Two Indispensable Tools for Scientific Discovery

Cynthia Rudin

Gilbert, Louis, and Edward
Lehrman Distinguished
Professor of Computer Science
Duke University

Duke University



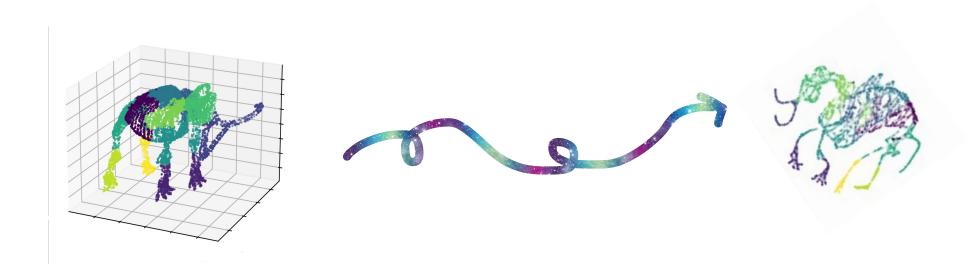
Joint work with Yingfan Wang, Haiyang Huang. Alina Barnett, Stark Guo, Ed Browne, Chaofan Chen, and many others

Two Indispensable Tools for Scientific Discovery

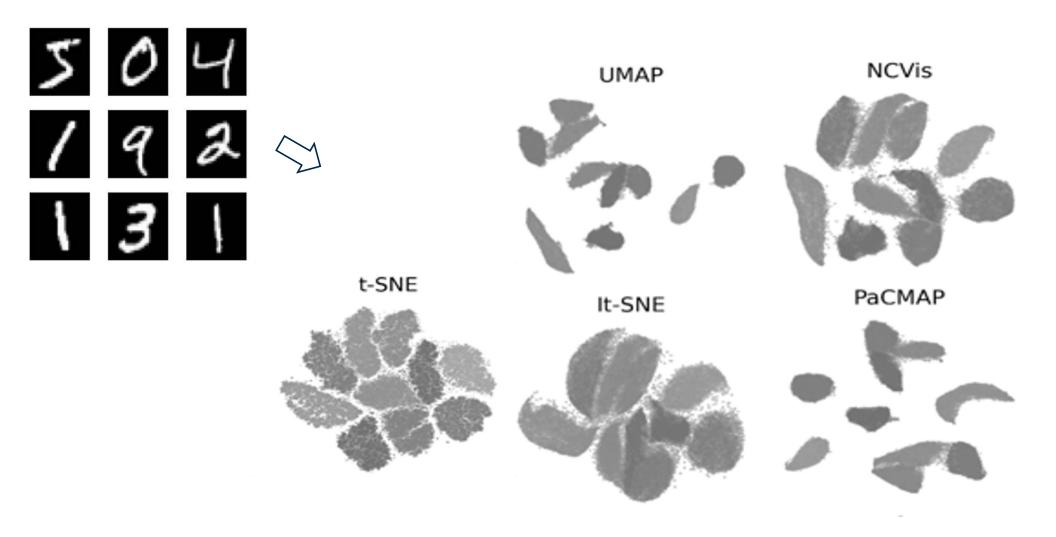
Dimension Reduction for Data Visualization PaCMAP & Friends

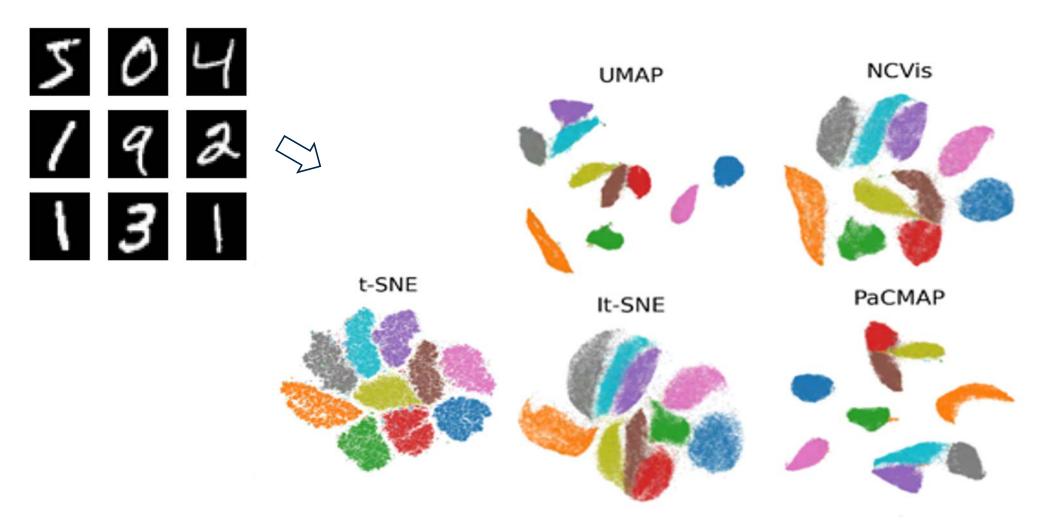
Interpretable Neural Networks
ProtoPNet & Friends

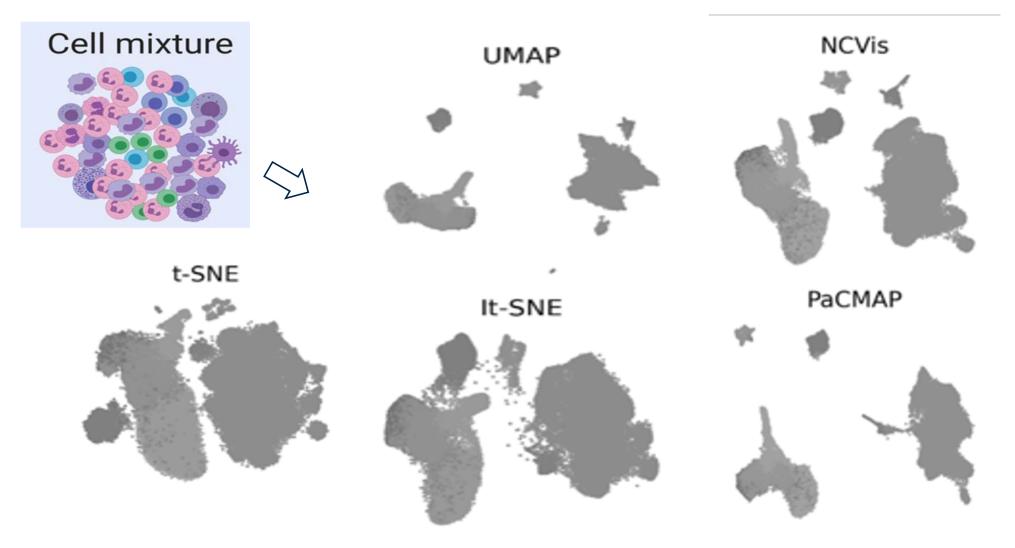
Dimension Reduction for Data Visualization



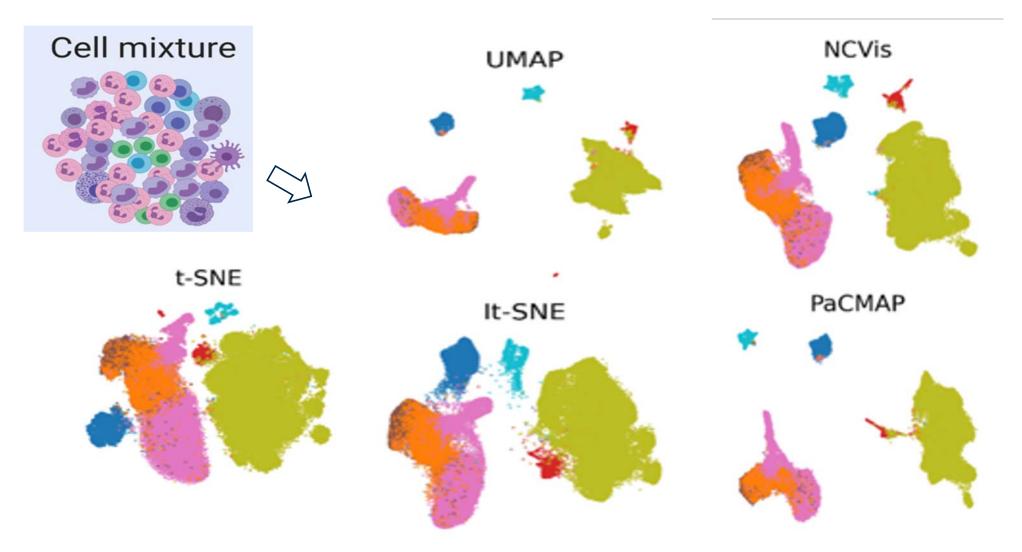
Joint work with Yingfan Wang, Haiyang Huang, Yiyang Sun, Edward Browne and Yaron Shaposhnik, Lesia Semenova, David Murdoch







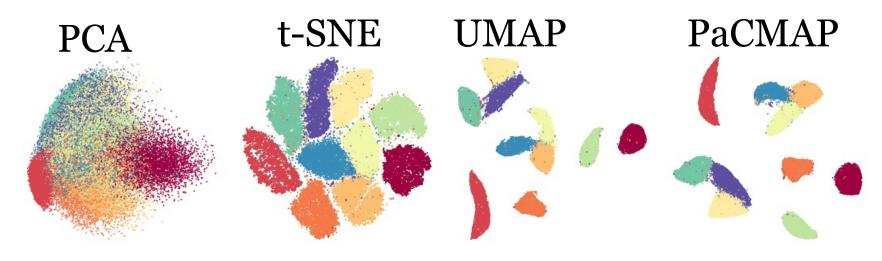
Kazer et. al dataset



Kazer et. al dataset

Local vs Global

- Local structure: local neighborhood graph, nearest neighbors
- Global structure: relationships between clusters, respect relative distances.



