

X-ray radiographs and photo acquired at Sandia National Laboratories

Exploring the Feasibility of Traditional Image Querying Tasks for Industrial Radiographs

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SPIE Optics and Photonics

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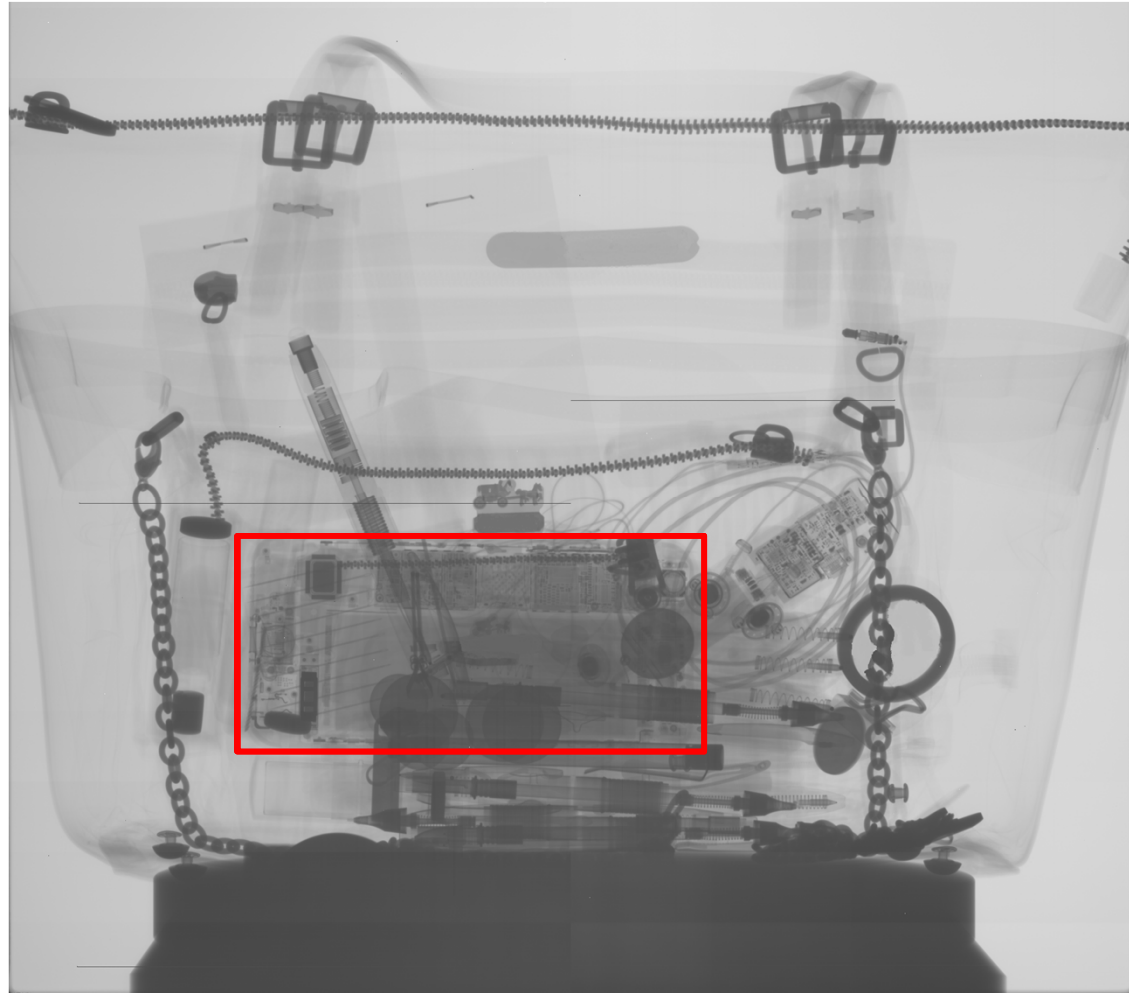
*Exceptional
service
in the
national
interest*



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Introduction

- Objective:
Identify objects in a region of interest using an existing database of X-ray radiographs
- Status:
 - Created clean exemplar images from database
 - Developed pre-processing algorithm for radiographs
 - Developing sorting and matching algorithm
- Importance:
 - Inspection applications
 - National Security



X-ray radiograph acquired at Sandia National Laboratories

Database Characteristics

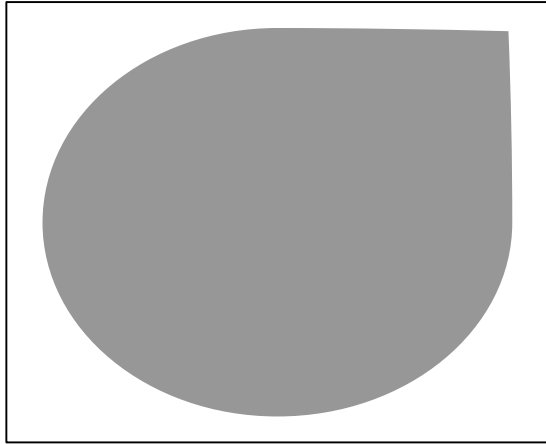
- Compiled for a previous effort
- Over 50,000 images (80.1 GB)
- Combination of photographs and radiographs
- JPEG compression
- Duplicate copies of images
- Extraneous objects in some images
- Limited perspectives of each object (1-7 images/object)

Cleaning:

1. Delete duplicate images
2. Remove photographs from the database (leaving only radiographs)
 - Based on pixel values
3. Crop radiographs to only contain object of interest
 - Targeted common appearance of extraneous objects

