VisDrone-MOT2019: The Vision Meets Drone Multiple Object Tracking Challenge Results

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Abstract

The Vision Meets Drone Multiple Object Tracking (MOT) Challenge 2019 is the second annual activity focusing on evaluating multi-object tracking algorithms on drones, held in conjunction with the 17-th International Conference on Computer Vision (ICCV 2019). Results of 12 submitted MOT algorithms on the collected drone-based dataset are presented. Meanwhile, we also report the results of 6 state-of-the-art MOT algorithms, and provide a comprehensive analysis and discussion of the results. The results of all submissions are publicly available at the website: http://www.aiskyeye.com/. The challenge results show that MOT on drones is far from being solved. We believe the challenge can largely boost the research and development in MOT on drone platforms.

1. Introduction

Multiple Object Tracking (MOT) aims to determine the identities and trajectories of multiple moving objects in a video, thus is a crucial step in video understanding. On the other hand, autonomous drone systems attract increasingly research in recent years because of its more flexibility than traditional fixed surveillance cameras.

Several previous benchmark datasets such as KITTI [20], MOTChallenge [28] and UA-DETRAC [53, 36, 35] are proposed for the MOT task. However, the challenges in those datasets are very different from that on drones for MOT algorithms, such as large viewpoint change and scales. Thus, these algorithms are not usually optimal for dealing with video sequences generated by drones. Some recent preliminary efforts [40, 45, 22, 16] have been devoted to construct datasets captured using a drone platform, which are still limited in size and scenarios covered, due to the difficulties in data collection and annotation. Thus, a larger scale drone based benchmark [66] is proposed to further boost research on computer vision problems with drone platform.

As discussed in [53], the overall MOT system usually consists of object detection and multi-object tracking. It is more reasonable to evaluate complete MOT systems without common prior detection input. To this end, we organize a challenge workshop, "Vision Meets Drone Video Multiple Object Tracking" (VisDrone-MOT2019), in conjunction with the 17-th International Conference on Computer Vision (ICCV 2019) in Seoul, Korea. Different from VisDrone-VDT2018 [67] including MOT methods with common prior detection input, we invite researchers to submit the results of MOT systems on the benchmark dataset. The comparison of the submitted algorithms can be found on the challenge website: www.aiskyeye.com/.

2. Related Work

In this section, we review some recent multi-object tracking methods. Since similarity learning plays important role in the MOT task, we also review related person re-id methods, which calculates discriminative appearance features of objects for better tracking performance.

2.1. Multi-Object Tracking

The goal of the MOT task is to determine the target trajectories in sequences. Most of the previous methods are tracking-by-detection strategy based. In [55], a new data association method is developed based on hierarchical relation hypergraph, which formulates the MOT task as a dense neighborhoods searching problem on the dynamically constructed affinity graph. In [27], the Bilinear LSTM model is used to improve the learning of long-term appearance models of objects. Zhu *et al.* [65] embed single object tracking into data association methods to deal with noisy detections and frequent interactions between targets. Keuper *et al.* [26] develops a correlation co-clustering model for combining low-level grouping with high-level detection and tracking. In [52], both temporal and appearance information are combined in a unified framework. To exploit different degrees of dependencies among tracklets, Wen *et al.* [54] propose a new non-uniform hypergraph based MOT method. To minimize the number of switches, Maksai and Fua [37] propose an iterative scheme of building a rich training set to learn a scoring function that is an explicit proxy for the target tracking metric. Chu and Ling [12] develop an end-to-end network including feature extraction, affinity estimation and multi-dimensional assignment.

2.2. Person Re-identification

Person re-identification (ReID) aims to identify a person of interest at other time or place, which is widely applied in the MOT task. AlignedReID [61] extracts a global feature which is jointly learned with local features. Yang *et al.* [59] propose a weighted linear coding method to learn multi-level (*e.g.*, pixel-level, patch-level and image-level) descriptors from raw pixel data in an unsupervised manner. Sun *et al.* [50] learn discriminative features using a network named part-based convolutional baseline and a refined part pooling method. Si *et al.* [47] learn context-aware feature sequences and perform attentive sequence comparison simultaneously.

