

Mid-semester questionnaire

Written exam detailed info in case of online exam:

- Installation guideline and exam protocol (read carefully!)
- Link to exam.net (log in and enter the exam key): <https://exam.net>
- *The current exam Key (activated at the exam start): <tba>*
- Zoom link for the exam (open in your smart phone): <tba>
- Crucial: (1) *do not log out once entering the key in exam.net* ; (2) *Write down the exam key on a sheet of paper -- once the SEB starts, it will lock down your comp.*

 Online exam protocol and setup instructions

 Announcements & Discussion

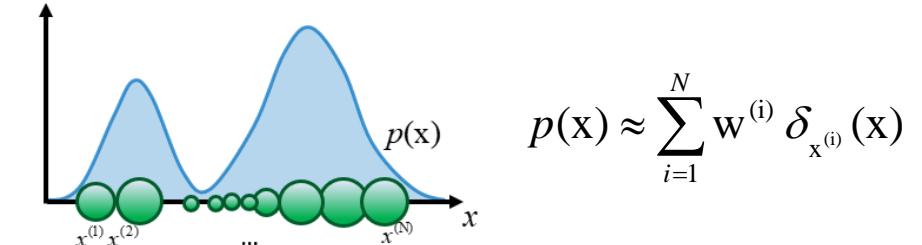
 Questionnaire about the course Advanced topics in computer vision (2022/23)

- Open until this Thursday (20.4.)
- Please give feedback on lectures/assignments
- Help us improve the course

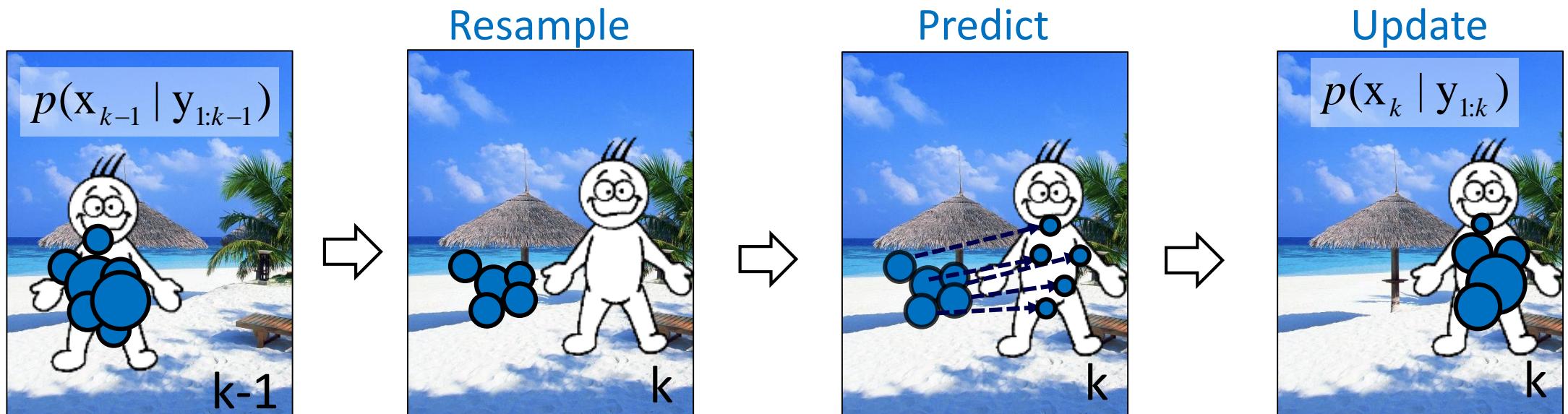
Previously at ACVM...

- Posterior is non-Gaussian, solve by MC → Particle filter (PF)

$$\frac{p(\mathbf{x}_k | \mathbf{y}_{1:k})}{\text{posterior estimate}} \propto \frac{p(\mathbf{y}_k | \mathbf{x}_k)}{\text{Observation model}} \frac{\int p(\mathbf{x}_k | \mathbf{x}_{k-1}) p(\mathbf{x}_{k-1} | \mathbf{y}_{1:k-1}) d\mathbf{x}_{k-1}}{\text{motion model} \quad \text{posterior at } k-1}$$



- Recursion replaced by (re)sampling and re-weighting: Bootstrap PF





Advanced CV methods Fully-trainable trackers – deep learning for tracking

Matej Kristan

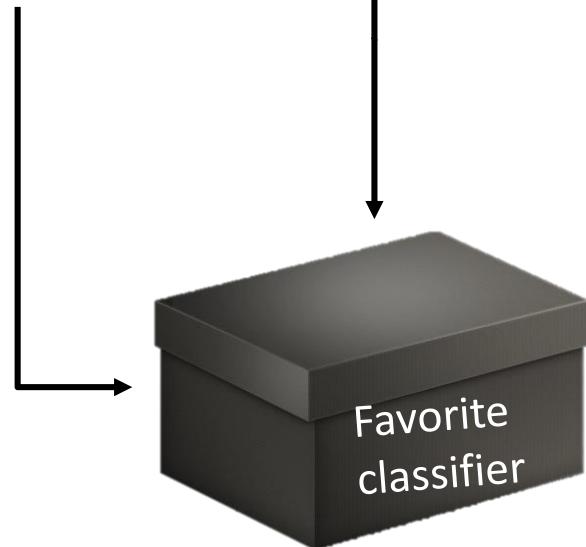
Laboratorij za Umetne Vizualne Spoznavne Sisteme,
Fakulteta za računalništvo in informatiko,
Univerza v Ljubljani

Recall tracking by online classifiers

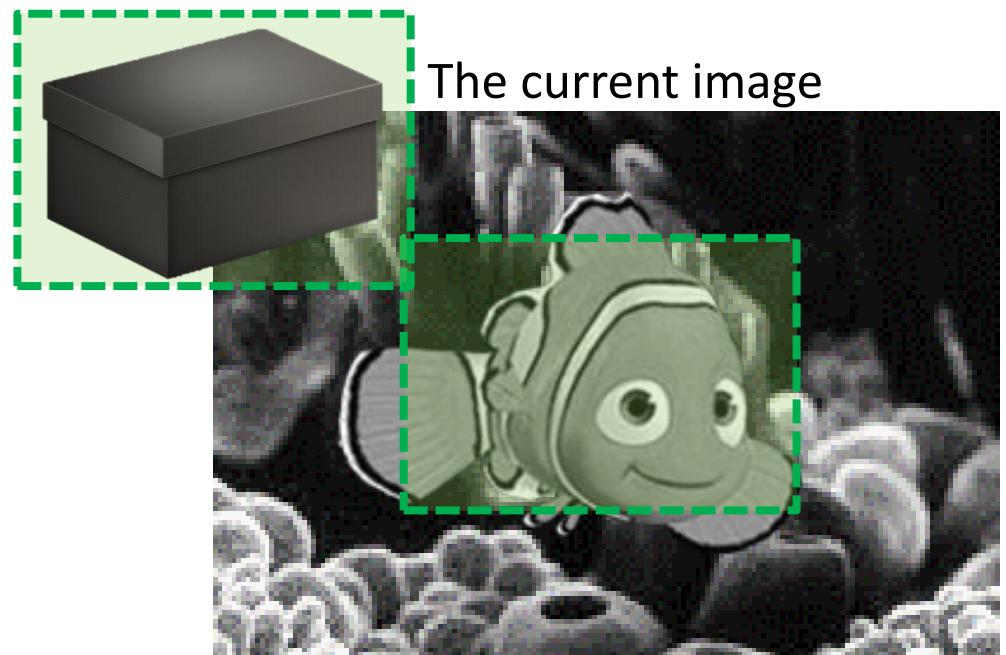


Positive training examples

Negative training examples



Feature extraction + classification

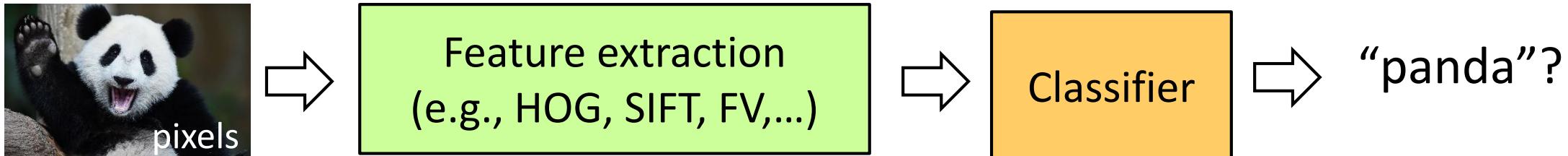


The current image

Traditional vs. modern approach

Traditional:

- (i) extract hand-crafted features, (ii) train a classifier



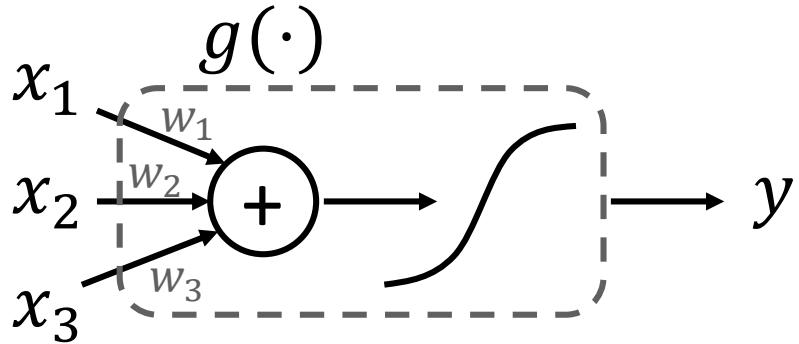
Modern (“started” in late 90s, entered mainstream in 2012):

- Jointly learn features AND the classifier
(without specifying where feature extraction ends and classifier begins)



Recall a simple neural network

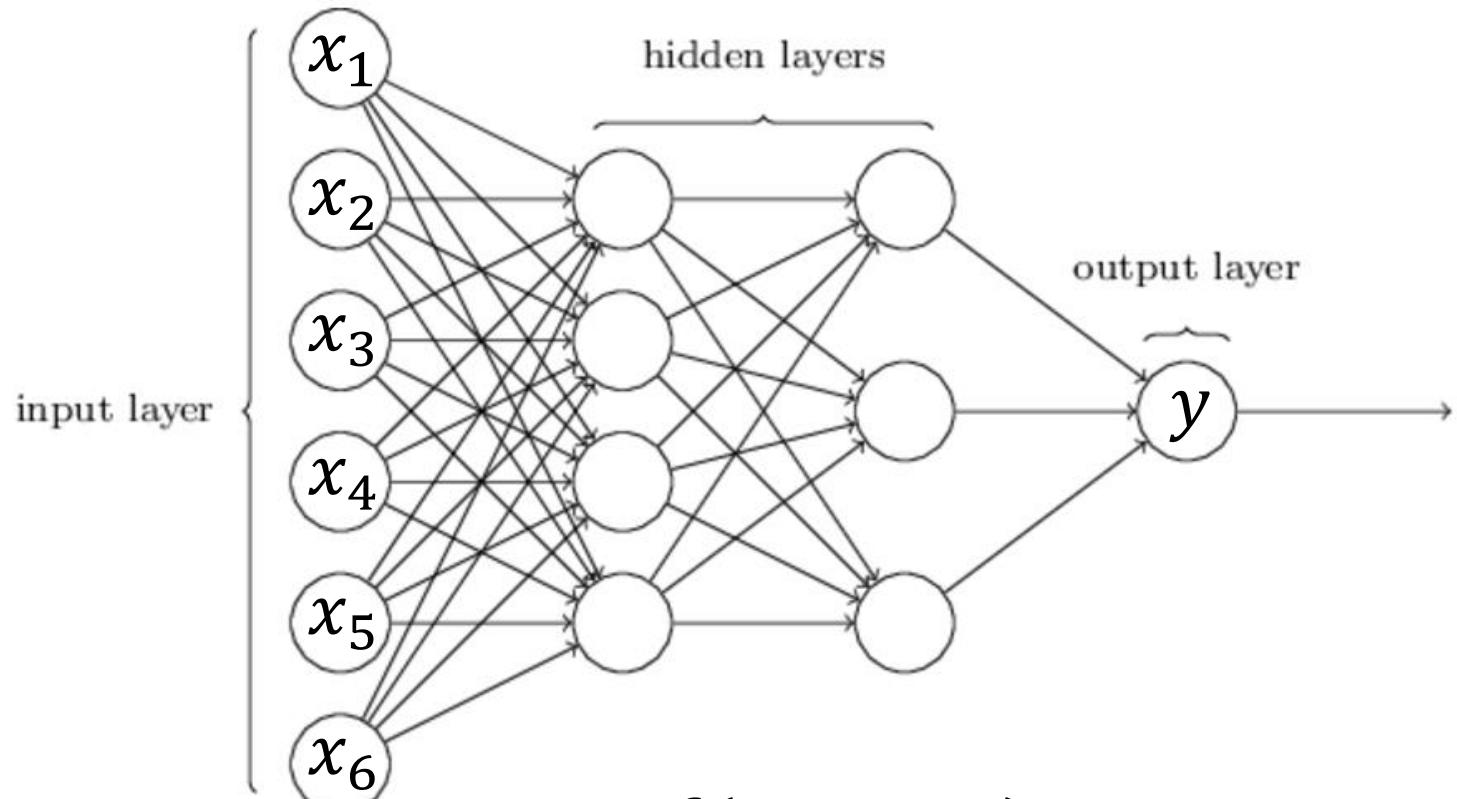
A sigmoid neuron:



A weighted sum of values x_i , transformed by a nonlinear function $g(\cdot)$:

$$y = g\left(\sum_i w_i x_i\right)$$

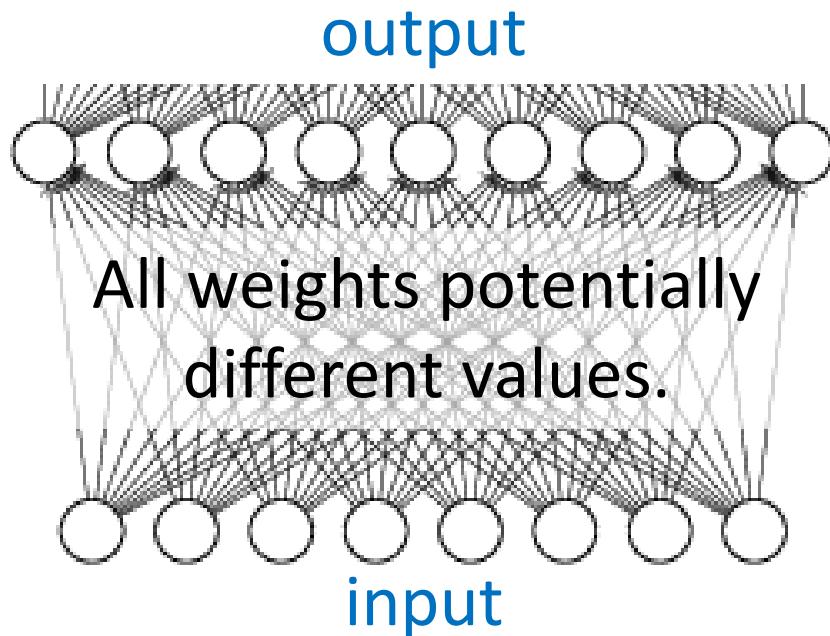
A network of neurons:



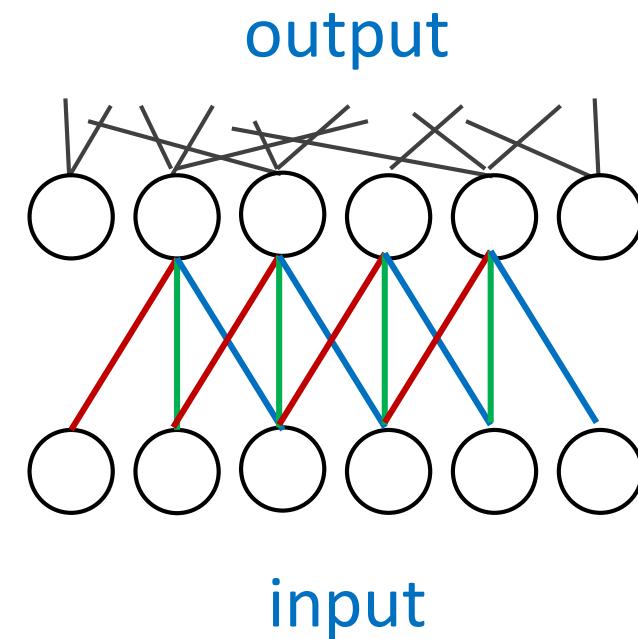
$$y = f(x_1: x_6; \mathbf{w})$$

A traditional vs. convolutional neural network (CNN)

A fully connected neural network
(fcn)

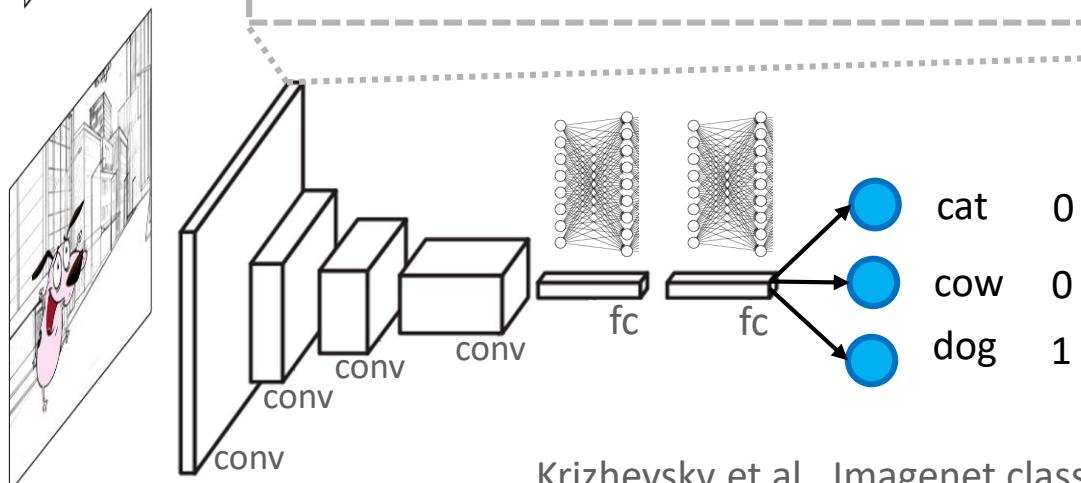
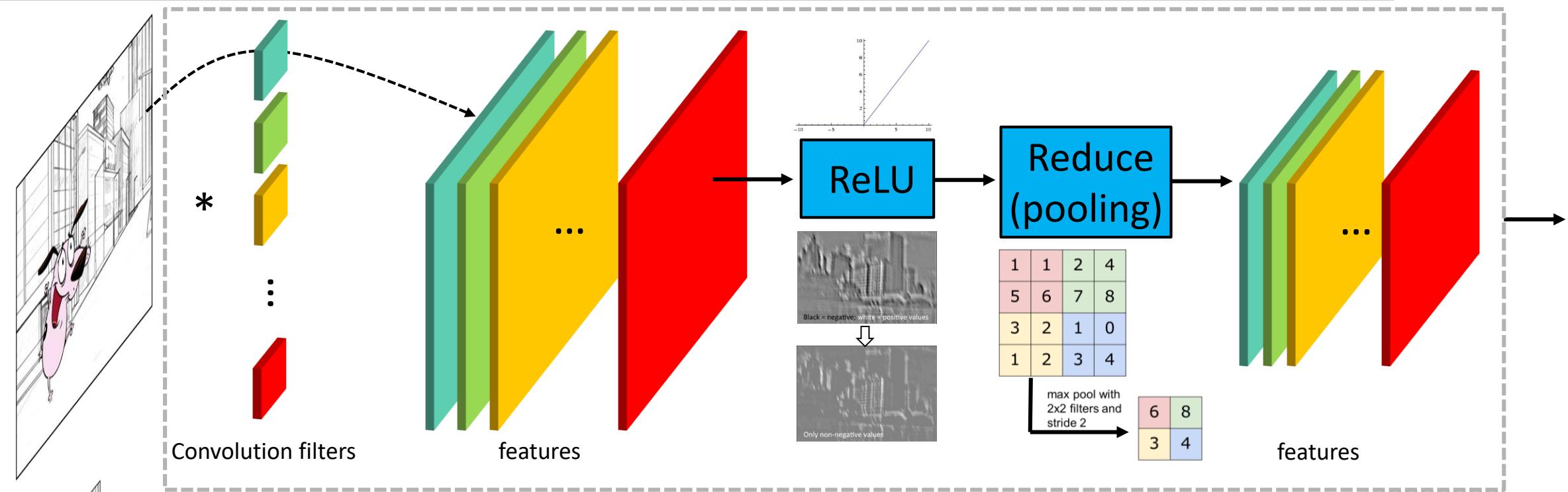


A convolutional neural network
(CNN)



- See, e.g. <http://cs231n.stanford.edu/>, for a good intro to CNNs

The basic CNN architecture

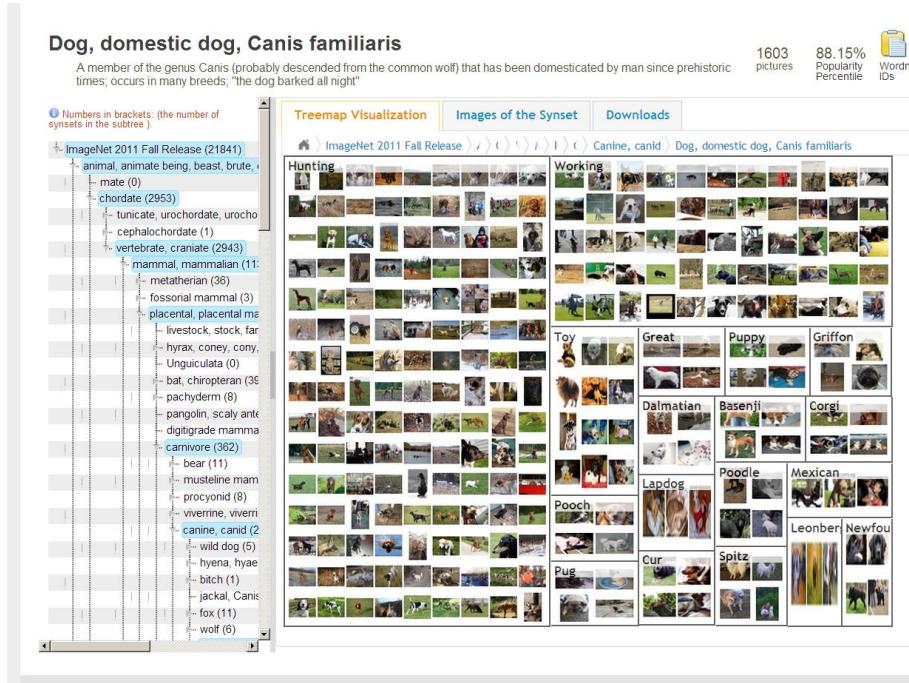


- The filters in all layers (and other free parameters) are trained to maximize the network accuracy.

