

# Classification using intersection kernel SVMs is efficient

---

Jitendra Malik  
UC Berkeley

Joint work with Subhransu Maji and Alex Berg

# Fast intersection kernel SVMs and other generalizations of linear SVMs

---

- IKSVM is a (simple) generalization of a linear SVM
- Can be evaluated very efficiently
- Other kernels (including  $-\chi^2$ ) have a similar form
- Novel features based on pyramid of oriented energy.
- Methods applicable to current most successful object recognition/detection strategies.

# Detection: Is this an X?

---

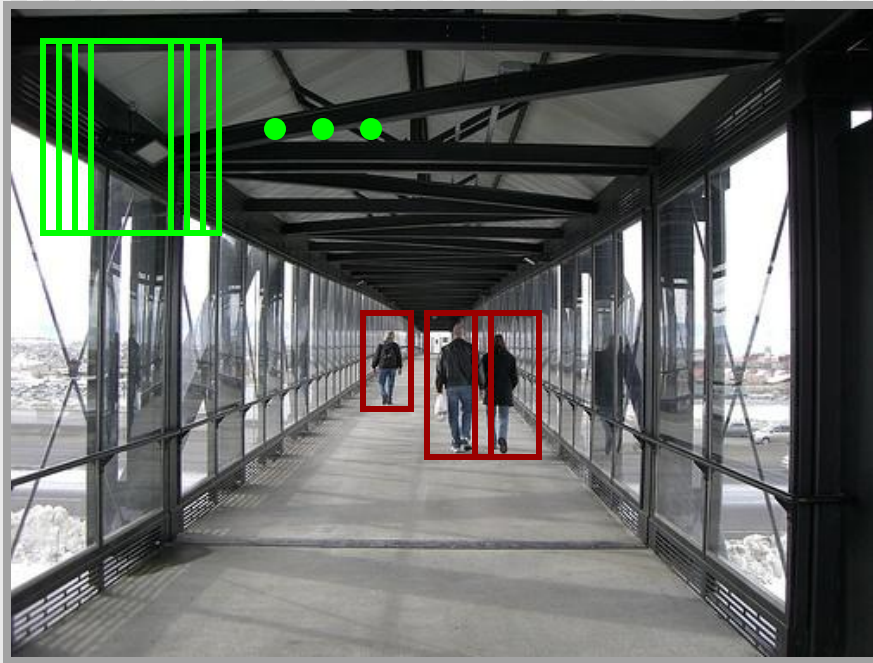


Ask this question over and over again,  
varying position, scale, multiple categories...

Speedups: hierarchical, early reject, feature sharing, cueing  
but same underlying question!

# Detection: Is this an X?

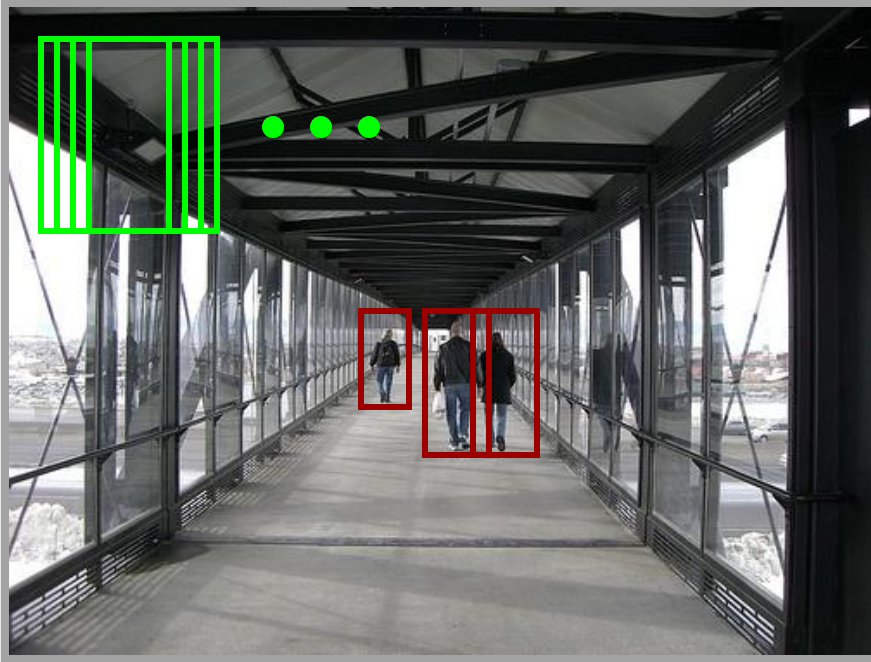
---



Ask this question over and over again,  
varying position, scale, multiple categories...

Speedups: hierarchical, early reject, feature sharing,  
but same underlying question!

# Detection: Is this an X?



Boosted dec. trees, cascades  
+ Very fast evaluation  
- Slow training (esp. multi-class)

Linear SVM

+ Fast evaluation  
+ Fast training  
- Need to find good features

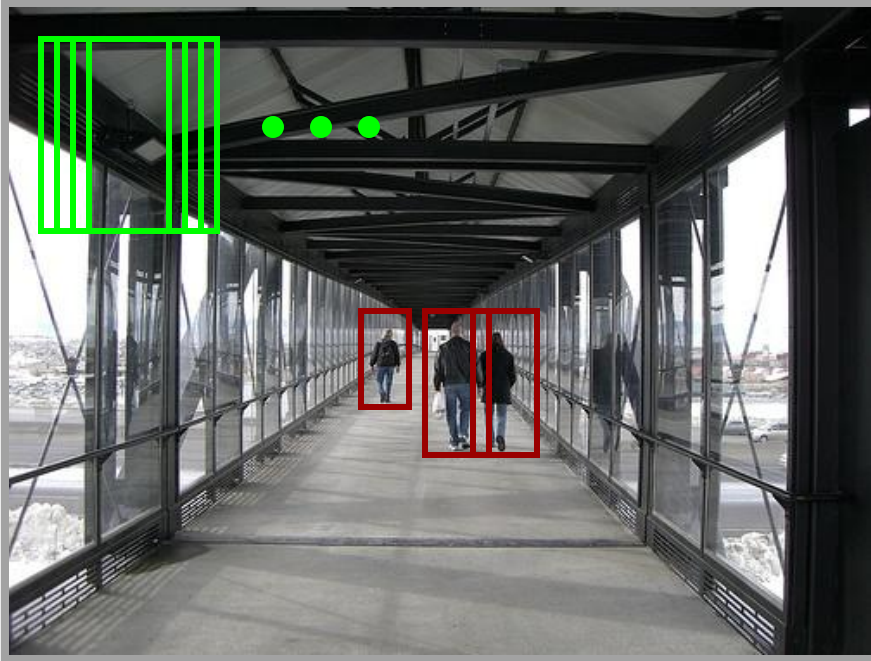
Non-linear kernelized SVM

+ Better class. acc. than linear  
. Medium training  
- Slow evaluation

Ask this question over and over again,  
varying position, scale, multiple categories...

Speedups: hierarchical, early reject, feature sharing,  
but same underlying question!

# Detection: Is this an X?



- Boosted dec. trees, cascades
  - + Very fast evaluation
  - Slow training (esp. multi-class)

## Linear SVM

- + Fast evaluation
- + Fast training
- Need to find good features

This work

## Non-linear kernelized SVM

- + Better class. acc. than linear
- . Medium training
- Slow evaluation

Ask this question over and over again,  
varying position, scale, multiple categories...

Speedups: hierarchical, early reject, feature sharing,  
but same underlying question!