Instead of pairs of images, video-based ReID methods focus on pairs of video sequences. Gao and Nevatina [18] compare four different temporal modeling methods for video-based person reID, including temporal pooling, temporal attention, RNN and 3D convnets. Li *et al.* [29] propose a new spatiotemporal attention model that automatically discovers a diverse set of distinctive body parts. Recently, Chen *et al.* [10] aim to attend to the salient parts of

persons in videos jointly in both spatial and temporal domains.

3. The VisDrone-MOT2019 Challenge

As discussed above, the VisDrone-MOT2019 Challenge focuses multi-object tracking without prior detection input. That is, participants are expected to submit multiple object tracking results based on their private detections. Besides, appearance or motion models from additional data are welcome.

3.1. The VisDrone-MOT2019 Dataset

The VisDrone-MOT2019 Dataset uses the same data as in the Visdrone-VDT2018 Challenge [67]. Specifically, it consists of 79 video clips with $33,366$ frames in total, which is divided into three subsets, *i.e.*, `training` set (56 video clips with $24,198$ frames), `validation` set (7 video clips with $2,846$ frames), and `testing` set (16 video clips with $6,322$ frames). Since the dataset is extremely challenging, we focus on five selected object categories in this challenge, *i.e.*, *pedestrian*[1], *car*, *van*, *bus*, and *truck*. Some annotated example frames are shown in Figure 1.

Since we evaluate the peformance of the overall tracking system, we do not provide the common detection input for the tracker and encourage the participants to use their own detection methods. Similar to Task 4a in Visdrone-VDT2018 [67], we use the protocol of [41] to evaluate the performance of the submitted algorithms. Each algorithm is required to produce a list of bounding boxes with confidence scores and the corresponding identities. We sort the tracklets (formed by the bounding box detections with the same identity) according to the average confidence over the bounding box detections. A tracklet is considered correct if the intersection over union (IoU) overlap with ground truth tracklet is larger than a threshold (*i.e.*, 0.25, 0.50, and 0.75). The MOT algorithm is ranked by averaging the mean average precision (mAP) per object class over different thresholds. Please refer to [41] for more details.

3.2. Submitted Trackers

There are in total 12 different multi-object tracking methods submitted to the VisDrone-MOT2019 Challenge. We summarize the submitted algorithms in Table 1, and present the descriptions of the algorithms in Appendix A. Given the Faster R-CNN [44] detection input, we also evaluate 6 baseline methods (*i.e.*, GOG [42], IHTLS [15], TBD [19], CMOT [5], H^2T [55], and CEM [39]) using the reasonable parameters. In addition, the MOT track winner of VisDrone-VDT2018 Challenge Ctrack [67] is compared in our experiment.

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[1]If a human maintains standing pose or walking, we classify it as a *pedestrian*; otherwise, it is classified as a *person*.

All the submitted MOT methods are tracking-by-detection based. Morover, recent state-of-the-art detectors are used to provide the detection input, such as Cascade R-CNN [8], CenterNet [64], R-FCN [13], FPN [31], RetinaNet [32] and Faster R-CNN [44]. To improve the data association accuray, the re-id strategy is used to generate discriminative feature between detections, including HMTT (A.4), IITD_DeepSort (A.5), SCTrack (A.7), T&D-OF (A.9), TNT_DRONE (A.10) and VCLDCN (A.12). To capture temporal coherency, single object trackers are combined into the MOT algorithm, including KCF (DBAI-Tracker (A.1)) and DaSiameseRPN (HMTT (A.4)). Another solution is exploit temporal features such as KLT (GGDTRACK (A.3)), optical flow (Flow-Tracker (A.2), T&D-OF (A.9)), motion patterns (TrackKITSY (A.11)) and LSTM (SGAN (A.8)). OS-MOT (A.6) is a non-deep learning based method including three main modules: feature extraction [14], data association [6], and model update.

4. Results and Analysis

The results of the submissions are presented in Table 2. DBAI-Tracker (A.1), TrackKITSY (A.11) and Flow-Tracker (A.2) achieve the top 3 AP score among all submissions, respectively. All of them are based on the detections from Cascade R-CNN [8]. To adapt to the VisDrone data with many small objects, they exploit not only robust appearance representation of the object, but also temporal coherency information by single object trackers or other low-level motion patterns.

Compared to the MOT-track winner of VisDrone-VDT2018 Challenge Ctrack [67], the top 6 submitted algorithms in this year achieve much higher accuracy. The baseline methods using the Faster R-CNN detections as input do not perform well. The best result is produced by CMOT with 14.22 AP score.

