Location Encoding and Spatially-Explicit Machine Learning

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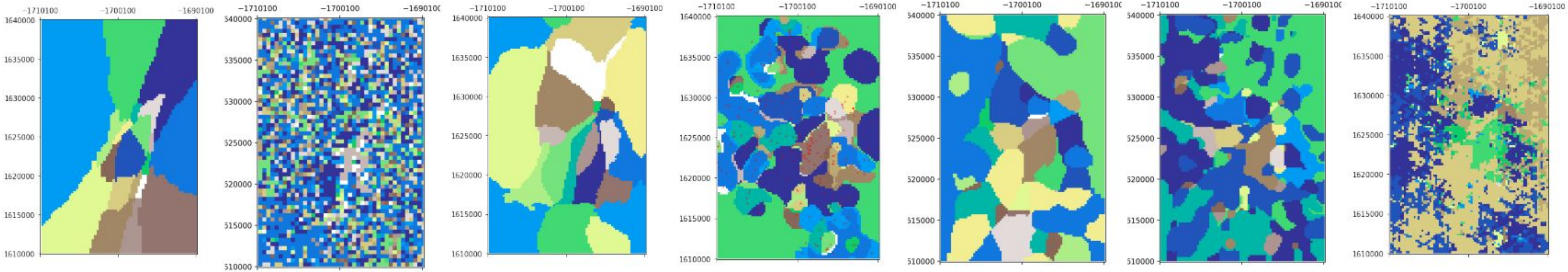


(a) *direct* (b) *tile* (c) *wrap* (d) rbf (σ=1k) (e) λ_{min}=1k (f) λ_{min}=500 (g) λ_{min}=50

Embedding clustering of different location encoding models:
(a)-(d) baselines (e)-(f) **Space2Vec**

ICLR 2020 paper: https://arxiv.org/abs/2003.00824
Trans. In GIS paper: https://arxiv.org/abs/2004.14171

GitHub Repo: https://github.com/gengchenmai/space2vec
GitHub Repo: https://github.com/gengchenmai/se-kge

Outline

- **Background**
  - **Spatially-Explicit Machine Learning**
  - **The Key Challenge for Location Encoding**
- Space2Vec (ICLR 2020 spotlight)
  - A representation learning model called Space2Vec to encode the absolute positions and spatial relationships of places inspired by biological grid cells.
  - Tasks**:** POI Classification; Geo-Aware Fine-Grained Image Classification
- SE-KGE (Transactions in GIS 2020)
  - A location-aware knowledge graph embedding model based on Space2Vec
  - Tasks**:** geographic logic query answering; spatial semantic lifting

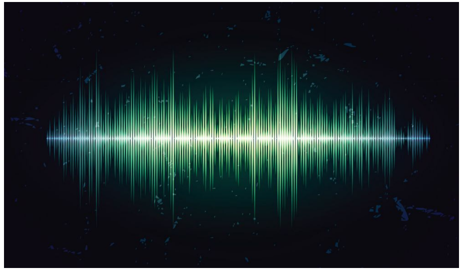
Why Spatial is Special?

Spatial data have more **irregular structures**

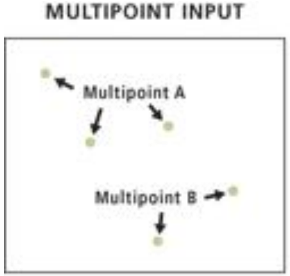
Image

In meteorology, precipitation is any product of the condensation of atmospheric water vapor that falls under **gravity**. The main forms of precipitation include drizzle, rain, sleet, snow, **graupel** and hail... Precipitation forms as smaller droplets coalesce via collision with other rain drops or ice crystals **within a cloud**. Short, intense periods of rain in scattered locations are called “showers”.

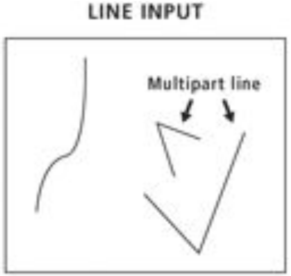
Text



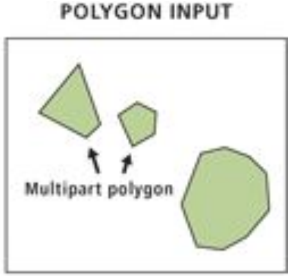
Audio



Point



Line



Polygon

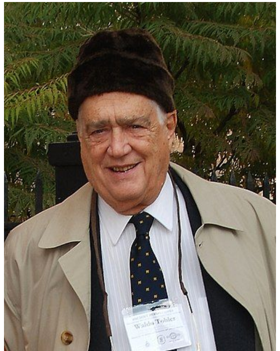
Why Spatial is Special?

Spatial Autocorrelation:

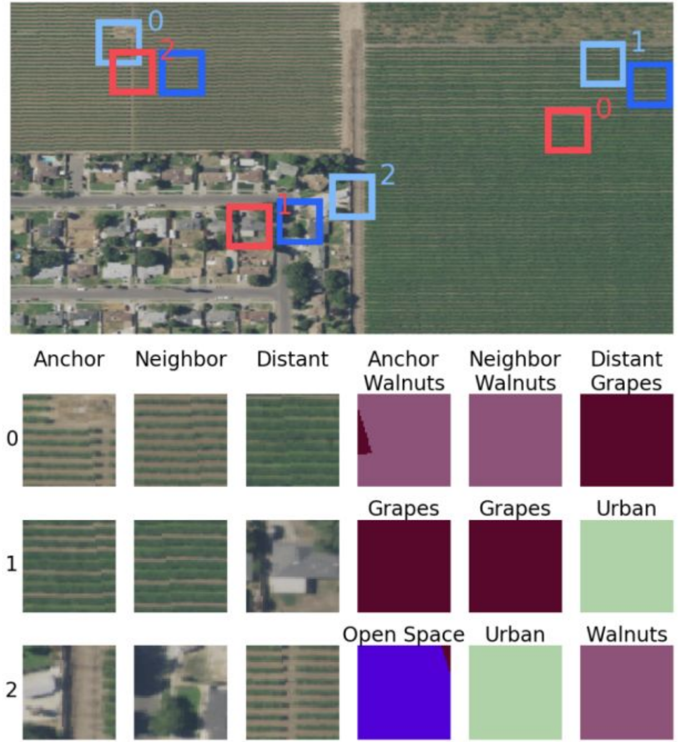
Tobler's First Law of Geography:

"Everything is related to everything else, but near things are more related than distant things."

-- Waldo R. Tobler (Tobler 1970)



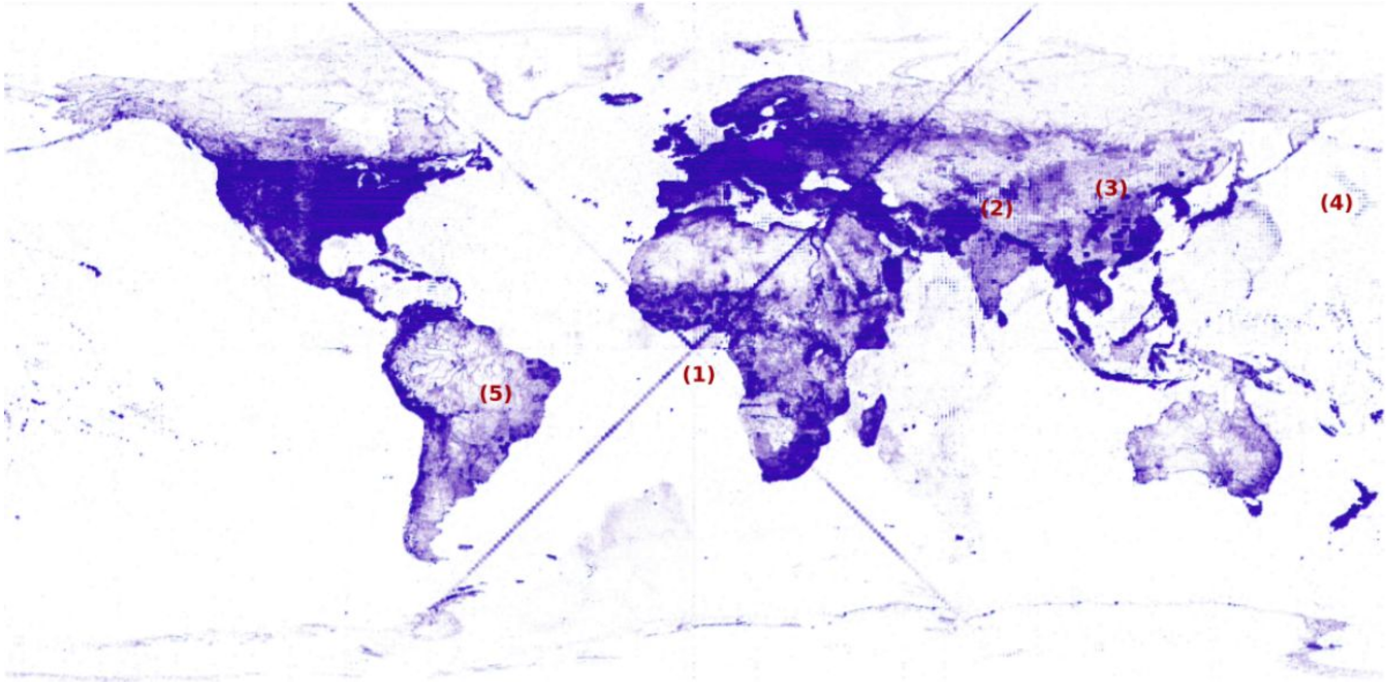
Prof. Waldo R. Tobler, UCSB Geography



Jean, N., et al.. **Tile2vec: Unsupervised representation learning for spatially distributed data**. AAAI 2019.

Why Spatial is Special?

Geographic bias and errors



Janowicz, K., et al.. **Moon landing or safari? a study of systematic errors and their causes in geographic linked data**. GIScience 2016.

Spatially-Explicit Model

A model is said to be **spatially explicit** when it differentiates behaviors and predictions according to spatial location

- **The invariance test**
  - spatially explicit models are not invariant under relocation
- **The representation test**
  - spatially explicit models include spatial representations in their implementations
- **The formulation test**
  - spatially explicit models include spatial concepts in their formula
- **The outcome test**
  - spatial structures of inputs and outcomes are different

Prof. Michael F. Goodchild
UCSB Geography
Member of the US National Academy of Sciences

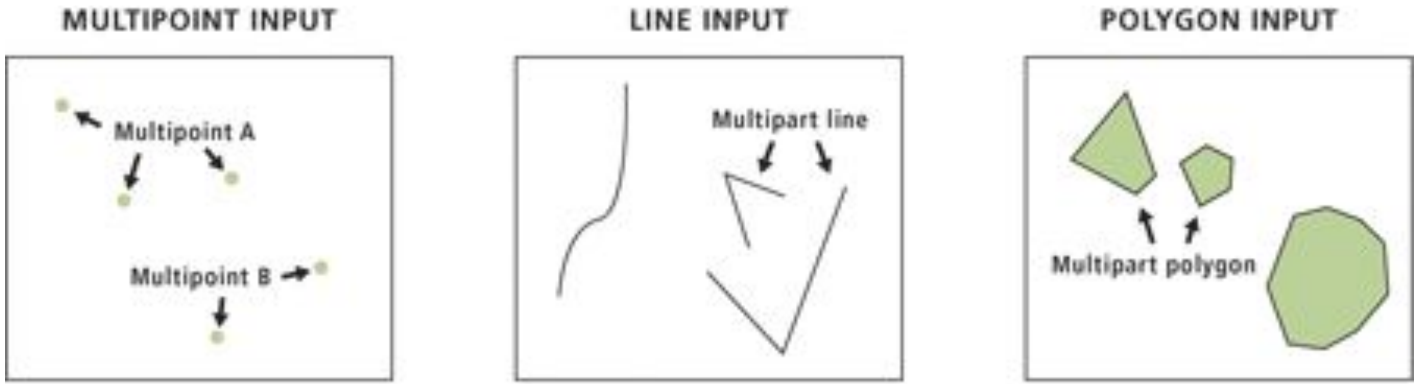
Spatially-Explicit Machine Learning Model

Spatially Explicit Machine Learning Model: Improve the performance of current state-of-the-art machine learning models by using **spatial thinking** and **spatial inductive bias** such as:

- spatial heterogeneity
- distance decay effect
- map projection

Represent Spatial Data into the Embedding Space

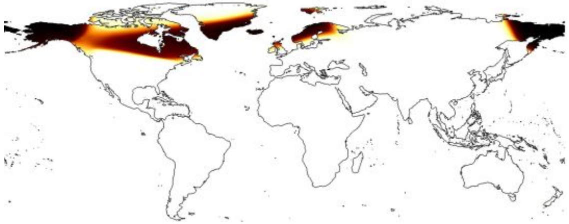
How to represent different types of spatial data into an embedding space?



