

# **Theoretical Issues in ATR System Design:**

**Approximation Error,  
Estimation Error,  
Model Complexity, and  
Computational Complexity**

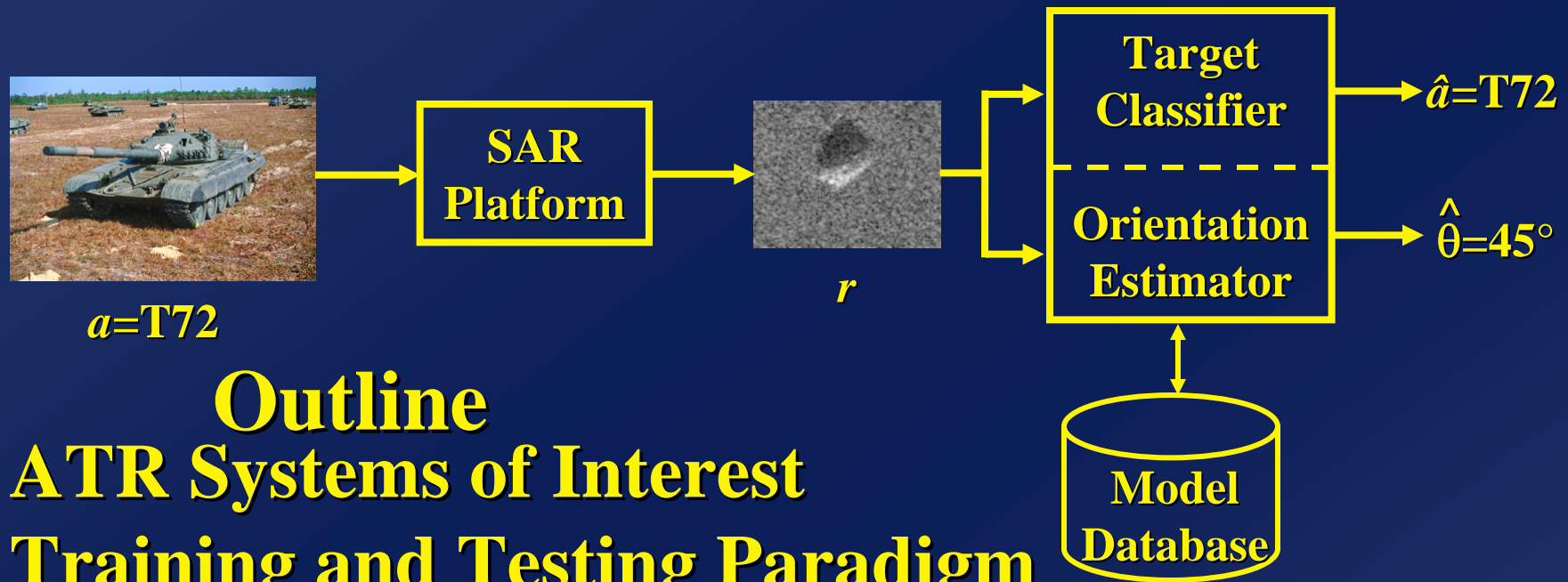
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**Boeing Foundation**

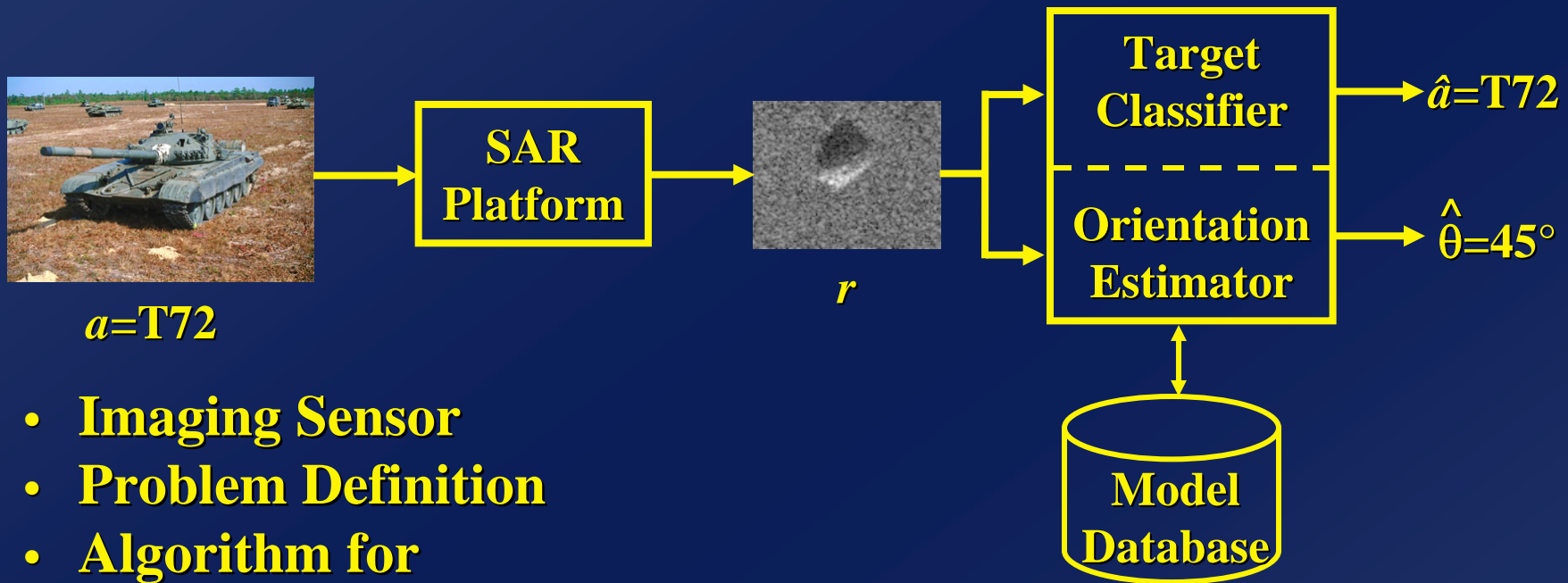
# ATR Theory and Performance



## Outline

- ATR Systems of Interest
- Training and Testing Paradigm
  - Approximation Error
  - Estimation Error
- Model Complexity
- Computational Complexity
- Conclusions

