

The Visual Object Tracking VOT2013 Challenge and Results

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Outline

- 1. Scope of the challenge
- 2. Evaluation system
- 3. Dataset
- 4. Performance measures
- 5. Submitted trackers
- 6. Experiments and results
- 7. Summary

Class of trackers tested

- Single-object, single-camera
- Short-term causal tracking
- Short-term:
 - Trackers performing without re-detection
- Causality:
 - Tracker is not allowed to use any future frames
- No prior knowledge about the target
 - Only a single training example BBox in the first frame
- Object state encoded by an axis-aligned bounding box



Requirements for tracker implementation

• Would like to use the data fully



• **Renitialize** once the tracker drifts from the object







Requirements for tracker implementation

- Complete reset:
 - Memoryless reinitalization resets the tracker
 - Tracker is not allowed to use any information obtained before reset, e.g., learnt dynamics, visual model.
- Trackers required to predict a single BB per frame
- Parameters may be set internally, but not by detecting a specific sequence
 - Verified for the top-performing trackers
- A change of parameters was not considered a different tracker

VOT2013 EVALUATION SYSTEM

VOT2013 Challenge

Evaluation system requirements

- Require an evaluation system that automatically performs a battery of experiments
 - Large number of experiments possible
 - Minimize human error
 - Consistency of the results

- Requirements
 - Must support multiple platforms
 - Tracker integration not too difficult
 - Must allow reinitialization

Evaluation systems

- ODViS [Jaynes et al., 2002], VIVID [Collins et al., 2005], ViPER [Doermann and Mihalcik 2000]
 - Cannot simply modify for reinitialization
- "Large benchmark experiment" [Wu et al. CVPR2013]
 - No standardised input-output
 - Integration not straightforward
- Metaanalysis Evaluation by collecting results from existing publications [Pang et al. ICCV2013]
 - Different approach
 - Not appropriate for recently published trackers

VOT2013 Challenge evaluation kit

- Evaluation kit download from VOT2013 homepage
- Integration effort minimum



- Runs in Matlab/Octave (multiple platforms)
- Runs the executable (comunication via input parameters)
 - multiple programming languages

VOT2013 Challenge evaluation kit

- Pass a sequence + intial BB to tracker (tracks till the end)
- Inspect the output, detect first failure reinitialize from frame $t + \Delta$



VOT2013 DATASET

VOT2013 Challenge

Dataset: Diverse, not necessarily large

- Lots of datasets: PETS [Young and Ferryman 2005], CAVIAR¹, i-LIDS², ETISEO³, CVBASE⁴, FERET [Phillips et al., 2000], ALOV [Smeulders et al., 2013]
- Diversity in attributes
 - illumination change,
 - dynamic background, object motion, occlusion, etc.
 - camera motion
 - compression artefacts, camera gain, etc.

¹ http://homepages.inf.ed.ac.uk/rbf/CAVIARDATA1

² http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/science-research/hosdb/i-lids

³ http://www-sop.inria.fr/orion/ETISEO

⁴ http://vision.fe.uni-lj.si/cvbase06/

Dataset construction

- Approach:
 - Include various attributes
 - Keep number of sequences low (Time for performing experiments)
- Initially collected a pool of ~60 sequences commonly used in the community



VOT2013 dataset

- Attributes were estimated automatically
 - estimators based on ad hoc heuristics
 - sufficient for sequence selection

The attributes:

- 1. Illumination change (difference of min/max FG intensity)
- 2. Size change (average of sequential BB size difference)
- 3. Motion (average of sequential BB center difference)
- 4. Clutter (FG/BG color histogram difference)
- 5. Camera motion (BG per-pixel differences)
- 6. Blur (Camera focus measure [Kristan et al., 2006])



VOT2013 dataset

- Sequences clustered into 16 clusters by attributes using Affinity propagation [Frey and Dueck 2007].
- A single video selected from each cluster manually.
 - Make sure that phenomena like occlusion were still well represented.









. . .

