Pattern Classification Challenges in Bioinformatics

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Active Research Areas

1. Bioinformatics
   - Prediction of protein structure, PTM, function, interaction
   - ChIP-chip/Mutation Spectrum Analysis
   - miRNA prediction in unannotated species
2. Hardware acceleration of scientific computing
   - GPGPU, heterogeneous multicore, manycore
   - Proteome-wide analysis, real-time mass spectrometry
   - Real-time patient monitoring using stream processing
3. Assistive devices for disabled and elderly
   - Promote independent living

CU "Wet Lab" Collaborations

➢ Ashkan Golshani/Alex Wong/Frank Dehne/Kyle Biggar: PIPE, PIPE-Sites, SNP-PIPE, InSIPS

➢ Jeff Smith: real-time mass spec.

➢ Bill Willmore/Kyle Biggar: PTM (hydrox., Kme) prediction

➢ Ken Storey/Kyle Biggar: miRNA prediction in unannotated species

➢ Ashkan Golshani: image processing for functional genomics, PTM (sumoylation) prediction

➢ Maria DeRosa (et al): Computational aptamer design

➢ Carole Yauk (et al): ChIP-chip analysis for THR

➢ Paul White/Francesco Marchetti: NGS for MSA

➢ Susan Aitken: Comparative genomics

Bioinformatics

➤ Biology is becoming an information science
  - You can go on the web and download the entire human genome in a text file.
  - High-throughput tests examine 1000's of molecules simultaneously → BIG data!

➤ In Bioinformatics, we apply computational techniques to help biologists conduct biomedical research

➤ Machine Learning is a computational tool that can be applied to a set of solved examples to generalize to new data.
  - Automation (high-througput)
  - Cost savings (pre-screen before bio validation)
  - Suggest future biological experiments

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Seminar Goals

- ➢ What is pattern classification?
    - Why do you need pattern classification?
    - Understand the structure of a pattern classification system
    - How to evaluate classification accuracy
- ➢ Case studies from current collaborations
    - PIPE
    - PTM prediction
    - miRNA prediction
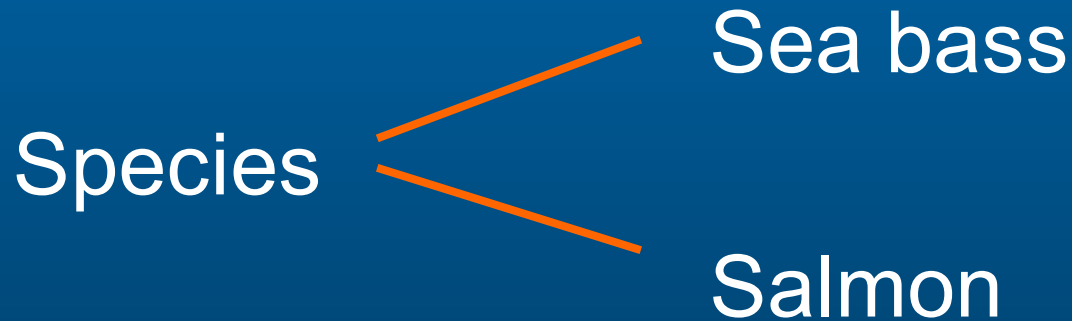- ➢ Other projects from our lab (time permitting)

Machine Perception

➢ Humans naturally recognize patterns

➢ These are all extremely difficult for a machine!

➢ Build a machine that can recognize patterns. e.g.:
- Speech recognition
- Fingerprint identification
- Optical Character Recognition
- DNA transcription factor binding sites
- Gene identification
- Protein structure, interaction, function prediction

This example and several illustrations in these slides are taken from Duda, Hart, and Stork, Pattern Classification, 2nd Edition, Wiley, 2001

An Example – fish sorter

➢ "Sorting incoming Fish on a conveyor according to species using optical sensing"

Sea bass

Species

Salmon

An Example – fish sorter

➤ Problem Analysis

- Set up a camera and take some sample images to extract features
  - Length
  - Lightness
  - Width
  - Number and shape of fins
  - Position of the mouth, etc…

- May be continuous, nominal/categorical, ordinal
- We may use only a subset of these features in our classifier!

An Example – fish sorter

➢ Preprocessing

- Use a segmentation operation to isolate fishes from one another and from the background

➢ Feature extraction

- Information from a single fish is sent to a feature extractor whose purpose is to reduce the data by measuring certain features

➢ The features are passed to a classifier

An Example – fish sorter

An Example – fish sorter

➢ Classification

- Get some prior information:
  - Told that salmon are generally shorter than sea bass
- Select the length of the fish as a possible feature for discrimination

Histogram of fish length

L*, Optimal decision boundary placement

An Example – fish sorter

➢ Although, on average, salmons are shorter than sea bass, length is a poor feature alone!
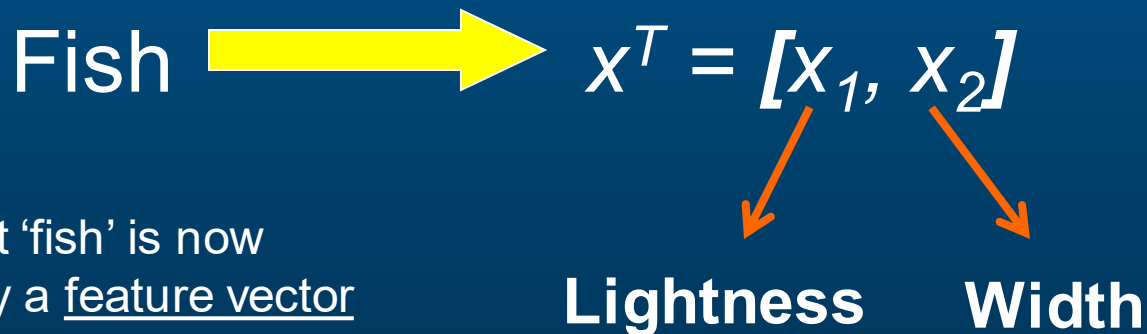
➢ Try selecting lightness as a possible feature.

Histogram of fish lightness
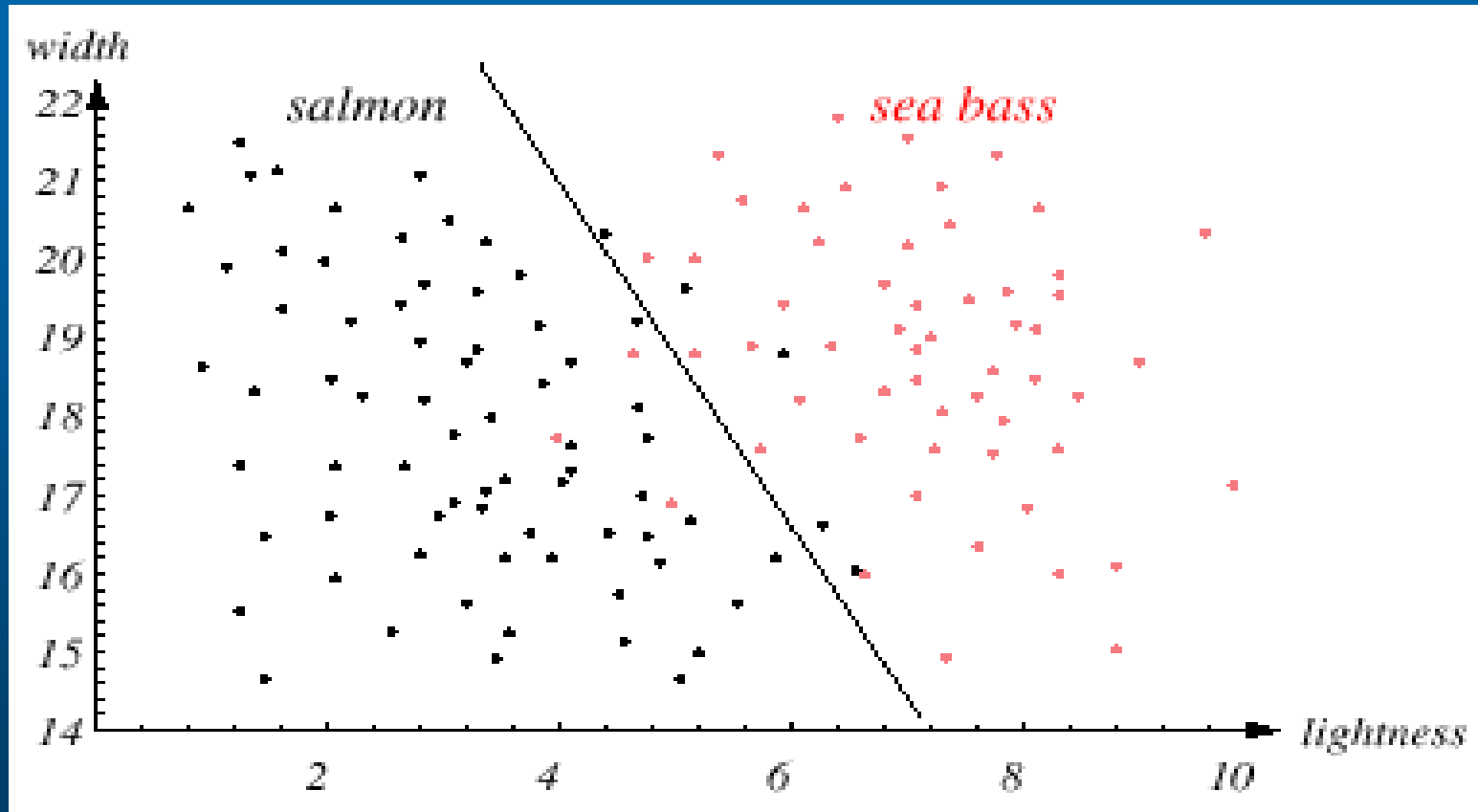

x*, Optimal decision boundary placement

A new feature vector

➤ No single feature provides a good separation of the two fish types (classes)

➤ Try combining multiple features:

- Adopt the lightness and add the width of the fish

Fish ⟶ $x^T = [x_1, x_2]$

The real object 'fish' is now represented by a <u>feature vector</u>

Lightness   **Width**

Scatter plot of fish width vs. lightness

Overfitting and generalization

➢ We might add other features that are not correlated with the ones we already have.

- A precaution should be taken not to reduce the performance by adding "noisy features"

➢ We need to be careful of our "complexity":

An 'optimal' decision boundary?
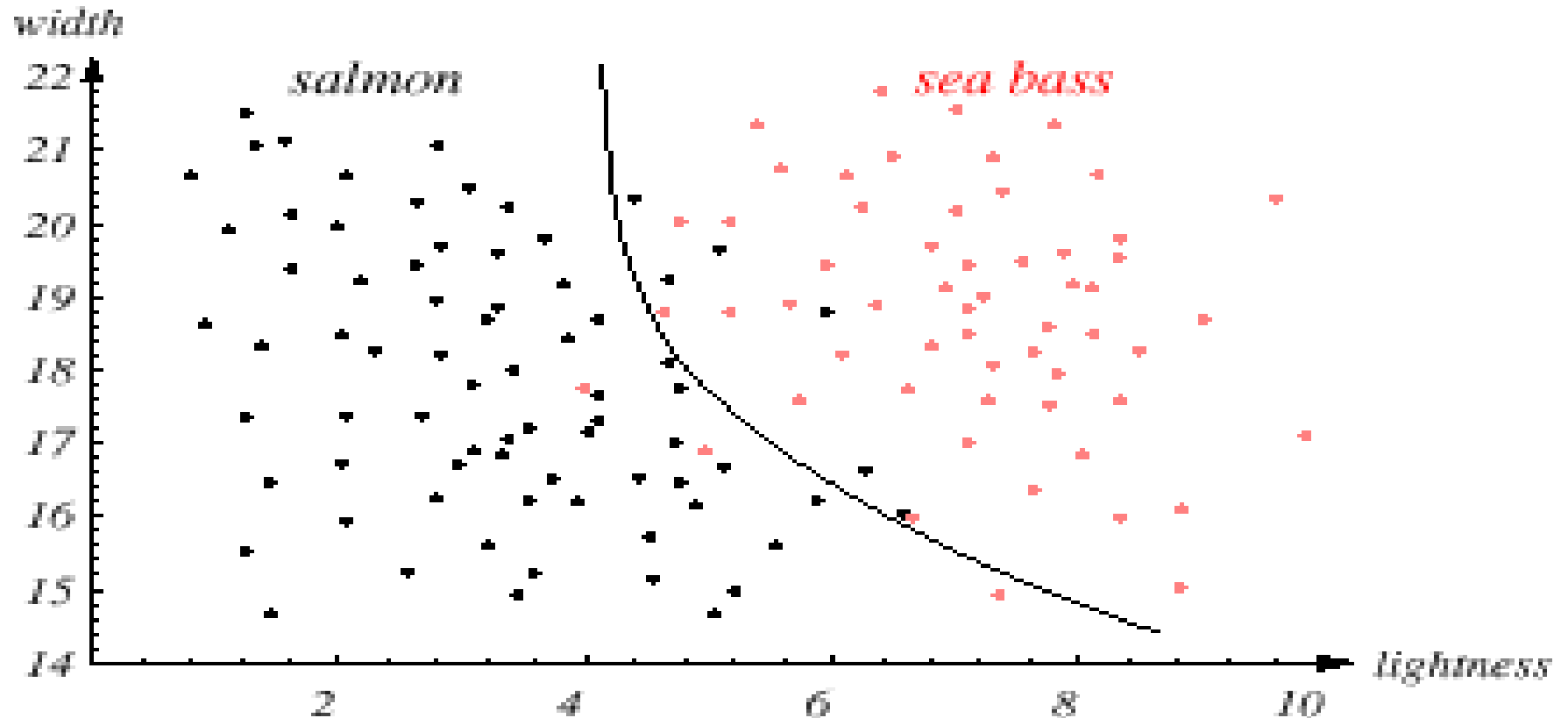
Overfitting and generalization

➢ The central aim of designing a classifier is to correctly classify <u>novel input</u>, not just training example inputs.

