# ChaLearn Looking at People 2015: Apparent Age and Cultural Event Recognition datasets and results

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## Abstract

*Following previous series on Looking at People (LAP) competitions [14, 13, 11, 12, 2], in 2015 ChaLearn ran two new competitions within the field of Looking at People: (1) age estimation, and (2) cultural event recognition, both in still images. We developed a crowd-sourcing application to collect and label data about the apparent age of people (as opposed to the real age). In terms of cultural event recognition, one hundred categories had to be recognized. These tasks involved scene understanding and human body analysis. This paper summarizes both challenges and data, as well as the results achieved by the participants of the competition. Details of the ChaLearn LAP competitions can be found at http://gesture.chalearn.org/.*

## 1. Introduction

The automatic analysis of the human body, also named Looking at People, in still images and image sequences keeps making rapid progress with and the constant improvement of new published methods that rapidly advance the state-of-the-art.

In 2015, ChaLearn organized new competitions and workshops on age estimation and cultural event recognition from still images. The recognition of continuous, natural human signals and activities is very challenging due to the multimodal nature of the visual cues (e.g., movements of fingers and lips, facial expressions, body pose), as well as technical limitations such as spatial and temporal resolution. Facial expressions analysis and age estimation are hot topics in Looking at People that serve as additional cues to determine human behavior and mood indicators. Finally, images of cultural events constitute a very challenging recognition problem due to a high variability of garments, objects, human poses and scene context. Therefore, how to combine and exploit all this knowledge from pixels constitutes an interesting problem.

These challenges motivated our choice to organize a new ICCV workshop and a competition on these topics to sustain the effort of the computer vision community. These new competitions come as a natural evolution from our previous workshops at CVPR2011, CVPR2012, ICPR2012, ICMI2013, ECCV2014 and CVPR2015. We continued using our website http://gesture.chalearn.org for promotion and challenge entries in the quantitative competition were scored on-line using the Codalab Microsoft-Stanford University platforms (http://codalab.org/).

In the rest of this paper, we describe in more detail both age estimation and cultural event recognition challenges, their relevance in the context of the state of the art, and describe the results achieved by the participants in both challenges.

## 2. Age estimation challenge

Age estimation is a difficult task which requires the automatic detection and interpretation of facial features. We have designed an application using the Facebook API for the collaborative harversting and labeling by the community in a gamified fashion (http://sunai.uoc.edu:8005/).

Age estimation has historically been one of the most challenging problems within the field of facial analysis [32, 17, 21]. It can be very useful for several applications, such as advanced video surveillance, demographic statistics collection, business intelligence and customer profiling, and search optimization in large databases. Different application scenarios can benefit from learning systems that predict the apparent age, such as medical diagnosis (premature aging due to environment, sickness, depression, stress, fatigue, etc.), effect of anti-aging treatment (hormone replacement therapy, topical treatments), or effect of cosmetics, haircuts, accessories and plastic surgery, just to mention a few.

### 2.1. Dataset

Due to the nature of the age estimation problem, there is a restricted number of publicly available databases providing a substantial number of face images labeled with accurate age information. Table 1 shows the summary of the existing databases with main reference, number of samples, number of subjects, age range, type of age and additional information. This field has experienced a renewed interest from 2006 on, since the availability of large databases like MORPH-Album 2 [34], which increased by $55\times$ the amount of real age-annotated data with respect to traditional age databases. Therefore, this database has extensively been used in recent works by applying to it different descriptors and classification schemes. However, all existing datasets are based on real age estimation. In the present challenge, we propose the first dataset to recognize the apparent age of people based on the opinion of many subjects using a new crowd-sourcing data collection and labeling application and the data from AgeGuess platform[1].