# Outline

---

- What is Intersection Kernel SVM?
  - Trick to make it fast (exact)
  - Trick to make it very fast (approximate)
  - Why use it?
  - Multi-scale Features based on Oriented Energy
- Generalization of linear classifiers
  - Reinterpret the approximate IKSVM
  - Fast training
- Summary of where this matters

# Outline

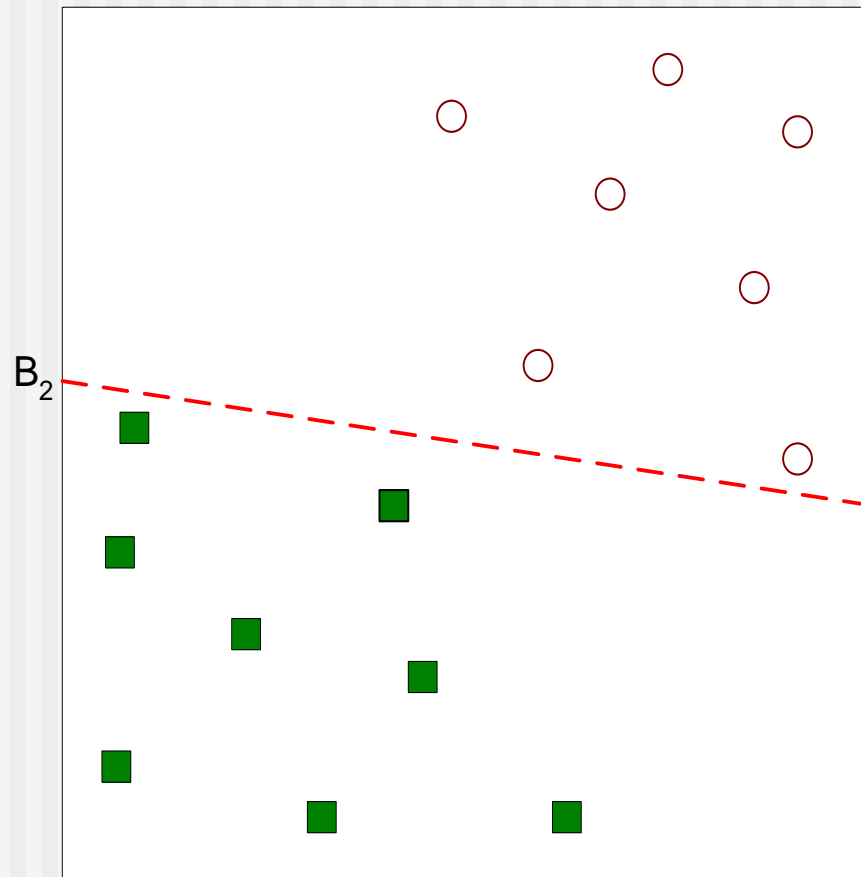
---

- What is Intersection Kernel SVM?
  - Trick to make it fast (exact)
  - Trick to make it very fast (approximate)
  - Why use it?
  - Multi-scale Features based on Oriented Energy
- Generalization of linear classifiers
  - Reinterpret the approximate IK SVM
  - Fast training
- Summary of where this matters



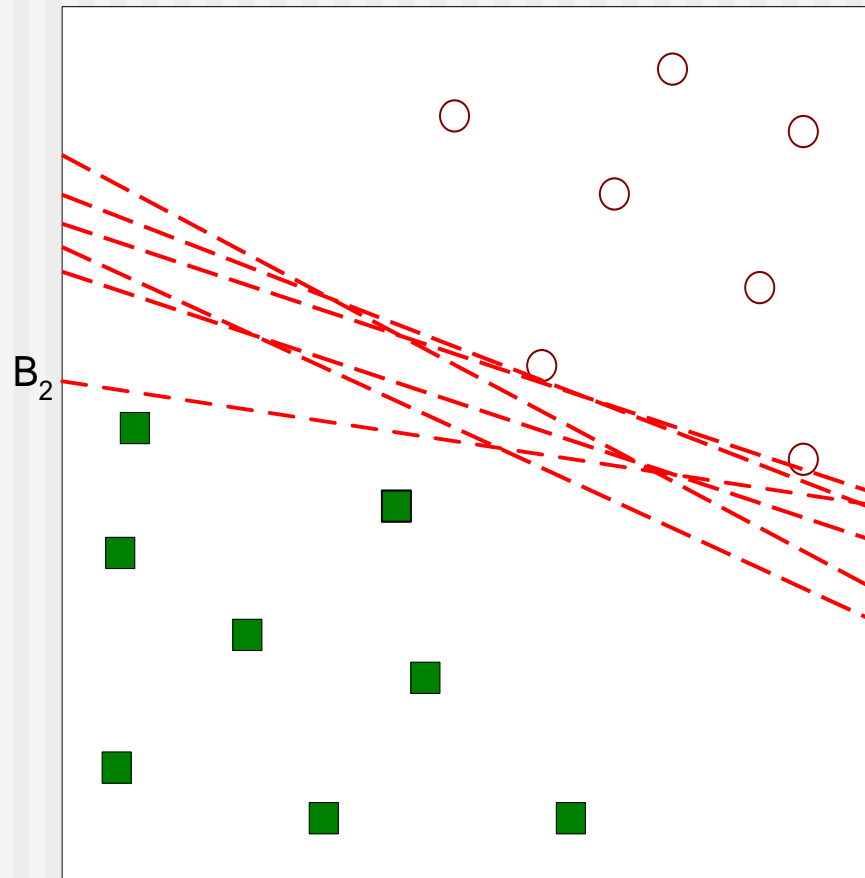
# Support Vector Machines

---



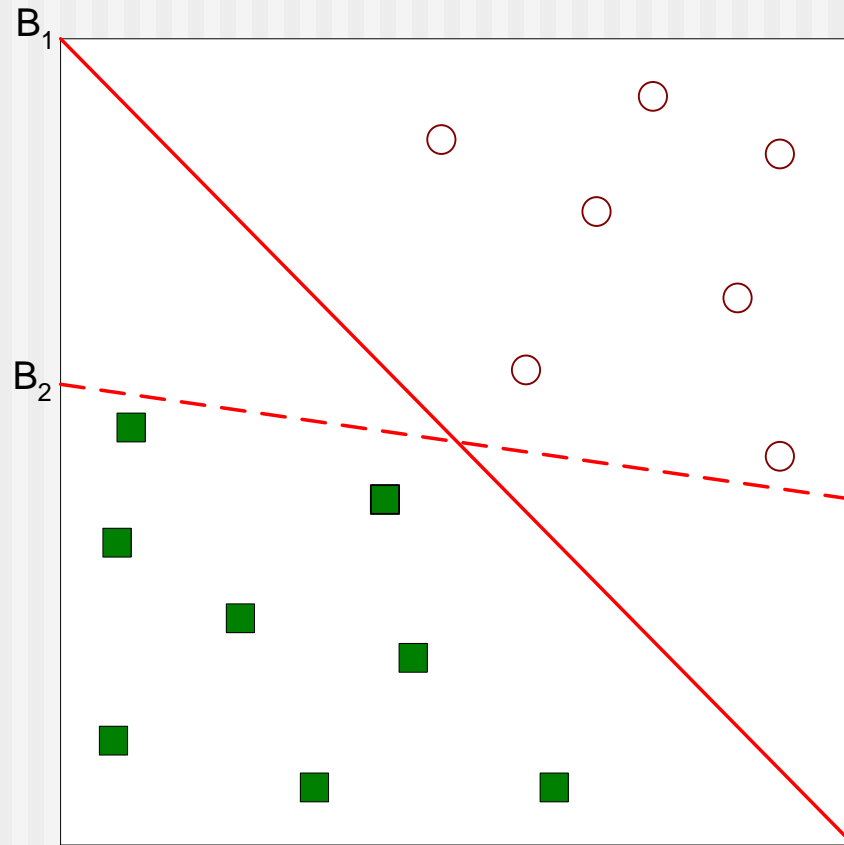
- Linear Separators (aka. Perceptrons)

