

New Trends on Exploratory Methods for Data Analytics

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Who we are



Davide Mottin

Graph Mining, Novel Query Paradigms, Interactive Methods

<https://hpi.de/en/mueller/team/davide-mottin.html>



Matteo Lissandrini

Knowledge Graphs , Novel Query Paradigms, Graph Mining

<https://disi.unitn.it/~lissandrini>



Yannis Velegarakis

Big Data Management & Analytics, Information Integration

<https://velgias.github.io>



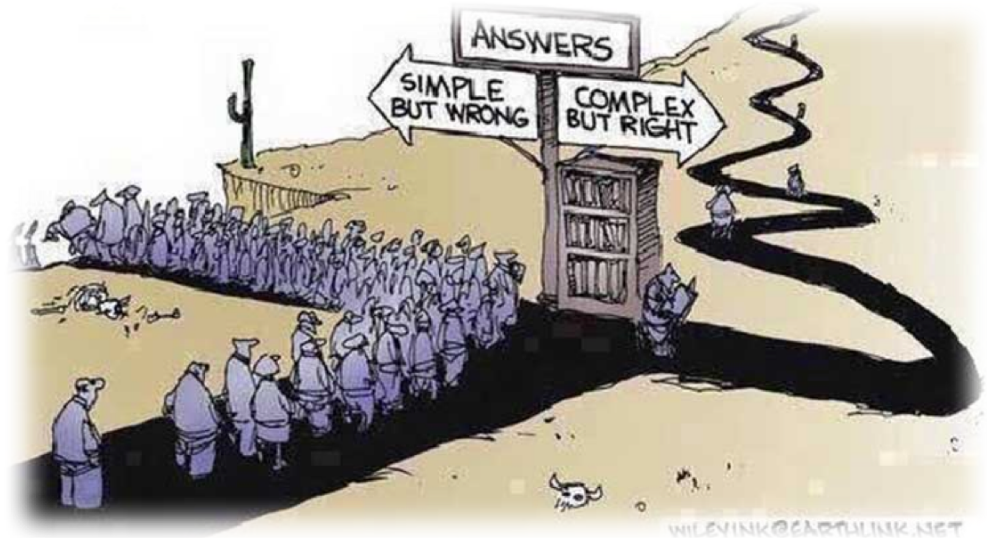
Themis Palpanas

Data Series Indexing & Mining, Data Management, Data Analytics

<http://www.mi.parisdescartes.fr/~themisp/>

Slides. <http://j.mp/DataExplore>

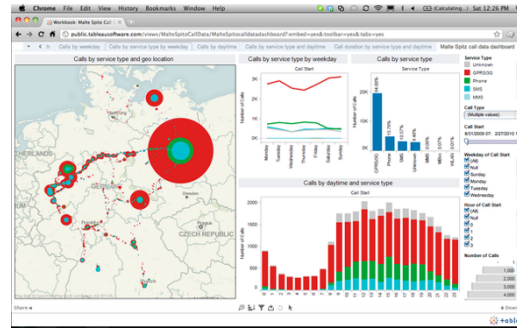
Big data – Easy value?



Exploring



Traditional



On data



Data exploration



Cleaning and profiling



Visualization



Analysis

Data exploration software

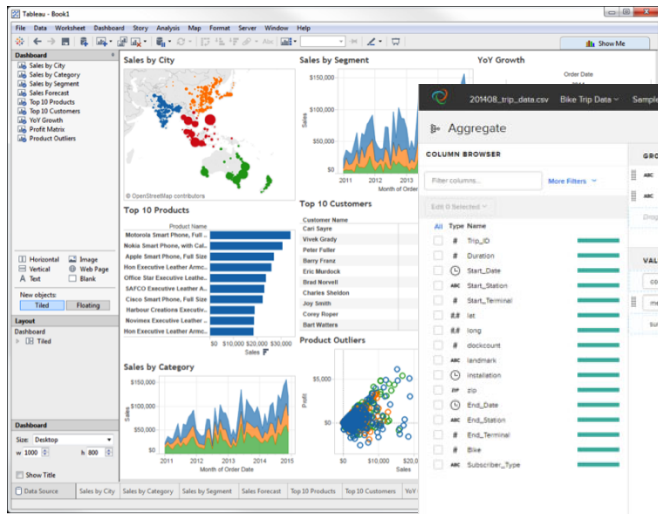
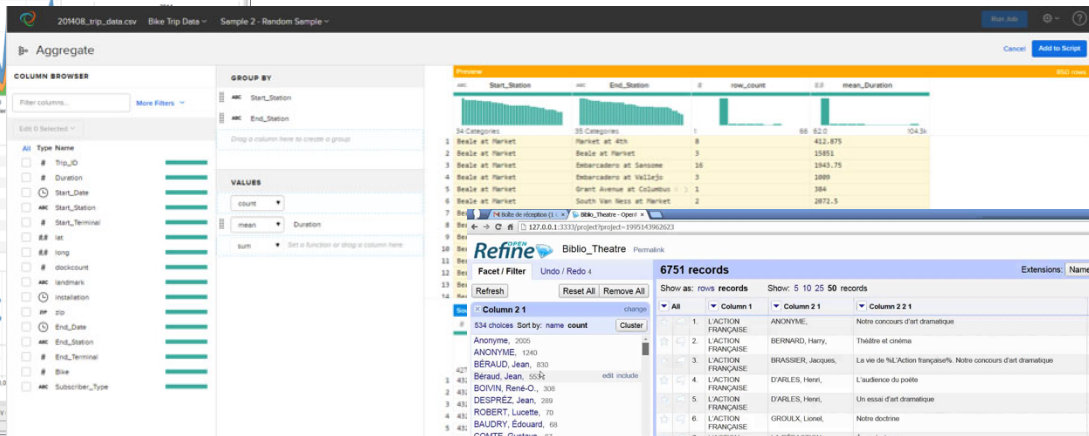
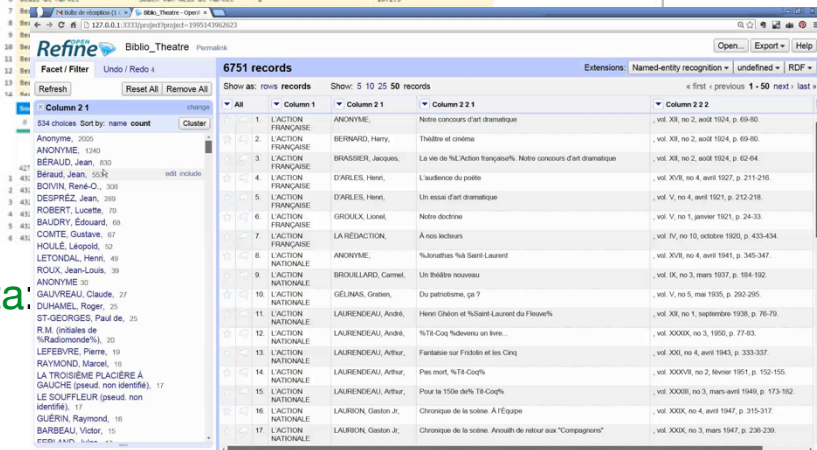


Tableau: analysis and statistics



Trifacta:



OpenRefine: data preparation and cleanup

Traditional data exploration methods

[Idreos et al., 2015]

Efficiently extracting knowledge from data
even if we do not know exactly what we are looking for

```
SELECT avg(system-stars)
FROM Universe
WHERE system-stars > 10
GROUP BY galaxy
```



Declarative Exploratory methods

```
SELECT galaxy_name  
FROM Universe.Galaxy
```

Simple query (exploratory)

Over generic
100 billions results

```
SELECT g.galaxy_name, SUM(s.stars) as st_s  
FROM Universe.Galaxy AS g  
JOIN Universe.Systems AS s  
ON g.galaxy_name = s.galaxy_name  
WHERE  
    g.st_s > 100B  
    AND diameter > 100k AND diameter > 180k  
    AND has_black_hole = TRUE  
GROUP BY g.galaxy_name
```

Complex query
(for data experts)

Specific
Few results

Examples as Exploratory Methods



Answers



Historical perspective: Query-by-example

[Zloof et al. 1975]

Specify a query by example tables, or skeletons.

Name	Stars	Diameter	Black_hole	Color	Life
P._	> 10B	>100k	TRUE		
		<180k			

- Intuitive GUI for simple queries
- SQL not required

- Restricted to SQL semantics
- Not example-based

Tutorial's goals

- Exploratory methods using examples
- Algorithms for retrieving data without using query languages
- Interactive methods and user-in-the-loop feedback
- Machine learning for adaptive, online methods

But NOT

- Declarative query methods
- User interfaces and visualization
- Optimizations for fast data access
- Dynamic data

Tutorial structure



Relational databases (25 min)



Textual data (10 min)



Graph and networks (25 min)

Machine learning
(10 min)

Challenges and Remarks

Example-based methods

- Query suggestion using examples
- Reverse engineering queries



- Entity extraction by example text
- Web table completion using examples
- Search by example



- Community-based Node-retrieval
- Entity Search
- Path and SPARQL queries
- Graph structures as Examples



Where we are



Relational databases



Textual data

Graphs and networks

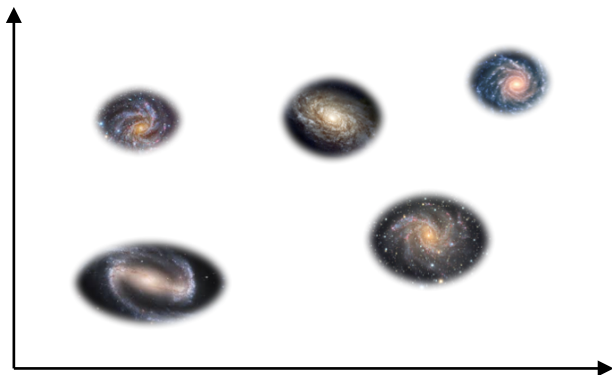
Challenges and Remarks

Machine learning

Reverse engineering queries (REQ)

Given a set of examples, find the query that generated that set of tuples

Example tuples

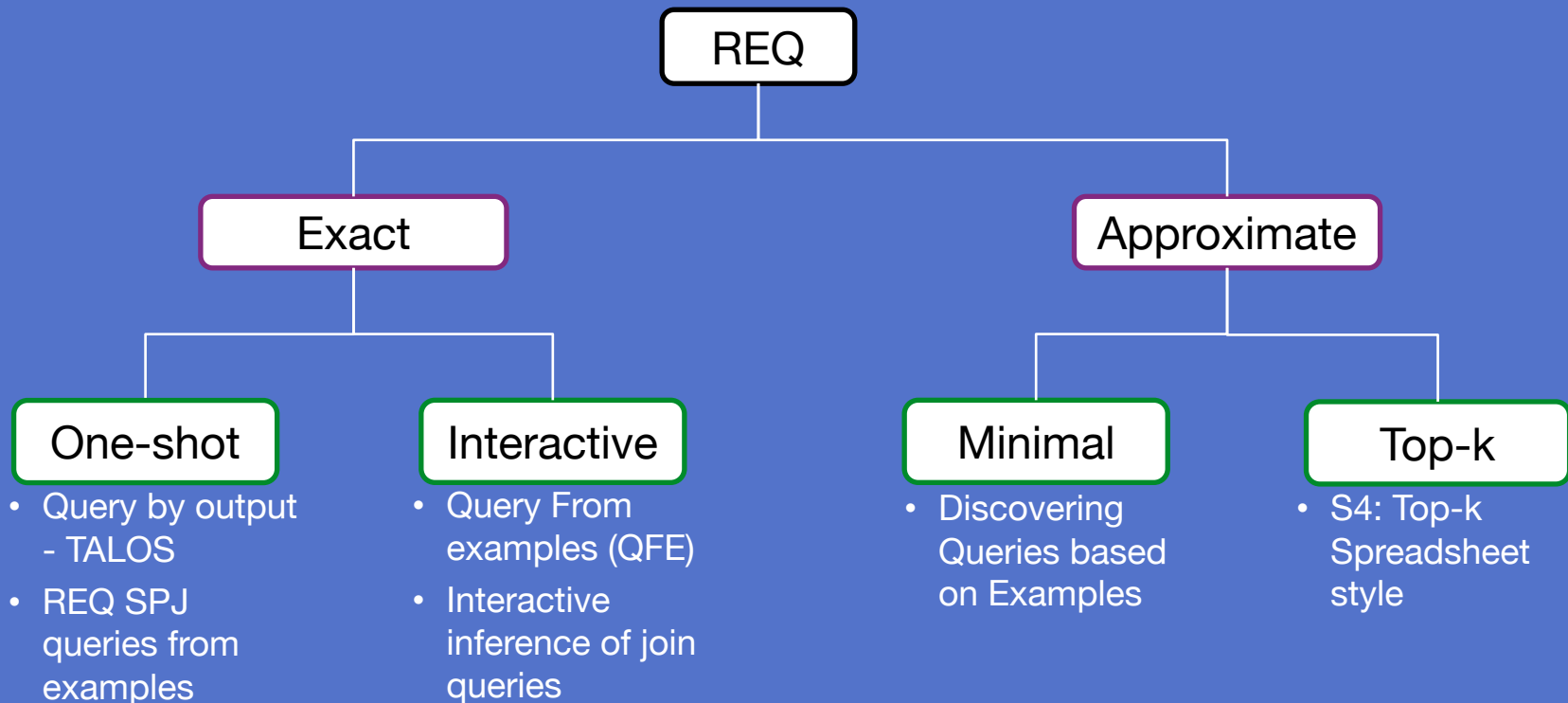


How do you find such queries?

```
SELECT g.galaxy_name, SUM(s.stars) AS st_s
FROM Universe.Galaxy AS g
JOIN Universe.System AS s
ON g.galaxy_name = s.galaxy_name
WHERE
    g.st_s > 100B
    AND diameter > 100k AND diameter > 180k
    AND has_black_hole = TRUE
GROUP BY g.galaxy_name
```

```
SELECT galaxy_name
FROM Universe.Galaxy
```

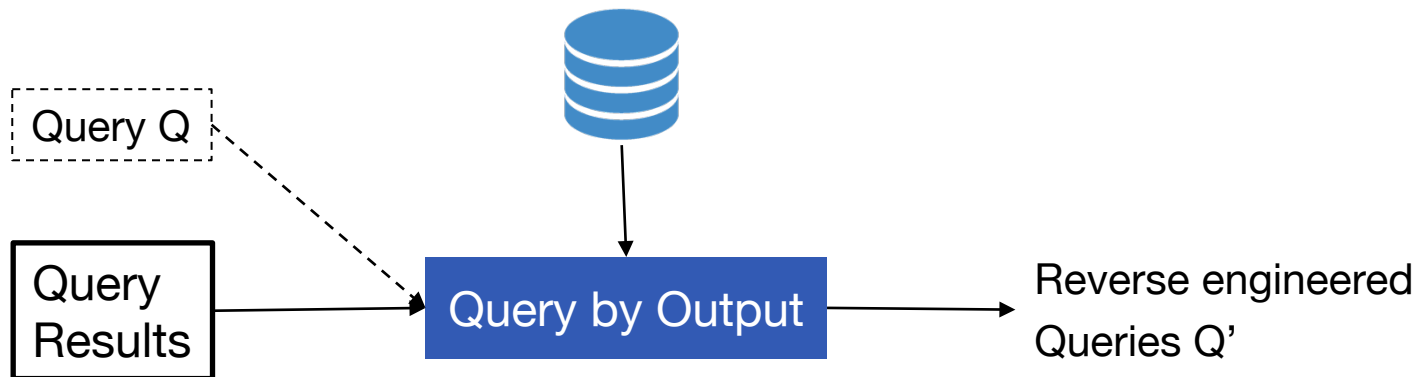
Reverse engineering queries (REQ)



Query by Output - TALOS

[Tran et al. 2013]

Main idea: Find the set of queries that exactly return a set of examples



Two queries Q and Q' are instance equivalent on a database D , if the results of Q are the same of the results of Q'



pID	name	country	weight	bats	throws
P1	A	USA	85	L	R
P2	B	USA	72	R	R
P3	C	USA	80	R	L
P4	D	Germany	72	L	R
P5	E	Japan	72	R	R

(a) Master

pID	year	stint	team	HR
P1	2001	2	PIT	40
P1	2003	2	ML1	50
P2	2001	1	PIT	73
P2	2002	1	PIT	40
P3	2004	2	CHA	35
P4	2001	3	PIT	30
P5	2004	3	CHA	60

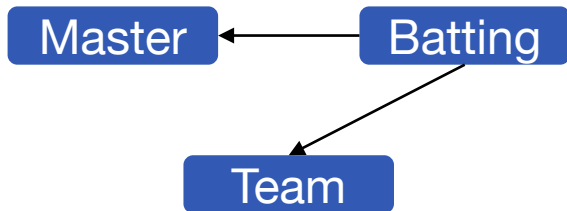
(b) Batting

team	year	rank
PIT	2001	7
PIT	2002	4
CHA	2004	3

(c) Team

Input

B	PIT
E	CHA



Join graph computation

Join table

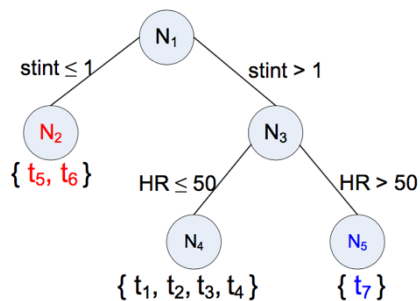
$$J = \text{Master} \bowtie \text{Batting} \bowtie \text{Team}$$

	name	bat	throw	stint	HR	team
t_1	A	L	R	2	40	PIT
t_2	A	L	R	2	50	MT1
t_3	C	R	L	2	35	CHA
t_4	D	L	R	3	30	PIT
t_5	B	R	R	1	73	PIT
t_6	B	R	R	1	40	PIT
t_7	E	R	R	3	60	CHA

	name	bat	throw	stint	HR	team	
t_1	A	L	R	2	40	PIT	✗
t_2	A	L	R	2	50	MT1	✗
t_3	C	R	L	2	35	CHA	✗
t_4	D	L	R	3	30	PIT	✗
t_5	B	R	R	1	73	PIT	✓
t_6	B	R	R	1	40	PIT	✓
t_7	E	R	R	3	60	CHA	✓

Idea: treat the problem as a binary classification

- Strict:** all tuples must be captured
- At-Least-one:** one tuple for example must be captured



Decision tree

$$Gini(S) = 1 - (f_+^2 + f_-^2)$$

Positive and negative tuples in S

$$Gini(S_1, S_2) = \frac{|S_1|Gini(S_1) + |S_2|Gini(S_2)}{|S_1| + |S_2|}$$

How complex is exact REQ?

[Weiss et al., 2017]



Relational Operators:

σ selection $\{=, \neq, \geq, \leq\}$

π projection

\bowtie natural join

E^+ Positive examples
 E^- Negative examples



Q such that results contain

- All positive examples
- No negative example

How difficult is to find:
A bounded size Q ? an unbounded Q ?

Complexity - No parameters

[Weiss et al., 2017]

Operator	Unbounded Queries	Bounded Queries
π	P	P
\bowtie	P	NPC
σ	P	NPC
σ, \bowtie	P	NPC
π, σ	NPC	NPC
σ, \bowtie	DP	DP
π, σ, \bowtie	DP	DP

Only projections: **Easy**

Unbounded selections: **Easy**

Unbounded selections: **HARD**

Combination of operators:
HARD!!!

