

Sparse and Low-Rank Modeling for High-Dimensional Data Analysis

**Ehsan Elhamifar, Rene Vidal,
John Wright, Guillermo Sapiro**

**CVPR 2015 Tutorial
Boston, MA**

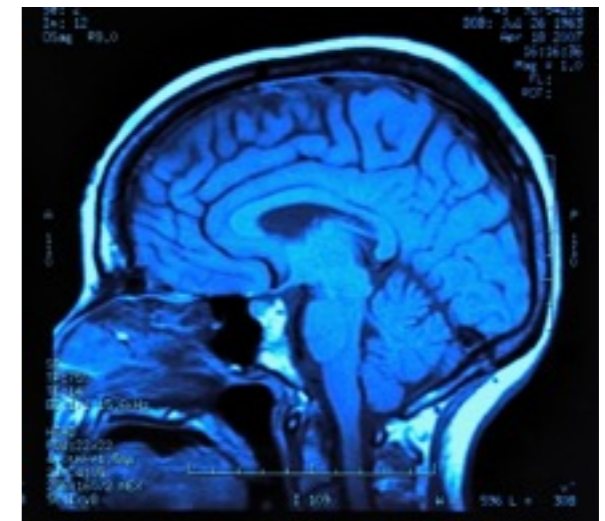
High-dimensional data deluge



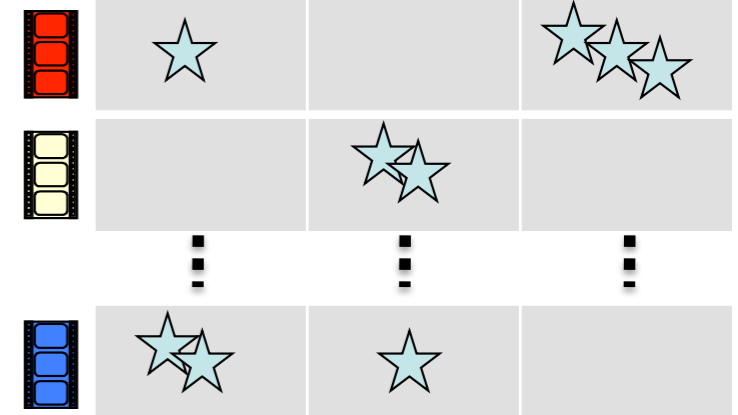
72 hrs new videos / minute



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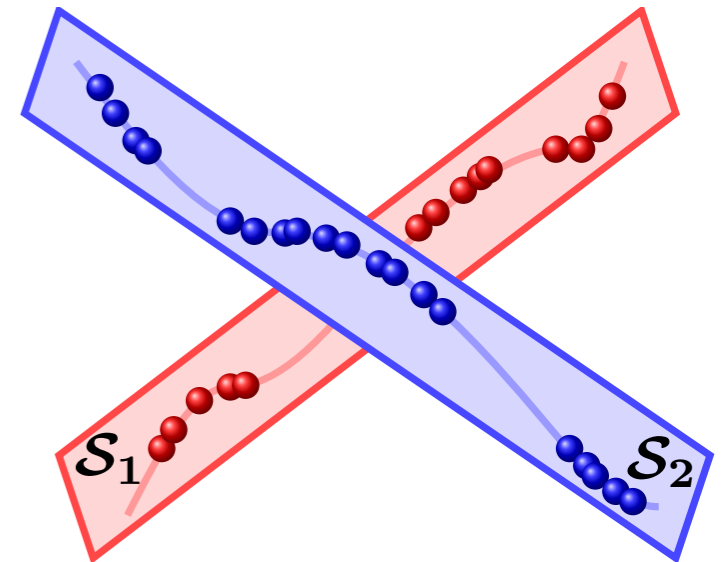
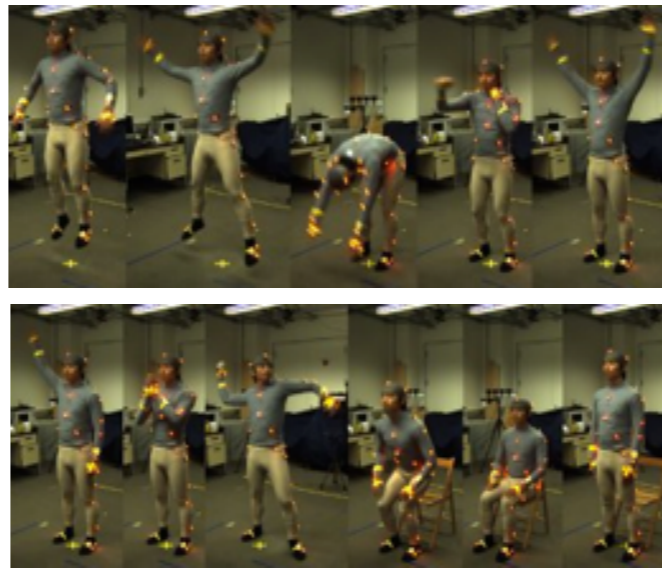
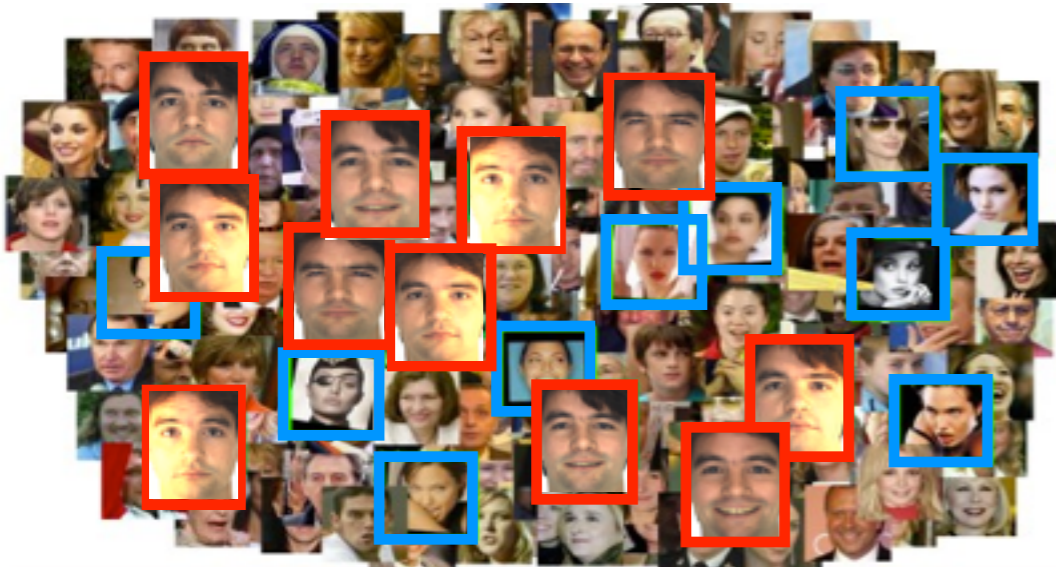


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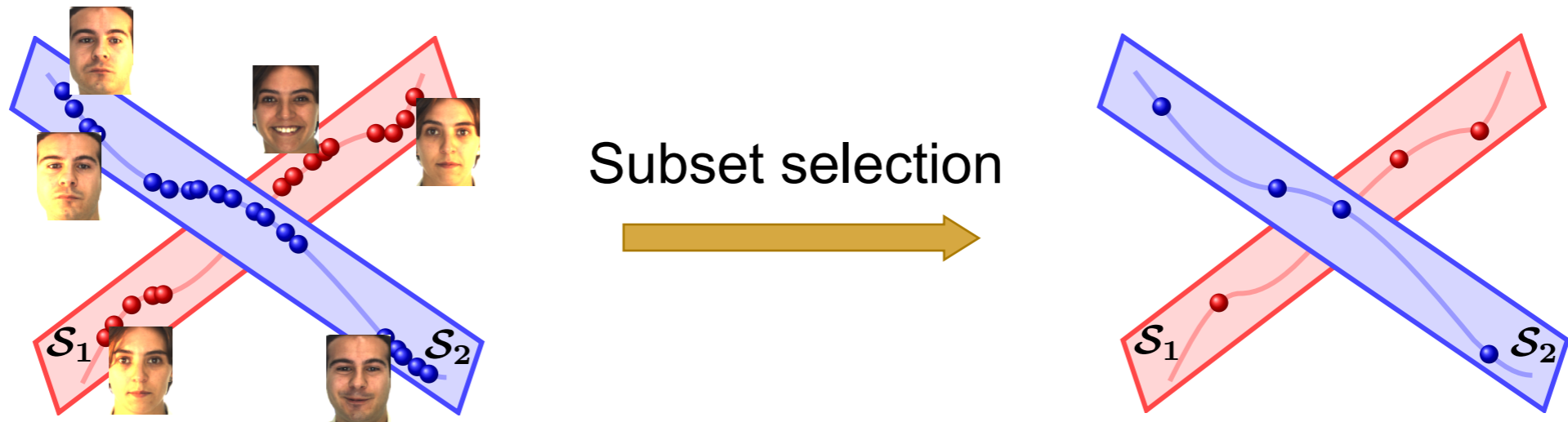


Low-dimensional structures

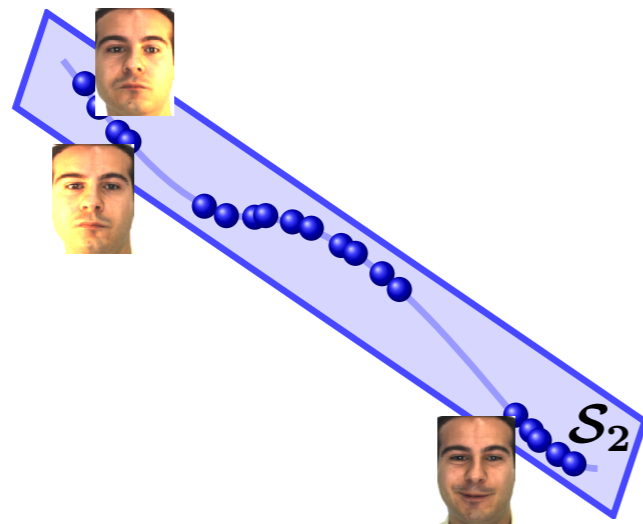
- Intrinsic structures are low-dimensional



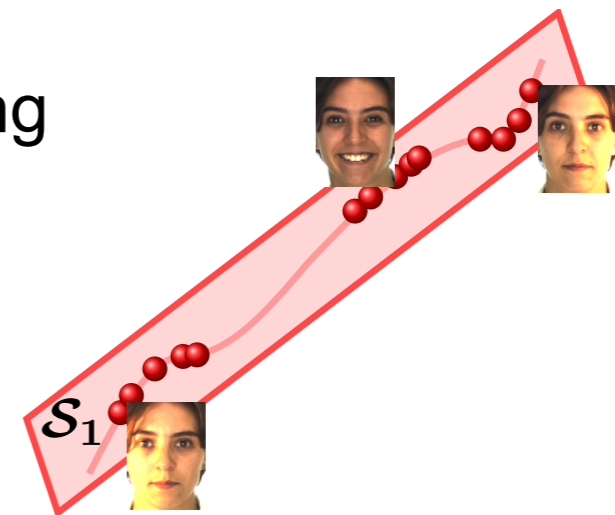
High-dimensional data analysis



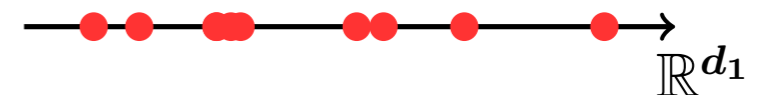
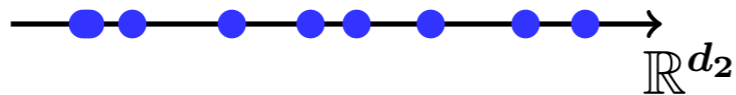
Classification



Clustering



Embedding

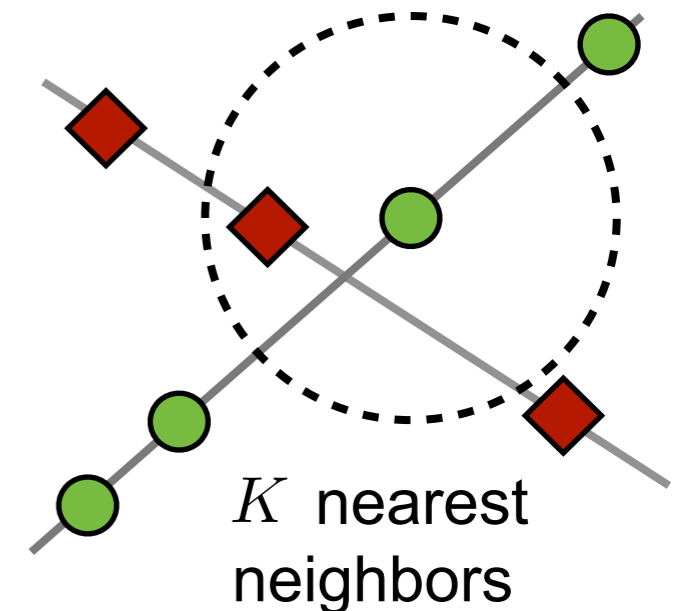


Challenges

- Clustering and subset selection: **Non-convex** and **NP-hard**
- Real data are often **corrupted**
- **Little prior knowledge** about low-dim structures
- Points in different groups can be **very close**
 - Ext YaleB dataset (38 subjects, 64 images)



$K = 1$	$K = 2$	$K = 3$	$K = 4$
6%	14%	23%	31%



This tutorial

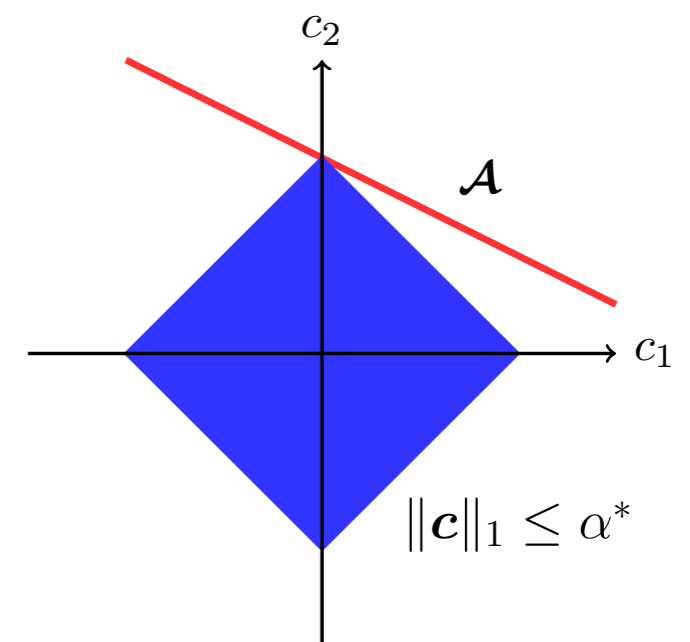
Efficient, robust and **provably correct** algorithms for

(1) **clustering, subset selection**

(2) **classification, dimension reduction**

Tools:

- Sparse & low-rank representation
- High-dimensional statistics & geometry
- Convex programming & analysis



