

informedia
digital video understanding

SEARCH summarize visualize retrieve

Machine Learning, Pattern Recognition, Cross-modal Analysis and Fusion

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Outline

Part One

- Introduction/Background
 - Motivation
 - Text, Speech, Images, Video
- Case Studies in Cross-Modal Analysis
 - Labeling Monologues, Faces and Locations

Part Two

- Bridging the Semantic Gap across Modalities
 - A Large Scale Ontology for Multimedia (LSCOM)
 - Retrieval Experiments with LSCOM
 - Active Learning of Semantic Concepts
- YouTube and Challenges for the Future

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Extracting information from video sources

- Understanding how language refers to video imagery
 - Learn the kinds of visual objects that may be strongly predicted from particular expressions
 - Utilize recorded "audio descriptions" of a media's visual content
- Identify imagery and audio components
 - Audio classifiers: transcribed speech, gender, gunfire, cheering/jeering, ...
 - Image classifiers: in/outdoor, people, crowds, interviews, sports, ...
 - Event classifiers: combat, rally, meeting, ...
- Applying broadcast TV news ontology
 - Event ontology: functional (e.g., role of actions) and structural (e.g. organization, sequence)
 - Primitive and composite events: descriptive name, time interval, objects participating in it

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Application of Diverse, Imperfect Technologies

- Speech understanding for automatically derived transcripts
- Image understanding for video "paragraphing"; face, text and object recognition
- Natural language for segmentation, query understanding and content summarization
- Machine learning for classification and modeling
- Human computer interaction for video display, navigation and reuse
- ⋮
- Integration overcomes limitation of each

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Understanding multimedia questions

"Find scenes with George Bush exiting a car like this in New York"

- Assemble context information of query into a single structured representation, independent of modality
 - Locations may be mentioned, scenically pictured, noted on a map
 - Account for what the user already knows, observes and annotates
- Extend broadcast news video ontology for representing component relationships in multimedia queries
 - Augment with an understanding of simple relations (e.g., "like this")

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English Text Query on Video Corpus



The screenshot shows a web-based search interface. At the top, there's a search bar with the text "Search against Channel4 English News, April-May 2004". Below the search bar, the results are displayed as a grid of video thumbnails. The first row shows several thumbnails of people in uniform, likely military police. The interface includes navigation controls like "Previous", "Next", and "First" buttons. There's also a "Test Search" button. The results are labeled "Grid of 197 segments".

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Image Search Across Multilingual Sources



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Image Query from Key-frame Image



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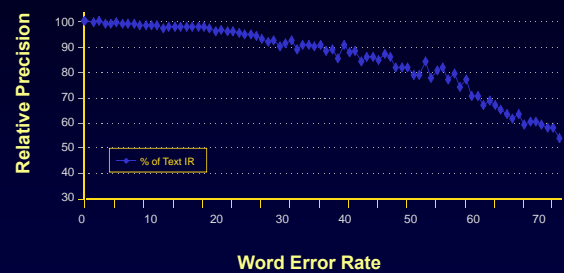
- Image similarity based
- Uses shot to launch query
- Results cut across different languages
- Find top-ranked (Chinese) news source segment

Map Search Across Multilingual Sources



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Information Retrieval Precision vs. Speech Accuracy



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Beyond Spoken Text

Broadcast speech transcripts do not describe the video

- Rule for reporters: Let the images tell their own story

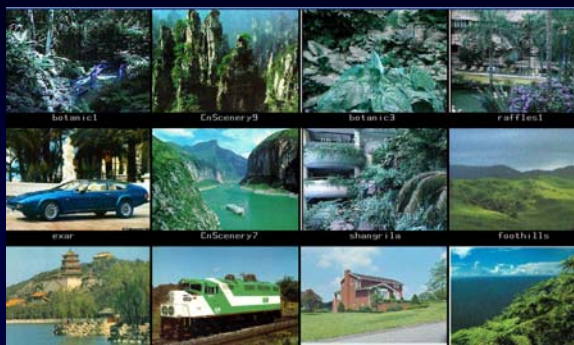
- Image Retrieval
 - Need sample images
 - Find duplicates
 - Similar colors
 - Similar layout or shape
 - Similar content

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Image Similarity Challenge: Color



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Finding Similar Shapes and Settings

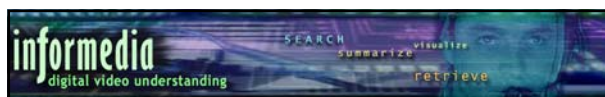


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Images containing similar content



