# **Computer Vision**

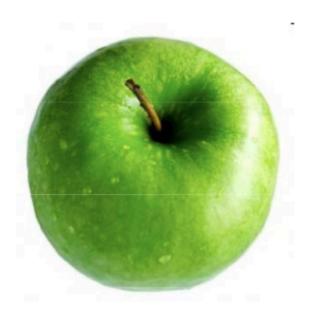
Pattern Recognition for Computer Vision

Luis F. Teixeira MAP-i 2014/15

# Goal of Computer Vision

- Provide computers with human-like perception capabilities so that they can sense the environment, understand the sensed data, take appropriate actions (make decisions), learn from this experience in order to enhance future performance
  - Understand visual information with no accompanying structural, administrative or descriptive text information
- Sources of difficulties:
  - Sensory gap
  - Semantic gap

# Why is Vision hard?





135	229	212	232	151	173	103	206	197	191	180	27
203	12	1	42	179	173	143	204	124	150	213	165
111	42	110	212	104	97	184	63	211	150	202	61
239	28	25	204	220	48	152	113	2.53	92	44	23
212	7	66	37	114	178	240	66	106	3	24	252
219	130	29	142	157	119	83	168	132	11	25	190
234	194	43	190	146	14	39	250	108	41	70	139
159	131	198	87	95	242	54	68	120	110	59	108
118	59	141	186	74	153	31	233	141	90	9	200
207	149	3	85	215	68	155	21	236	252	195	207
29	62	152	103	31	208	203	33	213	35	11	160
212	125	204	101	83	190	91	136	221	88	116	81
72	159	53	241	156	210	127	192	122	6	82	77
240	62	143	103	195	103	184	247	106	195	253	13
254	145	247	7	108	64	14	175	227	23	249	154
154	194	63	2/-5	1.54	73	99	30	2-9	18	10	57
131	71	117	<b>4</b> 6	2.7	24:	136		198	147	182	219
154	39	178	47	21	156	42	83	202	37	16	192
101	40	239	6	252	170	33	4	174	233	195	67
53	145	23	231	234	234	185	180	197	175	245	171
209	75	99	164	204	242	192	242	108	18	45	220
207	131	226	144	114	182	23	230	18	250	169	214
99	110	47	71	125	108	194	72	248	69	197	5
175	160	249	252	34	189	81	20	117	170	175	205
240	13	168	194	78	125	12	60	147	251	97	136
180	131	27	81	153	104	40	92	95	22	104	79
125	83	79	70	24	151	189	212	133	77	117	32
234	2	48	32	6	198	58	38	248	46	212	20

# Challenges



Illumination



Object pose





Clutter



**Occlusions** 

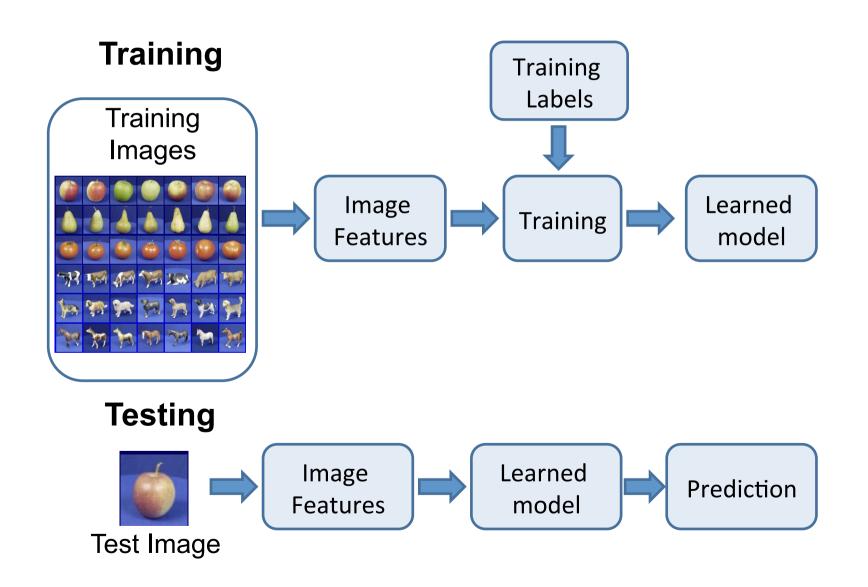


Intra-class appearance



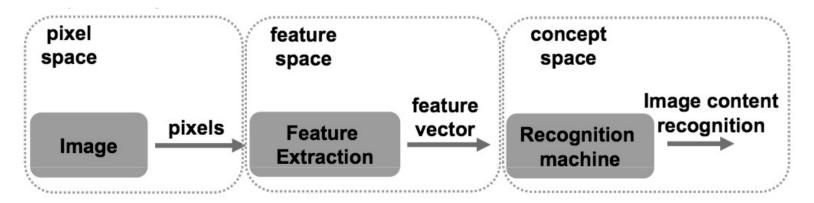
Viewpoint

### Pattern recognition in computer vision



### Pattern recognition in computer vision

- Image recognition system:
  - Feature extraction: captures meaningful information from the image (for the specific task at hand), reducing dimensionality.
  - Pattern recognition: does the actual job of classifying or describing observations, relying on the extracted features.
- System diagram



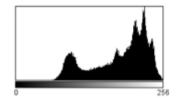
– How can we find meaningful features?

- Raw pixels
  - Use directly the color values captured by the sensor
- Low level features
  - These features are very objective features
- Middle level features
  - Features resulting from a decision process (related to the existence of some subjective details)
    - Segmentation of certain shapes
    - Identification of certain objects, types of content
- High level features
  - Features with some semantic content information, highly contextual and based on prior knowledge.
    - Person A is talking to person B

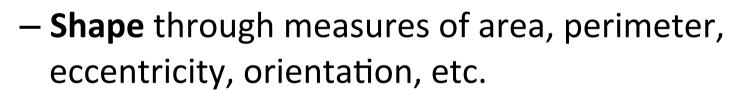
- Types of features
  - Low-level: Color, texture, shape, motion, ...
  - Middle-level: Pedestrian in the image, visible sky, existence of trees
  - High-level: Car moving fast, person smiling
- From low-level to high-level
  - While decisions must be made at each level we must always start from the low-level, as that is the information readily available to us.
  - The fundamental problem is how to reach highlevel knowledge from initial low-level features.

- Features can also be classified based on extent: Global, Region or Local
  - Global features:
    - These features highly summarize the image content enabling good description of global content or context but missing fine detail.
    - These can also be used at a semi-global level by subdividing the image into regions.
  - Region features:
    - These features describe boundary-based properties of an object or they can describe region-based properties.

- Classic features
  - Global colour and edge histograms



Texture through co-occurrence matrices and fractal analysis



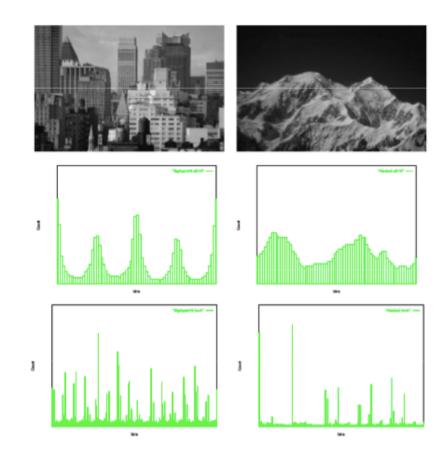
- Very high computational cost
- Features are very complex
- Other features such as the ones described in the MPEG-7 standard can also be useful

- The best feature to use for an image's description depends on what is its content:
  - For detecting different objects, different features may be required.
  - We do not know the content (we are trying to find it).
- Features can be combined by concatenation into a larger feature vector:
  - However, the features may have different "importance" for the image recognition system.

$$F_{fusion} = \alpha \times F_1 + (1 - \alpha) \times F_2$$

 $-\alpha$  is the fusion weighting, an additional hyperparameter in the system which must be validated experimentally.

- Example: using global features to classify city/landscape images
  - Based on colour and edge histograms
  - KNN classifier
  - Features fusion using weighted concatenation



- Global features rarely have the descriptive power to capture all information in an image
- This leaves global features usable only for some limited image recognition tasks
- An image often requires a part based analysis
  - Context is global, but object are defined locally.
  - Most image content is described at a local level.
  - By dividing an image into parts we simplify recognition.
  - Separating objects from context makes recognition more robust

- How can we subdivide an image?
  - Object segmentation, not always an easy task
    - When the background can be modelled, we can perform background subtraction



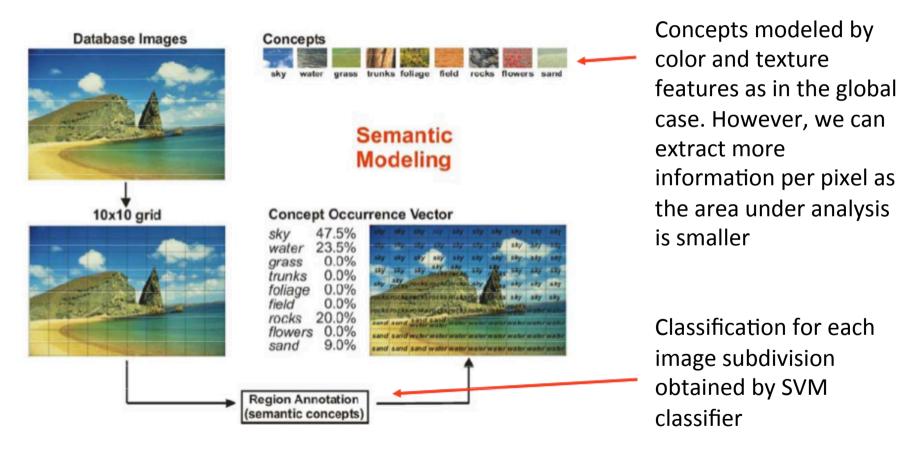






- Grid subdivision
- Exhaustive search
- Local interest points

 Exhaustive grid division: the whole image is divided into blocks with no overlap



**Semantic Scene Modeling and Retrieval for Content-Based Image Retrieval.** Julia Vogel and Bernt Schiele. *International Journal of Computer Vision*. Vol. 72, No. 2, pp. 133-157, April 2007.

