Object Recognition by Parts

- Object recognition started with line segments.

  - Roberts recognized objects from line segments and junctions.

  - This led to systems that extracted linear features.

  .

  - CAD-model-based vision works well for industrial.

- An “appearance-based approach” was first developed for face recognition and later generalized up to a point.

- The new interest operators have led to a new kind of recognition by “parts” that can handle a variety of objects that were previously difficult or impossible.

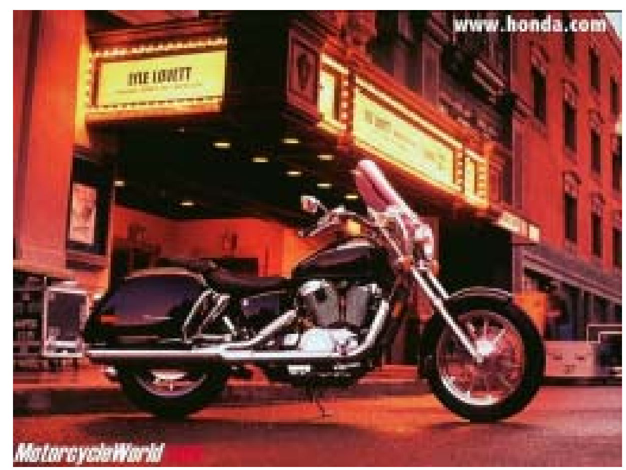
Object Class Recognition by Unsupervised Scale-Invariant Learning

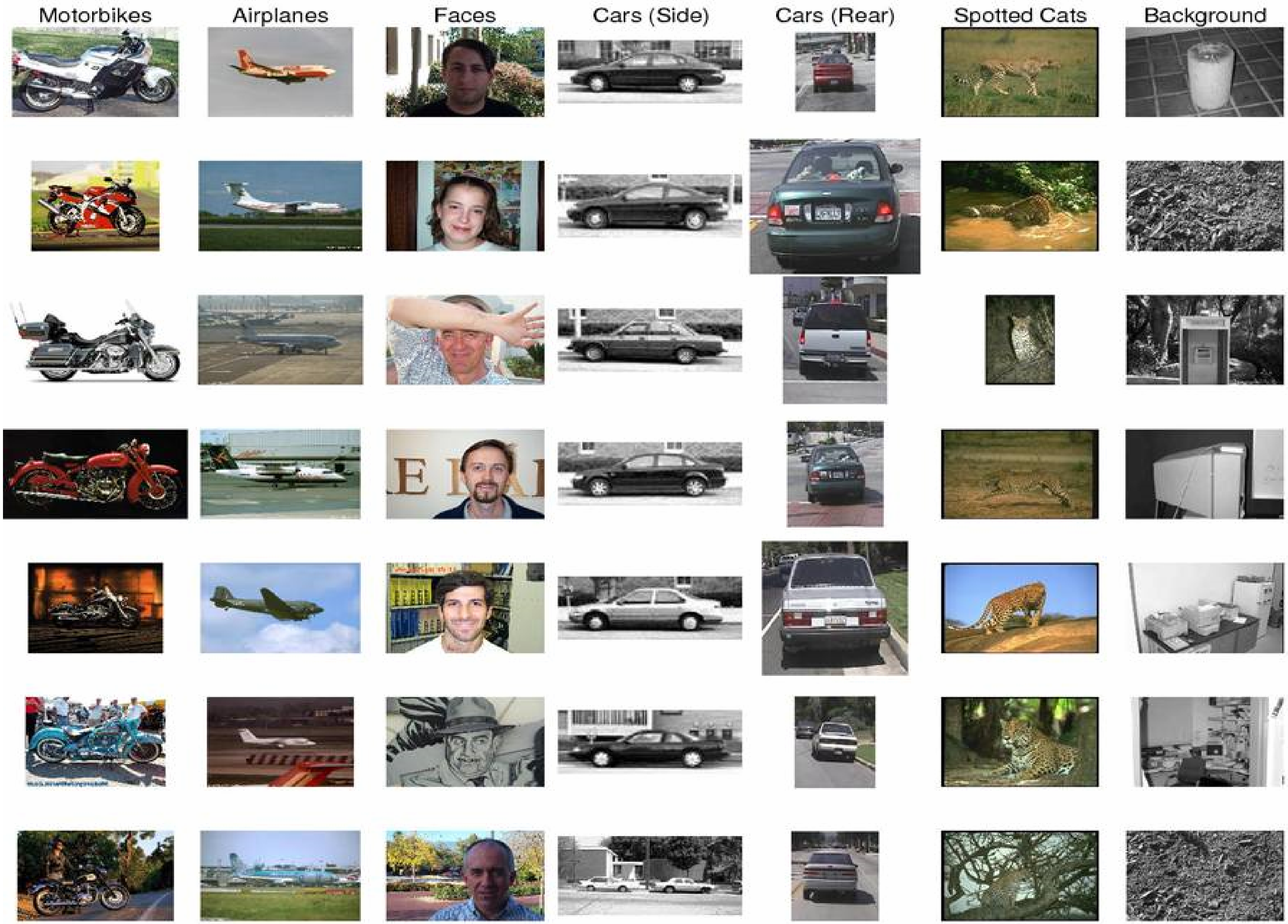
R. Fergus, P. Perona, and A. Zisserman
Oxford University and Caltech

CVPR 2003
won the best student paper award

Goal:

- Enable Computers to Recognize Different Categories of Objects in Images.