DBAI-Tracker (A.1) achieves top accuracy while maintaining good efficiency, *i.e.*, running $20 \sim 50$ fps with Tesla V100 GPU. In addition, GGDTRACK (A.3) achieves good performance while maintaining reasonable efficiency without GPU cards, *i.e.*, 25 fps.

4.1. Performance Analysis by Categories

We also report the accuracy of the trackers in different object categories, including AP_{car}, AP_{bus}, AP_{trk}, AP_{ped} and AP_{van}. DBAI-Tracker (A.1) performs the best in all categories expect pedestrian. Moreover, it achieves much better AP score in categories with a small amount of training data, *e.g.*, bus and truck. We speculate that the improved Cascade R-CNN [8] are effective in such case. TrackKITSY (A.11) achieves the top AP_{ped} score, demonstrating the effectiveness of the extracted motion patterns for tracking small objects. It also ranks the second place in the car, truck and van categories. Flow-Tracker (A.2) ranks the third place in the

Figure 1. Some annotated example frames of MOT. The bounding boxes and the corresponding attributes of objects are shown for each sequence.

Table 1. The descriptions of the submitted MOT algorithms in the VisDrone-MOT2019 Challenge. GPUs and CPUs for training, implementation details (P for python and M for Matlab), framework, pre-trained datasets (A indicates Market1501 [62], C indicates COCO [33], M indicates MOT [38], O indicates OTB [58], U indicates CUHK [30], and × indicates that the methods do not use the pre-trained datasets) and the running speed (in FPS) are reported.

Method	GPU	CPU	Code	Framework	Pre-trained	Speed
DBAI-Tracker (A.1)	Tesla V100	Intel Xeon Platinum 8160	P	Cascade R-CNN [8]+GOG [42]	C	20 ∼ 50
Flow-Tracker (A.2)	GTX 1080Ti	Intel Xeon E5-1650v4@3.60GHz×12	P	Cascade R-CNN [8]+IoU Tracker [7]	C	5
GGDTRACK (A.3)	×	Intel Xeon E5-2650v3@2.30GHz(64GB)	P	Faster R-CNN [44]+DNF [46]	×	25
HMTT (A.4)	GTX TITAN X	Intel i7-4790K@4.00GHz	P	CenterNet [64]+IOU tracker [7]	C,O	0.4
IITD_DeepSort (A.5)	Tesla K80	Intel Xeon @1.70GHz×16	P	RetinaNet [32]+DeepSORT [57]	C	0.3
OS-MOT (A.6)	GTX980	Intel i7-6700K@4.00GHz×8(16GB)	M	auction assign [6]	×	5
SCTrack (A.7)	×	Intel i7-4720@2.60GHz	M	Faster R-CNN [44]+SCTrack [2, 1]	×	1.4
SGAN (A.8)	Titan X Pascal	Intel i7-6700@3.40GHz	P	Social-LSTM [3]	×	1.5
T&D-OF (A.9)	TITAN X MAXWELL	Intel i7-7700(48GB)	P	R-FCN [13]+MOTDT [11]	A,M,U	0.3
TNT_DRONE (A.10)	Quadro GV100/Titan Xp×2	Intel i7-7700K@4.20GHz	P,M	Faster R-CNN [43] +TrackletNet [52, 60]	M	3.2
TrackKITSY (A.11)	NVS5200M	Intel i7-6700@3.40GHz (16GB)	C++	Cascade R-CNN [8]+TrackCG [51]	×	10
VCLDAN (A.12)	GTX 1080Ti	Intel Xeon E5-2640@2.40GHz	P	DAN [49]	×	6.3

car, truck and van categories, which uses FlowNet [48] as a tracker to predict the locations of the unmatched tracks in several frames. Similarly, HMTT (A.4) ranks the second place in the bus and third place in pedestrian categories, which uses the state-of-the-art single object tracker DaSiameseRPN [68] to fill the gaps when matching IOU mechanism does not work.

4.2. Discussion

It is challenging to perform multi-object tracking on drones. The results of current submissions are far away from the requirements of practical applications. We can explore some effective techniques to follow:

- **Appearance representation.** According to the sub-

mitted MOT methods, the ReID models are useful in associating detections by exploiting discriminative features, *e.g.*, HMTT (A.4), IITD_DeepSort (A.5), SCTrack (A.7), T&D-OF (A.9), TNT_DRONE (A.10) and VCLDCN (A.12). The ReID models used in those algorithms are trained offline using external data such as Market1501 [62] and CUHK [30].

