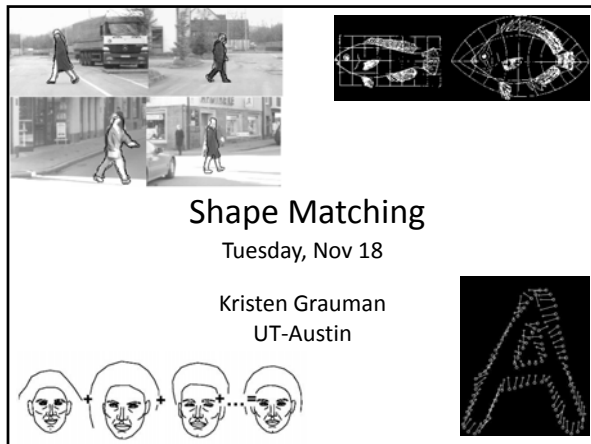




Shape Matching
Tuesday, Nov 18
Kristen Grauman
UT-Austin

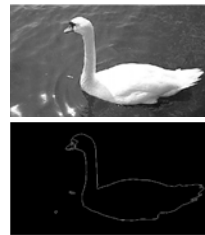
The slide features several images: a top row with a street scene and a diagram of a shape matching process; a middle row with a street scene and a diagram of a shape matching process; a bottom row with four face images and a diagram of a shape matching process.

Announcements

- This week : My office hours for Thurs (11/20) are moved to Friday (11/21) from 1 – 2 pm.
- Pset 3 returned today
- Check all semester grades on eGradebook

- Where have we encountered shape before?

Low-level features



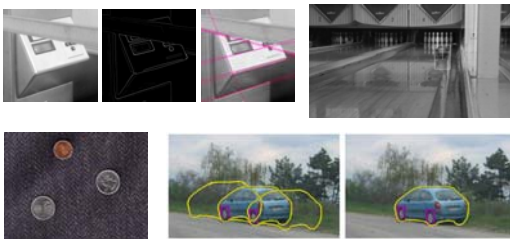
Edges



Silhouettes

Fitting

- Want to associate a model with observed features



For example, the model could be a line, a circle, or an arbitrary shape.

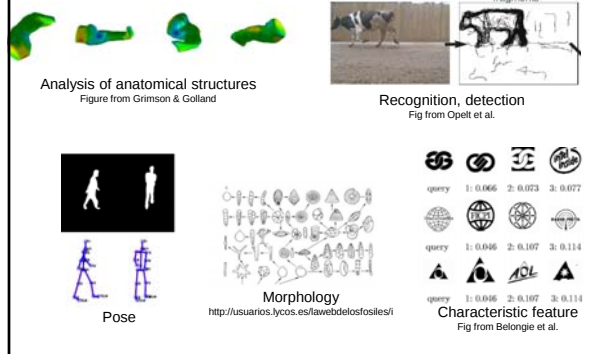
Deformable contours



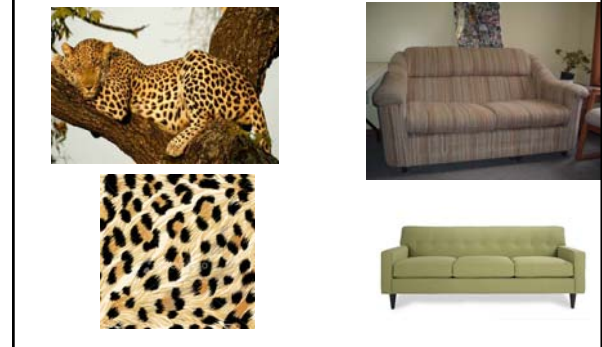
[Visual Dynamics Group](#), Dept. Engineering Science, University of Oxford.

Applications: Traffic monitoring
Human-computer interaction
Animation
Surveillance
Computer Assisted Diagnosis in medical imaging

Role of shape



Shape in recognition



Questions

- What features?
- How to compare shapes?



Fig. 1. Examples of two handwritten digits. In terms of pixel-to-pixel comparisons, these two images are quite different, but to the human observer, the shapes appear to be similar.

Figure from Belongie et al.

Chamfer distance

- Average distance to nearest feature

$$D_{\text{chamfer}}(T, I) \equiv \frac{1}{|T|} \sum_{t \in T} d_I(t)$$

- T: template shape $\rightarrow$ a set of points
- I: image to search $\rightarrow$ a set of points
- $d(t)$: min distance for point t to some point in I

Chamfer distance

- Average distance to nearest feature

$$D_{\text{chamfer}}(T, I) \equiv \frac{1}{|T|} \sum_{t \in T} d_I(t)$$

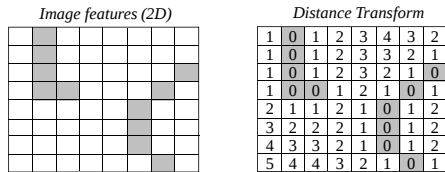
How is the measure different than just filtering with a mask having the shape points?



