CS 1674: Intro to Computer Vision

Visual Recognition

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University of Pittsburgh
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Plan for this lecture

- What is recognition?
  - a.k.a. classification, categorization

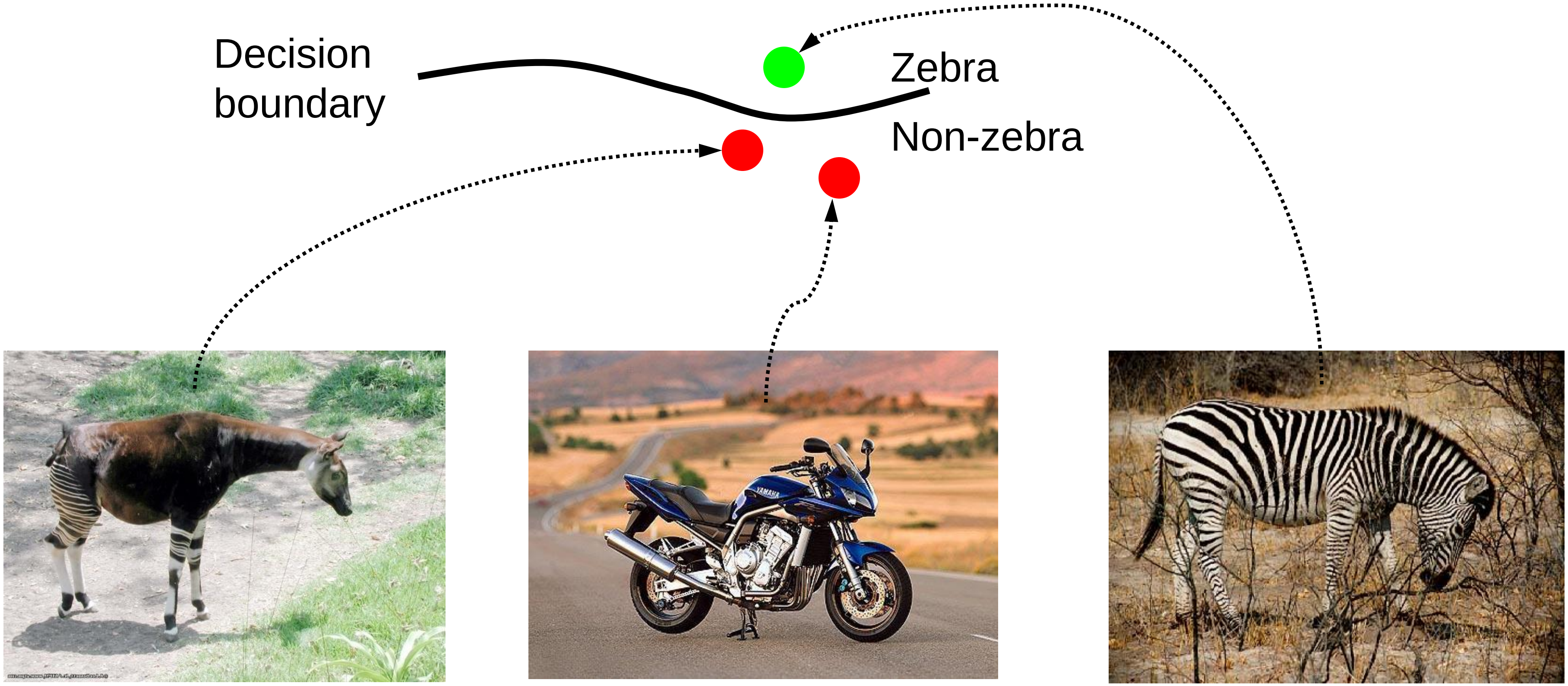
- Support vector machines
  - Separable case / non-separable case
  - Linear / non-linear (kernels)

- The importance of generalization
  - The bias-variance trade-off (applies to all classifiers)

- Example approach for scene classification

Classification

- Given a feature representation for images, how do we learn a model for distinguishing features from different classes?



Decision boundary

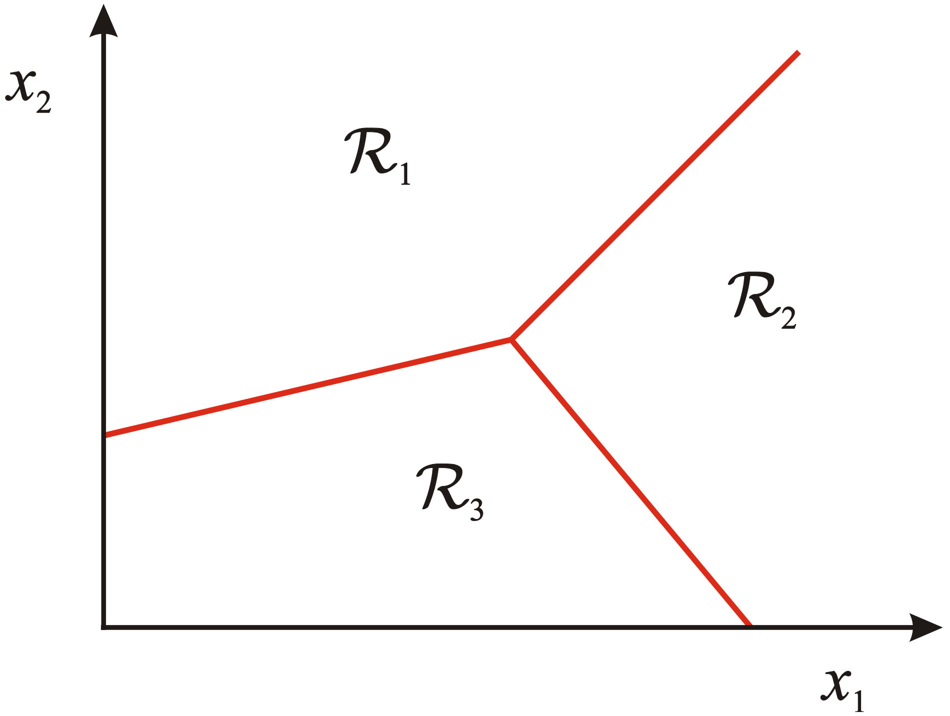
Zebra

Non-zebra

Slide credit: L. Lazebnik

Classification

- Assign input vector to one of two or more classes
- Input space divided into *decision regions* separated by *decision boundaries*



Slide credit: L. Lazebnik

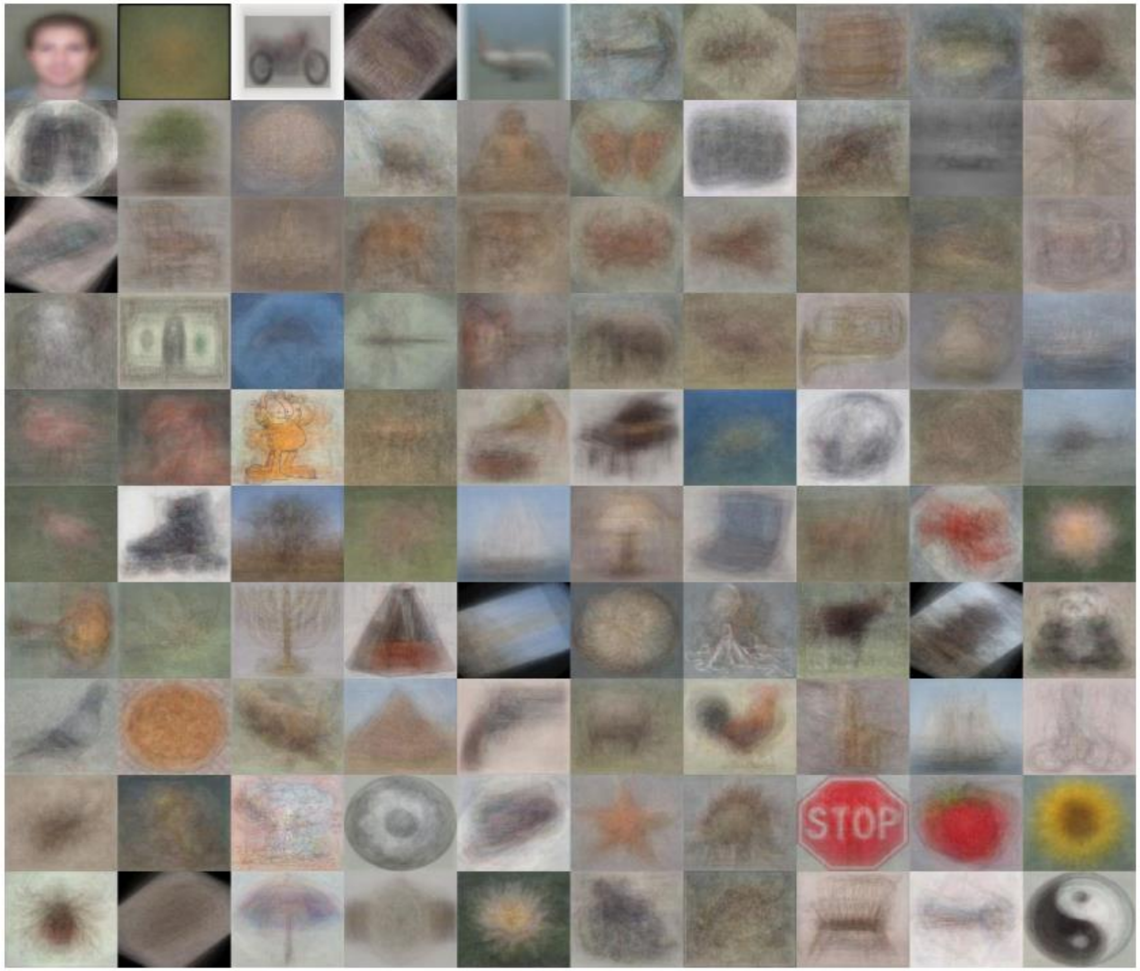
Examples of image classification

- Two-class (binary): Cat vs Dog

Adapted from D. Hoiem

Examples of image classification

- Multi-class (often): Object recognition

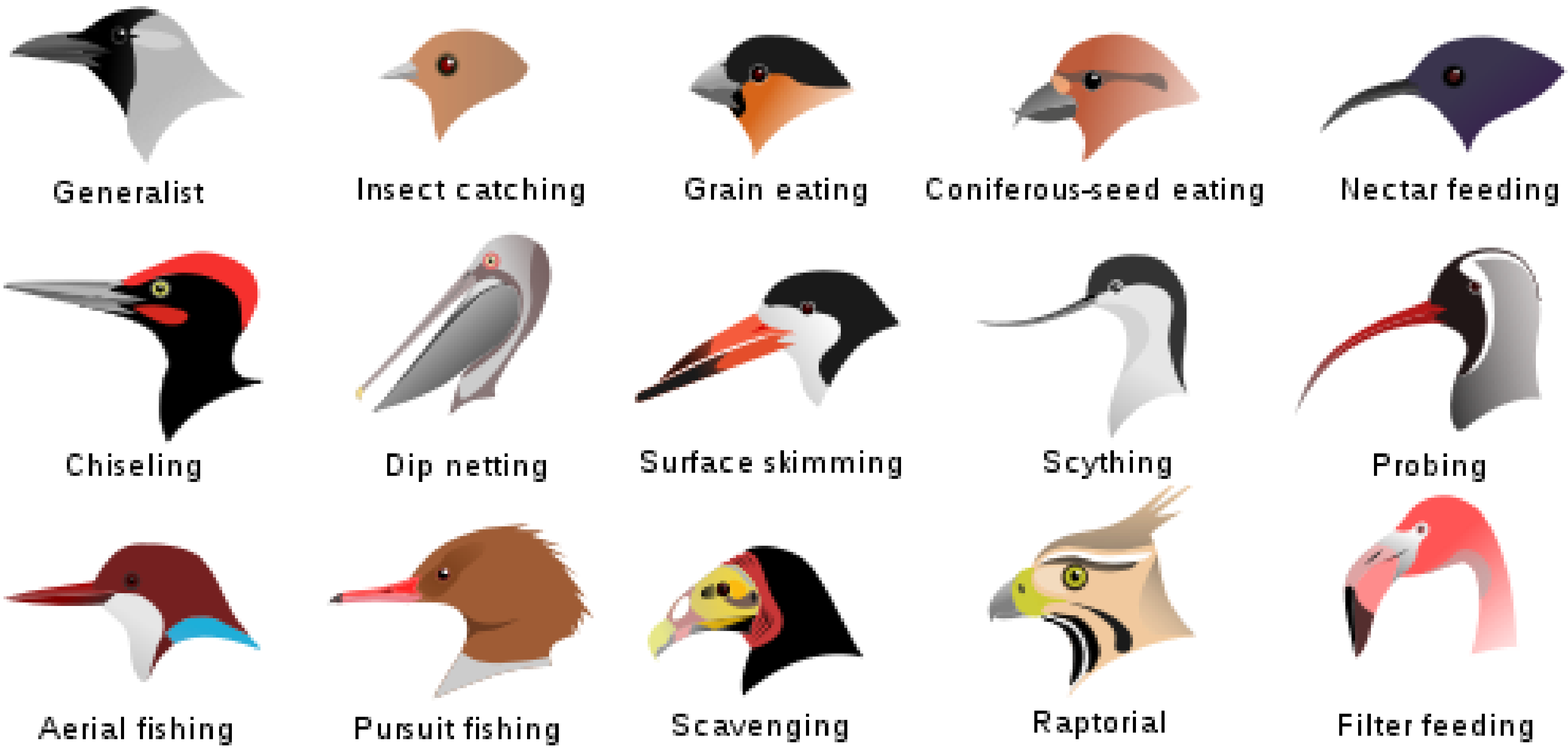


Caltech 101 Average Object Images

Adapted from D. Hoiem

Examples of image classification

- Fine-grained recognition



Visipedia Project

Slide credit: D. Hoiem

Examples of image classification

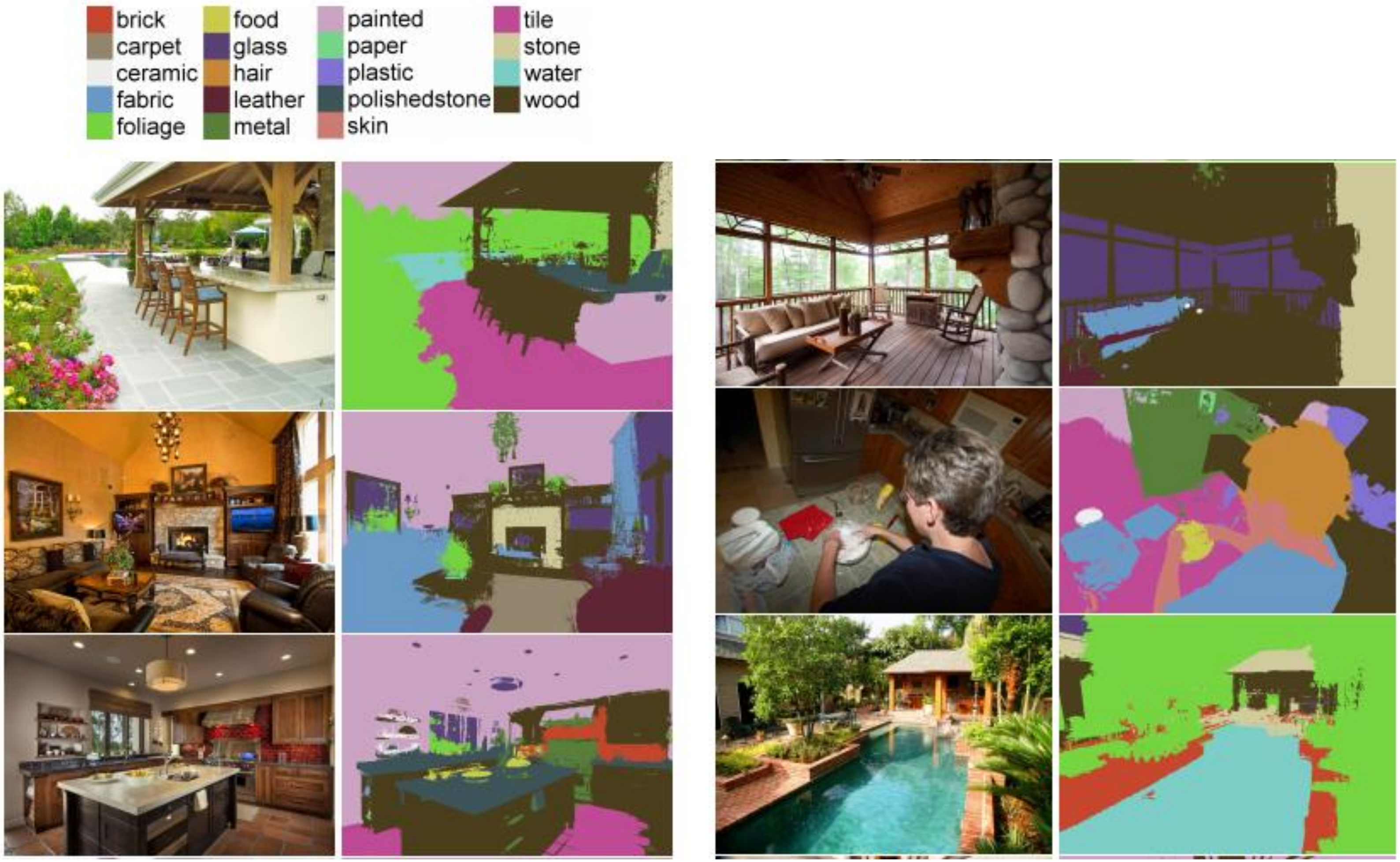
- Place recognition

Places Database [Zhou et al. NIPS 2014]

