

# Summary of ICML'04

## International Conference on Machine Learning

Russ Greiner  
ICML'04 Program CoChair

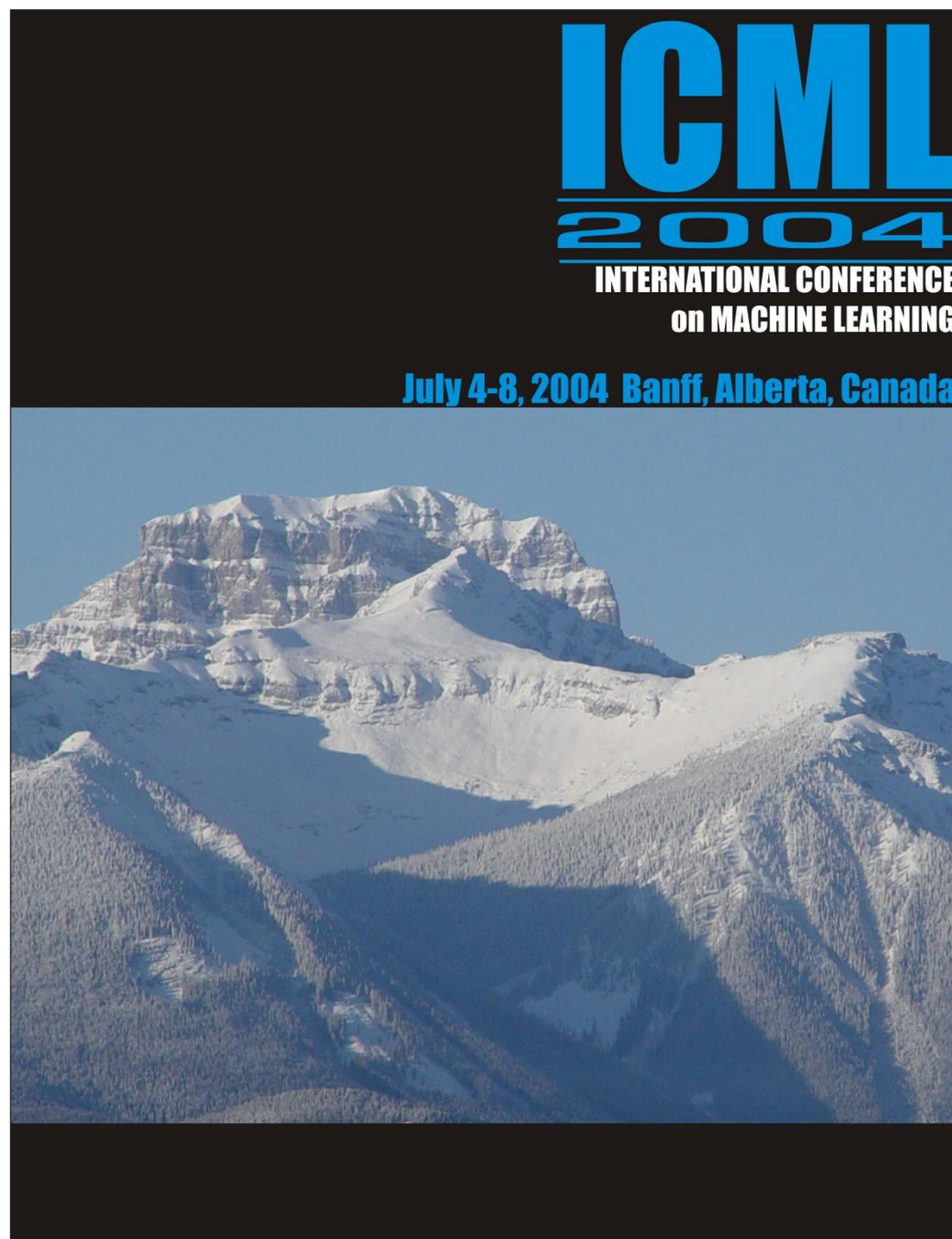


Co-ProgramChair: Dale Schuurmans  
GeneralChair: Carla Brodley



In the beautiful  
Canadian Rockies...

Twenty-First  
International  
Conference on  
Machine Learning  
Banff, Alberta  
4 – 8 July 2004













# Outline

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- Statistics
- High Points
- Comments



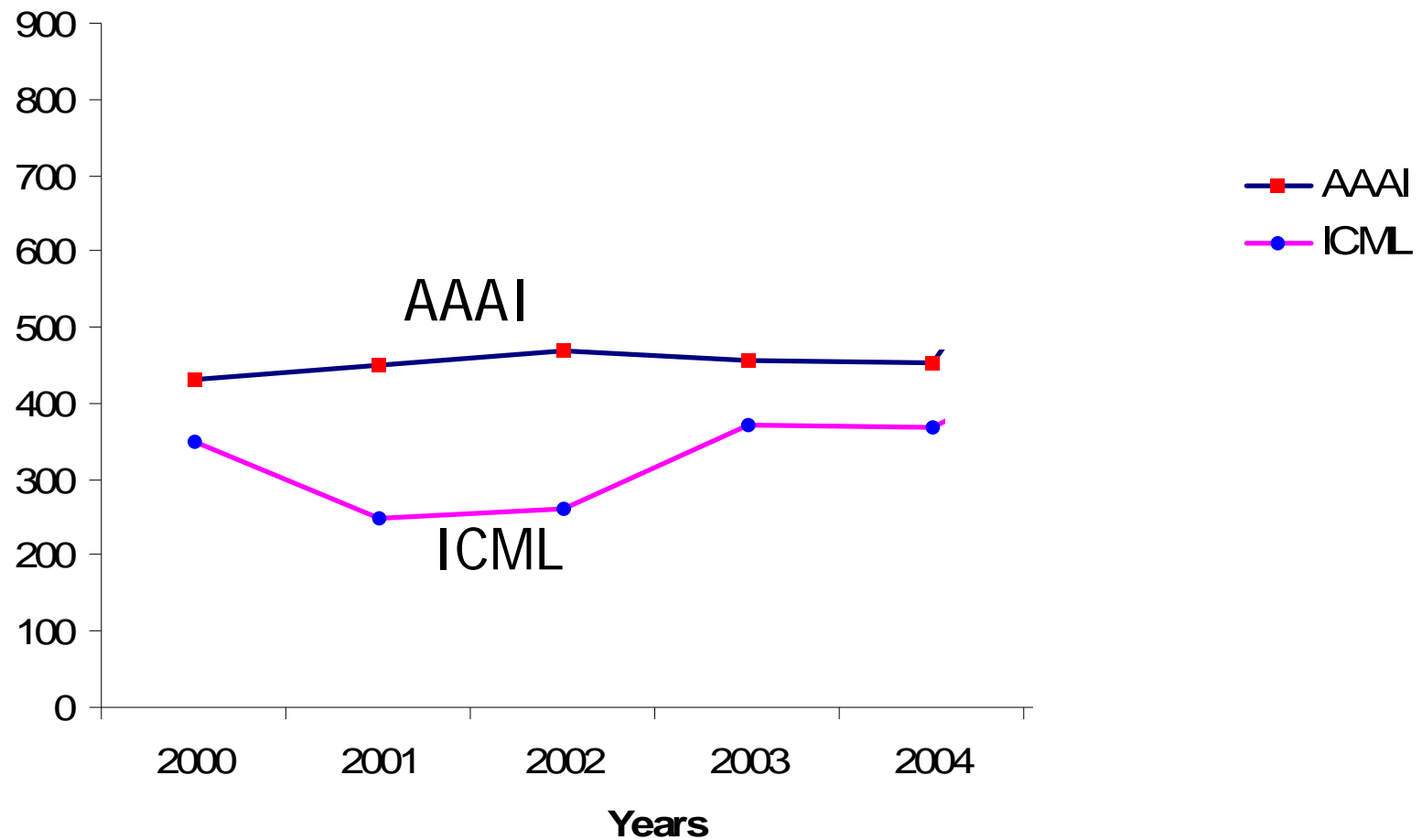
# Submissions

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- 368 submissions
- 118 acceptances
  - 32% acceptance rate



# #Submissions to AAAI, ICML







# Top 10 Submitted Topics: 2004

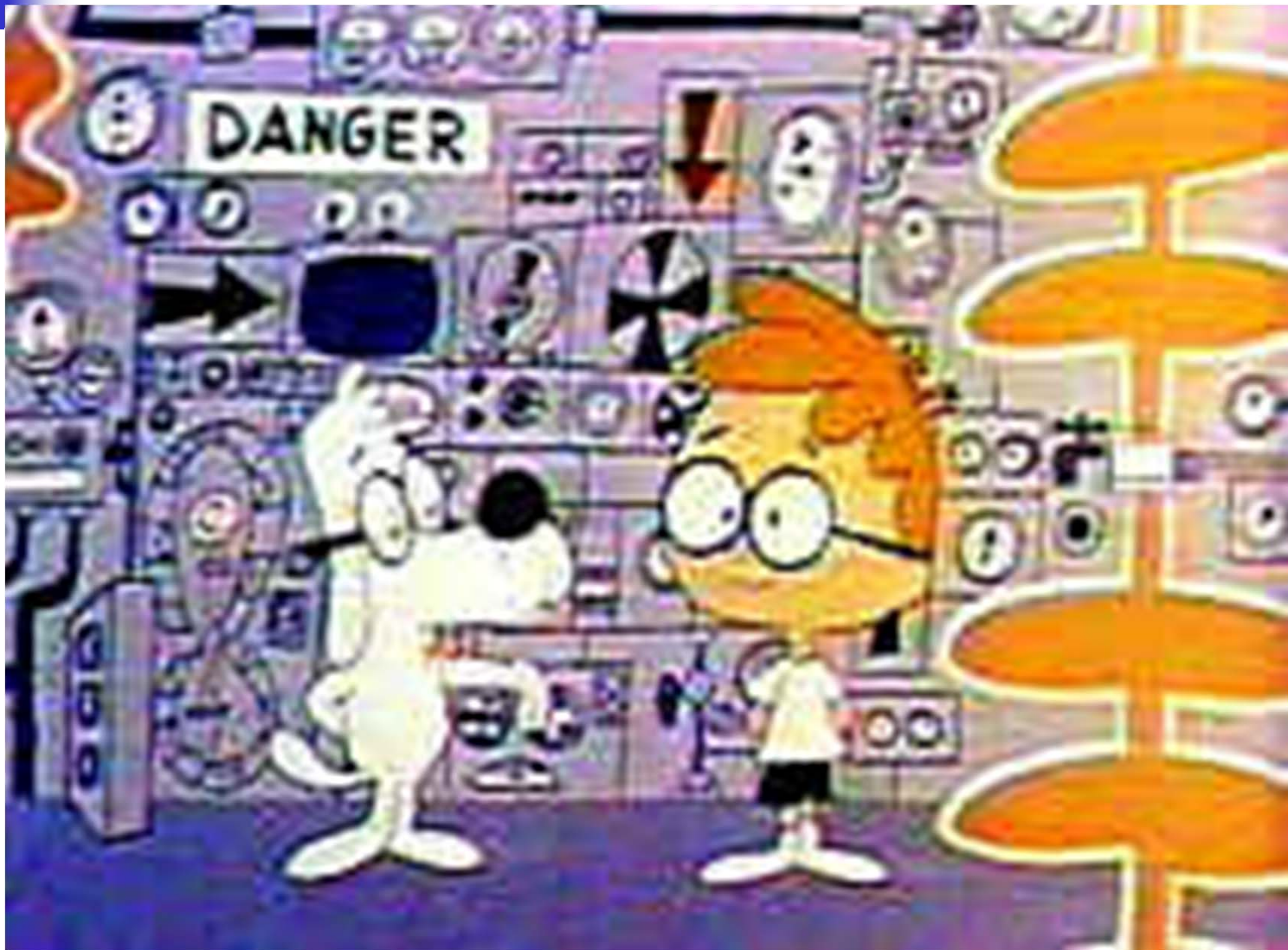
Rank	Topic	# Submissions	# Accepts
1	Statistical learning	<b>49</b>	<b>31</b>
2	Empirical evaluation	<b>38</b>	<b>12</b>
3	Feature selection	<b>36</b>	<b>14</b>
4	Reinforcement learning	<b>36</b>	<b>15</b>
5	Semi-supervised learning	<b>29</b>	<b>6</b>
6	Kernels	<b>28</b>	<b>20</b>
7	On-line learning	<b>26</b>	<b>4</b>
8	Clustering	<b>25</b>	<b>12</b>
9	Bayesian learning	<b>24</b>	<b>14</b>
10	Support vector machines	<b>24</b>	<b>15</b>



# Top 10 Submitted Topics: 2003

	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Submitted</b>	<b>Rank (2004)</b>
1.	Statistical learning	65	1
2.	Reinforcement learning	58	4
3.	SVM + kernel	49	≈ 6,10
4.	Applications	48	-
5.	Clustering	47	8
6.	Evaluation	46	2
7.	Learning w/(un)labeled data	40	5
8.	Feature selection	36	3
9.	Text classification	32	-
10	Markov models (HMMs, POMDPs, ...)	25	≈9

Way back... 1994 ...