This tutorial

1) Clustering, Subset selection: algorithm, theory, applications

- Ehsan Elhamifar
- Rene Vidal

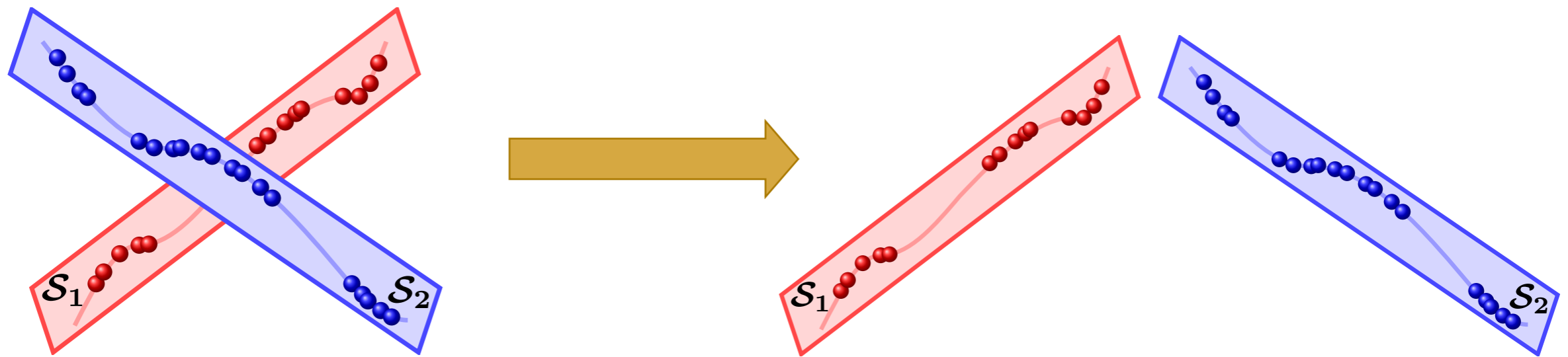
— Coffee Break 3:30pm — 4:15pm

2) Robust PCA, Learning low-rank transformations: algorithm, theory, applications

- John Wright
 - Guillermo Sapiro
-

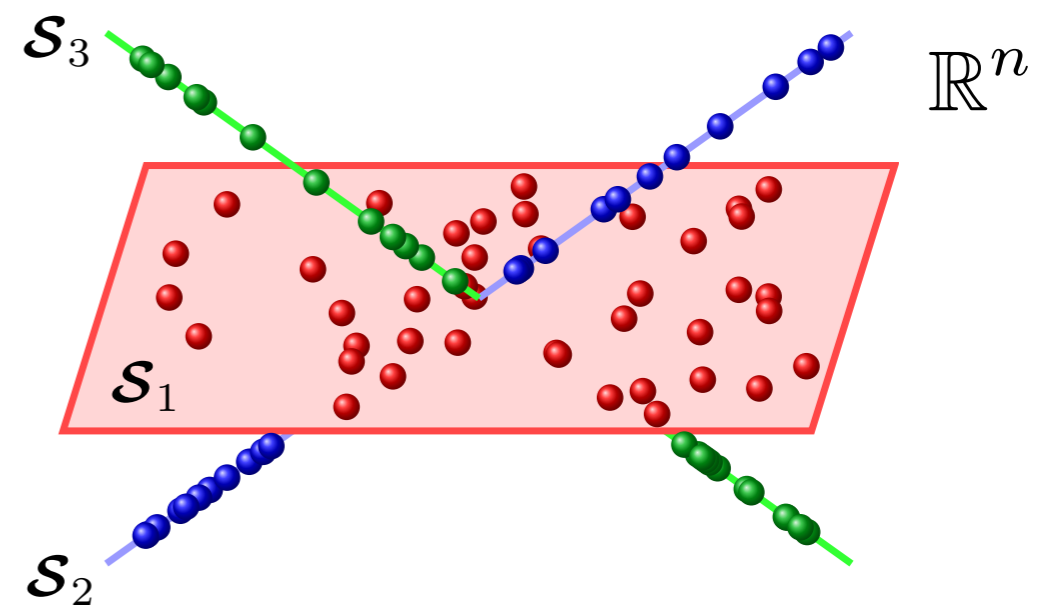
Sparse Subspace Clustering

Ehsan Elhamifar



Subspace clustering problem

- Given points $\{\mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_N\}$ in \mathbb{R}^n lying in $\mathcal{S}_1 \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{S}_L$, find
 - **Basis** for each subspace
 - **Clustering** of the data



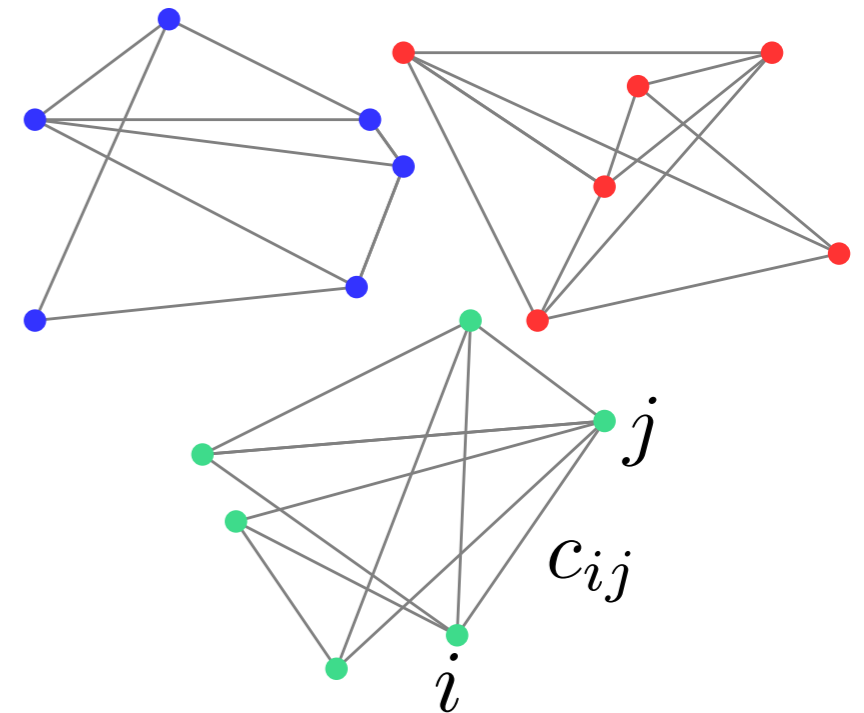
- **Challenging** for multiple subspaces
 - Do not know subspace **bases**
 - Do not know **memberships** of points
 - Corruption by **noise, missing entries, outliers, ...**

➔ Possible approach: **Expectation Maximization**, Issue: **Local minima**

Spectral clustering-based approach

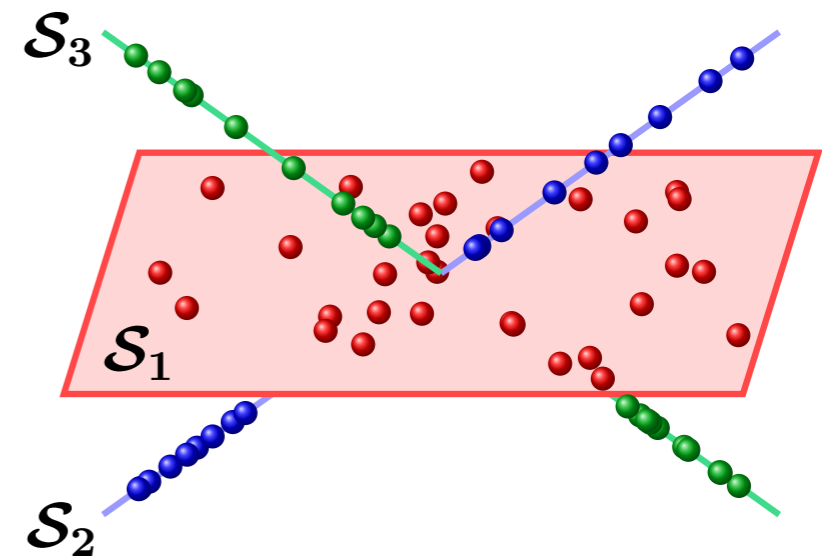
- **Spectral Clustering**

- Represent points as graph nodes
- Connect i and j with weight c_{ij}
- Infer clusters from graph Laplacian



- Good similarity for subspaces?

- Points in the **same subspace**: $c_{ij} \neq 0$
- Points in **different subspaces**: $c_{ij} = 0$
- ~~Nearest neighbors~~

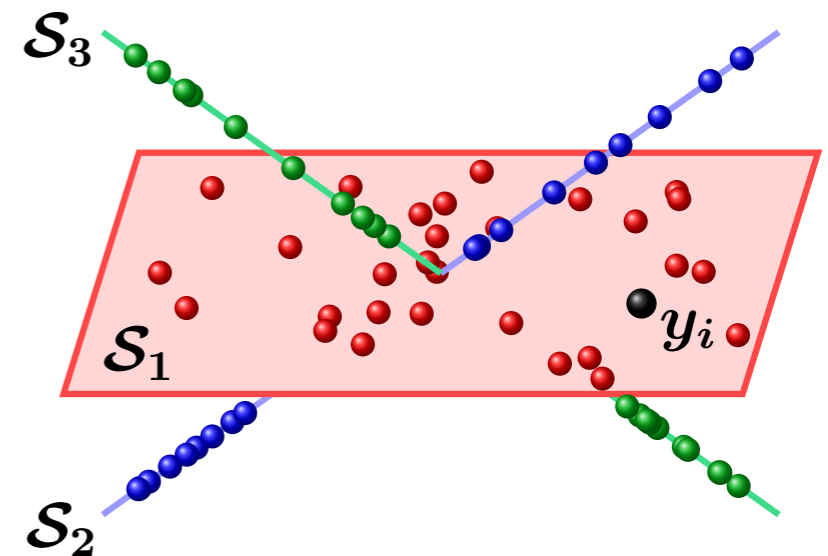


Subspace clustering: idea

- **Self-Expressiveness Property (SEP)**

- $y_i = Y c_i$ \longrightarrow many solutions

- $Y = [Y_1 \quad Y_2 \quad \cdots \quad Y_L] \Gamma$
low column-rank



- In \mathcal{S}_ℓ of dim d_ℓ , a point can be reconstructed by d_ℓ other points

$$\min \|c_i\|_0 \quad \text{s. t.} \quad y_i = Y c_i, \quad c_{ii} = 0 \quad \text{NP-hard}$$

- ℓ_0 : number of nonzero elements

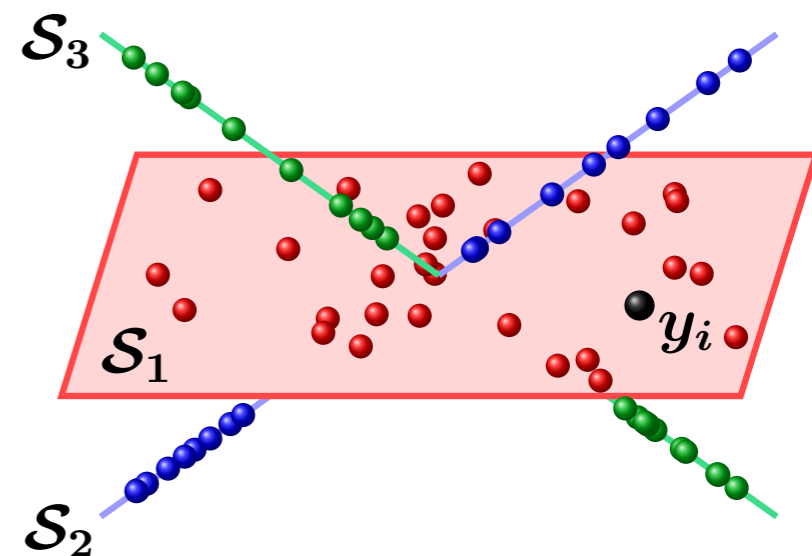
Subspace clustering: idea

- **Self-Expressiveness Property (SEP)**

- $y_i = Y c_i$ \longrightarrow many solutions

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low column-rank



- In \mathcal{S}_ℓ of dim d_ℓ , a point can be reconstructed by d_ℓ other points

$$\min \|c_i\|_1 \quad \text{s. t.} \quad y_i = Y c_i, \quad c_{ii} = 0 \quad \text{Convex}$$

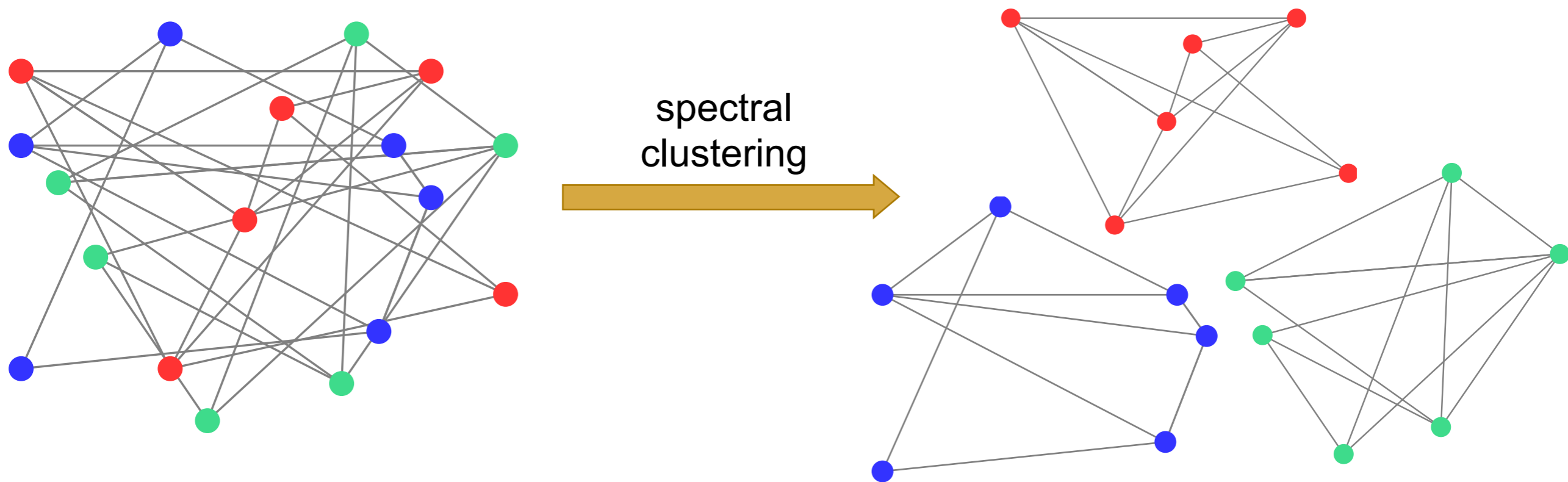
- ℓ_1 : sum of absolute values of elements

Sparse subspace clustering (SSC)

- 1: Solve the sparse optimization

$$\min \|\mathbf{c}_i\|_1 \quad \text{s. t.} \quad \mathbf{y}_i = \mathbf{Y} \mathbf{c}_i, \quad c_{ii} = 0 \quad \mathbf{c}_i^* = \begin{bmatrix} c_{i1}^* \\ \vdots \\ c_{iN}^* \end{bmatrix}$$

