Image Feature

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Classification system

Image Analysis

Typical steps:

- Pre-processing
- Segmentation (object detection)
- *Feature extraction*
- Feature selection
- Classifier training
- Evaluation of classifier performance.

Features for image analysis

Applications:

- Remote sensing
- Medical imaging
- Character recognition
- Robot Vision
- …

Major goal of image feature extraction:

Given an image, or a region within an image, generate the features that will subsequently be fed to a classifier in order to classify the image in one of the possible classes.

(Theodoridis & Koutroumbas: «Pattern Recognition», Elsevier 2006).

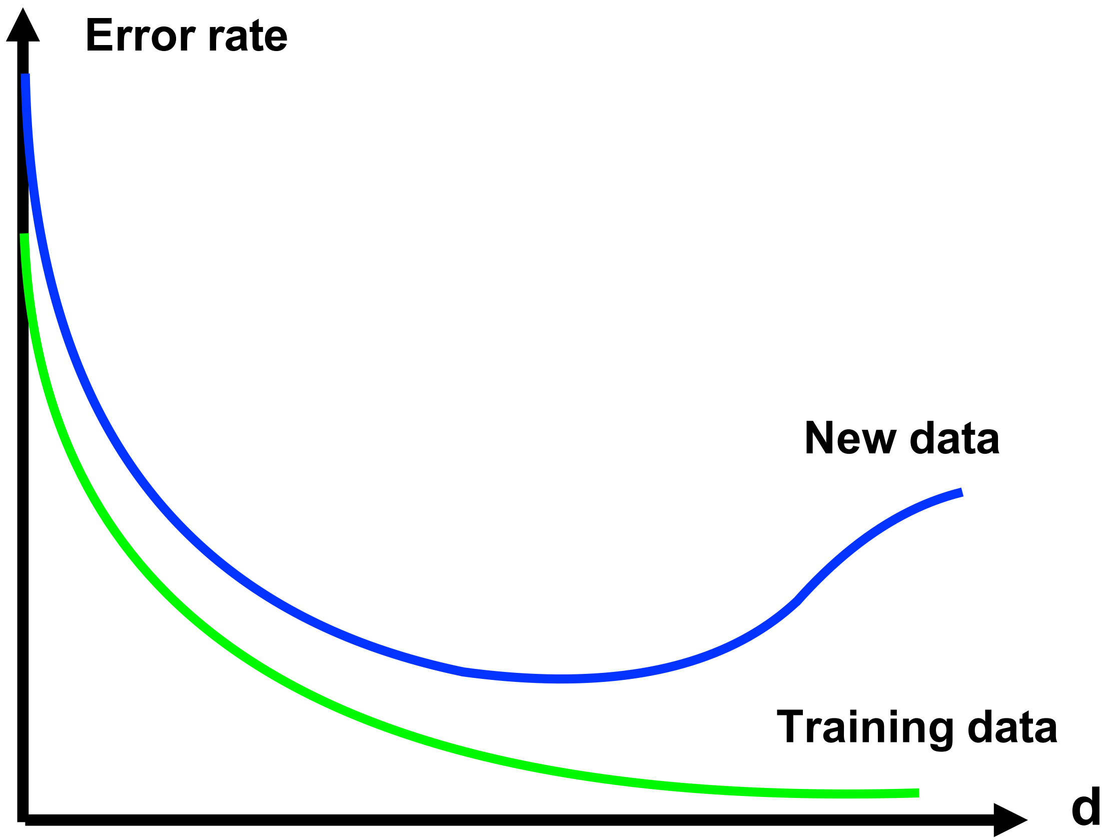
Feature extraction

The goal is to generate features that exhibit high information-packing properties:

- Extract the information from the raw data that is most relevant for discrimination between the classes
- Extract features with low within-class variability and high between class variability
- Discard redundant information.

- The information in an image f[i,j] must be reduced to enable reliable classification (generalization)
- A 64x64 image → 4096-dimensional feature space!

