

Particle Video for Crowd Flow Tracking

Entry-Exit Area and Dynamic Occlusion Detection

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Abstract: In this paper we interest ourselves to the problem of flow tracking for dense crowds. For this purpose, we use a cloud of particles spread on the image according to the estimated crowd density and driven by the optical flow. This cloud of particles is considered as statistically representative of the crowd. Therefore, each particle has physical properties that enable us to assess the validity of its behavior according to the one expected from a pedestrian and to optimize its motion dictated by the optical flow. This leads us to three applications described in this paper: the detection of the entry and exit areas of the crowd in the image, the detection of dynamic occlusions and the possibility to link entry areas with exit ones according to the flow of the pedestrians. We provide the results of our experimentation on synthetic data and show promising results.

1 INTRODUCTION

At the 2010 Love Parade in Duisburg, a mismanagement of the flows of pedestrians led to the death of 21 participants. To put it in a nutshell, on a closed area, the exit routes had been closed while the entry ones remained open. With people still coming in and none coming out, the place ended up overcrowded with a density of population unbearable for human beings who suffocated. This tragedy is one among others where the crowd itself is its own direct cause of jeopardy. Setting up video-surveillance systems for crowd monitoring, capable of automatically raising alerts in order to prevent disasters is therefore one of the new main topics of research in computer vision.

Tracking the flow of pedestrians appears here as an interesting feature for a system monitoring areas welcoming large streaming crowds. With the capability of understanding where the different flows enter the scene, where they exit it and at what rate, comes the capability of predicting how the density of population is going to evolve within the next minutes. In terms of environment management, it means being able to close or open the right doors at the right moment in order to avoid a situation similar to the one of Duisburg.

This paper is presenting an original method to de-

tect the entry and exit areas in a video stream taken by a video-surveillance camera. By linking these areas one with another according to the flows of pedestrians, it is also able to give an estimation of the trajectory followed by these pedestrians and therefore indicate the most used paths. It is based on the use of particles initialized according to an instantaneous measure of the density and driven by the optical flow. These particles are embedding physical properties similar to those of a regular pedestrian in order to perform optimization computations regarding the trajectory and the detection of incoherent behaviors.

This article first presents in Section 2 the existing state of the art in terms of crowd tracking. We are then presenting an overview of the method in Section 3 as well as our results in Section 4. Finally, in Section 5, conclusions are given followed by a discussion on the possibilities for future developments.

2 STATE OF THE ART

Tracking in crowded scenes is an important problem in crowd analysis. The goal can be to track one specific individual in the crowd in order to know his whereabouts. But, as noted previously, the objec-

tive can also be to track the different flows in order to monitor the global behavior of the crowd. There are therefore two approaches to tackle this topic. By segmenting each pedestrian of the crowd on the video and by tracking them individually, the system can keep track of some particular designated pedestrians. However, this method becomes costly as soon as the number of pedestrians rises and it may be impossible to use it when the density is too high due to the problems of occlusions. On the other hand, by considering the crowd as a whole and by applying holistic methods such as those used in climatology and fluid mechanics, it is possible to keep track of the different flows. The system builds a model that is statistically representative of the crowd. The drawback of such methods is that it does not allow the system to keep track of specific individuals designated by the operator, it can only give a probability of presence within the crowd.

Methods belonging to the first paradigm, the object tracking approach, are numerous and a classification is proposed in (Yilmaz et al., 2006). Yilmaz *et al.* point out that the taxonomy of tracking methods is organized in three branches: point tracking (such as the use of SIFT as in (Zhou et al., 2009)), appearance tracking (such as the Viola-Jones algorithm used in (Viola and Jones, 2001)) and silhouette tracking (such as the CONDENSATION method developed in (Isard and Blake, 1998)). Based on this survey and following this classification, Chau *et al.* present a most recent and very complete overview of the existing tracking algorithms in (Chau et al., 2013). From this overview, one can notice that these algorithms are all requiring the detection in the image of points or regions of interest (PoI/RoI) in order to perform the tracking. They characterize these PoI/RoI using features such as the HOG, Haar or LBP ones or detect them using algorithms such as FAST or GCBAC. The tracking part is then often optimized using tools such as Kalman or particle filters. As the number of pedestrians in the crowd grows, the quality of the extracted features is downgraded due mainly to the occlusions.

