

# Automatic identification of individual African leopards in unlabeled camera trap images



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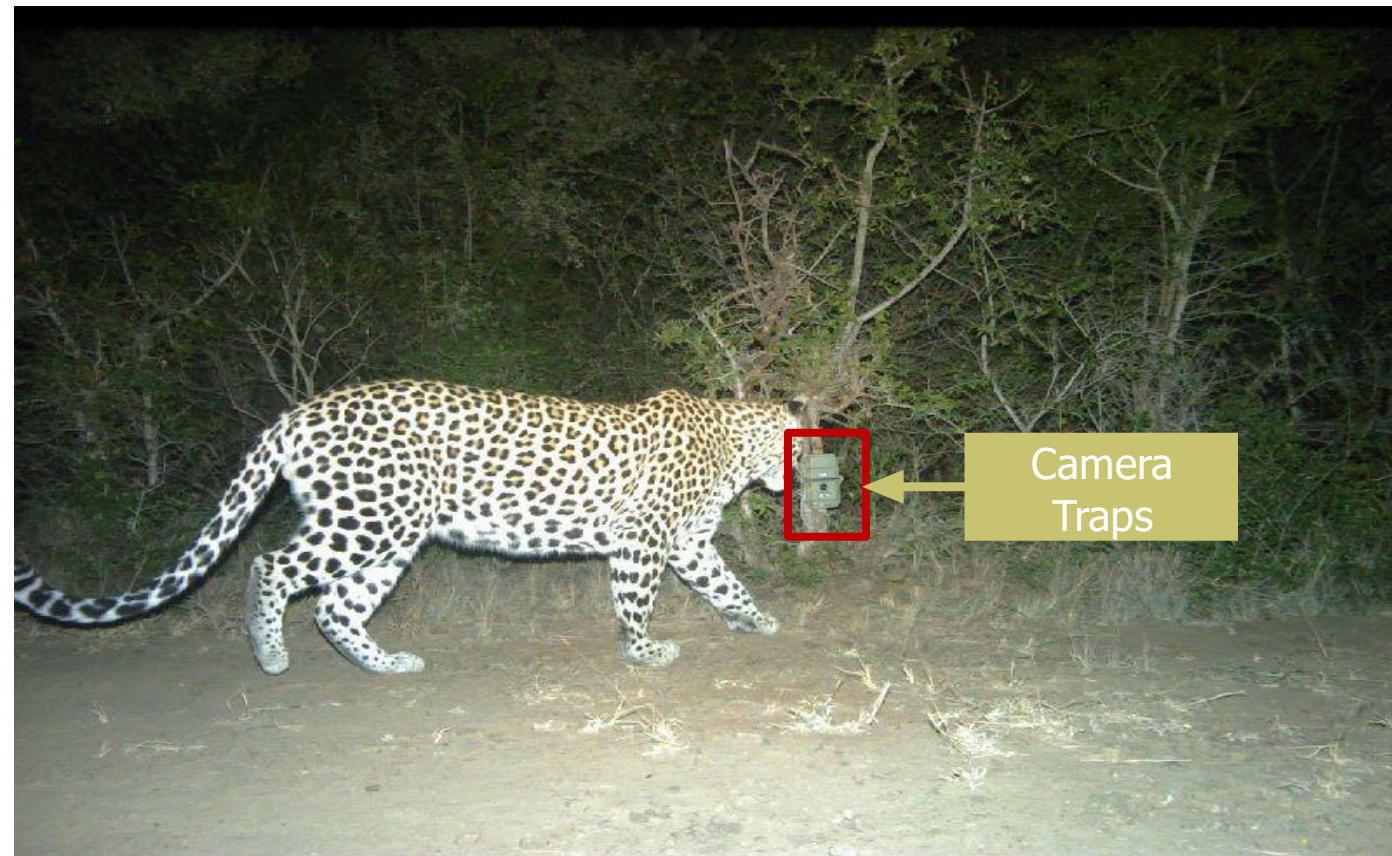
Colorado State University



