



UNIVERSITÀ  
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DELLE MARCHE

Facoltà di Ingegneria

**Diego Droghini**

*Ambient Intelligence: Computational  
Audio Processing For Human Fall  
Detection*

Dottorato in Ingegneria dell'Informazione  
Progetto Eureka

13-14 Marzo 2019, [www.univpm.it](http://www.univpm.it)

# Outline

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- **Introduction**
  - Fall Detection System and Challenge
  - Motivations and Contributions
- **Dataset**
  - A3FALL Dataset
  - FAS
- **Supervised Approaches**
  - SVM based approach
- **Unsupervised Approach**
  - End-To-End CNN-AE
- **Weakly-supervised Approach**
  - OCSVM + User-Aided Template Matching
  - Few-shot Siamese Neural Networks
  - Robust Metric Learning with Siamese Autoencoders
- **Conclusions**
- **References**
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# Where we are going: Ambient Intelligance (Aml)

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## Capabilities

- integrated into the environment
- context-aware
- tailored to the user need
- able to adapt actions in new scenarios
- minimal user intervention

A digital environment that proactively, but sensibly, supports people in their daily lives.

## Requirement

- Sensor interaction and interoperability
- Pervasive Ubiquitous Computing
- Artificial Intelligence

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## Human fall: a real problem for society

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"And why do we fall, Bruce? So we can learn to pick ourselves up" cit. Alfred - Batman Begins

- 62% of injury-related hospitalizations for the people over 65 years are the result of a fall [1]
- main cause of death due to accidents for people over 65 [2]
- can lead to psychophysical repercussions on people [3]

We can introduce an FCS system in an Aml to:

- Monitoring of the elderly or people who live alone
- Assistance time reduction

# Fall Classification System Challenge [4]

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- Try to collect sufficient human fall data: supervised or analytical methods
  - difficulty in retrieving examples that represent human falls
- Deal with no human fall data: Novelty detection approach
  - good description of "normality"

## Related Work

- Wearable
  - **Accelerometers**
  - Gyroscopes
- Environmental
  - **Vision System**
  - Audio microphone
  - Radar doppler

## Issues

- no standard datasets;
- no standard methodology
- difficult comparison with other methods;
- no audio dataset available
- scarcity of real human falls

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# Motivations and Contributions

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## Analytical methods:

- exploiting some a priori knowledge;
- manual tuning of the hyperparameters;
- applying a threshold on acquired signals or features;

They can hardly perform when the operating conditions and the subjects are variable.

## Machine learning methods:

- learns from the data;
- can be forced by exploiting some a priori knowledge;
- no need of manual tuning of the hyperparameters;

They need more data!

## Contributions

- audio based fall detection is a reliable alternative;
- proposal and evaluation of the FD task dedicated FAS sensor;
- proposal of the acoustic A3FALL dataset to the community.

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# The fall events dataset: A3Fall

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## Recording Rooms

- R0 - rectangular room particularly suitable for the propagation of acoustic waves through the floor;
- R1 - university auditorium room in which the flooring is composed of fitted carpet;
- R2 - a recording studio
  - sensors placed in the live room;
  - audio events performed in the control room.

# Recording set-up

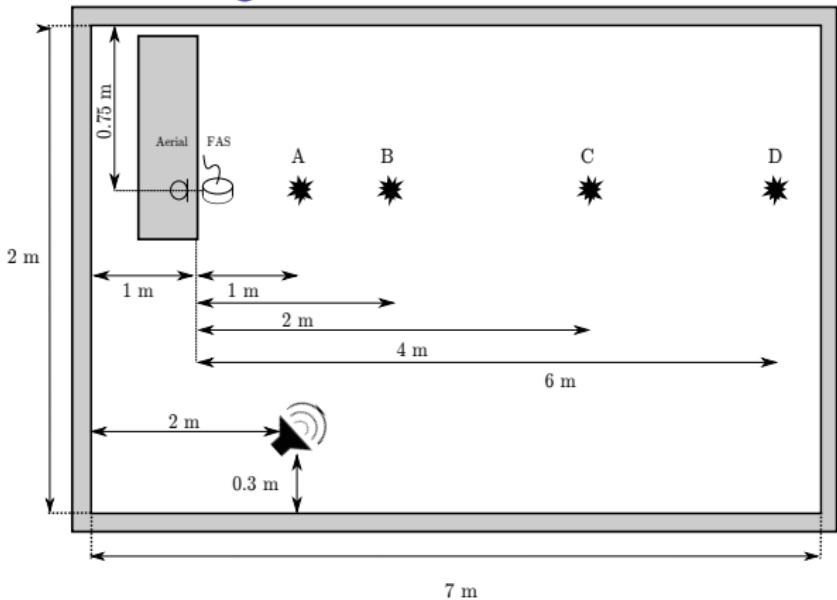
## Sampling

- Sample Rate:  
44.1 kHz
- Bit-depth:  
24 bit

Used sensors:

- Mic. array (3)<sup>1</sup>
- FAS v1<sup>1</sup>

## The recording room



<sup>1</sup>AKG C400 BLT.  
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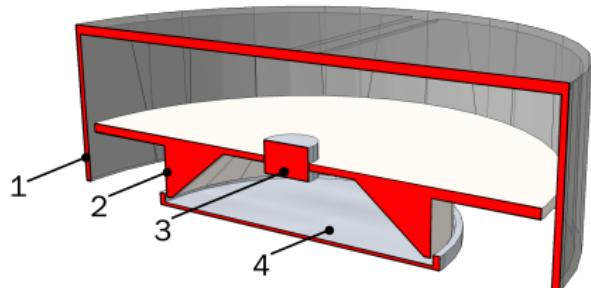


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# Floor Acoustic Sensor[1]

