

## Object recognition (part 1)

CSE P 576

Larry Zitnick ([larryz@microsoft.com](mailto:larryz@microsoft.com))

## Recognition



The "Margaret Thatcher Illusion", by Peter Thompson

### Readings

- Szeliski Chapter 14

## Recognition



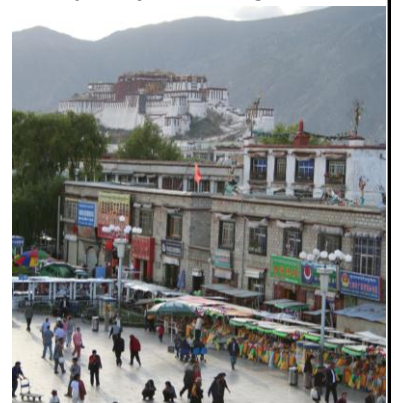
The "Margaret Thatcher Illusion", by Peter Thompson

### Readings

- Szeliski Chapter 14

## What do we mean by "object recognition"?

Next 15 slides adapted from Li, Fergus, & Torralba's excellent [short course](#) on category and object recognition



Verification: is that a lamp?



Detection: are there people?



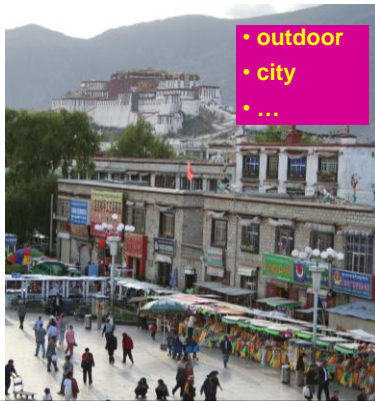
Identification: is that Potala Palace?



Object categorization



### Scene and context categorization



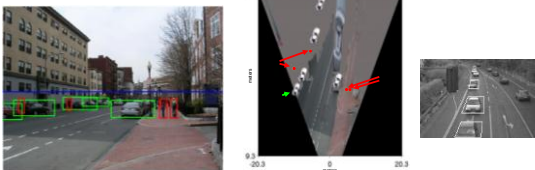
### Applications: Computational photography



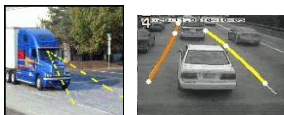
[Face priority AE] When a bright part of the face is too bright

### Applications: Assisted driving

Pedestrian and car detection



Lane detection



- Collision warning systems with adaptive cruise control,
- Lane departure warning systems,
- Rear object detection systems,

### Applications: image search



**Places**

- London
- New York
- Egypt
- Forbidden City

**Celebrities**

- Michael Jordan
- Angelina Jolie
- Heidi Klum
- Señt. Rogan
- Bibiana

**Art**

- impressionism
- Keith Haring
- salvador
- Salvador Dalí
- pointillism

**Shopping**

- warning gown
- necklace
- shoes

**Refine your image search with visual similarity**

Similar Images allows you to search for images using pictures rather than words. Click the "Similar images" link under an image to find other images that look like it. Try a search of your own or click on an example below.

