

# Workshop on Representations for PR

## The dissimilarity representation, a basis for domain based pattern recognition?

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Cambridge, August 2004

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# A Problem

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**Bring me an apple!!**



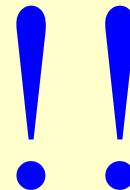
??

# Training

These are apples ...



... and these are pears



# How to learn? Model based?



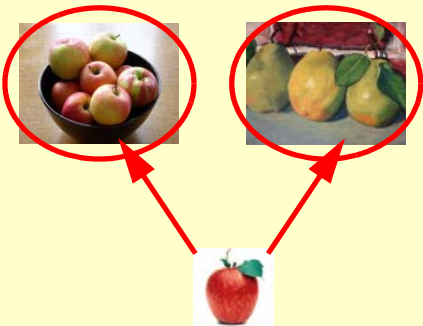
- Store all relevant properties of an apple



- Generalise over apple examples to obtain an 'apple class' model



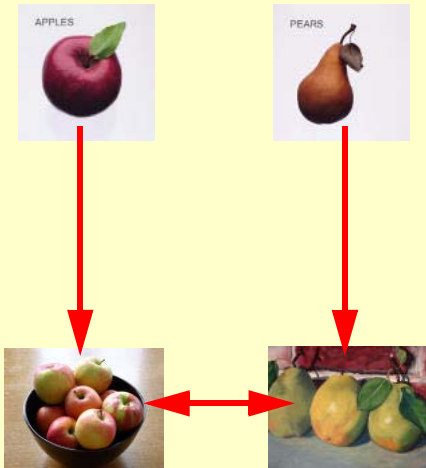
- Repeat for pears



- Find a way to compare 'apple-ness' with 'pear-ness'

We only look at class differences at classification time!!

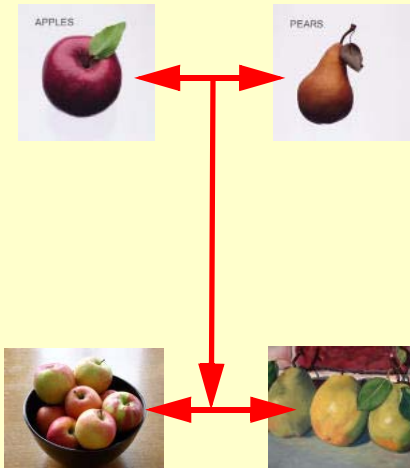
# How to learn? Feature based?



- Choose possible features to represent individual apples and pears
- Select relevant features for the difference of apples and pears
- Generalise over the examples

**We only look at class differences at classification time!!**

# How to learn? Dissimilarity based?

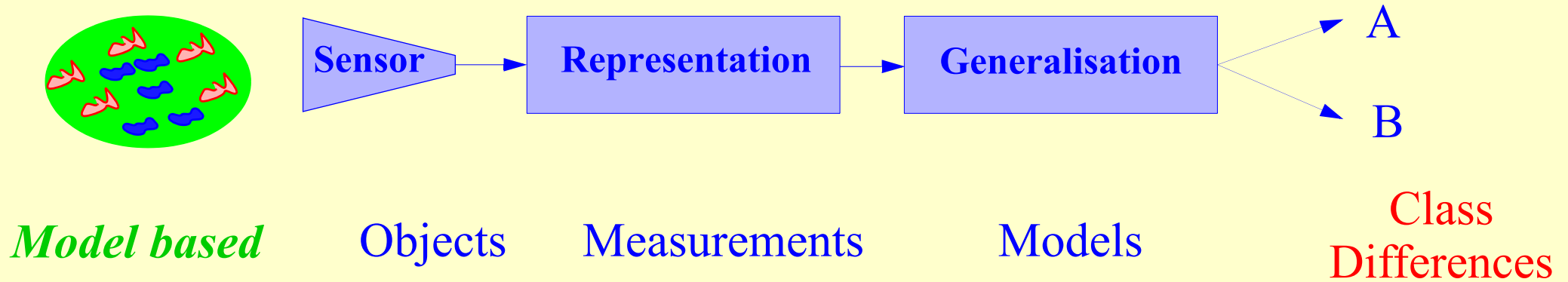


- Use differences between apples and pears for representation

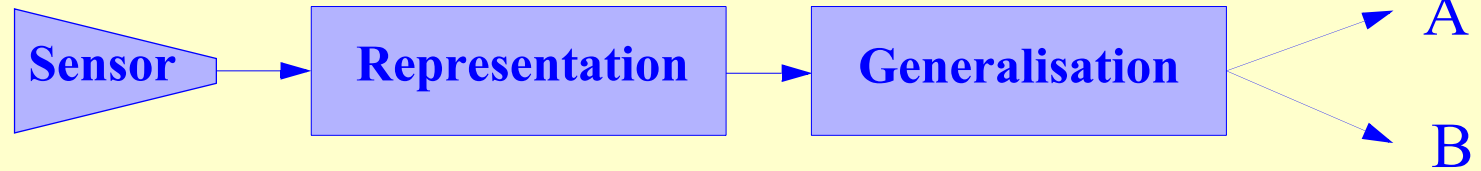
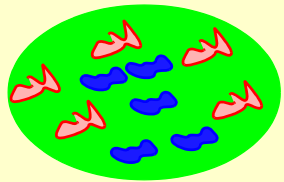
- Generalise over the examples

**We only look at class differences during representation!!**

# The Pattern Recognition System



# The Pattern Recognition System



*Model based*

Objects

Measurements

Models

Class  
Differences

*Feature based*

Objects

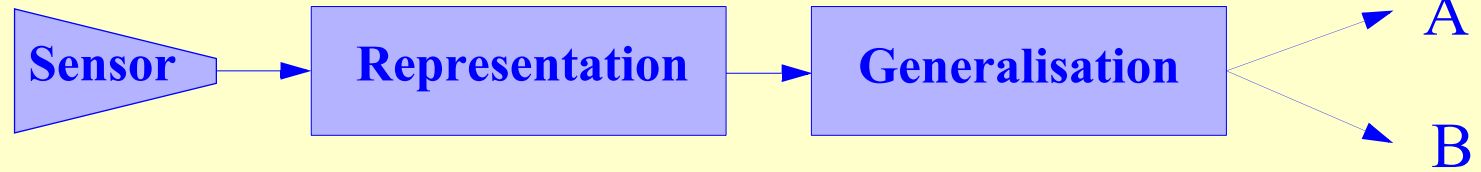
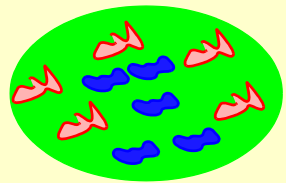
Features