Example of Cleaned Images

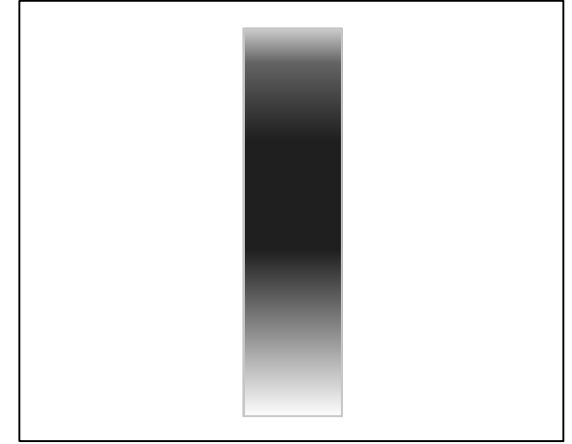
Imaginary Object



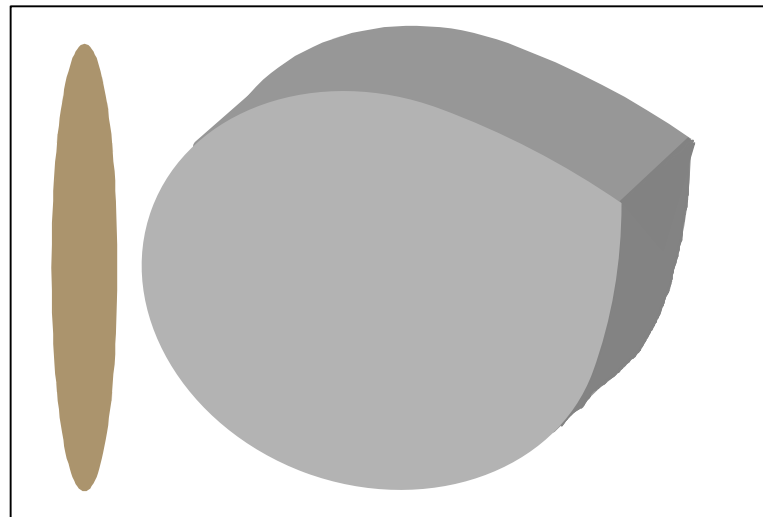
Front



Top



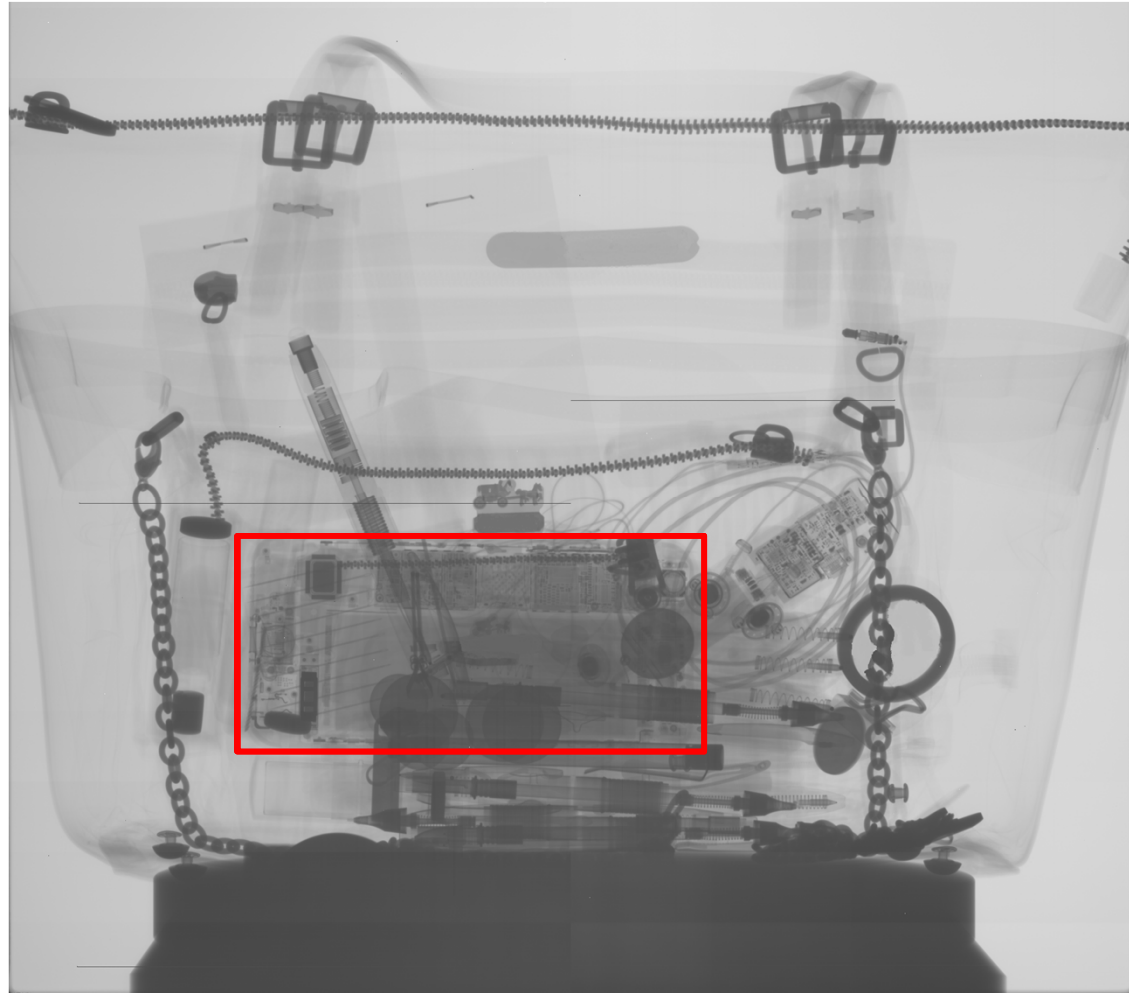
Side



Removed Image

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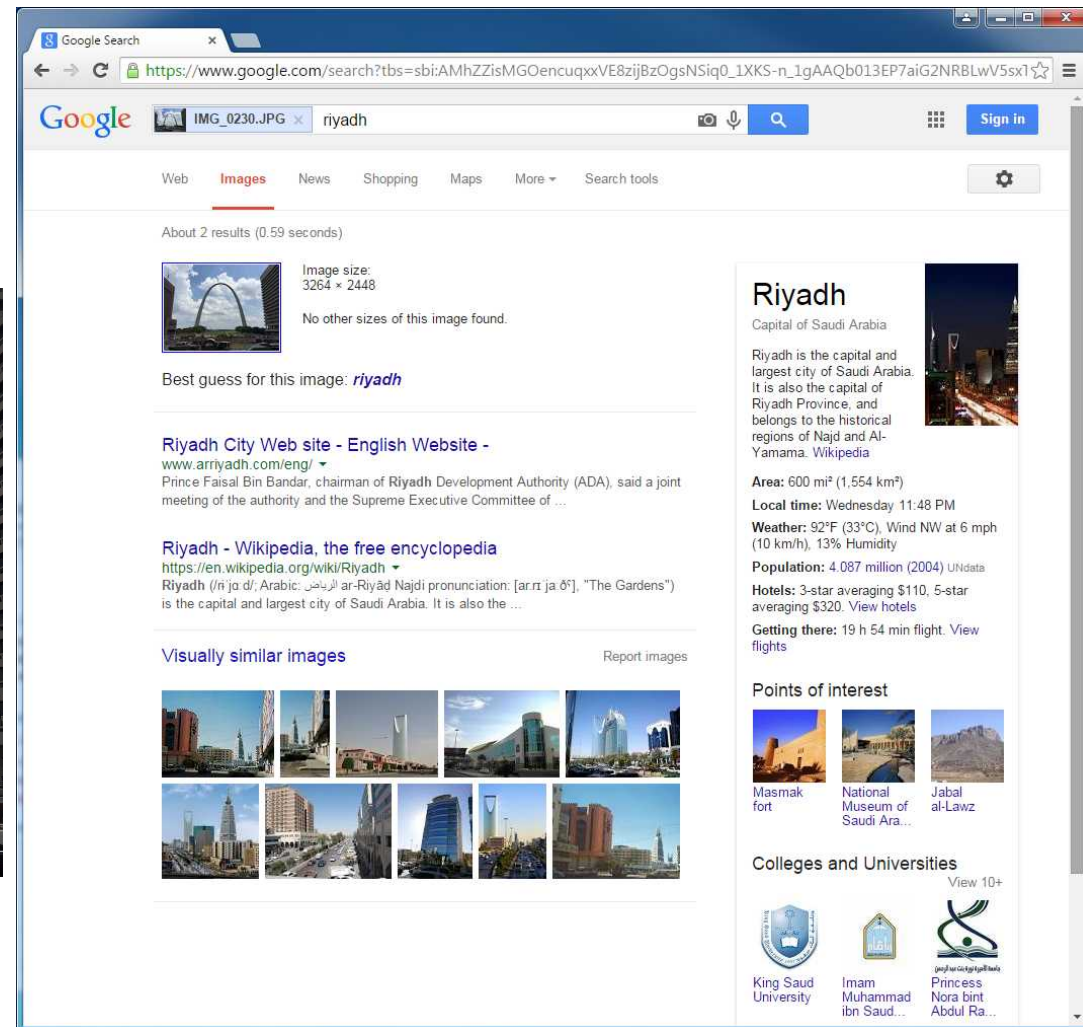


