

# Batch Decorrelation for Active Metric Learning

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# Metric Learning – Two Key Concerns

(1) Discrete class-based learning



Class-based model



Perceptual model  
- concept

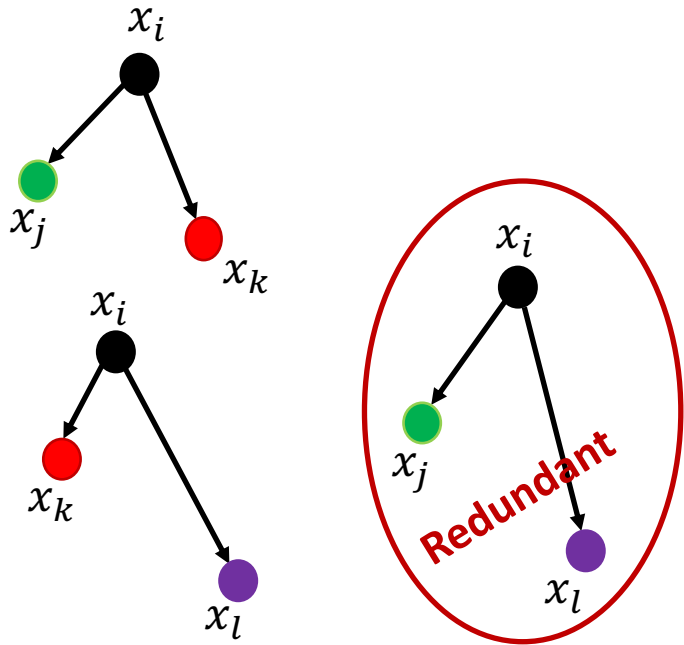
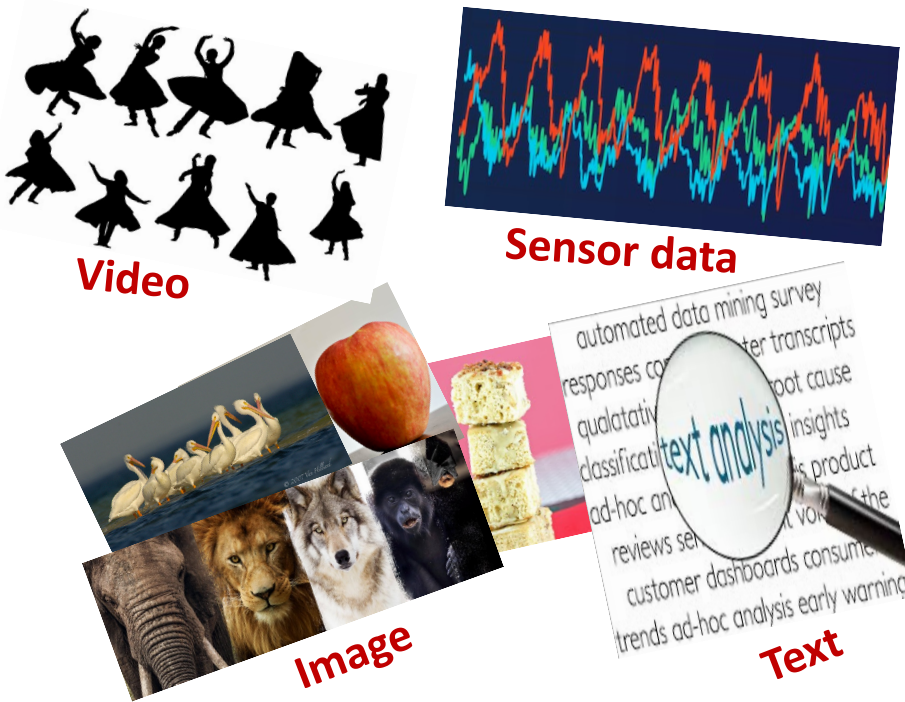


Perceptual model  
- visual appearance

Perceptual metric trained on relative similarity comparisons between objects - Is object "x" more similar to object "y" or object "z" ?