Class  
Differences

Classifier



# The Pattern Recognition System



*Model based*

Objects

Measurements

Models

Class  
Differences

*Feature based*

Objects

Features

Class  
Differences

Classifier

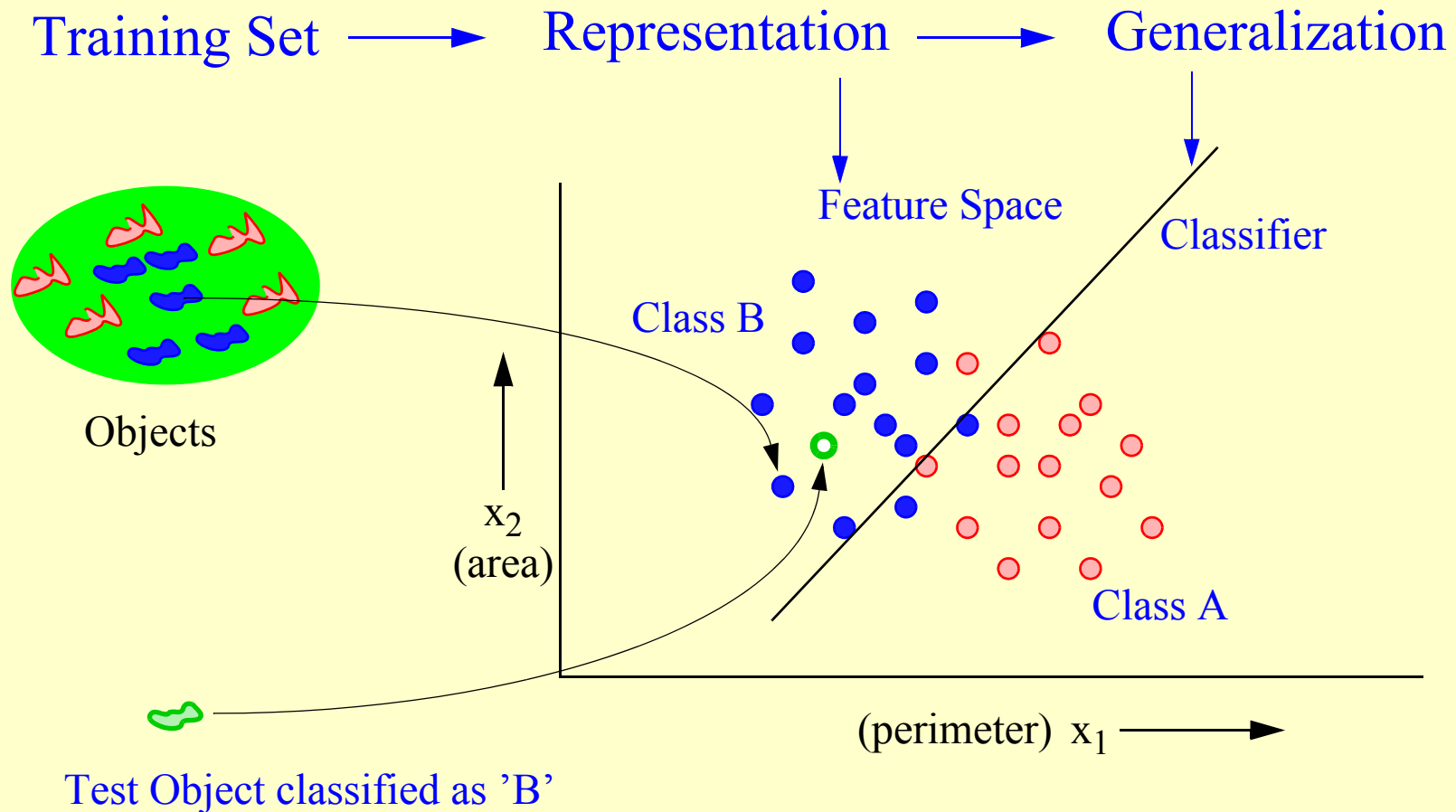
*Dissimilarity based*

Objects

Class  
Differences

Classifier

# Generalisation from Features



Feature representation → Object reduction → Class overlap → Probabilities

# Classifiers for Feature Representations

Criterion : Min:  $\varepsilon = \text{Prob}(S(x) \rightarrow \omega | x \notin \omega)$

Neural Net Min:  $\sum_i (S(x_i, w) - \lambda(x_i))^2$

Fisher:  $S(x) = y = w \bullet x + w_0$ , such that  $L = \frac{(\bar{y}_1 - \bar{y}_2)^2}{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2}$  is minimum

Parzen:  $S(x) = \frac{1}{n_1} \sum_{i \in \omega_1} \varphi(|x - x_i|, h_1) - \frac{1}{n_2} \sum_{i \in \omega_2} \varphi(|x - x_i|, h_2)$

SVC: Max:  $\min_i \{ S(x_i) \lambda(x_i) \} + \sum_j \xi_j S(x_j) \lambda(x_j)$

# Classifiers for Feature Representations

Criterion : Min:  $\varepsilon = \text{Prob}(S(x) \rightarrow \omega | x \notin \omega)$

**Probability Arguments**

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# Classifiers for Feature Representations

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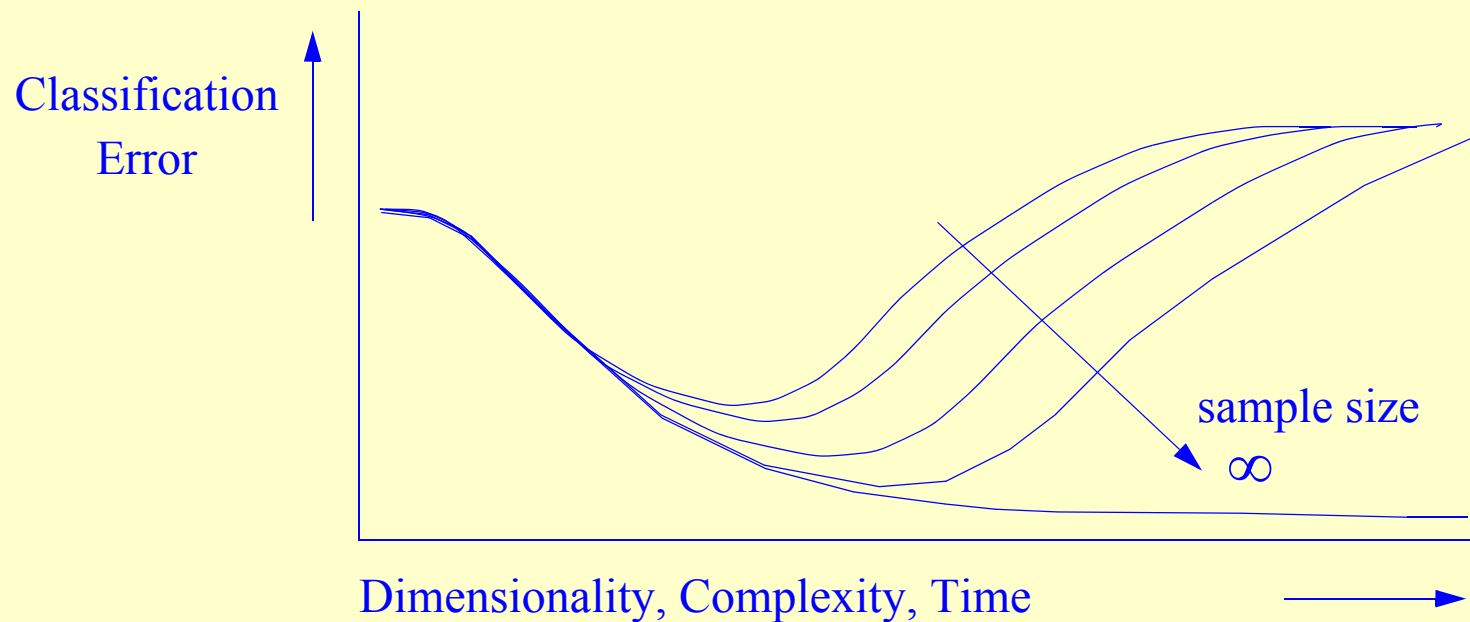
**Distance Arguments**

Fisher:  $S(x) = y = w \bullet x + w_0$ , such that  $L = \frac{(\bar{y}_1 - \bar{y}_2)^2}{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2}$  is minimum

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SVC: Max:  $\min_j \{ S(x_j) \lambda(x_j) \} + \sum_j \xi_j S(x_j) \lambda(x_j)$

