

searching over manifolds of image regions

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Menlo Park, May 2017



joint work with



Ahmet Iscen



Teddy Furon



Giorgos Tolias

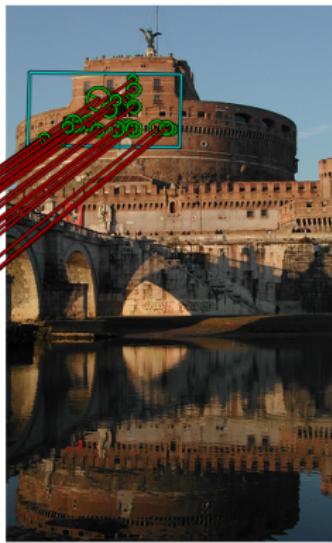


Ondrej Chum

motivation: visual search



challenges



- viewpoint
- lighting
- occlusion
- large scale

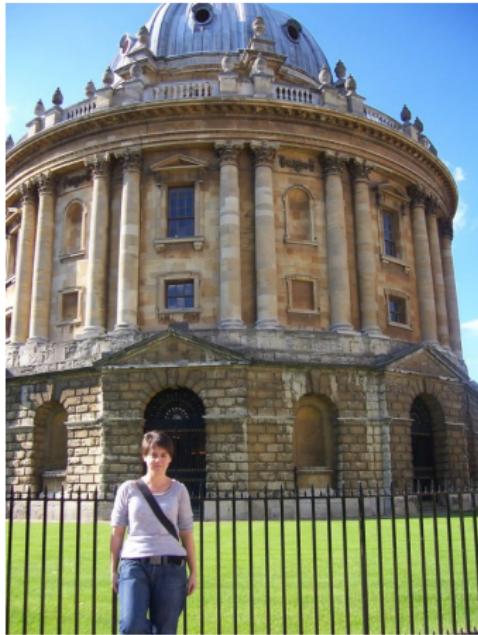
overview

- background
- problem formulation
- diffusion on region manifolds
- fast spectral ranking

background

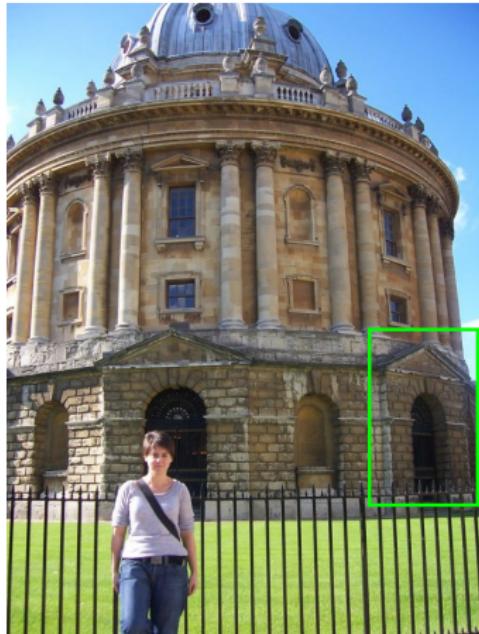
discriminative local features

[Lowe, ICCV 1999]

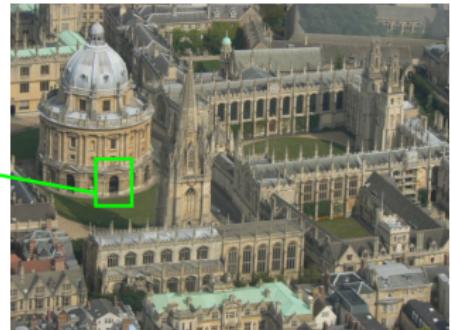


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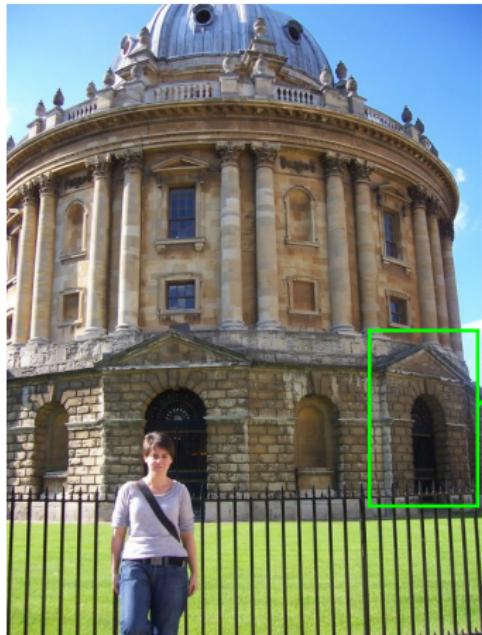


features

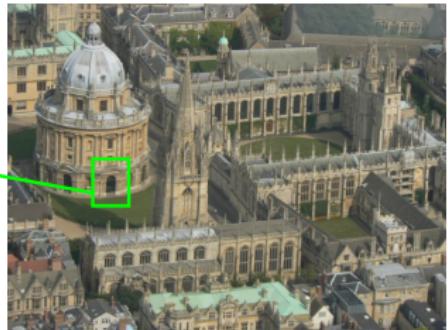
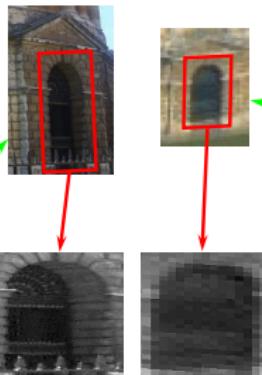


discriminative local features

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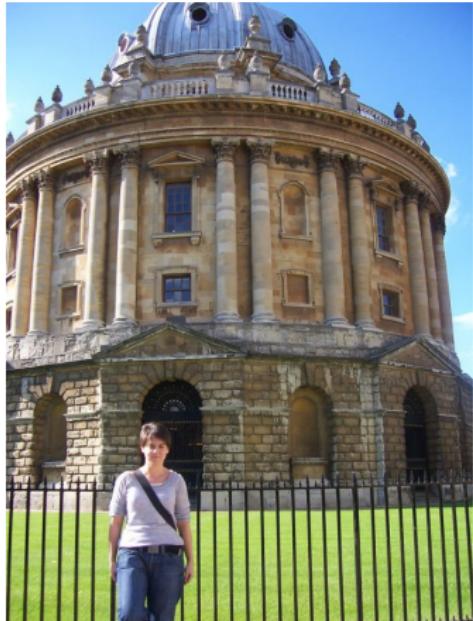


features



normalized features

descriptor matching

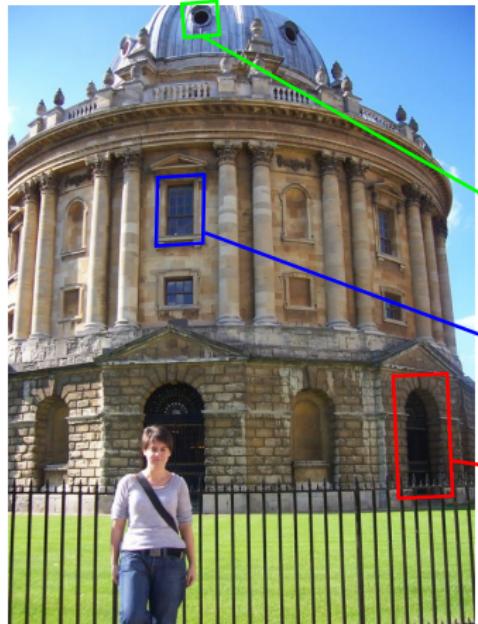


query

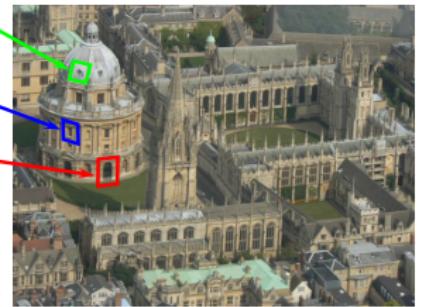


15

descriptor matching

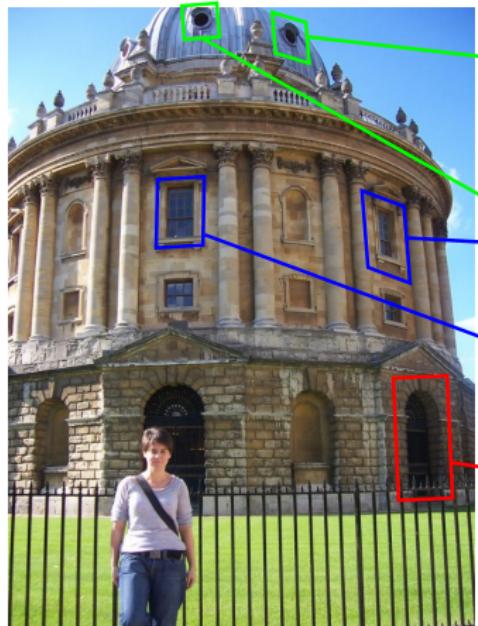


query



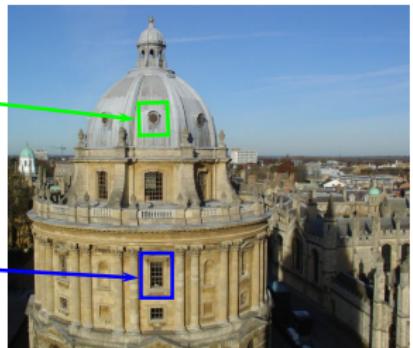
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descriptor matching

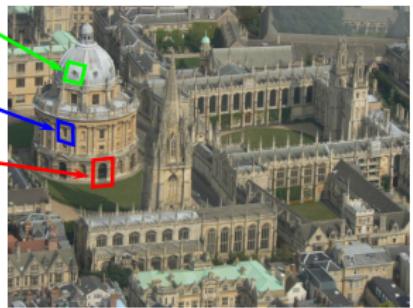


query

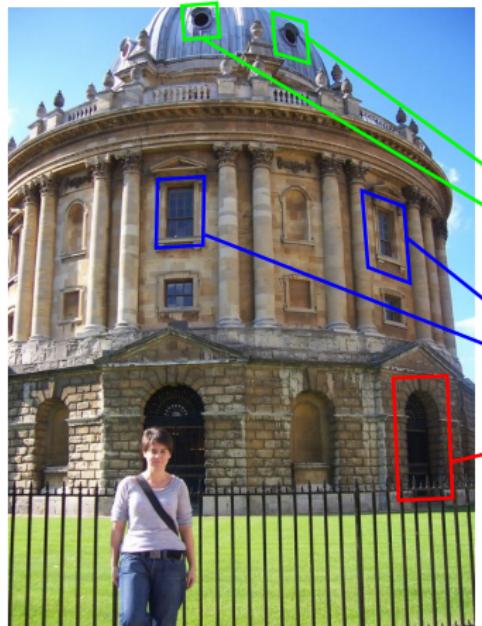
19



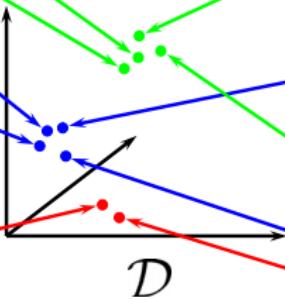
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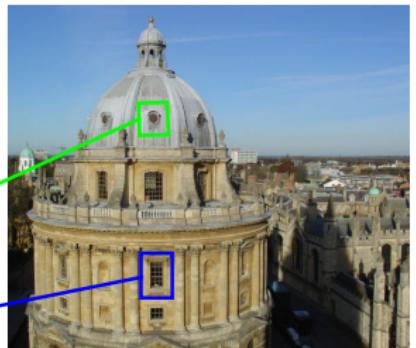
descriptor matching