# Support Vector Machines



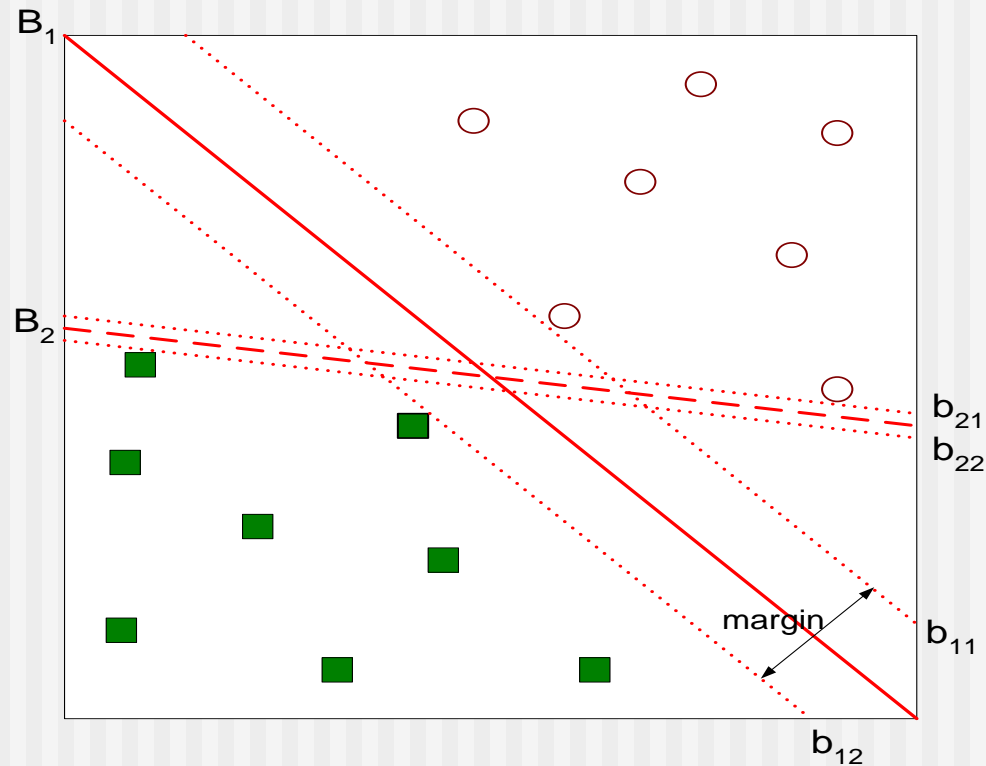
- Other possible solutions

# Support Vector Machines



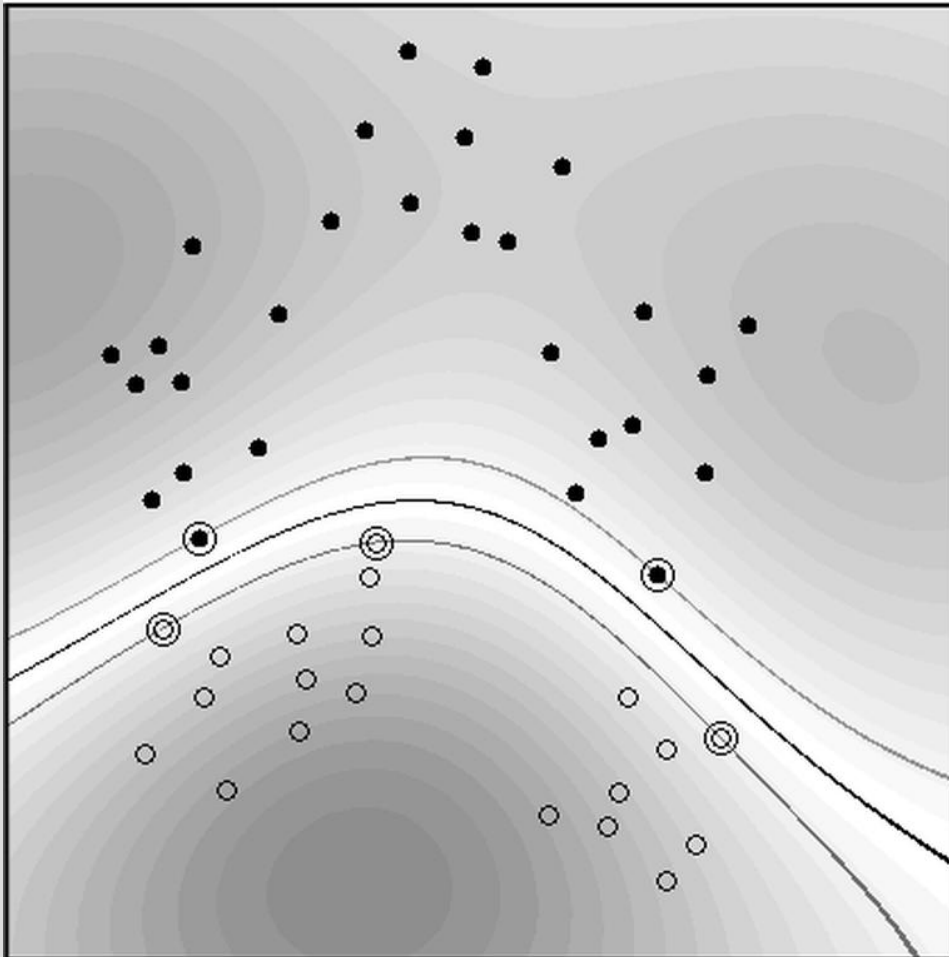
- Which one is better?  $B_1$  or  $B_2$ ?
- How do you define better?

# Support Vector Machines



- Find hyperplane **maximizes** the margin  $\Rightarrow$  B1 is better than B2

# Kernel Support Vector Machines



Kernel :

