# Class-Distribution Regularized Consensus Maximization for Alleviating Overfitting in Model Combination

Sihong Xie, Jing Gao, Wei Fan, Deepak Turaga and Philip S.Yu

University of Illinois at Chicago University at Buffalo Huawei Noah Lab IBM T.J Watson Research

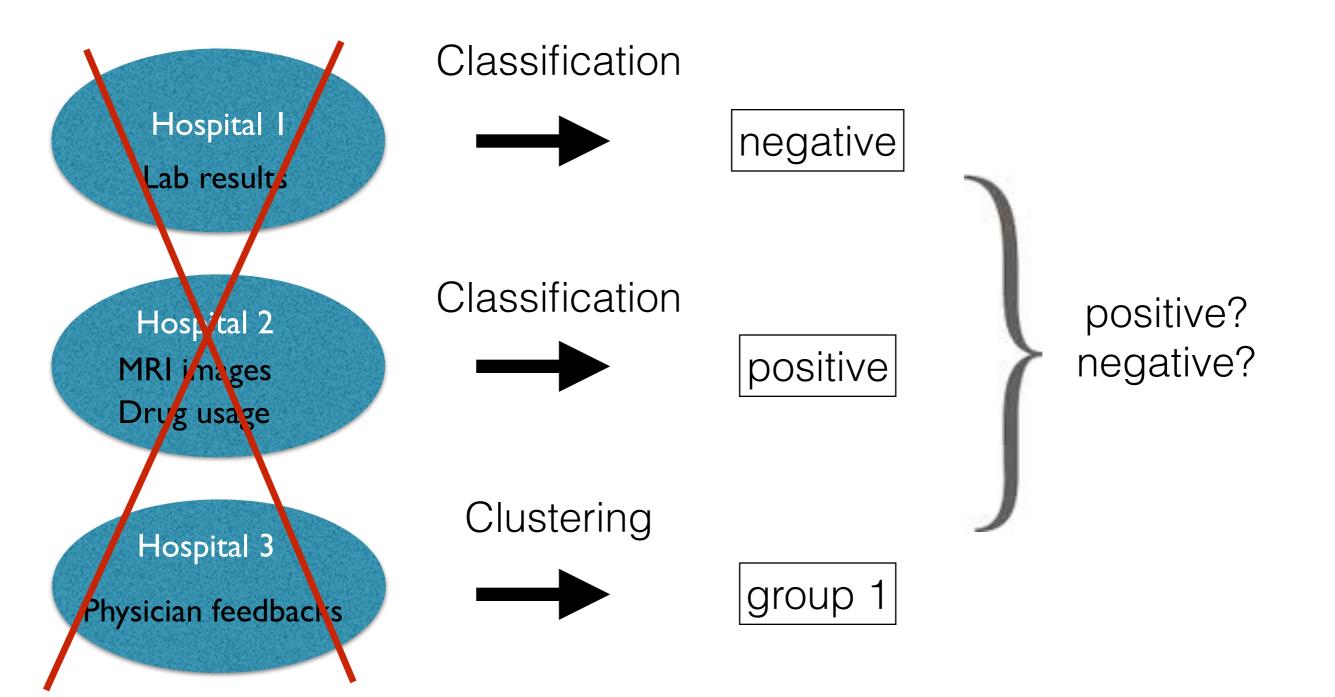