1. The outer container
2. The inner container
3. The microphone slot
4. The membrane touching the floor



## Advantage

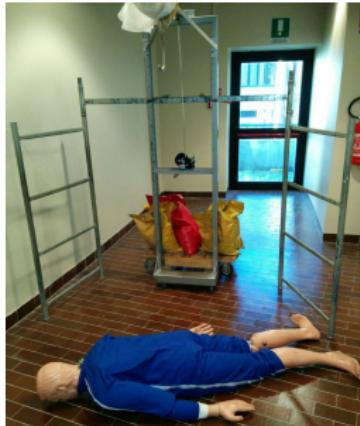
- Easily integrated into the environment
- More sensitive to signals related to falls

3D printed prototype



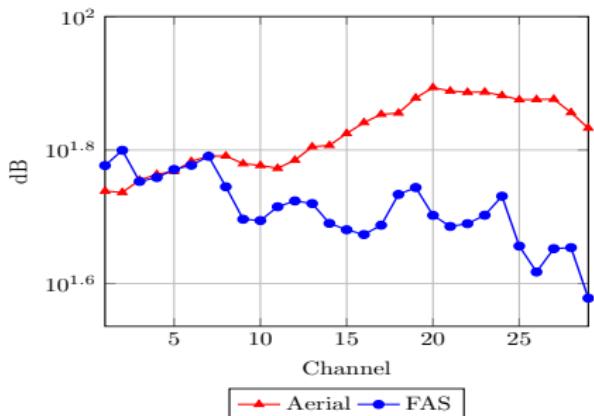
# Description

Class	R0	R1	R2
	Nr. of occurrences		
Basket	64	40	40
Fork	64	40	40
Ball	64	40	40
Book	64	40	40
Bag	64	30	40
Chair	96	40	40
Table	0	40	40
Guitar Slide	0	40	40
Nipper	0	40	40
Keys	0	40	40
Hook	0	40	40
Coat Hook	0	40	40
Manikin Doll	44	0	0
Human Fall	0	40	40
	Total length (s)		
Background	2530	9055	5550

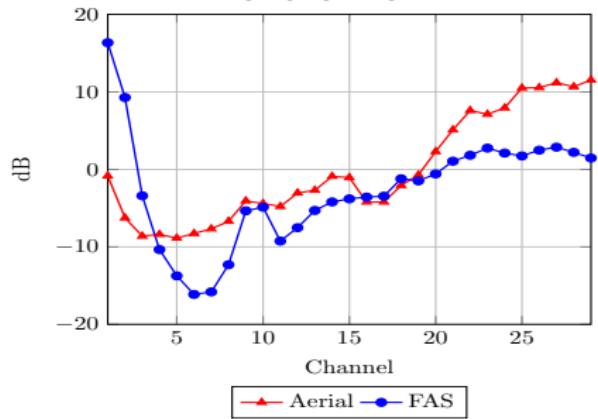


# Signals analysis

Average value of the mel channels



Average value of the SNR for each mel channel



## Remark

- The “valley” in the curves is due to the pitch of the music signal
- The FAS is better at low frequencies

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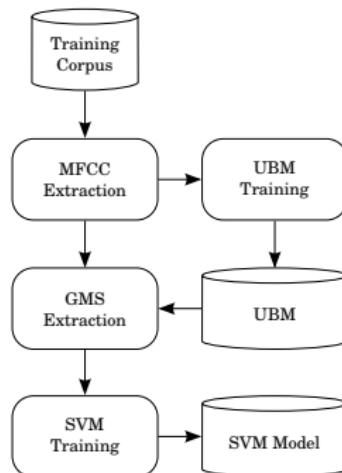
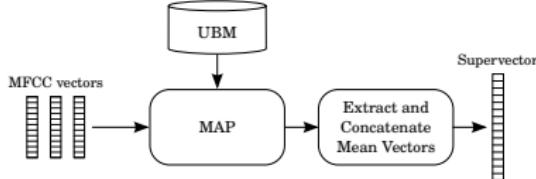


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# Supervised Approaches: SVM based

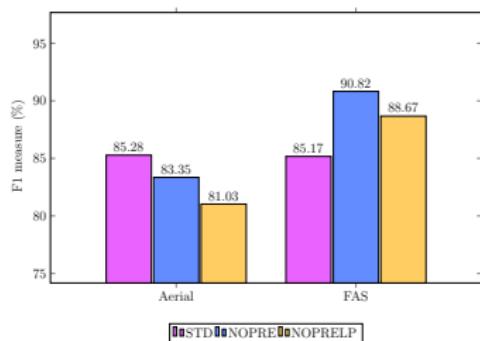
- Completely supervised scenario
- GMM to model a UBM with EM algorithm
- MFCC features to Supervectors (MAP)
- SVM classifier