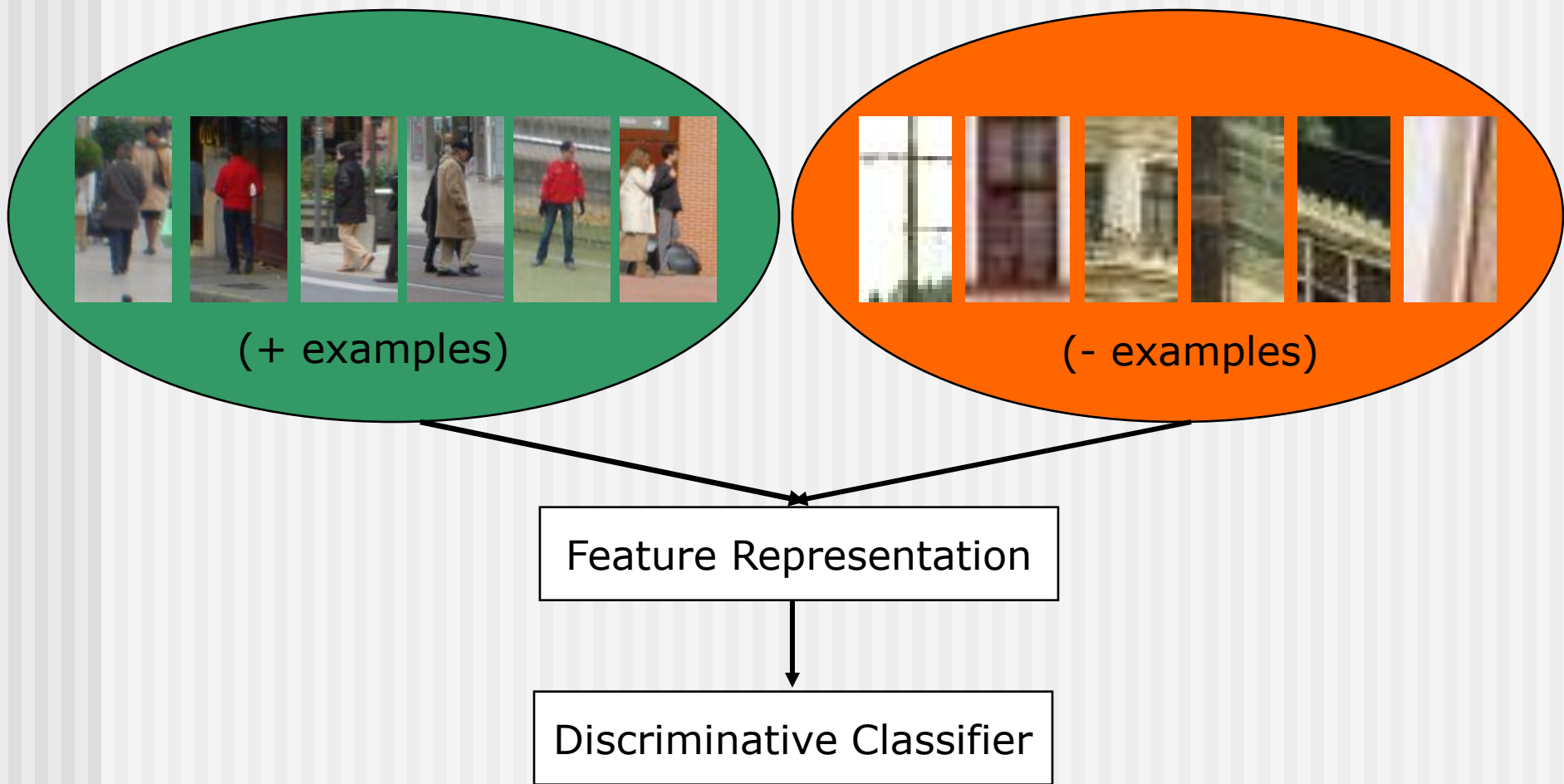
- Inner Product in Hilbert Space

$$K(x, z) = \Phi(x)^T \Phi(z)$$

- Can Learn Non Linear Boundaries

$$K(x, z) = \exp\left(-\frac{\|x - z\|^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

# Training Stage



# Our Multiscale HOG-like feature

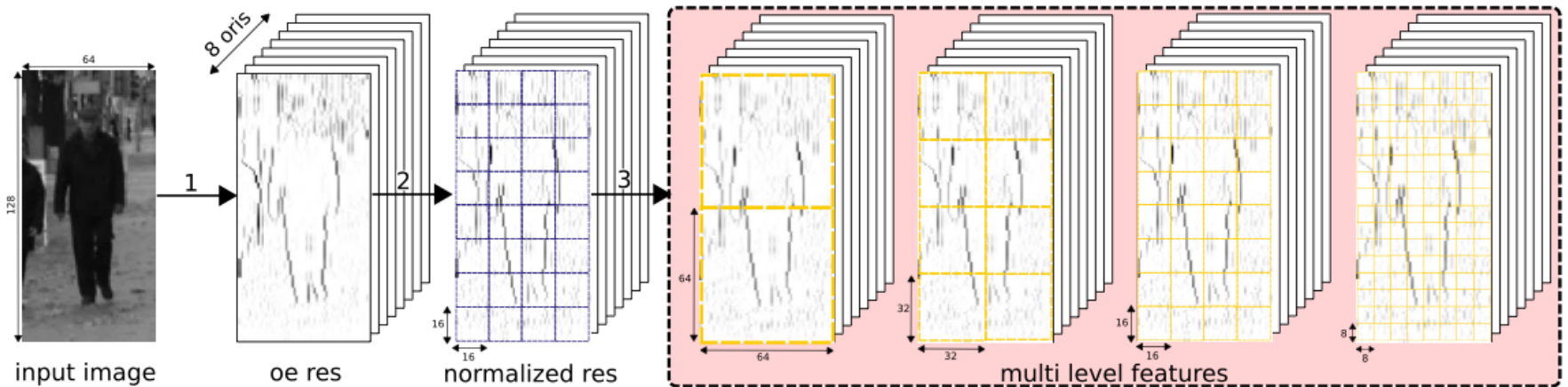


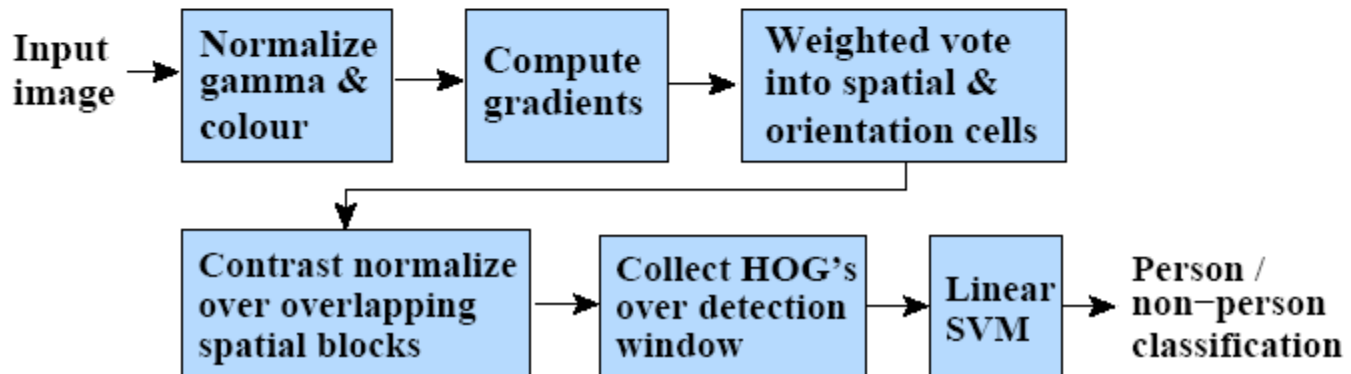
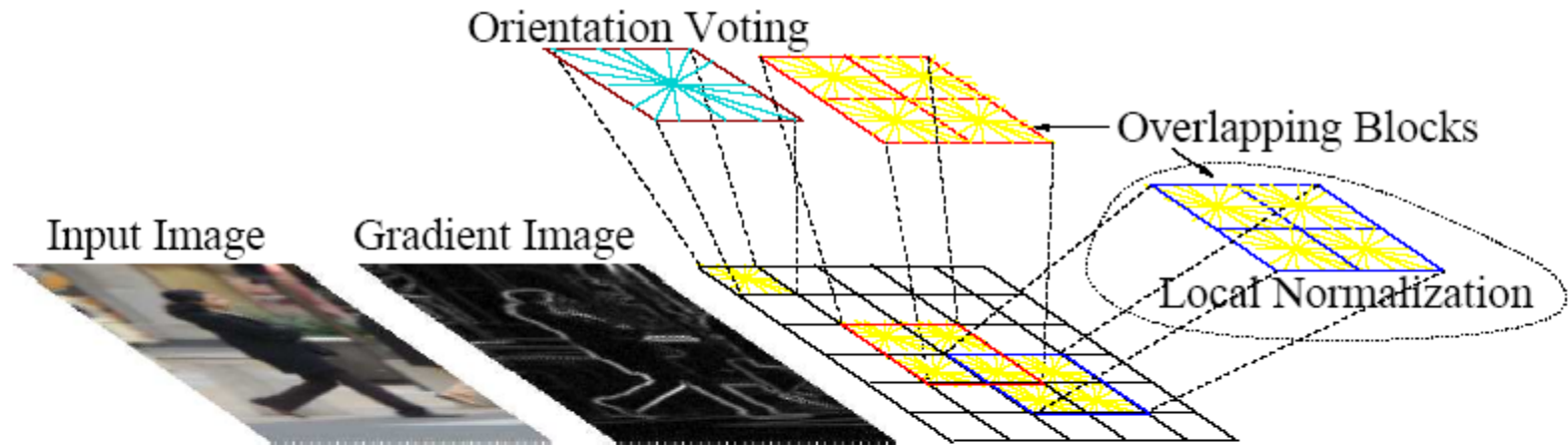
Figure 2. The three stage pipeline of the feature computation process. (1) The input grayscale image of size  $64 \times 128$  is convolved with oriented filters ( $\sigma = 1$ ) in 8 directions, to obtain oriented energy responses. (2) The responses are then  $L_1$  normalized over all directions in each non overlapping  $16 \times 16$  blocks independently to obtain normalized responses. (3) Multilevel features are then extracted by constructing histograms of oriented gradients by summing up the normalized response in each cell. The diagram depicts progressively smaller cell sizes from  $64 \times 64$  to  $8 \times 8$ .