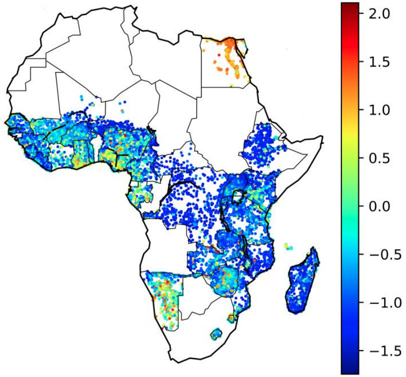
Various Geospatial Tasks

Climate Science:
Precipitation Prediction

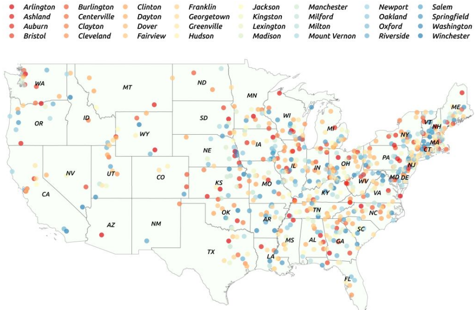
Ecology:
Species Distribution Modeling
(Mac Aodha et al., 2019; Mai et al., 2020)



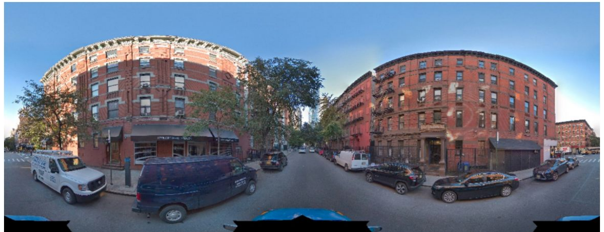
Economy:
Wealth Index Prediction
(Sheehan et al., 2019)



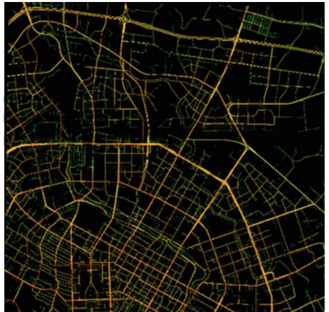
Geospatial Semantics:
Place Name Disambiguation
(Ju et al., 2016)



Smart City:
Indoor/outdoor Navigation
(Mehta et al., 2020)



Human Mobility:
Trajectory Prediction
(Gao et al., 2021)



Problem Statement

Distributed representation of point-features in space:

Given a set of points $\mathcal{P} = \{p_i\}$, i.e., Point Of Interests (POIs), in L-D space (L = 2,3), each point $p_i = (\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{v}_i)$ is associated with a location $\mathbf{x}_i$ and attributes $\mathbf{v}_i$ (i.e., POI feature such as type, name). We define function

$$f_{\mathcal{P},\theta}(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbb{R}^L \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d \ (L \ll d)$$

which maps any coordinate x in space to a vector representation of d dimension

Unsupervised Location Encoding

1. Radial Basis Function (RBF)

$$K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \exp\left(-\frac{\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'\|^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

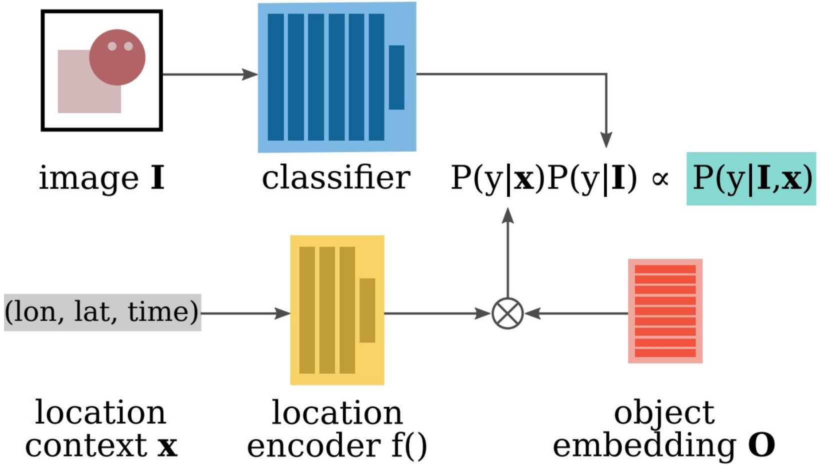
- choosing the correct scale is challenging
- Need to memorize the training samples

2. Tile-based approaches (Berg at al. 2014; Tang et al. 2015): discretize the study area into regular grids

- choosing the correct scale is challenging
- does not scale well in terms of memory

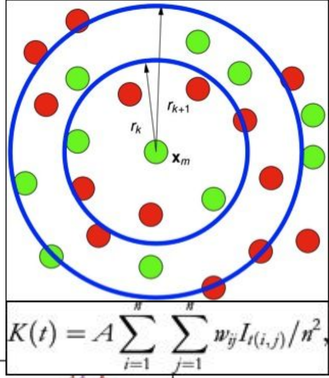
3. Directly feed the coordinates into a FFN (inductive single-scale location encoder)

- hard to capture fine grained distributions

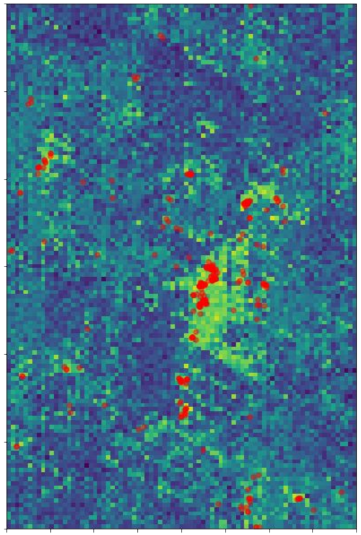


Geo-aware Image Classification (Mac Aodha et al., 2019)

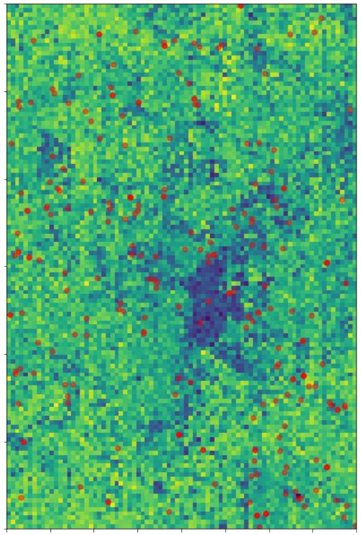
The Key Challenge for Location Encoding



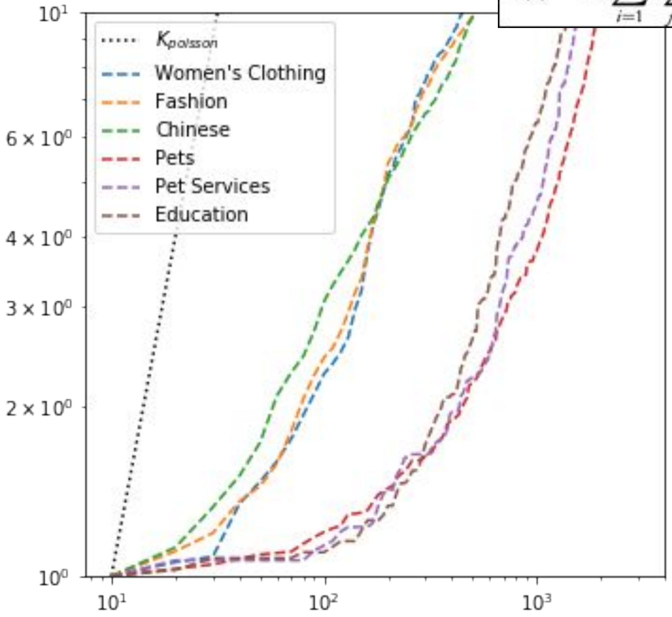
- Joint modeling distributions with very different characteristics
- => **multi-scale location representations**



Women's Clothing
(Clustered Distribution)



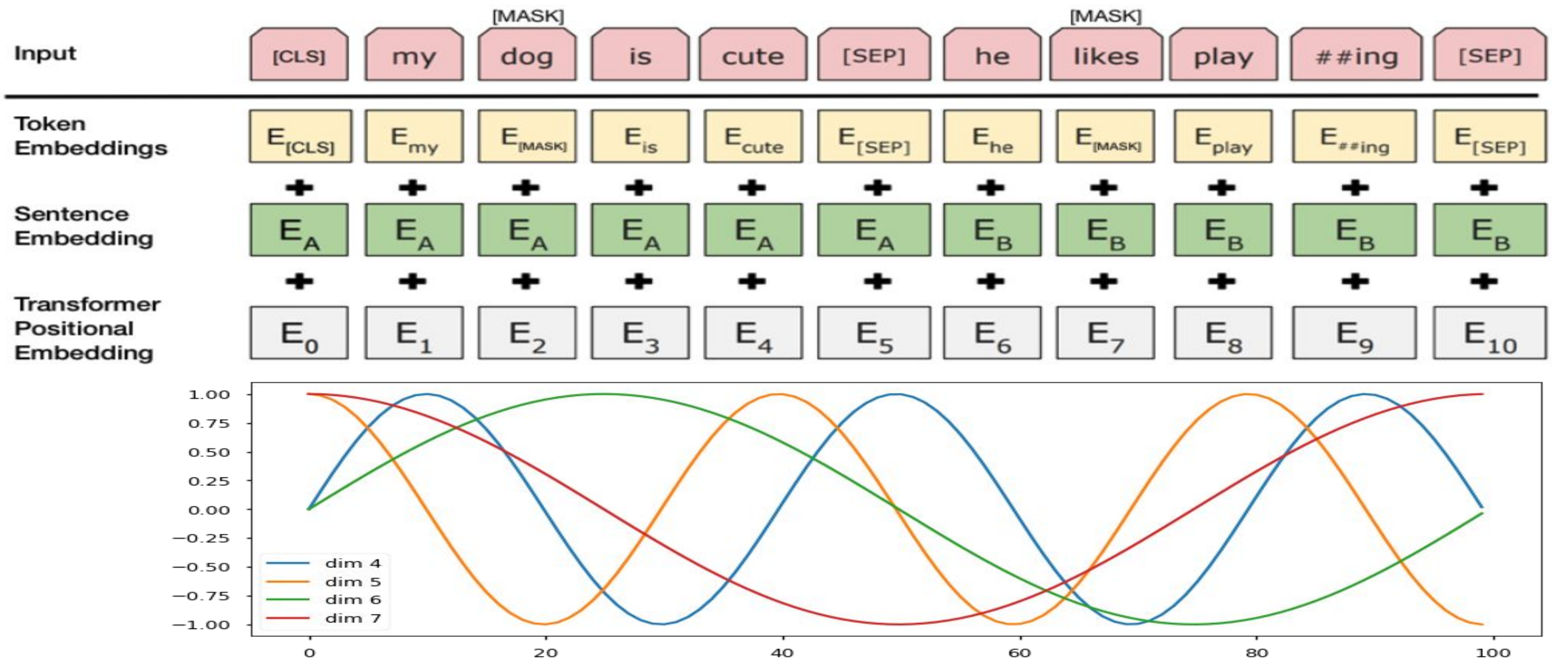
Education
(Even Distribution)



Renormalized Ripley's K
for different POI types

Unsupervised Text Encoding

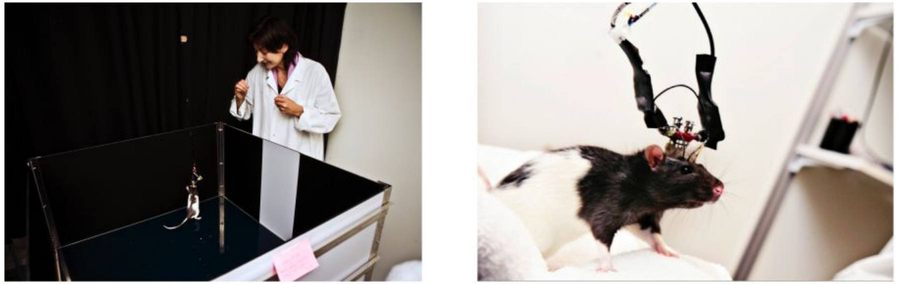
Position Encoding: encode word positions with sinusoid functions of different frequencies