05/22/2025

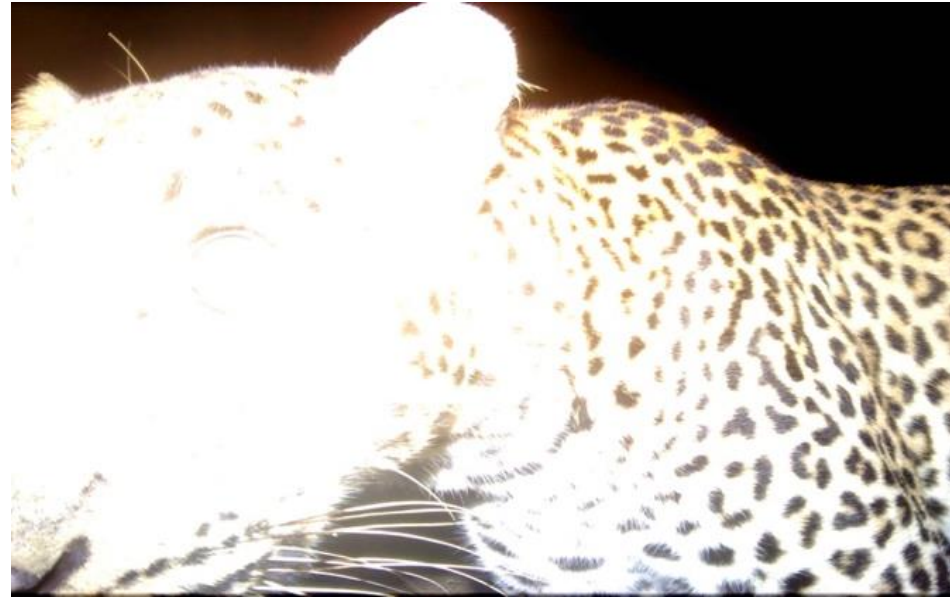


- Camera traps are automatically triggered by motion in their vicinities
  - Placing along trails that leopard probably visit frequently
  - Activated by moving animals, swaying vegetation, or sudden changes in weather

