

Computer Vision

CS-E4850, 5 study credits

Lecturer: Juho Kannala

Lecture 6: Large-scale object instance recognition/retrieval

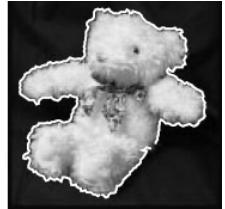
- Given a large image database of object instances, we would like to quickly recognize the objects present in a query image
- Or, given a query image of an object instance, we would like to retrieve all images of the same object from the database

Acknowledgement: many slides from James Hays, Kristen Grauman, Svetlana Lazebnik, Ondrej Chum, David Nister and others (detailed credits on individual slides)

Reading

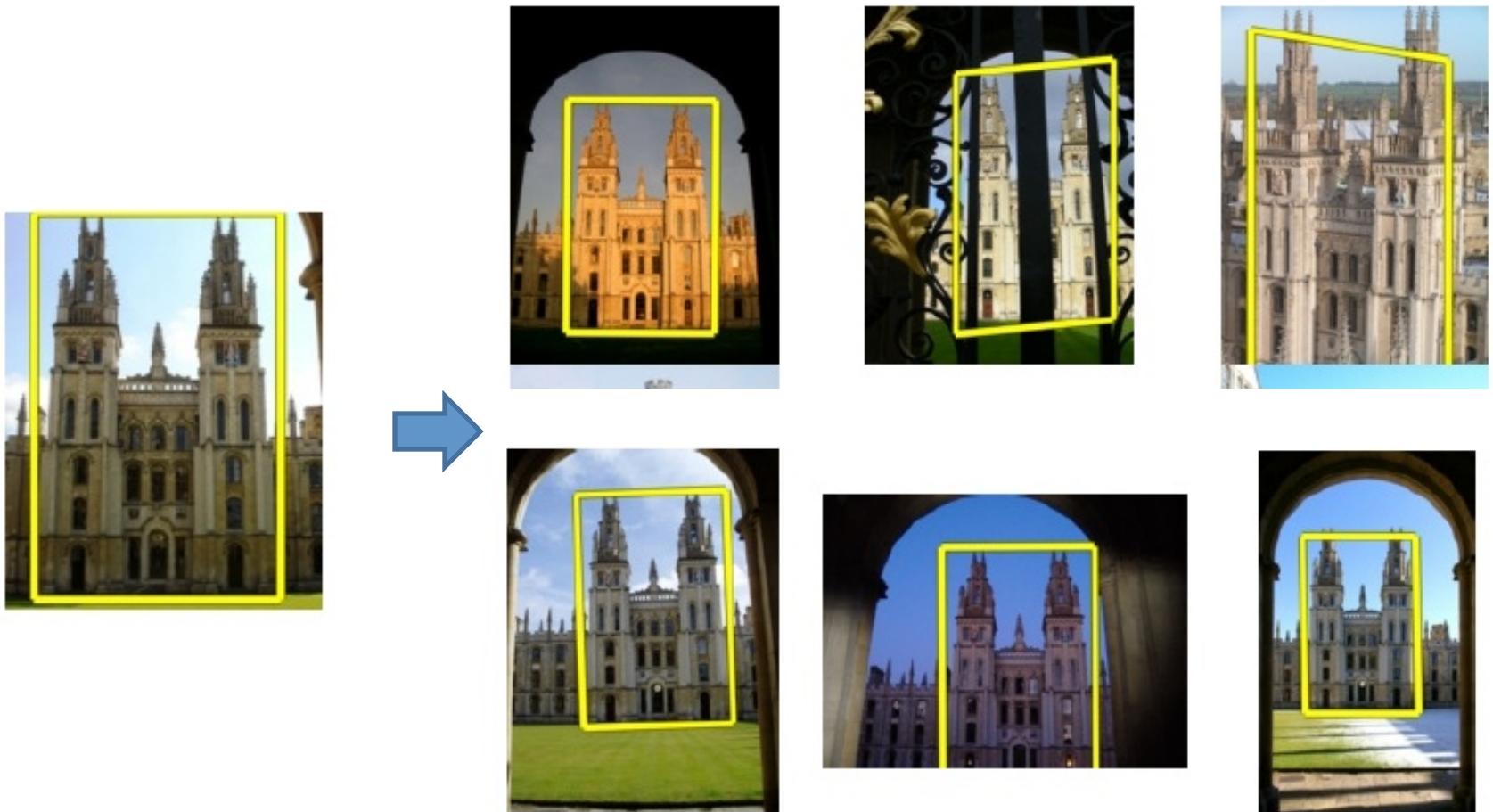
- Szeliski's book, Section 6.1-6.2 in 2nd edition (or 14.3 in 1st edition)
- Sivic & Zisserman: Video Google, 2003
 - <http://www.robots.ox.ac.uk/~vgg/research/vgoogle/>
- Nister & Stewenius: Scalable recognition with a vocabulary tree, 2006
 - <http://vis.uky.edu/~stewe/ukbench/>
- Philbin et al.: Object retrieval with large vocabularies, 2007
 - <http://www.robots.ox.ac.uk/~vgg/research/oxbuildings/index.html>
- Software:
 - <http://www.robots.ox.ac.uk/~vgg/practicals/instance-recognition/index.html>

Local features for object instance recognition



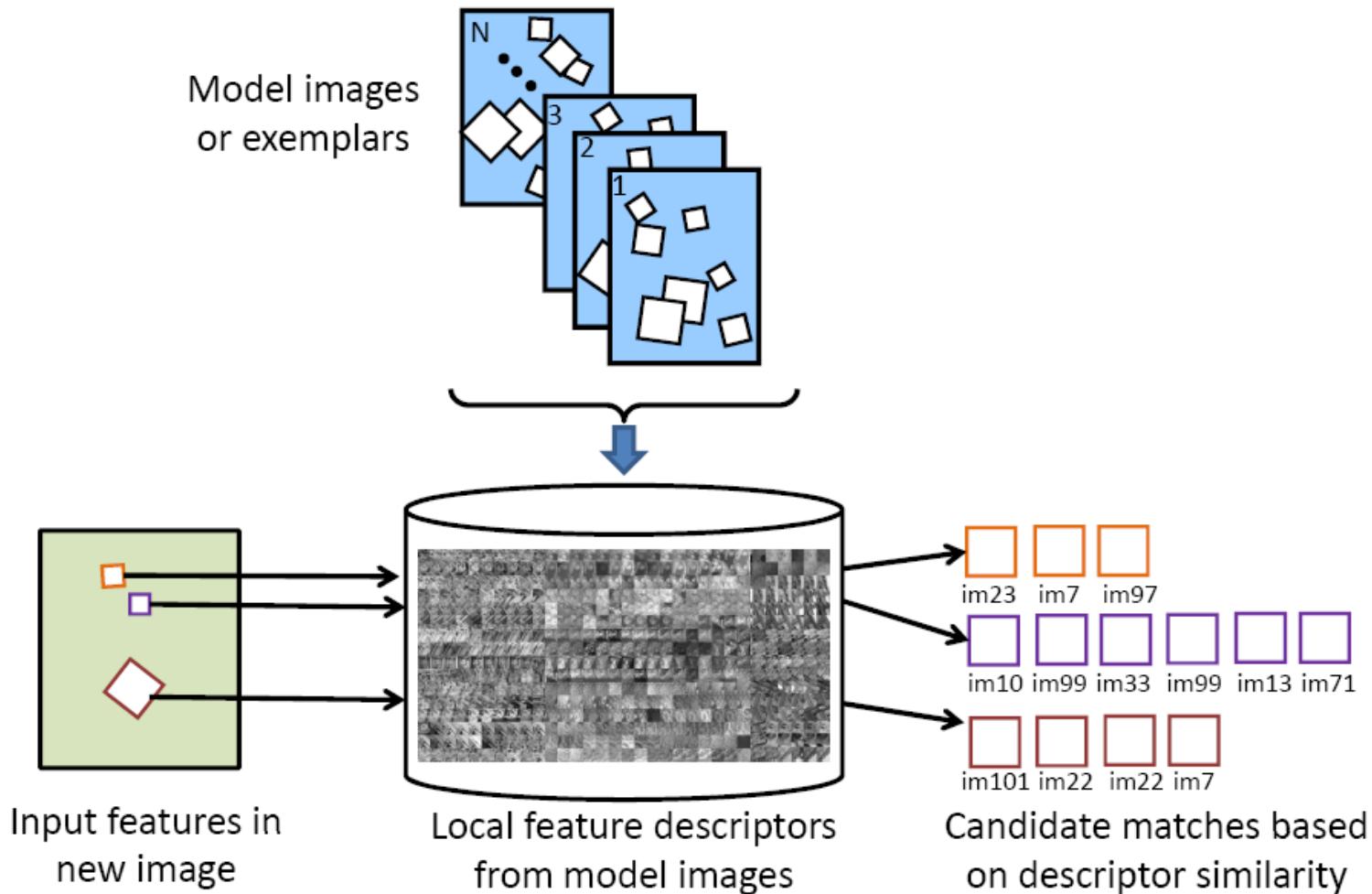
D. Lowe (1999, 2004)

How to quickly find images in a large database that match a given image region?



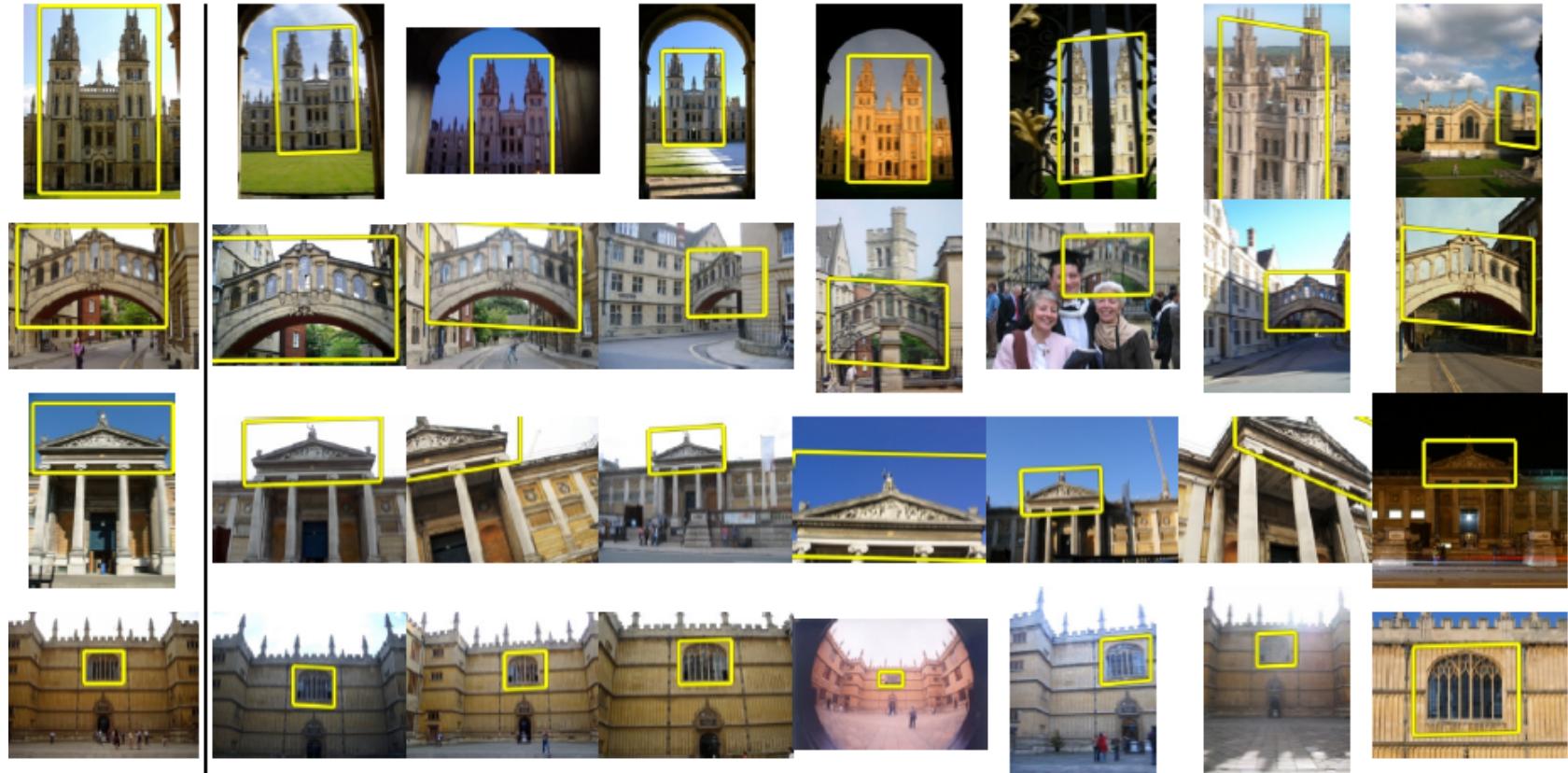
Large-scale image search

Combining local features, indexing, and spatial constraints



Large-scale image search

Combining local features, indexing, and spatial constraints



Large-scale image search

Combining local features, indexing, and spatial constraints

Google Goggles in Action

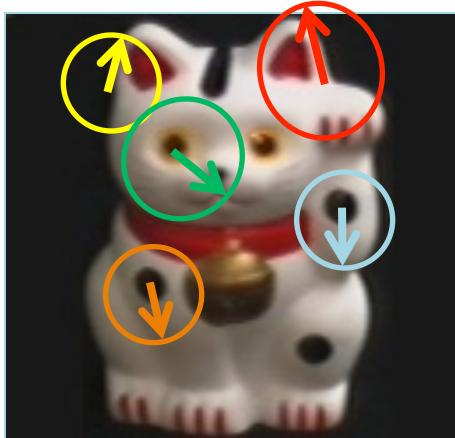
Click the icons below to see the different ways Google Goggles can be used.



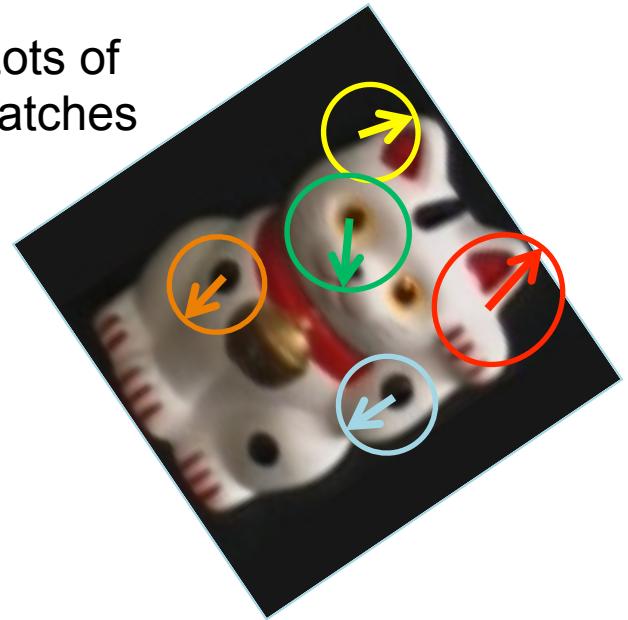
Available on phones that run Android 1.6+ (i.e. Donut or Eclair)

Simple idea

See how many keypoints
are close to keypoints in
each other image



Lots of
Matches



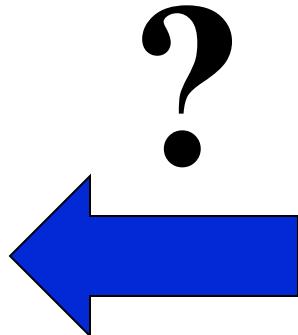
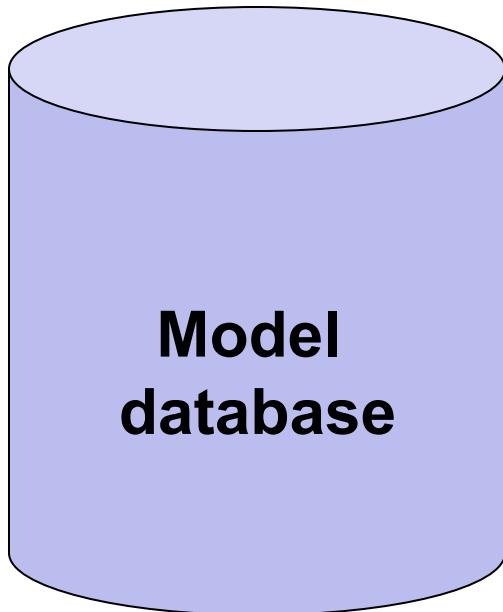
Few or No
Matches



But this will be really, really slow!