(mainly global) (mainly local) (mainly local) (both, actually)

Global Methods

- PCA (Pearson, 1901)
- MDS (Torgerson, 1952)

•

Local Methods

- LLE (Roweis and Saul, 2000),
- Isomap (Tenenbaum et al., 2000)
- Hessian Local Linear Embedding (Donoho and Grimes, 2003)
- Laplacian Eigenmaps (Belkin and Niyogi, 2001)
- Stochastic Neighborhood Embedding (SNE) (Hinton and Roweis, 2003)
- t-SNE (van der Maaten and Hinton, 2008)
- LargeVis (Tang et al., 2016)
- UMAP (McInnes et al., 2018)

Crowding problem

Preserve distances,

not neighborhoods

Preserve neighborhoods

Glol The art of using t-SNE for single-cell transcriptomics Nature Communications 10, Article number: 5416 (2019) | Cite this article 36k Accesses 67 Citations 259 Altmetric Metrics **Local Methods** How to Use t-SNE Effectively LLE (Roweis and Saul, 200 • Isomap (Tenenbaum et al., FERNANDA VIÉGAS MARTIN WATTENBERG IAN JOHNSON Oct. 13 Google Brain Google Brain Google Cloud 2016 arXiv.org > cs > arXiv:1708.03229Help | Advanced liyogi, 2001) Computer Science > Artificial Intelligence [Submitted on 10 Aug 2017] Automated optimal parameters for T-distributed stochastic neighbor embedding improve Automatic Selection of t-SNE Perplexity visualization and allow analysis of large datasets Yanshuai Cao, Luyu Wang October 2018 t-Distributed Stochastic Neighbor Embedding (t-SNE) is one of the m DOI: 10.1101/451690 dimensionality reduction methods for data visualization, but it has a Project: Automated Analysis of Flow Cytometry Multidimensional Datasets hyperparameter that requires manual selection. In practice, proper tu UMAP (McInnes et al., 2 Authors: Anna C Belkina

Boston University

Christopher O. Ciccolella

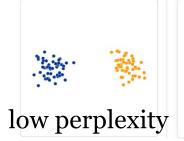
Josef Spidlen

Article Open Access Published: 28 November 2019

How to Use t-SNE Effectively

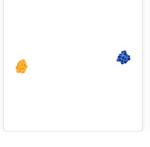
MARTIN WATTENBERG Google Brain FERNANDA VIÉGAS Google Brain IAN JOHNSON Google Cloud Oct. 13 2016

1. Those hyperparameters really matter

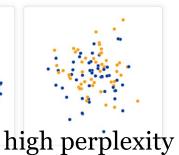






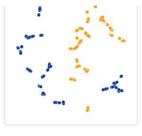




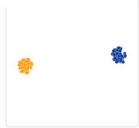


2. Cluster sizes in a t-SNE plot mean nothing













PaCMAP



Yingfan Wang former PhD student, Duke



Haiyang Huang former PhD student, Duke



Yaron Shaposhnik Prof, U Rochester

JMLR

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Understanding How Dimension Reduction Tools Work: An Empirical Approach to Deciphering t-SNE, UMAP, TriMap, and PaCMAP for Data Visualization

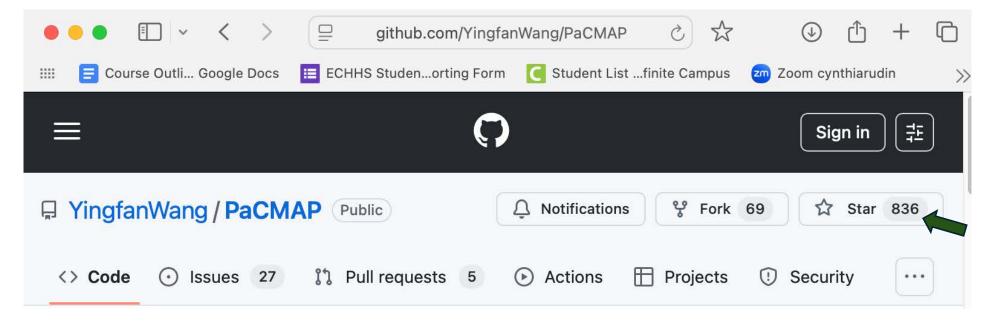
Yingfan Wang, Haiyang Huang, Cynthia Rudin, Yaron Shaposhnik; 22(201):1-73, 2021.

Abstract

Dimension reduction (DR) techniques such as t-SNE, UMAP, and TriMap have demonstrated impressive visualization performance on many real-world datasets. One tension that has always faced these methods is the trade-off between preservation of global structure and preservation of local structure: these methods can either handle one or the other, but not both. In this work, our main goal is to understand what aspects of DR methods are important for preserving both local and global structure: it is difficult to design

PaCMAP: https://github.com/YingfanWang/PaCMAP

Via pip: pip install pacmap / via conda: conda install pacmap -c conda-forge Now supports R/Seurat integration

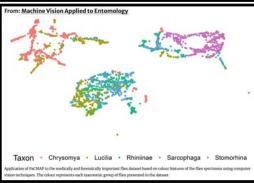


*Winner of the 2023 John M. Chambers Statistical Software Award and the 2024 Award for Innovation in Statistical Programming and Analytics from the American Statistical Association

Chapter 9 **Machine Vision Applied to Entomology**

Gabriel R. Palma, Conor P. Hackett, and Charles Markham









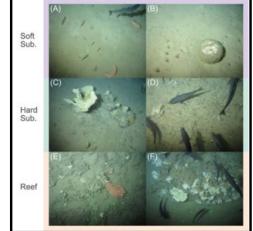
Ecological Informatics

Volume 81, July 2024, 102619



Machine learning for non-experts: A more accessible and simpler approach to automatic benthic habitat classification

Chloe A. Game ^{a b} △ ☒ , Michael B. Thompson ^c, Graham D. Finlayson ^b









Front. Mar. Sci., 08 August 2024 Sec. Marine Megafauna Volume 11 - 2024 | https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2024.1416247



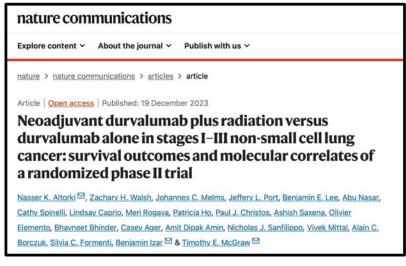


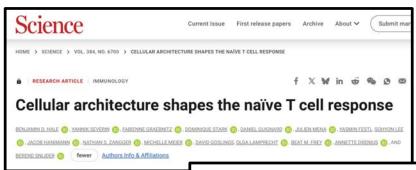


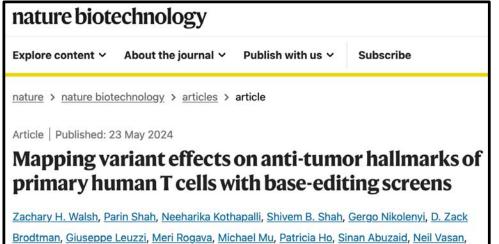




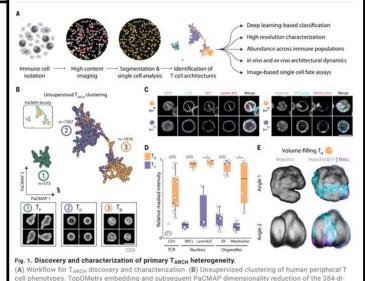
Javier E. Sanchez-Galan³







Mohammed AlQuraishi, Joshua D. Milner, Alberto Ciccia, Johannes C. Melms & Benjamin Izar



many more...

Algorithm	Graph components and Loss function
	Graph components: Edges (i, j)
t-SNE	Loss _{i,j} ^{t-SNE} = $p_{ij} \log \frac{p_{ij}}{q_{ij}}$, where $q_{ij} = \frac{(1+ \mathbf{y}_i-\mathbf{y}_j ^2)^{-1}}{\sum_{k\neq l} (1+ \mathbf{y}_k-\mathbf{y}_l ^2)^{-1}}$
(van der Maaten & Hinton, 2008)	where p_{ij} is a function of \mathbf{x}_i , \mathbf{x}_j and other \mathbf{x}_ℓ 's.
	Graph components: Edges (i, j)
UMAP	$\operatorname{Loss}_{i,j}^{\operatorname{UMAP}} = \begin{cases} \bar{w}_{i,j} \log \left(1 + a \left(\ \mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{y}_j\ _2^2 \right)^b \right)^{-1} & i, j \text{ neighbors} \\ (1 - \bar{w}_{i,j}) \log \left(1 - \left(1 + a \left(\ \mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{y}_j\ _2^2 \right)^b \right)^{-1} \right) & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$
(McInnes et al., 2018)	where $\bar{w}_{i,j}$ is a function of \mathbf{x}_i , \mathbf{x}_j and nearby \mathbf{x}_ℓ 's.
	Graph components: Triplets (i, j, k) where $Distance_{i,j} \leq Distance_{i,k}$
TriMAP	$\operatorname{Loss}_{i,j,k}^{\mathrm{TM}} = \omega_{i,j,k} \frac{s(\mathbf{y}_i, \mathbf{y}_k)}{s(\mathbf{y}_i, \mathbf{y}_j) + s(\mathbf{y}_i, \mathbf{y}_k)}, \text{ where } s(\mathbf{y}_i, \mathbf{y}_j) = \left(1 + \ \mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{y}_j\ ^2\right)^{-1}$
(Amid & Warmuth, 2019)	and $\omega_{i,j,k}$ is a function of \mathbf{x}_i , \mathbf{x}_j , \mathbf{x}_k and nearby points.

Hard to understand what's important here...

Start from the obvious:

- Attraction: high-dimensional neighbors should be attracted.
- Repulsion: points far in original space should be far in low-dim space.

But that's not enough...

$$\sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{T}_{\text{neighbors}}} l^{\text{attract}}(i,j) + \sum_{(i,k) \in \mathcal{T}_{\text{further}}} l^{\text{repulse}}(i,k)$$

Attract neighbors Repulse far points

Weight(component i in high dim space) · Loss(component i in low dim space) components $\{i\}$

PaCMAP's ideas:

- Properties of the loss function determine local structure.
- The choice of graph components determines global structure.

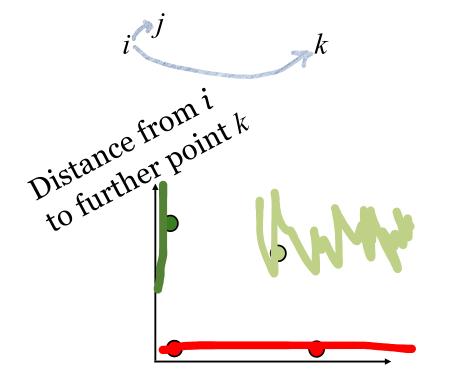
Algorithm	Graph components and Loss function
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Hard to understand what's important here...

