XRCE Segmentation method Gabriela Csurka, Florent Perronnin and Yan Liu

Xerox Research Center Europe 6 chemin de Maupertuis 38240 Meylan, France





The main idea*



* A Simple High Performance Approach to Semantic Segmentation, G. Csurka and F. Perronnin, BMVC 2008.



Low-level representation



- Patches are extracted on regular grids at 5 different scales.
- Two types of features were considered:
 - Local RGB statistics (mean and standard deviation).
 - Local histograms of gradient orientations (SIFT-like).
- In both cases the dimensionality was reduced to 50 (PCA).
- They are handled independently and fused at late stages.



Visual Vocabulary with a GMM



• Modeling the visual vocabulary in the feature space with a GMM:

$$p(x_t \mid \lambda) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} w_i p_i(x_t \mid \lambda) \quad \text{with} \quad p_i(x_t \mid \lambda) = \mathcal{N}(x_t \mid \mu_i, \Sigma_i)$$

 The parameters λ are estimated by EM algorithm maximizing the log-likelihood on the training data X={ x_t } *:

$$\log p(X \mid \lambda) = \sum_{t} \log p(x_t \mid \lambda)$$

* Adapted Vocabularies for Generic Visual Categorization, F. Perronnin, C. Dance, G. Csurka and M. Bressan, ECCV 2006.



Visual Vocabulary with a GMM



• Occupancy probability of a patch x_t : $\gamma_i(x_t) = p(i \mid x_t, \lambda) = \frac{w_i p_i(x_t \mid \lambda)}{\sum_{i=1}^N w_i p_i(x_t \mid \lambda)}$







- Given a generative model with parameters λ (GMM)
 - we consider the gradient vector

$$\nabla_{\lambda} \log p(x_t \mid \lambda)$$

- and deduce the following formulas for the partial derivatives*:

$$\frac{\partial \log p(x_t \mid \lambda)}{\partial w_i} = \left[\frac{\gamma_i(x_t)}{w_i} - \frac{\gamma_1(x_t)}{w_1}\right]$$

$$\frac{\partial \log p(x_t \mid \lambda)}{\partial \mu_i^d} = \gamma_i (x_t) \left[\frac{x_t^d - \mu_i^d}{(\sigma_i^d)^2} \right]$$

$$\frac{\partial \log p(x_t \mid \lambda)}{\partial \sigma_i^d} = \gamma_i \left(x_t\right) \left[\frac{\left(x_t^d - \mu_i^d\right)^2}{\left(\sigma_i^d\right)^3} - \frac{1}{\sigma_i^d} \right]$$

* Fisher Kernels on Visual Vocabularies for Image Categorization, F. Perronnin and C. Dance, CVPR 2007.





• High level representation of the patch (*Fisher Vector*)

$$f_{t=}\left[\cdots,\frac{\partial \log p(x_t \mid \lambda)}{\partial \mu_i^d},\cdots,\frac{\partial \log p(x_t \mid \lambda)}{\partial \sigma_i^d},\cdots\right]$$

Notes:

- the Fisher Vector describes in which direction the parameters of the model should be modified to best fit the data
- the gradient with respect to the mixture weights does not contain significant extra information (we ignore them)
- hence, dimension = 2 x D x N, where D is the dimension of low level features (50) and N is the number of Gaussians (128)
- very sparse, as only a few number of components *i* (typically < 5) have a nonnegligible "occurrence probability " $\gamma_i(x_t)$ for a given *t*



Patch and Pixel Scoring



- Patch classifiers (PC) were:
 - trained on labeled Fisher Vectors (using masks and bounding boxes)
 - Linear Sparse Logistic Regression scores transformed in probabilities:

$$p(c \mid f_t) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-\alpha^T f_t + \beta)}$$

• The class posterior at pixel level is the weighted average of the class posteriors of patches containing the pixel.

$$p(c \mid z) = \frac{\sum_{t} p(c \mid f_{t}) \mathcal{N}(z \mid m_{t}, C_{t})}{\sum_{t} \mathcal{N}(z \mid m_{t}, C_{t})}$$

• This leads to one class probability map (P_c) per class.



Examples of class probability maps





Tree Map



Dog Map





Region labeling



• Class probabilities are averaged over low level (Mean Shift) images segments and each segment R is labeled with:

$$c^* = \begin{cases} \arg\max_c(P_c(R)) \text{ if } P_c(R) > \text{Thr} \\ \text{background} \end{cases}$$





However

• Using all probability masks might introduce many local False Positives !!





Fast Rejection with Global Classification



- A visual categorizer is trained on weakly labeled data to detect visual concepts/objects (any classifier can be used) and transform scores in probabilities (image level prior).
- Then image level prior (ILP) is used to fast reject "non relevant" probability maps :
- ③ Reduce computational cost.
- ⁽ⁱ⁾ Decrease false positive regions.
- \otimes Prevent the discovery of objects rejected by the global classifier.



