

Use of PTZ in wide area surveillance

Maxime Taron, Constant Guillot, Patrick SAYD

Commissariat à l'Energie Atomique (CEA-LIST)
 Lab Vision and Content Engineering
patrick.sayd@cea.fr



The research leading to these results has received funding from the European Community's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2011) under grant agreement n° 218004.

The views expressed in this document are those of the author(s) and the European Community is not liable for any use that may be made of the information contained herein.



Performance of object detection is limited in video-surveillance by the low resolution of images, because of the reduced number of sensors.



- **Pan-Tilt-Zoom devices show several advantages when compared with fixed camera devices :**
 - Monitoring very large area with a high spatial resolution.
 - Sufficient zoom capability to capture high resolution images of objects or people faces.
 - Reduce the cost of coverage for a given area in terms of number of devices.
 - May be manually controlled by operator to focus on a security incident.

High Resolution Views



But, use of PTZ cameras gives some constraints ...



- **Low-cost equipment : limitation of the dynamic behaviour**
 - Uncertainty on motion (repeatability)
 - Uncertainty on zoom (repeatability)
 - Slow autofocus in case of zooming
- **Moving sensor implies constraints on processing methods**
 - Full calibration is complex
 - Approaches as background modelling for object detection developed in the static context are not easy to adapt
- **Strategy : Trade-off on zooming level**
 - Focus on an object of interest makes the PTZ blind for the rest of the scene
 - Enlarge the angle of view would reduce the high resolution capability

Which strategy to monitor large area ?



- **Classical approaches**

- With a PTZ : the system covers the whole scene and focus on detection:
 - Detection on low resolution image and a blind system during focus
- With a wide-angle camera and a PTZ : the wide angle camera monitors the whole scene and the PTZ focus on detection (master/slave):
 - Detection performance is depending of the low resolution sensors

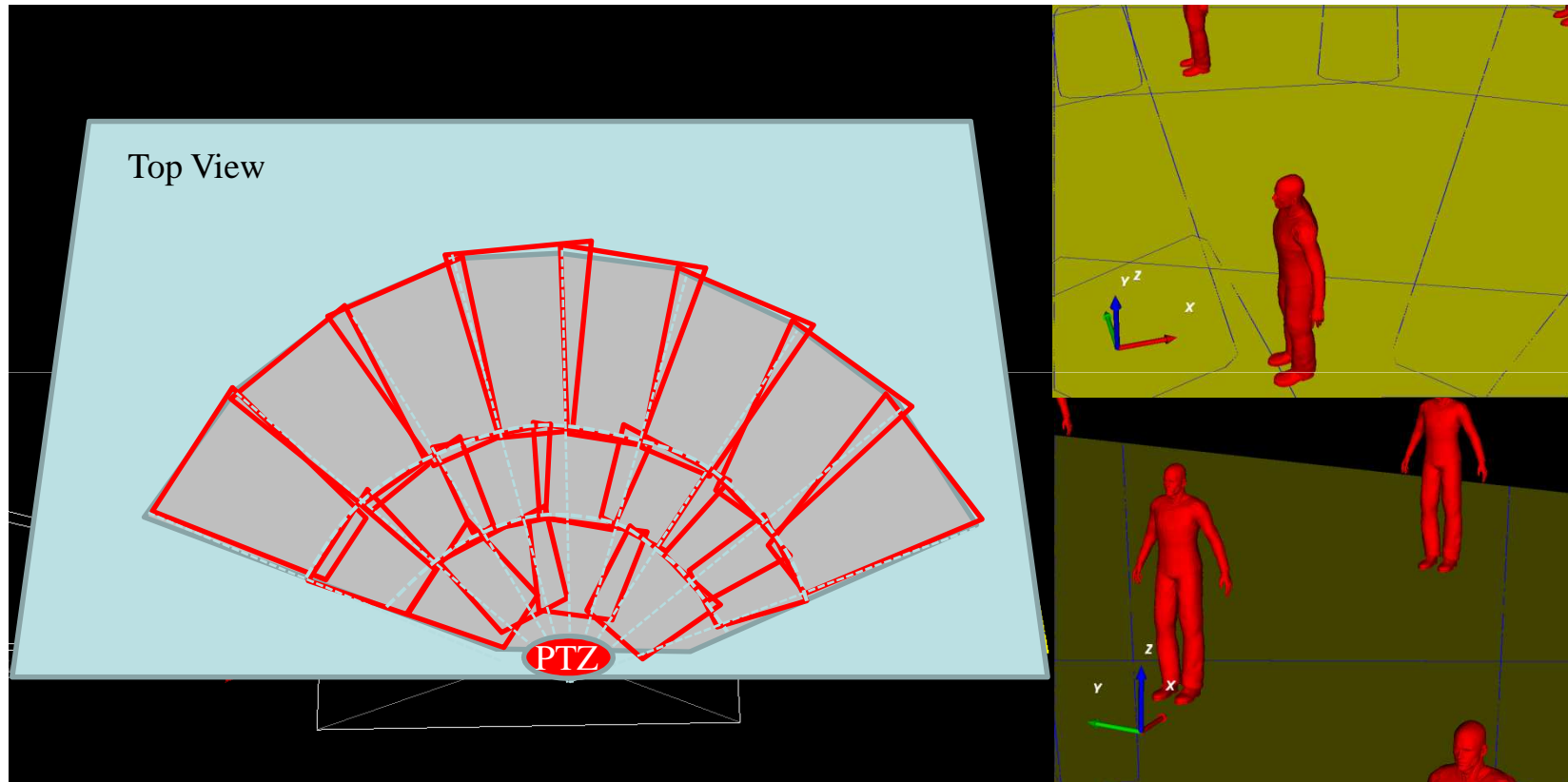
- **Innovative approach in Subito: two PTZ performing guard tour for stationary object detection**

