

Video Summarization

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Introduction



- Video summarization is the automated construction of a short version of an original full-length video.
- It is necessary in applications where videos are recorded, stored and accessed in abundance.

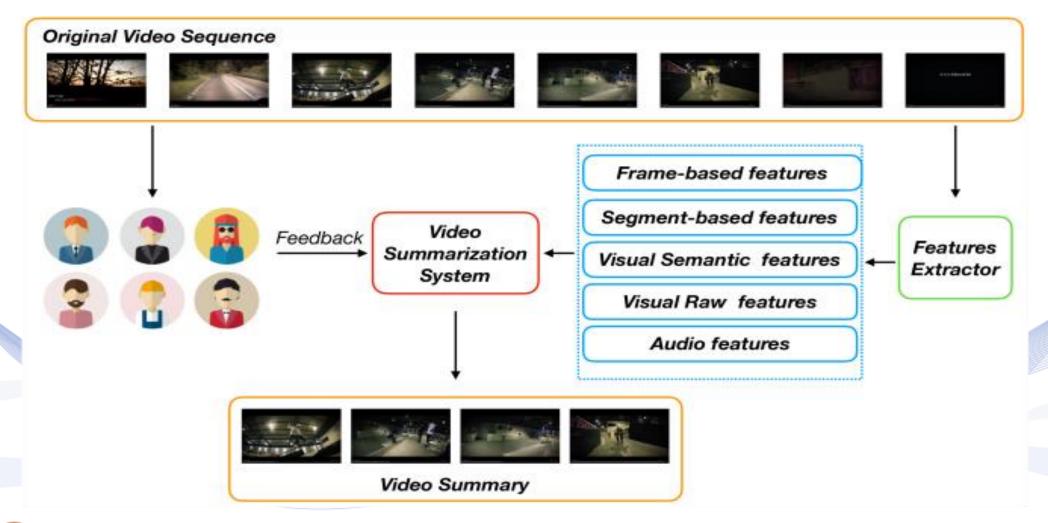
 Video summarization has various applications in several industries (media, surveillance, WWW, etc.).

• **Example**: Users would ideally like to browse quickly through large video databases, to get an idea of the content.





Introduction







Introduction

- Video summarization algorithms result in a short summary of the video.
- The challenge is to automatically select which content will be retained and which will be discarded during the summarization process.
- Only the most informative and/or interesting parts should be kept.



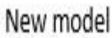


- Movie trailers
- Advertisement creation
- Sports highlights
- Anomaly detection in video surveillance
- Redundancy removal
- Reduction of computational time, storage requirements
- Data visualization
- Search, Retrieval, Recommendation [WOR2020].



• Summarization of personal videos [DAR2014].

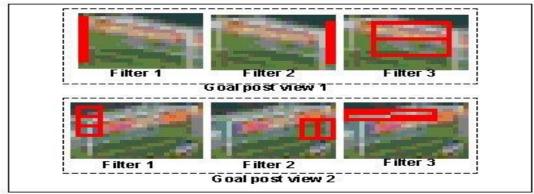








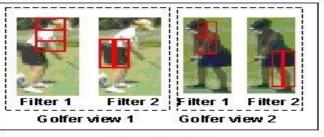
Sports highlights [ZHA2006].



Soccer Models Interpretation



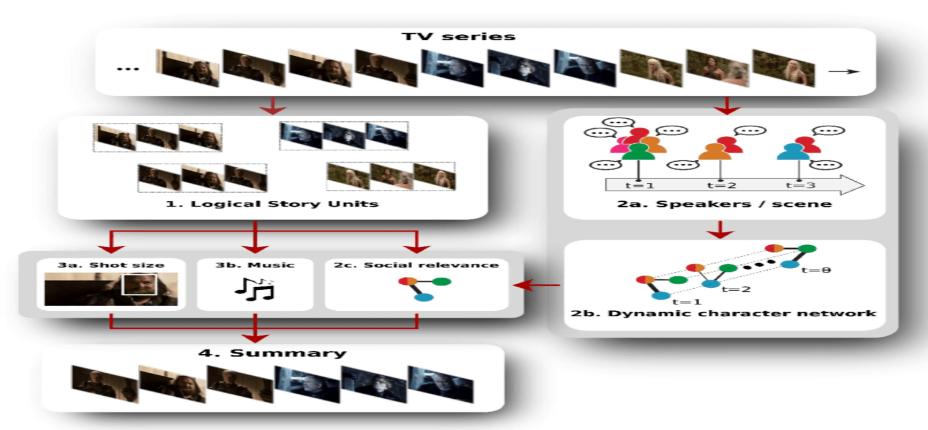
Catcher Model Interpretation



Golf Models Interpretation



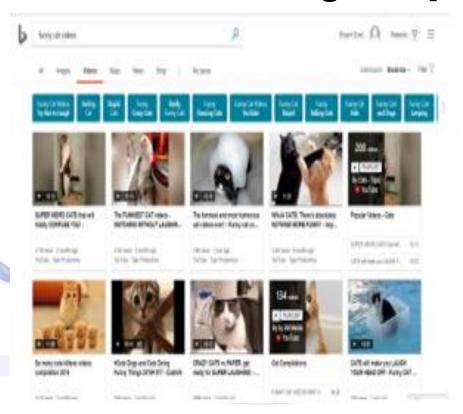
Automatic TV/film trailers [BOR2018].

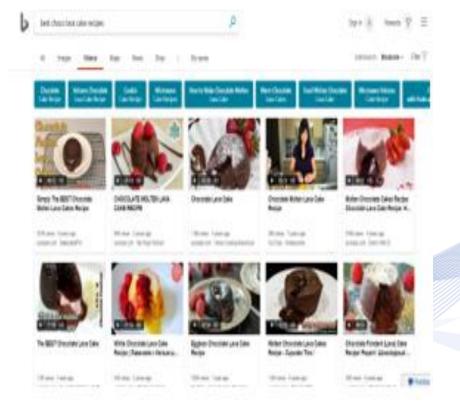




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Video search engines [IRI2010].

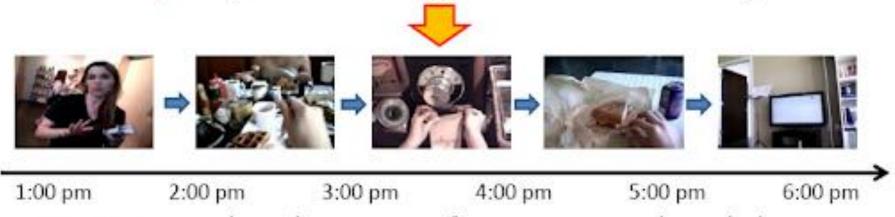






• Egocentric Video storyboard.

