

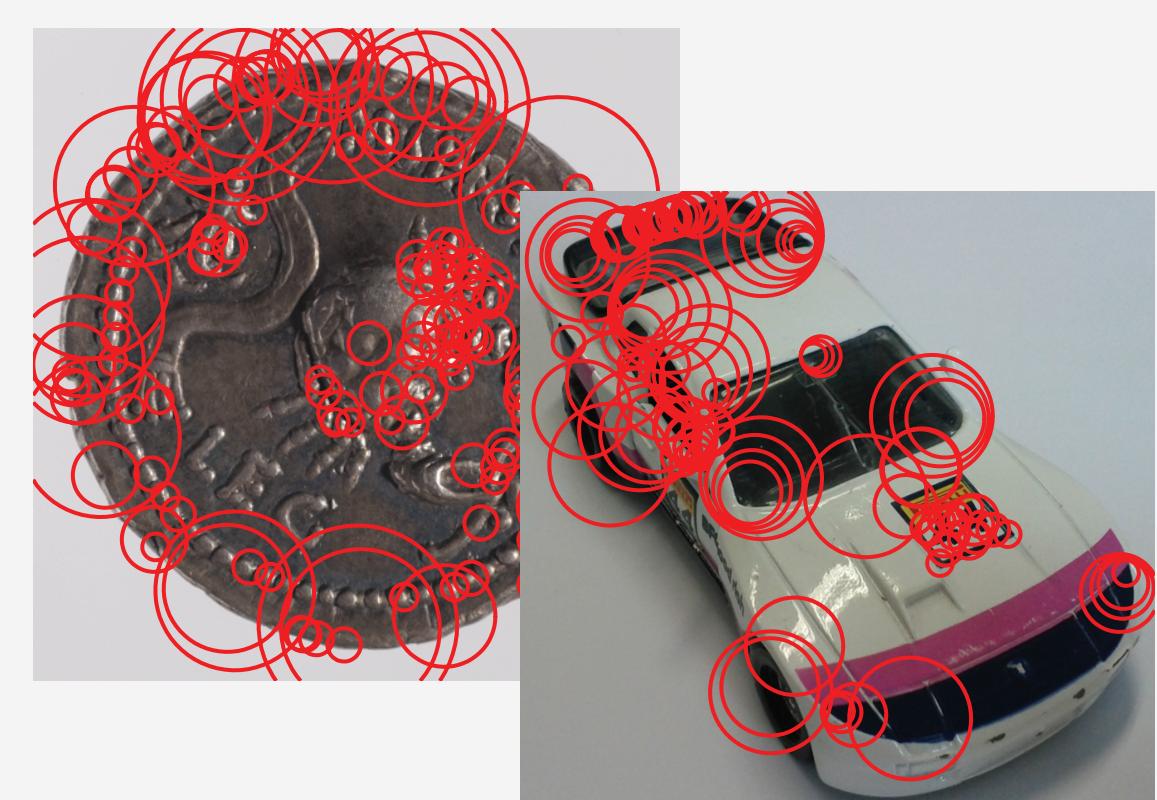
A Local Image Descriptor Robust to Illumination Changes

