

mlpack: or, How I Learned To Stop Worrying and Love C++

Ryan R. Curtin

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May 30, 2019



Introduction: the data science cycle



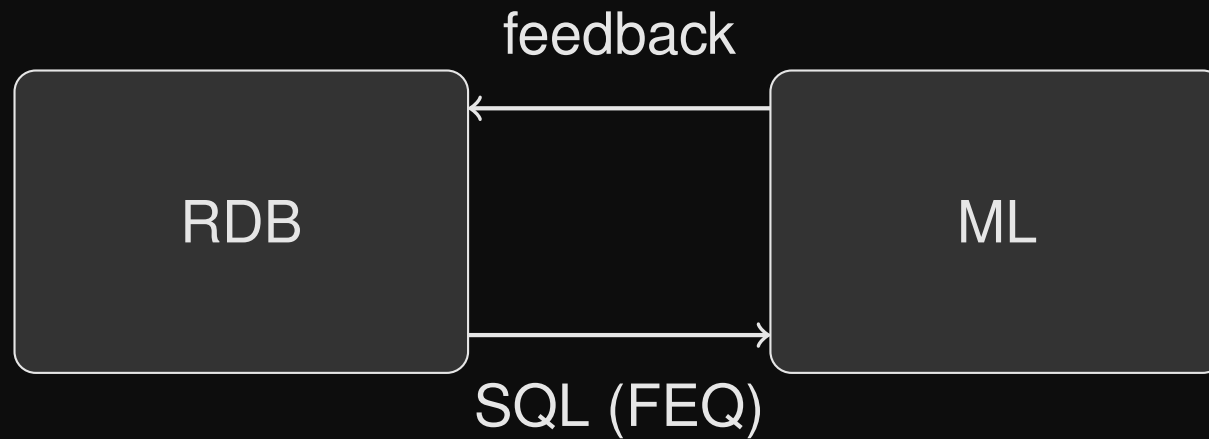
Introduction: the data science cycle



How long does this take your organization?

Feature Extraction Queries

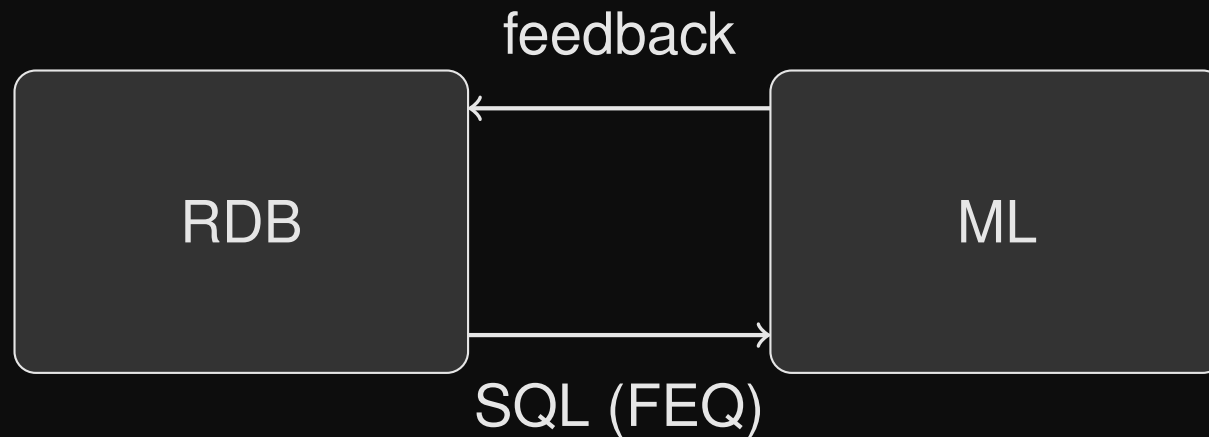
Typically the data scientist extracts data with a feature extraction query (FEQ) and then builds an ML model, then iterates.



How long can this take?

Feature Extraction Queries

Typically the data scientist extracts data with a feature extraction query (FEQ) and then builds an ML model, then iterates.



How long can this take? Case study: at Symantec, to train neural networks to detect malicious domains, the FEQ took 8–16 hours and the ML training took 24 hours.