- We may miss some objects if these are split over several image blocks
- Over-sampling grid division: the whole image is divided into blocks with overlap
- Redundant, but less prone to miss objects.



**Scene Classification via PLSA**. A.Bosch, A.Zisserman, X.Muñoz European Conference on Computer Vision, vol. IV, pp. 517-530. Graz, Austria. May 2006.

- Scanning image division: the image is scanned with a fine regular sampling into block (very redundant).
  - Similar to a grid division. However, it is more exhaustive.
  - To detect object at several scales several passes have to be made with variable window size (same applies to rotation).

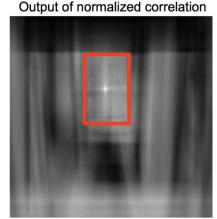


 We can do this using template matching: cross-correlate the pixels in each area with a model template

• **Template matching -** sensitive to noise and **computationally expensive**, i.e. requires presented image to be correlated with every image in the database (no generalization power)

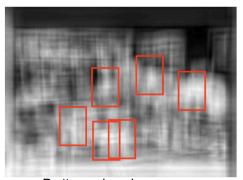
This is a chair





Find the chair in this image





Pretty much garbage
Simple template matching is not going to make it

# Local interest points

 Local point detectors were first created to help solve the wide-baseline matching problem.

#### Local point detectors

- Detectors that identify specific locations in the image
- Define areas that are invariant to certain transformations

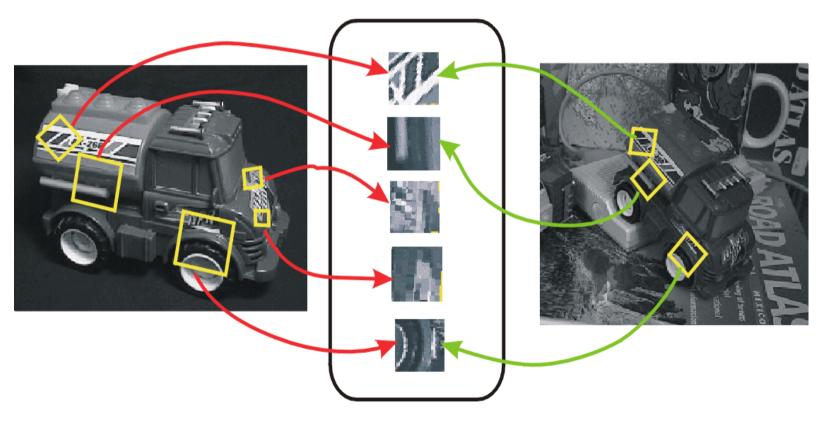
#### Local descriptors

- Highly specific, must describe a local area with high discriminative power.
- Invariance to transformation can come from either the point detector or the local descriptor.

### Invariant local features

#### Find features that are invariant to transformations

- geometric invariance: translation, rotation, scale
- photometric invariance: brightness, exposure, ...



**Feature Descriptors** 

### Invariant local features

#### Geometric transformations

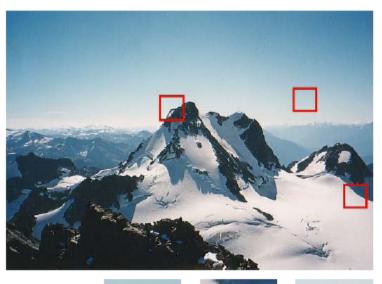
- Translation
- Euclidean (translation + rotation)
- Similarity (translation + rotation + scale)
- Affine transformations
- Projective transformations

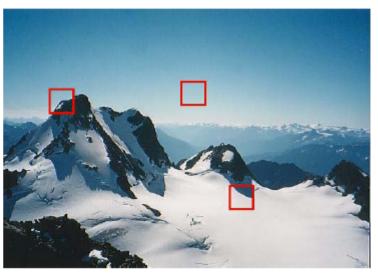
Only holds for planar patches

Euclidean

# Local point detectors

• What are salient features that can be *detected* in multiple views?









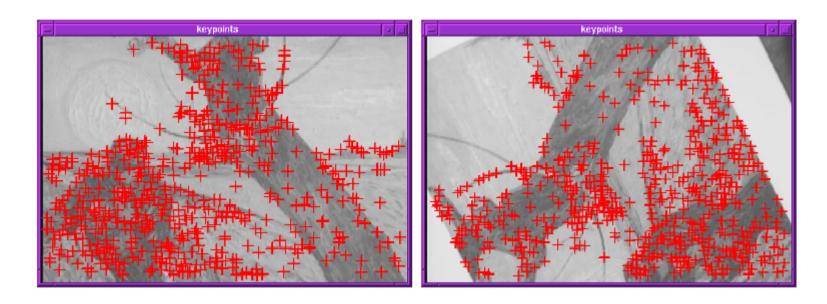






#### Corners

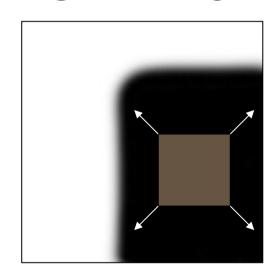
- Key property: in the region around a corner, image gradient has two or more dominant directions
- Corners are repeatable and distinctive



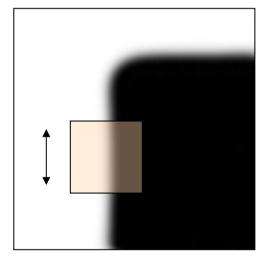
**A Combined Corner and Edge Detector**. C.Harris and M.Stephens. *Proceedings of the 4th Alvey Vision Conference*: pages 147-151, 1988

#### Corners

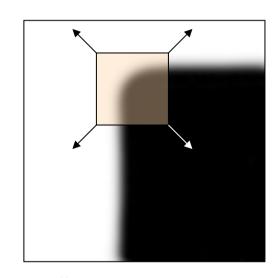
- We should easily recognize the point by looking through a small window
- Shifting a window in *any direction* should give *a large change* in intensity



"flat" region: no change in all directions



"edge": no change along the edge direction



"corner": significant change in all directions

Change of intensity for the shift [u,v]:

$$E(u,v) = \sum_{x,y} w(x,y) [I(x+u,y+v) - I(x,y)]^{2}$$
Window function Shifted intensity Intensity

Window function 
$$W(x,y) = 0$$

1 in window, 0 outside Gaussian

This measure of change can be approximated by:

$$E(u,v) \approx \begin{bmatrix} u & v \end{bmatrix} M \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix}$$

where M is a 2×2 matrix computed from image derivatives:

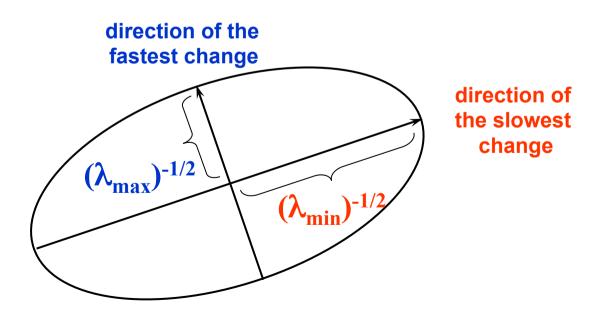
$$M = \sum_{x,y} w(x,y) \begin{bmatrix} I_x^2 & I_x I_y \\ I_x I_y & I_y^2 \end{bmatrix}$$
 Gradient with respect to x, times gradient with respect to y

Sum over image region – area we are checking for corner

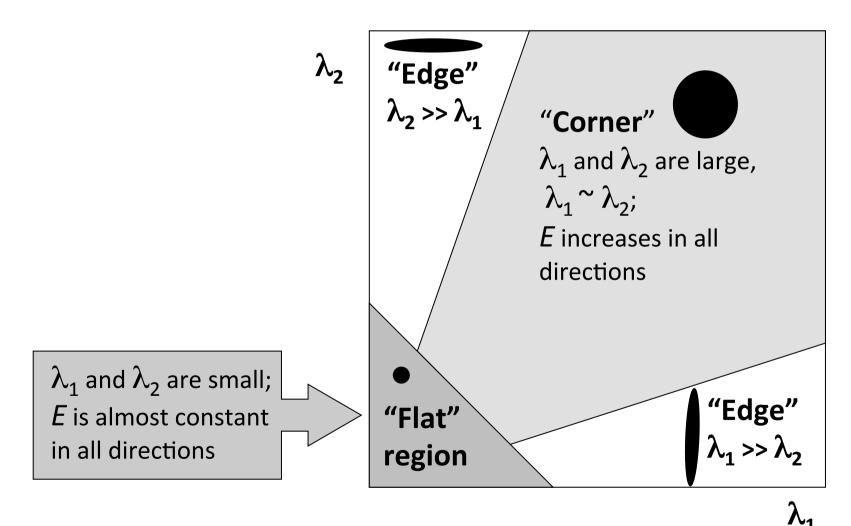
$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{I_x I_x} & \sum_{I_x I_y} \\ \sum_{I_x I_y} & \sum_{I_y I_y} \end{bmatrix} = \sum_{I_y I_y} \begin{bmatrix} I_x \\ I_y \end{bmatrix} [I_x I_y]$$

Since M is symmetric, we have 
$$M = R^{-1} \begin{vmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{vmatrix} R$$

We can visualize *M* as an ellipse with axis lengths determined by the eigenvalues and orientation determined by *R* 



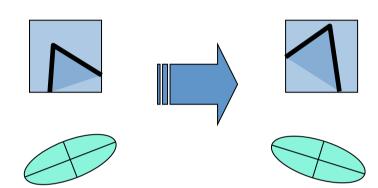
Classification of image points using eigenvalues of M:



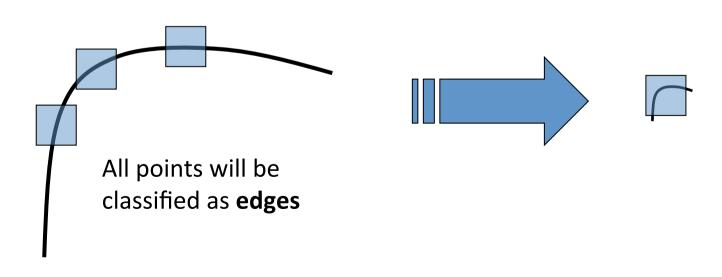
Properties of the Harris corner detector

Rotation invariance

Ellipse rotates but its shape (i.e. eigenvalues) remains the same



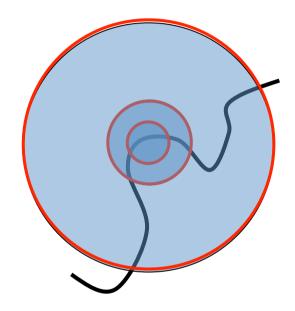
Not invariant to image scale







Suppose you are looking for corners



Key idea: find scale that gives local maximum of f

- f is a local maximum in both position and scale
- Common definition of f: Laplacian
   (or difference between two Gaussian filtered images with different sigmas)

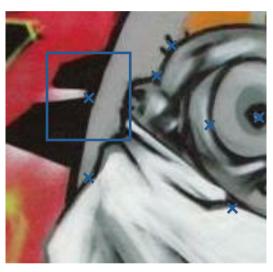
















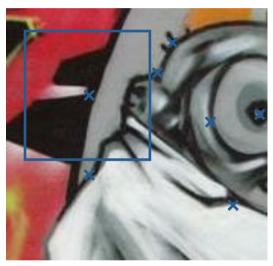












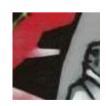




Extract patch from each image individually





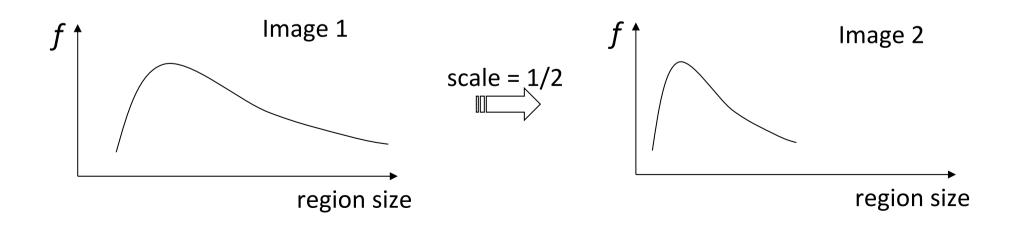




- Solution for an automatic scale detection:
  - Design a function f on the region, which is "scale invariant" (the same for corresponding regions, even if they are at different scales)

Example: average intensity. For corresponding regions (even of different sizes) it will be the same.

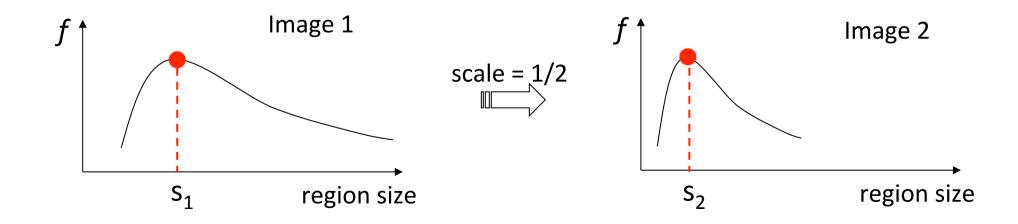
 For a point in one image, we can consider it as a function of region size (patch width)



#### Common approach:

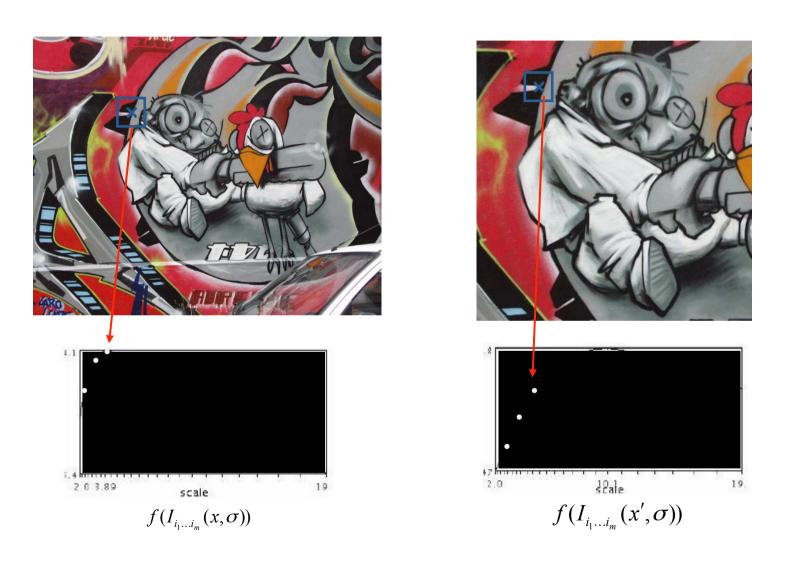
Take a local maximum of this function

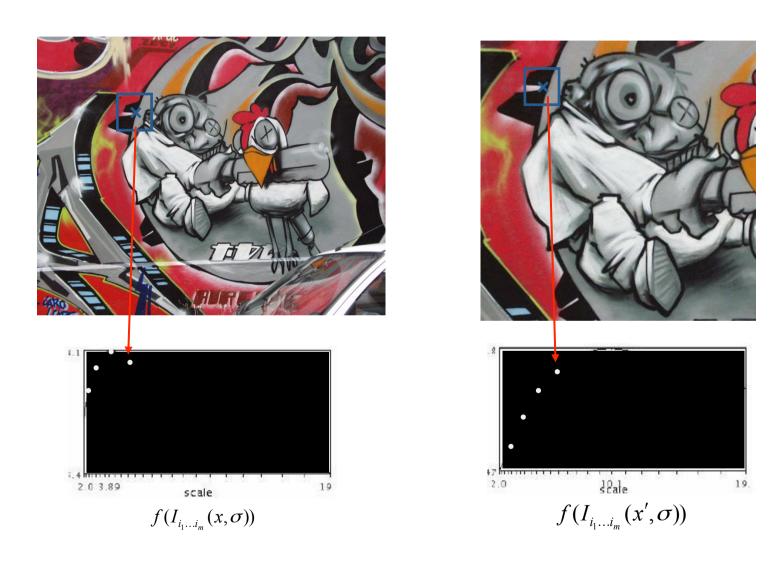
Observation: region size, for which the maximum is achieved, should be *invariant* to image scale.

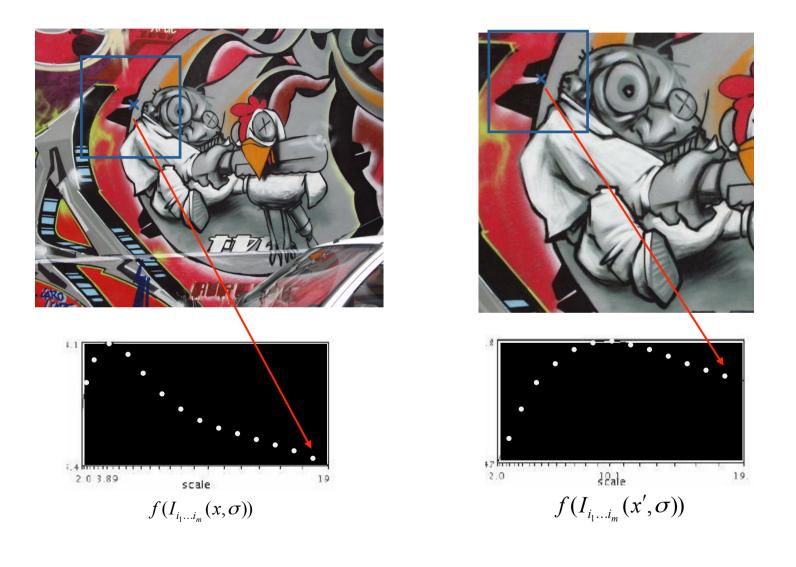


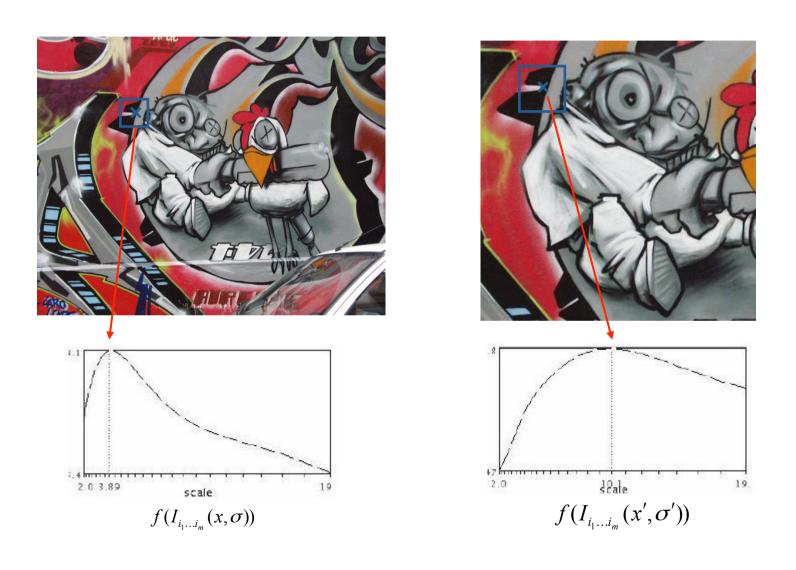




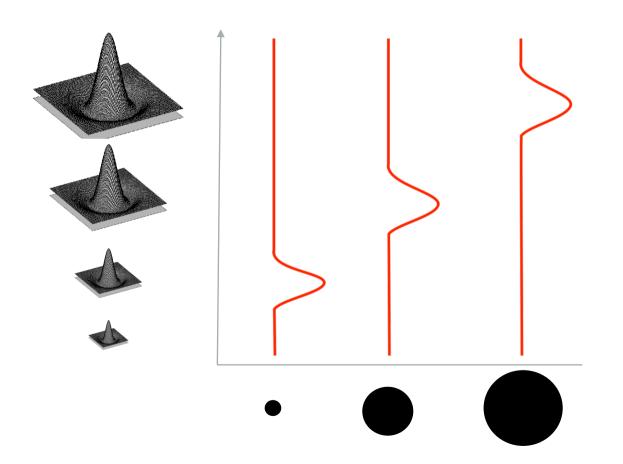








- Useful signature function
  - Laplacian-of-Gaussian = "blob" detector



**√** σ<sup>5</sup>

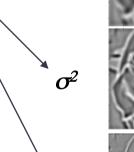
#### **Interest points:**

Local maxima in scale space of Laplacian-of-Gaussian (LoG)