Concatenate orientation histograms for each orange region.

Differences from HOG:

- Hierarchy of regions
- Only performing L1 normalization once (at 16x16)

# Comparison to HOG (Dalal & Triggs)





# Comparison to HOG (Dalal & Triggs)

---

- Smaller Dimensional (1360 vs. 3780)
- Simple Implementation (Convolutions)
- Faster to compute
  - + No non-local Normalization
  - + No gaussian weighting
  - + No color normalization

# What is the Intersection Kernel?

---

Histogram Intersection kernel between histograms  $a, b$

$$K(a, b) = \sum_{i=1}^n \min(a_i, b_i) \quad \begin{array}{l} a_i \geq 0 \\ b_i \geq 0 \end{array}$$

# What is the Intersection Kernel?

---

Histogram Intersection kernel between histograms  $a, b$

$$K(a, b) = \sum_{i=1}^n \min(a_i, b_i) \quad \begin{array}{l} a_i \geq 0 \\ b_i \geq 0 \end{array}$$

$K$  small  $\rightarrow a, b$  are different

$K$  large  $\rightarrow a, b$  are similar

Intro. by Swain and Ballard 1991 to compare color histograms.

Odone et al 2005 proved positive definiteness.

Can be used directly as a kernel for an SVM.

Compare to  $-\chi^2$

# linear SVM, Kernelized SVM, IKSVM

---

Decision function is  $\text{sign}(h(x))$  where:

Linear: 
$$h(x) = w'x + b = \sum_{i=1}^{\text{\#dim}} w_i x_i + b$$

Non-linear  
Using  
Kernel 
$$h(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{\text{\#sv}} \alpha^j K(x, x^j) + b$$

Histogram  
Intersection  
Kernel 
$$= \sum_{j=1}^{\text{\#sv}} \left( \alpha^j \sum_{i=1}^{\text{\#dim}} \min(x_i, x_i^j) \right) + b$$

# Kernelized SVMs slow to evaluate

Decision function is  $\text{sign}(h(x))$  where:

Feature vector to evaluate

Sum over all support vectors

Kernel Evaluation

Feature corresponding to a support vector  $l$

Arbitrary Kernel

$$h(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{\#sv} \alpha^j K(x, x^j) + b$$

Histogram Intersection Kernel

$$h(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{\#sv} \left( \alpha^j \sum_{i=1}^{\#dim} \min(x_i, x_i^j) \right) + b$$

SVM with Kernel Cost:

# Support Vectors x Cost of kernel comp.

IKSVM Cost:

# Support Vectors x # feature dimensions

# The Trick

Decision function is  $\text{sign}(h(x))$  where:

$$h(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{\#sv} \alpha^j \left( \sum_{i=1}^{\#dim} \min(x_i, x_i^j) \right) + b$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{\#dim} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{\#sv} \alpha^j \min(x_i, x_i^j) \right) + b$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{\#dim} h_i(x_i)$$

Just sort the support vector values in each coordinate, and pre-compute

$$h_i(x_i) = \sum_{j=1}^{\#sv} \alpha^j \min(x_i, x_i^j) + b$$

$$= \sum_{x_i^j < x_i} \alpha^j x_i^j + \left( \sum_{x_i^j \geq x_i} \alpha^j \right) x_i$$

To evaluate, find position of  $x_i$  in the sorted support vector values  $x_i^j$  (cost:  $\log \#sv$ )  
look up values, multiply & add

# The Trick

~~#support vectors x #dimensions~~

$\log(\text{\#support vectors}) \times \text{\#dimensions}$

Decision function is  $\text{sign}(h(x))$  where:

$$h(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{\text{\#sv}} \alpha^j \left( \sum_{i=1}^{\text{\#dim}} \min(x_i, x_i^j) \right) + b$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{\text{\#dim}} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{\text{\#sv}} \alpha^j \min(x_i, x_i^j) \right) + b$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{\text{\#dim}} h_i(x_i)$$

Just sort the support vector values in each coordinate, and pre-compute

$$h_i(x_i) = \sum_{j=1}^{\text{\#sv}} \alpha^j \min(x_i, x_i^j) + b$$

$$= \sum_{x_i^j < x_i} \alpha^j x_i^j + \left( \sum_{x_i^j \geq x_i} \alpha^j \right) x_i$$

To evaluate, find position of  $x_i$  in the sorted support vector values  $x_i^j$  (cost:  $\log \text{\#sv}$ )  
look up values, multiply & add

# The Trick 2

~~#support vectors x #dimensions~~  
 $\log(\text{\#support vectors}) \times \text{\#dimensions}$

Decision function is  $\text{sign}(h(x))$  where:

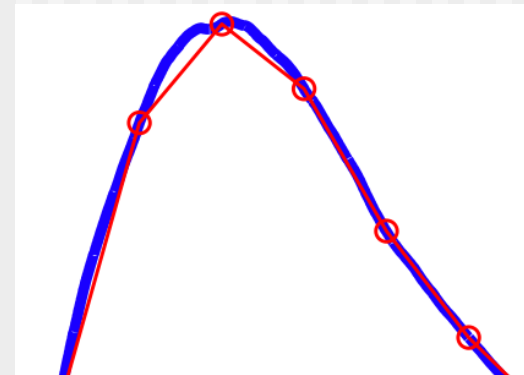
$$h(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{\text{\#dim}} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{\text{\#sv}} \alpha^j \min(x_i, x_i^j) \right) + b$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{\text{\#dim}} h_i(x_i)$$

$$h_i(x_i) = \sum_{j=1}^{\text{\#sv}} \alpha^j \min(x_i, x_i^j) + b$$

$$= \sum_{x_i^j < x_i} \alpha^j x_i^j + \left( \sum_{x_i^j \geq x_i} \alpha^j \right) x_i$$

For IK  $h_i$  is piecewise linear, and quite smooth, blue plot. We can *approximate* with fewer uniformly spaced segments, red plot. Saves time & space!





