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Cascade of Box (CABOX) Filters for Fast Scale Space Approximation

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Outline

- Motivation
- Approximate Scale Space with Box Filters
- Simulation Results
- Conclusion & Future Work

Mobile Visual Search Scenarios and Problems

- Technology: key point based Image Search
 - Scale and rotation invariant key points that can be matched up in query:





• Applications:

vuforia Platform

• Mobile Query by Capture, Augmented Reality



• What is wrong by sending images/raw features over the channel?

MPEG-7 Compact Descriptor for Visual Search (CDVS)

•MPEG CDVS Standardization Scope

- -Front-end: image feature capture and compression
- -Server Back-end: image feature indexing and query processing



•Objectives/Challenges:

-Real-time: front end real time performance, e.g, 640x480 @30fps

–Compression: Low bit rate over the air, achieving 100 X compression w.r.t to sending images, or 10X compression of the raw features.

-Matching Accuracy: >95% accuracy in pair-wise matching (verification) and >90% precision in identification

-Indexing/Search Efficiency: real time backend response from BIGDATA (100m) visual repository

SIFT Patent and Detection Speed

•SIFT Patent

- SIFT patent was licensed to an unknown party, and the un-certainty of its licensing policy puts MPEG CDVS in jeopardy
- Need to circumvent the key claims of the patent DoG filtering

•Complexity Reduction:

- The SIFT detection is computationally heavy
- For mobile application deployment and especially for AR type applications, where visual queries are generated at much faster pace, the complexity need to be significantly reduced for mobile computing platform.

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• Convolving the filter with an image in an efficient manner:

$$I * L_{\sigma} \approx I * \underbrace{(g_{\sigma_2} - g_{\sigma_1})}_{D\sigma} = (I * g_{\sigma_2}) - (I * g_{\sigma_1})$$

- We can exploit the separability property of the Gaussian filter!
- Requires O(2N) multiplications and O(2N) additions per pixel!

Difference of Gaussians pipeline



Gaussian kernel approximation using Box filters



Box Filter

For a given pixel, the box filter computes the average over the rectangle (A,B,C,D).

S = In(C) + In(A) - In(D) - In(B)

Requires only 4 additions and 1 multiplication!



Integral Image: A table whose entries hold the sum of the pixels from the origin to the point (x, y).



We need to find a coarse approximation of the Gaussian kernel using a set of k box filters.

- We can use integral images for fast convolution
- Complexity can be reduced if we use a few box filters
 - O(k) multiplications and O(4k) additions, where k is the number of box filters used.

We can approximate a Gaussian kernel with a set of box filters by solving the following problem:



CABOX: Gaussian kernel approximation using Box filters

We can then plug in our approximations in the scale space pipeline.



In essence, we are doing the following approximation:

$$I * L_{\sigma} \approx (I * g_{\sigma_2}) - (I * g_{\sigma_1}) \approx (I * b_{\sigma_2}) - (I * b_{\sigma_1})$$

What Box filters to use for the approximation?



The size of the Gaussian kernel is calculated with the following formula:

$$d=2\left\lceil 4\sigma \right\rceil +1$$



The dictionary will affect the number of boxes used when solving the optimization problem.

Approximation results

σ	Concentric Squares		Extended	
	Num. of Boxes	Residual	Num. of Boxes	Residual
1.249000	3	0.0554	43	0.0068
1.226270	3	0.0578	21	0.0067
1.545008	4	0.0358	42	0.0146
1.946588	6	0.0248	36	0.0087
2.452547	5	0.0192	16	0.0169
3.090016	8	0.0142	18	0.0163

The influence of the used dictionary determines not only the quality of the approximation but also the number of boxes required.



Gaussian Scale Space experiments



The Mean Square Error (MSE) of our approximation method across all octaves and scales is minimal, considering that the pixel intensities are in the range of 0 to 1.



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Feature detection repeatability test





Of those features detected with CABOX (red circles), 89% are also detected by VLFeat (green circles) while the remaining 11% correspond to new features.

End-End MPEG TM Pairwise matching experiment

Replacing DoG with CABOX, has minimum effects on the image matching accuracy



Summary & Future Work

- We presented an integral domain box filter approximation of scale space which is fast
- The accuracy of scale space approximation is achieved by solving the sparsity constrained filter approximation
- Integration into the MPEG CDVS Test Model verified the robustness and efficiency of the proposed solution
- Future Work:

-Develop Parallel CABOX filtering for even faster solution

Further Speed-up: Parallel CABOX



- Computation of integral image at every scale level!
- > Approximation error propagates along the pipeline!

Parallel CABOX



Filters used in the Parallel pipeline are computed using the following formula:

$$\bar{\sigma}_i = \sqrt{\sigma_i^2 + \bar{\sigma}_{i-1}^2}$$
$$\bar{\sigma}_1 = \sigma_1$$

Parallel CABOX Detection Repeatability





Of those features detected with Parallel CABOX (red circles), 72% are also detected by VLFeat (green circles) while the remaining 28% correspond to new features.