The Identity Thang

Deep Background

- An old story, and widely shared
- The recent situation
  - The “IT Deans” group -- look around the room
  - Wittgenstein’s warning
- An inherent dilemma:
  - Identity, from the Latin *idem* -- the same
  - Creating/preserving identity in turbulence
- The Identity/Legitimacy confusion

Recent Background

- IT Deans meeting Winter ‘02
  - Agreement on need to consider identity
- Snowbird ‘02
  - Identity discussion in break-outs -- “the essence”
  - Everyone agreed it’s an issue
  - Everyone was flummoxed
- IT Deans meeting in Portland, ‘03
  - John engages in Hubris
  - Agreement to do it for real at Snowbird ‘04

Where It *Really* Is

- The “reaction mass” problem
  - John promises a framework people can engage
- Harder than it appears; bad if done poorly
- Snowbird logistics drives delay on the focused meeting
- Progress on the framework, however
  - At Michigan
  - Elsewhere
  - Concatenation and resynthesis

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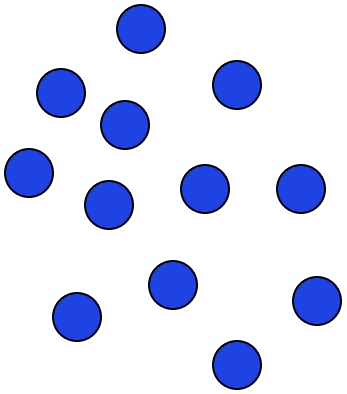
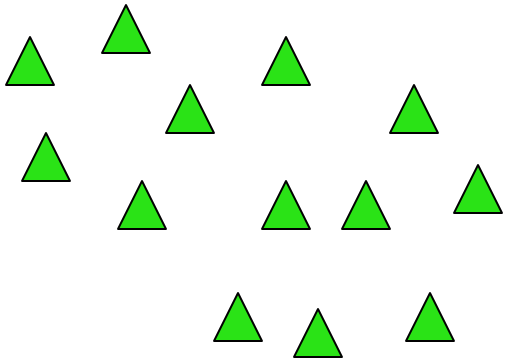
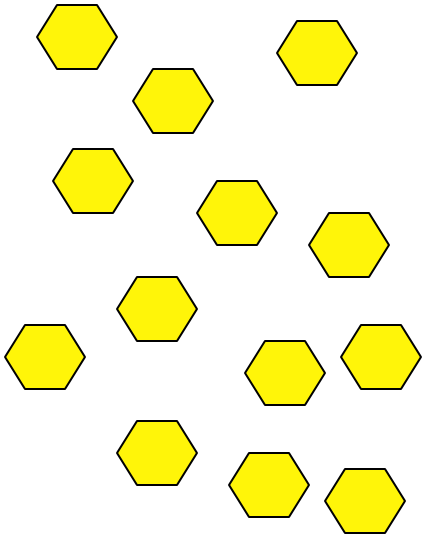
Now What?

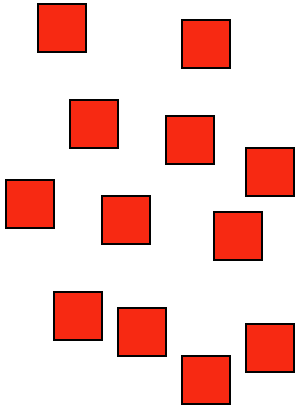
- Dumb luck: preoccupation sweeps the land
- However, the challenge is even *more* important
- Framework will be completed this summer
- Preliminary construct discussed at Snowbird ‘04
- Invitational meeting in F ‘04 or W ‘05
- Who *ought* to play? Look around the room
  - CS/IS/IS/IT/LIS/Comm/Ed
- Who *gets* to play? Not yet sure