Input: Egocentric video of the camera wearer's day



Output: Storyboard summary of important people and objects

Image from vision.cs.utexas.edu



Medical Video summarization.

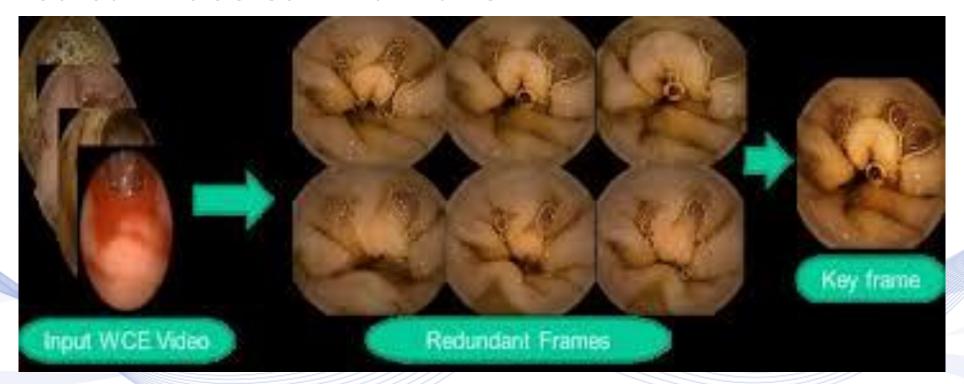


Image from E3S Web of Conferences



Video inspection





Natural Disaster Videos





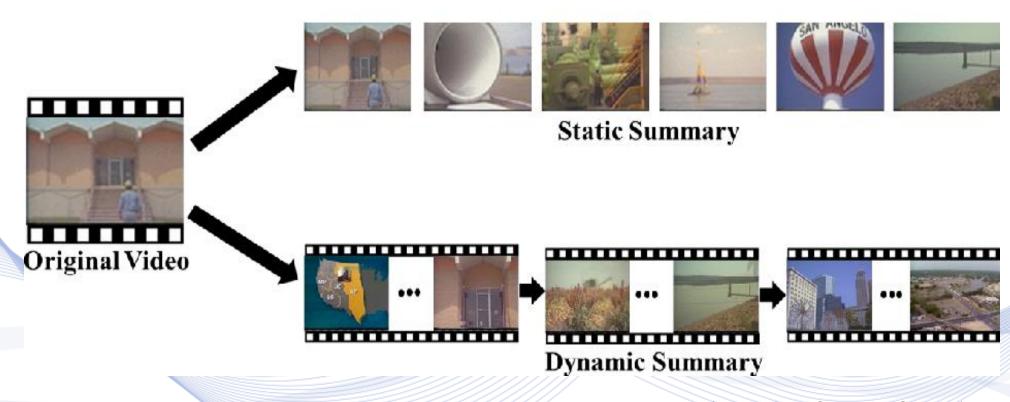
Video summary types

- There are two main types of video summaries: [MAD2016]
 - Static video summaries (storyboard/gallery/key-frame set),
 - Dynamic video summaries (skims/trailers).
- A static summary is a temporally ordered set of selected keyframes.
 - A collection of still images.
- A dynamic summary is a temporally ordered set of selected key-segments.
 - A trailer.



Video summary types





(Image from Semantic Scholar)





- Several video summarization methods have been developed over the years.
- They can be classified into *four major categories*,
 based on their properties and characteristics
 [BUR2020].





 All content selection algorithms for video summarization attempt to identify key-frames/shots/scenes, so that the final summary is:

- Representative of the content of the full-length original video,
- Concise in length (e.g., the number of key-frames may be 10% of the number of original video frames), and
- **Complete**, in the sense that it covers the entire content of the original video (e.g., no sequence of a movie is completely left out of the summary).





- Feature-based summarization [BUR2020].
 - The original video content is represented by an aggregation of various features.
 - These features may capture properties such as visible objects,
 events, color, motion type, etc.
 - Feature extraction and aggregation is the most important step.
 - A machine learning method (e.g., clustering) processes these features, in order to select only a subset of the original content.





- The selection process may optionally be applied at different levels of detail.
- First, the video is segmented into scenes and/or shots.
- Then, important key-scenes and/or key-shots are identified and retained, while the remaining ones are discarded.
- Finally, important key-frames and/or key-segments are identified within each of the selected scenes/shots.



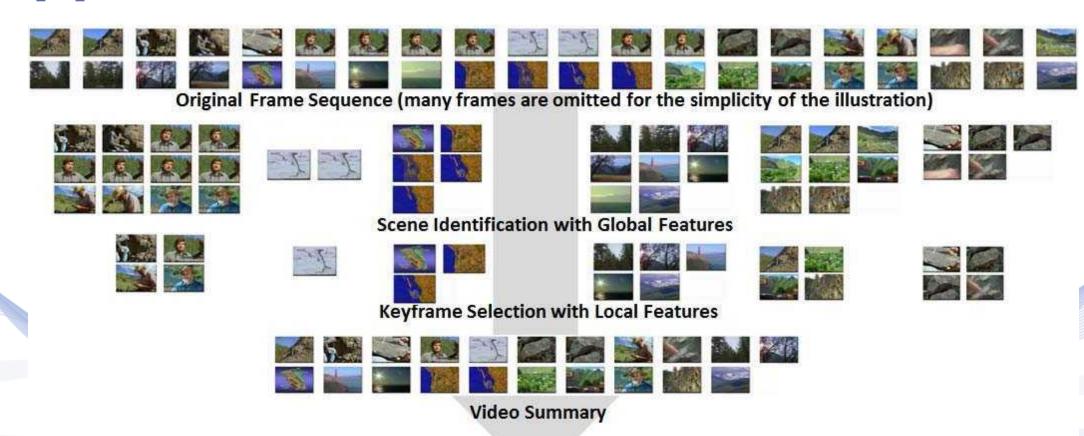


Multiple alternative algorithms exist both for temporal video segmentation and for content selection [KAI2012]:

- Clustering of similar video frames into clusters.
- Video change (e.g., shot cut) detection performs temporal video segmentation



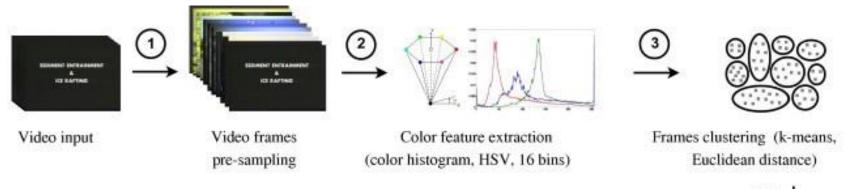


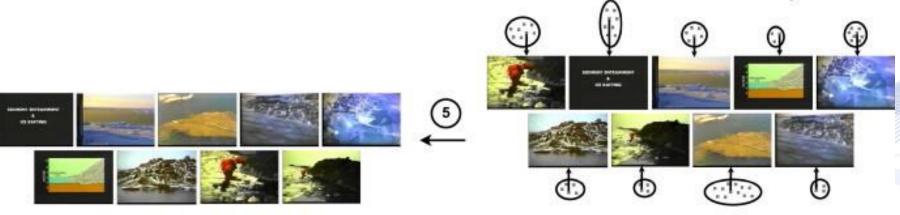


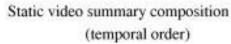
Video Summarization with Global and Local Features (Image from ResearchGate).