# Metric Learning – Two Key Concerns

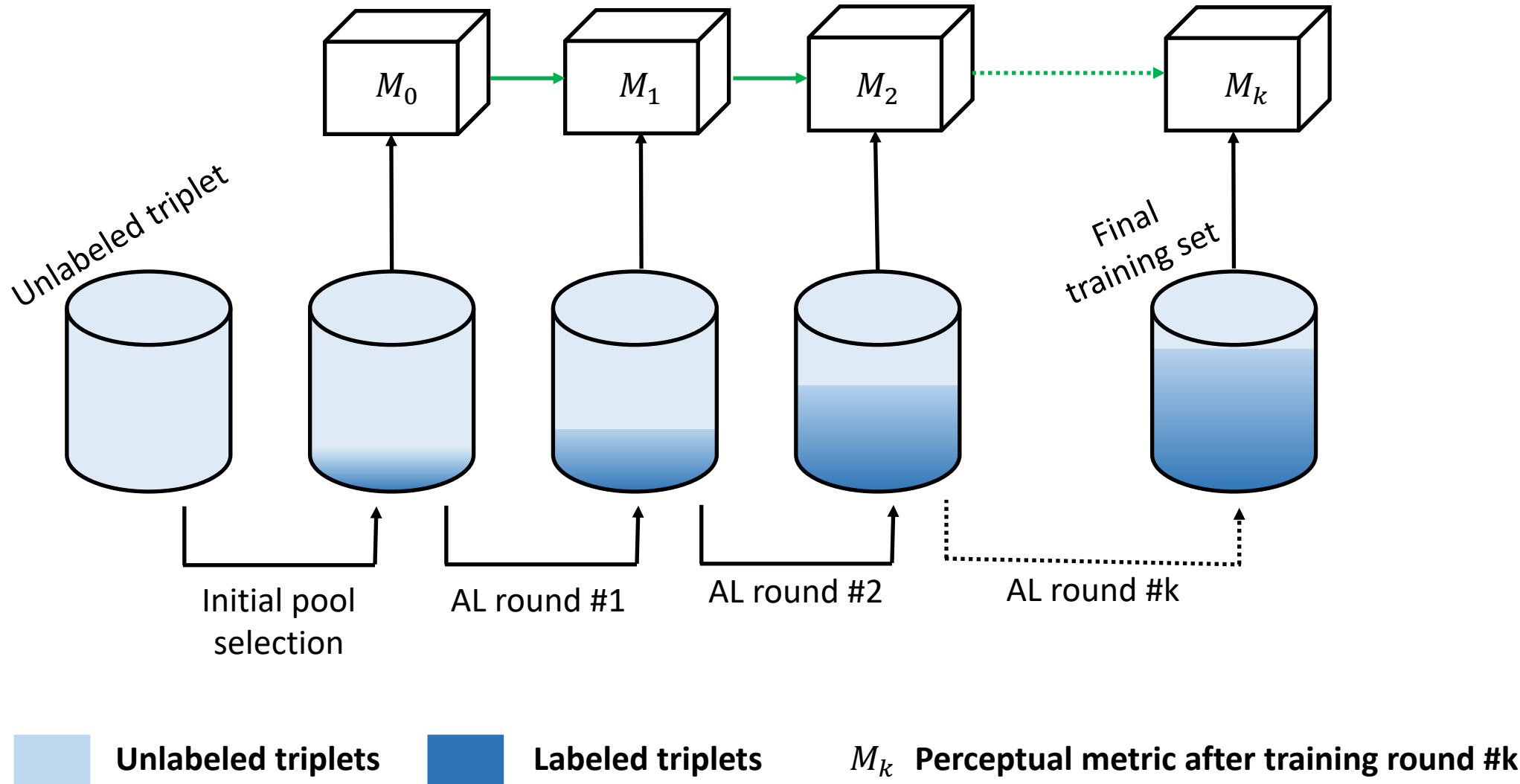
(2) Annotation-intensive



Order –  $O(n^3)$

Reduce dependence on human guidance

# Batch-Mode Active Metric Learning Framework

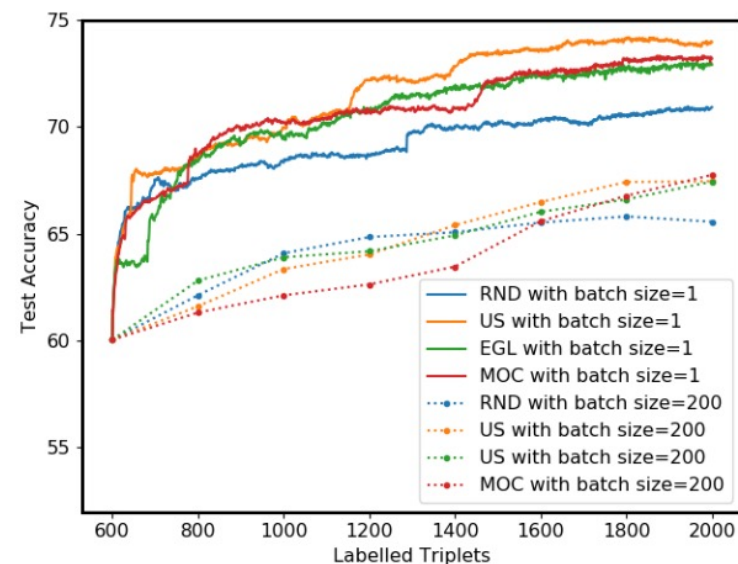


# Smart Labeling – All triplets are not equally important.

## Identify informative triplet

**Uncertainty sampling:** Identify subset  $S$  of triplets about which the current model ( $\phi$ ) is highly uncertain in predicting its order:  $d_{\phi}(x_i, x_j) \approx d_{\phi}(x_i, x_k)$

$$\begin{aligned} S^* &= \operatorname{argmax}_{\{S \subset U\}} H(S) \\ &= \sum_{\{t \in S\}} -p_t \log p_t - (1 - p_t) \log(1 - p_t) \\ p_t &= \frac{\mu + d_{\phi}^2(x_i, x_k)}{2\mu + d_{\phi}^2(x_i, x_k) + d_{\phi}^2(x_i, x_j)} ; \quad \mu > 0 \end{aligned}$$



Active learning strategies are effective when subset size is one

# Smart Labeling – Diversity is necessary

## Integrate informativeness and diversity

1. Select an overcomplete set of informative triplets

$$S = \operatorname{argmax}_{S \subset U, |S|=k} H(S); \quad k > b$$

