



Content-Based Image Retrieval

Readings: Chapter 8: 8.1-8.4

- Queries
- Commercial Systems
- Retrieval Features
- Indexing in the FIDS System
- Lead-in to Object Recognition



Content-based Image Retrieval (CBIR)

Searching a large database for images that *match* a query:

- What kinds of databases?
- What kinds of queries?
- What constitutes a match?
- How do we make such searches efficient?



Applications

- Art Collections
e.g. Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco
- Medical Image Databases
CT, MRI, Ultrasound, The Visible Human
- Scientific Databases
e.g. Earth Sciences
- General Image Collections for Licensing
Corbis, Getty Images
- The World Wide Web
Google, Microsoft, etc



What is a query?

- an **image** you already have
- a rough **sketch** you draw
- a **symbolic description** of what you want
e.g. an image of a man and a woman on
a beach



Some Systems You Can Try

Corbis Stock Photography and Pictures

<http://pro.corbis.com/>

- Corbis sells high-quality images for use in advertising, marketing, illustrating, etc.
- Search is entirely by keywords.
- Human indexers look at each new image and enter keywords.
- A thesaurus constructed from user queries is used.



Google Image

- Google Similar Images

<http://similar-images.googlelabs.com/>

- Google Image Swirl

<http://image-swirl.googlelabs.com/>

The logo graphic consists of three overlapping squares: a yellow one at the top left, a red one at the bottom left, and a blue one at the bottom right. A black crosshair is centered over the intersection of the squares.

Microsoft Bing

- <http://www.bing.com/>
- first use keywords, then mouse over an image and click on show similar images



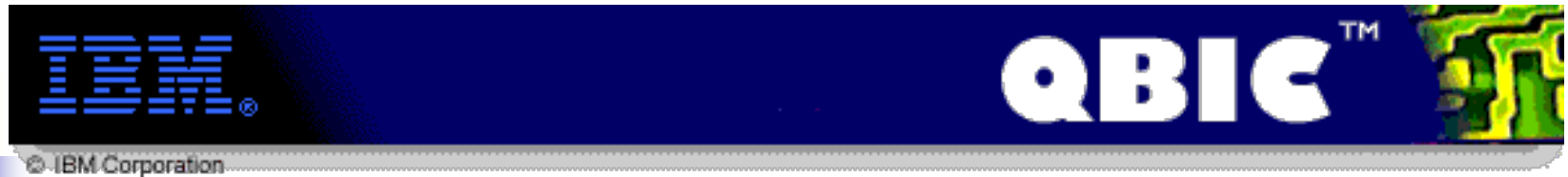
QBIC

IBM's QBIC (Query by Image Content)

<http://www.qbic.almaden.ibm.com>

- The first commercial system.
- Uses or has-used color percentages, color layout, texture, shape, location, and keywords.

Original QBIC system looked like this



Usage: **I**: Get Info **C**: Color Histogram **L**: Layout **T**: Texture **S**: Special Hybrid

Keywords:

Previous

Next



Query was:

Random



Like

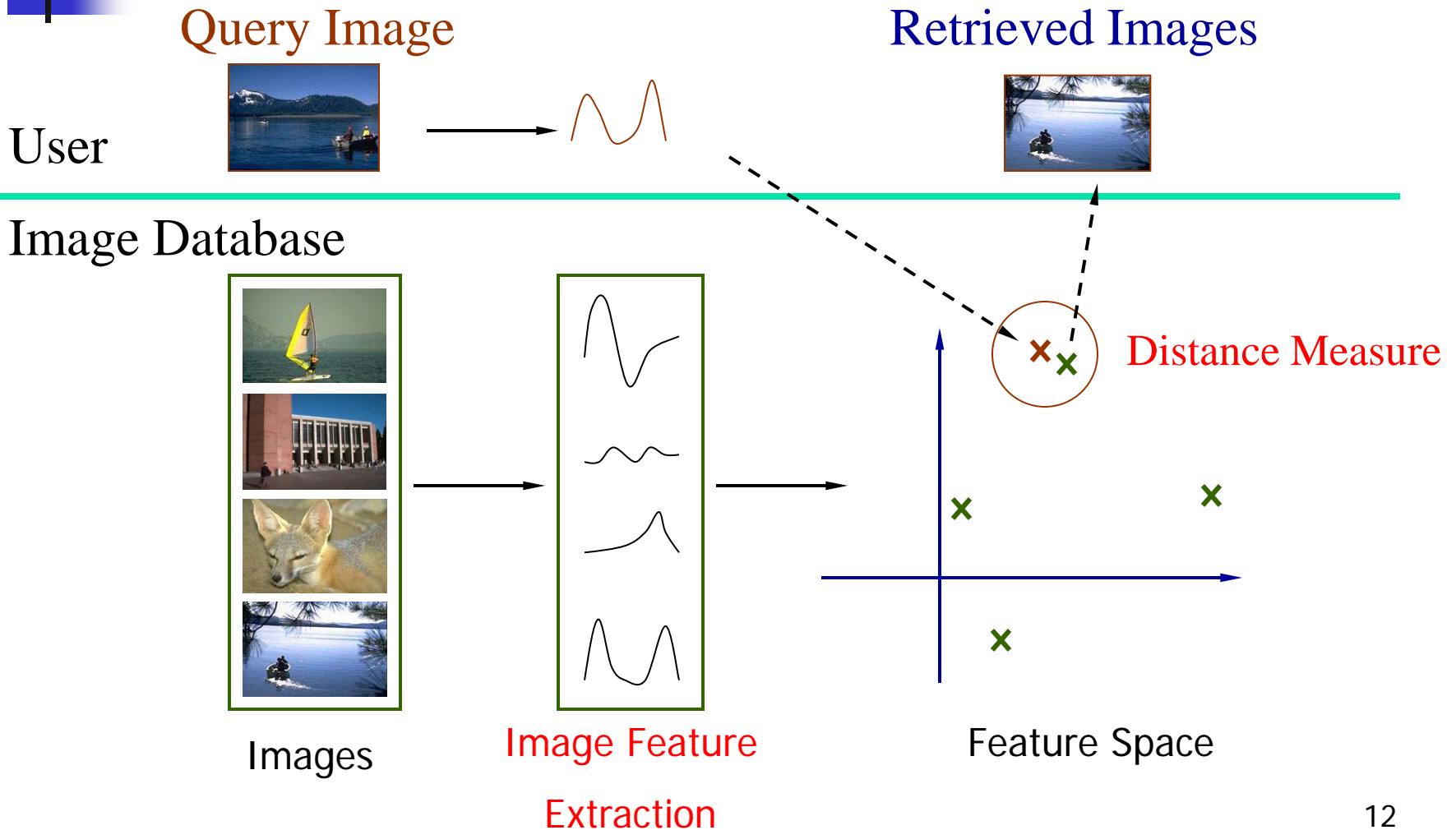
- Shopping search engine
- <http://www.like.com/>

Problem with Text-Based Search

- Retrieval for pigs for the color chapter of my book
- Small company (was called Ditto)
- Allows you to search for pictures from web pages