Keyframe extraction Elimination of similar keyframes

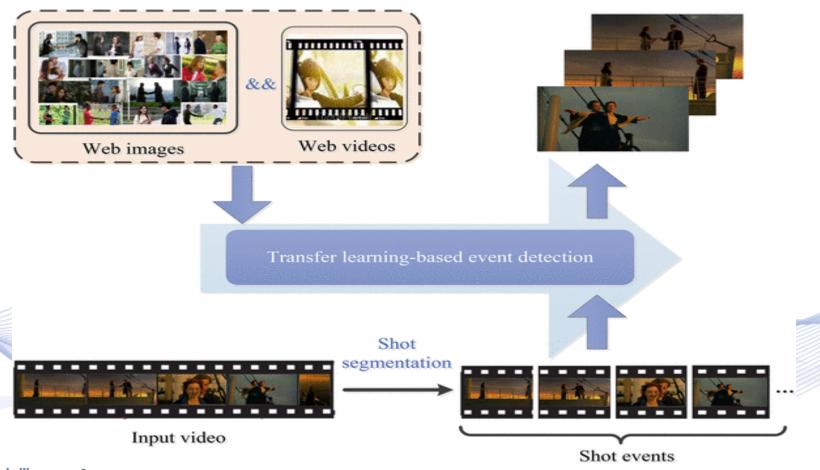


- Event-based summarization [BUR2020].
 - Visually abnormal/rare events are considered interesting (e.g., a robbery or traffic accident scene in a film).
 - The nature of such events depends on the employed video frame representations:
 - Low-level features expressing perceived motion, colors, etc.
 - Higher-level semantic features expressing visible objects, activities, etc.
 - The selection algorithm retains in the summary only parts of the

original video that seem to contain abnormal content.



• Event-based video summarization.







- Object-based summarization [BUR2020].
 - There are cases where we are only interested in the parts of the video depicting a specific family of objects (e.g., people).
 - An object detector is required to analyze each scene.
 - Only parts of the original video (frames or segments) containing the desired object(s) are retained in the summary.



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Object-based video summarization.





- Attention-based summarization [BUR2020].
 - There are various ways to identify which parts of an original video hold most of the users' interest when they view it.
 - The derived summary may only contain key-frames/shots that have been assigned a high attention score.
 - For example, motion attention models may be employed to measure each shot's interest.





- Various content selection algorithms have been employed for video summarization.
- Video frame/shot/scene *clustering* (e.g., K-means) is the simplest approach.

 More sophisticated methods (e.g., spectral clustering) have also been employed.



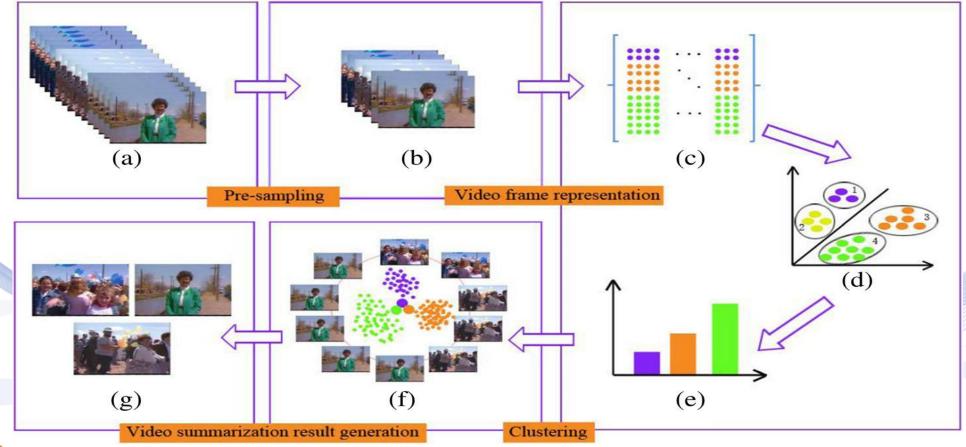


- All video frames are partitioned into clusters of similar properties and the centroid of each cluster is retained as a key-frame.
- Temporal subsampling may be applied before clustering, due to typically high similarities in the appearance of neighboring video frames.
- The exact same process may be applied at a shot or scene level.





Clustering-based Video summarization.





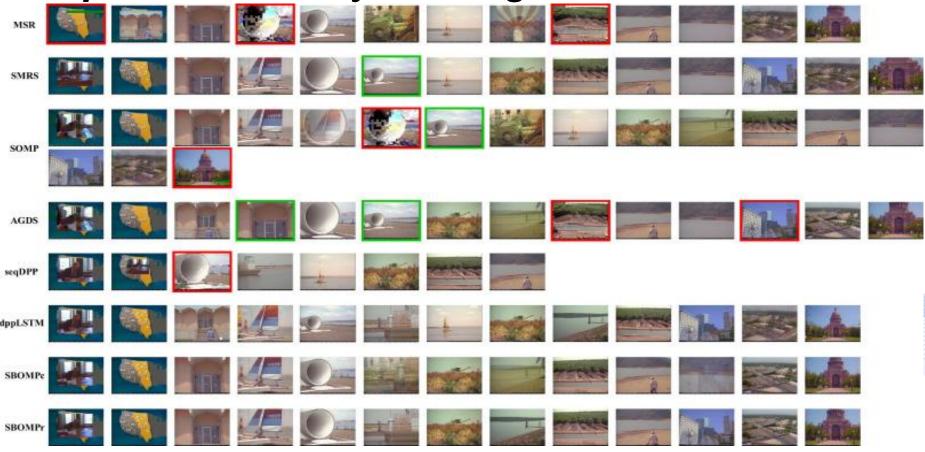


- Dictionary learning is an effective replacement for clustering algorithms.
- The extracted key-frames form a dictionary.
- They should enable optimal reconstruction of the original video from the selected dictionary.
- Thus, the video summary is framed as the set of key-frames that can linearly reconstruct the full-length video in an algebraic sense [MAD2018].