Unbounded Select

[Weiss et al., 2017]

	A	B	C	D	E
✓	1	2	3	4	5
✗	1	3	2	3	4
	2	4	4	1	3
	5	3	2	4	2
✗	4	2	3	1	2
	2	2	4	3	2
✓	1	1	2	1	5
✓	1	5	4	2	3

Possible queries?

A = 1 AND

B ≥ 1 AND B ≤ 5 AND

C ≥ 2 AND C ≤ 4 AND

D ≥ 1 AND D ≤ 4 AND D ≠ 4

E ≥ 3 AND E ≤ 5 AND E ≠ 4

Bounded select

Reduction from
Set Cover

NP-C

INPUT: Database D, Examples E, Query size k

OUTPUT: Does there exist a query satisfying D and E, of size at most k?

$$U = \{1,2,3,4,5\} \quad S = \{ \{1,2,3\}, \{2,4\}, \{3,4\}, \{4,5\} \}$$

	S_1	S_2	S_3	S_4
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	0	0	0
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	1	0	0
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	0	1	0
<input type="checkbox"/>	0	1	1	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	0	0	0	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	0	0	0	0

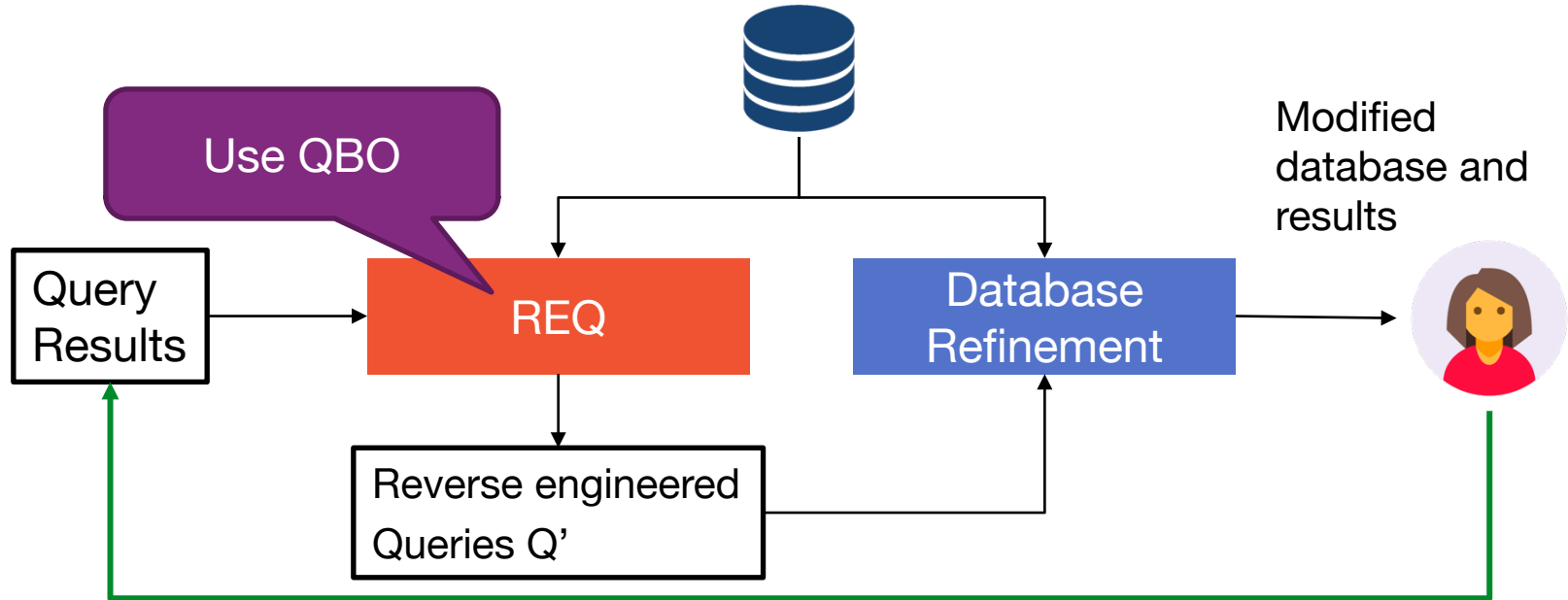
Complexity - Parameters

	No param	Schema	Examples	No param	Query	Schema	Examples
π	P	-	-	P	-	-	-
\bowtie	P	-	-	NPC	P $W[2]C$	P FPT	NPC
σ	P	-	-	NPC	P $W[2]C$	$\{=\} : P, \{\neq\} : NPC$ $\{=\} : FPT$	P FPT
σ, \bowtie	P	-	-	NPC	P $W[2]C$	$\{=\} : P, \{\neq\} : NPC$ $\{=\} : FPT$	NPC
π, σ	NPC	$\{=\} : P, \{\neq\} : NPC$ $\{=\} : FPT$	P $W[3]C$	NPC	P $W[3]C$	$\{=\} : P, \{\neq\} : NPC$ $\{=\} : FPT$	NPC
π, \bowtie	DP	P $W[1]H, co-W[1]H$	DP	DP	P $W[2]H, co-W[1]H$	P $W[1]H, co-W[1]H$	DP
π, σ, \bowtie	DP	$\{=\} : P, \{\neq\} : NPC$ $\{=\} : W[1]H, co-W[1]H$	DP	DP	P $W[3]H, co-W[1]H$	$\{=\} : P, \{\neq\} : NPC$ $\{=\} : W[1]H, co-W[1]H$	DP

Interactive REQ – Query from Examples

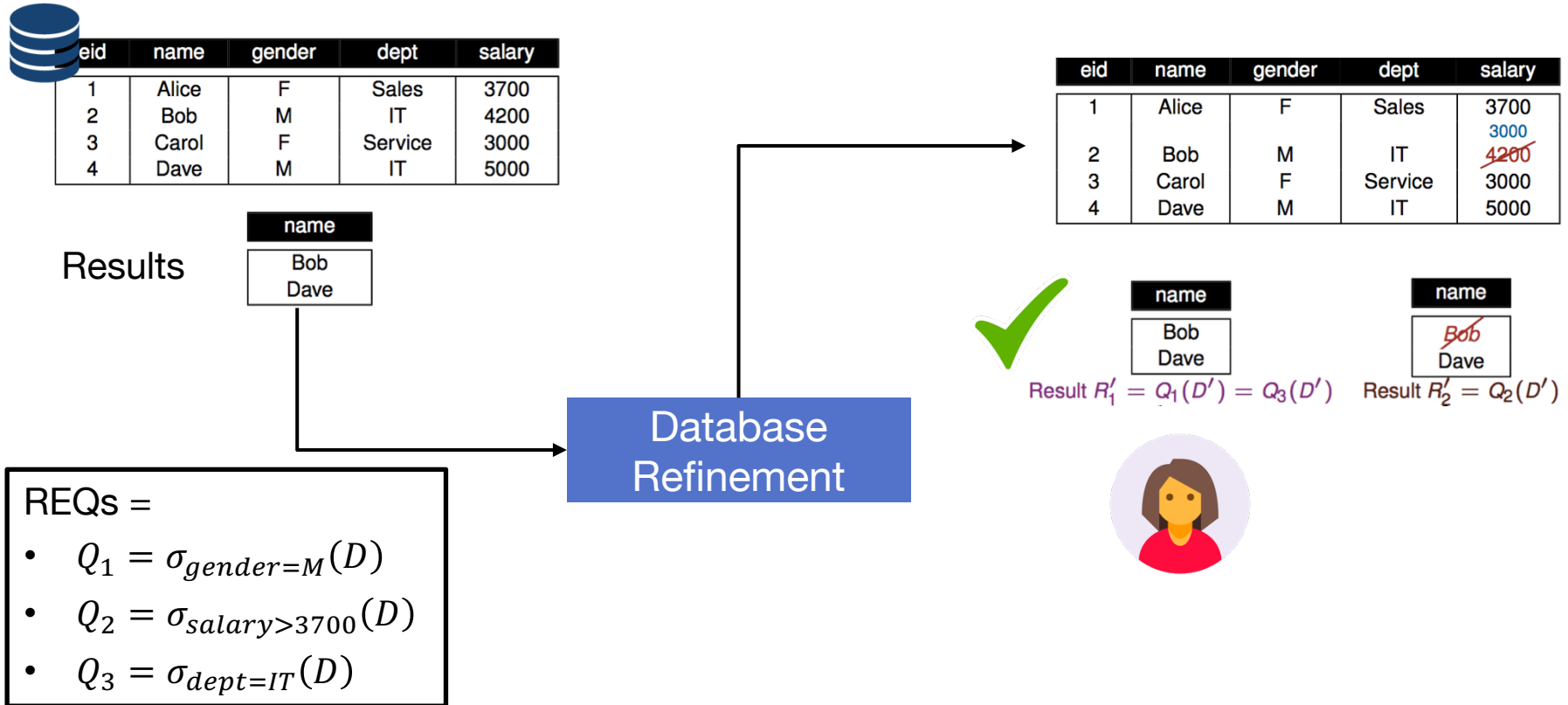
[Li et al., 2015]

Main idea: Interactively remove candidate queries proposing a new set of query results from a modified database



Database Refinement

[Li et al., 2015]



Cost model

[Li et al., 2015]

$$\text{cost}(D') = \underbrace{\text{edit}(D, D') + \beta \cdot n}_{\text{DB cost}} + \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^k \text{edit}(R, R_i)}_{\text{Results cost}} + \underbrace{N \cdot \frac{\text{edit}(D, D')}{\mu} + \beta}_{\text{Effort to examine } D'} + \underbrace{\frac{2}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k \text{edit}(R, R_i)}_{\text{Effort to examine new results}}$$

Number of modified tables

Number of new result sets

Current cost

Residual cost

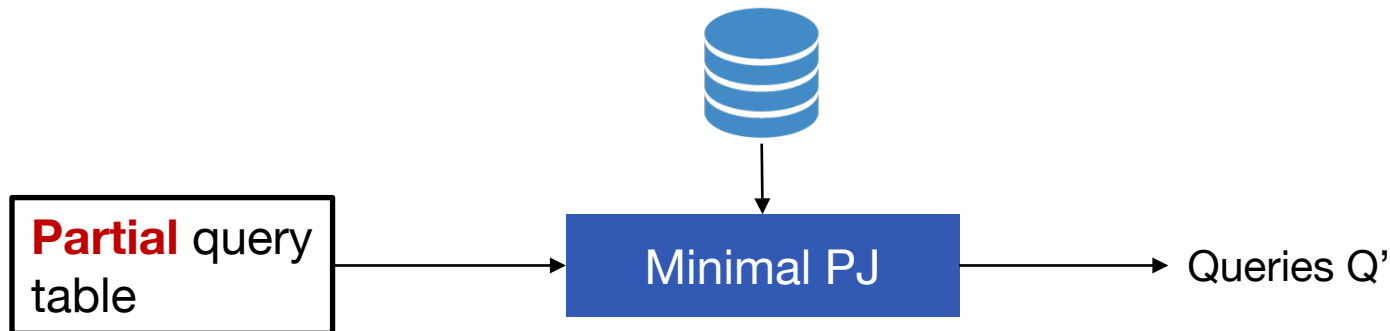
Main idea: Find a refined db D' and results R_1, \dots, R_k with:

1. Minimum number of results k
2. Minimum differences in the database
3. The query are balanced (less interactions)

Minimal Project Join REQ

[Shen et al., 2014]

Main idea: Find the set of queries that approximately return a set of examples



	A	B	C
1	Mike	ThinkPad	Office
2	Mary	iPad	
3	Bob		Dropbox

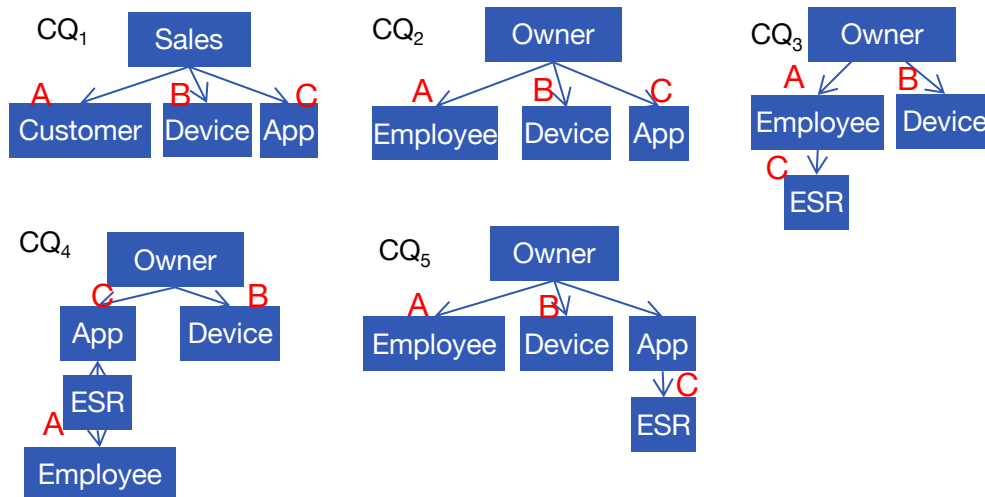
- **valid:** every tuple is present in query results
- **minimal:** any removal in query tree gets to an invalid query

Candidate Query Generation

[Shen et al., 2014]

- Use candidate network generation algorithm (Hristidis 2002)

	A	B	C
1	Mike	ThinkPad	Office
2	Mary	iPad	
3	Bob		Dropbox



1. Generate join tree J
2. Generate mapping ϕ
3. Check minimal:
 - Every leaf node contains a column that is mapped by an input column

Validity verification

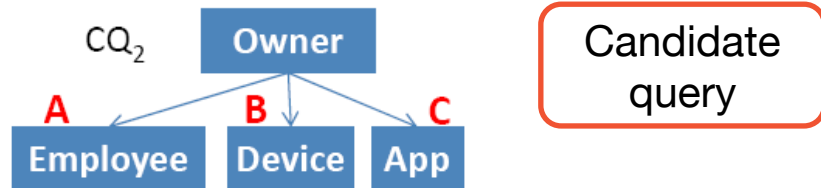
[Shen et al., 2014]

Naïve: check all candidate queries singularly if they return ALL examples

Better: exploit substructures in candidate queries for pruning

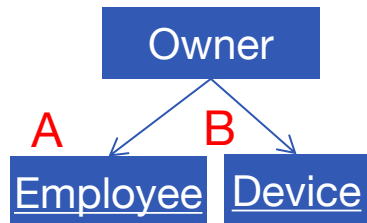
Best: adaptively select the substructures to have the min number of evaluations

NP-hard



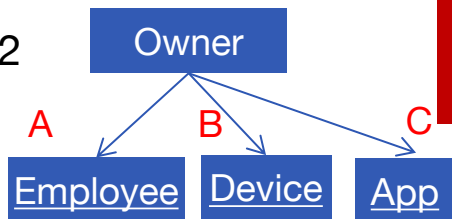
Substructures

Sub 1



Sub 1 fails =>
 CQ_2 invalid

Sub 2

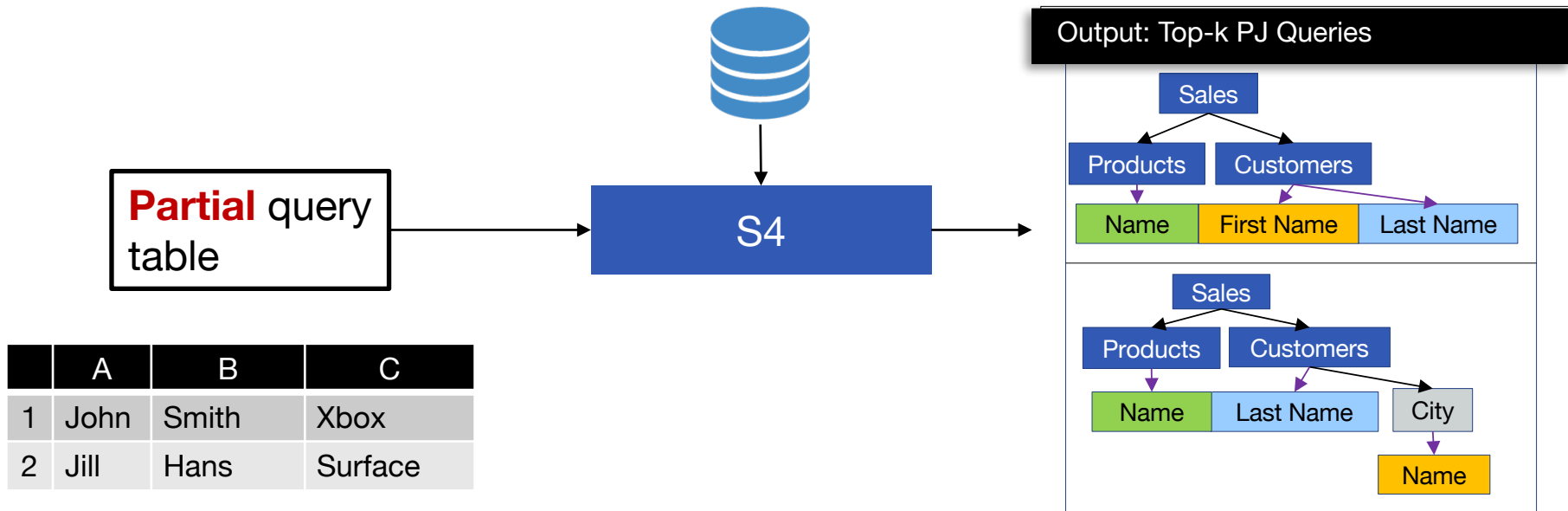


Sub 1 fails =>
Sub 2 fails

Minimal Project Join REQ

[Psallidas et al., 2015]

Main idea: Allow missing rows/columns and rank the k best queries



Ranking score

[Psallidas et al., 2015]

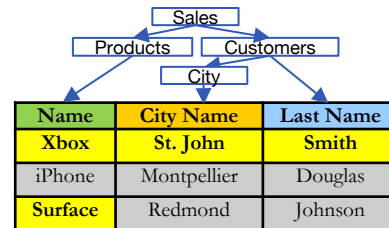
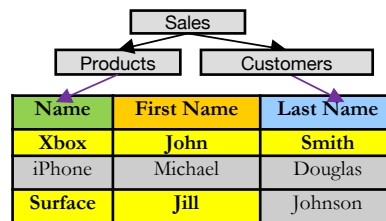
Linear combination of row score and column score

$$\frac{\alpha * score_{row}(Q) + (1 - \alpha) * score_{col}(Q)}{|Q|}$$

- $\alpha = 1$ penalizes missing rows
- $\alpha = 0$ penalizes missing columns

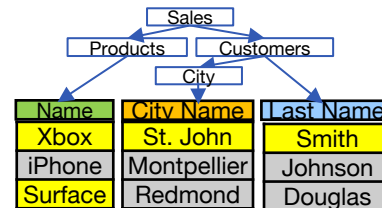
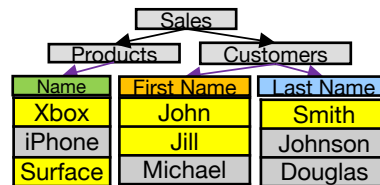
Row score

			Row Score	
John	Smith	Xbox	3	3
Jill	Hans	Surface	2	1
			5	4



Column score

		John	Smith	Xbox	
Column Score	Jill	2	1	2	5
	Hans	2	1	1	4
	Surface				



S4 Optimizations

[Psallidas et al., 2015]

Upper bound

Row score is always bounded by the column score
(row containment is more restrictive)

