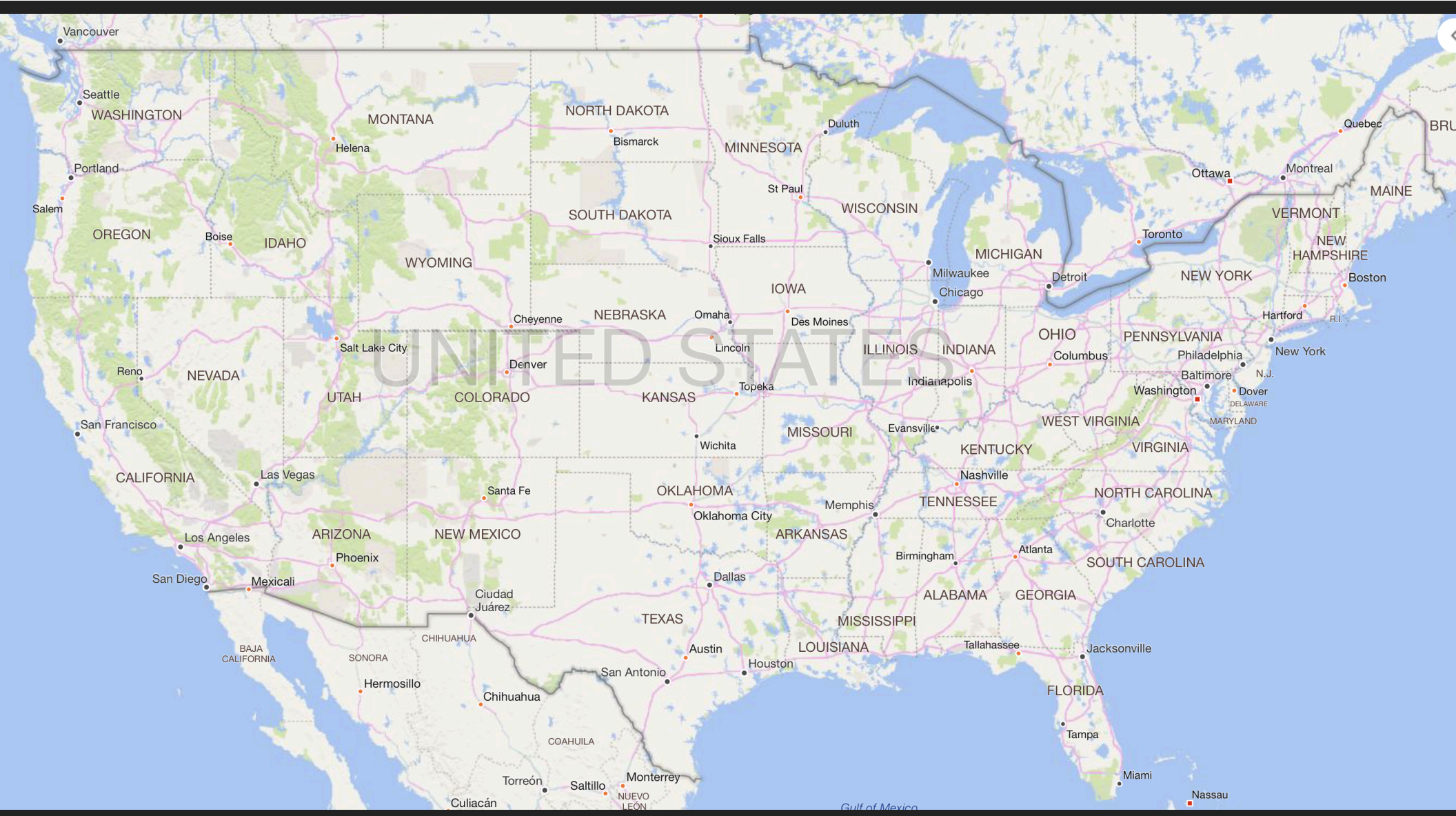


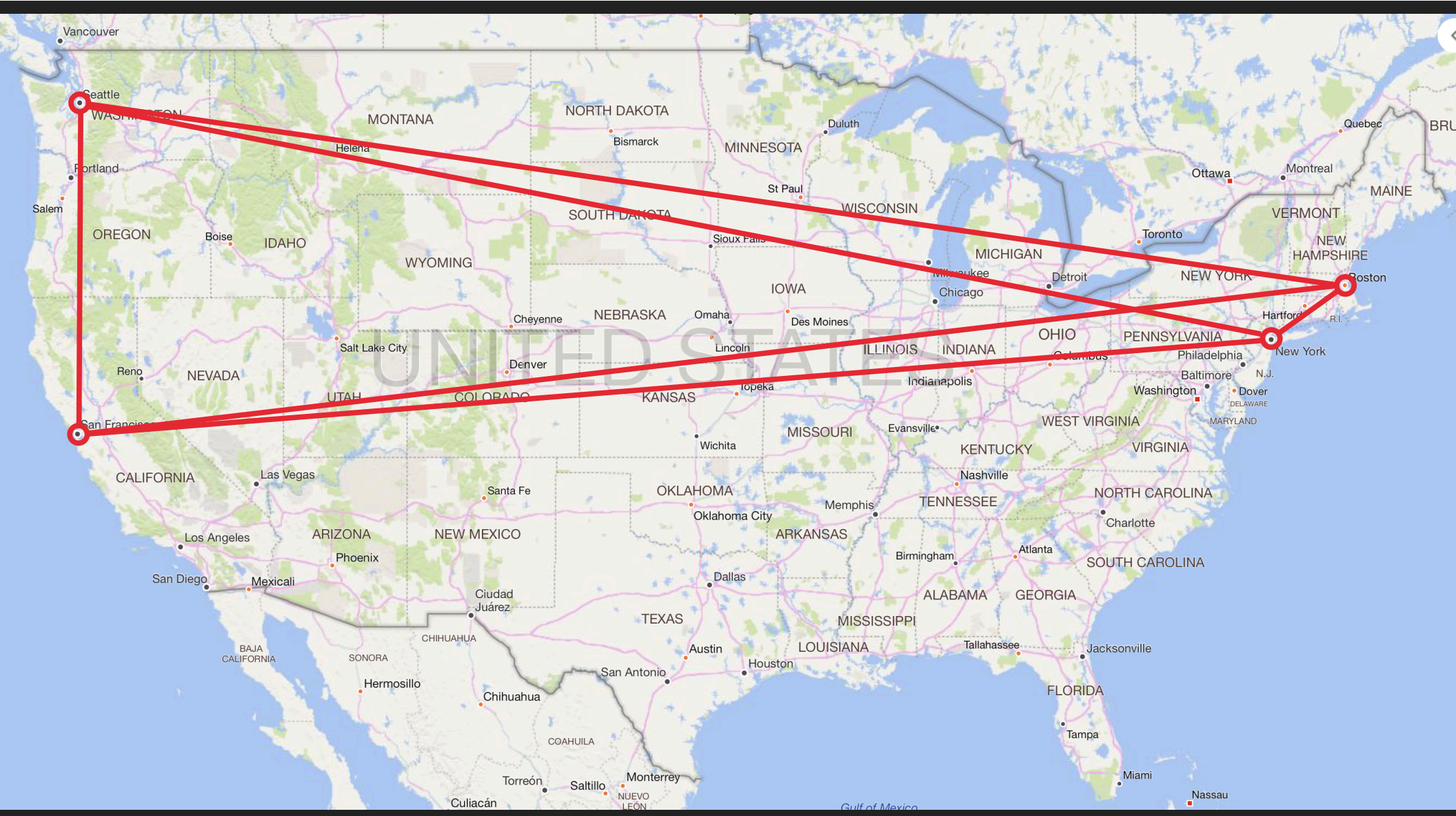
JESSE ANDERTON

ADVISOR: JAVED ASLAM

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: FERNANDO DIAZ, DAVID SMITH, BYRON WALLACE

SCALABLE ORDINAL EMBEDDING TO MODEL USER BEHAVIOR





Vancouver

Seattle

Portland

Salem

WASHINGTON

OREGON

NEVADA

San Francisco

CALIFORNIA

Los Angeles

San Diego

BAJA CALIFORNIA

SONORA

CHIHUAHUA

COAHUILA

NUEVO LEÓN

MONTANA

IDAHO

WYOMING

UTAH

NEBRASKA

NEVADA

UTAH

ARIZONA

NEW MEXICO

CHIHUAHUA

SONORA

CHIHUAHUA

COAHUILA

NUEVO LEÓN

NUEVO LEÓN

HELENA

BOISE

SALT LAKE CITY

CHEYENNE

DENVER

SANTA FE

PHOENIX

CIUDAD JUÁREZ

HERMOSILLO

CHIHUAHUA

SONORA

CHIHUAHUA

COAHUILA

TORREÓN

SALTILLO

NORTH DAKOTA

BISMARCK

SOUTH DAKOTA

CHEYENNE

DENVER

SANTA FE

PHOENIX

CIUDAD JUÁREZ

HERMOSILLO

CHIHUAHUA

SONORA

CHIHUAHUA

COAHUILA

NUEVO LEÓN

NUEVO LEÓN

MINNESOTA

ST PAUL

SIOUX FALLS

OMAHA

LINCOLN

WICHITA

OKLAHOMA

OKLAHOMA CITY

DALLAS

TEXAS

AUSTIN

HOUSTON

SAN ANTONIO

MONTERREY

DULUTH

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SAN ANTONIO

MONTERREY

QUEBEC

MONTREAL

OTTAWA

TORONTO

DETROIT

CHICAGO

INDIANAPOLIS

EVANSVILLE

NASHVILLE

ATLANTA

TALLAHASSEE

JACKSONVILLE

MIAMI

NASSAU

UNITED STATES

Gulf of Mexico

PAIRWISE CITY DISTANCES

	Boston	NYC	Seattle	SF
Boston	-	190	2,485	2,692
NYC	-	-	2,401	2,565
Seattle	-	-	-	679
SF	-	-	-	-

TOTAL DISTANCE ORDER

	Boston	NYC	Seattle	SF
Boston	-	1st	4th	6th
NYC	-	-	3rd	5th
Seattle	-	-	-	2nd
SF	-	-	-	-

DISTANCE RANKINGS

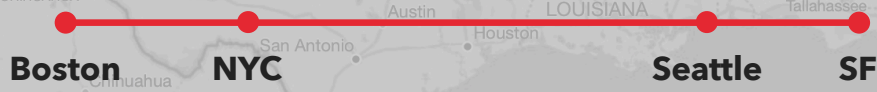
	Boston	NYC	Seattle	SF
Boston	-	1st	2nd	3rd
NYC	1st	-	2nd	3rd
Seattle	3rd	2nd	-	1st
SF	3rd	2nd	1st	-

DISTANCE RANKINGS

	Boston	NYC	Seattle	SF
Boston	-	1st	2nd	3rd
NYC	1st	-	2nd	3rd
Seattle	3rd	2nd	-	1st
SF	3rd	2nd	1st	-

Anchor

Perfect?



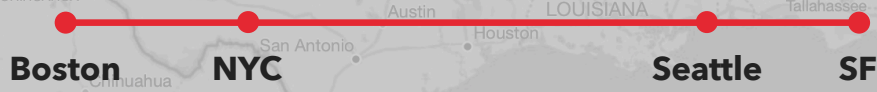
Boston **NYC** **Seattle** **SF**

DISTANCE RANKINGS

	Boston	NYC	Seattle	SF	Dallas
Boston	-	1st	3rd	4th	2nd
NYC	1st	-	3rd	4th	2nd
Seattle	4th	3rd	-	1st	2nd
SF	4th	3rd	1st	-	2nd
Dallas	3rd	1st	4th	2nd	-

Anchor

Perfect? No!



Boston NYC Seattle SF

ASSIGNING ORDER-PRESERVING POSITIONS

- ▶ An *embedding* positions a set of objects within some vector space (like \mathbb{R}^d) to satisfy some objective.
- ▶ An *ordinal embedding* focuses on satisfying some given ordering constraints.
- ▶ Constraints can be expressed as triples like:

“Boston is closer to New York City than to Seattle”

“The Matrix is more like Star Wars than it is like La La Land”

“People who like steak tend to prefer chicken over tofu”

EVALUATE BY RANK CORRELATION

Mean Kendall's τ – Mean rank correlation across anchors

Mean τ_{AP} – Mean top-heavy rank correlation across anchors

GROUND TRUTH RANKINGS

		Boston	NYC	Seattle	SF
Anchor	Boston	-	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
	NYC	1 st	-	2 nd	3 rd
	Seattle	3 rd	2 nd	-	1 st
	SF	3 rd	2 nd	1 st	-

EMBEDDING RANKINGS

		Boston	NYC	Seattle	SF
Anchor	Boston	-	1 st	3 rd	2 nd
	NYC	1 st	-	2 nd	3 rd
	Seattle	1 st	2 nd	-	3 rd
	SF	3 rd	1 st	2 nd	-

HUMAN-BASED PREFERENCE/SIMILARITY

- ▶ Easier for assessors to say “The Matrix is more like Star Wars than it is like La La Land.”
- ▶ Focus on lab studies/crowdsourcing limits research interest in scalability.
- ▶ Limited scalability prohibits focus on similarity expressed through logged user behavior.



