

# ADVANCED MACHINE LEARNING

## *Mini-Project Overview / In Class Paper Reading*

Lecture : Prof. Aude Billard ([aude.billard@epfl.ch](mailto:aude.billard@epfl.ch))

Teaching Assistants :

Lukas Huber, Bernardo Fichera, Thomas Pethick



**LASA**

Learning Algorithms and  
Systems Laboratory

**EPFL**

## Two Options (50 % of the Grade)

- In class paper reading + presentation
- Coding mini-project + report

# In Class Paper Reading

## Individual Project

- Pick from the list of paper provided
- Read the paper & understand it in depth  
(context, impact, implications)
- Present the paper to the class
- Q&A session to paper and related topics

# In Class Paper Reading

**Topics for survey will entail :**

- Dimensionality Reduction
- Manifold learning
- Clustering
- Classification
- Regression
- Reinforcement Learning
- Time Series Analysis
- Deep Learning
- General Machine Learning Topics,  
e.g. Large scale learning, Imbalanced Datasets

## Mini-Project (2 Students)

- Review an algorithm you have seen in class
- Learn about an algorithm you haven't seen in class
- Test your understanding of machine learning concepts by comparing these two algorithms
- Write a qualitative and quantitative assessment of your comparison

# What does this mean?

## What you should do:

- Pick relevant dataset  
Apply the algorithms to these datasets.
- Discuss the hyper-parameter selection, training, CV...
- Note and explain the differences you observe.
- Talk about what conditions lead to an algorithms being better than the other.
- Use metrics! If you see a difference try to measure it!

## What you should not do:

- Implement everything from scratch.
- Copy reports from previous years. (yes, we do check)

# In Class Paper Reading

*Main idea: compare two machine learning algorithms*

**Topics for survey will entail :**

- Dimensionality Reduction / Manifold learning
- Clustering
- Classification
- Regression

# Mini-Projects Requirements

## Coding:

*Self-contained piece of code in:*

- Matlab
- Python
- C/C++

## Including:

- Demo scripts
- Datasets
- Systematic assessment.

## Report:

*Algorithm analysis, including but not limited to:*

- Number/sensitivity to hyper-parameters
- Computational costs train/test
- Growth of computation cost w.r.t. dataset dimension
- Sensitivity to non-uniformity/non-convexity in data.
- Precision of regression
- Benefits/disadvantages of algorithm w.r.t. to different types of data/applications.
- ...

Find relevant datasets to study your algorithms (for code projects)

## Example of sites to look for datasets:

- UCI: <https://archive.ics.uci.edu/ml/datasets.html>
- Kaggle: <https://www.kaggle.com/datasets>

# Dimensionality reduction / Manifold learning projects(1)

- **LLE** (Locally Linear Embedding)