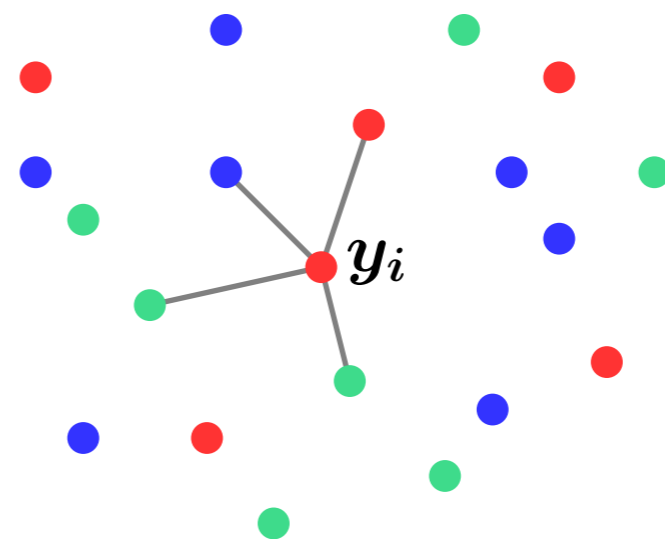
- 2: Infer clustering from similarity graph



L1 graph vs k-NN graph

- Conventional graph clustering

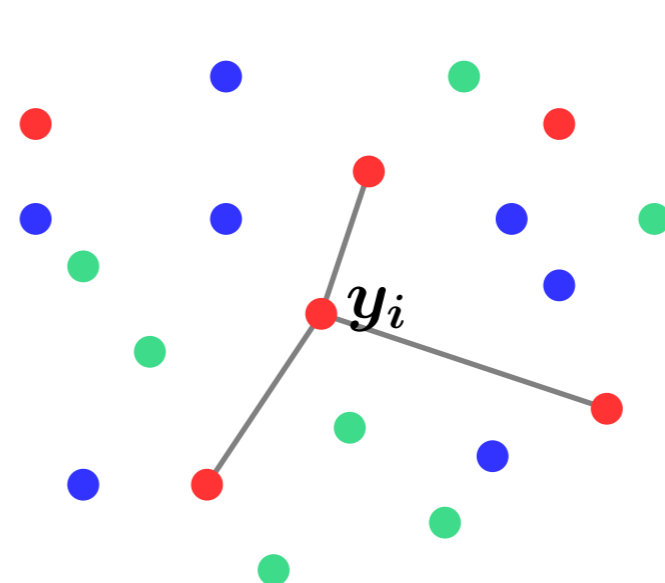
- 1) build a k-NN graph
- 2) learn edge weights
- 3) partition the graph



$$c_{ij} = e^{-\frac{\|y_i - y_j\|^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

- SSC algorithm

- 1) learn graph & weights
- 2) partition the graph

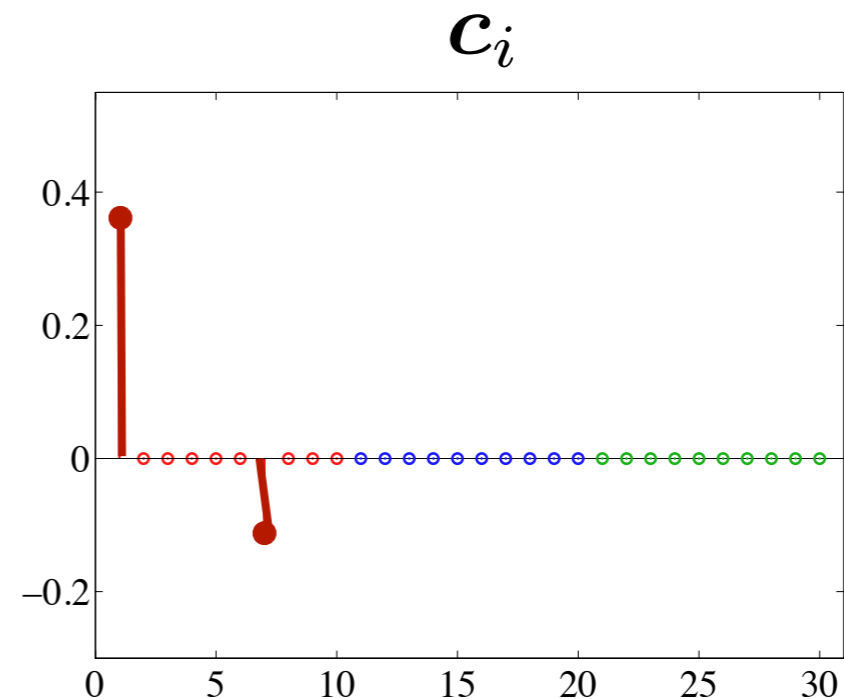
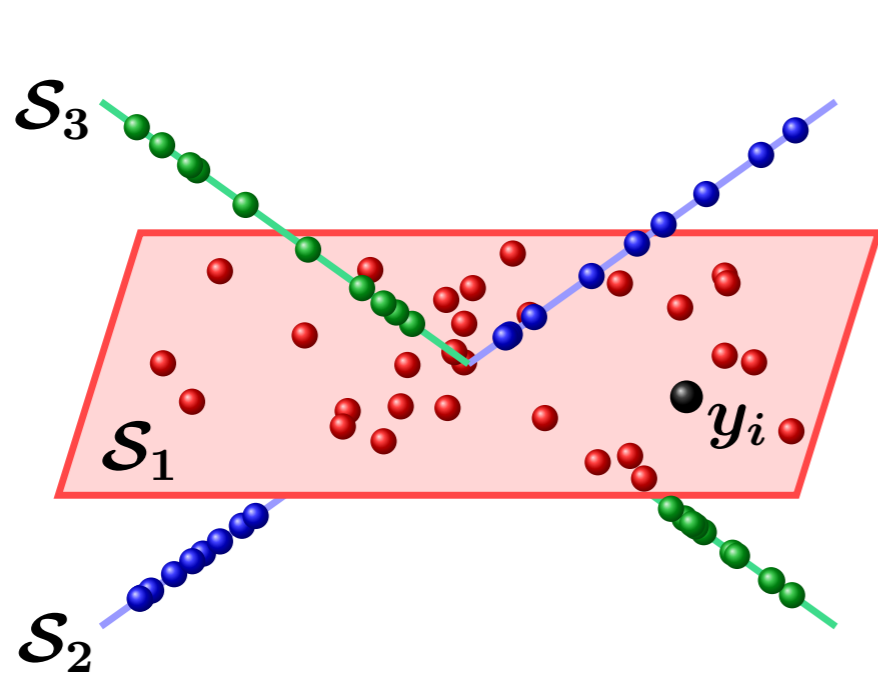


$$c_i^* = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0.8 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0.3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

SSC *automatically* selects the right number of neighbors!
SSC can deal with subspaces of *different dimensions*!

Theoretical analysis

- When does SSC succeed?
 - ℓ_1 selects points from the correct subspace: **no false discovery**

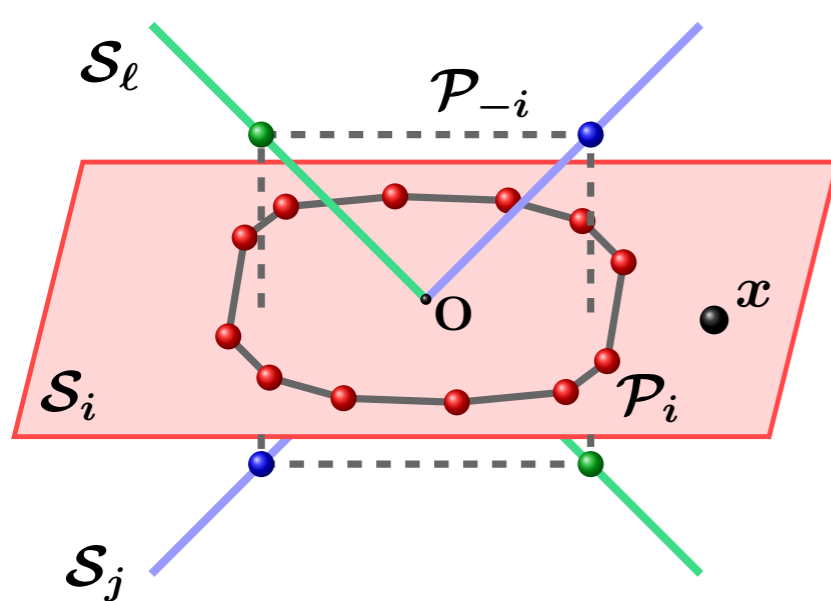


- **More challenging** than conventional sparse recovery
 - Sparse representation from the **correct subspace**
 - Sparse representation **not unique**

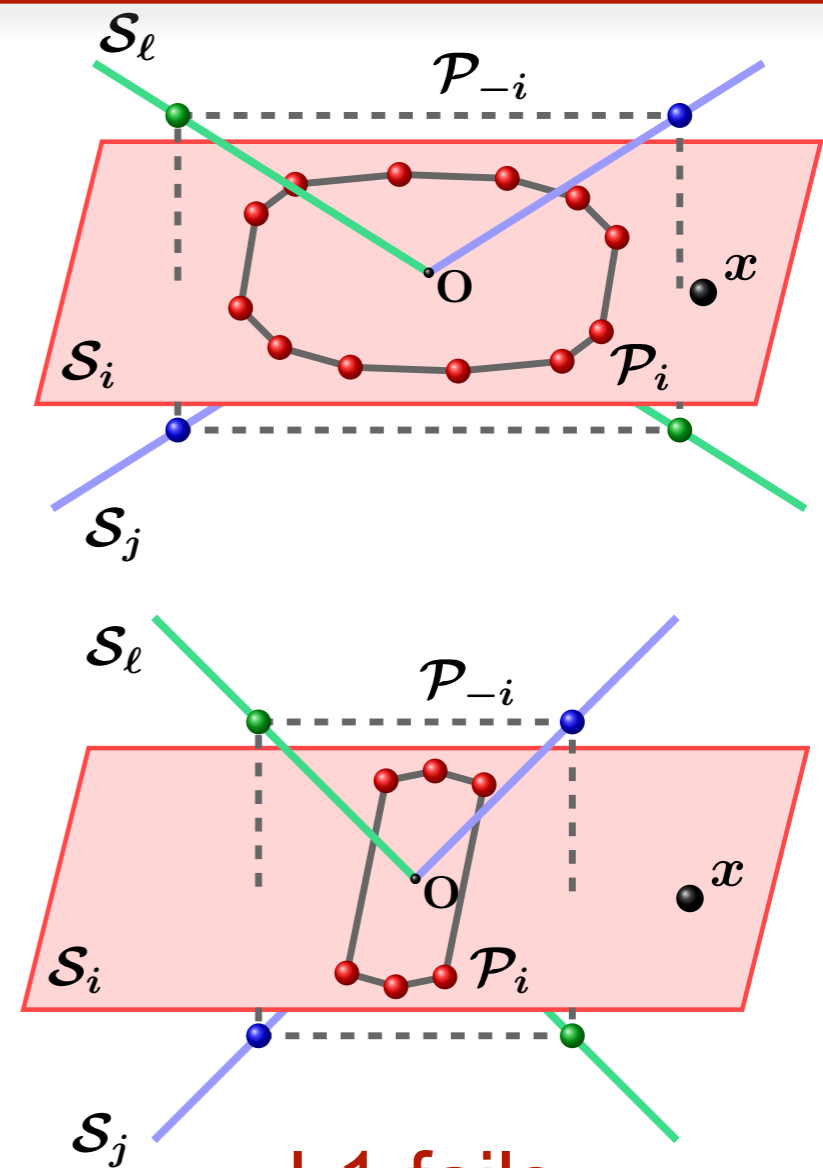
Geometry-based theoretical guarantees

- **Theorem:** SSC has zero false discovery for any $y \in \mathcal{S}_i$ if

$$\max_{j \neq i} \cos(\theta_{ij}) < \max_{\text{rank}(\mathbf{Y}'_i) = d_i} \sigma_{d_i}(\mathbf{Y}'_i) / \sqrt{d_i}$$



L1 succeeds



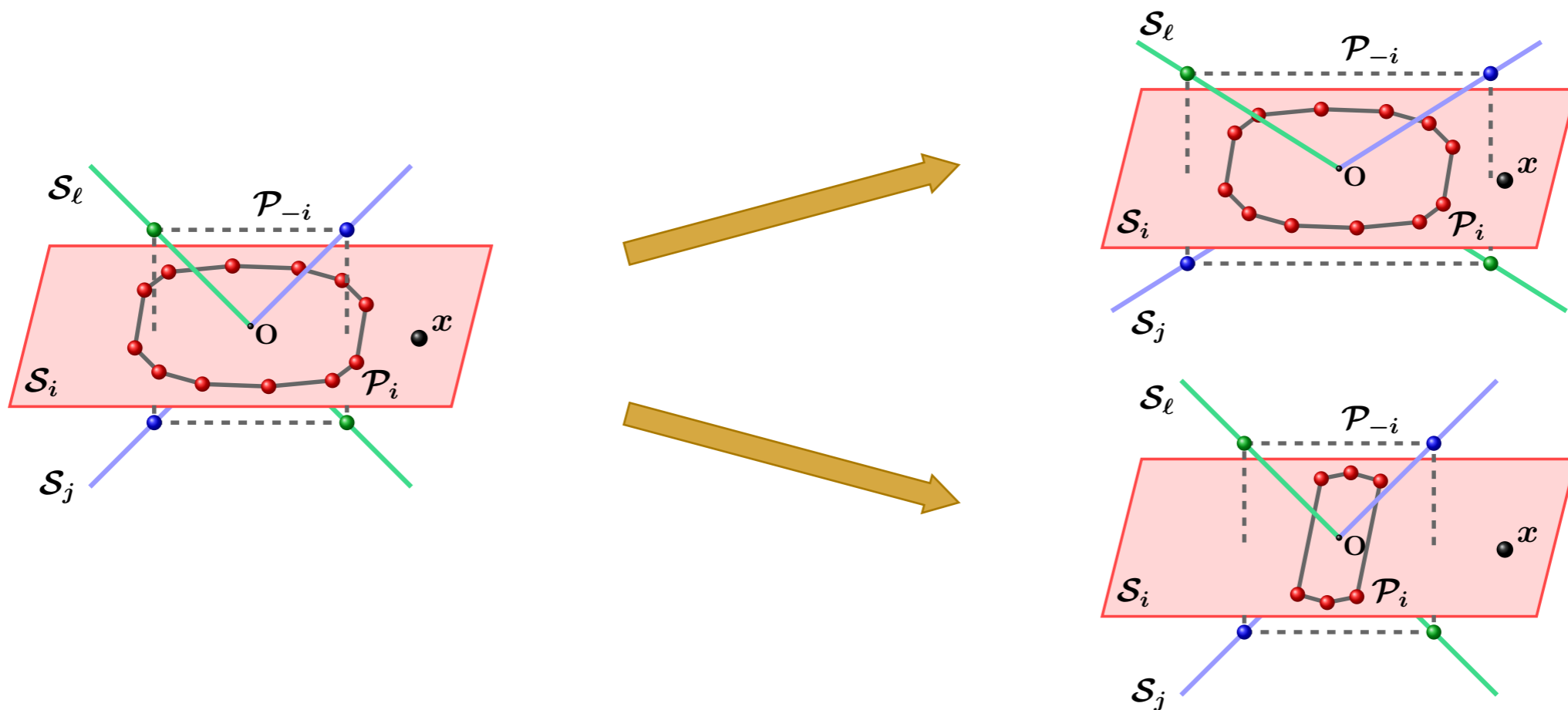
L1 fails

Geometry-based theoretical guarantees

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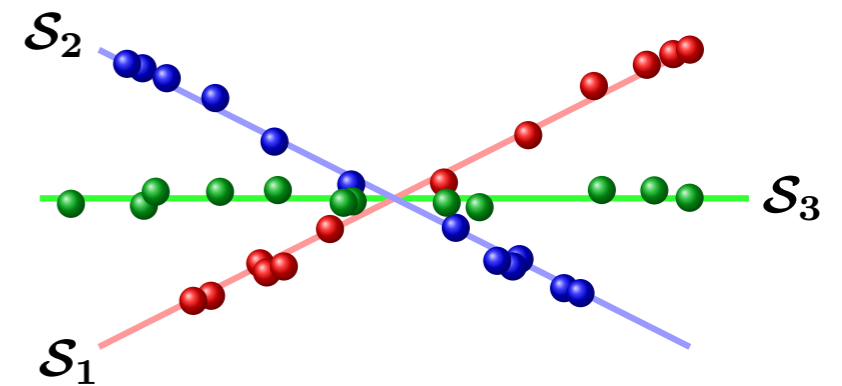
No need to have many points; Need a few but well distributed!



