The background of the slide features a large, faint, red watermark of the Stanford University seal. The seal is circular and contains a redwood tree in the center, with the words "STANFORD UNIVERSITY" and "1891" visible around the perimeter.

Lecture 5: Visual Tracking

Alexandre Alahi
Stanford Vision Lab



5125



Tracklets:
complete —
only source —
only sink —
no source&sink —

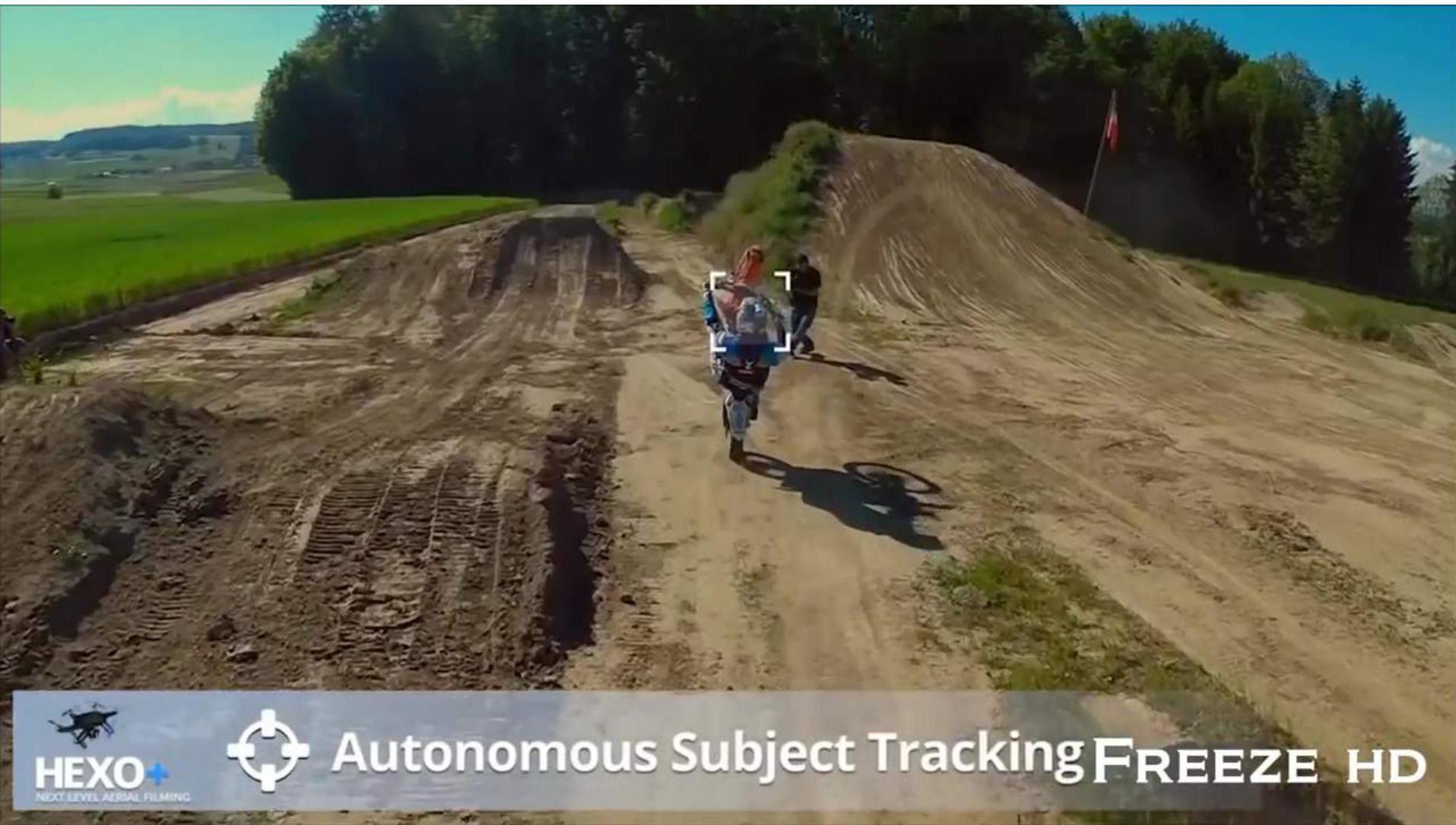




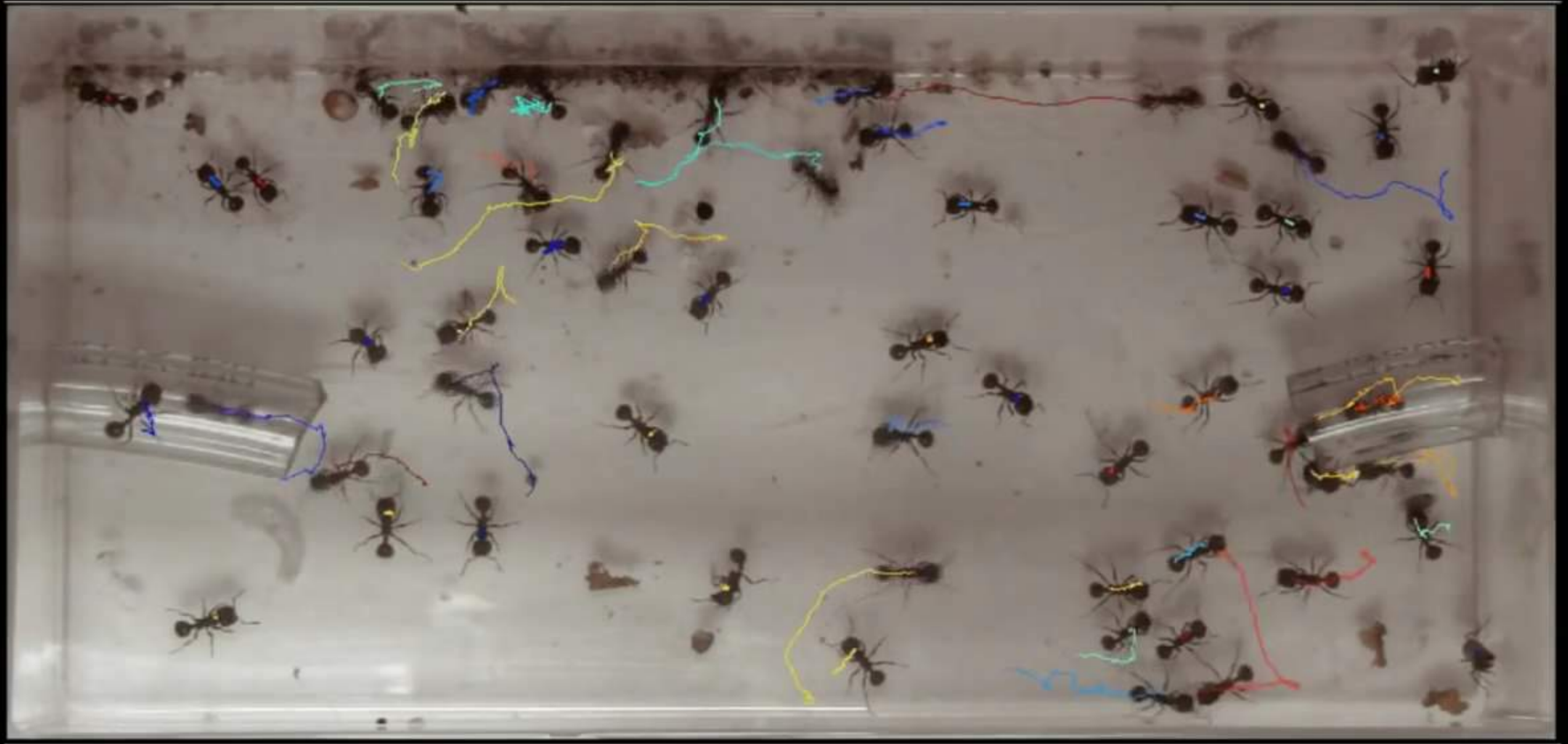


#nextlevelaerialfilming
Autonomous
Subject Tracking







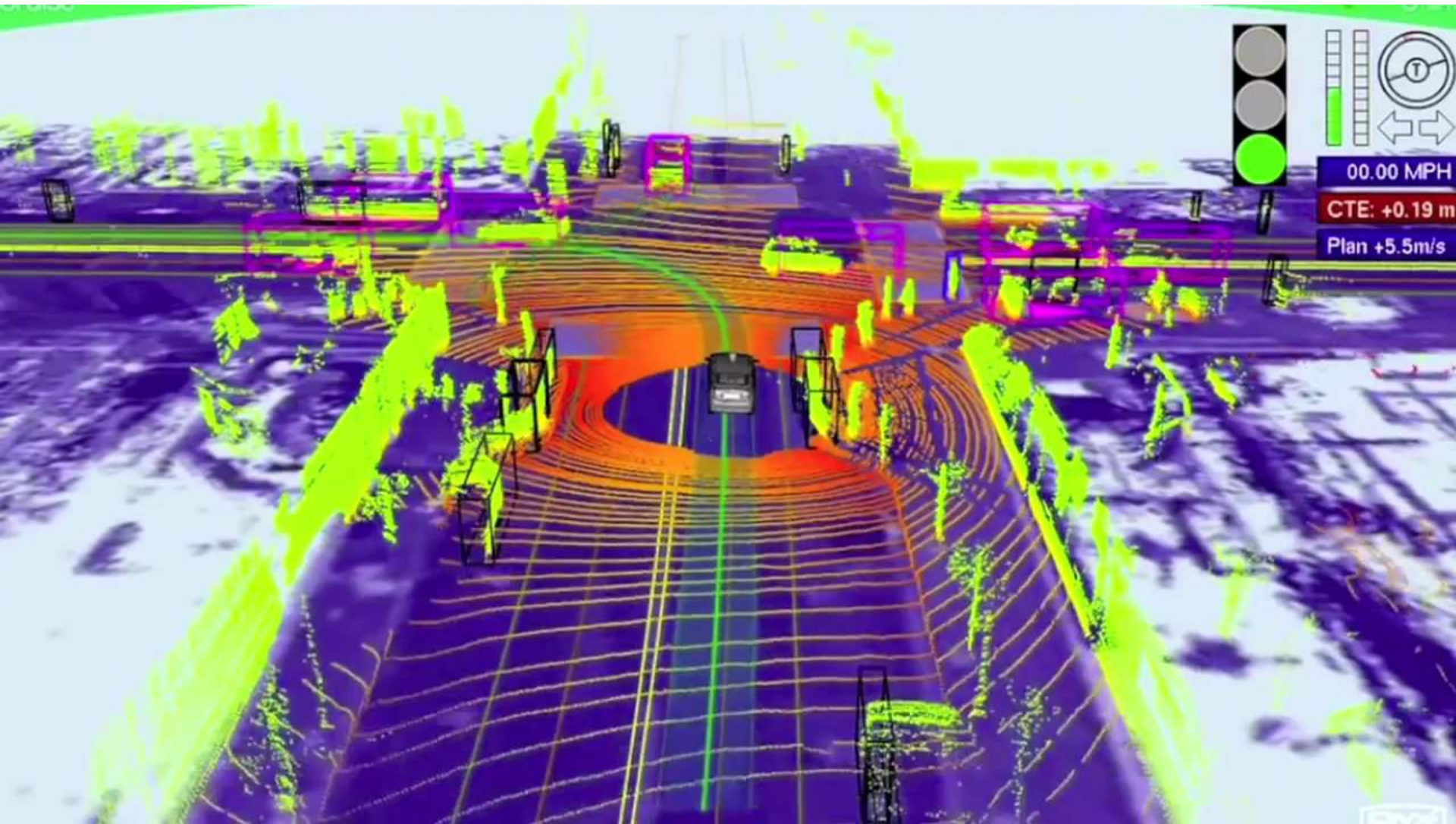


Pinter Wollman et al 2011 J Roy Soc Interface



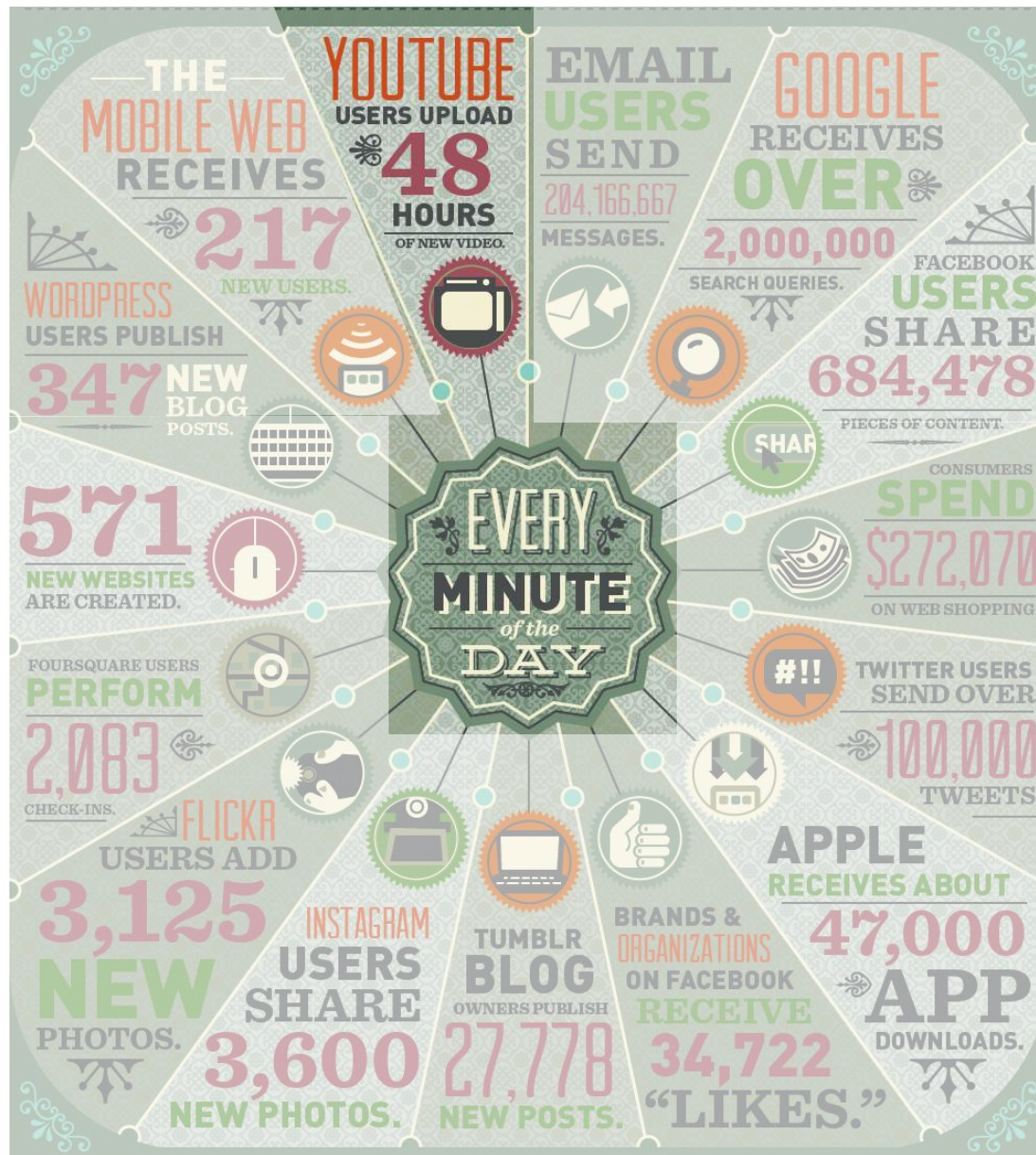






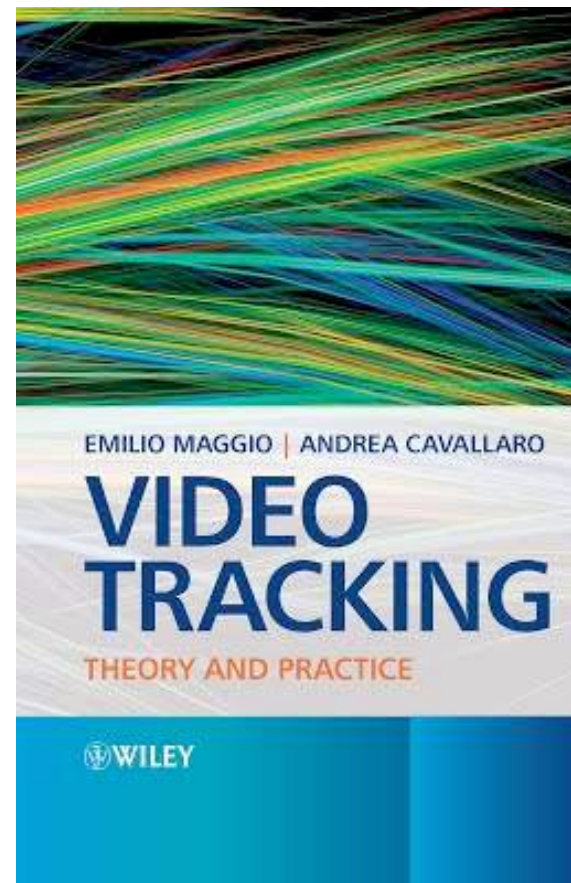






All started in the early 60s

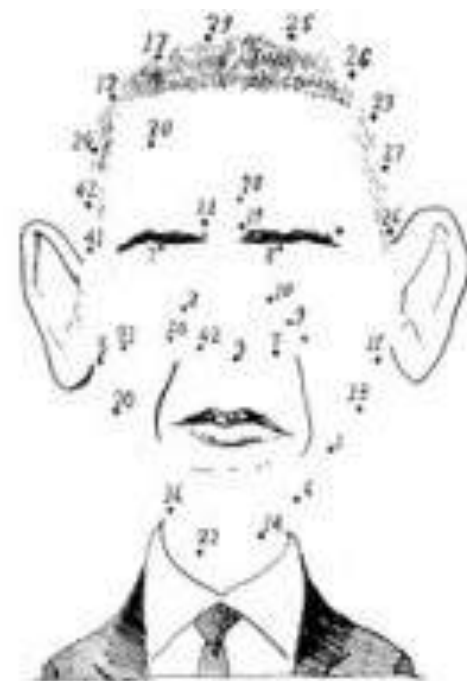
- With Kalman filter for military
- A book on Video Tracking:
Theory and Practice



What is tracking about?

- Data association
- Similarity measurement
- Correlation
- Matching/Retrieval
- Reasoning with “strong” priors
- Detection with very similar examples

CONNECT
THE DOTS



Outline

1. Problem statement
2. Challenges
3. Object representation
4. Single target tracking
5. Multi-target tracking
6. Tips & references



Problem statement

- Input: target
- Objective: Estimate target state over time
- State:
 - Position
 - Appearance
 - Shape
 - Velocity
 - Affine transformation w.r.t. previous patch

Problem statement

- Input: target
- Objective: Estimate target state over time
- State: e.g. position
- Choice: (O.S.S.)
 - **O**bject representation
 - **S**imilarity measure
 - **S**earching process

Outline

1. Problem statement
- 2. Challenges**
3. Object representation
