

Echo System

Machine learning methods for classification of sonar targets

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Agenda

- Project and goals
- Machine Learning approach
- Features extraction
- Random Forest classifier
- Classification accuracy
- Conclusions and perspectives

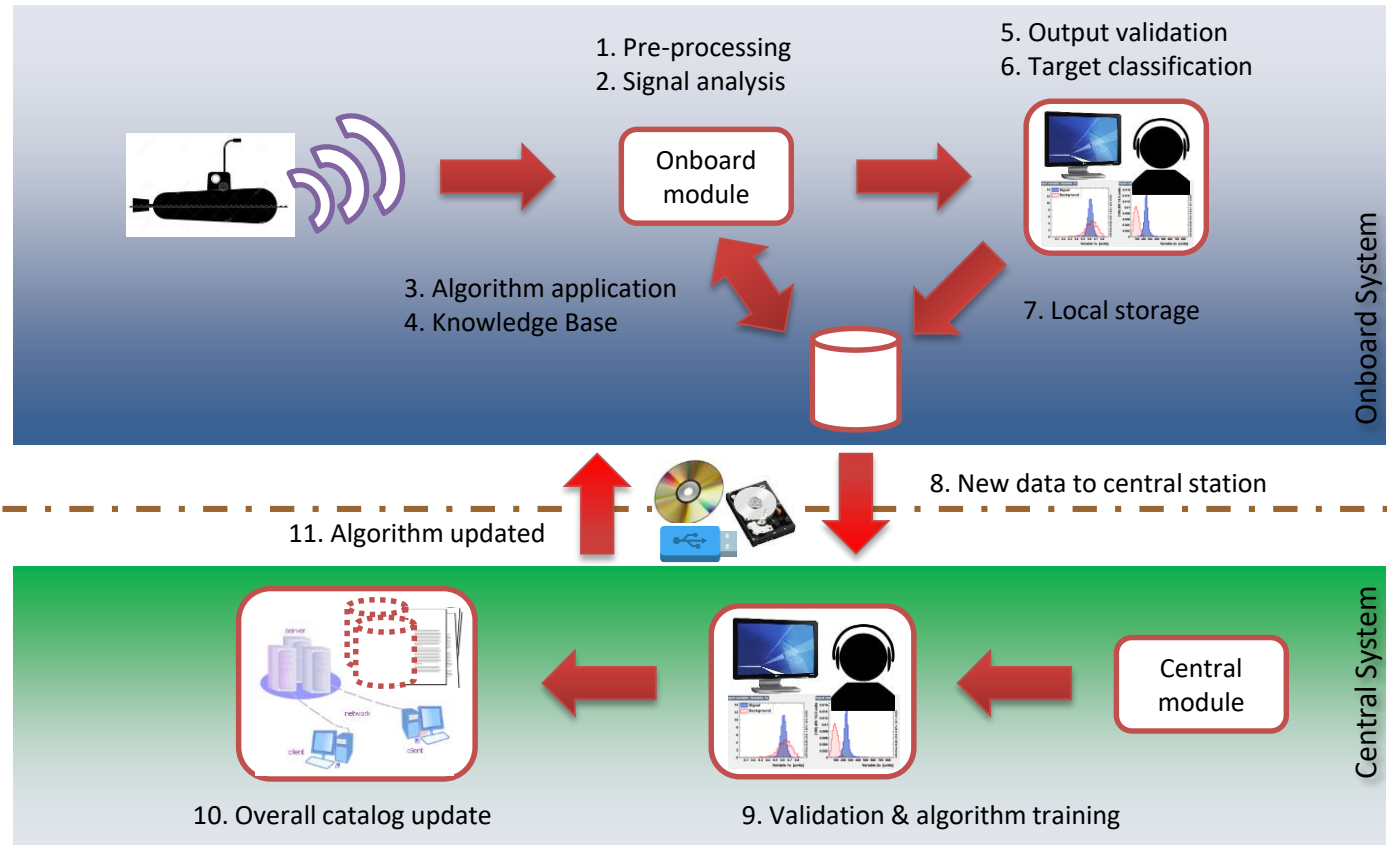
Project and goals

Provide a Decision Support platform, able to:

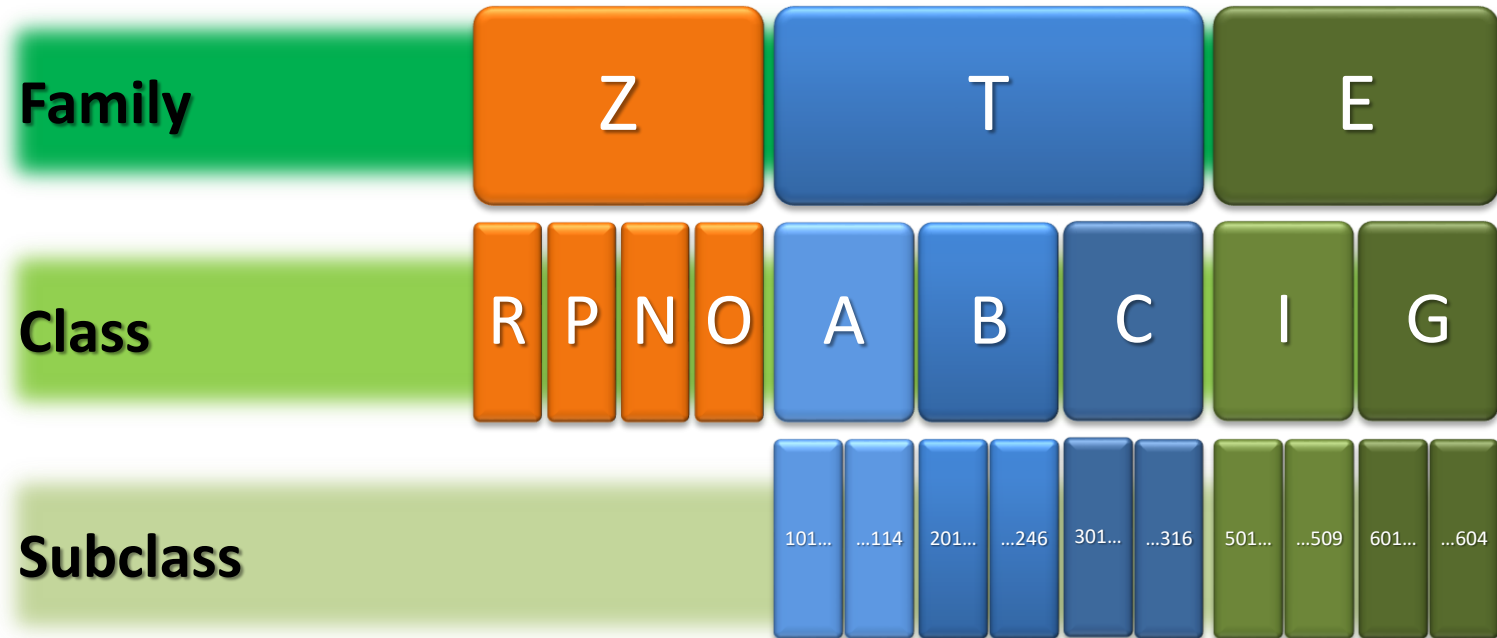
- ✓ process audio tracks acquired in an underwater environment
- ✓ establish the type of detected target
- ✓ provide the operator with the results of the processing, for its verification and validation



