Towards an Exapixel per Second: Enabling Efficient Visual Data Analysis at Scale

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Carnegie Mellon University

(After six years at CMU I will be moving to Stanford in Sept 2017)

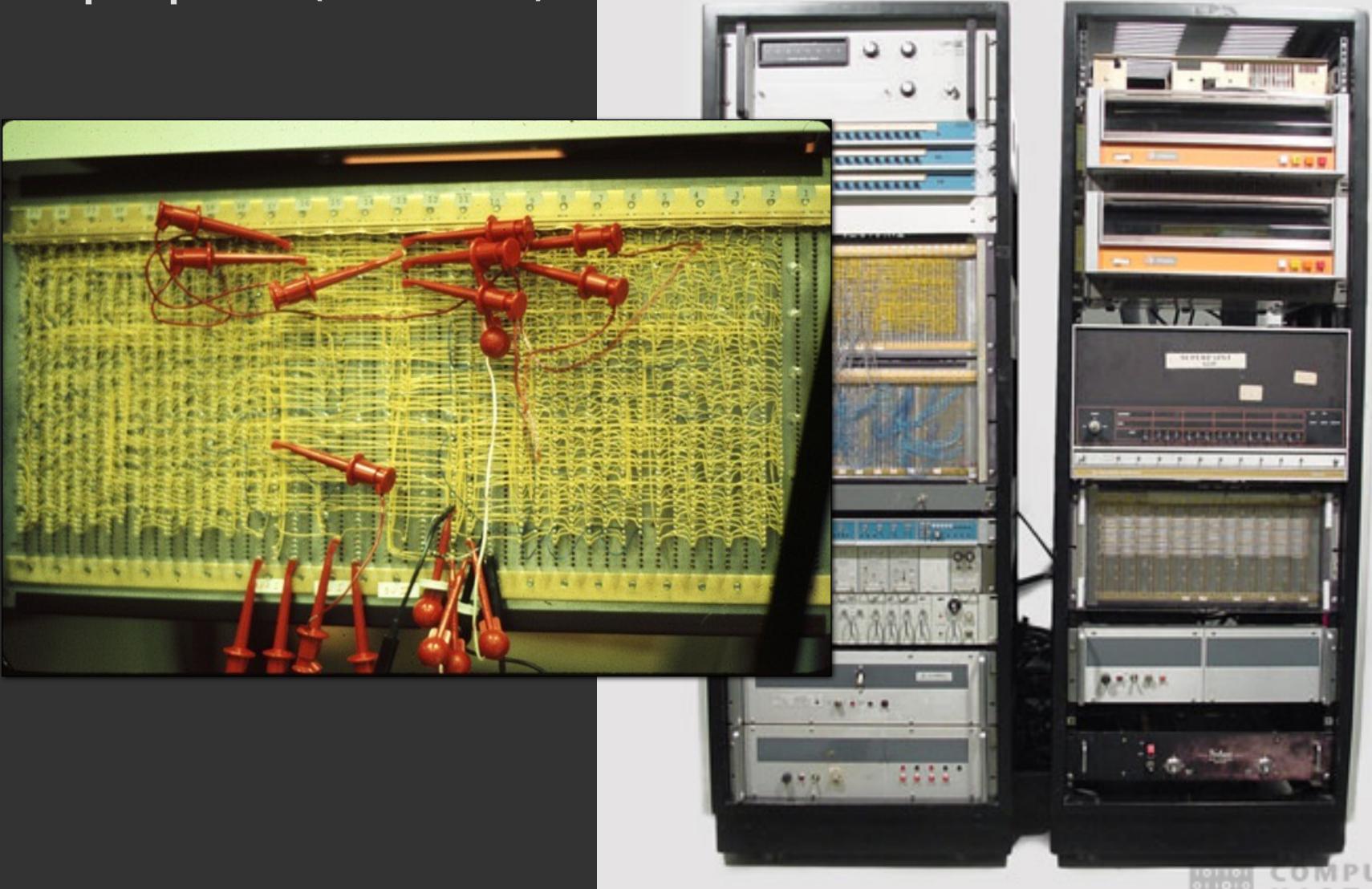


Ivan Sutherland's Sketchpad on MIT TX-2 (1962)

The frame buffer

Shoup's SuperPaint (PARC 1972-73)

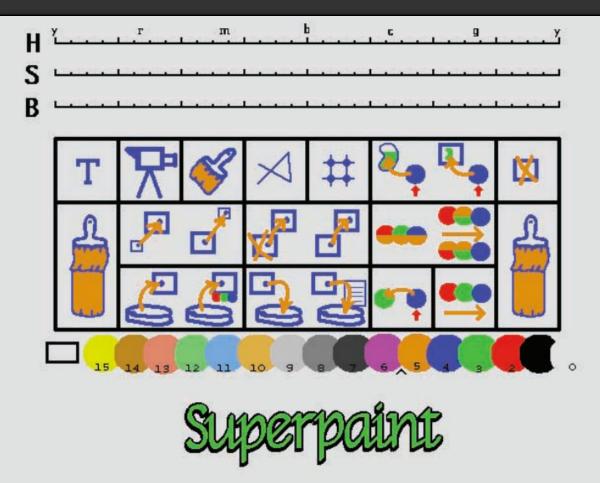
16 2K shift registers (640 x 486 x 8 bits)



The frame buffer

Shoup's SuperPaint (PARC 1972-73)

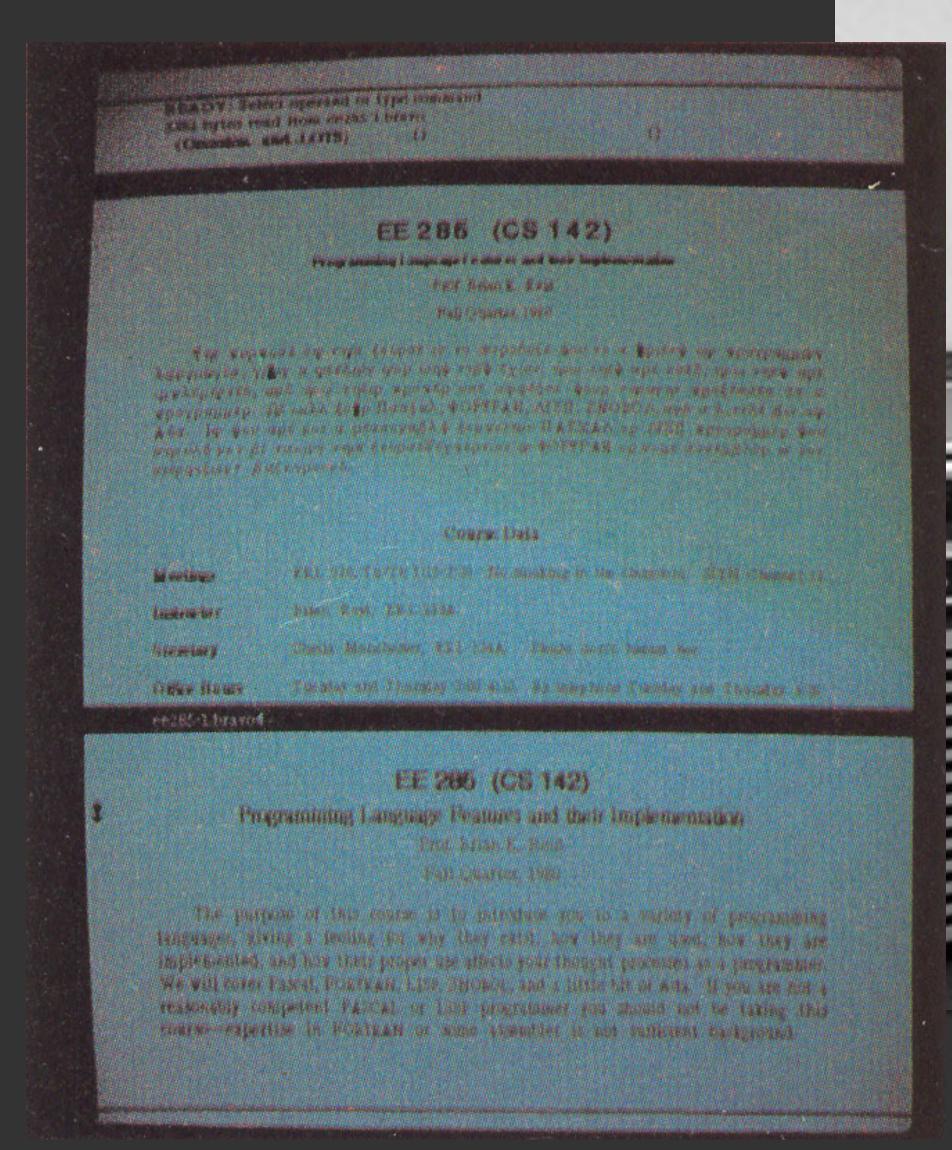




16 2K shift registers (640 x 486 x 8 bits)



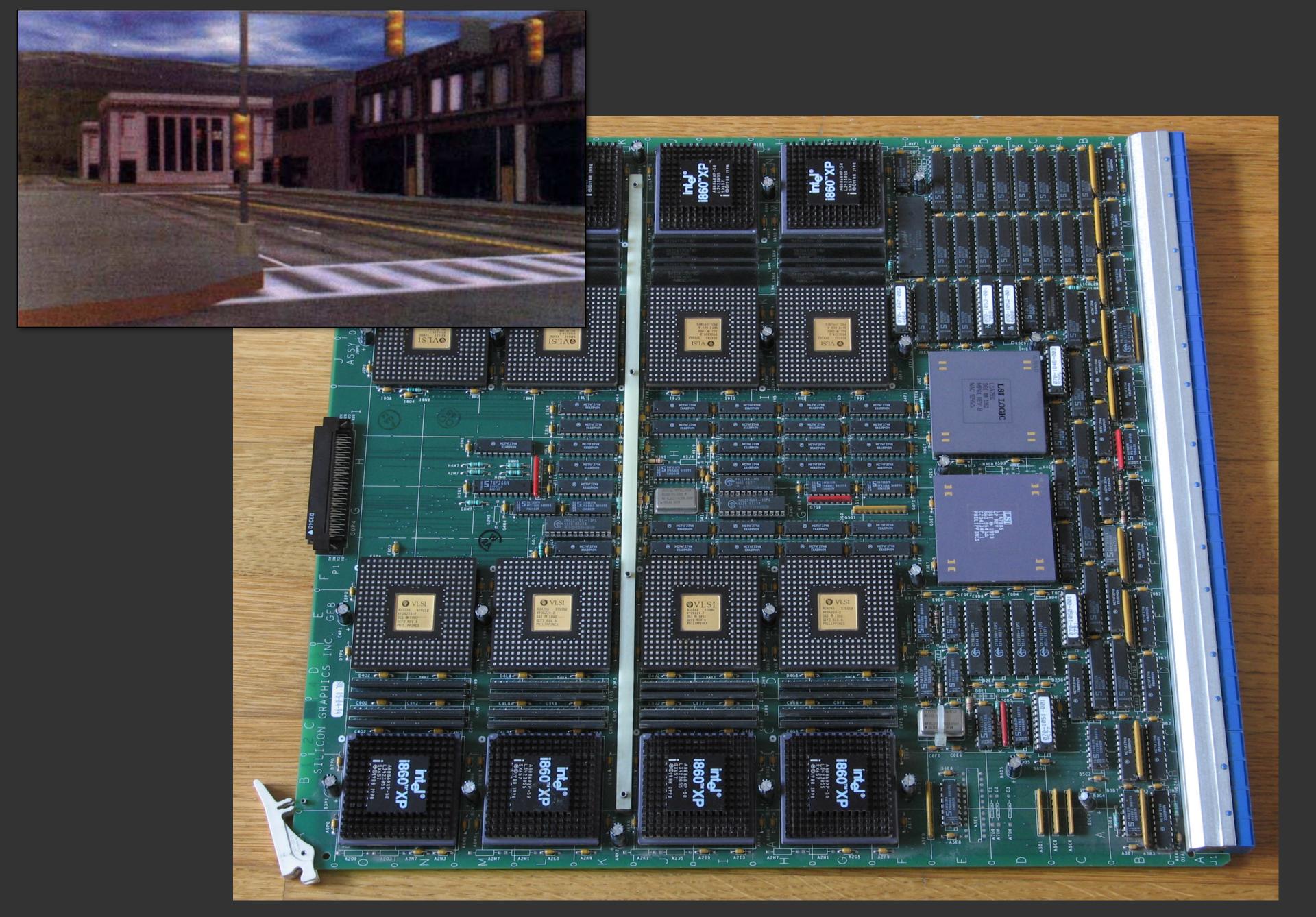
Xerox Alto (1973)





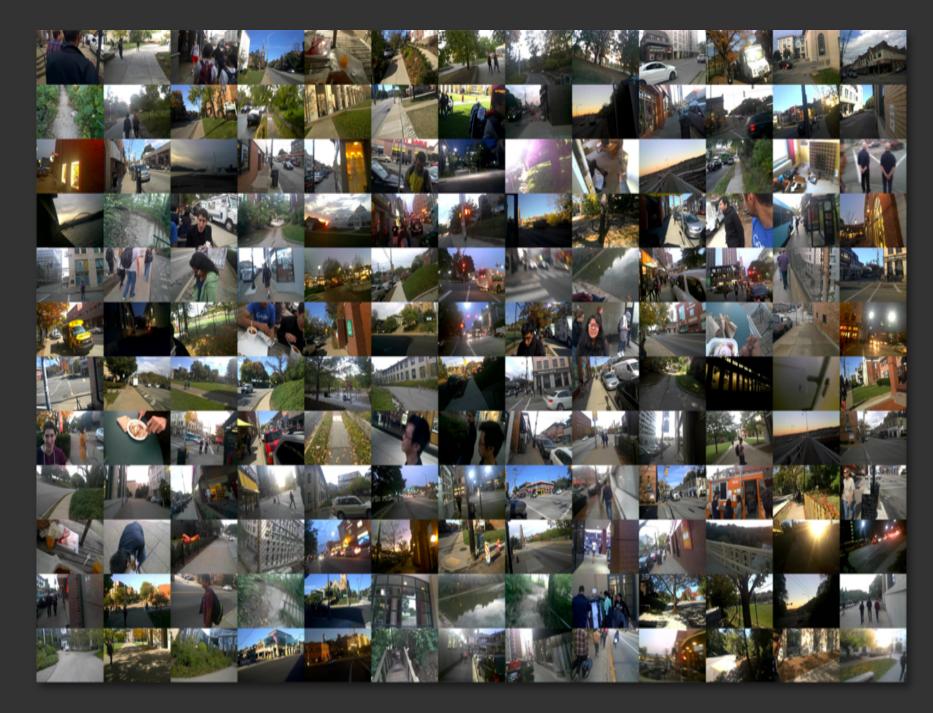
TI 74181 ALU

Bravo (WYSIWYG)



SGI RealityEngine GE8 board (1993)







2B shares per day across Facebook sites (includes Instagram+WhatsApp) [FB2015]

Youtube 2015: 300 hours per minute uploaded [Youtube]

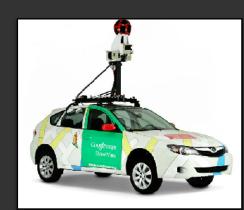
80-90% of 2019 internet traffic will be video [Cisco VNI]

Ubiquitous image sensing and analysis

Analyzing images for robot navigation











Analyzing images for urban efficiency





"Managing urban areas has become one of the most important development challenges of the 21st century. Our success or failure in building sustainable cities will be a major factor in the success of the post-2015 UN development agenda."

- UN Dept. of Economic and Social Affairs

Analyzing images for urban efficiency





Use of image analysis to identify:

Dangerous intersections

Infrastructure needing repair (Pittsburgh potholes!)

Flooding / ice

Air-quality monitoring

• • •

Analyzing egocentric images to augment humans





The visual data world in 2030

8.5 billion people (61% urban)
[UN estimate]

70% smartphone penetration

[Statista, 50% in 2020]

25% → 1.5B

turned on

2 billion cars

[Sperling 2009]

8 cameras/car

25% load → 4B

[currently 2%]

1.1B streaming security cameras

Extrapolation from 245M in 2014, 10% annual growth [IHS]

Assume 8K video resolution (33 megapixel)

Total capture capability across the world

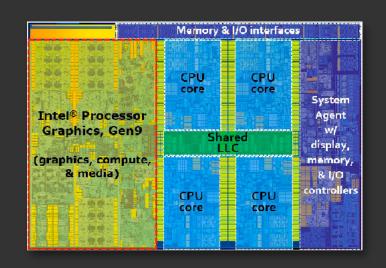
~6.5B video streams = 2.1×10^{17} pixels $\times 30$ fps = 6 exapixels/sec

Other considerations: home health care robotics, survey science, infrastructure monitoring...

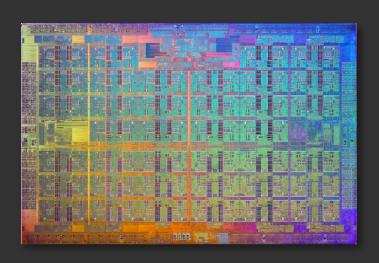
How do we architect efficient (and easy to program) systems for analyzing the worldwide visual signal?

Challenge: compute-intensive, pixel processing algorithms

Need: Efficiently map image analysis algorithms to (specialized) accelerated computing platforms ("use every op you can get")



Integrated GPU + media ASIC



Xeon Phi



GPU



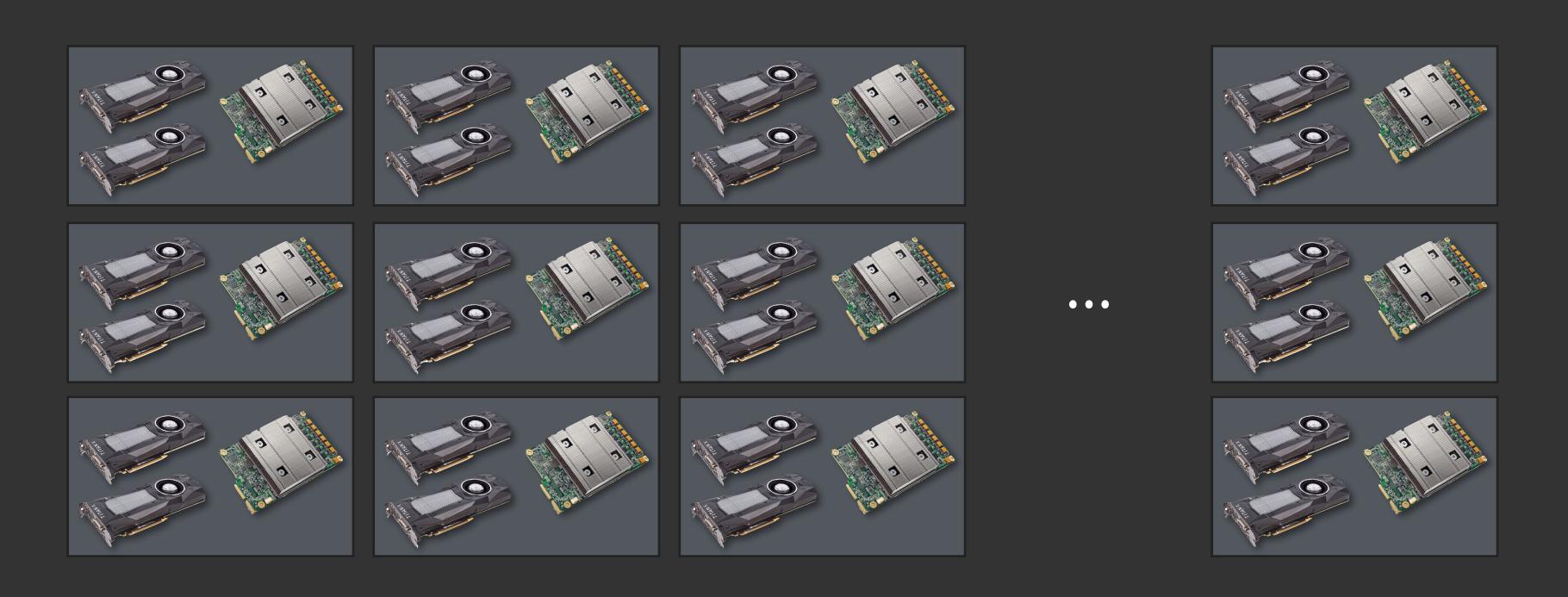
FPGA



TPU (ML ASIC)

Challenge: large scale of visual data to acquire, store, and analyze

Need: distributed computing platforms for productive use of heterogeneous, accelerated computing hardware at datacenter scale



Challenge: brute-force nature of many widely used techniques

Need: performance-centric algorithmic innovation

How can systems automatically approximate programs by eliminating redundancy, using intelligent filtering, inducing sparsity, adaptive techniques, etc.?

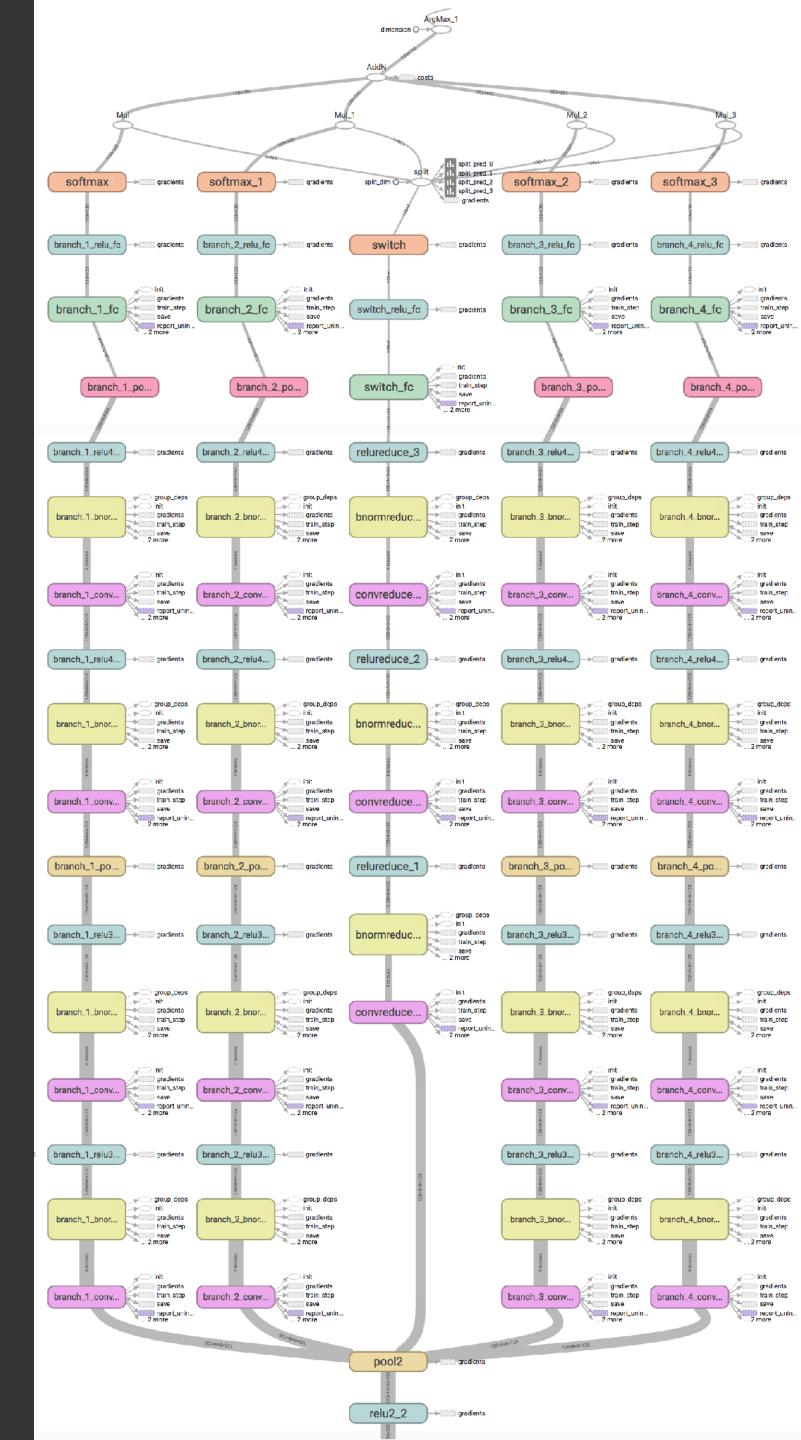
	ImageNet Top-1 Accuracy	Num Params	Cost/image (MADDs)	
VGG-16	71.5%	138M	15B	[2014]
GoogleNet	70%	6.8M	1.5B	[2015]
ResNet-18	73%*	11.7M	1.8B	[2016]
MobileNet-224	70.5%	4.2M	0.6B	[2017]

^{* 10-}crop results (ResNet 1-crop results are similar to other DNNs in this table)

Challenge: authoring complex image analysis applications

How can frameworks encourage desirable program structure: modules, interfaces, etc. in the context of end-to-end optimization

What are primitives for analyzing databases of images, videos, or analyzing scenes? ("SQL for visual computing?")