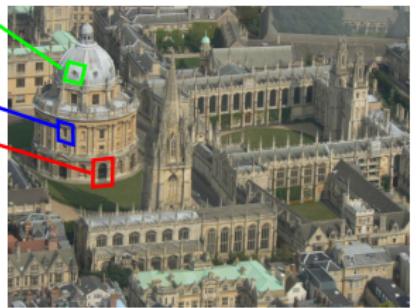
query



19

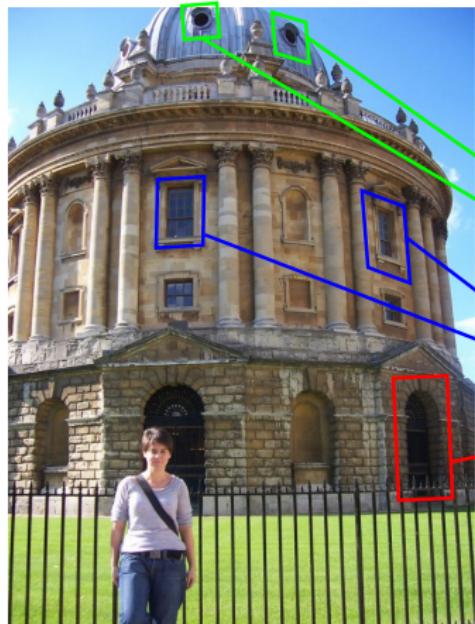


15

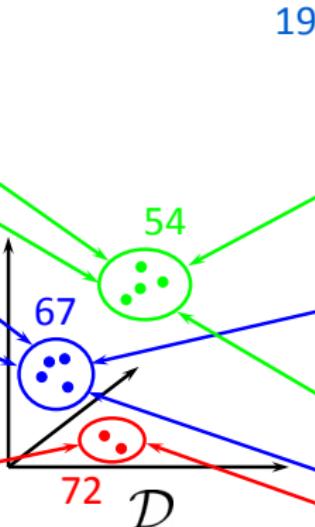


vector quantization → visual words

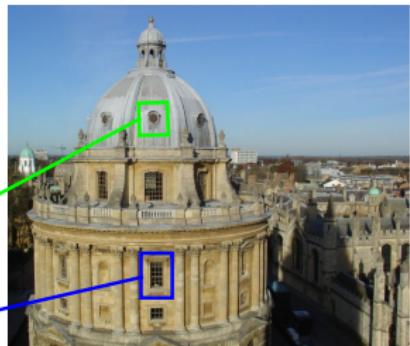
[Sivic and Zisserman, ICCV 2003]



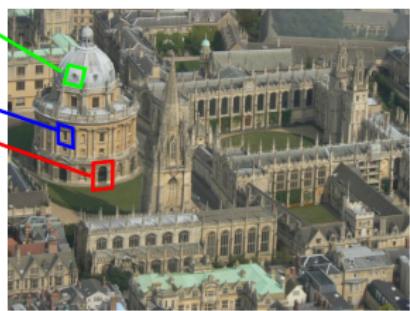
query



19

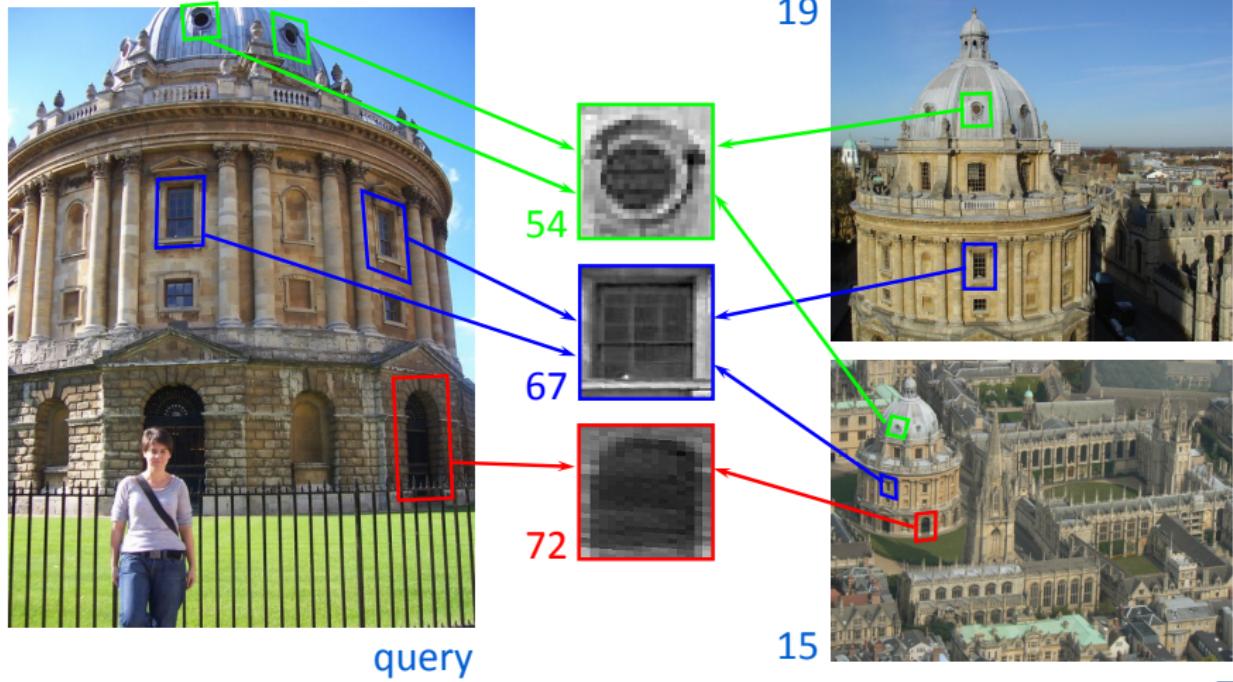


15



vector quantization → visual words

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spatial matching

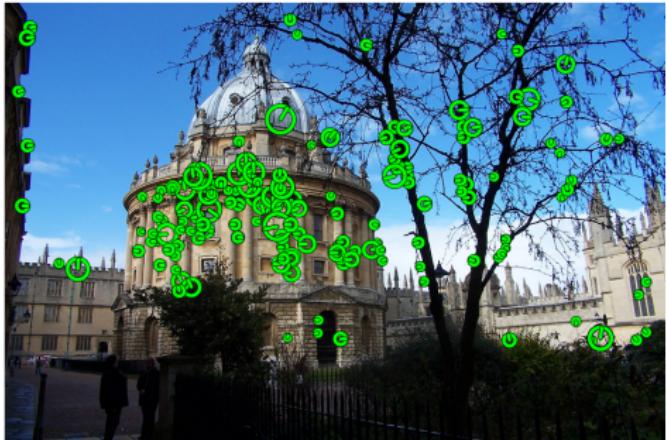
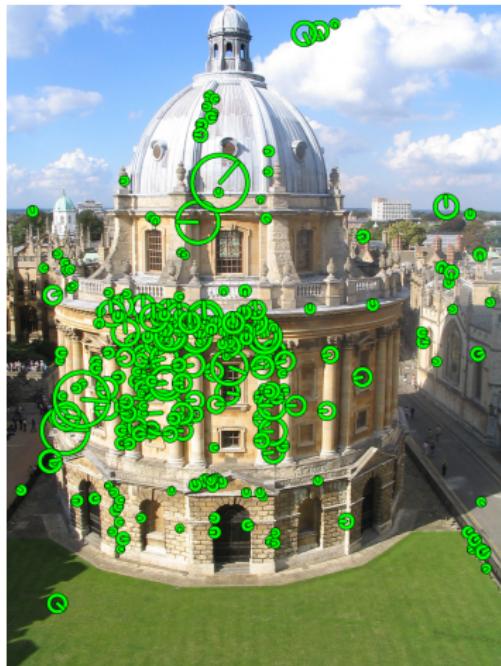
[Philbin et al. CVPR 2007]



original images

spatial matching

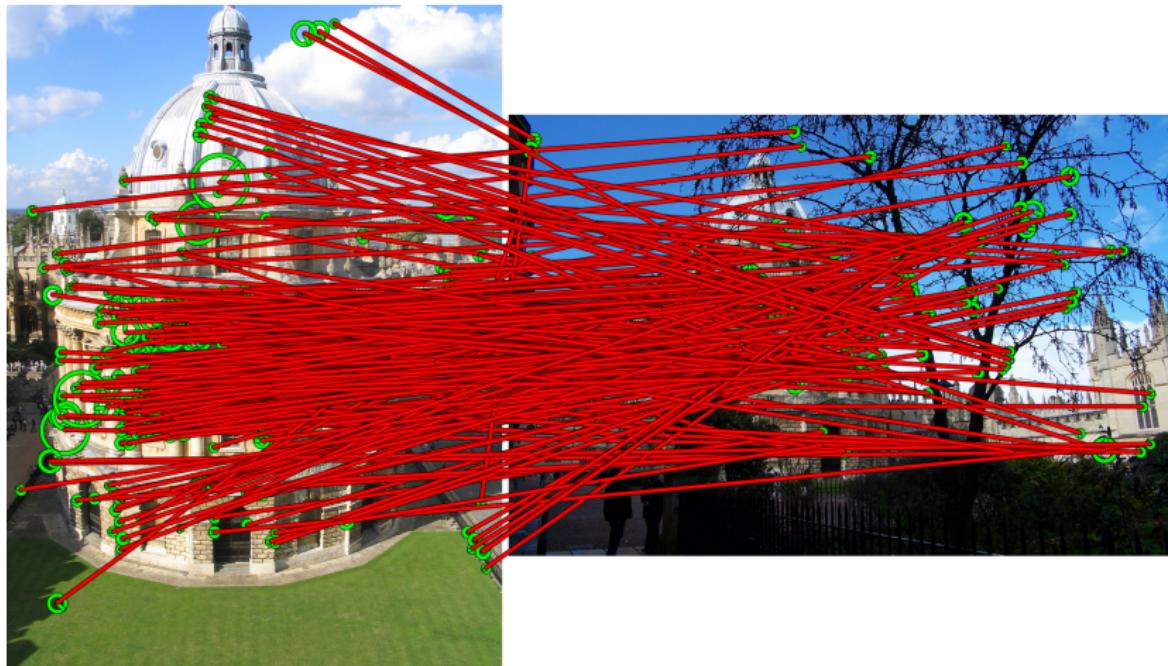
[Philbin et al. CVPR 2007]



local features

spatial matching

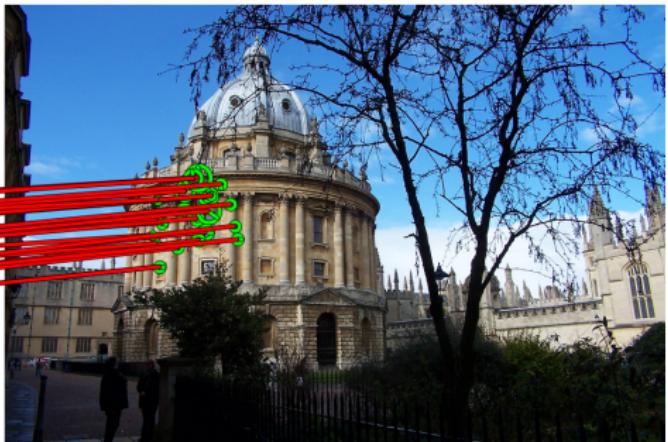
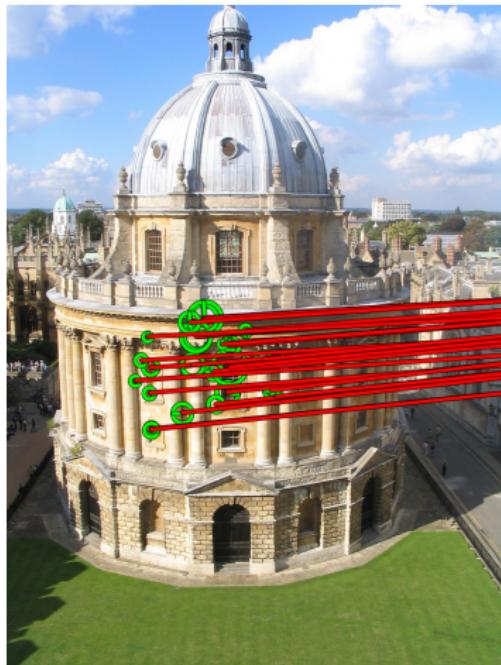
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tentative correspondences