Issue of <u>generalization</u>!

➢ Performance on the training data is not always indicative of performance on future test data

An improved decision boundary?

The big picture (supervised learning)

➢ Training
- Collect some training samples where the class is known
- Make some measurements to extract features
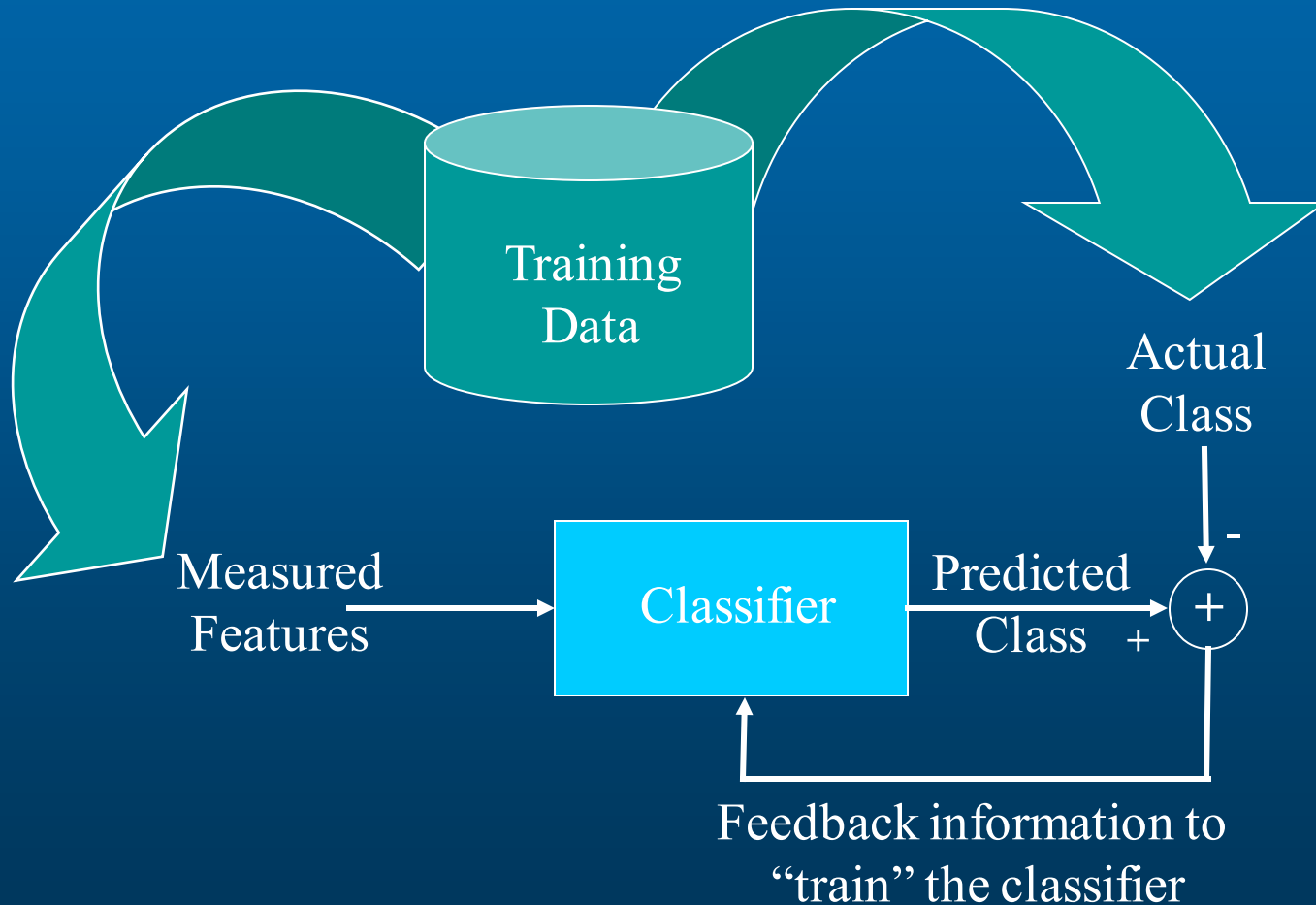- Train a classifier using measured features and known class

➢ Testing
- Evaluate the accuracy of the classifier on test data that was not used to train the classifier.

➢ Operation
- Ultimately, system will work for NEW data
- i.e. examine features for a new sample, guess at class

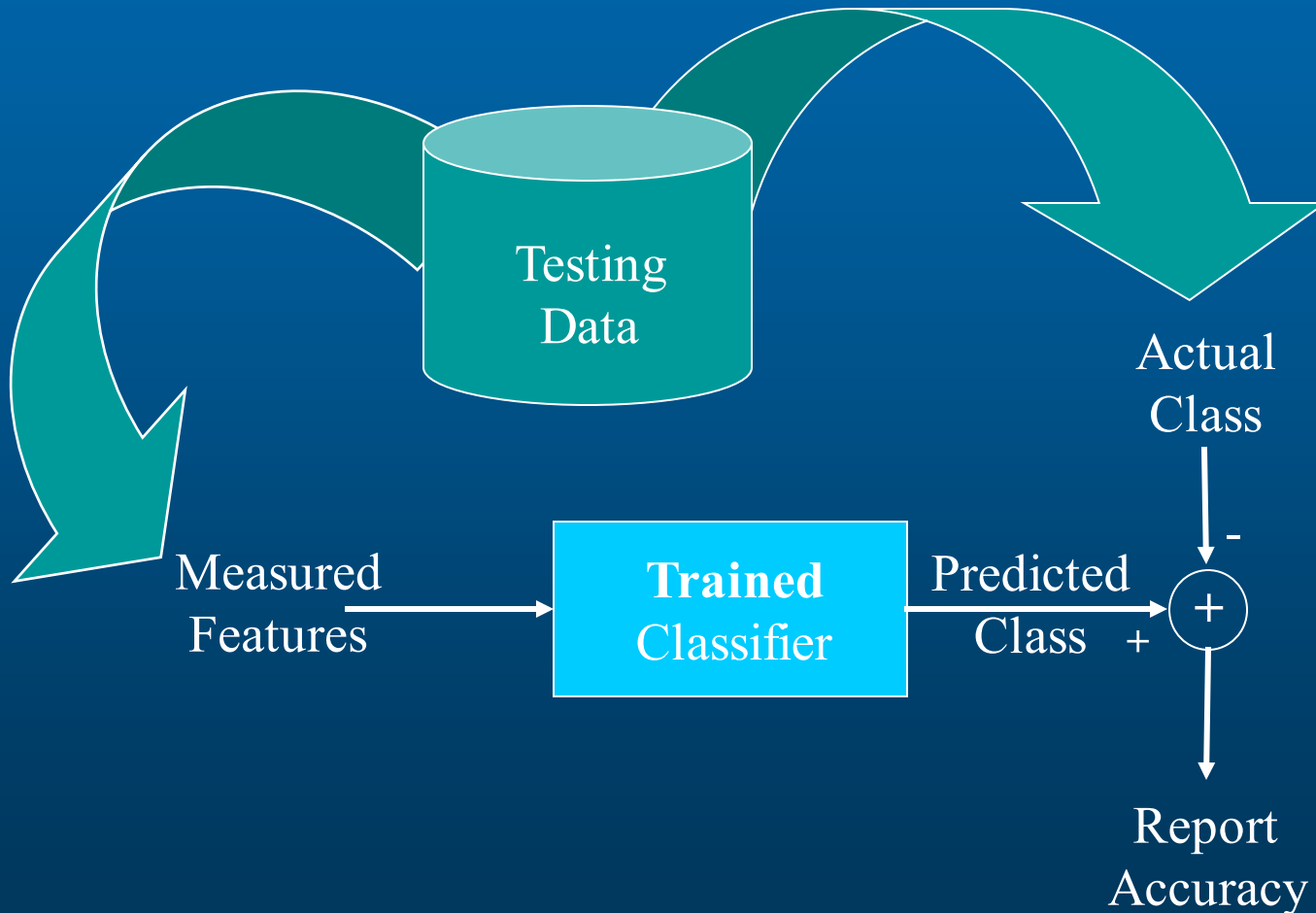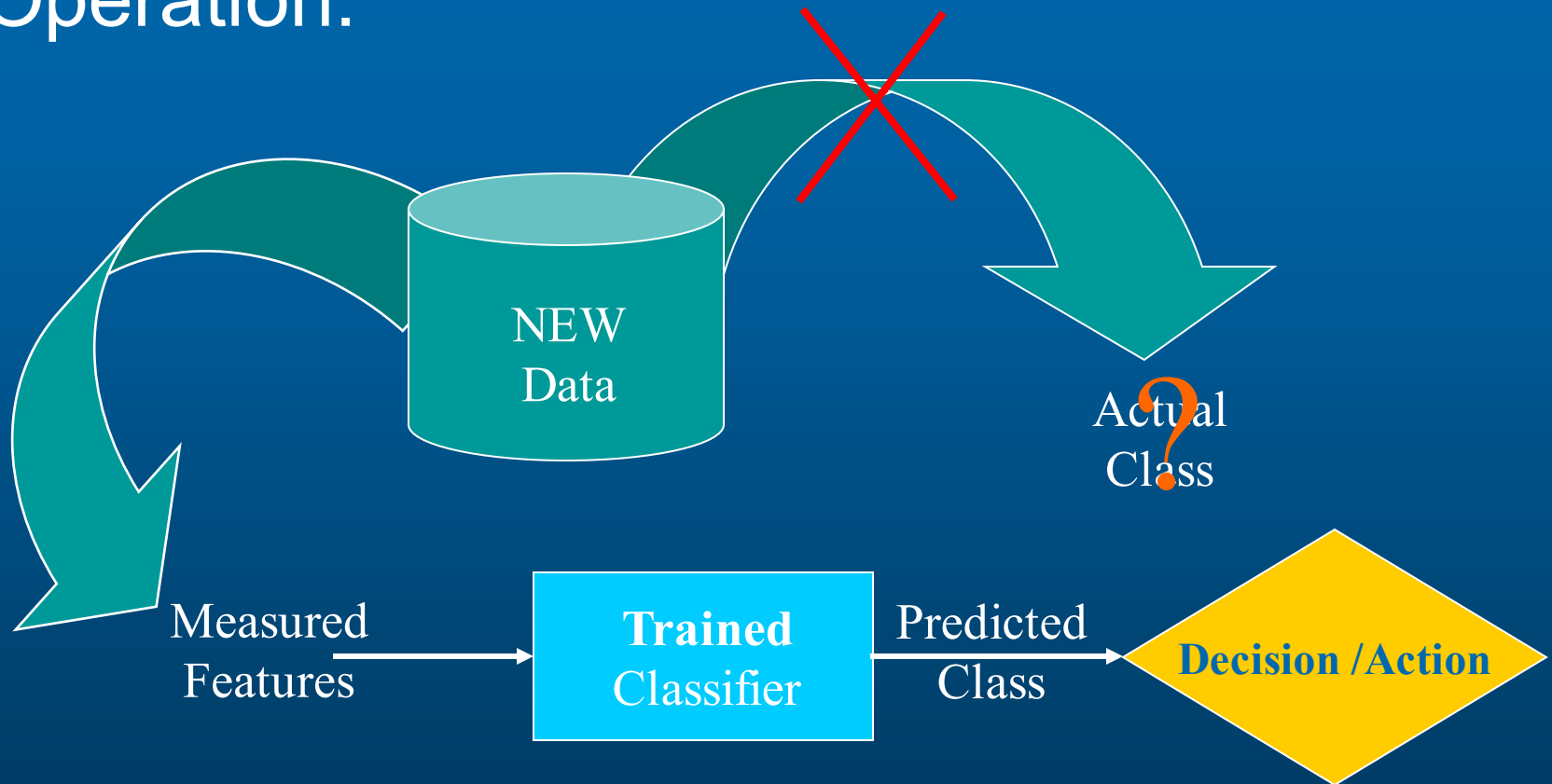# The big picture (supervised learning)

➢ Training:

Training Data

Measured Features → Classifier → Predicted Class +

Actual Class

-

+

Feedback information to "train" the classifier

The big picture (supervised learning)

➢ Testing:

The big picture (supervised learning)

➢ Operation:

NEW Data

Actual Class ?