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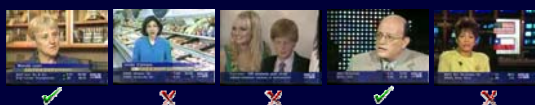
Case Study: News Subject Monologues

Joint work with Cees Snoek

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Framework

- News subject monologue:
 - "segment contains an event in which a single person, a news subject not a news person, speaks for a long time without interruption by another speaker. Pauses are ok if short."
- Data
 - TRECVID 2004
 - About 130 hours of video (ABC, CNN, & C-SPAN)
 - Focus on learning semantic concepts



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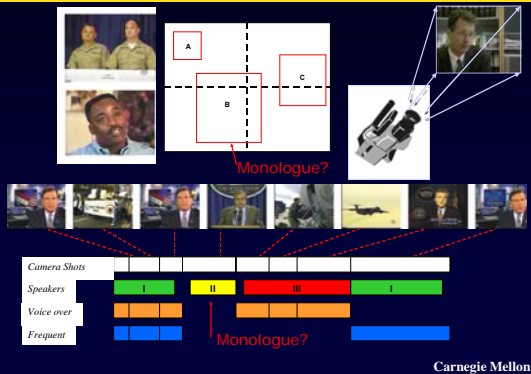
Approach

- Video analysis is reverse authoring
 - Reconstruct intention to extract semantics
- Author intention
 - Style detectors
 - Context detectors

Analysis component	Modality
Camera shot segmentation	Visual
Motion estimation	Visual
Frontal face detection	Visual
Video OCR	Visual & Textual
Named entity recognizer	Textual
Speaker recognition	Auditory
Speech recognition	Auditory

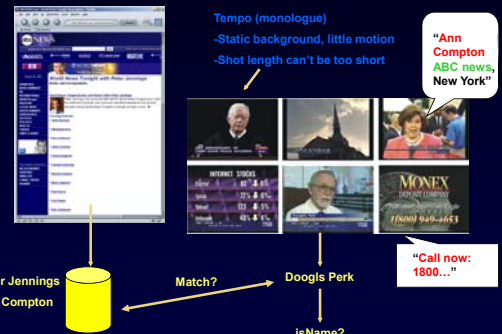
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Style detectors I



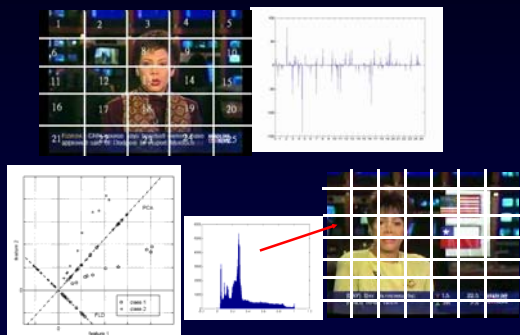
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Style detectors II



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Context detectors



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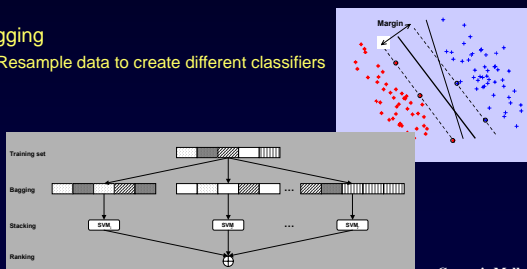
Combining detectors

- Multimedia detector problem
 - False positives
 - False negatives
 - Too many negatives
- Solution from pattern recognition
 - View each detector as a 'weak' classifier
 - Combine classifiers in ensemble

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Classifier ensembles

- Stacking (using Support Vector Machines)
 - Combine 'weak' style and context detectors
 - Find optimal hyperplane in detector space
- Bagging
 - Resample data to create different classifiers



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Ranking Multiple Classifiers

- Simple ranking
 - Use threshold to convert margin to binary value b
 - Take average of b over number of classifiers
- Round-robin ranking (rather Ad Hoc)
 - Simple ranking per station, combine based on prior probability of monologue per station
- Borda Rank Fusion
 - Combine ranks through proportional weighting
- Probabilistic ranking
 - Use sigmoid model to convert margin to probability p
 - Take average of p over number of classifiers