spatial matching

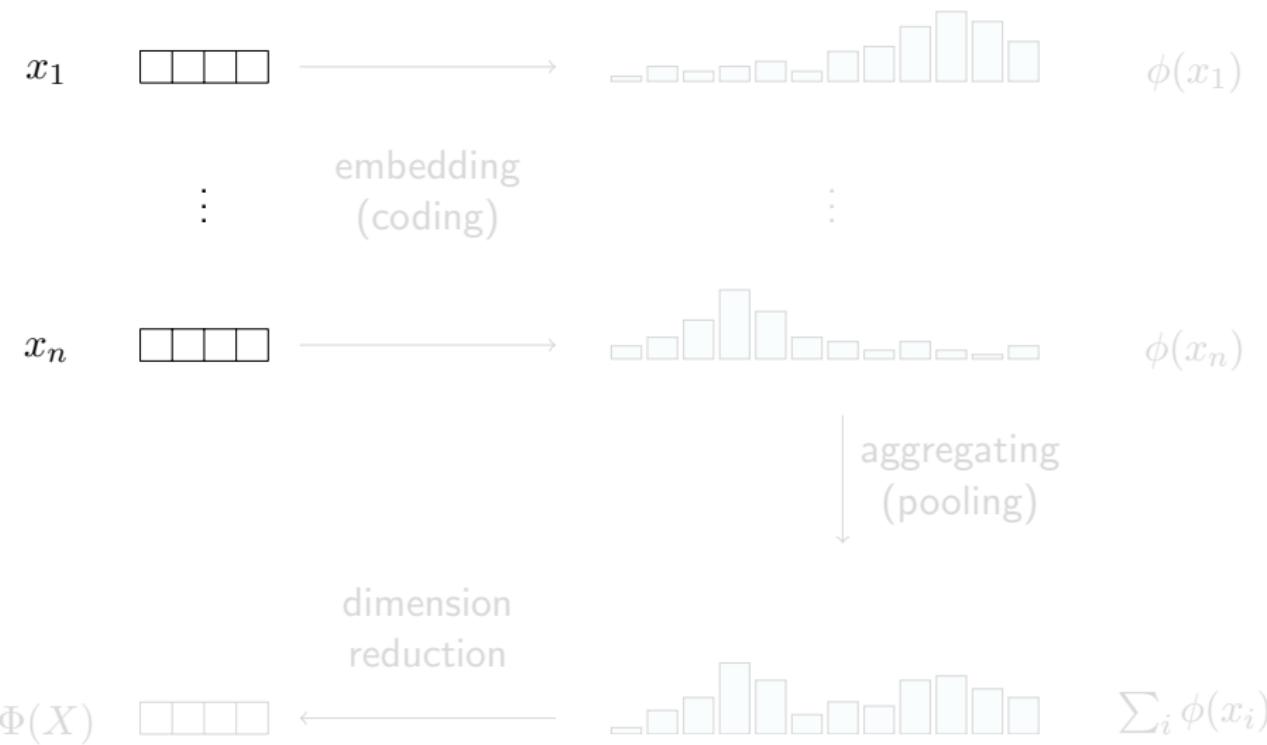
[Philbin et al. CVPR 2007]



inliers

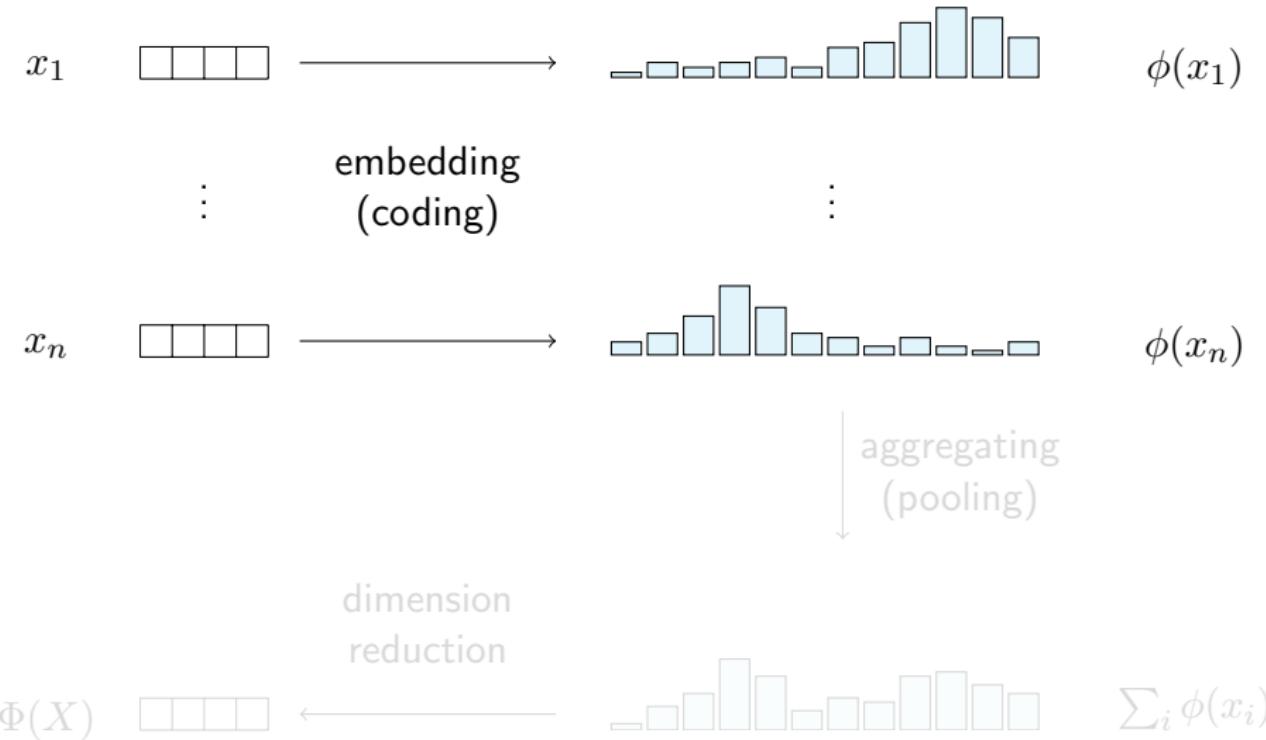
explicit feature maps (VLAD, Fisher)

[Jégou et al. CVPR 2010, Perronnin et al. CVPR 2010]



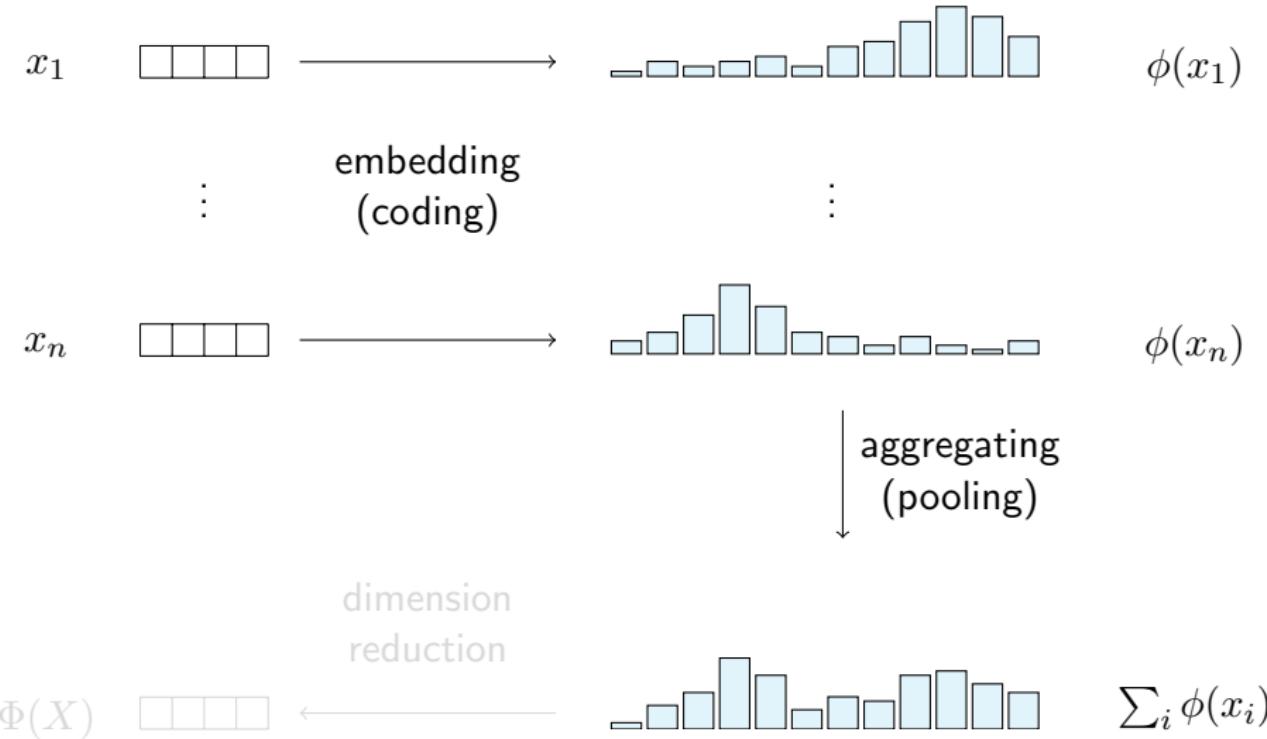
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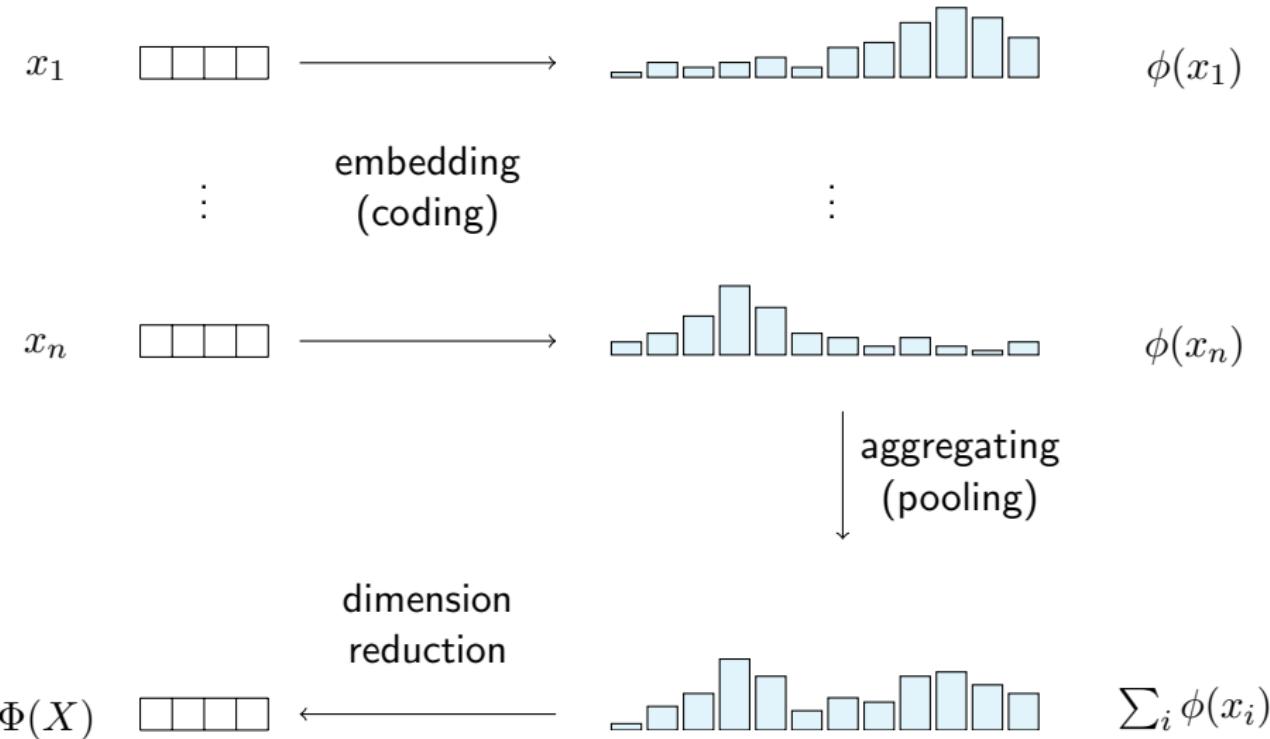
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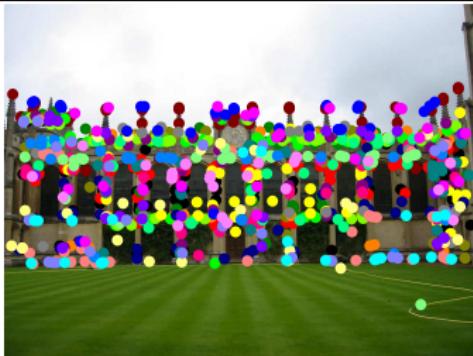
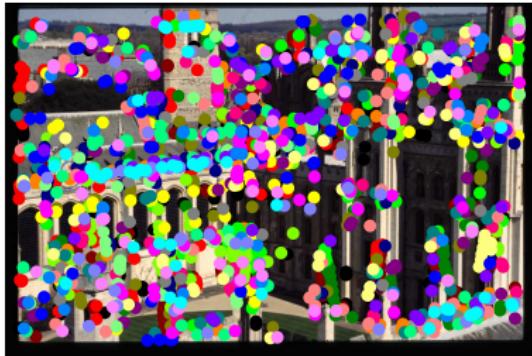
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to aggregate or not to aggregate?