- [Naoki Abe](#), [Hiroshi Mamitsuka](#): A New Method for Predicting Protein Secondary Structures Based on Stochastic Tree Grammars. 3-11
- [David W. Aha](#), [Stephane Lapointe](#), [Charles X. Ling](#), [Stan Matwin](#): Learning Recursive Relations with Randomly Selected Small Training Sets. 12-18
- [Lars Asker](#): Improving Accuracy of Incorrect Domain Theories. 19-27
- [Rich Caruana](#), [Dayne Freitag](#): Greedy Attribute Selection. 28-36
- [Mark Craven](#), [Jude W. Shavlik](#): Using Sampling and Queries to Extract Rules from Trained Neural Networks. 37-45
- [Michael de la Maza](#): The Generate, Test, and Explain Discovery System Architecture. 46-52
- [Harris Drucker](#), [Corinna Cortes](#), [Lawrence D. Jackel](#), [Yann LeCun](#), [Vladimir Vapnik](#): Boosting and Other Machine Learning Algorithms. 53-61
- [Tapio Elomaa](#): In Defense of C4.5: Notes Learning One-Level Decision Trees. 62-69
- [Johannes Fürnkranz](#), [Gerhard Widmer](#): Incremental Reduced Error Pruning. 70-77
- [Melinda T. Gervasio](#), [Gerald DeJong](#): An Incremental Learning Approach for Completable Planning. 78-86
- [Yolanda Gil](#): Learning by Experimentation: Incremental Refinement of Incomplete Planning Domains. 87-95
- [Attilio Giordana](#), [Lorenza Saitta](#), [Floriano Zini](#): Learning Disjunctive Concepts by Means of Genetic Algorithms. 96-104
- [Matthias Heger](#): Consideration of Risk in Reinforcement Learning. 105-111
- [Chun-Nan Hsu](#), [Craig A. Knoblock](#): Rule Introduction for Semantic Query Optimization. 112-120
- [George H. John](#), [Ron Kohavi](#), [Karl Pfleger](#): Irrelevant Features and the Subsets Problem. 121-137
- [Jörg-Uwe Kietz](#), [Marcus Lübke](#): An Efficient Subsumption Algorithm. 138-146
- [Moshe Koppel](#), [Alberto Maria Segre](#), [Ronen Feldman](#): Learning from Examples. 147-155
- [David D. Lewis](#), [Jason Catlett](#): Heterogeneous Learning. 156-163
- [Michael L. Littman](#): Markov Decision Processes. 164-172
- [Sridhar Mahadevan](#): Reinforcement Learning and Q Learning. 173-180
- [David D. Lewis](#), [Jason Catlett](#): Heterogeneous Learning. 181-188
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- [David D. Lewis](#), [Jason Catlett](#): Heterogeneous Learning. 997-1004

# ICML 1994 Papers...

## Invited Talks

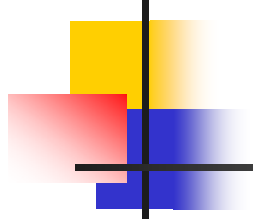
- [Michael I. Jordan](#): A Statistical Approach to Decision Tree Modeling. 363-370
- [Stephen Muggleton](#): Bayesian Inductive Logic Programming. 371-379



# Both Then (1994) and Now (2004)

---

- Classification
  - Supervised learning
  - Boosting
- Reinforcement Learning
  - MDP, POMDP, ...
- Applications
  - Bioinformatics
  - Planning
- ...



Then

vs

Now ...

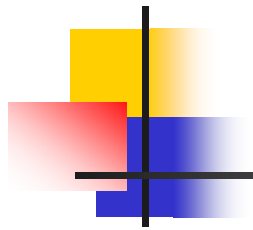
1994:

- Dimensionality Reduction
  - Feature Selection

2004:

- Dimensionality Reduction
  - PCA, ...





Then

vs

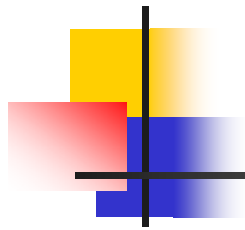
Now ...

1994:

- Probabilistic Models
  - Rare...
  - Bayesian nets

2004:

- Probabilistic Models
  - Everywhere!
  - Bayesian nets, Markov Random Fields, Conditional Random Fields,



Then

vs

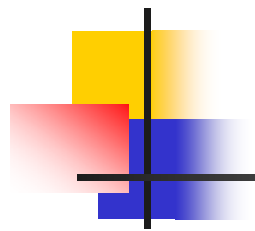
Now ...

1994:

- Symbolic learning
  - Decision Tree
  - Inductive Logic Programming

2004:

- Statistical Learning
  - 49/118 !
  - Lasso,  
EM, MCMC,
  - Robust,
  - ...



Then

vs

Now ...

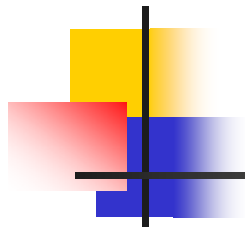
1994:

- Concept Learning
- Neural Nets

2004:

- SVMs
- Kernel
- Numeric Methods
  - Linear Algebra
  - ...
- Clustering
  - 12 papers, vs 0





Then

vs

Now ...

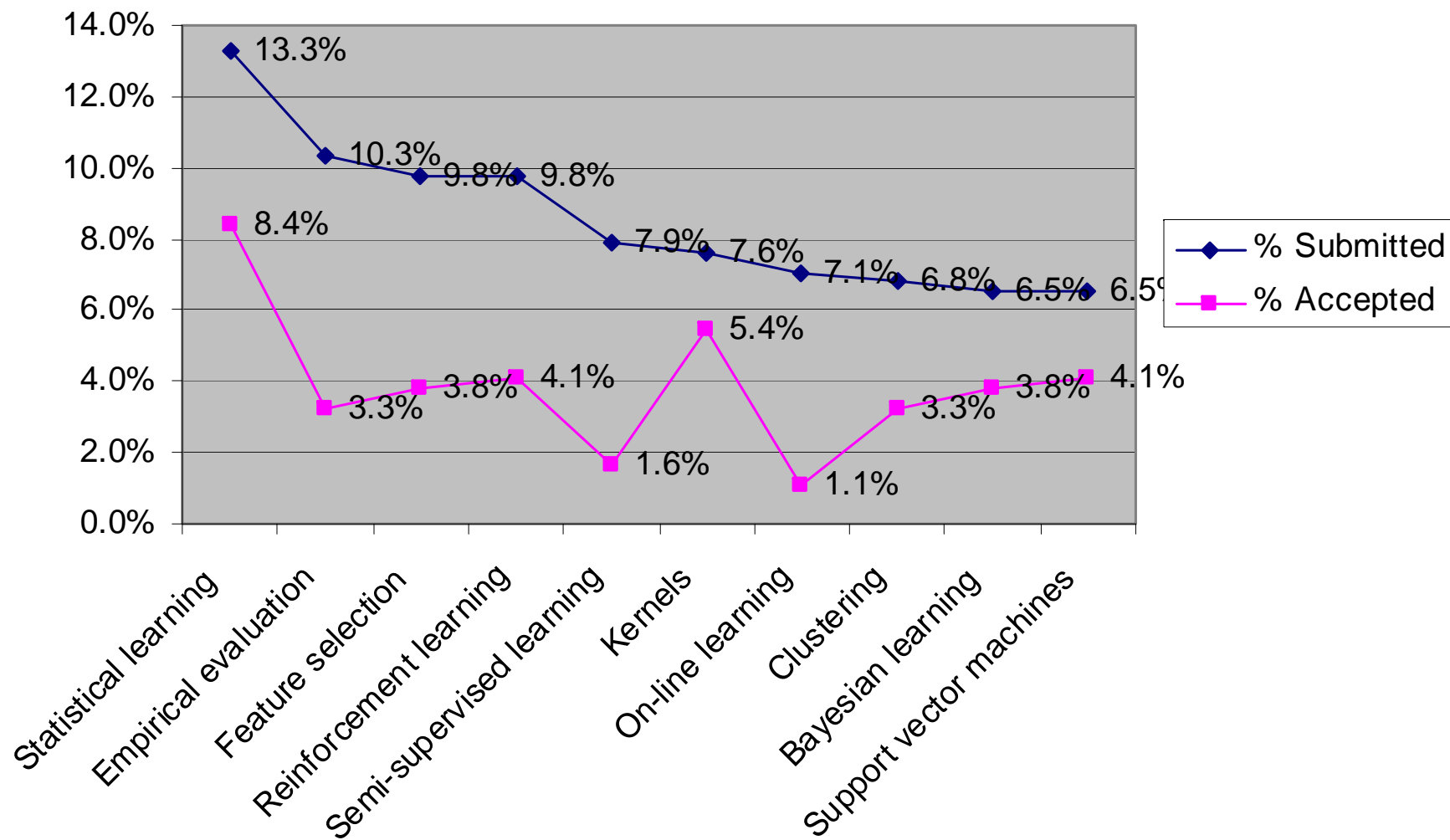
1994:

- Validation:
  - Better than C4.5 on some UCI
- Some Real Applications

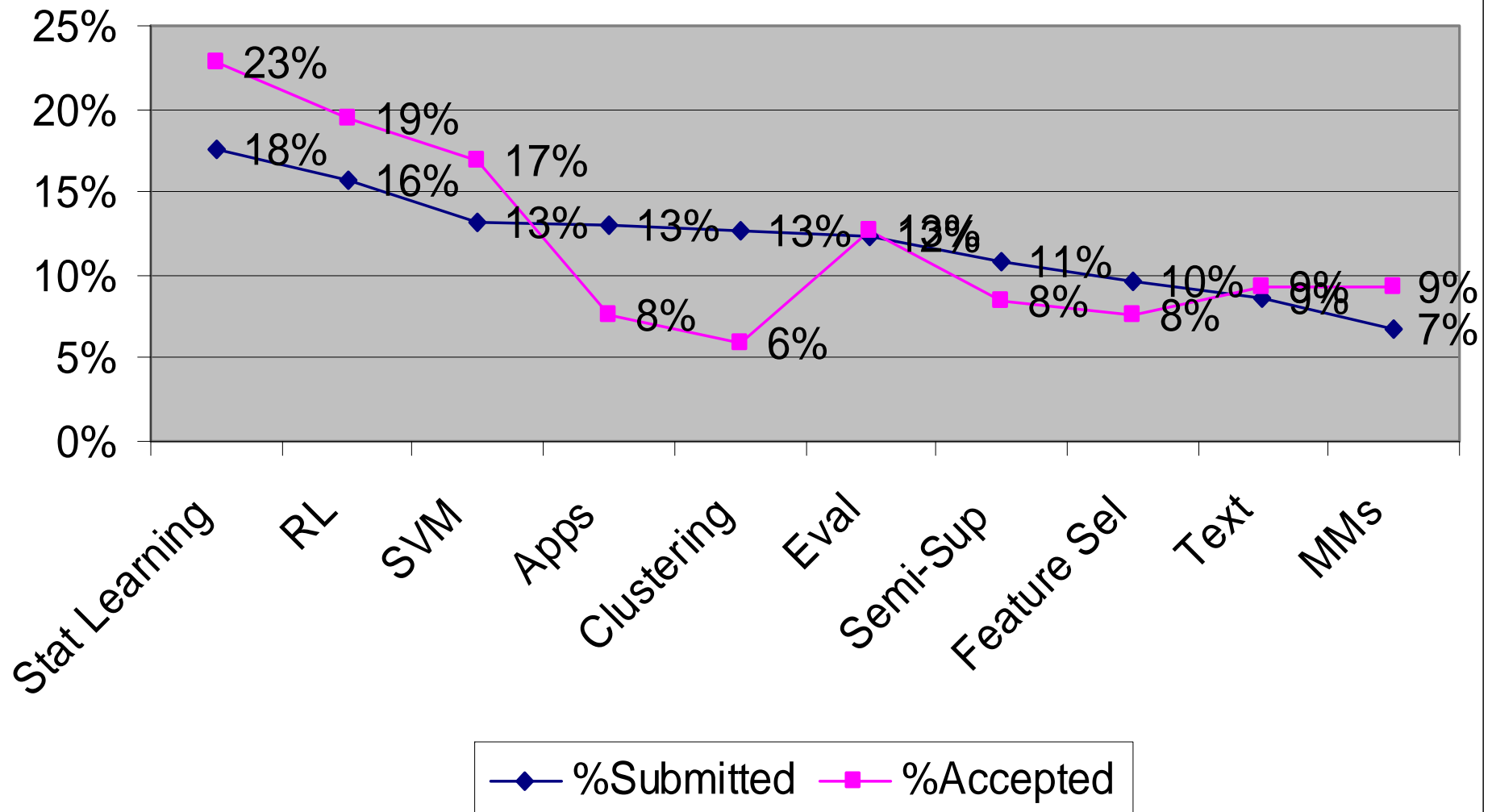
2004:

- Validation:
  - Better than SVM on MANY UCI
- Most involve Real applications

# Top 10 Submitted Topics 2004



# Top 10 Submitted Topics 2003





# How to get a paper accepted in ICML 2004???

---

$w$

$P(\text{accept}|w)$

# Attendance

- ICML'04 Conference: **397**



- + 30 for Workshop/Tutorial
- Collocated with

- **UAI 2004**

-  **COLT '04**  
The 17th Annual Conference on Learning Theory  
Banff, Alberta, Canada, July 1-4 2004



# Workshops

---

- Statistical Relational Learning
  - 84
- Relational Reinforcement Learning
  - 28
- Predictive Representations of World Knowledge
  - 23
- Physiological Data Modeling
  - 9





# Tutorials

---

- *Bayesian Methods for Machine Learning:* 144
- *Kernels for Structured Data :* 127
- *Data Structures for Fast Statistics:* 90
- *Game-theoretic Learning :* 81
- *Spectral Clustering :* 61
- *Probabilistic Logic Learning:* 60
- *Junk E-mail Filtering:* 50
- *The Many Faces of ROC Analysis :* 42



# Outline

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- Statistics
- High Points
  - Invited Speakers
  - Best Papers
  - Kernel Day
- Comments



# Invited Presentations

---

- Identify areas ADJACENT to ML
  - *BioInformatics*
  - *Vision*
  - *Computational Finance*
- Invite leading exponent of that area

# Invited Talk: Bioinformatics

## ■ Gene Myers



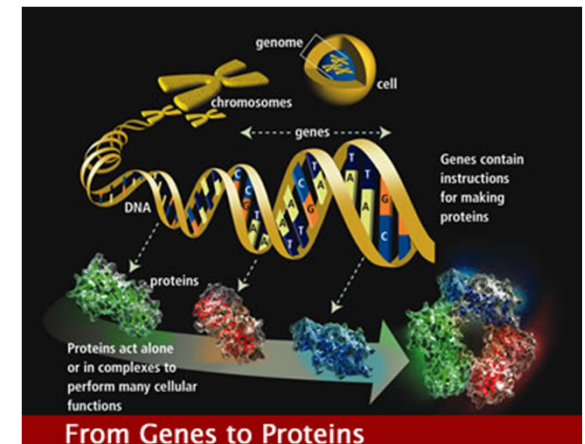
- Celera Genomics

- *BLAST*

- ACM Kanellakis Prize in 2001

- Member: National Academy of Engineering

- *Whole Genome Sequencing, Comparative Genomics, and Systems Biology*



# Invited Talk: Vision



## ■ Michael Black

- leading researcher in computer vision & AI
- *Learning to See People*



# Invited Presentations: Computational Finance

- **#1: 2003 Nobel Prize Winner,  
Economics**
  - for methods of analyzing economic time series with time-varying volatility (ARCH)
  - **Robert Engle**
- **#2: ...**
- **#3: ...**
- **#4: ...**
- **...**





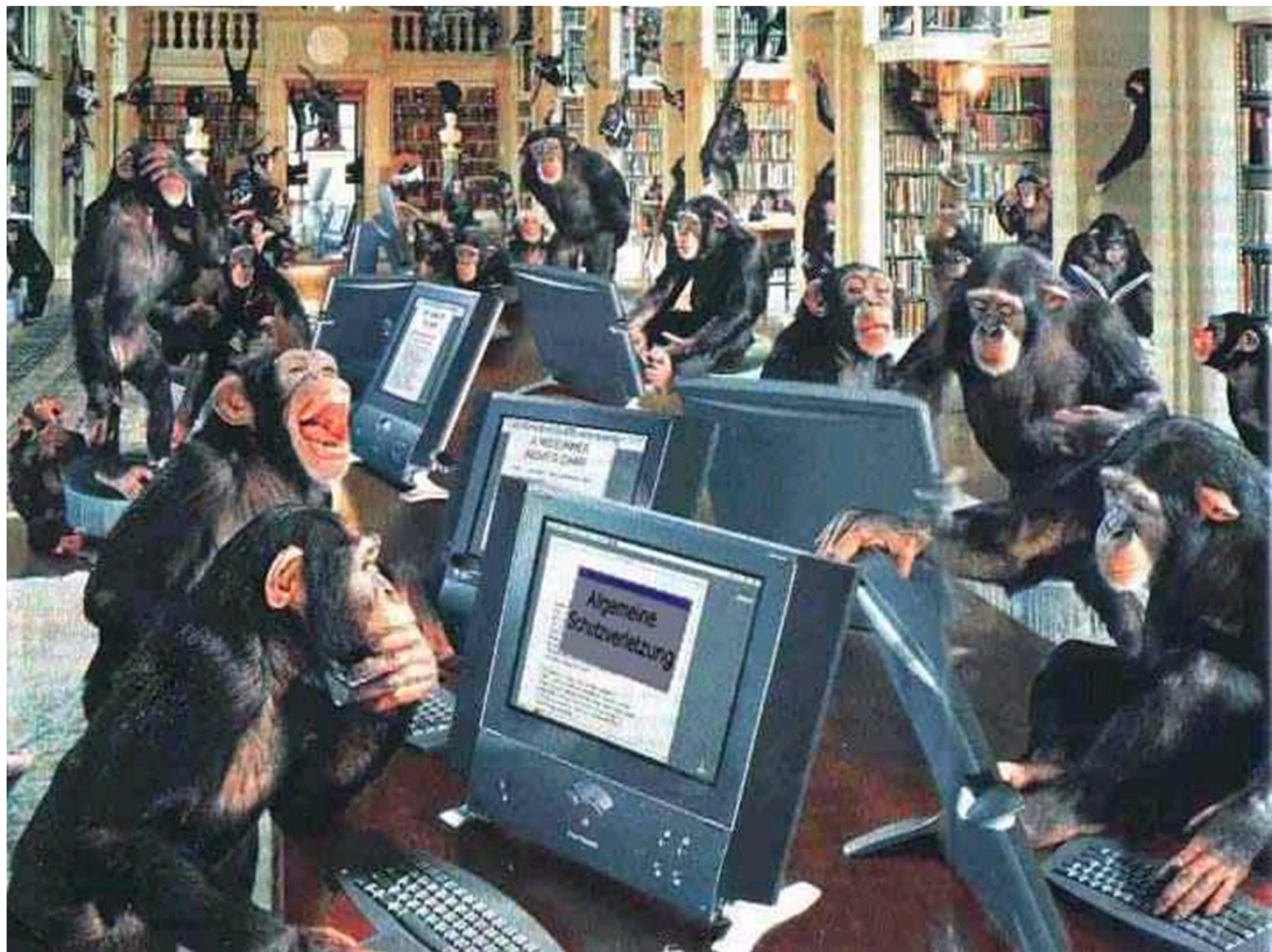
# *Models of Dynamic Uncertainty in Univariate and Multivariate Systems*



## The Problem

- What is the distribution of future values of a random variable?
- If it is a price of a financial asset, this measures both risk and return.
- A key measure of risk is the Value at Risk which is an extreme quantile.
- Primarily I will focus on one period but I will make comments on the multi-period problem as well.







# ARCH Model...



# Outstanding Student Papers

---



- **Generalized Low Rank Approximations of Matrices**
  - *Jieping Ye*
- **Decentralized Detection and Classification using Kernel Method**
  - *XuanLong Nguyen*, Martin Wainwright, Michael Jordan
- **Learning a Kernel Matrix for Nonlinear Dimensionality Reduction**
  - *Kilian Weinberger*, *Fei Sha*, Lawrence Saul

# Generalized Low Rank Approximations of Matrices



■ *Jieping Ye*

Raw



SVD



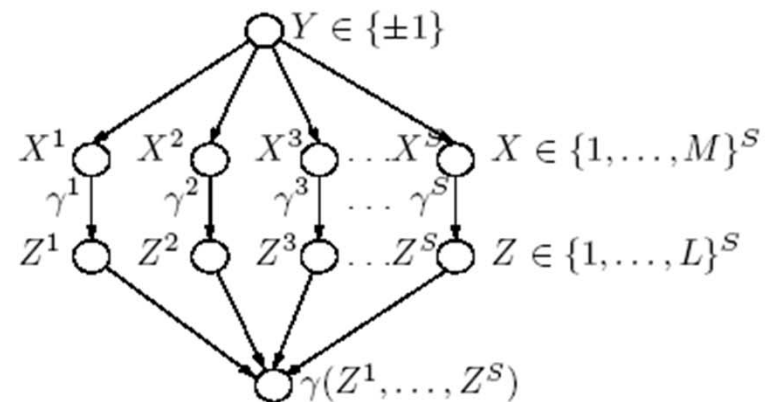
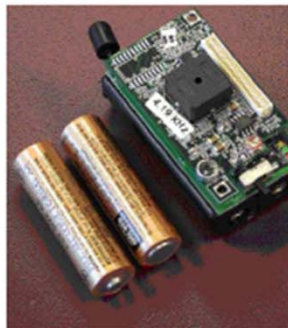
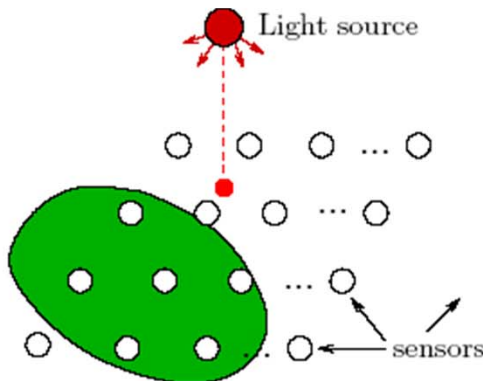
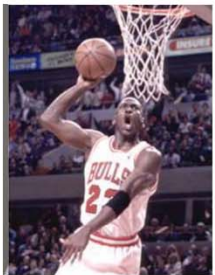
GLRAM