**paris**



**temple**



Challenges: viewpoint variation



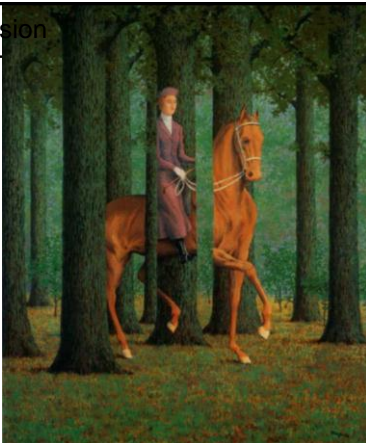
Michelangelo 1475-1564

Challenges: illumination variation



slide credit: S. Ullman

Challenges: occlusion



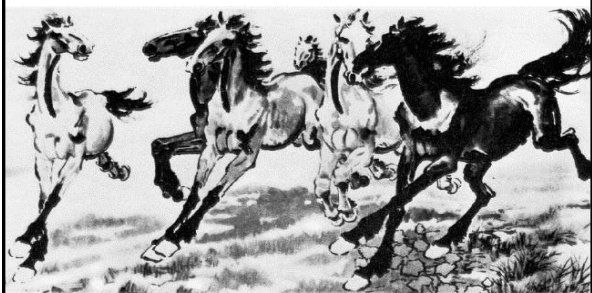
Magritte, 1957

Challenges: scale



Challenges: deformation

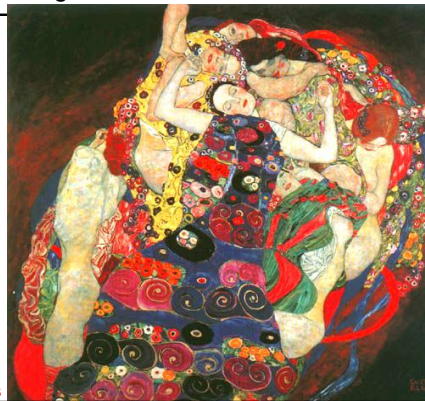
---



Xu, Beihong 1943

Challenges: background clutter

---



Klimt, 1913

Challenges: intra-class variation

---



Let's start simple

---

Today

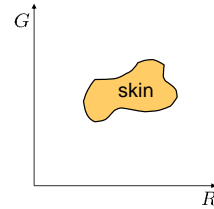
- skin detection
- face detection with adaboost

## Face detection



How to tell if a face is present?

## One simple method: skin detection



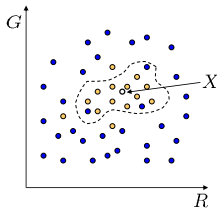
Skin pixels have a distinctive range of colors

- Corresponds to region(s) in RGB color space
  - for visualization, only R and G components are shown above

Skin classifier

- A pixel  $X = (R,G,B)$  is skin if it is in the skin region
- But how to find this region?

## Skin detection



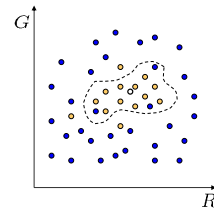
**Learn** the skin region from examples

- Manually label pixels in one or more "training images" as skin or not skin
- Plot the training data in RGB space
  - skin pixels shown in orange, non-skin pixels shown in blue
  - some skin pixels may be outside the region, non-skin pixels inside. Why?

Skin classifier

- Given  $X = (R,G,B)$ : how to determine if it is skin or not?

## Skin classification techniques



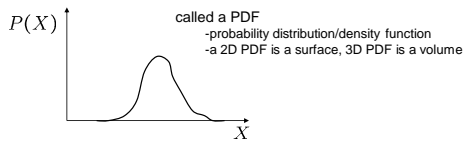
Skin classifier

- Given  $X = (R,G,B)$ : how to determine if it is skin or not?
- Nearest neighbor
  - find labeled pixel closest to  $X$
  - choose the label for that pixel
- Data modeling
  - fit a model (curve, surface, or volume) to each class
- Probabilistic data modeling
  - fit a probability model to each class

## Probability

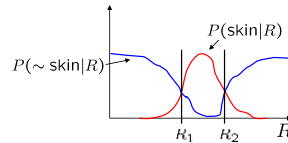
### Basic probability

- X is a random variable
- P(X) is the probability that X achieves a certain value



- $0 \leq P(X) \leq 1$
- $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} P(X)dX = 1$  or  $\sum P(X) = 1$   
 continuous X                      discrete X
- Conditional probability:  $P(X | Y)$   
 - probability of X given that we already know Y

## Probabilistic skin classification



### Now we can model uncertainty

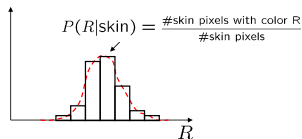
- Each pixel has a probability of being skin or not skin  
 -  $P(\sim \text{skin}|R) = 1 - P(\text{skin}|R)$

### Skin classifier

- Given  $X = (R, G, B)$ : how to determine if it is skin or not?
- Choose interpretation of highest probability  
 - set X to be a skin pixel if and only if  $R_1 < X \leq R_2$

Where do we get  $P(\text{skin}|R)$  and  $P(\sim \text{skin}|R)$  ?

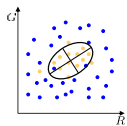
## Learning conditional PDF's



### We can calculate P(R | skin) from a set of training images

- It is simply a histogram over the pixels in the training images  
 - each bin  $R_i$  contains the proportion of skin pixels with color  $R_i$

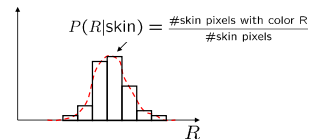
This doesn't work as well in higher-dimensional spaces. Why not?