# Peaking, Curse of Dimensionality, Overtraining

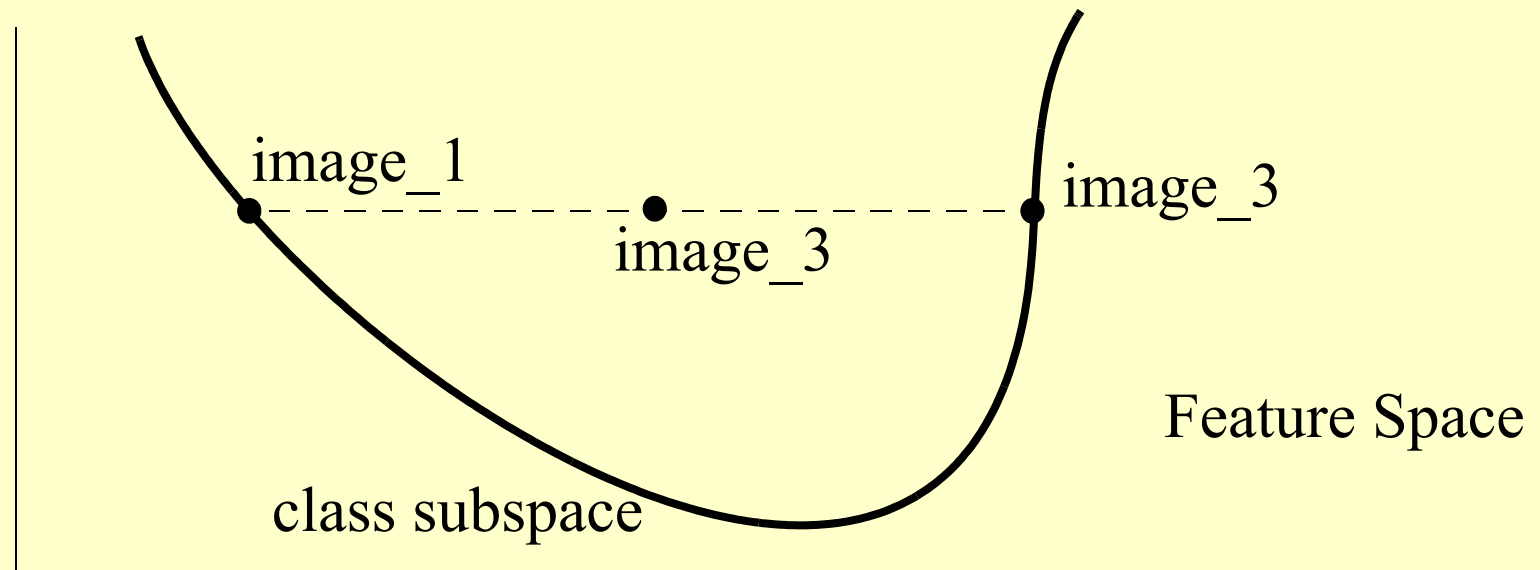
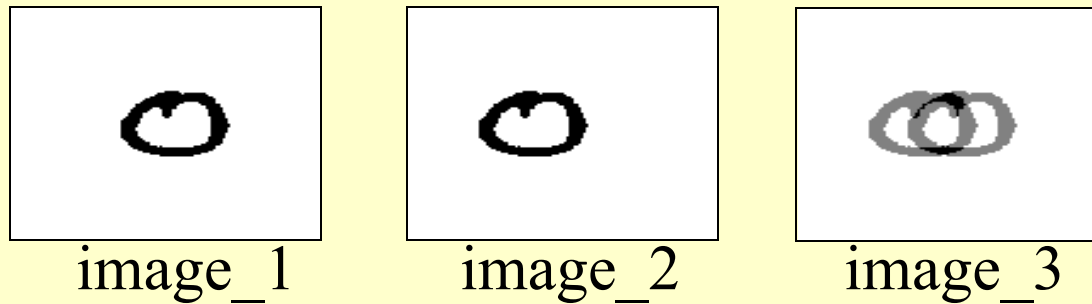


Asymptotically increasing classification error due to:

- Increasing Dimensionality *Curse of Dimensionality*
  - Increasing Complexity *Peaking Phenomenon*
  - Decreasing Regularization
  - Increasing Computational Effort
- } *Overtraining*

# Problems with the Pixel\_Feature Representation

Interpolation does not yield valid objects

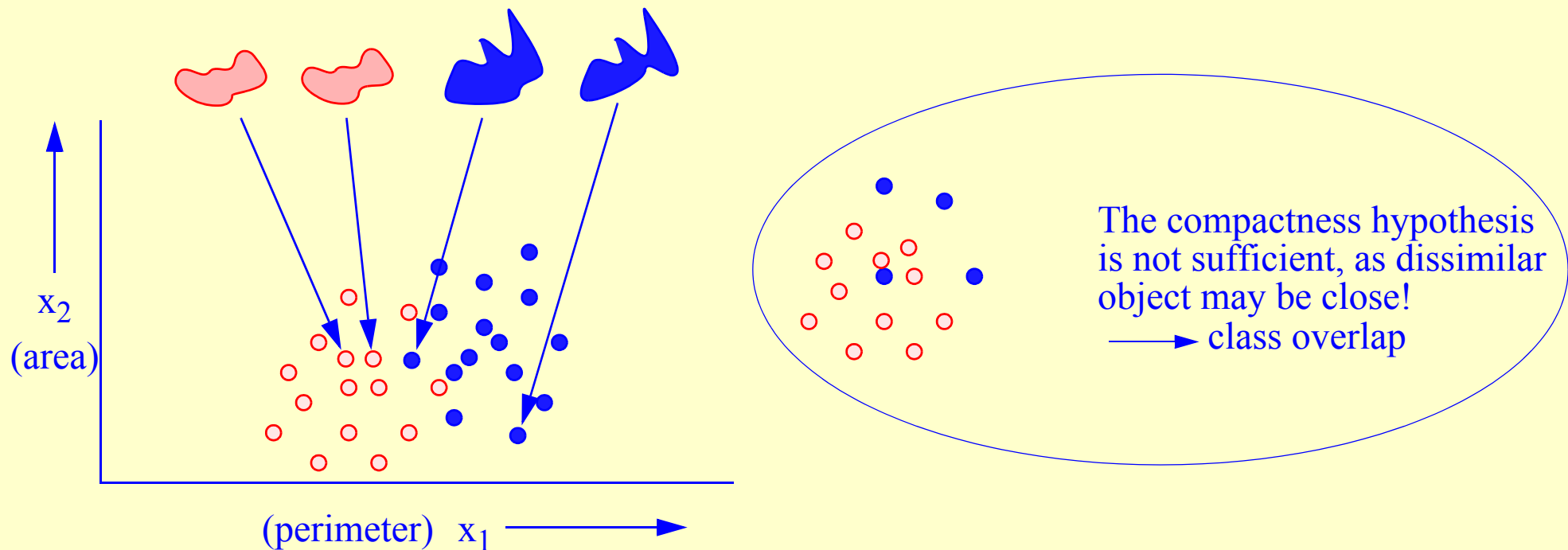


# The Compactness Hypothesis

Representations of real world similar objects are close.