Image Features / Distance Measures



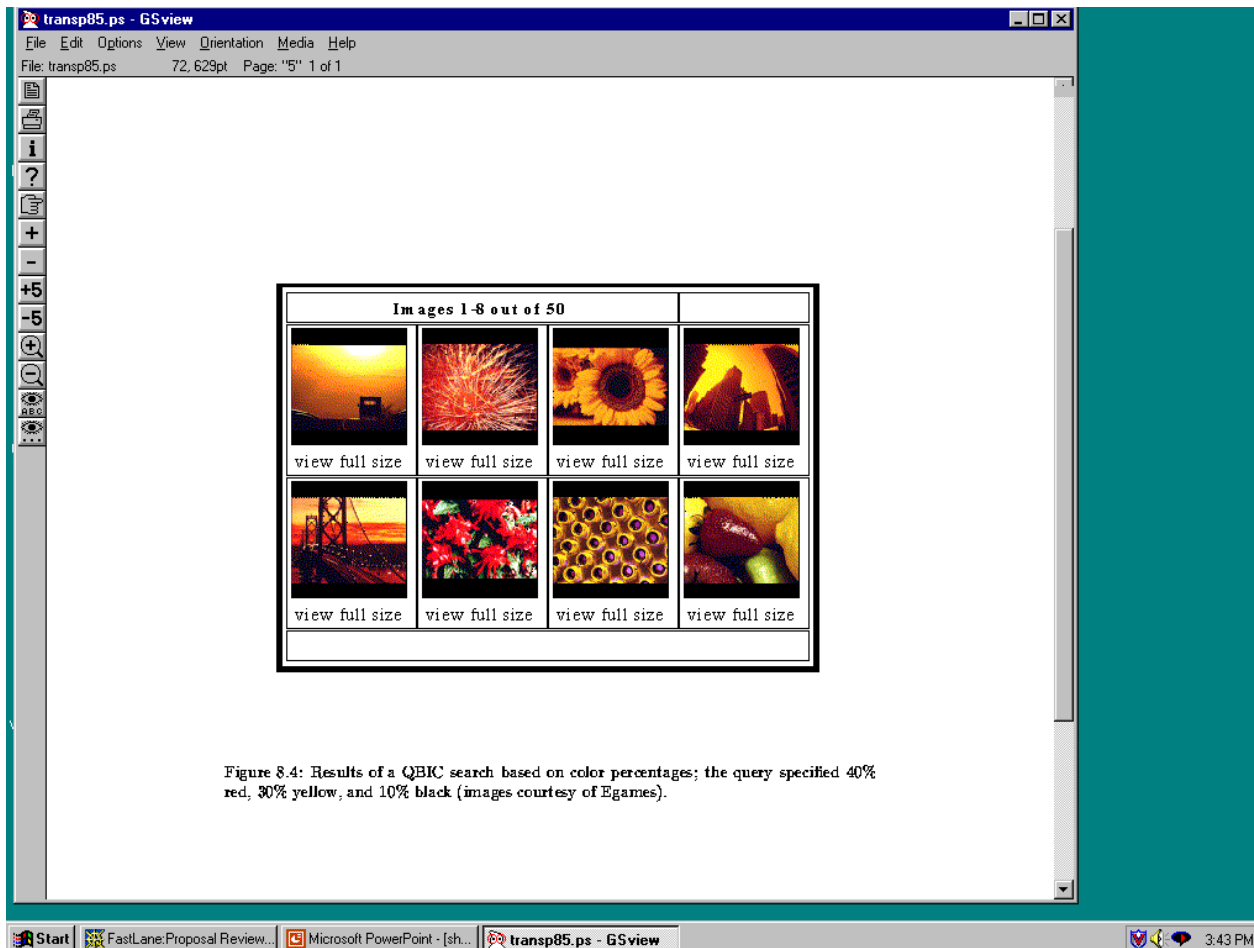


Features

- Color (histograms, gridded layout, wavelets)
- Texture (Laws, Gabor filters, local binary pattern)
- Shape (first segment the image, then use statistical or structural shape similarity measures)
- Objects and their Relationships

This is the most powerful, but you have to be able to recognize the objects!

Color Histograms





QBIC's Histogram Similarity

The QBIC color histogram distance is:

$$d_{\text{hist}}(I, Q) = (h(I) - h(Q))^T \mathbf{A} (h(I) - h(Q))$$

- $h(I)$ is a K -bin histogram of a database image
- $h(Q)$ is a K -bin histogram of the query image
- A is a $K \times K$ similarity matrix



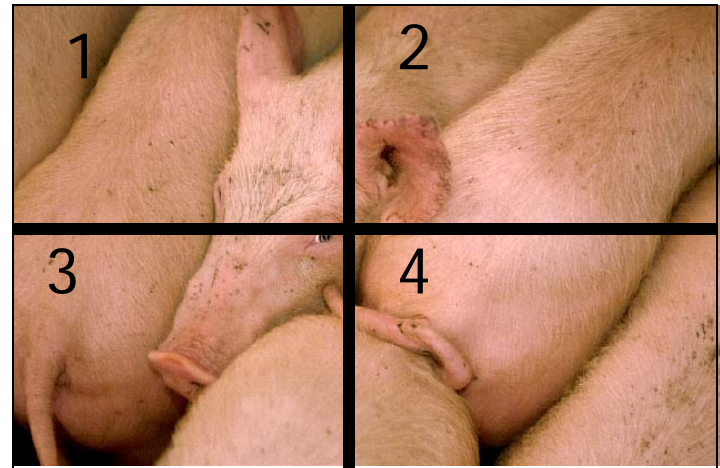
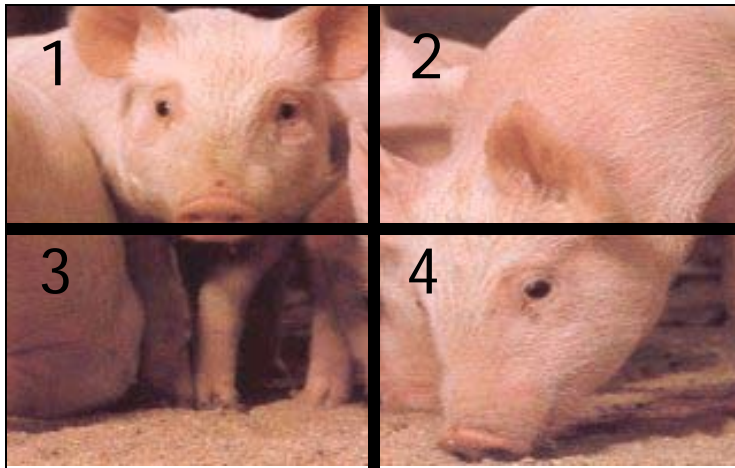
Similarity Matrix

	R	G	B	Y	C	V
R	1	0	0	.5	0	.5
G	0	1	0	.5	.5	0
B	0	0	1		?	
Y				1		
C		?			1	
V						1

How similar is blue to cyan?

Gridded Color

Gridded color distance is the sum of the color distances in each of the corresponding grid squares.



What color distance would you use for a pair of grid squares?

Color Layout (IBM's Gridded Color)