Transformer (Vaswani et al., 2017) BERT (Devlin et al., 2019)

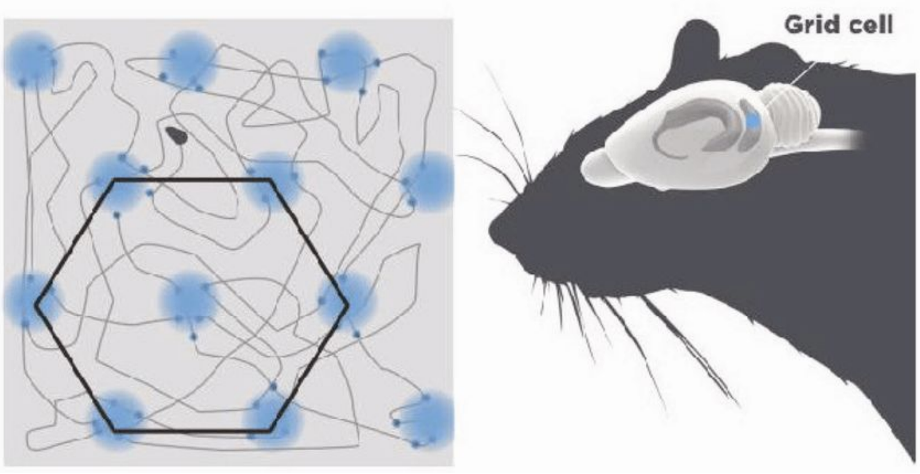
Grid Cell Based Multi-Scale Location Encoding

By recording the **activities of rat neurons** during navigation within a square region, some neurons in its entorhinal cortex have a **hexagonal firing pattern**. (Hafting et al. 2005; Hafting et al. 2005; Fyhn et al. 2008; Yartsev et al. 2011; Killian et al. 2012)



(a) (b)

Grid cells in mammals provide a **multi-scale periodic representation** that functions as a metric for location encoding. (Banino et al., 2018)

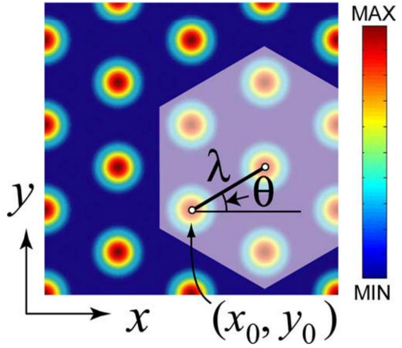


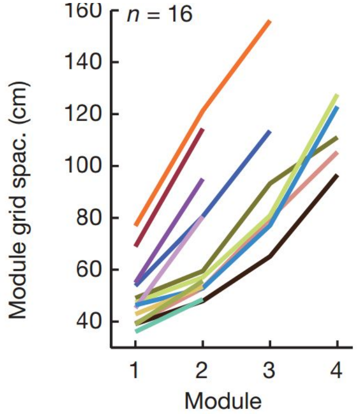
Grid Cell Based Multi-Scale Location Encoding

Grid cell representation can be simulated by summing **three cosine grating functions** oriented 60 degree apart (**a simple Fourier model of the hexagonal lattice**). (Blair et al. 2007)

$$G(\mathbf{r}) = g\left(\sum_{k=1}^{3} \cos(\boldsymbol{\omega}_k \cdot (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{c}))\right),$$

It is more likely that a 2D location **x** is represented by **a population of neurons**, i.e., grid cells, so that these grid cells form **a vector representation** of this location **x.** (Gao et al. 2019)





Mean grid spacing for all modules (M1–M4) in all animals (colour-coded)

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  - **Tasks:** POI Classification; Geo-Aware Fine-Grained Image Classification
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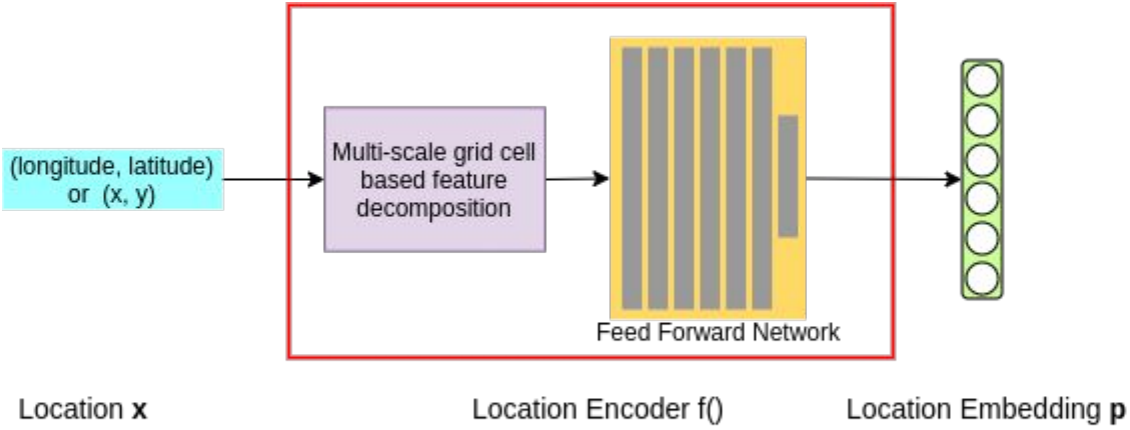
Point Space Encoder: Space2Vec



Given a location x:

$$\mathbf{e}[\mathbf{x}] = Enc^{(x)}_{theory}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{NN}(PE^{(t)}(\mathbf{x})) \quad (1)$$

$$PE^{(t)}(\mathbf{x}) = [PE^{(t)}_0(\mathbf{x}); ...; PE^{(t)}_s(\mathbf{x}); ...; PE^{(t)}_{S-1}(\mathbf{x})] \quad (2)$$

$$PE^{(t)}_s(\mathbf{x}) = [PE^{(t)}_{s,1}(\mathbf{x}); PE^{(t)}_{s,2}(\mathbf{x}); PE^{(t)}_{s,3}(\mathbf{x})] \quad (3)$$

$$PE^{(t)}_{s,j}(\mathbf{x}) = [\cos(\frac{\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{a}_j \rangle}{\lambda_{min} \cdot g^{s/(S-1)}}); \sin(\frac{\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{a}_j \rangle}{\lambda_{min} \cdot g^{s/(S-1)}})] \forall j = 1, 2, 3; \quad (4)$$

Point Feature Encoder

Point feature encoder $Enc^{(v)}()$ encodes such features $\mathbf{v}_i$ nto a feature embedding $\mathbf{e}[\mathbf{v}_i] \in \mathbb{R}^{d^{(v)}}$

$\mathbf{e}[\mathbf{v}_i]$

For example, if each point represents a POI with multiple POI types, the feature embedding can simply be the mean of each POI types' embeddings:

$$\mathbf{e}[\mathbf{v}_i] = \frac{1}{H} \sum_{h=1}^{H} \mathbf{t}_h^{(\gamma)}$$

$\mathbf{t}_h^{(\gamma)}$ indicates the hth POI type embedding of a POI pi with H POI types

POI classification - Location Modeling

Location Decoder $Dec_s()$: Directly reconstructs point feature embedding $\mathbf{e}[\mathbf{v}_i]$ given its space embedding $\mathbf{e}[\mathbf{x}_i]$

$$\mathbf{e}[\mathbf{v}_i]' = Dec_s(\mathbf{x}_i; \theta_{\mathrm{dec}_s}) = \mathbf{NN}_{\mathrm{dec}}(\mathbf{e}[\mathbf{x}_i])$$

For training we use inner product to compare the reconstructed feature embedding $\mathbf{e}[\mathbf{v}_i]'$ against the real feature embeddings $\mathbf{e}[\mathbf{v}_i]$ and other negative points

POI classification - Spatial Context Modeling

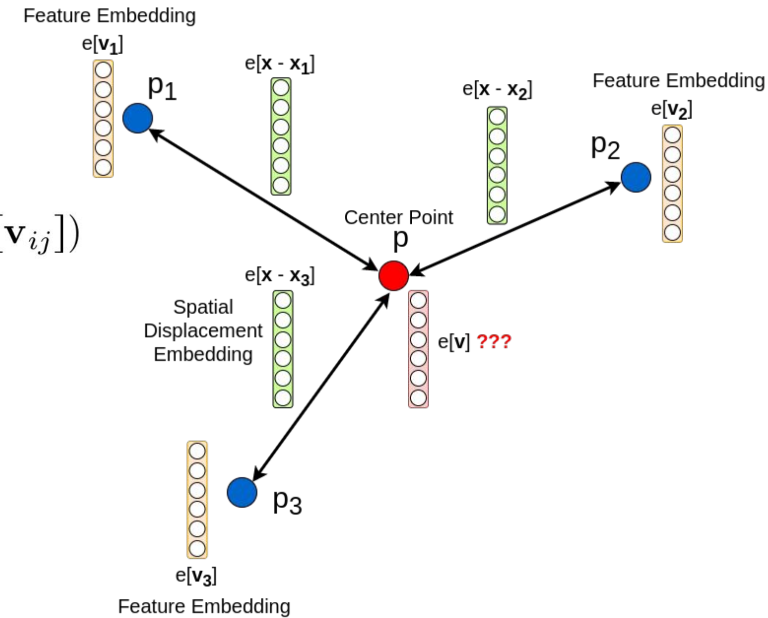
Spatial Context Decoder $Dec_c()$: reconstructs the feature embedding $\mathbf{e}[\mathbf{v}_i]$ of the center point p_i based on the space and feature embeddings $\{\mathbf{e}_{i1}, ..., \mathbf{e}_{ij}, ..., \mathbf{e}_{in}\}$ of n nearby points $\{p_{i1}, ..., p_{ij}, ..., p_{in}\}$

Space-Aware Graph Attention Network Model:

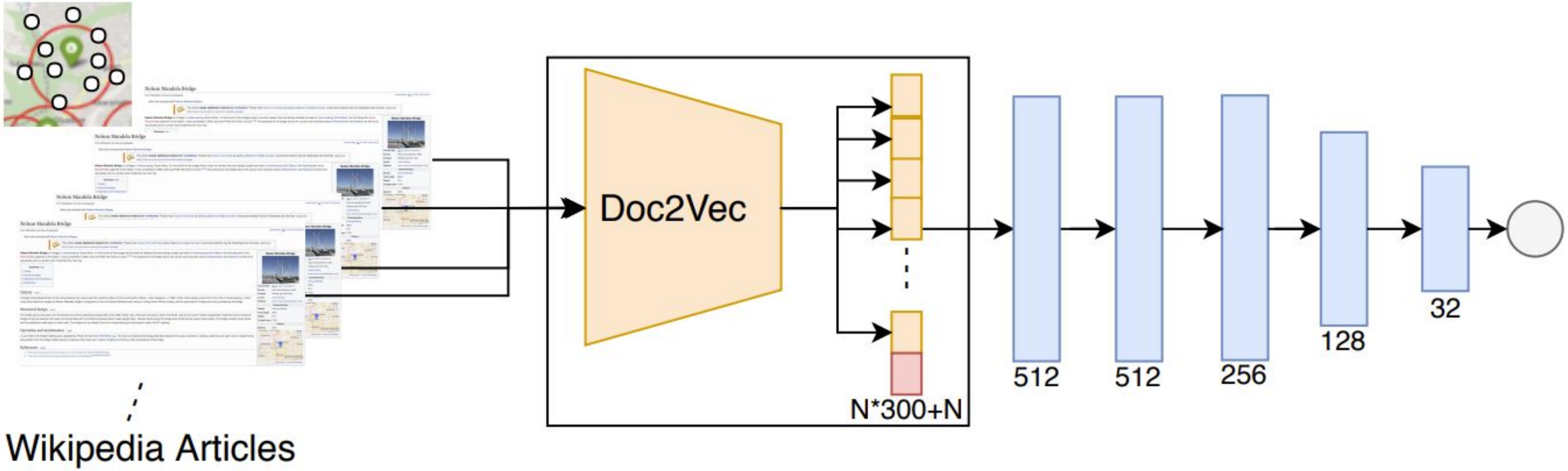
$$\mathbf{e}[\mathbf{v}_i]' = Dec_c(\mathbf{x}_i, \{\mathbf{e}_{i1}, ..., \mathbf{e}_{ij}, ..., \mathbf{e}_{in}\}; \theta_{\text{dec}_c}) = g(\frac{1}{K}\sum_{k=1}^{K}\sum_{j=1}^{n}\alpha_{ijk}\mathbf{e}[\mathbf{v}_{ij}])$$

$$\alpha_{ijk} = \frac{exp(\sigma_{ijk})}{\sum_{o=1}^{n} exp(\sigma_{iok})}$$

$$\sigma_{ijk} = LeakyReLU(\mathbf{a}_k^T[\mathbf{e}[\mathbf{v}_i]_{init}; \mathbf{e}[\mathbf{v}_{ij}]; \boxed{\mathbf{e}[\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{ij}]}])$$



Space-aware Graph Attention Network



Sheehan, E.,et al.. **Predicting economic development using geolocated wikipedia articles**. In ACM SIGKDD 2019.

