

# Visual Explainability in Machine Learning

## Lecture 8: Concept Vectors: Utility in Training and Testing



Ghassan AlRegib, PhD  
Professor



Mohit Prabhushankar, PhD  
Postdoctoral Fellow

Omni Lab for Intelligent Visual Engineering and Science (OLIVES)  
School of Electrical and Computer Engineering  
**Georgia Institute of Technology**  
{alregib, mohit.p}@gatech.edu

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# Short Course Materials

Accessible Online



## Title: Visual Explainability in Machine Learning

Presented by: *Ghassan AlRegib, and Mohit Prabhushankar*

Omni Lab for Intelligent Visual Engineering and Science (OLIVES)

School of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, USA

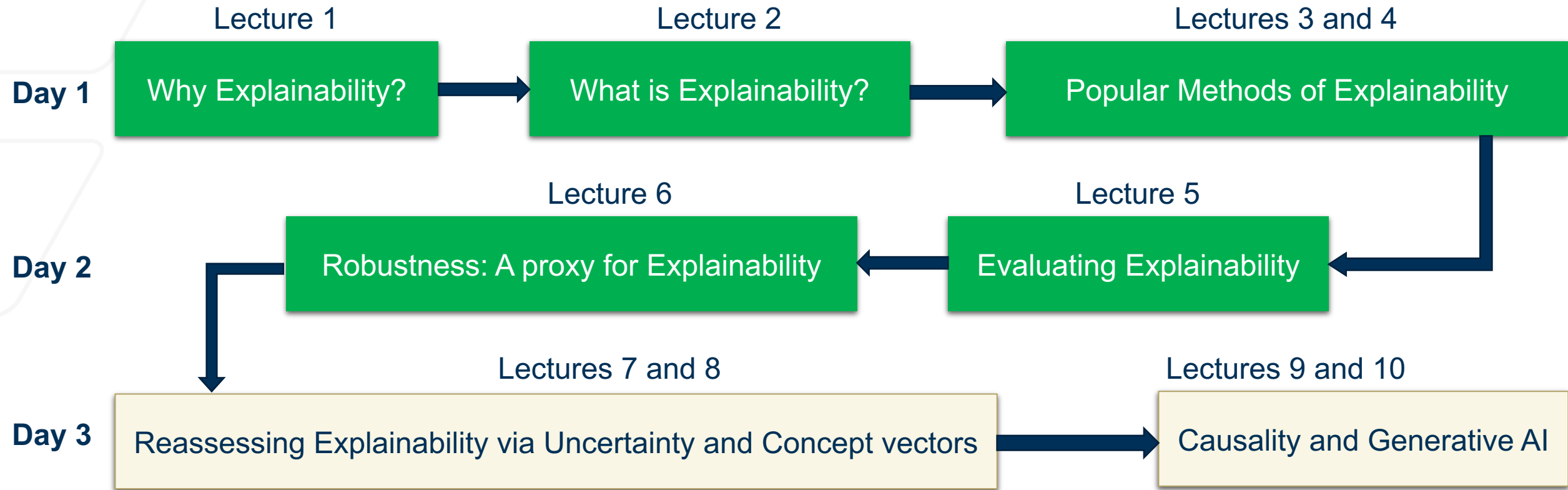
<https://alregib.ece.gatech.edu/>

<https://alregib.ece.gatech.edu/sps-education-short-course/>  
{alregib, mohit.p}@gatech.edu

# Short Course

## Course Outline

**Day 1: Define and Detail; Day 2: Evaluate; Day 3: Reassess**



# Outline

## Lecture 8: Concept Vectors: Utility in Training and Testing

- Concept Vectors for Explainability
- Testing with Concept Activation Vectors
- Concept Retrieval
  - Case study in seismic interpretability
  - Training for concept retrieval
- Concept Weights
  - Regularization-based concepts
  - Preprocessing-based concepts
  - Sparsity-based concepts
  - Color space-based concepts
  - Texture-based concepts
- Takeaways

# Outline

## Lecture 8: Concept Vectors: Utility in Training and Testing

- **Concept Vectors for Explainability**
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# Concept Vectors

What are concept vectors?

**Interpretable semantic notions of an abstract idea that can be represented mathematically**

- Textures
  - Soft
  - Rough
  - ...
- Shapes
  - Circular
  - Cube
  - ...
- Semantic concepts
  - Nose
  - Beak
  - ...

Label: Tabby cat



**Relevant concepts:**

- Orange fur
- Cat-like shape
- Nose
- Eyes
- Whiskers

# Concept Vectors

## Explanations via Concept Vectors

**Explanations: Weight the importance of concepts for the task at hand**

- Textures
  - Soft
  - Rough
  - ...
- Shapes
  - Circular
  - Cube
  - ...
- Semantic concepts
  - Nose
  - Beak
  - ...

Label: Tabby cat



*For classification, how relevant is the texture of the fur as compared to the shape of the animal?*

# Concept Vectors

## Explanations via Concept Vectors

### Imagenet-trained Neural Networks are biased to texture rather than shape



(a) Texture image

81.4% **Indian elephant**  
10.3% indri  
8.2% black swan

(b) Content image

71.1% **tabby cat**  
17.3% grey fox  
3.3% Siamese cat

(c) Texture-shape cue conflict

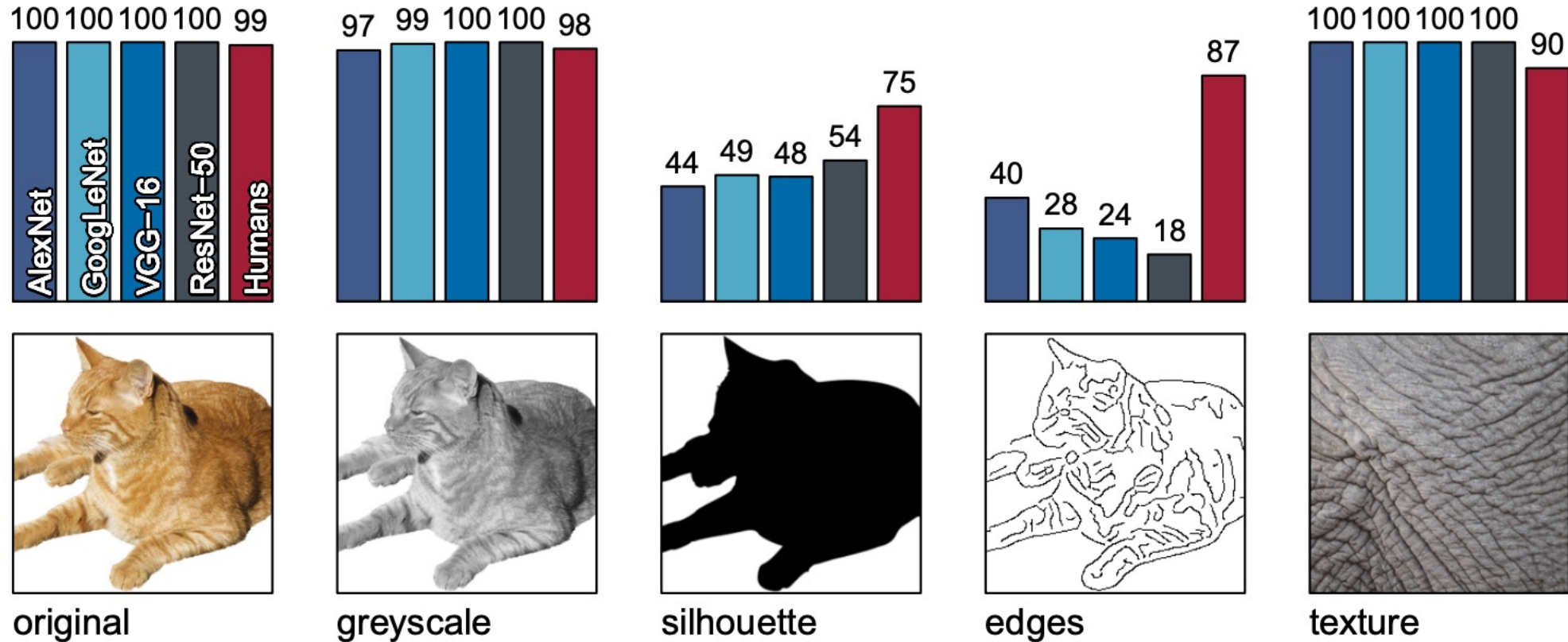
63.9% **Indian elephant**  
26.4% indri  
9.6% black swan



# Concept Vectors

## Explanations via Concept Vectors

### Imagenet-trained Neural Networks are biased to texture rather than shape



# Utilizing Concept Vectors

## Training on Style-Transferred Images

**Key Insight: Neural Networks overfit to lower-order concepts like color and texture rather than higher-order concept like shape**



The above insight suggests training on style-transferred images where shape remains the same but texture differs is more robust

# Outline

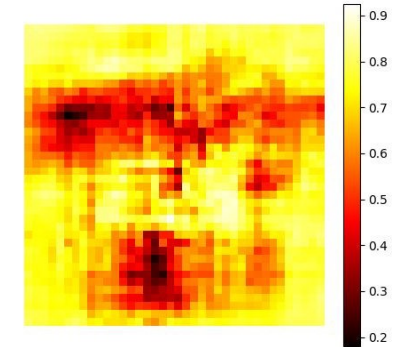
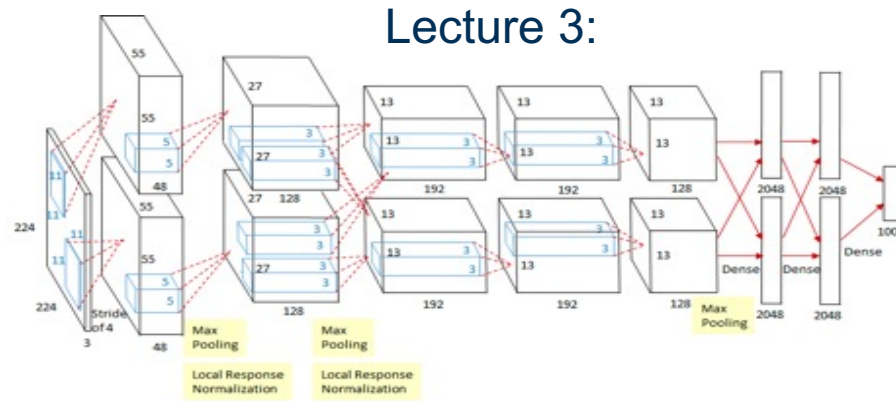
## Lecture 8: Concept Vectors: Utility in Training and Testing

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- **Testing with Concept Activation Vectors**
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# As an Aside..

