

# Scene Classification

BIL719 – Computer Vision

Pinar Duygulu

Hacettepe University

(Source:Antonio Torralba)

The texture



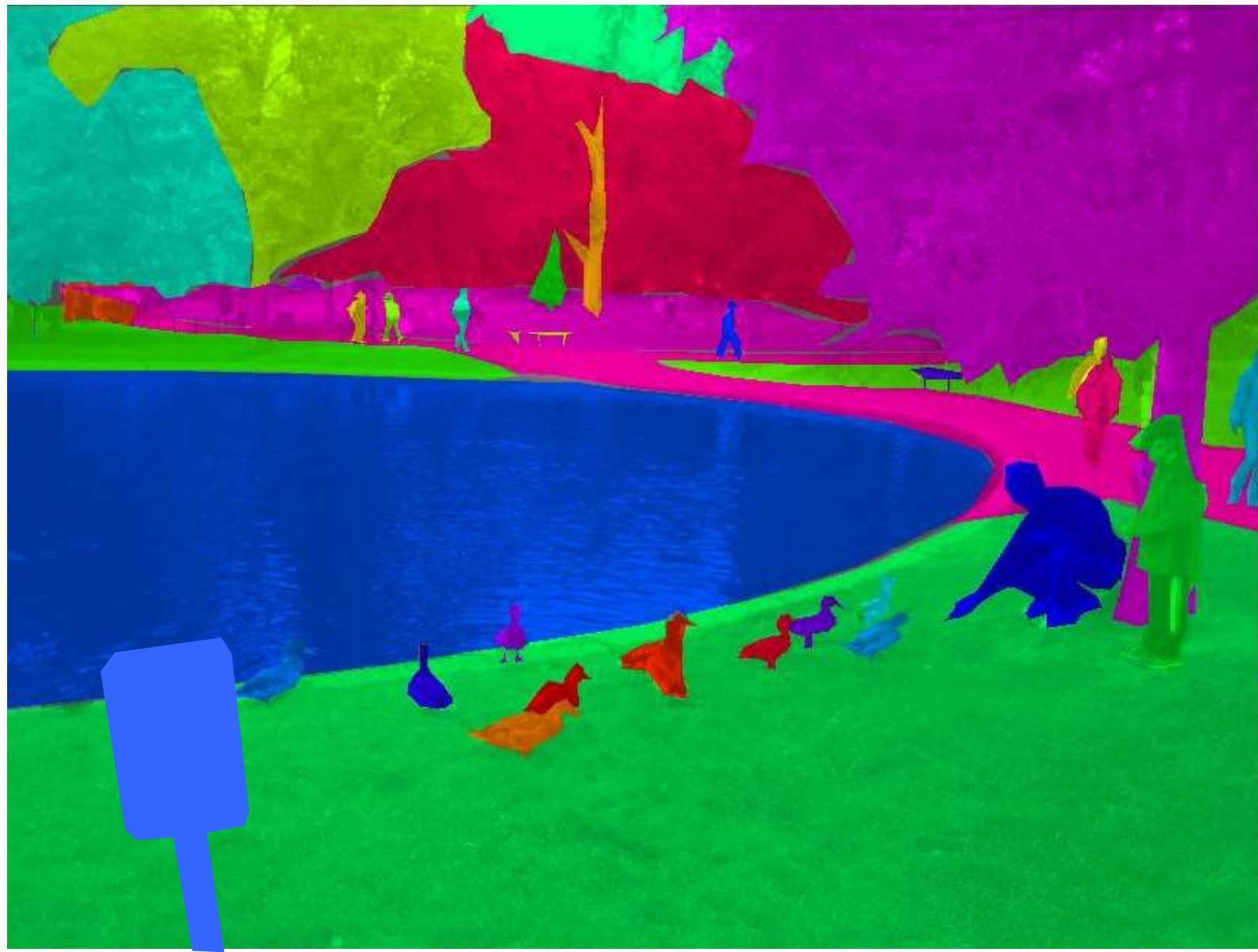
The object

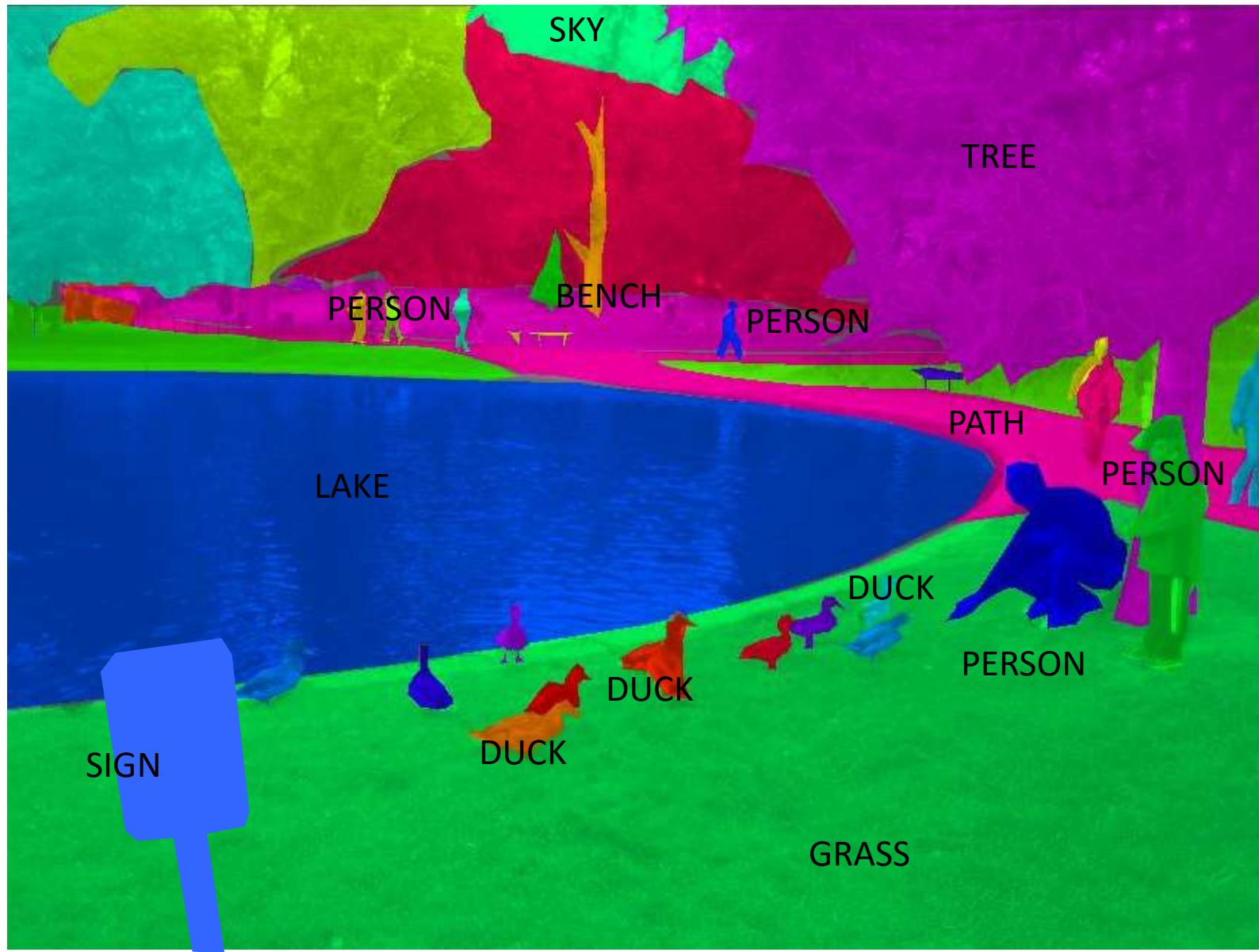


The scene



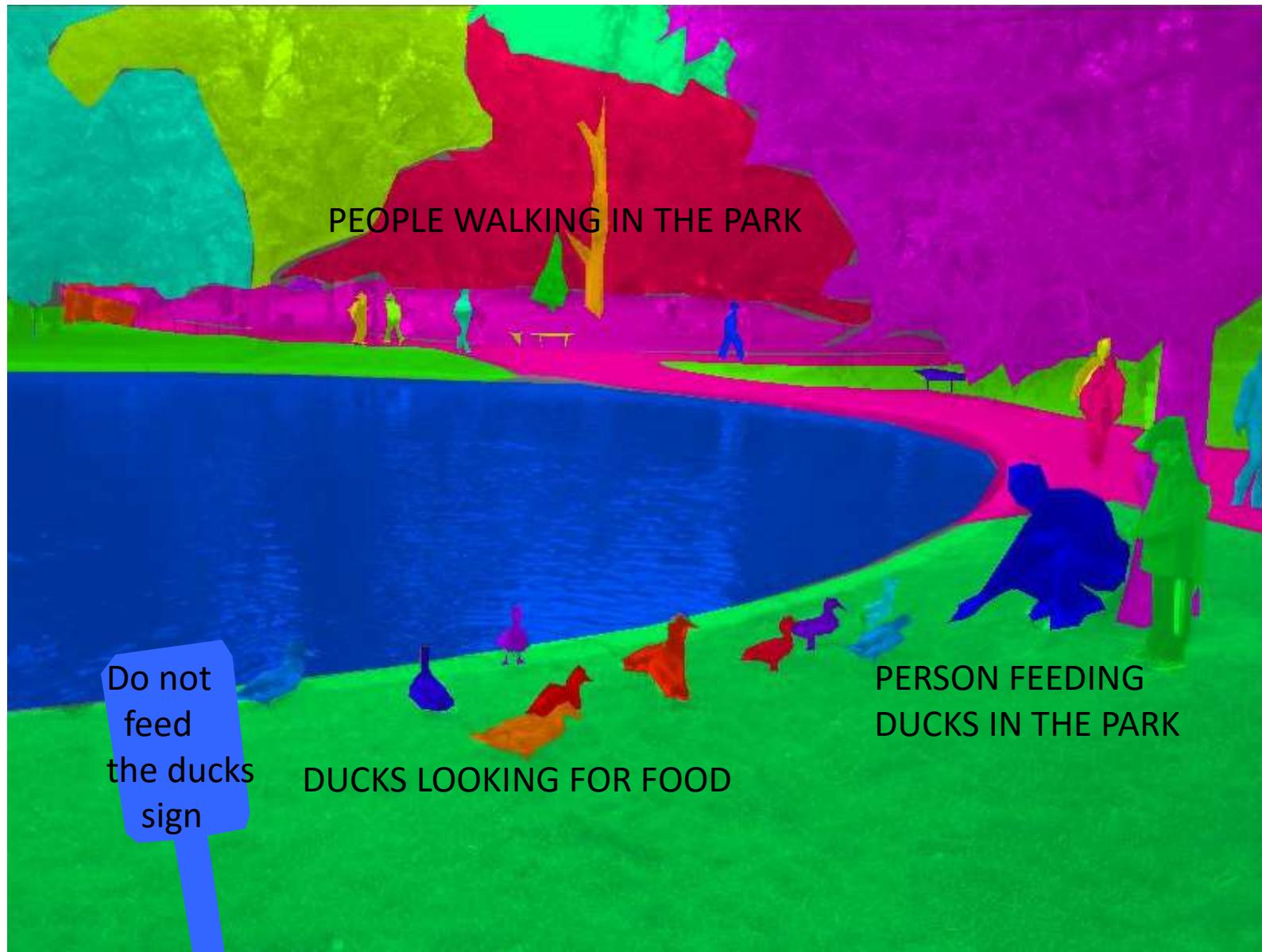








A VIEW OF A PARK ON A NICE SPRING DAY





# Scene views vs. objects



By scene we mean a place in which a human can act within, or a place to which a human being could navigate. Scenes are a lot more than just a combination of objects (just as objects are more than the combinations of their parts). Like objects, scenes are associated with specific functions and behaviors, such as eating in a restaurant, drinking in a pub, reading in a library, and sleeping in a bedroom.

# Scene views vs. objects

A photograph of a firehydrant



A photograph of a street



# Mary Potter (1976)



Mary Potter (1975, 1976) demonstrated that during a rapid sequential visual presentation (100 msec per image), a novel picture is instantly **understood** and observers seem to comprehend a lot of visual information



# Demo : Rapid image understanding

By Aude Oliva

Instructions: 9 photographs will be shown for half a second each. Your task is to **memorize these pictures**





















# **Memory Test**

Which of the following pictures have you seen ?

**If you have seen the image  
clap your hands once**

**If you have not seen the image  
do nothing**



**Have you seen this picture ?**



**NO**



**Have you seen this picture ?**





**Have you seen this picture ?**



**NO**



**Have you seen this picture ?**





**Have you seen this picture ?**



Yes



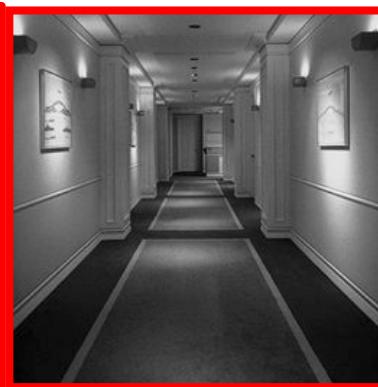
**Have you seen this picture ?**



You have seen these pictures



You were tested with these pictures



# The gist of the scene

In a glance, we remember the meaning of an image and its global layout but some objects and details are forgotten



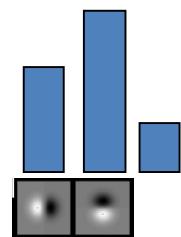
# What can be an alternative to objects?

- An alternative to objects: scene emergent features

# Global and local representations



# Global and local representations



# Scene emergent features

“Recognition via features that are not those of individual objects but “emerge” as objects are brought into relation to each other to form a scene.” – Biederman 81

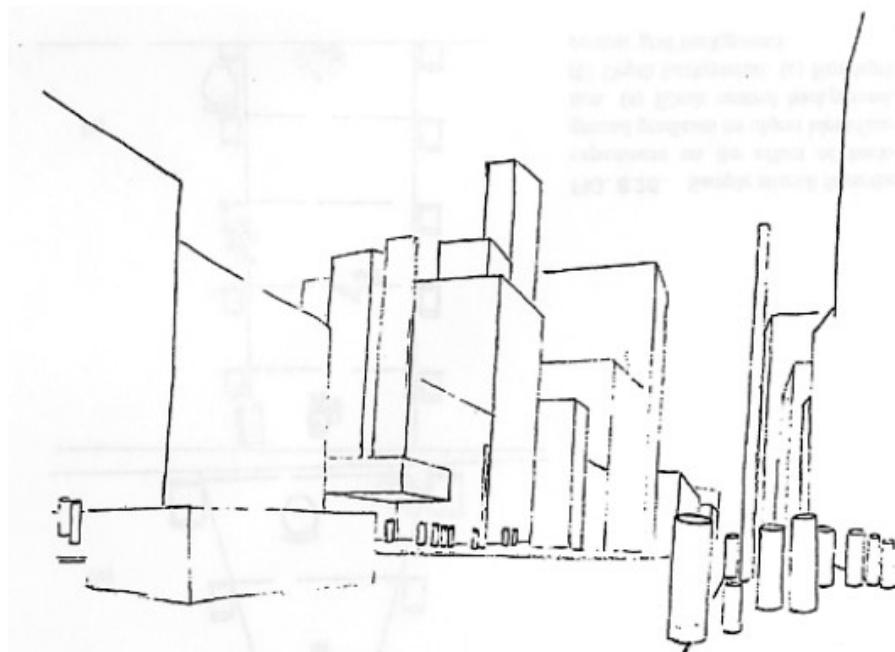


FIG. 8.23. *Downtown Buffalo*. Drawn by Robert Mezzanotte by converting objects in a photograph to basic rectilinear or cylindrical bodies.

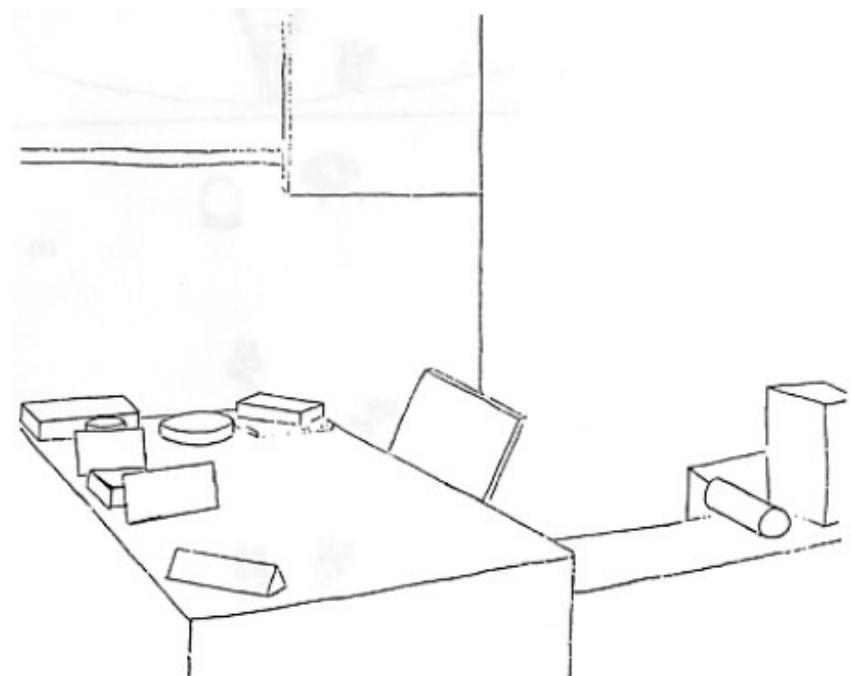
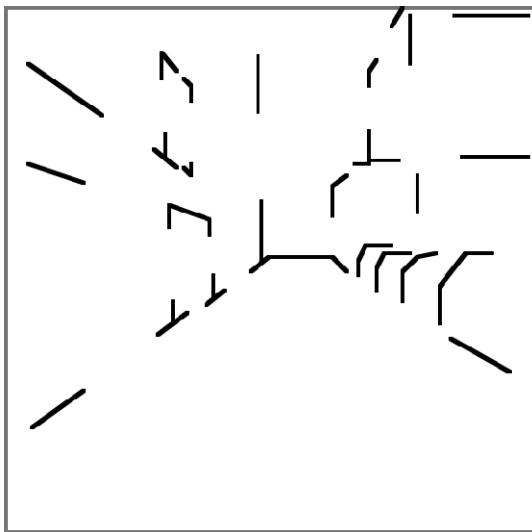


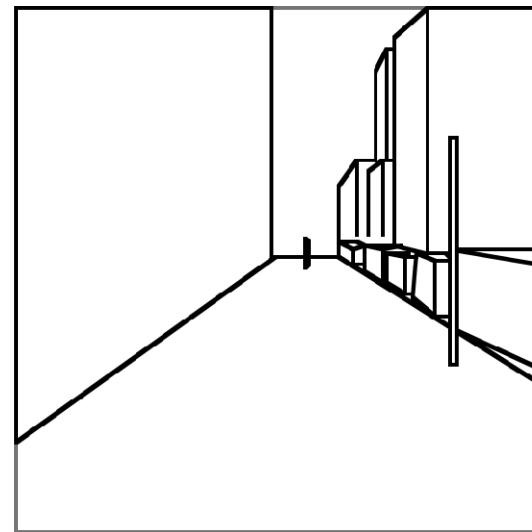
FIG. 8.24. *Office*, drawn by Robert Mezzanotte.

