



**PLEASE  
KEEP YOUR  
DISTANCE**

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**AT LEAST 4 DANCING  
PENGUINS  
APART**



**PROTECT  
AGAINST INFECTION**

# The Influence of the Similarity Function

The choice of the distance/similarity function is also important:

Performance only be good if the distance function encodes 'relevant information'

**Example:** you want to classify mushrooms as “edible” or “not edible” and as distance function between mushrooms you use the difference in weight..

Not so obvious how to define distance similarity function

**Example:** you want to classify the genre of songs but how do you compute a similarity between different songs?



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- Not so obvious sometimes how to define a good distance or similarity function

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# ***Generative vs. Discriminative Classification Methods***