Unsupervised Training

The unsupervised learning task can simply be maximizing the log likelihood of observing the true point p_i at position $\mathbf{x}_i$ among all the points in P

$$\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{P}}(\theta) = -\sum_{p_i \in \mathcal{P}} \log P(p_i | p_{i1}, ..., p_{ij}, ..., p_{in}) = -\sum_{p_i \in \mathcal{P}} \log \frac{\exp(\mathbf{e}[\mathbf{v}_i]^T \mathbf{e}[\mathbf{v}_i]')}{\sum_{p_o \in \mathcal{P}} \exp(\mathbf{e}[\mathbf{v}_o]^T \mathbf{e}[\mathbf{v}_i]')}$$

Negative Sampling:

$$\mathcal{L}'_{\mathcal{P}}(\theta) = -\sum_{p_i \in \mathcal{P}} \left(\log \sigma(\mathbf{e}[\mathbf{v}_i]^T \mathbf{e}[\mathbf{v}_i]') + \frac{1}{|\mathcal{N}_i|} \sum_{p_o \in \mathcal{N}_i} \log \sigma(-\mathbf{e}[\mathbf{v}_o]^T \mathbf{e}[\mathbf{v}_i]') \right)$$

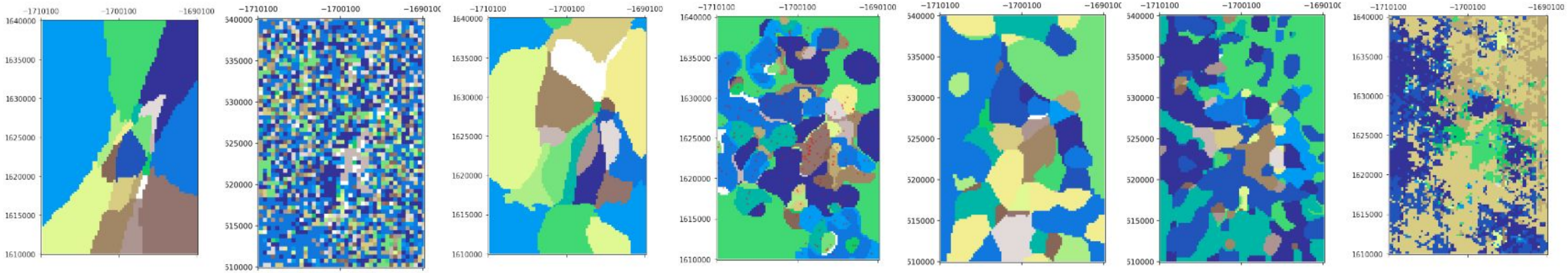
POI classification - Location Modeling Evaluation

Table 1: The evaluation results of different location models on the validation and test dataset.

	Train	Validation			Testing	
	NLL	NLL	MRR	HIT@5	MRR	HIT@5
$random$		-	0.052 (0.002)	4.8 (0.5)	0.051 (0.002)	5.0 (0.5)
$direct$	1.285	1.332	0.089 (0.001)	10.6 (0.2)	0.090 (0.001)	11.3 (0.2)
$tile$ (c=500)	1.118	1.261	0.123 (0.001)	16.8 (0.2)	0.120 (0.001)	17.1 (0.3)
$wrap$(h=3,o=512)	1.222	1.288	0.112 (0.001)	14.6 (0.1)	0.119 (0.001)	15.8 (0.2)
rbf (σ=1k)	1.209	1.279	0.115 (0.001)	15.2 (0.2)	0.123 (0.001)	16.8 (0.3)
$grid$ (λ_{min}=50)	1.156	1.258	0.128 (0.001)	18.1 (0.3)	0.139 (0.001)	**20.0** (0.2)
$hexa$ (λ_{min}=50)	1.230	1.297	0.107 (0.001)	14.0 (0.2)	0.105 (0.001)	14.5 (0.2)
$theorydiag$ (λ_{min}=50)	1.277	1.324	0.094 (0.001)	12.3 (0.3)	0.094 (0.002)	11.2 (0.3)
$theory$ (λ_{min}=1k)	1.207	1.281	0.123 (0.002)	16.3 (0.5)	0.121 (0.001)	16.2 (0.1)
$theory$ (λ_{min}=500)	1.188	1.269	0.132 (0.001)	17.6 (0.3)	0.129 (0.001)	17.7 (0.2)
$theory$ (λ_{min}=50)	1.098	1.249	**0.137** (0.002)	**19.4** (0.1)	**0.144** (0.001)	**20.0** (0.2)

Multi-scale Analysis of Location Modeling

POI Groups	Clustered ($r \leqslant 100m$)	Middle ($100m < r < 200m$)	Even ($r \geqslant 200m$)
direct	0.080 (-0.047)	0.108 (-0.030)	0.084 (-0.047)
wrap	0.106 (-0.021)	0.126 (-0.012)	0.122 (-0.009)
tile	0.108 (-0.019)	0.135 (-0.003)	0.111 (-0.020)
rbf	0.112 (-0.015)	0.136 (-0.002)	0.119 (-0.012)
theory	0.127 (-)	0.138 (-)	0.131 (-)
# POI	16,016	7,443	3,915
Root Types	Restaurants; Shopping; Food; Nightlife; Automotive; Active Life; Arts & Entertainment; Financial Services	Beauty & Spas; Health & Medical; Local Services; Hotels & Travel; Professional Services; Public Services & Government	Home Services; Event Planning & Services; Pets; Education



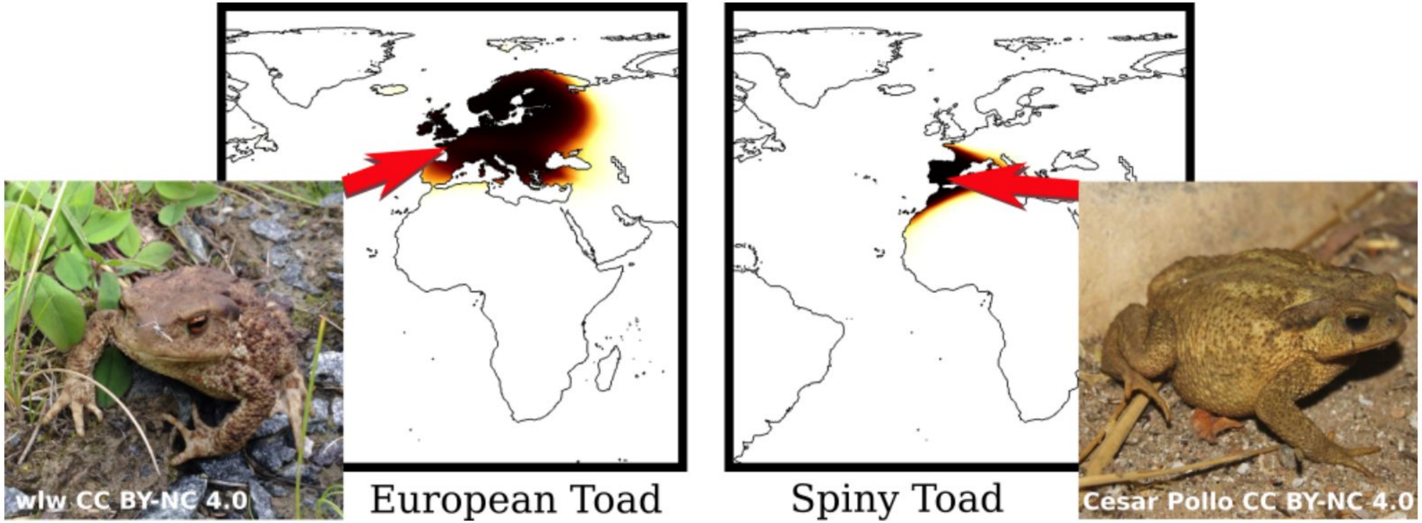
(a) *direct* (b) *tile* (c) *wrap* (d) *rbf* (σ=1k) (e) λ_{min}=1k (f) λ_{min}=500 (g) λ_{min}=50

Spatial Context Modeling Evaluation

Table 3: The evaluation results of different spatial context models on the validation and test dataset. All encoders contains a 1 hidden layer FFN. All grid cell encoders set λ_{min}=10, λ_{max}=10k.

	Train	Validation			Testing	
$Space2Vec$	NLL	NLL	MRR	HIT@5	MRR	HIT@5
$none$	1.163	1.297	0.159 (0.002)	22.4 (0.5)	0.167 (0.006)	23.4 (0.7)
$direct$	1.151	1.282	0.170 (0.002)	24.6 (0.4)	0.175 (0.003)	24.7 (0.5)
$polar$	1.157	1.283	0.176 (0.004)	25.4 (0.4)	0.178 (0.006)	24.9 (0.1)
$tile$ $(c = 50)$	1.163	1.298	0.173 (0.004)	24.0 (0.6)	0.173 (0.001)	23.4 (0.1)
$polar\_tile(S = 64)$	1.161	1.282	0.173 (0.003)	25.0 (0.1)	0.177 (0.001)	24.5 (0.3)
$wrap$ (h=2,o=512)	1.167	1.291	0.159 (0.001)	23.0 (0.1)	0.170 (0.001)	23.9 (0.2)
rbf $(\sigma = 50)$	1.160	1.281	**0.179** (0.002)	25.2 (0.6)	0.172 (0.001)	25.0 (0.1)
$scaled\_rbf$ (σ=40,β=0.1)	1.150	1.272	0.177 (0.002)	**25.7** (0.1)	0.181 (0.001)	25.3 (0.1)
$grid$(λ_{min}=10)	1.172	1.285	0.178 (0.004)	24.9 (0.5)	0.181 (0.001)	25.1 (0.3)
$hexa$ (λ_{min}=10)	1.156	1.289	0.173 (0.002)	24.0 (0.2)	0.183 (0.002)	25.3 (0.2)
$theorydiag$ $(\lambda_{min} = 10)$	1.156	1.287	0.168 (0.001)	24.1 (0.4)	0.174 (0.005)	24.9 (0.1)
$theory$(λ_{min}=200)	1.168	1.295	0.159 (0.001)	23.1 (0.2)	0.170 (0.001)	23.2 (0.2)
$theory$(λ_{min}=50)	1.157	1.275	0.171 (0.001)	24.2 (0.3)	0.173 (0.001)	24.8 (0.4)
$theory$(λ_{min}=10)	1.158	1.280	0.177 (0.003)	25.2 (0.3)	**0.185** (0.002)	**25.7** (0.3)