Motorbikes
Airplanes
Faces
Cars (Side)
Cars (Rear)
Spotted Cats
Background

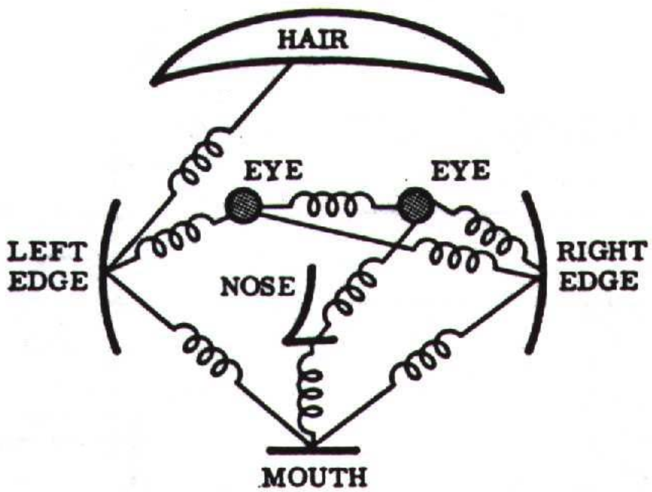
Approach

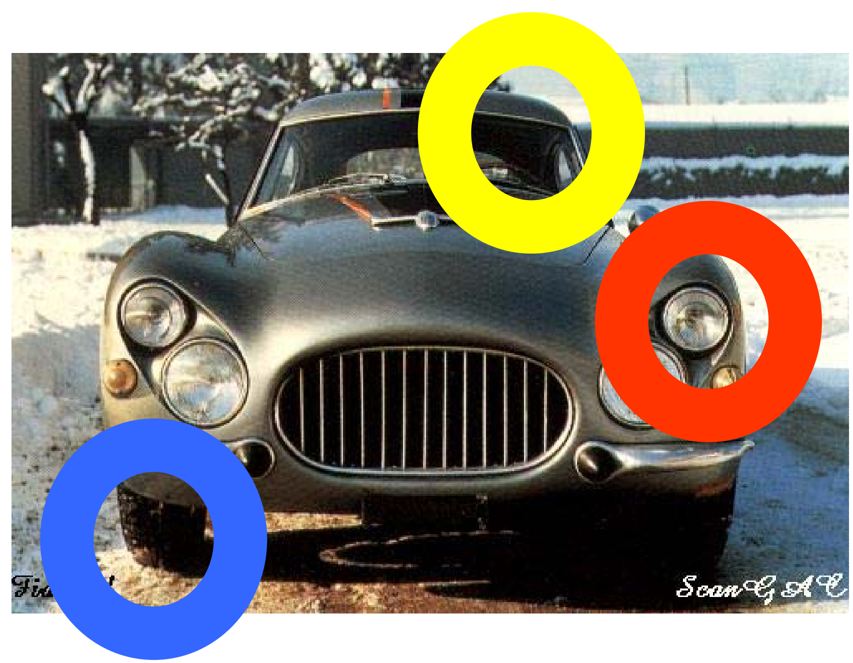
- An object is a random constellation of parts (from Burl, Weber and Perona, 1998).
- The parts are detected by an interest operator (Kadir's).
- The parts can be recognized by appearance.
- Objects may vary greatly in scale.
- The constellation of parts for a given object is learned from training images

Components

- Model
  - Generative Probabilistic Model including Location, Scale, and Appearance of Parts
- Learning
  - Estimate Parameters Via EM Algorithm
- Recognition
  - Evaluate Image Using Model and Threshold

Model: Constellation Of Parts



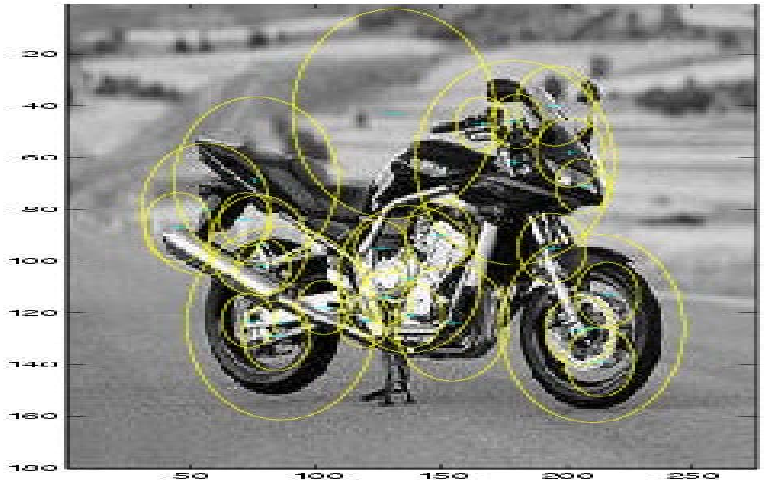


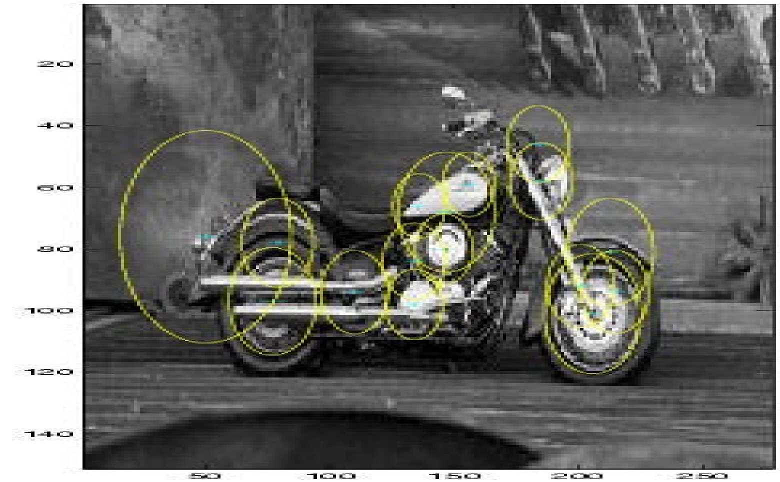
Fischler & Elschlager, 1973

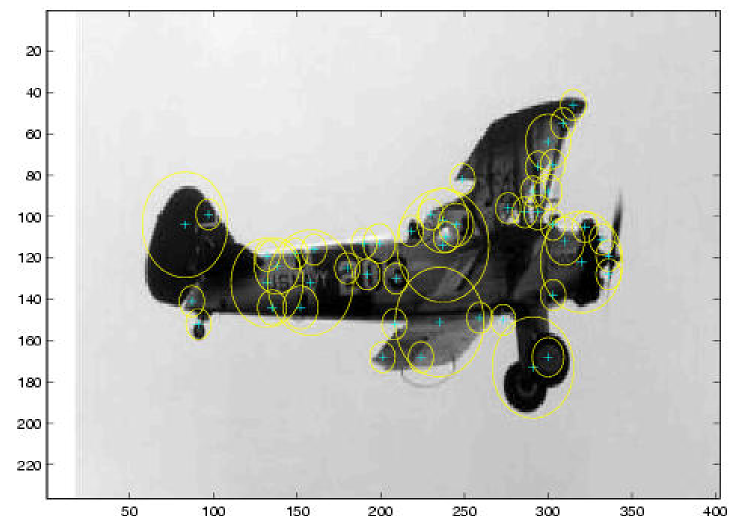
Yuille, 91
Brunelli & Poggio, 93
Lades, v.d. Malsburg et al. 93
Cootes, Lanitis, Taylor et al. 95
Amit & Geman, 95, 99
Perona et al. 95, 96, 98, 00

Parts Selected by Interest Operator

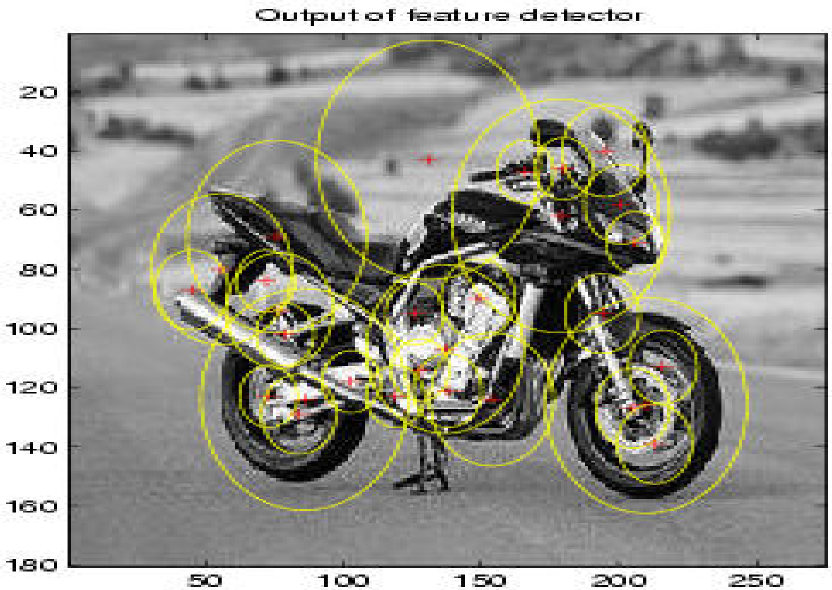
Kadir and Brady's Interest Operator.
Finds Maxima in Entropy Over Scale and Location