Clustering noisy data

- All points contaminated by noise

$$\tilde{\mathbf{Y}} = \mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{Z} \quad z_{ij} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2/n) \text{ i.i.d.}$$



- Self-expressiveness implies

$$\mathbf{y}_i = \underbrace{\mathbf{Y} \mathbf{c}_i}_{\text{sparse}} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \tilde{\mathbf{y}}_i = \underbrace{\tilde{\mathbf{Y}} \mathbf{c}_i}_{\text{sparse}} + \underbrace{(\mathbf{z}_i - \mathbf{Z} \mathbf{c}_i)}_{\text{perturbation}}$$

- Solve Lasso

$$\min \lambda \|\mathbf{c}_i\|_1 + \frac{1}{2} \|\tilde{\mathbf{y}}_i - \tilde{\mathbf{Y}} \mathbf{c}_i\|_2^2 \quad \text{s. t.} \quad c_{ii} = 0$$

? corrupted

Robust SSC

- **Theorem:** Assume noise-free data is drawn **uniformly at random** from the intersection of each subspace and hypersphere. Apply the **two-step procedure** to $\tilde{\mathbf{y}} \in \mathcal{S}_i$. Under some assumptions, if

$$\max_{j \neq i} \sqrt{\text{Ave}(\cos^2(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{ij}))} \lesssim (\log N)^{-1}$$

with high prob, a) **no false discovery**, b) **about subspace dim nonzeros**.

- **Algorithm: two-step approach**

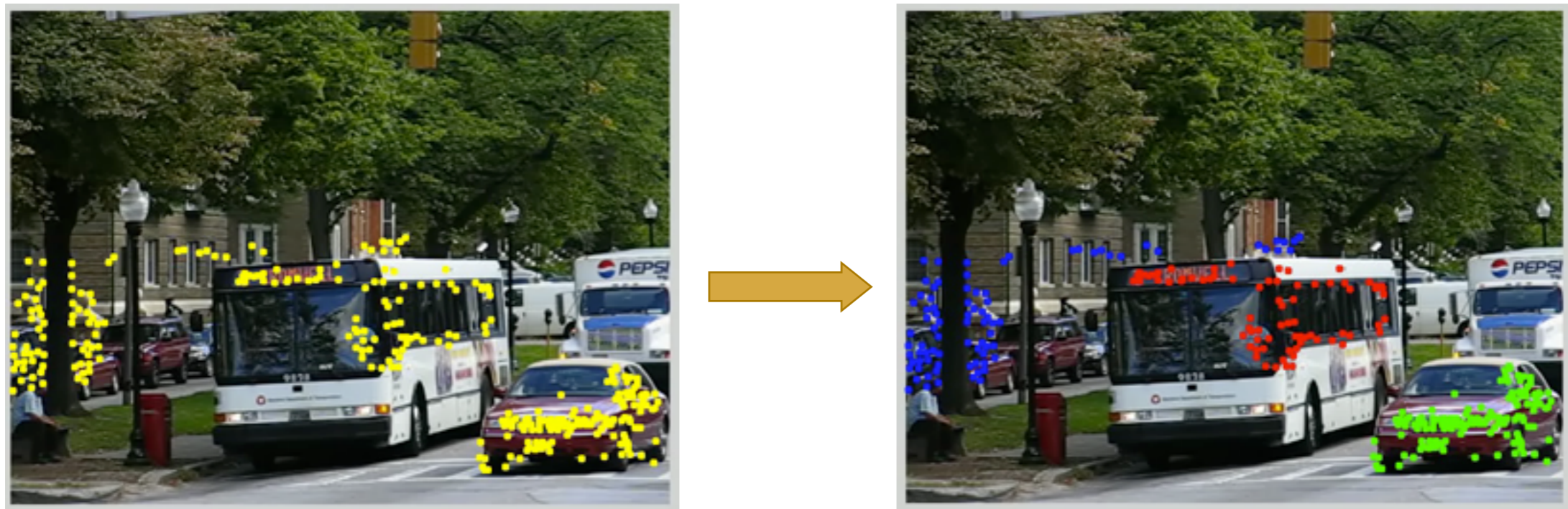
$$1) \boldsymbol{\beta}_i^* = \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\beta}_i} \|\boldsymbol{\beta}_i\|_1 \quad \text{s. t.} \quad \|\tilde{\mathbf{y}}_i - \tilde{\mathbf{Y}} \boldsymbol{\beta}_i\|_2 \leq 2\sigma, \quad \beta_{ii} = 0$$

$$2) \mathbf{c}_i^* = \arg \min_{\mathbf{c}_i} \lambda_i \|\mathbf{c}_i\|_1 + \frac{1}{2} \|\tilde{\mathbf{y}}_i - \tilde{\mathbf{Y}} \mathbf{c}_i\|_2^2 \quad \text{s. t.} \quad c_{ii} = 0$$

$$\lambda_i = \frac{1}{4 \|\boldsymbol{\beta}_i^*\|_1}$$

data dependent!

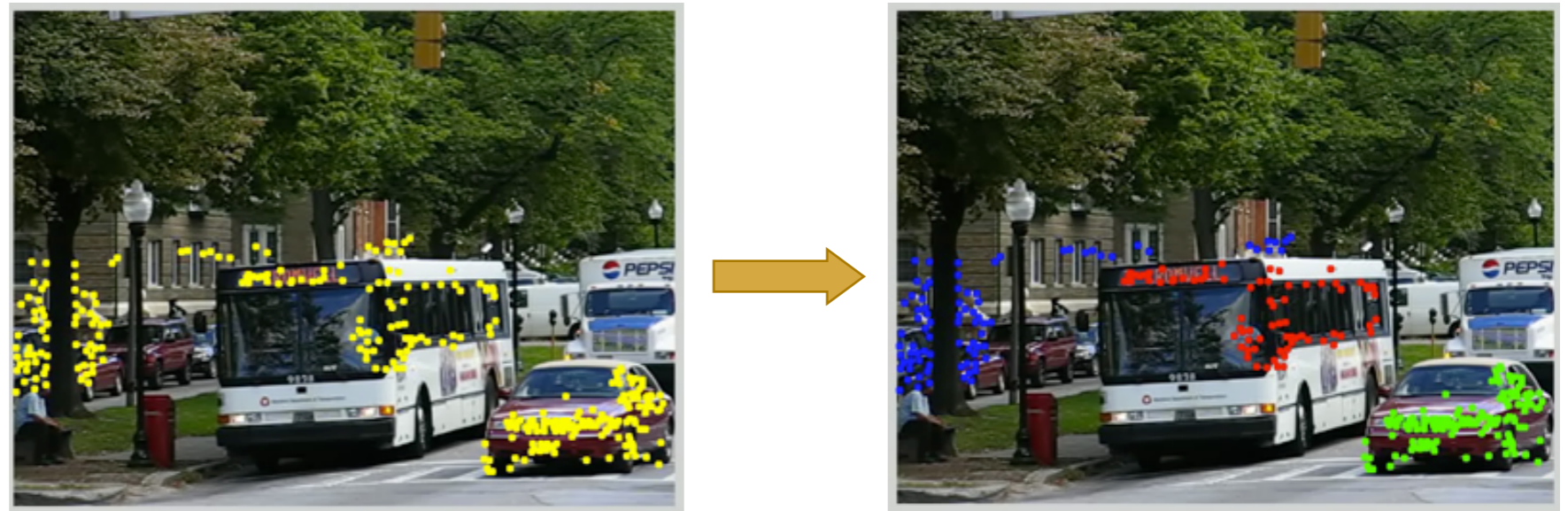
Application: motion segmentation



- Given feature trajectories of **multiple rigid motions**
- Find **segmentation** into underlying motions

Experiments: motion segmentation

- Hopkins 155 dataset
 - 155 sequences
 - 2 and 3 motions
- Clustering errors

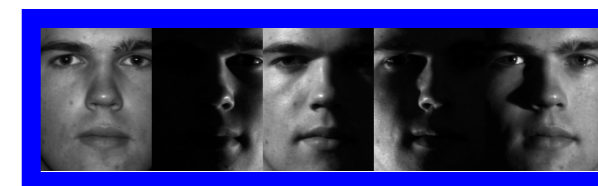
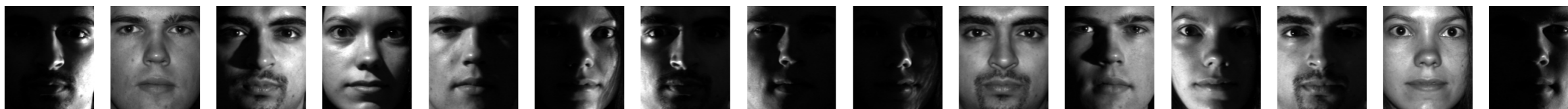


Algorithms	RANSAC	GPCA	MSL	LSA	SCC	LRR	LRSC	SSC
<i>2 Motions</i>								
Mean	5.56	4.59	4.14	4.23	2.89	4.10	3.69	1.52
Median	1.18	0.38	0.00	0.56	0.00	0.22	0.29	0.00
<i>3 Motions</i>								
Mean	22.94	28.66	8.23	7.02	8.25	9.89	7.69	4.40
Median	22.03	28.26	1.76	1.45	0.24	6.22	3.80	0.56

- nonconvex, local min
- k-NN based
- sensitive to noise
- exponential complexity

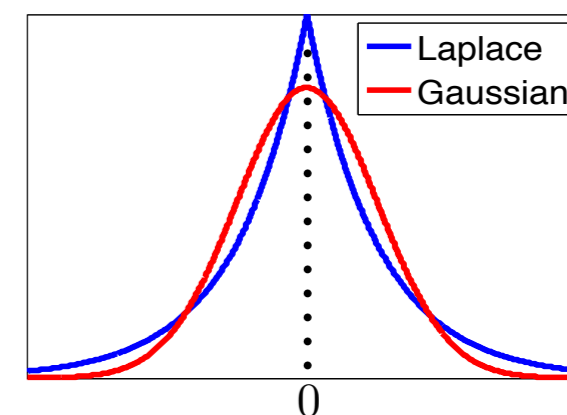
- + convex, provable
- + automatic selection
- + robust to noise
- + computationally efficient

Application: face clustering



- Corruption by **sparse errors** $\tilde{y}_i = y_i + e_i$

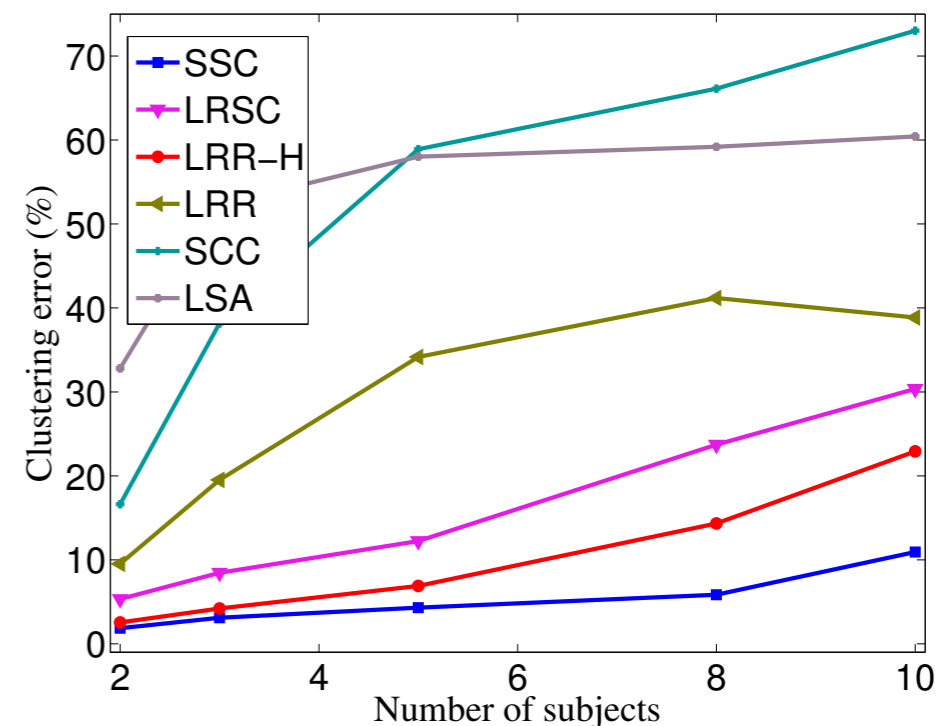
$$\min \lambda \|c_i\|_1 + \|\tilde{y}_i - \tilde{Y}c_i\|_1 \quad \text{s. t.} \quad c_{ii} = 0$$



- SSC error on Ext YaleB faces

< **2.0%** for 2 subjects

< **11.0%** for 10 subjects



Other extensions of SSC

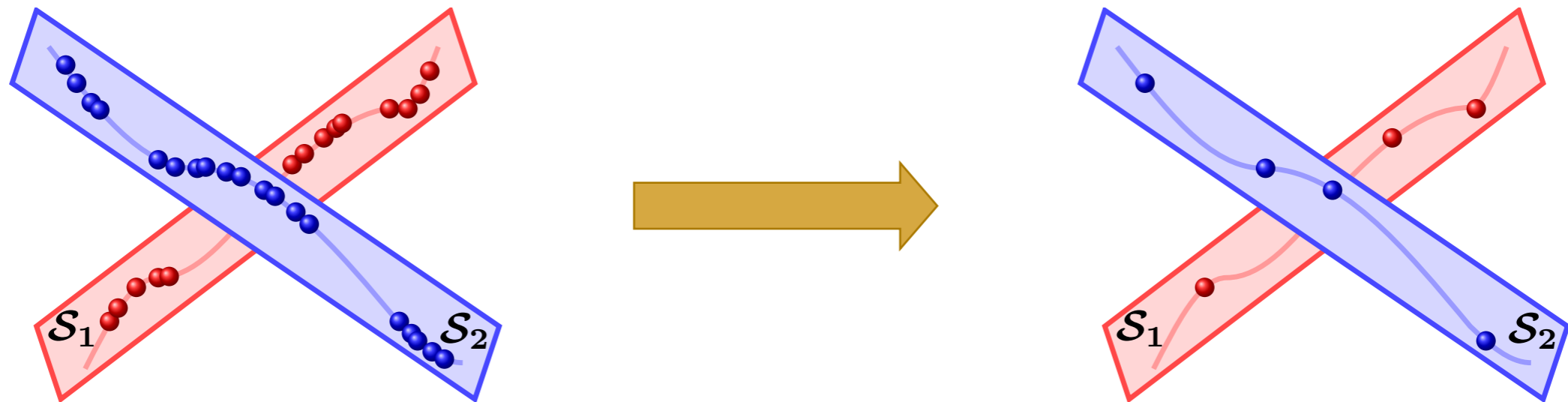
- Extension to clustering and DR of **nonlinear manifolds** [Elhamifar-Vidal NIPS'11]
 - **Scaling** to large datasets
 - Greedy algorithm, theory [Dyer-Sankaranarayanan-Baraniuk JMLR'13]
 - Sampling + more a compact dictionary [Peng-Zhang-Yi CVPR'13]
 - Dealing with **sequential** and **spatial** data [Tierney-Gao-Guo CVPR'13, Pham et al CVPR'12]
 - Enforcing **block-diagonal** structure on laplacian /adjacency [Feng-Lin et al CVPR'14]
 - **Connectivity** of SSC graph [Nasihatkon-Hartley CVPR'11]
-

