Lecture 10: Introduction to scene understanding

Announcements

- PS1 grades out
 - Please check your grade!
 - Regrade requests via Gradescope
 - Submit requests by **next Tues**.
- PS5 out
 - More coding than usual!



Image contains Photoshopped sign





















A view of a park on a nice spring day







Do not feed the ducks sign

DUCKS LOOKING FOR FOOD

PEOPLE WALKING IN THE PARK

PERSON FEEDING DUCKS IN THE PARK







Today

- History
- Scene recognition
- Pixel labeling problems
- Simple object detection model

lems ection model

Why do we care about recognition?

Perception of function: We can perceive the 3D shape, texture, material properties, without knowing about objects. But, the concept of category encapsulates also information about what can we do with those objects.



"We therefore include the perception of function as a proper –indeed, crucial- subject for vision science", *from Vision Science, chapter 9, Palmer*.



The perception of function

Direct perception (affordances): Gibson





Mediated perception (Categorization)



Sittable upon





THE ECOLOGICAL APPROACH TO VISUAL PERCEPTION





Direct perception

Some aspects of an object function can be perceived directly

container, cutting device, ...)

Sittable-upon Sittable-upon



Functional form: Some forms clearly indicate to a function ("sittable-upon",

It does not seem easy to sit-upon this...





Limits to direct perception



Figure 9.1.2 Objects with similar structure but different functions. Mailboxes afford letter mailing, whereas trash cans do not, even though they have many similar physical features, such as size, location, and presence of an opening large enough to insert letters and medium-sized packages.



Source: Torralba, Freeman, Isola



Object categories aren't everything





cars

Slide by Fei Fei, Fergus & Torralba

wall

15 , 🧠

bus

Object categories aren't everything













A picture is worth a 1000 words... *Or just 10?*









Visual challenges with categories

• A lot of categories are functional

- Categories are 3D, but images are 2D
- World is highly varied



train

Chair







car











What labels? Recognizing exact instances?



A Beijing City Transit Bus #17, serial number 43253?





Need more general (useful) information



Functional:

- in its way.
- large distances.

Communicational:

bus, autobus, λεωφορείο, ônibus, автобус, 公共汽车, etc.

What can we say the very first time we see this thing?

• A large vehicle that may be moving fast, probably to the right, and will kill you if you stand

• However, at specified places, it will allow you to enter it and transport you quickly over





Recognizing objects: is it really so hard?

Find the chair in this image



This is a chair



Output of normalized correlation



Recognizing objects: is it really so hard?

Find the chair in this image







Not so great!





Simplify the problem: Blocks world



MACHINE PERCEPTION OF THREE-DIMENSIONAL SOLIDS

by

LAWRENCE GILMAN ROBERTS

S.B., Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1961)

M.S., Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1961)

SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

at the

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY June, 1963

Signature of Author	
Certified by	Thesis S
Accepted by Chairman, Departmental Committee on (Faduate
	_



Source: Torralba, Freeman, Isola

3D, compositional models

Binford and generalized cylinders



Recognition by components



Part based models



- Object as set of parts
 - Generative representation
- Model:
 - Relative locations between parts
 - Appearance of part
- Issues:
 - How to model location
 - How to represent appearance —
 - Sparse or dense (pixels or regions)
 - How to handle occlusion/clutter

Abstract-The primary problem dealt with in this paper is the following. Given some description of a visual object, find that object in an actual photograph. Part of the solution to this problem is the specification of a descriptive scheme, and a metric on which to base the decision of "goodness" of matching or detection.

We offer a combined descriptive scheme and decision metric which is general, intuitively satisfying, and which has led to promising experimental results. We also present an algorithm which takes the above descriptions, together with a matrix representing the intensities of the actual photograph, and then finds the described object in the matrix. The algorithm uses a procedure similar to dynamic programming in order to cut down on the vast amount of computation otherwise necessary.