# Decentralized Detection and Classification using Kernel Method



- *XuanLong Nguyen*
- Martin Wainwright
- Michael Jordan



- Problem: Given training data  $(x_i, y_i)_{i=1..n}$
- Find: decision rules  $(\gamma^1, \dots, \gamma^S; \gamma)$  that minimize misclassification probability:  $P(Y \neq \gamma(Z^1, \dots, Z^S))$

# Learning a Kernel Matrix for Nonlinear Dimensionality Reduction

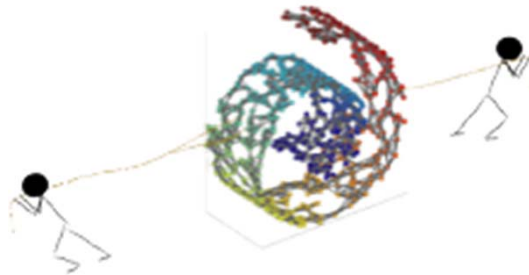
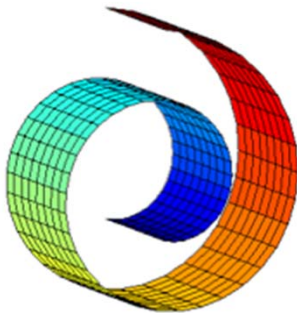
- *Kilian Weinberger*



- *Fei Sha*



- Lawrence Saul







# Honorable Mention for Outstanding Paper Award

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- **Multiple Kernel Learning, Conic Duality, and the SMO Algorithm**
  - *Francis Bach, Gert Lanckriet, Michael Jordan*
- **Efficient Hierarchical MCMC for Policy Search**
  - *Malcolm Strens*
- **Authorship Verification as a One-Class Classification Problem**
  - *Moshe Koppel, Jonathan Schler*

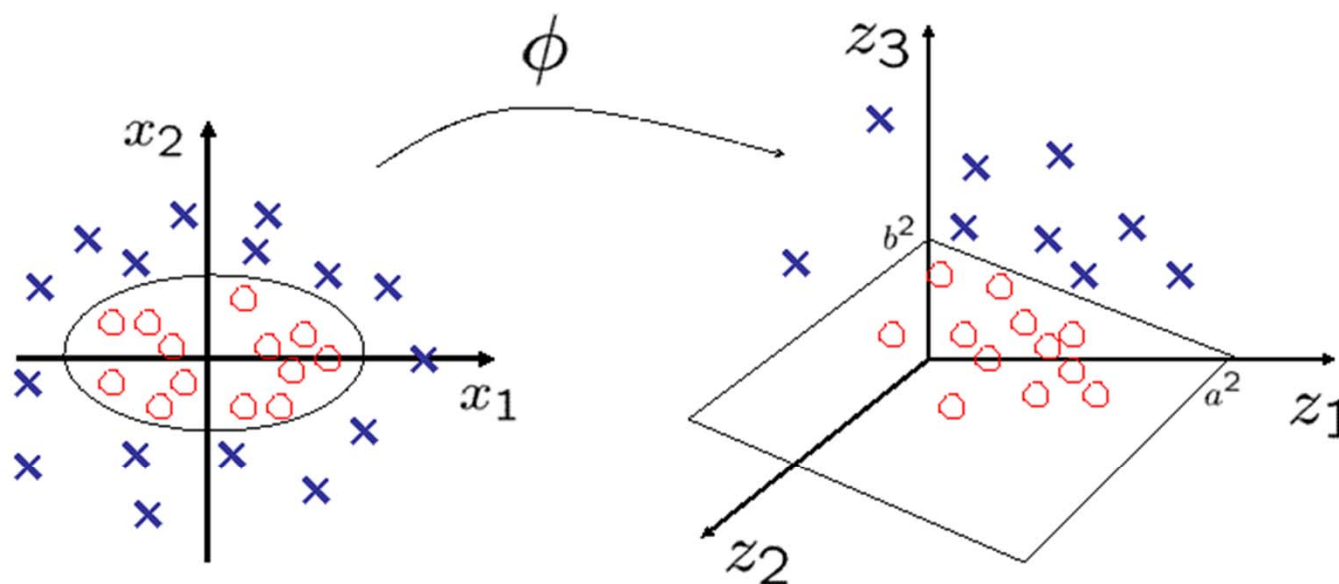
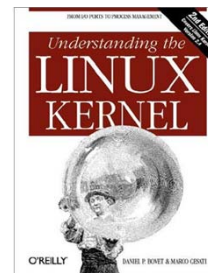


# Linear Separators

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- Linear Separator of  $\{ \langle x_i, \pm \rangle \}$ 
  - $f(x) = w \bullet x = \sum_i \alpha_i x_i \bullet x$
  - ... so  $w$  is sum of training data  $x_i$
- If re-represent data using
  - $\Phi: \mathbb{R}^r \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$then
  - $f(x) = \sum_i \alpha_i \Phi(x_i) \bullet \Phi(x)$
- Sometimes...
  - use  $K(x, z) = \Phi(x) \bullet \Phi(z)$
  - If  $n$  datapoints, only  $n \times n$ , even if  $k = \infty$

# Kernel Trick



$$\phi : (x_1, x_2) \longrightarrow (x_1^2, \sqrt{2}x_1x_2, x_2^2)$$

$$\left(\frac{x_1}{a}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{x_2}{b}\right)^2 = 1 \longrightarrow \frac{z_1}{a^2} + \frac{z_3}{b^2} = 1$$



# Kernel Day

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## **COLT Session: Kernels**

- Bayesian Networks and Inner Product Spaces
- Inequality for Nearly Log-concave Distributions with Applications to Learning
- Bayes and Tukey Meet at the Center Point
- Sparseness vs Estimating Conditional Probabilities: Some Asymptotic Results
- A Statistical Mechanics Analysis of Gram Matrix Eigenvalue Spectra
- Statistical Properties of Kernel Principal Component Analysis
- Kernelizing Sorting, Permutation and Alignment for Minimum Volume PCA
- Regularization and Semisupervised Learning on Large Graphs

## **ICML Session: Kernels**

- Support Vector Machine Learning for Interdependent and Structured Output Spaces
- Probabilistic Tangent Subspace: A Unified View
- Bayesian Inference for Transductive Learning of Kernel Matrix Using the Tanner-Wong Data Augmentation Algorithm
- Kernel-Based Discriminative Learning Algorithms for Labeling Sequences, Trees and Graphs
- A Kernel View of the Dimensionality Reduction of Manifolds
- Multiple Kernel Learning, Conic Duality, and the SMO Algorithm
- Learning with Non Positive Kernels
- Extensions of Marginalized Graph Kernels

# Distribution of Papers

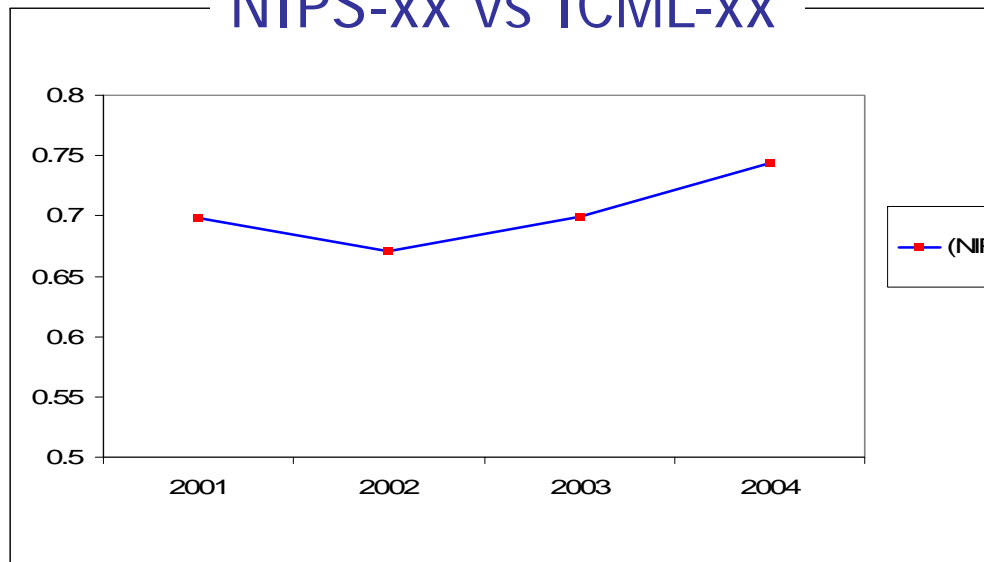
- Lots of numerical methods
  - Linear algebra
  - Dimensionality reduction techniques
  - ...
- Better know the “kernel trick” !
- Is ICML becoming more like NIPS?
- Similarity (cosine) of
  - counts of all words in NIPS-xx
  - counts of all words in ICML-xx



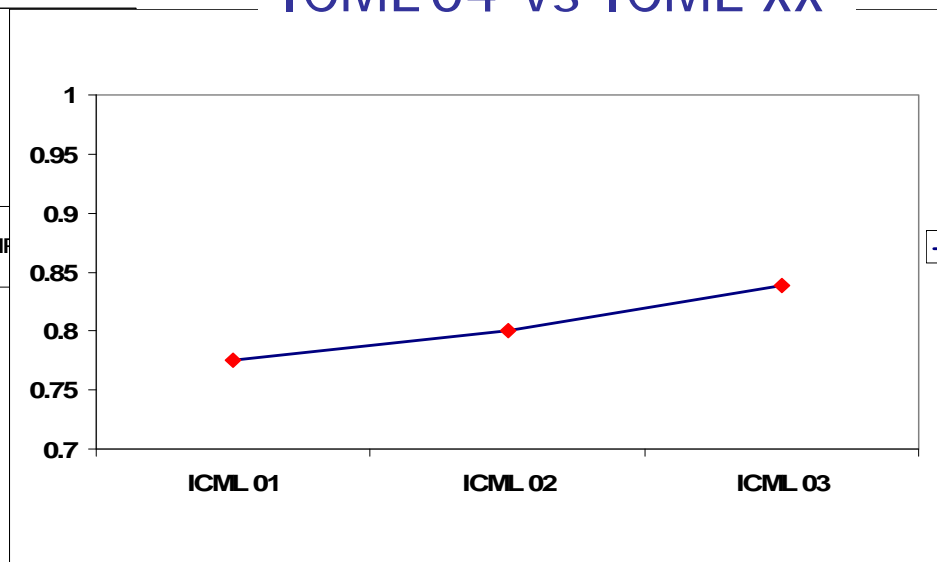
Neural Information  
Processing Systems  
Conference

# ICML'04 ~ NIPS ??

NIPS-xx vs ICML-xx



ICML'04 vs ICML-xx



- Yes, NIPS-xx titles are getting more similar to ICML-xx each year...