Big visual computing systems needs

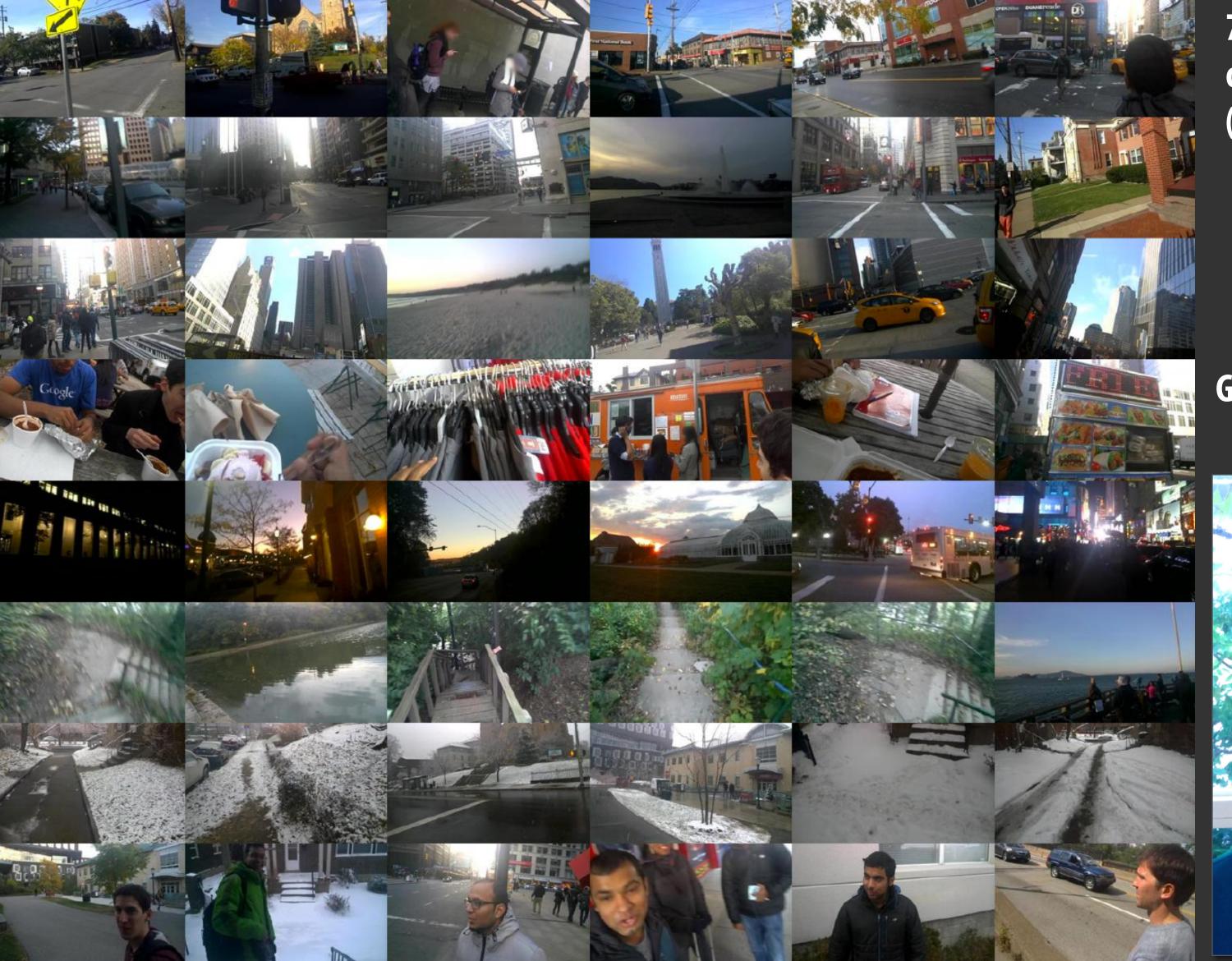
- 1. Techniques for efficiently mapping image analysis algorithms to accelerated computing platforms (Efficiently generating kernels for CPUs, GPUs, FPGAs, ASICs)
- 2. Distributed computing support for scalable accelerated computing (Connecting efficient processing pipelines to data stores, distribution across many machines)
- 3. Performance-centric algorithmic innovation/approximation (New work efficient algorithms and approximations)
- 4. Good abstractions for authoring scalable visual data analysis applications

(Considering higher-level primitives for authoring future applications e.g., SQL for video DBs?)

Motivating question

If I wanted to grab a few terabytes of video, store it in a database, and perform pixel-level analyses on frames from the collection using a cluster of high-compute-density nodes, what system should I use?

"KrishnaCam" egocentric video dataset

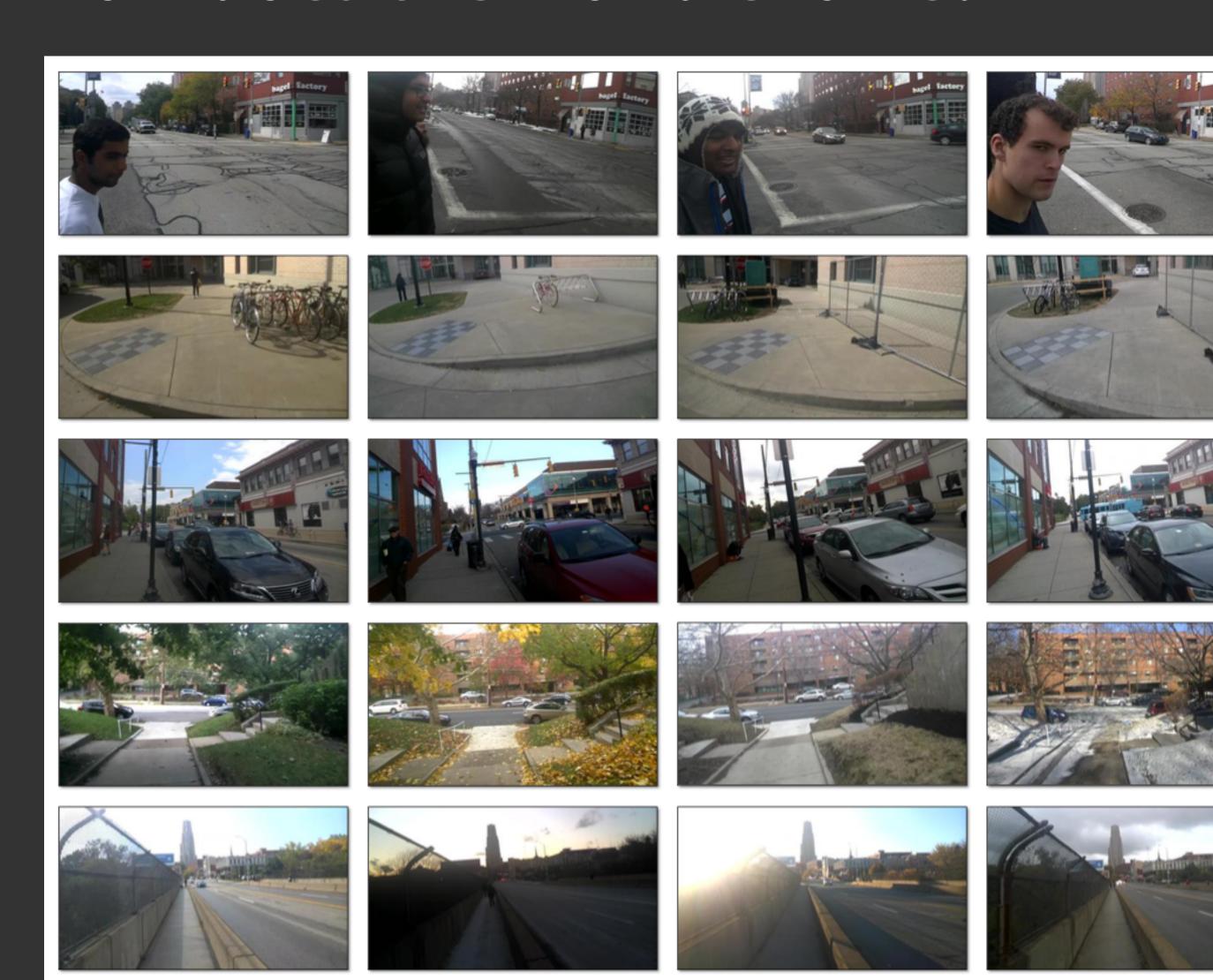


72 hours of recording over nine months: (Sep 2014 – May 2015)

Google Glass



How does the world evolve?

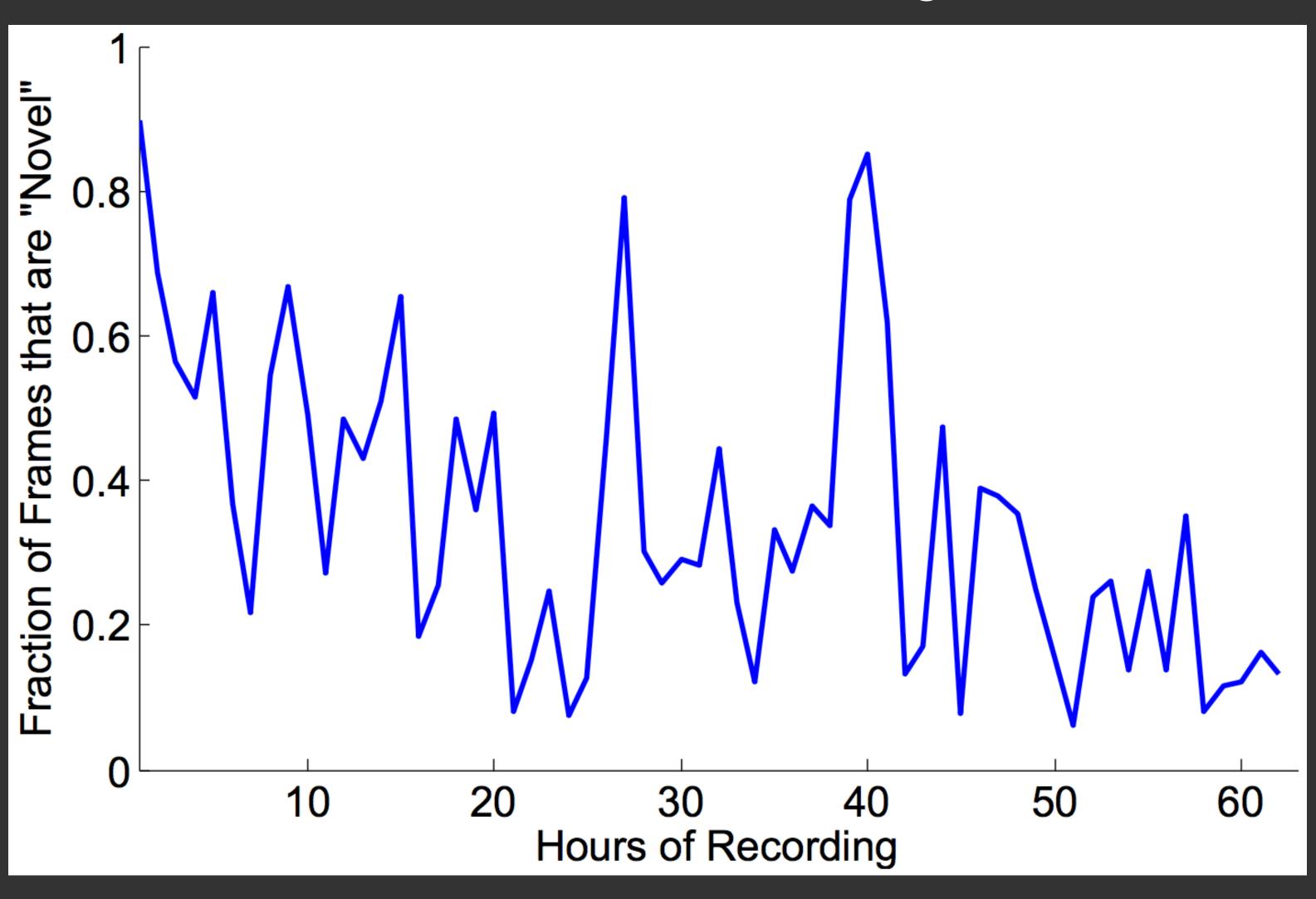


- 1. Change in companion
- 2. Change in object location (bike rack moved)
- 3. Change in object (different parked cars)
- 4. Change in season

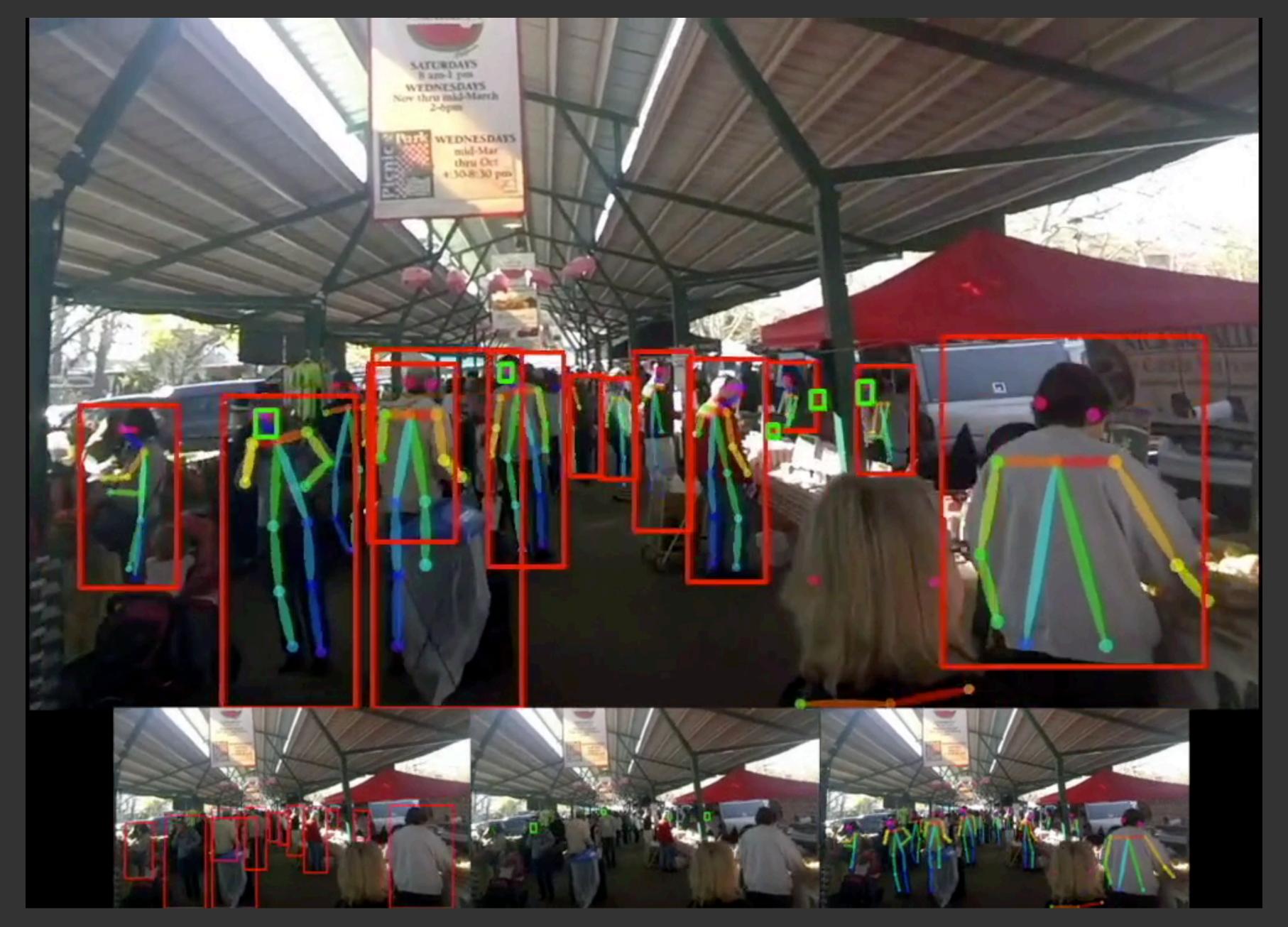
5. Change in time of day (lighting conditions)

Life-specific data compression: KrishnaCam novel data growth

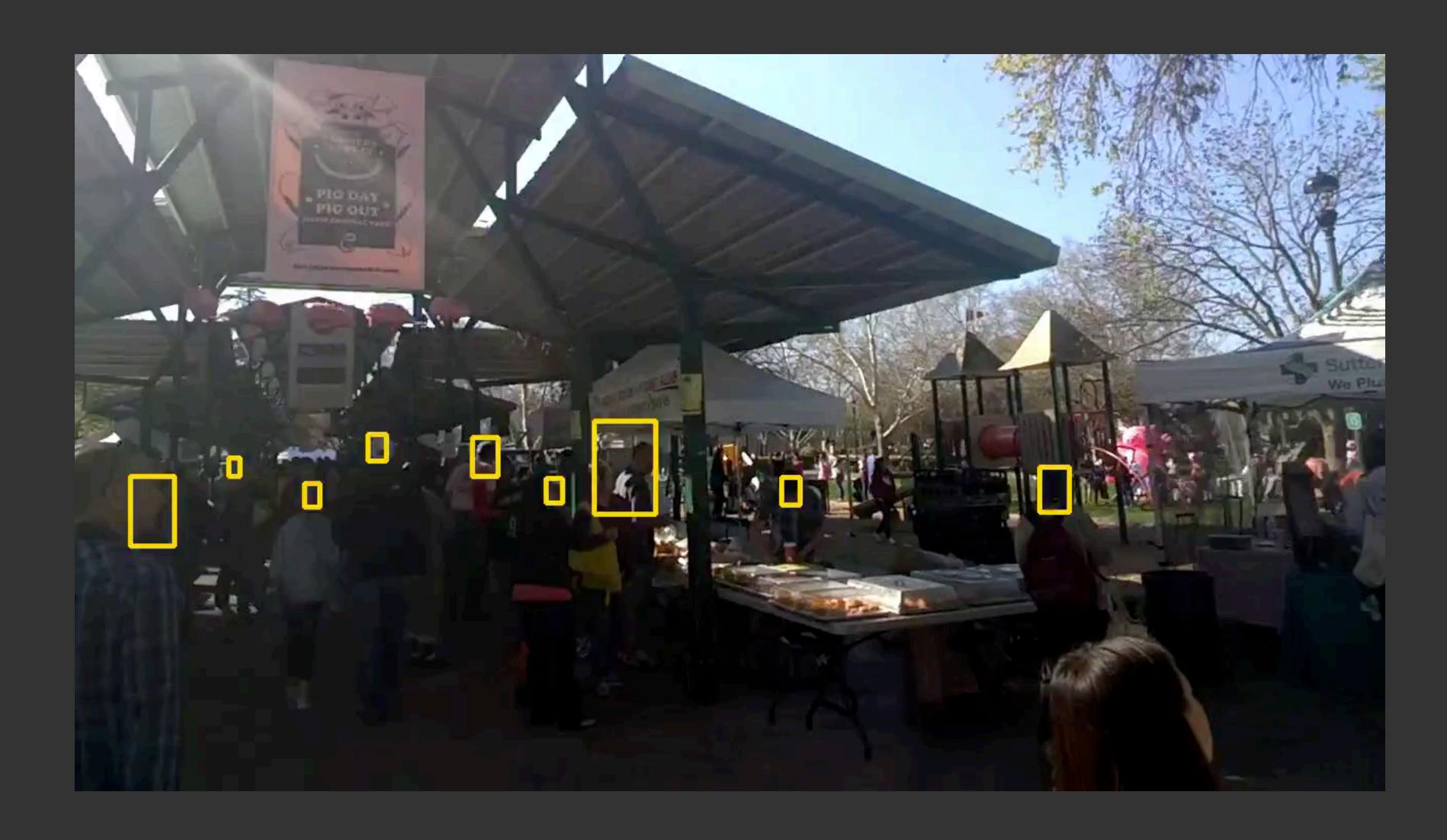
How much new visual data is observed as recording continues?



Ensemble of face detectors for KrishnaCam

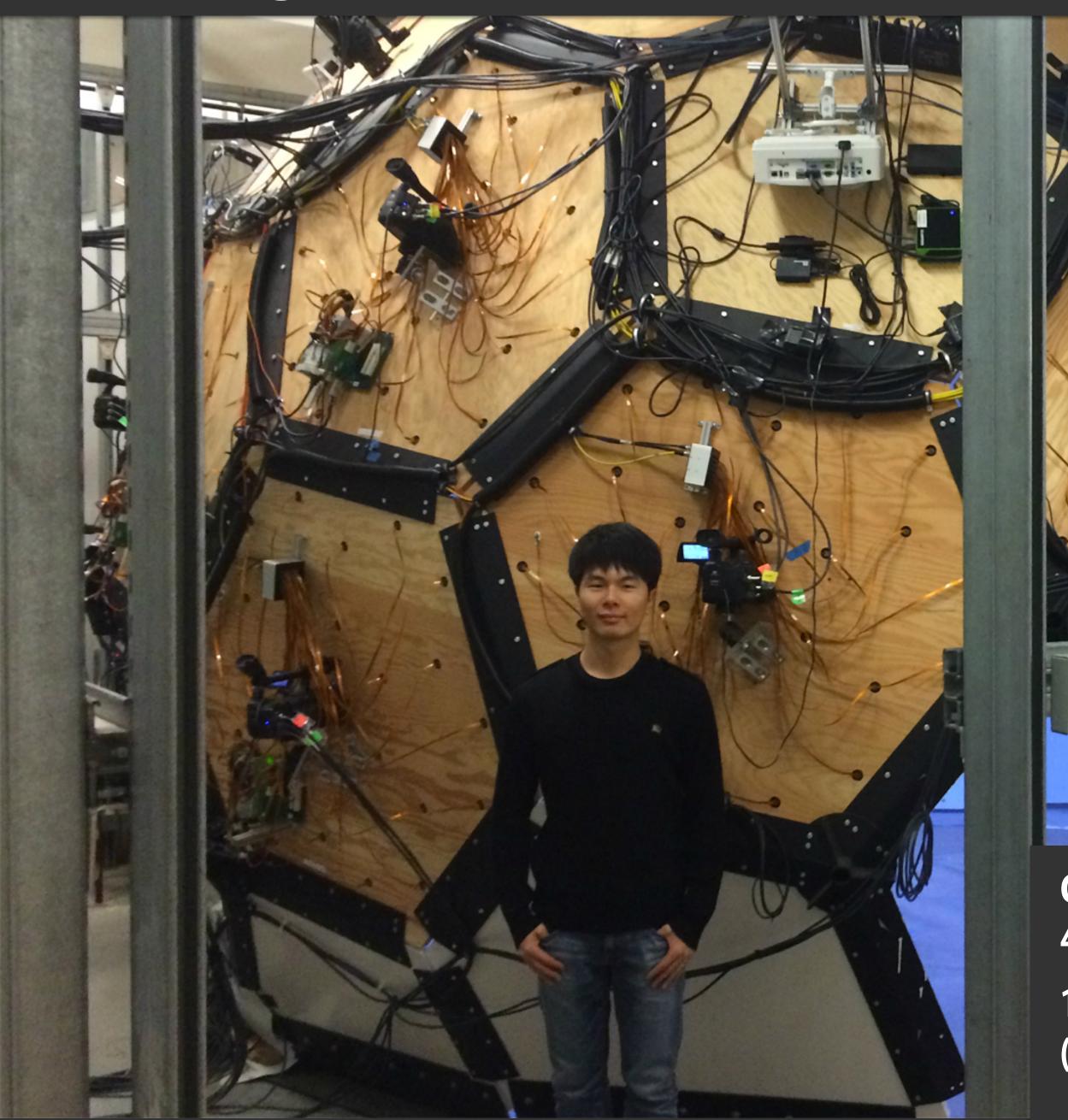


Ensemble of face detectors for KrishnaCam



Sensing human social interactions

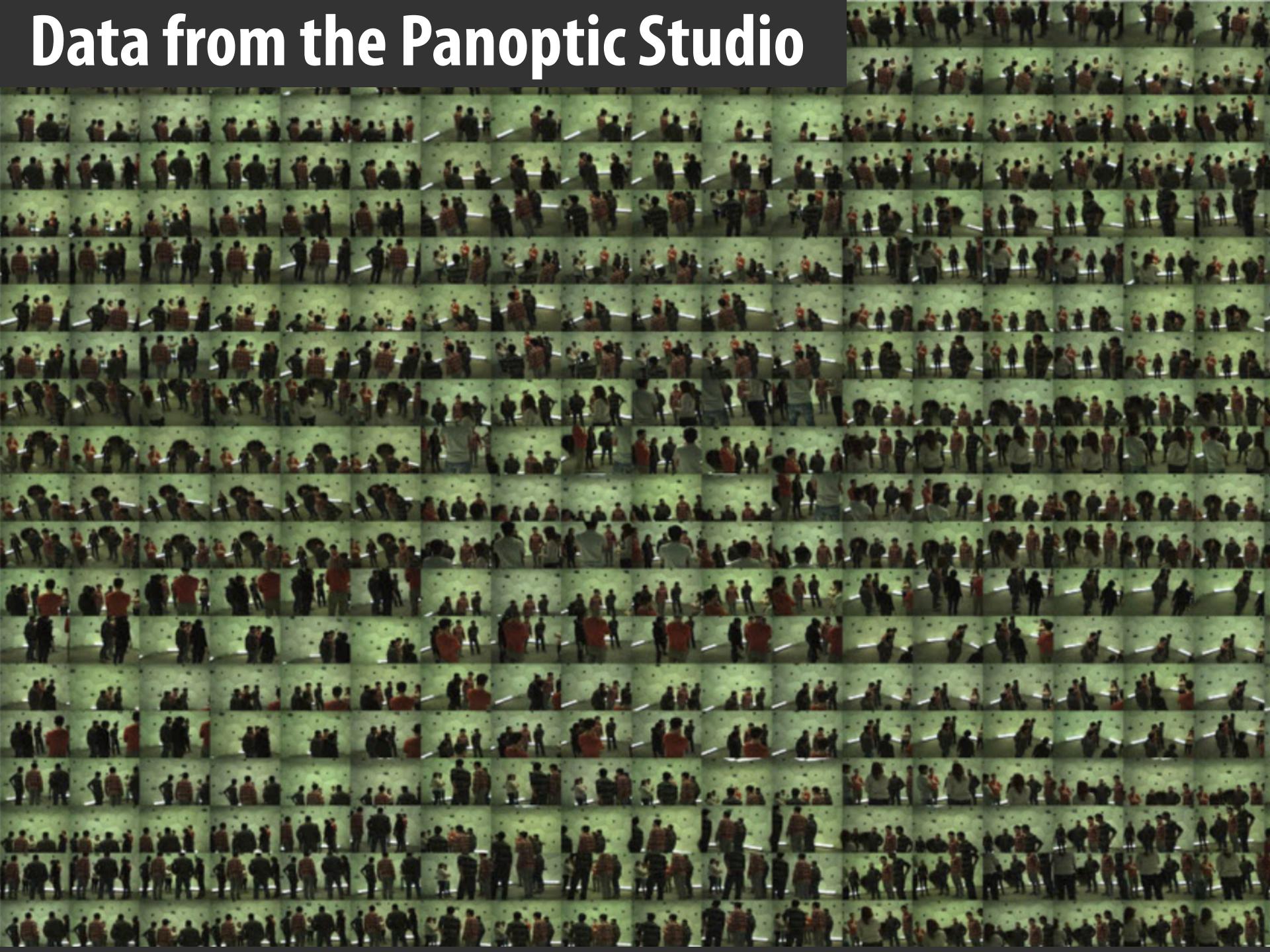
[Joo 2015]