ORDINAL EMBEDDING OF FACES
TAMUZ ET AL., ICML 2011

[3] O. Tamuz, C. Liu, S. Belongie, O. Shamir, and A. T. Kalai, “Adaptively Learning the Crowd Kernel,” ICML, 2011.

IMPROVE ORDINAL EMBEDDING TECHNIQUES FOR TEXT SIMILARITY APPLICATIONS

Active Learning

Which triples should we collect?

Embedding

How can we embed accurately, at scale?

Contextual
Embeddings

Can we make embeddings that adapt to context?

IMPROVE ORDINAL EMBEDDING TECHNIQUES FOR TEXT SIMILARITY APPLICATIONS

Active Learning

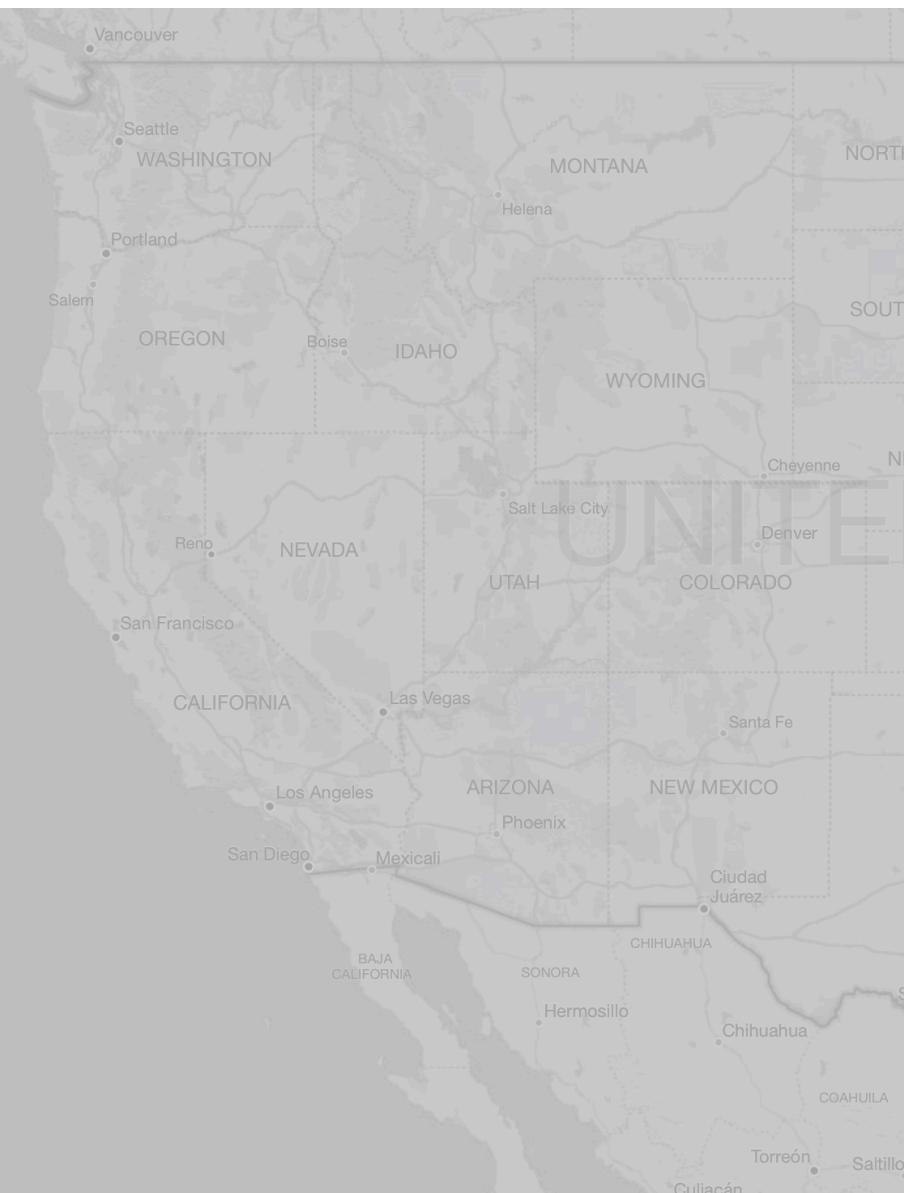
Which triples should we collect?

Embedding

How can we embed accurately, at scale?

Contextual
Embeddings

Can we make embeddings that adapt to context?



RELATED WORK

CROWD KERNEL
ICML 2011

ICML 2011: “ADAPTIVELY LEARNING THE CROWD KERNEL” [T,B,S,K]

- ▶ By “kernel” they mean “embedding.”
- ▶ Assumes that assessors disagree more when similar distances are compared.
- ▶ They pick triples that (approximately) maximize expected information gain.
- ▶ Model uses an intermediate embedding to find triples where (a,b,c) and (a,c,b) are both likely.






Prob. that assessor says $\delta_{ab} < \delta_{ac}$

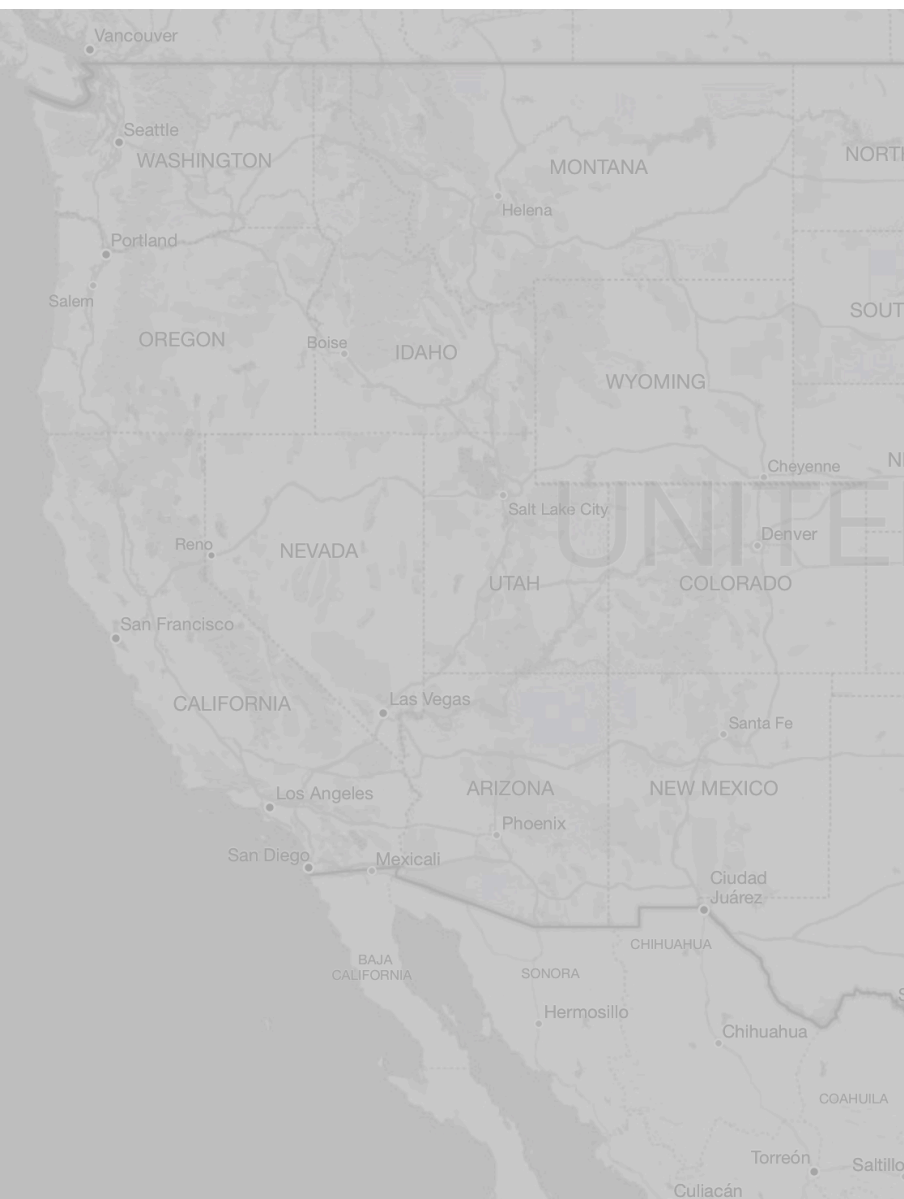
$$\Pr((a, b, c)|X) = \frac{\lambda + \delta_{ac}^2(X)}{2\lambda + \delta_{ab}^2(X) + \delta_{ac}^2(X)}$$

$\delta_{ab}(X)$	$\delta_{ac}(X)$	$\Pr((a,b,c) X)$
1	2	0.75
2	1	0.25
1.4	1.5	0.53
1.5	1.5	0.50

SCORE CARD: CROWD KERNEL

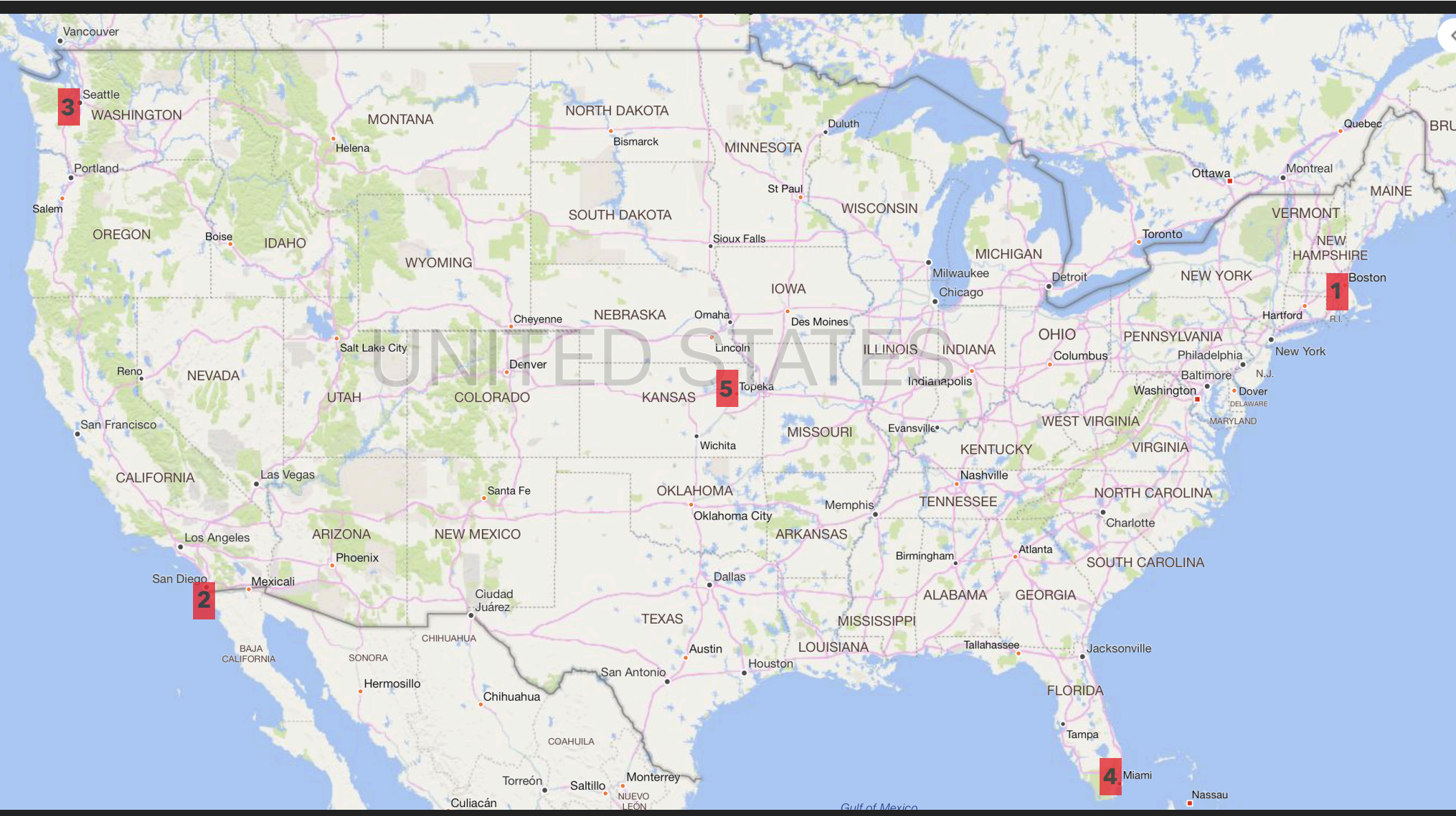
After a year trying to use this tool, I decided to write a thesis on better tools.

