

# **CMPSCI 670: Computer Vision**

## Human-centric computer vision

University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
November 24, 2014

Instructor: Subhransu Maji

# Administrivia

- Project **presentations** (next Monday/Wednesday)
  - Presentations assignments at random
  - Each person (or team) will get 7 (or 10) mins to present
    - Problem statement, preliminary results, data analysis, todo
  - Final report due on Dec. 13 (hard deadline)
- Course evaluations
  - A show of hands who might be missing next class?

# Overview of the course so far

## Early vision:

- image formation
- light and color perception
- basic image processing
  - edges, corners and blobs

## Mid-level vision:

- texture
  - synthesis and representation
- grouping
  - segmentation
  - alignment

## High-level vision:

- recognition and learning
- image representation
  - features, etc
- object detection

## Misc. topics:

- deep learning
- memorability [Khosla]
- human-centric vision
- optical flow and tracking

# Overview

- Motivation
- Levels of categorization
- Visual 20q game [Branson et al., ECCV 2010]
- Similarity comparisons based recognition
  - global similarity [Wah et al., CVPR 2014]
  - localized similarity [Wah et al., WACV 2015]



**What type of  
bird is this?**



**What type of  
bird is this?**

**Google** black and white bird with white stripe  
About 328,000 results (0.24 seconds)

**Field Guide**  
The **Cornell** Lab of Ornithology  
**All About Birds**

...?



**What type of  
bird is this?**



**Computer Vision**





**What type of  
bird is this?**



**Computer Vision**



**Bird?**





**What type of  
bird is this?**



**Computer Vision**



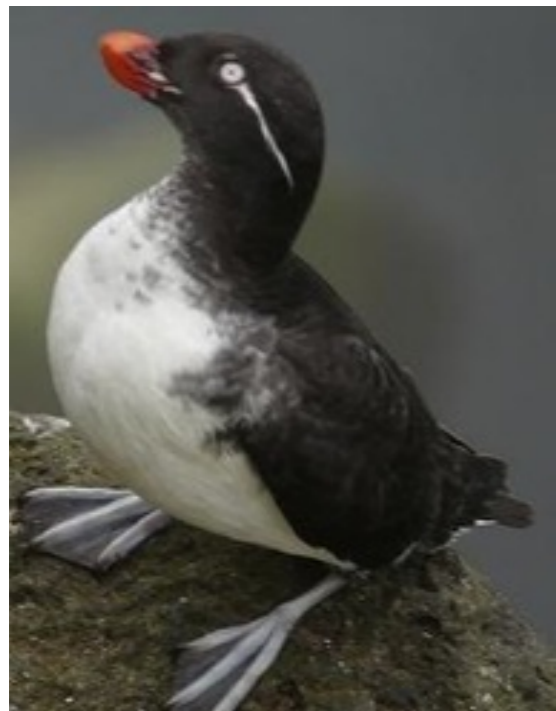
**Chair?  
Bottle?**



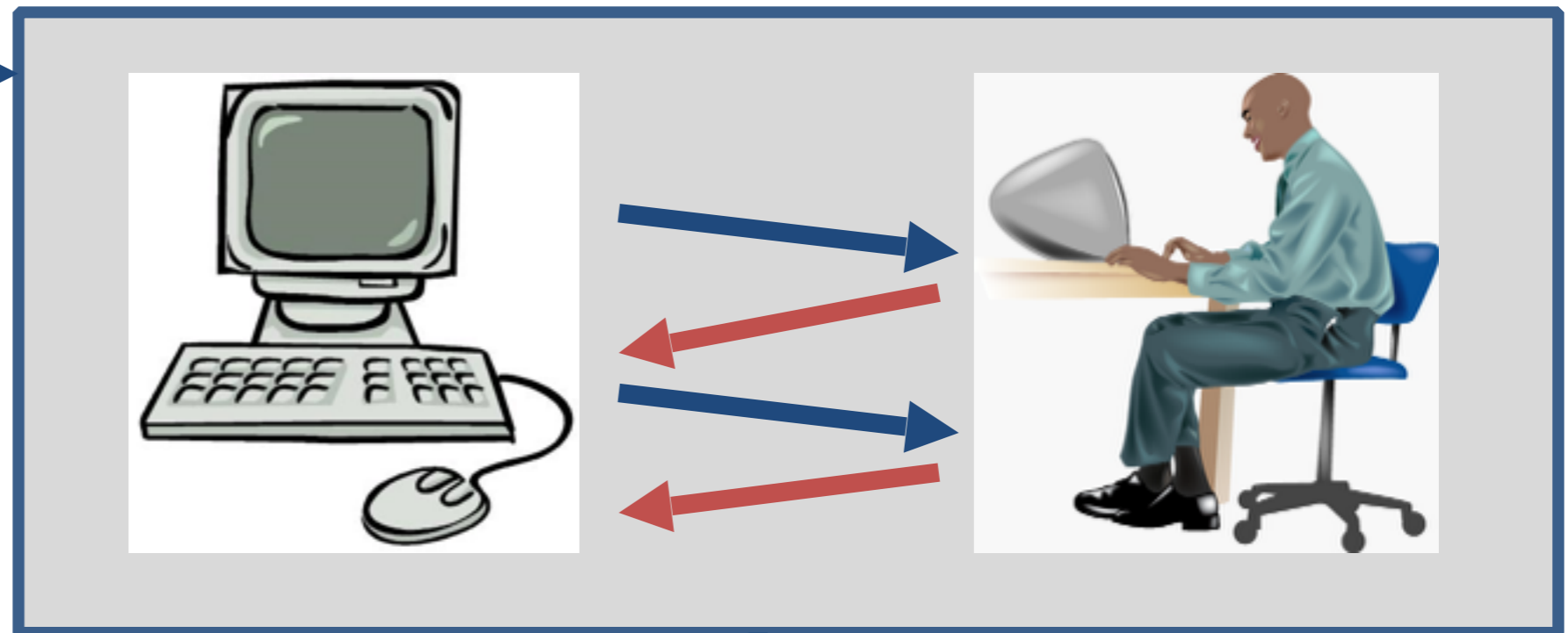
**Parakeet Auklet**

- Field guides difficult for average users
- Computer vision doesn't work perfectly (yet)
- Research mostly on basic-level categories

# Visual Recognition With Humans in the Loop



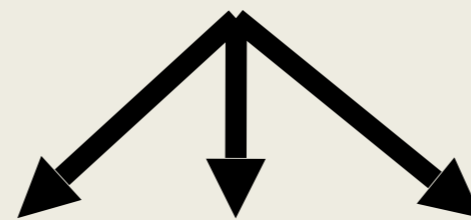
**What kind of  
bird is this?**



**Parakeet Auklet**

# Levels of Categorization

## Basic-Level Categories



Airplane? Chair?  
Bottle? ...

[Griffin et al. '07, Lazebnik et al. '06, Grauman et al. '06,  
Everingham et al. '06, Felzenszwalb et al. '08, Viola et al. '01, ... ]

# Levels of Categorization

## Subordinate Categories



American Goldfinch?  
Indigo Bunting? ...

[Belhumeur et al. '08 , Nilsback et al. '08, ...]

# Levels of Categorization

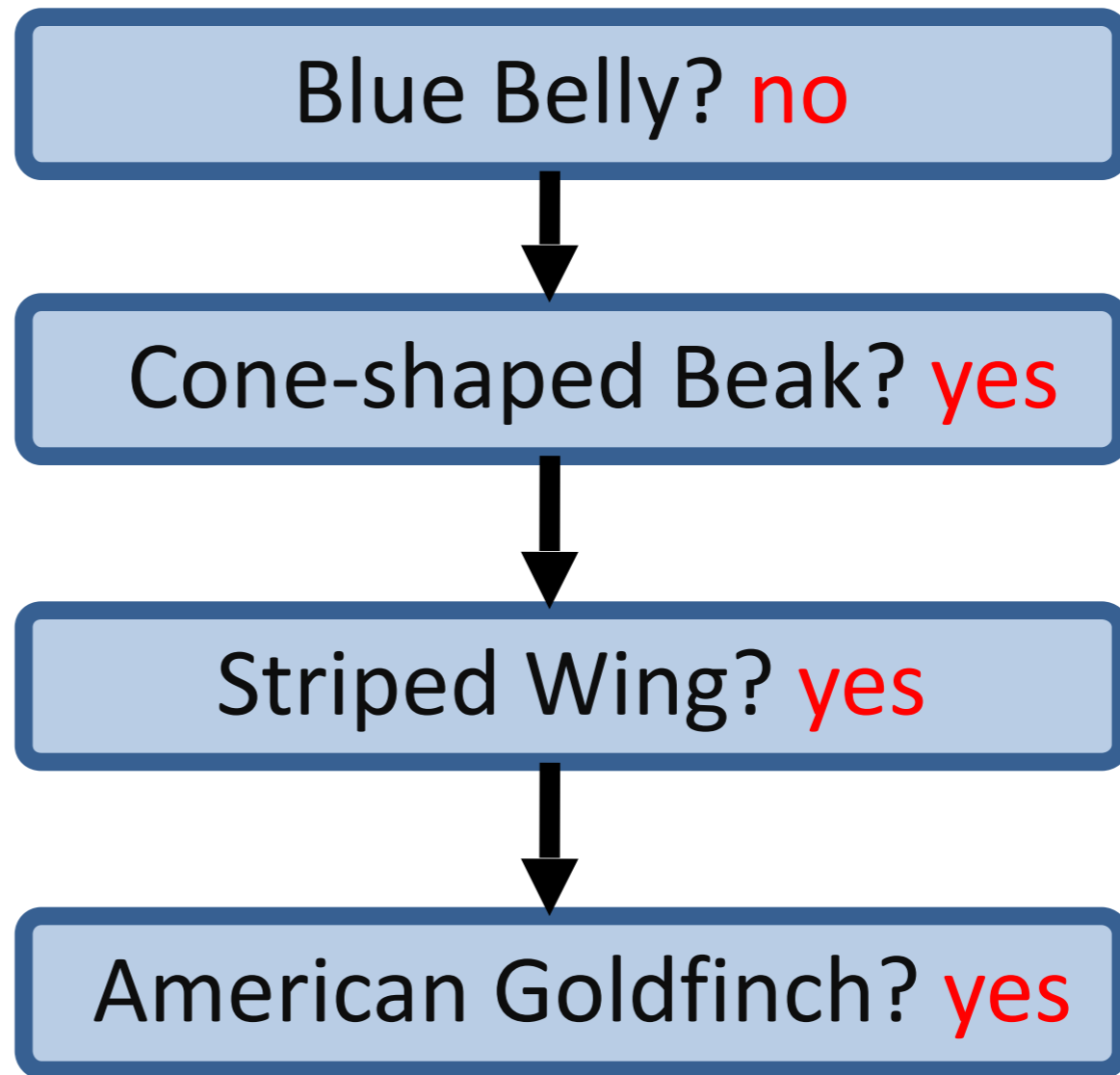
## Parts and Attributes



Yellow Belly?  
Blue Belly?...

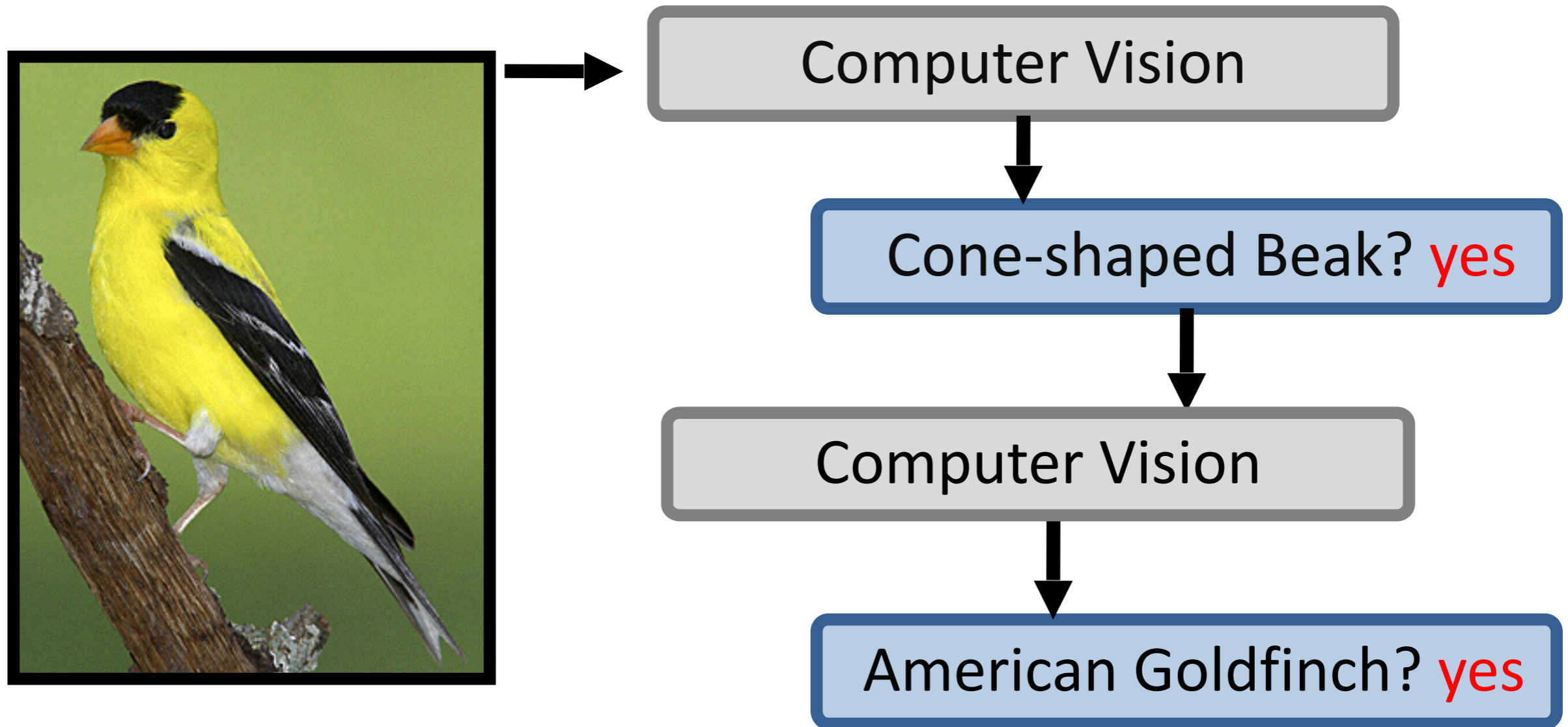
[Farhadi et al. '09, Lampert et al. '09, Kumar et al. '09]

# Visual 20 Questions Game



Hard classification problems can be turned into a sequence of easy ones

# Recognition With Humans in the Loop



- Computers: reduce number of required questions
- Humans: drive up accuracy of vision algorithms



# Research Agenda

2014

Heavy Reliance on  
Human Assistance

Blue belly? **no**

Cone-shaped beak? **yes**

Striped Wing? **yes**

American Goldfinch? **yes**



Computer  
Vision  
Improves

2020

More Automated

Striped Wing? **yes**

American Goldfinch? **yes**



Fully Automatic

American Goldfinch? **yes**

2025









# Field Guides

**Attributes**

**Attribute Groups**

- ◆ Basics
- Pattern
- Head
- Body
- Flight
- Illustrations
- Scientific Name
- Extras

**Basics**


			
<b>Location Common</b>	<b>Location Uncommon</b>	<b>Shape</b>	<b>Size</b>
			
<b>Color Primary</b>	<b>Color Secondary</b>	<b>Habitat</b>	<b>Bill Shape</b>


[www.whatbird.com](http://www.whatbird.com)


# Field Guides


**Values**


**Select values and click Next**


 **Shape**


 **Chicken-like-Marsh**


 **Duck-like**


 **Gull-like**


 **Hawk-like**

 **Hummingbird-like**

 **Long-legged-like**

 **Owl-like**

 **Perching-like**

**NEXT** 

[www.whatbird.com](http://www.whatbird.com)

# Example Questions

You will be asked to answer a series of questions based on identifying visual features from the bird image on the left. Closely follow the specific instructions for each question. Holding the mouse over each selectable option for 1 second will provide additional instructions or examples.