Exploit inverted indexes on columns/rows

Early
termination

Stop when current upper bound score is less than the k-th ranked
evaluated query

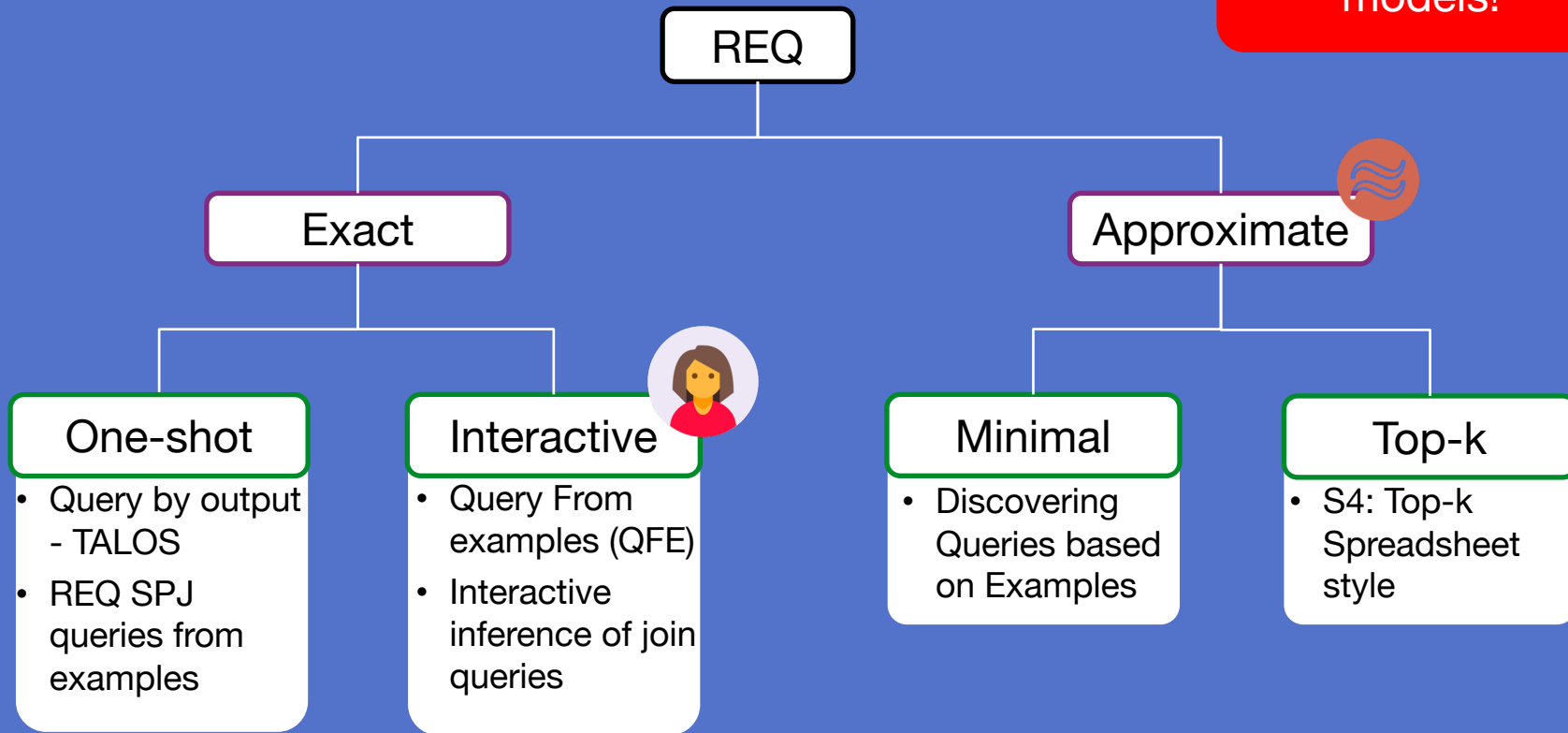
Scan queries on decreasing upper bound

Caching

Reuse common subparts in the candidate queries

Reverse engineering queries (REQ)

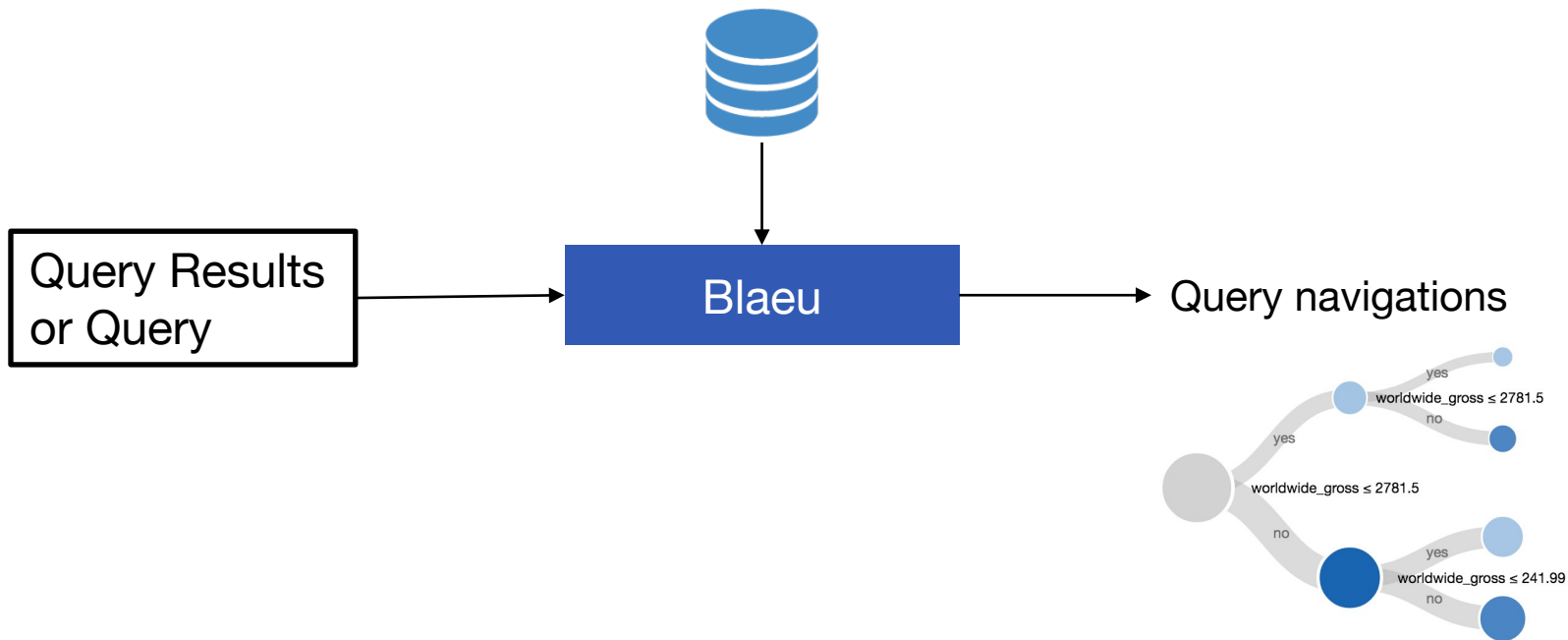
Lack of user models!



Examples for query suggestion: Blaeu

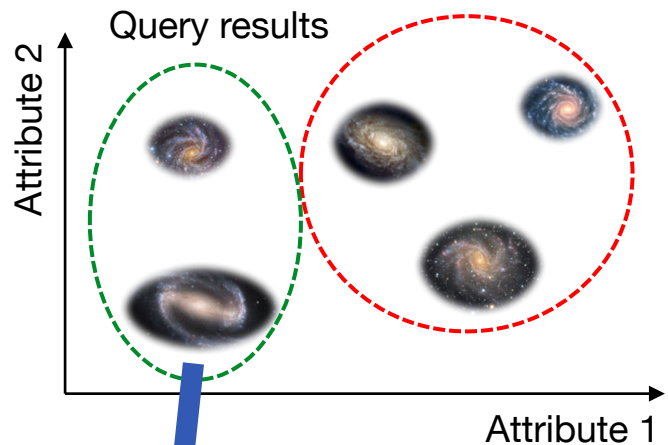
[Sellam et al., 2016]

Main idea: Allow interactive navigation of the query space in a hierarchy



Examples for query suggestion: Blaeu

[Sellam et al., 2016]



$$u: DB \rightarrow \{-1, 1\}, U(Q) = \sum_{t \in Q} u(t)$$

User utility

Given a result of an example query Q , explore the data through data maps = partitions

Output: Set of query refinements

Problem: User utility is unknown

- Cluster analysis for result exploration
- Zoom and projection operations
- User model

Examples for query suggestion: Blaeu

[Sellam et al., 2016]

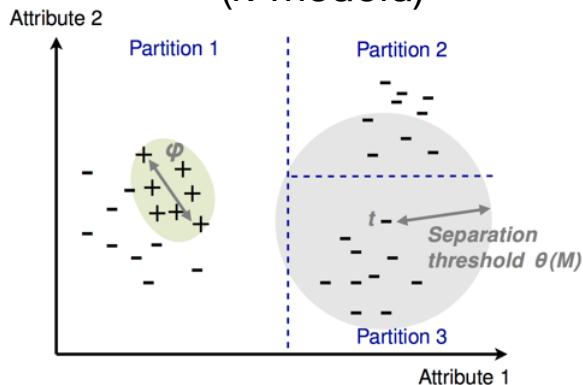
$$u: DB \rightarrow \{-1,1\}, U(C) = \sum_{t \in C} u(t)$$

Unknown User utility

Find the partition $\mathcal{C} = \{C_1, \dots, C_n\}$ of the results of Q such that exists $C_j \in \mathcal{C}: U(C_j) > U(Q)$

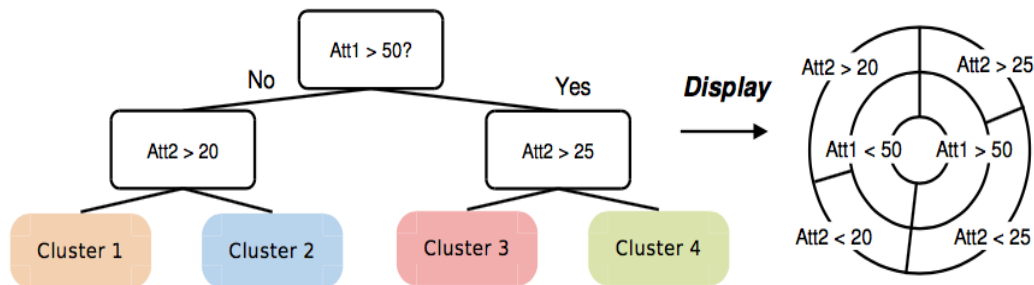
Solution: interesting tuples are close to each other within a maximum separation threshold $\theta(\mathcal{C})$

Detect clusters
(k-medoid)

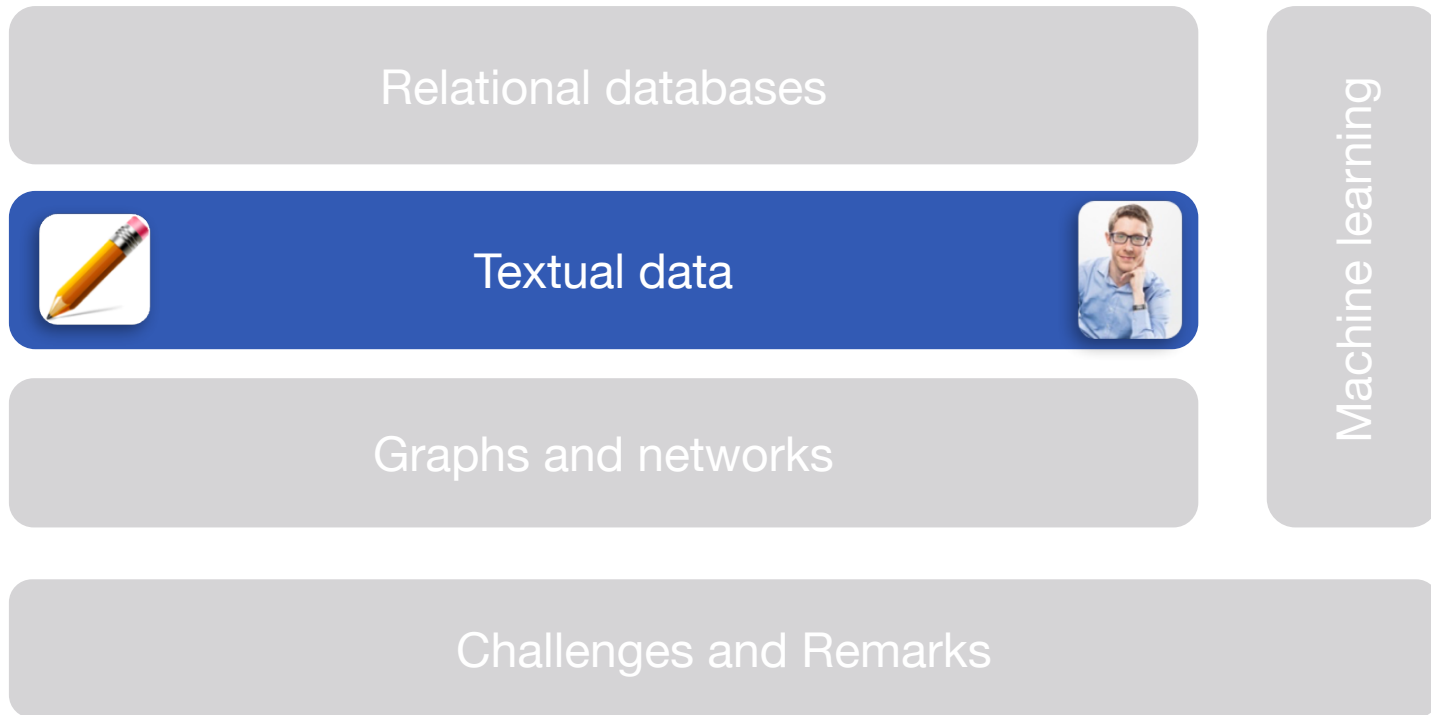


Inference

Organize clusters

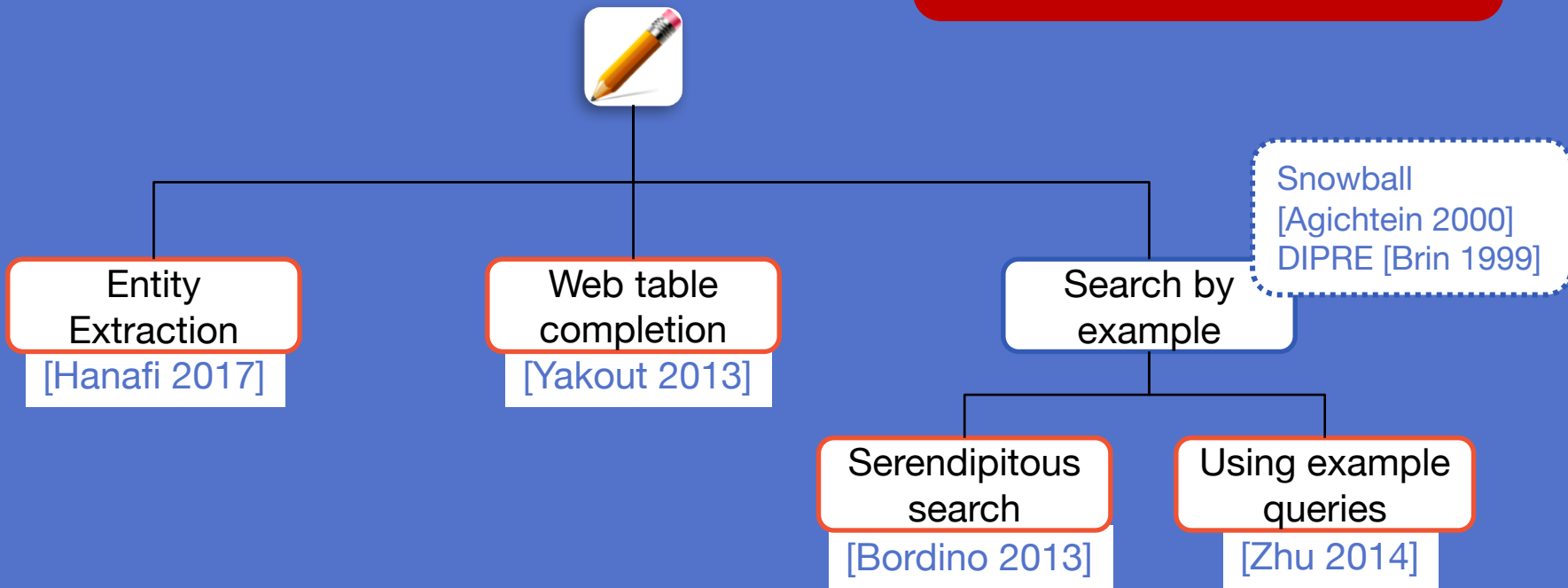


Where we are



Examples for textual data

Few methods for textual data using examples



Entity extraction by-example (SEER)

[Hanafi et al., 2017]

Main idea: Create rules to extract wanted information from documents using examples



definition) increased 9.6 percent, the number of murders increased 6.2 percent, aggravated assaults increased 2.3 percent, the number of rapes (revised definition) rose 1.1 percent, and robbery violations were up 0.3 percent.
Violent crime increased in all but two city groupings. In cities with populations from 50,000 to 99,999 inhabitants, violent crime was down 0.3 percent, and in cities with 500,000 to 999,999 in population, violent crime decreased 0.1 percent. The largest increase in violent crime, 5.3 percent, was noted in cities with 250,000

SEER

Output: Extraction rules

P: Percentage = 1.0 = 1.0

D: {5, 6} = 0.4 D: {percent, %} = 0.4 = 0.4

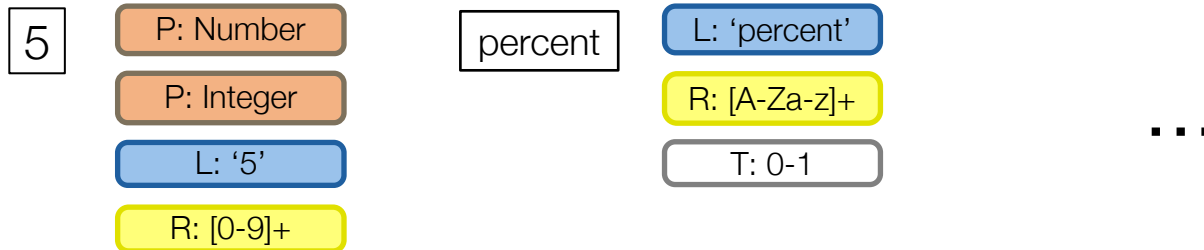
R: [0-9]+ = 0.2 D: {percent, %} = 0.4 = 0.3

Learning rules

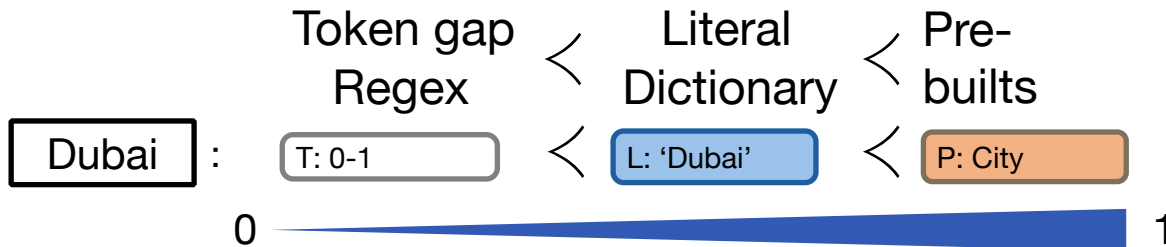
[Hanafi et al., 2017]

