

A Background Layer Model for Object Tracking through Occlusion

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Overview

- Object tracking problems
- Dynamic layer model
- Estimating model parameters
- Implementation and results
- Conclusion and discussion

Tracking Problems

Goal:

Estimate 2D or 3D positions of foreground and background objects over time

Approach:

- Model-based

- *e.g. Condensation*

- Layer-based

- *e.g. Dynamic layer model*

- *e.g. Flexible sprites*

Dynamic Layer Model

- Layer model

- Represent of moving objects with different motion into different layers
- “Layered representation for motion analysis”

-Wang & Adelson, 1993 CVPR

- Dynamic Layer Model

- Dynamic ?
- Components ?
- Estimation ?

Dynamically update layer model
Allow layer order alteration and
layer deletion and creation

Contributions of DLM

- “Object tracking with bayesian estimation of dynamic layer representation”

- H. Tao, H. S. Sawhney, R. Kumar, 2002 IEEE transactions on pattern analysis and machine intelligence

- Complete representation

- Dynamic estimation

- Insufficient in objects with *occlusion*

- New ideas in this paper

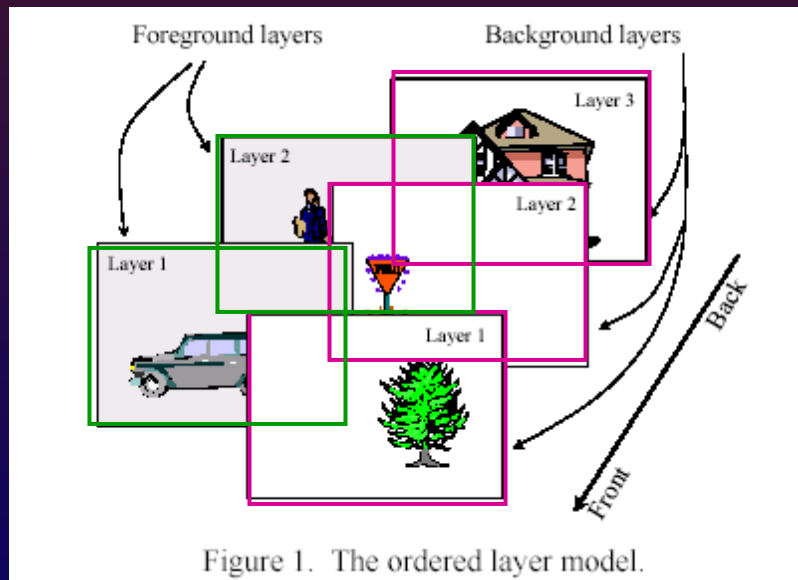
- Introduce “Ordering Information” – **Z-depth**