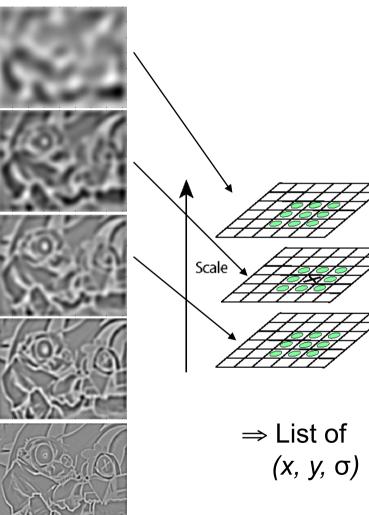


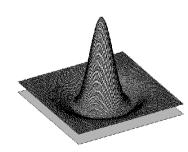
$$L_{xx}(\sigma) + L_{yy}(\sigma) \rightarrow \sigma^3$$



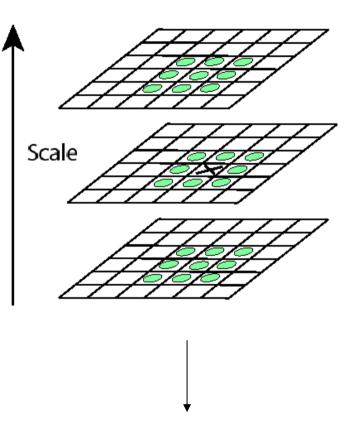


 $\sigma$ 





- LoG can be approximated by a Difference of two Gaussians (DoG) at different scales
- Detect maxima of DoG in the scale space volume
- Reject points with low contrast (threshold)
- Reject points that are localized along an edge



Candidate keypoints: list of  $(x,y,\sigma)$ 

# Scale-space blob detector: Example



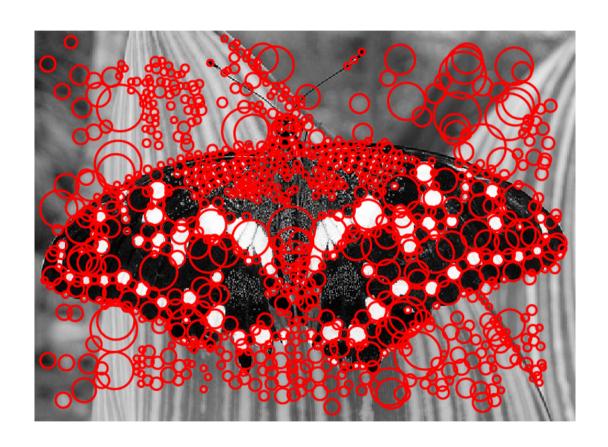
# Scale-space blob detector: Example



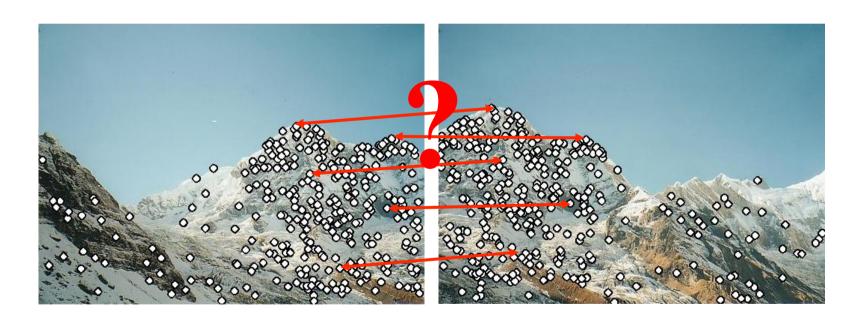
sigma = 11.9912

Source: Lana Lazebnik

# Scale-space blob detector: Example



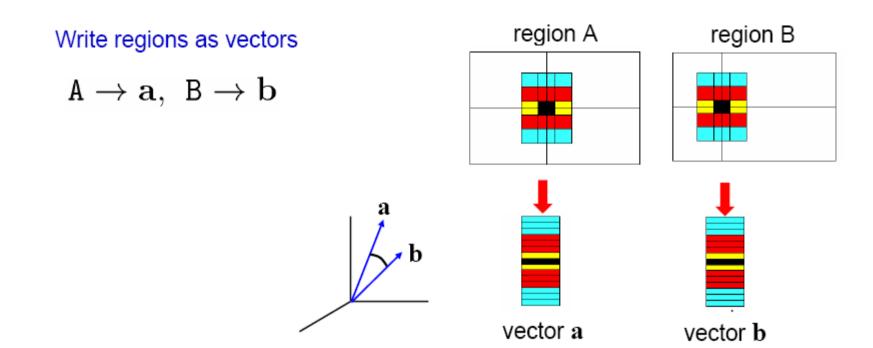
 How can we describe interest points for matching?



Point descriptor should be:

- 1. Invariant
- 2. Distinctive

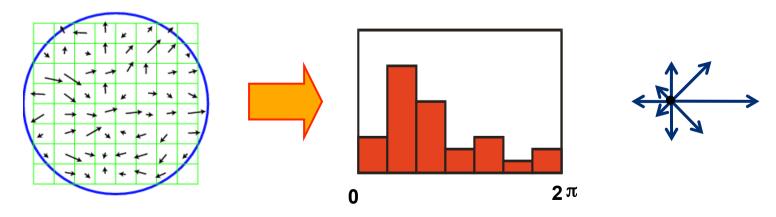
- Simplest descriptor: list of intensities within a patch.
- What is this going to be invariant to?



- Disadvantage of patches as descriptors:
  - Small shifts can affect matching score a lot



Solution: histograms



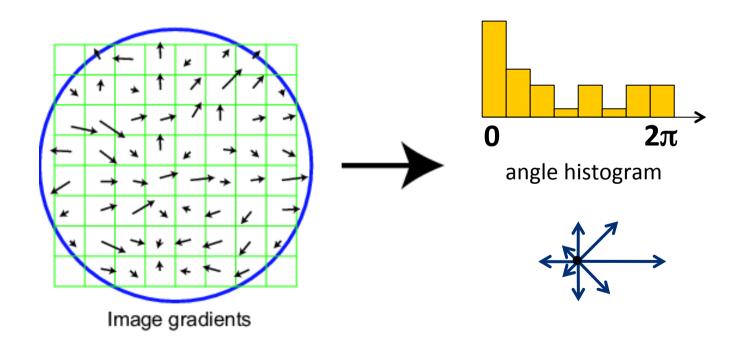
Source: Lana Lazebnik

- Histogram-based descriptors
  - Based on the histogram of oriented gradient
  - SIFT, SURF, GLOH and HOG
- Compact descriptors
  - Based on binary strings obtained comparing pairs of image intensities
  - BRIEF, ORB, BRISK and FREAK

## SIFT descriptor

#### Basic idea:

- Take 16x16 square window around detected feature
- Compute edge orientation (angle of the gradient 90°) for each pixel
- Throw out weak edges (threshold gradient magnitude)
- Create histogram of surviving edge orientations

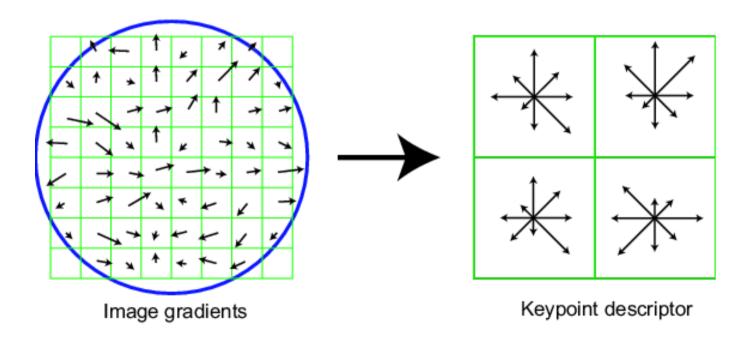


Distinctive image features from scale-invariant keypoints. David G. Lowe. *IJCV* 60 (2), pp. 91-110, 2004.