Project vision



Families, Classes and Subclasses



Machine Learning Approach

Conventional approach

Sonar operator

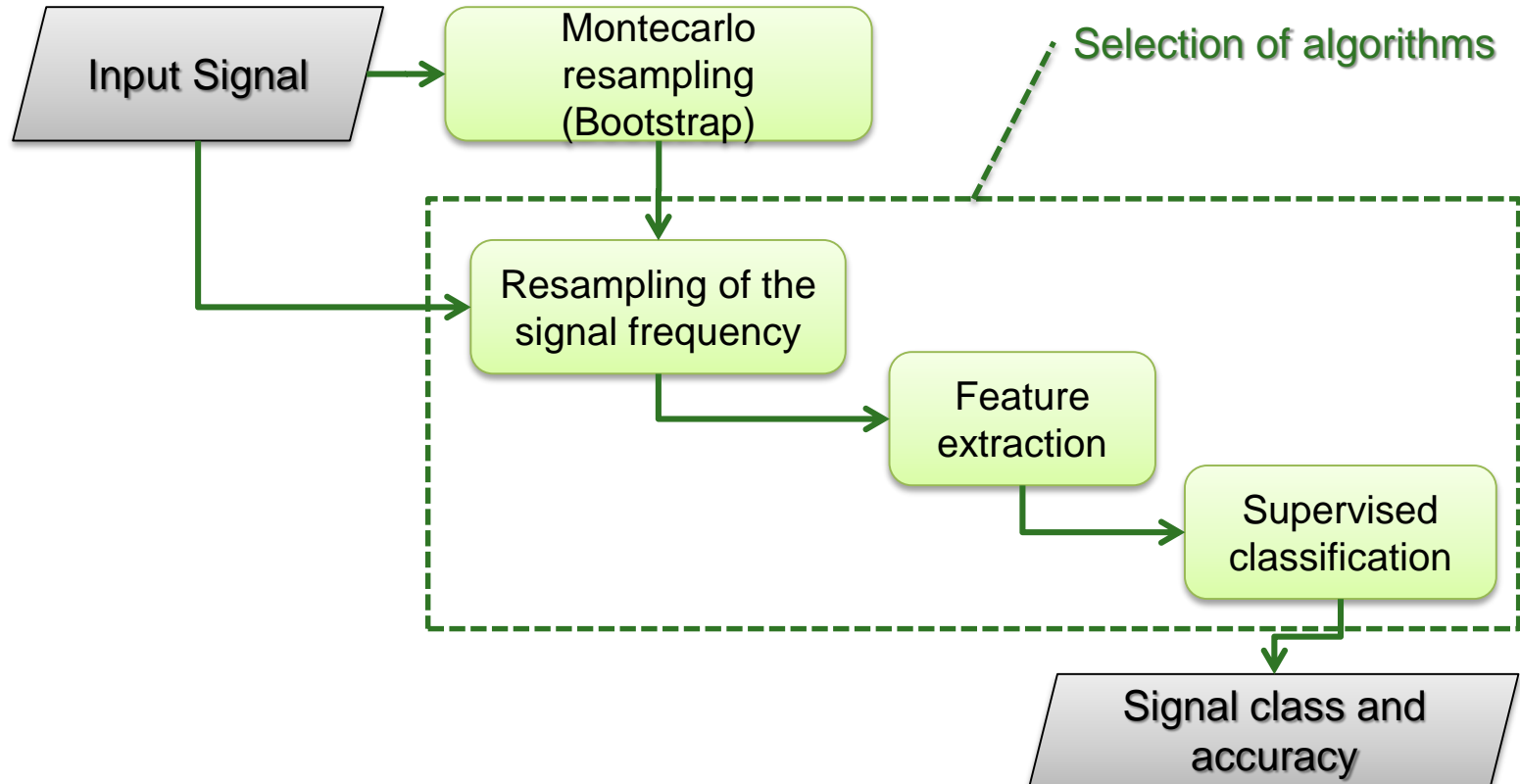
Intermediate approach

Train a system
like an operator

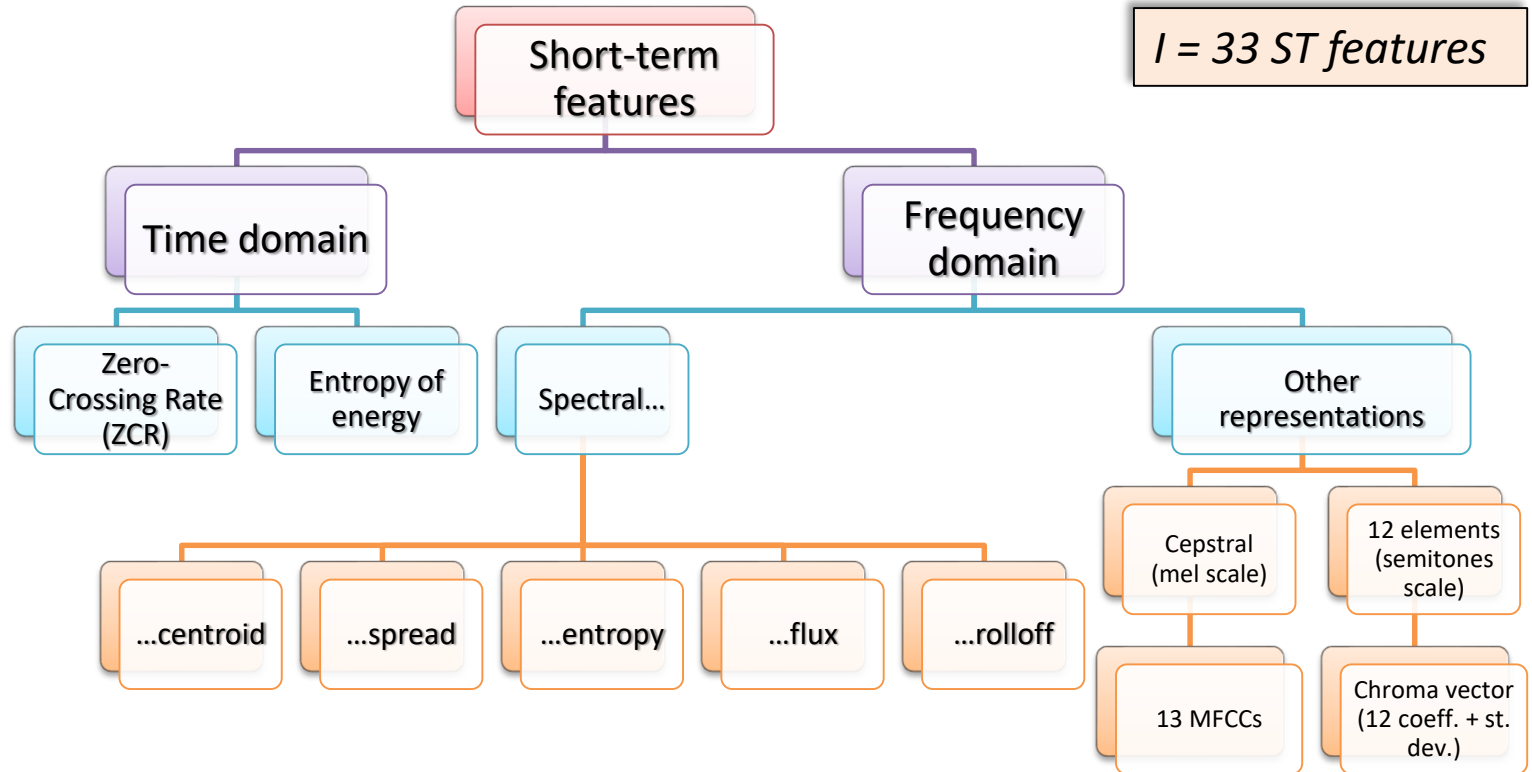
Machine Learning

- What to look at?