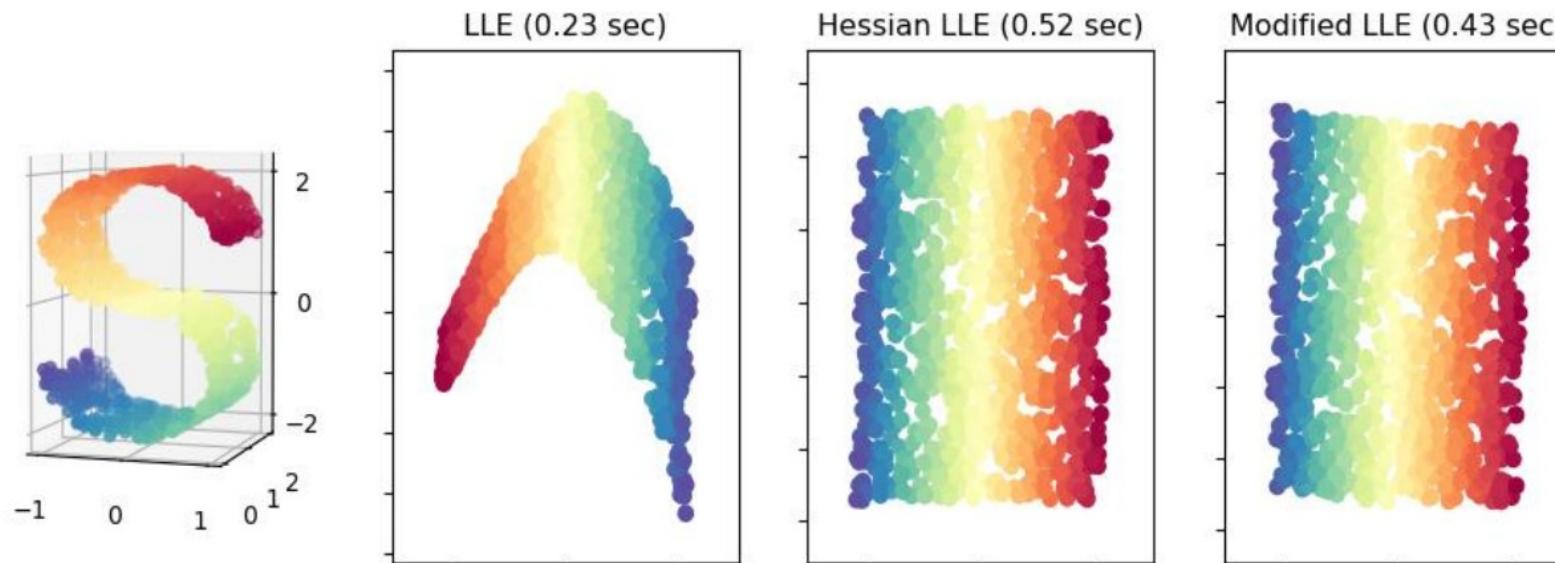
Roweis, Sam T., and Lawrence K. Saul. "Nonlinear dimensionality reduction by locally linear embedding." *science* 290.5500 (2000): 2323-2326.

- **MLLE** (Modified LLE)

Zhang, Zhenyue, and Jing Wang. "MLLE: Modified locally linear embedding using multiple weights." *Advances in neural information processing systems*. 2007.

- **HLLE** (Hessian LLE)

Donoho, David L., and Carrie Grimes. "Hessian eigenmaps: Locally linear embedding techniques for high-dimensional data." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 100.10 (2003): 5591-5596.



# Dimensionality reduction / Manifold learning projects (2)

- **SNE** (Stochastic Neighbor Embedding)