From “on the semantics of a glance at a scene”, Biederman, 1981

# Examples of scene emergent features



Suggestive edges and junctions



Simple geometric forms



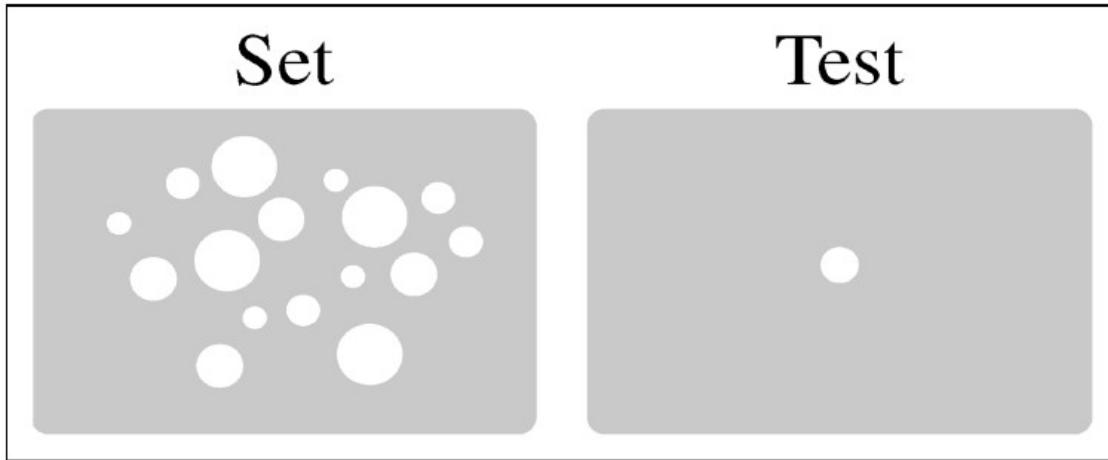
Blobs



Textures

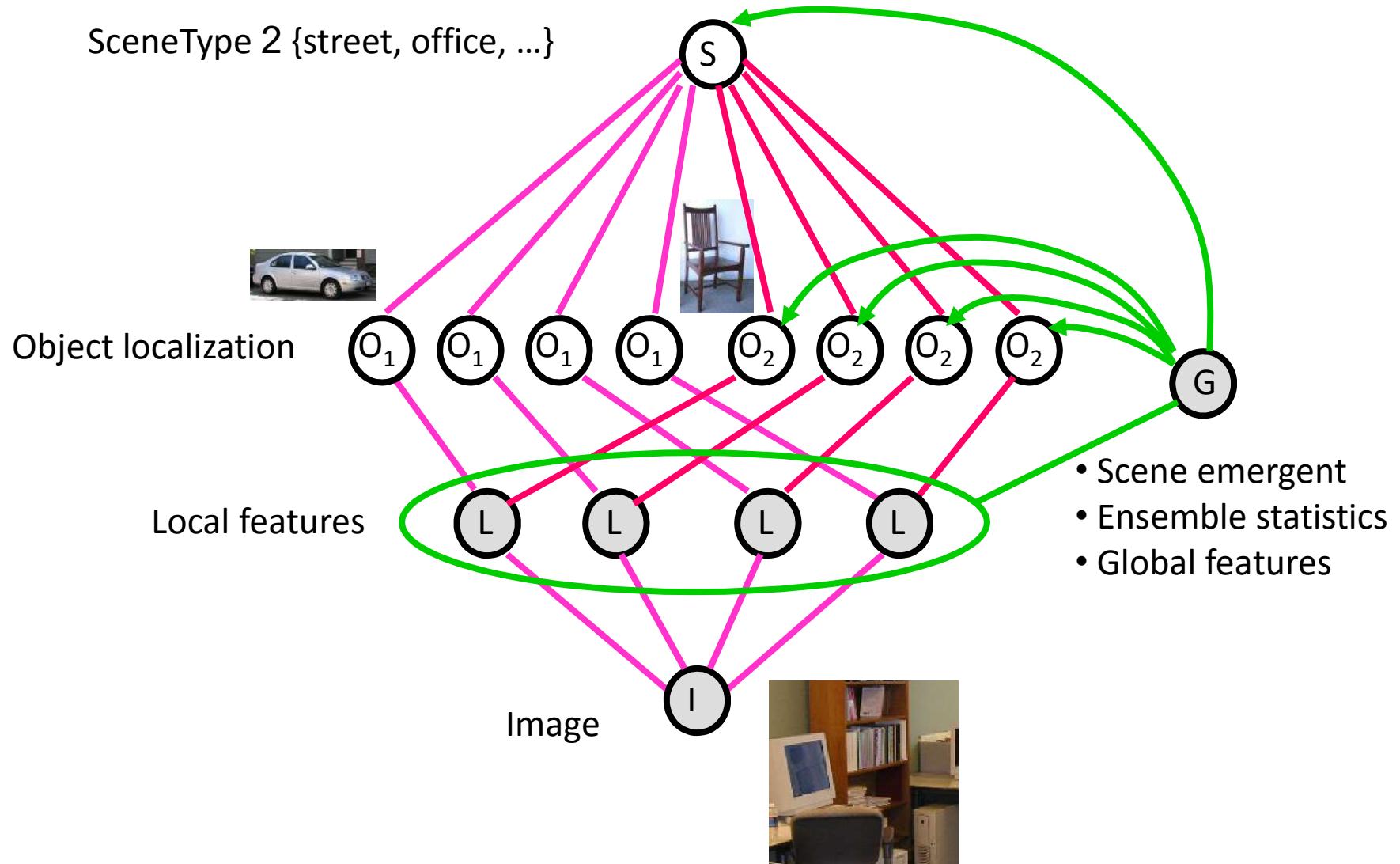
# Ensemble statistics

Ariely, 2001, Seeing sets: Representation by statistical properties  
Chong, Treisman, 2003, Representation of statistical properties  
Alvarez, Oliva, 2008, 2009, Spatial ensemble statistics

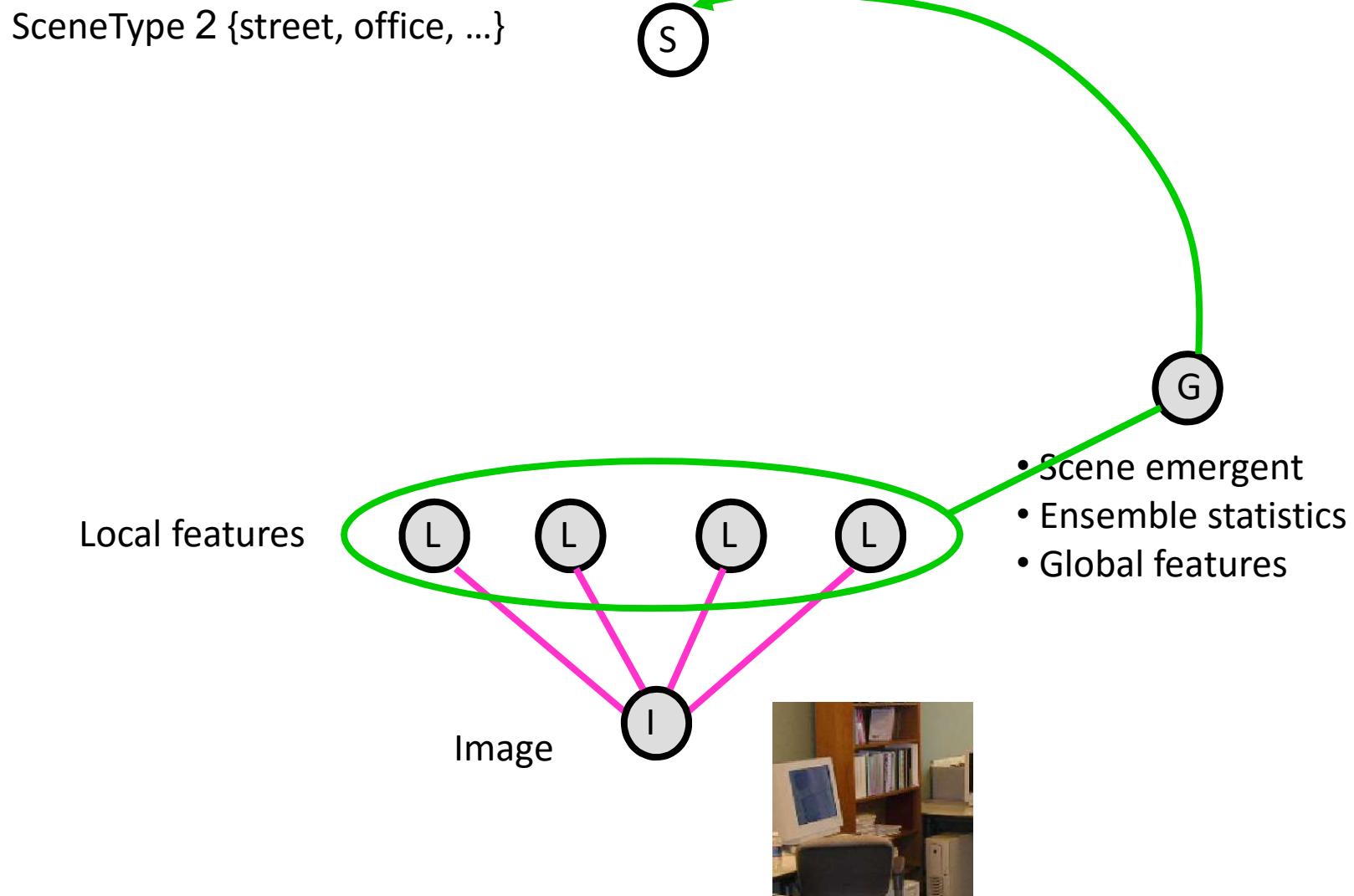


Conclusion: observers had more accurate representation of the mean than of the individual members of the set.

# From scenes to objects



# How far can we go without objects?



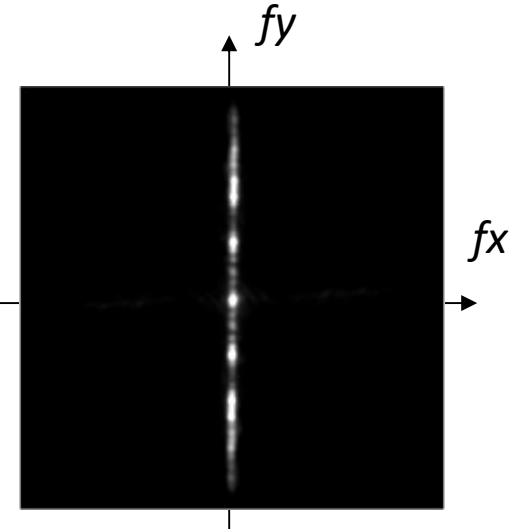
- **Scenes as textures**

# A simple texture descriptor

## Magnitude of the Fourier Transform



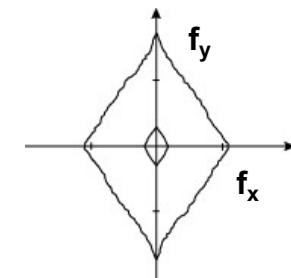
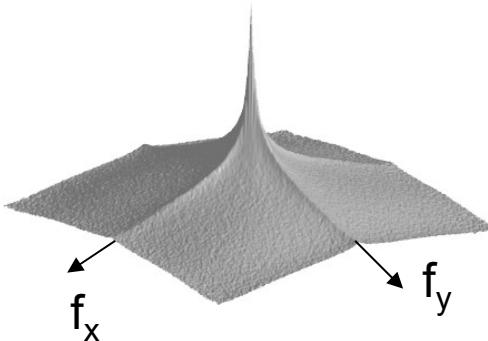
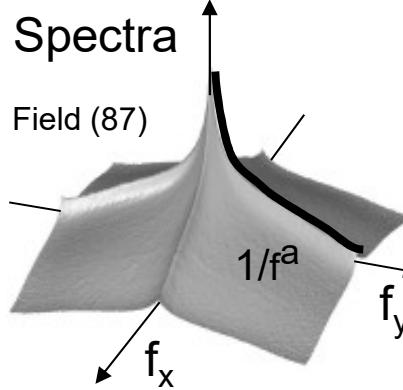
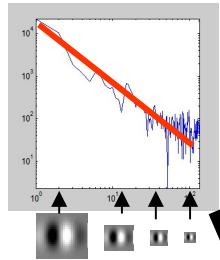
$$A(f_x, f_y) = \left| \sum_{x,y} i(x, y) e^{-2\pi j(f_x x + f_y y)} \right|$$



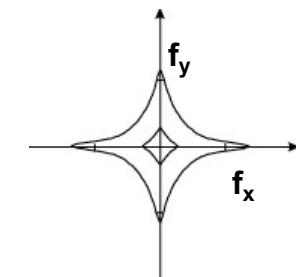
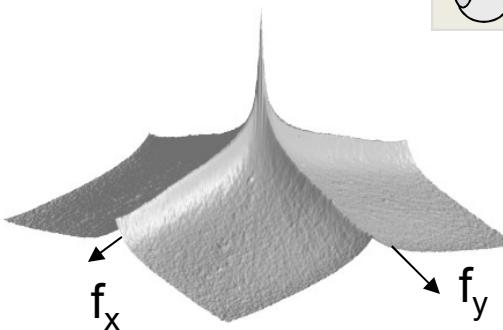
*Magnitude of the Fourier Transform encodes unlocalized information about dominant orientations and scales in the image.*

The magnitude of the Fourier transform does not contain information about object identities and spatial arrangements.

# Statistics of Scene Categories



Natural scenes  
spectral signature

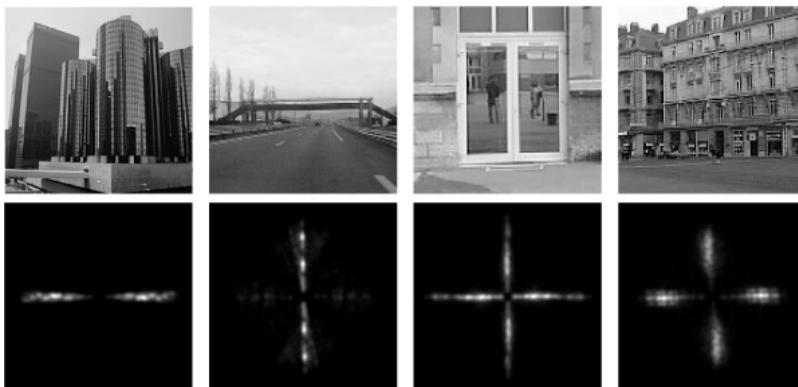


Man-made scenes  
(6000 images)

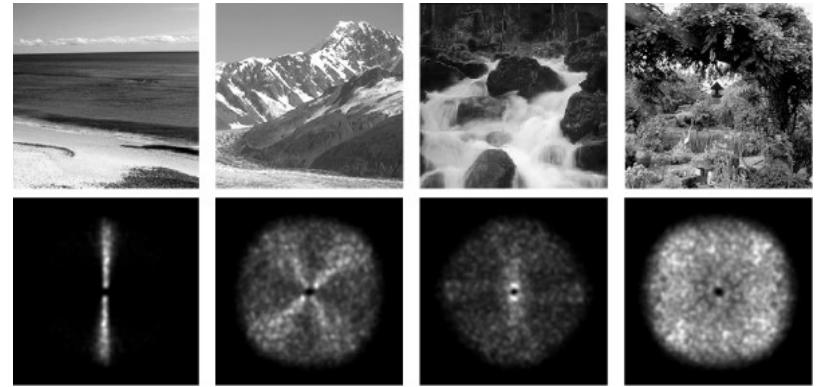
Man-made scenes  
spectral signature

# Statistics of Scene Categories

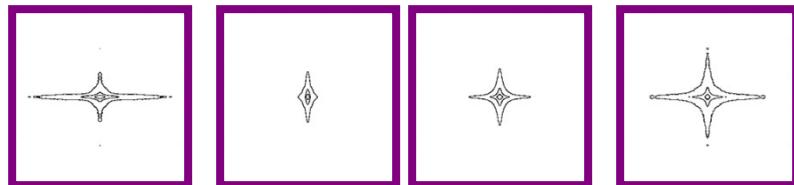
Man-made environments



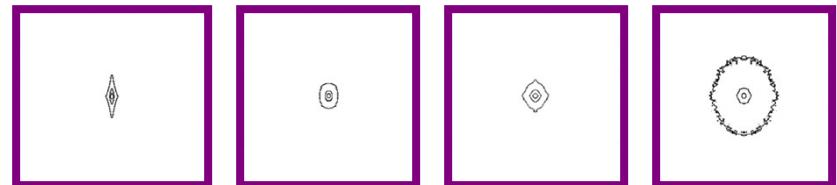
Natural environments



Spectral signature of man-made environments



Spectral signature of natural environments



Oliva et al (99), Oliva & Torralba (01)

Look at Mumford's work for models...

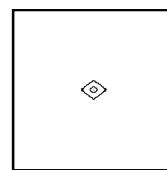
# Image Statistics and Scene Scale

Close-up views

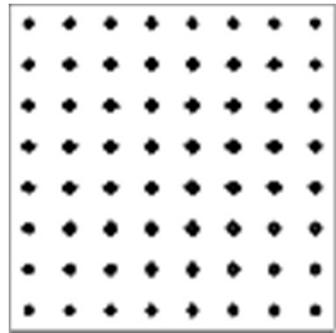
Large scenes



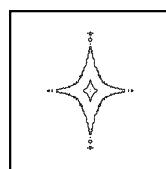
On average, low clutter



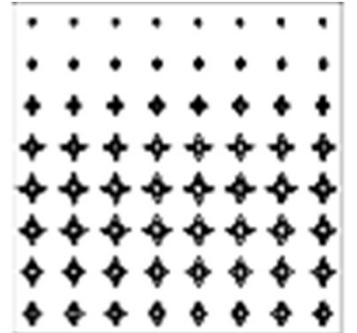
Point view is unconstrained



On average, highly cluttered

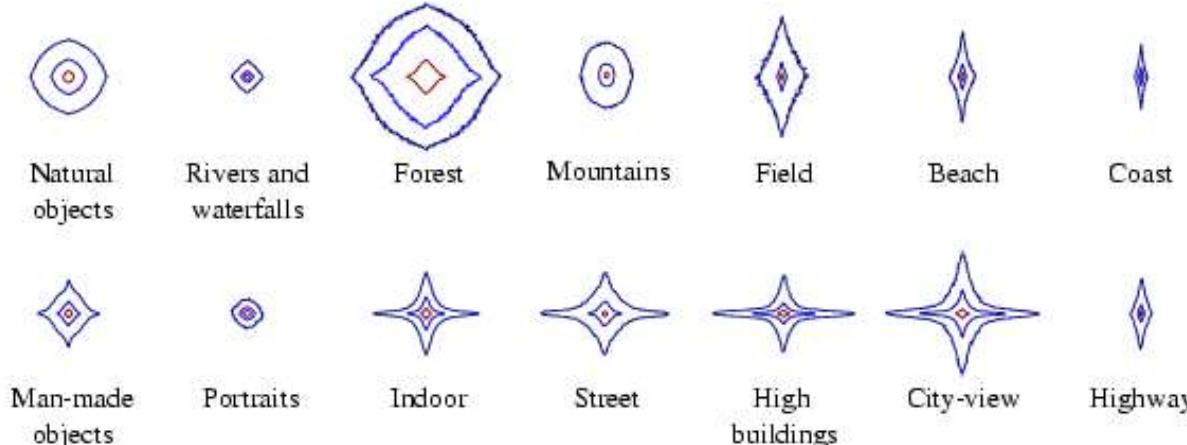


Point view is strongly constrained

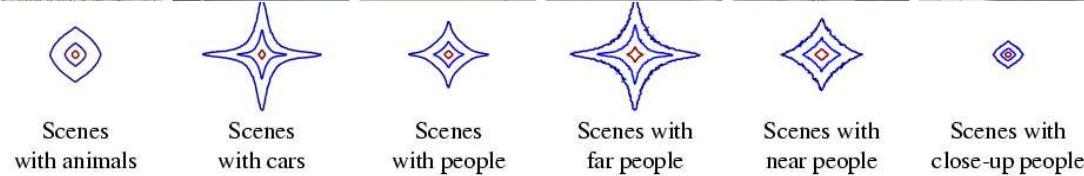


# Statistics of Scene Categories

- The statistics of orientations and scales across the image differ between scene categories:



- also differ when conditioning for the presence or absence of objects in the image:



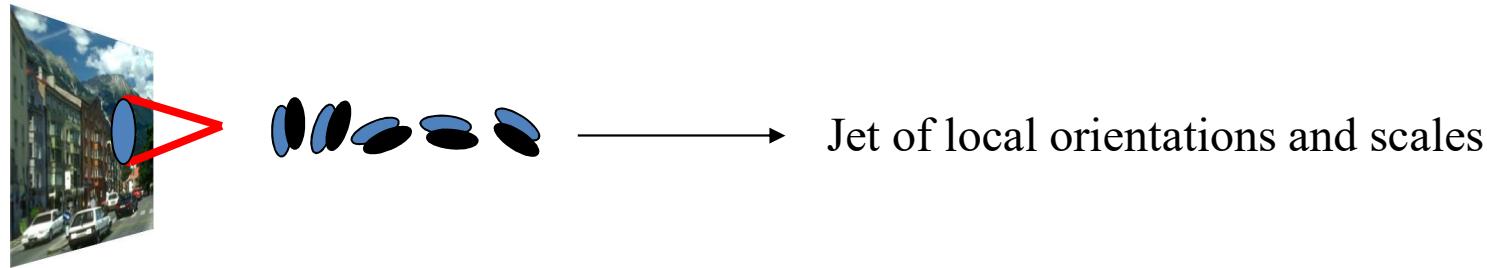
- or for different properties of the scene like the mean depth:



- **Gist**
  - Spatial envelope
  - Depth

# Local and Global features

A set of **local features** describes image properties at one particular location in the image:

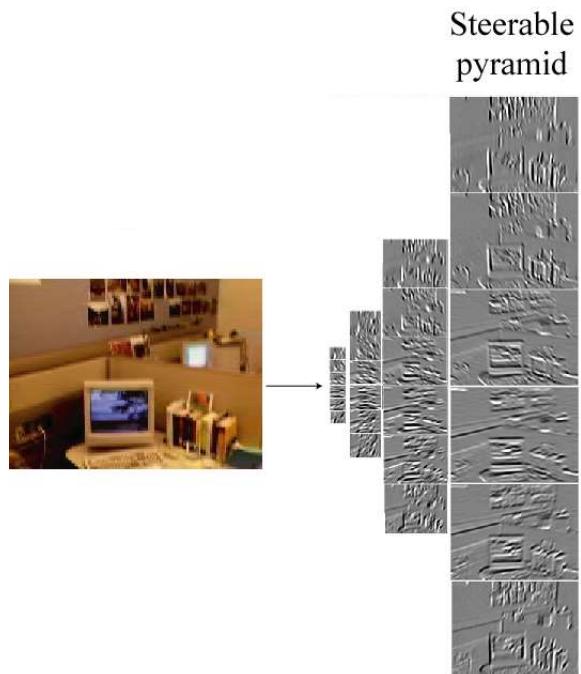


A set of **global features** provides information about the global image structure without encoding specific objects

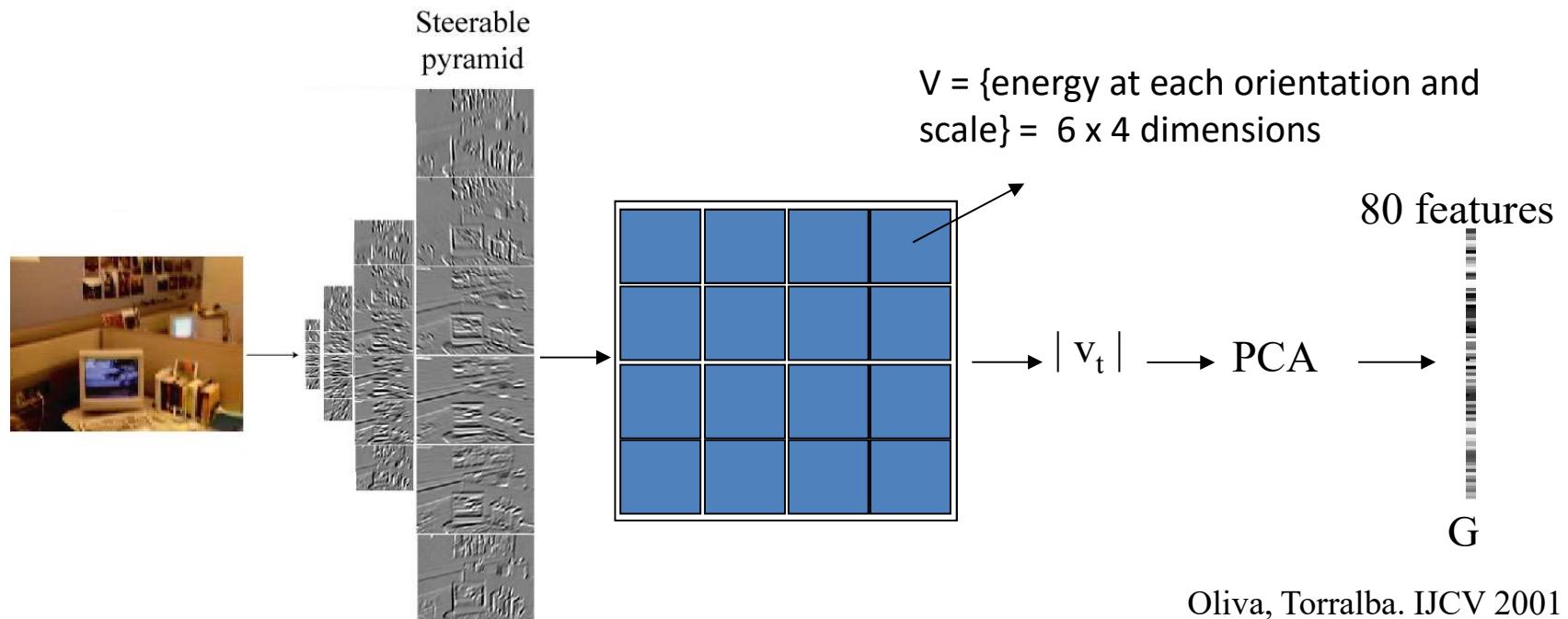


This feature likes images with vertical structures at the top part and horizontal texture at the bottom part (this is a typical composition of an empty street)

# Gist descriptor

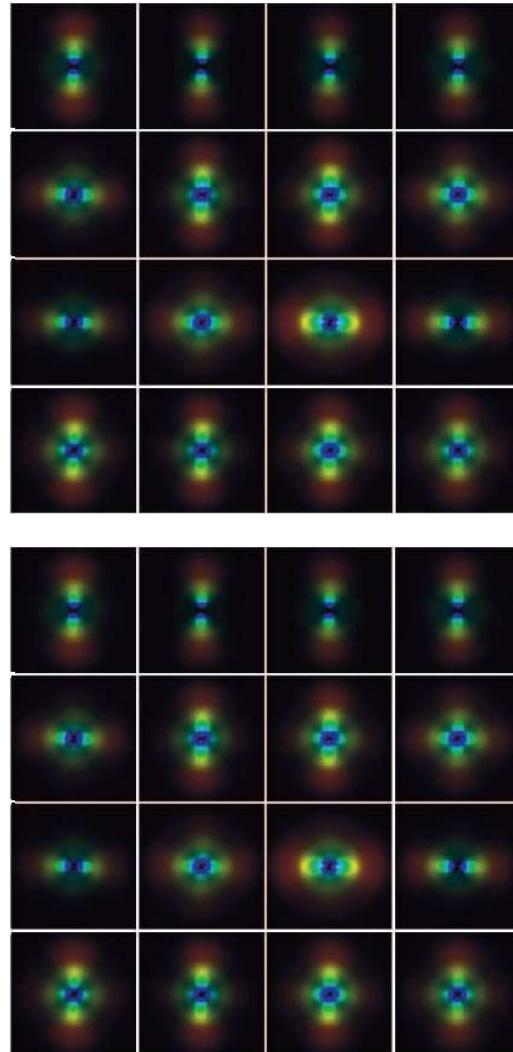
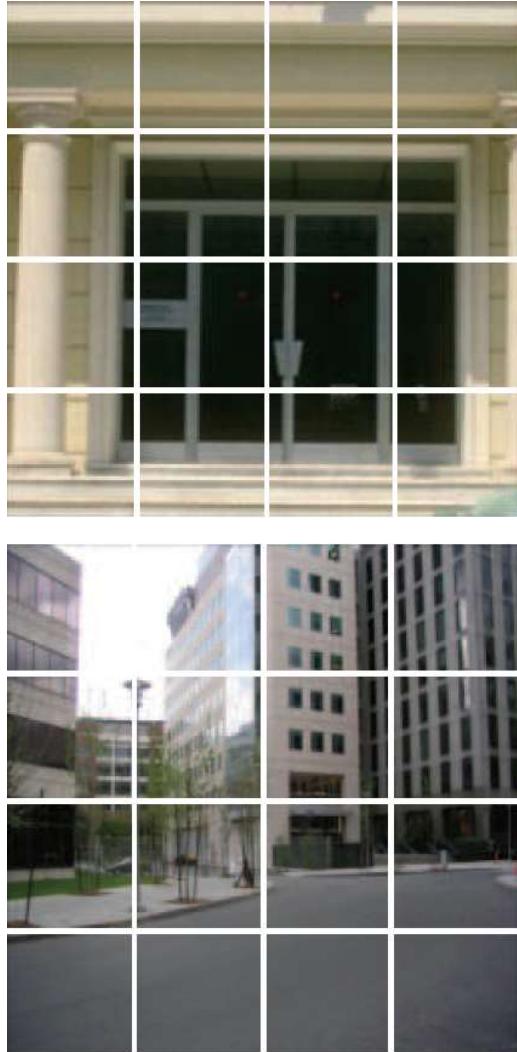


# Gist descriptor



# Gist descriptor

Oliva and Torralba, 2001

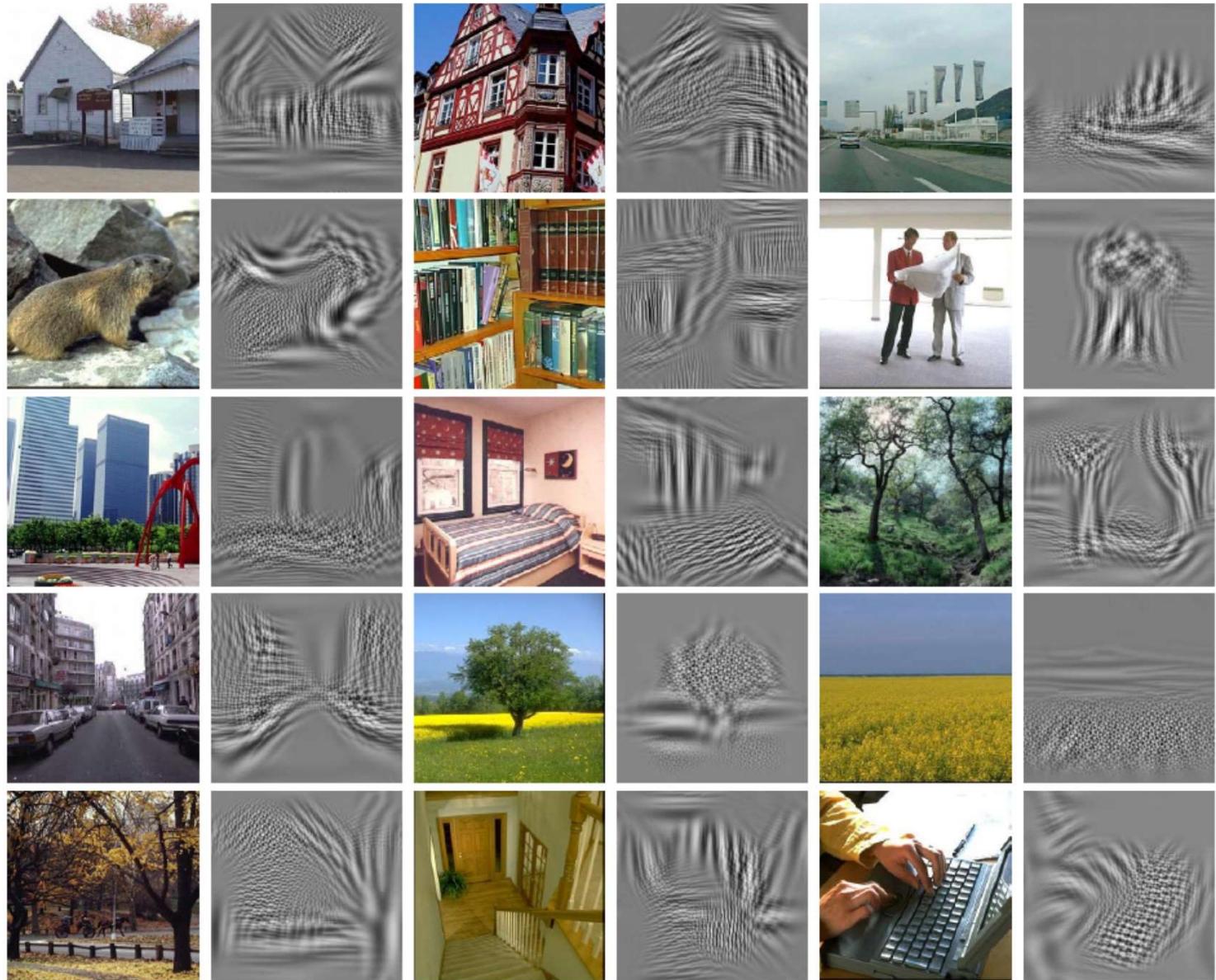


- Apply oriented Gabor filters over different scales
- Average filter energy in each bin

8 orientations  
4 scales  
x 16 bins  
512 dimensions

M. Gorkani, R. Picard, ICPR 1994; Walker, Malik. Vision Research 2004; Vogel et al. 2004;  
Fei-Fei and Perona, CVPR 2005; S. Lazebnik, et al, CVPR 2006; ...

# Example visual gists



Global features ( $I$ ) ~ global features ( $I'$ )

Oliva & Torralba (2001)

# Scene Perceptual Dimensions

Like a *texture*, a scene could be represented by a set of structural dimensions, but describing surface properties of a space.

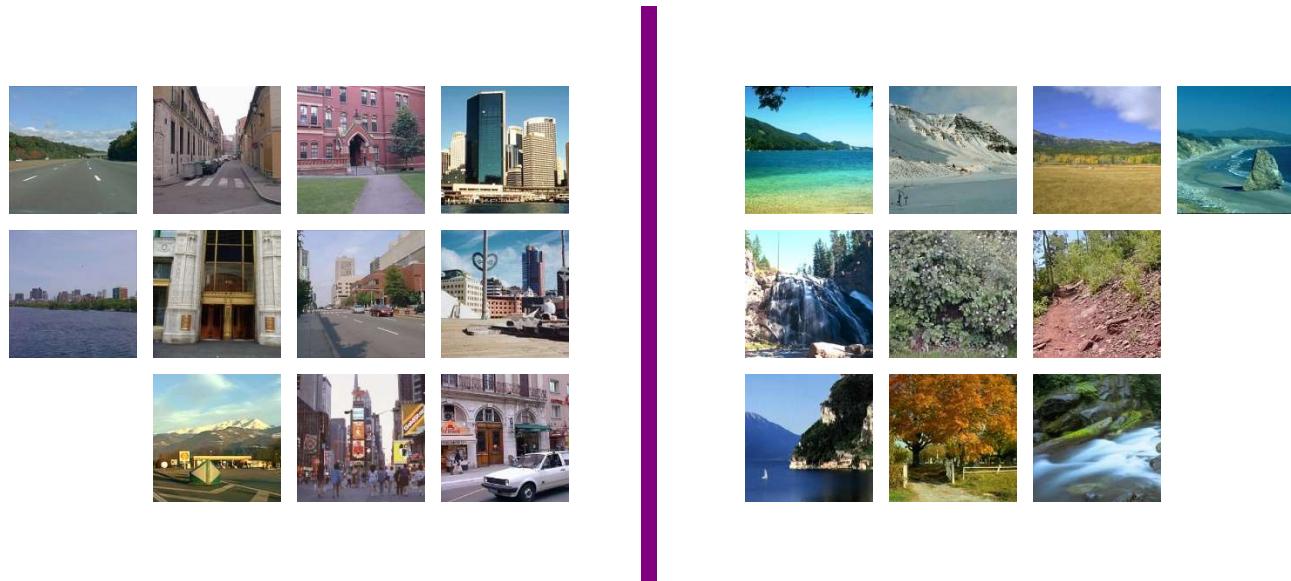
We use a classification task: observers were given a set of scene pictures and were asked to organize them into groups of similar shape, similar global aspect, similar spatial structure.



They were explicitly told to not use a criteria related to the objects or a scene semantic group.

# Scene Perceptual Dimensions

Task: The task consisted in 3 steps: the first step was to divide the pictures into 2 groups of similar shape.



Example: manmade vs. natural structure

# Scene Perceptual Dimensions

Task: The second step was to split each of the 2 groups in two more subdivisions.



Perspective

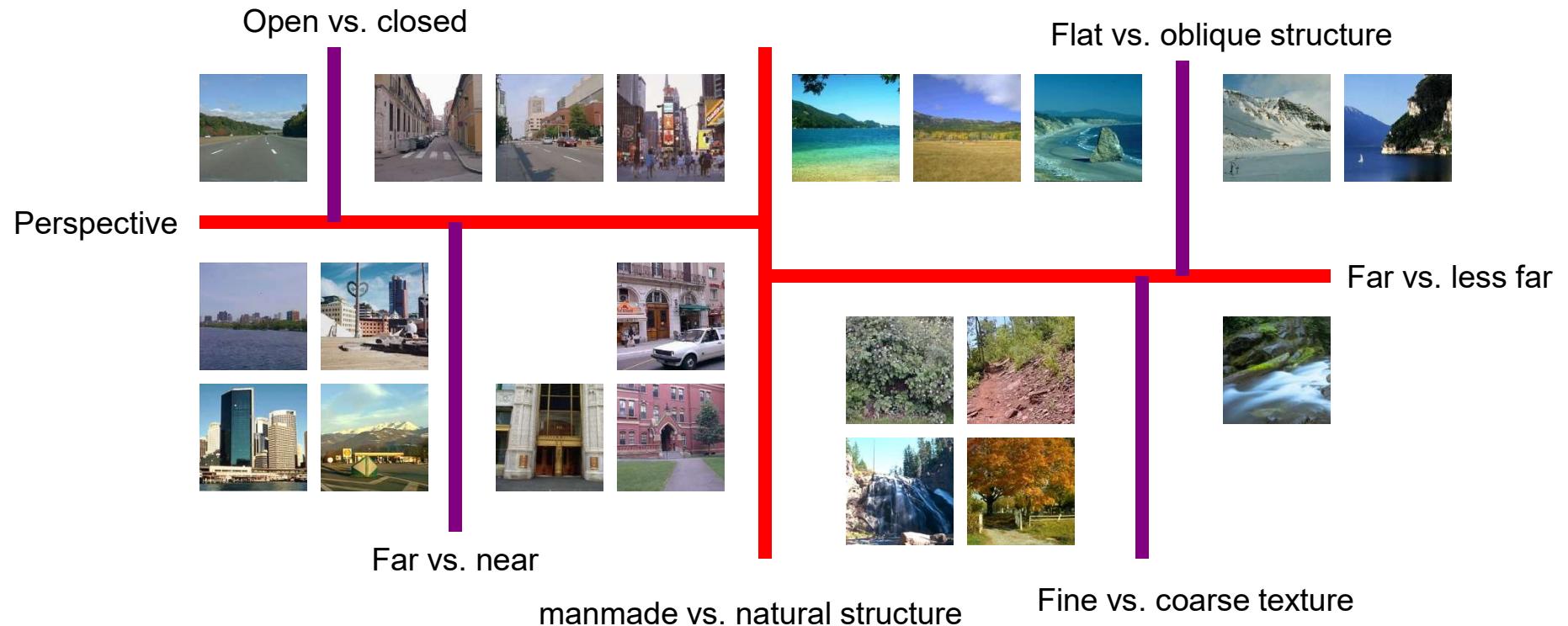


Far vs. less far

manmade vs. natural structure

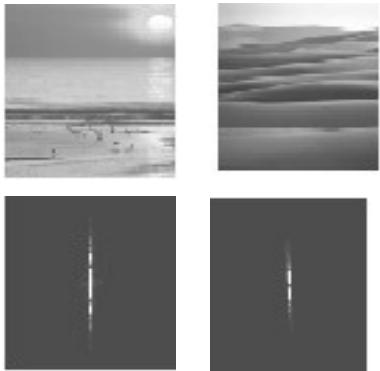
# Scene Perceptual Dimensions

Task: In the third step, participants split the 4 groups in two more groups.

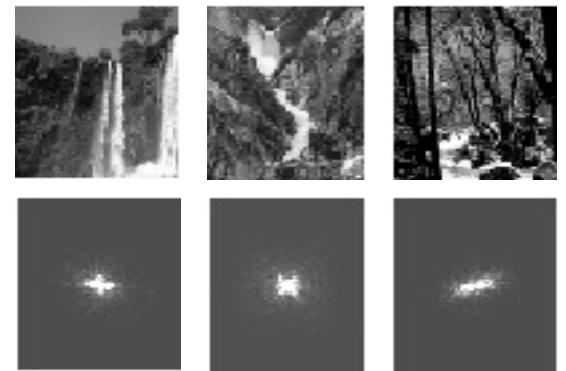


# Estimation of a space descriptor: *openness*

From open scenes....



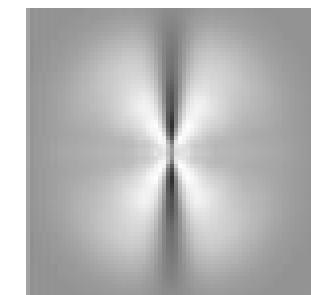
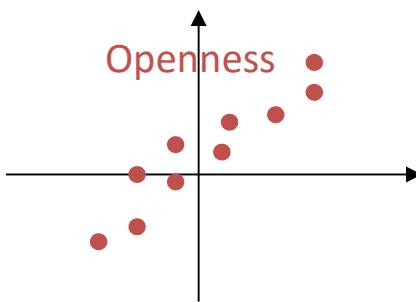
to closed scenes.