	CK	
Active Learning		Good for small budgets
Num. Objects		Hundreds
Num. Dimensions		<10
Accuracy		Medium
Speed		Prohibitively Slow



MY METHOD

FRFT ADAPTIVE SORT



3

1

2

4

5

UNITED STATES

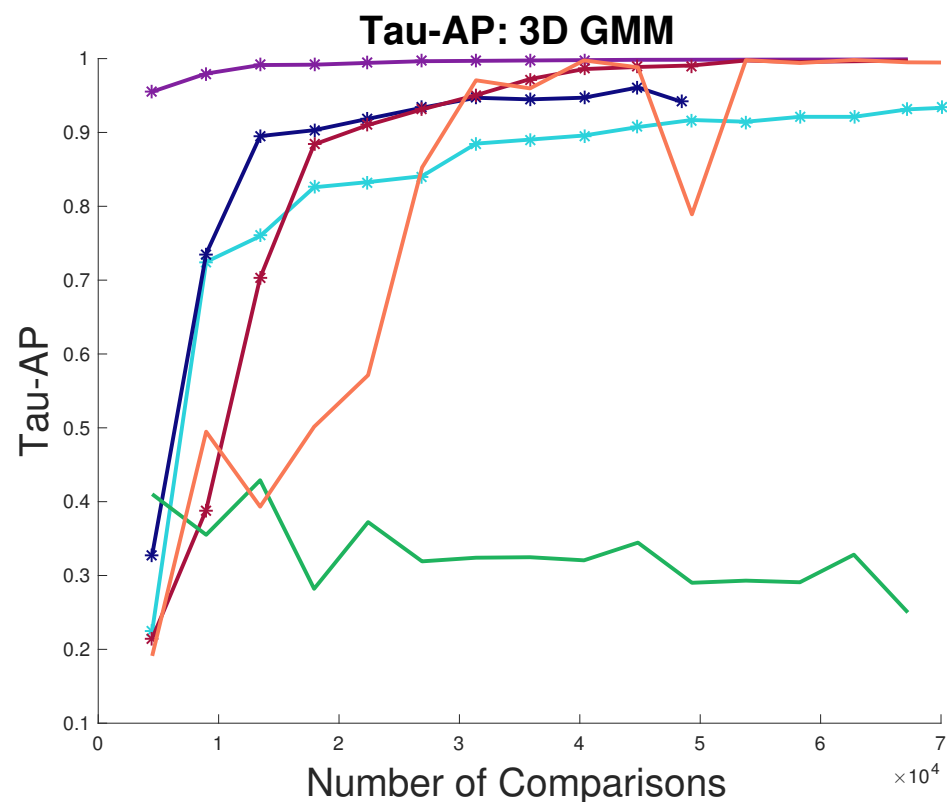
FARTHEST-RANK-FIRST TRAVERSAL ADAPTIVE SORT

1. Pick an anchor far from all previous anchors (first time: use a point on boundary).
2. Guess the anchor's ranking using an embedding of data collected so far.
3. Sort the guessed ranking adaptively: $O(n)$ triples if guess was good, $O(n \log n)$ if guess was bad.
4. If guess was very good, stop; else, go to 1.

EMPIRICAL COMPARISON











- FRFT Ranking - My algorithm, using rankings from features - $O(n)$ triples per ranking.
- FRFT Adaptive Sort - My algorithm, using no prior knowledge - $O(n \log n)$ then $O(n)$.
- Crowd Kernel - Active learning baseline.
- Random Tails - Random baseline.
- kNN - Gradually add next NN for each obj.
- Landmarks - Gradually add objects to all rankings.

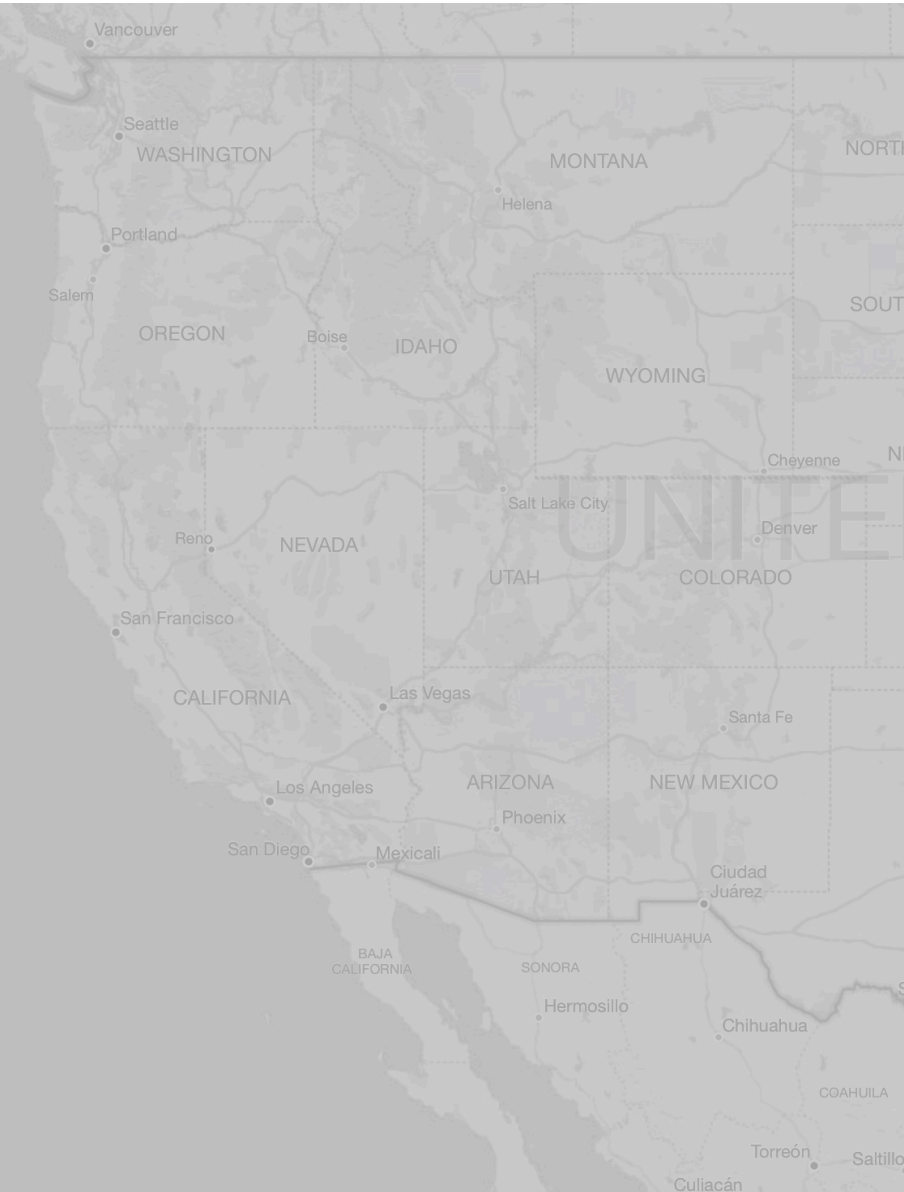
τ_{AP} IS A TOP-HEAVY RANK CORRELATION MEASURE



SCORE CARD: FRFT ADAPTIVE SORT

Active learning beats CK, but we still have work to do.

	CK	AS
Active Learning		 Approaches lower bound
Num. Objects		 10,000's
Num. Dimensions		 <10
Accuracy		 Very good
Speed		 Medium



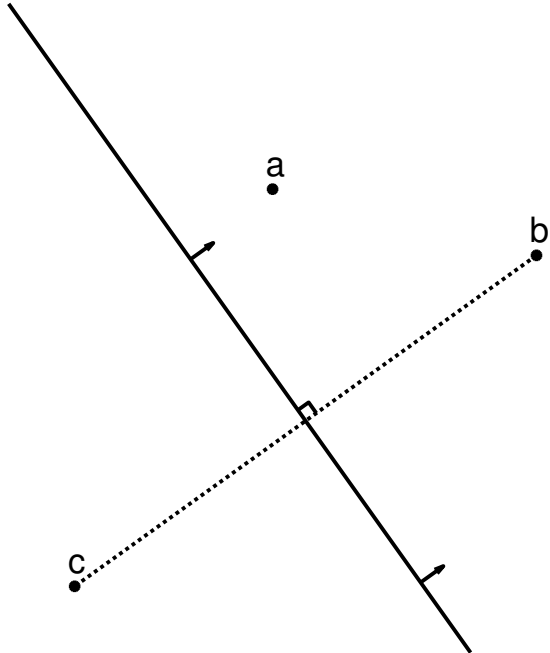
PROPOSED WORK

CAN WE DO BETTER?

- ▶ Empirically, FRFT Adaptive Sort approaches the lower bound [4] of $\Omega(d n \log n)$.
- ▶ Intermediate embedding step is slow and error-prone.
- ▶ When our guess is already correct, we still waste (?) triples to confirm it.
- ▶ I believe we can avoid the embedding step and reduce redundancy using the geometry implied by the triples.

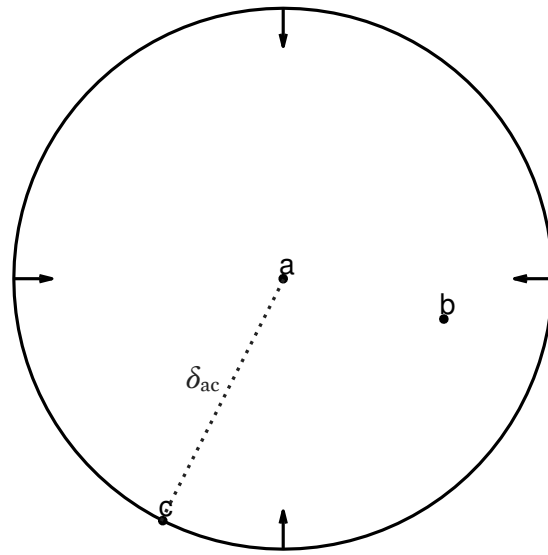
[4] K. G. Jamieson and R. D. Nowak, Low-dimensional embedding using adaptively selected ordinal data. IEEE, 2011, pp. 1077-1084.

THE THREE VIEWS OF A "TRIPLE CONSTRAINT" a IS MORE LIKE b THAN c : (a,b,c)