Sparse dictionary learning.



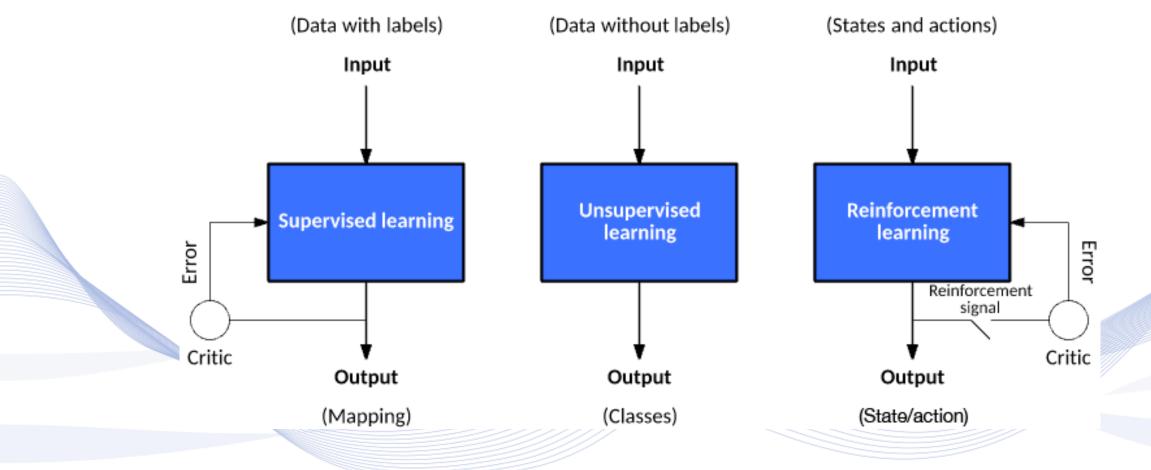




- Both clustering and dictionary learning are unsupervised
 learning approaches: no ground-truth summaries are required.
- The following approaches have also been proposed:
 - Reinforcement learning [WOR2020] or
 - supervised learning methods [DIN2019].
- Supervised video summarization requires training of machine learning model using a manually annotated training dataset.
- The annotation may be an importance score assigned per video











Content selection algorithms

- The standard supervised approach has several disadvantages.
- Manual video annotation is quite expensive, difficult and costly, especially if done at a per-frame level.
- Importance scores are quite subjective.
- The trained model may only perform well in test videos resembling the training dataset.



Video Summarization with Deep Neural Networks



- In recent years, *Deep Neural Networks* (DNNs) have been employed for video summarization in various ways.
- The simplest approach is to exploit semantic video frame representations derived from pre-trained Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), as inputs to a traditional content selection algorithm.



Video Summarization with Deep Neural Networks



- A more sophisticated approach is to train a DNN under a supervised learning framework to directly regress an importance score for each original video frame.
- During the test stage, any video frame which is assigned a score larger than a threshold can be selected as a key-frame.
- This approach has all the disadvantages of supervised



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Video Summarization with Deep Neural Networks



- Various deep neural architectures may be combined in a composite DNN for video summarization. For example:
 - Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs)
 - Transformers
 - 3D CNNs
 - Long Short-Term Memory Networks (LSTMs)
 - Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs).



GANs for unsupervised video summarization

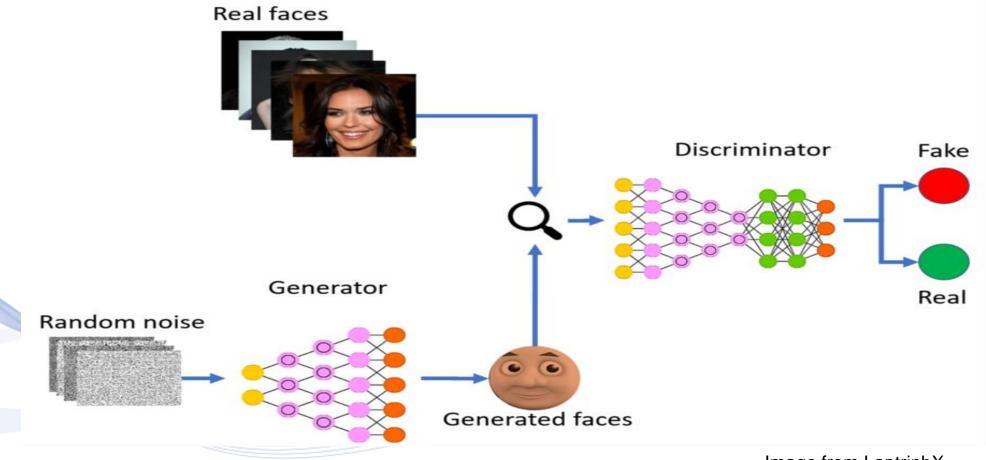


- GANs combined with LSTMs have recently been employed for unsupervised video summarization, using an end-to-end trainable DNN architecture.
- GANs are generative models which learn the distribution of the training data. They are composed of a Generator and a Discriminator involved in a minimax game.
 - The Generator learns to generate content that the Discriminator mistakes for real.
 - After training, the Discriminator may be discarded.



GANs for unsupervised video summarization







GANs for unsupervised video summarization



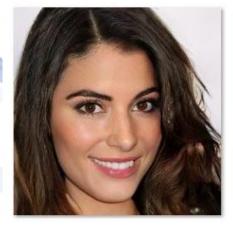
Examples of fake faces

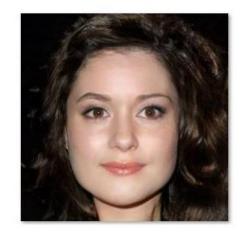


















GANs for unsupervised video (VML summarization



- CNNs (and possibly LSTM) are used for spatiotemporal video feature extraction.
- Video frames are selected to be included in the summary.
- The Generator tries to generate the video from its summary.
- The Discriminator tries to understand if the generated video is
- close enough to the original.