What is the **color of the underparts** of the bird? 10/28





Select at least one. If the underparts aren't visible, make your best guess, then select "Guessing". If the color is a mixture of two colors, select both (e.g., for blue-green select blue and green). If the underparts have multiple regions or patterns with multiple colors, select all relevant colors (e.g., for yellow with black stripes, select yellow and black).

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
White	Black	Grey	Buff	Brown
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rufous	Red	Pink	Orange	Yellow
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Green	Olive	Blue	Purple	Shiny / Iridescent

[◀ Go Back](#) [▶ Guessing](#) [▶ Probably](#) [▶ Definitely](#)
















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# Example Questions
















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[Go Back](#) [Guessing](#) [Probably](#) [Definitely](#)

# Example Questions

You will be asked to answer a series of questions based on identifying visual features from the bird image on the left. Closely follow the specific instructions for each question. Holding the mouse over each selectable option for 1 second will provide additional instructions or examples.



What is the **pattern of the breast** of the bird?

1/12



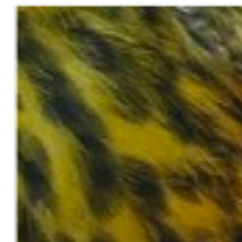
*Select one. If the breast isn't visible, make your best guess, then select "Guessing".*



Solid



Multi-Colored



Striped



Spotted

◀ Go Back

▶ Guessing

▶ Probably

▶ Definitely



# Example Questions

You will be asked to answer a series of questions based on identifying visual features from the bird image on the left. Closely follow the specific instructions for each question. Holding the mouse over each selectable option for 1 second will provide additional instructions or examples.



What is the **shape of the bill/beak**?

1/28



Select one. If the beak isn't visible, make your best guess, then select "Guessing".



All-purpose



Cone



Curved (up or down)



Dagger



Hooked



Hooked Seabird



Needle



Spatulate



Specialized

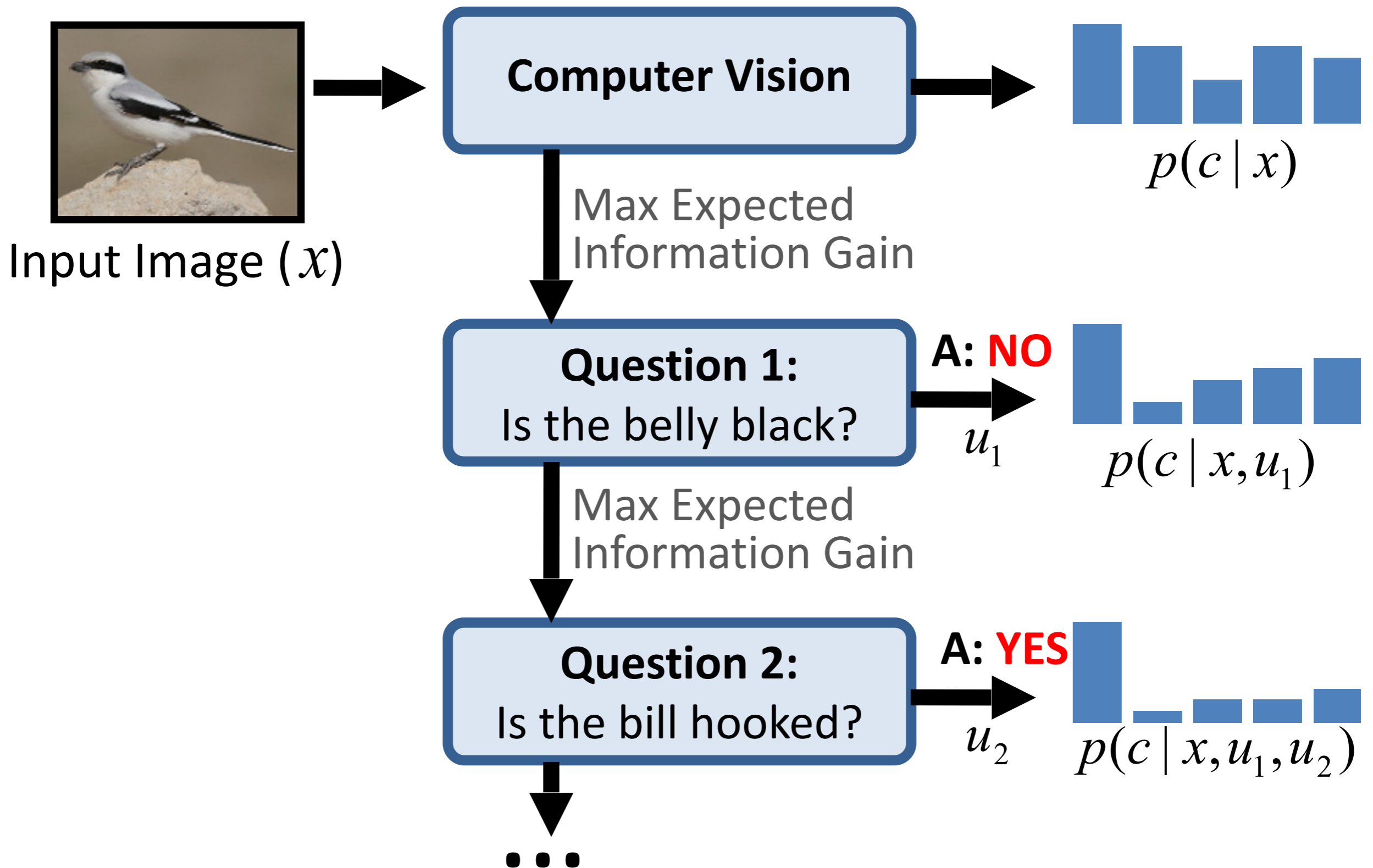
◀ Go Back

▶ Guessing

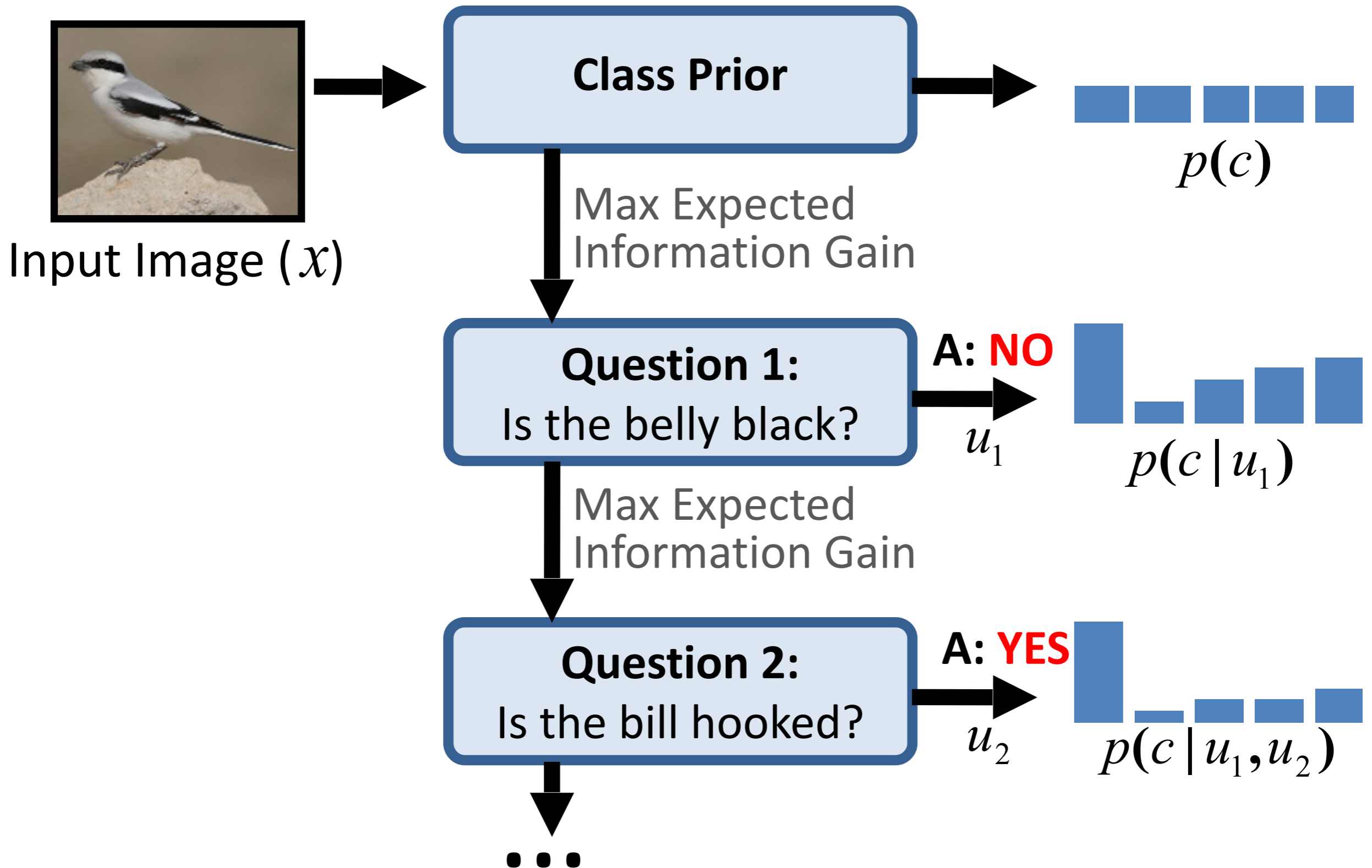
▶ Probably

▶ Definitely

# Basic Algorithm



# Without Computer Vision



# Basic Algorithm

Select the next question that maximizes expected information gain:

- Easy to compute if we can estimate probabilities of the form:

$$p(c \mid x, u_1, u_2 \dots u_t)$$

Object Class      Image      Sequence of user responses

# Basic Algorithm

$$p(c | x, u_1, u_2 \dots u_t)$$

$$\approx \underbrace{p(u_1, u_2 \dots u_t | c)}_{\text{Model of user responses}} \underbrace{p(c | x)}_{\text{Computer vision estimate}} / Z$$

Model of user  
responses

Computer  
vision  
estimate

Normalization  
factor

# Basic Algorithm

$$p(c | x, u_1, u_2 \dots u_t)$$

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Model of user  
responses

Computer  
vision  
estimate

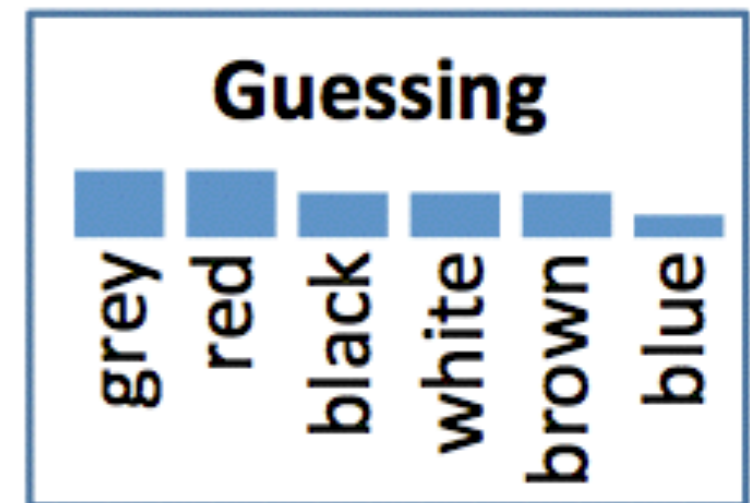
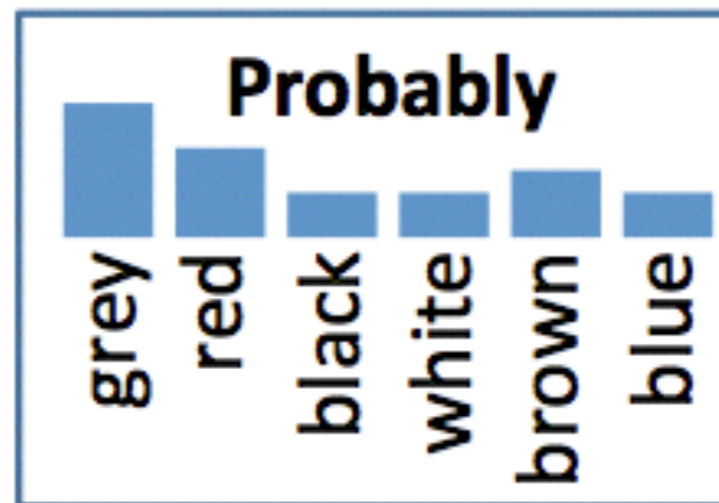
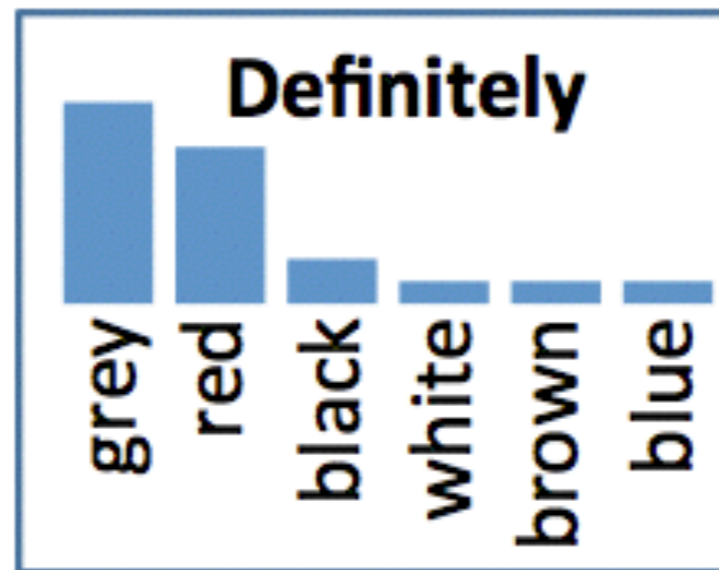
Normalization  
factor

