

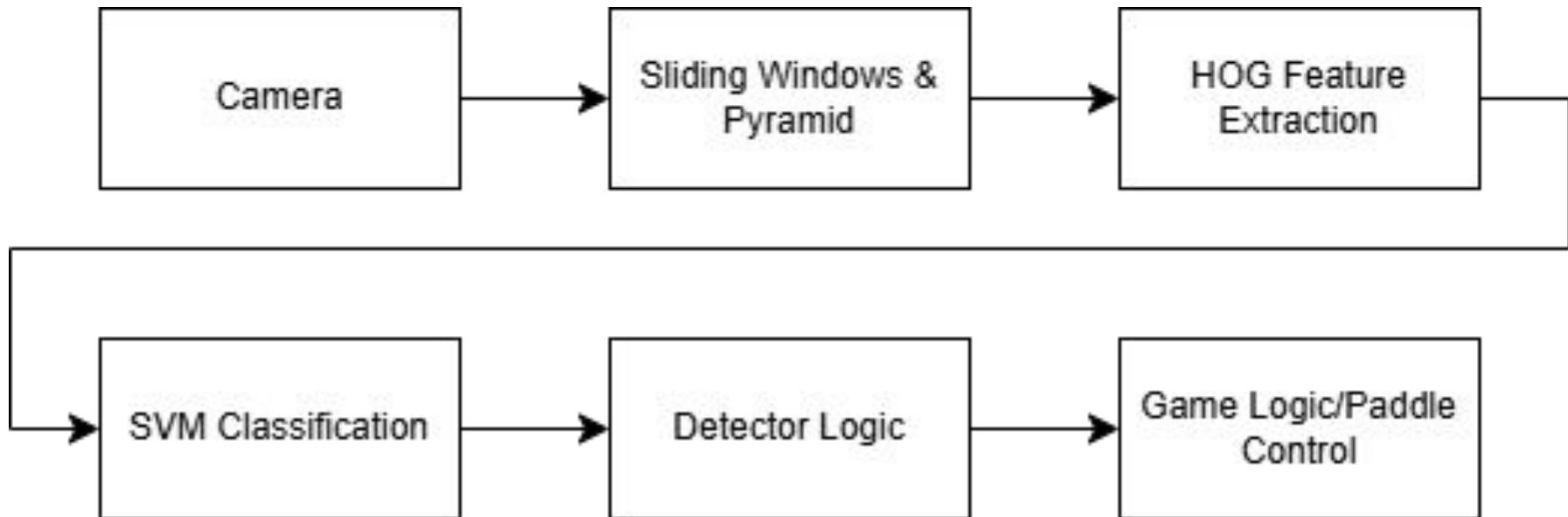
Hand-Controlled Ping Pong Game w/ HOG + SVM

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Robot Vision Fall 25
12/9/25

Reimagining Traditional Ping Pong Game

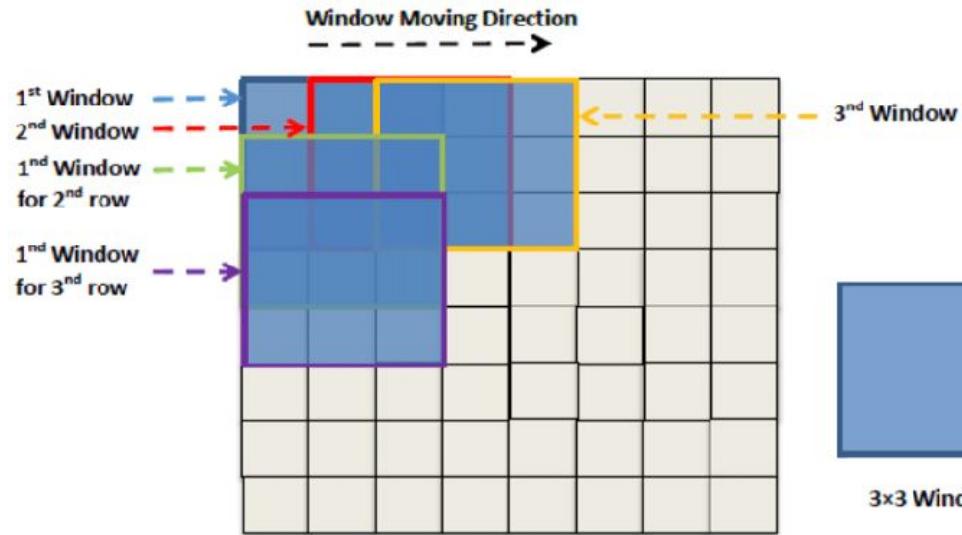
- **Motivation:**
 - Learn more about implementation of HOG + SVM object detection algorithms
 - Explore the efficiency and effectiveness of the algorithm
- **Goal:** Replace mouse/keyboard input with hand input
 - Detect finger/hand in live webcam feed
 - Map hand motion -> paddle motion
 - Maintain useable frame rate
- **Roles:**
 - Sharmarke -> GameUI & Design, Manual Hand/Finger Input Model
 - Shin -> 11k Hand Model

