

Active Learning with Rationales

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In collaboration with my PhD students

Bio

- Education
 - BS, University of Texas at Austin, 2000
 - Recommender systems and explanations
 - w/ Raymond Mooney
 - PhD, University of Maryland at College Park, 2010
 - Active learning and statistical relational learning
 - w/ Lise Getoor
- Currently
 - Associate Professor of Computer Science
 - Director of the Machine Learning Laboratory
 - Director of the Masters in Artificial Intelligence Program

Research Interests

- Machine learning
- Probabilistic graphical models
- Recommender systems
- Active machine learning

Recent Projects

- Active learning
- Active inference
- Learning with rationales
- Filter bubbles in news recommender systems
- Deep learning for biological image analysis
- Active evaluation
- Human-like classification

Recent Projects

- **Active learning**
- Active inference
- **Learning with rationales**
- Filter bubbles in news recommender systems
- Deep learning for biological image analysis
- **Active evaluation**
- **Human-like classification**

Machine Learning Background

Machine Learning

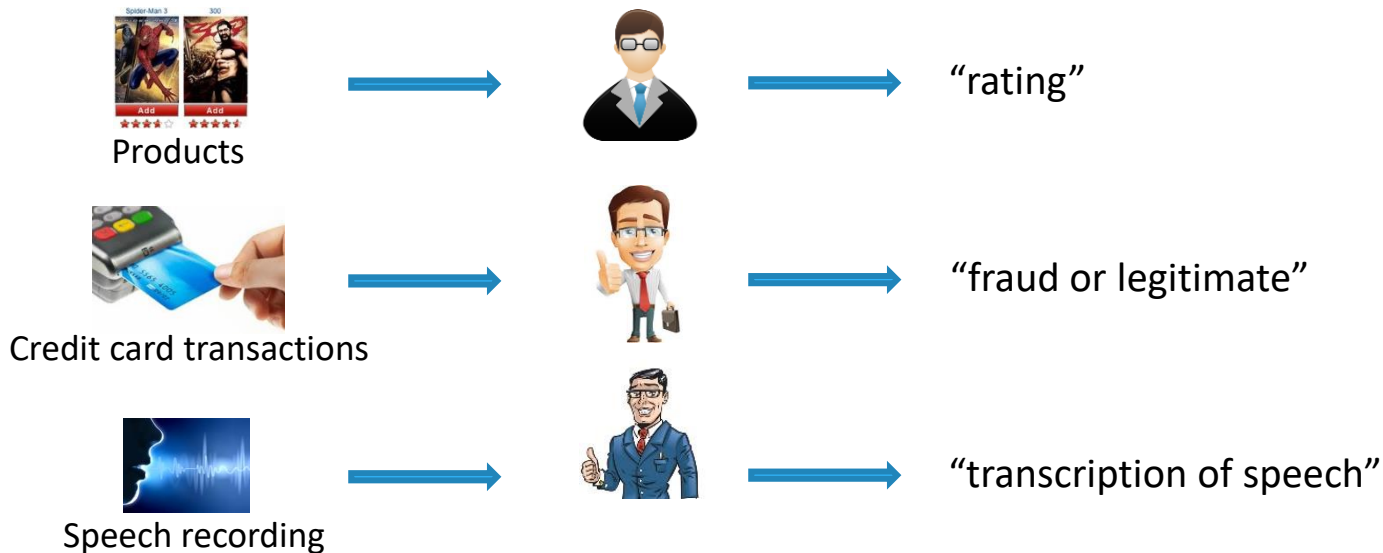
- Supervised learning
- Unsupervised learning
- Reinforcement learning

Machine Learning

- **Supervised learning**
- Unsupervised learning
- Reinforcement learning

Supervised learning

- Train a predictive model on instances of data
- The model is a function that maps data to a target $f:X \rightarrow Y$
- Humans provide the *supervision* on instances



The X in $f:X \rightarrow Y$

1. Feature-based representation

- Each instance is a vector of features
 - A patient: symptoms, laboratory test results, ...
 - A loan application: income, credit score, ...
 - A document: a bag of words
 - An image: scale-invariant feature transform (SIFT)
 - Gene sequence: n-grams, ...
- Vector-based classifiers
 - Naïve Bayes, logistic regression, decision trees, support vector machines, neural networks, ...

The X in $f:X \rightarrow Y$

2. Similarity-based representation

- Pair-wise similarity among the instances
 - How similar are these images, documents, gene sequences, ...?
- Similarity-based classifiers
 - Nearest neighbor, support vector machines

The X in $f:X \rightarrow Y$

3. Image, text, sequence, “raw” data
 - Let the classifier learn the “features”
 - Neural networks with several hidden layers
 - a.k.a. deep learning
 - Examples
 - Convolutional neural networks for image analysis
 - Long Short-Term Memory networks for text analysis

The Y in $f:X \rightarrow Y$

- The target variable
 - Patients: the diagnosis
 - Loan application: the decision
 - Document: the category
 - Image: the person
- Often, it is hard to obtain, because it might require
 - Expertise
 - Manual labor
 - Laboratory tests

Bias-Variance Trade-off

- The more assumptions a model makes, the less data it needs
 - Naïve Bayes typically requires less data than logistic regression
- The fewer the assumptions a model makes, the more data it needs
 - Deep learning with millions of parameters
 - GPT-3 has 175 billion parameters

