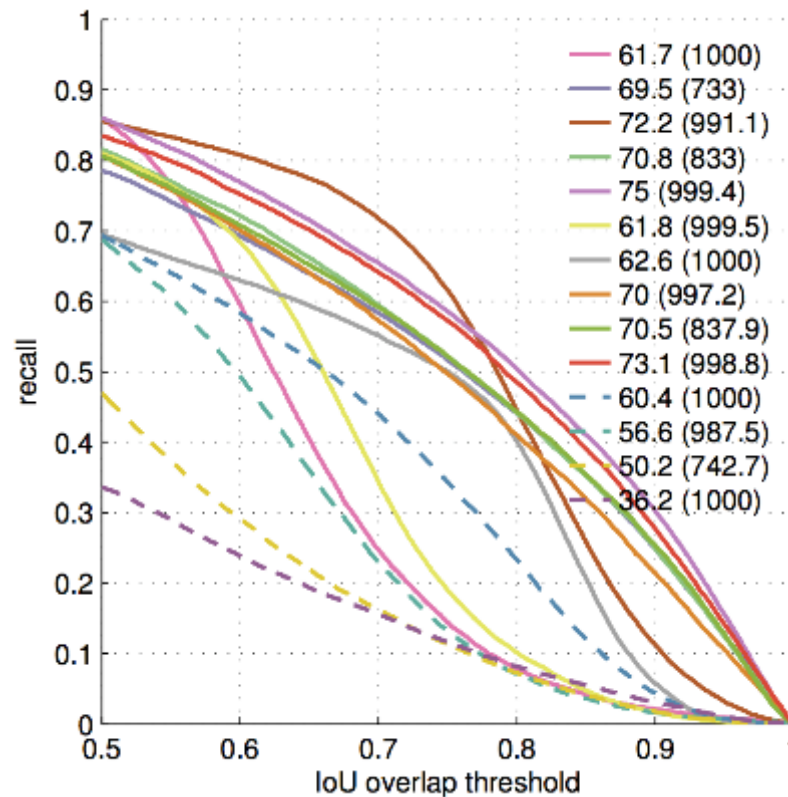
➤ Recall@alpha $\frac{1}{N} \sum_k [b(O_k) > \alpha]$



Evaluation

➤ Accuracy of localization

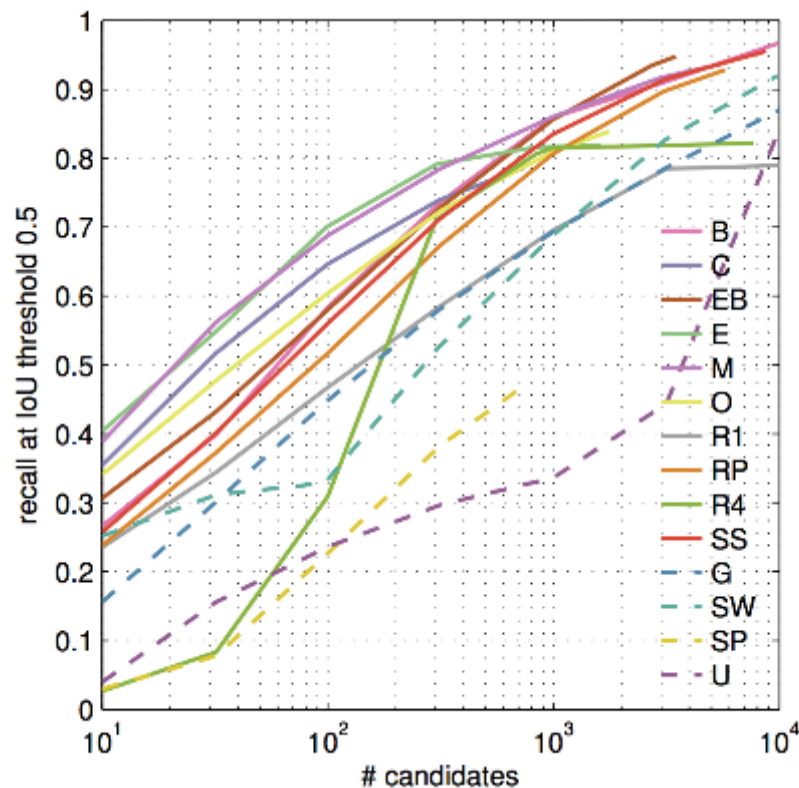
➤ **Recall vs. alpha** with a fixed number of proposals



Evaluation

➤ The number of proposals

➤ **Recall@fixed alpha vs. #proposals**



Evaluation

- Computation efficiency
 - # seconds needed for an image (secs/image)
 - # images can be processed in one second (FPS)

Evaluation

- Generalization across objects
 - Split the dataset: use half of categories for training, the other half for testing
 - Train on PASCAL and test on COCO

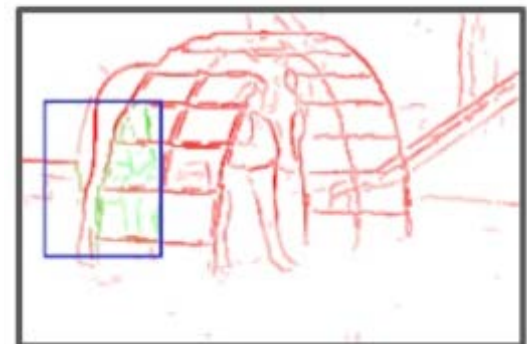
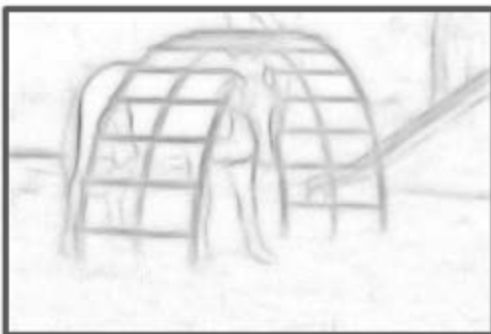
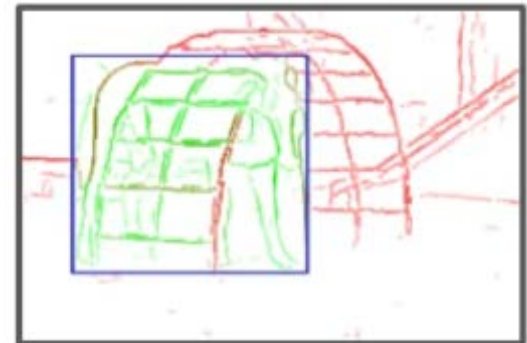
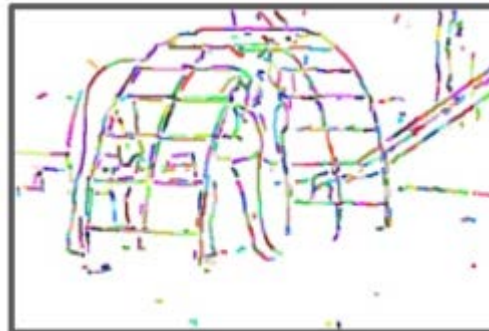
Popular approaches

- Bounding box based
 - BING (CVPR'14)
 - **Edge Boxes (ECCV'14)**
- Segmentation based
 - **Selective Search (IJCV'13)**
 - MCG (CVPR'14)

Edge Boxes

- Edge detection (Structured Edge detector)
- Edge grouping in to edge pieces
- Score a window based on the pattern of edge
 - How many pieces are in the box?
 - How many pieces are straddling the box?