One desirable feature of the approach is its generality. A new programming system does not need to be written for every new description; instead, one just specifies descriptions in terms of a certain set of primitives and parameters. There are many areas of application: scene analysis and description, map matching for navigation and guidance, optical tracking,

and August 21, 1972. 94304

The Representation and Matching of Pictorial Structures

MARTIN A. FISCHLER AND ROBERT A. ELSCHLAGER

Manuscript received November 30, 1971; revised May 22, 1972,

The authors are with the Lockheed Palo Alto Research Laboratory, Lockheed Missiles & Space Company, Inc., Palo Alto, Calif.



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Noisy picture (sensed scene) as used in experiment.

HAIR WAS LOCATED AT (6, 18) L/EDGE WAS LOCATED AT (18, 10 R/EDGE WAS LOCATED AT (18, 25) L/EYE WAS LOCATED AT (17, 13) R/EYE WAS LOCATED AT (17, 21) NOSE WAS LOCATED AT (22, 18) MOUTH WAS LOCATED AT (24, 17)



Neural Network-Based Face Detector

Train a set of multilayer perceptrons and arbitrate a decision among all outputs



Rowley, Baluja, and Kanade: Neural Network-Based Face Detection (PAMI, January 1998)



Viola-Jones algorithm

1. Millions of efficient features



2.Boosted feature selection

3. Computational cascade



ACCEPTED CONFERENCE ON COMPUTER VISION AND PATTERN RECOGNITION 2001

Rapid Object Detection using a Boosted Cascade of Simple Features

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Abstract

This paper describes a machine learning approach for visual object detection which is capable of processing images extremely rapidly and achieving high detection rates. This work is distinguished by three key contributions. The first is the introduction of a new image representation called the "Integral Image" which allows the features used by our detector to be computed very quickly. The second is a learning algorithm, based on AdaBoost, which selects a small number of critical visual features from a larger set and yields extremely efficient classifiers[6]. The third contribution is a method for combining increasingly more complex classi-

fiers in a "cascade" which allows be image to be quickly discarded while tation on promising object-like regic viewed as an object specific focuswhich unlike previous approaches p antees that discarded regions are un ject of interest. In the domain of fa yields detection rates comparable t tems. Used in real-time applicatio 15 frames per second without resor ing or skin color detection.

1. Introduction

This paper brings together new alg construct a framework for robust and detection. This framework is demo motivated by, the task of face dete we have constructed a frontal face achieves detection and false positiv alent to the best published results face detection system is most clea previous approaches in its ability to rapidly. Operating on 384 by 288 pin

Michael Jones mjones@crl.dec.com Compaq CRL One Cambridge Center Cambridge, MA 02142

tected at 15 frames per second on a conventional 700 MHz Intel Pentium III. In other face detection systems, auxiliary information, such as image differences in video sequences, or pixel color in color images, have been used to achieve high frame rates. Our system achieves high frame rates working only with the information present in a single grey scale image. These alternative sources of information can also be integrated with our system to achieve even higher frame rates.

There are three main contributions of our object detection framework. We will introduce each of these ideas briefly below and then describe them in detail in subsequent sections.









Histograms of oriented gradients (HOG)



Bin gradients from 8x8 pixel neighborhoods into 9 orientations 2. Linear SVM

Histograms of Oriented Gradients for Human Detection

Navneet Dalal and Bill Triggs

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Abstract

We study the question of feature sets for robust visual object recognition, adopting linear SVM based human detection as a test case. After reviewing existing edge and gradient based descriptors, we show experimentally that grids of Histograms of Oriented Gradient (HOG) descriptors significantly outperform existing feature sets for human detection. We study the influence of each stage of the computation on performance, concluding that fine-scale gradients, fine orientation binning, relatively coarse spatial binning, and high-quality local contrast normalization in overlapping descriptor blocks are all important for good results. The new approach gives near-perfect separation on the original MIT pedestrian database, so we introduce a more challenging dataset containing over 1800 annotated human images with a large range of pose variations and backgrounds.