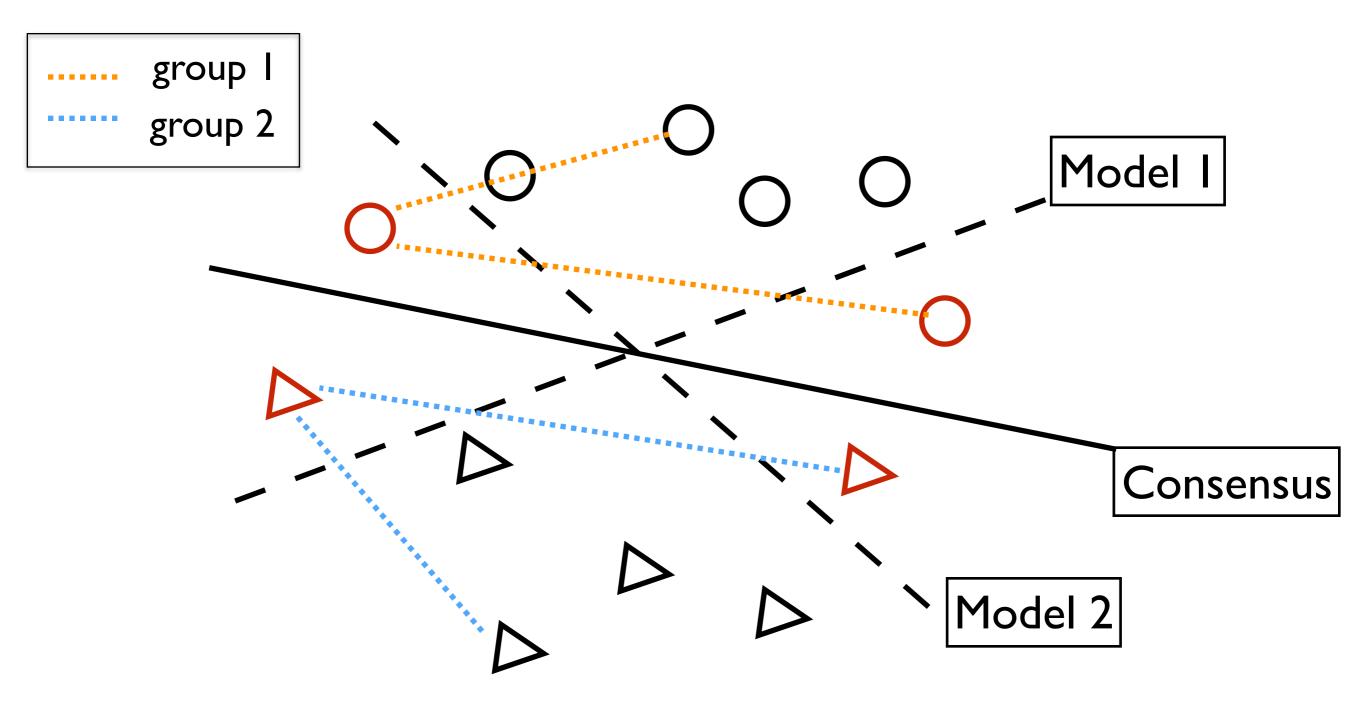


IBM Research

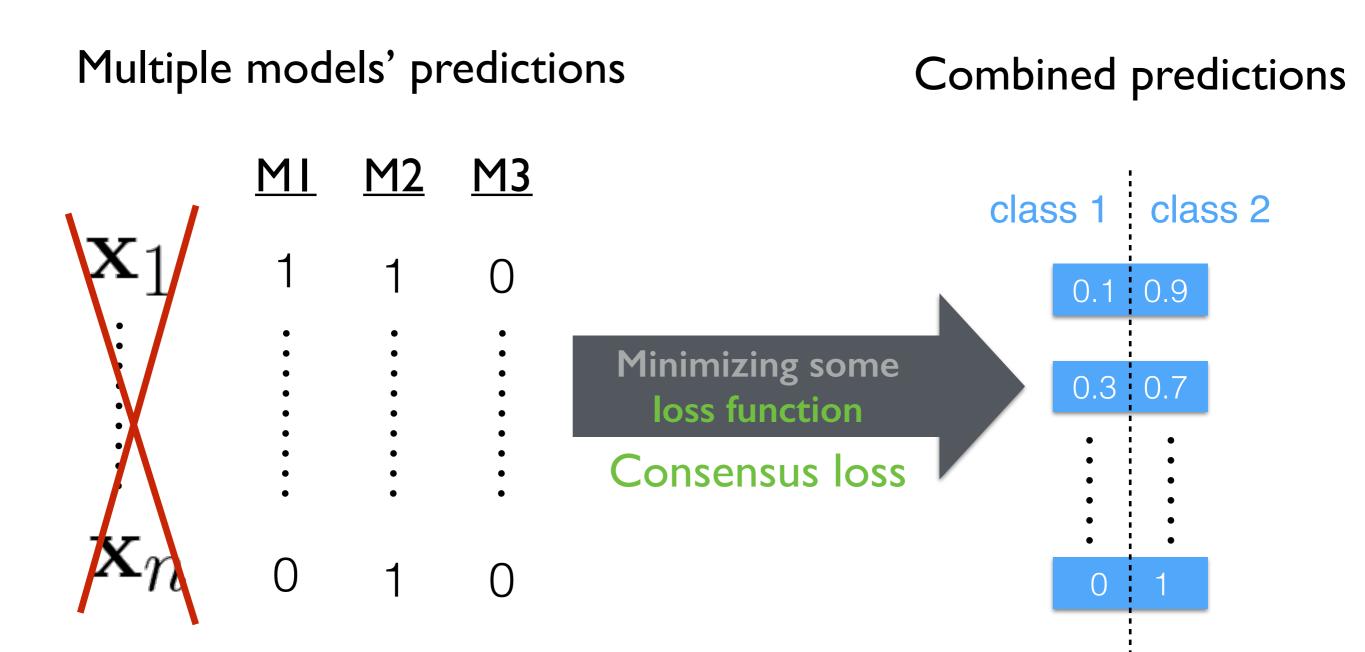
## Prediction Combination: a motivating example