Features
- How to decide?
Supervised algorithm
- Is a good decision?
Performance

Flow chart

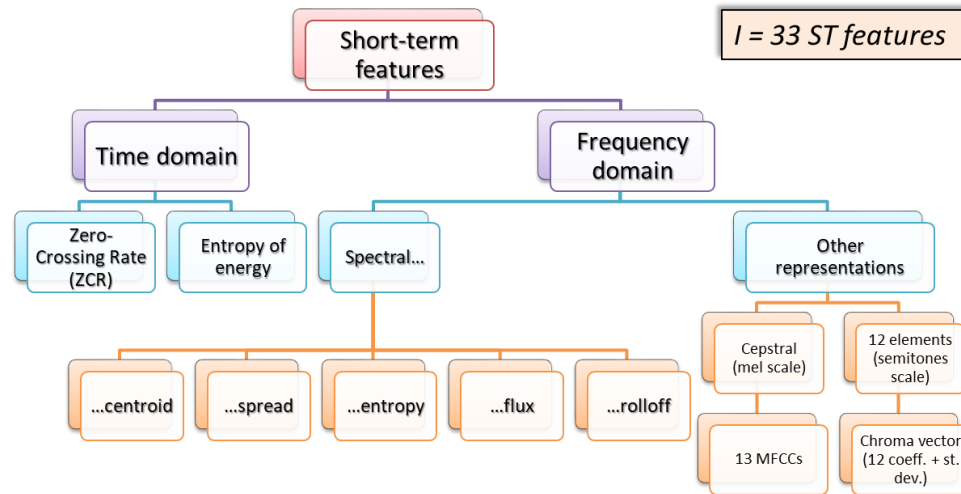


Short-term (ST) features



Mid-term (MT) features

Statistical indicators extracted from the distribution of each ST feature on the whole signal



