

#### AUTOMATIC WEB PAGE CLASSIFICATION USING VISUAL CONTENT

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Hotel



#### Celebrities



# OUTLINE

- × Related work
- × Problem statement
- × Our approach:
  - + Feature extraction
  - + Feature selection
  - + Classifiers: training and testing
- × Experiments
- × Conclusions
- × Future work

# **RELATED WORK**

- Classification of web pages has been traditionally done using <u>only</u> text.
- **×** Text is rich in semantic content.
- × Classification is focused on the topic.
- **×** Text sources:
  - + html code (tags: keywords, title, description, ...)
  - + html code (text in paragraphs or anchors)
  - + url (self url or page hyperlinks)

# **RELATED WORK**

#### × <u>Text only</u>:

- + Neural networks + PCA [Selamat and Omatu, 2004]
- + SVM + semantic [Chen and Hsieh, 2006]
- + Web crawlers (Google, Yahoo, ...)

#### × <u>Text + images</u>:

- + Structure of page + images [Asirvatham and Ravi, 2001]
- + Visual Adjcency Multigraph (graphs) [Kovacevic et al., 2004].

#### × Visual only:

+ Several features + classifiers [Boer et al., 2010].

# **RELATED WORK**

- × <u>Positives</u> of using text:
  - + very fast
  - + easy to implement
  - + rich content to classify the topic of the page.

#### × <u>Negatives</u> of using text:

- + it has a lot of irrelevant data
- + absolutely no information on some subjective variables

### PROBLEM STATEMENT

- × Classification of web pages
- × Using <u>only</u> the visual content
- × Subjective variables
  - + whether a page is beautiful or ugly aesthetic value
  - + whether a page is old fashioned or has newer design – design recency
- **×** Topic of the web page

# VISUAL CONTENT

#### × <u>Positives</u> of using visual content:

- + rich content that we can not find in text
- + can ben applied to subjective variables
- there is a growing trend to use images and banners in the design/layout of the page – these images contain visual text that is not caught by crawlers
- × <u>Negatives</u> of using visual content: + slow

# RICH CONTENT IN IMAGES OF TEXT

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#### OUR APPROACH



## FEATURE VECTORS

- × 1 Low-level descriptor (166 dimensions)
  - + Color Histogram
  - + Edge Histogram
  - + Gabor
  - + Tamura
- × 2 Mid- level descriptor (100, 200 or 500 dimensions)
  - + SIFT
  - + Bag Of Words (BOW)

### **COLOR HISTOGRAM**



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#### **COLOR HISTOGRAM**





#### EDGE HISTOGRAM





### **EDGE HISTOGRAM**





NEWSLETTER Email

#### GABOR FEATURES





#### **GABOR FEATURES**







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# SIFT + BoW

- × SIFT features David Lowe [1999, 2003]
- × They are:
  - + scale and orientation invariant
  - + local descriptors
  - + slow to compute
  - + keypoint descriptor is an orientation histogram
- × Bag of Words (BoW) we use Jialu Liu [2013]
  - + All keypoint descriptors are used to build a dictionary by grouping SIFT features in "visual words".
  - + A good trade-off between size and accuracy.

## SIFT + BoW



(iv) Bag-of-Words



## SELECTION OF FEATURES

Features are selected by their discriminative power.

× Chi Square criterion ( $\chi^2$ )

+ it relies on maximizing the matching between observed and expected frequencies.

× Principal Component Analysis (PCA)

+ it relies on explaining the most variability of the sample

### CLASSIFIERS

- Most representative classifiers were used in a <u>supervised learning</u> scheme:
  - + Naïve Bayes
  - + SVM
  - + Decision Tree
  - + AdaBoost

### EXPERIMENTS

- × 90 images for each class
- × Images are renderings of landing web pages

- × 2 binary classifications
  - + Aesthetic value (beautiful/ugly)
  - + Design recency (new/old fashioned)
- × 1 multi-class classification
  - + Web page topic (4 classes and 8 classes)

# **AESTHETIC VALUE**

- × This is an inherently <u>subjective variable</u>
- Aesthetic notion is a valuable concept for marketing and psychology.

- × Ugly pages are retrieved from blogs and public listings: [Andrade, 2009] and [Shuey, 2013].
- Seautiful pages are retrieved from designer blogs [Crazyleafdesign.com, 2013].

#### **AESTHETIC VALUE EXAMPLES**









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## **DESIGN RECENCY**

- This is also an inherently <u>subjective variable</u>, however, design recency can be more rationalized.
- Design notion of recency is a highly valuable concept for marketing.
- Pages were retrieved by consulting the most popular pages from today (2013) and for 1999, using internet archives and alexa.com.