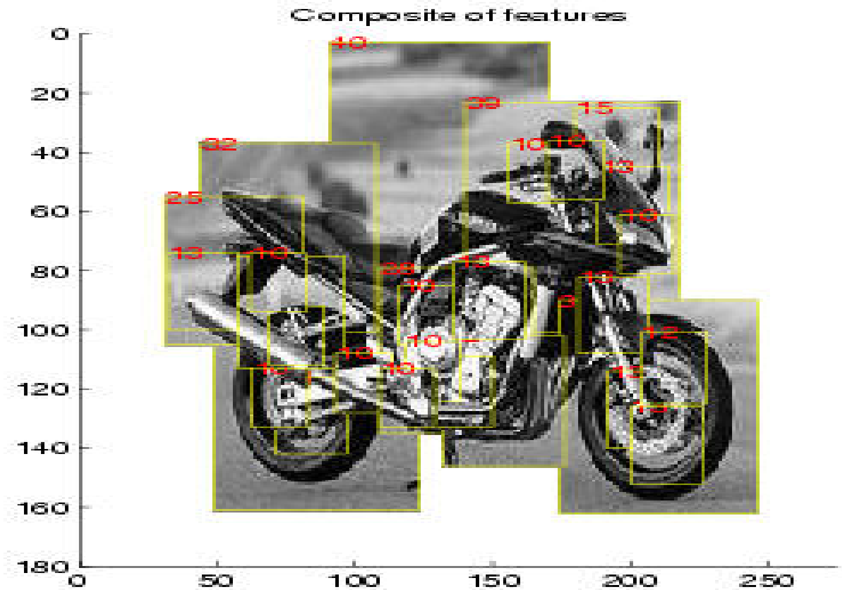


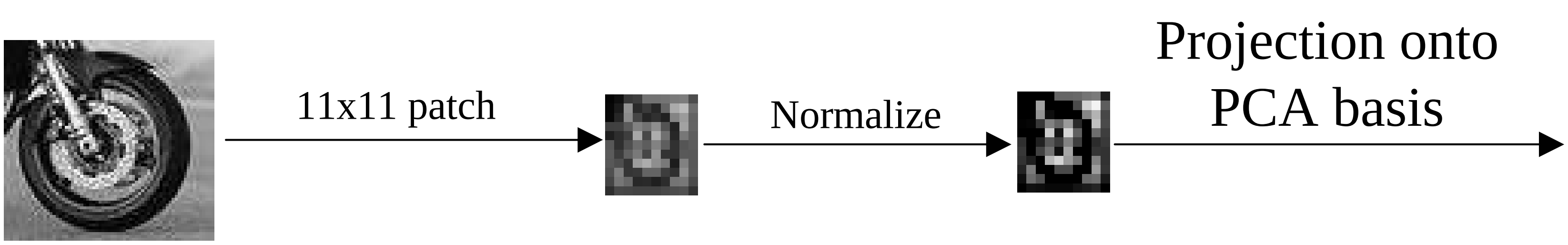




Representation of Appearance







$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{c}_1 \\ \mathbf{c}_2 \\ \vdots \\ c_{15} \end{pmatrix}$$

121 dimensions was too big, so they used PCA to reduce to 10-15.

Learning a Model

- An object class is represented by a generative model with P parts and a set of parameters θ.
- Once the model has been learned, a decision procedure must determine if a new image contains an instance of the object class or not.
- Suppose the new image has N interesting features with locations X, scales S and appearances A.

Generative Probabilistic Model

Top-Down Formulation

Bayesian Decision Rule

$$R = \frac{p(\text{Object}|\mathbf{X},\mathbf{S},\mathbf{A})}{p(\text{No object}|\mathbf{X},\mathbf{S},\mathbf{A})} = \frac{p(\mathbf{X},\mathbf{S},\mathbf{A}|\text{Object})\,p(\text{Object})}{p(\mathbf{X},\mathbf{S},\mathbf{A}|\text{No object})\,p(\text{No object})} \approx \frac{p(\mathbf{X},\mathbf{S},\mathbf{A}|\,\theta)\,p(\text{Object})}{p(\mathbf{X},\mathbf{S},\mathbf{A}|\theta_{bg})\,p(\text{No object})}$$

$$p(\mathbf{X},\mathbf{S},\mathbf{A}|\,\theta) = \sum_{\mathbf{h}\in H} p(\mathbf{X},\mathbf{S},\mathbf{A},\mathbf{h}|\,\theta) =$$

$$\sum_{\mathbf{h}\in H} \underbrace{p(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{X},\mathbf{S},\mathbf{h},\theta)}_{Appearance}\underbrace{p(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{S},\mathbf{h},\theta)}_{Shape}\underbrace{p(\mathbf{S}|\mathbf{h},\theta)}_{Rel.\ Scale}\underbrace{p(\mathbf{h}|\theta)}_{Other}$$

R is the likelihood ratio.

θ is the maximum likelihood value of the parameters of the object and θ_{bg} of the background.

h is the hypothesis as to which P of the N features in the image are the object, implemented as a vector of length P with values from 0 to N indicating which image feature corresponds to each object feature.

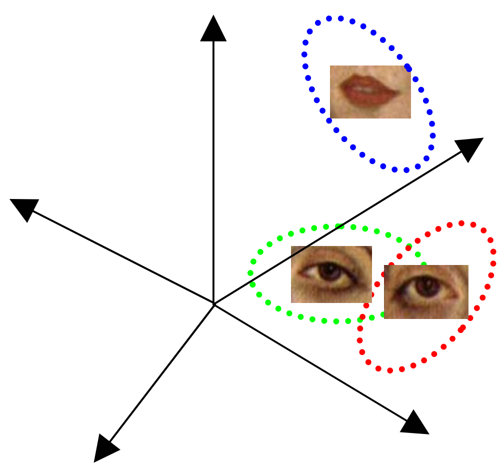
H is the set of all hypotheses; Its size is $O(N^P)$.

Appearance

The appearance (A) of each part p has a Gaussian density with mean c_p and covariance V_P.

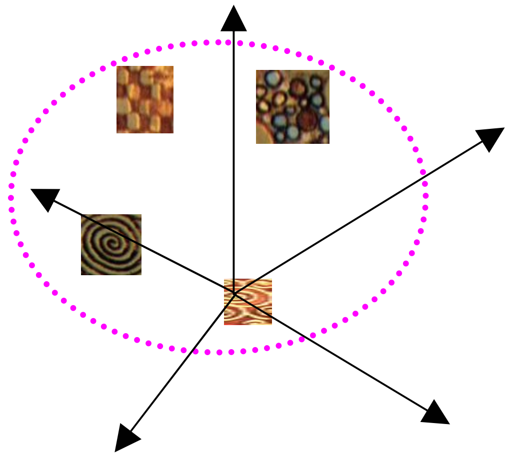
Background model has mean cbg and covariance Vbg.