Scalability: Alignment to large databases

- What if we need to align a test image with thousands or millions of images in a model database?
 - Efficient putative match generation
 - Approximate descriptor similarity search, inverted indices



Large-scale visual search

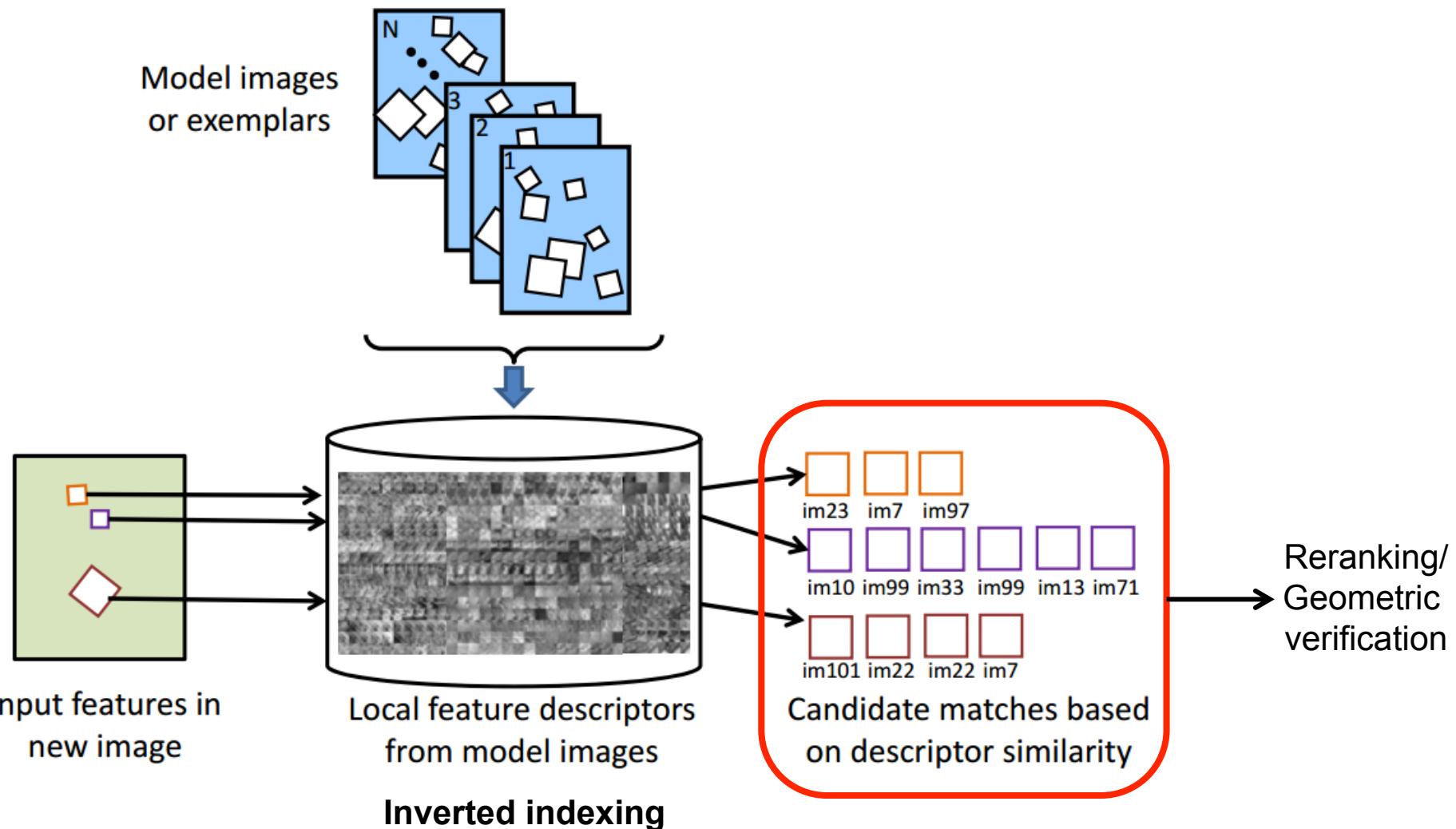
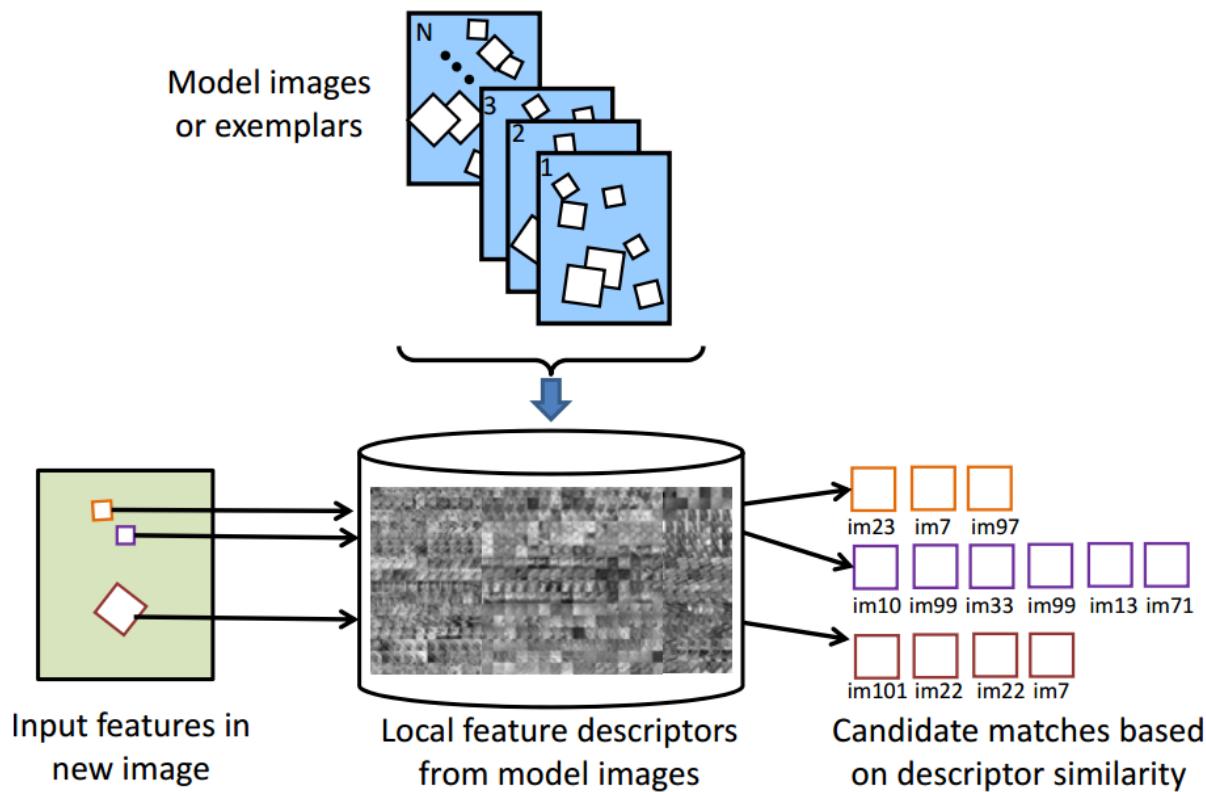


Figure from: Kristen Grauman and Bastian Leibe, [Visual Object Recognition](#), Synthesis Lectures on Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, April 2011, Vol. 5, No. 2, Pages 1-181

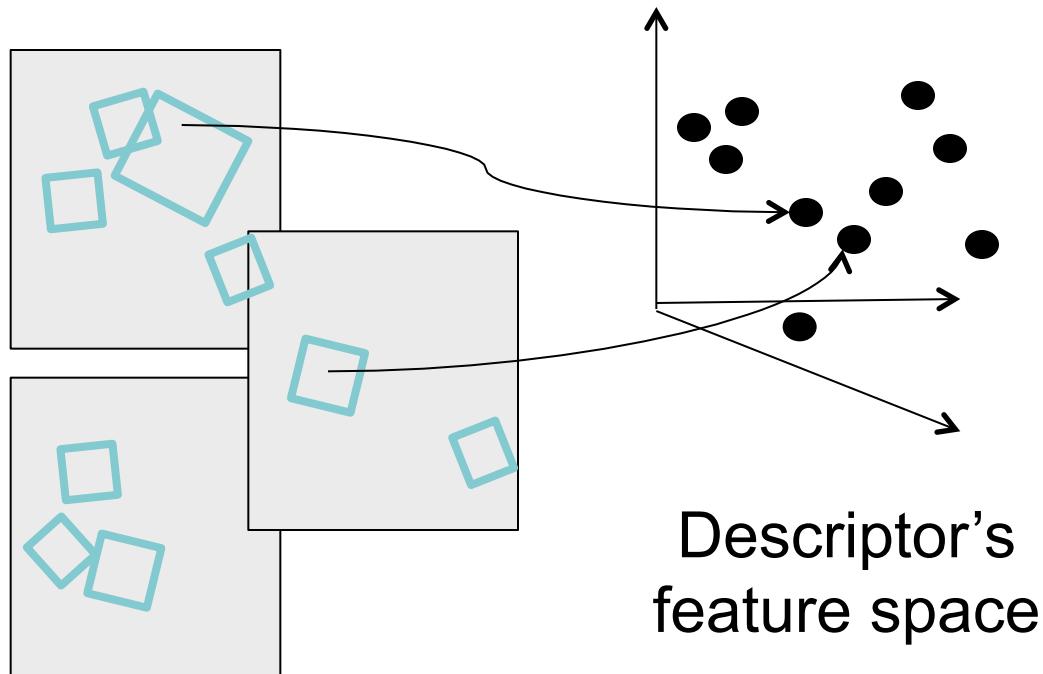
How to do the indexing?



- Idea: find a set of *visual codewords* to which descriptors can be *quantized*

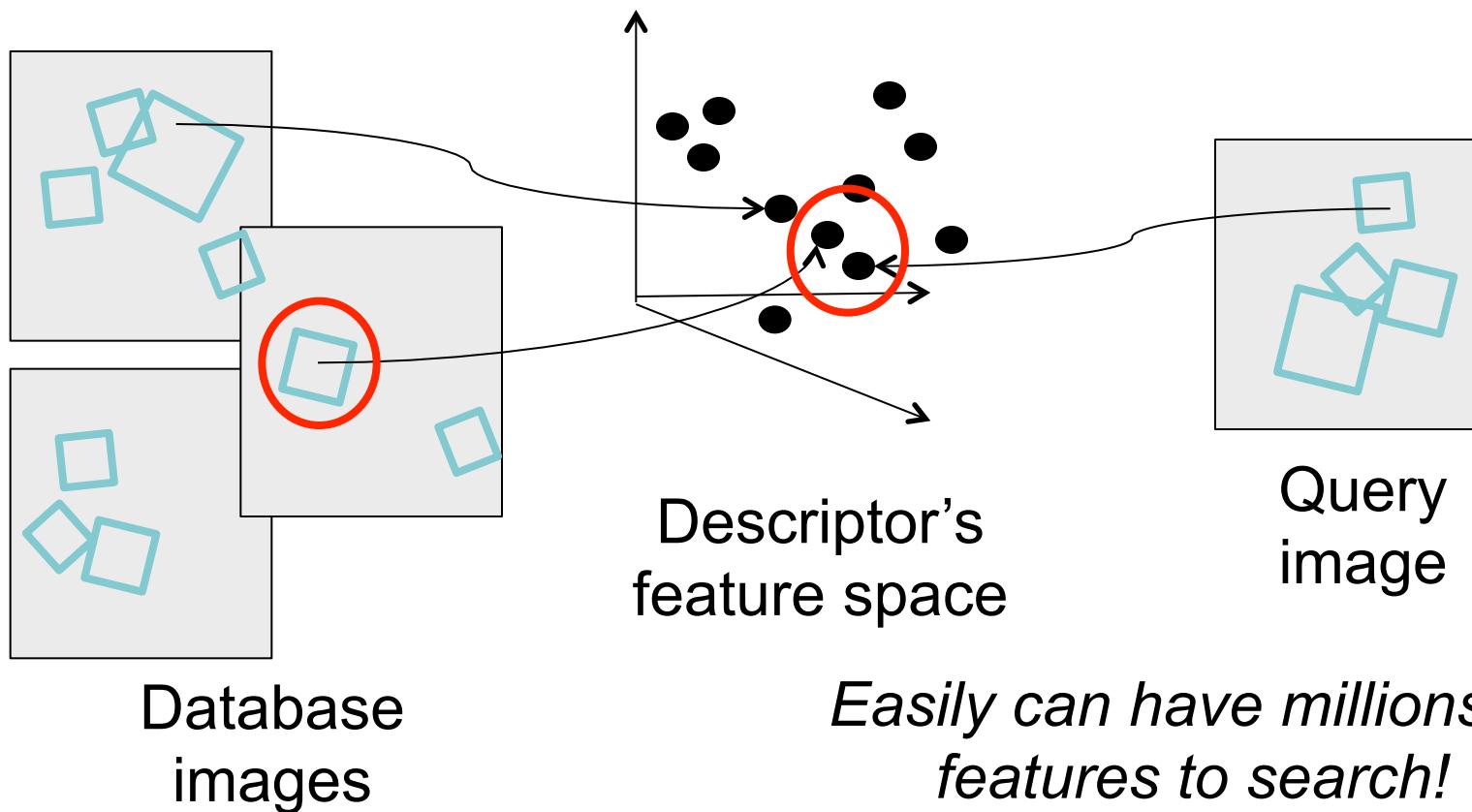
Indexing local features

- Each patch / region has a descriptor, which is a point in some high-dimensional feature space (e.g., SIFT)



Indexing local features

- When we see close points in feature space, we have similar descriptors, which indicates similar local content.



Indexing local features: inverted file index

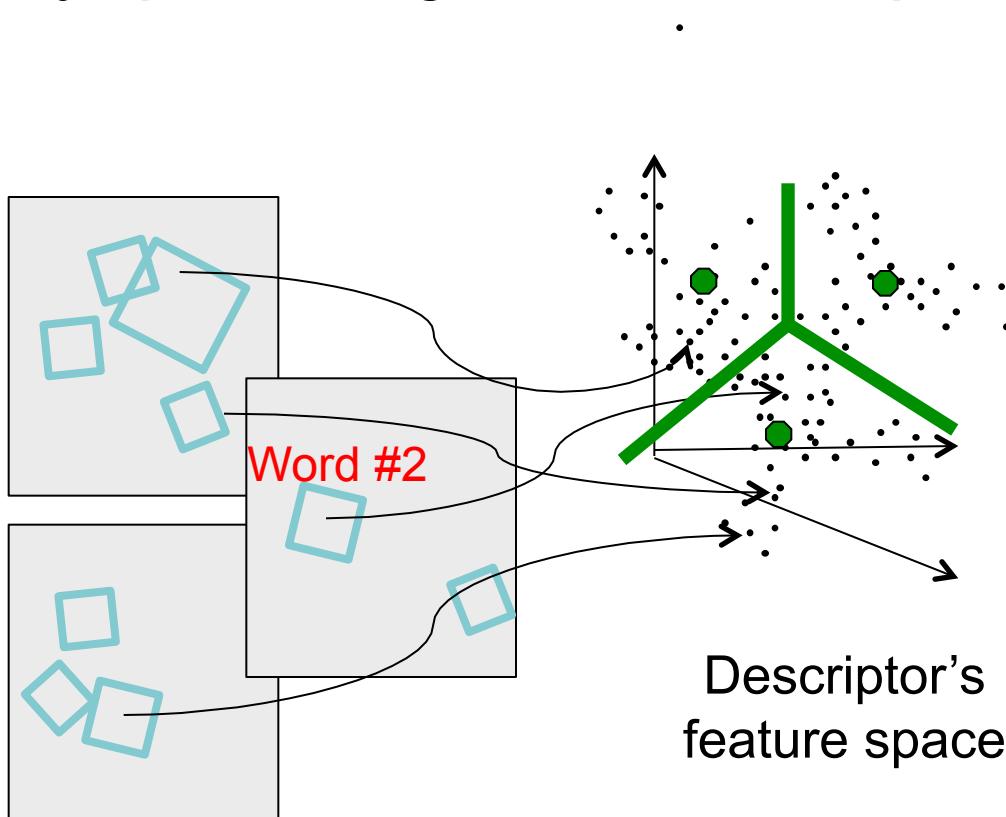
Index

"Along I-75," From Detroit to Florida; <i>inside back cover</i>	Butterfly Center, McGuire; 134	Driving Lanes; 85
"Drive I-95," From Boston to Florida; <i>inside back cover</i>	CAA (see AAA)	Duval County; 163
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Appleton Mus of Art; 136	Pensacola; 26	Cavern SP; 114
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Art Museum, Ringling; 147	St. Augustine; 191	National Cemetery ; 141
Aruba Beach Cafe; 183	Civil War; 100,108,127,138,141	Part of Africa; 177
Aucilla River Project; 106	Clearwater Marine Aquarium; 187	Platform; 187
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Bahia Mar Marina; 184	Collier, Barron; 152	Sports Hall of Fame; 130
Baker County; 99	Colonial Spanish Quarters; 168	Sun 'n Fun Museum; 97
Barefoot Mallmen; 182	Columbia County; 101,128	Supreme Court; 107
Barge Canal; 137	Coquina Building Material; 165	Florida's Turnpike (FTP); 178,189
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Belz Outlet Mall; 89	Cowboys; 95	Administration; 189
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	De Land; 87	Ford, Henry; 152

- For text documents, an efficient way to find all *pages* on which a *word* occurs is to use an *index*...
- We want to find all *images* in which a *feature* occurs.
- To use this idea, we'll need to map our features to "visual words".

Visual words

- Map high-dimensional descriptors to tokens/words by quantizing the feature space



- Quantize via clustering, let cluster centers be the prototype “words”
- Determine which word to assign to each new image region by finding the closest cluster center.