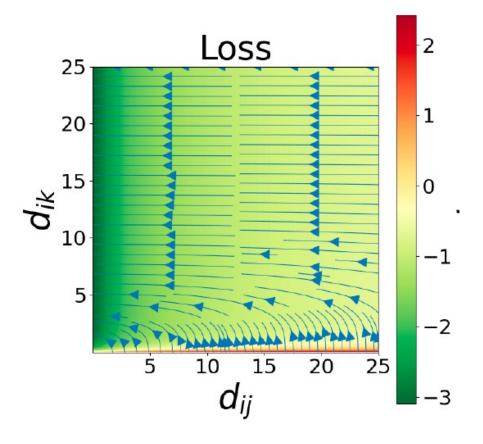


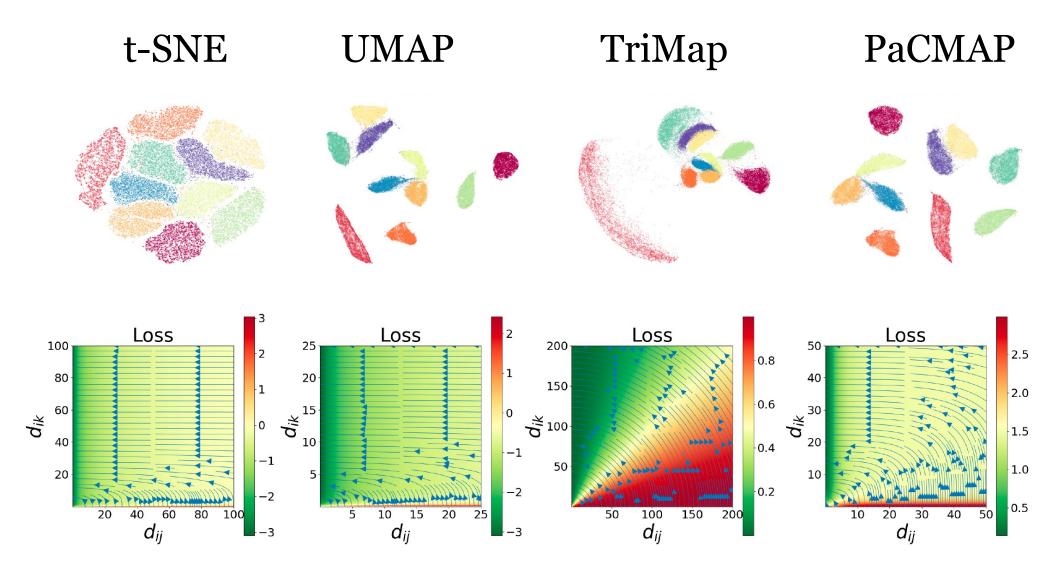
The "rainbow" plot

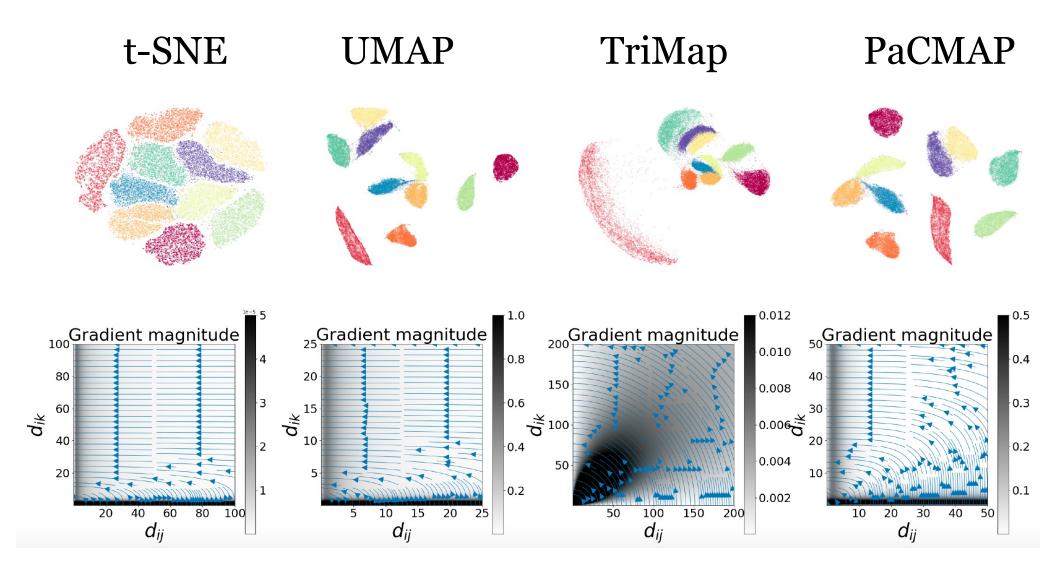
Triple i, j (neighbor), k (further)

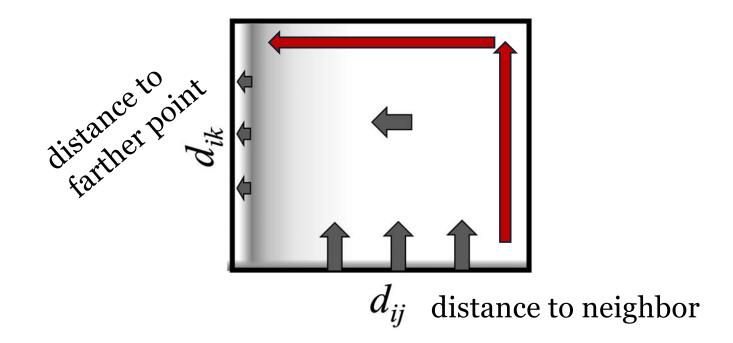


Distance from i to neighbor j



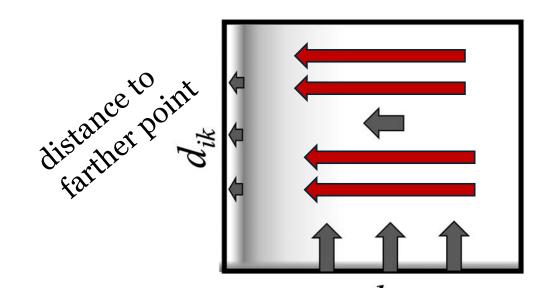






1. Monotonicity

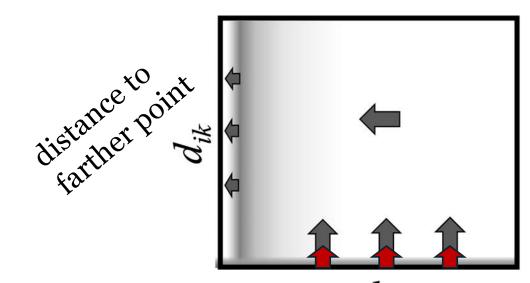
$$\forall d_{ij}: \frac{\partial Loss}{\partial d_{ik}} \stackrel{\mathsf{Up}}{\leq} 0 \text{ and } \forall d_{ik}: \frac{\partial Loss}{\partial d_{ij}} \stackrel{\mathsf{Left}}{\geq} 0.$$



 d_{ij} distance to neighbor

2. Except at bottom, gradient should go mainly to the left. (if further point is sufficiently far, should focus on pulling neighbor closer.)

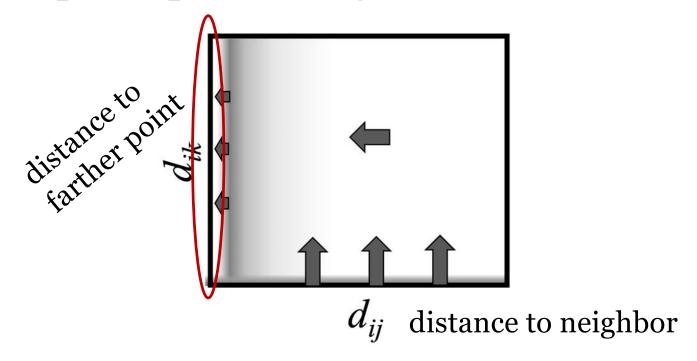
$$\forall d_{ij}, \forall \epsilon > 0, \ \exists \theta_{ik}^{\epsilon} : \forall d_{ik} > \theta_{ik}^{\epsilon} \text{ we have } \left| \frac{\partial Loss}{\partial d_{ik}} / \frac{\partial Loss}{\partial d_{ij}} \right| < \epsilon.$$
 (if sufficiently far) (left gradient is bigger)



 d_{ij} distance to neighbor

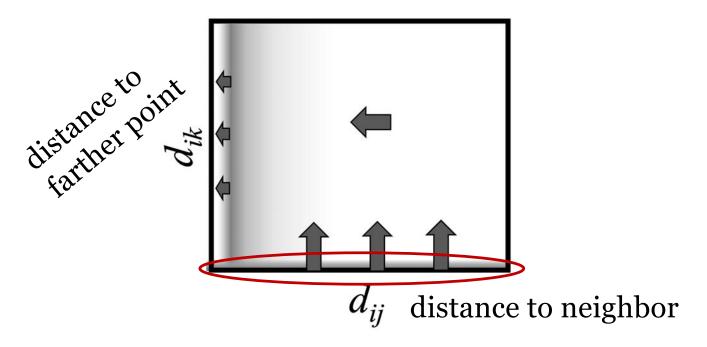
3. At bottom, gradient goes up, not to the left (push further points away more than attracting neighbors.)

$$\forall d_{ik} > 0, \ \forall \epsilon > 0, \ \exists \theta_{ij}^{\epsilon} : \forall d_{ij} > \theta_{ij}^{\epsilon} \text{ we have } \left| \frac{\partial Loss}{\partial d_{ij}} / \frac{\partial Loss}{\partial d_{ik}} \right| < \epsilon.$$



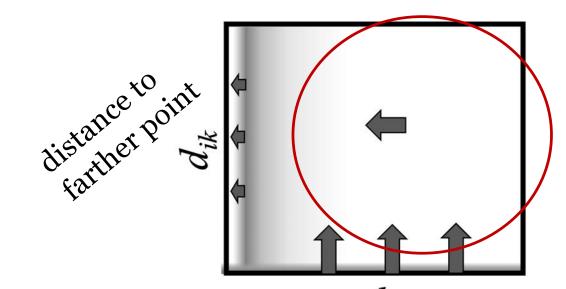
4. At left, gradient has small magnitude (don't crowd).

