

## Multi-Instance Learning and Its Applications in Computer Vision

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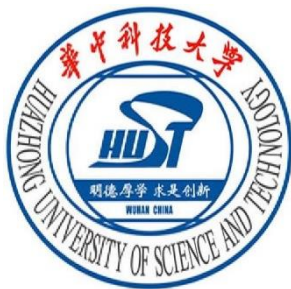
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# Outline

- Multi-Instance Learning (MIL)
- Representative Algorithms
- Related Topics
- Applications in Computer Vision
- Conclusion

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- **Multi-Instance Learning (MIL)**
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- Related Topics
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# Origin of MIL

Originated from the research on *drug activity prediction*

Seminal paper [Dietterich et al., AIJ'97]

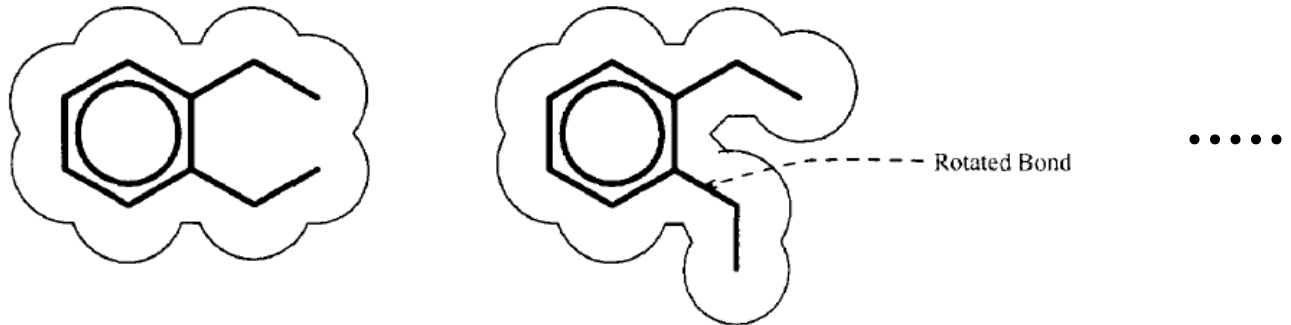
Dietterich T G, Lathrop R H, Lozano-Pérez T. Solving the multiple instance learning problem with axis-parallel rectangles. **Artificial Intelligence**, 1997, 89(1-2): 31-71.

## Problem Scenario

- Drugs are small molecules working by binding to the target area
- For molecules qualified to make the drug, one of its shapes could tightly bind to the target area

# Origin of MIL (Cont.)

A molecule may have many alternative shapes



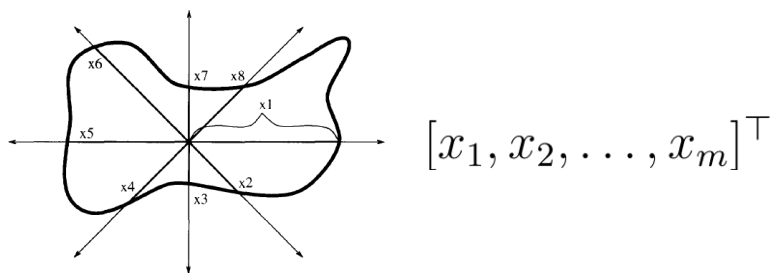
Reprinted from [Dietterich et al., AIJ'97]

## The Difficulty

Biochemists know that whether a molecule is qualified or not, but do not know which shape responses for the qualification

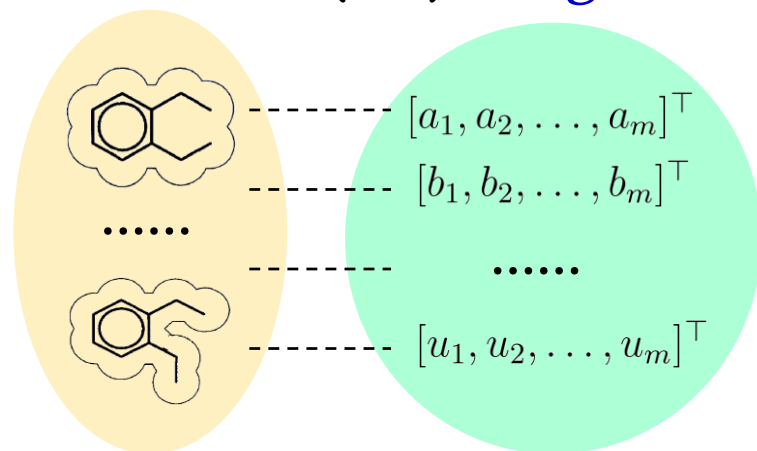
# Origin of MIL (Cont.)

shape  $\longleftrightarrow$  instance  
(feature vector)



Reprinted from  
[Dietterich et al., AIJ'97]

molecule  $\longleftrightarrow$  bag



A molecule corresponds to a bag of instances

- A bag is positive if it contains at least one positive instance; otherwise it is negative
- The labels of the training bags are known
- The labels of the instances in the training bags are unknown

# Formal Definition of MIL

**Settings**  $\mathcal{X}$  : feature space  $\mathbb{R}^d$ ;  $\mathcal{Y}$  : label space  $\{-1, +1\}$

**Inputs** multi-instance training set  $\mathcal{D} = \{(X_i, y_i) \mid 1 \leq i \leq N\}$

$X_i = \{\mathbf{x}_{i1}, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{ij}, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{i,n_i}\} \subseteq \mathcal{X}$  is a **bag** of instances

➤  $n_i$  is the number of instances in  $X_i$

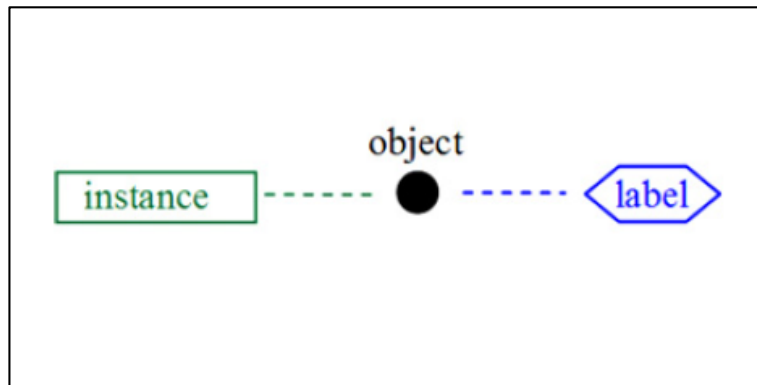
➤  $\mathbf{x}_{ij} \in \mathcal{X}$  is an instance  $[x_{ij1}, \dots, x_{ijl}, \dots, x_{ijd}]^\top$

$y_i \in \mathcal{Y}$  is the label of  $X_i$

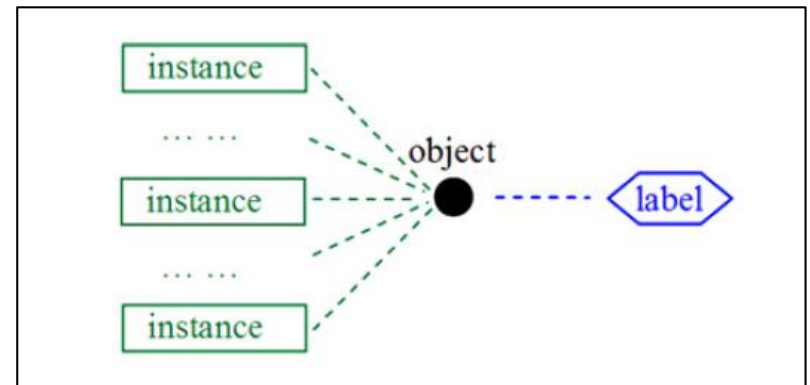
$X_i$  is a positive bag (thus  $y_i = +1$ ) if there exists  $g \in \{1, \dots, n_i\}$ ,  $\mathbf{x}_{ig}$  is positive. Yet the value of index  $g$  is unknown

**Outputs** multi-instance predictive function:  $f : 2^{\mathcal{X}} \mapsto \mathcal{Y}$

# Comparison between MIL and Traditional Supervised Learning



Traditional (single-instance) learning



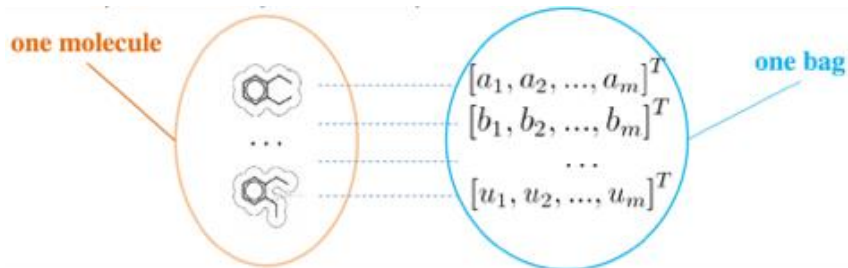
Multi-instance learning

Reprinted from [Zhou et al., AIJ'12]



# The Power of MIL

In many real-world applications, **bag representation** is a natural choice



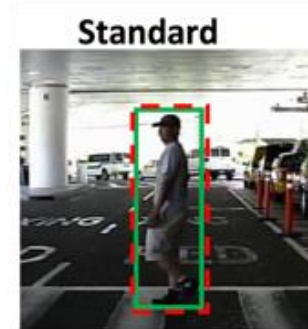
Drug activity prediction



Image categorization



Text categorization



Pedestrian detection

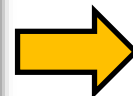
# Outline

- Multi-Instance Learning (MIL)
- **Representative Algorithms**
- Related Topics
- Applications in Computer Vision
- Conclusion

# A Brief Categorization [Amores, AIJ'13]

## Instance-space (IS) paradigm

Infer instance-level classifier from the training data → Perform the learning process by aggregating instance-level responses



APR [Dietterich et al., AIJ'97]

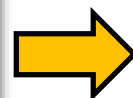
Diverse Density [Maron & Lozano-Pérez, NIPS'97]

MI-SVM [Andrews et al., NIPS'02]

.....