# ATR Systems of Interest



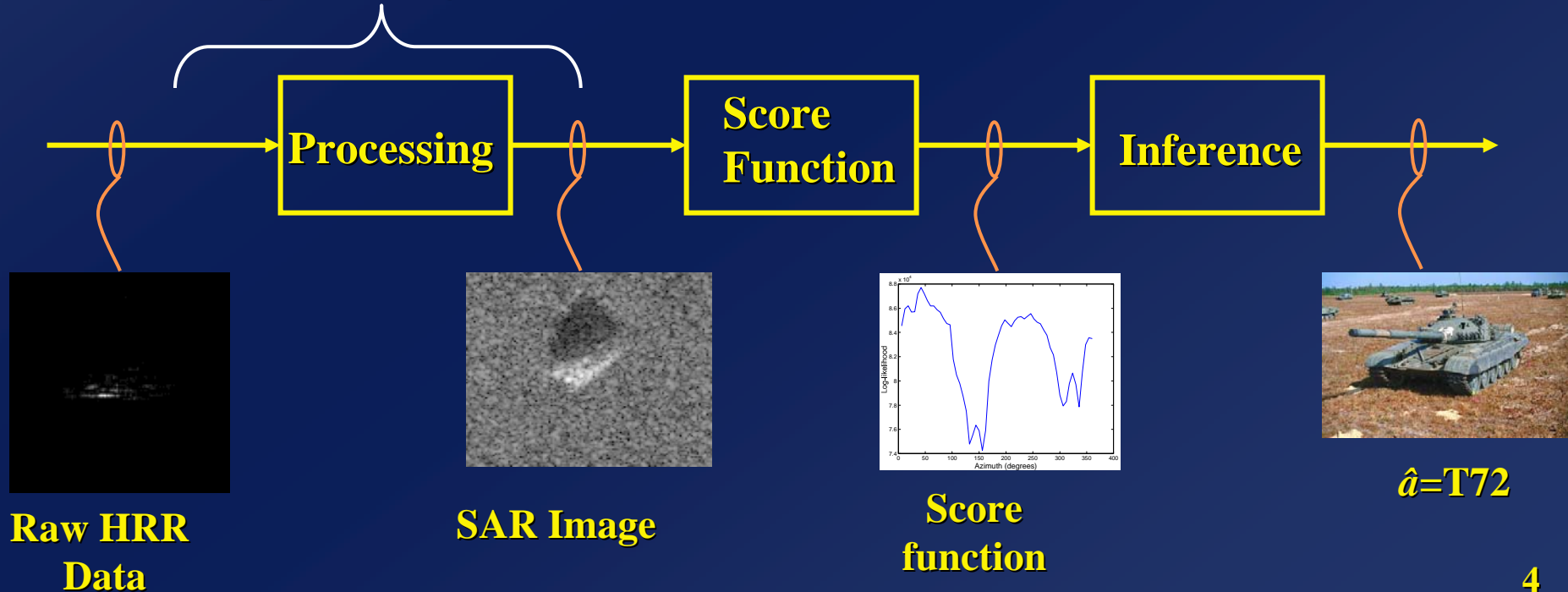
- Imaging Sensor
- Problem Definition
- Algorithm for
  - Classification
  - Parameter estimation
- System Resource Constraints
  - Database size
  - Processor speed
  - Communication speeds
  - Architecture

## Parameters:

- Pose
- Velocity
- “Features”