Edge Boxes



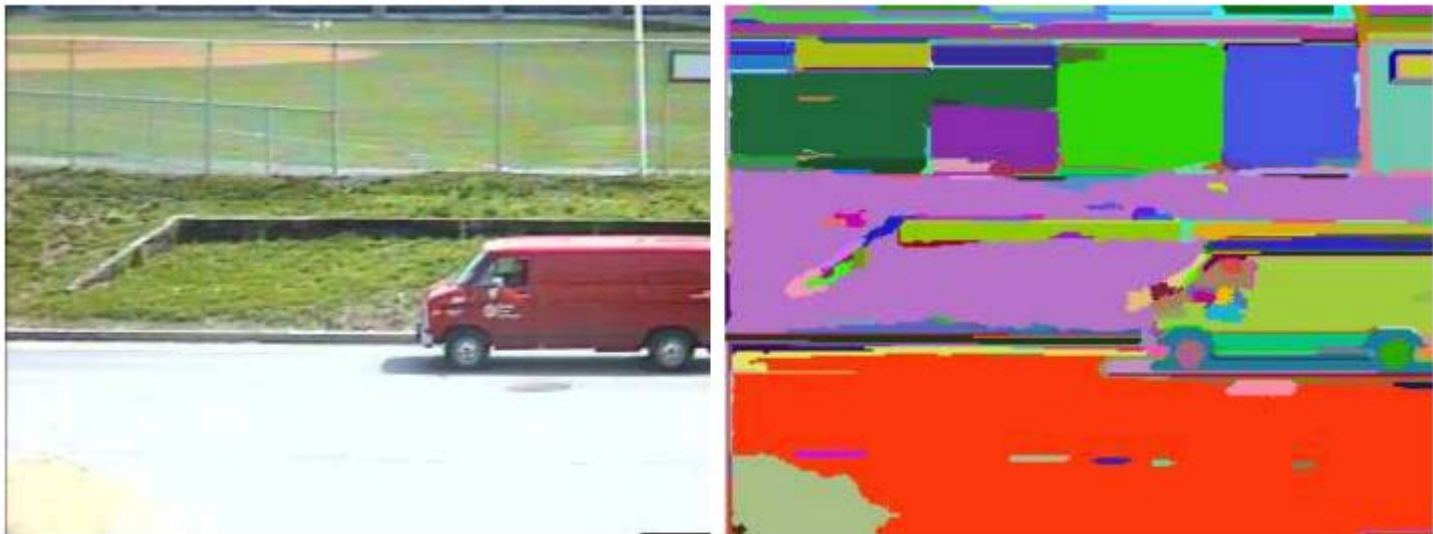
Edge Boxes

- Fast (~ 0.4 secs/image)
- Biased towards larger boxes



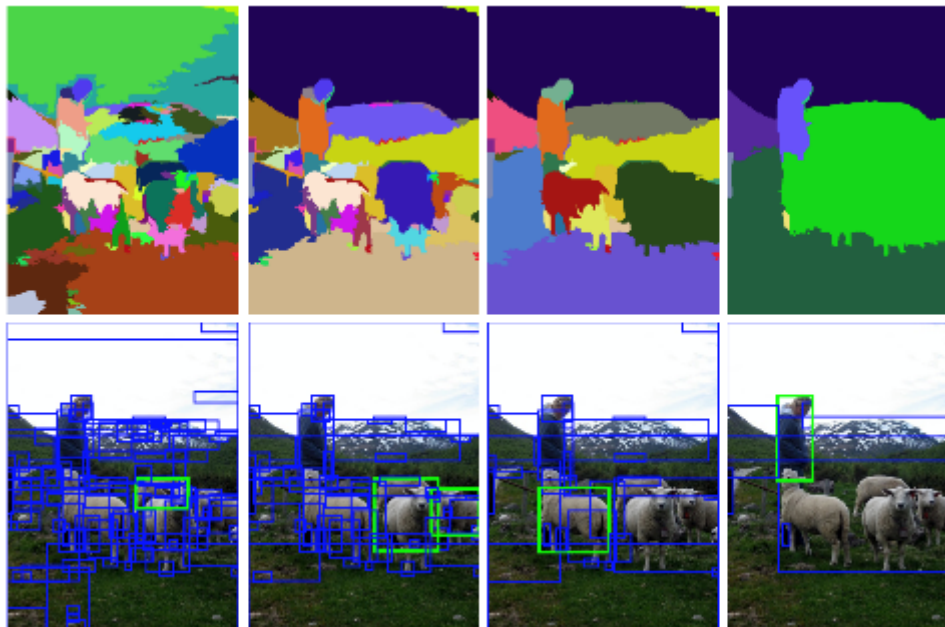
Selective Search

- Generate superpixels on image of multiple scales
 - FH segmentation algorithm [1]
 - Group connected pixels with similar color

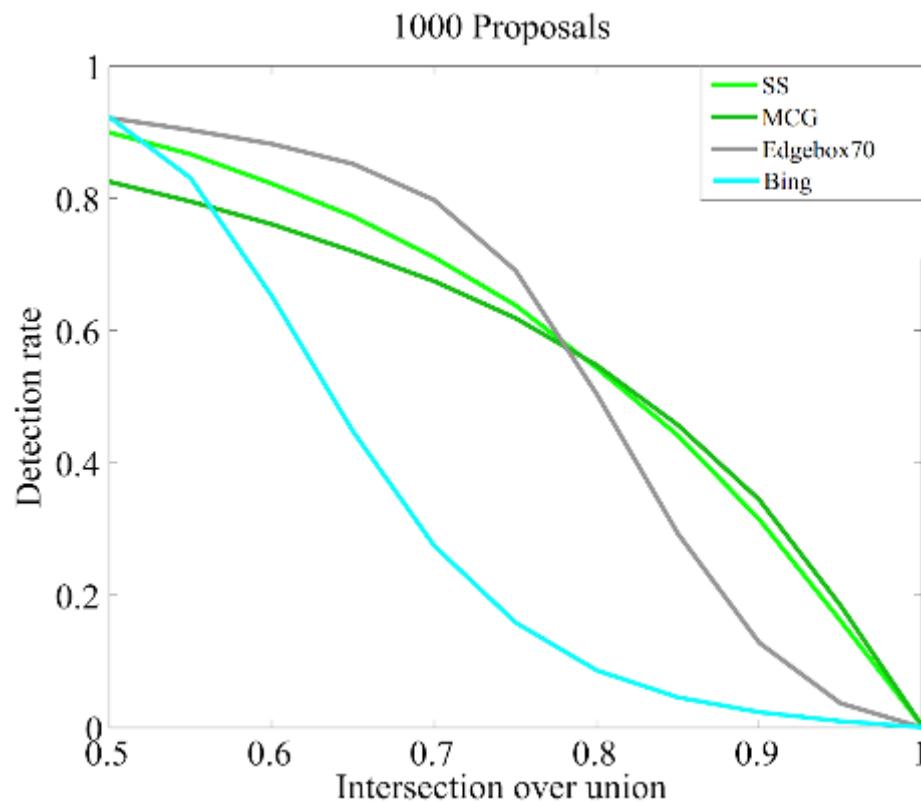


Selective Search

- Generate superpixels on image of multiple scales
- Group similar superpixels to generate proposals
 - Similarity measured on low-level features