## Bag-space (BS) paradigm

Define distance function (or kernel function) over bags → Perform the learning process by treating bags as a whole



Citation-kNN [Wang & Zucker, ICML'00]

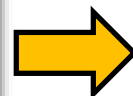
MI-Kernel [Gärtner et al., ICML'02]

MIGraph [Zhou et al., ICML'09]

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## Embedded-space (ES) paradigm

Embed (map) bags into vocabulary-induced feature space → Perform the learning process in the embedded feature space



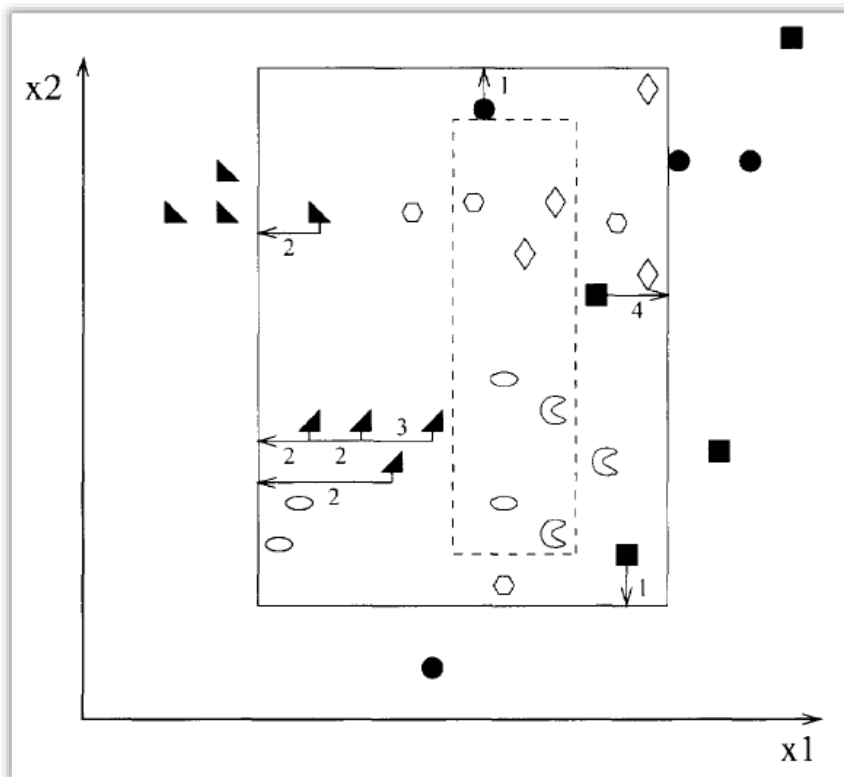
MILES [Chen et al., TPAMI'06]

CCE [Zhou & Zhang, KAIS'07]

.....

# APR [Dietterich et al., AIJ'97]

## APR (Axis-Parallel Rectangles) Algorithms



### Instance-level classifier

An APR which encloses at least one instance from each positive bag and no instance of any negative bag

### Three APR algorithms

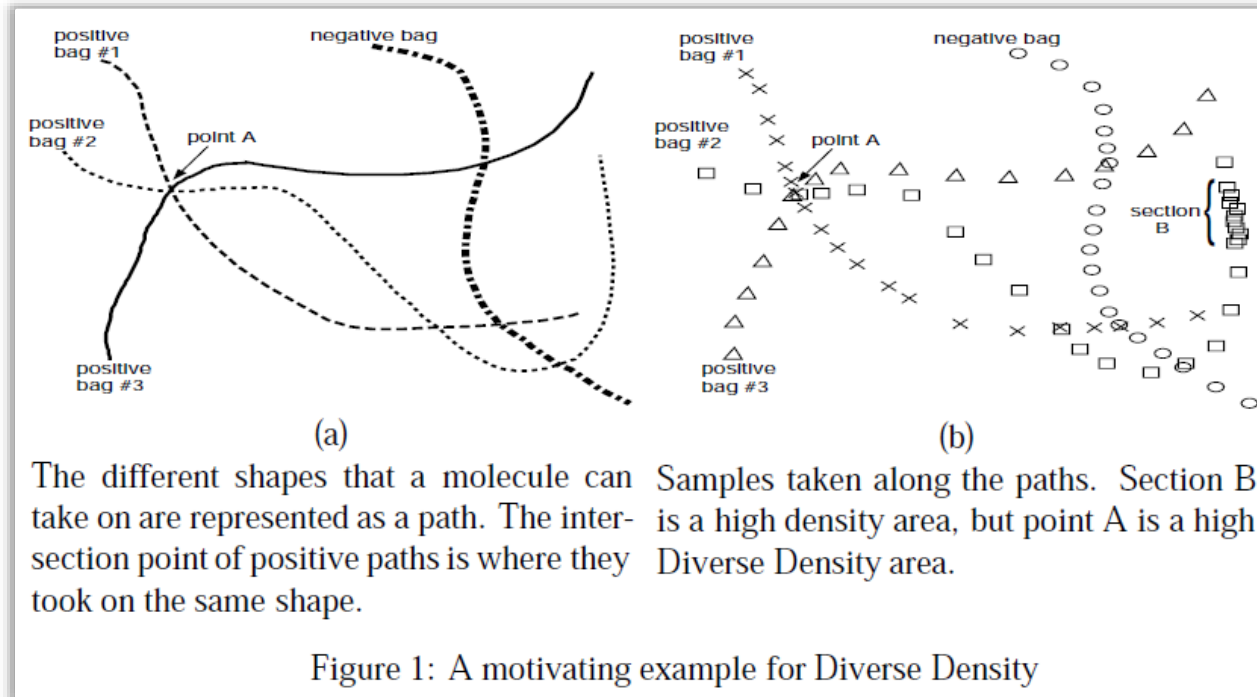
*standard, outside-in, and inside-out*  
APR algorithms

best performance: **Iterated-discrim APR**

on *Musk1*: 92.4%; on *Musk2*: 89.2%

Specific to the *drug activity prediction* problem

# Diverse Density [Maron & Lozano-Pérez, NIPS'97]



## Instance-level classifier

Target concept (point  $t \in \mathbb{R}^d$  in the feature space) which maximizes the **diverse density (DD)** over the training bags, i.e. being *near* to instances of different positive bags and *far* from instances of all negative bags

# Diverse Density (Cont.)

## Probabilistic formulation of diverse density

$$DD(\mathbf{t}) = \Pr(\mathbf{t} \mid X_1, \dots, X_N)$$

$$\propto \Pr(X_1, \dots, X_N \mid \mathbf{t}) \quad [\text{Assuming equal prior probability}]$$

$$= \prod_{p: y_p = +1} \Pr(X_p \mid \mathbf{t}) \cdot \prod_{q: y_q = -1} \Pr(X_q \mid \mathbf{t}) \quad [\text{Assuming conditional independence among bags}]$$

$$\propto \prod_{p: y_p = +1} \Pr(\mathbf{t} \mid X_p) \cdot \prod_{q: y_q = -1} \Pr(\mathbf{t} \mid X_q) \quad [\text{Assuming equal prior probability}]$$

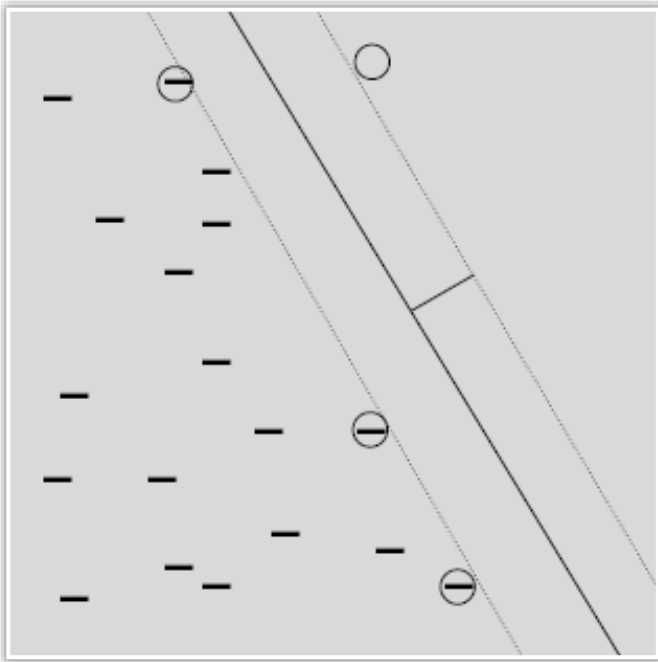
For positive bag:  $\Pr(\mathbf{t} \mid X_p) = 1 - \prod_{j=1}^{n_p} (1 - \Pr(\mathbf{t} \mid \mathbf{x}_{pj}))$

For negative bag:  $\Pr(\mathbf{t} \mid X_q) = \prod_{j=1}^{n_q} (1 - \Pr(\mathbf{t} \mid \mathbf{x}_{qj}))$

$$\Pr(\mathbf{t} \mid \mathbf{x}) = \exp(-\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{t}\|^2)$$

Maximize DD  
by gradient  
search

# MI-SVM [Andrews et al., NIPS'02]



## Instance-level classifier

A hyperplane  $(\mathbf{w}, b)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  with  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $b \in \mathbb{R}$

## Margin over MI bag $(X_i, y_i)$

$$\gamma_i = y_i \max_{1 \leq j \leq n_i} (\langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}_{ij} \rangle + b)$$

defined by the “most positive” (“least negative”) instance

## Maximum margin formulation

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}, b, \xi} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 + C \sum_{i=1}^N \xi_i$$

$$\text{s.t. } \forall i : y_i \max_{1 \leq j \leq n_i} (\langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}_{ij} \rangle + b) \geq 1 - \xi_i, \quad \xi_i \geq 0$$

# MI-SVM (Cont.)

## Heuristic EM-style optimization

**E-step** Identify *most positive* instance for each positive bag

$\forall (X_i, y_i)$  with  $y_i = +1$  :

$$g_i = \arg \max_{1 \leq j \leq n_i} (\langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}_{ij} \rangle + b)$$

**M-step** Update hyperplane based on identified instances (QP)

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}, b, \xi} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 + C \sum_{i=1}^N \xi_i$$

$$\forall i \text{ with } y_i = +1 : \langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}_{ig_i} \rangle + b \geq 1 - \xi_i$$

$$\forall i \text{ with } y_i = -1 : \langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}_{ij} \rangle + b \geq 1 - \xi_i \quad (1 \leq j \leq n_i)$$

$$\forall i : \xi_i \geq 0$$



# Citation- $k$ NN [Wang & Zucker, ICML'00]

Distance function between two bags  $X = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_m\}$  and  $Z = \{\mathbf{z}_1, \dots, \mathbf{z}_n\}$

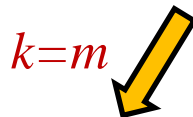
**Hausdorff distance** determined by one matching pair

$$H(X, Z) = \max\{h(X, Z), h(Z, X)\} \quad \text{where} \quad h(X, Z) = \max_{\mathbf{x} \in X} \min_{\mathbf{z} \in Z} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z}\|$$