~~#support vectors x #dimensions~~  
~~log( #support vectors ) x #dimensions~~  
 constant x #dimensions

# The Trick 2

Decision function is  $\text{sign}(h(x))$  where:

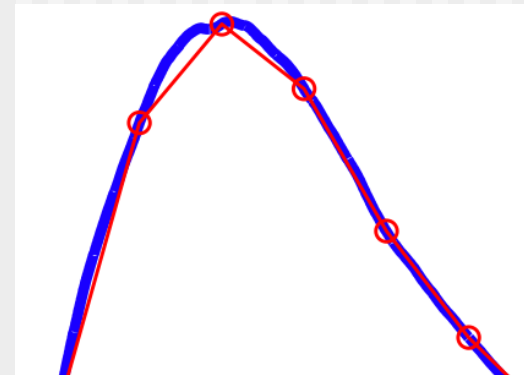
$$h(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{\#dim} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{\#sv} \alpha^j \min(x_i, x_i^j) \right) + b$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{\#dim} h_i(x_i)$$

$$h_i(x_i) = \sum_{j=1}^{\#sv} \alpha^j \min(x_i, x_i^j) + b$$

$$= \sum_{x_i^j < x_i} \alpha^j x_i^j + \left( \sum_{x_i^j \geq x_i} \alpha^j \right) x_i$$

For IK  $h_i$  is piecewise linear, and quite smooth, blue plot. We can *approximate* with fewer uniformly spaced segments, red plot. Saves time & space!



# Timing Results

Time to evaluate 10,000 feature vectors

reduced  
memory!

Dataset	Model parameters		SVM kernel type		fast IKSVMs		
	#SVs	#features	linear	intersection	binary search	piecewise-const	piecewise-lin
INRIA Ped	3363	1360	0.07±0.00	659.1±1.92	2.57±0.03	0.34±0.01	0.43±0.01
DC Ped	5474±395	656	0.03±0.00	459.1±31.3	1.43±0.02	0.18±0.01	0.22±0.00
Caltech 101	175±46	1360	0.07±0.01	24.77±1.22	1.63±0.12	0.33±0.03	0.46±0.03

Linear SVM with our multi-scale Version of HOG features has worse classification perf. than Dalal & Triggs.

IKSVM with our multi-scale version of HOG features beats Dalal & Triggs. Also for Daimler Chrysler data. Current Best on these datasets.

# Distribution of support vector values and $h_i$

Distribution  
of  
 $x_i^j$

$h_i(x_i)$

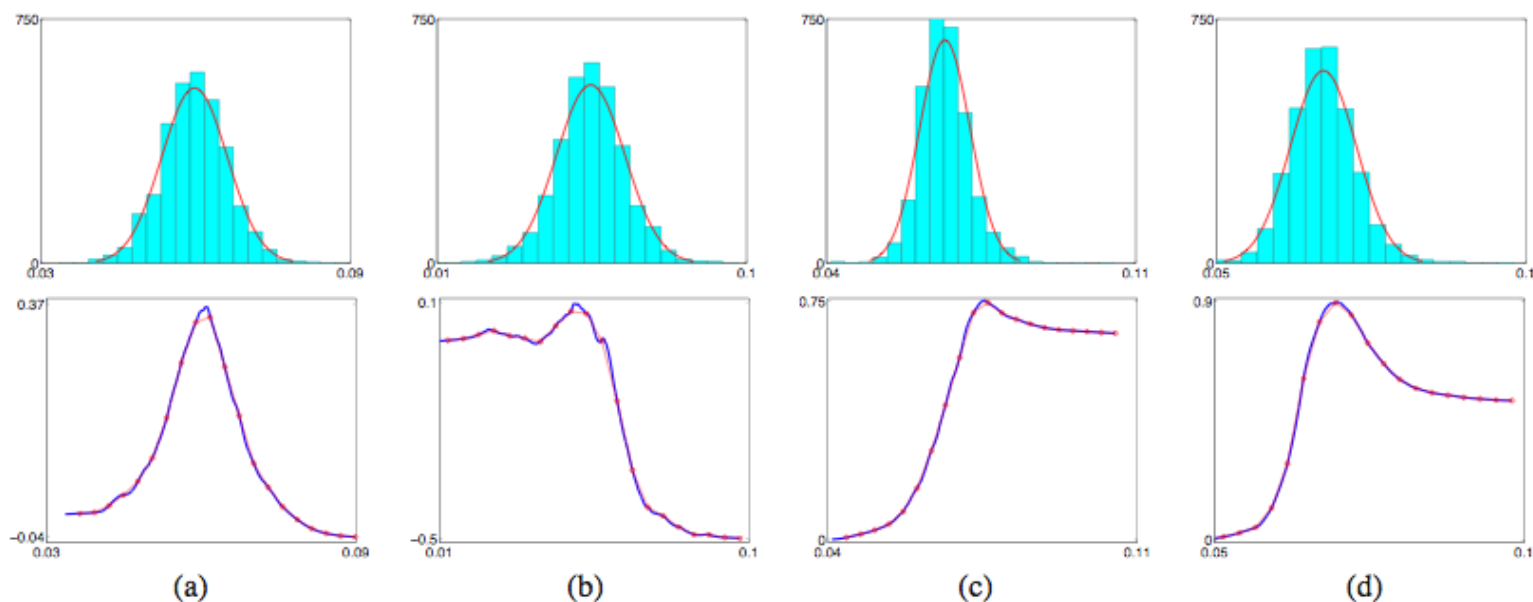
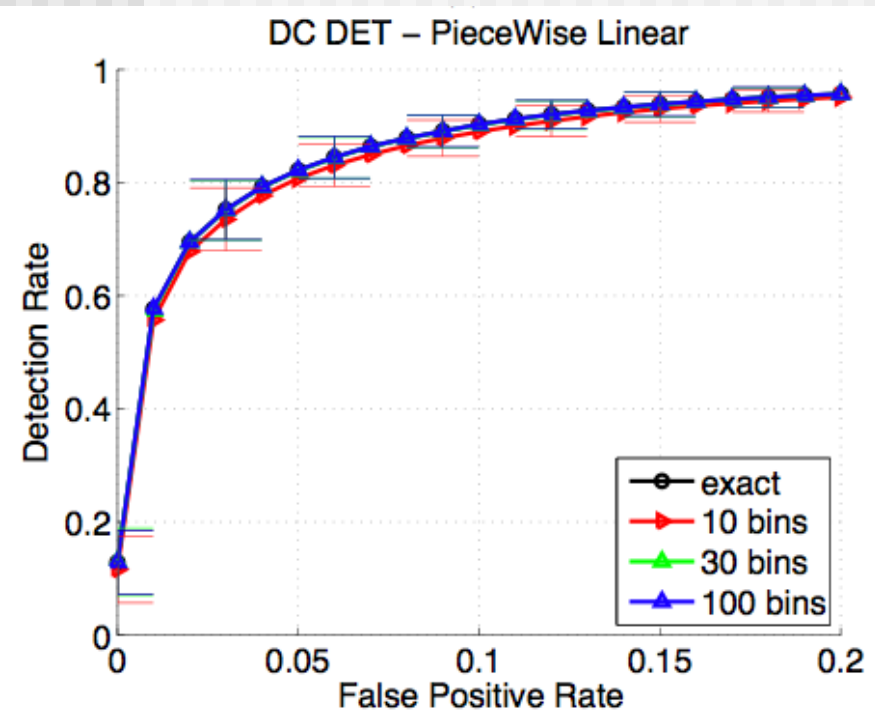