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Evaluation

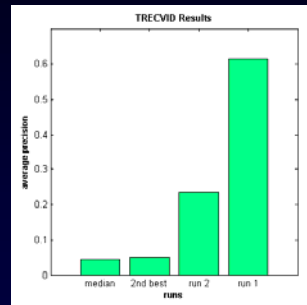
- TRECVID benchmark
 - Train: 65 hours of video (using common annotation?)
 - Test: 65 hours of video
- Annotation of monologues was bad
 - Used our own ground truth (about 29 hours)
- Evaluation measure: Average Precision
 - Combines precision and recall
 - Based on ranked list of results
 - Averages precision after every relevant shot



$$AP = (1/1 + 2/4) / 5 = 0.3$$

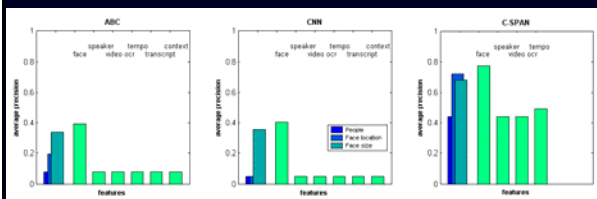
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TRECVID results General vs Careful Annotation



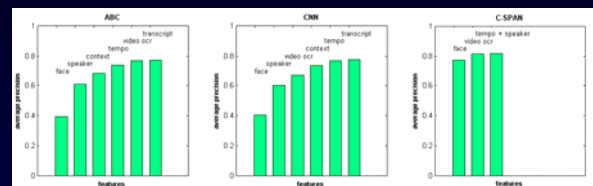
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Single Feature contribution



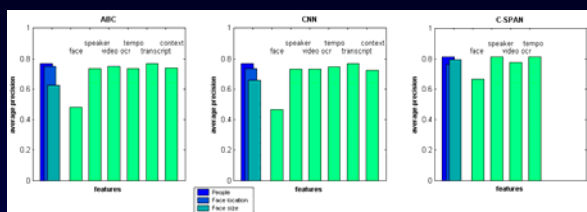
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Cumulative feature contribution



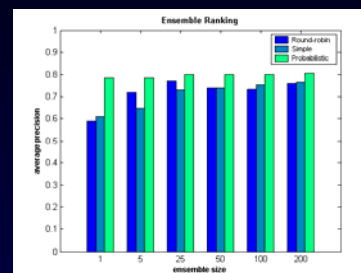
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Feature ablation (deletion)



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Ensemble contribution

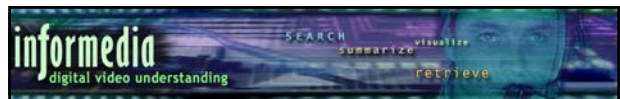


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Lessons from Case Study

- Multiple approaches should be combined
 - Combination of detectors gives best result, although some may appear 'useless' at first
- A classifier ensemble can improve results
 - Probabilistic ranking is the way usually better
 - The more classifiers the better
- Things rarely work this well !

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Case Study: Labeling Persons and Locations in Broadcast News

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Naming People in the News



- News video is mainly about the activities of people
- There are a large number of people in the video
 - Approx. 50 appearances of individual person in 30-min broadcasting
 - Approx. 15-20 distinct named persons

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Associating Names with People

Problem I: Person Naming ($Person \rightarrow Name$)

- What is the name of a person appearing in a video segment?

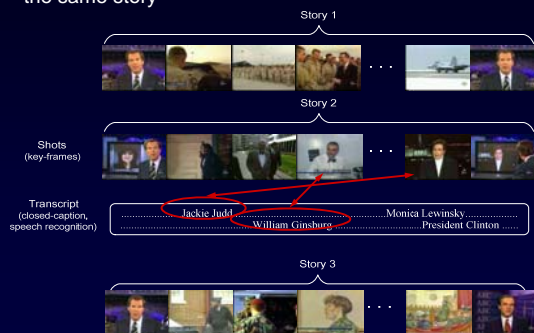
Problem II: Person X Finding ($Name \rightarrow Person$)

- What are the video segments where a named person appears?
- TREC Video Retrieval Evaluation feature extraction and search task

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Basic Idea of Person Naming

- Mapping a person to one of several candidate names in the same story



Simplifications

1. Monologue shots only

- Monologue – individual speaker (anchor, reporter, news subject)
- No shots with multiple talking faces

2. Persons with names in transcript only

- A person's name may appear in the transcript or in the text overlaid on screen, or never appears (anonymous)
- No anonymous persons
- No persons with names only in overlaid text



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Problem Formulation

- Person naming is a classification problem
 - Choosing a person's name from a set of candidate names
 - Learning is necessary to combining a variety of features
- Formulation A
 - mapping $F: \{Shot\} \rightarrow \{Name\}$
 - $\{Name\}$ is basically infinite
 - There are always strangers emerging in news video
 - F is not learnable with infinite labels
 - Not every name in $\{Name\}$ are valid candidates for a shot

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Problem Formulation (cont.)