# Scenarios

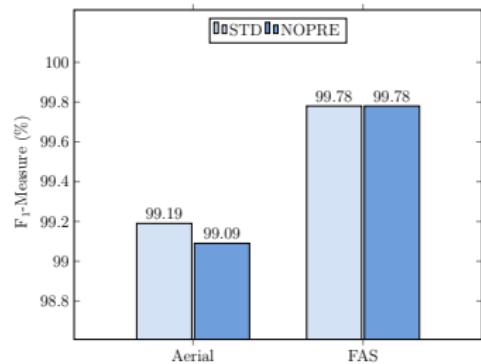
## Multi-class

Trained to discriminate the type of the fallen object



## Bi-class

Trained to discriminate fall from non-fall



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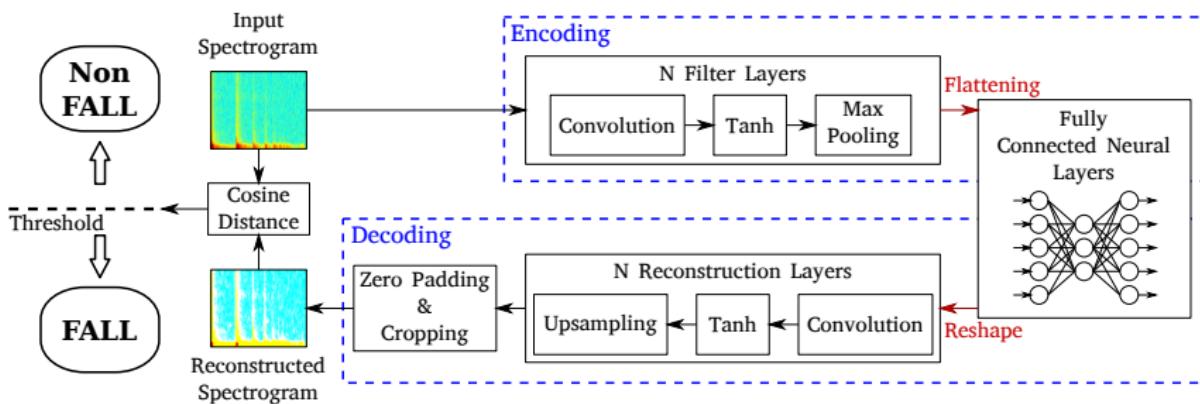


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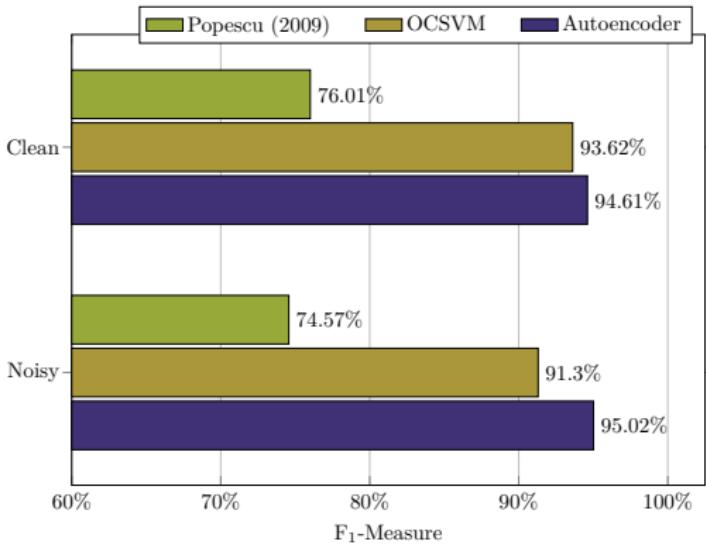
# Unsupervised Approach

## End-To-End Convolutional Autoencoder



# Results

- Trained with background sounds only
- Tested with:
  - background
  - human fall



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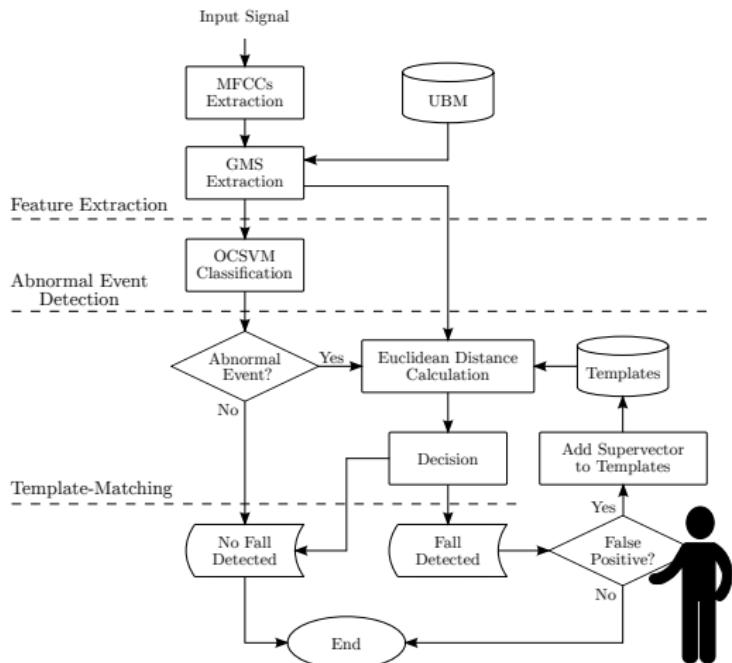
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# OCSVM user-aided

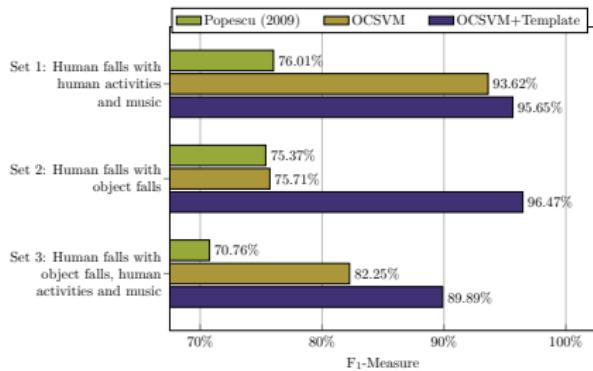
- 1° Stage: OCSVM
  - trained with non-fall events (background noises)
- 2° Stage: template matching
  - based on Euclidean Distance
- Final decision
  - user-aided: false positive report



