

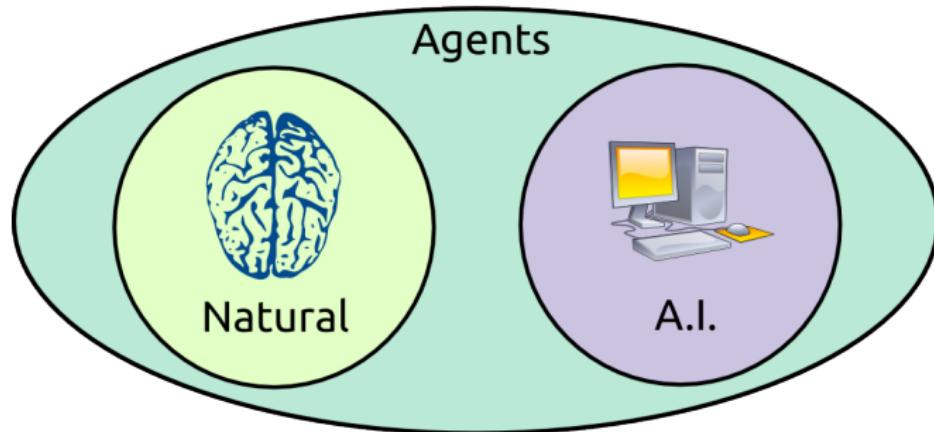
# Supervised Evaluation of Representations

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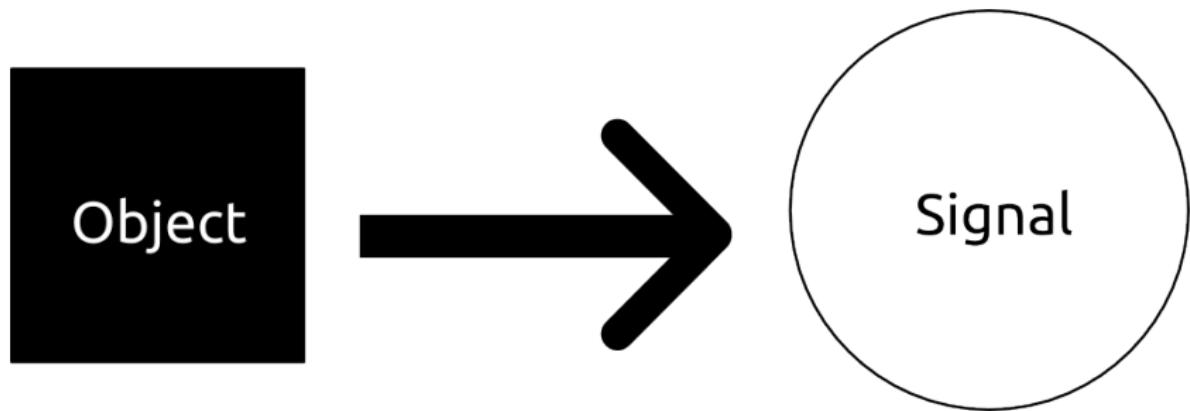
April 25, 2017

# Overview



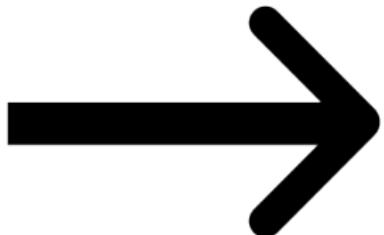
Human brains and machine learning algorithms tackle similar types of problems.

# Perception

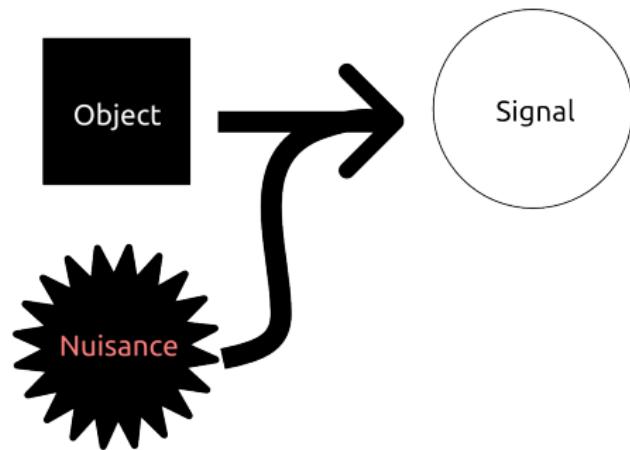


Perception: the problem of inferring *objects* in the environment given observed *signals*.

