

# Super-resolution Person Re-identification with Semi-coupled Low-rank Discriminant Dictionary Learning

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Person re-identification [2] has been widely studied due to its importance in surveillance and forensics applications. In practice, gallery images are high-resolution (HR) while probe images are usually low-resolution (LR) in the identification scenarios with large variation of illumination, weather or quality of cameras. Person re-identification in this kind of scenarios, which we call super-resolution (SR) person re-identification, has not been well studied.

Motivated by dictionary learning based SR restoration works [5], we propose a semi-coupled low-rank discriminant dictionary learning ( $SLD^2L$ ) approach for SR person re-identification in this paper. Specifically, assume that  $C_A$  is a HR pedestrian image set from camera A and  $C_B$  is a LR pedestrian image set from camera B, we aim to learn a pair of HR and LR dictionaries and a mapping function between features of HR and LR images, such that the features of LR images in  $C_B$  can be converted into discriminating HR features.

To this end, we firstly generate the LR version of  $C_A$  by performing down-sampling and smoothing operations, which has the same resolution as  $C_B$  and is denoted by  $C'_A$ . Then we exploit semi-coupled dictionary learning (DL) to learn a pair of HR and LR dictionaries and a mapping matrix between the corresponding features of  $C_A$  and  $C'_A$ . To ensure that the learned dictionaries and mapping matrix have favorable discriminative capability, we require that HR features of images in  $C_B$ , which are reconstructed using the learned dictionary pair and mapping matrix, should be close to the features of images from the same person in  $C_A$ , but far away from the features of images from different persons in  $C_A$ .

In practice, low resolution has different influences on different patches, e.g., patches with pure color suffer little influence, while patches with complex texture suffer more influence. Therefore, learning a common mapping function is not enough to catch all the relationships. Intuitively, we can divide images into patches and group patches into several clusters, and then a pair of HR and LR sub-dictionaries and a more stable mapping function can be learned for each cluster. In this paper, we group patches in  $C'_A$  and  $C_B$  using K-means algorithm according to the similarity of patch features. Then, the patches in  $C_A$  are grouped according to clustering results of the corresponding patches in  $C'_A$ . We require that each cluster-specific sub-dictionary has good representation ability to the patches from the associated cluster but poor representation ability for other clusters. Denote by  $D_H^i$  and  $D_L^i$  the HR and LR sub-dictionaries of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  cluster, respectively. And  $V_i$  denotes the mapping of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  cluster. By separately combining HR and LR sub-dictionaries, we can obtain the structured HR and LR dictionaries, namely  $D_H = [D_H^1, D_H^2, \dots, D_H^c]$  and  $D_L = [D_L^1, D_L^2, \dots, D_L^c]$ , where  $c$  is the number of clusters.

To ensure that the learned sub-dictionary pairs can well characterize the intrinsic feature spaces of HR and LR images, the noises should be separated from patches in the learning process. Considering that patches from the same cluster are linearly correlated, we can employ low-rank matrix recovery technique to separate noises from patches [3, 4]. Figure 1 illustrates the overall flow of  $SLD^2L$ .

With the learned dictionaries and mapping matrices, features of LR probe images can be converted into discriminative HR features. Then SR person re-identification can be performed using the features of HR gallery images and the converted HR probe features.

Figure 2 reports the matching results of all compared methods on the VIPeR dataset [1] at sampling rate of 1/8. The matching rates of all competing methods are significantly lower than those provided in the original pa-

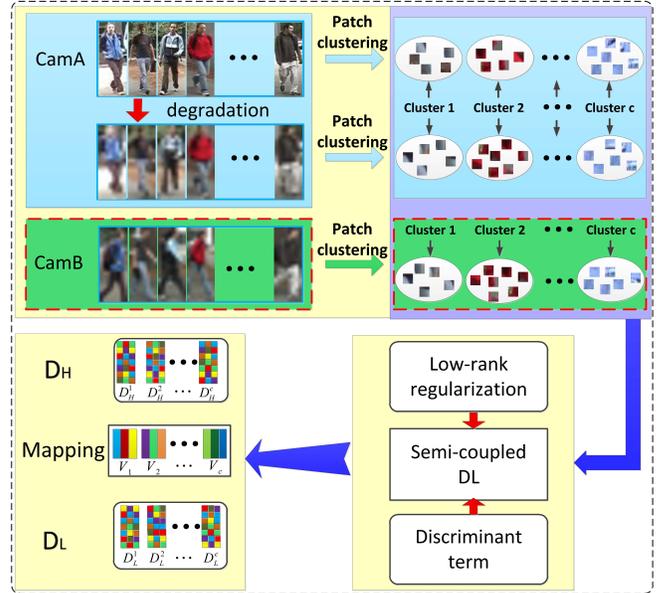


Figure 1: The flowchart of  $SLD^2L$ .

pers. The reason is that low resolution results in the loss of useful information and these methods cannot work well in this scenario. The experimental results of  $SLD^2L$  always outperform these related methods. Experimental results on the i-LIDS and PRID datasets also demonstrate the effectiveness of the proposed approach for SR person re-identification problem.

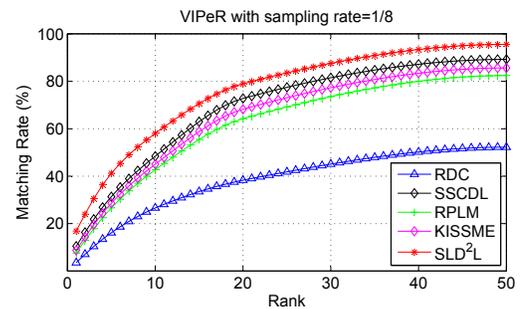


Figure 2: Results on the VIPeR dataset.

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