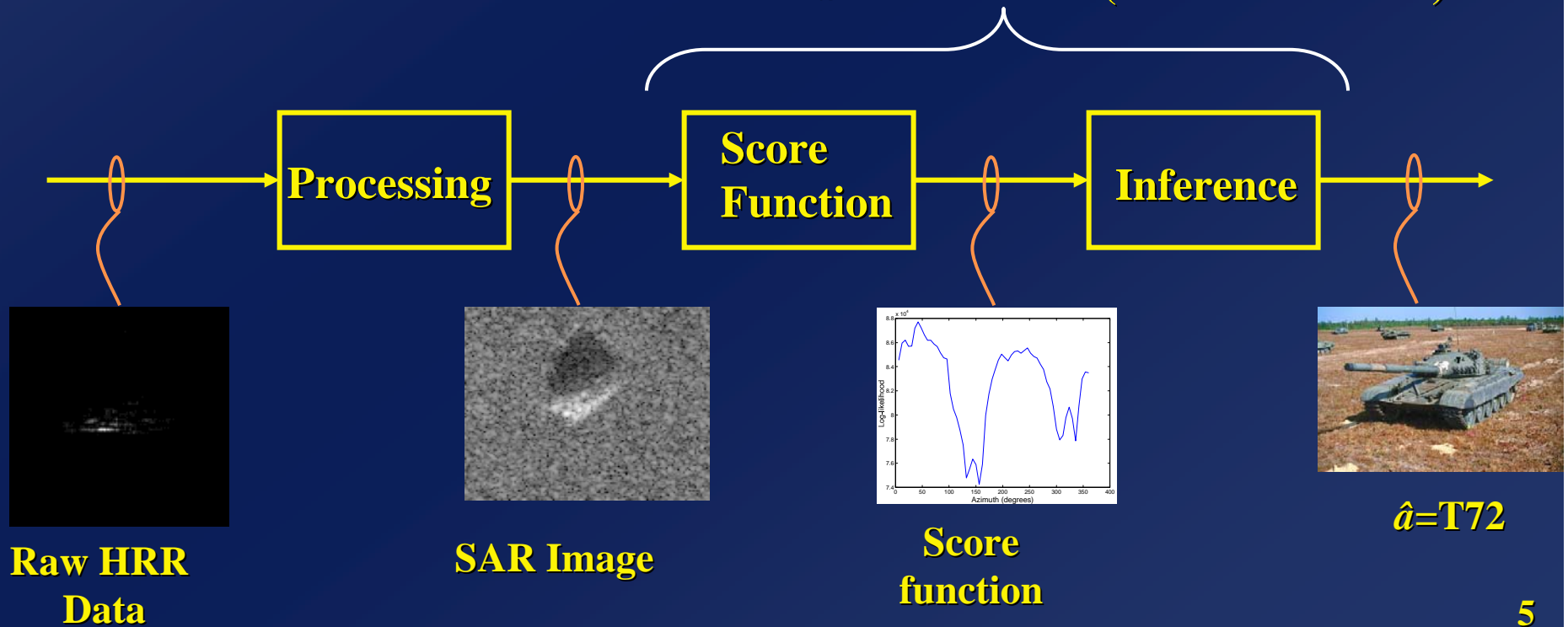
# ATR System Design: Sensor Models

- Scene and Imaging Sensor Physics
  - Reflectivity, scattering, emission phenomena
  - Electromagnetic wave propagation
  - Antenna-amplifier or optics-focal plane array
- Sensor Signal Processing
  - Point spread function, intrinsic parameters
  - Noise model, reflectivity model
  - Fixed processing