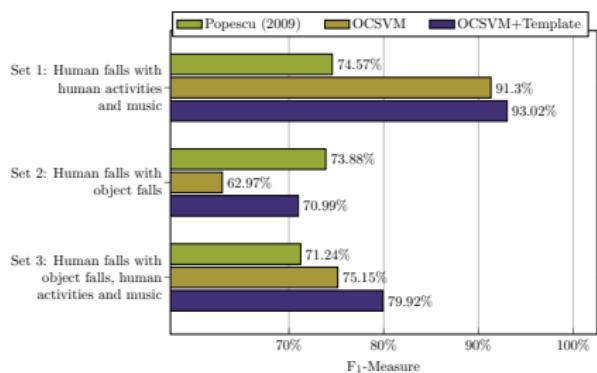
# Results



## Clean condition



## Noisy condition



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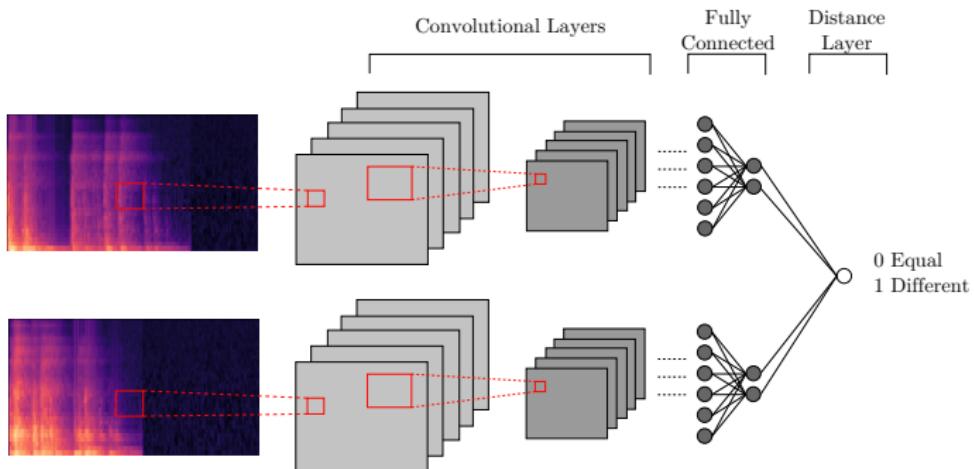
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# Few-shot Siamese Neural Networks<sup>1</sup>



$$\text{Loss} = (1 - Y) \frac{1}{2}(E_w)^2 + (Y) \frac{1}{2} \{(\max(0, m - E_w))^2\}$$

<sup>1</sup>Best Presentation @ International Conference on Pattern Recognition and Artificial Intelligence (PRAI2018) Kean University, Union, NJ, USA  
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# Training Phase

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Consider  $X_1, X_2$  as a pair of two input samples.

## Euclidean Distance

$$E_w = \|S_e(X_1) - S_e(X_2)\|. \quad (1)$$

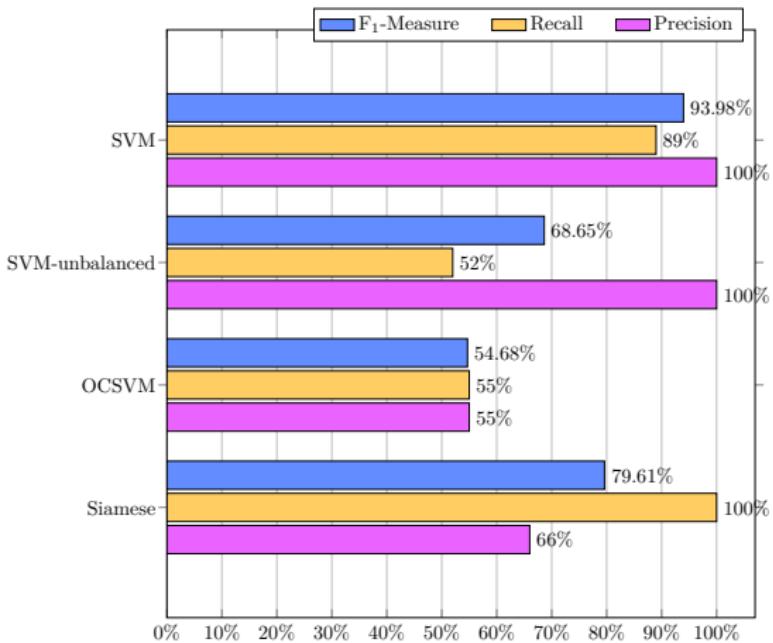
with  $S_e(X_1)$  and  $S_e(X_2)$  the mappings performed by the network

The label for training a SNN are built as follows:

- Positive examples labelled as 0: pair of input samples belonging to the same fall event class
- Negative examples labelled as 1: pair of input samples not belonging to the same fall event class

# Results

- Trained:
  - objects fall
  - 1 human fall
- Validation:
  - objects fall
  - few human fall
- Tested with:
  - objects fall
  - human fall



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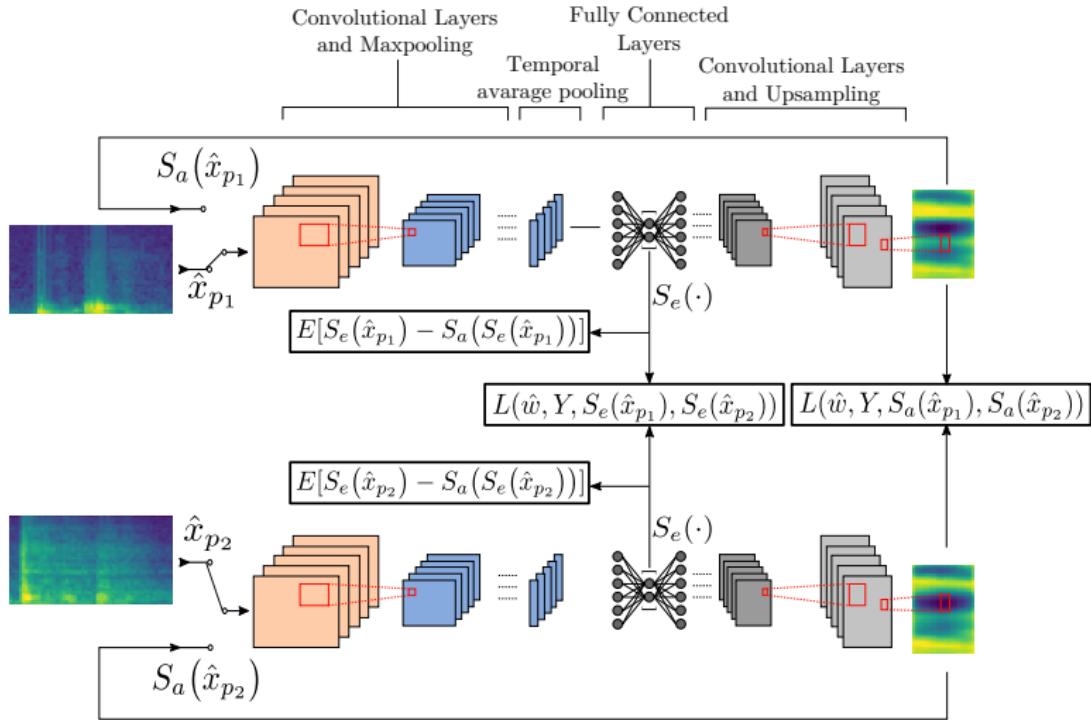
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# Robust Metric Learning with SCAE