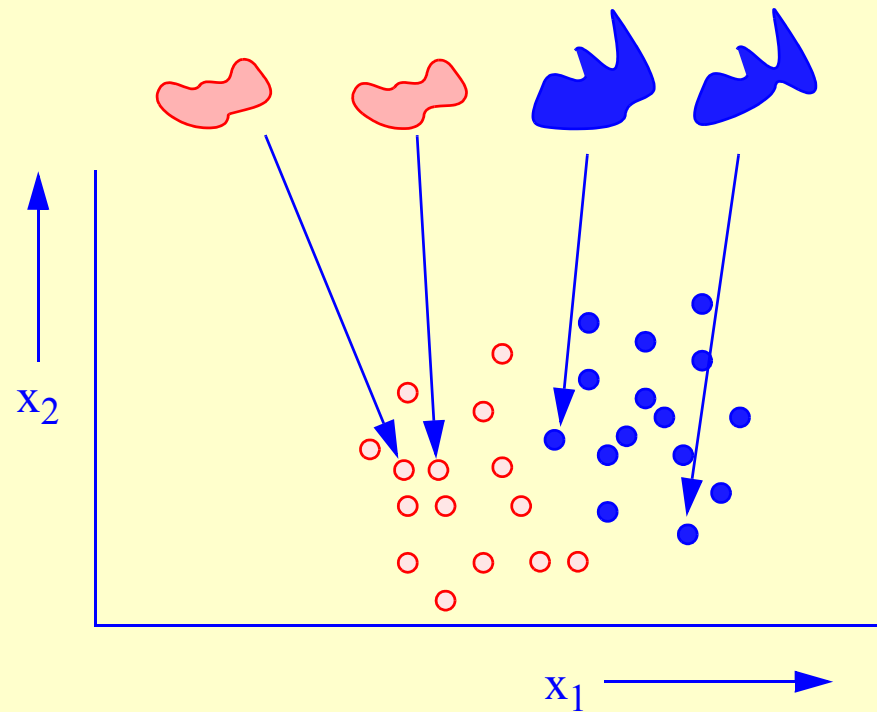
There is no ground for any generalization (induction) on representations that do not obey this demand.

*(A.G. Arkedev and E.M. Braverman, Computers and Pattern Recognition, 1966.)*





# True Representations



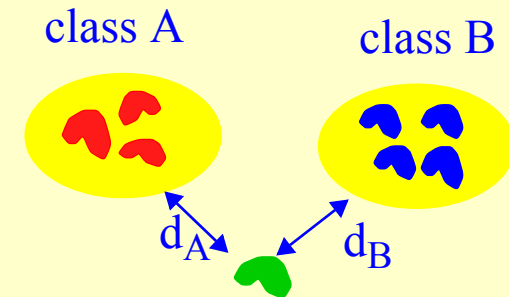
Similar objects should be close and dissimilar objects should be distant

→ Dissimilarity representations based on measurement signals describing the 'whole' object fulfill this.

# Representation Principles

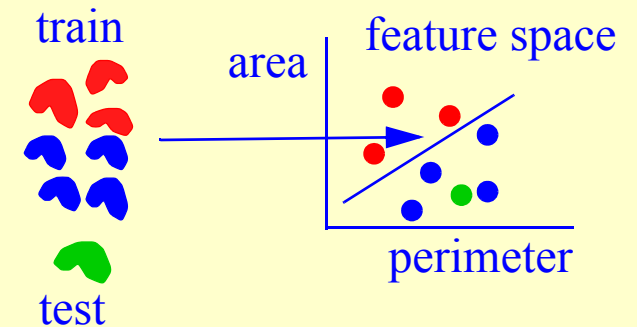
## Model based, dissimilarities of objects and classes (Conceptual)

domains, structural, connectivity included



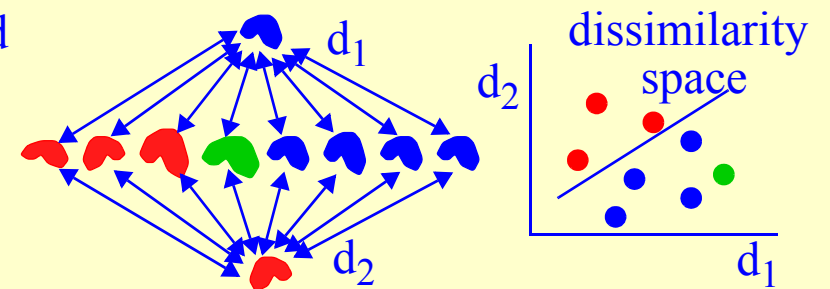
## Feature based (Absolute)

distributions, connectivity neglected



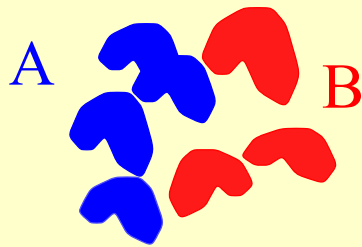
## Dissimilarity based (Relative)

distributions or domains, connectivity possibly included



# Dissimilarity Representation (DisRep)

Define dissimilarity measure  $d_{ij}$  between raw data of objects  $i$  and  $j$



Given labeled training set T



Unlabeled object  $x$  to be classified

$$D_T = \begin{pmatrix} d_{11} & d_{12} & d_{13} & d_{14} & d_{15} & d_{16} & d_{17} \\ d_{21} & d_{22} & d_{23} & d_{24} & d_{25} & d_{26} & d_{27} \\ d_{31} & d_{32} & d_{33} & d_{34} & d_{35} & d_{36} & d_{37} \\ d_{41} & d_{42} & d_{43} & d_{44} & d_{45} & d_{46} & d_{47} \\ d_{51} & d_{52} & d_{53} & d_{54} & d_{55} & d_{56} & d_{57} \\ d_{61} & d_{62} & d_{63} & d_{64} & d_{65} & d_{66} & d_{67} \\ d_{71} & d_{72} & d_{73} & d_{74} & d_{75} & d_{76} & d_{77} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$d_x = (d_1 \ d_2 \ d_3 \ d_4 \ d_5 \ d_6 \ d_7)$$

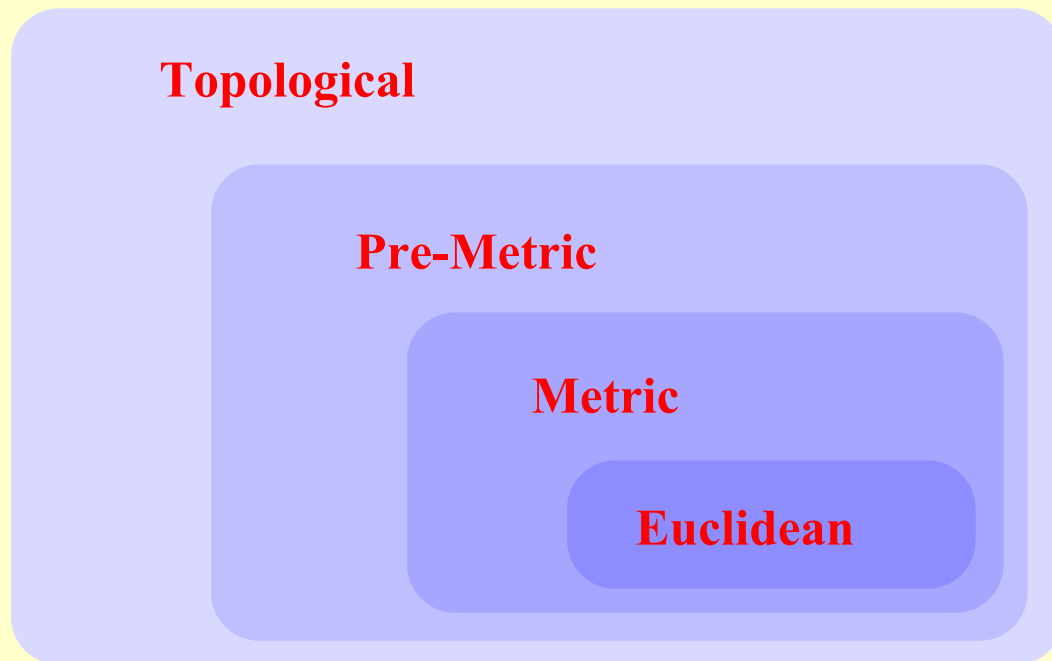
The traditional Nearest Neighbor rule (template matching) just finds:

$$\text{label}(\underset{\text{trainset}}{\text{argmin}}(d_i)),$$

without using DT. Can we do any better?

