



Find me cats

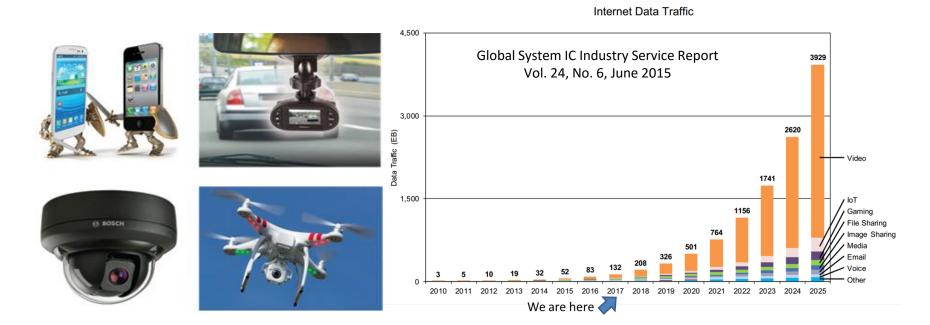
Addressing the Dark Side of Vision Research: Storage

Vishakha Gupta-Cledat, Luis Remis, Christina Strong

Intel Labs

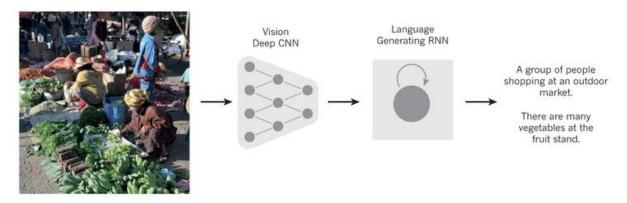


Growing Image and Video Traffic

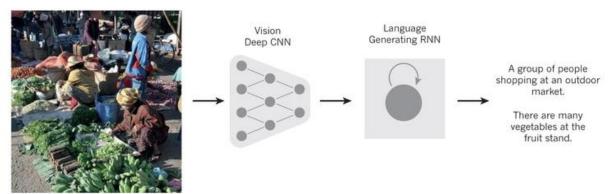


Enormous amounts of visual data, increasingly accessed and processed only by machines for a new class of vision applications

Rising Tide of Vision and Machine Learning Applications



Rising Tide of Vision and Machine Learning Applications









The increasing amount of information that computer vision and machine learning algorithms are identifying in images and videos not only produces more data but also enables new applications

Example Vision Workload

Stream of incoming data or data from file system



Vision processing to extract metadata e.g. image classification identifying objects







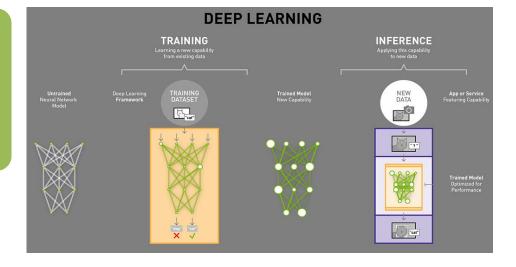


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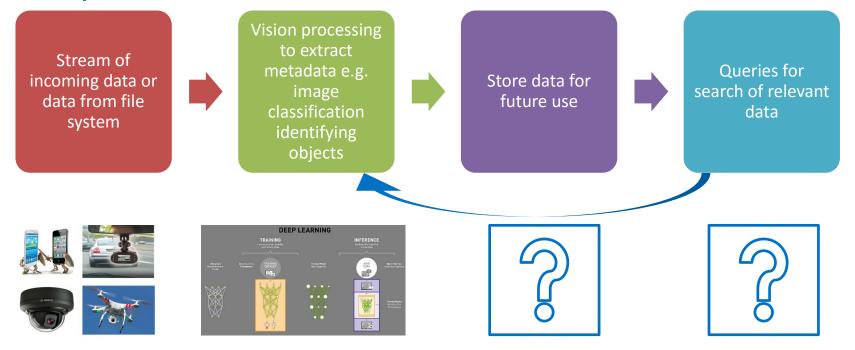