## Constructing Explanations vs Evaluating Explanations

### Lecture 3: Construct explanations via occlusion; Lecture 5: Evaluate explanations via occlusion



### Lecture 5:



Trained Model

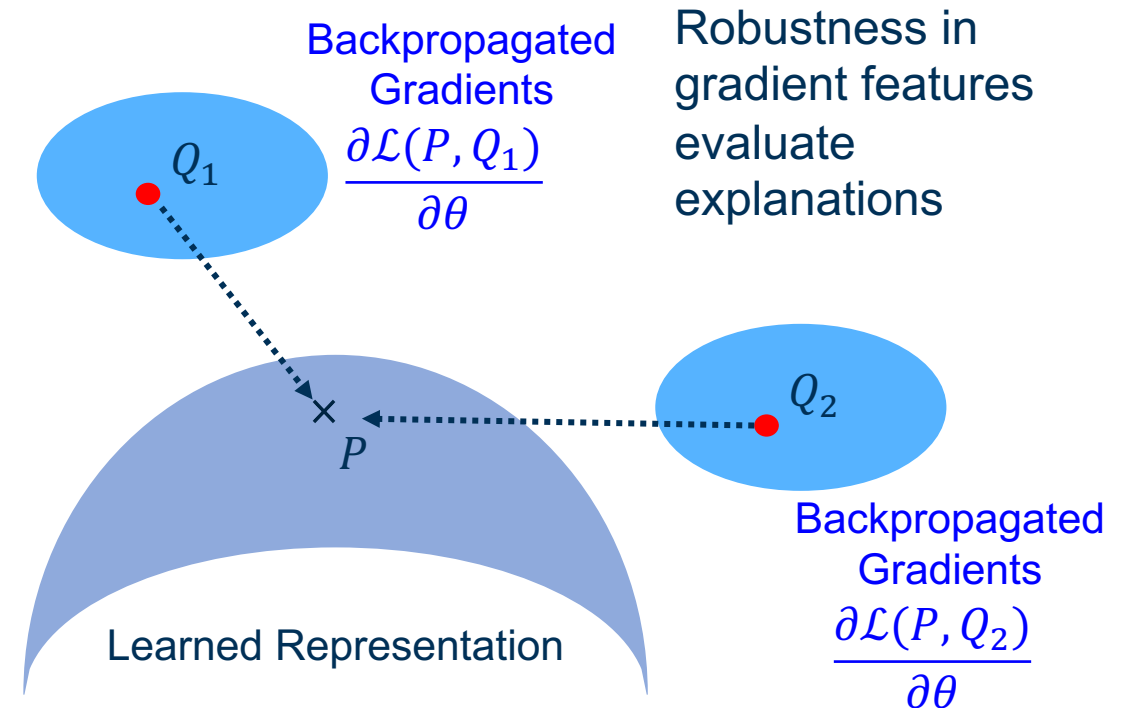
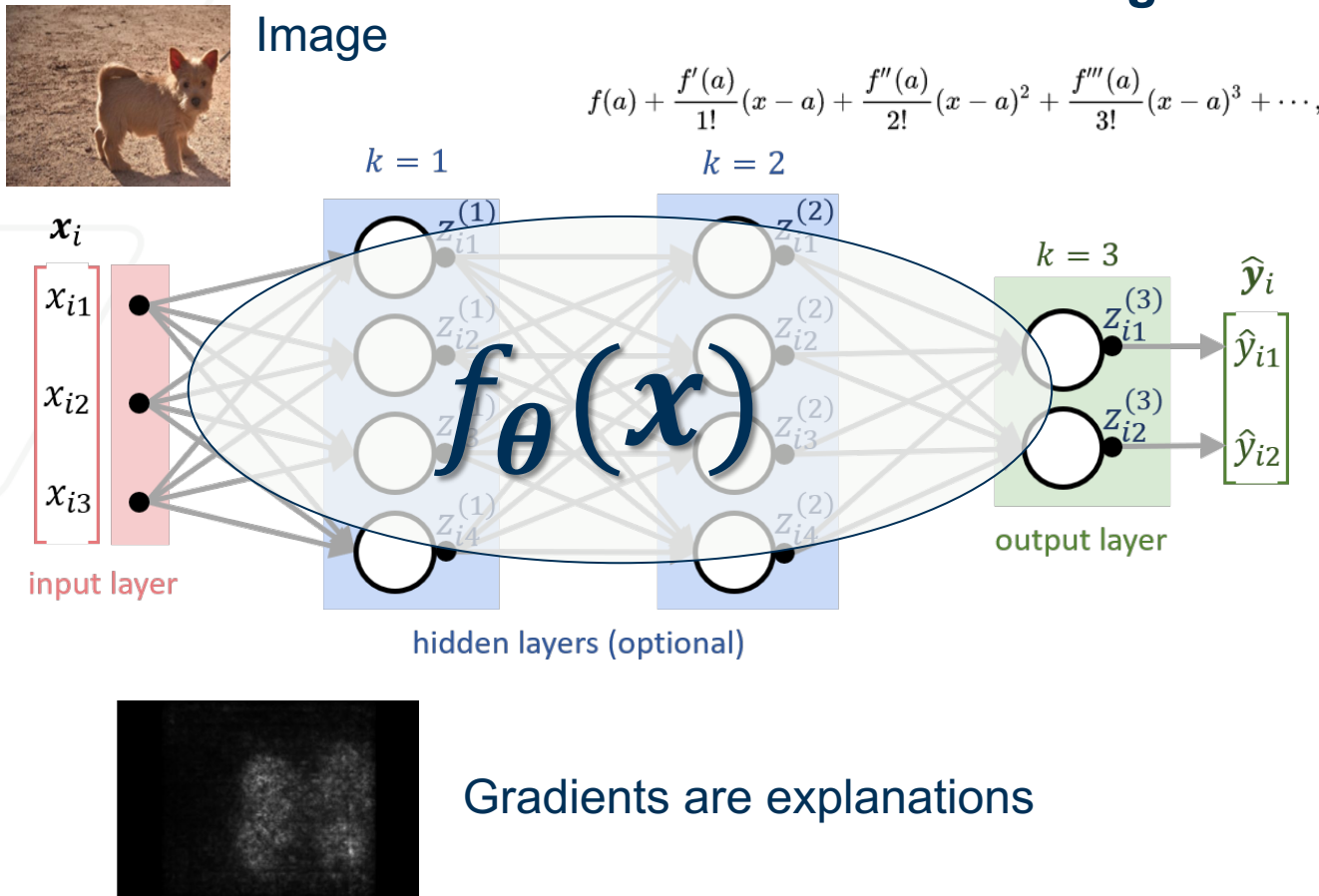
Spoonbill

Evaluate the effect of Explainability in Network Evaluation

# As an Aside..

## Constructing Explanations vs Evaluating Explanations

### Lecture 3 and 4: Construct explanations via gradients; Lecture 6: Evaluate explanations via gradients



# As an Aside..

## Constructing Explanations vs Evaluating Explanations

**Lecture 3 and 4: Construct explanations via gradients; Lecture 6: Evaluate explanations via gradients**



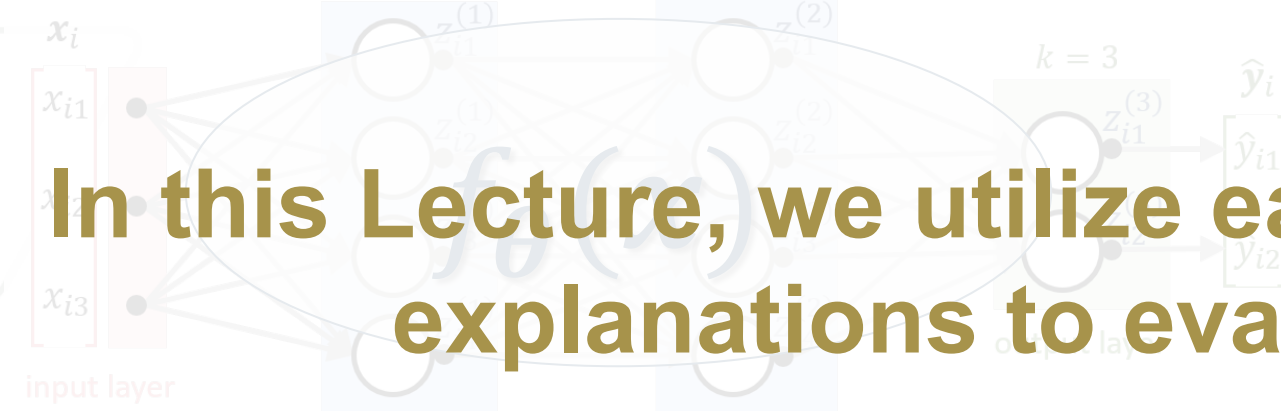
Image

$$f(a) + \frac{f'(a)}{1!}(x-a) + \frac{f''(a)}{2!}(x-a)^2 + \frac{f'''(a)}{3!}(x-a)^3 + \dots,$$