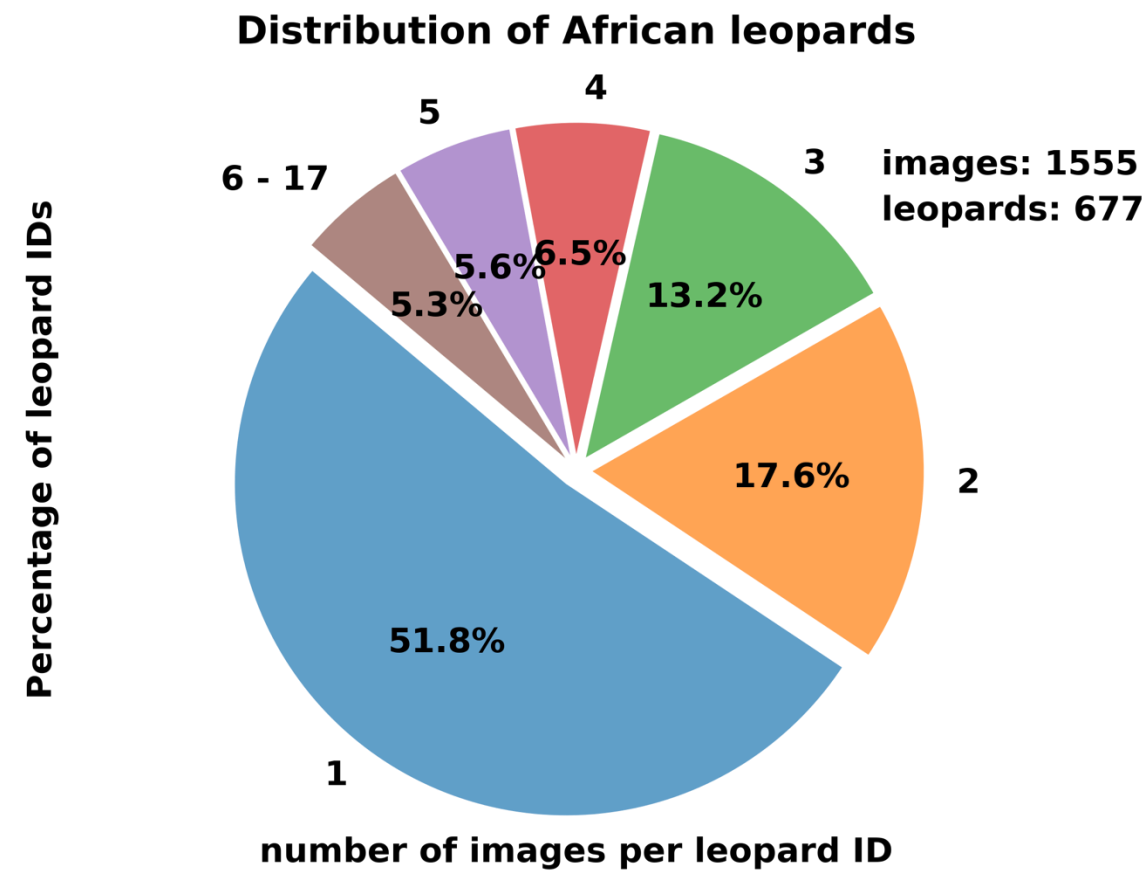


- Existing low-quality camera trap images

- Overexposure, noise, occlusion, and animals that are only partially visible



- A high individual-to-image ratio
- Only a single image for many leopards



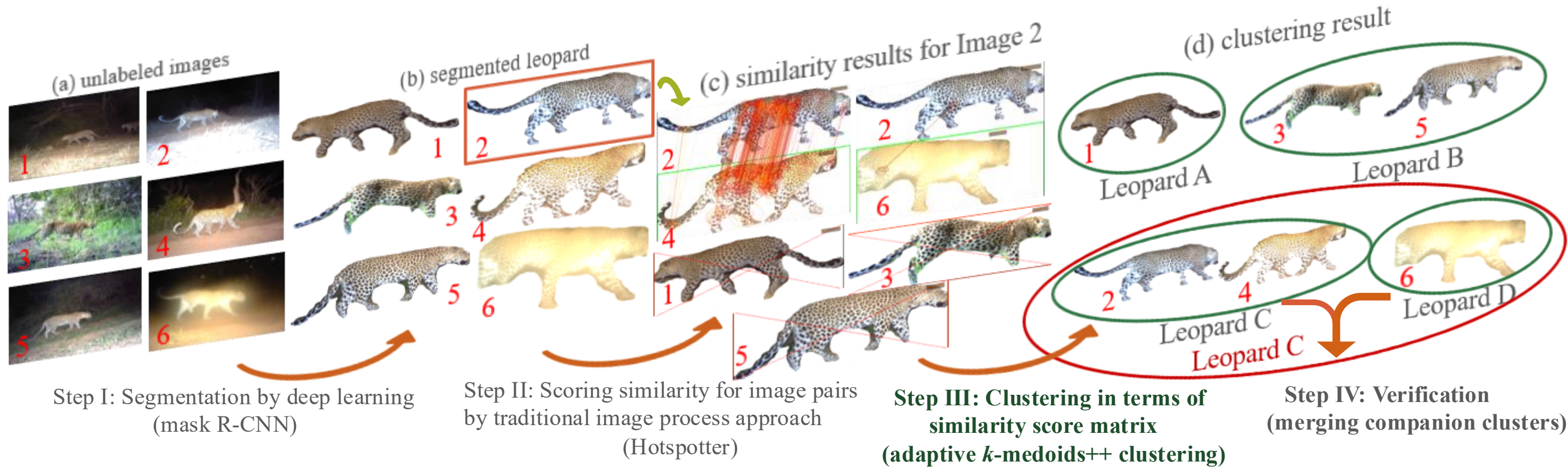


## Identify individual animals

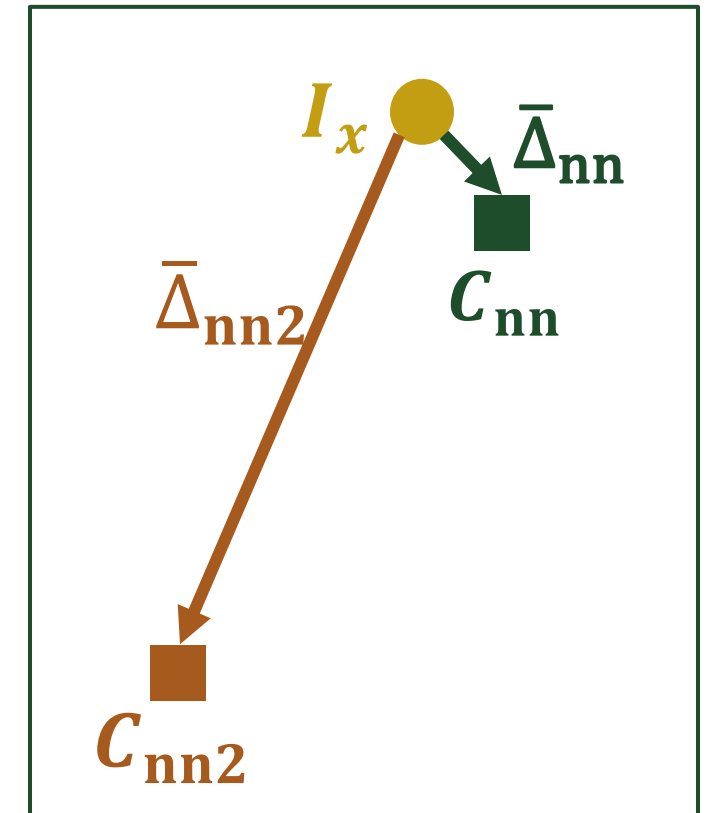
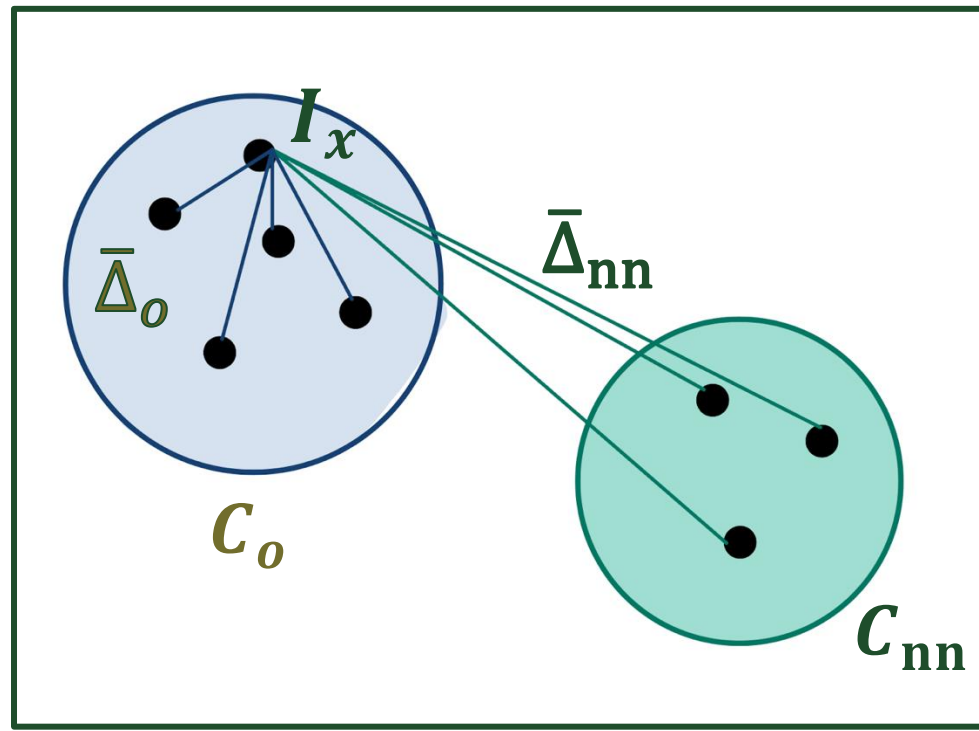
- Individual re-identification (closed set)
- New individual migrate to habitat (open-set)
- **Individual identification (read world)**
  - **Determine the unknown number of  $K$  individual animals in  $N$  unlabeled camera-trap images**
  - **Label each image with a specific leopard ID**



Effective technique for fully automated individual identification algorithm



- Expanded definition of the silhouette score of a single-item cluster
  - An internal measure to estimate how fit an image belongs to its own cluster