Gaussian Part Appearance PDF



Object

Guausian Appearance PDF

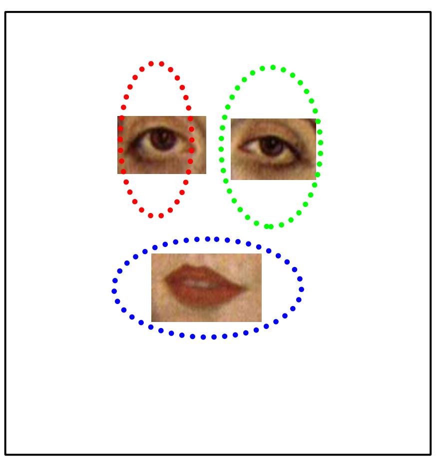


Background

Shape as Location

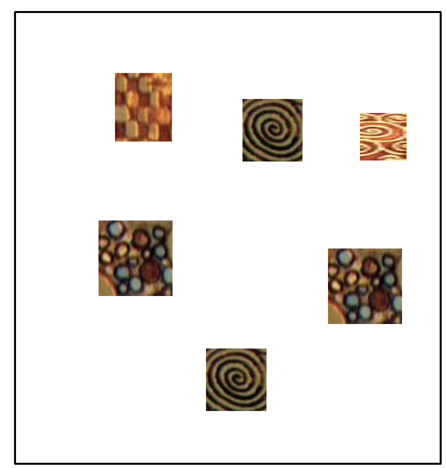
Object shape is represented by a joint Gaussian density of the locations (X) of features within a hypothesis transformed into a scale-invariant space.

Gaussian Shape PDF



Object

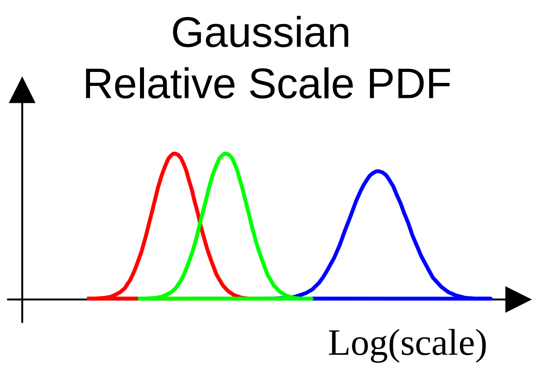
Uniform Shape PDF

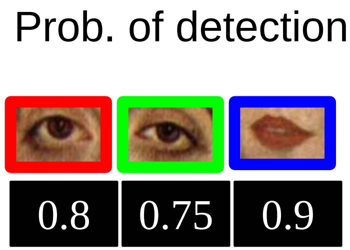


Background

Scale

The relative scale of each part is modeled by a Gaussian density with mean t_p and covariance U_p.





Occlusion and Part Statistics

There are 3 terms used:

- First term: Poisson distribution (mean M) models the number of features in the background.

- Second term: (constant) 1/(number of combinations of f_t features out of a total of N_t)

- Third term: gives probability for possible occlusion patterns.

Learning

- Train Model Parameters Using EM:
  - Optimize Parameters
  - Optimize Assignments
  - Repeat Until Convergence

$$\theta = \{\underbrace{\mu, \Sigma}_{\text{location}}, \underbrace{\mathbf{c}, V}_{\text{appearance}}, \underbrace{M, p(\mathbf{d}|\theta)}_{\text{occlusion}}, \underbrace{t, U}_{\text{scale}}\}$$

$$\hat{\theta}_{ML} = \underset{\theta}{arg\,max}\ p(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{S}, \mathbf{A}|\,\theta)$$

Recognition

Make This:

$$
\begin{aligned}
R &= \frac{p(\text{Object}|\mathbf{X},\mathbf{S},\mathbf{A})}{p(\text{No object}|\mathbf{X},\mathbf{S},\mathbf{A})} \\
&= \frac{p(\mathbf{X},\mathbf{S},\mathbf{A}|\text{Object})\; p(\text{Object})}{p(\mathbf{X},\mathbf{S},\mathbf{A}|\text{No object})\; p(\text{No object})} \\
&\approx \frac{p(\mathbf{X},\mathbf{S},\mathbf{A}|\,\theta)\; p(\text{Object})}{p(\mathbf{X},\mathbf{S},\mathbf{A}|\theta_{bg})\; p(\text{No object})}
\end{aligned}
$$