4. Single target tracking
5. Multi-target tracking
6. Tips & references



What are the challenges?

- Variations due to geometric changes
(pose, articulation, scale)
- Variations due to photometric factors
(illumination, appearance)
- Occlusions
- Non-linear motion
- Very limited resolution, blurry
(standard recognition might fail)
- Similar objects in the scene

See live demo

Algorithms common issues

- Track initiation & termination
- Occlusion handling
- Merging/switching
- Drifting due to wrong update of the target model

See live demo

Outline

1. Problem statement
2. Challenges
- 3. Object representation**
 1. Low/mid/high level features
 2. Grid/Pyramid/Cascade
 3. Patch/keypoints
4. Single target tracking
5. Multi-target tracking
6. Tips & references



Object representation

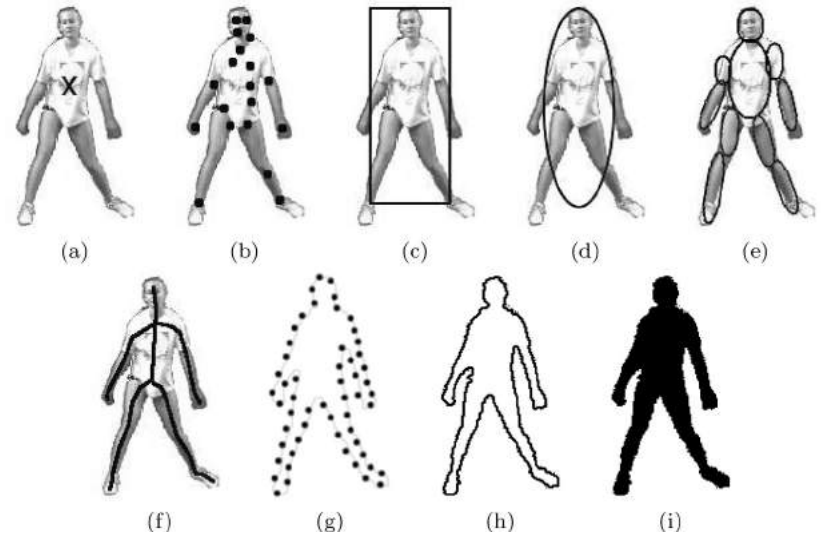
- Goal:

we want a representation that is:

- Descriptive enough to disambiguate target VS background
- Flexible enough to cope with:
 - Scale
 - Pose
 - Illumination
 - Partial occlusions

Object representation

- Object approximation:
 - Segmentation / Polygonal approximation
 - Bounding ellipse/box
 - Position only



- Goal: Measure affinity

Image from A. Yilmaz et. al : Object tracking: A survey. ACM Computing Surveys, 2006

Measuring Affinity

From Lecture 2

- In general: $aff(x, y) = \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma_d^2} \|f(x) - f(y)\|^2 \right)$
- Examples:
 - Distance: $f(x) = location(x)$
 - Intensity: $f(x) = intensity(x)$
 - Color: $f(x) = color(x)$
 - Texture: $f(x) = filterbank(x)$

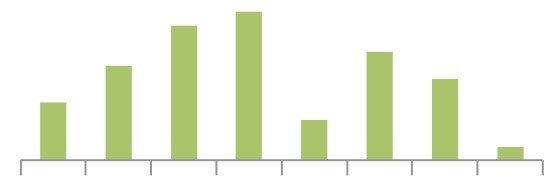
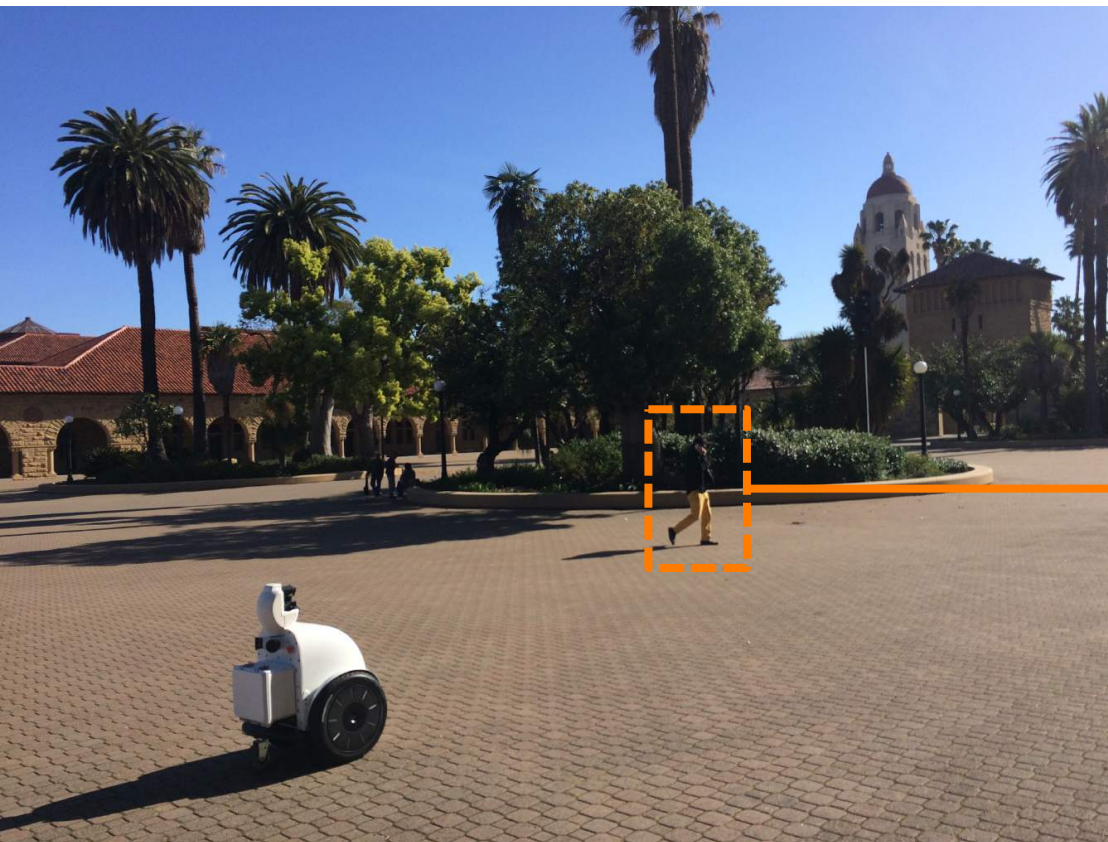
Pixels => Regions