- Foreground / background layer ordering

- Allow multiple background layers

New Layer Representation

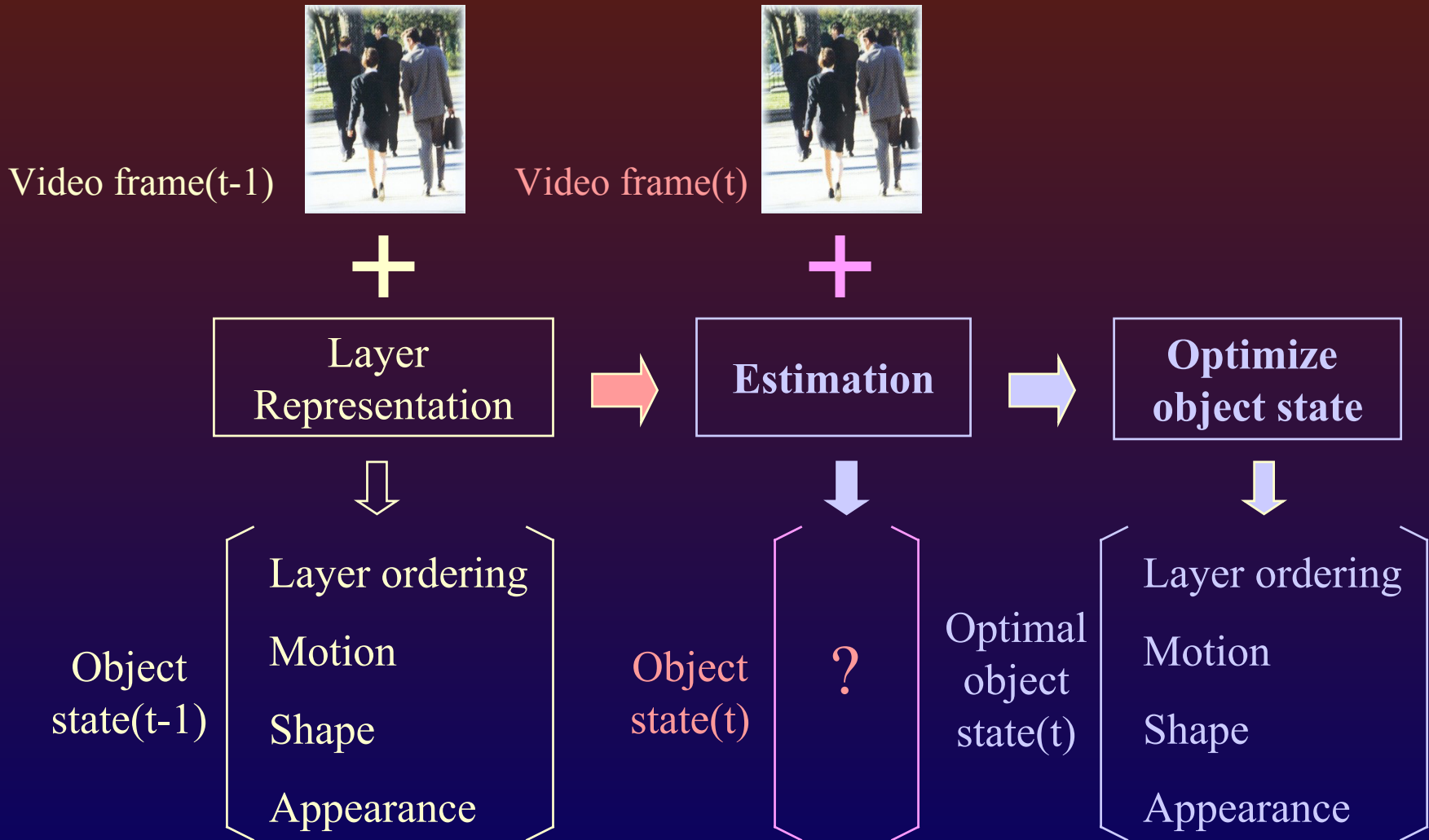
- Scene representation with *Depth Ordering Information*
- Moving objects are described as *Foreground Layers*
- Others belong to *Background Occluding Layers*
- Interlace foreground and background layers



Difference from previous work

- Use multiple background layers instead of only one background layer
- Try to solve complicated occlusion problems

How does it work?



Goal

We want to estimate:

- Foreground layer ordering
- Background layer
- Motion layer parameters

Achieved by:

- MAP framework (Maximum A Posteriori)

$$\arg \max_{\Lambda_t} P(\Lambda_t | \Lambda_{t-1}, I_t, \dots, I_0)$$

The MAP estimation

$$\arg \max_{\Lambda_t} P(\Lambda_t \mid \Lambda_{t-1}, I_t, \dots, I_0)$$

Λ_t : the state of the tracker at time t

I_t : the image observation at time t

The MAP estimation

Λ_t : the state of the tracker at time t

I_t : the image observation at time t

Using Bayes rule & HMM

$$P(\Lambda_t | \Lambda_{t-1}, I_t, \dots, I_0) = P(I_t | \Lambda_t) \cdot P(\Lambda_t | \Lambda_{t-1})$$

$$P(Y | X, E) = \frac{P(X | Y, E)P(Y | E)}{P(X | E)}$$

$$\arg \max_{\Lambda_t} P(\Lambda_t | \Lambda_{t-1}, I_t, \dots, I_0)$$

$$= \arg \max_{\Lambda_t} \frac{P(I_t, \dots, I_0 | \Lambda_t, \Lambda_{t-1}) \cdot P(\Lambda_t | \Lambda_{t-1})}{P(I_t, \dots, I_0 | \Lambda_{t-1})}$$

$$= \arg \max_{\Lambda_t} P(I_t | \Lambda_t) \cdot P(\Lambda_t | \Lambda_{t-1})$$

Estimation

- Recall that we have

$$P(\Lambda_t | \Lambda_{t-1}, I_t, \dots, I_0) = P(I_t | \Lambda_t) \cdot P(\Lambda_t | \Lambda_{t-1})$$