Regarding the holistic methods applied to the crowds it appears in the literature that the computer vision field is mostly inspired by fluid mechanics approaches used in climatology for example as in (Corpetti et al., 2006) or (Liu and Shen, 2008). In particular, the use of optical flow algorithm applied to crowd analyses has been explored in (Andrade et al., 2006) to detect abnormal events. However, such a method provides an instantaneous detection of events but does not allow long-term tracking of the flow and predicting models that would detect emerging hazardous situations. Sand and Teller in (Sand and Teller, 2006)

introduce the Particle Video algorithm. The interest of such an algorithm is that, instead of detecting at each frame the points of interest to be tracked, the algorithm sets its own points of interest to follow: the particles driven by the optical flow. Ali and Shah in (Ali and Shah, 2007) are using particles to track the flows of pedestrians in dense crowds. Using the Lagrangian Coherent Structure revealed by the Finite Time Lyapunov Exponent field computed using the Flow Map of the particles, the authors can detect the instabilities and therefore the problems occurring in the crowd. Mehran *et al.* in (Mehran et al., 2010) are also setting a grid on the image. The nodes of the grid are the sources for particle emission. At each frame, each node emits a particle and the authors use their trajectories to detect streaklines in the flows of pedestrians. The consistency between streaklines and pathlines is a good indicator of flow stability. Another method of crowd analysis implying particles is using the Social Force Model built by Helbing and Molnár in (Helbing and Molnár, 1995). Mehran *et al.* are using particles, initialized on a grid as well, to compute the social forces applied on a crowd in a video footage (Mehran et al., 2009). As a result, they can link the output of their algorithm with the model's and detect abnormal behaviors quite efficiently.

At the cross-roads between the discrete and the holistic approaches, Rodriguez *et al.* in (Rodriguez et al., 2012) are giving a review of the algorithms for crowd tracking and analysis. Subsequently, they propose to combine results from holistic methods with outputs from discrete ones. For example, their density-aware person detection and tracking algorithm is combining a crowd density estimator (holistic) with a head detector (discrete) to find and track pedestrians in the middle of a crowd.

The method presented in this article belongs to the holistic approach and is inspired by the work of Rodriguez *et al.* in the use of density. It is using the Particle Video algorithm in a new way that is described in Section 3.

3 OVERVIEW OF THE METHOD

The method described hereafter is following the same pattern proposed by Sand and Teller in (Sand and Teller, 2006): the particles are set on the image, they are propagated following the optical flow, their positions are optimized according to our own criteria and they are removed when they are no longer relevant. We call this process the BAK (Birth Advection Kill) Process. As opposed to Sand and Teller, the particles, as much as the pedestrians in the crowd, are

considered as independent from each other and are therefore not linked. This assumption allows an efficient parallel architecture implementation such as a GPU-implementation for example in our case. That way, we can deal with the great number of particles involved while achieving real time computation.

Unlike most of the methods using the Particle Video algorithm, we do not initialize our particles on a grid, nor do we add any via sources distributed on a grid. As we want the cloud of particles to be statistically representative of the crowd, the first initialization and the subsequent additions of particles are done according to the density of the crowd.

Moreover, in order to comply with the idea that our particles are a representation of the pedestrians, we match the behavior of each of them with the one expected from a regular human being wandering in the crowd.

3.1 Pre-processing

At each iteration, the algorithm updates the positions of the particles using the result of an optical flow algorithm. For this study, we are using Farneback's algorithm (Farneback, 2003) as it is implemented in OpenCV.

Plus, as explained previously, the initialization and additions of particles is performed with respect to the estimated density of pedestrians. Therefore, we need to feed our algorithm with such an estimation. For this study, as we are using synthetic datasets, we rely on the ground truth to provide the estimation of density.

Finally, it is to be noted that several steps of the algorithm require to compute image coordinates into 3D coordinates and vice versa. Therefore, the camera parameters are mandatory as an input for these orthorectification processes.

3.2 The BAK Process

The Birth-Advection-Kill (BAK) Process that is described in the subsection is the process handling the whole life cycle of a particle. As explained previously, all the particles are independent from each others. This assertion means that once they are born, all the particles can be handled in parallel, hence the GPU-implementation.