$k = 1$

$k = 2$

$k = 3$



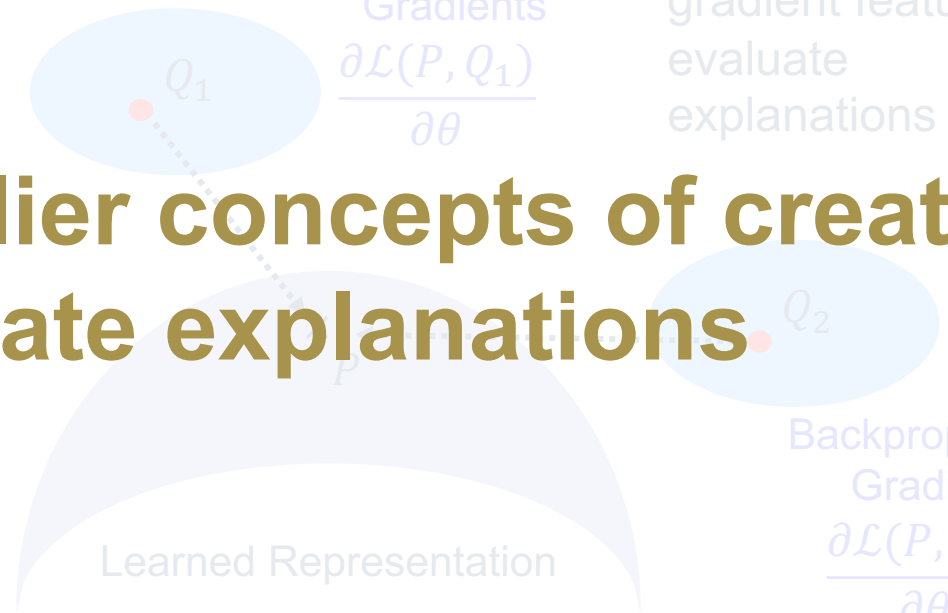
input layer

hidden layers (optional)

$\hat{y}_i$

$y_{i1}$

$y_{i2}$



Backpropagated Gradients  
 $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}(P, Q_1)}{\partial \theta}$

Robustness in gradient features evaluate explanations

Backpropagated Gradients  
 $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}(P, Q_2)}{\partial \theta}$

Learned Representation

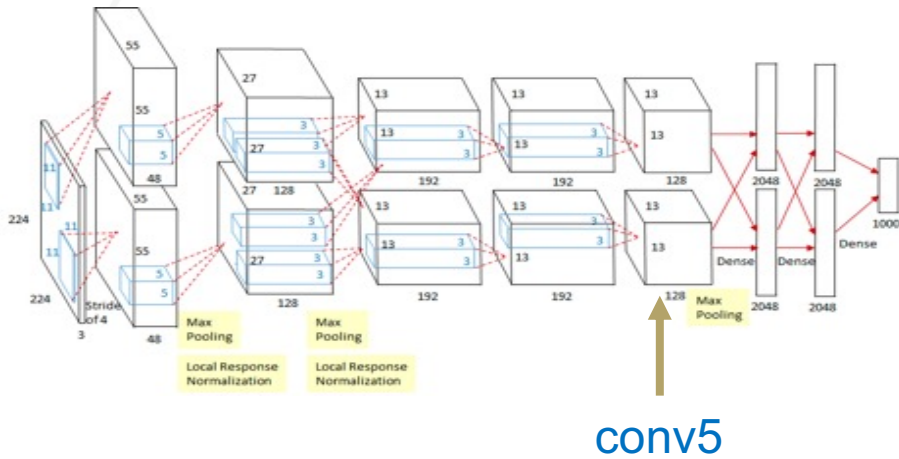
Gradients are explanations

**In this Lecture, we utilize earlier concepts of creating explanations to evaluate explanations.**

# Recap: Concept Retrieval

## Concept Retrieval as Explanations

In Lecture 3: Maximally Activating Patches were retrieved and acted as explanations



**Maximally Activating Patches:** Image patches in the input that cause the maximum activations of certain filters



# Testing with Concept Vectors

What are Concept Activation Vectors (CAV)?

**Concept Activation Vectors (CAVs) are the activations from known concepts within data**

In Lecture 3: Patches are from data. In Lecture 8: Concepts are *features* within data

Concepts:



Retrieve:



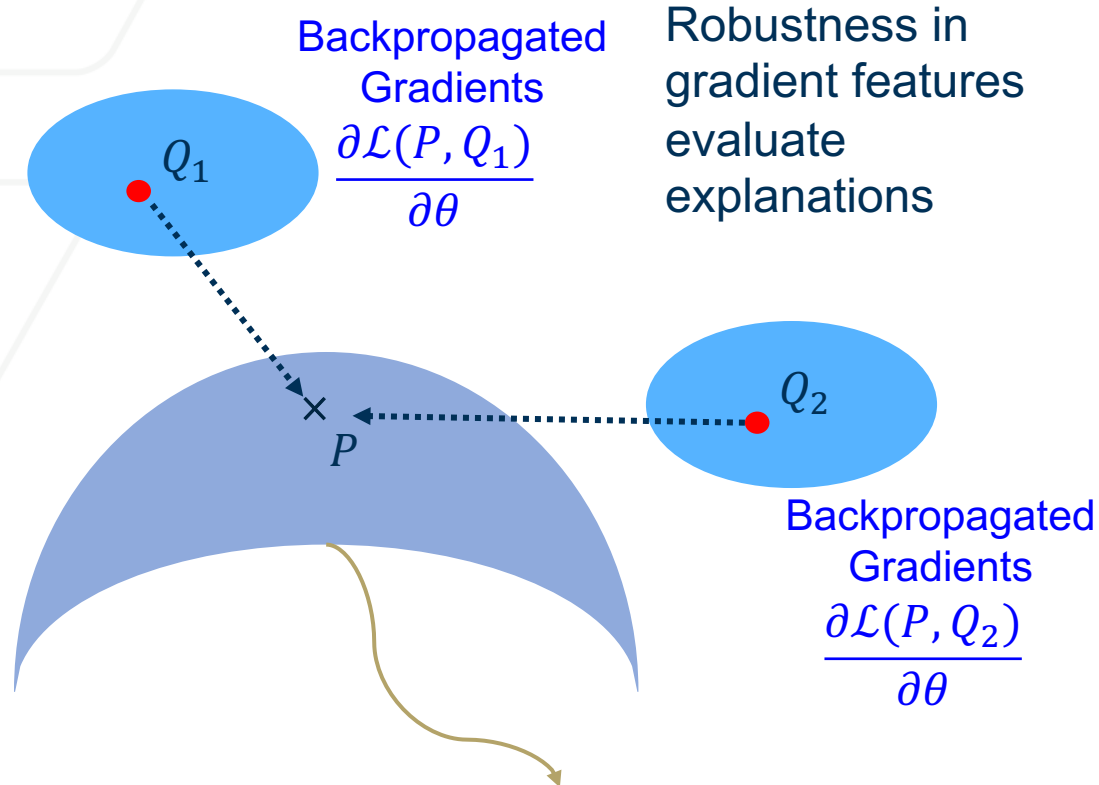
**Goal: Given exemplary concept patches, retrieve all relevant concepts in the image**



# Testing with Concept Vectors

## Methodology

**Concept Activation Vectors (CAVs) are explicit evaluation techniques that require a new classifier**



Step 1: Forward pass all images through a trained network

Step 2: Record all activations for all training data

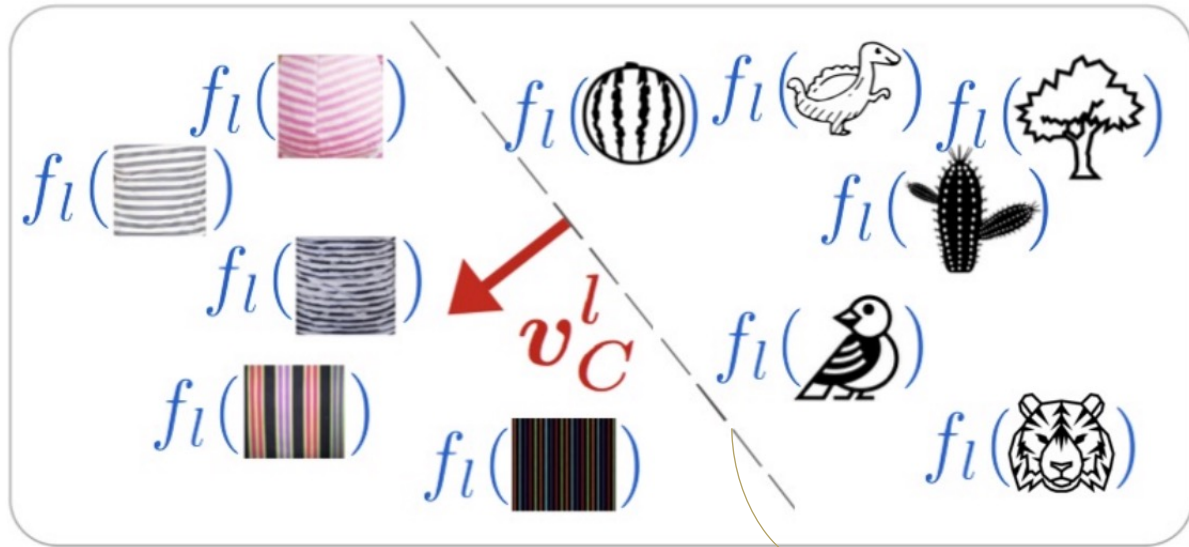
Step 3: Construct a linear classifier on all (labeled) activation concepts (from any layer)

In Lecture 6, we backpropagate using the base network: CNNs, Transformers etc.