Likelihood

Prior

Apply the motion layer models

• Prior function

$$P(\Lambda_t | \Lambda_{t-1}) = P_{order} \cdot P_{fg_shape} \cdot P_{bg_shape} \cdot P_{motion} \cdot P_{appearance}$$

where

$$P_{order} = P(o_t | o_{t-1})$$

$$P_{fg_shape} = \prod_{j=1}^L \prod_{i=1}^{N_j} P(\tau_{t,j}(x_i) | \tau_{t-1,j}(x_i))$$

$$P_{bg_shape} = \prod_{j=1}^{L+1} \prod_{i=1}^{N_j} P(\pi_{t,j}(x_i) | \pi_{t-1,j}(x_i))$$

$$P_{motion} = \prod_{j=1}^L P(\theta_{t,j} | \theta_{t-1,j})$$

$$P_{appearance} = \prod_{j=1}^L \prod_{i=1}^{N_j} P(A_{t,j}(x_i) | A_{t-1,j}(x_i))$$

Apply the motion layer models

- Likelihood function

$$P(I_t | \Lambda_t) = \prod_{i=1}^N (P_{bgo}(x_i) + P_{fgo}(x_i))$$

- One background layer/ multiple foreground layer

Background observation probability

Probability in one background layer

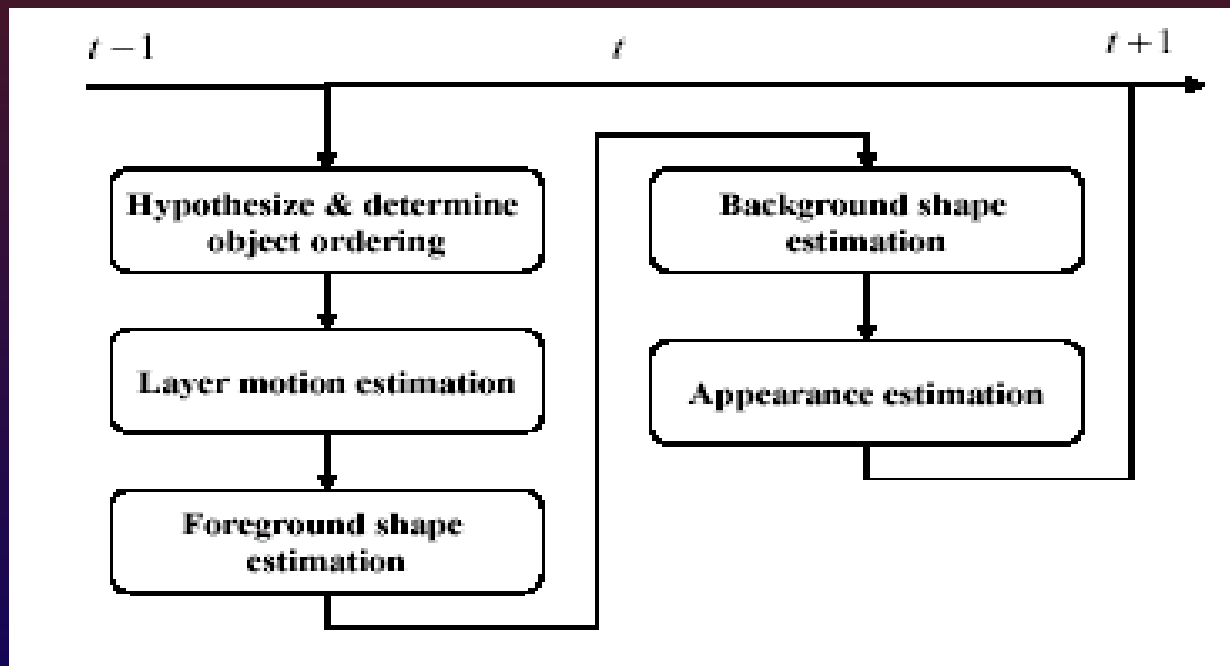
$$P_{bgo}(x_i) = P(I(x_i) | B(x_i)) \cdot P_B(x_i)$$

$$P_{fgo}(x_i) = \sum_{j=1}^L [P(I_j(x_i) | A_j(x_i)) \cdot P_j(x_i)]$$

jth foreground is visible

Estimate Sub-Problems

Approximate solution: Divide it into sub-problems



Motion Layer Analysis

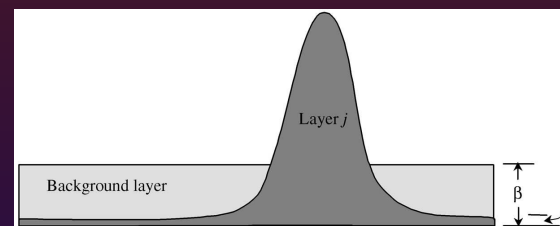
- Model the shape and appearance of each object
- Some approaches