Measured Features → **Trained** Classifier → Predicted Class → **Decision /Action**

Unsupervised Learning

➢ Cluster these items:

Selecting a learning algorithm

- ➢ Many forms of pattern classifier are available
  - Artificial neural networks, support vector machines, decision trees, decision forests, linear discriminant analysis, K-nearest neighbour, parallel cascade identification, rule-based systems, Bayesian networks, hidden Markov models, genetic algorithms, and many more!
- ➢ Be wary of claims such as '*SVMs are the BEST classifier*'
  - (*No Free Lunch Theorem*)
- ➢ In my experience:
  - If your problem is easy, any classifier will work
  - If your problem is hard, try a few classifiers
  - Find a good toolkit that implements the classifier structure
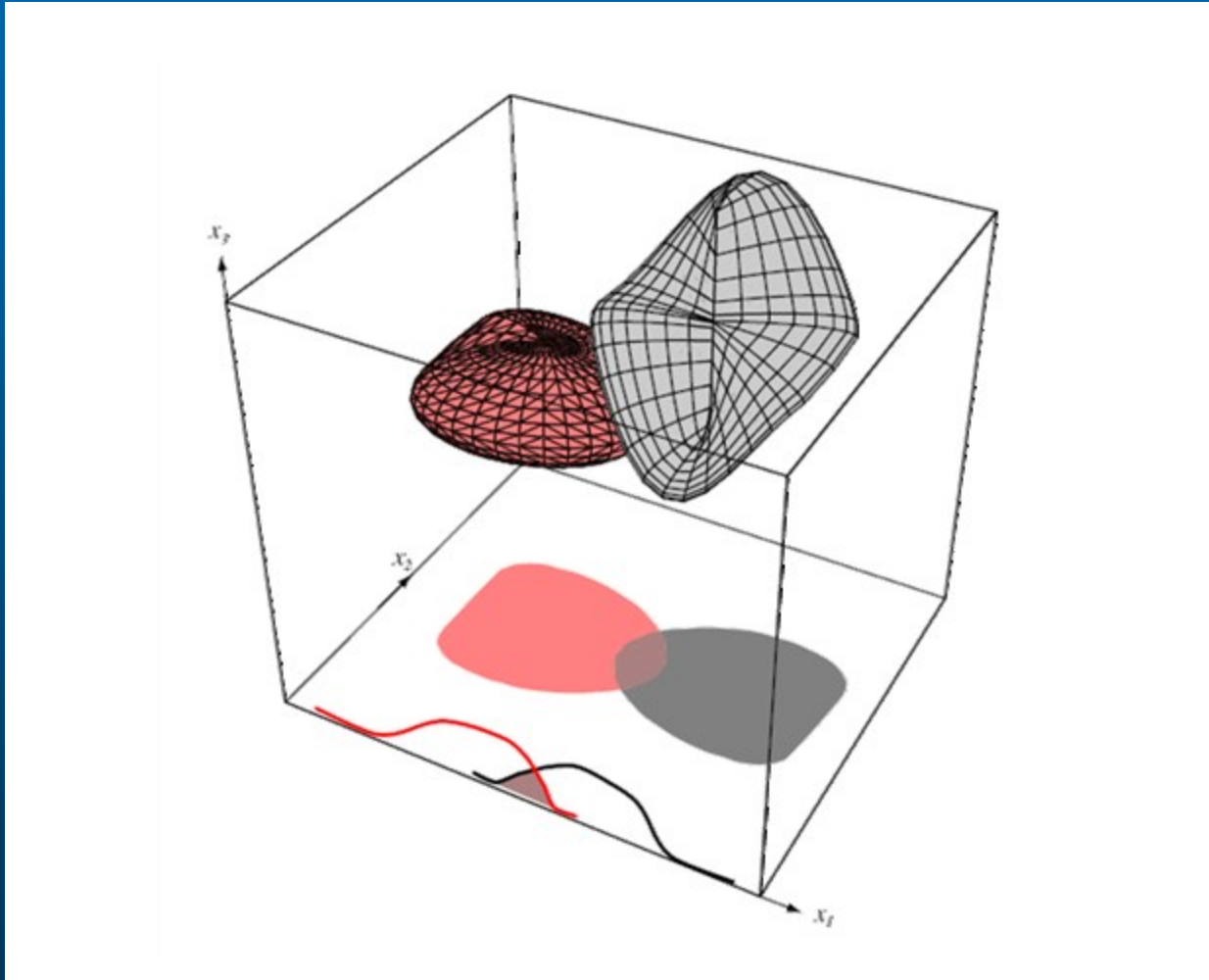   - Many available for all the methods listed above (e.g. Weka)

Computational Complexity

➢ What is the trade-off between computational ease and performance?

- How does the algorithm scale as a function of the number of features, patterns or categories?
- Starts to be important when you want to search an entire genome for a pattern…

Problems of dimensionality

➢ How does accuracy depend on the dimensionality of your features?

➢ The good news:

- More features may increase accuracy

➢ The bad news:

- The "*curse of dimensionality*"

Accuracy, dimension and training sample size

Feature selection

➢ "If all features have good predictive capabilities, any one of many classification methods should do well. Otherwise the situation is much less predictable"*

➢ Some methods will actually do worse with more features

- May be overly sensitive to noisy features
- May overweight redundant features

➢ Can use _feature selection_ to mitigate these effects
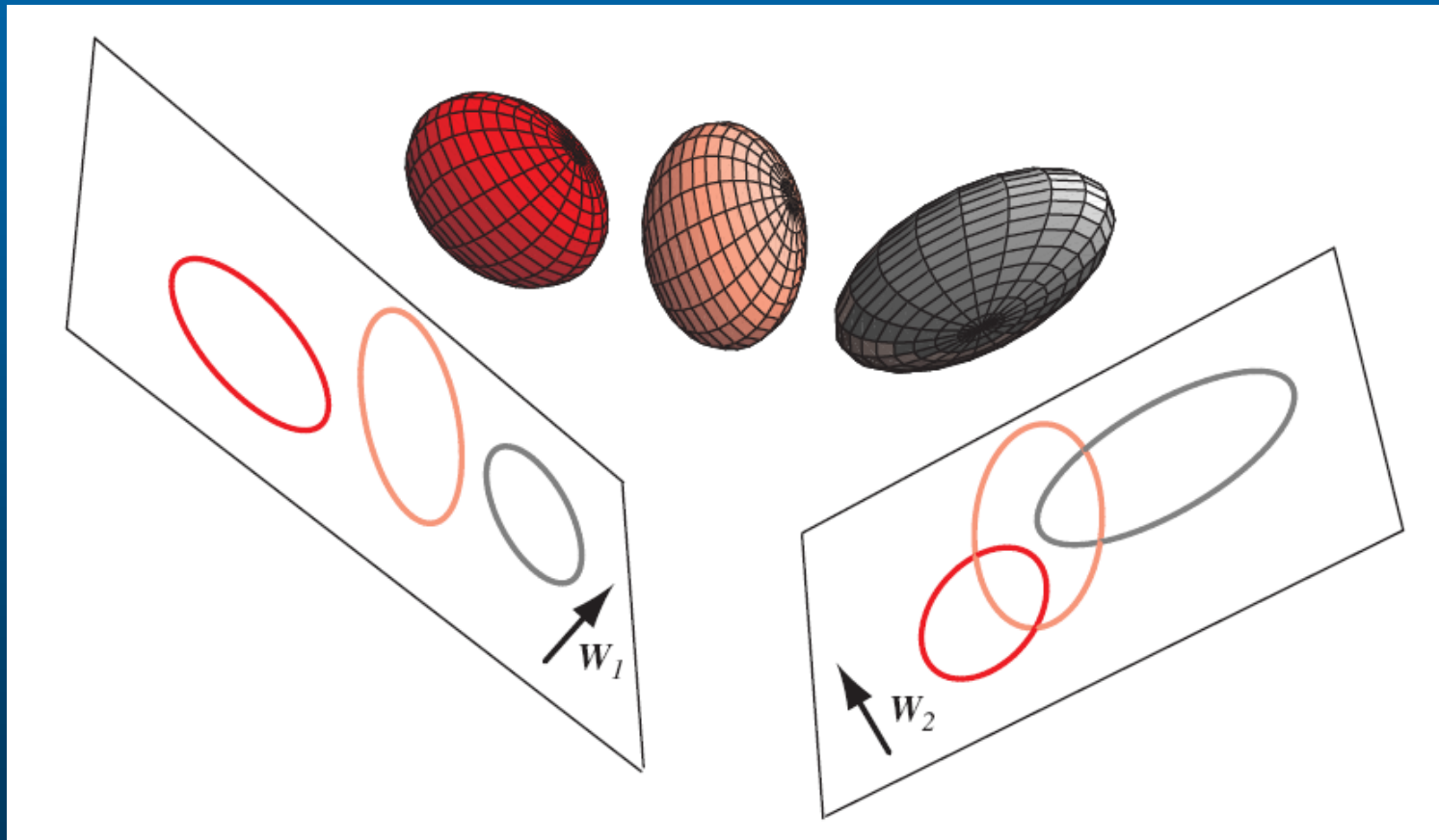
- Choose a subset of features based on merit

*Sholom Weiss and Casmir Kulikowski, Computer Systems That Learn, Morgan Kaufmann, 1991.

Reducing dimensionality

➢ Several options for reducing dimensionality
  - <u>Manually</u> select subset of features
    - Can pre-screen individual features for ability to discriminate between classes
    - Cluster similar/redundant features based on covariance
  - <u>Automated</u> dimension reduction
    - Use a linear combination of features
      - Principal Component Analysis
      - Fisher's Linear Discriminant
      - Multiple Discriminant Analysis

Reducing dimensionality

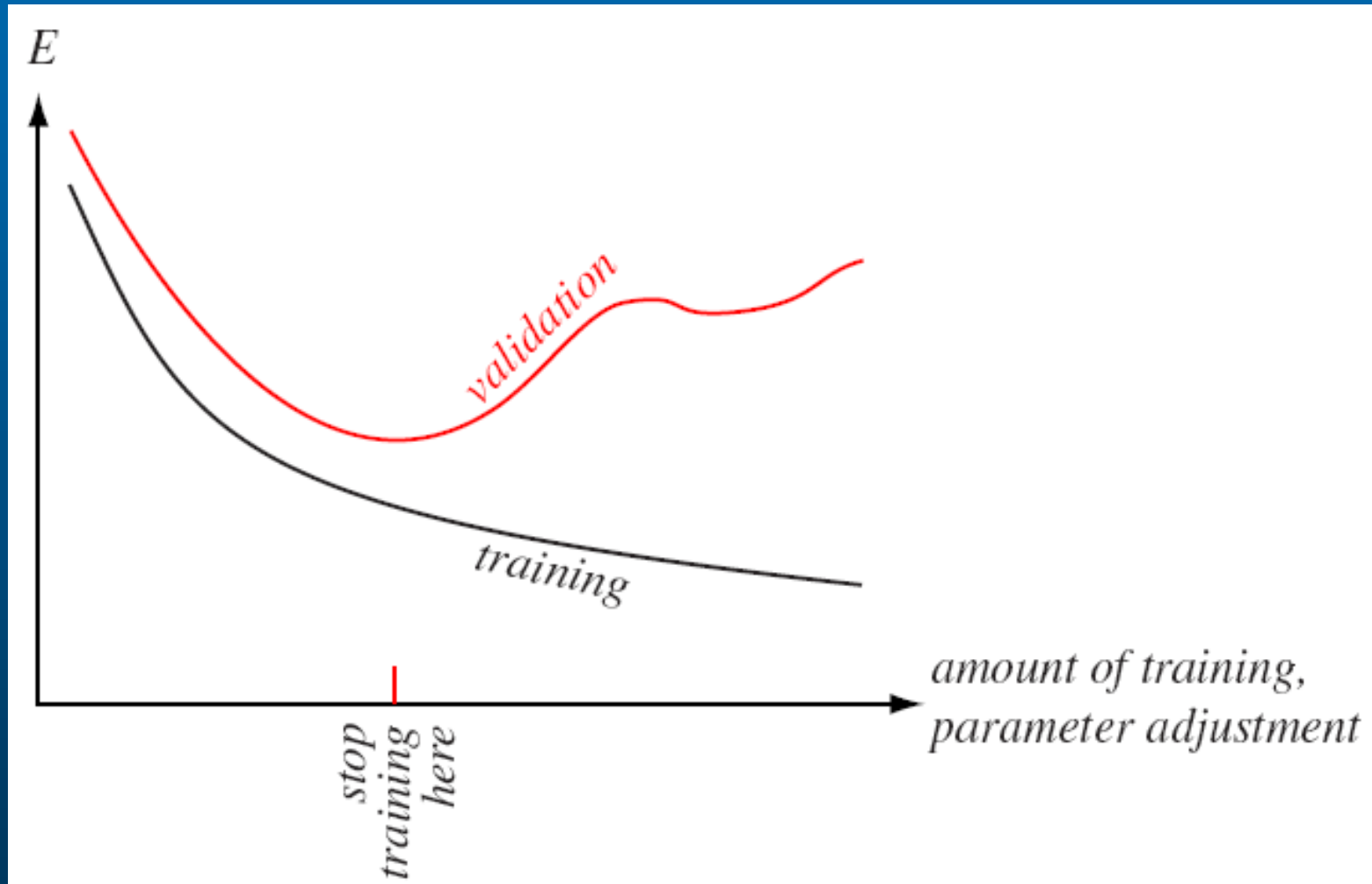➢ Multiple discriminant analysis example

Data set partitioning

➢ Goal of pattern classification is to learn from training data in order to perform accurately over <u>new future data</u> (generalization)