Conclusions

- Addressed **clustering** of data lying in **multiple subspaces**
 - Proposed an **efficient algorithm** based on **sparse modeling**
 - Proved **theoretical guarantees** of the algorithm
 - Extended to deal with **corrupted data**
 - **Resolved challenges** of the state of the art
 - Showed it **performs well** in real-world problems
-

Sparse Subset Selection

Ehsan Elhamifar



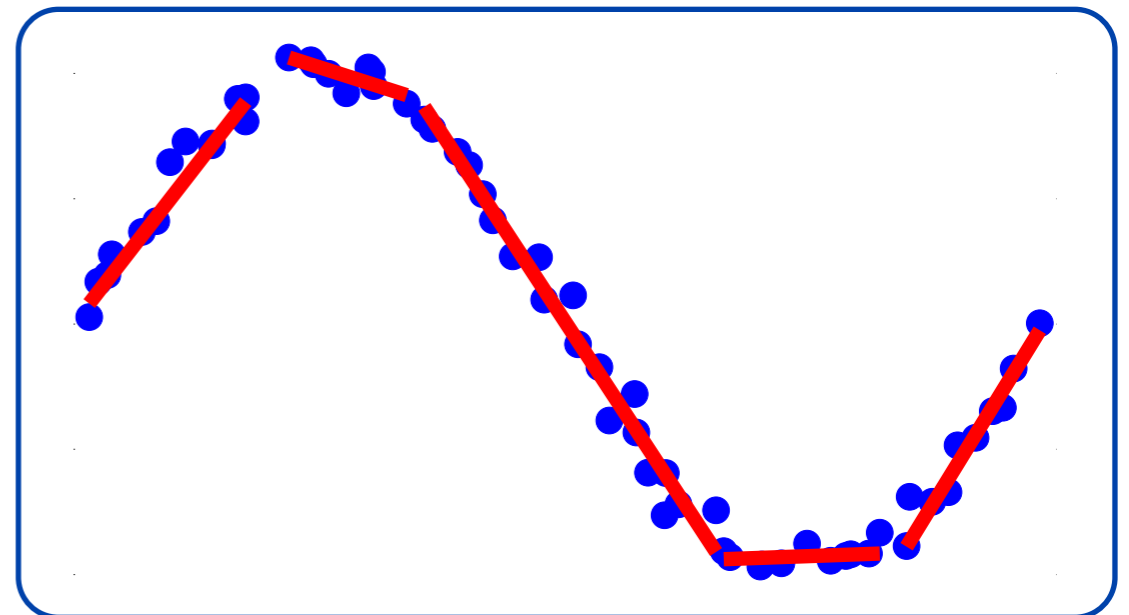
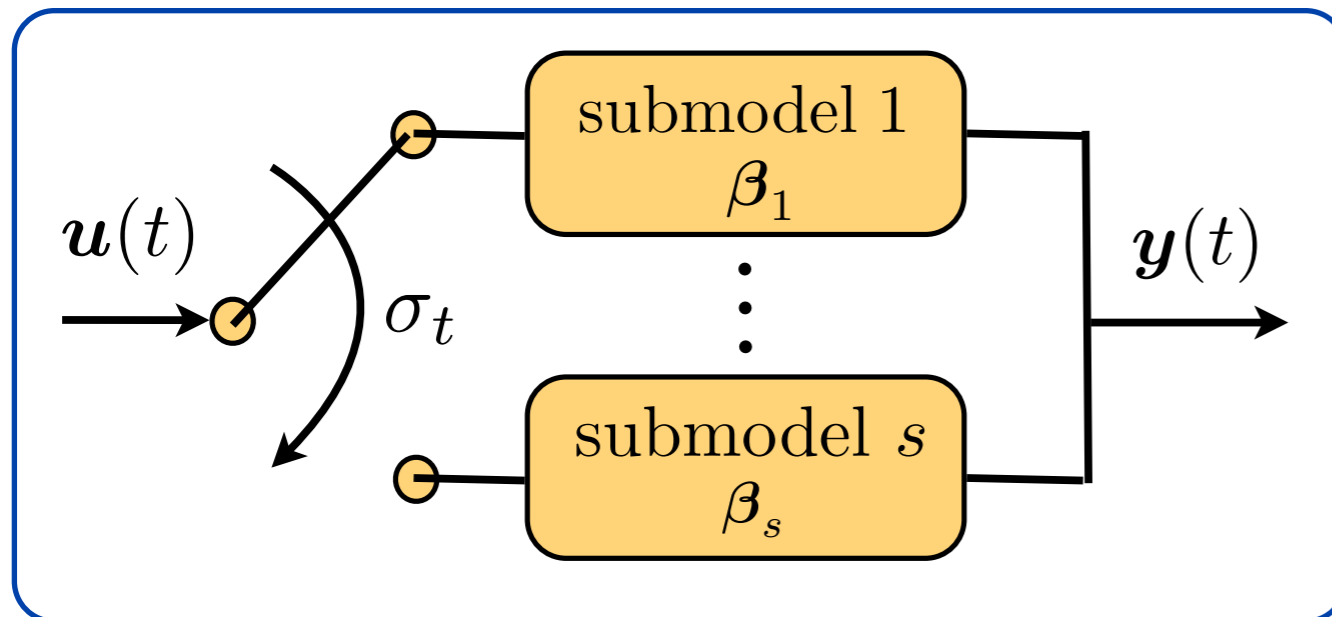
Finding representatives

- A **subset** of data / models, **efficiently** representing the entire set
 - **Summarize** and **visualize** images/videos/text/web datasets



Finding representatives

- A **subset** of data / models, **efficiently** representing the entire set
 - **Summarize** and **visualize** images/videos/text/web datasets
 - Improve **computational time** and **memory**
 - Describe (complex) **nonlinear models**

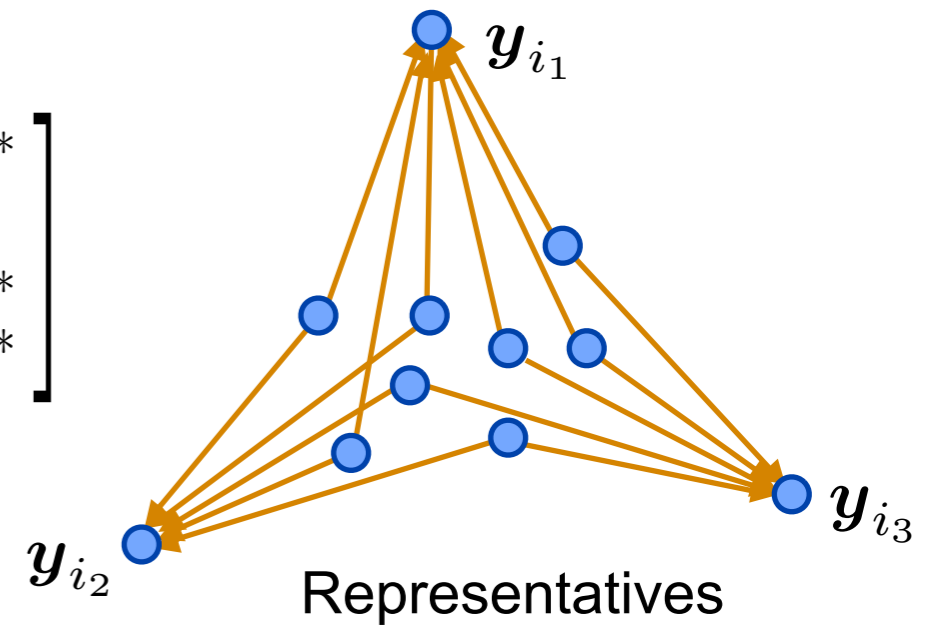


Column subset selection

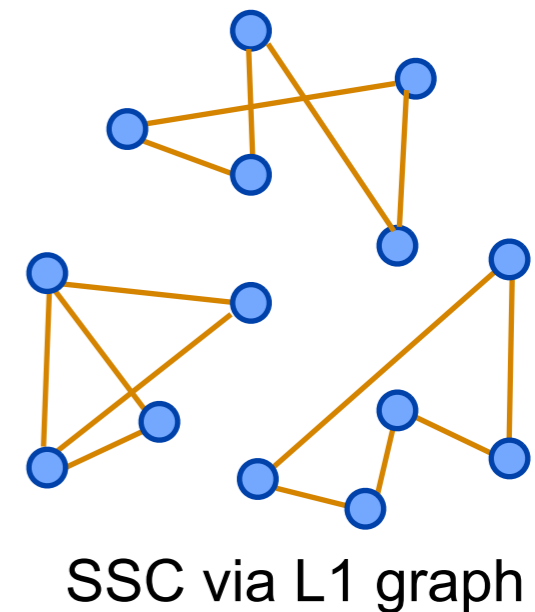
- Given $\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2, \dots, \mathbf{y}_N \in \mathbb{R}^n$, select a subset $\{\mathbf{y}_{i_1}, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{i_k}\}$ that “well represent” the dataset

$$\underset{\mathbf{C}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \lambda \sum_{i=1}^N \|\mathbf{C}_{i*}\|_p + \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{Y}\mathbf{C}\|_F^2 = \begin{bmatrix} * & * & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * & * & * \\ & * & * & * & * & * \\ & & * & * & * & * \end{bmatrix}$$

s. t. $\mathbf{1}^\top \mathbf{C} = \mathbf{1}^\top$



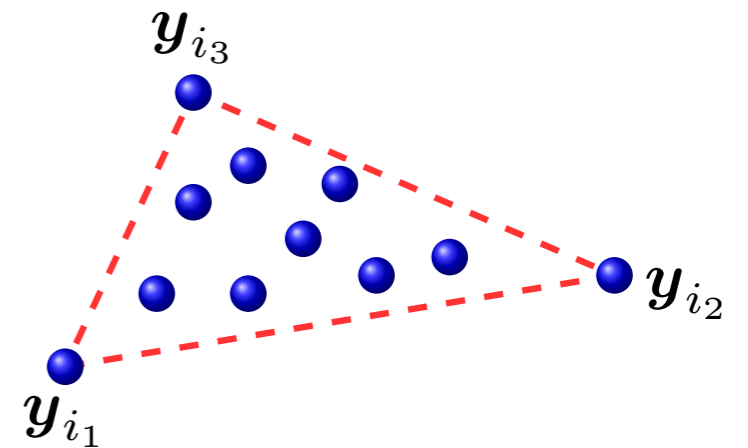
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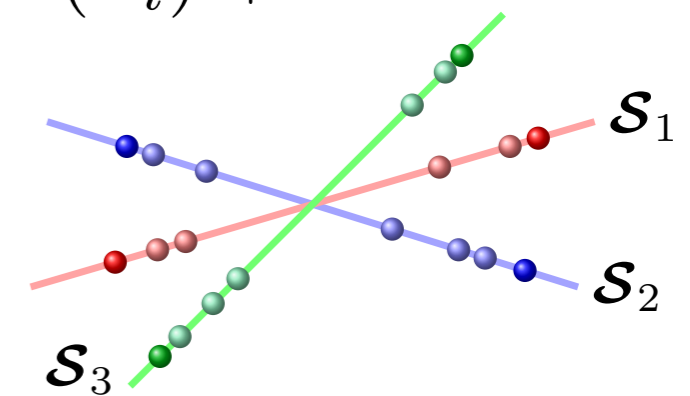
Column subset selection: theory

- **Theorem:** Let \mathcal{H} be the convex hull of the columns of \mathbf{Y} with k vertices. Assume the columns of \mathbf{Y} lie in a $(k-1)$ -dim. affine subspace. For $p > 1$, we obtain k representatives, corresponding to the vertices of \mathcal{H} .

$$\mathbf{C}^* = \mathbf{\Gamma} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I}_k & \Delta \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \quad \Delta \in [0, 1)^k$$



- **Theorem:** For points lying in a union of independent subspaces ($\dim(\oplus_i \mathcal{S}_i) = \sum \dim(\mathcal{S}_i)$), we obtain at least $\dim(\mathcal{S}_i) + 1$ representatives from each \mathcal{S}_i .

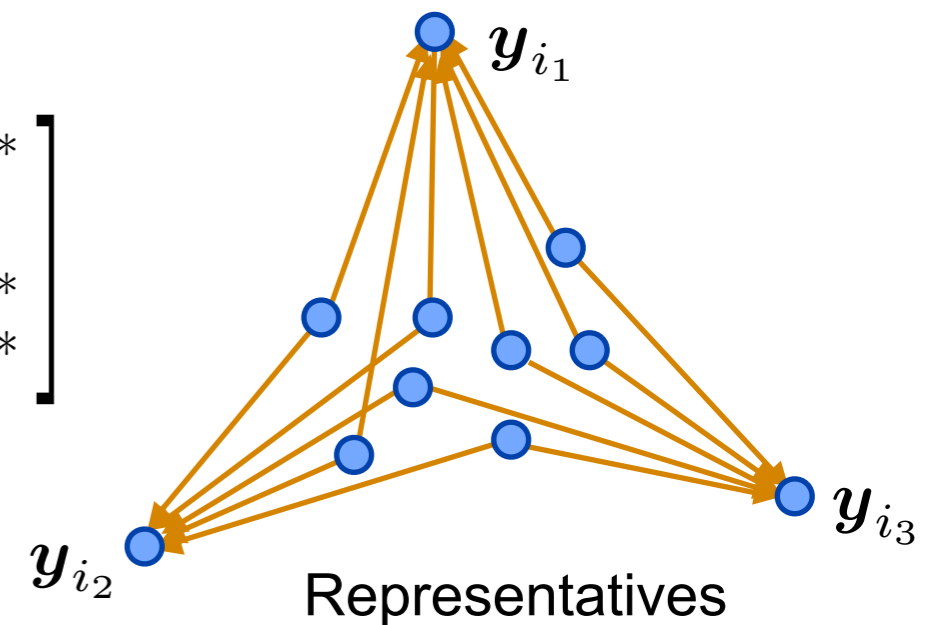


Column subset selection

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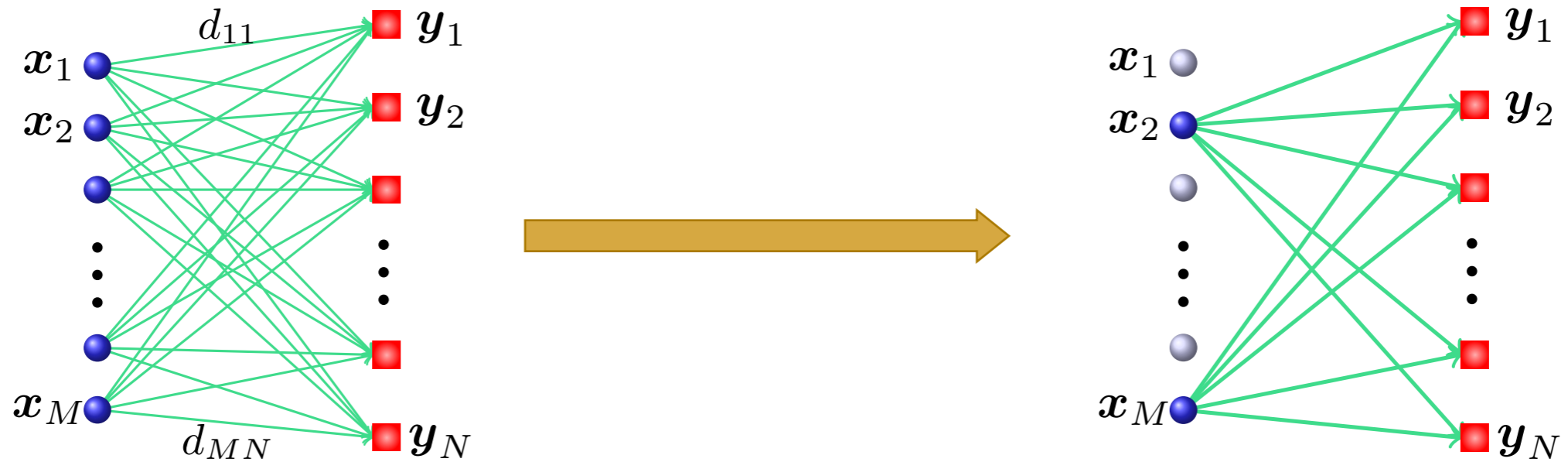
s. t. $\mathbf{1}^\top \mathbf{C} = \mathbf{1}^\top$



- What if data **not in low-dim subspaces**?
- What if **no feature representation**? e.g, social network graph
- What about summarization **between two / multiple sets**?