We developed a web application in order to collect and label an age estimation dataset online by the community. The application uses the Facebook API to facilitate the access hence reach more people with a broader background. It also allows us to easily collect data from the participants, such as gender, nationality and age. We show some panels of the application in the Figure 1(a), 1(b) and 1(c).
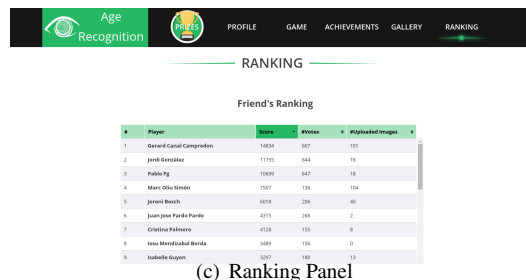
The web application was developed in a gamified way, i.e. the users or players get points for uploading and labeling images, the closer the age guess was to the apparent age (average labeled age) the more points the player obtained. In order to increase the engagement of the players, we added

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[1]AgeGuess: http://www.ageguess.org/
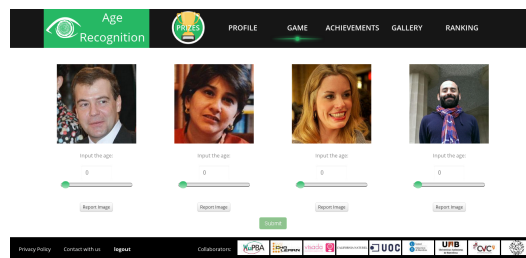


(a) Game Panel
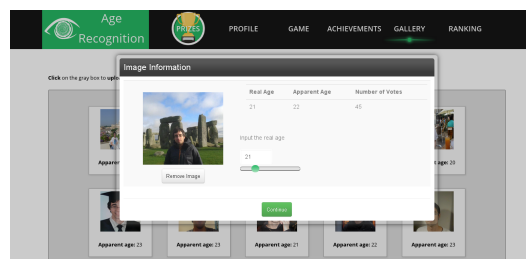


(b) Gallery Panel



(c) Ranking Panel

Figure 1. Age Recognition Application. (a) User can see the images of the rest of participants and vote for the apparent age. (b) User can upload images and see their uploads and the opinion of the users regarding the apparent age of people in their photos. (c) User can see the points he/she achieves by uploading and voting photos and the ranking among his/her friends and all the participants of the application.

a global and friends leaderboard where the users could see their position in the ranking. We asked the users to upload images of a single person and we gave them tools to crop the image if necessary, we also asked them to provide the real age for images they uploaded themselves (or a good approximation), allowing more analysis and comparisons between real age and apparent age.

In order to increase the number of images in the database, an exhaustive research was done to find similar applications which were collecting the same, or very close, type of data. The result of this search was AgeGuess, which collects nearly the same information as we do. The line of research of the AgeGuess team is focused on aging and age perception from a biologically demographical point of view. The AgeGuess team agreed to partner with the HuPBA research group and the ChaLeran platform to joint effort in the data collection. The Table 2 shows the main characteristics

Table 1. Age-based Databases and its characteristics.

| Database | #Faces | #Subj. | Range | Type of age | Controlled Enviroment | Balanced age Distrivution | Other annotation |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| FG-NET [25, 24] | 1,002 | 82 | 0 - 69 | Real Age | No | No | 68 Facial Landmarks |
| GROUPS [19] | 28,231 | 28,231 | 0 - 66+ | Age group | No | No | - |
| PAL [27] | 580 | 580 | 19 - 93 | Age group | No | No | - |
| FRGC [31] | 44,278 | 568 | 18 - 70 | Real Age | Partially | No | - |
| MORPH2 [35] | 55,134 | 13,618 | 16 - 77 | Real Age | Yes | No | - |
| YGA [18] | 8,000 | 1,600 | 0 - 93 | Real Age | No | No | - |
| FERET[30] | 14,126 | 1,199 | - | Real Age | Partially | No | - |
| Iranian face [3] | 3,600 | 616 | 2 - 85 | Real Age | No | No | Kind of skin and cosmetic points |
| PIE [37] | 41,638 | 68 | - | Real Age | Yes | No | - |
| WIT-BD [42] | 26,222 | 5,500 | 3 - 85 | Age group | No | No | - |
| Caucasian Face Database [5] | 147 | - | 20 - 62 | Real Age | Yes | No | 208 Shape Landmarks |
| LHI [1] | 8,000 | 8,000 | 9 - 89 | Real Age | Yes | Yes | - |
| HOIP [16] | 306,600 | 300 | 15 - 64 | Age Group | Yes | No | - |
| Ni's Web-Collected Database [28] | 219,892 | - | 1 - 80 | Real Age | No | No | - |
| OUI-Adience [9] | 26.580 | 2.284 | 0 - 60+ | Age Group | No | No | Gender |

of the final database.