# Modeling User Responses

- Assume:  $p(u_1, u_2 \dots u_t | c) \approx \prod_{i=1 \dots t} p(u_i | c)$
- Estimate  $p(u_i | c)$  using Mechanical Turk



**Pine Grosbeak**



**What is the color of the belly?**

# Incorporating Computer Vision

- Use any recognition algorithm that can estimate:  $p(c/x)$
- Two simple methods:

$$p(c | x) \propto \exp\{\gamma \cdot m(x)\}$$

1-vs-all SVM

$$p(c | x) \propto \prod_i p(a_i | c)$$

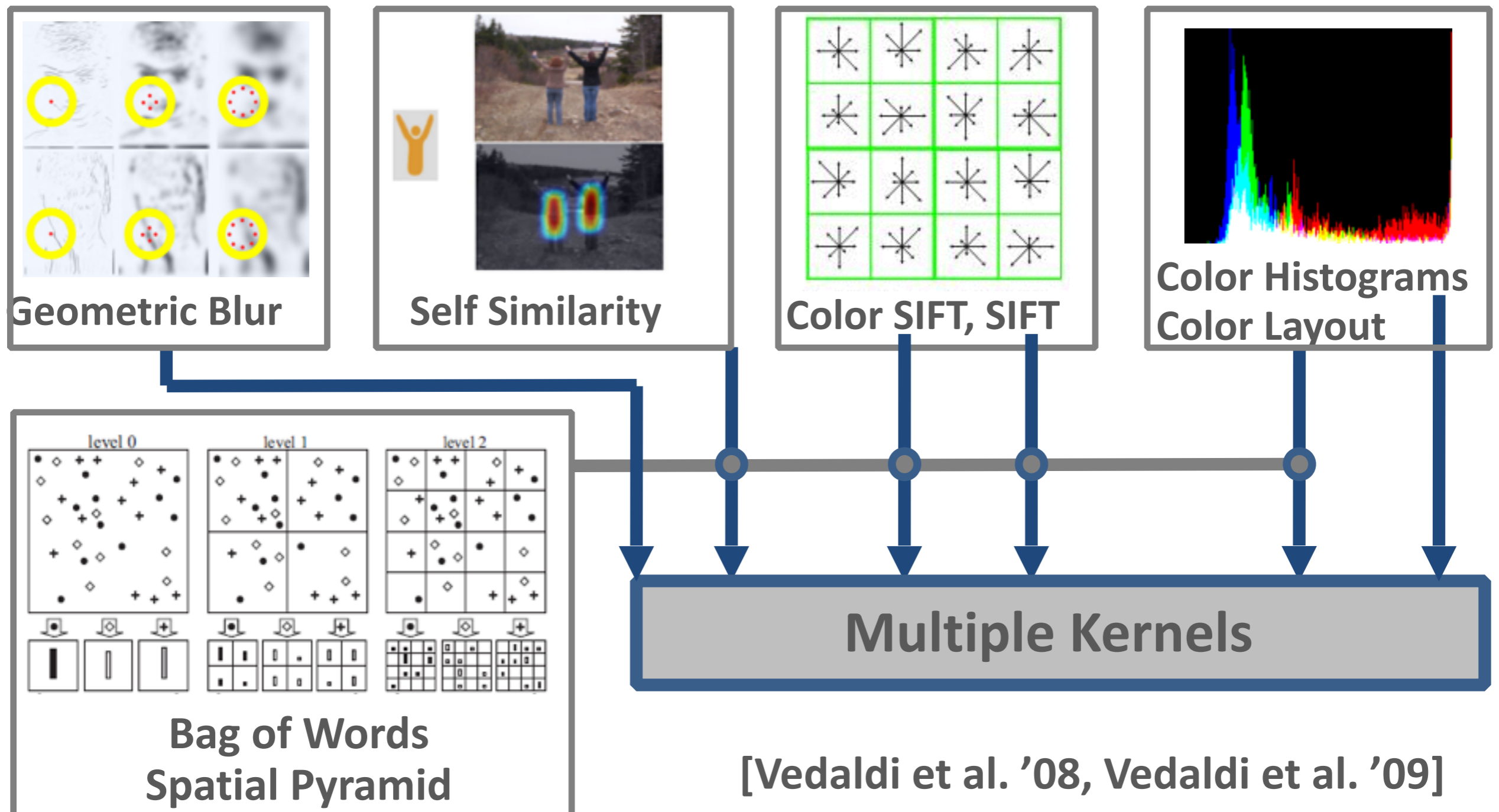
Attribute-based  
classification

[Lampert et al. '09, Farhadi et al. '09]



# Incorporating Computer Vision

- Use combination of features to learn linear SVM classifiers



# Birds 200 Dataset

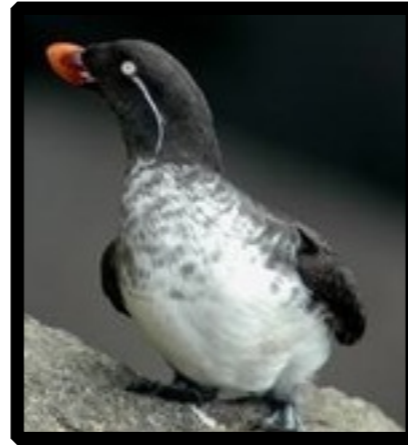
- 200 classes, 6000+ images, 288 binary attributes
- Why birds?



Black-footed Albatross



Groove-Billed Ani



Parakeet Auklet



Field Sparrow



Vesper Sparrow



Arctic Tern



Forster's Tern



Common Tern



Baird's Sparrow



Henslow's Sparrow<sub>34</sub>

# Birds 200 Dataset

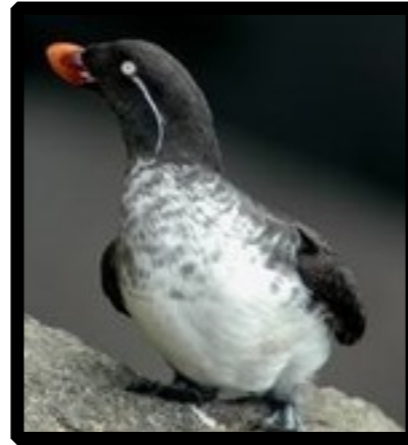
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Baird's Sparrow



Henslow's Sparrow<sub>35</sub>

# Birds 200 Dataset

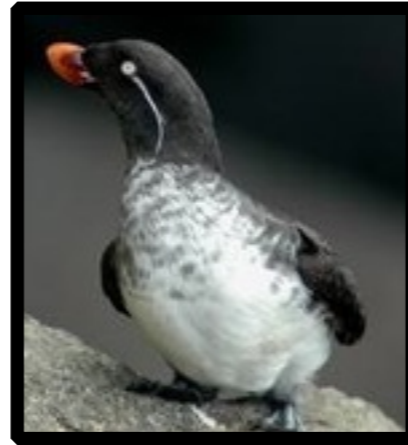
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Field Sparrow