Krizhevsky et al., Imagenet classification with deep convolutional neural networks, NIPS2012 (>100k citations!)

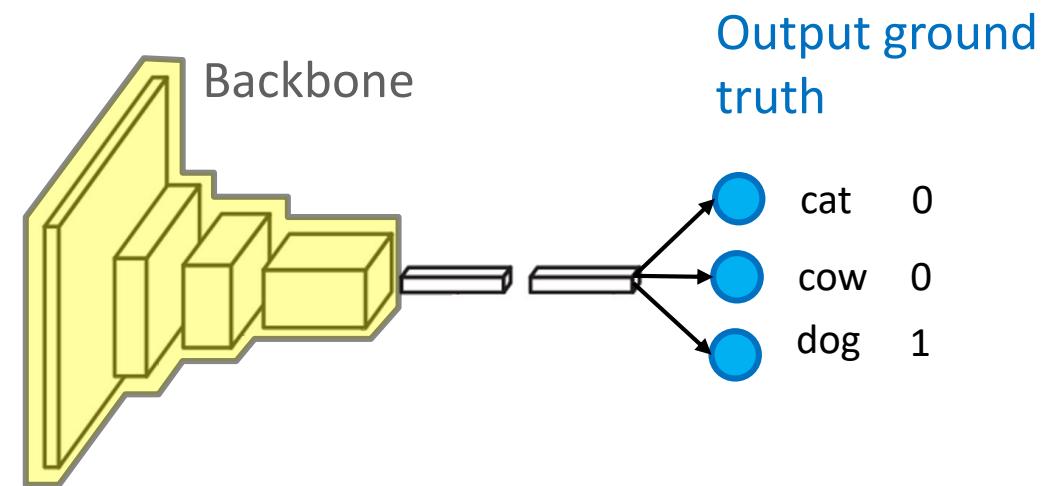
CNNs for object recognition (and more...)

- Task to answer: “*Which object category is in the image?*”



(Introduced in 2006 by Fei Fei Li et al.)
14 million labeled images,
20K categories
<http://www.image-net.org/>

Input training image



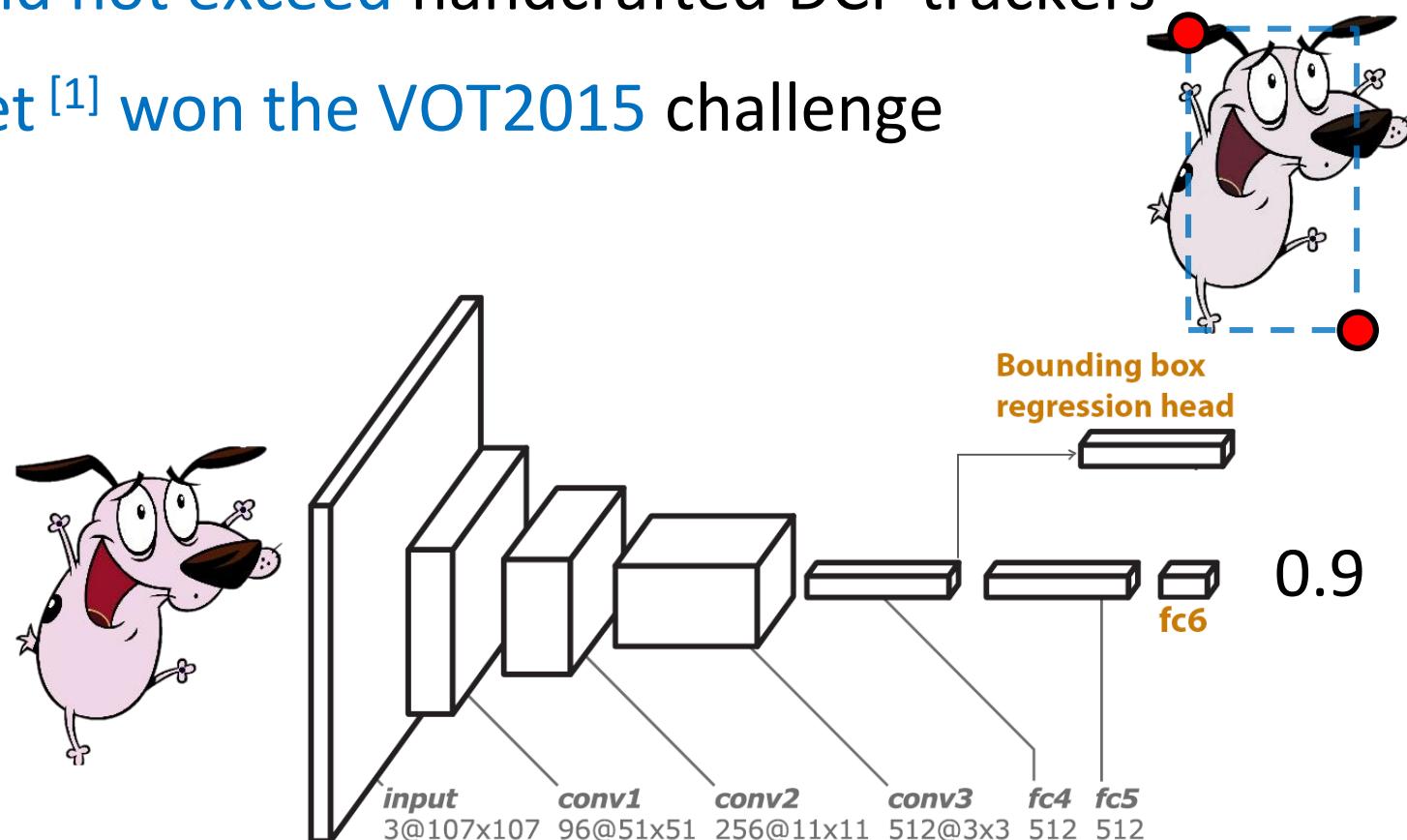
*Feature generalization:
Early layers of the pre-trained network
(backbone) can be repurposed for
other tasks, e.g., for segmentation...*

CNN architectures for tracking (2015 onward)

- CNNs were first successfully applied to recognition, detection, semantic segmentation, optical flow, ...
- But it **took a while** to come up with architectures and learning strategies appropriate for online tracking
- Overall: tracking has **drawn significantly on object detection** research
- In the following we will **overview what I consider milestones** in CNN trackers that made **significant leaps in performance** (this is by no means an exhaustive overview)

MDNet: Multi-Domain Convolutional Neural Network Tracker

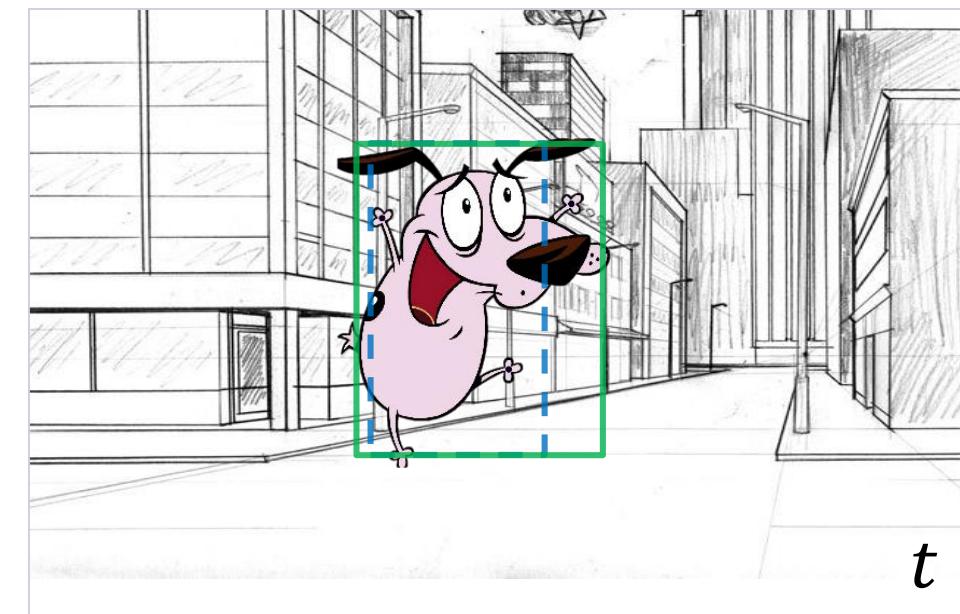
- Several attempts made to harvest the CNN potential in tracking
- Until 2015 the CNN trackers did not exceed handcrafted DCF trackers
- In 2015 a tracker called MDNet^[1] won the VOT2015 challenge
- Core ideas:
 - Draw on recent developments in object detection/recognition
 - Light-weight backbone
 - Efficient backbone pre-training
 - Efficient online training



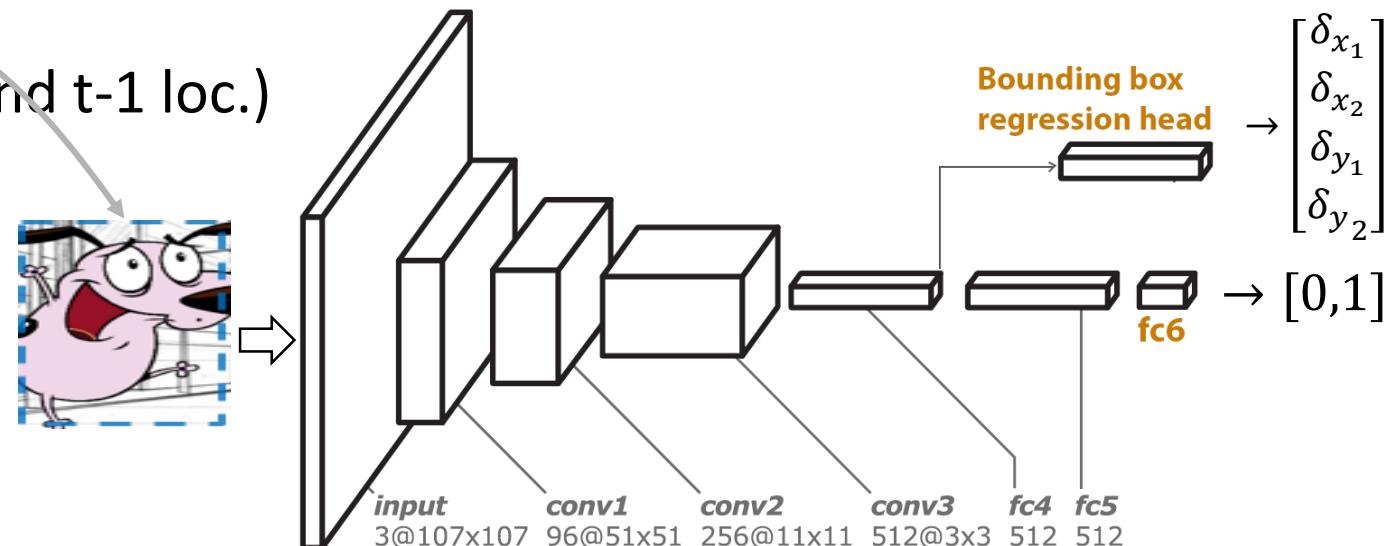
<https://github.com/hyeonseobnam/MDNet>

^[1] Nam and Han, Learning Multi-Domain Convolutional Neural Networks for Visual Tracking, CVPR2016

MDNet: Target localization principle



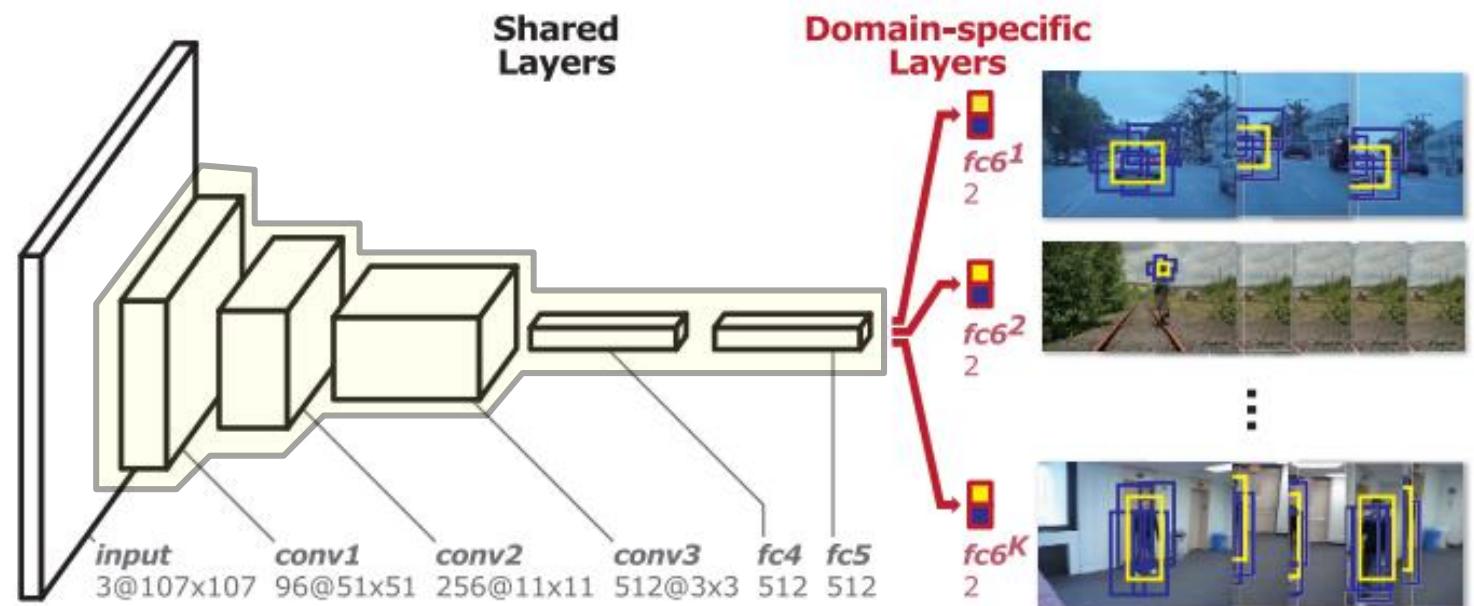
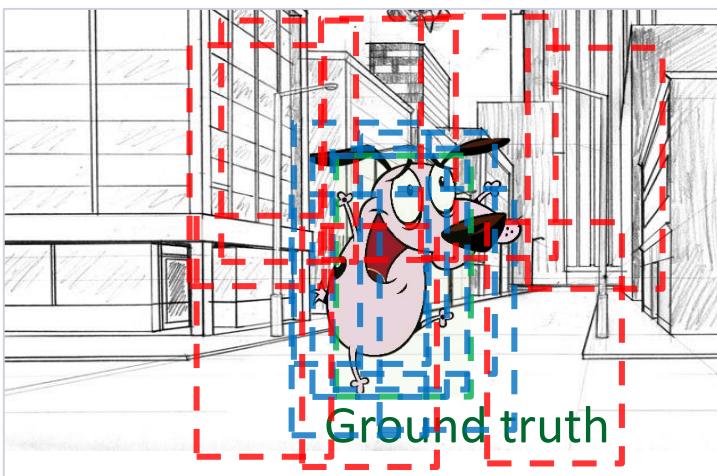
- Sample bounding boxes (around $t-1$ loc.)
- Compute classification score
- Take the BB with max. score
- Regress the BB parameters



MDNet: backbone pre-training

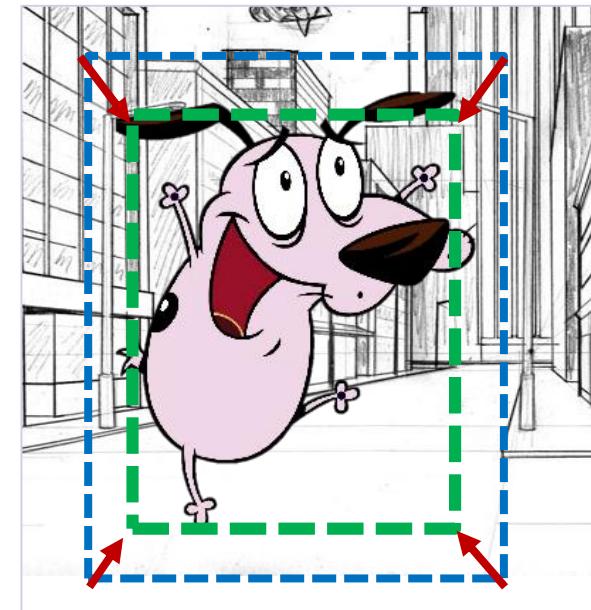
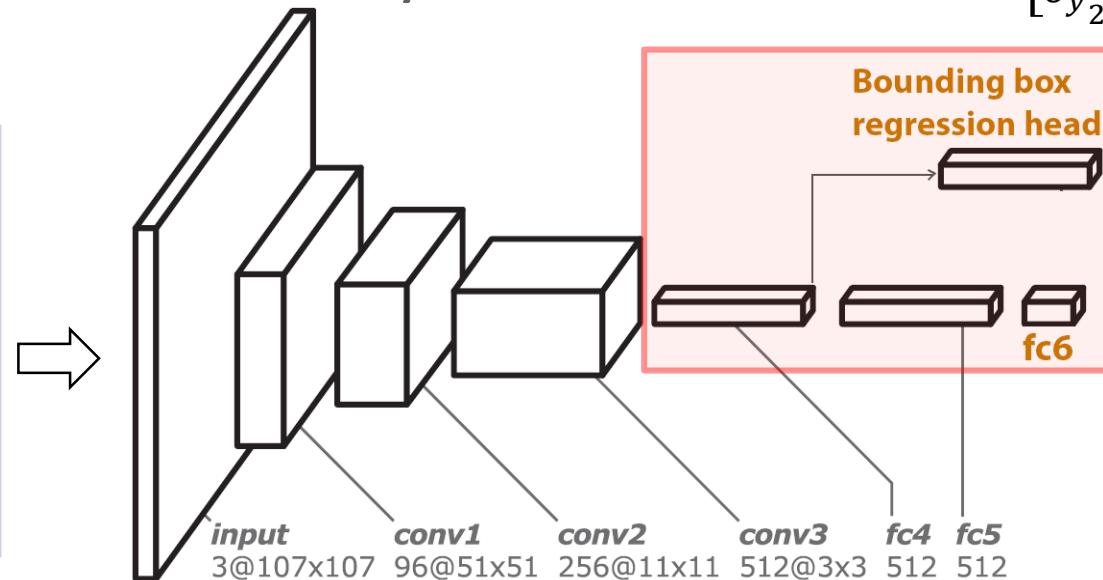
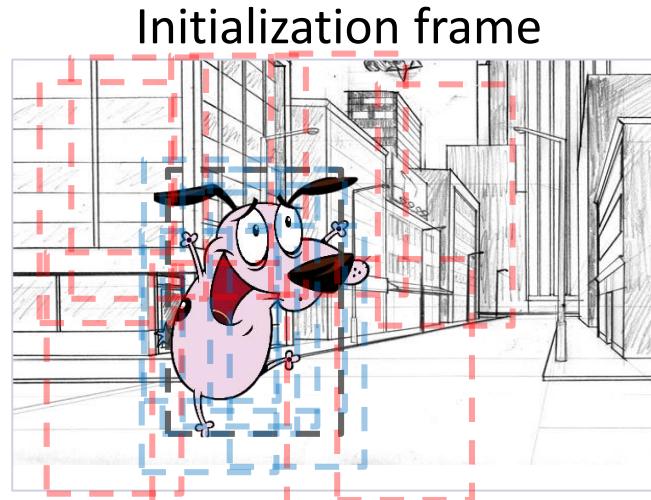
- Pre-trained on sequences, with each sequence having its own fc6
- Assumption:
 - Each sequence is its own tracking domain and requires a specialized fc6
 - But the backbone should be shared among all “domains” (sequences)

In each selected frame, sample
50 pos & 200 neg samples



MDNet: Initialization on a new sequence

- After pre-training, the fc6 layers are removed and a new fc6 is created
- Initialization frame:
 - Fine-tune fc4/5 layers train fc6 from scratch
 - Train bounding box regression head
- During tracking: fine-tune all fc layers



MDNet: Online tracking

- Sample target positions, classify, output the one with max score

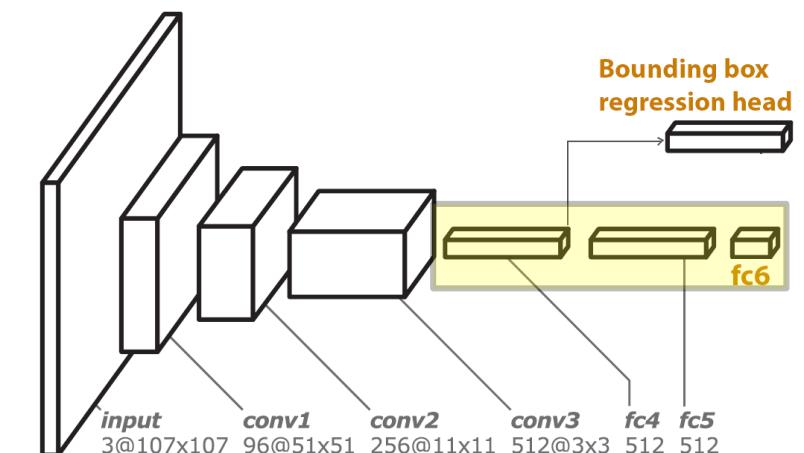


Target localization



Target hard negative mining

- Fine-tune all fc layers (fc4, fc5, fc6)
 - Hard negative mining
(negative samples with a high “positive” score)
 - Short-term and long-term memory samples
 - Do not update during target loss



MDNet in action

- Remarkably robust
- I suspect, that smart training samples mining and careful updating *significantly contributes* to performance...