Subset selection using dissimilarities

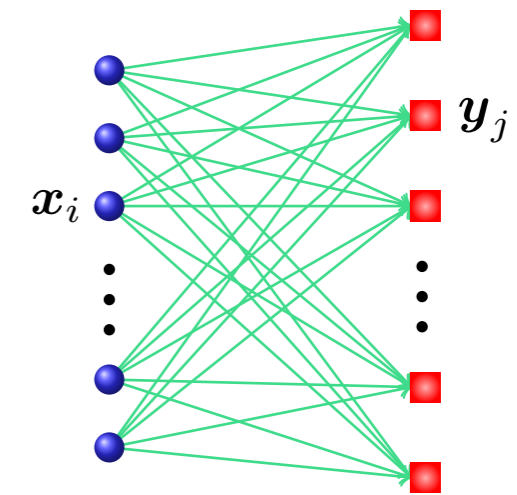
- Given: dissimilarities $d : \mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{Y} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$
source target



- Goal: select **a small subset** of \mathbb{X} that **well represent** \mathbb{Y} w.r.t. $d(\cdot, \cdot)$
- $d(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{y}_j) = d_{ij}$: how well \mathbf{x}_i represents \mathbf{y}_j
 - \mathbb{X} = models, \mathbb{Y} = data \longrightarrow $d(\cdot, \cdot)$ = representation/coding error
 - \mathbb{X} = data, \mathbb{Y} = data \longrightarrow $d(\cdot, \cdot)$ = Euclidean/ geodesic distance

Dissimilarity-based sparse subset selection (DS3)

- Let $D = [d_{ij}]$, introduce $Z = [z_{ij}]$
 - $z_{ij} = P(\mathbf{x}_i \text{ rep. } \mathbf{y}_j)$



- To select few elements of X that well represent Y , minimize

1) **Encoding** of Y via representatives

$$\sum_{i=1}^M \sum_{j=1}^N d_{ij} z_{ij} = \text{tr}(\mathbf{D}^\top \mathbf{Z})$$

2) **Number** of representatives

$$\sum_{i=1}^M \mathbb{I}(\|\mathbf{Z}_{i*}\|_p)$$

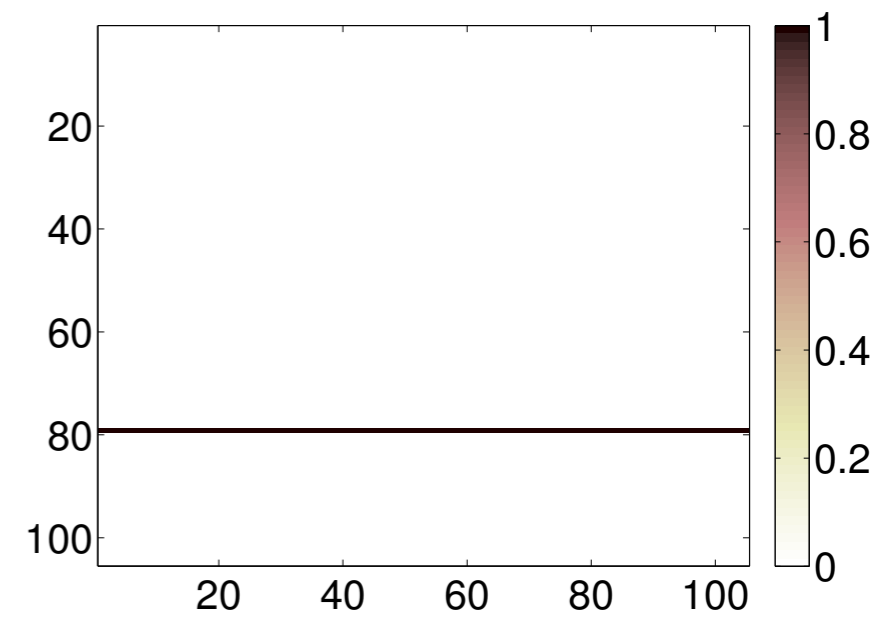
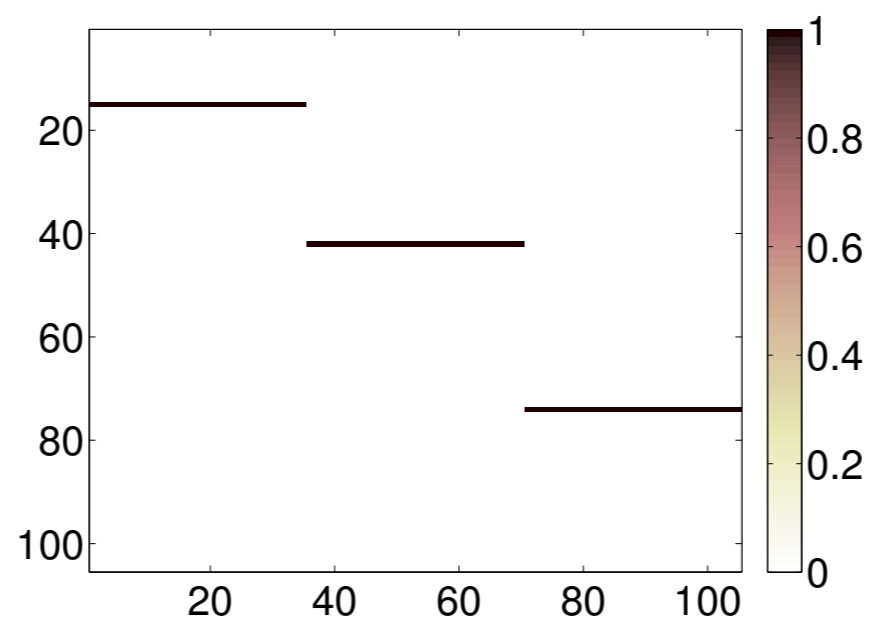
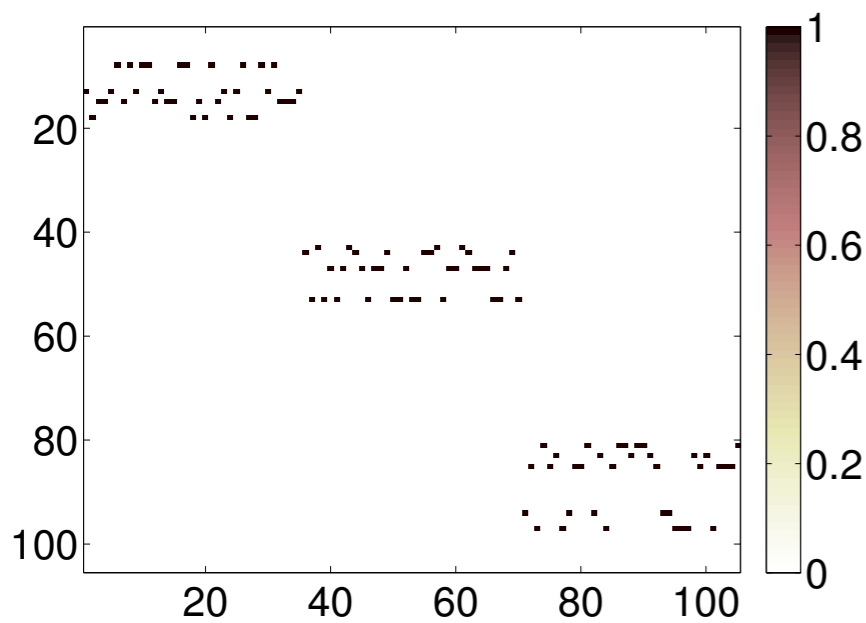
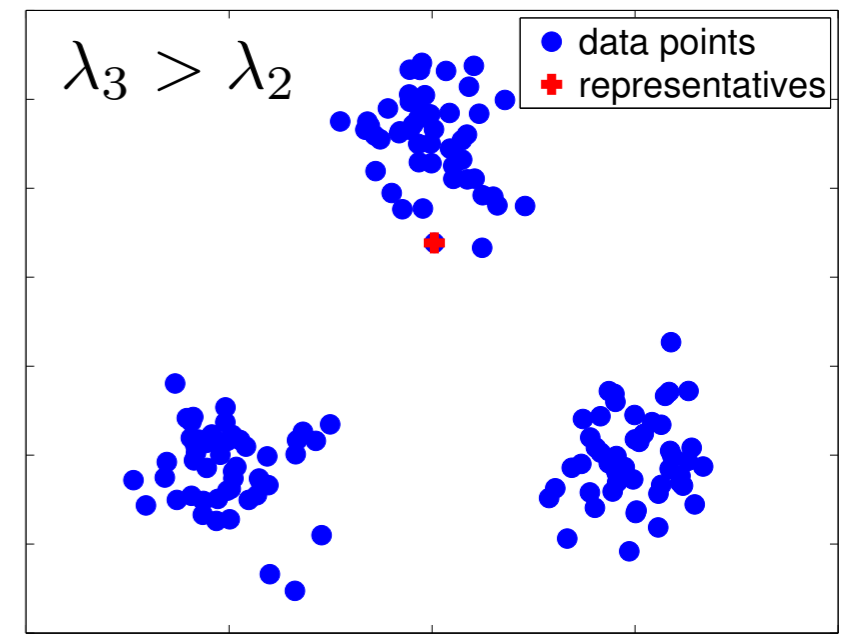
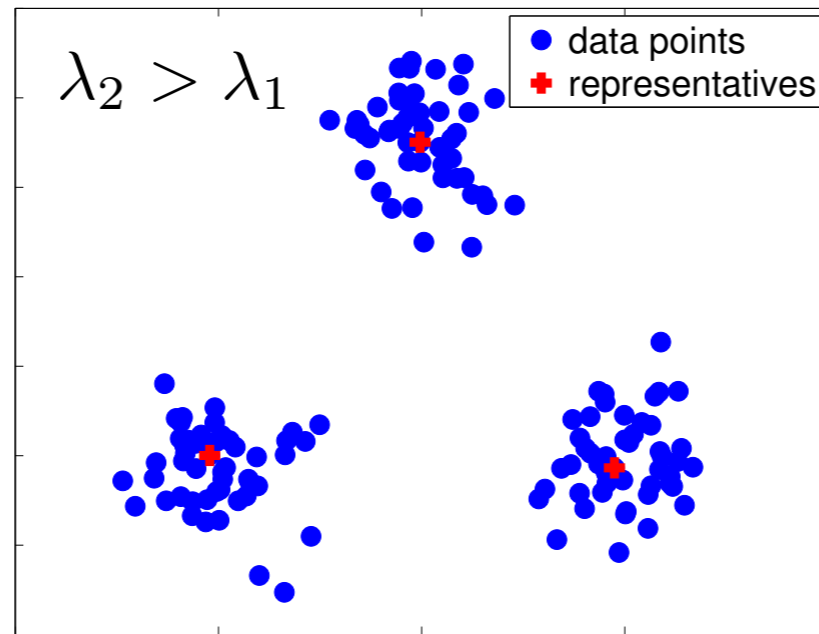
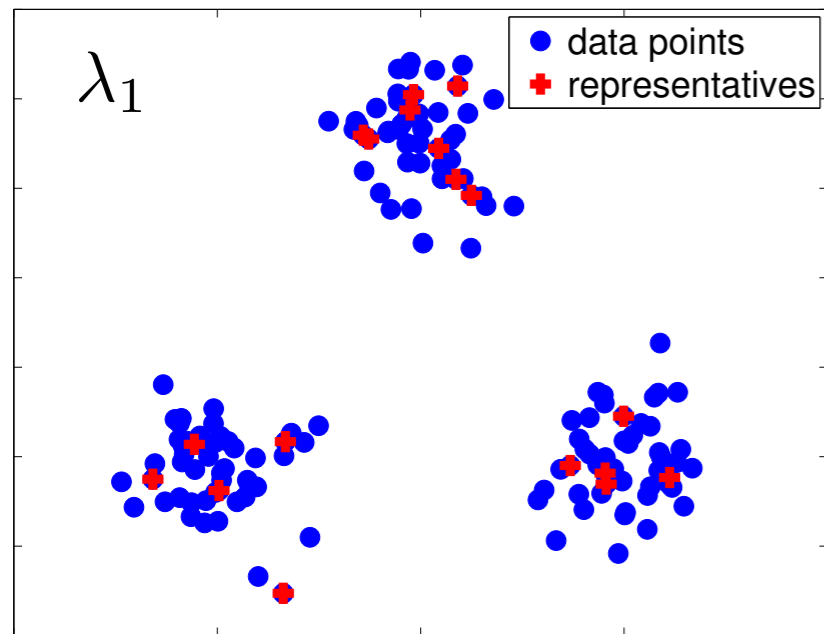
- Solve the **simultaneous sparse recovery** program

$$\min_{\mathbf{Z}} \lambda \sum_{i=1}^M \|\mathbf{Z}_{i*}\|_p + \text{tr}(\mathbf{D}^\top \mathbf{Z}) \quad \text{s. t.} \quad \mathbf{Z} \geq \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}^\top \mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{1}^\top$$

Convex
 $p \in \{2, \infty\}$

Dissimilarity-based sparse subset selection (DS3)

- Identical source and target



Theoretical analysis

$$\min_{\mathbf{Z}} \lambda \sum_{i=1}^M \|\mathbf{Z}_{i*}\|_p + \text{tr}(\mathbf{D}^\top \mathbf{Z}) \quad \text{s. t.} \quad \mathbf{Z} \geq \mathbf{0}, \quad \mathbf{1}^\top \mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{1}^\top$$

- **Proposition 1:** Assume \mathbb{X} and \mathbb{Y} are identical. If λ is sufficiently **large**, only **one representative is selected**. If λ is sufficiently **small**, **each point chooses itself** as a representative.