Table 2. ChaLearn-AgeGuess database characteristics.

| Features | | ChaLearn | AgeGuess | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Images | | 1506 | 3185 | 4691 |
| Users | female | 44 | 1828 | 1872 |
| | male | 110 | 1143 | 1253 |
| Votes | female | 1753 | 75136 | 76889 |
| | male | 14897 | 53117 | 68004 |

Some of the properties of the database and its associated challenge are: Thousands of faces labeled by many users; images with background; non-controlled environments; and non-labeled faces without landmarks, making the estimation problem even harder. This is one of the first datasets in the literature including estimated age labeled by many users to define the ground truth with the objective of estimating the age. The evaluation metric will be weighted by the mean and the variance of the labeling by the participants.

The dataset contains the real age for each image, although this is not used for recognition but only for data analysis purposes. In the same way for all the labelers (the users of the platforms which make estimates of the age of the person in the photo). We have their nationality, age, and gender, which will allow analyzing demographic and other interesting studies among the correlation of labelers.

In relation to the properties of existing datasets shown in Table 1, ours include labels of the real age of the individuals and the apparent age given by the collected votes, both age distributions are shown in Figure 2. The images of our database have been taken under very different conditions, which makes it more challenging for recognition purposes. Different application scenarios can benefit from learning systems that predict the apparent age, such as medical diagnosis (premature aging due to environment, sickness, depression, stress, fatigue, etc.), effect of anti-aging treatment (hormone replacement therapy, topical treatments), or effect of cosmetics, haircuts, accessories and plastic surgery, just to mention a few.

### 2.2. Apparent age challenge results

More than 100 participants registered into the competition. Finally, at the test step, the teams that submitted their predictions are shown in Table 3. Each prediction is evaluated as $\epsilon = 1 - e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$, where $x$ is the prediction, $\mu$ and $\sigma$ are the mean and standard deviation of the human labels. The summary of the methods is shown in Table 4. The summary of the first top ranked methods is shown next.
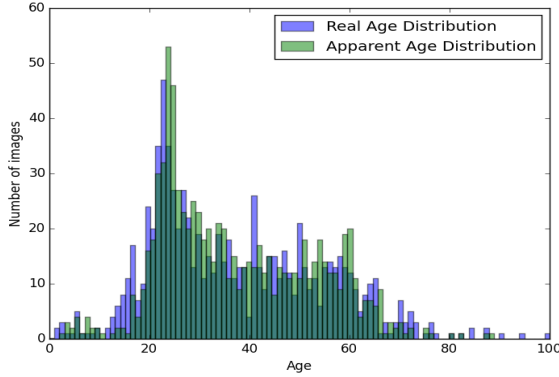
Figure 2. Real and Apparent age distributions in our database.

Table 3. Results of the Age Estimation challenge.

**Age Estimation**

| Position | Team | Development | Test |
|---|---|---|---|
| **1** | **CVL_ETHZ** | **0.295116** | **0.264975** |
| **2** | **ICT-VIPL** | **0.292297** | **0.270685** |
| 3 | AgeSeer | 0.327321 | 0.287266 |
| **3** | **WVU_CVL** | **0.316289** | **0.294835** |
| 4 | SEU-NJU | 0.380615 | 0.305763 |
| 5 | UMD | - | 0.373352 |
| 6 | Enjuto | 0.370656 | 0.37439 |
| 7 | Sungbin Choi | - | 0.420554 |
| 8 | Lab219A | 0.477079 | 0.499181 |
| 9 | Bogazici | 0.483337 | 0.524055 |
| 10 | Notts CVLab | - | 0.594248 |

**First place (CVL_ETHZ).** The proposed Deep EXpectation (DEX) method first detects the face in the test image and then extracts the CNN predictions from an ensemble of 20 networks on the cropped face. Each network (VGG-16 architecture) was pre-trained on Imagenet and then fine-tuned on face images from IMDB and Wikipedia. The resulting network was then again fine-tuned on the actual dataset from the challenge. The networks were trained for classification with 101 output neurons, each neuron corresponding to an integer age (0-100). The final prediction is the expected value of the softmax-normalized output of the last layer, averaged over the 20 networks.