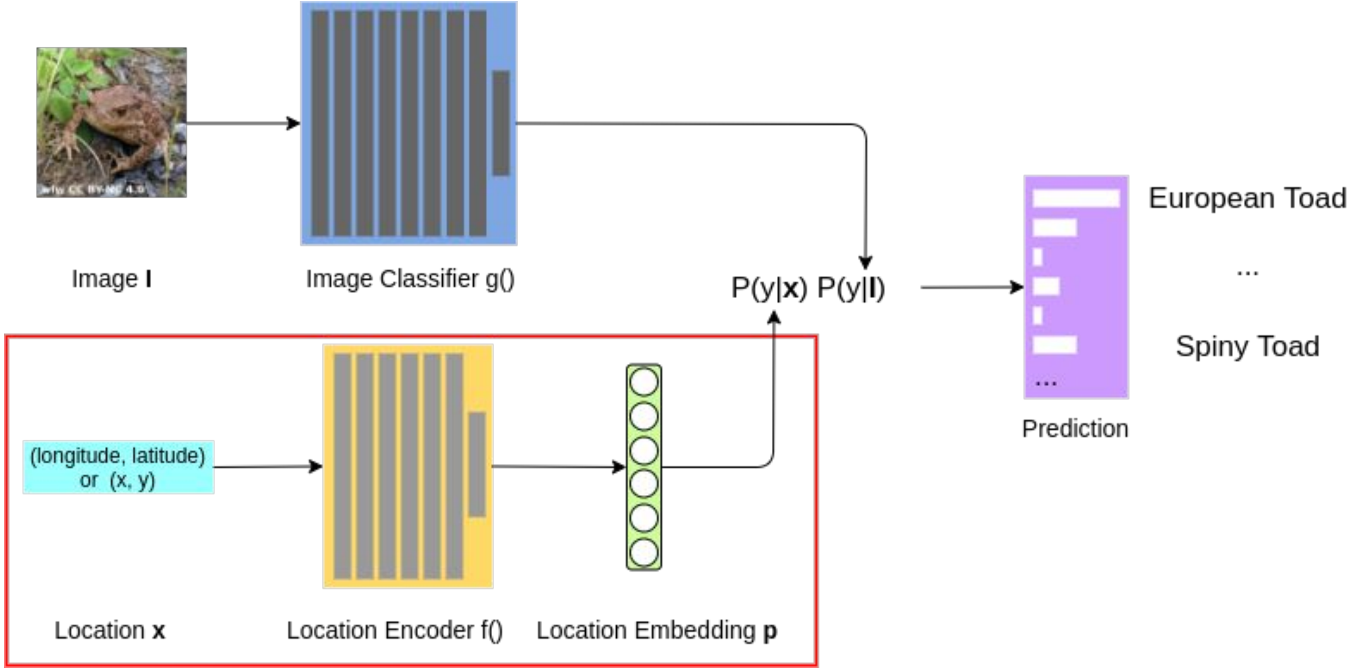
Geo-Aware Image Classification



Species with similar appearance information may have distinct geographic prior distributions.
(Figure from Mac Aodha et al., 2019)

Geo-Aware Image Classification

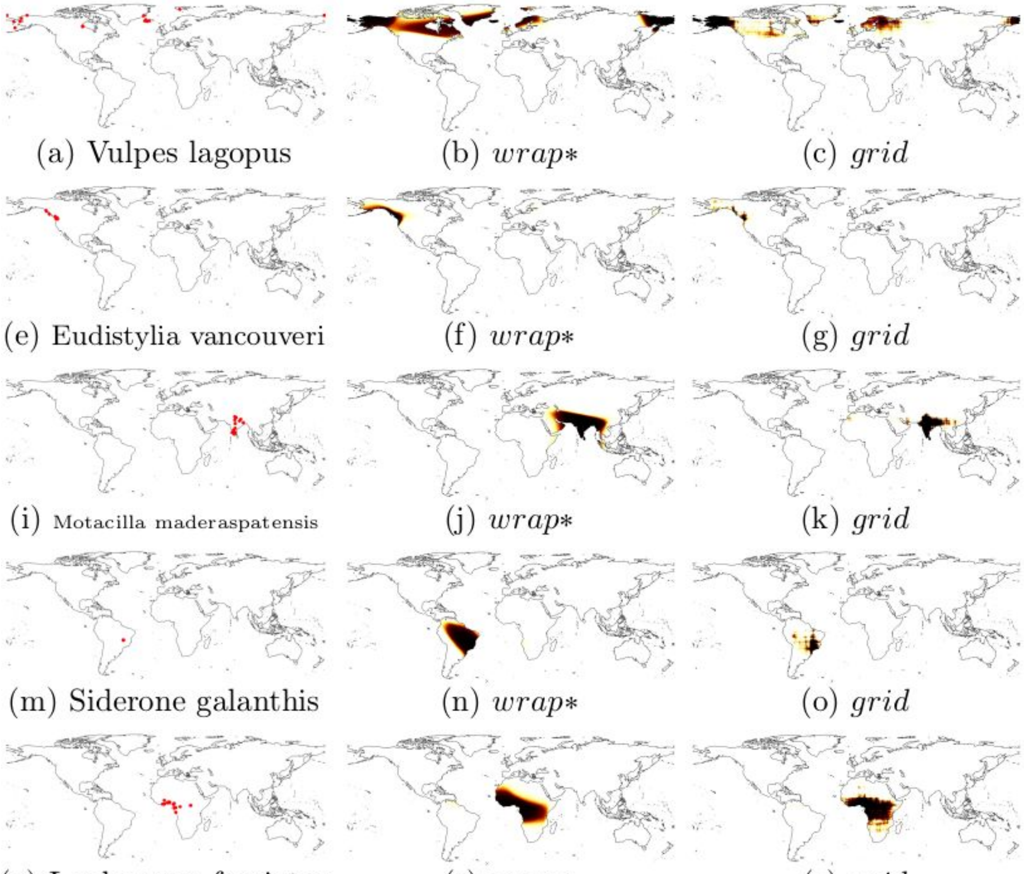
Developing a **geo-aware image classification** model by **fusing** our Space2Vec location encoding model with the state-of-the-art image classification models such as Inception V3 (Szegedy et al. 2016).



Geo-Aware Image Classification

	BirdSnap†	NABirds†
No Prior (i.e. uniform)	70.07	76.08
Nearest Neighbor (num)	77.76	79.99
Nearest Neighbor (spatial)	77.98	80.79
Adaptive Kernel (Berg et al., 2014)	78.65	81.11
tile (Tang et al., 2015) (location only)	77.19	79.58
wrap (Mac Aodha et al., 2019) (location only)	78.65	81.15
rbf (σ=1k)	78.56	81.13
grid (λ_{min}=0.0001, λ_{max}=360, S = 64)	**79.44**	81.28
theory (λ_{min}=0.0001, λ_{max}=360, S = 64)	79.35	**81.59**

Species Distribution Prediction



(a) Vulpes lagopus (b) *wrap∗* (c) *grid*

(e) Eudistylia vancouveri (f) *wrap∗* (g) *grid*

(i) Motacilla maderaspatensis (j) *wrap∗* (k) *grid*

(m) Siderone galanthis (n) *wrap∗* (o) *grid*

(q) Lophoceros fasciatus (r) *wrap∗* (s) *grid*

Arxiv paper: https://arxiv.org/abs/2003.00824

GitHub Repo: https://github.com/gengchenmai/space2vec

Conclusion for Space2Vec:

- We introduced an encoder-decoder framework as a general-purpose representation model for space inspired by **biological grid cells' multi-scale periodic representations**.
- We show the effectiveness of Space2Vec on two tasks: **POI classification** and **geo-aware image classification**.
- Our analysis reveals that it is the **ability to integrate representations of different scales** that makes the grid cell models outperform other baselines on these two tasks

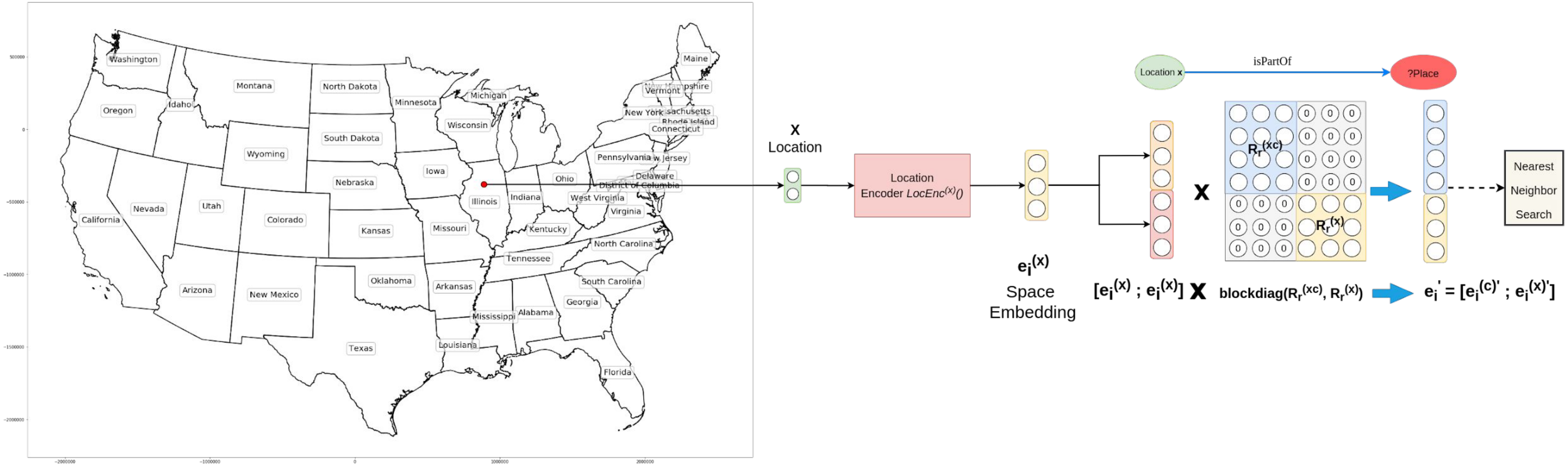
Outline

- Background
    - Spatially-Explicit Machine Learning
    - The Key Challenge for Location Encoding
- Space2Vec (ICLR 2020 spotlight)
    - A representation learning model called Space2Vec to encode the absolute positions and spatial relationships of places inspired by biological grid cells.
    - Tasks**:** POI Classification; Geo-Aware Fine-Grained Image Classification
- **SE-KGE** (Transactions in GIS 2020)
    - A location-aware knowledge graph embedding model based on Space2Vec
    - **Tasks:** geographic logic query answering; spatial semantic lifting

SE-KGE: A Location-Aware Knowledge Graph Embedding Model for Geographic Question Answering and Spatial Semantic Lifting

Gengchen Mai[1], Krzysztof Janowicz[1], Ling Cai[1], Rui Zhu[1], Blake Regalia[1], Bo Yan[2], Meilin Shi[1], Ni Lao[3]

[1]STKO Lab, UC Santa Barbara; [2] LinkedIn Corporation; [3] SayMosaic Inc.



Spatial semantic lifting in the SE-KGE embedding space

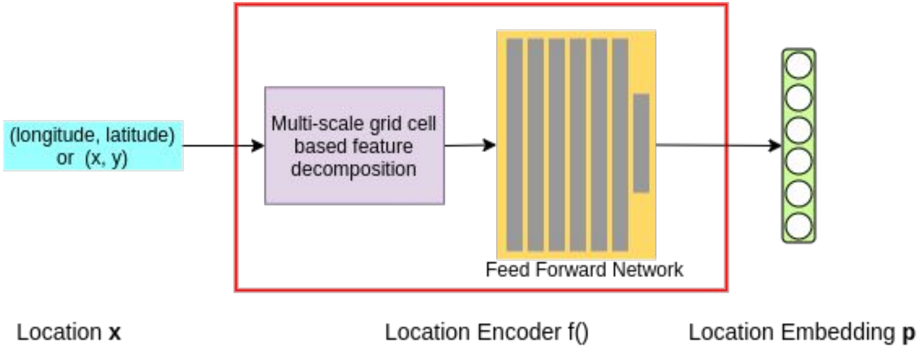
Arxiv paper: https://arxiv.org/abs/2004.14171

SE-KGE: A Location-Aware KG Embedding Model

A novel KGE model which **directly encodes spatial footprints**, namely **point coordinates** and **bounding boxes**, thereby making them available while learning knowledge graph embeddings.

Encoding spatial footprints of geographic entities:

- **Location encoder** (Mai et al., 2020): the neural network models which encode a pair of coordinates into a high dimensional embedding which can be used in multi downstream tasks



Challenges of SE-KGE

1. Location encoding can handle **point-wise metric relations** (e.g., dbo:nearestCity) and **directional relations** (e.g., dbp:north) in KGs, but it is not easy to encode containment relations (e.g., dbo:isPartOf).
    - Represent geographic entities as **regions** instead of points in the embedding space

2. How to seamlessly handle **geographic** and **non-geographic entities**?

3. How to capture the **spatial** and **other semantic aspects** at the same time?

4. **Spatial Semantic Lifting**: How to design a KGE model so that it can be used to infer new relations between entities in a KG and any arbitrary location in the study area?