X-ray radiograph acquired at Sandia National Laboratories

Background



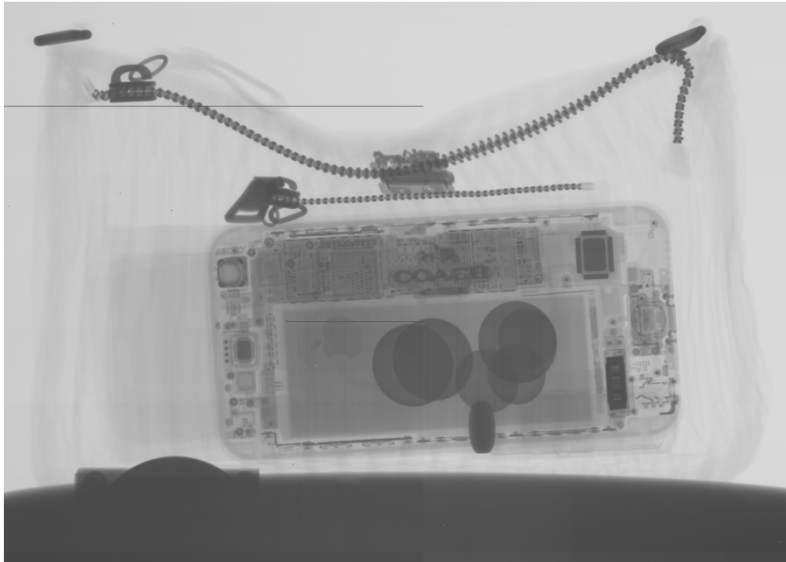
Personal picture of St. Louis Arch



Screenshot generated using Google reverse image search

Radiographs vs Photographs

- Transmission
- Grayscale with little texture
- Transmission overlap
- Reflection
- Color with texture