# Dissimilarity Spaces - Examples

## Pre-Topological



Mahalanobis

$L_p, p < 1$   
weighted edit-distance

L1

L2, RMSE

~~continuity~~

~~definiteness~~

~~triangle inequality~~

**Compactness always needed**

# Why Dissimilarity Spaces?

Many (exotic) dissimilarity measures are used in pattern recognition

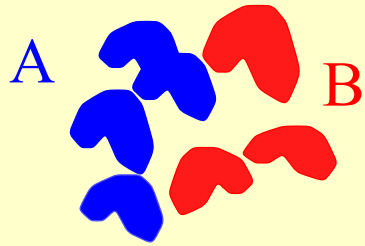
- they may solve the connectivity problem (e.g. pixel based features)
- they may offer a way to integrate structural and statistical approaches  
e.g. by graph distances.

Prospect of zero-error classifiers by avoiding class overlap

Better rules than the nearest neighbour classifier appear possible

(more accurate, faster)

# DisRep Approach: NN Rule, Pre-topological Space



Given labeled training set T



Unlabeled object x to be classified

$$d_x = (d_1 \ d_2 \ d_3 \ d_4 \ d_5 \ d_6 \ d_7)$$

$$\text{class}(x) = \text{label} ( \text{argmin}(d_j) )$$

- Computationally expensive

- Locally sensitive

- Consistent: if  $\text{size}(T) \rightarrow \infty$  then error  $\rightarrow 0$

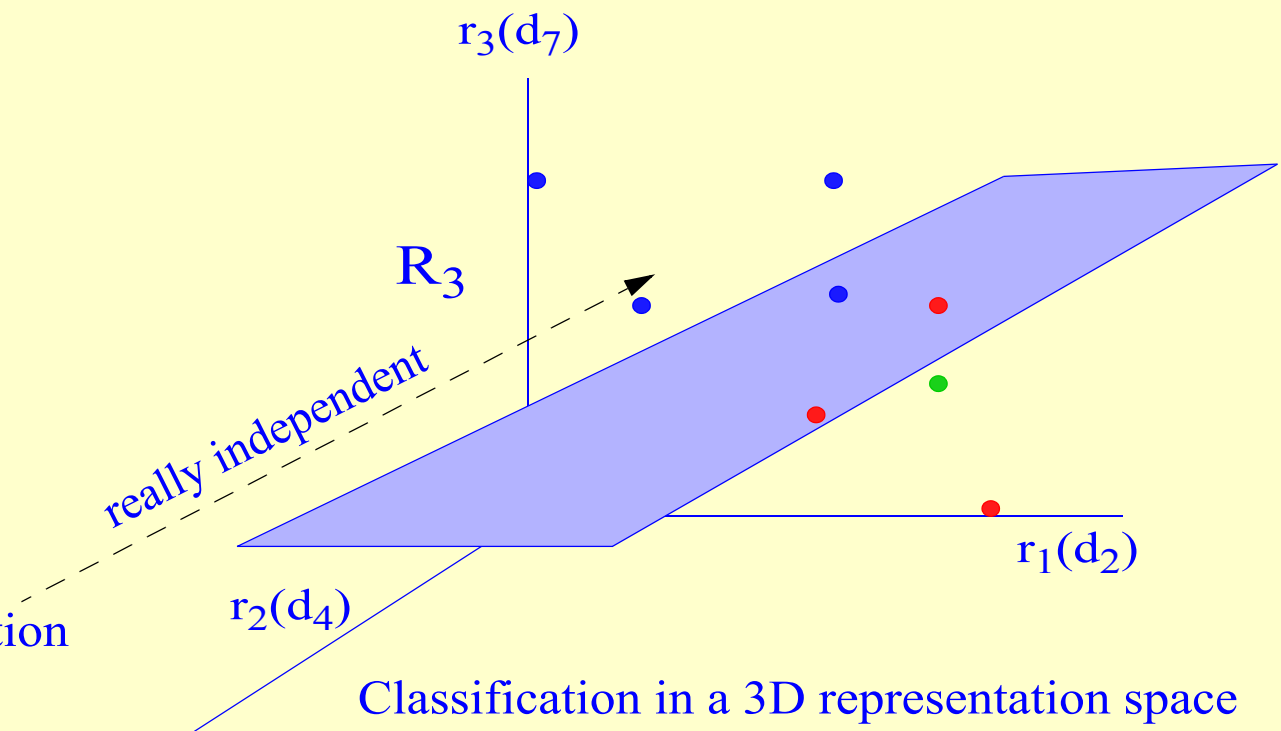
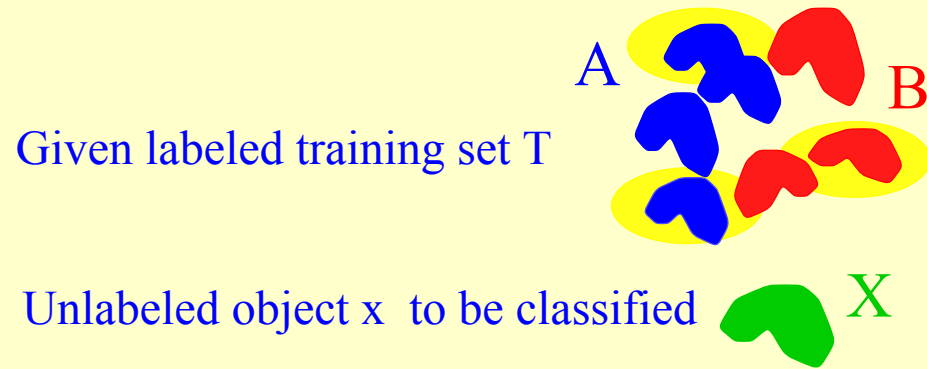
# Dissimilarity Representation Approach: Dissimilarity Space

Dissimilarities

$$D_T = \begin{pmatrix} r_1 & r_2 & r_3 \\ d_{11} & d_{12} & d_{13} & d_{14} & d_{15} & d_{16} & d_{17} \\ d_{21} & d_{22} & d_{23} & d_{24} & d_{25} & d_{26} & d_{27} \\ d_{31} & d_{32} & d_{33} & d_{34} & d_{35} & d_{36} & d_{37} \\ d_{41} & d_{42} & d_{43} & d_{44} & d_{45} & d_{46} & d_{47} \\ d_{51} & d_{52} & d_{53} & d_{54} & d_{55} & d_{56} & d_{57} \\ d_{61} & d_{62} & d_{63} & d_{64} & d_{65} & d_{66} & d_{67} \\ d_{71} & d_{72} & d_{73} & d_{74} & d_{75} & d_{76} & d_{77} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$d_x = (d_1 \ d_2 \ d_3 \ d_4 \ d_5 \ d_6 \ d_7)$$

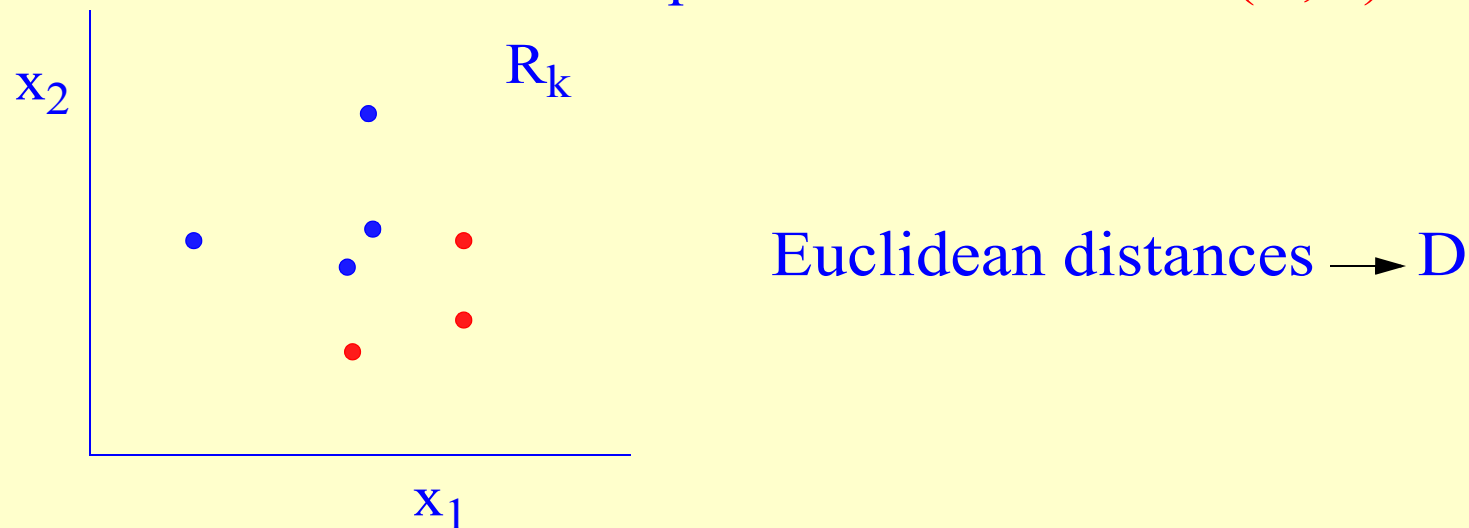
Selection of 3 objects for representation