1. Active Learning

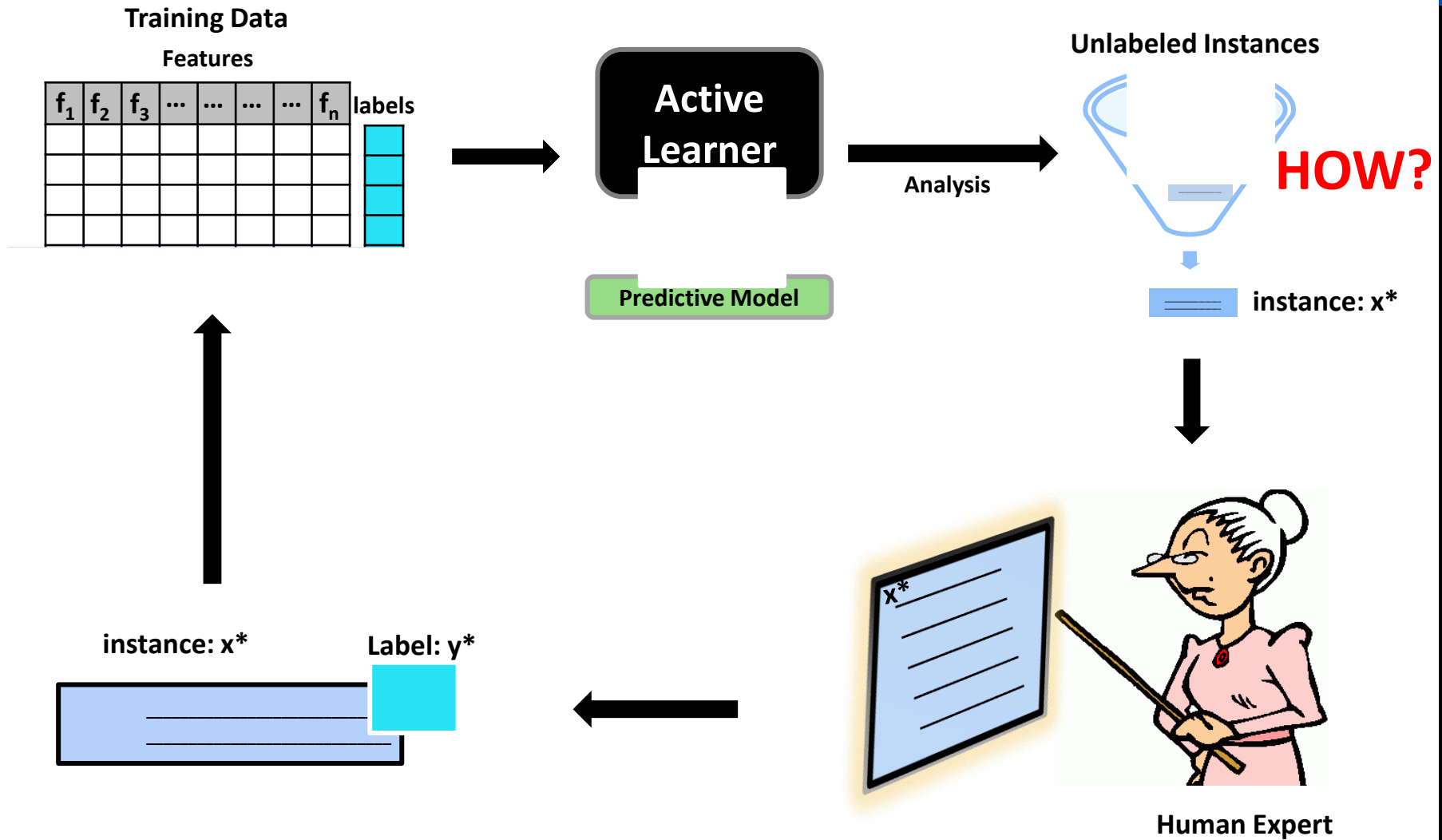
Active Learning

- The X is plenty; the Y is scarce
- X ; Y
 - Images; annotations
 - Speech; transcription
 - Text; translation
 - Review; sentiment
 - News; category
 - ...

How to choose few, but useful instances for labeling?

Active Learning (AL)

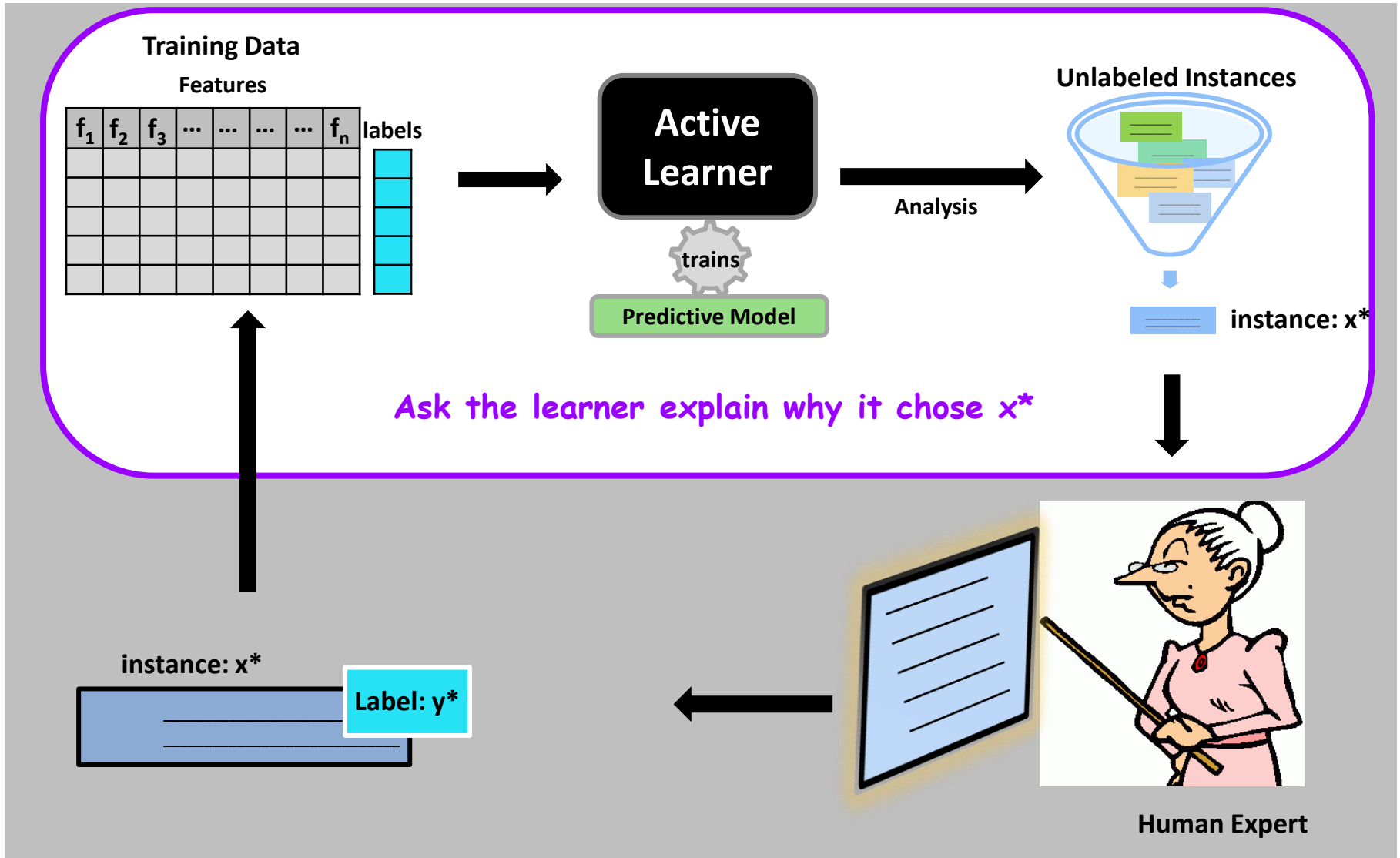
Active learning algorithm



Active learning strategies

- Common utility-based active learning algorithms:
 - Query-by-Committee [Seung, Opper & Sompolinsky, COLT'92]
 - Uncertainty Sampling [Lewis & Gale, SIGIR'94]
 - Variance Reduction [Cohn, Ghahramani & Jordan, JAIR'96]
 - Bias Reduction [Cohn, NIPS'97]
 - Expected Error Reduction [Roy & McCallum, ICML'01]
 - And many more...