CMU Panoptic Studio 480 video cameras (640 x 480 @ 24fps)

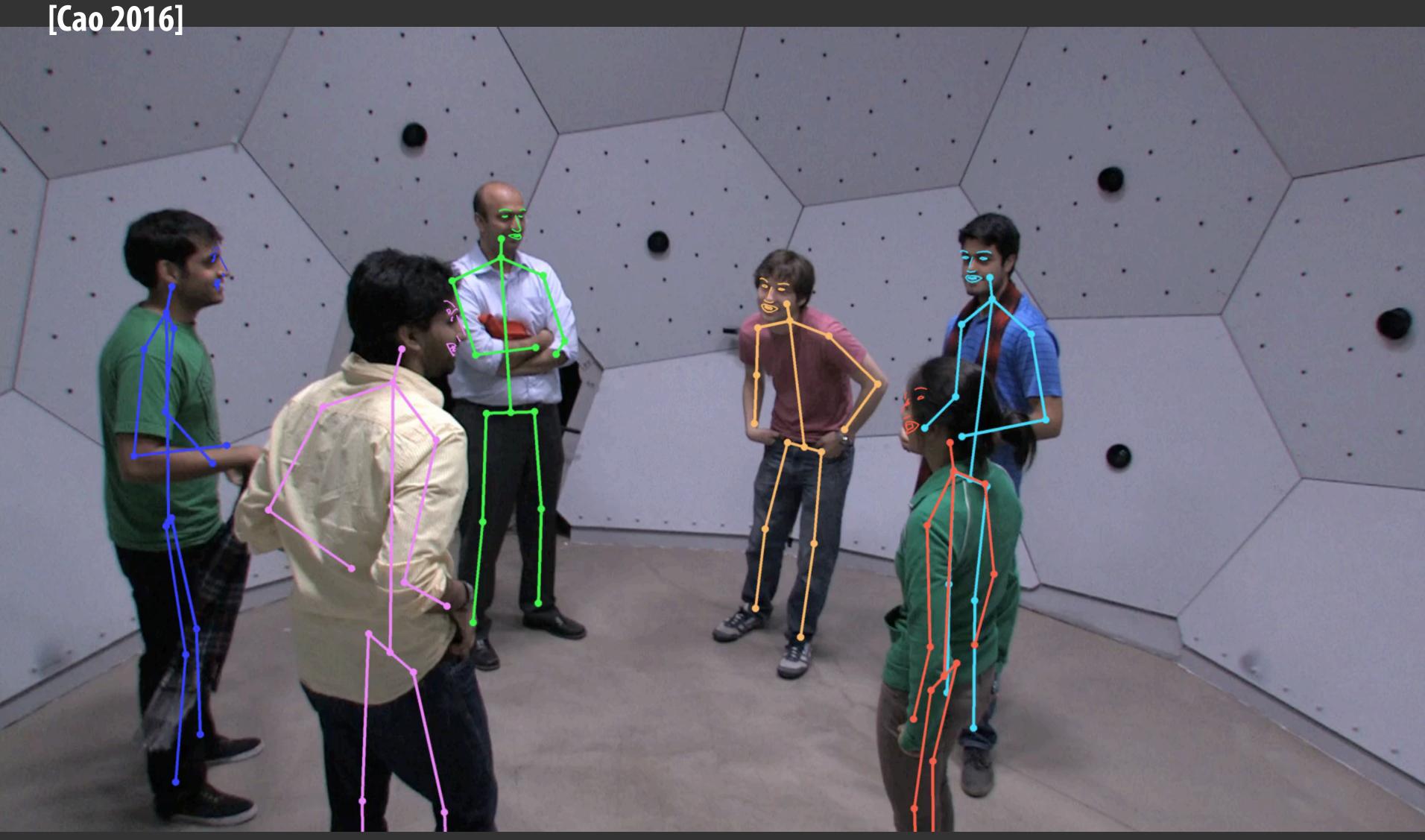
147 MPixel video sensor(3.5 GPixel/sec)



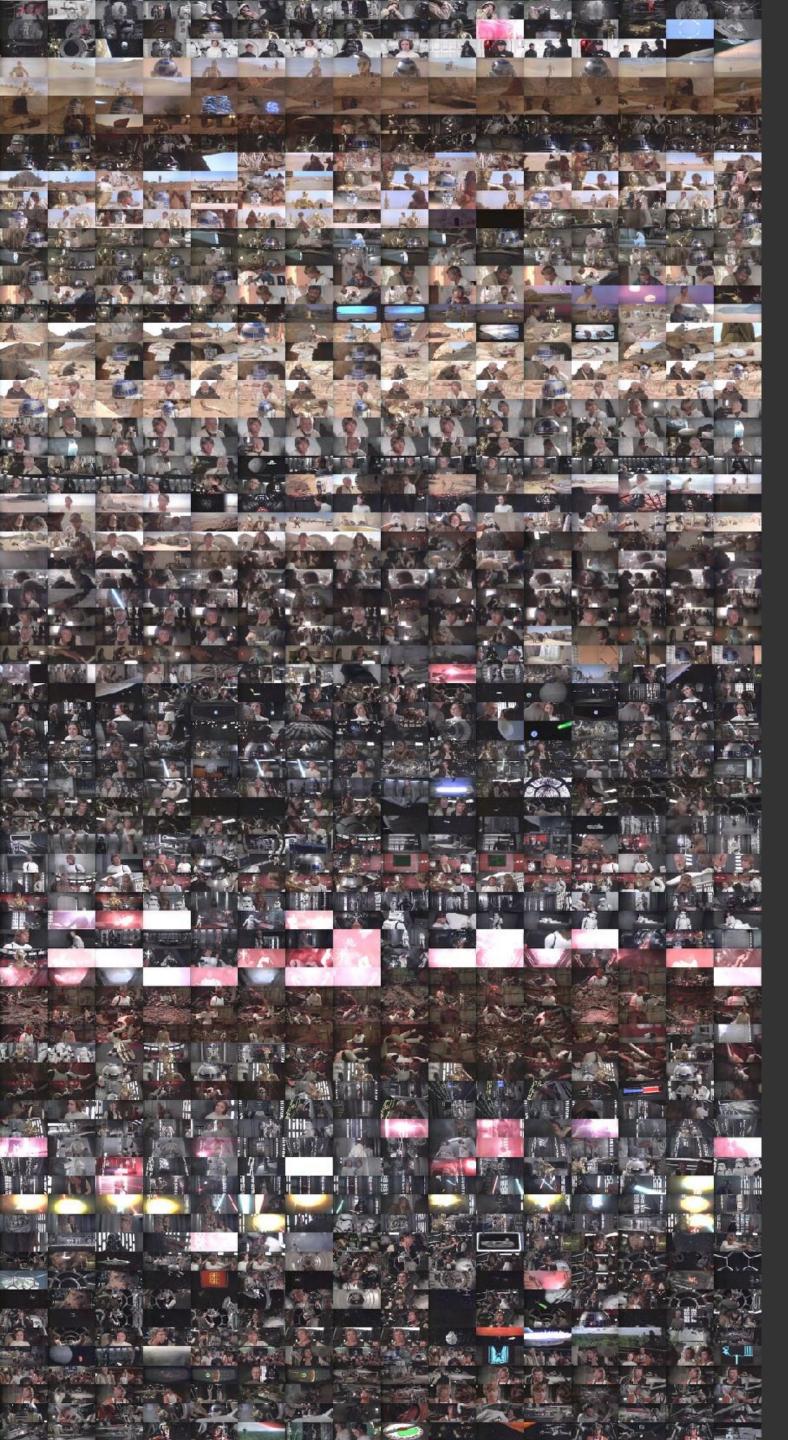
Application: capturing human social interactions

40-second sequence (captured human social interactions)

3D pose reconstruction time: hand-coded solution by grad student — 7 hours on a 4-Titan Xp machine



[Courtesy Yaser Sheikh, Tomas Simon, Hanbyul Joo] [Joo et al. 2015]



Cinematography analysis

Collaboration with Alex Hall, Maneesh Agrawala (Stanford)



What is the average length of shot in a movie?

Does the director favor close ups or wide shots? How much camera motion is used?

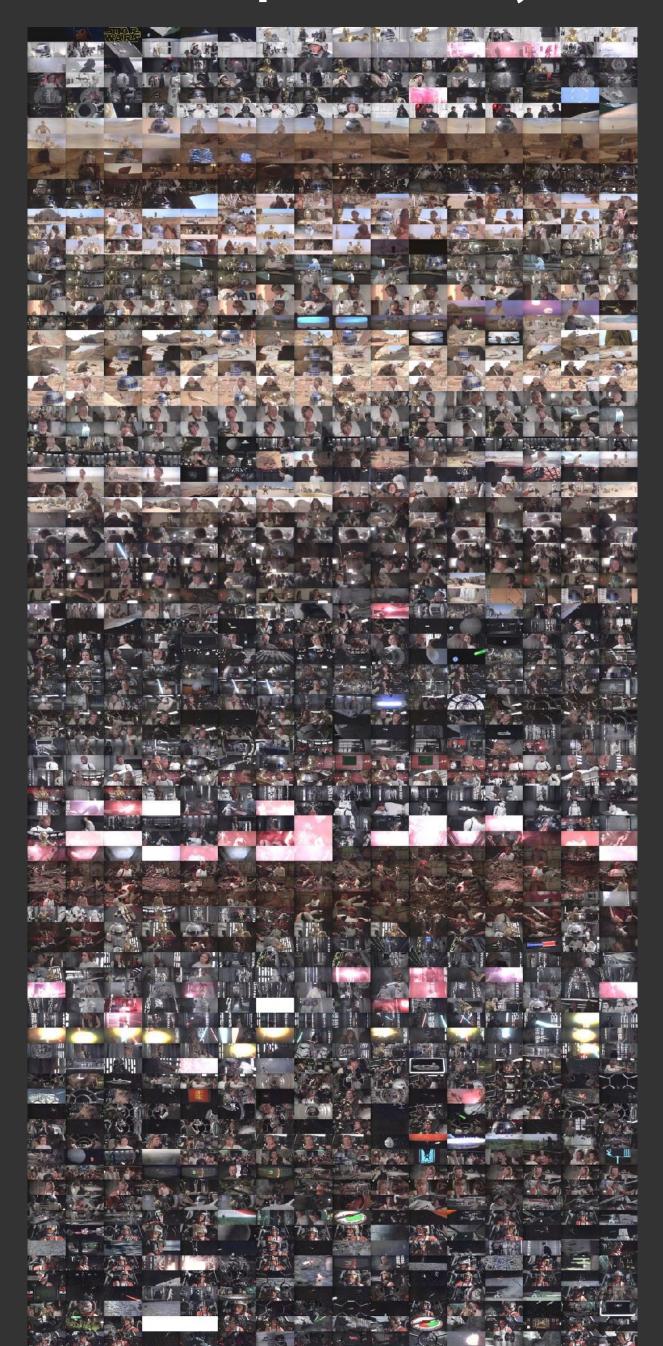
What are the main color palettes in the film?

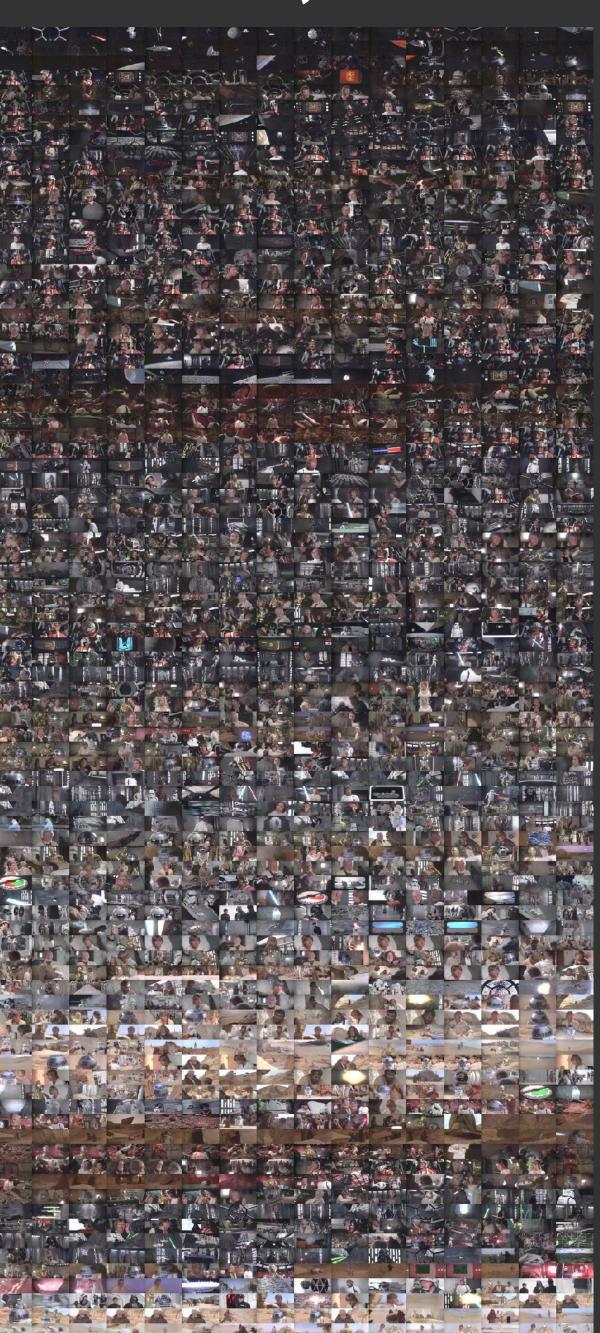
How do these traits vary across films or time?

"Star Wars Episode IV: a New Hope"
Segmented into shot boundaries based on image histograms

Star Wars Ep IV: Sorted by time

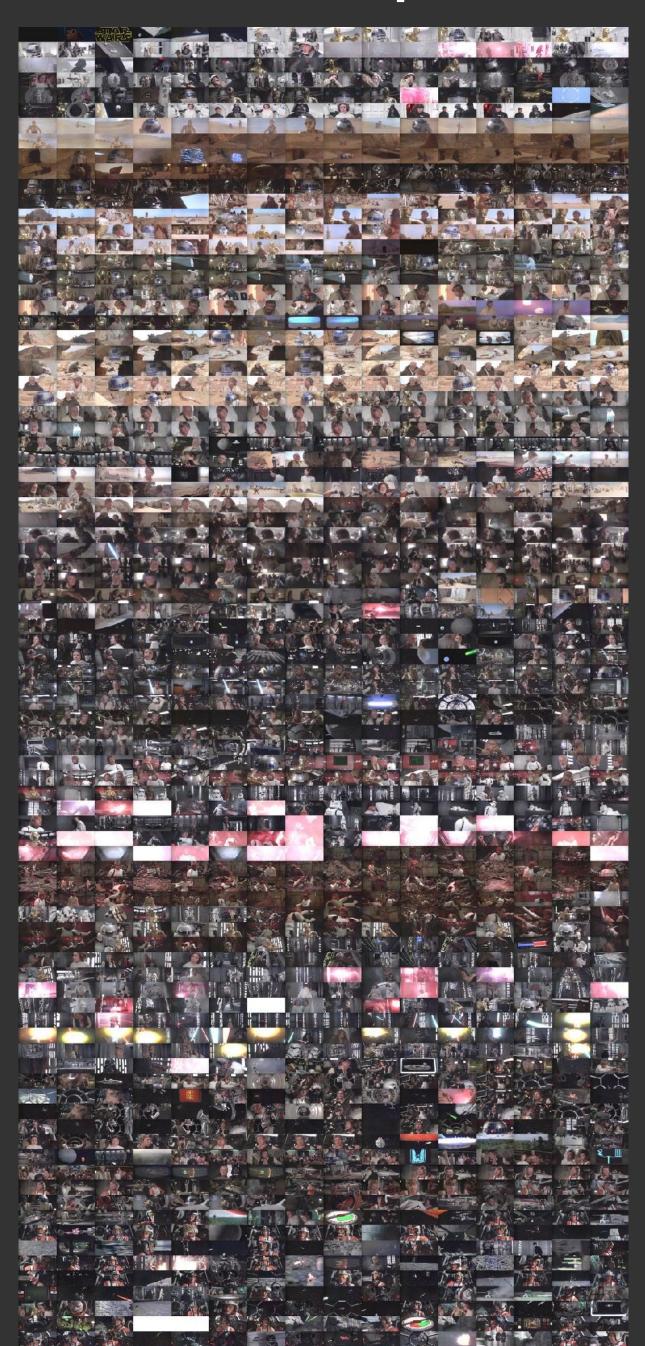
Sorted by color

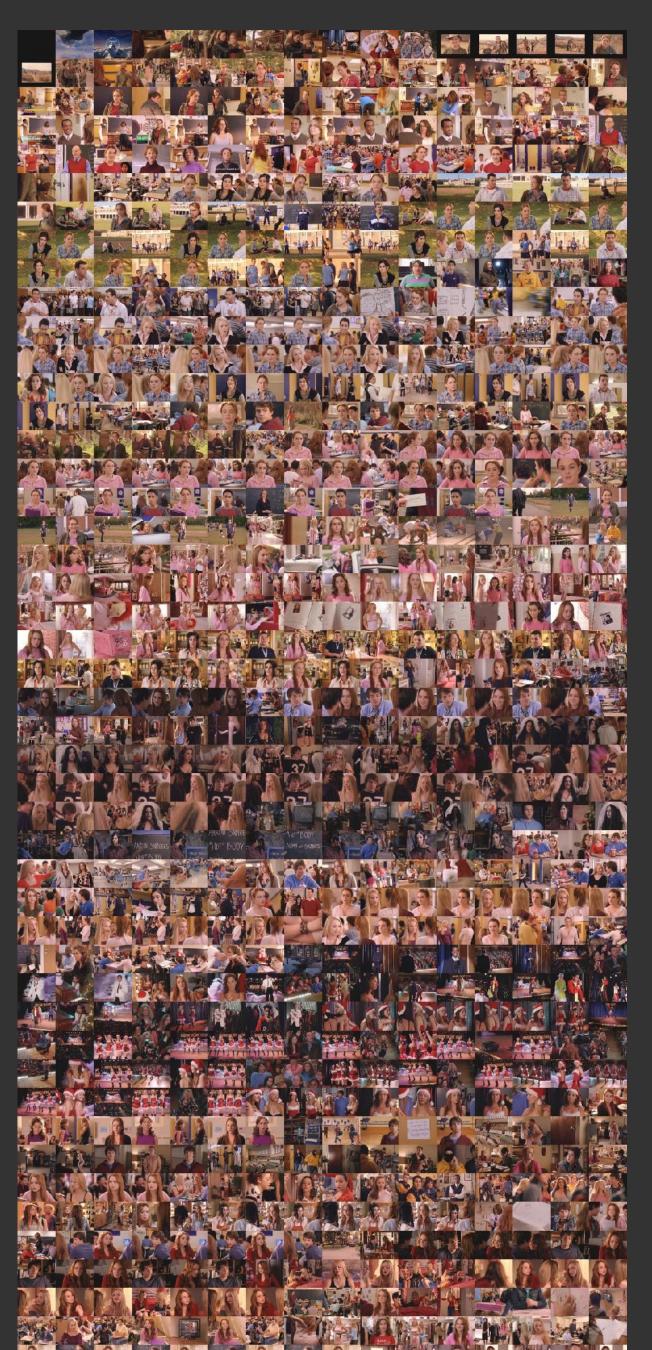




Star Wars Ep IV

Mean Girls





Workload characteristics

- Large video collections (100's GBs-to-TBs compressed)
 - Decompress and deliver pixels efficiently to compute units
- Basic data-parallel operations (map, scan), often performed on sampling of frames
 - Analytics-style computations: not tightly coupled, latency sensitive global communication typical of ML model training
- Efficient pixel processing pipelines utilize kernels from expert-tuned libraries, generated by DSLs
 - e.g., Halide, DNN inference using Caffe, OpenCV, MKL
 - complex "UDFs" that are already parallelized, run most efficiently on accelerators

Alternatives

- Distributed data-analytics frameworks
 - [Hadoop, Spark]
- Array/raster databases
 - [SciDB, RasDaMan, GIS databases]
- Distributed machine learning frameworks
 - [TensorFlow, MxNet, CNTK]
- Emerging closed systems for "vision as a cloud service"
 - Google Cloud Vision API
 - Microsoft Cognitive Services API
 - feature turnkey solutions for object classification, face detection, motion detection, OCR, stabilization, inappropriate content filtering

Efficiently delivering video data to GPU/ASIC accelerated pixel-processing pipelines:

Scanner: efficient video analysis at scale

Design goals / principles

Design principle 1: keep it simple

Enable non-expert programmers (vision researchers, visual data analysts) to rapidly develop and deploy video analysis applications at cloud scale

Design principle 2: be efficient

- "Near-HW-peak single-node perf" then scale out
- Utilize heterogenous hardware: ASICs for video encode/decode, run kernels on multi-core CPUs, GPUs, future DNN accelerators

Non goals:

- Do not be a new kernel description language
- Interoperate with state-of-art 3rd-party kernel libraries and kernel code generated from existing DSLs

Setup

I have a list of videos in a directory...

```
myvideos/cam000.mp4
myvideos/cam001.mp4
myvideos/cam002.mp4
...
myvideos/cam479.mp4
```

[Cao16]

[Hu17]

[Bansal17]

[Redmon16]

And I have a library of parallel pixel processing kernels for CPUs and GPUs:

Image crop/rescale (Halide)

Depth from disparity (Halide)

Optical flow (OpenCV)

Eigen (C)

Video Tracker (CUDA)

Caffe DNN Eval

NVIDIA cuDNN

Object detector

Face detection network
...