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Common Tern



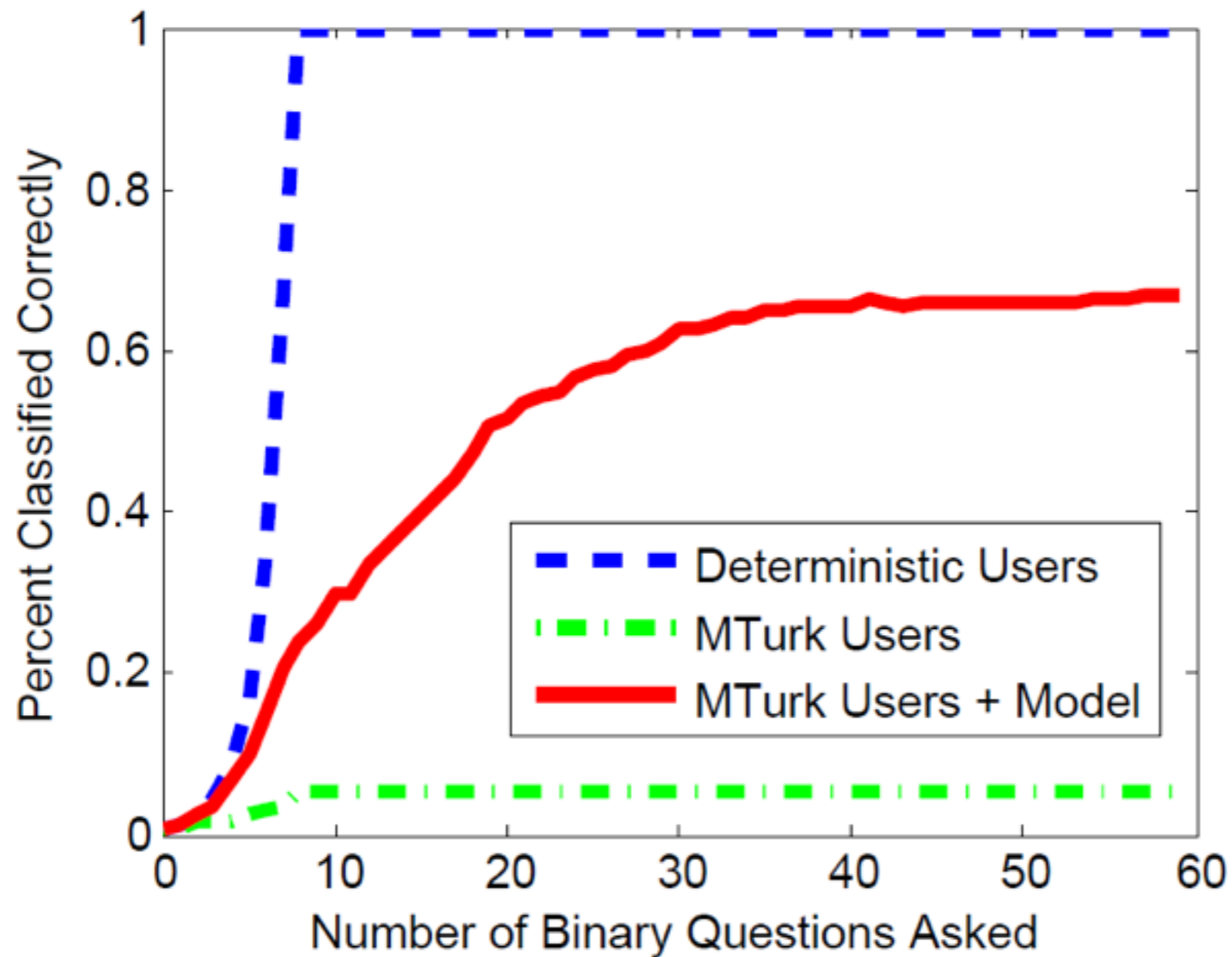
Baird's Sparrow



Henslow's Sparrow<sub>36</sub>

# Results: Without Computer Vision

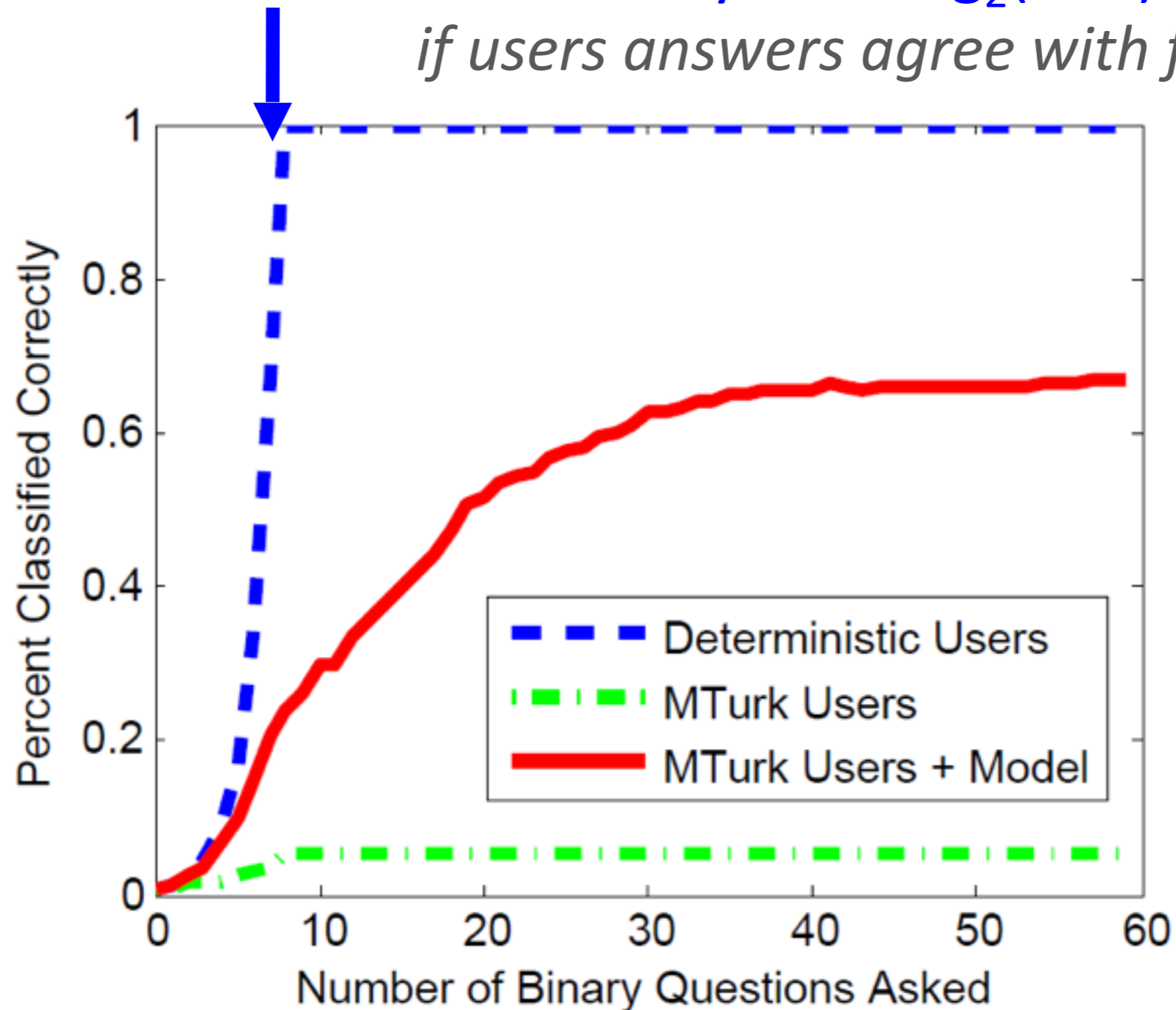
## Comparing Different User Models



# Results: Without Computer Vision

Perfect Users: 100% accuracy in  $8 \approx \log_2(200)$  questions

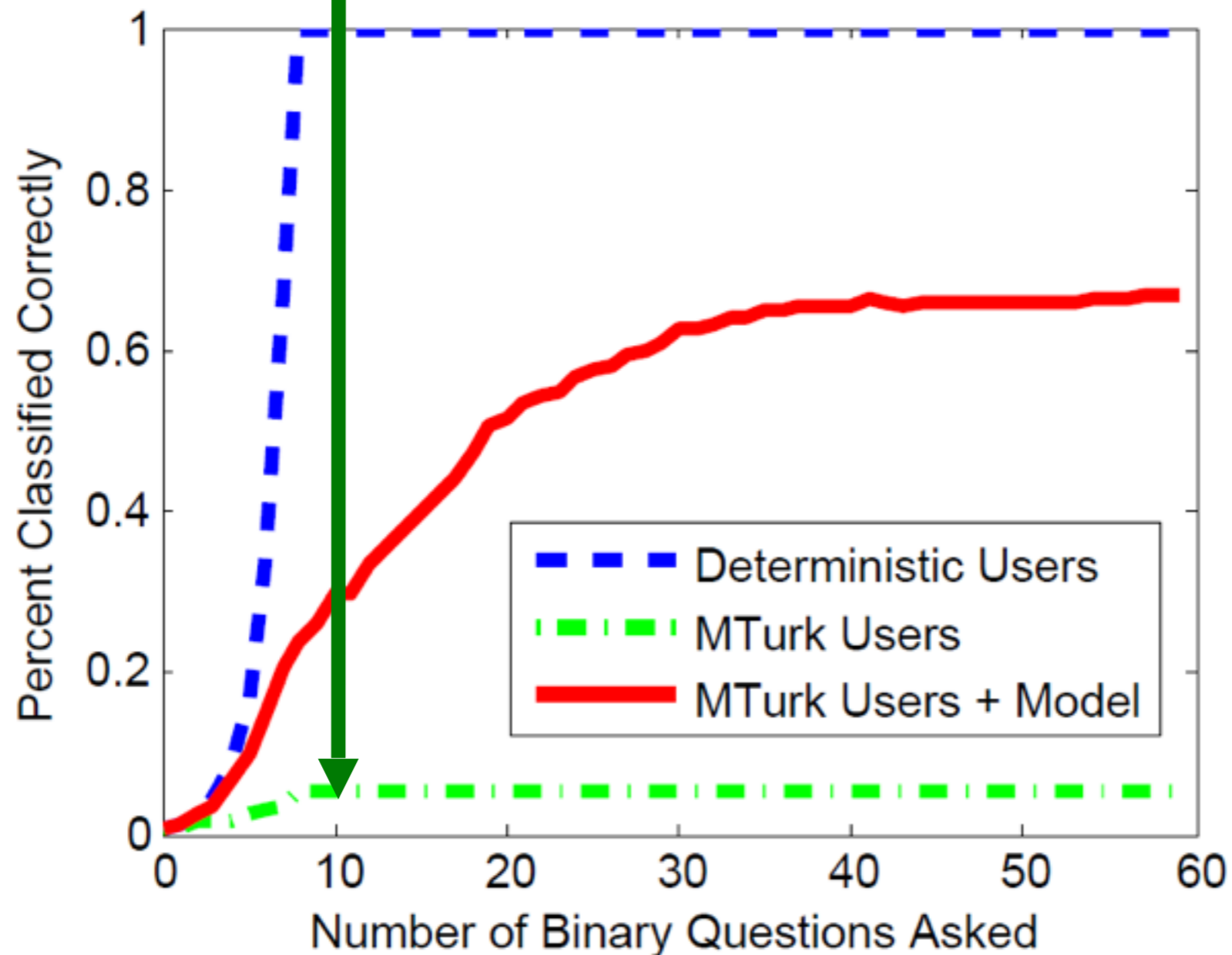
*if users answers agree with field guides...*



# Results: Without Computer Vision

Real users answer questions

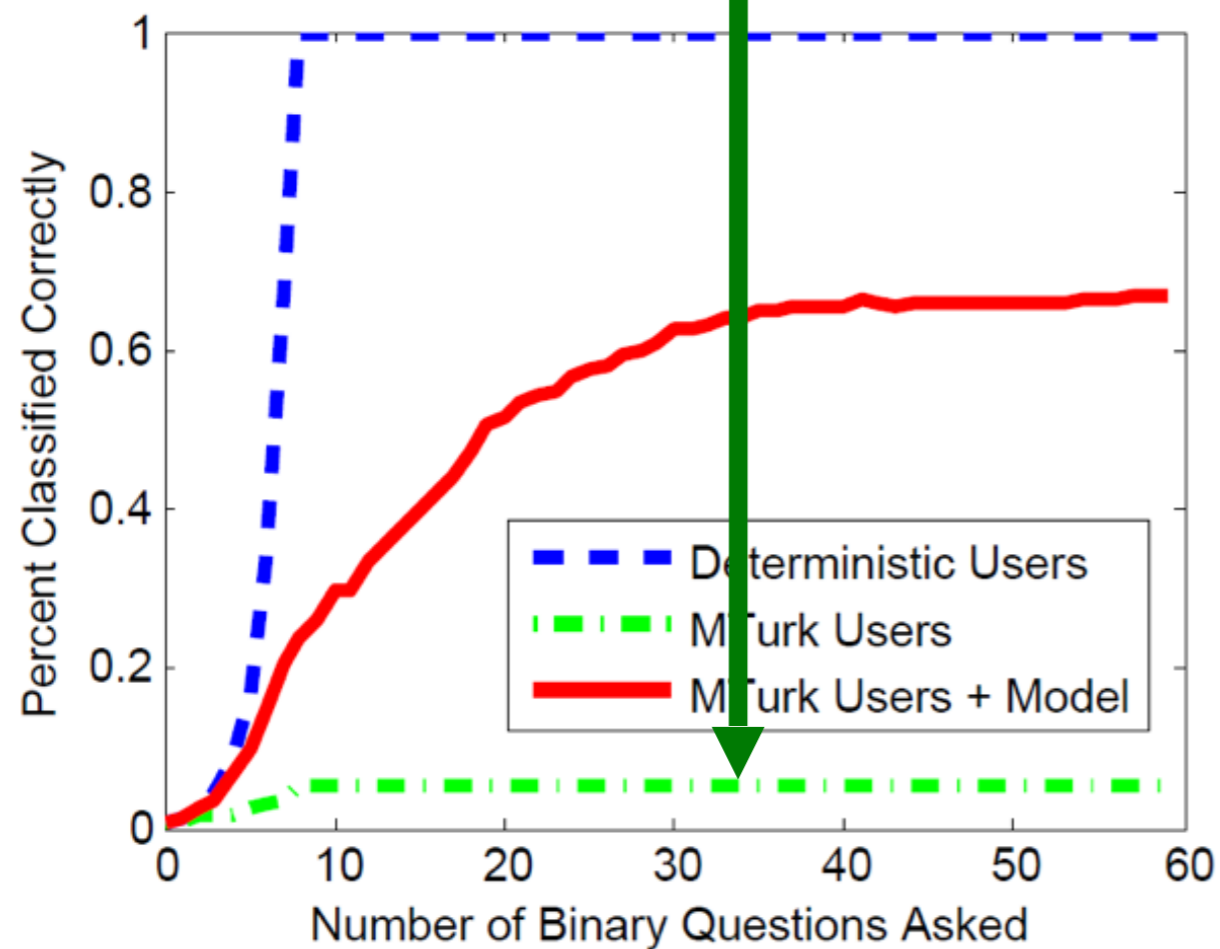
*MTurkers don't always agree with field guides...*




# Results: Without Computer Vision

Real users answer questions

*MTurkers don't always agree with field guides...*



**Rose-breasted Grosbeak**

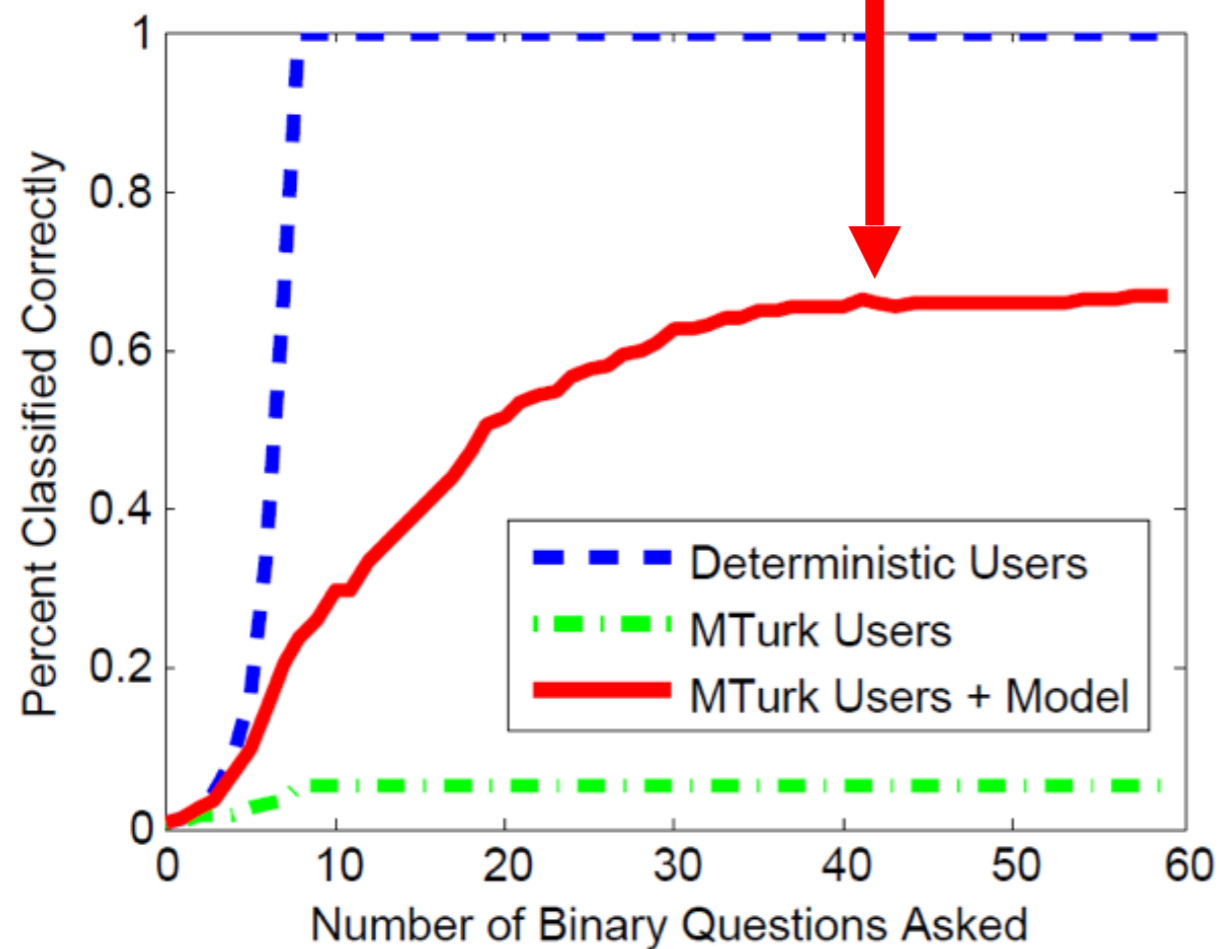


Q: Is the belly red? **yes (Def)**  
Q: Is the breast black? **yes (Def.)**  
Q: Is the primary color red? **yes (Def.)**