Sebastian Zambanini, Martin Kampel



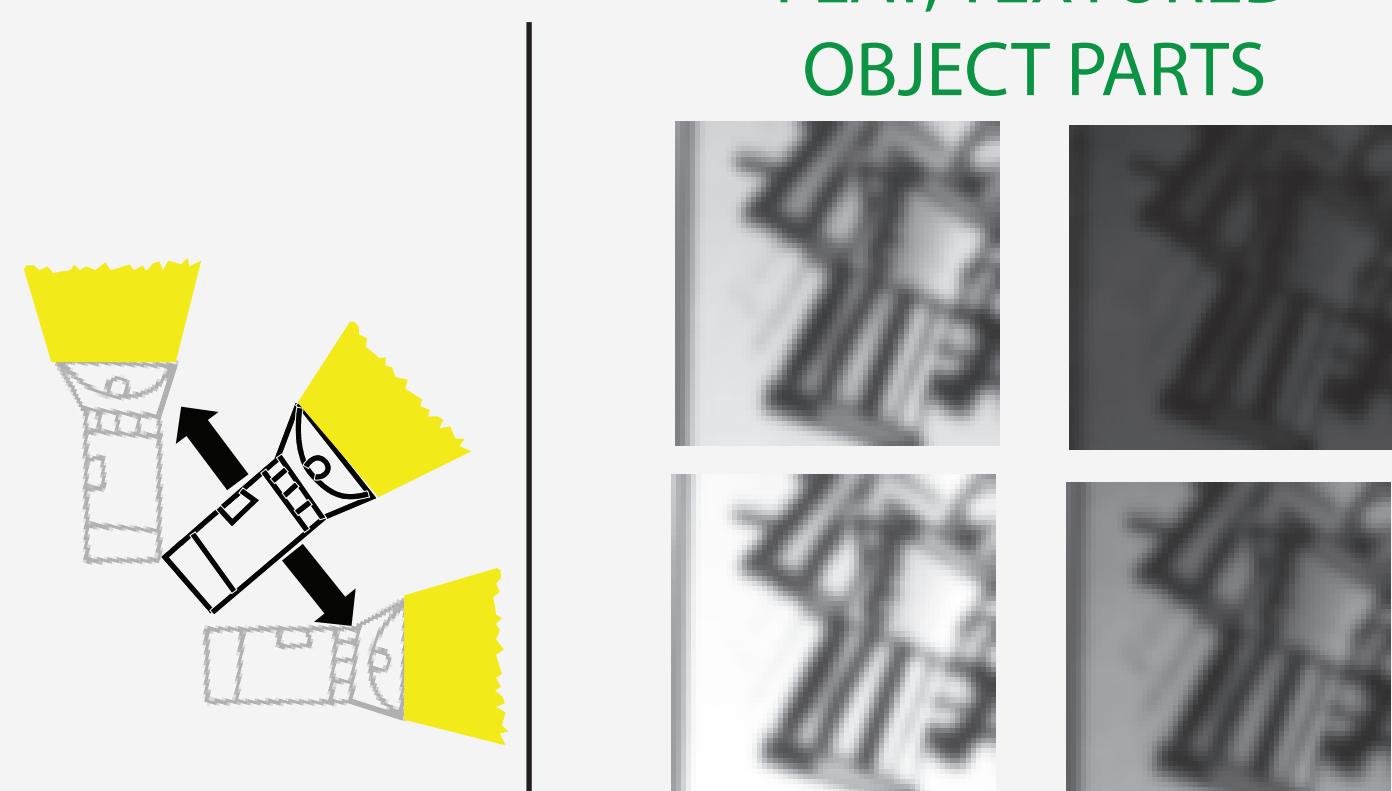
Motivation

- Powerful local image descriptors are insensitive to certain image transformations like rotation, scaling or blurring
- We focus on **insensitivity to illumination changes** on **NON-FLAT, TEXTURELESS OBJECT PARTS**



FLAT, TEXTURED
OBJECT PARTS

NON-FLAT, TEXTURELESS
OBJECT PARTS



Illumination
effects

Only monotonic brightness
changes

More complex and challenging
effects like *local changes of
brightness and edge polarity*

Descriptor
performance

Can be handled by common
image descriptors

Can not be handled by
common image descriptors

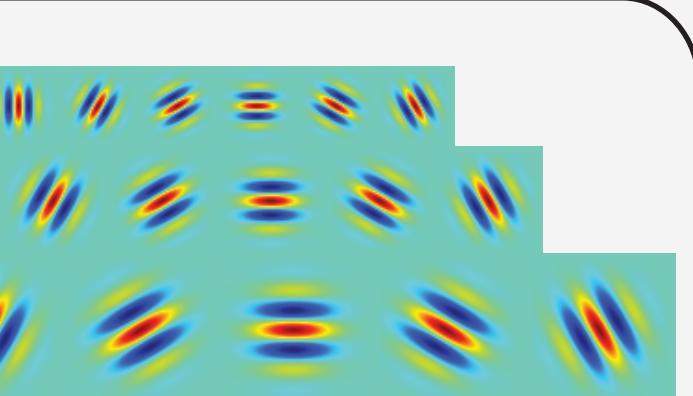
Methodology

1. Extraction of pixel-wise low level features

- Even Gabor filter responses at N orientations θ_i and M scales ω_j
- Even Gabor filters are effective for capturing smooth / isotropic as well as non-smooth / anisotropic surface characteristics under illumination changes [Osa07]
- Normalization on a per-pixel level to deal with locally varying brightness changes

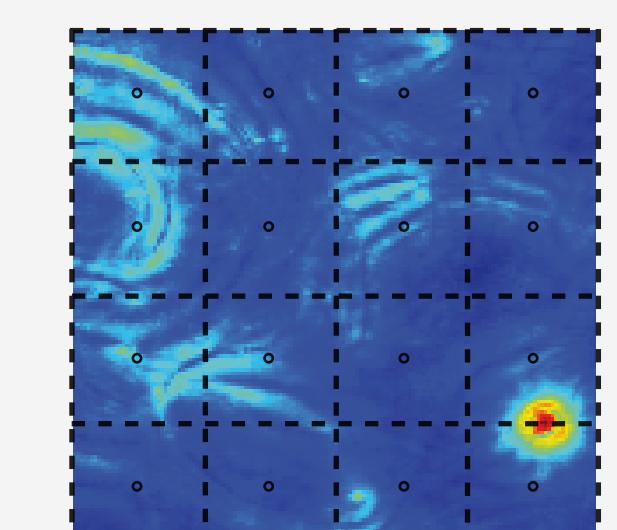
$$\tilde{F}(\mathbf{p}, \theta_i, \omega_j) = \frac{F(\mathbf{p}, \theta_i, \omega_j)}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^M F(\mathbf{p}, \theta_i, \omega_j)^2}}$$