Slide credit: D. Hoiem

Examples of image classification

- Material recognition



[Bell et al. CVPR 2015]

Slide credit: D. Hoiem

Examples of image classification

- Dating historical photos

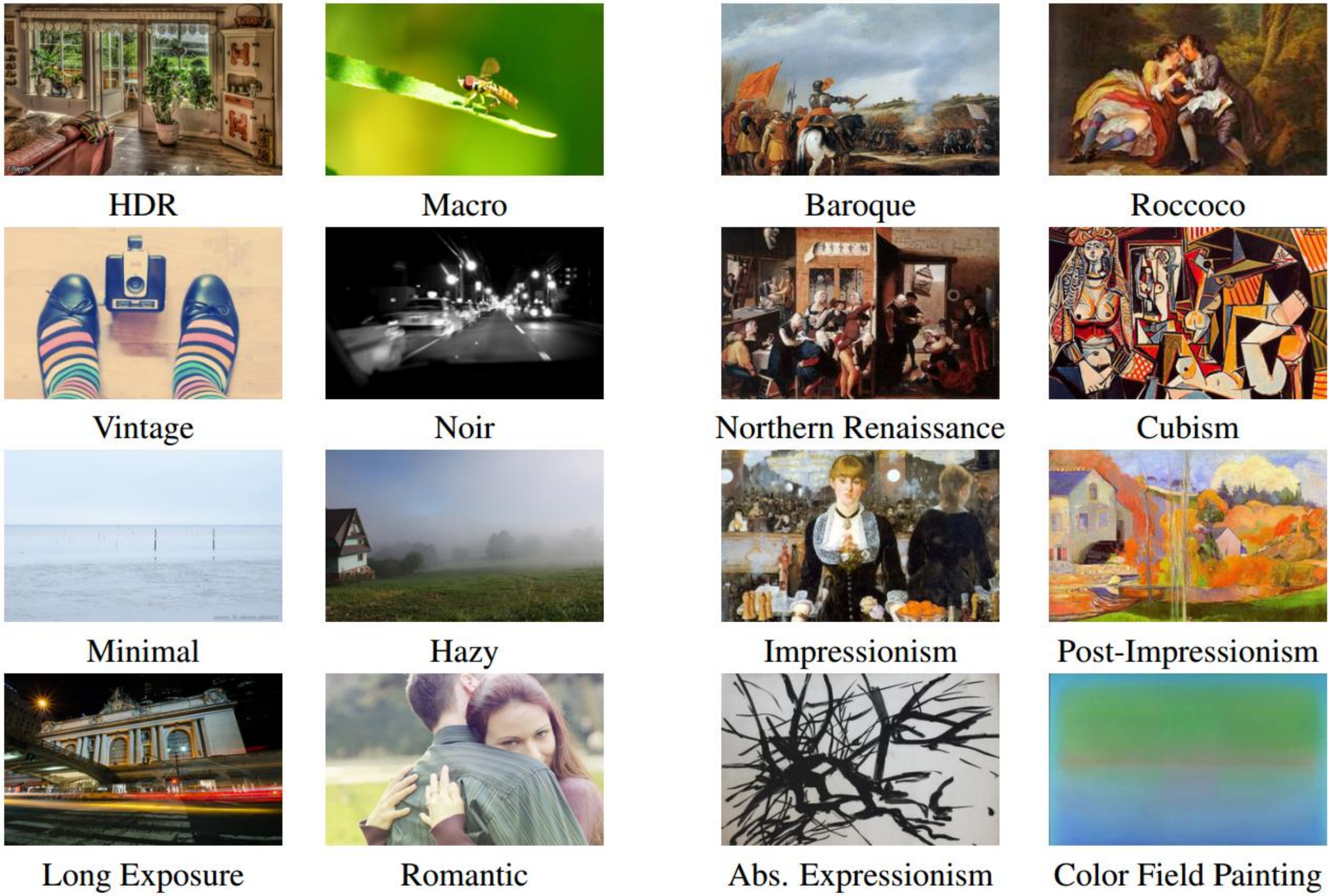
1940 1953 1966 1977

[Palermo et al. ECCV 2012]

Slide credit: D. Hoiem

Examples of image classification

- Image style recognition



Flickr Style: 80K images covering 20 styles.

Wikipaintings: 85K images for 25 art genres.

[Karayev et al. BMVC 2014]

Slide credit: D. Hoiem

Recognition: A machine learning approach

The machine learning framework

- Apply a prediction function to a feature representation of the image to get the desired output:

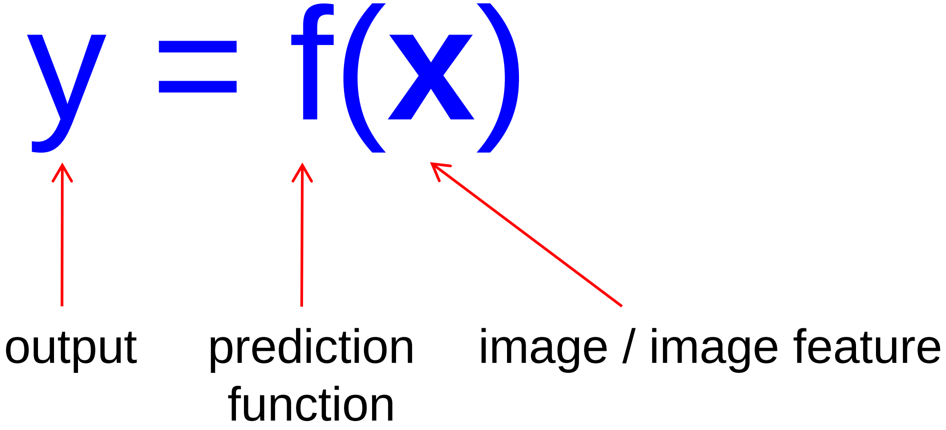
f() = “apple”

f() = “tomato”

f() = “cow”

Slide credit: L. Lazebnik

The machine learning framework



$$y = f(\mathbf{x})$$

output

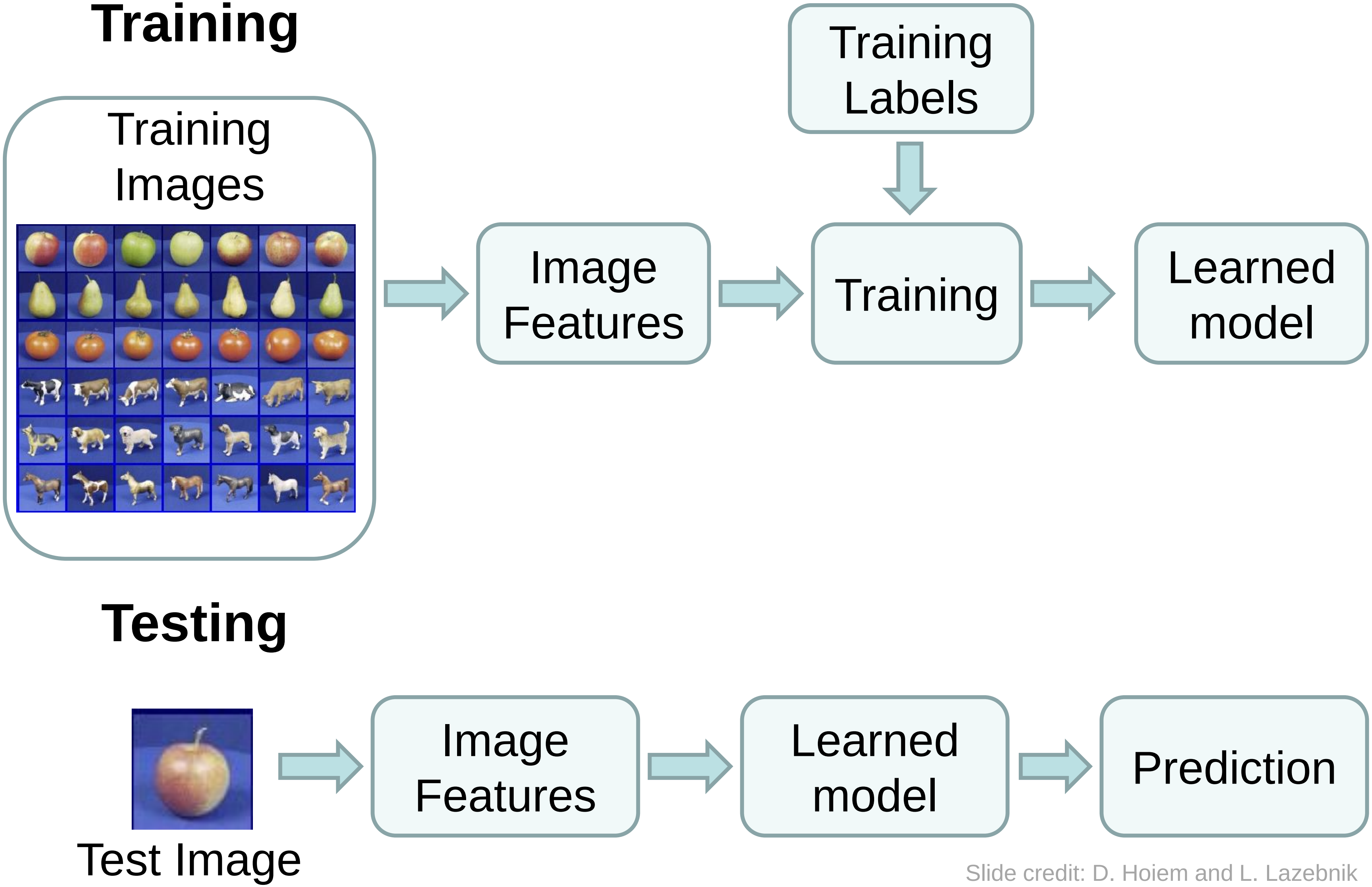
prediction function

image / image feature

- **Training:** given a *training set* of labeled examples $\{(\mathbf{x}_1,y_1), \ldots, (\mathbf{x}_N,y_N)\}$, estimate the prediction function f by minimizing the prediction error on the training set
- **Testing:** apply f to a never before seen *test example* $\mathbf{x}$ and output the predicted value $y = f(\mathbf{x})$

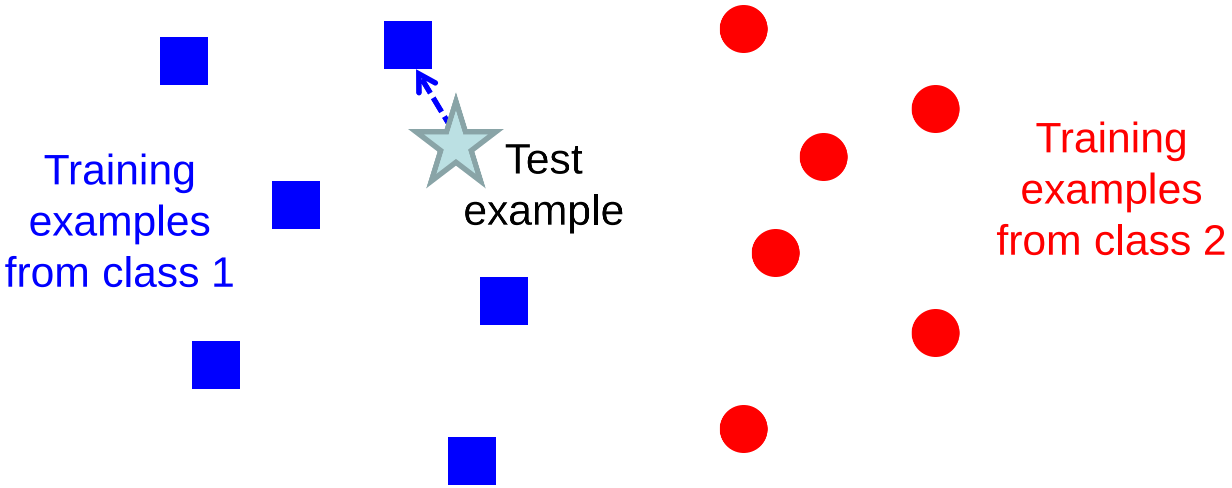
Slide credit: L. Lazebnik

The old-school way



Slide credit: D. Hoiem and L. Lazebnik

The simplest classifier



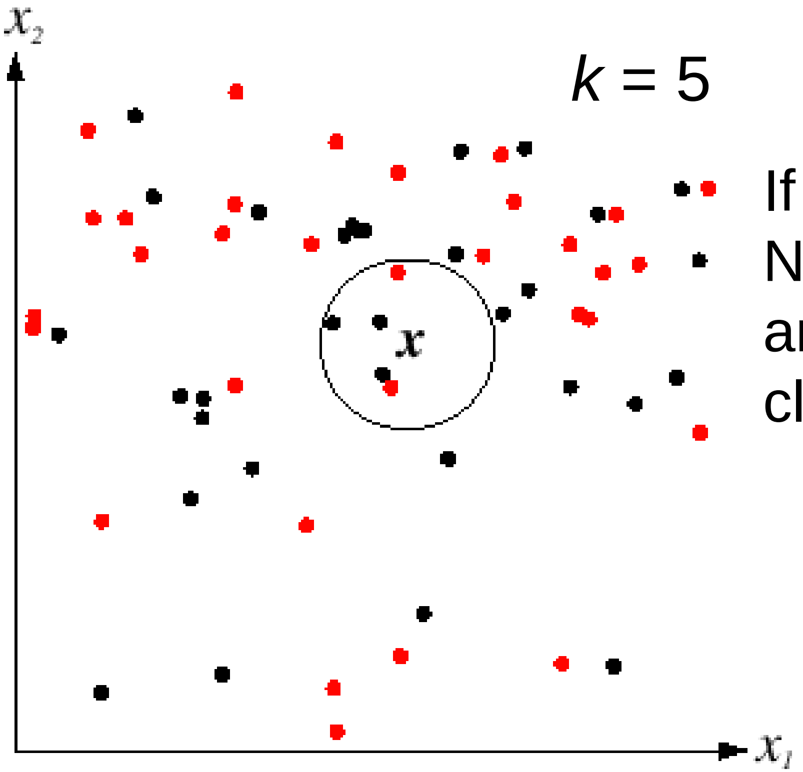
f(**x**) = label of the training example nearest to **x**

- All we need is a distance function for our inputs
- No training required!

Slide credit: L. Lazebnik

K-Nearest Neighbors classification

- For a new point, find the *k* closest points from training data
- Labels of the *k* points “vote” to classify



k = 5

Black = negative
Red = positive

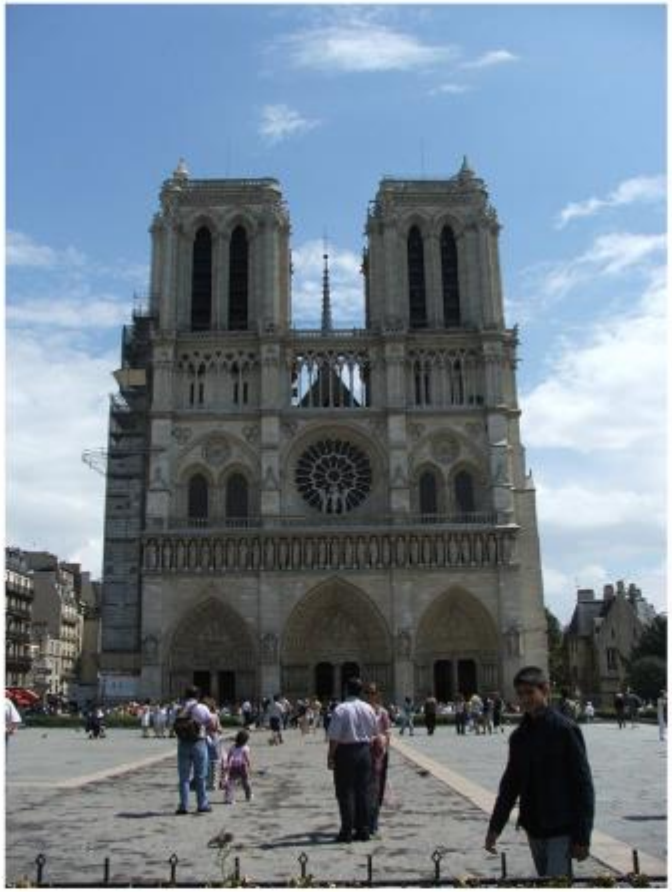
If query lands here, the 5 NN consist of 3 negatives and 2 positives, so we classify it as negative.