- Note: Can also modify distance metric

slide credit: Forsyth & Ponce

Object representation: From light to useful information

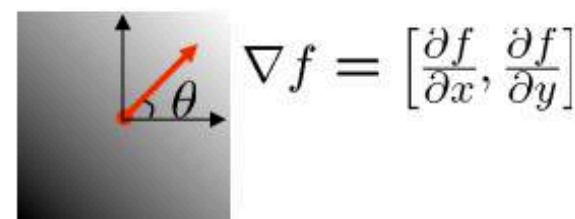
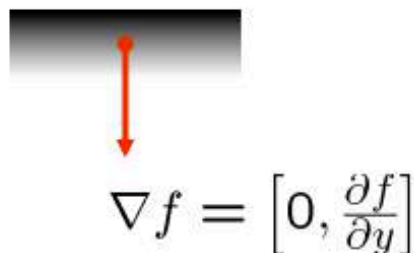
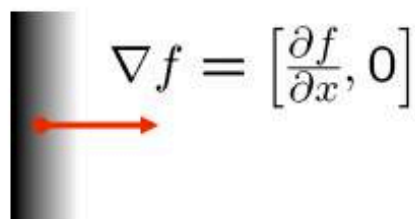
- Low/mid/high level features



histograms

Image gradient

- The gradient of an image: $\nabla f = \left[\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right]$



The gradient points in the direction of most rapid increase in intensity

The gradient direction is given by $\theta = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\partial f / \partial y}{\partial f / \partial x} \right)$

- how does this relate to the direction of the edge?

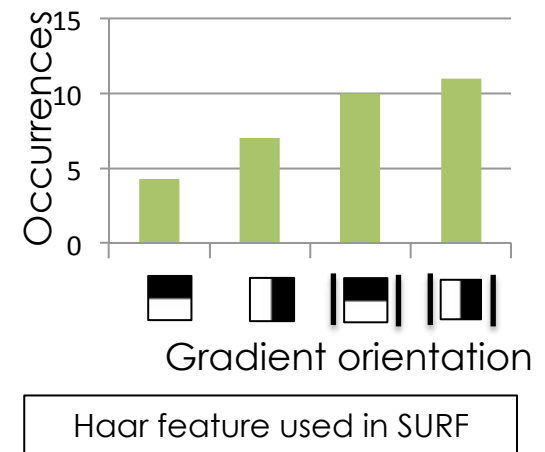
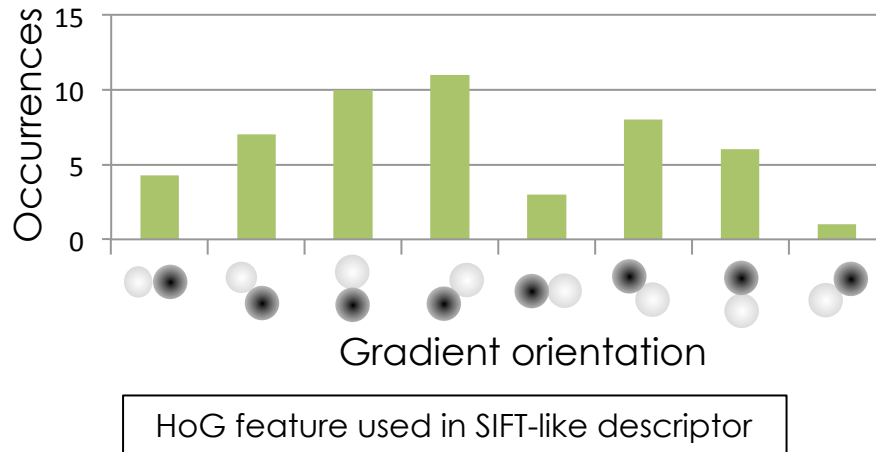
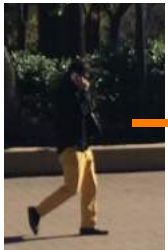
The *edge strength* is given by the gradient magnitude

$$\|\nabla f\| = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}\right)^2}$$

Source: Steve Seitz

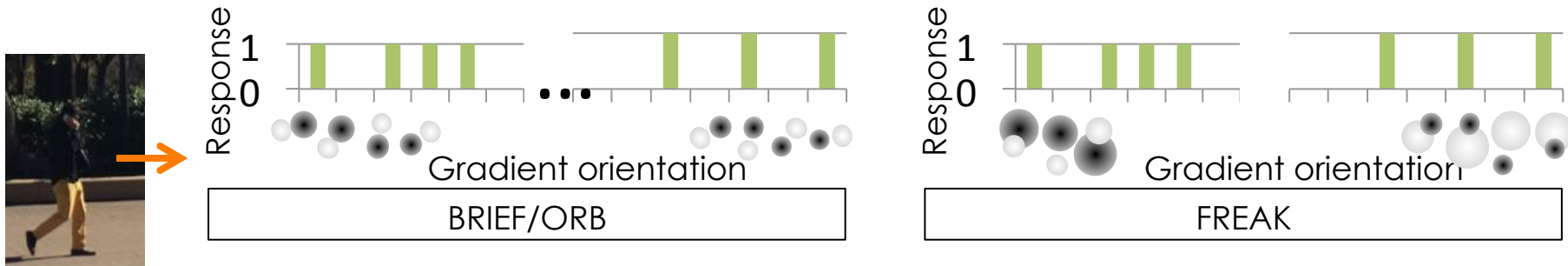
Low-level features

- Integer responses

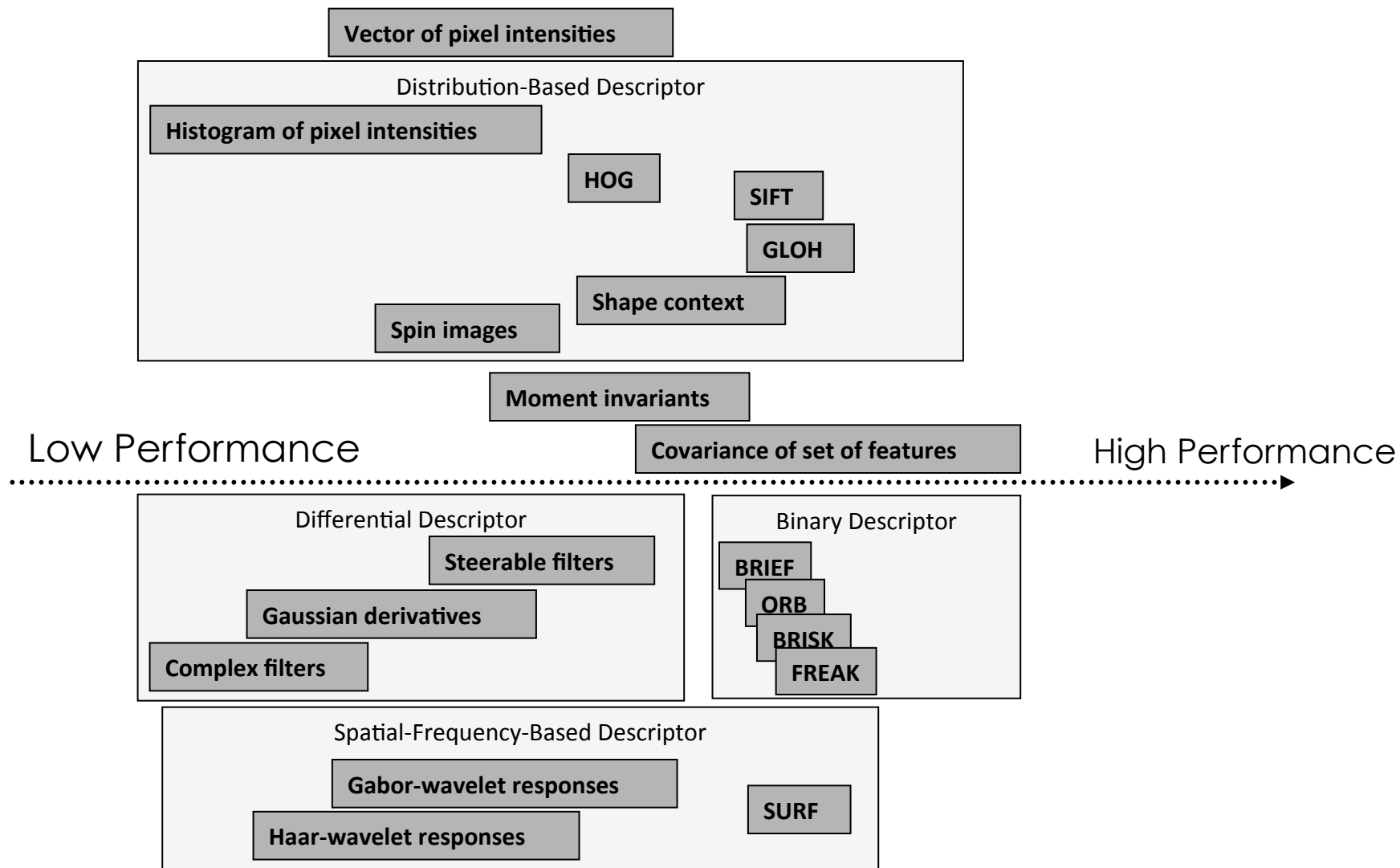


Low-level features

- Binary responses

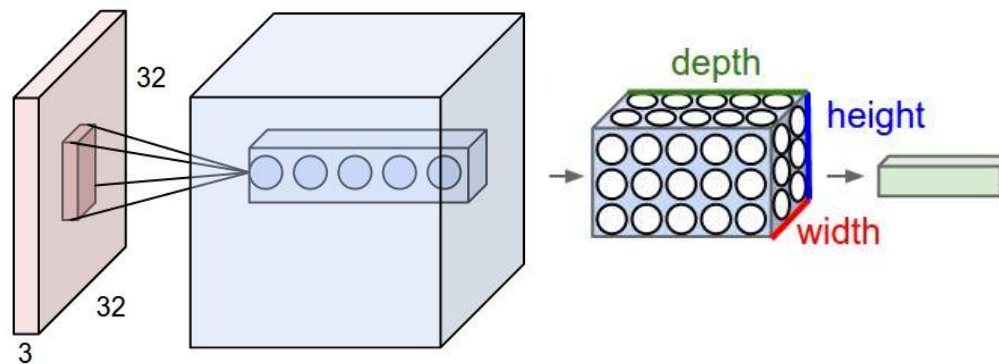
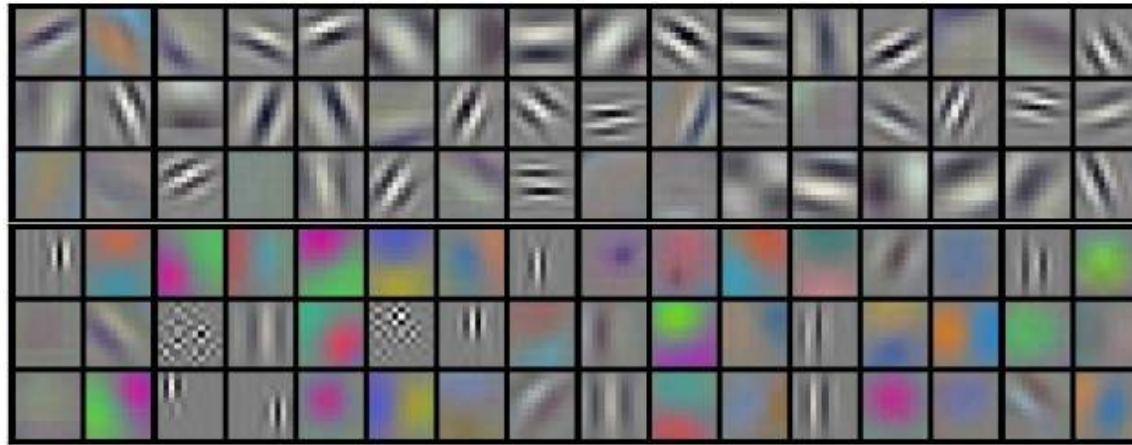