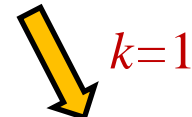
*sensitive to outlying point*

replace  $h(X, Z)$  with :  $h_k(X, Z) = k\text{th} \min_{\mathbf{x} \in X} \min_{\mathbf{z} \in Z} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z}\|$  ( $k$ -th ranked distance)



$k=m$

$$h(X, Z) = h_m(X, Z)$$



$k=1$

$$H(X, Z) = \min_{\mathbf{x} \in X} \min_{\mathbf{z} \in Z} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z}\|$$

**Chamfer distance** determined by multiple matching pairs

$$C(X, Z) = \frac{1}{|X|} \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in X} \min_{\mathbf{z} \in Z} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z}\| + \frac{1}{|Z|} \sum_{\mathbf{z} \in Z} \min_{\mathbf{x} \in X} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z}\|$$

# Citation- $k$ NN (Cont.)

## References and citers

*r*-references set for  $Z$ :

$$\mathcal{R}^r(Z) = \{X \mid X \text{ is among } Z\text{'s } r \text{ nearest neighbors}\}$$

*c*-citters set for  $Z$ :

$$\mathcal{C}^c(Z) = \{X \mid Z \text{ is among } X\text{'s } c \text{ nearest neighbors}\}$$

In general setting,  $r \neq c$


Make prediction for  $Z$  by voting among the labeled bags in  $\mathcal{R}^r(Z) \cup \mathcal{C}^c(Z)$


# MI-Kernel [Gärtner et al., ICML'02]

Kernel function between two bags  $X = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_m\}$   
and  $Z = \{\mathbf{z}_1, \dots, \mathbf{z}_n\}$

*Set kernel*

$$K(X, Z) = \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in X} \sum_{\mathbf{z} \in Z} \kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z})$$

$K(\cdot, \cdot)$  is a kernel on  $2^{\mathcal{X}}$    $\kappa(\cdot, \cdot)$  is a kernel on  $\mathcal{X}$

$K(X, Z)$    $D(X, Z) = \sqrt{K(X, X) - 2K(X, Z) + K(Z, Z)}$

Set kernel exploits the pairwise relations across bags,  
while ignores relations among instances within the bag

# MIGraph [Zhou et al., ICML'09]

## Usefulness of relation information among instances

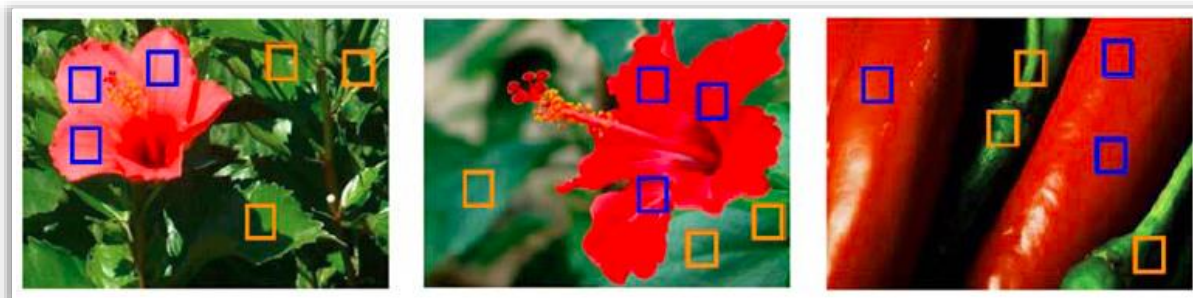
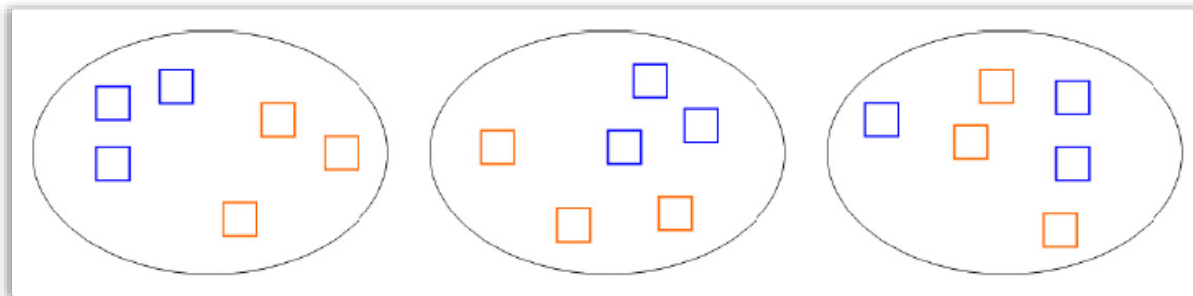
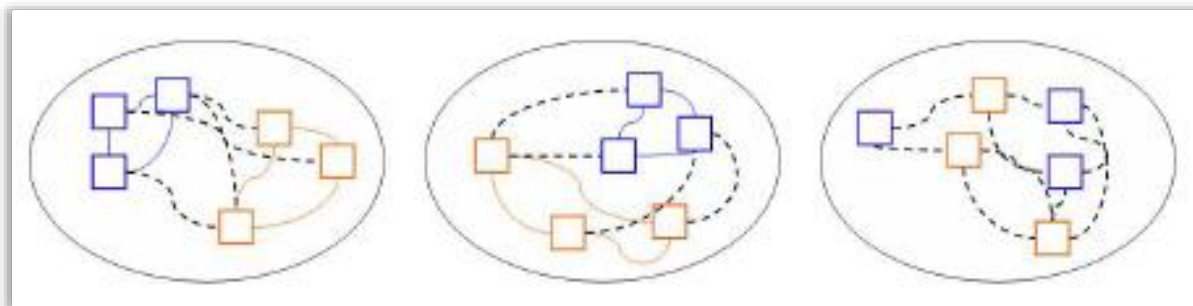


image with six marked patches each corresponding to an instance



ignore relations among instances → all bags are similar due to identical number of similar instances



consider relations among instances → the first two bags are more similar than the third bag

# MIGraph (Cont.)

Map each bag into a (weighted) graph

$$X \xrightarrow{\text{orange arrow}} G_X = (V_X, E_X)$$

( $\epsilon$ -graph)

$$V_X = \{\mathbf{x}_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq m\}$$
$$E_X = \{e_{uv} \mid \text{dist}(\mathbf{x}_u, \mathbf{x}_v) \leq \epsilon\}$$

(weight  $w_{uv} \propto 1/\text{dist}(\mathbf{x}_u, \mathbf{x}_v)$ )

Derive the graph kernel

$$K_G(X, Z) = \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in V_X} \sum_{\mathbf{z} \in V_Z} \kappa_{\text{node}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) + \sum_{e \in E_X} \sum_{e' \in E_Z} \kappa_{\text{edge}}(e, e')$$

MI-Kernel [Gärtner et al., ICML'02]

represent edge  $e_{uv}$  as  $[d_u, p_u, d_v, p_v]^T$

$d_u$  : degree of  $\mathbf{x}_u$

$p_u : w_{uv} / \sum_{e_{uv} \in E_X} w_{uv}$

Complexity of MIGraph:  $O(mn + |E_X||E_Z|)$   
an efficient variant miGraph with  
complexity  $O(mn)$  [Zhou et al., ICML'09]

# MILES [Chen et al., TPAMI'06]

## Vocabulary for embedding

$$\begin{aligned} V &= \{\mathbf{x}_{ij} \mid 1 \leq i \leq N, 1 \leq j \leq n_i\} \\ &= \{\mathbf{u}^k \mid 1 \leq k \leq K\} \text{ (re-indexed with } K = \sum_{i=1}^N n_i) \end{aligned}$$

Embedding function:  $M_V : 2^{\mathcal{X}} \mapsto \mathbb{R}^K$

$$\begin{aligned} M_V(X) &= [a_1, \dots, a_k, \dots, a_K]^\top \\ a_k &= \text{sim}(X, \mathbf{u}^k) = \max_{\mathbf{x} \in X} \exp\left(-\frac{\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{u}^k\|^2}{\sigma^2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

Generate binary training set  
via embedding function  $M_V$ :

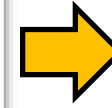
$$D_V = \{(M_V(X_i), y_i) \mid 1 \leq i \leq N\}$$



Induce binary classifier

$$h : \mathbb{R}^K \mapsto \{-1, +1\}$$

based on  $D_V$



Make prediction  
on unseen bag  $Z$   
as:  $h(M_V(Z))$

# CCE [Zhou & Zhang, KAIS'07]

## Vocabulary for embedding

$$C = \{c_1, \dots, c_k, \dots, c_{\hat{K}}\}$$

(centers of  $\hat{K}$  groups by clustering all the instances in  $V$ )

Embedding function:  $M_C : 2^{\mathcal{X}} \mapsto \{0, 1\}^{\hat{K}}$

$$M_C(X) = [a_1, \dots, a_k, \dots, a_{\hat{K}}]^\top$$

$a_k = 1$  if  $S_k \neq \emptyset$ ; Otherwise,  $a_k = 0$  ( $S_k$  : instances of  $X$  falling into the  $k$ -th group, i.e. closest to  $c_k$ )

## Ensemble

Generate binary training set  
via embedding function  $M_C$ :

$$D_C = \{(M_C(X_i), y_i) \mid 1 \leq i \leq N\}$$



Induce binary classifier  
 $h : \{0, 1\}^{\hat{K}} \mapsto \{-1, +1\}$   
based on  $D_C$



Make prediction  
on unseen bag  $Z$   
as:  $h(M_C(Z))$

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- **Related Topics**
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# Multi-Instance Regression (MIR)

In some applications, real-valued responses would be more desirable than discrete-valued ones

e.g.: *activity level* prediction vs. *active/inactive* classification

## Applications of MIR

- drug activity prediction [Ray & Page, ICML'01; Amar et al., ICML'01]
- climate research [Wang et al., SDM'08]
- sentiment analysis [Pappas & Popescu-Belis, EMNLP'14]
- remote sensing [Wang et al., TGRS'12]
- .....