**Second place (ICT-VIPL).** The proposed approach is an end-to-end learning framework based on general to specific deep transfer learning. The main steps are: 1) Pretrain 22 layer large-scale deep convolutional neural network for multiclass face classification using the CASIA-WebFace database; 2) Fine-tune 22 layer large-scale deep convolu-

Table 4. Table of Age Methods.

| Team | Proposed Method |
|---|---|
| CVL_ETHZ | Face detection using [26]. 20 CNN models [38] on cropped faces. External data: ImageNet, IMDB and Wikipedia. System prediction: Expected value of 101 softmax-normalized output neurons. |
| ICT-VIPL | Face detection using Boosting+Neural Networks and Face landmark detection using CFAN [46]. Model used: GoogleNet. External data: CASIA-WebFace database [45], Cross-Age Celebrity Dataset [6], MORPH. System prediction based on three cascade CNN: face classification, real age, apparent age. |
| AgeSeer | Face and face landmark detection using a comercial software. Model used: CNN VGG. External data: Celebface+, Morph, FGNet, Adience. Prediction of age codes, fusion of regressors, such as lasso, global and local quadratic regressor, and random forest. |
| WVU_CVL | Face and landmark detection using Face++, MS Project Oxford. Model used: GoogleNet. External data: WebFace and 240k age data from (CACD, Adience, MORPH, FGnet, own collected data). Prediction based on Multiple deep features, 10 age groups, RF, SVR, and fusion. |
| SEU-NJU | Face detection based on [26] and face landmark detection based on [39]. Model used: VGG16 + CNN. External data: MORPH, own collected data. Prediction using fusion of different network setups, softmax loss and KL-divergence for training, including aligned and non-aligned faces for training with different color spaces and filters on the input data. |
| UMD | Face detection using [33] and face landmark detection using [22]. Model: CNN [7]. External data: Adience [10], MORPH. Prediction using CNN regression model with the challenge gaussian loss function, classifying in three age groups, and then regressing the age. |
| Enjuto | Face detection using [26] [23] and fusion by overlap. Face landmark detection using [22]. Model used: 6 CNN. External data: CNN regression model with the challenge gaussian loss function, classifying in three age groups, and then regressing the age. Prediction using fusion of some CNN global face learning and others local face image parts learning. |
| Sungbin Choi | Model used: GoogleNet. External data: The image of Groups Dataset, Cross-age Celebrity Dataset (CACD), Adience [10], ImageNet, Faces and Labeled Faces in the Wild. Final average for classification. |
| Lab219A | Face detection using Viola & Jones and face landmark detection using STASM. Model: CNN. External data: Adience [10]. |
| Bogazici | Face detection using Viola & Jones, face landmark detection using SDM. Model: Kernel ELM regression. Prediction using Fusion of HOG GIST LBP SIFT, PCA reduction. |
| Notts CVLab | Face detection using [47], face landmark detection using [41]. Model: Cascaded Ridge Regression. Prediction using LGBP features [36]. |

tional neural network for age estimation on large outside age dataset. In this work, two kind of losses are involved. The authors adopted a Euclidean loss for single dimension age encoding and a cross-entropy loss of label distribution learning based age encoding; 3) Fine-tune 22 layer large-scale deep convolutional neural network on the final apparent age training set; 4) And finally, Ensemble Learning, where the final age estimation output is the fusion of 10 deep neural network. The basic NN architecture is based on GoogleLet and the loss layer is depended on the task. For multi-class face classification, they adopted the softmax loss, while Euclidean loss and cross-entropy loss were used for age estimation task.

**Third place (WVU_CVL).** The method is based on multiple GoogleNet deep networks, which are trained on 240.000 public facial images with real age label. Then the data provided from this challenge is processed using data augmentation. The deep network is fine-tuned using augmented competition data and the feature vectors from deep networks are extracted. Age grouping is further applied so that each image is classified into one of ten age groups. Within each age group, Random Forest and SVR are used to train the age estimator. Score level fusion is applied to fuse all the predictions to get the final prediction result.