From vertical components

to isotropic components.

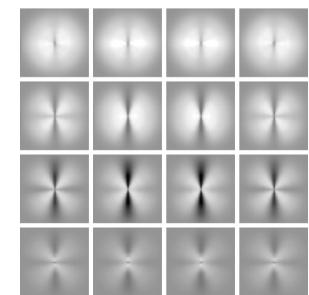
**Regression:** we look for a weighting of the spectral components so that we can reproduce the same ordinal ranking as the subjects.



Weighting of the  
spectral features

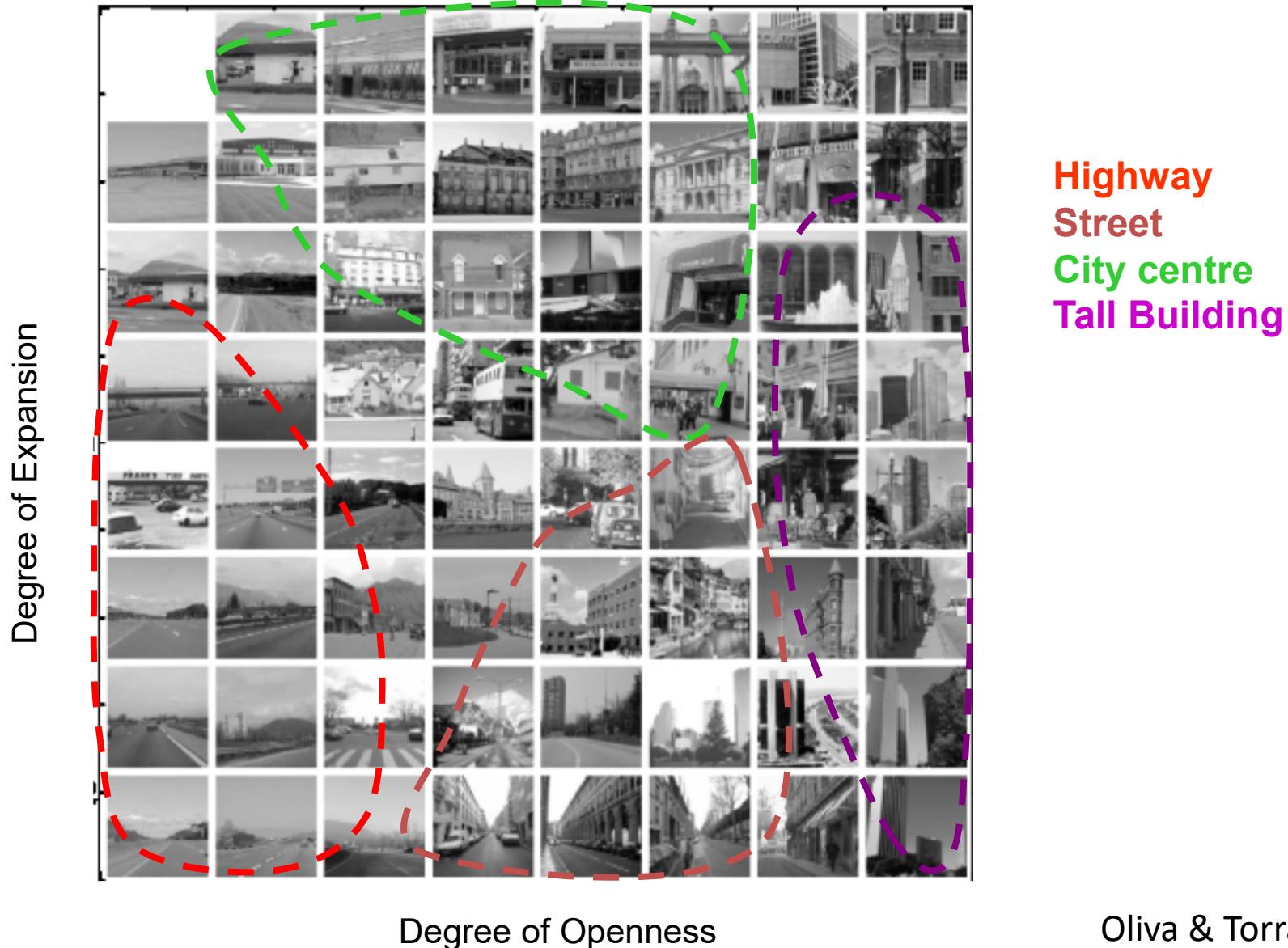
Oliva et al (99), Oliva & Torralba (01)

The template represents  
the best weighting of the  
spectral components in order  
to estimate the degree of *openness*



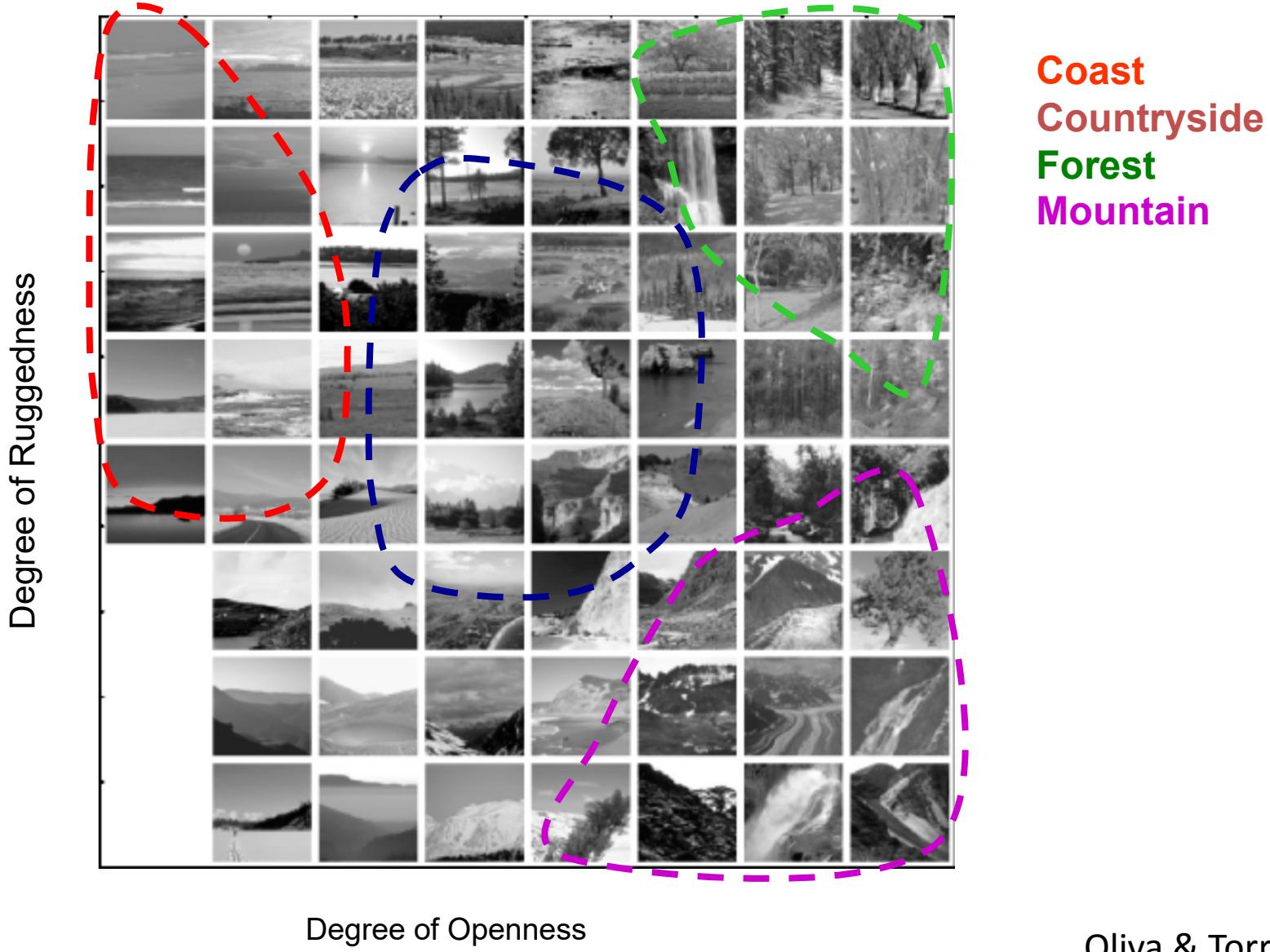
Layout of weighted  
spectral features

# Spatial envelope: a continuous space of scenes



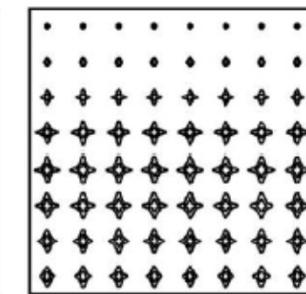
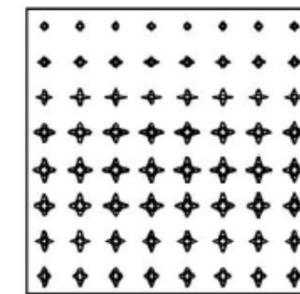
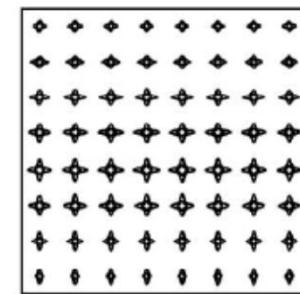
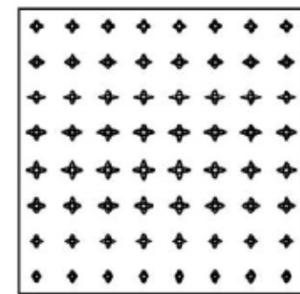
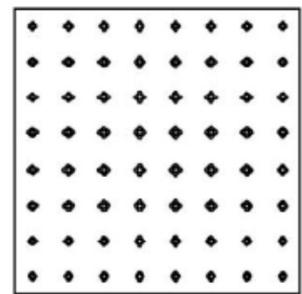
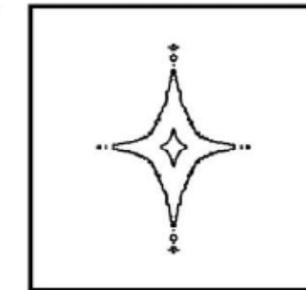
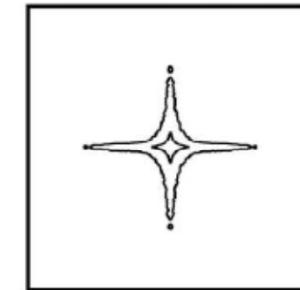
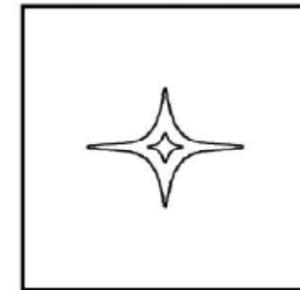
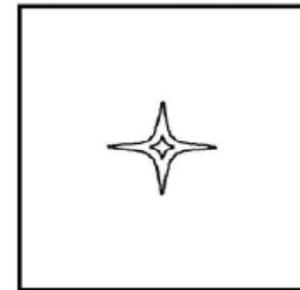
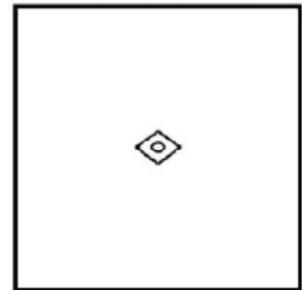
Oliva & Torralba, 2001

# Spatial envelope: a continuous space of scenes

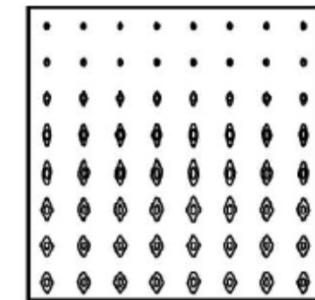
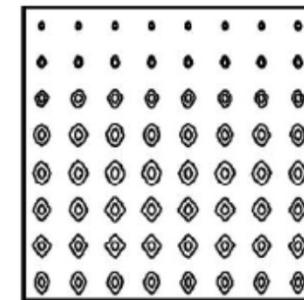
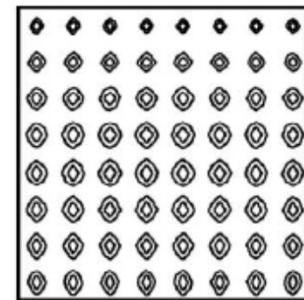
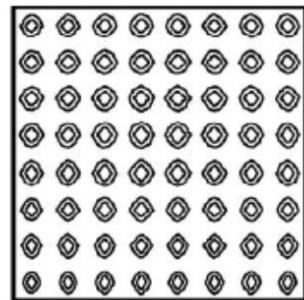
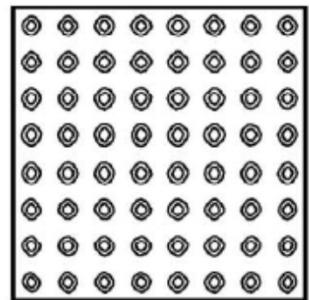
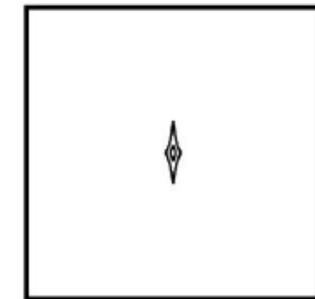
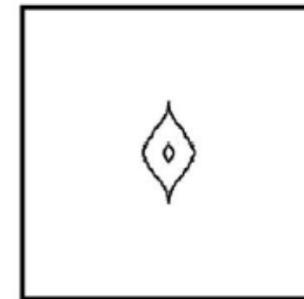
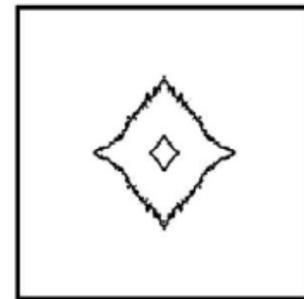
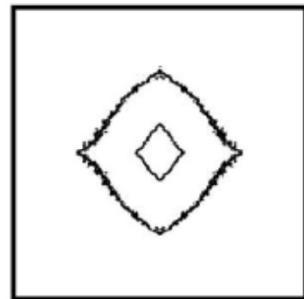
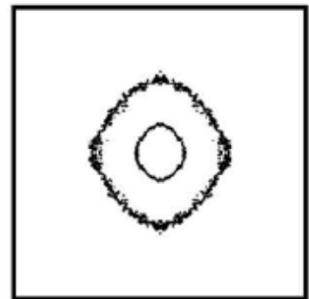
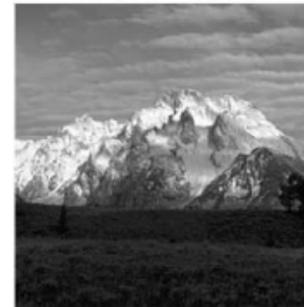


Oliva & Torralba, 2001

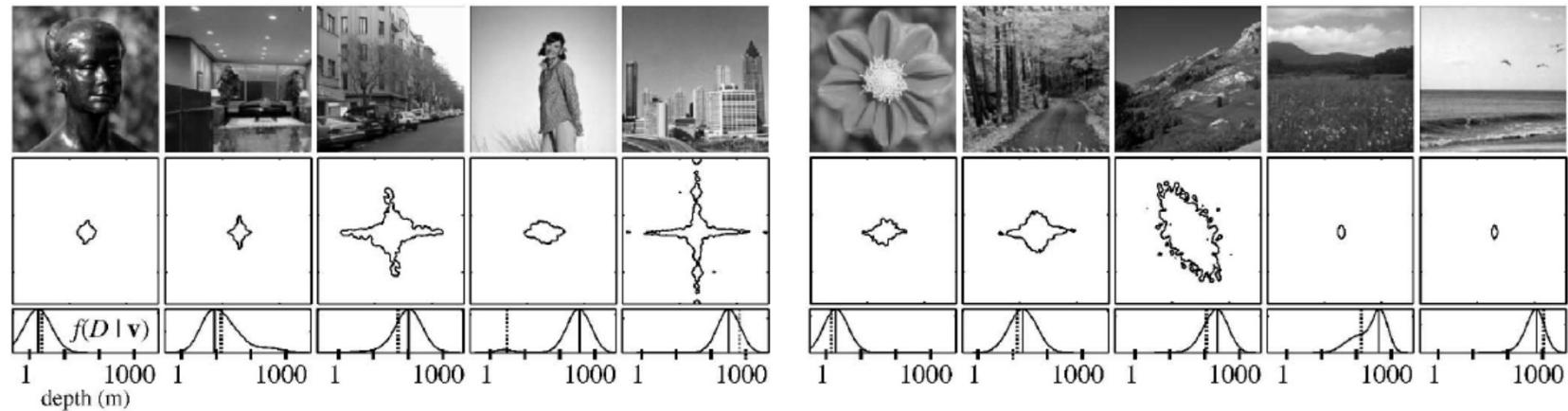
# Examples (man-made)



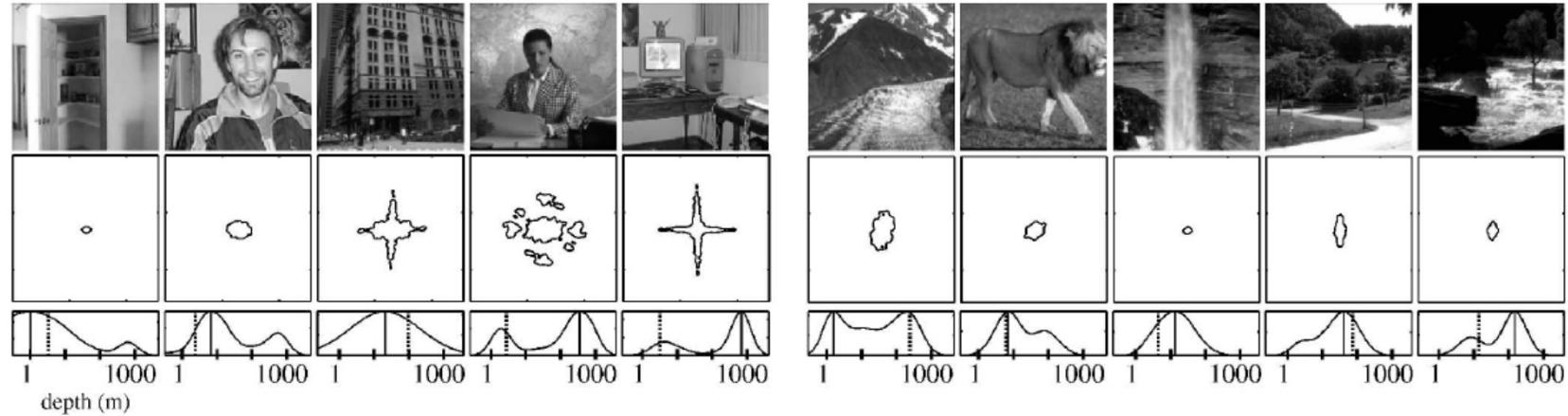
# Examples (Natural)



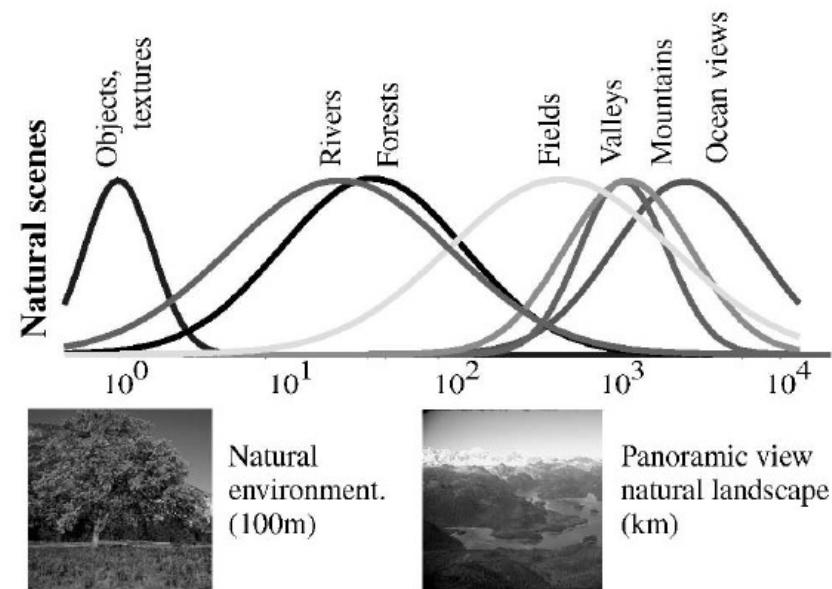
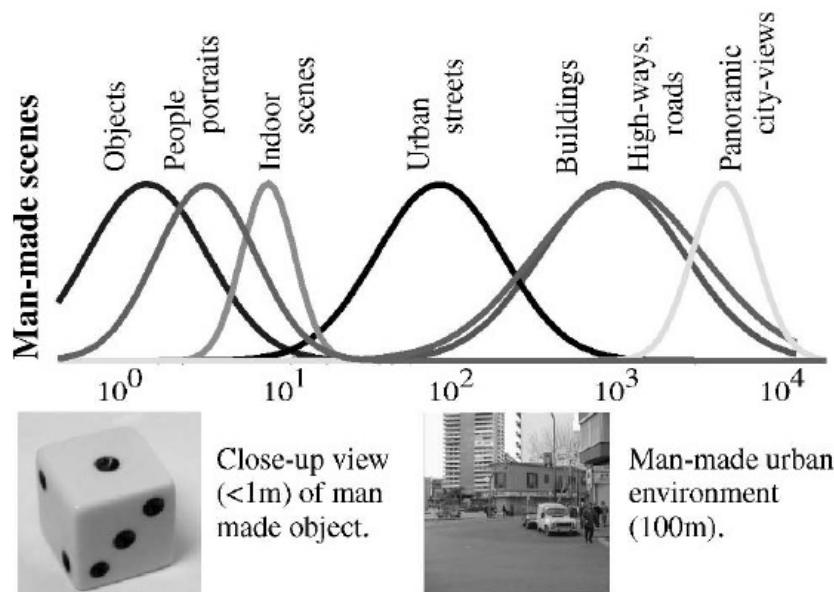
# Some Results



(b)



# Distribution of Scene Categories as a function of mean depth.



# Multiple-Level Categorization

Panoramic view (5000 m)



From  
superordinate  
category to ....