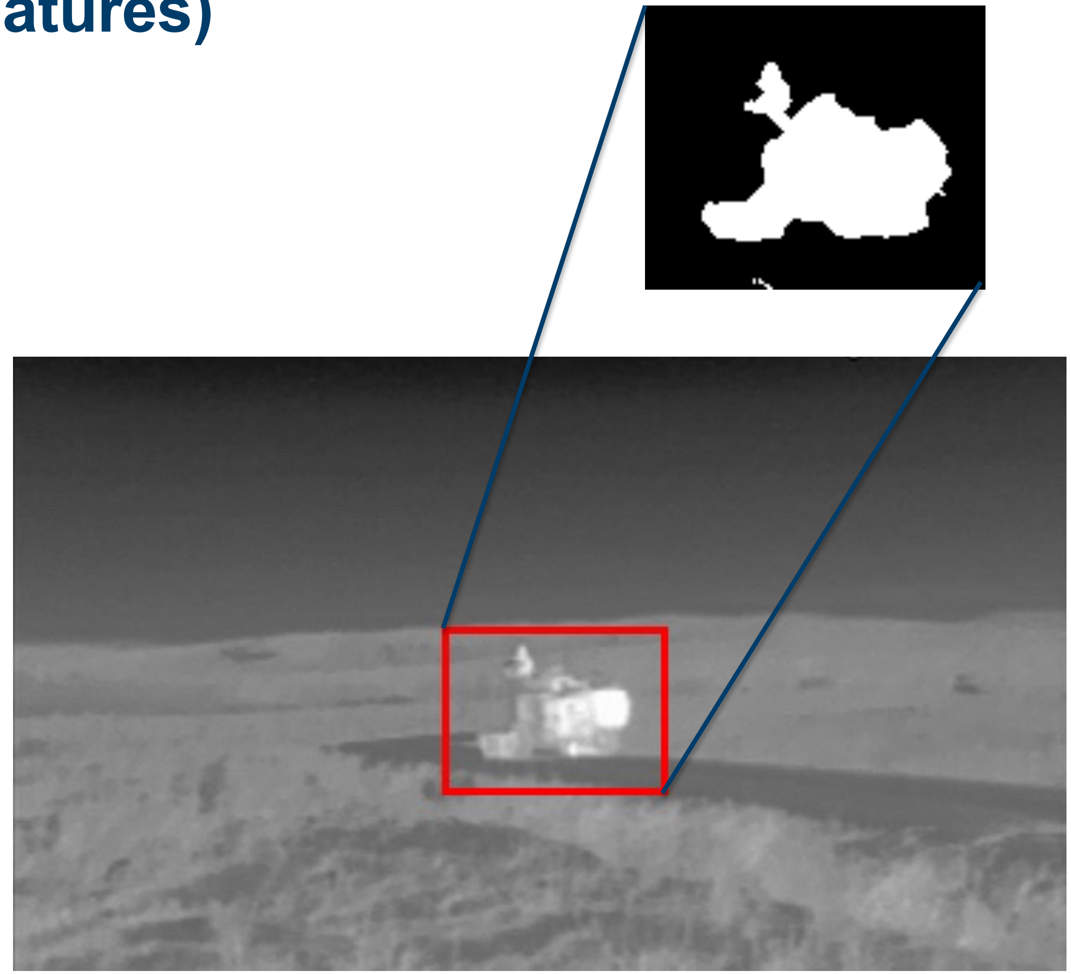
“Curse of dimensionality”



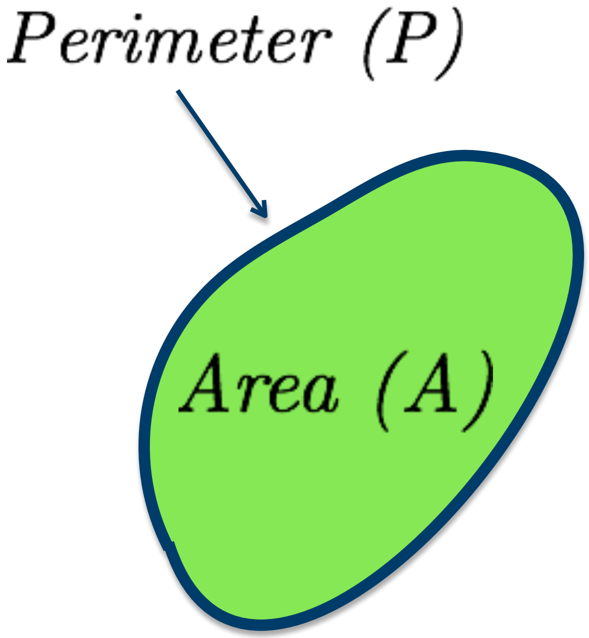
$$\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \cdots \\ x_d \end{bmatrix}$$