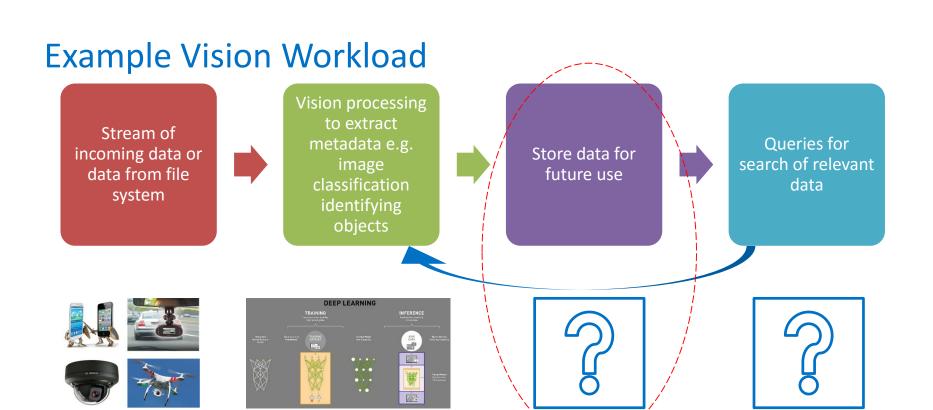




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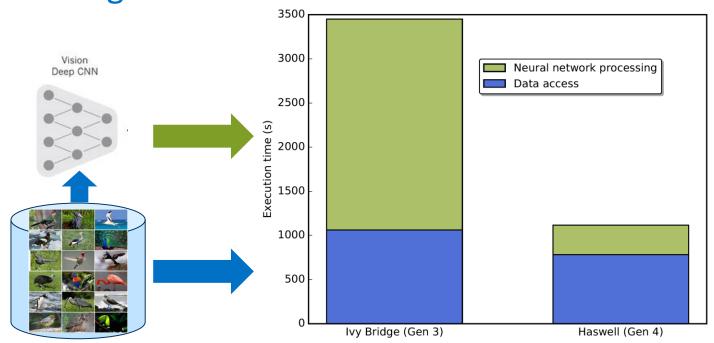


Research community focus on compute since it is expensive and algorithms still need development; storage is an after-thought



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But Storage is a Problem: E.g. Image Classification using Deep Learning



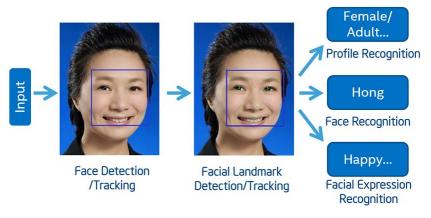
As processing capabilities and algorithms improve, amount of data increases, and data reuse becomes a possibility, storage goes from an afterthought to a real challenge

There is an early opportunity to influence the way visual data is treated in the storage system

Visual Metadata and New Formats

Exploit rich metadata

- Media data easily enhanced by rich metadata computed in advance or on the fly
- Metadata much smaller and can be used to zoom in, on only the desired raw data



Search photos by faces, scenes, objects, and actions/events

Source: Yurong Chen, Intel Labs China

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Speed up access to desired data

Analysis friendly formats

Visual Storage Architecture

Persistent Memory Graph Database (PMGD)

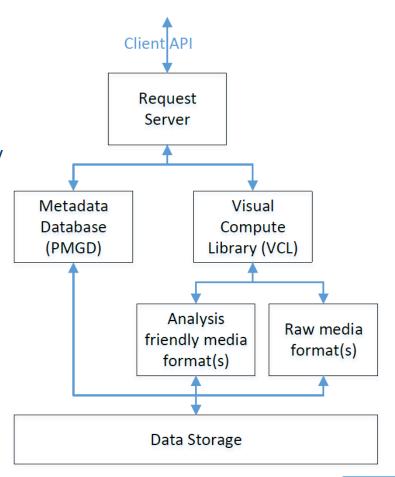
 Support efficient query of metadata via a graph database developed for new non-volatile memory (Persistent Memory)

Visual Compute Library (VCL)

Enable alternate image/video analysis-friendly storage formats

Request Server

- Coordinate requests and responses PMGD, VCL and client
- Implement client API



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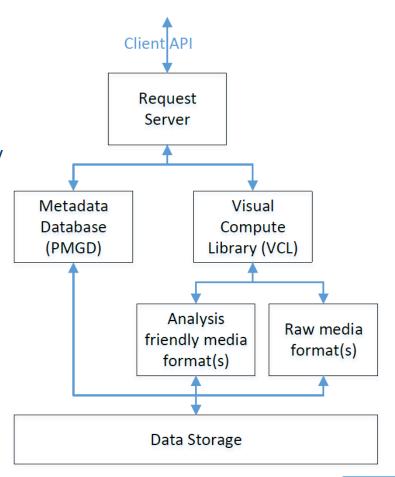
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Photo