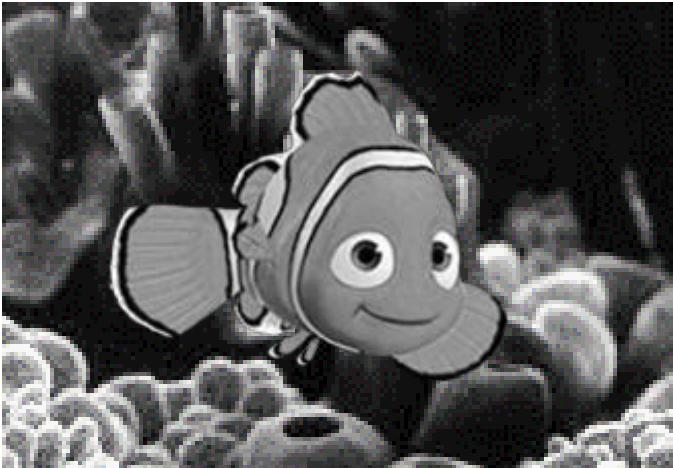
Learning Multi-Domain Convolutional Neural Networks for Visual Tracking

Hyeonseob Nam and Bohyung Han

Nam and Han, Learning Multi-Domain Convolutional Neural Networks for Visual Tracking, CVPR2016
Jung, Son, Baek, Han, Real-Time MDNet, ECCV2018

Recall the idea behind tracking by correlation

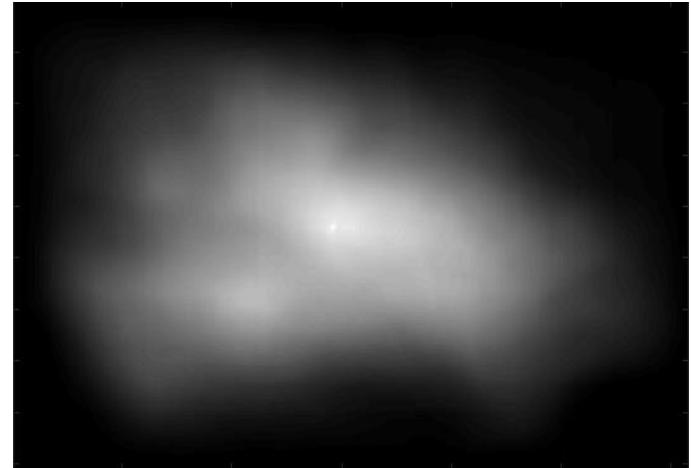
Image: f



Template: h



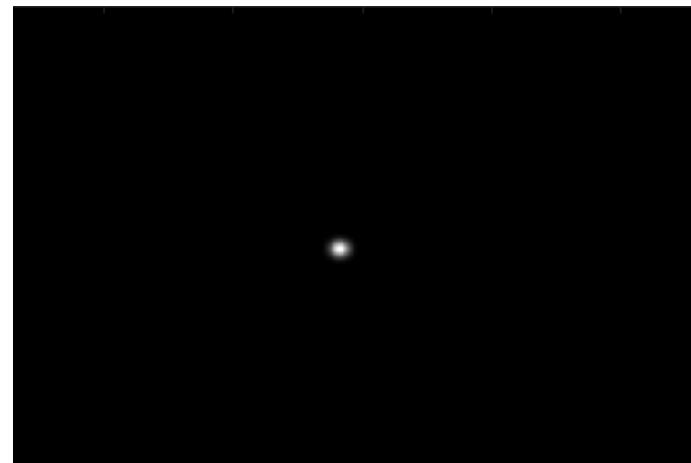
Correlation output: $g' = f \star h$



Using all grayscale image pixels
(standard correlation)

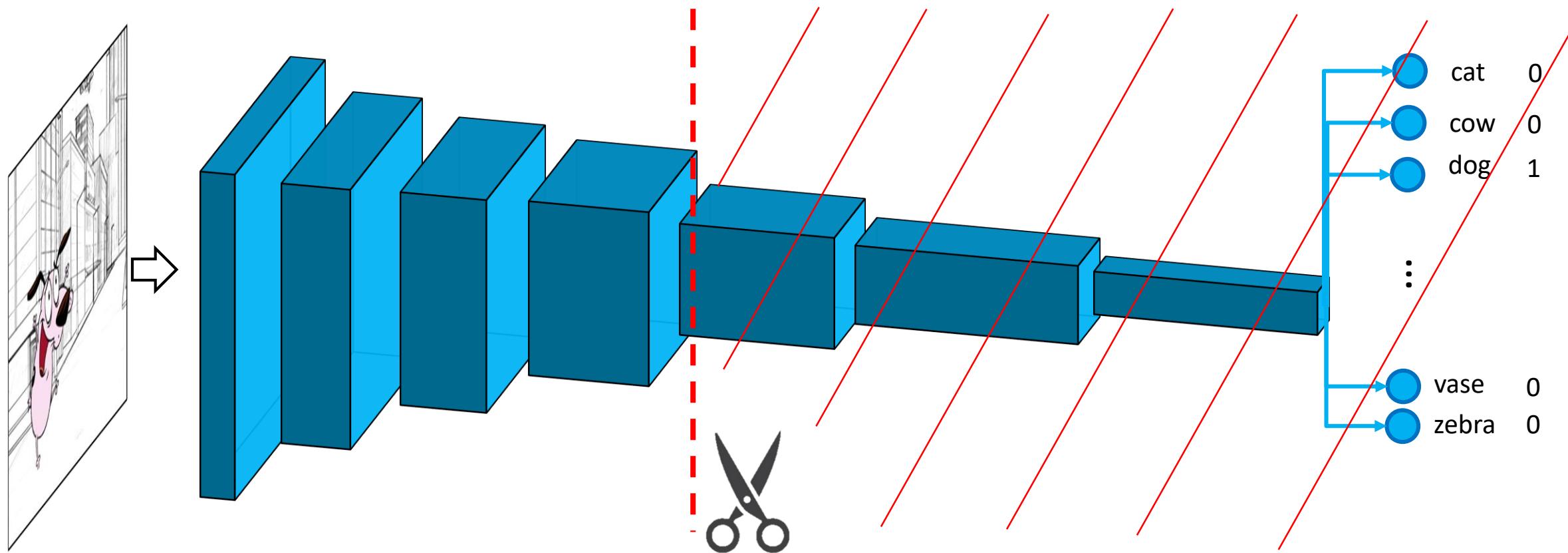
- Problem: *Intensity values are very weak features*
 - Correlation response not well expressed at target location
 - Tracking may quickly drift when the target appearance changes

Desired correlation output: g



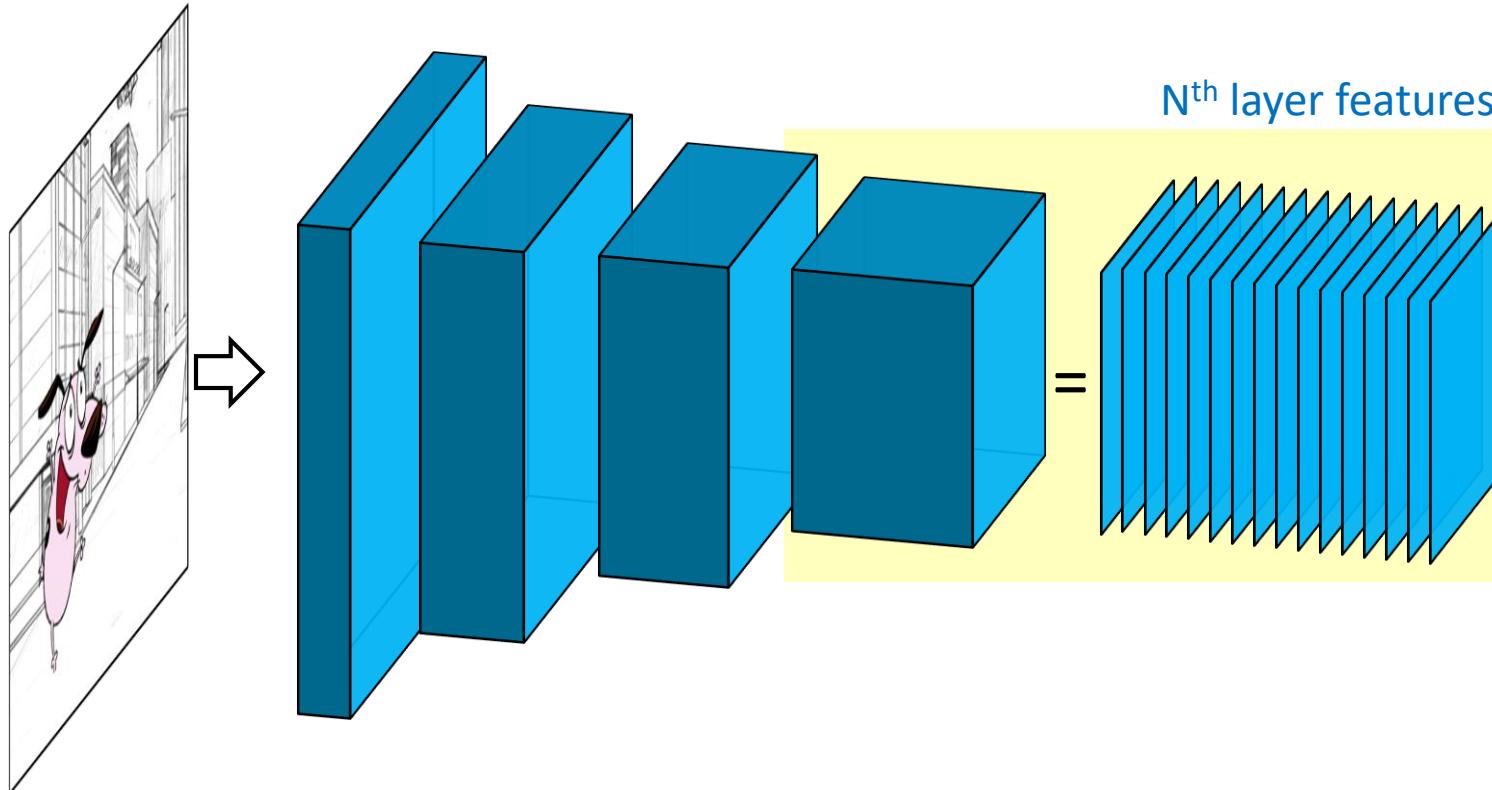
CNN as a feature extractor

- Apply a CNN for object detection pretrained on Imagenet for many categories (~1000) and cut away the higher layers



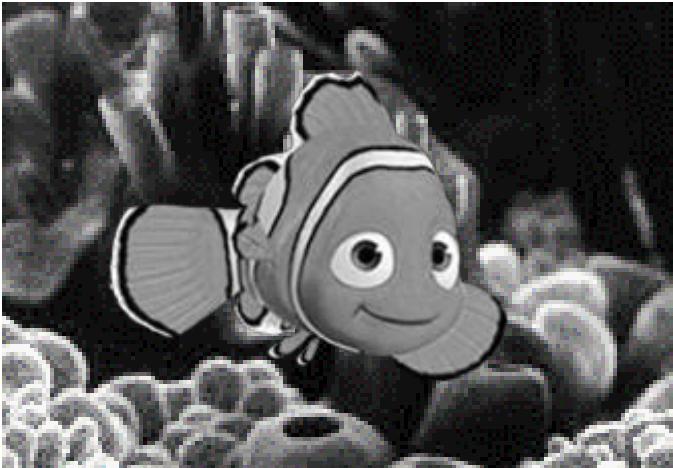
CNN as a feature extractor

- Apply a CNN for object detection pretrained on Imagenet for many categories (~1000) and cut away the higher layers



Robustifying template correlation by CNN features

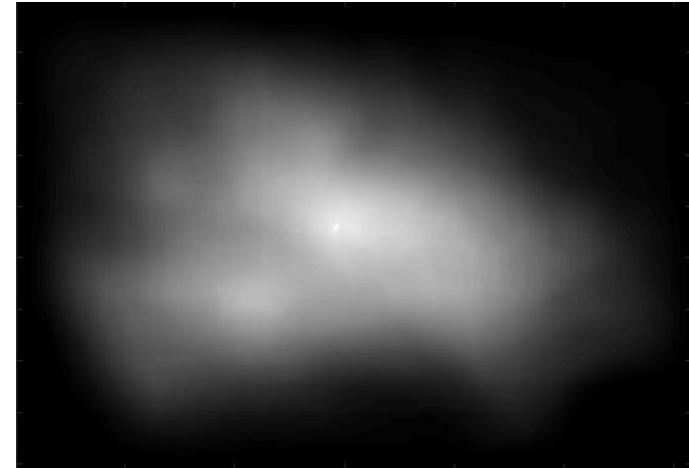
Image: f



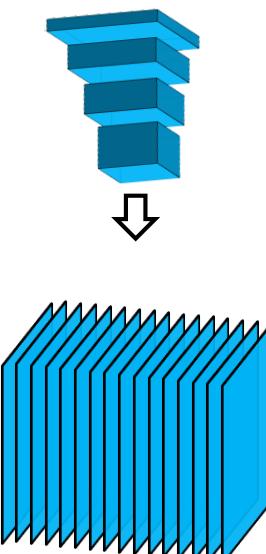
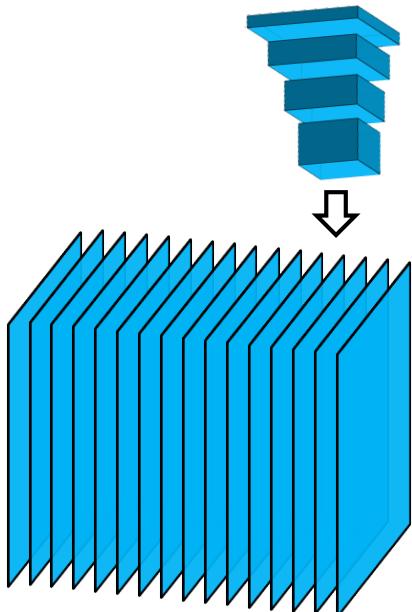
Template: h



Correlation output: $g' = f \star h$



Using all grayscale image pixels
(standard correlation)



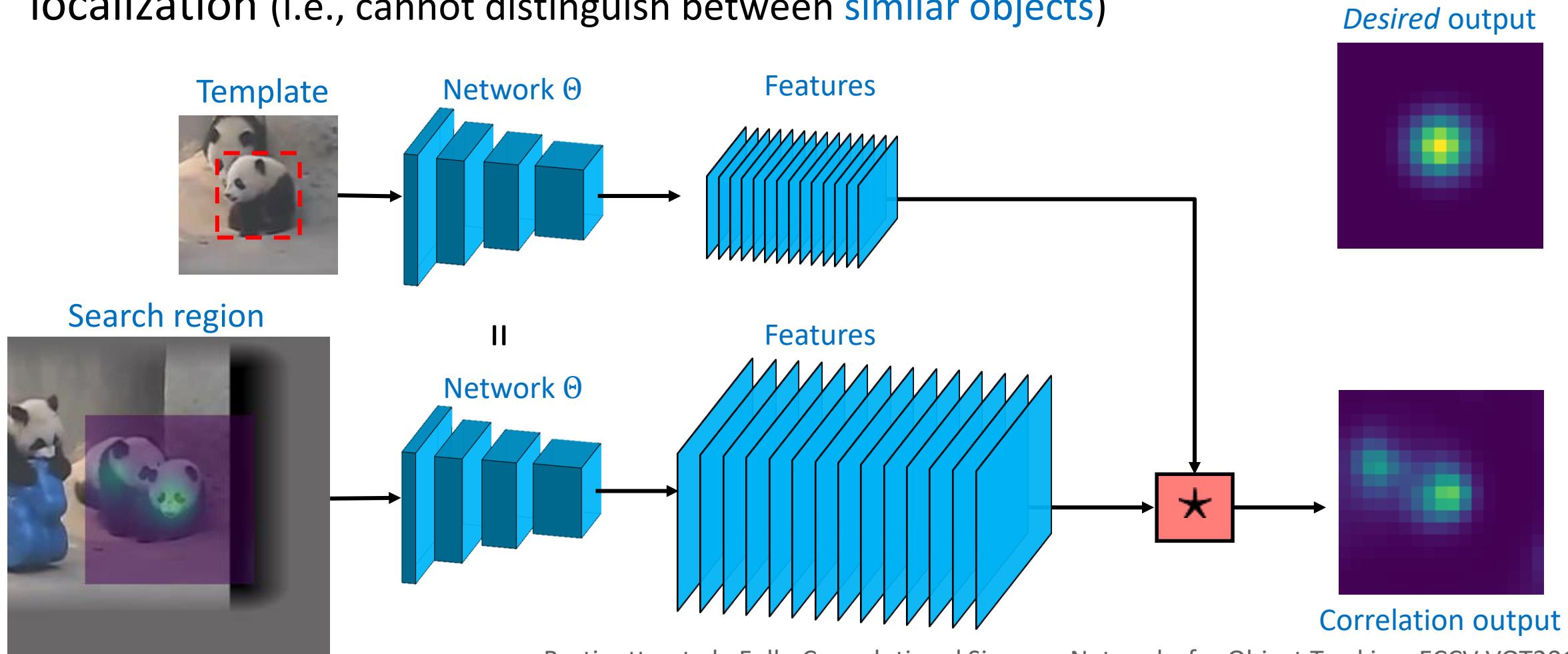
Correlation output



Better, but not great...

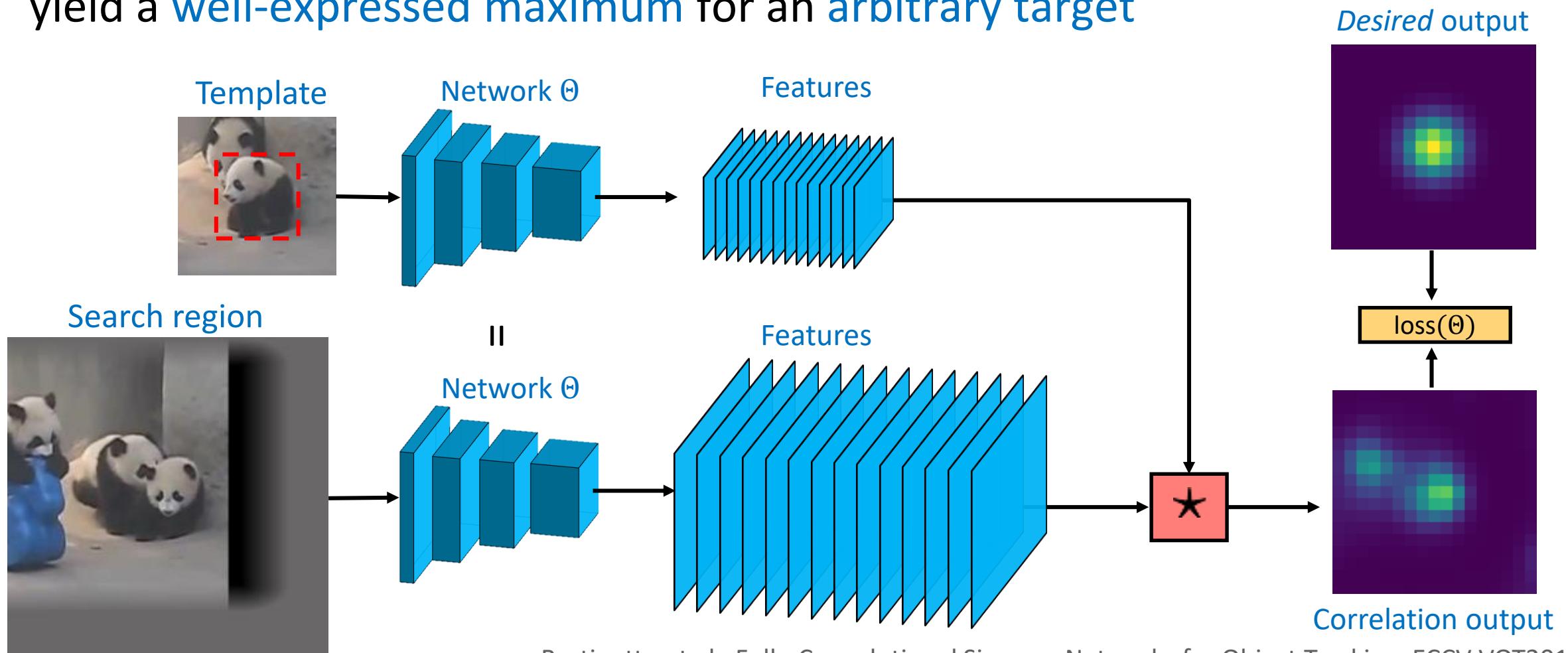
Robustifying template correlation by CNN features

- Issue: CNN features were pre-trained for classification, not for discriminative localization (i.e., cannot distinguish between similar objects)



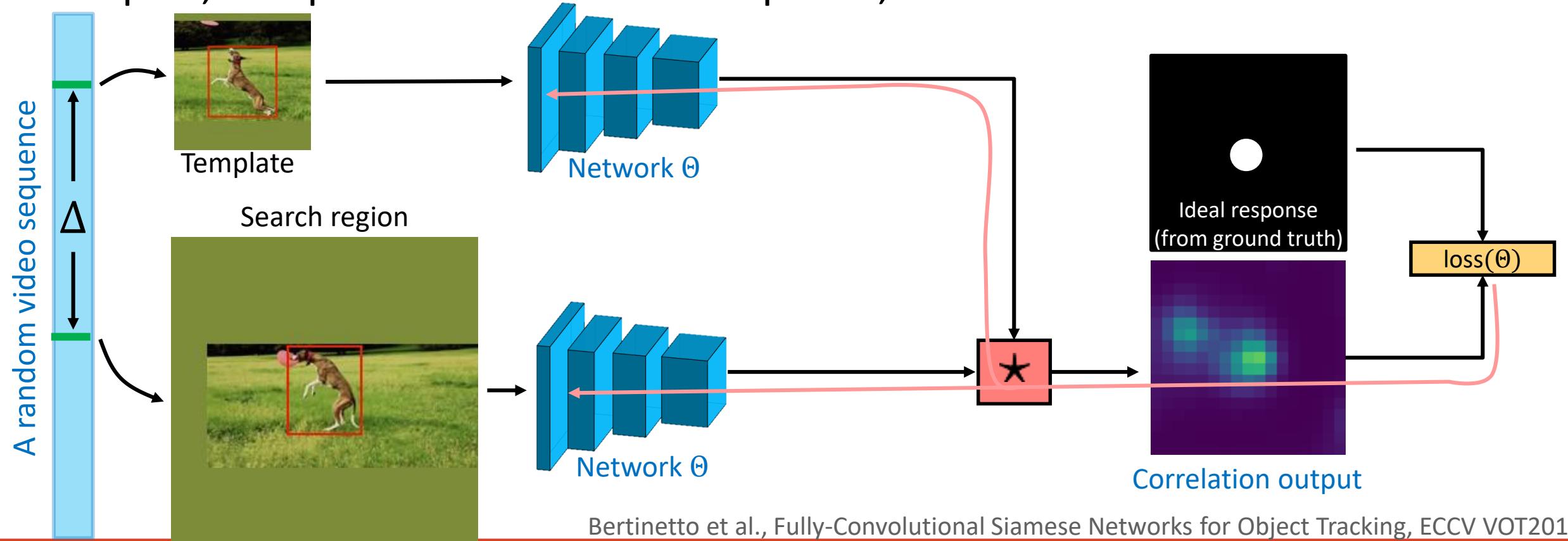
Robustifying template correlation by CNN features