A bulk of Low-level features



Mikolajczyk et. al. "A performance evaluation of local descriptors." PAMI 2005

Recent trend: CNN features



Object representation: Sampling strategies

- Grid/pyramid/cascade of coarse-to-fine

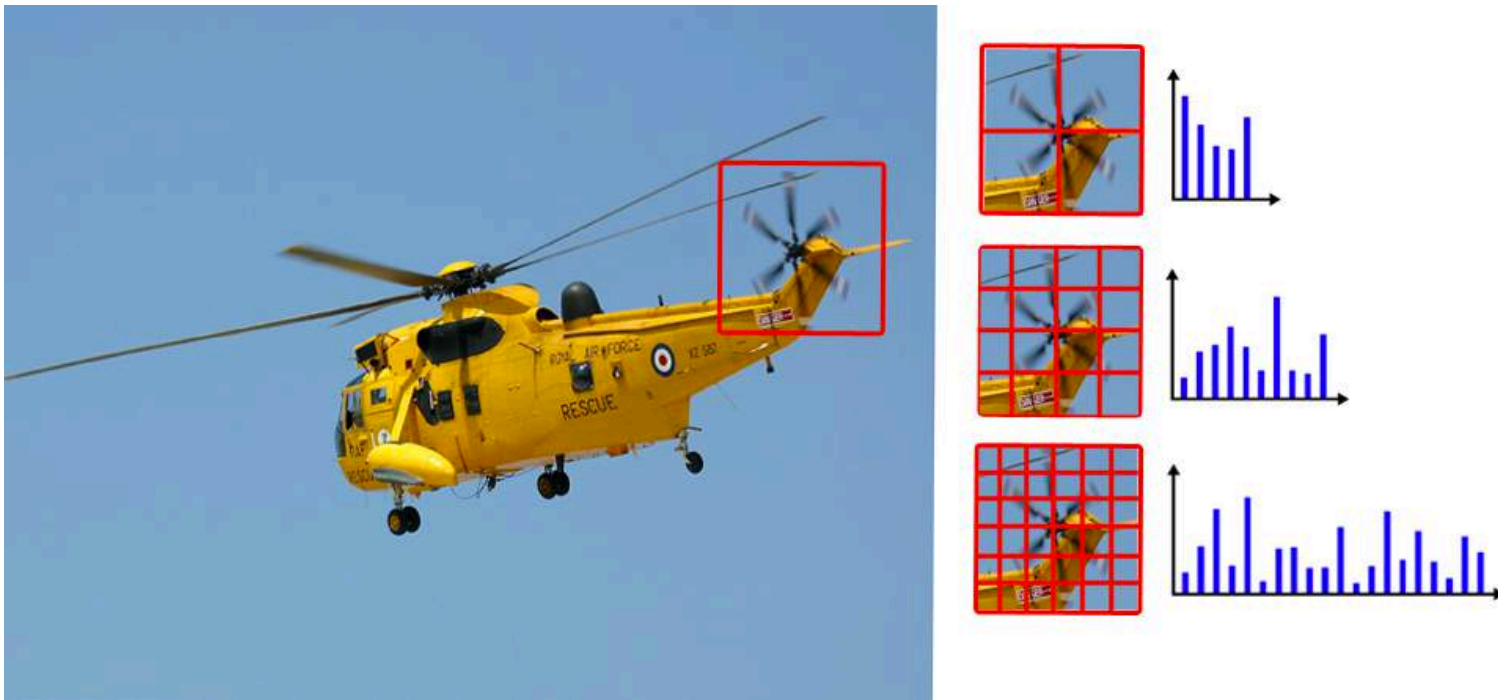
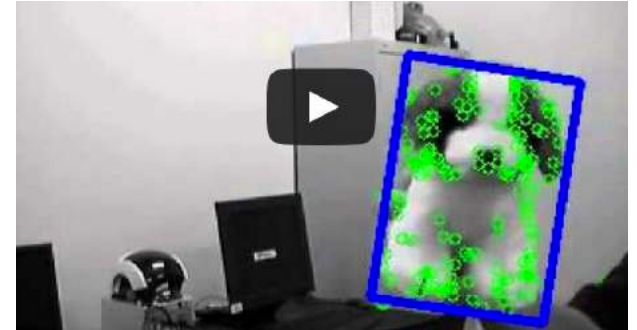


Image from L. Seidenari

Object representation: Sampling strategy

- Local patches/ Keypoints [1]



[1] A. Alahi et. al., Biologically-inspired keypoint, to be published by Wiley

Outline

1. Problem statement
2. Challenges
3. Object representation
- 4. Single target tracking**
 - 1. Bayesian estimation**
 - 2. On-line learning**
5. Multi-target tracking
6. Tips & references



Single target tracking

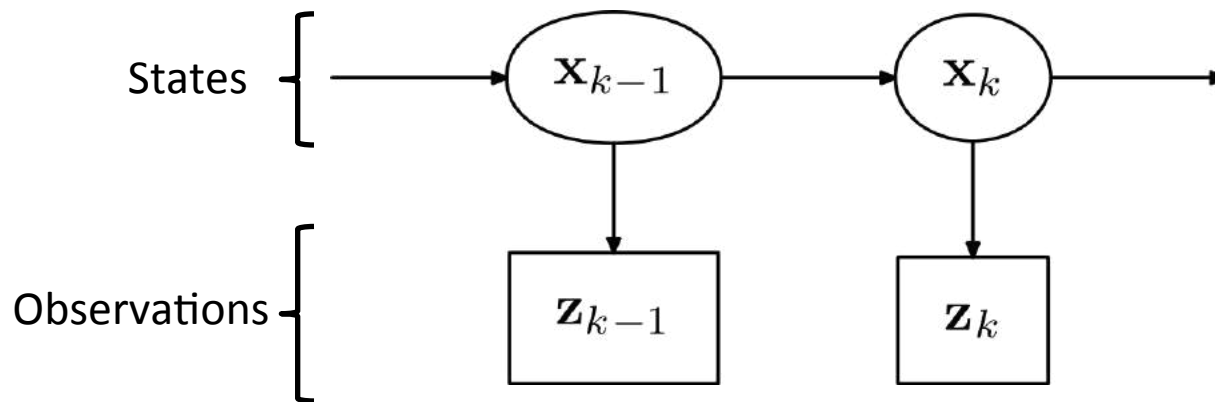
- Formulation
 - Input: bounding box at starting frame
 - Output: next bounding boxes across the next frames

[See live demo](#)

Single target tracking

- Probabilistic tracking-

- Tracking as a Bayesian network
- Hidden Markov Model



- Markov assumptions

$$p(x_k | x_{1:k-1}) = p(x_k | x_{k-1})$$

$$p(z_k | x_{1:k}) = p(z_k | x_k)$$

Single target tracking

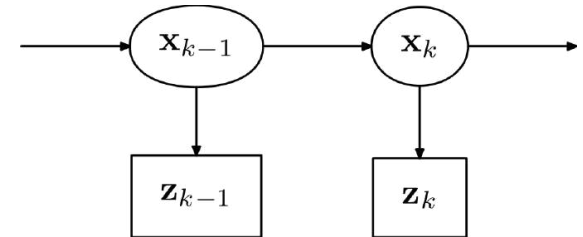
- Probabilistic tracking-

- Recursive Bayes filters
- Find posterior
- State eq. (motion dynamics)
- Observation eq. (image)

$$p(x_k | z_{1:k})$$

$$f(x_k | x_{k-1})$$

$$g(z_k | x_k)$$



Single target tracking

- Probabilistic tracking-

- Recursive Bayes filters

- Find posterior

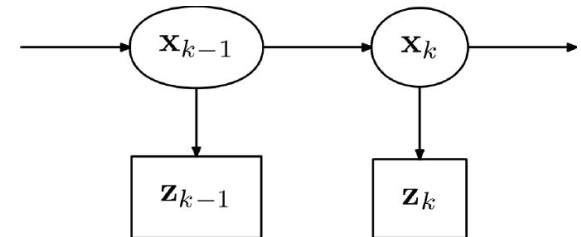
- State eq. (motion dynamics)

- Observation eq. (image)

$$p(x_k | z_{1:k})$$

$$f(x_k | x_{k-1})$$

$$g(z_k | x_k)$$



- Prediction

Previous posterior

$$p(x_k | z_{1:k-1}) = \int f(x_k | x_{k-1}) \boxed{p(x_{k-1} | z_{1:k-1})} dx_{k-1}$$

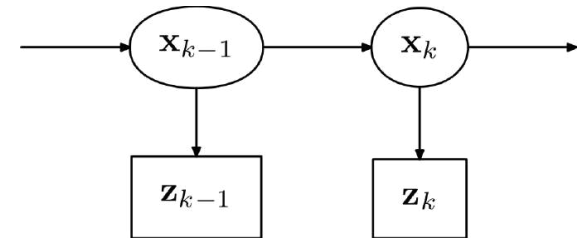
- Update

$$p(x_k | z_{1:k}) = \frac{g(z_k | x_k) p(x_k | z_{1:k-1})}{\int g(z_k | x_k) p(x_k | z_{1:k-1}) dx_k}$$

Single target tracking

- Probabilistic tracking-

- Solving Bayes Equations
 - Gaussian & Linear
 - Kalman filter [1]
 - Gaussian non-linear
 - Extended Kalman filter
 - Non-Gaussian non-linear
 - Monte Carlo methods (Condensation [2])
 - Hill-climbing on posterior
 - Mean-shift



[1] Kalman, Rudolph Emil. "A new approach to linear filtering and prediction problems." Journal of Fluids Engineering , 1960

[2] Isard, Michael, and Andrew Blake. "Condensation—conditional density propagation for visual tracking." IJCV 1998

Single target tracking

- Probabilistic tracking-

Seen in Lecture 2

- Kernel-based tracking [1]
- Mean-shift
 - Non-parametric feature space
 - Locate the maxima of a density function
 - Color histogram / Bhattacharyya

[1] Comaniciu, Dorin, Visvanathan Ramesh, and Peter Meer. "Kernel-based object tracking." PAMI (2003)