- Gaussian distributions
- Markov Random Fields
- Mixture models

(Use EM to get weight)

Gaussian segmentation

prior function



Shape map/mask

Motion Layer Parameters

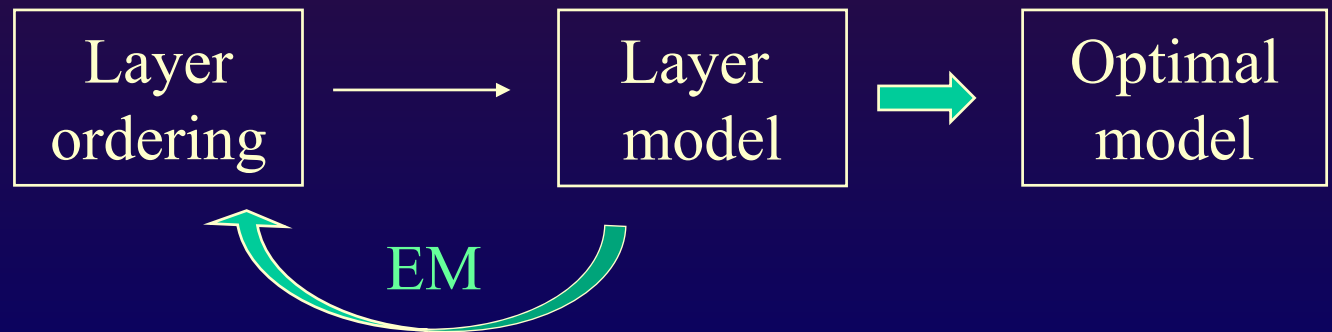
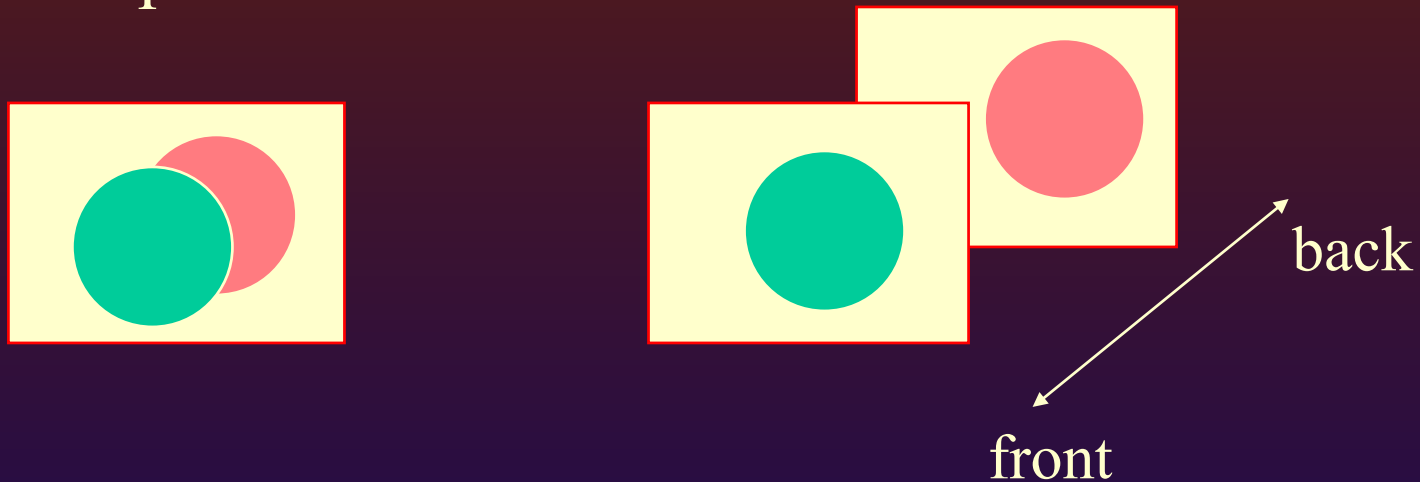
- ❁ Foreground Layer
 - Motion / Shape / Appearance models
 - Parameters: Position, Orientation, Scale
- ❁ Background Layer
 - Shape / Appearance models
 - Shared a *single* motion
- ❁ Depth ordering



Background Layer

What to do if there is occlusion?