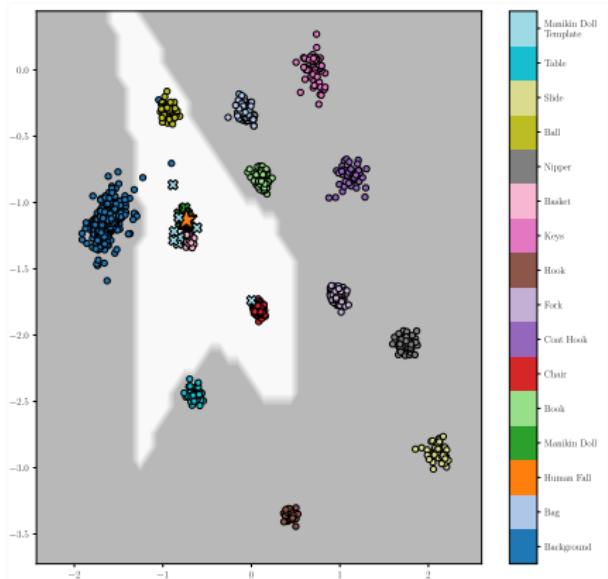
## Training procedure

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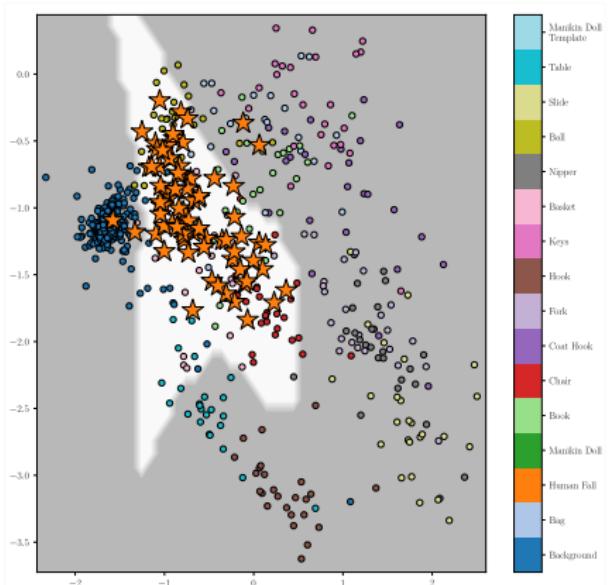
- contrastive loss of latent spaces
- contrastive loss of reconstructions
- reconstruction loss (mse) of latent spaces
- to exploit the few human fall samples available a smart selection of the train pairs has been done:
  - neither the real falls nor the simulated falls were coupled with the falls of the objects
  - simulated and real falls were coupled together
- induces the network to make a transformation in the latent layer
- simulated human fall can be used as real human fall template in the final classifier
- KNN classifier trained with extracted feat. from the **Encoder**

# Latent space with 2 neurons

Train set

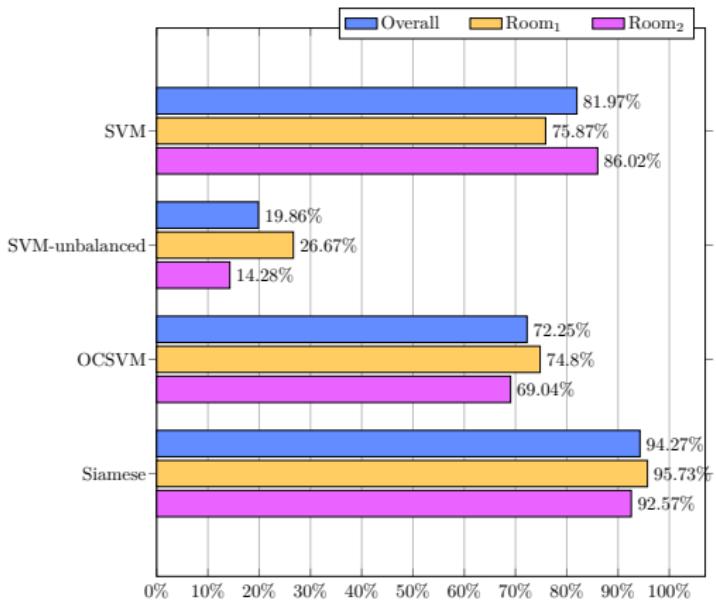


Test set



# Results

- Trained (3 room):
  - objects falls
  - backgrounds
  - manikin doll falls
  - 1 human fall per room
- Testset composed of:
  - objects fall
  - human fall
  - backgrounds





# Conclusions

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- FAS sensor proposed and evaluated
- A3FALL dataset with real human falls
  - real human falls
  - different floor types
  - different rooms
- different scenarios explored from a data availability prospective
  - supervised
  - unsupervised
  - weakly-supervised

## Future works

- data fusion (different type of sensors)
- approach fusion
- exploit the Aml ecosystem (different algorithms)