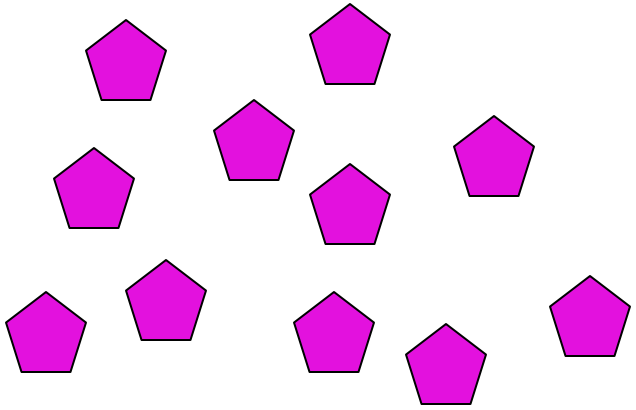
An Angle on the Goal Space











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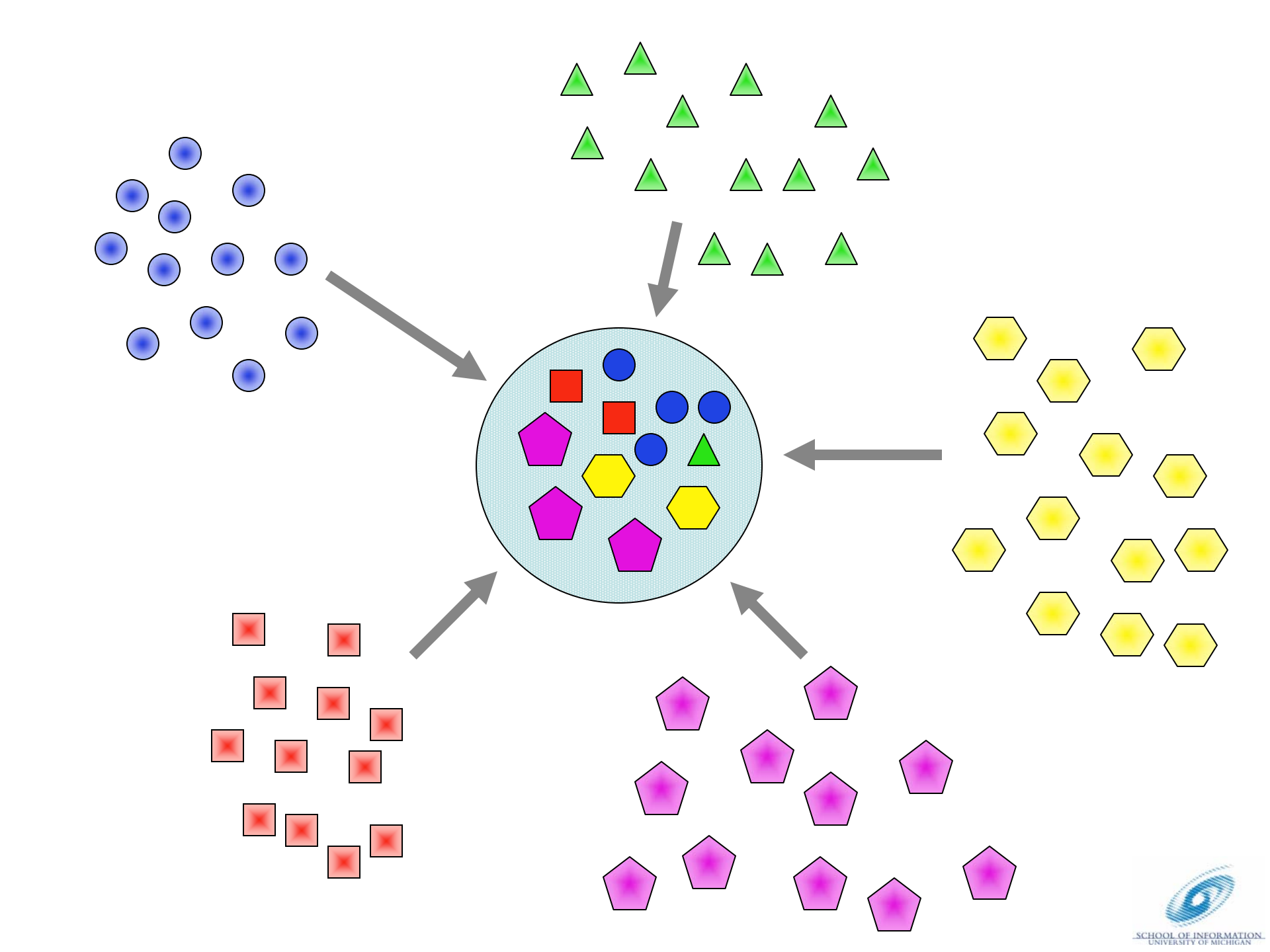

