

# Learning Probabilistic Models for Visual Motion

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Ph.D. Thesis

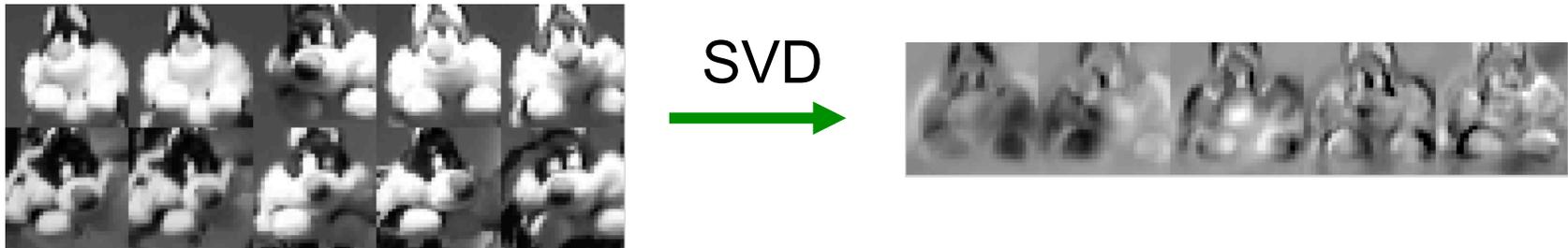
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# Learning for Motion Analysis

- State of the art: human ability is rivaled only in narrow domains, by carefully engineered systems
  - Tracking a face in video: difficulty with changes in lighting, pose, & occlusions
  - Recovering 3D pose of a human: usually requires detailed kinematic model of human body
- Manual construction limits flexibility & coverage of vision systems
- Machine learning
- Three methods: 2 address training of visual trackers, 1 analysis of non-rigid articulated motion

# 1. Incremental Learning for Visual Tracking

- Tracking requires models of appearance & dynamics
- Principal Components Analysis (PCA) aka **Eigentracking**

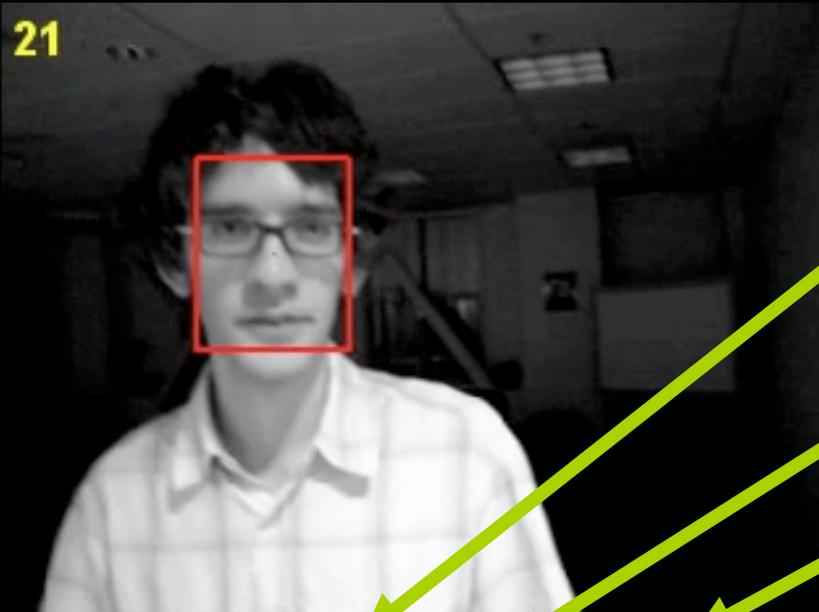


- **Drawbacks:** requires training data, can't adapt to appearance changes

# Incremental PCA

- Incrementally learn PCA model online, from appearances obtained during tracking
- Naïve batch fitting via SVD does not scale
- New algorithm for incremental updates:
  - Fast: constant time updates, constant storage
  - Exact: same result as batch update
  - Correctly updates subspace mean
  - “Forgetting Factor” places more emphasis on recent appearances, improves performance