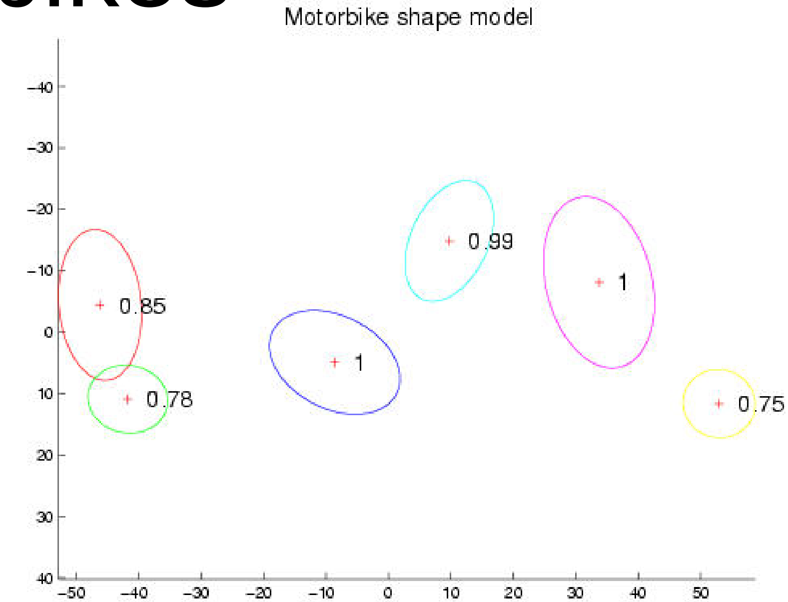
Greater Than Threshold

RESULTS

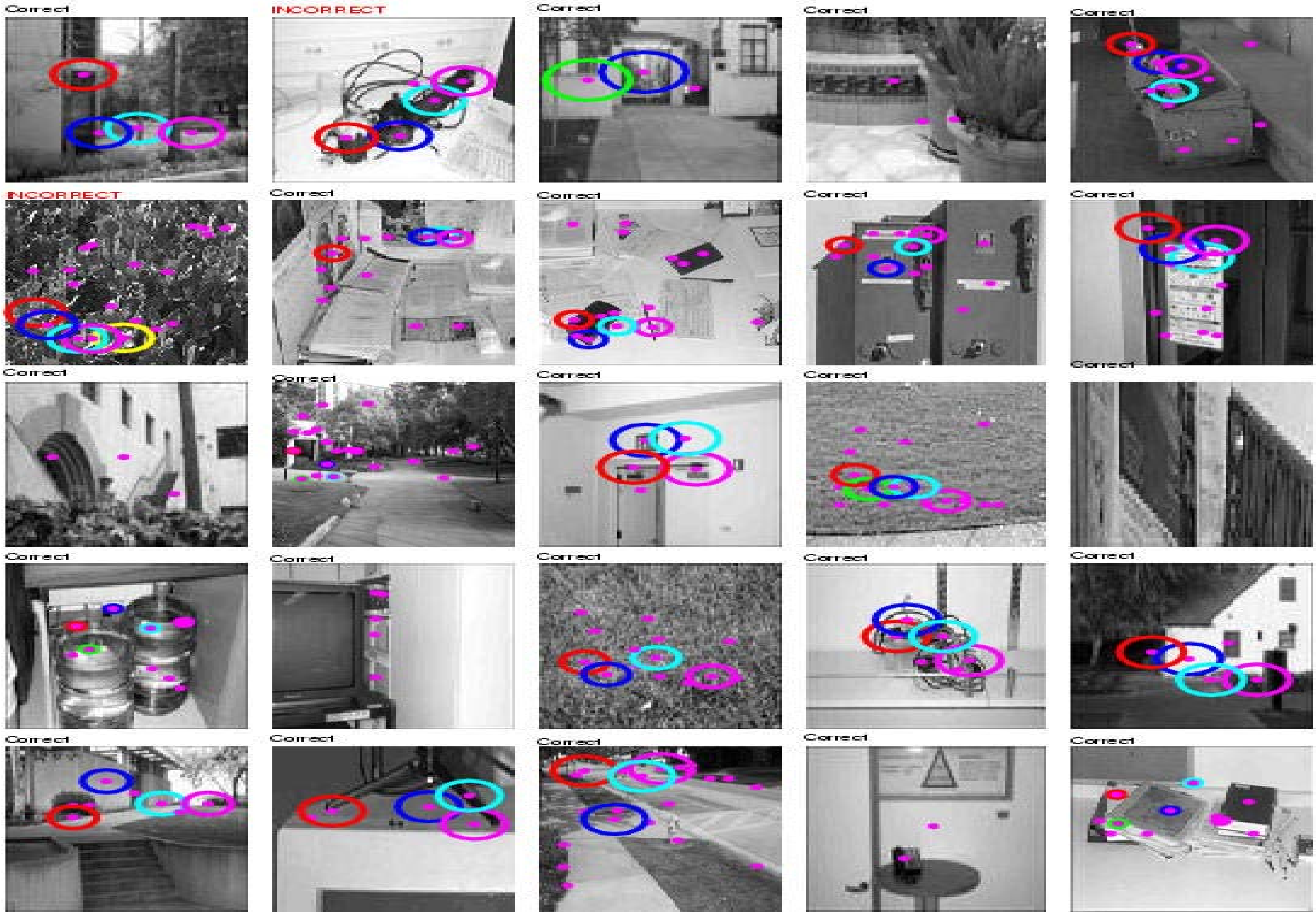
- Initially tested on the Caltech-4 data set
  - motorbikes
  - faces
  - airplanes
  - cars
- Now there is a much bigger data set: the Caltech-101 http://www.vision.caltech.edu/archive.html