# SIFT descriptor

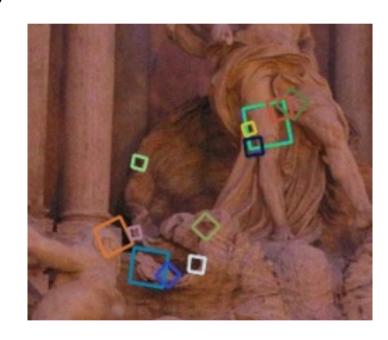
#### **Full version**

- Divide the 16x16 window into a 4x4 grid of cells (2x2 case shown below)
- Compute an orientation histogram for each cell
- 16 cells \* 8 orientations = 128 dimensional descriptor



# SIFT descriptor

- One image yields:
  - n 128-dimensional descriptors: each one is a histogram of the gradient orientations within a patch
    - [n x 128 matrix]
  - n scale parameters specifying the size of each patch
    - [n x 1 vector]
  - n orientation parameters specifying the angle of the patch
    - [n x 1 vector]
  - n 2d points giving positions of the patches
    - [n x 2 matrix]



Given a feature in  $I_1$ , how to find the best match in  $I_2$ ?

- 1. Define distance function that compares two descriptors
- 2. Test all the features in I<sub>2</sub>, find the one with min distance

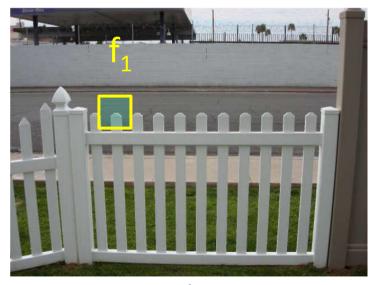


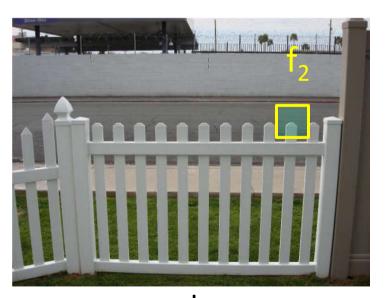


12

How to define the difference between two features  $f_1$ ,  $f_2$ ?

- Simple approach is SSD(f<sub>1</sub>, f<sub>2</sub>)
  - sum of square differences between entries of the two descriptors
  - can give good scores to very ambiguous (bad) matches

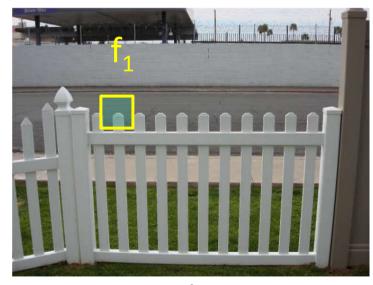


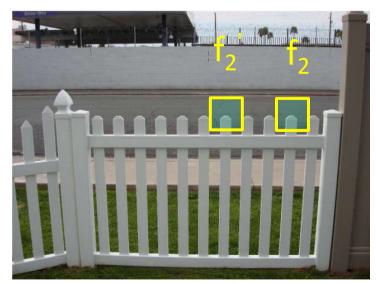


 $I_2$ 

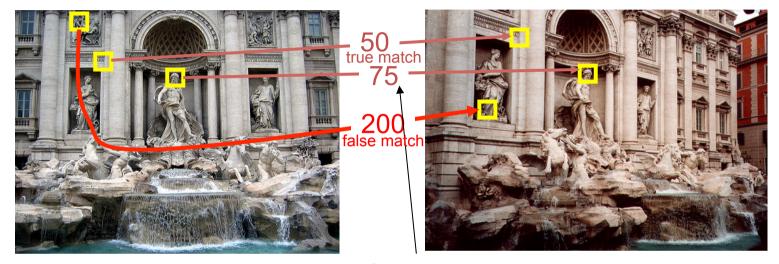
How to define the difference between two features  $f_1$ ,  $f_2$ ?

- Ratio distance = SSD(f<sub>1</sub>, f<sub>2</sub>) / SSD(f<sub>1</sub>, f<sub>2</sub>')
  - $f_2$  is best SSD match to  $f_1$  in  $I_2$
  - $f_2$ ' is 2<sup>nd</sup> best SSD match to  $f_1$  in  $I_2$
  - gives large values (~1) for ambiguous matches





1,

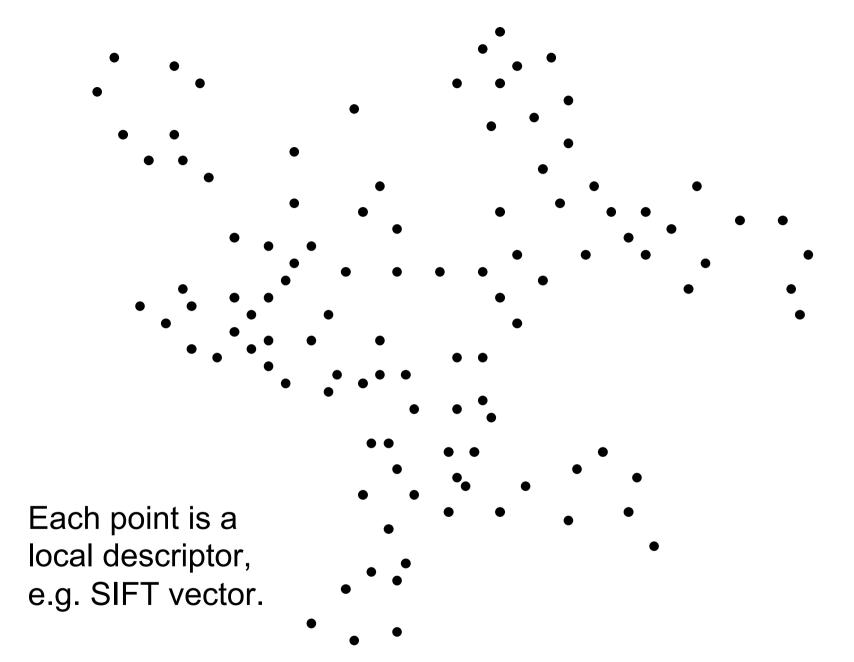


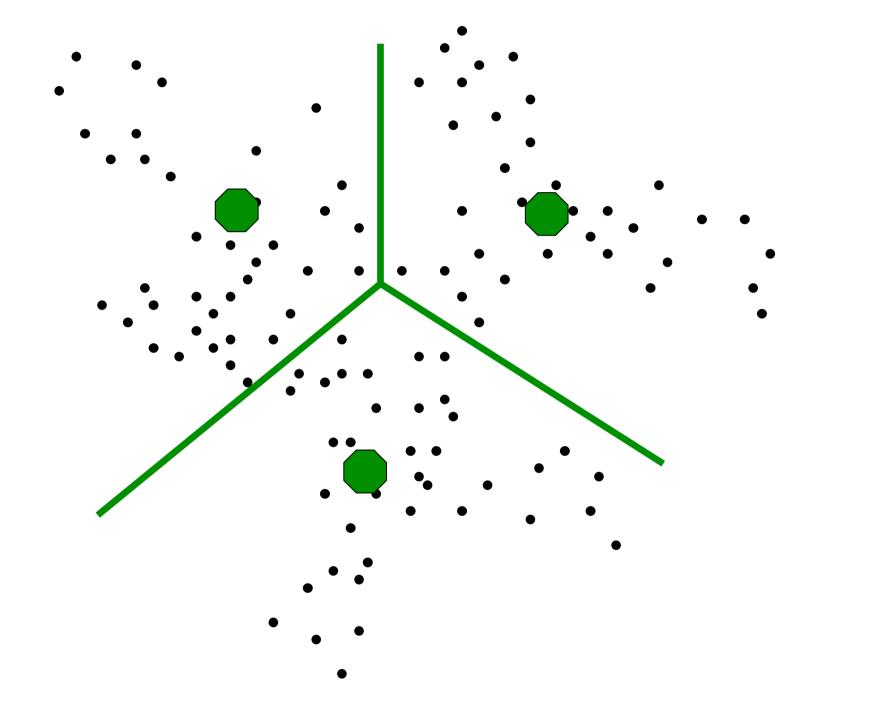
feature distance

- Eliminate bad matches: throw out features with distance > threshold
- The distance threshold affects performance
  - True positives = # of detected matches that are correct
    - Suppose we want to maximize these—how to choose threshold?
  - False positives = # of detected matches that are incorrect
    - Suppose we want to minimize these—how to choose threshold?

# Category recognition

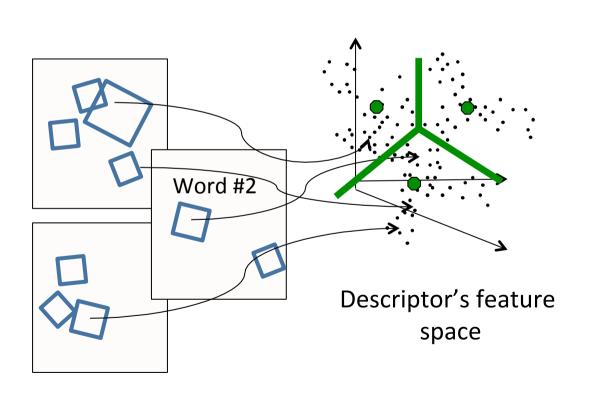
- Feature matching of local descriptors allows us to compare two images and find instances of objects
- What if we want to classify objects in a given image based on their **category** (e.g. person, car, plane, etc.)
  - Classifiers such as SVMs can be used for this task
  - The model is trained using the features extracted from previously labeled examples
  - But, how can we incorporate in a single feature vector, an unknown number of interest points and their description?





#### Visual words

 Map high-dimensional descriptors to words by quantizing the feature space



- Quantize via clustering, let cluster centers be the prototype "words"
- Determine which word to assign to each new image region by finding the closest cluster center.

