

# Optical Flow and Correspondences

CS 6384 Computer Vision

Professor Yu Xiang

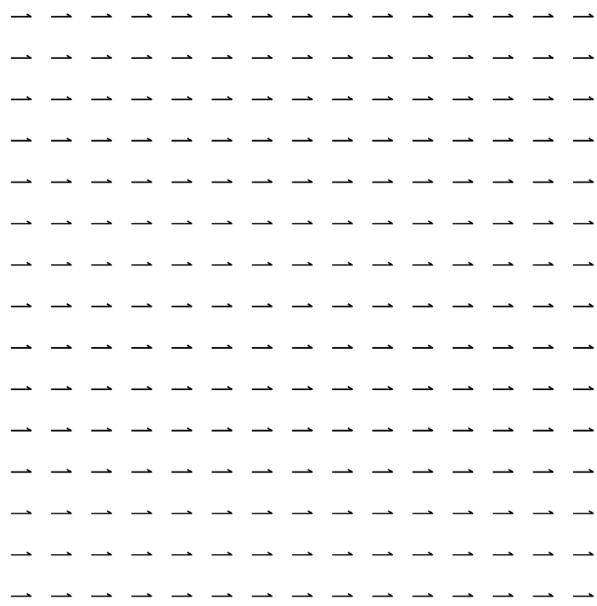
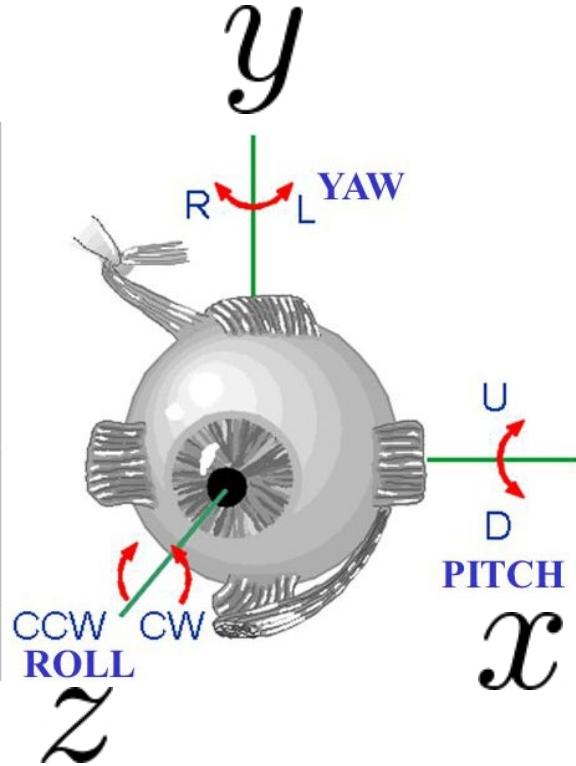
The University of Texas at Dallas

# Human Motion Perception

- Separate moving figure from a stationary background
- Motion for 3D perception
  - Look at a fruit by rotating it around
- Guide actions
  - Walking down the street or hammering a nail

