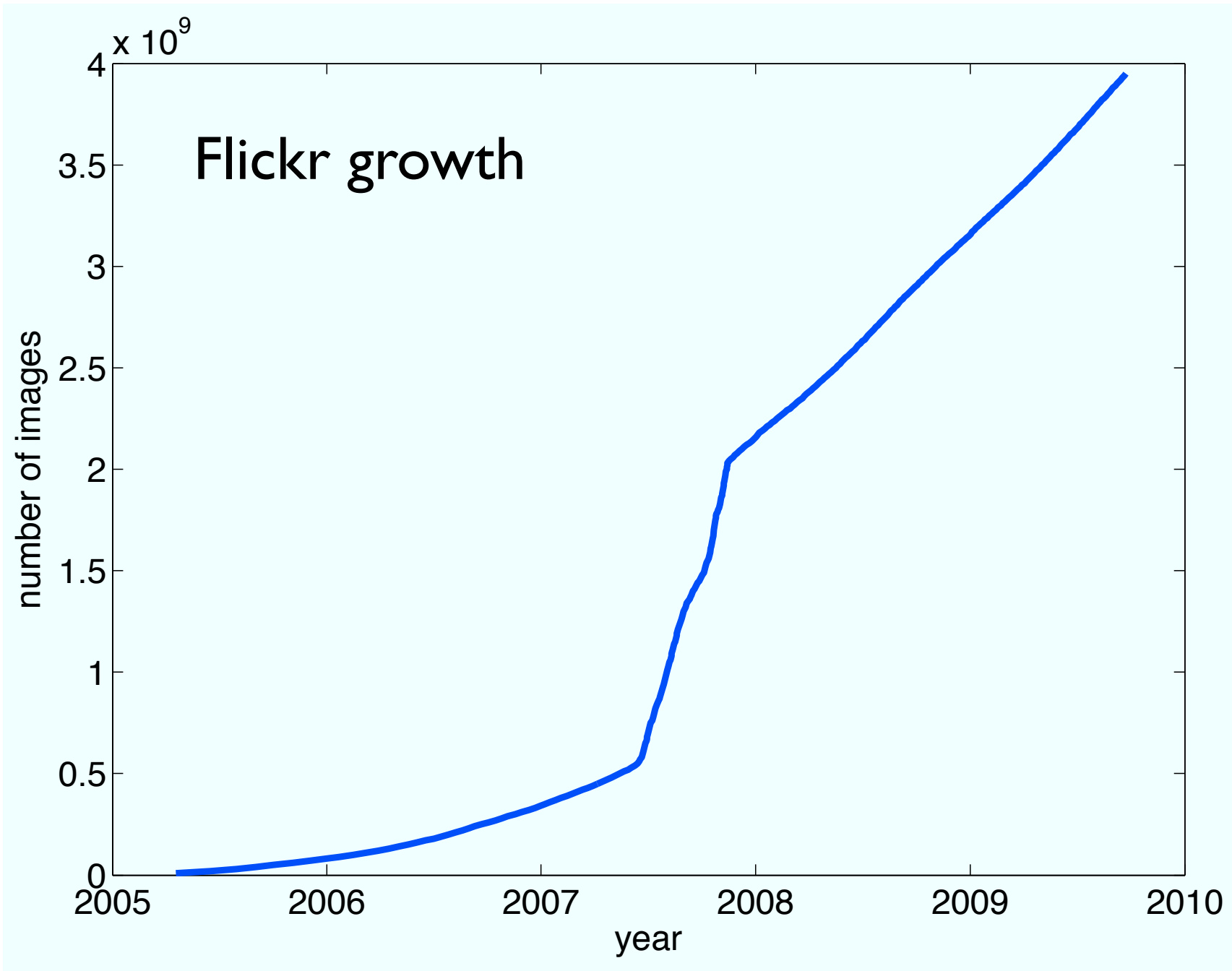


# Scaling Object Recognition: Benchmark of Current State of the Art Techniques

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(1) California Institute of Technology  
(2) Evolution Robotics