#### Visual words

**Example**: each group of patches belongs to the same visual word

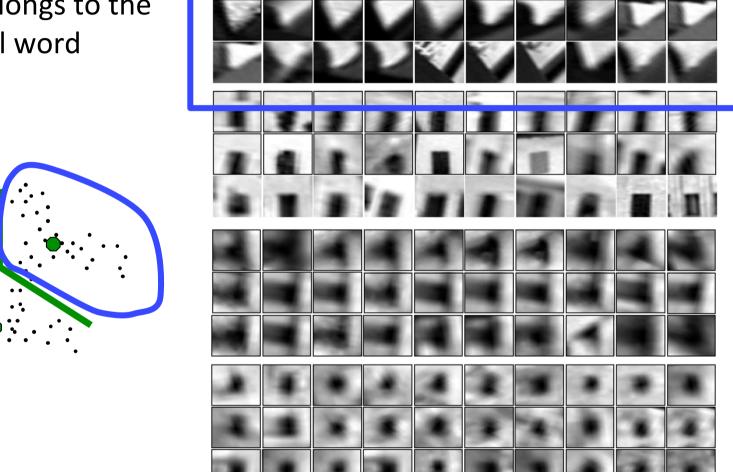


Figure from Sivic & Zisserman, ICCV 2003

# Indexing local features

Index "Along I-75," From Detroit to Florida: inside back cover "Drive I-95," From Boston to Florida: inside back cover 1929 Spanish Trail Roadway; 101-102,104 511 Traffic Information: 83 A1A (Barrier Isi) - I-95 Access; 86 AAA (and CAA); 83 AAA National Office: 88 Abbreviations. Colored 25 mile Maps; cover Exit Services: 196 Travelogue: 85 Africa: 177 Agricultural Inspection Stns: 126 Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum: 160 Air Conditioning, First; 112 Alabama: 124 Alachua: 132 County; 131 Alafia River: 143 Alapaha, Name: 126 Alfred B Maclay Gardens; 106 Alligator Alley; 154-155 Alligator Farm, St Augustine; 169 Alligator Hole (definition); 157 Alligator, Buddy; 155 Alligators; 100,135,138,147,156 Anastasia Island: 170 Anhaica: 108-109,146 Apalachicola River; 112 Appleton Mus of Art; 136 Aquifer: 102 Arabian Nights; 94 Art Museum, Ringling: 147 Aruba Beach Cafe; 183 Aucilla River Project; 106 Babcock-Web WMA; 151 Bahia Mar Marina; 184 Baker County; 99 Barefoot Mailmen; 182 Barge Canal; 137 Bee Line Expy; 80

Butterfly Center, McGuire; 134 CAA (see AAA) CCC, The: 111,113,115,135,142 Ca d'Zan: 147 Caloosahatchee River: 152 Name; 150 Canaveral Natril Seashore: 173 Cannon Creek Airpark: 130 Canopy Road; 106,169 Cape Canaveral: 174 Castillo San Marcos: 169 Cave Diving: 131 Cayo Costa, Name: 150 Celebration: 93 Charlotte County; 149 Charlotte Harbor; 150 Chautauoua: 116 Chipley; 114 Name: 115 Choctawatchee, Name: 115 Circus Museum, Ringling; 147 Citrus; 88,97,130,136,140,180 CityPlace, W Palm Beach: 180 City Maps. Ft Lauderdale Expwys; 194-195 Jacksonville: 163 Kissimmee Expwys: 192-193 Miami Expressways; 194-195 Orlando Expressways; 192-193 Pensacola: 26 Tallahassee: 191 Tampa-St. Petersburg; 63 St. Augsutine; 191 Civil War; 100,108,127,138,141 Clearwater Marine Aquarium; 187 Collier County: 154 Collier, Barron; 152 Colonial Spanish Quarters: 168 Columbia County; 101,128 Coquina Building Material; 165 Corkscrew Swamp, Name; 154 Cowboys; 95 Crab Trap II; 144 Cracker, Florida; 88.95,132

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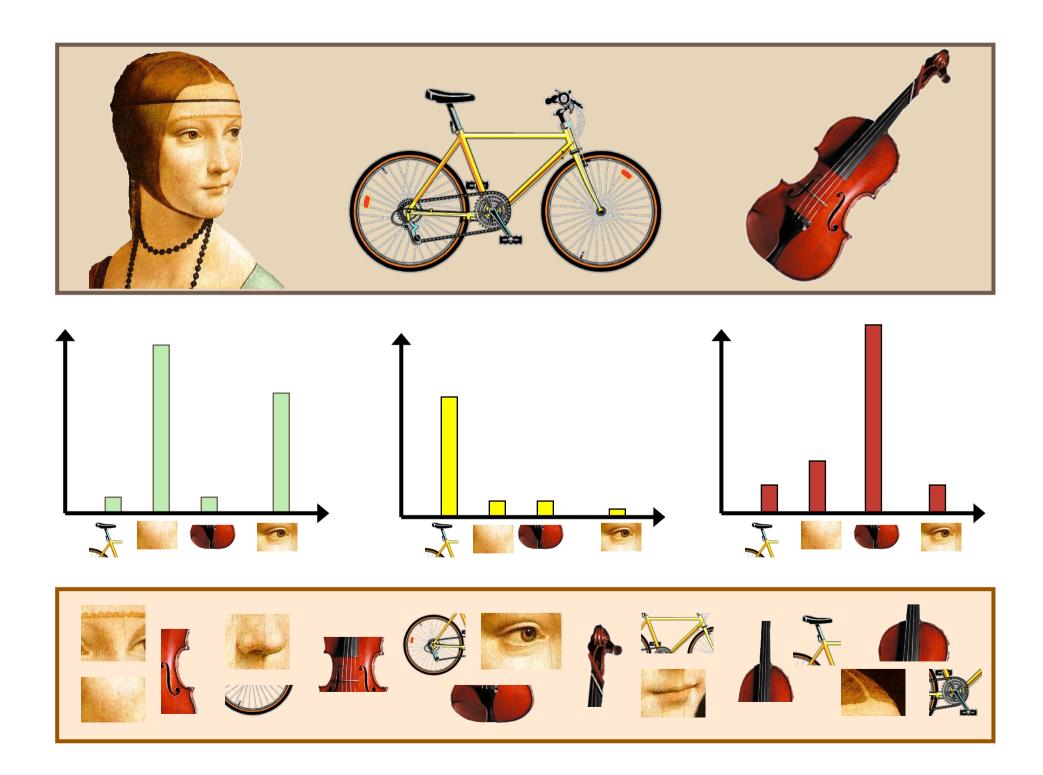
#### **Inverted file index**

- For text documents, an efficient way to find all *pages* on which a *word* occurs is to use an index...
- We want to find all images in which a feature occurs.
- To use this idea, we'll need to map our features to "visual words".

#### Analogy to documents

Of all the sensory impressions proceeding to the brain, the visual experiences are the dominant ones. Our perception of the world around us is based essentially at reach the brain from ou sensory, brain, thought th point by visual, perception, cerebra retinal, cerebral cortex, upon w Through eye, cell, optical now knd nerve, image perceptic **Hubel**, Wiesel more comp the visual im various cell lave. ibel and Wiesel have been that the message about the image falling retina undergoes a step-wise analysis in system of nerve cells stored in columns. I system each cell has its specific function an responsible for a specific detail in the patter. the retinal image.

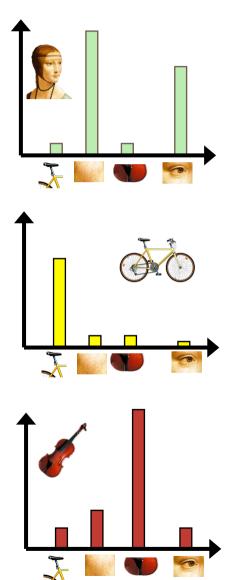
China is forecasting a trade surplus of \$90bn (£51bn) to \$100bn this year, a threefold increase on 2004's \$32bn. The Commerce Ministry said the surplus would edicted 30% jump in expo China, trade, 18% rise in likely to surplus, commerce, argued exports, imports, US, by a de agrees yuan, bank, domestic, is only d foreign, increase, Xiaochua trade, value more to bo stayed within value of the vua July and permitted it band, but the US wants the yuan to b to trade freely. However, Beijing has m. clear that it will take its time and tread c before allowing the yuan to rise further in



# Bags of visual words

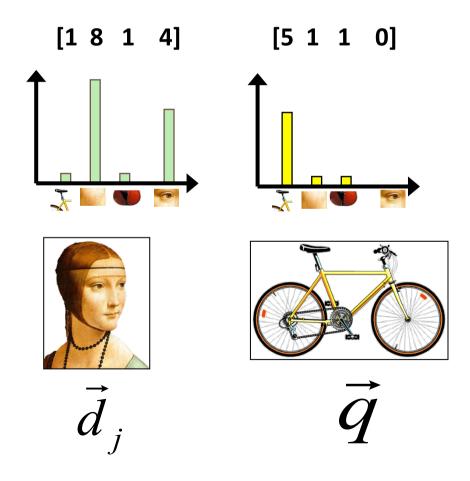
- Summarize entire image based on its distribution (histogram) of word occurrences.
- Analogous to bag of words representation commonly used for documents.





# Bags of visual words

 Rank frames by normalized scalar product between their (possibly weighted) occurrence counts--nearest neighbor search for similar images.