### Prediction combination

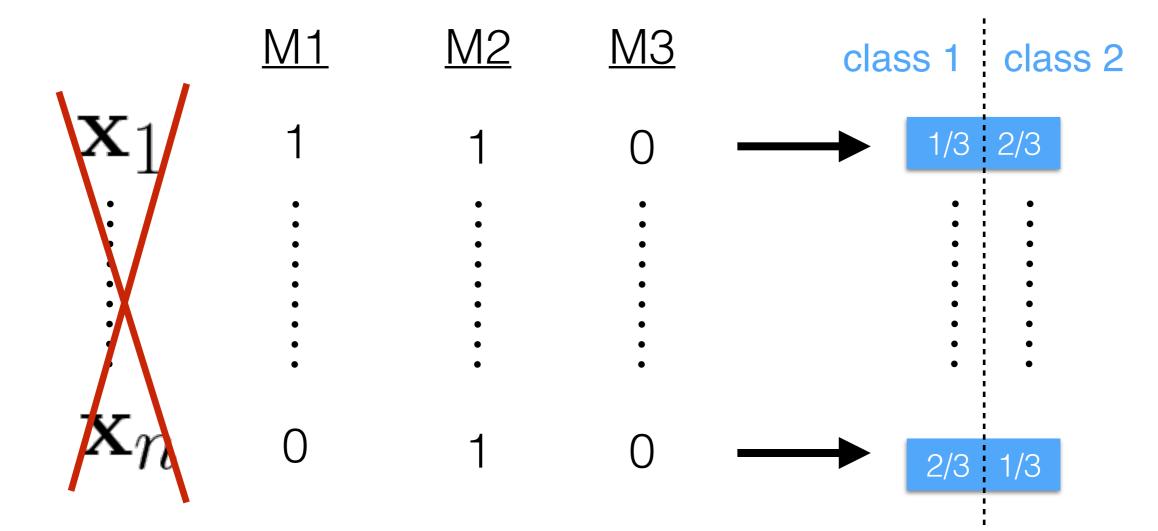


## Prediction combination: a high level view



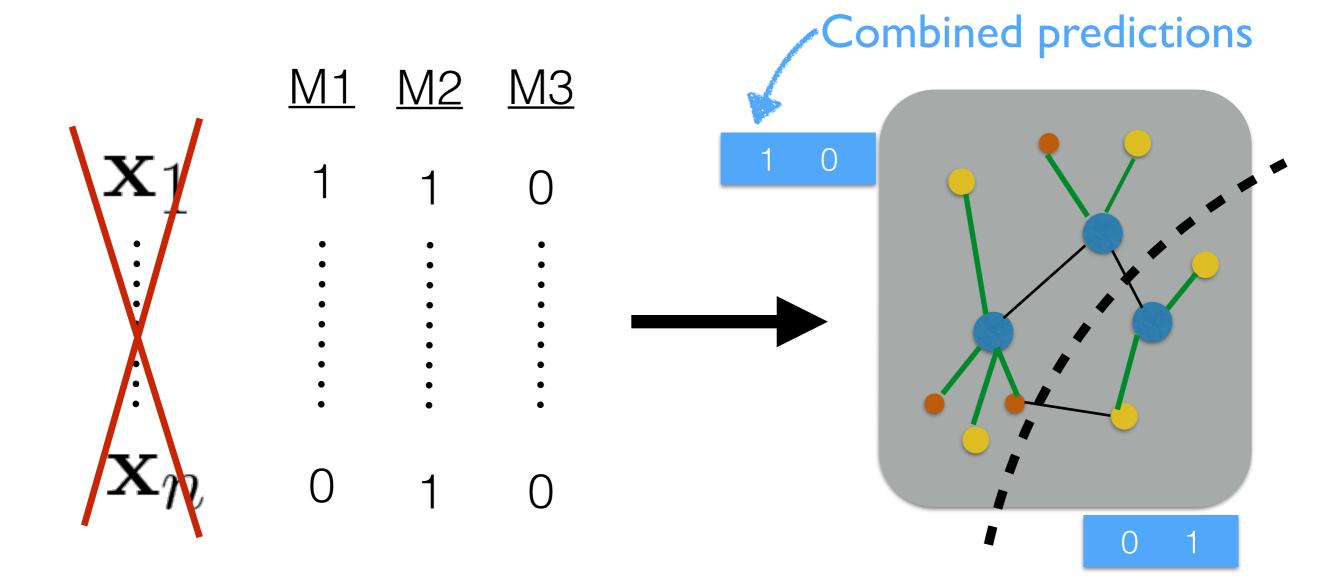
### Traditional approaches: Majority voting