X-ray radiograph acquired at Sandia National Laboratories

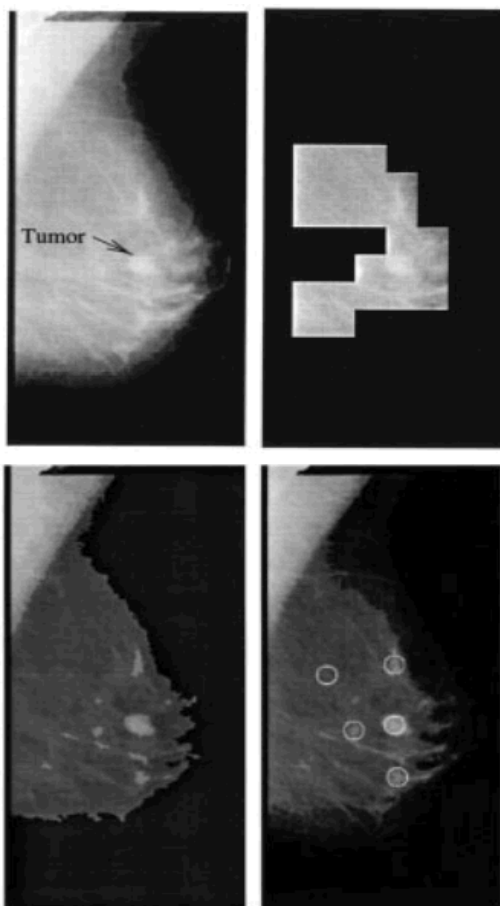


Photograph of the purse in the X-ray image

→ Must develop a unique object recognition technique for radiographs

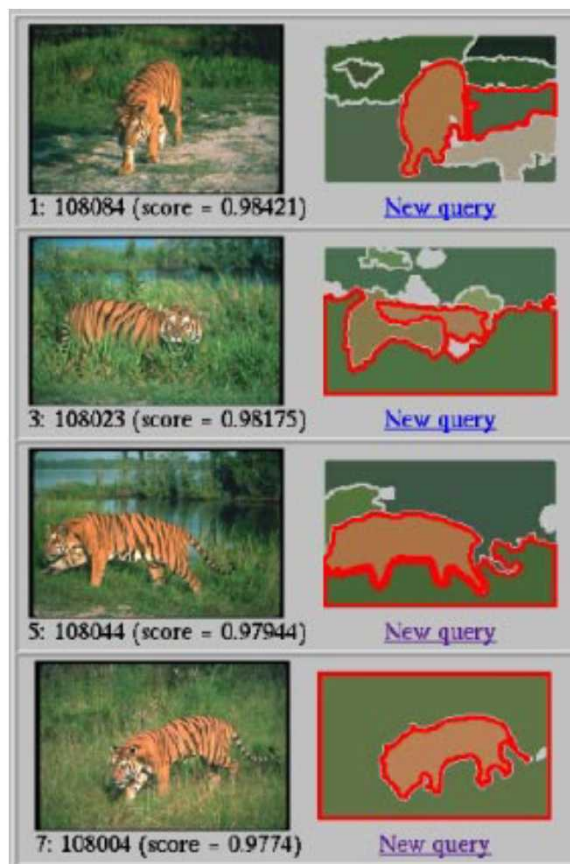
Other Object Recognition Methods

Tumor Detection



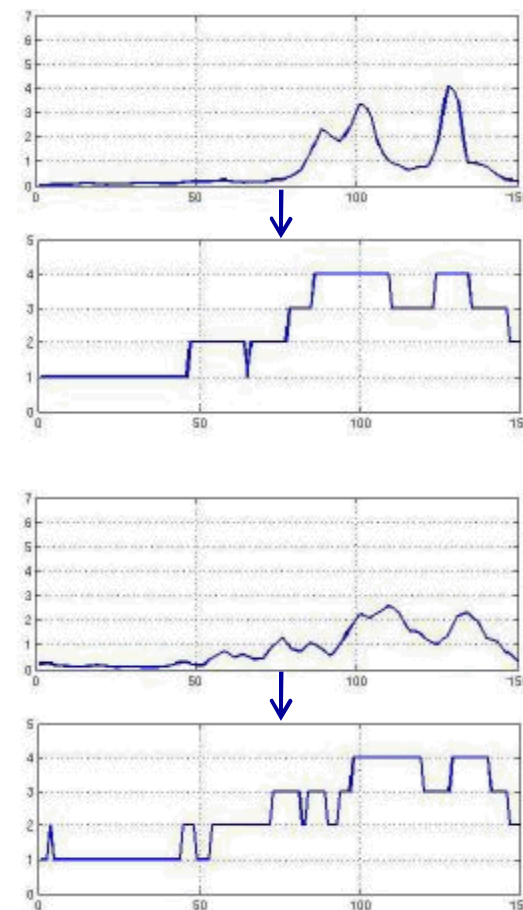
An Artificial Intelligent Algorithm for Tumor Detection in Screening Mammogram
Zheng and Chan, 2001