VOT2013 dataset



VOT2013 dataset – object annotation

- Most sequences contained per-frame bounding boxes.
- Annotation by various authors.
- We estimate that >60% of the BB pixels come from the object



example of a BB for a compact object



example of a BB for articulated object

Dataset – frame-level annotation

- Common practice: Each sequence annotated by a visual attribute [Dung et al 2010,Wu et al. 2012]
- However, a visual phenomenon does not last over entire sequence









A failure might incorrectly interpreted as the failure due to occlusion (which happens later on!)

• For a detailed analysis we require per-frame annotations.

VOT2013 dataset – frame annotation

- Manually and semi-manually labeled each frame with visual attributes:
 - i. Occlusion (M)
 - ii. Illumination change (M)
 - iii. Object motion (A)

- iv. Object size change (A)
- v. Camera motion (M)
- vi. Nondegraded (A)

M ... manual annotation, A ... automatic annotation



(i)	0	1	1	0
(ii)	0	0	0	0
(iii)	0	0	0	0
(iv)	1	1	1	1
(v)	0	0	0	0
(vi)	0	0	0	0

VOT2013 dataset – frame annotation

• Example: Occlusion

All annotations: occlusion

Example: Illumination change

All annotations: camera motion, illumination change, motion





VOT2013 dataset – frame annotation

• Example: Object motion

All annotations:motion, size

- Example: Object size change All annotations: camera motion, motion, size
- Example: Camera motion All annotations: camera motion, motion







VOT2013 dataset – general stats

• 16 color sequences:

Diagonals of images



sequence length distribution



Object bounding box diagonals



frames per attribute



EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

VOT2013 Challenge

Performance measures

- A wealth of performance measures exist
- Basic ones: center distance, region overlap, tracking length, failure rate
- Basic measures offer a straight-forward interpretation
- Combined ones: CoTPS [Nawaz&Cavalaro 2013]
 - Combination of region overlap and tracking length.
- Recent study [Čehovin et al. 2013] has shown that many basic tracking mesures are correlated.
 - Combining correlated measures may introduce bias!

VOT2013 performance measures

- Approach:
 - Interpretability of a measure
 - Select as few as possible to provide clear comparison

- Based on the recent study¹ we chose two basic weakly-correlated measures:
 - Accuracy
 - Robustness

¹[Čehovin2013] Čehovin, Kristan and Leonardis "Is my tracker new really better than yours?", Technical Report, ViCoS ,2013 (link)

VOT2013 measures: Accuracy

 Overlap between the ground-truth BB and the BB, predicted by a tracker



VOT2013 measures: Robustness

- Counts the number of times the tracker failed and had to be reinitialized
- Failure detected when the overlap $\Phi(\Lambda_G, \Lambda_P)$ drops below a threshold



VOT2013 measures: Reinitialization

- If a tracker fails in one frame it will likely fail again if reinitialized in the next frame.
- To avoid this correlation we reinitialize the tracker $\Delta_F = 5$ frames after the failure.
- Δ_F determined experimentally on a separate dataset



VOT2013 measures: Reinitialization

- Overlaps immediately after reinitialization biased toward higher values.
- Burn-in period required to reduce initialization bias



• The curve flattens at $\Delta_0 = 10$ frames

Preliminary test:

- Initialize many trackers
- Record overap
- Average at each frame

VOT2013 measures: Multiple runs

- Measures averaged over multiple runs
 - $\Phi_t(i,k)$... accuracy of *i*-th tracker at frame *t* at repetition *k*.
- Per-frame averaged accuracy

$$\Phi_t(i) = \frac{1}{N_{\text{rep}}} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{\text{rep}}} \Phi_t(i,k)$$





VOT2013 measures: Multiple runs

• Average accuracy at frame t

$$\Phi_t(i) = \frac{1}{N_{\text{rep}}} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{\text{rep}}} \Phi_t(i,k)$$

Average accuracy over sequence



VOT2013 measures: Multiple runs

- Multiple measurements of robustness (#failures)
 - F(i,k) ... number of failures of *i*-th tracker at repetition *k*.
- Average robustness per sequence

$$\rho_R(i) = \frac{1}{N_{\rm rep}} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{\rm rep}} F(i,k)$$





Measures: Attribute weighting

• Attribute subset: In all sequences consider only frames that correspond to a particular attribute.