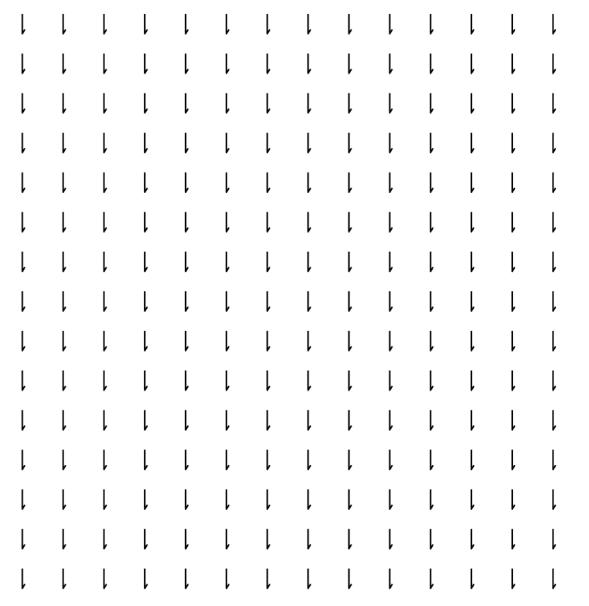


# Motion from Eye Movement



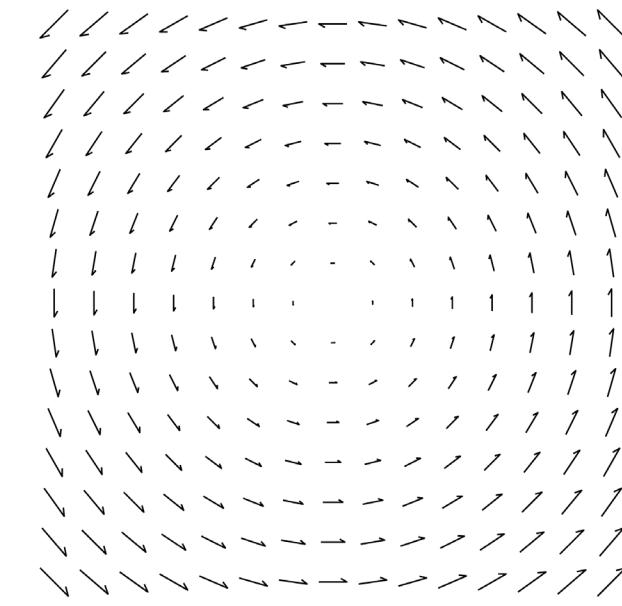
yaw

$$\omega_y$$



pitch

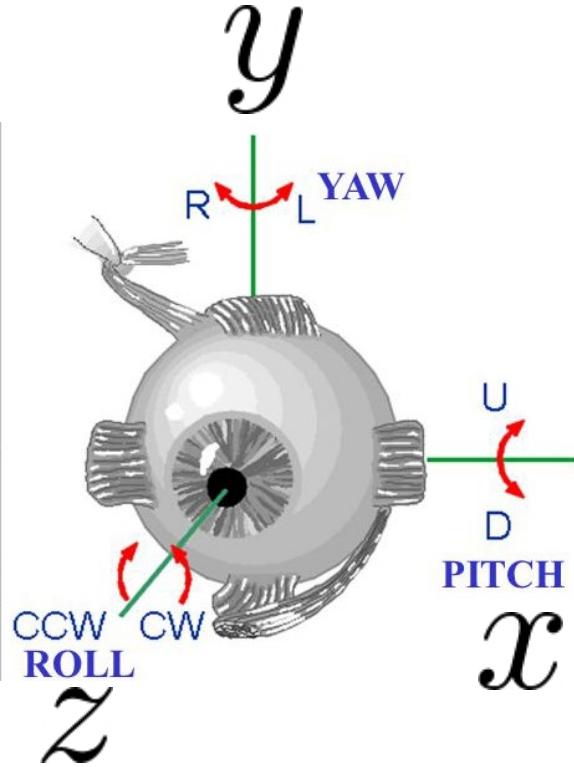
$$\omega_x$$



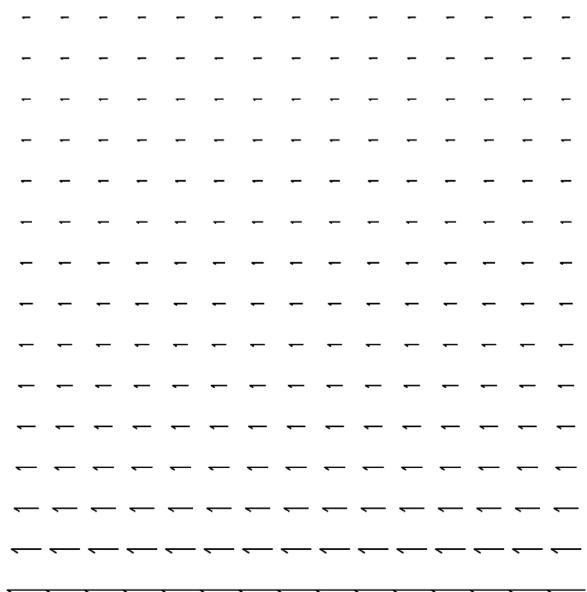
roll

$$\omega_z$$

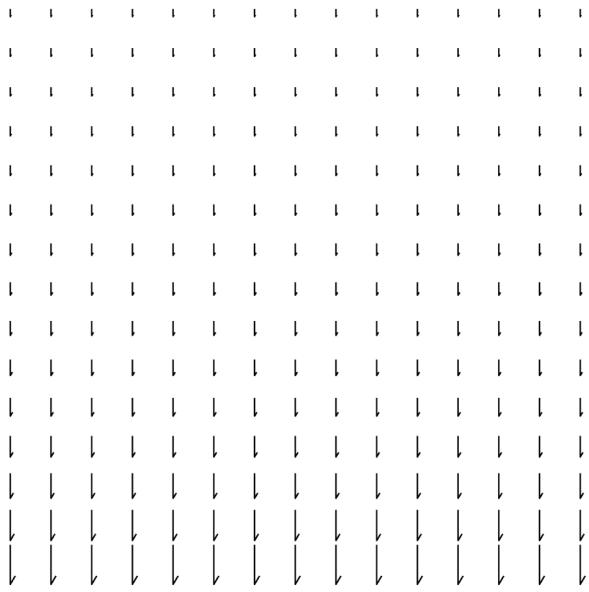
# Motion from Eye Movement



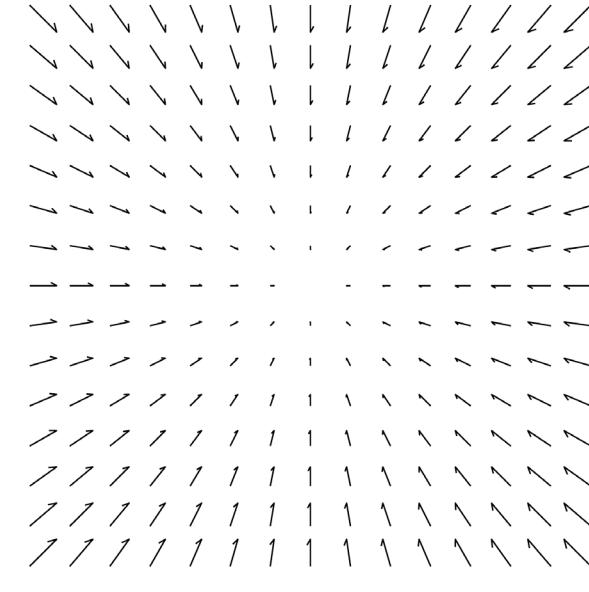
Closer pixel, larger displacement



$$v_x$$



$$v_y$$



$$v_z$$

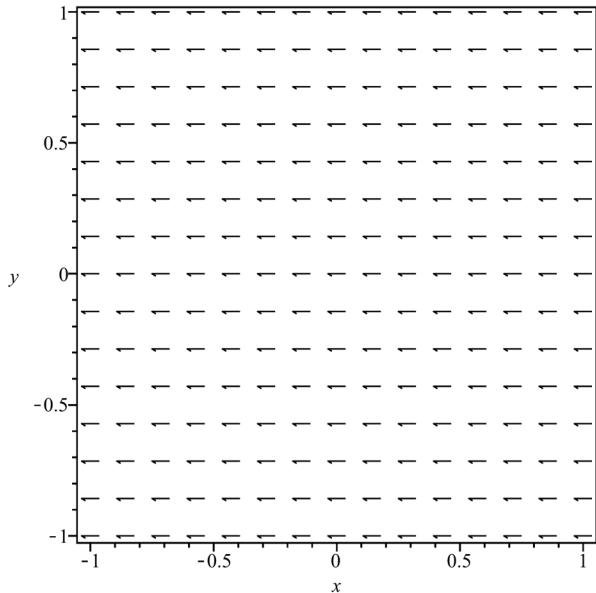
# Motion from Object Movement



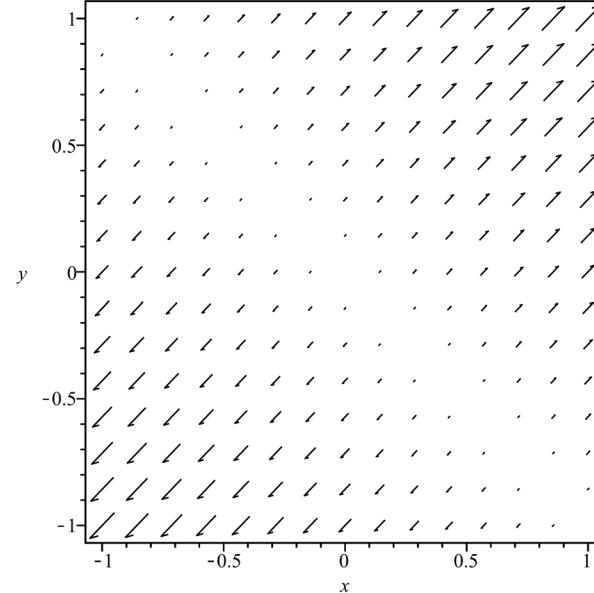
# Optical Flow

- The pattern of apparent motion of objects, surfaces and edges in a visual scene caused by the relative motion between an observer and a scene
- Velocity field

$$(v_x, v_y) = \left( \frac{dx}{dt}, \frac{dy}{dt} \right)$$

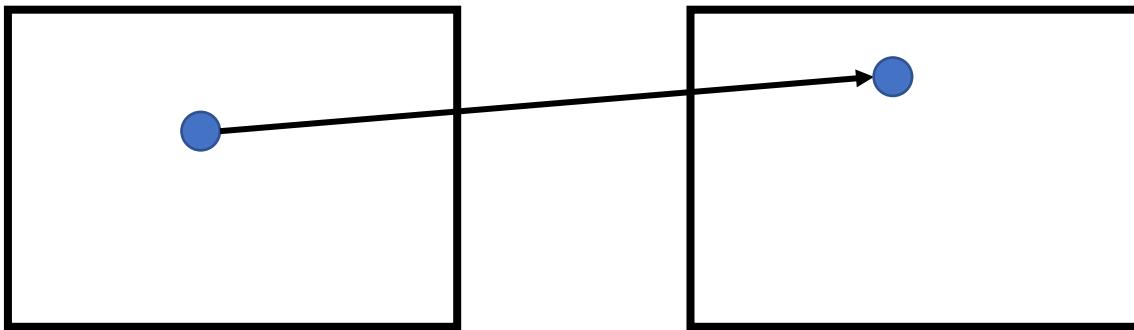


$$(x, y) \mapsto (-1, 0)$$



$$(x, y) \mapsto (x + y, x + y)$$

# Brightness Constancy Constraint



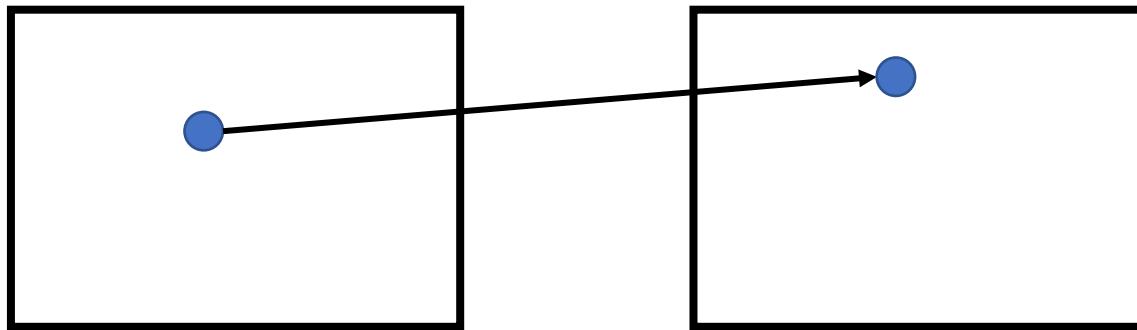
$$I(x, y, t) = I(x + \Delta x, y + \Delta y, t + \Delta t)$$

Taylor series

$$I(x + \Delta x, y + \Delta y, t + \Delta t) = I(x, y, t) + \frac{\partial I}{\partial x} \Delta x + \frac{\partial I}{\partial y} \Delta y + \frac{\partial I}{\partial t} \Delta t + \text{higher-order terms}$$

$$f(x) = f(a) + f'(a)(x-a) + \frac{f''(a)}{2!}(x-a)^2 + \frac{f^{(3)}(a)}{3!}(x-a)^3 + \dots + \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!}(x-a)^n + \dots$$

# Brightness Constancy Constraint



$$\frac{\partial I}{\partial x} \Delta x + \frac{\partial I}{\partial y} \Delta y + \frac{\partial I}{\partial t} \Delta t = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial I}{\partial x} \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t} + \frac{\partial I}{\partial y} \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta t} + \frac{\partial I}{\partial t} \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta t} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial I}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial I}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt} + \frac{\partial I}{\partial t} = 0$$

# Brightness Constancy Constraint

$$\frac{\partial I}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial I}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt} + \frac{\partial I}{\partial t} = 0$$

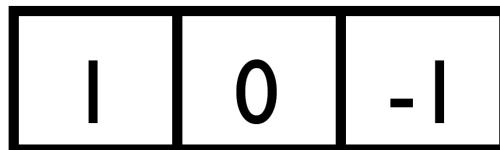
$\frac{\partial I}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial I}{\partial y}$  (spatial gradient; we can compute this!)

$\frac{dx}{dt}, \frac{dy}{dt} = (u, v)$  (optical flow, what we want to find)

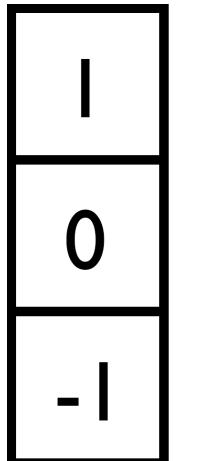
$\frac{\partial I}{\partial t}$  (derivative across frames. Also known,  
e.g. frame difference)

# Image Gradient

- Derivative of a function  $f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + h) - f(x)}{h}$
- Central difference is more accurate  $f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + 0.5h) - f(x - 0.5h)}{h}$
- Image gradient with central difference
  - Applying a filter



X derivative



Y derivative

# Image Gradient

- Sobel Filter

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 0 & -1 \\ \hline 2 & 0 & -2 \\ \hline 1 & 0 & -1 \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 1 \\ \hline 2 \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 0 & -1 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Sobel