Blobworld



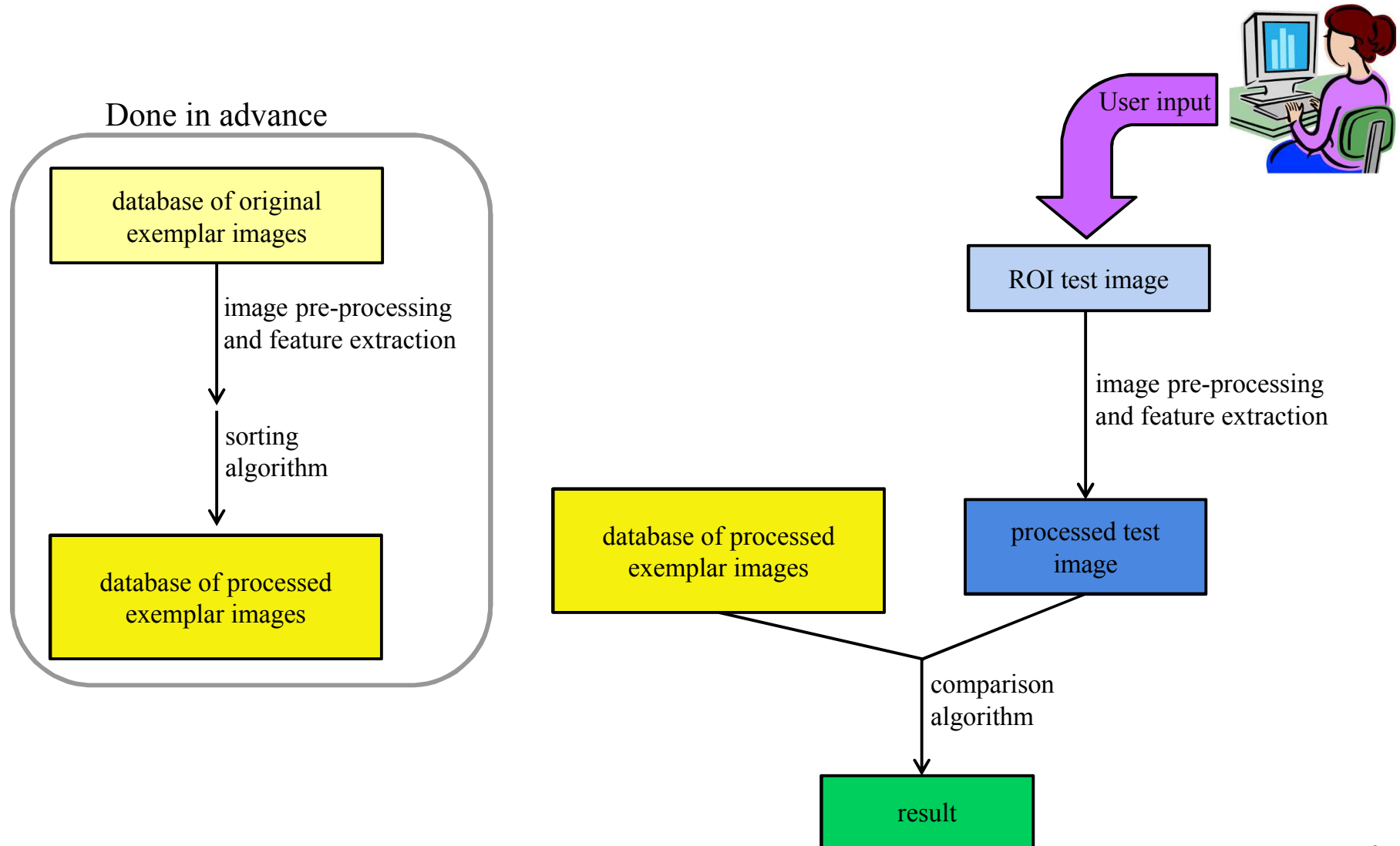
Blobworld: A System for Region-Based Image Indexing and Retrieval
Carson et al., 1999

Multinomial Pattern Matching (MPM)



Multinomial Pattern Matching for High Range Resolution Radar Profiles
Koudelka et al., 2007