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Selected Window

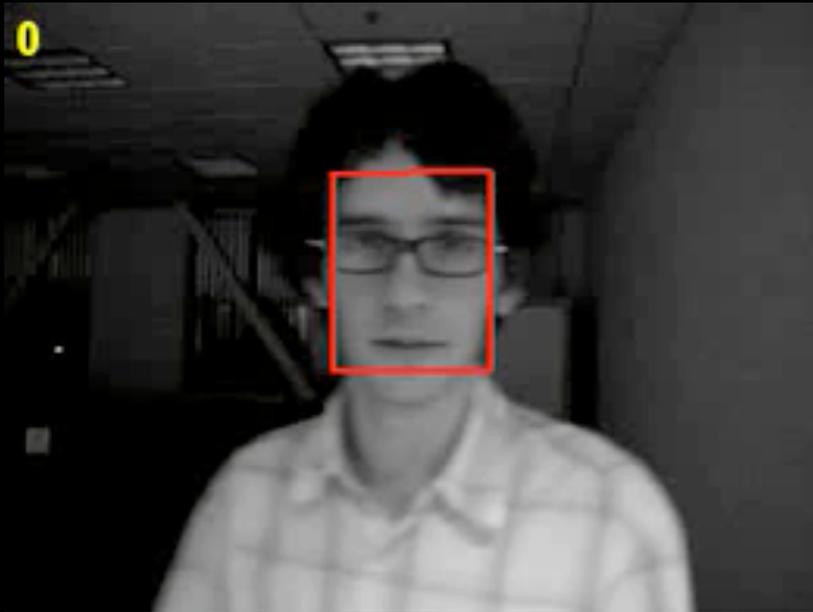
Error

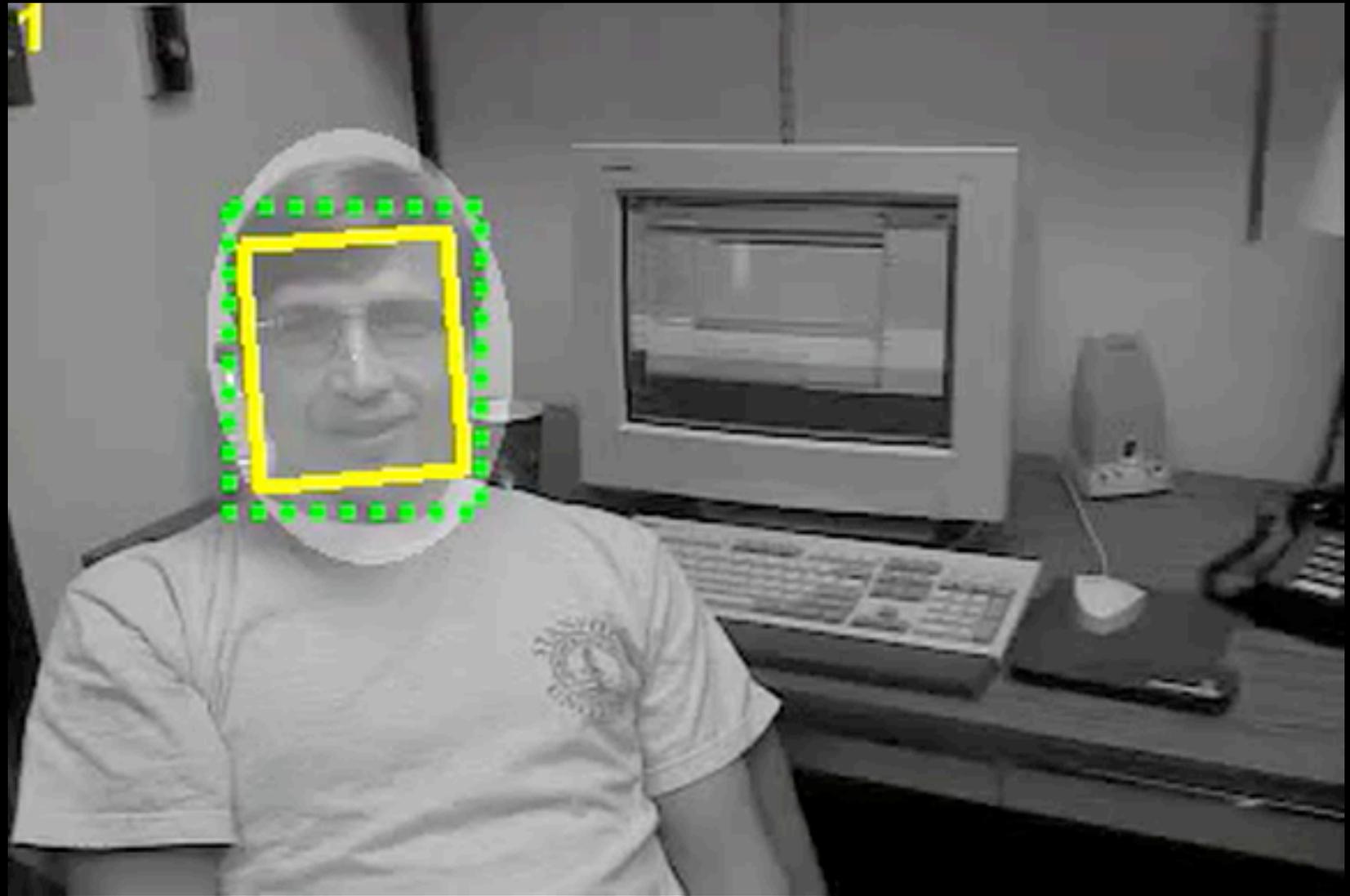
Reconstruction

Learned Mean

Learned Basis Vectors







## 2. Combining Discriminative Features

- Previously: Learn PCA  
→ not the only appearance model available
- Given a new tracking task, how to select most-appropriate appearance & dynamics models?
- **Data driven approach**: Learn selection of models + parameters from labeled video sequence.
- **Flexible Combination**: aggregate tracker more reliable than constituent models



# Discriminative Conditional Model

- Model  $\Pr(\text{state}|\text{observations})$  as a (log-linear) combination of dynamics & appearance features
- “Pile on” features
  - Include any features that might be relevant
  - Decide which are useful via learned weights
  - Switch features on and off dynamically

# Discriminative Features

- **Dynamics features:**  $f_j(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}, \mathbf{x}_t)$ 
  - How well do two states match?
  - Li near dynamical models (fly, hold, roll, bounce)
- **Observation features:**  $g_k(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{Y}, t)$ 
  - Is the target at  $x_t$ ?
  - Can include information from the **entire observation sequence**
  - PCA, templates, background subtraction
- Robustify by **switching features** on and off
  - Hidden switch variables  $u_{jt} \quad v_{kt}$

# Features & Switch Potentials

- Weighted distance between state and prediction

$$f_j(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}, \mathbf{x}_t) = -\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x}_t - \phi_j(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}))^T \boldsymbol{\alpha}_j (\mathbf{x}_t - \phi_j(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}))$$