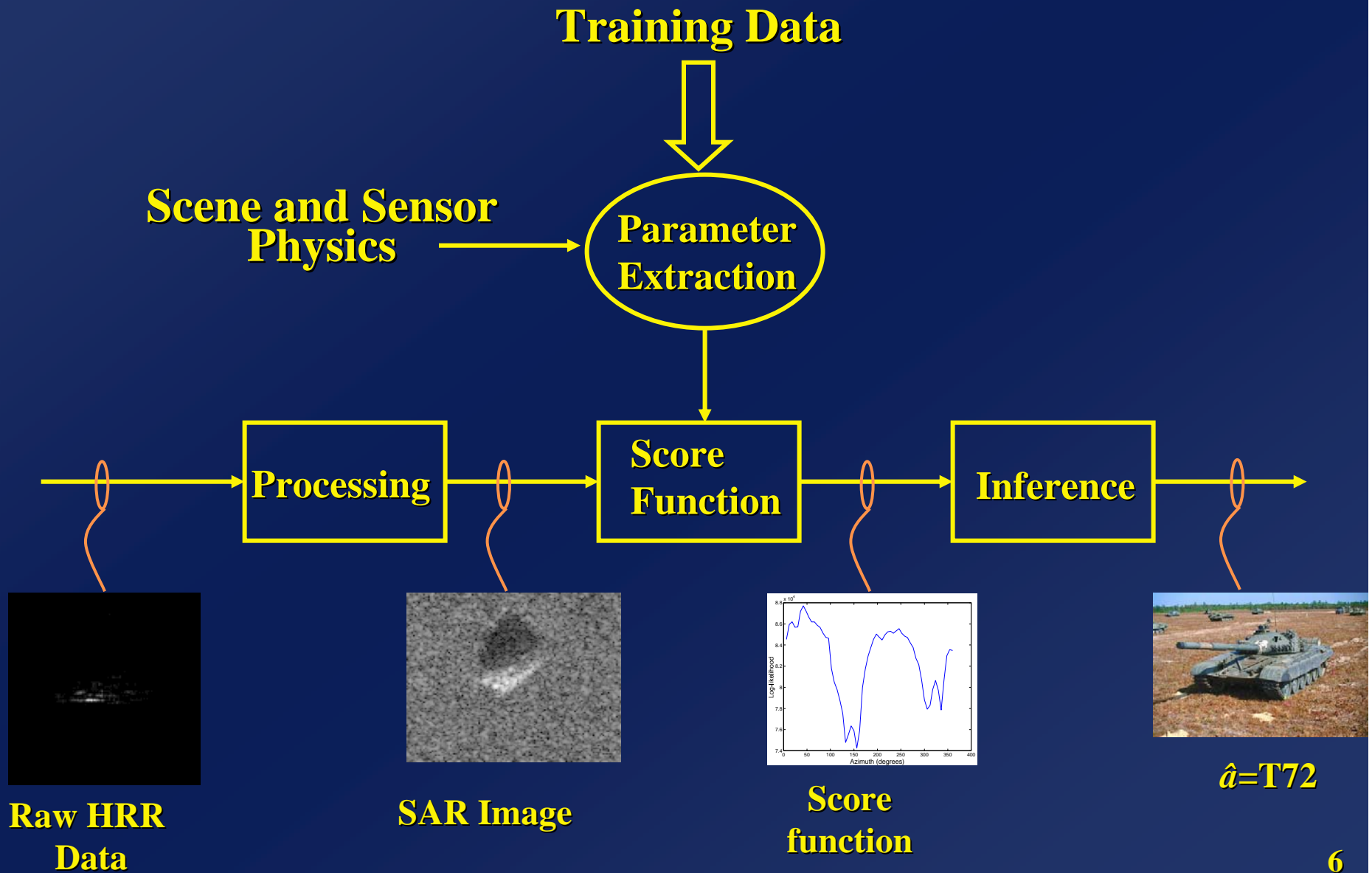


# ATR System Design: Inference

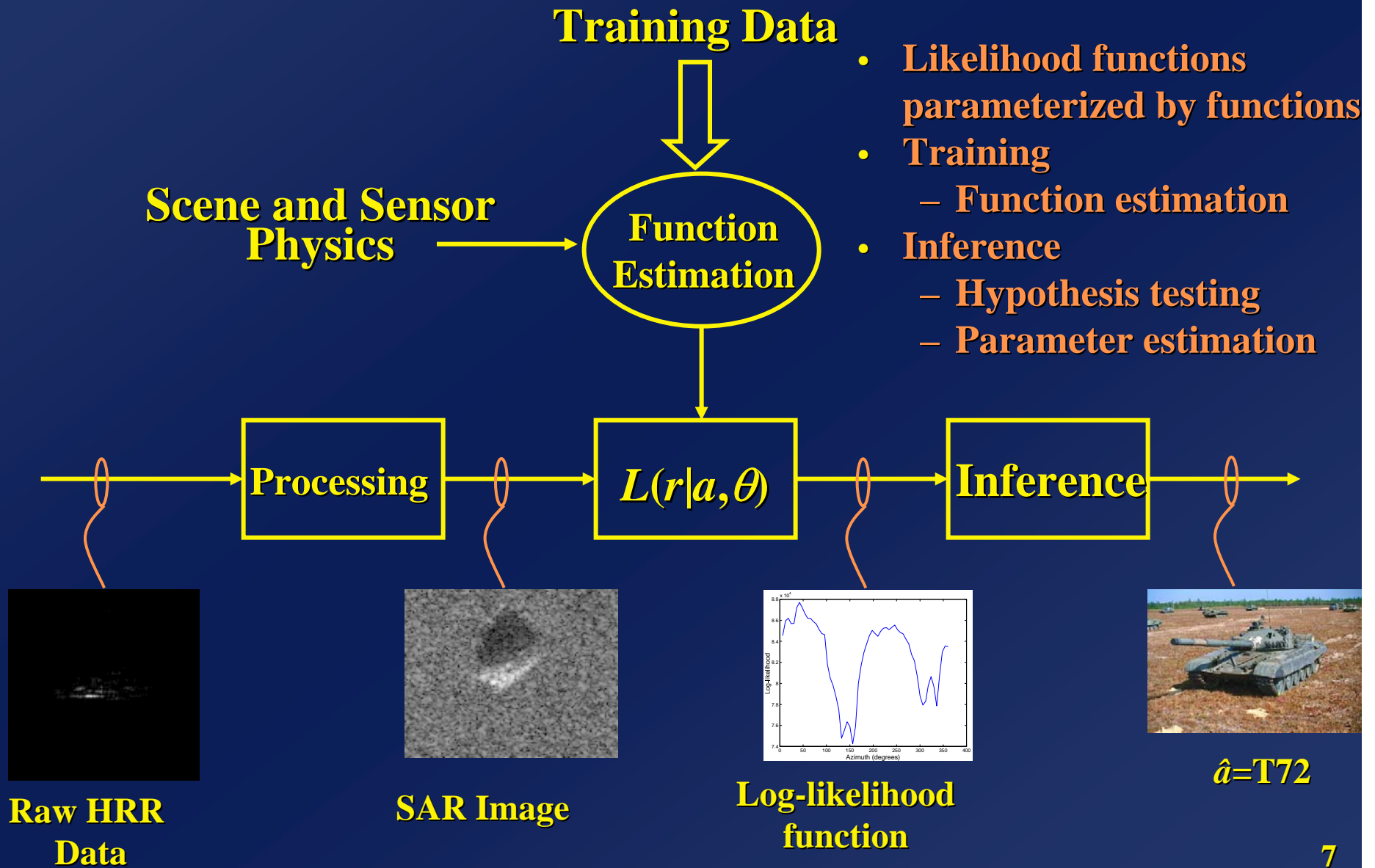
- **Likelihood-Based Approach**
  - Derive likelihood function from scene and sensor physics
  - Search likelihood function over target type and pose
  - Potential difficulties for clutter, new scenarios
- **Fixed Processing**
  - Constrain System Implementation
  - Tune parameters
  - Suboptimal for known parameters
- **Feature-Based Approaches**
  - Extract features (e.g. scattering centers)
  - Score features (often likelihoods)



# ATR System Design: Training Paradigm



# ATR System Design: Training Paradigm



# Advantages of Likelihood-Based Approach

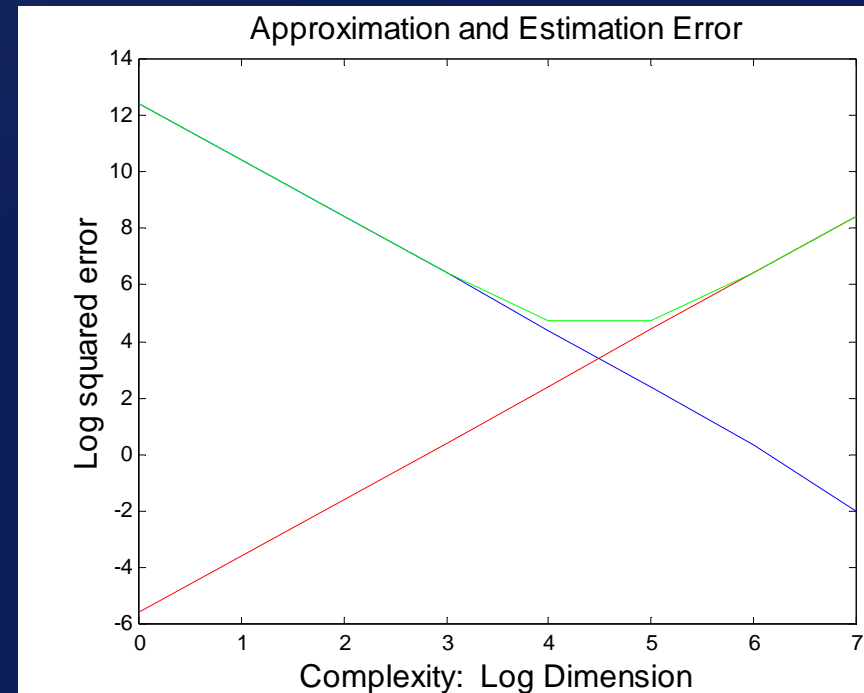
- **Likelihood Formulation Provides**
  - **Framework for optimal system design**
  - **Formalism for**
    - » **Predicting performance**
    - » **Deriving performance bounds**
  - **Benchmarks for practical system design**
  - **Fundamental approach to model verification**
  - **Approach for design for robustness**
  - **Information, Estimation, Detection, and Statistical Pattern Recognition Theories**