Example: 5 percent up

1. Enumerate possible primitives per example token



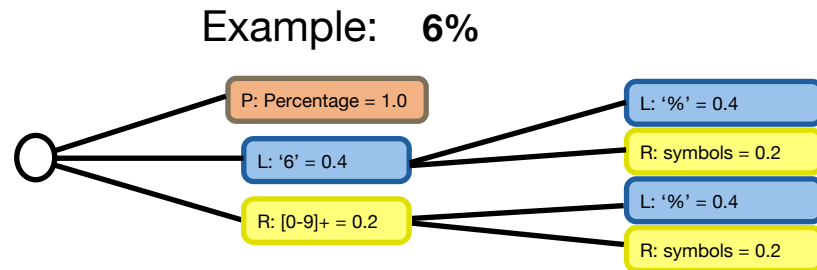
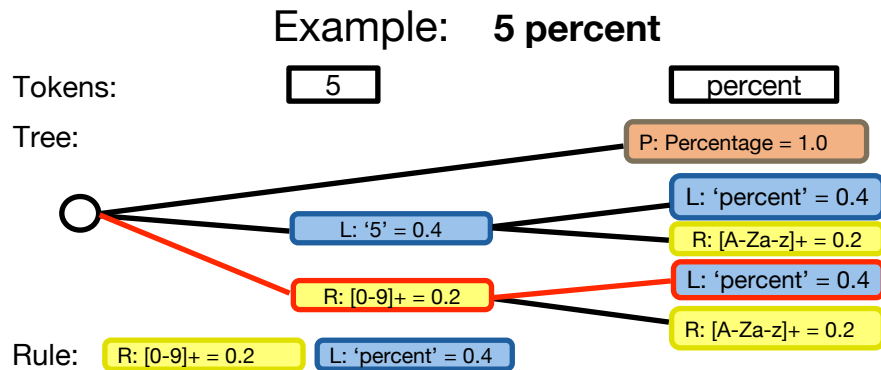
2. Assign scores to primitives



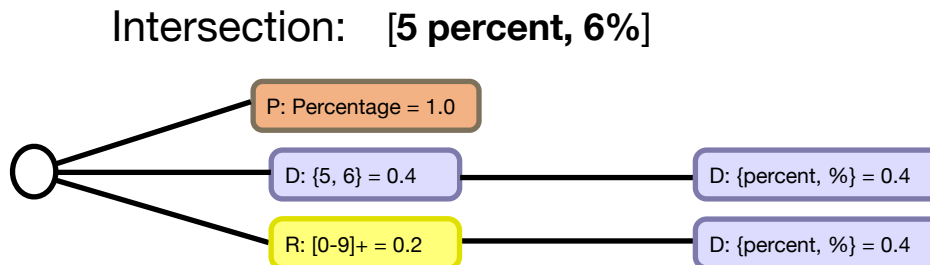
Learning rules (cont'd)

[Hanafi et al., 2017]

3. Generate rules



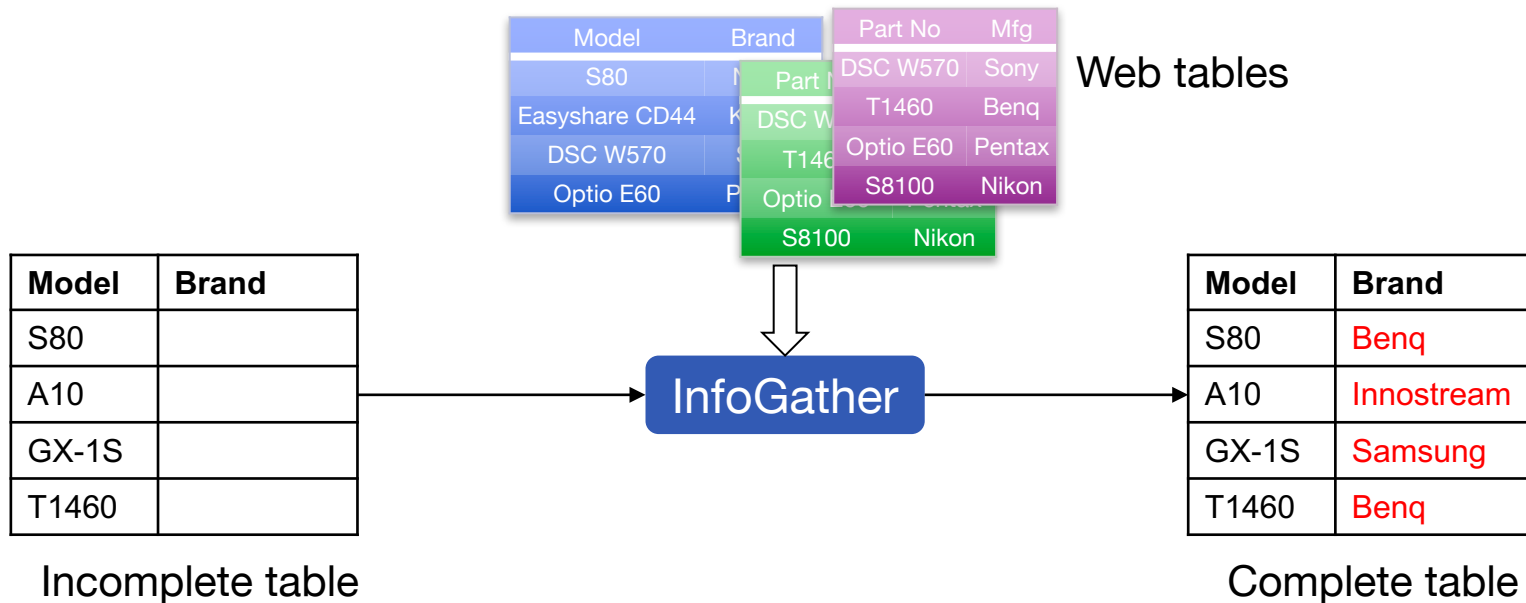
4. Merge



Web tables completion (InfoGather)

[Yakout et al., 2012]

Main idea: Complete **tables** using partial information about tuples



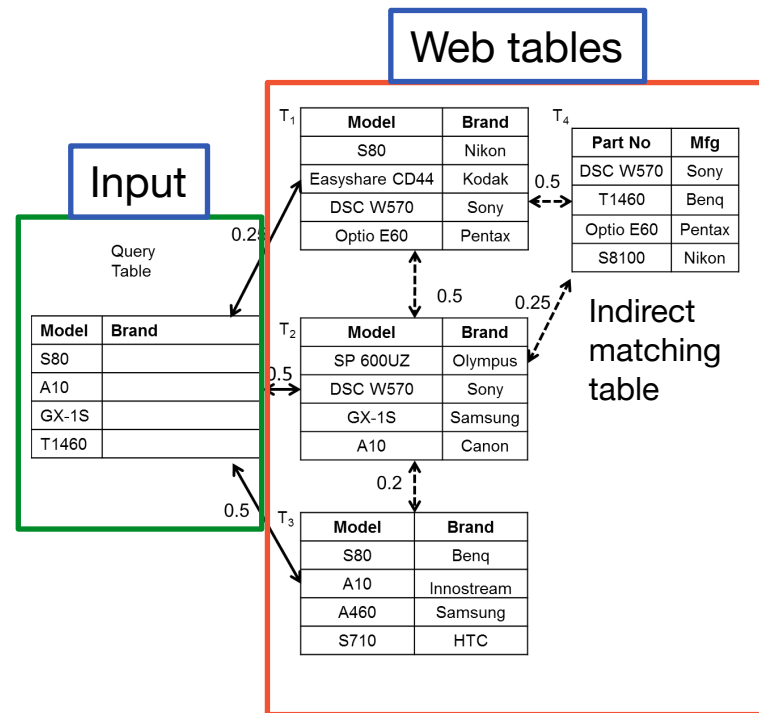
Augmentation framework

[Yakout et al., 2012]

Direct Match Approach (DMA)

- Traditional schema matching techniques using the attribute names and the values in the column

$$S_{DMA}(T) = \begin{cases} \frac{|T \cap_K Q|}{\min(|Q|, |T|)} & \text{if } Q.A \approx T.B \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



Ranking tables using PageRank

- PageRank
- Personalized PageRank (PPR)

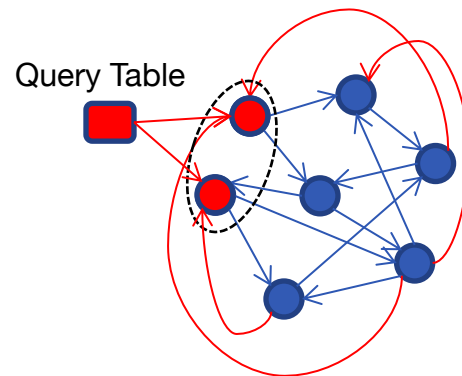
$$\pi_u(v) = \epsilon \delta_u(v) + (1 - \epsilon) \sum_{\{w|(w,v) \in E\}} \pi_u(w) \alpha_{w,v}$$

Adjacency matrix

- Topic Sensitive Pagerank (TSP)

$$\pi_{\vec{\beta}}(v) = \epsilon \vec{\beta} + (1 - \epsilon) \sum_{\{w|(w,v) \in E\}} \pi_{\vec{\beta}}(w) \alpha_{w,v}$$

Topic vector

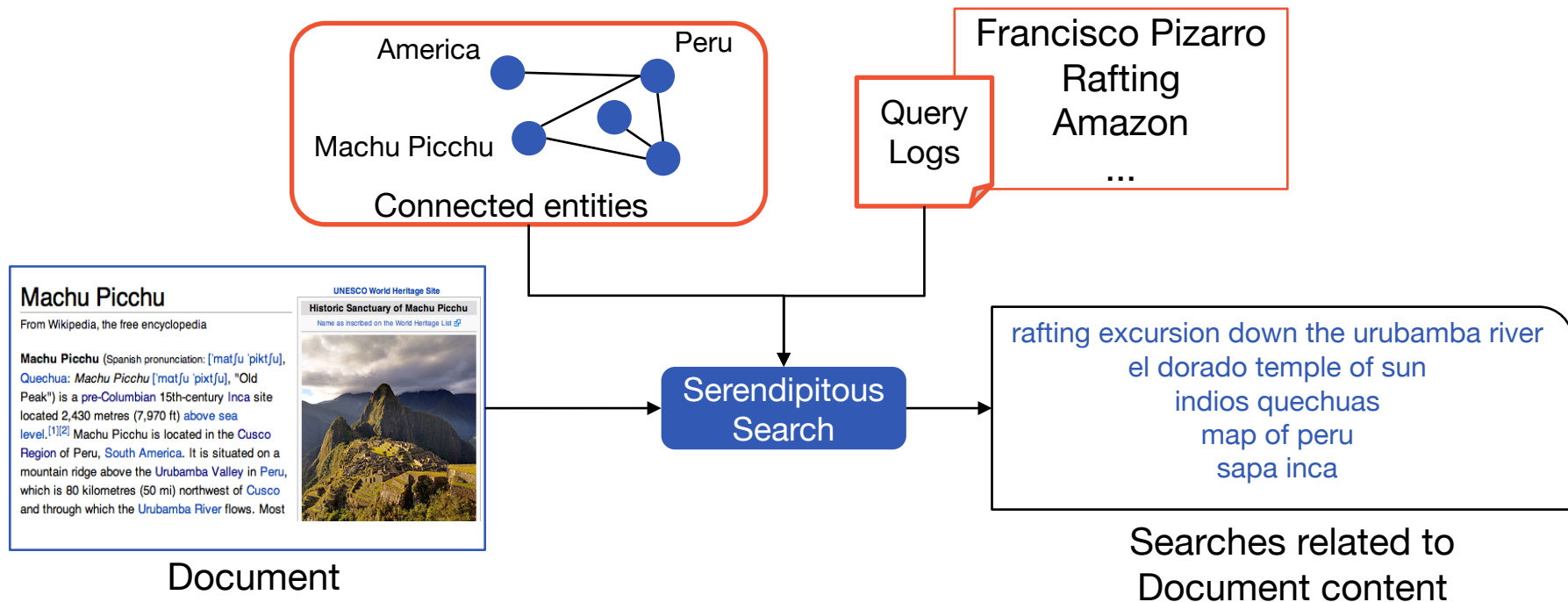


Nodes → Web Tables
Edges → Tables Similarity
Topic weight → DMA score

Serendipitous search

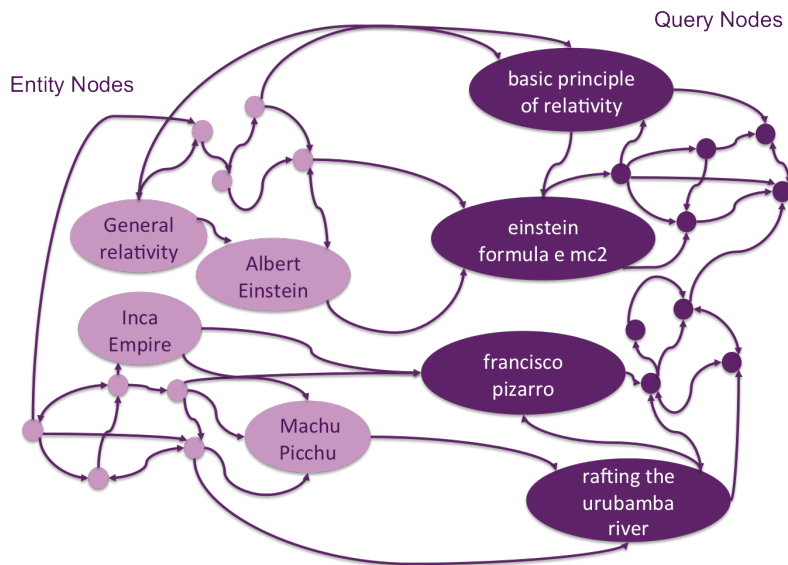
[Bordino et al., 2013]

Main idea: Use related entities and query logs to find **serendipitous** searches



Find queries using entity-query graph

[Bordino et al., 2013]



Query-flow graph with entity nodes

Three types of arcs:

1. query to query:

$$w_Q(q_i \rightarrow q_j) = w_{QFG}(q_i \rightarrow q_j)$$

2. entity to query

$$w_{EQ}(e \rightarrow q) = \frac{f(q)}{\sum_{q_i | e \in X_E(q_i)} f(q_i)}$$

Frequency-based approach

3. entity to entity

$$w_E(e_u \rightarrow e_v) = 1 - \prod_{i=1, \dots, r} (1 - p_{q_{i_s} \rightarrow q_{i_t}}(e_u \rightarrow e_v))$$

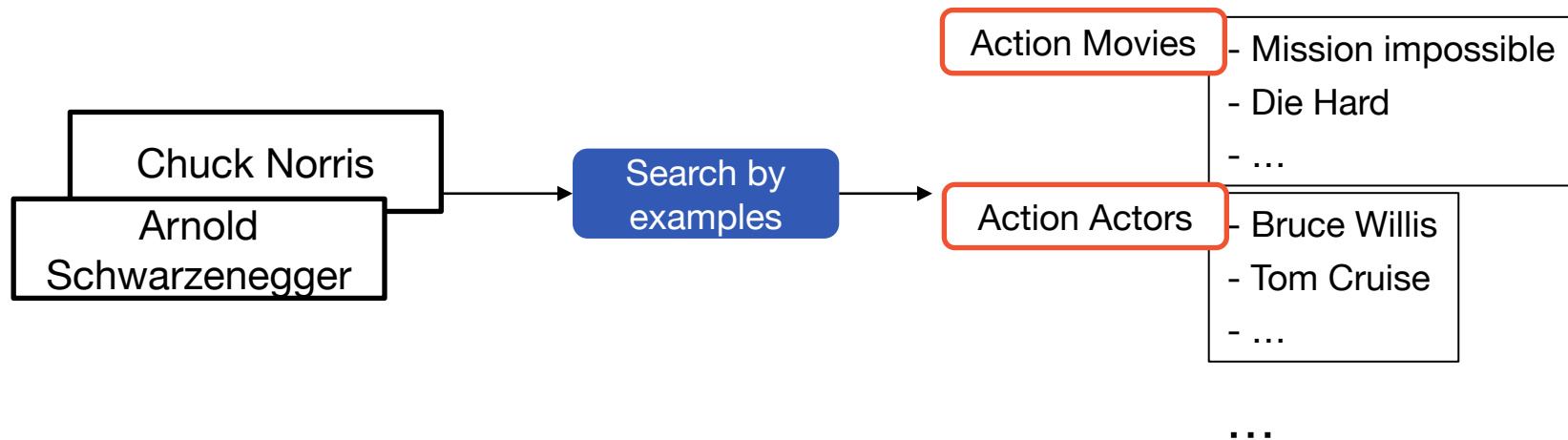
The more queries entities share the higher the probability

Idea: Run Personalized PageRank on entity-query graphs

Search by multiple examples

[Zhu et al., 2014]

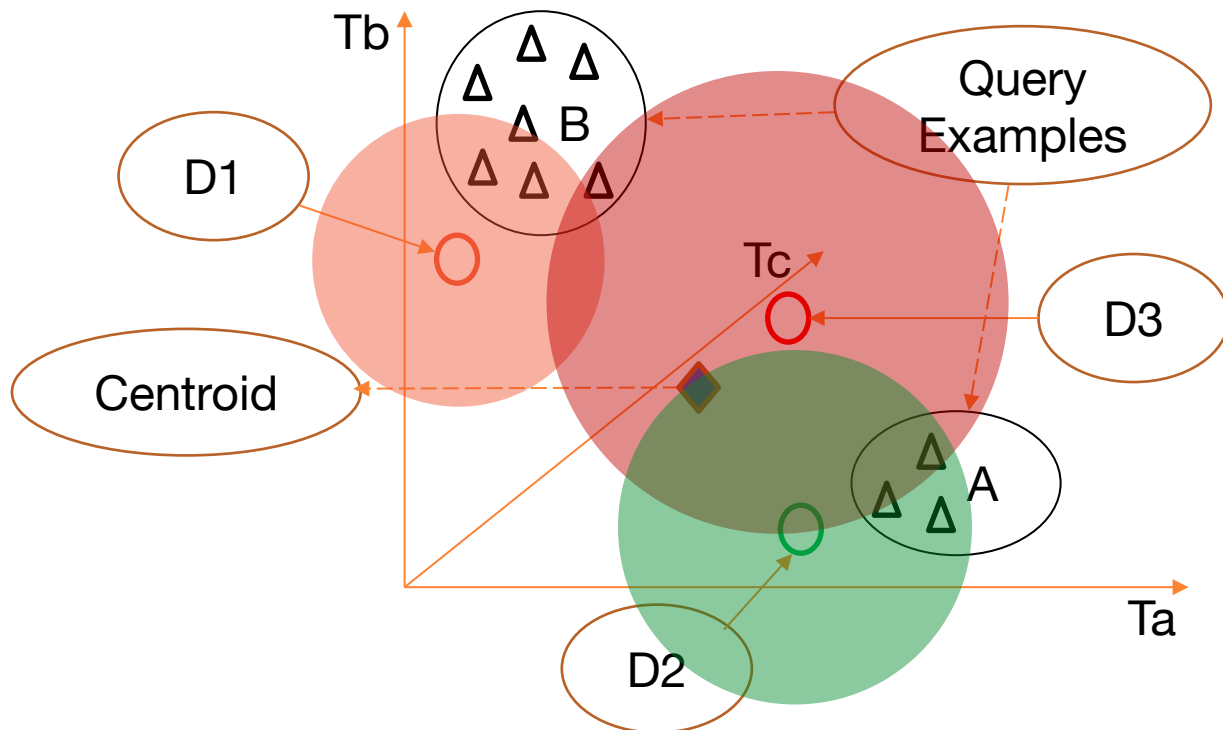
Main idea: Document examples are used to find **topics**