$$\forall \epsilon > 0, \ \exists \theta_{ik}^{\epsilon} : \forall d_{ik} \geq \theta_{ik}^{\epsilon}, \ \lim_{d_{ij} \to 0} \left| \frac{\partial Loss}{\partial d_{ik}} \right| < \epsilon, \ \text{and} \ \lim_{d_{ij} \to 0} \left| \frac{\partial Loss}{\partial d_{ij}} \right| < \epsilon.$$



5. At bottom, gradient has large magnitude (push farther point away)

$$\forall d_{ij}, \ \exists \theta_{ik} \ \forall d_{ik} > \theta_{ik} : \left| \frac{\partial Loss}{\partial d_{ik}} \right|^2 + \left| \frac{\partial Loss}{\partial d_{ij}} \right|^2$$
 is non-increasing in d_{ik} .



 d_{ij} distance to neighbor

6. Gradient fades as neighbor gets farther away. (give up on neighbors when they are too far)

$$\forall \epsilon > 0, \ \exists \theta_{ik} : \forall d_{ik} \ge \theta_{ik}, \ \lim_{d_{ij} \to \infty} \left| \frac{\partial Loss}{\partial d_{ik}} \right| < \epsilon, \ \text{and} \ \lim_{d_{ij} \to \infty} \left| \frac{\partial Loss}{\partial d_{ij}} \right| < \epsilon.$$

Bad loss functions

$$Loss = log(1 + exp(\frac{d_i^2 - d_k^2}{10}))$$

$$Loss = \frac{d_i^2 + 1}{d_k^2 + 1}$$

$$Loss = -\frac{d_k^2 + 1}{d_i^2 + 1}$$

$$Loss = log(1 + exp(d_{ij}^2) + exp(-d_{ik}^2))$$

$$25 \text{ Gradient magnitude}$$

$$6 \text{ 5 20}$$

$$350 \text{ 25 Gradient magnitude}$$

$$350 \text{ 26 Gradient magnitude}$$

$$350 \text{ 27 Gradient magnitude}$$

$$350 \text{ 28 Gradient magnitude}$$

$$350 \text{ 29 Gradient magnitude}$$

$$350 \text{ 20 Gradient magnitude}$$

$$350 \text{ 20 Gradient magnitude}$$

$$350 \text{ 20 Gradient magnitude}$$

$$350 \text{ 25 Gradient magnitude}$$

$$350 \text{ 26 Gradient magnitude}$$

$$350 \text{ 27 Gradient magnitude}$$

$$350 \text{ 28 Gradient magnitude}$$

$$350 \text{ 29 Gradient magnitude}$$

$$350 \text{ 20 Solution magnitude}$$

$$350 \text{ 20 Solution$$

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(Amid & Warmuth, 2019)	and $\omega_{i,j,k}$ is a function of \mathbf{x}_i , \mathbf{x}_j , \mathbf{x}_k and nearby points.

Hard to understand what's important here...

PaCMAP's Loss

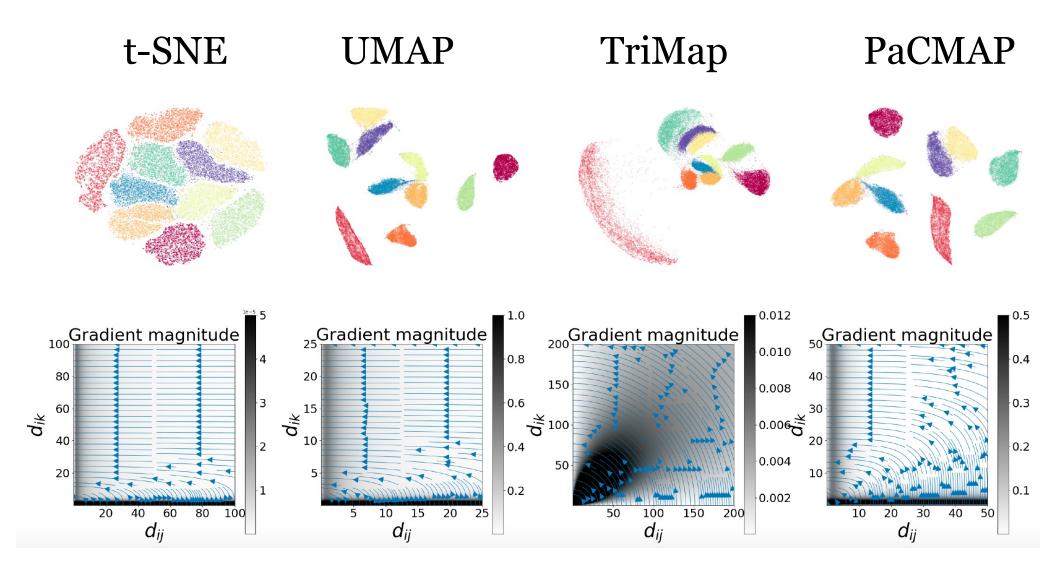
$$Loss^{PaCMAP} = w_{neighbors}Loss_{neighbors} + w_{MN}Loss_{MN} + w_{FP}Loss_{FP}$$

$$distance\ (i,j) := \|y_i - y_j\|^2 + 1$$

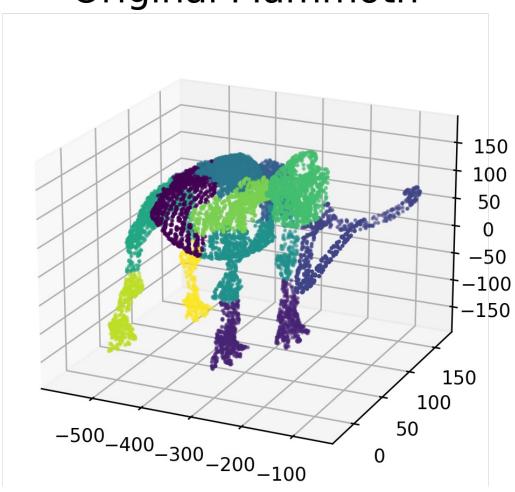
$$Loss_{neighbors} = \frac{distance\ (i,j)}{distance\ (i,j) + 10} \quad Loss_{MN} = \frac{distance\ (i,l)}{distance\ (i,l) + 10000} \quad Loss_{FP} = \frac{1}{distance\ (i,l) + 1}$$

$$Neighbors: \quad Mid-near\ pairs: \quad Further\ points: \quad repulsive$$

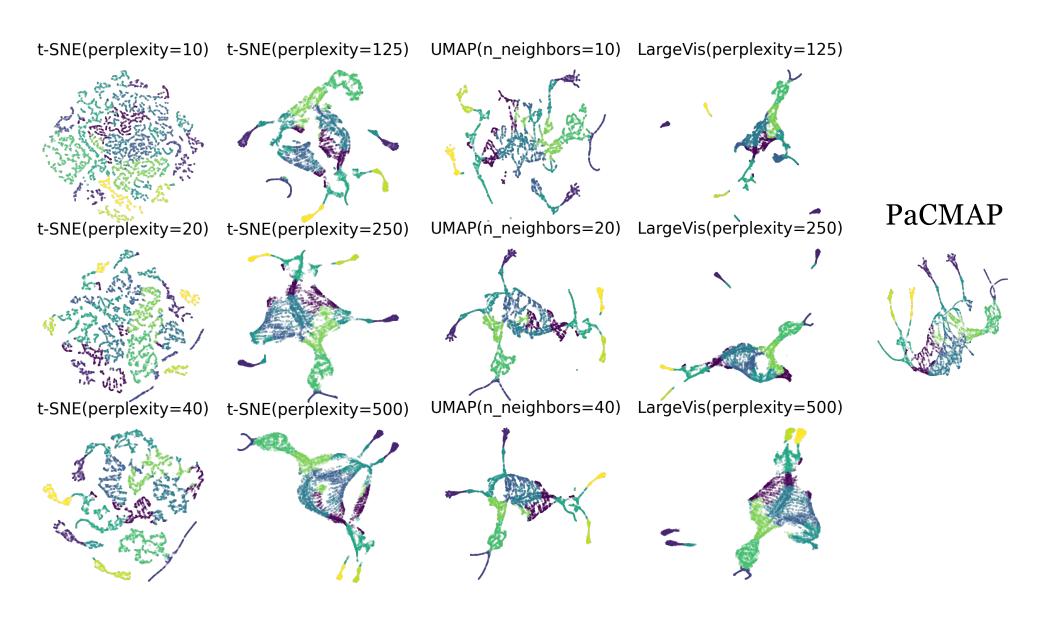
Mid near pair for *i* : sample 6 points, choose the second closest, pair it with *i*.



Original Mammoth



Task: 3d to 2d.