#### **Combined prediction**



Consensus loss: mean squared error loss

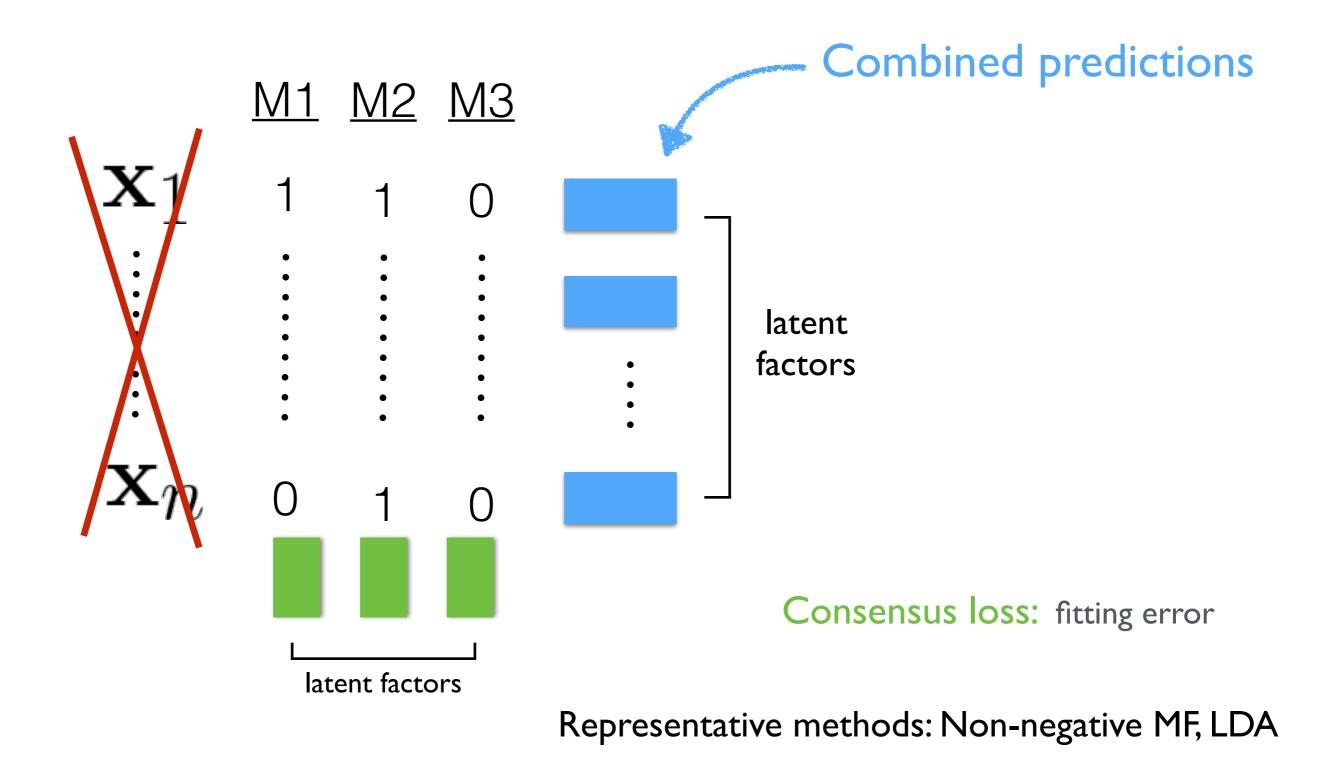
## Traditional approaches: Graph-based model



Consensus loss: volume of cuts of the graphs

Representative methods: HGPA, HBGF, MCLA, Consensus maximization

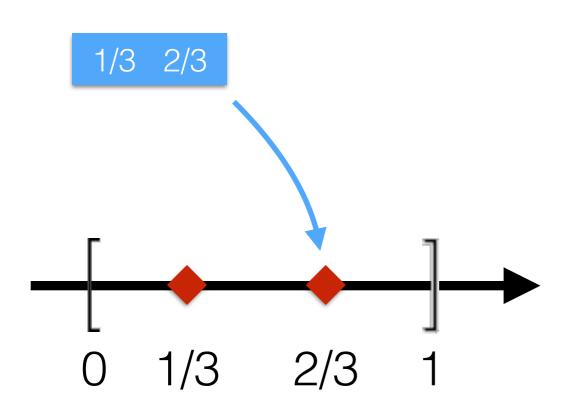
### Traditional approaches: factorization