# Results: Without Computer Vision

Probabilistic User Model: tolerate imperfect user responses

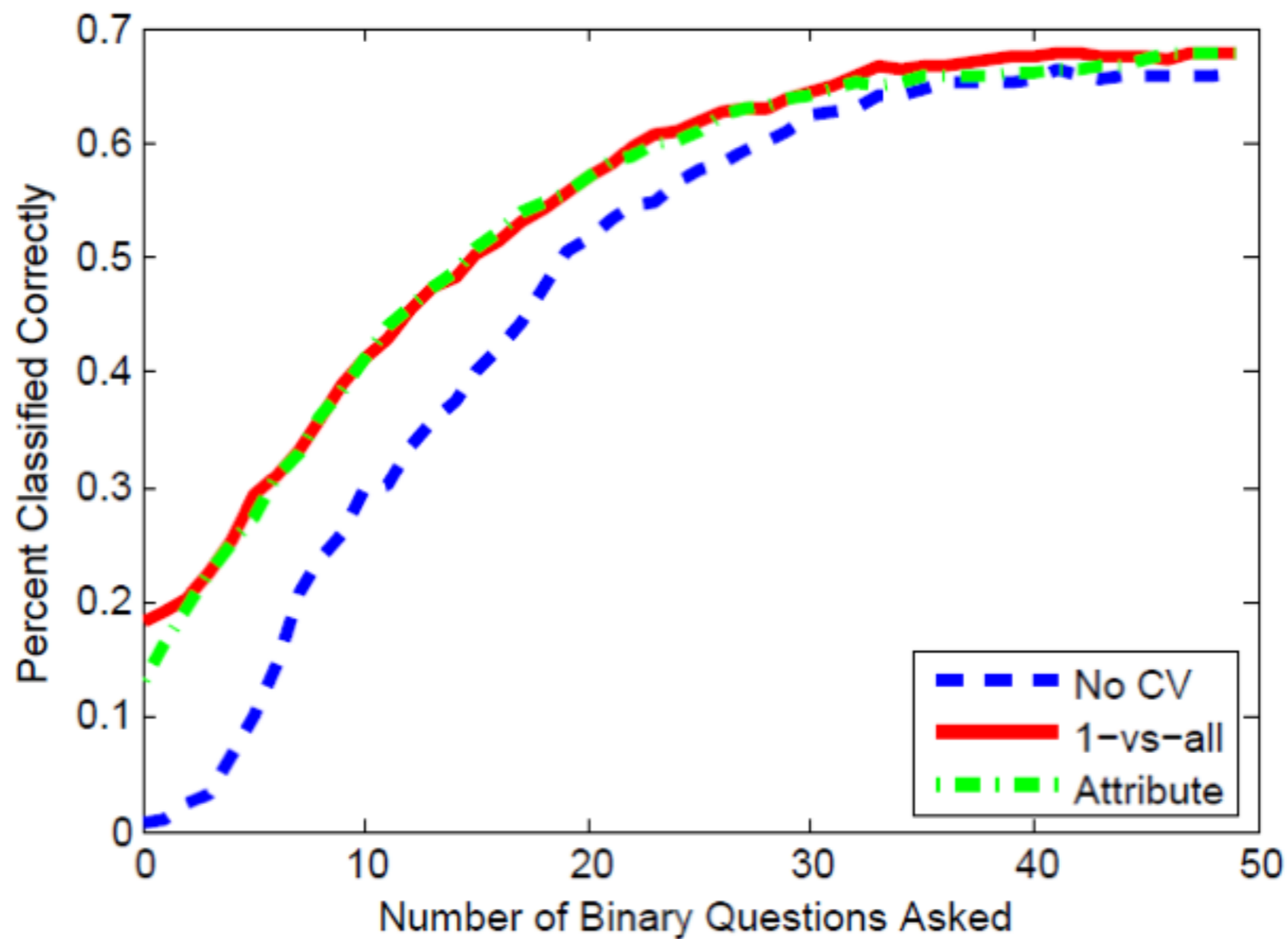


**Rose-breasted Grosbeak**



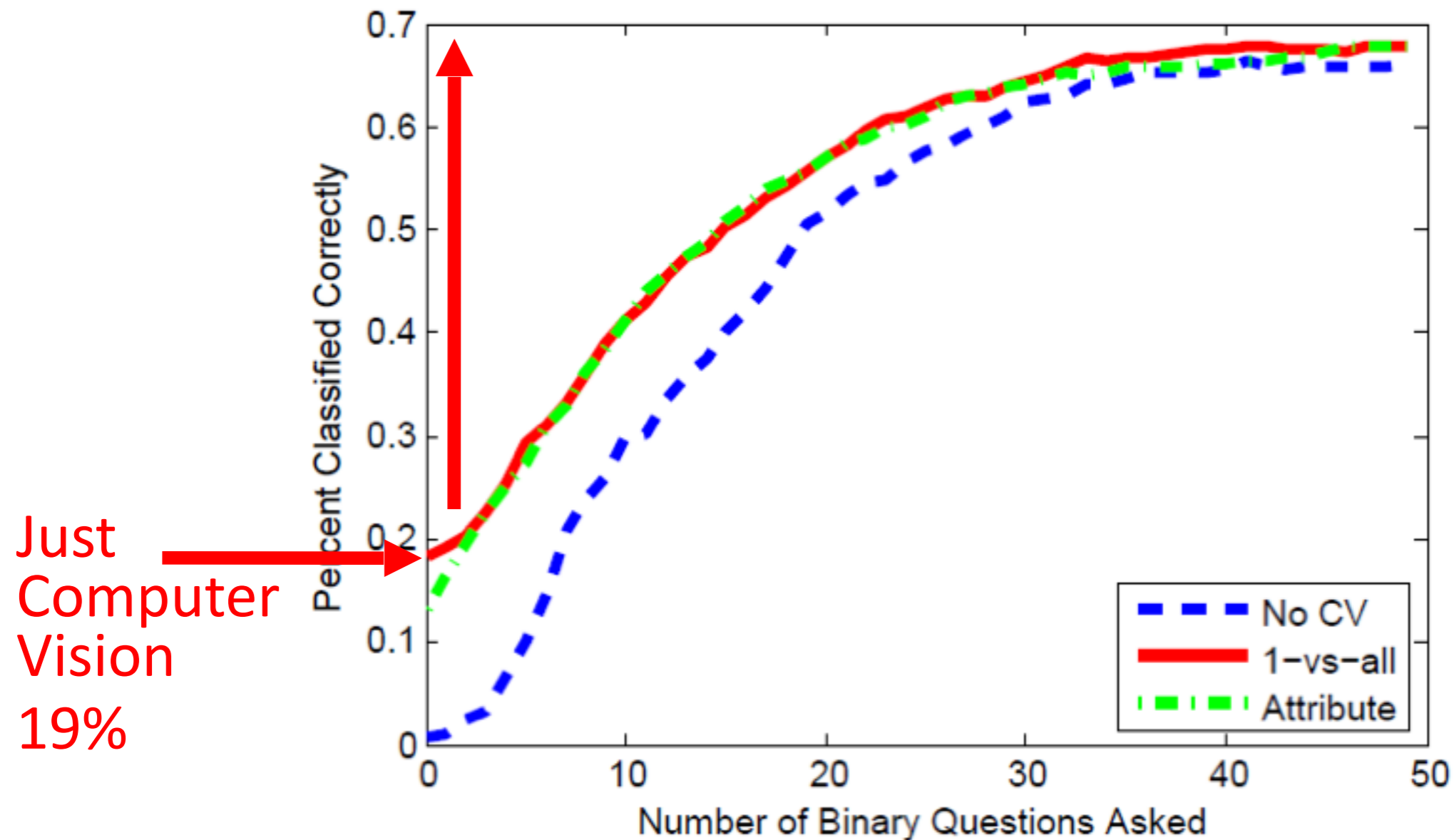
Q: Is the belly red? **yes (Def)**  
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# Results: With Computer Vision



# Results: With Computer Vision

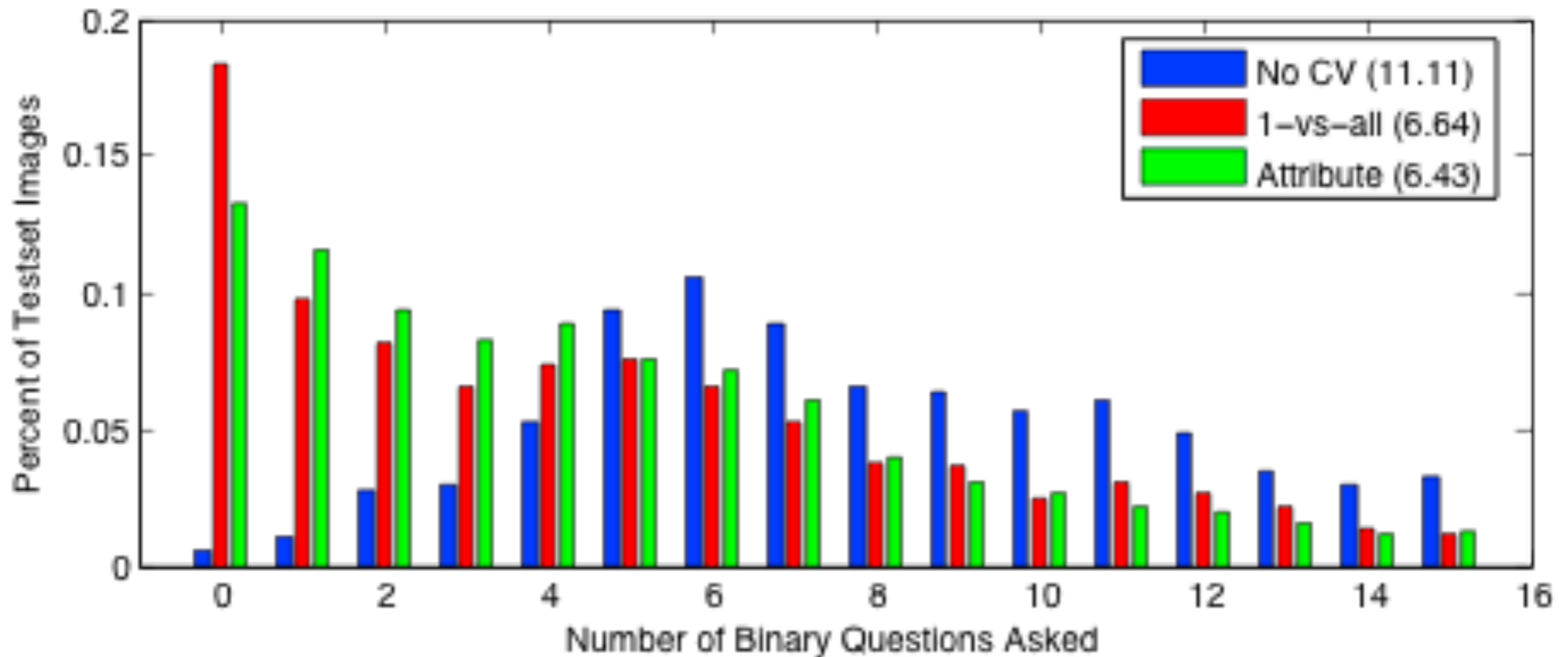
Users drive performance: 19% → 68%



Just  
Computer  
Vision  
19%

# Results: With Computer Vision

Computer Vision Reduces Manual Labor: 11.1 → 6.5 questions



# Examples

## Different Questions Asked w/ and w/out Computer Vision

Western Grebe



**Without computer vision:**

Q #1: Is the shape perching-like? no (Def.)

**With computer vision:**

Q #1: Is the throat white? yes (Def.)



perching-like

# Examples

## User Input Helps Correct Computer Vision

**Magnolia Warbler**



computer vision → Common Yellowthroat

Is the breast pattern solid?

no (definitely)

Magnolia Warbler

**Common Yellowthroat**



# Recognition is Not Always Successful

**Acadian Flycatcher**



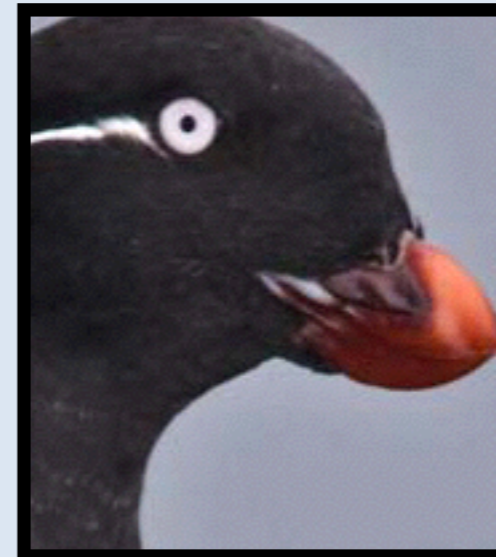
Unlimited questions



**Least Flycatcher**

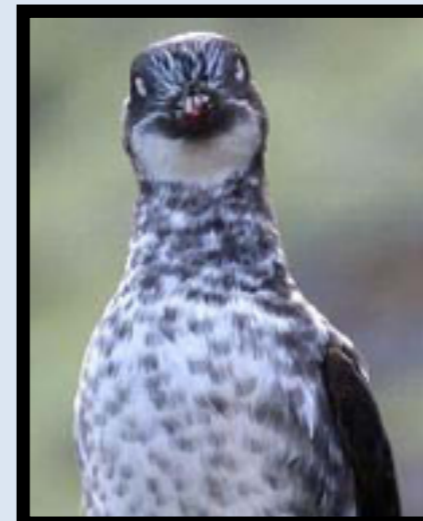


**Parakeet Auklet**



Is the belly  
multi-  
colored?  
yes (Def.)