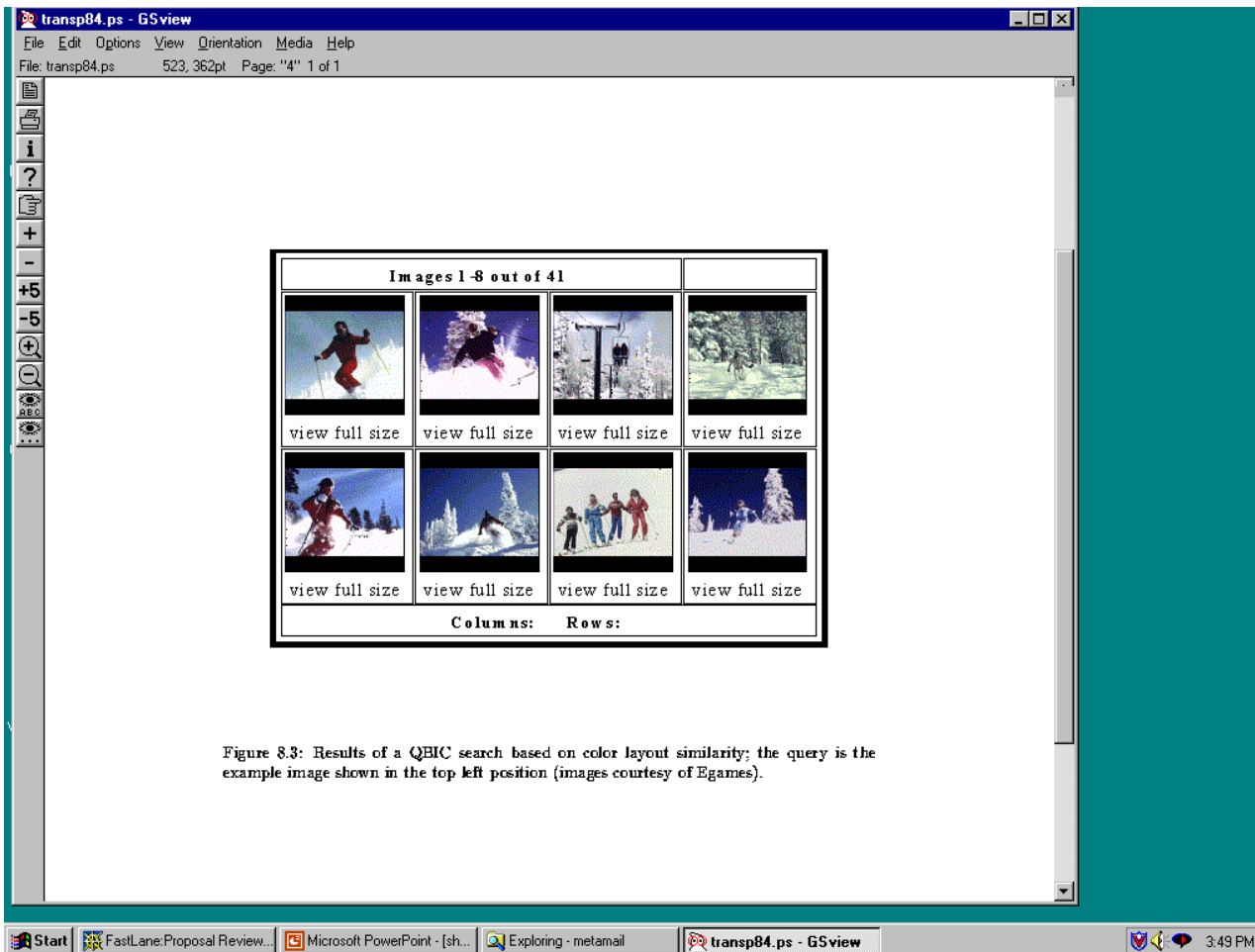


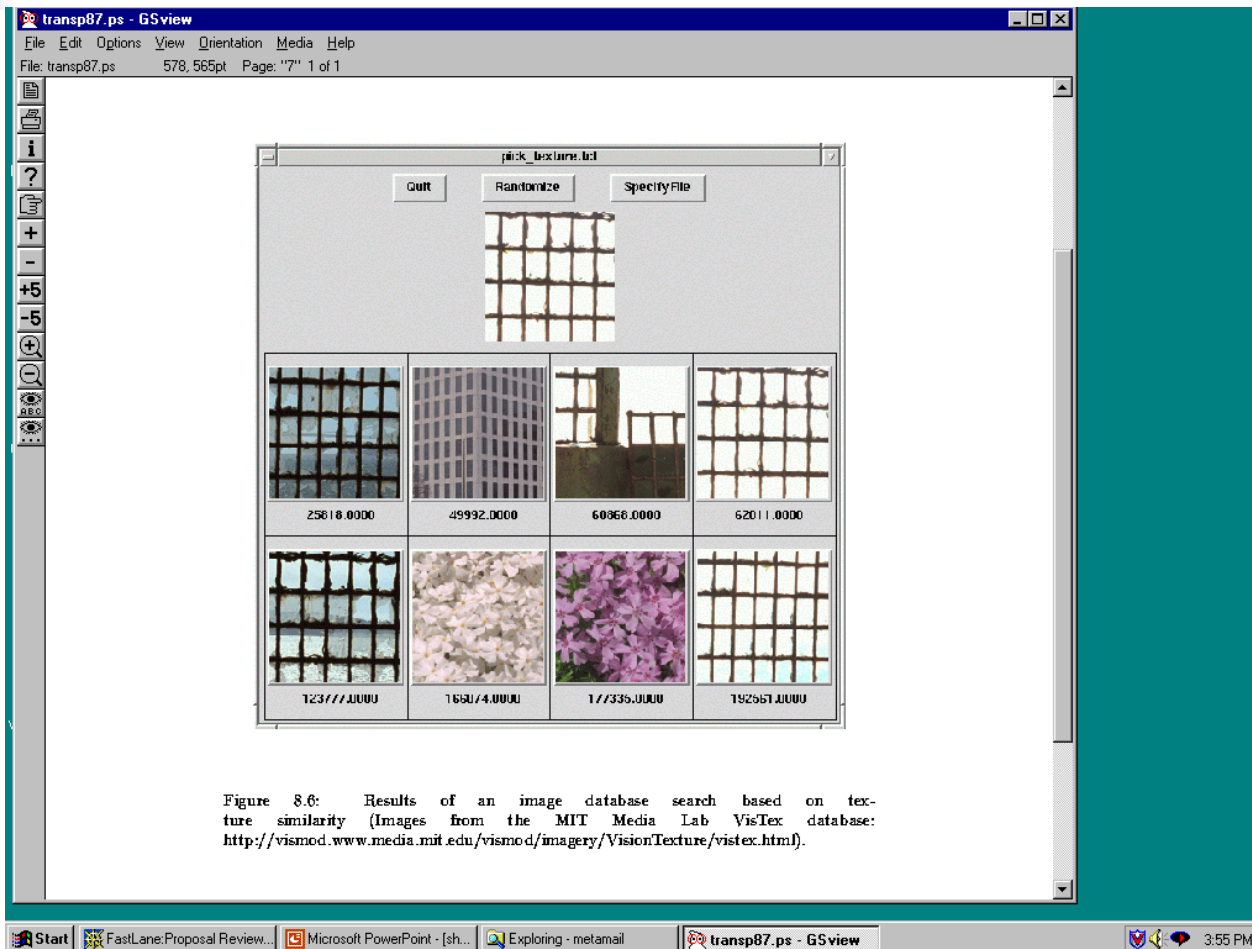
Figure 8.3: Results of a QBIC search based on color layout similarity; the query is the example image shown in the top left position (images courtesy of Egames).



Texture Distances

- Pick and Click (user clicks on a pixel and system retrieves images that have in them a region with similar texture to the region surrounding it).
- Gridded (just like gridded color, but use texture).
- Histogram-based (e.g. compare the LBP histograms).

Laws Texture

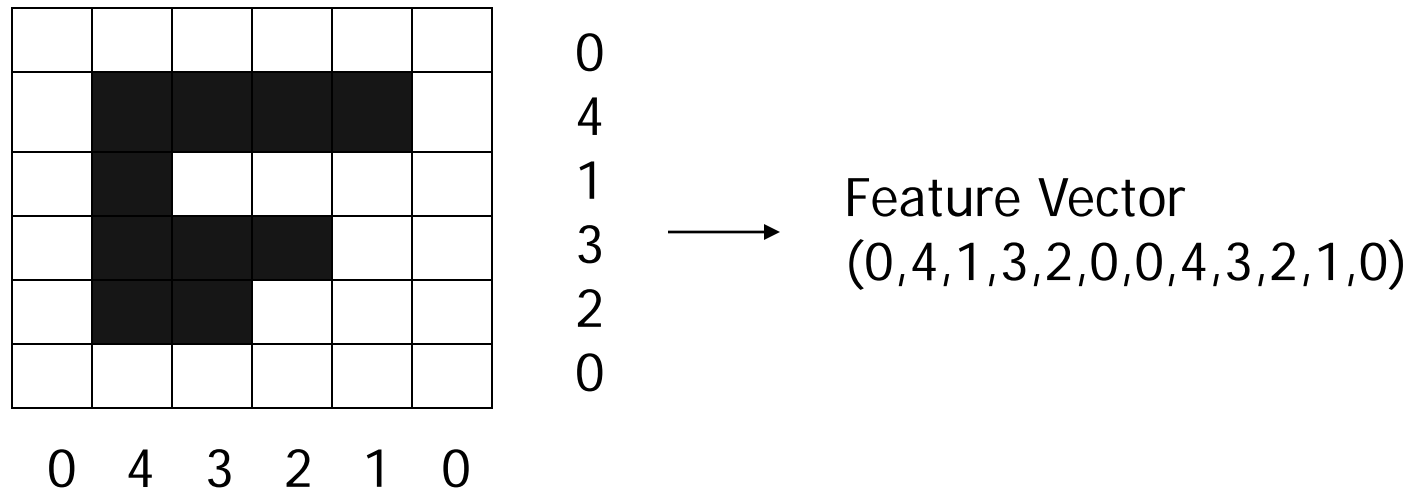




Shape Distances

- Shape goes one step further than color and texture.
- It requires identification of regions to compare.
- There have been many shape similarity measures suggested for pattern recognition that can be used to construct shape distance measures.

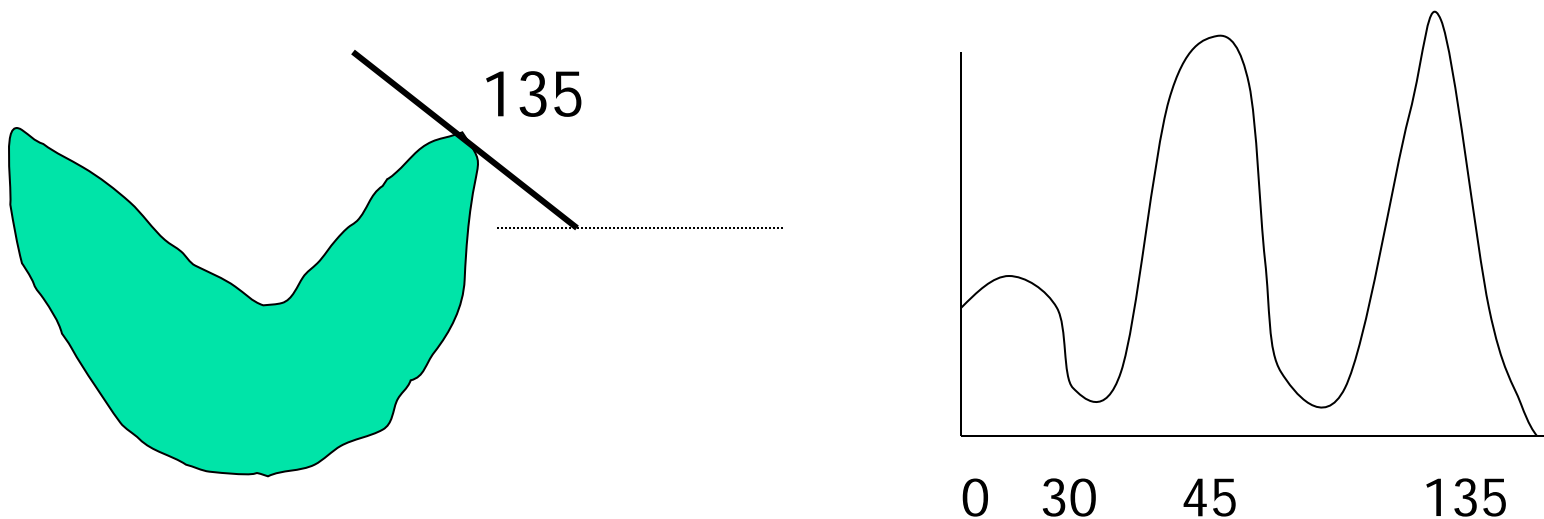
Global Shape Properties: Projection Matching



In projection matching, the horizontal and vertical projections form a histogram.