Slide credit: D. Lowe

im2gps: **Estimating Geographic Information from a Single Image**

James Hays and Alexei Efros, CVPR 2008

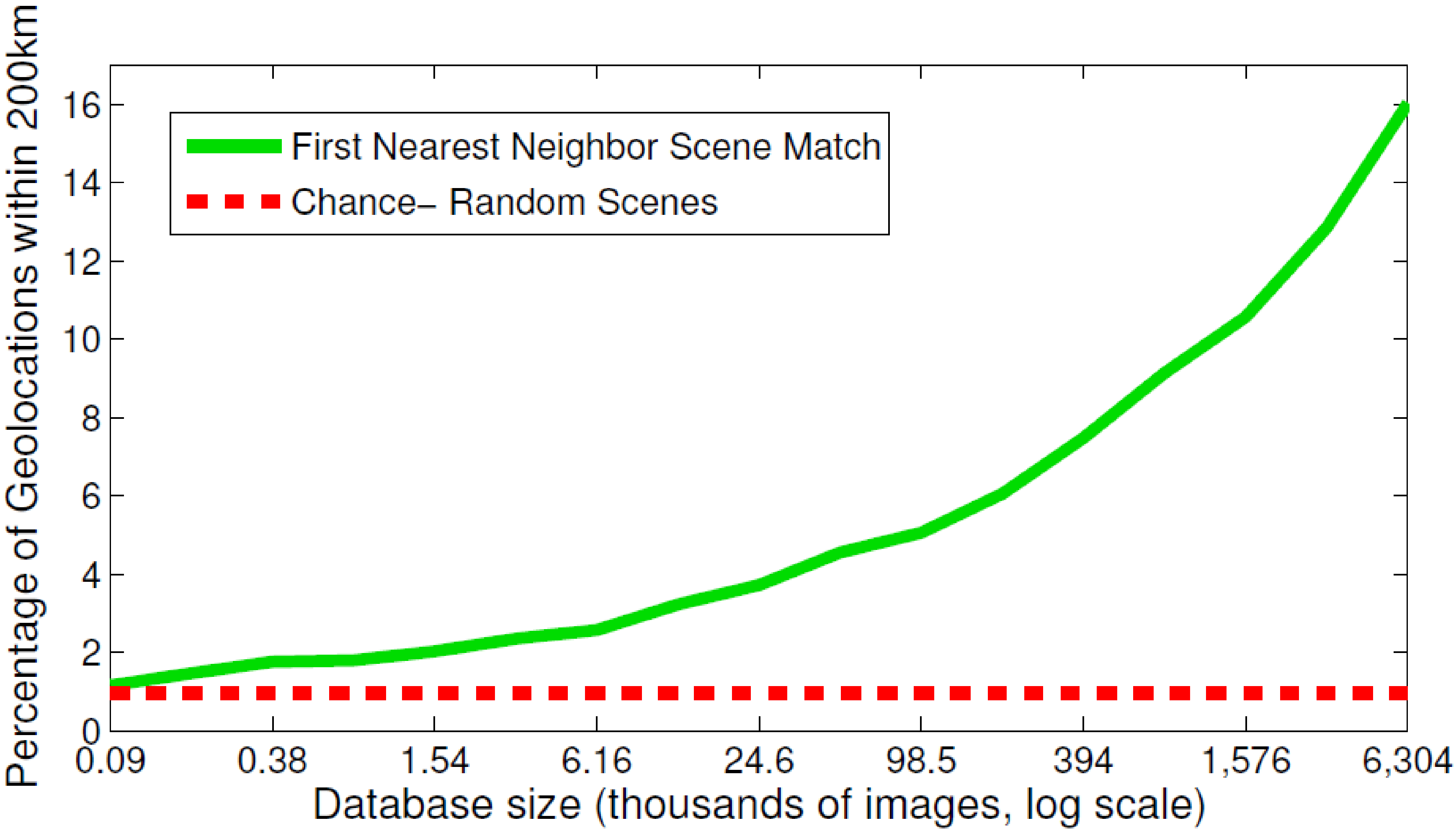
Where was this image taken?



Nearest Neighbors according to bag of SIFT + color histogram + a few others

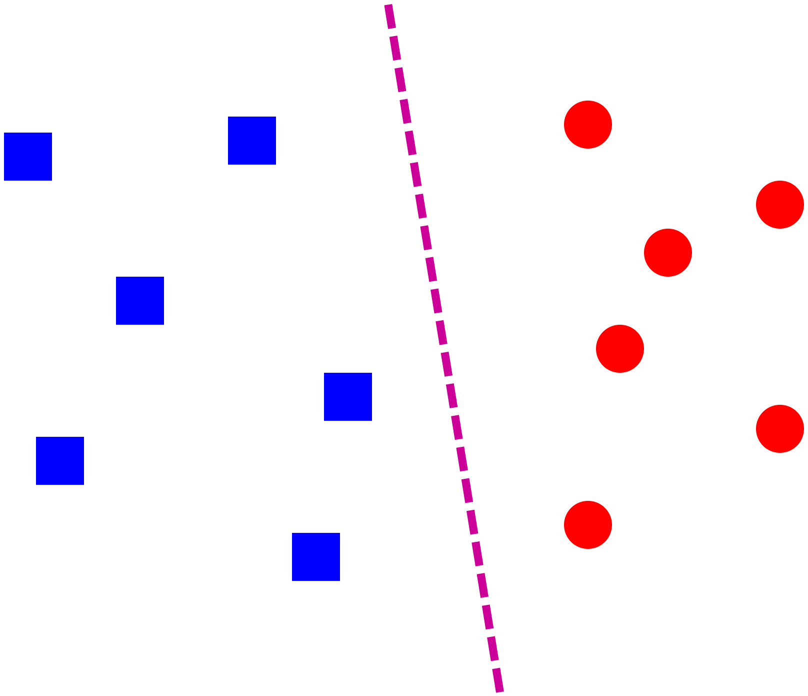
Slide credit: James Hays

The Importance of Data



Slides: James Hays

Linear classifier



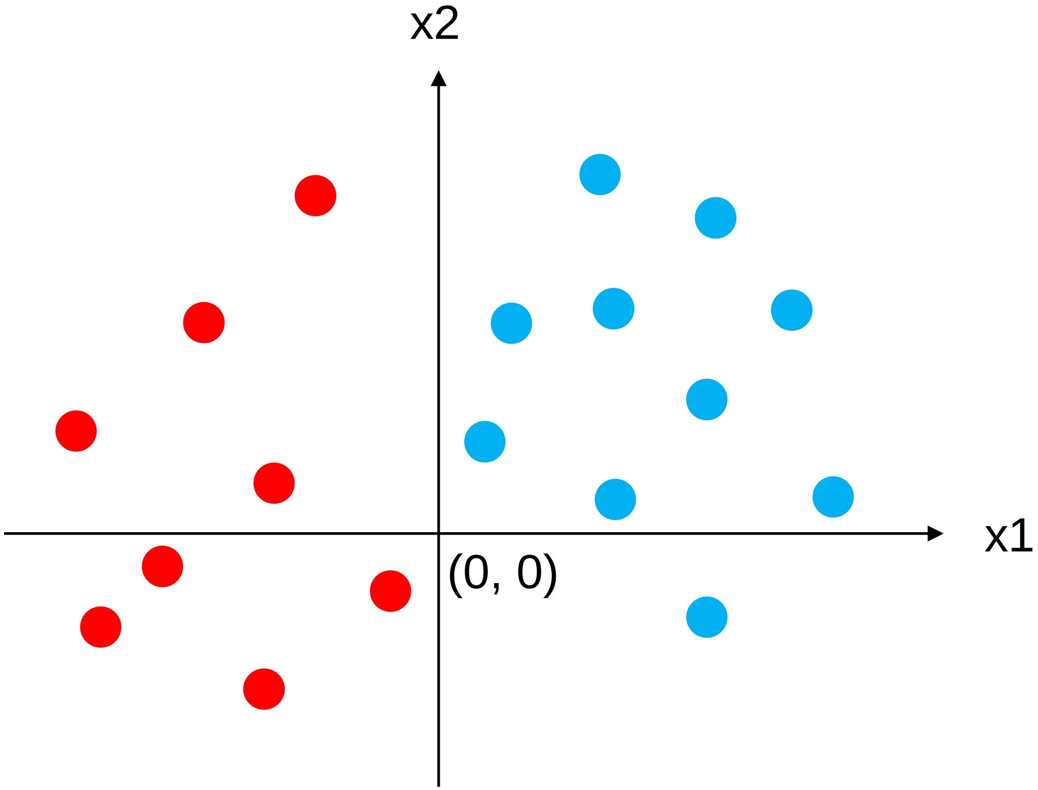
- Find a *linear function* to separate the classes

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathrm{sgn}(w_1x_1 + w_2x_2 + \ldots + w_Dx_D) = \mathrm{sgn}(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x})$$

Slide credit: L. Lazebnik

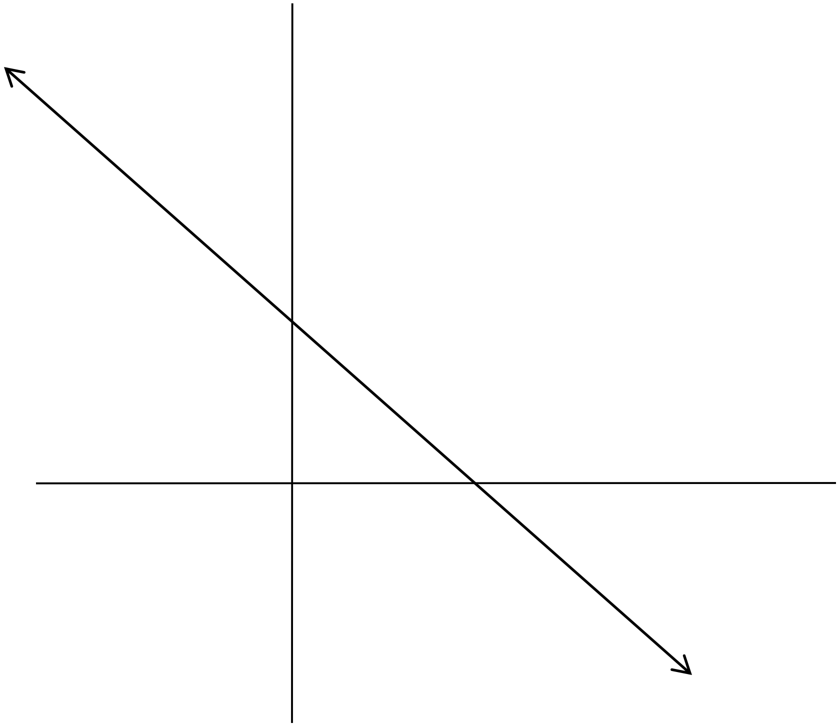
Linear classifier

- Decision = sign($w^T x$) = sign(w1*x1 + w2*x2)



- What should the weights be?

Lines in R^2

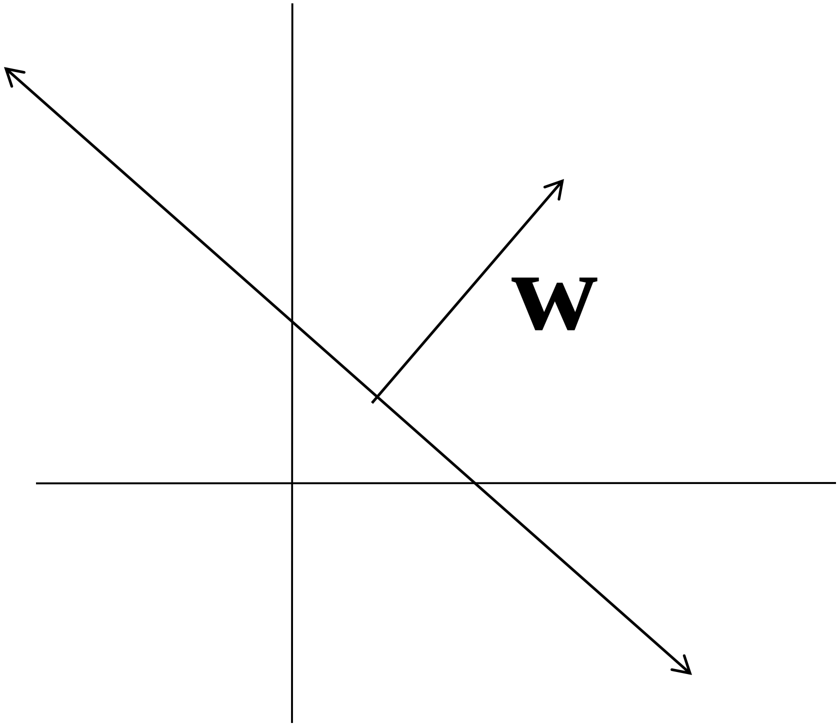


Let $\mathbf{w} = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ c \end{bmatrix}$ $\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$

$$ax + cy + b = 0$$

Kristen Grauman

Lines in R^2



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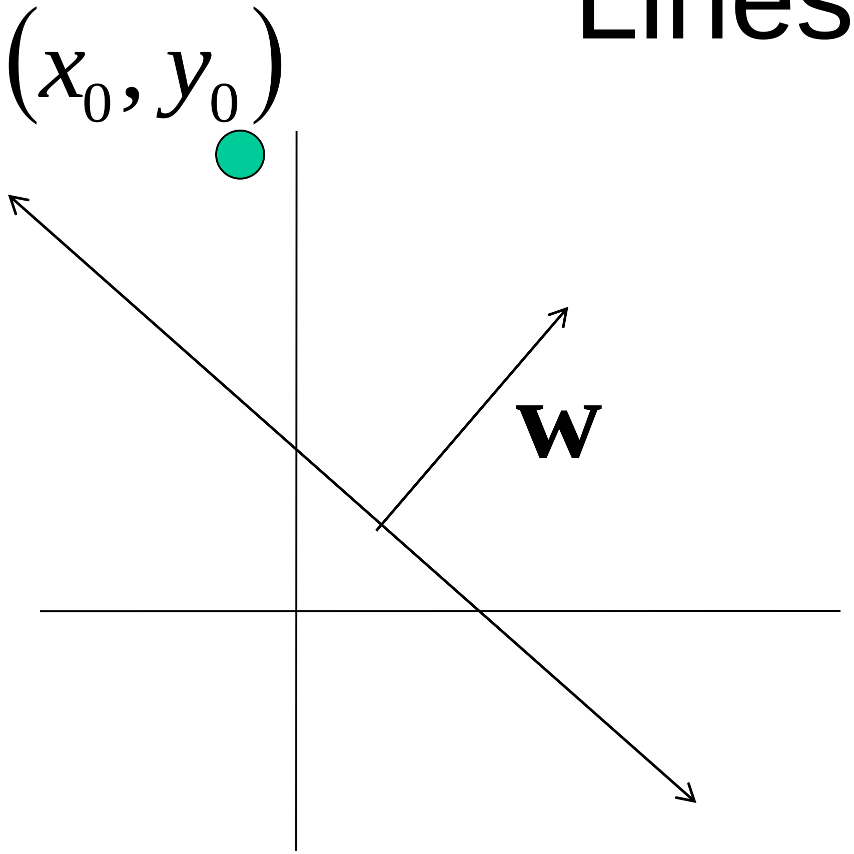
$$ax + cy + b = 0$$

$$\Updownarrow$$

$$\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} + b = 0$$

Kristen Grauman

Lines in R^2



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Kristen Grauman

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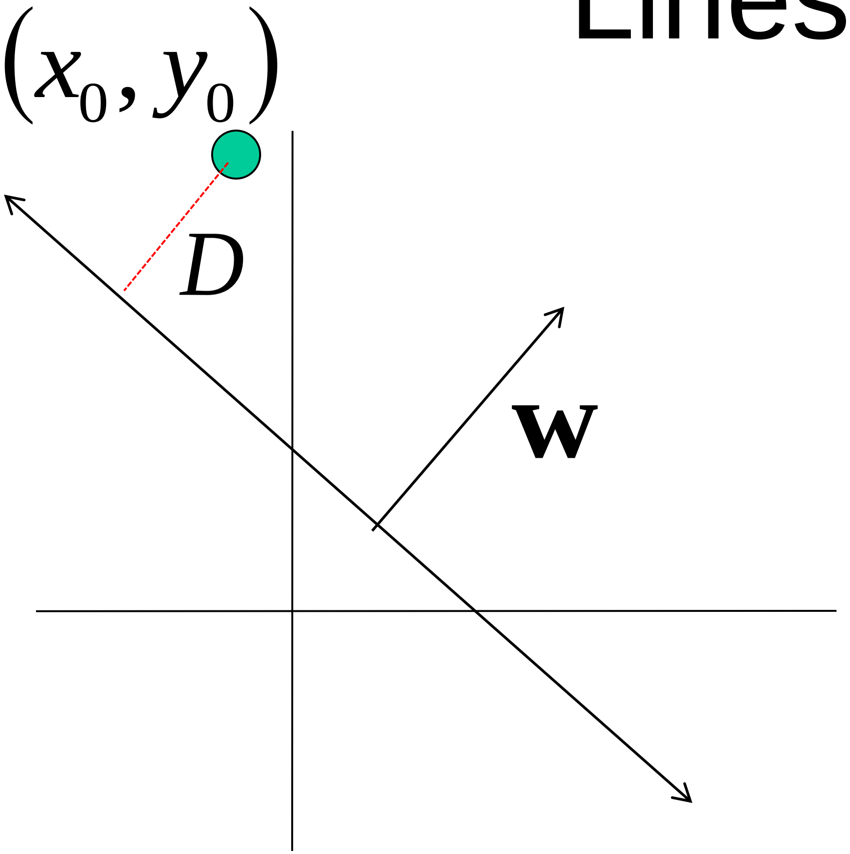