- $\lambda \geq \lambda_{\max,p}(\mathbf{D}) \implies \mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{e}_\ell \mathbf{1}^\top$, where $\ell = \underset{i}{\text{argmin}} \mathbf{1}^\top \mathbf{D}_{i*}$
- $\lambda \leq \lambda_{\min,p}(\mathbf{D}) \implies \mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{I}$

- We determine $[\lambda_{\min,p}(\mathbf{D}), \lambda_{\max,p}(\mathbf{D})]$ to set the regularization

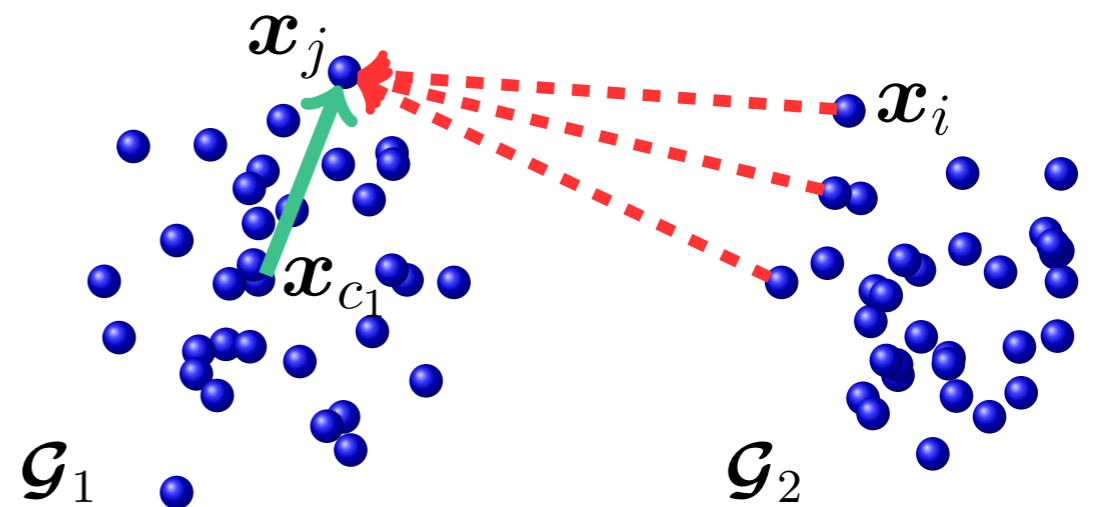
$$\text{e.g., } \lambda_{\min,2}(\mathbf{D}) = \min_j (\min_{i \neq j} d_{ij} - d_{jj}), \quad \lambda_{\max,2}(\mathbf{D}) = \max_{i \neq \ell} \frac{\sqrt{N}}{2} \frac{\|\mathbf{D}_{i*} - \mathbf{D}_{\ell*}\|_2^2}{\mathbf{1}^\top (\mathbf{D}_{i*} - \mathbf{D}_{\ell*})}$$

Theoretical analysis

$$\min_{\mathbf{Z}} \lambda \sum_{i=1}^M \|\mathbf{Z}_{i*}\|_p + \text{tr}(\mathbf{D}^\top \mathbf{Z}) \quad \text{s. t.} \quad \mathbf{Z} \geq \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}^\top \mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{1}^\top$$

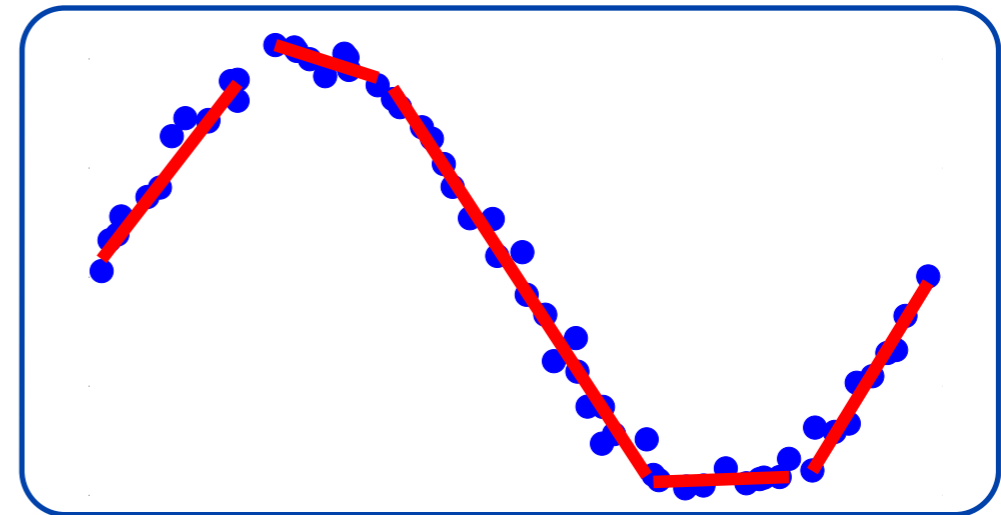
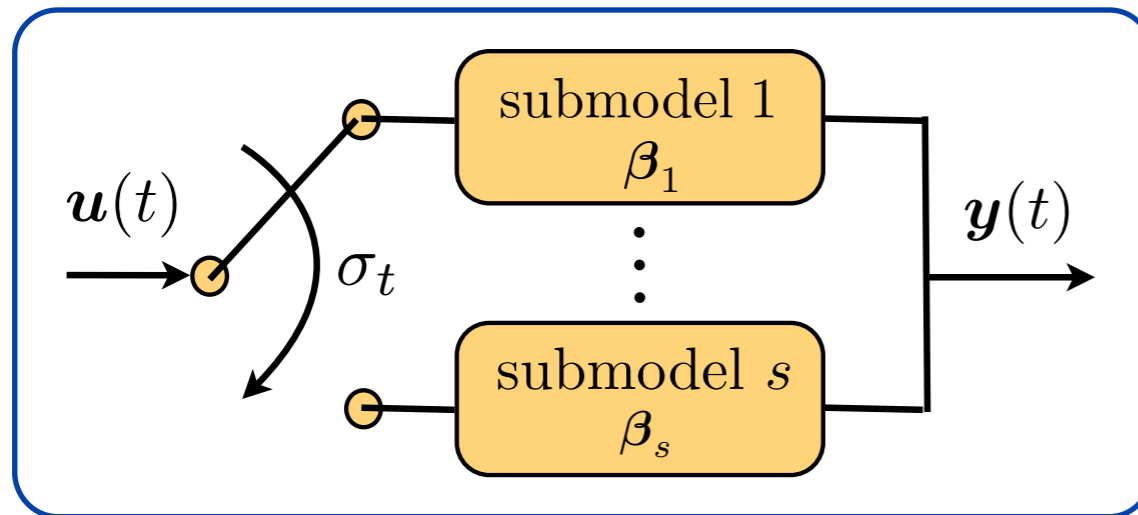
- **Proposition 2:** Assume \mathbb{X} and \mathbb{Y} are identical. Assume **points partition** into L groups. If $\lambda \leq \lambda_g(\mathbf{D})$, the optimal \mathbf{Z} is such that
 - (1) each group will have representatives;
 - (2) points in **each group select representatives from that group only.**

$$\lambda_g(\mathbf{D}) = \min_k \min_{j \in \mathcal{G}_k} \left(\min_{k' \neq k} \min_{i \in \mathcal{G}_{k'}} d_{ij} - d_{c_k j} \right)$$



DS3 applications: Learning nonlinear models

- **Nonlinear** dynamical systems as **switched linear models**
 - Human gaits / activities, motor control systems, ...



- Learning switched dynamical models: **Non-convex** & **NP-hard**

Our **convex**
solution

$$\mathbb{X} = \{\hat{\beta}_1, \dots, \hat{\beta}_M\} = \text{ensemble of models}$$

$$\mathbb{Y} = \{(\mathbf{u}(1), \mathbf{y}(1)), \dots, (\mathbf{u}(N), \mathbf{y}(N))\}$$

DS3 applications: Learning nonlinear models

- Experiments on segmentation of CMU motion capture data



- Discrete-time SS model via subspace ID, snippets of length 100
- d_{ij} = Euclidean norm of representation error of j -th snippet via i -th estimated submodel

Sequence number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
# activities	4	8	7	7	7	10	6	9	4	4	7
SC error (%)	23.86	30.61	19.02	40.60	26.43	47.77	14.85	38.09	9.02	8.31	3.47
SBiC error (%)	22.77	22.08	18.94	28.40	29.85	30.96	30.50	24.78	13.03	12.68	23.68
Kmedoids error (%)	18.26	46.26	49.89	51.99	37.07	54.75	29.81	49.53	9.71	33.50	33.80
AP error (%)	22.93	41.22	49.66	54.56	37.87	50.19	37.84	48.37	9.71	26.05	23.84
DS3 error (%)	5.33	9.90	12.27	19.64	16.55	14.66	12.56	11.73	11.18	3.32	6.18

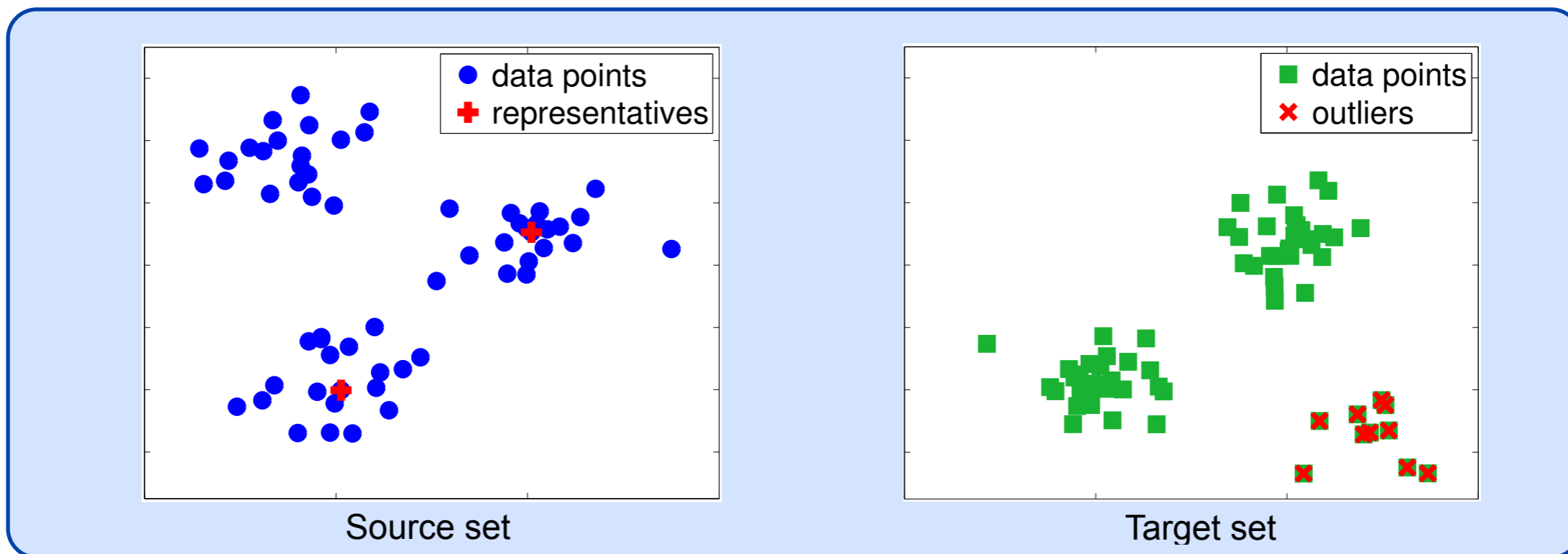
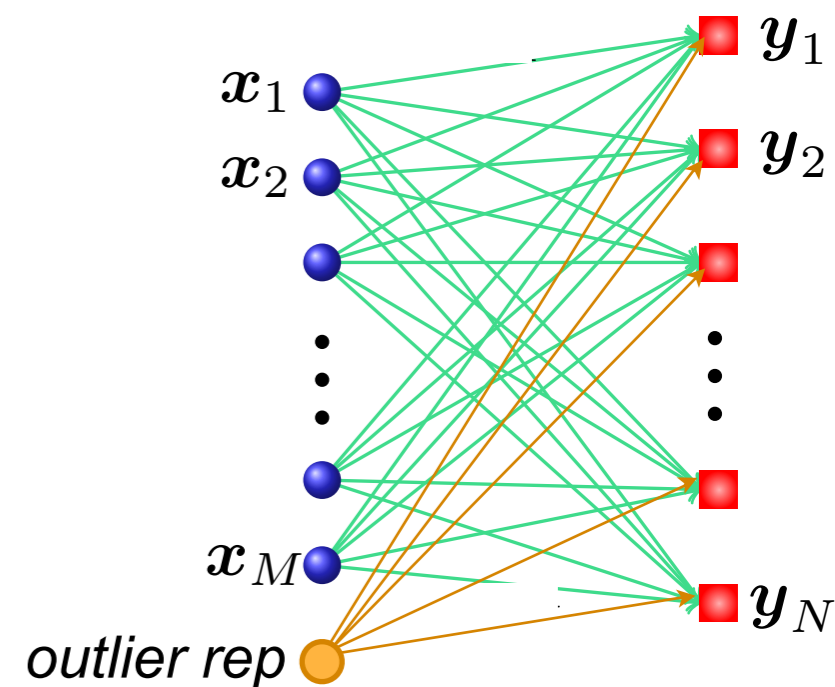
Dealing with outliers via DS3

- Add **outlier representative** node to source

$$e_j = P(\text{outlier node} \leftarrow \mathbf{y}_j)$$

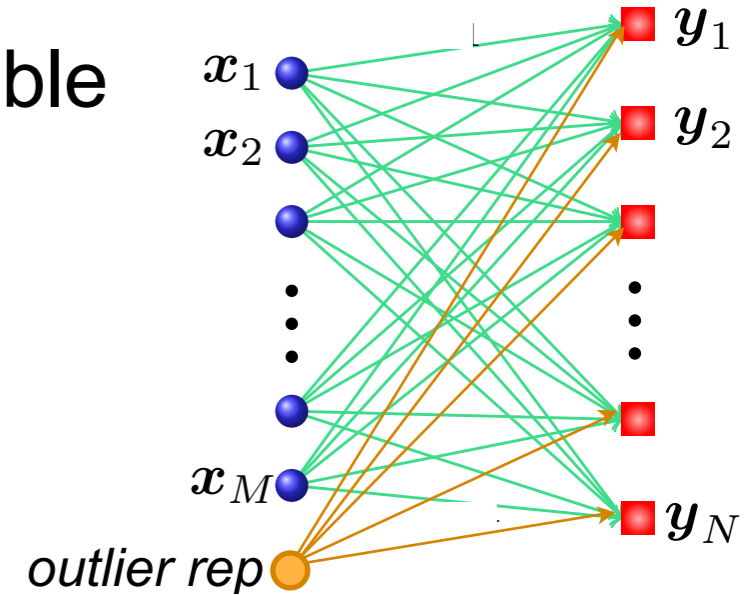
- Solve the optimization

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{Z}, \mathbf{e}} \quad & \lambda \sum_{i=1}^M \|\mathbf{z}_{i*}\|_p + \text{tr} \left(\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{D} \\ \mathbf{d}_o \end{bmatrix}^\top \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{Z} \\ \mathbf{e}^\top \end{bmatrix} \right) \\ \text{s. t.} \quad & \mathbf{1}^\top \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{Z} \\ \mathbf{e}^\top \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{1}^\top, \quad \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{Z} \\ \mathbf{e}^\top \end{bmatrix} \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$$