Summary



Approaches	Speed (secs/image)
------------	-----------------------

BING	0.2
Edge Boxes	0.25
Selective Search	~10
MCG	34.3

Summary

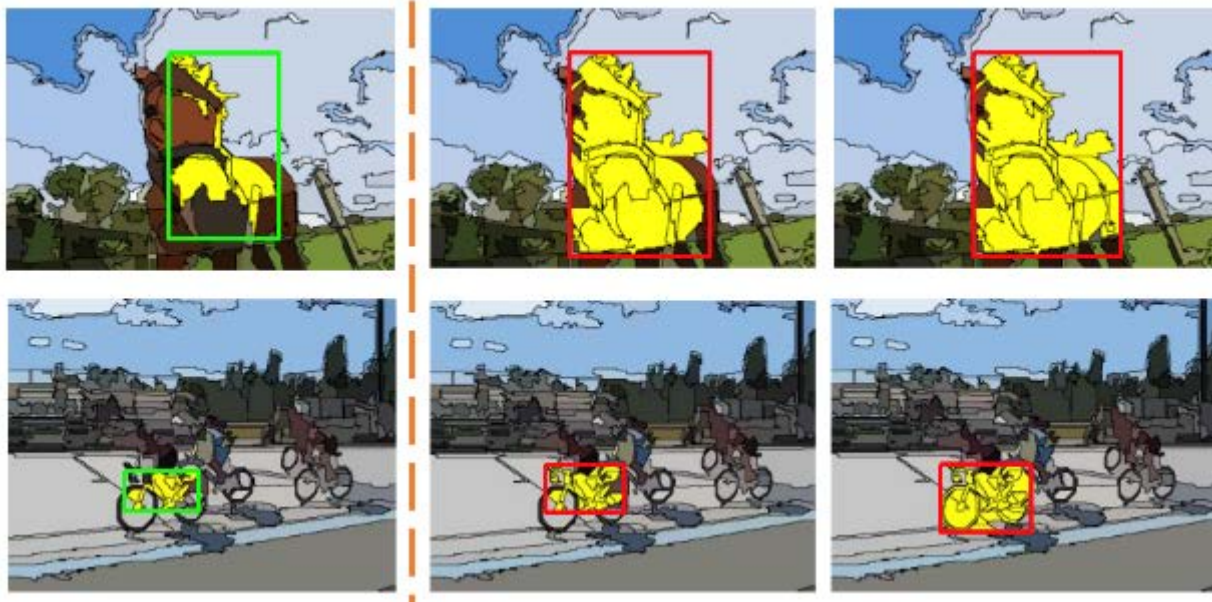
- Bounding box based approaches
 - Faster
- Segmentation based approaches
 - More accurate localization

Recent work: add-ons

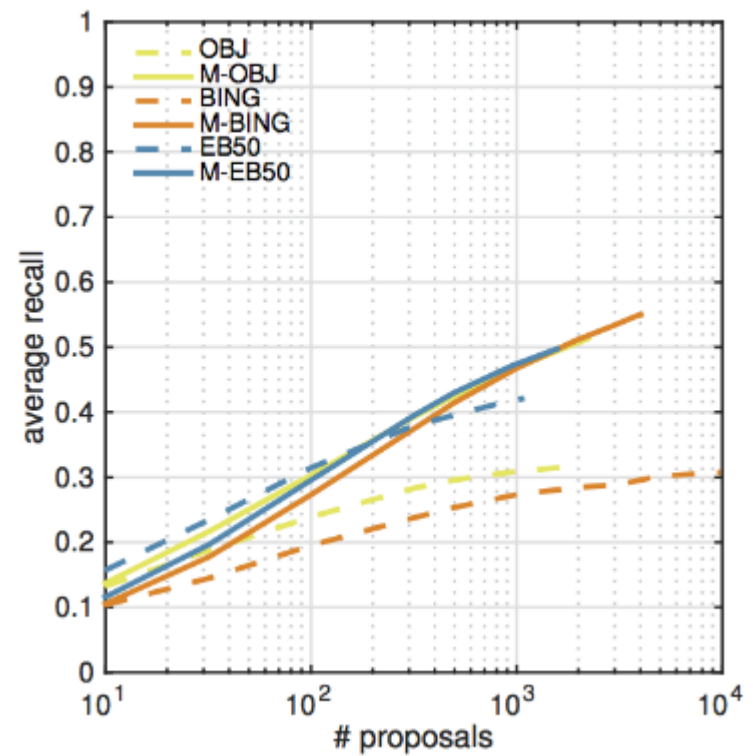
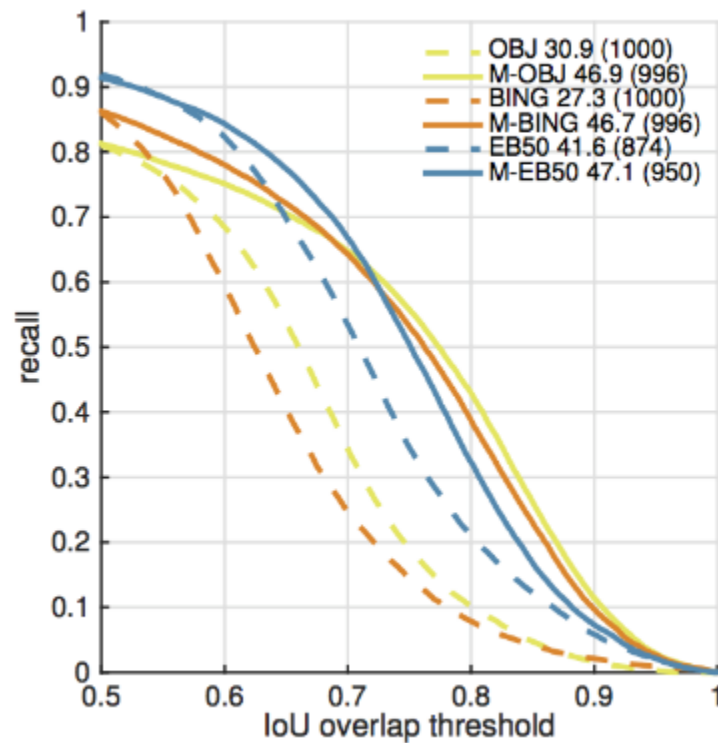
- Research on improve existing approaches
 - MTSE (CVPR'15)
 - Contour box (ICCV'15)

Multi-Thresholding Straddling Expansion (MTSE)

- Superpixel generation
- Expand bounding boxes to include straddling superpixels



Multi-Thresholding Straddling Expansion (MTSE)



Contour box

- Edge detection (SE detector)
- Find the **optimal contour** in a box
 - Completeness -- penalty for opening
 - Tightness -- distance to the border