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$$ax + cy + b = 0$$

$$\Updownarrow$$

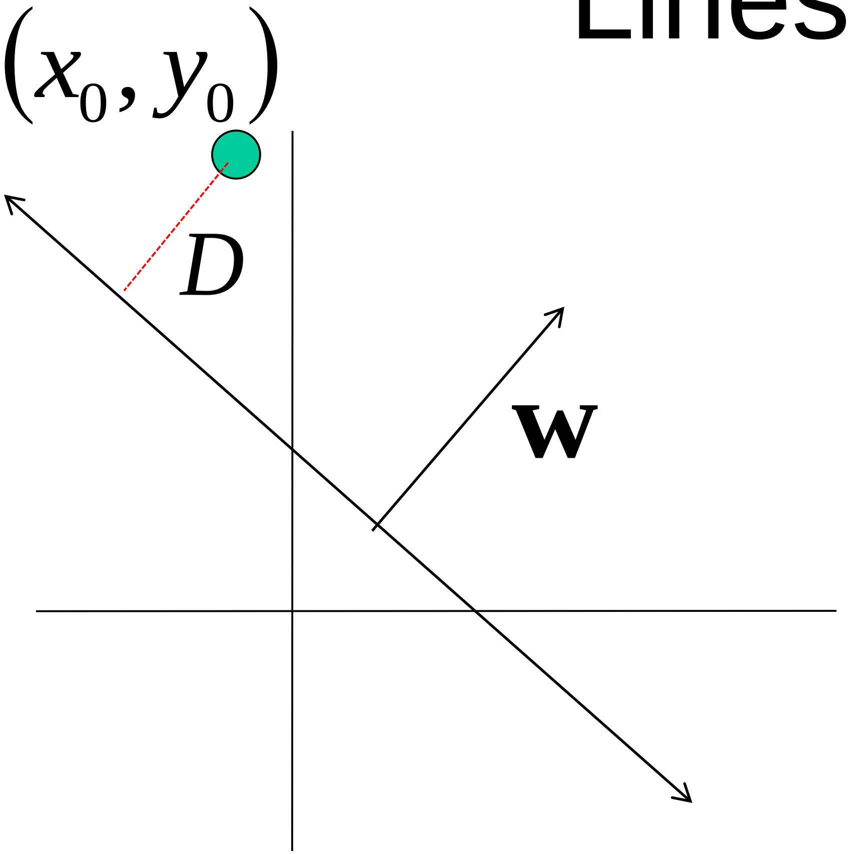
$$\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} + b = 0$$

$$D = \frac{\left| a x_0 + c y_0 + b \right|}{\sqrt{a^2 + c^2}}$$

distance from point to line

Kristen Grauman

Lines in R^2



Let $\mathbf{w} = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ c \end{bmatrix}$ $\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$

$$ax + cy + b = 0$$

$$\Updownarrow$$

$$\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} + b = 0$$

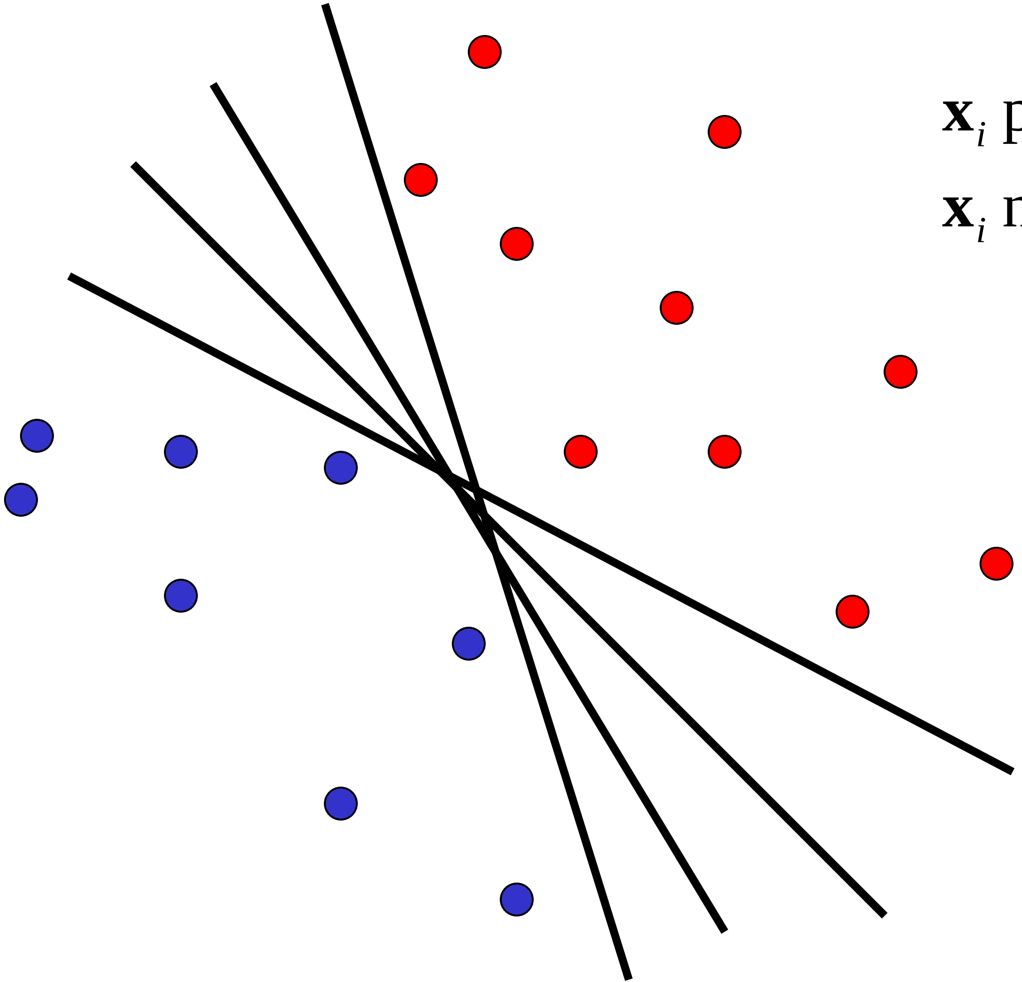
$$\left. D = \frac{|ax_0 + cy_0 + b|}{\sqrt{a^2 + c^2}} = \frac{|\mathbf{w}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{x} + b|}{\|\mathbf{w}\|} \right\}$$

distance from point to line

Kristen Grauman

Linear classifiers

- Find linear function to separate positive and negative examples



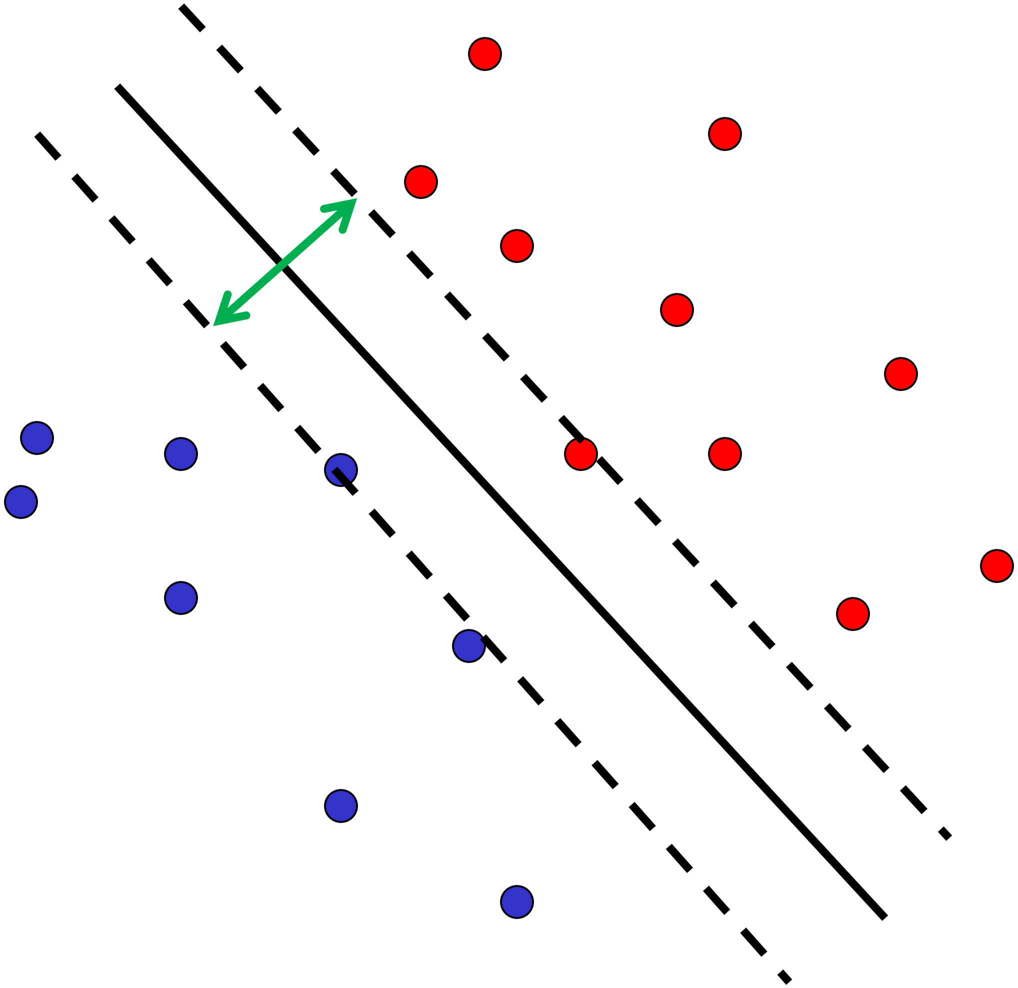
$$\mathbf{x}_i \text{ positive}: \quad \mathbf{x}_i \cdot \mathbf{w} + b \geq 0$$

$$\mathbf{x}_i \text{ negative}: \quad \mathbf{x}_i \cdot \mathbf{w} + b < 0$$

Which line
is best?

C. Burges, A Tutorial on Support Vector Machines for Pattern Recognition, Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery, 1998

Support vector machines

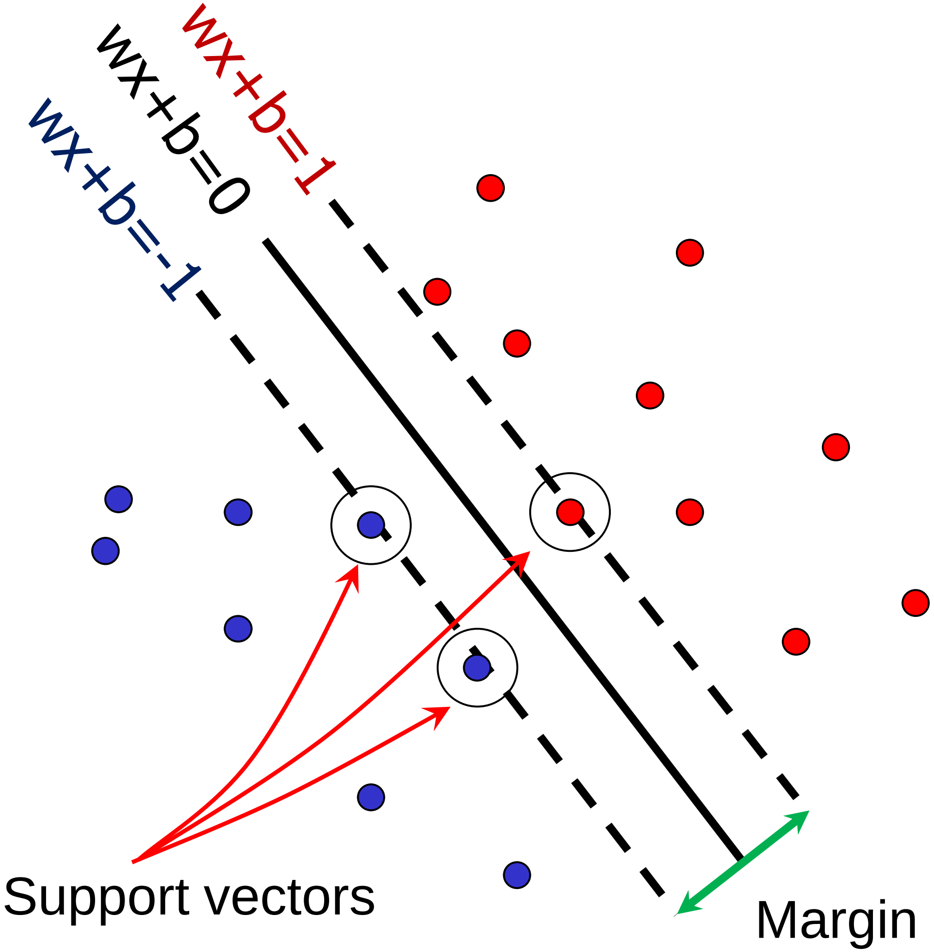


- Discriminative classifier based on *optimal separating line (for 2d case)*
- Maximize the *margin* between the positive and negative training examples

C. Burges, [A Tutorial on Support Vector Machines for Pattern Recognition](), Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery, 1998

Support vector machines

- Want line that maximizes the margin.



$\mathbf{x}_i$ positive $(y_i = 1)$: $\quad \mathbf{x}_i \cdot \mathbf{w} + b \geq 1$

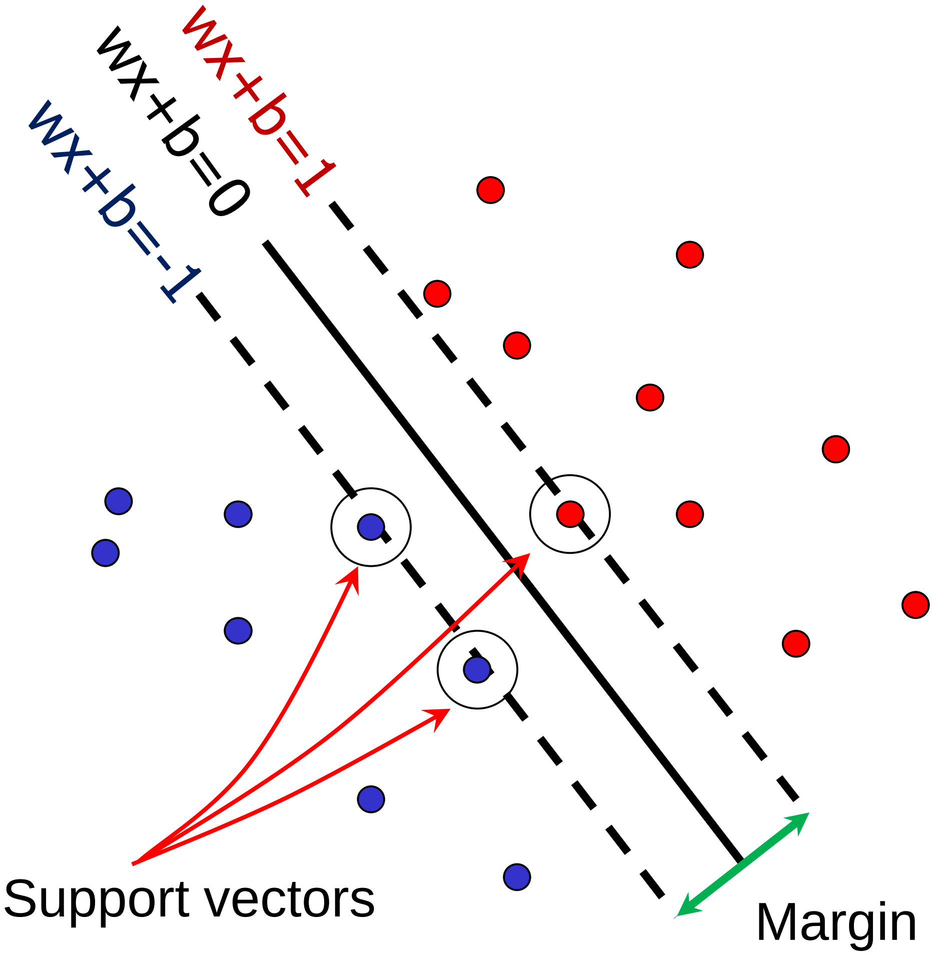
$\mathbf{x}_i$ negative $(y_i = -1)$: $\quad \mathbf{x}_i \cdot \mathbf{w} + b \leq -1$

For support, vectors, $\quad \mathbf{x}_i \cdot \mathbf{w} + b = \pm 1$

C. Burges, A Tutorial on Support Vector Machines for Pattern Recognition, Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery, 1998

Support vector machines

- Want line that maximizes the margin.