K-means clustering

- Want to minimize sum of squared Euclidean distances between points \mathbf{x}_i and their nearest cluster centers \mathbf{m}_k

$$D(X, M) = \sum_{\text{cluster } k} \sum_{\substack{\text{point } i \text{ in} \\ \text{cluster } k}} (\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{m}_k)^2$$

Algorithm:

- Randomly initialize K cluster centers
- Iterate until convergence:
 - Assign each data point to the nearest center
 - Recompute each cluster center as the mean of all points assigned to it

K-means demo



Source: <http://shabal.in/visuals/kmeans/1.html>

Another demo: <http://www.kovan.ceng.metu.edu.tr/~maya/kmeans/>

Visual words

- Example: each group of patches belongs to the same visual word

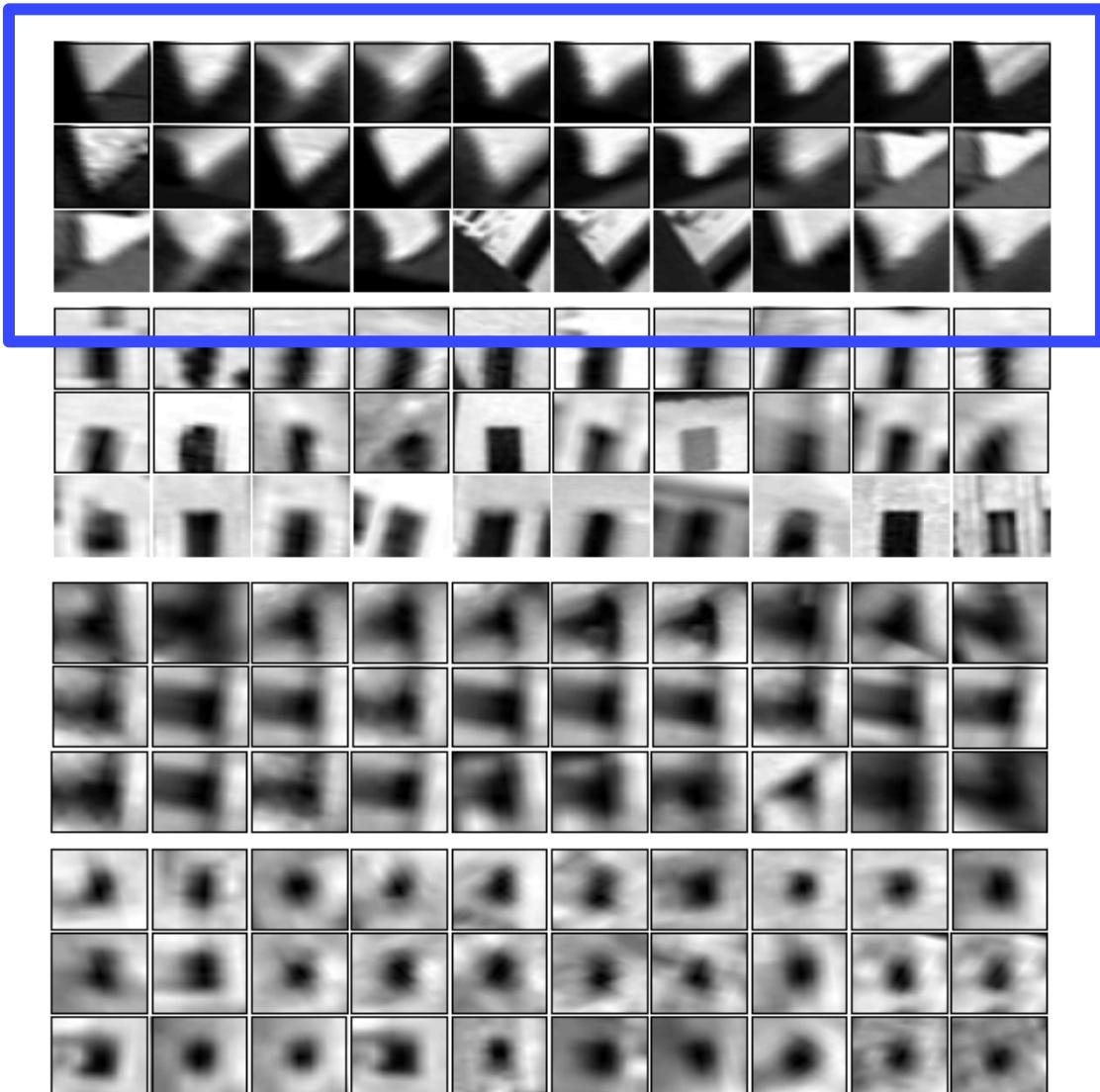
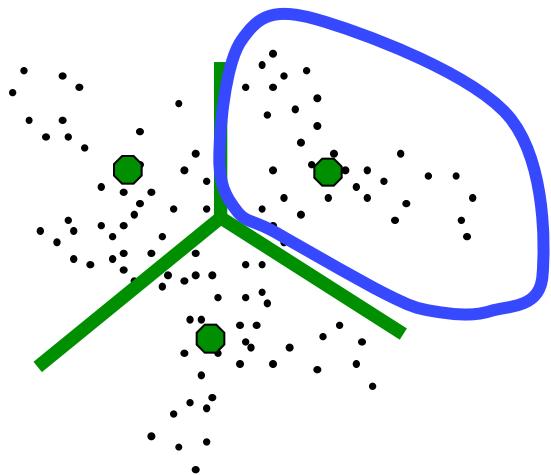
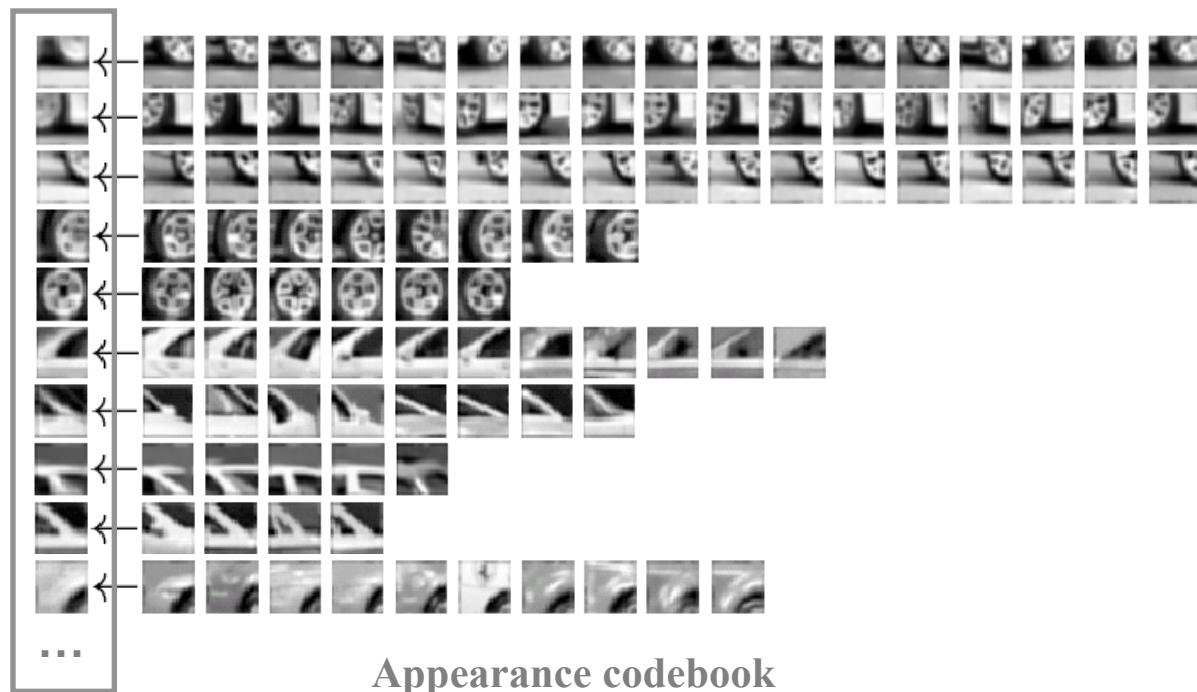
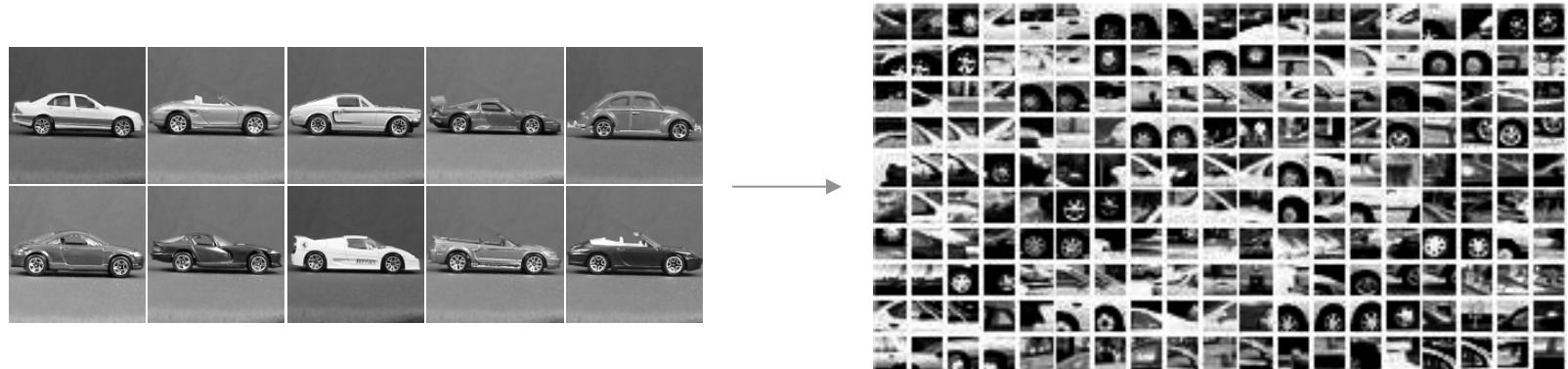
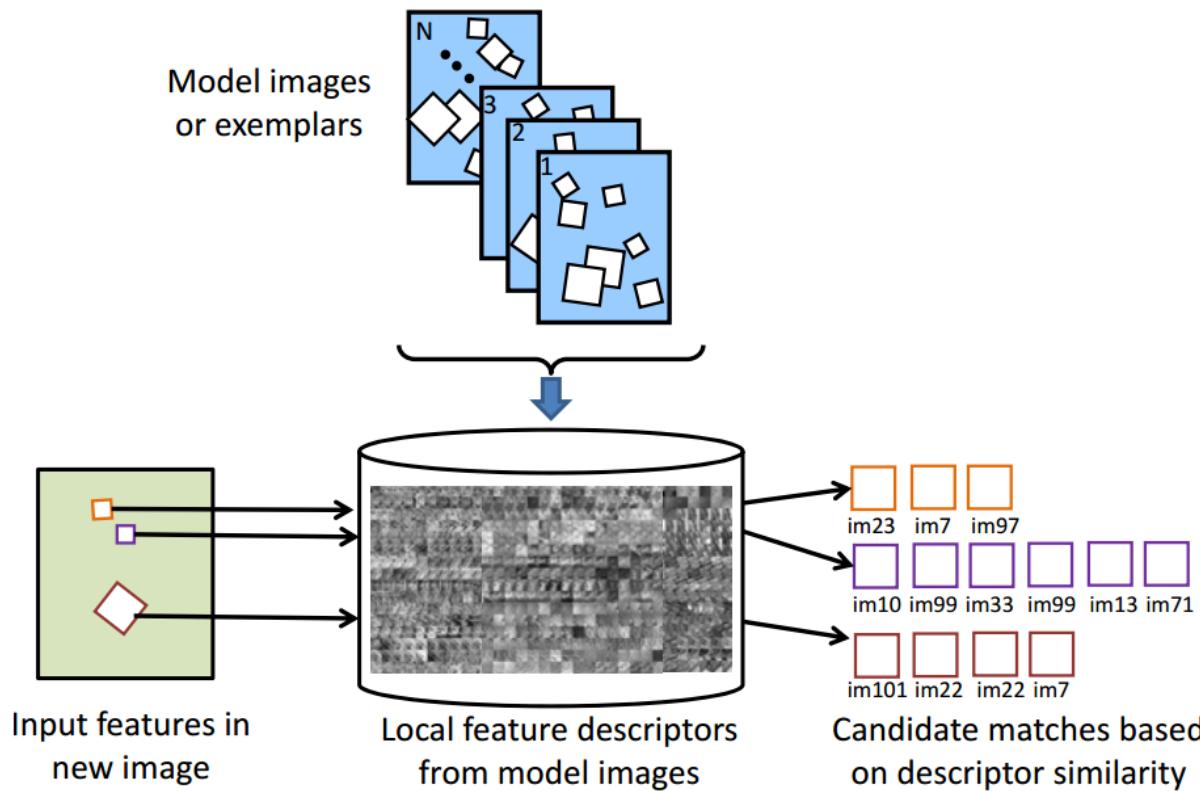


Figure from Sivic & Zisserman, ICCV 2003 Kristen Grauman

Example of a visual codebook



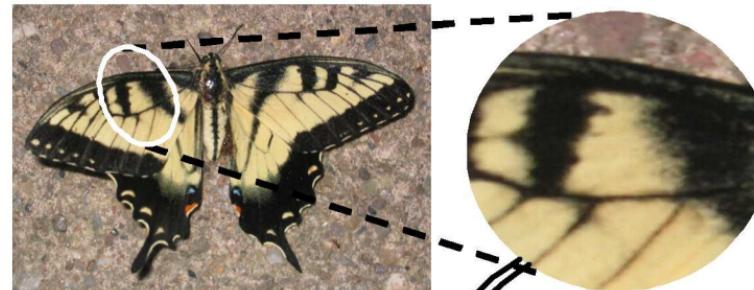
How to do the indexing?



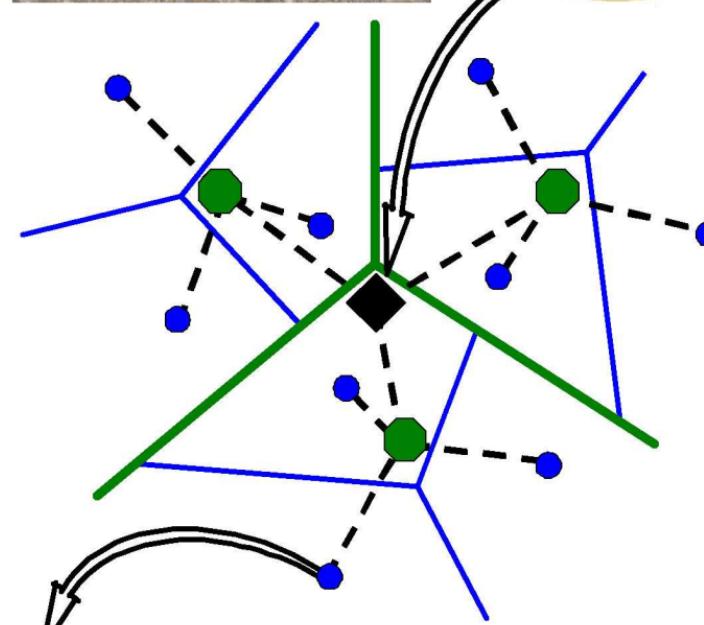
- Cluster descriptors in the database to form codebook
- At query time, quantize descriptors in query image to nearest codevectors
- Problem solved?

Efficient indexing technique: Vocabulary trees

Test image



Vocabulary tree
with inverted
index

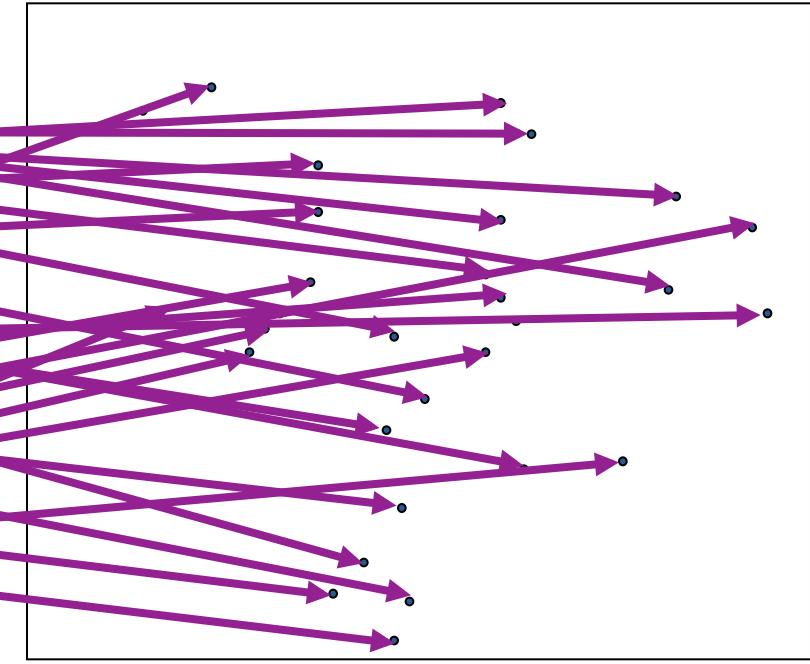
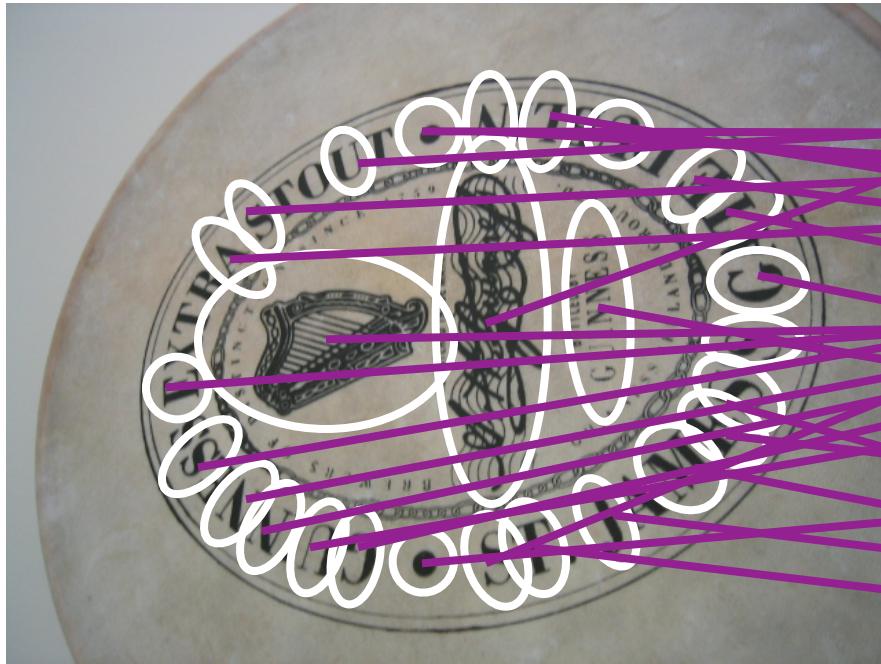