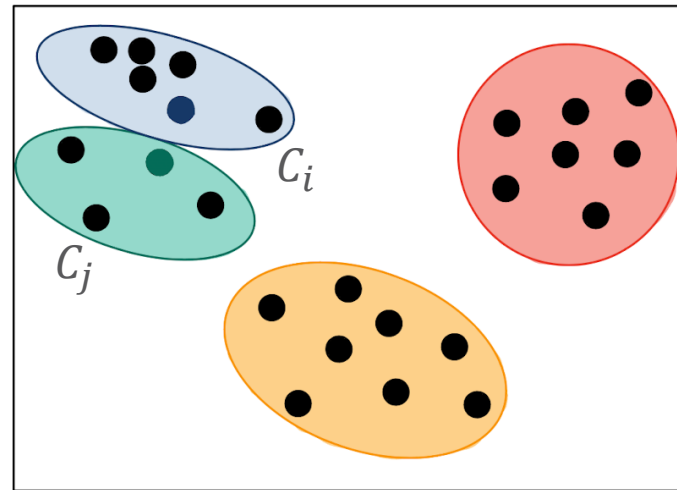
## ■ Novel adaptive $k$ -medoids++ clustering algorithm

- Repeat
  - Randomly select  $\{M_1, \dots, M_i, \dots, M_k\}$  using the probability distribution with weight factor
  - Execute traditional  $k$ -medoids++ clustering algorithm
  - Update  $s_x, \bar{s}$
  - Update the best  $\mathcal{C}^*$  with the highest  $\bar{s}^*$
  - Update  $w_x(j)$
- Until  $\bar{s}^*$  cannot be improved during several iterations

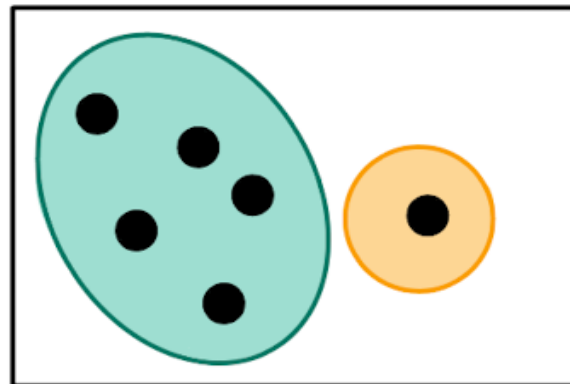
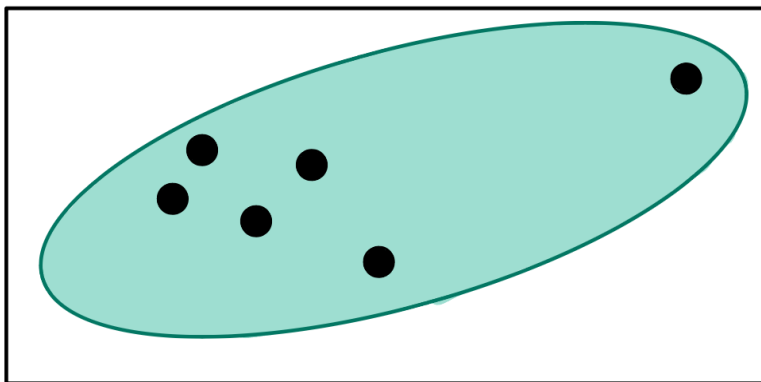