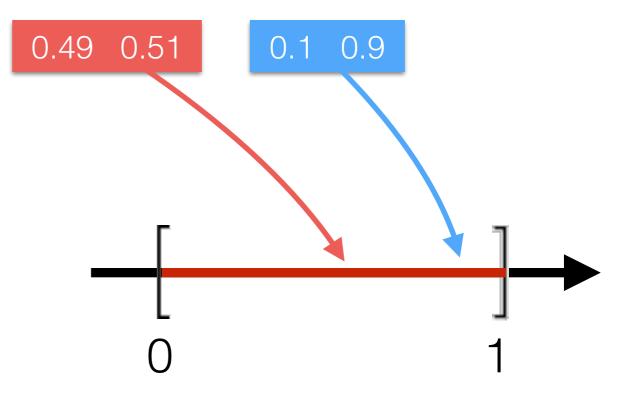


# Short comings of traditional approaches

### Majority voting

#### consensus maximization



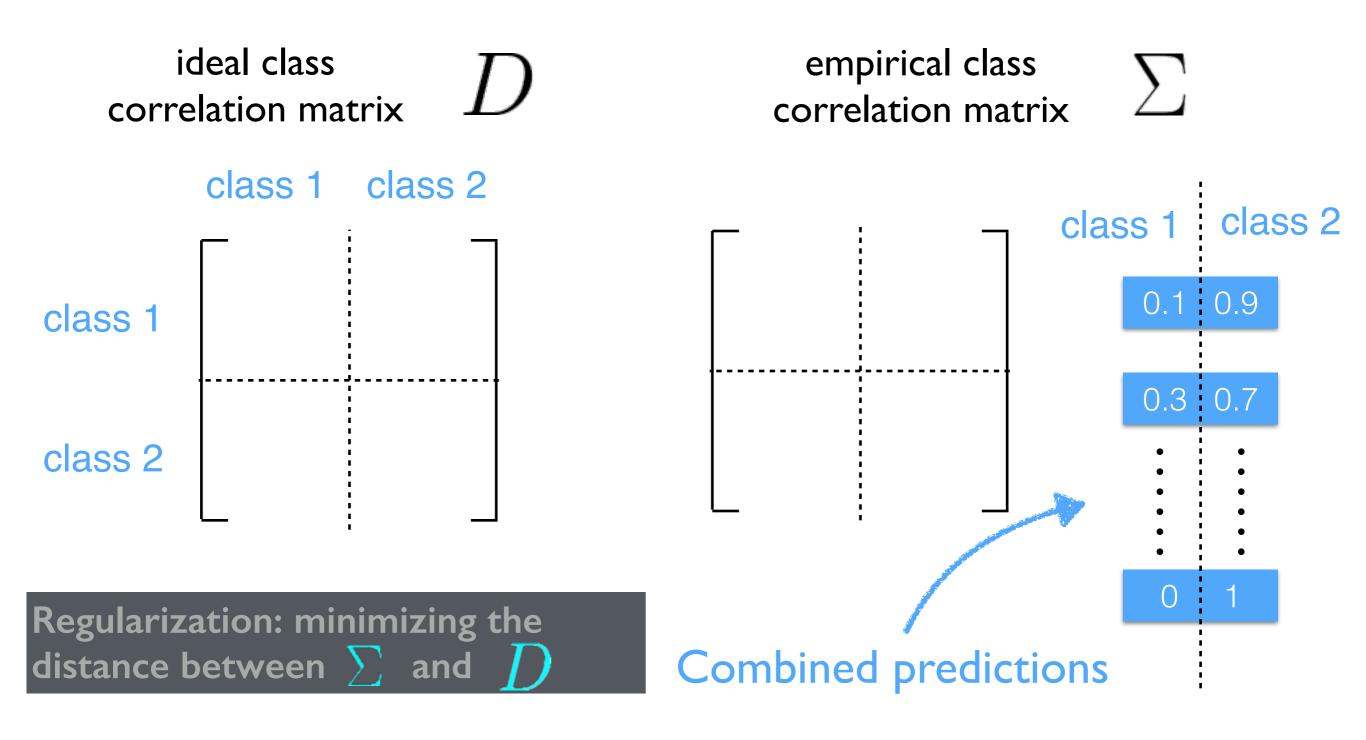


Only allows a subset of rationals **Too restricted!** 