Ask the learner “why”

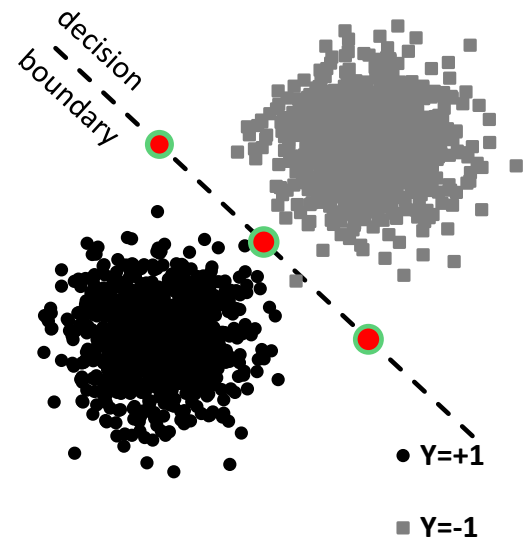


Uncertainty sampling

[Lewis & Gale, SIGIR'94]

- Queries instances about which the classifier is most uncertain how to label
- E.g., entropy as an uncertainty measure

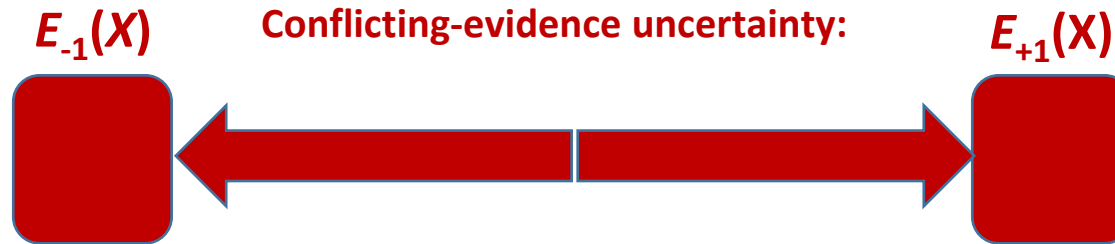
$$x^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{x^{(i)} \in \mathcal{U}} - \sum_{y \in Y} P_{\theta}(y|x^{(i)}) \log (P_{\theta}(y|x^{(i)}))$$



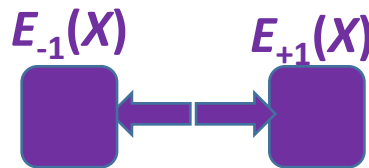
Ask the learner why it is uncertain about x^*

Evidence-based framework

We discovered two reasons for model's uncertainty on instances



Insufficient-evidence uncertainty:



Traditional uncertainty sampling:

Does not consider the reasons for uncertainty, as long as $E_{-1}(X) \approx E_{+1}(X)$

Datasets & measures

Eight datasets:

Dataset	Domain	Size	Minority class %
Spambase	Email. classification	4,601	39.4%
Ibn Sina	Handwriting recognition	20,722	37.8%
Calif. Housing	Social	20,640	29%
Nova	Text processing	19466	28.4%
Sick	Medical	3,772	6.1%
Zebra	Embryology	61,488	4.6%
LetterO	Letter recog.	20,000	4%
Hiva	Chemo-inform.	42,678	3.5%