## Solving MIR problems

**IS paradigm:** EM-style iterations for updating instance-level regressor

**BS/ES paradigm:** BS/ES methods for classification readily adaptable

# MIL with Unlabeled Data

## Multi-instance clustering [Zhang & Zhou, APIN'07; Zhang et al., TNN'11]

Gain insights on the distribution of multi-instance bags, and serve as a pre-processing step for multi-instance prediction (e.g. generate bag-level vocabulary for the ES paradigm)

## Semi-supervised MIL [Rahmani & Goldman, ICML'06; Jia & Zhang, AAAI'08; Zeisl et al., CVPR'08]

If instances in bags were assumed as i.i.d. samples, MIL is just a special case of semi-supervised learning [Zhou & Xu, ICML'07]

instances from negative bags  labeled negative examples

instances from positive bags  unlabeled examples with positive constraints

## Multi-instance active learning [Settles et al., NIPS'07; Liu et al., MMM'09]

# Generalized MIL (GMIL)

## Standard MIL assumption

An underlying target concept  $h : \mathcal{X} \mapsto \{-1, +1\}$  which governs the prediction of class label  $f(X)$  on the bag  $X$ :

$$f(X) = +1 \iff \exists \mathbf{x} \in X : h(\mathbf{x}) = +1$$

## GMIL assumption [Weidmann et al., ECML'03]

A set of underlying concepts  $\mathcal{H} = \{h_1, \dots, h_r\}$  which governs the prediction of class label  $f(X)$  on the bag  $X$ :

**presence-based:**  $f(X) = +1 \iff \forall h_i \in \mathcal{H} : \Delta(X, h_i) \geq 1$

**threshold-based:**  $f(X) = +1 \iff \forall h_i \in \mathcal{H} : \Delta(X, h_i) \geq t_i$

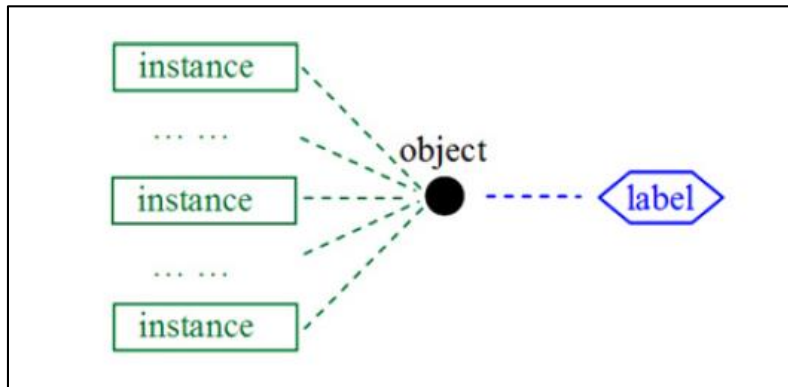
**count-based:**  $f(X) = +1 \iff \forall h_i \in \mathcal{H} : t_i \leq \Delta(X, h_i) \leq z_i$

$\Delta(X, h_i)$  : number of instances in  $X$  with concept  $h_i$

$t_i, z_i$  : lower and upper threshold for concept  $h_i$

Another GMIL formulation: assuming *attraction* concepts as well as *repulsion* concepts [Scott et al., TechRep'03; Tao et al., ICML'04; Tao et al., TPAMI'08]

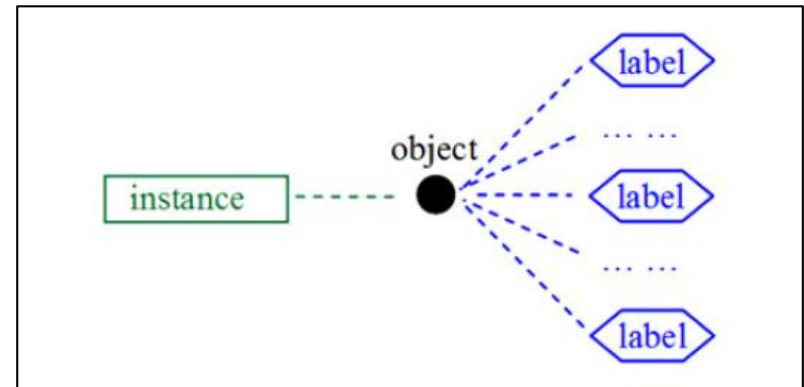
# Multi-Instance Multi-Label Learning (MIML)



Multi-Instance Learning (MIL)

## Input Ambiguity

object with many alternative  
input descriptions, i.e. instances



Multi-Label Learning (MLL)

[Zhang & Zhou, TKDE'14]

## Output Ambiguity

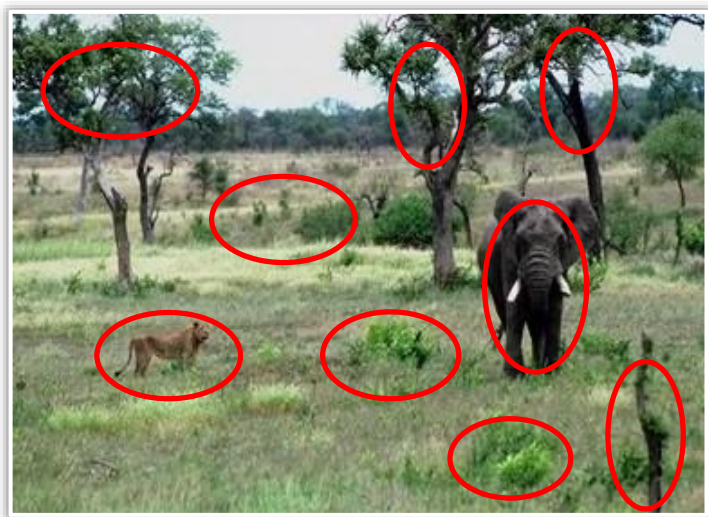
object with many alternative  
input descriptions, i.e. labels

# MIML (Cont.)

Real-world objects are usually inherited with input ambiguity as well as output ambiguity

[Zhou et al., AIJ'12; Zha et al., CVPR'08; Briggs et al., KDD'12; Li et al., TCBB'12; Surdeanu et al., EMNLP'12; Wu et al., TCBB'14]

An image usually contains **multiple** regions each can be represented by an instance



The image can simultaneously belong to **multiple** classes

*Elephant*

*Lion*

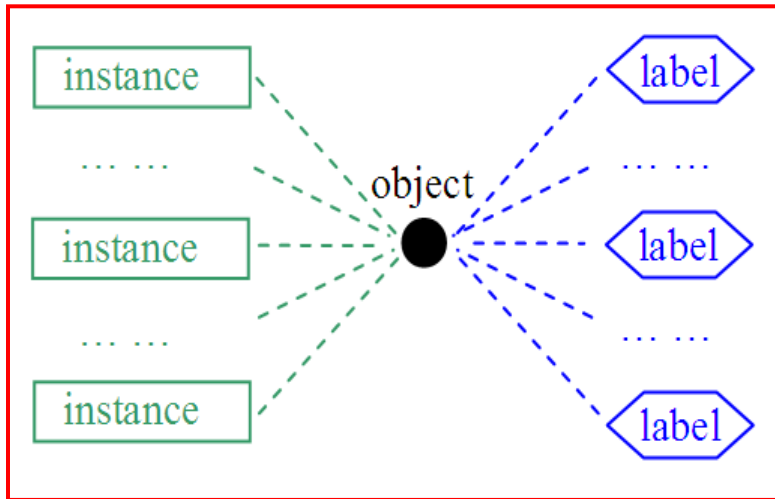
*Grassland*

*Tropic*

*Africa*

... ..

# MIML (Cont.)



## MIML task:

To learn a function  $f_{MIML} : 2^{\mathcal{X}} \rightarrow 2^{\mathcal{Y}}$  from a given data set  $\{(X_1, Y_1), (X_2, Y_2), \dots, (X_m, Y_m)\}$  where  $X_i \subseteq \mathcal{X}$  is a set of instances  $\{\mathbf{x}_1^{(i)}, \mathbf{x}_2^{(i)}, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{n_i}^{(i)}\}$ ,  $\mathbf{x}_j^{(i)} \in \mathcal{X}$  ( $j = 1, 2, \dots, n_i$ ), and  $Y_i \subseteq \mathcal{Y}$  is a set of labels  $\{y_1^{(i)}, y_2^{(i)}, \dots, y_{l_i}^{(i)}\}$   $y_k^{(i)} \in \mathcal{Y}$  ( $k = 1, 2, \dots, l_i$ ).

$\mathcal{X}$  - the instance space

$\mathcal{Y}$  - the set of class labels

$n_i$  - the number of instances in  $X_i$

$l_i$  - the number of labels in  $Y_i$

## More on MIML:

Zhou Z-H, Zhang M-L, Huang S-J, Li Y-F. Multi-instance multi-label learning. *Artificial Intelligence*, 2012, 176(1): 2291-2320.

# Key Instance Detection (KID) for MIL

Detect key (positive) instances in the bags are desirable for a number of MIL applications

e.g. locating *region of interest* (ROIs) in CBIR [Zhou et al., AJCAI'05]



## Solutions to KID in MIL

- Rely on instance-level classifier of IS methods (e.g. DD, MI-SVM)
- Design customized algorithms [Li et al., ECML'09; Liu et al., ACML'12; Kandemir & Hamprecht, UAI'14; Kotzias et al., KDD'15]

# Bag Generator for MIL

## Pipeline of MIL



Many effective MIL algorithms have been proposed and studied, e.g., the J. Amores's AIJ survey.

Few studies were about MIL bag generators although they affect the performance seriously.