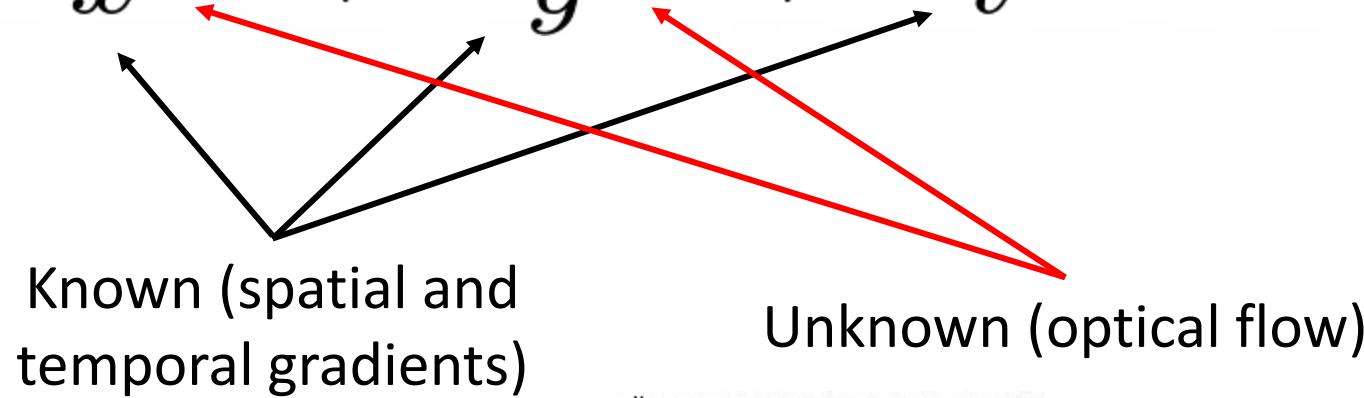
weighted average  
and scaling

x-derivative

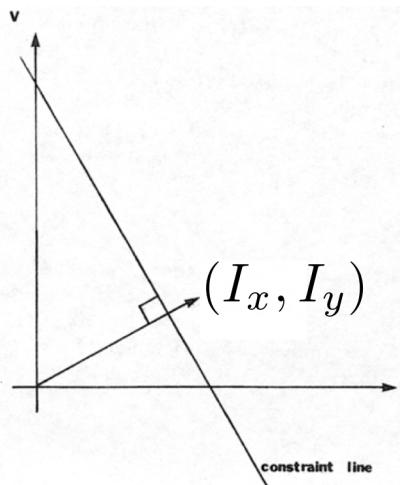
$$S_x = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 0 & -1 \\ \hline 2 & 0 & -2 \\ \hline 1 & 0 & -1 \\ \hline \end{array} \quad S_y = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 1 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline -1 & -2 & -1 \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \nabla f = \left[ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right]$$
$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = S_x \otimes f$$
$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = S_y \otimes f$$

# Brightness Constancy Constraint

$$I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0$$



- For each pixel, there are two unknowns



<https://sites.math.washington.edu/~king/coursedir/m445w04/notes/vector/normals-planes.html>

# Brightness Constancy Constraint

$$I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0$$

- The component of the flow vector in the gradient direction is determined (called normal flow) (Recall vector projection geometry)

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{I_x^2 + I_y^2}} (I_x, I_y) \cdot (u, v) = \frac{-I_t}{\sqrt{I_x^2 + I_y^2}}$$

Projection

- The component of the flow vector orthogonal to this direction cannot be determined.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dot\\_product](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dot_product)

# Lucas-Kanade Method

$$I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0$$

- Assumption: the flow is constant in a local neighborhood of a pixel under consideration
- Use two or more pixels to compute optical flow 5x5 window

$$\begin{bmatrix} I_x(p_1) & I_y(p_1) \\ I_x(p_2) & I_y(p_2) \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ I_x(p_{25}) & I_y(p_{25}) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix} = - \begin{bmatrix} I_t(p_1) \\ I_t(p_2) \\ \vdots \\ I_t(p_{25}) \end{bmatrix}$$

$A$   
 $25 \times 2$

$d$   
 $2 \times 1$

$b$   
 $25 \times 1$

# Lucas-Kanade Method

- Solve the least squares problem

$$\begin{matrix} A & d = b \\ 25 \times 2 & 2 \times 1 & 25 \times 1 \end{matrix} \longrightarrow \text{minimize } \|Ad - b\|^2$$

$$\begin{aligned}\|Ad - b\|^2 &= (Ad - b)^T(Ad - b) = (d^T A^T - b^T)(Ad - b) \\ &= d^T A^T Ad - d^T A^T b - b^T Ad + b^T b \\ &\quad \text{scalar} \quad \text{scalar} \\ &= d^T A^T Ad - 2d^T A^T b + b^T b\end{aligned}$$

Take derivate with respect to  $d$ , and set to 0

$$(A^T A) d = A^T b$$

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proofs\\_involving\\_ordinary\\_least\\_squares#Least\\_squares\\_estimator\\_for\\_a\\_C.E.B2](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proofs_involving_ordinary_least_squares#Least_squares_estimator_for_a_C.E.B2)

# Lucas-Kanade Method

- Solve the least squares problem

$$\begin{matrix} A & d = b \\ 25 \times 2 & 2 \times 1 & 25 \times 1 \end{matrix} \longrightarrow \text{minimize } \|Ad - b\|^2$$

$$(A^T A) \begin{matrix} d \\ 2 \times 2 \end{matrix} = A^T b \quad d = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T b \begin{matrix} 2 \times 1 \\ 2 \times 1 \end{matrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sum I_x I_x & \sum I_x I_y \\ \sum I_x I_y & \sum I_y I_y \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix} = - \begin{bmatrix} \sum I_x I_t \\ \sum I_y I_t \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A^T A$$

$$A^T b$$

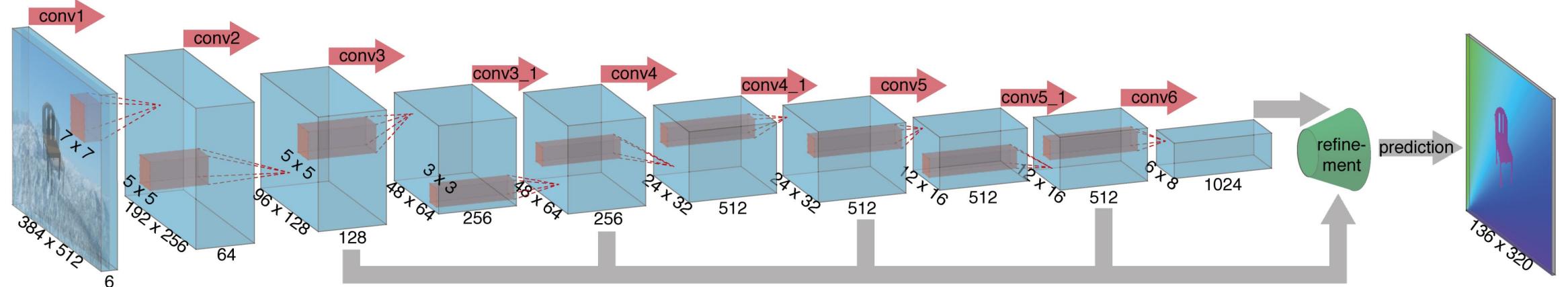
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proofs\\_involving\\_ordinary\\_least\\_squares#Least\\_squares\\_estimator\\_for\\_.CE.B2](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proofs_involving_ordinary_least_squares#Least_squares_estimator_for_.CE.B2)

# Optical Flow Example



# FlowNet

FlowNetSimple

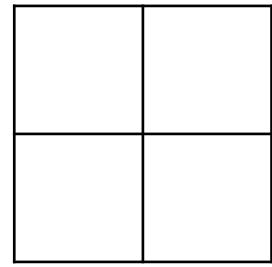


x-y flow fields

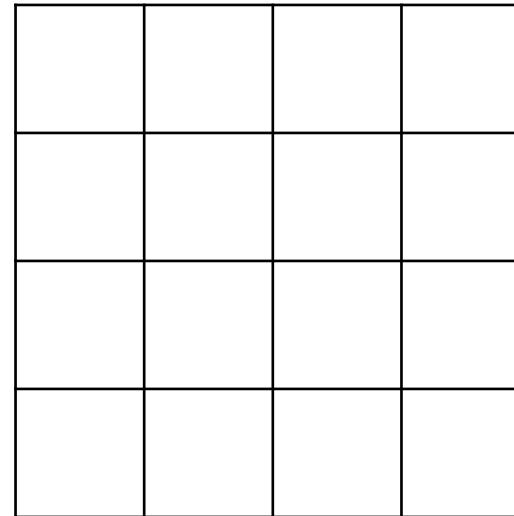
$$\frac{dx}{dt}, \frac{dy}{dt} = (u, v)$$

FlowNet: Learning Optical Flow with Convolutional Networks. Fischer et al., ICCV, 2015