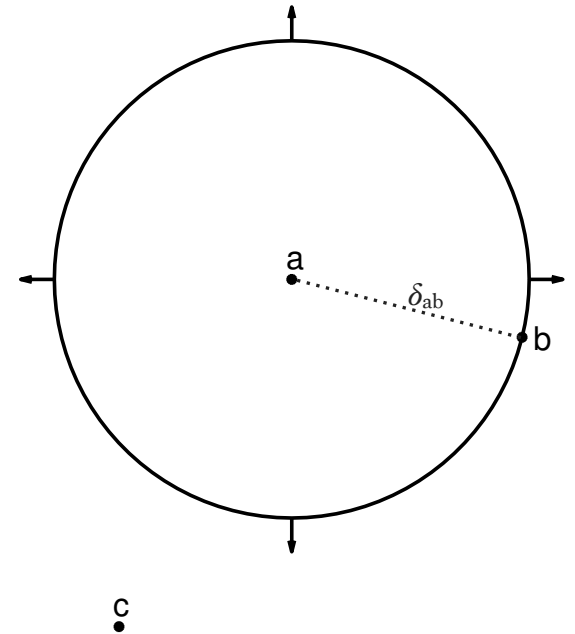


a IS INSIDE A HALF-SPACE

$$\delta_{ab} < \delta_{ac}$$



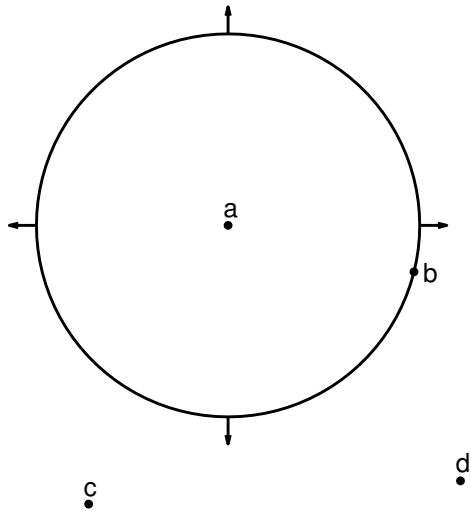
b IS INSIDE A SPHERE



c IS OUTSIDE A SPHERE

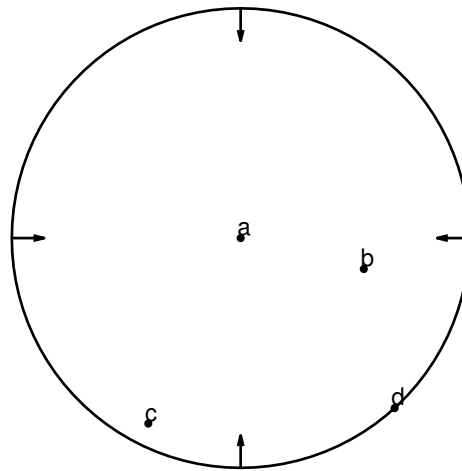
COMBINING TRIPLE CONSTRAINTS

$$\delta_{ab} < \delta_{ac} < \delta_{ad}$$



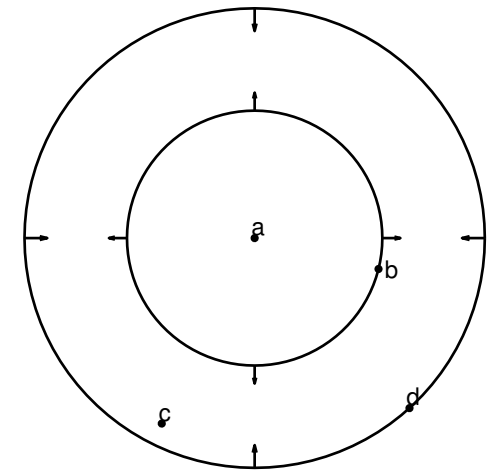
c, d ARE OUTSIDE A SPHERE

∧



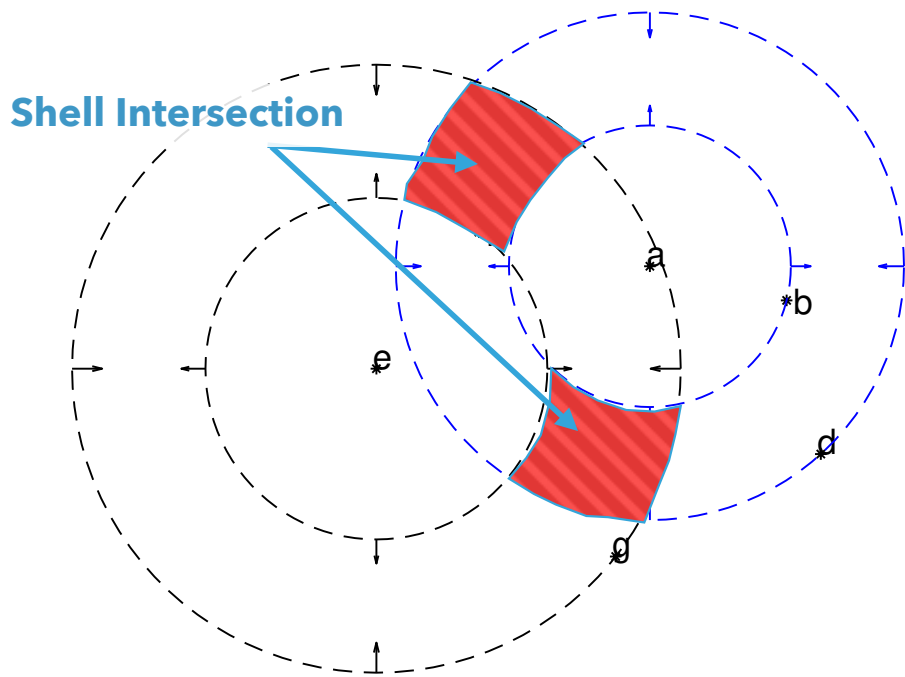
b, c ARE INSIDE A SPHERE

⇒

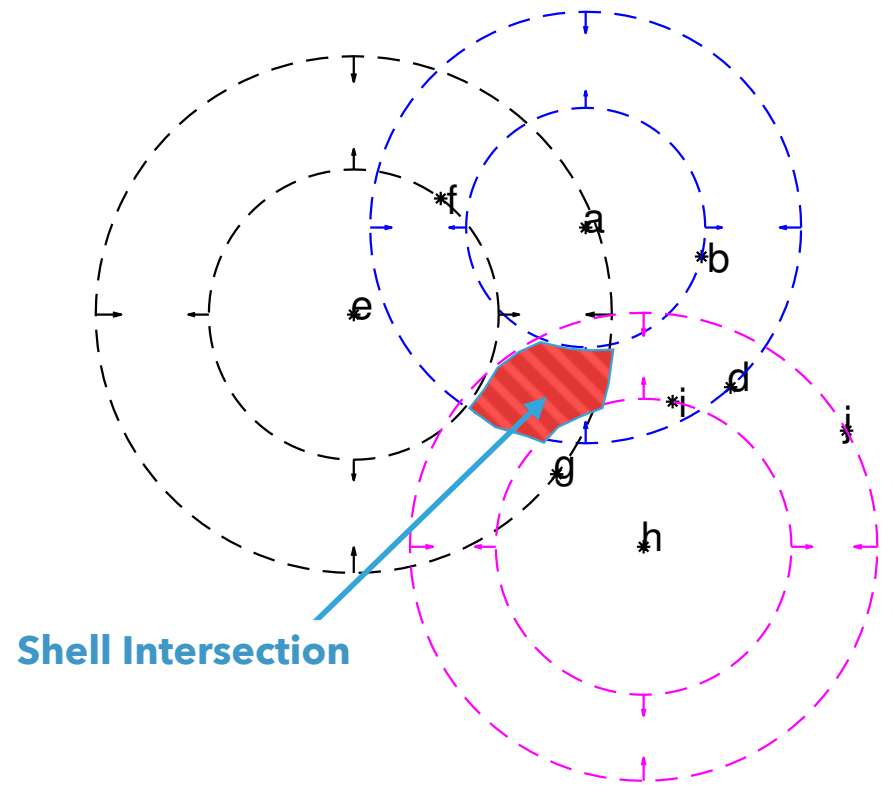


c IS INSIDE A SPHERICAL SHELL

COMBINING SPHERICAL SHELLS

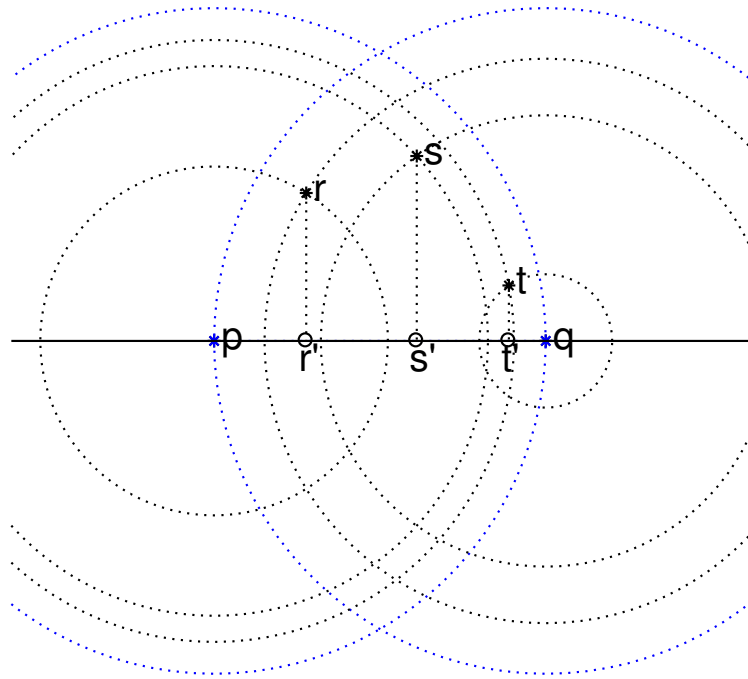


TWO SHELLS IN \mathbb{R}^2

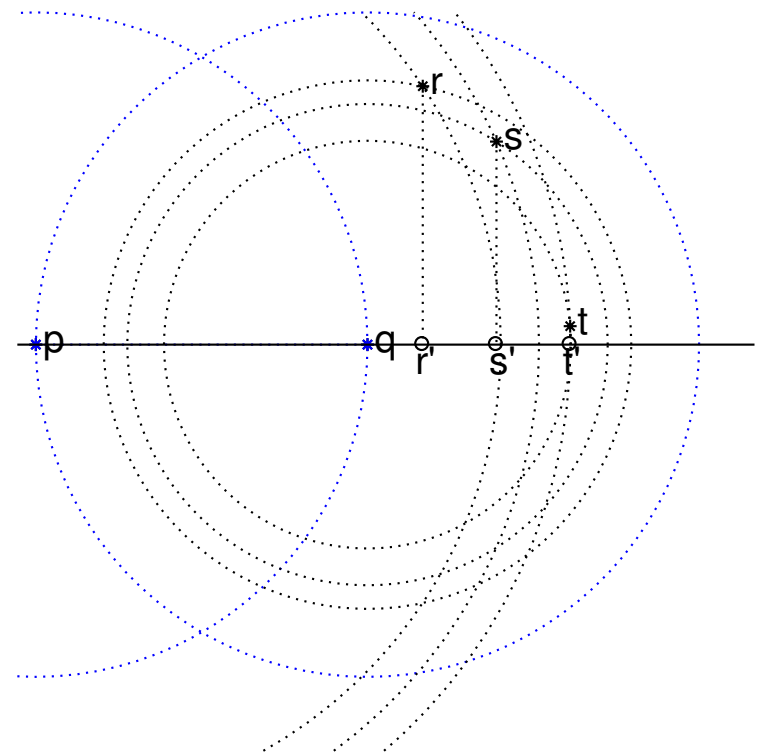


THREE SHELLS IN \mathbb{R}^2

PARTIAL ORDERING ON VECTOR PROJECTIONS



INFERRING ORDER IN BLUE BALL INTERSECTION
 P, R', S', T', Q



INFERRING ORDER NEAR BLUE BALL INTERSECTION
 P, Q, R', S', T'

GUESSING ORDER WITH LINE PROJECTION

- ▶ Line projection preserves approximate order.^[6]
- ▶ Rankings for a **pair of points** gives partial order of projections onto their **connecting line**.
- ▶ Idea: Don't waste time on intermediate embedding; guess order by majority vote of partial orders!

[6] K. Li and J. Malik, "Fast k-Nearest Neighbour Search via Dynamic Continuous Indexing," ICML, 2016.

GUESSING ORDER WITH LINE PROJECTION

TWO RANKINGS

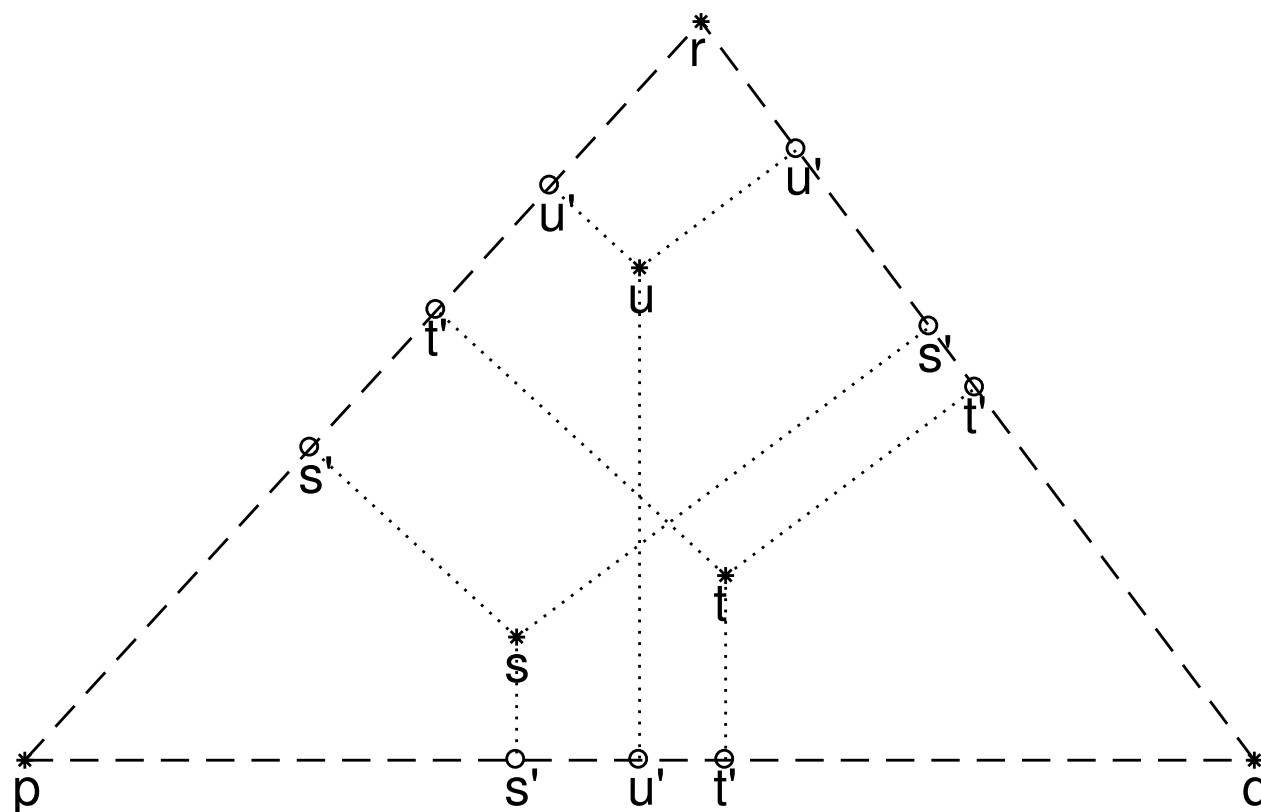
Point NN Maj. Vote

s	t	u (1/1)
t	s	u (1/1)
u	t	t (1/1)

THREE RANKINGS

Point NN Maj. Vote

s	t	t (2/3)
t	s	u (2/3)
u	t	t (2/3)



IMPROVE ORDINAL EMBEDDING TECHNIQUES FOR TEXT SIMILARITY APPLICATIONS

Active Learning

Which triples should we collect?

Embedding

How can we embed accurately, at scale?

Contextual
Embeddings

Can we make embeddings that adapt to context?