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# Thanks for your attention

# References (1)

---

-  R. J. Gurley, N. Lum, M. Sande, B. Lo, and M. H. Katz,  
"Persons found in their homes helpless or dead,"  
*New England Journal of Medicine*, vol. 334, no. 26, pp. 1710–1716, 1996.
-  M. Mubashir, L. Shao, and L. Seed,  
"A survey on fall detection: Principles and approaches,"  
*Neurocomputing*, vol. 100, pp. 144–152, 2013.
-  S. Abbate, M. Avvenuti, P. Corsini, J. Light, and A. Vecchio,  
"Monitoring of human movements for fall detection and activities recognition in elderly care using wireless sensor network: a survey,"  
in *Wireless Sensor Networks: Application-Centric Design*. InTech, 2010.
-  S. S. Khan and J. Hoey,  
"Review of fall detection techniques: A data availability perspective,"  
*Medical engineering and physics*, vol. 39, pp. 12–22, 2017.
-  E. Principi, D. Droghini, S. Squartini, P. Olivetti, and F. Piazza,  
"Acoustic cues from the floor: a new approach for fall classification,"  
*Expert Systems with Applications*, vol. 60, pp. 51–61, 2016.

## References (2)

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-  S. Chopra, R. Hadsell, and Y. LeCun,  
"Learning a similarity metric discriminatively, with application to face verification,"  
in *Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition, 2005. CVPR 2005. IEEE Computer Society Conference on*. IEEE, 2005, vol. 1, pp. 539–546.
-  D. Droghini, E. Principi, S. Squartini, P. Olivetti, and P. F.,  
"Human fall detection by using an innovative floor acoustic sensor,"  
in *Proc. of WIRN*. Vietri sul Mare, Italy, May, 18-20 2016,  
(8 pages), to appear.
-  J. Bromley, I. Guyon, Y. LeCun, E. Säckinger, and R. Shah,  
"Signature verification using a " siamese" time delay neural network,"  
in *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, 1994, pp. 737–744.
-  G. Koch, R. Zemel, and R. Salakhutdinov,  
"Siamese neural networks for one-shot image recognition,"  
in *ICML Deep Learning Workshop*, 2015, vol. 2.



## References (3)

---

-  D. Droghini, D. Ferretti, E. Principi, S. Squartini, and F. Piazza,  
"A combined one-class svm and template matching approach for user-aided human  
fall detection by means of floor acoustic features,"  
*Computational Intelligence and Neuroscience*, vol. 2017, 2017,  
Article ID 1512670.



# Publications List (1)

## International Journal:

[3 articles, 2 first author]

-  [1] Principi, E., Droghini, D., Squartini, S., Olivetti, P., Piazza, F.:,  
“Acoustic cues from the floor: a new approach for fall classification,”  
*Expert Systems with Applications*, 2016.
-  [2] Droghini, D., Ferretti, D., Principi, E., Squartini, S., Piazza, F.:,  
“A combined one-class svm and template matching approach for user-aided human  
fall detection by means of floor acoustic features,”  
*Computational Intelligence and Neuroscience*, 2017.

## International Journal (submitted):

[1 article, 1 first author]

-  [1] Droghini, D., Principi, E., Squartini, S., Gabrielli, L., P., Piazza.,  
“Audio Metric Learning by using Siamese Autoencoders for One-Shot Human Fall  
Detection,”  
*IEEE Transactions on Emerging Topics in Computational Intelligence*, 2018,  
submitted.

## International Conference:

[14 articles, 5 first author]



## Publications List (2)

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[1] Droghini, D., Principi, E., Squartini, S., Olivetti, P., Piazza., F.,  
"Human fall detection by using an innovative floor acoustic sensor,"  
in *Proc. of WIRN*, Vietri sul Mare, Italy, May, 2016.



[2] Gabrielli, L., Cella, E., Vesperini, F., Droghini, D., Principi, E., Squartini, S.,  
"Deep Learning for Timbre Modification and Transfer: An Evaluation Study,"  
in *Proc. of AES*, Milan, Italy, May, 2018.



[3] Droghini, F., Vesperini, F., Principi, E., Squartini, S., Piazza., F.,  
"Few-shot Siamese Neural Networks employing Audio features for Human-Fall  
Detection",  
in *Proc. of PRAI*, Kean University, Union, NJ, USA, Aug 2018.



[4] Vesperini, F., Droghini, D., Principi, E., Gabrielli, L., Squartini, S.,  
"Hierarchic ConvNets Framework for Rare Sound Event Detection",  
in *Proc. of EUSIPCO*, Rome, Italy, Sept. 2018.

### Others:



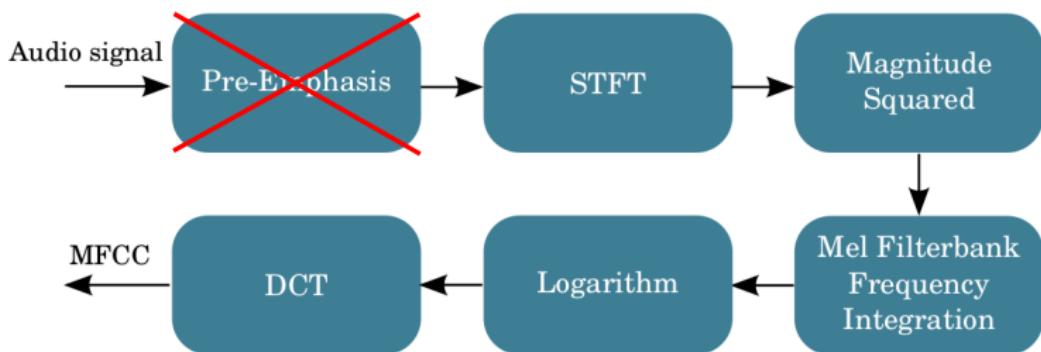
## Publications List (3)

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-  F. Vesperini, D. Droghini, D. Ferretti, E. Principi, L. Gabrielli, S. Squartini, and F. Piazza,  
“A hierachic multi-scaled approach for rare sound event detection”,  
Ancona, Italy, 2017, DCASE Tech. Report. Copyright-free.
  