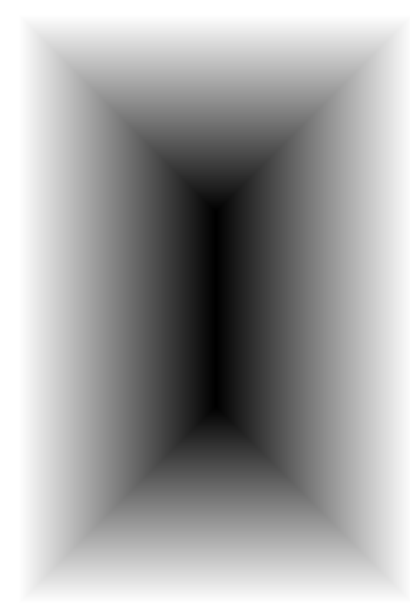


edge map



edge value map

+



tightness value map

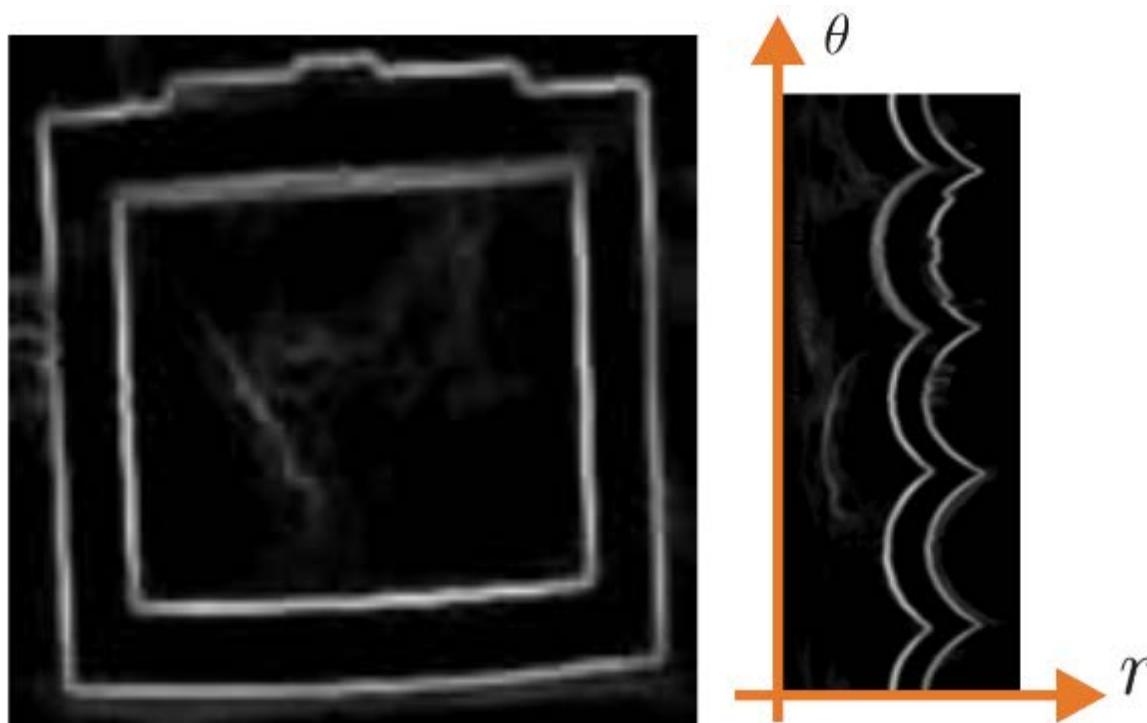


Goal: find a closed path that maximizes (sum of value / path length)

Contour box

- The optimal contour problem is **NP-hard** in Cartesian coordinates
- Solution: dynamic programming can give a good approximation in **polar coordinates**

Contour box

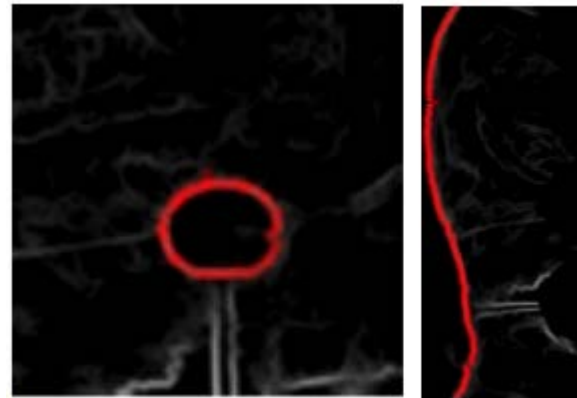


Goal: find path from top to down that maximize the sum of value
Easily solved by dynamic programming

