

# Video Segmentation

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Wednesday 9 Nov 2006



# overview

- scene change detection
  - spatial-temporal change detection
  - motion segmentation (optical flow)
  - clustering in motion parameter space*
    - (k-means test)*
  - semantic video object segmentation
  - chroma-keying



# scene change detection

- frame difference between k-th frame and reference frame at pixel location  $\mathbf{x}$ :

$$FD_{k,r}[\mathbf{x}] = I_k[\mathbf{x}] - I_r[\mathbf{x}]$$

Thresholded by  $T$ , segmentation label on each pixel

$$z_{k,r}[\mathbf{x}] = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } |FD_{k,r}[\mathbf{x}]| > T \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Problems:

- a uniform intensity region may be interpreted as stationary
- FD is affected by spatial gradient in the direction of motion



# Gaussian pyramid

- Multi-resolution representation of image
  1. Original (highest resolution) image at bottom level
  2. Lowpass filter (e.g. Gaussian filter)
  3. Subsample by factor 2
  4. Place result in second level



# Change Detection v. 0.2

- 1. Gaussian pyramid, start at lowest resolution.
- 2. Compute at each pixel, normalized frame difference:

$$FDN_{k,r}[\mathbf{x}] = \frac{\sum_{x \in \mathcal{N}} |I_k[\mathbf{x}] - I_r[\mathbf{x}]| |\nabla I_r[\mathbf{x}]|}{\sum_{x \in \mathcal{N}} |\nabla I_r[\mathbf{x}]|^2 + c}$$

where  $\mathcal{N}$  is a local neighborhood of  $\mathbf{x}$ ,  
gradient of image,  $c$  is fudge addend to avoid divide by 0.

- 3. If FDN is high (pixel is moving), then replace FDN from previous level with this one, else retain lower res value.
- 4. Repeat 2-3 for all resolution levels.



# temporal integration I

- Warp map  $W[A,B]$ : warp image A toward B using motion model parameters estimated between A and B.

Compute internal representation image:

$$(*) \quad \bar{I}_k[\mathbf{x}] = (1 - \alpha)I_k[\mathbf{x}] + \alpha W[\bar{I}_{k-1}[\mathbf{x}], I_k[\mathbf{x}]] \quad 0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$$

Result: unchanged regions retain sharpness (less noise), changed regions blur



# temporal integration 2

- 1. Compute motion parameters between internal representation  $\bar{I}_k[\mathbf{x}]$  and new frame  $I_k[\mathbf{x}]$  within support  $M_{k-1}$  of dominant object in previous frame.
- 2. Warp internal representation image at frame k-1 towards new frame.
- 3. Detect stationary regions between registered images, using  $M_{k-1}$  as initial estimate to compute new mask  $M_k$ .
- 4. Update internal representation using (\*)

$$\bar{I}_k[\mathbf{x}] = (1 - \alpha)I_k[\mathbf{x}] + \alpha W[\bar{I}_{k-1}[\mathbf{x}], I_k[\mathbf{x}]]$$