# Motivation



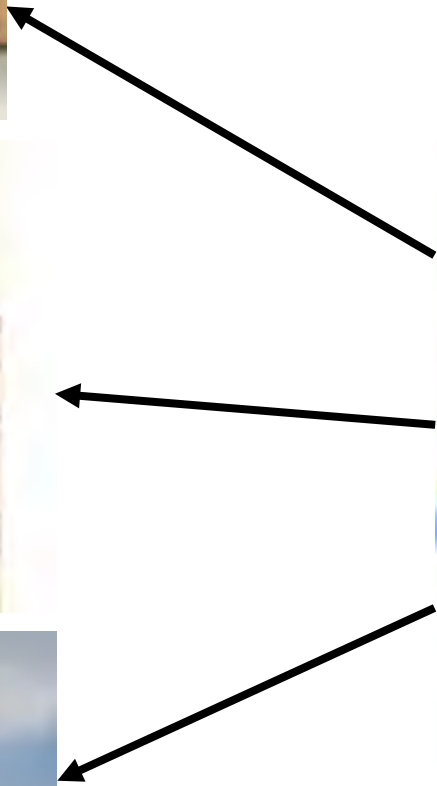
# Motivation

Large image collections:

- 20 billions on ImageShack
- 15 billions on Facebook
- 7 billions on Photobucket
- 4 billions on Flickr

[<http://www.techcrunch.com> April 2009]

# Motivation



# Individual object recognition: How do current methods scale?

- CPU cycles
- RAM
- Precision / recall

# Outline

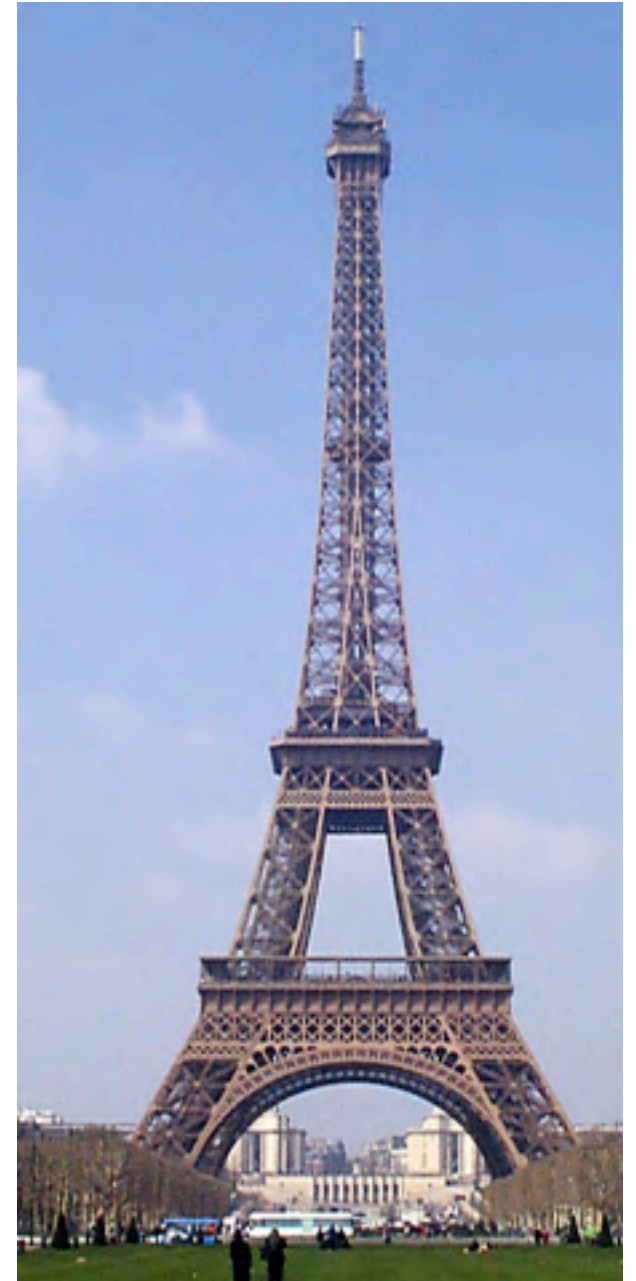
- Datasets
- Recognition Methods
- Experimental Setup
- Results
- Conclusions