The Birth part takes care of the addition of new particles. It assesses whether there is a need for new particles and the number of these to add.

The Advection part propagates the particles with respect to the optical flow provided to the algorithm.

This part also evaluates the validity of the displacement ordered by the optical flow with respect to the displacement expected from a human being. If needed, the proper corrections and optimization are made also in this part of the algorithm.

The Kill part removes the particles that are no longer relevant: those that are out of the scene or those that have had an inconsistent behavior for too long (*i.e.* beyond possible corrections).

This process is summarized on Figure 1. The Advection part, for which the particles are handled truly independently one from each other, is the part bearing most of the processing time. It is the one implemented in GPU. The Birth part is implemented in CPU because it is not done independently from the state of the other particles. As for the Kill part, the killing decision is taken on the GPU-side of the implementation however, it is performed in CPU for technical reasons.

3.2.1 Birth

The Birth part depends exclusively on the density of pedestrians present in the scene and the density of particles set on the image. The goal is to have the density of particles meet the density of pedestrians up to a scale factor λ . Therefore, where the density of particles is too low, the algorithm adds new particles.

The scale factor λ represents the number of particles per pedestrians. This value is to be set by the user, but concretely it will mostly depend on the position of the camera with respect to the crowd. If the pedestrians appear too small, setting λ too high will only induce the creation of many particles at the same location and therefore lots of particles will be redundant. On the other hand, if the pedestrians appear quite large and λ is set too low, the particles may be fixed on parts of the body whose motion is not representative of the global motion of a pedestrian (arm, leg, etc.).

A cloud of particles generated on a crowd with a scale factor λ can be interpreted as λ representative observations of that monitored crowd.

The operation to add particles is performed using the density map provided by the ground truth in our case or by any crowd density estimation algorithm. This map is giving for each pixel a value of the density. It is subsequently divided into areas of m -by- n pixels. For each area, its actual size is computed by orthorectification. By multiplying by the average density of the $m \times n$ densities given in this area by the density map, one can find the estimated number of pedestrians. Multiplied by the scale factor λ , this gives the number of particles that are required. The particles are then added randomly in the m -by- n area

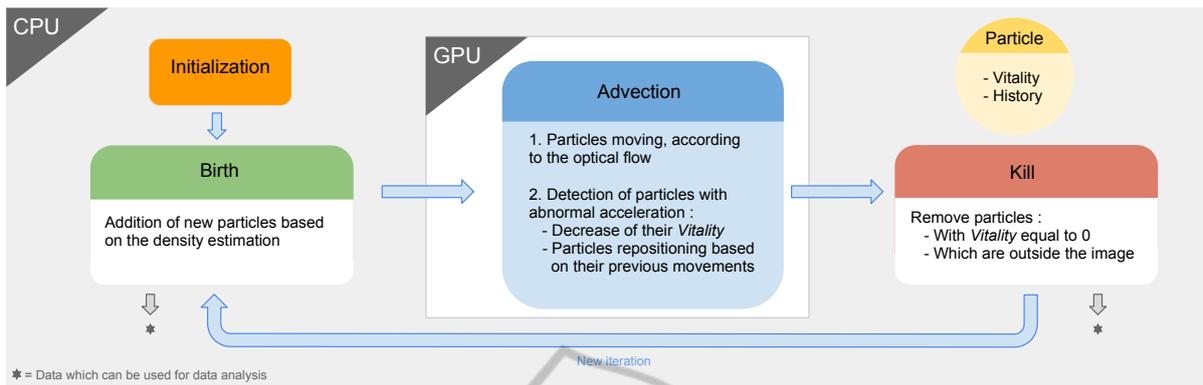


Figure 1: The BAK Process.

in order to meet the required number. Should the required number be lower than the actual number of particles, nothing is done.

3.2.2 Advection

The Advection part performs two tasks: the propagation of the particles and the optimization of their positions.

The propagation of the particles is using the optical flow computed by a separate algorithm. As the position of a particle p is given at a sub-pixel level, its associated motion vector \mathbf{u}_p is computed by bilinear interpolation of the motion vectors given by the optical flow on the four nearest pixels and using the fourth-order Runge-Kutta method as presented in (Tan and Chen, 2012). The notion of closeness is here defined in the 3D environment where the crowd is evolving and not on the image. Therefore, using the orthorectification process, the algorithm computes the positions in the 3D environment of the particle to propagate as well as those of the four nearest pixels in the image.