- Formulation B
 - $G: \{ \langle Shot, Name \rangle \} \rightarrow R [-1, 1]$
 - where R is the degree of association between a name-shot pair
 - For a shot, the name with the largest R is predicted
 - A regression problem
 - Overcome all the modelling problems
 - Names can be infinite
 - Only valid candidate pairs are used
 - Features of names can be represented
- Trained using **Support Vector Machine (SVM)**

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Probabilistic formulation

- Estimate the probability that a face is associated with a name, where the association is described by a feature set:
 - Estimate $P(Y=1|F, N) = P(Y=1|X)$
- A typical **binary classification** problem on distinguishing correct and incorrect face-name associations
- Label a face with the name with the highest probability:
 - $n(f_i) = \arg \max_j P(Y=1|f_i, n_j)$
 - $\{n_{ij}\}$ are candidate names extracted from the same story as f_i

F : face, N : name, Y : label on face-name association, X : feature set

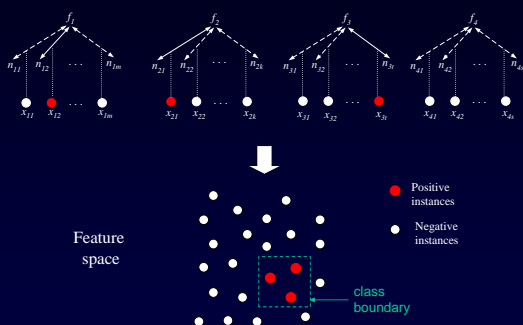
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Supervised approaches

- Use supervised learning methods to build a classifier from labeled training data
- Labeled data**: a set of example faces labeled with correct and incorrect names
- Learning methods**: SVM, logistic regression, etc
- Manual labeling** needed for good performance
 - Large volume of video data
 - Heterogeneous news programs

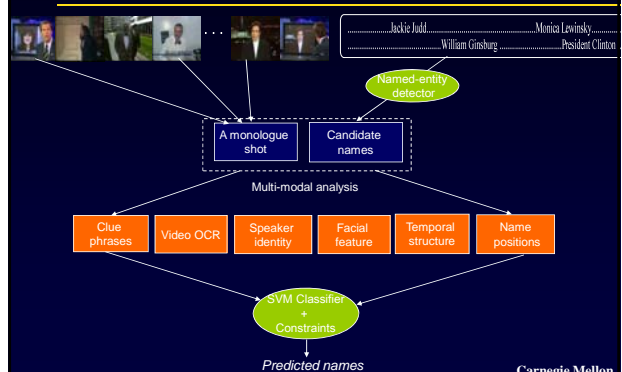
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Supervised face labeling



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Framework



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Person Naming (PN) ≠ Face Recognition (FR)

- FR only recognizes people who have been seen before
 - Limited identities
 - Cannot handle strangers
- PN can predict the name of a person who has never been seen
 - Unlimited identities
 - Can handle strangers, who appear in news video almost every day
- News video is also too heterogeneous in illumination and face pose for face recognition to be successful

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Feature #1 – Clue Phrases

- anchors and reporters use fixed “clue phrases” in their speeches
 - E.g. “I’m Peter Jennings. Have a good night”, “Barry Serafin, ABC news, in Washington”
 - Indicate speakers’ identities and names
 - Very effective if available
 - Automatically recognized through handcrafted “templates”

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Feature #1 – Transcript Clues

- anchors and reporters use fixed “clue phrases” in their speeches
 - Indicate the type of a person as anchor, reporter, or news-subject
 - Indicate the type of a name as an anchor’s, reporter’s, or a news-subject’s name
 - Accurate if available
 - Automatically recognized by handcrafted “templates”



“I’m Peter Jennings. Have a good night”



“Sam Donaldson, ABC news, at White House”



“ABC’s Linda Douglass has the story”

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Feature #2 -- Video OCR

- A person’s name frequently appears as **overlaid text** on the screen
- However, **video OCR** result is far from accurate
 - e.g. “DAVID BRUC-I CRIM1NAIVD~J~fiT~~NE Y”
 - Due to low resolution, compression loss, etc
- Nevertheless, it still points to the correct name
 - “Looks very similar” to the correct name
 - Use the **edit distance** to measure the similarity between VOOCR text and each candidate name

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Video OCR – An Example



Overlaid text
Rep. NEWT GINGRICH

Video OCR
rgp nev-j ginuhicij i-t thea i-ous- i ~

Edit distance to candidate names:

Bill Clinton (0.67)
Newt Gingrich (0.46)
David Ensor (0.72)
Saddam Hussein (0.78)
Elizabeth Vargas (0.88)
Bill Richardson (0.80)

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Feature #3 -- Speaker Identification

- Speech segments
 - Segments of the same speaker assigned a **unique speaker ID**
 - Gender of each segment is given
- Features of a shot’s speaker ID (SID)
 - Does it cross multiple stories?
 - If yes, it is the anchor’s SID
 - Does it cross over neighboring shots?
 - The voice of a news-subject seldom continues to the next shots
 - Does the speaker of this ID utter any candidate name?
 - Only anchor and reporter will utter his own name
 - Does its gender matches the gender of a name?
- Talking speed is another feature
 - anchors and reporters are usually faster speakers

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Feature #4 -- Facial Information



- Facial features
 - Size, orientation (left, right, frontal), location (left, right, center, etc)
- Useful for discriminating the type of a person
 - Anchors and reporters usually have small, frontal faces,
 - News subjects in monologue usually have big face in the center, but the faces are sometimes non-frontal

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Feature #5 -- Temporal structure

- News stories have relatively fixed structures
 - Typically, "Anchor -- news subjects news subjects -- reporter/anchor"



- Temporal structure features
 - Offset of a shot (in question) from the beginning and end of a news story
 - Shots on two sides are probably anchors or reporters
 - Story length
 - Short stories may only have anchors
 - Shot length
 - Shots of news-subjects are usually shorter

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Feature #6 -- Name Positions

- Temporal relationship between name and face
 - Order: before, within, or after
 - Distance between the name and the shot
- Why useful?
 - Name usually appear before the person, sometimes after it, seldom within it (rare self-introduction)
 - Closer the shot-name distance, the more likely a match

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Finding People and Labeling Faces

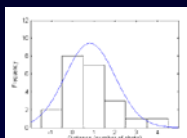
- Given a person's name, automatically find all the video segments where the person appears visually
 - Name does not always co-occur with visual appearance
 - Face does not always match the name
- Text information includes closed captions, speech transcription and video OCR



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Temporal Information -- Prior Distribution

- Broadcast news has reporting structure
- Prior distribution can be explored in the distance between names and faces



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Other Sources of Information

- Face Recognition
 - Unreliable technology
- Anchor and Commercial Detection
 - Filter out uninteresting shots

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Accuracy for Different People

- “Yasser Arafat”, “Osama Bin Laden”, “Morgan Freeman”, “Mark Souder”, “Pope John Paul II”

	Face Only	Text Only	Straight Text Propagation	Prior Distribution	Text + Filter Anchor	Comb.
Arafat	0.125	0.200	0.252	0.268	0.278	0.387
Bin Laden	0.007	0.143	0.561	0.511	0.465	0.432
Souder	0.113	0.667	0.641	0.432	0.432	0.461
Freeman	0.587	0.517	0.148	0.445	0.445	0.551
The Pope	0.005	0.368	0.311	0.269	0.315	0.269
Average	0.167	0.379	0.383	0.385	0.387	0.420

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Labeling Every Face

Features applied

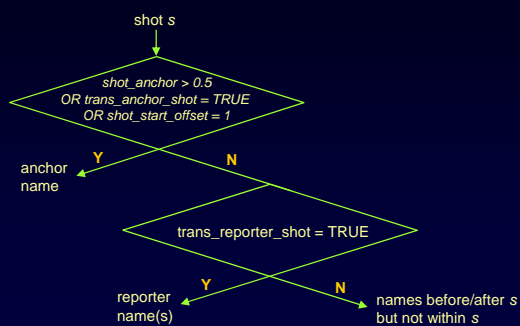
- Names in the Transcript
- Speaker Identity – which of N speakers in the news program
- Video OCR
- Temporal Relationships
- Shot Classification (Anchor, Reporter, or News Subject)
- Transcript Phrases (“I’m Peter Jennings – good night”)

Common sense constraints applied

- Image Similarity Constraint:
repetitions of a shot will contain the same person
- Speaker Similarity Constraint:
the same speaker should have the same name

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Baseline Algorithm for Labeling Faces