• Depth order

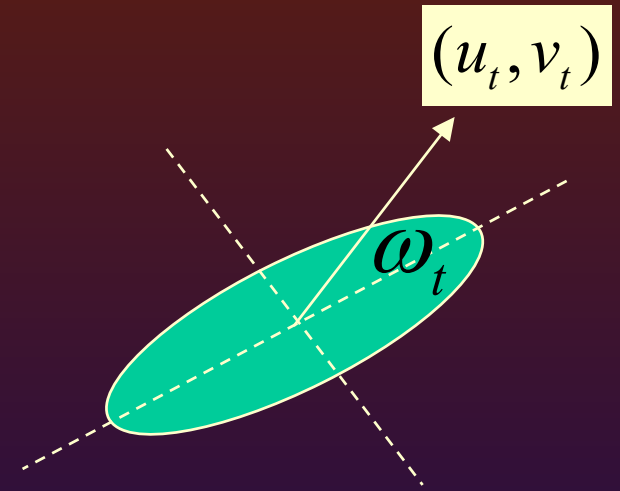


Implementation of DLM

- Motion models
- Shape models
- Layer visibility
- Shape dynamics
- Appearance model

Motion Models

- **Foreground**
 - Position
 - Translation + rotation
 - Constant velocity
- **Background**
 - Planar projective



$$P(\theta_t | \theta_{t-1}) = N(\theta_t : \Phi \theta_{t-1}, Q)$$

Φ : standard transition matrix for a constant velocity model

$$\Theta = [\mu, \omega, s, \dot{\mu}, \dot{\omega}, \dot{s}]$$

Implementation of DLM

- Motion models
- Shape models
- Layer visibility
- Shape dynamics
- Appearance model

Shape Models

- Shape map (a priori)

- Foreground layers

$$\tau_{i,j}(x_i)$$

- Background layers

$$\pi_{i,j}(x_i)$$

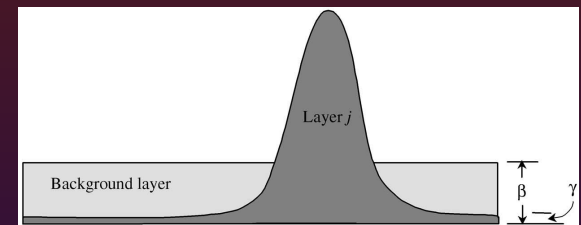
- Assumption

- Each pixel only belongs to **ONE** background layer

$$\sum_j \pi_{i,j}(x_i) = 1$$

Gaussian segmentation

prior function



Implementation of DLM

- Motion models
- Shape models
- Layer visibility
- Shape dynamics
- Appearance model

Layer Visibility

- See j-th foreground

$$P_j(x_i) = \tau_j(x_i) \left(1 - \sum_{l=1}^j \pi_l(x_i)\right) \cdot \prod_{s=1}^{j-1} [1 - \tau_s(x_i)]$$

In j-th foreground layer shape * not in a background layer * not in 1~(j-1)-th foreground layer

- See j-th background

$$P_{B,j}(x_i) = \pi_j(x_i) \cdot \prod_{k=1}^{j-1} (1 - \tau_k(x_i))$$

In j-th background layer shape * not in 1~(j-1)-th foreground layer

- Observe one background

$$P_B(x_i) = \sum_{j=1}^{L+1} \left[\pi_j(x_i) \cdot \prod_{k=1}^{j-1} (1 - \tau_k(x_i)) \right]$$

Sum all the possible background layers

$\tau_{i,j}(x_i)$ foreground

$\pi_{i,j}(x_i)$ background

Implementation of DLM

- Motion models
- Shape models
- Layer visibility
- Shape dynamics
- Appearance model

Shape Dynamics

- Assumption

- Shapes don't change dramatically
- Use constant velocity model

- Constant value Gaussian model

$$P(\tau_{t,j}(x_i) | \tau_{t-1,j}(x_i)) \\ = \gamma + N(\tau_{t,j}(x_i) : \tau_{t-1,j} (R(-\dot{\omega}_{t,j})(x_i - \dot{\mu}_{t,j}) / \dot{s}_{t,j}), \sigma_\tau^2)$$