Global Image Classifier (used in the Classification Task)

- MAP adaptation of the Universal GMM (Vocabulary) for each image.
- Fast kernel computation between adapted GMMs (approximate Probability Product Kernel),
- One-against-all Kernel Sparse Logistic Regression (KSLR) to classify.



* <u>A Similarity Measure between Unordered Vector Sets with Application to Image Categorization, Y. Liu and F. Perronnin, CVPR</u> 2008.



Modified Patch Classifier (MPC)



- Main idea:
 - Global image classifier rejects the improbable context/background.
 - Patch classifier separates the "object" from its usual context.
- How:
 - Train the patch classifier only with images containing the object:
 - positive patches from object masks (segments and bounding boxes)
 - negative patches from the inversed masks

Note: In the challenge both type of patch classifiers (PC and MPC) were used and the four (2 color and 2 texture) corresponding probability maps averaged.



Examples where it "rather" succeeded













Examples where it "had difficulties"

Confused classes



• Under and over estimation (too low or too high probability value in P_c)





Examples where it failed (due to fast rejection ???)



Horse Map

Cat Map – Not considered



Dog Map

Cat Map – Not considered



Discussion

- Its strengths:
 - Simplicity
 - Simple patch classification with high level descriptors
 - Combined with Low level segmentation and ILP
 - Low computational cost:
 - The most costly bit (Mean Shift segmentation 30 s vs 1-2 s for the rest) can be avoided for many applications (where no need for accurate object boundaries).
 - Can be a good starting point for further processing or integration in more complex system (future research)
- Its limitations
 - The method is maybe too simple to give excellent results:
 - Still remains at the "bag-of-visual word" level.
 - No geometry, no knowledge of shape, no global object model.
 - Not suitable for object detection (see next slide).



Object Detection Task

- Indeed the approach is not well suited for detection (XRCE_det)
 - Not able to separate multiple instances or fuse separated object parts, ...



- XRCE_Det had low (7.1 %) detection rate compared to the winner (22.6 %)
- However, when segmentation from detection
 - we got 18.9%, and they got 3.7% segmentation accuracy
 - even with bounding boxes (both input and output), it was the third best segmentation result (not counting UIUC_CMU which used their own training data).



BACKUP SLIDES



GMM estimation - EM algorithm

• Definition:

$$\gamma_i(x) = \frac{w_i p_i(x|\lambda)}{\sum_{j=1}^N w_j p_j(x|\lambda)} \,.$$

• Universal model: MLE

• Adapted image model: MAP

$$\hat{w}_{i}^{u} = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^{T} \gamma_{i}(x_{t}), \qquad \qquad \hat{w}_{i}^{a} = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^{T} \gamma_{i}(x_{t}) + \tau}{T + N \times \tau}, \quad \text{relevance factor}$$

$$\hat{\mu}_{i}^{u} = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^{T} \gamma_{i}(x_{t})x_{t}}{\sum_{t=1}^{T} \gamma_{i}(x_{t})}, \qquad \qquad \hat{\mu}_{i}^{a} = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^{T} \gamma_{i}(x_{t})x_{t} + \tau \mu_{i}^{u}}{\sum_{t=1}^{T} \gamma_{i}(x_{t}) + \tau}, \\
\hat{\Sigma}_{i}^{u} = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^{T} \gamma_{i}(x_{t})x_{t}x_{t}'}{\sum_{t=1}^{T} \gamma_{i}(x_{t})} - \hat{\mu}_{i}^{u}\hat{\mu}_{i}^{u'}. \qquad \hat{\Sigma}_{i}^{a} = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^{T} \gamma_{i}(x_{t})x_{t}x_{t} + \tau [\Sigma_{i}^{u} + \mu_{i}^{u}\mu_{i}^{u'}]}{\sum_{t=1}^{T} \gamma_{i}(x_{t}) + \tau}$$

- Advantages of adapted GMMs:
 - MAP more robust than MLE when training data is scarce
 - MAP faster than MLE to train (smaller number of EM iterations required)



Kernel computation: PPK

Formula:

$$K^{\rho}_{ppk}(p,q) = \int_{x \in \Omega} p(x)^{\rho} q(x)^{\rho} dx \,.$$

Existing approximations [JK03]:

ρ=1, Expected Likelihood Kernel ρ =0.5, Bhattacharyya Kernel

Our proposed MAP_OTO:

$$K^{\rho}_{ppk}(p,q) \approx \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{M} \alpha_i \beta_j K^{\rho}_{ppk}(p_i,q_j)$$

$$K^{\rho}_{ppk}(p,q) \approx \sum_{i=1}^{N} \alpha_i \beta_i K^{\rho}_{ppk}(p_i,q_i)$$



With and without Fast Rejection – Pascal VOC 2007

| Method | BOV | FV |
|--|------|------|
| No global rejection | 0.12 | 0.15 |
| Using patches from all images to train (PC) | 0.19 | 0.21 |
| Using patches from images containing the object to train (MPC) | 0.24 | 0.26 |