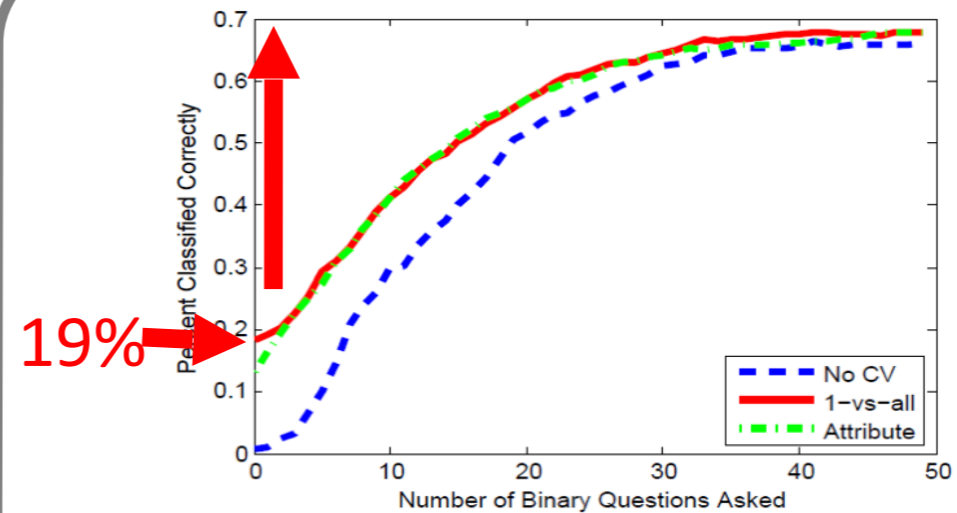
**Least Auklet**



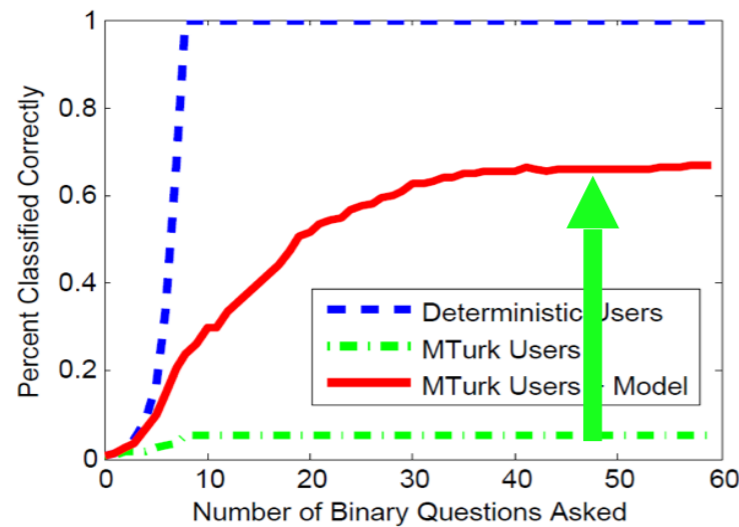
# Summary



Recognition of fine-grained categories



Users drive up performance



More reliable than field guides

11.1 → 6.5 questions

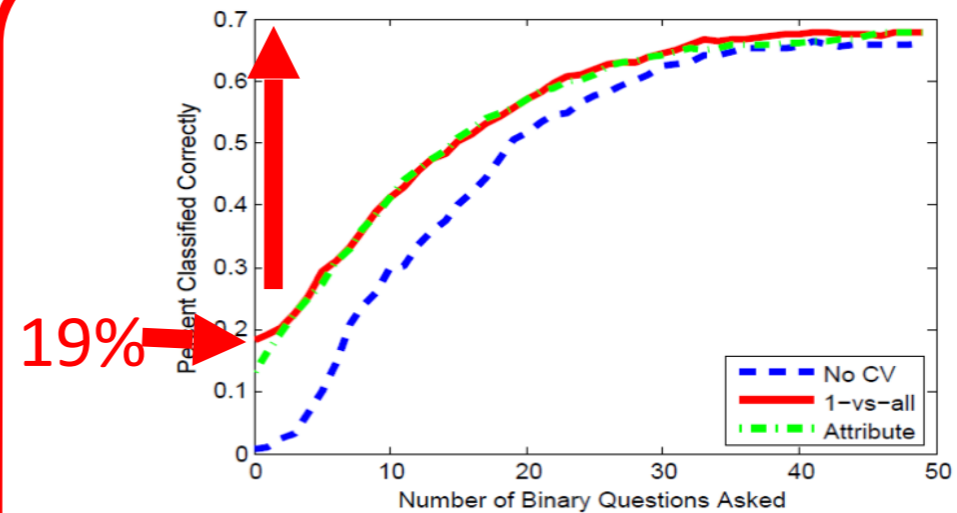
Computer vision reduces manual labor



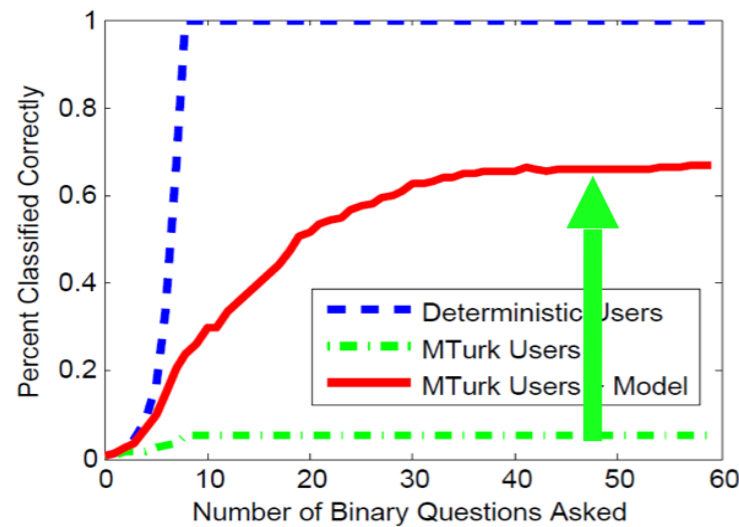
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Recognition of fine-grained categories



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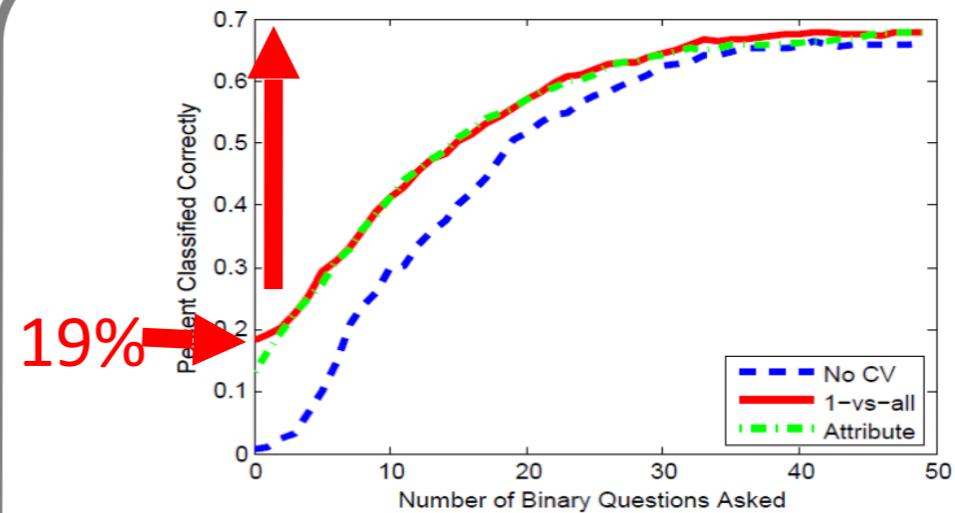
11.1 → 6.5 questions

Computer vision reduces manual labor

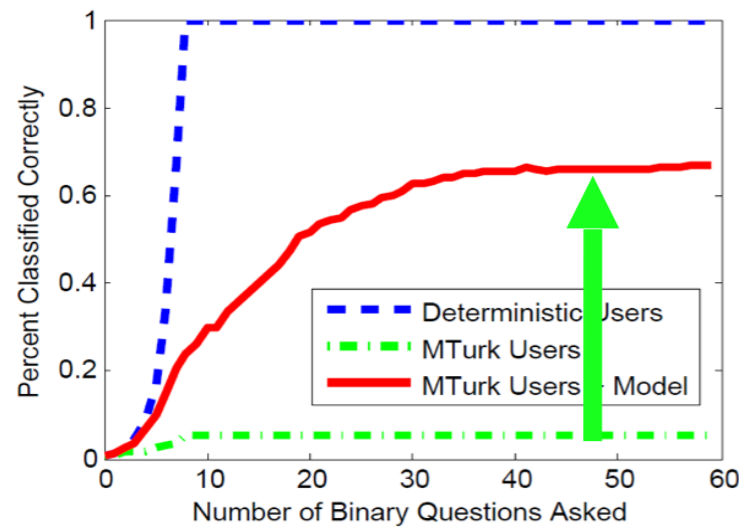
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Recognition of fine-grained categories



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More reliable than field guides

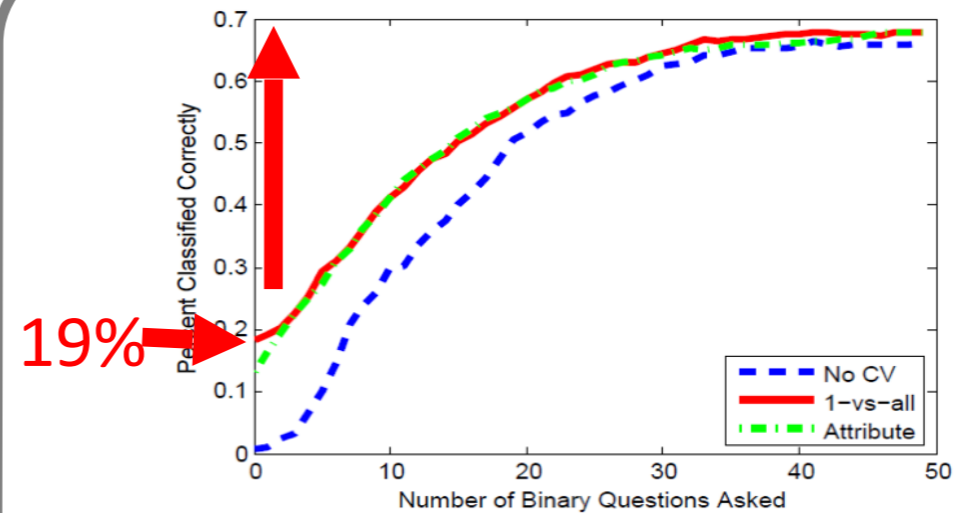
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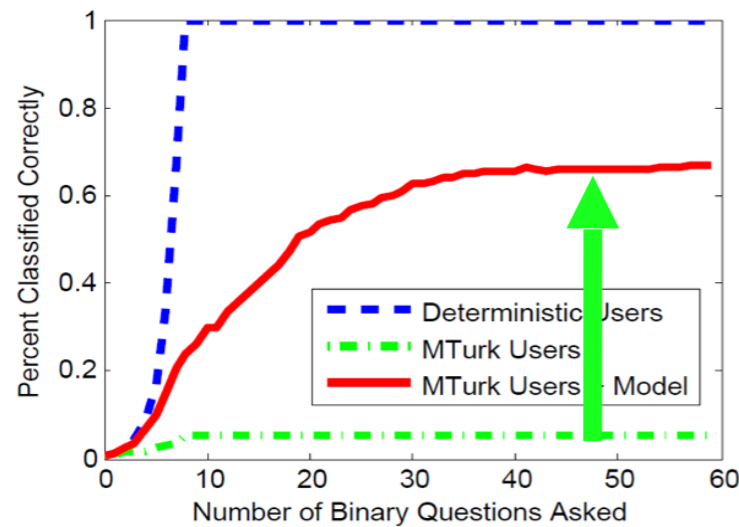
# Summary



Recognition of fine-grained categories



Users drive up performance



More reliable than field guides

11.1 → 6.5 questions

Computer vision reduces manual labor

# Drawbacks

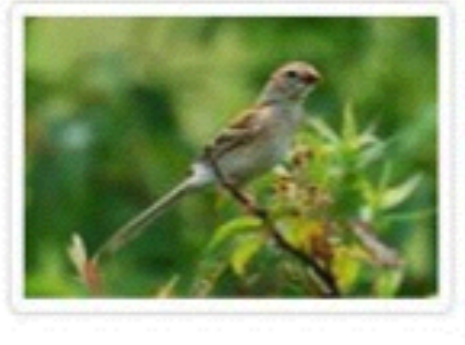
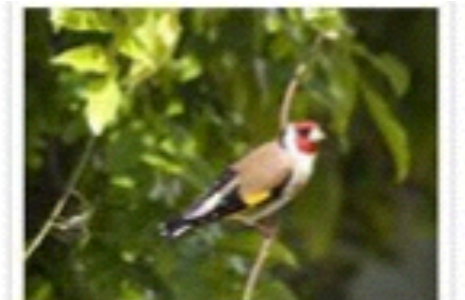
- Relies on part and attribute questions
- This may be:
  - Hard to define for some categories, e.g. handbags, sofas, etc
  - Hard to annotate due to lack of domain-specific expertise or language barriers

# Similarity comparison based framework

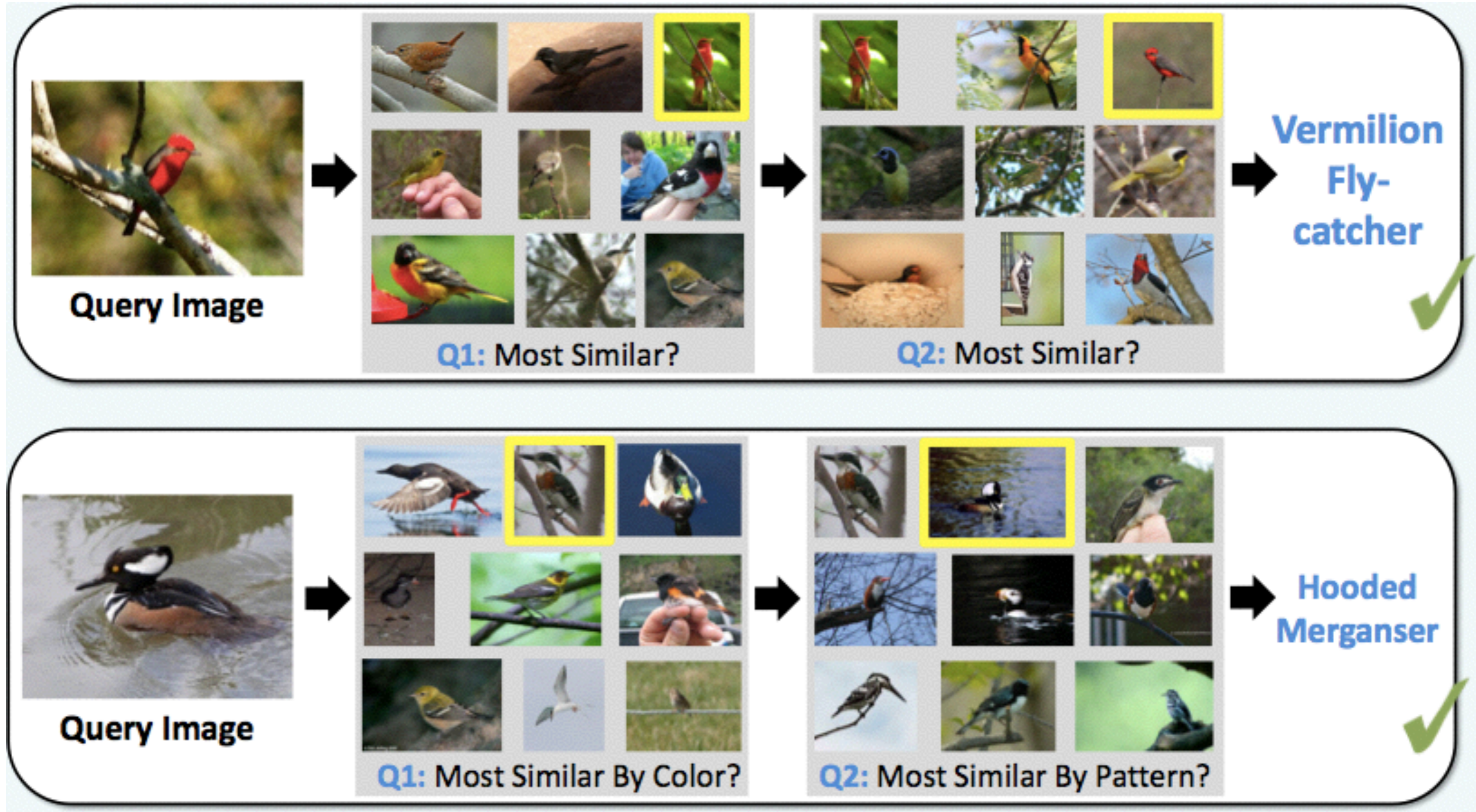


Click on the bird to the right that is the most similar species to the bird above.