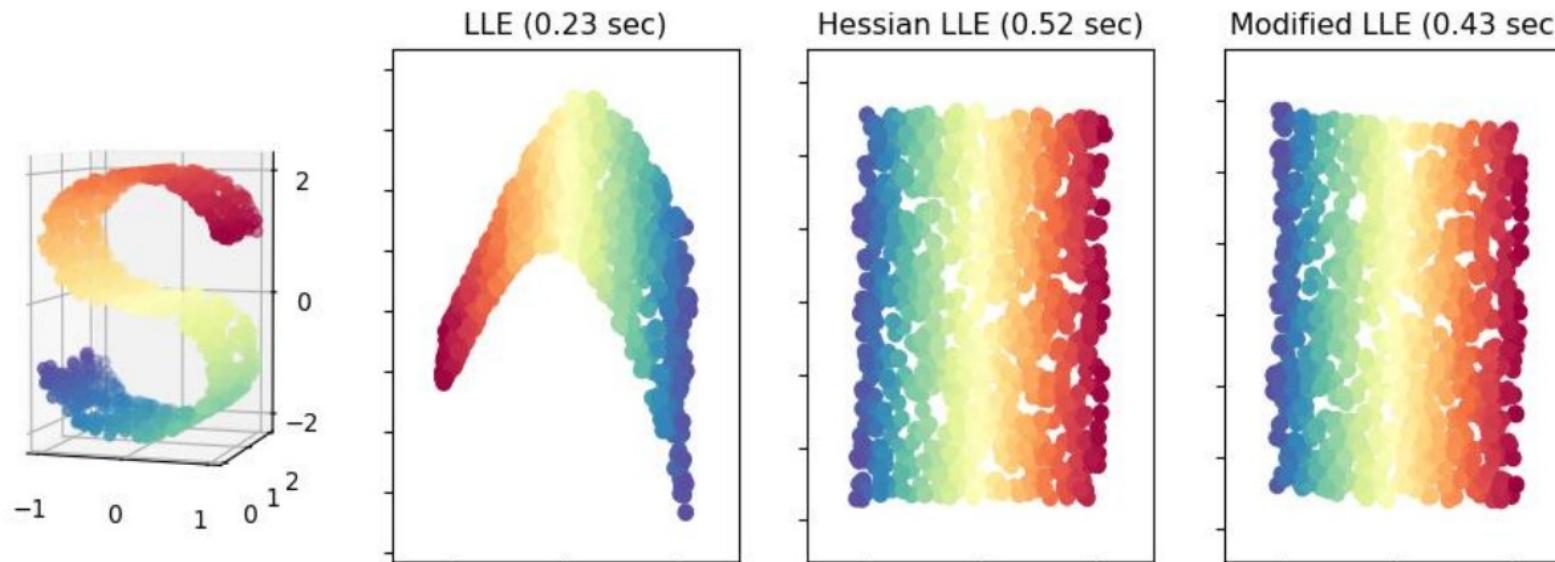
Hinton, Geoffrey E., and Sam T. Roweis. "Stochastic neighbor embedding." Advances in neural information processing systems. 2003.

- **tSNE** (t-distributed SNE)

Maaten, Laurens van der, and Geoffrey Hinton. "Visualizing data using t-SNE." Journal of machine learning research 9.Nov (2008): 2579-2605.

- **GPLVM** (Gaussian Process Latent Variable Models)

Lawrence, Neil. "Probabilistic non-linear principal component analysis with Gaussian process latent variable models." Journal of machine learning research 6.Nov (2005): 1783-1816.