- But ... ICML'04 is still very similar to earlier ICML-xx's



# Distribution of Papers, II

---

- Hoped for MANY applications...
  - Great ACs in Vision, Games, BioInfo, NaturalLanguage
  - Some great application papers
  - ... still not that many submissions in these areas





# 28 Area Chairs

+ 200 Program Committee Members

**NLU/Text**

■ Yoshua Bengio

Eric Brill

**BioInfo**

Mark Craven

■ Charles Elkan

■ Peter Flach

**Vision**

David Fleet

■ Johannes Fürnkranz

■ Lise Getoor

■ Zoubin Ghahramani

■ Sally Goldman

■ Geoff Gordon

■ Thomas Hofmann

■ David Jensen

**NLU/Text**

Mark Johnson

**BioInfo**

Simon Kasif

**BioInfo**

Eamonn Keogh

■ John Langford

■ Michael Littman

■ Risto Miikkulainen

■ Andrew Moore

■ Andrew Ng

■ Sam Roweis

**NLU/Text**

Mehran Sahami

**Games**

Jonathan Schaeffer

■ Bernhard Schoelkopf

■ Alex Smola

■ Rich Sutton

■ Chris Williams



# Comments on ICML'04

---

- Double-Blind reviewing
  - Seemed to work... stay tuned
- Many Conditional Accepts
  - Appropriate, as Archival! (like journal)
- *General* chair!
  - in addition to Program Chairs
  - Thanks, Carla!

# Field of Machine Learning

- Conference went VERY VERY well.
- Because the field is ...Alive and Well!
- Lots of new Ideas and Insights
- Many new challenges!
- Interacting with + Contributing to...
  - NLU, BioInfo, Vision, Robotics, Web, ...
- *If it deals with real data,  
it's machine learning.*
- ... most of AI now deals with real data!





# Outline

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- Statistics
- High Points
- Comments



# Sponsors

## ■ Local (Alberta)



Making  
**IT**  
happen **Computing Science**

Alberta  
**INGENUITY**  
Centre for  
Machine Learning



## ■ Gov't (US)



Machine  
Learning

## ■ Industry

Google

**YAHOO!**  
Research Labs

**SIEMENS**



We make the net work.



# Thanks to ...

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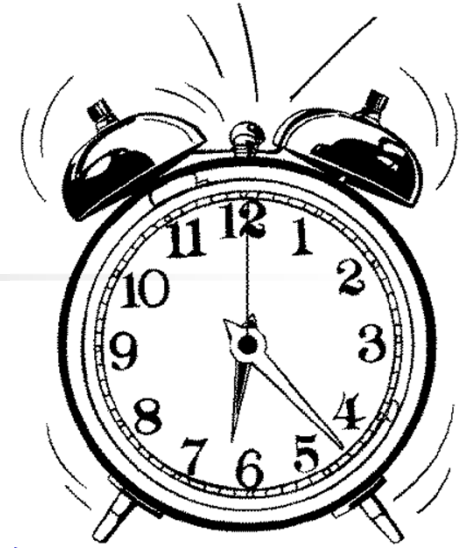
- All Award Winners, Invited Speakers
  - for giving great talks then
  - sending me their slides!
- ICML'04 Committee

*Carla Brodley, Johannes Furnkranz, Rob Holte, Michael DeMarco, Kiri Wagstaff, Jennifer Dy, Stephen Scott, David Jensen, David Woloschuk + web team, C-H Lee*
- Area chairs, reviewers, authors, attendees, ...
- My funders
  - Alberta Ingenuity Centre for Machine Learning
  - NSERC
  - UofAlberta Dept of Computing Science



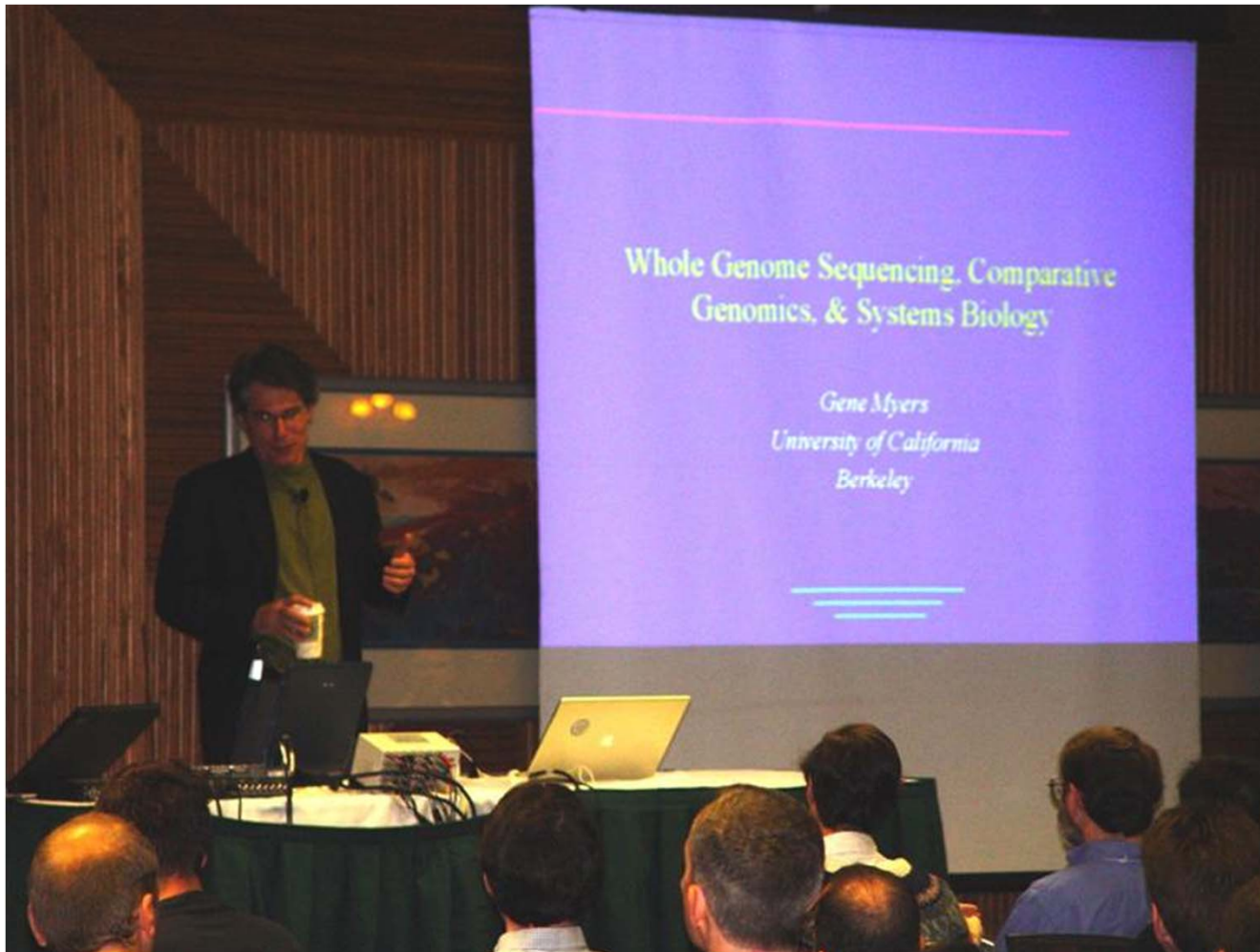
# Questions ?

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- ICML 2004: 4-8/July Banff, Alberta
  - [http://www.aicml.cs.ualberta.ca/\\_banff04/icml/](http://www.aicml.cs.ualberta.ca/_banff04/icml/)
- ICML 2005: 7-11/Aug Bonn, Germany
  - <http://icml2005.kdnet.org/icml.php>
- ICML 2006: 24-30/June **Pittsburgh, PA**
  - <http://icml2006.org/>
- Pictures...