### Approach: fit parametric PDF functions

- common choice is rotated Gaussian
  - center  $c = \bar{X}$
  - covariance  $\sum_X (X - \bar{X})(X - \bar{X})^T$
- » orientation, size defined by eigenvecs, eigenvals

## Learning conditional PDF's



### We can calculate P(R | skin) from a set of training images

- It is simply a histogram over the pixels in the training images  
 - each bin  $R_i$  contains the proportion of skin pixels with color  $R_i$

But this isn't quite what we want

- Why not? How to determine if a pixel is skin?
- We want  $P(\text{skin} | R)$  not  $P(R | \text{skin})$
- How can we get it?

## Bayes rule

$$P(X|Y) = \frac{P(Y|X)P(X)}{P(Y)}$$

In terms of our problem:

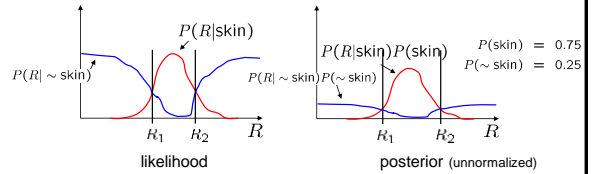
$$P(\text{skin}|R) = \frac{P(R|\text{skin}) P(\text{skin})}{P(R)}$$

$P(R) = P(R|\text{skin})P(\text{skin}) + P(R|\sim \text{skin})P(\sim \text{skin})$

The prior:  $P(\text{skin})$

- Could use domain knowledge
  - $P(\text{skin})$  may be larger if we know the image contains a person
  - for a portrait,  $P(\text{skin})$  may be higher for pixels in the center
- Could learn the prior from the training set. How?
  - $P(\text{skin})$  may be proportion of skin pixels in training set

## Bayesian estimation



Bayesian estimation = minimize probability of misclassification

- Goal is to choose the label (skin or ~skin) that maximizes the posterior
  - this is called **Maximum A Posteriori (MAP) estimation**
- Suppose the prior is uniform:  $P(\text{skin}) = P(\sim \text{skin}) = 0.5$ 
  - in this case  $P(\text{skin}|R) = cP(R|\text{skin})$ ,  $P(\sim \text{skin}|R) = cP(R|\sim \text{skin})$
  - maximizing the posterior is equivalent to maximizing the likelihood
    - »  $P(\text{skin}|R) > P(\sim \text{skin}|R)$  if and only if  $P(R|\text{skin}) > P(R|\sim \text{skin})$
  - this is called **Maximum Likelihood (ML) estimation**

## Skin detection results

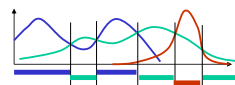


Figure 25.3. The figure shows a variety of images together with the output of the skin detector of Jones and Bobg applied to the image. Pixels marked black are skin pixels, and white are background. Notice that this process is relatively effective, and could certainly be used to focus attention on, say, faces and hands. Figure from "Statistical color models with application to skin detection," M.J. Jones and J. Bobg, Proc. Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition, 1999 © 1999, IEEE

## General classification

This same procedure applies in more general circumstances

- More than two classes
- More than one dimension



Example: face detection

- Here, X is an image region
  - dimension = # pixels
  - each face can be thought of as a point in a high dimensional space



H. Schneiderman, T. Kanade, "A Statistical Method for 3D Object Detection Applied to Faces and Cars", IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR 2000) <http://www-2.cs.cmu.edu/ah/cs.cmu.edu/user/btw/www/CVPR00.pdf>

H. Schneiderman and T.Kanade



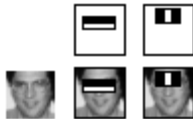
## Issues: metrics

What's the best way to compare images?

- need to define appropriate features
- depends on goal of recognition task



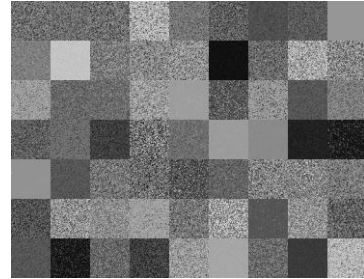
**exact matching**  
complex features work well  
(SIFT, MOPS, etc.)



