New Methods of Image Search

Kai Uwe Barthel

HTW Berlin, University of Applied Sciences visual-computing.com

pixolution.org





Hochschule für Technik und Wirtschaft Berlin

University of Applied Sciences

Summary

- History and status quo of image search
- Machine learning, Deep learning AI, Convolutional networks, ... started a new era of image search:
 - Automatic tagging
 - New image descriptors
 - New image exploration tools
 - New image manipulation tools & image synthesis

Image Search: Status Quo & Previous Approaches

There are too many images

- Constantly growing number of images
- Image search is very time consuming
- Only few images can be looked at simultaneously
- No visual browsing schemes are available



Only few images can be looked at at once



Image search as we know it ...

Keyword search



Keyword search

- Good keywording is expensive, keywords often are incomplete, overloaded or wrongly translated
- Exact keyword matching leads to finding everything or nothing

meadow

826,951 results:



meadow blue sky apple tree clouds flowers family

3 results:



Low-Level Content based Image Search

- Search for images with similar colors, textures or shapes
- Finds similar looking images.
- Does not understand the meaning of the images.

 Cannot find similar images that look different















Problem of low-level visual search



Visually similar images, content may be different

"More like this" keyword search

Query:

Result:

america amazon animal beak bird brazil era eye feather fuss parrot portrait yellow ...

(all keywords of the query image)



Similar image content, large appearance variations

Fusing visual and keyword search



+ Visually similar images and+ Similar content



Needs for finding images more easily

- 1. Most images are untagged
- → need for automatic image understanding
- 2. There are far too many images
- → need for visual image browsing schemes

Automatic image understanding using AI, ML, Deep Learning

XKCD September 2014



IN CS, IT CAN BE HARD TO EXPLAIN THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE EASY AND THE VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE. In the 60s, Marvin Minsky assigned a couple of undergrads to spend the summer programming a computer to use a camera to identify objects in a scene.

He figured they'd have the problem solved by the end of the summer. Half a century later, we're still working on it.

Today only 2.5 years later the problem is solved









3264x2448 pixels 16x16 pixels 16x16 pixels 16,7 millions 16 brightness of colors levels



 $16^{16\times16} =$

16x16 pixels, 16 brightness levels

The number of possible images:

179 769 313 486 231 590 772 930 519 078 902 473 361 797 697 894 230 657 273 430 %081 157 732 675 805 500 963 132 708 477 322 407 536 021 120 113 879 871 393 357 %658 789 768 814 416 622 492 847 430 639 474 124 377 767 893 424 865 485 276 302 %219 601 246 094 119 453 082 952 085 005 768 838 150 682 342 462 881 473 913 110 %540 827 237 163 350 510 684 586 298 239 947 245 938 479 716 304 835 356 329 624 %224 137 216

- Easy case: Image with 2 pixels, black&white
- Possible questions: Are both pixels ...

black?	white?	different?
yes	no	no
no	no	yes
no	no	yes
no	yes	no

Neuronal Networks (NN)

- Origin in the 60s (Perceptron)
 Impossible to solve the XOR problem
- Restart in the 80s: Hidden layers & Backpropagation Not suited for image recognition
- Restart a few years ago: Today the best technology for solving all kind of problems for which humans cannot describe an algorithm

Neural Networks (NN)

... can be trained to answer these questions:

Are both pixels white?



Are both pixels different?



Idea: Use huge networks to make image recognition possible ...

Image recognition with NN



Did not work for a long time! :(

- Not enough tagged example images
- Computers were too slow
- Fully connected neural networks were hard to train

Deep Learning / Image Classification





Filters and Activations



Convolutional Neural Networks



Automatic Image Tagging

Typical ML-based keywording



Switch to Categorization demo

→ Go to NSFW demo

Upload your photo

You can upload a photo or paste a URL of an image



Note: By uploading files here you agree to have them temporarily stored in our training dataset for the sole purpose of improving Imagga's technology.

UPLOAD IMAGE

Image URL

https://s3.amazonaws.com/imagga-demo-uploads/tagging-demo/4b3a22b0e8e

Tip: You can paste any image URL here and get tags.

Include colors (Might be slower)



Generated tags	English -		
Concepts			
reel	29.80%		
equipment	21.85%		
winder	19.92%		
technology	17.73%		
mechanical device	14.95%		
business	12.18%		
metal	12.13%		
motor	11.64%		
car	11.01%		
security	10.96%		
S show me more tags			

show me more tags

Try with example images

Select one of the following images to see the results:

















Use your own images & keywords



Semi-automatic Tagging <u>akiwi.eu</u>



akiwi finds keywords for your images.

akiwi_ a keywording tool





1. Click any image that is similar to yours.

keyw

- If there are no similar images, click or enter a keyword that describes your image best.
- Continue until most keywords are correct. Then click 'Finalize'.