Depth/normal estimator

Represent videos as relations (tables)

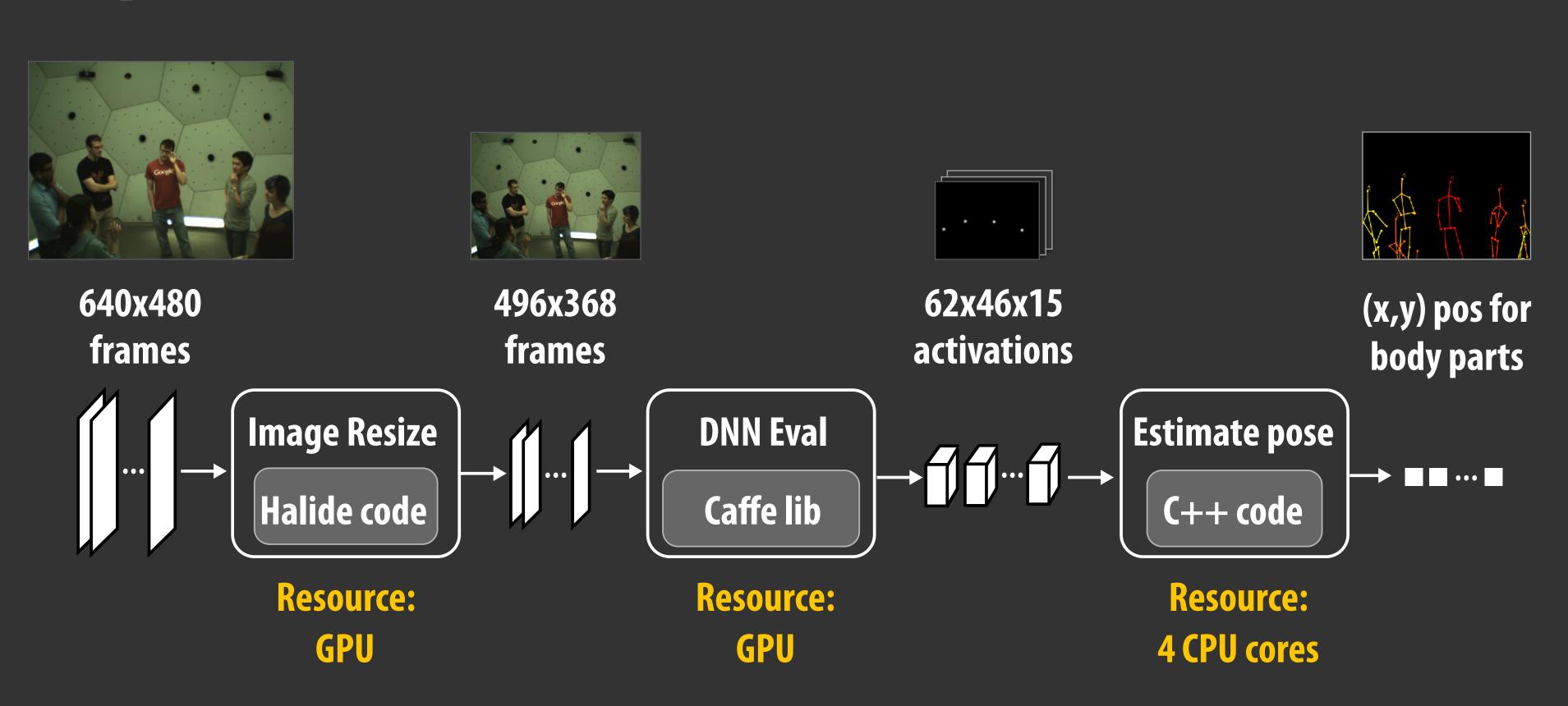
```
myvideos/cam000.mp4
myvideos/cam001.mp4
myvideos/cam002.mp4
...
myvideos/cam479.mp4
```

Ingest into Scanner...

Scanner dataset: capture_session

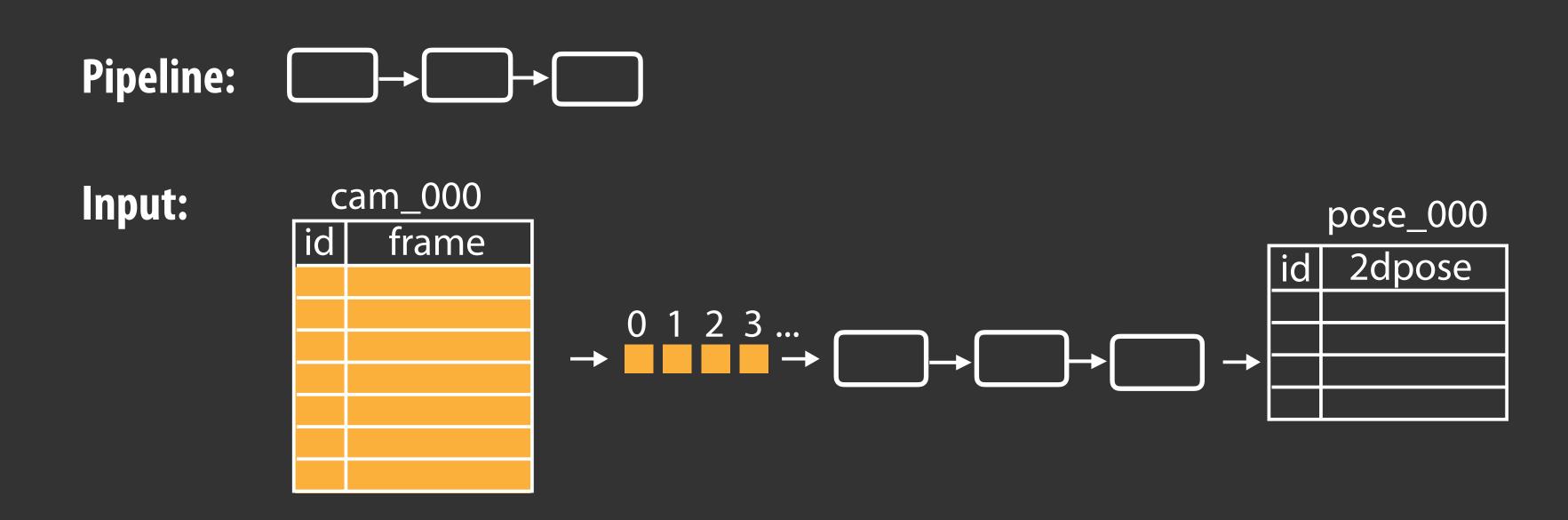
table: cam000.mp4		table: cam001.mp4		table: cam002.mp4			table: cam479.mp4	
frame_id	image	frame_id	image	frame_id	image		frame_id	image
						•••		

Computations: DAGs of image processing operations

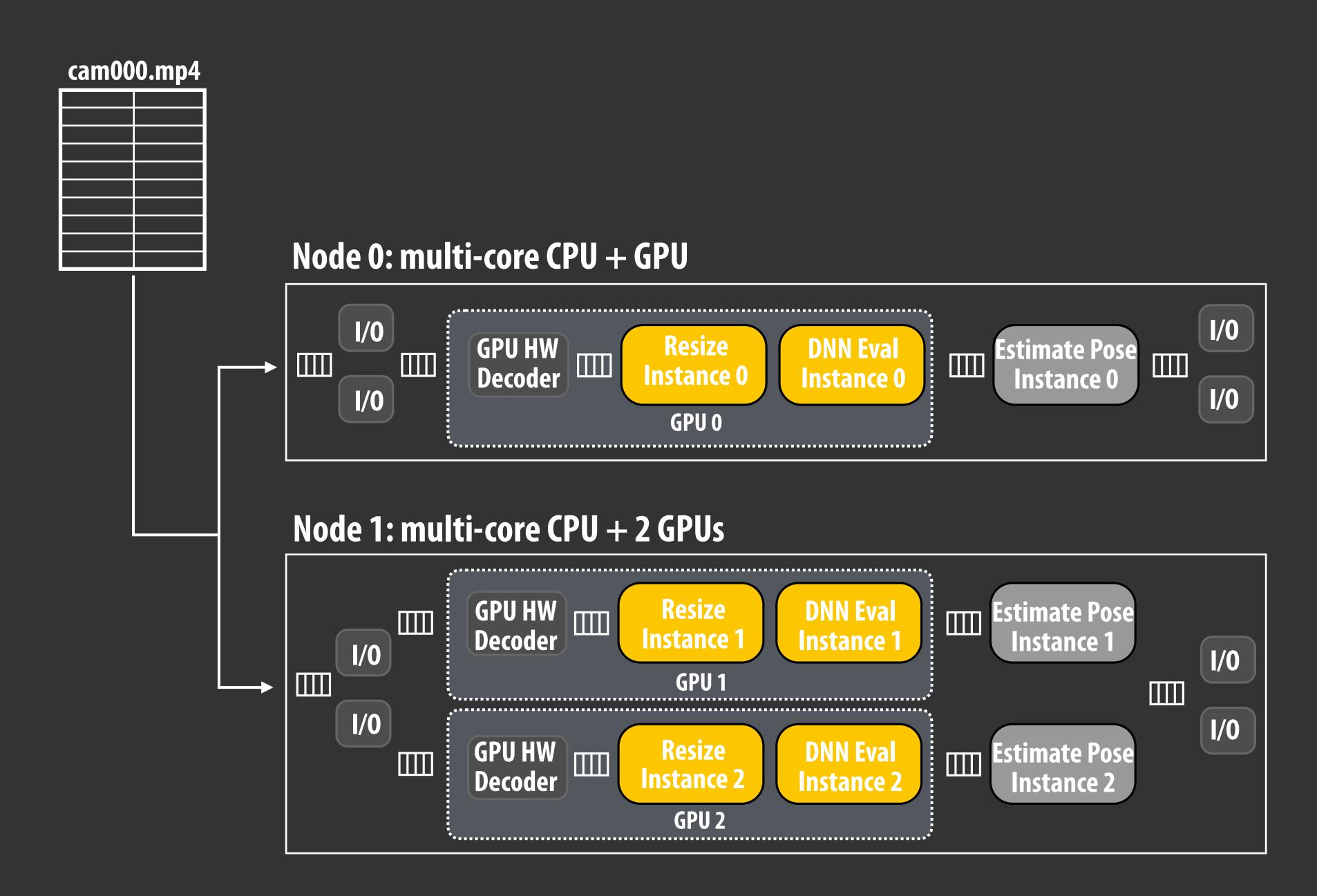


Pipeline kernels map to heterogeneous resources: CPUs, GPUs, ASICs

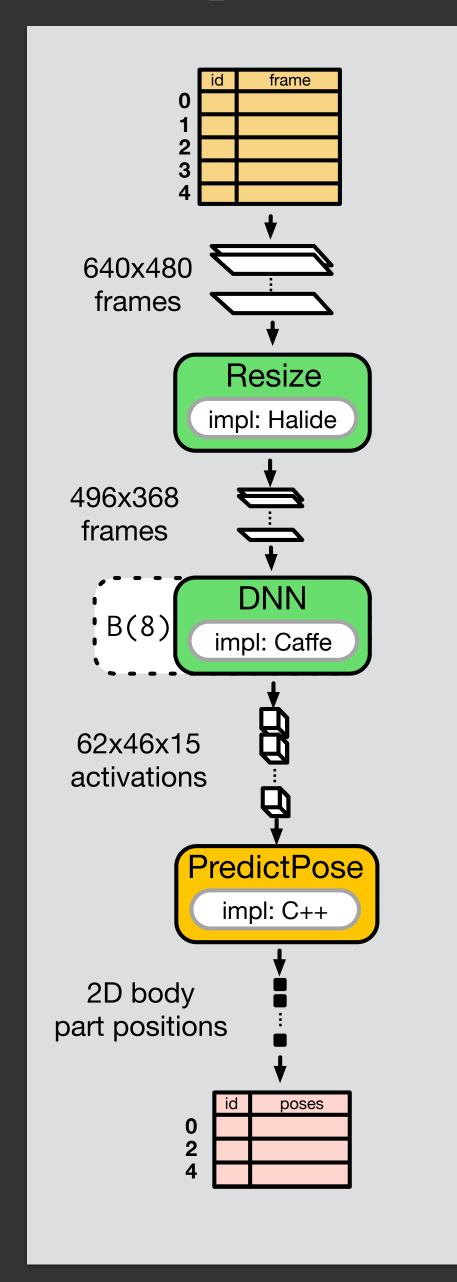
Scanner maps pipelines onto a stream of video frames from tables



Parallel execution in Scanner



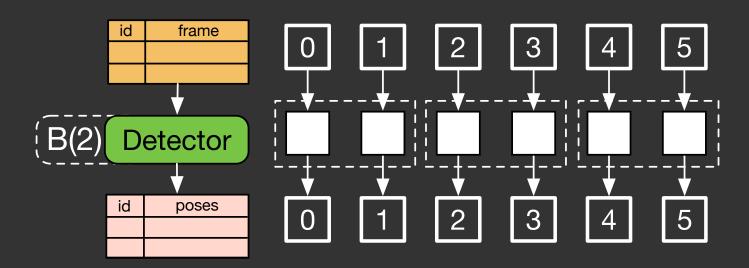
A simple Scanner program



```
db = scanner.Database()
videos = os.listdir('/myvideos')
video_tables = db.ingest_videos(videos)
jobs = []
for table in video_tables:
    resized = db.ops.Resize(
        frame = table.column('frame').all(),
       width = 496,
        height = 368,
        device = GPU)
    activations = db.ops.DNN(
        frame = resized,
        model = cpm.prototxt,
        batch = 8,
        device = GPU)
    poses = db.ops.PredictPose(
        activations = activations,
        device
                    = CPU)
    jobs.append( Job(columns = [poses],
                             = 'poses'
                     name
                     output_filter = stride(2) )
pose_tables = db.run(jobs)
```

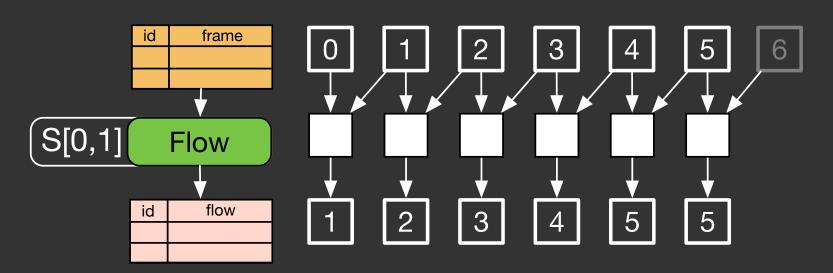
Scanner data-parallel operators

Map (with element batching)



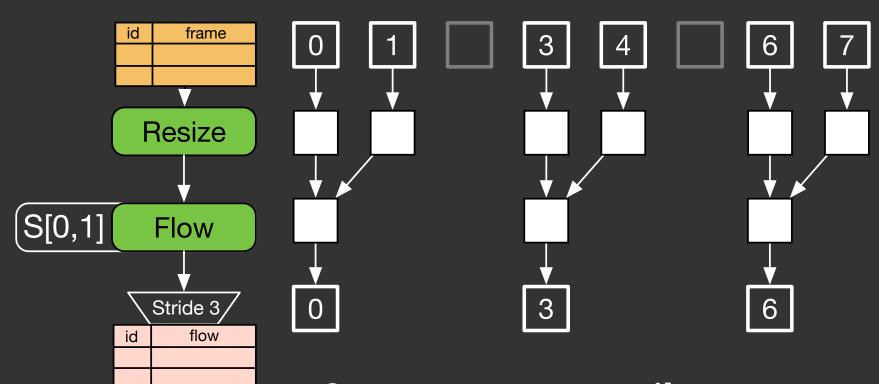
Batching frames together during processing (efficient mini-batch kernels, e.g. DNNs)

Temporal Stencil

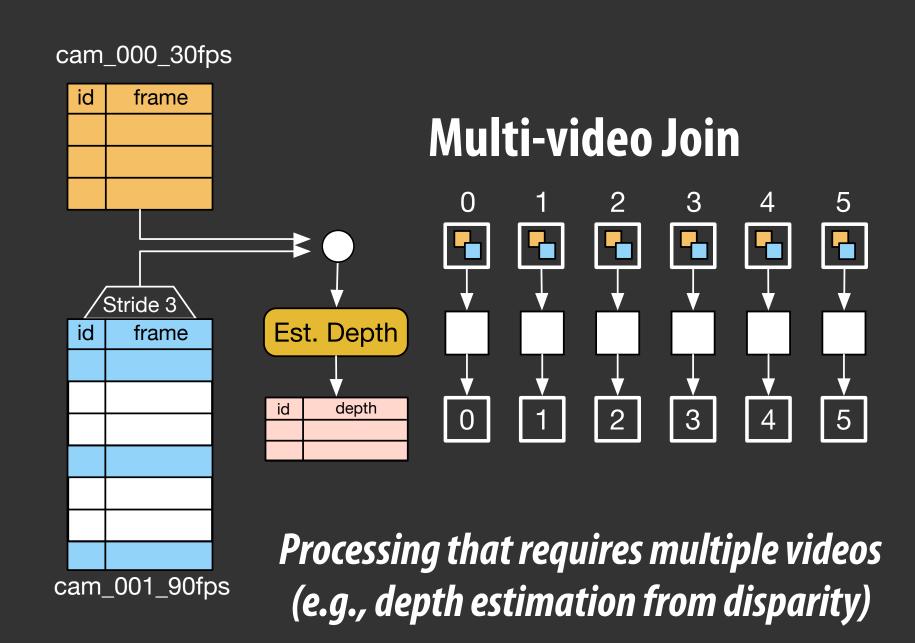


(e.g., computing optical flow, video stabilization/hyperlapse)

Temporal Stencil + Stride



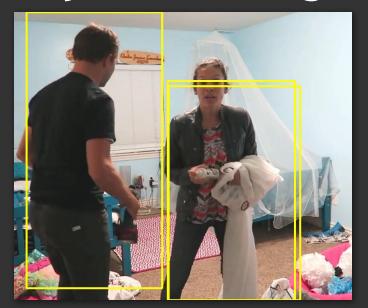
Sparse output + stencil (e.g., optical flow on every 30th frame)



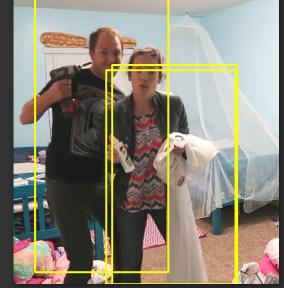
Challenges unique to video domain

- 1. Striding/gathering frames from compressed video streams
- 2. Temporal dependencies in common video processing operations

Object tracking (stateful)







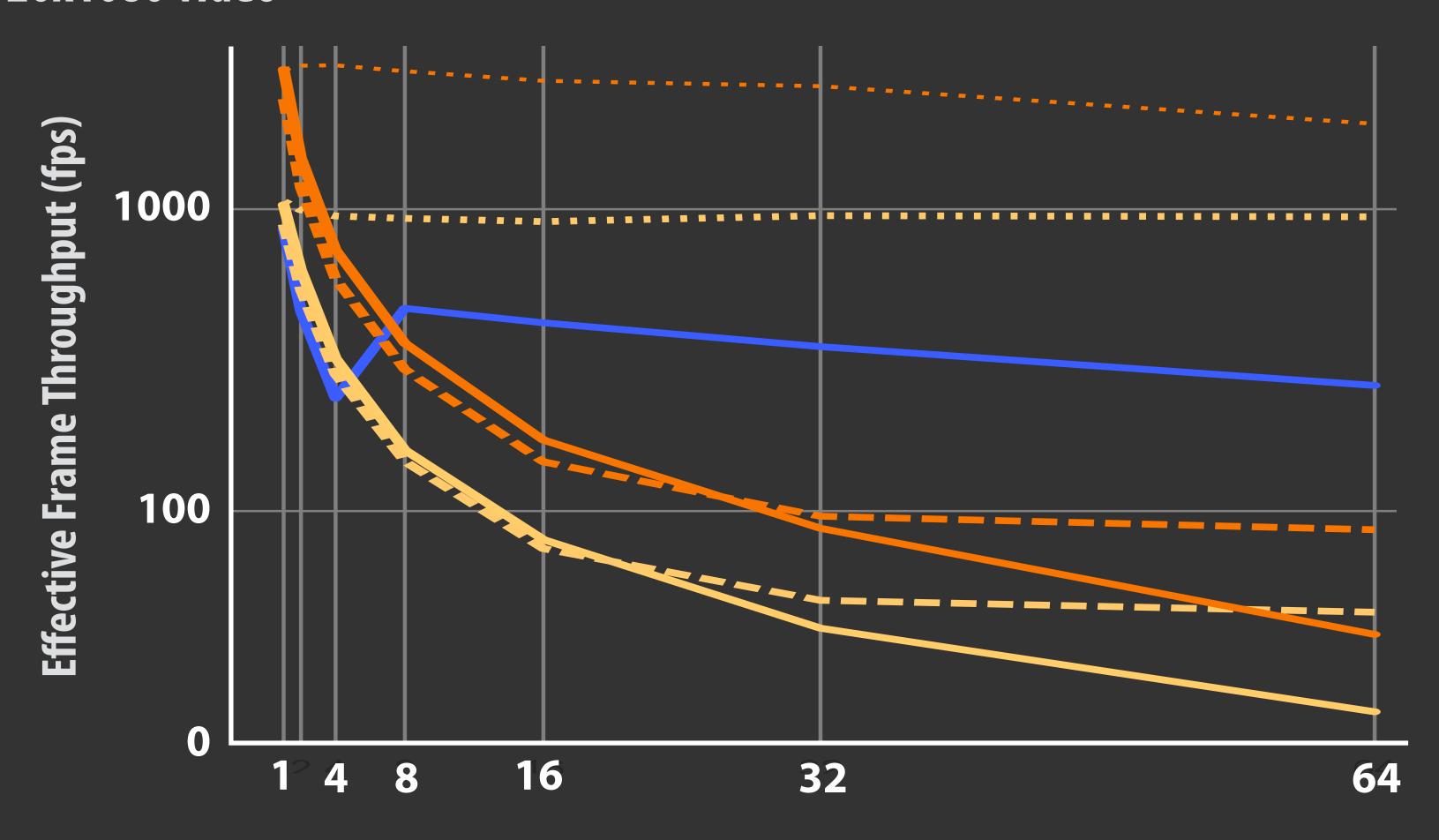
Activity recognition (must observe long sequence of frames)



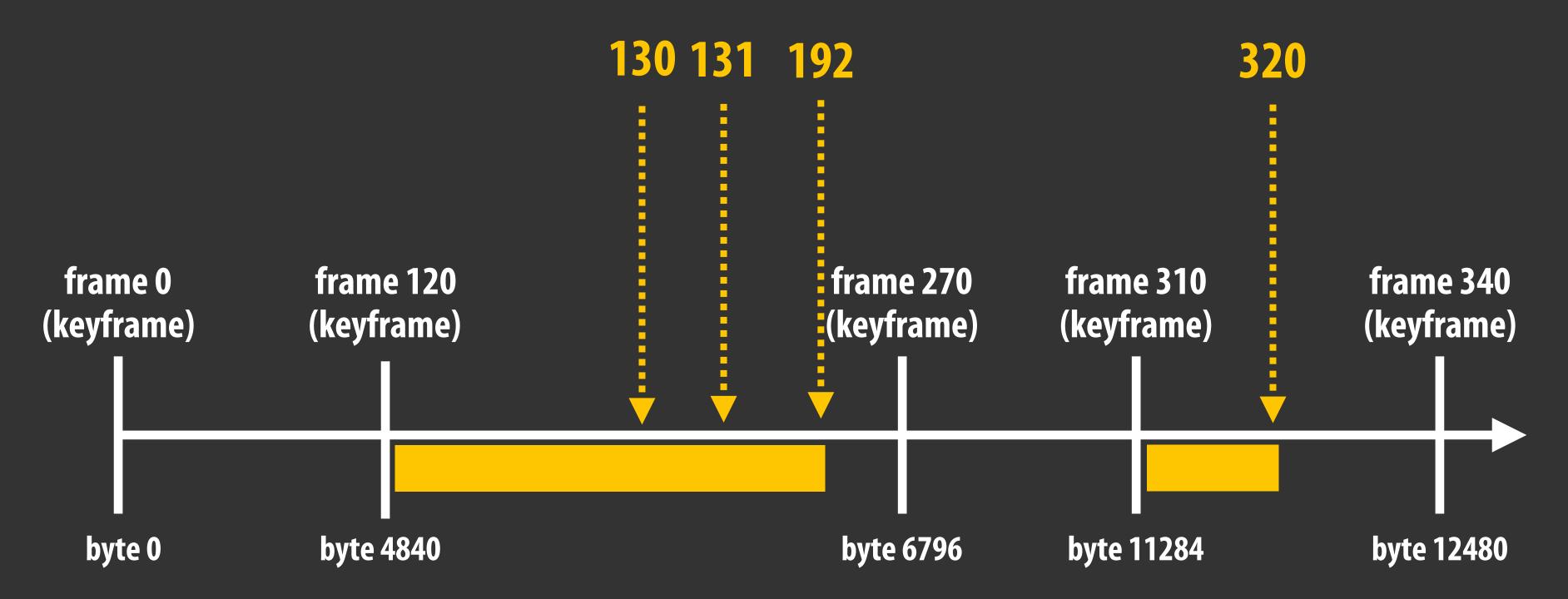
[Ma 2016]