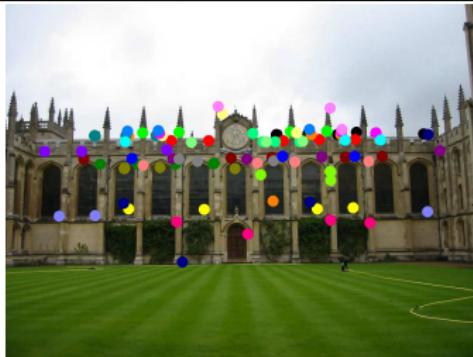
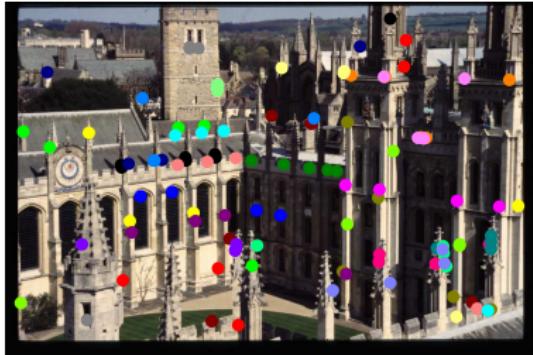
[Tolias et al. ICCV 2013]



$k = 128$ as in VLAD

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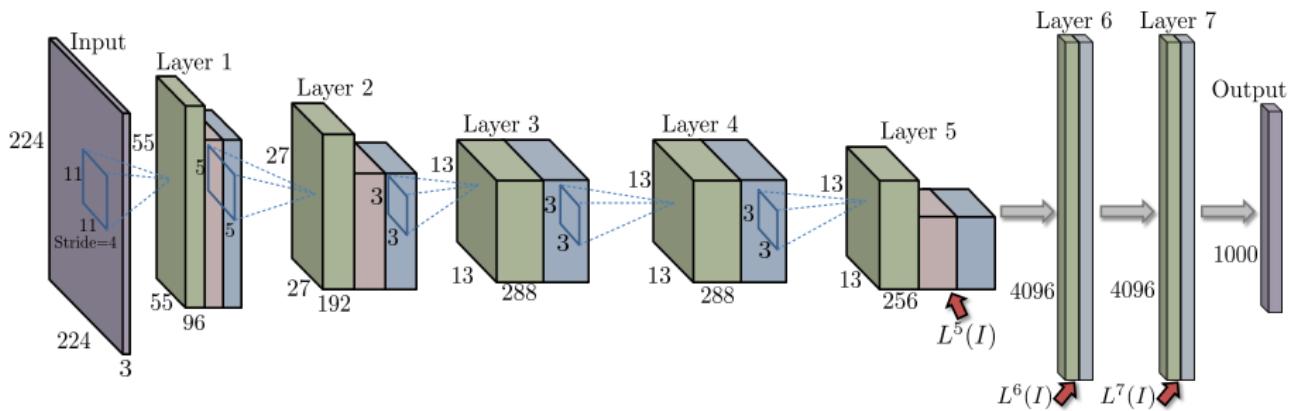
[Tolias et al. ICCV 2013]



$k = 65k$ as in HE

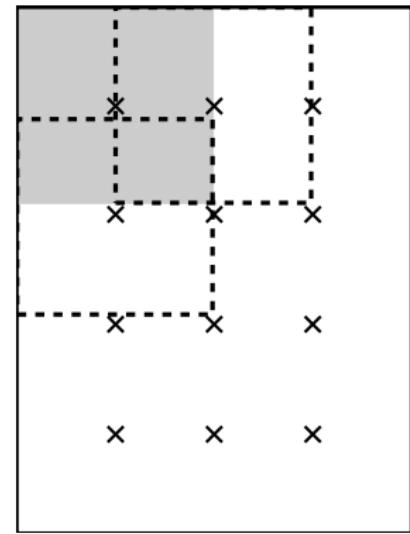
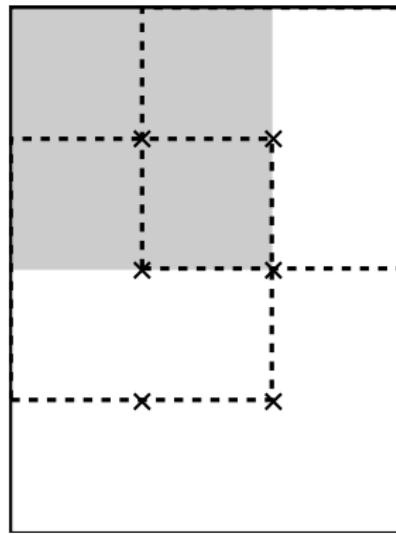
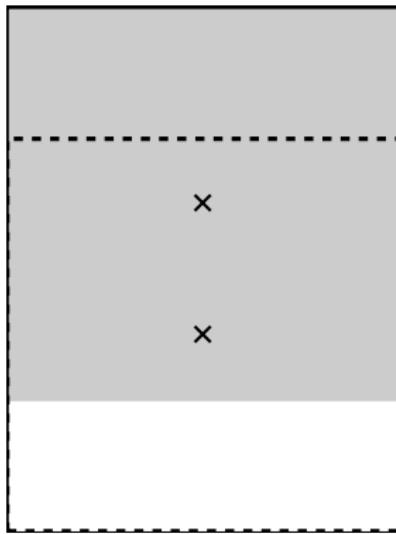
neural codes

[Babenko et al. ECCV 2014]



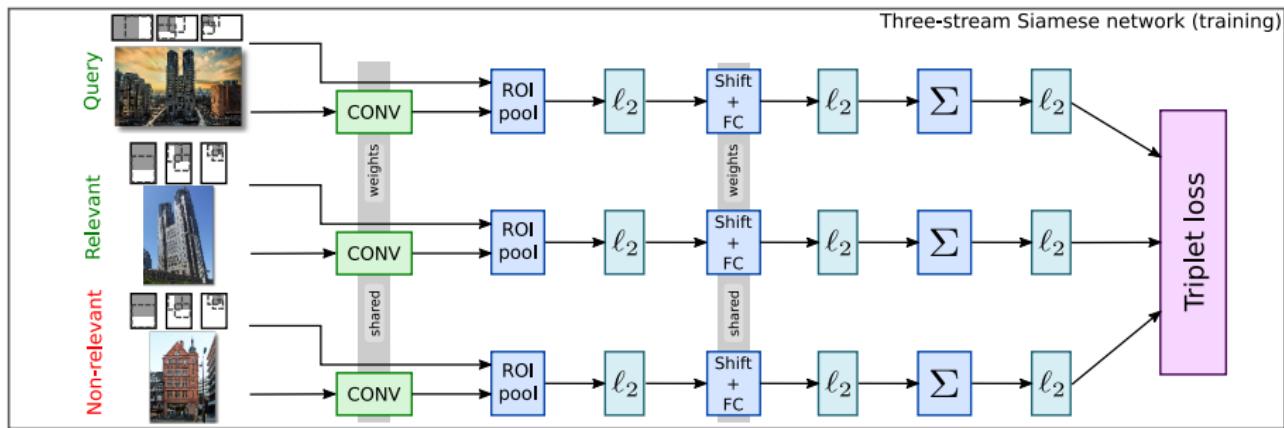
regional descriptors

[Tolias et al. ICLR 2016]



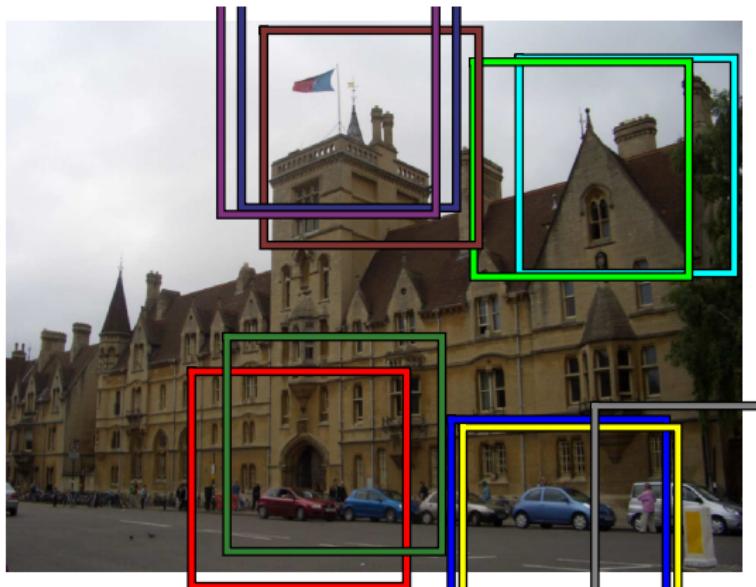
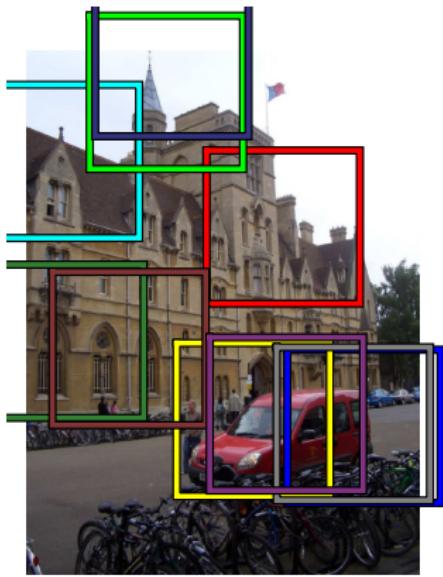
fine tuning: regional descriptors

[Gordo et al. ECCV 2016]



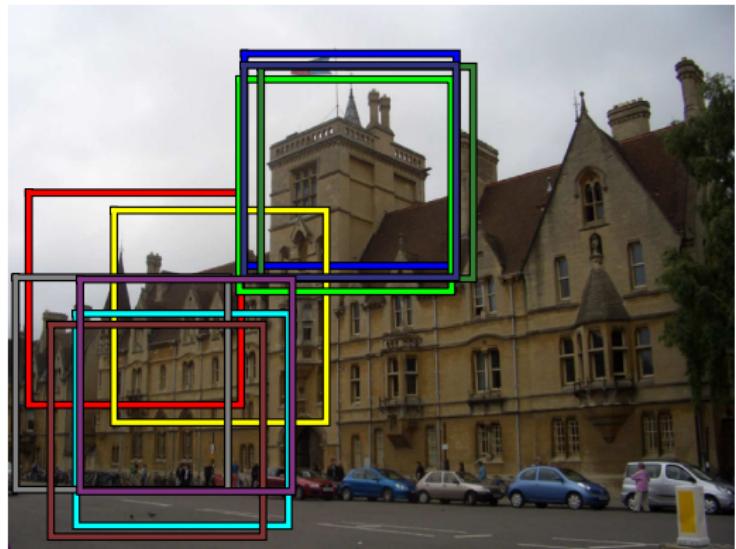
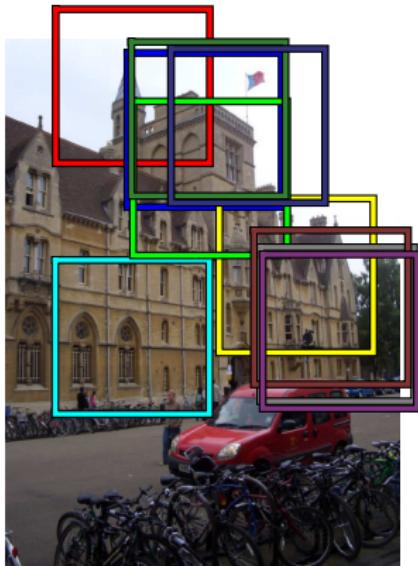
fine tuning: global descriptor