- mean
- standard deviation (std)
- std/mean
- skewness
- Fisher kurtosis
- median
- 25th percentile
- 75th percentile
- max
- min

$I = 33$ ST features

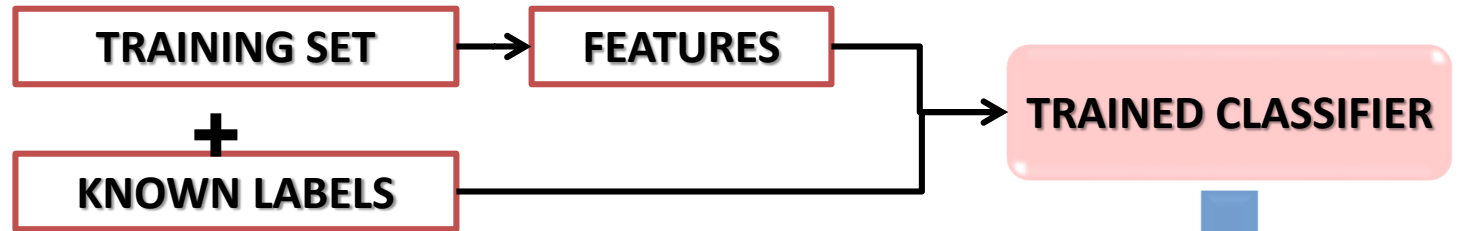
$M = 10$ statistical indicators

$I \times M = 330$ MT features

Supervised learning

Training of the algorithm

starting from a set of data with labels known a priori



Predictions on new instances

unknown to the algorithm

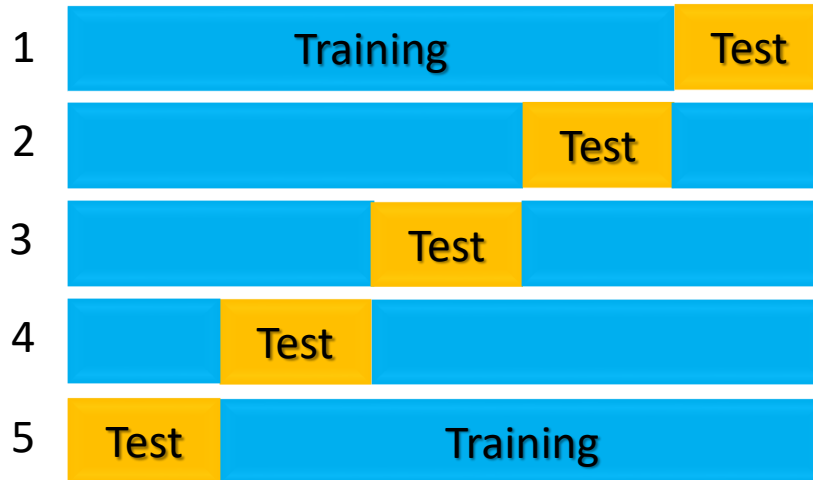


Cross-Validation

Initial dataset