# Gene Myers













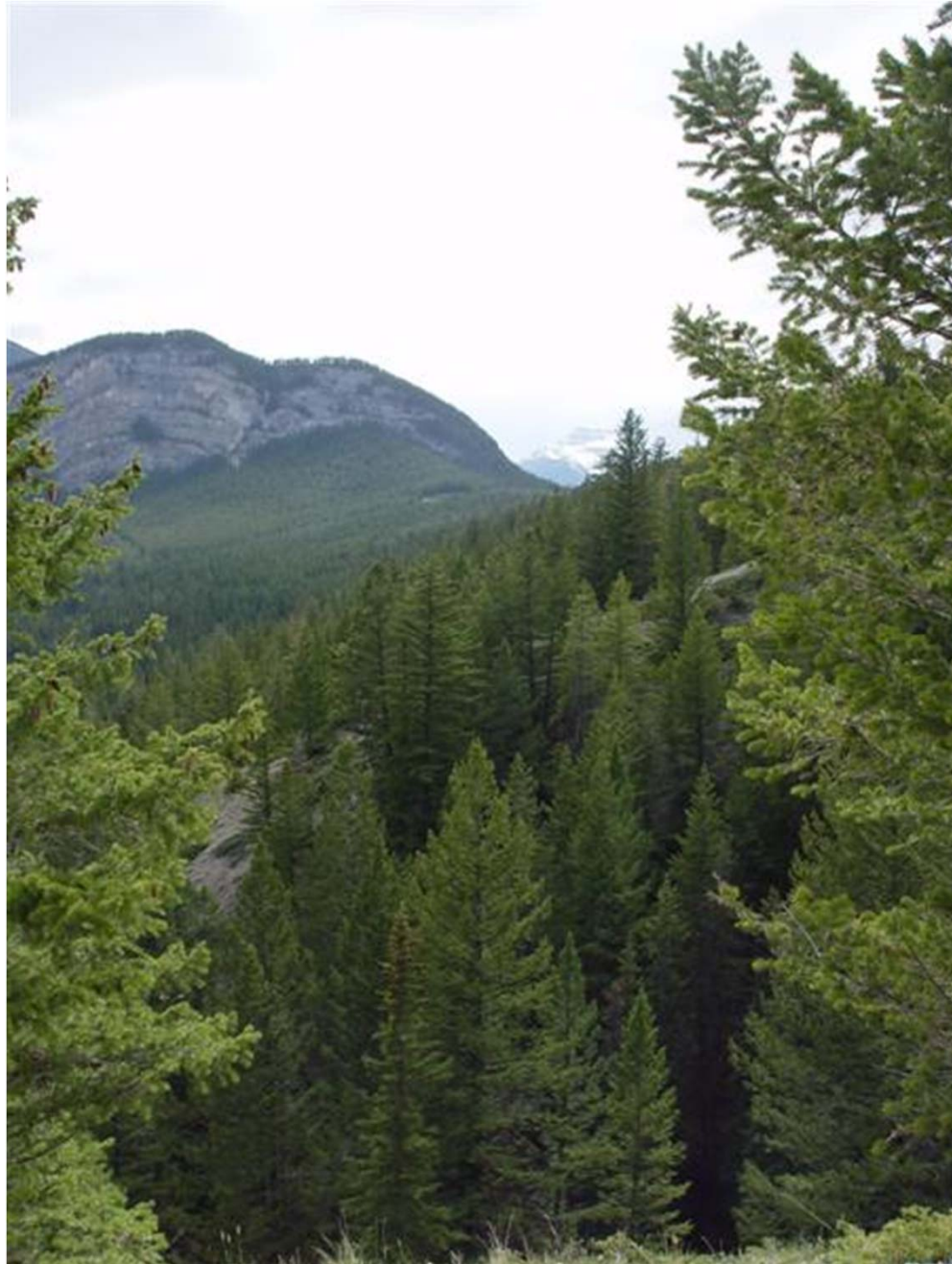




















# Computation of marginalized kernels

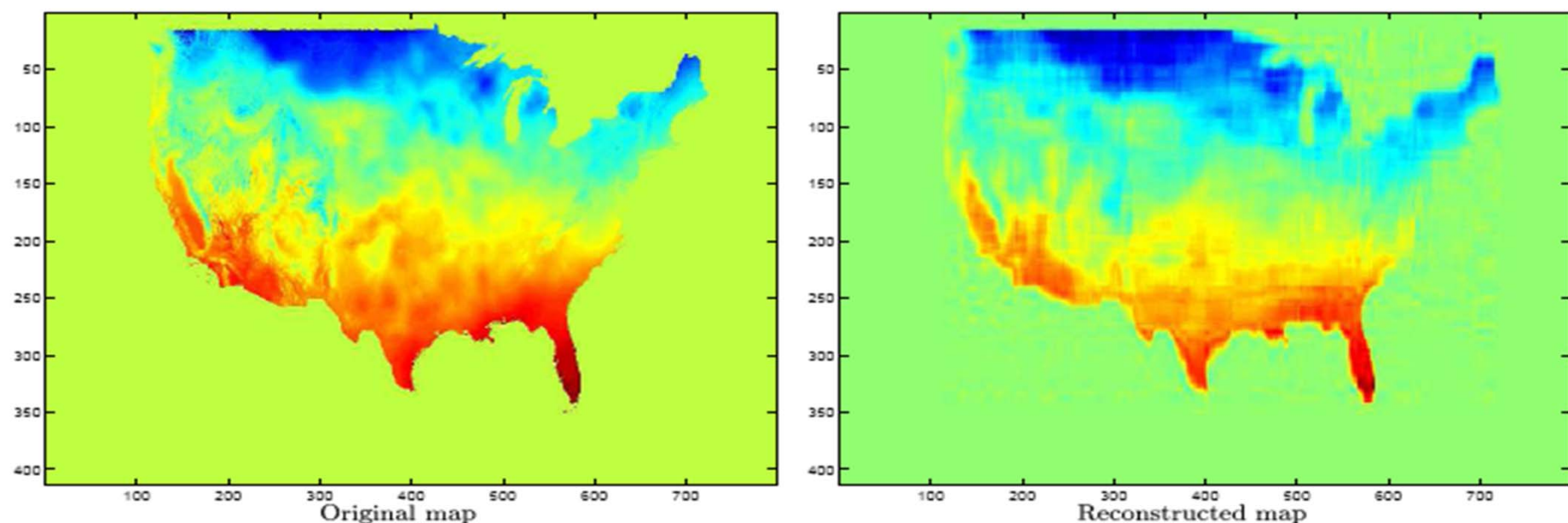
(Tsuda et al, 2002; Jaakkola & Haussler, 1999)

- Marginalized kernel  $K_Q(x, x')$  is defined as:

$$K_Q(x, x') := \sum_{z, z'} \underbrace{Q(z|x)Q(z'|x')}_{\text{Factorized distributions}} \underbrace{K_z(z, z')}_{\text{Base kernel}},$$

- If  $K_z(z, z')$  is decomposed into smaller components of  $z$  and  $z'$ , then  $K_Q(x, x')$  can be computed efficiently (in polynomial-time).





- Original size:  $6570 \times 413 \times 798 \times 8 = 17.3$  GB.
- Reduced size:  $(6570 \times 25 \times 50 + 413 \times 25 + 798 \times 50) \times 8 = 66.2$  MB.
- Compression ratio =  $17.3 \text{ GB} / 66.2 \text{ MB} = 262$ .
- SVD is not applicable for this dataset.
- GLRAM scales to large datasets.

## GLRAM: The main results

- **Theorem 2** Let  $L$ ,  $R$ , and  $\{M_i\}_{i=1}^n$  minimize  $\sum_{i=1}^n \|A_i - LM_iR^T\|_F^2$  subject to  $L^TL = I_{\ell_1}$  and  $R^TR = I_{\ell_2}$ . Then for every  $i$ ,  $M_i = L^TA_iR$ .

◇ Expand  $\sum_{i=1}^n \|A_i - LM_iR^T\|_F^2$  as

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{i=1}^n \|A_i - LM_iR^T\|_F^2 &= \sum_{i=1}^n \text{trace}((A_i - LM_iR^T)(A_i - LM_iR^T)^T) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \text{trace}(A_iA_i^T) + \sum_{i=1}^n \text{trace}(M_iM_i^T) - 2 \sum_{i=1}^n \text{trace}(LM_iR^TA_i^T).\end{aligned}$$

◇ Take the derivative with respect to  $M_i$  and get  $2M_i - 2L^TA_iR = 0 \implies M_i = L^TA_iR$ .

- **Theorem 3** Let  $L$  and  $R$  be defined as in Theorem 2. Then  $L$  and  $R$  maximize  $\sum_{i=1}^n \|L^TA_iR\|_F^2$ .

◇ Plugging  $M_i = L^TA_iR$  into  $\sum_{i=1}^n \|A_i - LM_iR^T\|_F^2$ , we obtain

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \|A_i - LM_iR^T\|_F^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n \|A_i\|_F^2 - \sum_{i=1}^n \|L^TA_iR\|_F^2.$$

◇ The minimization of  $\sum_{i=1}^n \|A_i - LM_iR^T\|_F^2$  is equivalent to the maximization of  $\sum_{i=1}^n \|L^TA_iR\|_F^2$ .



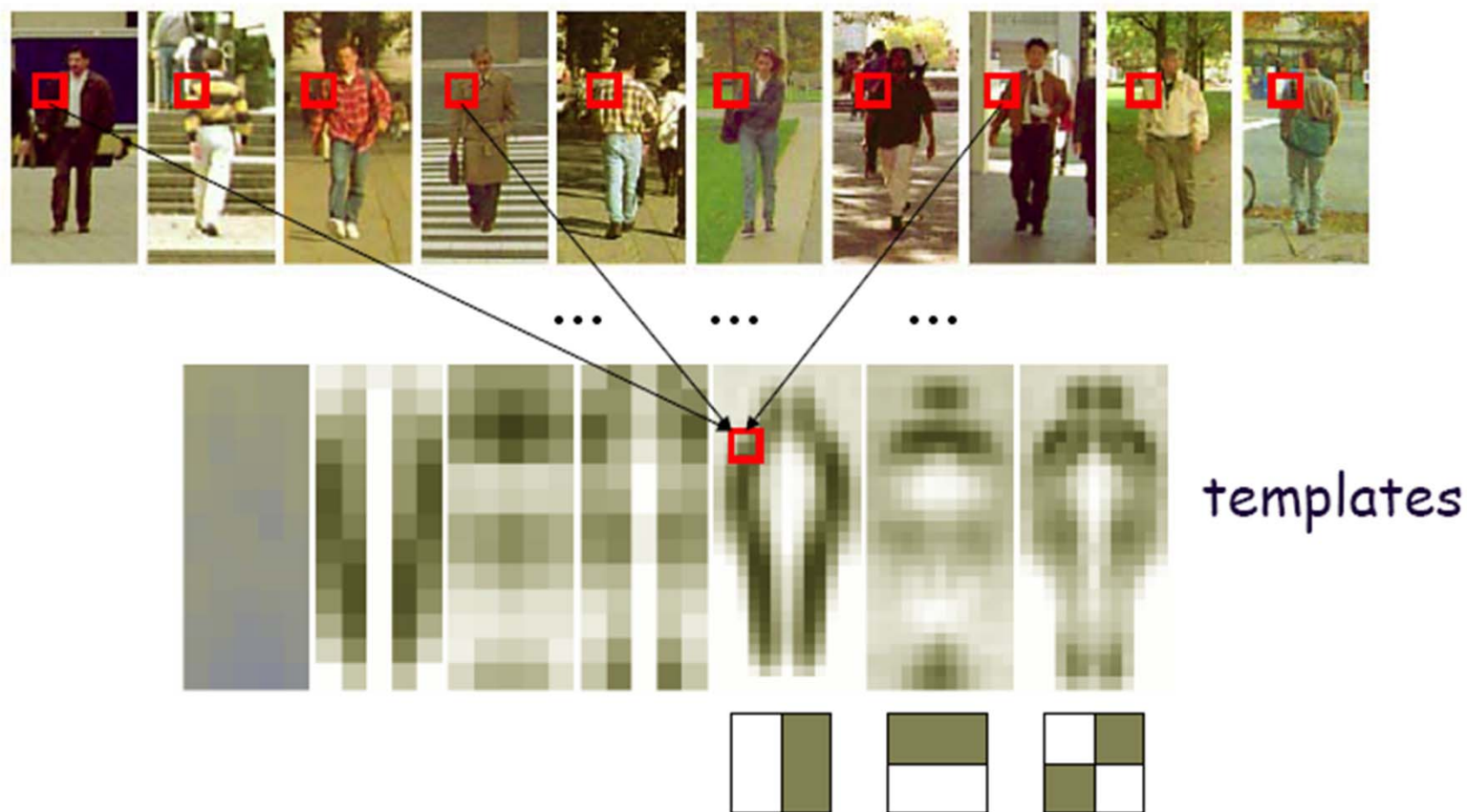








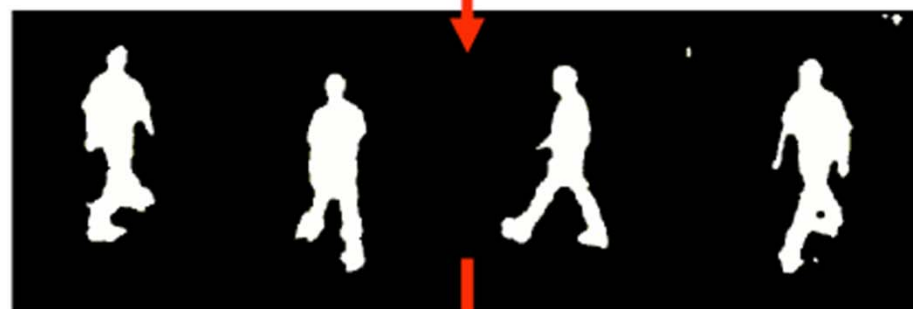
# Support Vector Machines



“Pedestrian detection using wavelet templates,” Oren *et al* CVPR’97.



## What about 3D Pose?



Contour Points /  
Shape Model

30+ dimensions



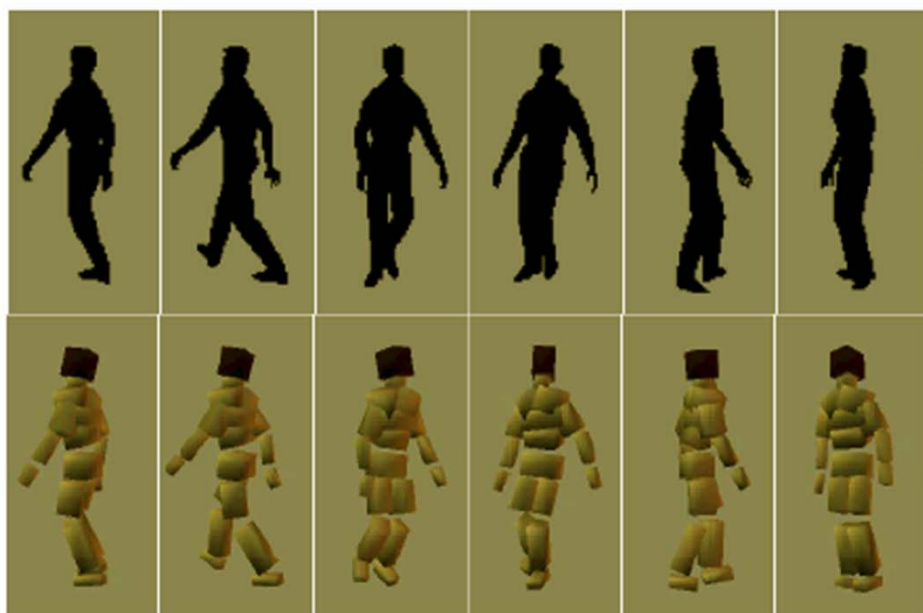
*Learned  
mapping*

K. Grauman, G. Shakhnarovich, T. Darrell, ICCV'03





## Single View to 3D Pose



Given synthetic training data, learn the mapping from silhouette contours to 3D pose.