[Radenović et al. ECCV 2016]



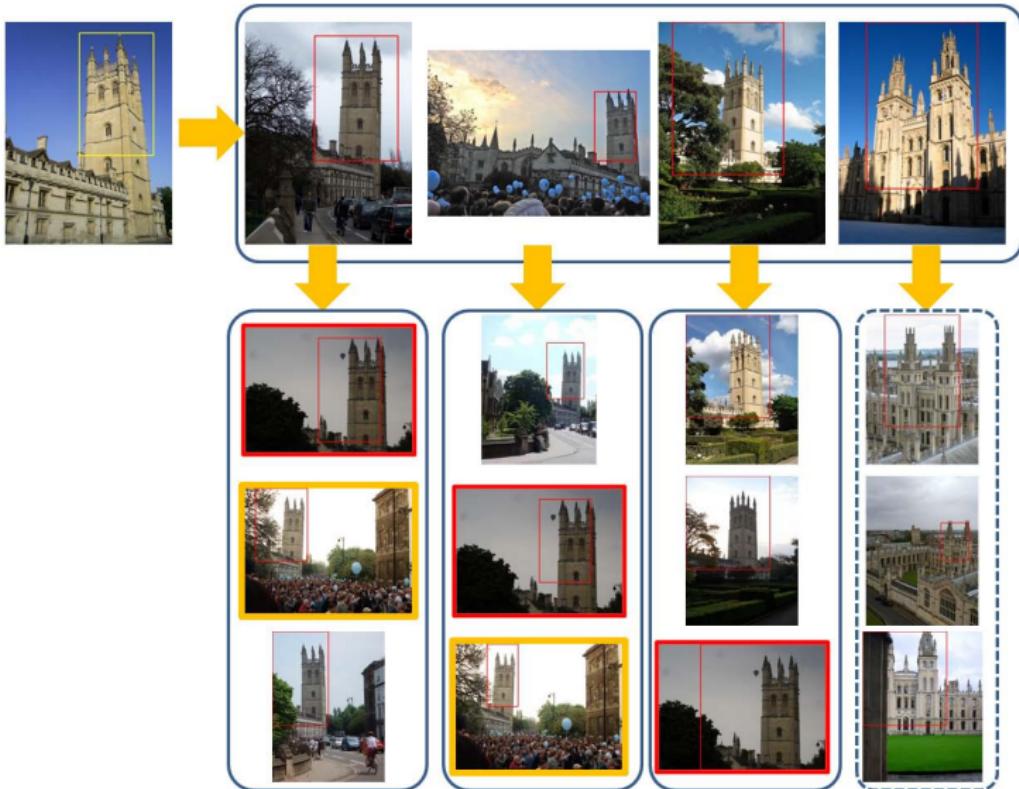
fine tuning: global descriptor

[Radenović et al. ECCV 2016]



query expansion

[Chum et al. ICCV 2007, Shen et al. CVPR 2012]



problem formulation

graph representation

- weighted undirected graph G with n vertices $V = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ and ℓ edges
- represented by symmetric non-negative $n \times n$ adjacency matrix W
- G has no self-loops: W has zero diagonal
- W is sparse with $2\ell \leq kn$ nonzero elements with $k \ll n$

symmetrically normalized representation

$n \times n$:

- degree matrix $D := \text{diag}(W\mathbf{1})$
- normalized adjacency matrix $\mathcal{W} := D^{-1/2}WD^{-1/2}$
- Laplacian $L := D - W$
- normalized Laplacian $\mathcal{L} := D^{-1/2}LD^{-1/2} = I - \mathcal{W}$

Laplacian properties

- both L and \mathcal{L} are singular and positive-semidefinite
- the eigenvalues of \mathcal{L} are in $[0, 2]$
- each eigenvector \mathbf{u} of L associated to eigenvalue 0 is constant within connected components of G (e.g. , $L\mathbf{1} = D\mathbf{1} - W\mathbf{1} = \mathbf{0}$); the corresponding eigenvector of \mathcal{L} is $D^{1/2}\mathbf{u}$
- if $\lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n$ are the eigenvalues of \mathcal{W} , its **spectral radius** $\varrho(\mathcal{W}) := \max_i |\lambda_i| = \lambda_1 = 1$

regularized Laplacian

$n \times n$:

- regularized Laplacian $L_\alpha := \beta^{-1}(D - \alpha W)$, where $\beta := 1 - \alpha$
- normalized regularized Laplacian
 $\mathcal{L}_\alpha := D^{-1/2} L_\alpha D^{-1/2} = \beta^{-1}(I - \alpha \mathcal{W})$
- both are positive-definite for $0 \leq \alpha < 1$

ranking on manifolds

[Zhou et al. NIPS 2003]

- $n \times 1$ observation vector \mathbf{y} with $y_i = 1$ if v_i is a query and 0 otherwise
- diffusion or random walk: iterate for $t = 1, 2, \dots$

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t)} := \alpha \mathcal{W} \mathbf{x}^{(t-1)} + (1 - \alpha) \mathbf{y}$$

- if $0 \leq \alpha < 1$, then as $t \rightarrow \infty$, $\mathbf{x}^{(t)}$ tends to $n \times 1$ ranking vector

$$\mathbf{x}^* := \mathcal{L}_\alpha^{-1} \mathbf{y}$$

- now, rank vertices $V = \{v_i\}$ by descending order of x_i

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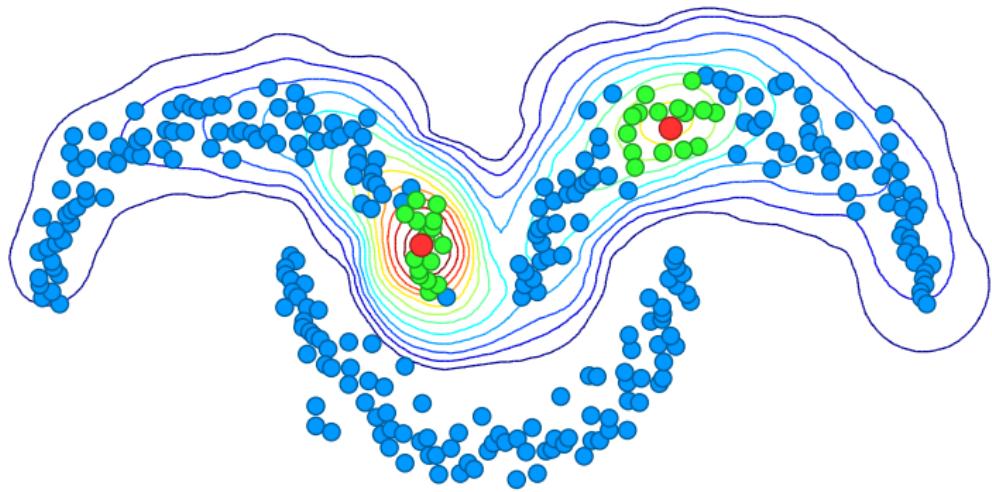
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image retrieval

- given N images, each represented by m **region descriptors** in \mathbb{R}^d
- dataset represented by $n := Nm$ descriptors $\mathcal{V} := \{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$
- **similarity** $s(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{z}) := (\mathbf{v}^\top \mathbf{z})_+^\gamma$ for $\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^d$, with $\gamma > 0$
- **k -NN similarity** $s(\mathbf{v}_i | \mathbf{z}) := s(\mathbf{v}_i, \mathbf{z})$ if \mathbf{v}_i is a k -NN of \mathbf{z} in \mathcal{V} and zero otherwise
- **mutual neighbors**: $W := \min(S, S^\top)$ where $s_{ij} := s(\mathbf{v}_i | \mathbf{v}_j)$

challenges

- how to handle unseen queries without recomputing W ?
- how to rank images given region ranking scores?
- how to compute the ranking vector efficiently?
- how scale up beyond a few thousand images?



diffusion on region manifolds

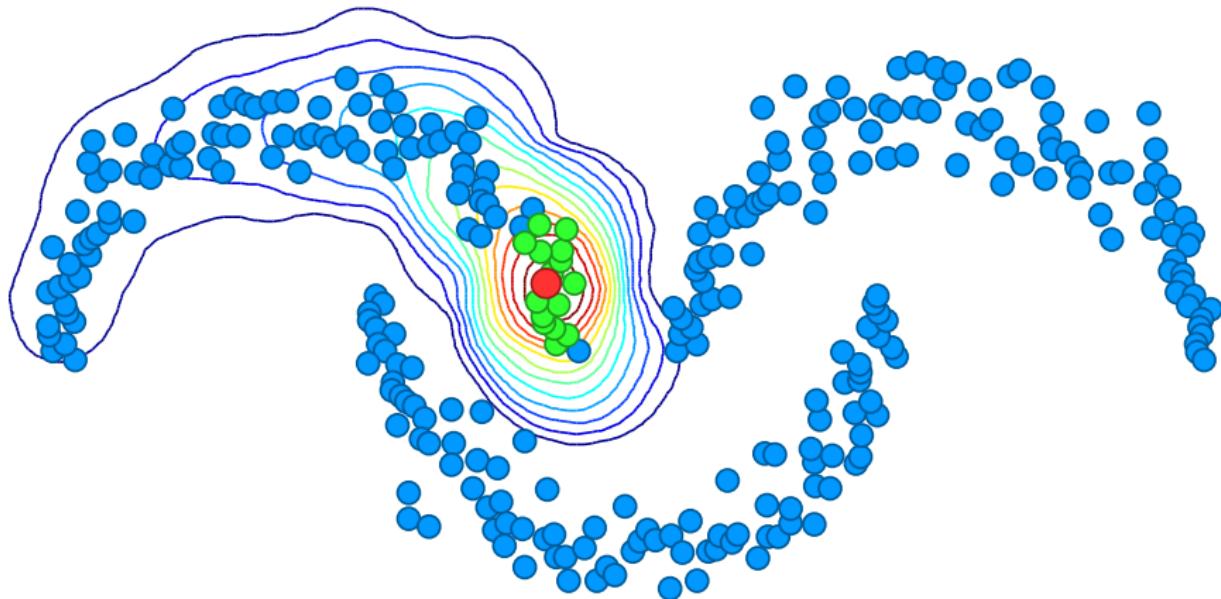
handling unseen queries

- keep W fixed, computed on dataset without queries
- given query image represented by $\{\mathbf{q}_1, \dots, \mathbf{q}_m\} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, form the *observation vector* by pooling over regions

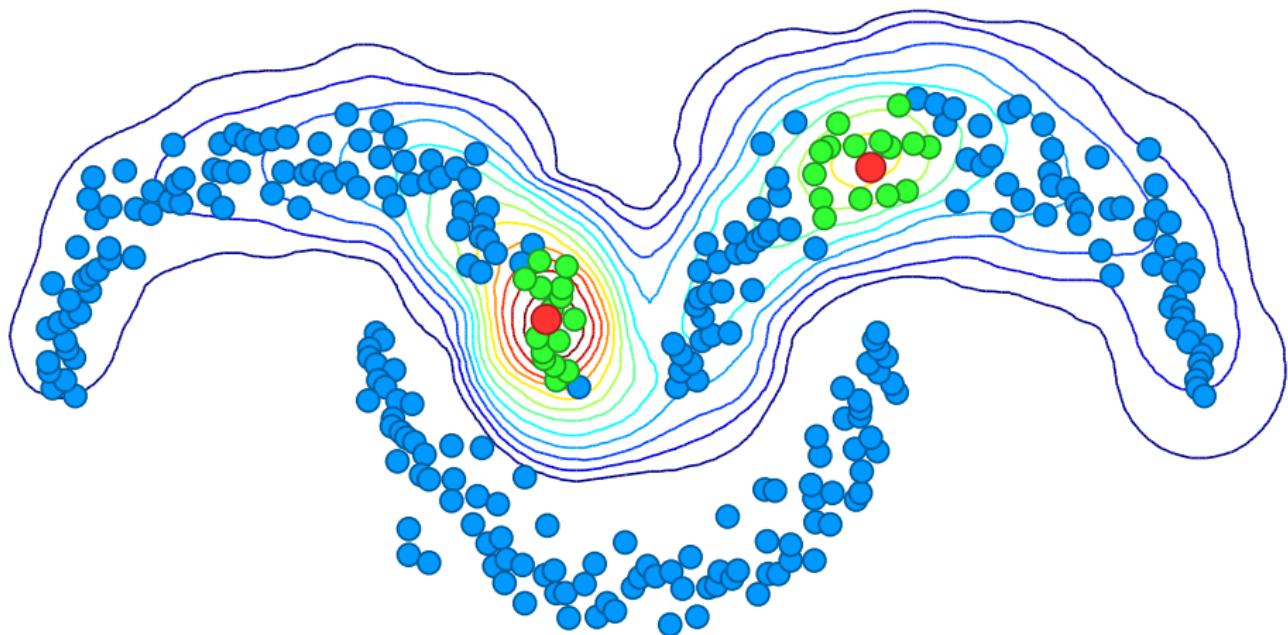
$$y_i := \sum_{j=1}^m s(\mathbf{v}_i | \mathbf{q}_j)$$