# 3. Cultural Event Recognition

Inspired by the Action Classification challenge of PAS-CAL VOC 2011-12 successfully organized by Everingham et al. [15], we planned to run a competition in which 99 categories corresponding to different world-wide cultural events and 1 non-class would be considered. In all the image categories, garments, human poses, objects, illumination, and context do constitute the possible cues to be exploited for recognizing the events, while preserving the inherent inter- and intra-class variability of this type of images. Thousands of images were downloaded and manually labeled, corresponding to cultural events like Carnivals (Brasil, Italy, USA), La Tomatina (Spain), Holi Festival (India) and Inti Raymi (Peru), among others. Figure 3 depicts in shades of blue the amount of cultural events per country.

Following the success of the 2014 cultural event recognition challenge that we organized, in this paper we present the results of our second edition of the challenge organized in 2015. We introduce an extended database based on cultural events [2] and the second cultural event recognition challenge. In this section, we discuss some of the works most closely related to it.

**Action Classification Challenge** [15] This challenge belongs to the PASCAL - VOC challenge which is a benchmark in visual object category recognition and detection. In particular, the Action Classification challenge was introduced in 2010 with 10 categories. This challenge consisted in predicting the action(s) being performed by a person in a

Table 5. Comparison between our dataset and others present in the state of the art.

| Dataset | #Images | #Categories | Year |
|---|---|---|---|
| Action Classification Dataset [15] | 5,023 | 10 | 2010 |
| Social Event Dataset [29] | 160,000 | 149 | 2012 |
| Event Identification Dataset [4] | 594,000 | 24,900 | 2010 |
| Cultural Event Dataset I [2] | 11,776 | 50 | 2015 |
| **Cultural Event Dataset II** | 28,705 | 100 | 2015 |

still image. In 2012 there were two variations of this competition, depending on how the person (whose actions are to be classified) was identified in a test image: (i) by a tight bounding box around the person; (ii) by only a single point located somewhere on the body.

**Social Event Detection** [29] This work is composed of three challenges and a common test dataset of images with their metadata (timestamps,tags, geotags for a small subset of them). The first challenge consists of finding technical events that took place in Germany in the test collection. In the second challenge, the task consists of finding all soccer events taking place in Hamburg (Germany) and Madrid (Spain) in the test collection. The third challenge aims at finding demonstration and protest events of the *Indignados* movement occurring in public places in Madrid.

**Event Identification in Social Media** [4] In this work the authors introduce the problem of event identification in social media. They presented an incremental clustering algorithm that classifies social media documents into a growing set of events.

Table 5 shows a comparison between our cultural event dataset and the others present in the state of the art. Action Classification dataset is the most closely related, but the amount of images and categories is smaller than ours. Although the number of the images and categories in the datasets [29] and [4] are larger than our dataset, these dataset are not related to cultural events but to events in general. Some examples of the events considered in these dataset are soccer events (*football games that took place in Rome in January 2010*), protest events (*Indignados movement occurring in public places in Madrid*), etc.

## 3.1. Dataset

The Cultural Event Recognition challenge aims to investigate the performance of recognition methods based on several cues like garments, human poses, objects, background, etc. To this end, the cultural event dataset contains significant variability in terms of clothes, actions, illumination, localization and context.

The Cultural Event Recognition dataset consists of images collected from two images search engines (Google Images and Bing Images). To build the dataset, we chose 99 important cultural events in the world and we created several queries with the names of these events. In order to in-
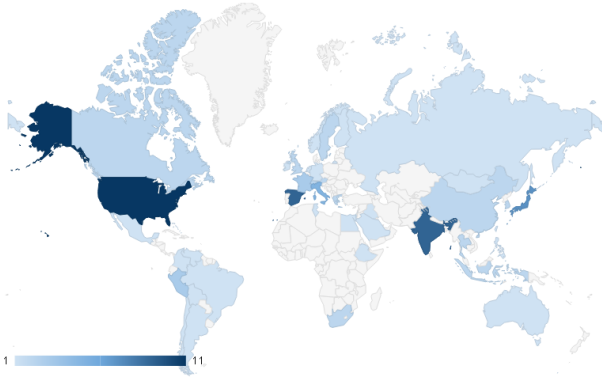
Figure 3. Cultural events by country, dark blue represents greater number of events.