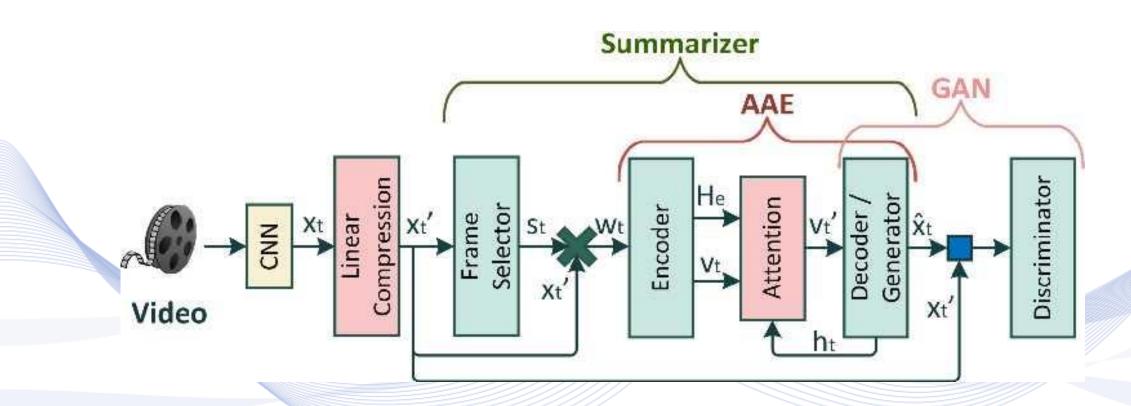
GANs for unsupervised video (VML summarization



- SUM-GAN-AAE [METS2020].
- Dilated Temporal Relational Adversarial Network for framelevel video summarization [DIN2019].
- Cycle-SUM: Cycle-consistent Adversarial LSTM Networks for Unsupervised Video Summarization (Video Trailer) [PIN2019].







The architecture of SUM GAN-AAE (Image from [METS2020])





SUM-GAN-AAE is a modification of SUM-GAN [MAH2017].

- The network architecture consists in a *Summarizer subnetwork*, which acts as a Generator, and a *Discriminator subnetwork*.
- The Summarizer is a pipeline of three smaller subnetworks:
 - Frame Selector, Encoder, Decoder.
- All subnetworks are LSTMs.
- After training, only the Frame Selector is required.





 The Frame Selector receives sequentially as input the original video frame representations.

For each input video frame, it estimates and outputs an importance score.

 The original video frame representations and the importance scores are multiplied.





- The Encoder is sequentially fed the above products and produces a fixed-length representation for the entire video.
- The representation produced by the Encoder is fed to the Decoder, which is equipped with an *attention mechanism*.
- The **Decoder** is trained to sequentially output the original video frames.

 The Encoder-Decoder and the attention module jointly constitute the Attention Autoencoder subnetwork (AAE).





 Both the original and the reconstructed video frame representations are then sequentially passed to the *Discriminator*, whose task is to determine whether each sequence is "real" (original) or "fake" (summary-based reconstruction).

 The Frame Selector and the AAE jointly constitute the Summarizer, which is trained to confuse the Discriminator.

 This forces the Frame Selector to learn how to extract representative keyframes, jointly capable of accurately reconstructing the full-length video.





- $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$: The input video data matrix.
- Each column $\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^M$ of the matrix \mathbf{X} , is the feature representation of the i-th video frame.
- The baseline summarization architecture includes:
 - An LSTM-based Frame Selector S parameterized by weights w_s.
 - An LSTM-based *Encoder E* parameterized by weights w_e.
 - An LSTM-based Decoder D parameterized by weights w_d.
 - An LSTM-based *Discriminator* (binary classifier) C parameterized by weights \mathbf{w}_c .





- S is fed \mathbf{x}_i as input and outputs a corresponding **scalar importance** factor $s_i \in [0,1]$.
- The product $s_i \mathbf{x}_i$ is fed to E resulting in a **state vector** $\mathbf{e} \in \mathbb{R}^H$ encoding the summary.
- Subsequently, e is fed to D which attempts to reconstruct the original \mathbf{X} , by outputting a reconstructed $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_i \in \mathbb{R}^M$, $1 \le i \le N$.
- Finally, the video reconstruction $\widehat{\mathbf{X}}$ is forwarded to the Discriminator C as a "fake" training example, while the original video \mathbf{X} is used as a "real" training example.





- The following loss functions are employed during training:
- Reconstruction loss:

$$\mathcal{L}_{recon} = \left\| \phi(\mathbf{X}) - \phi(\widehat{\mathbf{X}}) \right\|_{2}^{2},$$

- $\phi(X)$ is the last hidden LSTM state, when it is fed X as input.
- $\phi(\widehat{\mathbf{X}})$ the corresponding hidden LSTM state when C is fed $\widehat{\mathbf{X}}$.
- \mathcal{L}_{recon} is used to update \mathbf{w}_s , \mathbf{w}_e , \mathbf{w}_d .





Original video loss:

$$\mathcal{L}_{orig} = (1 - C(\mathbf{X}))^2.$$

- It is the MSE between the original video label (i.e., 1) and the discriminator output (in [0,1]) when C is fed X as input.
- \mathcal{L}_{orig} updates \mathbf{w}_c .
- Summary loss:

$$\mathcal{L}_{sum} = \left(C(\widehat{\mathbf{X}})\right)^2$$

- is the MSE between the summary label (i.e., 0) and the computed probability when C is fed $\widehat{\mathbf{X}}$ as input.
- \mathcal{L}_{sum} updates \mathbf{w}_c .





Generator loss:

$$\mathcal{L}_{gen} = \left(1 - C(\widehat{\mathbf{X}})\right)^2.$$

- It is the MSE between the original video label (i.e., 1) and the discriminator output, when C is fed $\widehat{\mathbf{X}}$ as input. \mathcal{L}_{gen} updates the Decoder parameters \mathbf{w}_d .
- **Sparsity Loss** pushes the Selector towards assigning high importance (i.e., key-frame status probability) to a **small percentage** of the total number of original video frames, defined by a scalar hyperparameter $\sigma \in [0, 1]$:

$$\mathcal{L}_{sparsity} = \left\| \frac{1}{N} \sum_{t=1}^{N} s_t - \sigma \right\|_2.$$

- Typically, $\sigma \in [0.1, 0.2]$.
- The sparsity loss updates w_s.