What are the weaknesses of this method? strengths?

Global Shape Properties: Tangent-Angle Histograms



Is this feature invariant to starting point?
Is it invariant to size, translation, rotation?



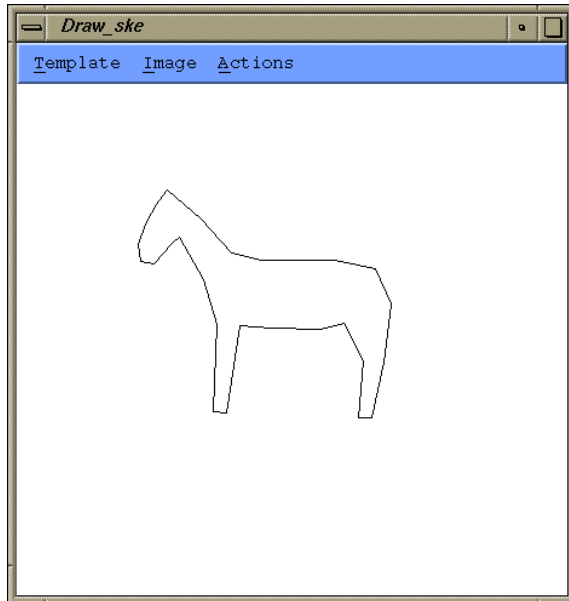
Boundary Matching

- Fourier Descriptors
- Sides and Angles
- Elastic Matching

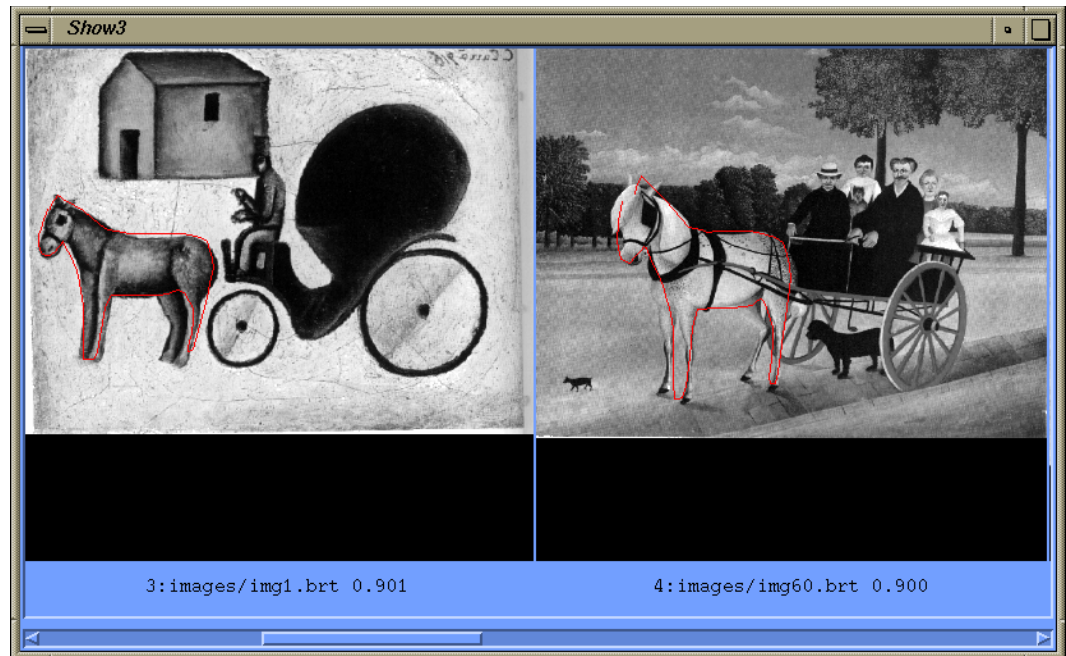
The distance between query shape and image shape has two components:

1. energy required to deform the query shape into one that best matches the image shape
2. a measure of how well the deformed query matches the image

Del Bimbo Elastic Shape Matching



query



retrieved images



Regions and Relationships

- Segment the image into **regions**
- Find their **properties** and **interrelationships**
- Construct a **graph** representation with nodes for regions and edges for spatial relationships
- Use **graph matching** to compare images

Like
what?

Blobworld (Carson et al, 1999)

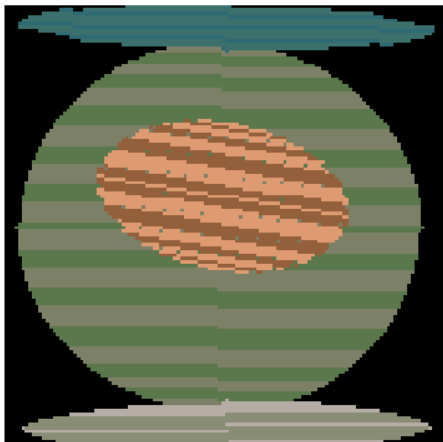


- Segmented the query (and all database images) using EM on color+texture
- Allowed users to select the most important region and what characteristics of it (color, texture, location)
- Asked users if the background was also important

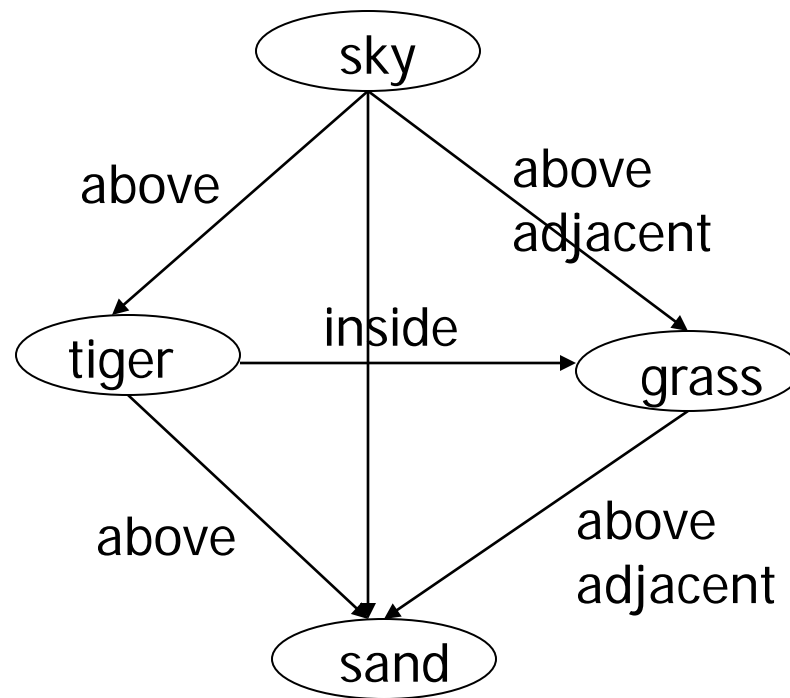
Tiger Image as a Graph (motivated by Blobworld)