# Example: face recognition

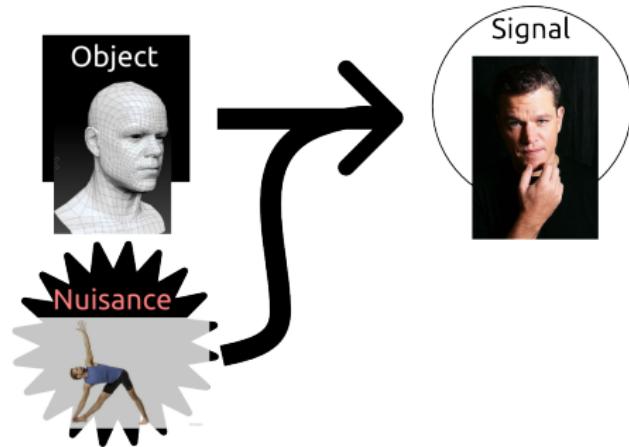


# Perception



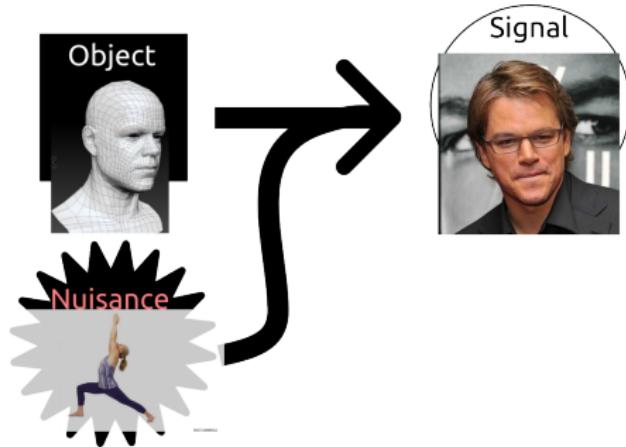
The problem is complicated because there exist some *nuisance parameters*, so the mapping from object to signal is not one-to-one.

# Example: face recognition



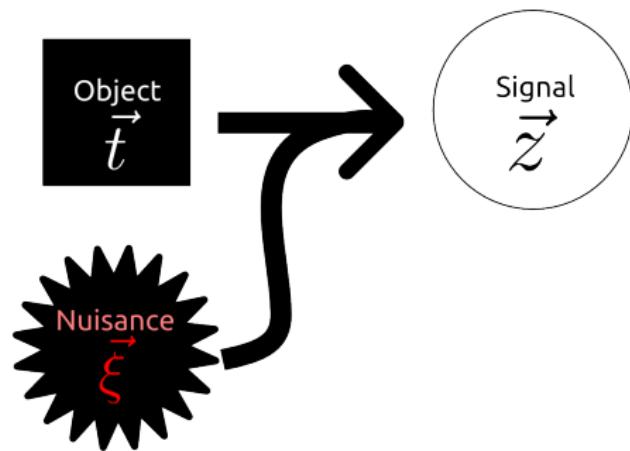
In face recognition, the *pose* (including hairstyle) and *lighting* are nuisance parameters.

# Example: face recognition



The same object can map to multiple signals.