Panoramic view (5000 m). Manmade scenes.



Panoramic view (5000 m). Natural scenes.



Panoramic view (5000 m). Natural scenes. Flat landscapes



.... Basic-level category  
coast .....

Panoramic view (5000 m). Natural scenes. Mountainous landscapes



.... Basic-level category  
mountain .....

# Space-centered description



Close-up view (1m)



Close-up view (1m)  
Natural scene.



Close-up view (1m)  
Natural scene.



Natural scene.  
Close-up view (1m)



Close-up view (1m)  
Man-made object.



Small space (6m)  
Man-made scene.  
Closed environment.



Small space (3m)  
Man-made scene.  
Enclosed environment.



Small space (9m)  
Man-made scene.  
Closed environment.  
Empty space.



Small space (10m)  
Man-made scene.  
Closed environment.  
Empty space.



Large space (140m)  
Man-made scene.  
Semiclose environment.



Large space (120m)  
Natural scene.  
Closed environment.



Large space (80m)  
Man-made scene.  
Semiopen environment.  
Space in perspective.



Panoramic view (3500m)  
Man-made scene.  
Open environment.  
Space in perspective.  
Empty space.



Large space (200m)  
Natural scene.  
Semiopen environment.  
Empty space.



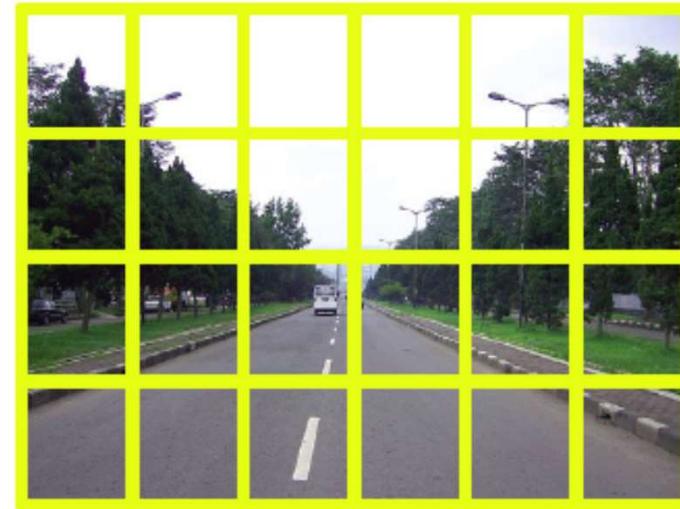
Panoramic view (4000m)  
Natural scene.  
Open environment.  
Flat view.

# Scene matching

Query image



GIST



Best match



Top matches



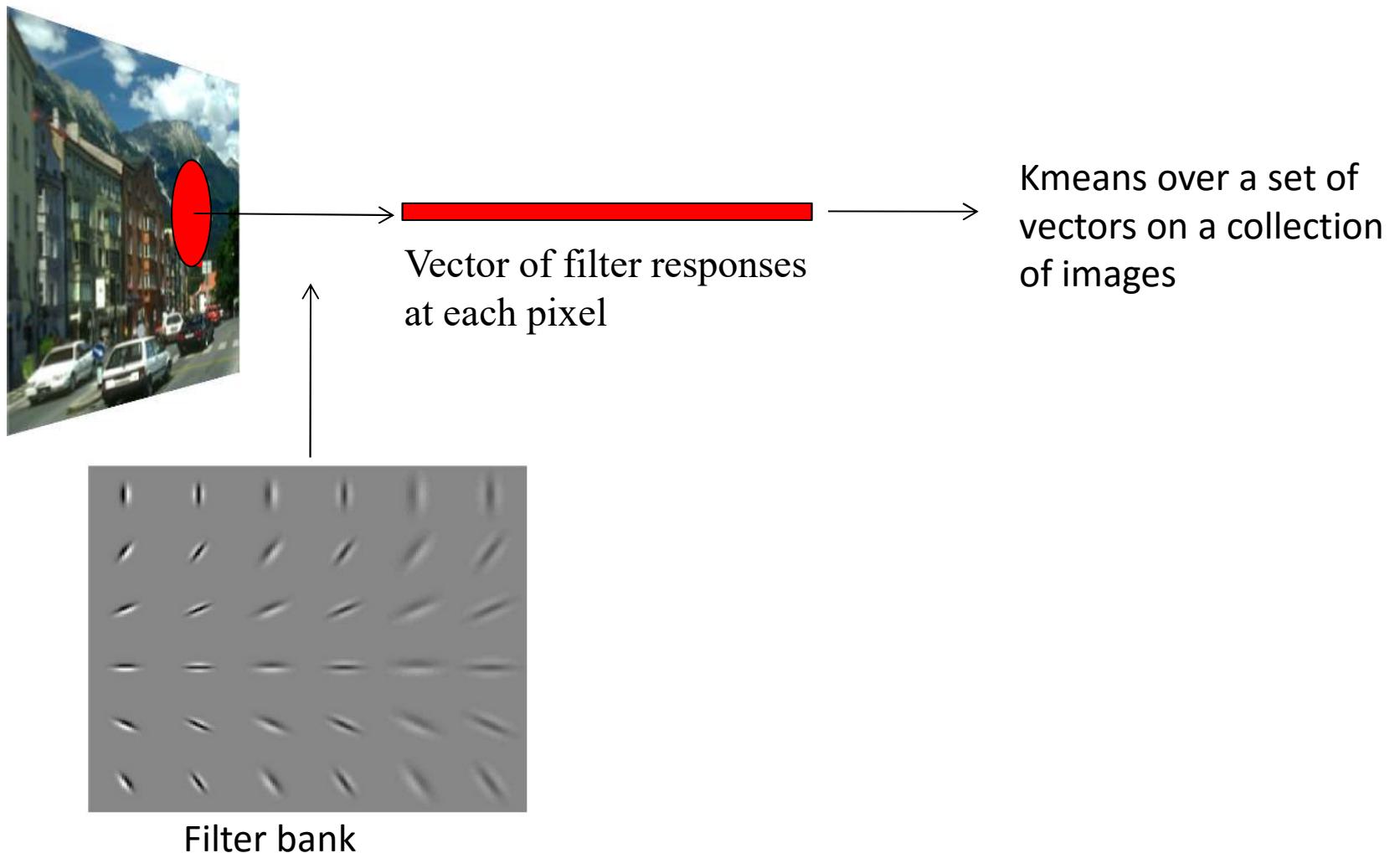
- **Bag of words**
  - Sift
  - Visual words
  - Pyramid matching
  - SVM

**Scene**

**Bag of ‘words’**

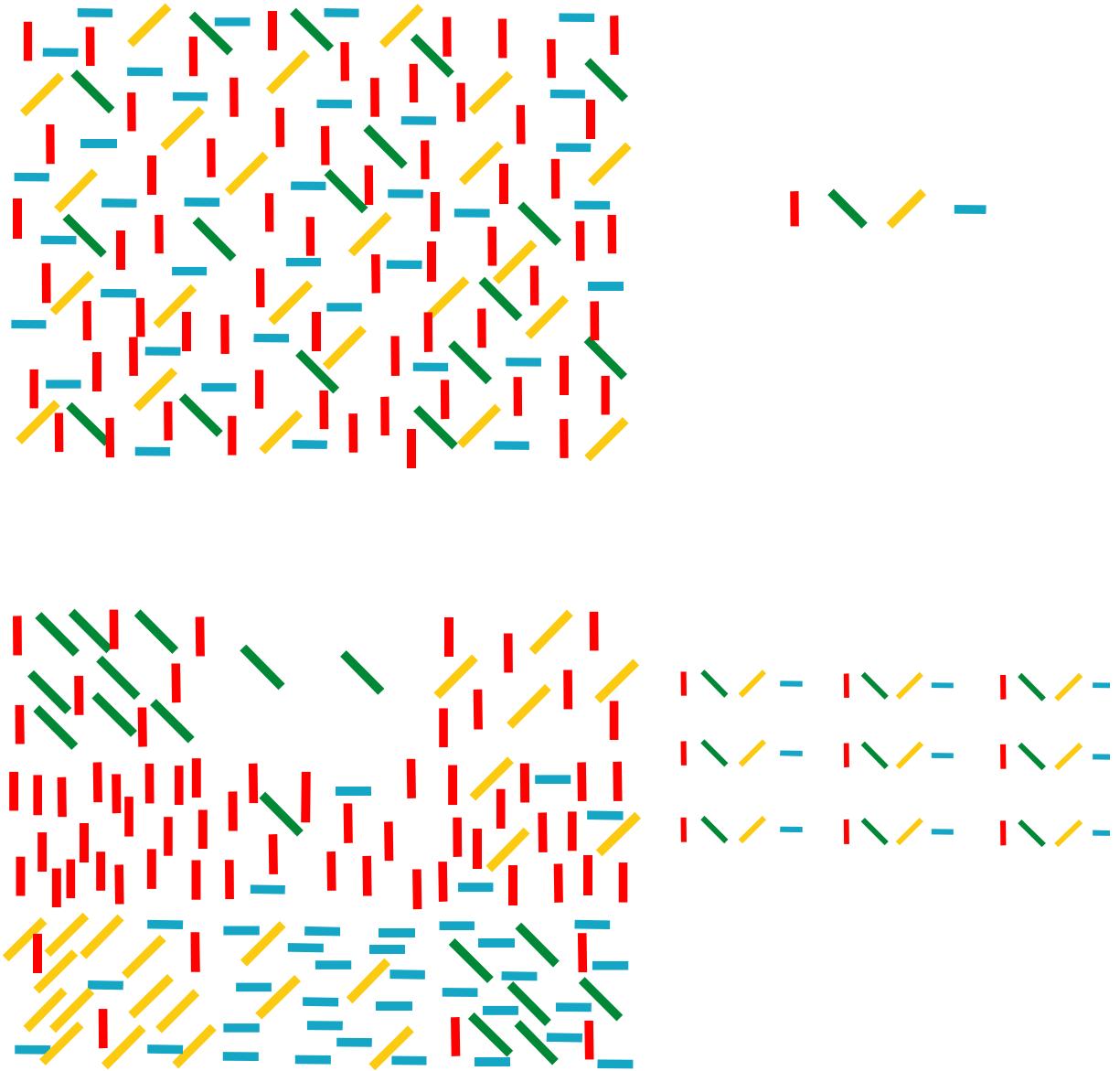


# Textons

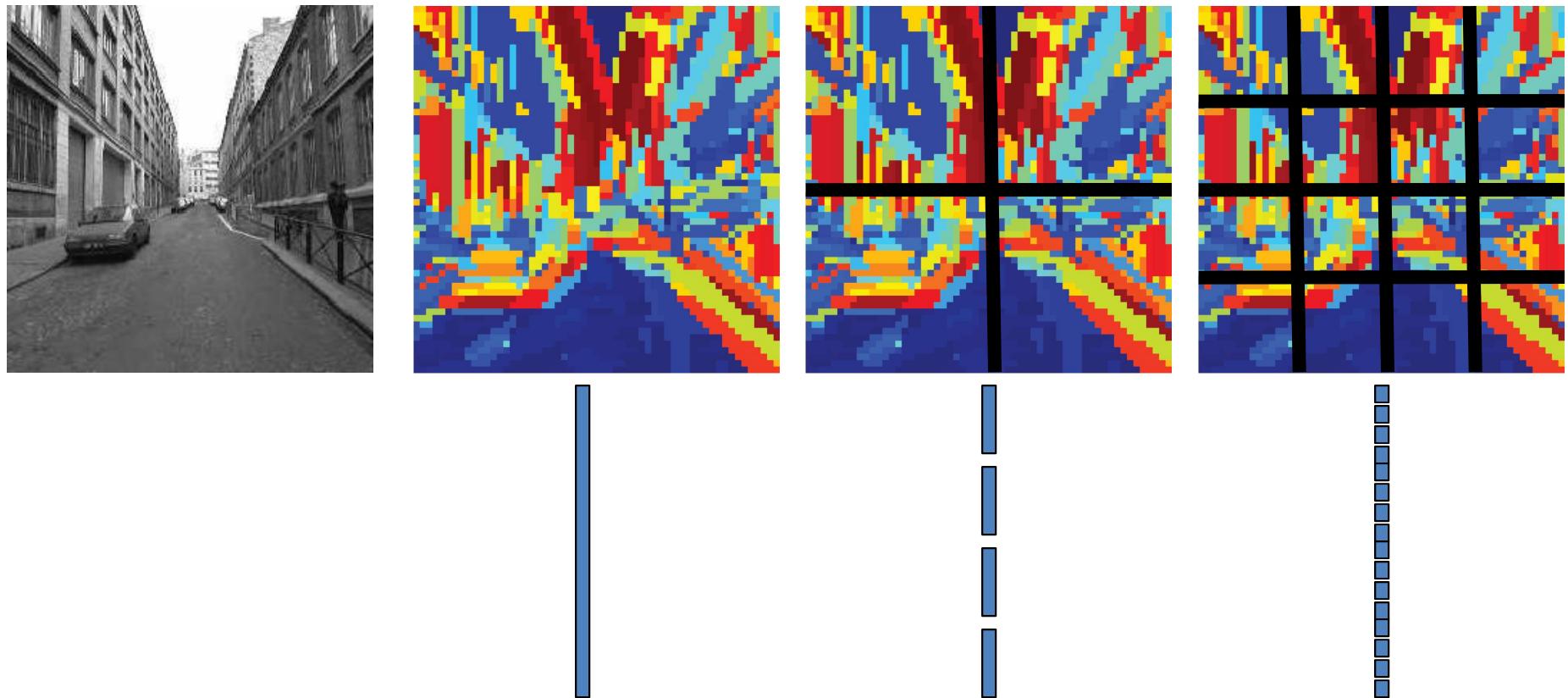


Malik, Belongie, Shi, Leung, 1999

# Bag of words



# Bag of words & spatial pyramid matching



Grauman & Darell,  
S. Lazebnik, et al, CVPR 2006

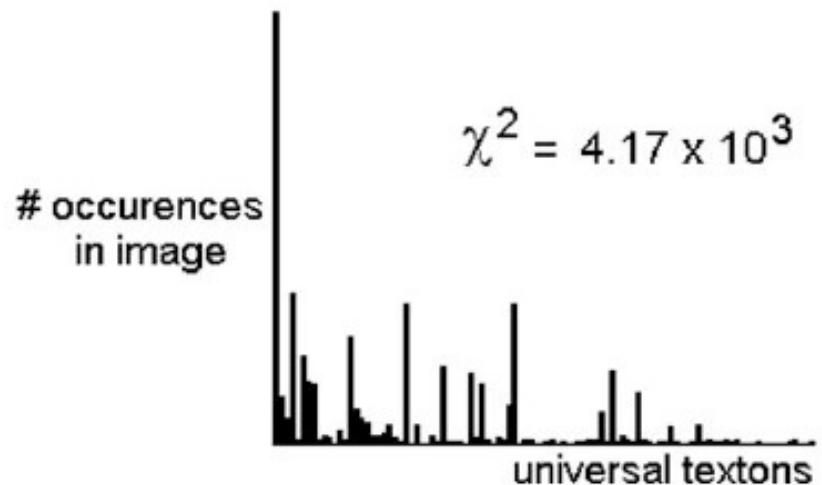
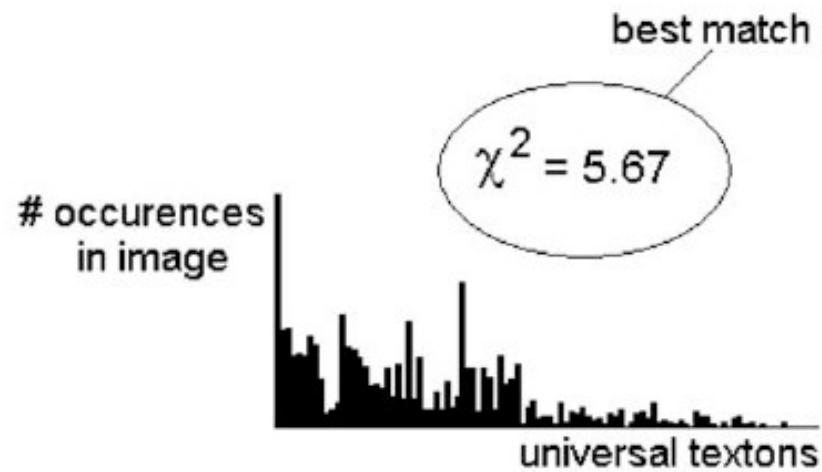
# Textons



label = bedroom



label = beach



Walker, Malik, 2004

# The 15-scenes benchmark



Oliva & Torralba, 2001  
Fei Fei & Perona, 2005  
Lazebnik, et al 2006



Office



Skyscrapers



Suburb



Building facade



Coast



Forest



Bedroom



Living room



Industrial



Street



Highway



Mountain



Open country



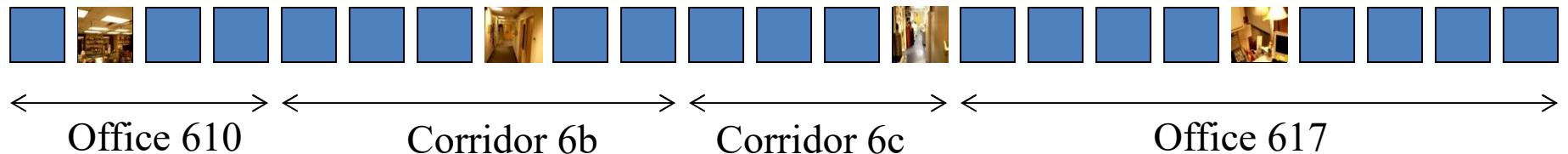
Kitchen



Store

- **Classification results and applications**
  - Categorization
  - Computing image similarities
  - Place recognition

# Training for scene recognition



Scene categorization:

office



street



corridor



3 categories

Place identification:

Office 610



Office 615



'Draper' Street



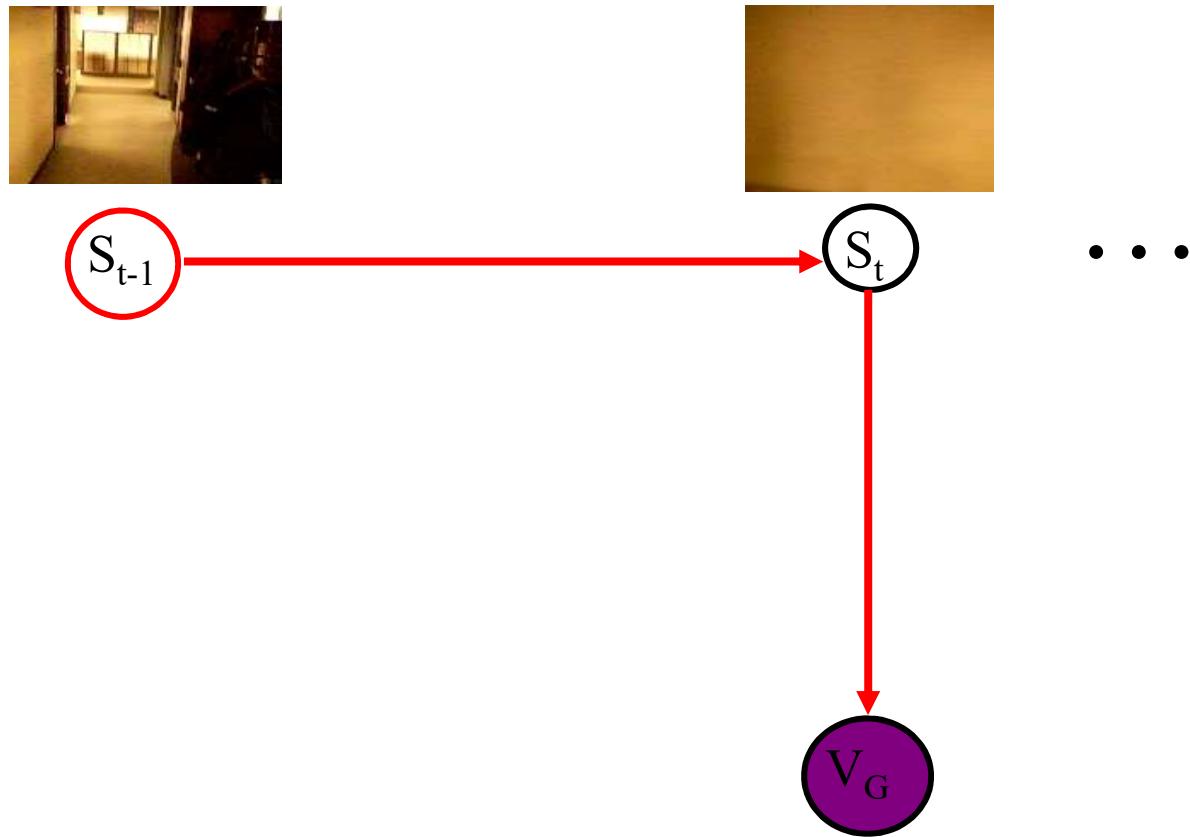
...