image



abstract regions



Andy Berman's FIDS System

multiple distance measures

Boolean and linear combinations

efficient indexing using images as keys

Fids demo

Found 51 matches. Displaying 1 - 6

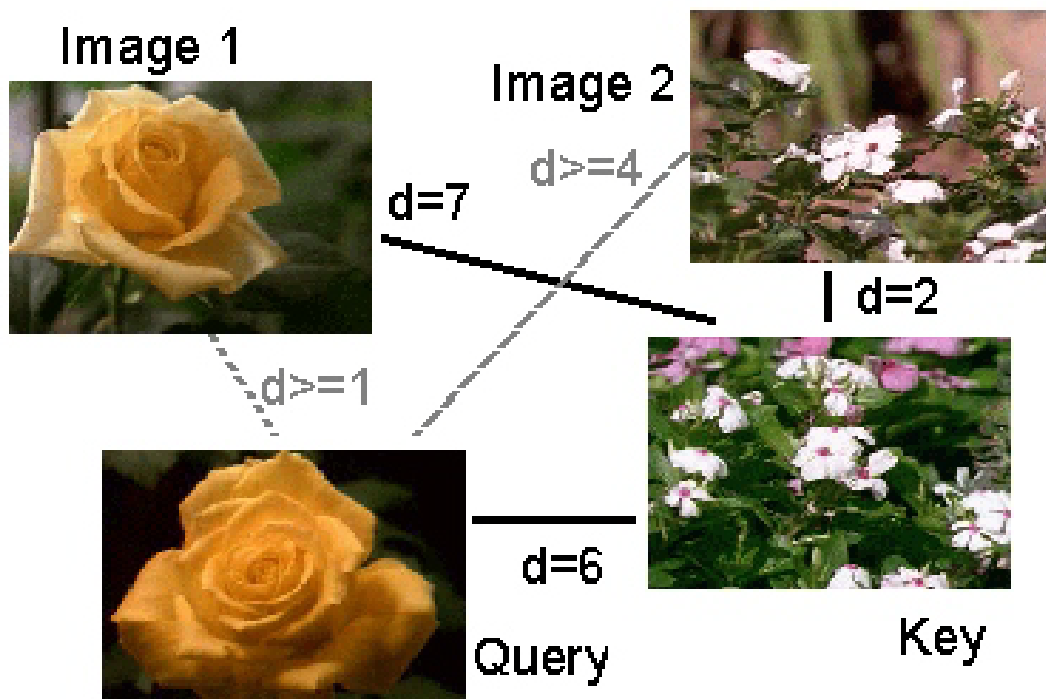
distance measures loose ... strict

<input type="checkbox"/> ColorHistL14x4x4		5	<input checked="" type="radio"/> And <input type="radio"/> Or <input type="radio"/> Sum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ColorHist8x8x8		5	
<input type="checkbox"/> SobelEdgeHist		5	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LBPHist		5	
<input type="checkbox"/> fleshiness		5	
<input type="checkbox"/> Wavelets		5	

A double click on an image means:
 Set query / Go
 Zoom in

Andy Berman's FIDS System:

Use of **key images** and the **triangle inequality** for efficient retrieval.



Andy Berman's FIDS System:

Bare-Bones Triangle Inequality Algorithm

Offline

1. Choose a small set of key images
2. Store distances from database images to keys

Online (given query Q)

1. Compute the distance from Q to each key
2. Obtain lower bounds on distances to database images
3. Threshold or return all images in order of lower bounds

Andy Berman's FIDS System:

Flexible Image Database System: Example



An example from our system using a simple color measure.

images in system: 37,748

threshold: 100 out of 1000

images eliminated: 37,729

Andy Berman's FIDS System:

Bare-Bones Algorithm with Multiple Distance Measures

Offline

1. Choose key images for each measure
2. Store distances from database images to keys for all measures

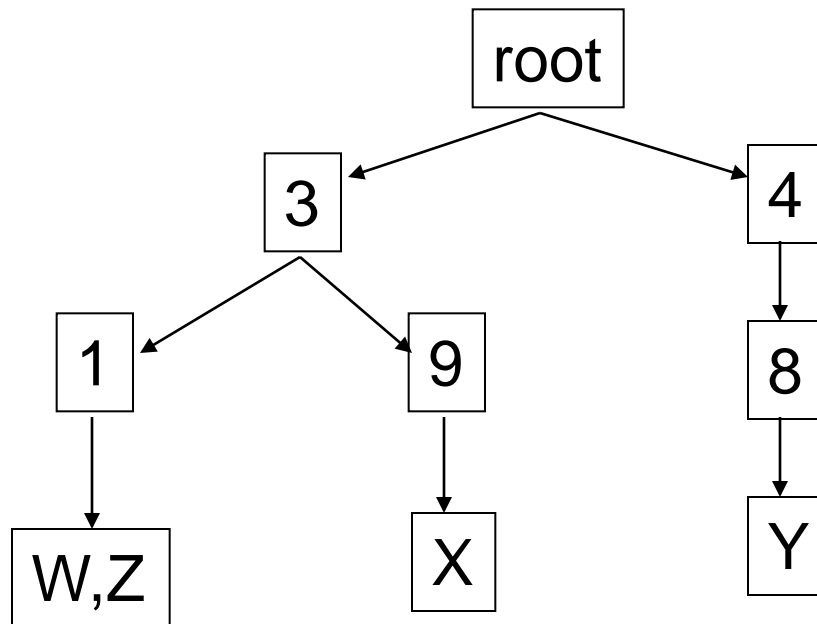
Online (given query Q)

1. Calculate lower bounds for each measure
2. Combine to form lower bounds for composite measures
3. Continue as in single measure algorithm

Andy Berman's FIDS System:

Triangle Tries

A **triangle trie** is a tree structure that stores the distances from database images to each of the keys, one key per tree level.



Distance to key 1

Distance to key 2

Andy Berman's FIDS System:

Triangle Tries and Two-Stage Pruning

- First Stage: Use a short triangle trie.
- Second Stage: Bare-bones algorithm on the images returned from the triangle-trie stage.

The quality of the output is the same as with the bare-bones algorithm itself, but execution is faster.

Andy Berman's FIDS System:

Flexible Image Database System: Example



of images in system: 37,748

Depth of triangle trie: 6

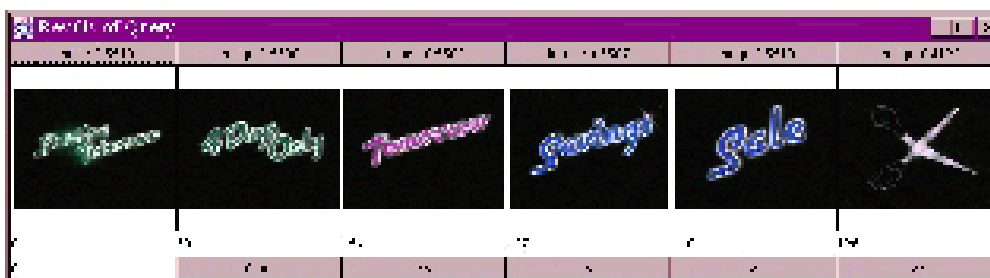
of images eliminated by trie: 30,300

images eliminated by second-stage: 7429

19 images remaining, as before

Andy Berman's FIDS System:

Flexible Image Database System: Example



Example from our system using a
combination color+texture measure

images in system: 37,748

images from color trie: 3,676

images from texture trie: 497

images in merged set: 3,785

images eliminated: 33,963

Andy Berman's FIDS System:

Performance on a Pentium Pro 200-mHz

Step 1. Extract features from query image. ($.02s \leq t \leq .25s$)

Step 2. Calculate distance from query to key images.
($1\mu s \leq t \leq .8ms$)

Step 3. Calculate lower bound distances.
($t \approx 4ms$ per 1000 images using 35 keys,
which is about 250,000 images per second.)

Step 4. Return the images with smallest lower bound distances.

