



# Instance recognition

Indexing local features efficiently (last time)
Spatial verification models



# Picking up from last time

• Instance recognition wrap up:

- Impact of vocabulary tree
- Spatial verification
- Sky mapping example
- Query expansion

































### Instance recognition: remaining issues

- How to summarize the content of an entire image? And gauge overall similarity?
- How large should the vocabulary be? How to perform quantization efficiently?
- Is having the same set of visual words enough to identify the object/scene? How to verify spatial agreement?
- How to score the retrieval results?

Slide credit: Kristen Grauma

















What is the computational advantage of the hierarchical representation bag of words, vs. a flat vocabulary?





# Bags of words: pros and cons

- + flexible to geometry / deformations / viewpoint
- + compact summary of image content
- + provides vector representation for sets
- + very good results in practice
- basic model ignores geometry must verify afterwards, or encode via features
- background and foreground mixed when bag covers whole image
- optimal vocabulary formation remains unclear

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### Spatial Verification: two basic strategies

- RANSAC
  - Typically sort by BoW similarity as initial filterVerify by checking support (inliers) for possible
  - transformations

 e.g., "success" if find a transformation with > N inlier correspondences

- Generalized Hough Transform
  - Let each matched feature cast a vote on location, scale, orientation of the model object
  - Verify parameters with enough votes













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# Voting: Generalized Hough Transform

 If we use scale, rotation, and translation invariant local features, then each feature match gives an alignment hypothesis (for scale, translation, and orientation of model in image).



-Adapted from



#### Gen Hough Transform details (Lowe's system)

- Training phase: For each model feature, record 2D location, scale, and orientation of model (relative to • normalized feature frame)
- Test phase: Let each match btwn a test SIFT feature and a model feature vote in a 4D Hough space
  - · Use broad bin sizes of 30 degrees for orientation, a factor of 2 for scale, and 0.25 times image size for location
  - · Vote for two closest bins in each dimension
- · Find all bins with at least three votes and perform geometric verification
  - Estimate least squares *affine* transformation
  - Search for additional features that agree with the alignment

David G. Lowe. <u>"Distinctive image features from scale-invariant keypoints."</u> *JJCV* 60 (2), pp. 91-110, 2004. <u>Slide credit: Lana La</u> Slide credit: Lana La

# Recall: difficulties of voting

- · Noise/clutter can lead to as many votes as true target
- · Bin size for the accumulator array must be chosen carefully
- · In practice, good idea to make broad bins and spread votes to nearby bins, since verification stage can prune bad vote peaks.

### Example result







[Lowe]

Objects recognized, Recognition in

spite of occlusion











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Kristen Grauman



# Recognition via alignment

#### Pros:

- Effective when we are able to find reliable features within clutter
- Great results for matching specific instances

#### Cons:

- · Scaling with number of models
- Spatial verification as post-processing not
- seamless, expensive for large-scale problems
- Not suited for category recognition.











# Rules of the game

- We start with a catalogue of stars in the sky, and from it build an index which is used to assist us in locating ('solving') new test images.
- We can spend as much time as we want building the index but solving should be fast.
- Challenges:
  - The sky is big.
     Both catalogues and pictures are noisy

http://astrometry.net





 Bad news: Query images may contain some extra stars that are not in your index catalogue, and some catalogue stars may be missing from the image.



 These "distractors" & "dropouts" mean that naïve matching techniques will not work.

http://astrometry.net

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# Robust Matching

• We need to do some sort of robust matching of the test image to any proposed location on the sky.



 Intuitively, we need to ask: "Is there an alignment of the test image and the catalogue so that (almost\*) every catalogue star in the field of view of the test image lies (almost\*) exactly on top of an observed star?"

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(Inverted) Index of Features			
<ul> <li>To solve this problem, we will employ the classic idea of an "inverted index".</li> </ul>	٥		
• We define a set of "features" for any particular view of the sky (image).			
• Then we make an (inverted) index, telling us which views on the sky exhibit certain (combinations of) feature values.			
<ul> <li>This is like the question: Which web pages contain the words "machine learning"?</li> </ul>	C)		

# Matching a test image

- When we see a new test image, we compute which features are present, and use our inverted index to look up which possible views from the catalogue also have those feature values.
- Each feature generates a candidate list in this way, and by intersecting the lists we can zero in on the true matching view.



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# Quads as Robust Features

- We encode the relative positions of nearby quadruples of stars (ABCD) using a coordinate system defined by the most widely separated pair (AB).
- Within this coordinate system, the positions of the remaining two stars form a 4-dimensional code for the shape of the quad.

Solving a new test image

- Identify objects (stars+galaxies) in the image bitmap and create a list of their 2D positions.
- Cycle through all possible quads (brightest first) and compute their corresponding codes.
- Look up the codes in the code KD-tree to find matches within some tolerance; this stage incurs some false positive and false negative matches.
- Each code match returns a candidate position & rotation on the sky. As soon as 2 quads agree on a candidate, we proceed to verify that candidate against all objects in the image.

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# A Real Example from SDSS



Query image (after object detection) An all-sky catalogue

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	A Real Example from SDSS			
Ciojk				
	Query image (after object detection).	Zoomed in by a factor of ~ 1 million.		
	http://astrometry.net	roweis@cs.toronto.edu		







A single quad which we happened to try.	A Real Example from SDSS				
A single quad which we happened to try.					
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