1 Introduction

Detecting humans in images is a challenging task owing to their variable appearance and the wide range of poses that they can adopt. The first need is a robust feature set that allows the human form to be discriminated cleanly, even in cluttered backgrounds under difficult illumination. We study the issue of feature sets for human detection, showing that locally normalized Histogram of Oriented Gradient (HOG) descriptors provide excellent performance relative to other existing feature sets including wavelets [17,22]. The proposed descriptors are reminiscent of edge orientation histograms [4,5], SIFT descriptors [12] and shape contexts [1], but they are computed on a dense grid of uniformly spaced cells and they use overlapping local contrast normalizations for improved performance. We make a detailed study of the effects of various implementation choices on detector performance, taking "pedestrian detection" (the detection of mostly visible people in more or less upright poses) as a test case. For simplicity and speed, we use linear SVM as a baseline classifier throughout the study. The new detectors give essentially perfect results on the MIT pedestrian test set [18, 17], so we have created a more challenging set containing over 1800 pedestrian images with a large range of poses and backgrounds. Ongoing work suggests that our feature set performs equally well for other shape-based object classes.

We briefly discuss previous work on human detection in §2, give an overview of our method §3, describe our data sets in §4 and give a detailed description and experimental evaluation of each stage of the process in §5-6. The main conclusions are summarized in §7.

2 Previous Work

There is an extensive literature on object detection, but here we mention just a few relevant papers on human detection [18, 17, 22, 16, 20]. See [6] for a survey. Papageorgiou et al [18] describe a pedestrian detector based on a polynomial SVM using rectified Haar wavelets as input descriptors, with a parts (subwindow) based variant in [17]. Depoortere et al give an optimized version of this [2]. Gavrila & Philomen [8] take a more direct approach, extracting edge images and matching them to a set of learned exemplars using chamfer distance. This has been used in a practical real-time pedestrian detection system [7]. Viola et al [22] build an efficient moving person detector, using AdaBoost to train a chain of progressively more complex region rejection rules based on Haar-like wavelets and space-time differences. Ronfard et al [19] build an articulated body detector by incorporating SVM based limb classifiers over 1st and 2nd order Gaussian filters in a dynamic programming framework similar to those of Felzenszwalb & Huttenlocher [3] and Ioffe & Forsyth [9]. Mikolajczyk et al [16] use combinations of orientationposition histograms with binary-thresholded gradient magnitudes to build a parts based method containing detectors for faces, heads, and front and side profiles of upper and lower body parts. In contrast, our detector uses a simpler architecture with a single detection window, but appears to give significantly higher performance on pedestrian images.

3 Overview of the Method

This section gives an overview of our feature extraction chain, which is summarized in fig. 1. Implementation details are postponed until §6. The method is based on evaluating well-normalized local histograms of image gradient orientations in a dense grid. Similar features have seen increasing use over the past decade [4, 5, 12, 15]. The basic idea is that local object appearance and shape can often be characterized rather well by the distribution of local intensity gradients or

https://lear.inrialpes.fr/people/triggs/pubs/Dalal-cvpr05.pdf





Source: Torralba, Freeman, Isola

["HOGgles", Vondrick et al., ICCV 2013]





Source: Torralba, Freeman, Isola

["HOGgles", Vondrick et al., ICCV 2013]



ImageNet classification and Neural nets

IM GENET

researchers, educators, students and all of you who share our passion for pictures. Click here to learn more about ImageNet, Click here to join the ImageNet mailing list.







Scene recognition



Park

Scene recognition problem







"Auditorium"

Your next problem set!

places - 0

1. Take all scene words from a dictionary



Source: A. Oliva

2. Download images and clean the categories



Zhou, Lapedriza, Xiao, Oliva, Torralba (NIPS 2014)



Places

Overview

🖋 Demo

III Explore



abbey

airfield

airplane cabin

airport terminal

alcove

alley

amphitheater

amusement arcade

amusement park

apartment building - outdoor

aquarium

aqueduct

arcade

arch







Source: Torralba, Freeman, Isola





















PS5: implement this in PyTorch

Object recognition: what objects are in the image?