- **Motion representation.** Since the object motion pattern is complex within cameras on drones, it is important to construct robust motion model for object association, *e.g.*, KLT (GGDTRACK (A.3)), optical flow (Flow-Tracker (A.2), and LSTM (SGAN (A.8)).

Table 2. Multi-object tracking results on the VisDrone-MOT2019 `testing` set. ∗ indicates that the tracking algorithm is submitted by the VisDrone Team. The best three performers are highlighted by the red, green and blue fonts.

Method	AP	AP@0.25	AP@0.50	AP@0.75	AP_{car}	AP_{bus}	AP_{trk}	AP_{ped}	AP_{van}
DBAI-Tracker (A.1)	**43.94**	**57.32**	**45.18**	**29.32**	**55.13**	**44.97**	**42.73**	**31.01**	**45.85**
TrackKITSY (A.11)	39.19	48.83	39.36	29.37	54.92	29.05	34.19	36.57	41.20
Flow-Tracker (A.2)	30.87	41.84	31.00	19.77	48.44	26.19	29.50	18.65	31.56
HMTT (A.4)	28.67	39.05	27.88	19.08	44.35	30.56	18.75	26.49	23.19
TNT_DRONE (A.10)	27.32	35.09	26.92	19.94	38.06	22.65	33.79	12.62	29.46
GGDTRACK (A.3)	23.09	31.01	22.70	15.55	35.45	28.57	11.90	17.20	22.34
Ctrack[†] [67]	16.12	22.40	16.26	9.70	27.74	28.45	8.15	7.95	8.31
CMOT∗ [5]	14.22	22.11	14.58	5.98	27.72	17.95	7.79	9.95	7.71
IITD_DeepSort (A.5)	13.88	23.19	12.81	5.64	32.20	8.83	6.61	18.61	3.16
T&D-OF (A.9)	12.37	17.74	12.94	6.43	23.31	22.02	2.48	9.59	4.44
SCTrack (A.7)	10.09	14.95	9.41	5.92	18.98	17.86	4.86	5.20	3.58
VCLDAN (A.12)	7.50	10.75	7.41	4.33	21.63	0.00	4.92	10.94	0.00
GOG∗ [42]	6.16	11.03	5.30	2.14	17.05	1.80	5.67	3.70	2.55
TBD∗ [19]	5.92	10.77	5.00	1.99	12.75	6.55	5.90	2.62	1.79
CEM∗ [39]	5.70	9.22	4.89	2.99	6.51	10.58	8.33	0.70	2.38
H^2T∗ [55]	4.93	8.93	4.73	1.12	12.90	5.99	2.27	2.18	1.29
IHTLS∗ [15]	4.72	8.60	4.34	1.22	12.07	2.38	5.82	1.94	1.40
SGAN (A.8)	2.54	4.87	2.06	0.69	10.42	0.00	0.00	2.27	0.00
OS-MOT (A.6)	0.16	0.18	0.18	0.13	0.00	0.00	0.71	0.00	0.09

5. Conclusion

This paper concludes the VisDrone-MOT2019 Challenge, where 12 MOT algorithms are submitted. DBAI-Tracker (A.1), TrackKITSY (A.11) and Flow-Tracker (A.2) achieve the top three AP scores among all submissions, *i.e.*, 43.94, 39.19 and 30.87, respectively. Notably, they rely on state-of-the-art object detector, *i.e.*, Cascade R-CNN [8]. The VisDrone-MOT2019 Challenge was successfully held on October 27, 2019, which is a part of the "Vision Meets Drones: A Challenge" workshop in conjunction with the 17-th International Conference on Computer Vision (ICCV 2019). We hope this challenge can provide a unified platform for multiple object tracking evaluation on drones.

Acknowledgements

A. Submitted Trackers

In the appendix, we summarize 12 tracking methods submitted in the VisDrone-MOT2019 Challenge, which are ordered alphabetically.