- Guard tour : each PTZ monitors the whole space with a constant and high resolution. Repetition of a course defined by a set of orientation/zoom.
- Classification to separate mobile and stationary objects.
- Multi-view approach to manage occlusions and recover 3D information.

→ Limitation : constant movement of the camera makes it impossible to track moving objects.

A strategy based on Automatic Guard tour

- Cover the space with a constant resolution



- **At each position of the Guard Tour, object detection is performed based on robust background modelling**
- **Due to Guard Tour strategy : 20” between 2 views of a same place**
 - no statistic model of the background image
 - only frame-to-frame differencing on local descriptors.
 - robust signature of image appearance
 - SURF descriptors (texture) along with YUV color values are computed on image blocks as a background model.
- **Discriminate mobile and stationary object (potentially abandoned object)**
 - If background signature and current signature are different → **object detection**. Background and Object signatures are saved.
 - Next view : the current signature is compared to the 2 previous ones:
 - if current signature = background signature → **no more object**
 - if current signature is different of both signature → **mobile object**
 - if current signature = previous object signature → **stationary object**

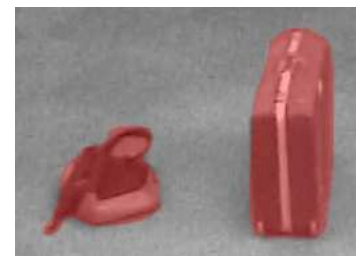
Results of stationary blob detection

Example on one of the positions of the guard tour

Colour code : **mobile blob**, ..., **stationary blob**



- **Background subtraction with re-identification.**
 - Produce local results → blobs
 - The concept of “object” is not directly present in this output.
- **Segmentation based on graph optimization form blobs in the image.**
 - Create a weighted graph with unary costs on nodes and binary costs on edge.
 - Input : background subtraction results (age of every detection)
 - Output : a map of labels corresponding to detected objects.
- **Unary cost :**
 - include a minimal duration which defines an object as static.
 - several additional constraint for the labeling of blocks
- **Binary cost:**
 - Include time difference between descriptor.