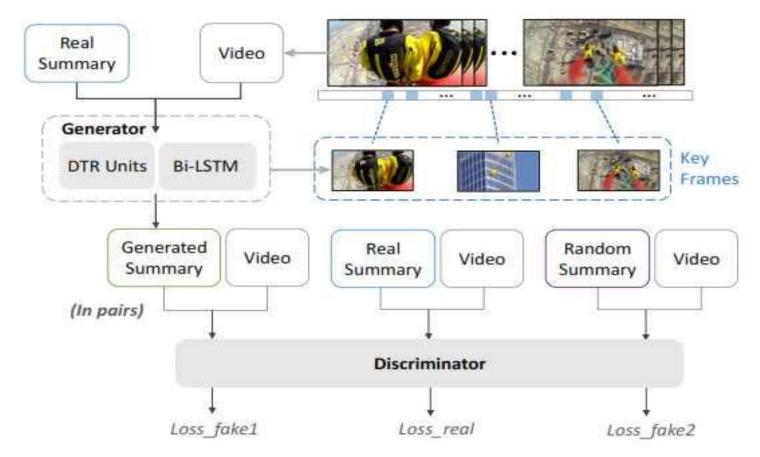




The **Dilated Temporal Relational Generative Adversarial Network** (DTR-GAN) is an architecture slightly similar to SUM-GAN, but it is **supervised**.

 The Discriminator in DTR-GAN is trained with a composite threepart loss function, that takes jointly into account the *generated* summary, the *ground-truth* summary and a random summary.









- The Frame Selector is enhanced in DTR-GAN: besides the LSTMs, it also contains *Dilated Temporal Relational* (*DTR*) units.
- DTR units aim to exploit long-range temporal dependencies, complementing LSTMs.
- They integrate context among video frames at multi-scale time spans, hence enlarging the temporal window and the temporal

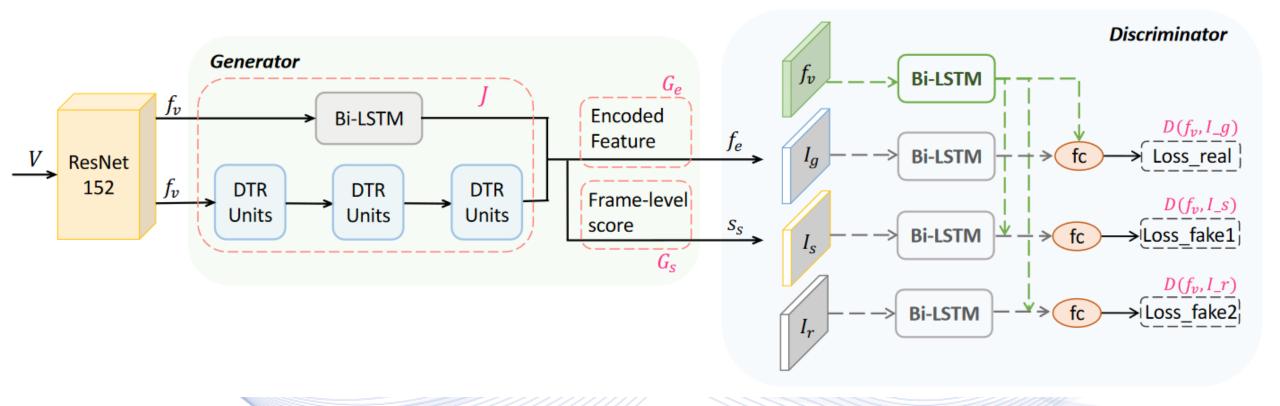




- There is no LSTM auto-encoder in the DTR-GAN Summarizer, because the Discriminator is given video + summary pairs as inputs.
- The Discriminator learns to evaluate the correspondence between an input video and its summary, rather than input video reconstruction from its summary.







DTR-GAN (Image from [DIN2019])

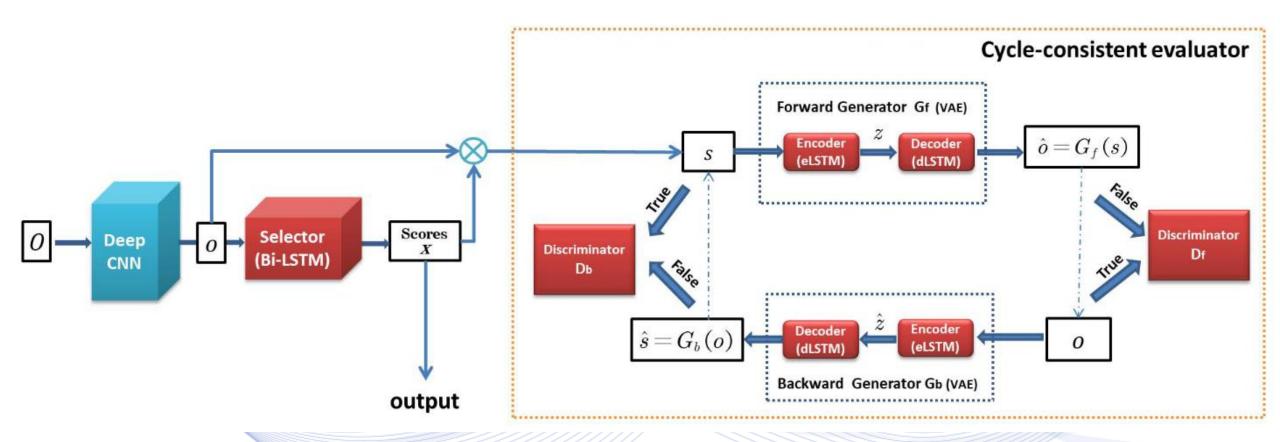


Cycle-SUM is an unsupervised end-to-end trainable DNN for key-frame extraction, which extends the original SUM-GAN.

- During training, it replaces the unidirectional reconstruction of SUM-GAN/SUM-GAN-AAE (the original video is reconstructed from the generated summary) with a "circular" bidirectional video reconstruction.
- A cyclic consistency loss term is added to the training objectives of the overall framework.







Cycle-SUM architecture. (Image from [PIN2019])



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- Cycle-SUM is composed of an initial Frame Selector, two autoencoders (instead of one) and two Discriminators (instead of one).
- The forward autoencoder and Discriminator reconstruct the original video from the generated summary and evaluate it, respectively.
- The backward autoencoder and Discriminator reconstruct the summary from the original video and evaluate it, respectively.



- The closed training loop enforces the cyclic consistency.
- It aids the DNN to maximize mutual information between the summary and the original, full-length video.
- Explicitly enforcing the reconstruction cycle original → summary → original → summary, better guarantees summary completeness and representativeness.





Emphasis of DNN-based video summarization methods:

- Summary representativeness, conciseness and completeness.
- However, it may be equally important that the selected keyframes are diverse in visual content.
- Summary variety makes it summary more interesting and reduces redundancy.





 A straightforward way to achieve summary diversity with DNNs is to add the so-called Determinantal Point Process (DPP) loss term in the pool of training objectives.