Image bag generators are of particular interest in existing MIL studies



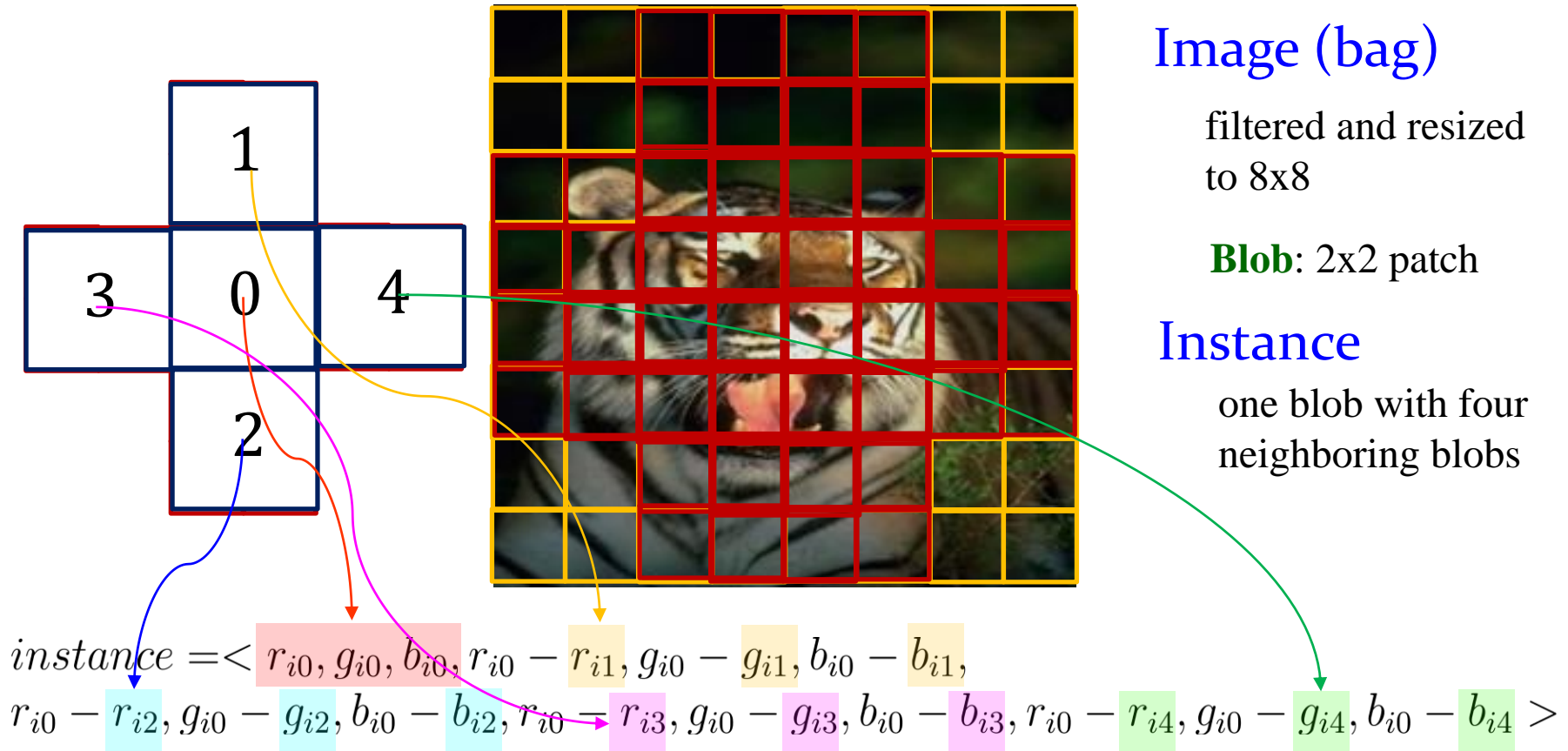
# Bag Generator for MIL (Cont.)

Nine popular image bag generators [Wei & Zhou, MLJ, in press]

- Row [Maron & Ratan, ICML'98]
  - SB [Maron & Ratan, ICML'98]
  - SBN [Maron & Ratan, ICML'98]
  - Blobworld [Carson et al., TPAMI'02]
  - *k*-meansSeg [Zhang et al., ICML'02]
  - WavSeg [Zhang et al., ICME'04]
  - JSEG-bag [Liu et al., ICIEA'08]
  - LBP [Ojala et al., TPAMI'02]
  - SIFT [Lowe, IJCV'04]
- Non-segmentation bag generators
- Segmentation bag generators
- Local descriptor-based bag generators

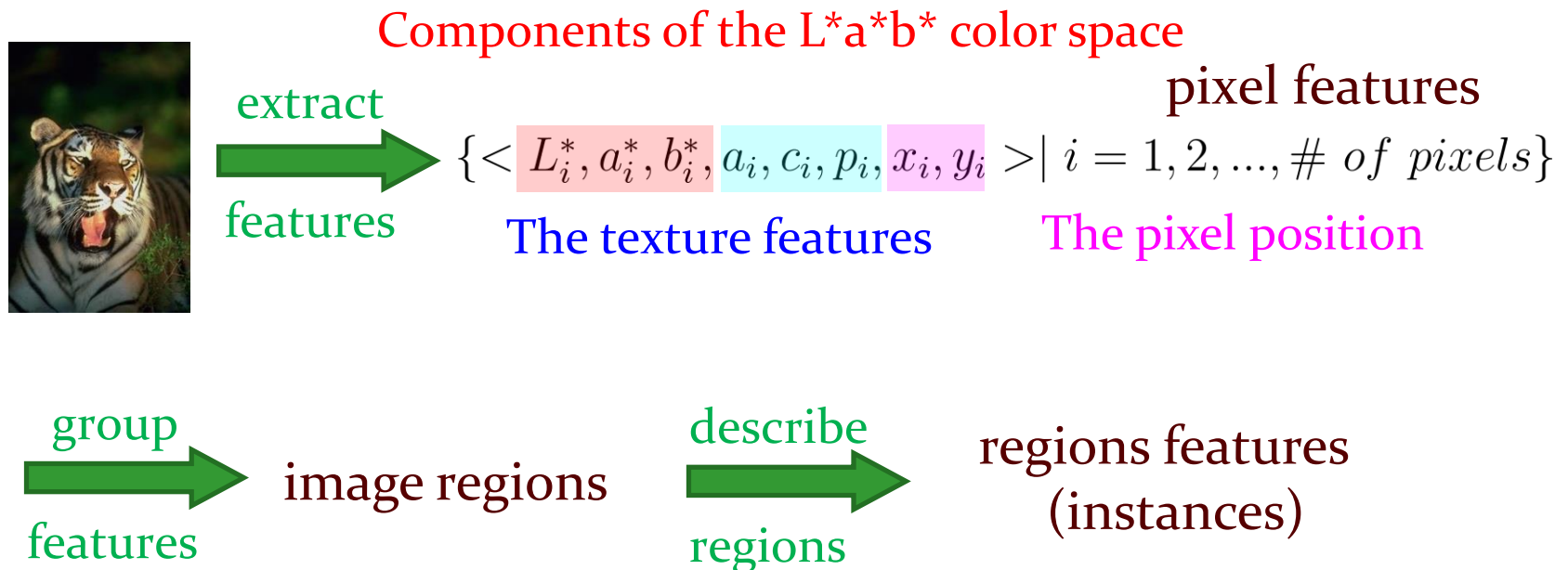
# Bag Generator for MIL (Cont.)

## SBN (Single Blob with Neighbors)



# Bag Generator for MIL (Cont.)

## Blobworld



# Bag Generator for MIL (Cont.)

## LBP (Local Binary Patterns)

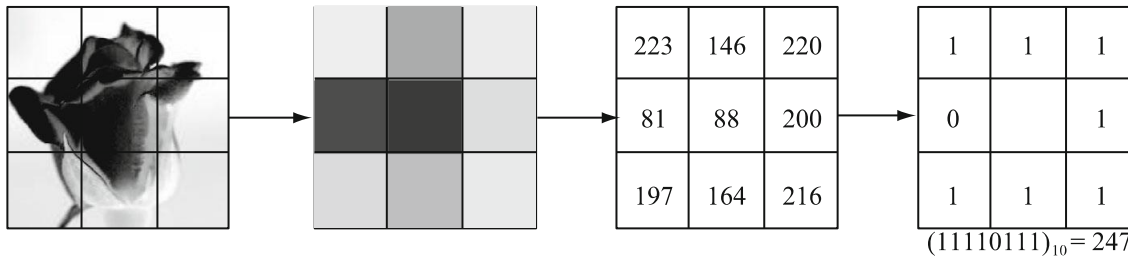


Image (bag)

35 sliding windows

Instance

58-dimensional  
LBP descriptors

## SIFT (Scale Invariant Feature Transform)

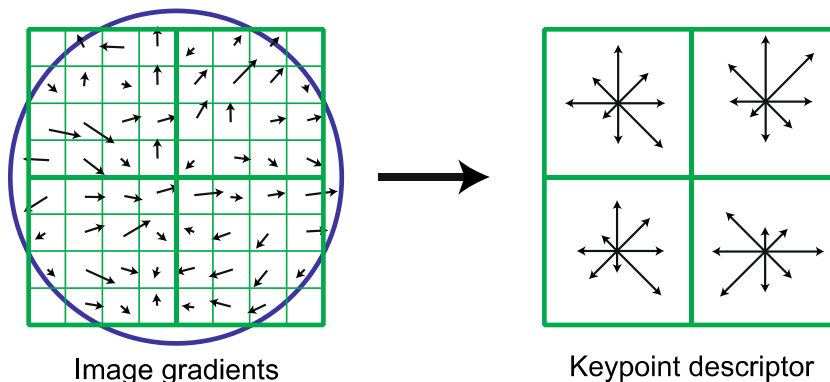


Image (bag)

40 keypoints

Instance

128-dimensional  
SIFT descriptors

# Bag Generator for MIL (Cont.)

Recent extensive empirical study [Wei & Zhou, MLJ, in press]

6,923 configurations of experiments

[9 bag generators; 7 MIL algorithms; 4 patch sizes; 43 data sets]

## Two significant new observations

- Bag generators with a dense sampling strategy (SB, SBN, LBP) perform better than those with other strategies
- The standard MIL assumption of learning algorithms is not suitable for image classification tasks

**Code** (image bag generators for MIL)

[http://lamda.nju.edu.cn/code\\_MIL-BG.ashx](http://lamda.nju.edu.cn/code_MIL-BG.ashx)

# Scalable MIL

## The limitation of MIL

Complexity of MIL's hypothesis space



Benefit of bag representations

### An undesired outcome

most MIL algorithms are usually **time-consuming** and **incapable of handling large scale** MIL problems

# Scalable MIL (Cont.)

## The real world MIL applications



Millions of images



Millions of genes

And other millions of complex objects or examples ...