Choosing a video storage format

16 core Xeon GPU + 1 Titan Xp GPU 1920x1080 video



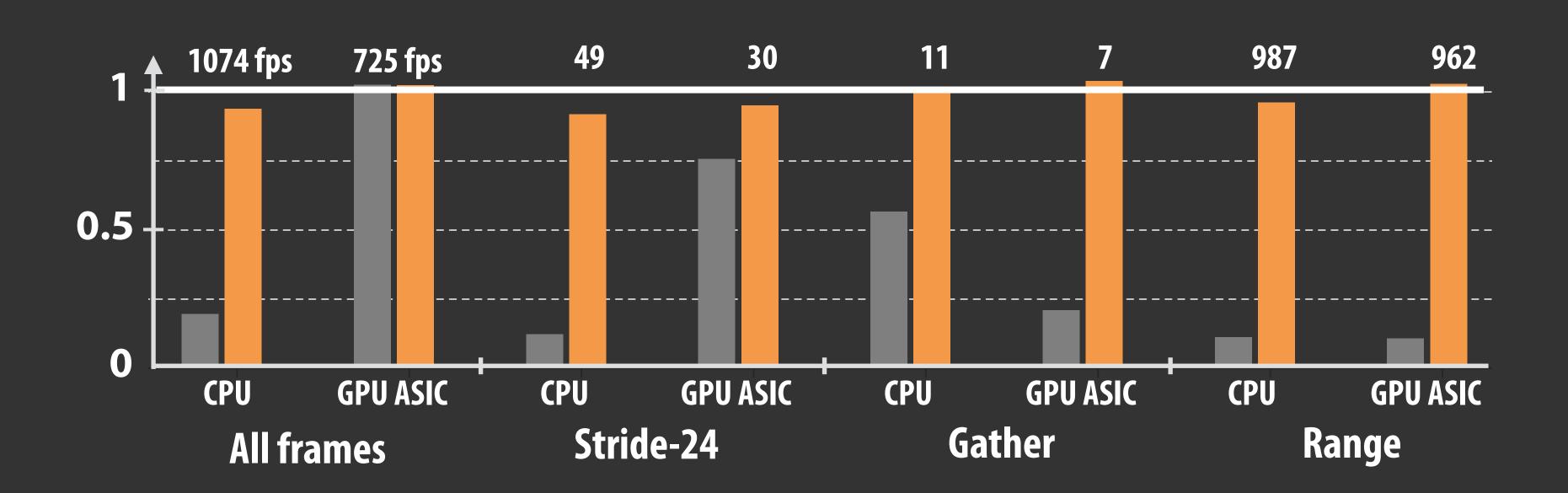
Maintain index of keyframe locations to accelerate parallel decode



Scanner maintains index of keyframe locations to enable work-efficient parallel, gathered decode

Importance of well-optimized video decode

Decoded Frame Throughput (1080p) (Relative to expert hand-tuned implementations)



CPU = 16-core **CPU**

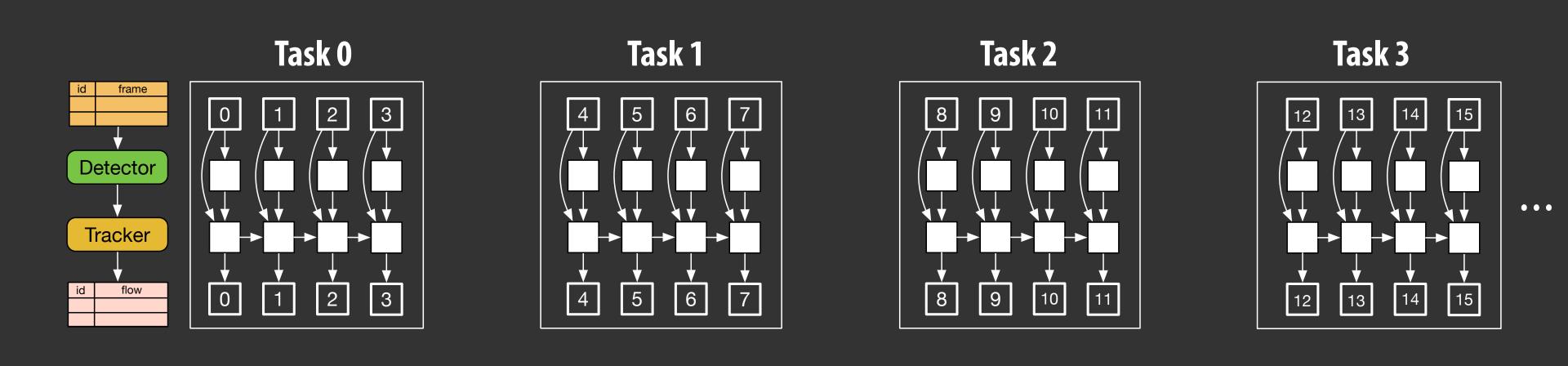
GPU = **Titan Xp**



Baseline (off-the-shelf libraries and tools)

Handling temporal dependencies in video processing

Two-level stream hierarchy: applications partition jobs into "tasks" (Scanner ensures all elements in task are scheduled serially on same pipeline)

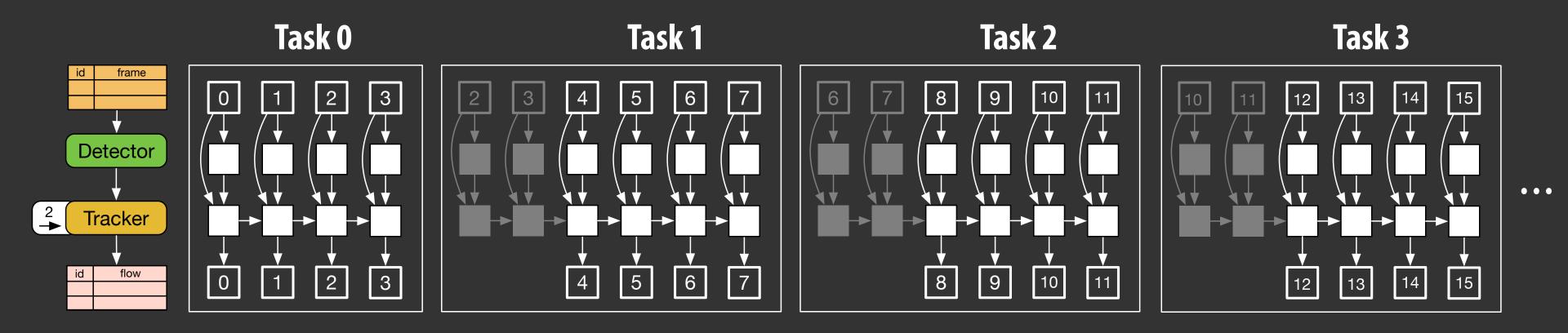


Job with 4 independent tasks (4 frames/task)

Examples of stateful execution: object tracker carries frame-to-frame state, activity recognition must observe long sequence of frames

Handling temporal dependencies in video processing

Tasks can receive "warmup" stream elements to initialize state Pipeline generates no output for these elements. (redundant computation across tasks to facilitate parallelism)



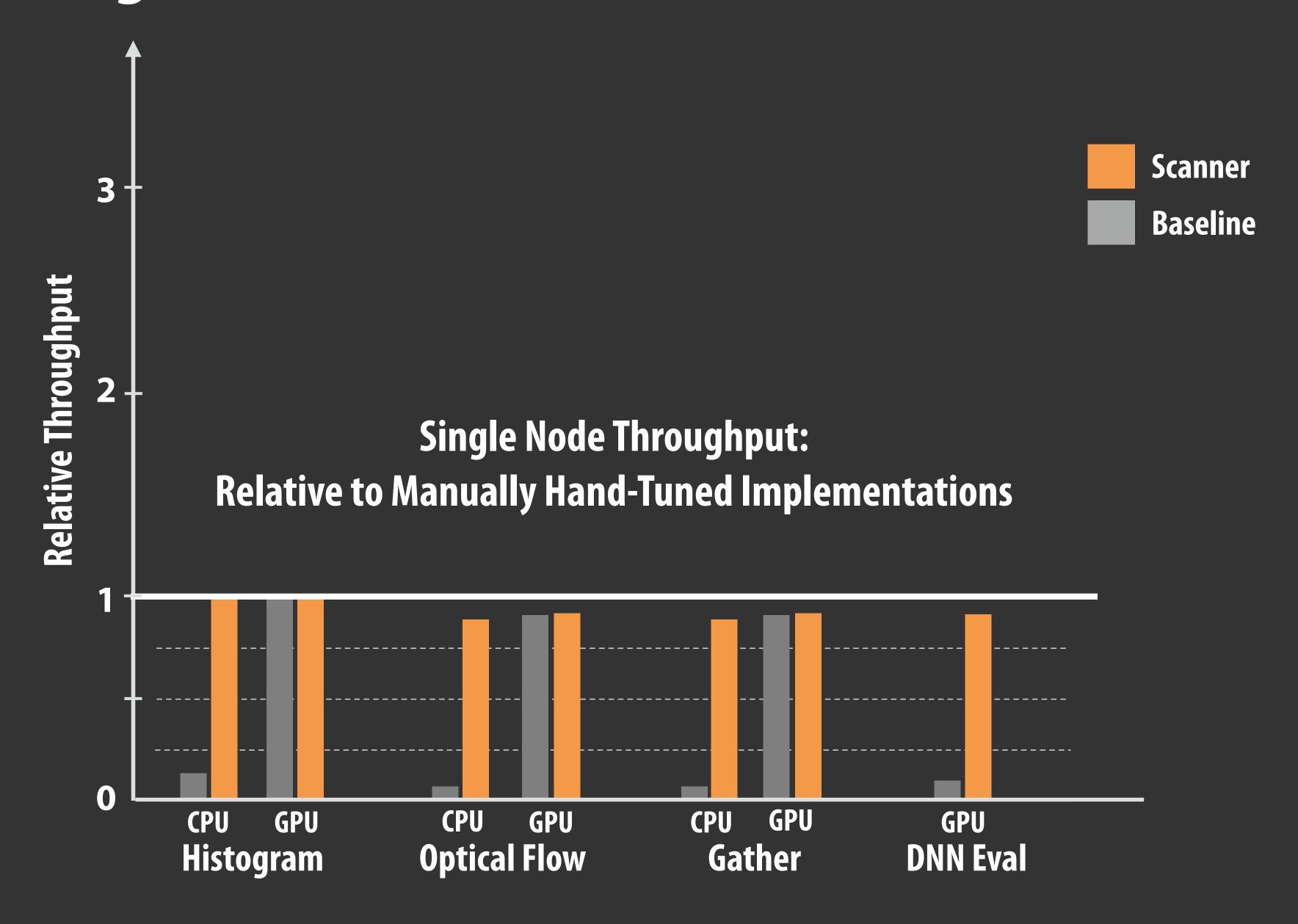
Job with 4 independent tasks (task warmup size = 2 frames)

Intuition for warmup:

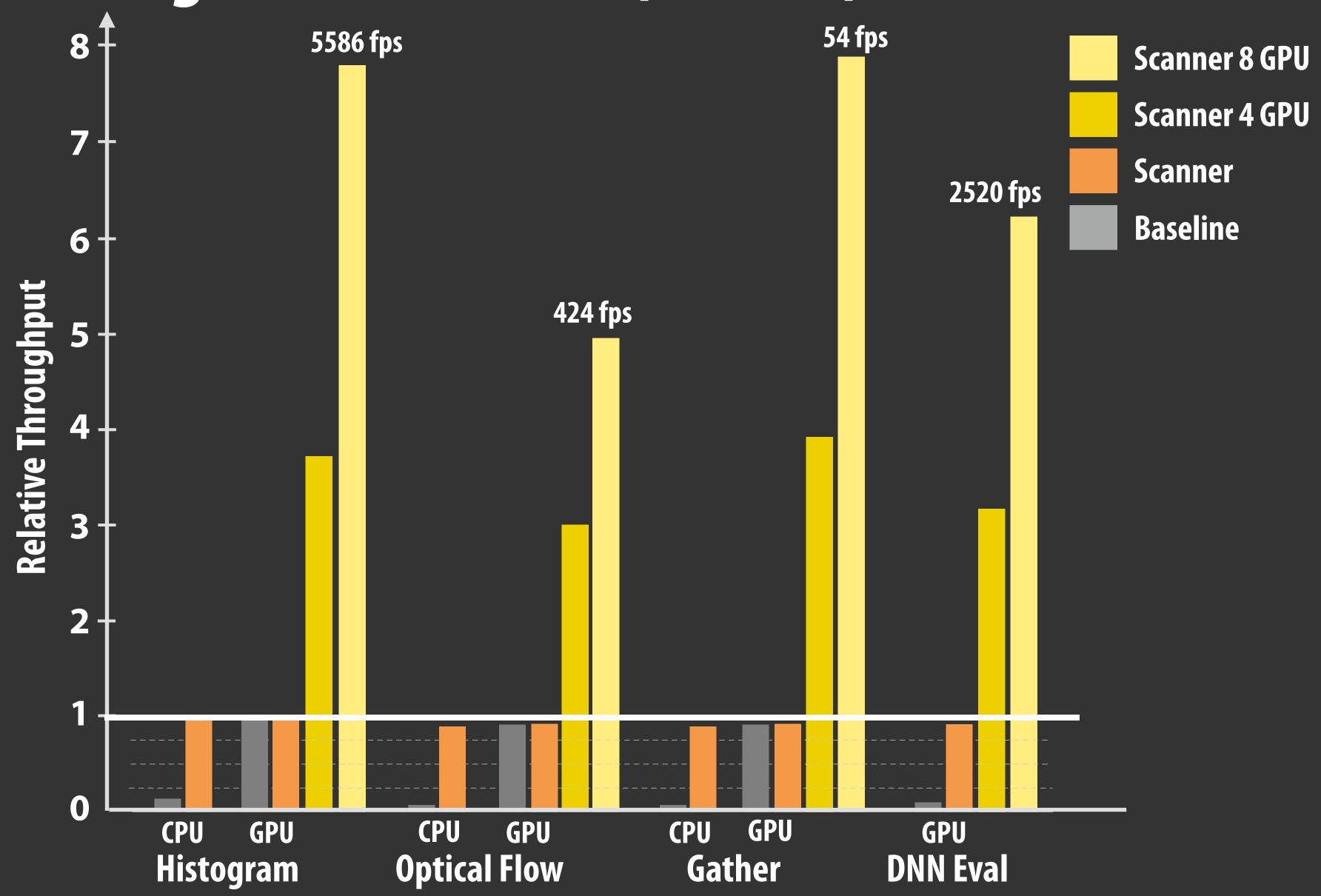
When "influence" of state is relatively local in time, warmup allows parallel execution with little change in output values e.g. provide task additional 30 frames to initialize object tracker

Preliminary results

Single node: scanner has low overhead

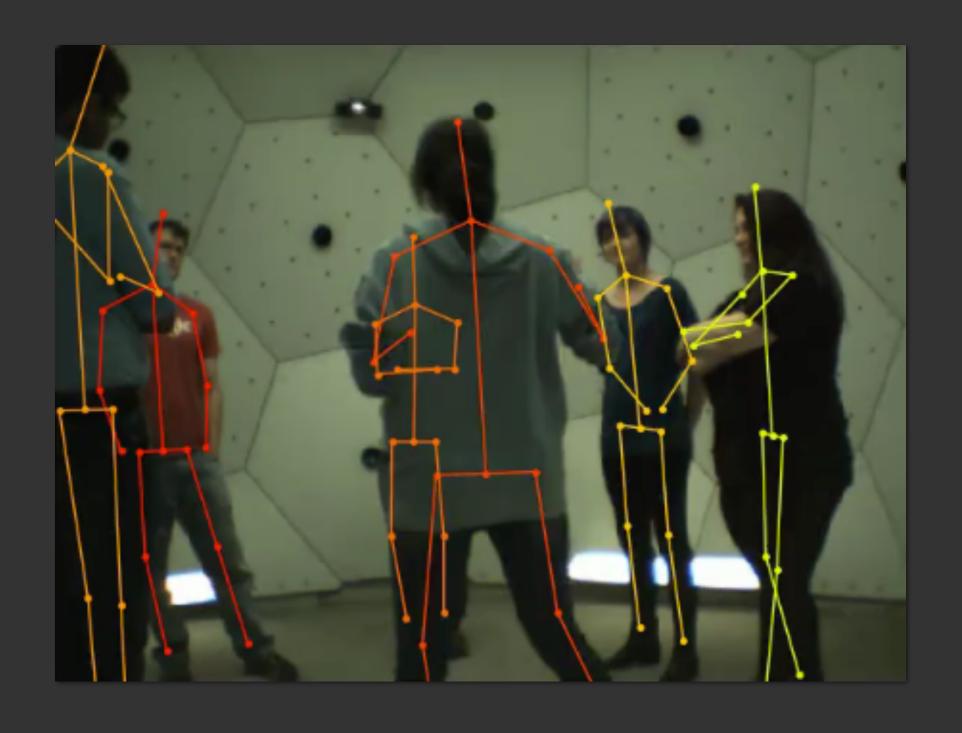


Scaling to 2 machines (8 GPUs)



3D human pose reconstruction

Processing 40 seconds of video from CMU Panoptic studio



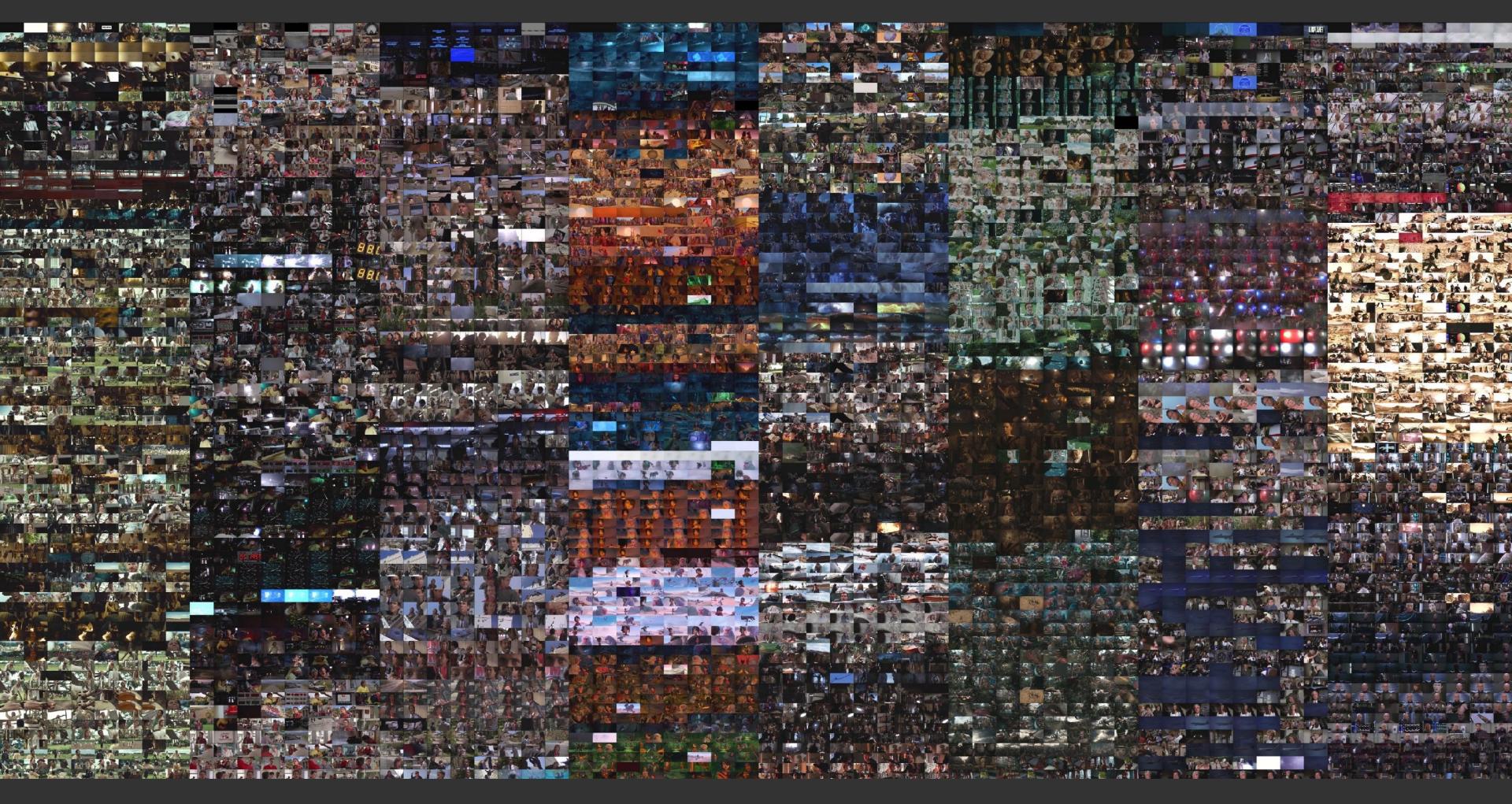
Grad student hand-tuned: 7 hrs (1 node x 4 Titan Xp GPUs)

Scanner: 2.6 hrs (1 node x 4 Titan Xp GPUs)

Scanner on cluster: 38 mins (4 node x 4 Titan Xp)

Approaching viability for extended capture sessions.