# Dissimilarity Representation Approach: Embedding



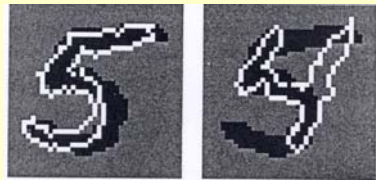
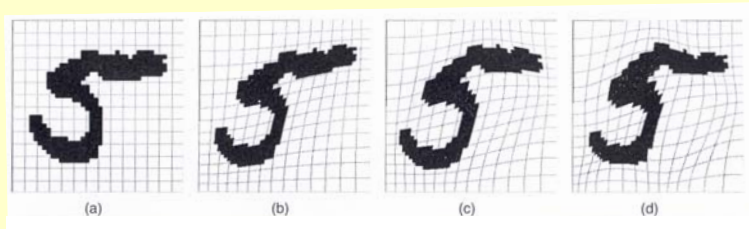
Is there a feature space  $X$  for which  $\text{Dist}(X, X) = D$ ?



If  $D$  is non-Euclidean, embedding results in a pseudo-Euclidean Space  
(*Goldfarb, Pekalska*)

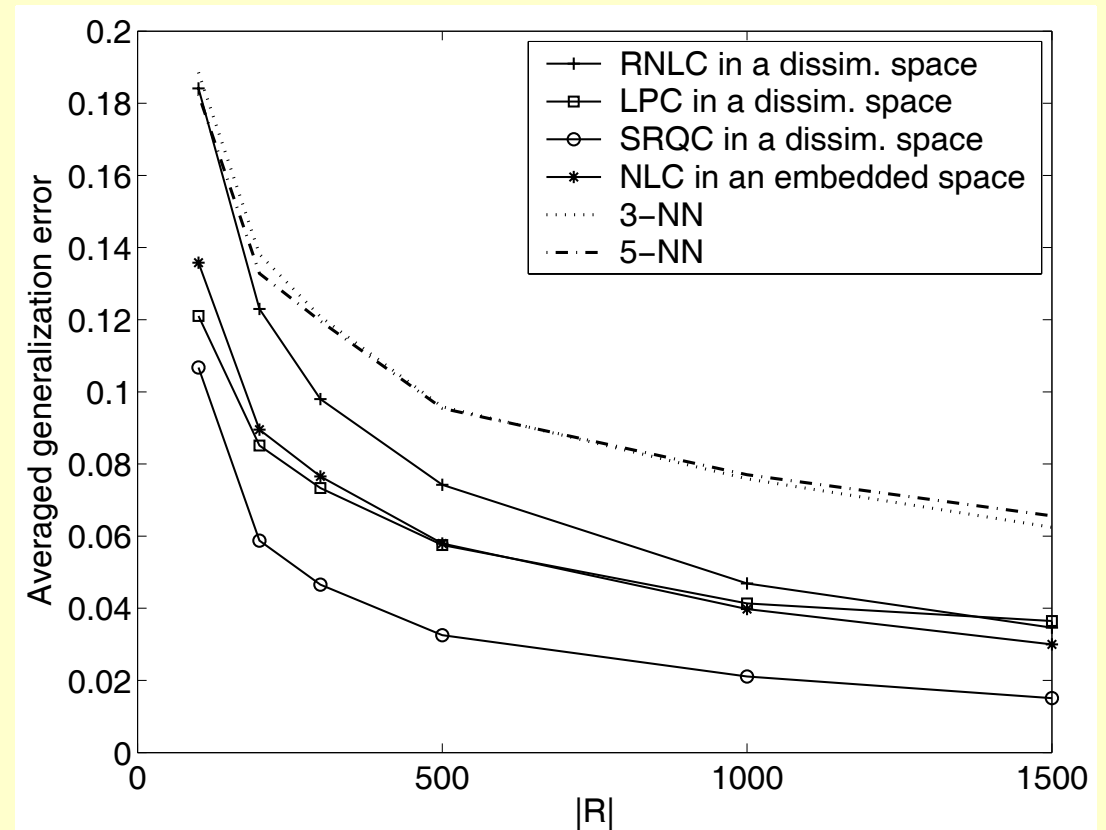


# Digit Classification Example



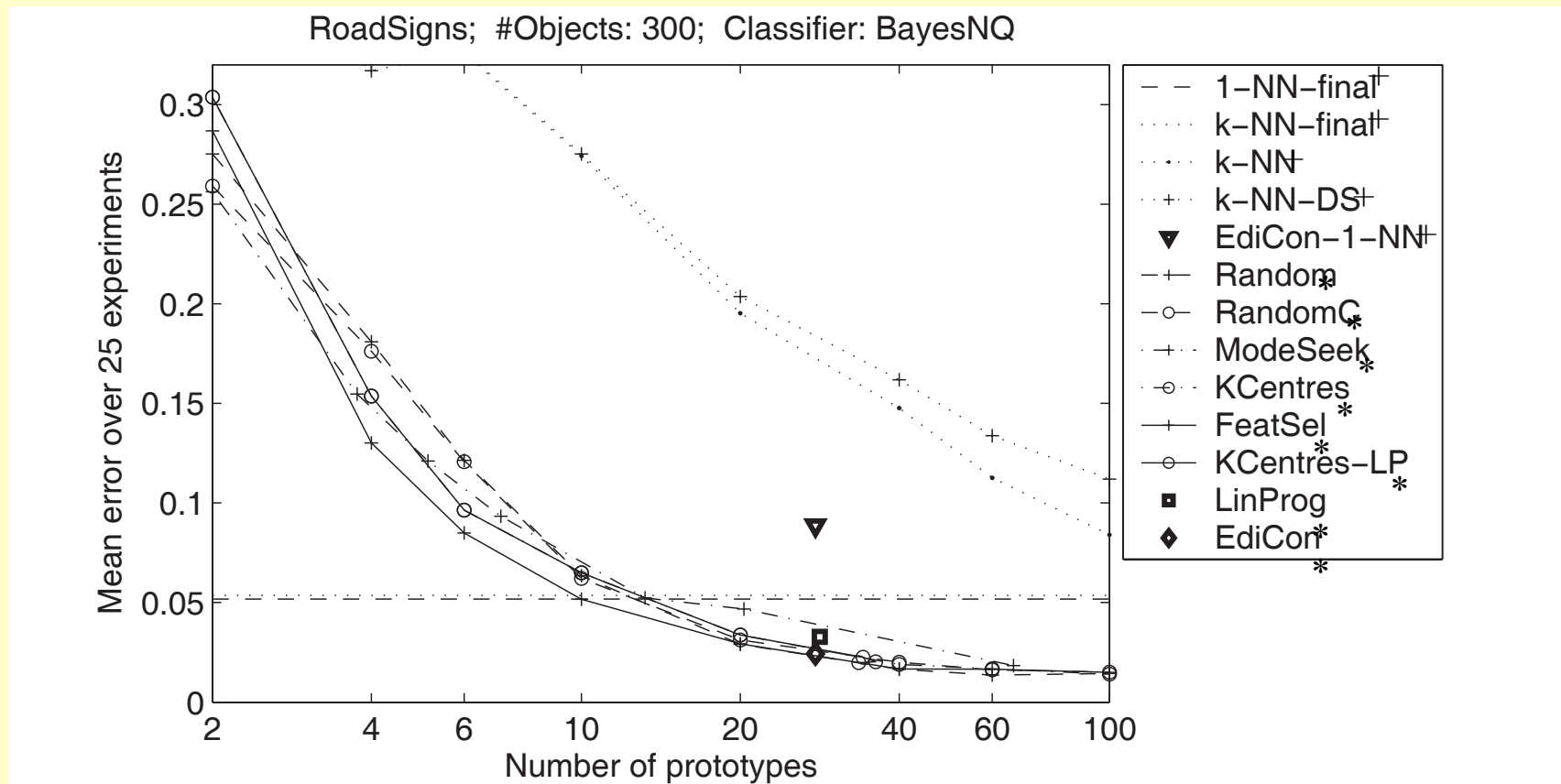
Matching new objects  $x$  to various templates  $y$   
 $\text{class}(x) = \text{class}(\text{argmin}_y(D(x, y)))$