crease the number of retrieved images, we combined the names of the events with some additional keywords (festival, parade, event, etc.). Then, we removed duplicated URLs and downloaded the raw images. To ensure that the downloaded images belonged to each cultural event, a process was applied to manually filter each of the images. Next, all exact duplicate and near duplicate images were removed from the downloaded image set using the method described in [8]. While we attempted to remove all duplicates from the database, there may exist some remaining duplicates that were not found. We believe the number of these is small enough to not significantly affect the research outcomes. In order to have a more challenging competition we aggregated a new class called non-class, this class represents a distractor class and is composed by 2,000 images containing no information related to cultural events. To build this non-class, we randomly downloaded images from ImageNet and then we filtered each of the images. In the end, our dataset is composed of 28,705 images.

The database can be downloaded at the following web address: https://www.codalab.org/competitions/4081. Some of the properties of the database and its associated challenge are: First database on world-wide cultural events; more than 28,000 images of 100 different events; and high intra- and inter-class variability. For this type of images, different cues can be exploited like garments, human poses, crowds analysis, objects and background scene. The evaluation metric is the recognition accuracy.

Table 6 lists the 100 categories, country they belong and the number of images considered for this challenge.

There is no similar database in the literature. For example, the ImageNet competition does not include the cultural event taxonomy as considered in this specific track. In comparison with the Action Classification challenge of PASCAL VOC 2011-12, the database we constructed and used include more than twice the number of images, and over 10 times more categories.

Table 7. Table of Cultural Methods.

| Team | Proposed Method |
| --- | --- |
| VIPL-ICT-CAS | Model used: VGGNet, GoogLeNet. Prediction using Logistic Regression and LDA for final classification. |
| FV | Model used: VGG16, VGG19, Place-CNN. Prediction using 5 CNNs, fusion of 5 feature vectors and final logistic regression classification [20]. |
| MMLAB | Models used: GoogLeNet, VGGNet. Prediction using Object and scenes activations [44], CNN features and Fisher Vectors [43], final SVM classification. |
| NU&C | Model: CaffeNet based on ImageNet and Places205. Combination of Object CNN stream and Scene CNN stream for prediction. |
| CVL_ETHZ | Model: VGG-16 based on ImageNet and Places205. Prediction using Pooled and LDA-projected CNN features with Iterative Nearest Neighbors-based classifier [40]. |
| SSTK | Model: CNN. Prediction using a combination of 13 pretrained CNN models on places-205 and ImageNet. |
| MIPAL_SNU | Model: GoogLeNet. 4 trained networks: region, image, person, face, and CNN features combined and RF prediction. |
| ESB | Models used: VGG16, GoogleNet. Prediction using RF classification. |
| Sungbin Choi | Model: GoogleNet based on MIRFLICKR-1M and ImageNet. Final average for classification. |
| UPC-STP | Model: AlexNet. Final SVM classification |

## 3.2. Cultural event top ranked methods

More than 50 participants were registered to join the competition. Finally, at the test step of the competition, the teams that submitted their predictions (based on average precision performance) are shown in Table 8 and the their methods are described in Table 7. The first top ranked methods are detailed next.

**First place (VIPL-ICT-CAS).** The method is based on a combination of visual features extracted from deep convolutional neural networks. Specifically, authors investigate two off-the-shelf architectures, VGGNet and GoogLeNet, and adapt them to the task by performing event-specific fine-tuning on both global and local images. For global scheme, authors take the whole image as input; while for local scheme, authors first generate a batch of region proposals in each image and take these local regions as inputs. In recognition stage, it is employed two kinds of linear classifiers, Logistic Regression (LR) and Linear Discriminant Analysis (LDA) on image features from the different deep models and decision scores are fused.