# Three flavors:

# Item to item



Probe



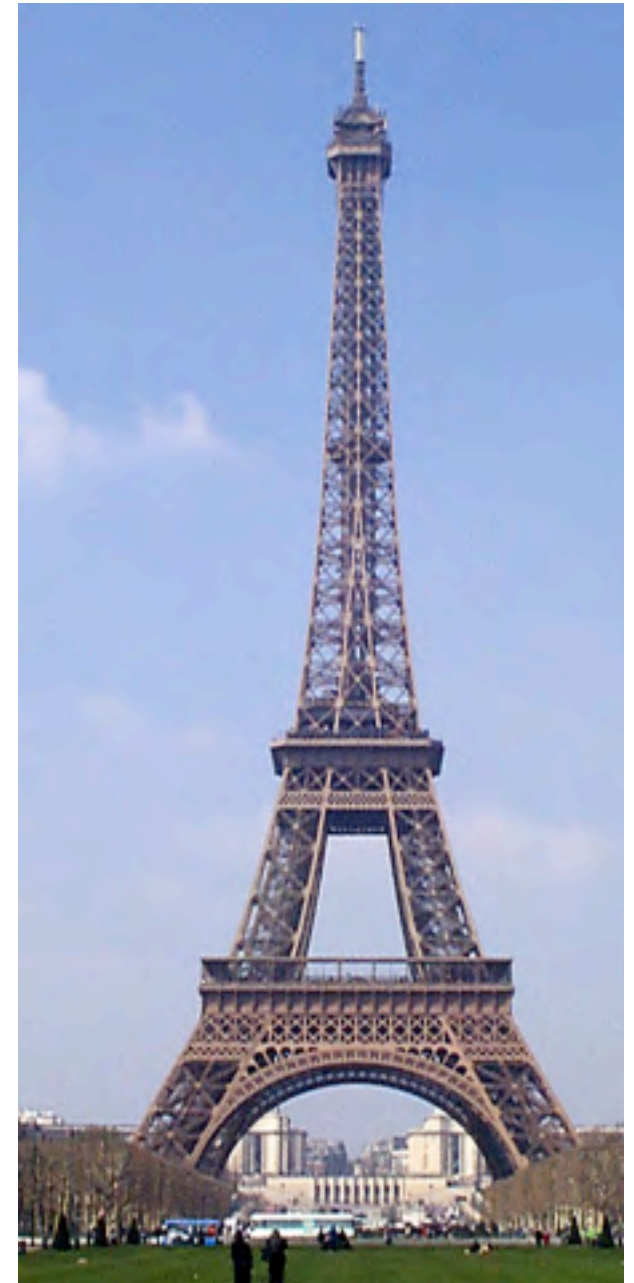
Model



# Scene to item



Probe



Model

# Item to scene



Probe



Model

# Three flavors:

- Item to item
- Item to scene
- Scene to item

# Dataset I: CD Covers

Model Set: ~ 132,000 unique images



downloaded from [freecovers.net](http://freecovers.net) (available on [vision.caltech.edu](http://vision.caltech.edu))

# Dataset I: CD Covers

## Probe sets



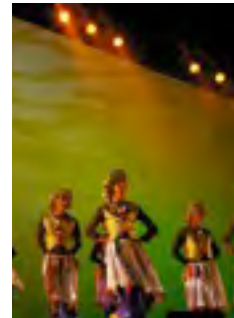
500 Synthetic  
transformations



388 Photographs [Nister 06]

# Dataset 2: Pasadena Houses

Model set:  $\sim 10^5$  photographs



125 pictures of  
LA houses

$10^5$  flickr  
photographs

# Dataset 2: Pasadena Houses

Probe set: 625 pictures of Pasadena houses



Query 1



Model



Query 5

Different:

- viewpoint
- time of day
- camera

# Dataset 2: Pasadena Houses





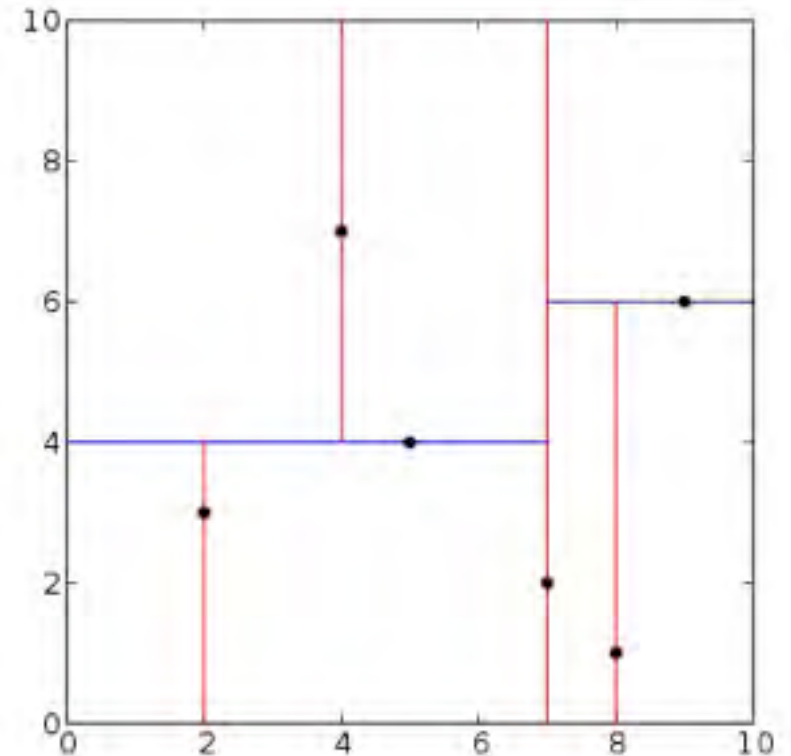
# Recognition Approaches

- **Sift/NN/Hough/RANSAC** [Lowe '04]
- **Sift/Quantize/Rank** [VideoGoogle '03]

# Nearest-Neighbor I: Kd-tree

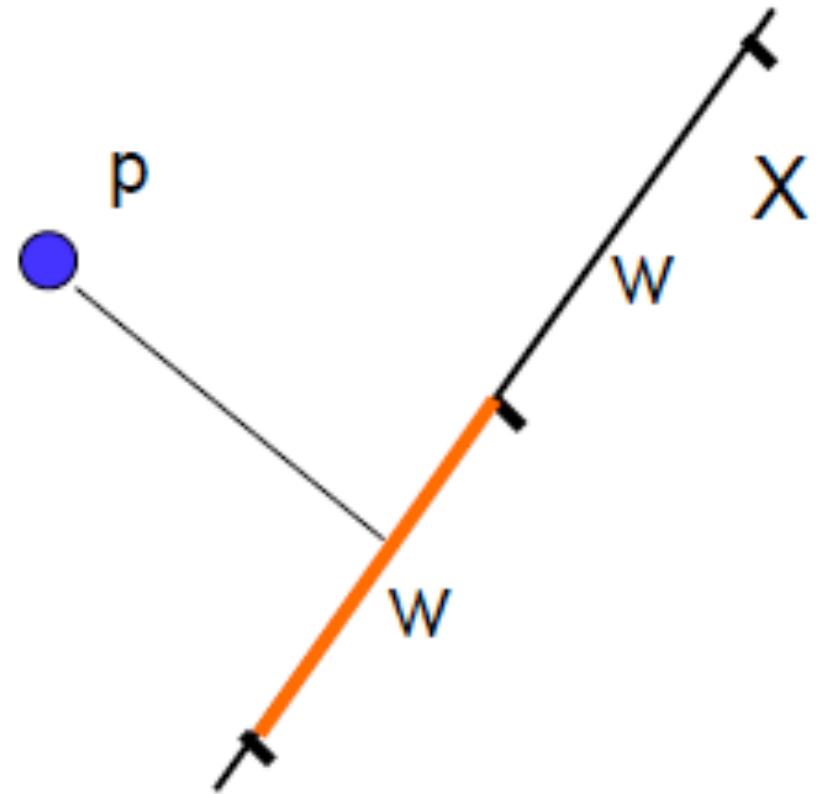
- Approximate
- Build  $O(d N)$
- Search  $O(\log(N))$
- Multiple trees: Kd-forest

$N \sim$  number of prototypes



# Nearest-Neighbor 2: LSH

- E<sup>2</sup>LSH package [Andoni 2004]
- Build  $O(N)$
- Search  $O(b) \sim O(N)$



# Method 3: Bag-of-Words

query	word 1	doc 1	weight	doc 3	weight	...	doc M-3	weight	
	word 2	word 2	doc 3	weight	doc 4	weight	doc M	weight	
	word 3	word 3	doc 2	weight	doc 4	weight	doc M-2	weight	
	word 4	doc 1	weight	doc 2	weight	...	doc M	weight	
	⋮	⋮							
	word N-1	doc 4	weight	doc 6	weight	...	doc M	weight	
	word N	word N	doc 1	weight	doc 2	weight	...	doc M-1	weight