Shot segmentation (cinematography analysis)

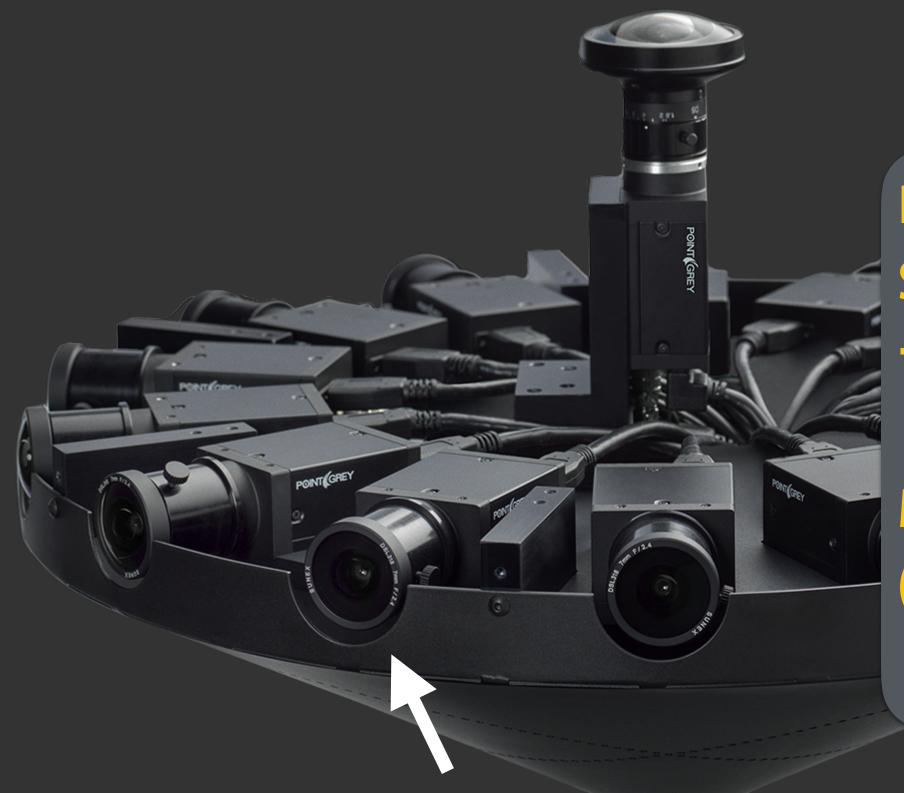


608 feature length films (2.4 TB) 103M frames

Histogram-based shot segmentation of all films: 4.7 hrs (4 node cluster, 4 GPUs/node)

Facebook Surround 360 VR video generation

(omnidirectional stereo VR video)



Preliminary Scanner results: Single node (32-core CPU)

- 5 secs / frame

Multi-node on Google Compute Engine (8 x 32-core nodes)

- 0.7 secs/frame

2048 x 2048 PointGrey Camera @ 30 FPS

14 cameras

 $8K \times 8K$ stereo panorama output = 12.5 secs per frame on 32-core CPU

Scanner

- Open source compute engine for high-performance clusterscale video analytics (attacks platform/infrastructure needs)
 - Integrates high performance video delivery to heterogeneous accelerated computing pipelines

- Hope: influence design of current future distributed systems
 - Spark/Hadoop ecosystem
 - APIs for cloud-based video analysis services (Microsoft Cognitive Services API, Google Cloud vision API, NVIDIA Intelligent Video Analytics)

Ongoing: American TV news analysis

- Dataset provided by Internet Archive
- 9 months of US election coverage (2012, 2016) on CNN, FOX, MSNBC
- 6.6 TB, 18,000 hours of video, 1.5 billion frames



Fareed Zakaria GPS

CNN Newsroom

Situation Room



46 STATES NOW SEEKING CYBERSECURITY ASSISTANCE | CON

CNN Newsroom with Poppy Harlow

PALLIES IN FLAS CAMPAIGN ADMITS "WE'RE BEHIND"

OUGH ON EIG MERGERS; OBAMA ADMIN. RECENTLY REJECTED SEVERALT, NEWSROOM

The Lead with Jake

Tapper

Tapper



America News Headquarters

The Five

The Real Story With Gretchen Carlson

Shepard Smith Reporting

On the Record With Brit Hume

Inspiration

Geena Davis Inclusion Quotient (GD-IQ)

- Project between Google and The Geena Davis Institute on Gender in Media
- Uses computer vision to search for gender bias in blockbuster films

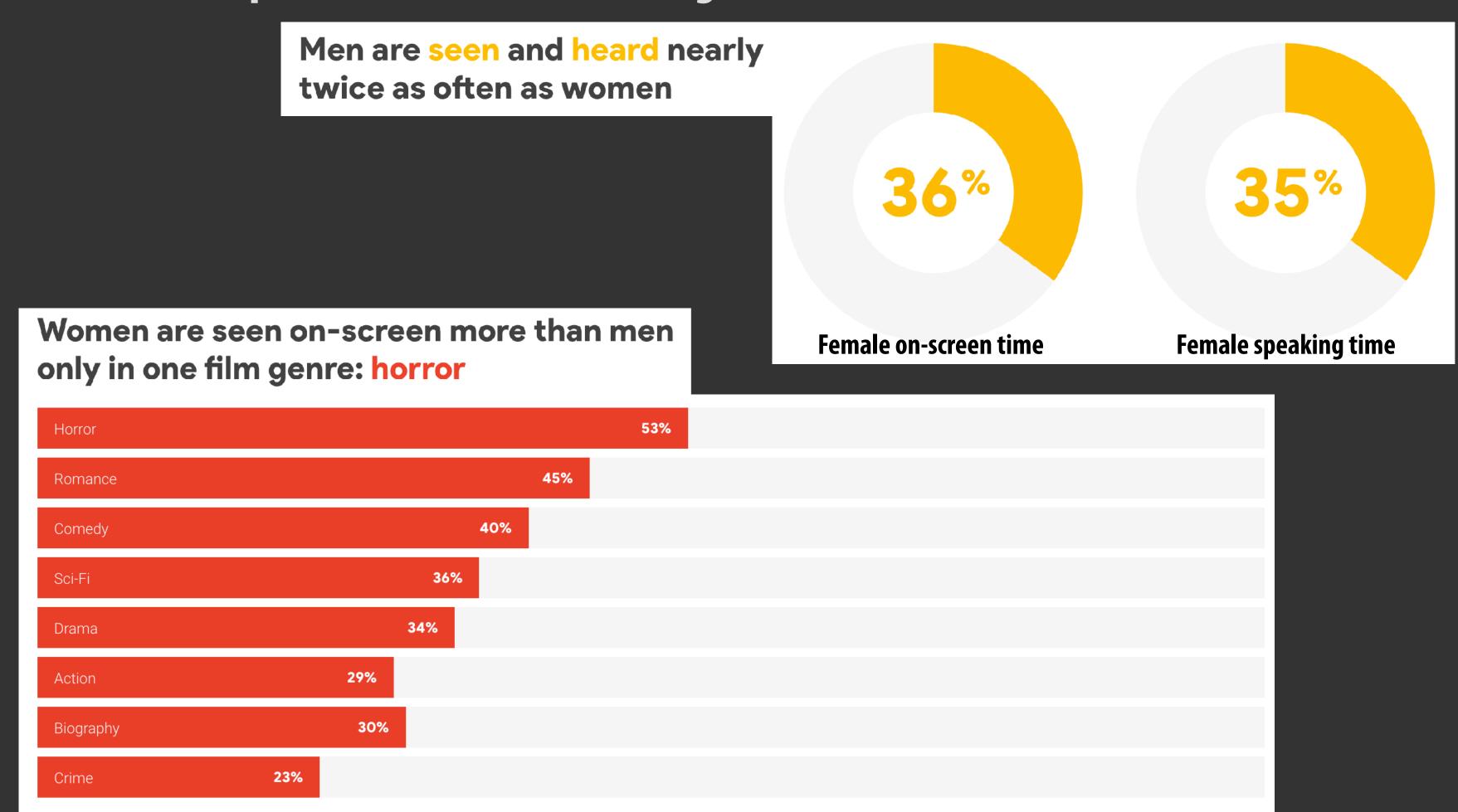


Image credit: https://www.google.com/intl/en/about/main/gender-equality-films/

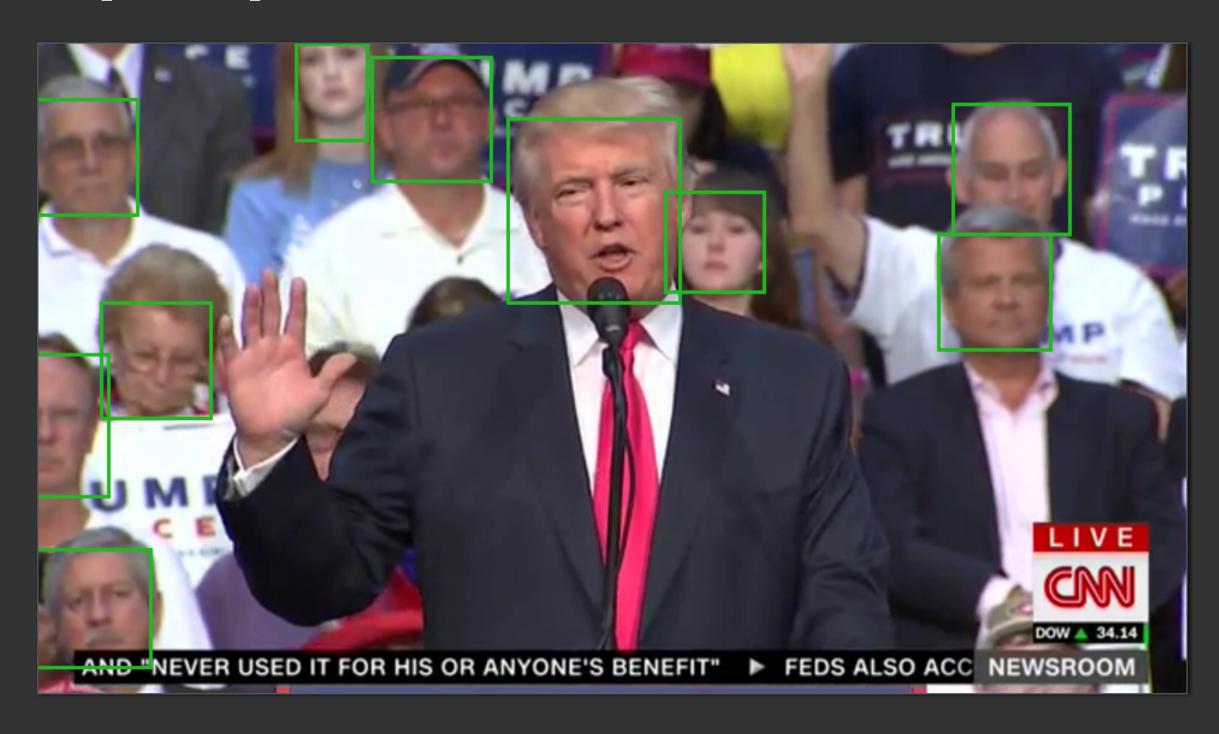
Visual data mining process

Work by: M. Perron W. Crichton S. Dulloor

100 hours (10 hours from each of 10 shows)
Sampled at 2 fps (every 12th frame) - 70K frames

MTCNN for face detection [Zhang 16]

"Rude Carnie" DNN for gender ID [Levi 16]



Refine filtering to include only the large faces

detection score > THRESHOLD1 && bbox_area > THRESHOLD2

Endless opportunities for innovation...

- Performance-centric algorithm innovation
 - Approximate high-quality detectors with cheaper ones
 - Manually via intelligent topology simplification?
 - Automatically via replacement or topology search?
 - Multi-resolution and/or adaptive detection techniques
 - What are most important frames to pay attention to in 18,000 hours of video?
 - Exploiting temporal coherence
 - Use results of prior frames to accelerate future processing
 - Future hardware acceleration
 - Need for DNN acceleration widely recognized
 - ASIC video decoder interfaces might wish to support strided/gathered access

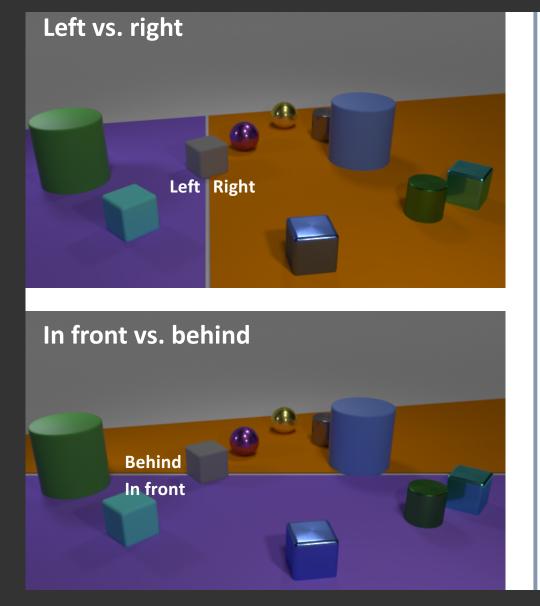
Endless opportunities for innovation...

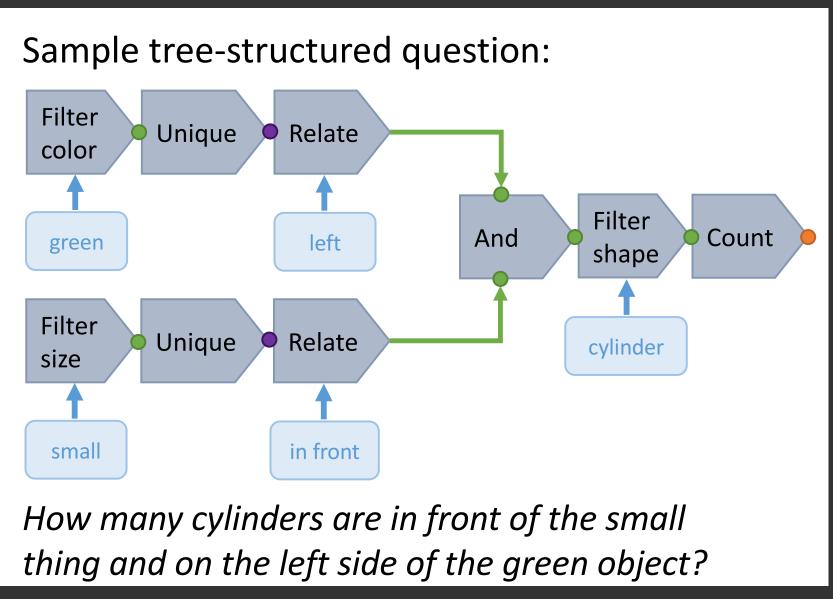
How to express visual data mining queries?

- What is SQL for video or scenes?



"Three cups to the left of the blue cup" [Ma 17] count(left(filterbycolor(detect(cup), blue), detect(cup))) == 3



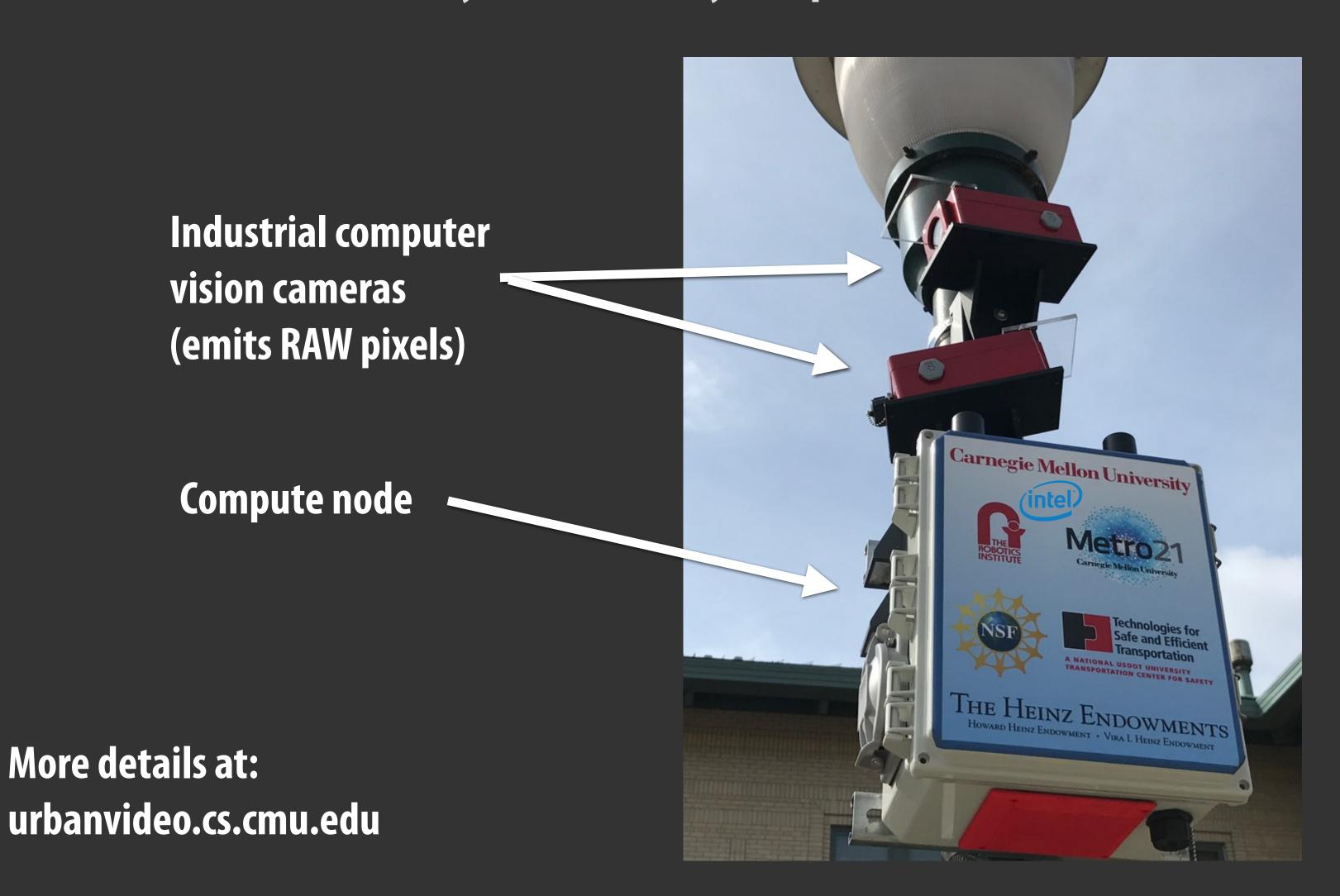


Al for visual reasoning CLEVR [Johnson 17]

CMU urban video analytics testbed + Streamer

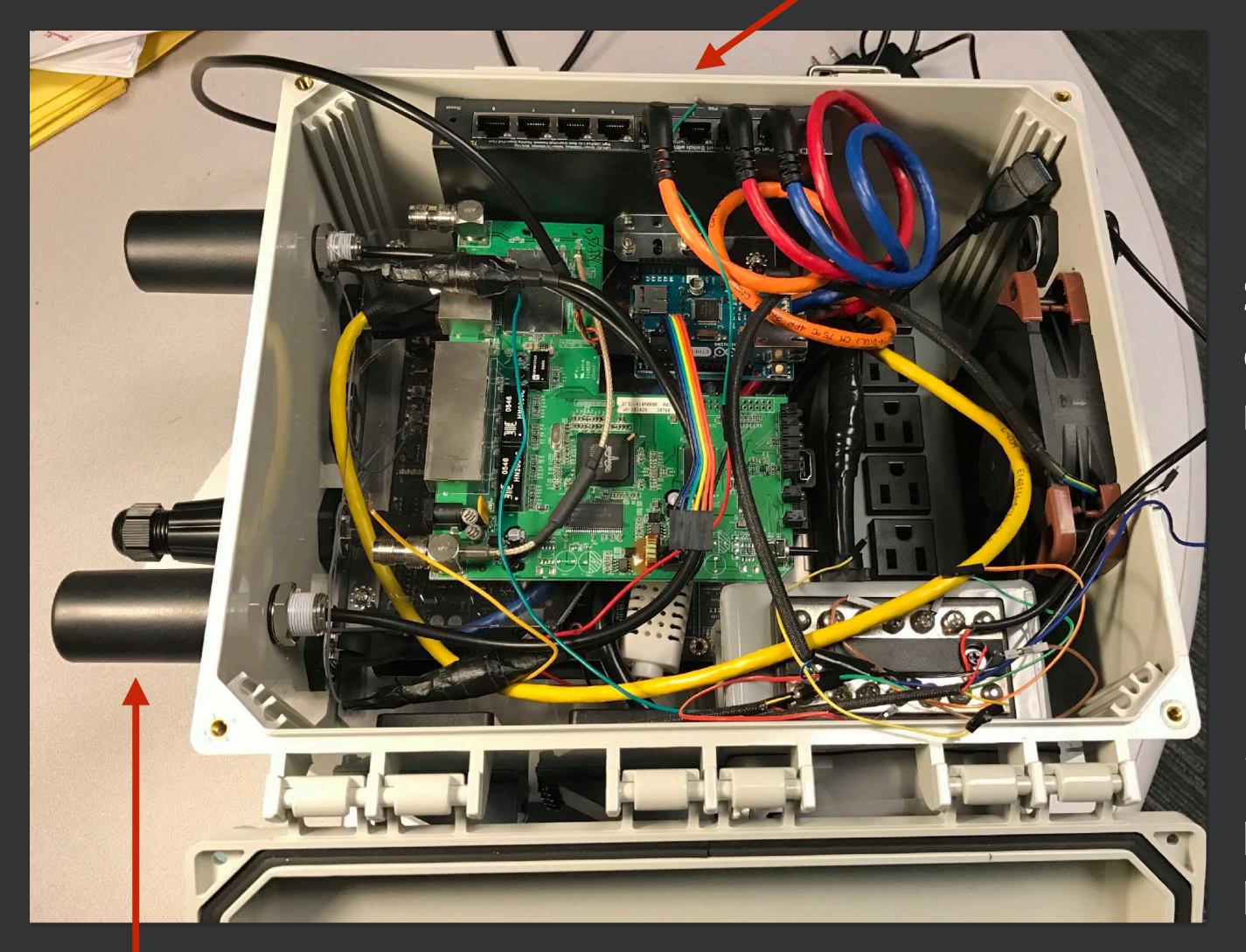
CMU urban video analytics testbed

Deployment of high-resolution cameras and edge compute nodes on campus at CMU and across a new city blocks nearby campus



Video analytics node

PoE Gigabit ethernet switch (power/data to cameras)



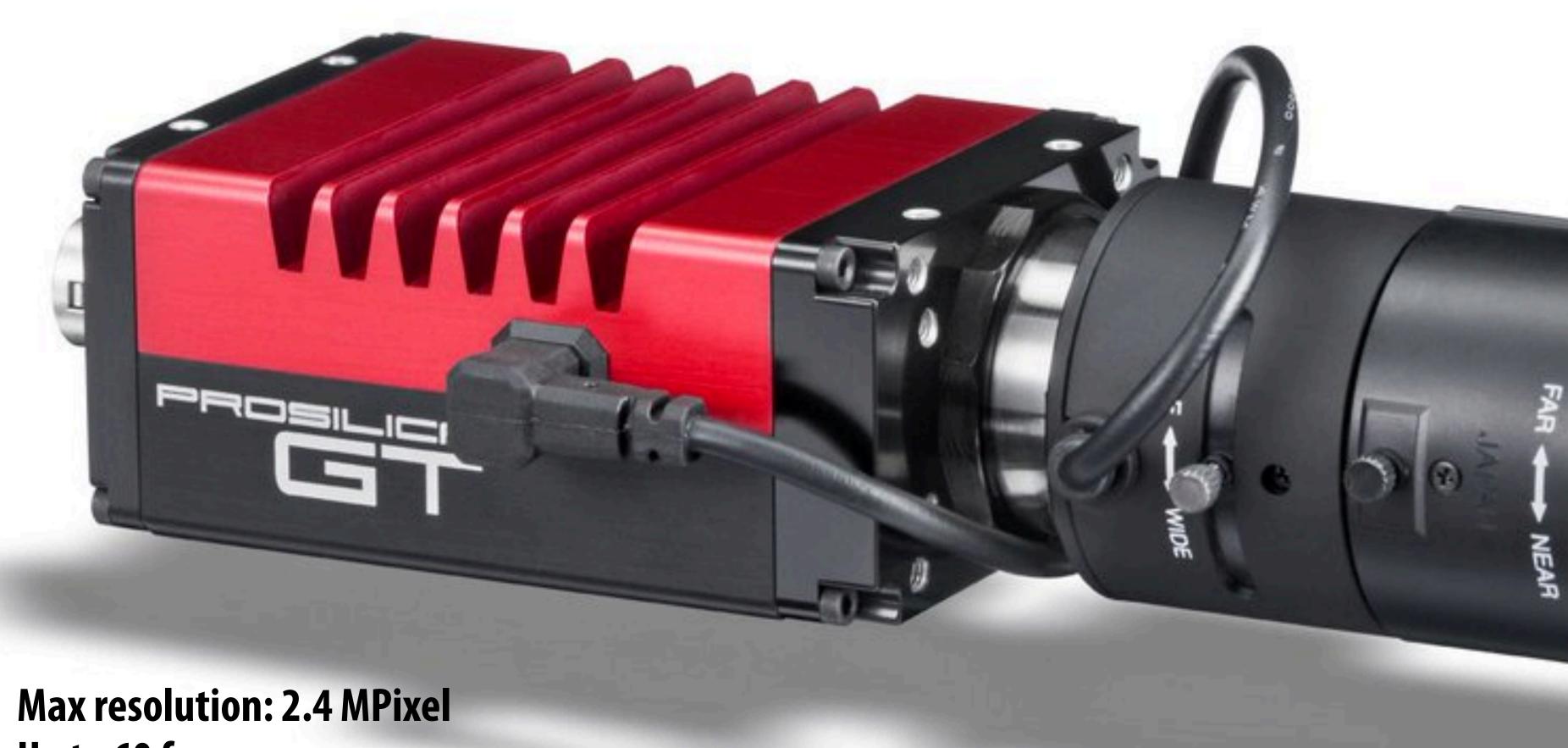
Significant compute capability on the near-camera node