- Solution: pre-train the backbone parameters, such that the correlation will yield a well-expressed maximum for an arbitrary target



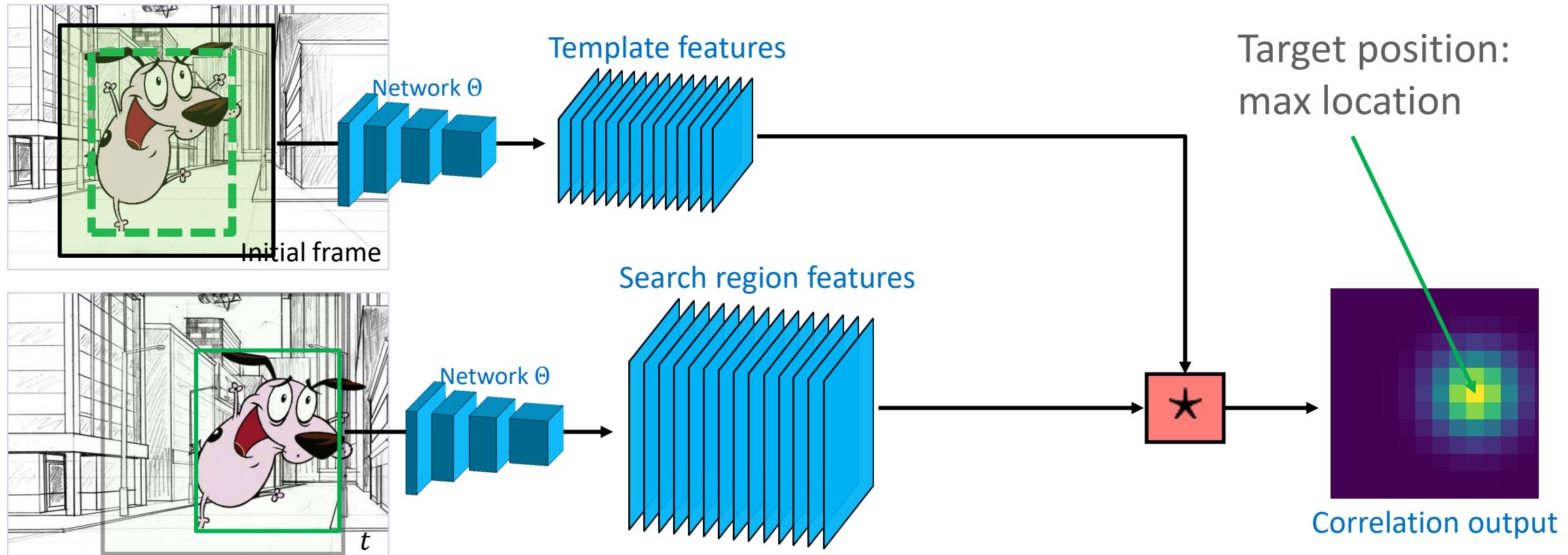
SiamFc (Siamese fully conv. net): Pre-training

- ImageNet VID challenge – a video dataset with targets annotated
- Take many **pairs of random images** from the same sequence Δ frames apart, compute the correlation response, and minimize the loss w.r.t. Θ



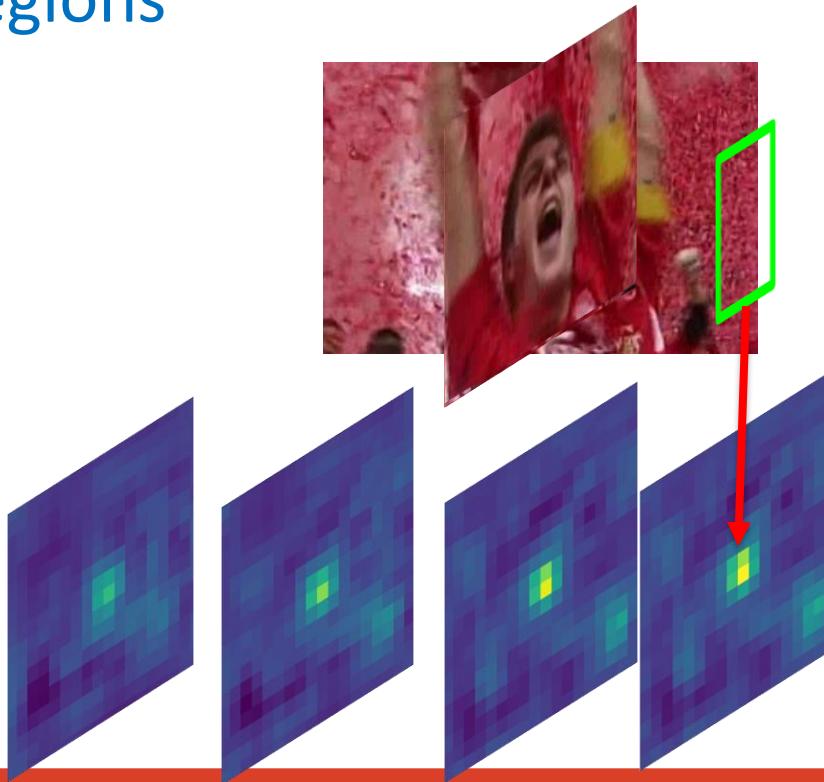
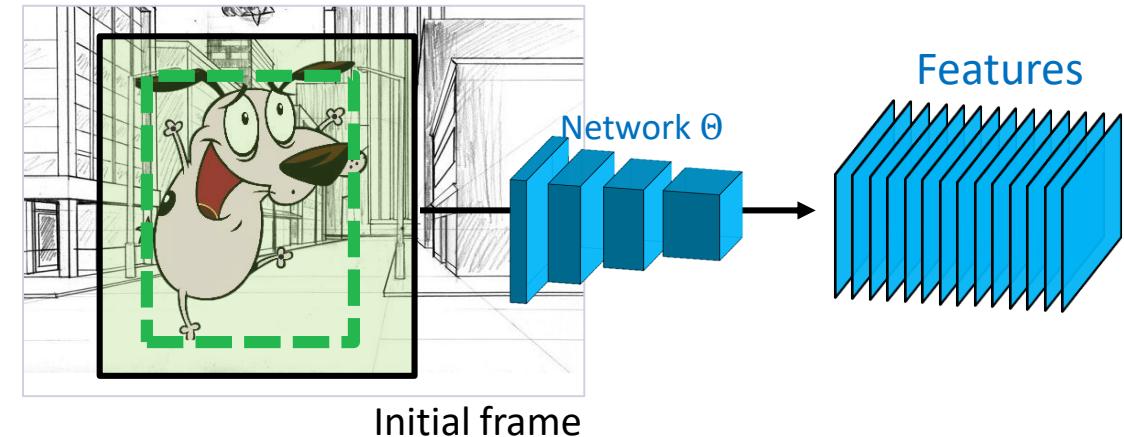
SiamFc: Tracking

- Template extracted in the first frame
- Target localization in t -th frame: maximum of the correlation between search region and the template (both encoded by CNN)



SiamFc: Scale estimation

- Template extracted in the first frame
- Target localization in t -th frame:
correlate with the template on several
resized search regions



Bertinetto et al., Fully-Convolutional
Siamese Networks for Object Tracking,
ECCV VOT2016

SiamFc: Tracking examples

- A fully-convolutional Siamese network
Bertinetto et al., Fully-Convolutional Siamese Networks for Object Tracking,
ECCV VOT2016
- Template is *not updated* during tracking
- Super fast: ~60fps



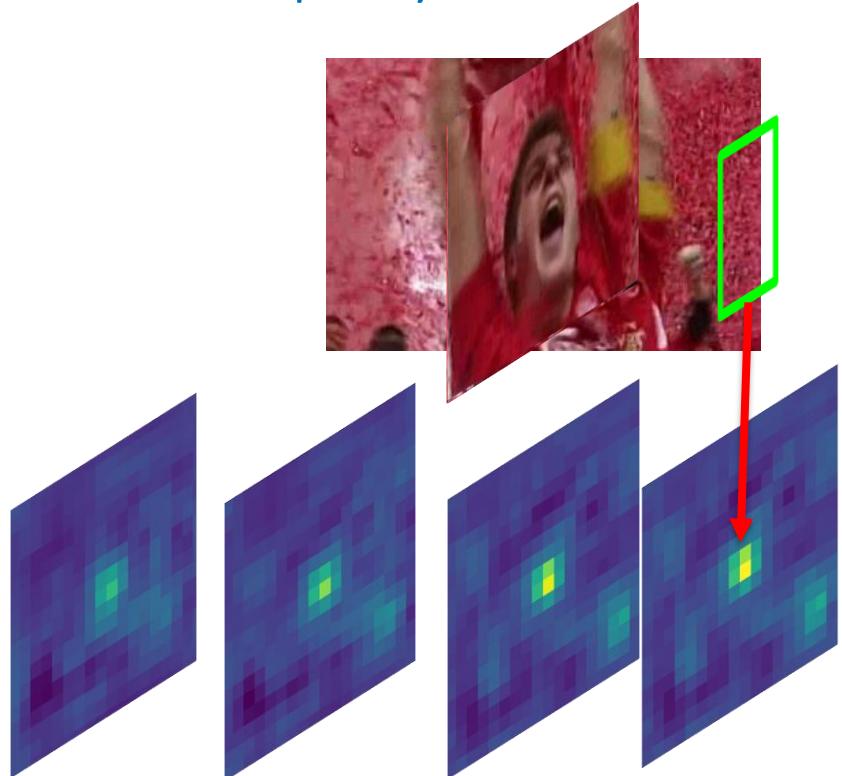
- Recent work on template updating
Zhang et al., Learning the Model Update for Siamese Trackers,
ICCV2019
- Extension with segmentation
Wang et al. Fast Online Object Tracking and Segmentation:
A Unifying Approach. CVPR 2019



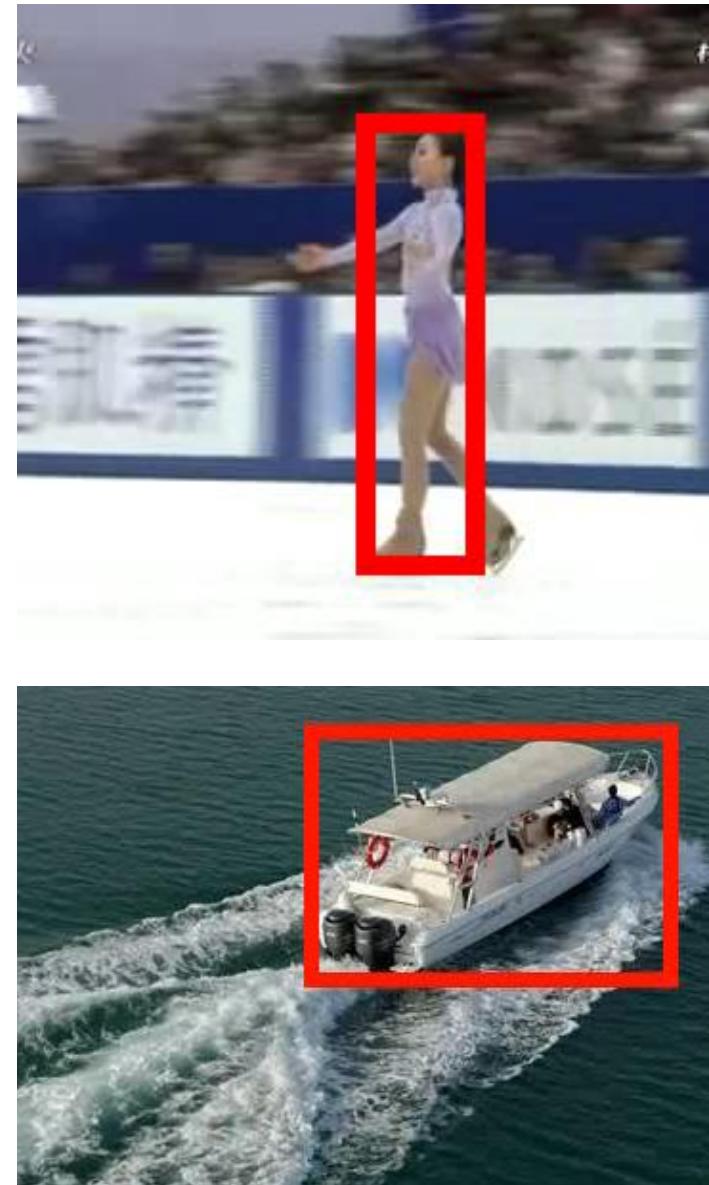
Issues with bounding box estimation

- Standard approach: resize the input image to several scales and correlate on each

Explicitly test several scales



- Poor approximation of the aspect change...

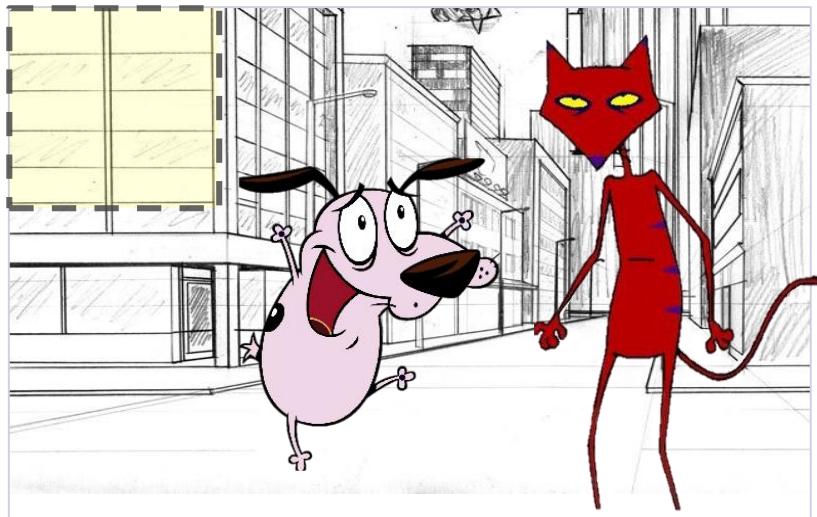


A standard approach for object detection

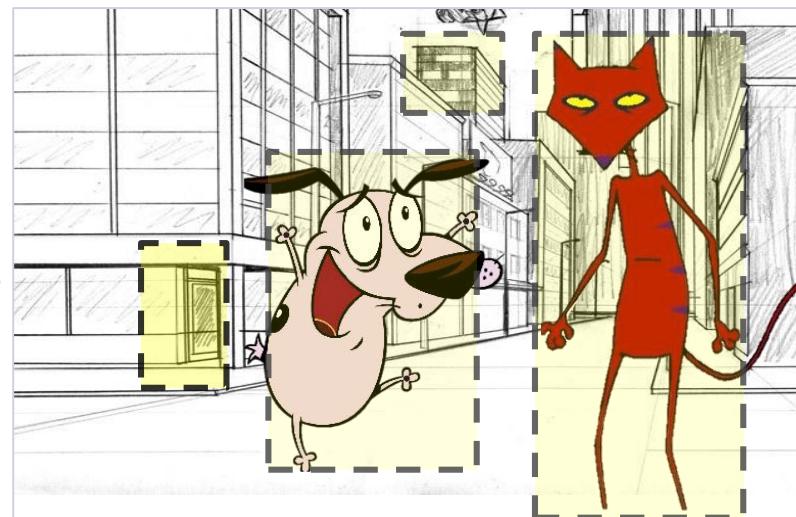
Ren et al., Faster R-CNN: Towards Real-Time Object Detection with Region Proposal Networks, NIPS2015

- Stage 1: identify potential regions with objects – region proposals (RP)
(requirement: the RP classifier has to be fast)
- Stage 2: classify each selected region by a strong classifier into categories

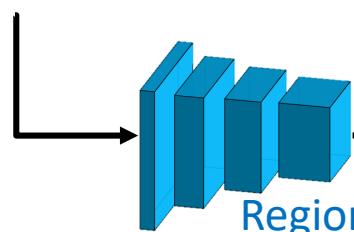
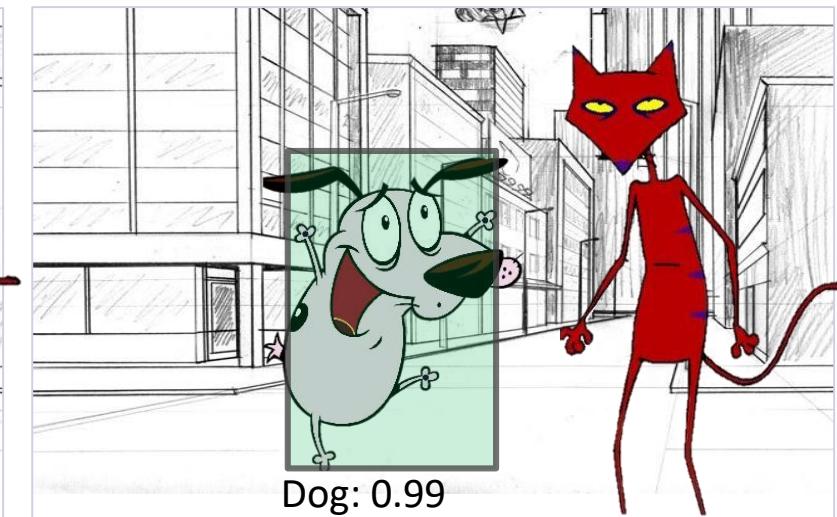
Fast object/background classifier



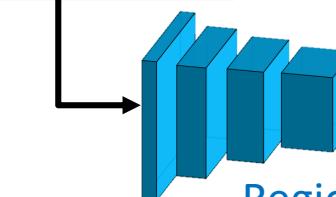
Generated region proposals



After final verification (Stage 2)



Region proposal network (RPN)



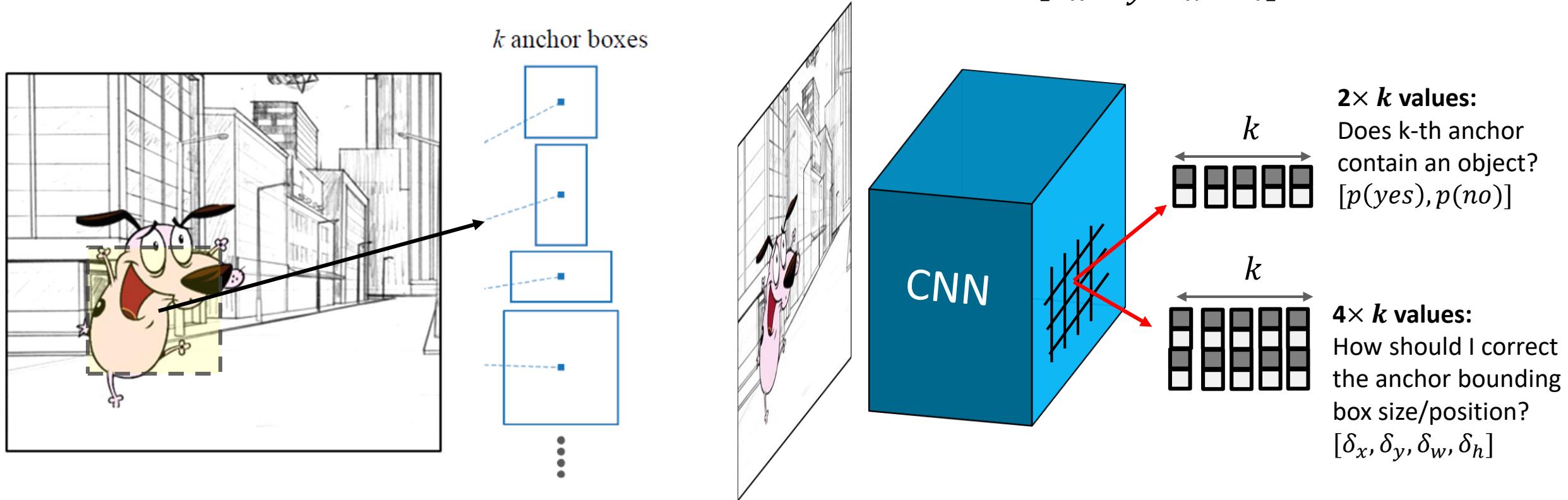
Region recognition network

Probability of each category

The region proposal network (RPN)

Ren et al., Faster R-CNN: Towards Real-Time Object Detection with Region Proposal Networks, NIPS2015

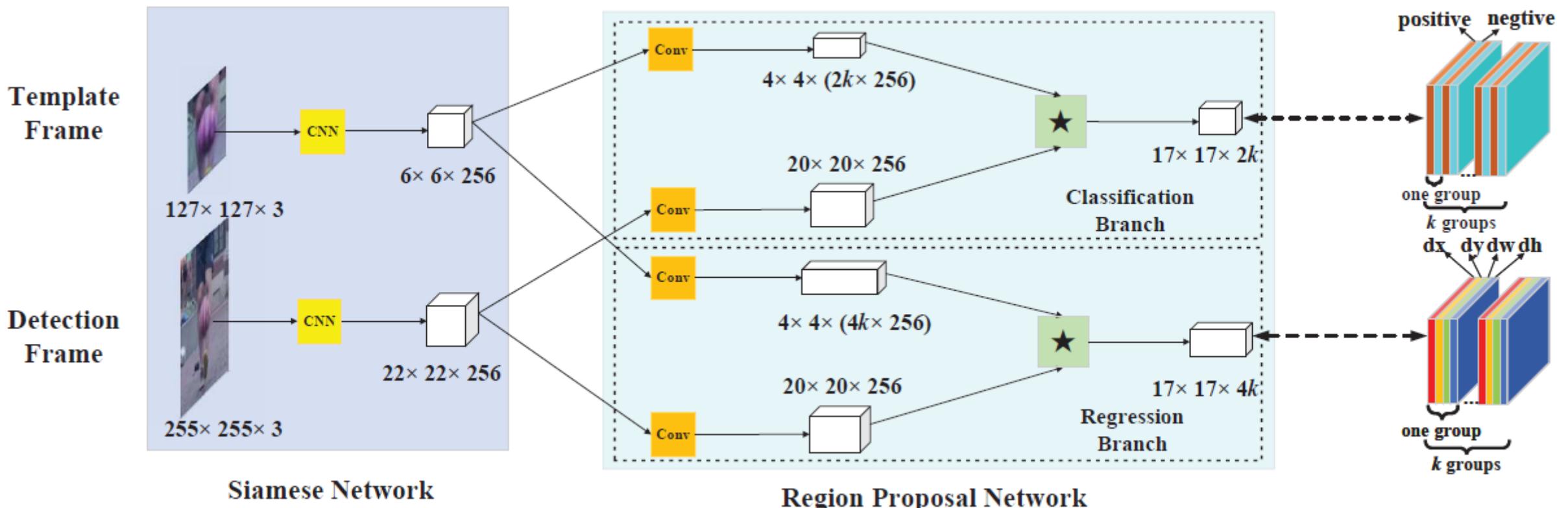
- At each location: *test for k bounding box shapes*
 - Tests a hypothesis that a certain shape bounding box is positioned there
 - Predicts “delta” coordinates to that hypothesized box $[\delta_x, \delta_y, \delta_w, \delta_h]$