$F(\mathbf{p}, \theta_i, \omega_j)$: absolute response of Gabor filter with rotation θ_i and scale ω_j at position \mathbf{p}



2. Spatial pooling

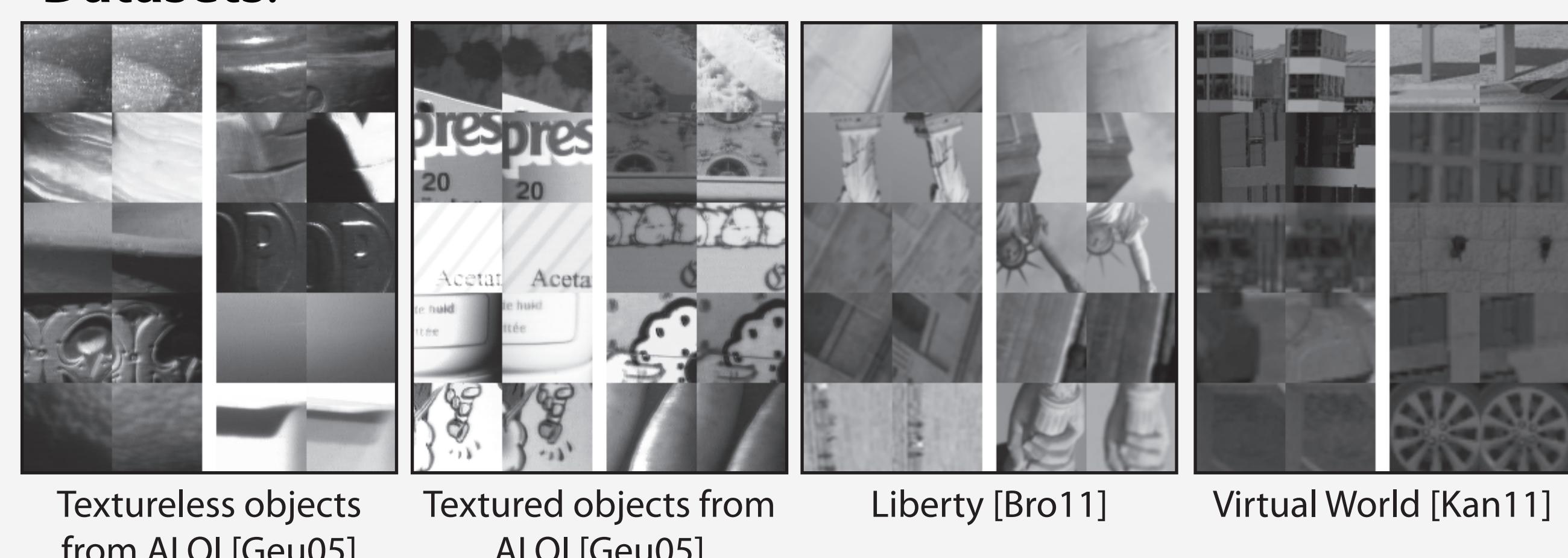
- SIFT-like squared 4×4 grid with bilinear weighting



Experiments

- Evaluation:** ROC curves generated from descriptor distances on sets of true and false patch pairs

Datasets:



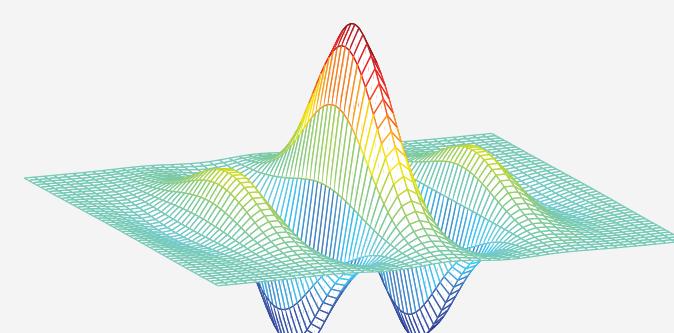
Textureless objects
from ALOI [Geu05]

Textured objects from
ALOI [Geu05]

Liberty [Bro11]

Virtual World [Kan11]