*“Gaussian kernel RVM”*, Agarwal and Triggs CVPR04

*“Fast Pose Estimation with Parameter Sensitive Hashing”*,  
Shakhnarovich, G., Viola, P., & Darrell, T. CVPR’03.



# Problems

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Accidental alignment



Motion blur.  
(nothing to match)

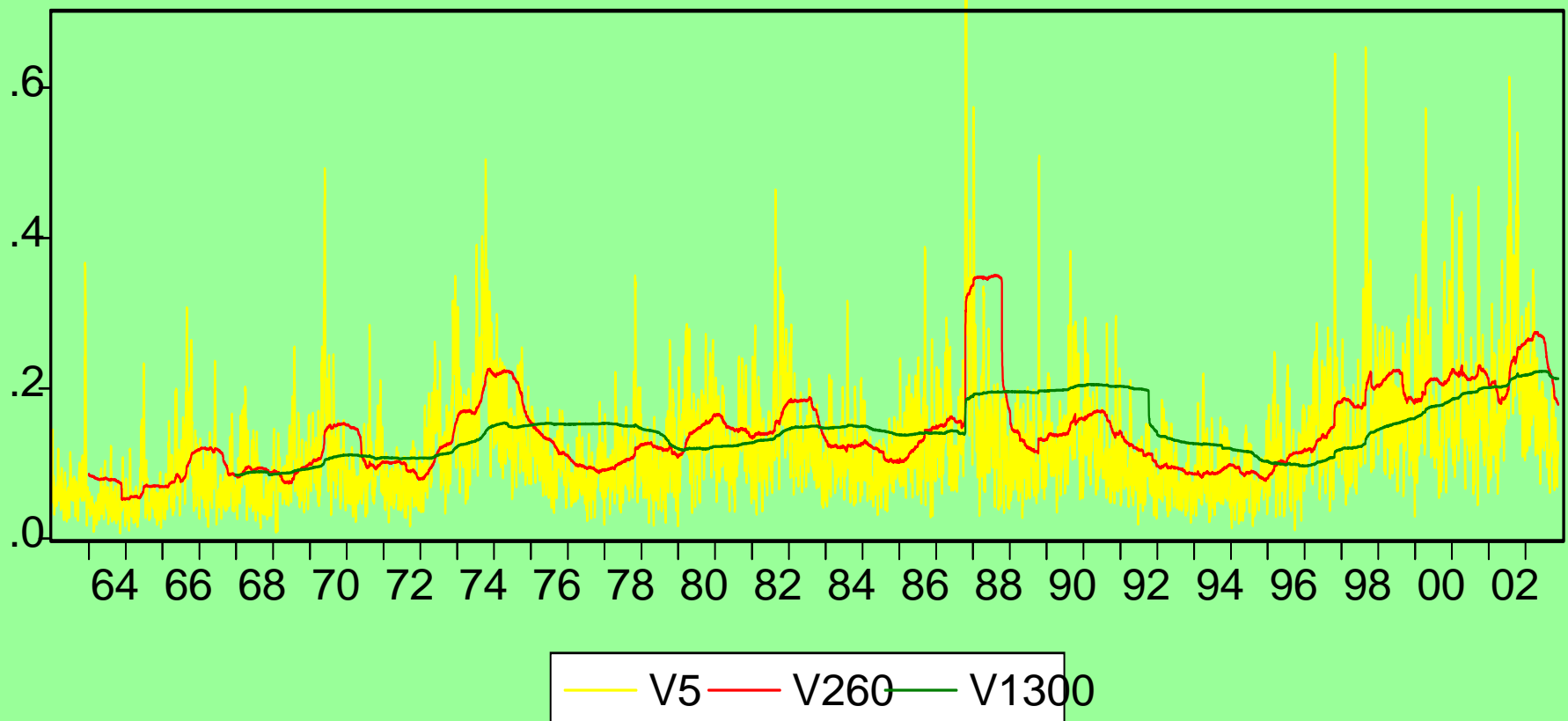






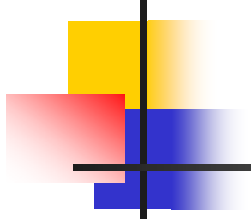
# ROLLING WINDOW VOLATILITIES

NUMBER OF DAYS=5, 260, 1300



Engel









# Invited Presentations

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- **Michael Black**

- leading researcher in computer vision & AI
- *Learning to See People*



- **Gene Myers**

- Celera; National Academy of Engineering
- *Whole Genome Sequencing, Comparative Genomics, and Systems Biology*



- **Robert Engle**

- 2003 Nobel Prize Winner, Economics
- *Models of Dynamic Uncertainty in Univariate and Multivariate Systems*



# Organizing Committee

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- Conference Chair: *Carla Brodley*
- Workshops+ Tutorials Chair: *Johannes Fürnkranz*
- Local Arrangements Chairs: Rob Holte  
(Michael DeMarco)
- Registration Chair: Kiri Wagstaff
- Proceedings Chair: *Jennifer Dy*
- Treasurer: *Stephen Scott*
- Government Funding Chair: *David Jensen*
- Volunteer Coordinator: *Kiri Wagstaff*
- Webmasters: *David Woloschuk,  
Bryce Larson, ...*



# Advisory committee

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- Andrea Danyluk
- Tom Dietterich
- Tom Fawcett
- Achim Hoffmann
- Leslie Pack Kaelbling
- Nina Mishra
- Foster Provost
- Claude Sammut

## Governing Bodies

- The International Machine Learning Society
- Kernel Machines

## 28 Area Chairs – International



Yoshua Bengio

- Eric Brill
- Mark Craven
- Charles Elkan



Peter Flach



David Fleet



Johannes Fürnkranz

- Lise Getoor



Zoubin Ghahramani

- Sally Goldman
- Geoff Gordon
- Thomas Hofmann
- David Jensen
- Mark Johnson

- Simon Kasif
- Eamonn Keogh
- John Langford
- Michael Littman
- Risto Miikkulainen
- Andrew Moore
- Andrew Ng



Sam Roweis

- Mehran Sahami



Jonathan Schaeffer



Bernhard Schoelkopf



Alex Smola



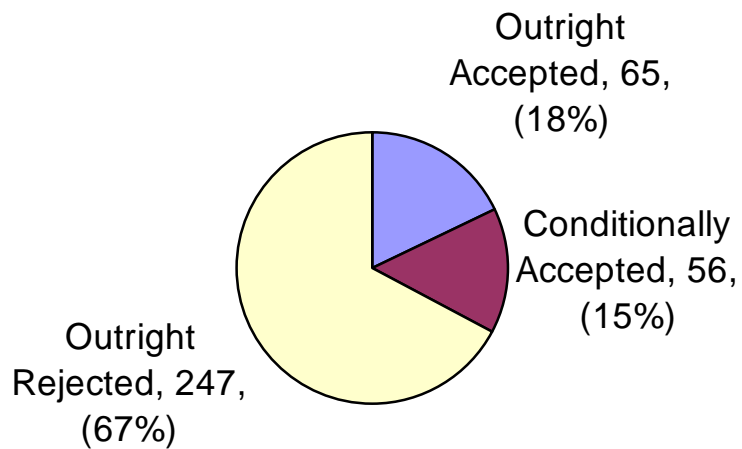
Rich Sutton



Chris Williams

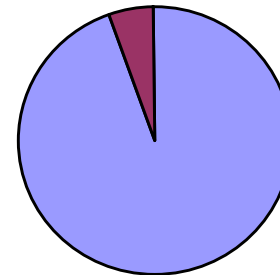
# Acceptance Rates

368 submissions



56 CA's

CA Reject,  
3, (5%)



CA Accept,  
53, (95%)

CA Accept  
CA Reject



# Thanks to...

---

- Organizing Committee :

*Carla Brodley, Johannes Furnkranz, Rob Holte,  
Michael DeMarco, Kiri Wagstaff, Jennifer Dy,  
Stephen Scott, David Jensen,  
David Woloschuk + web team*