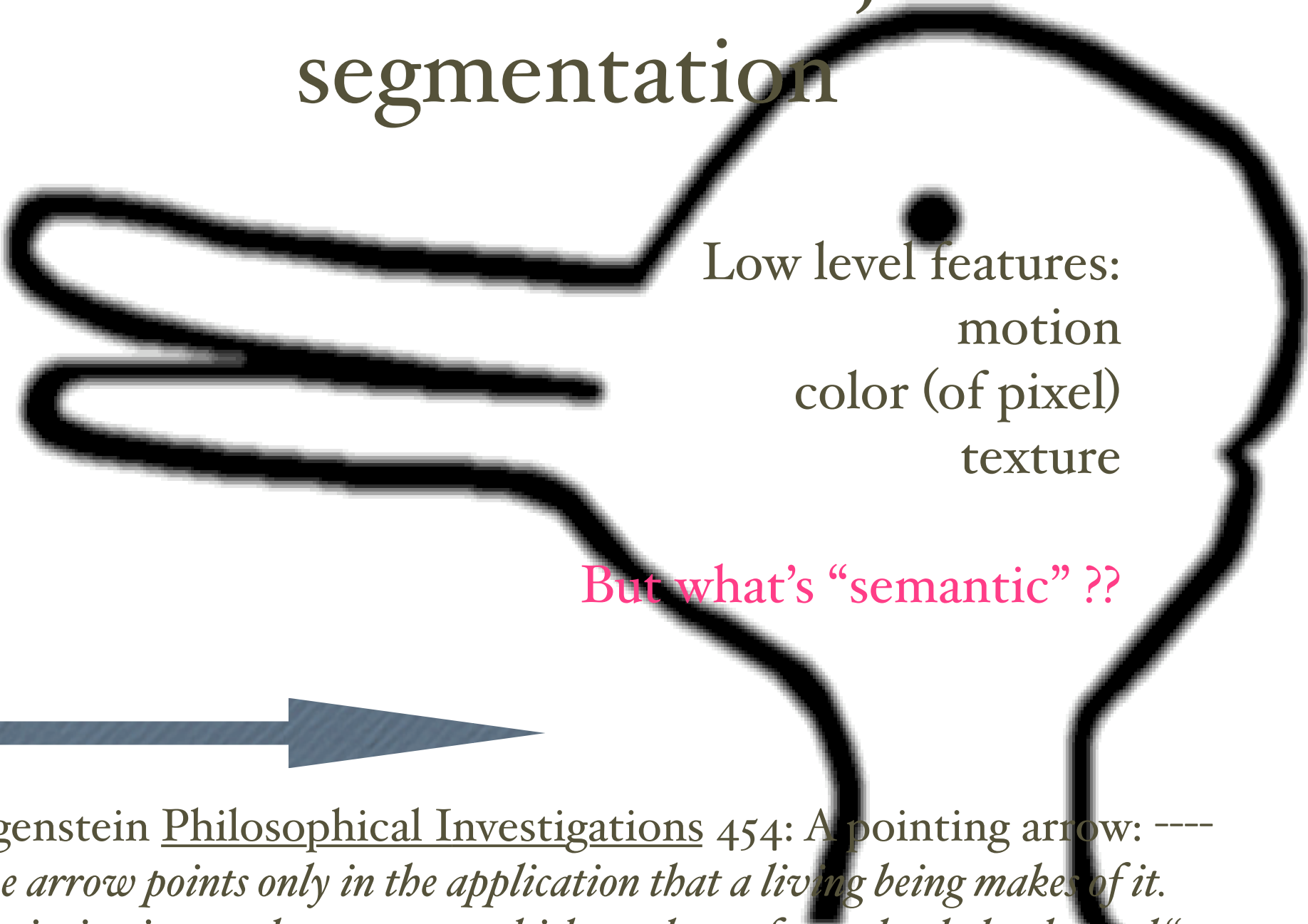


# temporal integration 3

- Advantages:  
Comparing each frame with internal representation -- weighted by motion warp -- rather than previous frame, tracks (dominant) moving object.
  - noise in tracked object is lower &
  - image gradients elsewhere are blurred (lower)



# semantic video object segmentation



Low level features:  
motion  
color (of pixel)  
texture

But what's "semantic" ??



Wittgenstein Philosophical Investigations 454: A pointing arrow: ----  
> *"The arrow points only in the application that a living being makes of it.  
This pointing is not a hocus-pocus which can be performed only by the soul."*