Studying Clusters of People with HIV



Yingfan Wang AWS



Prof. Lesia Semenova Rutgers

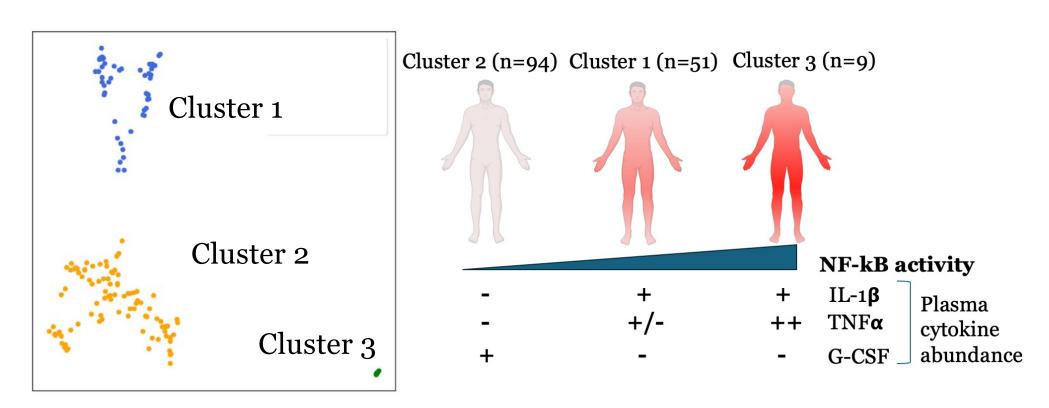


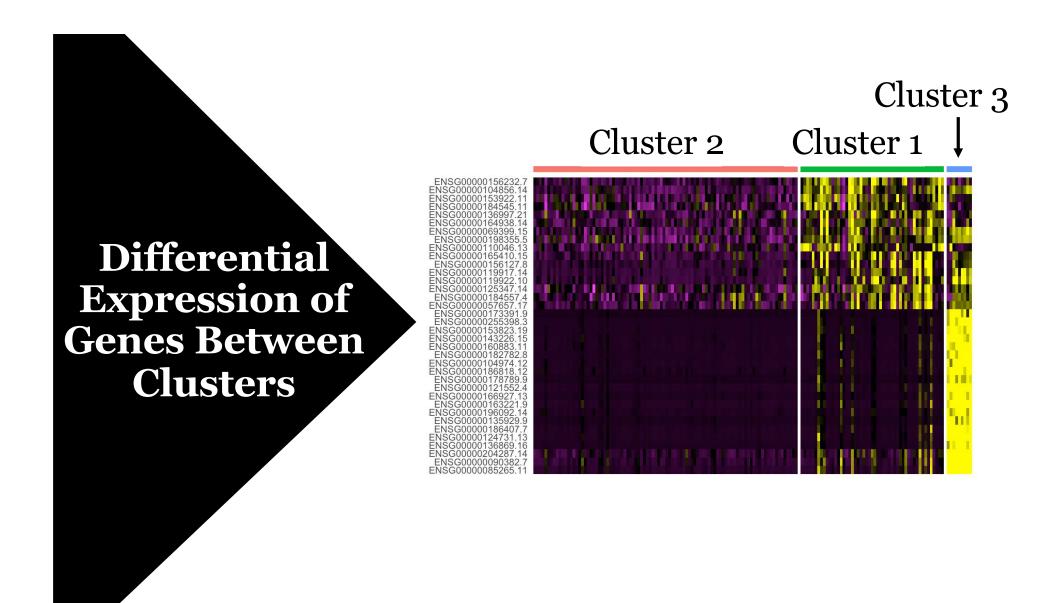
Prof. Edward Browne University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill Division of Infectious Diseases



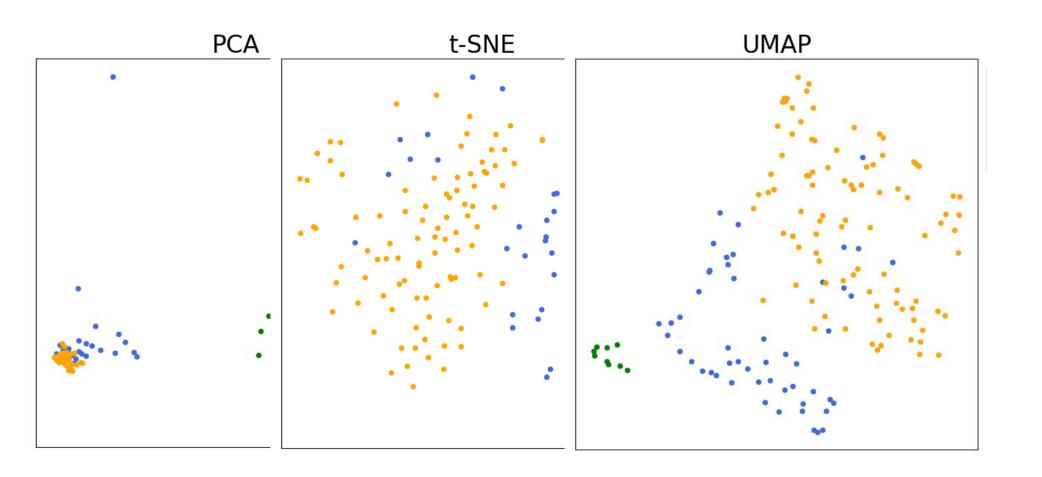
Prof. David Murdoch Pulmonary, Allergy, and Critical Care Medicine Duke University

Clustering of people with HIV associated with differential expression of genes regulated by the transcription factor NF- κ B

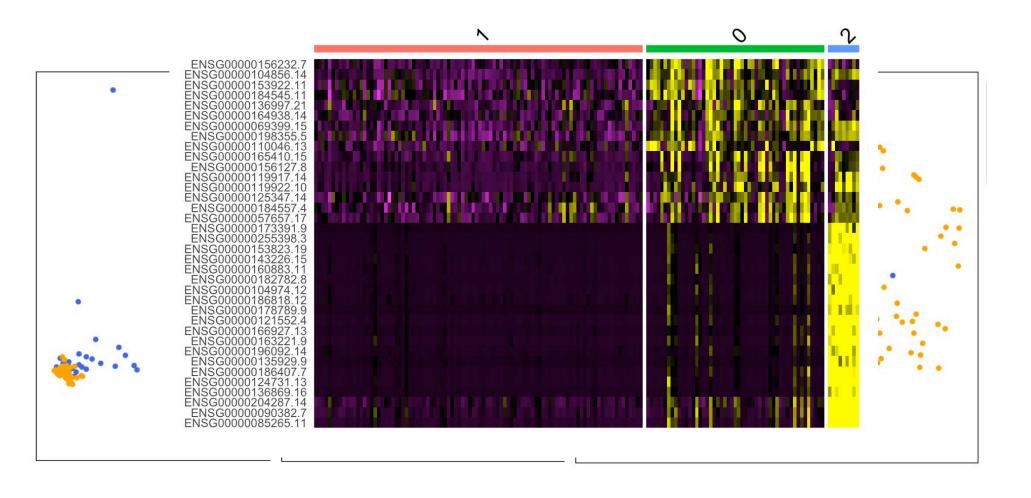




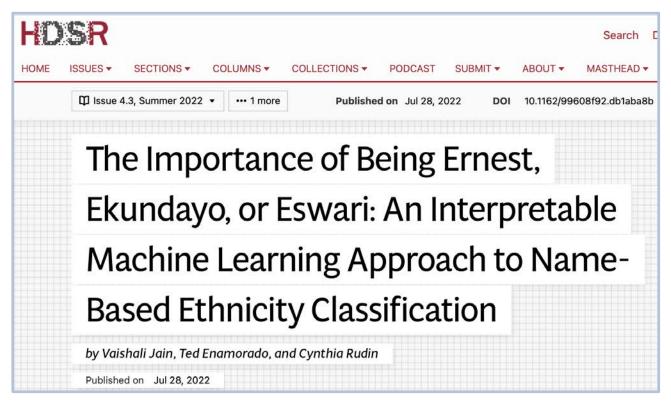
Other DR methods fail to identify the clusters



Other DR methods fail to identify the clusters



Name-Ethnicity Classification (helpful for assessing fairness)



Harvard Data Science Review, 2022

Luis Gonzalez-Chavez
Salvador Torres Lopez
Silvia Marrero Ortiz
Carlos Garcia-Ortiz

Ushaben Patel Wei Zhao Ushaben Nguyen Phuong Nguyen Min Xu Bhavna Mehta Ngoc Tran Yun Kim

Scott Olaughlin Suzanne Olshefski Kathryn Higbee Holly Radloff





Our latest DR papers

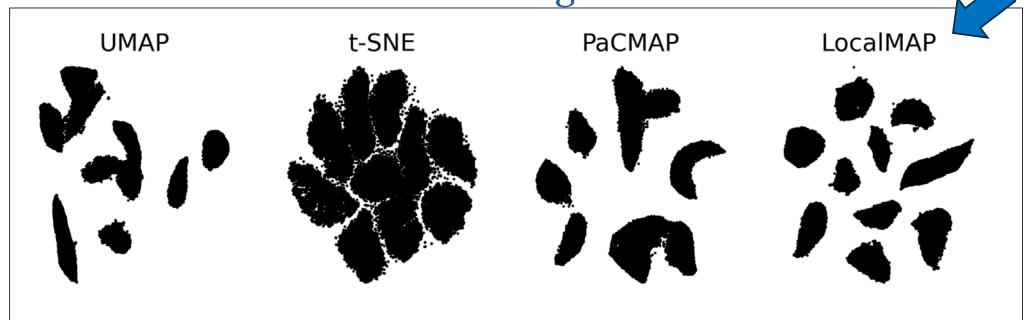
Dimension Reduction with Locally Adjusted Graphs

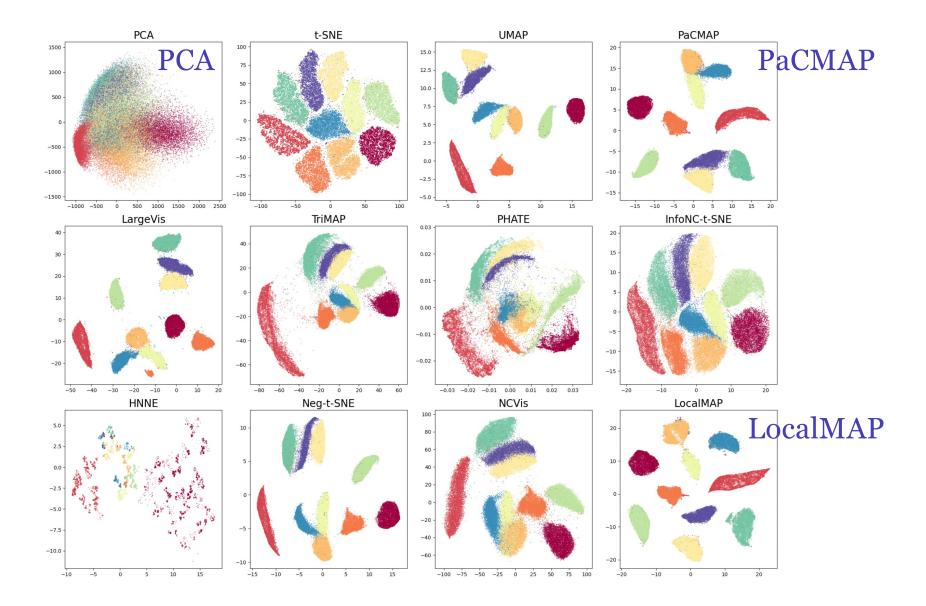
Yingfan Wang*, Yiyang Sun*, Haiyang Huang*, Cynthia Rudin

Duke University

AAAI, 2025

MNIST again

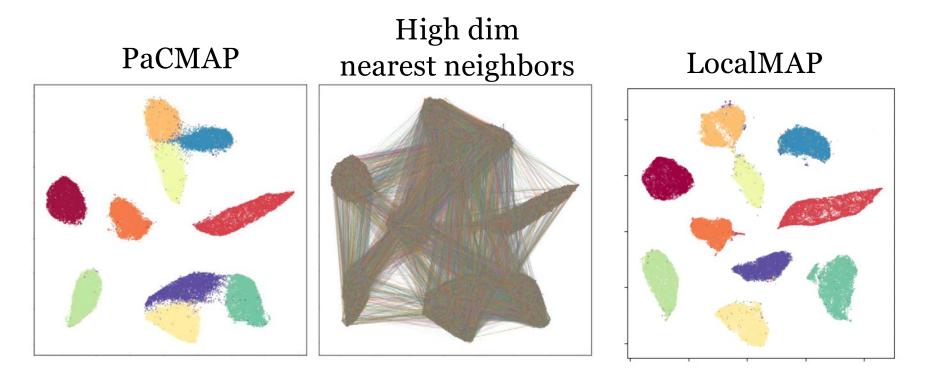




Standard DR methods (including PaCMAP) include data incorrectly!