Method: GeoKG Definition

Given a geographic knowledge graph $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$

- V : the set of entities/nodes
- E : the set of directed edges
- $\mathcal{V}_{pt} \subseteq \mathcal{V}$: the geographic entity set
- $\mathcal{PT}(\cdot)$: entity $e \in \mathcal{V}_{pt}$ => $\mathcal{PT}(e) = \mathbf{x}$ where $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$
- $\mathcal{V}_{pn} \subseteq \mathcal{V}_{pt}$: the set of large-scale geographic entity
- $\mathcal{PN}(\cdot)$: entity $e \in \mathcal{V}_{pn}$ => $\mathcal{PN}(e) = [\mathbf{x}^{min}; \mathbf{x}^{max}] \in \mathbb{R}^4$ where $\mathbf{x}^{min}, \ \mathbf{x}^{max} \in \mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$

Method: CQG Definition

Definition 2 (Conjunctive Graph Query (CGQ)). *A query $q \in Q(\mathcal{G})$ that can be written as follows:*

$$\begin{aligned} q &= V_?.\exists V_1, V_2, .., V_m : b_1 \wedge b_2 \wedge ... \wedge b_n \\ \mathit{where} \quad & b_i = r_i(e_k, V_l), V_l \in \{V_?, V_1, V_2, .., V_m\}, e_k \in \mathcal{V}, r \in \mathcal{R} \\ \mathit{or} \quad & b_i = r_i(V_k, V_l), V_k, V_l \in \{V_?, V_1, V_2, .., V_m\}, k \neq l, r \in \mathcal{R} \end{aligned}$$

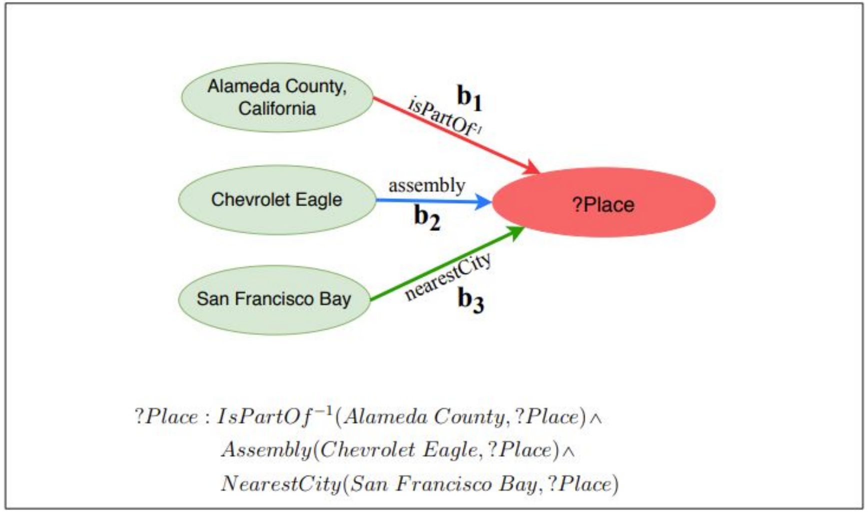
- $Q(\mathcal{G})$: a set of all conjunctive graph queries that can be asked over G
- $V_?$: the target variable of query q (target node)
- $V_1, V_2, .., V_m$: existentially quantified bound variables (bound nodes)
- b_i : a basic graph pattern in this CGQ
- e_k : the entity node appeared in the question (anchor node)

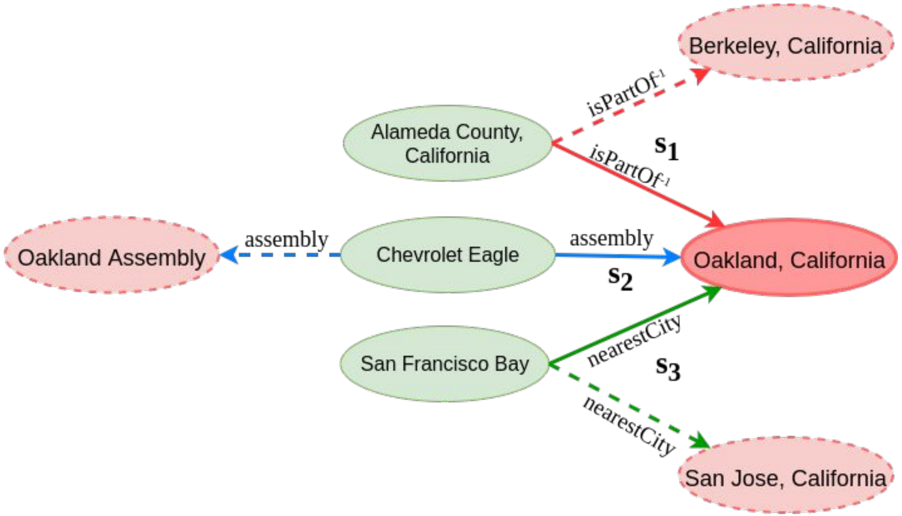
The dependency graph of Query q is a **directed acyclic graph** (DAG)

Geographic CGQ: the answer entity is a geographic entity

Method: CQG Example

Which city in Alameda County, California is the assembly place of Chevrolet Eagle and the nearest city to San Francisco Bay?

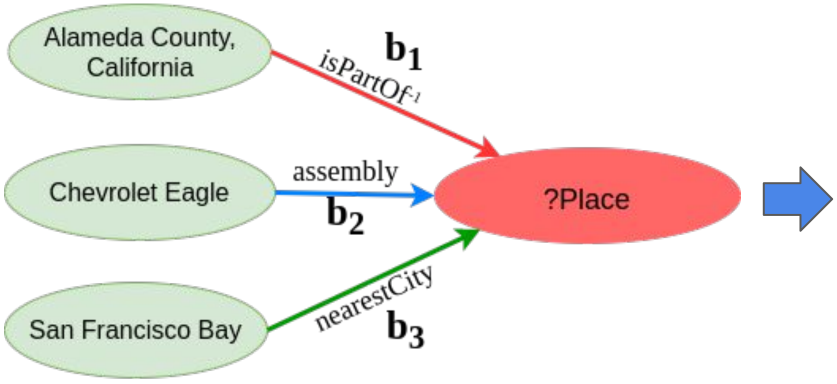


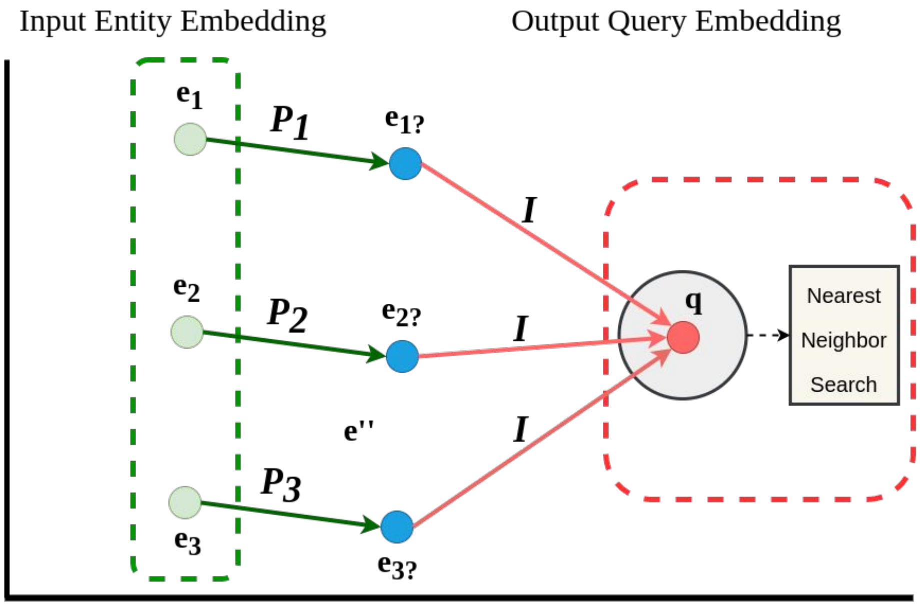


Method: Three Components for GeoQA

There major components of SE-KGE:

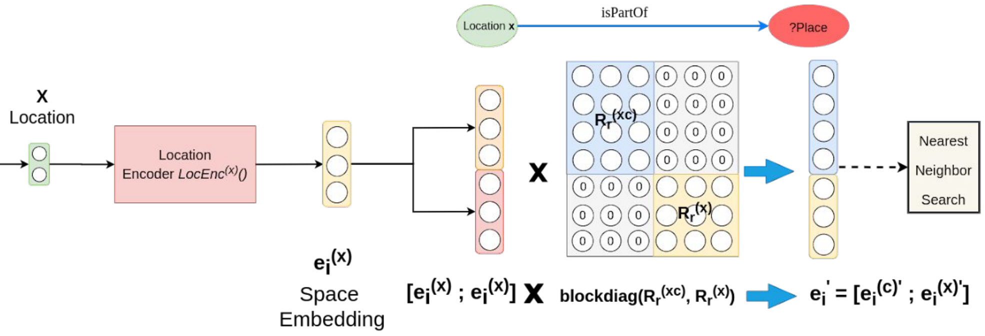
- **Entity encoder** $Enc()$
- **Projection operator** $\mathcal{P}()$
- **Intersection operator** $\mathcal{I}()$





Method: Space Semantic Lifting

Use entity encoder $Enc()$ and projection operator $\mathcal{P}()$ for spatial semantic lifting:



Note that location encoder is one component of entity encoder

Method: Location-Aware Entity Encoder

- Semantic Aspect:

Definition 4 (Entity Feature Encoder: $Enc^{(c)}()$). *Given any entity $e_i \in \mathcal{V}$ with type $c_i = \Gamma(e_i) \in \mathcal{C}$ from $\mathcal{G}$, entity feature encoder $Enc^{(c)}()$ computes the feature embedding $\mathbf{e}_i^{(c)} \in \mathbb{R}^{d^{(c)}}$ which captures the type information of entity e_i by using an embedding lookup approach:*

$$\mathbf{e}_i^{(c)} = Enc^{(c)}(e_i) = \frac{\mathbf{Z}_{c_i}\mathbf{h}_i^{(c)}}{\parallel \mathbf{Z}_{c_i}\mathbf{h}_i^{(c)} \parallel_{L2}} \tag{5}$$

- Space Aspect:

Definition 7 (Entity Space Encoder: $Enc^{(x)}()$). *Given any entity $e_i \in \mathcal{V}$ from $\mathcal{G}$, $Enc^{(x)}()$ computes the space embedding $\mathbf{e}_i^{(x)} = Enc^{(x)}(e_i) \in \mathbb{R}^{d^{(x)}}$ by*

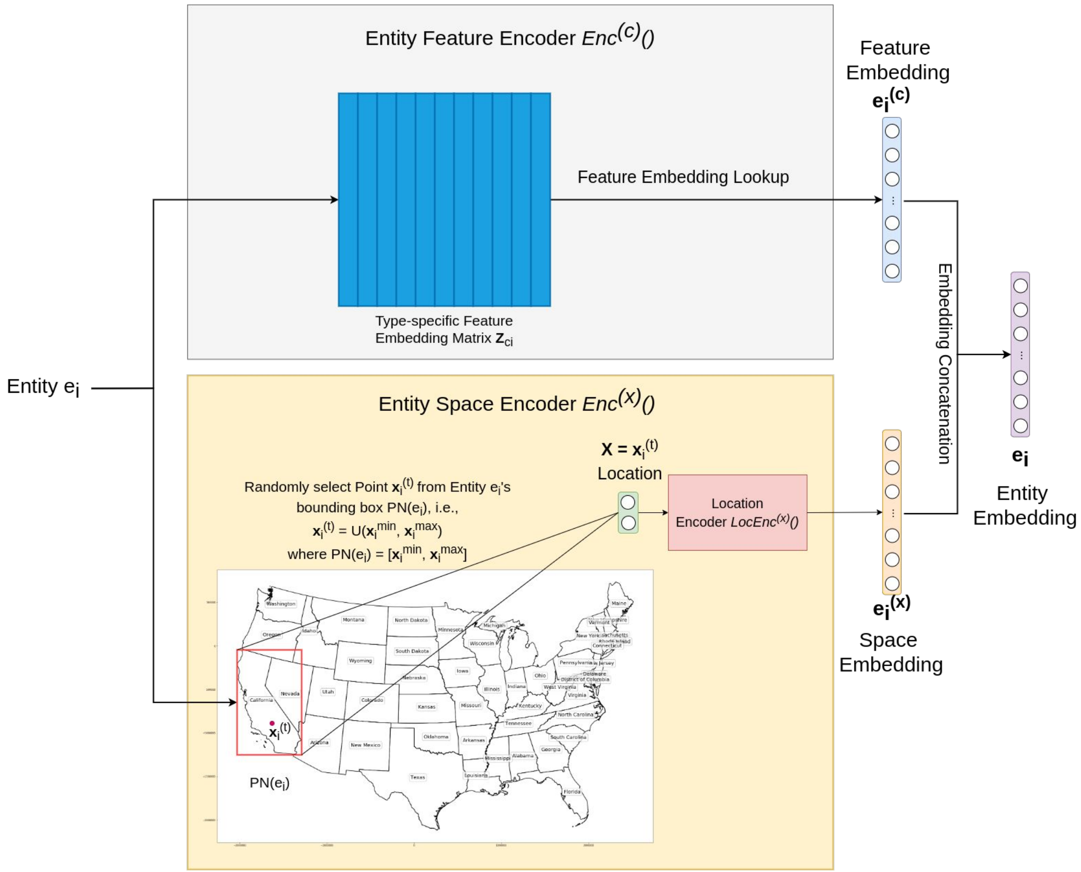
$$\mathbf{e}_i^{(x)} = \begin{cases} LocEnc^{(x)}(\mathbf{x}_i)\ , where\ \mathbf{x}_i = \mathcal{PT}(e_i)\ , & if\ e_i \in \mathcal{V}_{pt} \backslash \mathcal{V}_{pn} \\ LocEnc^{(x)}(\mathbf{x}_i^{(t)})\ , where\ \mathbf{x}_i^{(t)} \sim \mathcal{U}(\mathbf{x}_i^{min}, \mathbf{x}_i^{max})\ ,\ \mathcal{PN}(e_i) = [\mathbf{x}_i^{min}; \mathbf{x}_i^{max}]\ , & if\ e_i \in \mathcal{V}_{pn} \\ \dfrac{\mathbf{Z}_x\mathbf{h}_i^{(x)}}{\parallel \mathbf{Z}_x\mathbf{h}_i^{(x)} \parallel_{L2}}, & if\ e_i \in \mathcal{V} \backslash \mathcal{V}_{pt} \end{cases}$$