*A.K. Jain, D. Zongker, PAMI, vol. 19, no. 12, 1997.*



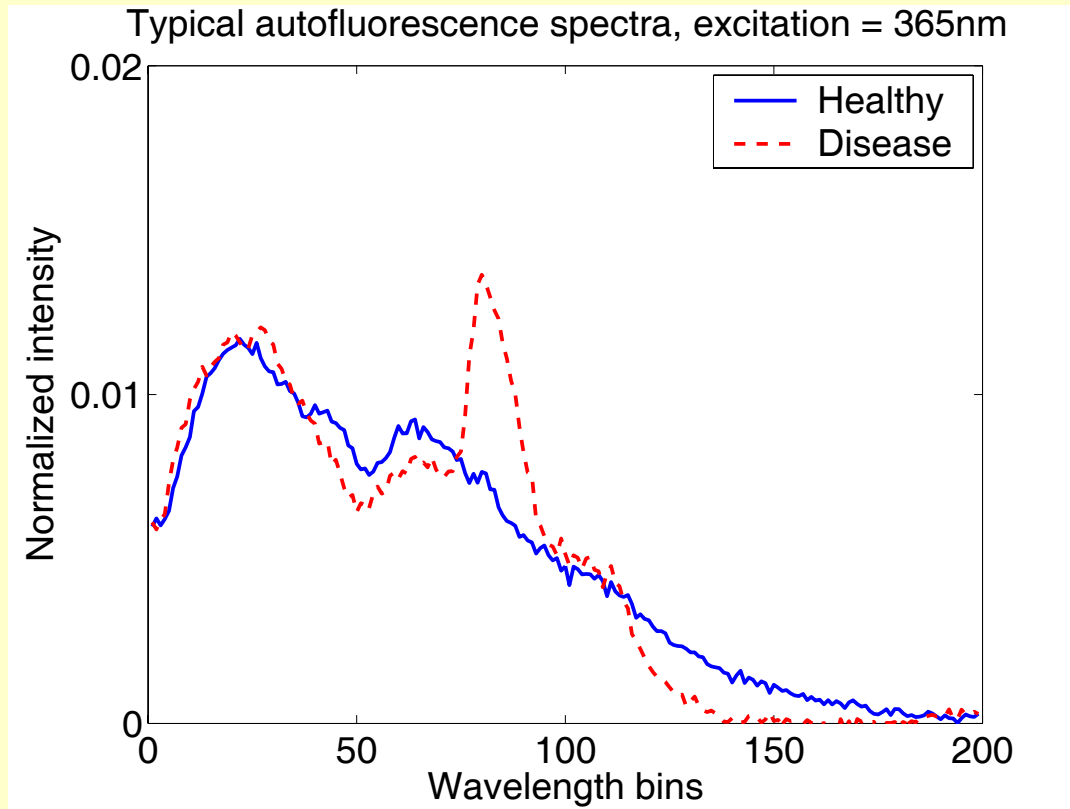
Dissimilarity based classifiers compared to the nearest neighbor rule for a 10-class digit classification problem.

# Prototype Selection for Road Sign Recognition



The averaged error (over 25 experiments) of the quadratic Bayes classifier (\*) in dissimilarity spaces of various dimensionalities, based on a series of selection procedures. For comparison a number of nearest neighbor results (+) are presented.

# Combining Dissimilarity Measures for Spectra Recognition



. Dissimilarity combining experiment

	Dis. Rep.	AUC (st. dev)	#SO
Dis Measure	D <sup>(1)</sup>	72.3 (0.7)	2.5
	D <sup>(2)</sup>	72.0 (0.7)	2.8
	D <sup>(3)</sup>	78.2 (0.6)	2.7
	D <sup>(4)</sup>	68.1 (0.8)	3.1
	D <sup>(5)</sup>	75.1 (0.6)	2.1
Comb. Dis.Meas.	Mean	93.1 (0.5)	4.9
	Prod	93.6 (0.4)	4.6
	Min	85.0 (0.6)	15.3
	Max	84.1 (0.9)	7.2

Typical examples of two auto-fluorescence spectra in the oral cavity

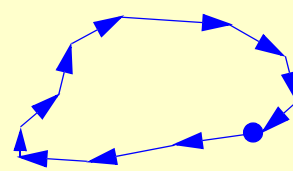
# Representation by Orders Sets (Strings); Edit Distance

	a	u	a	v	v	b
u	█	█	█	█	█	█
b			█	█	█	█
u			█	█	█	█
v				█	█	█
u					█	█
a						█
b						█

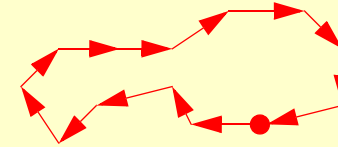
Possibly weighted.

Triangle inequality -->  
computational feasible.

Length normalisation problem:  
 $D(aa,bb) < D(abcdef,bcdd)$



$$X = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k)$$



$$Y = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)$$

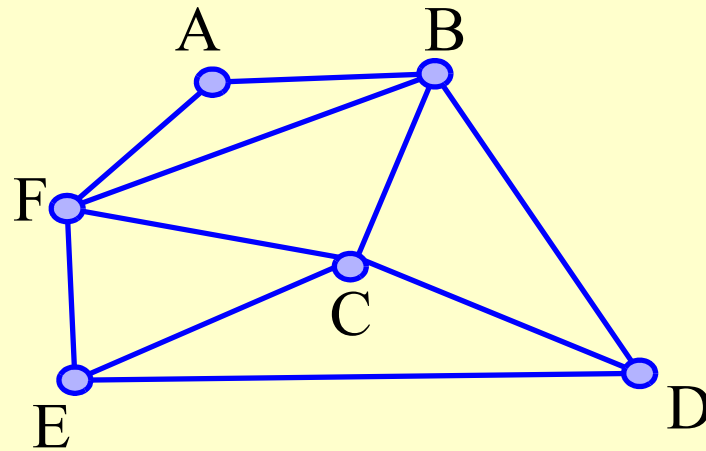
$D_E(X, Y) : \Sigma$  edit operations  $X \rightarrow Y$   
(insertions, deletions, substitutions)