- Workshop/Tutorial Organizers

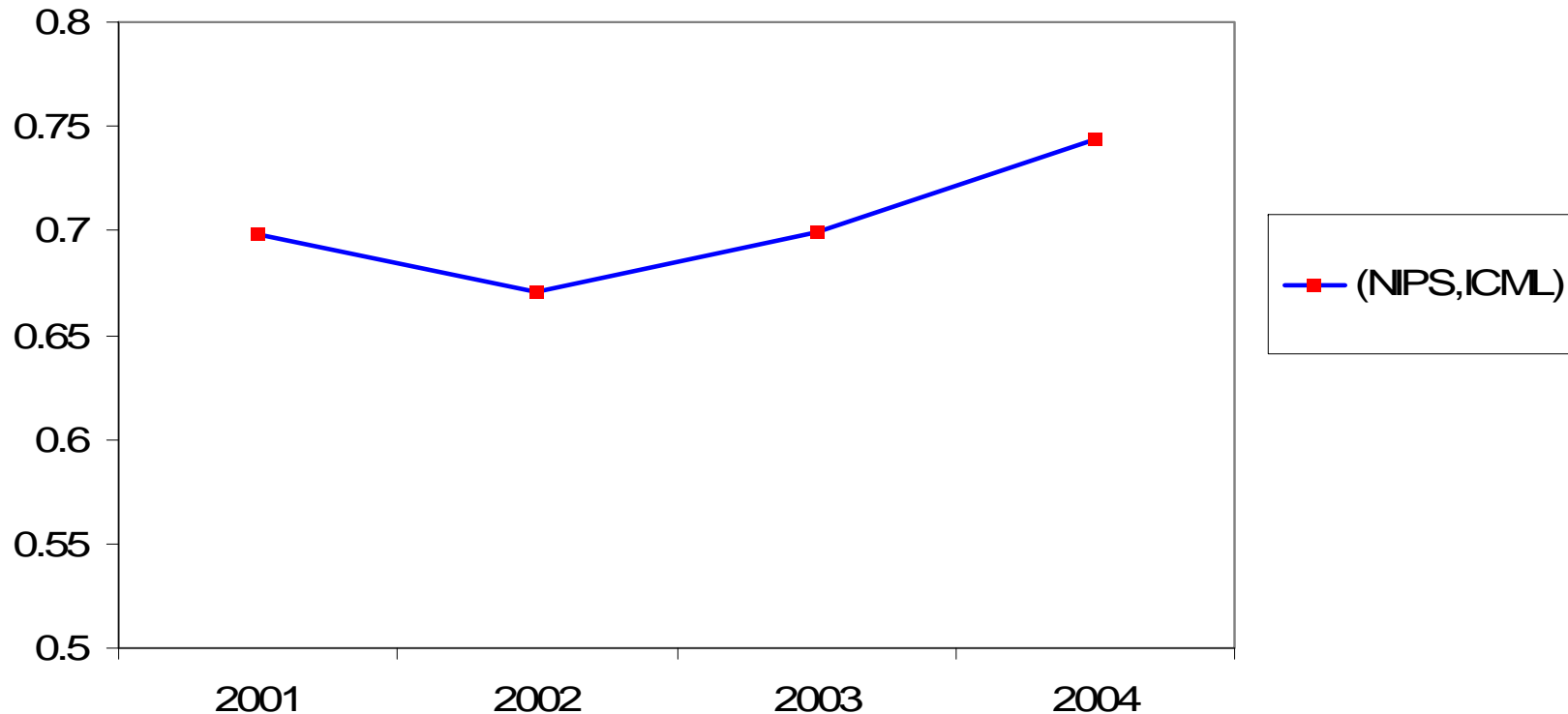
- Invited Speakers

- Area Chairs + Reviewers

- Authors

- Registrants

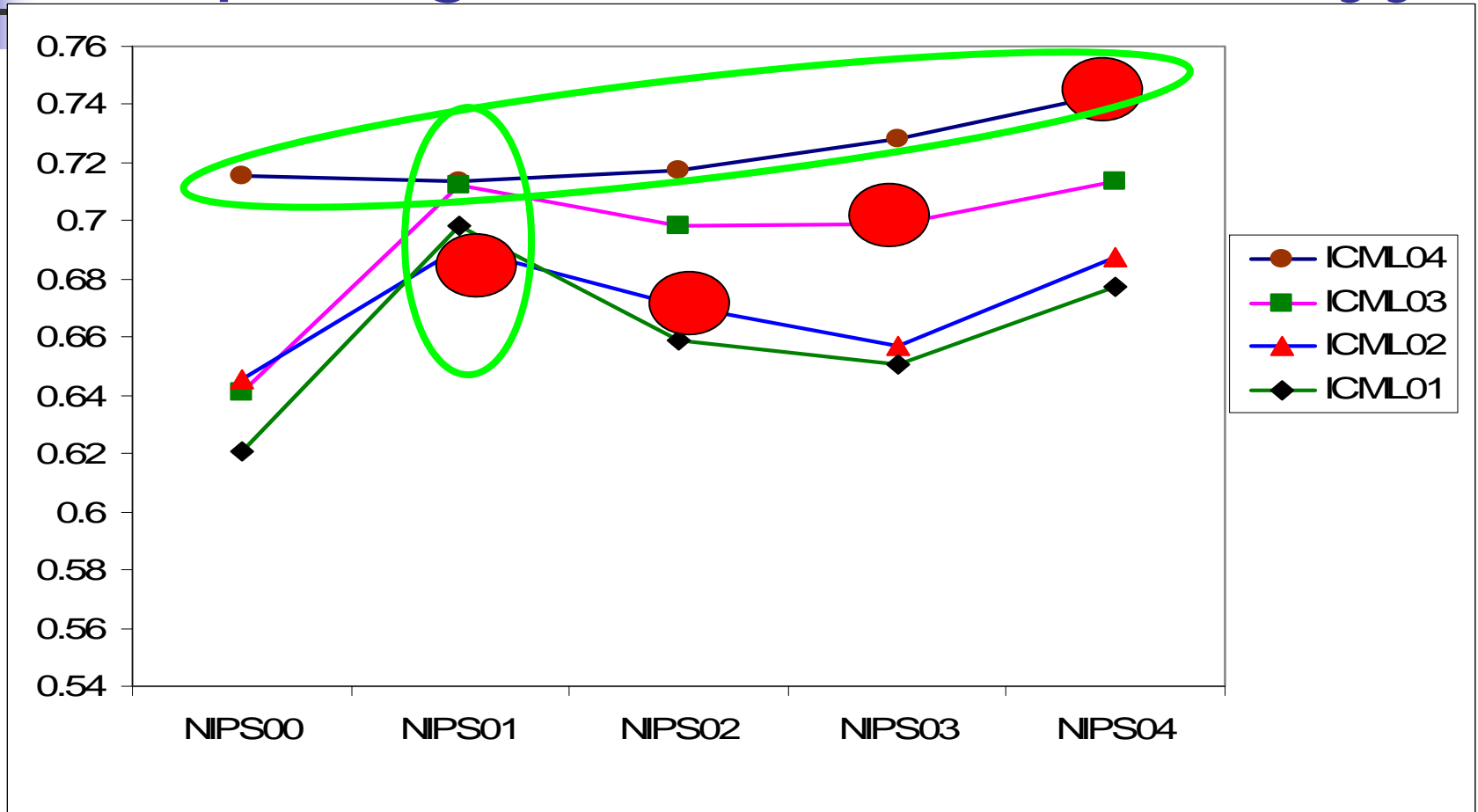
# ICML-200x vs NIPS-200x



- Yes, NIPS-xx titles are getting more similar to ICML-xx each year...

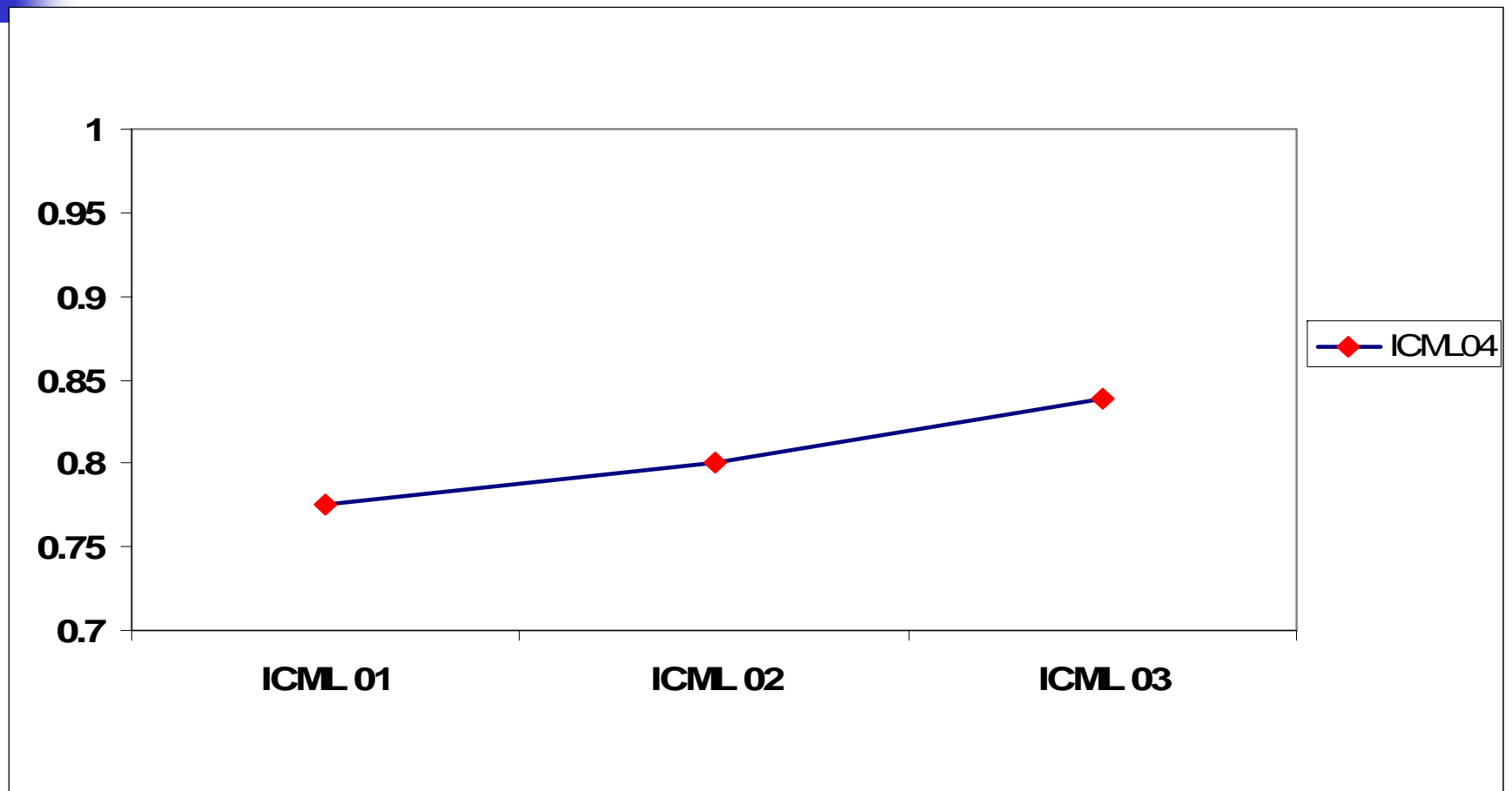


# Comparing ICML-xx with NIPS-yy

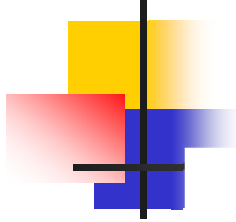


- Ok... maybe ICML'04 is most NIPS-y...
- So???

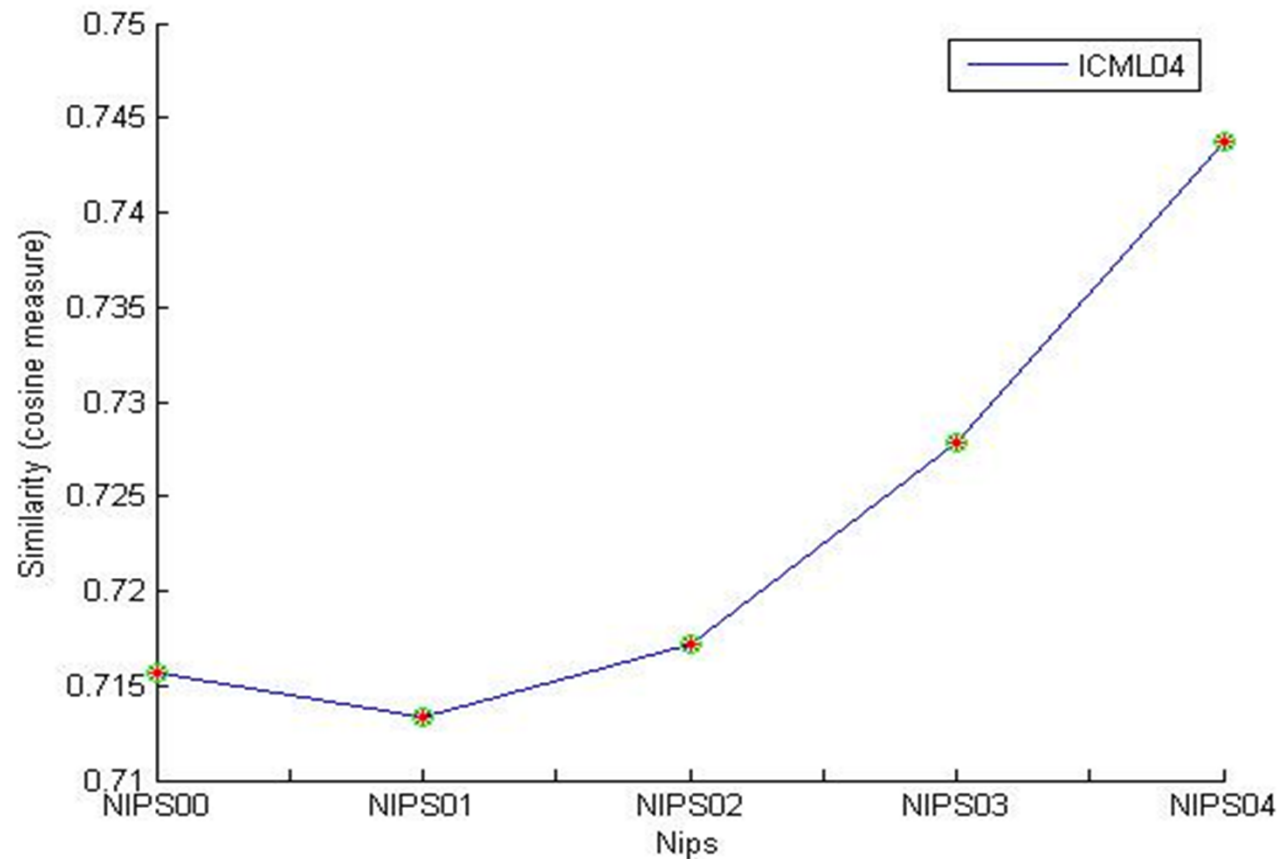
# ICML'04 vs ICML-xx



- Of course, ICML'04 isn't that different from earlier ICML-xx's



# ICML'04 vs NIPS-x



- Or maybe...  
NIPS-xx is getting more and more like  
ICML04??