# Scalable MIL (Cont.)

Recent efforts towards scalable MIL [Wei et al., TNNLS, in press]

**miFV** (MIL based on the **Fisher Vector** representation)

Gradient vector for a sample of observations (i.e. bag)

[Jaakkola and Haussler, NIPS'99]

$$G_{\lambda}^S = \nabla_{\lambda} \log p(S|\lambda)$$

A sample of observations

Parameters

A probability density function

The dimensionality of  $G_{\lambda}^S$  only depends on the number of generative parameters in  $p$ , rather than on the sample size



# Scalable MIL (Cont.)

Recent efforts towards scalable MIL [Wei et al., TNNLS, in press]

**miFV** (MIL based on the **Fisher Vector** representation)

Fisher vector  
representation

[Sánchez et al., IJCV'13]

$$\mathcal{K}_{FK}(S_1, S_2) = G_{\lambda}^{S_1 \top} \underbrace{F_{\lambda}^{-1}} \underbrace{G_{\lambda}^{S_2}}$$

Fisher information matrix

# Scalable MIL (Cont.)

Recent efforts towards scalable MIL [Wei et al., TNNLS, in press]

**miFV** (MIL based on the **Fisher Vector** representation)

Fisher vector  
representation

[Sánchez et al., IJCV'13]

$$\mathcal{K}_{FK}(S_1, S_2) = G_\lambda^{S_1 \top} F_\lambda^{-1} G_\lambda^{S_2}$$

Cholesky decomposition

$$\mathcal{K}_{FK}(S_1, S_2) = G_\lambda^{S_1 \top} L_\lambda^\top L_\lambda G_\lambda^{S_2}$$

# Scalable MIL (Cont.)

Recent efforts towards scalable MIL [Wei et al., TNNLS, in press]

**miFV** (MIL based on the **Fisher Vector** representation)

Fisher vector  
representation

[Sánchez et al., IJCV'13]

$$\mathcal{K}_{FK}(S_1, S_2) = G_\lambda^{S_1 \top} F_\lambda^{-1} G_\lambda^{S_2}$$

Cholesky decomposition

$$\mathcal{K}_{FK}(S_1, S_2) = \mathbf{f}_\lambda^{S_1 \top} \mathbf{f}_\lambda^{S_2} L_\lambda G_\lambda^{S_2}$$

Fisher Vector

$$\mathbf{f}_\lambda^S = L_\lambda G_\lambda^S = L_\lambda \Delta_\lambda \log p(S|\lambda)$$

Nonlinear kernel machine  
with  $\mathcal{K}_{FK}(\cdot, \cdot)$



Linear kernel machine  
with feature vector  $\mathbf{f}_\lambda^S$

# Scalable MIL (Cont.)

## Advantages of miFV

- Dimensionality of the FV is independent of the size of training set → **efficiency**
- Capture high-order statistics in the FV (e.g. (co)variance of instances) → **effectiveness**

**Highly competitive performance with hundreds (or even thousands) of times faster than state-of-the-art MIL algorithms**  
[data sets: up to 60K+ bags with 0.68M+ instances]

**miVLAD** (MIL based on the **Vector of Locally Aggregated Descriptors**)

A simplified version of miFV which is more efficient

**Code** (miFV & miVLAD)

[http://lamda.nju.edu.cn/code\\_SMIL.ashx](http://lamda.nju.edu.cn/code_SMIL.ashx)

# Outline

- Multi-Instance Learning (MIL)
- Representative Algorithms
- Related Topics
- Applications in Computer Vision
- Conclusion

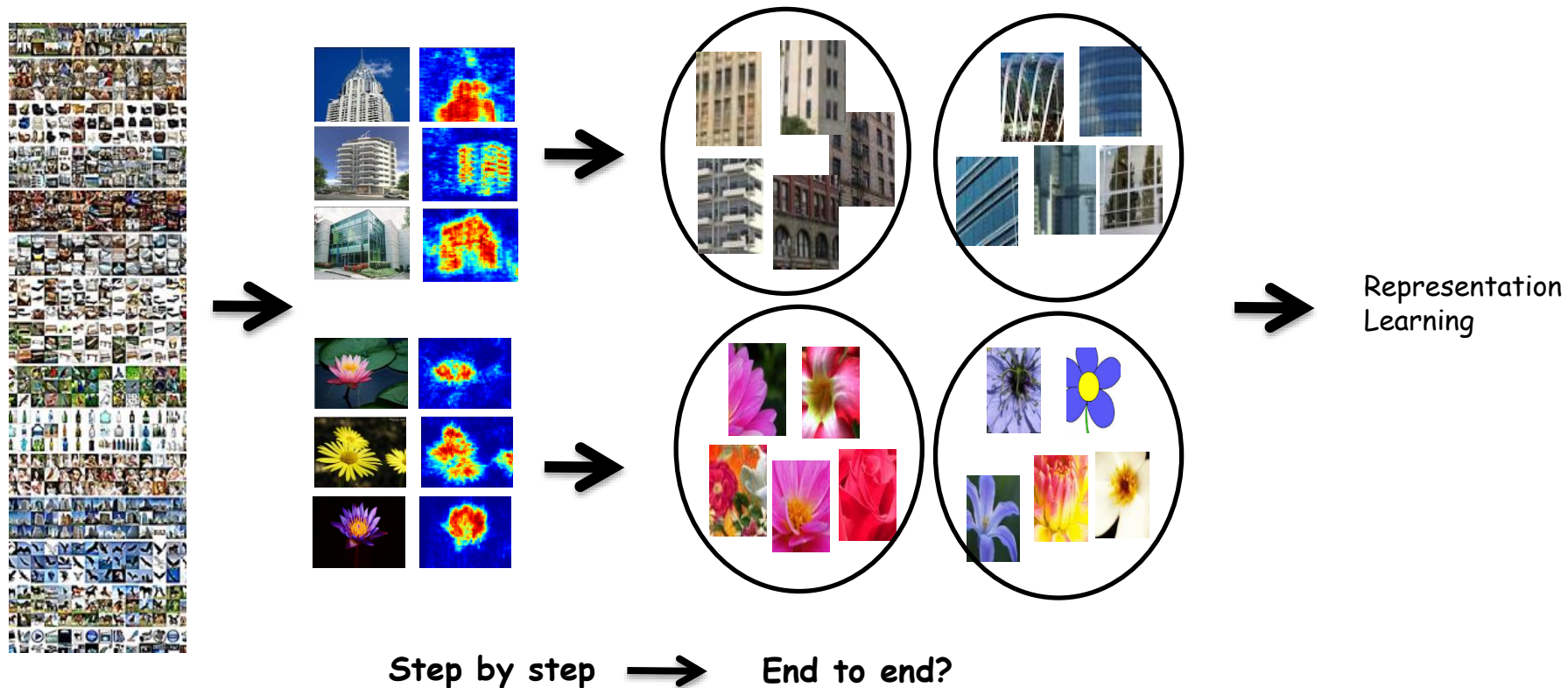
# Applications in Computer Vision

- Image Classification
- Object Detection
- Object Discovery (Weakly Supervised Object Detection)
- Semantic Segmentation
- Visual Tracking

# Image Classification

**Mining mid-level image representation** [Li et al., CVPR'13, Wang et al., ICML'13]

- Mining discriminative patterns using MIL for image representation



Quannan Li, Jiajun Wu, and Zhuowen Tu, "Harvesting Mid-level Visual Concepts from Large-scale Internet Images", CVPR 2013  
Xinggang Wang, Baoyuan Wang, Xiang Bai, Wenyu Liu, and Zhuowen Tu, "Max-Margin Multiple Instance Dictionary Learning", International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), Atlanta, June, 2013.

# Image Classification

## Multiple Instance Learning with Deep Learning [Wu et al., CVPR'15; Wei, et al., TPAMI'15]

- Learning deep feature for “instance” (image patch)
- Max/mean for multiple instance learning

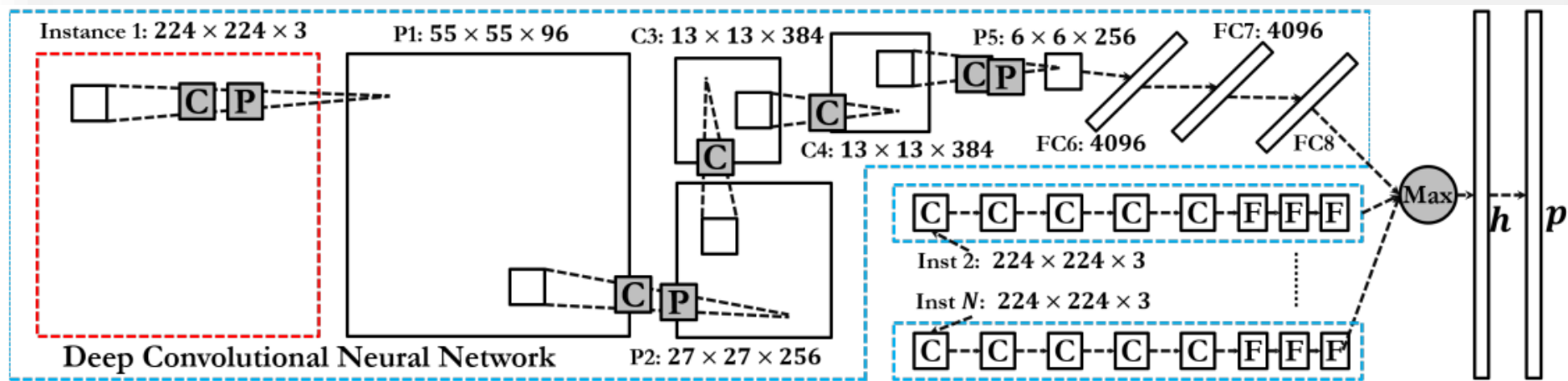


Figure from Jiajun

Jiajun Wu, Yanan Yu, Chang Huang, Kai Yu, Deep Multiple Instance Learning for Image Classification and Auto-Annotation, CVPR 2015  
Yunchao Wei, Wei Xia, Min Lin, Junshi Huang, Bingbing Ni, Jian Dong, Yao Zhao, Shuicheng Yan, HCP: A Flexible CNN Framework for Multi-label Image Classification, PAMI 2015



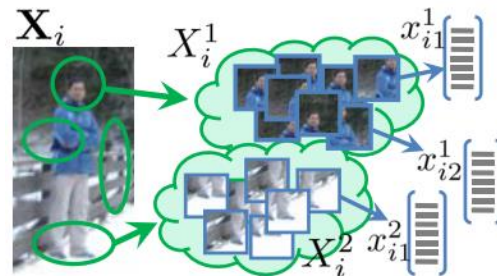
# Object Detection

## Learning object detector using multiple instance learning



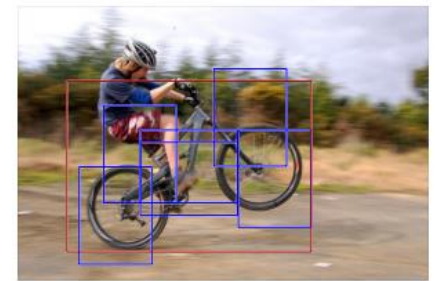
[Viola et. al, NIPS'06]

Learning object detector  
using weak label



[Dollar et. al, ECCV'08]

Mining object part from  
bounding-box annotation



[Felzenszwalb et. al, TPAMI'10]

Paul Viola, John C. Platt, and Cha Zhang, Multiple Instance Boosting for Object Detection, NIPS 2006  
Piotr Dollár, Boris Babenko, Serge Belongie, Pietro Perona, and Zhuowen Tu, "Multiple Component Learning for Object Detection", ECCV 2008  
Pedro F. Felzenszwalb, Ross B. Girshick, David McAllester and Deva Ramanan, Object Detection with Discriminatively Trained Part Based Models, TPAMI 2010

# Object Discovery

## Big Data vs. Expensive Labels



Possible solutions to this problem: clustering based, matching based, co-segmentation based, topic model based, multi-instance learning based methods.