# Learnable Up-sampling: Deconvolution



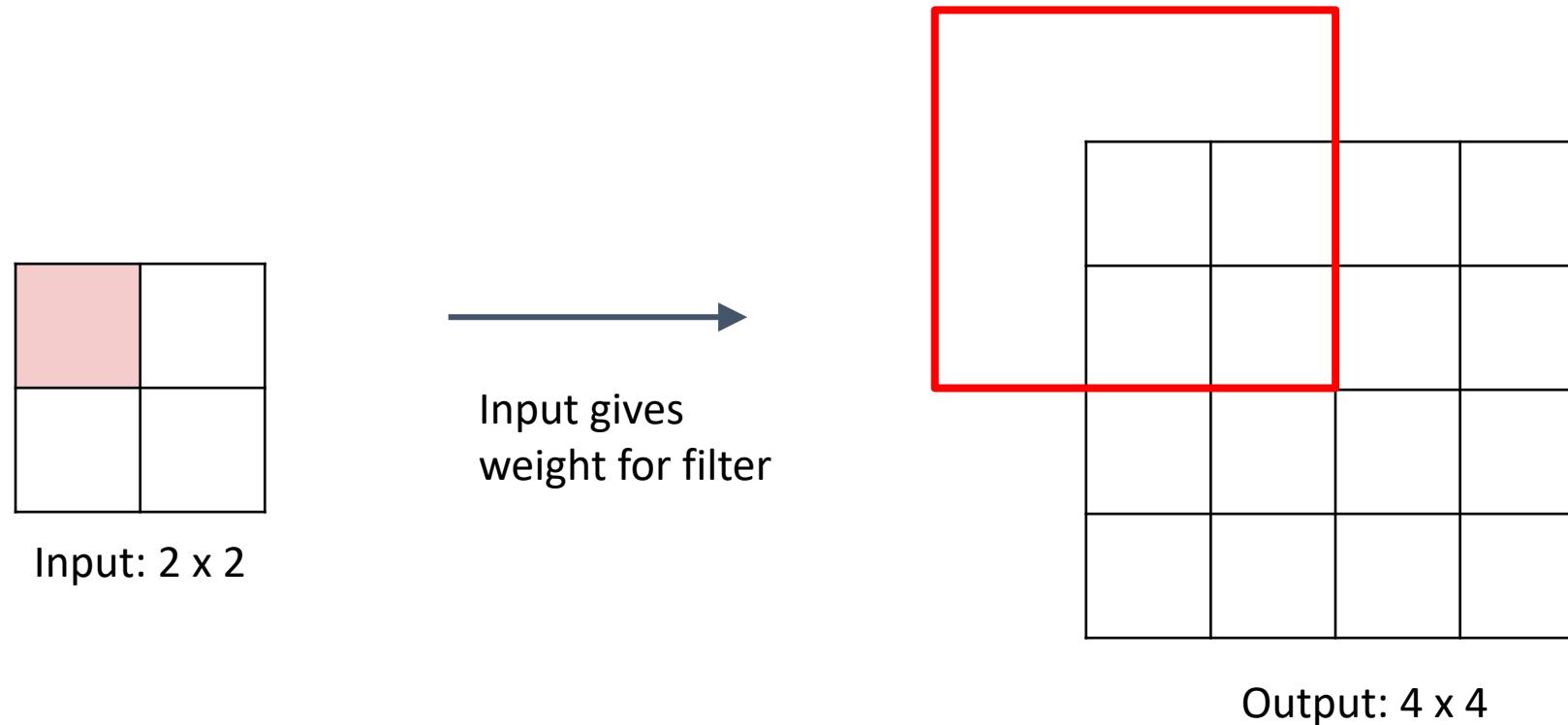
Input: 2 x 2



Output: 4 x 4

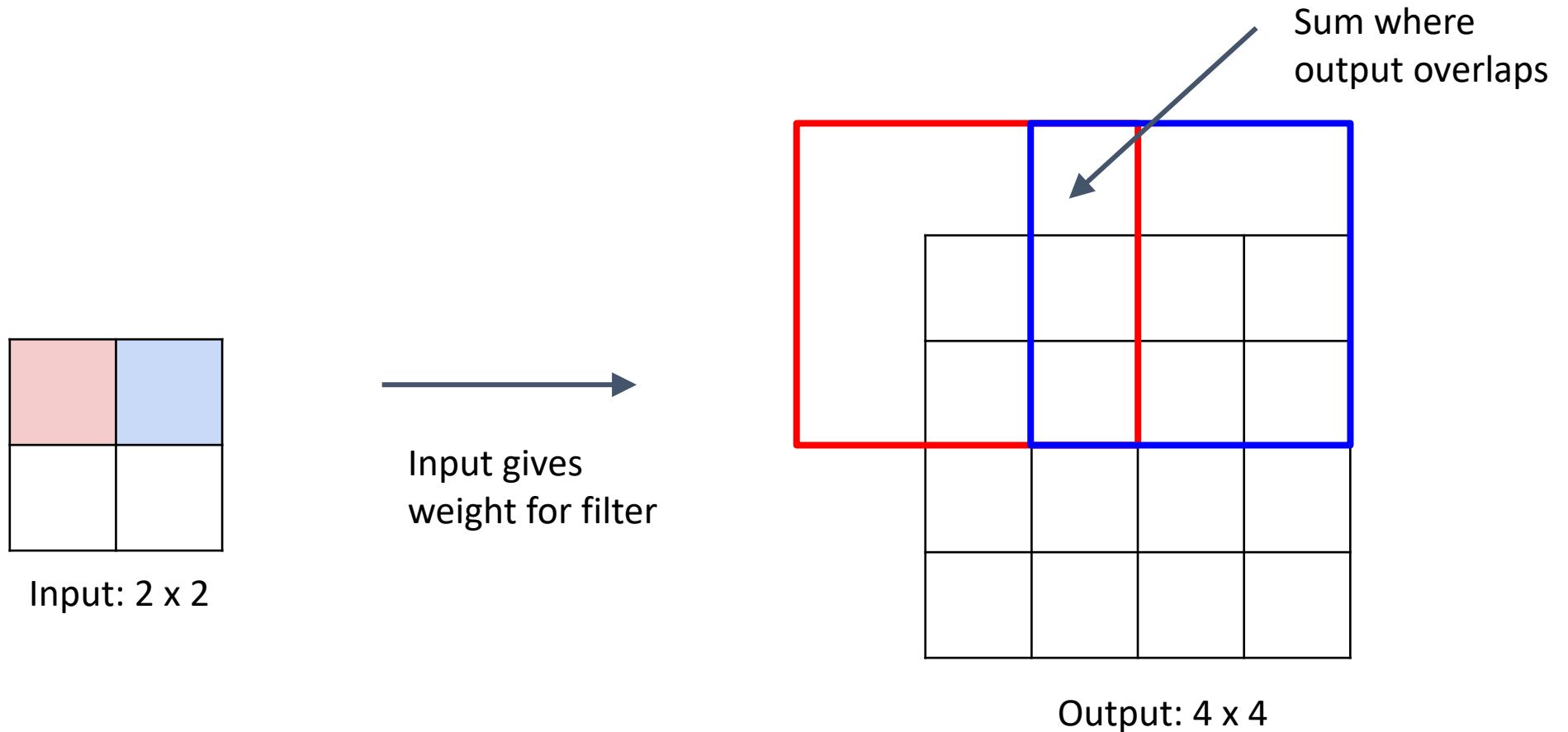
3 x 3 “deconvolution”, stride 2, pad 1

# Learnable Up-sampling: Deconvolution



$3 \times 3$  “deconvolution”, stride 2, pad 1

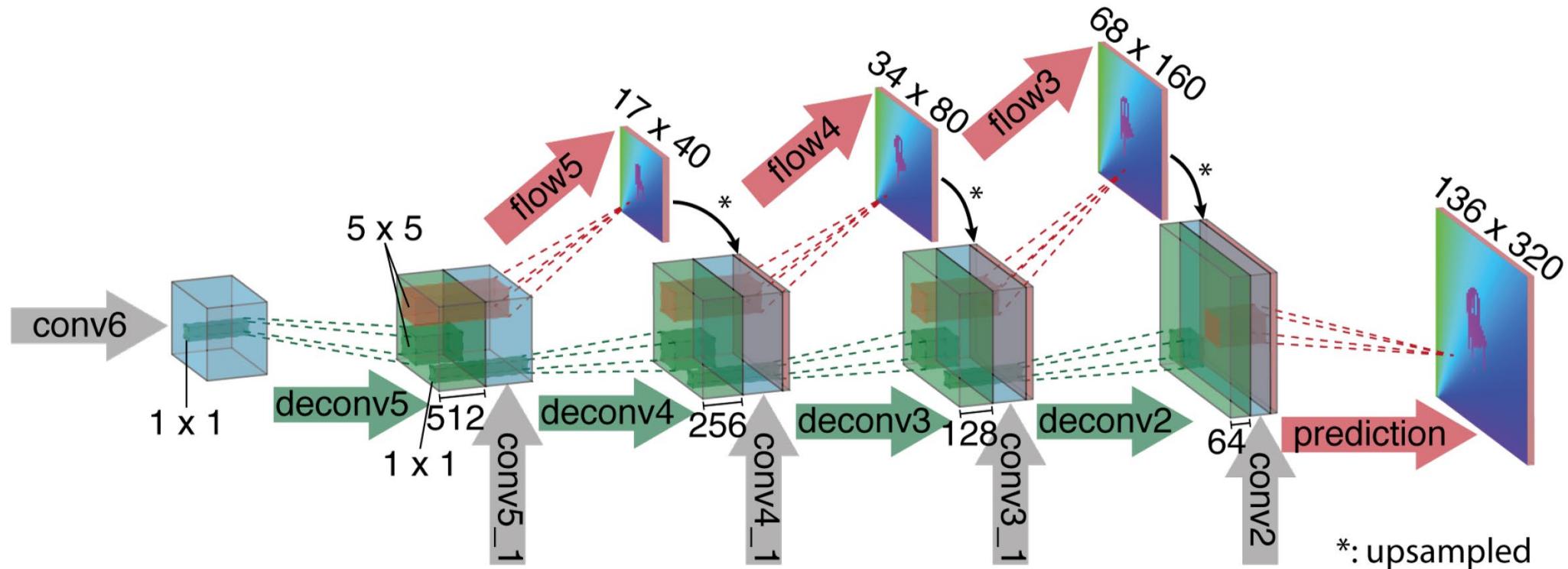
# Learnable Up-sampling: Deconvolution



$3 \times 3$  “deconvolution”, stride 2, pad 1

# FlowNet

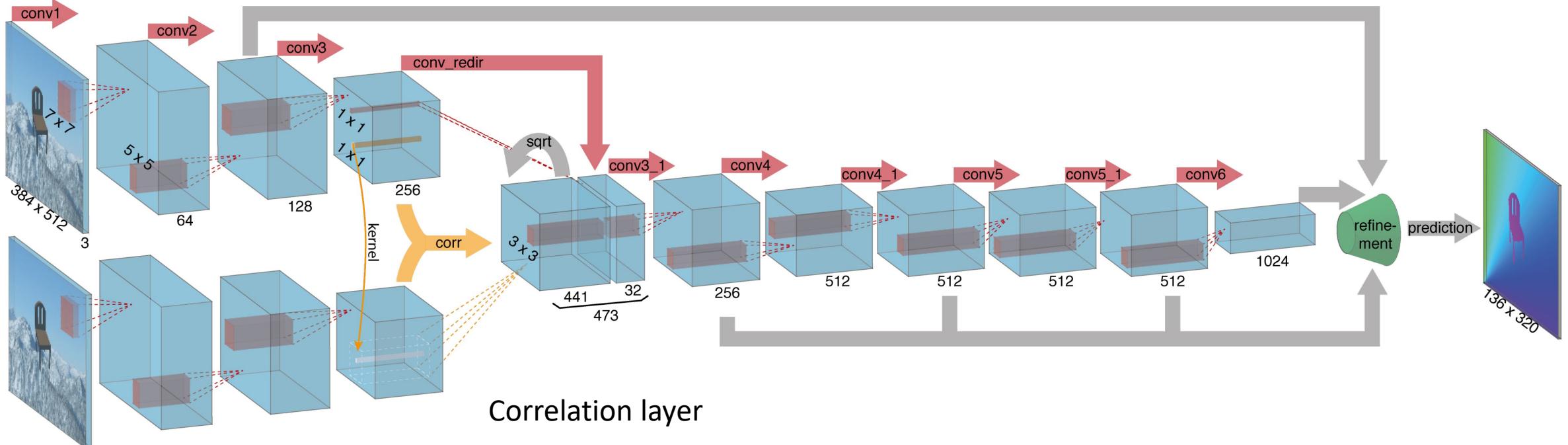
- Refinement



FlowNet: Learning Optical Flow with Convolutional Networks. Fischer et al., ICCV, 2015

# FlowNet

FlowNetCorr



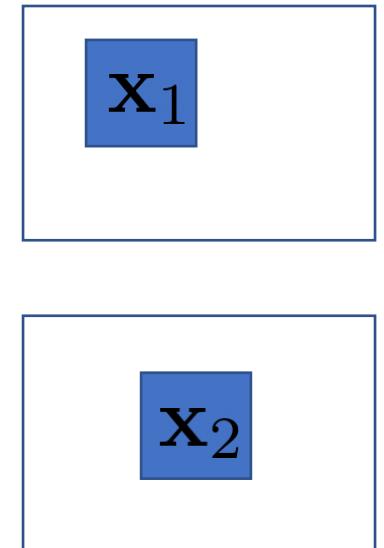
Correlation layer

FlowNet: Learning Optical Flow with Convolutional Networks. Fischer et al., ICCV, 2015