Instructions

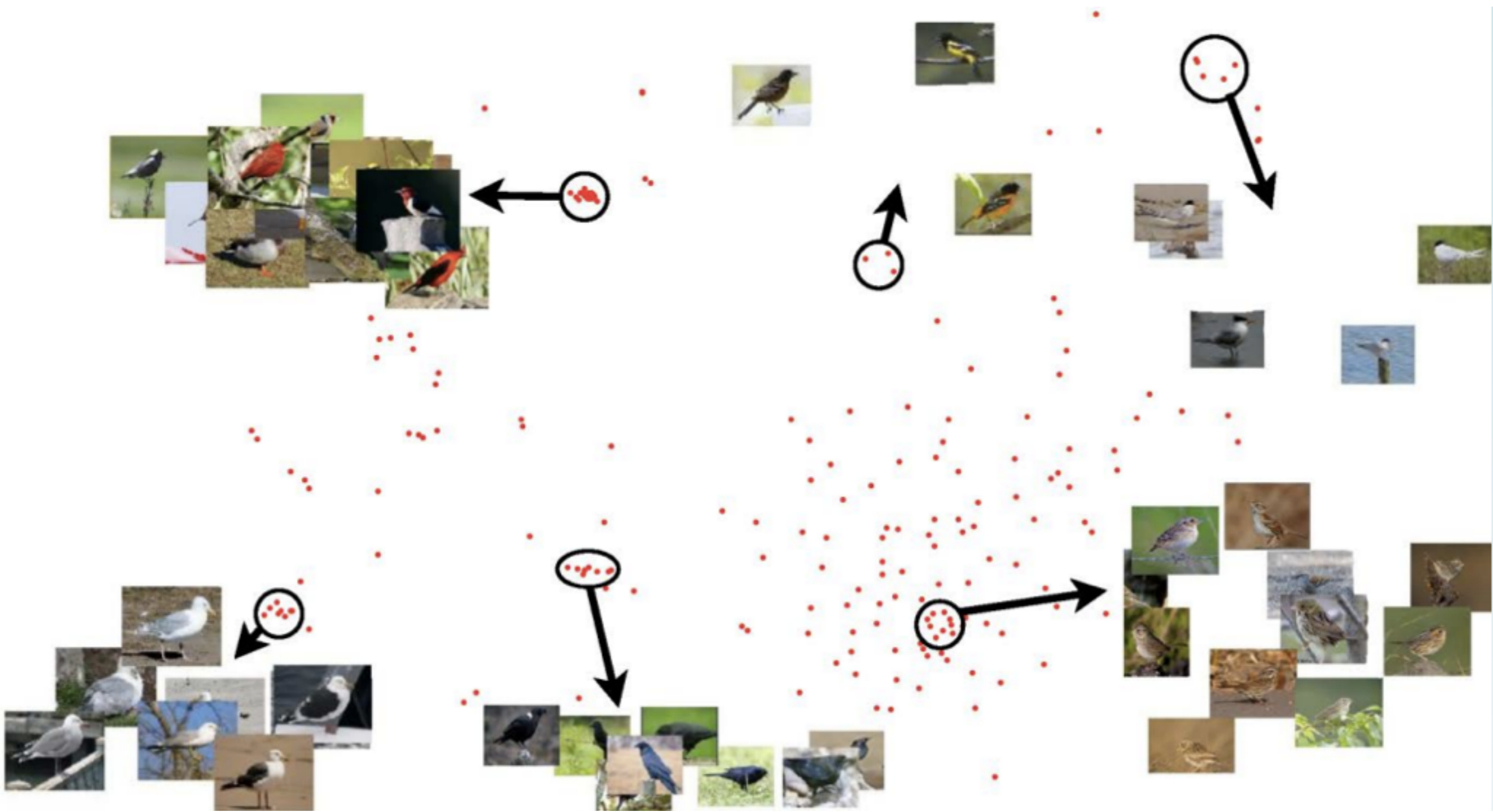


# Interactive categorization



Optimal display found by maximizing information gain

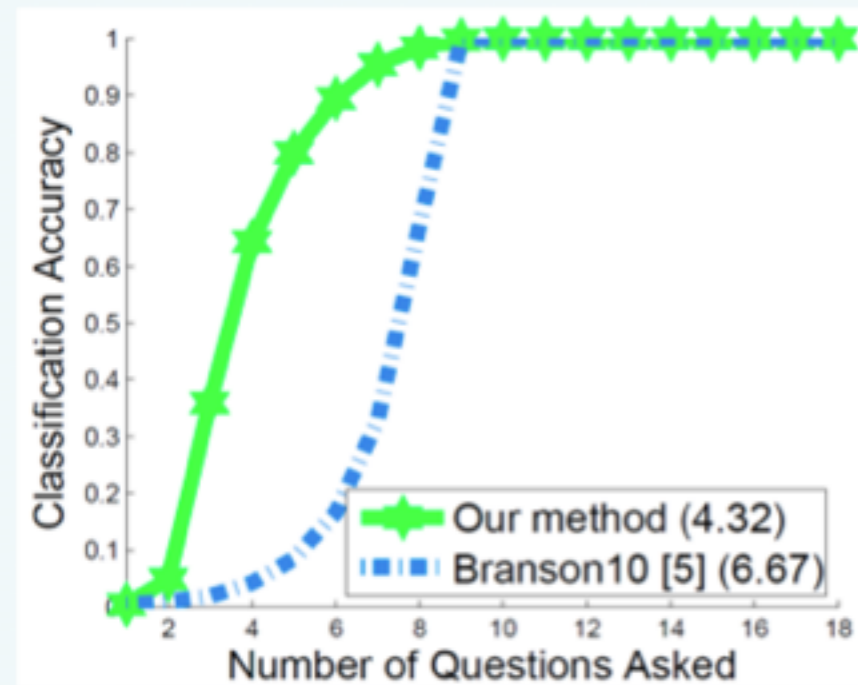
# Learned embeddings



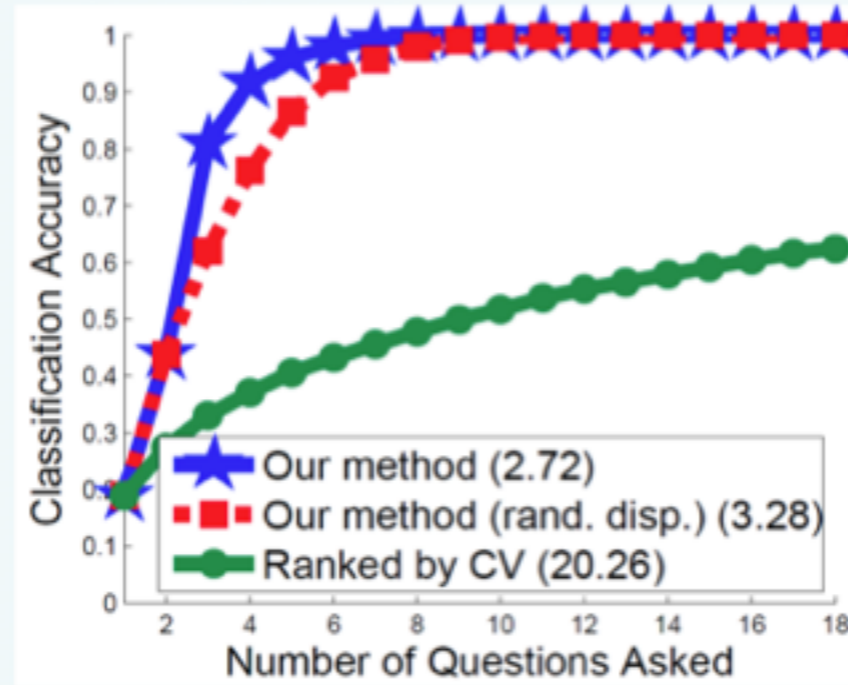
Each image is visualized in as a point in 2d space

# Interactive categorization

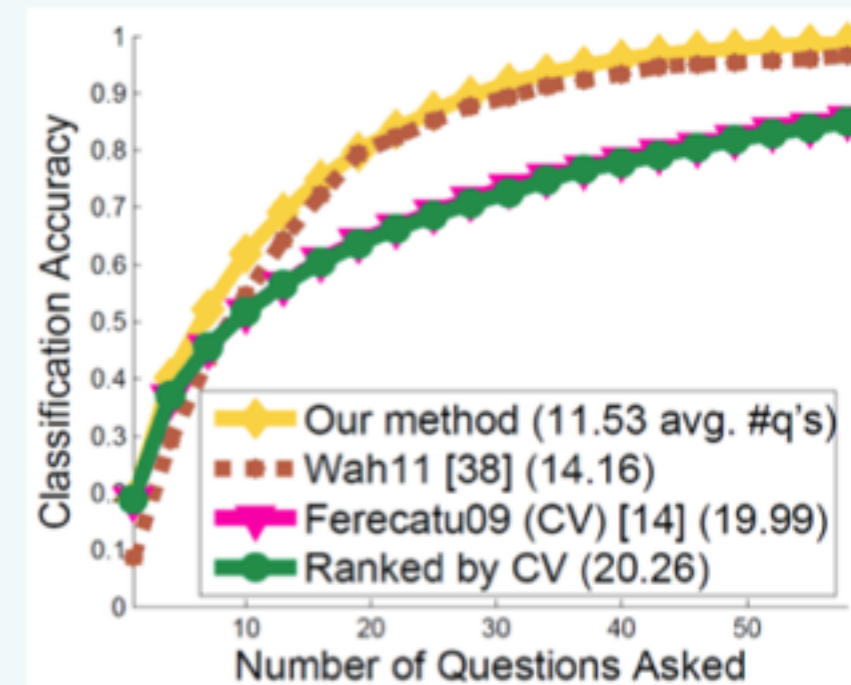
*Deterministic users*  
*No computer vision*



*Deterministic users*  
*With computer vision*



*Simulated noisy users*  
*With computer vision*





# Localized similarity

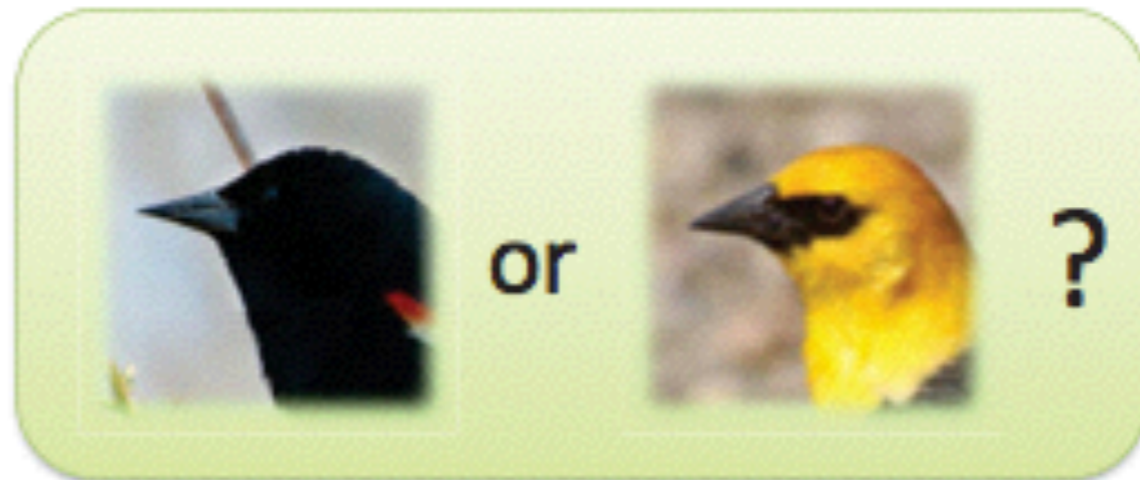
*Which of the two images is more similar to this image?*