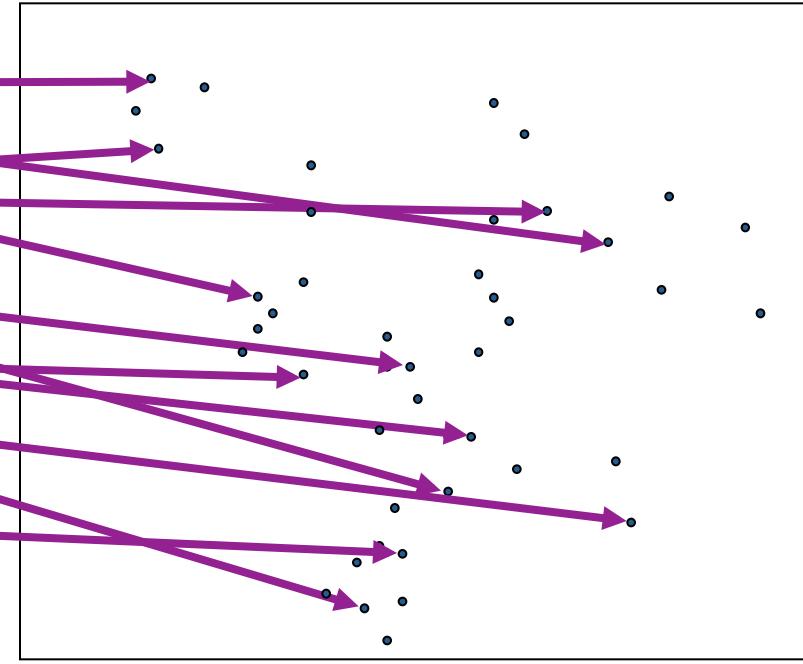
Database

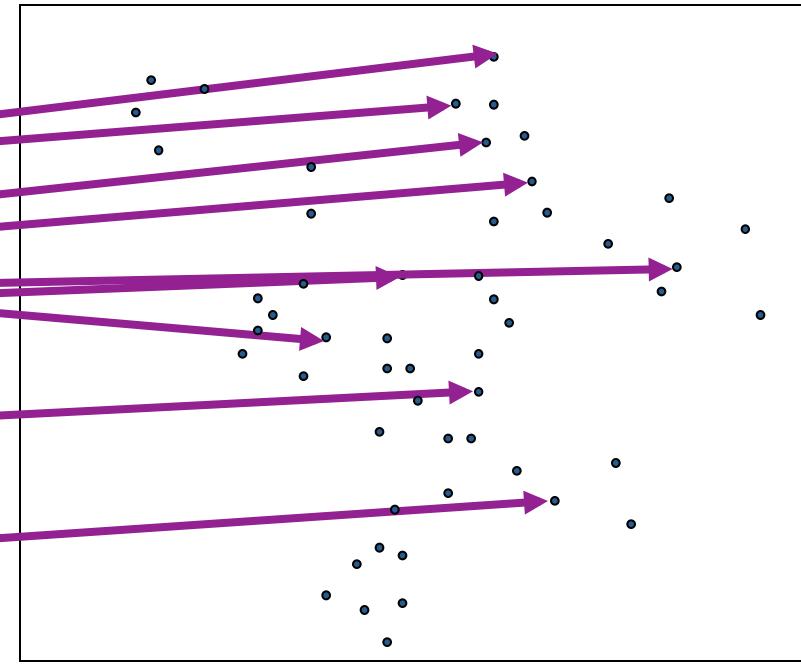
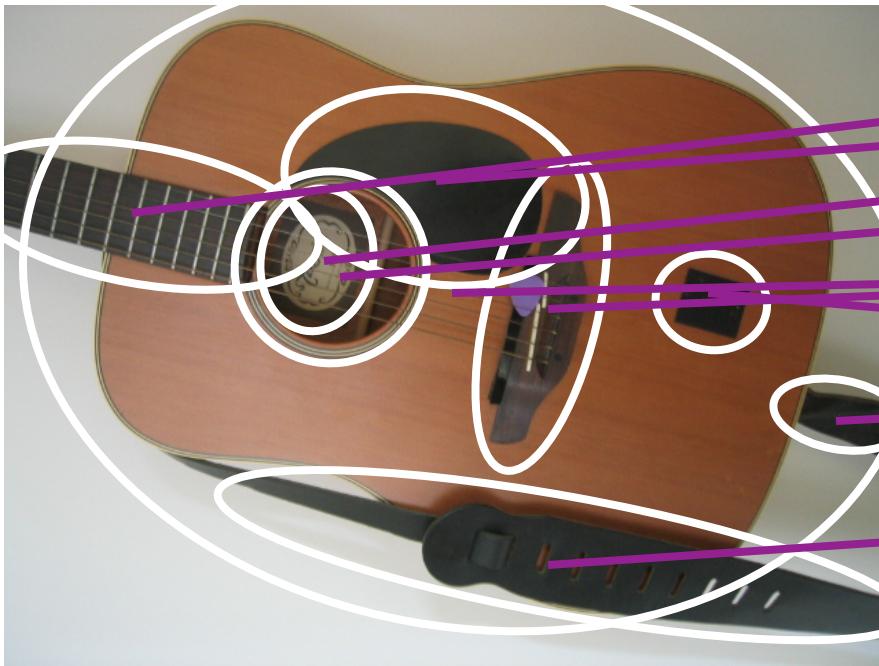


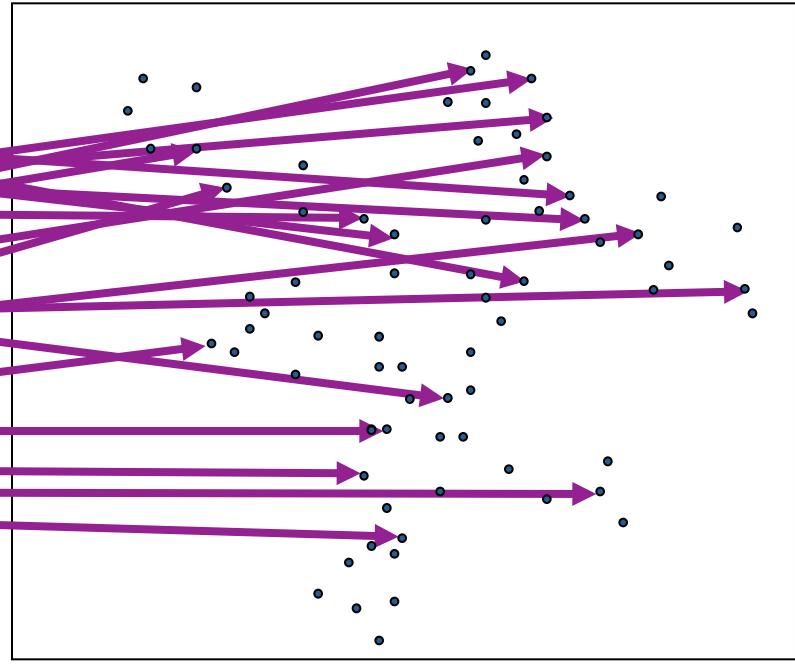
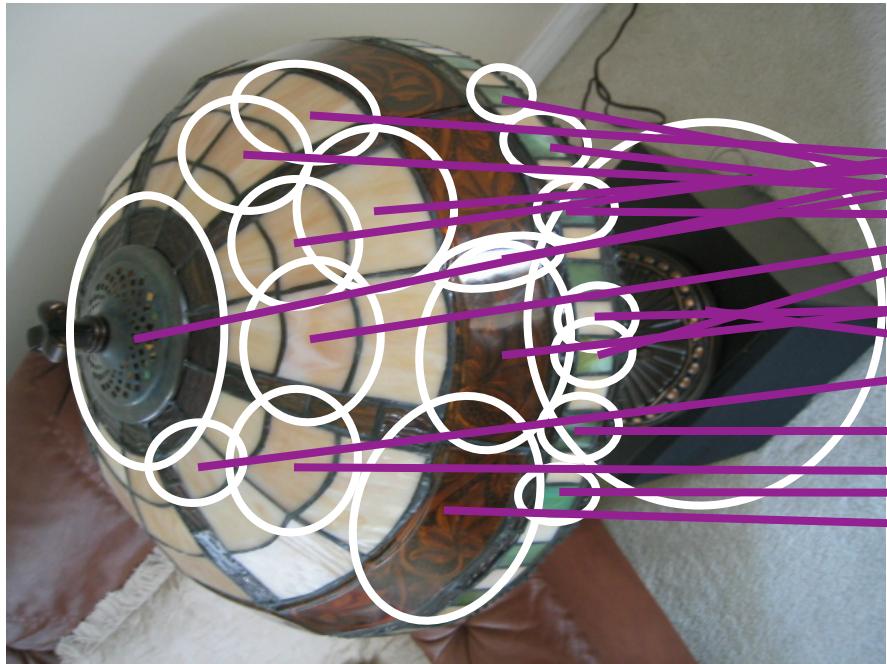
Recognition with K-tree

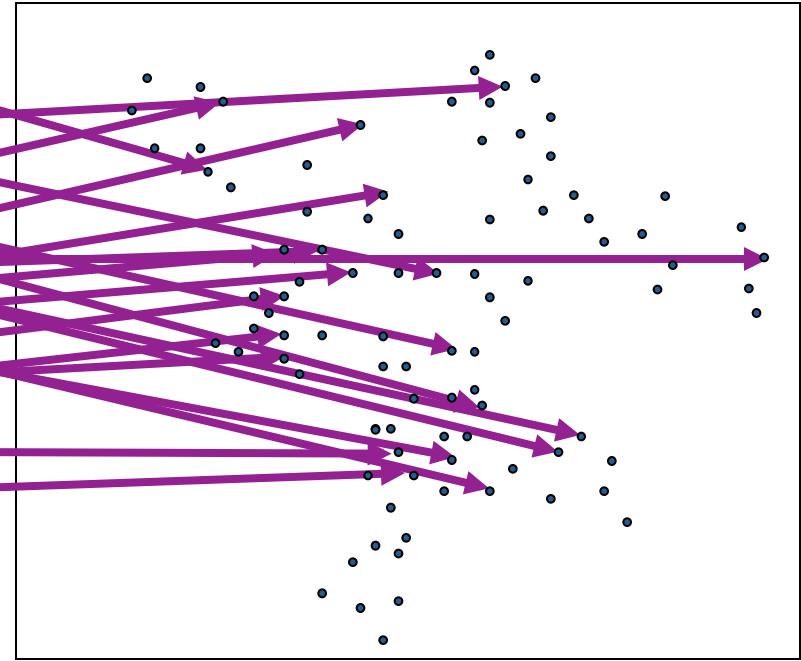
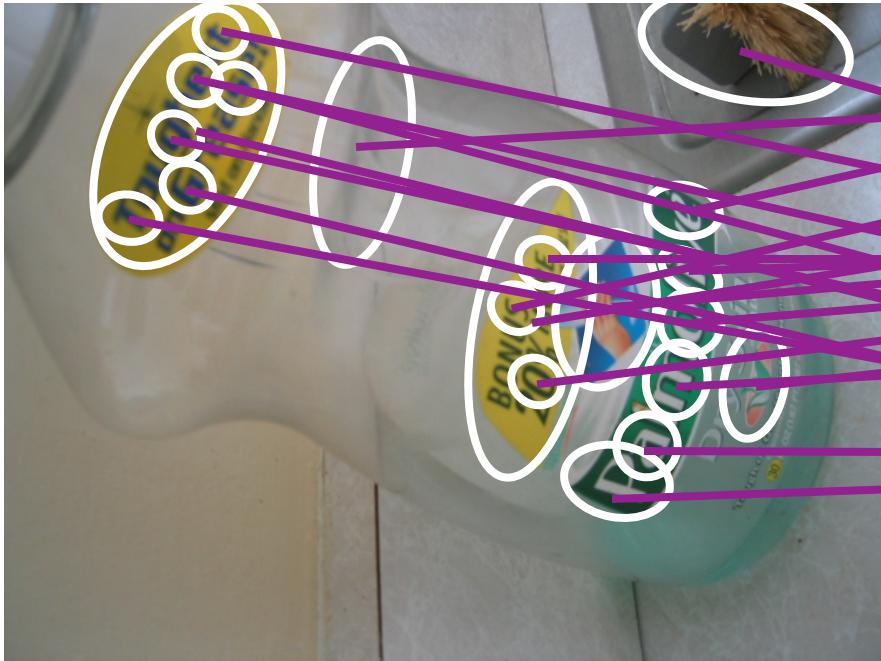
Following slides by David Nister (CVPR 2006)