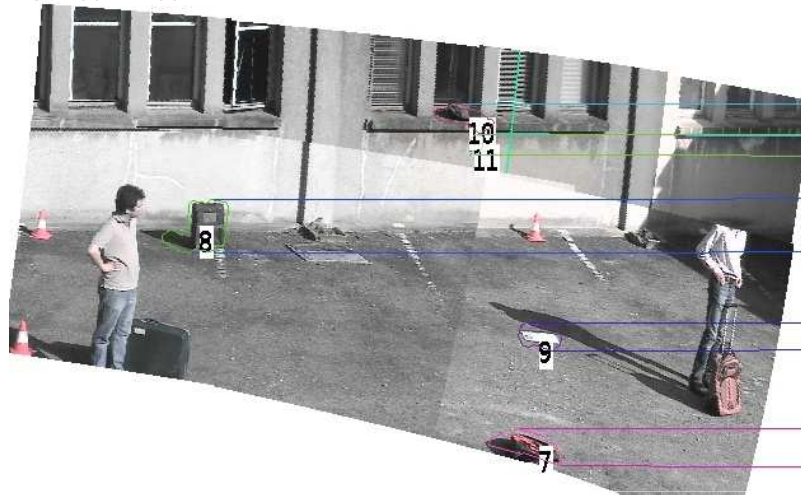
Results of object labelling



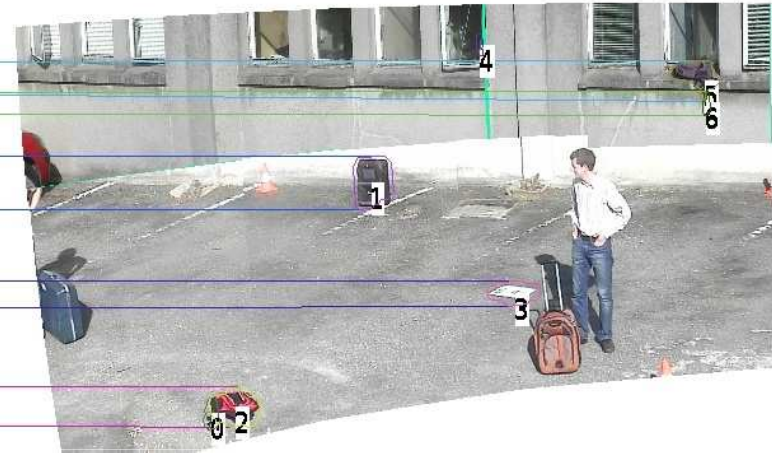
- **The use of two PTZ enables:**
 - the limitation of ambiguities due to occlusions
 - the recovery of 3D information
- **The challenge is the merge of information between the different views.**
 - A fast calibration of a couple of PTZ was developed, which gives a geometric relationship between images. Epipolar constraints reduce the matching possibility and enable the 3D reconstruction.
 - A strategy based on oriented graphs is proposed to match objects between views

Object matching : Epipolar Geometry.

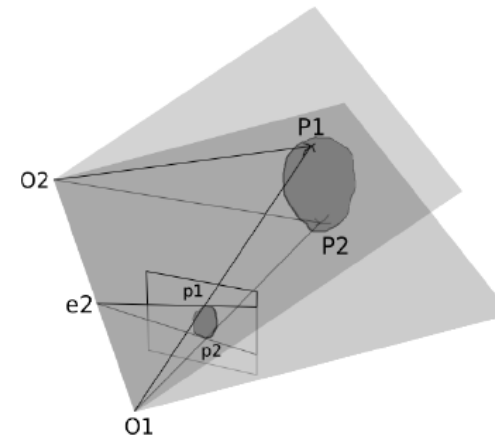
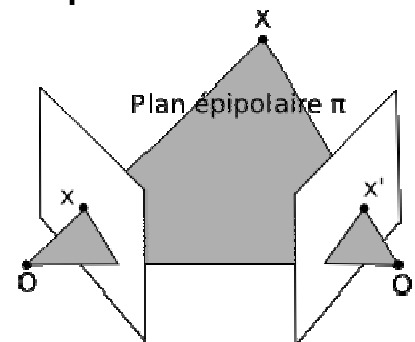
Panorama PTZ 1



Panorama PTZ 2

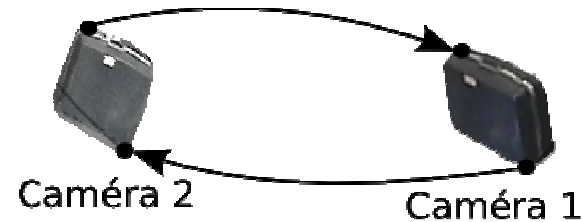


- Epipolar planes intersect each detected object of the 2 cameras.
- The epipolar planes tangent to the « top » and « bottom » tip of each object are named “frontier planes”. The corresponding points of each cameras the “frontier points”



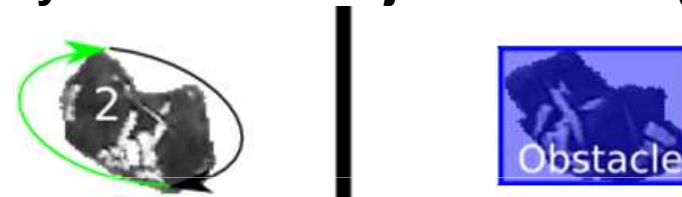
Graph construction for matching object.

- Simple link 2 objects on 2 views



- Multiple scenarios are likely to complexify multi-view object matching.