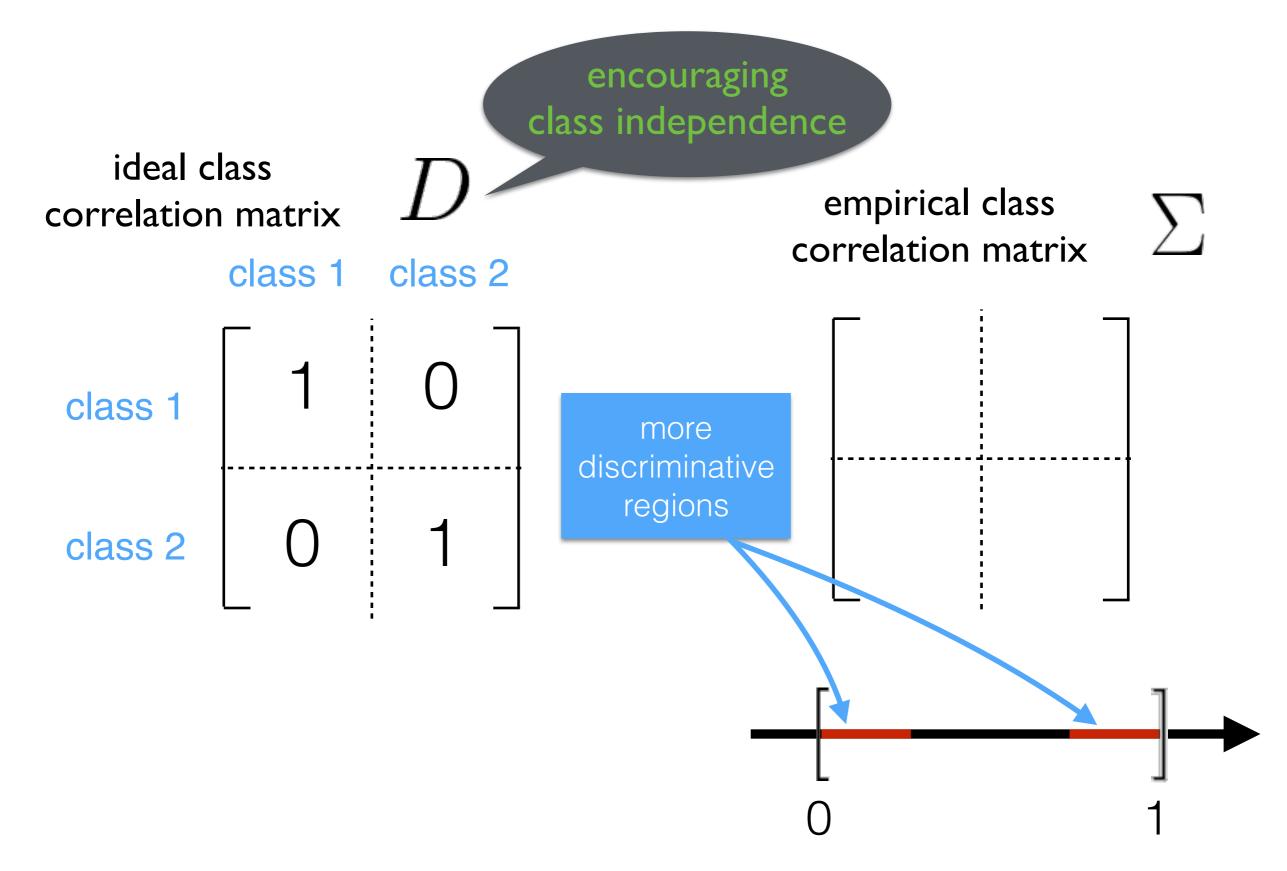
The whole interval May lead to overfitting!

# **Regularized Solutions**

Vapnik:"...tradeoff between the quality of the approximation of the given data and the complexity of the approximating function."