Solving this problem by multiple instance learning

- Image as bag, since image label is given
- Proposals (Selective Search, EdgeBox, Bing) as instances [Zhu et al, TPAMI'14]
  - Proposal descriptors: Deep CNN Features, Fisher Vectors
  - Number of proposals:  $\sim 2k$  (SS),  $\sim 3k$  (EB)

Jun-Yan Zhu, Jiajun Wu, Yan Xu, Eric Chang, and Zhuowen Tu, "Unsupervised Object Class Discovery via Saliency-Guided Multiple Class Learning", TPAMI, 2014.

# Benchmark

## ■ PASCAL VOC 2007

- CorLoc, percentage of image with at least one correctly localized object
- Average Precision, BBox IoU  $\geq 0.5$

	CorLoc (%) (trainval)	mAP (test)
Multi-fold MIL [Cinbis et al., TPAMI'16]	47.3	27.4
RMI-SVM [Wang et al., ICCV'15]	40.2	-
LCL [Wang et al., ECCV'14]	48.5	31.6
WSDDN [Bilen & Vedaldi, CVPR'16]	58.0	39.3
DPM-v5	-	33.7

## ■ ImageNet [Tang et al., CVPR'14]

- Average CorLoc of 3,624 classes and 939,542 images is 53.2%

Ramazan Gokberk Cinbis, Jakob Verbeek, and Cordelia Schmid, Weakly Supervised Object Localization with Multi-fold Multiple Instance Learning, TPAMI 2016

Kevin Tang, Armand Joulin, Li-Jia Li, Li Fei-Fei, Co-localization in Real-World Images, CVPR 2014

C. Wang, W. Ren, K. H., and T. Tan. Weakly supervised object localization with latent category learning. ECCV 2014

Xinggang Wang, Zhuotun Zhu, Cong Yao, Xiang Bai. Relaxed Multiple-Instance SVM with Application to Object Discovery. ICCV 15

H. Bilen, A. Vedaldi. Weakly Supervised Deep Detection Networks. CVPR 2016.

# Relaxed MIL for Object Discovery

- A low rank formulation [Wang et al., NC'13]

$$\min_{A,E,Z} \|k\|_* + \gamma \|E\|_1$$

$$s.t. X \text{diag}(Z) = A + E, \forall k \in [k] \bigvee_{i=1}^{n_k} z_i^{(k)} = 1.$$

- $A$  is the low-rank part
- $E$  is sparse error
- $\text{diag}(Z)$  is  $N \times N$  block-diagonal matrix with  $K$  blocks  $\{\text{diag}(Z^{(k)})\}$

- A discriminative formulation

$$p_{ij} = \Pr(y_{ij} = 1 | x_{ij}; w) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-w^T x_{ij}}}$$

$$P_i = \Pr(Y_i = 1 | X_i; w) = 1 - \prod_{j=1}^{m_i} (1 - p_{ij}) \quad (\text{NOR})$$

$$\min_w \frac{\lambda}{2} \|w\|^2 + \frac{\beta}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{L}_{bag_i} + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{m_i} \sum_{j=1}^{m_i} \mathcal{L}_{ins_{ij}}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{bag_i} = -\{Y_i \log(P_i) + (1 - Y_i) \log(1 - P_i)\},$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{ins_{ij}} = \max(0, [m_0 - \text{sgn}(p_{ij} - p_0)w^T x_{ij}])$$



# Multi-fold MIL for Object Discovery

**Motivation: avoiding poor local optima in MIL**



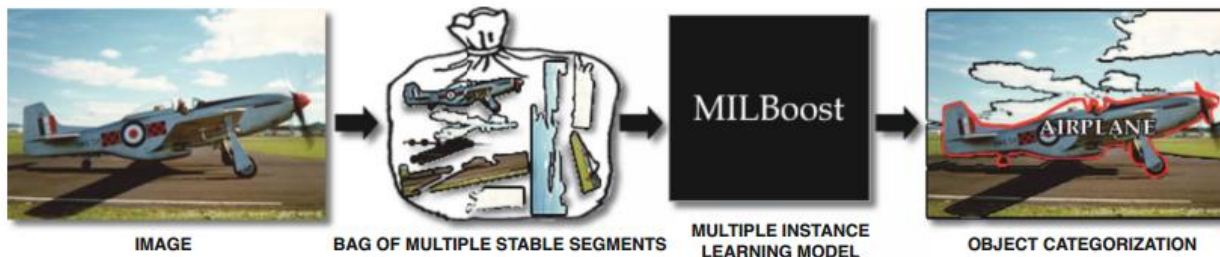
## Multi-fold weakly supervised training

- 1) Initialization of positive and negative instances
- 2) For iteration  $t = 1$  to  $T$ 
  - a) Divide positive images randomly into  $K$  folds
  - b) For  $k = 1$  to  $K$ 
    - i) Train using positive examples in all folds but  $k$ , and all negative examples
    - ii) **Re-localize** positives by selecting the top scoring window in each image of fold  $k$  using this detector
  - c) Train detector using re-localized positives and all negatives
  - d) Add new negative windows by hard-negative mining
- 3) Return final detector and object windows in train data

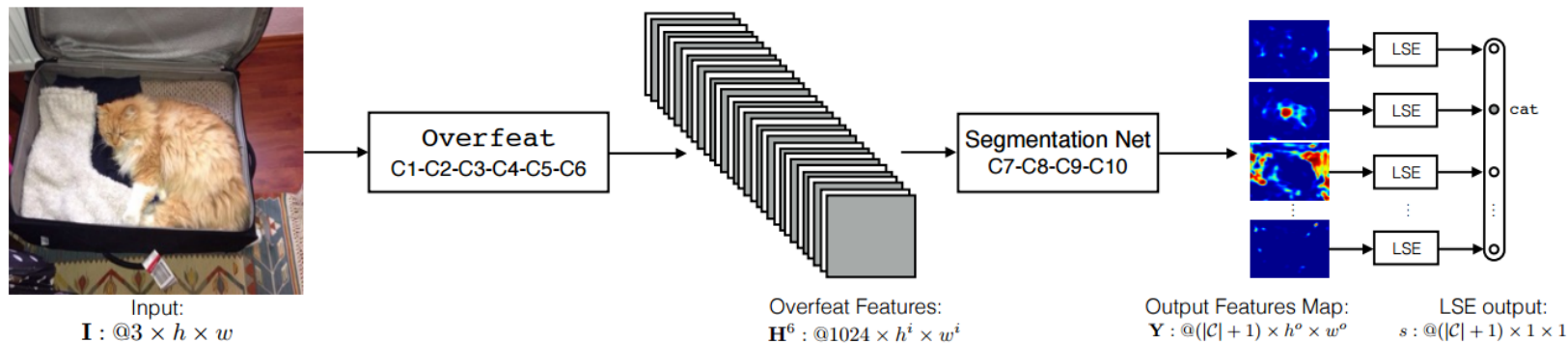
Ramazan Gokberk Cinbis, Jakob Verbeek, and Cordelia Schmid, Weakly Supervised Object Localization with Multi-fold Multiple Instance Learning, TPAMI 2016

# Semantic Segmentation

- MIL-Boost Segmentation [Galleguillos et al., ECCV'08]



- Weakly Supervised Deep Segmentation [Pinheiro et al., CVPR'15]

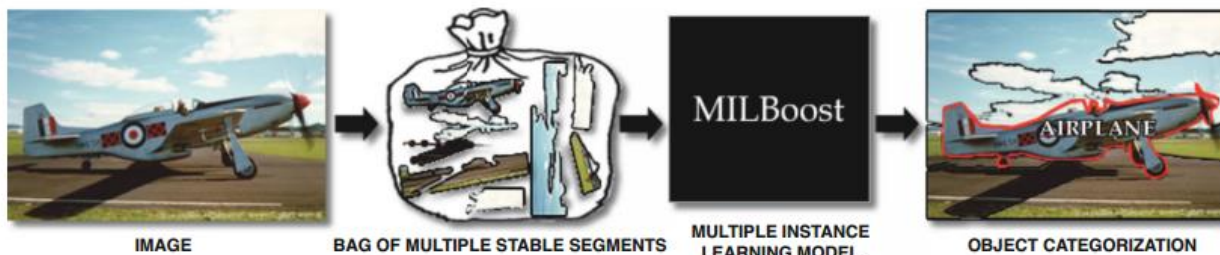


Carolina Galleguillos, Boris Babenko, Andrew Rabinovich, Serge Belongie, Weakly Supervised Object Localization with Stable Segmentations, ECCV 08

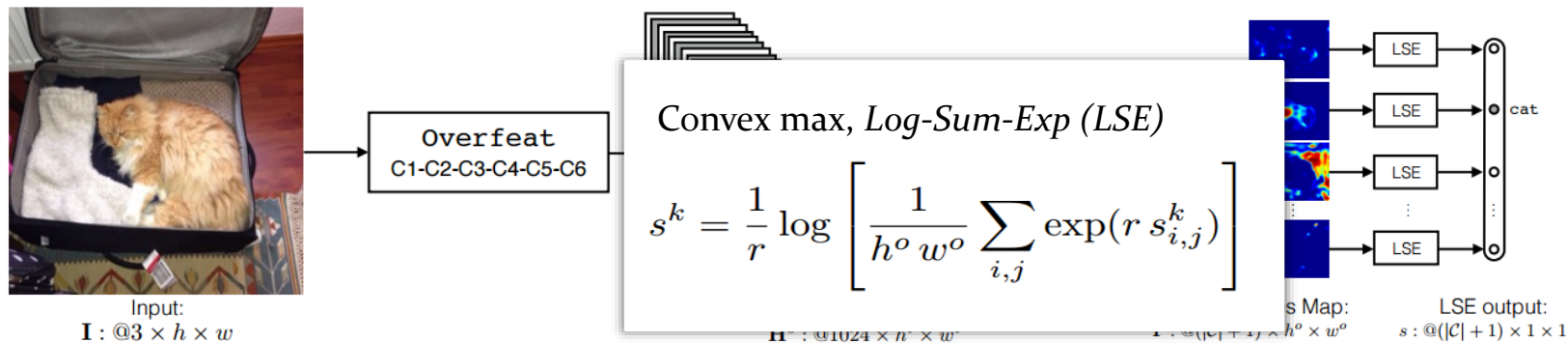
Pedro O. Pinheiro, Ronan Collobert. From Image-level to Pixel-level Labeling with Convolutional Networks. CVPR 2015