# Testing with Concept Vectors

## Methodology

Gradients are used as directional information using simple linear classifiers and gradients



Step 1: Forward pass all images through a trained network

Step 2: Record all activations for all training data

Step 3: Construct a linear classifier on all (labeled) activation concepts (from any layer)

Step 4: To obtain explanations, find sign of gradient from test image against the trained classifier.

Positive sign indicates the concepts influence the decision, while negative sign indicates no influence

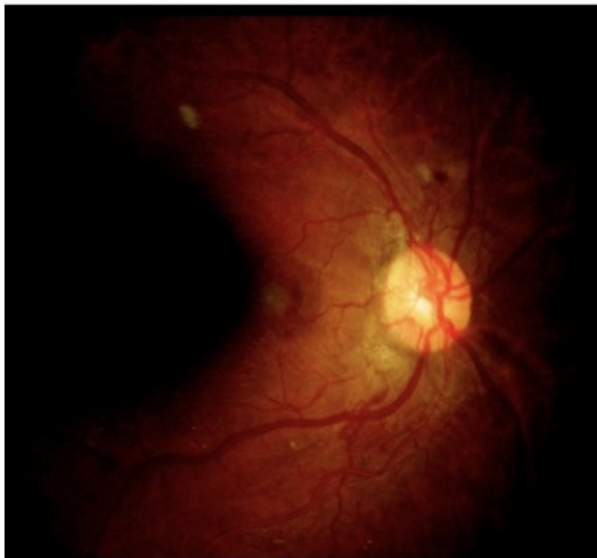
## Trained classifier from Step 3

# Testing with Concept Vectors

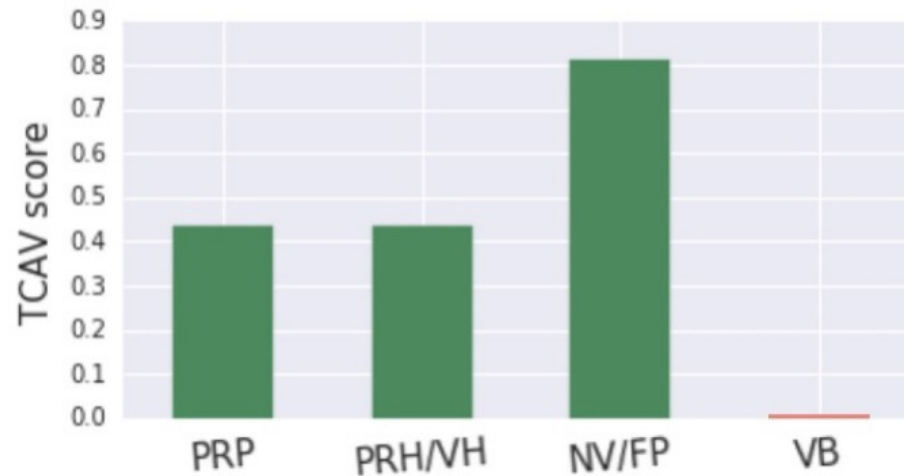
## Results

Gradients are used as directional information using simple linear classifiers and gradients

DR level 4 Retina



TCAV for DR level 4



Green = Important concept

Red = Irrelevant concept

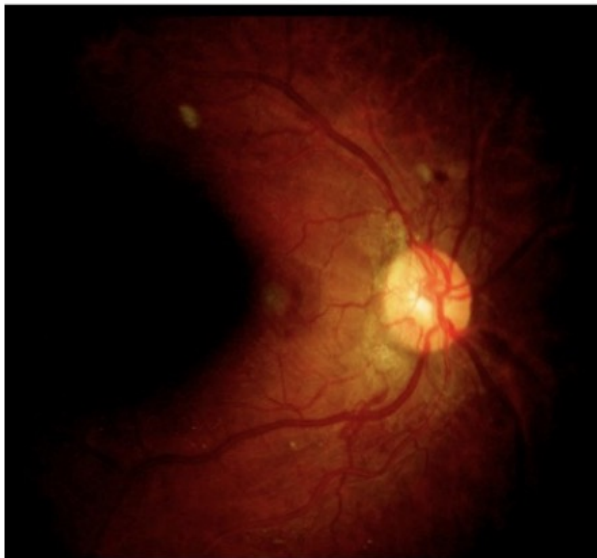
Given biomarkers, TCAV attributes the severity level of Diabetic Retinopathy (DR) to the biomarkers

# Testing with Concept Vectors

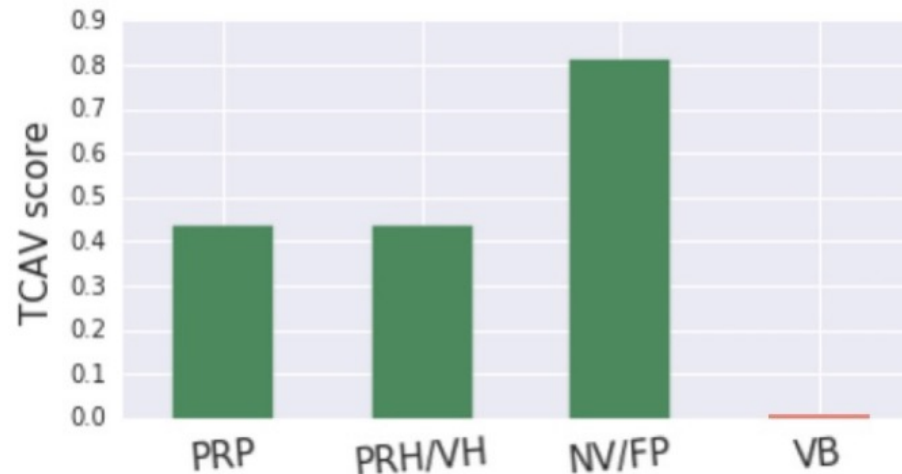
## Summary

Gradients are used as directional information using simple linear classifiers and gradients

DR level 4 Retina



TCAV for DR level 4



Green = Important concept

Red = Irrelevant concept

- **Provides feature-based explanations:** Combines low-level features with high-level semantics
- **Labeled features** (or concepts) are **not always available** in visual data
- Requires an additional classifier

# Outline

## Lecture 8: Concept Vectors: Utility in Training and Testing

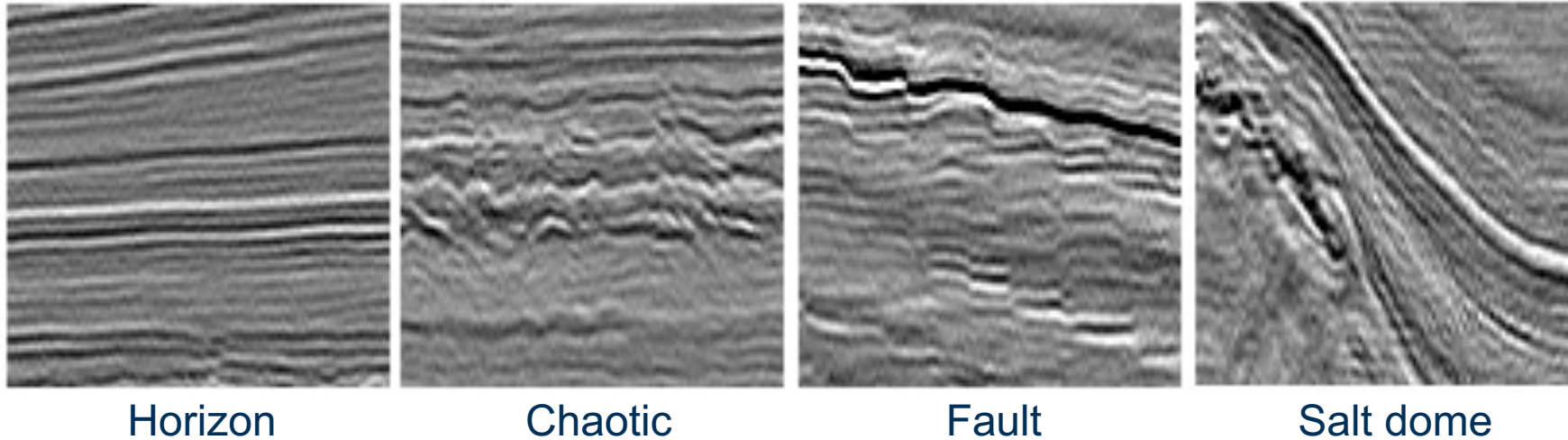
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# Case Study: Concept Retrieval in Seismic Images