 In frameworks similar to SUM-GAN, the DPP loss directs the training process so that the Frame Selector learns to create a diverse overall summary.

• This diversity pertains to the semantic content captured in the input video frame representations (e.g., visible objects).





The DPP loss operates by:

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- quantifying the variance of video frame representations.
- penalizing candidate key-frame sets/summaries that do not capture significant percentage of the original video variance.
- Consider a matrix $\mathbf{L} \in \mathbb{R}^{T \times T}$ by computing the pairwise cosine similarity for video frames at time t and t':

$$L_{ij} = \mathbf{e}_t^T \mathbf{e}_{t'}.$$

• \mathbf{e}_t , $\mathbf{e}_{t'}$: Encoder hidden states at time t and t', respectively.

DPP loss:

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$$\mathcal{L}_{dpp} = -\log\left(\frac{\det(\mathbf{L}_y)}{\det(\mathbf{L} + \mathbf{I})}\right).$$

- L_y is a submatrix L. Its rows and columns indicate the selected summary frames. I is the identity matrix.
- Recently, the DPP loss was extended to capture the diversity of additional modalities, besides the CNN video frame representation,
- The diversity in the textual descriptions of each video frame, scene context and visible activities are enforced [KAS2022].



- SUM-GAN-AAE is employed as a baseline and a pre-trained image captioner P is required.
- Then, the *DPP-caption loss* exhorts the video summary to be more diverse in terms of textual semantic content.
- During training, each video frame is forwarded to P, in parallel to feeding it to the Encoder.
- The following cost is used for Frame Selector weight update:

$$\mathcal{L}_{dpp-c} = -\log \frac{\det(\mathbf{P}_y)}{\det(\mathbf{P}+\mathbf{I})}.$$

DNNs and dictionary learning (VML



Dictionary learning in unsupervised DNN frameworks, such as SUM-GAN-AAE, has also been attempted [KAS2021].

- Using SUM-GAN-AAE as a baseline, an additional *pre-trained* autoencoder encodes the entire video sequence into vector h.
- During training, a novel loss term is added to the framework:

$$\mathcal{L}_{dict} = \|\mathbf{h} - \mathbf{Ae}\|_2$$
.

- A essentially serves as a global visual dictionary.
- Vector e is given by the Encoder, while A is learnt.



DNNs and dictionary learning (VML



- Matrix A transforms the current summary representation to a vector space being simultaneously learnt from all the original videos.
- Thus, each summary representation is exhorted towards being a set of linear reconstruction coefficients that are jointly able to reproduce the corresponding original video representation.
- This is on top of the non-linear reconstruction objective enforced by the baseline SUM-GAN-AAE.



DNNs and reinforcement learning

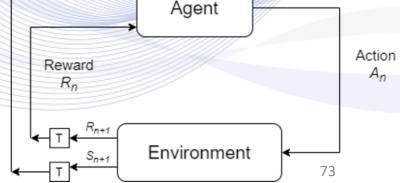


- Reinforcement learning (RL) has also been integrated into unsupervised deep neural frameworks for video summarization.
- In RL, a cognitive agent is trained through interaction: it interacts with its environment, in order to find a policy that maximizes a *cumulative* reward.
- The reward is a numerical measure that determines how good the agent action was.

State

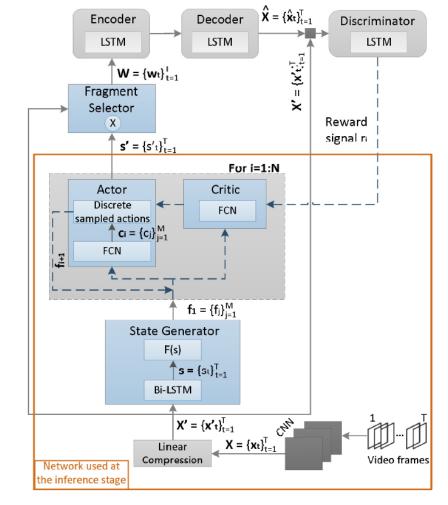
The learned policy maps states to actions.







- AC-SUM-GAN is a good example of combining SUM-GAN with RL [APO2020].
- A neural Actor-Critic architecture is embedded into SUM-GAN.
- During training, it learns the optimal policy for key-frame extraction.
- During inference, the RL agent modifies/adjusts the video frame importance scores outputted by the Frame Selector.







- The Actor generates sequences incrementally, based on a set of discrete sampled actions over a group of video fragments.
- The Critic evaluates the Actor choices and returns a value for scoring each choice, according to its impact on the action-state space.
- The Discriminator acts as the RL environment and returns a reward that is used to train the Actor-Critic model, which learns a value function (Critic) and a policy for key-fragment selection (Actor).
- The Critic can be discarded after training.





The Actor plays an N-picks game to explore the action-state space.

• For every step i, $(1 \le i \le N)$:

- It receives the current state $\mathbf{f}_i = \{f_j\}_{j=1}^M$, where M is the number of non-overlapping fragments into which the video is segmented.
 - At time i = 1, f_1 is derived from the vector of importance scores **outputted** by the Frame Selector.





- (continued)
 - It produces a *distribution of actions* $\mathbf{c}_i = \{c_j\}_{j=1}^M$.
 - It takes an action by sampling the computed distribution c_i , thus, picking a video fragment k for inclusion in the summary.
 - This action modifies the state and produces f_{i+1} .
 - During training, the reward is the Discriminator's classification decision.





Few works exist that use Transformers for Video Summarization.

- The input of the Transformer is a sequence of encoded video frames.
- The output of the Transformer network, is an importance score for each input frame or for short frame sequences.

 By thresholding the score, we can produce a video skim or multiple key-frames from the input video.





 A 2D CNN (e.g., a pre-trained VGG [VGG2015]) is typically used to convert the input video into a sequence of vectors (one per video frame).

• Since the input is in the form of a sequence of vectors, well-known Transformers utilized in Natural Language Processing (e.g., BERT [BERT2018]) can be used to update the video frame representations.



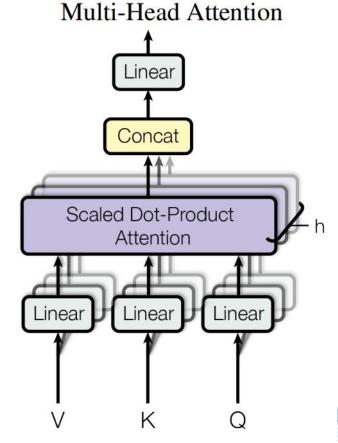


- The basic building component of the transformer is the Self-Attention (SA) block.
 - It is applied on entire video frames.
- Each SA block updates a vector representation, by implementing a weighted sum of all the sequence representations:
 - Similar vectors produce a summation weight (attention coefficient) close to
 1.
 - Dissimilar vectors produce a weight close to 0.