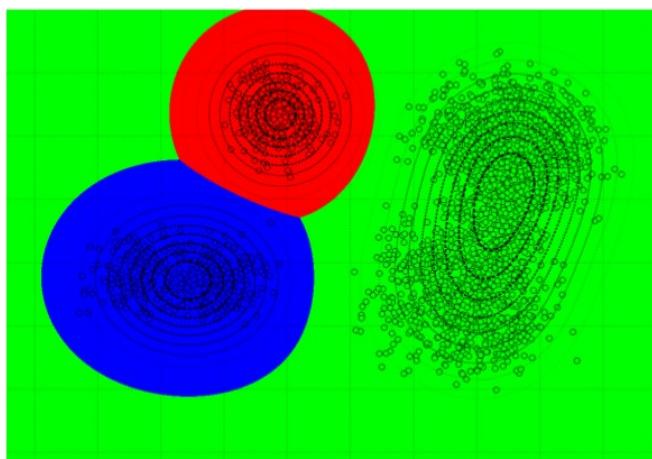
# Clustering

- **Kernel K-means**

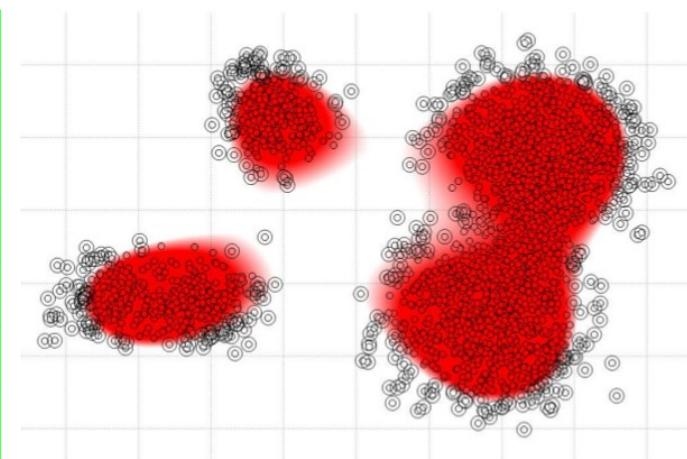
Welling, Max. "Kernel K-means and Spectral Clustering." 2013-03-15]. <http://www.ics.uci.edu/~welling/teaching/273ASpring09/SpectralClustering.pdf>. (Resource for the Advanced ML class)

- **SV Clustering (Support Vector Clustering)**

Ben-Hur, Asa, et al. "Support vector clustering." Journal of machine learning research 2.Dec (2001): 125-137. (Resource for the Advanced ML class)



Kernel K-means  
(RBF kernel,  
all 2660 points used)



Support Vector Clustering  
(RBF kernel,  
355 SVs on 2660 points)

# Classification

- **AdaBoost**

Freund, Yoav, and Robert E. Schapire. "A decision-theoretic generalization of on-line learning and an application to boosting." *Journal of computer and system sciences* 55.1 (1997): 119-139.

- **RTF (Random Tree Forests)**

Breiman, Leo. "Random forests." *Machine learning* 45.1 (2001): 5-32.

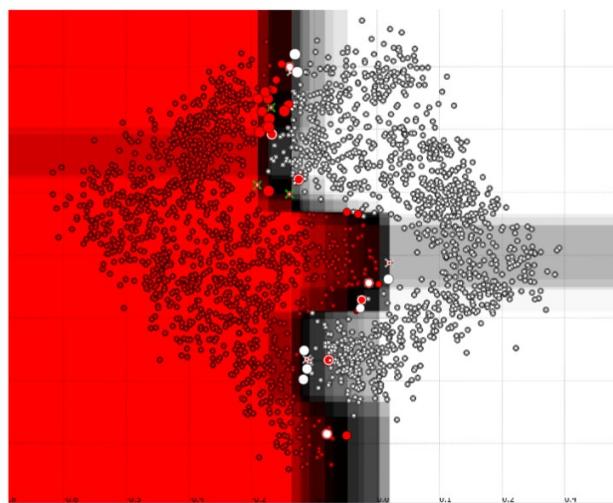
[https://www.stat.berkeley.edu/users/breiman/RandomForests/cc\\_home.htm](https://www.stat.berkeley.edu/users/breiman/RandomForests/cc_home.htm)

- **Gaussian Process Classification**

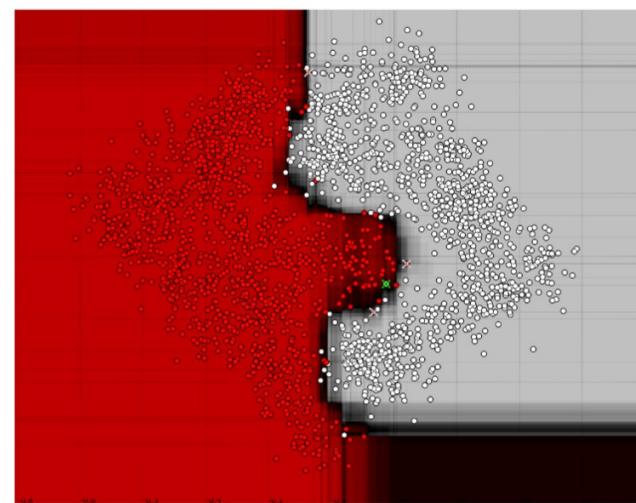
Williams, Christopher KI. "Prediction with Gaussian processes: From linear regression to linear prediction and beyond." *Learning in graphical models*. Springer, Dordrecht, 1998. 599-621.