Name: Hawaii1.jpg

Date: 4/15/14

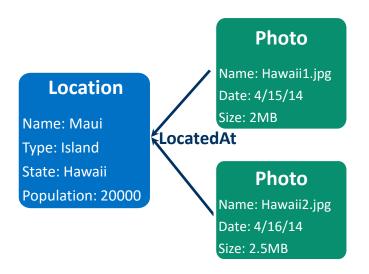
Size: 2MB

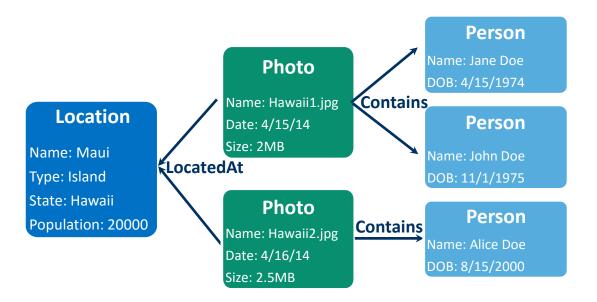
Photo

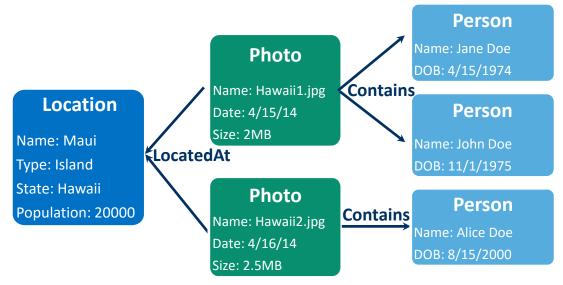
Name: Hawaii2.jpg

Date: 4/16/14

Size: 2.5MB

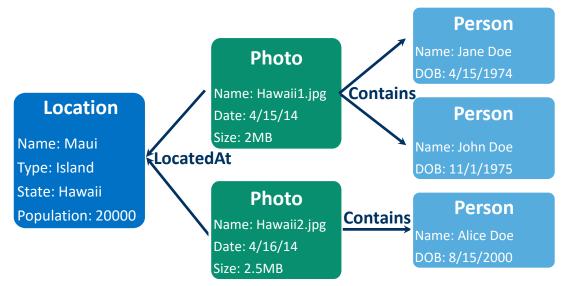






While this metadata schema will be application-specific, it looks like a property graph:

- Nodes connected with Edges
- Properties on nodes/edges
- (optional) Group by tags



Find all photos of Alice from Hawaii

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Support evolving schema
Variety of indexes



Persistent Memory Graph Database (PMGD)

Traditional property graph databases plagued by disk latencies

New non-volatile memory technology (e.g. 3D Xpoint) with performance close to DRAM

Opportunity to avoid a lot of legacy software → PMGD

Graph database implementation targeting persistent memory

Data Storage via the Visual Compute Library

More and more machine consumption of data for processing

Think beyond standard formats for visual data

Visual Compute Library

- Enable alternate image/video storage formats (e.g. TileDB [1])
- Perform common operations closer to the data



Example Visual Pipeline(s)

"Find images with cars on beaches to train a new model for recognizing their make"



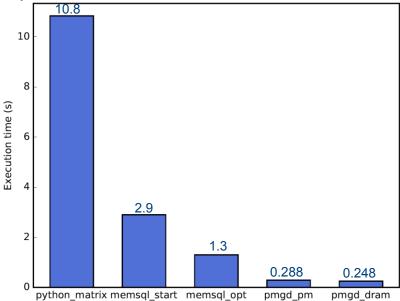
Using Yahoo Flickr dataset, create a biased set (700K images)

Image classification using Caffe deep learning framework (different weights and machine learning models for locations and objects)

Metadata Query Comparison

t("images with beaches after place classification") + t("images with cars and beaches

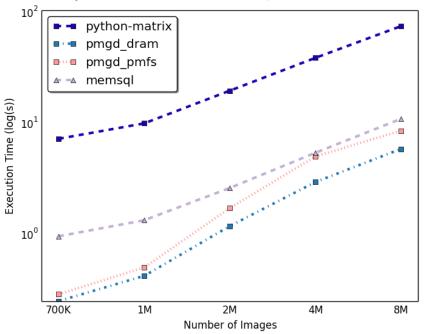
after object classification")



PMGD supports queries faster than an in-memory relational database while providing better schema support.

Query Scaling

t("images with beaches after place classification")



PMGD continues to perform better than MemSQL at larger scales despite a lack of special query caching provided in MemSQL

Analysis friendly processing in VCL – e.g. resize

t("read images and resize")

Image Size	Image Format	Read/decode Implementation	Resize Implementation	Read + Resize Time (ms)
500x291	JPEG	OpenCV	OpenCV	2.85
500x291	TileDB	VCL	OpenCV	0.37
500x291	TileDB	VCL	VCL native	1.36
1024x2048	PNG	OpenCV	OpenCV	68.04
1024x2048	TileDB	VCL	OpenCV	4.63
1024x2048	TileDB	VCL	VCL native	2.89

Resize 400 images from original size to 256x256. Average time per image

Larger the image, better the performance of VCL, more benefits for high-def images

Conclusions and Future Work

Room and need for novel storage methods in vision pipelines

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