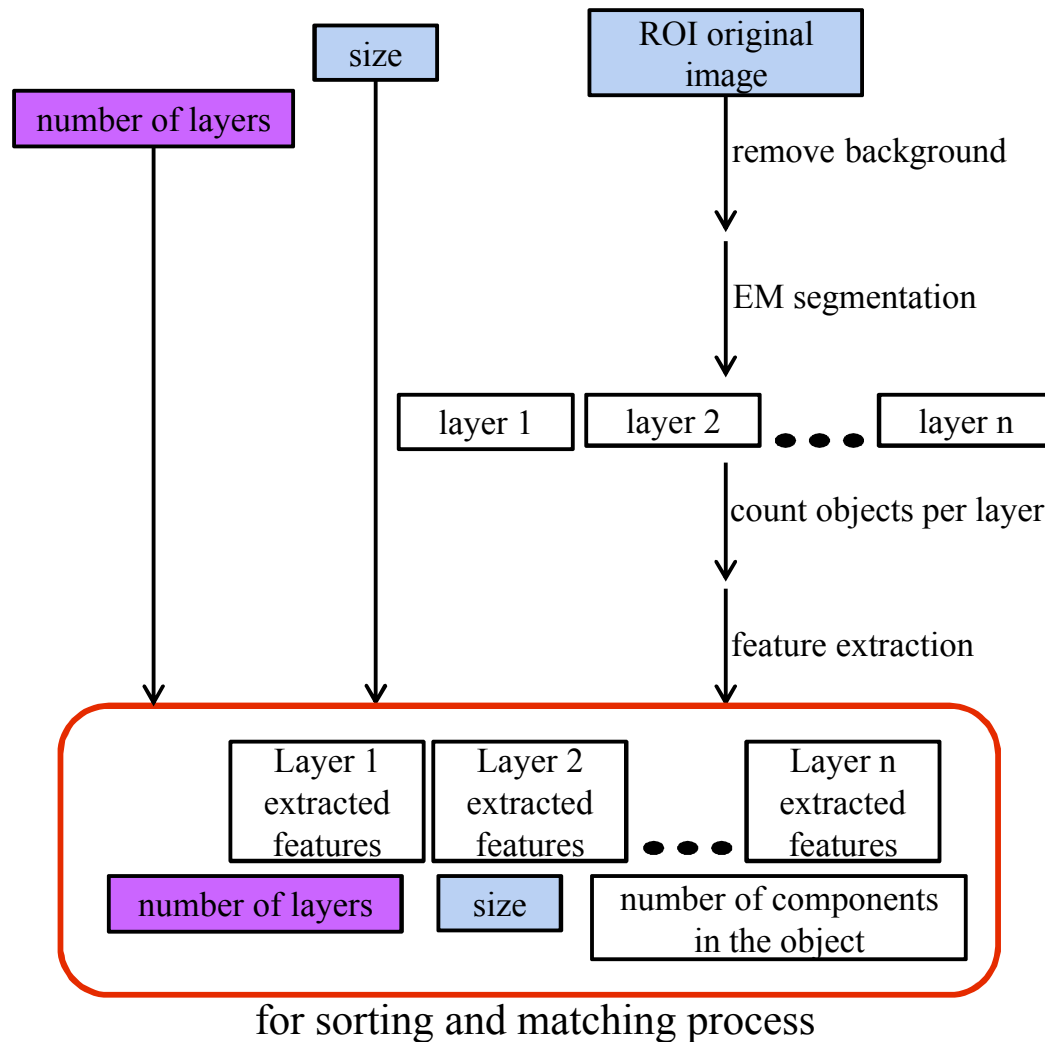
Hybrid Object Recognition (OR) System



Assumptions

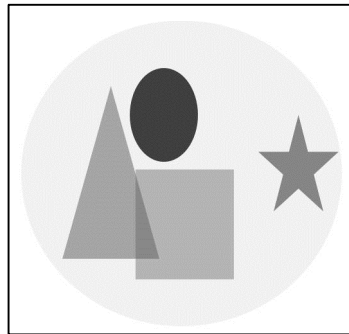
- User selects region of interest to be identified from input image
- Perspective Concerns:
 - Database only contains orthogonal perspectives
 - Ignore perspective invariance (match to a specific perspective)
 - Perspectives of the same object are stored as individual images (not grouped together)

OR Pre-Processing

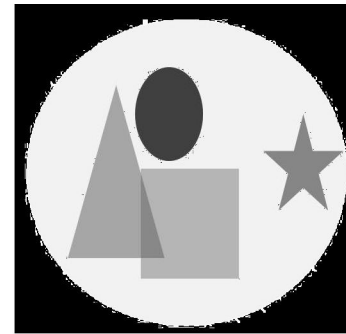


- Determine properties and extract features for sorting and matching process
- Divide into layers
 - Layer corresponds to brightness quantile
- Number of quantiles based on user input
 - Typically for our dataset, 3-6 quantiles
- Extracted features qualify shapes in the layer