[Sivic et al., Video Goggle '03]

# Method 3: Bag-of-Words

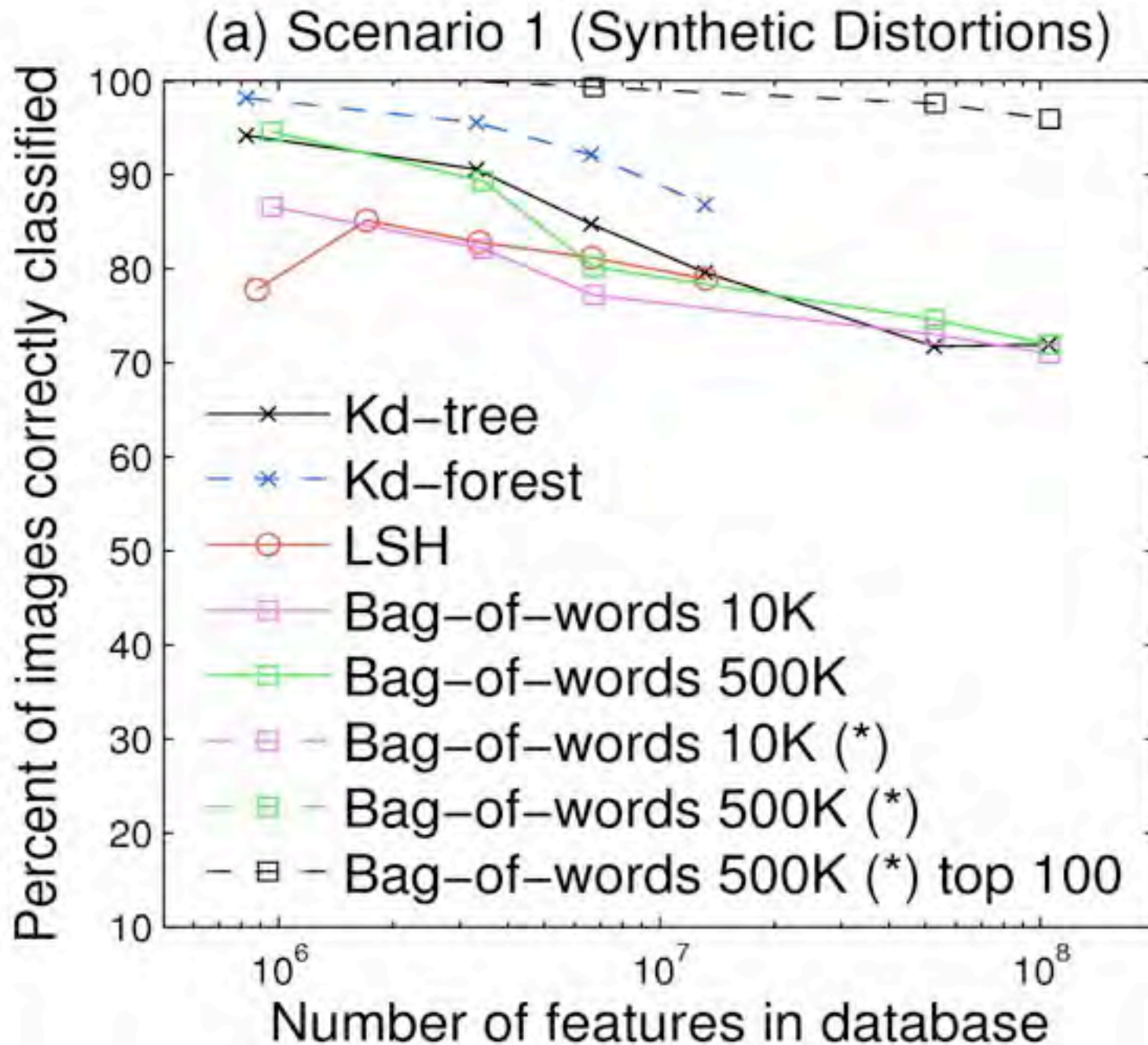
- Extract Sift Features
- Quantize using Approximate K-means with Kd-forest [*Philbin et al. '07*]
- Compute word histograms [*Dorko-Schmid '03*]
- Search  $O(N)$
- Fast search using Inverted File [*Sivic et al. '03*]