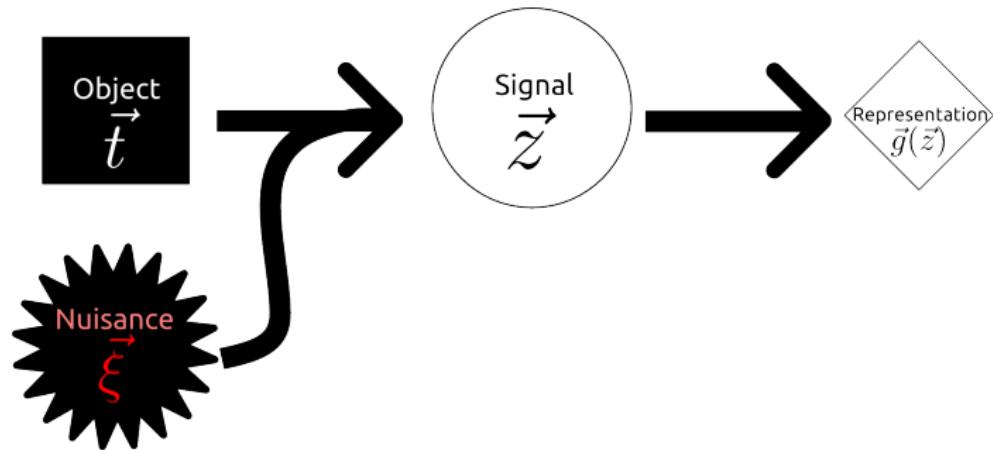
# Perception



Assume there exists a function  $\psi$  that maps objects and nuisance parameters to signals:

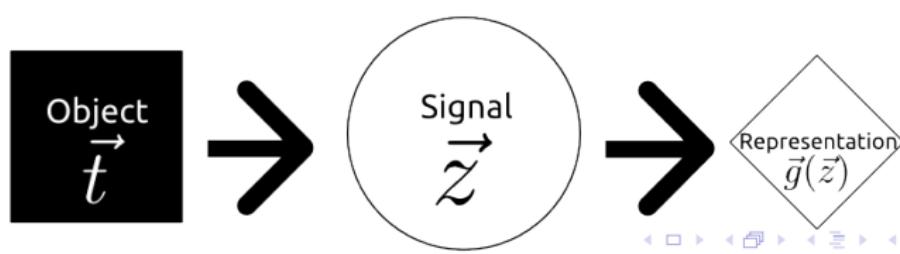
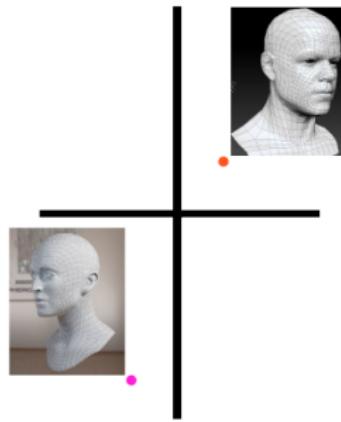
$$\vec{z} = \psi(\vec{t}, \vec{\xi}).$$

# What is a representation?

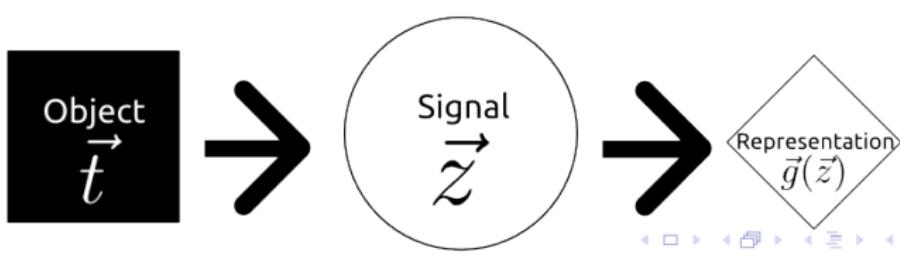
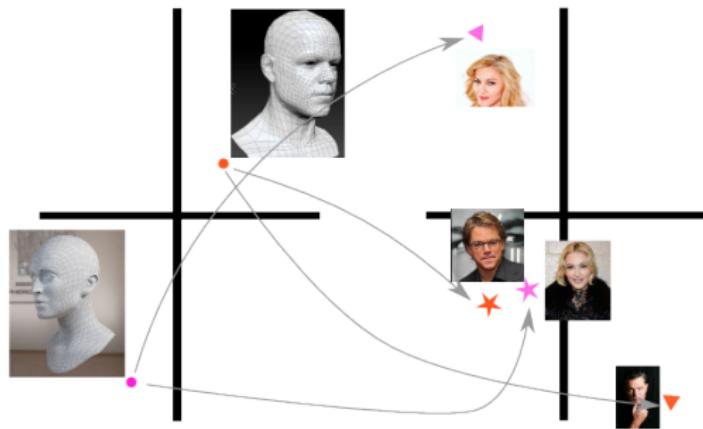


A dimensionality-reducing mapping  $\vec{g}$  of the signal.

