



# Continuous Learning for Vision?

**Horst Bischof**

Inst. for Computer Graphics and Vision  
Graz University of Technology



## Recent Progress in Vision

### 1. Robust Features (for a certain class of objects)

- SIFT
- SURF
- HOG
- ....

### 2. Lots of learning algorithms

- SVM
- Boosting
- MKL
- ....



## Typical Vision Tasks/Trends

Object Categorization



**Huge Amounts of data**



## Typical Vision Tasks/Trends

Internet: Image Search/Classification Categorization



**Huge Amounts of data, data from different sources**



## Typical Vision Tasks/Trends

Internet: Various Video and Image Databases

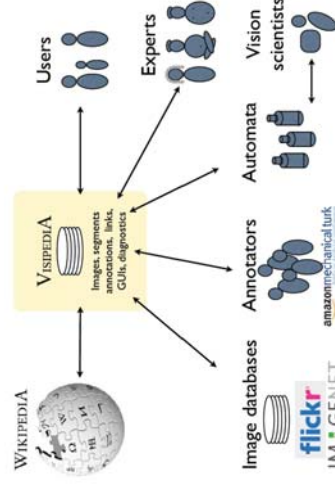


**Huge Amounts of data, multimodal data**



## Visipedia

Perona 2009



## Typical Vision Tasks/Trends

Surveillance: On-line data/Detection-Tracking



**Huge Amounts of data, On-line processing, Scene adaptation**

## Typical Vision Tasks/Trends

Robot Vision



**Multiple sensors, On-line adaptation, ...**

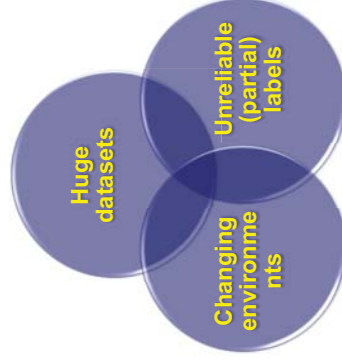
## Typical Vision Tasks/Trends

**Many other tasks:**

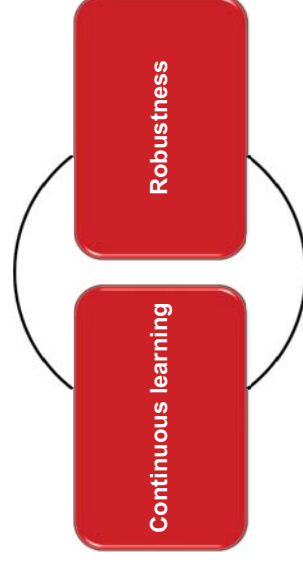
- Tracking: Adaptation to object
- Interactive segmentation: Changing model on the fly
- Interactive labeling: Suggestions as you label
- .....



## Requirements



## Requirements on Learner



## Continuous Learning

Vision system deployed that:

1. Continuously operates in its environment
2. While in operation learns/adapts continuously



## Continuous Learning

### 2 Problems

1. On-line learning (constant adaptation etc.)
2. Generate Learning signals/labels/teacher



## Why on-line learning?

Too much training data to fit in memory

- Internet!!!

Sample generation process

- Tracking, Co-Training

Changing processes

- Changing Environment



## Why on-line learning?

Specializing

- Forget irrelevant information
- Specialize to current scene

Interactive Applications

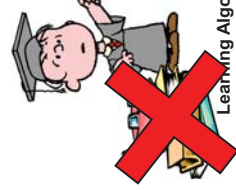
- Data labeling
- Classifier Training
- Specializing (Human in the loop)
- Interactive Training (Segmentation)



