From simple innate biases to complex visual concepts



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How it all starts

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- Start without world knowledge
- Watch many movies of the world
- Develop representations of various concepts



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Hands

Gaze

Difficult, appear early, important for subsequent learning of agents, goals, interactions,

Hands and body parts are important







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Action recognition Gesture and communication Agents interactions

Hands are difficult





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Multiple appearances



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Van Gogh



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Kirchner

Small and inconspicuous

Difficult to extract in unsupervised schemes



Informative fragments from people / no-people

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Unsupervised Deep Learning

'The problem of recovering human body configurations in a general setting is arguably the most difficult recognition problem in computer vision'

Mori, Malik, CVPR 2004

Unsupervised learning does not discover hands

Building High-level Features Using Large Scale Unsupervised Learning Ng et al Stanford and Google ICML 2012

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1B connections, 10M YouTube images, 1000 machines, 16,000 cores, 3 days

Some statistically significant structures emerge with large data

In humans: Selectivity to hands appear early in infancy

Using a Head Camera to Study Visual Experience.



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'Overall...hand were in view and dynamically acting on an object in over 80% of the frames'.

Yoshida & Smith 2008

What makes hands learnable by humans?

Motion, Hand as 'mover' (7-months old)





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See: Saxe, Carey The perception of causality in infancy. *Acta Psychologica* 2006

Early sensitivity to special motion types

- High sensitivity to motion in general (detecting motion, motion segmentation, tracking)
- Specific sub-classes of motion: self-motion, passive, and 'mover'



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A specific motion even is highly indicative of hands

Detecting 'Mover' Events



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A moving image region causing a stationary region to move or change after contact.

Simple and primitive, prior to objects or figure-ground segmentation

Movers detection



'Mover' as an innate teaching signal for hand

Motion alone is insufficient

'Mover' events extracted from videos



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High fraction of Hand images (90% recall 65% precision) Internal supervision by movers and by tracking

Training Videos



Movies of scenes, people moving, manipulating objects, moving hands.

'Mover' events are detected in all movies and used for training

Hand detection in still images



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Source: Ullman, Shimon, Daniel Harari, and Nimrod Dorfman. "From simple innate biases to complex visual concepts." Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences 109, no. 44 (2012): 18215-18220.

Detection mainly of hands in object manipulation scenes

Continued learning

• Two detection algorithms:

Hands by their appearance



• Hands by the body context

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Hand by Surrounding Context





Face \longrightarrow Shoulder \longrightarrow Upper-arm \longrightarrow Lower-arm \longrightarrow Hand

Amano, Kezuka, Yamamoto 2004 Slaughter Heron-Delaney 2010 Slaughter, Neary 2011

Co-training



Two supervised classifiers Internal co-supervision

The chains computation:



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Chains model





(e) Context

(d) Appearance

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0.8

initial model phase 1

phase 3 supervised



(c)

Own Hands



(A)

(B)

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Yoshida & Smith

A learned class, not the basis of hands in general Caregiver's hands

Own Hands



Gaze



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Infants follow the gaze of others Starting at 3-6 months and continues to develop Head orientation first, eye cues later Important in the development of communication and language Modeling mainly head direction



Wollaston 1824



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W.H. Wollaston, "On the Apparent Direction of Eyes in a Portrait," Philosophical Trans. Royal Soc. of London, 1824.

Gaze cues are subtle and inconspicuous





Mover supplies the teaching signal



Using hand 'mover' events to learn gaze direction



HoG description



Gaze extraction 2D



Gaze results, 700 test images 8 people, leave-one-out



Emerging Interpretation



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Both agents are manipulating objects; The one on the left is interested in the other's object

Internal supervision Learning 'trajectories'



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When infants hear 'He was mooping him' they look in the gaze direction of the speaker and use this.

Nappa et al 2009

'Digital Baby'



184	113	118	105	117	82	2
151	95	122	131	87	100	
160	156	159	197	178	172	ŀ
136	219	188	218	204	202	
184	190	235	215	198	186	
175	163	223	218	199	203	:
221	210	774	167	170	134	

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Concepts Hand – appearance Hand – context Gaze Nouns, verbs

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Rational imitation in preverbal infants



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Gyorgy Gergely, Harold Bekkering, Ildiko Kiraly, Nature 415, 2002

Learning and innate structures

- Complex concept neither learned on its own nor innate.
- Domain-specific innate structures
- Not full solutions, but proto-concepts and strategies
- Not hands, but movers etc.
- Guide the system to develop meaningful representations
- Provide internal supervision
- 'Learning trajectories': mover hand gaze reference
- Can extract meaningful concepts event when they are nonsalient in the input
- From cognition to AI: incorporate similar structures in computational systems

Resource: Brains, Minds and Machines Summer Course Tomaso Poggio and Gabriel Kreiman

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