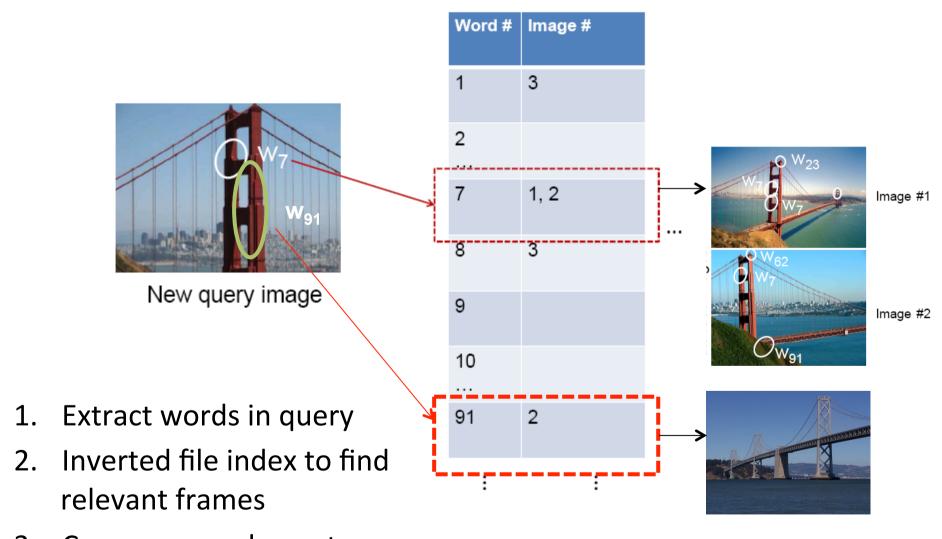


$$sim(d_j,q) = \frac{\langle d_j,q \rangle}{\|d_j\| \|q\|}$$

$$= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{V} d_j(i) * q(i)}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{V} d_j(i)^2} * \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{V} q(i)^2}}$$

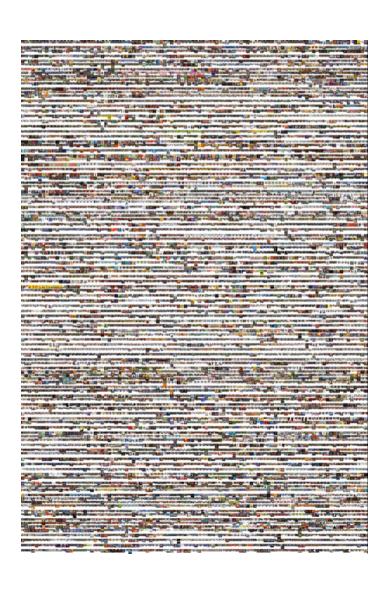
for vocabulary of V words

#### Inverted file index and Bag of words



3. Compare word counts

#### Large-scale image search



- Build the database:
  - Extract features from the database images
  - Learn a vocabulary using kmeans (typical k: 100,000)
  - Compute weights for each word
  - Create an inverted file
     mapping words → images

### What else can we borrow from text retrieval?

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Big Foot Monster; 105

Butterfly Center, McGuire; 134 CAA (see AAA) CCC. The: 111,113,115,135,142 Ca d'Zan: 147 Caloosahatchee River; 152 Name: 150 Canaveral Natni Seashore: 173 Cannon Creek Airpark: 130 Canopy Boad: 106.169 Cape Canaveral; 174 Castillo San Marcos: 169 Cave Divino: 131 Cavo Costa, Name: 150 Celebration; 93 Charlotte County: 149 Charlotte Harbor; 150 Chautaugua; 116 Chipley: 114 Name: 115 Choctawatchee, Name; 115 Circus Museum, Ringling; 147 Citrus: 88.97.130.136.140.180 CityPlace, W Palm Beach: 180 City Maps. Ft Lauderdale Expwys; 194-195 Jacksonville: 163 Kissimmee Expwys; 192-193 Miami Expressways; 194-195 Orlando Expressways; 192-193 Pensacola: 26 Tallahassee: 191 Tampa-St. Petersburg: 63 St. Augsutine; 191 Civil War: 100.108.127.138.141 Clearwater Marine Aguarium; 187 Collier County: 154 Collier, Barron: 152 Colonial Spanish Quarters; 168 Columbia County; 101,128 Coquina Building Material; 165 Corkscrew Swamp, Name; 154 Cowboys; 95 Crab Trap II; 144 Cracker, Florida; 88,95,132 Crosstown Expy: 11,35,98,143 Cuban Bread: 184 Dade Battlefield; 140 Dade, Maj. Francis; 139-140,161 Dania Beach Hurricane: 184

Driving Lanes: 85 Duval County; 163 Eau Gallie: 175 Edison, Thomas: 152 Eglin AFB: 116-118 Eight Reale: 176 Ellenton: 144-145 Emanuel Point Wreck: 120 Emergency Caliboxes: 83 Epiphyles; 142,148,157,159 Escambia Bay; 119 Bridge (I-10); 119 County; 120 Estero: 153 Everglade.90.95.139-140.154-160 Draining of: 156,181 Wildlife MA: 160 Wonder Gardens: 154 Falling Waters SP: 115 Fantasy of Flight; 95 Fayer Dykes SP; 171 Fires. Forest: 166 Fires, Prescribed: 148 Fisherman's Village; 151 Flagler County; 171 Flagler, Henry; 97,165,167,171 Florida Aquarium: 186 Florida. 12,000 years ago; 187 Cavern SP: 114 Map of all Expressways; 2-3 Mus of Natural History; 134 National Cemetery ; 141 Part of Africa: 177 Platform; 187 Sheriff's Boys Camp; 126 Sports Hall of Fame: 130 Sun 'n Fun Museum; 97 Supreme Court; 107 Florida's Tumpike (FTP), 178,189 25 mile Strip Maps: 66 Administration: 189 Coin System; 190 Exit Services; 189 HEFT; 76,161,190 History; 189 Names; 189 Service Plazas; 190

Spur SR91; 76

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### Weighting the words

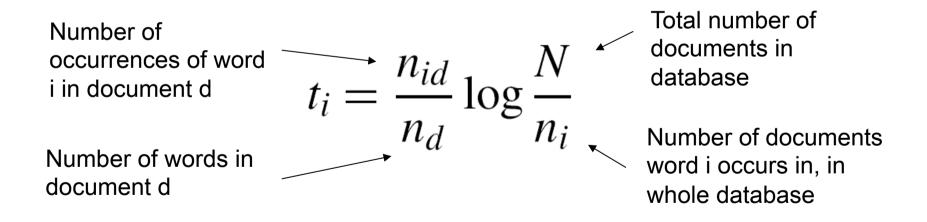
 Just as with text, some visual words are more discriminative than others

the, and, or vs. cow, AT&T, Cher

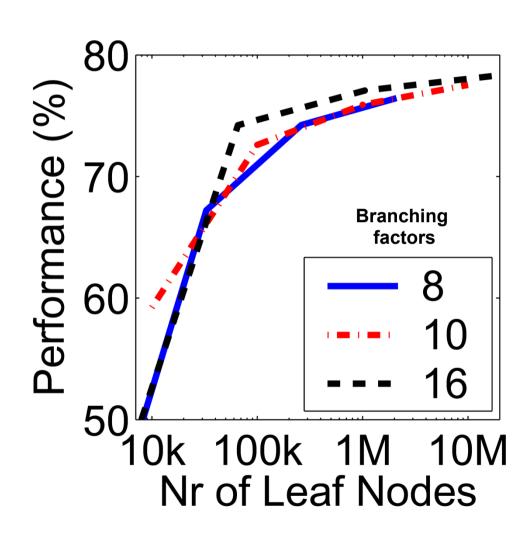
- the bigger fraction of the documents a word appears in, the less useful it is for matching
  - e.g., a word that appears in *all* documents is not helping us

## tf-idf weighting

- Term frequency inverse document frequency
- Describe frame by frequency of each word within it, downweight words that appear often in the database
- (Standard weighting for text retrieval)



# Vocabulary size



Influence on performance, sparsity

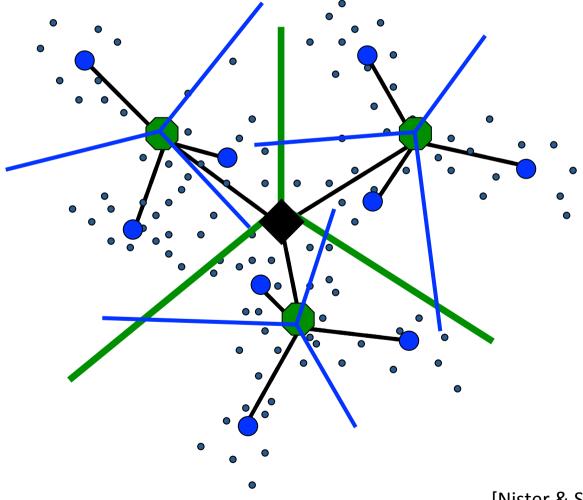
Results for recognition task with 6347 images