# FlowNet

- Correlation layer: multiplicative patch comparison between two feature maps

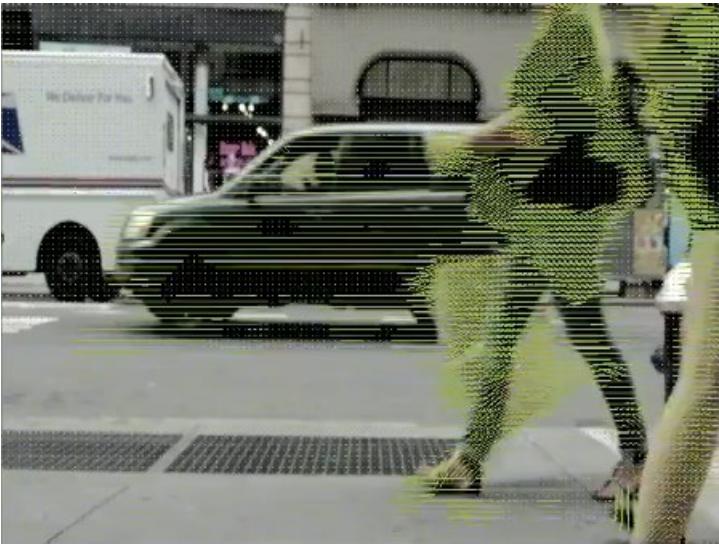
$$c(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) = \sum_{\mathbf{o} \in [-k, k] \times [-k, k]} \langle \mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{o}), \mathbf{f}_2(\mathbf{x}_2 + \mathbf{o}) \rangle$$



- Two patches centered at  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ , with size  $K = 2k + 1$
- Convolve data with another data
- Limit the patches for comparison with maximum displacement  $d$
- Only compare patches in a neighborhood with size  $D = 2d + 1$
- Output size  $(w \times h \times D^2)$

FlowNet: Learning Optical Flow with Convolutional Networks. Fischer et al., ICCV, 2015