# Issues in Function Estimation

- **Statistical Tradeoffs:**
  - Approximation error—
  - Estimation error
  - Bias—Variance
  - Overtraining
- **Learning Theory Basis**
- **Current Information-Theoretic View:**
  - Complexity regularization
  - MDL Basis

Moulin, Yu, Barron, Rissanen

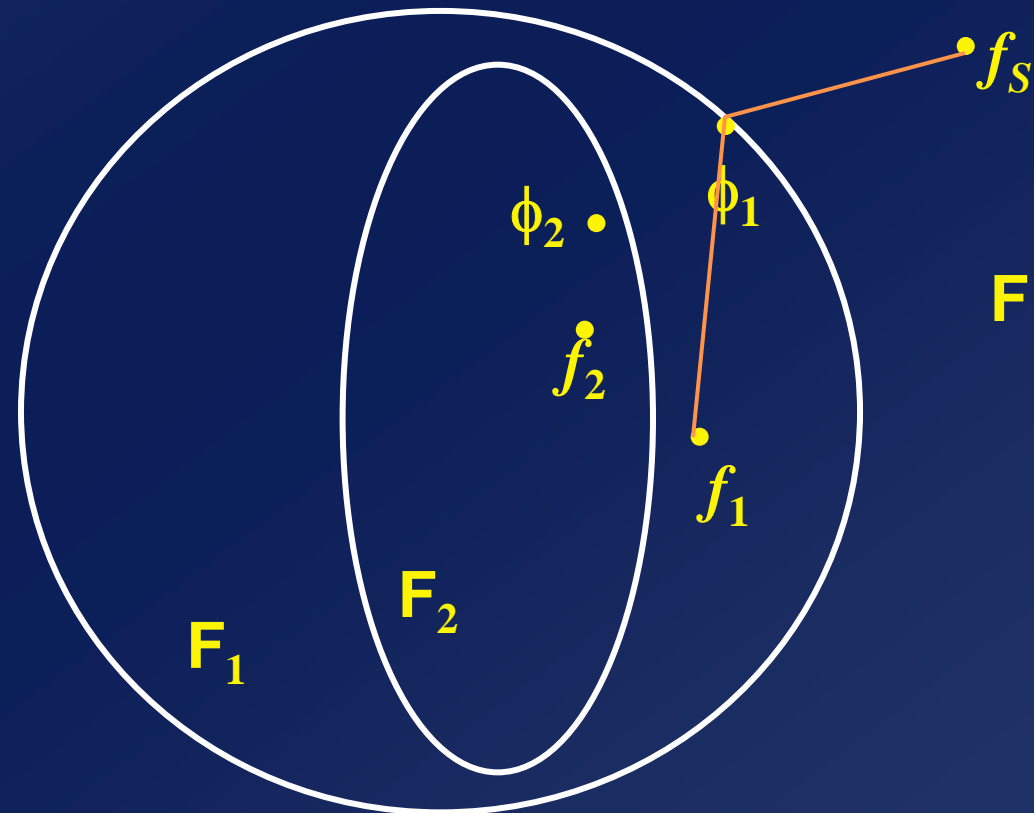
-  $\text{LLR}(f) + \eta \text{ Complexity}(f)$



**Log integrated squared error**  
**ISE=App. Error + Est. Error**  
**Individual errors exponential**  
**in dimension**

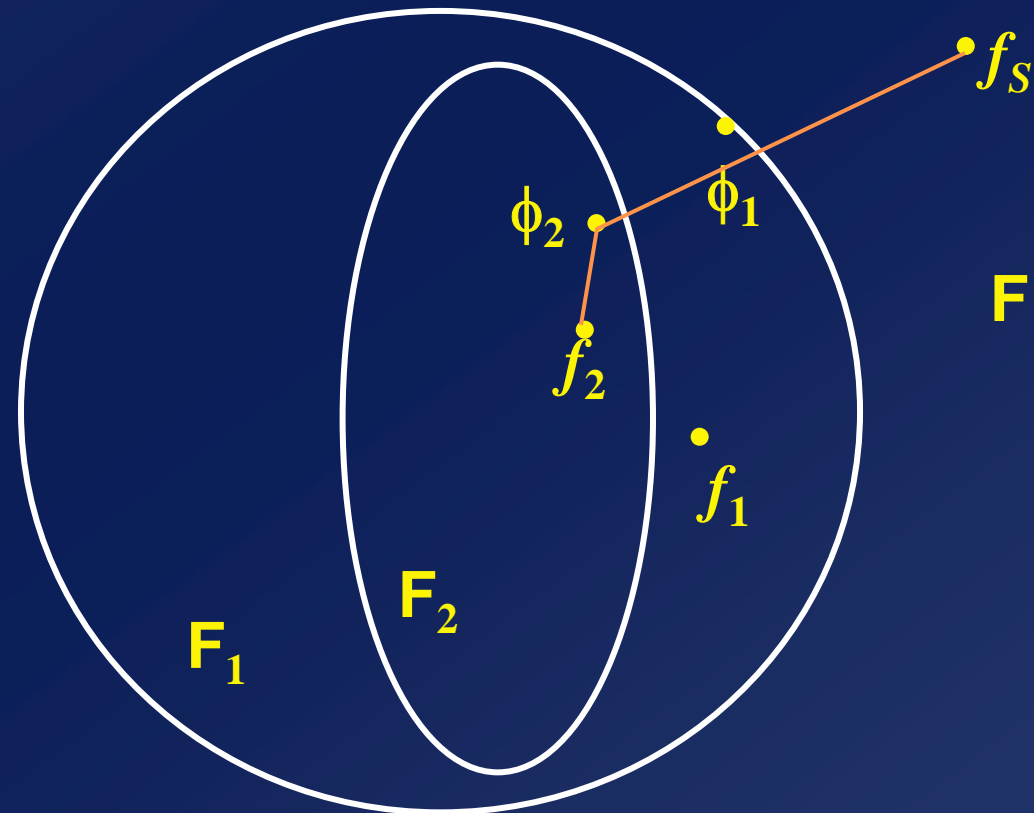
# Regularization for Function Estimation