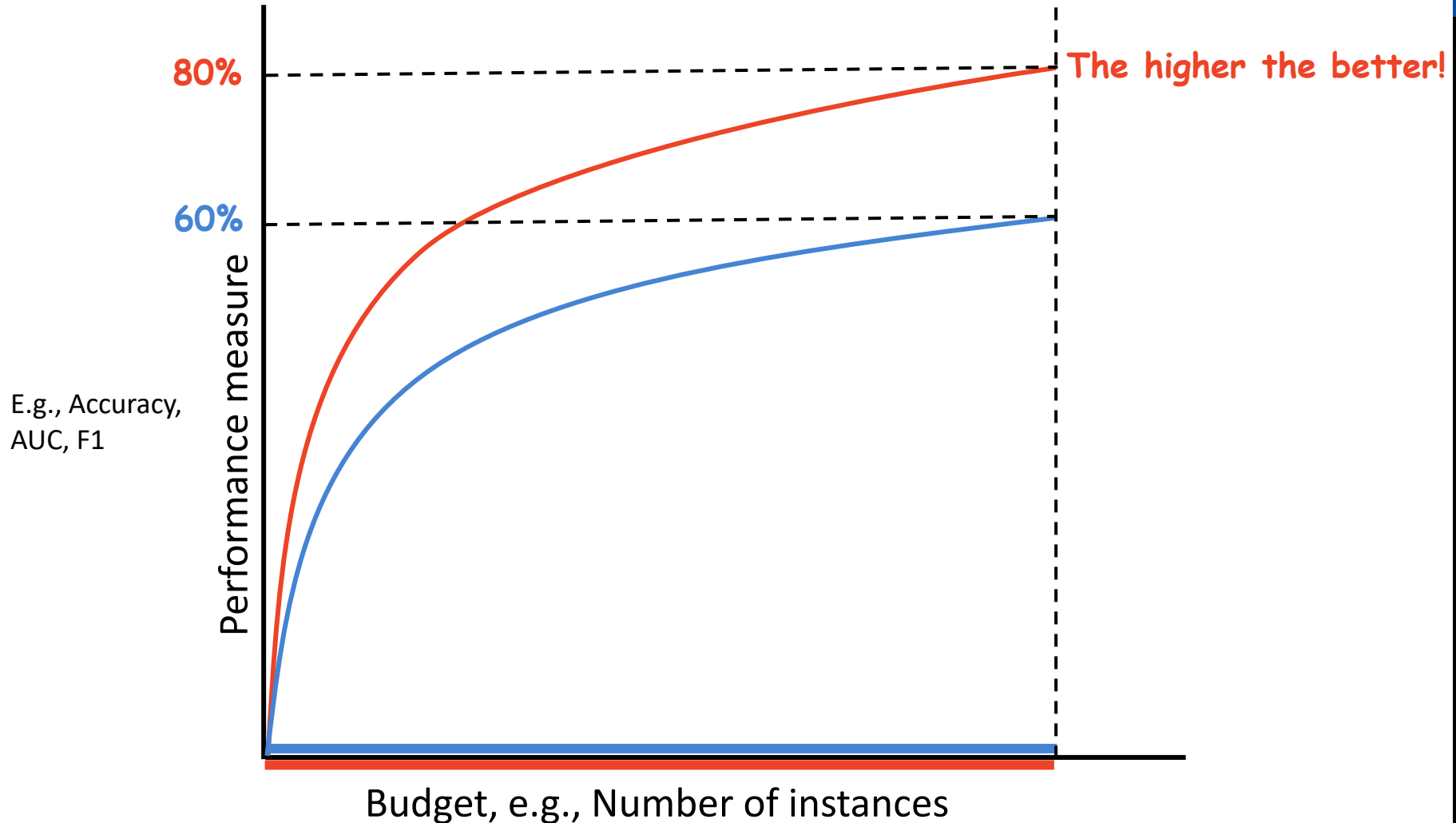
Medium-imbalanced

Highly-imbalanced

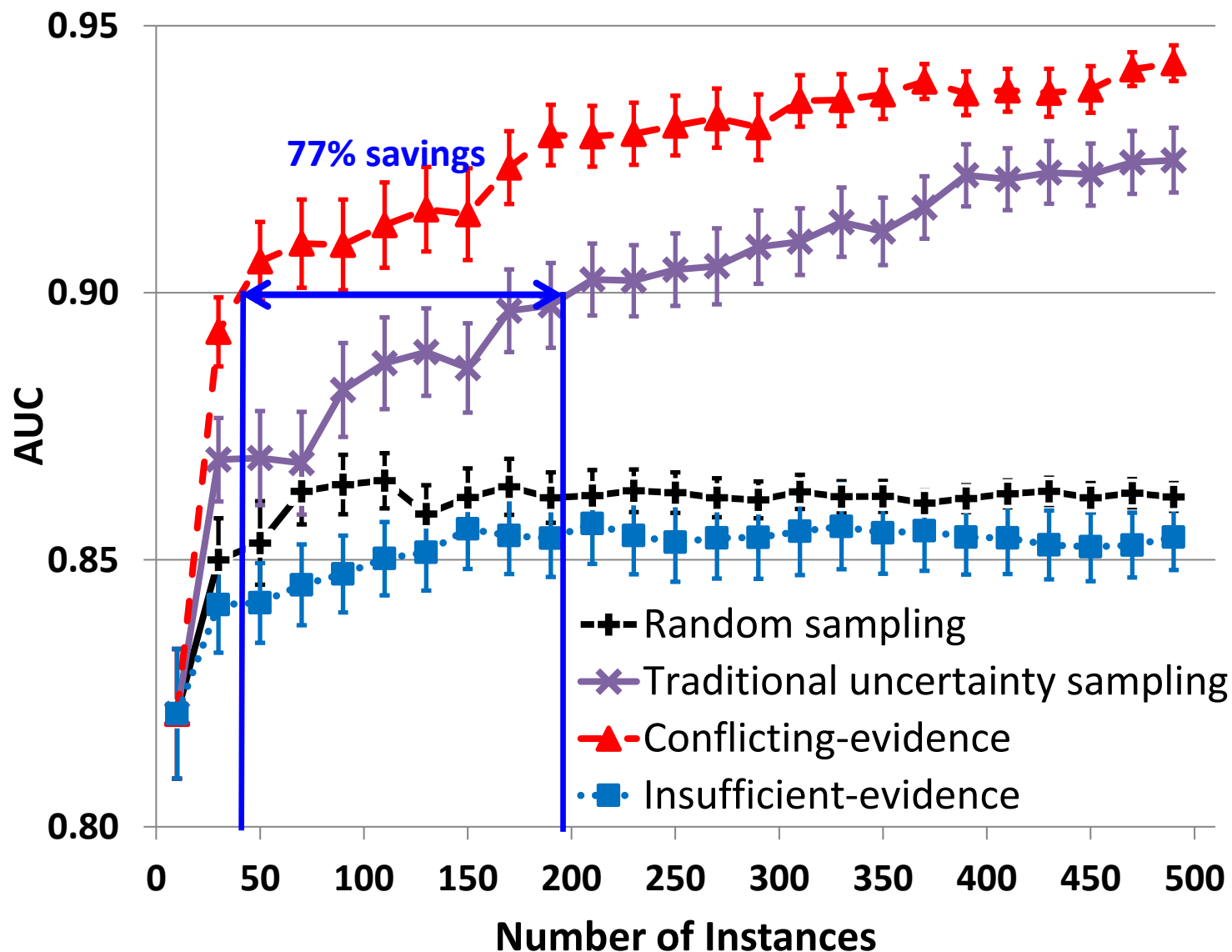
Performance measures:

- **AUC**: All datasets
- **Accuracy**: Medium-imbalanced datasets
- **F1**: Highly-imbalanced datasets

How to interpret the results?