Feature Extraction Queries

Typically the data is processed (FEQ) and then

action query

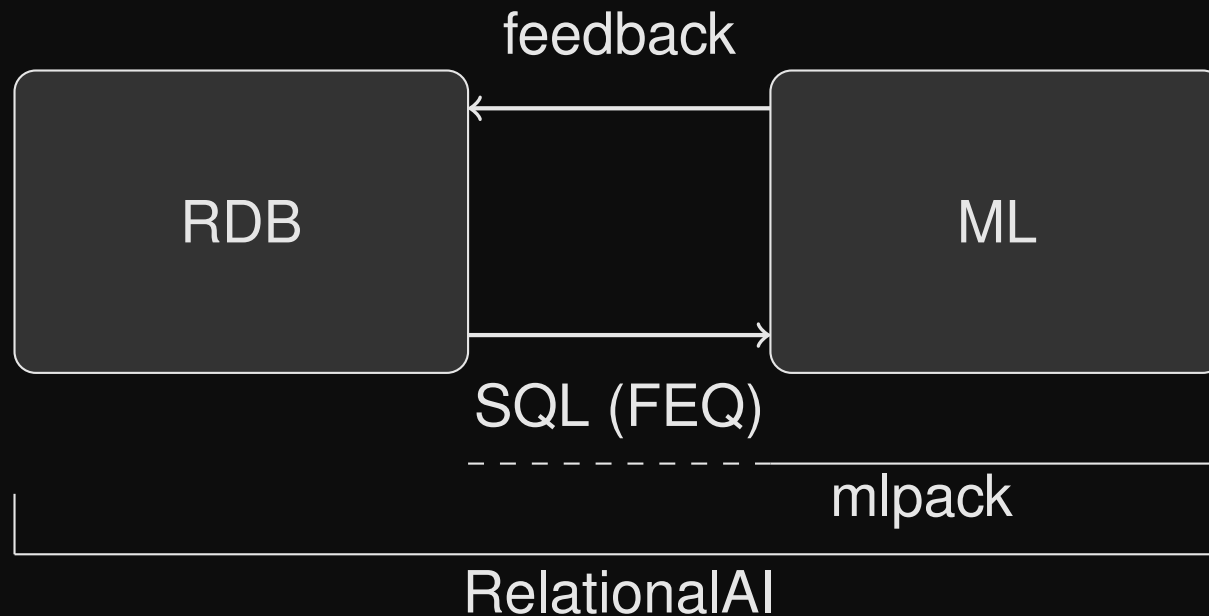


How long can neural networks to detect ML training too

neural networks and the

Feature Extraction Queries

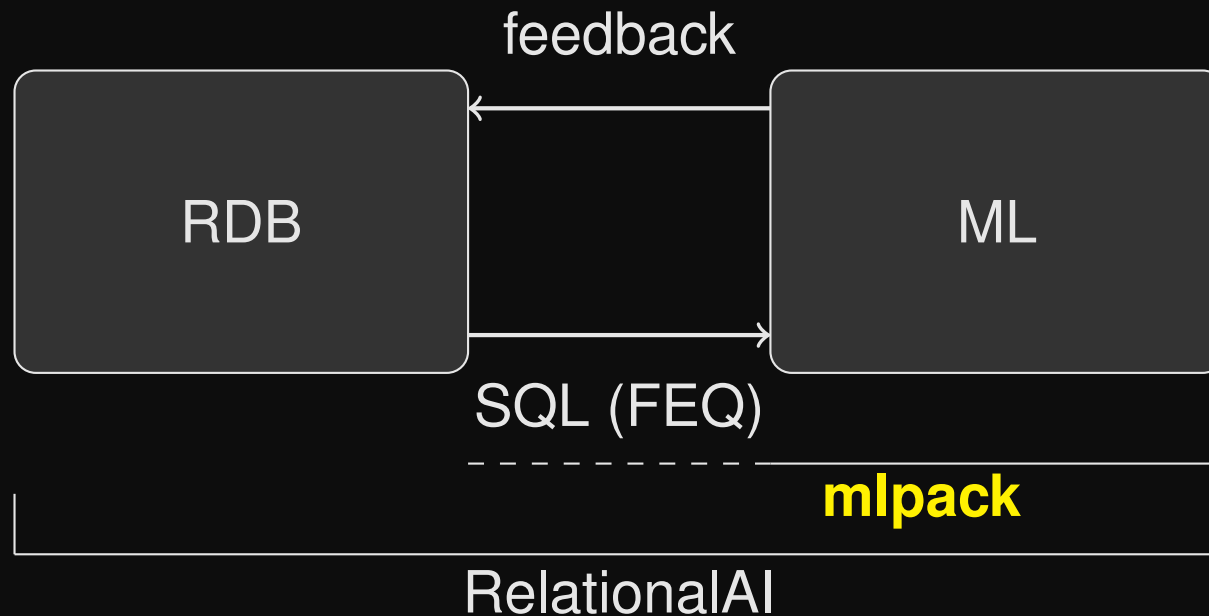
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We can do better: we can combine both of these operations and get massive speedups in some cases!