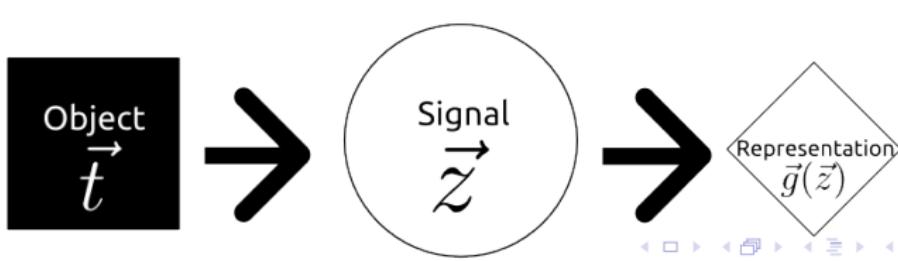
# A good representation...



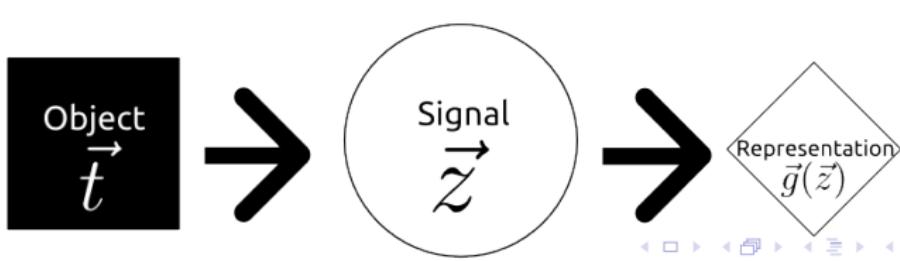
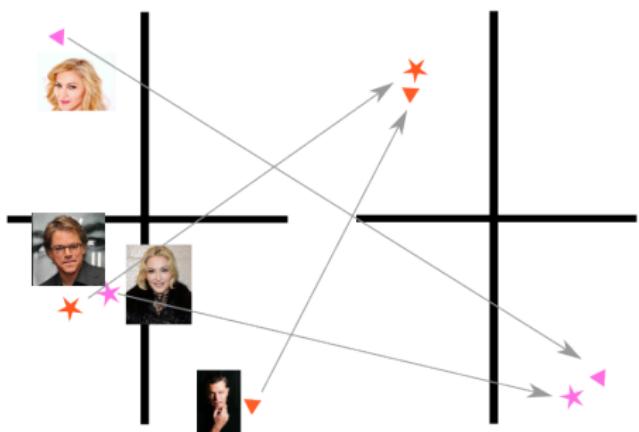
# A good representation...



# A good representation...



...captures the object space geometry



# Why do we care?

- 1) Neuroscience. The brain is hypothesized to use representations for cognitive purposes

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- 1) Neuroscience. The brain is hypothesized to use representations for cognitive purposes
- 2) Machine learning. Representations turn out to be useful for many Machine Learning tasks!

# How can we tell if a representation is good?

- Method 1: *Ground truth*. If we happen to know the object parameters  $\vec{t}$  (e.g. we simulated the data).