The new computed position may not be valid with the expected behavior of a regular pedestrian (speed or acceleration beyond human limits). These abnormal behaviors for the particles may happen mostly for two reasons: the noise in the optical flow and occasional occlusions of the entity the particle is attached to.

Therefore, from \mathbf{u}_p and the previous positions, the validity of the position can be assessed and, if needed, optimized. The optimization is performed only when the displacement \mathbf{u}_p generates a speed or an acceleration that is not expected for a pedestrian. When these kinds of event occur, the particle is tagged as abnormal and the algorithm tries to find its most probable position according to its history. Each particle therefore holds a history of its N previous positions, N a

number that can be set in the algorithm. These N positions are subsequently used to extrapolate the position that the particle is most likely to occupy.

As the position of a particle has to be optimized, the reliability of the computed trajectory decreases. Indeed, the particle is no longer driven by the optical flow and its computed moves are only an estimation with an associated probability. The more a trajectory requires optimized positions, the less reliable this trajectory is. This leads to another parameter attached to each particle: its vitality. This vitality, which represents the reliability of the trajectory, decreases each time the position of the particle needs to be optimized. However, as soon as the particle manages to follow the optical flow without triggering the optimization process, its vitality is reset to its maximum. A particle whose vitality decreases down to zero or below is considered as dead and will be removed in the Kill part.

3.2.3 Kill

Once the particles have been advected, the Kill part removes all the particles that are not bringing relevant information. These particles are the ones outside of the image, the ones with a vitality equal to or below 0 or the ones that are in an area where the density of particles is too high.

Indeed some particles can move outside of the image because the optical flow drives them out of the field of view of the camera. These particles become useless and are removed.

Some other particles have their vitality dropping down to 0. As this means that they kept having an incoherent behavior for too long, it is reasonable to think that these particles lost track of the object they were attached to. They are therefore removed. The Birth part will solve the potential imbalance between the density of particles and the density of pedestrians

induced by these removals. Finally, particles can accumulate at some location in the image. This happens when the optical flow points at such a location with a norm decreasing down to zero. We identified two causes for these kinds of situation: static occlusions and crowd stopping.

Static occlusions are elements in the image that are not part of the crowd but belong to the environment and can hide the crowd (pillars, walls, trash bins, etc.). A crowd moving behind a static occlusion generates an optical flow dropping to zero. Due to the image resolution and the precision of the optical flow, the change is usually not sudden. Therefore, the velocity of the particles decreases gradually and no abnormal accelerations (dropping the speed from $1m \cdot s^{-1}$ to $0m \cdot s^{-1}$ in $1/25$ second would generate an acceleration of $25m \cdot s^{-2}$) are detected. Therefore they accumulate in these areas where there is no pedestrians.

Nevertheless, this can also be due to the crowd coming to a halt. In this case there would be no density issue so no particles would be removed. However if there is a density mismatch with too much particles then the algorithm will remove as much particles as needed to match the correlated amount of pedestrian. This latter case can happen for instance when pedestrians gathered in a large crowd are queuing before stepping on an escalator. Depending on the angle of the camera, the disappearance of the pedestrians might not be visible. However, the density would be quite stable, hence the number of required particles to remain roughly the same through time and therefore older particles being removed.

3.3 Entry-Exit Areas Detection

Over the course of the video, pedestrians keep entering and exiting the camera field of view. They either come in and out of the boundaries of the image or pop up from and get hidden by static occlusions. These limits where the crowd appears and disappears in the image are called respectively entry and exit areas. The Birth and Kill parts described in subsection 3.2 handle the appearances and disappearances of the particles on the image according to the optical flow and the crowd density estimation. Due to the noise in the optical flow and to the precision of the crowd density estimation, it is expected to have particles appearing and disappearing even in the middle of the crowd, where it should not happen. However it is a reasonable assumption to expect a higher number of particles added and removed from respectively the entry and exit areas. The subpixelic position of each particle added and removed throughout the image is known. Therefore, areas in which the number of birth

(respectively kill) is a local maximum is an entry (respectively exit) area.