Feature types (regional features)

- Colour features
- Gray level features
- Shape features
- Histogram (texture) features



Shape features - example



Possible shape feature: $\dfrac{P^2}{A}$

Moments

Geometric moments (order p,q):

$$m_{pq} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty}\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^p y^q f(x,y)\mathrm{d}x\mathrm{d}y \approx \sum_i \sum_j i^p j^q f[i,j]$$

Central moments:

$$\mu_{pq} = \sum_i \sum_j (i-\tilde{i})^p (j-\tilde{j})^q f[i,j] \text{ where } \begin{cases} \tilde{i} = \dfrac{m_{10}}{m_{00}} \\ \tilde{j} = \dfrac{m_{01}}{m_{00}} \end{cases}$$

Binary images

$$f[i,j] = \begin{cases} 1 \Rightarrow \text{Object pixel} \\ 0 \Rightarrow \text{Background pixel} \end{cases}$$

Area: $m_{00} = \sum_i \sum_j f[i,j]$

$$\text{Center of mass: } \begin{cases} m_{10} = \sum_i \sum_j i\, f[i,j] \Rightarrow & \tilde{i} = \dfrac{m_{10}}{m_{00}} \\ m_{01} = \sum_i \sum_j j\, f[i,j] \Rightarrow & \tilde{j} = \dfrac{m_{01}}{m_{00}} \end{cases}$$