## Case Study: Seismic Interpretability

**Given an exemplary seismic structure, retrieve concepts of the same structure**

Exemplar  
concepts



**Not given: Large training concepts (structures), that can be used to predict concepts**

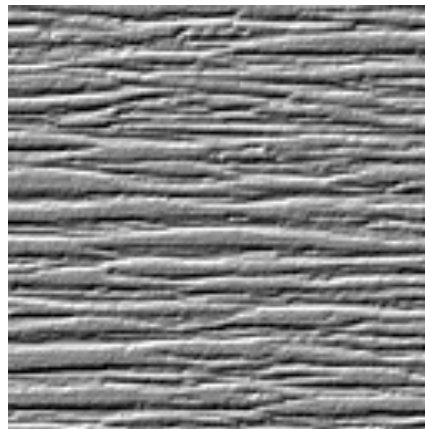
**Known: The concepts of horizons, chaos, fault, and salt dome do not occur within the same pixels, i.e. they are orthogonal**

**We utilize this knowledge to train a neural network for pixel-wise segmentation based on concepts**

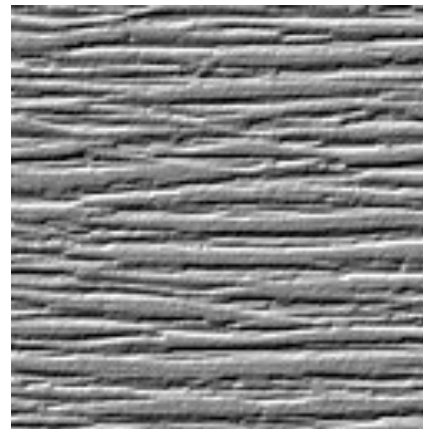
# Case Study: Concept Retrieval in Seismic Images

## Case Study: Texture Retrieval

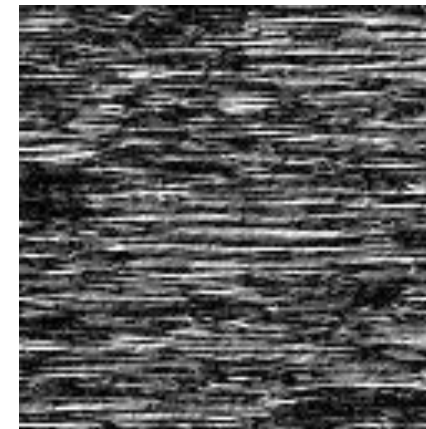
### Challenge 1: Typical measures of Pixel-Pixel Correspondence does not apply



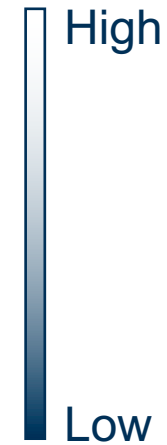
(a) Texture image 1



(b) Texture image 2



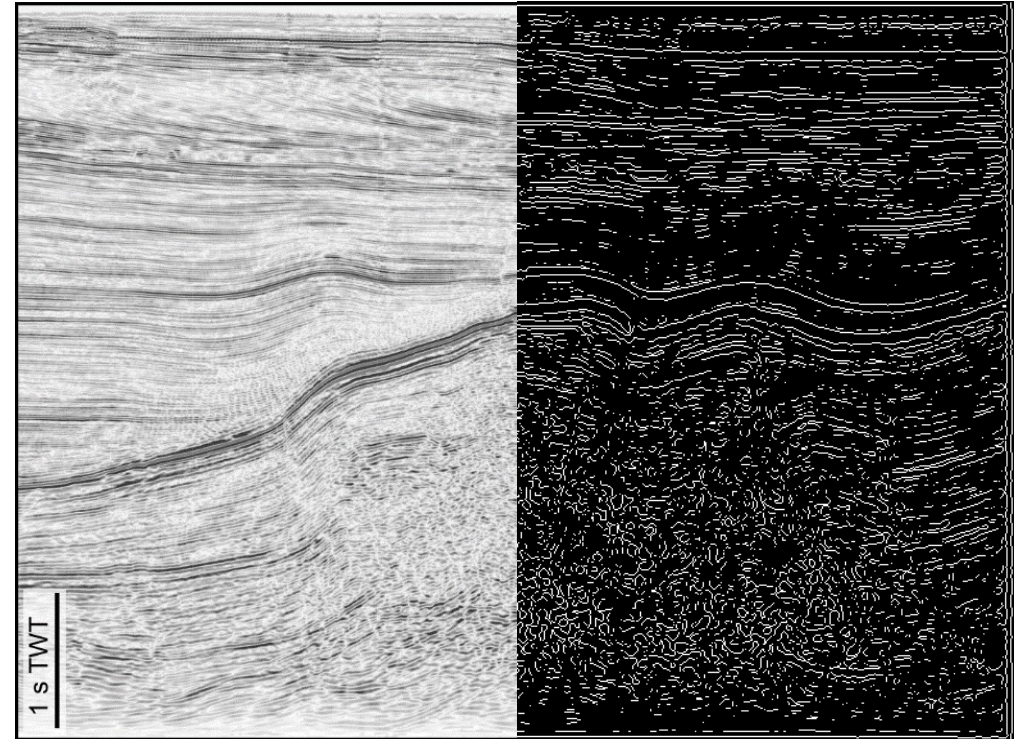
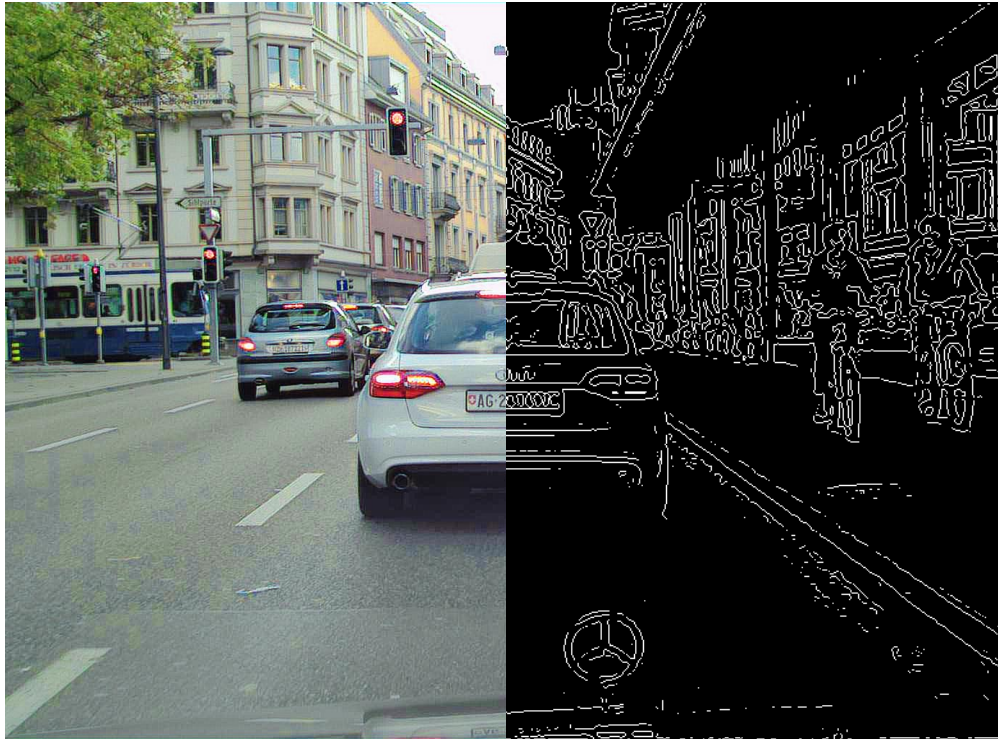
(c) Absolute difference between (a) and (b)



# Case Study: Concept Retrieval in Seismic Images

## Case Study: Texture Retrieval

### Challenge 2: Boundaries between objects are not well defined





# Case Study: Concept Retrieval in Seismic Images

## Case Study: Texture Retrieval

### Challenge 3: No color information



# Case Study: Concept Retrieval in Seismic Images

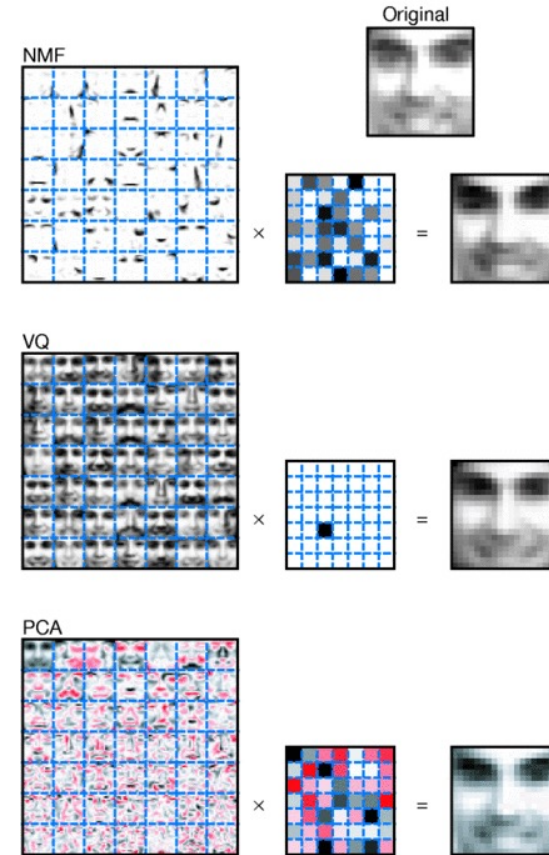
## Traditional Non-negative Matrix Factorization

Train a deconvolution network to produce orthogonal activation vectors using non-negative matrix factorization

Traditional NMF formulation:

$$\mathbf{X} \approx \mathbf{W}\mathbf{H} \quad \text{s.t. } \mathbf{W}, \mathbf{H} \geq 0$$