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For support, vectors, $\quad \mathbf{x}_i \cdot \mathbf{w} + b = \pm 1$

Distance between point and line: $\quad \dfrac{|\mathbf{x}_i \cdot \mathbf{w} + b|}{\|\mathbf{w}\|}$

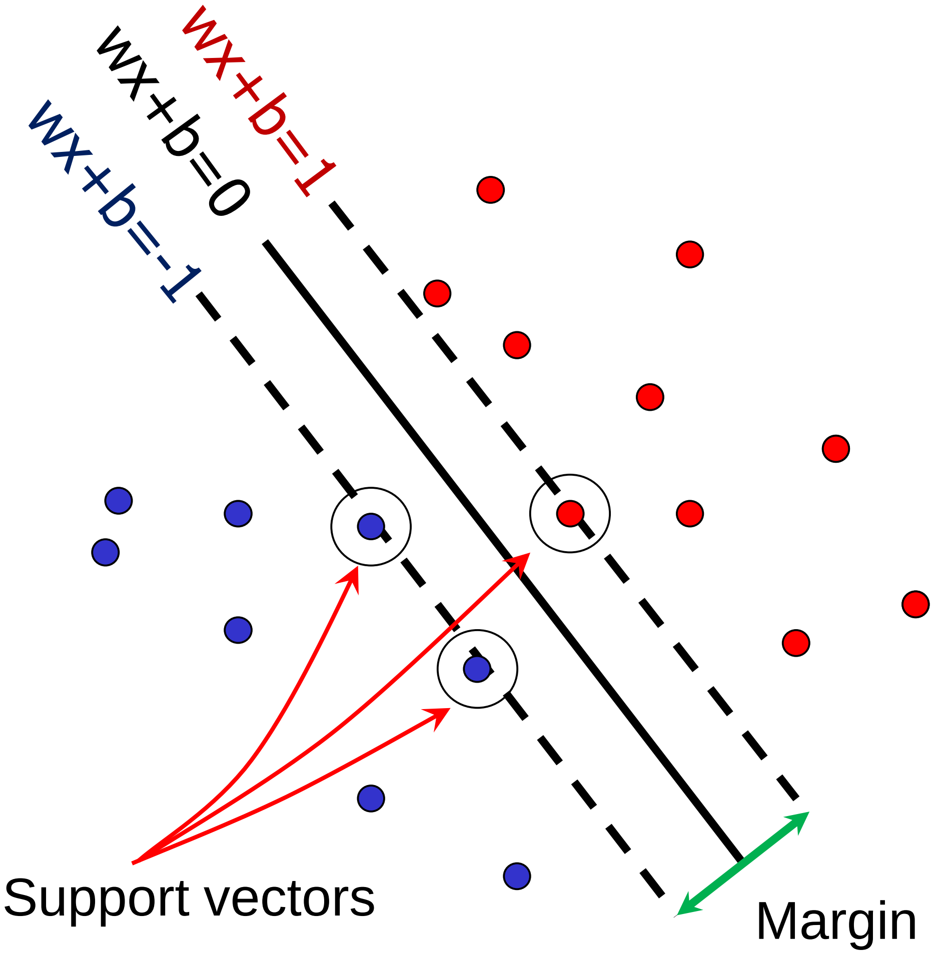
For support vectors:

$$\frac{\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + b}{\|\mathbf{w}\|} = \frac{\pm 1}{\|\mathbf{w}\|} \qquad M = \left| \frac{1}{\|\mathbf{w}\|} - \frac{-1}{\|\mathbf{w}\|} \right| = \frac{2}{\|\mathbf{w}\|}$$

C. Burges, A Tutorial on Support Vector Machines for Pattern Recognition, Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery, 1998

Support vector machines

- Want line that maximizes the margin.



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For support, vectors, $\quad \mathbf{x}_i \cdot \mathbf{w} + b = \pm 1$

Distance between point and line: $\quad \frac{|\mathbf{x}_i \cdot \mathbf{w} + b|}{||\mathbf{w}||}$

Therefore, the margin is $2 \,/\, ||\mathbf{w}||$

C. Burges, A Tutorial on Support Vector Machines for Pattern Recognition, Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery, 1998

Finding the maximum margin line

1. Maximize margin $2/||\mathbf{w}||$
2. Correctly classify all training data points:

$$\mathbf{x}_i \text{ positive } (y_i = 1): \qquad \mathbf{x}_i \cdot \mathbf{w} + b \geq 1$$

$$\mathbf{x}_i \text{ negative } (y_i = -1): \quad \mathbf{x}_i \cdot \mathbf{w} + b \leq -1$$

Quadratic optimization problem:

Minimize $\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{w}^T\mathbf{w}$

Subject to $y_i(\mathbf{w}\cdot\mathbf{x}_i+b) \geq 1$

One constraint for each training point.

Note sign trick.

C. Burges, A Tutorial on Support Vector Machines for Pattern Recognition, Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery, 1998

Finding the maximum margin line

- Solution: $\mathbf{w} = \sum_i \alpha_i y_i \mathbf{x}_i$

Learned weight

Support vector

C. Burges, A Tutorial on Support Vector Machines for Pattern Recognition, Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery, 1998

Finding the maximum margin line

- Solution: $\mathbf{w} = \sum_i \alpha_i y_i \mathbf{x}_i$

  $b = y_i - \mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_i$ (for any support vector)

- Classification function:

$$f(x) = \text{sign}\ (\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} + \text{b})$$

$$= \text{sign}\left(\sum_{\text{i}} \alpha_{\text{i}} y_i \boxed{\mathbf{x}_i \cdot \mathbf{x}} + b\right)$$

If f(x) < 0, classify as negative, otherwise classify as positive.

- Notice that it relies on an *inner product* between the test point ***x*** and the support vectors $\boldsymbol{x}_i$
- (Solving the optimization problem also involves computing the inner products $\boldsymbol{x}_i \cdot \boldsymbol{x}_j$ between all pairs of training points)

C. Burges, A Tutorial on Support Vector Machines for Pattern Recognition, Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery, 1998

Inner product

- The decision boundary for the SVM and its optimization depend on the inner product of two data points (vectors):

$$\boxed{\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_j}$$

$$f(x) = \text{sign}\ (\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} + \text{b})$$
$$= \text{sign}\left(\sum_{\text{i}} \alpha_{\text{i}} y_i \boxed{\mathbf{x}_i \cdot \mathbf{x}} + b\right)$$

- The inner product is equal

$$(\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}) = \|\mathbf{x}_i\| * \|\mathbf{x}_i\| \cos\ \theta$$

If the angle in between them is 0 then: $(\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}) = \|\mathbf{x}_i\| * \|\mathbf{x}_i\|$

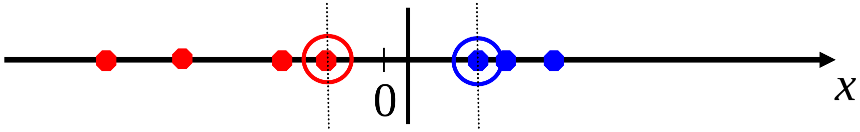
If the angle between them is 90 then: $(\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}) = 0$

The inner product measures how similar the two vectors are

Adapted from Milos Hauskrecht

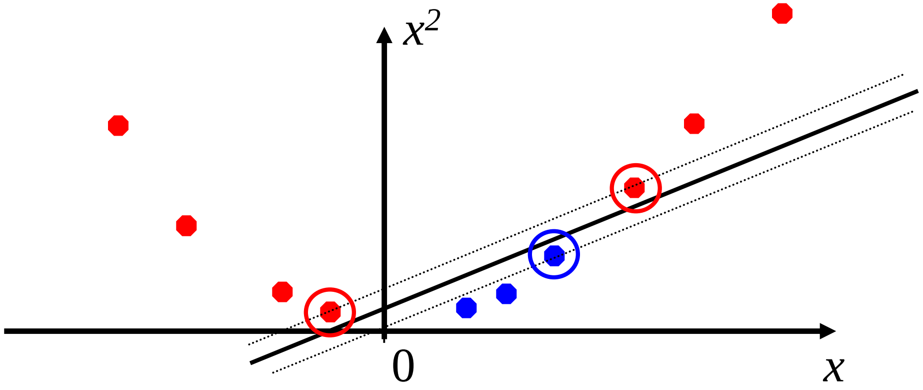
Nonlinear SVMs

- Datasets that are linearly separable work out great:



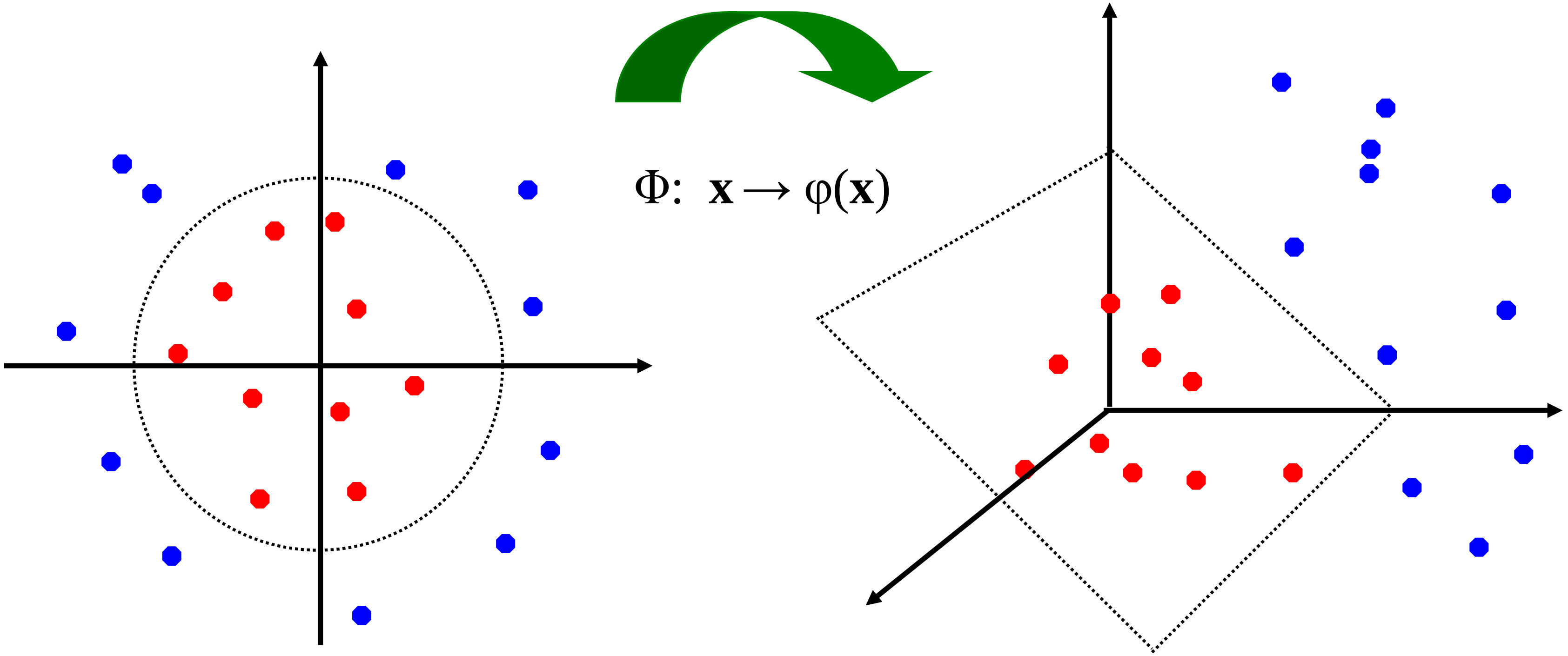
- But what if the dataset is just too hard?

- We can map it to a higher-dimensional space:



Nonlinear SVMs

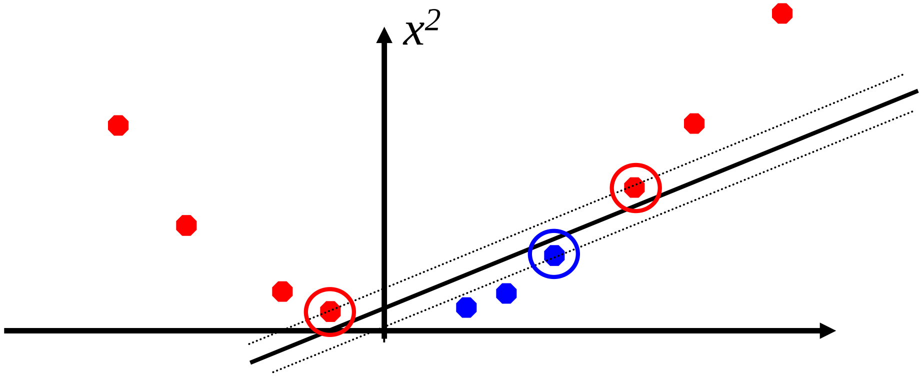
- General idea: the original input space can always be mapped to some higher-dimensional feature space where the training set is separable:



$\Phi:\ \mathbf{x} \rightarrow \varphi(\mathbf{x})$

Nonlinear kernel: Example

- Consider the mapping $\varphi(x) = (x, x^2)$



$$\varphi(x) \cdot \varphi(y) = (x, x^2) \cdot (y, y^2) = xy + x^2 y^2$$

$$K(x, y) = xy + x^2 y^2$$

Svetlana Lazebnik

The "Kernel Trick"

- The linear classifier relies on dot product between vectors $K(\mathbf{x}_i,\mathbf{x}_j) = \mathbf{x}_i \cdot \mathbf{x}_j$
- If every data point is mapped into high-dimensional space via some transformation Φ: $\mathbf{x}_i \rightarrow \varphi(\mathbf{x}_i)$, the dot product becomes: $K(\mathbf{x}_i,\mathbf{x}_j) = \varphi(\mathbf{x}_i) \cdot \varphi(\mathbf{x}_j)$
- A *kernel function* is similarity function that corresponds to an inner product in some expanded feature space
- *The kernel trick*: instead of explicitly computing the lifting transformation $\varphi(\mathbf{x})$, define a kernel function K such that: $K(\mathbf{x}_i,\mathbf{x}_j) = \varphi(\mathbf{x}_i) \cdot \varphi(\mathbf{x}_j)$

Examples of kernel functions

- Linear: $K(x_i, x_j) = x_i^{\ T} x_j$
- Polynomials of degree up to *d*:

$$K(x_i, x_j) = (x_i^{\ T} x_j + 1)^d$$

- Gaussian RBF:

$$K(x_i, x_j) = \exp(-\frac{\left\| x_i - x_j \right\|^2}{2\sigma^2})$$

- Histogram intersection:

$$K(x_i, x_j) = \sum_k \min(x_i(k), x_j(k))$$

Hard-margin SVMs

$$\min_{\boldsymbol{w}} \quad \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}\|\boldsymbol{w}\|^2}_{\text{Maximize margin}}$$

The *w* that minimizes…

$$\text{subject to} \quad y_i \boldsymbol{w}^T \boldsymbol{x}_i \geq 1 \quad , \quad \forall i = 1, \ldots, N$$

Soft-margin SVMs

Misclassification cost

data samples

Slack variable

$$\min_{\boldsymbol{w}} \ \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}\|\boldsymbol{w}\|^2}_{\text{Maximize margin}} + \underbrace{C\sum_{i=1}^{N}\xi_i}_{\text{Minimize misclassification}}$$

The *w* that minimizes…

$$\text{subject to} \quad y_i\boldsymbol{w}^T\boldsymbol{x}_i \geq 1-\xi_i,$$

$$\xi_i \geq 0, \quad \forall i = 1,\ldots,N$$

What about multi-class SVMs?