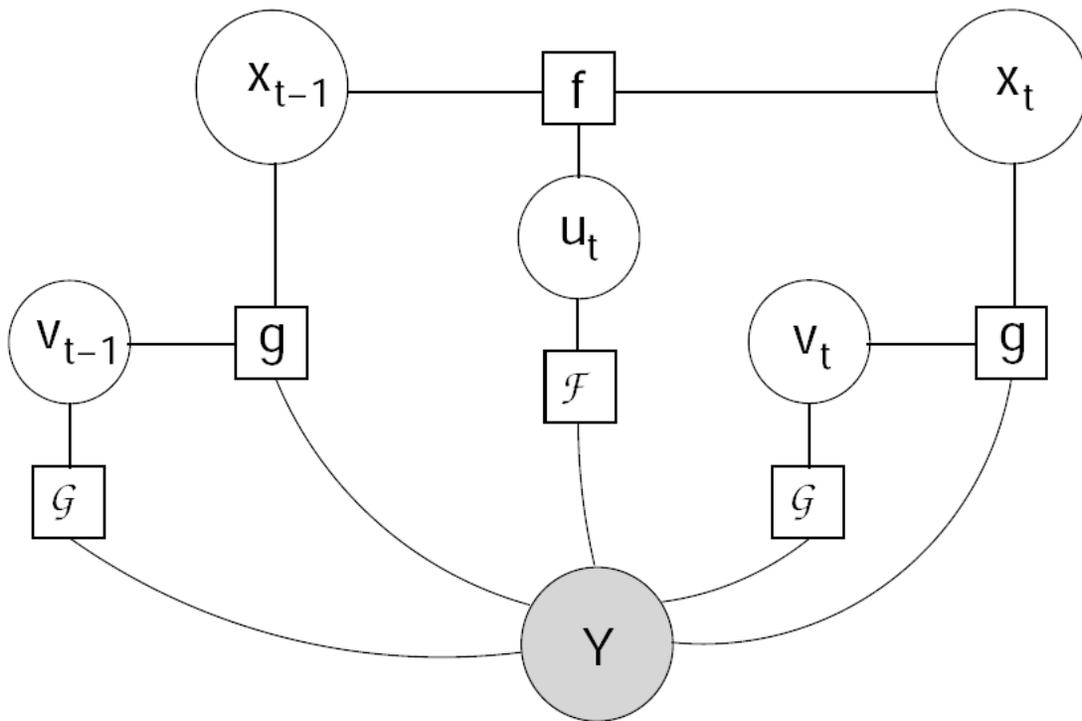
$$g_k(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{Y}) = -\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x}_t - \gamma_k(\mathbf{Y}, t))^T \boldsymbol{\beta}_k (\mathbf{x}_t - \gamma_k(\mathbf{Y}, t))$$

$$\phi_j(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}) = \mathbf{T}_j \mathbf{x}_{t-1} + \mathbf{d}_j$$

- **Switch Potentials:** extra features help decide if switches should be on or off
- Any classifier (logistic / softmax regression)

# Probability Model

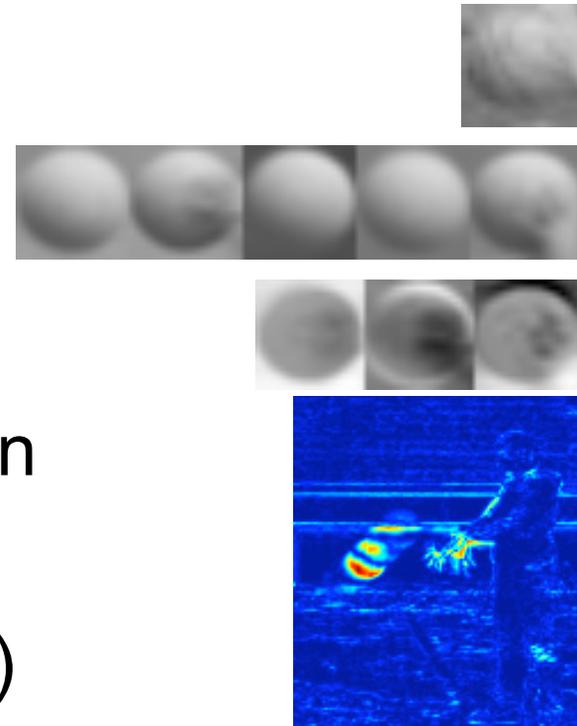
$$P(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{Y}) \propto \exp \left( \sum_{t,j} f_j(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}, \mathbf{x}_t) u_{j,t} + \sum_{t,k} g_k(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{Y}) v_{k,t} \right.$$