• Compute the average performance measures ρ_A , ρ_R for each attribute subset.



5000

4000

3000

2000

1000

Primary performance measure: overall rank r(.)

1. Rank trackers for each performance measure separately on each attribute subset.

r(i, a, m) ... rank of a tracker *i* on attribute subset *a*, evaluated for perfomance measure *m*.

2. Average ranking over the attributes

$$r(i,m) = \frac{1}{N_{\text{att}}} \sum_{a=1}^{N_{\text{att}}} r(i,a,m)$$

3. Giving equal weight to each performace measure we average the two corresponding rankings

$$r(i) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{m \in \{A,R\}} r(i,m)$$

Notes on overall rank

Tracker i	T ₁	T ₂	T ₃	T ₄			
$\rho_A(i,a_1)$	1	0.1	0.5	0.7			
$\rho_R(i,a_1)$	0.1	7	10	5			
$r(i, a_1, A)$	1	4	3	2			
$r(i, a_1, R)$	1	3	4	2			

Performance on attribute a₁ subset :

- Ranking-based methodology akin to [Goyette et al. 2012]
- Different frames effectively have a different weight
 - eg., may have multiple attributes.
- Frequency of attributes is uneven
- Each attribute equally important



Tracker rank equality

 Several trackers may perform equally well and should be assigned an equal rank



- "Statistical" equality as defined here is not transitive!
- Modify the ranks by averaging ranks of equivalent trackers

Tracker i	T ₁	T ₂	T ₃	T ₄
$r(i, a_1, A)$	1.5	2	2.5	4

Statistical equivalence in accuracy

- Per-frame measure available for each tracker.
- Apply a paired test to determine the statistical significance of the differences in accuracy.
- Typically T-test is applied, but assumes a Normal pdf.



- Gaussian assumption might be violated (Anderson-Darling test)
- A nonparametric test for Accuracy:
 - Wilcoxon signed-rank test as in [Demšar IJMLR2006]
 - Tests H₀ that the differences come from a pdf with a zero median

Statistical equivalence in robustness

• Multiple per-sequence measures

For each tracker:

A single robustness measurement per experiment repetition.

- These cannot be paired
- Apply the Wilcoxon Rank-Sum (Mann-Whitney U-test) instead.
 - Two-sided rank sum test of the H₀ that robustness values of T₁ and T₂ are independent samples from pdf with equal medians.

CHALLENGE PARTICIPATION AND SUBMITTED TRACKERS

VOT2013 Challenge: participation

- Authors downloaded
 - The evaluation kit
 - Dataset
- Integrated their tracker into the evaluation kit
- Predefined set of experiments automatically performed
- Participated by submitting the results outputted by the evaluation kit to the VOT2013 challenge.
 - Note: Self-evaluation (experiments run by the authors!)
- Participants were also offered to submit the binaries and/or source code for VOT2013 committee verification of the results

Submitted trackers: 27

19 entries from various authors + 8 baselines contributed by the VOT2013 committee = 27 trackers.

AIF	Chen et al.	VOT, 2013	Matrioska	Maresca and	ICIAP, 2013
ASAM	Bozorgtabar	rgtabar ?		Petrosino	
	and Goecke		Meanshift	Comaniciu et. al.	TPAMI, 2003
	Wong et al.	IVCNZ, 2010			
3-FL			INIL	Babenko et. al.	TPAMI, 2011
CCMS	Vojir and Matas	/	MORP	Kraimer	/
СТ	Zhang et. al.	ECCV, 2012	ORIA	Wu et. al.	CVPR, 2012
DFT	Sevilla-Lara and Learned-Miller	CVPR, 2012	PJS-S	Zarezade et. al.	ArXiv, 2013
EDFT	Felsberg	VOT, 2013	PLT	Heng et. al.	1
FoT	Vojir and Matas	CVWW, 2011	RDET	Salaheledin et. al.	VOT, 2013
HT	Godec et. al.	CVIU, 2013	SCTT	Li and Zhu	1
IVT	Ross et. al.	IJCV, 2008	STMT	Poullot and Satoh	1
LGT++	Xiao et. al.	VOT, 2013	Struck	Hare et. al.	ICCV, 2011
LGT	Cehovin et. al.	TPAMI, 2013	SwATrack	Lim et. al.	IAPR MVA, 2013
LT-FLO	Lebeda et. al.	VOT, 2013			
GSDT	Gao et. al.	VOT, 2013	TLD	Kalal et. al.	TPAMI, 2012