Motorbikes

Equal error rate: 7.5%

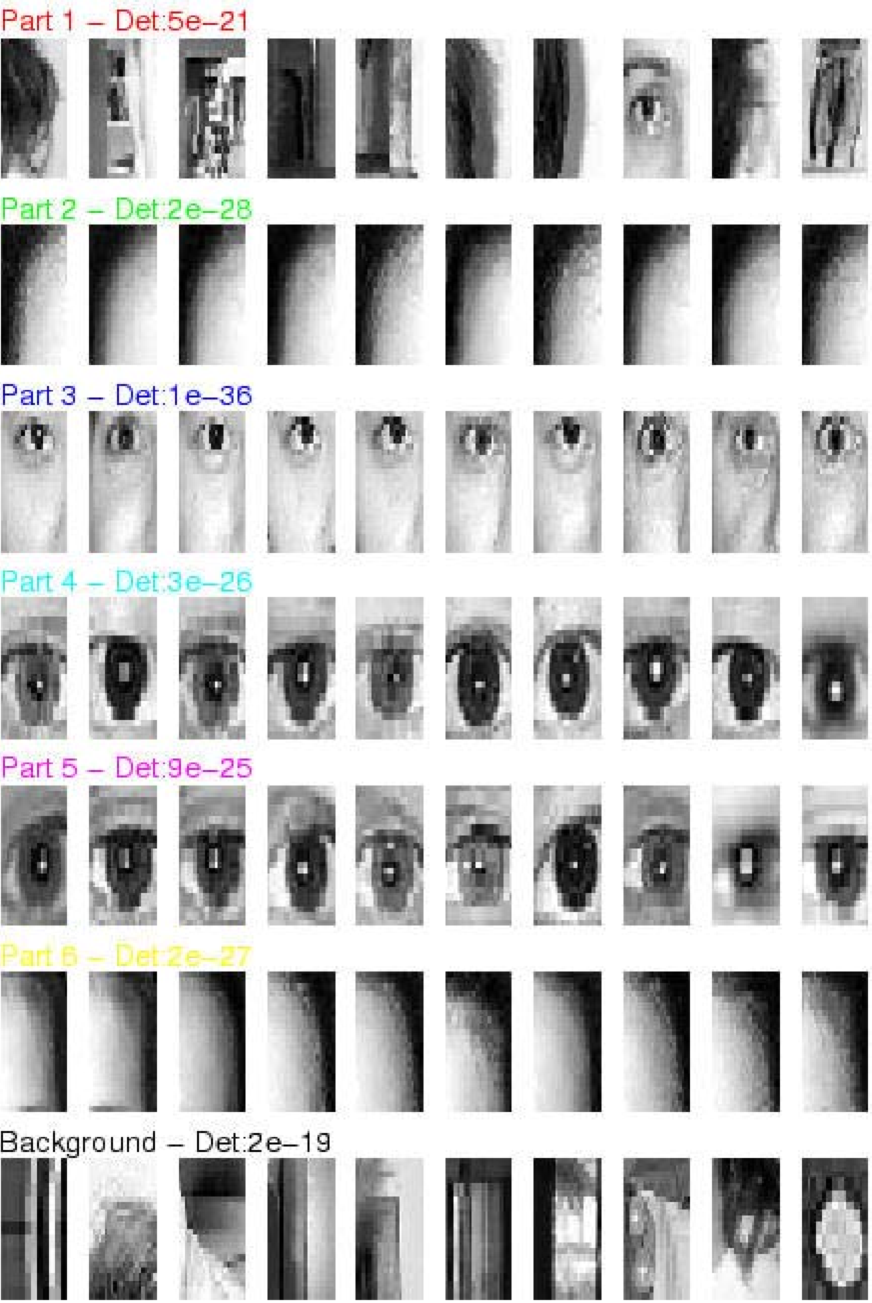


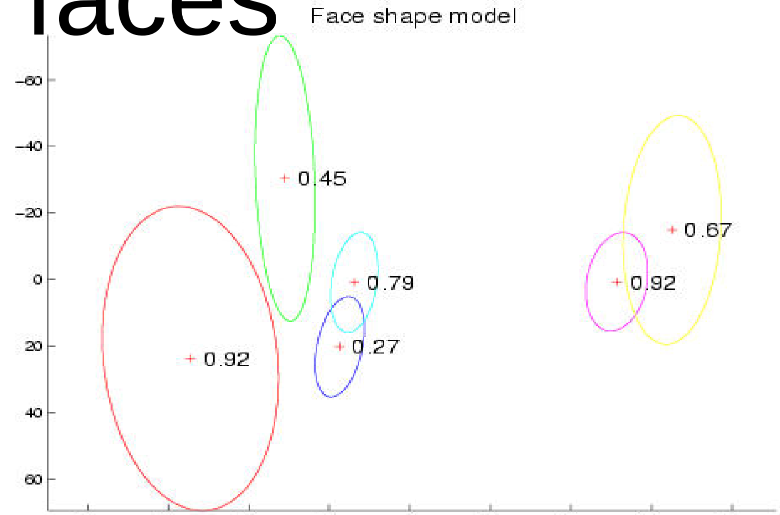
Background Images



Frontal faces

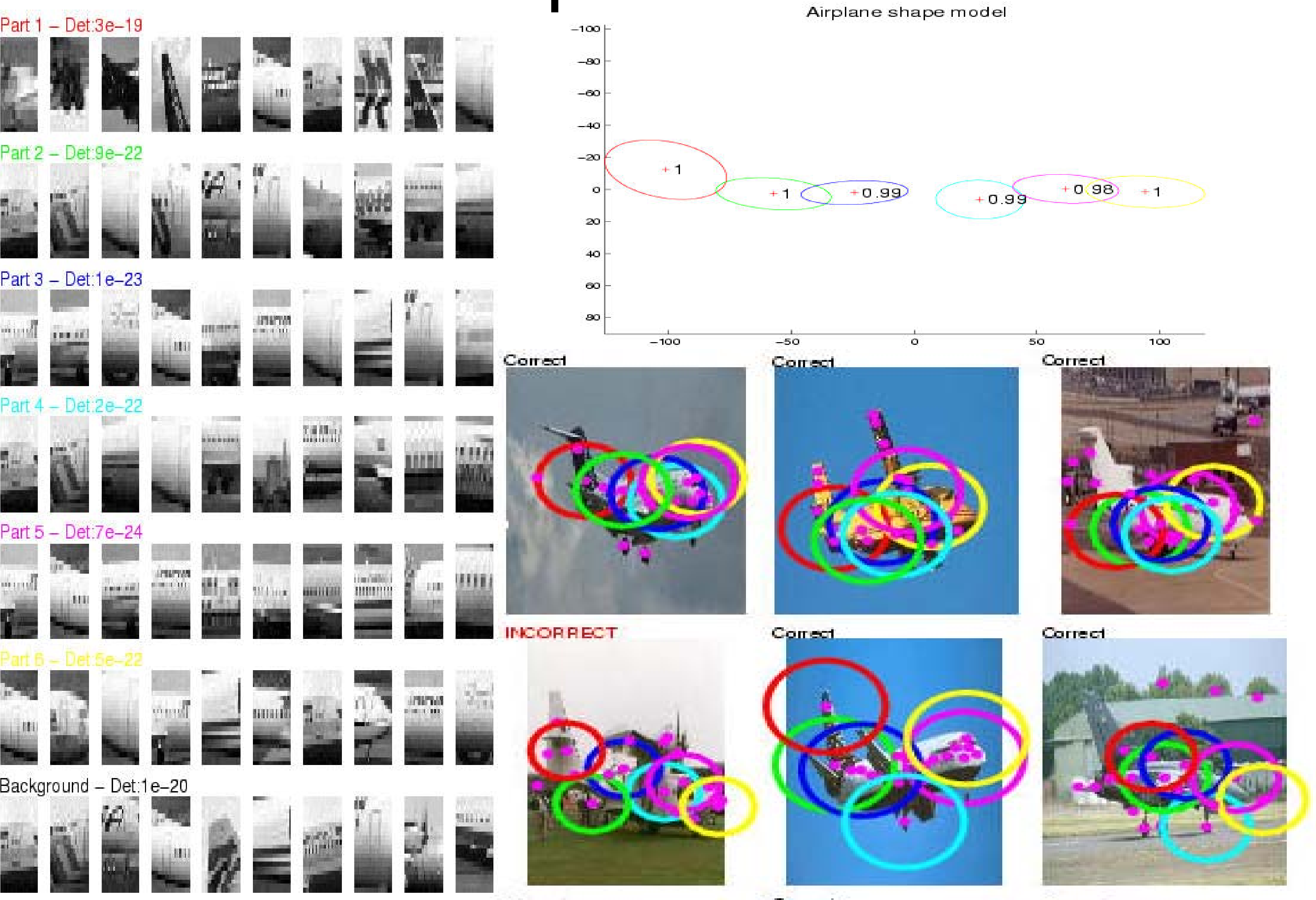
Equal error rate: 4.6%





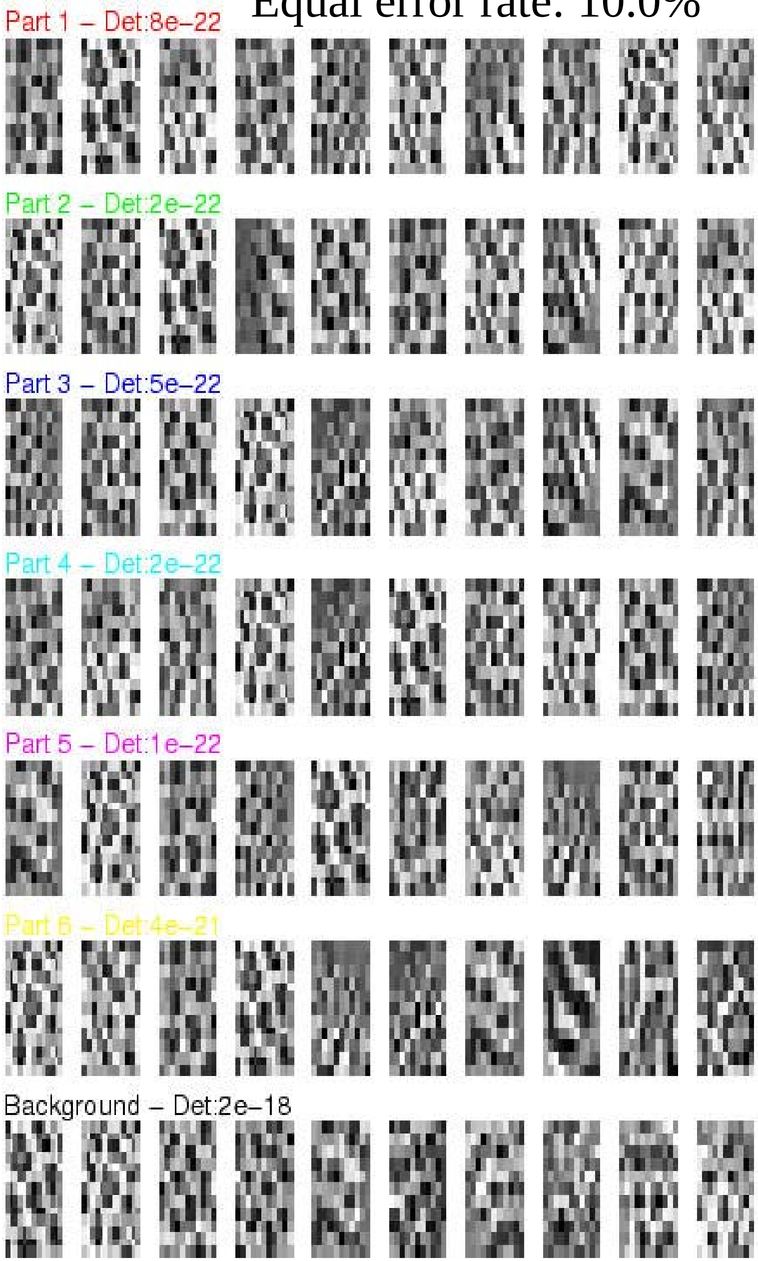
Equal error rate: 9.8%

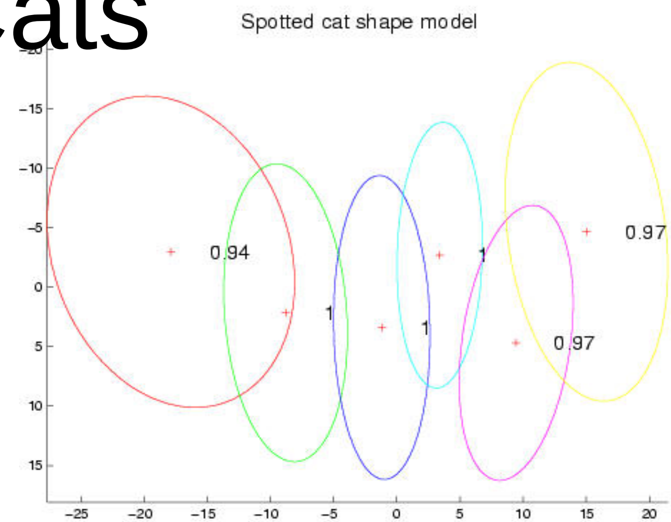
Airplanes