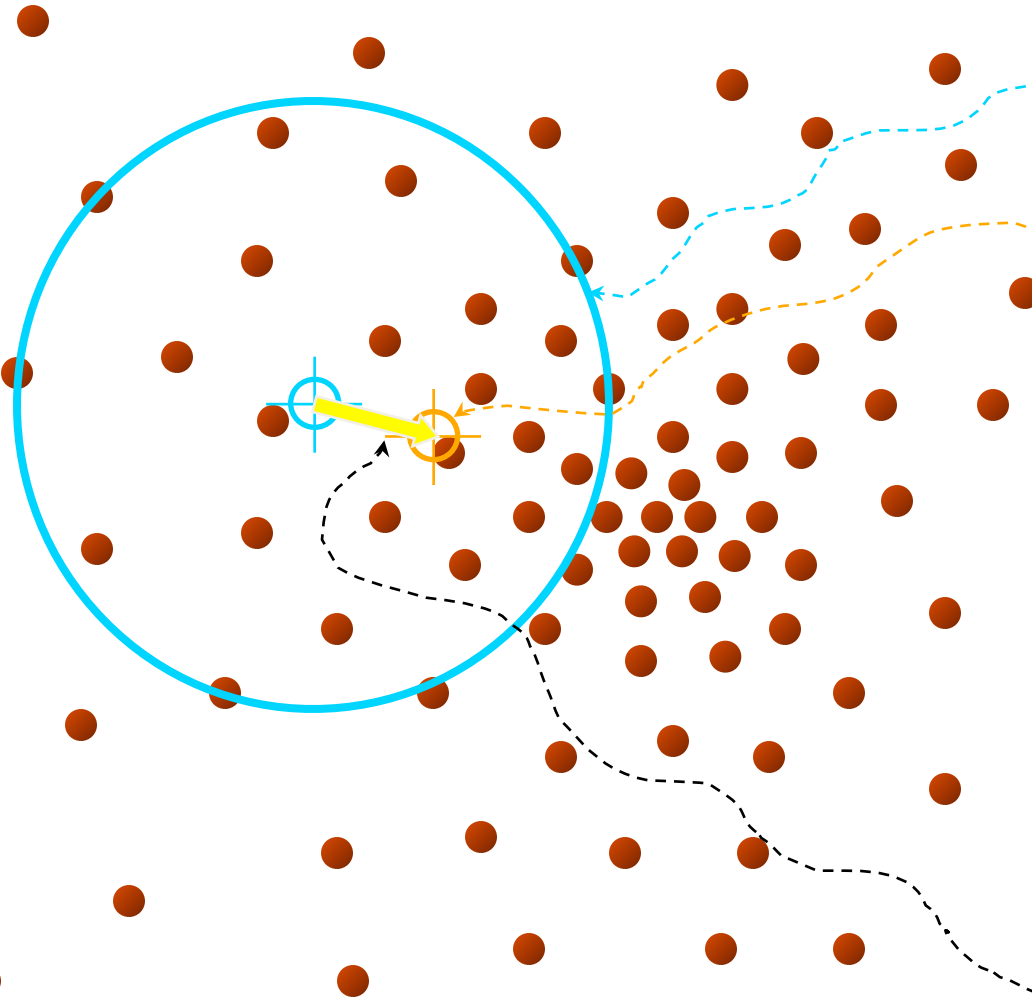
Mean-Shift

From Lecture 2

Region of
interest

Center of
mass

Mean Shift
vector



Slide by Y. Ukrainitz & B. Sarel

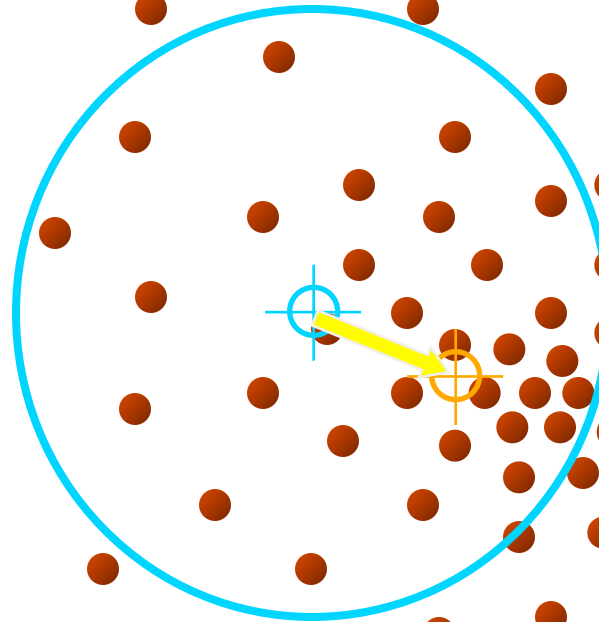
Mean-Shift

From Lecture 2

Region of
interest

Center of
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Mean Shift
vector



Slide by Y. Ukrainitz & B. Sarel

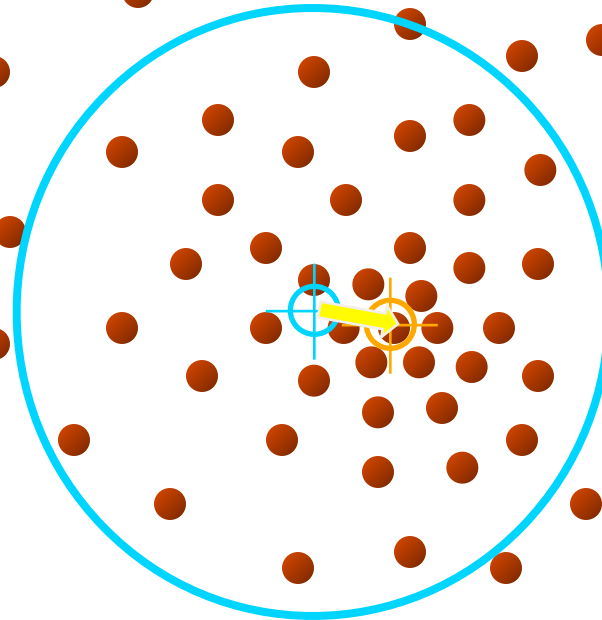
Mean-Shift

From Lecture 2

Region of
interest

Center of
mass

Mean Shift
vector



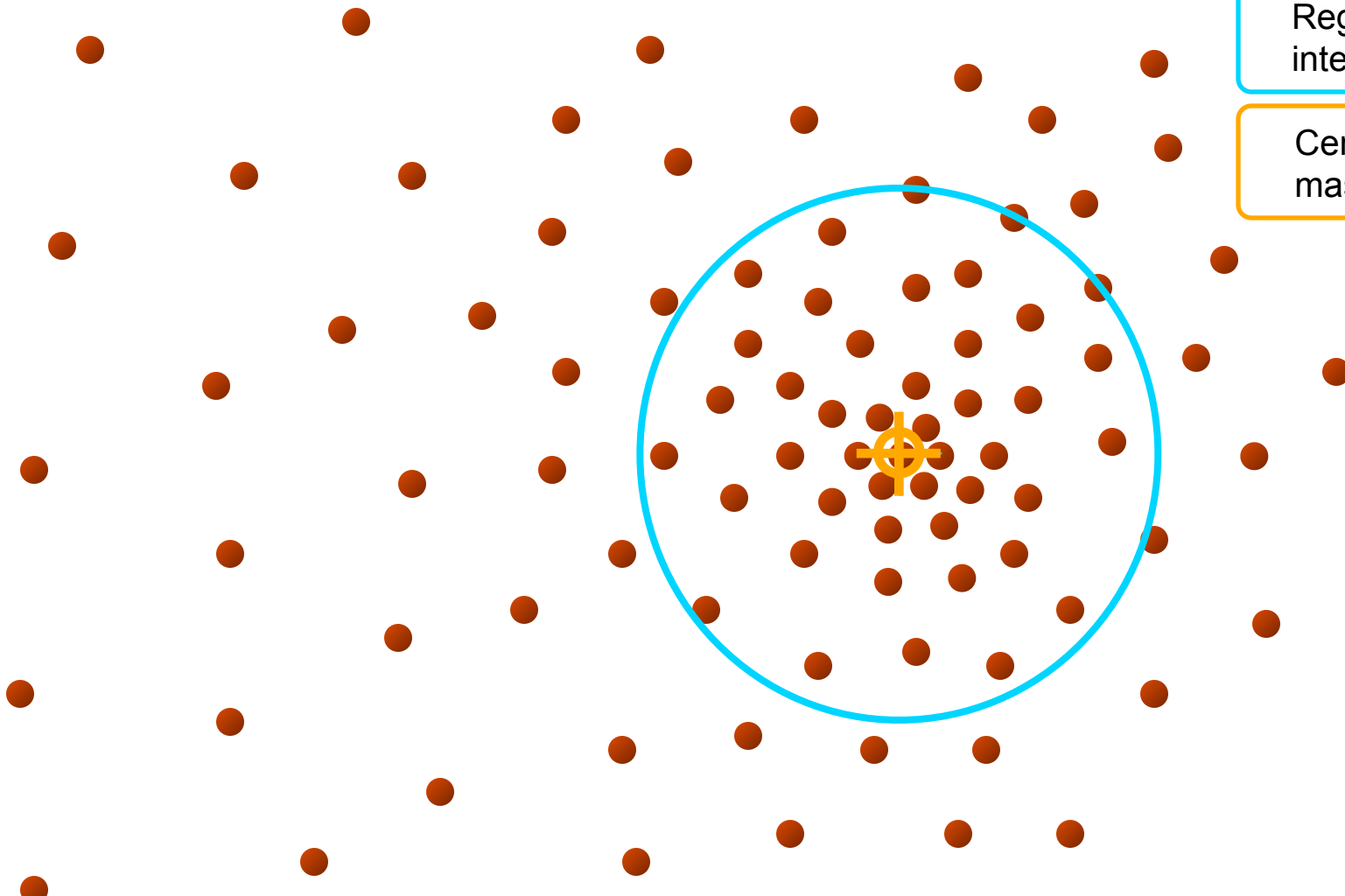
Slide by Y. Ukrainitz & B. Sarel

Mean-Shift

From Lecture 2

Region of
interest

Center of
mass



Slide by Y. Ukrainitz & B. Sarel

Single target tracking

- Probabilistic tracking-

- Mean-shift

Pros:

- Fast
- No need for texture
- Tolerate for minor change of appearance

Cons:

- Only one hypothesis, no fallback if tracker is lost
- A single histogram does not capture variation of appearance
- Limited discriminative power with background

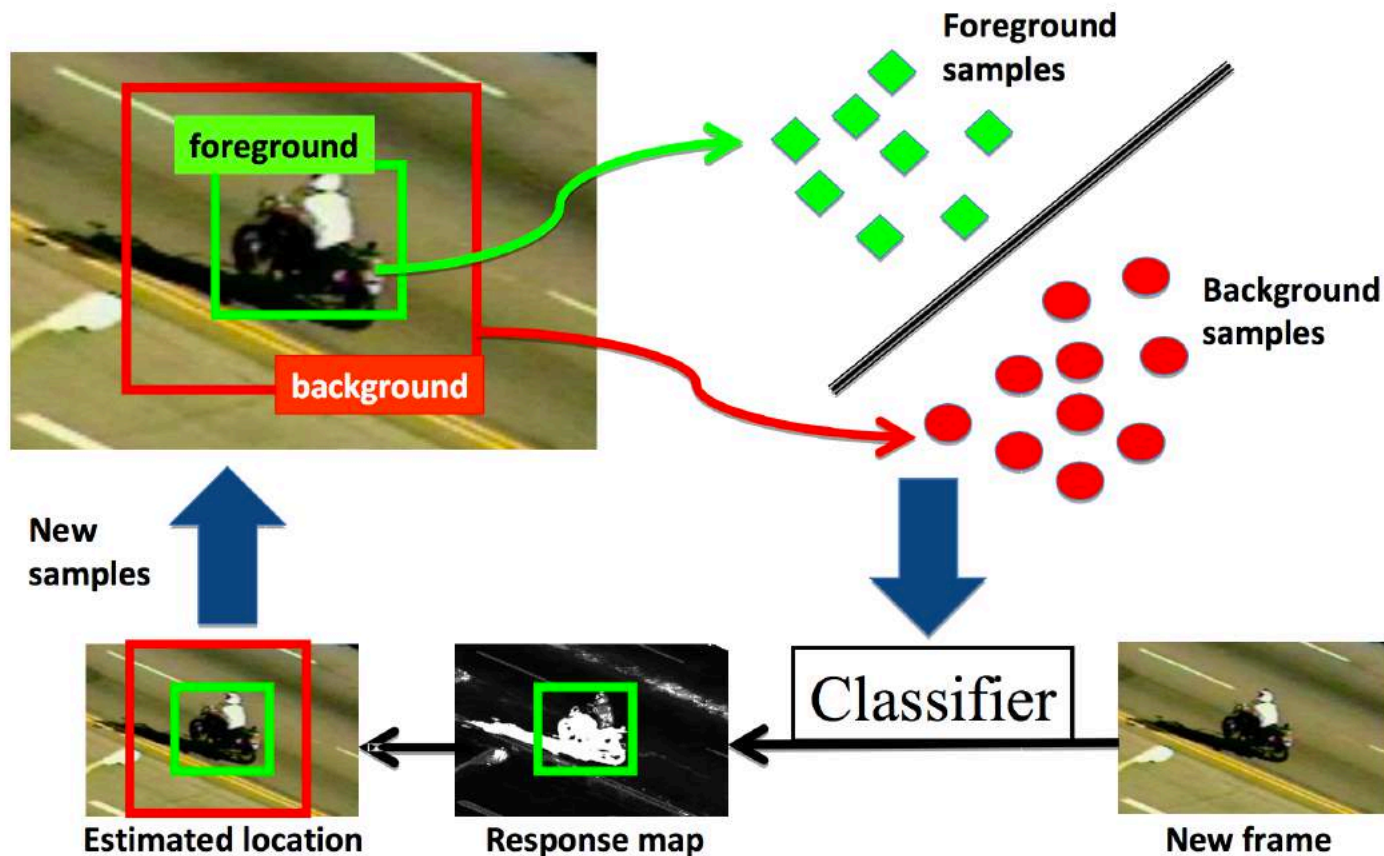
Single target tracking

- On-line learning -

- Discriminative modeling (tracking-by-detection)
- Learn and apply a detector or predictor
- Challenges:
 - What are training data? Labeled?
 - How to avoid drift? Handle occlusion?
 - How to control complexity?