## Off-line learning



## On-line learning



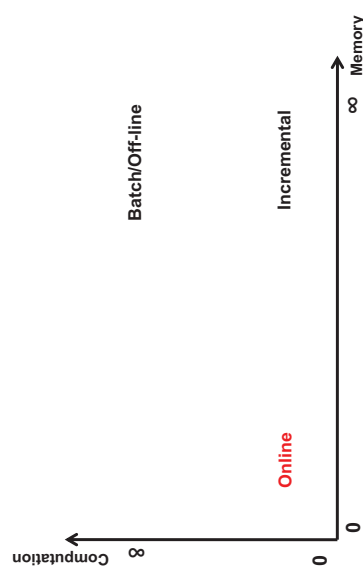
Labeled Information



Teacher



## Online Learning in Perspective





## On-line learning algorithm

Hypothesis  $h_t$ , and new sample  $(x,y)$  output a new hypothesis  $h_{t+1}$

slightly weaker version you are allowed to keep  $k$  samples and use them to update

**Goal:** Be as good as batch learning that has access to all samples



## On-line learning algorithms

Neural Networks

– Stochastic Gradient Descent  
Winnow (Littlestone 1988)

$$w = w + \alpha \Delta w; \quad \Delta w = -\frac{\partial E}{\partial w}$$

Decision Trees (Utgoff, Berkman, & Clouse, 1997)

Universal linear prediction (Merhav & Feder, 1998; Singer & Feder, 1999)

Online Ensemble Learning (Oza 2001)

Online Adaboost (Grabner & Bischof 2006)

Online Random Forests (Leistner, Saffari, Bischof 2010)



## Why is it hard?

- No control over samples
- Know nothing about current sample
- Additionally in Vision:
  - **Labels** needs to be generated on-line → **Noisy labels**



## Labels

How do we get labels?



## Tracking

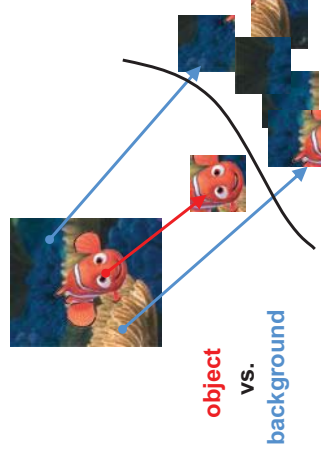
A simple example of continuous learning:

Keep Track of an unknown object

## Tracking as Classification

S. Avdian, Ensemble tracking, CVPR 2005.  
J. Wang, et al. Online selecting discriminative tracking features using particle filter, CVPR 2005.

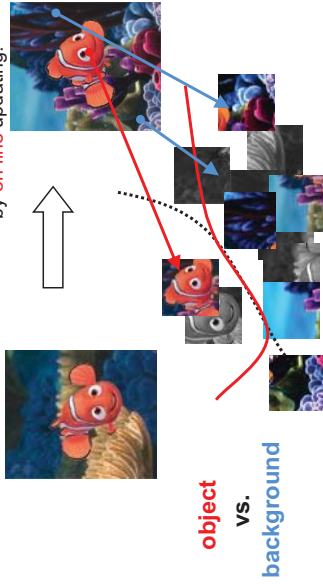
Tracking as binary classification



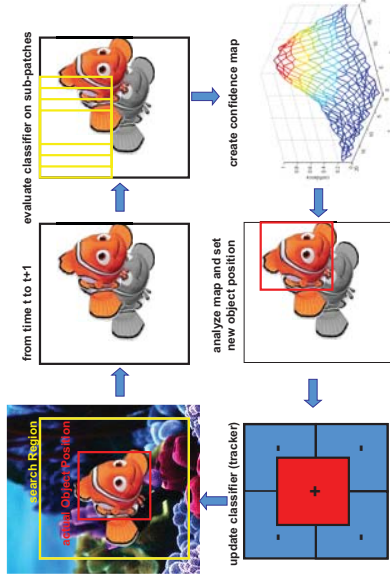
## Tracking as Classification

S. Avitia, Ensemble tracking, CVPR 2005.  
J. Wang, On-line learning for object tracking, CVPR 2005.  
J. Wang, On-line learning for object tracking, CVPR 2005.