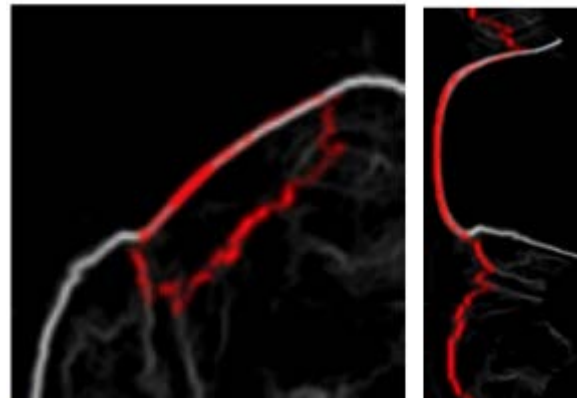
Contour box



A box with high score

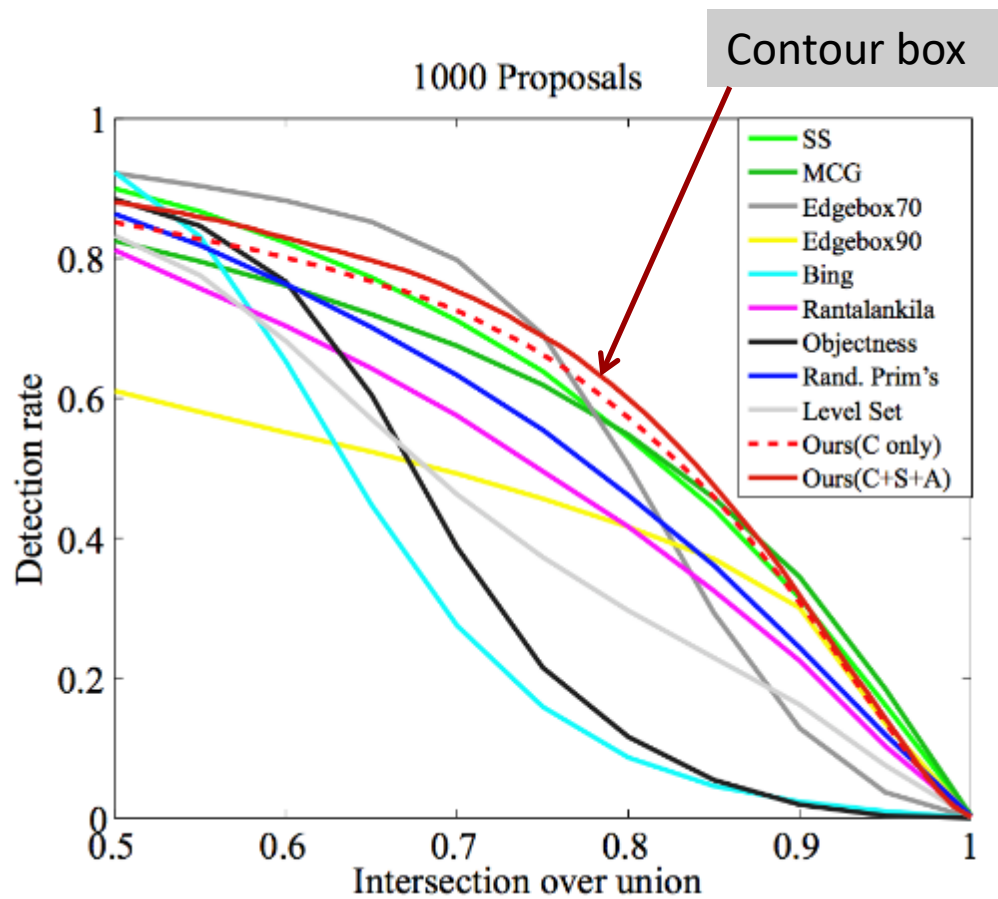


Not tight enough



Open contour

Boxes with low score

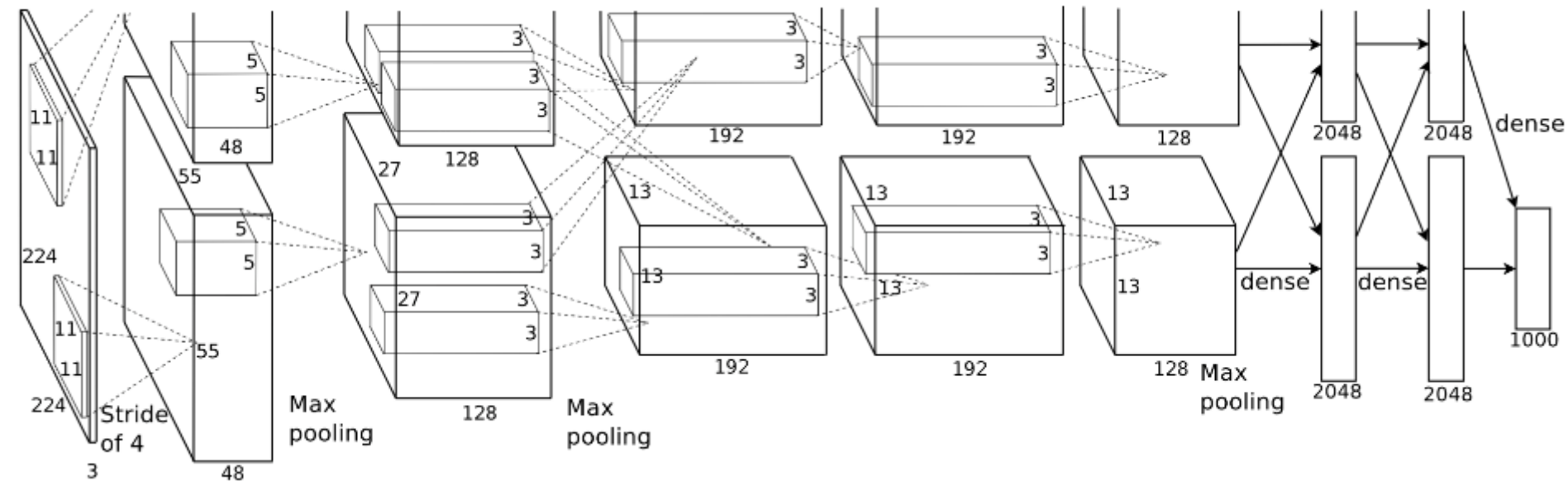


Recent work: CNN and object proposal

- Use CNN features for proposal
 - **Deep Proposal** (ICCV'15)
 - Novotny et al. (ICCV'15)
- Use CNN to re-rank proposals
 - **Deep Box** (ICCV'15)
- Share CNN features for both proposal and detection
 - **Faster R-CNN** (NIPS'15)

CNN brief review

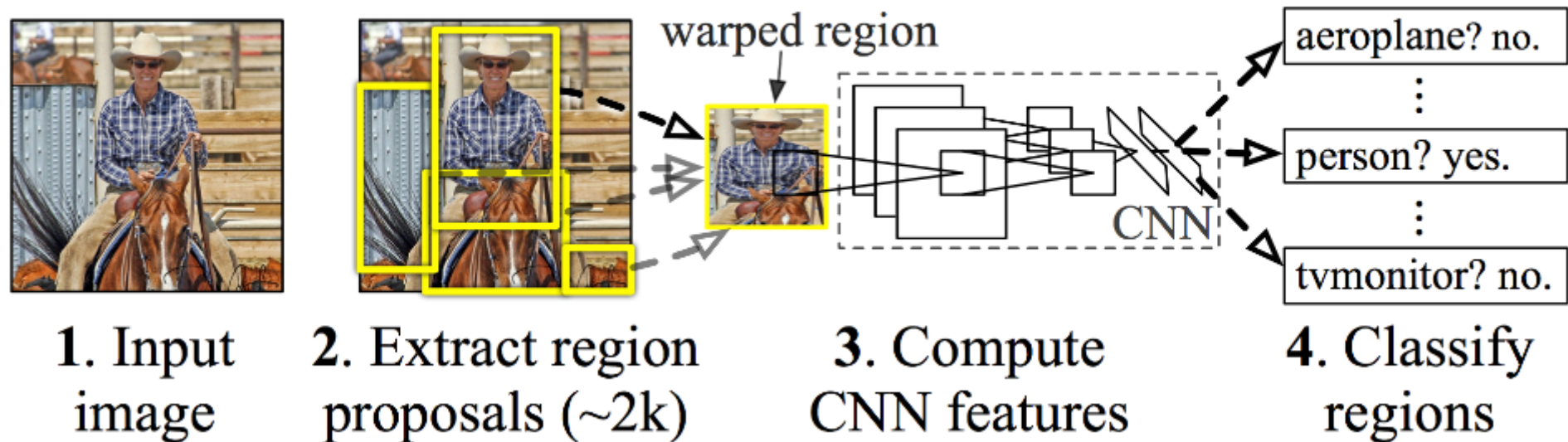
➤ AlexNet (NIPS'12): Image classification



CNN and object proposal

➤ Earliest CNN detector: R-CNN (CVPR'14)

R-CNN: *Regions with CNN features*

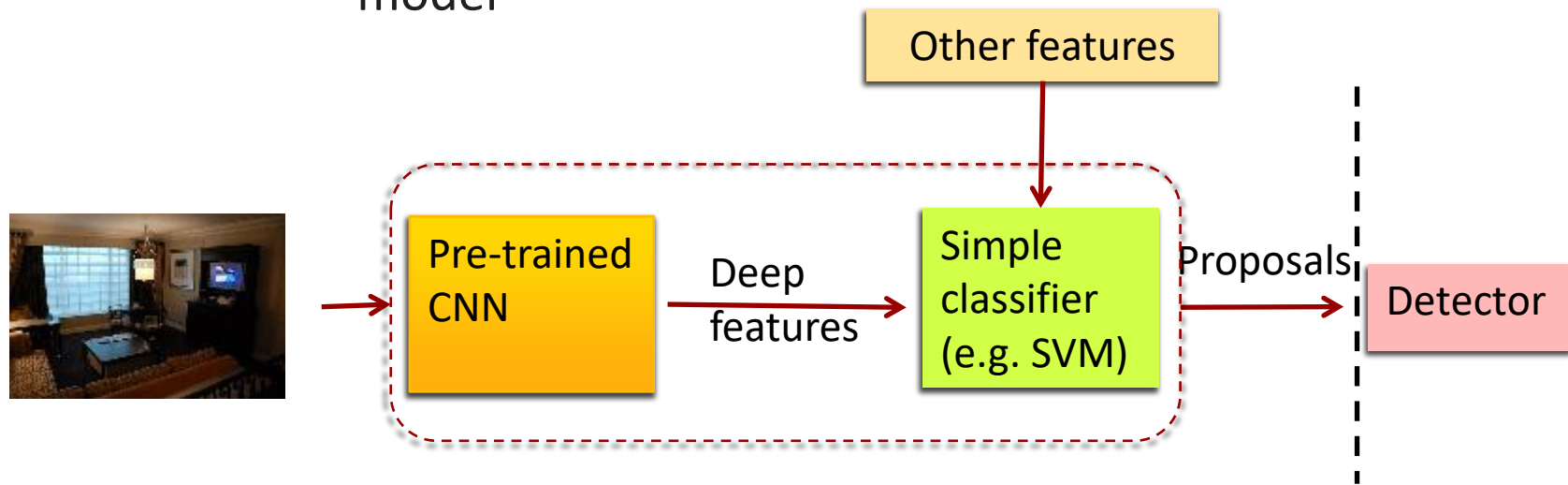


CNN and object proposal

- R-CNN uses object proposals to reduce computation load
 - CNN-based object detector is much more expensive than traditional detectors
 - Applying CNN-based detector on all possible regions (e.g. sliding window) is computationally impossible
- R-CNN largely encourages research in object proposal since it is important for CNN-based detectors
- Later, people leverage the power of CNN to generate object proposals