LocalMAP dynamically resamples/reweights data to devalue incorrect edges.

Standard DR methods (including PaCMAP) include data incorrectly!

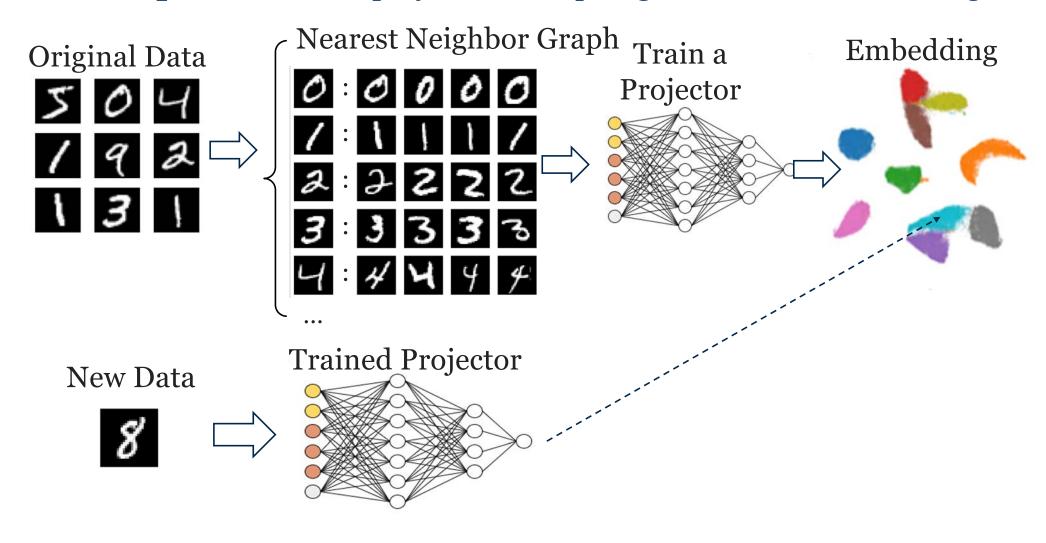


LocalMAP dynamically resamples/reweights data to devalue incorrect edges.

Navigating the Effect of Parametrization for Dimensionality Reduction

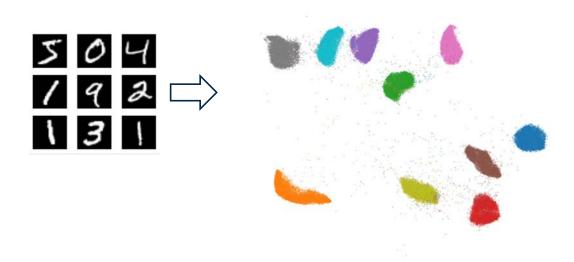
Haiyang Huang* Yingfan Wang* Cynthia Rudin
Duke University
{hyhuang, yw416, cynthia}@cs.duke.edu

Use a **parametrized** projector to map original data into embedding



Use a **parametrized** projector to map original data into embedding

Parametric DR



Alina Barnett



Stark Guo

EEG Monitoring





Jin Jing



Brandon Westover

Alina Barnett, Zhicheng (Stark) Guo, Jin Jing and Brandon Westover

EEG Monitoring



Figure 1 Model+Uncertainty #2 PaCMAP#2 \square Prototypes only Play movie Seizure LPD GPD LRDA P12 GRDA Other P11

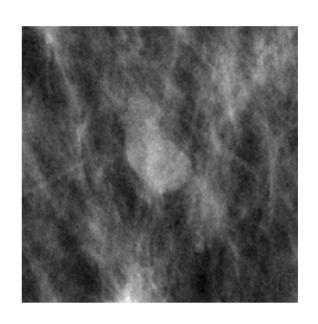
- 🗇 X

Figure 1

Interpretable neural networks

ProtoPNet uses case-based reasoning

Should I biopsy this breast lesion?



Black box approach:

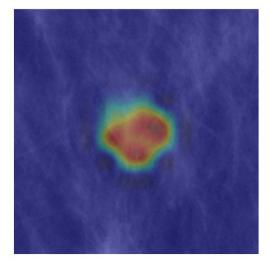
Probability of malignancy is low. Predict benign.

Reason: N/A

Saliency map approach:

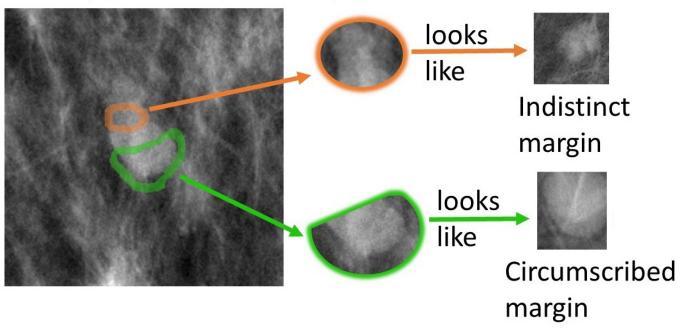
Probability of malignancy is low. Predict benign.

Reason: Here is where I am looking.

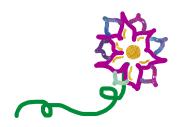


Should I biopsy this breast lesion?

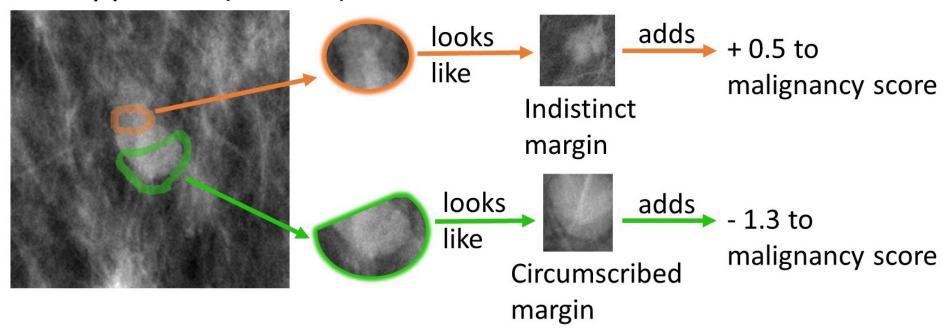
Our approach (IAIA-BL)



Should I biopsy this breast lesion?



Our approach (IAIA-BL)



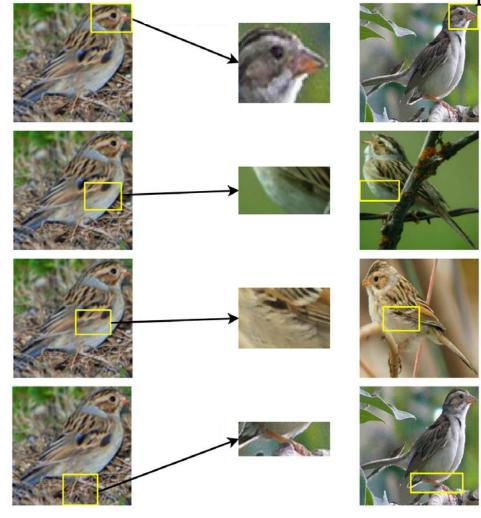
Probability of malignancy is low. Predict benign.

Reason: Mass primarily has circumscribed margin.

of a prototypical clay-Because this looks like that part colored sparrow

Why is this bird classified as a clay-colored sparrow?





This Looks Like That: Deep Learning for Interpretable Image Recognition

NeurIPS 2019 (spotlight) 1.6K+ citations

ProtoPNet

- Adds a "prototype" layer to a black box, forces the network to do case-based reasoning.



Oscar Li



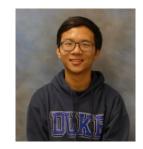
Jonathan Su



Chaofan Chen

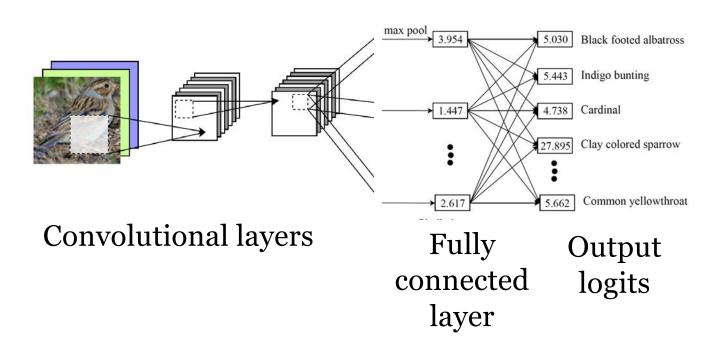


Alina Barnett

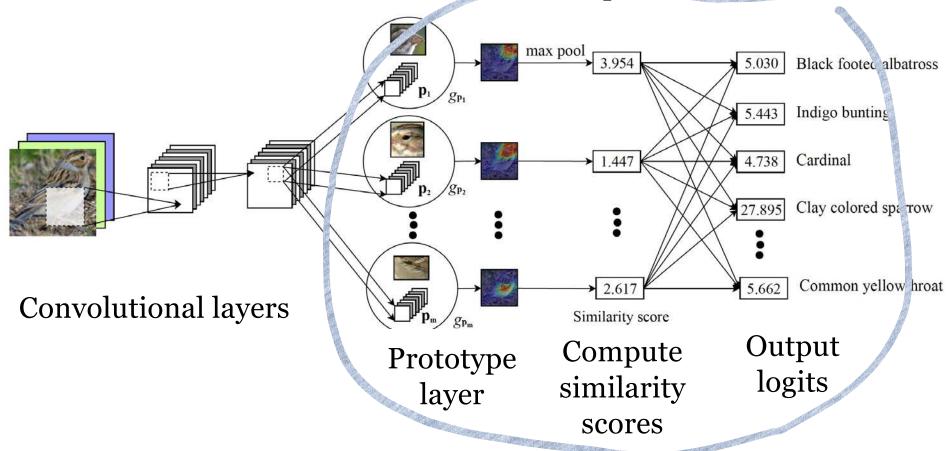


Daniel Tao

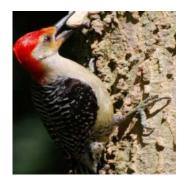
Take any "standard" black box CNN...