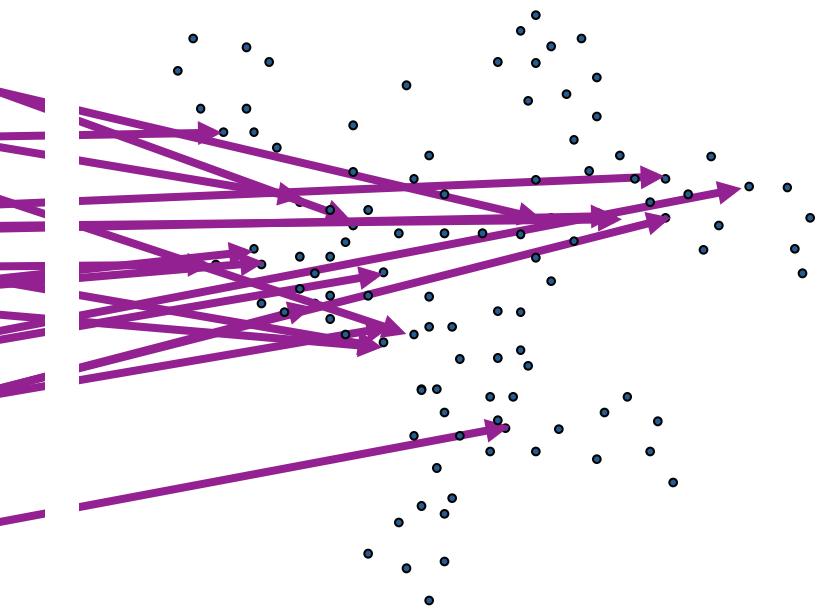


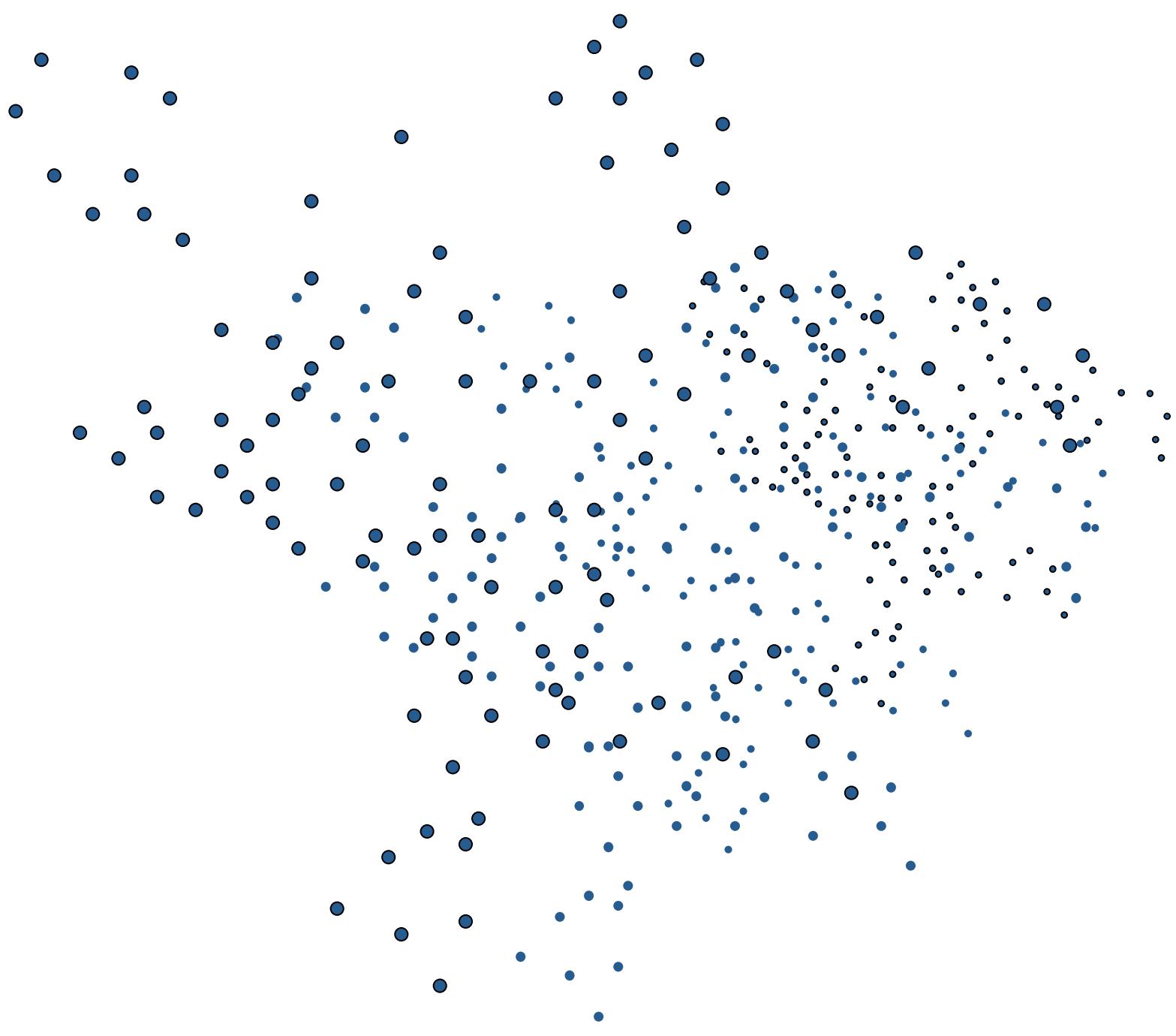


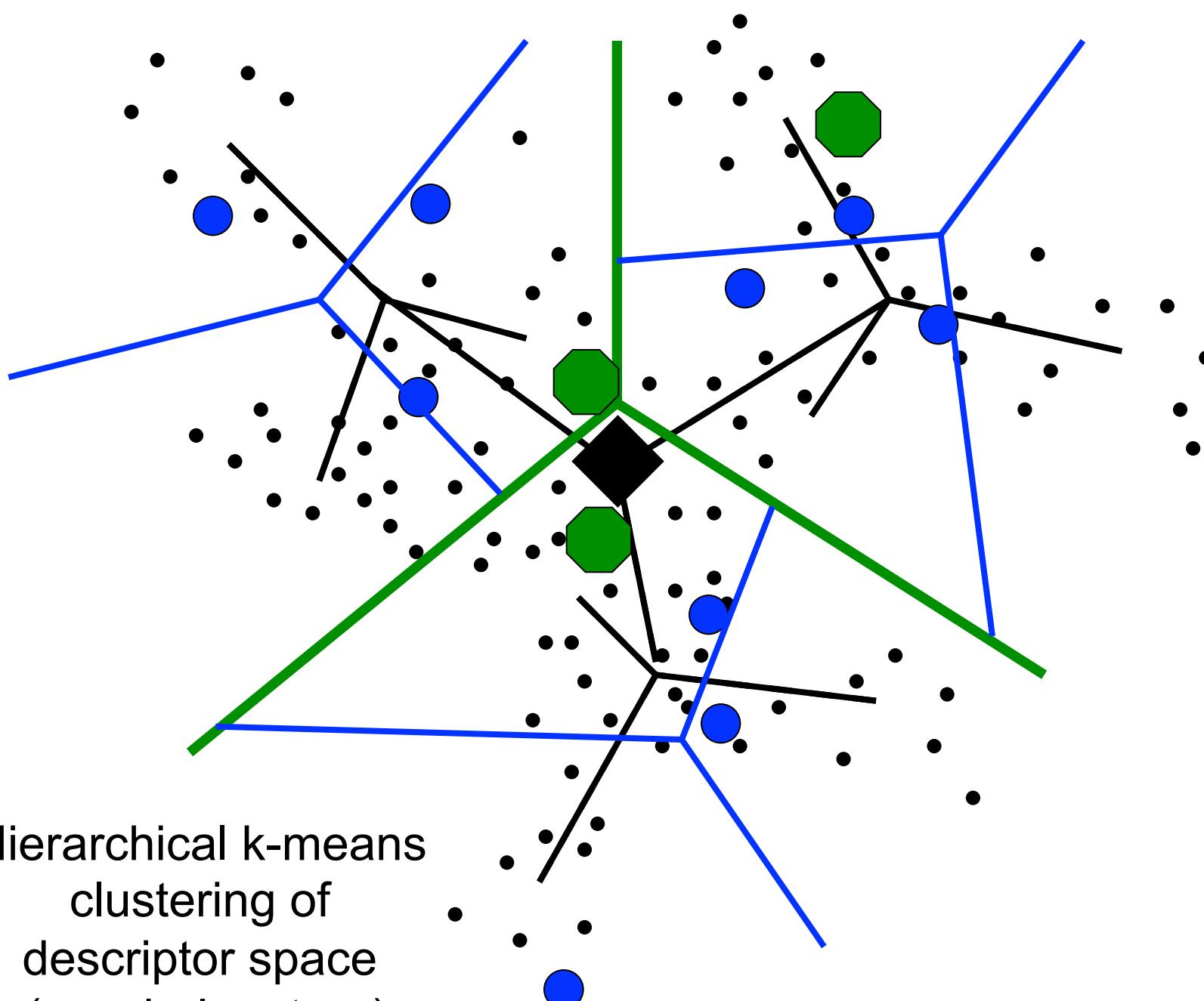






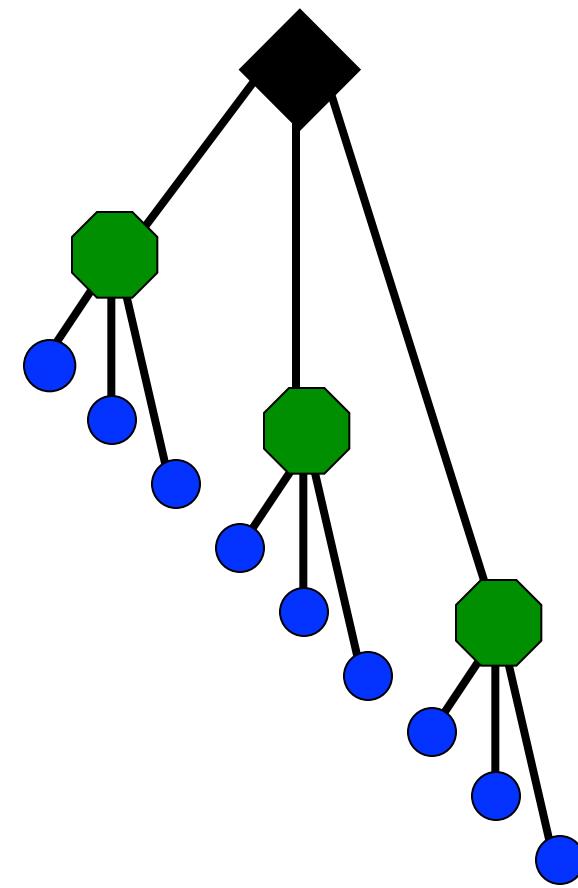






Hierarchical k-means
clustering of
descriptor space
(vocabulary tree)