Ą	
Ą	car × power × electricity × electric × environment × vehicle × charging × energy × transportation × cable × automobile × battery × alternative × electric car × transport ×
Ą	Enter a new keyword +

New Image Descriptors

Image descriptors from NN



What are Neural Networks good at?

Recognition of

- Objects (type, manufacturer, ...)
- Humans (sex, age, mood, posture, ...)
- Style, Artist, Composition, ...

Everything a human (expert) could recognize in a few seconds.

If you have enough data to train the network

Global vs. local analysis



What kind of descriptors will we have?





A combination of keywords describing the image?

٥٢

A collection of features characterizing image content, style, mood & look? (language independent)

Automatic Image Description

Long-term Recurrent Convolutional Networks for Visual Recognition and Description

Jeff Donahue* Lisa Anne Hendricks* Subhashini Venugopalan† Kate Saenko‡

Sergio Guadarrama* Marcus Rohrbach** Trevor Darrell**



A female tennis player in action on the court.



A group of young men playing a game of soccer.



A man riding a wave on top of a surfboard.

Visual Image Browsing

Searching by scrolling



Image Projection using t-SNE



Google Image Swirl



Requirements for image browsing

- Image layout/projection:
 - use entire display area, no overlap
 - good mapping (similar neighbor images)
- Image sets:
 - support for millions of (untagged) images
 - allow changes (deleted or added images)
- Navigation:
 - easy & natural
 - purely visual (without keywords)
 - hierarchical approach

Our initial approach

based on the idea of mapping services



Image sorting using a fast hierarchical SOM

unsorted



sorted



complexity $O(n \log(n))$, 50 times faster than Barnes-Hut t-SNE, similar projection quality

Hierarchical image layers



picsbuffet.com @ pixabay

Q

pixabay

All images - Search images, vectors and videos



Related Images







Explore

Unsplash / 9175 images

Follow

Free Download

Like Pixabay on Facebook





Sponsored images









Evaluation of picsbuffet

- + Good visualization & easy navigation
- + Very fast (no server calculations)
- + Suited for very large image sets
- Image relationships are too complex to be mapped to 2D qraphs

improved

image

- Bad for changing image sets
- Sometimes poor neighbors

Requirements for improved image browsing

- High quality semantic image features to model image similarities well
- 2. Fast construction of "good" hierarchical image graphs
- Good graph visualization and easy to use navigation techniques

2. Graph requirements

- A. Connected images should be similar.
- B. The number of connections per image should not be too high or too low.
- C. The path between any two images should be as short as possible.
- Very hard optimization problem!
- A: ensured by good image features & graph building
- ➡ B: fixed to 4 connections
- C: simplified by checking the connectivity

2. Building the graph



Starting from a regular mesh we swap edges if

 $sim_{AX} + sim_{EY} - sim_{AE} - sim_{XY} > 0$ Finds good graphs, but convergence is slow

Better swapping, RGB color example



3. Graph display & navigation

Visualizing and navigating graphs is difficult. Layout algorithms are slow. Radial views are confusing.







3. Our approach for graph navigation

- Project fractions of the graph to a 2D map and perform instant 2D sorting
- Zooming is performed by blending to a graph of the next level





3. Graph Navigation



Moving the map retrieves new images from the graph.

Demo of Graph-based Browsing



New Image Manipulation Tools & Image Synthesis

If you do not have the image you want ...

- Render it from a 3D model
- Change an existing image
- Synthesize it

Rendered Images (IKEA)



Style Transfer <u>deepart.io</u>



Leon A. Gatys, Alexander S. Ecker, Matthias Bethge

Image Manipulation II



Jun-Yan Zhu Taesung Park

Phillip Isola Alexei A. Efros

Image Manipulation III



Image Synthesis I



redshank

volcano

monastery

Anh Nguyen, Jason Yosinski, Yoshua Bengio, Alexey Dosovitskiy, Jeff Clune

Text to Image

this small bird has a pink breast and crown, and black primaries and secondaries.

this magnificent fellow is almost all black with a red crest, and white cheek patch.



the flower has petals that are bright pinkish purple with white stigma





this white and yellow flower have thin white petals and a round yellow stamen



Scott Reed, Zeynep Akata, Xinchen Yan, Lajanugen Logeswaran, Bernt Schiele, Honglak Lee





One day we'll be talking about good old "handcrafted" films and instead the norm will be watching AI-generated (infinite) content on demand

Thank you!

Prof. Dr. Kai Uwe Barthel barthel@pixolution.de

Hochschule für Technik und Wirtschaft Berlin

University of Applied Sciences

visual-computing.com



pixolution.org