And transform it to be interpretable



Why is this bird classified as a redbellied woodpecker?



Original image	Prototype	Training image	Activation map	Similarity Class Points score connection contributed
				6.499 × 1.180 = 7.669
				4.392 × 1.127 = 4.950

Why is this bird classfied as a red-bellied woodpecker?



Evidence for this bird being a red-bellied woodpecker:

Original image Prototype (box showing part that looks like prototype)



where prototype





Training image Activation map



 $6.499 \times 1.180 = 7.669$

Points

connection contributed

Similarity Class

score









 $4.392 \times 1.127 = 4.950$



 $3.890 \times 1.108 = 4.310$

Total points to red-bellied woodpecker: 32.736

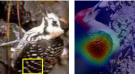
32.736 points

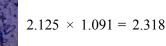
Evidence for this bird being a red-cockaded woodpecker:

Original image Prototype Training image Activation map Similarity Class **Points** (box showing part that where prototype connection contributed score looks like prototype) comes from $2.452 \times 1.046 = 2.565$

















 $1.945 \times 1.069 = 2.079$

Total points to red-cockaded woodpecker: 16.886

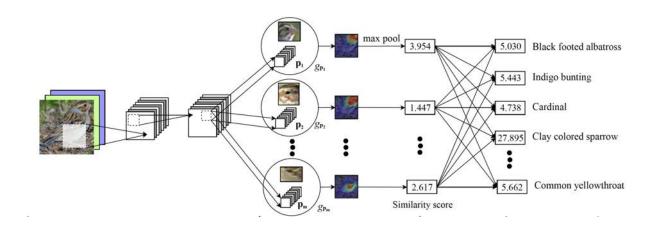
16.886 points

Training ProtoPNet:

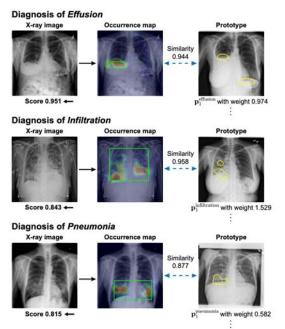
Minimize
Weights, Prototypes

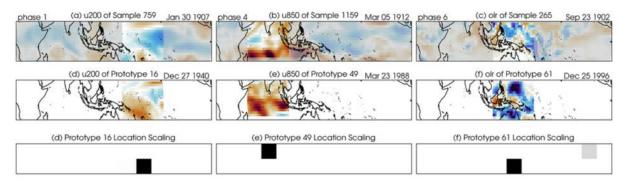
Cross-Entropy Loss between labels and predictions

- + Distance from prototype to nearest patch of correct class
- Distance from prototype to nearest patch of incorrect class

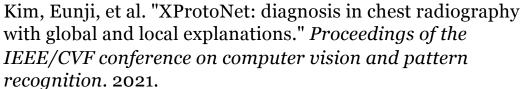


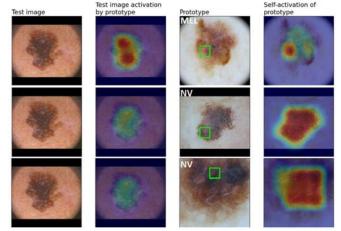
ProtoPNet Use Cases



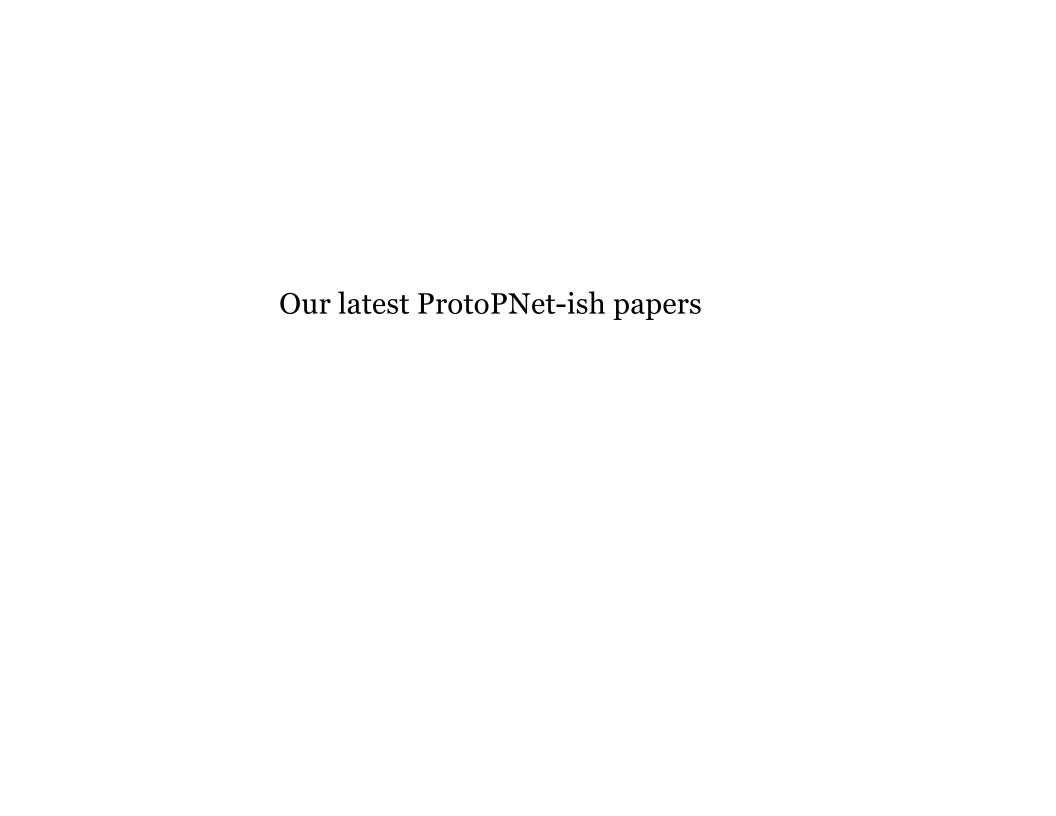


Barnes, Elizabeth A., et al. "This Looks Like That There: Interpretable neural networks for image tasks when location matters." *Artificial Intelligence for the Earth Systems* 1.3 (2022): e220001.





Correia, Miguel, et al. "XAI for Skin Cancer Detection with Prototypes and Non-Expert Supervision." *arXiv preprint arXiv:2402.01410* (2024).



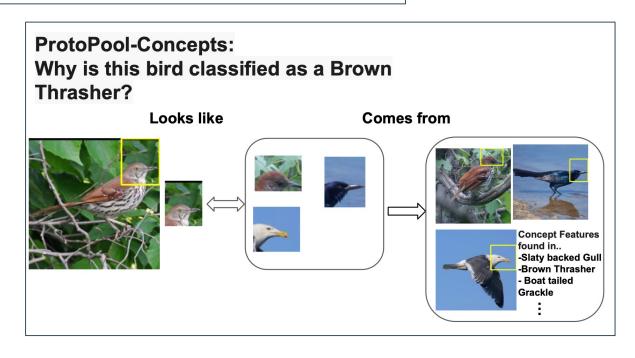
This Looks Like Those: Illuminating Prototypical Concepts Using Multiple Visualizations

Chiyu Ma* Dartmouth College chiyu.ma.gr@dartmouth.edu Brandon Zhao* Caltech byzhao@caltech.edu

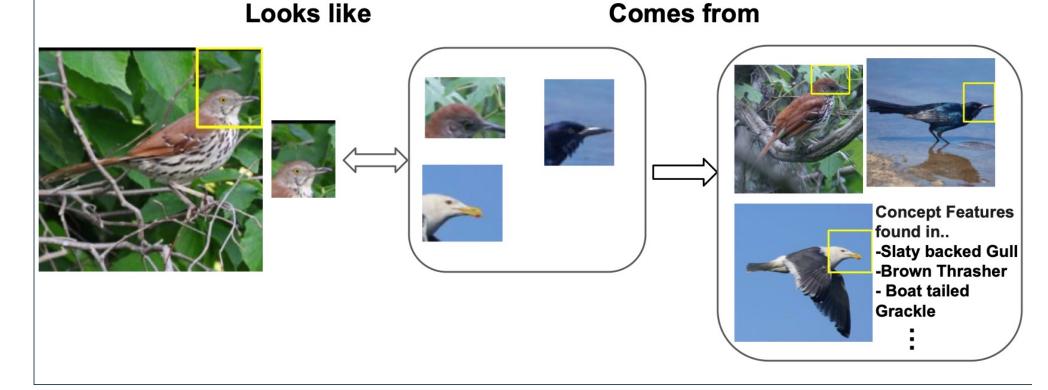
Chaofan Chen University of Maine chaofan.chen@maine.edu Cynthia Rudin Duke University cynthia@cs.duke.edu

NeurIPS 2023

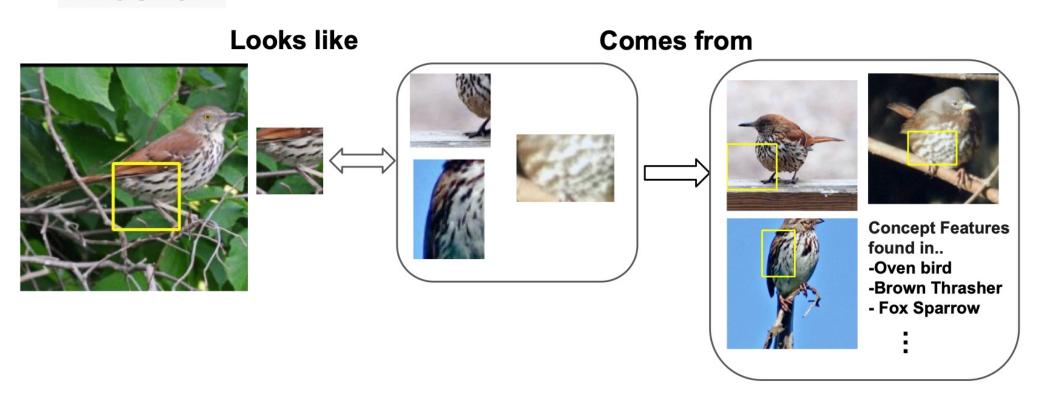




ProtoPool-Concepts: Why is this bird classified as a Brown Thrasher?