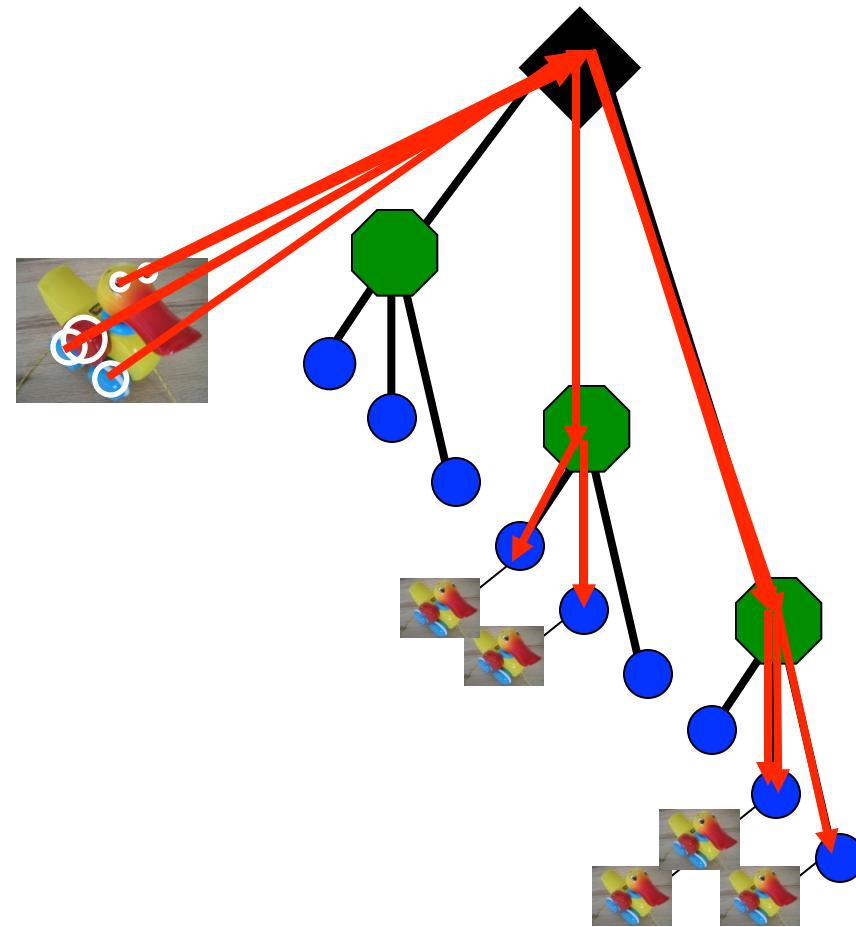
Slide credit: D. Nister



Vocabulary tree/inverted index

Slide credit: D. Nister

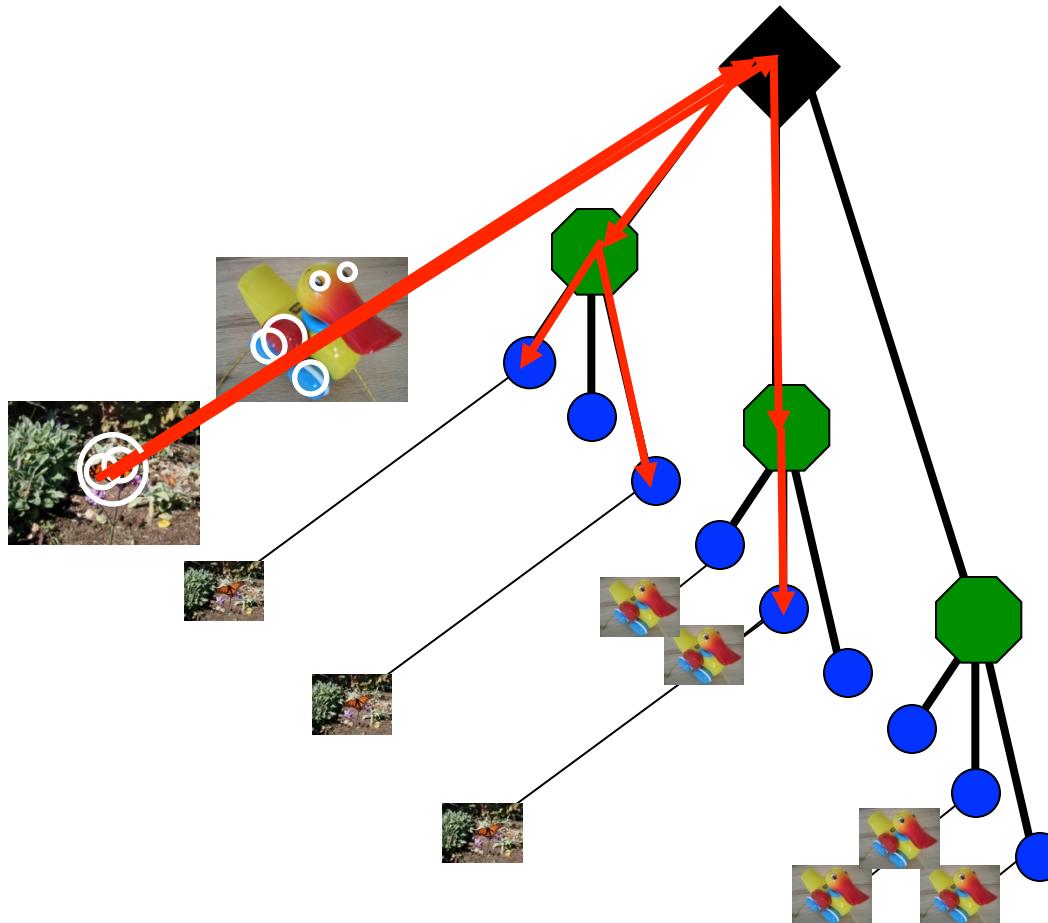
Model images



Populating the vocabulary tree/inverted index

Slide credit: D. Nister

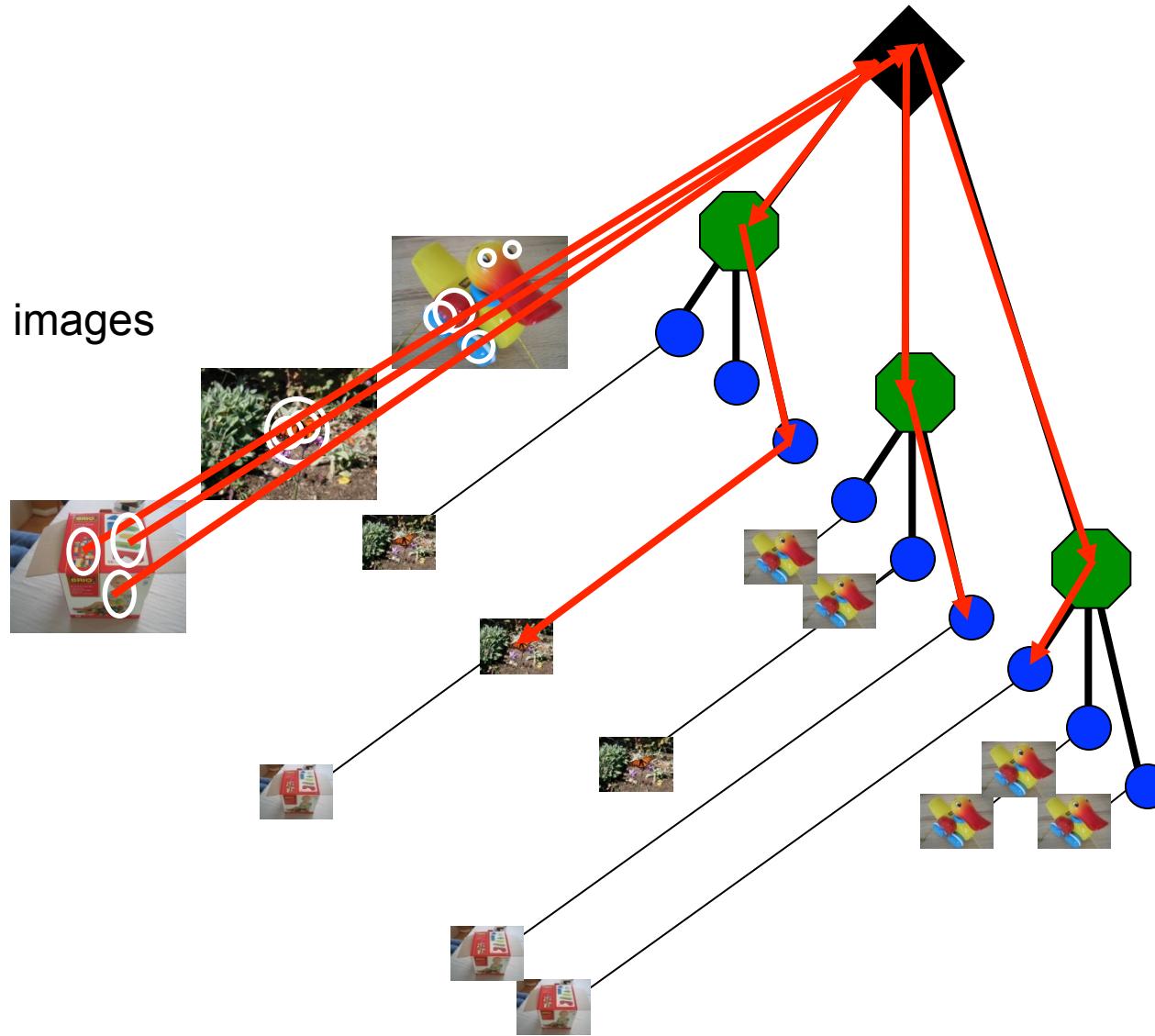
Model images



Populating the vocabulary tree/inverted index

Slide credit: D. Nister

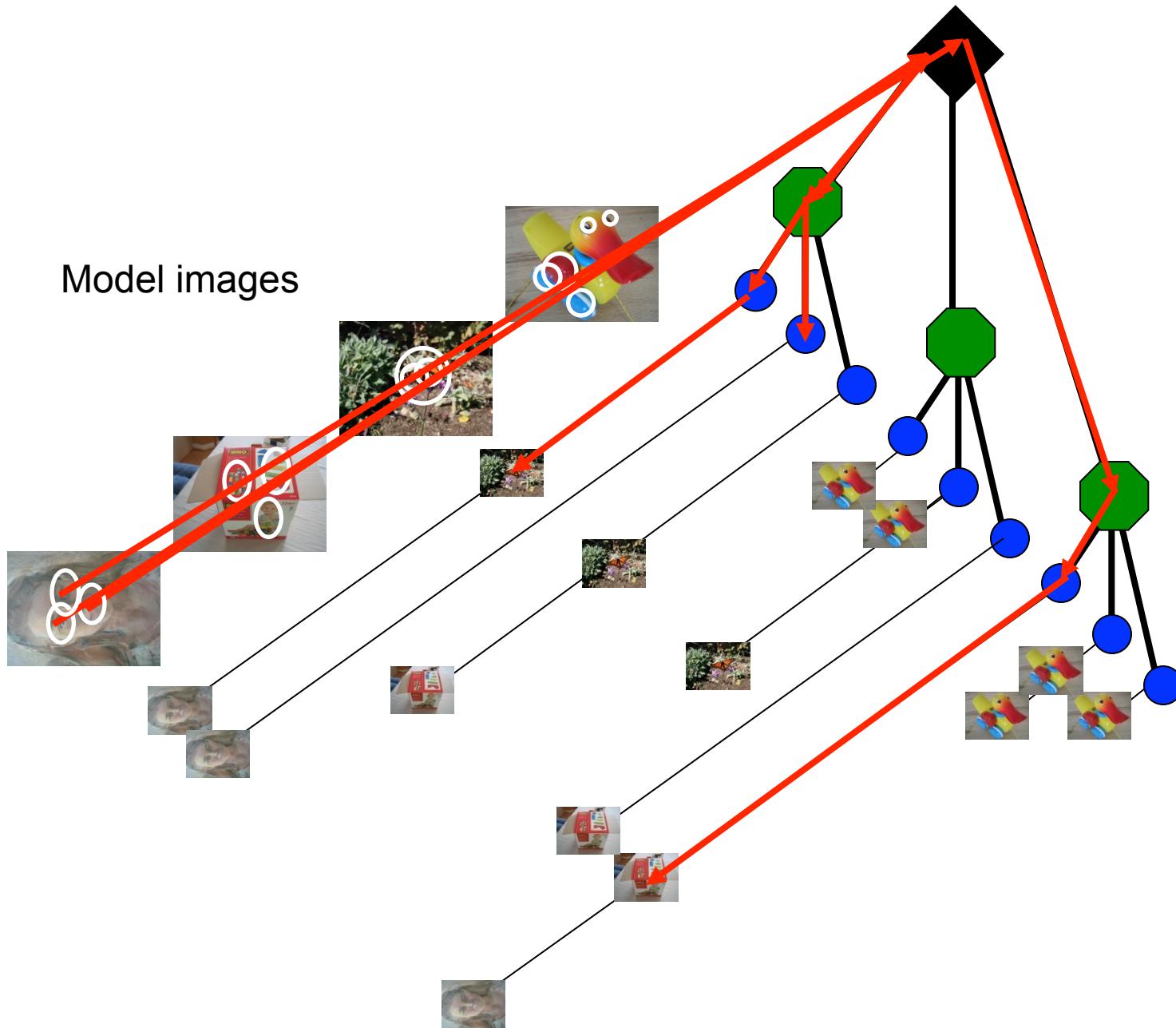
Model images



Populating the vocabulary tree/inverted index

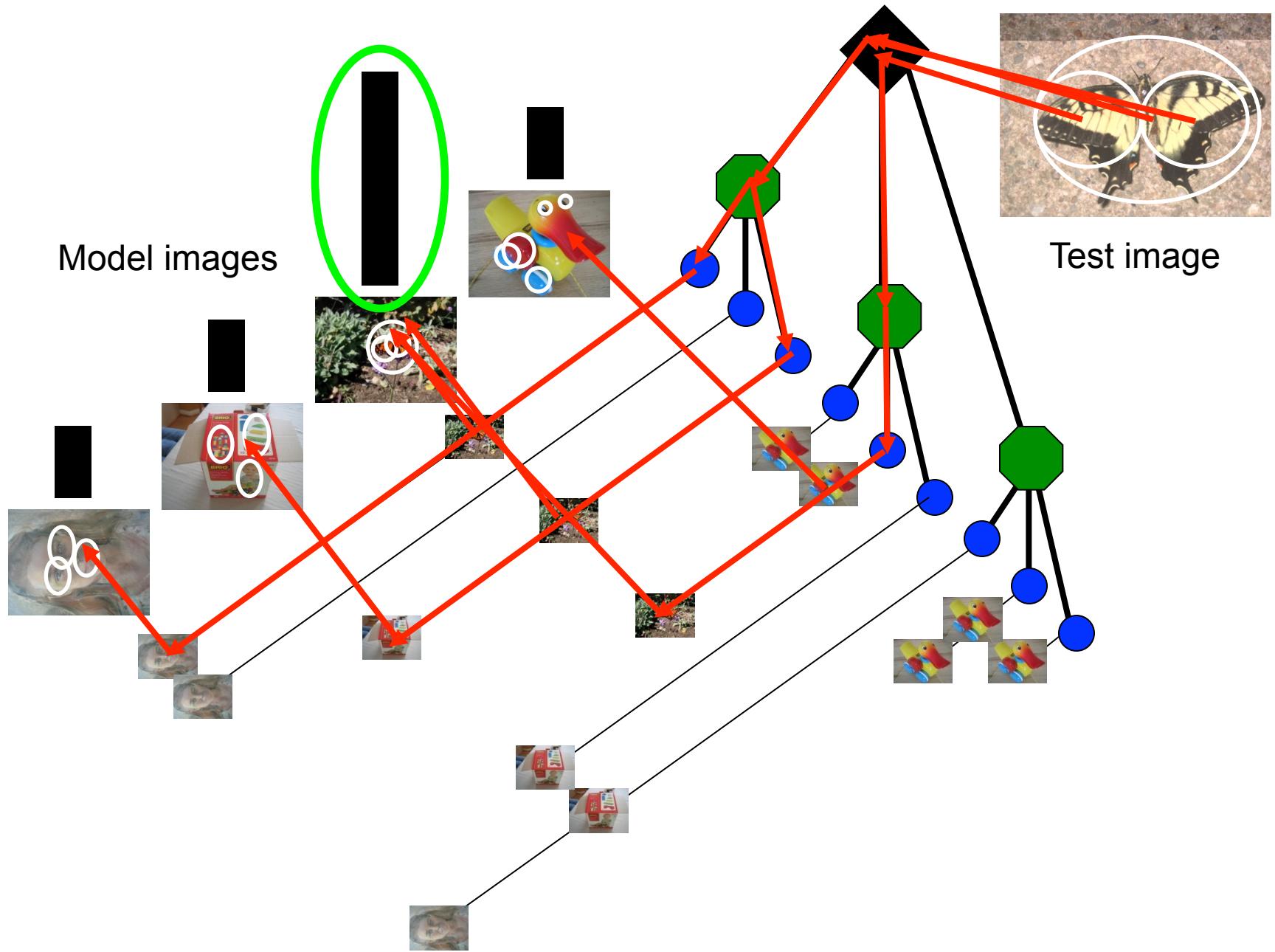
Slide credit: D. Nister

Model images



Populating the vocabulary tree/inverted index

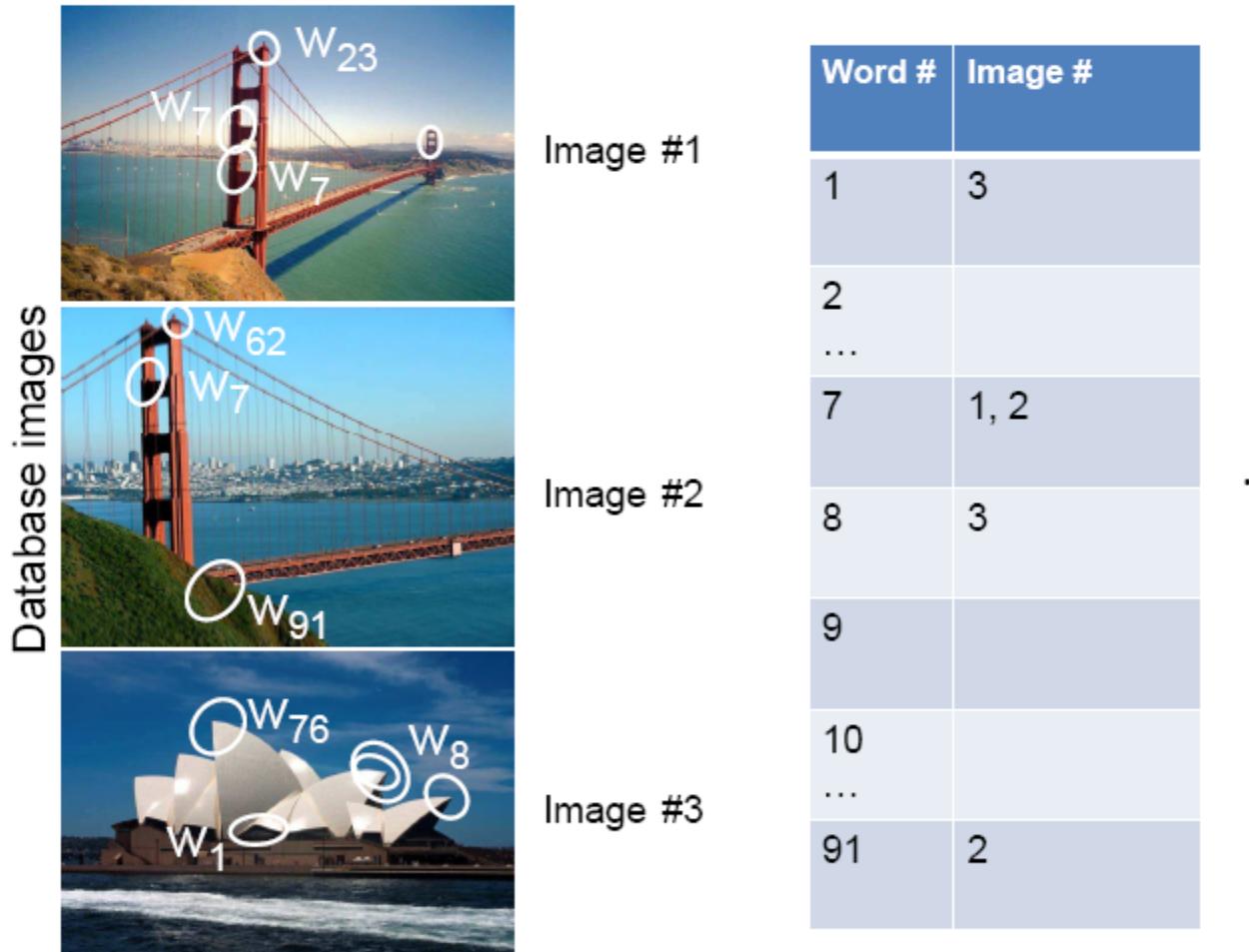
Slide credit: D. Nister



Looking up a test image

Slide credit: D. Nister

Inverted file index



- Database images are loaded into the index mapping words to image numbers

Inverted file index



New query image

Word #	Image #
1	3
2	
7	1, 2
8	3
9	
10	
...	
91	2



- New query image is mapped to indices of database images that share a word.

Inverted file index

- Key requirement for inverted file index to be efficient: sparsity
- If most pages/images contain most words then you're not better off than exhaustive search.
 - Exhaustive search would mean comparing the word distribution of a query versus every page.

Instance recognition: remaining issues

- How to summarize the content of an entire image? And gauge overall similarity?
- How large should the vocabulary be? How to perform quantization efficiently?
- Is having the same set of visual words enough to identify the object/scene? How to verify spatial agreement?
- How to score the retrieval results?

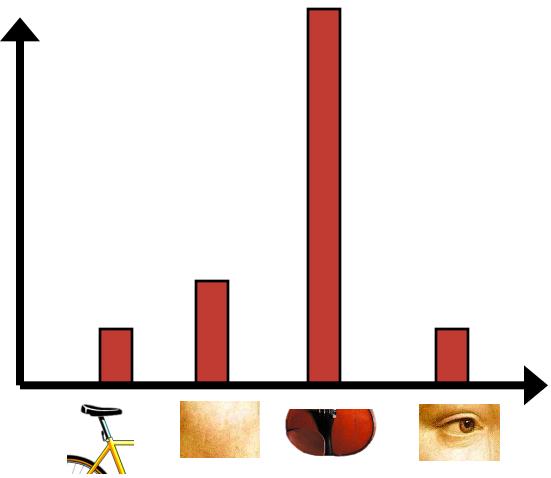
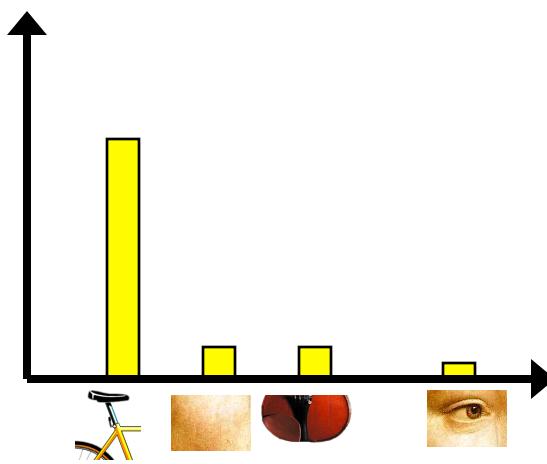
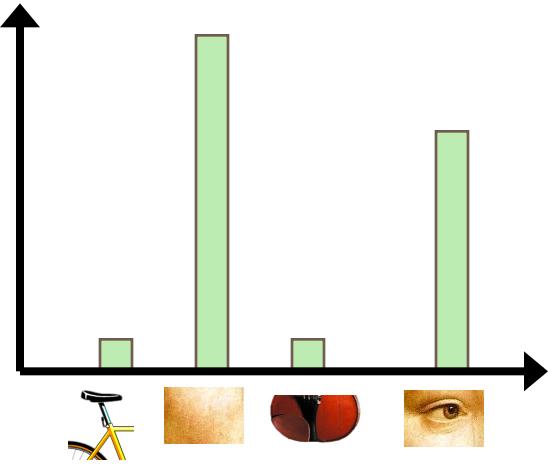
Analogy to documents

Of all the sensory impressions proceeding to the brain, the visual experiences are the dominant ones. Our perception of the world around us is based essentially on the messages that reach us through our eyes. For a long time it was believed that the retinal image was processed directly in the visual centers in the brain. In 1960, Hubel and Wiesel discovered that the visual system is more complex than previously thought. Following the work of H. G. Külz, who had mapped to the various columns of the primary visual cortex, Hubel and Wiesel have been able to demonstrate that the message about the image falling on the retina undergoes a top-down analysis in a system of nerve cells stored in columns. In this system each column has its specific function and is responsible for a specific detail in the pattern of the retinal image.



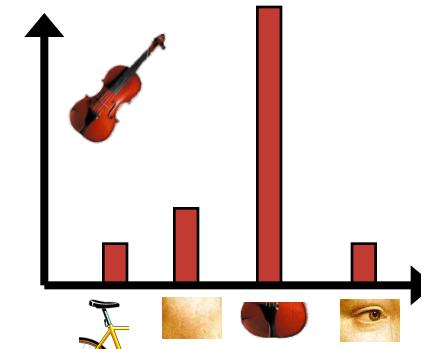
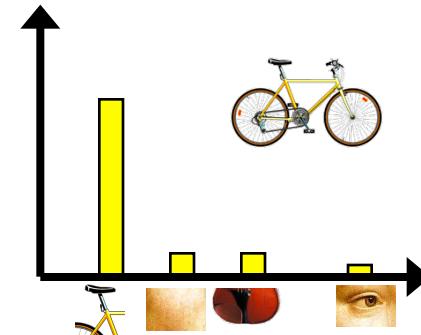
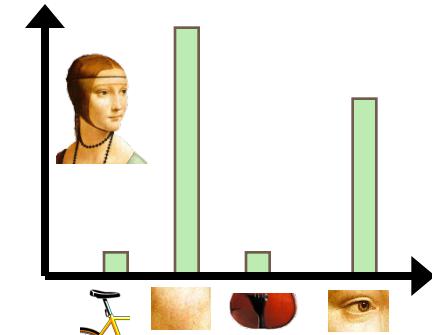
China is forecasting a trade surplus of \$90bn (£51bn) to \$100bn this year, a threefold increase on 2004's \$32bn. The Commerce Ministry said the surplus would be created by a predicted 30% increase in exports to \$750bn, compared with \$660bn. This will annoy the US, which China's leaders believe deliberately agreed to let the yuan rise. The government also needs to increase domestic demand so that the country can buy more from the country. China has been allowed to let the yuan against the dollar rise slowly and permitted it to trade within a narrow band, but the US wants the yuan to be allowed to trade freely. However, Beijing has made it clear that it will take its time and tread carefully before allowing the yuan to rise further in value.





Bags of visual words

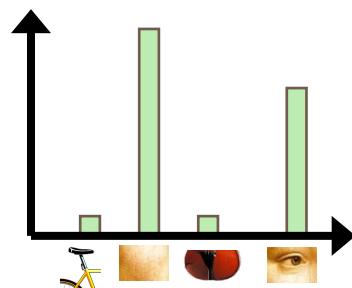
- Summarize entire image based on its distribution (histogram) of word occurrences.
- Analogous to bag of words representation commonly used for documents.



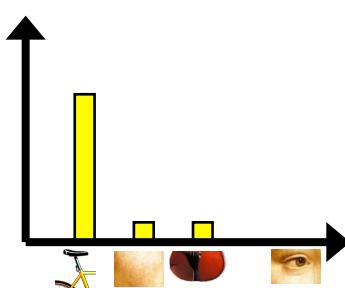
Comparing bags of words

- Rank frames by normalized scalar product between their (possibly weighted) occurrence counts (aka cosine similarity)
- This is a kind of nearest neighbor search for similar images

[1 8 1 4]



[5 1 1 0]



$$sim(d_j, q) = \frac{\langle d_j, q \rangle}{\|d_j\| \|q\|}$$



\vec{d}_j

\vec{q}

Inverted file index and bags of words similarity



New query image

Word #	Image #
1	3
2	
7	1, 2
8	3
9	
10	
...	
91	2
...	

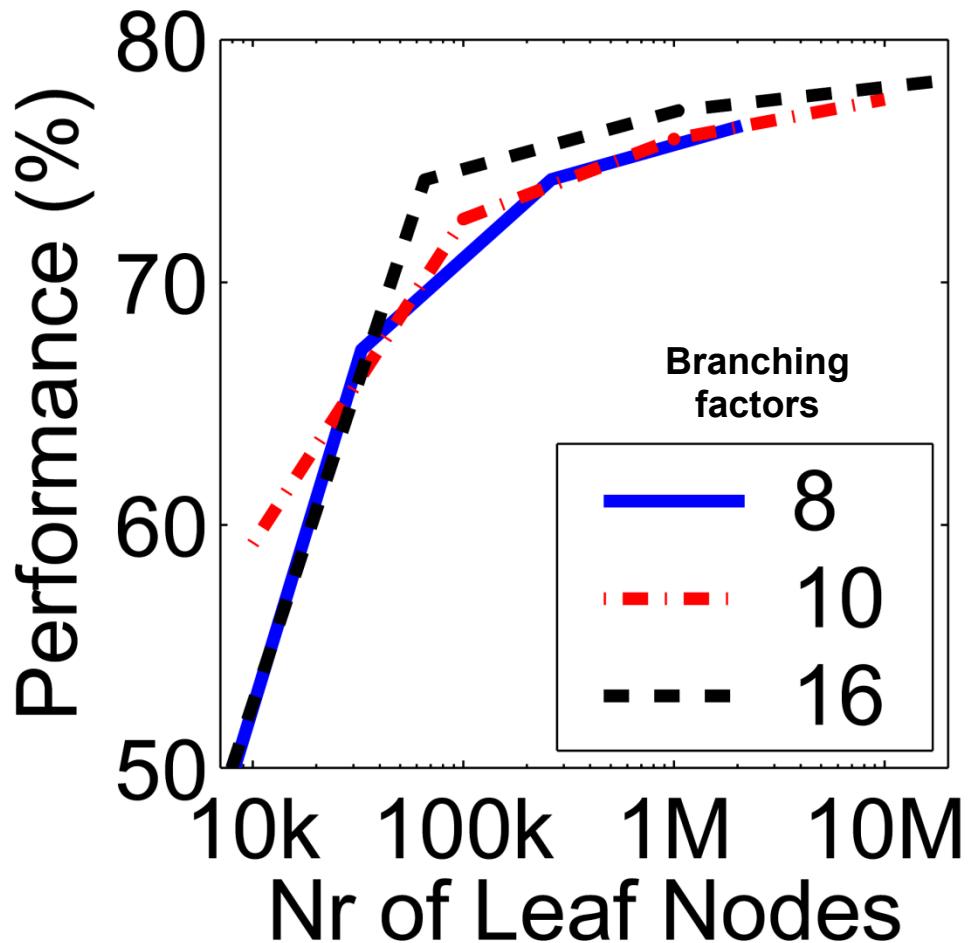


1. Extract words in query
2. Inverted file index to find relevant frames
3. Compare word counts

Instance recognition: remaining issues

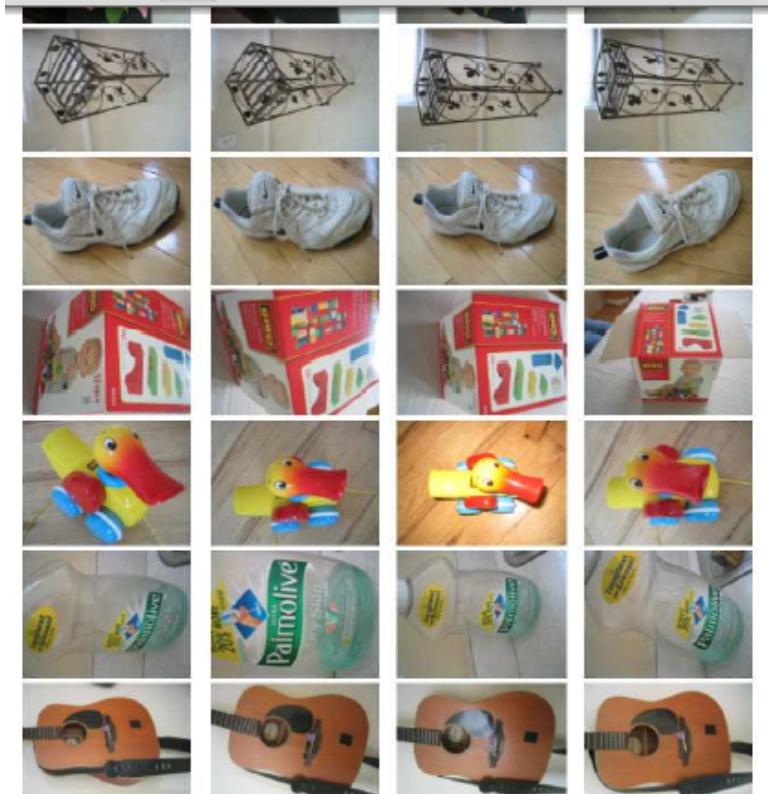
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- How large should the vocabulary be? How to perform quantization efficiently?
- Is having the same set of visual words enough to identify the object/scene? How to verify spatial agreement?
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Vocabulary size



Influence on performance, sparsity

Results for recognition task
with 6347 images



Nister & Stewenius, CVPR 2006
Kristen Grauman

Vocabulary trees: complexity

Number of words given tree parameters: branching factor and number of levels

$$\text{branching_factor}^{\text{number_of_levels}}$$

Word assignment cost vs. flat vocabulary

$O(k)$ for flat

$O(\log_{\text{branching_factor}}(k) * \text{branching_factor})$

Is this like a kd-tree?