# examples

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chroma-keying

cv.jit.mean

blob tracking

quennesson's conscious=camera



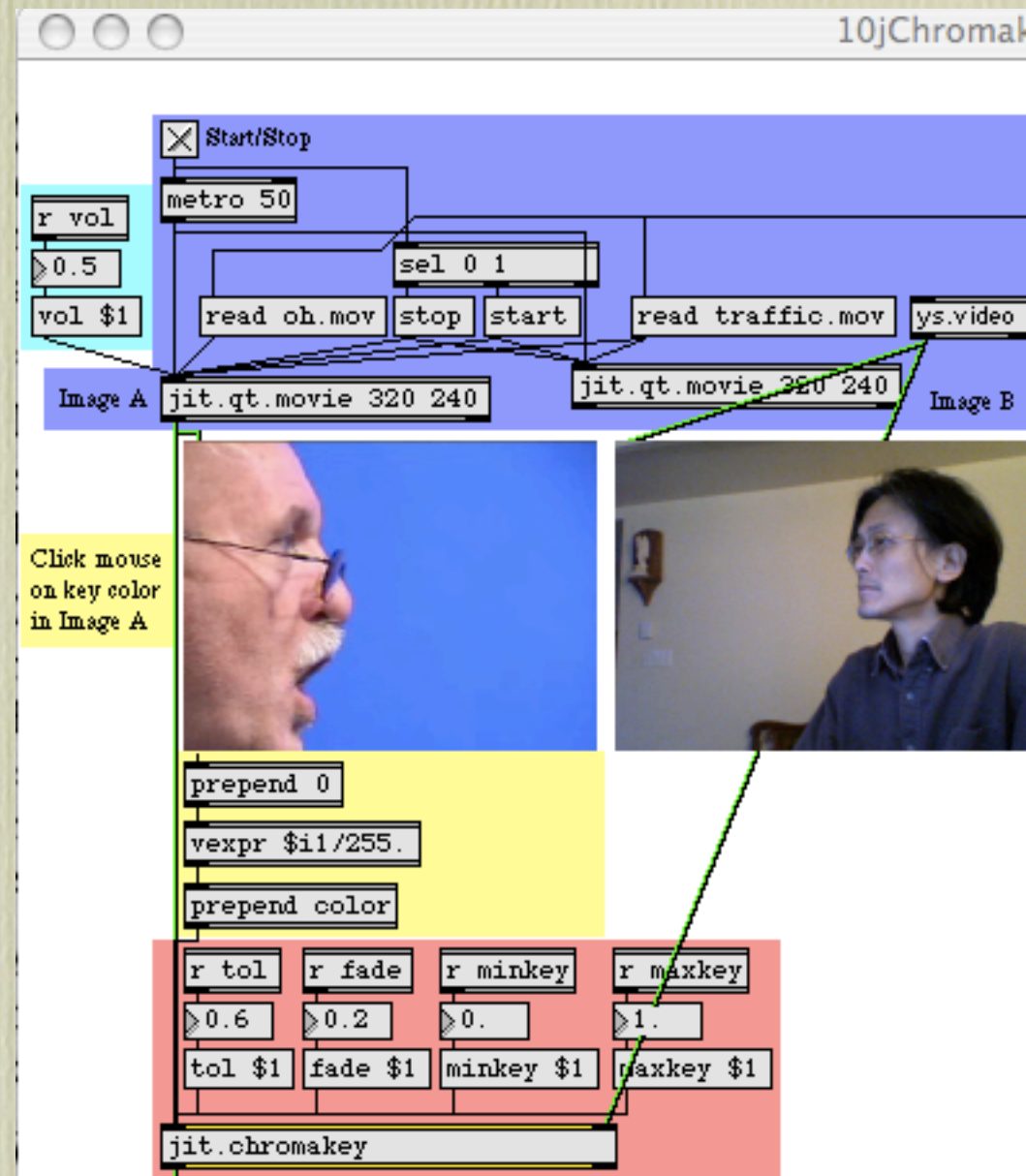
# averaging over time

- cv.jit.mean



# chroma-keying

- 10jChromakey-x.pat





# blob tracking

- cv.jit.label  
cv.jit.blobs.bounds  
cv.jit.blobs.centroids  
cv.jit.blobs.direcition  
cv.jit.blobs.elongation  
cv.jit.blobs.moments  
cv.jit.blobs.orientation  
cv.jit.blobs.recon