- Goal 1: Create an accurate classifier
  → need lots of training data

- Goal 2: Estimate accuracy on future data
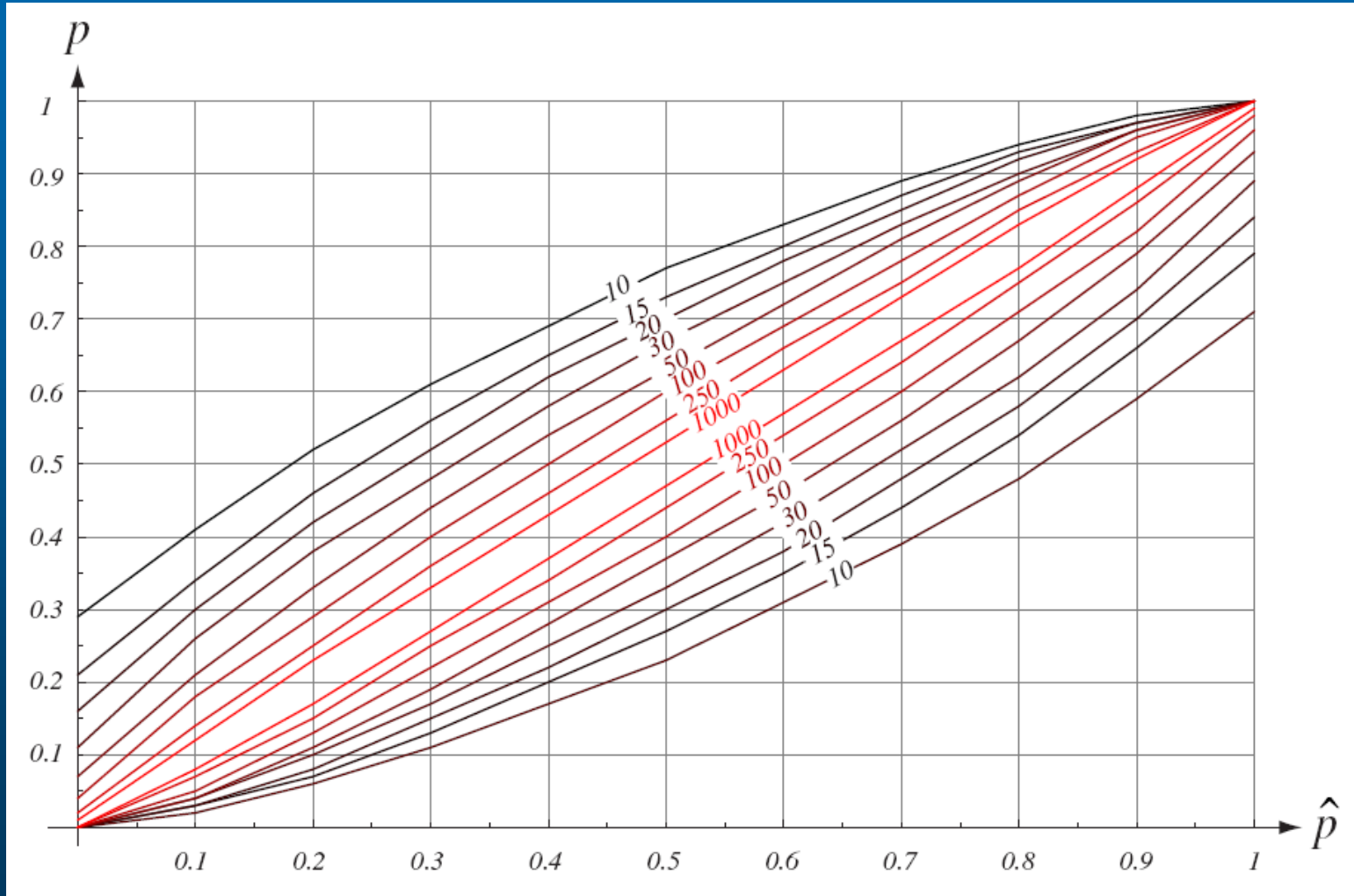 → need lots of independent test data

Goal 1: Effect of Training Set Size

➢ Three techniques used for ATP protein binding site prediction

Effect of Increasing Training Data

Goal 2: Need for Independent Test Data

Goal 2: Need for MANY Test Data

Data set partitioning

- ➢ BUT, most problems have <u>limited samples</u>
  - Must decide how many to use for training, validation, and testing.
  - Want sufficient <u>training</u> data to learn from
  - Want sufficient <u>test</u> data to accurately predict performance over future data
- ➢ Several strategies to maximize use of data
  - Hold-out
  - N-fold cross-validation
  - Leave-one-out / jackknife
  - Bootstrap

Testing & reporting results

1. How do we accurately measure and report the accuracy of a pattern classifier?

2. How do we objectively compare two classifiers over a given problem?

3. How can we predict how well a classifier will generalize, given it performance over our training data / testing data?

Measures of classification accuracy

- ➢ Confusion table/matrix
  - Accuracy
  - Sensitivity / recall / true positive rate
  - Specificity
  - False Positive Rate
  - False Negative Rate
  - Positive Predictive Value / precision
  - Negative Predictive Value
  - False Discovery Rate Sensitivity
  - Matthews' correlation coefficient
  - F-measure
  - G-mean
  - Application-specific measures
- ➢ Receiver Operator Characteristic Curves
  - Area under curve

Confusion Table

➤ Correct predictions shown in green, errors in red.

- Type I errors (or α error, or false positive)
- Type II errors (β error, or a false negative)

Confusion Table

- ➤ Accuracy = (TP+TN) / (TP+TN+FN+FP)
- ➤ Sensitivity = Sn = TP / (TP+FN)
  - aka 'recall', 'true positive rate'
- ➤ Specificity = Sp = TN / (TN+FP)
- ➤ False Positive Rate = 1-Sp
  - = FP/(TN+FP)
- ➤ False Negative Rate = 1-Sn
  - = FN/(TP+FN)
- ➤ Positive Predictive Value = TP / (TP+FP)
  - aka 'precision'
- ➤ Negative Predictive Value = TN / (TN+FN)
- ➤ False Discovery Rate = FP / (TP+FP)
- ➤ F-measure = harmonic mean of Sn & PPV
- ➤ G-mean = geometric mean of Sn&Sp

		Actual Class	
		A (+)	B (-)
Predicted Class	A (+)	TP	FP
	B (-)	FN	TN

- None of these measures in isolation can tell us how 'accurate' the classifier is.

Case study: PIPE II

➢ The challenge:
- Yeast has 6200 proteins in its proteome.
- Every possible pair of yeast proteins could potentially interact.
- Based on biological evidence, it is believed that approx 50K interactions exist in yeast.
- Would like to computationally predict from sequence alone whether a given pair will interact.
- It is very expensive to verify a prediction experimentally.

➢ The solution:
- We have developed a classifier which tests a given pair of protein sequences and predict whether they will interact *in vivo*.
- We have reduced the computational complexity to the point where we can run it on all 18million pairs.
- Through parameter tuning, we can achieve either:
  - 1) High specificity of 99% with medium sensitivity (%50)
  - 2) Very high specificity of 99.9% at the cost of a low sensitivity (25%)

➢ The $1M questions:
- **Which parameter set is preferred?**
- **How many of the predicted interactions are likely to be true interactions?**

Case study: PIPE II

Case 1

	Actual Class	
	A (+)	B (-)
Predicted Class A (+)	25K	180K
B (-)	25K	17.8M

Sn=50%
Sp=99%
Prec=25K/205K=12%

Case 2

	Actual Class	
	A (+)	B (-)
Predicted Class A (+)	12.5K	18K
B (-)	37.5K	18M

Sn=25%
Sp=99.9%
Prec=12.5K/30.5K=42%

Class Imbalance

➢ Many events of interest are rare

- ~500K interactions among ~250M human protein pairs (1:500)
- 40 protein hydroxylation targets with 61 positive N/D and 1,980 negative (1:32)
- 4M non-redundant RNA hairpins; only ~2600 known miRNA in MiRBase (<1:1500)

➢ Problem:

- Classifiers tend to always predict overrepresented class & ignore rare class

➢ Solution:

- Use appropriate performance metrics!
- Random undersampling/oversampling
  - Can also create new data by adding noise to existing data
- Adjusting cost/loss function
  - Make errors on rare class more costly

ROC Curves

Tunable decision threshold

ROC Curve

➤ Curve is not necessarily symmetric

➤ Can be informative in setting threshold to balance benefit of TP against cost of FP

Area under the ROC Curve

➢ Area under an ROC curve (AUC) summarizes performance of a classifier

- Independent of particular cost function which might influence threshold placement
- Ranges from 1 (perfect) to 0 (worst)
  - Random = 0.5

- BUT, AUC is just one facet of classifier performance. May not be the most important one
  - E.g. PIPE must perform at one extreme end of the curve…

PIPE ROC Curve

Precision-Recall Curves

Precision vs. Prevalence

$$Prec = \frac{TP}{TP + FP}$$

$$Prec = \frac{1}{1 + r\dfrac{FPR}{Sn}}$$

Protein-Protein Interaction

Myosin-VI ...HWLICS**RWKKVQWCSLSVIKLKNKI**KYRAE

binding site

Calmodulin

MADQLTEEQI**AEFKEAFSLF**DKDGDG...EE**EIREAFRVF**DKD...

➢ Valuable for understanding protein function

➢ Costly to determine experimentally

PPI Prediction @ CU

Pair of query
protein sequences $\longrightarrow$

Known interactions,
sequences $\longrightarrow$

PIPE,
PIPE-Sites

$\longrightarrow$ Interaction prediction (yes/no)
Binding sites (amino acid ranges)

➢ "PIPE": Protein Interaction Prediction Engine

- Best observed performance at high specificity (99.95%), crucial for proteome-wide prediction

- 22K known human proteins: still $(22K)^2 / 2 \times 0.05\% = 121K$ false positives

➢ PIPE-Sites: binding sites

- Identifies actual site of protein-protein interface

- Accuracy confirmed using databases of experimentally determined binding sites

PIPE Performance

ROC

Precision-Recall

From: Park, BMC Bioinformatics, 2009, 10:419

PIPE: Yeast Global Scan

- PIPE has been used to do a **global scan of yeast**:
  - **29,589 interactions** detected (**14,438 novel** at the time of the experiment, some interactions were later confirmed by other traditional experiments).
- Using up-to-date data in 2013, a new global scan of the yeast genome resulted in **~87,000 PPIs**, more than yeast was expected to include.

PIPE: *Homo Sapiens* Global Scan

➢ First ever "complete" human interactome!

  ● Other methods can only examine ~25% of protein pairs

    • Computational complexity (PIPE <1s per pair)

    • Availability of input features (e.g. structure)

  ● Now applying network analysis

    • (e.g. pathways)

Homo Sapiens (Human)*

* Image from BrainMaps.org

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PIPE: Global Human Results

➢ Human genome is believed to code for 20,000–40,000 protein-coding genes & contain between 154,000 and 600,000 interactions.

➢ Online Predicted Human Interaction Database contains 47,221 interactions involving 10,579 unique proteins (8-31% of estimated total).

➢ We conducted a global scan of all possible human protein pairs which resulted in over **170,000 PPIs** → 4x increase in knowledge

➢ The experiments were conducted on HPCVL's Victoria Falls cluster.

- 1168 Sun UltraSparc T2+ cores.
- Total runtime: **three months**.

Cross-Organism Predictions

➤ One of the nice features of PIPE is the ability to predict new interactions in one organism by using known interactions in another.

➤ This makes it possible to predict PPI in a **newly sequenced organism**, something most other methods can't do.

PIPE: Seasonal Allergic Rhinitis (SAR)

➢ Collaborative project with:

- Department of Pediatrics, Gothenburg University, Gothenburg, Sweden.
- The Centre for Individualized Medication, Linköping University. Linköping, Sweden.
- Banting and Best Department of Medical Research, Donnelly Centre, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada.

➢ "Hay fever"

➢ Study to find new biomarkers to identify SAR in patients.

➢ Results were supported by patient data.

PIPE: Volvox/Chlamy/Gonium

- ➤ Collaborative project with:
  - Bradley Olson (Olson Lab, Kansas State)
  - Pierre Durand (Wits University, South Africa)
  - Jonathan Featherston (Agricultural Research Council, South Africa)
  - Richard E. Michod (University of Arizona)
- ➤ Chlamydomonas (*C. reinhardtii*)
  - Unicellular (undifferentiated cells).
- ➤ Goniaceae (*G. pectorale)*
  - Unicellular, but forms colonies.
- ➤ Volvocaceae *(V. carteri)*
  - Multicellular.

Richard E. Michod, Evolution of individuality during the transition from unicellular to multicellular life, PNAS, 2007