$D_E(\text{snert}, \text{meer}) = 3$ :  
snert --> seert --> seer --> meer

$D_E(\text{ner}, \text{meer}) = 2$ :  
ner --> mer --> meer

*See Marzal & Vidal, IEEE PAMI-15, 1993, 926-932*

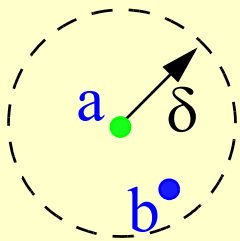
# Representation by Connected Sets (Graphs)



Graph ( Nodes, Connections, Attributes)

Distance ( Graph\_1 , Graph\_2 )

# The Prospect of Dissimilarity based Representations: Zero Error



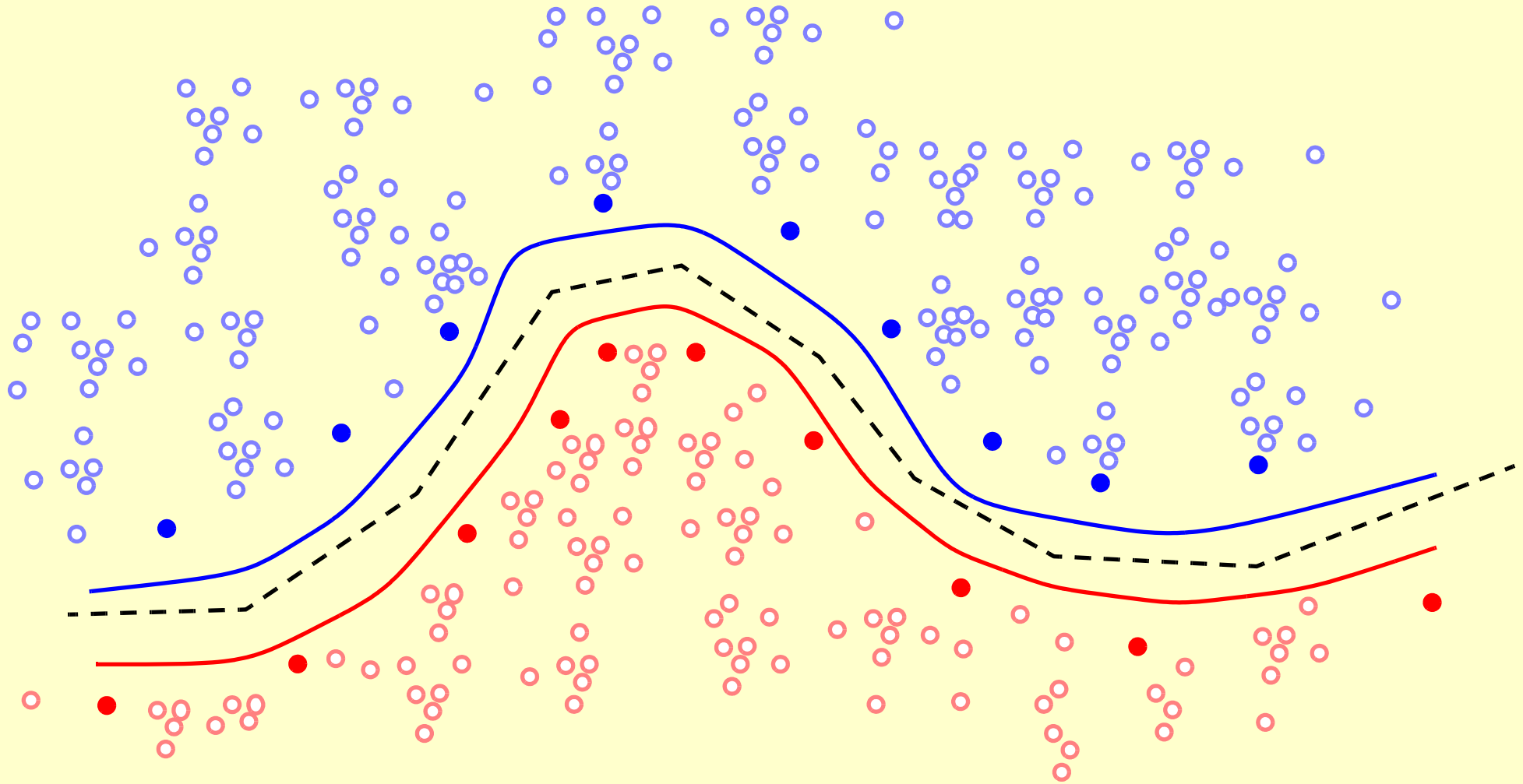
Let us assume that we deal with true representations:

$d_{ab} < \delta$  if and only if the objects  $a$  and  $b$  are very similar.

If  $\delta$  is sufficiently small then  $a$  and  $b$  belong to the same class, as  $b$  is just a minor distortion of  $a$  (Assuming true representations).

However, as  $\text{Prob}(b) > 0$ , there will be such an object for sufficiently large training sets  $\rightarrow$  zero classification error possible!

# Zero-Error Classification



# Domain Based Classification

Objects from different classes have non-zero distance (assumption)

$$d(\text{apple1}, \text{apple2}) \geq 0, d(\text{apple}, \text{pear}) > 0$$

- Classes don't overlap
- Probabilistic approaches are not needed
- No need for stochastic sampling
- Good for ill-defined, ill sampled problems, or problems with unknown priors.



# Towards Domain Classifiers: Remove Probabilistic Contributions

Criterion : Min:  $\varepsilon = \text{Prob}(S(x) \rightarrow \omega | x \notin \omega)$

**Probability Arguments**

Neural Net Min:  $\sum_i (S(x_i, w) - \lambda(x_i))^2$

**Distance Arguments**

Fisher:  $S(x) = y = w \bullet x + w_0$ , such that  $L = \frac{(\bar{y}_1 - \bar{y}_2)^2}{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2}$  is minimum

Parzen:  $S(x) = \frac{1}{n_1} \sum_{i \in \omega_1} \phi(|x - x_i|, h_1) - \frac{1}{n_2} \sum_{i \in \omega_2} \phi(|x - x_i|, h_2)$

SVC: Max:  $\min_i \{S(x_i) \lambda(x_i)\} + \sum_j \xi_j S(x_j) \lambda(x_j)$

# Domain Based Classifiers

Criterion : Max:  $\delta = \min_x (S(x)\lambda(x))$

Neural Net Min:  $\max_i ((S(x_i, w) - \lambda(x_i))^2)$

**Distance Arguments**

Fisher:  $S(x) = y = w \bullet x + w_0$ , such that  $L = \frac{(\bar{y}_1 - \bar{y}_2)^2}{d_1^2 + d_2^2}$  is minimum

Parzen:  $S(x) = \max_i (\varphi(|x - x_i|, h_1)) - \max_i (\varphi(|x - x_i|, h_2))$

SVC: Max:  $\min_i \{ S(x_i)\lambda(x_i) \}$

# Can Dissimilarity Measures Be Learned?



*Dissimilarity based* Objects

Class  
Differences

Classifier

If the representation is based on **dissimilarities of raw measurements**, an **optimization of the dissimilarity measure has to be based on raw data**.

Should dissimilarities or similarities be used?

# Ways to Adjust or Constitute Dissimilarity Measures

1. Combining different dissimilarity measures (compare combining classifiers)
2. Combining dissimilarities (similarities) for different object parts
3. Monotonic transformations of given dissimilarities
4. Transforming non-Euclidean distances to Euclidean distances\*

*\*See Pekalska, SSSPR2004, On not making dissimilarities Euclidean*

# Conclusions

Dissimilarity based pattern recognition uses class differences during representation.

In many applications it is a good alternative for the feature based approach.

It thereby may combine structural approaches with learning from examples.

For some applications class overlaps may be avoided and domain based classifiers become of interest.

Learning and improving dissimilarity measures have to be studied further.