62 places

# Classifying isolated scene views can be hard



# Scene recognition over time



Cf. topological localization in robotics

Torralba, Murphy, Freeman, Rubin, ICCV 2003

Input

t=0 1 2 3 ....



# Hidden Markov Model

Output: estimation  $S_t$

Gist:  $v_t$   
Place:  $S_t$

$$P(S_t | v_{1:t}) \downarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{Location} \\ \text{Sequence gist features} \end{array}$$

We use a HMM to estimate the location recursively:

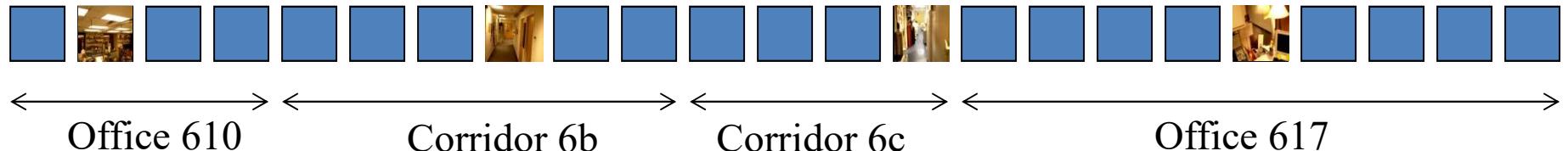
$$P(q_t | v_{1:t}) \propto p(v_t | q_t) \sum_{q'} P(q_t | q'_{t-1}) P(q'_{t-1} | v_{1:t-1})$$

$\downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow$

Probability  
for each  
location      Observation  
likelihood  
for frame  $t$       Transition  
matrix  
(encodes topology)      Previous  
estimation

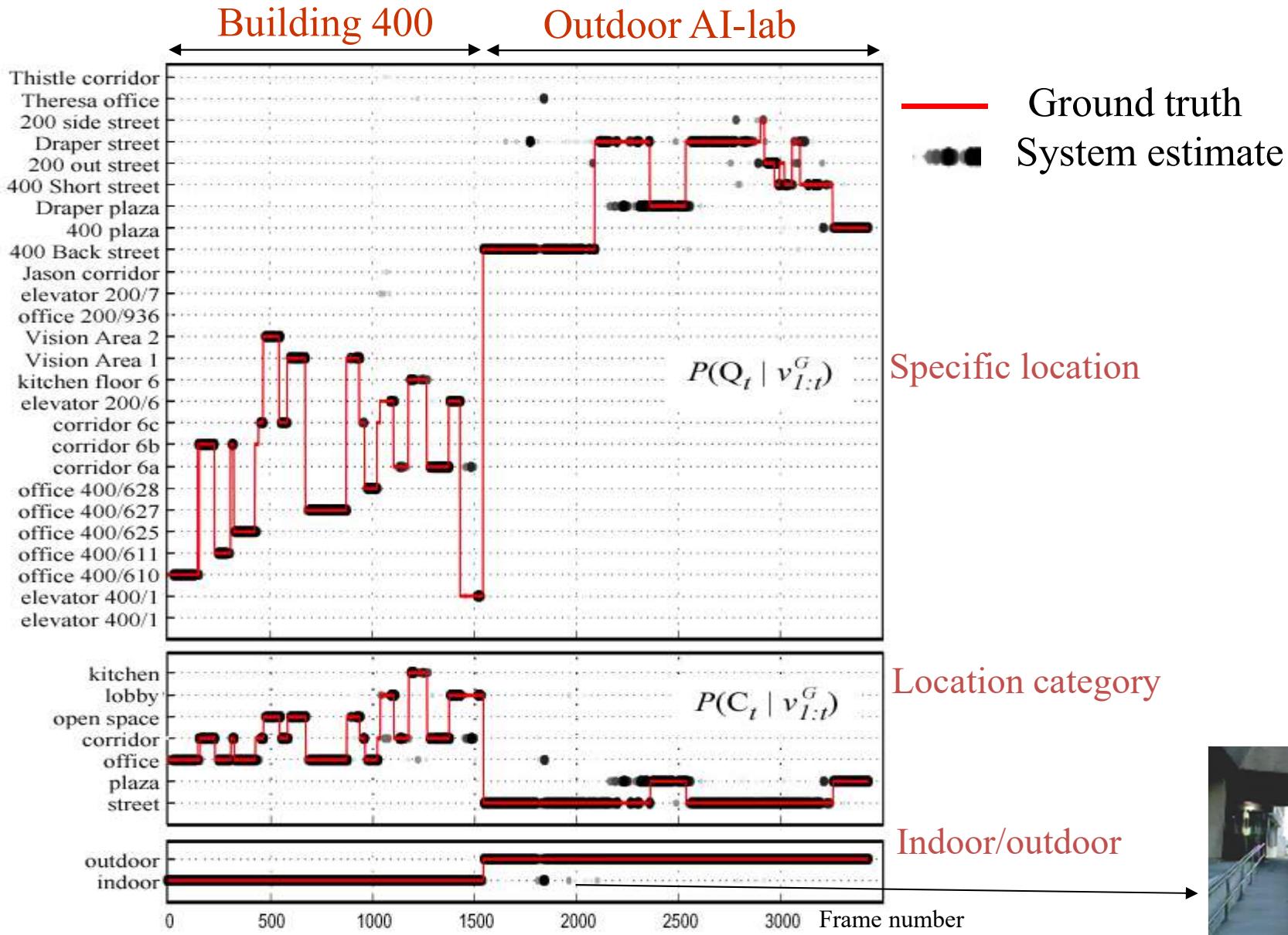
# Learning to recognize places

We use annotated sequences for training



- Hidden states = location (63 values)
- Observations =  $v_t^G$  (80 dimensions)
- Transition matrix encodes topology of environment
- Observation model is a mixture of Gaussians centered on prototypes (100 views per place)

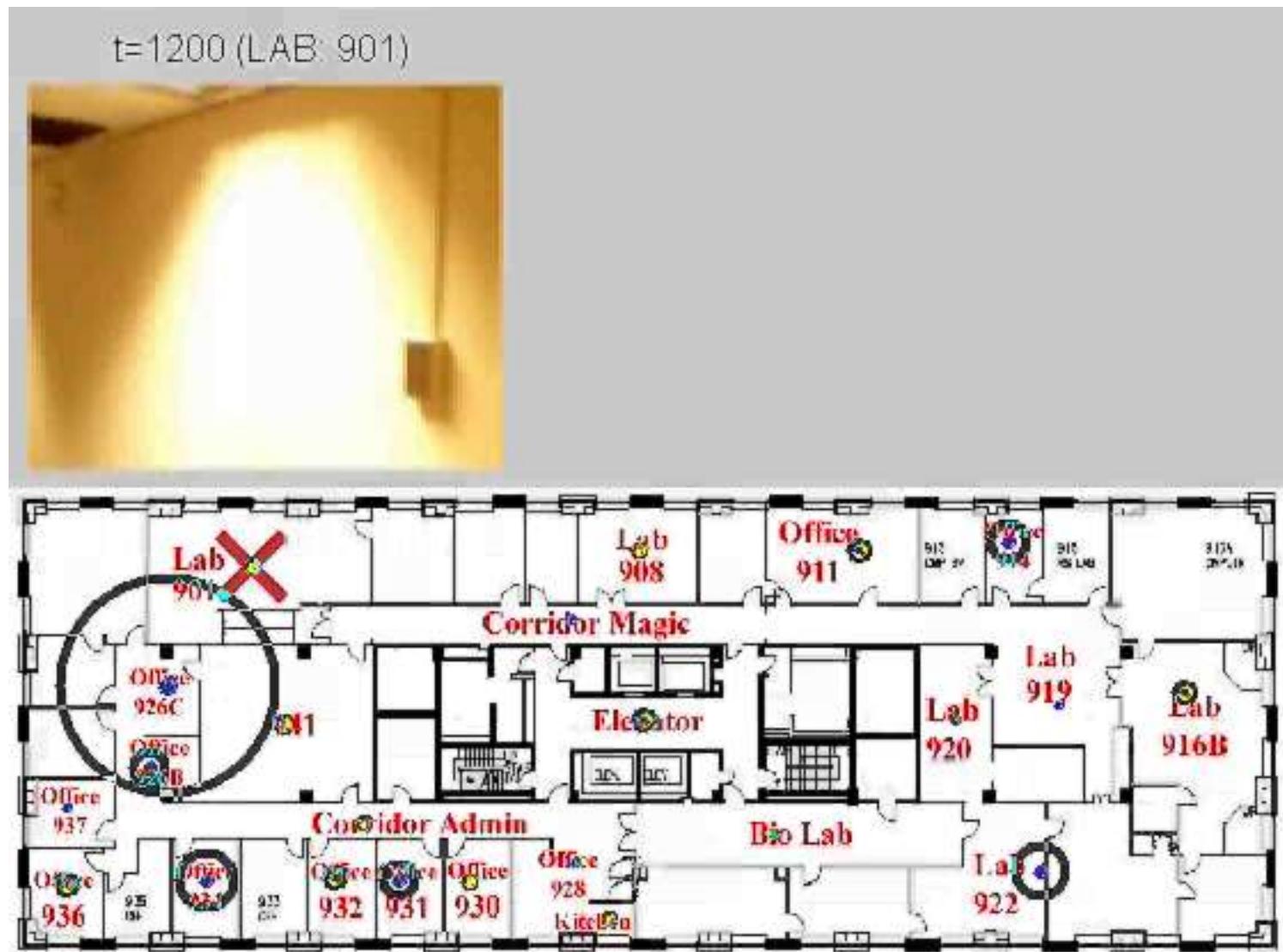
# Place and scene recognition using gist



# Place recognition demo

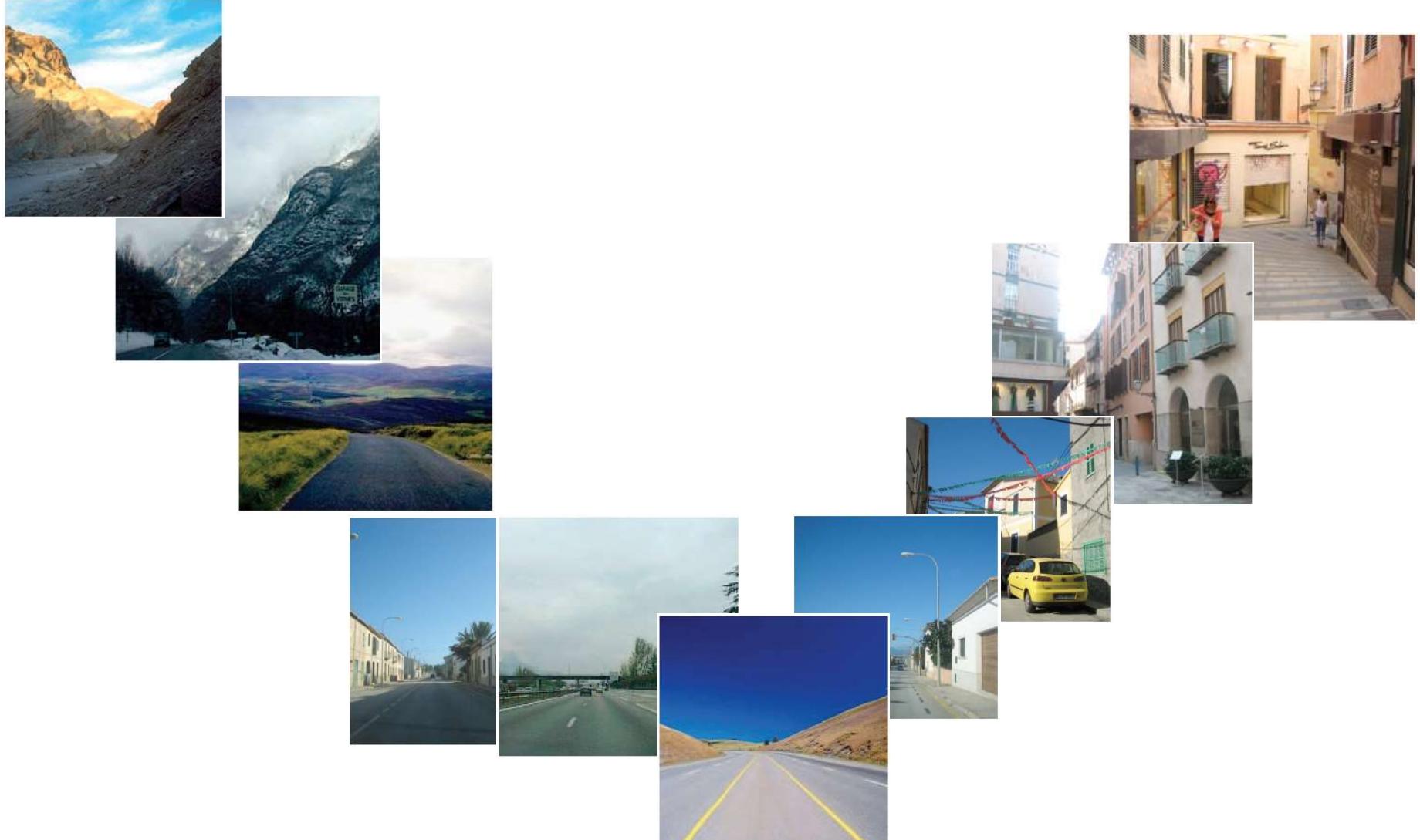
$$\textcircled{O} \quad p(q_t | v_t)$$

$$\textcolor{red}{\bullet} \quad P(q_t | v_{1:t})$$



# Categories or a continuous space?

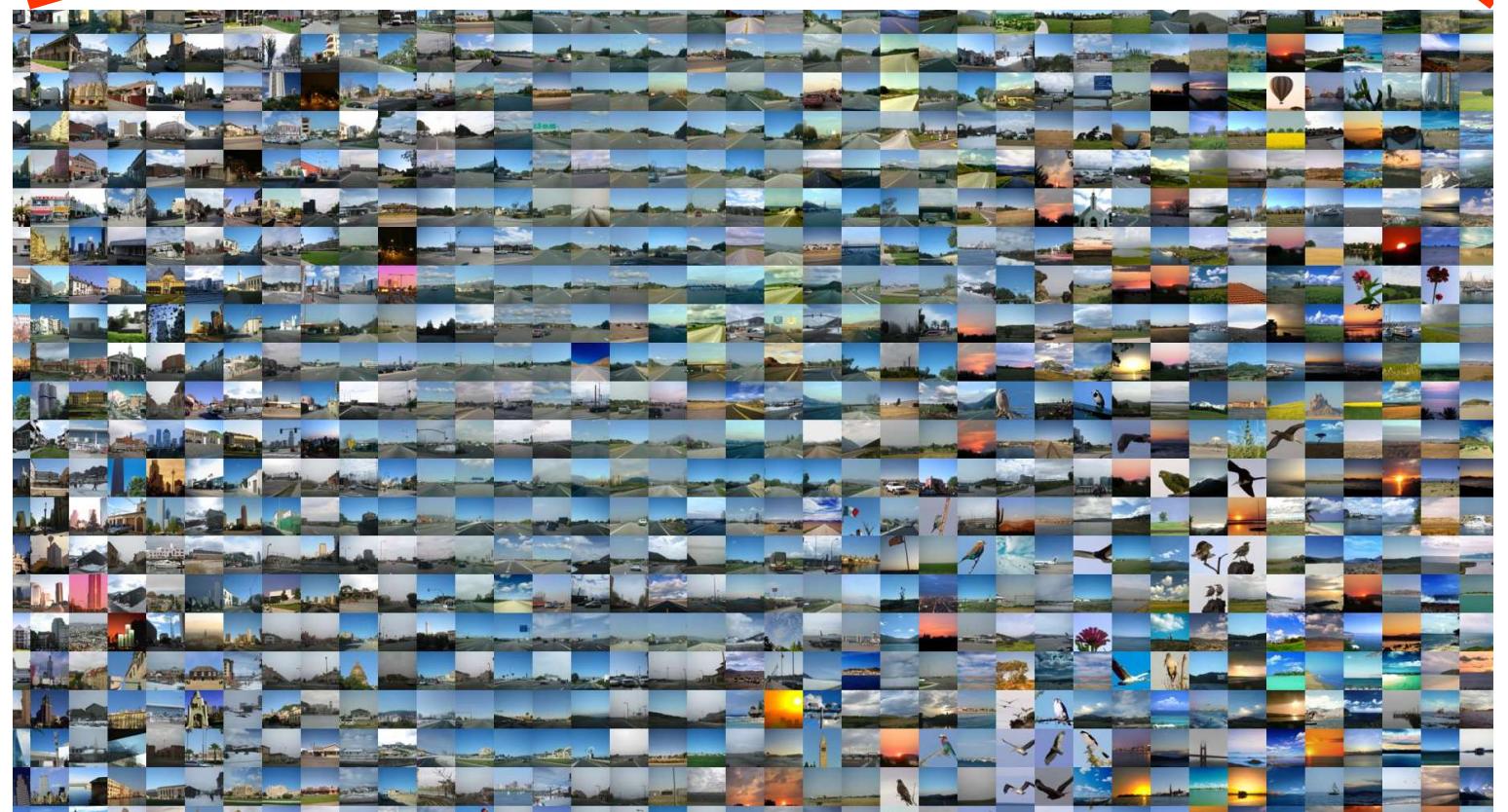
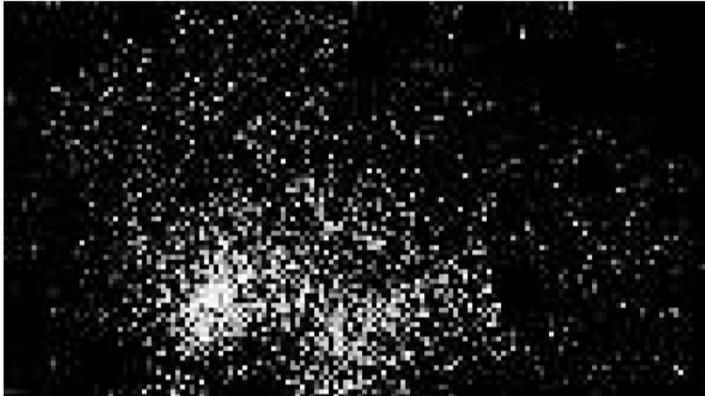
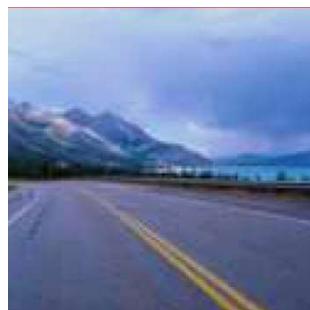
From the city to the mountains in 10 steps