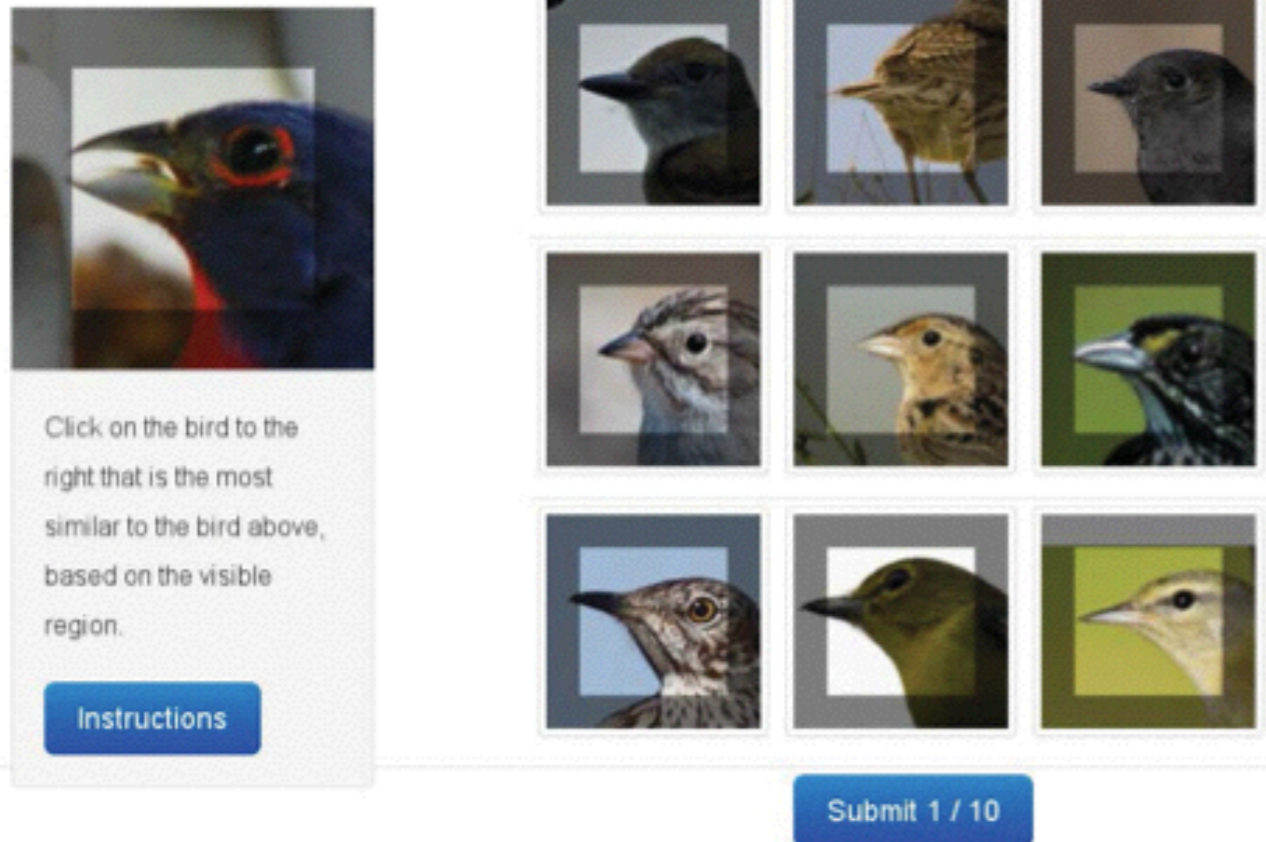
## Nonlocalized similarity comparison



## Localized similarity comparison



# Localized similarity comparisons



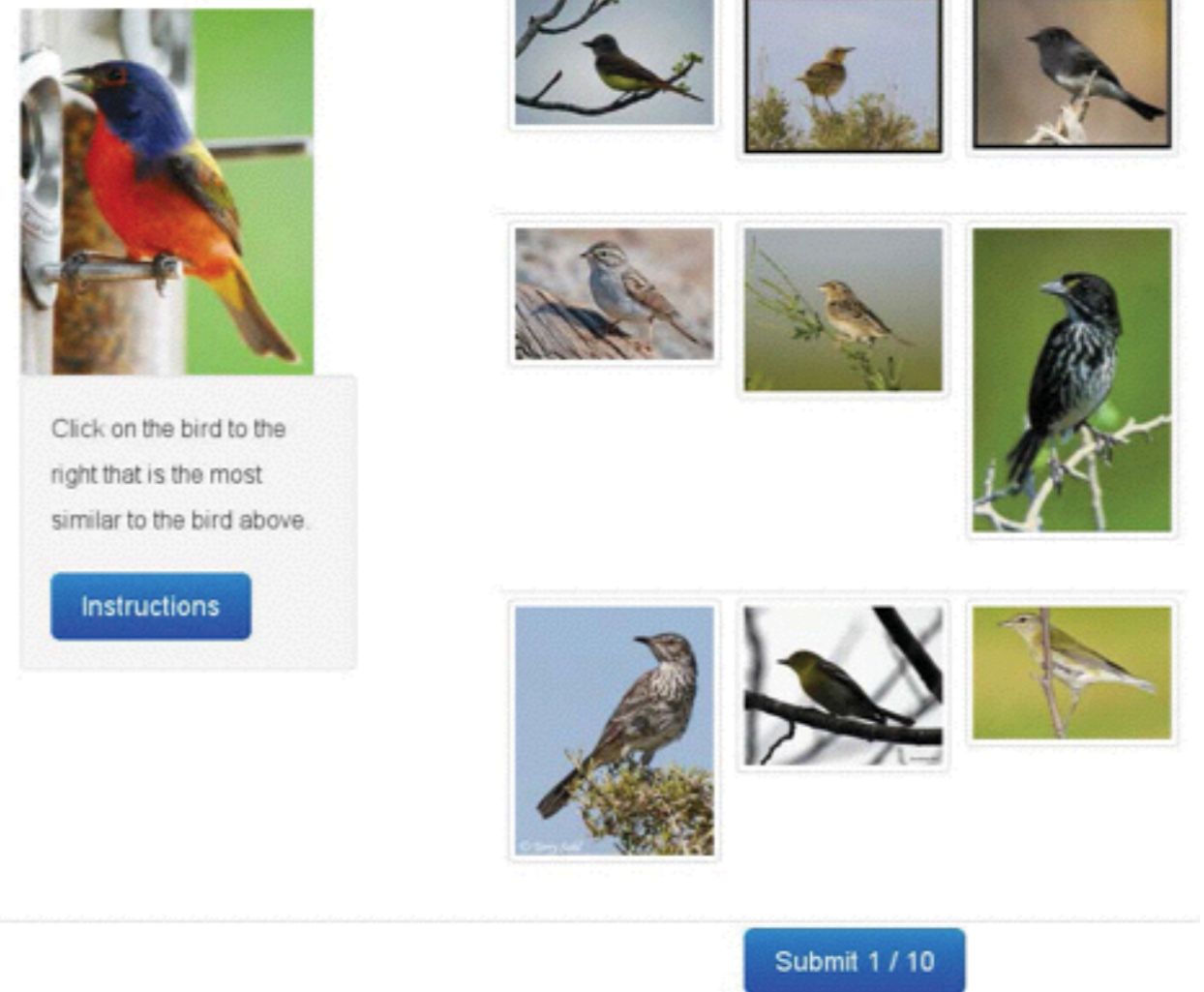
Click on the bird to the right that is the most similar to the bird above, based on the visible region.

Instructions

Submit 1 / 10

The interface shows a reference image of a blue bird with a red eye-ring on the left. To its right is a 3x3 grid of nine smaller bird images. Below the grid is a blue 'Submit 1 / 10' button.

(a) Localized comparison



Click on the bird to the right that is the most similar to the bird above.

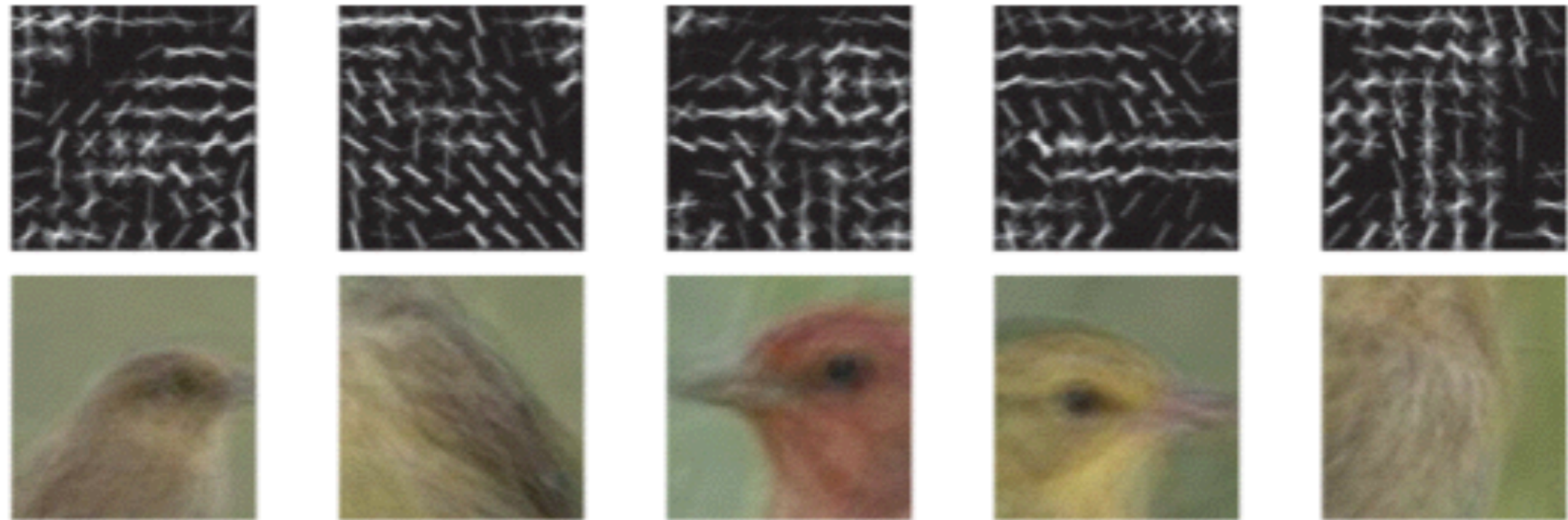
Instructions

Submit 1 / 10

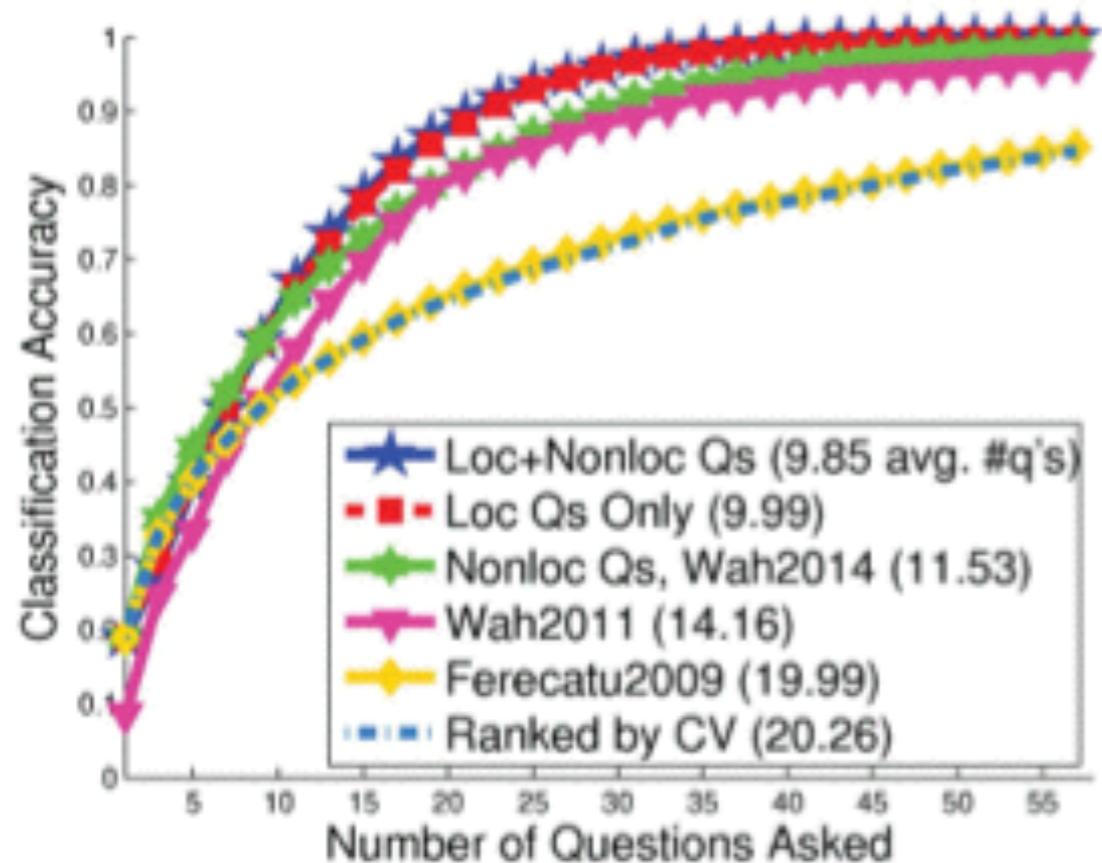
The interface shows a reference image of a colorful bird on the left. To its right is a 3x3 grid of nine smaller bird images. Below the grid is a blue 'Submit 1 / 10' button.

(b) Nonlocalized comparison

# Localized vs. Non-localized



Parts were found by clustering HOG features



11.53  $\rightarrow$  9.85 questions

Annotations are also faster

# Related Work



20 Questions Game  
[20q.net]



oMoby  
[IQEngines.com]



Field Guides  
[whabird.com]



Botanist's Electronic  
Field Guide  
[Belhumeur et al. '08]



Oxford Flowers  
[Nilsback et al. '08]



Attributes  
[Lampert et al. '09]  
[Farhadi et al. '09]  
[Kumar et al. '09]

**Many Others:** Crowdsourcing, Information Theory, Relevance Feedback, Active Learning, Expert Systems, ...

# Further thoughts and readings ...

- Papers discussed today:
  - Visual recognition with humans in the loop, Branson et al., ECCV 2010
  - Similarity comparisons for interactive fine-grained categorization, Wah et al., CVPR 2014
  - Learning localized perceptual similarity metrics for interactive categorization, Wah et al., WACV 2015
- Minimize annotation effort:
  - Active learning, better user interfaces
- Learning perceptual similarity:
  - Stochastic Triplet Embedding, L van der Maaten, K Weinberger
- Computer vision and human computation workshop, CVPR 2014
  - <https://people.cs.umass.edu/~smaji/cvhc2014/index.html>