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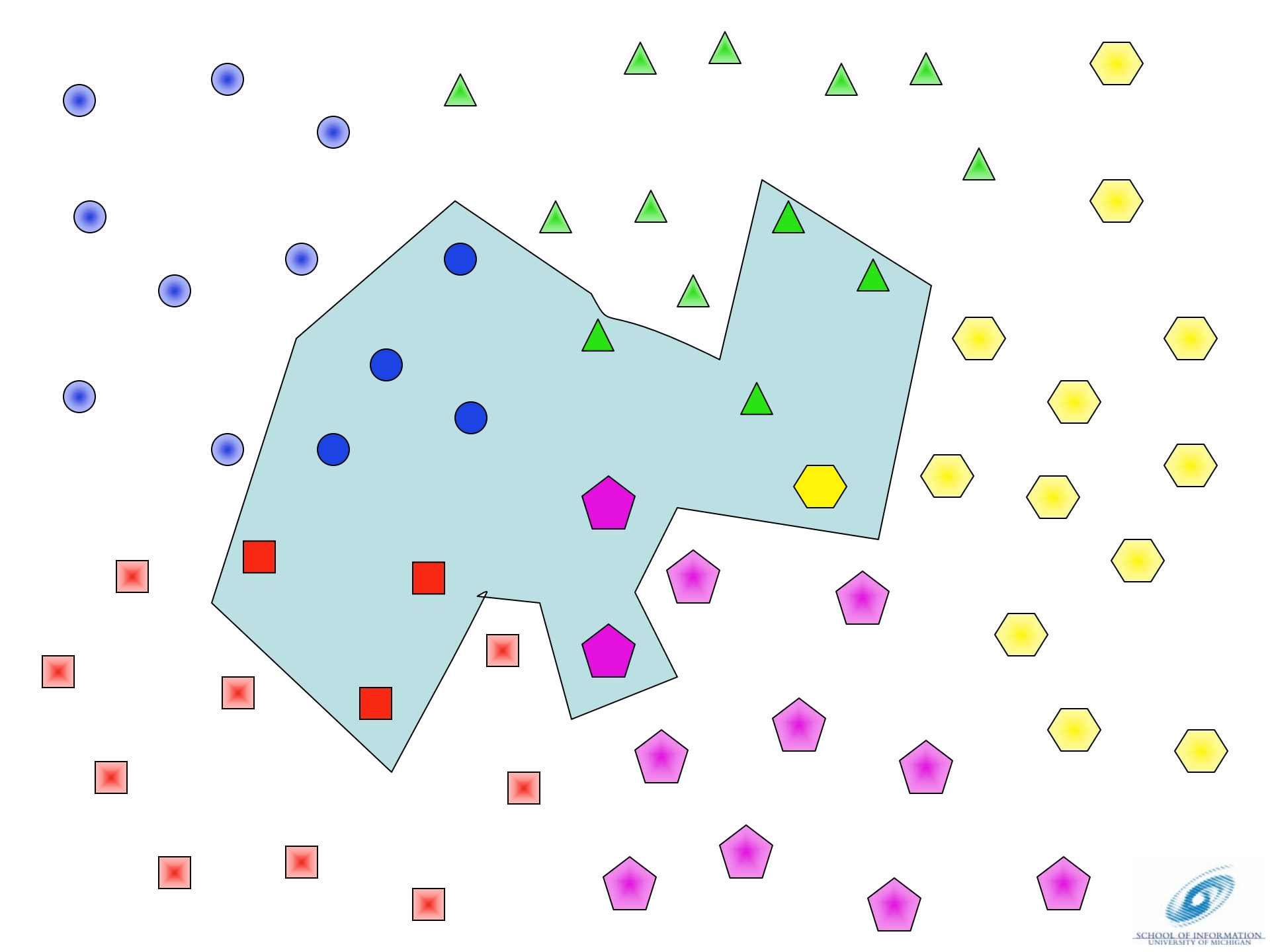