A.1. DeepBlueAI-Tracker (DBAI-Tracker)

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DBAI-Tracker follows the pipeline of tracking by detection. Strong detection model is designed in Iou tracker [7]. GOG [42] and KCF [21] are also used. Our detection model is Cascade R-CNN [8] and IoU tracker [7]. We use FPN [31] based multi-scale feature maps to exploit robust representation of the object. Besides, GCNet [9] are used for better performance.

A.2. Multiple Object Tracking with Motion and Appearance Cues (Flow-Tracker)

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Flow-Tracker is based on Cascade R-CNN [8] and IoU Tracker [7]. For detection, we use Cascade RCNN as base detector and the backbone is ResNet-101. In order to improve detection results, the deformable convolution was added in basic network. To supplement the training data, we use COCO train set to pretrain our detector and then fine-tune it on VisDrone2019-MOT train set. For tracking, we make some improvements on IoU Tracker. Our tracking framework can be divided into three parts. First, we use an optical flow network to predict the motion

between two frames and predict the position of tracks on the current frame, which can solve the problem of camera motion. Then we compute IoU between the tracks and the detections. If it is higher than a thresh, we think they are matched. Second, we extract the appearance features of unmatched tracks and detections. Then we compute appearance distance and IoU distance between unmatched tracks and detections. If they meet the matching criteria at the same time, we think they are matched. Final, for those unmatched tracks, we use FlowNet [48] as a tracker to continue predicting their position for several frames. If they are matched successfully within these frames, we believe these tracks can continue; otherwise, we think these objects have disappeared. If the optical flow prediction is performed each frame, the tracking speed is 5 fps; and if the optical flow is predicted only when the camera is moving, the speed can reach 100 fps.

A.3. Costflow tracker Learning from Generalized Graph Differences (GGDTRACK)

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The basic idea behind GGDTRACK [4] is to build a graph with object detections as vertices and use sparse optical flow feature point tracks, KLT-tracks[2], to connect these vertices with edges. Then a flow capacity of one is assigned to each edge and a network flow problem is solved. To allow objects to occlude each other, long range connections can be added to the graph. The problem is that during occlusion a lot of feature point tracks will jump from one object to the other, which means that the feature point tracks are not reliably in such situations. In order to address this issue, the common used linear motion model is utilized in this setup [34]. All feasible solutions to the network flow problem are embedded into a one dimensional feature space consisting of a score with the aim of making the score of the correct solution higher than all other solutions. Then a linear program is used during inference to efficiently search for the correct solution. We also introduce a data representation denoted generalized graph differences and show that it allows the training to be performed efficiently both in terms of training speed and data needs. The setup proposed is similar in sprit to recent works [17, 46]. However, they need to solve a linear program or a general convex problem respectively for each example during each step of the SGD-like optimisation, which is time consuming operations. Also, there is no need to approximate and reformulate the model as Schulter *et al.* [46] does. The small and efficient representation of generalized graph differences gives the potential for using larger graphs which is needed to fill in missing detections

during, for example, occlusions by long range connections in the graphs. A key insight here is that lots of small generalized graph differences can be generated from a single annotated video sequence and be utilized as training data. This gives a good way to utilize the annotations as much as possible in order to avoid the need for extreme amounts of training data. We also show that by using average-pooling it is possible to use features for connecting detections that are derived from a varying number of feature point tracks of varying length.

A.4. A hierarchical multi-target tracker based on detection for drone vision (HMTT)

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HMTT is based on CenterNet [64], IOU-tracker [7] and DaSiameseRPN [68]. During the stage of determining object position by adopting CenterNet, we first divide each classification into two categories, depending upon whether the object is photographed from right above. Then, we perform the detection results filtering by generating tracklets employing IOU-tracker with the aid of Hungarian algorithm. Using the bounding box results with tracklet-id abandoned, we restart the association stage. Differently from IOU-tracker, this time DaSiameseRPN and Kalman filtering are additionally employed to fill the gaps when matching with IOU does not work. Meanwhile, in case of camera's sudden move, SIFT points matching between consecutive frames estimates the affine transformation matrix, which assists bounding box association as well as single target tracking. Each trajectory's appearance feature gotten from OSNet [63] is used to measure its distance from other ones and we simply merge two trajectories if their distance is close enough.