SiamRPN – an RPN added to a Siamese tracker

Li et al., High Performance Visual Tracking with Siamese Region Proposal Network, CVPR2018

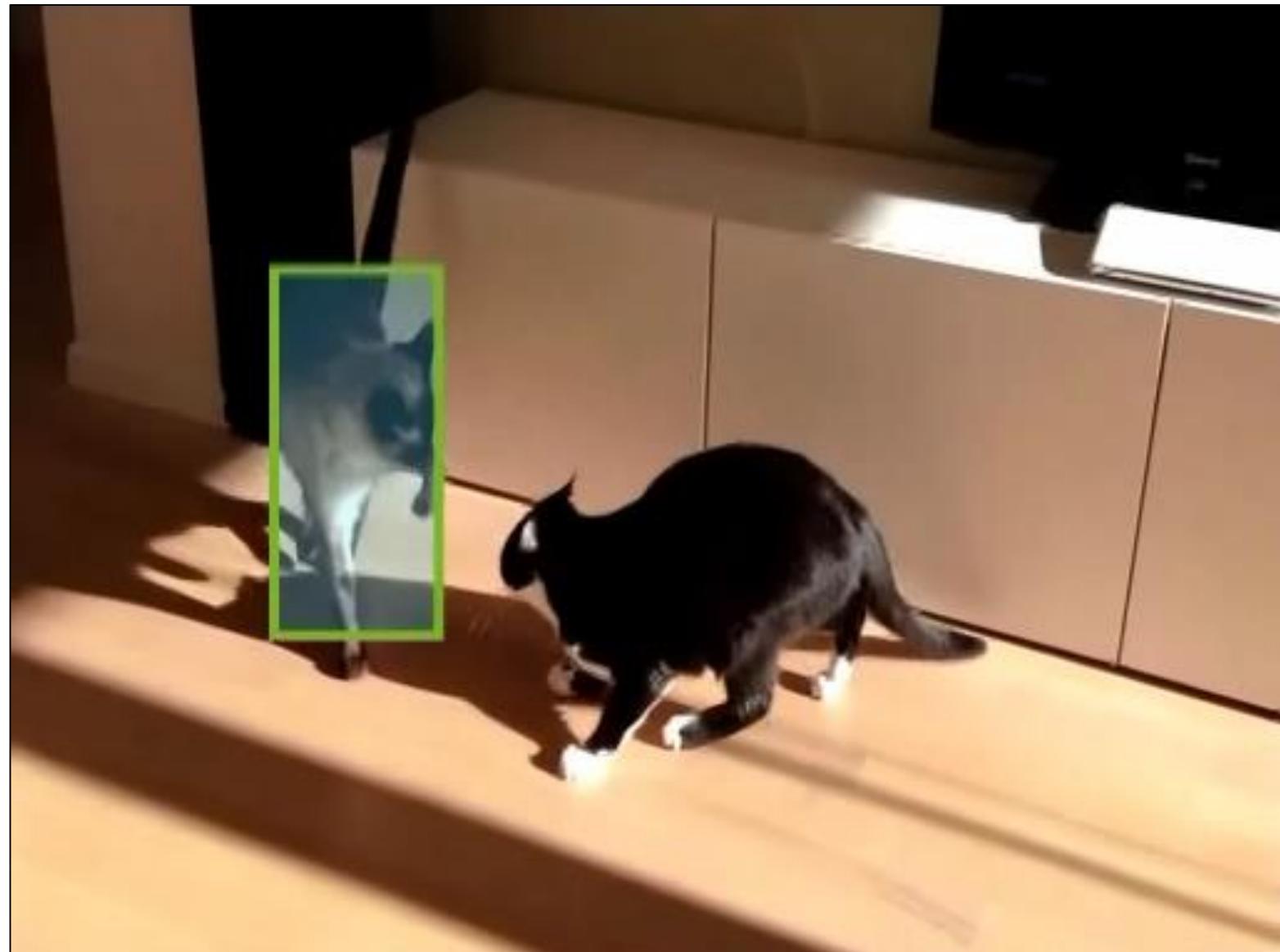
- Issue: the standard RPN is trained for general object detection
- Solution: a region proposal network is modulated by the template so that region proposals get specialized for the template



SiamRPN: Tracking example

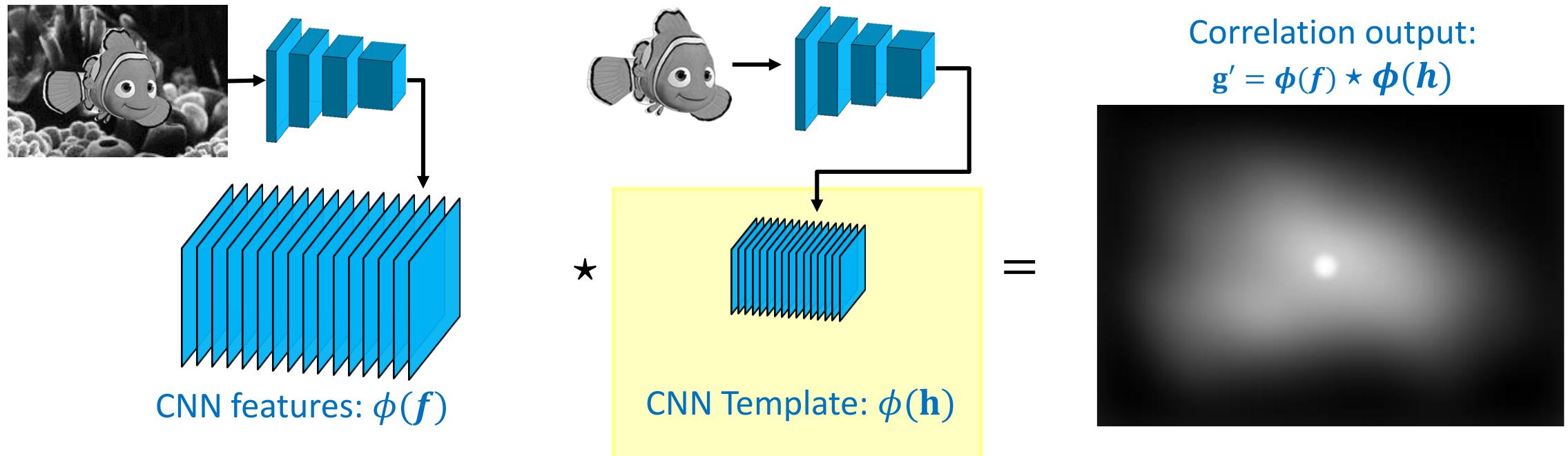
- Aspect change is well addressed
- 160fps (PyTorch, PC with an Intel i7, 12G RAM, Nvidia GTX 1060)
- Improved version proposed recently [1]

[1] Li et al., SiamRPN++: Evolution of Siamese Visual Tracking with Very Deep Networks, CVPR2019



Siamese networks issues

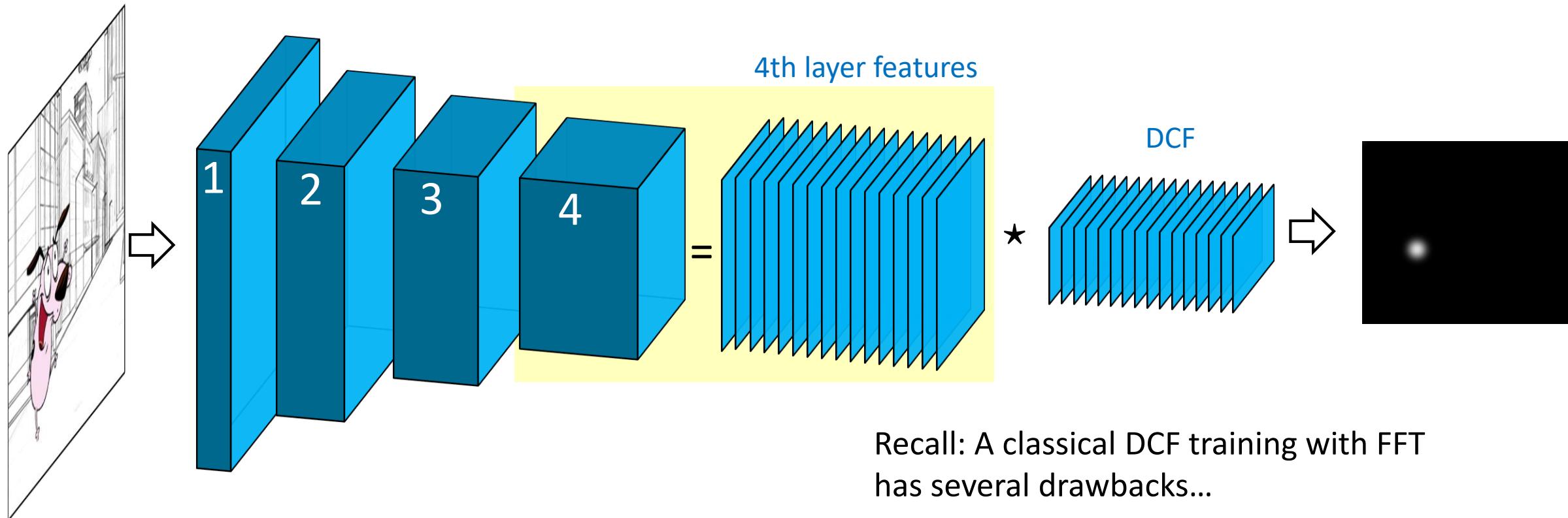
- Localization by a *generative template* – not by a *discriminative template*
- Cannot focus on features that separate the *selected target* from the background



Why not learn a discriminative template?

Training a DCF on CNN features

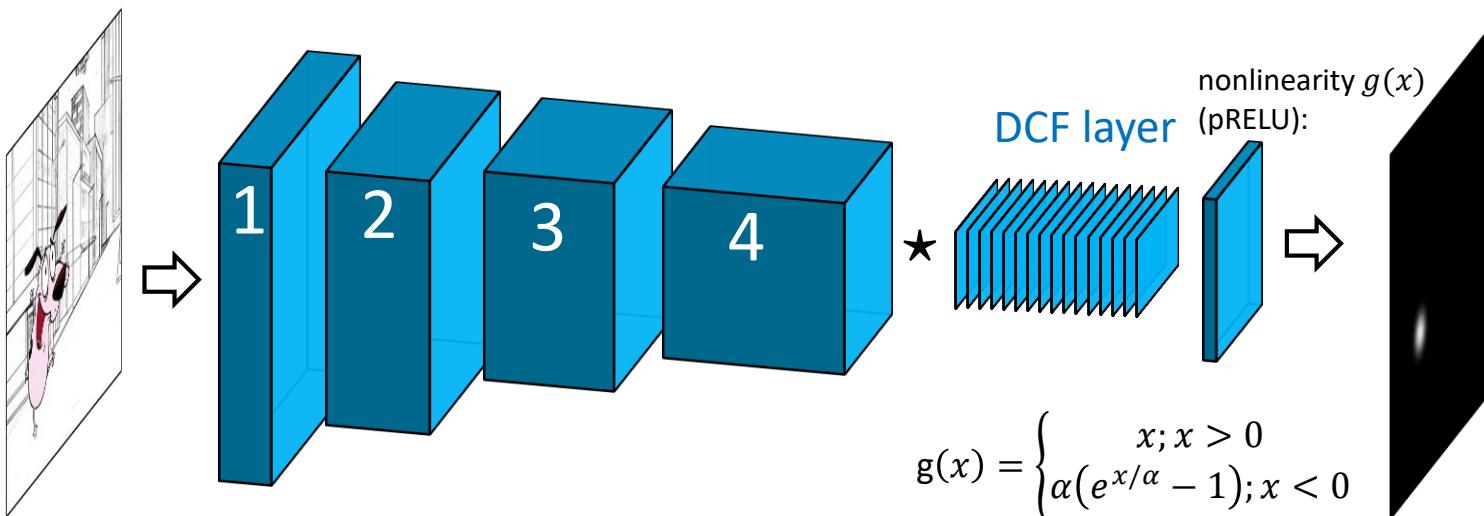
- Apply a Resnet18 [1] pretrained on ImageNet and consider the output features of the 4th layer



[1] K He, X Zhang, S Ren, J Sun, Deep Residual Learning for Image Recognition, CVPR2016

A DCF as a CNN layer

- A DCF of any size can be formulated as a single output correlation layer.
- Any nonlinear transformation to the output can be enforced.



Issue: how to train
the DCF?

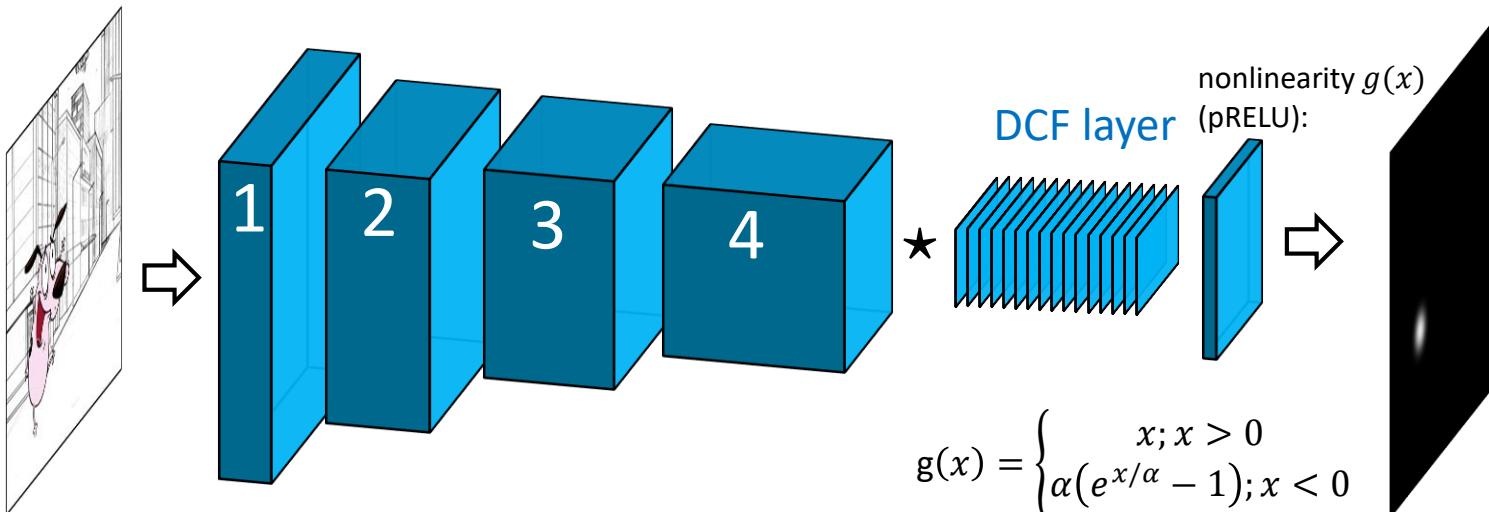
- The DCF cost function:

$$L(w) = \sum_{j=1}^m \gamma_j \|f(x_j; w) - y_j\|^2 + \sum_k \lambda_k \|w_k\|^2 .$$

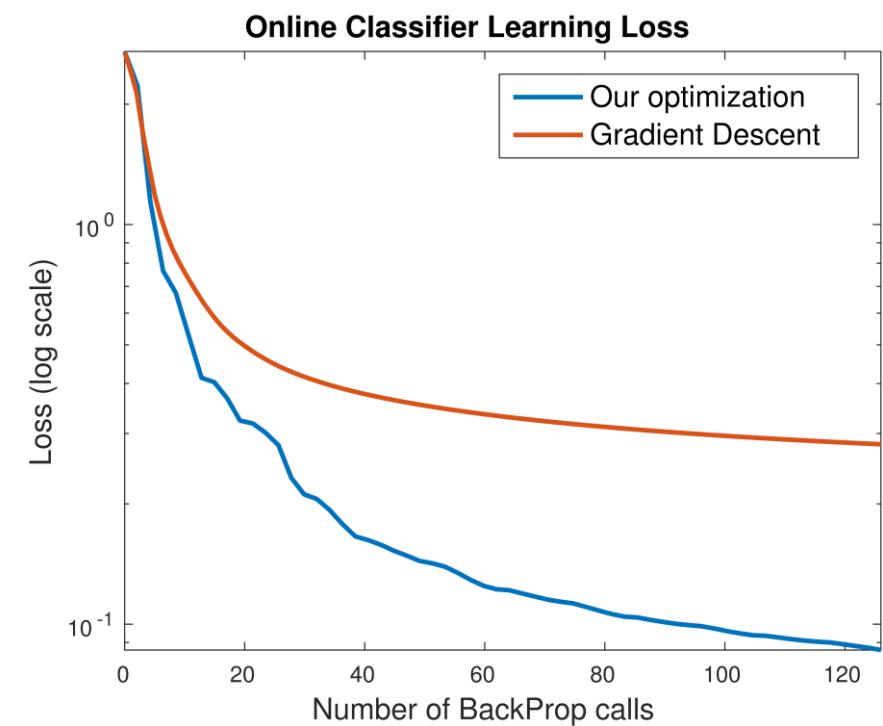
[1] Danelljan et al., ATOM: Accurate Tracking by Overlap Maximization, CVPR2019

A DCF as a CNN layer

- Efficient training by a **conjugated gradient descent**, implemented via backprop methods already in CNN – fully trainable within the CNN



- Introduced as part of ATOM [1].

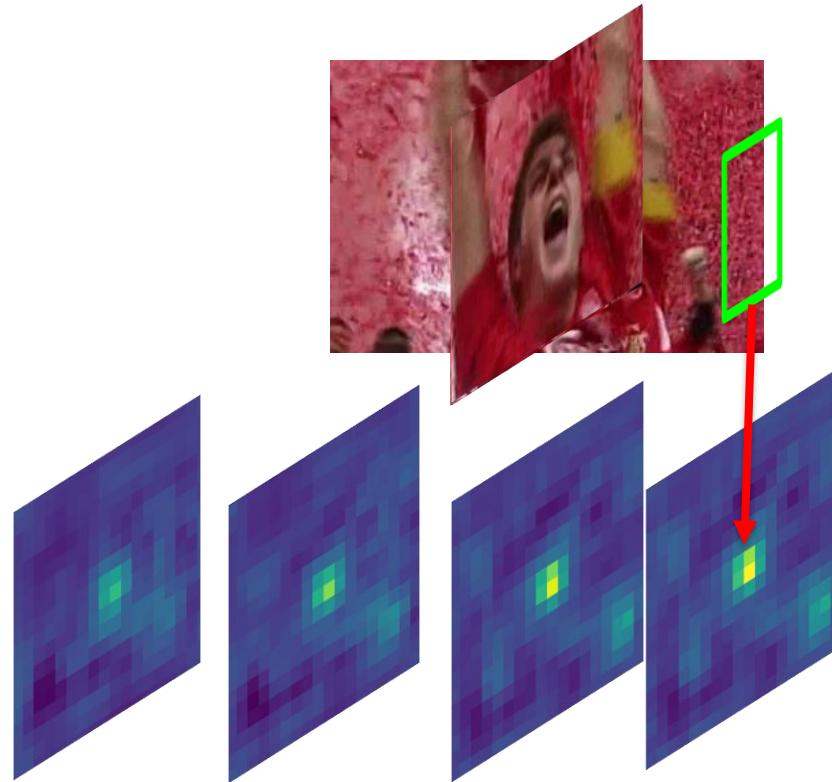


[1] Danelljan et al., ATOM: Accurate Tracking by Overlap Maximization, CVPR2019

Recall the issues with bounding box estimation

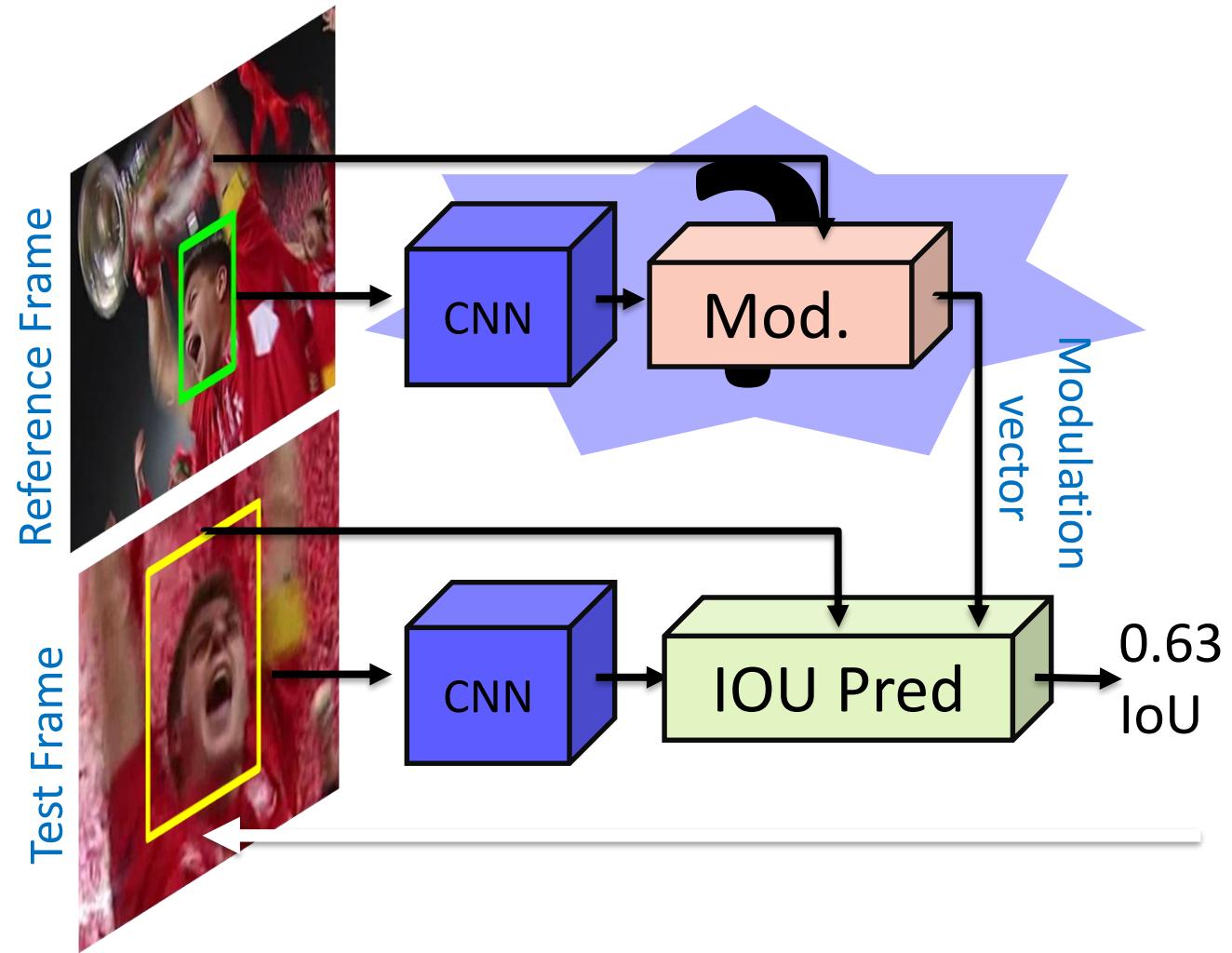
- Standard approach: Apply a DCF to differently resized images
- Poor approximation of the aspect change...