High Level Overview

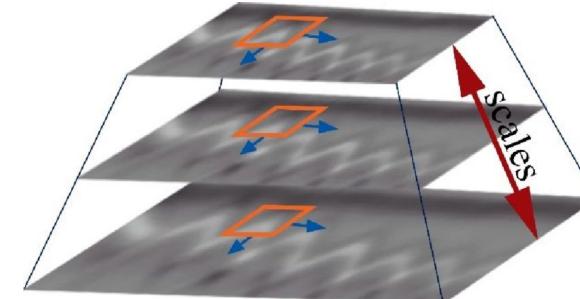


Sliding Window

- **Sliding Window:** Move a 64×64 window across the image
- **Image Pyramid:** Scale image to three different sizes (small, medium, large)
- Extract HOG features from each window and get SVM confidence score
- High score \rightarrow Hand detected!



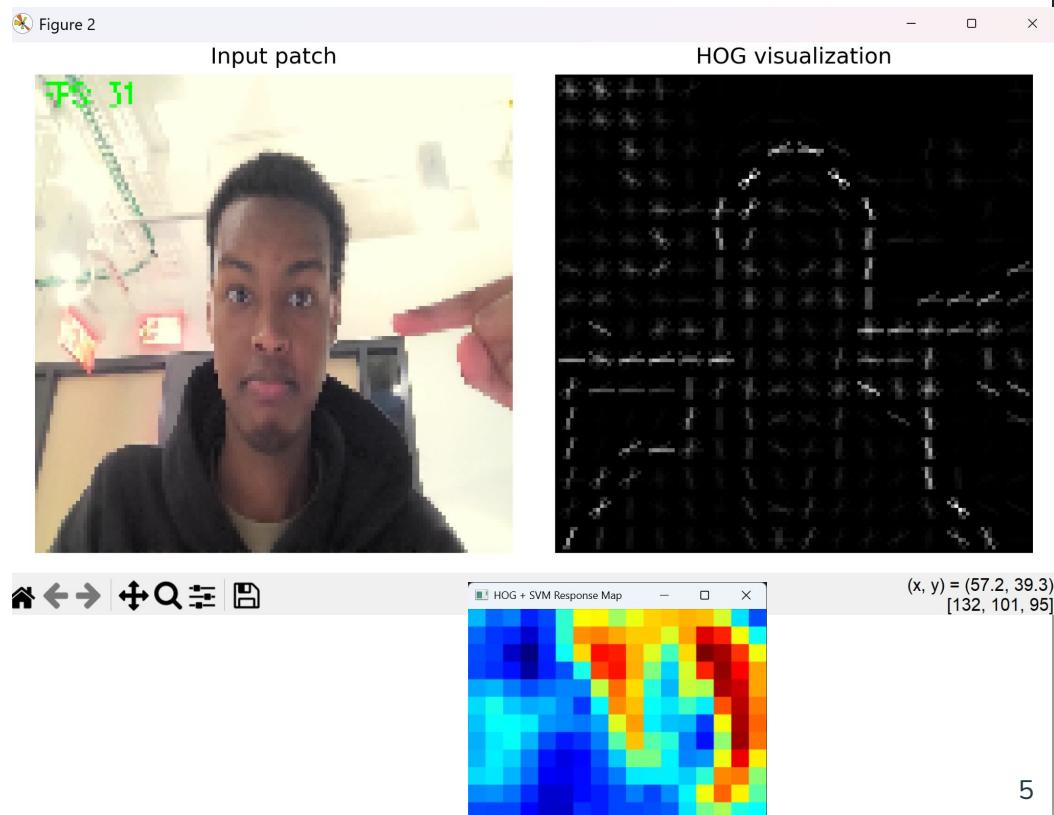
3×3 Window



HOG Feature Extraction

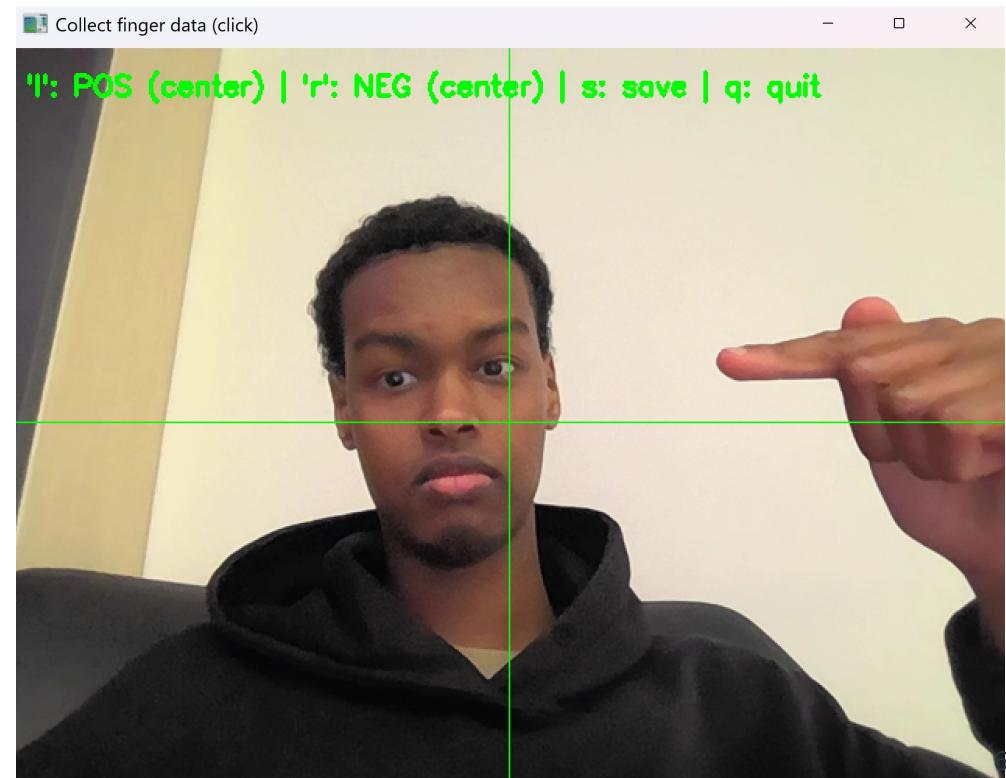
HOG Parameters:

- Uses OpenCV HOG functions
 - Window: 64x64
 - Cells: 8x8
 - Blocks: 16x16 stride 8
 - 9 orientation bins
- Converts frame into features
- Good for capturing shapes



Training SVM: Data Collection (Manual Hand Input Model)

- **hog_finger_data.py**
 - Store positive & negative HOG finger samples in a joblib file