IMPROVE ORDINAL EMBEDDING TECHNIQUES FOR TEXT SIMILARITY APPLICATIONS

Active Learning

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Embeddings

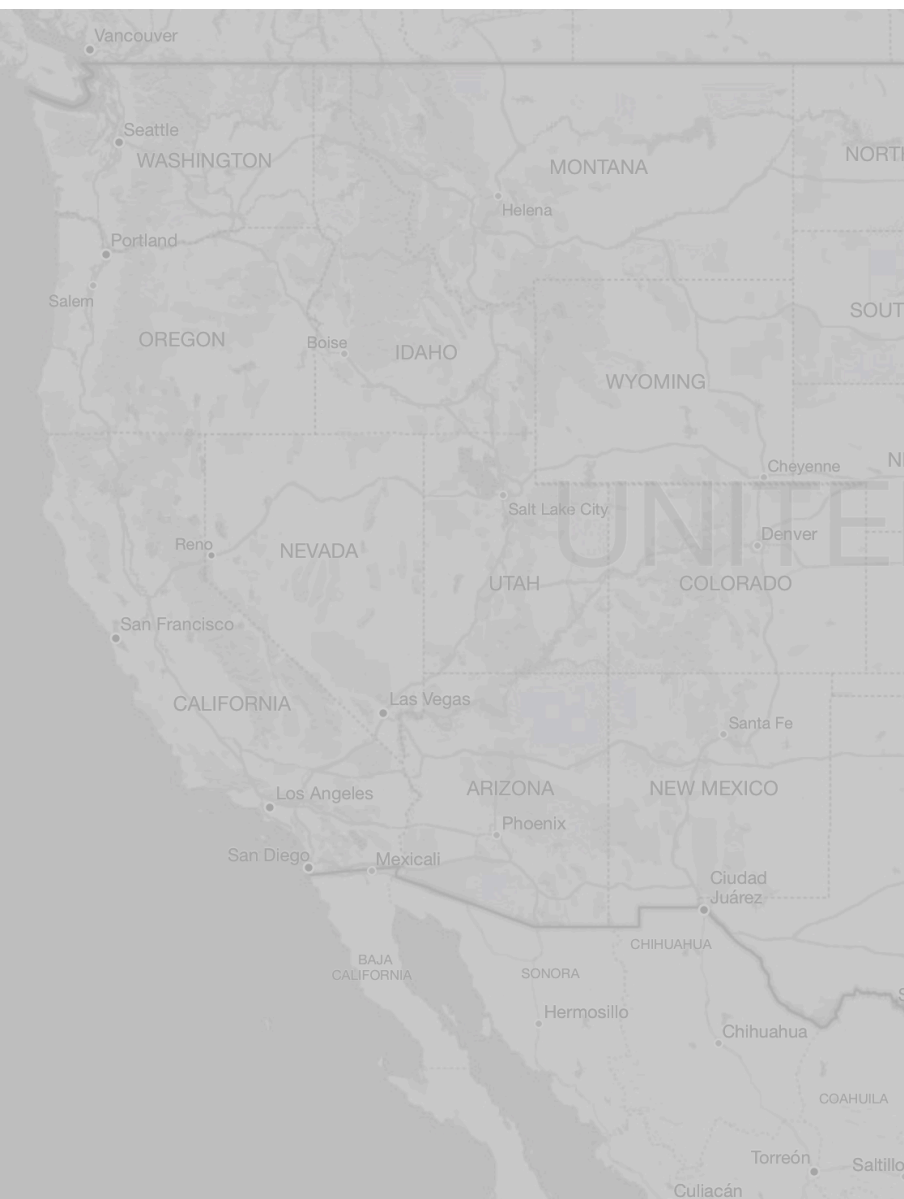
Can we make embeddings that adapt to context?

FROM TRIPLES TO EMBEDDINGS

- ▶ Given a set of triples and target space \mathbb{R}^d , how can we find an embedding?
- ▶ A hard non-convex optimization problem.
- ▶ No known algorithm for large, high dimensional datasets.
- ▶ State-of-the-art example is Soft Ordinal Embedding^[5].
- ▶ Larger sets can be handled by merging SOE embeddings^[7].

[5] Y. Terada and U. von Luxburg, "Local ordinal embedding," ICML, 2014.

[7] M. Cucuringu and J. Woodworth, "Point Localization and Density Estimation from Ordinal kNN graphs using Synchronization," arXiv.org, 2015.



RELATED WORK

SOFT ORDINAL EMBEDDING ICML 2014

ICML 2014: SOFT ORDINAL EMBEDDING [T,VL]

- ▶ A triple (a,b,c) means $\delta_{ab} + \lambda < \delta_{ac}$; $\lambda > 0$ sets scale and prevents degenerate solutions.
- ▶ Can be minimized using standard optimizers.
- ▶ Works until $n \times d$ gets large (e.g. $> 100,000$).
















When embedding violates $\delta_{ab} + \lambda < \delta_{ac}$

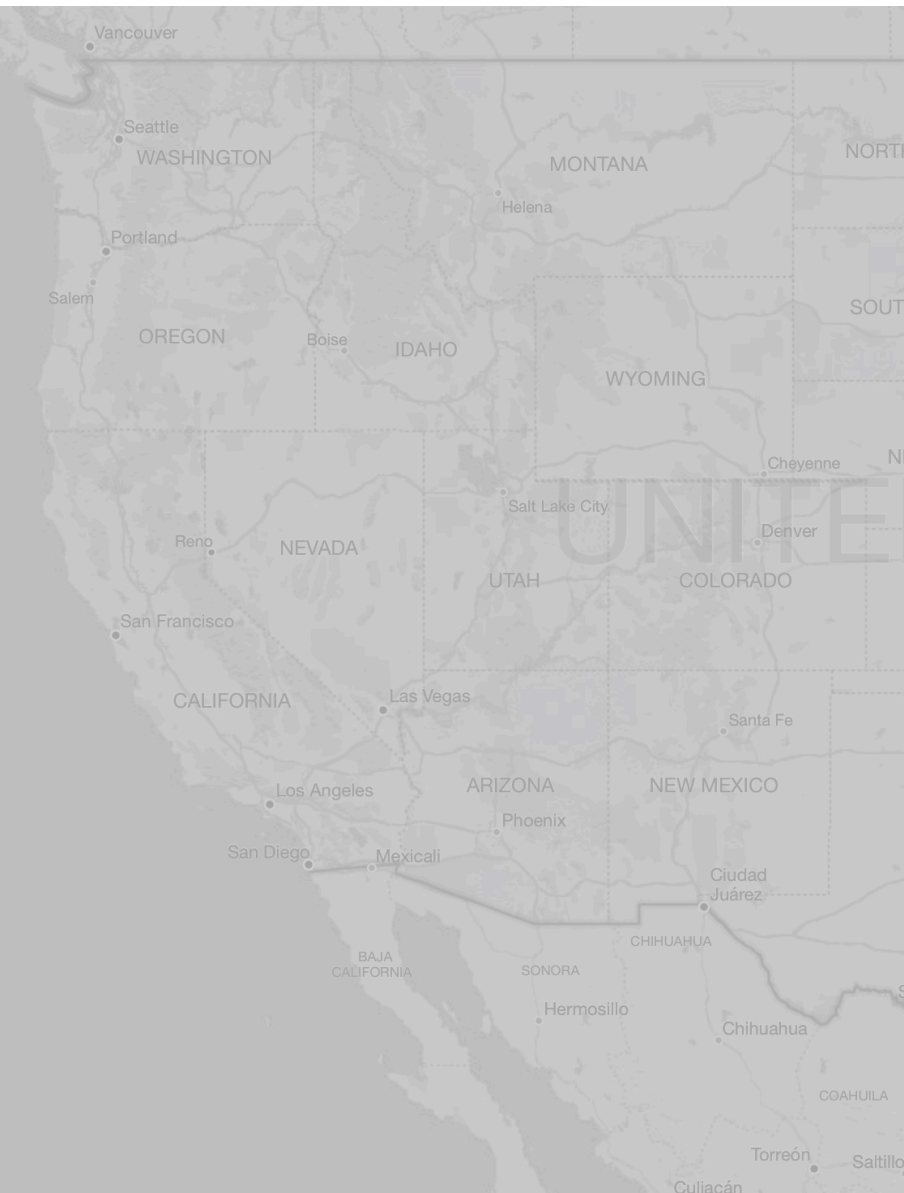
$$Err_{soft}(X|d, \lambda) := \sum_{(a,b,c) \in T} \max[0, \delta_{ab}(X) + \lambda - \delta_{ac}(X)]^2$$

δ_{ab}	δ_{ac}	Err_{soft}
1	2	0.00
2	1	1.44
1.4	1.5	0.01
1.5	1.5	0.04

SCORE CARD: SOFT ORDINAL EMBEDDING

Current state-of-the-art, but requires restarts and can't handle high dimension.

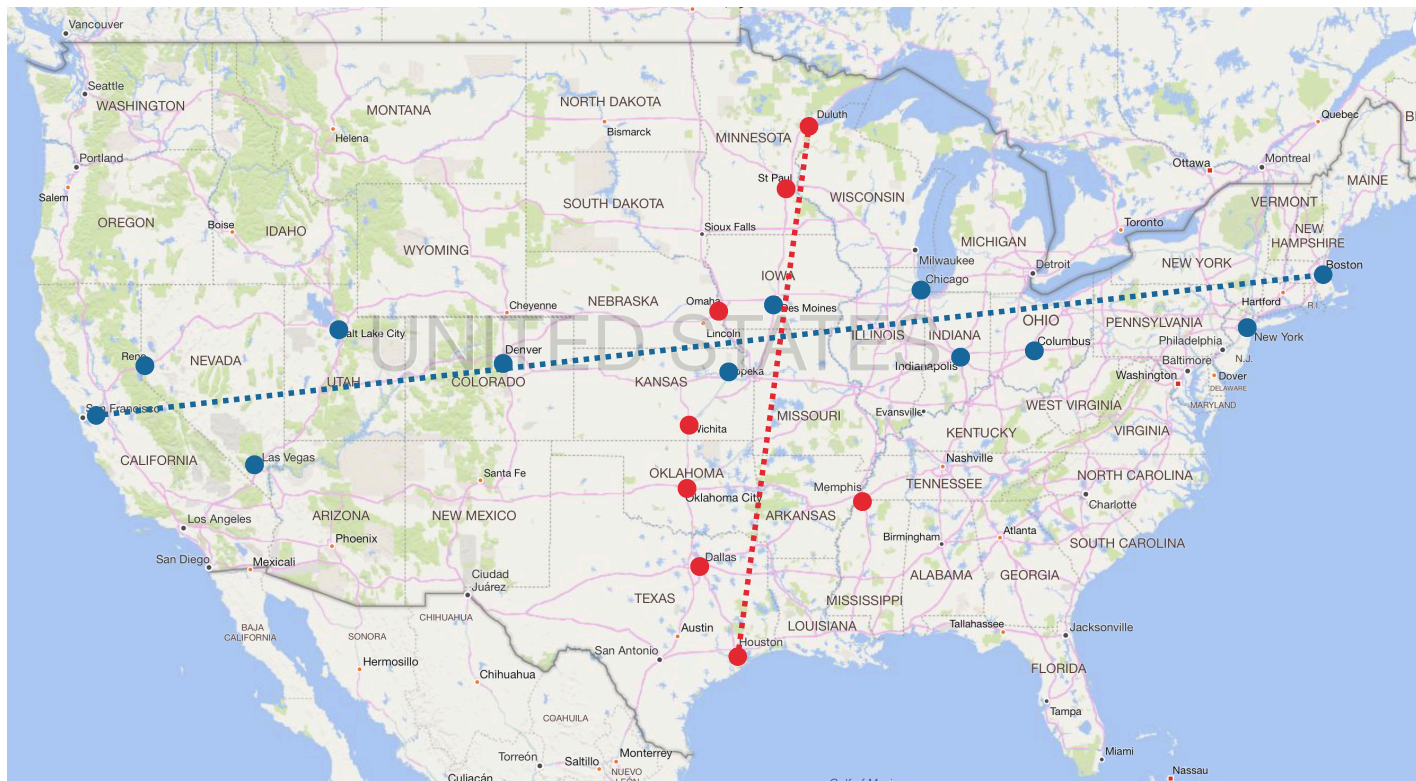
	CK	AS	SOE	
Active Learning				N/A
Num. Objects				10,000's
Num. Dimensions				<10
Accuracy				High
Speed				Medium



MY METHOD

BASIS EMBEDDING

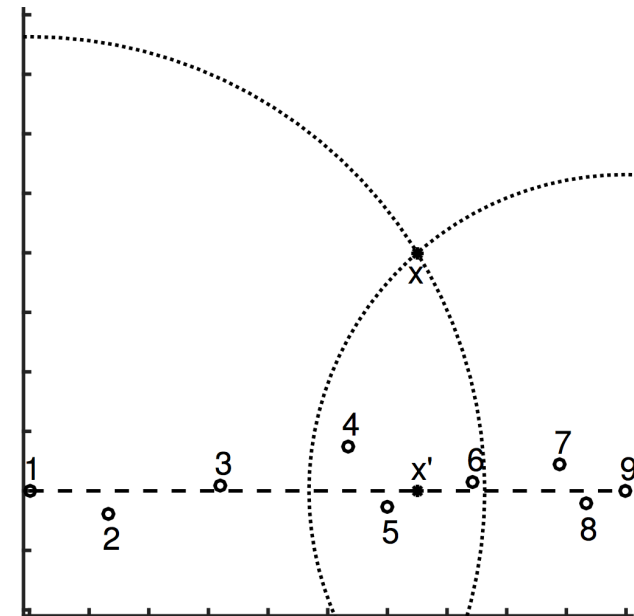
BASIS EMBEDDING (SUMMARY)



CHOOSING COORDINATES

- ▶ Pick line connecting pair of points as an “axis;” use points near line as “coordinates.”
- ▶ The median “coordinate” point beneath a given point is its (approximate) position on the axis.
- ▶ We add axes until we can’t find a point orthogonal to the existing axes.