- Attention operation:
 - $A(\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{K}, \mathbf{V}) = softmax\left(\frac{\mathbf{QK}}{\sqrt{d_k}}^T\right)\mathbf{V}$
 - $\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{W}_O \mathbf{X}$
 - $\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{W}_K \mathbf{X}$
 - $\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{W}_V \mathbf{X}$.
 - X: input sequence



Multi-Head Attention block [BERT2018].

• \mathbf{W}_Q , \mathbf{W}_V , \mathbf{W}_K : learnable weight matrices.

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• Pros:

- The Transformer is permutation equivariant. It can model relationships between sequence tokens (i.e., encoded video frames) even if the input sequence is arranged in a different way.
- Since every sequence token "attends" to all other tokens the same way, the Transformer can discover relationships between parts of the sequence, regardless of their proximity.





Cons:

- The Transformer has $O(N^3)$ computational complexity, due to the SA operator.
- The most common SA implementation, consists of multiple heads with every head having a separate set of weights $(\mathbf{W}_Q, \mathbf{W}_K, \mathbf{W}_V)$. Since each block usually has multiple heads and the architecture consists of sequential blocks, the number of the network parameters can get very high. High complexity often leads to slow training times and produces a tendency to overfitting.





• A generic video summary is an abridged version of a video that conveys the whole story and features the most important scenes.

 Yet, the importance of video scenes is often subjective, and users should have the option of customizing the summary by using natural language to specify what is important to them.

 The seminal paper that utilized transformers to combine natural language with visual information for Video Summarization is "CLIP-It! Language-Guided Video Summarization" [CLIP2021].







[CLIP2021] Given a day-long video of a national park tour, the generic summary (top) is a video with relevant and diverse keyframes. When using the query "All the scenes containing restaurants and shopping centers", the generated query-focused summary includes all the matching scenes. Similarly, the query "All water bodies such as lakes, rivers, and waterfalls", yields a short summary containing all the water bodies present in the video.





Clip-it! Image - text combination methodology overview:

• Given a video of N frames, feature embeddings for each frame are extracted by a pre-trained DNN \mathbf{f}_{img} .

- If a query is provided (in the form of a natural language string), it is embedded using a pretrained network f_{txt} .
- Alternatively, an off-the-shelf video captioning model is used to generate a dense video caption with M sentences, where M=N. Then, the sentences are embedded using f_{txt} .



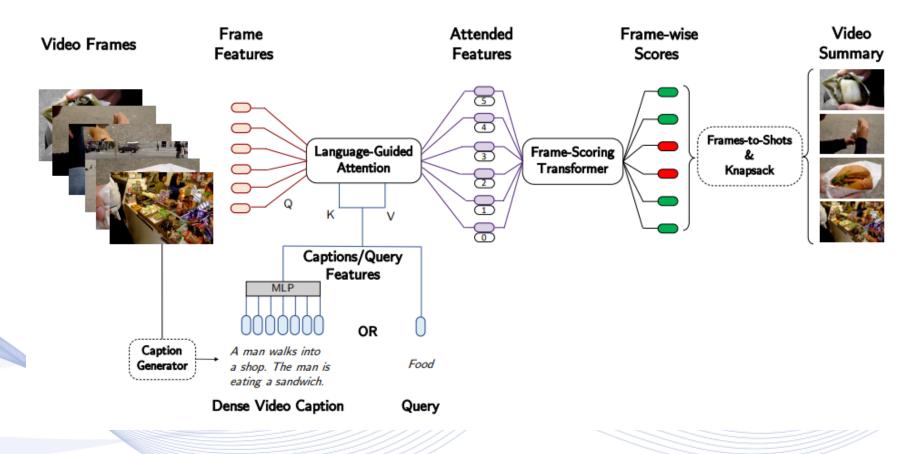


• Next, language attended image embeddings I^* are computed, using learned Language-Guided Multi-head Attention f^*_{imgtxt} .

 Finally, Frame-Scoring Transformer is trained which assigns scores to each frame in the video







Clip-it! Transformer [CLIP2021].



- VML
- There are several public datasets for evaluating video summarization algorithms.
- Typically, these datasets provide a collection of videos with associated per-frame ground truth importance scores.
- The most common ones are TVSum and SumMe.
 - **SumMe** includes 25 videos of 1 to 6 minutes duration with diverse video contents, captured both from first and third-person view.
 - **TVSum** consists of 50 videos of 1 to 11 minutes duration, containing video content from 10 categories of the TRECVid MED dataset.





- Every video of the dataset is annotated by multiple users in the form of key fragments (SumMe) or frame-level importance scores (TVSum)
 - Single ground-truth summaries are also provided.
- To evaluate a video summarization algorithm, the generated summary for a given video is compared with the users' summary, separately per user.





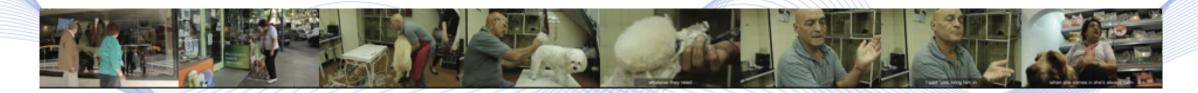
- An F-Score (F-measure) is computed for each pair of compared summaries.
- The computed F-Scores for TVSum are averaged or the maximum of them is kept for SumMe and a final F-Score is obtained for this video.
- The computed F-Scores for the entire set of testing videos are finally averaged to quantify the algorithm's performance.







Video frames from the sequence "Cooking" of the SumMe dataset.



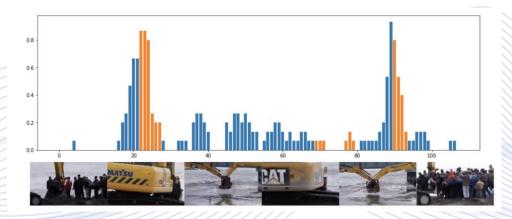
Video frames from the sequence "Dog grooming in Buenos Aires" of the TVSum dataset.







Video frames from the sequence "Excavators road crossing" of the SumMe dataset.



Video frame importance scores and the extracted summary using SUM-GAN-AAE in combination with $\mathcal{L}_{dict} + \mathcal{L}_{dpp}$.





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Q & A

Thank you very much for your attention!

More material in http://icarus.csd.auth.gr/cvml-web-lecture-series/

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