Submitted trackers rough categorization

Very diverse set of entries:

- Background-subtraction-based (MORP, STMT)
- Optical-flow/motion -based (FoT, TLD, SwATrack)
- Key-point-based (SCTT, Matrioska)
- Complex appearence-model-based (IVT, MS, CCMS, DFT, EDFT, AIF, CactusFl, PJS-S, SwATrack)
- Discriminative models single part (MIL, STRUCK, PLT, CT, RDET, ORIA, ASAM, GSDT)
- Part-based models (HT, LGT, LGT++, LT-FLO, TLD)

EXPERIMENTS AND RESULTS

VOT2013 Challenge

VOT2013 Experiments

- Experiment 1– Baseline:
 - All sequences, initialization on ground truth BBs
- Experiment 2 Noise:
 - Experiment 1 with noisy initialization
 - Perturbations in position and size by drawing uniformly from 10% of the bounding box size.
- Experiment 3 Grayscale:
 - Experiment 1 with sequences changed to grayscale
- Each tracker run 15 times on each sequence to obtain a better statistic on its performance.
- Reinitialization threshold was 0.

Visualizing the results

- A-R rank plots inspired by [Čehovin et al. 2013]
 - Each tracker is a single point in the rank space



Results: Experiment 1 (Baseline)

Top performing trackers: PLT, FoT, LGT++, EDFT, SCTT PLT* FoT* EDFT* LGT++* AIF LT-FLO ASAM Experiment 1 GSDT CACTuS-FL SCTT CCMS СТ CCMS* 5 DFT LGT* EDFT Matrioska FoT AIF HT Struck* 10 IVT ⊳ DFT LGT++ IVT* locuracy rank LGT ORIA* LT-FLO GSDT PJS-S 15 Matrioska TLD* Meanshift MIL* MIL RDET MORP HT* ORIA 20 CT* PJS-S Meanshift* PLT RDET SwATrack + SCTT STMT STMT CACTuS-FL 25 Struck ASAM SwATrack MORP 25 20 5 TLD 15 10 Robustness rank

Experiment 1

 R_R

3.00

11.15

11.04

17.40

11.99

16.38

10.95

12.40

14.77

13.66

14.24

15.20

16.05

16.93

22.21

14.35

12.22

13.27

13.86

14.23

15.88

21.31

19.67

15.09

27.00

5.42

4.25

R

5.26

7.85

10.09

9.99

11.90

11.93

10.56

10.96

11.62

11.51

11.11

12.58

11.89

12.96

14.12

14.96

16.38

17.16

17.23

16.95

18.35

17.59

15.84

22.24

22.53

13.16

25.51

 R_A

7.51

4.56

9.14

15.73

6.40

11.87

4.75

10.97

17.83

10.62

7.44

11.49

10.72

12.19

12.98

10.55

19.97

22.25

20.62

22.83

20.95

15.81

23.17

25.39

11.23

24.03

9.53

Results: Experiment 1 (Baseline)

- PLT: single-scale, detection-based tracker that applies online structural SVM on color, grayscale and grayscale derivatives.
- Presentation at: 10:55

Tracker	Scale adapt.	Dynamic model	Global vis. mod.	Localization
PLT	no	no	no	determinist.
FoT	yes	no	no	determinist.
LGT++	yes	yes	no	stochastic
EDFT	no	yes	yes	determinist.
SCTT	yes	no	no	stochastic