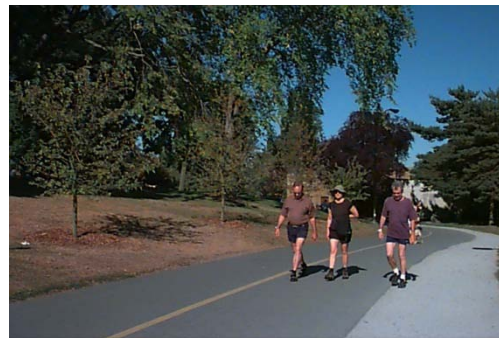


Demo of FIDS

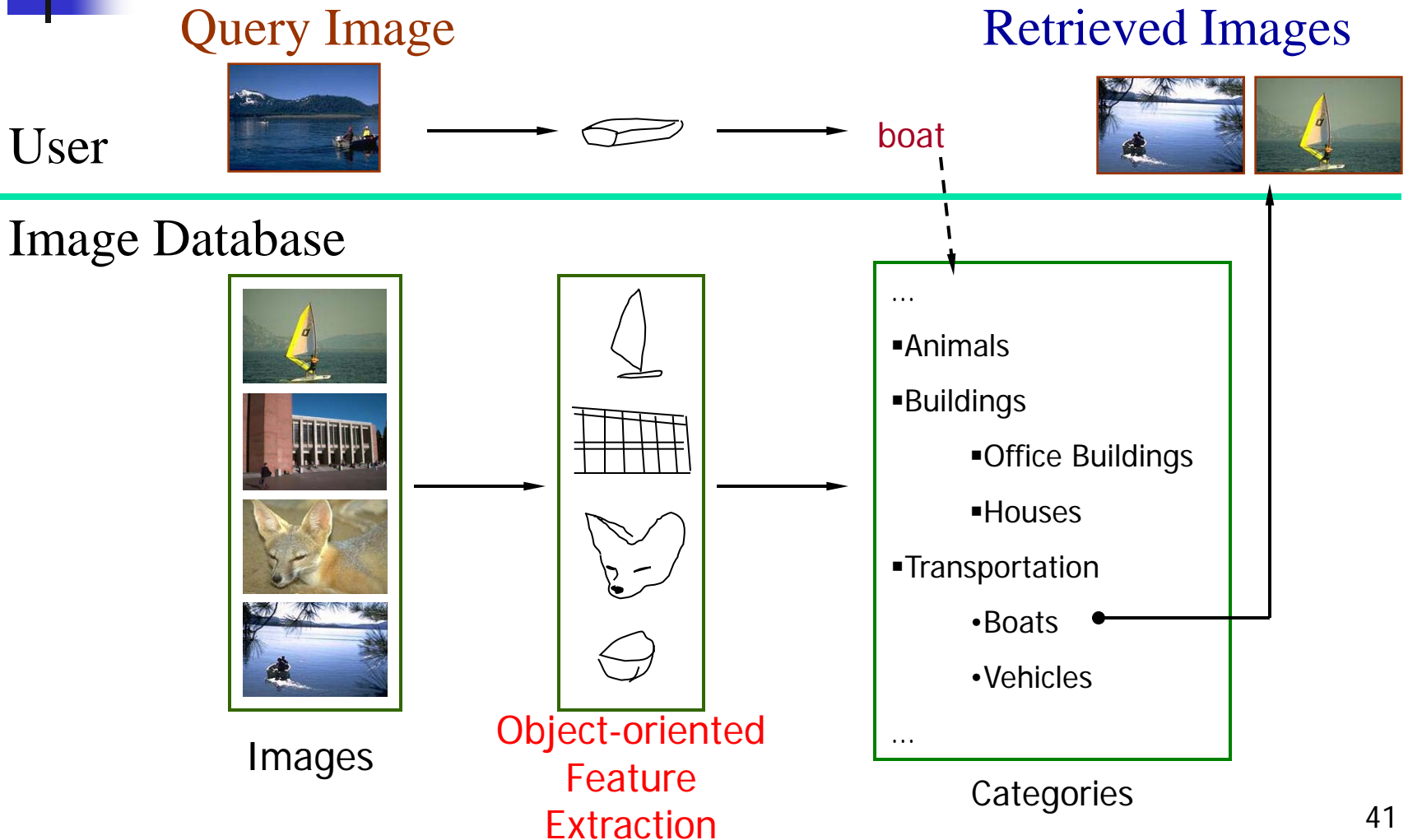
- <http://www.cs.washington.edu/research/imagedatabase/demo/>
- Try this and the other demos on the same page.

Weakness of Low-level Features

- Can't capture the high-level concepts



Current Research Objective





Overall Approach

- Develop object recognizers for common objects
- Use these recognizers to design a new set of both low- and mid-level features
- Design a learning system that can use these features to recognize classes of objects

Boat Recognition

demo: boat recognition - Netscape

File Edit View Go Communicator Help


Bookmarks Location: <http://www.cs.washington.edu/research/imagetdatabase/demo/boat/> What's Related

Instant Message WebMail Contact People Yellow Pages Download Channels

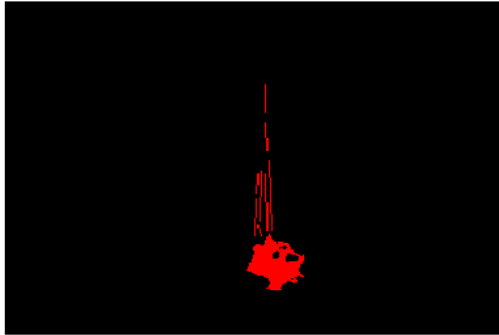
Boat Recognition

1. Select an image: 2. Select a processor: 3. Click

Options:



320*240



(300,12): RGB(0,0,0)

Process done !

- Quick help: **select an Image and a Processor, click the Process button.**
- Processors:
 - *OR_sky*: Sky recognition
 - *OR_sea*: Sea recognition
 - *OR_boat*: Boat recognition
 - *OR_sailboat*: Sailboat recognition

[comments to yi@cs.washington.edu]
Last Modified: Wednesday, December 31, 1969 16:00:00

Start Microsoft PowerPoint - [sh... demo: boat recognitio... 12:03 PM

Vehicle Recognition

demo: Vehicle Recognition - Netscape

File Edit View Go Communicator Help

Bookmarks Location: <http://www.cs.washington.edu/research/imagetatabase/demo/cars/> What's Related

Instant Message WebMail Contact People Yellow Pages Download Channels


Vehicle Recognition

1. Select an image: 2. Select a processor: 3. Click

Options:

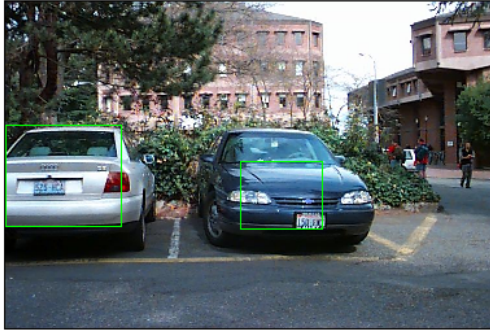
Sigma

Triangle Len



756*504 (682,84): RGB(196,166,174)

Process done!



(586,366): RGB(154,161,153)

- Quick help: **select an Image and a Processor, click the Process button.**
- Processors:
 - *VehicleRecognition*. The final result.
 - *ContourSymmetryCal*. Localize the horizontal position by contour symmetry.
 - *GrayLevelSymmetryCal*. Localize the horizontal position by contour gray-level symmetry.
 - *HorizontalLineSymCal*. Localize the horizontal position by symmetric horizontal line length.
 - *SymmetryFinder*. Localize the horizontal position by voting by the three symmetry-based methods above.
 - *IntensitySymFinder*. Localize the horizontal position by Intensity-based-symmetry. (slow, high resolution)
 - *IntensitySymFinder2*. Localize the horizontal position by Intensity-based-symmetry. (fast, low resolution)
 - *HorizontalEdge*. Localize the horizontal position by Horizontal-edge-based recognition.

Applet CarApplet running

Start Microsoft PowerPoint - [sh... demo: Vehicle Recog... 12:09 PM

Building Recognition

demo: building recognition - Netscape


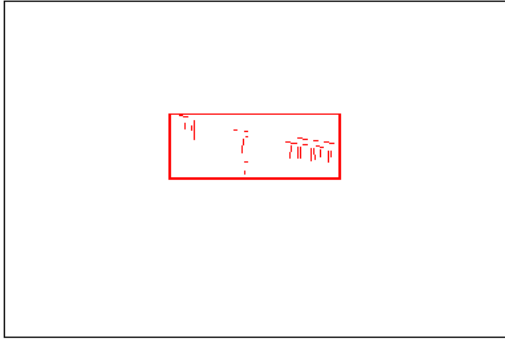
File Edit View Go Communicator Help

Location: http://www.cs.washington.edu/research/imagedatabase/demo/clc_br/

Instant Message WebMail Contact People Yellow Pages Download Channels

Building Recognition

1. Select an image: 2. Select a processor: 3. Click

 Options: 

640*428 (507,1): RGB(54,146,219) Process done! (1,310): RGB(255,255,255)

- Quick help: **select an Image and a Processor, click the Process button.**
- Processors:
 - *CSOSSM_br*: Building recognition by consistent line clusters

[comments to yi@cs.washington.edu]
Last Modified: Wednesday, December 31, 1969 16:00:00

Start Microsoft PowerPoint - [sh...] demo: building recog... 12:12 PM



Building Features: Consistent Line Clusters (CLC)

A **Consistent Line Cluster** is a set of lines that are homogeneous in terms of some line features.