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Constraints

Features VS. constraints

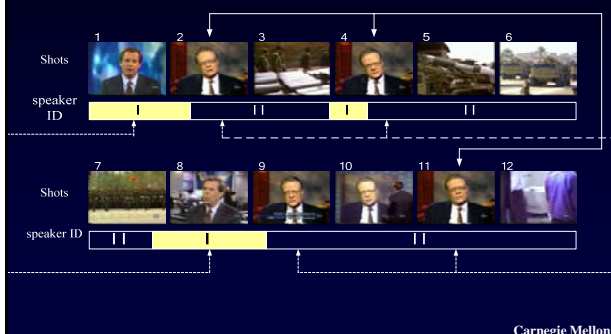
- Features – predict the **correct name** of a shot
- Constraints – tell the **relationships between the names** of different shots, e.g., equivalence

Source of constraints

- Speaker IDs -- shots with the same ID contain the same speaker
- Local image features -- shots (in a story) with highly similar image features contain the same person

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Examples of Constraints

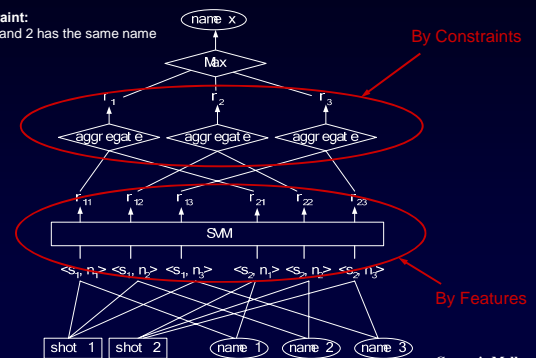


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Combine constraints (Cont)

Constraint:

- Shot 1 and 2 has the same name



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Experimental Set-up

- TREC Video Retrieval Evaluation dataset
 - 20 days of ABC Word News Tonight (10 hours)
 - 754 persons (shots) to be named
 - 237 news subjects
 - 373 anchors
 - 144 reporters
- Baseline approach
 - Name a person by the name temporally closest to it

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Accuracy of Person Naming

		Overall (754)	Anchor (373)	Reporter (144)	News subject (237)
Top-1 name	Baseline	0.561	0.834	0.359	0.256
	LM (our approach)	0.728	0.958	0.656	0.424
	LM + Constraints (Avg)	0.763	0.957	0.703	0.504
	LM + Constraints (Max)	0.771	0.957	0.734	0.512
Top-2 name	Baseline	0.659	0.860	0.422	0.48
	LM (our approach)	0.853	0.973	0.859	0.672
	LM + Constraints (Avg)	0.867	0.979	0.875	0.696
	LM + Constraints (Max)	0.856	0.979	0.875	0.664
Top-3 name	Baseline	0.710	0.877	0.515	0.56
	LM (our approach)	0.896	0.984	0.926	0.752
	LM + Constraints (Avg)	0.880	0.978	0.922	0.712
	LM + Constraints (Max)	0.875	0.978	0.922	0.696

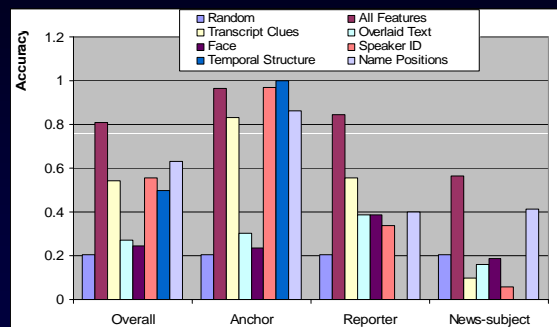
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Observations

- In average, each person has 5 candidate names
 - Random baseline has 20% accuracy
 - Baseline achieves reasonably good performance
 - Poor on naming reporters and news-subjects
- Learning method (LM) is substantially better
 - Perfect on naming anchors and reporters
 - Much space for improvement on news-subjects
- Constraints are also helpful
 - Effective in boosting correct names to high ranks

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Feature Contributions



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Interface



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Further Challenges

- Naming people in non-monologue shots
 - Name multiple people co-existing in a shot, speaking or not
 - A harder problem
 - many people are unnamed
 - speaker IDs can be meaningless or misleading
- Identifying unnamed people
 - Whether a person is anonymous or not
 - Whether a person looks similar to others we found
 - Similar face, similar scenes

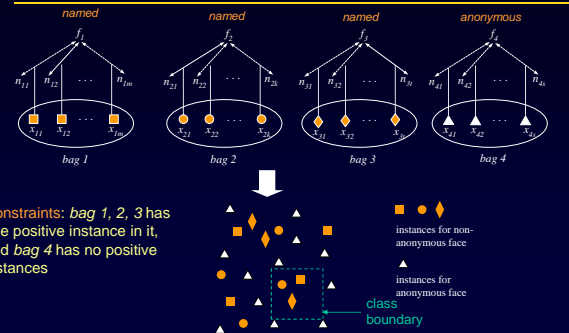
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Face labeling w/o labeled data

- To avoid the cost of manually labeling training data
- A missing piece in the video analysis research
- Without labels, there is still **hidden information** in the unlabeled data:
 - 1) Each face may have only one correct name
 - 2) It is easy to tell whether a face is named (i.e., having name in transcript) or anonymous
- How to make use of the hidden information?