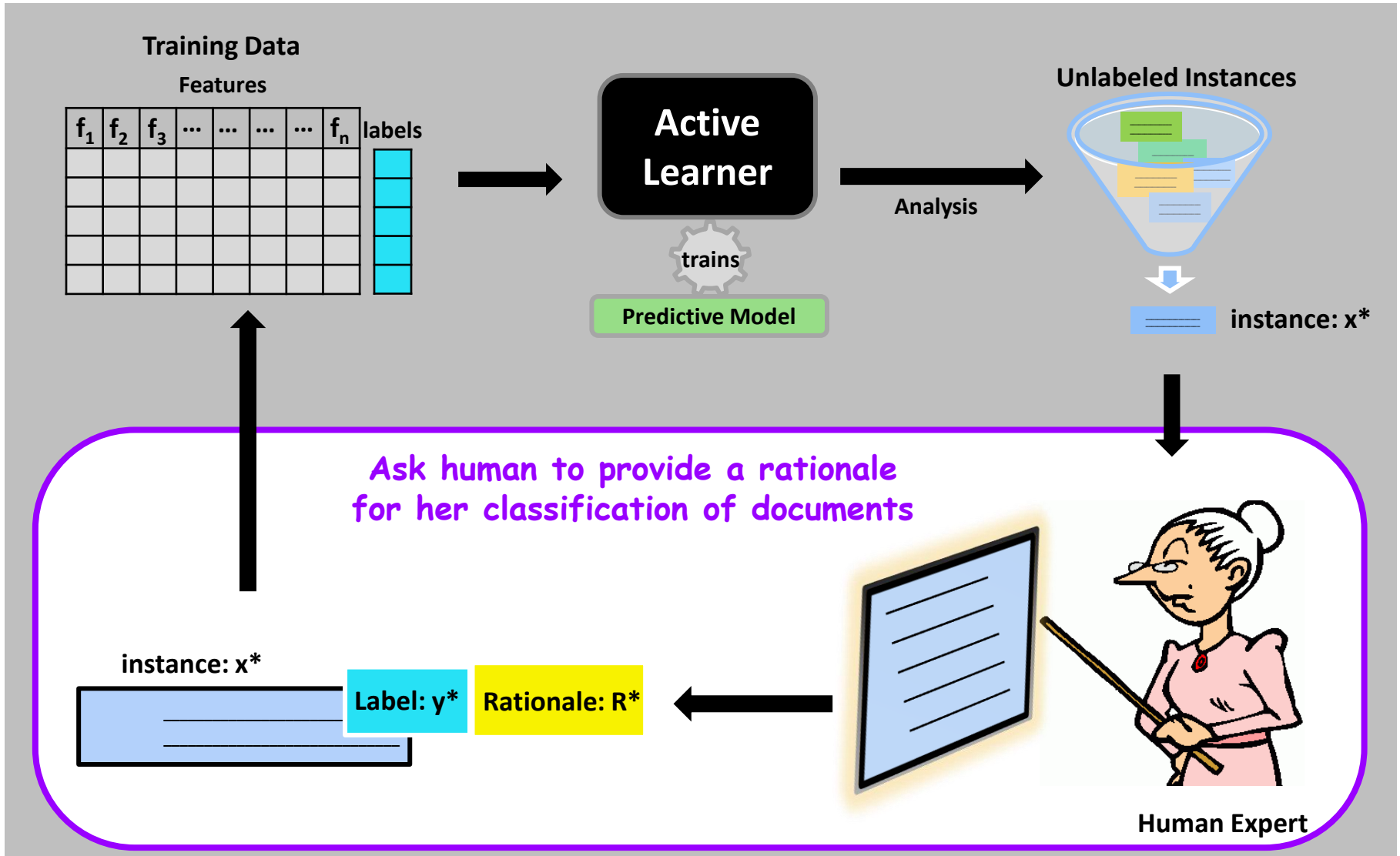


Results – Ibn Sina dataset



2. Learning with Rationales

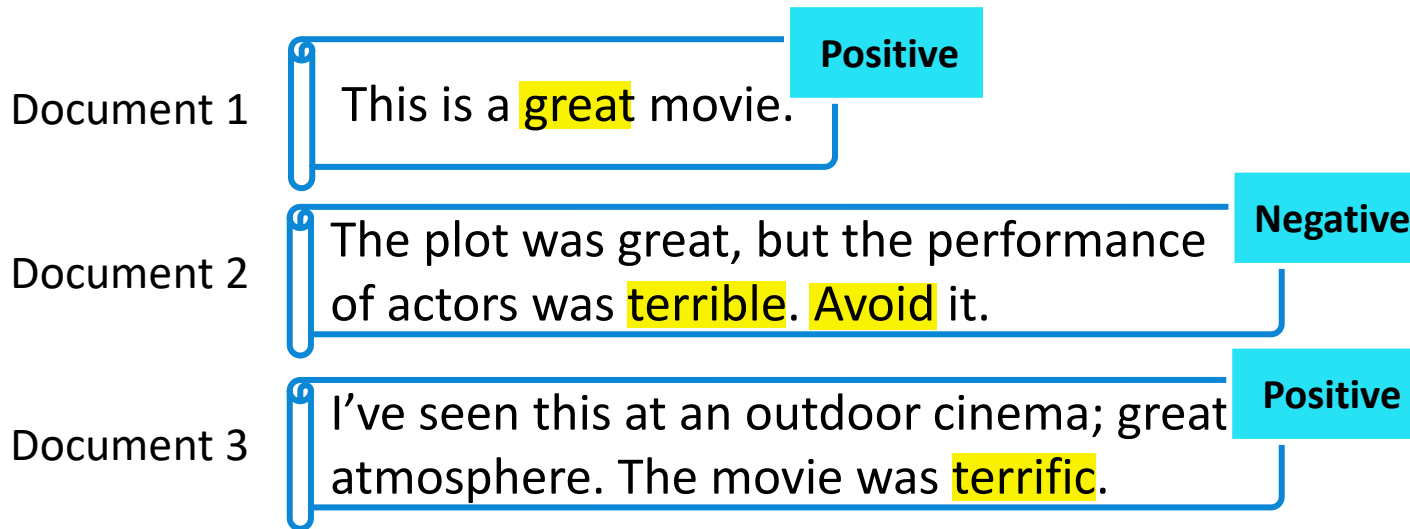
Ask the humans “why”



2. Learning with Rationales

2.a. Text Classification

The approach



How do we use $\langle x, y, r \rangle$ for supervised learning?

Datasets & experimental setup

Four text classification datasets:

Dataset	Description	# instances	# Features
IMDB	Sentiment analysis of movie reviews	25,000	27,272
NOVA	20 Newsgroups dataset: Email classification	12,977	16,969
SRAA	UseNet articles: Aviation vs. Auto	48,812	31,883
WvsH	20 Newsgroups dataset: Windows vs. Hardware	1176	4,026

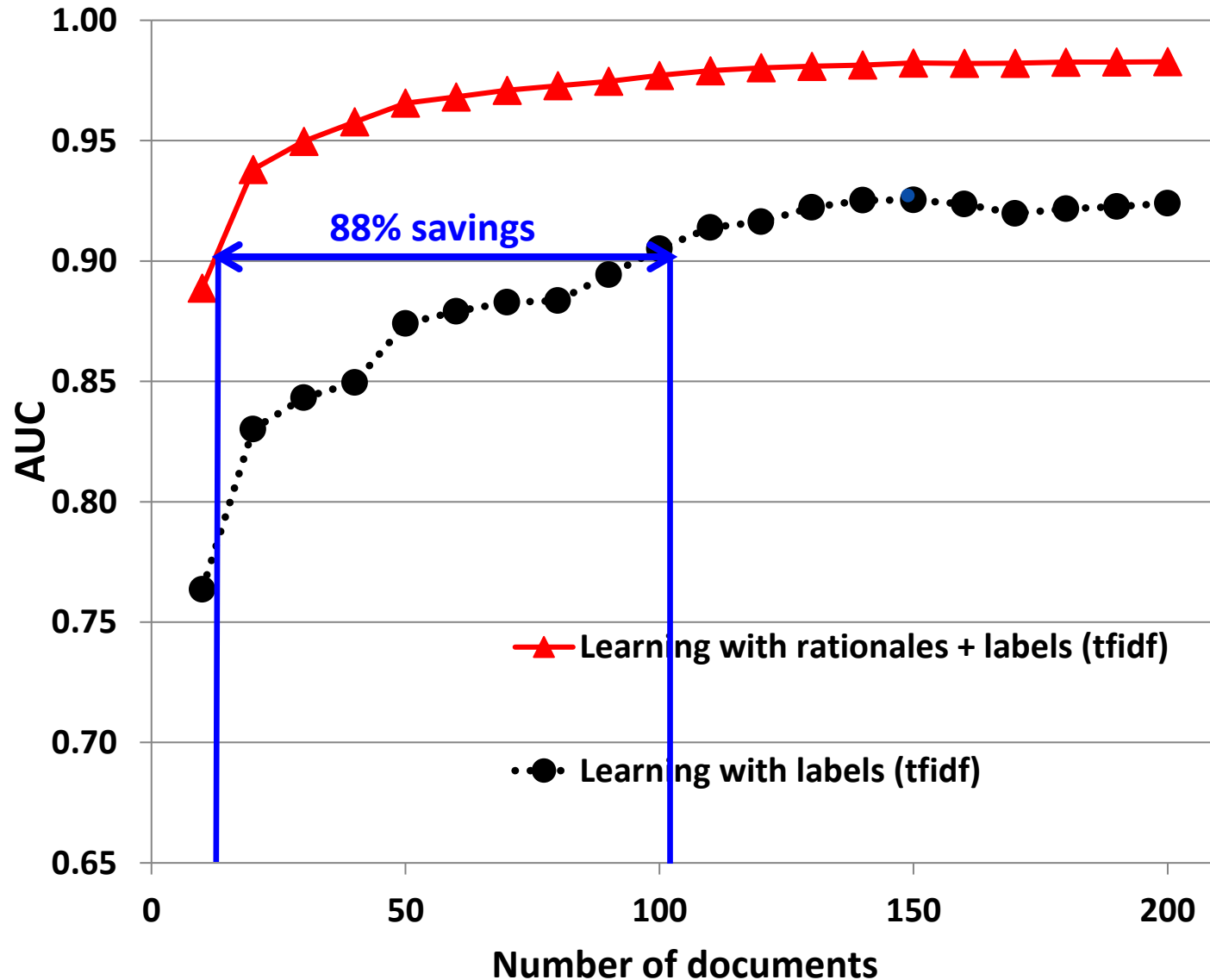
Three classifiers:

- Multinomial naïve Bayes (MNB)
- Logistic regression (LR)
- Support vector machines (SVM)

Two data representations:

- Binary
- Tf-idf

Results – SRAA dataset with MNB

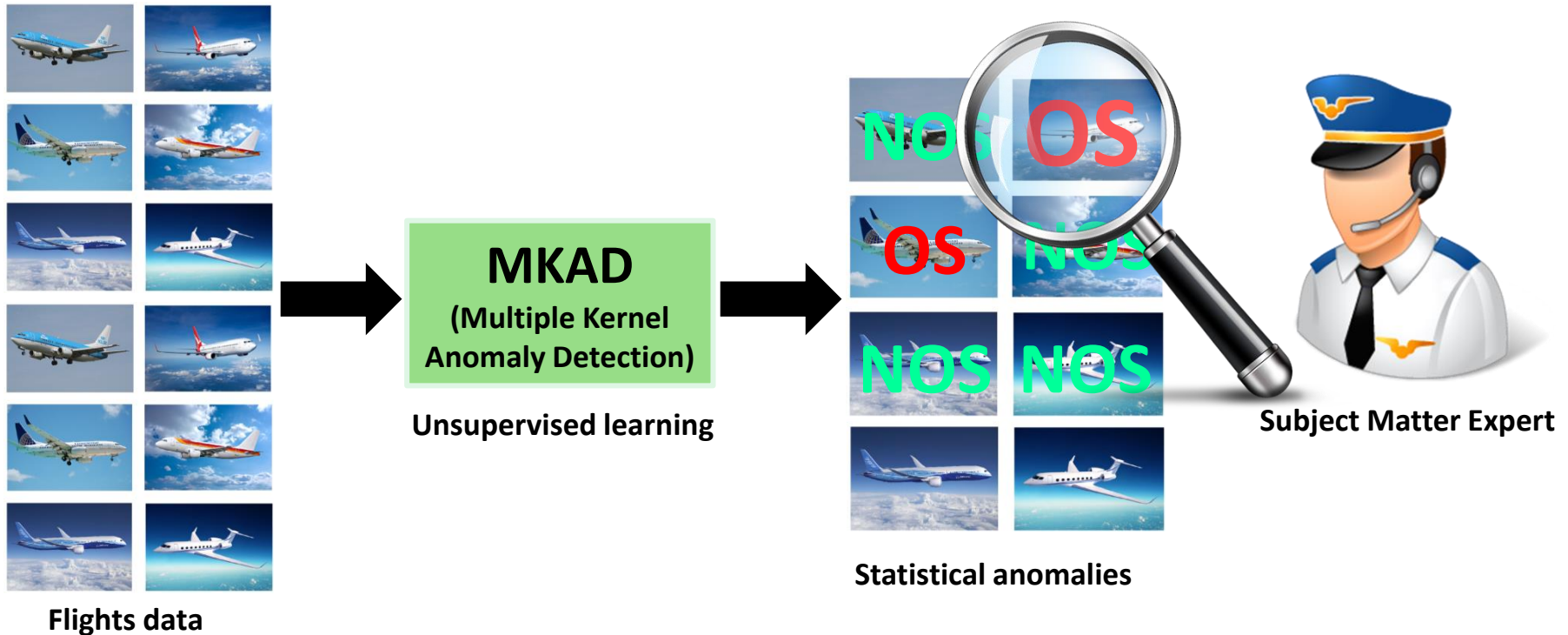


2. Learning with Rationales

2.b. Anomalous Flight Detection

Collaboration w/ NASA

OS: operationally significant
NOS: not operationally significant

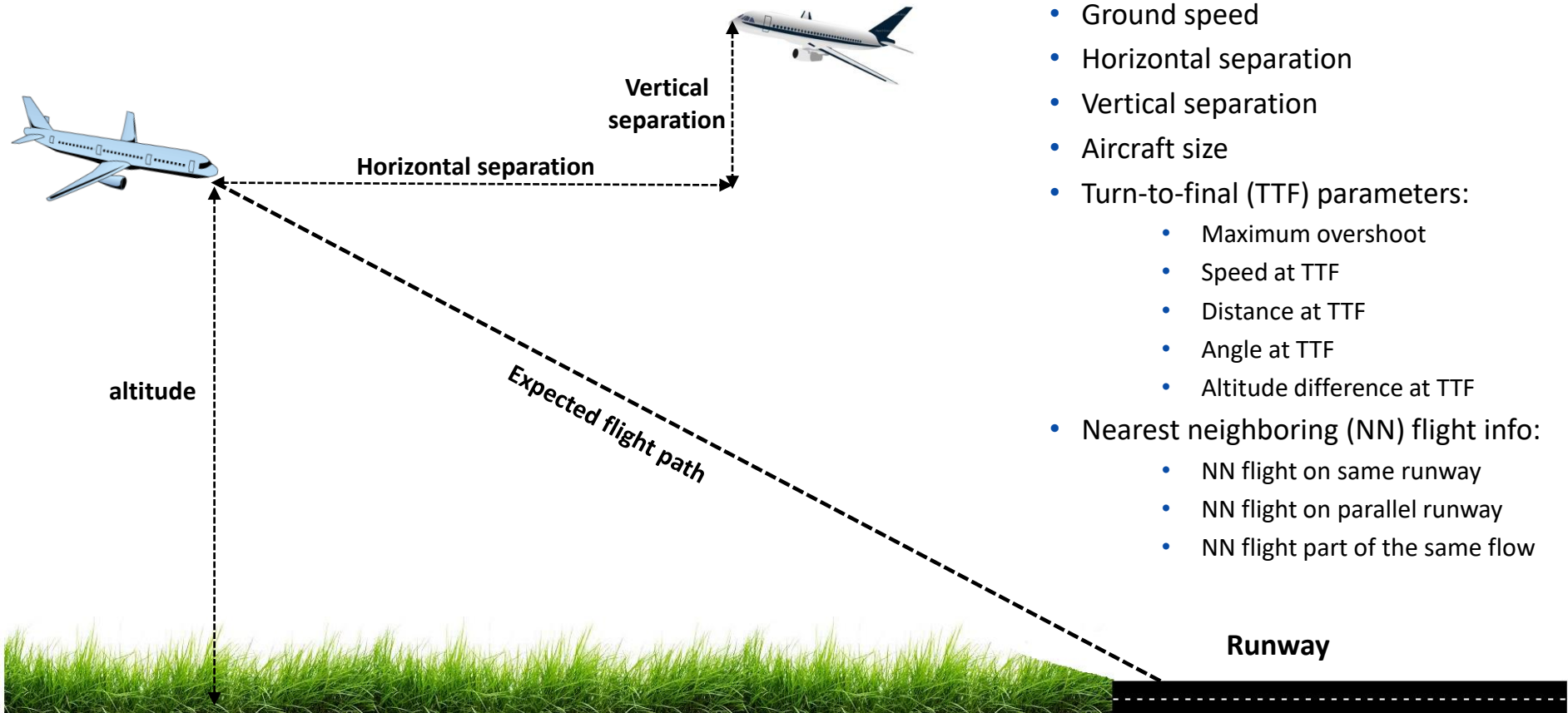


GOAL: effectively train a model to identify operationally significant (OS) anomalies using less time of experts