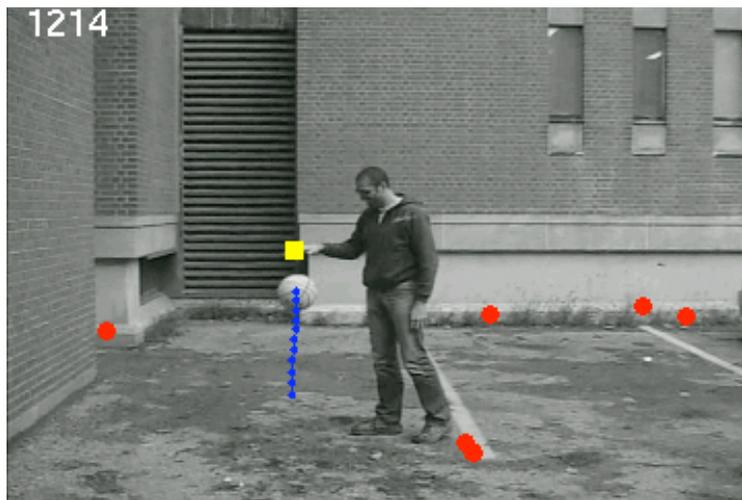
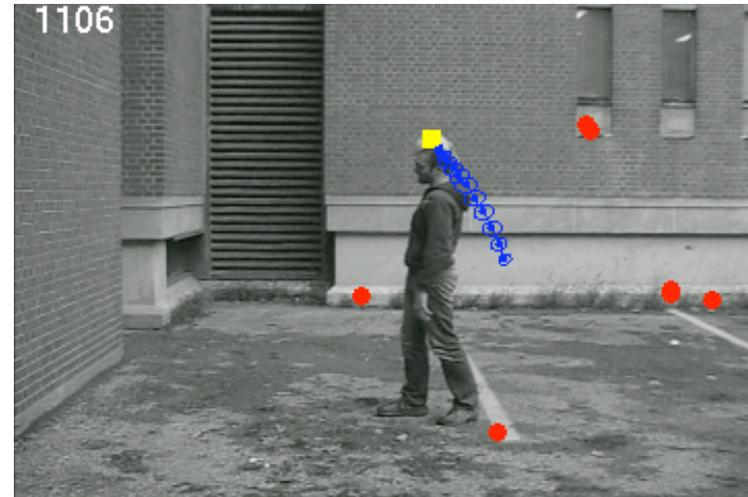
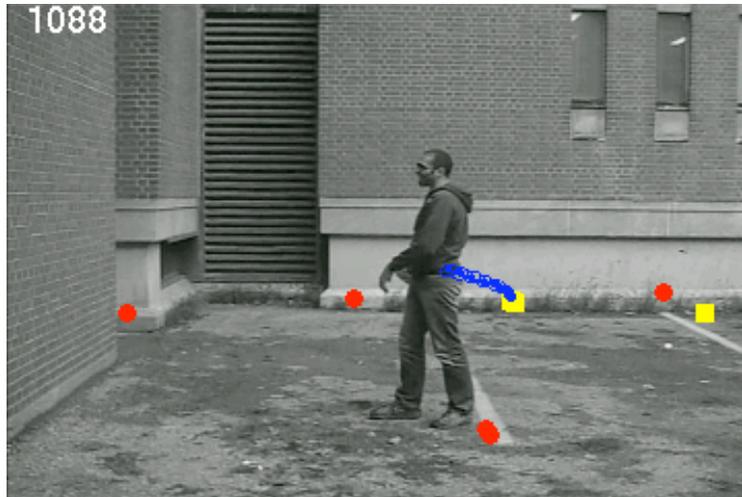
$$+ \sum_{t,j} \mathcal{F}_j(\mathbf{Y}, t) u_{j,t} + \sum_{t,k} \mathcal{G}_k(\mathbf{Y}, t) v_{k,t}$$

# Features Used

- Template from one frame
- Template from K-Means
- PCA, 3 components
- Local background subtraction
- 4 Linear dynamics (fly, hold, bounce:ground, bounce:wall)