Explicitly test several scales



Apply another CNN for bounding box fitting

- Could apply an IoU-net [1] to predict the box fit (without knowing the GT)
- But IoU-net is trained for object detection and is not aware of the selected target!
- A modification was proposed by [2].



- [1] IOUNet: B. Jiang, R. Luo, J. Mao, T. Xiao, and Y. Jiang. Acquisition of localization confidence for accurate object detection. In ECCV, 2018
[2] Danelljan et al., ATOM: Accurate Tracking by Overlap Maximization, CVPR2019

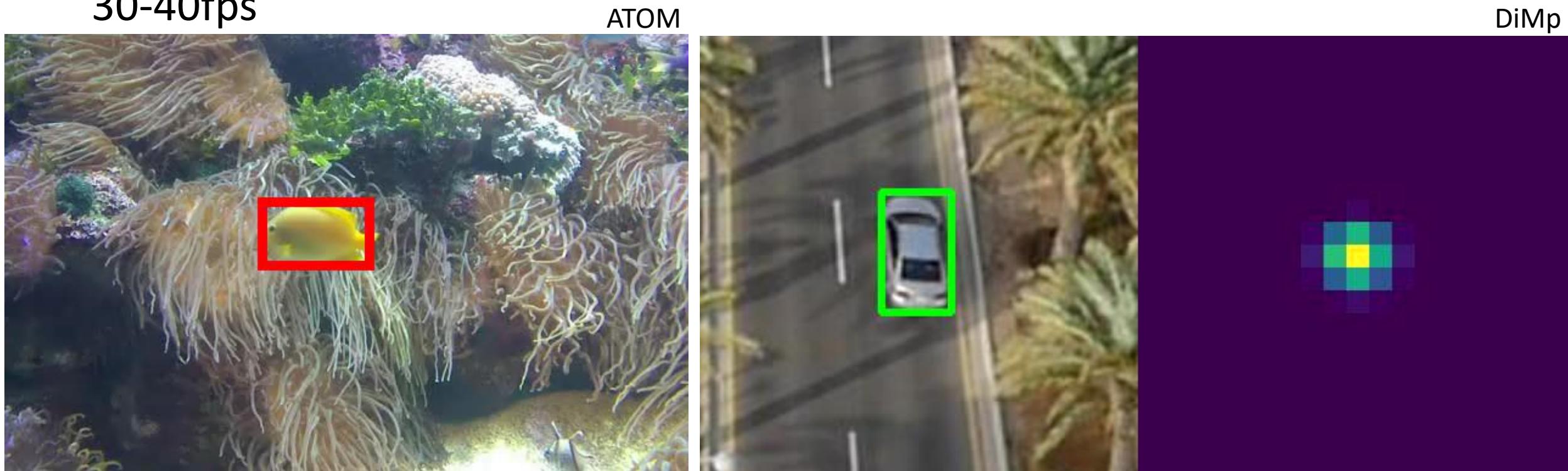
ATOM: Accurate Tracking by Overlap Maximization



1. Approximately localize by the deep DCF
2. Generate the proposal at DCF output
3. Refine the proposal by the modified IoU-net
4. Update the deep DCF

ATOM and beyond

- The bounding box prediction network is trained on three huge datasets [1]
- Recent extension DiMp [1] (DCF training improved & hard negative mining added)
30-40fps

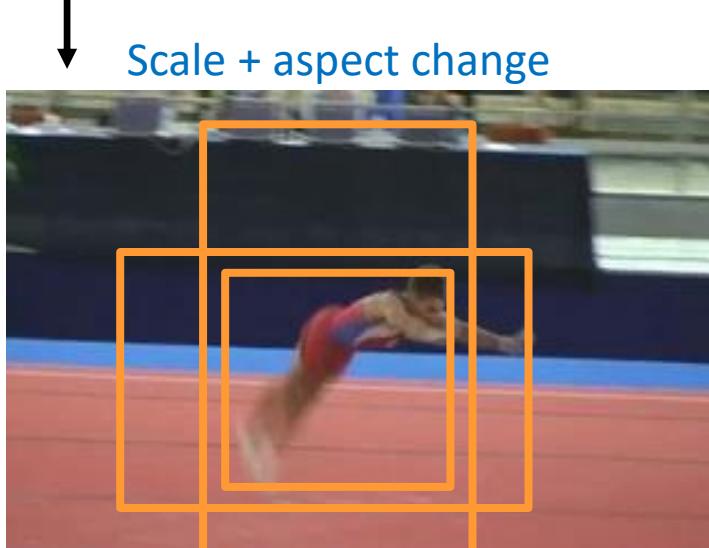
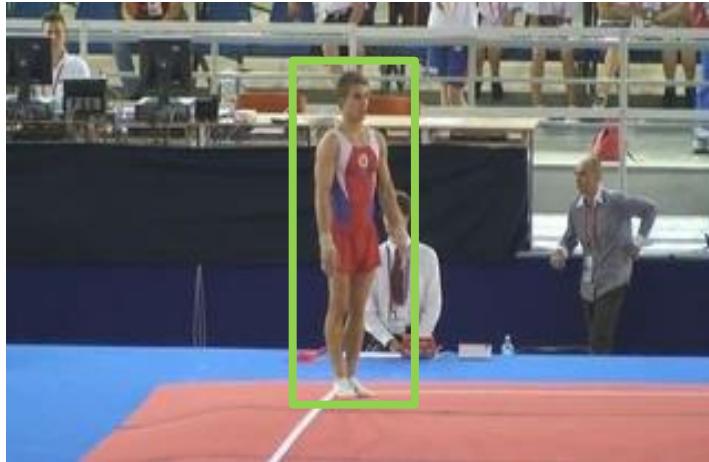


[1] Danelljan et al., ATOM: Accurate Tracking by Overlap Maximization, CVPR2019

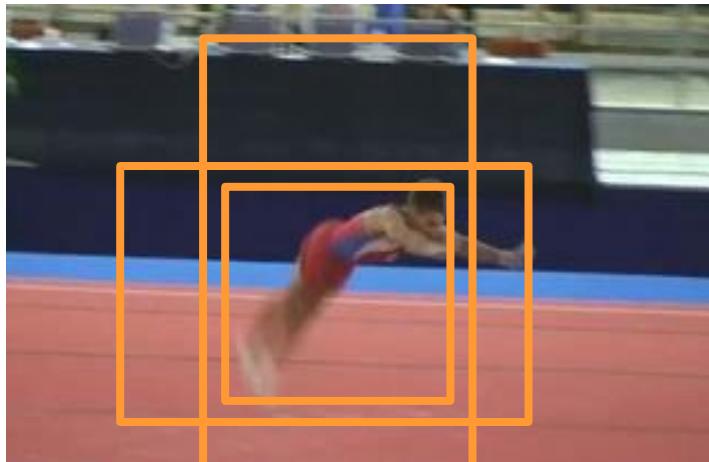
[2] Bhat et al., Learning Discriminative Model Prediction for Tracking, ICCV2019

Videos courtesy of Martin Daneljan

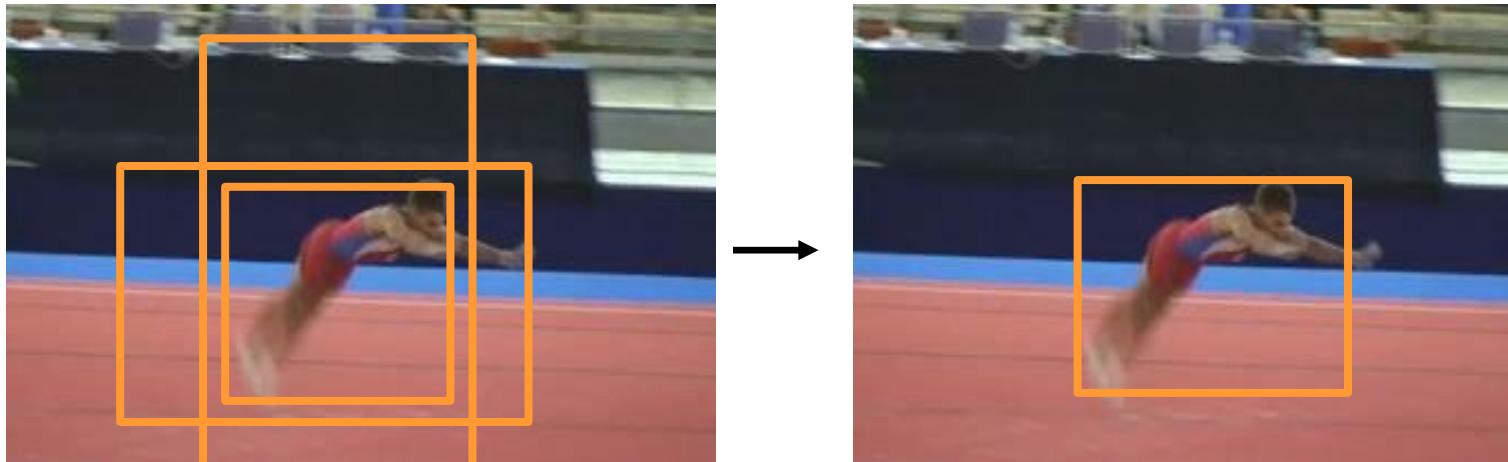
Challenges for Template-Based Trackers



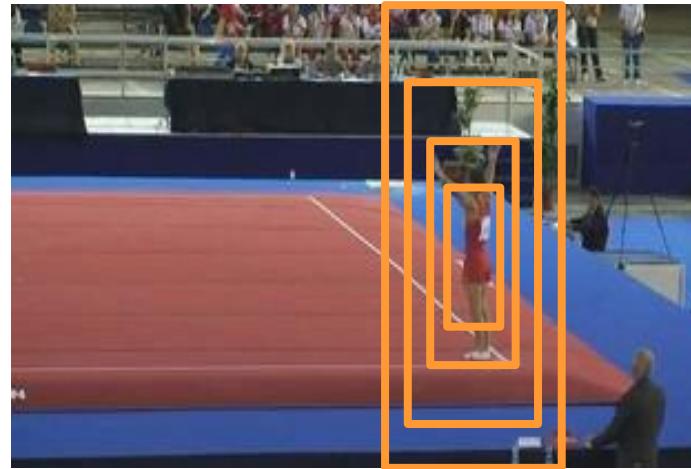
Region proposals [3]



Bbox refinement, regression [4]

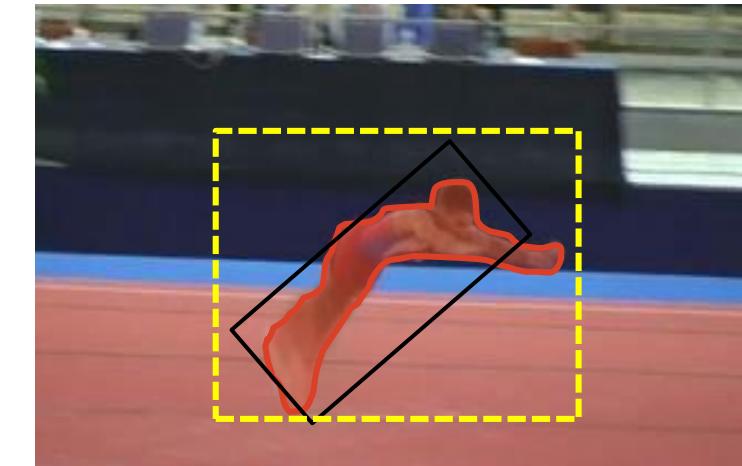


Scale change



Exhaustive scale-space search [1,2]

Rotated bbox (segmentation) [5]



Drawbacks:

- Two stage approach prevents end-to-end learning
- Template is not discriminatively updated similar objects, significant appearance change

[1] Danelljan et al. ECO: Efficient Convolution Operators for Tracking. CVPR 2017

[2] Bertinetto et al. Fully-Convolutional Siamese Networks for Object Tracking. ECCVW 2016

[3] Li et al. SiamRPN++: Evolution of Siamese Visual Tracking With Very Deep Networks. CVPR 2019

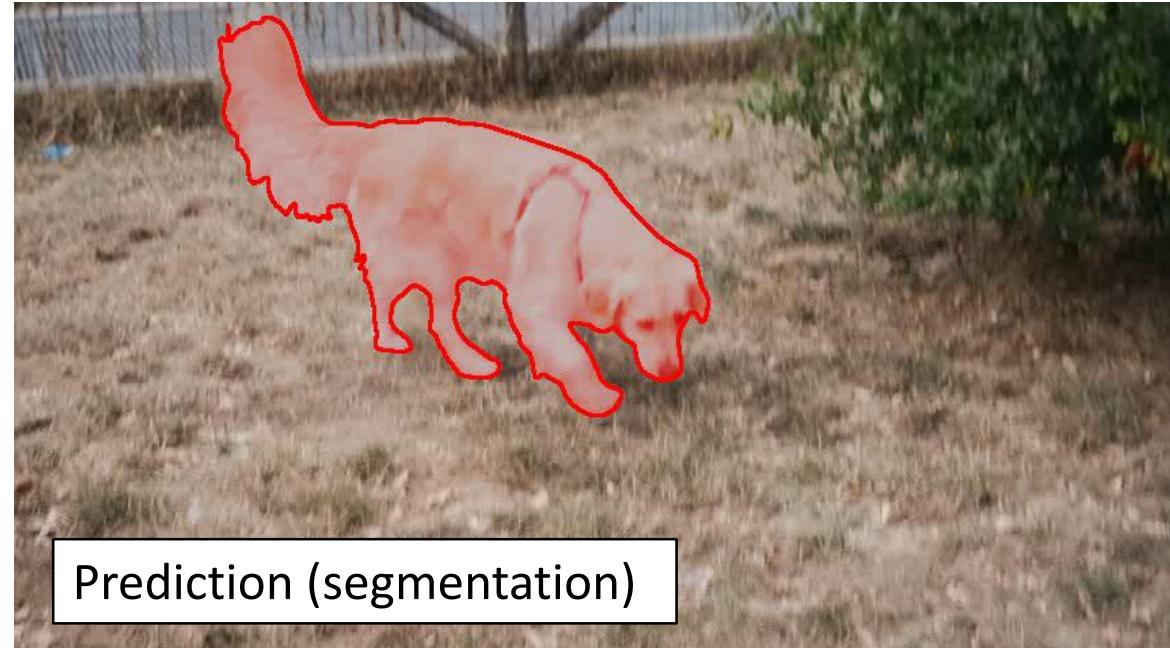
[4] Danelljan et al. ATOM: Accurate Tracking by Overlap Maximization. CVPR 2019

[5] Wang et al. Fast Online Object Tracking and Segmentation: A Unifying Approach. CVPR 2019

Video Object Segmentation



Initialization



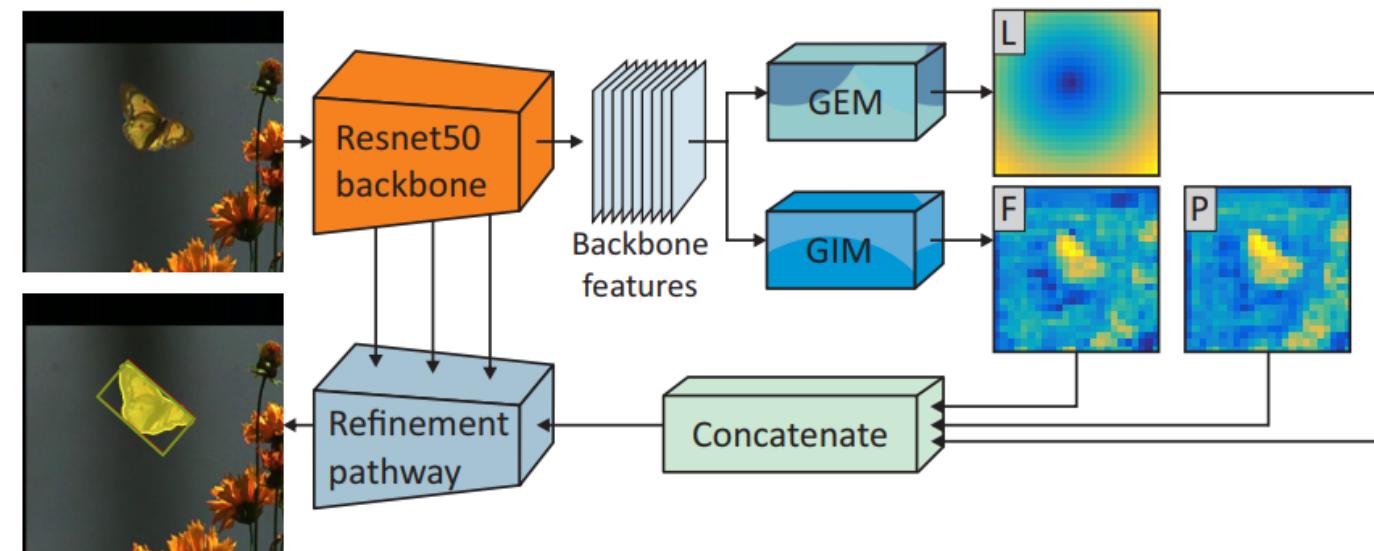
Prediction (segmentation)

- Drawbacks:
 - Optimized for **large objects**
 - Cannot address significant **appearance changes**
 - Cannot address **fast moving targets**
 - Often computationally **intensive**

- [1] Caelles et al. One-shot video object segmentation, CVPR 2017
- [2] Chen et al. Blazingly fast video object segmentation, CVPR 2018
- [3] Cheng et al. Fast and accurate online video object segmentation via tracking parts, CVPR 2018
- [4] Hu et al. Video matvh: Matching based video object segmentation, ECCV 2018
- [5] Voigtlaender et al. Online adaptation of convolutional neural networks for video object segmentation, BMVC 2017
- [6] Yang et al. Efficient video object segmentation via network modulation, CVPR 2018

Discriminative Tracking by Segmentation (D3S)

- Single-shot segmentation network
- Two target appearance models
 - Geometrically constrained Euclidean Model (GEM)
Robust localization
 - Geometrically Invariant Model (GIM)
Address significant deformations
- Fusion for accurate segmentation
(**Refinement pathway**)
- Bounding box fitted to the mask
(if required)



D3S: Geometrically Constrained Euclidean Model (GEM)

- Deep discriminative correlation filter (DCF) formulation [1]

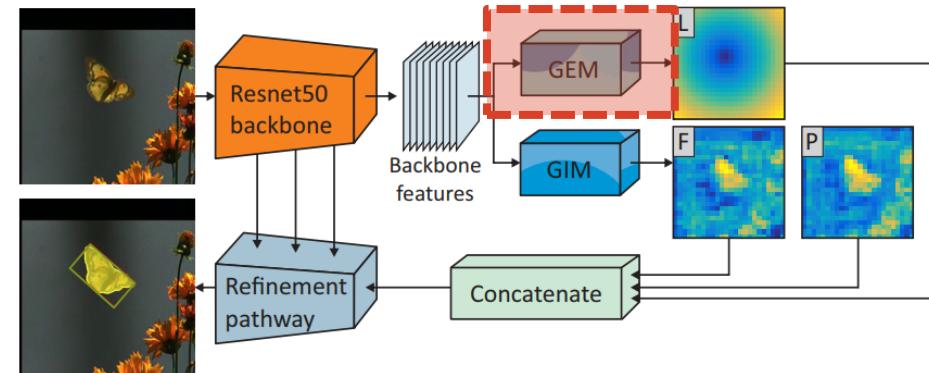
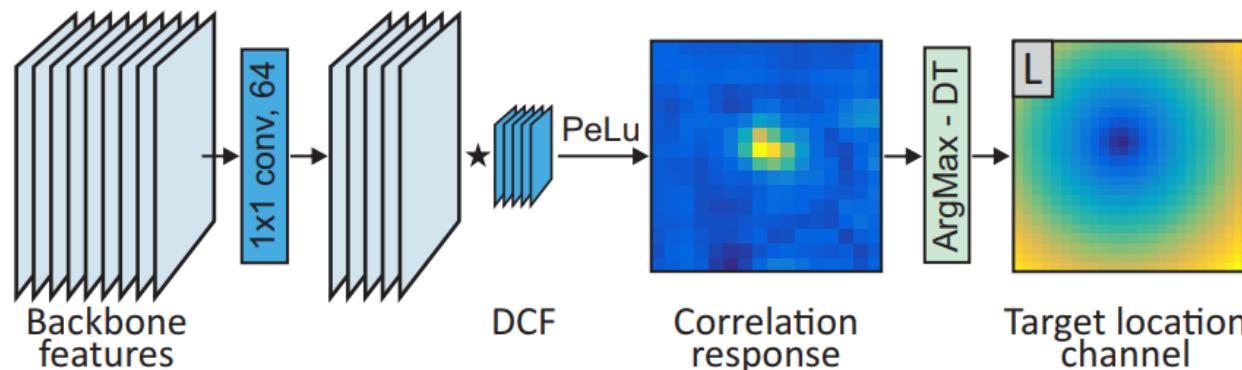
- Localization:

- Correlation response: target center likelihood

- Required for segmentation:

- per pixel target region likelihood

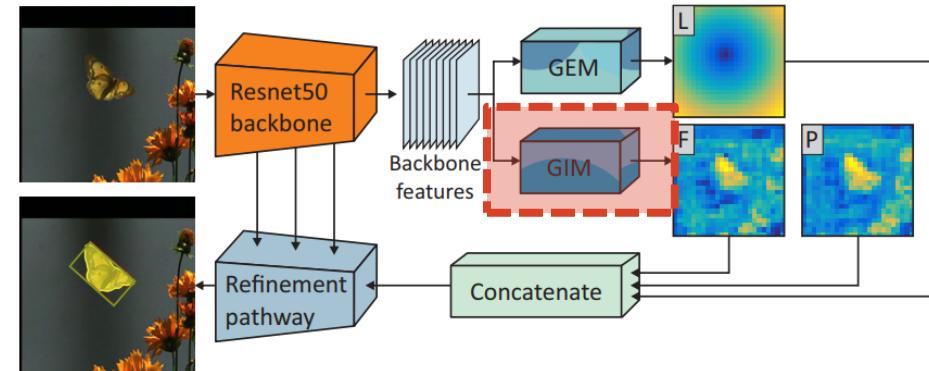
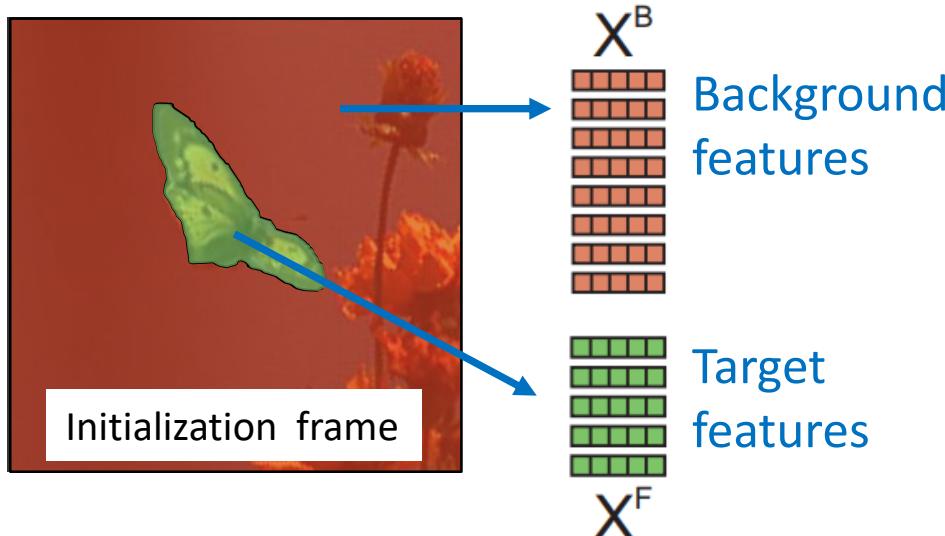
→ Distance transform



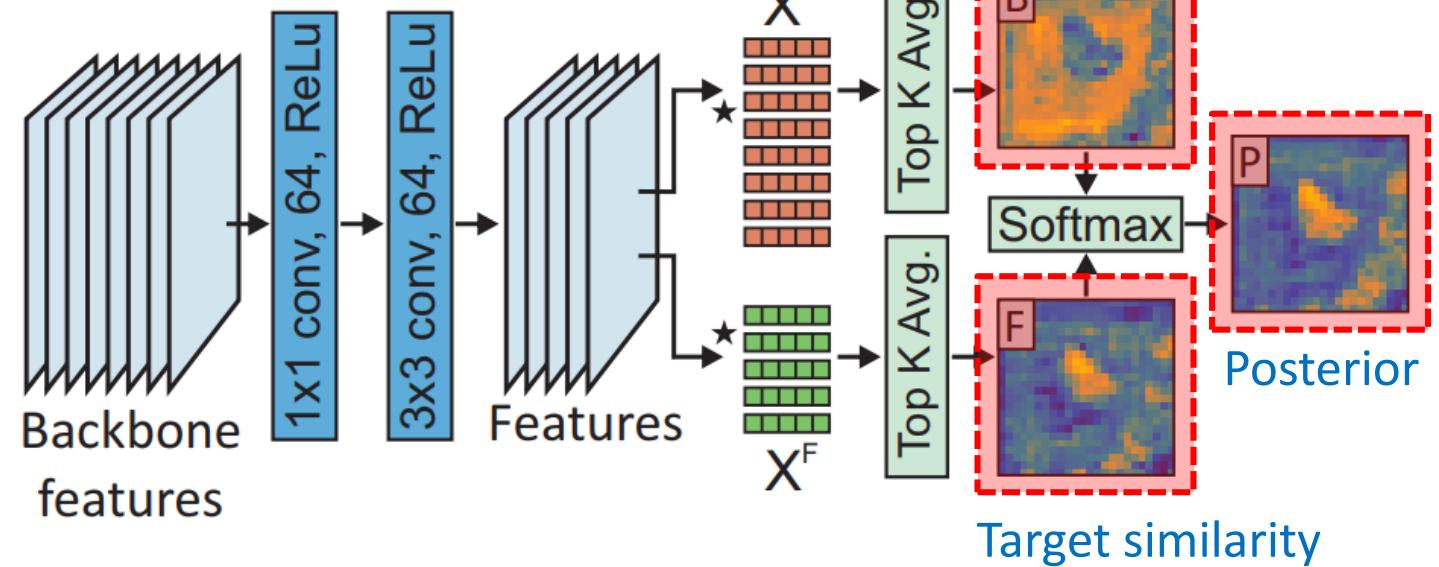
[1] Danelljan et al. ATOM: Accurate Tracking by Overlap Maximization. CVPR 2019

D3S: Geometrically Invariant Model (GIM)

Two sets of features extracted on the first frame

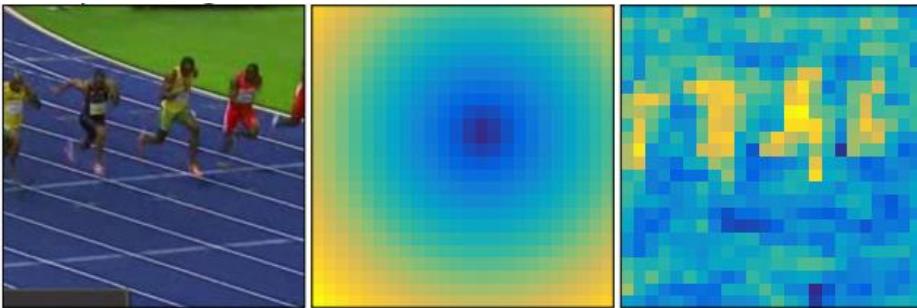


- Localization:
 - Per-pixel cosine similarity with X^B and X^F



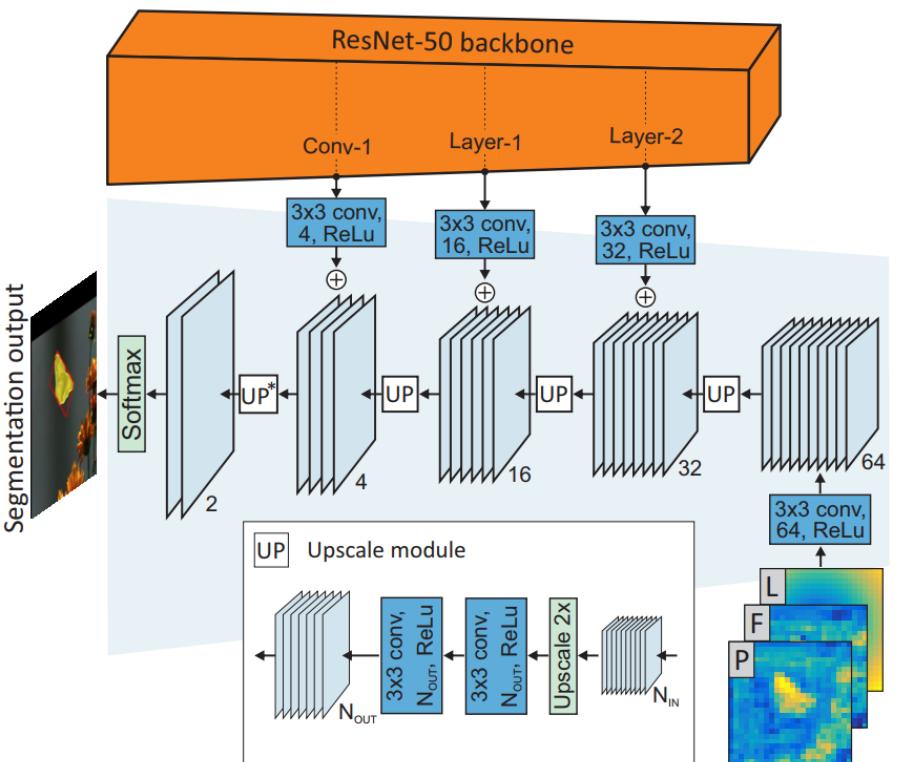
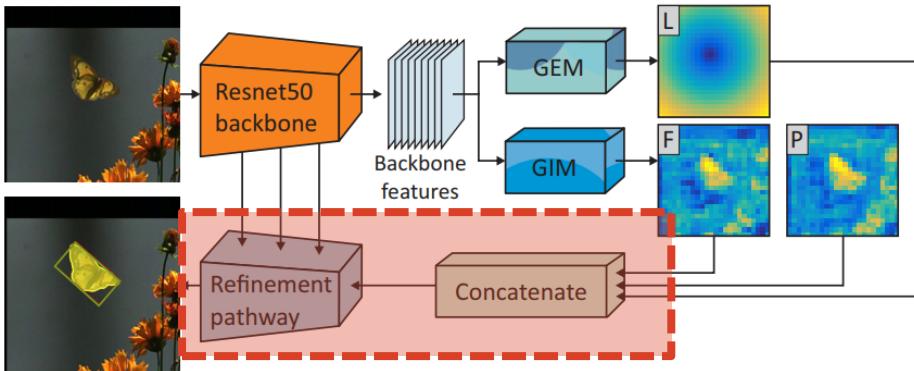
D3S: Refinement Pathway

Input image GEM output GIM output



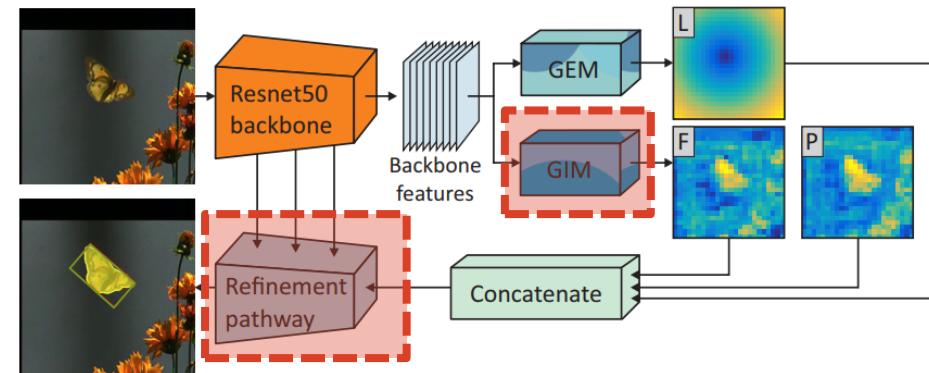
- Robust localization
(selector)
- Not accurate
(target center only)
- Per-pixel segmentation
- Cannot distinguish similar targets

Low resolution
(Due to backbone reduction)



D3S: Discriminative Single Shot Segmentation Tracker

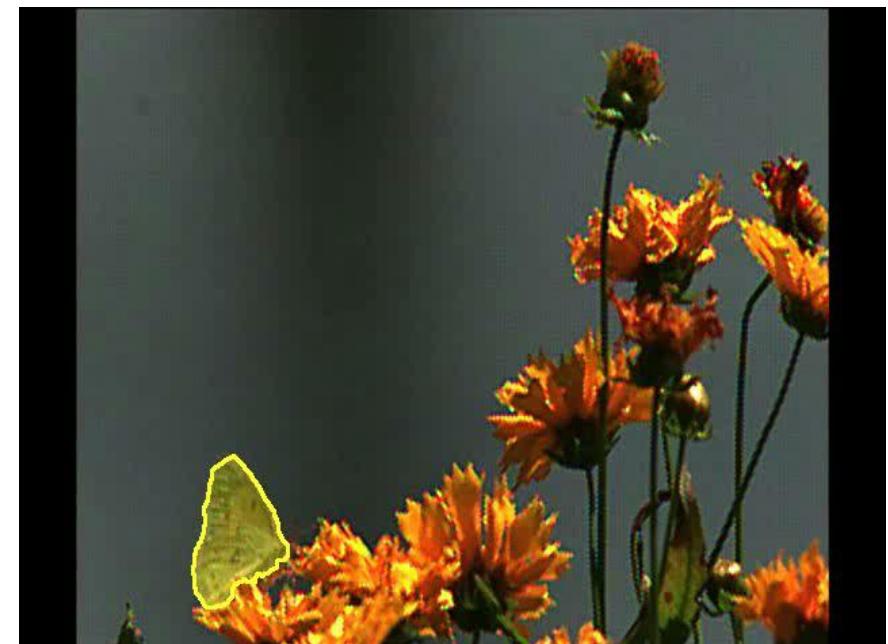
- Pre-trained for segmentation task only
Backbone pre-trained on ImageNet
- YouTube-VOS [1]: 3471 videos with ground-truth segmentation masks
- 40 epochs with 1000 iterations
batch size: 64 image pairs
- Pre-training: 20 hours on a single GPU (Nvidia 1080 GTX)
- Backbone is fixed during online tracking



[1] N. Xu et al. YouTube-VOS: a large-scale video object segmentation benchmark. arXiv:1809.03327, 2018

D3S: Tracking results (in 2020)

- State-of-the-art results on three tracking benchmarks
[VOT 2016](#) [1], [VOT 2018](#) [2] and [GOT-10k](#) [3]
- Comparable to state-of-the-art trackers on [TrackingNet](#) [4]
- SOTA trackers:
 - Offline train for localization on large tracking datasets
 - Generalization capability of a tracker
Even though trained on segmentation task only



[1] Kristan et al. The Visual Object Tracking VOT2016 Challenge Results, ECCVW 2016

[2] Kristan et al. The sixth Visual Object Tracking VOT2018 challenge results, ECCVW 2018

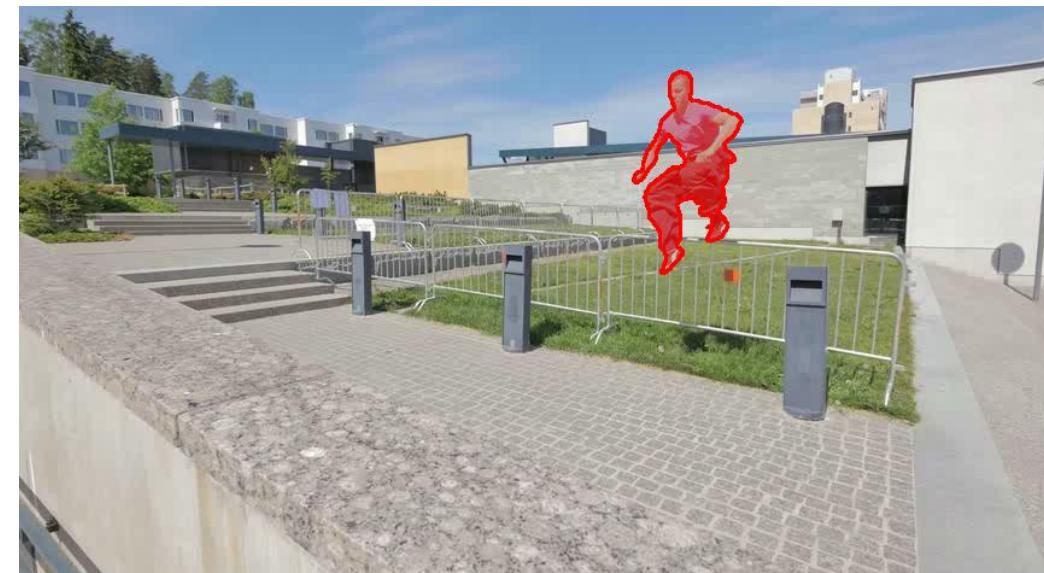
[3] Huang et al. GOT-10k: A Large High-Diversity Benchmark for Generic Object Tracking in the Wild, TPAMI 2019

[4] Mueller et al. TrackingNet: A Large-Scale Dataset and Benchmark for Object Tracking in the Wild, ECCV 2018

D3S: Video Segmentation

- Evaluated on two segmentation benchmarks: DAVIS2016 [1] and DAVIS2017 [2]
- Results comparable to the state-of-the-art segmentation methods
 - An order of magnitude faster (do not require heavy fine-tuning)
 - Not trained on DAVIS datasets
- Performance better than segmentation tracker (SiamMask), but still in real-time

	\mathcal{J}_M^{16}	\mathcal{F}_M^{16}	\mathcal{J}_M^{17}	\mathcal{F}_M^{17}	FPS
D3S	75.4	72.6	② 57.8	③ 63.8	② 25.0
SiamMask	71.7	67.8	54.3	58.5	① 55.0
OnAVOS	① 86.1	① 84.9	① 61.6	① 69.1	0.1
FAVOS	② 82.4	79.5	54.6	61.8	0.8
VM	③ 81.0	-	③ 56.6	-	3.1
OSVOS	79.8	② 80.6	③ 56.6	② 63.9	0.1
PML	75.5	③ 79.3	-	-	3.6
OSMN	74.0	72.9	52.5	57.1	③ 8.0



[1] Perazzi et al. A benchmark dataset and evaluation methodology for video object segmentation. CVPR 2016

[2] Pont-Tuset et al. The 2017 davis challenge on video object segmentation. arXiv:1704.00675, 2017

D3S: Qualitative Examples



Tracking part of an object



Similar targets

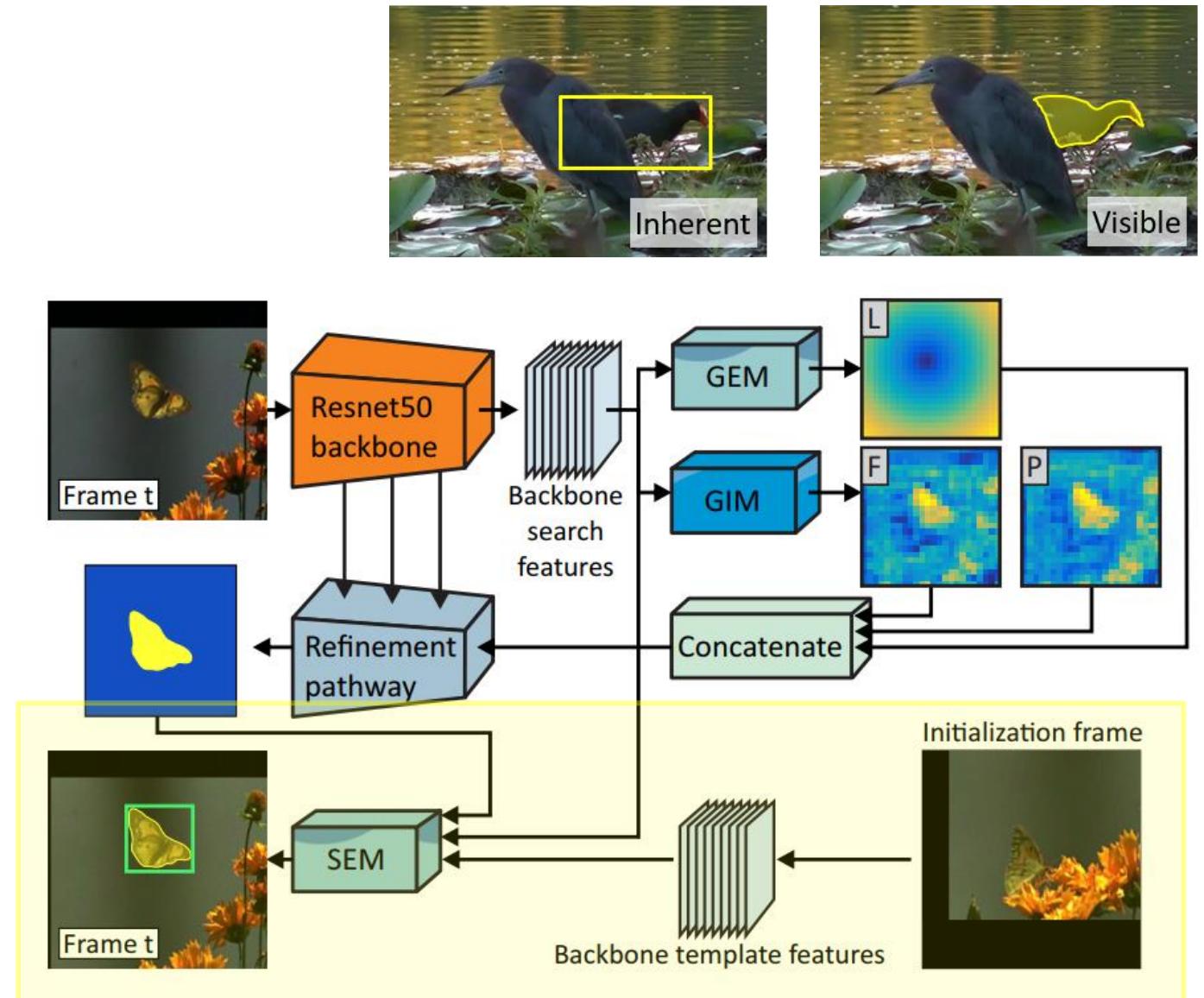
D3S: Qualitative Examples



- Target deformation
- Scale and aspect change

D3S₂ published recently

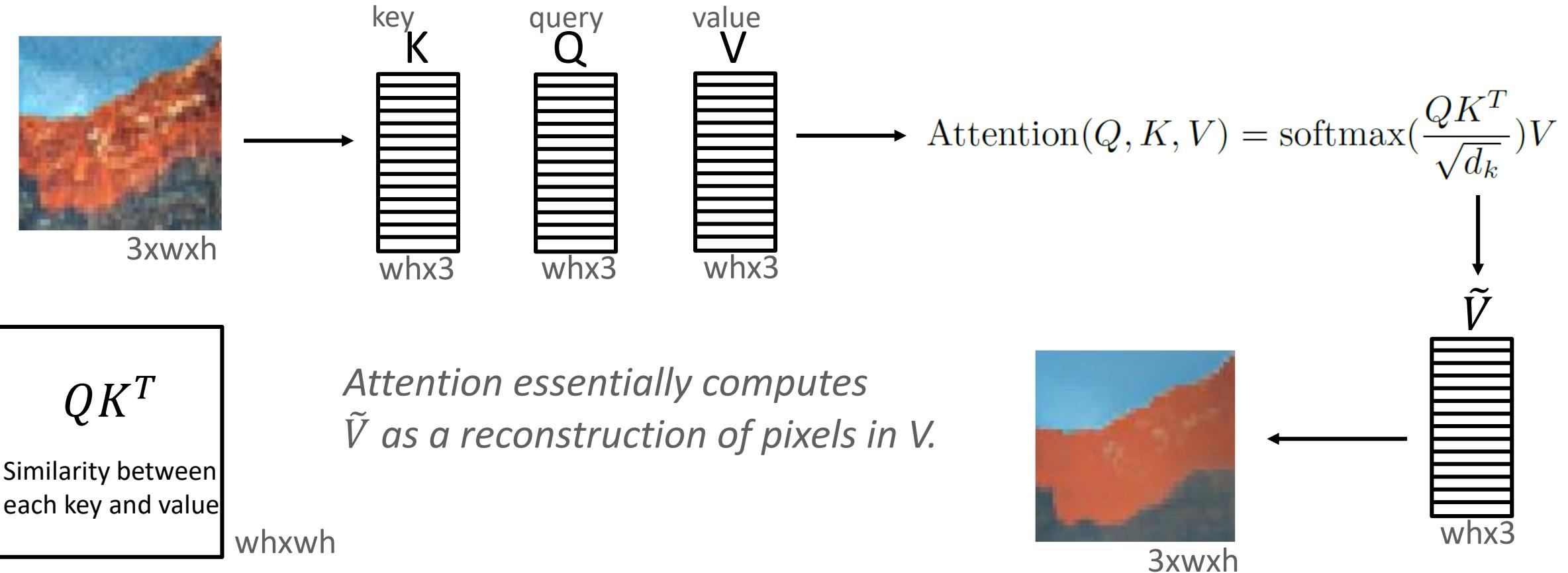
- More advanced architecture



Lukežić, Matas, Kristan, A Discriminative Single-Shot Segmentation Network for Visual Object Tracking, IEEE TPAMI, 2021