Method: Location-Aware Entity Encoder

- Entity Feature Encoder

- Entity Space Encoder

Encoding results are concatenated as the final output

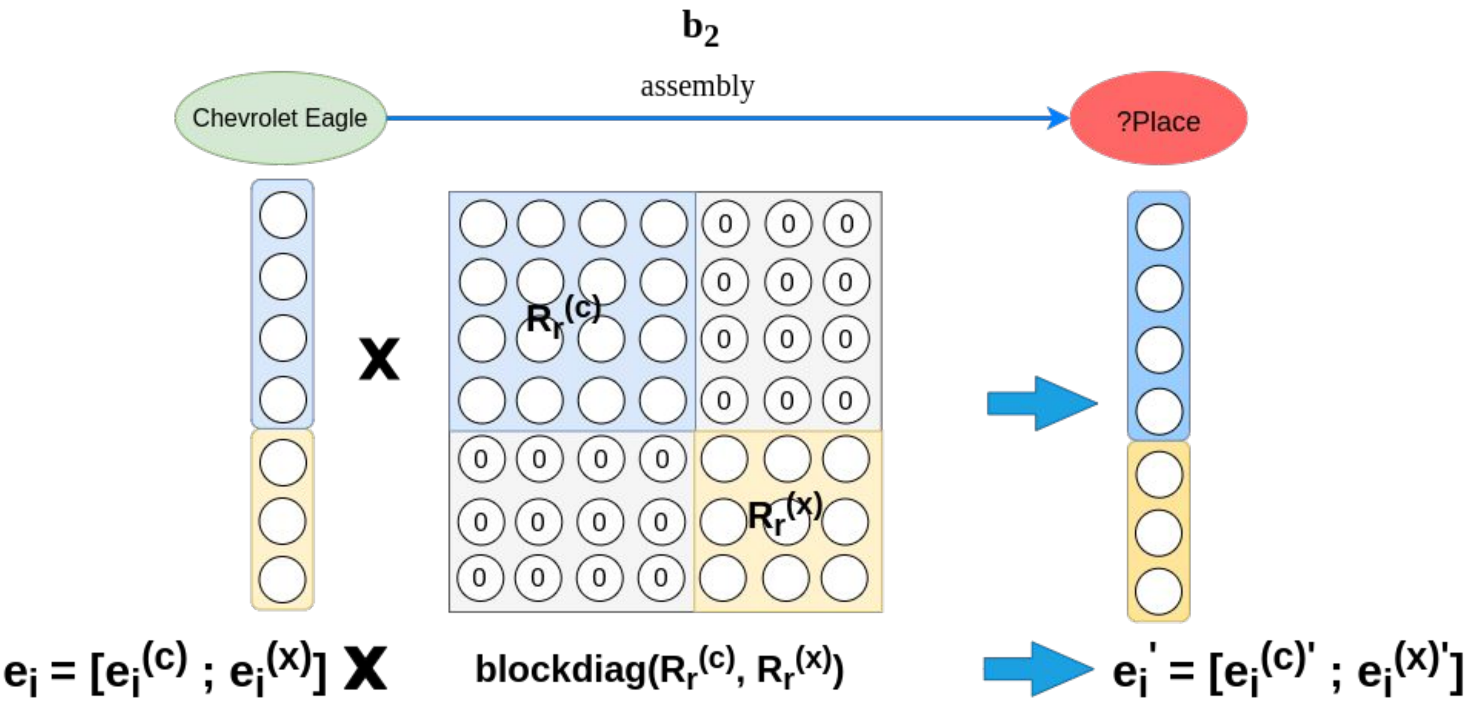


Method: Location-Aware Projection Operator

Definition 8 (Projection Operator $\mathcal{P}()$). *Given a geographic knowledge graph $\mathcal{G}$, a projection operator $\mathcal{P}() : \mathcal{V} \cup \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ maps a pair of (e_i, r), (V_i, r), or $(\mathbf{x}_i, r)$, to an embedding $\mathbf{e}'_i$. According to the input, $\mathcal{P}()$ can be treated as:* **(1) link prediction** $\mathcal{P}^{(e)}(e_i, r)$**:** *given a triple's head entity e_i and relation r, predicting the tail; (2)* **link prediction** $\mathcal{P}^{(e)}(V_i, r)$**:** *given a basic graph pattern $b = r(V_i, V_j)$ and $\mathbf{v}_i$ which is the computed embedding for the existentially quantified bound variable V_i, predicting the embedding for Variable V_j;* **(2) spatial semantic lifting** $\mathcal{P}^{(x)}(\mathbf{x}_i, r)$**:** *given an arbitrary location $\mathbf{x}_i$ and relation r, predicting the most probable linked entity. Formally, $\mathcal{P}()$ is defined as:*

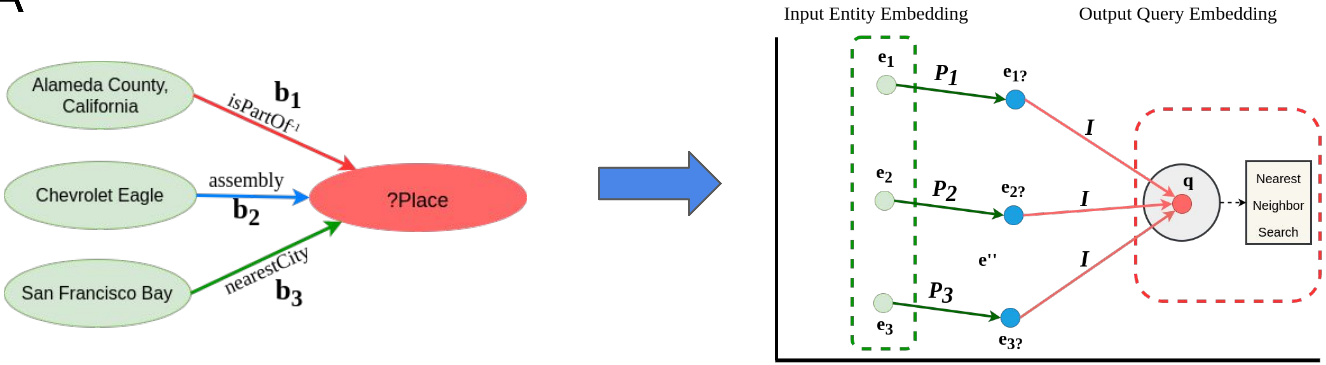
$$
\mathbf{e}'_i = \begin{cases}
\mathcal{P}^{(e)}(e_i, r) = diag(\mathbf{R}_r^{(c)}, \mathbf{R}_r^{(x)}) Enc(e_i) = diag(\mathbf{R}_r^{(c)}, \mathbf{R}_r^{(x)}) \mathbf{e}_i & if\ input\ = (e_i, r) \\
\mathcal{P}^{(e)}(V_i, r) = diag(\mathbf{R}_r^{(c)}, \mathbf{R}_r^{(x)}) \mathbf{v}_i & if\ input\ = (V_i, r) \\
\mathcal{P}^{(x)}(\mathbf{x}_i, r) = diag(\mathbf{R}_r^{(xc)}, \mathbf{R}_r^{(x)}) [LocEnc^{(x)}(\mathbf{x}_i); LocEnc^{(x)}(\mathbf{x}_i)] & if\ input\ = (\mathbf{x}_i, r)
\end{cases}
$$

Method: Location-Aware Projection Operator



Method: GeoQA and Spatial Semantic Lifting

- GeoQA



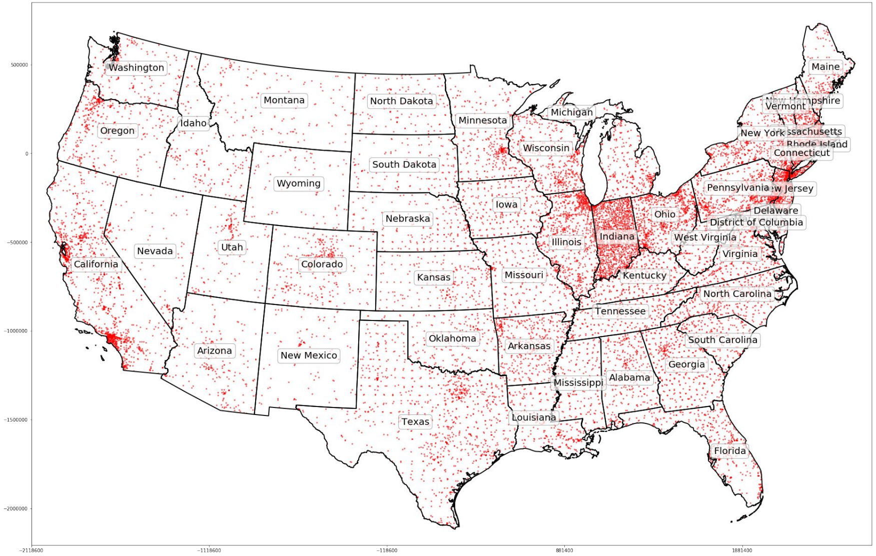
- Spatial Semantic Lifting

Experiment

Evaluate SE-KGE using the DBGeo dataset which is built based on a subgraph of DBpedia

Table 1: Statistics for our dataset in *DBGeo* (Section 7.1). "XXXX/QT" indicates the number of QA pairs per query type.

		DBGeo Training	Validation	Testing
Knowledge Graph	$\lvert\mathcal{T}\rvert$	214,064	2,378	21,406
	$\lvert\mathcal{R}\rvert$	318	-	-
	$\lvert\mathcal{V}\rvert$	25,980	-	-
	$\lvert\mathcal{V}_{pt}\rvert$	18,323	-	-
	$\lvert\mathcal{V}_{pn}\rvert$	14,769	-	-
Geographic Question Answering	$\lvert Q^{(2)}(\mathcal{G})\rvert$	1,000,000	-	-
	$\lvert Q^{(3)}(\mathcal{G})\rvert$	1,000,000	-	-
	$\lvert Q^{(2)}_{geo}(\mathcal{G})\rvert$	1,000,000	1000/QT	10000/QT
	$\lvert Q^{(3)}_{geo}(\mathcal{G})\rvert$	1,000,000	1000/QT	10000/QT
Spatial Semantic Lifting	$\lvert\mathcal{T}_s \cap \mathcal{T}_o\rvert$	138,193	1,884	17,152
	$\lvert\mathcal{R}_{ssl}\rvert$	227	71	135