"Birds"

Source: Torralba, Freeman, Isola




General technique: predict something at every pixel!

Semantic segmentation



(Colors represent categories)

Source: Torralba, Freeman, Isola

Idea #1: Independently classify windows





What's the object class of the center pixel?



K-way classification problem

Solve with K-dimensional softmax regression:

$$f_{\theta}: X \to \mathbb{R}^K$$

39 Source: Torralba, Freeman, Isola



Idea #2: Fully convolutional networks

Fully Convolutional Networks



Fully Convolutional Networks for Semantic Segmentation

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Abstract

Convolutional networks are powerful visual models that yield hierarchies of features. We show that convolutional networks by themselves, trained end-to-end, pixelsto-pixels, exceed the state-of-the-art in semantic segmentation. Our key insight is to build "fully convolutional" networks that take input of arbitrary size and produce correspondingly-sized output with efficient inference and learning. We define and detail the space of fully convolutional networks, explain their application to spatially dense prediction tasks, and draw connections to prior models. We adapt contemporary classification networks (AlexNet [22], the VGG net [34], and GoogLeNet [35]) into fully convolutional networks and transfer their learned representations by fine-tuning [5] to the segmentation task. We then define a skip architecture that combines semantic information from a deep, coarse layer with appearance information from a shallow, fine layer to produce accurate and detailed segmentations. Our fully convolutional network achieves stateof-the-art segmentation of PASCAL VOC (20% relative improvement to 62.2% mean IU on 2012), NYUDv2, and SIFT Flow, while inference takes less than one fifth of a second for a typical image.

1. Introduction

Convolutional networks are driving advances in recognition. Convnets are not only improving for whole-image classification [22, 34, 35], but also making progress on local tasks with structured output. These include advances in bounding box object detection [32, 12, 19], part and keypoint prediction [42, 26], and local correspondence [26, 10].

The natural next step in the progression from coarse to fine inference is to make a prediction at every pixel. Prior approaches have used convnets for semantic segmentation [30, 3, 9, 31, 17, 15, 11], in which each pixel is labeled with the class of its enclosing object or region, but with shortcomings that this work addresses.

*Authors contributed equally



Figure 1. Fully convolutional networks can efficiently learn to make dense predictions for per-pixel tasks like semantic segmentation

We show that a fully convolutional network (FCN) trained end-to-end, pixels-to-pixels on semantic segmentation exceeds the state-of-the-art without further machinery. To our knowledge, this is the first work to train FCNs end-to-end (1) for pixelwise prediction and (2) from supervised pre-training. Fully convolutional versions of existing networks predict dense outputs from arbitrary-sized inputs. Both learning and inference are performed whole-image-ata-time by dense feedforward computation and backpropagation. In-network upsampling layers enable pixelwise prediction and learning in nets with subsampled pooling.

This method is efficient, both asymptotically and absolutely, and precludes the need for the complications in other works. Patchwise training is common [30, 3, 9, 31, 11], but lacks the efficiency of fully convolutional training. Our approach does not make use of pre- and post-processing complications, including superpixels [9, 17], proposals [17, 15], or post-hoc refinement by random fields or local classifiers [9, 17]. Our model transfers recent success in classification [22, 34, 35] to dense prediction by reinterpreting classification nets as fully convolutional and fine-tuning from their learned representations. In contrast, previous works have applied small convnets without supervised pre-training [9, 31, 30].

Semantic segmentation faces an inherent tension between semantics and location: global information resolves what while local information resolves where. Deep feature hierarchies encode location and semantics in a nonlinear



Fully Convolutional Networks

227x227







Fully Convolutional Networks

227x227



HxW



55x55 **27x27** H/4xW/4 H/8xW/8



HxW



Upsampling

Reuse features across windows. Less computation!