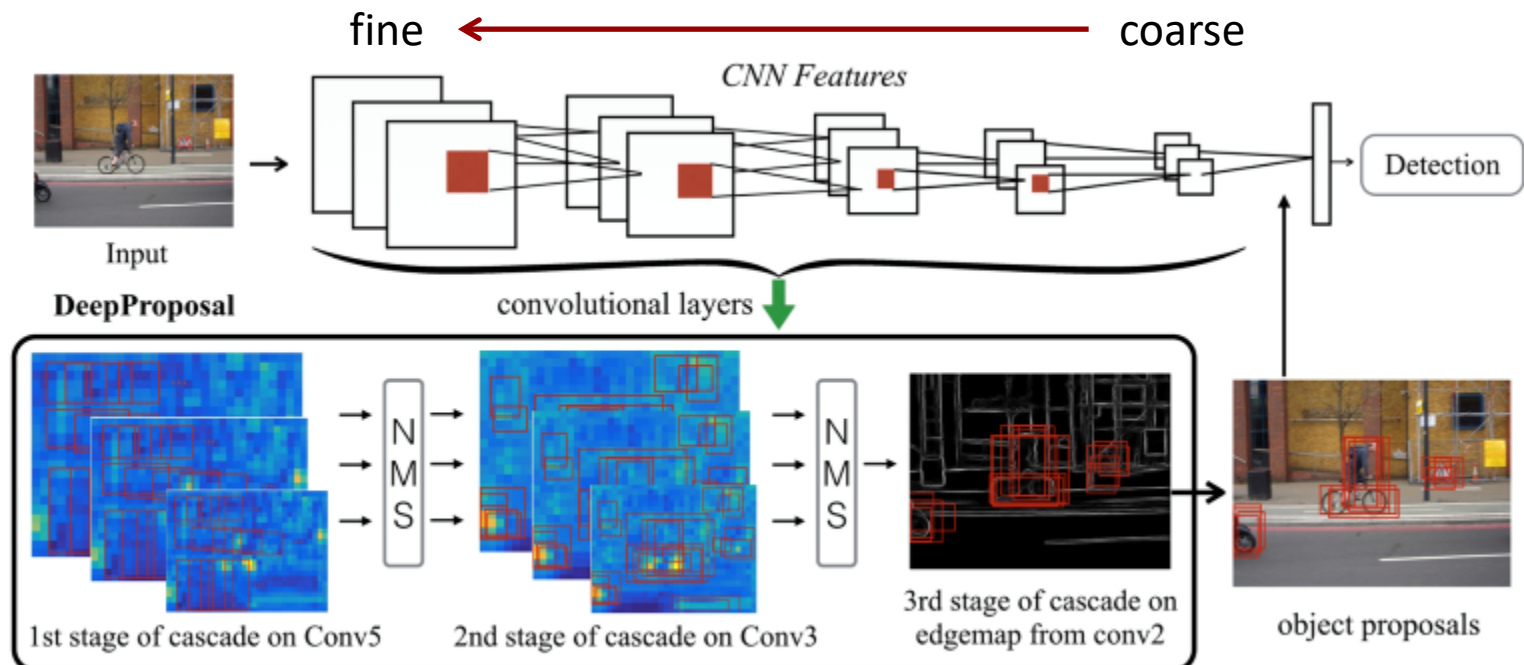
Deep Proposal

- Train a simple classifier on CNN features (plus non-CNN features)
- CNN features are extracted from a pre-trained model



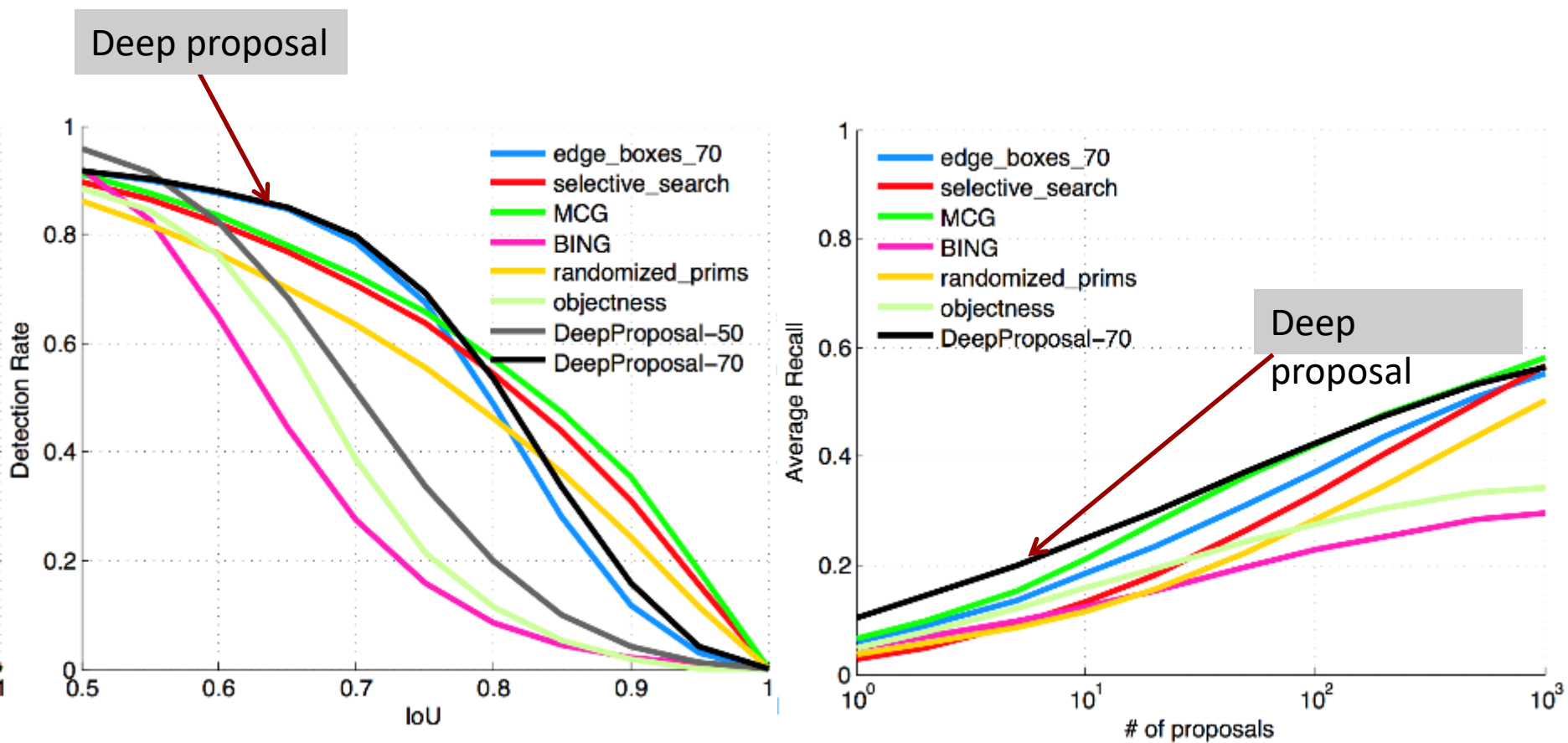
Deep Proposal

- Reversely cascade conv layers
 - High conv layers have summary of a region
 - Low conv layers have location details



