<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Viola%E2%80%93Jones_object_detection_framework>

The Viola-Jones (V-J) object detection framework is the first object detection framework to provide competitive object rates in real-time proposed. It can be trained to detect a variety of object classes. In OpenCV, it’s implemented as cvHaarDetectObjects() and the new method for multithread is cascadeClassifier()