Idea #3: Dilated convolutions

Dilated convolutions





25 coefficients 9 degrees of freedom





Source: Isola, Torralba, Freeman



18 degrees of freedom

7x7

[Yu and Koltun 2016, https://arxiv.org/pdf/1511.07122.pdf]







(a)

Figure 1: Systematic dilation supports exponential expansion of the receptive field without loss of resolution or coverage. (a) F_1 is produced from F_0 by a 1-dilated convolution; each element in F_1 has a receptive field of 3×3 . (b) F_2 is produced from F_1 by a 2-dilated convolution; each element in F_2 has a receptive field of 7×7 . (c) F_3 is produced from F_2 by a 4-dilated convolution; each element in F_3 has a receptive field of 15×15 . The number of parameters associated with each layer is identical. The receptive field grows exponentially while the number of parameters grows linearly.

[Yu and Koltun 2016, https://arxiv.org/pdf/1511.07122.pdf]

Source: Isola, Torralba, Freeman



Fully convolutional network







Apply CNN convolutionally

Fully convolutional network







Output still usually notagiven at full-resolution

Idea #4: Skip connections

Encoder-decoder architectures



Convolutions

Deconvolutions

Source: Torralba, Freeman, Isola

Encoder-decoder architectures



"Vanilla" encoder-decoder architecture

Figures from [Isola et al., "Image-to-ImageaTranslation with Conditional Adversarial Networks", 2017]

Early layers and late layers have same shape. Concatenate them!





Encoder-decoder architectures



SegNet: A Deep Convolutional Encoder-Decoder Architecture for Image Segmentation

ipolla, Senior Member, IEEE,

This is primarily because max pooling and sub-sampling reduce feature map resolution. Our motivation to design SegNet arises from this need to map low resolution features to input resolution for pixel-wise classification. This mapping must produce features which are useful for accurate boundary localization.

Our architecture, SegNet, is designed to be an efficient architecture for pixel-wise semantic segmentation. It is primarily the ability to model appearance (road, building), shape (cars,

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k architecture for semantic pixel-wise segmentatio vork, a corresponding decoder network followed ally identical to the 13 convolutional layers in the eature maps to full input resolution feature oder upsamples its lower resolution input ing step of the corresponding encoder to e upsampled maps are sparse and are ther ed architecture with the widely adopted FCN [2] is comparison reveals the memory versus

ned to be efficient both in terms of memory and ainable parameters than other competing lso performed a controlled benchmark of SegNe ost efficient inference memory-wise as compare demo at http://mi.eng.cam.ac.uk/projects/segnet

tion, Indoor Scenes, Road Scenes, Encoder

and understand the spatial-relationship (context) beant classes such as road and side-walk. In typical road majority of the pixels belong to large classes such g and hence the network must produce smooth s. The engine must also have the ability to delineate sed on their shape despite their small size. Hence it is t to retain boundary information in the extracted image tion. From a computational perspective, it is necessary work to be efficient in terms of both memory and ion time during inference. The ability to train end-to-end o jointly optimise all the weights in the network using it weight update technique such as stochastic gradient SGD) [17] is an additional benefit since it is more easily e. The design of SegNet arose from a need to match these

The encoder network in SegNet is topologically identical to the convolutional layers in VGG16 [1]. We remove the fully connected layers of VGG16 which makes the SegNet encoder network significantly smaller and easier to train than many other recent architectures [2], [4], [11], [18]. The key component of SegNet is the decoder network which consists of a hierarchy notivated by road scene understanding applications which require of decoders one corresponding to each encoder. Of these, the appropriate decoders use the max-pooling indices received from the corresponding encoder to perform non-linear upsampling of their input feature maps. This idea was inspired from an architecture designed for unsupervised feature learning [19]. Reusing max-pooling indices in the decoding process has several practical



Input





Segnet































Depth perception







Vision systems

One camera





Two cameras

N cameras





1 eye





Shadows





Learning based models

D. Hoiem, A.A. Efros, and M. Hebert, SIGGRAPH 2005.



Make3D

Ashutosh Saxena, Sung H. Chung, Andrew Y. Ng. NeurIPS 18, 2005.