# Semantic Segmentation

- MIL-Boost Segmentation [Galleguillos et al., ECCV'08]



- Weakly Supervised Deep Segmentation [Pinheiro et al., CVPR'15]

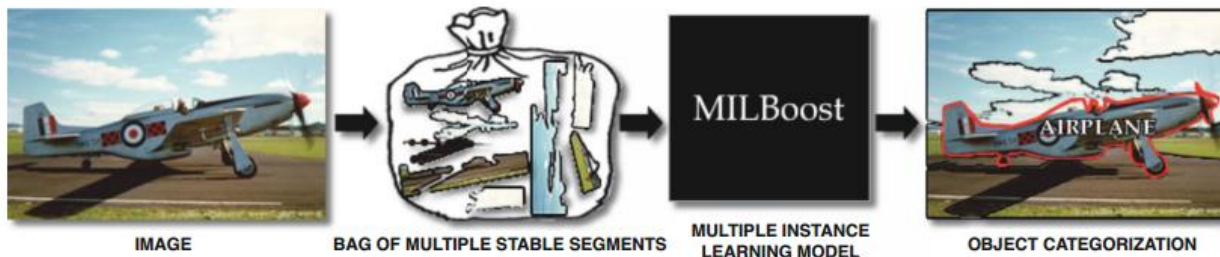


Carolina Galleguillos, Boris Babenko, Andrew Rabinovich, Serge Belongie, Weakly Supervised Object Localization with Stable Segmentations, ECCV 08

Pedro O. Pinheiro, Ronan Collobert. From Image-level to Pixel-level Labeling with Convolutional Networks. CVPR 2015

# Semantic Segmentation

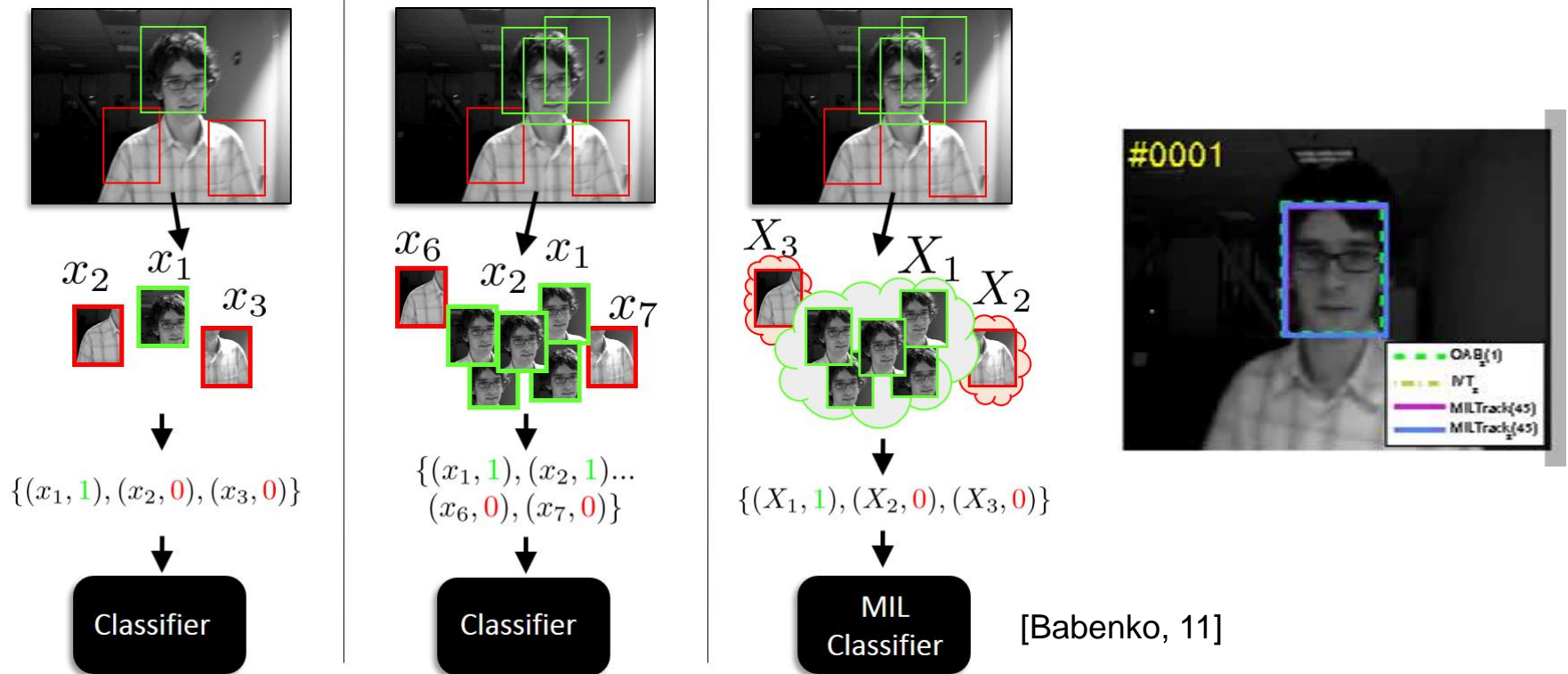
- MIL-Boost Segmentation [Galleguillos et al., ECCV'08]





# Object Tracking

Motivation: Learning robust appearance model using MIL



Babenko B., Yang M., Belongie S., "Visual Tracking with Online Multiple Instance Learning", TPAMI 2011

# Applications in Computer Vision

- MIL is a very effective tool for weakly supervised learning in computer vision applications.
- MIL is able to mining informative features in image.
- MIL works well with deep networks! Any differentiable MIL operator can be integrated into deep networks.

# Outline

- Multi-Instance Learning (MIL)
- Representative Algorithms
- Related Topics
- Applications in Computer Vision
- Conclusion

# Introductory Materials

- ✓ Zhou Z-H. Multi-instance learning: A survey. **Technical Report**, AI Lab, Department of Computer Science & Technology, Nanjing University, Nanjing, China, 2004.
- ✓ Foulds J, Frank E. A review of multi-instance learning assumptions. **Knowledge Engineering Review**, 2010, 25(1): 1-25.
- ✓ Amores J. Multiple instance classification: Review, taxonomy and comparative study. **Artificial Intelligence**, 2013, 201: 81-105.
- ✓ Ray S, Scott S D, Blockeel H. Multiple-instance learning. In: **Encyclopedia of Machine Learning and Data Mining**, Berlin: Springer, 2015.



# For More Details...

## Multi-instance regression

- ✓ Ray S, Page D. Multi-instance regression. In: **Proceedings of the 18th International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML'01)**, Williamstown, MA, 2001, 425-432.
- ✓ Amar R A, Dooly D R, Goldman S A, Zhang Q. Multiple-instance learning of real-valued data. In: **Proceedings of the 18th International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML'01)**, Williamstown, MA, 2001, 3-10.

## Multi-instance clustering

- ✓ Zhang M-L, Zhou Z-H. Multi-instance clustering with applications to multi-instance prediction. **Applied Intelligence**, 2009, 31(1): 47-68.
- ✓ Zhang D, Wang F, Si L, Li T. Maximum margin multiple instance clustering with applications to image and text clustering. **IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks**, 2011, 22(5): 739-751.



# For More Details...

## Semi-supervised MIL

- ✓ Rahmani R, Goldman S A. MISSL: multiple-instance semi-supervised learning. In: **Proceedings of the 23rd International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML'06)**, Pittsburgh, MA, 2006, 705-712.
- ✓ Zhou Z-H, Xu J-M. On the relation between multi-instance learning and semi-supervised learning. In: **Proceedings of the 24th International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML'07)**, Corvallis, OR, 2007, 1167-1174.

## Multi-instance active learning

- ✓ Settles B, Craven M, Ray S. Multiple-instance active learning. In: **Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 20 (NIPS'07)**, Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2008, 1289-1296.



# For More Details...

## Generalized MIL

- ✓ Weidmann N, Frank E, Pfahringer B. A two level learning method for generalized multi-instance learning. In: **Proceedings of the 14th European Conference on Machine Learning (ECML'03)**, Cavtat-Dubrovnik, Croatia, 2003, 492-502.
- ✓ Tao Q, Scott S D, Vinodchandran N V, Osugi T T, Mueller B. Kernels for generalized multiple-instance learning. **IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence**, 2008, 30(12): 2084-2098.

## Multi-instance multi-label learning (MIML)

- ✓ Zhou Z-H, Zhang M-L, Huang S-J, Li Y-F. Multi-instance multi-label learning. **Artificial Intelligence**, 2012, 176(1): 2291-2320.
- ✓ Zhang M-L, Zhou Z-H. A review on multi-label learning algorithms. **IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering**, 2014, 26(8): 1819-1837.



# For More Details

## Key Instance Detection for MIL

- ✓ Li Y-F, Kwok J T, Tsang I W, Zhou Z-H. A convex method for locating regions of interest with multi-instance learning. In: **Proceedings of the 20th European Conference on Machine Learning (ECML'09)**, Bled, Slovenia, 2009, 15-30.
- ✓ Liu G, Wu J, Zhou Z-H. Key instance detection in multi-instance learning. In: **Proceedings of the 4th Asian Conference on Machine Learning (ACML'12)**, Singapore, 2012, 253-268.

## Bag generators for MIL

- ✓ Wei X-S, Zhou Z-H. An empirical study on image bag generators for multi-instance learning. **Machine Learning**, in press.

## Scalable MIL

- ✓ Wei X-S, Wu J, Zhou Z-H. Scalable algorithms for multi-instance learning. **IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks and Learning Systems**, in press.



# Data & Code

## Data for MIL

- ✓ <http://www.miproblems.org/datasets/>
- ✓ <http://www.cs.wustl.edu/~sg/multi-inst-data/>
- ✓ <http://lamda.nju.edu.cn/CH.Data.ashx#data>

## Code for MIL

- ✓ <https://weka.wikispaces.com/Multi-instance+classification>  
[Weka MIL toolbox]
- ✓ <http://prlab.tudelft.nl/david-tax/mil.html>
- ✓ <http://lamda.nju.edu.cn/CH.Data.ashx#code>

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# Thanks!