Single target tracking

- On-line learning -



Slide from Collins, PSU

Single target tracking

- On-line learning -

- On-line discriminative learning
- One shot learning
- On-line update of the classifier

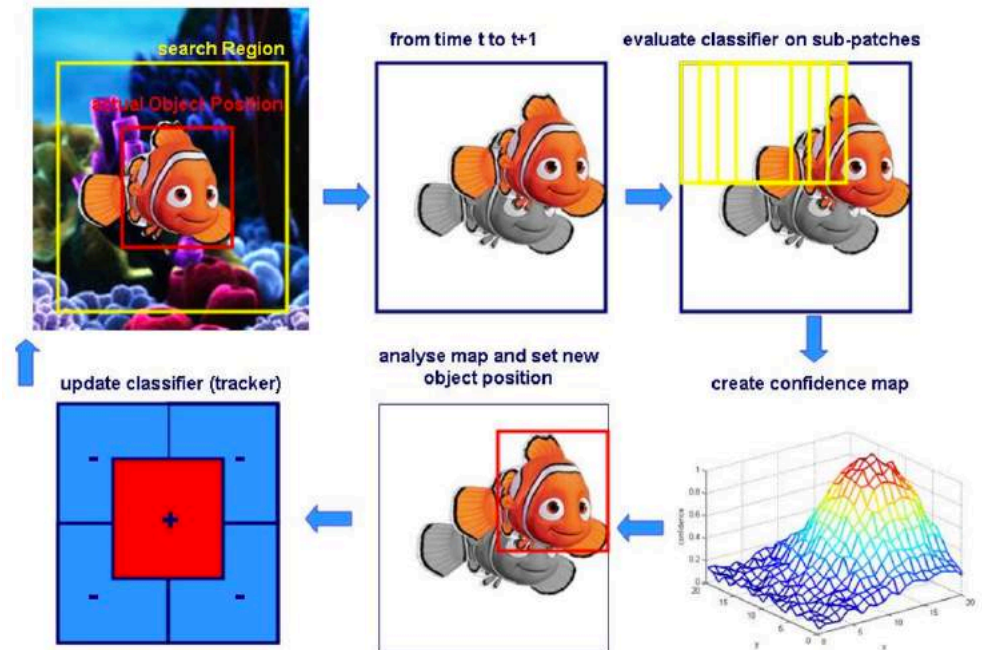


Figure from Grabner and Bischof CVPR 06

Single target tracking

- On-line learning -

- Examples of on-line discriminative learning
 - Multiple Instance Learning [1]
 - Kernelized Structured SVM [2]
 - Combine short track + detector [3]

[1] Babenko, Boris, Ming-Hsuan Yang, and Serge Belongie. "Visual tracking with online multiple instance learning." CVPR 2009

[2] Hare, Sam, Amir Saffari, and Philip HS Torr. "Struck: Structured output tracking with kernels." ICCV 2011

[3] Kalal, Zdenek, Krystian Mikolajczyk, and Jiri Matas. "Tracking-learning-detection." PAMI 2012

Single target tracking

- On-line learning -

- On-line discriminative learning

Pros:

- Can handle several appearance changes
- Can detect after full occlusion

Cons:

- Can drift
- Learning is not trivial

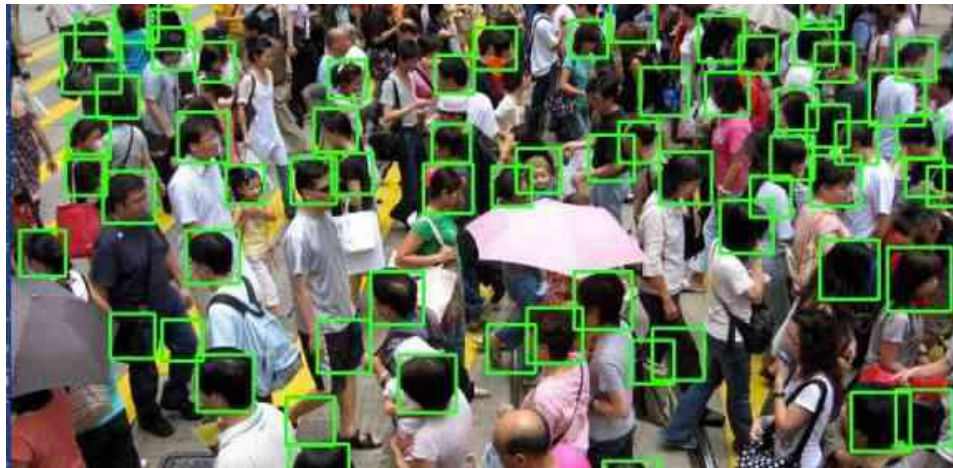
Outline

1. Problem statement
2. Challenges
3. Object representation
4. Single target tracking
- 5. Multi-target tracking**
 1. Formulation
 2. Graph-based
6. Tips & references



Multi-target tracking

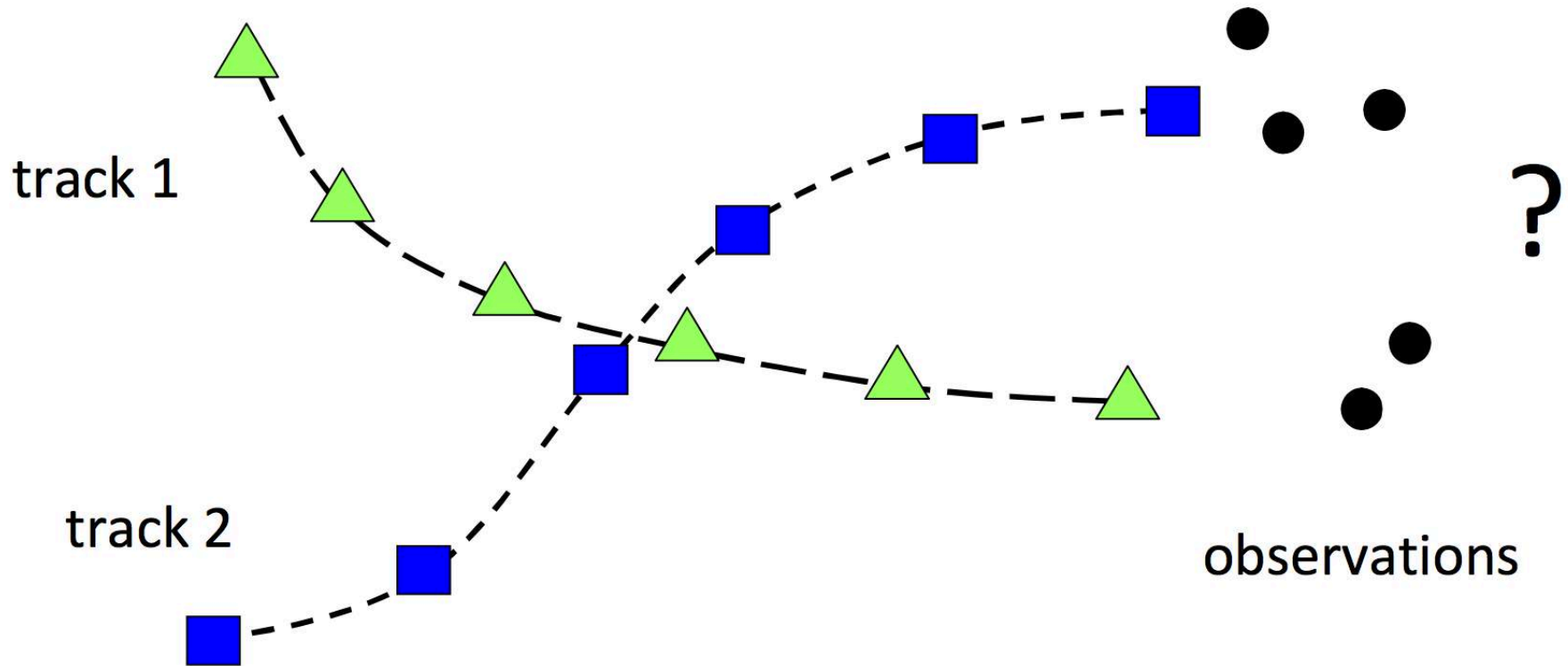
- Formulation
 - Input: a set of detections (from next module R-CNN)
 - Output: state (id) for each detections



What is Multi-target tracking about?

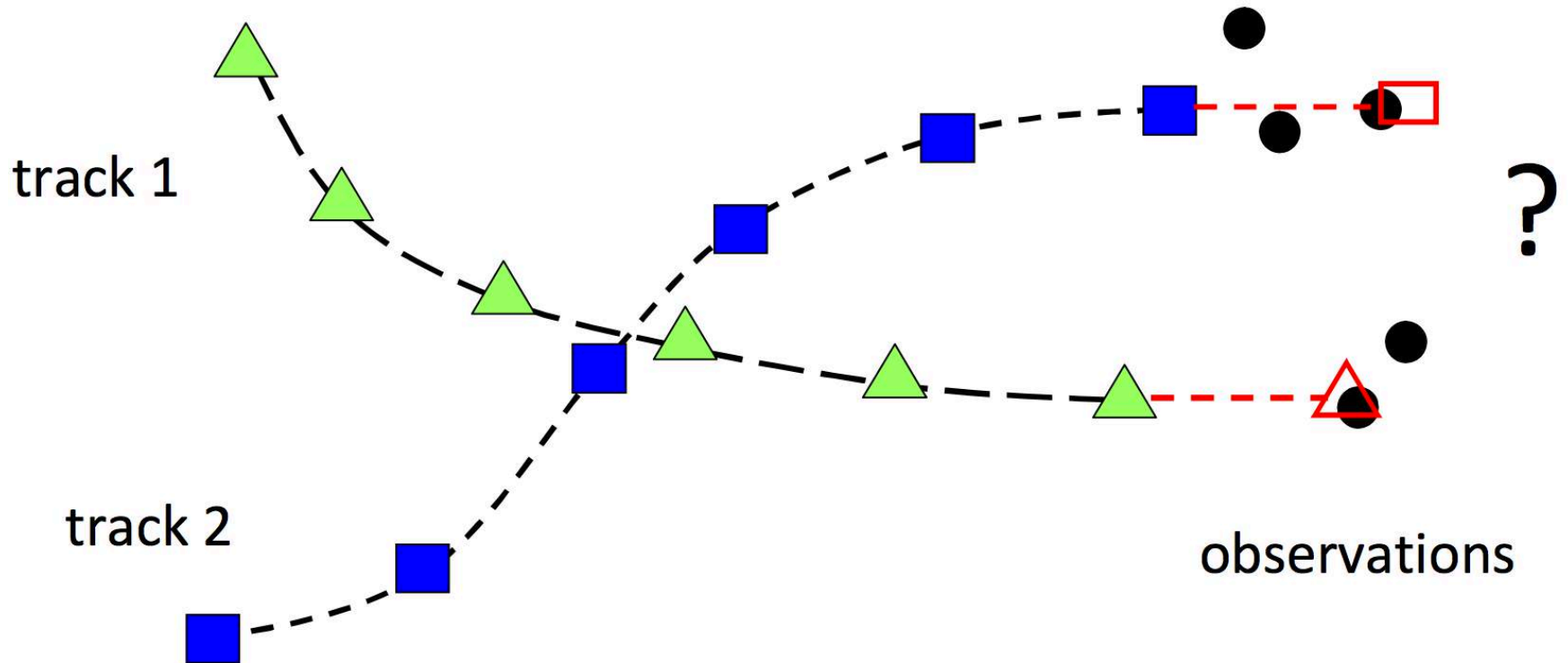
- Data association
- Assignment problems
- Discrete combinatorial optimization