- Unfortunately, there is no “definitive” multi-class SVM formulation
- In practice, we have to obtain a multi-class SVM by combining multiple two-class SVMs
- One vs. others
  - Training: learn an SVM for each class vs. the others
  - Testing: apply each SVM to the test example, and assign it to the class of the SVM that returns the highest decision value
- One vs. one
  - Training: learn an SVM for each pair of classes
  - Testing: each learned SVM “votes” for a class to assign to the test example

Svetlana Lazebnik

Multi-class problems

One-vs-all (a.k.a. one-vs-others)

- Train K classifiers
- In each, pos = data from class *i*, neg = data from classes other than *i*
- The class with the most confident prediction wins
- Example:
  - You have 4 classes, train 4 classifiers
  - 1 vs others: score 3.5
  - 2 vs others: score 6.2
  - 3 vs others: score 1.4
  - 4 vs other: score 5.5
  - Final prediction: class 2

Multi-class problems

One-vs-one (a.k.a. all-vs-all)

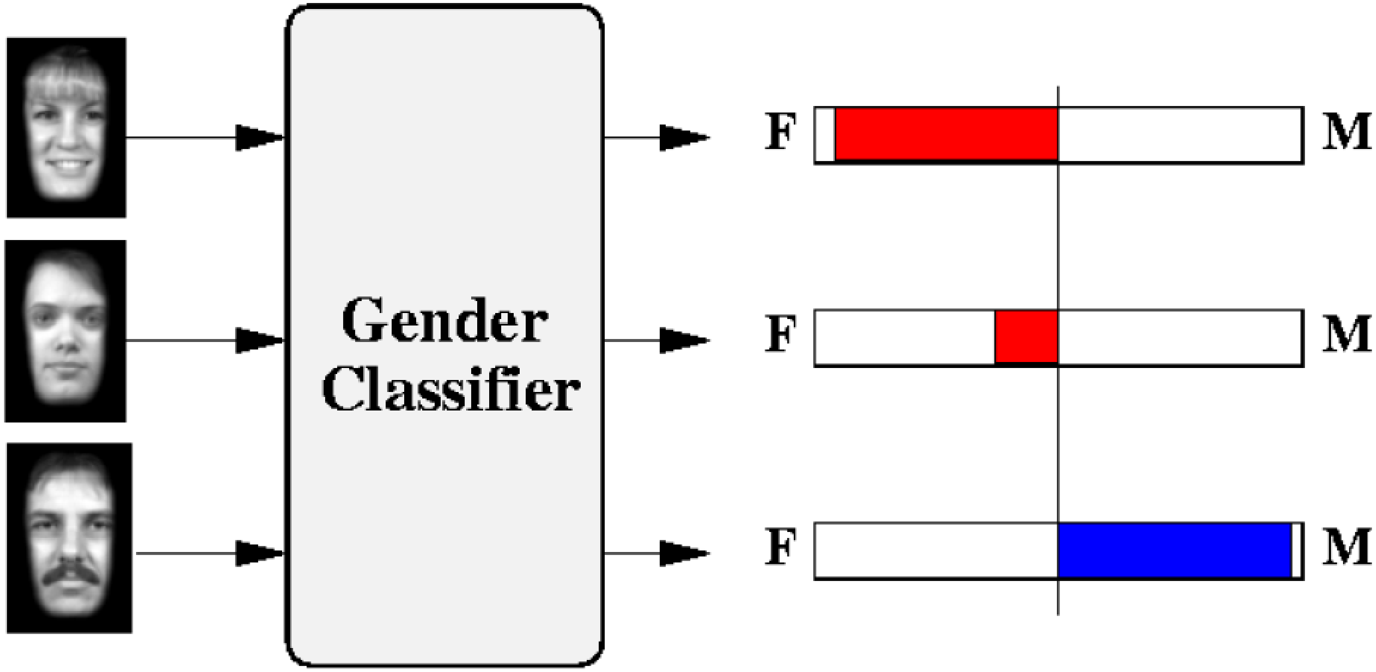
- Train K(K-1)/2 binary classifiers (all pairs of classes)
- They all vote for the label
- Example:
  - You have 4 classes, then train 6 classifiers
  - 1 vs 2, 1 vs 3, 1 vs 4, 2 vs 3, 2 vs 4, 3 vs 4
  - Votes: 1, 1, 4, 2, 4, 4
  - Final prediction is class 4

Using SVMs

1. Select a kernel function.
2. Compute pairwise kernel values between labeled examples.
3. Use this “kernel matrix” to solve for SVM support vectors & alpha weights.
4. To classify a new example: compute kernel values between new input and support vectors, apply alpha weights, check sign of output.

Adapted from Kristen Grauman

Example: Learning gender w/ SVMs

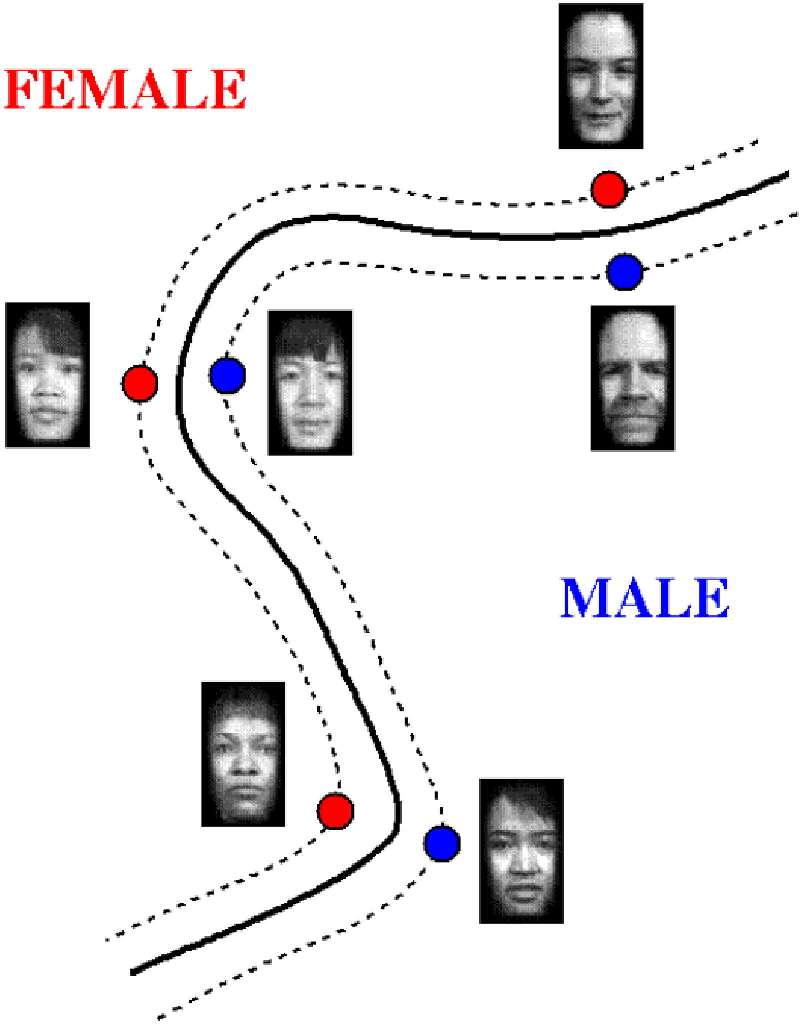


Moghaddam and Yang, Learning Gender with Support Faces, TPAMI 2002

Moghaddam and Yang, Face & Gesture 2000

Example: Learning gender w/ SVMs

Support faces



Kristen Grauman

Example: Learning gender w/ SVMs

Figure 6. SVM vs. Human performance

SVMs performed better than humans, at either resolution

Kristen Grauman

Some SVM packages

- LIBSVM http://www.csie.ntu.edu.tw/~cjlin/libsvm/
- LIBLINEAR https://www.csie.ntu.edu.tw/~cjlin/liblinear/
- SVM Light http://svmlight.joachims.org/

Linear classifiers vs nearest neighbors

- Linear pros:
  - \+ Low-dimensional *parametric* representation
  - \+ Very fast at test time
- Linear cons:
  - – Can be tricky to select best kernel function for a problem
  - – Learning can take a very long time for large-scale problem
- NN pros:
  - \+ Works for any number of classes
  - \+ Decision boundaries not necessarily linear
  - \+ *Nonparametric* method
  - \+ Simple to implement
- NN cons:
  - – Slow at test time (large search problem to find neighbors)
  - – Storage of data
  - – Especially need good distance function (but true for all classifiers)

Adapted from L. Lazebnik

Training vs Testing

- What do we want?
  - High accuracy on training data?
  - No, high accuracy on *unseen/new/test data!*
  - Why is this tricky?
- Training data
  - Features (x) and labels (y) used to learn mapping f
- Test data
  - Features (x) used to make a prediction
  - Labels (y) only used to see how well we've learned f!!!
- Validation data
  - Held-out set of the *training data*
  - Can use both features (x) and labels (y) to tune parameters of the model we're learning

Generalization

Training set (labels known)

Test set (labels unknown)

- How well does a learned model generalize from the data it was trained on to a new test set?

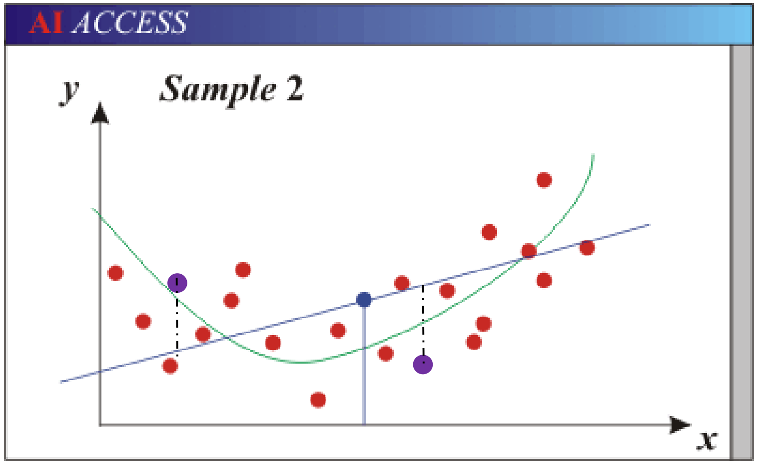
Slide credit: L. Lazebnik

Generalization

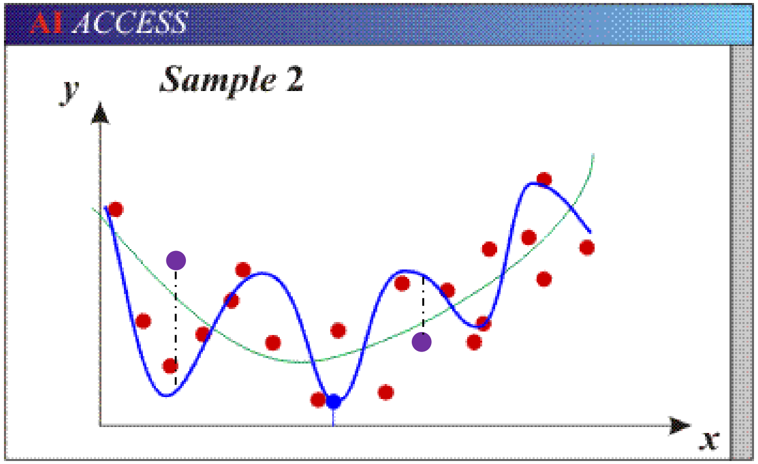
- Components of generalization error
  - **Noise** in our observations: unavoidable
  - **Bias:** due to inaccurate assumptions/simplifications made by the model
  - **Variance:** models estimated from different training sets differ greatly rom each other
- **Underfitting:** model is too “simple” to represent all the relevant class characteristics
  - High bias and low variance
  - High training error and high test error
- **Overfitting:** model is too “complex” and fits irrelevant characteristics (noise) in the data
  - Low bias and high variance
  - Low training error and high test error

Slide credit: L. Lazebnik

Generalization



- Models with too few parameters are inaccurate because of a large bias (not enough flexibility).



- Models with too many parameters are inaccurate because of a large variance (too much sensitivity to the sample).

Purple dots = possible test points

Red dots = training data (all that we see before we ship off our model!)