5-fold Cross-Validation
80% training set, 20% test set



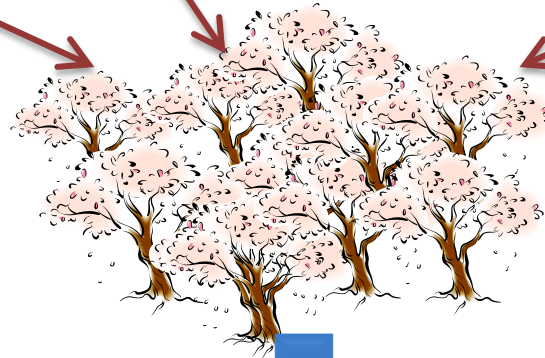
} average
classification
performance

Random forest

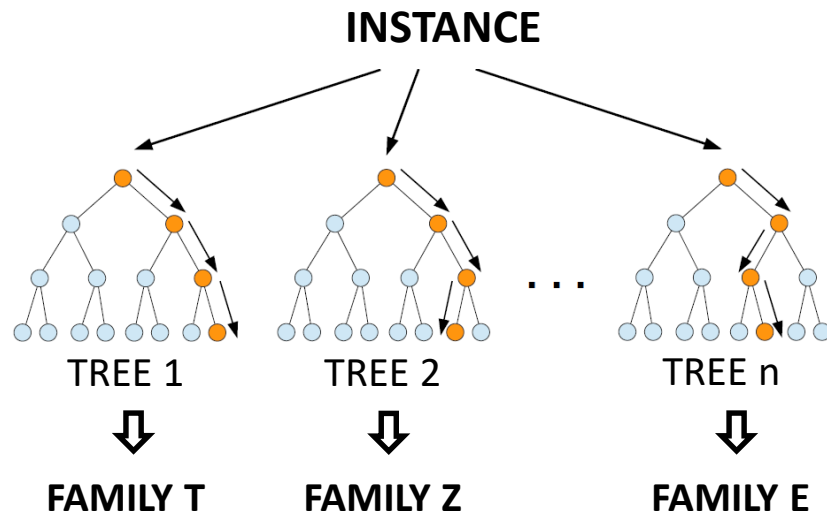
Feature 1

Feature 2

...Feature n



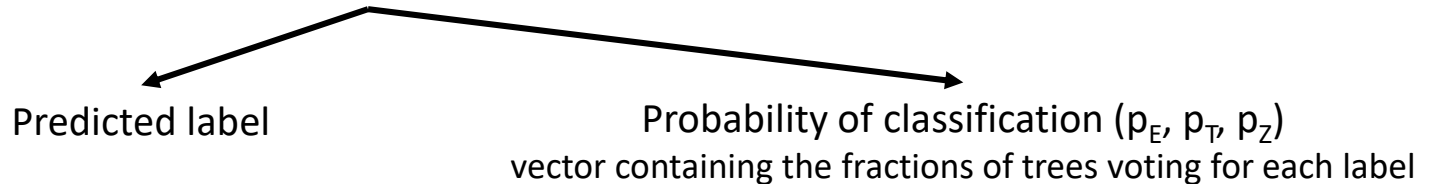
Random forest & classification probability



The test instance is classified by combining the output of trees with majority voting

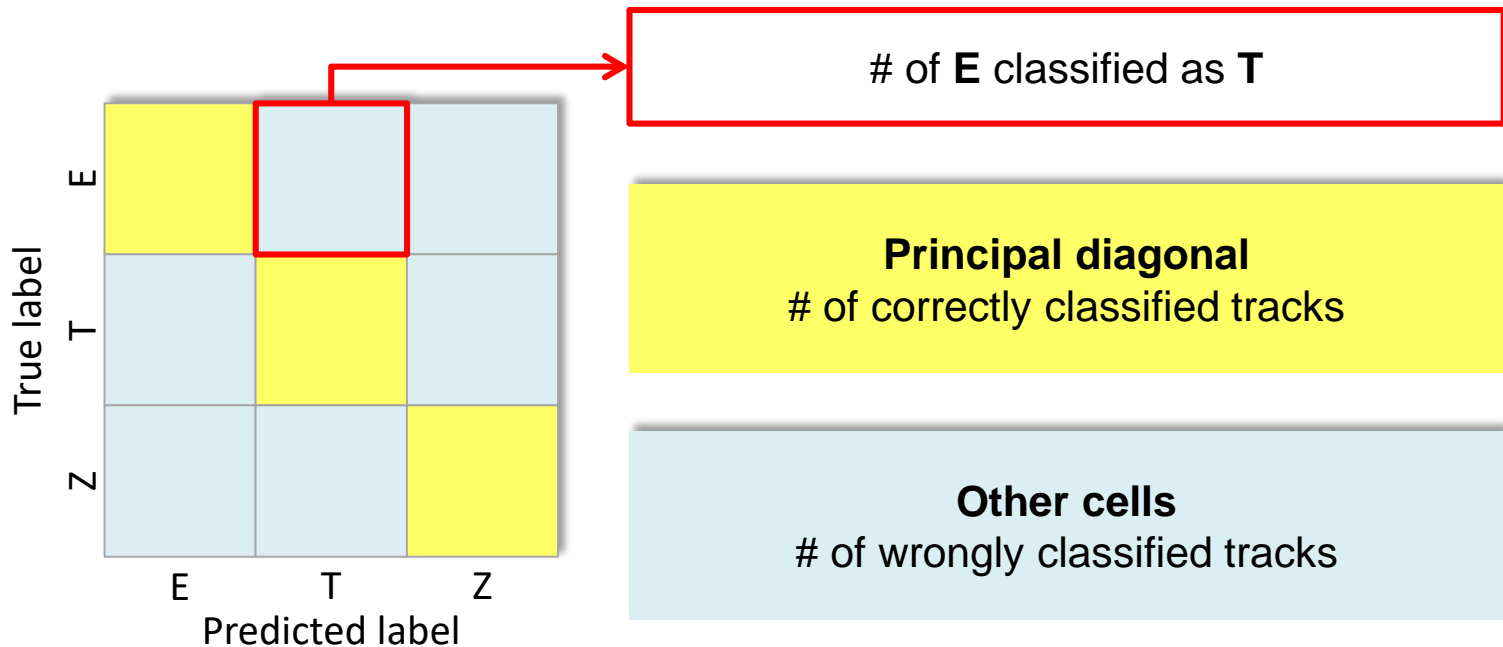
Output not recognized if:
 $\max(p_E, p_T, p_Z) < \text{fixed threshold}$