#### **DESIGN RECENCY**















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# WEB PAGE TOPIC

- **\*** Topic is the main focus of web page classification.
- × We started with 4 classes (inspired in [Boer et al., 2010]):
  - + Newspapers
  - + Hotels
  - + Celebrities
  - + Conferences

# WEB PAGE TOPIC

#### × We then added 4 additional ones:

- + Classified advertisements
- + Social networks
- + Gaming
- + Video-sharing

These 8 classes represent a big majority of all web pages. They are, however, not a systematic study on the topic.

#### WEB PAGE TOPIC EXAMPLES



#### WEB PAGE TOPIC EXAMPLES





### **RESULTS – AESTHETIC VALUE**

	Naïve Bayes	SVM	Decision Tree	AdaBoost
Color Histogram	65%	85%	70%	85%
Low-level (50%)	75%	65%	80%	80%
SIFT+BoW	80%	80%	75%	95%

We observed that most of the features with higher discriminative power are collected from Color Histogram.

### **RESULTS – DESIGN RECENCY**

	Naïve Bayes	SVM	Decision Tree	AdaBoost
Gabor only	85%	100%	95%	100%
Low-level (5%)	100%	85%	90%	90%
SIFT+BoW	90%	90%	90%	90%

 We observed that for design recency, Gabor features have the higher discriminative power. Gabor features are intrinsically related to texture and spatial frequency.

### **RESULTS – WEB PAGE TOPIC**

#### 4 CLASSES

	Naïve Bayes	SVM	Decision Tree	AdaBoost
Low-level	62,5%	72,5%	72,5%	70%
SIFT+BoW	70%	75%	82,5%	72,5%

- × SIFT+BoW always improved results.
- Higher discriminative power is related with Tamura and Gabor features (texture, coarseness, frequency, ...).

### **RESULTS – WEB PAGE TOPIC**

#### 4 CLASSES

Predict\Actual	Newspapers	Conferences	Celebrities	Hotel
Newspapers	10	0	1	0
Conferences	0	9	0	1
Celebrities	0	1	7	2
Hotel	0	0	2	7

### **RESULTS WEB PAGE TOPIC**

#### 8 CLASSES

	Naïve Bayes	SVM	Decision Tree	AdaBoost
SIFT+BoW	64%	59%	49%	39%

Prd\Act	Newsp.	Conf.	Celeb.	Hotel	Classif.	Gaming	Social	Video
Newsp.	9	1	1	1	4	0	1	2
Conf.	1	8	0	0	0	0	0	0
Celeb.	0	0	4	2	0	3	2	1
Hotel	0	0	0	7	0	1	1	1
Classif.	0	0	1	0	6	1	0	0
Gaming	0	0	4	0	0	5	2	0
Social	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0
Video	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	6

# MAIN CONCLUSIONS

- Subjective variables are simpler to classify and features like color and edges have high discriminative power.
  - + Beautiful web pages tend to have more soft colors
  - New fashioned web pages tend to have lower visual frequency and much lower density on information
- SIFT+BOW features are slower to compute and add only a small amount of discrimination.

## MAIN CONCLUSIONS

- Web page topic is harder to classify using only visual content
- However, accuracies of 80% are generally achieved.
- SIFT+BoW features are able to enhance significantly the accuracy.
- A bigger database is, however, needed to achieve better results in classification of the topic.

# CONCLUSION

- × Visual content of web pages effectively has rich content to the task of classification in several variables: aesthetic value, design recency and web page topic.
- Classification using Visual content can be added to the traditional classification relying only on text to achieve a much <u>powerful</u> <u>crawler</u>, boosting its accuracy.

## FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Integrate visual content with text (html, url, ...) to achieve that powerful classifier.
- Explore the semantic content of the visual content, by segmenting the page and analyzing items separately (images, banners, flash, advertisement, ...).
- Analyze group differences of subjective variables and their implications on marketing (gender, age, culture, income rank, ...).

## APPLICATIONS

- Building of an <u>advice system</u> to assist in the design of web pages.
- × <u>Marketing</u>: targeting of consumers, campaign design, ...
- Content filtering and <u>content scoring</u>, including ranking of web sites based on <u>user profile</u>.
- **×** Recommender systems for product web pages.
- × Sentiment and emotional implications of web pages.



× Some questions?

#### × I am searching for partners for H2020!

Contact: nunogon@deec.uc.pt