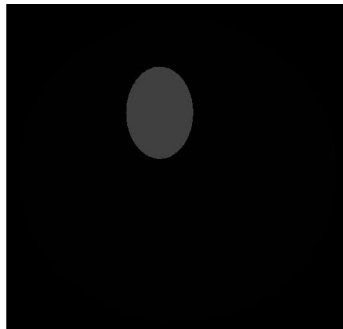
Example of OR Pre-Processing



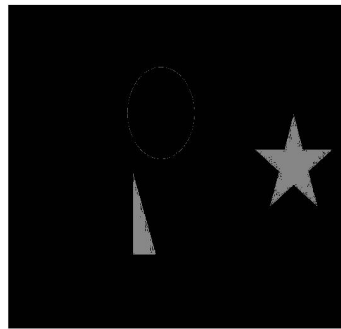
Original Image



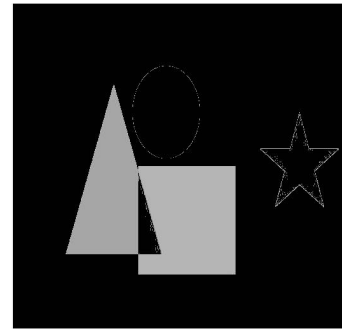
After Background
Removal



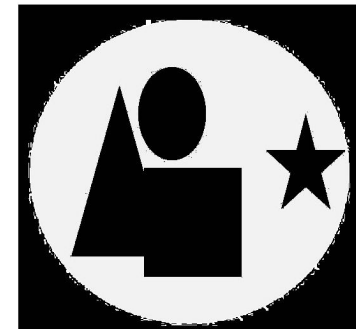
Layer 1
1 Object



Layer 2
2 Objects

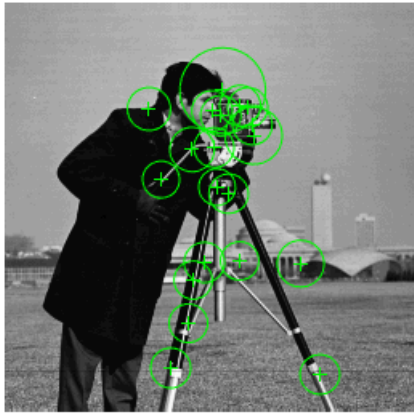


Layer 3
2 Objects

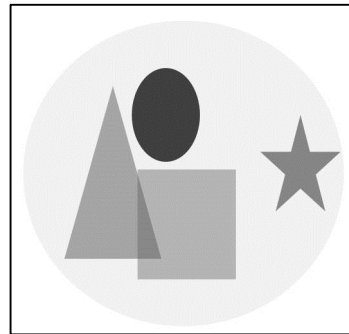


Layer 4
1 Object

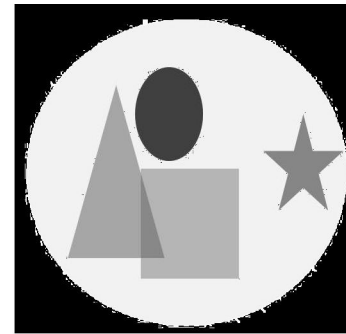
Example of OR Pre-Processing



Mathworks detectBRISKFeatures



Original Image

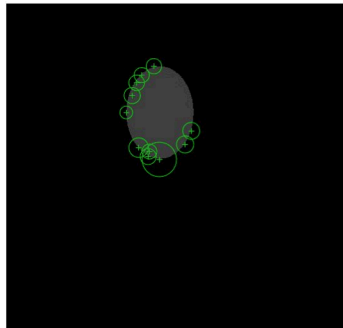


After Background
Removal

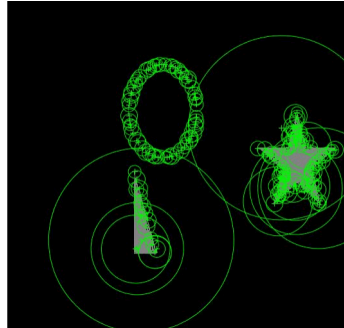
size: small

number of
layers: 4

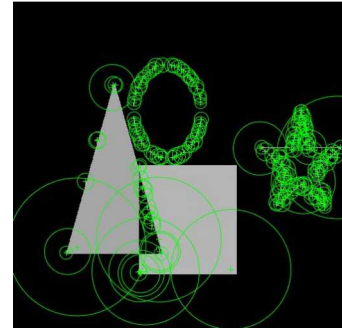
number of
components: 6



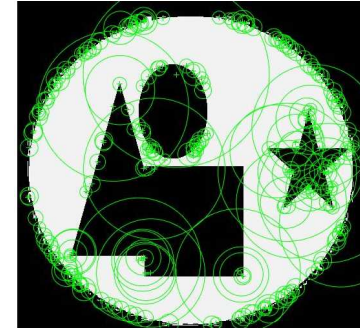
Layer 1
1 Object



Layer 2
2 Objects



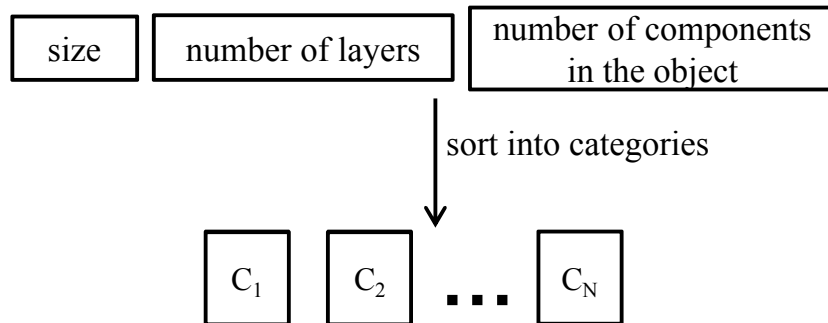
Layer 3
2 Objects



Layer 4
1 Object

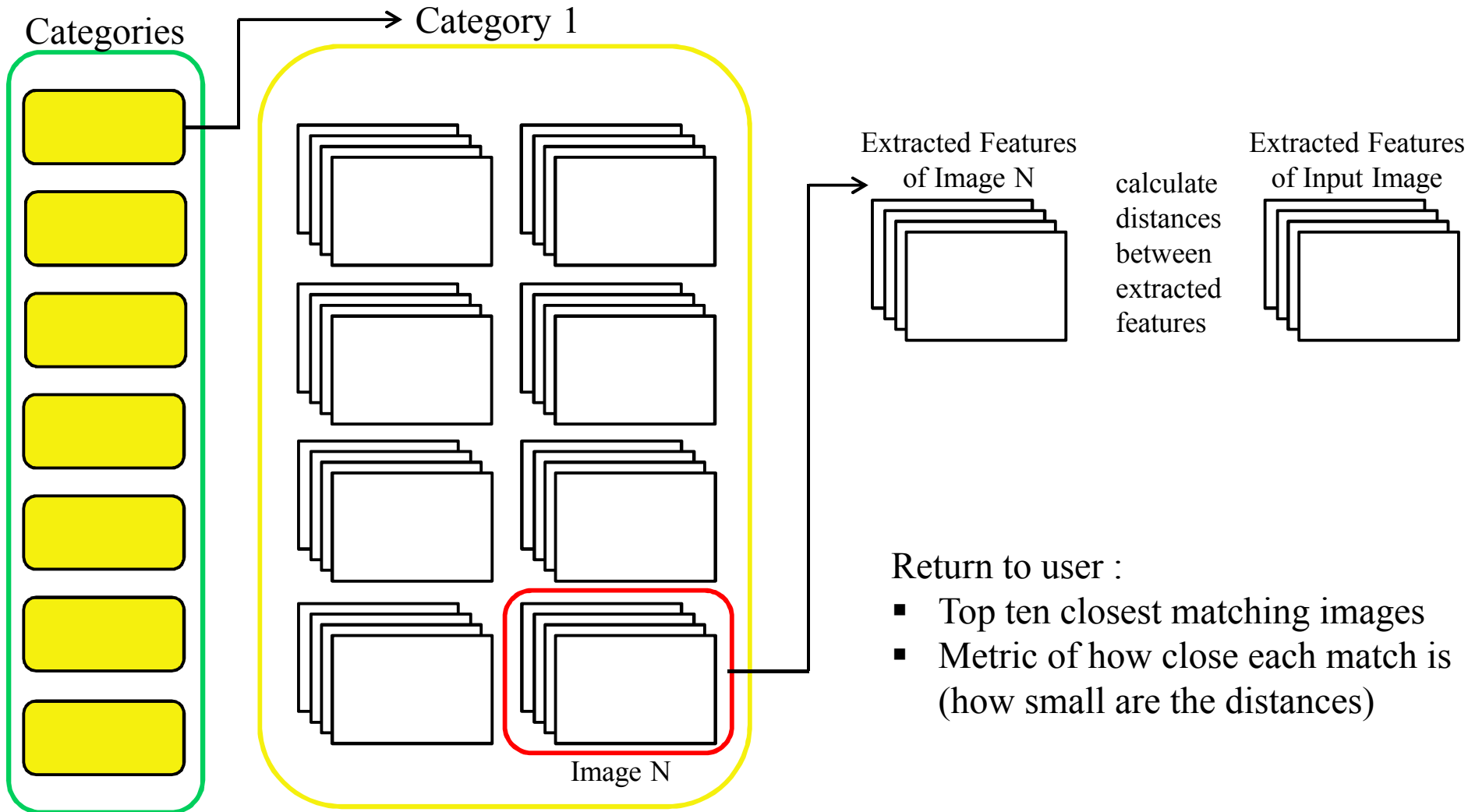
OR Sorting

- Exemplar database is very large. For speed in the comparison step, we bin the database into smaller groups based on object size, number of layers and number of number of components in the object
 - Call these smaller groups of exemplar images “categories”



Searching over multiple close categories helps address variation in the parameters due to non calibration, object overlap, imprecise size, etc.

OR Comparison



Methods

- MATLAB 2015a with
 - Image Processing Toolbox
 - Computer Vision Toolbox
 - Parallel Computing Toolbox

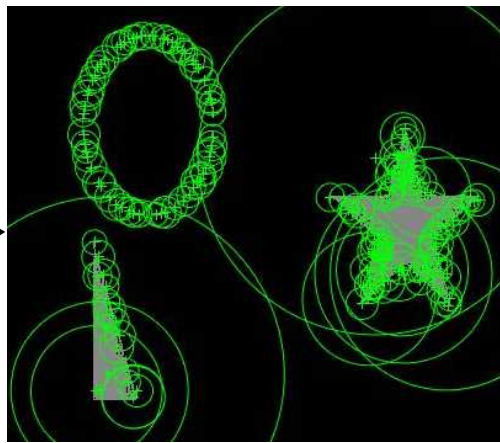
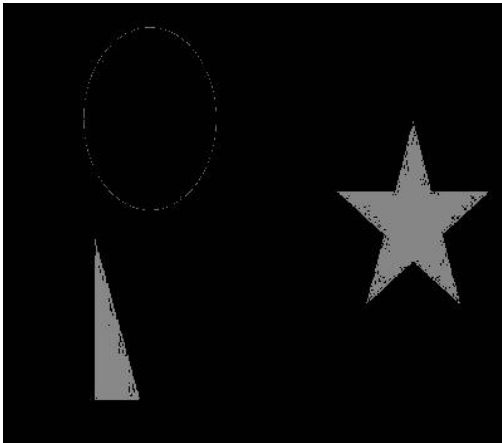
- Subset of Database Used for Testing
