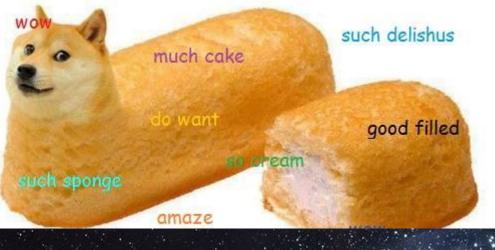
PIMMI

a command line interface to study image propagation

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How to study meme propagation?





What PIMMI does

 create clusters of identical images (total or partial copies) on millions of files

deal with image transformations (crop, zoom)

adapt to corpus characteristics (number and nature of images)

What PIMMI does not

 clustering of semantically similar images (e.g. separate cats from dogs)

• face recognition (e.g. find all images of Elizabeth II)

Use cases

Pimmi was designed to conduct studies on the use and re-use of images:

Propagation of memes on social networks

Usage of press agency photos in a press corpus

Dissemination of fake news based on image montages

Comparison of editorial choices between different media

• ...

How it works

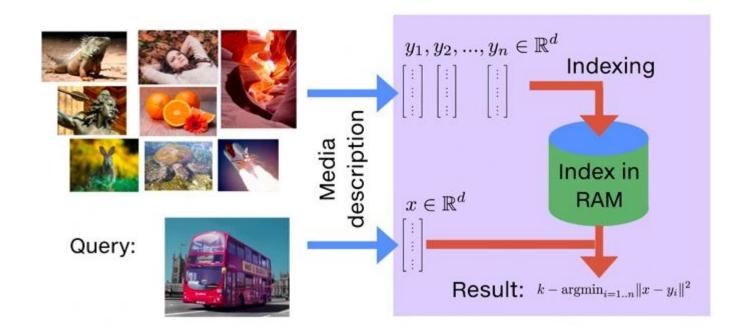
Each image is represented as a set of keypoints using SIFT (Scale Invariant Feature Transform) algorithm. Local keypoints descriptors are vectors.





How it works

Local descriptors are indexed in a database (FAISS) optimized for similarity search. Different index structures are available, depending on corpus size.



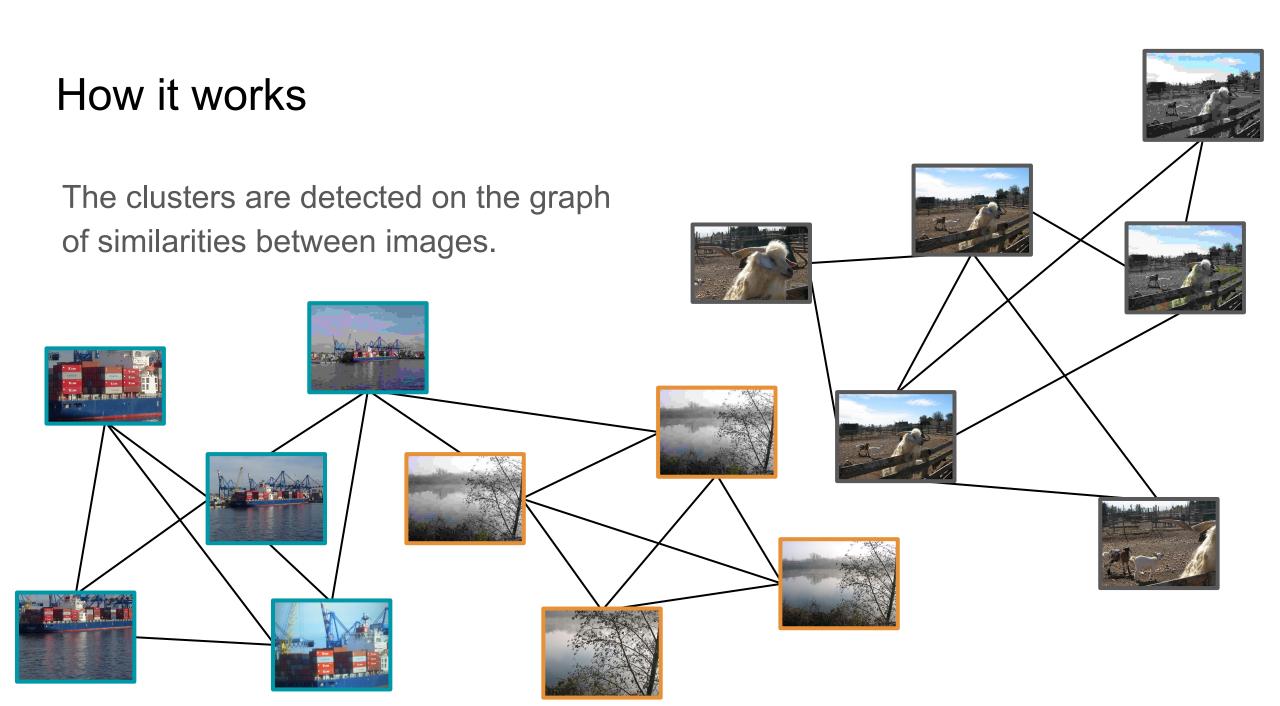
How it works

PIMMI searches for matching local descriptors in the database.

For each pair of images who have matches, it filters only pairs compatible with some expected geometric transformations.