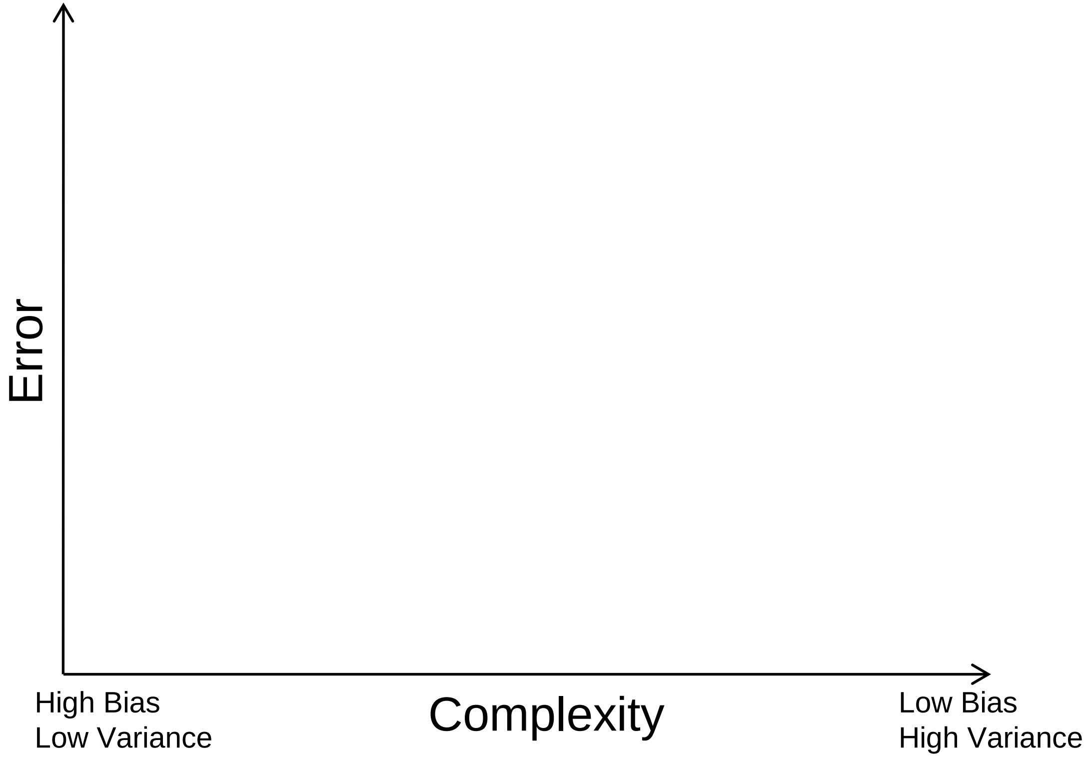
Green curve = true underlying model

Blue curve = our predicted model/fit

Adapted from D. Hoiem

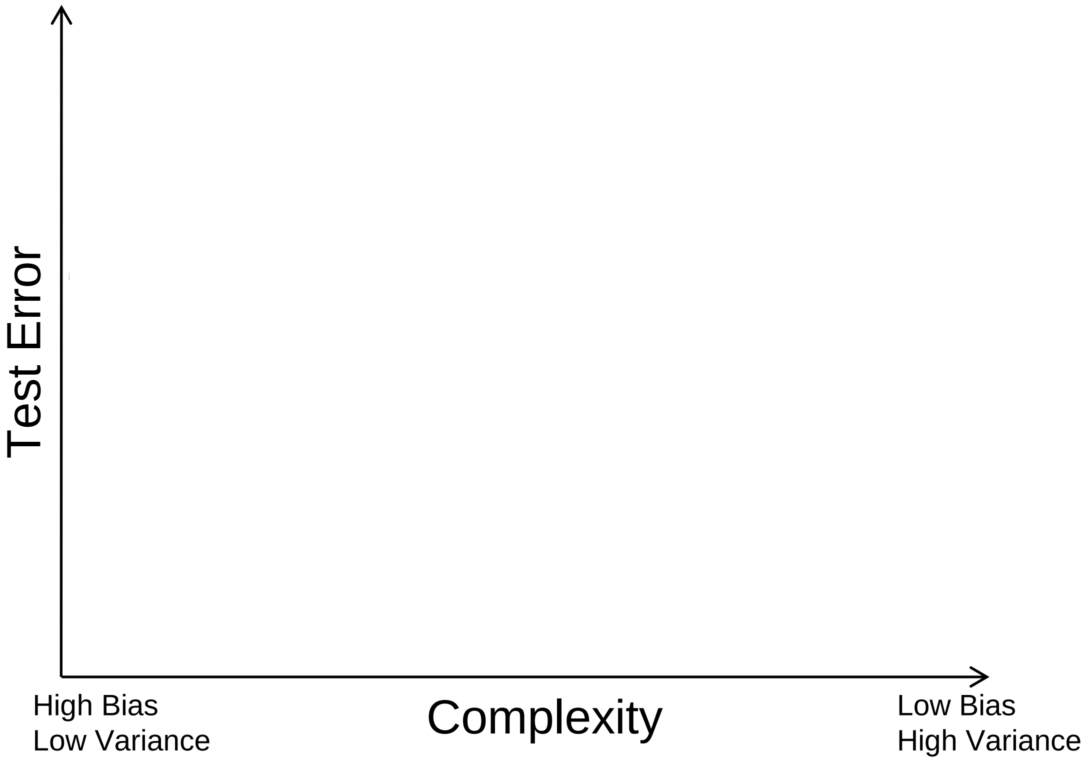
Training vs test error

Underfitting **Overfitting**



Slide credit: D. Hoiem

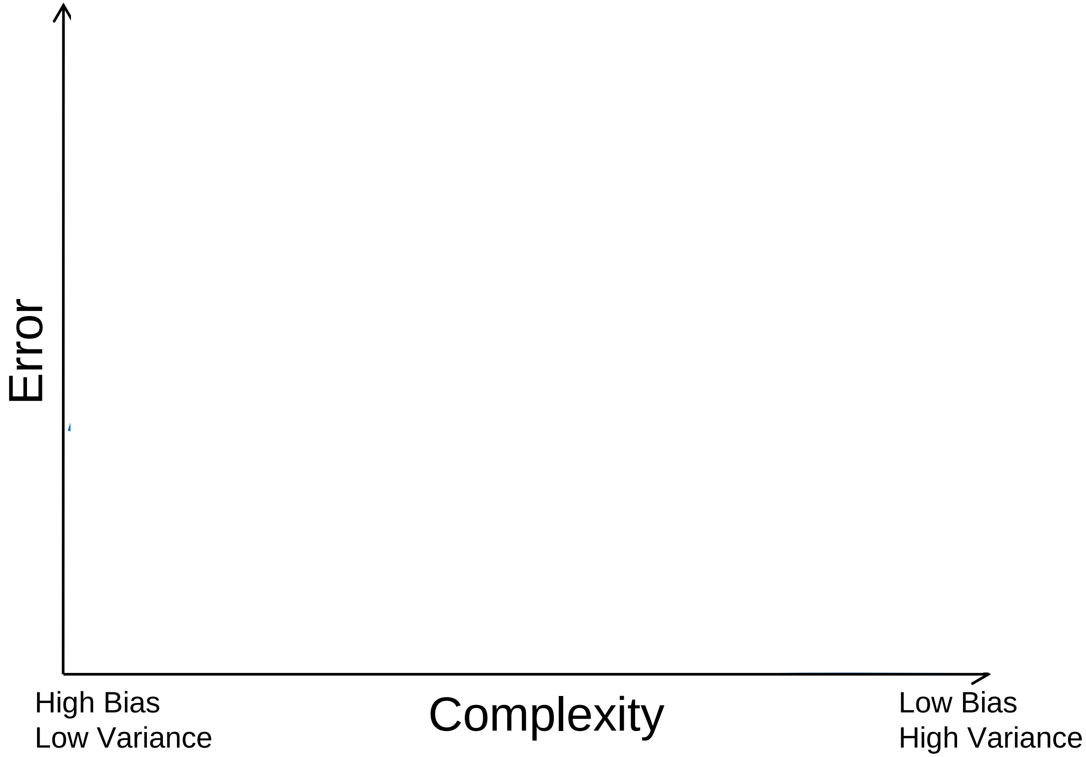
The effect of training set size



Slide credit: D. Hoiem

Choosing the trade-off between bias and variance

- Need validation set (separate from the test set)



Slide credit: D. Hoiem

Generalization tips

- Try simple classifiers first
- Better to have smart features and simple classifiers than simple features and smart classifiers
- Use increasingly powerful classifiers with more training data
- As an additional technique for reducing variance, try *regularizing* the parameters (penalize high magnitude weights)

Slide credit: D. Hoiem

Beyond Bags of Features: Spatial Pyramid Matching for Recognizing Natural Scene Categories

CVPR 2006

Winner of 2016 Longuet-Higgins Prize

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Scene category dataset

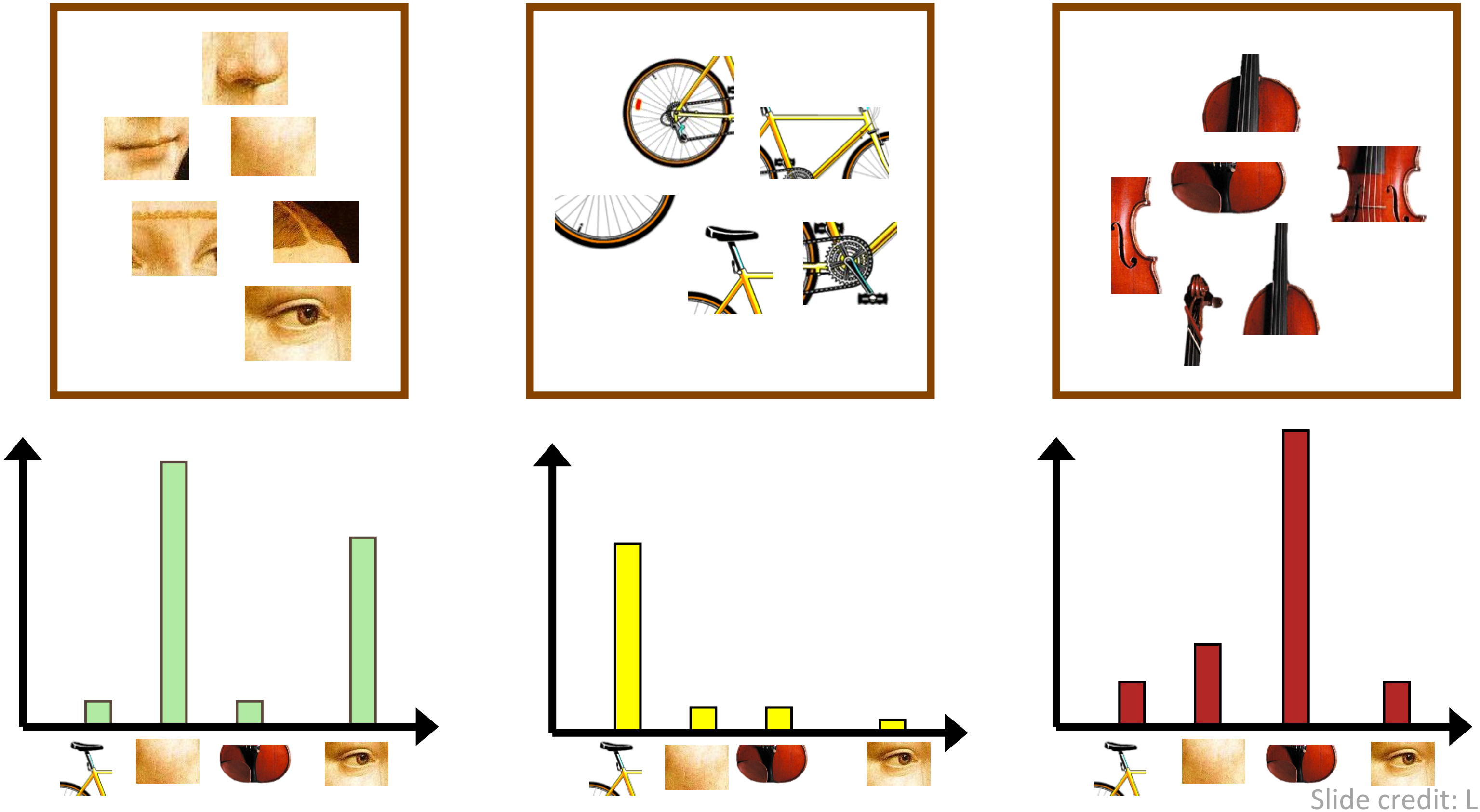
Fei-Fei & Perona (2005), Oliva & Torralba (2001)

http://www-cvr.ai.uiuc.edu/ponce_grp/data

Slide credit: L. Lazebnik

Bag-of-words representation

1. Extract local features
2. Learn “visual vocabulary” using clustering
3. Quantize local features using visual vocabulary
4. Represent images by frequencies of “visual words”



Slide credit: L. Lazebnik

Image categorization with bag of words

Training

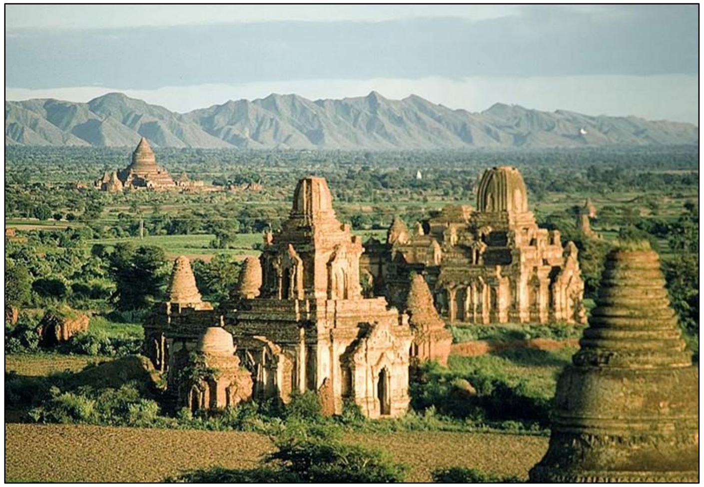
1. Compute bag-of-words representation for training images
2. Train classifier on labeled examples using histogram values as features
3. Labels are the scene types (e.g. mountain vs field)

Testing

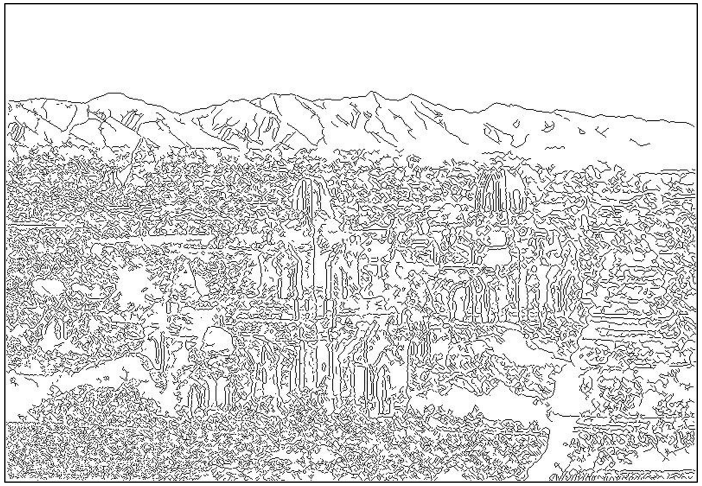
1. Extract keypoints/descriptors for test images
2. Quantize into visual words using the clusters computed at training time
3. Compute visual word histogram for test images
4. Compute labels on test images using classifier obtained at training time
5. Measure accuracy of test predictions by comparing them to ground-truth test labels (obtained from humans)

Adapted from D. Hoiem

Feature extraction (on which BOW is based)

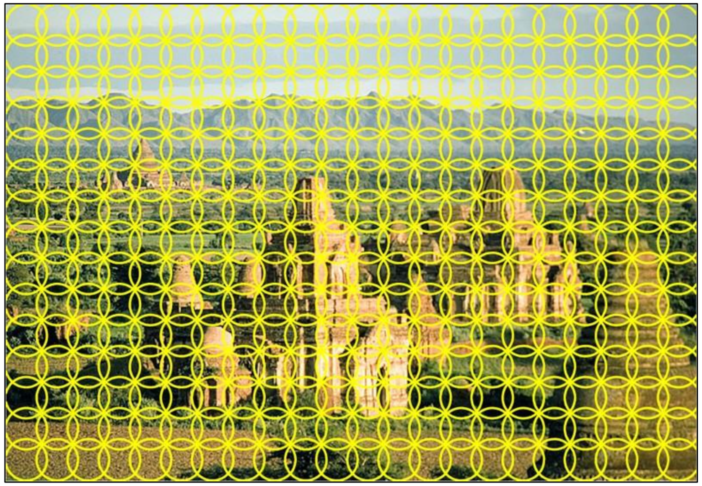


Weak features



Edge points at 2 scales and 8 orientations (vocabulary size 16)

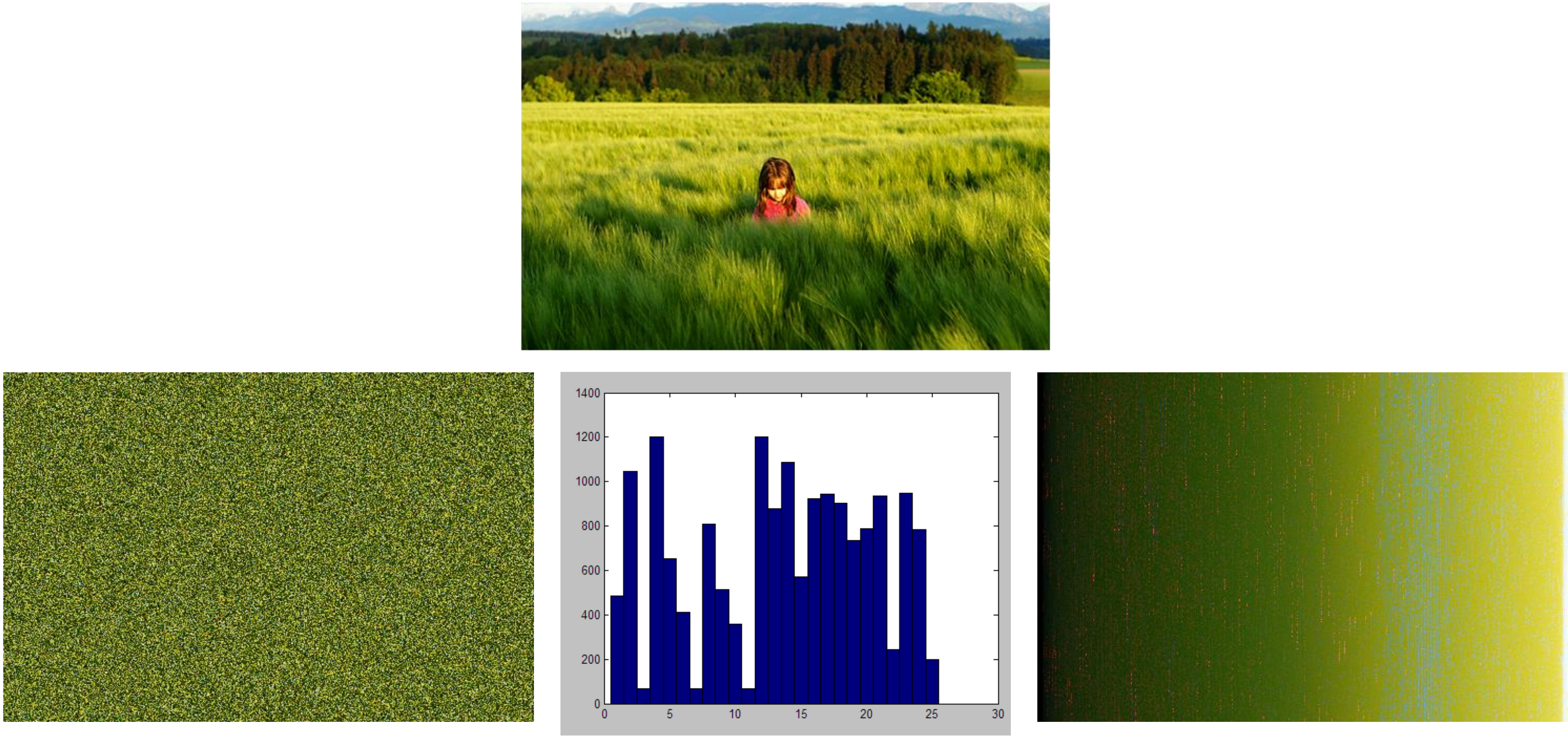
Strong features



SIFT descriptors of 16x16 patches sampled on a regular grid, quantized to form visual vocabulary (size 200, 400)