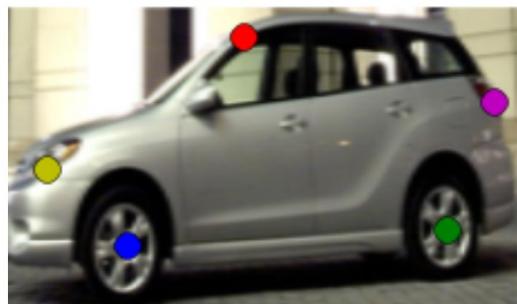
# Correspondences



Optical flow



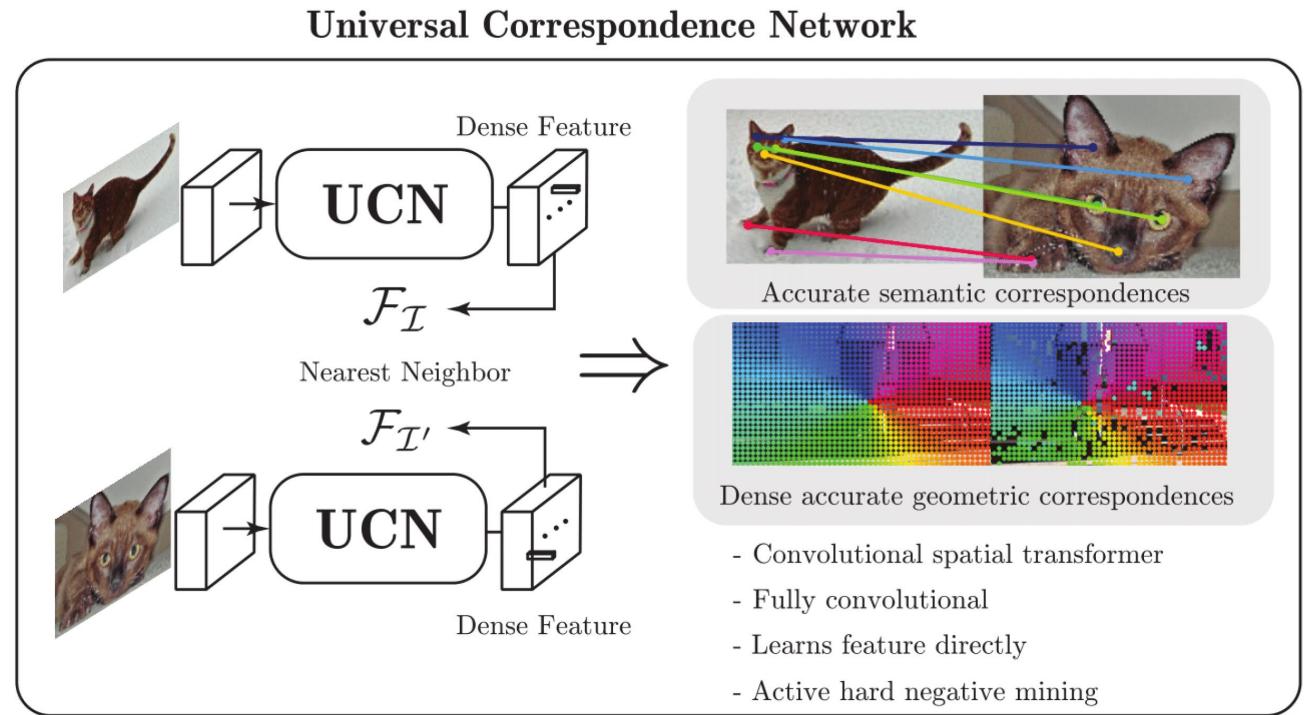
SIFT matching



Semantic keypoints

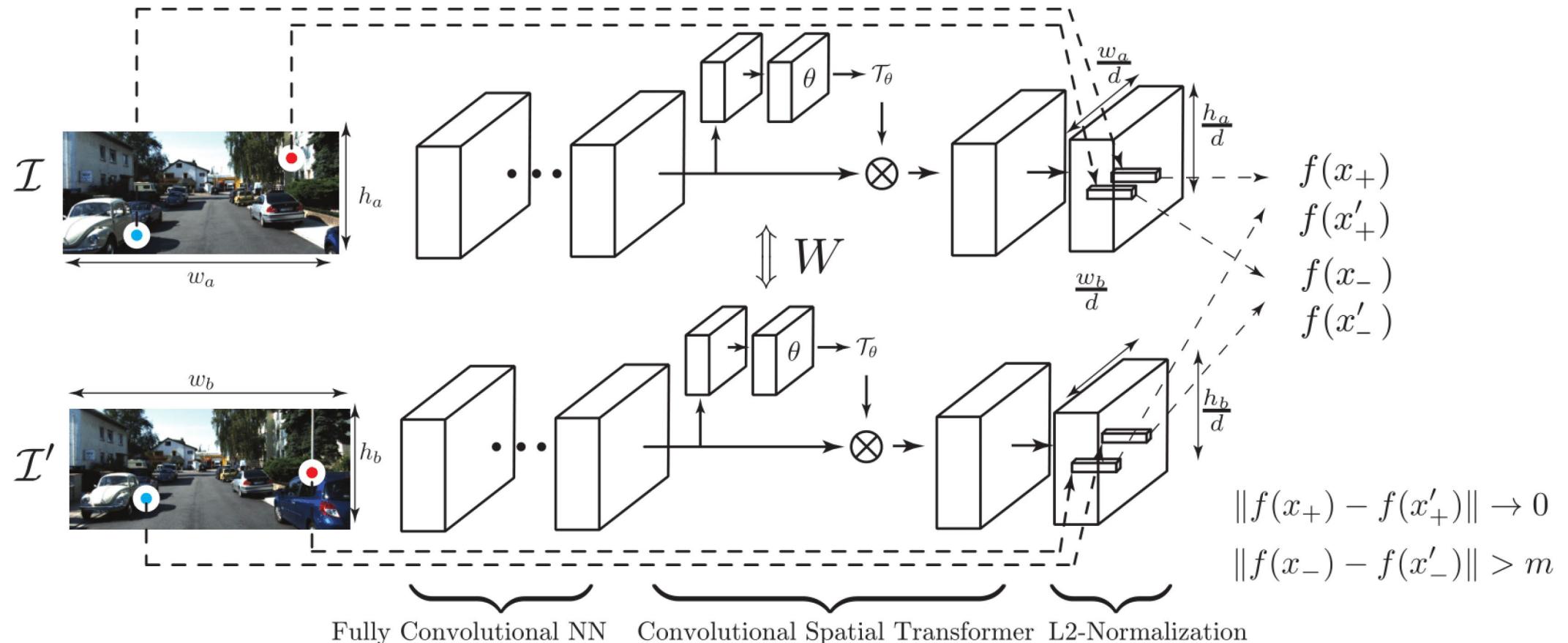
# Universal Correspondences Network

- Learn pixel-wise features for matching
- Fully-convolutional network
- Contrastive loss function for feature learning
- Convolutional spatial transformer



Universal Correspondence Network. Choy et al., NuerIPS, 2016

# Universal Correspondences Network



Universal Correspondence Network. Choy et al., NuerIPS, 2016

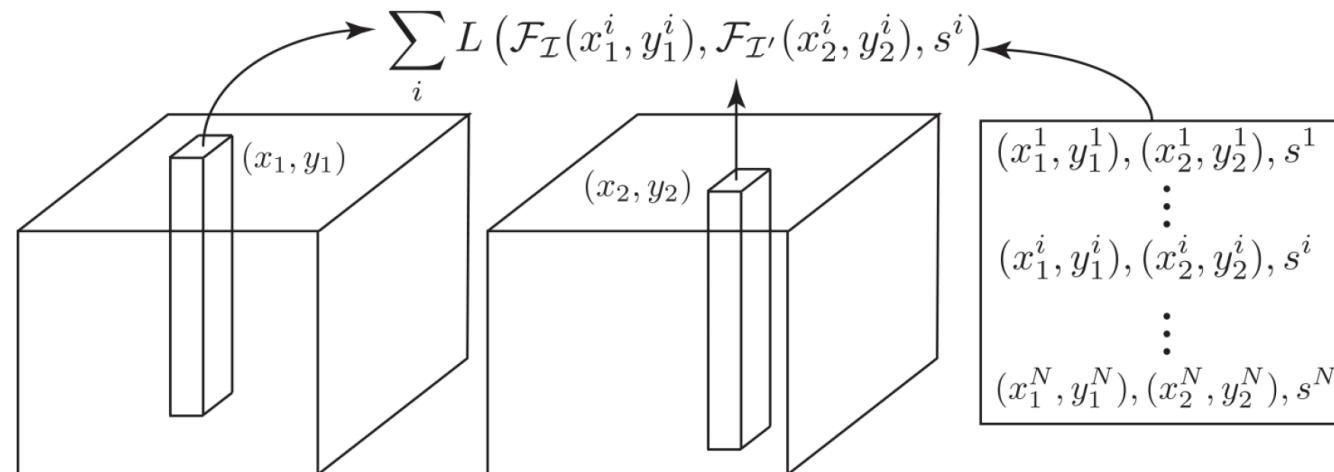
# Universal Correspondences Network

- Correspondence contrastive loss

$$L = \frac{1}{2N} \sum_i^N s_i \|\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{I}}(\mathbf{x}_i) - \mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{I}'}(\mathbf{x}_i')\|^2 + (1 - s_i) \max(0, m - \|\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{I}}(\mathbf{x}) - \mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{I}'}(\mathbf{x}_i')\|)^2$$

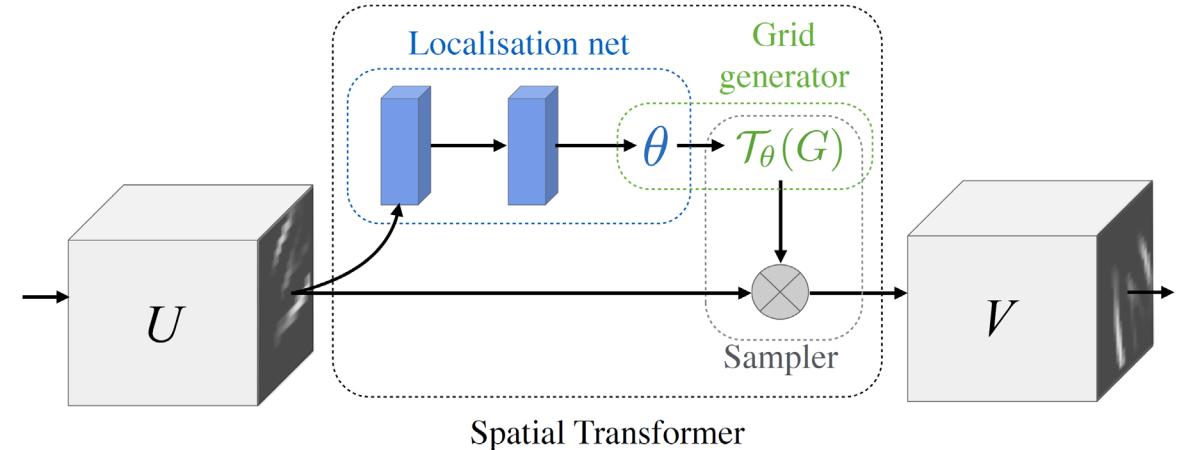
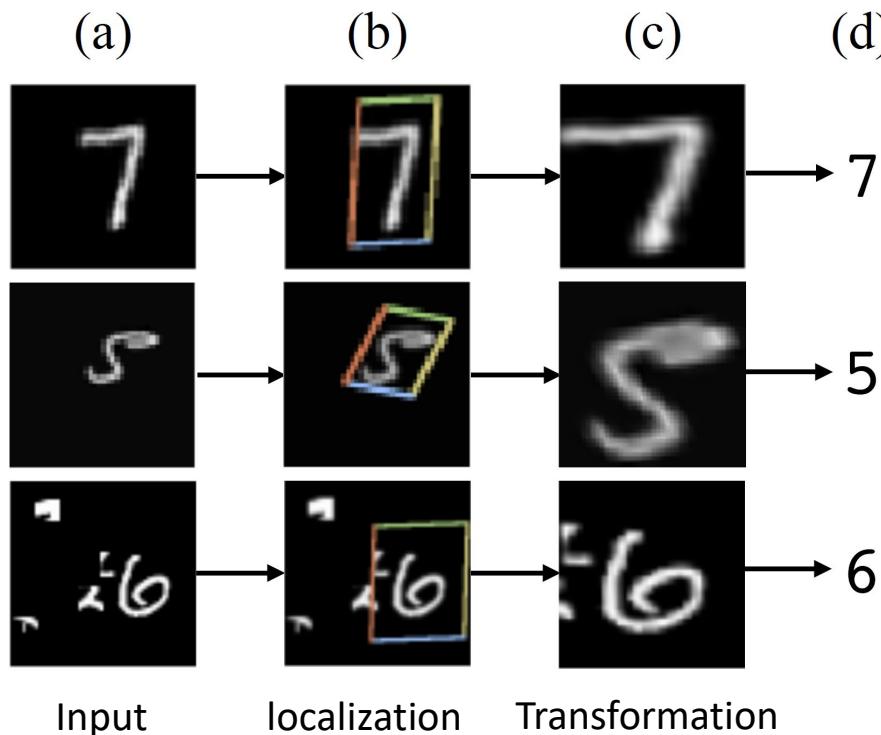
positive pair

negative pair



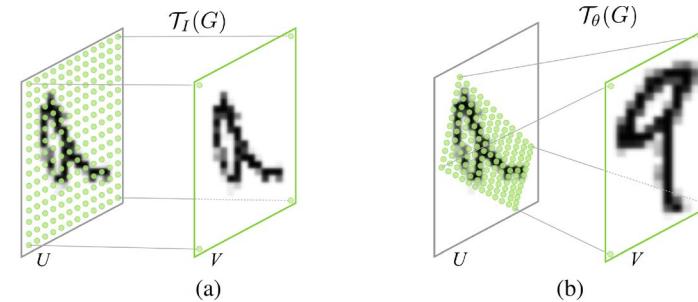
Universal Correspondence Network. Choy et al., NuerIPS, 2016