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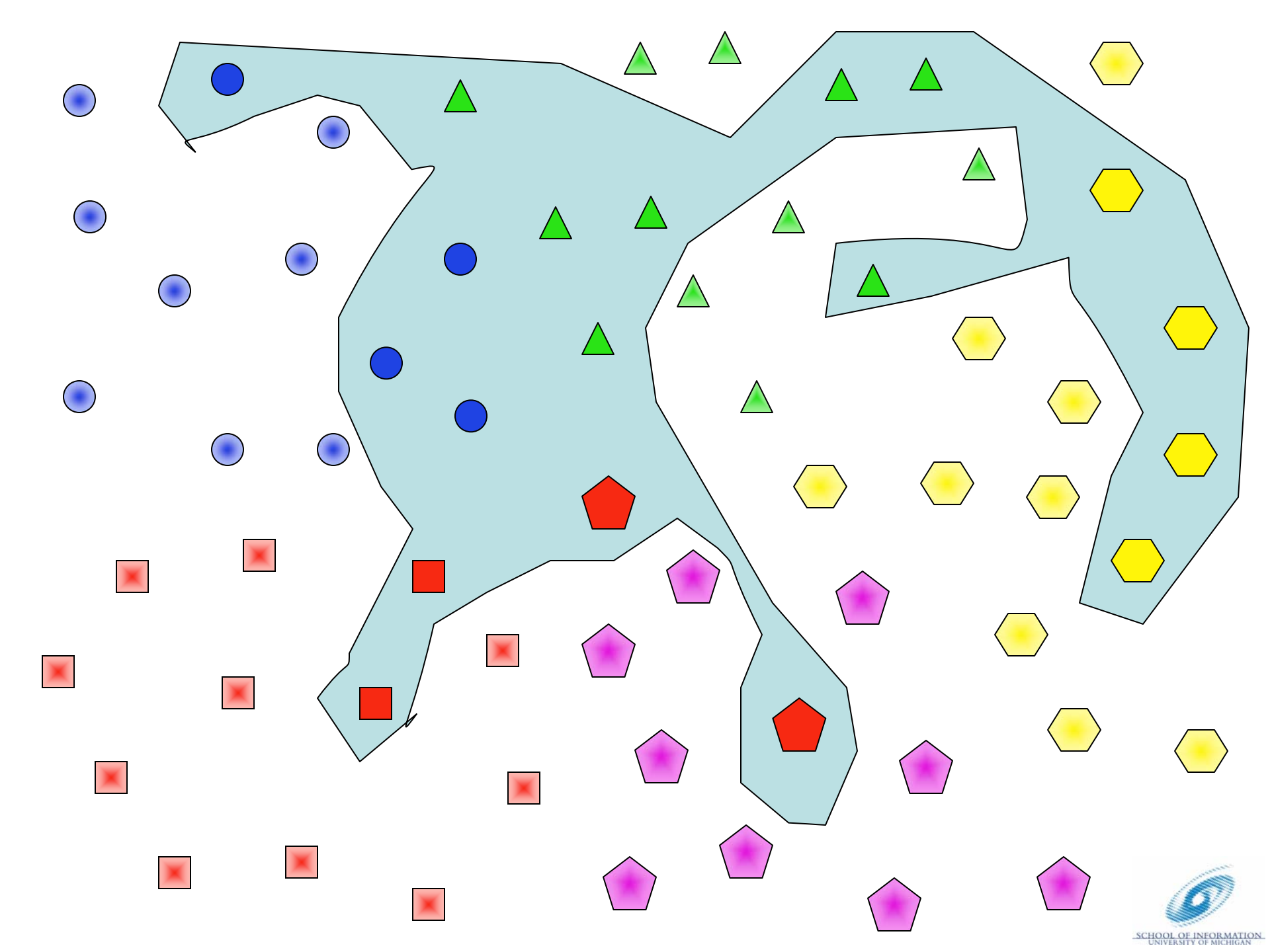