- Object is being viewed in only one image (no possible match)



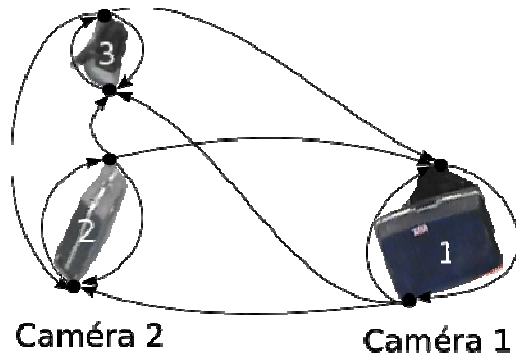
- 2 Object are seen as one detection in one of the camera and two detection in the other.



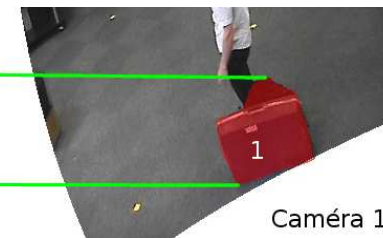
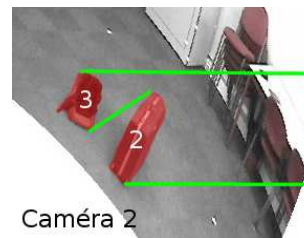
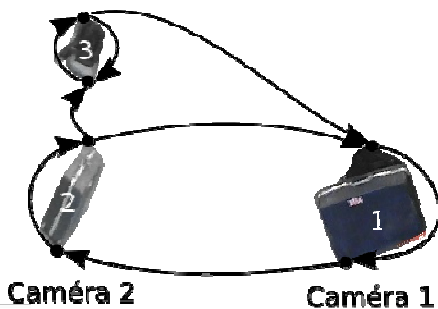
- An object is seen as 2 detection in one camera because of an occlusion



- An oriented graph links all objects of the two views is built over the single view detections.