Shape map alignment

Implementation of DLM

- Motion models
- Shape models
- Layer visibility
- Shape dynamics
- Appearance model

Appearance Models

- $A_{t,j}(x_i)$
- Constant value over time
- Image model is a Gaussian distribution with A_t
- The temporal change of A_t is also a Gaussian distribution

$$P(I_t(x_i) | A_{t,j}(x_i)) = N(I_t(x_i) : A_{t,j}(x_i), \sigma_I^2)$$

$$P(A_{t,j}(x_i) | A_{t-1,j}(x_i)) = N(A_{t,j}(x_i) : A_{t-1,j}(x_i), \sigma_A^2)$$

Summary: State estimation

$$P(\Lambda_t | \Lambda_{t-1}, I_t, \dots, I_0) \\ = P_{order} \cdot P_{fg_shape} \cdot P_{bg_shape} \cdot P_{motion} \cdot P_{appearance} \cdot \prod_{i=1}^N (P_{bgo}(x_i) + P_{fgo}(x_i))$$

STEP 1: Find layer ordering

Go through all possible orderings and maximize the posterior probability

STEP 2: Motion estimation

Relaxing problem to $\prod_{i=1}^n (P_{bgo}(x_i) + P_{fgo}(x_i)) \cdot P_{motion}$

STEP 3: Foreground shape

STEP 4: Background shape

STEP 5: Appearance estimation

Search appearance value between current observation and the previous estimate

Results

Foreground shapes



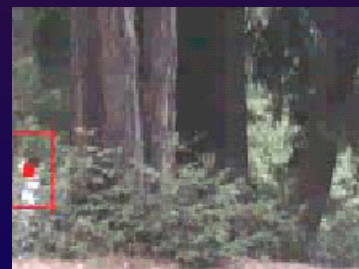
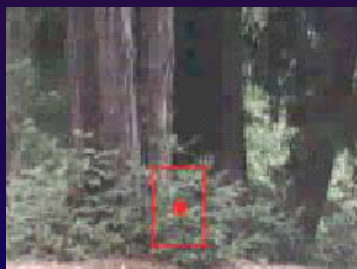
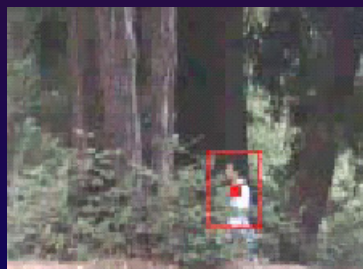
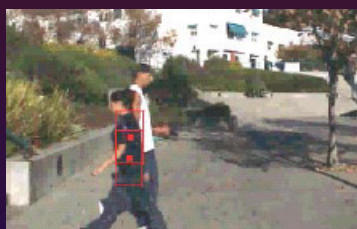
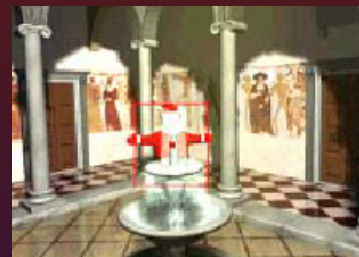
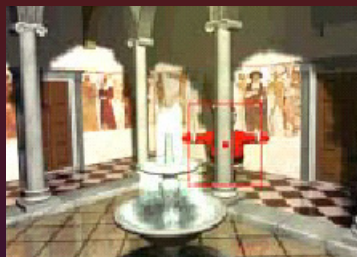
Background shapes



Foreground appearance



Results



Conclusion

Achievement

- Handling difficult occlusion problem
- Solving occlusion caused by the foreground and background objects

Future work

- Efficient optimization algorithms for optimal foreground layer ordering
- Flexible shape and motion model

Comparison

	Flexible Sprites	Background Layer Model
Moving Objects	Sprite layer	Foreground layer
Background	One layer	Multiple layer
Model parameters	Sprite mask Appearance	<i>Depth order, motion</i> shape, appearance
Estimation	EM algorithm	EM for MAP + HMM

Discussion

- ❁ Why use background layers?
 - Can we just take the background layers as foreground layers?
- ❁ When will this approach fail? Under which condition?
 - Observation noisy (Synthetic video)
 - Motion blur
- ❁ Does it work when there are multiple views?