# Experimental Setup

■ Datasets:	Model Set	Probe Set	# images
Scenario 1	Covers	Synthetic	500
Scenario 2	Covers	Photographed	388
Scenario 3	Flickr	Houses	625

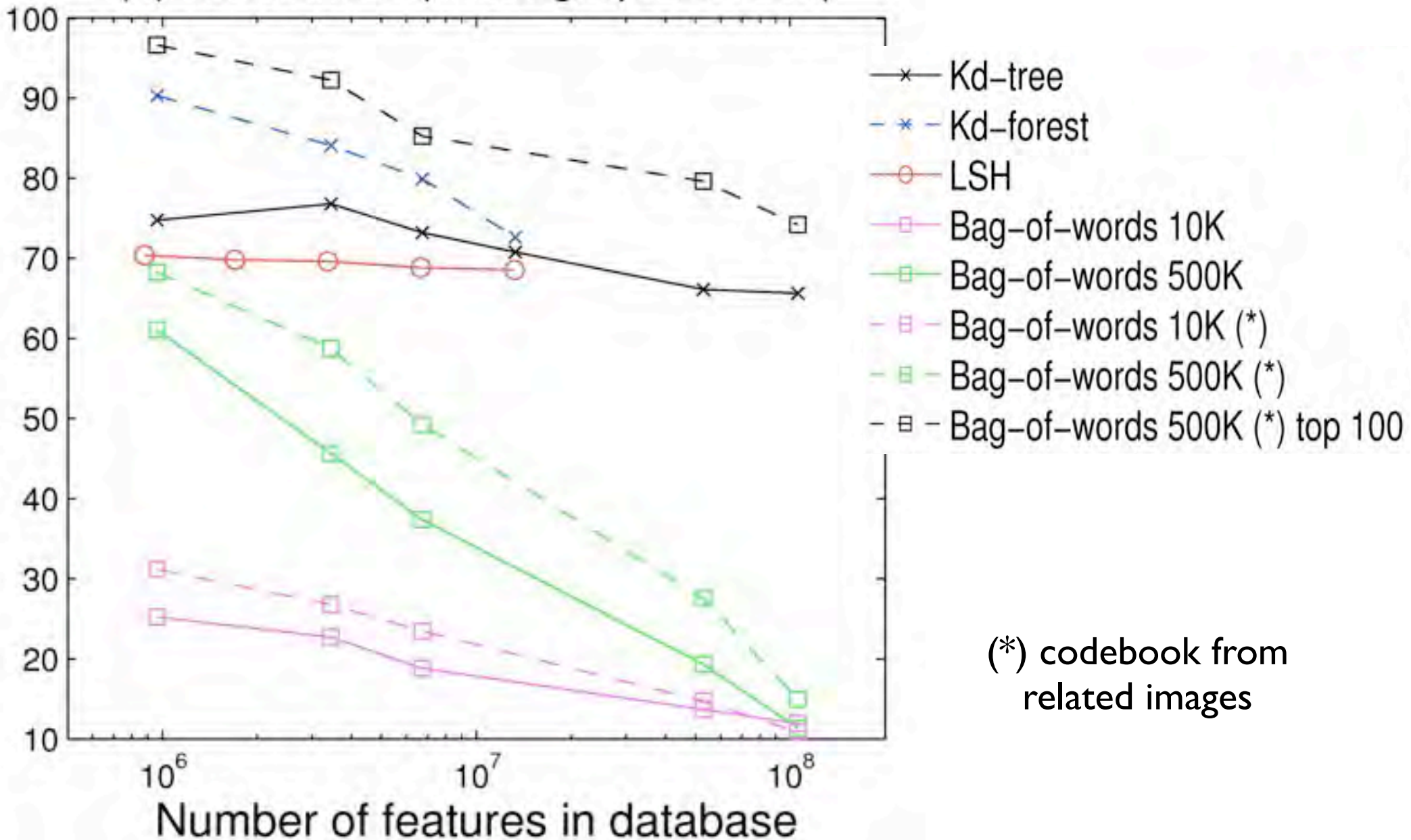
- One image/object in Model Set
- Rest in Probe Set
- Increase model set size: 1k, 4k, 8k, 16k, 32k, 64k, 128k images

# Results: Recognition



# Results: Recognition

(b) Scenario 2 (Photographed CDs)