	Experiment 1			
	R_A R_R R			
PLT*	7.51	3.00	5.26	
FoT*	4.56	11.15	7.85	
EDFT*	9.14	11.04	10.09	
LGT++*	15.73	4.25	9.99	
LT-FLO	6.40	17.40	11.90	
GSDT	11.87	11.99	11.93	
SCTT	4.75	16.38	10.56	
CCMS*	10.97	10.95	10.96	
LGT*	17.83	5.42	11.62	
Matrioska	10.62	12.40	11.51	
AIF	7.44	14.77	11.11	
Struck*	11.49	13.66	12.58	
DFT	9.53	14.24	11.89	
IVT*	10.72	15.20	12.96	
ORIA*	12.19	16.05	14.12	
PJS-S	12.98	16.93	14.96	
TLD*	10.55	22.21	16.38	
MIL*	19.97	14.35	17.16	
RDET	22.25	12.22	17.23	
HT*	20.62	13.27	16.95	
CT*	22.83	13.86	18.35	
Meanshift*	20.95	14.23	17.59	
SwATrack	15.81	15.88	15.84	
STMT	23.17	21.31	22.24	
CACTuS-FL	25.39	19.67	22.53	
ASAM	11.23	15.09	13.16	
MORP	24.03	27.00	25.51	

Results: Experiments 1,2,3



 R_{Σ}

4.48

7.33 9.85

10.05

11.02

11.07

11.29

11.61

11.68

11.98

12.01

12.25

12.62

13.66

13.92

14.83

15.38

15.48

16.46

17.13

18.12

19.29

20.63

20.99

22.39

25.89

Results: Experiments 1,2,3

- In all experiments PLT * best in robustness
- In Baseline and Noise, LGT++ * and LGT × tightly follow
 - Three trackers perform quite well even in noisy initializations
- But in accuracy, the top performing is FoT * except in Noise



Performance w.r.t. attributes (Ex1)

Average top-performing remain at the top, but...



VOT2013 Challenge

Performance w.r.t. attributes (Ex1)

- Size change:
 - Best robustness still PLT
 - Best tradeoff between robustness and accuracy: LGT++, CCMS
- Occlusion:



• PLT and STRUCK best tradeoff

Tracking speed

- Calculated frame rate
- Note! This depends on HW/SW
- PLT (C++) ~169fps
- FoT (C++) ~156fps
- CCMS (Matlab) ~57fps

*Results not verified yet! Wait for the journal version.

	FPS	Implem.	Hardware
PLT	169.59	C++	Intel Xeon E5-16200
FoT	156.07	C++	Intel i7-3770
EDFT	12.82	Matlab	Intel Xeon X5675
LGT++	5.51	Matlab / C++	Intel i7-960
LT-FLO	4.10	Matlab / C++	Intel i7-2600
GSDT	1.66	Matlab	Intel i7-2600
SCTT	1.40	Matlab	Intel i5-760
CCMS	57.29	Matlab	Intel i7-3770
LGT	2.25	Matlab / C++	AMD Opteron 6238
Matrioska	16.50	C++	Intel i7-920
AIF	30.64	C++	Intel i7-3770
Struck	3.46	C++	Intel Pentium 4
DFT	6.65	Matlab	Intel Xeon X5675
IVT	5.03	Matlab	AMD Opteron 6238
ORIA	1.94	Matlab	Intel Pentium 4
PJS-S	1.18	Matlab / C++	Intel i7-3770K
TLD	10.61	Matlab	Intel Xeon W3503
MIL	4.45	C++	AMD Opteron 6238
RDET	22.50	Matlab	Intel i7-920
HT	4.03	C++	Intel i7-970
СТ	9.15	Matlab / C++	Intel Pentium 4
Meanshift	8.76	Matlab	Intel Xeon
SwATrack	2.31	C++	Intel i7
STMT	0.24	C++	Intel Xeon X7460
CACTuS-FL	0.72	Matlab	Intel Xeon X5677
ASAM	0.93	Matlab	Intel i5-2400
MORP	9.88	Matlab	Intel i7

Visual degradation ranking

• Median over accuracy and robustness over all trackers

	camera	illum.	occl.	size	mot.	nondeg
Acc.	0.57	0.57	0.58	0.42	0.57	0.61
Rob.	1.58	0.56	0.66	0.93	0.85	0.00