**X IS “ABOVE” 4, 5, AND 6;
WE CHOOSE 5 AS X’S COORDINATE ON THIS AXIS.**



BASIS EMBEDDING: RESULTS

Table 2: Embedding Quality





















* indicates global optimum was not found; means procedure computationally too expensive

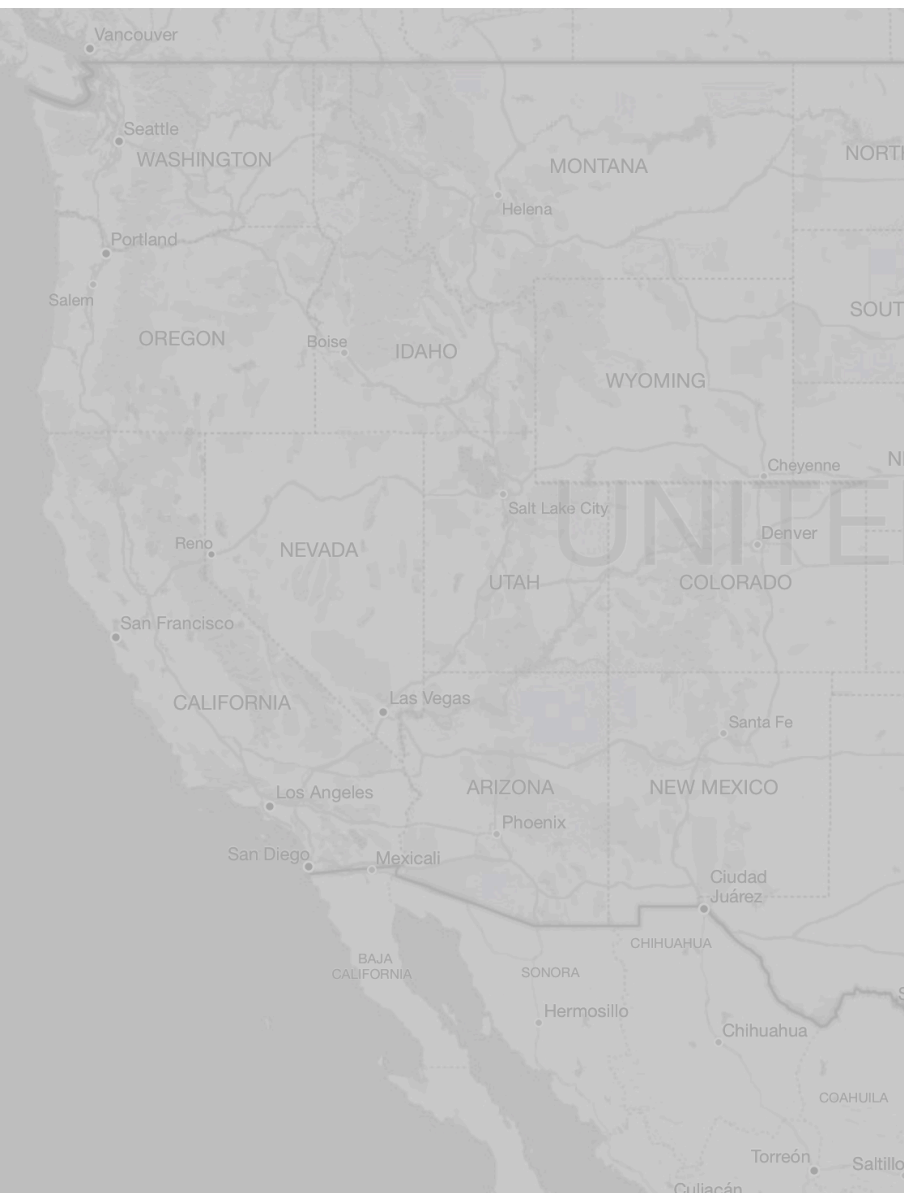
Method	Dataset	d	\hat{d}	#	Cmp.	τ
Basis	3dgmm	3	3	38K	0.71	←
Basis+SOE	3dgmm	3	3	38K	0.99	
Extra+SOE	3dgmm	3	3	61K	0.99	
Rand+SOE	3dgmm	3	3	38K	0.95	
CK	3dgmm*	3	3	38K	-0.01	
Basis	5dcube	5	3	39K	0.49	←
Basis+SOE	5dcube	5	6	39K	0.88	
Extra+SOE	5dcube	5	6	61K	0.94	
Rand+SOE	5dcube*	5	6	39K	0.61	
CK	5dcube*	5	5	39K	0.01	
Basis	5dgmm	5	3	39K	0.68	←
Basis+SOE	5dgmm	5	6	39K	0.94	
Extra+SOE	5dgmm	5	6	62K	0.98	
Rand+SOE	5dgmm*	5	6	39K	0.01	
CK	5dgmm*	5	5	39K	-0.01	
Basis	20news	34K	3	186K	0.11	←
Basis+SOE	20news*	34K	6	186K	0.01	
Extra+SOE	20news*	34K	6	310K	-0.01	
Rand+SOE	20news*	34K	3	186K	0.01	
CK	20news	34K	16	—	—	
Basis	cities	3	2	28K	0.37	←
Basis+SOE	cities	3	4	28K	0.89	
Extra+SOE	cities	3	4	50K	0.96	
Rand+SOE	cities*	3	4	28K	0.01	
CK	cities*	3	3	28K	0.01	
Basis	digits	784	6	159K	0.52	←
Basis+SOE	digits*	784	12	159K	0.01	
Extra+SOE	digits*	784	12	211K	0.01	
Rand+SOE	digits*	784	12	159K	0.73	
CK	digits	784	10	—	—	
Basis	spam	57	3	85K	0.85	←
Basis+SOE	spam*	57	6	85K	-0.01	
Extra+SOE	spam*	57	6	138K	0.01	
Rand+SOE	spam	57	3	85K	0.94	
CK	spam	57	10	—	—	

[9] J. Anderton, V. Pavlu, J. Aslam, "Revealing the Basis: Ordinal Embedding through Geometry," unpublished, 2016.

SCORE CARD: BASIS EMBEDDING

First purely-geometric approach. Fast, reliable medium-quality embeddings.

	CK	AS	SOE		Basis
Active Learning					Meets lower bound
Num. Objects					Unlimited
Num. Dimensions					Nontrivial for high-dim
Accuracy					Medium but reliable
Speed					Very fast

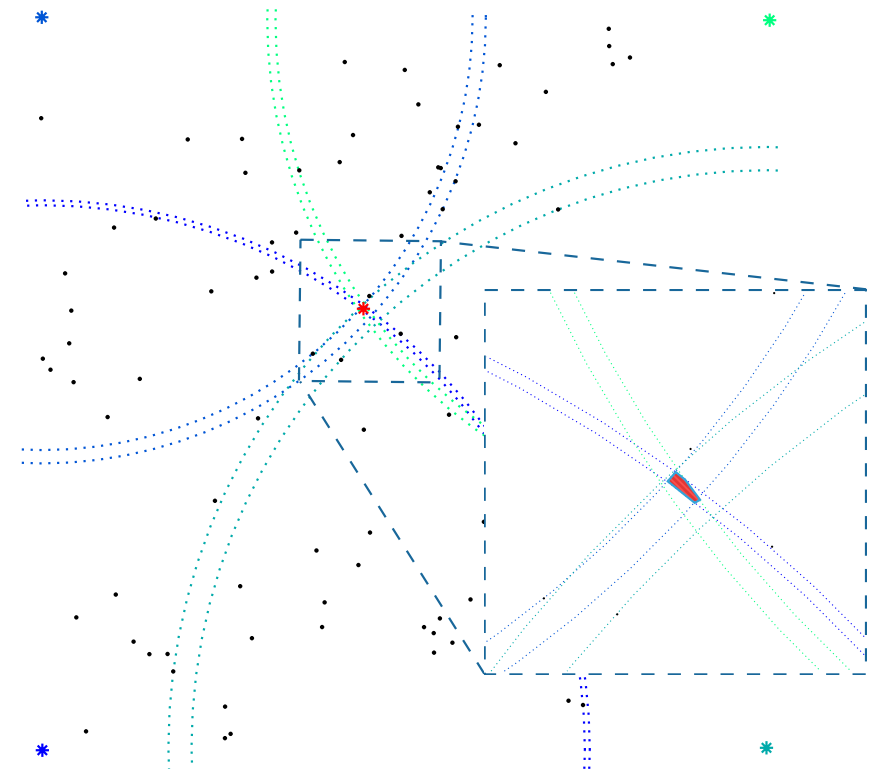


MY METHOD

SUBSET EMBEDDING

SUBSET EMBEDDING

- ▶ SOE can accurately embed **small** sets.
- ▶ Easy to embed with **distances** to known positions.
- ▶ So: embed a random subset with SOE, then use **approximate distances** to quickly embed remaining points.
- ▶ Makes an approximate embedding of a large set from a good embedding of a small set.



FAST APPROXIMATE EMBEDDING FROM A SUBSET

SUBSET EMBEDDING: EARLY RESULTS


























- ▶ $O(d n \log m)$ when subset size $m \ll n$: **linear** in n , and **beats active learning lower bound!**
- ▶ Needs further testing to explore limitations of method (noise sensitivity, insufficient dim.?)
- ▶ Want to prove quality bounds and explain quality theoretically.

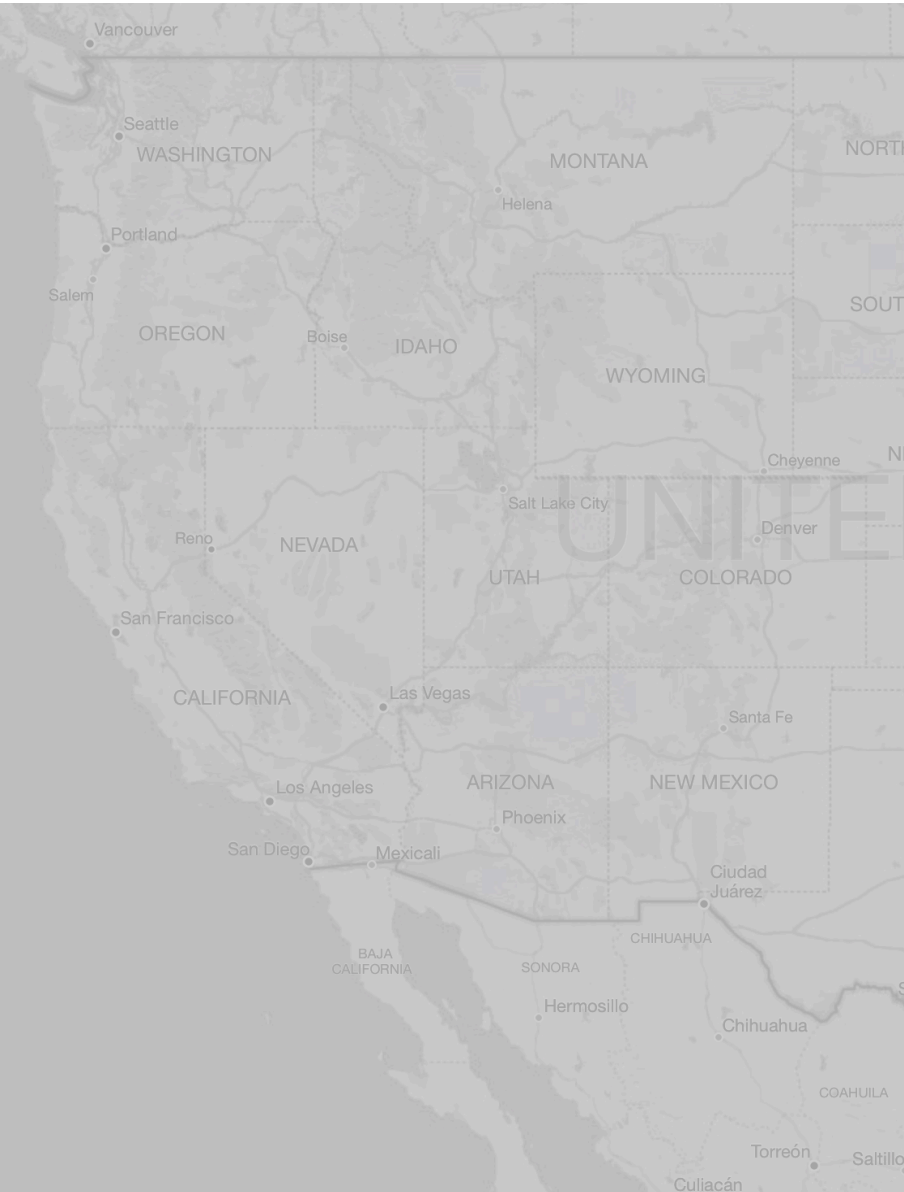
RESULTS ON SIMULATED AND REAL DATASETS. MEDIAN OF 10 RUNS.

