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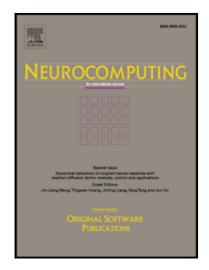
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#### ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

# SIFT flow for abrupt motion tracking via adaptive samples selection with sparse representation

Huanlong Zhang<sup>a,\*</sup>, Yanfeng Wang<sup>a</sup>, Lingkun Luo<sup>b</sup>, Xiankai Lu<sup>c</sup>, Miaohui Zhang<sup>d</sup>

<sup>a</sup> College of electric and information engineering, Zhengzhou University of Light Industry, Zhengzhou, 450002

<sup>b</sup>School of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai 200240 China

<sup>c</sup>School of Electronics, Information and Electrical Engineering, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai 200240 China

<sup>d</sup> Institute of Image Processing and Pattern Recognition, Henan University, Kaifeng 475001, China

#### Abstract

Abrupt motions commonly cause conventional tracking methods to fail because they violate the motion smoothness constraint. To overcome this problem, we propose a novel SIFT flow tracker (SFT) and integrate it into a sparse representation-based tracking framework. In this method, we firstly introduce SIFT flow method to address the tracking problem. The method can avoid the local-trap modes and cope with abrupt motion without any prior knowledge. Then, for obtaining the effective samples, we design a new hybrid sampling mechanism, which can sample the local and global predicted location according to confidence map . Firnally, to adapt the target appearance variations, especially to partial occlusion, we embed SFT to L1 tracker and construct a unified framework to track both smooth and abrupt motion in time. Compared with several state-of-art tracking algorithms, experimental results demonstrate that our method achieves favorable performance in handling abrupt motion, even under target appearance variations including illumination changes, partial occlusion and pose changes.

Keywords: Visual tracking; Abrupt motion; SIFT flow tracking; Belief propagation; Sparse representation

#### 1. Introduction

In recent years, visual tracking has received a great deal of attention in computer vision due to its success in many real-world applications such as visual surveillance, human computer interaction, and medical imaging. Although

<sup>\*</sup>Corresponding author: zhl\_lit@163.com

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