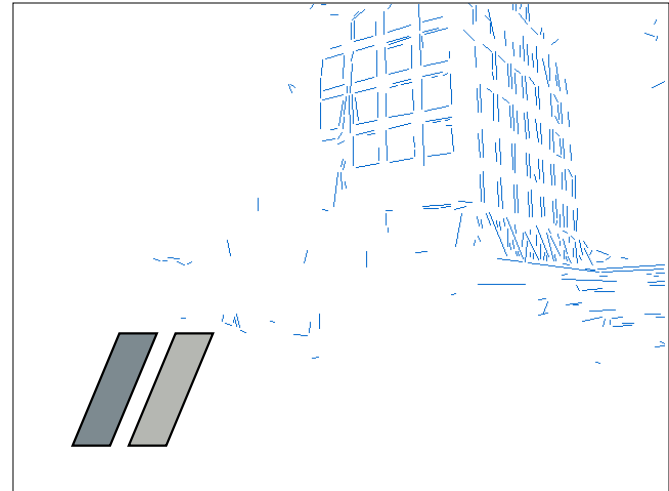
- **Color-CLC**: The lines have the same color feature.
- **Orientation-CLC**: The lines are parallel to each other or converge to a common vanishing point.
- **Spatially-CLC**: The lines are in close proximity to each other.



Color-CLC

- Color feature of lines: **color pair** (c_1, c_2)
- Color pair space:
 - RGB $(256^3 * 256^3)$ Too big!
 - Dominant colors $(20 * 20)$
- Finding the color pairs:
 - One line \rightarrow Several color pairs
- Constructing Color-CLC: **use clustering**

Color-CLC



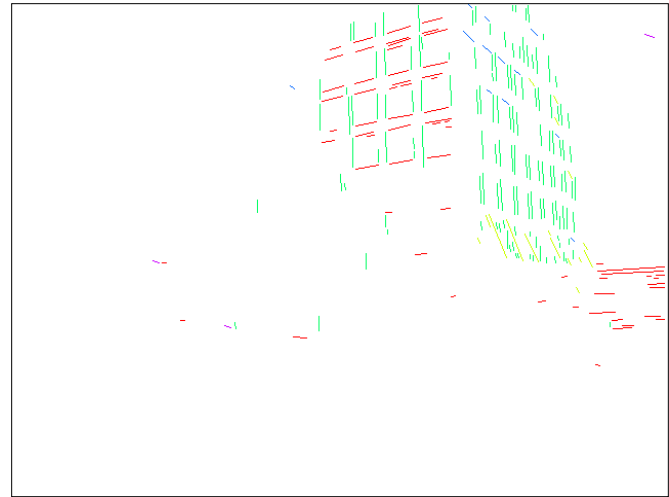
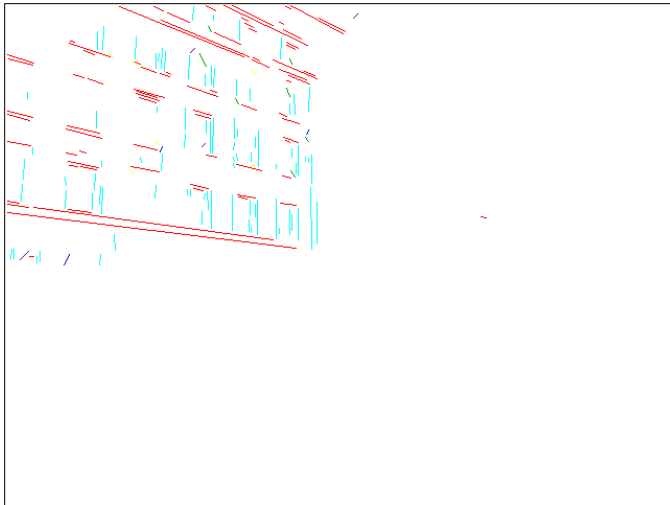


Orientation-CLC

- The lines in an Orientation-CLC are parallel to each other in the 3D world
- The parallel lines of an object in a 2D image can be:
 - Parallel in 2D
 - Converging to a vanishing point (perspective)



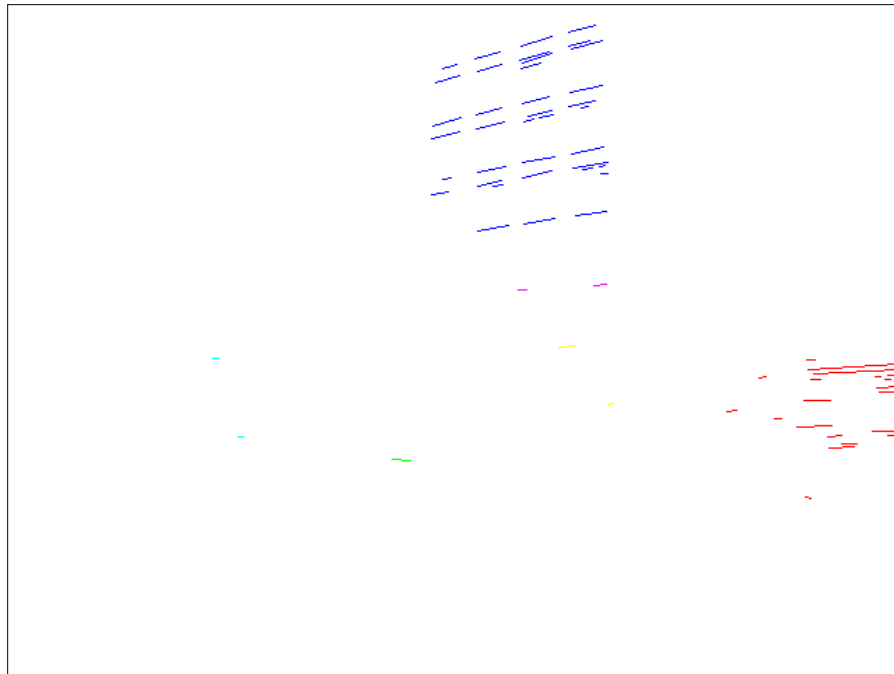
Orientation-CLC





Spatially-CLC

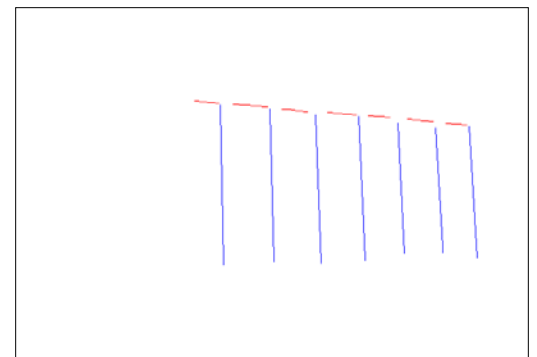
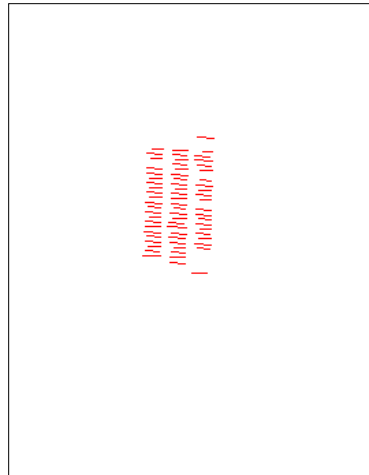
- Vertical position clustering
- Horizontal position clustering



Building Recognition by CLC

Two types of buildings → Two criteria

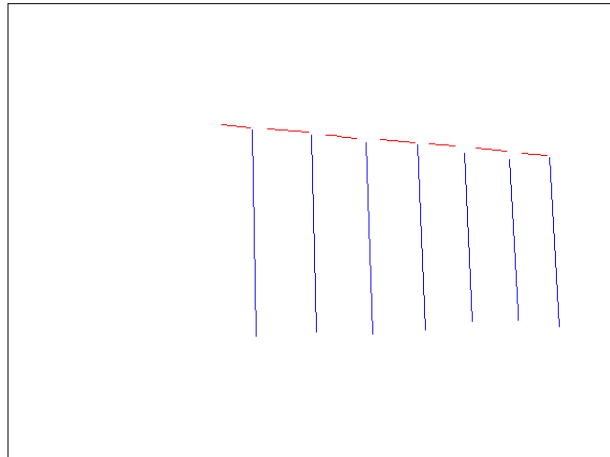
- Inter-relationship criterion
- Intra-relationship criterion





Inter-relationship criterion

$$(N_{c1} > T_{i1} \text{ or } N_{c2} > T_{i1}) \text{ and } (N_{c1} + N_{c2}) > T_{i2}$$