# Spatial Transformer Network



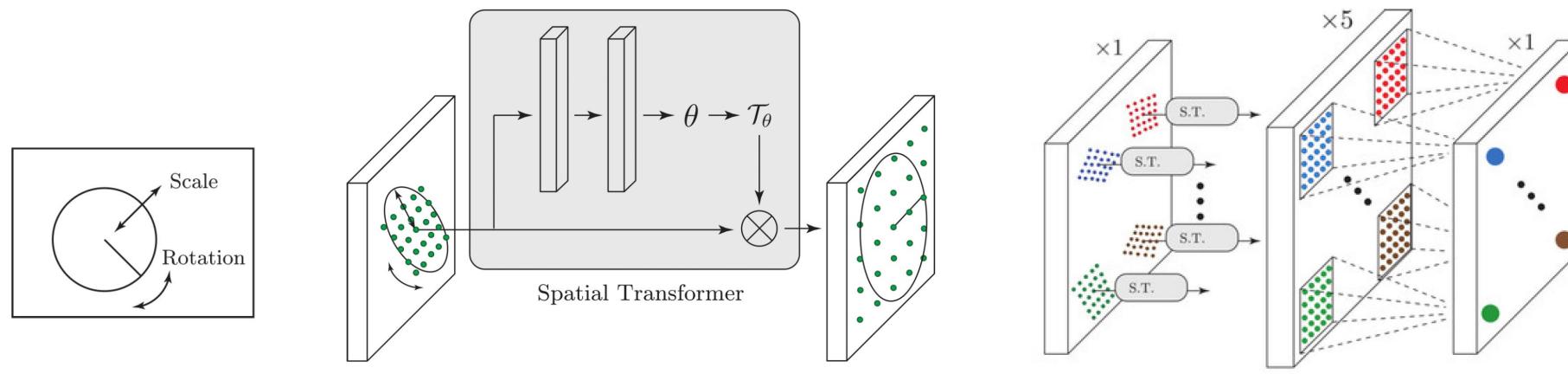
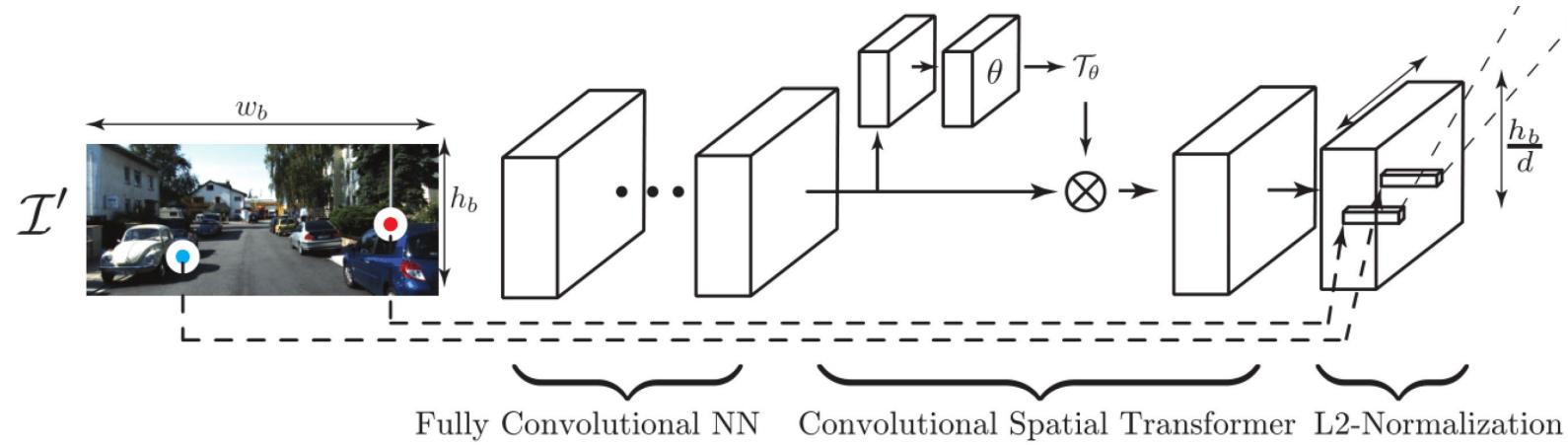
Affine transformation

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_i^s \\ y_i^s \end{pmatrix} = \mathcal{T}_\theta(G_i) = A_\theta \begin{pmatrix} x_i^t \\ y_i^t \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \theta_{11} & \theta_{12} & \theta_{13} \\ \theta_{21} & \theta_{22} & \theta_{23} \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_i^t \\ y_i^t \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



Spatial Transformer Networks. Jaderberg et al., NeurIPS, 2015

# Universal Correspondences Network



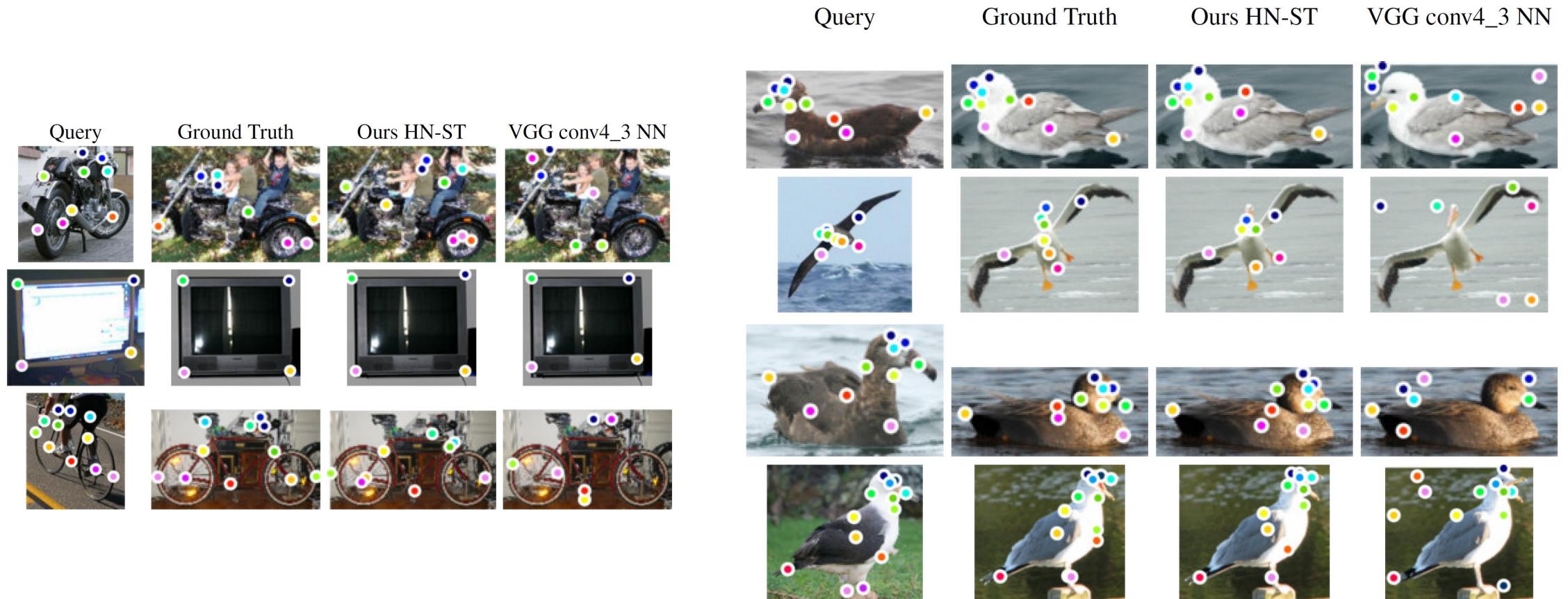
(a) SIFT

(b) Spatial transformer

(c) Convolutional spatial transformer

Universal Correspondence Network. Choy et al., NuerIPS, 2016

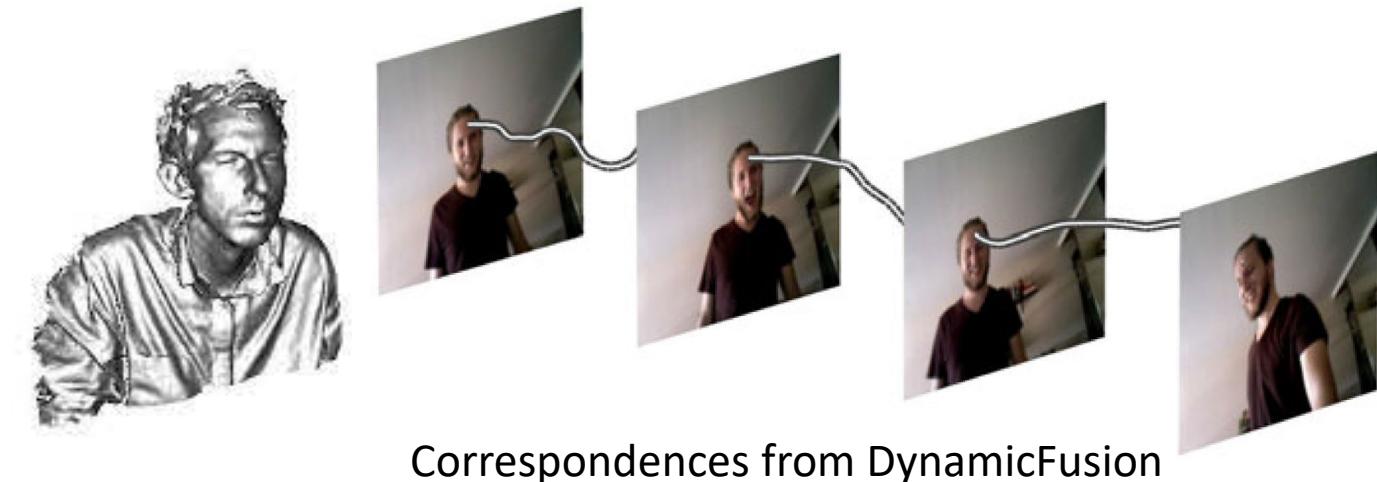
# Universal Correspondences Network



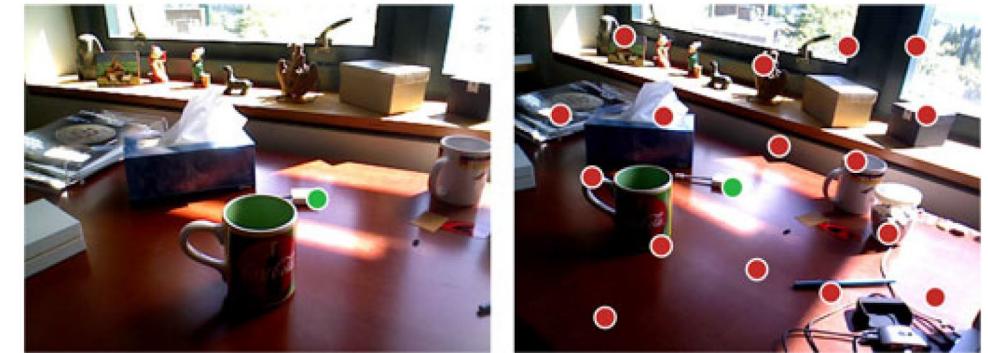
Universal Correspondence Network. Choy et al., NuerIPS, 2016