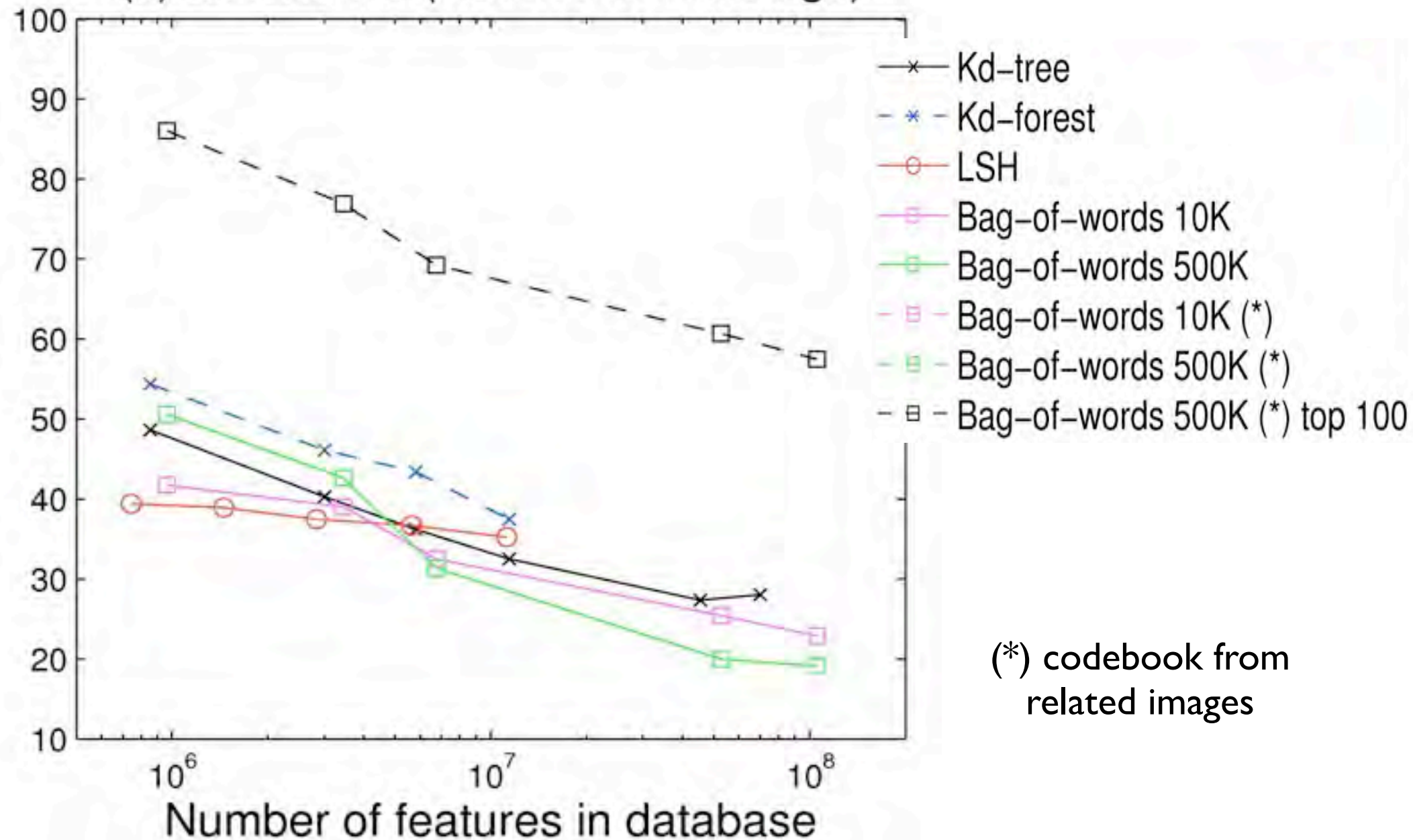


(\*) codebook from related images



# Results: Recognition

(c) Scenario 3 (Pasadena Buildings)