**classification/detection**  
simple features work well  
(Viola/Jones, etc.)

## Issues: metrics

What do you see?



## Issues: metrics

What do you see?



## Metrics

Lots more feature types that we haven't mentioned

- moments, statistics
  - metrics: Earth mover's distance, ...
- edges, curves
  - metrics: Hausdorff, shape context, ...
- 3D: surfaces, spin images
  - metrics: chamfer (ICP)
- ...

We'll discuss more in Part 2

## Issues: feature selection



If all you have is one image:  
non-maximum suppression, etc.



If you have a training set of images:  
AdaBoost, etc.

## Issues: data modeling

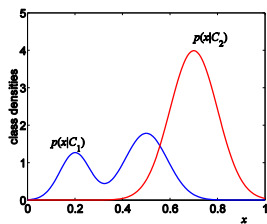
### Generative methods

- model the "shape" of each class
  - histograms, PCA, mixtures of Gaussians
  - graphical models (HMM's, belief networks, etc.)
  - ...

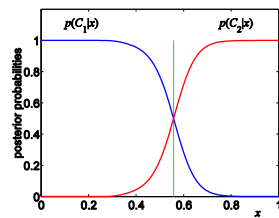
### Discriminative methods

- model boundaries between classes
  - perceptrons, neural networks
  - support vector machines (SVM's)

## Generative vs. Discriminative



**Generative Approach**  
model individual classes, priors



**Discriminative Approach**  
model posterior directly

from Chris Bishop

## Issues: dimensionality

### What if your space isn't flat?

- PCA may not help



**Nonlinear methods**  
LLE, MDS, etc.

## Issues: speed

- Case study: Viola Jones face detector
- Next few slides adapted Grauman & Liebe's tutorial
- <http://www.vision.ee.ethz.ch/~bleibe/teaching/tutorial-aaai08/>
- Also see Paul Viola's talk (video)
- <http://www.cs.washington.edu/education/courses/577/04sp/contents.htm#DM>

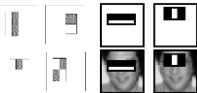
## Face detection

Where are the faces? Not who they are, that's recognition or identification.



## Feature extraction

"Rectangular" filters



Feature output is difference between adjacent regions

Efficiently computable with integral image: any sum can be computed in constant time

Avoid scaling images scale features directly for same cost

Visual Object Recognition Tutorial

Viola & Jones, CVPR 2001

K. Grauman, B. Leibe

43

## Sums of rectangular regions

How do we compute the sum of the pixels in the red box?

After some pre-computation, this can be done in constant time for any box.

100	239	240	225	206	185	188	218	211	206	216	225
242	236	218	110	67	31	34	152	213	206	208	211
243	242	123	58	94	82	132	77	158	206	208	215
235	217	115	212	243	236	247	158	91	209	208	213
233	208	216	222	202	226	195	114	71	209	213	214
232	217	115	116	77	550	69	56	52	201	218	213
232	212	182	186	184	179	159	121	93	212	215	215
232	236	201	154	236	133	129	81	135	212	241	240
235	238	230	238	172	138	65	63	236	249	241	245
237	236	247	243	159	78	10	94	235	248	247	215
234	237	245	243	155	33	115	144	231	251	251	211
248	245	163	228	149	109	138	65	47	156	239	255
100	103	10	102	94	71	119	16	17	7	11	117
71	92	13	148	168	203	179	43	27	17	12	8
17	26	12	160	255	255	109	22	26	19	16	24

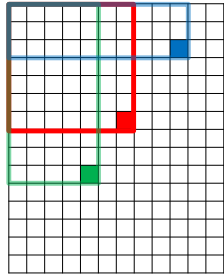
This "trick" is commonly used for computing Haar wavelets (a fundamental building block of many object recognition approaches.)

### Sums of rectangular regions

The trick is to compute an "integral image." Every pixel is the sum of its neighbors to the upper left.