**Second place (FV).** The approach is named DSP (Deep Spatial Pyramid). By considering utilizing the spatial infor-

Table 6. List of the 100 cultural event categories.

| | Cultural Event | Country | #Images | | Cultural Event | Country | #Images |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Annual Buffalo Roundup | USA | 230 | 51 | July 4th | USA | 301 |
| 2 | Ati-atihan | Philippines | 221 | 52 | AfrikaBurn | South Africa | 422 |
| 3 | Ballon Fiesta | USA | 270 | 53 | Aomori nebuta | Japan | 401 |
| 4 | Basel Fasnacht | Switzerland | 225 | 54 | Apokries | Greece | 290 |
| 5 | Boston Marathon | USA | 236 | 55 | Asakusa Samba Carnival | Japan | 463 |
| 6 | Bud Billiken | USA | 261 | 56 | Australia day | Australia | 241 |
| 7 | Buenos Aires Tango Festival | Argentina | 230 | 57 | Bastille day | France | 232 |
| 8 | Carnaval de Dunkerque | France | 253 | 58 | Beltane Fire | Scotland | 361 |
| 9 | Carnival of Venice | Italy | 281 | 59 | Boryeong Mud | South Korea | 300 |
| 10 | Carnivale Rio | Brazil | 282 | 60 | Carnaval de Oruro | Bolivia | 248 |
| 11 | Castellers | Spain | 322 | 61 | Carnevale Di Viareggio | Italy | 644 |
| 12 | Chinese New Year | China | 289 | 62 | Cascamorras | Spain | 223 |
| 13 | Correfocs | Spain | 251 | 63 | Cheongdo Bullfighting Festival | South Korea | 212 |
| 14 | Desert Festival of Jaisalmer | India | 211 | 64 | Crop over | Barbados | 262 |
| 15 | Desfile de Silleteros | Colombia | 226 | 65 | Eid al-Adha | Egypt | 250 |
| 16 | Da de los Muertos | Mexico | 240 | 66 | Eid al-Fitr Iraq | Iraq | 282 |
| 17 | Diada de Sant Jordi | Spain | 221 | 67 | Epiphany | Greece | 270 |
| 18 | Diwali Festival of Lights | India | 216 | 68 | Festa Della Sensa | Italy | 204 |
| 19 | Falles | Spain | 361 | 69 | Frozen Dead Guy Days | USA | 230 |
| 20 | Festa del Renaixement | Spain | 263 | 70 | Galugan | Indonesia | 356 |
| 21 | Festival de la Marinera | Peru | 260 | 71 | Grindelwald Snow Festival | Switzerland | 142 |
| 22 | Inti Raymi | Peru | 288 | 72 | Hajj | Saudi Arabia | 308 |
| 23 | Fiesta de la Candelaria | Peru | 243 | 73 | Halloween Festival of the Dead | USA | 275 |
| 24 | Gion matsuri | Japan | 258 | 74 | Highland Games | Scotland | 515 |
| 25 | Harbin Ice and Snow Festival | China | 276 | 75 | Junkanoo | Bahamas | 290 |
| 26 | Heiva | Tahiti | 236 | 76 | Kaapse Klopse | South Africa | 229 |
| 27 | Helsinki Samba Carnaval | Finland | 229 | 77 | Keene Pumpkin Festival | USA | 275 |
| 28 | Holi Festival | India | 255 | 78 | Krampusnacht Festival | Austria | 142 |
| 29 | Infiorata di Genzano | Italy | 239 | 79 | Los Diablos danzantes | Venezuela | 306 |
| 30 | La Tomatina | Spain | 248 | 80 | Magh Mela | India | 200 |
| 31 | Lewes Bonfire | England | 223 | 81 | Mardi Gras | USA | 333 |
| 32 | Macys Thanksgiving | USA | 235 | 82 | Monkey Buffet Festival | Thailand | 188 |
| 33 | Maslenitsa | Russia | 226 | 83 | Naadam Festival | Mongolia | 360 |
| 34 | Midsommar | Sweden | 259 | 84 | Passover | Israel | 273 |
| 35 | Notting hill carnival | England | 244 | 85 | Pflasterspektakel | Austria | 218 |
| 36 | Obon Festival | Japan | 253 | 86 | Phi Ta Khon | Thailand | 252 |
| 37 | Oktoberfest | Germany | 329 | 87 | Sahara Festival | Tunisia | 234 |
| 38 | Onbashira Festival | Japan | 228 | 88 | Sapporo Snow Festival | Japan | 227 |
| 39 | Pingxi Lantern Festival | Taiwan | 225 | 89 | Spice Mas Carnival | Grenada | 224 |
| 40 | Pushkar Camel Festival | India | 243 | 90 | Sweden Medieval Week | Sweden | 264 |
| 41 | Quebec Winter Carnival | Canada | 244 | 91 | Tamborrada | Spain | 451 |
| 42 | Queens Day | Netherlands | 246 | 92 | Tapati rapa Nui | Chile | 244 |
| 43 | Rath Yatra | India | 264 | 93 | Thaipusam | India | 318 |
| 44 | SandFest | USA | 235 | 94 | Thrissur Pooram | India | 336 |
| 45 | San Fermin | Spain | 306 | 95 | Tokushima Awa Odori Festival | Japan | 354 |
| 46 | Songkran Water Festival | Thailand | 245 | 96 | Tour de France | France | 278 |
| 47 | St Patrick's Day | Ireland | 248 | 97 | Up Helly Aa Fire Festival | Scotland | 224 |
| 48 | The battle of the Oranges | Italy | 207 | 98 | Vancouver Symphony of Fire | Canada | 214 |
| 49 | Timkat | Ethiopia | 297 | 99 | Waisak day | Indonesia | 220 |
| 50 | Viking Festival | Norway | 241 | 100 | Non-class | - | 2000 |