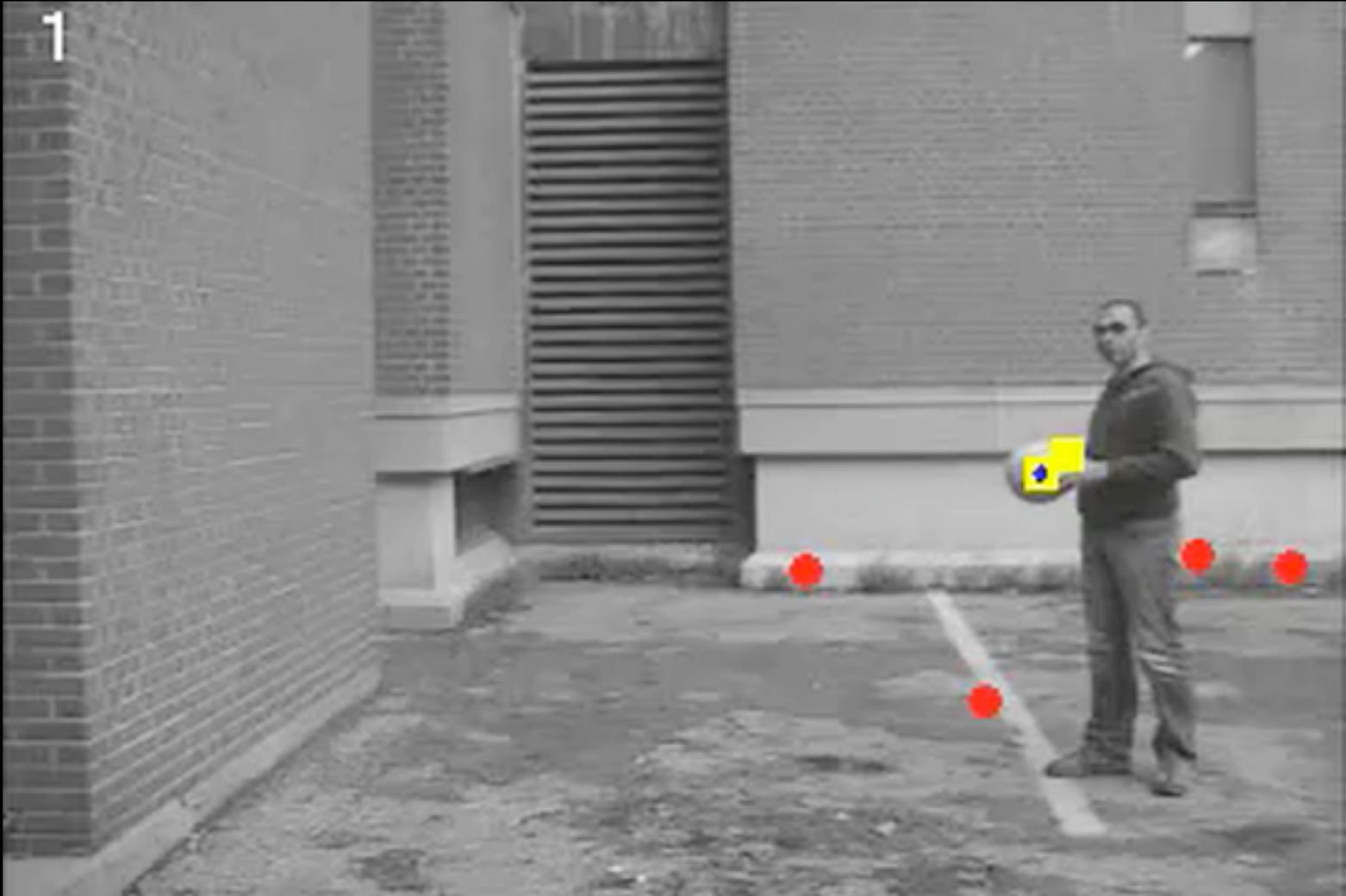


# Tracking Performance



- expected ball position (last 10 frames)
- observation features
  - switched on
  - switched off