How to use PIMMI

What you need:

• Python >= 3.7

• Images in .jpg or .png format saved on your computer

A command-line shell

□ Documents

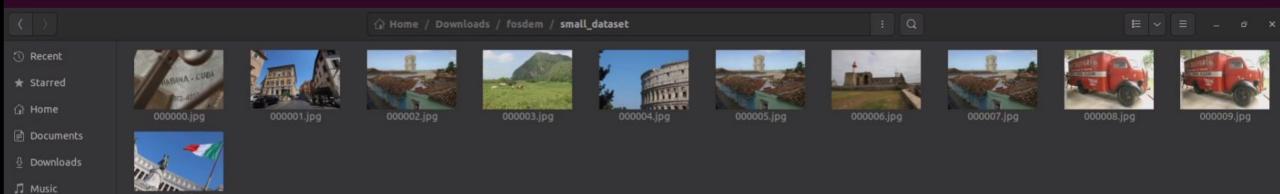
□ Downloads

000009.jpg

139

(fosdem) bmazoyer@ptl11206:~/Downloads/fosdem\$





0.16296296296296298

How long does it take?

It depends on:

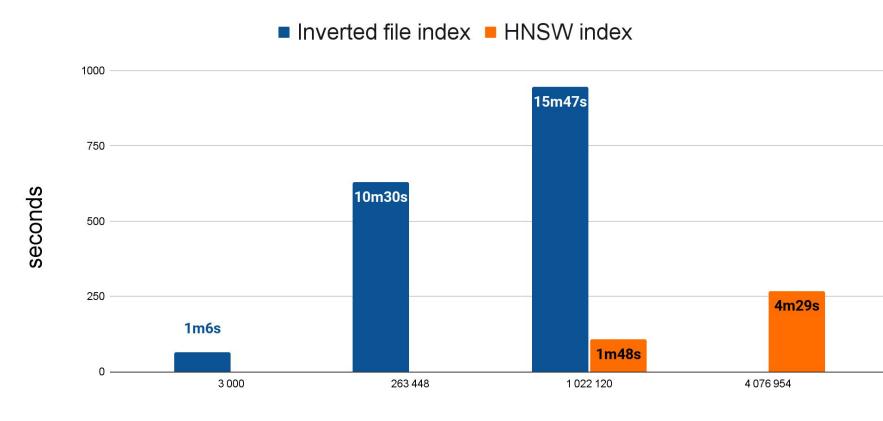
the number of indexed images

- the chosen index

the number of cores

Query time for 3000 queries

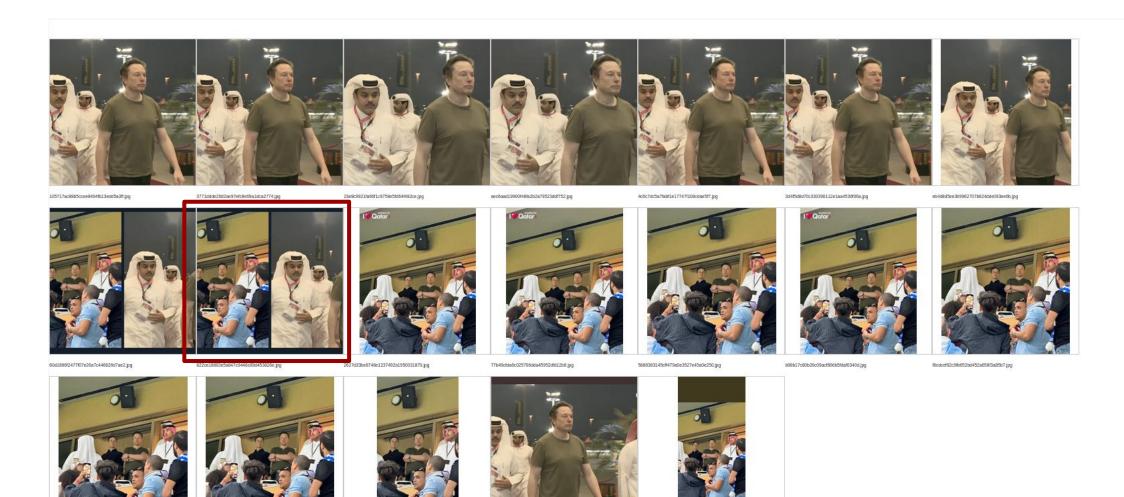
24 cores, 256 Go RAM



Number of indexed images

Future improvements

Detect parts of images - should solve text in images issues



Future improvements

Detect parts of images

Show images in their context (tweets, instagram posts, etc.) or with additional metadata

Display the graph of image similarities

We need your use cases!

The development of PIMMI is still in progress

We need new use cases to improve the tool

Sources and references



Images

doge: https://knowyourmeme.com/memes/doge



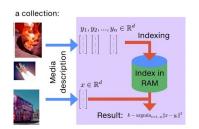
small dataset: https://github.com/nrv/pimmi/tree/main/demo dataset/small dataset



copydays (INRIA):

https://lear.inrialpes.fr/~jegou/data.php#copydays

http://web.archive.org/web/20181015092553if /http://pascal.inrialpes.fr/data/holidays/



faiss:

https://engineering.fb.com/2017/03/29/data-infrastructure/faiss-a-library-for-efficient-similarity-search/

Sources and references

Papers

SIFT: Lowe, David G. "Object recognition from local scale-invariant features." Proceedings of the seventh IEEE international conference on computer vision. Vol. 2. leee, 1999.

FAISS: Jégou, Hervé, et al. "Faiss: Similarity search and clustering of dense vectors library." Astrophysics Source Code Library (2022): ascl-2210.