Dataset	n	d	\hat{d}	τ
Ball	10K	3	3	0.99
Sphere	10K	3	3	0.99
Swiss Roll	10K	3	3	0.99
GMM	10K	3	3	0.99
Spambase	4.6K	57	3	0.89
Cities	15K	3	3	0.97
MNIST Digits	1K	784	12	0.57

SCORE CARD: SUBSET EMBEDDING

Fast, reliable high-quality embeddings. Sensitive to noise and limited dimensionality.

	CK	AS	SOE	Basis	Subset
Active Learning					 Beats lower bound!
Num. Objects					 Unlimited
Num. Dimensions					 Constrained by SOE
Accuracy					 Highest; “approximate”
Speed					 Linear in n!



PROPOSED WORK

CAN WE DO BETTER?

- ▶ Subset embedding is amazing but does not work in high dimension.
- ▶ Can we replace SOE in subset embedding with something more robust?
- ▶ Basis embedding is geometry-based but not great...
- ▶ Proposal: try to improve basis embedding using random vectors instead of "axes."

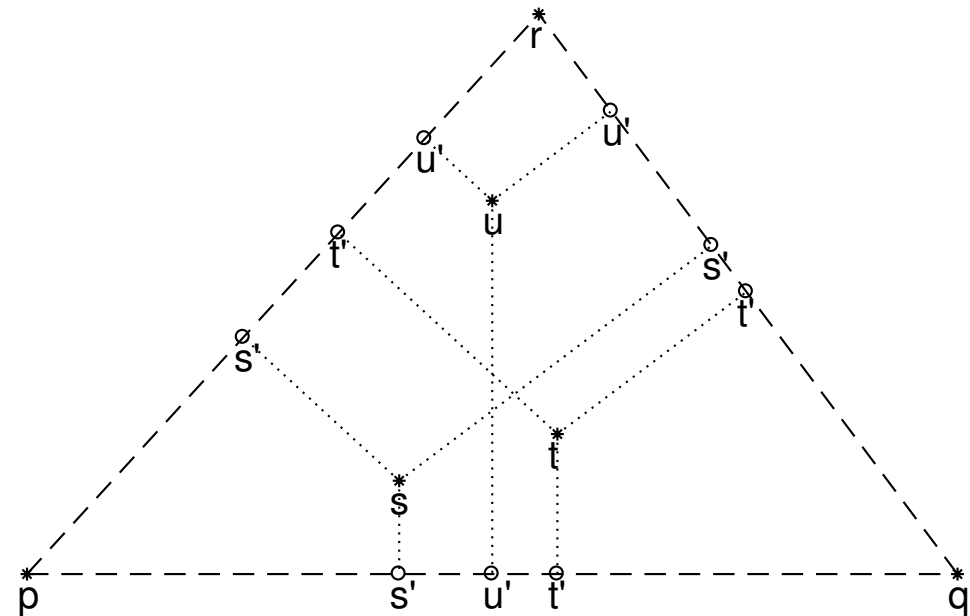
EMBEDDING WITH RANDOM VECTORS

Each “orthogonal axis” in Basis Embedding is a vector upon which points are projected. So:

1. Choose many vectors (not necessarily orthogonal) and partially order points' projections along them.
2. Solve constrained optimization problem to preserve projected order along each axis.

-or-

2. Solve for point positions geometrically.



WITH ENOUGH POINTS, PROJECTED ORDERS CONSTRAIN EMBEDDING

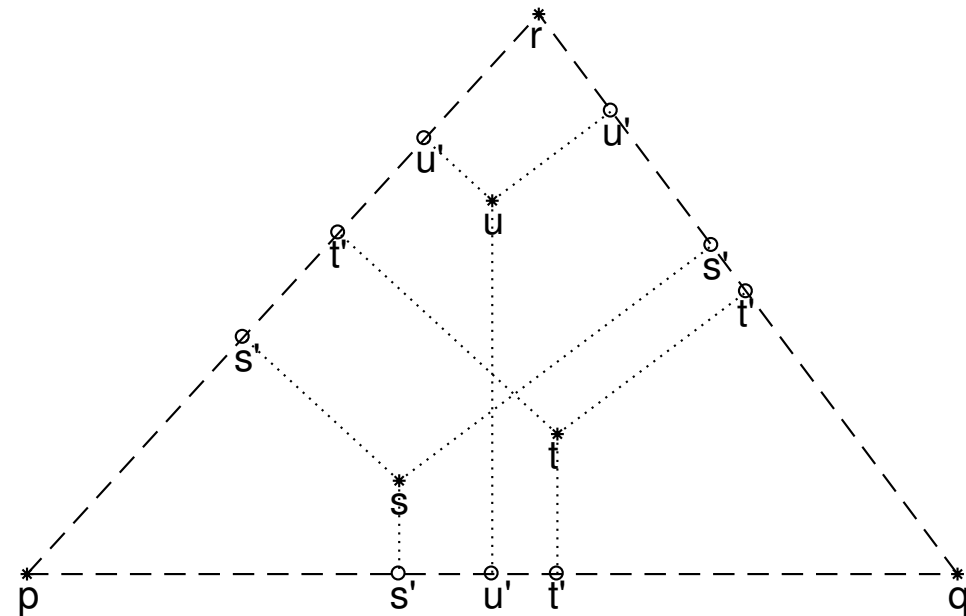
EMBEDDING WITH RANDOM VECTORS: OPTIMIZATION IDEA

a' precedes b' on vector from p to $q \Rightarrow (a,b,p,q) \in PO$

Objective:

$$\mathcal{L}(X; PO) = \sum_{(a,b,p,q) \in PO} \max [0, (X_a - X_b) \cdot (X_q - X_p) + \lambda]^2$$

- ▶ Incur loss when vector from a to b has negative component on “axis” from p to q .
- ▶ Boundaries are hyperplanes, not spheres, so easier objective; may be convex.
- ▶ Steepest decent for X_a, X_b is parallel to “axis!”



WITH ENOUGH POINTS, PROJECTED ORDERS CONSTRAIN EMBEDDING

IMPROVE ORDINAL EMBEDDING TECHNIQUES FOR TEXT SIMILARITY APPLICATIONS

Active Learning

Which triples should we collect?

Embedding

How can we embed accurately, at scale?

Contextual
Embeddings

Can we make embeddings that adapt to context?

IMPROVE ORDINAL EMBEDDING TECHNIQUES FOR TEXT SIMILARITY APPLICATIONS

Active Learning

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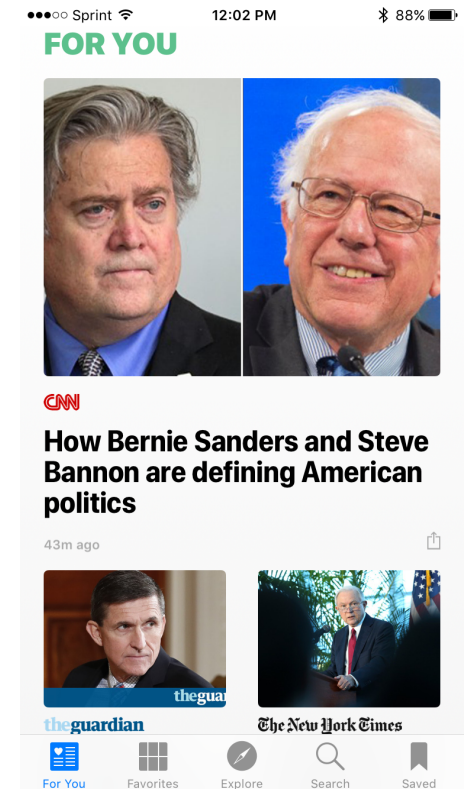
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EMBEDDINGS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- ▶ We often try to predict future user preferences using their past behavior.
- ▶ Can use embeddings: users showing interest in some object may have interest in other “nearby” objects.
- ▶ Could embed entities from news articles by inferring triples from user behavior, e.g. articles a user reads/skips.
- ▶ Is this mathematically valid?



ARTICLES RECOMMENDED BY APPLE NEWS APP.

INCONSISTENT COMPARISONS

“A flame is similar to the moon because they are **both luminous**, and the moon is similar to a ball because they are **both round**, but in contradiction to the triangle inequality, a flame is not similar to a ball.” – William James, 1890.

- ▶ The similarity function changed!
- ▶ An embedding would conflate “luminosity similarity” with “roundness similarity” and not quite capture either.

SAME ENTITY, DIFFERENT CONTEXTS

- ▶ People care about different features in different contexts.
- ▶ Different features \Rightarrow different similarity fn
- ▶ But different similarity function \Rightarrow different neighbors \Rightarrow different other entities in the article...
- ▶ The context should tell us this is happening!



A VARIETY OF CONTEXTS FOR ENTITY “JESSE VENTURA” –
WRESTLER, GOVERNOR, AND ACTOR

MODELLING OPTIONS

Want to parameterize embedding by context.

- Discrete form: Data uses k different similarity functions, $\text{sim}_1, \dots, \text{sim}_k \Rightarrow k$ embeddings of all n objects; learn sim_i and prob. in sim_i given context.
- Continuous form: $\text{sim}_i(x, y) = X_x C^{(i)} X_y^T$ with $C^{(i)} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ an affine transformation of global embedding $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$.

IMPROVE ORDINAL EMBEDDING TECHNIQUES FOR TEXT SIMILARITY APPLICATIONS

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TIME LINE

Fall 2017

- ▶ Vector projection active learning; prove all-rankings problem is $\Theta(d n \log n)$.
- ▶ Vector projection embedding; high-dim. subset embedding.

Spring 2018

- ▶ Contextual Embeddings for recommendation.

Summer 2018

- ▶ 🎓, ✈️, 🍹

THANK YOU!

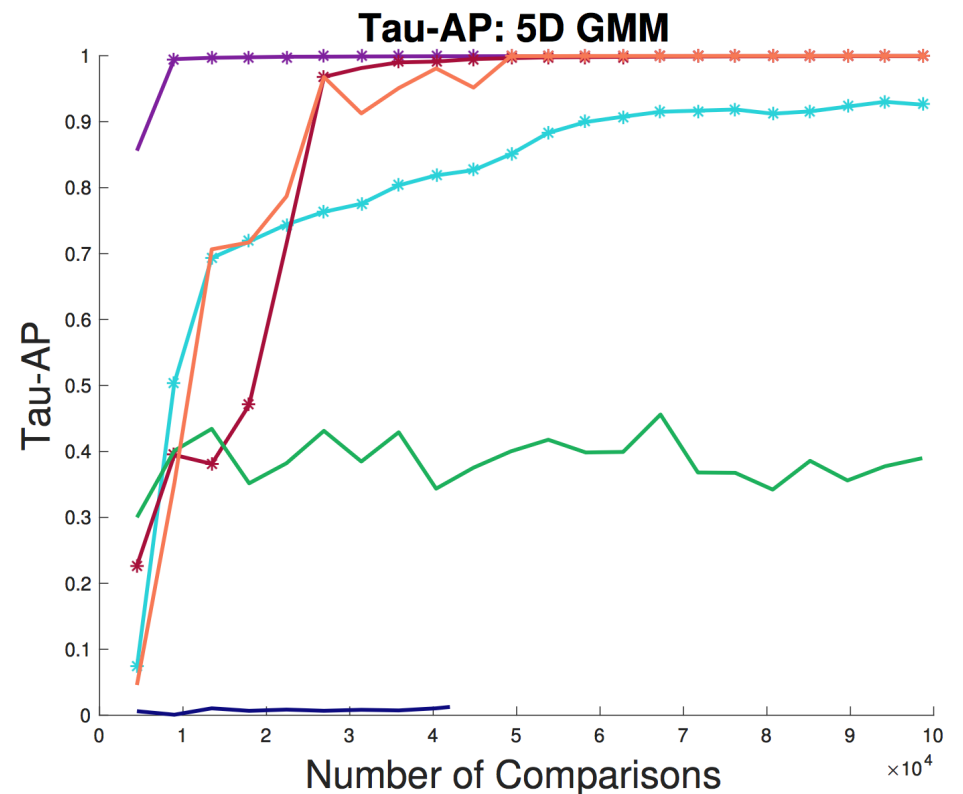


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- [1] M. Kleindessner and U. von Luxburg, "Uniqueness of Ordinal Embedding.," COLT, 2014.
 - [2] E. Arias-Castro. Some theory for ordinal embedding. *Bernoulli* 23 (2017), no. 3, 1663--1693. doi:10.3150/15-BEJ792.
 - [3] O. Tamuz, C. Liu, S. Belongie, O. Shamir, and A. T. Kalai, "Adaptively Learning the Crowd Kernel," ICML, 2011.
 - [4] K. G. Jamieson and R. D. Nowak, Low-dimensional embedding using adaptively selected ordinal data. *IEEE*, 2011, pp. 1077-1084.
 - [5] Y. Terada and U. von Luxburg, "Local ordinal embedding," ICML, 2014.
 - [6] K. Li and J. Malik, "Fast k-Nearest Neighbour Search via Dynamic Continuous Indexing," ICML, 2016.
 - [7] M. Cucuringu and J. Woodworth, "Point Localization and Density Estimation from Ordinal kNN graphs using Synchronization," arXiv.org, 2015.
 - [8] J. Anderton, V. Pavlu, J. Aslam, "Triple Selection for Ordinal Embedding," unpublished, 2016.
 - [9] J. Anderton, V. Pavlu, J. Aslam, "Revealing the Basis: Ordinal Embedding through Geometry," unpublished, 2016.
 - [10] J. Anderton, P. Metrikov, V. Pavlu, J. Aslam, "Measuring Human-Perceived Similarity in Heterogeneous Collections," unpublished, 2014.