Majority voting



Confusion Matrix

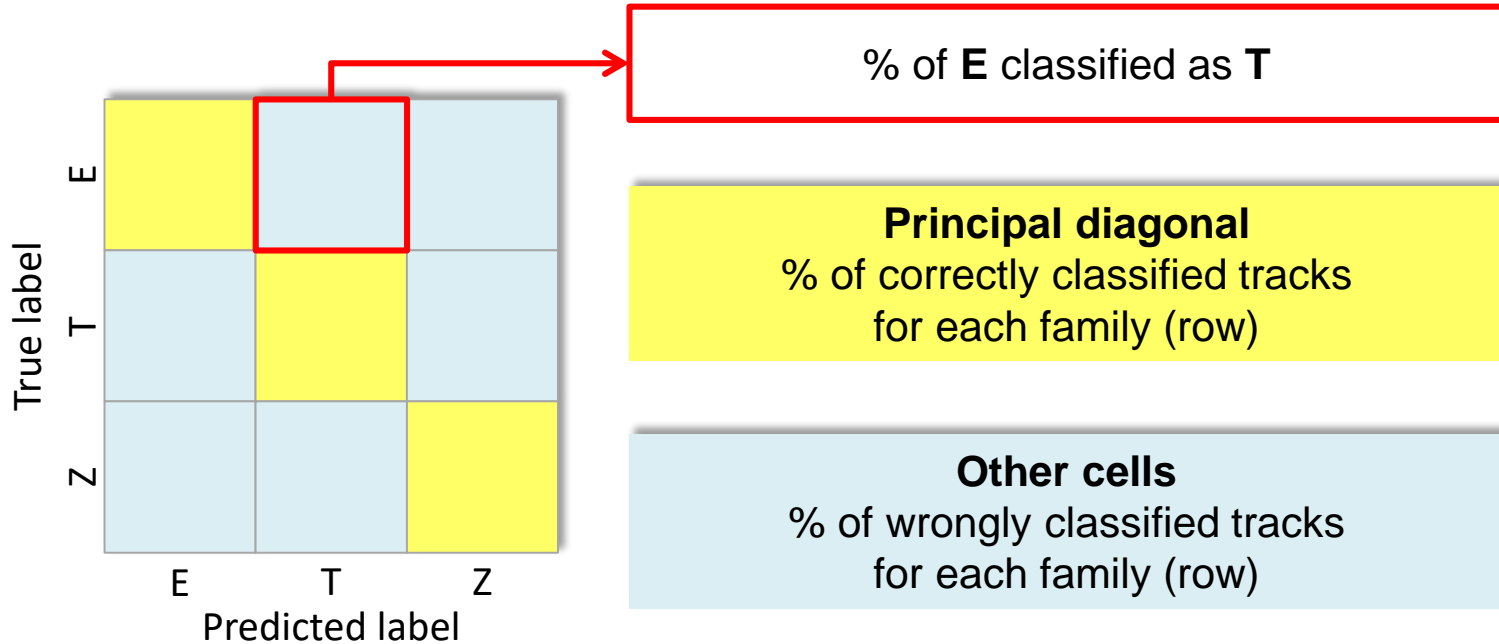
Matrix summarizing the classification output