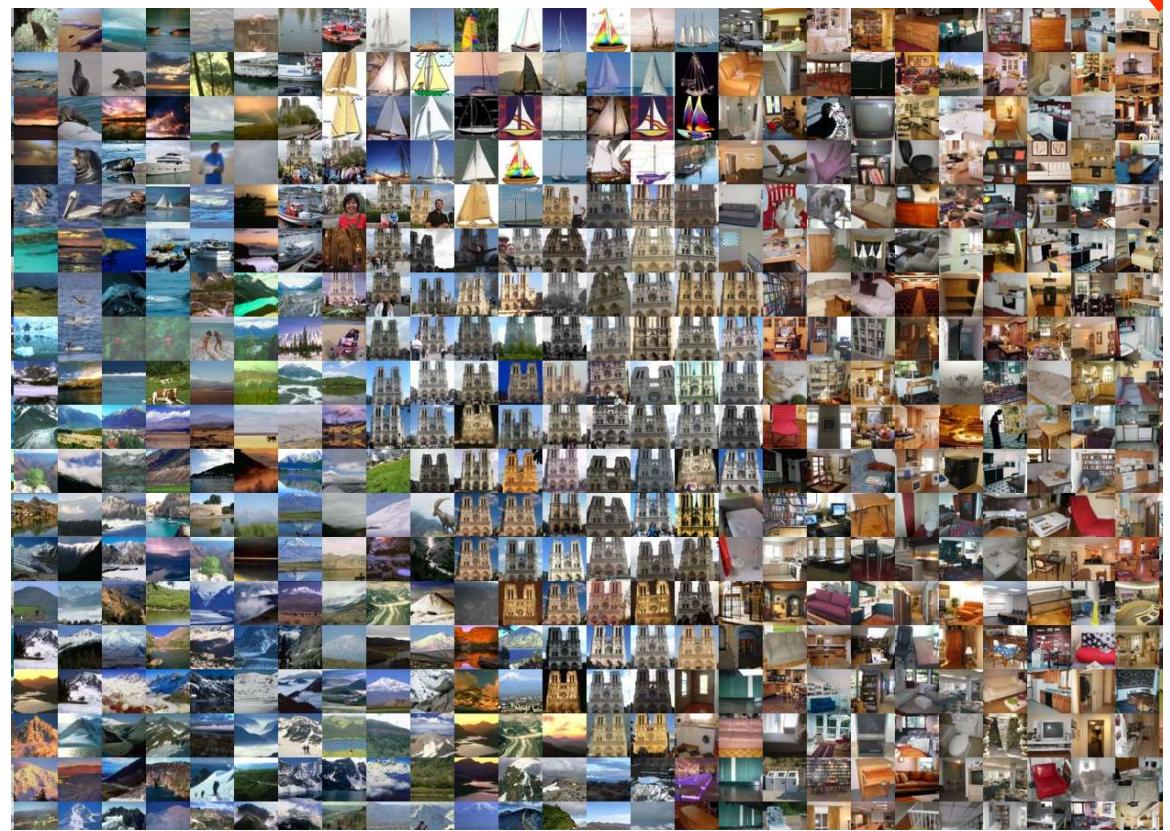
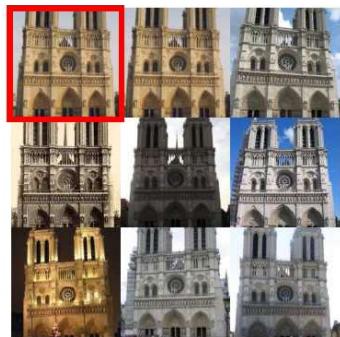
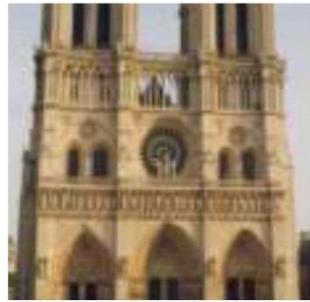




Mosaic using 12,000 images

Interactive version at: <http://people.csail.mit.edu/torralba/research/LabelMe/labelmeMap/>





Instead of using objects labels, the web provides other kinds of metadata associate to large collections of images

# im2gps

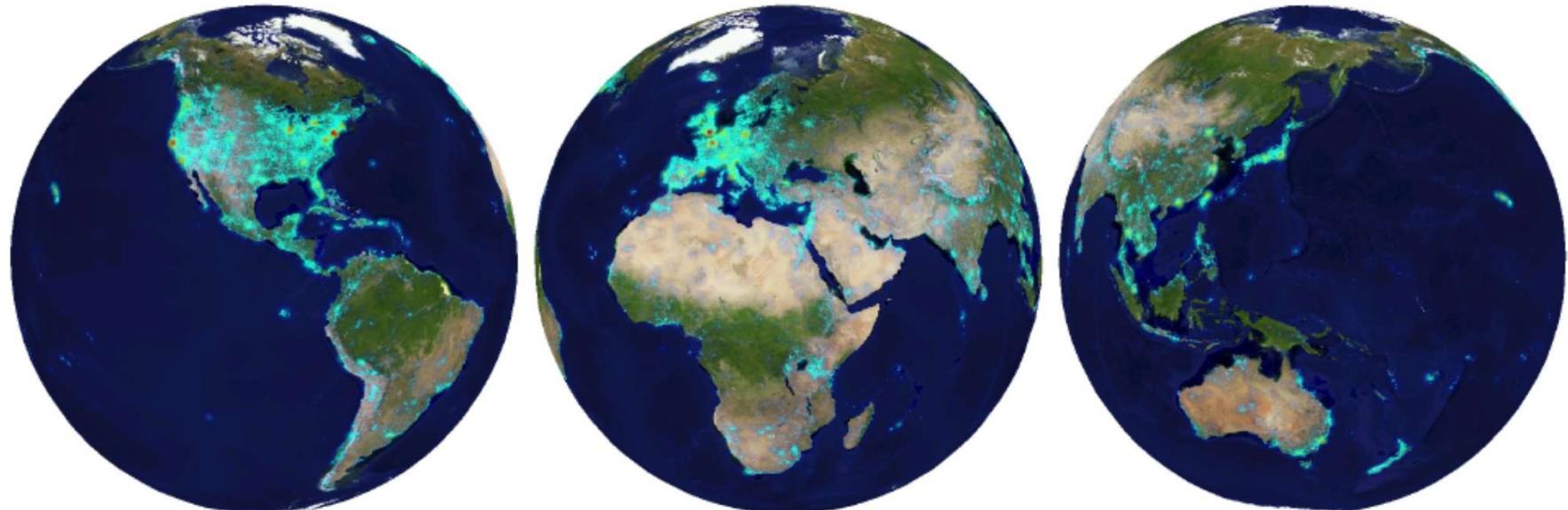


Figure 2. The distribution of photos in our database. Photo locations are cyan. Density is overlaid with the jet colormap (log scale).

20 million geotagged and geographic text-labeled images

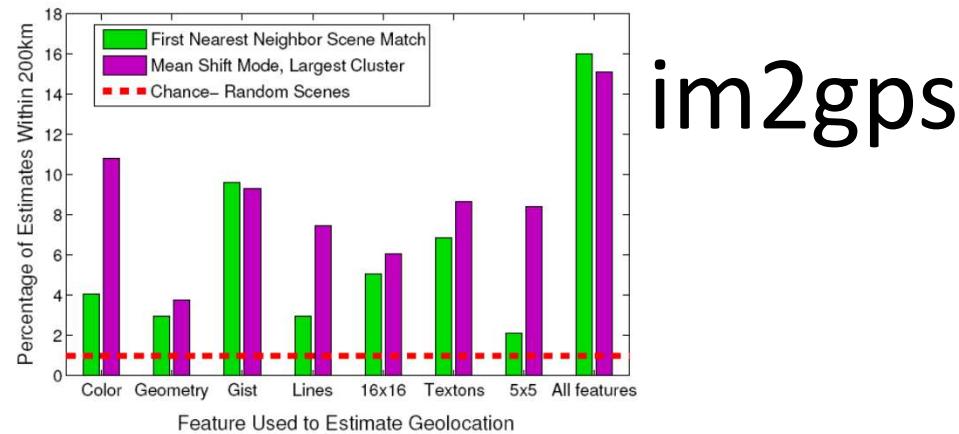
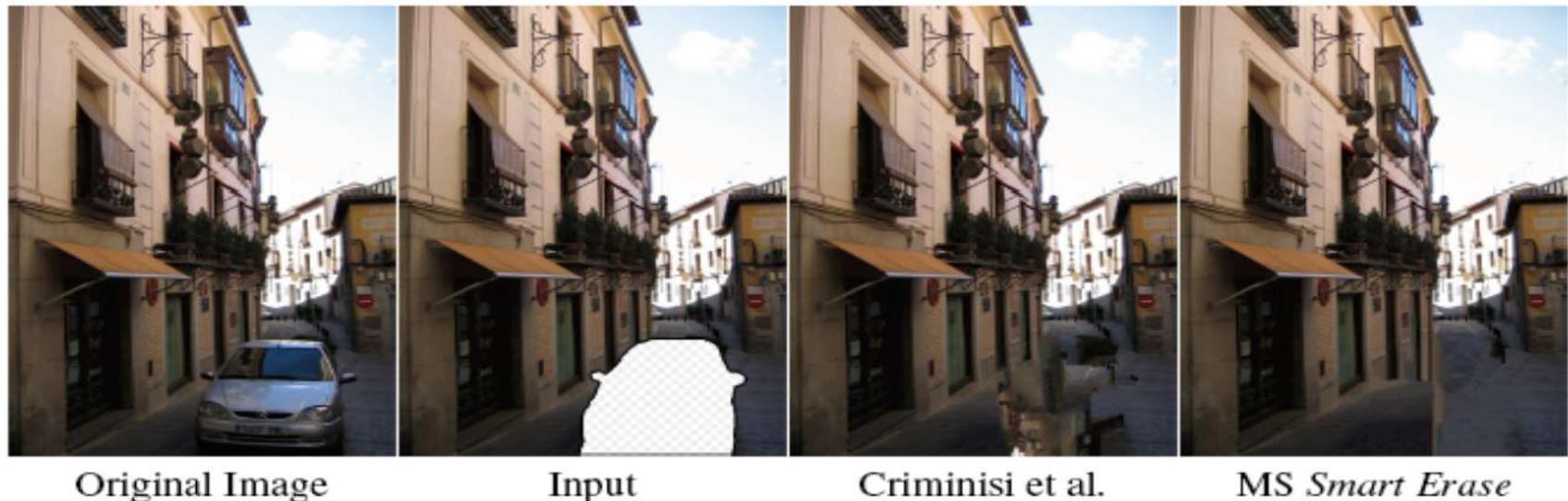


Figure 5. *Geolocation performance across features.* Percentage of test cases geolocated to within 200km for each feature. We compare geolocation by 1-NN vs. largest mean-shift mode.



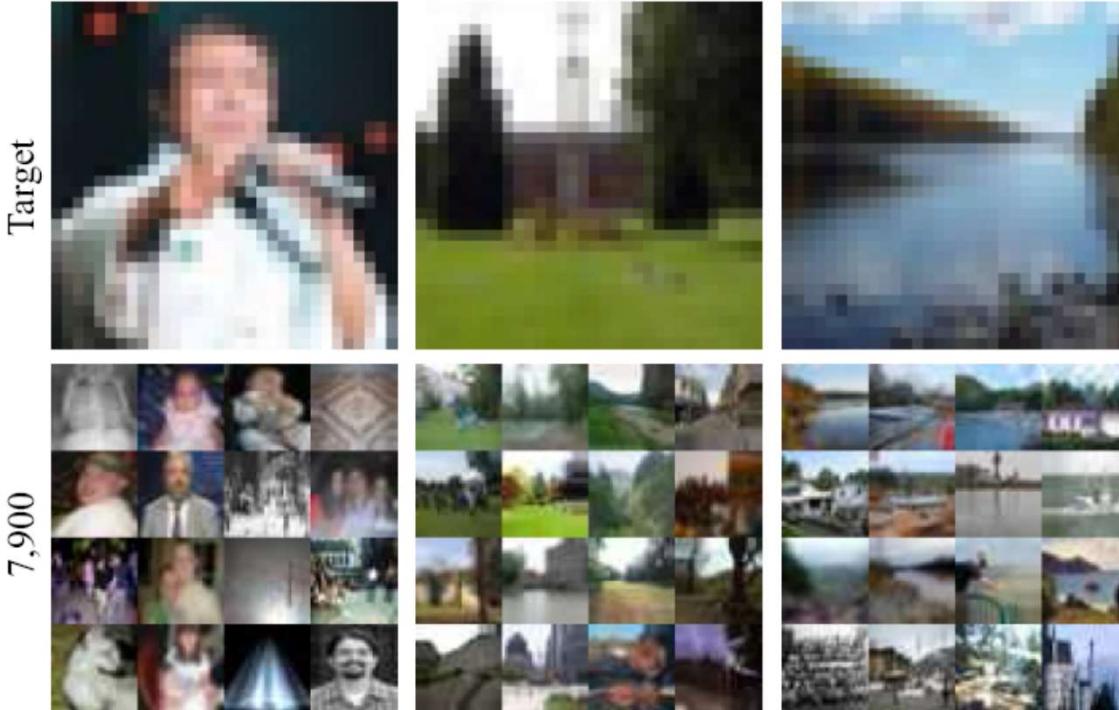
# Image completion



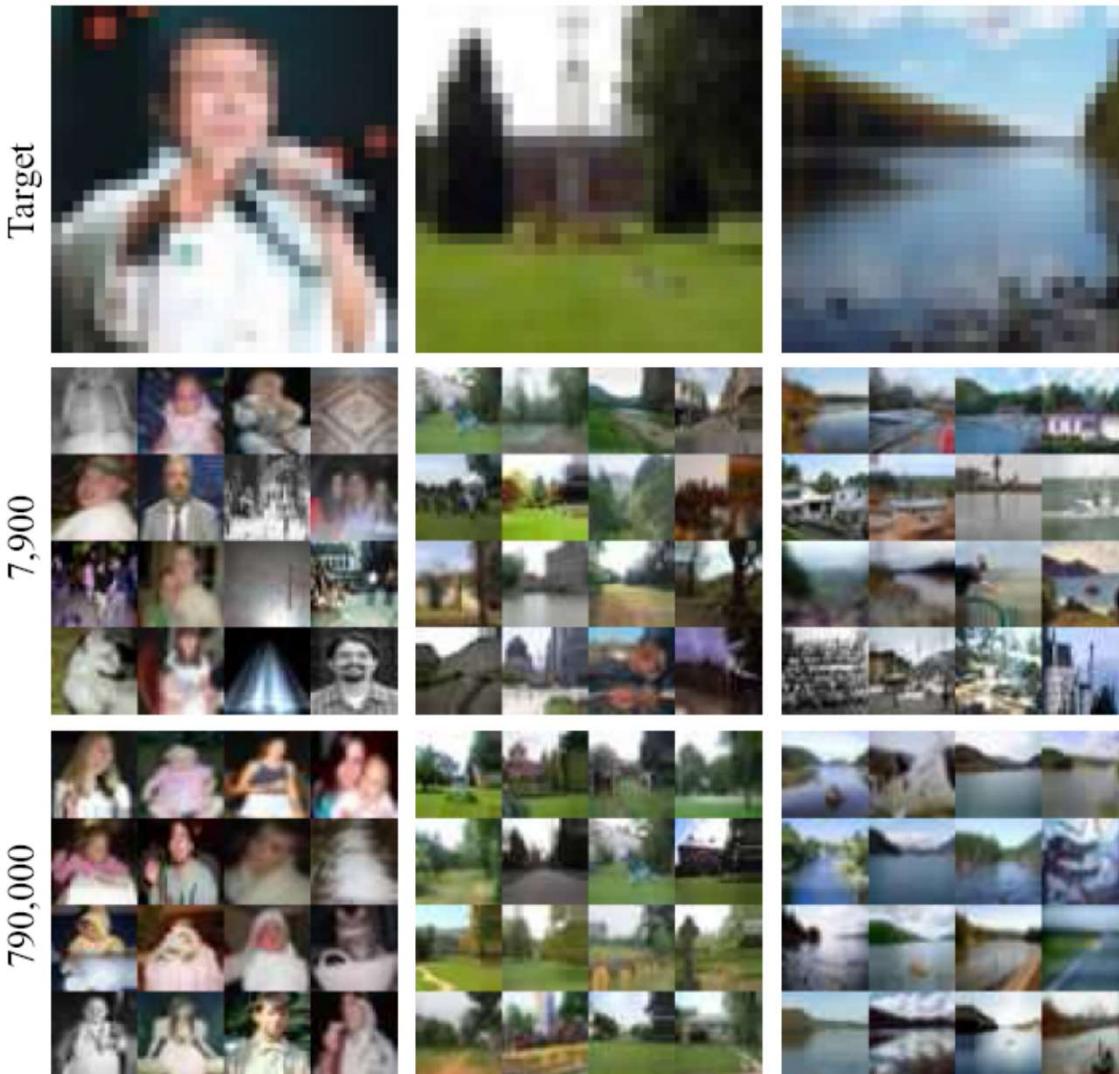
Instead, generate proposals using millions of images