Tikhonov  
Grenander's Sieves  
Prior Likelihoods  
Constraint Sets  
Penalty Functionals  
Complexity Regularization



# Regularization for Function Estimation

**Tikhonov**  
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**Complexity Regularization**



# Sources of Approximation Error

- **Constraints on Implementations**
  - Processor, architecture, bandwidth, memory, time
  - Adaptability
- **Incorrect target or sensor model assumptions**
- **Unmodeled or incorrectly modeled clutter**
- **Finite dimensional parameterizations**
- **Incorrect model of sensor or target dynamics**

# Conditionally Gaussian Model

Model each pixel  $i$  as independent, zero mean, complex conditionally Gaussian

$$p_{\mathbf{R}|\Theta, A, C^2}(\mathbf{r}|\theta, a, c^2) = \prod_i \frac{1}{\pi c^2 \sigma_i^2(\theta, a)} e^{-\frac{|r_i|^2}{c^2 \sigma_i^2(\theta, a)}}$$

Where:  $\sigma_i^2(\theta, a)$  = variance function over pose and class  
 $c^2$  = constant over all pixels to account for power fluctuation

Recognition by maximizing the log-likelihood ratio\*

$$[\hat{a}, \hat{\theta}, \hat{c}^2] = \operatorname{argmax}_{[a, \theta, c^2]} \ln \left[ \prod_i \frac{p(\mathbf{r}|a, \theta, c^2)}{p(\mathbf{r}|\xi^2)} I_i(a, \theta) \right]$$

Where:  $\xi^2$  = average clutter variance  
 $I_i$  = mask function

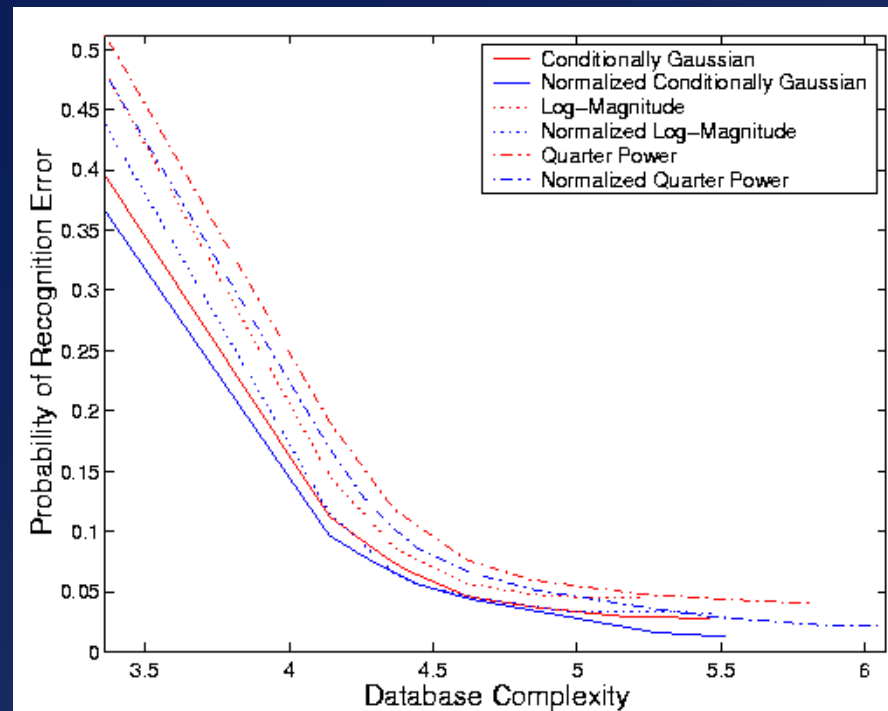
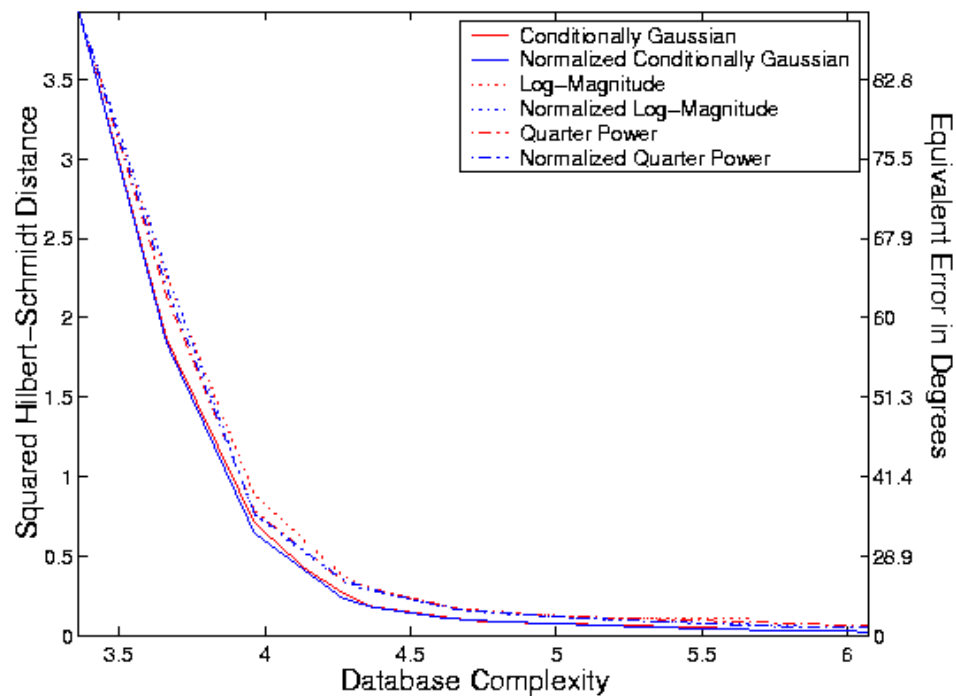
\*Schmid & O'Sullivan "Thresholding Method for Reduction of Dimensionality"