-  L. Gabrielli, F. Vesperini, D. Droghini, and S. Squartini,  
“Rima Glottidis: Experimenting generative raw audio synthesis for a sound installation,”  
in *XXII Colloquium of Musical Informatics*, Udine, Italy, 20-23 Nov. 2018.

# MFCC pipelines used

- STD: MFCC calculated as described above
- NOPRE: no pre-emphasis filter
  - to reduce the high frequencies emphasis





# SVM based methods optimization

## SVM and USVM Gridsearch

### GMM

- number of gaussians:  
 $[2^0, 2^1, \dots, 2^6]$

### SVM

- $C : [2^{-5}, 2^{-3}, \dots, 2^{15}]$
- $\gamma : [2^{-15}, 2^{-13}, \dots, 2^3]$

## OCSVM Gridsearch

### GMM

- number of gaussians:  
 $[2^0, 2^1, \dots, 2^6]$

### SVM

- $\nu : 2^{-5}, 2^{-3}, \dots, 2^{15}$
- $\gamma : [2^{-15}, 2^{-13}, \dots, 2^3]$

For all the methods the  $F_1$  Measure were used for the optimization.

$$F_1 = 2 \cdot \frac{\text{precision} \cdot \text{recall}}{\text{precision} + \text{recall}}$$



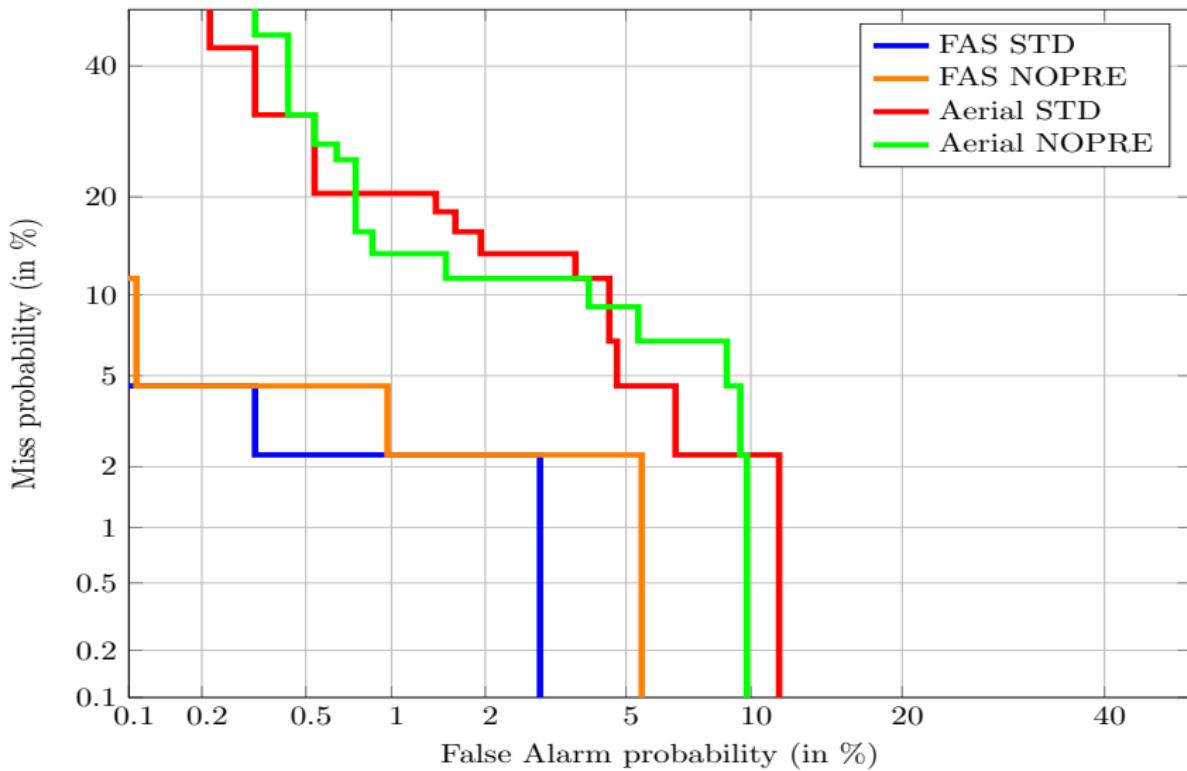
## Acoustic Scenarios for SVM based approaches

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The experiments have been conducted with a 4-fold cross-validation strategy and a three-way data split in three different operating conditions:

- matched, where the training, validation and test sets share the same acoustic condition, i.e., clean or noisy;
- mismatched, where the training set is composed of clean signals while the validation and test sets are composed of noisy signals;
- multicondition, where the training, validation and test sets contain both clean and noisy data. In this case the sets have been divided so that they contain 1/3 of clean data and 2/3 of noisy data.