Other Results

- ➢ PIPE has also be used to predict interactions between organisms and viruses such as:
  - Influenza (H1N1)
  - HIV
  - Hepatitis B, C
- ➢ An obstacle to predicting Human-Virus interactions is the small number of known interactions.
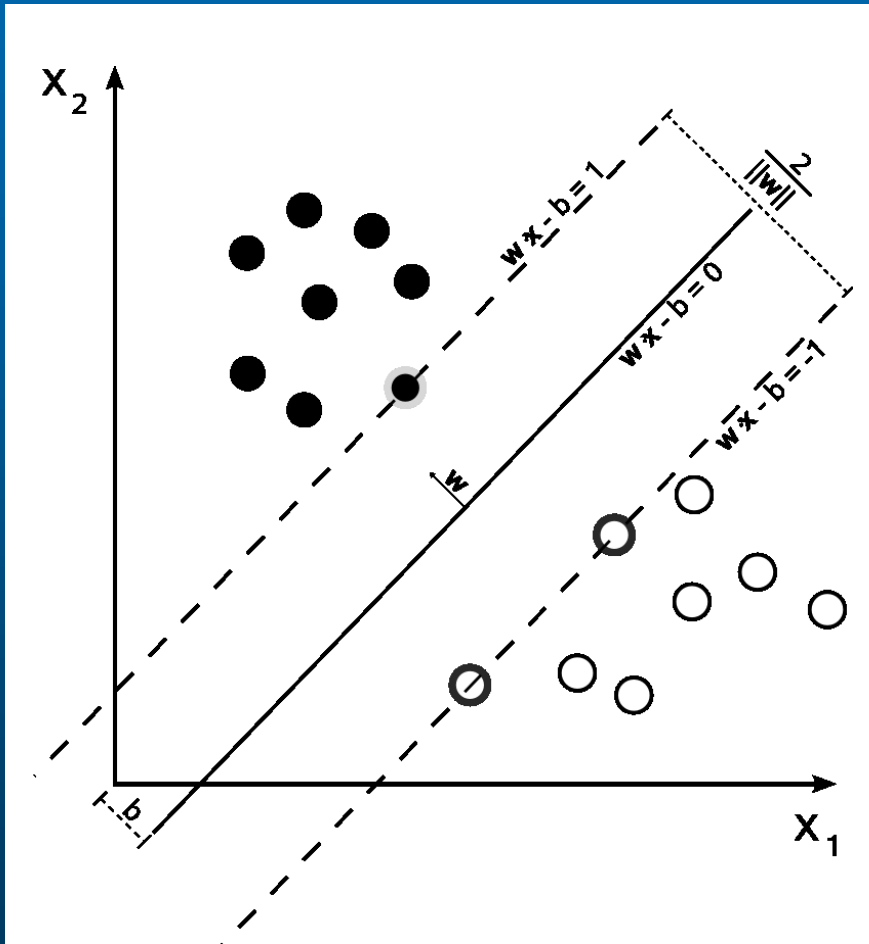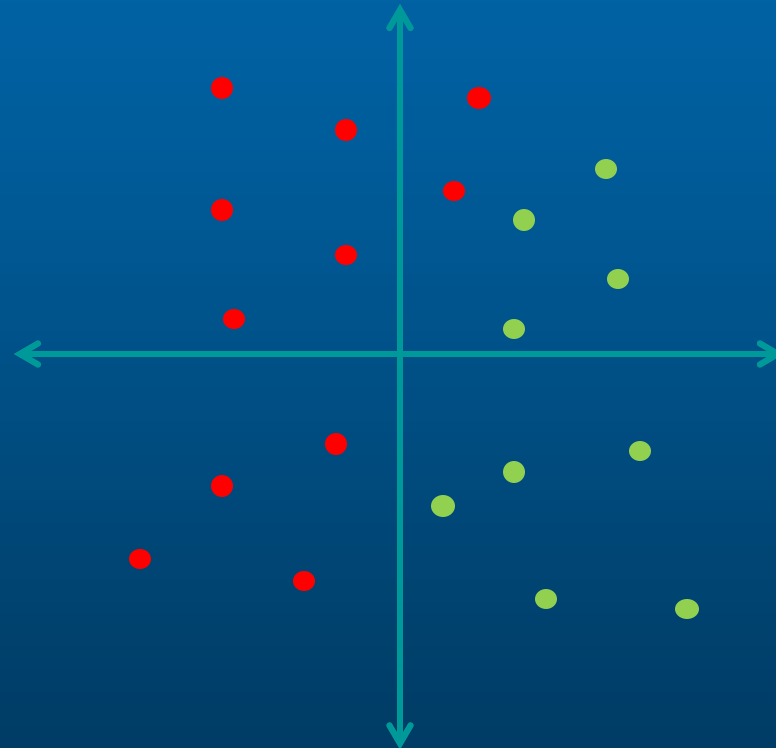
PTM Prediction

PTM Prediction

➤ Known N/D hydroxylation data limited

- Identified 40 known hydroxylation targets
  - dbPTM & literature review
  - 22 possess EGF domain, 16 ankyrin repeat domain
- 60 positives sites, 1980 (*presumed*) negatives
  - Extracted windows of ±7 AAs around N/D
  - Eliminated duplicate windows: 47+, 1223-
- Trained/evaluated SVM using LOO test
  - 92.7% recall; 61.45% precision

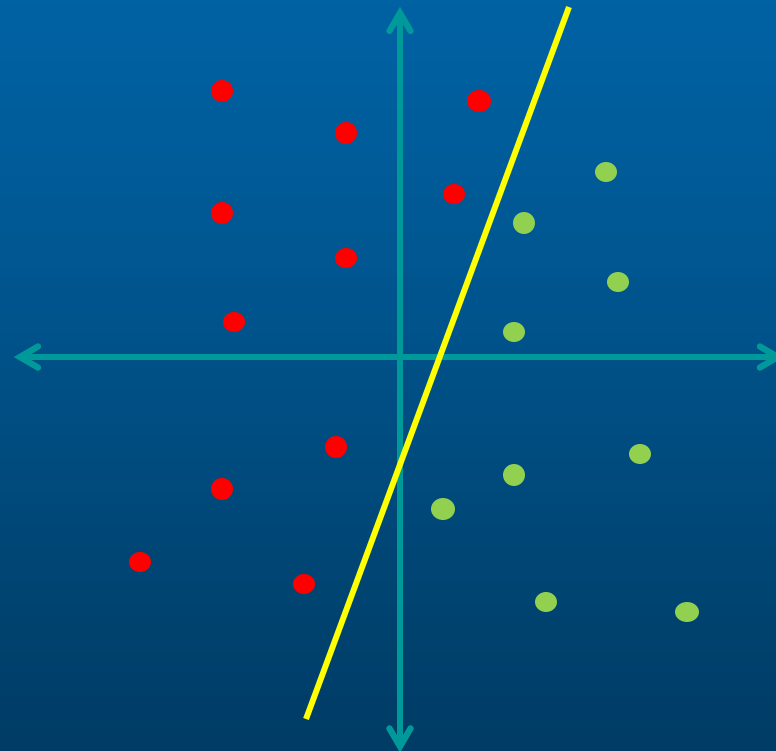➤ Applied to all 1.3M N/D in human proteins

- *Now what?*

PTM Prediction

PTM Prediction - SVM

PTM Prediction

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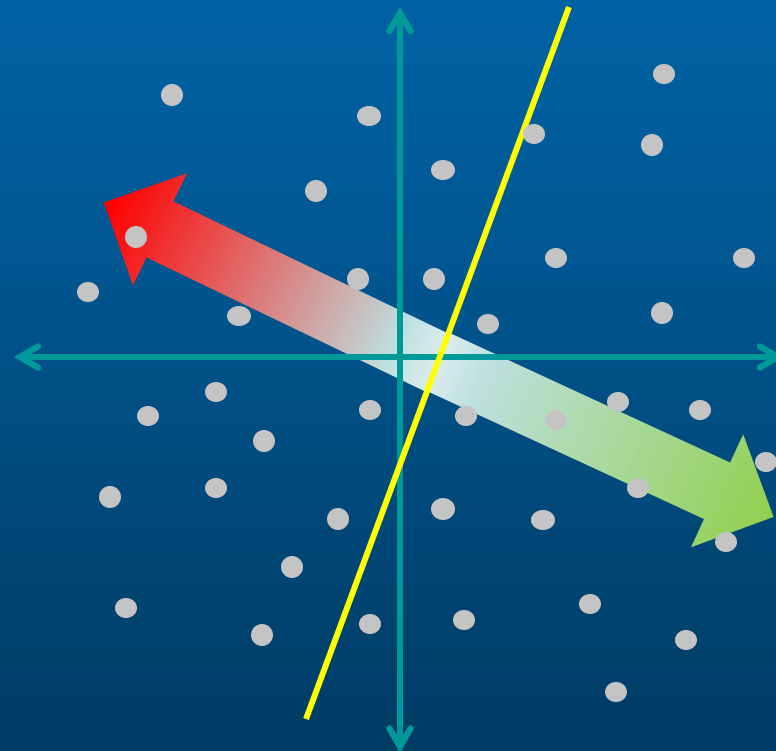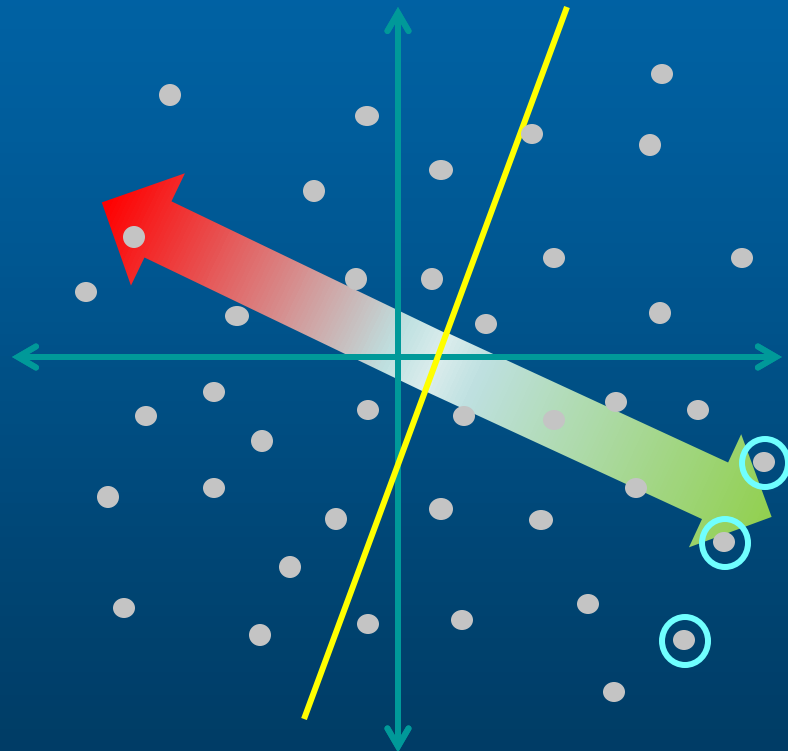 - *Now what?*

Active Learning

1. Collect labelled training data
2. Train a classifier
3. Apply to unlabelled data
4. Select points to validate
5. Perform wetlab validation
6. Add newly labelled samples to training data

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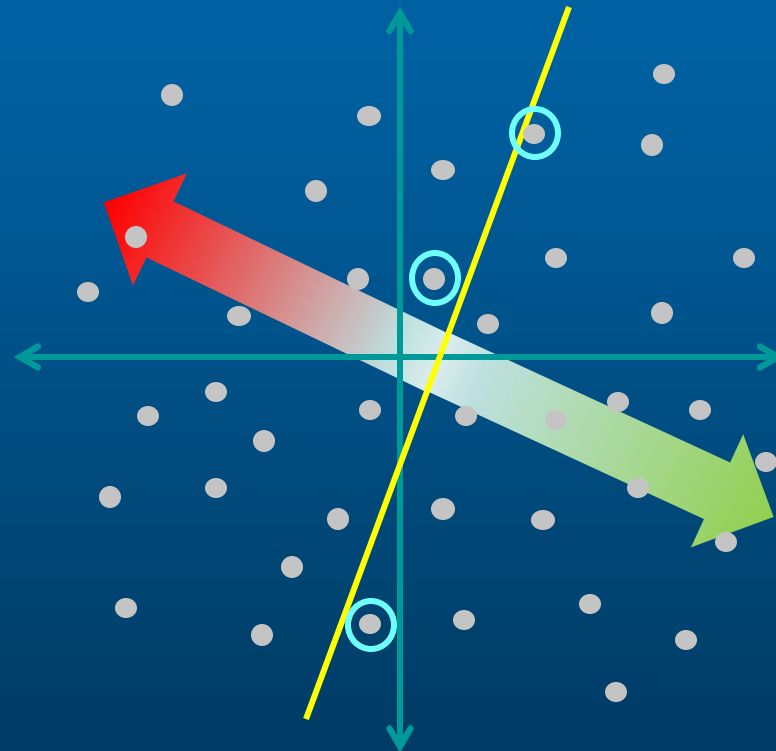6. Add newly labelled samples to training data

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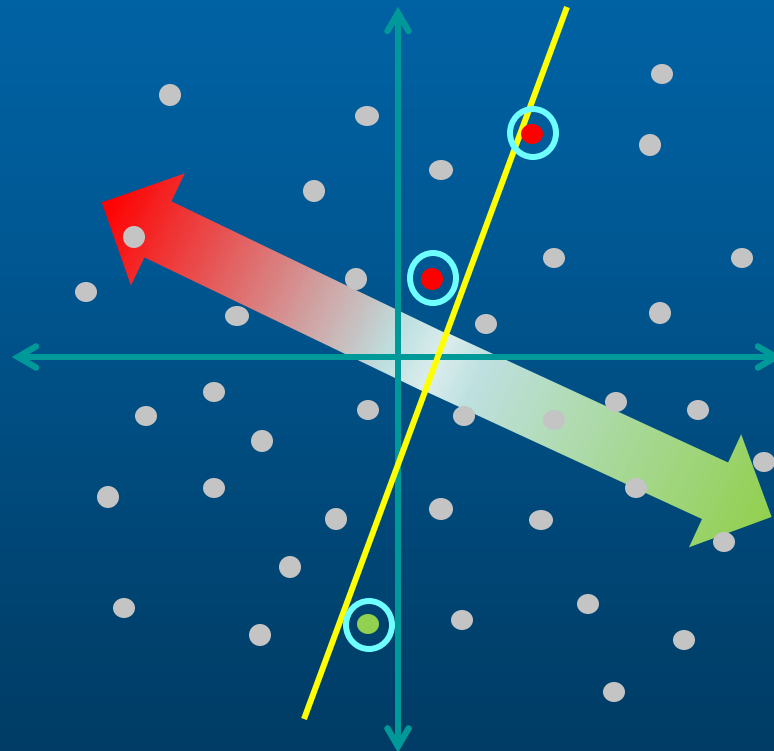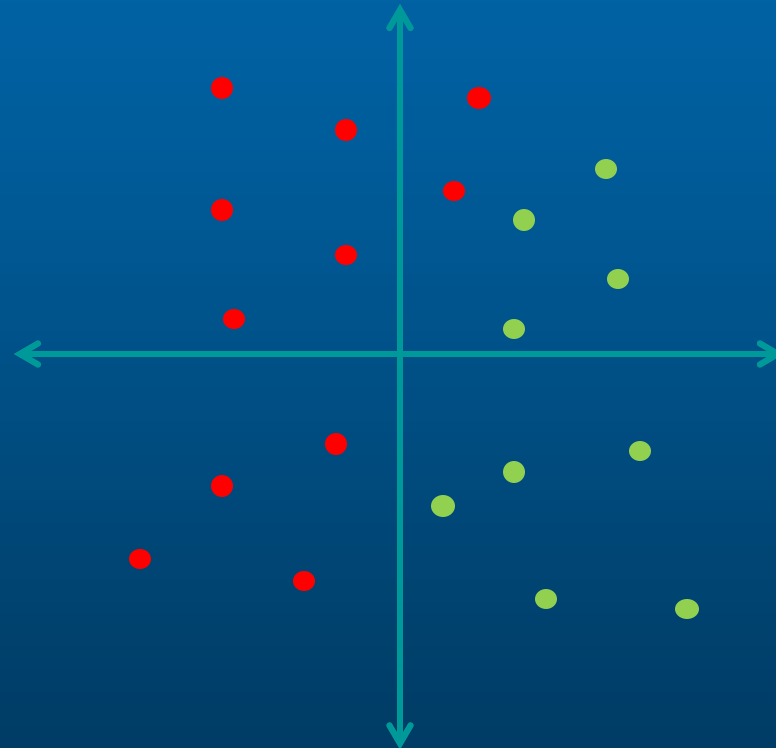6. Add newly labelled samples to training data