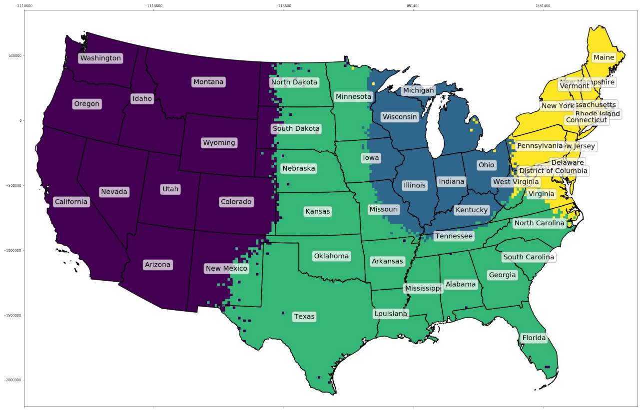


Geographic Question Answering

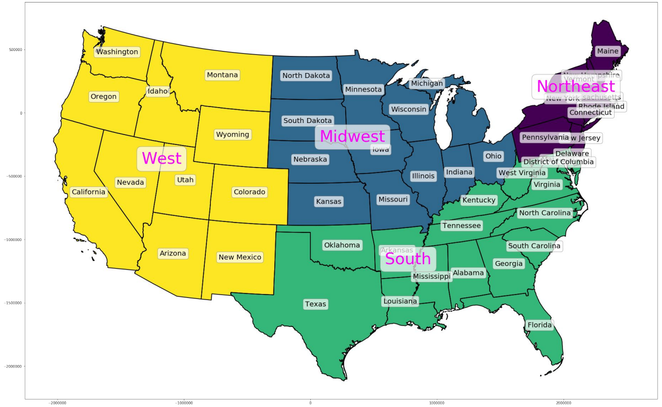
Table 3: The evaluation of geographic logic query answering on *DBGeo* (using AUC (%) and APR (%) as evaluation metric)

	DAG Type	GQE_{diag}		GQE		CGA		$SE\text{-}KGE_{direct}$		$SE\text{-}KGE_{pt}$		$SE\text{-}KGE_{space}$		$SE\text{-}KGE_{full}$	
		AUC	APR	AUC	APR	AUC	APR	AUC	APR	AUC	APR	AUC	APR	AUC	APR
Valid	2-chain	63.37	64.89	84.23	**88.68**	84.56	86.8	83.12	84.79	**85.97**	84.9	76.81	67.07	85.26	87.25
	2-inter	97.23	97.86	96.00	97.02	98.87	98.58	98.98	98.28	98.95	98.52	85.51	87.13	**99.04**	**98.95**
	Hard-2-inter	70.99	73.55	66.04	73.83	73.43	79.98	73.27	76.36	**74.38**	82.16	63.15	62.91	73.42	**82.52**
	3-chain	61.42	67.94	79.65	79.45	79.11	80.93	77.92	79.26	79.38	83.97	70.09	60.8	**80.9**	**85.02**
	3-inter	98.01	99.21	96.24	98.17	99.18	**99.62**	**99.28**	99.41	99.1	99.56	87.62	89	99.27	99.59
	Hard-3-inter	78.29	85	68.26	77.55	79.59	86.06	79.5	84.28	**80.48**	**87.4**	63.37	67.17	78.86	85.2
	3-inter_chain	90.56	94.08	93.39	91.52	94.59	90.71	95.99	95.11	95.86	94.41	81.16	83.01	**96.7**	**96.79**
	Hard-3-inter_chain	74.19	**83.79**	70.64	74.54	73.97	76.28	74.81	78.9	**76.45**	75.95	65.54	68.21	76.33	83.7
	3-chain_inter	**98.01**	97.45	92.69	93.31	96.72	97.61	97.31	98.67	97.79	**98.76**	83.7	84.42	97.7	98.65
	Hard-3-chain_inter	**83.59**	**88.12**	66.86	74.06	72.12	77.53	73.23	79.24	74.74	80.47	65.13	69.29	74.72	78.11
	Full Valid	81.57	85.19	81.4	84.81	85.21	87.41	85.34	87.43	**86.31**	88.61	74.21	73.9	86.22	**89.58**
Test	2-chain	64.88	65.61	85	87.41	84.91	86.74	83.61	85.97	86.08	88.08	75.46	73.38	**86.35**	**88.12**
	2-inter	96.98	97.99	95.86	97.18	98.79	98.71	98.98	98.94	**98.98**	**99.08**	87.01	85.78	98.93	99.01
	Hard-2-inter	70.39	76.19	64.5	71.86	72.15	79.26	72.04	79.11	**73.72**	**81.78**	61.22	62.97	72.62	81.04
	3-chain	62.3	62.29	79.19	80.19	78.93	80.17	77.53	78.86	79.43	**81.28**	70.55	68.04	**80.49**	80.63
	3-inter	98.09	99.12	96.54	97.94	99.33	99.56	**99.45**	99.47	99.41	**99.63**	88.05	87.63	99.39	99.59
	Hard-3-inter	77.27	83.92	68.69	75.42	78.93	83.52	78.58	84.14	**80.11**	84.87	64.44	64.53	78.76	**84.89**
	3-inter_chain	90.39	91.96	92.54	93.13	93.46	94.36	95.23	95.92	95.02	95.78	81.52	79.61	**95.92**	**96.51**
	Hard-3-inter_chain	72.89	79.12	70.67	75.55	73.47	79.61	73.93	80.21	74.88	79.36	64.99	65.52	**75.36**	**80.72**
	3-chain_inter	97.35	98.27	92.22	94.08	96.55	96.67	97.29	98.39	**97.79**	98.68	85.28	84.08	97.64	**98.75**
	Hard-3-chain_inter	**83.33**	**86.24**	66.77	72.1	72.31	77.89	73.55	77.08	75.19	77.42	65.07	65.41	74.62	77.31
	Full Test	81.39	84.07	81.2	84.49	84.88	87.65	85.02	87.81	**86.06**	88.2	74.36	73.7	86.01	**88.96**

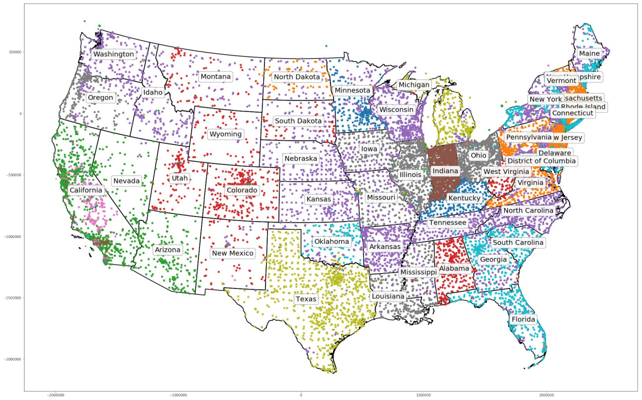
Geographic Question Answering



(a) Clustering result of location embeddings produced by the location encoder in SE-KGE$_{space}$



(b) Census Bureau-designated regions of United States



(c) The community detection (Shuffled Louvain) results of KG

Spatial Semantic Lifting

Table 5: The evaluation of spatial semantic lifting on *DBGeo* over all validation/testing triples

	SE-KGE$_{space}$		*SE-KGE*$_{ssl}$		*SE-KGE*$_{ssl}$ - *SE-KGE*$_{space}$	
	AUC	APR	AUC	APR	ΔAUC	ΔAPR
Valid	72.85	75.49	**82.74**	**85.51**	9.89	10.02
Test	73.41	75.77	**83.27**	**85.36**	9.86	9.59

Table 6: The evaluation of *SE-KGE*$_{ssl}$ and *SE-KGE*$'_{space}$ on *DBGeo* for a few selected relation r (using APR (%) as evaluation metric).

	Query Type	*SE-KGE*$'_{space}$	*SE-KGE*$_{ssl}$	ΔAPR
Valid	$state(\mathbf{x}, ?e)$	92.00	**99.94**	7.94
	$nearestCity(\mathbf{x}, ?e)$	84.00	**94.00**	10.00
	$broadcastArea^{-1}(\mathbf{x}, ?e)$	91.60	**95.60**	4.00
	$isPartOf(\mathbf{x}, ?e)$	88.56	**98.88**	10.32
	$locationCity(\mathbf{x}, ?e)$	83.50	**99.00**	15.50
	$residence^{-1}(\mathbf{x}, ?e)$	90.50	**93.50**	3.00
	$hometown^{-1}(\mathbf{x}, ?e)$	61.14	**74.86**	13.71
Test	$state(\mathbf{x}, ?e)$	89.06	**99.97**	10.91
	$nearestCity(\mathbf{x}, ?e)$	87.60	**99.80**	12.20
	$broadcastArea^{-1}(\mathbf{x}, ?e)$	90.81	**96.63**	5.82
	$isPartOf(\mathbf{x}, ?e)$	87.66	**98.87**	11.21
	$locationCity(\mathbf{x}, ?e)$	84.80	**99.10**	14.30
	$residence^{-1}(\mathbf{x}, ?e)$	61.21	**77.68**	16.47
	$hometown^{-1}(\mathbf{x}, ?e)$	61.44	**76.83**	15.39

Conclusion for SE-KGE

- We develop a spatially-explicit knowledge graph embedding model, SE-KGE, which applies a location encoder to incorporate spatial information (coordinates and spatial extents) of geographic entities.
- SE-KGE is extended as end-to-end models for two tasks: geographic question answering and spatial semantic lifting (a new task).
- Evaluation results show that SE-KGE can outperform multiple baselines on two tasks.
- Visualization shows that SE-KGE can successfully capture the spatial proximity information as well as the semantics of relations.

Future work:

- We want to explore a more concise way to encode the spatial footprints of geographic entities in a KG

Reference

1. **Gengchen Mai**, Krzysztof Janowicz, Ling Cai, Rui Zhu, Blake Regalia, Bo Yan, Meilin Shi, Ni Lao. SE-KGE: A Location-Aware Knowledge Graph Embedding Model for Geographic Question Answering and Spatial Semantic Lifting. *Transactions in GIS*. DOI:10.1111/TGIS.12629 [arxiv paper]
2. **Gengchen Mai**, Krzysztof Janowicz, Bo Yan, Rui Zhu, Ling Cai, Ni Lao. Multi-Scale Representation Learning for Spatial Feature Distributions using Grid Cells, In: *Proceedings of International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR) 2020*, Apr. 26 - 30, 2020, Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA . [OpenReview paper] [arxiv paper] [code] [video] [slides] *** Spotlight Paper**
3. **Gengchen Mai**, Krzysztof Janowicz, Bo Yan, Rui Zhu, Ling Cai, Ni Lao. Contextual Graph Attention for Answering Logical Queries over Incomplete Knowledge Graphs, In: *Proceedings of K-CAP 2019*, Nov. 19 - 21, 2019, Marina del Rey, CA, USA. [arxiv]
4. **Gengchen Mai**, Bo Yan, Krzysztof Janowicz, Rui Zhu. Relaxing Unanswerable Geographic Questions Using A Spatially Explicit Knowledge Graph Embedding Model, In: *Proceedings of AGILE 2019*, June 17 - 20, 2019, Limassol, Cyprus. *** 1st Best Full Paper Award**
5. **Gengchen Mai**, Krzysztof Janowicz, Rui Zhu, Ling Cai and Ni Lao. Geographic Question Answering: Challenges, Uniqueness, Classification, and Future Directions, In: *Proceedings of AGILE 2021*, Jun. 08 - 11, 2021, Virtual Conference. [DOI] [arxiv paper]

Trans. In GIS Special Issue on GeoKG

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Transactions in GIS

Call for Papers: Special Issue on Methods, Models and Resources for Geospatial Knowledge and GeoAI

Nowadays, one of the most prominent topics in Artificial Intelligence (AI) is the combination of representation learning techniques (Connectionist Artificial Intelligence) with symbolic representation and reasoning associated with knowledge graphs (Symbolic Artificial Intelligence), in order to develop scalable and interpretable AI models. From a geospatial point-of-view, GeoAI, as an interdisciplinary field of GIScience and AI, advocates the idea of developing and utilizing AI techniques in geography and earth science. Geospatial knowledge graphs, as symbolic representations of geospatial knowledge, go to the core of GeoAI and facilitate many intelligent applications such as geospatial data integration and knowledge discovery.
This special issue seeks new methods, models, and resources for advancing research related to Geospatial Knowledge Graphs and GeoAI.

Full details of the call are available **here**.

Deadline for Submission **February 15th, 2022**

Submission Guideline
Submission deadline: Feb 15, 2022
Expected final decision: July 01, 2022

Guest Editors:

- Dr. Gengchen Mai, Stanford AI Lab, Stanford University
- Prof. Yingjie Hu, Department of Geography, University at Buffalo
- Prof. Song Gao, Department of Geography, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Ling Cai, Department of Geography, University of California, Santa Barbara
- Prof. Bruno Martins, Instituto Superior Técnico, University of Lisbon
- Prof. Johannes Scholz, Institute of Geodesy, Graz University of Technology
- Prof. Jing Gao, Department of Geography and Spatial Sciences, University of Delaware
- Prof. Krzysztof Janowicz, Department of Geography, University of California, Santa Barbara
- Dr. Rui Zhu, Department of Geography, University of California, Santa Barbara

Question?