Sequentially compute using:

$$I(x, y) = I(x, y) + I(x - 1, y) + I(x, y - 1) - I(x - 1, y - 1)$$

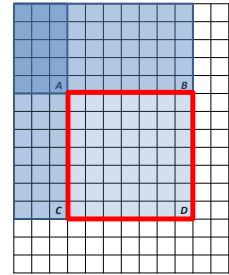


### Sums of rectangular regions

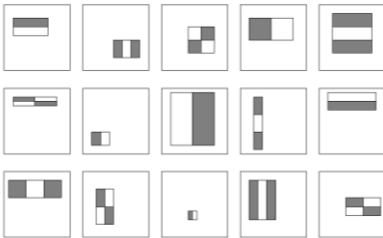
Solution is found using:

$$A + D - B - C$$

What if the position of the box lies between pixels?



### Large library of filters



Considering all possible filter parameters: position, scale, and type: 180,000+ possible features associated with each 24 x 24 window

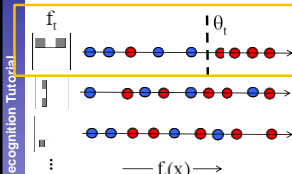
Use AdaBoost both to select the informative features and to form the classifier

Viola & Jones, CVPR 2001

K. Grauman, B. Leibe

### AdaBoost for feature+classifier selection

- Want to select the single rectangle feature and threshold that best separates positive (faces) and negative (non-faces) training examples, in terms of weighted error.



Resulting weak classifier:

$$h_t(x) = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{if } f_t(x) > \theta_t \\ -1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

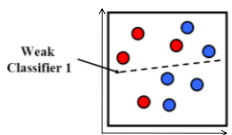
For next round, reweight the examples according to errors, choose another filter/threshold combo.

Viola & Jones, CVPR 2001

K. Grauman, B. Leibe

Visual Object Recognition Tutorial

## AdaBoost: Intuition



Consider a 2-d feature space with **positive** and **negative** examples.

Each weak classifier splits the training examples with at least 50% accuracy.

Examples misclassified by a previous weak learner are given more emphasis at future rounds.

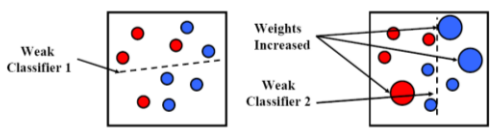
Figure adapted from Freund and Schapire

K. Grauman, B. Leibe

49

Visual Object Recognition Tutorial

## AdaBoost: Intuition



Weak Classifier 1

Weights Increased

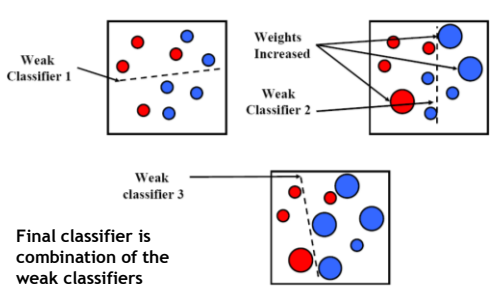
Weak Classifier 2

K. Grauman, B. Leibe

50

Visual Object Recognition Tutorial

## AdaBoost: Intuition



Weak Classifier 1

Weights Increased

Weak Classifier 2

Weak classifier 3

Final classifier is combination of the weak classifiers

K. Grauman, B. Leibe

51

Visual Object Recognition Tutorial

- The final strong classifier is:
 
$$h(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \sum_{t=1}^T \alpha_t h_t(x) \geq \frac{1}{2} \sum_{t=1}^T \alpha_t \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
 where  $\alpha_t = \log \frac{1}{\beta_t}$

Final classifier is combination of the weak ones, weighted according to error they had.


K. Grauman, B. Leibe

52

### AdaBoost Algorithm

- Given example images  $(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$  where  $y_i = 0, 1$  for negative and positive examples respectively.
- Initialize weights  $w_{1,i} = \frac{1}{2m}, \frac{1}{2l}$  for  $y_i = 0, 1$  respectively, where  $m$  and  $l$  are the number of negatives and positives respectively.
- For  $t = 1, \dots, T$ :
  - Normalize the weights,
 
$$w_{t,i} \leftarrow \frac{w_{t,i}}{\sum_{j=1}^n w_{t,j}}$$
 so that  $w_t$  is a probability distribution.
  - For each feature,  $j$ , train a classifier  $h_j$  which is restricted to using a single feature. The error is evaluated with respect to  $w_t$ ,  $\epsilon_j = \sum_i w_i |h_j(x_i) - y_i|$ .
  - Choose the classifier,  $h_t$ , with the lowest error  $\epsilon_t$ .
  - Update the weights:
 
$$w_{t+1,i} = w_{t,i} \beta_t^{1-\epsilon_i}$$
 where  $\epsilon_i = 0$  if example  $x_i$  is classified correctly,  $\epsilon_i = 1$  otherwise, and  $\beta_t = \frac{e^{-\epsilon_t}}{1 - e^{-\epsilon_t}}$ .