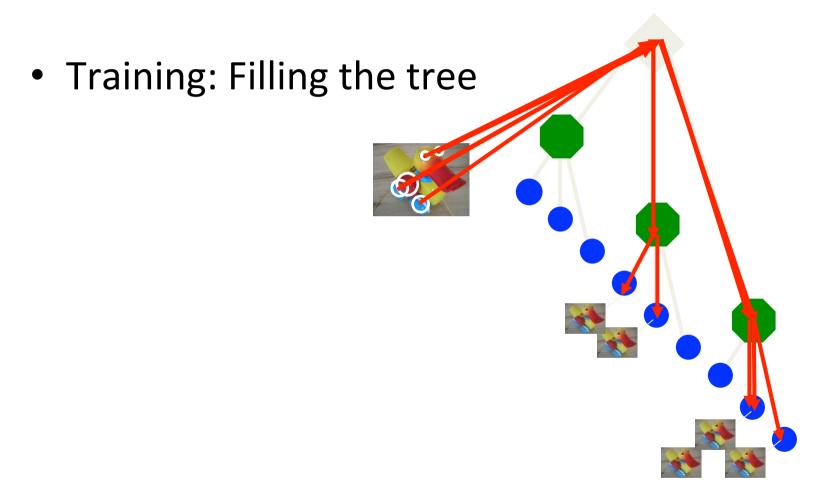


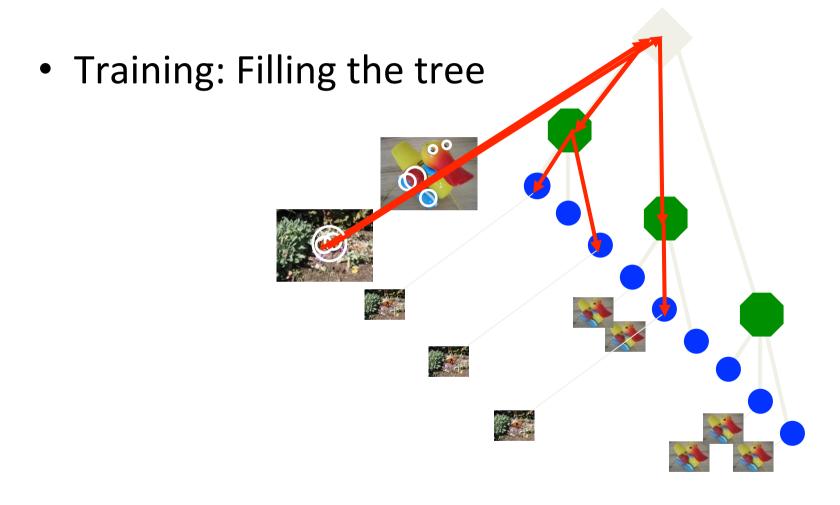
Nister & Stewenius, CVPR 2006

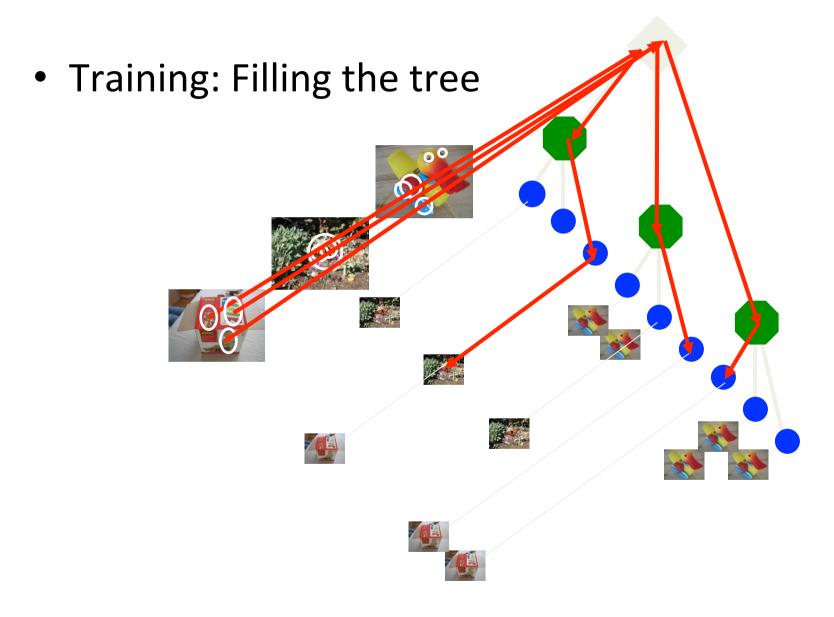
Kristen Grauman

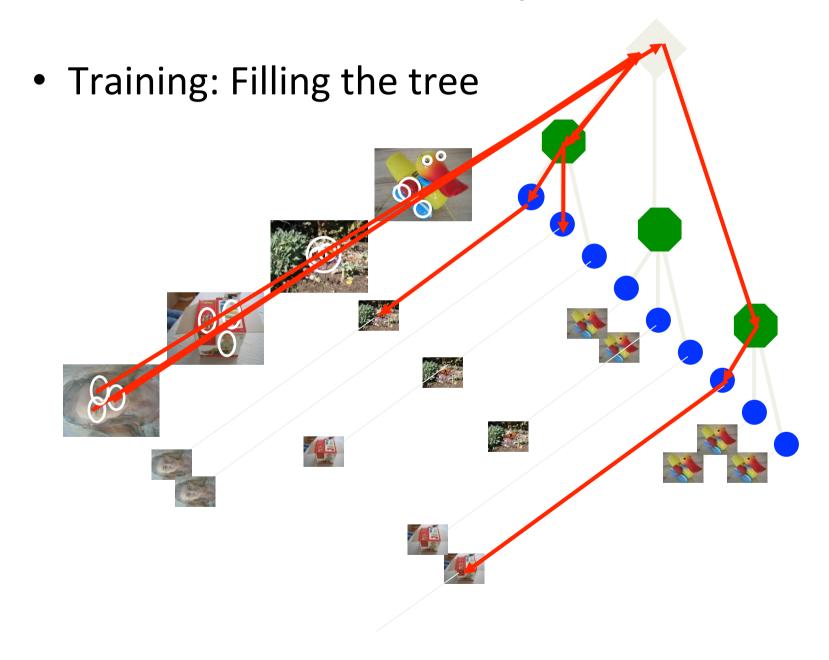
Large vocabularies can be improved with hierarchical clustering

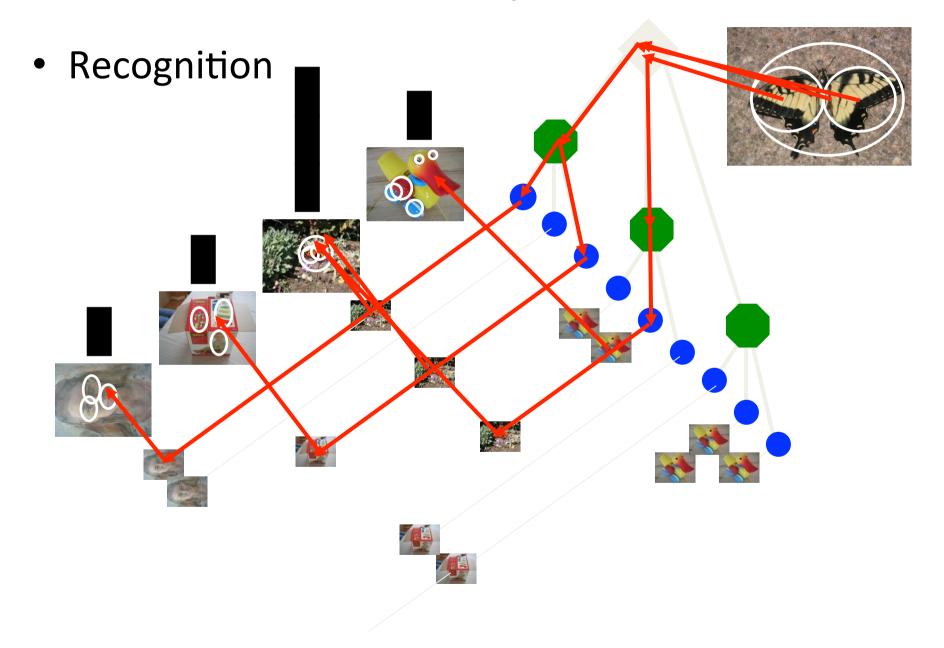






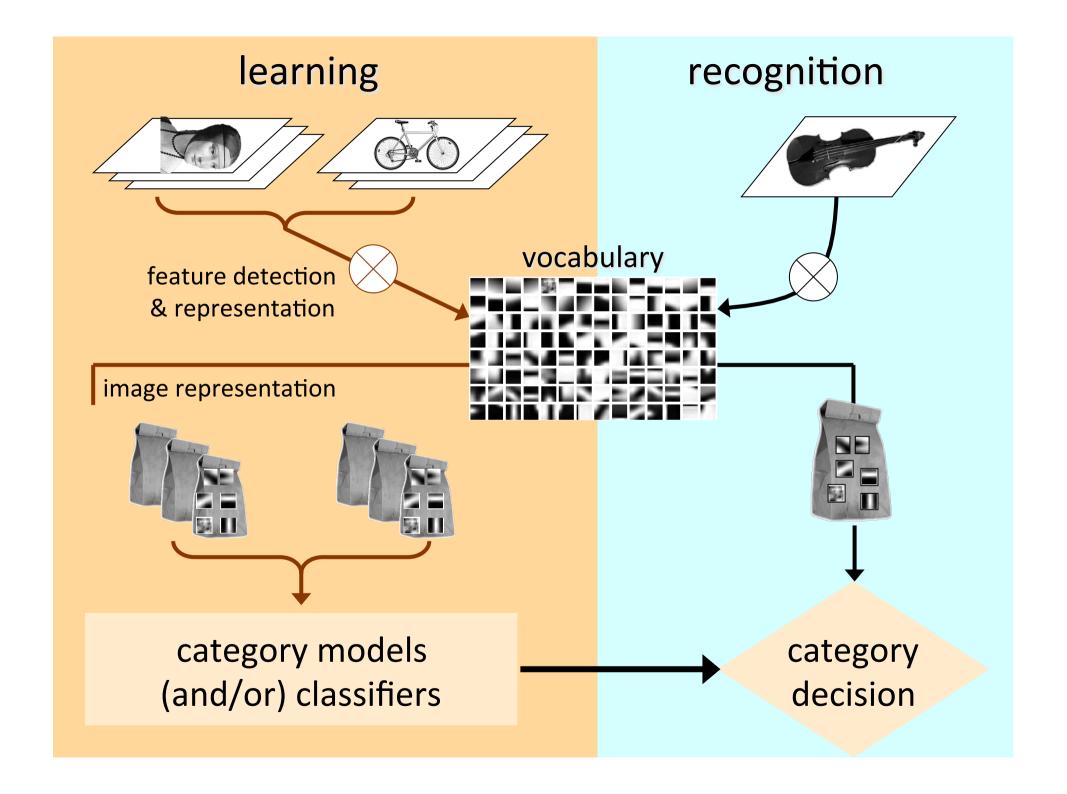






#### **Complexity** defined by:

- Number of words given by the tree parameters:
  - branching factor and number of levels
- Word assignment cost vs. flat vocabulary



### Visual words/bags of words

#### Advantages

- flexible to geometry / deformations / viewpoint
- compact summary of image content
- provides vector representation for sets
- very good results in practice

#### Disadvantages

- background and foreground mixed when bag covers whole image
- optimal vocabulary formation remains unclear
- basic model ignores geometry must verify afterwards, or encode via features

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