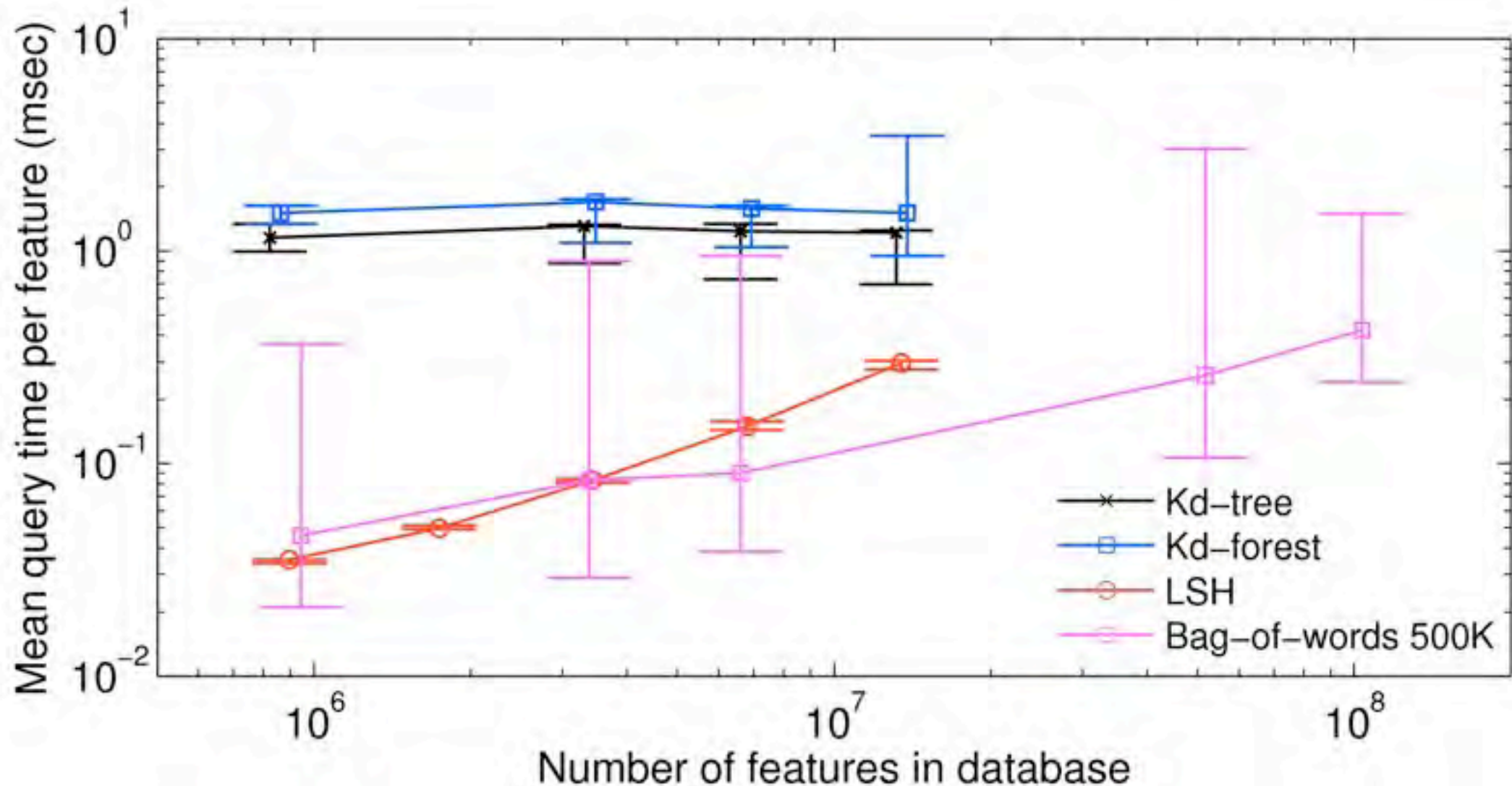


(\*) codebook from related images

# Conclusions I

- Synthetic distortions are useless
- Performance drops w.r. to n. of features
- LSH scales best
- KD forest scales OK
- Bag-of-words scales poorly

# Results: Query Time



(Database: synthetic CD covers)

# Conclusions 2

- LHS scales linearly (ouch)
- Bag-of-words scales like  $\sqrt{N}$
- KD forests have constant cost  $O(1)$

# Conclusions

- Importance of diverse datasets, natural probes
- Recall overall disappointing
- Nowhere close to  $10^{10}$  images
- Bag-of-words recall does not scale well
- Kd-trees cost constant w.r. to  $N$ , unlike LSH
- Only bag-of-words fits in RAM beyond  $10^5$  images
  
- Much work still ahead of us!