Related topics and documents

Nearest neighbor approach

[Zhu et al., 2014]



Main Idea:

The similarity is an aggregation over the distances between document D_i and its nearest query example

Where we are

Relational databases

Textual data



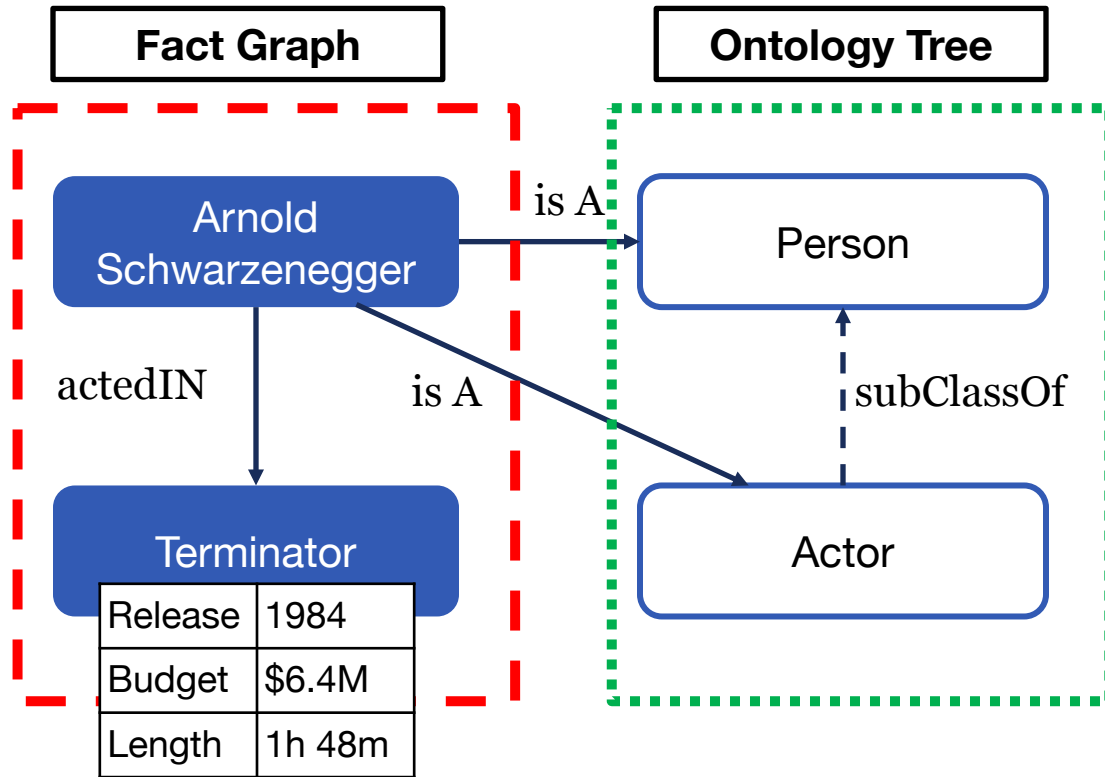
Graphs and networks



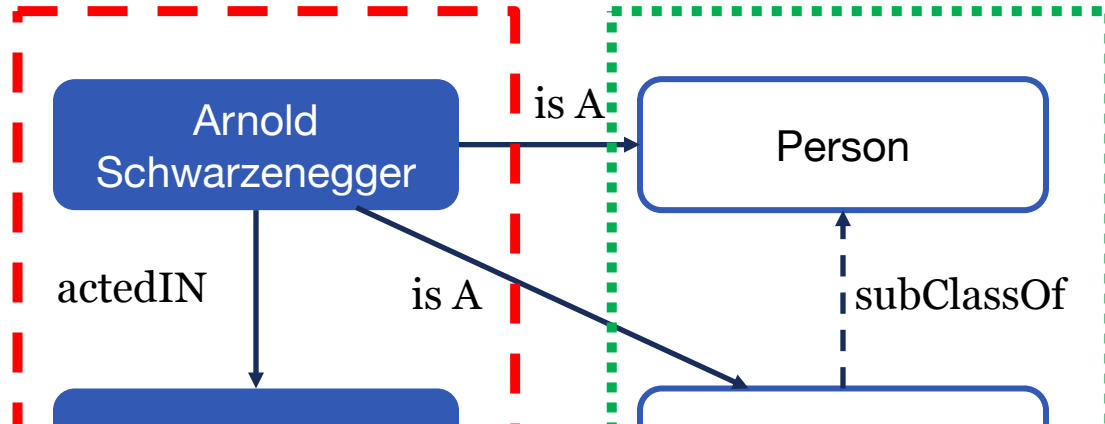
Challenges and Remarks

Machine learning

Graphs



Graphs



RDF

(subject, predicate, object)

(Arnold_Schwarzenegger, isA, Person)

(Actor, subClassOf, Person)

(Arnold_Schwarzenegger, actedIn, Terminator)

Exemplar Queries

[Mottin et al., 2014]

Input: Q_e , an example *element* of interest

Output: set of elements in the desired result set

Nodes/Entities
Edges/Facts
Structures

Exemplar Query Evaluation

- **evaluate** Q_e in a database D , finding a sample S
- **find** the set of elements A similar to S given a *similarity relation*

Exemplar Queries

[Mottin et al., 2014]

Input: Q_e , an example *element* of interest

Output: set of elements in the desired result set

Nodes/Entities
Edges/Facts
Structures

Exemplar Query Evaluation

- **evaluate** Q_e in a database D , finding a sample S
- **find** the set of elements A similar to S given a *similarity relation*
- **[OPTIONAL]** return only the subset A^R that are relevant

SIMILARITY

Nodes

Structures

Connectivity

Mediator Nodes
[Ruchansky'15]

Clusters
[Perozzi'14]

Properties

Entity Search
[Metzger'13,
Sobczak'15]

Queries

Path Queries
[Bonifati'15]

SPARQL
[Arenas'16]

(Edge-)Labels

Entity Tuples
[Jayaram'15]

Graph Structures
[Mottin'14]

CHALLENGE: DISCOVER USER PREFERENCE

CHALLENGE: EFFICIENT SEARCH

The Minimum Wiener Connector Problem

[Ruchansky, et al., 2015]

Model: Unlabeled Undirected Graph

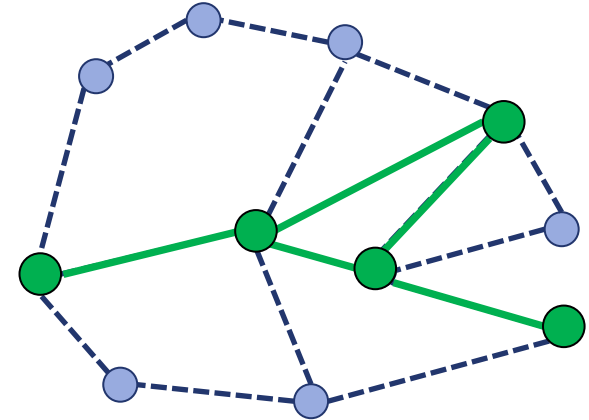
Query: A set of **Nodes Q**

Similarity: Shortest-Path **distance**

Output: A Set of Connector Nodes H
“*explains*” connections in **Q**

Connectors:
Nodes with **HIGH** closeness
to **ALL** the inputs

Similar to a Steiner-Tree but
overall pairwise distances are optimized



Case: Infected Patients
→ Culprit/Other Infected

Case: Target Audience
→ Influencers

The Minimum Wiener Connector Problem

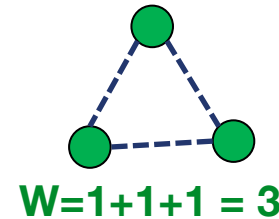
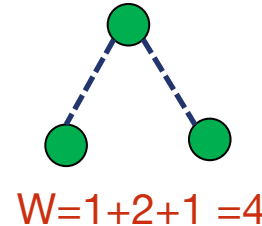
[Ruchansky et al., 2015]

Model: Unlabeled Undirected Graph

Query: A set of **Nodes Q**

Similarity: Shortest-Path **distance**

Output: A Set of **Connector Nodes H**
minimize the sum of **pairwise shortest-path-distances**
between nodes in the **connector H**



Sometimes The
Best Solution is
NOT A Tree

NP-Hard

Called: Wiener Index.

*tradeoff between **size**
and **average distance***

$$\min \sum_{(u,v) \in H} d(u,v)$$

$d(u,v)$ is the shortest-path distance

Approximate minimum Wiener Index

[Ruchansky et al., 2015]

Connector

CHOOSE r & $\lambda \in [1, \log_{(1+\beta)} |V|]$

All Pairwise Distances

↳ Distances from a root r

Measure distance in H

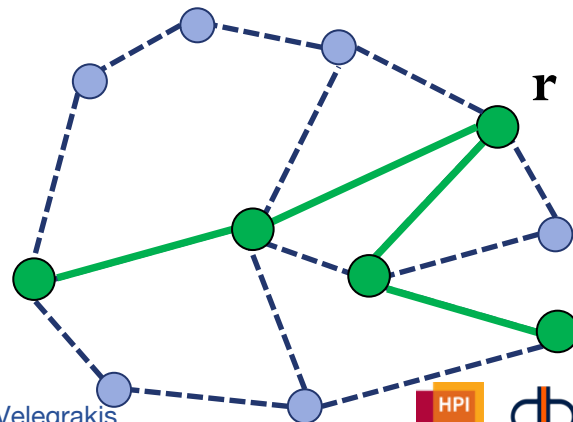
↳ Precomputed distance in G

Edge Weights

$$w(u, v) = \lambda + \frac{\max\{d_G(r, u), d_G(r, v)\}}{\lambda}$$

Approximated with
Edge-Weighted SteinerTree

Enumerate Candidate Solutions
for $r \in Q$ & λ
and keep best



Focused Clustering and Outlier Detection

[Perozzi et al., 2014]

Model: Unlabeled Undirected Graph
with Node Attributes

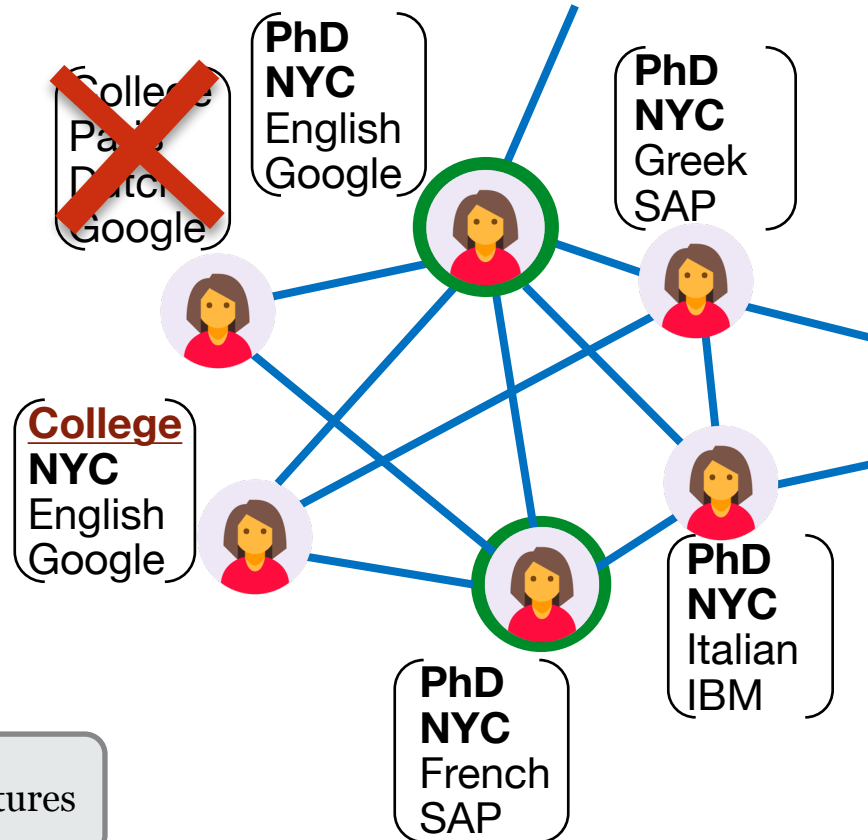
Query: A set of Nodes Q

Similarity: Attribute Values & Connectivity
(to be inferred)

Output: Clusters of Nodes: Dense & Coherent
+Cluster Outliers

Case: Target Users → Community with same interests

Case: Products → Co-purchased products with similar features



Focused Clustering and Outlier Detection

[Perozzi et al., 2014]

TASK: Infer “**FOCUS**”, important attributes
attribute weights β

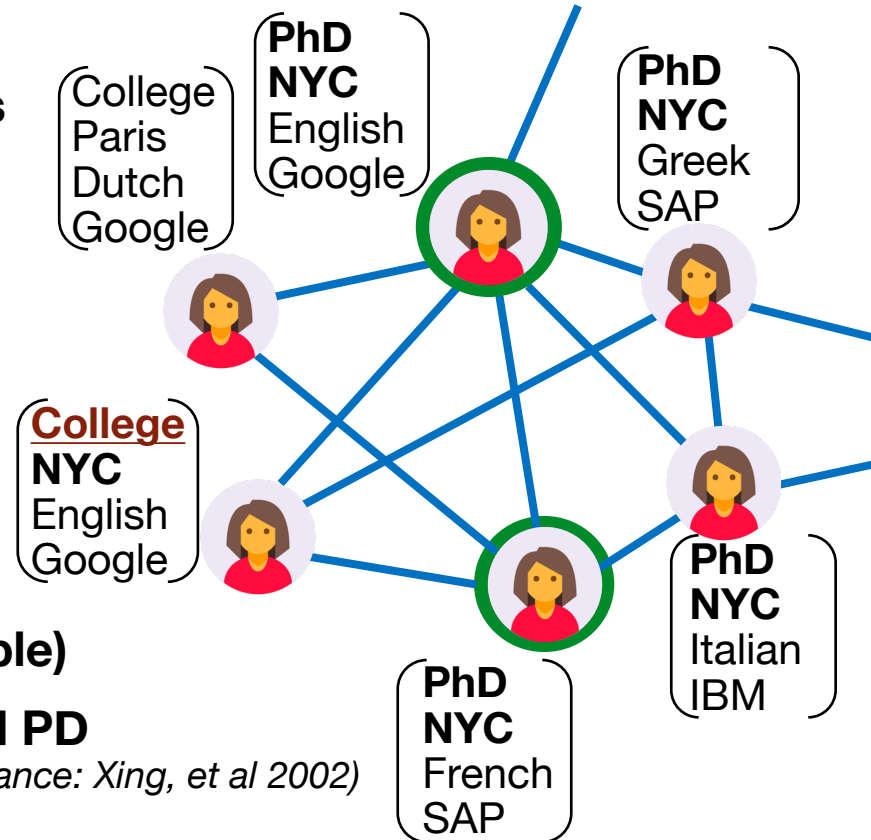


1. Set of similar pairs, PS (from Q)

2. Set of dissimilar pairs, PD (random sample)

3. Learn a distance metric between PS and PD

(Distance Metric Learning, inverse Mahalanobis distance: Xing, et al 2002)



Focused Clustering and Outlier Detection

[Perozzi et al., 2014]

TASK: Extract Clusters on Focused Graph
attribute weights β \rightarrow Edge Weight

1. Find Starting Set of Candidates

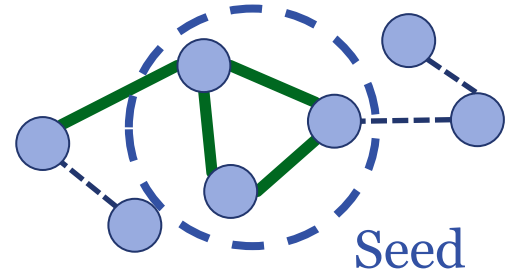
- 1.a Drop low-weight edges
- 1.b Extract **Strongly Connected Component** C_1, C_2, \dots

2. Grow Clusters around Candidates

- 2.a Compute conductance of \mathbf{C} : $\phi^{(w)}(\mathbf{C}, \mathbf{G})$
- 2.b Select node to add to \mathbf{C}' : **best improvement to** $\Delta\phi^{(w)}(\mathbf{C}, \mathbf{C}')$ (*greedy*)
- 2.c Prune Underperforming nodes

3. Detect Outliers: High unweighted conductance

LOCAL
clusters



SIMILARITY

Nodes

Structures

Connectivity

Mediator Nodes
[Ruchansky'15]

Clusters
[Perozzi'14]

Properties

Entity Search
[Metzger'13,
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Queries

Path Queries
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[Jayaram'15]

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[Mottin'14]

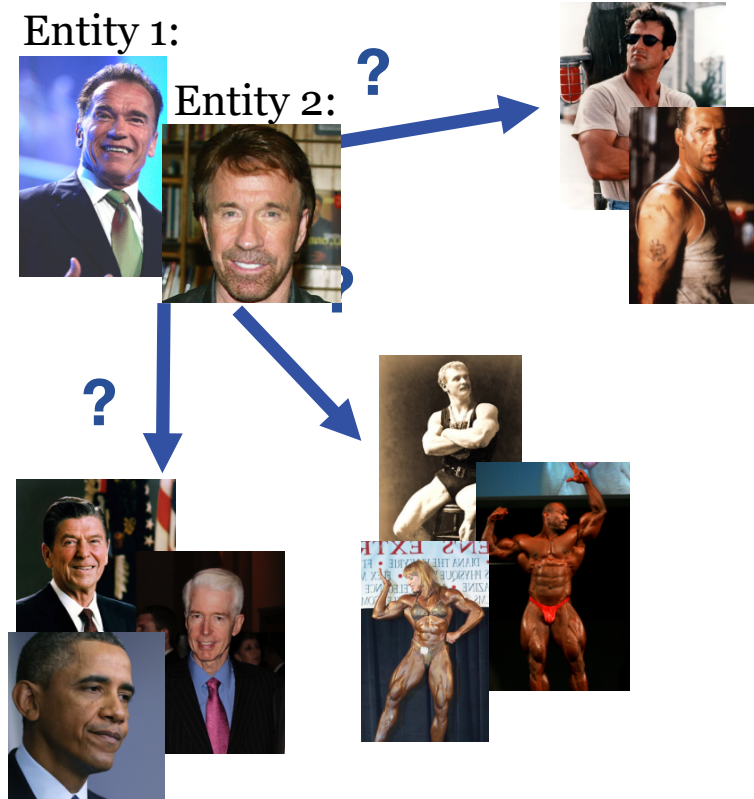
iQBEEES: Entity Search by Example

[Metzger et al., 2013, Sobczak et al., 2015]

- Model:** Knowledge Graph
- Query:** A set of Entities Q
- Similarity:** shared semantic properties
- Output:** A Set of Similar Entities
ranked

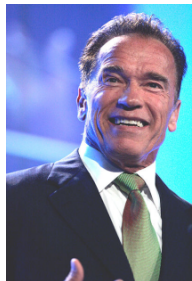
Case: Products → Find Similar Products

Case: Social Media → User recommendation



Maximal Aspects

[Metzger et al., 2013, Sobczak et al., 2015]



?x type BodyBuilder

?x type AmericanActor



Adding any aspect
→ $E(A) = \{\text{Arnold}\}$

?x type AmericanActor

?x type GovernorCalifornia



Include
Typical Types

Prune
generic
aspects

?x hasHeight 1.88m

?x type Entity



use most
specific type

Rank
Set of
aspects

?x type AmericanActor

?x actedIn TheExpendables

?x type ActionActor



REPEATABLE
Update Q

SIMILARITY

Nodes

Structures

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[Ruchansky'15]

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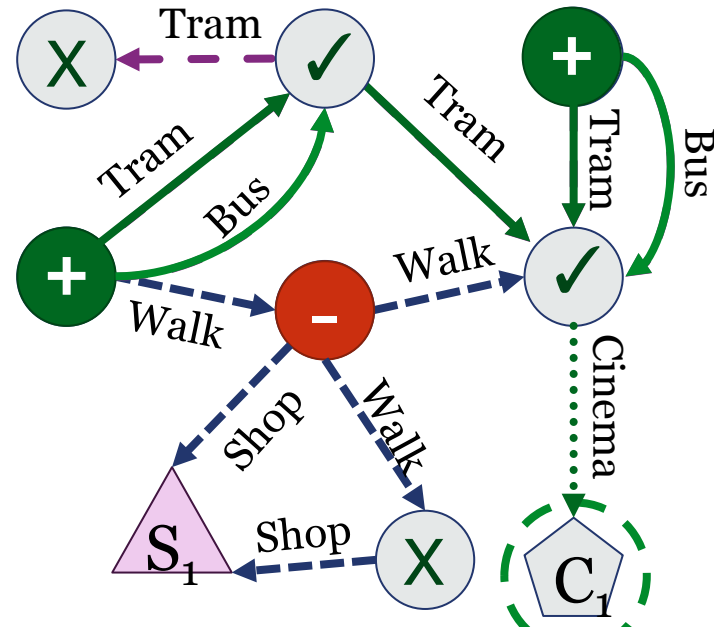
Learning Path Queries on Graphs

[Bonifati et al., 2015]

- Model:** Edge Labeled Graph
- Query:** 2 sets of Entities Q^+ , Q^-
Positive, Negative
- Similarity:** common path query (RegExp)
(bus|tram)*Cinema
- Output:** A Set of Nodes Satisfying
some paths(Q^+) but NOT paths(Q^-)

Case: Proteins → Similar interactions/co-expression

Case: Tasks Initiator → Similar Processes/Behaviours



Learnability of Path Queries

[Bonifati et al., 2015]

Query: Q^+ & Q^- (Positive & Negative examples)

Consistency: $\forall v \in Q^+. paths_G(v) \not\subseteq paths_G(Q^-)$

1. Selecting the Smallest Consistent Paths

Infinite Paths? Fix maximal length K but...