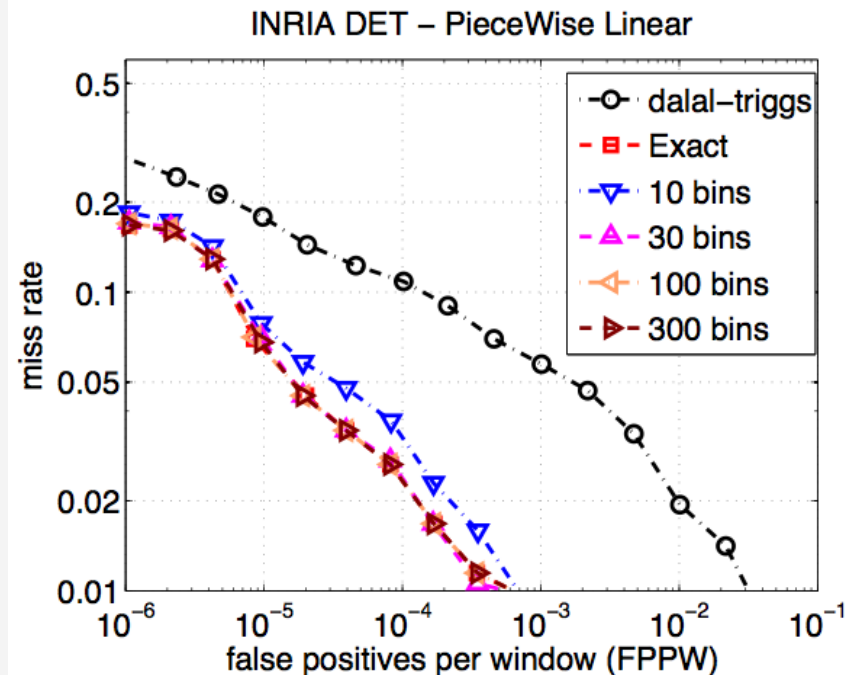
Figure 1. Each column (a-d) shows the distribution of the support vectors values along a dimension with a Gaussian fit (top) and the function  $h_i(x)$  vs.  $x$  with a piecewise linear fit using 20 uniformly spaced points (bottom) of an IKSVM model trained on the INRIA dataset. Unlike the distribution of the training data which are heavy tailed, the values of the support vectors tend to be clustered.

# Best Performance on Pedestrian Detection, Improve on Linear for Many Tasks

## Daimler Chrysler Pedestrians



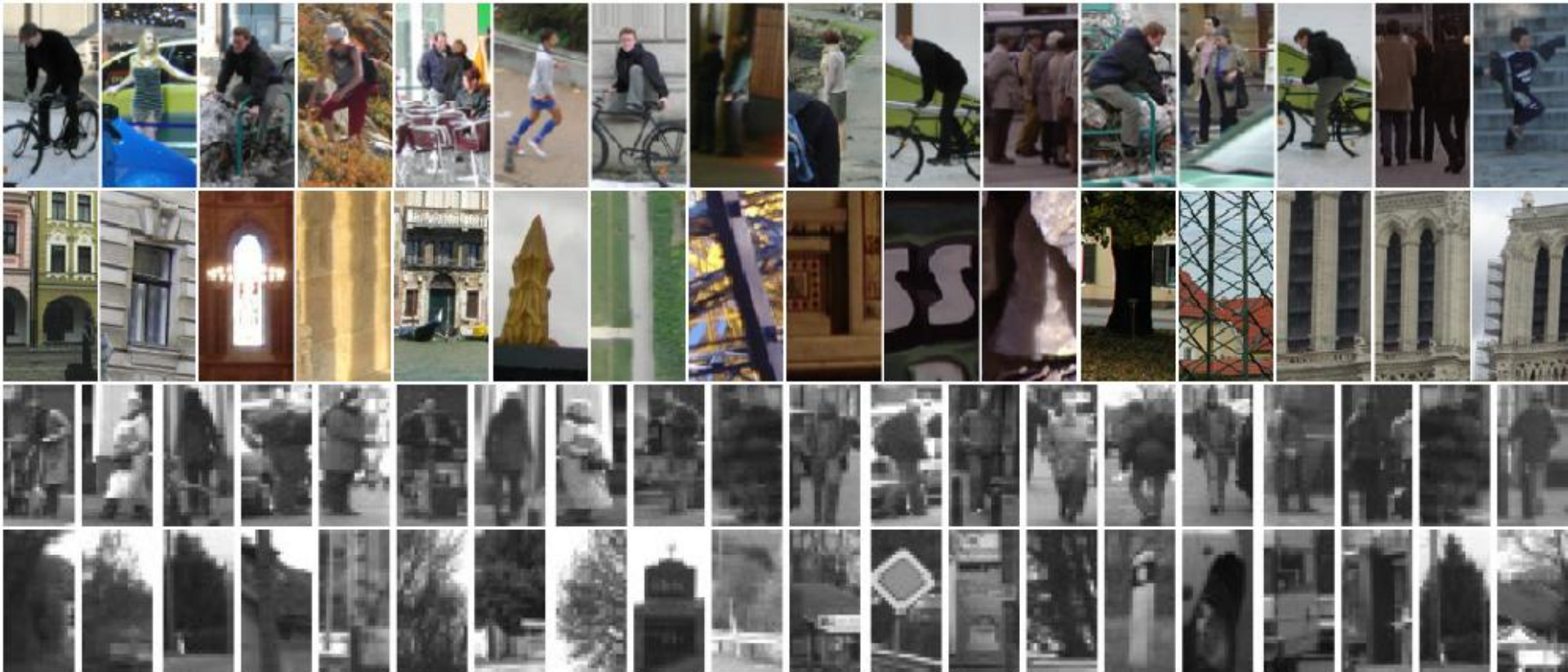
## INRIA Pedestrians



Caltech 101 with “simple features” Linear SVM 40% correct  
IKSVM 52% correct

# Classification Errors

---





# Results – ETHZ Dataset

Dataset: Ferrari et al., ECCV 2006

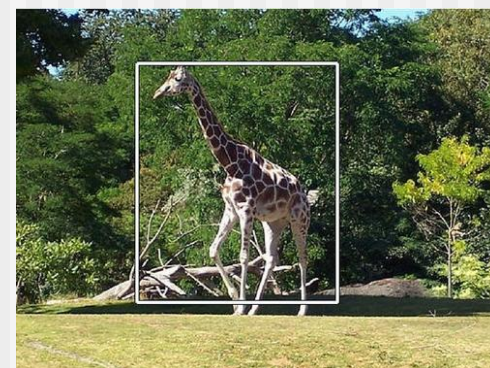
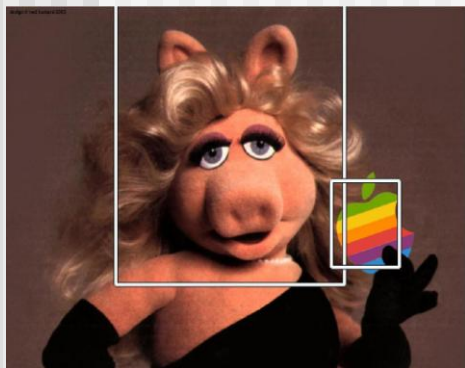
255 images, over 5 classes

training = half of positive images for a class

+ same number from the other classes (1/4 from each)

testing = **all** other images

large scale changes; extensive clutter



## Results – ETHZ Dataset

- Beats many current techniques without any changes to our features/classification framework.
- Recall at 0.3 False Positive per Image
- Shape is an important cue (use Pb instead of OE)

Method	Applelogo	Bottle	Giraffe	Mug	Swan	Avg
PAS*	65.0	89.3	72.3	80.6	64.7	76.7
Our	86.1	81.0	62.1	78.0	100	81.4

\*Ferarri *et.al*, IEEE PAMI - 08

# Other kernels allow similar trick

Decision function is  $\text{sign}(h(x))$  where:

IKSVM

$$\begin{aligned}h(x) &= \sum_{j=1}^{\#sv} \alpha^j \left( \sum_{i=1}^{\#dim} \min(x_i, x_i^j) \right) + b \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{\#dim} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{\#sv} \alpha^j \min(x_i, x_i^j) \right) + b \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{\#dim} h_i(x_i)\end{aligned}$$

$h_i$  are piece-wise linear,  
uniformly spaced  
piece-wise linear approx.  
is fast.