# Self-supervised Correspondences Learning

- Use 3D reconstruction techniques to find pixel correspondences



KinectFusion



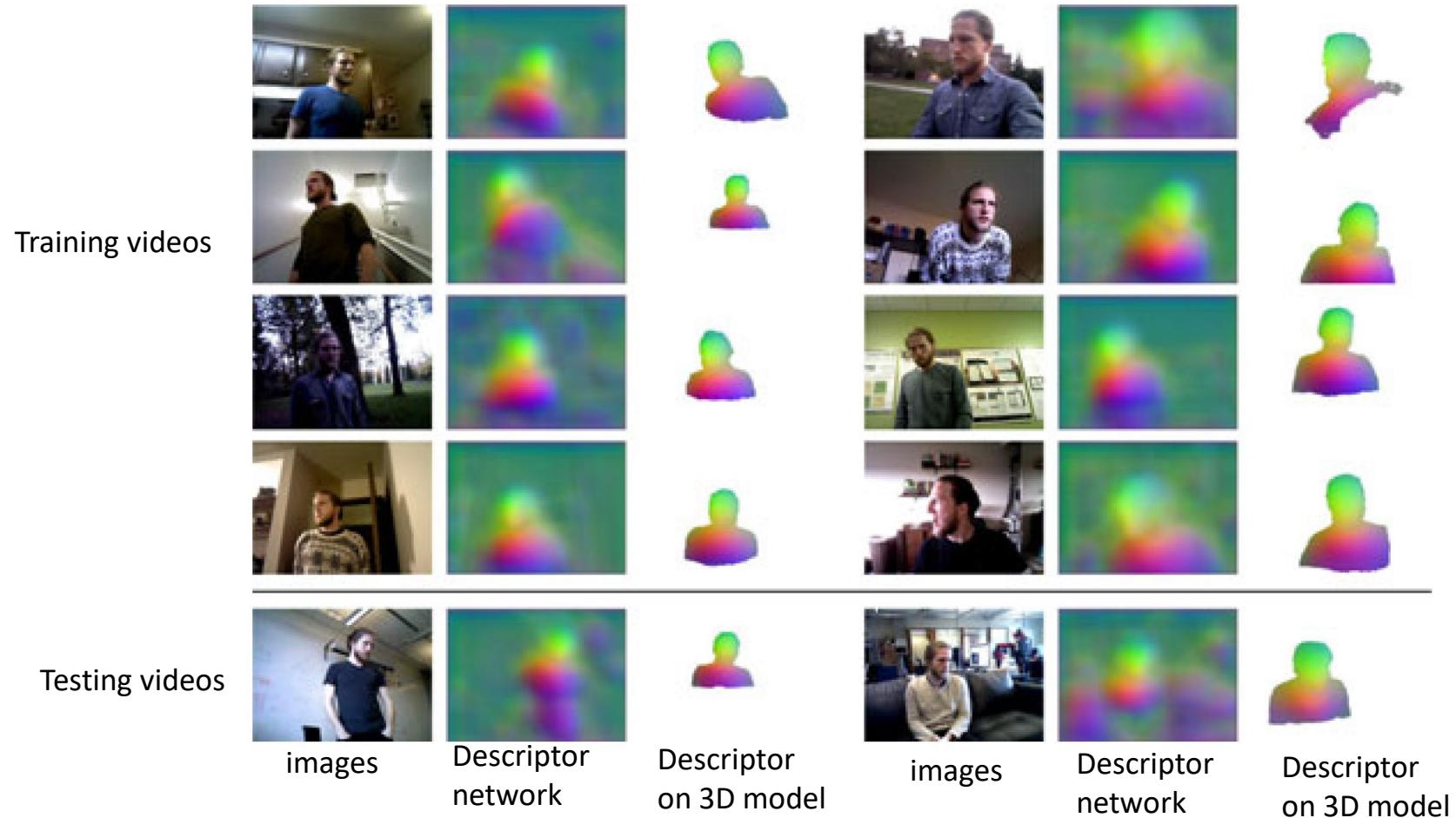
Positive pairs and negative pairs

Contrastive loss

$$L(I_a, I_b, u_a, u_b, M_a, M_b) = \begin{cases} D(I_a, I_b, u_a, u_b)^2 & M_a(u) = M_b(u) \\ \max(0, M - D(I_a, I_b, u_a, u_b))^2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

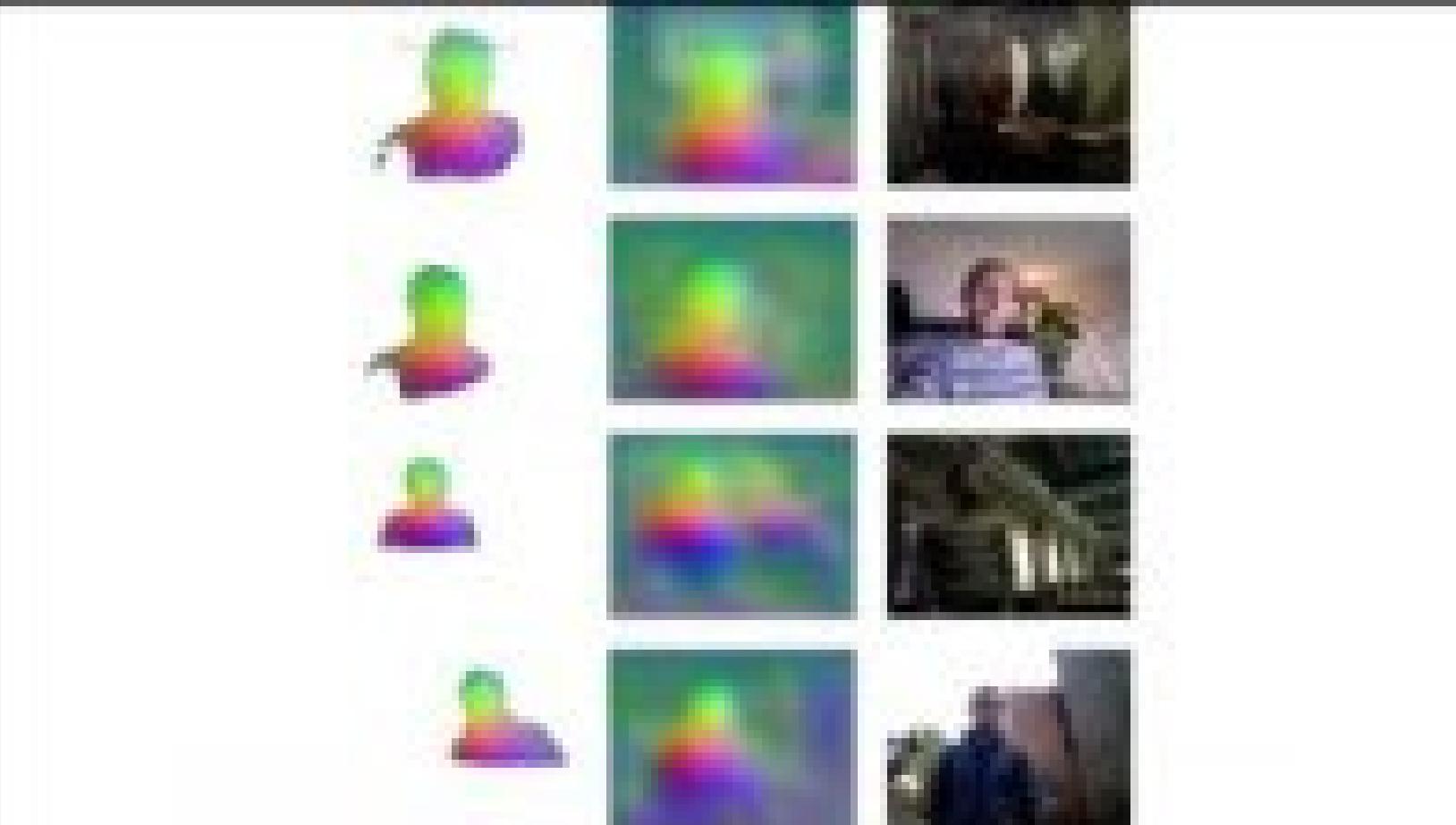
Self-Supervised Visual Descriptor Learning for Dense Correspondence. Schimdt et al., RA-L, 2017

# Self-supervised Correspondences Learning



Self-Supervised Visual Descriptor Learning for Dense Correspondence. Schimdt et al., RA-L, 2017

# Self-supervised Correspondences Learning



<https://youtu.be/jfXyAypAQWk>

Self-Supervised Visual Descriptor Learning for Dense Correspondence. Schmidt et al., RA-L, 2017

# Further Reading

- Lucas–Kanade method  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lucas%E2%80%93Kanade method](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lucas%E2%80%93Kanade_method)
- FlowNet: Learning Optical Flow with Convolutional Networks, 2015  
<https://arxiv.org/abs/1504.06852>
- Universal Correspondence Network, 2016  
<https://arxiv.org/abs/1606.03558>
- Self-Supervised Visual Descriptor Learning for Dense Correspondence, 2017 <https://homes.cs.washington.edu/~tws10/3163.pdf>