Intel NUC / NVIDIA Tegra X1

1-2 TFLOPs of image processing hardware per node

Wi-fi antenna

Cameras



Up to 60 fps

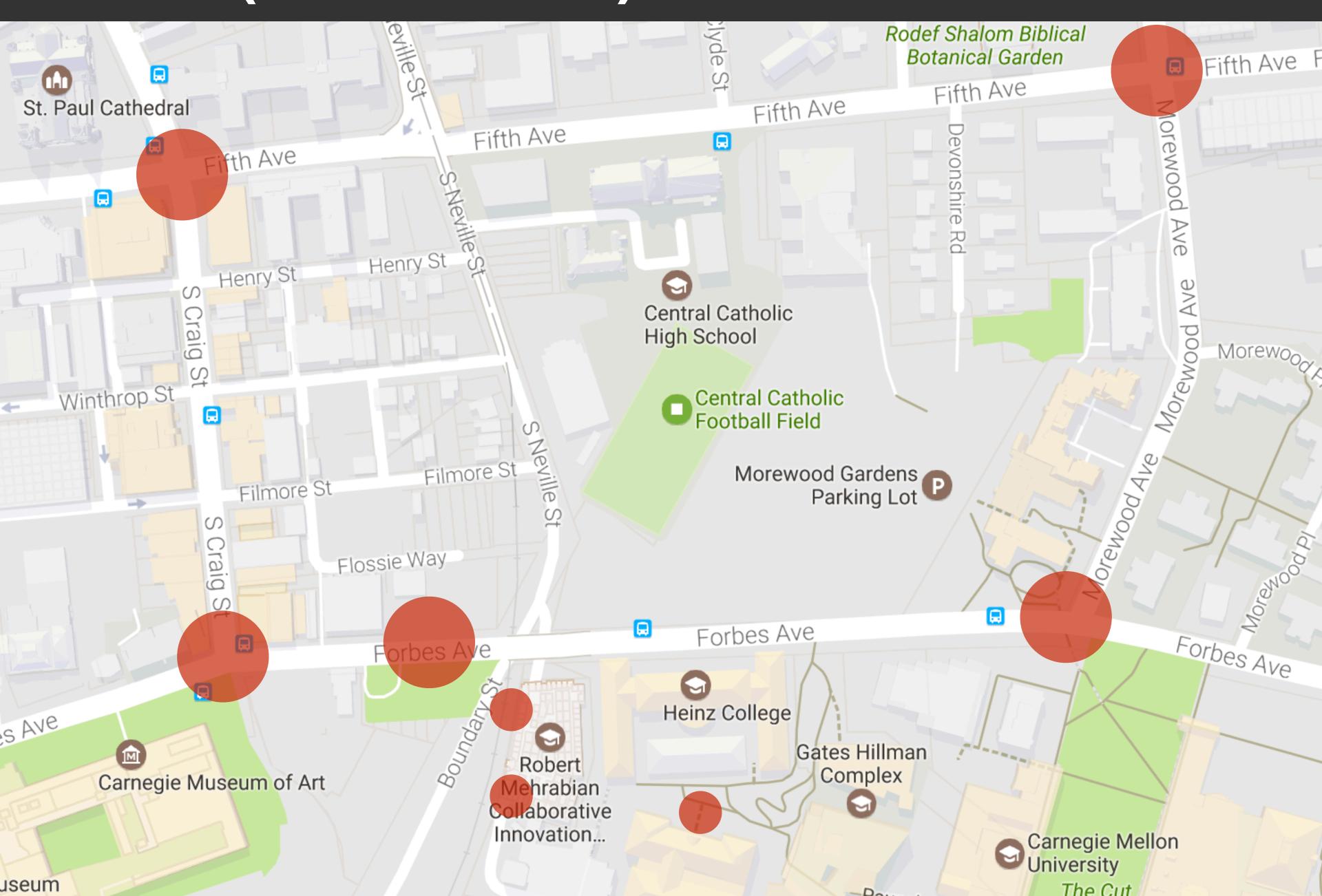
Emits RAW pixels (uncompressed video signal)

Inside windows





Year 1 (~end of 2017)



Urban video analytics testbed goals

- Be a "living laboratory" for research in cloud-to-edge systems, computer vision, security, privacy, urban computing
 - Provide open platform for deploying streaming applications at scale
 - Facilitate easy deployment of applications to 10's-100's of cameras
- Tackle issues of privacy and policy head on
 - Start with small deployment, then grow
 - One output of project will be policy and technology guidelines for responsible capture, use, and retention of urban video data

Urban video analytics testbed: use cases

TRANSPORTATION / CITY DYNAMICS

Vehicle/pedestrian/bicyclist trajectories

Notable "event" counting: bike near bus, near collisions, pedestrian unexpectedly entering street

Detailed statistics of human and vehicle behavior at intersections (for autonomous vehicle development and training)

External validation of autonomous vehicle positioning/decision making

CLIMATE / ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

Air-quality estimation from video data

Per-vehicle pollution estimation (based on analysis of exhaust)

Frozen road detection

PUBLIC SAFETY

Students opt-in to automated tracking when walking home at night

NEW COMPRESSION TECHNIQUES

"Smart camera" that learns a viewpoint-specific compression scheme (reduce network requirements)

Compression for machines, not humans: preserve information needed for analysis tasks (rather than preserve image details that are salient to human eye)

PRIVACY

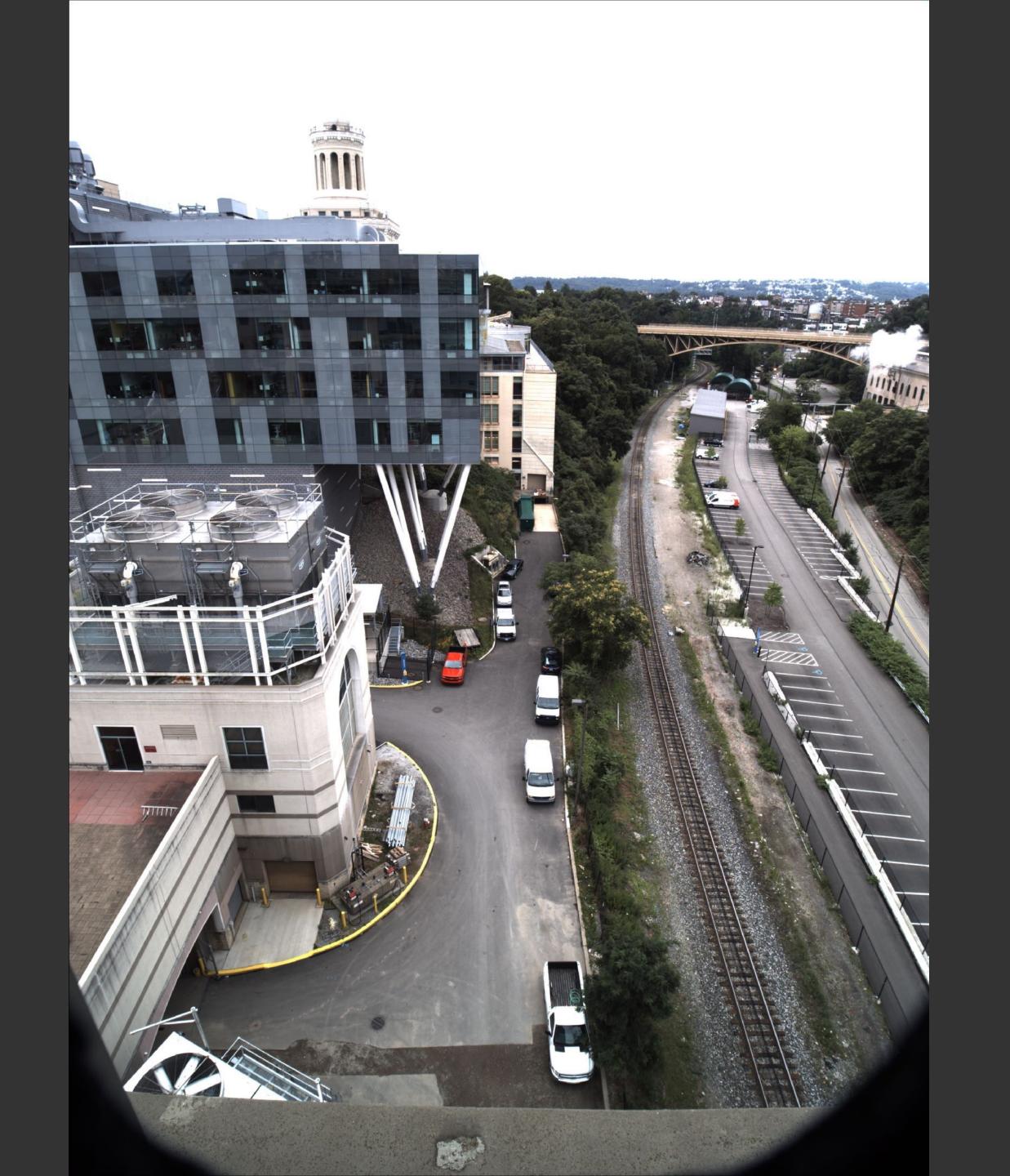
Video anonymization (cameras never output original images, but anonymized images)

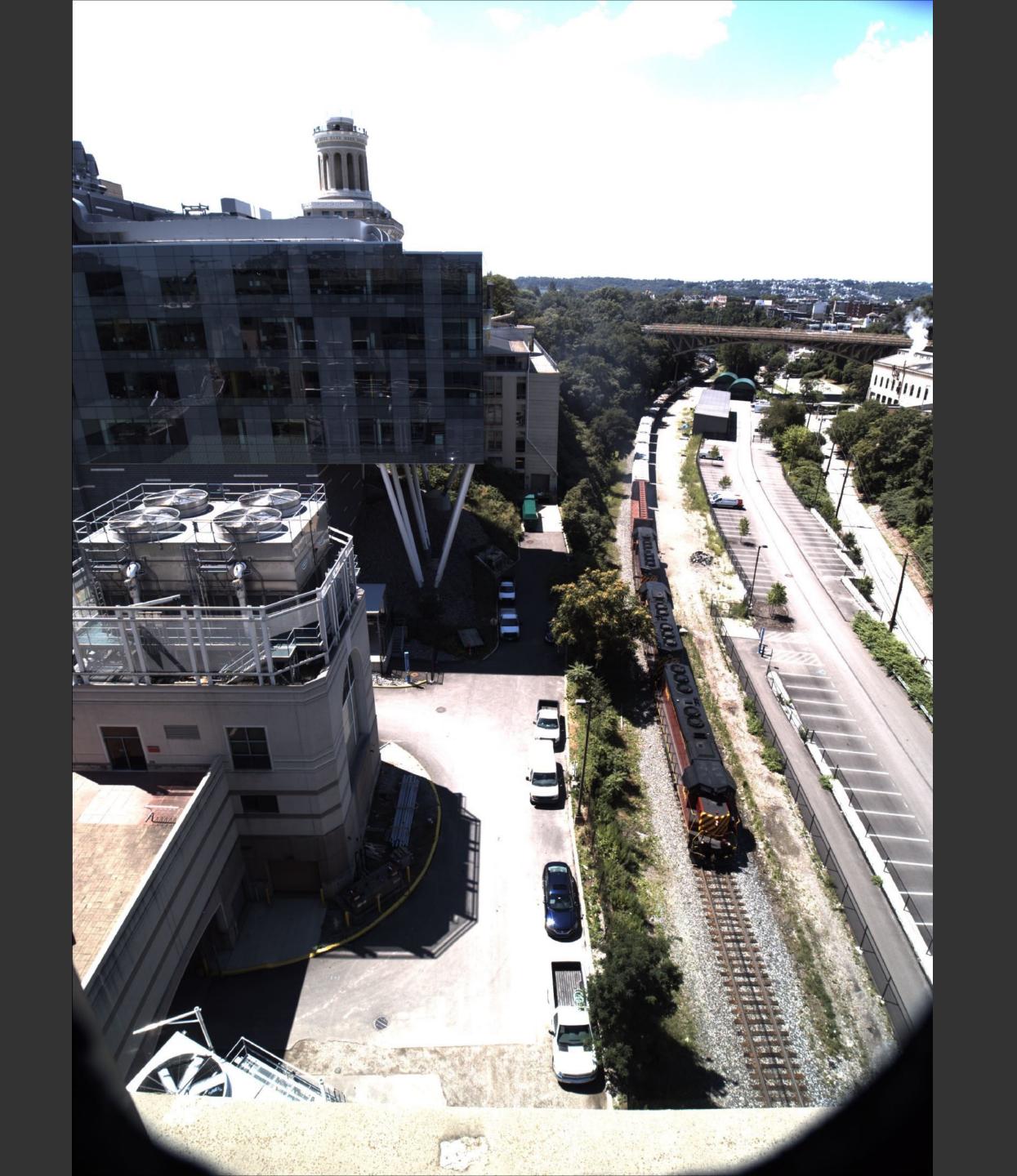
Which analysis applications can remain effective while being performed on anonymized video sources?

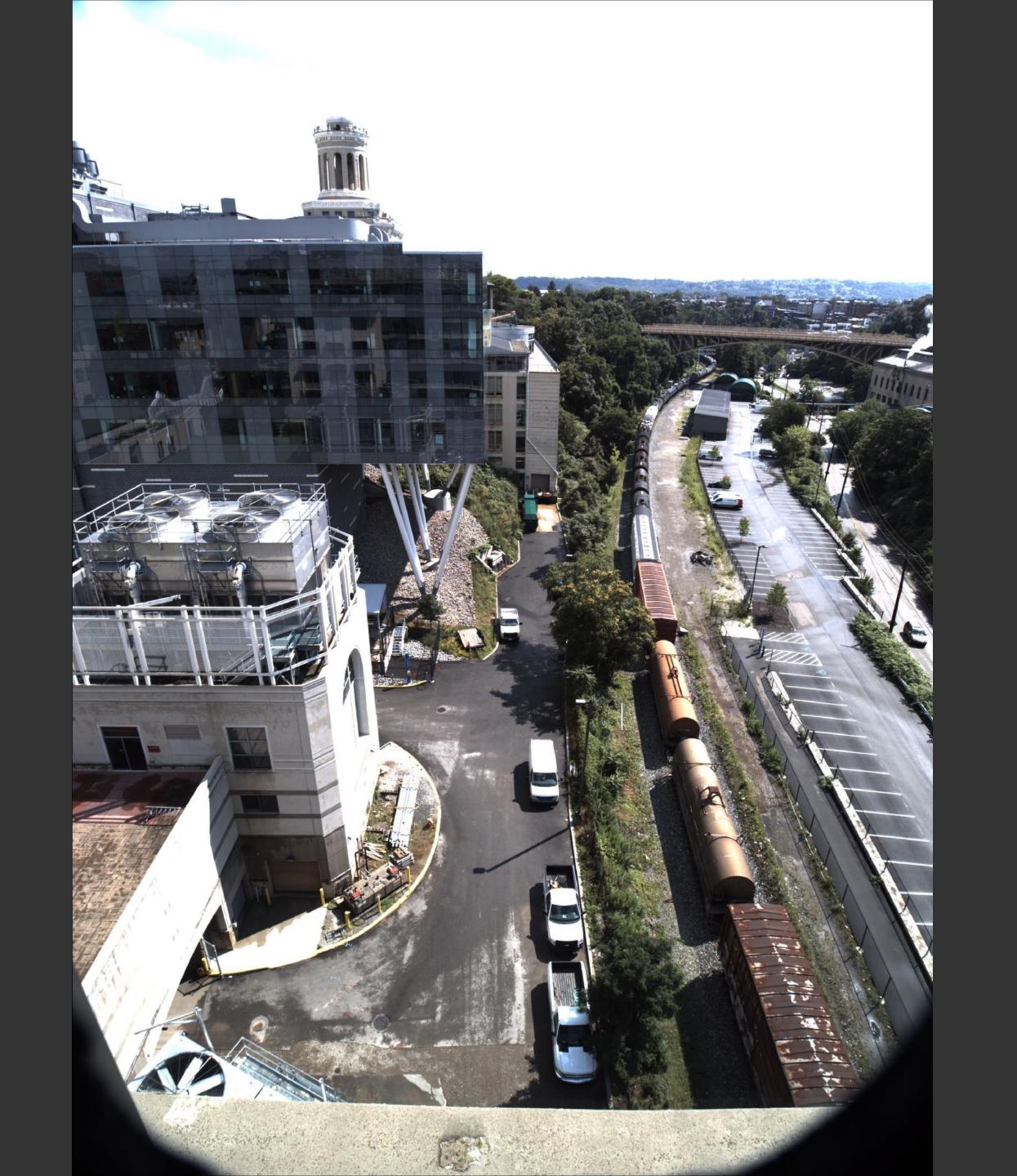
Example: air-quality analysis

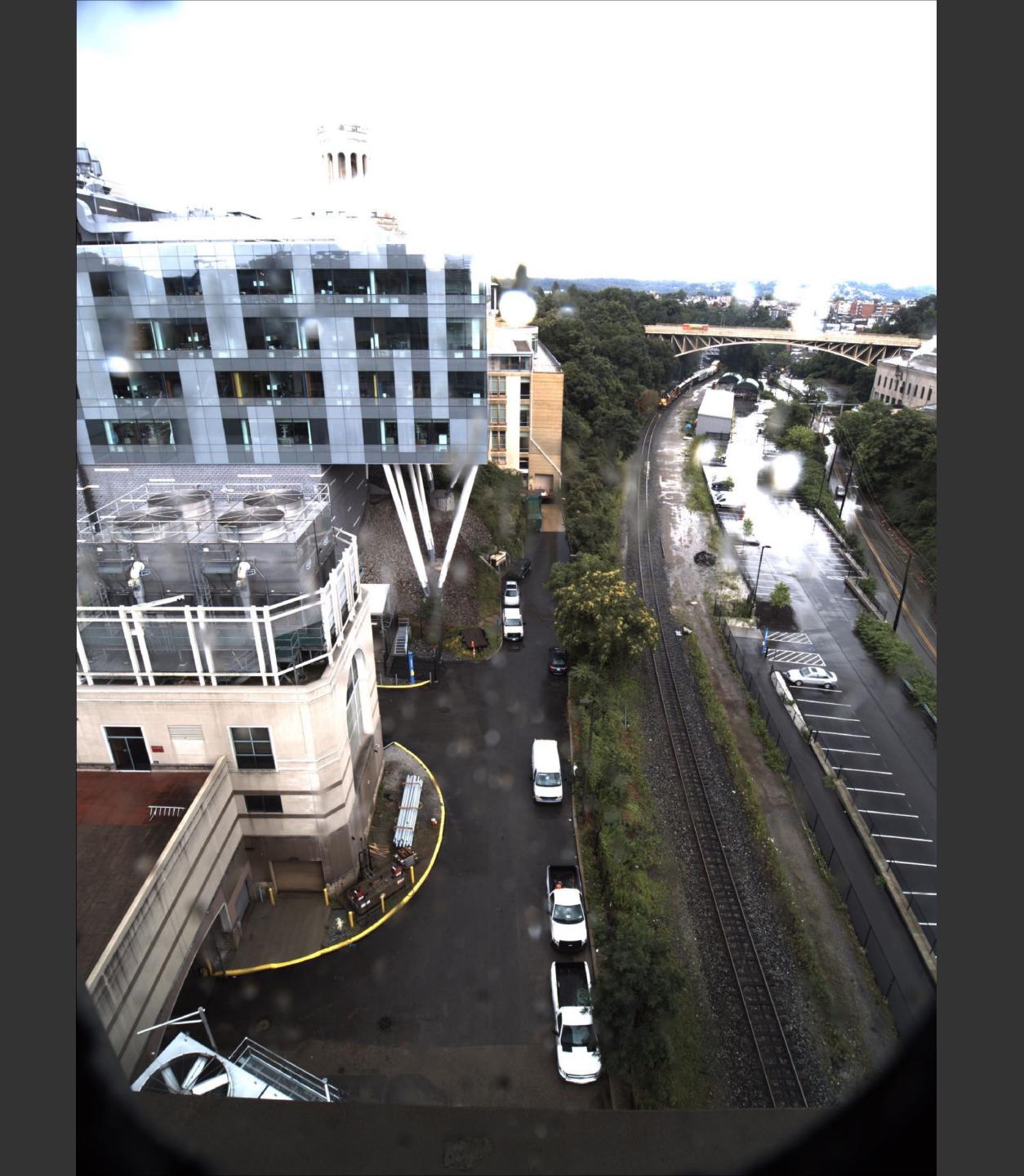


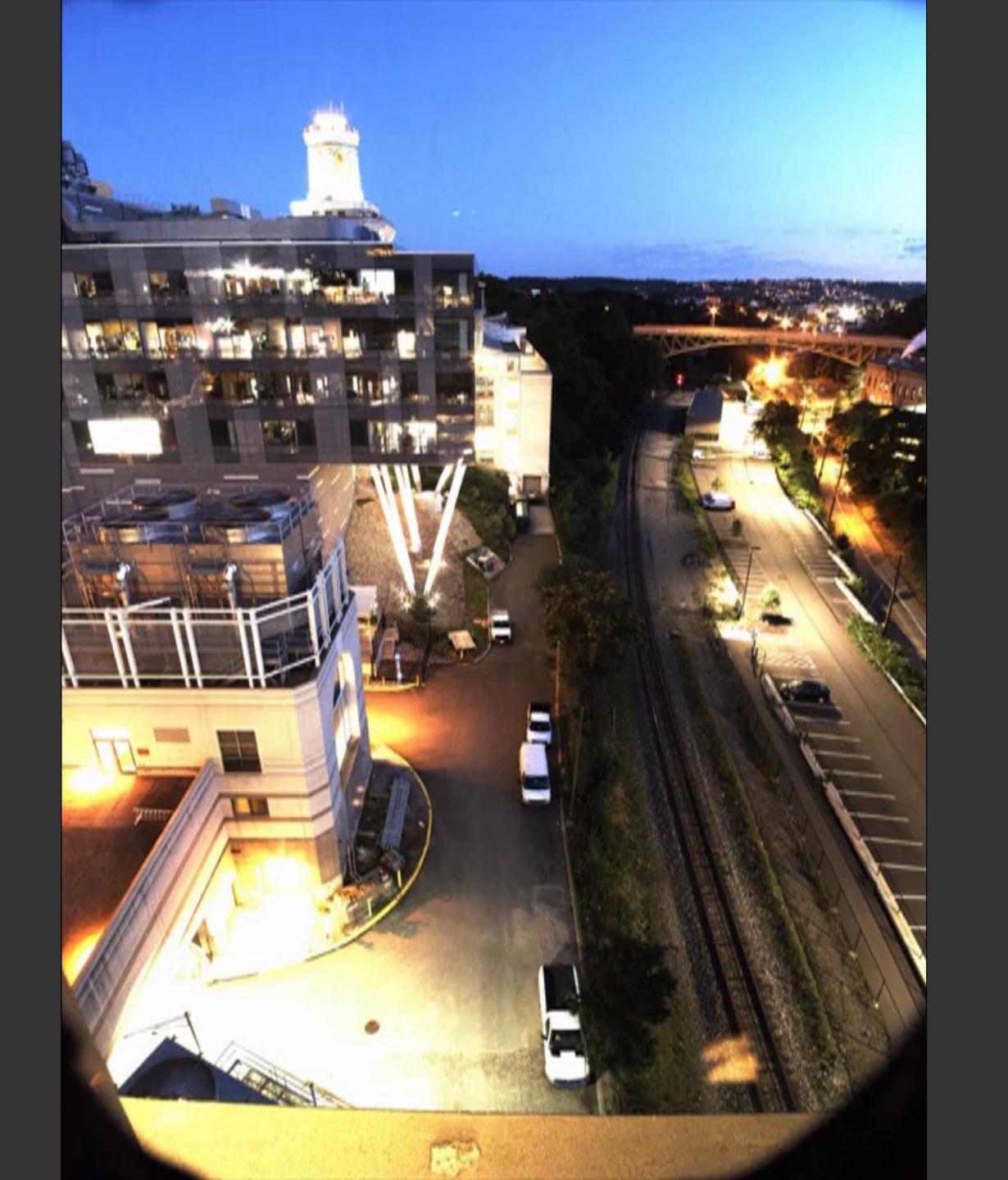
- Computer vision collaborators are interested if they can attribute pollution to individual vehicles
 - Large trucks, buses, trains, etc...
- Requires 24-7 recording at low frame rate
- Jump to high frame-rate resolution when potential polluter detected
- Capture setup: two time synced 12.4
 Mpixel cameras emitting 12-bit RAW
 - Two cameras per NUC