- make \mathbf{y} sparse by keeping only the k largest entries
- now, computing the ranking vector is constant in m

one query vector



two query vectors



ranking images

- given region ranking scores \mathbf{x}^* and dataset image represented by $\{\mathbf{v}_{i_1}, \dots, \mathbf{v}_{i_m}\}$, score image by

$$\sum_{j=1}^m w_j x_{i_j}^*$$

- (uniform) **sum pooling**: $\mathbf{w} := \mathbf{1}_m$
- assuming $m < d$, **generalized max pooling** [Murray and Perronnin CVPR 2014, Iscen et al. 2014]:

$$\mathbf{w} := (\Phi^\top \Phi + \lambda I_m)^{-1} \mathbf{1}_m, \quad (1)$$

where $\Phi := (\mathbf{v}_{i_1}, \dots, \mathbf{v}_{i_m})$ and $\lambda > 0$

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diffusion is an iterative solver

- given linear system

$$A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b},$$

Jacobi solver decomposes A as $\Delta + R$ where $\Delta := \text{diag}(A)$ and iterates for $t = 1, 2, \dots$

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t)} := \Delta^{-1}(\mathbf{b} - R\mathbf{x}^{(t-1)})$$

- given $\mathcal{L}_\alpha = \beta^{-1}(I - \alpha\mathcal{W})$, our system is

$$\mathcal{L}_\alpha \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y}$$

- hence, $\mathbf{b} = (1 - \alpha)\mathbf{y}$, $\Delta = I$, $R = -\alpha\mathcal{W}$ and

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t)} := \alpha\mathcal{W}\mathbf{x}^{(t-1)} + (1 - \alpha)\mathbf{y}$$

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normalization is preconditioning

- (symmetric) **preconditioning**: solve a related system with A replaced by $C^{-1}AC^{-\top}$
- we could consider matrix L_α and solve instead

$$L_\alpha(D^{-1/2}\mathbf{x}) = D^{1/2}\mathbf{y}$$

- by normalizing L_α into \mathcal{L}_α , we are actually performing preconditioning with $C = \text{diag}(L_\alpha)^{1/2}$: **diagonal scaling** or **Jacobi**

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efficient solution

- use conjugate gradient (CG) method to solve linear system

$$\mathcal{L}_\alpha \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y}$$

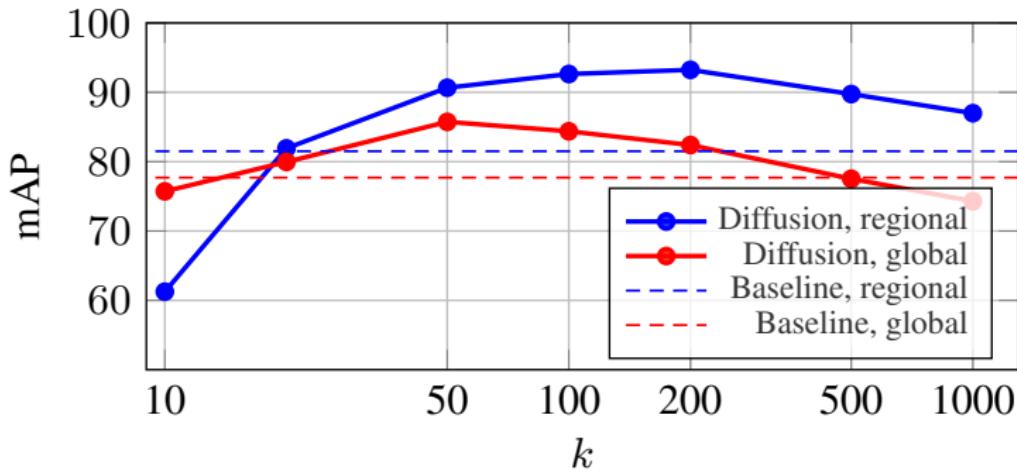
- implicitly, we are minimizing quadratic function

$$f_\alpha(\mathbf{x}) := \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}^\top \mathcal{L}_\alpha \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{y}$$

experiments

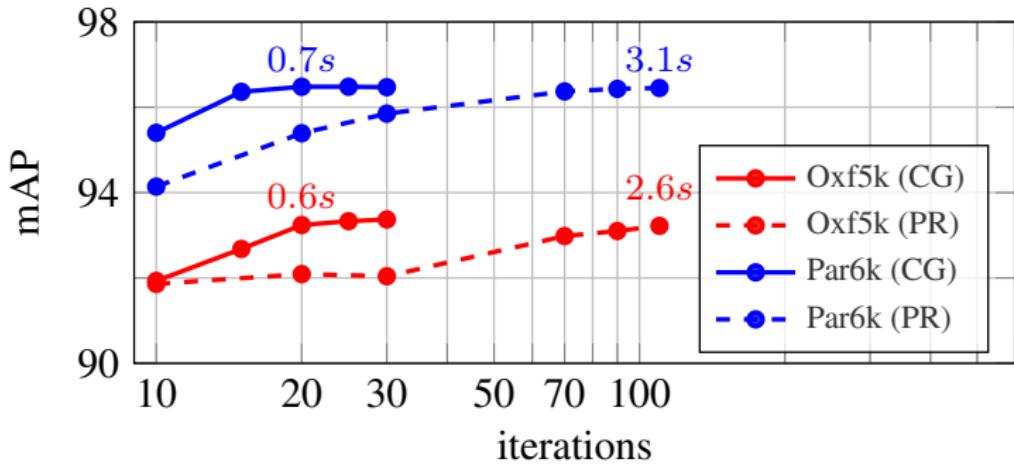
- datasets: Oxford5k, Paris6k, Oxford105k, Paris 106k, INSTRE (27k images, 250 classes)
- networks: VGG ($d = 512$) [Radenović *et al.* ECCV 2016], ResNet101 ($d = 2048$) [Gordo *et al.* ECCV 2016]
- region descriptors: 3 scales (21 regions/image) as in R-MAC [Tolias *et al.* ICLR 2016]
- supervised whitening [Radenović *et al.* ECCV 2016]
- parameters: $\gamma = 3$, $\alpha = 0.99$, $k = 50$ (global), $k = 200$ (regional)

dependence on neighbors, k (Oxford5k)

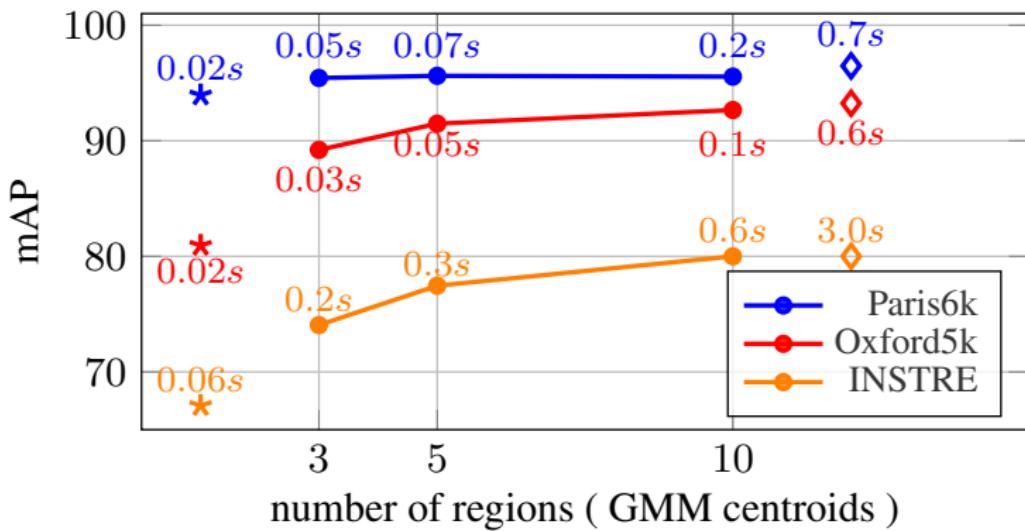


“small patterns appear more frequently than entire images”

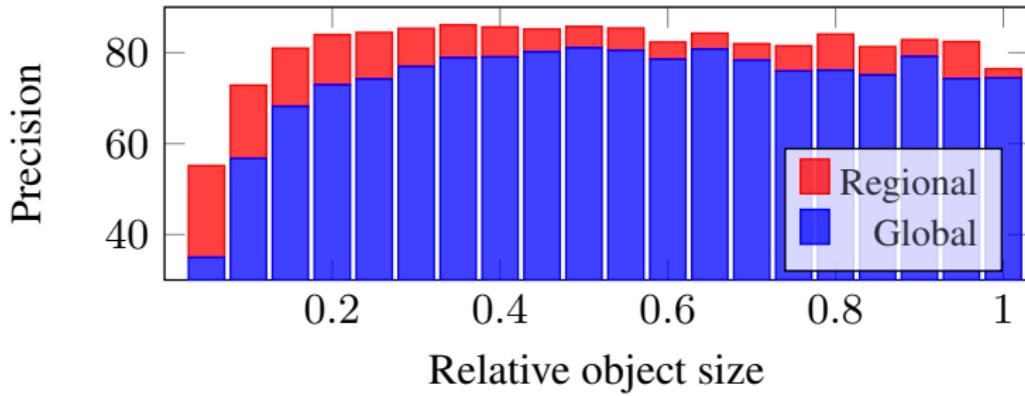
efficient (regional) diffusion with CG



global → regional



small objects (INSTRE)



examples



(AP: 43.1→84.9)



0.5→100



0.6→100



1.8→100



0.6→98.7



2.6→100



2.6→100



(AP: 24.0→89.9)



3.1→100



4.2→100



4.3→100



4.7→100



5.9→100



5.9→100



(AP: 56.5→94.3)



8.2→94.5



12.9→91.5



18.8→91.6



14.7→85.4



13.3→83.6



15.9→86.1

scaling up

- **compact representation**: reduce regions/image ($21 \rightarrow 5$) by a Gaussian mixture model (GMM)
- **approximate k -NN graph construction** [Dong et al. WWW 2011]: 96 hours \rightarrow 45 minutes on Oxford105k, mAP loss less than 1%
- **truncate affinity matrix** to 10k images for Oxford105k and Paris 106k: $14 \rightarrow 1$ second for re-ranking, constant in n and d

state of the art (global)

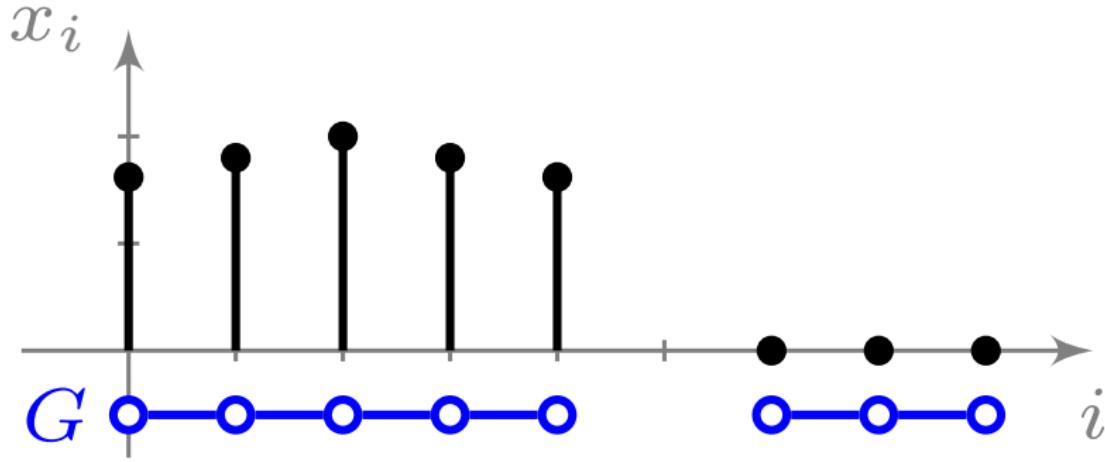
Method	d	INSTRE	Oxf5k	Oxf105k	Par6k	Par106k
global descriptors - nearest neighbor search						
CroW [†]	512	-	68.2	63.2	79.8	71.0
R-MAC	512	47.7	77.7	70.1	84.1	76.8
R-MAC	2,048	62.6	83.9	80.8	93.8	89.9
NetVLAD [†]	4,096	-	71.6	-	79.7	-
global descriptors - query expansion						
R-MAC+AQE	512	57.3	85.4	79.7	88.4	83.5
R-MAC+SCSM	512	60.1	85.3	80.5	89.4	84.5
R-MAC+HN	512	64.7	79.9	-	92.0	-
Global diffusion	512	70.3	85.7	82.7	94.1	92.5
R-MAC+AQE	2,048	70.5	89.6	88.3	95.3	92.7
R-MAC+SCSM	2,048	71.4	89.1	87.3	95.4	92.5
Global diffusion	2,048	80.5	87.1	87.4	96.5	95.4

state of the art (regional)