A.5. Improved simple online and realtime tracking with a deep association metric (IITD_DeepSort)

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IITD_DeepSort is derived from DeepSORT [57]. The RetinaNet architecture [32] is used for object detection with modifications to the anchor parameters for improving small object detection as well as detection of objects with large variance in sizes. Increased range of scales helps in detection of objects across a wider variety in object sizes while incorporating finer scales improves the detection of small objects. Squeeze-and-Excitation(SE) [23] blocks are used to adaptively recalibrate channel-wise feature

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[2]https://cecas.clemson.edu/~stb/klt/

responses by explicitly modelling interdependencies between channels. But instead of using the SE blocks in the ResNet50 architecture, we pass the features from the backbone feature layer to an SE block before feeding the features to the feature pyramid network. On the oother hand, a deep association metric is used along with the SORT algorithm [57] to improve the performance of SORT which helps to track objects through longer periods of occlusions, effectively reducing the number of identity switches. The network for deep assocaiation metric is trained using Deep Cosine Metric Learning for Person ReIdentification [56]. The object patches from the training set are resized to a size of 128×128 and are used as input for this network for training.

A.6. Auction algorithm for network flow problem (OS-MOT)

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OS-MOT is composed of three main modules: feature extraction, data association, and model update. Specifically, targets are modeled by their visual appearance (via HOG feature) and their spatial location (via bounding boxes). The auction assign [6] algorithm is used for associating detections to targets. Finally, model updating is implemented.

A.7. Semantic Color Correlation Tracker (SC-Track)

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SCTrack [2, 1] is a time-efficient detection-based multi-object tracking system. It employs a three-step cascaded data association scheme that combines a fast spatial distance only short-term data association, a robust tracklet linking step using discriminative object appearance models, and an explicit occlusion handling unit relying not only on tracked objects motion patterns but also on environmental constraints such as presence of potential occluders in the scene.

A.8. Long-Short Term Prediction for Tracking (SGAN)

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SGAN uses the Social-LSTM [3] for long term prediction of the objects. At the same time, the appearance of the detections in adjacent frames are used for short term prediction of the objects. Then a GAN network use the two predictions generating the final position mask for the objects. The radius of the neighbourhood is 32 pixels. Correlation layer and 3 Convolutional layers are used in generating masks and 2 Convolutional layers are used for discriminating the ground-truth and generated mask.

A.9. Tracking by Detection with Optical Flow (T&D-OF)

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T&D-OF is a modified version of MOTDT [11]. First, the R-FCN [13] based classifier is removed, and we add optical flow generated by FlowNetv2 [25] as additional cue for tracking. The ReID part of our model[3] is trained on MOT16 [38], Market1501 [62], CUHK01 and CUHK03 [30] datasets. We do not perform fine-tuning on the VisDrone data.

A.10. TrackletNet Tracker in Drone based scenes (TNT_DRONE)

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TNT_DRONE follows the "tracking by detection" scheme. The Faster R-CNN [43] is trained to detect the objects in the images. Given the detections in different frames, detection association is computed to generate tracklets for the Vertex Set V (denotes different tracklets). After that, each two tracklets are put into a novel TrackletNet [52, 60] to measure the connectivity, which formed the similarity on the Edge Set E. A graph model G can be derived from V and E. Finally, the tracklets with the same ID are grouped into one cluster using the graph partition approach [24].

A.11. Online multi-object tracking using joint domain information in traffic scenarios (TrackKITSY)

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[3]https://github.com/longcw/MOTDT

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TrackKITSY is based on the detections of the Cascade R-CNN [8]. Several modifications are applied to the original Cascade R-CNN to adapt to this dataset. First, to fit the big variance of bounding box aspect ratio, we add more anchors with different aspect ratios in the RPN. Second, photo metric distortion and random cropping are used as data augmentation in training. Third, lower IoU threshold is used in non-maximum-suppression (NMS) in the post-processing. The reason is that, according to our observation, the objects with valid annotation seldom overlap, while the overlapping objects are usually in the "ignored" region. Last, multi-scale training and testing are used to improve the precision. The tracking module is based on the work [51] with modifications adapted to the current dataset.

A.12. VCL's Deep Affinity Network (VCLDAN)

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VCLDAN is based on the DAN tracker [49] and adds the score and category id information to the output. It can learn compact yet comprehensive features of pre-detected objects at several levels of abstraction, and perform exhaustive pairing permutations of those features in any two frames to infer object affinities. The open source implementation is available at `https://github.com/shijieS/SST.git`.

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