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Finding people in natural scenes

Human observers are skilled at finding faces in natural scenes, but rather little is known about how we can achieve this. This is surprising as face detection is a prerequisite to any further face processing such as identification or expression analysis - tasks that have received a great deal of attention by psychologists. In this talk I will present a series of experiments investigating the nature of a human face detection "signature". These experiments focus on the impact of colour information, viewpoint, the role of the human body, and central viewing tendencies when observers try to locate another person's face within complex visual scenes.