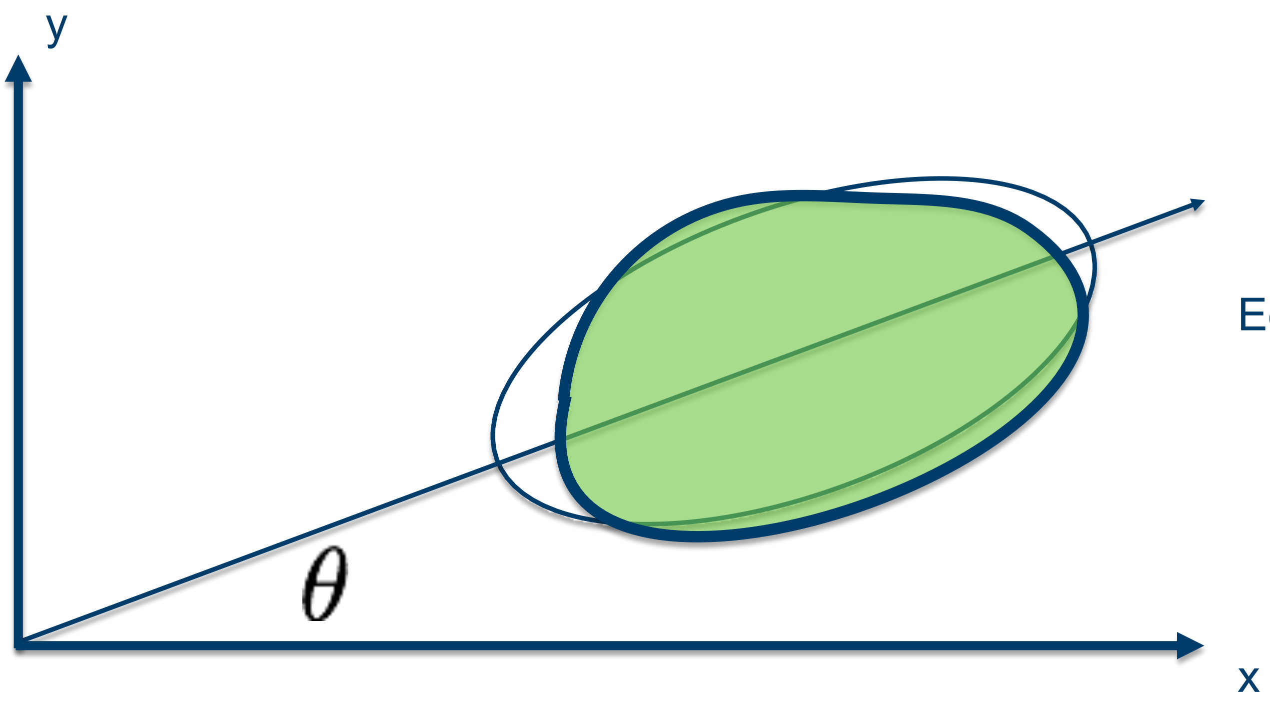
Moments of inertia

$$\mu_{20} = \sum_i \sum_j (i - \tilde{i})^2 f[i,j]$$

$$\mu_{02} = \sum_i \sum_j (j - \tilde{j})^2 f[i,j]$$

$$\mu_{11} = \sum_i \sum_j (i - \tilde{i})(j - \tilde{j}) f[i,j]$$

Closest fitting ellipse



Orientation:

$$\theta = \frac{1}{2} \tan^{-1} \left[\frac{2\mu_{11}}{\mu_{20} - \mu_{02}} \right]$$

Eccentricity:

$$\epsilon = \frac{(\mu_{20} - \mu_{02})^2 + 4\mu_{11}}{A}$$

Major an minor axes

$$a^2 = \frac{2\left(\mu_{20} + \mu_{02} + \sqrt{(\mu_{20} + \mu_{02})^2 + 4\mu_{11}^2}\,\right)}{\mu_{00}}$$

$$b^2 = \frac{2\left(\mu_{20} + \mu_{02} - \sqrt{(\mu_{20} + \mu_{02})^2 + 4\mu_{11}^2}\,\right)}{\mu_{00}}$$

Histogram (texture) features

- First order statistics (information related to the gray level distribution)
- Second order statistics (information related to spatial/relative distribution of gray level), i.e. second order histogram, co-occurrence matrix

Histogram:

$$P(I) = \frac{Number\ of\ pixels\ with\ gray\ level\ I}{Total\ number\ of\ pixels\ in\ the\ region}$$

Moments from gray level histogram:

$$m_p = E\{I^p\} = \sum_{l=0}^{L-1} I^p P(I), \quad p = 1, 2, \ldots$$

$$m_1 = E(I) = Mean\ value\ of\ I$$

Entropy:

$$H = -E\{\ln P(I)\} = -\sum_{l=0}^{L-1} P(I) \ln P(I)$$

Histogram (texture) features

Central moments:

$$\mu_p = E\{(I - E(I))^p\} = \sum_{l=0}^{L-1} (I - m_1)^p P(I), \quad p = 1, 2, \dots$$

Features:

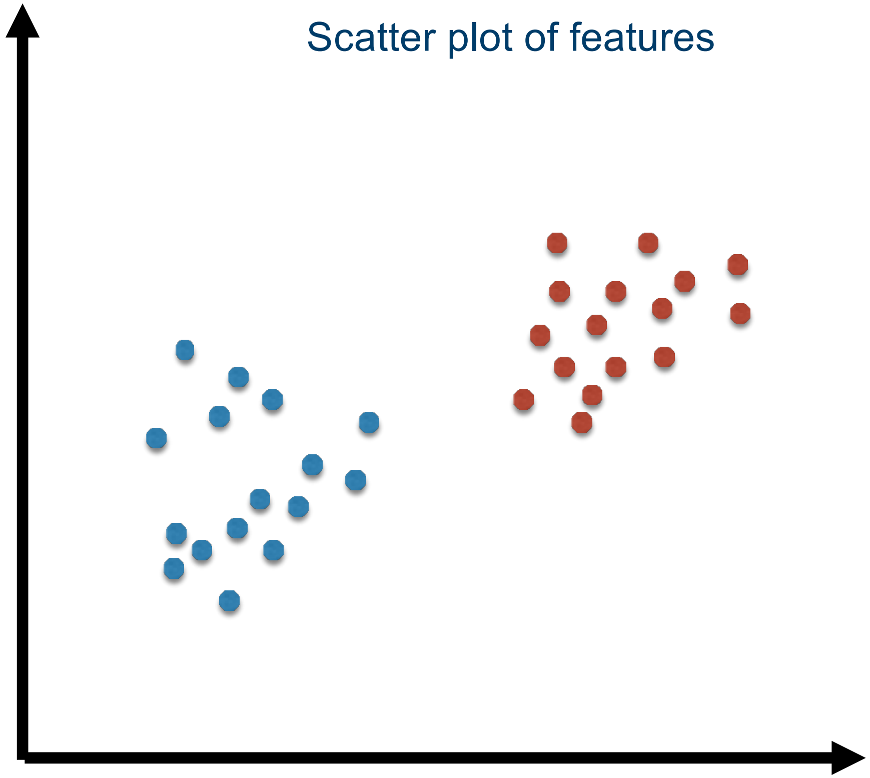
$$\mu_2 = \sigma^2 = variance$$

$$\mu_3 = skewness$$

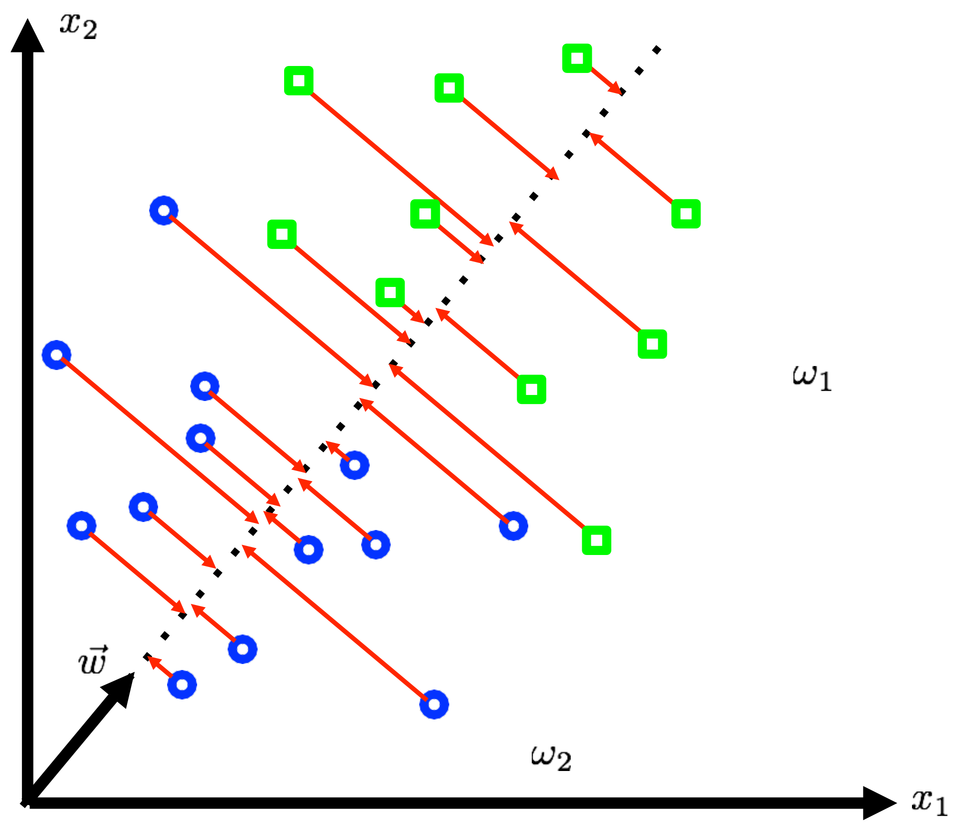
$$\mu_4 = kurtosis$$

Feature selection

- A number of feature candidates may have been generated
- Using all candidates will easily lead to over traing (unreliable classification of new data)
- Dimmensionality reduction is required, i.e. feature selection!
- Exhaustive search impossible!
- Trial and error (select feature combination, train classifier, estimate error rate).
- Suboptimal search
- «Branch and Bound» search
- Linear or non-linear mappings to lower dimensional feature space.



Dimensionality reduction – linear transformations



- Projection of multidimensional feature vectors to a lower-dimensional feature space
- Example: *Fishers linear discriminant* provides a projection from a d-dimensional space (d>1) to a one-dimensional space in such a way that the separation between classes are maximized.

Summary

Image feature extraction:

- Feature extraction
- Feature selection

Read also: Szeliski 14.4