# ATR Performance and Complexity

Comparison in terms of:

- Performance achievable at a given complexity
- Complexity required to achieve a given performance

Information Theory Basis: Rate-Distortion Theory →  
Rate-Recognition Theory



# Image Segmentation → Target Extraction

## Information-Theoretic Approach

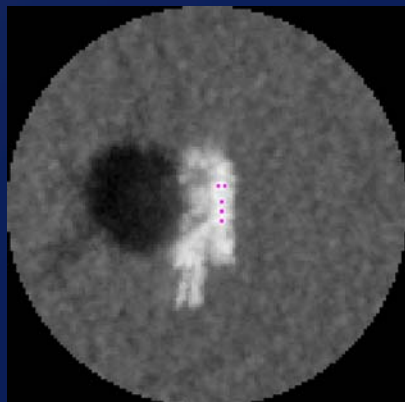
- Hypothesis Test:
  - pixels on target vs. on clutter
- Pixelwise measure of information for discrimination

$$D(p_i || p_0)$$

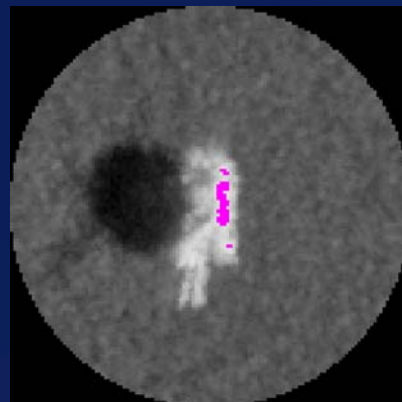
Conditionally Gaussian

$$\left( \frac{|r_i|^2}{\xi^2} \right) - 1 - \ln \left( \frac{|r_i|^2}{\xi^2} \right)$$

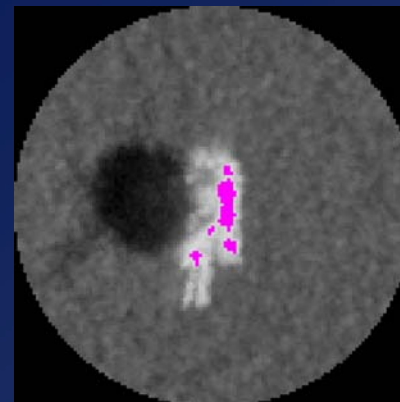
- Segmentation Complexity
  - Likelihoods on snakes (contours)
  - Complexity of region



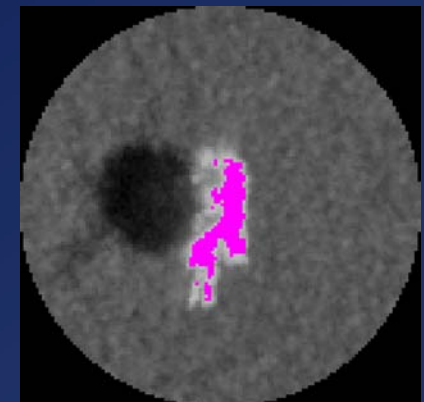
Top 5



Top 50



Top 100



Top 300

# System Design Issues: Dynamically Reconfigurable Algorithms

- **Information Theory Contributions**
  - **Successively Refinable Models**
    - » Effros, Cover and Equitz, Rimoldi
    - » J. Shapiro, Said and Pearlman
    - » R. DeVore, A. Cohen,
    - » I. Daubechies, D. Donoho, ...
  - **Successively Refinable Recognition**
    - » Rate-distortion  $\rightarrow$  Rate-recognition
    - » Log-time, log-space  $\leftrightarrow$  Rate



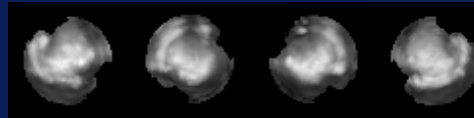
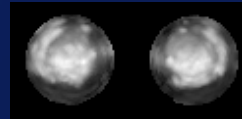
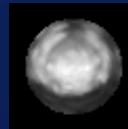
# Successively-Refinable Sensor Models

Divide azimuth into  $N_d$  non-overlapping intervals of width  $d$

$$\tilde{\sigma}_{d,i}^2(\theta_k, a) = \frac{1}{d} \int_{\frac{2\pi k}{N_d} - \frac{d}{2}}^{\frac{2\pi k}{N_d} + \frac{d}{2}} \sigma_i^2(\theta, a) d\theta$$