 - 42 objects
 - 151 radiographs (3-6 radiographs/object or only 1)
 - Manually removed photographs
and cropped out extraneous objects

Results

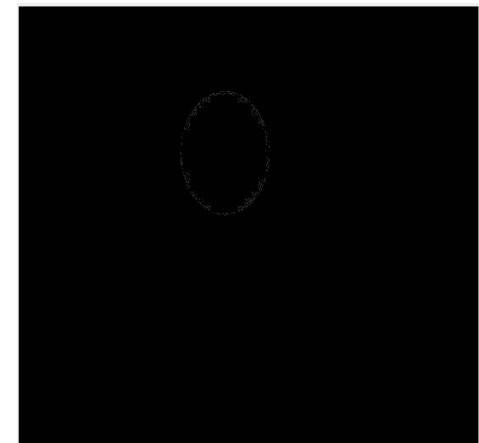
- Data Set Cleaning
 - Successfully deleted duplicates and extracted X-ray images
 - Still verifying results of image cropping
(checking for images exhibiting any cropping errors)

Results

- OR Pre-processing
 - Quality of Segmentation
 - Speckling in pixel placement leads to extra features that aren't very repeatable
 - Deficiency on images with many components (difficult to separate them out properly)
 - Increasing number of layers can lead to meaningless “shadow” layers



zoomed layers to show speckling and resulting features



additional “shadow” layer generated
when input 5 instead of 4

Results

- OR Pre-processing
 - Non-parallelized run time:
 - 151 images → 1398 seconds
 - Parallelization to increase speed
 - 151 images, 12 threads → 138 seconds
 - Overhead for starting and shutting down parallel pool
- OR Sorting
 - Successful file transfer
 - Experimenting with other data storage methods
(large structure instead of many data files)
 - Non-parallelized run time:
 - 151 images → 5 seconds

Conclusion

- Preliminary work holds promise for performing OR on radiographs
 - Algorithms implemented thus far have been successful
- Need to Improve:
 - Quality of segmentation
 - Overall performance
- What's next:
 - Developing the OR Comparison Algorithm
 - Test system with full database
- Potential applications of this work:
 - Inspection applications
 - National Security