# **Regularized Solutions**



# **Regularized Solutions**

Framework:

### minimize: consensus loss - regularization term

- mean squared error
- graph cutnegative log-likelihood

#### An instantiation:

- Euclidean Distance( $D,\Sigma$ )
- KL divergence( $D,\Sigma$ )

### minimize: graph cut loss + Euclidean distance

**Optimization: alternative block-wise gradient descent** 

Theoretical guarantee: achieving a smaller generalization upper bound

## Experiments

Datasets: 11 multi-class text classification tasks

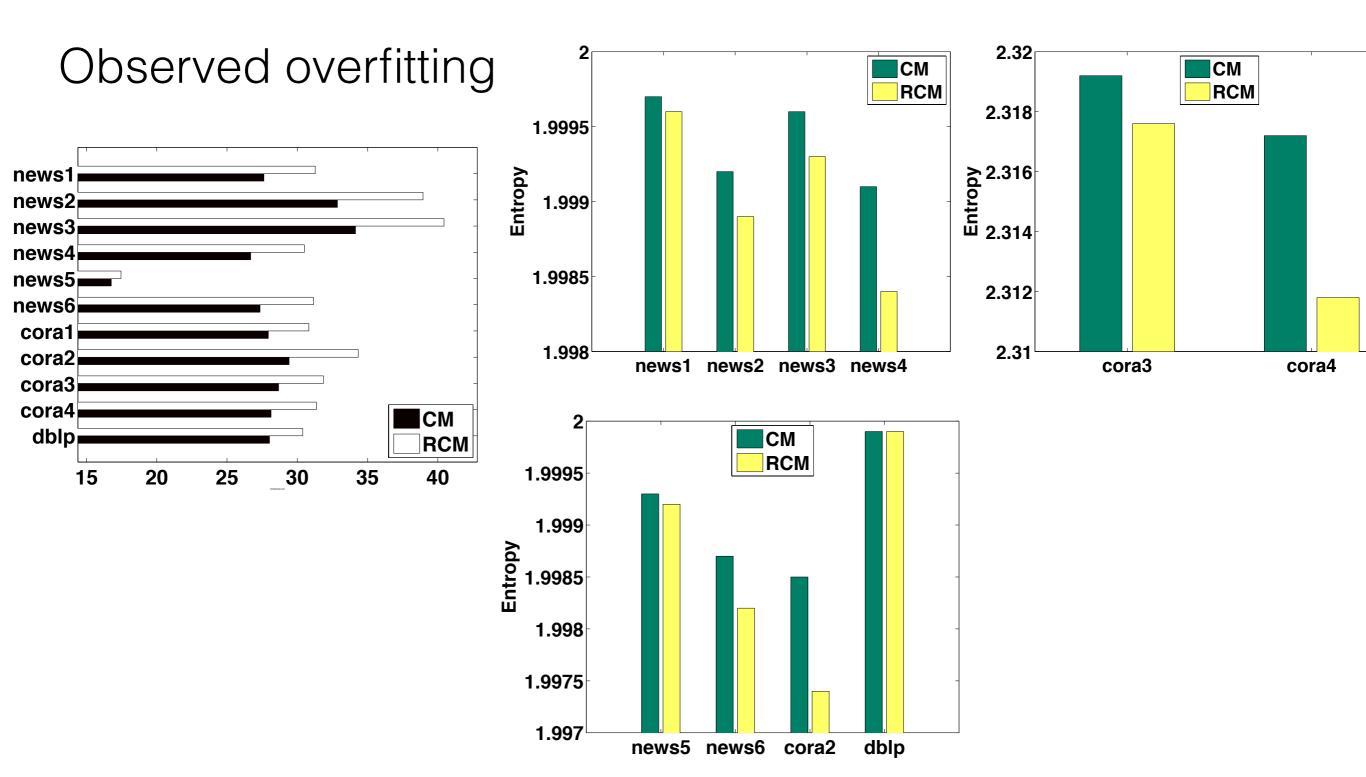
Base models: 2 classifiers + 2 clustering models Prediction combination baselines:

- majority voting
- graph-cutting methods: consensus maximization, HBGF, MCLA
- factorization-based: Bayesian clustering ensemble, SNNMF, ECMC

Metric: accuracy

### Experiments

Accuracy: among 11 tasks: 1 tie, 1 loss, 9 wins



### Experiments