EMPIRICAL COMPARISON

- FRFT Ranking - My algorithm, using rankings from features - $O(n)$ triples per ranking.
- FRFT Adaptive Sort - My algorithm, using no prior knowledge - $O(n \log n)$ then $O(n)$.
- Crowd Kernel - Active learning baseline.
- Random Tails - Random baseline.
- kNN - Gradually add next NN for each obj.
- Landmarks - Gradually add objects to all rankings.

τ_{AP} IS A TOP-HEAVY RANK CORRELATION MEASURE

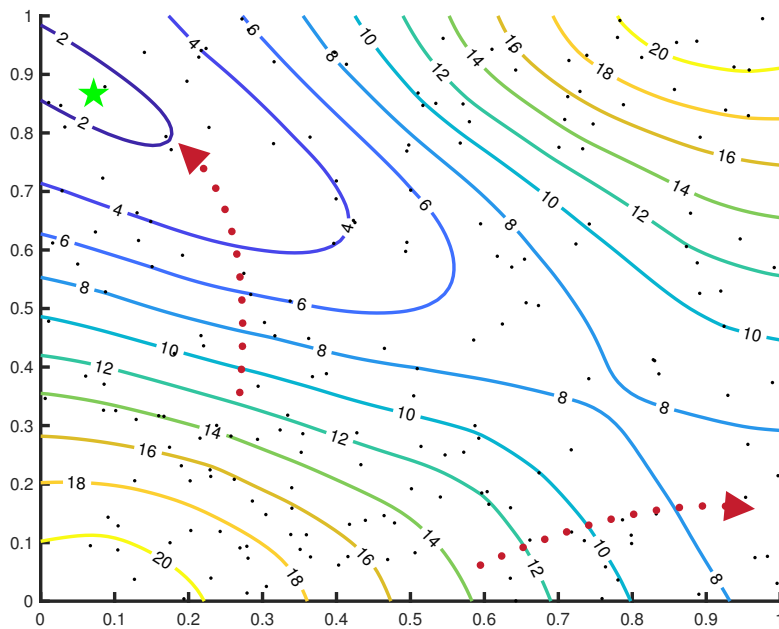


[8] J. Anderton, V. Pavlu, J. Aslam, "Triple Selection for Ordinal Embedding," unpublished, 2016.

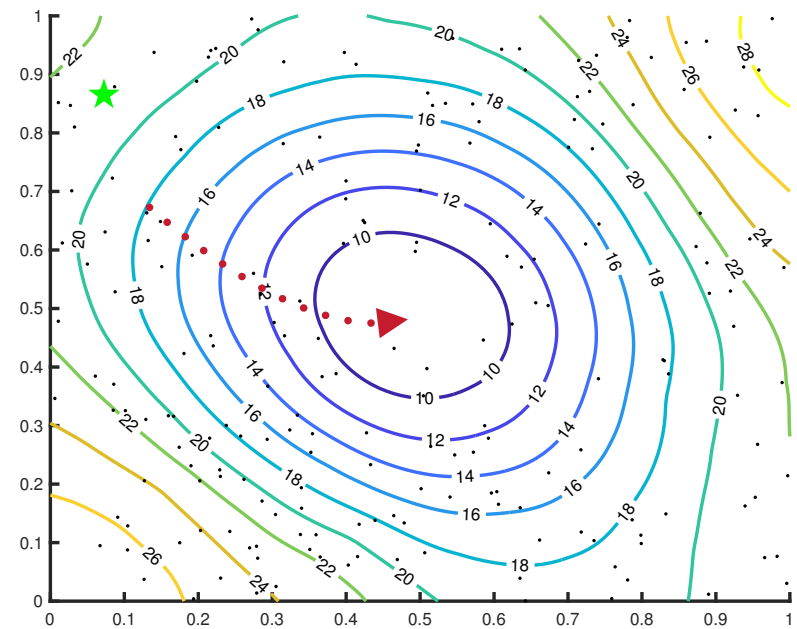
OPTIMIZATION AT SCALE IS DIFFICULT

With random initialization, the gradient is misleading. This is harder to fix as n and d increase.

SOE LOSS OF SINGLE POINT: OTHER POINTS IN CORRECT POSITIONS



SOE LOSS OF SAME POINT: OTHER POINTS IN RANDOM POSITIONS



PER-USER CONTEXTS FOR CROWDSOURCING

- ▶ We tried a simple first approach using crowdsourced triples.
- ▶ For two datasets (movies and foods), users were asked, "would a person who likes object a prefer b or c?"
- ▶ We attempted to train a global embedding of all objects and a per-user transformation of that embedding.

Your friend calls and says that they wanted to see the movie "The Perfect Storm," but the tickets were sold out. They're trying to decide between two other movies playing at the theater, and are asking you for advice. Knowing only that they wanted to see "The Perfect Storm," do you think they would enjoy "Star Wars: Episode IV: A New Hope" or "Mystic River" more?

- "Star Wars: Episode IV: A New Hope" is a better substitute
- "Mystic River" is a better substitute
- Neither is a good substitute

Save Answer

Information about the movies

The Perfect Storm (2000)



Director Wolfgang Petersen
Cast George Clooney, Mark Wahlberg, Diane Lane, John C. Reilly
Genre Adventure, Drama, Action, Thriller
Plot In October 1991, a confluence of weather conditions combined to form a killer storm in the North Atlantic. Caught in the storm was the sword-fishing boat Andrea Gail. Magnificent foreshadowing and anticipation fill this true-life drama while minute details of the fishing boats, their gear and the weather are juxtaposed with the sea adventure.

IMDB <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0177971/>

Star Wars: Episode IV: A New Hope (1977)



Director George Lucas
Cast Mark Hamill, Harrison Ford, Carrie Fisher, Peter Cushing
Genre Action, Adventure, Family, Fantasy, Sci-Fi
Plot Part IV in a George Lucas epic, Star Wars: A New Hope opens with a rebel ship being boarded by the tyrannical Darth Vader. The plot then follows the life of a simple farmboy, Luke Skywalker, as he and his newly met allies (Han Solo, Chewbacca, Ben Kenobi, C-3PO, R2-D2) attempt to rescue a rebel leader, Princess Leia, from the clutches of the Empire. The conclusion is culminated as the Rebels, including Skywalker and flying ace Wedge Antilles make an attack on the Empire's most powerful and ominous weapon, the Death Star.

IMDB <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0076759/>

Mystic River (2003)



Director Clint Eastwood
Cast Sean Penn, Tim Robbins, Kevin Bacon, Laurence Fishburne
Genre Crime, Drama, Thriller
Plot Childhood friends Jimmy Markum (Penn), Sean Devine (Bacon) and Dave Boyle (Robbins) reunite following the death of Jimmy's oldest daughter, Katie (Rossum). Sean's a police detective on the case, gathering difficult and disturbing evidence; he's also tasked with handling Jimmy's rage and need for retribution.

IMDB <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0327056/>

CROWDSOURCING INTERFACE

[10] J. Anderton, P. Metrikov, V. Pavlu, J. Aslam, "Measuring Human-Perceived Similarity in Heterogeneous Collections," unpublished, 2014.

PER-USER CONTEXTS FOR CROWDSOURCING

Given an embedding matrix $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$, the standard similarity function is the Gram matrix,

$$K = XX^T$$

For each user k , we learn a per-user weight for each feature in a diagonal matrix $U^k \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$. This gives a new similarity,

$$K = XU^kX^T$$

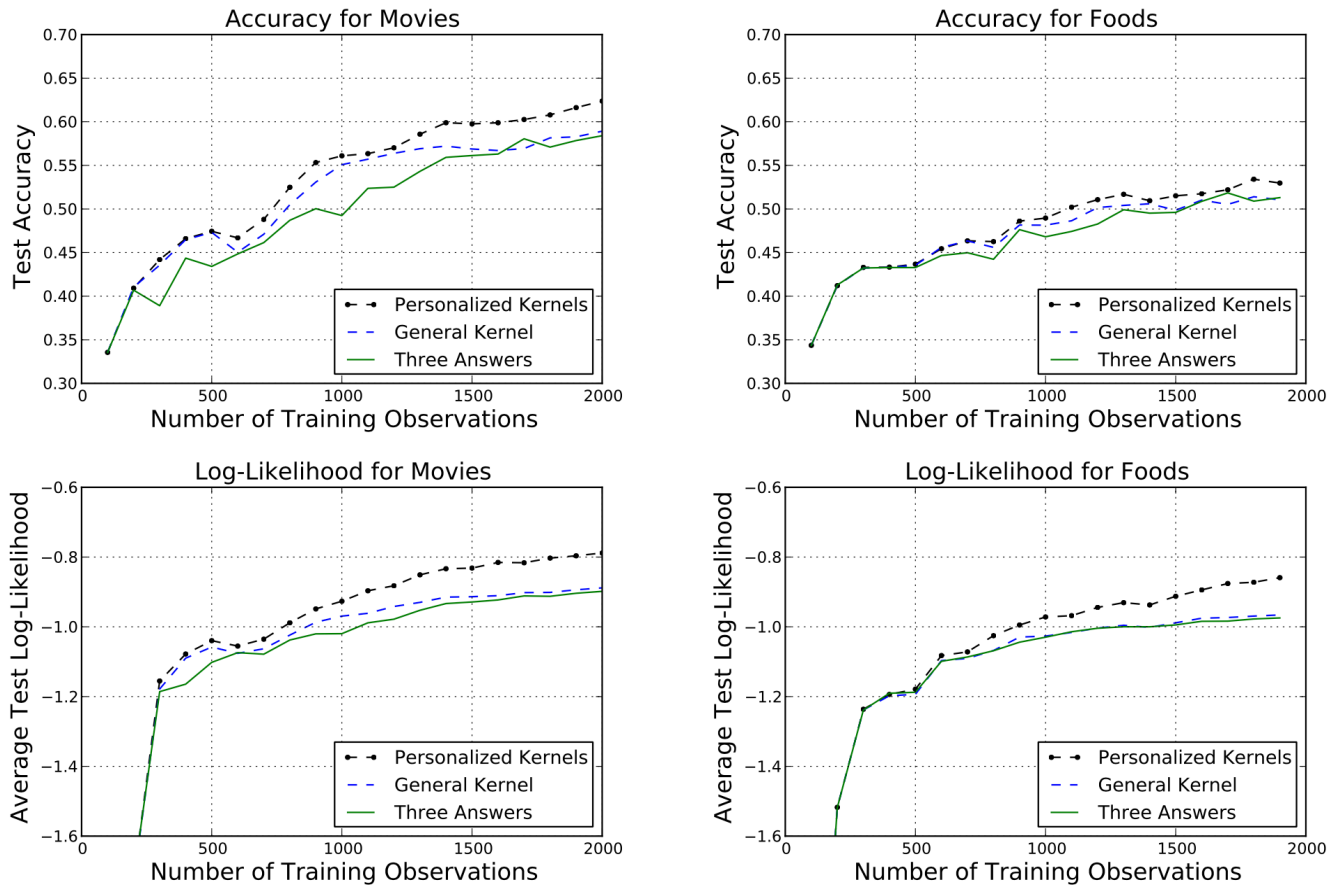
We chose questions adaptively using the Crowd Kernel method adapted to our model, and embedded the result using a Newton-Rhapson method.

USER RESPONSE MODEL

$$\delta_{ab}^k = \|X_a \cdot \text{diag}(U^k) \cdot X_b\|^2$$

Answer prob.	Kernel two answers	Kernel three answers
\hat{p}_{bc}^a	$\frac{\lambda + \delta_{ac}}{2\lambda + \delta_{ab} + \delta_{ac}}$	$(1 - \hat{p}_{neither}) \cdot \frac{\lambda + \delta_{ac}}{2\lambda + \delta_{ab} + \delta_{ac}}$
\hat{p}_{cb}^a	$\frac{\lambda + \delta_{ab}}{2\lambda + \delta_{ac} + \delta_{ab}}$	$(1 - \hat{p}_{neither}) \cdot \frac{\lambda + \delta_{ab}}{2\lambda + \delta_{ac} + \delta_{ab}}$
$\hat{p}_{neither}$	0 (N/A)	$\frac{\mu + \delta_{ab}}{\mu + d^2 + \delta_{ab}} \cdot \frac{\mu + \delta_{ac}}{\mu + d^2 + \delta_{ac}}$

PER-USER CONTEXTS FOR CROWDSOURCING: RESULTS



[10] J. Anderton, P. Metrikov, V. Pavlu, J. Aslam, "Measuring Human-Perceived Similarity in Heterogeneous Collections," unpublished, 2014.