Yes, but with better partitioning and defeatist search.

This hierarchical data structure is lossy – you might not find your true nearest cluster.

110,000,000
Images in
5.8 Seconds

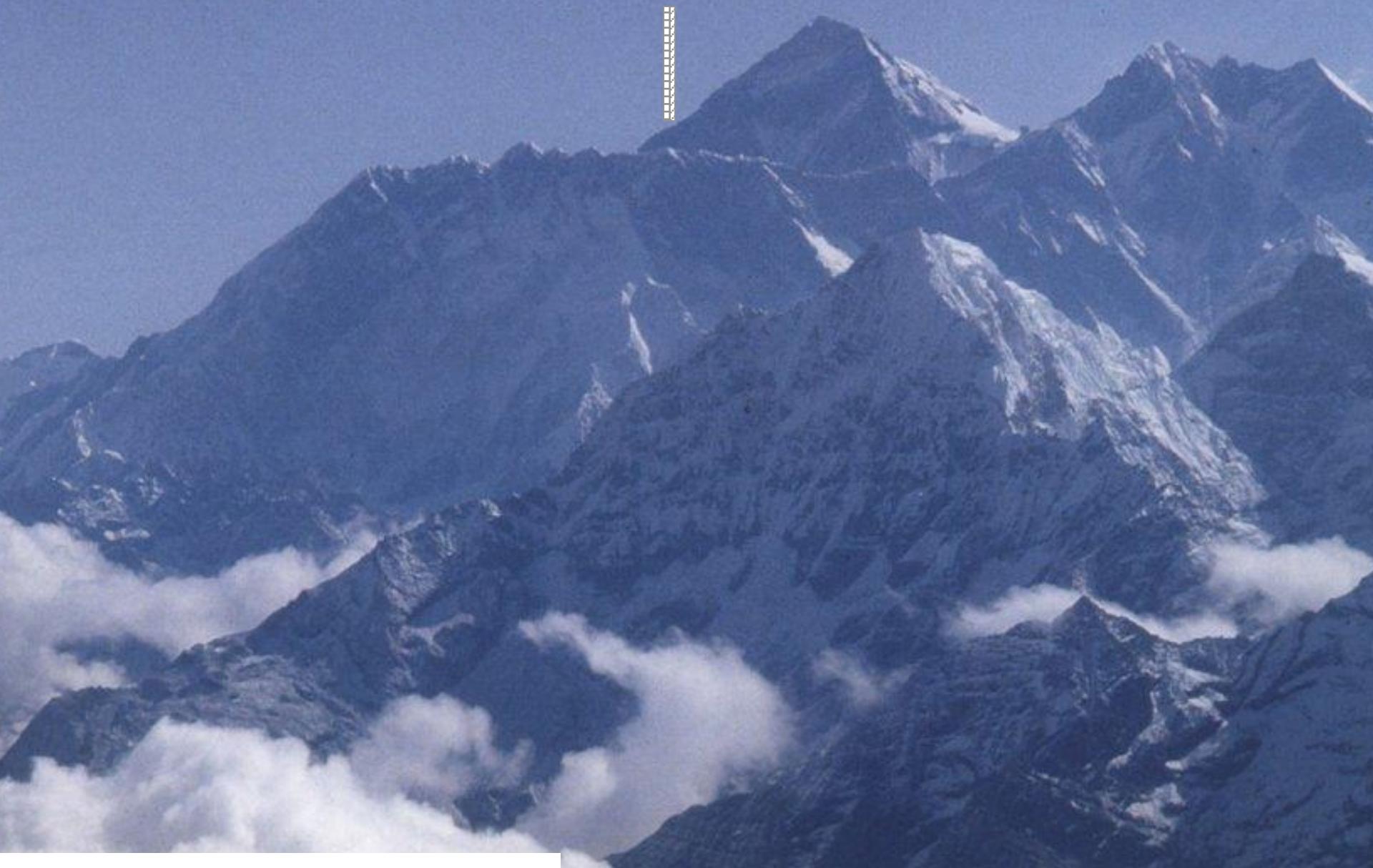


Slide Credit: Nister



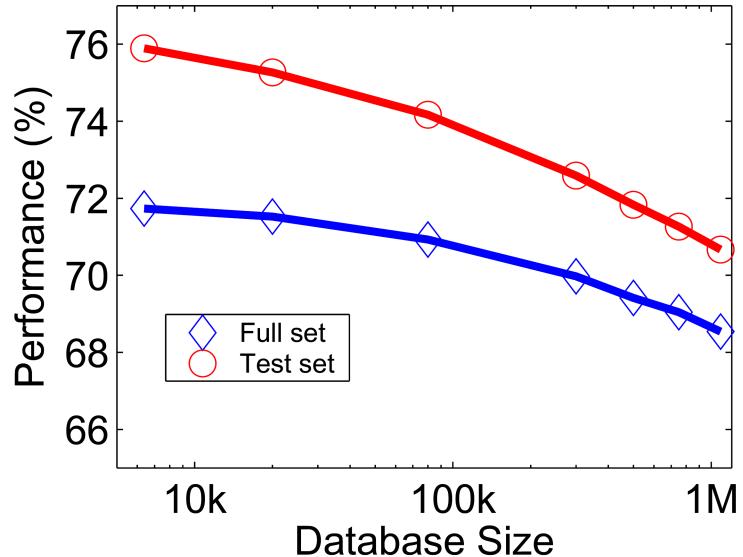
Slide Credit: Nister





Slide Credit: Nister

Performance



ImageSearch at the VizCentre

New query: Browse... Send File

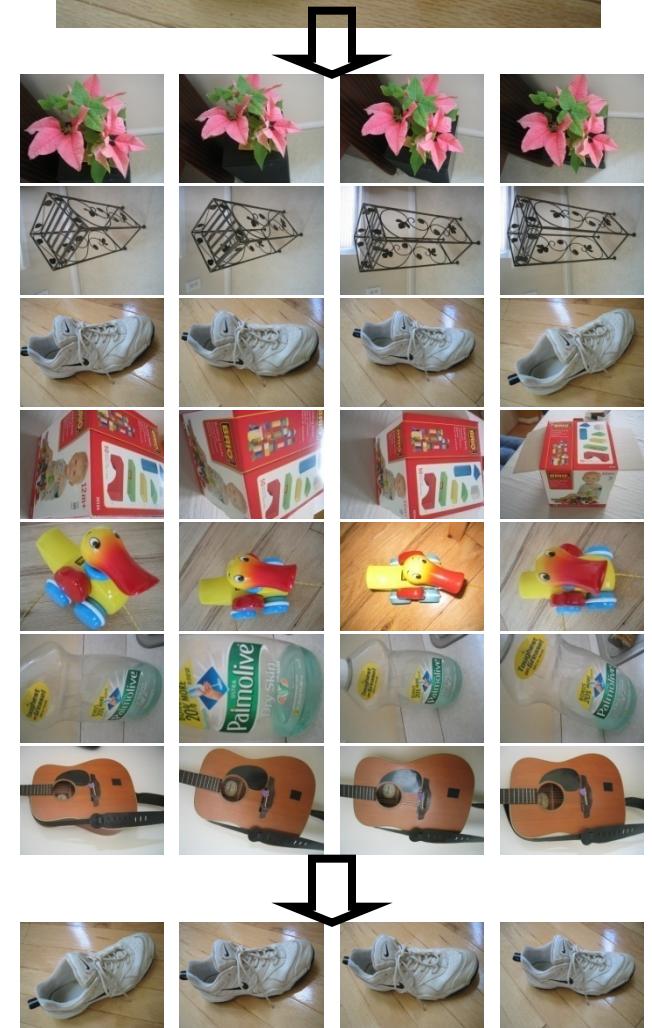
File is 500x320



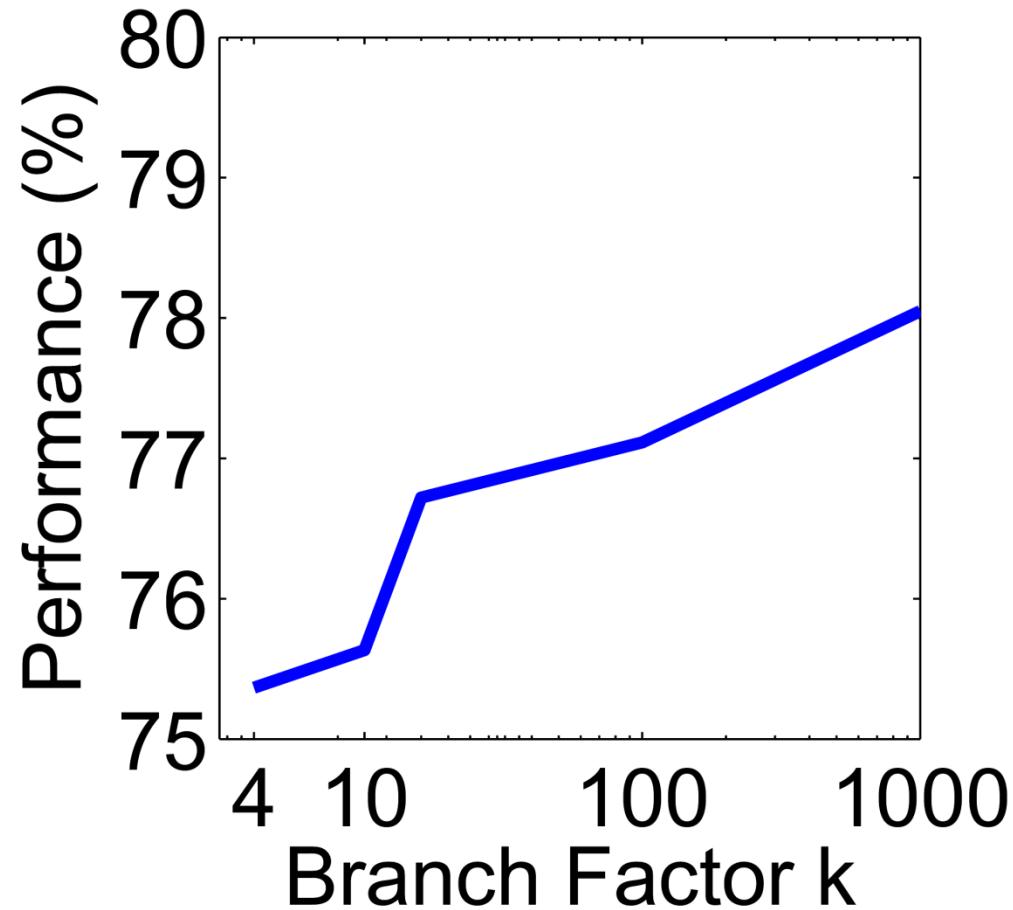
Top n results of your query.



bourne/im1000043322.pgm bourne/im1000043323.pgm bourne/im1000043326.pgm bourne/im1000043327.pgm



Higher branch factor works better
(but slower)



Visual words/bags of words

- + flexible to geometry / deformations / viewpoint
- + compact summary of image content
- + provides fixed dimensional vector representation for sets
- + very good results in practice

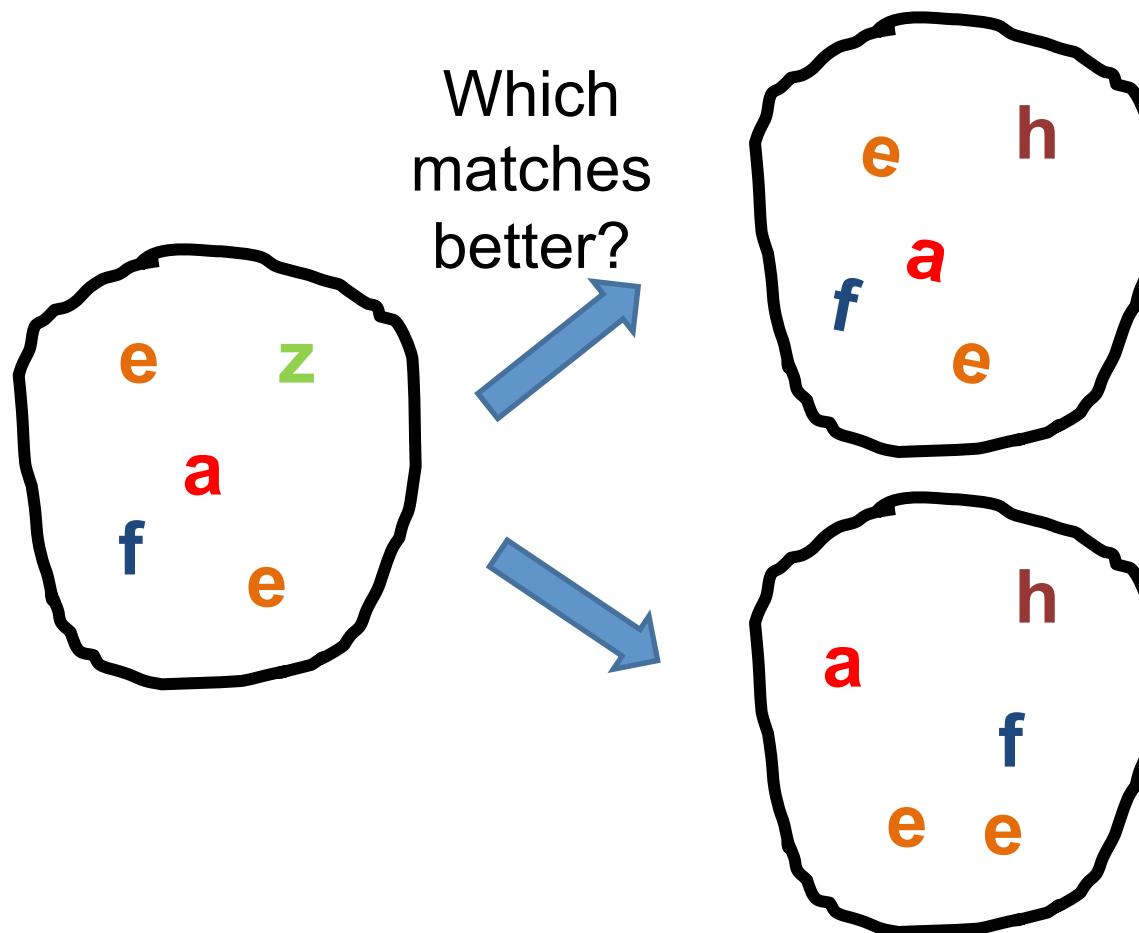
- background and foreground mixed when bag covers whole image
- optimal vocabulary formation remains unclear
- basic model ignores geometry – must verify afterwards, or encode via features

Instance recognition: remaining issues

- How to summarize the content of an entire image? And gauge overall similarity?
- How large should the vocabulary be? How to perform quantization efficiently?
- Is having the same set of visual words enough to identify the object/scene? How to verify spatial agreement?
- How to score the retrieval results?