- New post-clustering verification procedure

- Potentially merge similar clusters

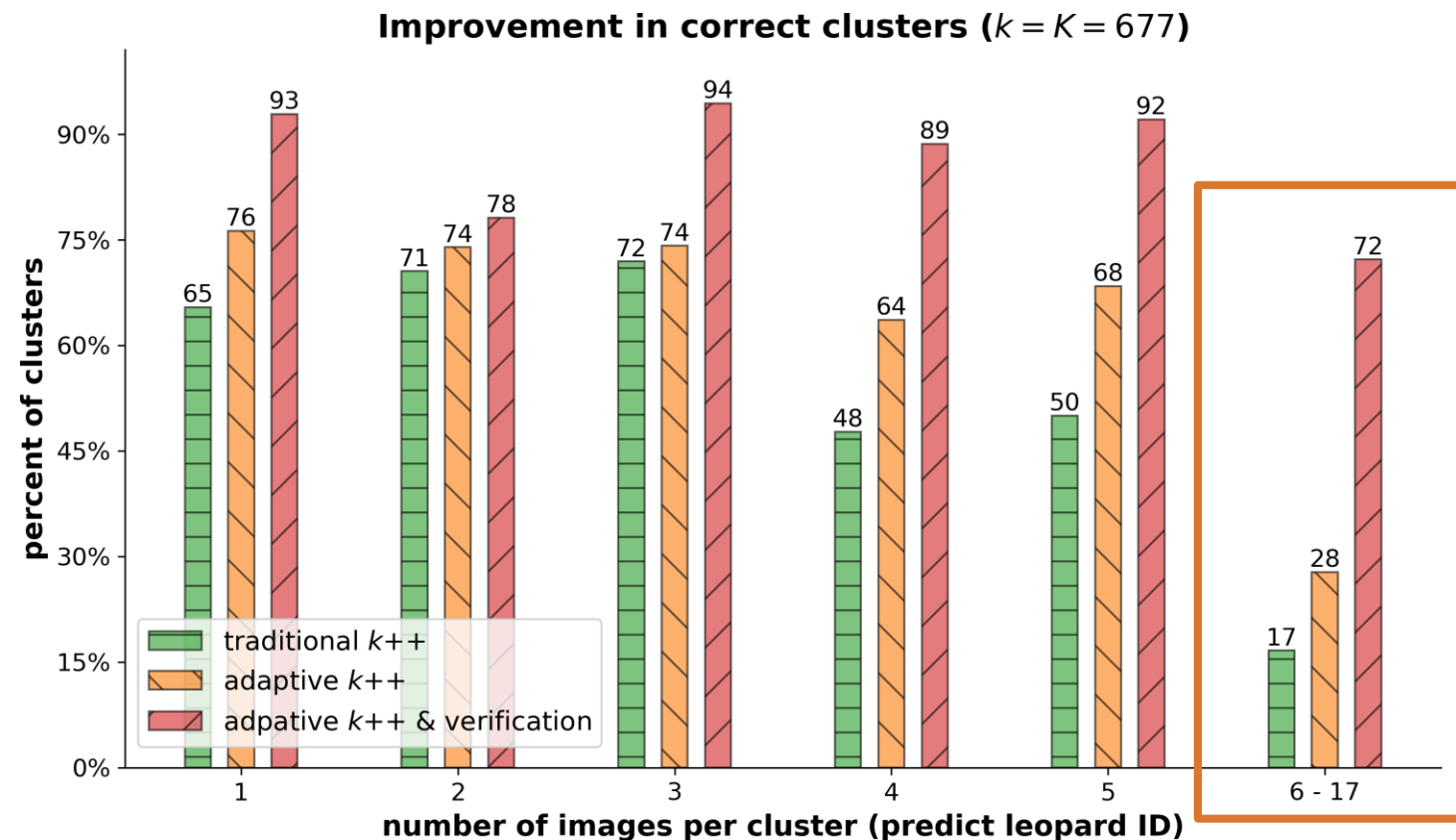


- Reassign cluster outlier images



Approach	accuracy	predicted k	correct (images)	partial correct	incorrect
baseline $k++$	0.864	793	554 (64.4%)	220 (30.6%)	19 (5.0%)
our adaptive $k++$	0.895	739	566 (70.3%)	145 (23.3%)	28 (6.4%)
<b>our adaptive <math>k++</math> &amp; verification</b>	<b>0.958</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>617 (83.8%)</b>	<b>91 (14.0%)</b>	<b>10 (2.2%)</b>

- correct cluster: consist of ALL the images of a single leopard and no other leopard images
- partial correct cluster: consist of SOME images from a single leopard and no other leopard images
- incorrect: NOT a correct partially correct cluster







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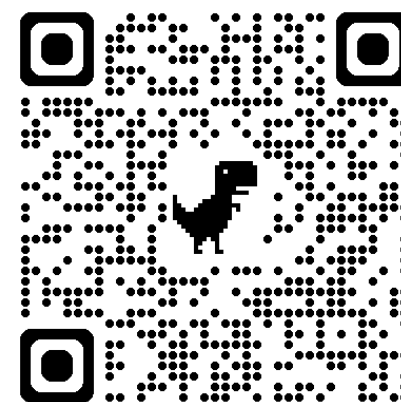


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# Thank you



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