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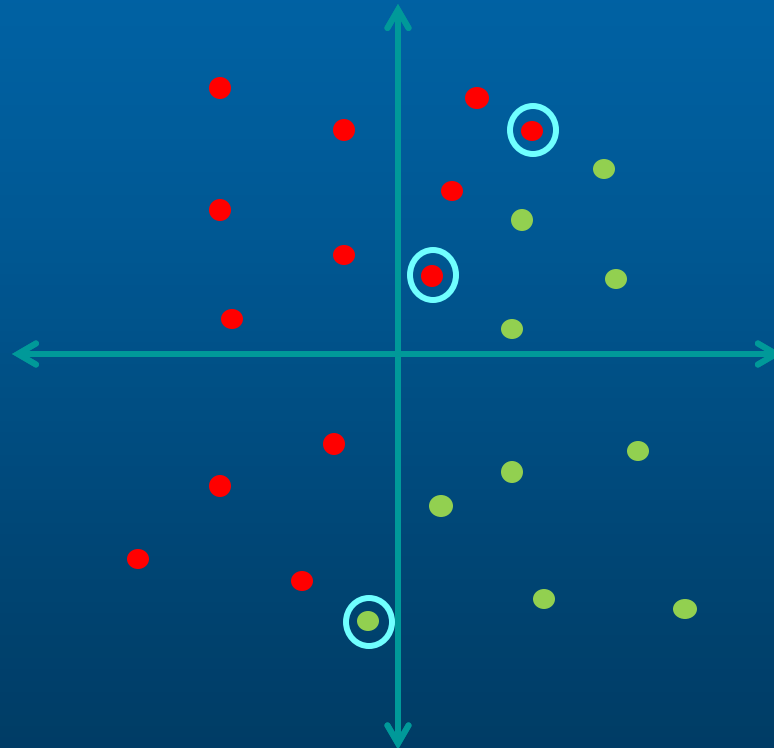6. Add newly labelled samples to training data

Active Learning

1. Collect labelled training data
2. Train a classifier
3. Apply to unlabelled data
4. Select points to validate
5. Perform wetlab validation
6. Add newly labelled samples to training set
7. Retrain classifier

?

Active Learning

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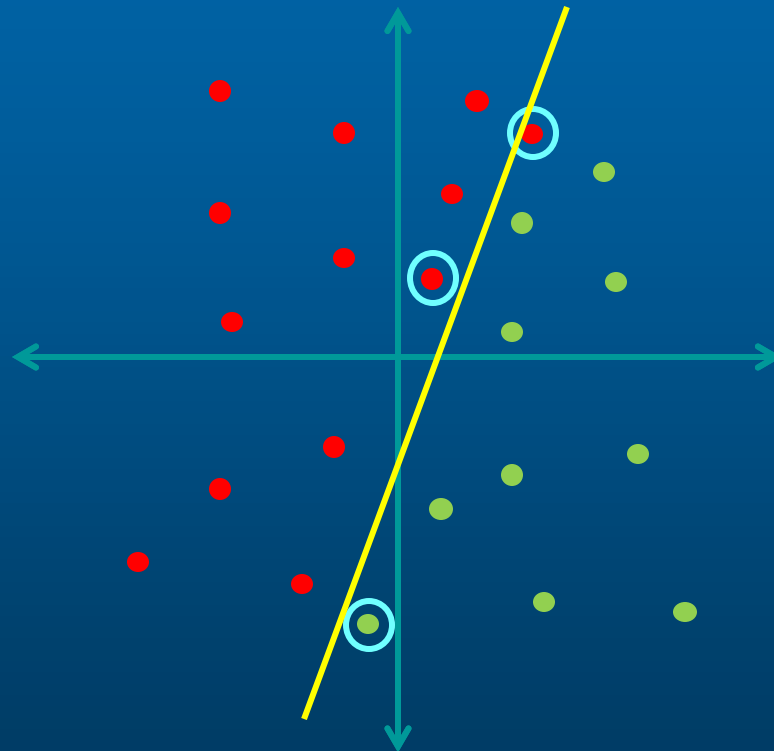6. Add newly labelled samples to training data

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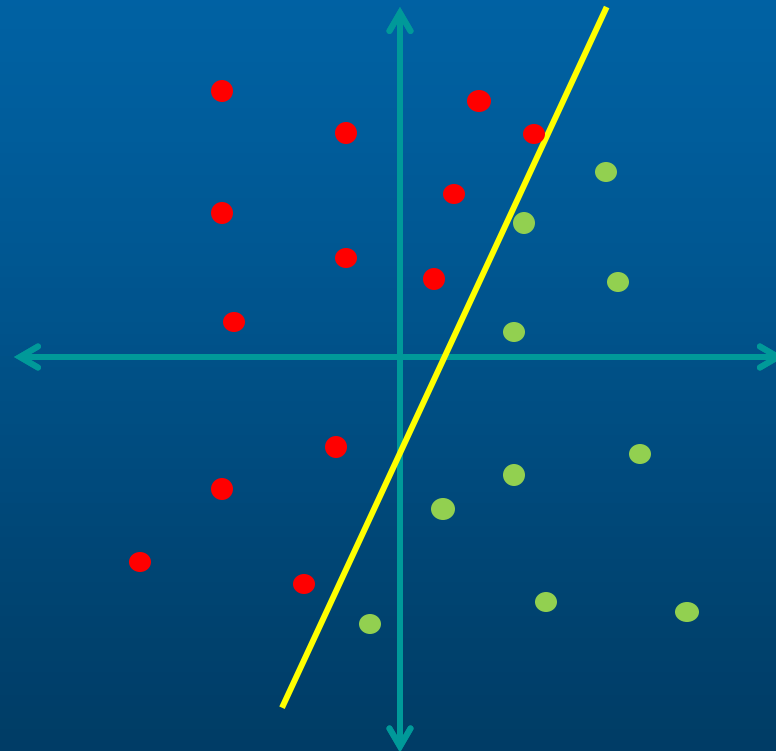7. Retrain classifier

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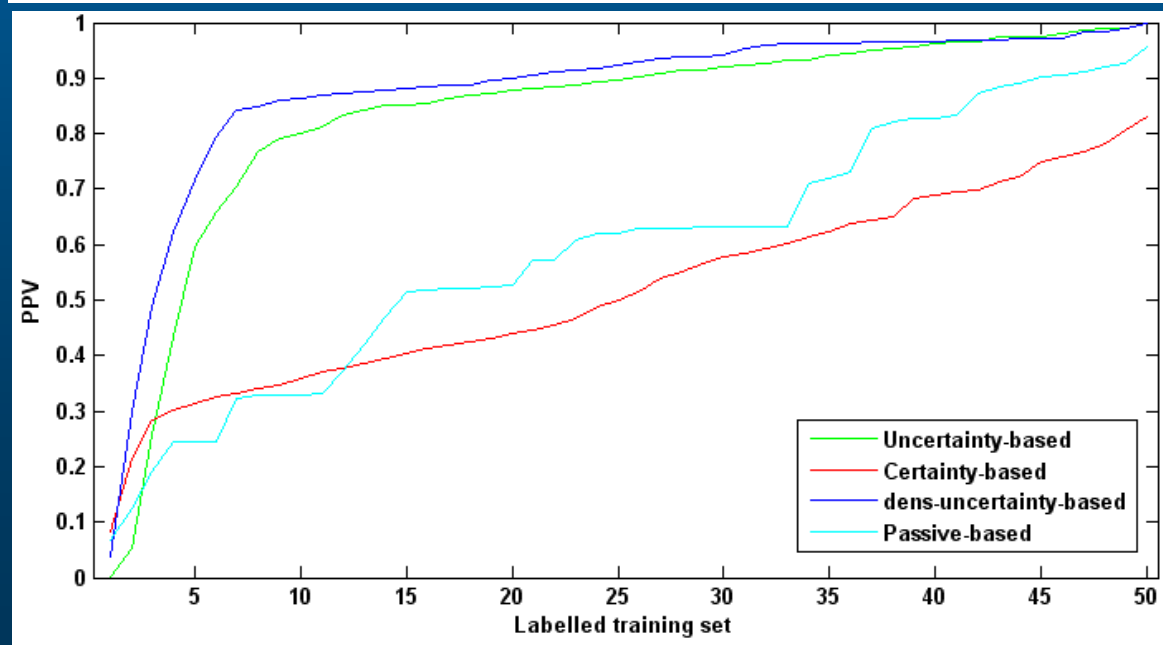7. Retrain classifier

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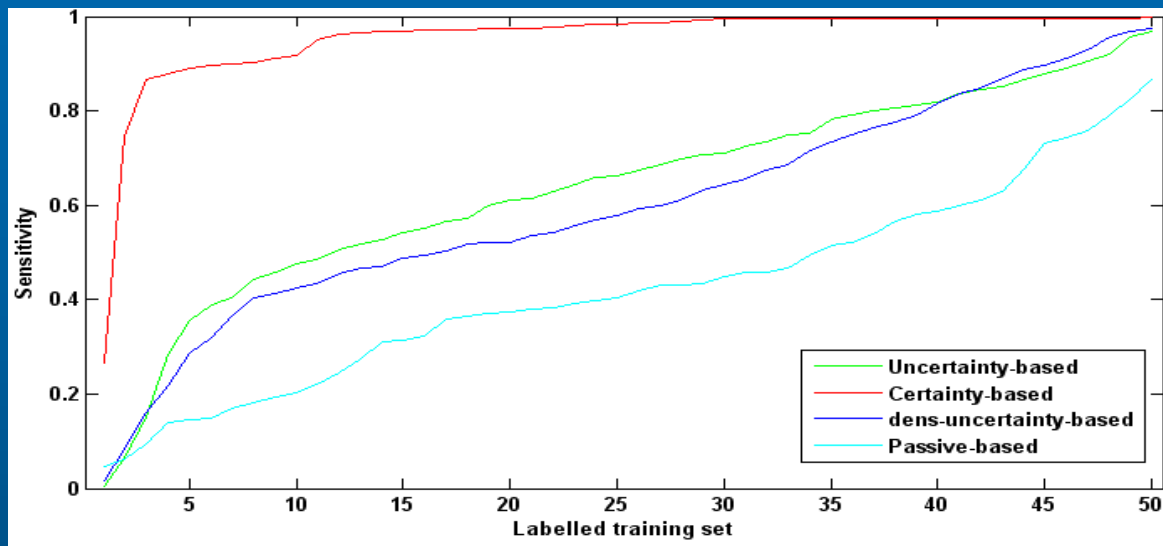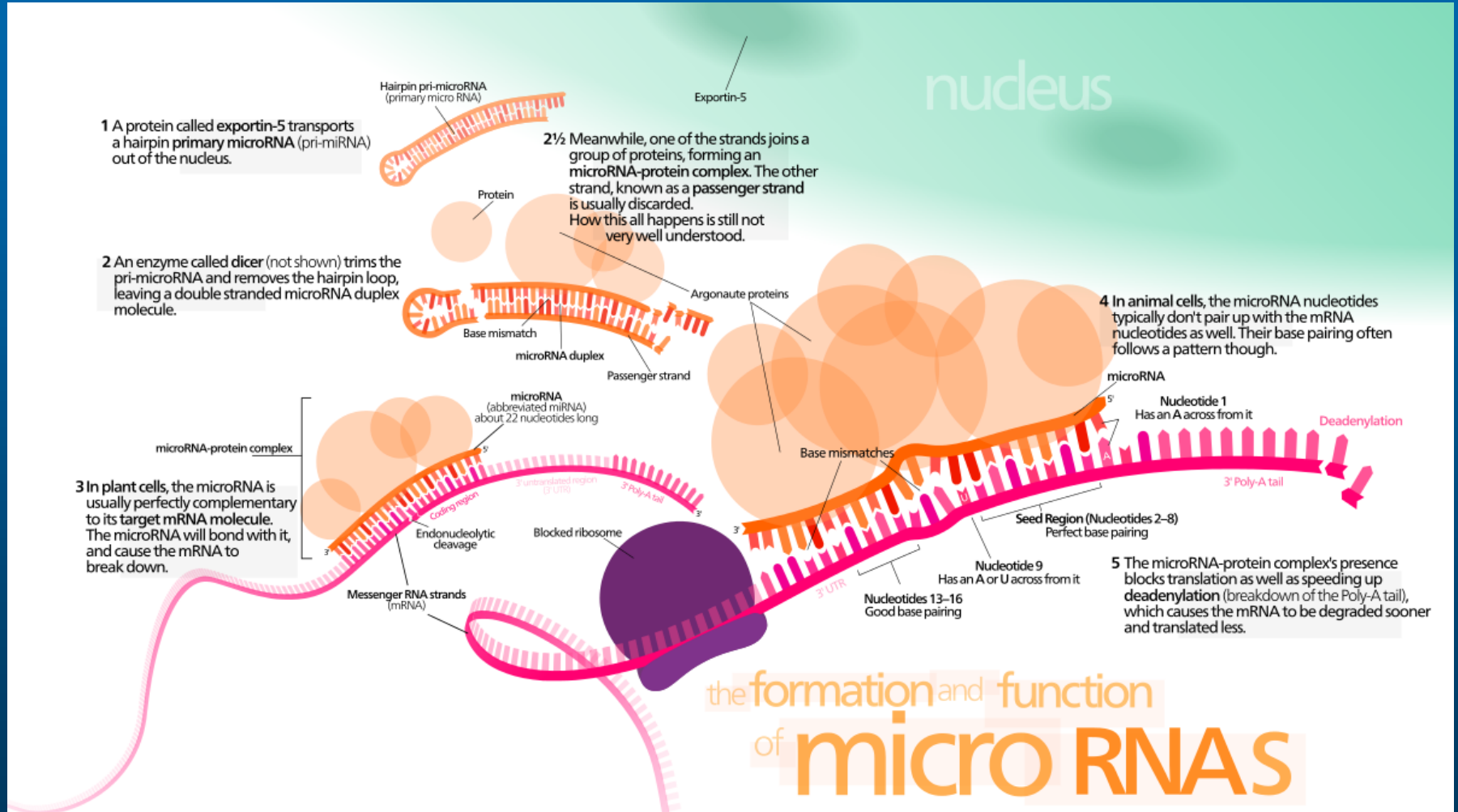7. Retrain classifer