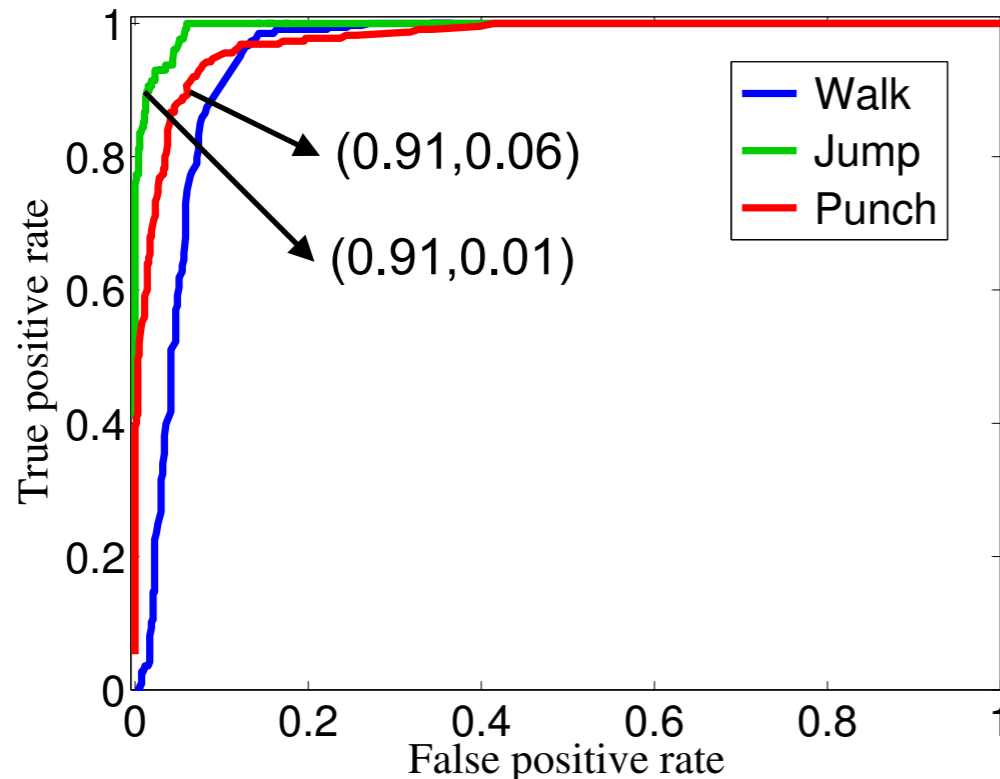
Dealing with outliers via DS3: experiment

- Exclude one activity when estimating LDS ensemble

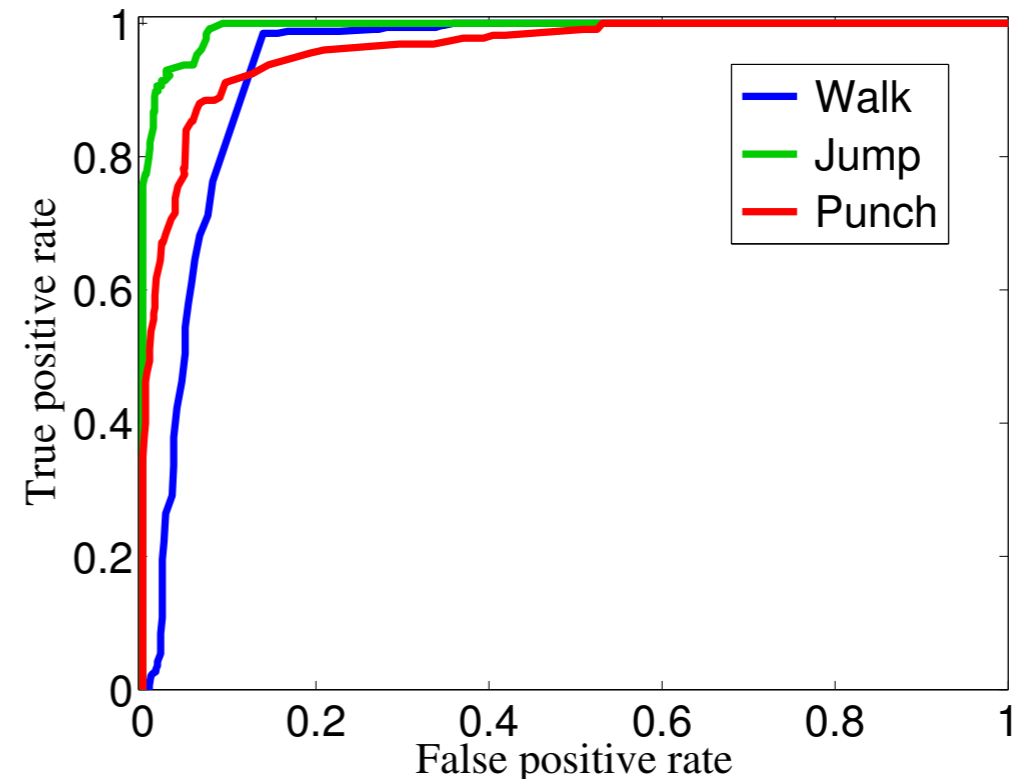


- Set outlier node weights $w_j = \beta e^{-\frac{\min_i d_{ij}}{\tau}}$

$\tau = 0.1$

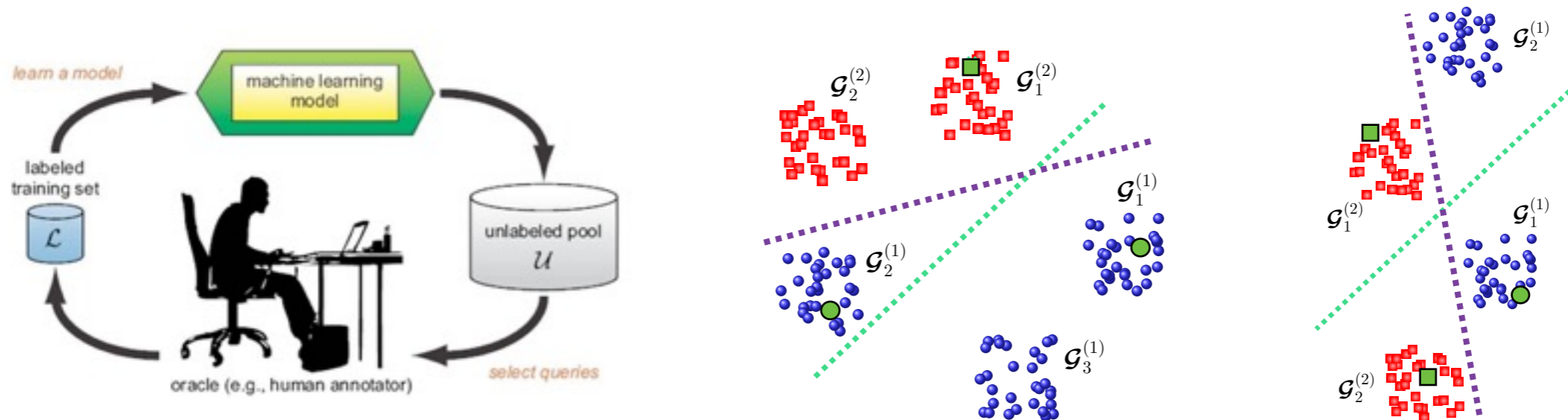


$\tau = 1.0$



DS3 applications: Active learning

- Successively annotate the most informative unlabeled samples



- For $\mathbb{X} = \mathbb{Y} = \{ \text{unlabeled samples} \}$, solve

$$\min_{\mathbf{Z}} \lambda \|\mathbf{W}\mathbf{Z}\|_{1,p} + \text{tr}(\mathbf{D}^\top \mathbf{Z}) \quad \text{s. t.} \quad \mathbf{Z} \geq \mathbf{0}, \quad \mathbf{1}^\top \mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{1}^\top \quad \mathbf{W} \triangleq \text{diag}(w_1, w_2, \dots)$$

$$w_i \triangleq \min \left\{ \sigma - (\sigma - 1) \frac{E(\mathbf{p}_i)}{\log_2(L)}, \quad \sigma - (\sigma - 1) \frac{\min_{j \in \mathcal{L}} d_{ji}}{\max_{k \in \mathcal{U}} \min_{j \in \mathcal{L}} d_{jk}} \right\}$$

↑ classifier uncertainty confidence

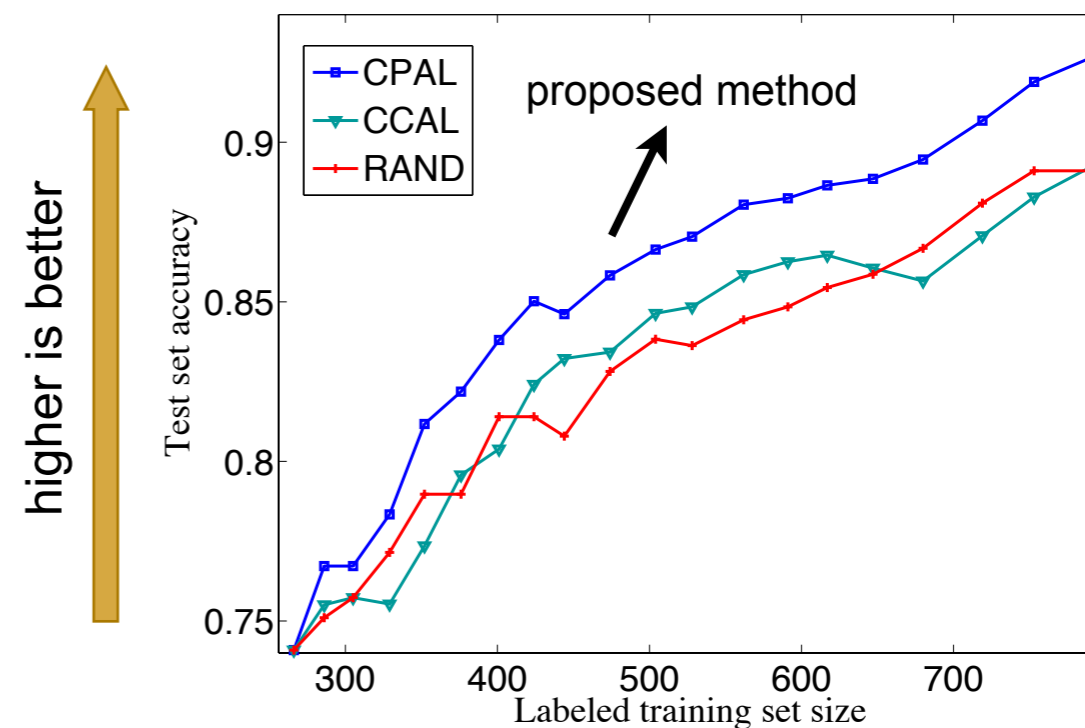
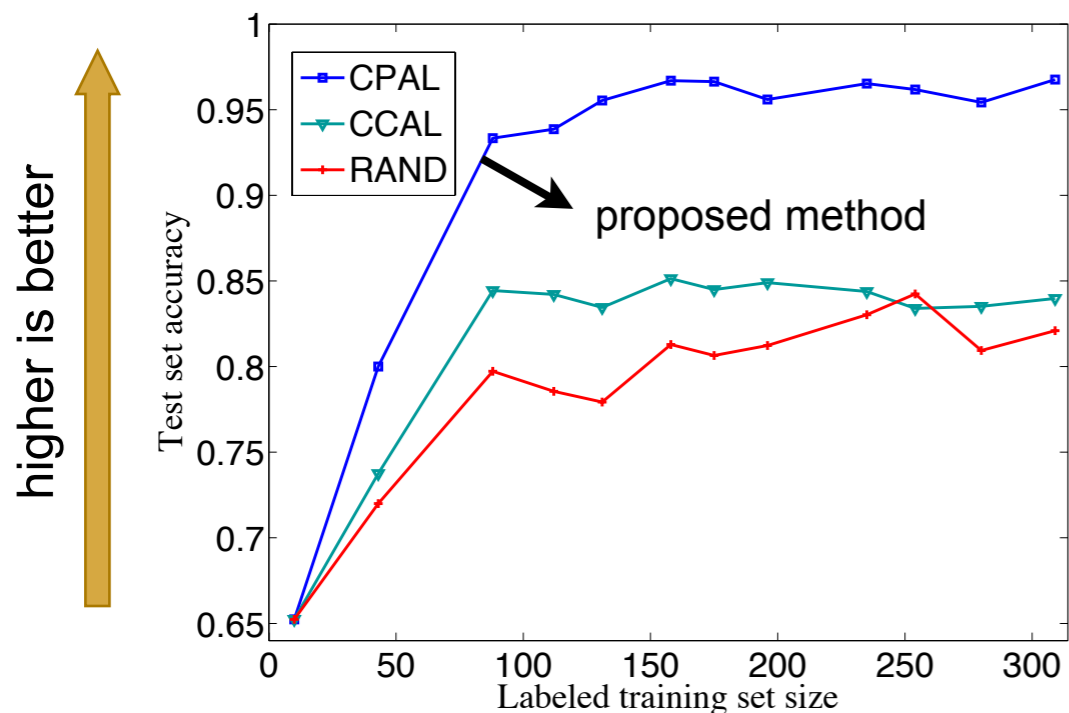
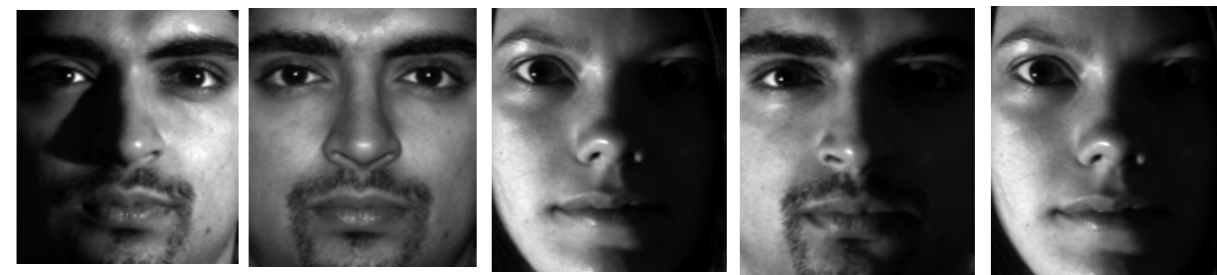
↑ sample diversity confidence

DS3 applications: Active learning

- Pedestrian vs non-pedestrian
 - classifier: SVM
 - dissimilarity: HOG χ^2 distances



- Face recognition
 - classifier: SRC
 - dissimilarity: Euclidean dist.



Conclusions

- Studied the problem of **subset selection**
 - Feature-space representations
 - Pairwise similarities
 - Proposed convex programs using **simultaneous sparse recovery**
 - Extended to **deal with outliers**
 - Proved the solution recovers **representatives from each group** and **correctly clusters** data
 - Addressed several problems effectively
 - **Active learning**
 - **Learning nonlinear dynamical models**
 - **Segmentation of time-series data**
-

Thanks!

Codes: <http://www.eecs.berkeley.edu/~ehsan.elhamifar/code.htm>

Collaborators:

Shankar Sastry (UCB)

Emmanuel Candes (Stanford)

Allen Yang (UCB)

Mahdi Soltanolkotabi (USC)

Guillermo Sapiro (Duke)

Rene Vidal (JHU)

Sam Burden (UCB)