Method	$m \times d$	INSTRE	Oxf5k	Oxf105k	Par6k	Par106k
regional descriptors - nearest neighbor search						
R-match	21×512	55.5	81.5	76.5	86.1	79.9
R-match	21×2,048	71.0	88.1	85.7	94.9	91.3
regional descriptors - query expansion						
HQE	2.4k×128	74.7	89.4 [†]	84.0 [†]	82.8 [†]	-
R-match+AQE	21×512	60.4	83.6	78.6	87.0	81.0
Regional diffusion*	5×512	77.5	91.5	84.7	95.6	93.0
Regional diffusion*	21×512	80.0	93.2	90.3	96.5	92.6
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more challenges

- how to trade-off offline with online cost?
- how to get rid of truncation?
- how to generalize beyond the particular model?



fast spectral ranking

faster than CG?

- want to solve $\mathcal{L}_\alpha \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y}$
- could invert \mathcal{L}_α offline, but it wouldn't be sparse
- could approximate \mathcal{L}_α^{-1} by $\Phi \Phi^\top$ where Φ is a (sparse) $n \times r$ matrix with $r \ll n$; then

$$\mathbf{x} \approx \Phi \Phi^\top \mathbf{y}$$

- but how to compute Φ without ever inverting \mathcal{L}_α ?
- still, there is no generalization; even α is given in advance

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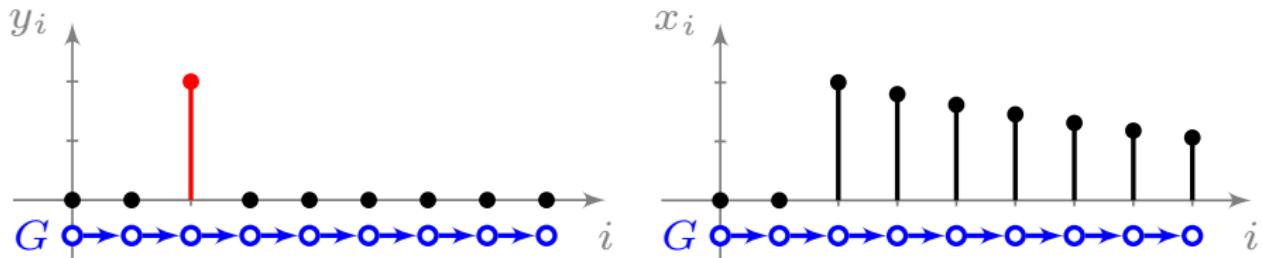
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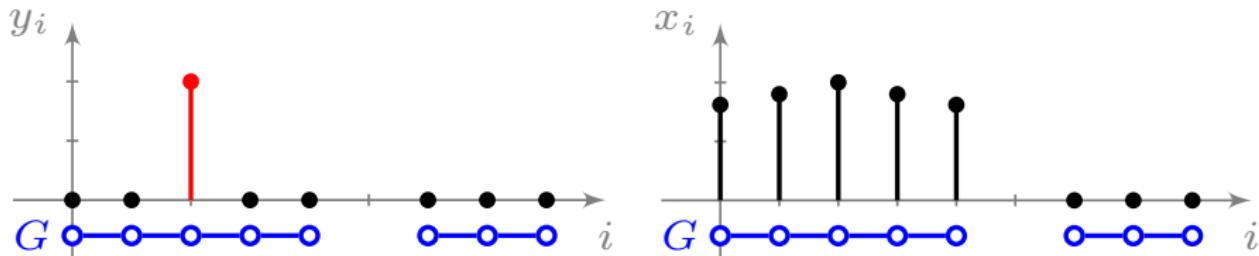
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ranking as low-pass filtering



- output given by $x_i := \beta \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \alpha^t y_{i-t}$
- or by recurrence $x_i = \alpha x_{i-1} + (1 - \alpha) y_i$
- impulse response $h_i = \beta \alpha^i u_i$
- transfer function $H(z) := \beta \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} (az^{-1})^t = \beta / (1 - az^{-1})$

ranking as low-pass filtering



- using a weighted undirected graph G instead
- information “flows” in all directions, controlled by edge weights

transfer function

- in general, a function $h : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$, where \mathcal{S} is the set of real symmetric square matrices including scalars, \mathbb{R}
- given \mathcal{W} (offline) and h, \mathbf{y} (online), the problem is now to compute

$$\mathbf{x}^* := h(\mathcal{W})\mathbf{y}$$

- our standard choice is

$$h_\alpha(A) := (1 - \alpha)(I - \alpha A)^{-1}$$

- recalling that $\mathcal{L}_\alpha = \beta^{-1}(I - \alpha \mathcal{W})$,

$$\mathcal{L}_\alpha^{-1} = h_\alpha(\mathcal{W})$$

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(exact) spectral ranking

- given $A \in \mathcal{S}$ offline, compute the exact eigenvalue decomposition

$$U\Lambda U^\top = A$$

- given h, \mathbf{y} online, compute

$$\mathbf{x} := Uh(\Lambda)U^\top \mathbf{y}$$

where $h(\Lambda)$ is computed element-wise!

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when/why does it work?

- let \mathcal{H} be the family of functions h with a series expansion

$$h(A) = \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} c_t A^t$$

- if $h \in \mathcal{H}$ and the series converges, then

$$h(A) = Uh(\Lambda)U^\top = U \operatorname{diag}(h(\lambda_1), \dots, h(\lambda_n))U^\top$$

- in particular, $h_\alpha \in \mathcal{H}$, having the *geometric progression* expansion

$$h_\alpha(A) := \beta(I - \alpha A)^{-1} = \beta \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} (\alpha A)^t,$$

which converges absolutely if $\varrho(\alpha A) < 1$

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low-rank approximation: stage 1

- given A , compute an $n \times \hat{r}$ matrix Q with $Q^\top Q = I_{\hat{r}}$ that represents an approximate basis for the range of A :

$$QQ^\top A \approx A$$

- how? **simultaneous iteration**: randomly draw an $n \times \hat{r}$ standard Gaussian matrix $B^{(0)}$ and repeat for $t = 0, \dots, q-1$:
 1. compute QR factorization $Q^{(t)} R^{(t)} = B^{(t)}$
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low-rank approximation: stage 2

- compute an approximate rank- r eigenvalue decomposition

$$U\Lambda U^\top \approx A$$

where U is $n \times r$ with $U^\top U = I_r$ and Λ is $r \times r$ diagonal

- how? [Halko et al. SIAM 2011]

- form the $\hat{r} \times \hat{r}$ matrix $C := Q^\top B = Q^\top A Q$
- compute its eigendecomposition $\hat{V} \hat{\Lambda} \hat{V}^\top = C$
- form (V, Λ) by keeping from $(\hat{V}, \hat{\Lambda})$ the rows/columns corresponding to the r largest eigenvalues
- define $U := QV$

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when/why does it work?

- an average-case bound on $\|A - QQ^\top A\|$ decays to $|\lambda_{r+1}|$ exponentially fast in q [Halko *et al.* SIAM 2011]
- since $QQ^\top A \approx A$ and A is symmetric,

$$A \approx QQ^\top A QQ^\top = QCQ^\top \approx QV\Lambda V^\top Q^\top = U\Lambda U^\top$$

- the approximation $C \approx V\Lambda V^\top$ involves an additional term of $|\lambda_{r+1}|$ in the error [Halko *et al.* SIAM 2011]
- when approximating $h(A)$ by $Uh(\Lambda)U^\top$, $|h(\lambda_{r+1})|$ governs the error instead: h should be **nondecreasing** when restricted to scalars

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back to image retrieval

- given \mathcal{W} offline, compute the rank- r eigenvalue decomposition

$$U\Lambda U^\top \approx \mathcal{W}$$

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$$\mathbf{x} := Uh(\Lambda)U^\top \mathbf{y}$$

- score per image obtained by sparse $N \times n$ pooling matrix Σ

$$\bar{\mathbf{x}} := \Sigma \mathbf{x}$$

- the $N \times r$ matrix $\bar{U} := \Sigma U$ is computed offline so that, online,