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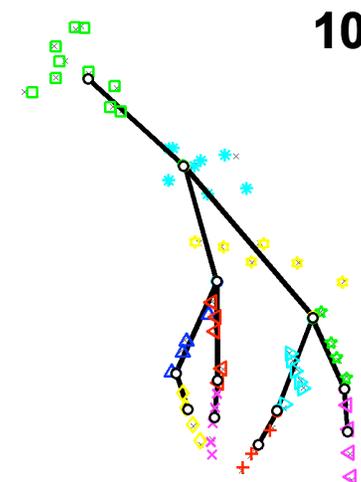


# 3. Learning Articulated Structure & Motion

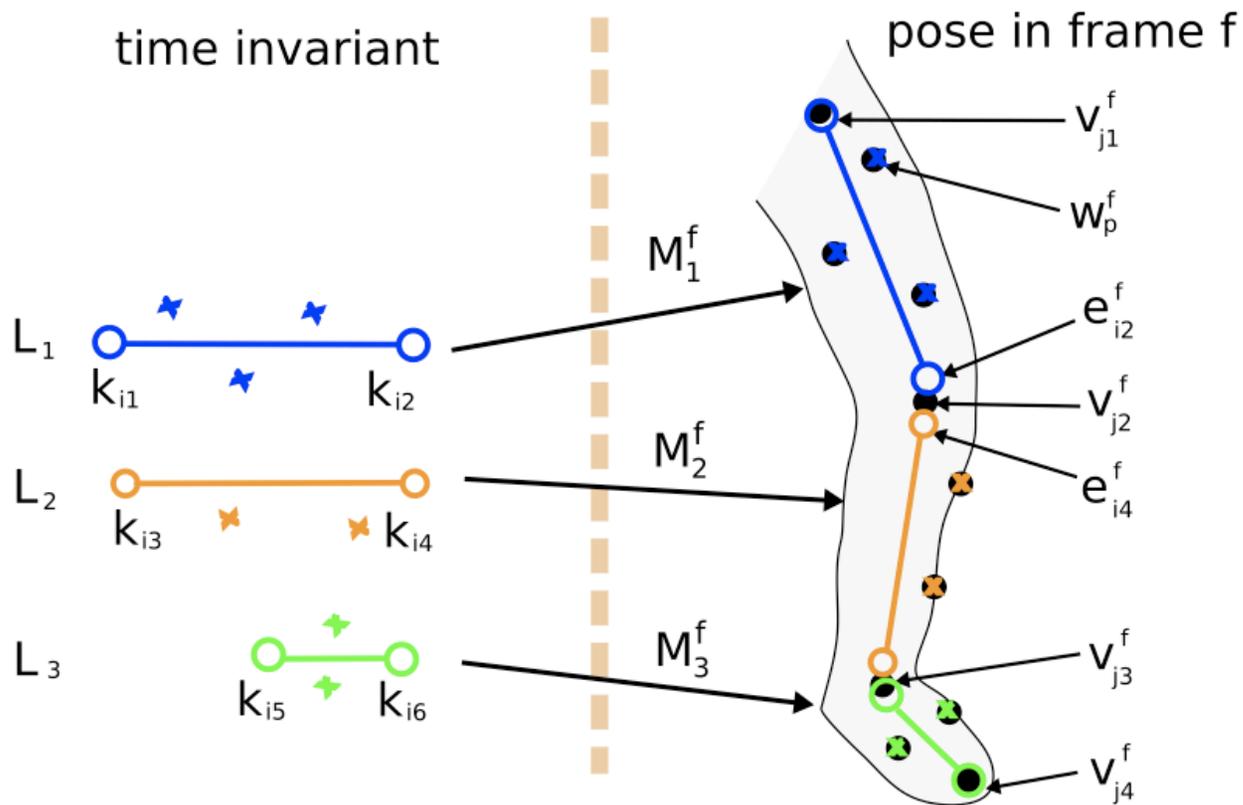
- Most interesting objects are non-rigid
- Humans better-described as articulated figures - rigid parts connected by joints
- Advantages of higher-level model
  - Infer locations of occluded body parts
  - “Joint angles” between parts better representation for describing motion
- Challenge: parsing articulated motion typically requires a detailed hand-built physical model