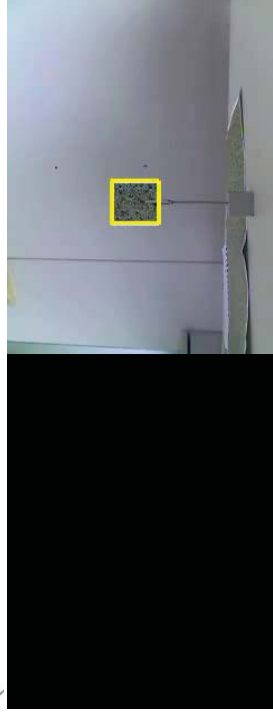
Tracking as binary classification  
Object and background changes are robustly handled by on-line updating!



## Template based Object Tracking



## Tracking Examples



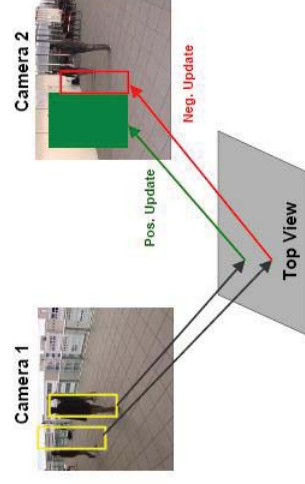
## Long Term Experiment



## Where do we get on-line labels?

- Own predictions (self-learning)
  - Bad idea
- User
  - Only interactive settings
- Other algorithms (Co-training)
  - Are they correct? → Robust Learning
- Other modalities (Co-training)
  - Are they correct? → Robust Learning
- Future (System success)
  - How much memory?
  - Credit assignment problem → Reinforcement Learning

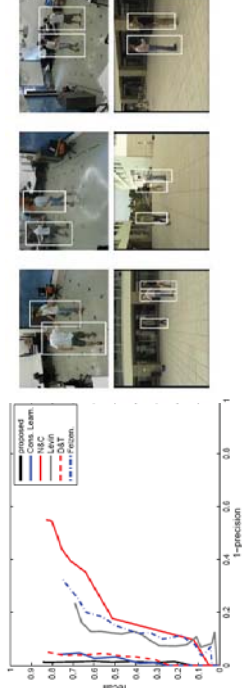
## Multiple Camera Co-training



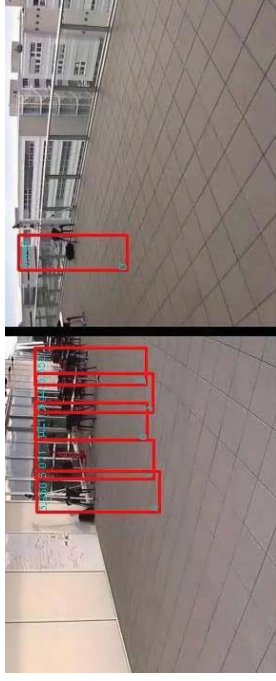
Geometry (Homography) for verification

## Co-training

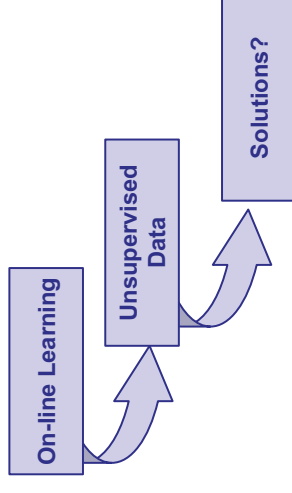
Online Multiple Instance Co-Training (Roth et.al)



## Co-training



## Summary



## Continuous Learning in Vision

- Only plausible learning method for autonomous system
- Label generation harder than learning (stability)
- If we can learn fast/stable we can specialize at the task on the fly

## The last paper I want to write

Computer vision solved!

## A big step forward

Computer Wischen solved!