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(fast) spectral ranking

$$\bar{\mathbf{x}} = \bar{U}h(\Lambda)U^\top \mathbf{y}$$

$N \times 1$
ranking

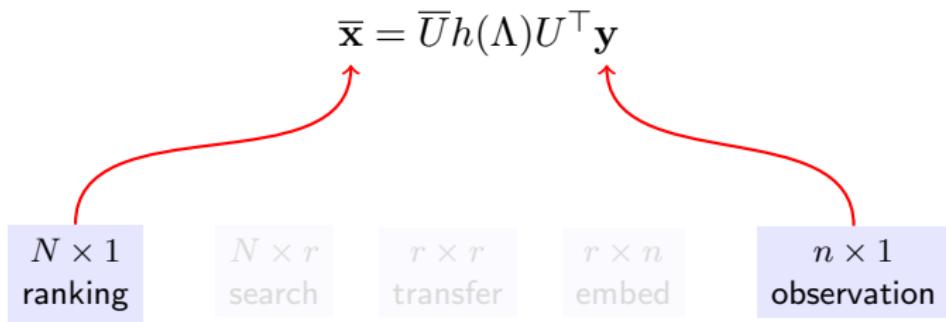
$N \times r$
search

$r \times r$
transfer

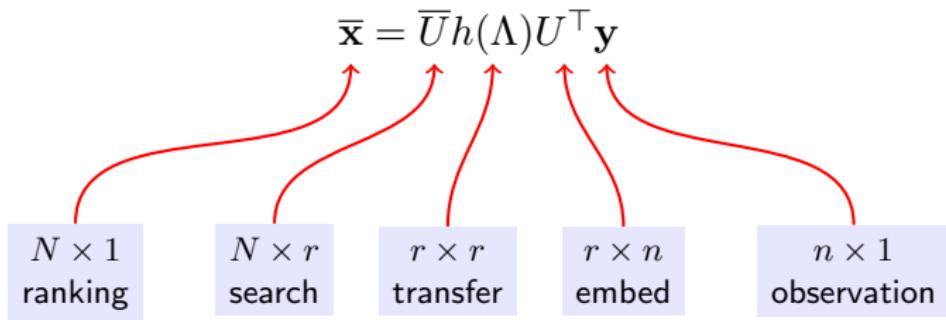
$r \times n$
embed

$n \times 1$
observation

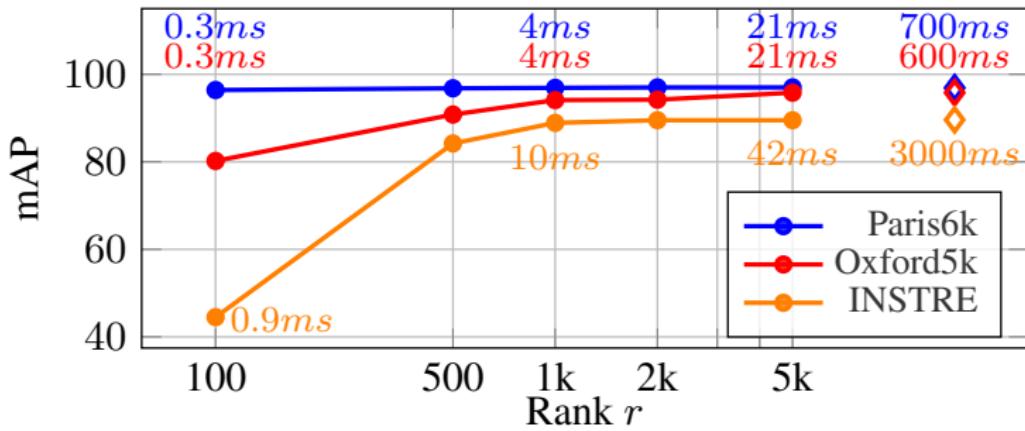
(fast) spectral ranking



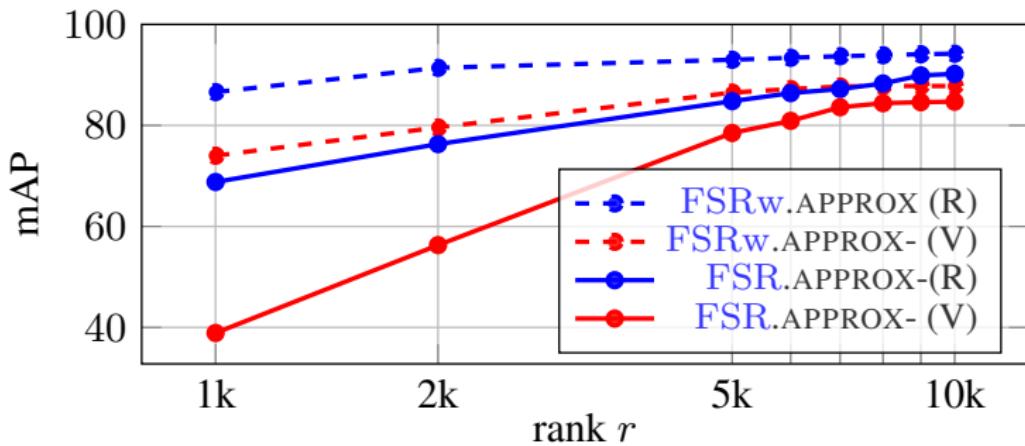
(fast) spectral ranking



small scale



Oxford105k



practical considerations

- search independently in each **connected component** of G ; otherwise maximal eigenvalue of each component dominates the eigenvalues of the few (or one) “giant” component
- “**weighted**” FSR: if η_i is the ℓ^2 -norm of the i -th row of U , adjust ranking vector as

$$x'_i = x_i + (1 - \eta_i) \mathbf{v}_i^\top \mathbf{q}$$

falling back on original dot-product similarity for sparsely populated parts of the graph

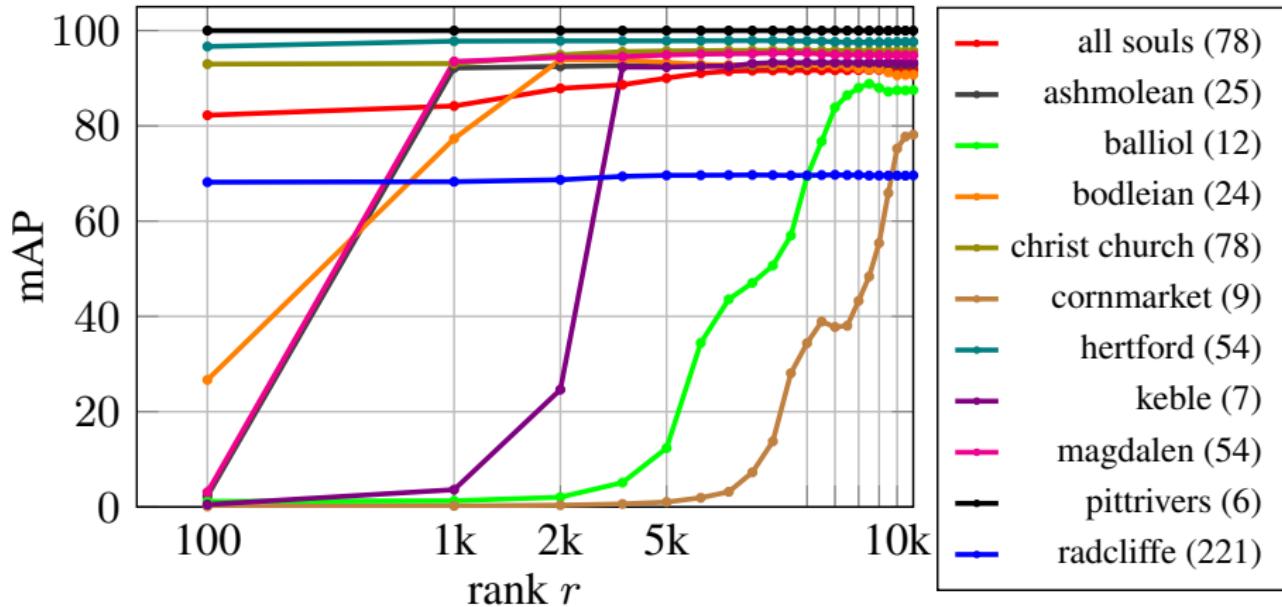
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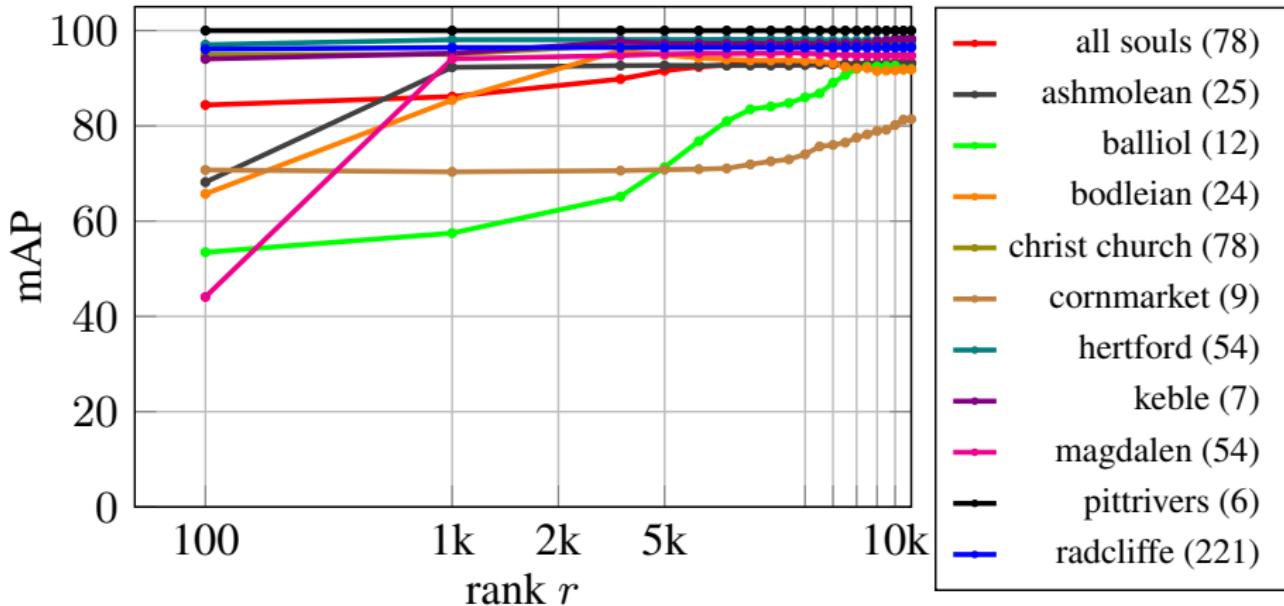
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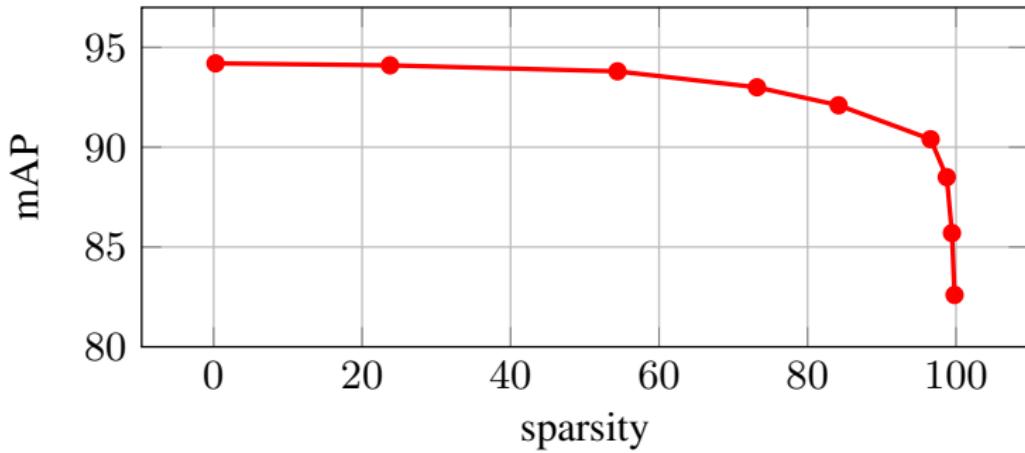
Oxford105k per landmark (FSR)



Oxford105k per landmark (weighted FSR)



sparse U (Oxford105k, ResNet101)



state of the art (global)

Method	d	INSTRE	Oxf5k	Oxf105k	Par6k	Par106k
global descriptors - Euclidean search						
R-MAC	512	47.7	77.7	70.1	84.1	76.8
R-MAC	2,048	62.6	83.9	80.8	93.8	89.9
global descriptors - manifold search						
Diffusion	512	70.3	85.7	82.5	94.1	92.5
FSR.RANK- r	512	70.3	85.8	85.0	93.8	92.4
Diffusion	2,048	80.5	87.1	86.8	96.5	95.4
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state of the art (regional)

Method	$m \times d$	INSTRE	Oxf5k	Oxf105k	Par6k	Par106k
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Diffusion	21×512	80.0	93.2	90.3	96.5	92.6
FSR.APPROX	21×512	80.4	90.6	-	96.5	-
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query time (Oxford105k)

- rank $r = 5k$: 0.14s
- rank $r = 10k$: 0.30s
- CG: 14s
- CG (truncated): 1s

hard examples?



(AP: 92.1)



#5



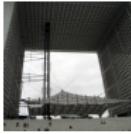
#32



#51



#70



#71



#76



#79



#126



(AP: 92.7)



#2



#4



#8



#61



#68



#72



#75



#108

interpretation: random fields

- a Gaussian Markov random field (GMRF) with precision A and mean μ can be parametrized as

$$p(\mathbf{x}) := \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x} | \boldsymbol{\mu}, A^{-1}) \propto e^{-E(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{b}, A)}$$

where $E(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{b}, A) := \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{x}^\top A\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}^\top \mathbf{x}$ is a quadratic energy

- its expectation $\boldsymbol{\mu} = A^{-1}\mathbf{b}$ is the minimizer of this energy
- our solution $\mathbf{x}^* = \mathcal{L}_\alpha^{-1}\mathbf{y}$ is the expectation of a GMRF with energy

$$f_\alpha(\mathbf{x}) := E(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{y}, \mathcal{L}_\alpha) = \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{x}^\top \mathcal{L}_\alpha \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{x}$$

- if $\hat{\mathbf{x}} := D^{-1/2}\mathbf{x}$, this energy has the same minimizer as

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interpretation: graph filtering

- a **signal** of period n is a vector $\mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ where $s_{\bar{i}} := s_{(i \bmod n)+1}$
- a **shift** of \mathbf{s} is the mapping $s_{\bar{i}} \mapsto s_{\overline{i-1}}$; also represented by $\mathbf{s} \mapsto C_n \mathbf{s}$ where C_n is an $n \times n$ circulant zero-one matrix
- A linear, shift invariant, causal **filter** is the mapping $\mathbf{s} \mapsto H\mathbf{s}$ where

$$H := h(C_n) = \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} h_t C_n^t$$

- matrix C_n has the eigenvalue decomposition $U\Lambda U^\top$ where U^\top is the $n \times n$ **discrete Fourier transform** matrix \mathcal{F}
- if the series $h(C_n)$ converges, filtering $\mathbf{s} \mapsto H\mathbf{s}$ is written as

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diffusion on region manifolds (CVPR 2017)

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1611.05113>

fast spectral ranking

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1703.06935>



thank you!