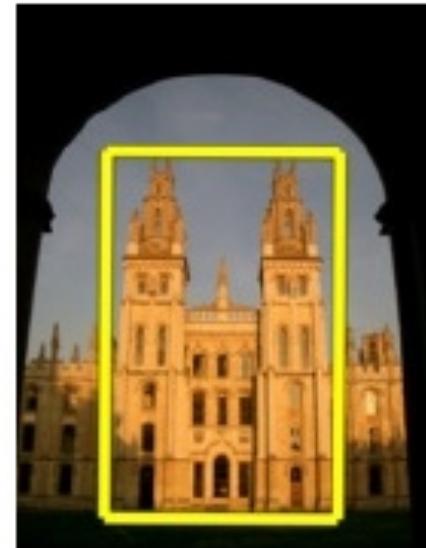
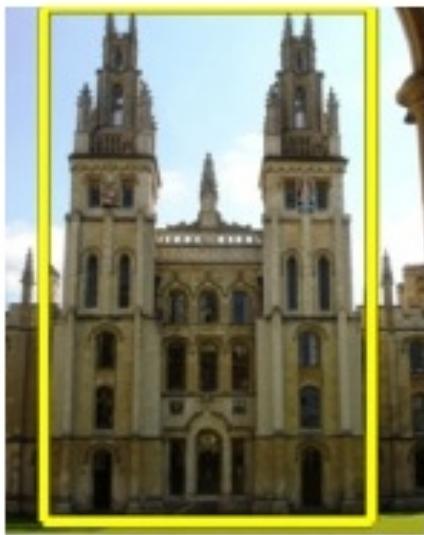
Can we be more accurate?

So far, we treat each image as containing a “bag of words”, with no spatial information



Can we be more accurate?

So far, we treat each image as containing a “bag of words”, with no spatial information



Real objects have consistent geometry

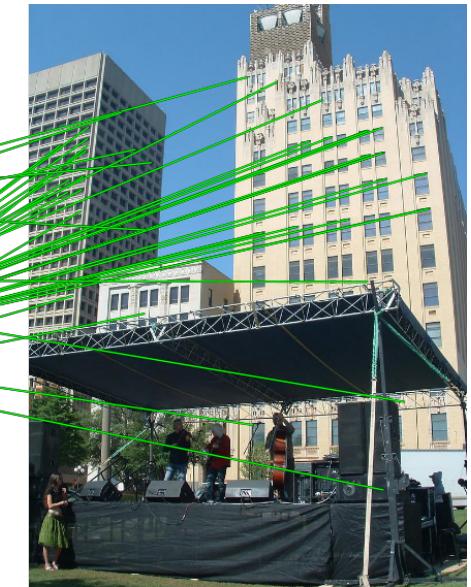
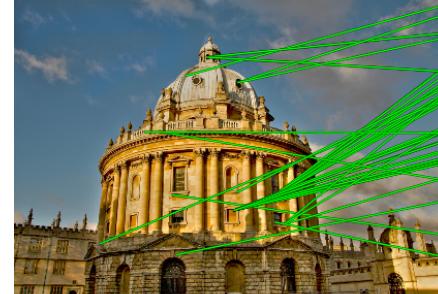
Spatial Verification

Query



DB image with high BoW
similarity

Query

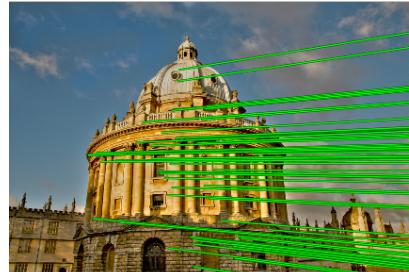


DB image with high BoW
similarity

Both image pairs have many visual words in common.

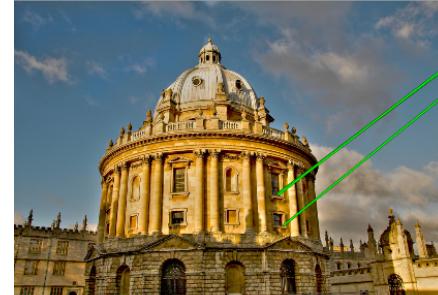
Spatial Verification

Query



DB image with high BoW
similarity

Query



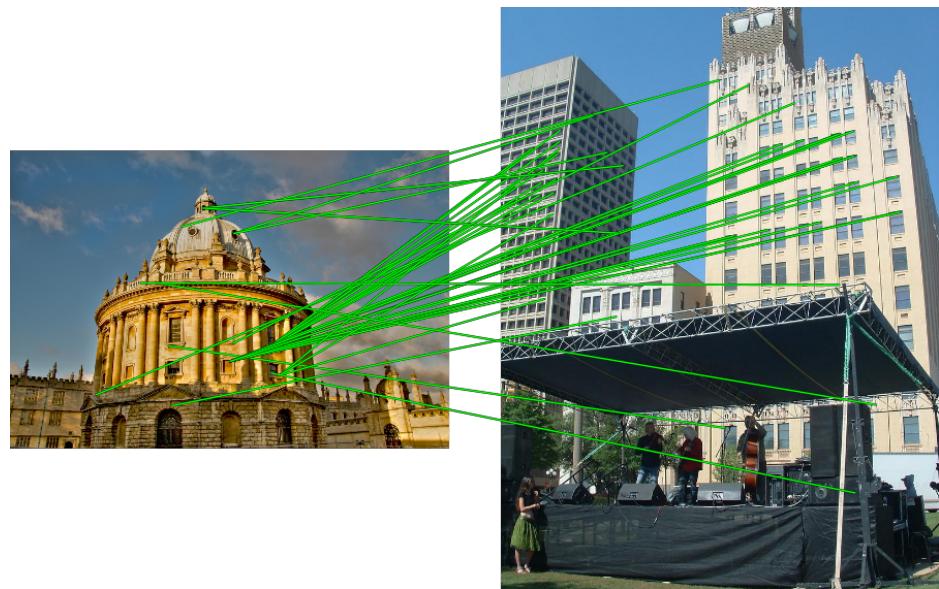
DB image with high BoW
similarity

Only some of the matches are mutually consistent

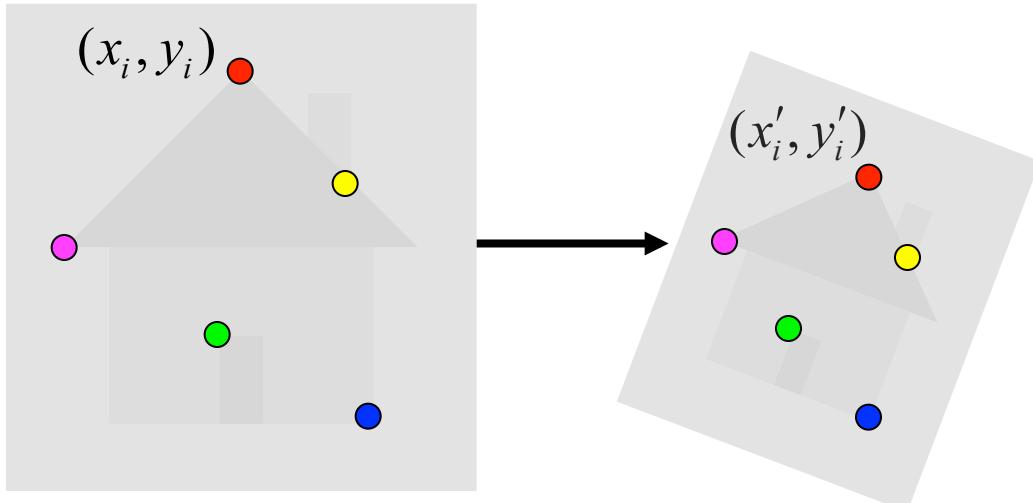
Spatial Verification: two basic strategies

- RANSAC
 - Typically sort by BoW similarity as initial filter
 - Verify by checking support (inliers) for possible transformations
 - e.g., “success” if find a transformation with $> N$ inlier correspondences
- Generalized Hough Transform
 - Let each matched feature cast a vote on location, scale, orientation of the model object
 - Verify parameters with enough votes

RANSAC verification



Recall: Fitting an affine transformation

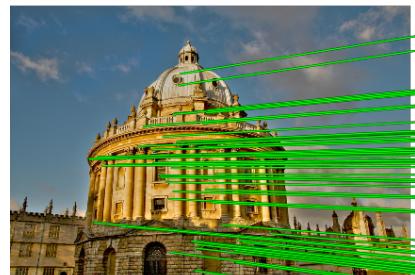
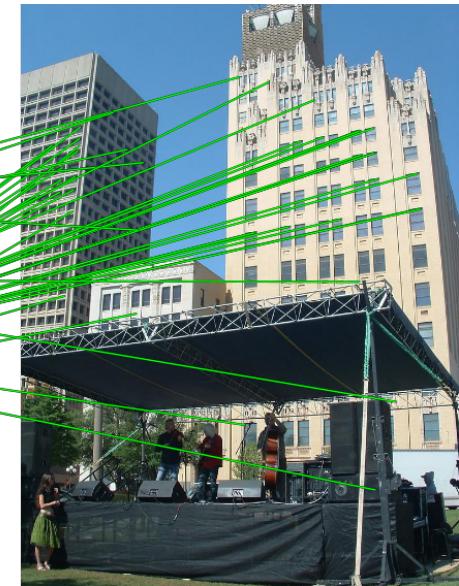
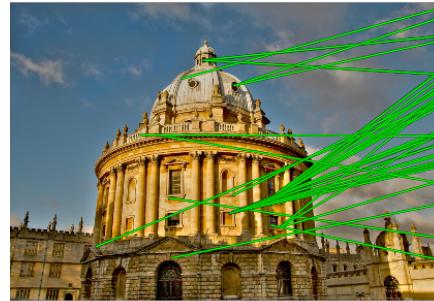


Approximates viewpoint changes for roughly planar objects and roughly orthographic cameras.

$$\begin{bmatrix} x'_i \\ y'_i \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} m_1 & m_2 \\ m_3 & m_4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_i \\ y_i \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} t_1 \\ t_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_i & y_i & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & x_i & y_i & 0 & 1 \\ \dots & & & & & \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} m_1 \\ m_2 \\ m_3 \\ m_4 \\ t_1 \\ t_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x'_i \\ y'_i \\ \dots \end{bmatrix}$$

RANSAC verification



Instance recognition: remaining issues

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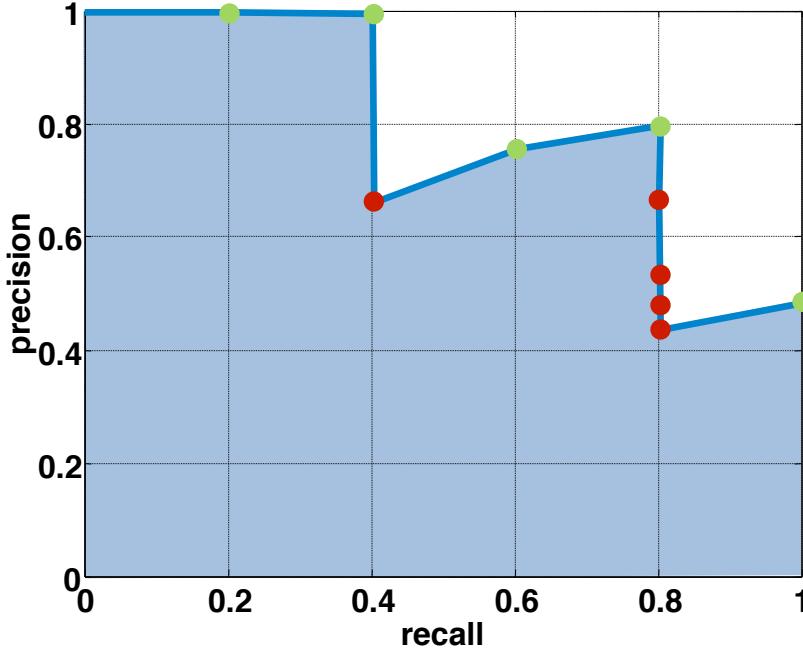
Scoring retrieval quality



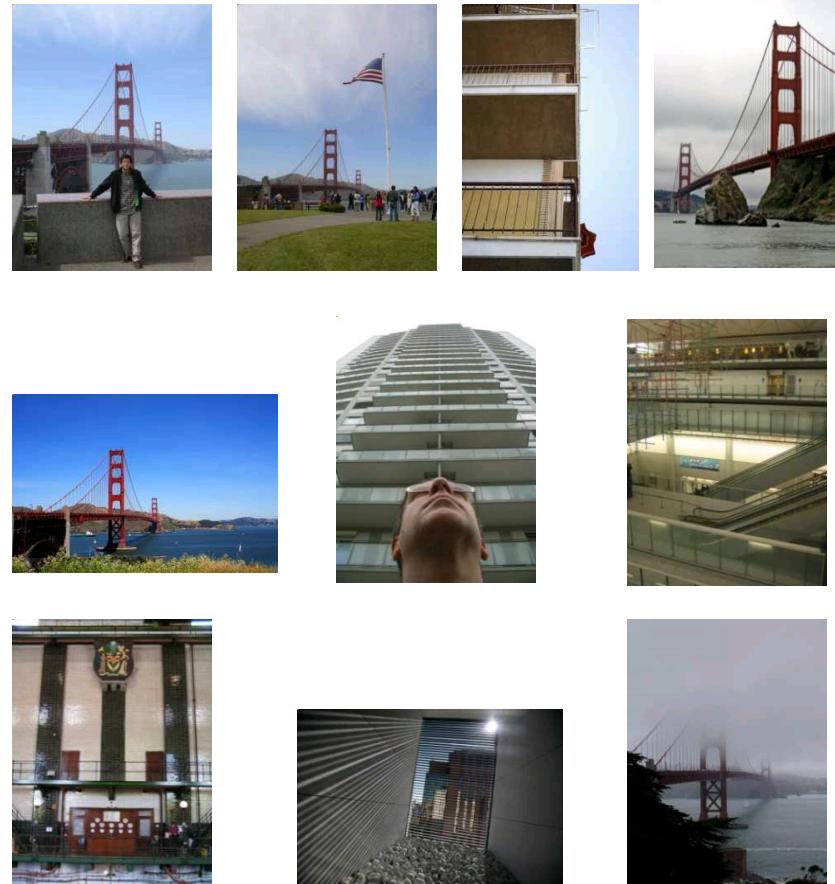
Query

Database size: 10 images
Relevant (total): 5 images

$$\text{precision} = \#\text{relevant} / \#\text{returned}$$
$$\text{recall} = \#\text{relevant} / \#\text{total relevant}$$



Results (ordered):



What else can we borrow from text retrieval?

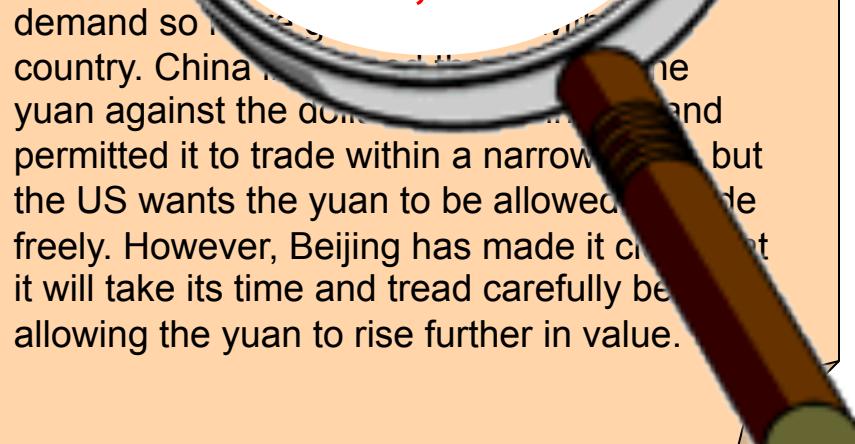
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China is forecasting a trade surplus of \$90bn (£51bn) to \$100bn this year, a threefold increase on 2004's \$32bn. The Commerce Ministry said the surplus would be created by a predicted 30% growth in exports to \$750bn, compared with \$660bn. The US has been annoyed that China's exports have been growing so rapidly, deliberately agreed to let the yuan rise against the dollar, and agreed to increase its imports from China. The Chinese government also needs to encourage domestic demand so it can sell more to the rest of the world.

China, trade, surplus, commerce, exports, imports, US, yuan, bank, domestic, foreign, increase, trade, value

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tf-idf weighting

- Term frequency – inverse document frequency
- Describe frame by frequency of each word within it, downweight words that appear often in the database
- (Standard weighting for text retrieval)

$$t_i = \frac{n_{id}}{n_d} \log \frac{N}{n_i}$$

Number of occurrences of word i in document d

Number of words in document d

Total number of documents in database

Number of documents word i occurs in, in whole database

Recognition via alignment

Pros:

- Effective when we are able to find reliable features within clutter
- Great results for matching specific instances

Cons:

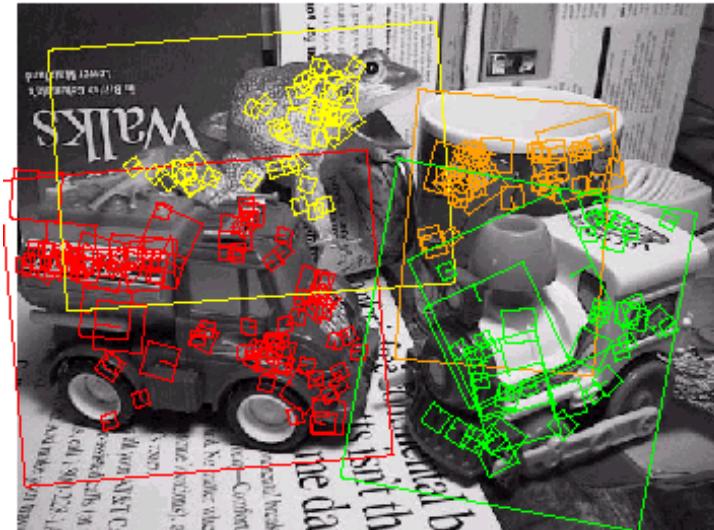
- Spatial verification as post-processing – not seamless, expensive for large-scale problems
- Not suited for category recognition.

Summary

- **Matching local invariant features**
 - Useful not only to provide matches for multi-view geometry, but also to find objects and scenes.
- **Bag of words** representation: quantize feature space to make discrete set of visual words
 - Summarize image by distribution of words
 - Index individual words
- **Inverted index**: pre-compute index to enable faster search at query time
- **Recognition of instances via alignment**: matching local features followed by spatial verification
 - Robust fitting : RANSAC, GHT

Things to remember

- Object instance recognition
 - Find keypoints, compute descriptors
 - Match descriptors
 - Vote for / fit affine parameters
 - Return object if # inliers > T



- Keys to efficiency
 - Visual words
 - Used for many applications
 - Inverse document file
 - Used for web-scale search