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{H}} \|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{W}\mathbf{H}\|_F^2, \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{W}, \mathbf{H} \geq 0$$



# Case Study: Concept Retrieval in Seismic Images

Solution: Orthogonal Concept Activation Vectors

**Train a deconvolution network to produce orthogonal activation vectors using non-negative matrix factorization**

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{H}} \|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{WH}\|_F^2 + \lambda_1 \|\mathbf{W}\|_F^2 + \lambda_2 \|\mathbf{H}\|_F^2 + \gamma_1 \|\mathbf{HH}^T - \mathbf{I}\|_F^2$$

s.t.  $\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{H} \geq 0$  and  $\rho(\mathbf{w}_i) = \rho_w$

- $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}_+^{N_p \times N_s}$ : data matrix containing seismic images
- $\mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}_+^{N_p \times N_f}$ : feature matrix
- $\mathbf{H} \in \mathbb{R}_+^{N_f \times N_s}$ : coefficients matrix
- $\rho(\cdot)$ : sparisty of a vector

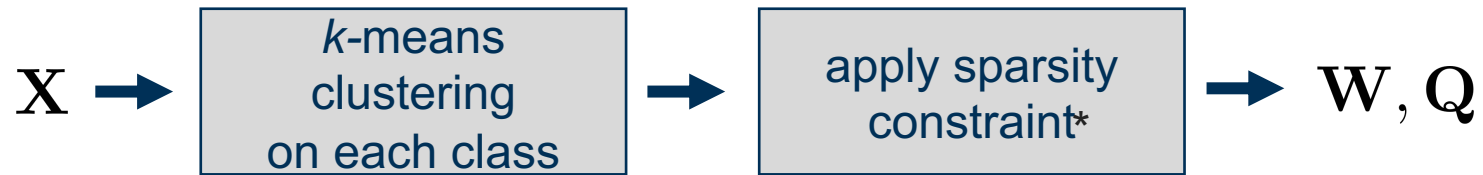
$$\rho(\mathbf{w}_i) = \frac{\sqrt{N_p} - \frac{\|\mathbf{w}_i\|_1}{\|\mathbf{w}_i\|_2}}{\sqrt{N_p} - 1}$$

# Case Study: Concept Retrieval in Seismic Images

## Solution: Orthogonal Concept Activation Vectors

**Train a deconvolution network to produce orthogonal activation vectors using non-negative matrix factorization**

- $\mathbf{X}$ : contains seismic images as columns
- $\mathbf{W}$ : initialized with sparse features extracted from  $\mathbf{X}$



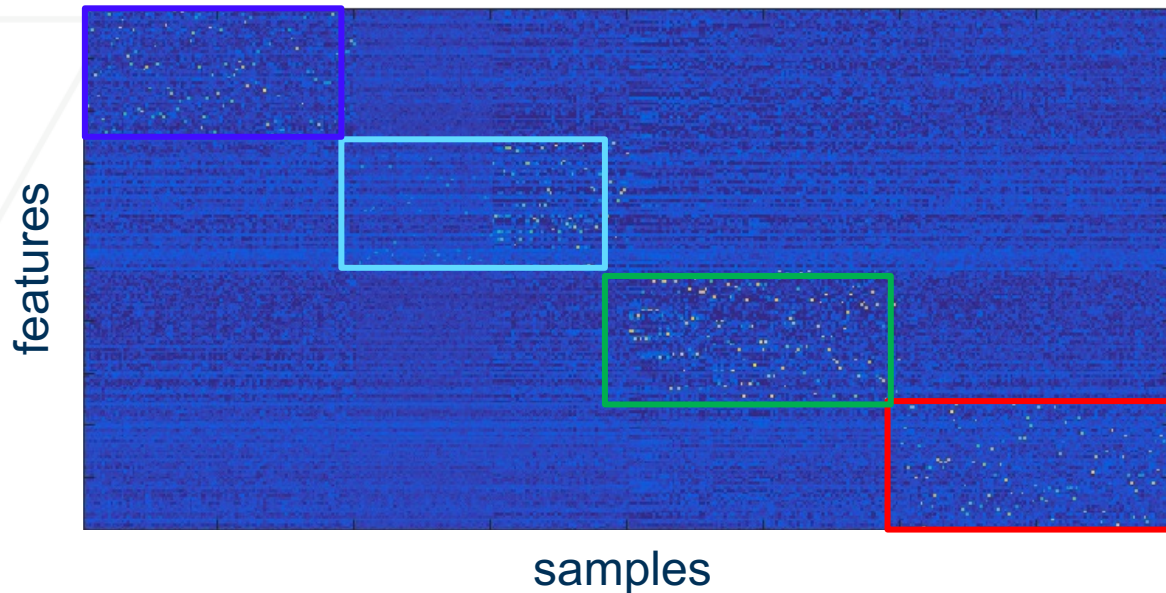
- $\mathbf{Q} \in \{0, 1\}^{N_f \times N_l}$ : is a binary cluster membership matrix used to extract the output labels
- $\mathbf{H}$ : is initialized with uniform random values in  $[0, 1]$

# Case Study: Concept Retrieval in Seismic Images

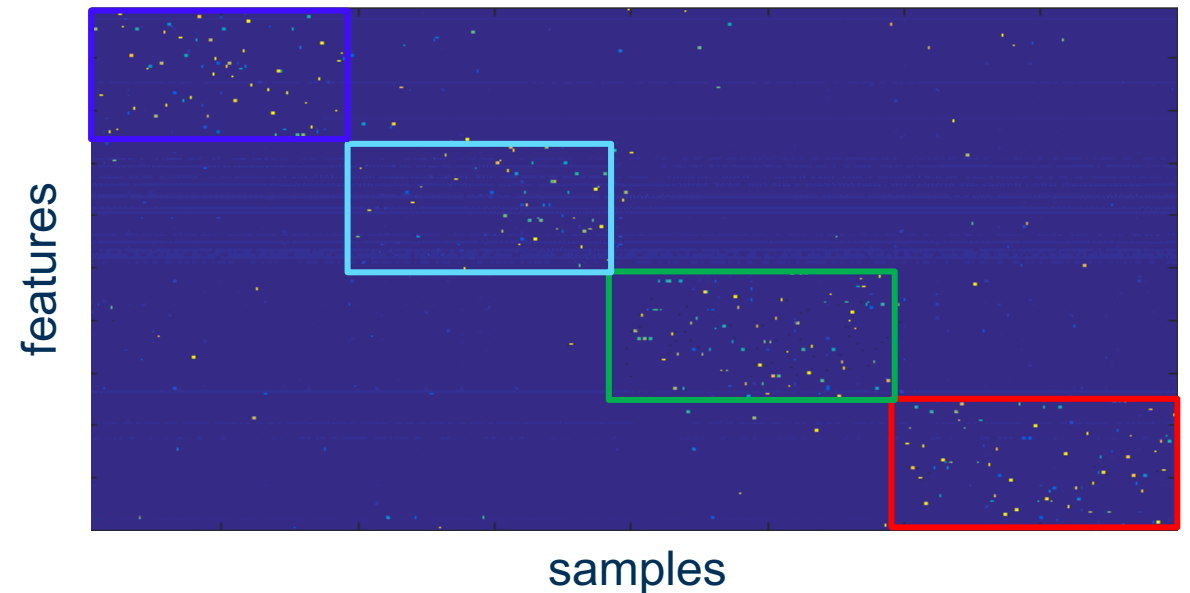
Solution: Orthogonal Concept Activation Vectors

Train a deconvolution network to produce orthogonal activation vectors using non-negative matrix factorization

**H** without the orthogonality term:



**H** with the orthogonality term:



# Case Study: Concept Retrieval in Seismic Images

Solution: Orthogonal Concept Activation Vectors

Train a deconvolution network to produce orthogonal activation vectors using non-negative matrix factorization

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{H}} \|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{WH}\|_F^2 + \lambda_1 \|\mathbf{W}\|_F^2 + \lambda_2 \|\mathbf{H}\|_F^2 + \gamma_1 \|\mathbf{HH}^T - \mathbf{I}\|_F^2$$

s.t.  $\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{H} \geq 0$  and  $\rho(\mathbf{w}_i) = \rho_w$

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{W}} \|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{WH}\|_F^2 + \lambda_1 \|\mathbf{W}\|_F^2 \quad \text{s.t. } \mathbf{W} \geq 0, \rho(\mathbf{w}_i) = \rho_w$$

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{H}} \|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{WH}\|_F^2 + \gamma_1 \|\mathbf{HH}^T - \mathbf{I}\|_F^2 + \lambda_2 \|\mathbf{H}\|_F^2 \quad \text{s.t. } \mathbf{H} \geq 0$$