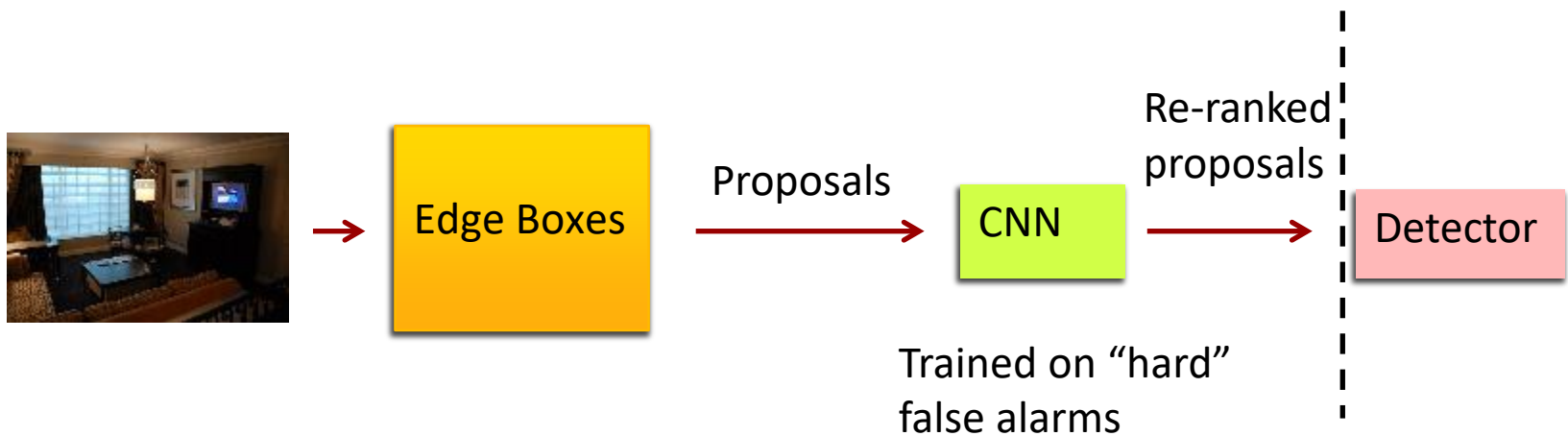
Deep Proposal

➤ Reduce the number of candidates



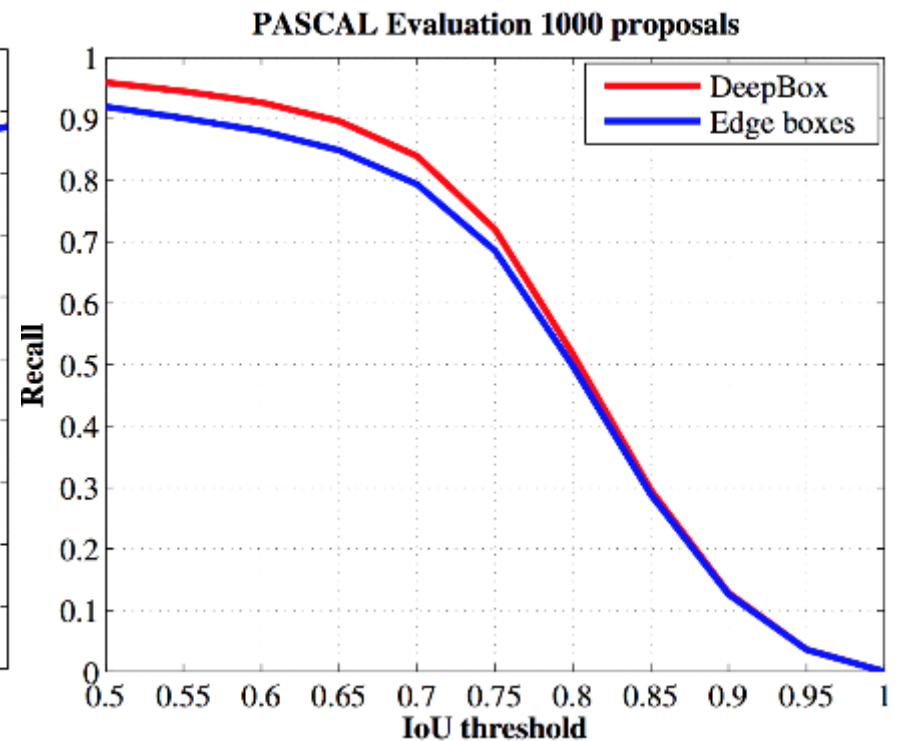
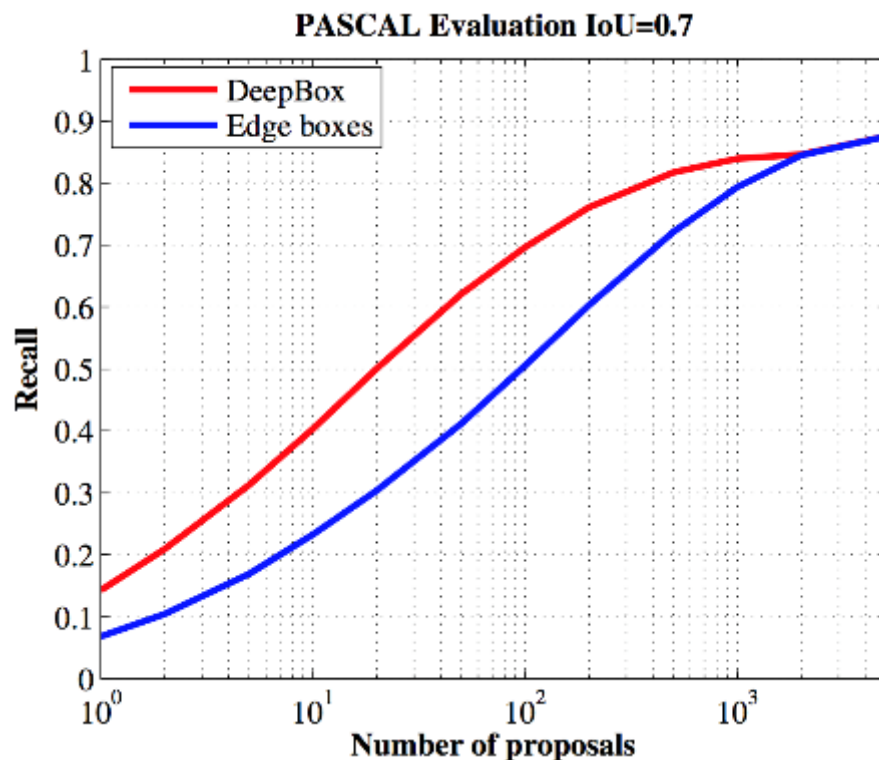
Deep Box