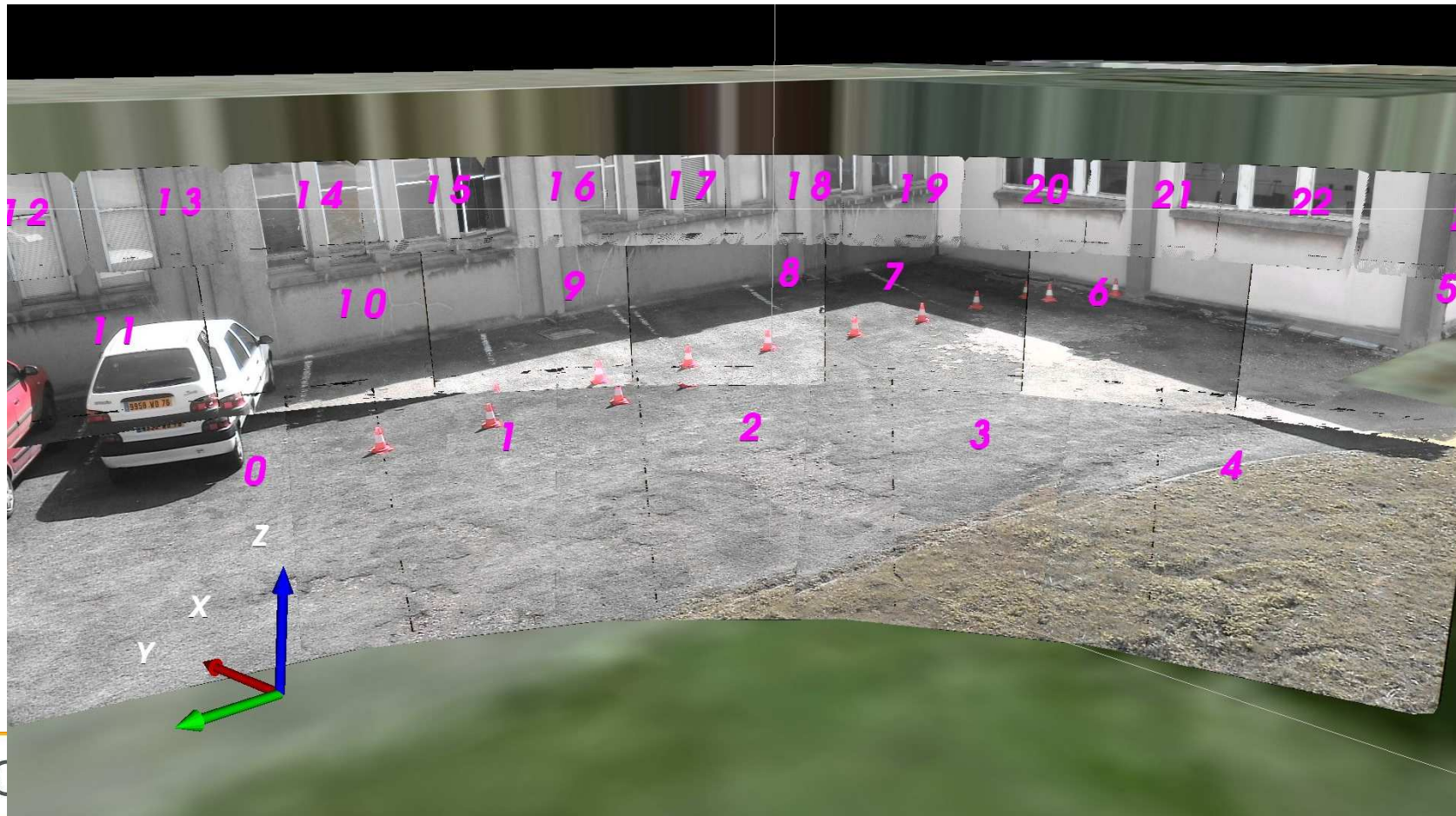


- Every edge is given a cost as a function of the epipolar constraint and object size.
- The “optimal object matching” solution is the set oriented cycle with minimal cost.



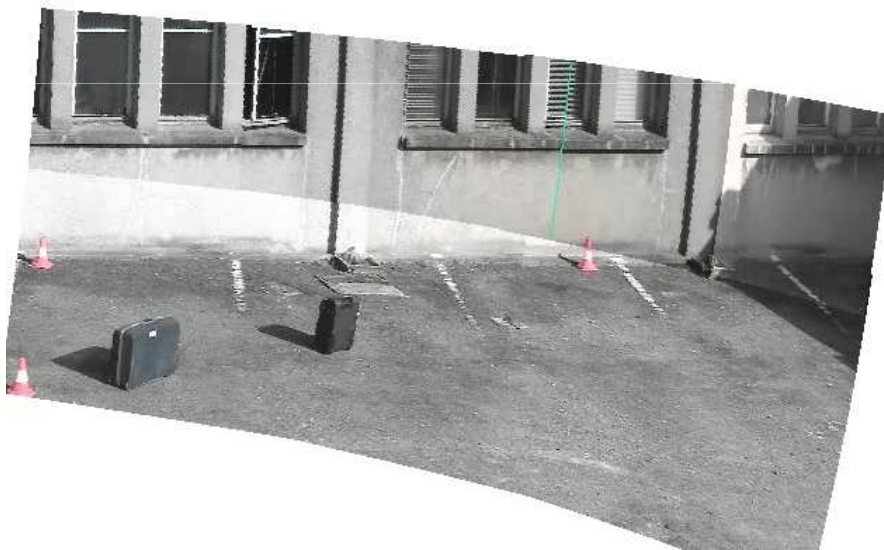
Test site in CEA facilities

- 2 PTZ Cameras at 5m high
- Guard tours with 22 preset views.
- 1 frame of the same area every 30s
- The overlapping area covered is 10x20x2m



Results of object association.

- Object detection tested on 8 preset views
- Sequence about 20' = 5000 images
- 20 stationary baggage → 6000 occurrences



Detection rate

	Single camera	Couple of Camera
Recall	0.95	0.95
Precision	0.86	0.92

False alarms rate = mainly due to system latency (duration of the guard tour)

Reconstruction accuracy

Association	Real Size (cm)	Estimated Size (cm)
8 - 0	53	57
7 - 1	51	51
9 - 2	1	9
10 - 3	20	21
12 - 4	15	15
11 - 5	13	7

In SUBITO, we show that PTZ is relevant for large area surveillance:

- The Guard tour strategy is a way to monitor the area with a high resolution
- Stationary object detection is made possible thanks to:
 - a robust descriptor for background/foreground
 - an object labelling based on a graph approach, weighted by age information
- Multi-view-Approach reduces the level of false alarm even if easy improvements need to be implemented.

Future works:

- Robustness of the PTZ system must be improved to cope with real surveillance environment
- The PTZ system must be integrated into a global framework for unattended baggage detection, in order to collaborate with owner identification and tracking functions.

Thank you for your attention