Sum of the confusion matrix elements \longrightarrow # of test instances

Normalized Confusion Matrix

Matrix summarizing the classification output

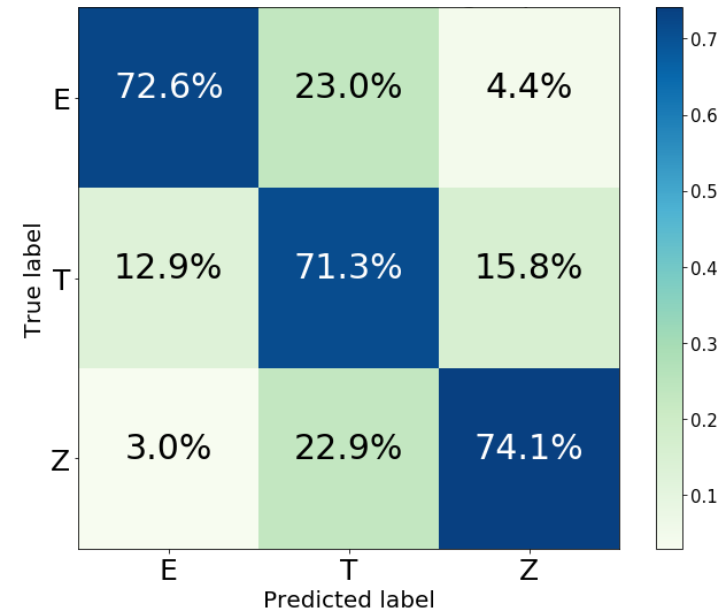
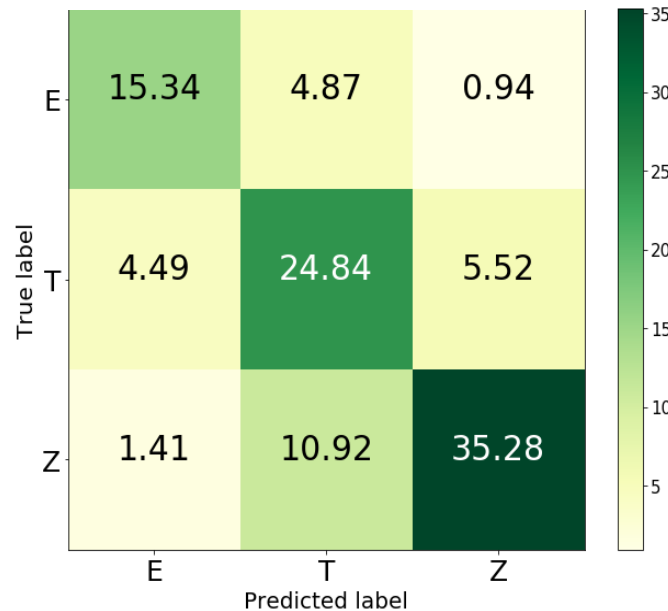


Sum of the elements in a row = 100 % \longrightarrow # of tracks in the corresponding family

Classification results on families

Output not recognized if $\max(p_E, p_T, p_Z) < 0.4$

500 executions: 103.61 tracks classified and 4.39 not recognized, on average



Conclusions and perspectives

- In this study we focused on the classification in families of marine self-propelled vehicles, motivated by the need to minimize the decisional error on the most general category, to avoid invalidating classification at the deeper levels (classes and subclasses)
- We aim at designing a multilayer algorithm, which should perform classification at all levels, yielding a confidence level for each decision.
- A possible improvement of the model is based on extracting features from only the most informative portion of each signal, e.g. at minimal distance from the target (CPA point) or maximum signal to noise ratio.

Thank you for your attention