- **train_finger_svm.p**
 - Using LinearSVC() from sklearn library
 - Run SVM on positive & negative samples to be used for finger detection



Training with External Datasets



Positive Images

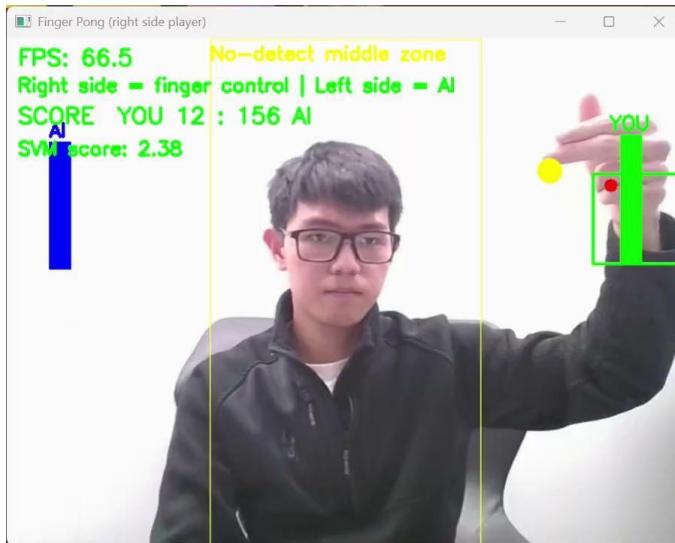
(100 images from 11k Hands dataset)



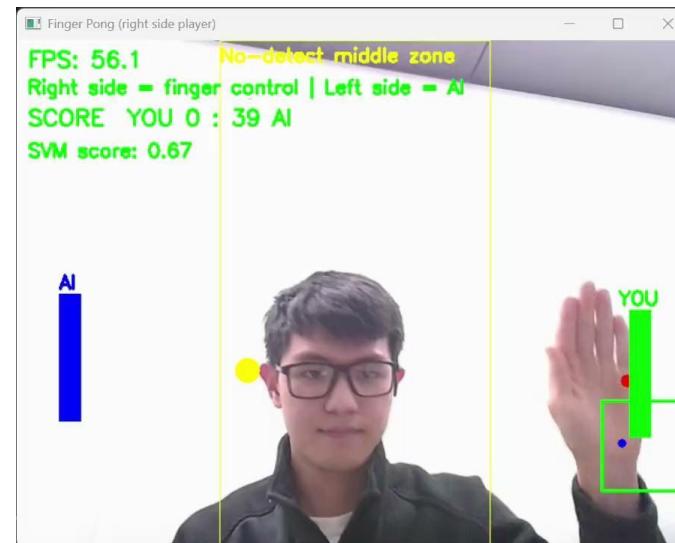
Negative Images

(50 images from Imagenet dataset)

Demo Videos



Trained with Manual Hand Data



Trained with 11k Hands Dataset

Main Challenges

- Finding hand datasets with complex background
- Highly dependent on a clear background
- Poor detection with different hand gestures and orientation

Further Improvements

- Background robustness
- Orientation invariance
- Game UI and Complexity

Thank you!
Q&A