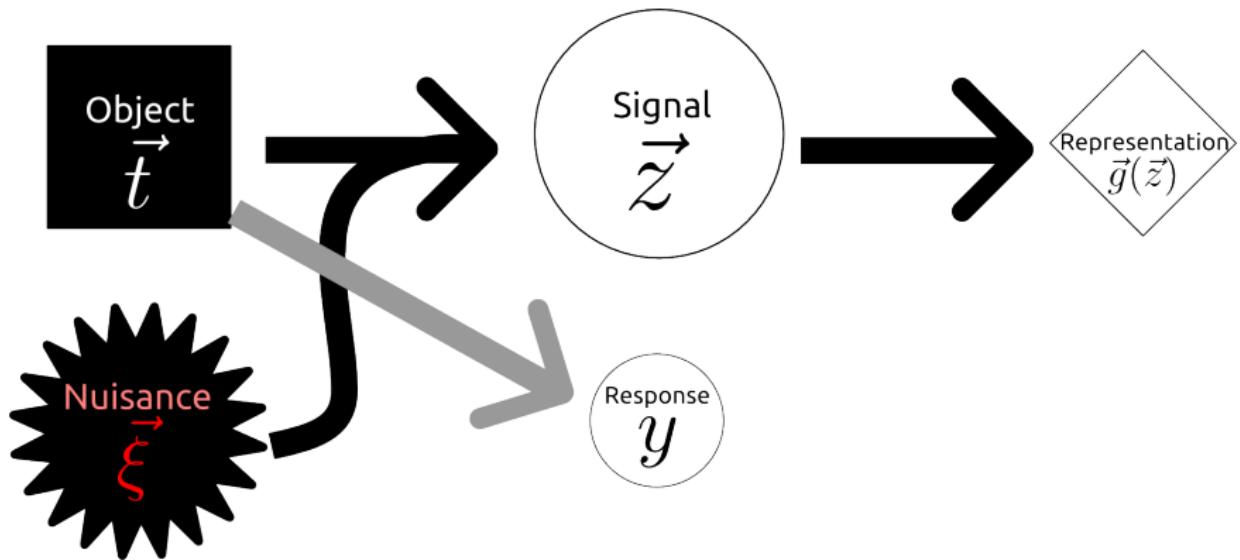
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- Method 2: *End result*. By the performance of the representation on a machine learning task.

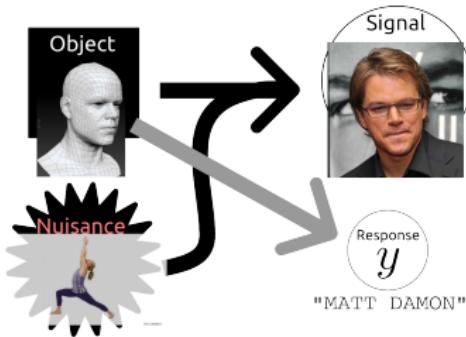
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- Method 1: *Ground truth*. If we happen to know the object parameters  $\vec{t}$  (e.g. we simulated the data).
- Method 2: *End result*. By the performance of the representation on a machine learning task.
- Method 3: *Supervised*. If we have a *response variable*  $Y$  which can be used to infer distances in  $\vec{t}$ .

# Supervised evaluation of representations

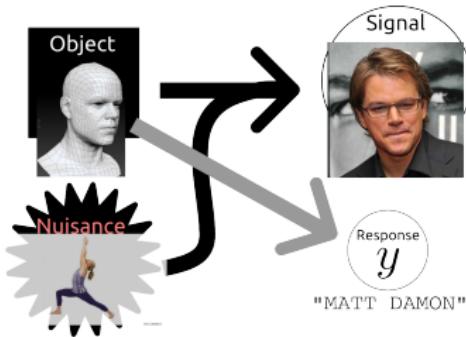


# Example: face recognition



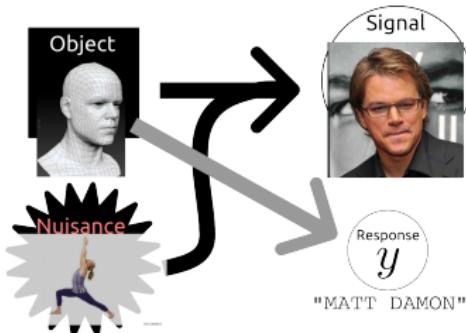
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- ...because two photos labeled with the same ID must belong to the same object  $\vec{t}$

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- The ID of the individual is an appropriate *response* variable...
- ...because two photos labeled with the same ID must belong to the same object  $\vec{t}$
- That is, for  $d(y, y')$  being the zero-one distance,

$$d(y, y') = 0 \Leftrightarrow d(\vec{t}, \vec{t}') = 0.$$

## Section 2

### Acknowledgements







## Section 3

The end