Multi-target tracking



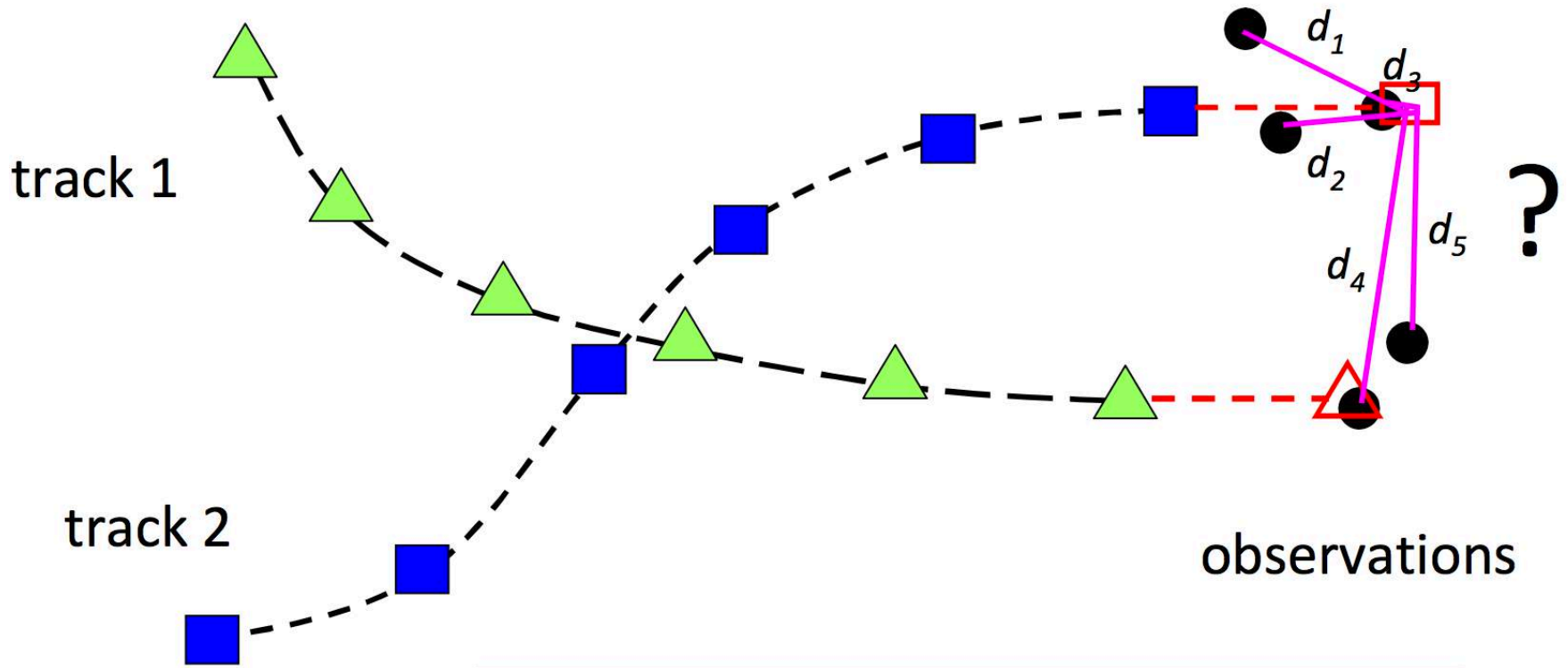
Slide from Collins, PSU

Multi-target tracking



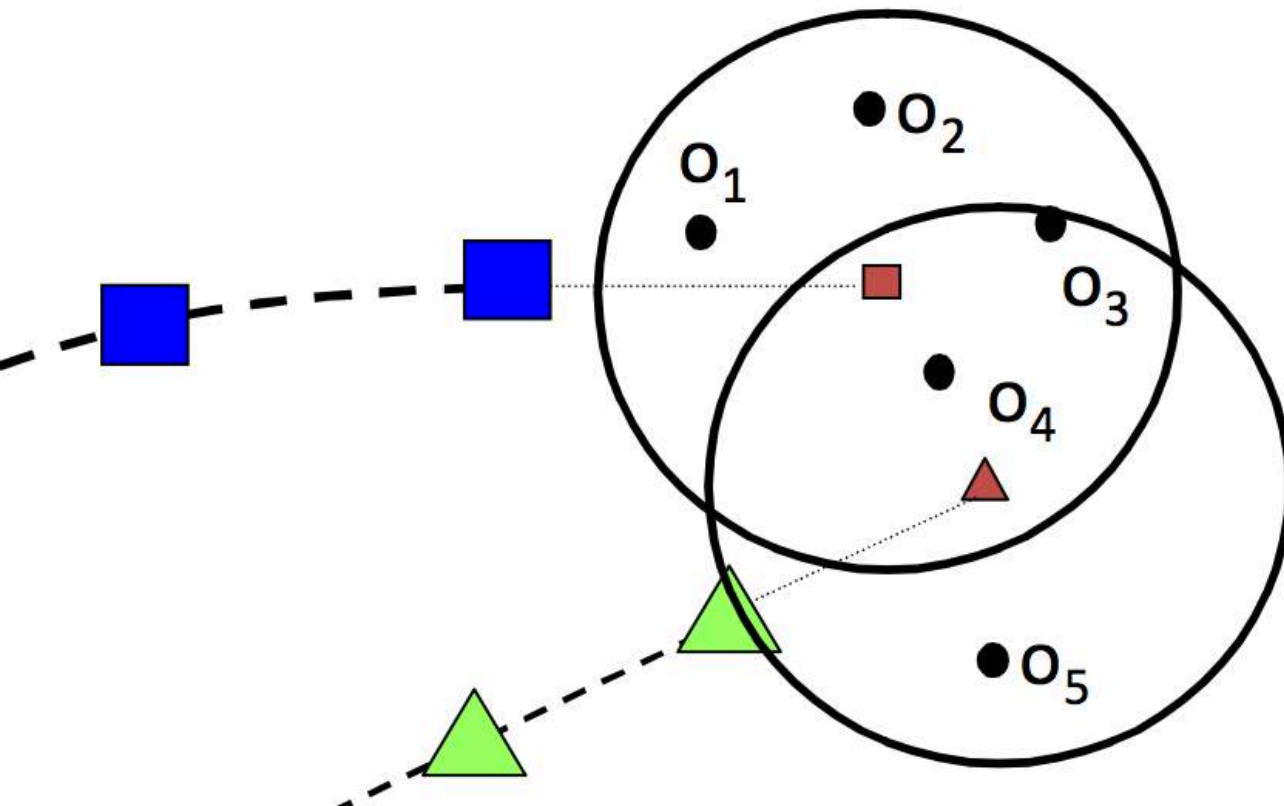
Slide from Collins, PSU

Multi-target tracking



Slide from Collins, PSU

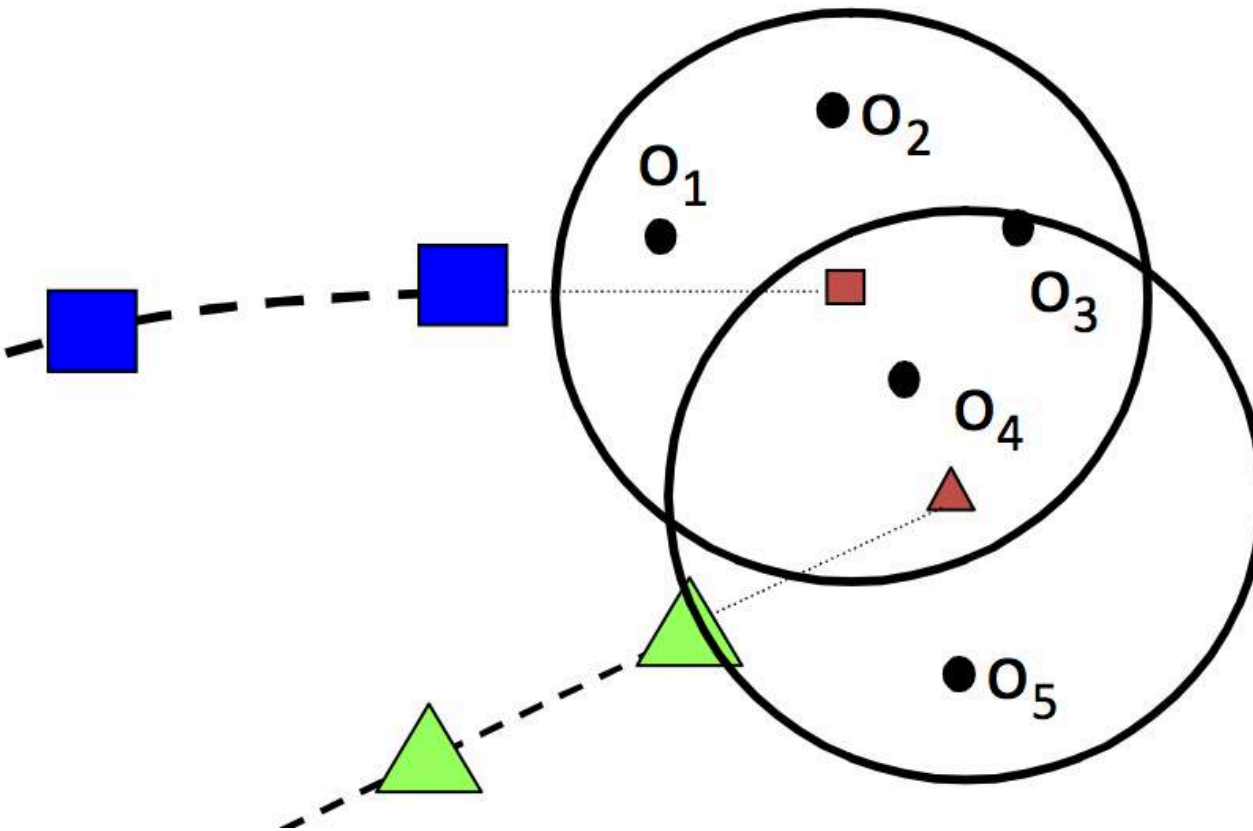
Multi-target tracking



	ai1	ai2
1	3.0	
2	5.0	
3	6.0	1.0
4	9.0	8.0
5		3.0

Slide from Collins, PSU

Multi-target tracking



	ai1	ai2
1	3.0	
2	5.0	
3	6.0	1.0
4	9.0	8.0
5		3.0

Non-optimal!