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Face labeling w/o labels



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Multiple instance learning

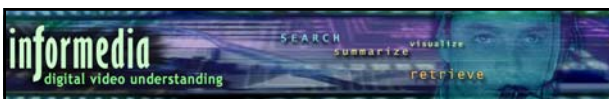
- How to build a classifier from such constraints?
- **Multi-Instance Learning (MIL)** is the right tool -- learning with incomplete information of data labels
 - instance labels are unknown
 - instances are grouped into **bags**, and **bag labels** are known
 - if a bag is positive, at least one instance in it is positive,
 - if a bag is negative, all instances in it are negative
- **MIL Methods:** diverse density (DD), EM-DD, SVM variants, etc
- **MIL Applications:** drug activity prediction, content-based image retrieval, document classification, etc

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Face labeling is a MIL problem

- If (1) each a face-name association == an instance;
 - (2) instances associated with a face == a bag of instances;
 - (3) the face anonymity == bag label
- Bag labels as **face anonymity** required by MIL methods can be automatically obtained by heuristics
 - monologue faces w/o overlaid name are named
 - Faces appearing multiple times are mostly named
- So, MIL methods can solve face labeling w/o any human effort!

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Location Annotation

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Location annotation in news video

- Goal: annotate each video shot with the location of the scene
- Locations for video analysis and retrieval
 - Localized search: "Find all the scenes showing suicide bombings in Baghdad, Iraq"
 - Summarization: "List all the Asian countries hit by tsunami last year"
 - Categorizing and browsing news video by locations

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The state-of-the-art

- Scene type classification
 - Indoor, outdoor, meetings, street, etc
 - Very restrictive vocabulary
- Matching a shot with scenes of known locations
 - Expensive, not scalable to news video
- GPS information
 - Unavailable to news video

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Previous work at Informedia

- Map-based browsing of news video by locations



- The stories are organized by the **locations mentioned by the transcript**

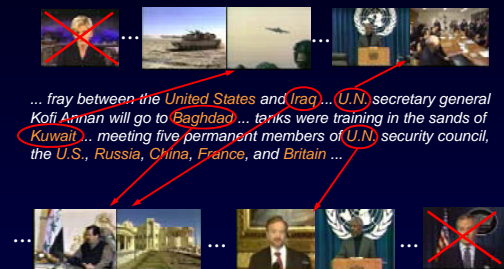
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News locations ≠ mentioned locations

- Locations of news are typically mentioned in the transcript
 - Closed-captions, ASR text
- Mentioned locations are far from true locations
 - Multiple locations mentioned, some never "show up"
 - A story may switch between many locations
 - Shots with unmentioned locations
 - Shots without locations (e.g., artificial shots)

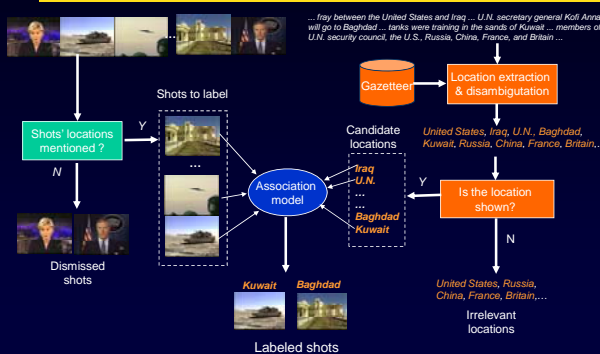
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Location annotation: an example



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System framework



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Shots w/o mentioned locations

- Case 1: Shots with **no legitimate locations**
 - e.g. artificial shots
- Case 2: Shot with **unimportant or self-contained locations**
 - e.g. studio shots, general scene



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Find shots w/o mentioned locations

- A **SVM classifier** to find shots w/o mentioned locations using heuristics
 - Semantic concepts: *anchor, commercial, studio*
 - Motion feature: *pixel difference*
 - Story genre: *politics, technology, health, sports, business*
- Performance
 - Data set: 6219 ABC News shots (Trecvid 2004)
 - Result: **89.7% accuracy**
 - Find 4072 shots w/o locations, miss only 492