➤ Re-rank proposals from non-CNN approaches



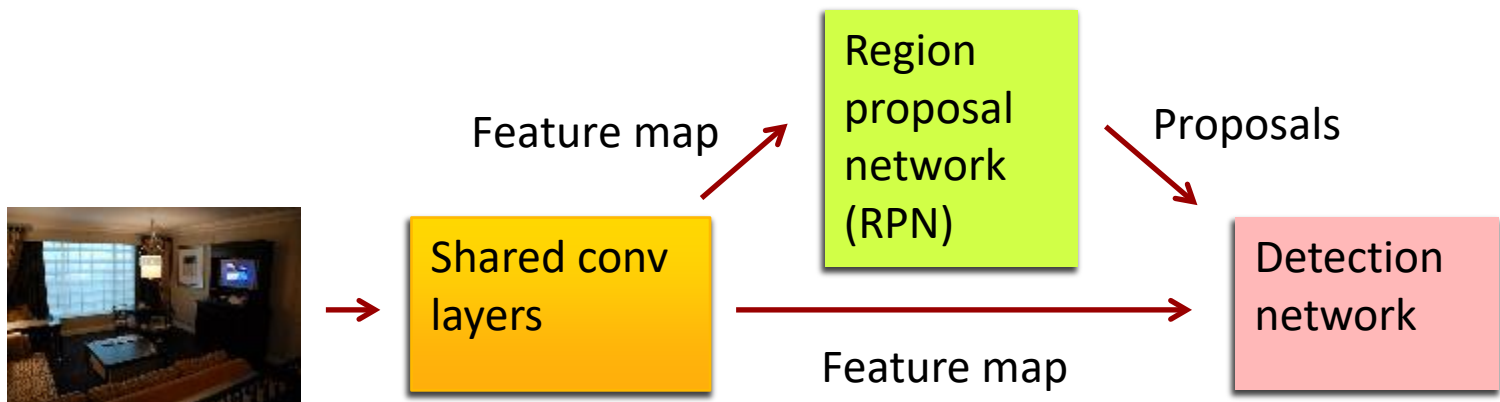
Deep Box

- Higher recall with less proposals
- Tuned for specific proposal approaches

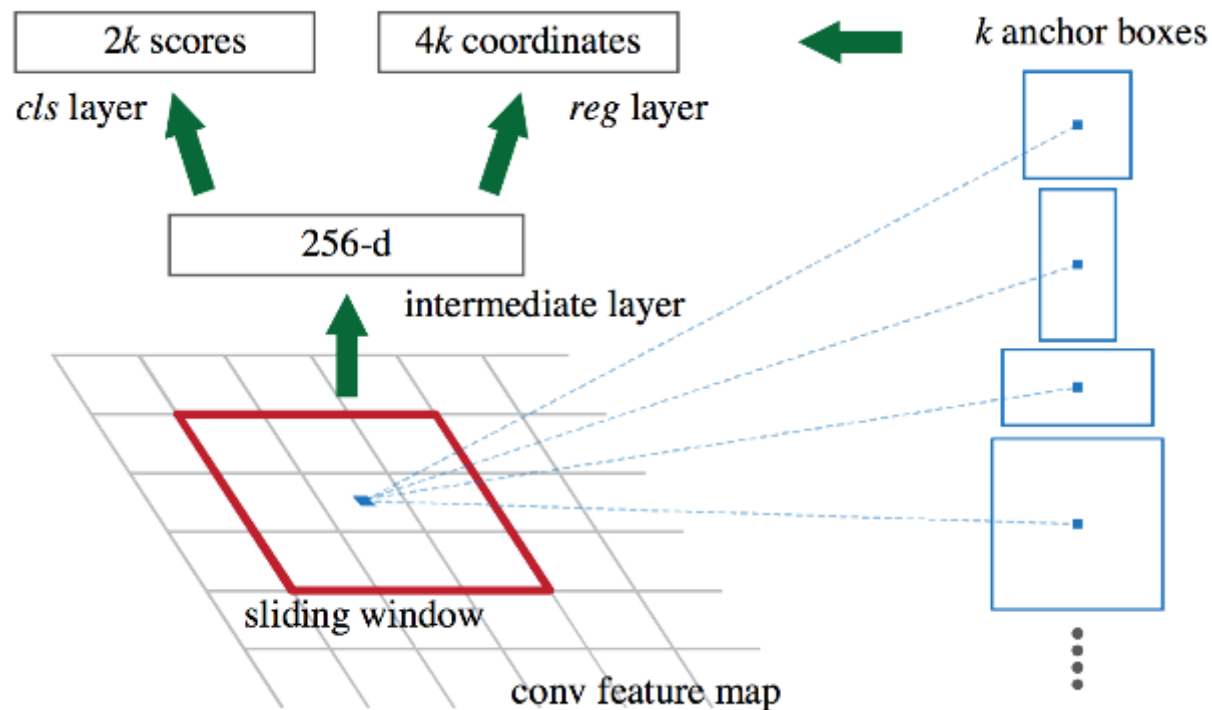


Faster R-CNN

- Share conv layers between proposal network and detection network
- RPN is tuned for specific object categories and detection classifiers

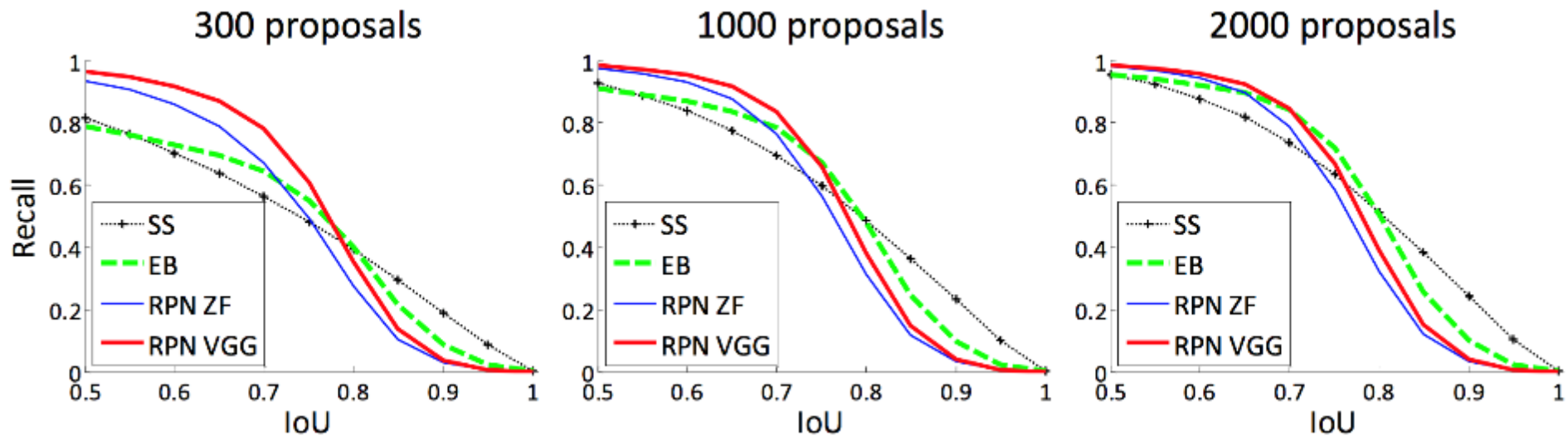


Faster R-CNN



Region Proposal Network: a module to adjust bounding boxes based on anchor boxes

-



Future research

- Generalization across dataset
 - The size of dataset grows; fully-labeled dataset not possible
 - It is extremely hard to label all objects in an image

Future research

- Combine with CNN detectors
 - What property is the most important for CNN detectors?
 - Which one is better? Bounding box better or segmentation?
 - Does CNN need really accurate localization?

Future research

- Computation efficiency
 - Consider advantages of GPU