ProtoPool-Concepts: Why is this bird classified as a Brown Thrasher?



Interpretable Image Classification with Adaptive Prototype-based Vision Transformers

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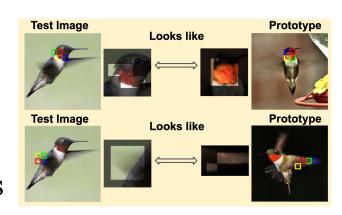
Chaofan Chen

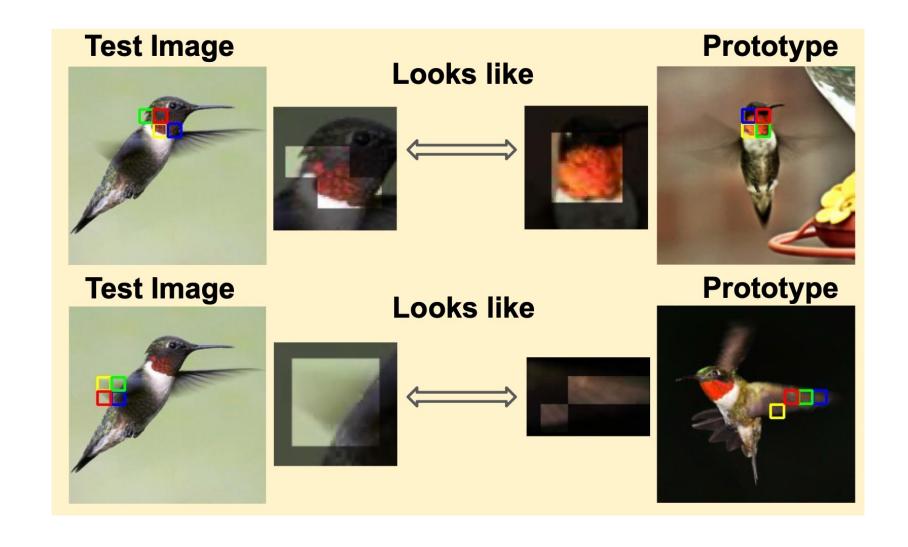
University of Maine chaofan.chen@maine.edu

NeurIPS 2024

ProtoViT

- uses prototype logic (thus, interpretable)
- as accurate as the black box vision transformers





Alina Barnett



Stark Guo

EEG Monitoring





Jin Jing



Brandon Westover

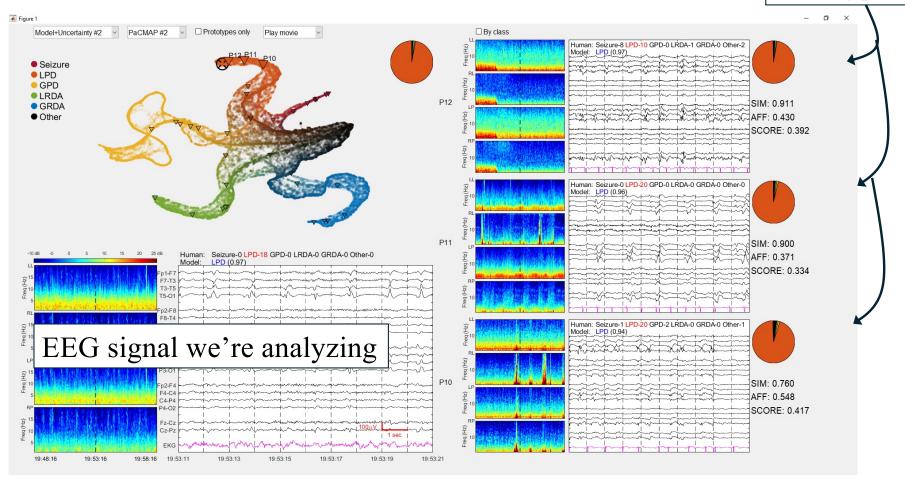
Alina Barnett, Zhicheng (Stark) Guo, Jin Jing and Brandon Westover

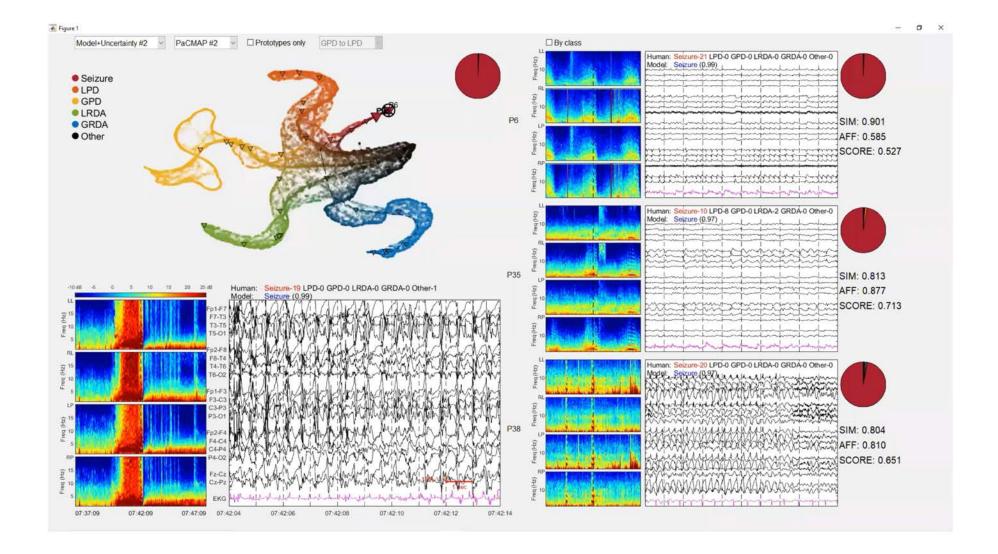
EEG Monitoring

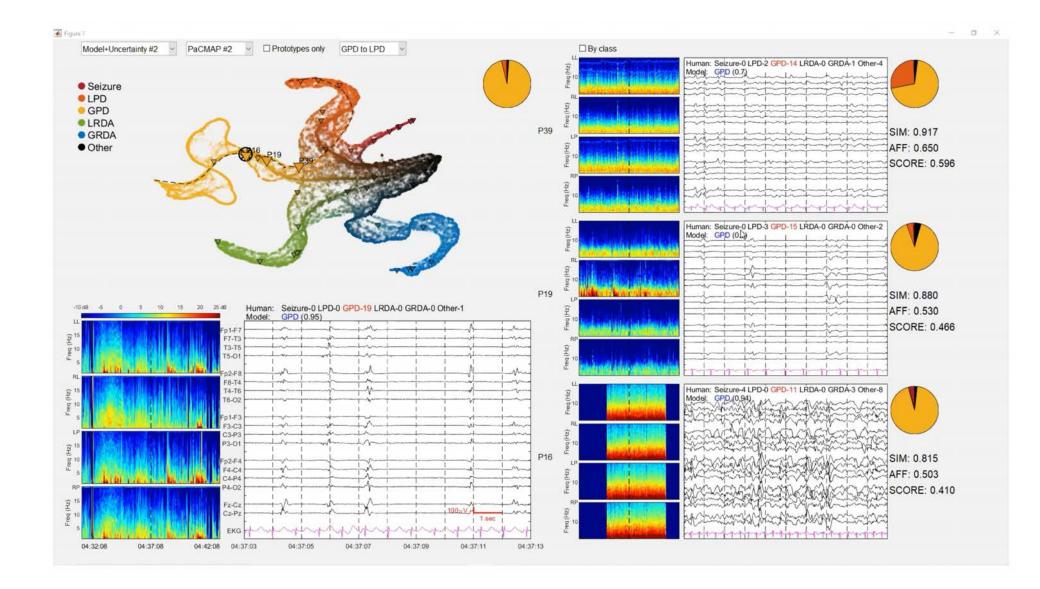


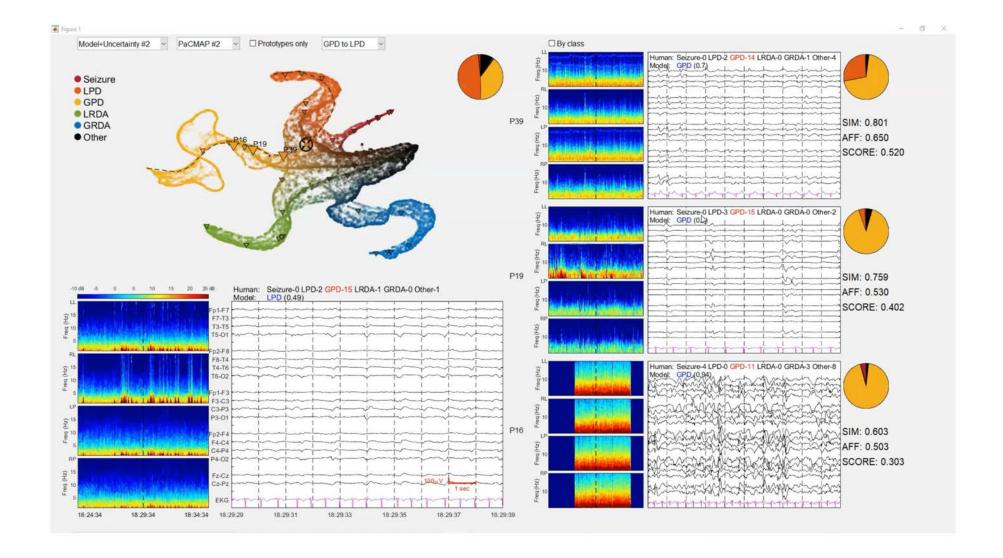
Visualization of Last Layer (using PaCMAP)











Two Indispensable Tools for Scientific Discovery

Dimension Reduction for Data Visualization PaCMAP & Friends

Interpretable Neural Networks

ProtoPNet & Friends