# Case Study: Concept Retrieval in Seismic Images

Solution: Orthogonal Concept Activation Vectors

**Train a deconvolution network to produce orthogonal activation vectors using non-negative matrix factorization**



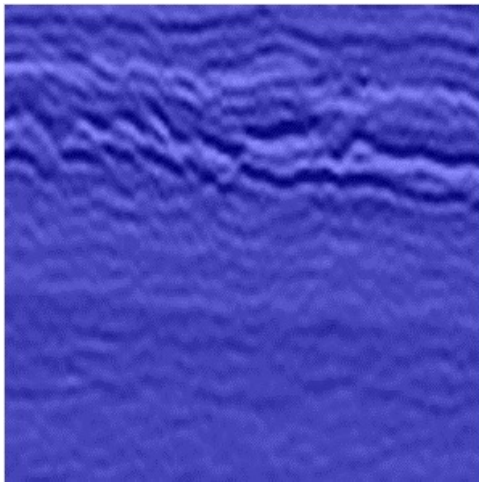
$$\mathbf{W}^t = \frac{(\mathbf{W}^{t-1} \odot \mathbf{X}\mathbf{H}^{t-1T} + \epsilon)_{ij}}{\mathbf{W}^{t-1}\mathbf{H}^{t-1}\mathbf{H}^{t-1T} + \lambda_1\mathbf{W}^{t-1} + \epsilon)_{ij}}$$

$$\mathbf{H}^t = \frac{\mathbf{H}^{t-1} \odot (\mathbf{W}^{tT}\mathbf{X} + \gamma_1\mathbf{H}^{t-1} + \epsilon)_{ij}}{\mathbf{W}^{tT}\mathbf{W}^t\mathbf{H}^{t-1} + \gamma_1(\mathbf{H}^{t-1}\mathbf{H}^{t-1T}\mathbf{H}^{t-1}) + \lambda_2\mathbf{H}^{t-1} + \epsilon)_{ij}}$$

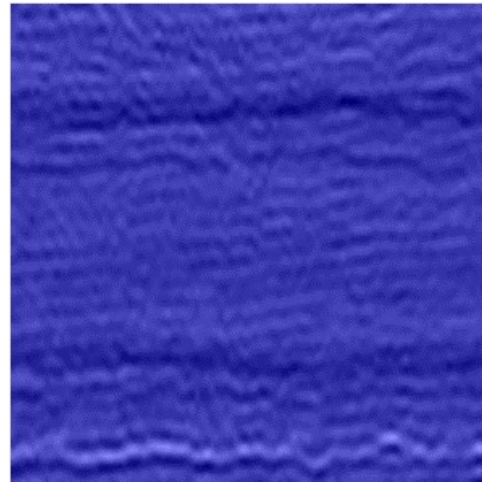
# Case Study: Concept Retrieval in Seismic Images

## Results

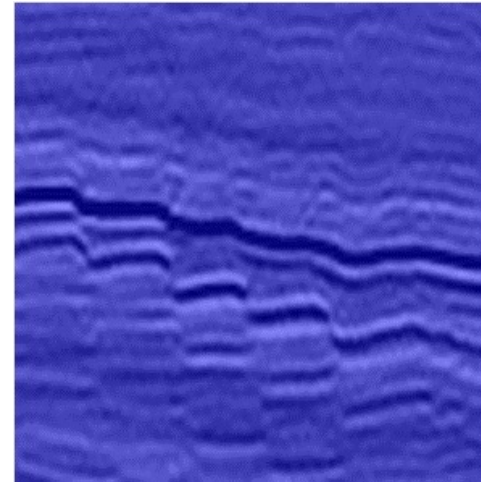
**Train a deconvolution network to produce orthogonal activation vectors using non-negative matrix factorization**



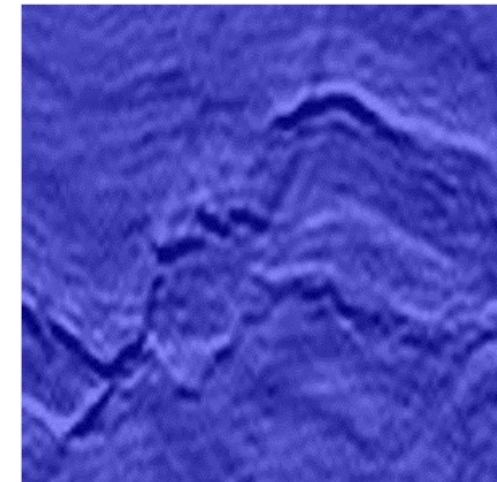
Horizon



Chaotic



Fault

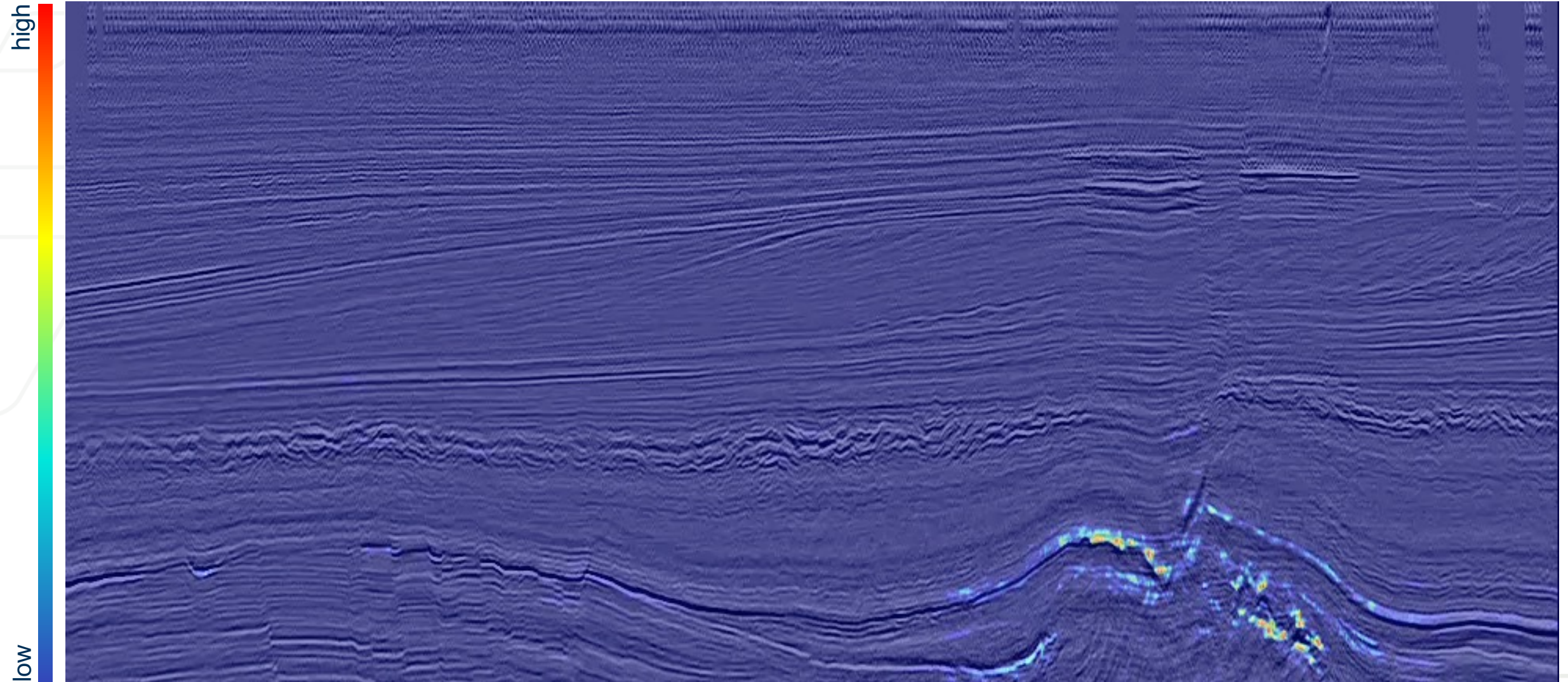


Salt dome



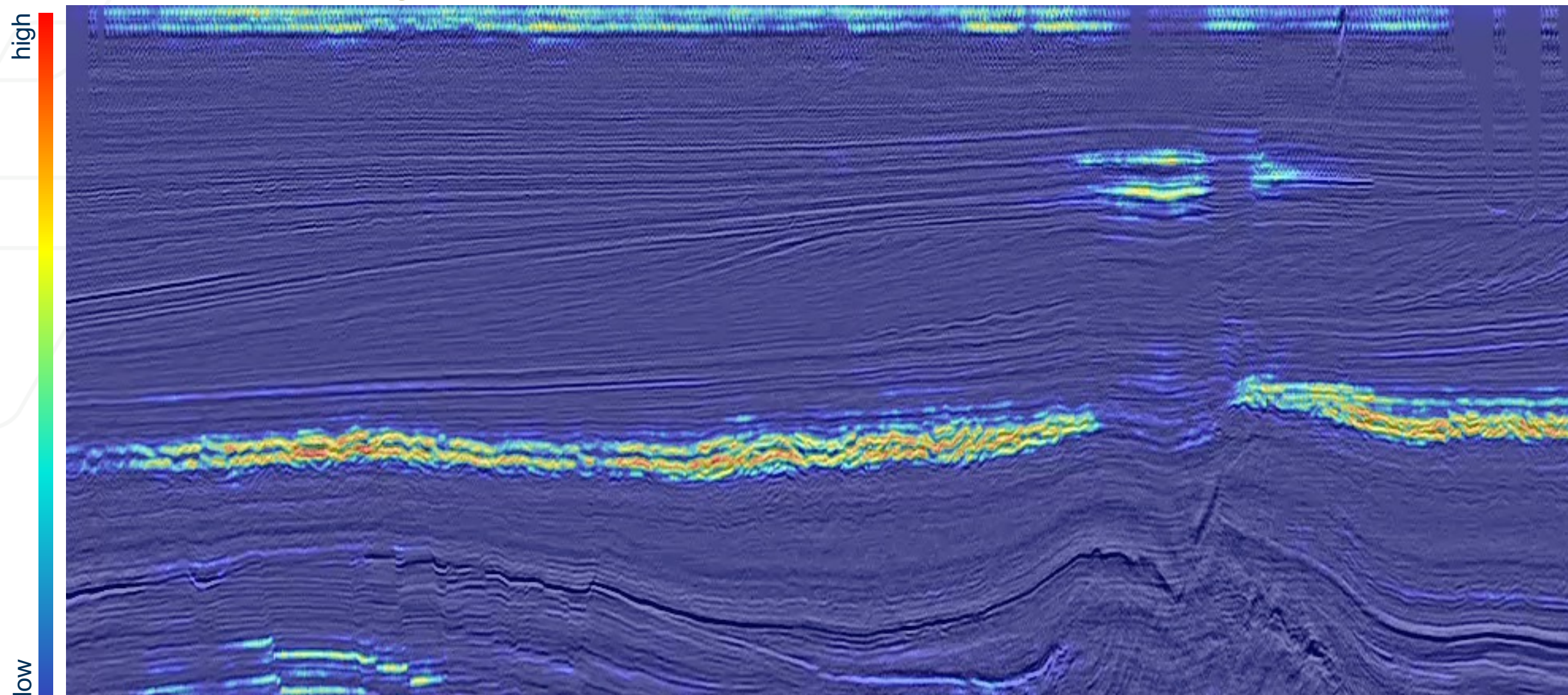
# Case Study: Concept Retrieval in Seismic Images