mation with fully convolutional activations, it is formed a natural deep spatial pyramid by partitioning an image into sub-regions and computing local features inside each sub-region. In practice, it is just needed to spatially partition the cells of activations in the last convolutional layer, and then pool deep descriptors in each region separately using Fisher Vectors. In order to capture variations of the activations caused by variations of objects in an image, a multiple scale pyramid approach with different rescaled versions of the original input image is applied. Images of all different scales are feed into a pre-trained CNN model. In each scale, the corresponding rescaled image is encoded. Then, vectors are merged into a single vector by average pooling. Data augmentation is also performed on the 99 cultural events classes and not for the non-cultural class. In particular VGG16, VGG19 and Place-CNN models were employed. Meanwhile, for VGG16 and VGG19, also fine-tune is performed using the training and validation images and crops. Finally, one test image is then represented by five equally instances, and at the test stage, the prediction scores of these five instances, obtained by a logistic regression and softmax prediction, are averaged to get the final score.

**Third place (MMLAB).** The approach uses a deep architecture to perform event recognition by extracting visual information from the perspectives of object and scene. Specifically, the proposed OS-CNN is composed of object net and scene net. Based on OS-CNN, it is presented an effective image representation, by extracting the activations of fully connected layers and convolutional layers. Average pooling is applied to aggregate the activations of fully connected layers. Then, Fisher vector encodes those convolutional layers, and an SVM is used for classification.

## 4. Conclusion

We reviewed the apparent age estimation and cultural event recognition challenges. We presented the first state of the art data set for apparent age estimation rather than real age. We also proposed a large dataset of cultural events composed by a hundred of categories and tens of thousands of samples. We ran a challenge for each of these two data sets. Results show that most of the participants based their solutions on deep learning architectures.

## Acknowledgements

Table 8. Results of the Cultural Event Recognition challenge.

**Cultural Event Recognition**

| Position | Team | Development | Test |
|---|---|---|---|
| **1** | **VIPL-ICT-CAS** | **0.783** | **0.854** |
| **2** | **FV** | **0.770** | **0.851** |
| **3** | **MMLAB** | **0.717** | **0.847** |
| 4 | NU&C | 0.387 | 0.824 |
| 5 | CVL_ETHZ | 0.662 | 0.798 |
| 6 | SSTK | 0.740 | 0.770 |
| 7 | MIPAL_SNU | 0.801 | 0.763 |
| 8 | ESB | 0.729 | 0.758 |
| 9 | Sungbin Choi | - | 0.624 |
| 10 | UPC-STP | 0.503 | 0.588 |

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