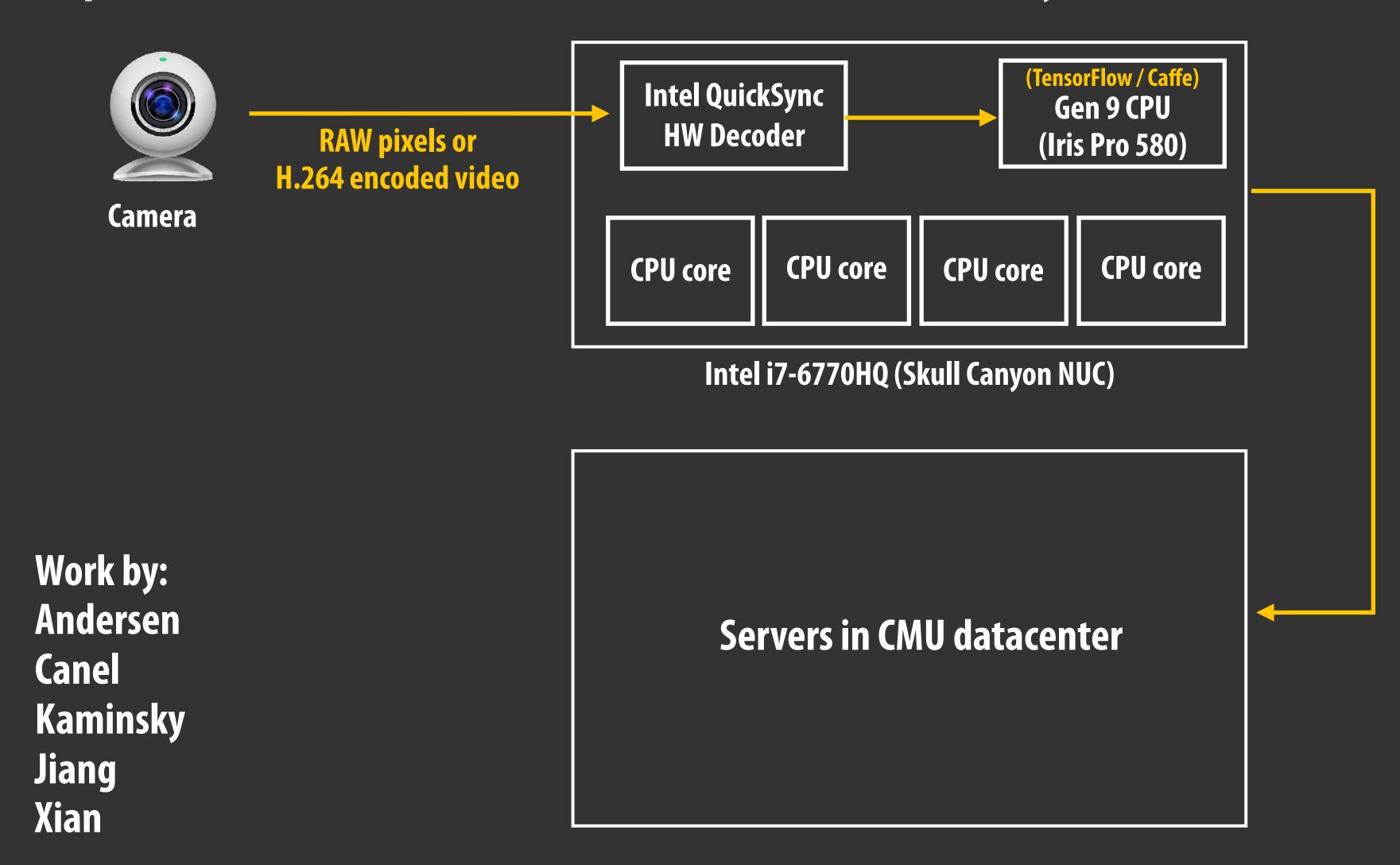




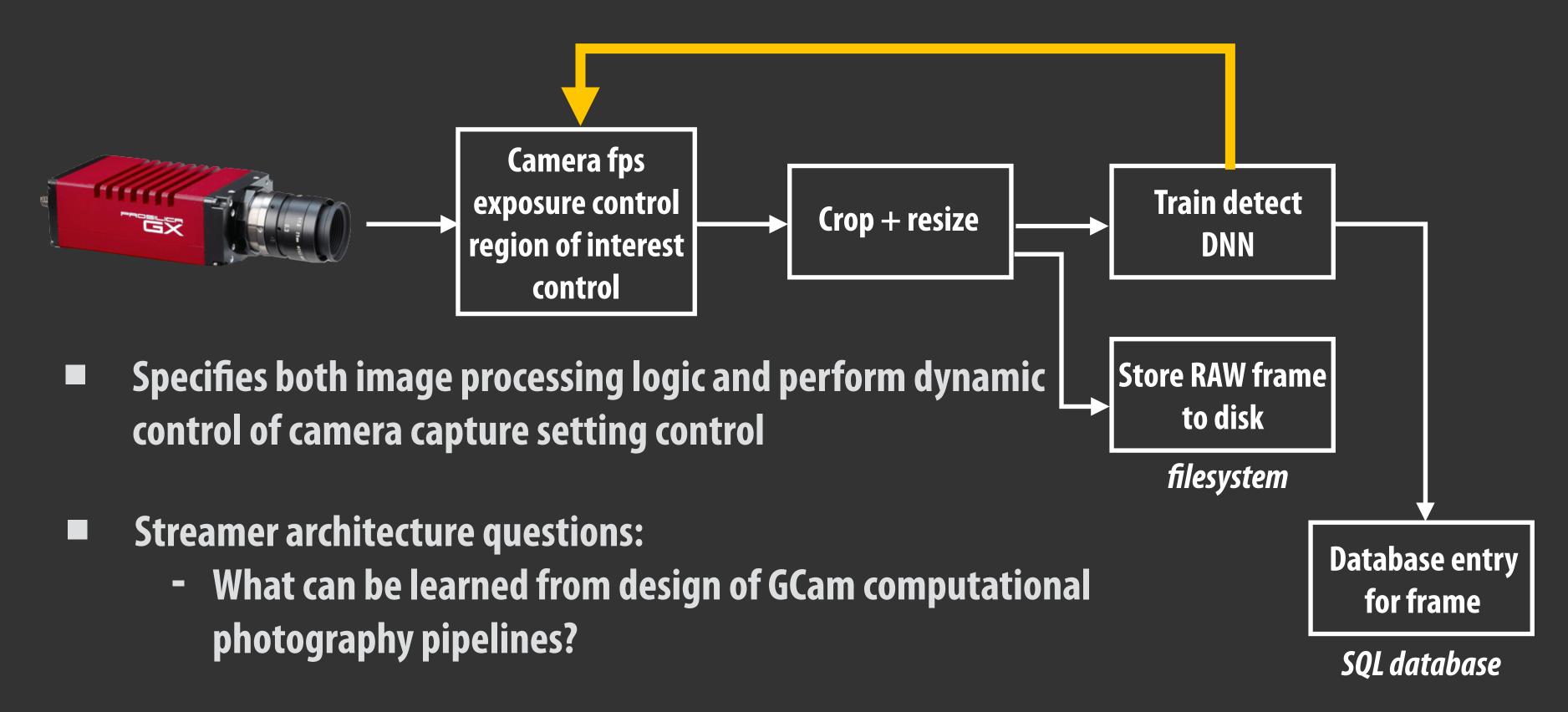


"Streamer" software platform

Dataflow-based edge-to-cloud real-time video processing framework Open source software infrastructure for CMU Visual Analytics testbed



Streamer pipeline



- Streaming implementation questions:
 - Many of the same algorithmic opportunities as Scanner apps (what frames to pay attention to? How to exploit temporal context?)
 - New forms of video compression: Learn camera-viewpoint specific compression?
 - Edge-to-cloud scheduling: What decisions should be made automatically by the system and which decisions must be made by the programmer?

Big visual computing systems needs

- 1. Techniques for efficiently mapping image analysis algorithms to accelerated computing platforms (Efficiently generating kernels for CPUs, GPUs, FPGAs, ASICs)
- 2. Distributed computing support for scalable accelerated computing (Connecting efficient processing pipelines to data stores, distribution across many machines)
- 3. Performance-centric algorithmic innovation/approximation (New work efficient algorithms and approximations)
- 4. Good abstractions for authoring scalable visual data analysis applications

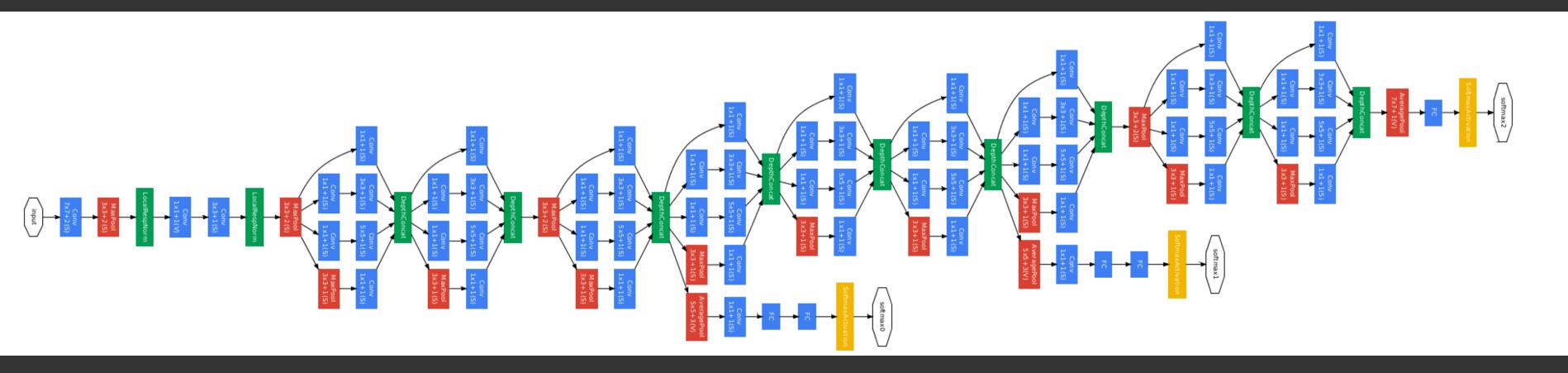
(Considering higher-level primitives for authoring future applications e.g., SQL for video DBs?)



Scheduling image analysis pipelines

with Ravi Mullapudi (CMU), Andrew Adams (Google), Dillon Sharlet (Google), Jonathan Ragan-Kelley (Stanford)

Code generation for deep learning



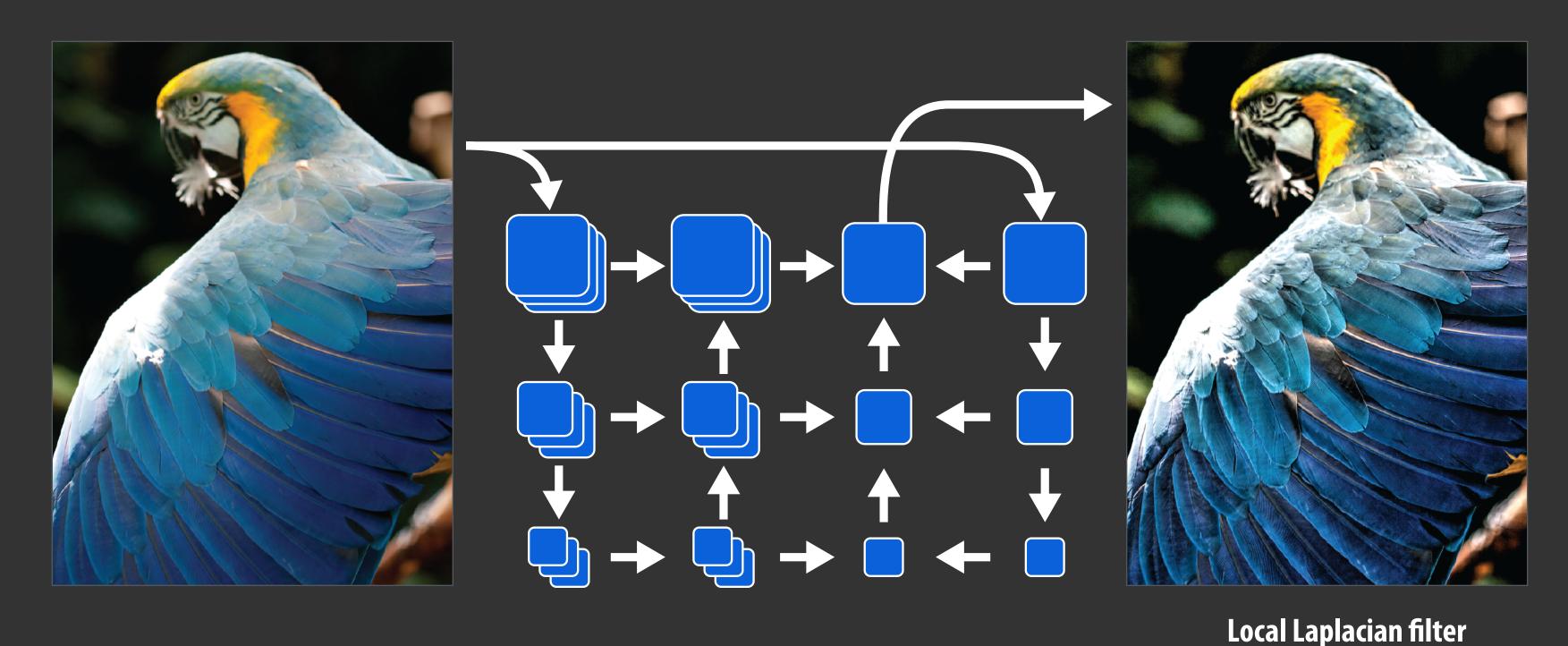
Trend: new compiler intermediate representations (IR) for optimization of deep learning data flow graphs



nervana Graph Compiler



Real-world computational photography pipelines are complex dataflow graphs



Google Nexus HDR+ mode: over 2000 stages!

100 stages

[Paris 2010, Aubry 2011]

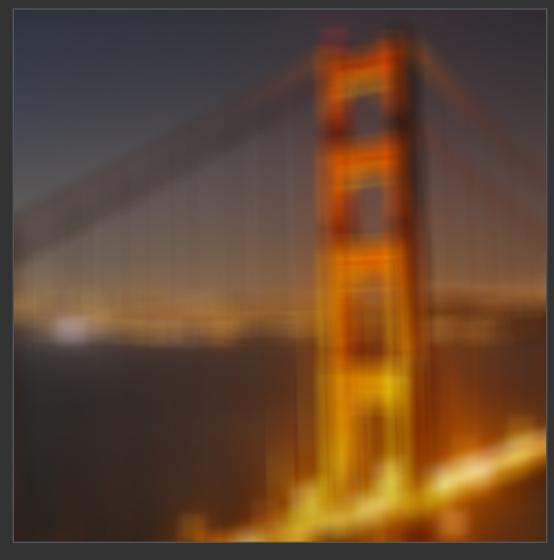
Halide DSL

Raised level of abstraction for developing high-performance image processing algorithms

```
blurx(x,y) = (in(x-1,y) + in(x,y) + in(x+1,y)) / 3;
out(x,y) = (blurx(x,y-1) + blurx(x,y) + blurx(x,y+1)) / 3;
```







in blurx out

Halide DSL

Raised level of abstraction for developing high-performance image processing algorithms

Functional pipeline description:

```
blurx(x,y) = (in(x-1,y) + in(x,y) + in(x+1,y)) / 3;
out(x,y) = (blurx(x,y-1) + blurx(x,y) + blurx(x,y+1)) / 3;
```

Schedule: DSL for mapping pipeline stages to a parallel machine

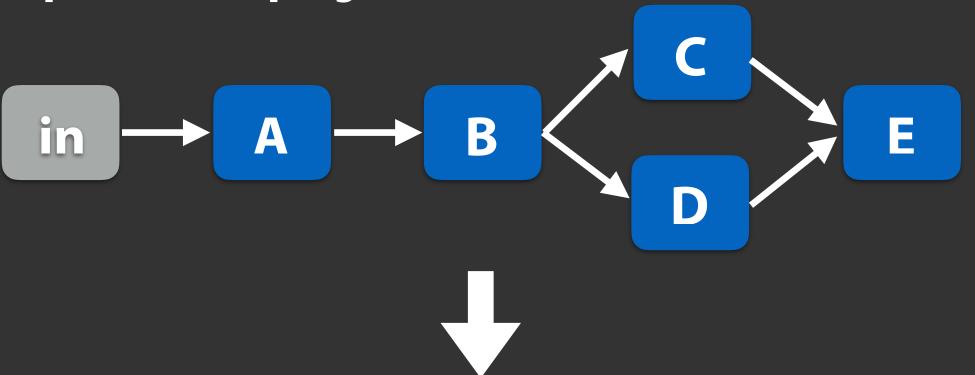
```
output.tile(x, y, xi, yi, 256, 32);
output.vectorize(xi, 8);
output.parallelize(y);
blurx.compute_at(xi);
blurx.vectorize(x, 8);
```

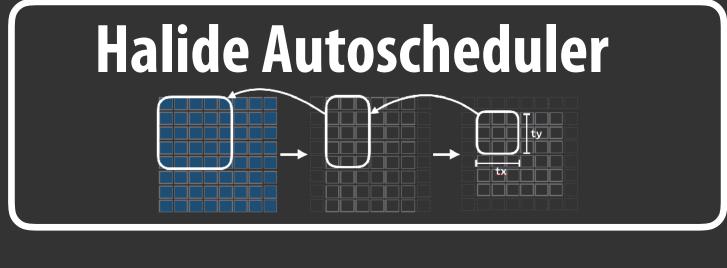
compute output in tiled order

vectorize innermost loop
parallelize loop across cores
loop fusion
vectorize innermost loop

Automatically scheduling Halide

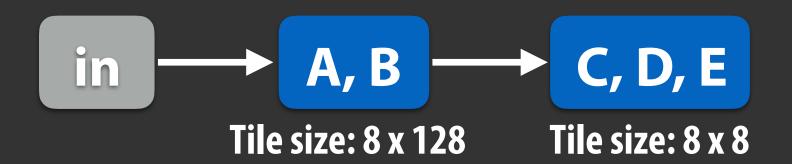
Input: Halide program DAG







Output: optimized schedule



for each 8x128 tile in parallel
vectorize compute required pixels of A
unroll x by 4

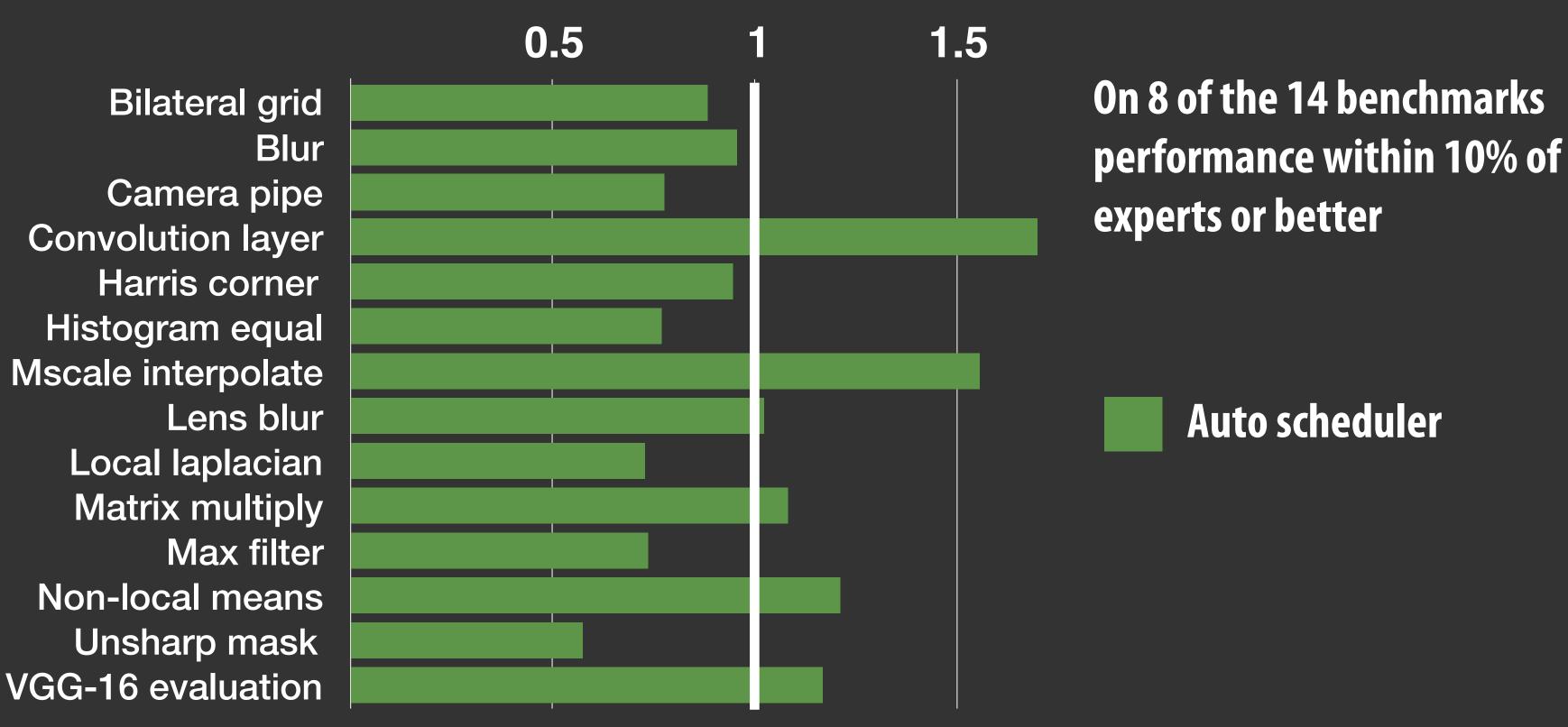
vectorize compute required pixels of B vectorize compute pixels in tile of D

for each 8x8 tile in parallel
vectorize compute required pixels of C
unroll y by 2
vectorize compute pixels in tile of E

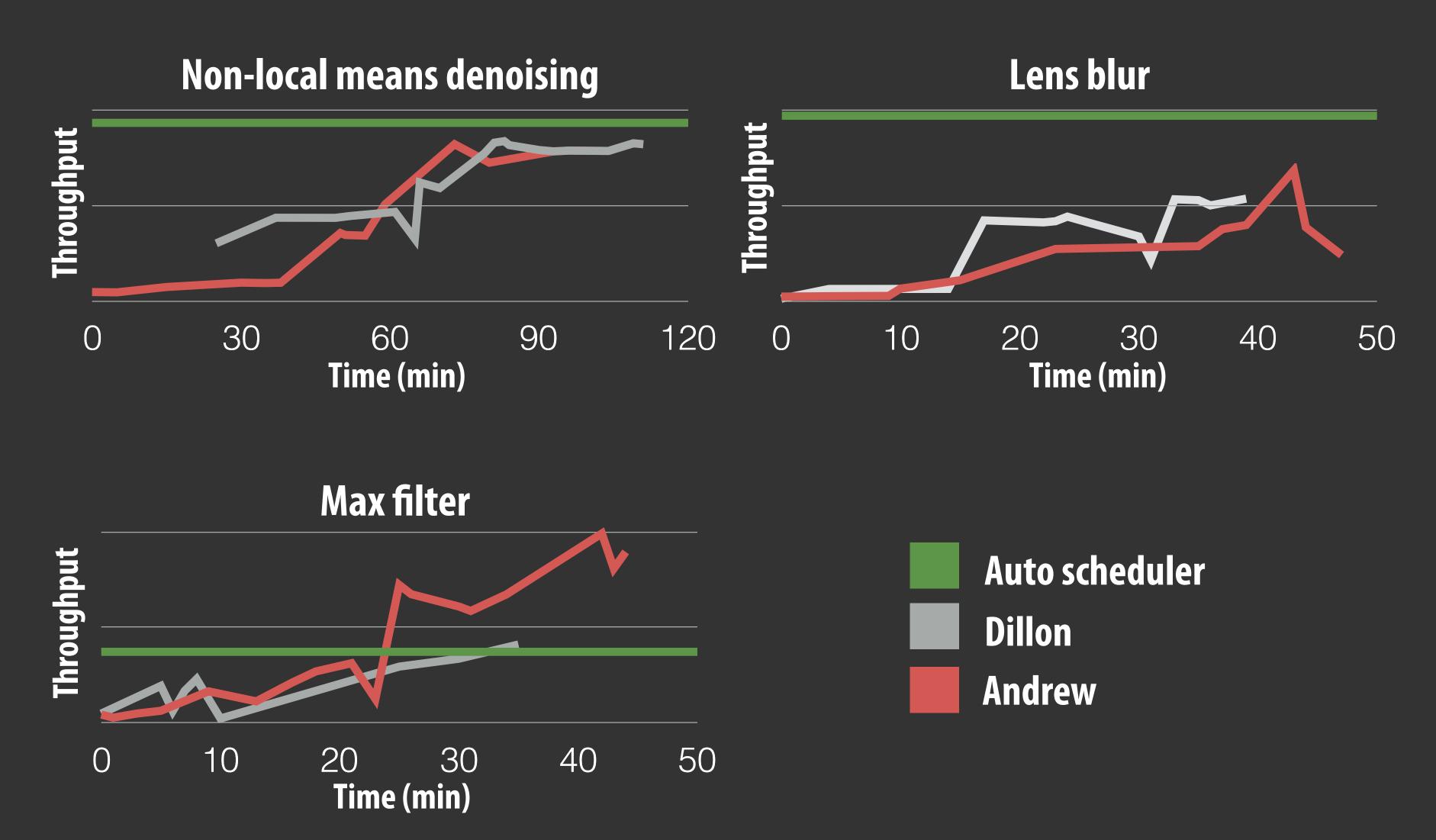
Autoscheduled Halide performs now comparably to experts

Performance relative to expert schedules





Autoscheduler saves time for experts



What can we contribute to scheduling DNN frameworks?



nervana Graph Compiler



- New challenges that do not exist in Halide:
 - Stateful computation (recurrent networks)
 - Data-dependent execution
 - Auto-differentiation service
 - Expect diversity in DNN hardware accelerators



Rich space of high-impact applications

(space is being defined as we go!)

Applications convert new performance into new value Use every flop systems can provide! CPUs, GPUs, ASICs...

Large opportunities for performance-minded algorithm design (orders of magnitude available)

In addition to huge body of fundamental computer vision/AI/ML algorithms work to solve problems previously not solvable

Familiar need for domain-specific programming abstractions to impose useful structure (for productivity and performance)

Thank you

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