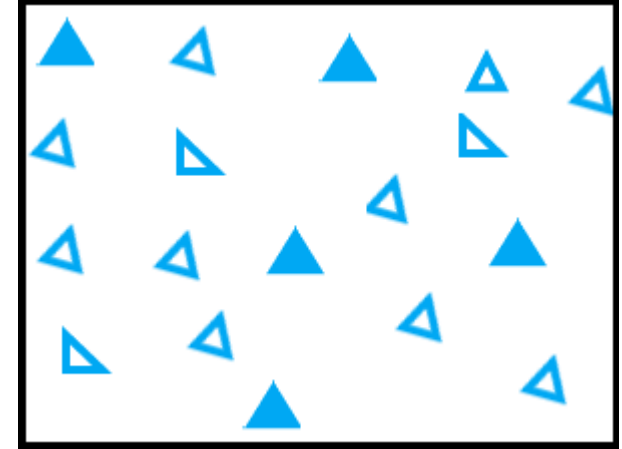
2. Pick  $b$  diverse triplets using farthest point sampling (FPS)

$$S^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{\{t_i, t_j\} \subset S} \rho_\phi(t_i, t_j)$$

for  $n = 3, \dots, b$  do

$$S^* \leftarrow S^* \cup \{\operatorname{argmax}_{t \in S \setminus S^*} \operatorname{argmin}_{t' \in S^*} \rho_\phi(t, t')\}$$

end



FPS

How to define  $\rho_\phi(t_i, t_j)$ ?

# Smart Labeling – Diversity is necessary

## Integrate informativeness and diversity

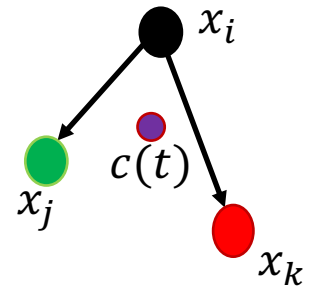
$$\rho_{\phi}(t, t') = \underbrace{H(t) \times H(t')}_{\text{Informativeness}} \times \underbrace{d(t, t')}_{\text{Diversity}}$$

**Gradient distance:** Each triplet is represented by expected gradient of loss function with respect to last layer of model parameters:  $g(t)$

$$d(t, t') = 1 - \left\langle \frac{g(t)}{|g(t)|}, \frac{g(t')}{|g(t')|} \right\rangle$$

**Centroidal distance:** Each triplet is represented by centroid of the embedding of three objects

$$d(t, t') = \|c(t) - c(t')\|; \quad c(t) = \frac{1}{3} (\phi(x_i) + \phi(x_j) + \phi(x_k))$$