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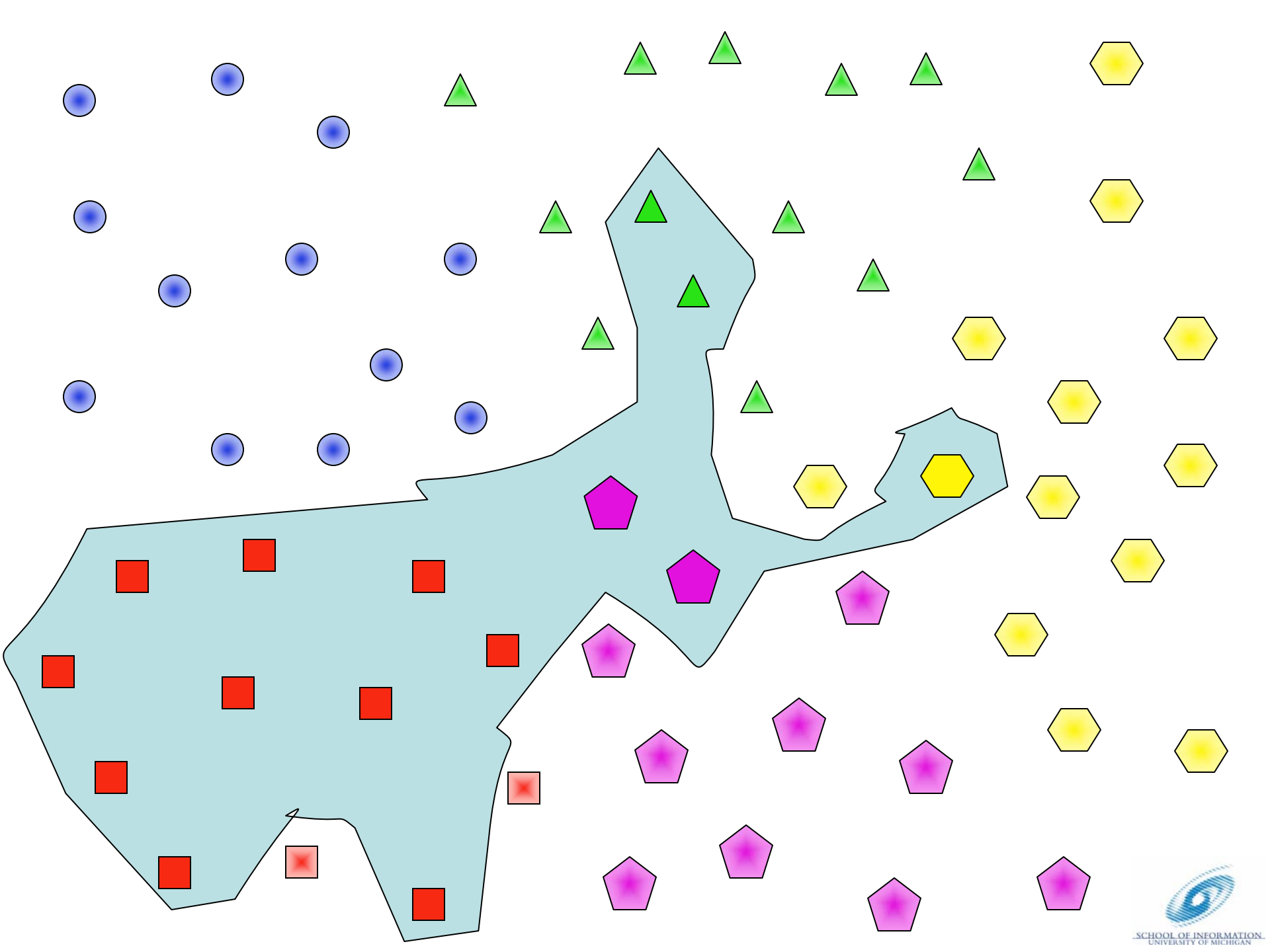
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