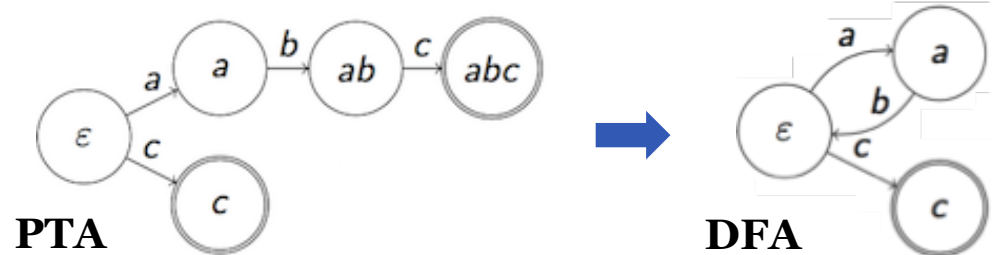
When to use **Kleene star** $*$?

$$C \mid (A \cdot B \cdot C) \rightarrow (A \cdot B)^* \cdot C$$

2. Generalize SCP

a. Construct Prefix-Tree Acceptor

b. Generalize into DFA with Merge



Consistency Check:
PSPACE-complete

Enumerate Paths
Up to Fixed distance

For paths of Length N
 $K = 2 \times N + 1$

Reverse engineering SPARQL queries

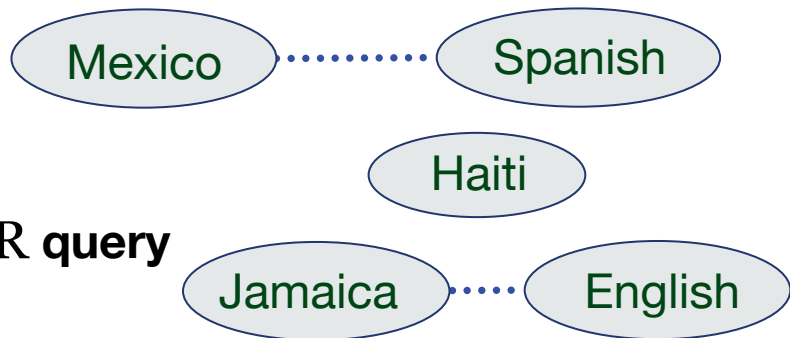
[Arenas et al., 2016]

Model: Knowledge Graph

Query: Set of *ANSWERS**

Similarity: common AND/OPT/FILTER query

Output: A SPARQL QUERY/RESULT



Case: Open Data → Query Unknown Schema

Case: Novice User → Avoid SPARQL

	?e1	?e2
M1	Mexico	Spanish
M2	Haiti	
M3	Jamaica	English

Reverse engineering SPARQL queries

[Arenas et al., 2016]

Query: Set of Variable Mappings

	?X	?Y	?Z
M1	John		
M2	Mary	mary@email.eu	
M3	Lucy		Roses Street

$((?X, \text{type}, \text{Person})) ?X \neq \text{me}$

OPT

OPT

$((?X, \text{email}, ?Y))$

$((?X, \text{addr}, ?Z))$

Enumerate all possible SPARQL queries satisfied by the mappings

INTRACTABLE
 Σ_2^P -complete
coNP-complete

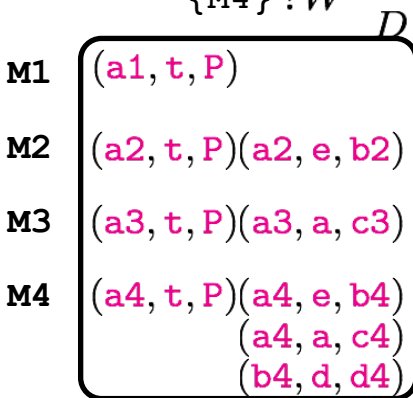
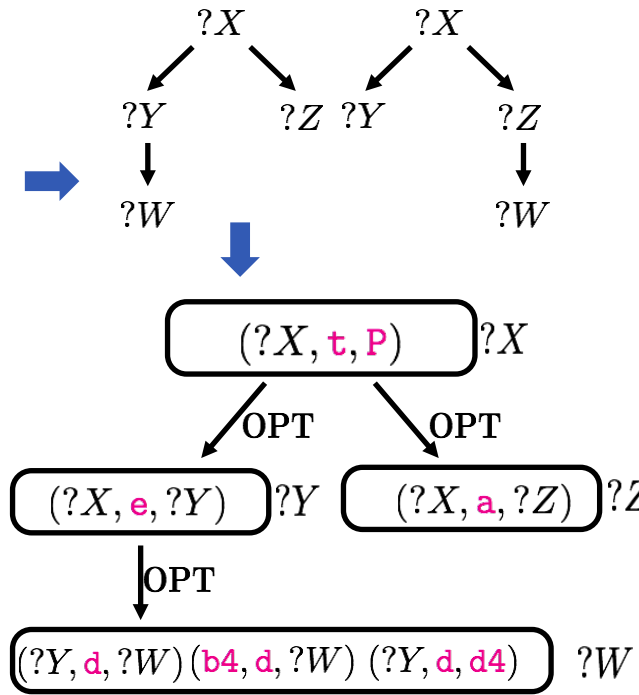
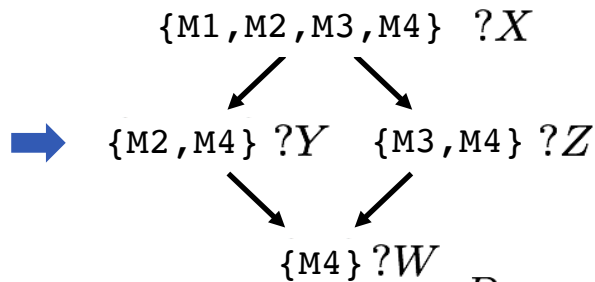
Build tree-shaped SPARQL queries IMPLIED by the mappings

Reverse engineering SPARQL queries

[Arenas et al., 2016]

Query: Set of *Variable Mappings* Ω

	Ω			
	?X	?Y	?Z	?W
M1	a1			
M2	a2	b2		
M3	a3		c3	
M4	a4	b4	c4	d4

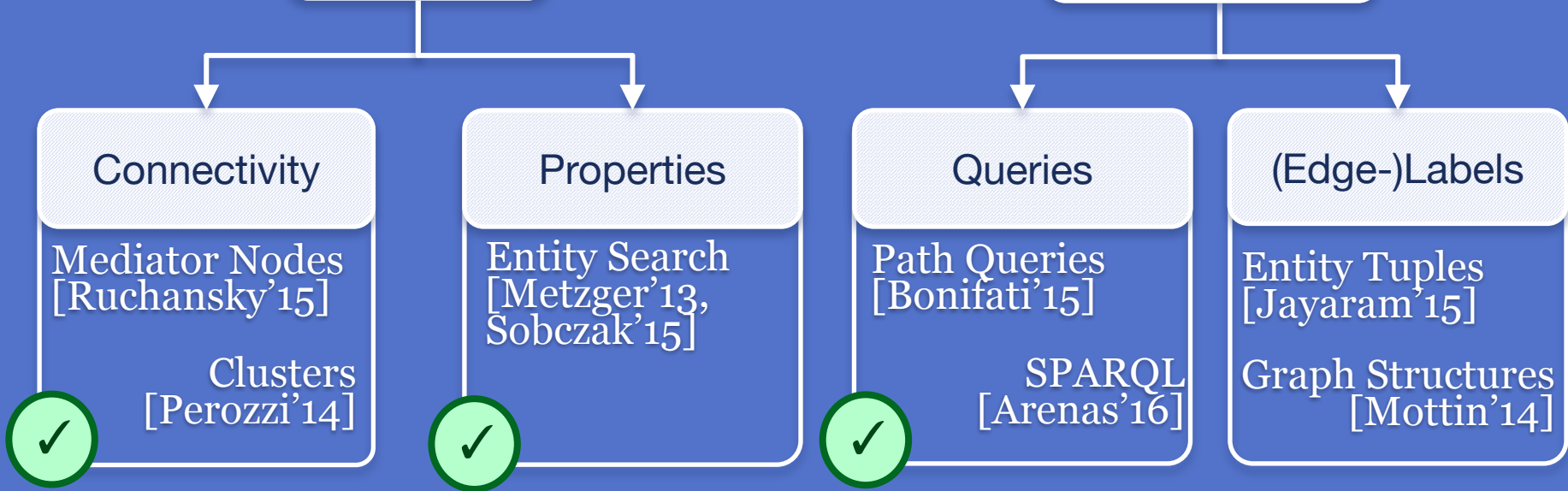


Greedy: keep just enough to cover all variables

SIMILARITY

Nodes

Structures



Exemplar Queries

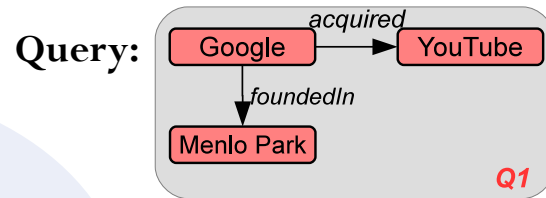
[Mottin et al., 2014]

Model: Knowledge Graph

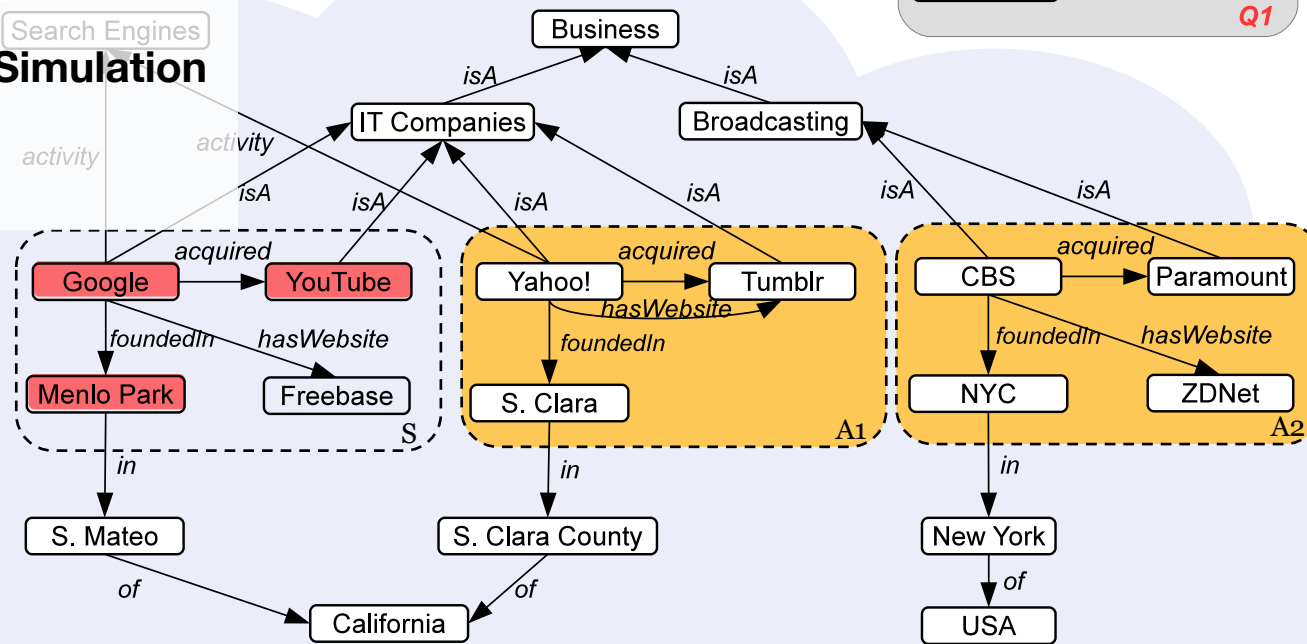
Input: Example Structure

Similarity: Isomorphism/Simulation

Output: A set of Graphs



Knowledge Graph

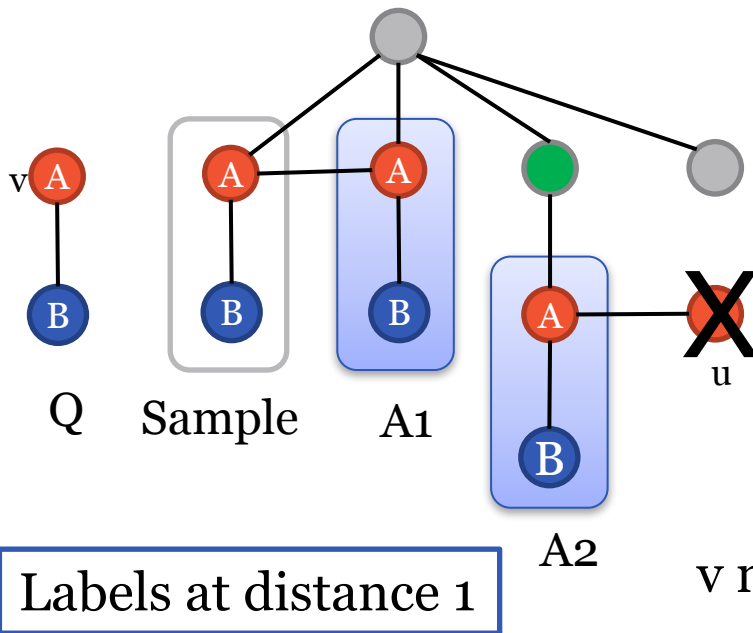


Computing exemplar queries

[Mottin et al., 2014]

NP-complete
(subgraph isomorphism)

$O(|V|^4)$ (simulation)



Pruning technique:

- Compute the neighbor labels of each node

$$W_{n,a,i} = \{n_1 | l(n_1, n_2) = a \forall n_2 \in N_{i-1}(n)\}$$

- Prune nodes not matching query nodes neighborhood labels
- Apply iteratively on the query nodes

v neighborhood = $\{(B,1)\}$

\neq

u neighborhood = $\{(A,1)\}$

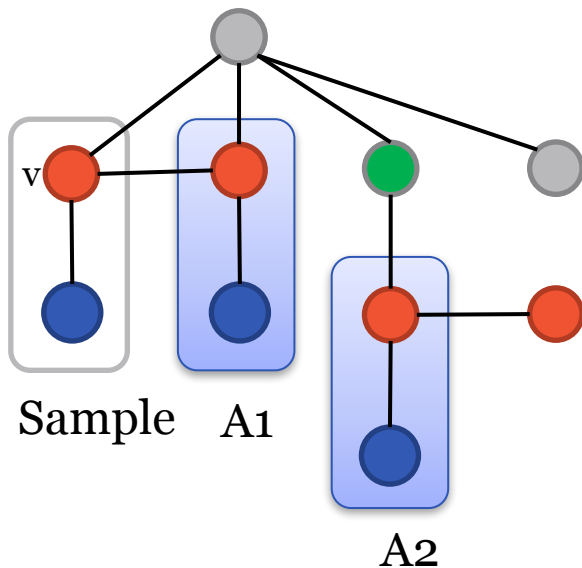
No Match

Computing exemplar queries

[Mottin et al., 2014]

NP-complete
(subgraph isomorphism)

$O(|V|^4)$ (simulation)



Approximation:

- Nodes closed to the sample are more important
- Use Personalized PageRank with a weighted matrix

$$\mathbf{v} = (1 - c)\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v} + c\mathbf{p}$$