Start with uniform weights on training examples



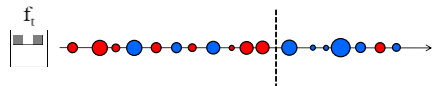
For T rounds

Find the best threshold and polarity for each feature, and return error.

Re-weight the examples: Incorrectly classified -> more weight  
Correctly classified -> less weight

### Picking the best classifier

Efficient single pass approach:



At each sample compute:

$$\mathcal{E} = \min ( S + (T - S), S + (T - S) )$$

Find the minimum value of  $\mathcal{E}$ , and use the value of the corresponding sample as the threshold.

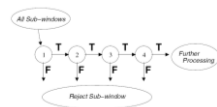
S = sum of samples below the current sample  
T = total sum of all samples

K. Grauman, B. Leibe

### Cascading classifiers for detection

For efficiency, apply less accurate but faster classifiers first to immediately discard windows that clearly appear to be negative; e.g.,

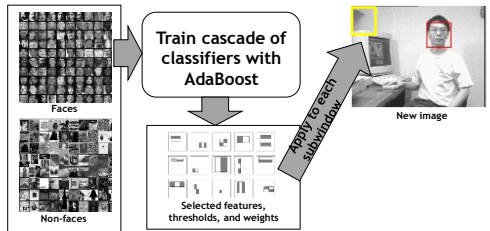
- Filter for promising regions with an initial inexpensive classifier
- Build a chain of classifiers, choosing cheap ones with low false negative rates early in the chain



Fleuret & Geman, IJCV 2001  
Rowley et al., PAMI 1998  
Viola & Jones, CVPR 2001

K. Grauman, B. Leibe      Figure from Viola & Jones CVPR 2001

### Viola-Jones Face Detector: Summary



- Train with 5K positives, 350M negatives
- Real-time detector using 38 layer cascade
- 6061 features in final layer
- [Implementation available in OpenCV: <http://www.intel.com/technology/computing/opencv/>]

K. Grauman, B. Leibe

Visual Object Recognition Tutorial

### Non-maximal suppression (NMS)



Many detections above threshold.

57

Visual Object Recognition Tutorial

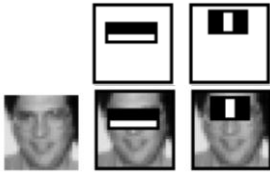
### Non-maximal suppression (NMS)



58

Visual Object Recognition Tutorial

### Viola-Jones Face Detector: Results

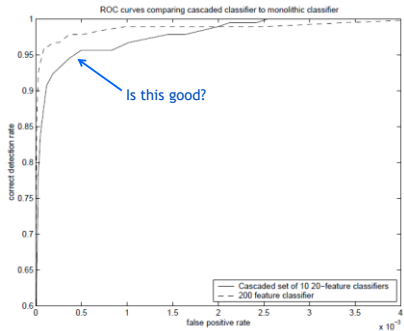


First two features selected

K. Grauman, B. Leibe

59

Visual Object Recognition Tutorial



ROC curves comparing cascaded classifier to monolithic classifier

Is this good?

Similar accuracy, but 10x faster

60

Visual Object Recognition Tutorial

### Viola-Jones Face Detector: Results

K. Grauman, B. Leibe

Visual Object Recognition Tutorial

### Viola-Jones Face Detector: Results

K. Grauman, B. Leibe

Visual Object Recognition Tutorial

### Viola-Jones Face Detector: Results

K. Grauman, B. Leibe

Visual Object Recognition Tutorial

### Detecting profile faces?

Detecting profile faces requires training separate detector with profile examples.

K. Grauman, B. Leibe



## Viola-Jones Face Detector: Results



K. Grauman, B. Leibe

[http://www.pittpatt.com/face\\_tracking/](http://www.pittpatt.com/face_tracking/)

K. Grauman, B. Leibe

66