Flights data

ORIGINAL FEATURES

- Latitude
- Longitude
- Altitude
- Ground speed
- Horizontal separation
- Vertical separation
- Aircraft size
- Turn-to-final (TTF) parameters:
 - Maximum overshoot
 - Speed at TTF
 - Distance at TTF
 - Angle at TTF
 - Altitude difference at TTF
- Nearest neighboring (NN) flight info:
 - NN flight on same runway
 - NN flight on parallel runway
 - NN flight part of the same flow

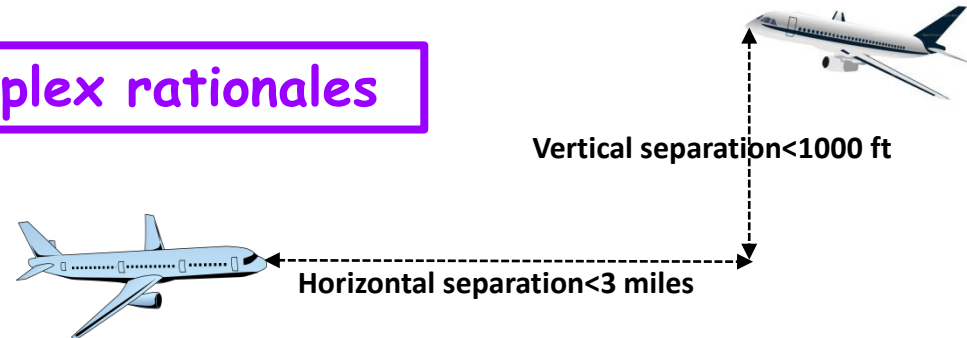


Rationales

More complex rationales

“Loss of separation”

- Horizontal separation < 3 miles AND Vertical separation < 1000 ft AND nearest neighboring flight is not on parallel runways and not part of the same flow



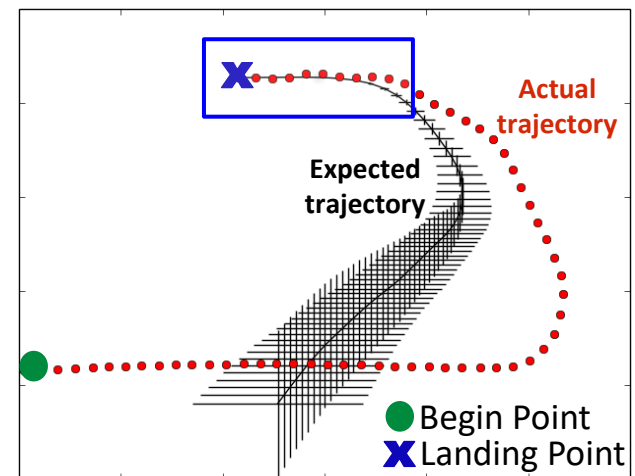
“Large overshoot”

- Maximum overshoot is greater than a threshold based on values of flights with positive labels

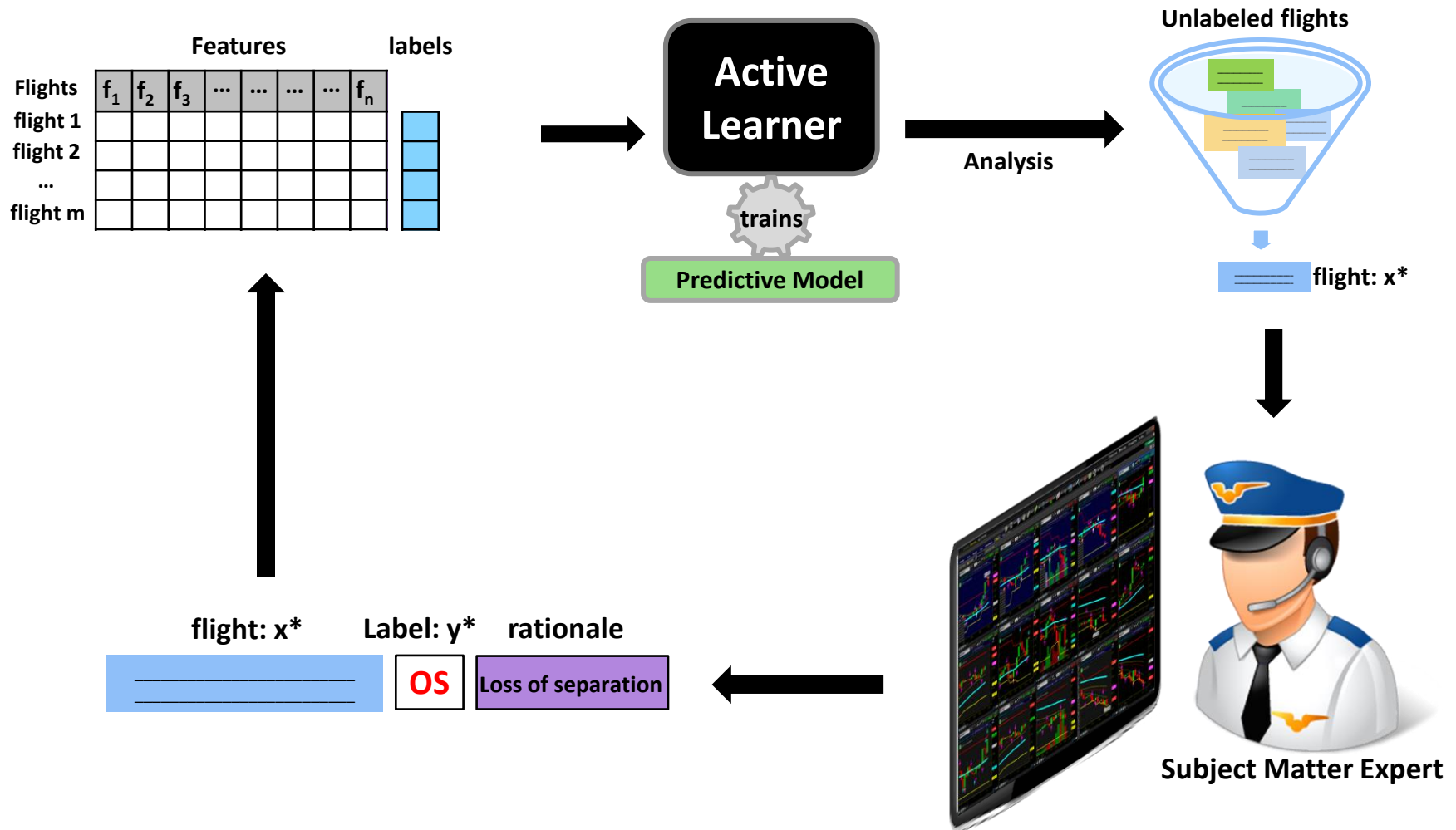
“Unusual flight path”

- Overall deviation from expected (average) trajectory of all landing flights on that runway