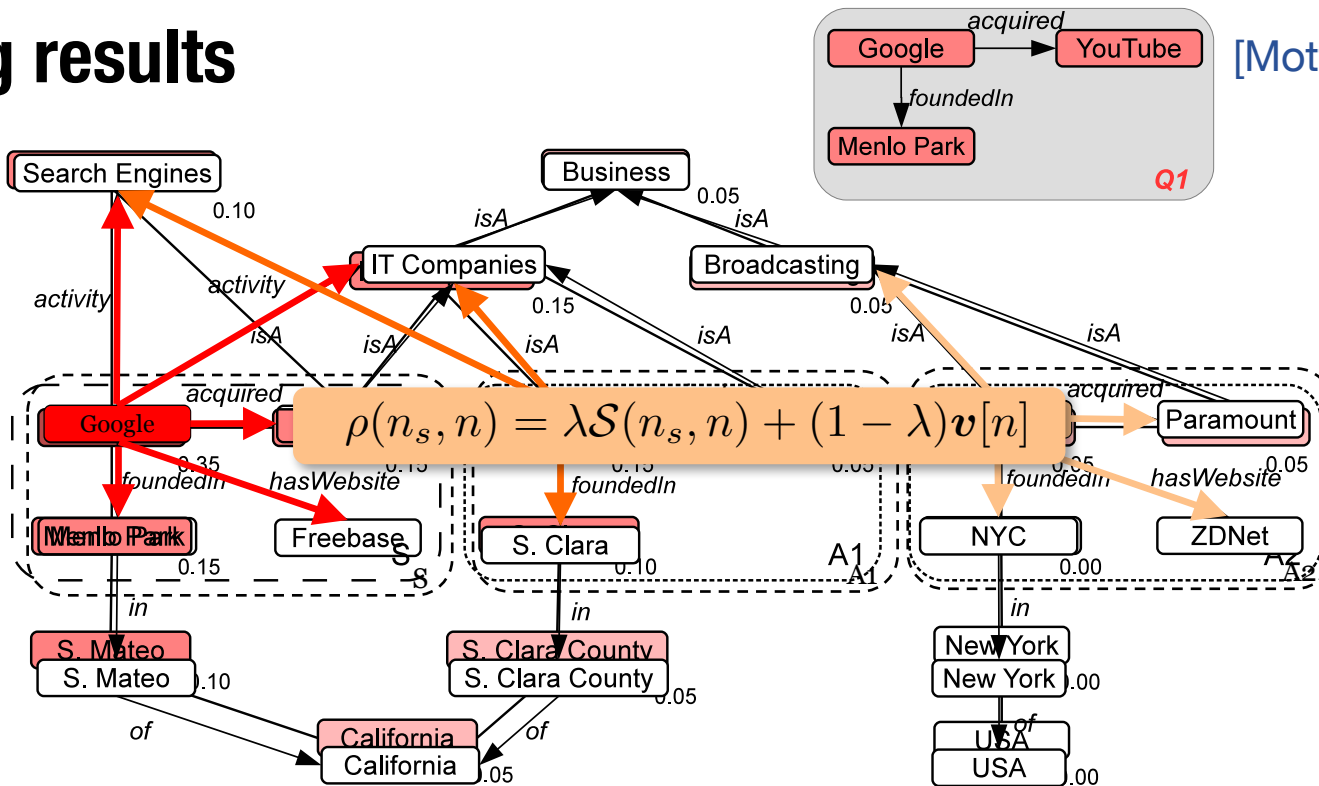
- Weight edges: frequency of the edge-label

$$I(e_{ij}^\ell) = I(\ell) = \log \frac{1}{P(\ell)} = -\log P(\ell)$$

$$P(\ell) = \frac{|E^\ell|}{|E|}$$

Ranking results

[Mottin et al., 2014]



Combination of two factors

1. Structural: similarity of two nodes in terms of neighbor relationships
2. Distance-based: the PageRank already computed

Graph query by example (GQBE)

[Jayaram et al., 2015]

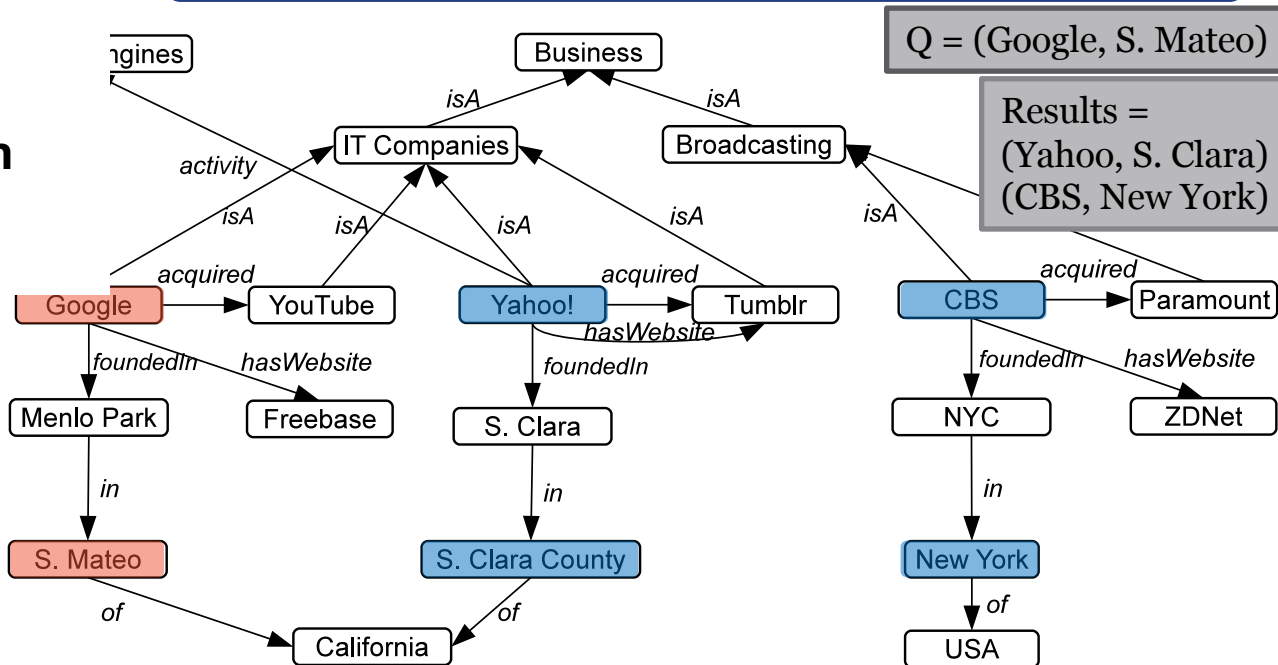
Model: Knowledge Graph

In GQBE Input is a set of (disconnected) entity mention tuples

Input: Entity Tuples

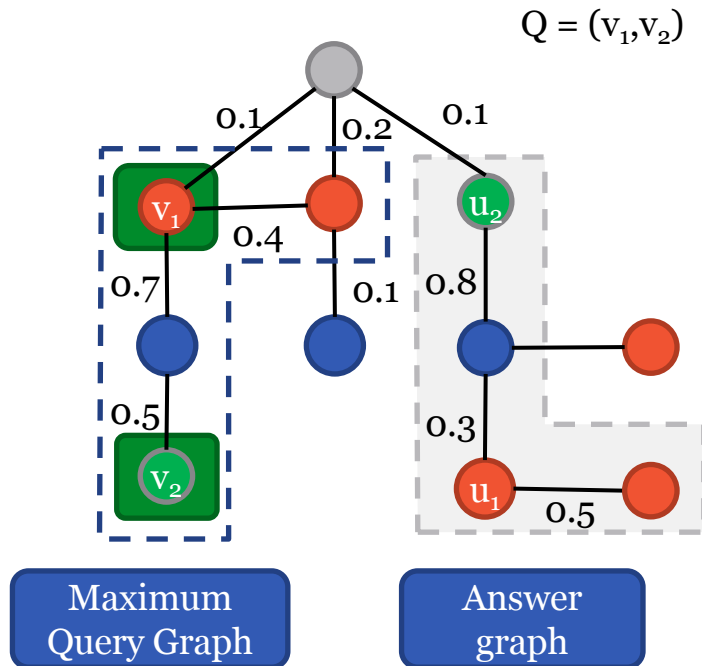
Similarity: Isomorphism

Output: A set of Tuples



GQBE: Maximum Query Graph

[Jayaram et al., 2015]



1. Find the maximum query graph

- Graph with M edges having the maximum weight

2. Answers subgraph-isomorphic to the query graph

NP-hard

3. Return top-k

Answer score:

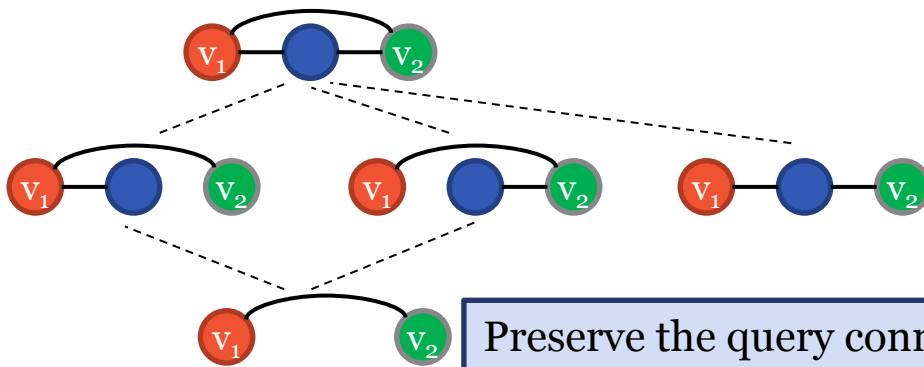
- Sum of query graph weights
- Similarity match between edges in the answer and the query (shared nodes take extra credit)

$$\text{match}(e, e') = \begin{cases} \frac{w(e)}{|E(u)|} & \text{if } u=f(u) \\ \frac{w(e)}{|E(v)|} & \text{if } v=f(v) \\ \frac{w(e)}{\min(|E(u)|, |E(v)|)} & \text{if } u=f(u), v=f(v) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Multiple query tuples

[Jayaram et al., 2015]

Subgraphs of
Maximum
Query graph



Maximum
Query Graph
is Very Large

Find answers using a lattice obtained removing edges from the union graph

GQBE finds answers for multiple query tuples

1. Compute a re-weighted union graph of the individual query graphs

SIMILARITY

Nodes

Structures

Connectivity

Properties

Queries

Structures

~~Mediator Nodes
[Ruchansky'15]~~

~~Clusters
[Perozzi'14]~~

Entity Search
[Metzger'13,
Sobczak'15]

Path Queries
[Bonifati'15]

SPARQL
[Arenas'16]

~~Entity Types
[Jayaram'15]~~

~~Graph Structures
[Mottin'14]~~

Do not Include User Feedback

Where we are

Relational databases

Textual data

Graphs and networks

Challenges and Remarks

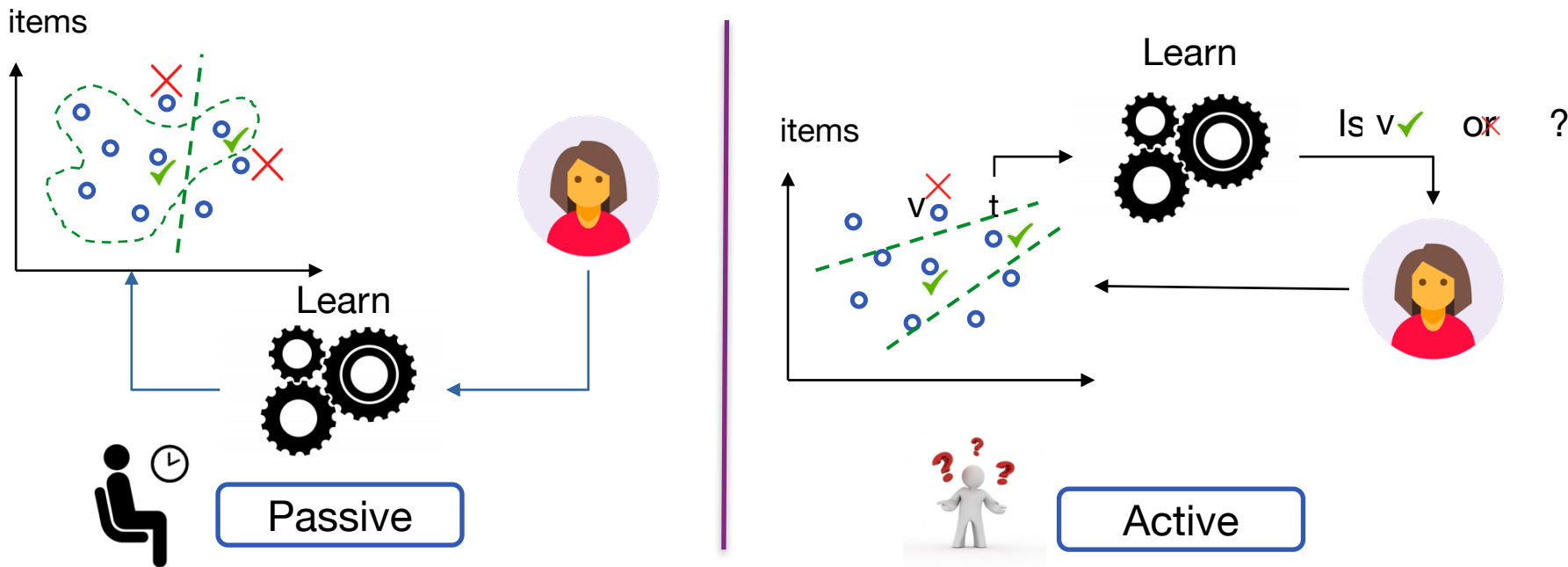


Machine
learning

Online exploration of datasets

Main idea: Learn the items to show online as more points are acquired

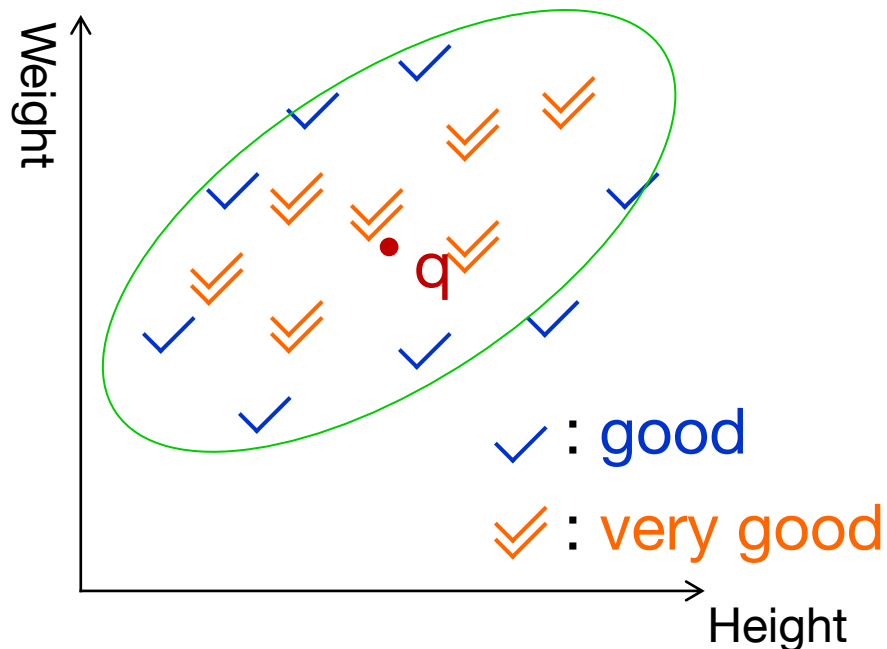
Two ways of learning: passive and active



Main idea: learn an **implicit** query from user examples and optional scores

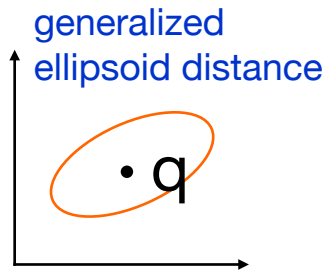
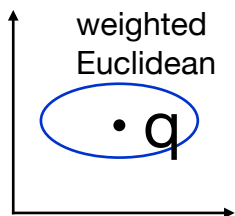
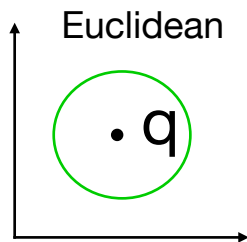
Searching “**mildly overweight**” patients

- The doctor selects examples by **browsing** patient database
- The examples have “**oblique**” correlation
- We can “**guess**” the **implied query**



Learning an ellipsoid distance

[Ishikawa et al., 1999]



Weighted distance matrix

$$D(x, q) = (x - q)^T M (x - q)$$

Implicit query

$$D(x, q) = \sum_j^n \sum_k^n m_{jk} (x_j - q_j)(x_k - q_k)$$

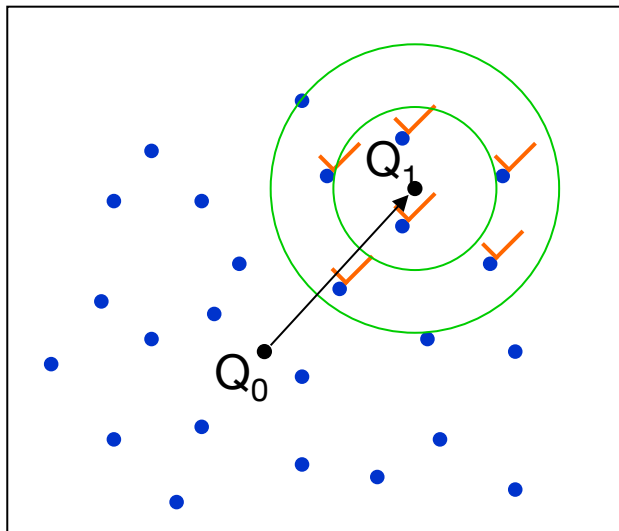
Learn the query minimizing the penalty = weighted sum of distances between query point and sample vectors

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize } \sum_i (x_i - q)^T M (x_i - q) \\ & \text{subject to } \det(M) = 1 \end{aligned}$$

Learning the distance

[Ishikawa et al., 1999]

- Query point is moved towards “good” examples — Rocchio formula in IR



Q_0 : query point

● : retrieved data

✓ : relevance judgments

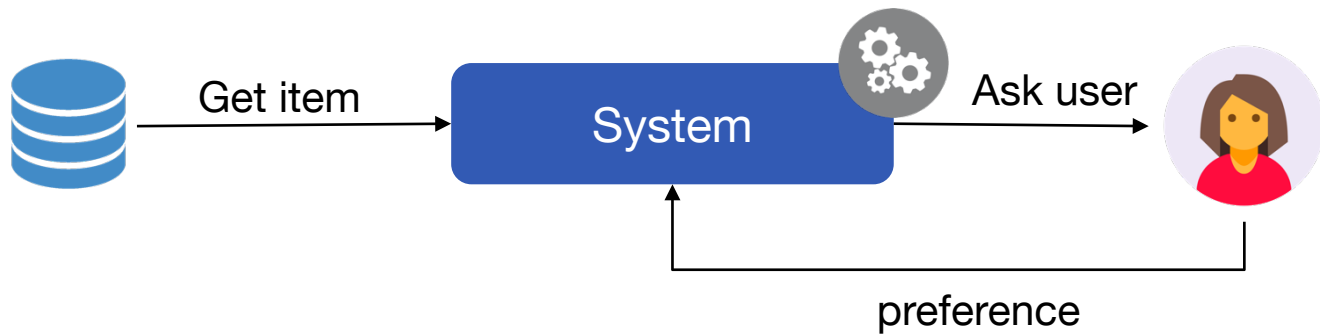
Q_1 : new query point

Learning can be done online!!!