Edge image

How expensive is a naive implementation?

Distance transform



Distance Transform is a function $D(\cdot)$ that for each image pixel p assigns a non-negative number $D(p)$ corresponding to distance from p to the nearest feature in the image I

Features could be edge points, foreground points,...

Source: Yuri Boykov

Distance transform



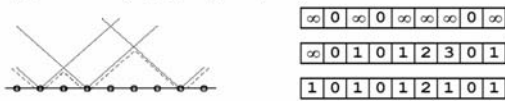
Value at (x,y) tells how far that position is from the nearest edge point (or other binary image structure)

>> help bwdist

Distance transform (1D)

Two pass $O(n)$ algorithm for 1D L_1 norm

- Initialize:** For all j
 $D[j] \leftarrow 1_{P[j]}$ // 0 if j is in P , infinity otherwise
- Forward:** For j from 1 up to $n-1$
 $D[j] \leftarrow \min(D[j], D[j-1]+1)$
- Backward:** For j from $n-2$ down to 0
 $D[j] \leftarrow \min(D[j], D[j+1]+1)$



Adapted from D. Huttenlocher

Distance Transform (2D)

- 2D case analogous to 1D
 - Initialization
 - Forward and backward pass
 - Fwd pass finds closest above and to left
 - Bwd pass finds closest below and to right

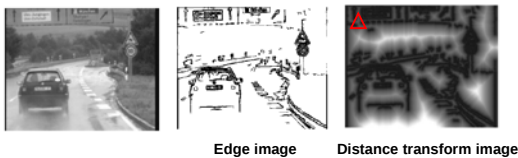


Adapted from D. Huttenlocher

Chamfer distance

- Average distance to nearest feature

$$D_{chamfer}(T, I) \equiv \frac{1}{|T|} \sum_{t \in T} d_I(t)$$



Edge image

Distance transform image

Chamfer distance



Edge image

Distance transform image

Fig from D. Gavrilu, DAGM 1999

A limitation of active contours

- External energy: snake does not really "see" object boundaries in the image unless it gets very close to it.

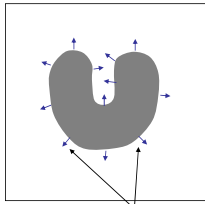


image gradients ∇I
are large only directly on the boundary



Distance transform can help

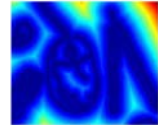
- External image cost** can also be taken from the **distance transform** of the edge image.



original



-gradient

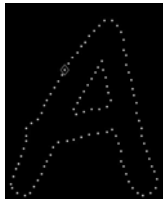


distance transform

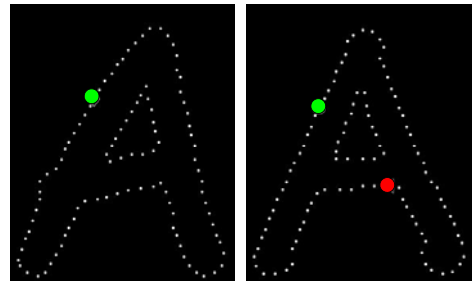


edges

- What limitations might we have using only edge points to represent a shape?
- How descriptive is a point?

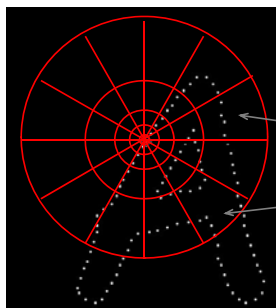


Comparing shapes



What points on these two sampled contours are most similar? How do you know?

Shape context descriptor



Count the number of points inside each bin, e.g.:

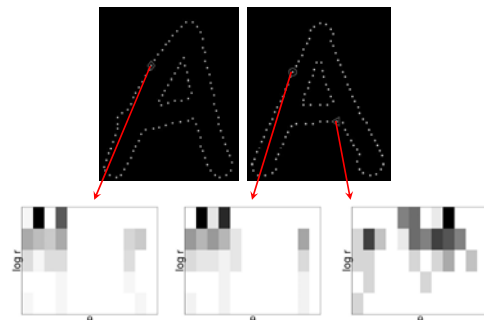
Count = 4

⋮

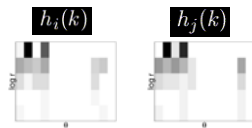
Count = 10

Compact representation of distribution of points relative to each point

Shape context descriptor



Comparing shape contexts



$$C_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^K \frac{[h_i(k) - h_j(k)]^2}{h_i(k) + h_j(k)}$$



Recover correspondences by solving for least cost assignment, using costs C_{ij}

(Then use a deformable template match, given the correspondences.)