- **Feed-forward Neural Networks**

Rumelhart, David E., Geoffrey E. Hinton, and Ronald J. Williams. "Learning representations by back-propagating errors." *nature* 323.6088 (1986): 533-536.



AdaBoost  
(80 decision stumps)



Random Forest  
(50 trees)

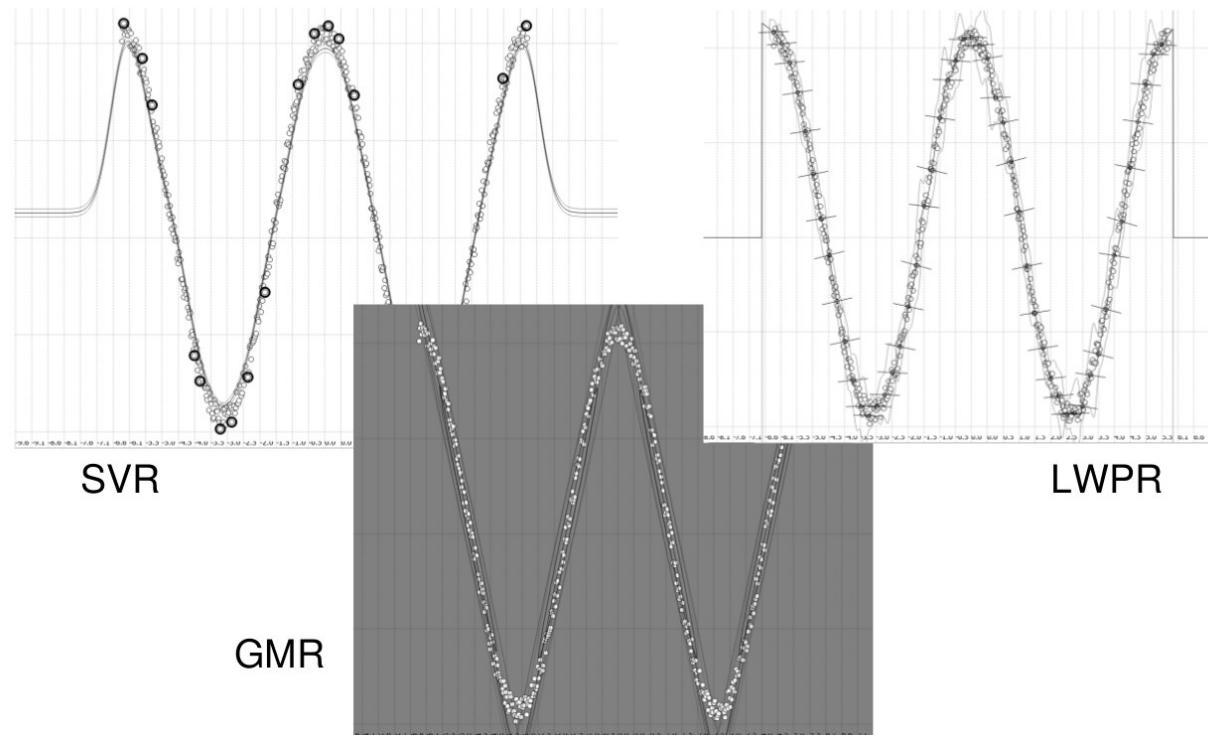
# Regression (1)

- **SVR** (Support Vector Regression)

Drucker, Harris, et al. "Support vector regression machines." Advances in neural information processing systems. 1997.

- **LWPR** (Locally Weighted Projection Regression)

Vijayakumar, Sethu, and Stefan Schaal. "Locally weighted projection regression: An  $O(n)$  algorithm for incremental real time learning in high dimensional space." Proceedings of the Seventeenth International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML 2000). Vol. 1. 2000.