# Binary-SVM Multicondition DET plot





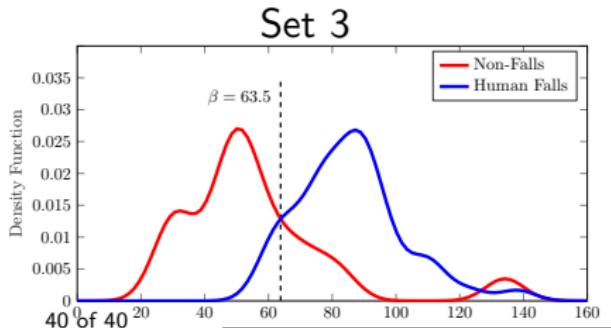
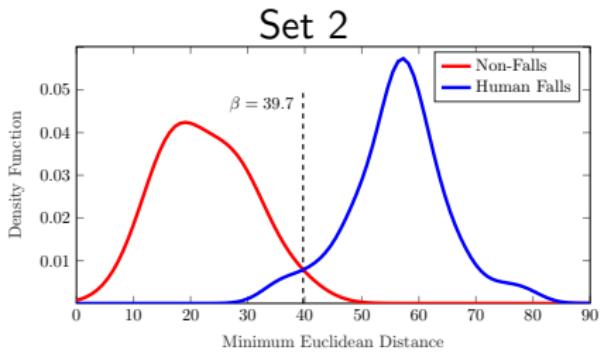
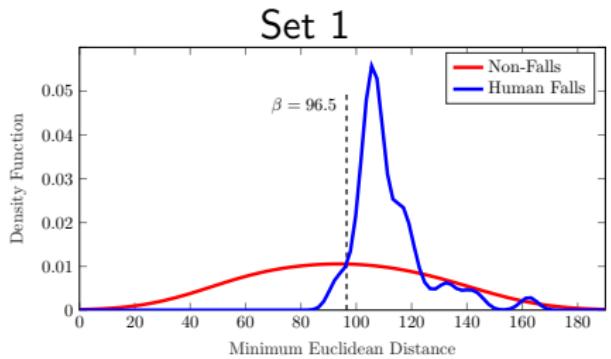
# Optimization of the End-to-End Autoencoder

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**Table:** Hyper-parameters optimized in the random-search phase, and their range.

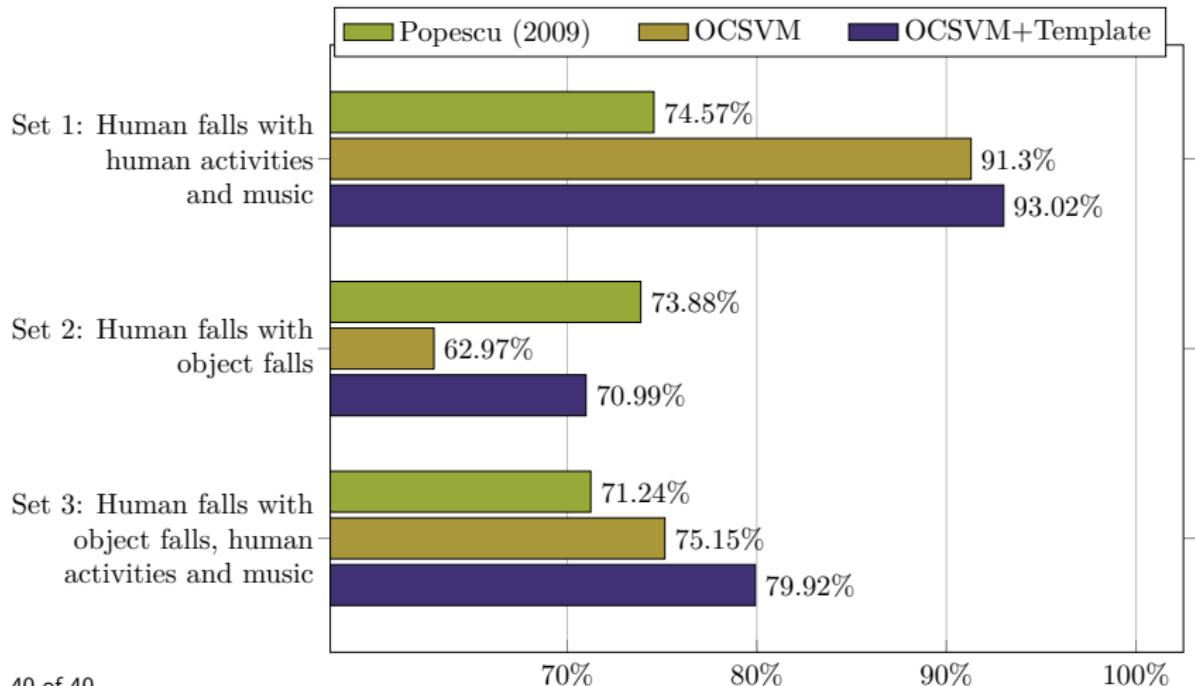
Parameter	Range	Distribution	Parameter	Range	Distribution
Cnn layer Nr.	[1-3]	uniform	Batch size	[10%-25%]	log-uniform
Kernel shape	[3x3-8x8]	uniform	Max pool shape	[1x1-5x5]	uniform
Kernel Nr.	[4-64]	log-uniform	Max Pool	All-Only end	uniform
MLP layers Nr.	[1-3]	uniform	Dropout	[Yes-No]	uniform
MLP layers dim.	[128-4096]	log-unifom	Drop rate	[0.5-0.6]	normal
Stride	[1x1-3x3]	uniform	Learning rate	$[10^{-4}-10^{-2}]$	log-unifom

# Template-matching decision threshold in clean condition



The choice of  $\beta$  has been performed by calculating the minimum Euclidean distance between each fall and non-fall event in the validation set and the set of templates

# OCSVM Template Matching Results in Noisy condition



# Preliminary results for SCAE approach

Table: Preliminary result for different pairs generation strategies.

Technique	Result in R1	Result in R2	Overall
$\mathcal{P}$ - $\mathcal{N}$ -PAIRS	55.17%	64.74%	60.13%
$\mathcal{N}$ -PAIRS	76.20%	67.53%	72.05%
NO-PAIRS	91.71%	89.88%	90.97%
$\mathcal{P}$ -PAIRS	92.54%	92.54%	<b>92.54%</b>

# Hyper-parameters optimized for SCAE approach

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**Table:** Hyper-parameters optimized in the random-search phase and their range.

Parameter	Range	Distribution
Cnn layer Nr.	[1-3]	Uniform
Kernel shape	[1x1-8x8]	Uniform
Kernel Nr.	[1-32]	Uniform
MLP layers Nr.	[1-2]	Uniform
MLP layers dim.	[1-4096]%	Log-uniform
Max pool shape	[0x0-3x3]	Uniform
Drop rate	[0-0.2]%	Uniform