A. Saxena, M. Sun, A. Y. Ng. 2007.



Karsch et al. Ladicky et al.

- - -

Source: Torralba, Freeman, Isola







3D scene understanding in the deep net era



3D in the deep learning era



















Ground truth is collected by using traditional methods



Source: Torralba, Freeman, Isola

Datasets





"Are we ready for Autonomous Driving? The KITTI Vision Benchmark Suite", *Geiger et al.,* CVPR'I2 "The Cityscapes Dataset for Semantic Urban Scene Understanding", *Cordts et al.,* CVPR'I6

Cityscapes





Datasets





KITTI

Source: Torralba, Freeman, Isola

Depth estimation

Data ${x_i, y_i}_{i=1}^N$



Objective scale invariant MSE in log space

Learner

Hypothesis space

Deep Neural Network

Optimizer

SGD



Regular old supervised learning!

$$f^* = \operatorname*{arg\,min}_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \mathcal{L}(f(x_i))$$





Depth estimation







Student



Depth estimation

Input image





Regression problem

Estimate log depth instead of depth (matches human capabilities better). Defining y_i the ground truth depth on pixel i, and y_i^* its estimated depth:

Standard L2 error:

Scale invariant error: $D_{SI}(y, y^*) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \sum_{j$

$$D_{L2}(y, y^*) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (\log y_i - \log y_i^*)^2$$
$$D_{SI}(y, y^*) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (\log y_i - \log y_i^* + \alpha(y, y^*))^2$$
with $\alpha(y, y^*) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n (\log y_j - \log y_j)^2$



Training:

• **Training loss**: Mixture of both error measures (best \lambda=0.5):

Standard L2 error:

$$J = \lambda D_{L2}(y, y^*) + (1 - \lambda) D_{SI}(y, y^*)$$



Scale invariant error:

Depth contains missing values. Only evaluate on valid pixels.



Results (best)







Input



Prediction

Ground truth



Results (worst)







Input



Prediction

Ground truth



Results







Input

Prediction

Ground-truth



Intuitive physics



["Learning to See Physics via Visual De-animation", Wu et al., NIPS 2017]





Intuitive physics







visual data

["Learning to See Physics via Visual De-animation", Wu et al., NIPS 2017]

visual data
Semantic segmentation





"A bunch of bird stuff"

Source: Torralba, Freeman, Isola



Object detection



Classification and localization





PASCAL Visual Object Challenge





Searching for objects

Scanning window approach & Image pyramids





Image pyramids





The Gaussian pyramid

512×512



(original image)

256×256 128×128 64×64 32×32











Could detect on each level of Gaussian pyramid...



[Lin et al., "Feature Pyramid Networks for Object Detection", 2017]

Source: Torralba, Freeman, Isola



Image and features pyramids

Each pooling reduces the resolution by a factor of 2



ConvNet architectures build:

- Multiscale feature hierarchies, but
- each layer builds a different representation
- first layers are low level, while
- last layers are high level.

A feature pyramid requires a uniform representations across scales.



Image and features pyramids







Searching for objects

Scanning window approach & Image pyramids



Selective search





Input image

Candidate bounding boxes



Selective search

Stage 1: generate candidate bounding boxes





Input image

Stage 2: apply classifier to each candidate bounding box







Positive examples

positive 20-50%



Training Examples

Train

Source: Torralba, Freeman, Isola

Edge detection



Bounding box proposal

[Zitnick and Dollar, "Edge Boxes...", 2014]



[Uijlings et al., "Selective Search for Object Recognition", 2013] 83





Next time: More object detection