# kevin quennesson

QuickTime™ and a  
MPEG-4 Video decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.

initial test

QuickTime™ and a  
MPEG-4 Video decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.

hands

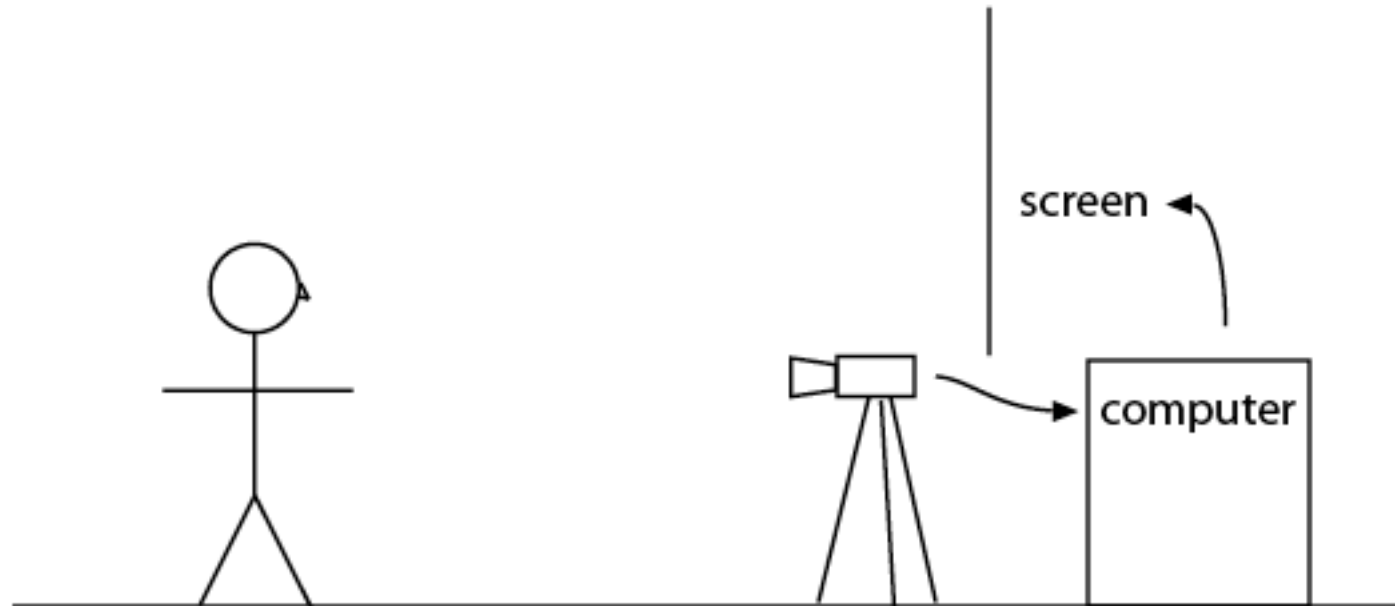


# conscious=camera



SIGGRAPH2005

- Interactive video installation





# Consciousness of “things”

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SIGGRAPH2005

- Static moments: shows face and hands
- Movement: shows body
- Motion: shows trail
- Memory: marks remain on background





SIGGRAPH2005

# Body-tracking technique

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- Inspired from Pfinder
  - Blob tracking (of face and hands) in YUV space
  - Difference: we use skin tone database
- Technologies used
  - **Platform:** MAC OS X Tiger
  - **Code:** C, Objective-C (Cocoa framework).
  - **Graphics:** vImage (CPU, altivec), Core Image (GPU).
  - **Other:** Core Data, ...



# Implications

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- Different work for the programmer
  - Does not know where he is going initially
- Different work for the “creator”
  - Design a function, not an fixed output  
(ie. not  $y$  in  $f(x)=y$ , but  $f$ )
- Different relation of users with the piece
  - What kind of consciousness does the users have of it?
  - What kind of narrative is generated?



QuickTime™ and a  
MPEG-4 Video decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.