Transformers

- Transformers have emerged with the seminal paper in 2017¹
- An example of the most trivial “attention operation” (Scaled dot-product attention)

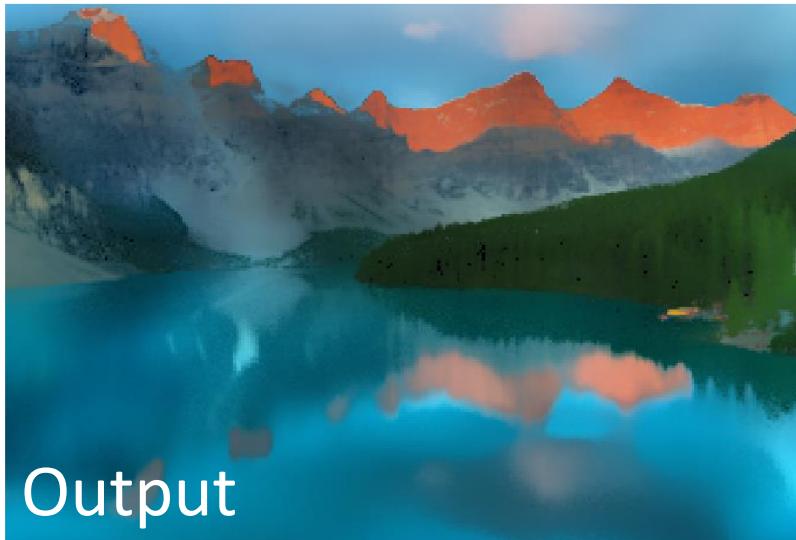


¹ Vaswani et al., Attention is all you need, NIPS 2017

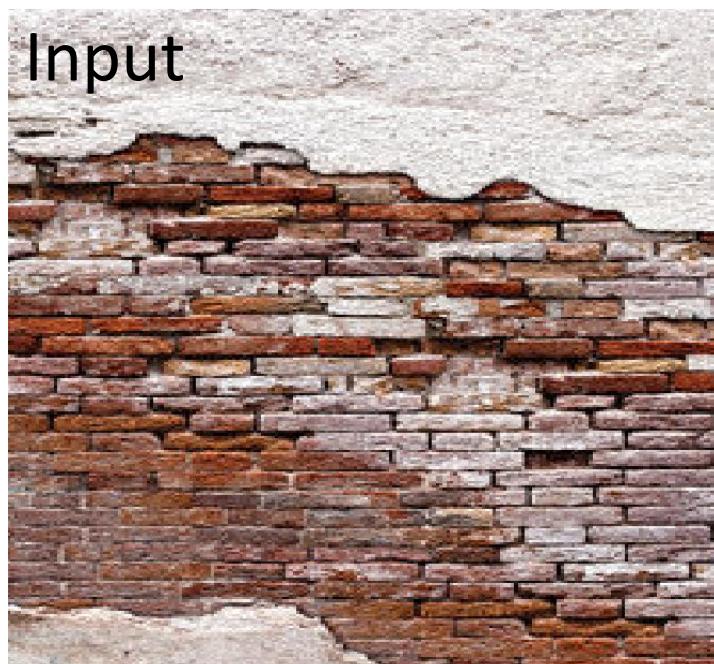
Local attention as image denoising



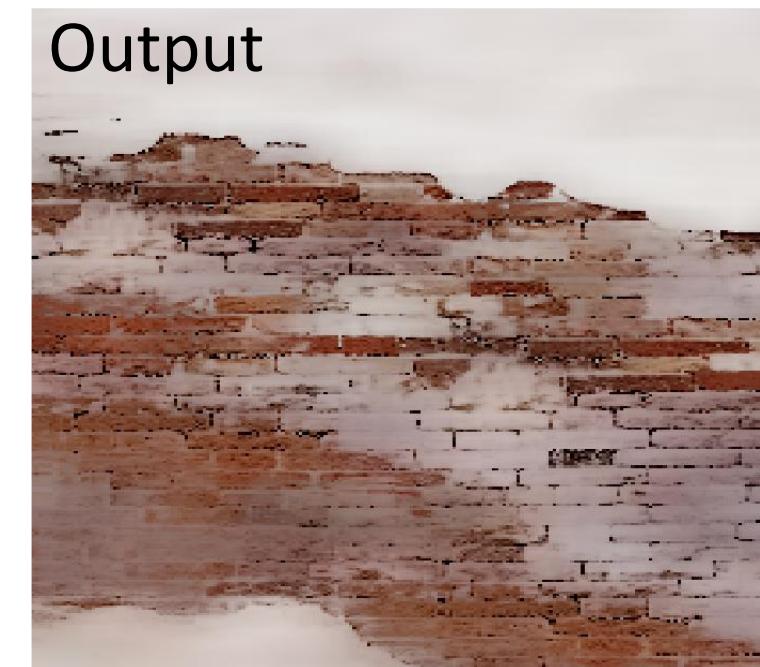
Input



Output

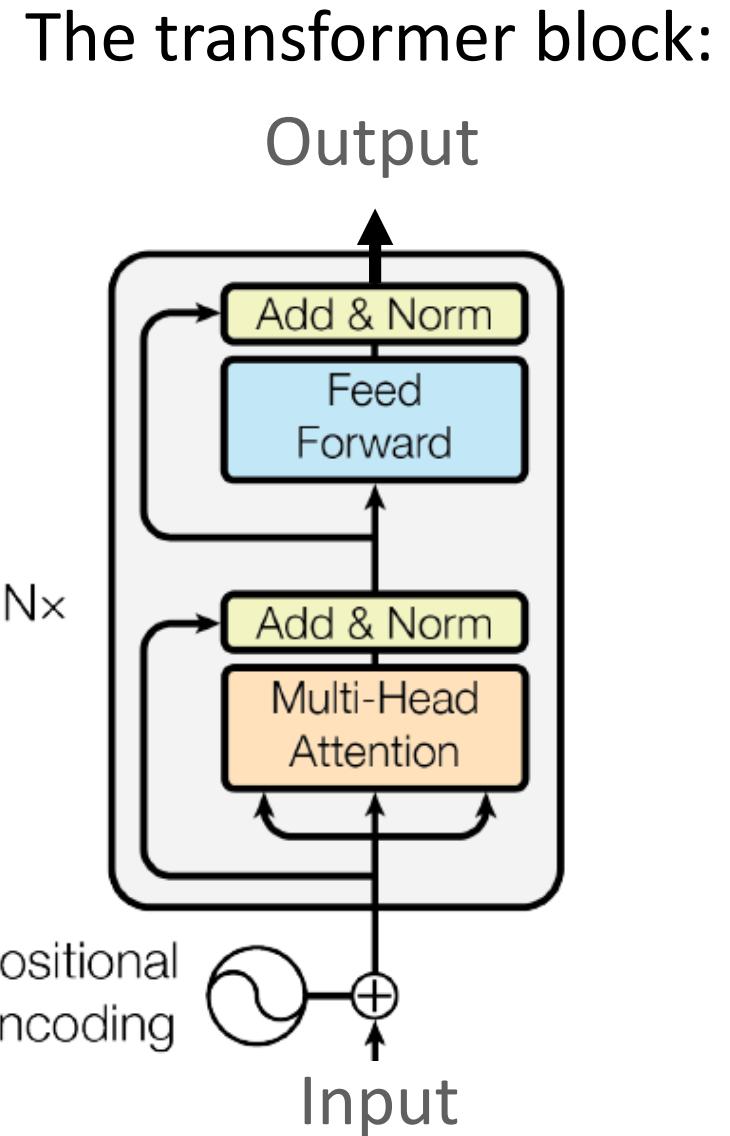
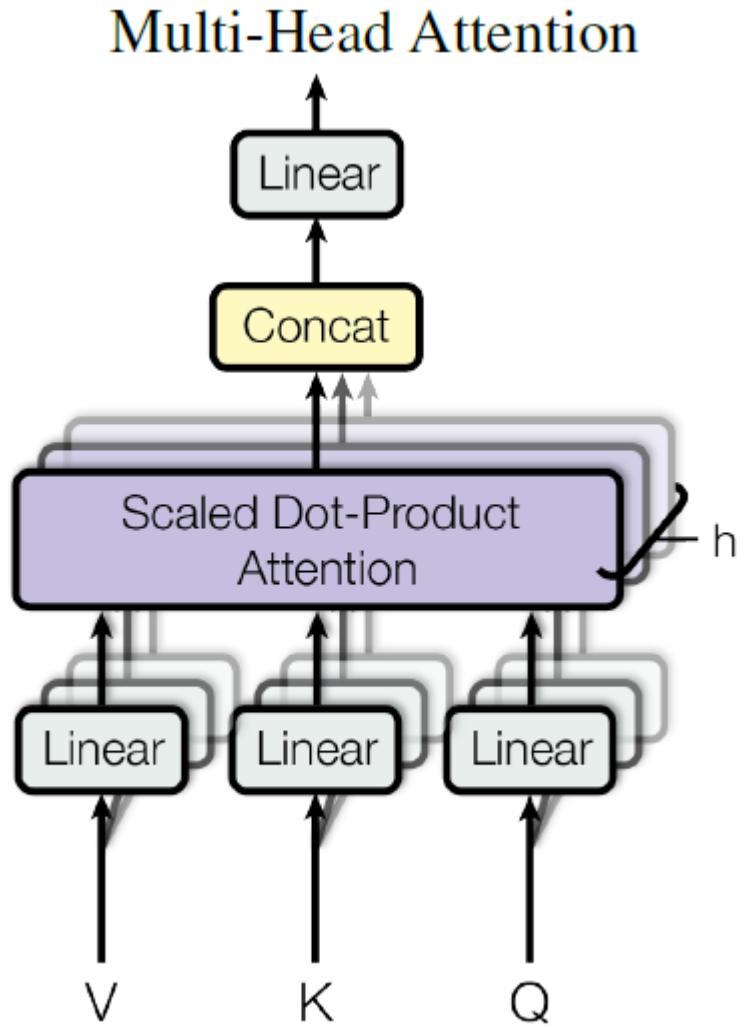


Input

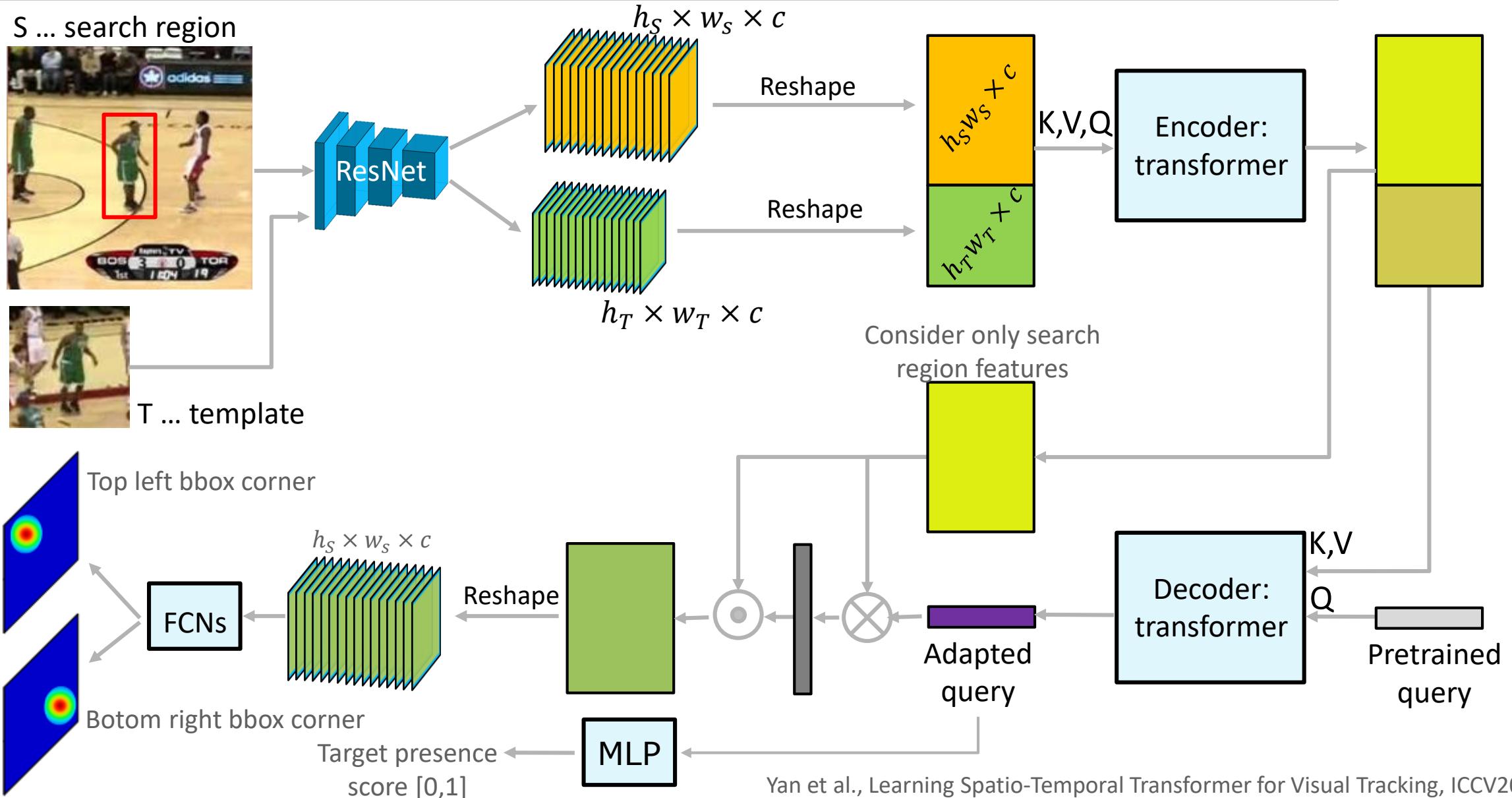


Output

The main (en)coding block



Recent transformer tracker: STARK



STARK in action

- Large search range (partial occlusion handled well) & accurate bbox



... Ground truth mask



... Tracker bounding box



STARK in action

- The forward pass filter construction in decoder not robust to distractors

STARK



... Ground truth mask

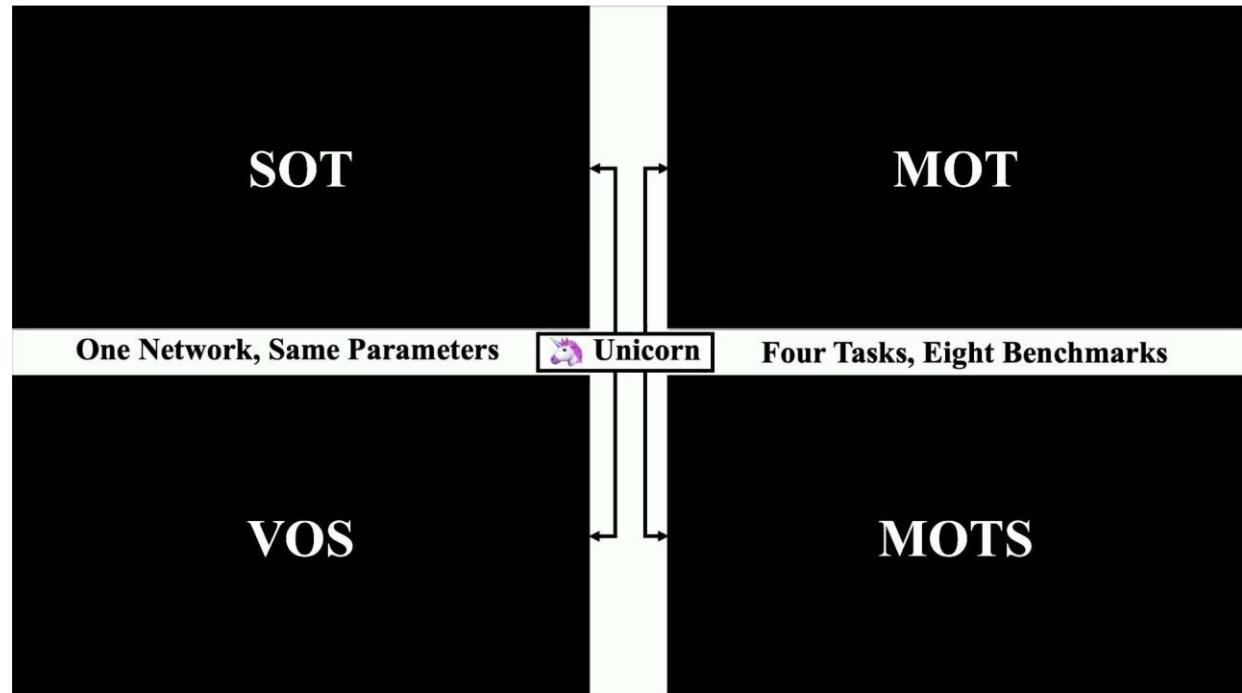
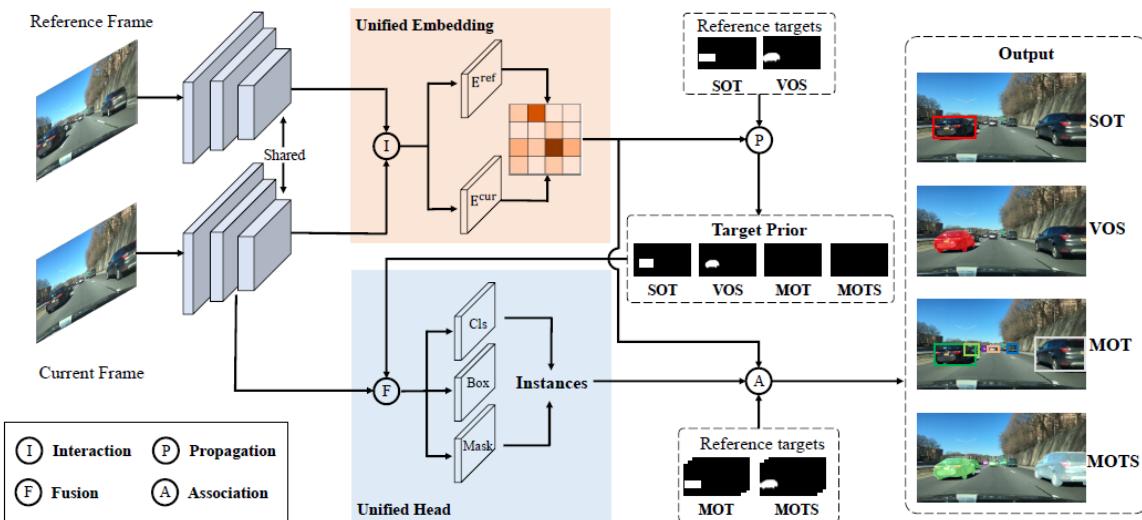


... Tracker bounding box

D3S₂



Recent works aim at multiple “tasks”



- Codename: “Unicorn”
- Attempting to unify the tracking tasks
- A single backbone handling different input/output specifications
- Allows learning a common network from MANY datasets with many tasks

Deep learning for tracking – summary

- Various architectures for **localization** overviewed
 - CNN **patch classifier** (MDNet)
 - CNN backbone trained for **localization by correlation** (SiamFc)
 - CNN pre-trained features + a deep DCF (ATOM)
- Bounding **box estimation**
 - **Regression** (MDNet)
 - **Region proposals**, i.e., regression to several hypotheses (SiamRPN)
 - CNN for **overlap optimization** (a modified IoUNet in ATOM)
- Beyond bounding boxes (D3S, SiamMask)
 - Closing the gap between tracking and **video segmentation**
- **Transformers** (**STARK**, **TransT**, **MixFormer**), more recent works (**Unicorn**)...

Consider this a glimpse
(much more approaches exist)

References

MDNet branch:

- Nam and Han, Learning Multi-Domain Convolutional Neural Networks for Visual Tracking, CVPR2016
- Jung, Son, Baek, Han, Real-Time MDNet, ECCV2018

Siamese networks:

- **SiamFc:**
 - Bertinetto et al., Fully-Convolutional Siamese Networks for Object Tracking, ECCV VOT2016
 - Zhang et al., Learning the Model Update for Siamese Trackers, ICCV2019
- **SiamRPN:**
 - Li et al., SiamRPN++: Evolution of Siamese Visual Tracking with Very Deep Networks, CVPR2019
 - Li et al., High Performance Visual Tracking with Siamese Region Proposal Network, CVPR2018
 - Wang et al. Fast Online Object Tracking and Segmentation: A Unifying Approach. CVPR 2019

Deep DCF:

- Danelljan et al., ATOM: Accurate Tracking by Overlap Maximization, CVPR2019
- Bhat et al., Learning Discriminative Model Prediction for Tracking, ICCV201

Single-shot segmentation networks:

- Lukežić, et al, A Discriminative Single-Shot Segmentation Network for Visual Object Tracking, IEEE TPAMI 2021

Transformers:

- Yan et al., Learning Spatio-Temporal Transformer for Visual Tracking, ICCV2021
- Chen et al., Transformer Tracking, CVPR 2021