- No degradation simplest (accuracy and robustness)
- Robustness:
 - Camera motion and Object size change seem the most challenging (lots of failing)
- Accuracy:
 - Size change most challenging.
 - Folowed by Camera motion, Illumination, Object motion, and Occlusion.

experiments and results

ADDITIONAL VOT2013 EXPERIMENTS

Effects of failure thresholds

- Repeated Experiment 1 with top-performing trackers
- Reinitialization threshold varied (0,0.1,0.2)
- Authors provided the binaries/code of their trackers
- Top two trackers remain at the top

The next three change order, but difference not great accuracy combined robustness 0 einitalization threshold 0.1 0.2 3 2 4 3 2 3 2 Rank Rank Rank

Additional VOT2013 experiments

- Performed variation of the Experiment 1 with the five top-performing trackers
 - LT-Flo was excluded from evaluation due to crashing
- 1. Dropping frames:
 - Dropping every 3rd frame.
- 2. Blank frames:
 - Replace each 5th frame with a black frame.
- 3. Resize:
 - Resize all images to 60%.
- 4. Reverse:
 - Reverse the order of frames in each sequence.

Additional VOT2013 experiments

PLT

2.12

PLT

FoT

2.71

EDFT

- Baseline:
- Reverse:

- Average over all:
- Big shift in ranking: Blank frames



SCTT

3.25

FoT

LGT++

3.42

LGT++

EDFT

3.5

SCTT

Sequence ranking

 For each sequence calculated how many times each tracker failed at least once in each frame



Sequence ranking

- Challenging: bolt, hand, diving, gymnastics
- Itermediate: torus, skater
- Surprise: Less challenging David and Singer (overfitting?)
- Easiest: Cup

 Locality: a sequence may be challenging only locally

Sequence	Baseline (Av)	Baseline (Max)	Baseline (Frame)
bolt	4,28	13	242
diving	4,23	9	105
hand	4,22	14	51
gymnastics	3,13	12	98
woman	2,86	15	565
<mark>sunshade</mark>	2,79	11	85
torus 💦 👘	2,67	8	189
iceskater	2,38	6	227
singer	1,68	4	268
david	1,36	4	337
face	1,22	3	140
bicycle	1,22	11	178
juice	1,12	4	242
jump	0,93	4	203
car	0,92	5	253
cup	0,22	2	232

Sequence ranking: Challenging

bolt

(camera motion, object motion)



diving (most challenging part) (camera motion at the end, size change)



hand (object motion and size change)



Sequence bolt diving hand gymnastics woman sunshade torus iceskater singer david face bicycle juice jump car cup

gymnastic (most challenging part) camera and object motion + size change)



Sequence ranking: Other

• Intermediate (torus, skater)

(object motion)



(camera motion, size change)



• Less challenging (David and Singer)





Sequence bolt diving hand gymnastics woman sunshade torus iceskater singer david face bicycle juice jump car cup

Sequence ranking: Locality

• Bicycle: on average not challenging, but very challenging at particular frames where many trackers fail



THE VOT2013 ONLINE RESOURCES http://votchallenge.net

VOT2013 Challenge

Summary

- Dataset
 - Considered diversity of visual properties
 - Per-frame annotation of frame attributes
- Evaluation system
 - Multiple platforms
 - Documented tracker integration
- Performance measures
 - Accuracy + Robustness
 - Rank-based comparison methodology
- Analysis of the dataset and the trackers

Summary

- Sparse discriminative PLT quite well in robustness
 - Does not address the size change → accuracy decreases when the object size is significantly changing
- Part-based trackers with rigid constellation
 - Better accuracy at reduced robustness
- Relaxing constellation
 - Increases robustness, but may significantly decrease the accuracy
- Good tradeoffs are still achieved by global visual models, dynamic models may help a great deal.
- Some sequences apparently less challenging
 - Significant camera + object motion + size change challenging
- VOT2013 Challenge winner PLT

Note: we consider sparse trackers as part-based, since they do not apply a global visual model.

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*sorted by authors order of this presentation