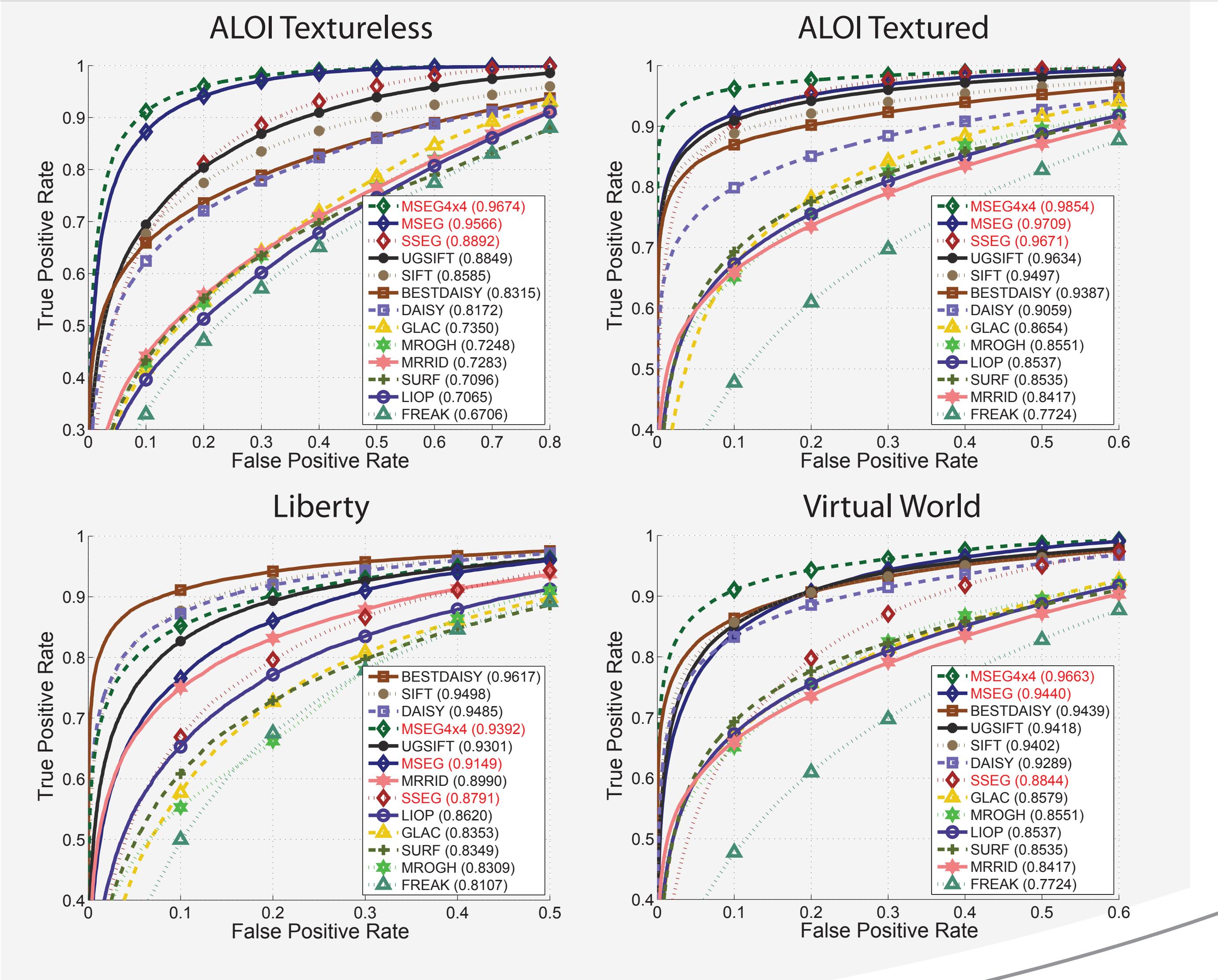
- Gabor Filter Parameter Selection:** higher frequency and orientation resolution than 2nd derivative of Gaussian



Descriptors:

- Single-scale without spatial pooling (SSEG)
- Multi-scale without spatial pooling (MSEG)
- Multi-scale with spatial pooling (MSEG4x4)
- SURF [Bay08]
- DAISY [Tol10]
- MROGH [Fan12]
- MRRID [Fan12]
- FREAK [Ala12]
- GLAC [Kob08]
- BESTDAISY [Bro11]
- LIOP [Wan11]
- SIFT [Low04]
- UGSIFT [Low04]

Results



Conclusions

- Comprehensive evaluation of current image descriptors for scenarios with strong illumination changes that induce complex appearance variations
- Proposed Gabor-based descriptor outperforms other descriptors, especially on textureless surfaces

References

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