# Probabilistic Stick Figures

- Entirely-unsupervised recovery of **3D articulated structure** and **pose** from 2D observations
- Probabilistic model for stick figure
- Begin from fully-disconnected structure (SFM)
- Fit parameters using EM, resample segmentation
- Incrementally merge joints to greedily optimize data log-likelihood
- Model selection by locating maximum in objective function



# Probabilistic Model





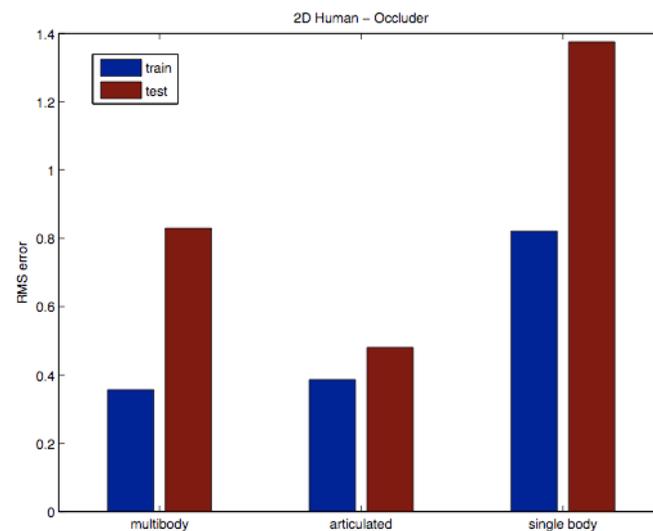
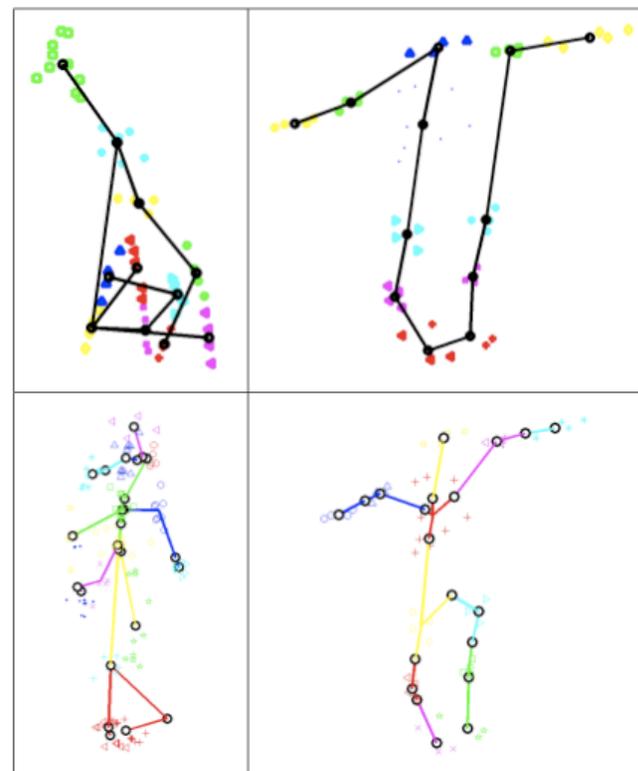
Giraffe Training Observations  
582-62



2D Human Training Observations

# Contributions

- Robustly recover 3D structure from 2D, handling structured occlusions
- An explicit objective function
- Quantitative evaluation



# Future Directions

- **Incremental Tracking**
  - Robustify to uncertainty in position & loss of track
- **Combining Discriminative Features**
  - Learn from partially-labeled data
- **Articulated Structure**
  - Integrate tracking of feature points, knowledge of structure can solve occlusions
- **Broader goals**
  - Performance that improves with amount of data and # of machines, End-to-end learning

# Acknowledgements

## Incremental Learning for Visual Tracking:

- Ming-Hsuan Yang, Jongwoo Lim, Rwei-sung Lin

## Combining Discriminative Features

- Simon Osindero, Rich Zemel

## Articulated Structure & Motion

- Danny Tarlow, Rich Zemel