The accumulation of data through the iterations of the algorithm enables us to define more precisely the local maxima and therefore the entry and exit areas. Nevertheless in order to be able to detect new entry and exit areas that may appear, this accumulation of data is performed only on a gliding temporal window of Δ_t frames.

To detect these maxima the image is first divided in boxes of $a \times b$ pixels. Each box is assigned δ_+ and δ_- which are respectively the number of particles that have been added and removed through all the previous iterations in the gliding temporal window. The box map is then divided in blocks of $c \times d$ boxes.

To find the boxes of a block that may form an exit area, the algorithm computes for each block μ and σ which are respectively the mean value and the standard deviation of δ_- in the block. Then, for each block, ω and Ω are defined such as:

$$\begin{aligned}\omega &= \mu + \sigma & (1) \\ \Omega &= \mu_{\omega} + \sigma_{\omega} & (2)\end{aligned}$$

with μ_{ω} and σ_{ω} respectively the mean value and standard deviation of the values taken by ω during all the previous iterations. Finally, in each block, the boxes with δ_- higher than both ω and Ω are considered as potential candidates to form an exit area.

To find the boxes of a block that may form an entry area, the same process is used, replacing δ_- by δ_+ . For these potential entry boxes, another parameter is also taken into account, the assumption being that entry areas are only producing new particles. Therefore, if a potential entry box is crossed by k particles older than f frames, it can no longer be considered as a potential entry box.

The selected boxes are then gathered in groups following a distance criteria: two boxes belong to the same group if and only if they are at a distance of d_{min} meters or less from each other. Groups with more than n_{min} boxes form the entry and exit areas. Each area is materialized by a convex hull.

For our study, given the camera parameters of our datasets, we choose $a = b = 4$ pixels, $c = d = 50$ boxes, $k = 1$ particle, $f = 15$ frames, $d_{min} = 2$ meters, $n_{min} = 5$ boxes and $\Delta_t = 150$ frames.

3.4 Dynamic Occlusions Detection

Dynamic occlusions are entities moving in the image and occluding the pedestrians (*e.g.* a car, a truck, etc.). Particles following a portion of the crowd that is being dynamically occluded tend to have an abnormal behavior. Indeed the optical flow of the object they

track is replaced by the optical flow of the occluding object usually resulting in high accelerations which causes an abnormal behavior for the concerned particles. There is then a high probability that an area with a high number of abnormal particles is highlighting a dynamic occlusion.

The method used to detect the exit areas and described in subsection 3.3 can be adapted to detect these dynamic occlusions. Indeed we are looking for local maxima of the number of abnormal particles in the image. As opposed to entry and exit areas, dynamic occlusions are happening at a given time and moving rapidly on the image. Therefore, we do not wait for the data to accumulate along the gliding temporal window and use rather the instantaneous number of abnormal particles.

3.5 Linkage of Entry and Exit Areas

The purpose of linking the entry and exit areas is to be able, in a video footage, to know where the pedestrians coming from one area of the image are most likely to go. This can help designing clever pathways in an environment where multiple flows are crossing each others. The interest is also to keep track of the number of pedestrians simply transiting in the scene that is monitored and the number of those staying. With such figures, the system can anticipate any potential overcrowding phenomenon and therefore prevent them.

The information to link the entry and exit areas to each other is carried by the particles themselves. While the entry and exit areas are detected, a number is given to each of them. When a particle enters the scene at a specific entry area, it embeds this entry area number. Once exiting, the particles informs the system of its corresponding exit area number.

4 VALIDATION

The validation datasets used for this study are all synthetic. The main reason to explain this choice is that for our algorithm to work, we need the camera parameters. The second reason is that we need the ground truth to assess the validity of our results. And the third reason is that, to our knowledge, among the huge amount of video sequences displaying crowds and available all over the Internet, none are providing neither the camera parameters nor the required ground truth.