$-\chi^2$  SVM

$$\begin{aligned}h(x) &= \sum_{j=1}^{\#sv} \alpha^j \left( \sum_{i=1}^{\#dim} \frac{(x_i - x_i^j)^2}{\frac{1}{2}(x_i + x_i^j)} \right) + b \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{\#dim} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{\#sv} \alpha^j \frac{(x_i - x_i^j)^2}{\frac{1}{2}(x_i + x_i^j)} \right) + b \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{\#dim} h_i(x_i)\end{aligned}$$

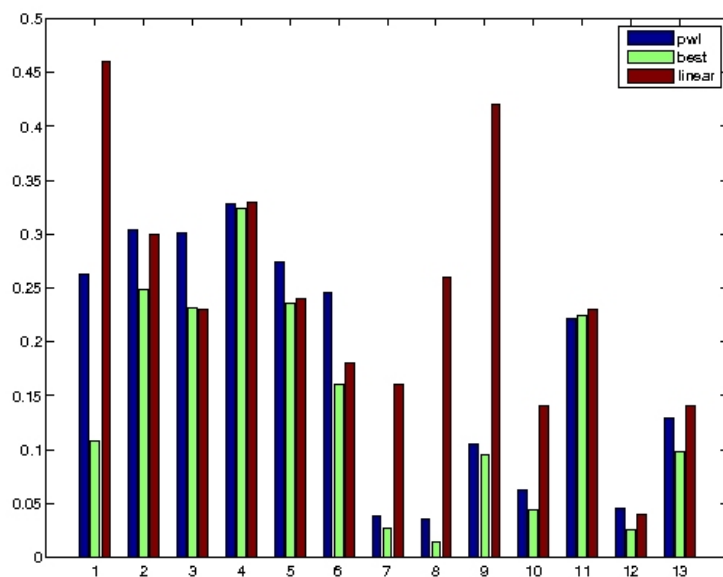
$h_i$  not piece-wise linear,  
but we can still use an  
approximation for fast  
evaluation.



# Results outside computer vision

## Accuracy of IK vs Linear on Text classification

Accuracy Values					
Classification Method	R8	R52	20Ng	Cade12	WebKb
SVM (Linear Kernel)	0.9666(1)	0.9322(1)	0.8155(0.04)	0.5650(0.05)	0.8796(0.04)
SVM (Intersection Kernel)	0.9693(1)	0.9326(0.8)	0.8115(0.05)	0.5777(0.10)	0.9105(0.04)

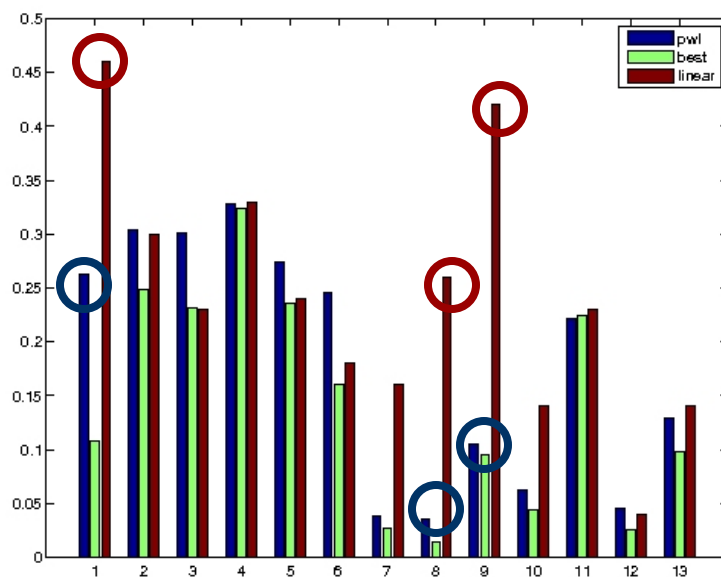


Error rate of directly trained piecewise linear (blue) best kernel (green) and linear (red) on SVM benchmark datasets

# Results outside computer vision

## Accuracy of IK vs Linear on Text classification

Accuracy Values					
Classification Method	R8	R52	20Ng	Cade12	WebKb
SVM (Linear Kernel)	0.9666(1)	0.9322(1)	0.8155(0.04)	0.5650(0.05)	0.8796(0.04)
SVM (Intersection Kernel)	0.9693(1)	0.9326(0.8)	0.8115(0.05)	0.5777(0.10)	0.9105(0.04)

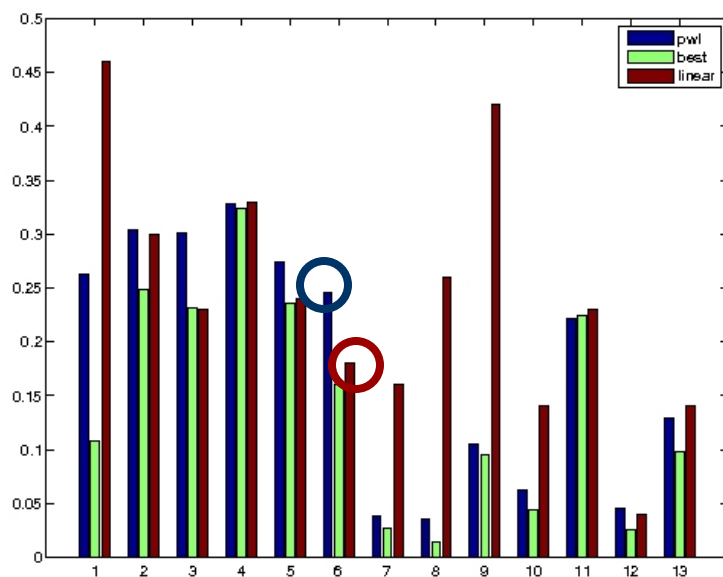


Error rate of directly trained piecewise linear (blue) best kernel (green) and linear (red) on SVM benchmark datasets

# Results outside computer vision

## Accuracy of IK vs Linear on Text classification

Accuracy Values					
Classification Method	R8	R52	20Ng	Cade12	WebKb
SVM (Linear Kernel)	0.9666(1)	0.9322(1)	0.8155(0.04)	0.5650(0.05)	0.8796(0.04)
SVM (Intersection Kernel)	0.9693(1)	0.9326(0.8)	0.8115(0.05)	0.5777(0.10)	0.9105(0.04)



Error rate of directly trained piecewise linear (blue) best kernel (green) and linear (red) on SVM benchmark datasets

Piecewise linear usually better, Depending on amount of data relative to the dimension and regularization

# Conclusions

---

- Exactly evaluate IKSVM in  $O(n \log m)$  as opposed to  $O(nm)$ 
  - Makes SV cascade or other ordering schemes irrelevant for intersection kernel
- Verified that IKSVM offers classification performance advantages over linear
- Approximate decision functions that decompose to a sum of functions for each coordinate (including Chi squared)
- Directly learn such classification functions (no SVM machinery)
- Generalized linear svm beats linear SVM in some applications often as good as more expensive RBF kernels
- Showed that relatively simple features with IKSVM beats Dalal & Triggs (linear SVM), leading to the state of the art in pedestrian detection.
- Applies to best Caltech 256, Pascal VOC 2007 methods.

---

Classification Using Intersection Kernel Support Vector Machines is efficient.  
Subhransu Maji and Alexander C. Berg and Jitendra Malik.  
Proceedings of CVPR 2008, Anchorage, Alaska, June 2008.

Software and more results available at  
<http://www.cs.berkeley.edu/~smaji/projects/fiksvm/>