# Smart Labeling – Diversity is necessary

## Integrate informativeness and diversity

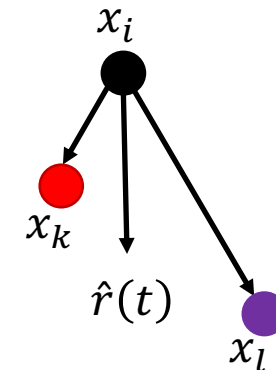
**Euclidean distance:** Triplet is represented by concatenated object embedding

$$\phi(x_i, x_j, x_k) = \phi(x_i) \oplus \phi(x_j) \oplus \phi(x_k)$$

$$d(t, t') = \sum_{y \in \{ijk, ikj\}} \frac{1}{2} \|\phi(t^y) - \phi(t')\|$$

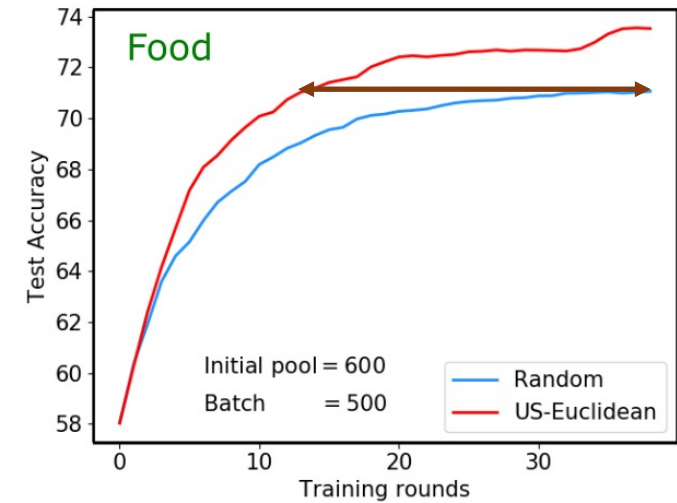
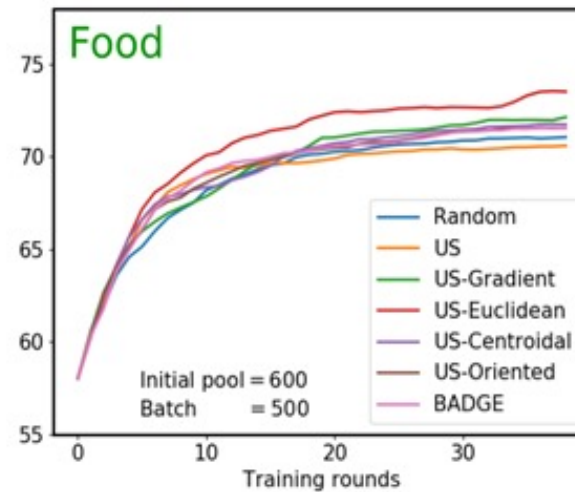
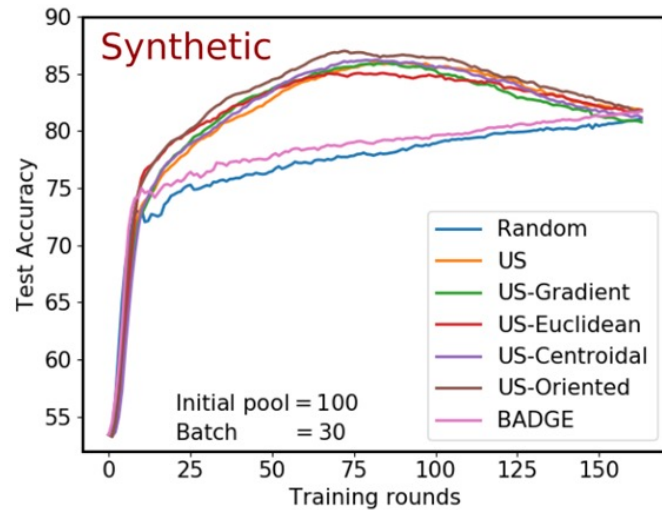
**Oriented distance:** Distance between the anchors of two triplets + cosine distance between resultant vectors

$$d(t, t') = d_\phi(x_i, x'_i) + (1 - \langle \hat{r}(t), \hat{r}(t') \rangle)$$





# Results on Different Datasets



- All variants of decorrelated AL performs better than random
- Our method achieves higher performance gain over random and the US method with larger subset sizes or initial pool

Less than half (39%) as many labeled triplets needed by our method

Source code: <https://priyadarshini-k.com/publications/>