The solution of the synthetic dataset justifies itself in that nowadays, simulators manage to produce crowds with a high level of realism in terms of behavior as well as in terms of rendering. We are using

two datasets; a frame of each is displayed on Figure 2. The first one, basic, was produced by our team. The flow of pedestrians is modeled by cylinders organized in two lanes moving in opposite directions. A static occlusion is represented by a large black rectangle and one of the lane is going behind it. Two dynamic occlusions are crossing the image beside the second lane, just like vehicles on the road next to the sidewalk. Although this first dataset is not photo-realistic, it is to be noted that our algorithm does not need photo-realism but rather behavior-realism. The second dataset is taken from the Agoraset simulator (Allain et al., 2012), available on the Internet. It is more elaborated, with a better rendering as well as a more realistic engine to rule each pedestrian's behavior. This second dataset comes with the ground truth for the pedestrian's positions as well as the camera parameters.

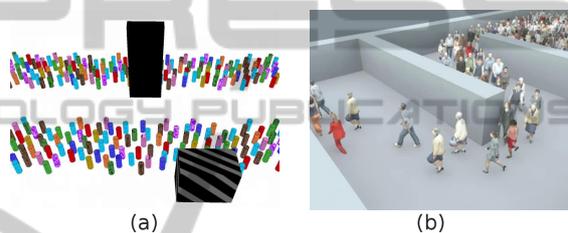


Figure 2: Example of images from our datasets: (a) the basic one, (b) from Agoraset.

We provide in this Section the results of our algorithm on the first dataset for the Entry-Exit area detection, the dynamic occlusions detection and the linkage of the entry and exit areas. Results are also provided for the tests on the second dataset regarding the entry-exit area detection.

4.1 Entry-Exit Areas Detection

The results provided in Figure 3 show the detected entry and exit areas compared to the ground-truth that we manually annotated. The main entry and exit areas are accurately detected. On our basic dataset, two of the exit areas are very thin but nevertheless present.

On Figure 3d, one can see that one entry area is not detected. It is an area in which some pedestrians are coming from behind a wall. The non-detection of this entry area can be explained by the fact that even though particles are being born there, and therefore boxes are labeled as potential entry boxes, these boxes cannot link to each other to form entry areas because they are crossed by older particles dragged by pedestrians who are never being hidden by the wall.

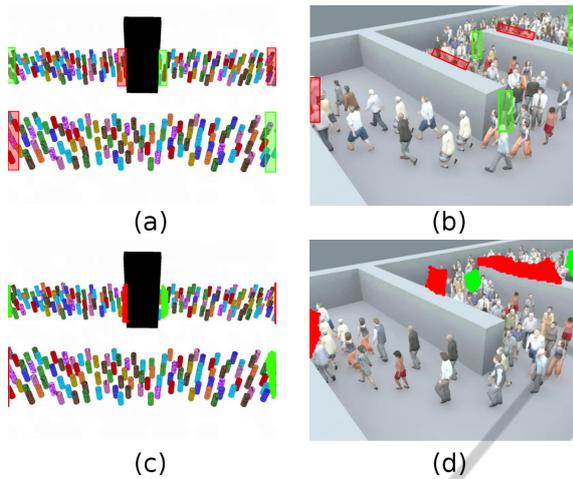


Figure 3: Detection of entry and exit areas. The first line is the ground truth, the second line our results. The green polygons are the entry areas, the red polygons are the exit ones.

4.2 Dynamic Occlusions Detection

The Figure 4 shows the results of our algorithm for the detection of a dynamic occlusion. One can see that it is effectively isolating the "truck" from the crowd. Due to the precision of the optical flow, the polygon embedding this dynamic occlusion is larger than the occlusion itself.

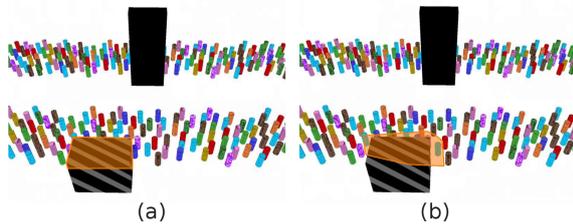


Figure 4: Detection of a dynamic occlusion: on (a) the ground truth is materialized with the orange polygon. On (b) the result obtained.

4.3 Linkage of Entry and Exit Areas

The Figure 5 displays the entry and exit areas with a unique label assigned to each of them. Each label is materialized by a different color. We can therefore know for each entry area, where the particles spawned in this area are dying.

The Table 1 and 2 display the percentages of particles from Entry #i dying in Exit #j. The "No Exit" column exists because some particles can die out of the exit areas. These figures are obtained by running the algorithm several times and keeping the mean percentage.