Consider decreasing interval widths

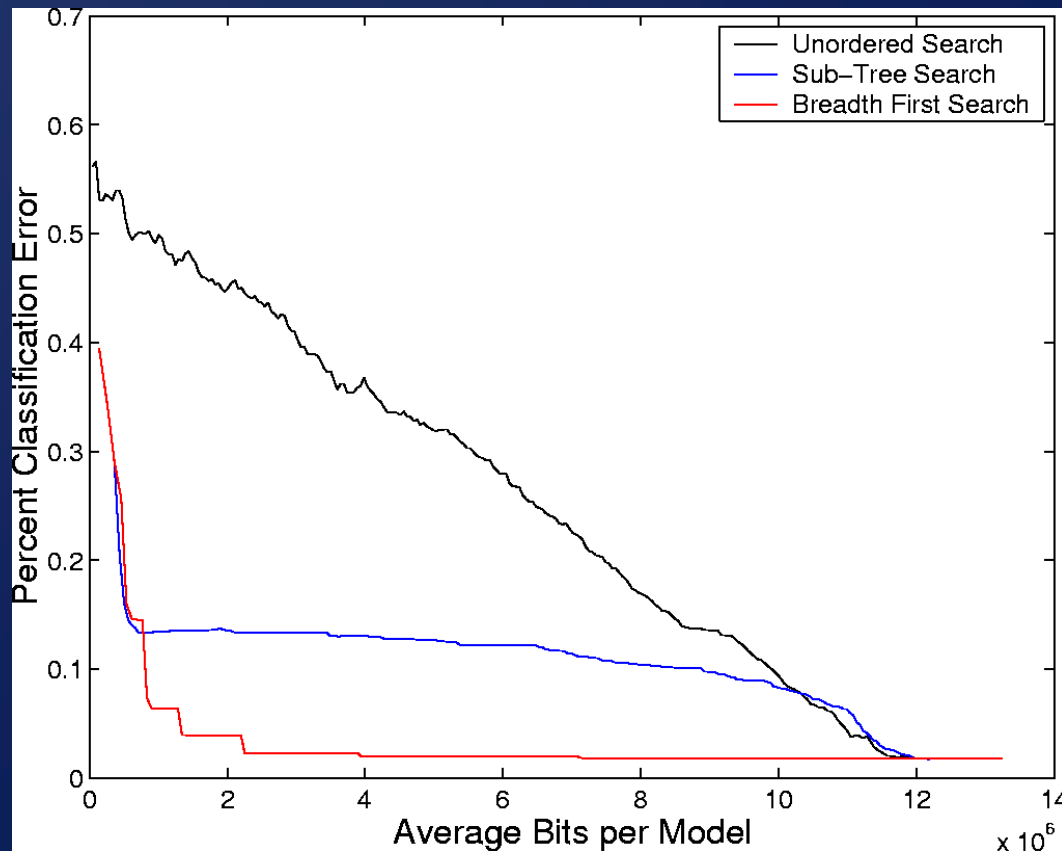
$$d_1 = 2\pi, d_2 = \pi, \dots, d_m = 2\pi/2^{m-1}$$



Search over  $\theta_k$  in level  $i$  ordered by the most likely pose at level  $i-1$

# Four-Class Example

Successively-refinable sensor models yield successively-refinable decisions

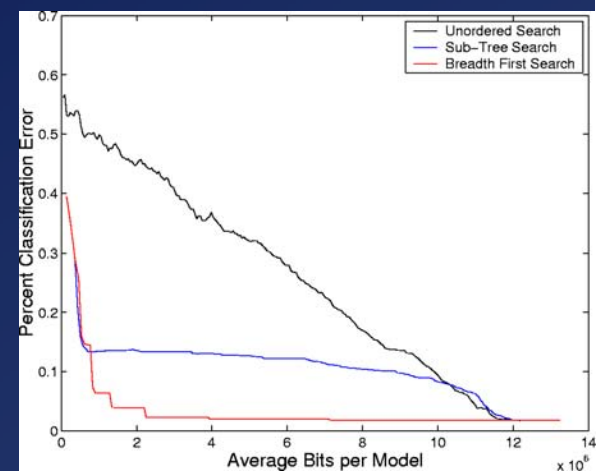
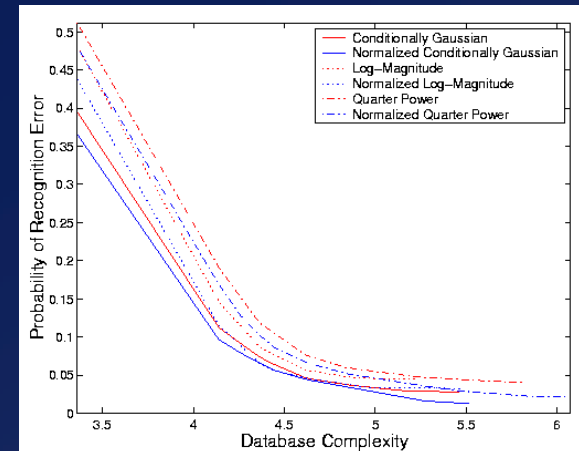
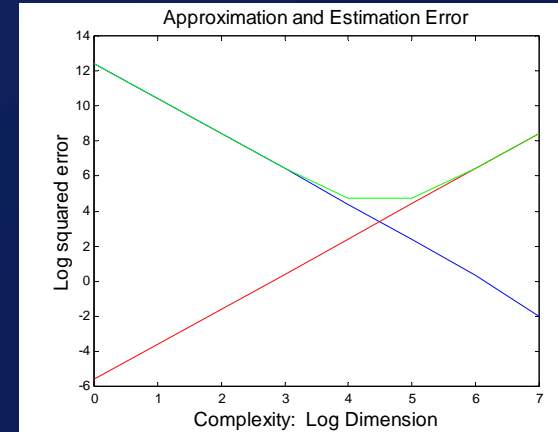


- Eventually, search covers all possibilities
- Breadth-first search quickly finds good combinations of  $(\theta, a)$
- Method for modeling target reflectivity statistics from sample images
- Target models used to estimate conditional sensor output statistics

Classification error as a function of number of bits passed between the database and processor

# Conclusions

- **ATR Theory**
  - Approximation Error
  - Estimation Error
  - Model Complexity
  - Computational Complexity
- **Model-Based Approaches:**  
Known Distributions
- **Successive Refinement**
- **Implementation Considerations**



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