Active learning for online query systems

[Vanchinathan et al., 2015]

Main idea: the system “query” the user to **understand** her preferences

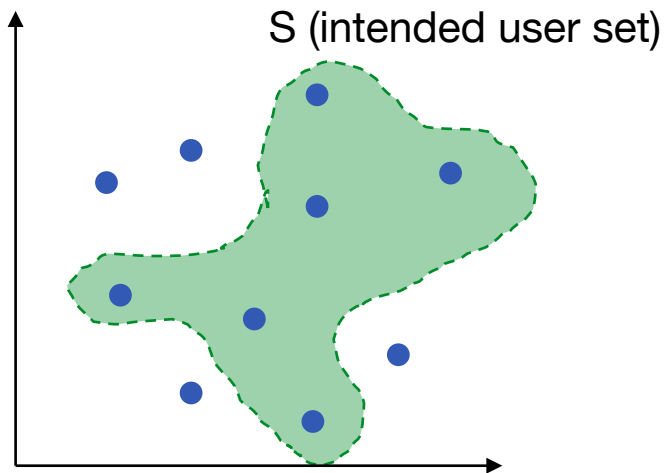


Learn unknown preferences and minimize the number of questions to the user

Learning unknown preferences

[Vanchinathan et al., 2015]

Problem: Find a set S that maximize the user preference within a budget (e.g., number of interactions)



$$\arg \max \sum_{v \in S} \text{pref}(v)$$

subject to $\text{Cost}(S) \leq \text{budget}$

User preferences

Cost for the set S

Background: Gaussian processes

[Bishop et al., 2006]

Idea: Model the user preferences as a Gaussian Process

A Gaussian Process (GP) is an infinite set of variables, any subset of this is Gaussian

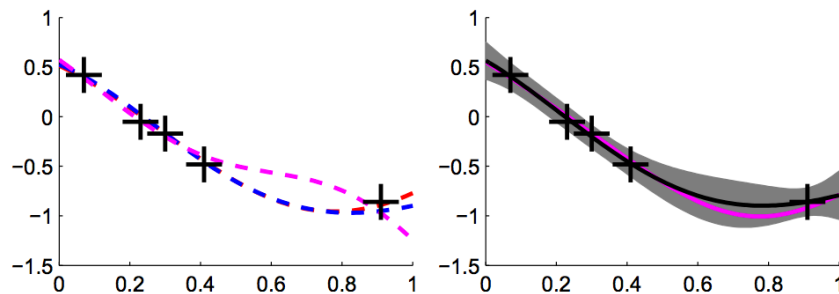
$$P(\mathbf{f}|\Sigma, \mu) = |2\pi\Sigma|^{-\frac{1}{2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{f} - \mu)^\top \Sigma^{-1}(\mathbf{f} - \mu)\right)$$

Gaussian prior

Specified only by mean and covariance

Given observations $\{x, y\}_{i=1}^n$ over an unknown function f drawn from a Gaussian prior, the posterior is Gaussian

$$P(\mathbf{f}|\mathbf{y}) \propto \int d\mathbf{x} P(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$$



GP-Select

[Vanchinathan et al., 2015]

Algorithm 1 GP-SELECT

Input: Ground Set \mathbf{V} , kernel κ and budget B

Initialize selection set S

for $t = 1, 2, \dots, B$ **do**

Model Update:

$$[\mu_{t-1}(\cdot), \sigma_{t-1}^2(\cdot)] \leftarrow \text{GP-Inference}(\kappa, (S, y_{\{1:t-1\}}))$$

Item Selection:

$$\text{Set } v_t \leftarrow \underset{v \in \mathbf{V} / \{v_{1:t-1}\}}{\text{argmax}} \mu_{t-1}(v) + \beta_t^{1/2} \sigma_{t-1}(v)$$

$S \leftarrow S \cup \{v_t\}$

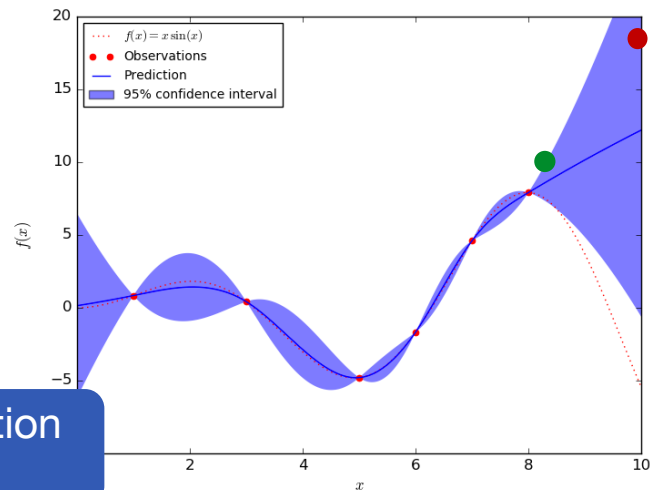
Receive feedback $y_t = f(v_t) + \epsilon_t$

end for

Learn posterior

Trades off exploration
exploitation

Ask user feedback

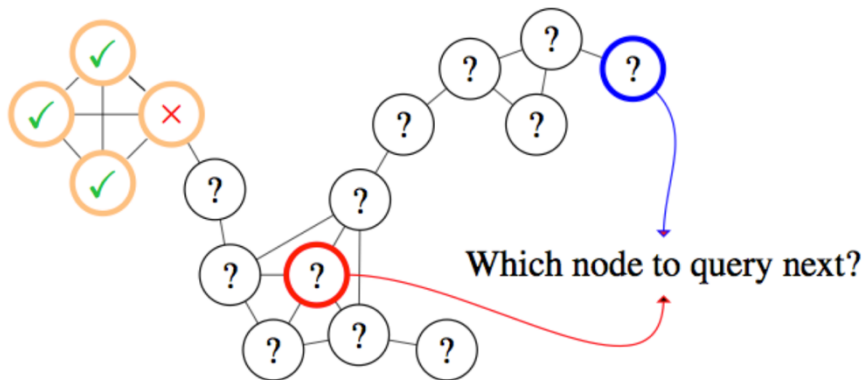


- **Exploration:** select items with high-variance
- **Exploitation:** select items with high-value

Active learning on graphs – which prior?

[Ma et al., 2015]

Idea: Use the graph structure to infer the node classes



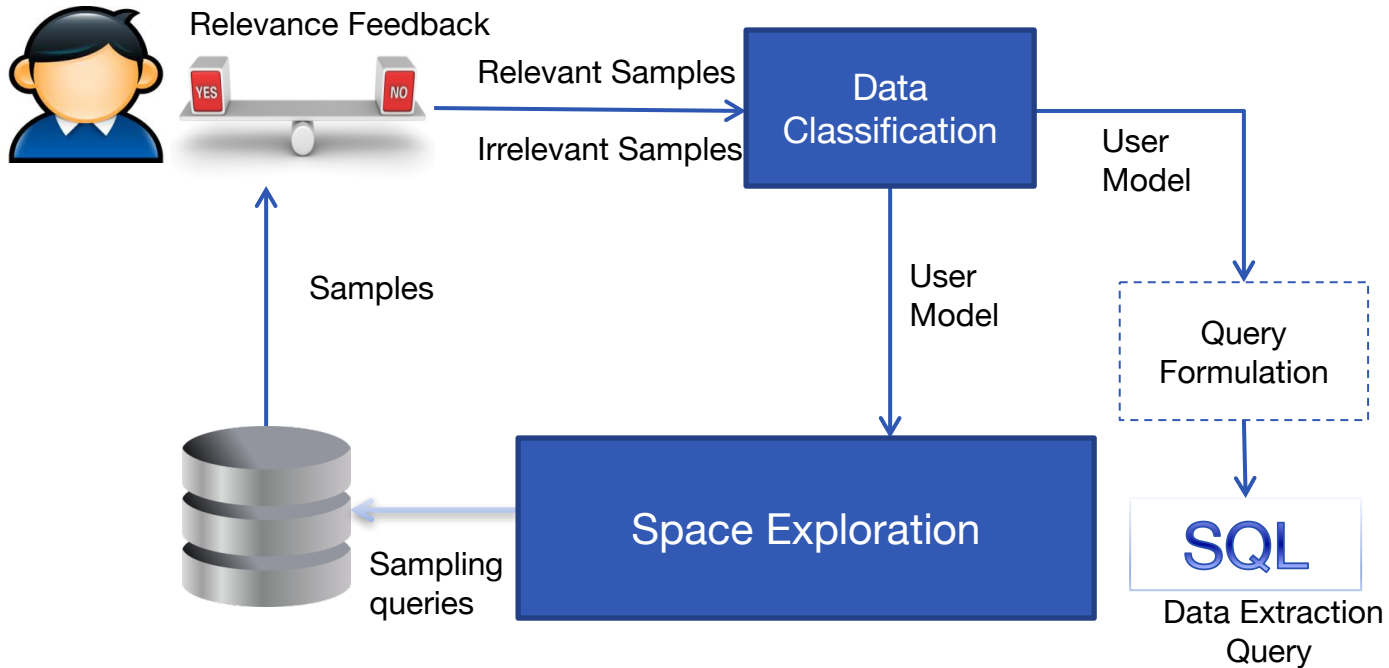
Use graph Laplacian as prior
 $L = D - A$, A is the adjacency matrix

$$p(\mathbf{f}) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, L^{-1})$$

Laplacian: higher probability of having the same class if two nodes are connected

Explore-by-Example: AIDE

[Dimitriadou et al., 2015]



The AIDE algorithm

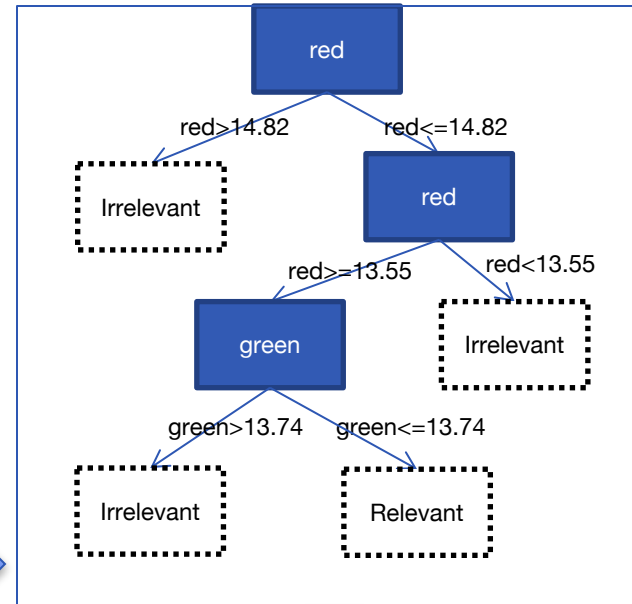
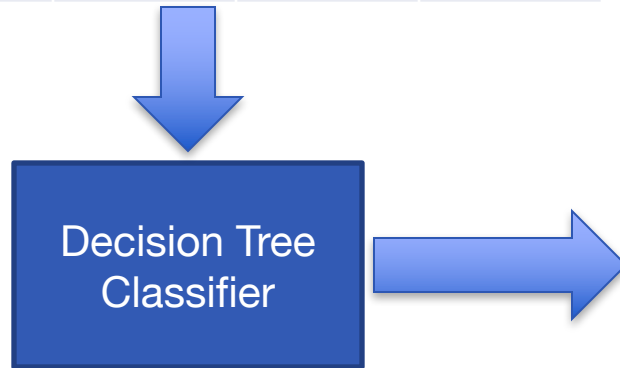
[Dimitriadou et al., 2015]

1. Divide the space into d-dimensional cubes
2. Find the sample points in the cubes (medoids)
3. Train the classifier
4. Refine the training sampling from neighbors of misclassified points
5. Boundary refinement

Classification & Query Formulation

[Dimitriadou et al., 2015]

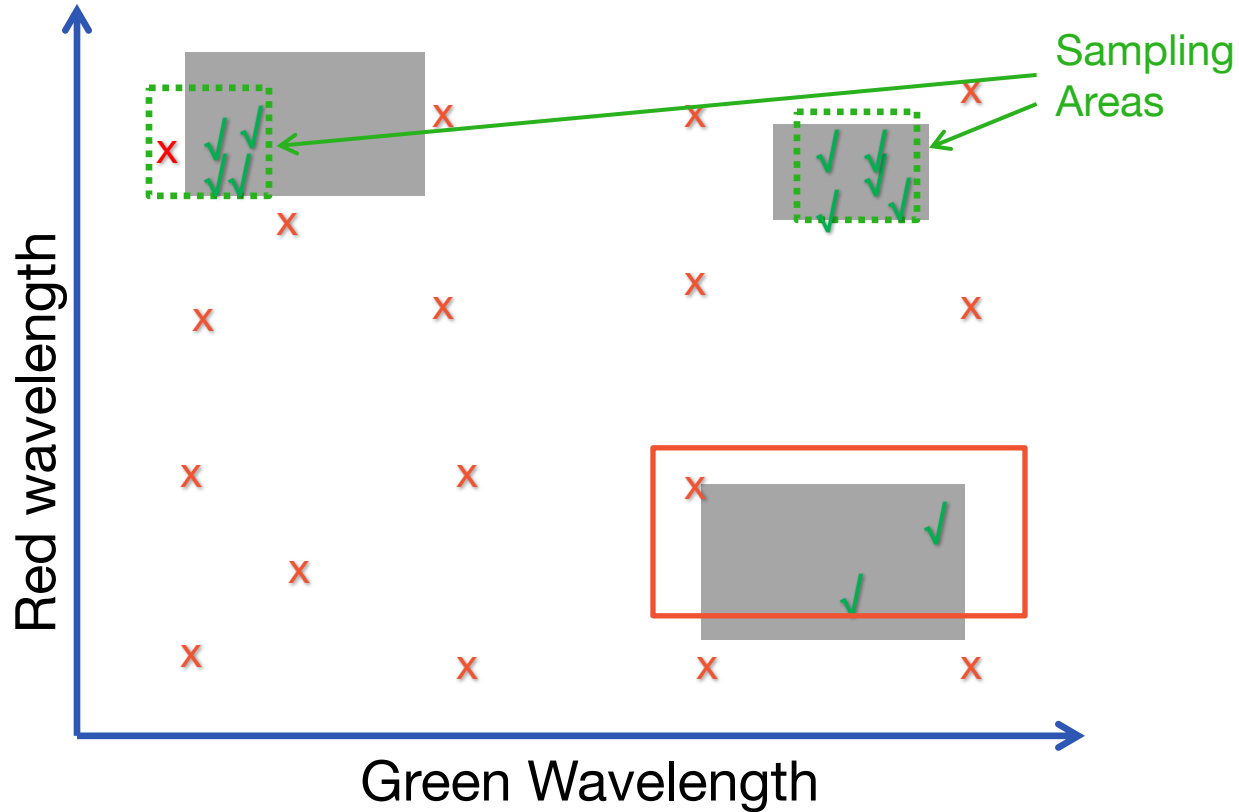
Sample	Red	Green	Relevant
Object A	13.67	12.34	Yes
Object B	15.32	14.50	No
..
Object X	14.21	13.57	Yes



SELECT * FROM galaxy WHERE red <= 14.82 AND red >= 13.5 AND green <= 13.74

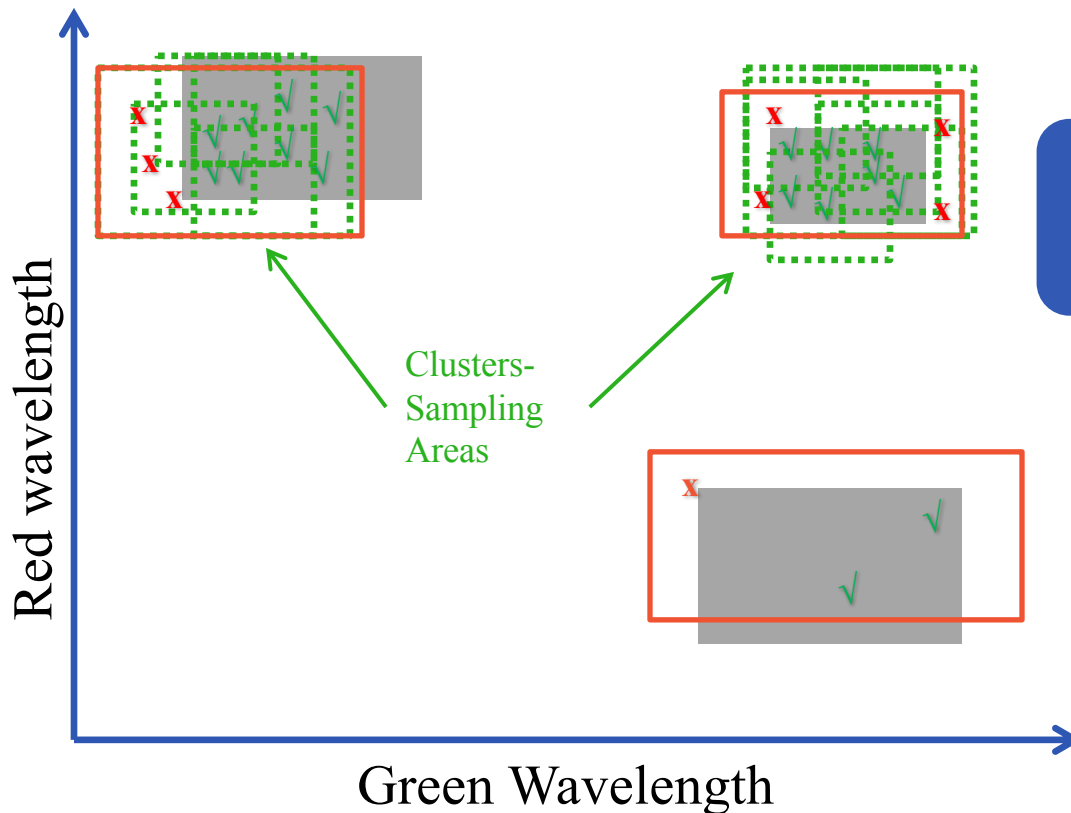
Misclassified Sample Exploitation

[Dimitriadou et al., 2015]



Clustering-based Sampling

[Dimitriadou et al., 2015]



Idea: Use a k-medoid approach to find sampling areas

Where we are

Relational databases

Textual data

Graphs and networks

Machine learning

Challenges and Remarks



Example-based methods

- Query suggestion using examples
- Reverse engineering queries



- Entity extraction by example text
- Web table completion using examples
- Search by example



- Community-based Node-retrieval
- Entity Search
- Path and SPARQL queries
- Graph structures as Examples



Example-based methods: takeaways

Relational

- Complex search space
- Exact and approximate
- Interactivity can improve the quality
- Limited to query inference



Textual

- Allows serendipitous search
- Easier document finding
- Speed up entity matching



Graph

- Exploit locality
- Entity attributes are expressive
- Reverse engineering: good approximations
- Large result-sets require ranking

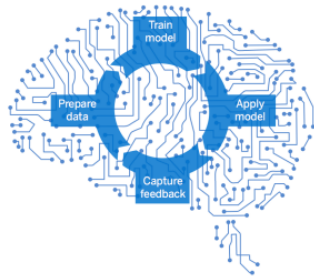


The use of examples

Examples can ease data exploration

- ... reduce need for complex queries / simplify user input
- ... require no schema knowledge
- ... allow uncertainty in search conditions
- ... require little data analytics expertise

Where should we invest time



**Machine
learning**

**Approximate
Methods**



User models

Scalability





ADOPT HETEROGENEITY

**Need for solutions that
operate across different
models**

operate on
heterogeneous datastores



PERSONALIZATION

better understand user needs

Meta-data and User Profiles

exploit query log, prior searches, user context

“The Context of Mobile Interaction”

– Nadav Savio

Nadav Savio | Giant Ant Design | www.giantant.com



DEMOCRATIZATION

easy access to data

tools that work on
commodity
hardware, mobile
devices

data-exploration for
everyday use-cases



INTERACTIVITY

gradually understand
user need

ADAPTIVITY

build indexes and data
structures on-the-go



NATURAL LANGUAGE INTERFACE

flexible, vague,
imprecise input

exploration through
conversation

Example is always more efficacious than precept

Samuel Johnson, Rasselas (1759), Chapter 29.

“New Trends on Exploratory Methods for Data Analytics.”

Davide Mottin, Matteo Lissandrini, Yannis Velegarakis, Themis Palpanas.

Proceedings of the Conference in Very Large Databases (PVLDB), 10(12), 2017

Slides: <http://j.mp/DataExplore>

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