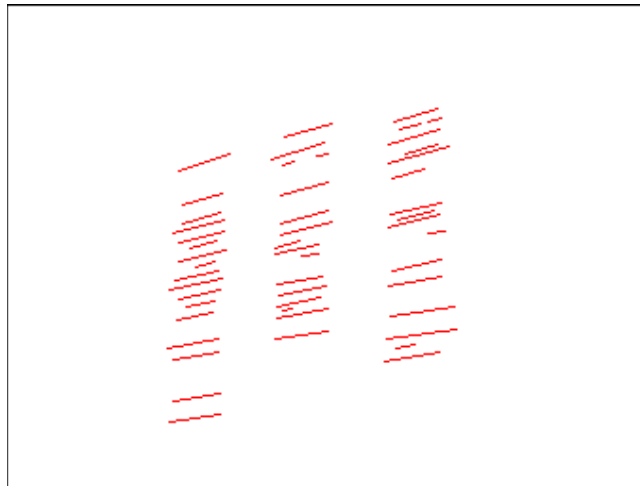
N_{c1} = number of intersecting lines in cluster 1

N_{c2} = number of intersecting lines in cluster 2



Intra-relationship criterion

$$|S_o| > T_{j1} \text{ or } w(S_o) > T_{j2}$$



S_o = set of heavily overlapping lines in a cluster

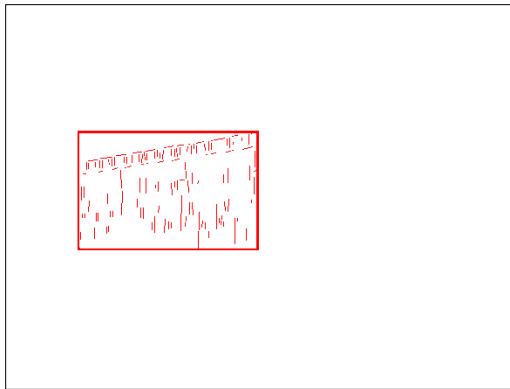
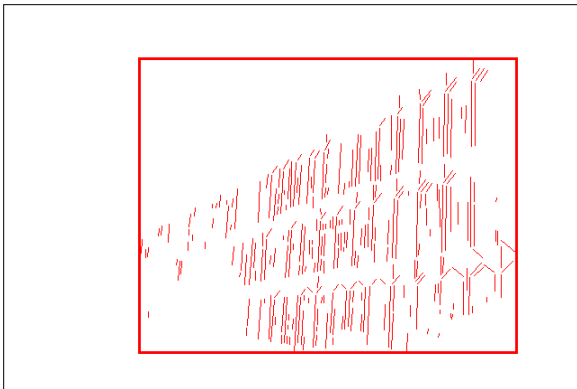


Experimental Evaluation

- Object Recognition
 - 97 well-patterned buildings (bp): 97/97
 - 44 not well-patterned buildings (bnp): 42/44
 - 16 not patterned non-buildings (nbnp): 15/16 (one false positive)
 - 25 patterned non-buildings (nbp): 0/25
- CBIR

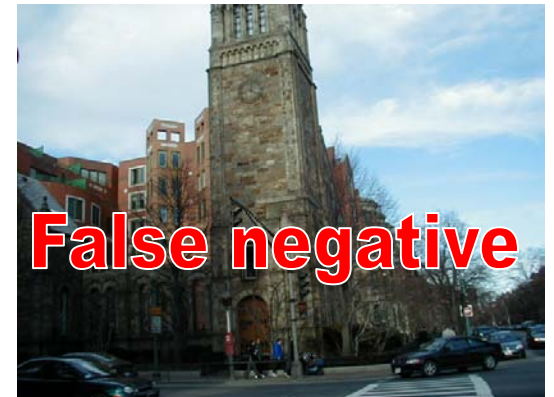
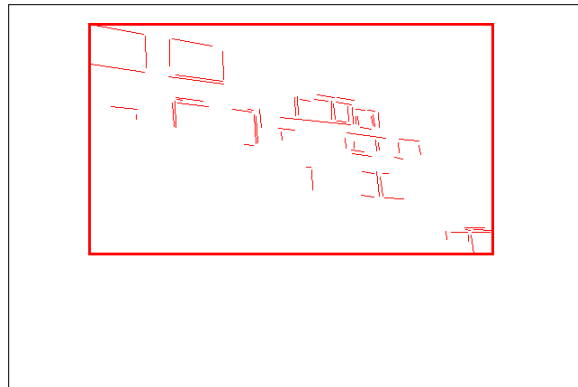
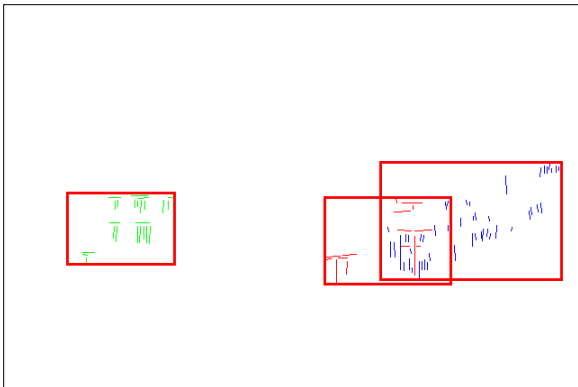
Experimental Evaluation

Well-Patterned Buildings



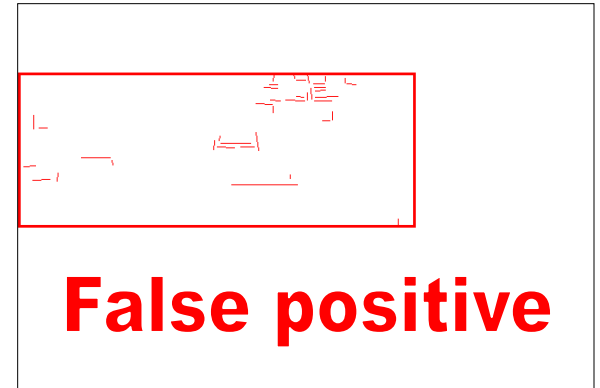
Experimental Evaluation

Non-Well-Patterned Buildings



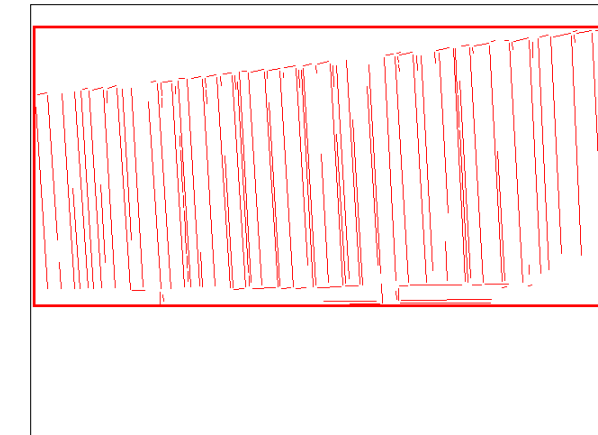
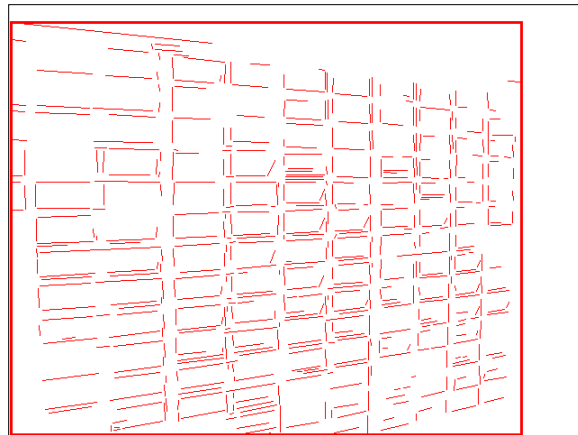
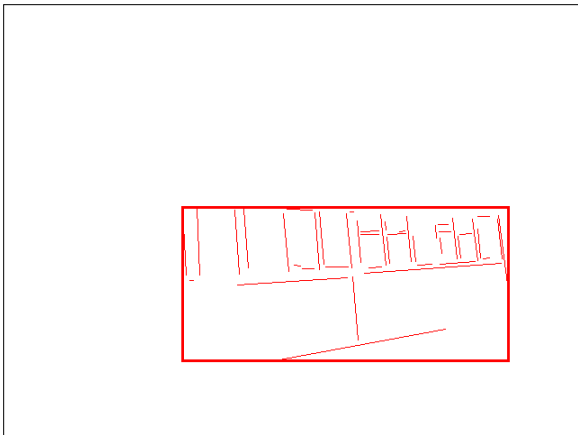
Experimental Evaluation

Non-Well-Patterned Non-Buildings



Experimental Evaluation

Well-Patterned Non-Buildings (false positives)





Experimental Evaluation (CBIR)

	Total Positive Classification (#)	Total Negative Classification (#)	False positive (#)	False negative (#)	Accuracy (%)
Arborgreens	0	47	0	0	100
Campusinfall	27	21	0	5	89.6
Cannonbeach	30	18	0	6	87.5
Yellowstone	4	44	4	0	91.7

Experimental Evaluation (CBIR)

False positives from Yellowstone