Deviation from expected path



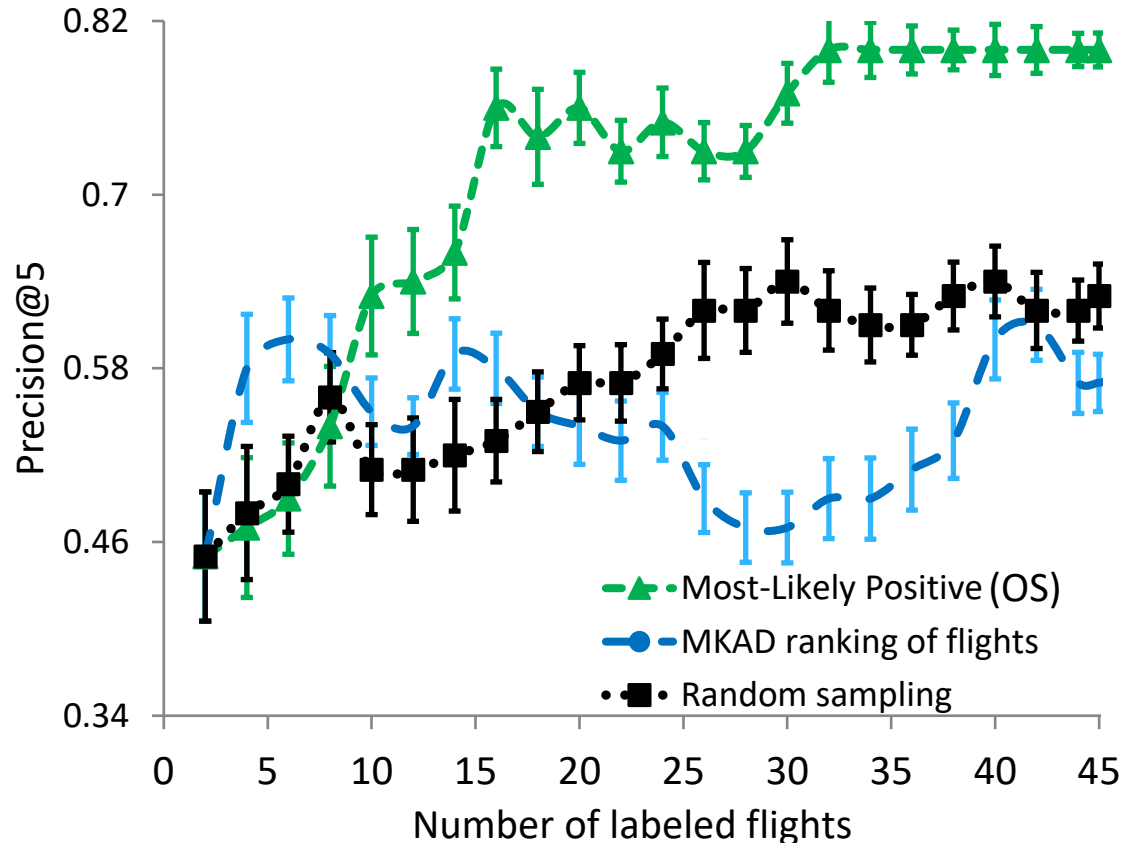
Active learning framework



Selecting informative flights

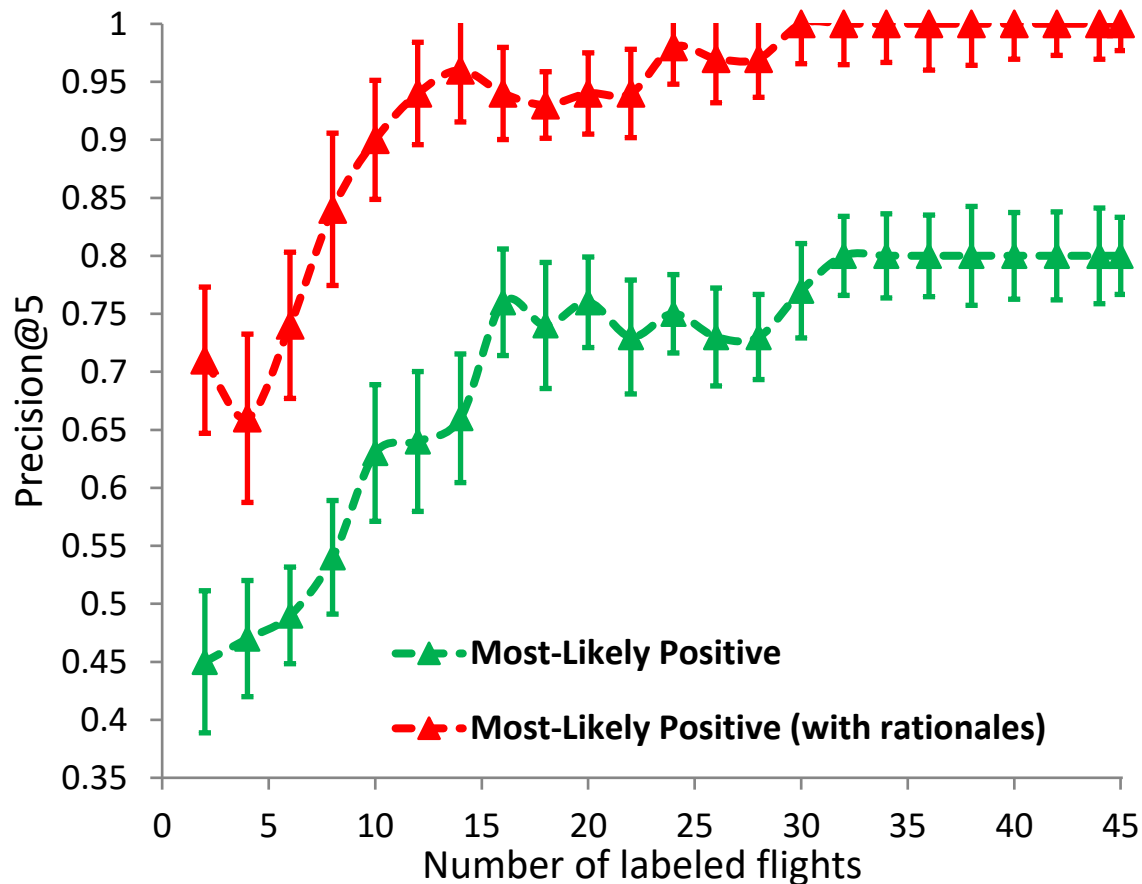
Active learning strategy: Most-likely positive strategy

Objective function: $\mathbf{x}^* = \arg \max_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{U}} P_{\theta}(\hat{y}^+ | \mathbf{x})$



Including rationales into learning

Including rationales improves performance over learning with labels only



3. Fresh, still in the oven, projects

Projects currently in the oven

- Active evaluation
 - Curate a dataset for only evaluation purposes
- Human-like classification
 - Given a case, skim all features but focus on what is most important for that case

Collaboration Opportunities

- We develop methods
 - Active learning, learning with rationales, active evaluation, human-like classification, etc.
 - Collaboration opportunities
 1. Application areas
 - If you have problems/datasets where these methods might be applicable (not enough labeled data, experts provide rationales, human-like and interpretable decision making, etc.), I'd be very happy to discuss them and work with you
- AND/OR
2. Foundational work
 - If you also work on these areas, I'd be very happy to talk to you about potential collaboration opportunities
- Please see the next slide for my contact info

Contact

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