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Location extraction

- Extracting locations using BBN named-entity detector
 - locations, e.g., "*California*"
 - self-contained organizations, e.g., "*Capitol Hill*"
- Locations are ambiguous
 - **Synonymity** – multiple expressions of the same location
 - e.g. "*United Kingdom*" and "*Great Britain*", "*Los Angeles*" and "*LA*"; "*Mosel, Iraq*" and "*Mosul, Iraq*"
 - **Polysemy** – multiple locations with the same name
 - e.g. "*London, UK*" vs. "*London, Ontario*"; "*Georgia*" as a state or a country
 - A serious problem in U.S. – 24 Paris, 63 Springfield

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Location Disambiguation

- Transform a location term into a **physical location**
- Resolve synonymity based on a **gazetteer**
 - Location → canonical location, e.g., "*U.S.*" → "*United States*"
 - Manually adding rules
- Resolve polysemy by context
 - Locations mentioned in the proximity
 - e.g. "*Ontario*" immediately after or close to "*London*"
 - e.g. "*Georgia*" near "*North Carolina*"
 - Default reference
 - e.g. "*Paris*", "*Baghdad*", "*Damascus*"

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Which location is shown?

- Example: "*In **Moscow**, **Russia's** prime minister insisted that **Iraq** accepted the inspections of **United Nation***"
- Syntactic analysis helps
 - Prepositional phrase -- likely, depending on preposition
 - e.g. "*In **Moscow***", "*of **United Nation***"
 - Subject/object – unlikely
 - e.g. "***Iraq** accepted ...*"
 - Modifier – maybe
 - e.g. "***Russia's** prime minister*"
- Other heuristics: location type, speaker, etc

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Analysis of syntactic structure

- Derive the syntactic role of a location from the parse tree
 - Link grammar parser



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Mapping locations to shots

- An association model between locations and shots
- Supervised method based on multimodal features
 - Temporal distance between shot & location
 - String similarity between location & VOCR text

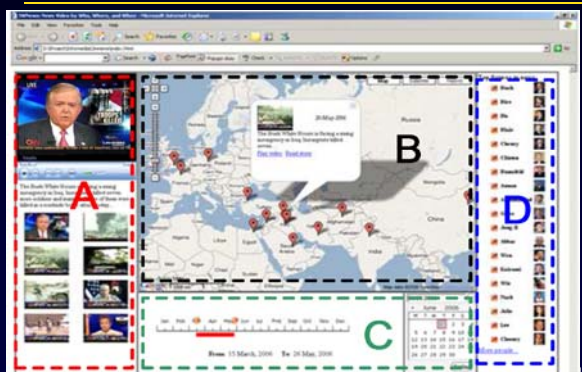


VOCR output: IRAQ

Edit distance:
Iraq: 0.25
U.S.: 1.0
France: 0.67
Russia: 1.0

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Informedia News- Google Map Interface



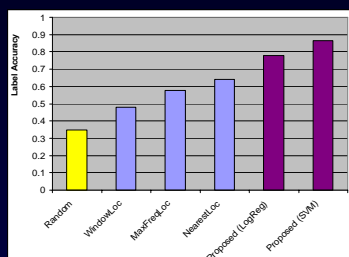
Experiments in TRECVID

- Data set: 10-hour ABC News in TRECVID 2004
 - 6219 shots, among which 1768 has location (s)
- Baseline approaches
 - WindowLoc**: label a shot by all the locations in a window
 - MaxFreqLoc**: label a shot by the most frequently appeared location in the story
 - NearestLoc**: label a shot by the nearest location

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Performance on shots with locations

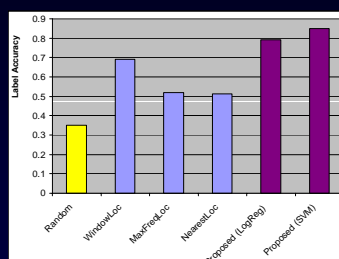
- Accuracy: ratio that the most likely location of a shot is correct



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Performance on all shots

- Treating "no location" as a special label

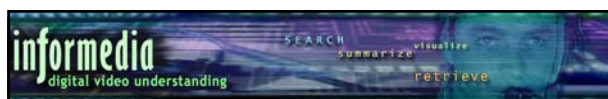


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Conclusion

- Annotating news video locations is feasible
 - Built on mature techniques
 - story segmentation, named-entity detection, etc
- Good performance: around 80-90%
- High efficiency
 - offline effort of labeling training data
 - fast predictions
- General applicability

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Questions?

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