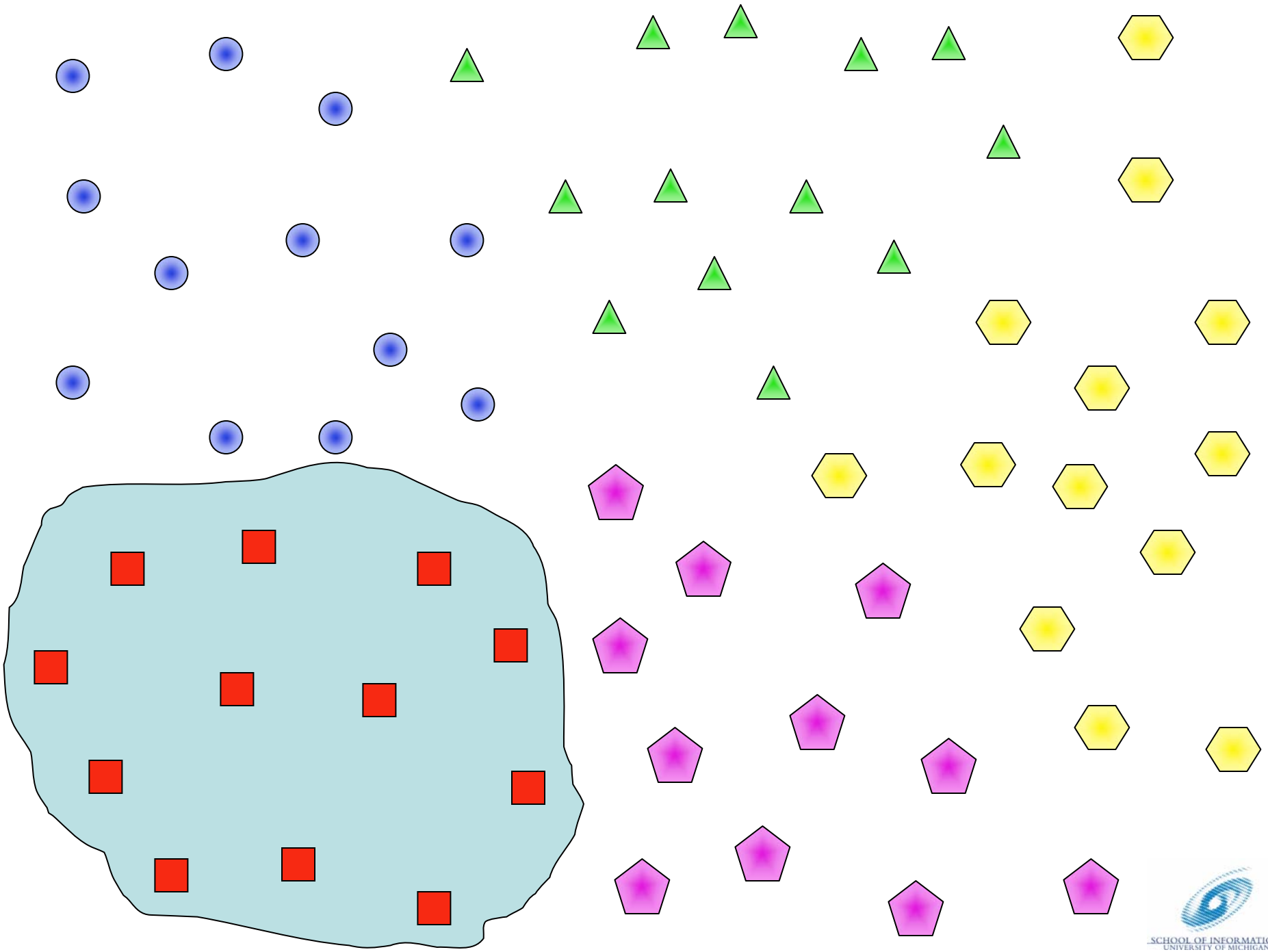

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