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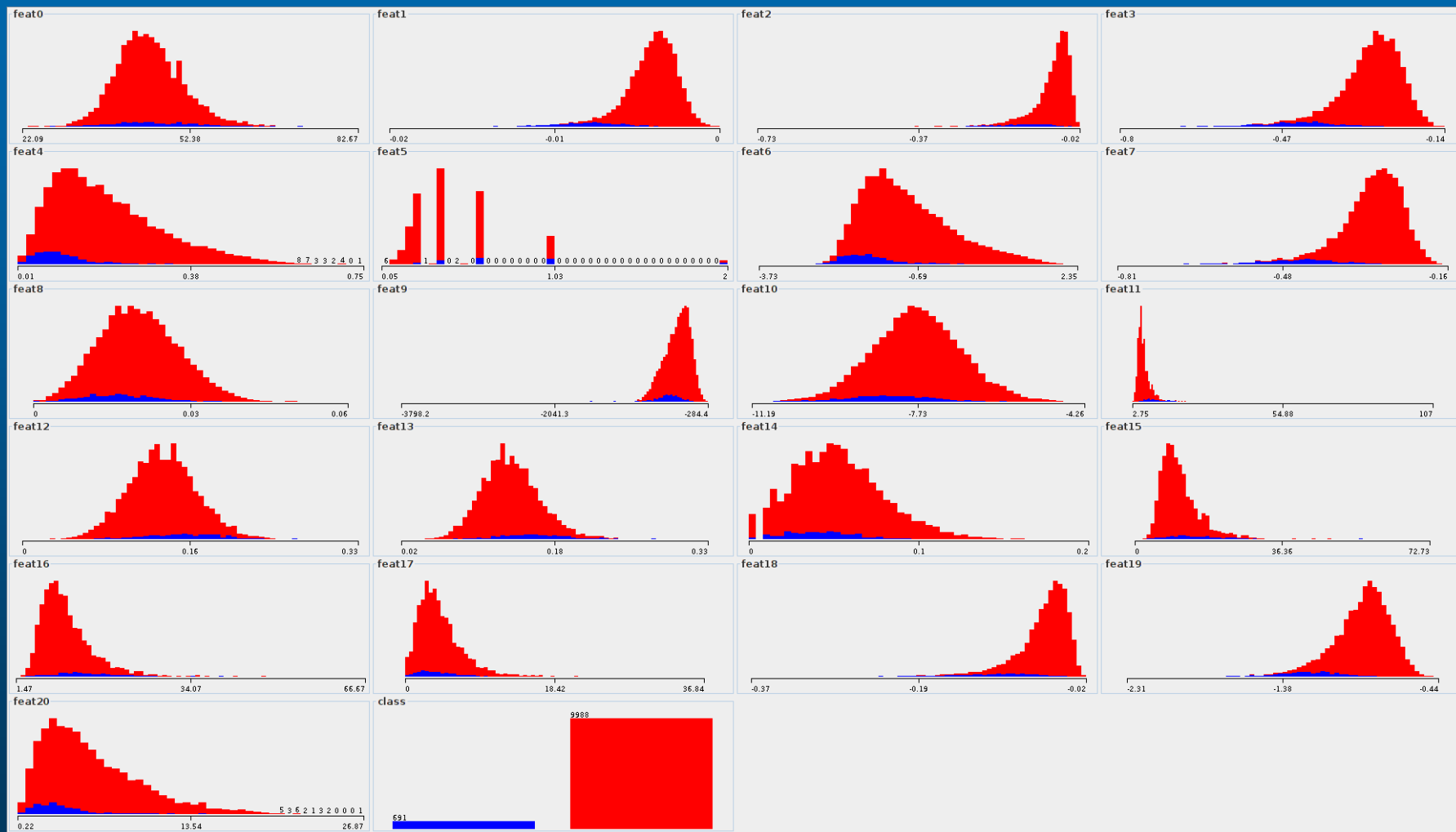7. Retrain classifer

Active Learning

miRNA

miRNA Prediction

➢ microPred most widely used miRNA prediction tool

- Trained on human known miRNAs
- Uses 21 features, 5 of which relate to secondary structure free energy
  - Problem?
- Accuracy evaluated using geometric mean
  - What are they failing to account for?
- Tested on other species, <u>sensitivity maintained</u>
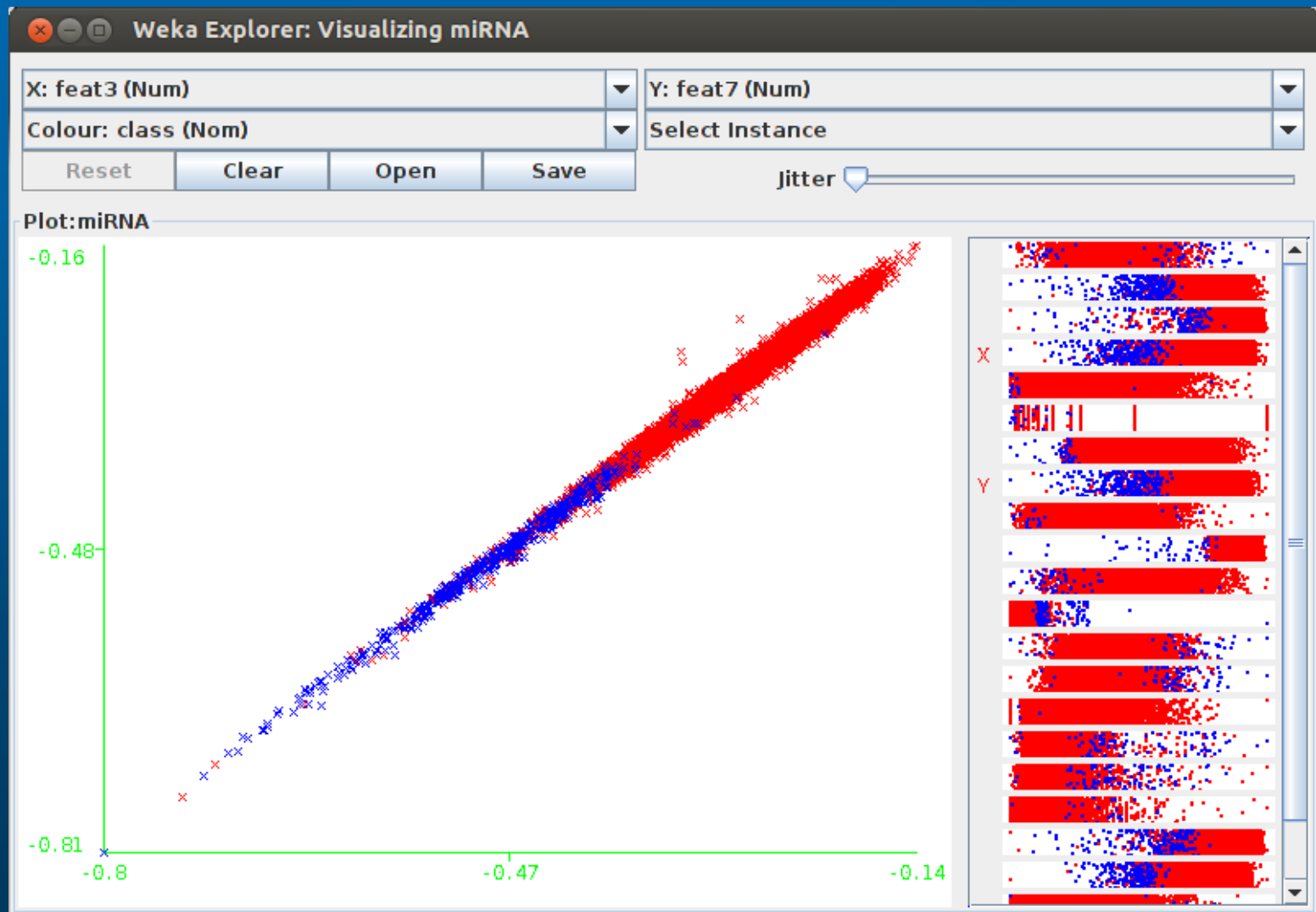 - What is missing?

Redundant Features

- We observed that specificity of method varied wildly
  - Depended on negative set used (hairpins from 100 random coding regions)

- Recall that:
  - *Some methods will actually do worse with more features*
    - *May be overly sensitive to noisy features*
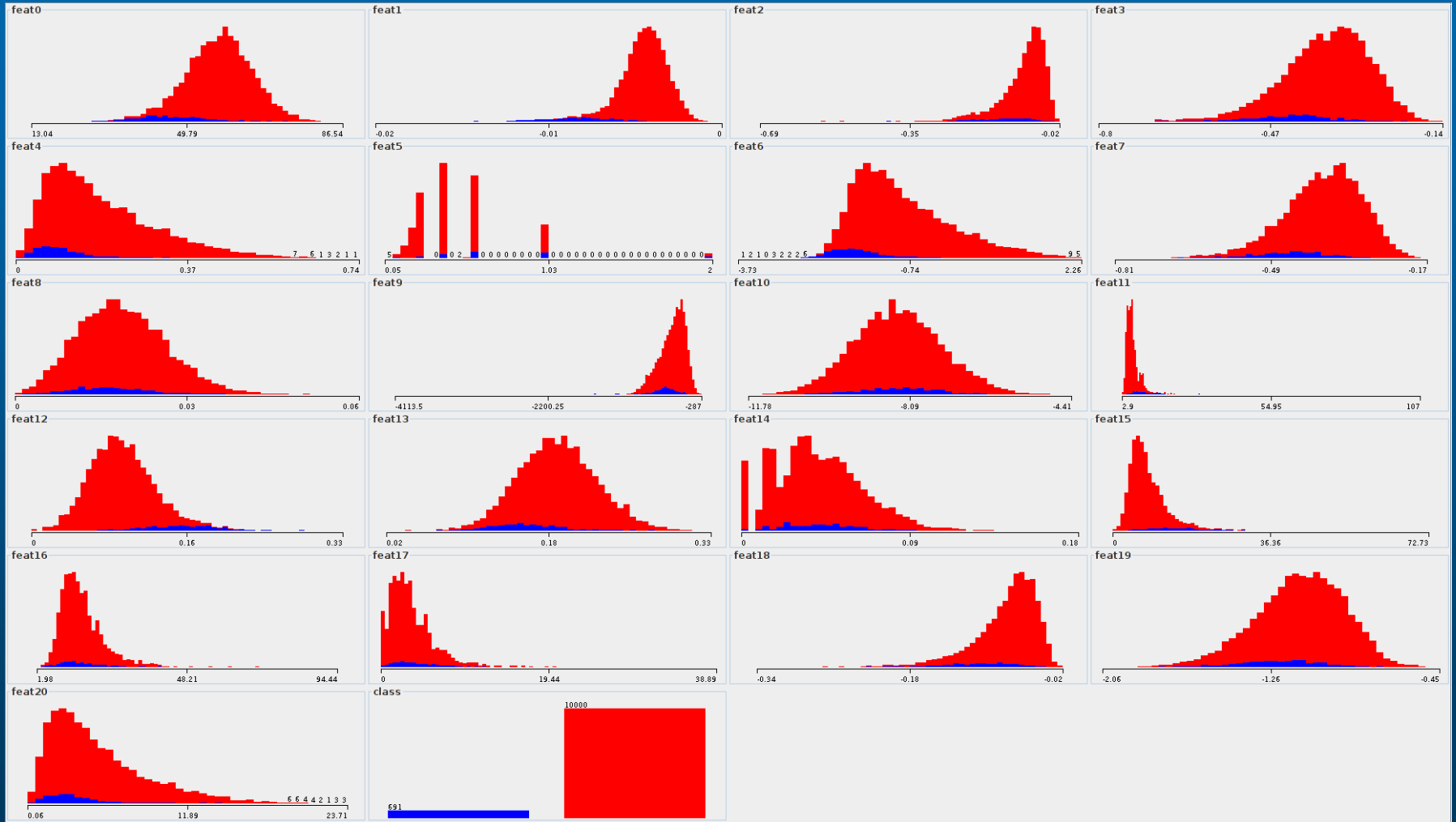   - *May overweight redundant features*

21 Features *(easy set)*

Redundant Features

21 Features *(hard set)*

Effect of Class Imbalance

➢ Batuwida & Palade could achieve either:

	Sn	Sp	G-mean
Approach A	83.36%	99.0%	90.84%
Approach B	90.02%	97.28%	**93.58%**

➢ However considering class imbalance of 1000 negatives per positive:

	Sn	Sp	G-mean	Precision
Approach A	83.36%	99.0%	90.84%	7.6%
Approach B	90.02%	97.28%	**93.58%**	**3.2%**

microPred: effective classification of pre-miRNAs for human miRNA gene prediction

Rukshan Batuwita* and Vasile Palade*

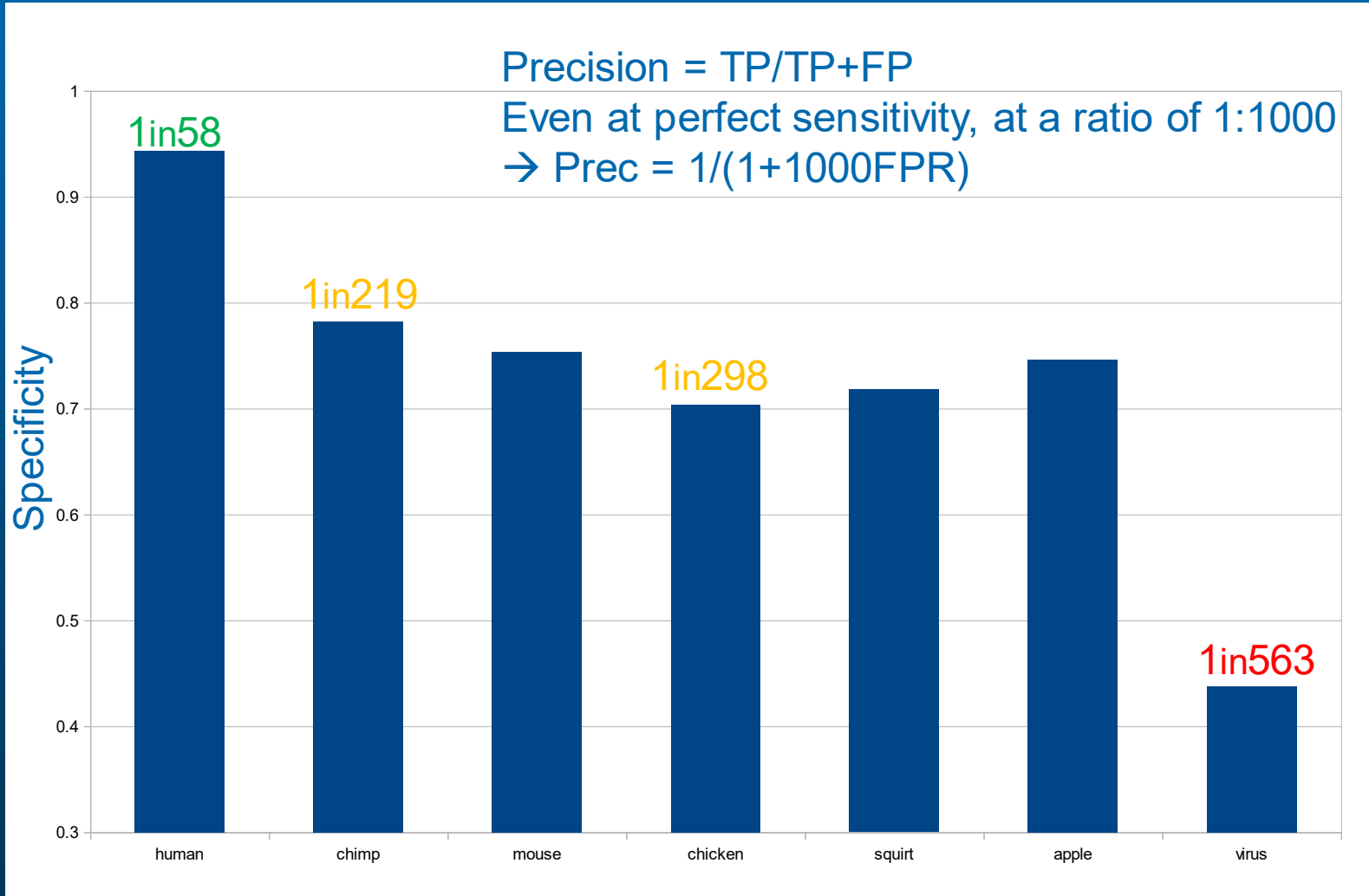Oxford University Computing Laboratory, University of Oxford, Wolfson Building, Parks Road, Oxford, OX1 3QD, UK

➢ "We validated the *microPred* predictions on the other animal (non-human) and viral pre-miRNAs published in the *miRBase12*, and obtained a high sensitivity. Out of 6095 other animal pre-miRNAs across 49 species,*microPred* identified 5651 correctly with 92.71% of recognition rate. Out of 139 viral pre-miRNAs across 12 species, 131 were predicted correctly with 92.24% of recognition rate."

Specificity for non-human species

Precision = TP/TP+FP
Even at perfect sensitivity, at a ratio of 1:1000
→ Prec = 1/(1+1000FPR)

1in58
1in219
1in298
1in563

Specificity

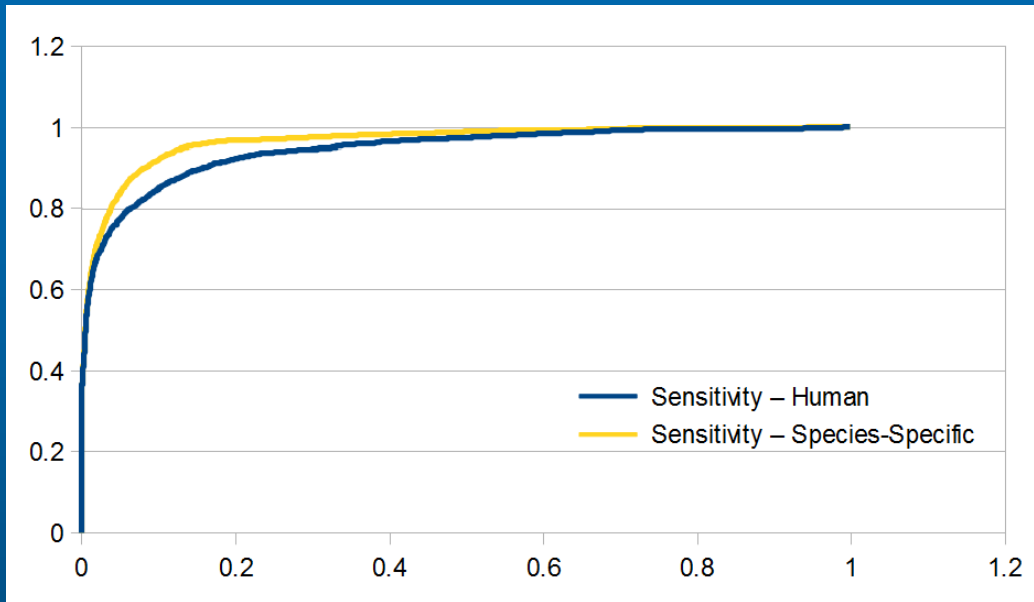human   chimp   mouse   chicken   squirt   apple   virus
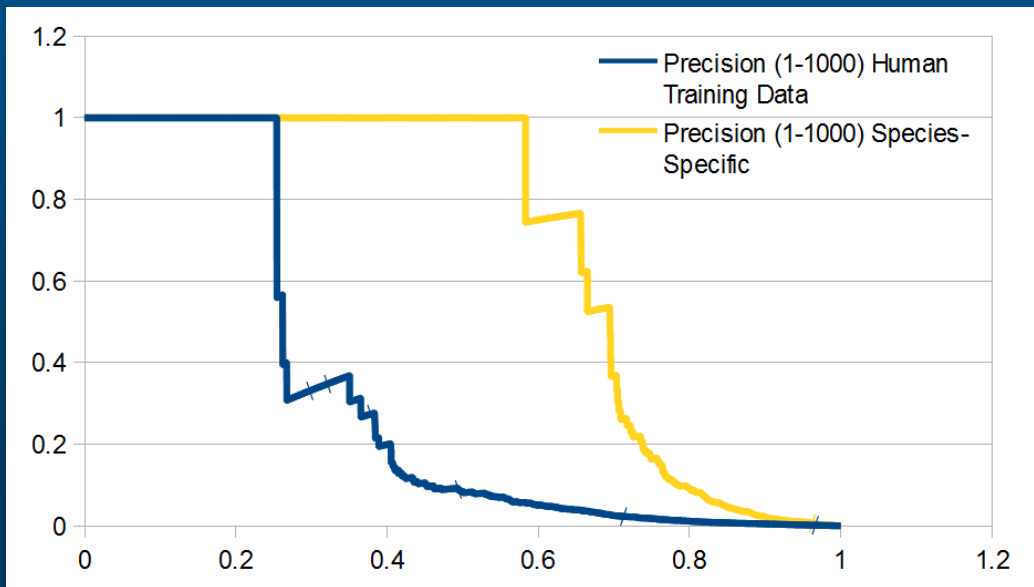
Our miRNA Prediction Approach

1. Cluster known miRNA from all species

2. Select largest N clusters

3. From each cluster, select representative closest to the target species → +ve training

   - Use SMOTE to generate synthetic minority data
   - Avoid redundant features

4. Get -ve training data from "related" species

   - Hairpin regions of known coding regions

5. Apply *leave-one-species-out* testing

6. Measure performance using precision-recall (1000:1 ratio)
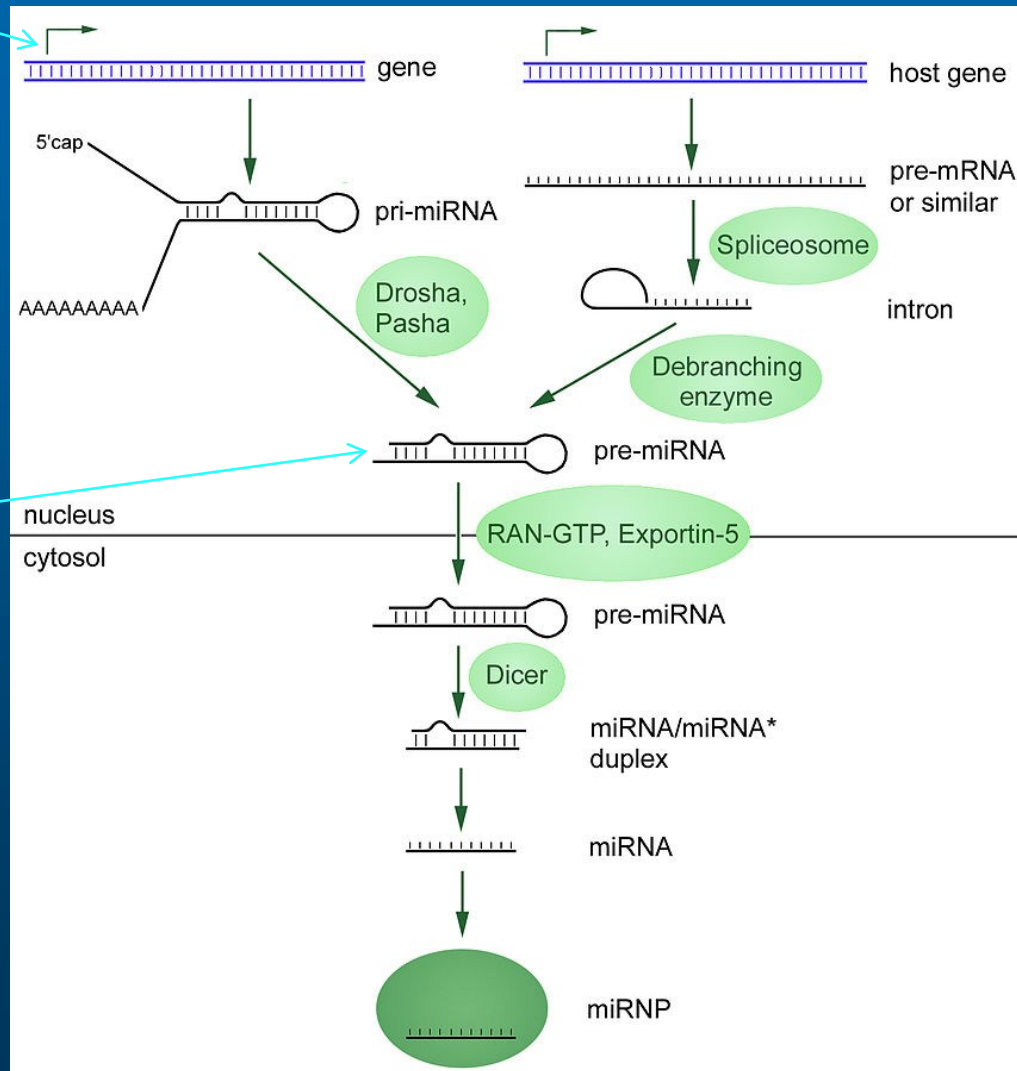
Train: Xenopus Tropicalis
Test: Anolis Carolinensis

Scanning Mode

Test Data

Training Data

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   1. microRNA prediction: Robert Peace
   2. Hydroxylation PTM: Zhen Liu, Festus Iyuke
   3. PIPE: Sylvain Pitre, Catalin Patulea, Andrew Schoenrock, Adam Amos-Binks, Allen Amos-Binks, Chris North, several biologists!
3. Collaborators
   1. microRNA prediction: Kyle Biggar, Ken Storey
   2. Hydroxylation PTM: Bill Willmore
   3. PIPE: Frank Dehne, Ashkan Golshani, Alex Wong, Michel Dumontier, several biologists!

Pattern Classification Challenges in Bioinformatics

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