From these results, it can clearly be inferred that

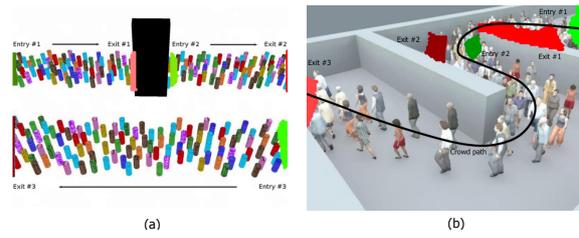


Figure 5: Linkage of the exit areas with the entry areas on (a) our basic dataset and (b) the dataset coming from Agorasat. Each entry and exit areas is assigned a unique label, materialized by a unique color.

Table 1: Linkage of the entry and exit area for our basic dataset.

	Exit #1	Exit #2	Exit #3	No Exit
Entry #1	95.29%	0.29%	0.00%	4.42%
Entry #2	0.00%	92.36%	0.00%	7.64%
Entry #3	0.00%	0.00%	82.32%	17.68%

Entry #1 is linked to Exit #1 and Entry #2 is linked to Exit #2. To be noted that a very small amount of particles spawned in Entry #1 managed to "jump" the static occlusion and end up in Exit #2.

For the particles spawned in Entry #3 the score achieved for the rate of particle reaching Exit #3 is less than expected. This is due to the dynamic occlusion crossing the image from time to time and killing a higher number of particles than where it is not present (between Entry #1 and Exit#1 and Entry #2 and Exit #2). However, the percentage is high enough to be interpreted as a link between Entry #3 and Exit #3.

The Table 2 provides our results for the Agorasat dataset.

Table 2: Linkage of the entry and exit area for our basic dataset.

	Exit #1	Exit #2	Exit #3	No Exit
Entry #1	94.05%	7.50%	0.03%	0.43%
Entry #2	0.00%	0.00%	98.81%	1.19%

These results clearly show the link between Entry #1 and Exit #1 with a small amount of pedestrian reaching Exit #2. Indeed, Exit #1 is the first wall behind which pedestrians are being hidden before appearing again (Entry #2). The pedestrians managing to reach Exit #2 are those on the outside of the curve imposed by the first wall who are then being hidden by the second wall (Exit #2). No surprisingly, it is only a very small amount of pedestrians spawned in Entry #1 who are reaching Exit #3 without being hidden by any walls.

5 CONCLUSIONS

In this paper we have presented an adaptation of the Particle Video algorithm for crowd flow tracking. The goal was to detect where the crowd is entering the scene that is monitored and where it exits this scene. It is of a particular interest for any crowd monitoring system to be able to track the different crowd flows in order to be able to adapt the environment as efficiently as possible to the different streams of pedestrians and their strength. We showed that our algorithm can detect the different entry and exit areas of the crowd in the image and that it can also provide the route of the crowd within the image with an indication of the rate of pedestrians coming from one area and going to another. Moreover, our GPU-implementation shows that this kind of algorithm reaches real-time execution even though not fully optimized. This depends, of course, on the number of particles that are set and also on the hardware used. In our case, tests were run on a machine equipped with an Intel Core i7 @ 3.20GHz CPU and a nVidia GeForce GTX 580 GPU. About 10^5 particles were deployed.

To conclude, we would like to point out some further directions of research that could be done in order to enhance such a system. First, on the algorithm itself, the condition of abnormality could be improved. For the moment, they are just based on physical properties linked to the pedestrians' accelerations.

Then, it is obvious that some additional functions could be added on top of those existing. The first that can be thought of is the clustering or the classification of behaviors. Grouping the particles according to their behavior and being able to put a label on top of these groups could help the human operator to analyze the scene he is monitoring.

Finally, as explained in Subsection 3.2, a cloud of particles generated on a crowd with a number of particles per pedestrian λ can be interpreted as λ representative observations of that monitored crowd. Therefore, these λ observations could be used to train crowd simulators specifically designed to reproduce the behavior of crowds at some location of interest monitored by video-surveillance. The learning of these specific behaviors would help to generate crowd models adapted to specific environments and help, once again, a human operator to design some environmental response to events of interest.

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