Slide from Collins, PSU

Multi-target tracking

- Mathematical definition

maximize: $\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n w_{ij} x_{ij}$

subject to: $\left. \begin{array}{l} \sum_j x_{ij} = 1; \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n \\ \sum_i x_{ij} = 1; \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n \\ x_{ij} \in \{0, 1\} \end{array} \right\}$ constraints that say
X is a permutation matrix

Where w is the affinity matrix and x is the assignments

**Hungarian algorithm
finds the optimal assignment**

Slide from Collins, PSU

Multi-target tracking

	1	2	3	4	5
1	0.95	0.76	0.62	0.41	0.06
2	0.23	0.46	0.79	0.94	0.35
3	0.61	0.02	0.92	0.92	0.81
4	0.49	0.82	0.74	0.41	0.01
5	0.89	0.44	0.18	0.89	0.14

Greedy Solution

Score=3.77

	1	2	3	4	5
1	0.95	0.76	0.62	0.41	0.06
2	0.23	0.46	0.79	0.94	0.35
3	0.61	0.02	0.92	0.92	0.81
4	0.49	0.82	0.74	0.41	0.01
5	0.89	0.44	0.18	0.89	0.14

Optimal Solution

Score=4.26

Slide from Collins, PSU

Multi-target tracking

- Hungarian algorithm
- Pro
 - Optimal single frame assignment
- Con
 - Not optimal for multiple frames

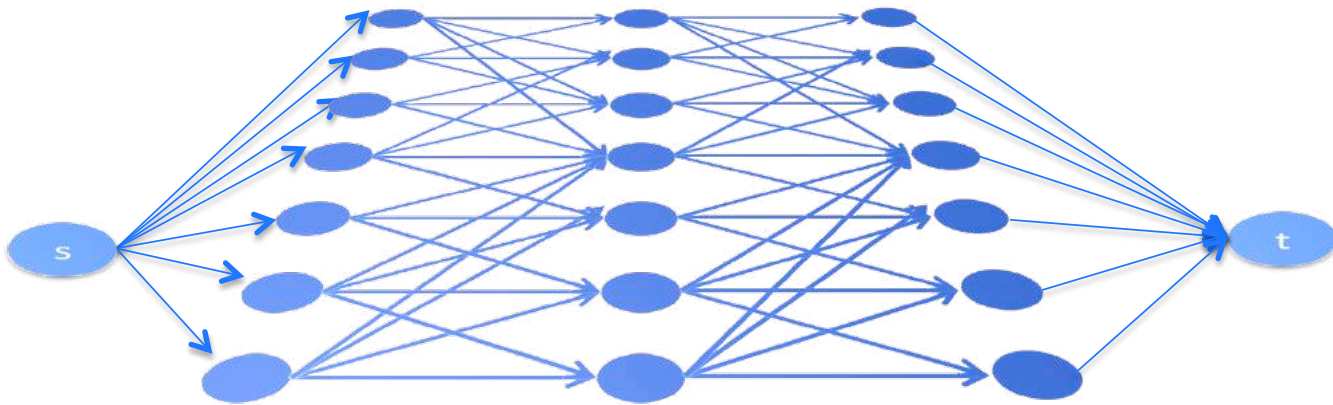
Multi-target tracking

- Goal: seek a globally optimal solution across several frames

Multi-target tracking

Objective: minimum cost maximum flow

$$\arg \min_f c(f)$$
$$c(f) = \sum \alpha_i f_i + \sum \beta_{ij} f_{ij}$$



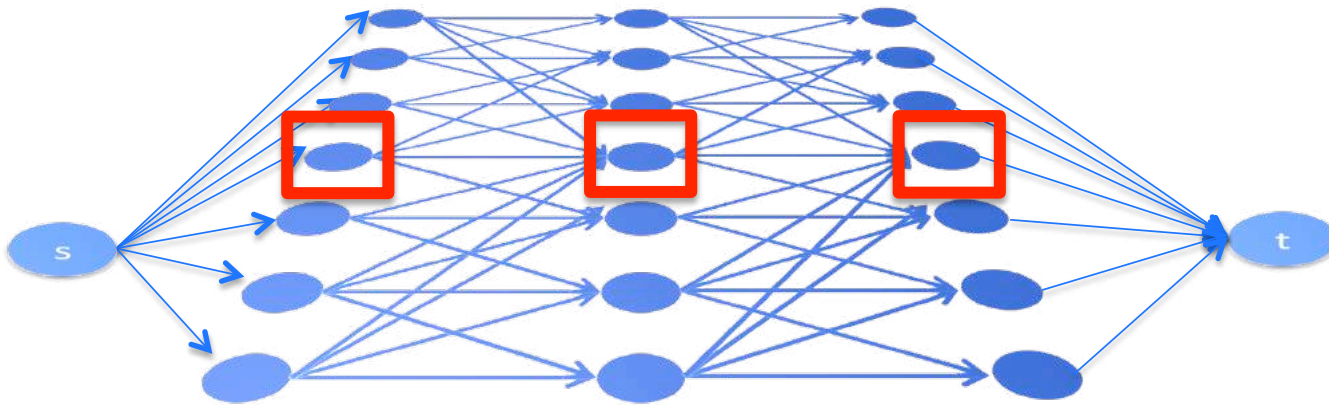
Where α_i , β_{ij} , γ_{OD} are the costs,
and f_i the flows

Multi-target tracking

Objective: minimum cost maximum flow

$$\arg \min_f c(f)$$

$$c(f) = \sum \alpha_i f_i + \sum \beta_{ij} f_{ij}$$



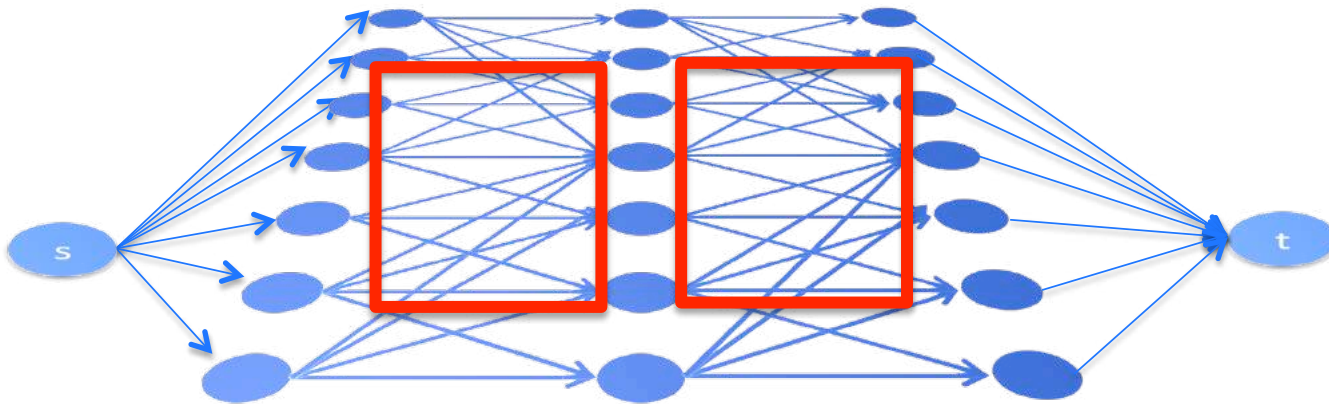
Cost α_i based:
- Detection likelihood

Multi-target tracking

Objective: minimum cost maximum flow

$$\arg \min_f c(f)$$

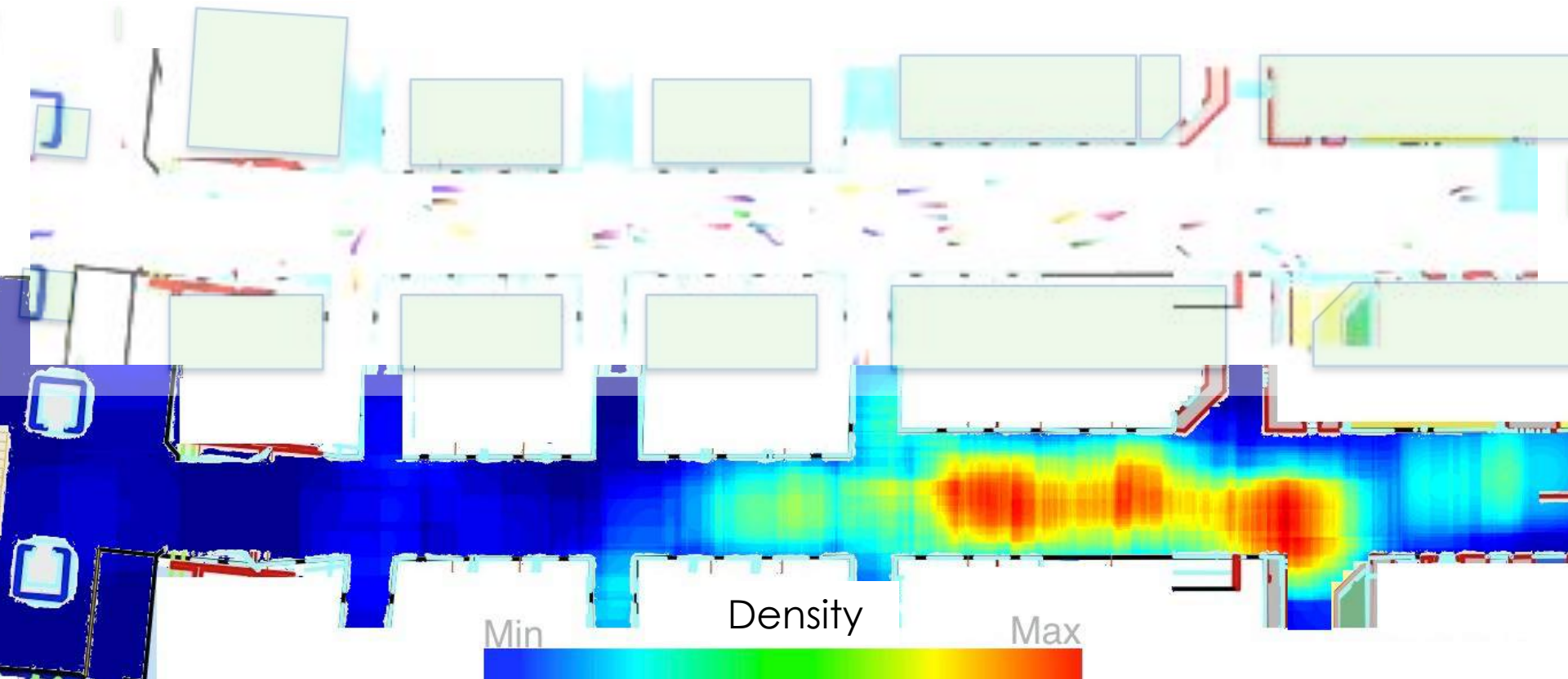
$$c(f) = \sum \alpha_i f_i - \sum \beta_{ij} f_{ij}$$



Cost β_{ij} based:

- spatial
- velocity

42 million of collected trajectories



Outline

1. Problem statement
2. Challenges
3. Object representation
4. Single target tracking
5. Multi-target tracking
6. **Tips & references**



Tips

- Model context
(a popular strategy since early 90s in CV community)
- Discriminative learning
- Sparsity driven



Some readings

- Tracking by matching
 - Isard, Michael, and Andrew Blake. "Condensation— conditional density propagation for visual tracking." International journal of computer vision 29.1 (1998): 5-28.
 - S. Oron, A. Bar-Hillel, D. Levi, and S. Avidan. Locally Orderless Tracking. In CVPR, 2012
- Tracking by matching with an extended appearance model
 - D. Ross, J. Lim, R.-S. Lin, and M.-H. Yang. Incremental Learning for Robust Visual Tracking. IJCV, 77(1):125–141, 2008.
- Tracking with sparsity constraint
 - W. Zhong, H. Lu, and M.-H. Yang. Robust Object Tracking via Sparsity-based Collaborative Model. In CVPR, 2012.
 - Kwon, Junseok, and Kyoung Mu Lee. "Visual tracking decomposition." Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR), 2010 IEEE Conference on. IEEE, 2010.
 - Li, Hanxi, Chunhua Shen, and Qinfeng Shi. "Real-time visual tracking using compressive sensing." Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR), 2011 IEEE Conference on. IEEE, 2011.



Some readings

- Tracking by detections (ML approach, using a discriminative classification)
 - Babenko, Boris, Ming-Hsuan Yang, and Serge Belongie. "Visual tracking with online multiple instance learning." Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition, 2009. CVPR 2009. IEEE Conference on. IEEE, 2009.
 - Z. Kalal, K. Mikolajczyk, and J. Matas, "Tracking-Learning-Detection," Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence 2011.
 - S. Hare, A. Saffari, and P. H. S. Torr. Struck: Structured Output Tracking with Kernels. In ICCV, 2011.
 - F. Henriques, R. Caseiro, P. Martins, and J. Batista. Exploiting the Circulant Structure of Tracking-by-Detection with Kernels. In ECCV, 2012
 - Nebehay, Georg, and Roman Pflugfelder. "Consensus-based matching and tracking of keypoints for object tracking." Applications of Computer Vision (WACV), 2014 IEEE Winter Conference on. IEEE, 2014.



Some readings

- Multi-target tracking (data association)
 - Berclaz, Jerome, et al. "Multiple object tracking using k-shortest paths optimization." Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence, IEEE Transactions on 33.9 (2011): 1806-1819.
 - Pirsiavash, Hamed, Deva Ramanan, and Charless C. Fowlkes. "Globally-optimal greedy algorithms for tracking a variable number of objects." (CVPR), 2011
 - Zamir, Amir Roshan, Afshin Dehghan, and Mubarak Shah. "Gmcp-tracker: Global multi-object tracking using generalized minimum clique graphs." Computer Vision—ECCV 2012. Springer Berlin Heidelberg, 2012. 343-356.
 - Liu, Jingchen, et al. "Tracking sports players with context-conditioned motion models." (CVPR), 2013.