Shape context matching with handwritten digits



Only errors made out of 10,000 test examples

CAPTCHA's

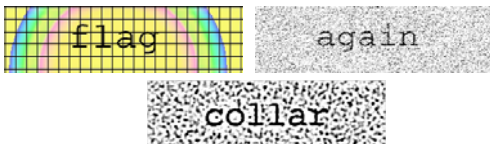
- CAPTCHA: Completely Automated Turing Test To Tell Computers and Humans Apart
- Luis von Ahn, Manuel Blum, Nicholas Hopper and John Langford, CMU, 2000.
- www.captcha.net

Image-based CAPTCHA



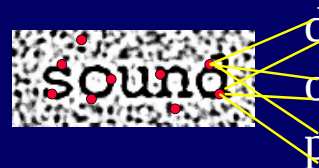
Shape matching application: breaking a visual CAPTCHA

- Use shape matching to recognize characters, words in spite of clutter, warping, etc.



Recognizing Objects in Adversarial Clutter: Breaking a Visual CAPTCHA, by G. Mori and J. Malik, CVPR 2003

Fast Pruning: Representative Shape Contexts



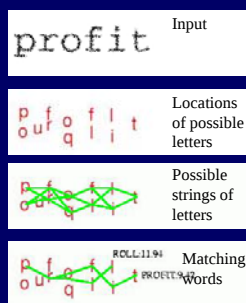
- Pick k points in the image at random
 - Compare to all shape contexts for all known letters
 - Vote for closely matching letters
- Keep all letters with scores under threshold

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Algorithm A: bottom-up

- Look for letters
 - Representative Shape Contexts
- Find pairs of letters that are "consistent"
 - Letters nearby in space
- Search for valid words
- Give scores to the words

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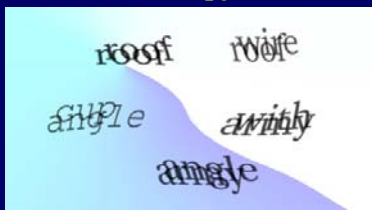
EZ-Gimpy Results with Algorithm A

- 158 of 191 images correctly identified: 83%
 - Running time: ~10 sec. per image (MATLAB, 1 Ghz P3)

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Gimpy



- Multiple words, task is to find 3 words in the image
- Clutter is other objects, not texture

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Algorithm B: Letters are not enough

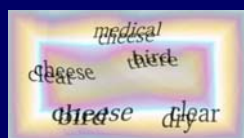


- Hard to distinguish single letters with so much clutter
- Find words instead of letters
 - Use long range info over entire word
 - Stretch shape contexts into ellipses
- Search problem becomes huge
 - # of words 600 vs. # of letters 26
 - Prune set of words using opening/closing bigrams

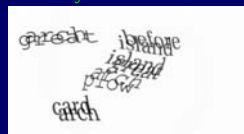
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Results with Algorithm B

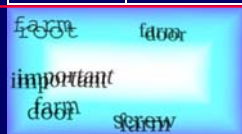


dry clear medical



card arch plate

# Correct words	% tests (of 24)
1 or more	92%
2 or more	75%
3	33%
EZ-Gimpy	92%

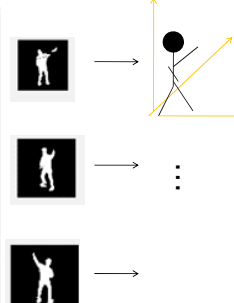
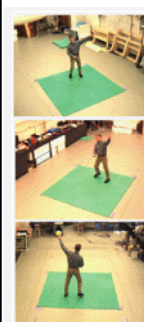


door farm important

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Shape matching application II: silhouettes and body pose



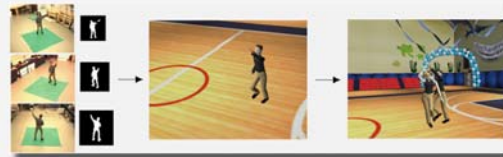
What kind of assumptions do we need?

Example-based pose estimation ...and animation

- Build a two-character "motion graph" from examples of people dancing with mocap
- Populate database with synthetically generated silhouettes in poses defined by mocap (behavior specific dynamics)
- Use silhouette features to identify similar examples in database
- Retrieve the pose stored for those similar examples to estimate user's pose
- Animate user and hypothetical partner

Ren, Shakhnarovich, Hodgins, Pfister, and Viola, 2005.

Fun with silhouettes



- Liu Ren, Gregory Shakhnarovich, Jessica Hodgins, Hanspeter Pfister and Paul Viola, [Learning Silhouette Features for Control of Human Motion](http://graphics.cs.cmu.edu/projects/swing/)
- <http://graphics.cs.cmu.edu/projects/swing/>

Summary

- Shape can be defining feature in recognition, useful for analysis tasks
- Chamfer measure to compare edge point sets
 - Distance transform for efficiency
- Isolated edges points ambiguous
 - Shape context : local shape neighborhood descriptor
- Example applications of shape matching

Next: Motion and tracking