Slide credit: L. Lazebnik

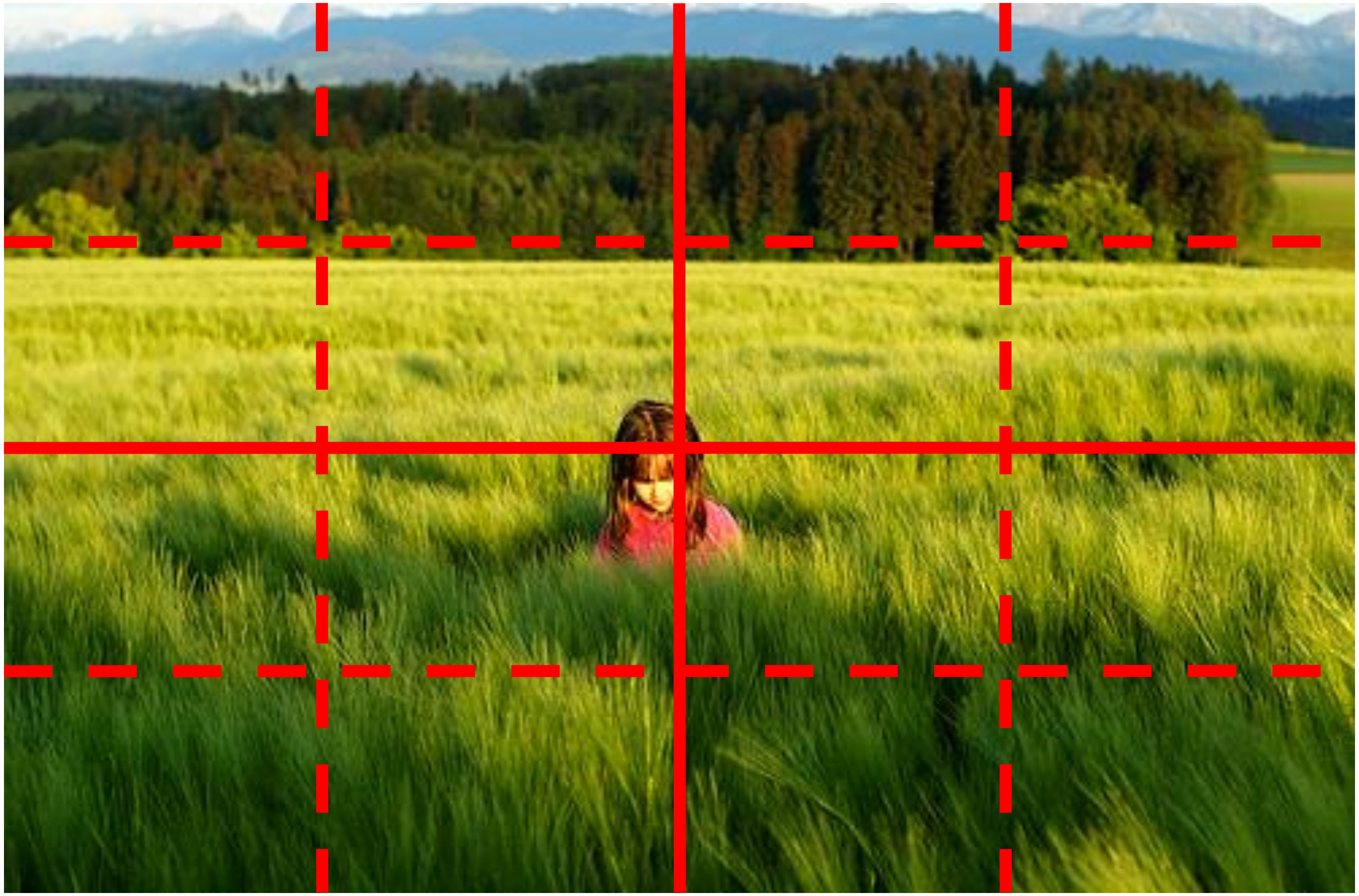
What about spatial layout?



All of these images have the same color histogram

Slide credit: D. Hoiem

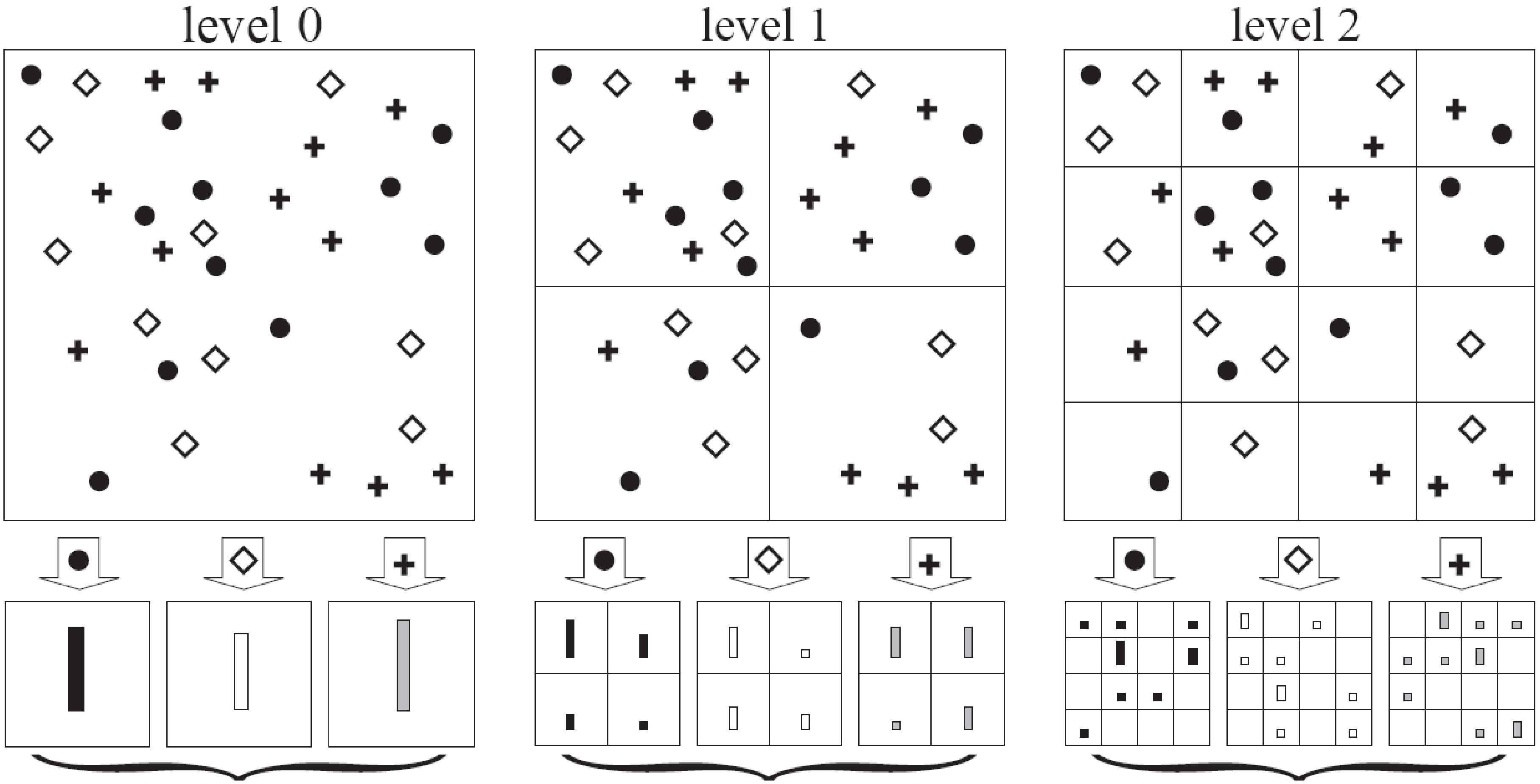
Spatial pyramid



Compute histogram in each spatial bin

Slide credit: D. Hoiem

Spatial pyramid



[Lazebnik et al. CVPR 2006]

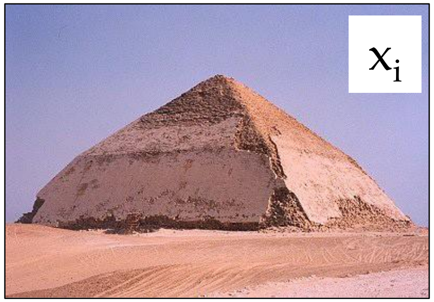
Slide credit: D. Hoiem

Pyramid matching

Indyk & Thaper (2003), Grauman & Darrell (2005)

Matching using pyramid and histogram intersection for some particular visual word:

Original images



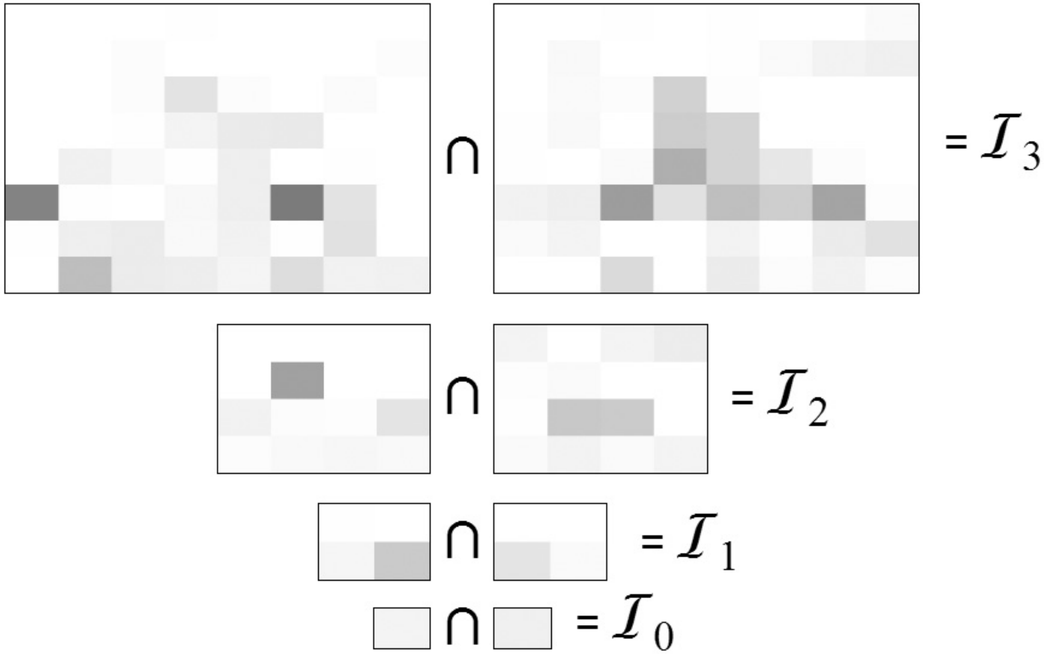
Feature histograms:

Level 3

Level 2

Level 1

Level 0



$K(x_i, x_j)$ (value of *pyramid match kernel*): $\mathcal{I}_3 + \frac{1}{2}(\mathcal{I}_2 - \mathcal{I}_3) + \frac{1}{4}(\mathcal{I}_1 - \mathcal{I}_2) + \frac{1}{8}(\mathcal{I}_0 - \mathcal{I}_1)$

Adapted from L. Lazebnik

Scene category dataset

Fei-Fei & Perona (2005), Oliva & Torralba (2001)

http://www-cvr.ai.uiuc.edu/ponce_grp/data

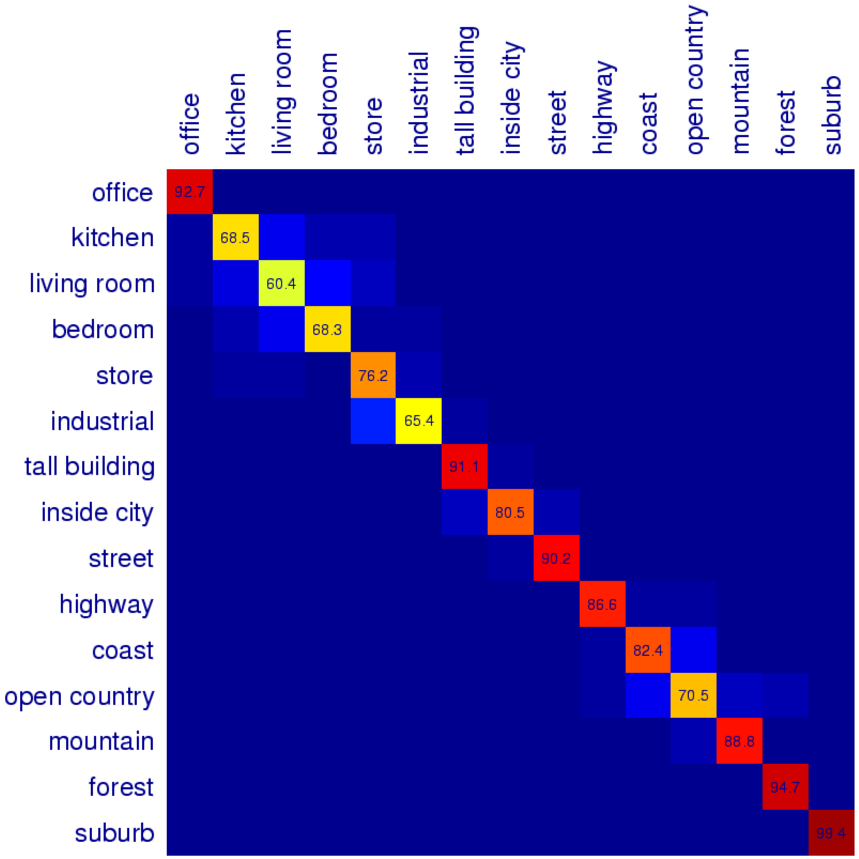
Multi-class classification results (100 training images per class)

	Weak features (vocabulary size: 16)		Strong features (vocabulary size: 200)	
Level	Single-level	Pyramid	Single-level	Pyramid
0 (1×1)	45.3 ±0.5		72.2 ±0.6	
1 (2×2)	53.6 ±0.3	56.2 ±0.6	77.9 ±0.6	79.0 ±0.5
2 (4×4)	61.7 ±0.6	64.7 ±0.7	79.4 ±0.3	**81.1** ±0.3
3 (8×8)	63.3 ±0.8	**66.8** ±0.6	77.2 ±0.4	80.7 ±0.3

Fei-Fei & Perona: 65.2%

Slide credit: L. Lazebnik

Scene category confusions



Difficult indoor images

kitchen

living room

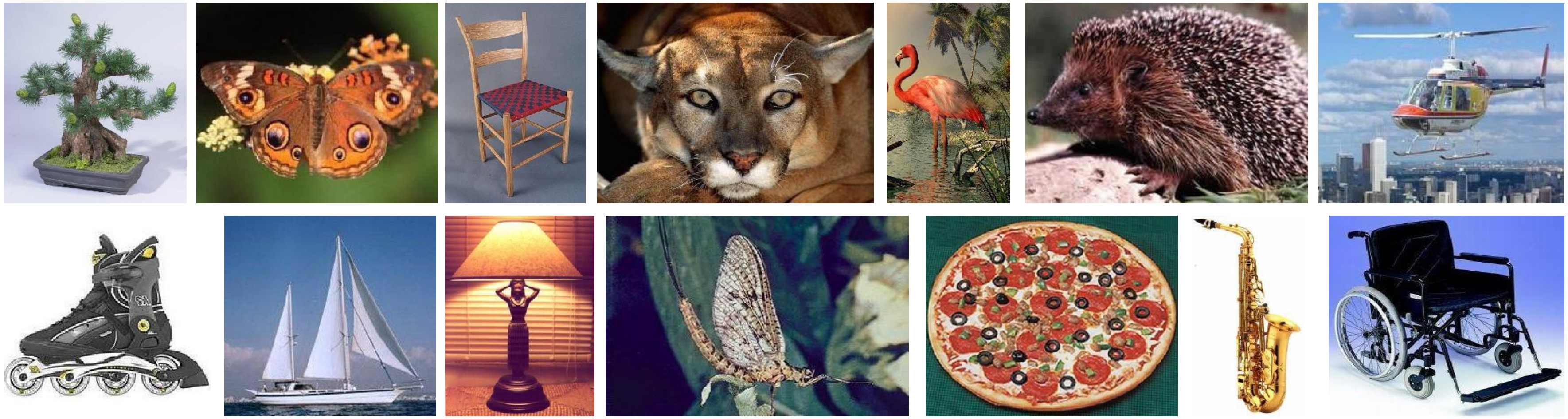
bedroom

Slide credit: L. Lazebnik

Caltech101 dataset

Fei-Fei et al. (2004)

http://www.vision.caltech.edu/Image_Datasets/Caltech101/Caltech101.html



Multi-class classification results (30 training images per class)

	Weak features (16)		Strong features (200)	
Level	Single-level	Pyramid	Single-level	Pyramid
0	15.5 ±0.9		41.2 ±1.2	
1	31.4 ±1.2	32.8 ±1.3	55.9 ±0.9	57.0 ±0.8
2	47.2 ±1.1	49.3 ±1.4	63.6 ±0.9	**64.6** ±0.8
3	52.2 ±0.8	**54.0** ±1.1	60.3 ±0.9	64.6 ±0.7

Slide credit: L. Lazebnik