## Results for Salt Dome



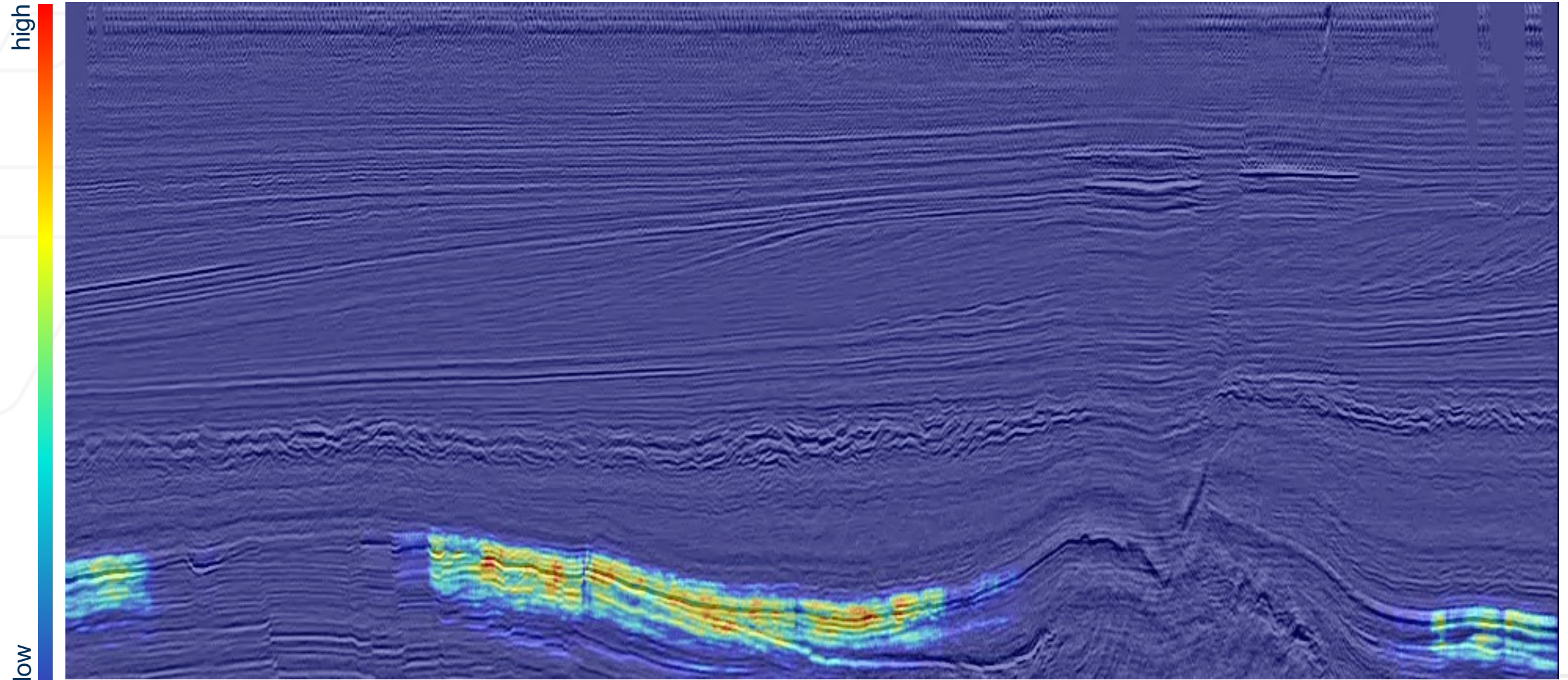
# Case Study: Concept Retrieval in Seismic Images

## Results for Chaotic Regions



# Case Study: Concept Retrieval in Seismic Images

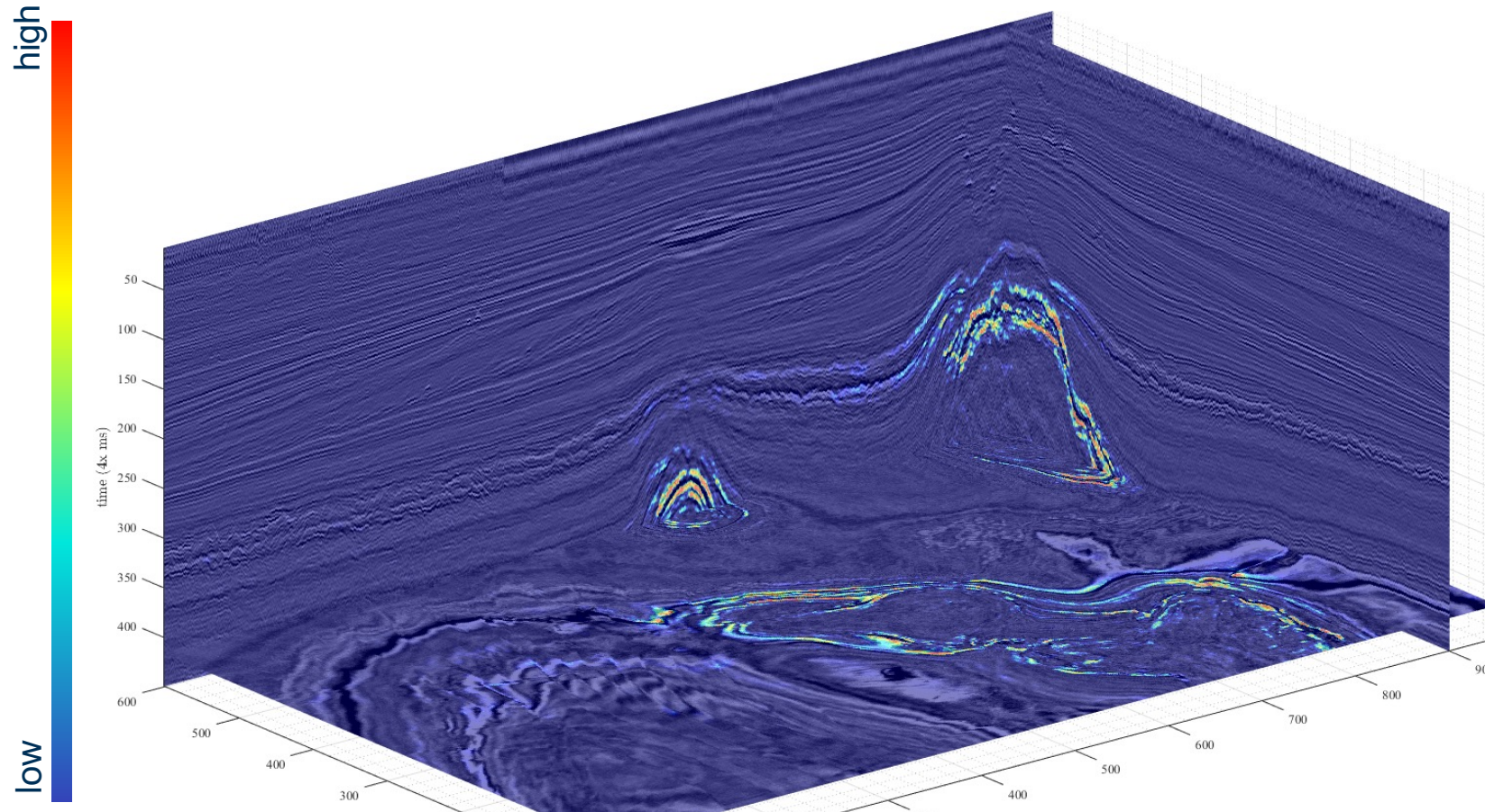
## Results for Fault Regions



# Case Study: Concept Retrieval in Seismic Images

Visual Explanations for computed images

## 3D view of computed seismic imaging explanations



# Takeaways

## Takeaways from Lecture 8

- Concepts are interpretable semantic features that can be represented mathematically
- They include low-level features like edges, texture and color as well as high level features including classes, and objects
  - Concept activation vectors provide a connection between the two sets of features
- Concept-based testing provides importance explanation to explanations
  - However, training concepts are not always available.
  - Moreover, the advantage of deep learning is in removing the dependence on handcrafted features. This advantage is nullified
- Given some property of concepts within data (for instance orthogonality), the network maybe trained to predict and explain the concepts in a weakly supervised fashion

# References

## Lecture 8: Concept Vectors: Utility in Training and Testing

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