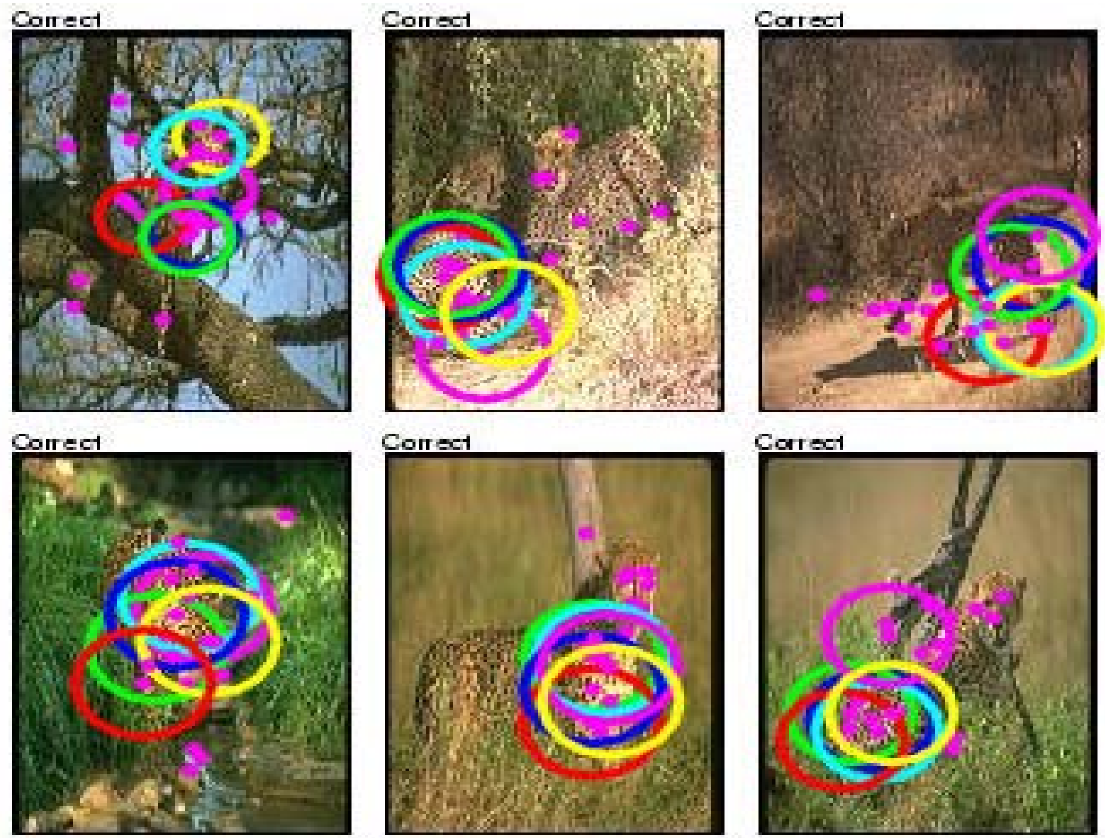


Scale-Invariant Cats

Equal error rate: 10.0%

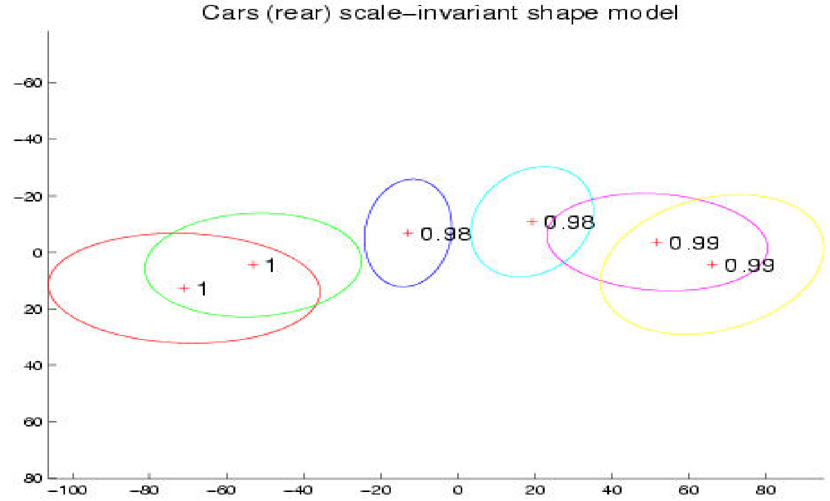


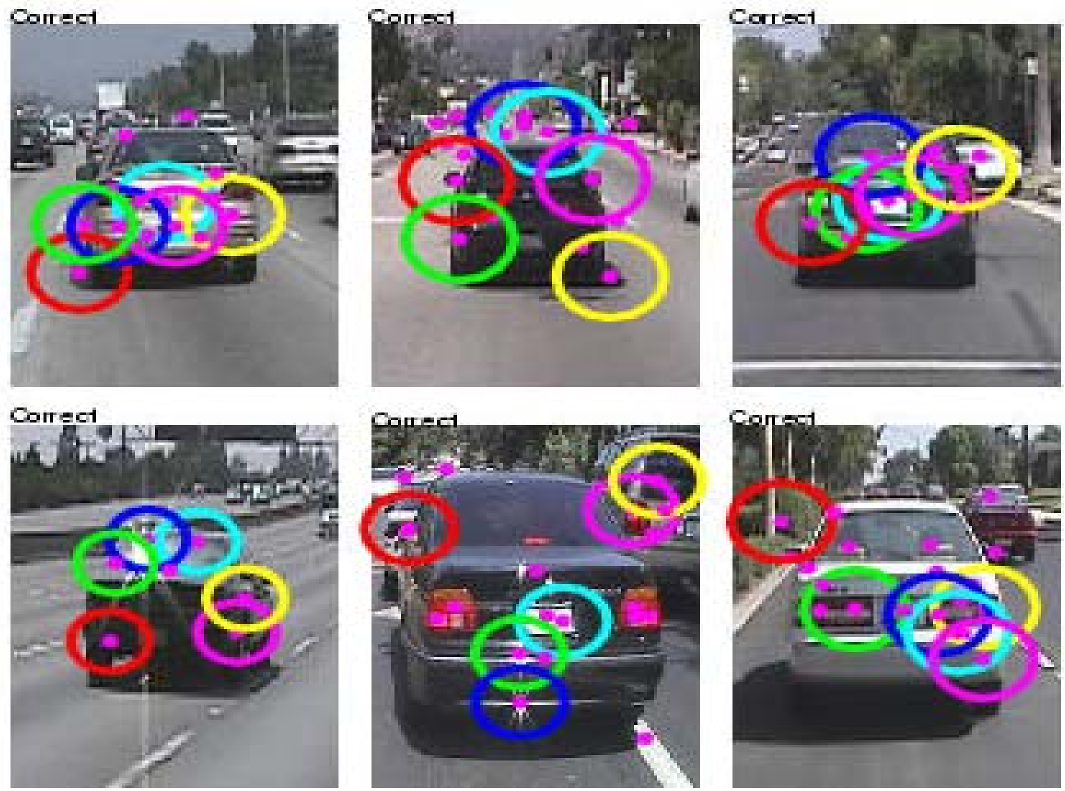




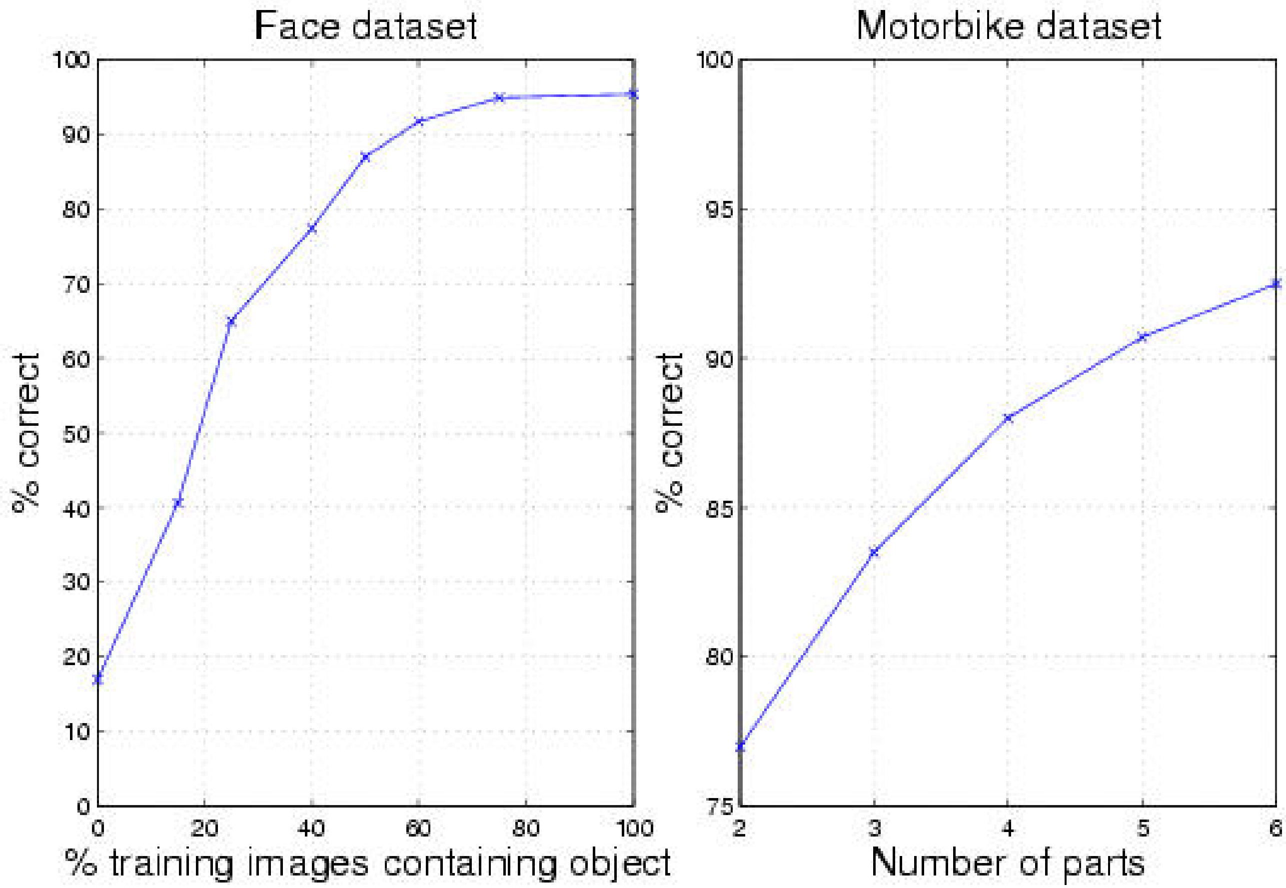
Scale-Invariant cars

Equal error rate: 9.7%





Robustness of Algorithm



Accuracy

Initial Pre-Scaled Experiments

Dataset	Ours	Others	Ref.
Motorbikes	92.5	84	[17]
Faces	96.4	94	[19]
Airplanes	90.2	68	[17]
Cars(Side)	88.5	79	[1]

ROC equal error rates

Scale-Invariant Learning and Recognition:

Dataset	Total size of dataset	Object size range (pixels)	Pre-scaled performance	Unscaled performance
Motorbikes	800	200-480	95.0	93.3
Airplanes	800	200-500	94.0	93.0
Cars (Rear)	800	100-550	84.8	90.3