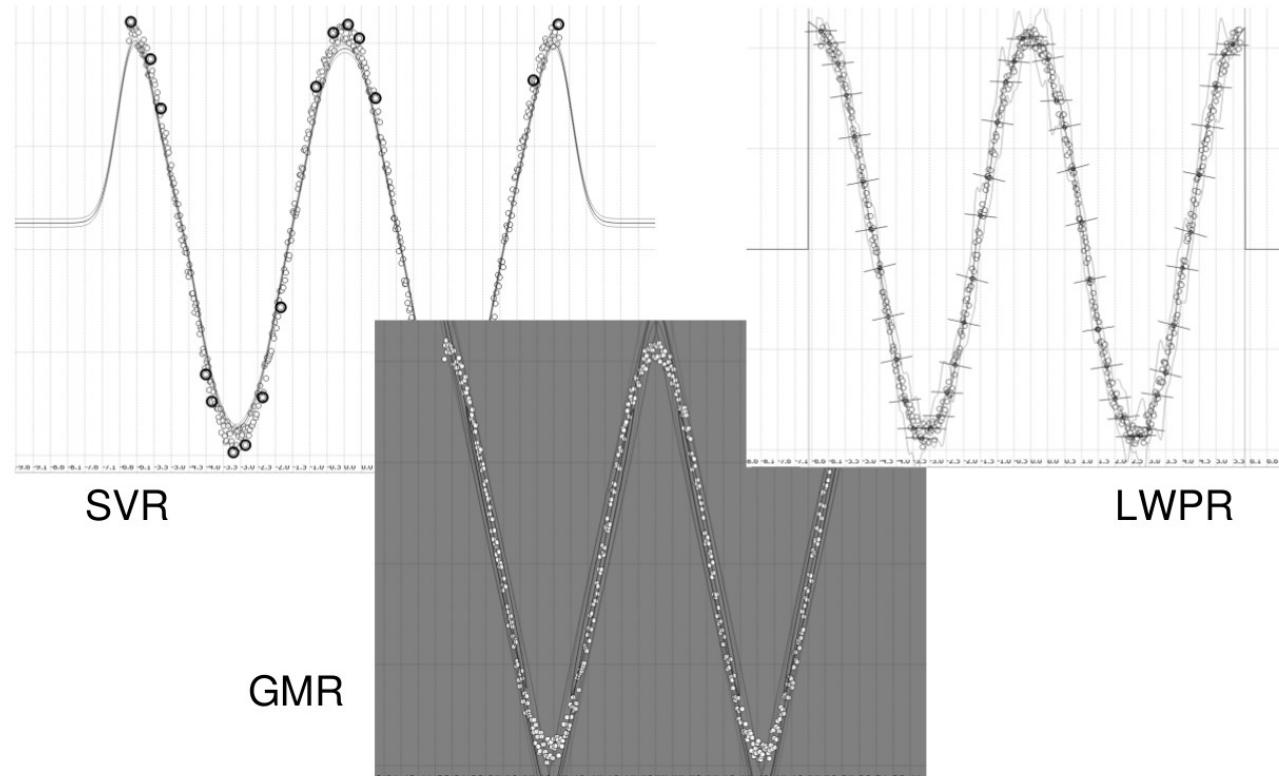
# Regression (2)

- **GMR** (Gaussian Mixture Regression)

Sung, Hsi Guang. Gaussian mixture regression and classification. Diss. Rice University, 2004.

- **GPR** (Gaussian Process Regression)

Williams, Christopher KI. "Prediction with Gaussian processes: From linear regression to linear prediction and beyond." Learning in graphical models. Springer, Dordrecht, 1998. 599-621.



# #TODO before March 6<sup>th</sup>

- Select a project from the available ones (code/in-class paper)
- Official project registration opens this Friday afternoon. We will send an forum post.
- Maximum of 2 teams per code project. / Maximum 1 person for each in-class paper.
  - > Choose dataset and start project