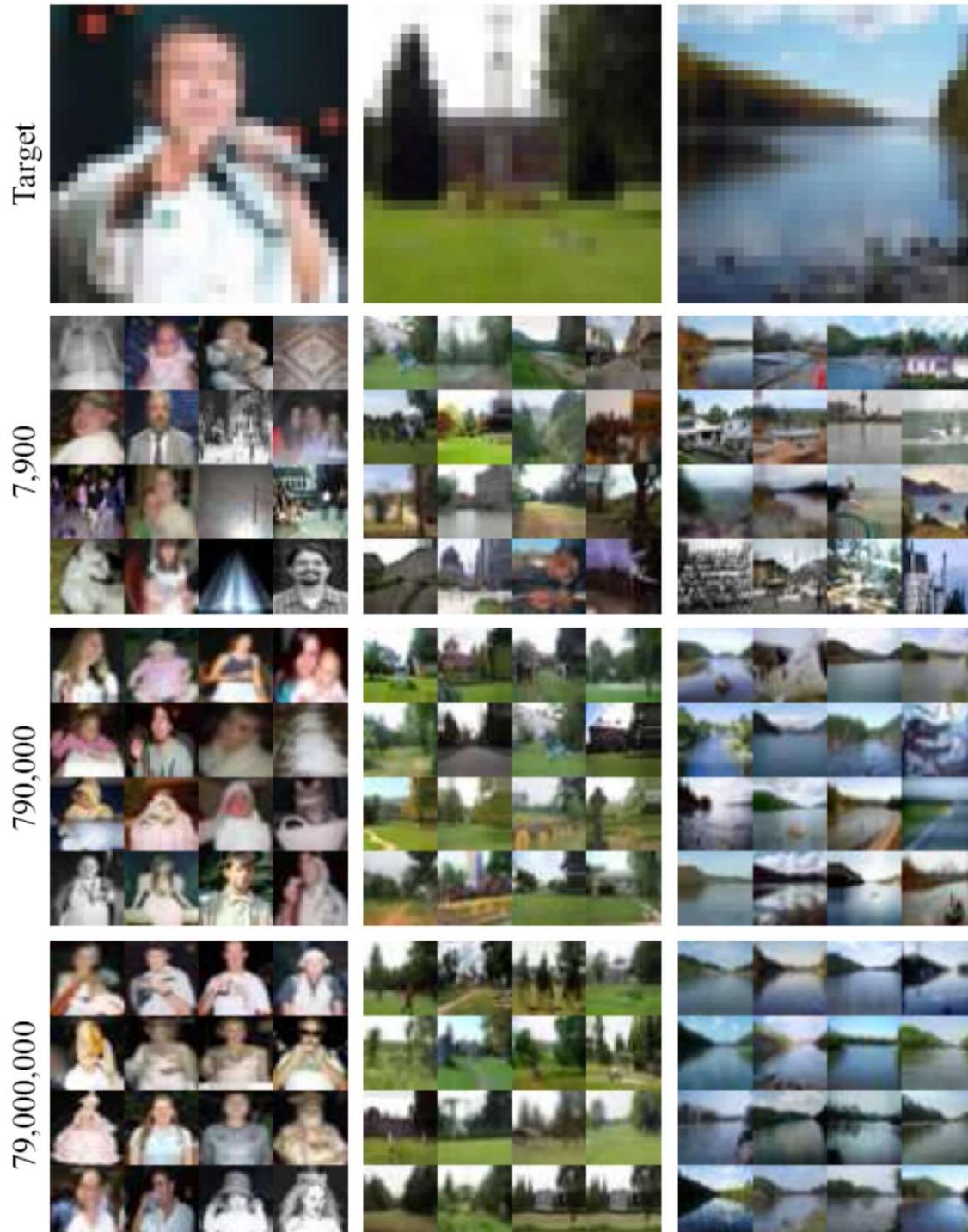
# Lots Of Images



# Lots Of Images



# Lots Of Images



# Automatic Colorization Result

Grayscale input High resolution



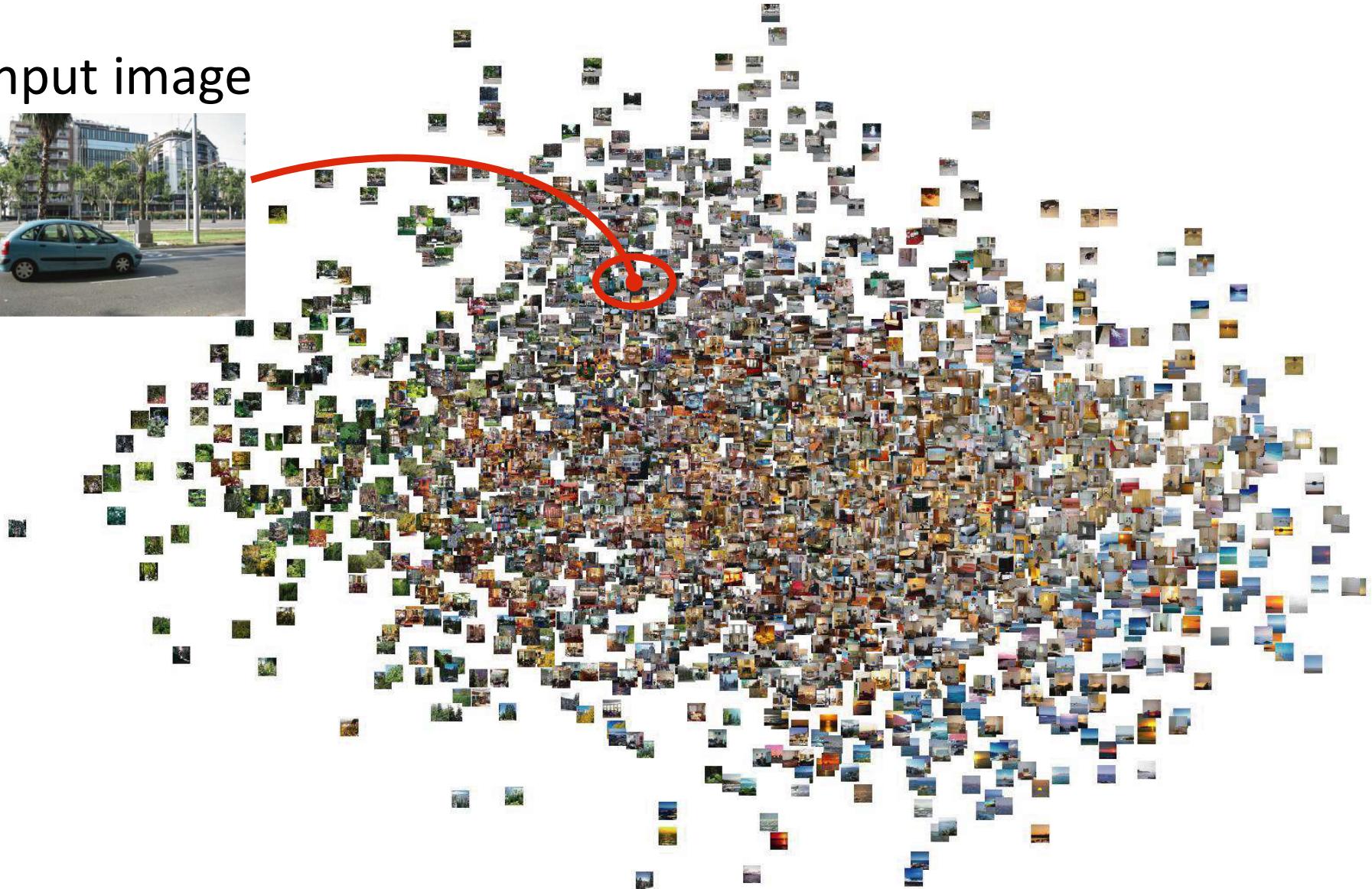
Colorization of input using average



A. Torralba, R. Fergus, W.T.Freeman. 2008

# Nearest neighbors classification

Input image



Target



Neighbors (SSD + warping)



Average

# Predicting events



# Predicting events





Query



Query



Retrieved video



Query



Retrieved video



Synthesized video

C. Liu, J. Yuen, A. Torralba, J. Sivic, and W. T. Freeman, ECCV 2008



Query

Retrieved video

Synthesized video  
C. Liu, J. Yuen, A. Torralba, J. Sivic, and W. T. Freeman, ECCV 2008



Query



Synthesized video

C. Liu, J. Yuen, A. Torralba, J. Sivic, and W. T. Freeman, ECCV 2008



Query



Retrieved video

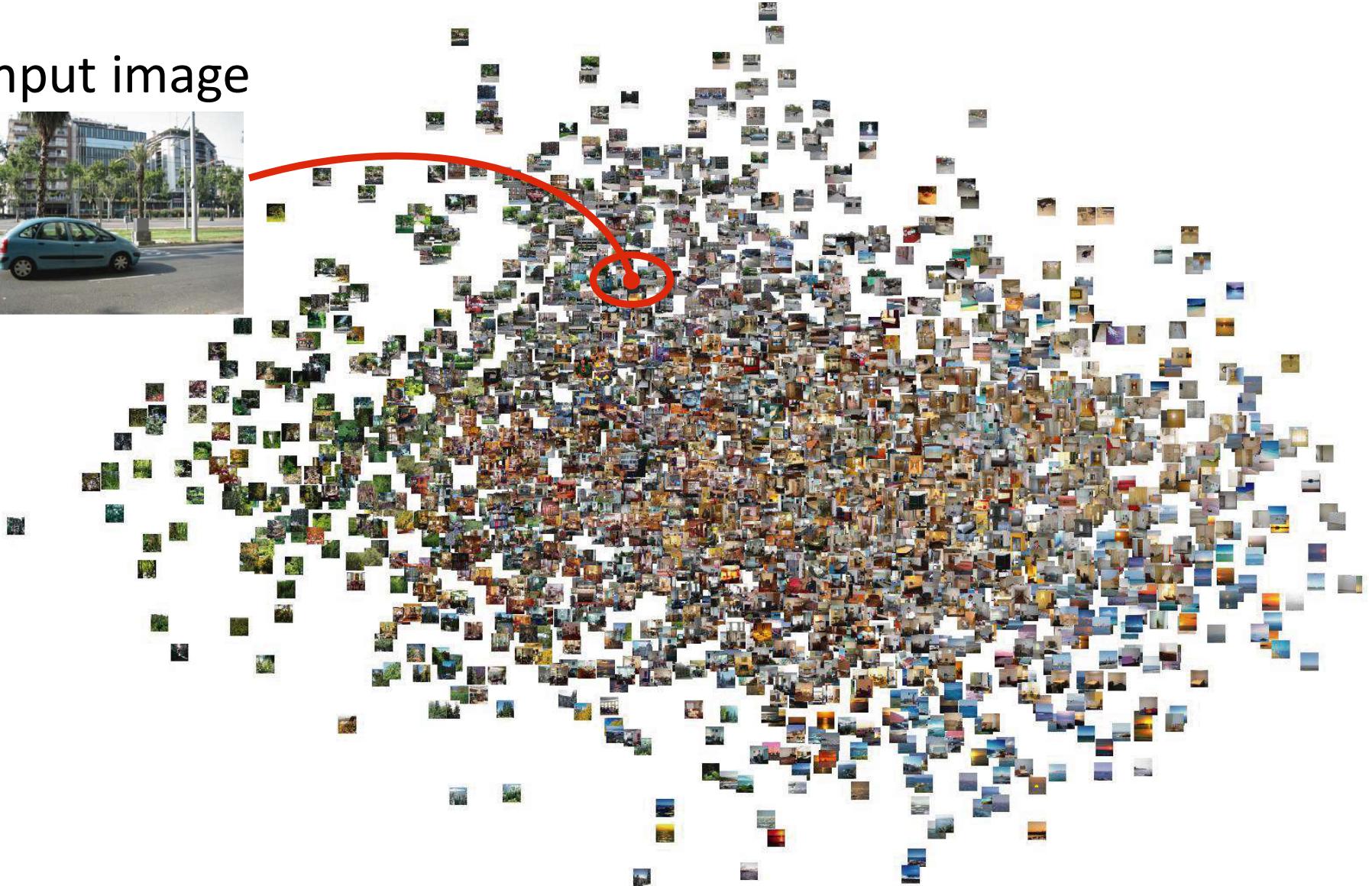


Synthesized video

C. Liu, J. Yuen, A. Torralba, J. Sivic, and W. T. Freeman, ECCV 2008

# Dealing with millions of images

Input image



# Powers of 10

Number of images on my hard drive:  $10^4$



Number of images seen during my first 10 years:  $10^8$   
(3 images/second \* 60 \* 60 \* 16 \* 365 \* 10 = 630720000)



Number of images seen by all humanity:  $10^{20}$

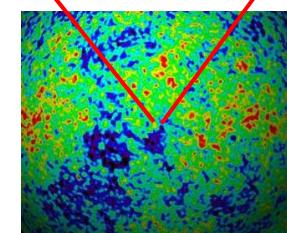
106,456,367,669 humans<sup>1</sup> \* 60 years \* 3 images/second \* 60 \* 60 \* 16 \* 365 =

1 from <http://www.prb.org/Articles/2002/HowManyPeopleHaveEverLivedonEarth.aspx>



Number of all images in the universe:  $10^{243}$

$10^{81}$  atoms \*  $10^{81}$  \*  $10^{81}$  =



Number of all 32x32 images:  $10^{7373}$

$256^{32 \times 32 \times 3} \sim 10^{7373}$



# Binary codes for global scene representation

- Short codes allow for storing millions of images
- Efficient search: hamming distance (search millions of images in few microseconds)
- Internet scale experiments: compute nearest neighbors between all images in the internet



512 bits

# Binary codes for images

- Want images with similar content to have similar binary codes
- Use Hamming distance between codes
  - Number of bit flips
  - E.g.:  $\text{Ham\_Dist}(10001010, 10001\textcolor{red}{1}10) = 1$   
 $\text{Ham\_Dist}(10001010, \textcolor{red}{11}101110) = 3$
- Semantic Hashing [Salakhutdinov & Hinton, 2007]
  - Text documents

# How many bits do we need?



16 bits



32 bits



64 bits



128 bits



256 bits



512 bits



1024 bits



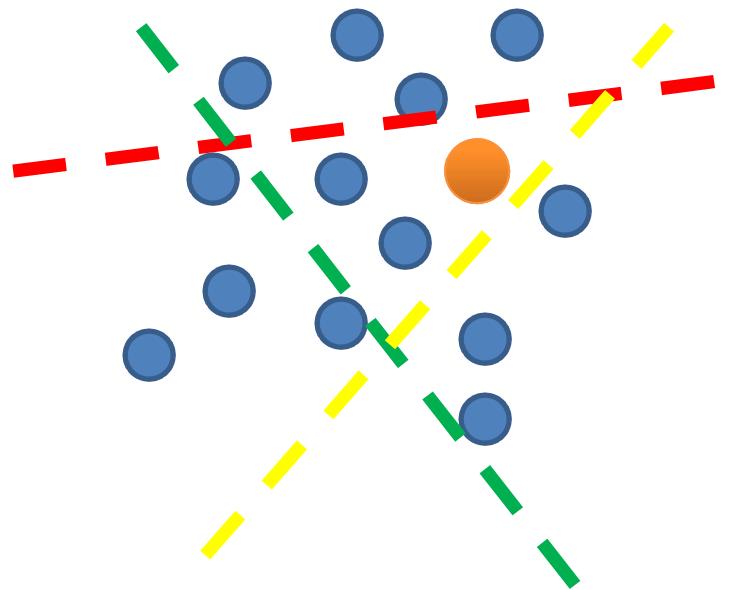
2048 bits



24576 bits

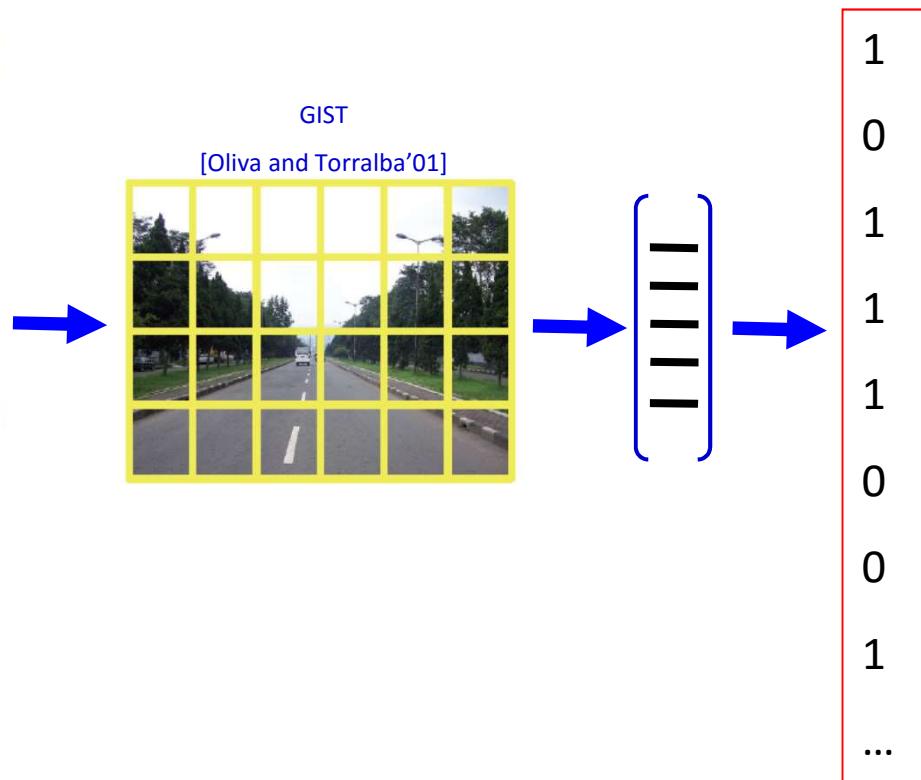
# Locality Sensitive Hashing

- Gionis, A. & Indyk, P. & Motwani, R. (1999)
- Take random projections of data
- Quantize each projection with few bits



# Compressing the gist descriptor

Original image



Input image



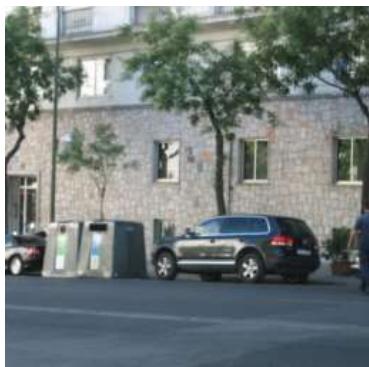
Ground truth neighbors



Gist



Gist (32 – bits)



# The 15-scenes benchmark



Oliva & Torralba, 2001  
Fei Fei & Perona, 2005  
Lazebnik, et al 2006



Office



Skyscrapers



Suburb



Building facade



Coast



Forest



Bedroom



Living room



Industrial



Street



Highway



Mountain



Open country



Kitchen

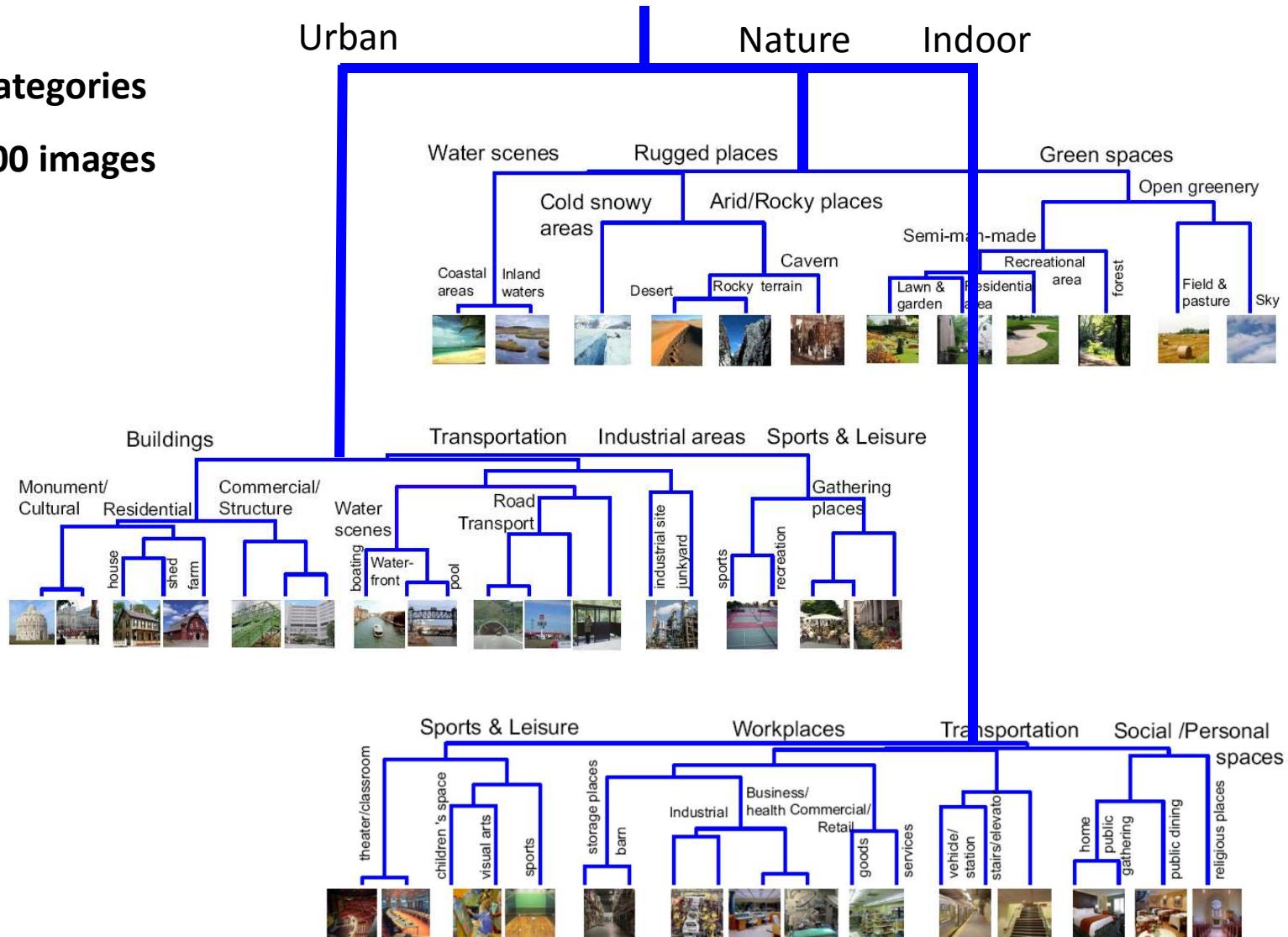


Store

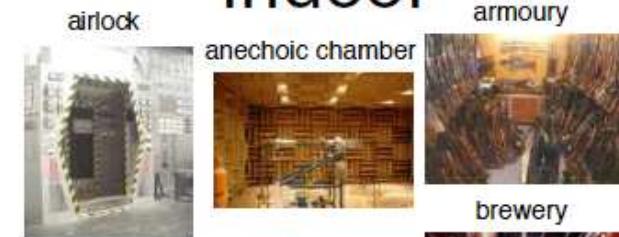
# Large Scale Scene Recognition

> 400 categories

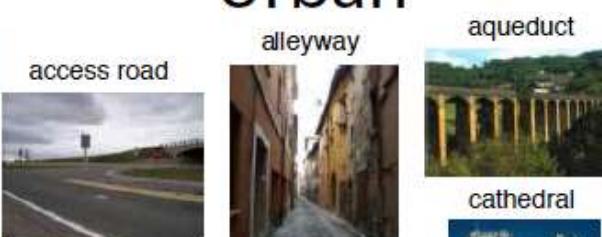
>140,000 images



# Indoor



# Urban



# Nature



	Training images	Correct classifications	Miss-classifications
Abbey			
Airplane cabin			
Airport terminal			
Alley			
Amphitheater			

Xiao, Hays, Ehinger, Oliva, Torralba; CVPR 2010