Using Multiple Segmentations to Discover Objects and their Extent in Image Collections

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Introduction

Goal: Given a collection of unlabelled images, discover visual object categories and their segmentation automatically.



Approach: 1) Produce <u>multiple segmentations</u> of each image.

- 2) Discover clusters of <u>similar segments</u>.
- 3) Score all segments by how well they fit object cluster.

Background

The task of discovering objects and scene categories

[Fei-Fei & Perona, 2005] [Quelhas et al, 2005] and [Sivic et all, 2005]

Borrowing tools from the statistical text analysis community (pLSA and LDA) that use bag of words approach.

MAPPING ONTO VISUAL DOMAIN:

§ Images are treated as documents.

§ Cluster affine invariant point descriptors as visual **words**.

§ Each Image is represented by a histogram of visual words.



Issues: Visual words are not always as descriptive as text (visual phonemes or visual letters).

Background: Bag-of-words Approaches

Represent an image as a histogram of "visual words"



- Detect affine covariant regions.
- Represent each region by a SIFT descriptor.
- Build visual vocabulary by k-means clustering (K~1,000).
- Assign each region to the nearest cluster centre.

Visual word shortcomings

Visual Synonyms: Two different visual words representing a similar part of an object (wheel of a motorbike).

Visual Polysemy: Single visual word occurring on different (but locally similar) parts on different object categories.

If the object and its background are highly correlated, modelling the entire image can actually help recognition.





Multiple segmentations for to produce groups of visual words



Intuition #1: All segmentations are wrong, but some segments are good

Intuition #2: All good segments are alike, each bad segment is bad in its own way.

The Algorithm

Given a large collection of unlabeled images:

- 1. For each image, compute multiple candidate segmentations using Normalized-Cuts.
- 2. For each segment, compute histograms of visual words.
- 3. Perform topic discovery, treating each segment as a document, using LDA over all segments in the collection.
- 4. For each topic sort segments using KL divergence.

Multiple segmentations



We use Normalized Cuts, varying parameter settings:

<u># segments</u> and <u>image scale</u>.

Discovering Objects

Representing Segments:



Finding coherent segment clusters (topics):

w ... visual words d ... documents (images)

z ... topics ('objects')

Use statistical text analysis techniques such as Latent Semantic Analysis (LSA), Probabilistic LSA [Hofmann '99] or Latent Dirichlet Allocation (LDA) [Blei et al. '03]. Here we chose LDA.



P(w|d), P(z|d) and P(w|z) are multinomial distributions

Generative probabilistic model for collections of discrete data such as text corpora.

LDA is a three-level hierarchical Bayesian model, in which each item of a collection is modeled as a finite mixture over an underlying set of topics.





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Segment scoring



KL divergence: 1.89

KL divergence: 2.90

Segmentations and their KL divergence



KL divergence $D_{\text{KL}}(P \| Q) = \sum_{i} P(i) \log \frac{P(i)}{Q(i)}$

 $\mathsf{D}(q(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{z} \,|\, \mathbf{y}, \boldsymbol{\phi}) \parallel p(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{z} \,|\, \mathbf{w}, \boldsymbol{\alpha}, \boldsymbol{\beta}))$

Retrieval accuracy

Method	bicycles	cars	signs	windows
(a) Mult. seg. LDA	0.69	0.77	0.43	0.74
(b) Mult. seg. pLSA	0.67	0.28	0.34	0.57
(c) Sing. seg. LDA	0.67	0.73	0.46	0.72
(d) No seg. LDA	0.64	0.85	0.40	0.74
(e) Chance	0.06	0.12	0.04	0.15

Average precision for MSRC

Segmentation accuracy

Method	buildings	cars	roads	sky
(a) Mult. seg. LDA	0.53	0.21	0.41	0.77
(b) Mult. seg. pLSA	0.59	0.09	0.16	0.77
(c) Sing, seg. LDA	0.55	0.29	0.32	0.65
(d) No. seg. LDA	0.47	0.16	0.14	0.16

Average overlap area score for LabelMe

Results

Montages of top segments given a discovered object category

Sort segments based on their KL divergence score computed against the learned visual word distribution for a given topic

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Microsoft research Cambridge (MSRC) set:

25 topics, 4325 images



20 topics, 1554 images



References

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The images in this presentation were taken from the CVPR06 poster "Using Multiple Segmentations to Discover Objects and their Extent in Image Collections"