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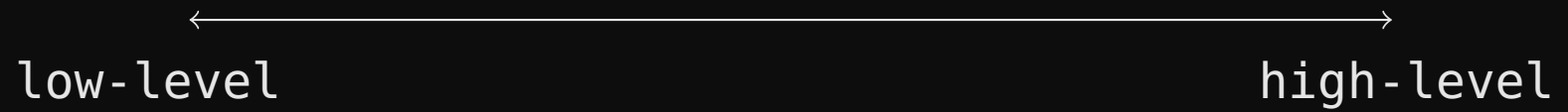


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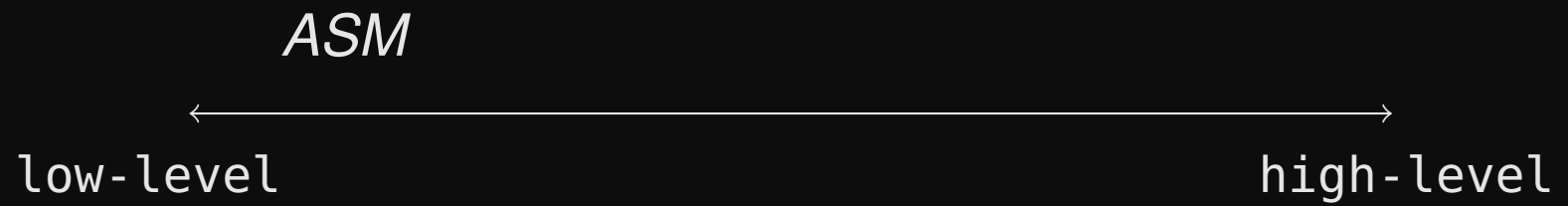
Graph #1



Graph #1



Graph #1



Graph #1



ASM

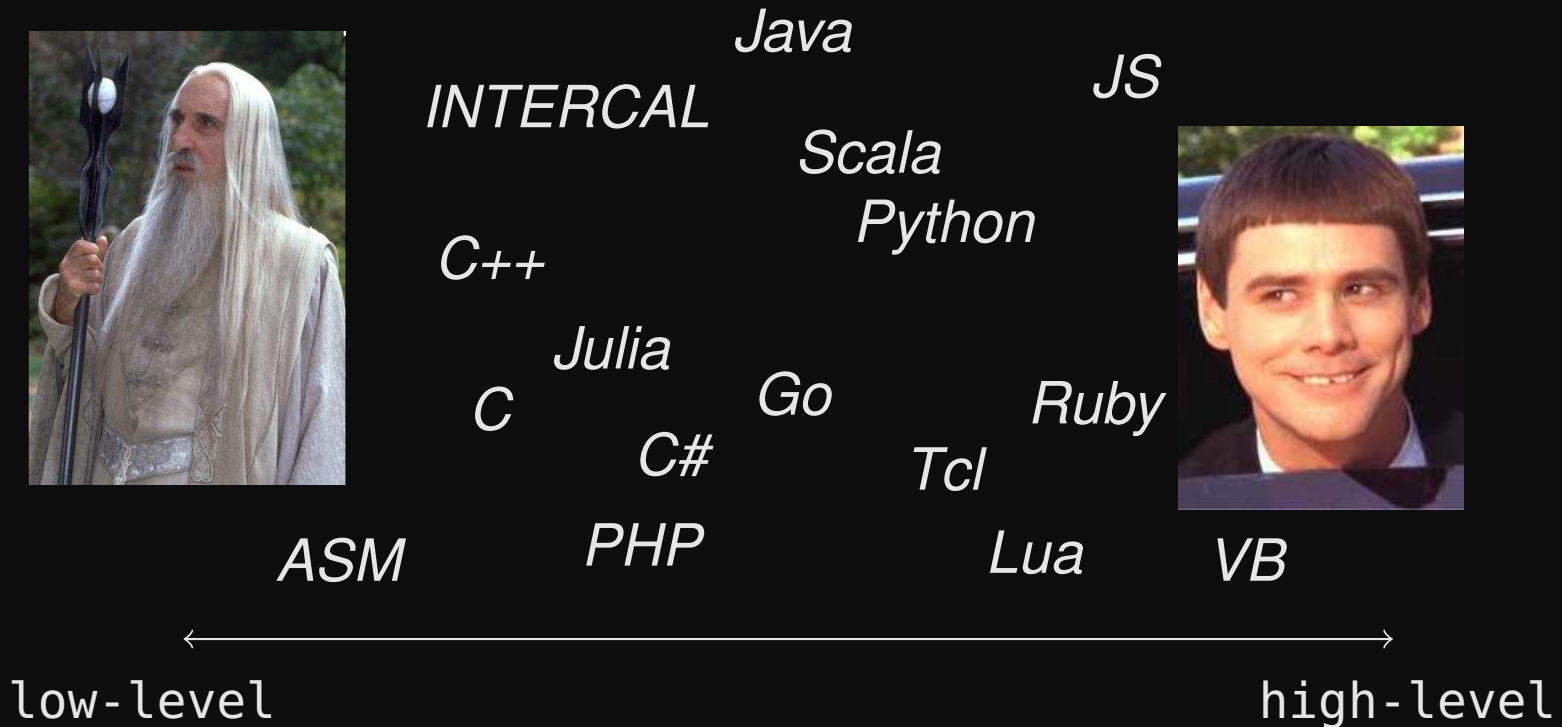
VB

low-level

high-level

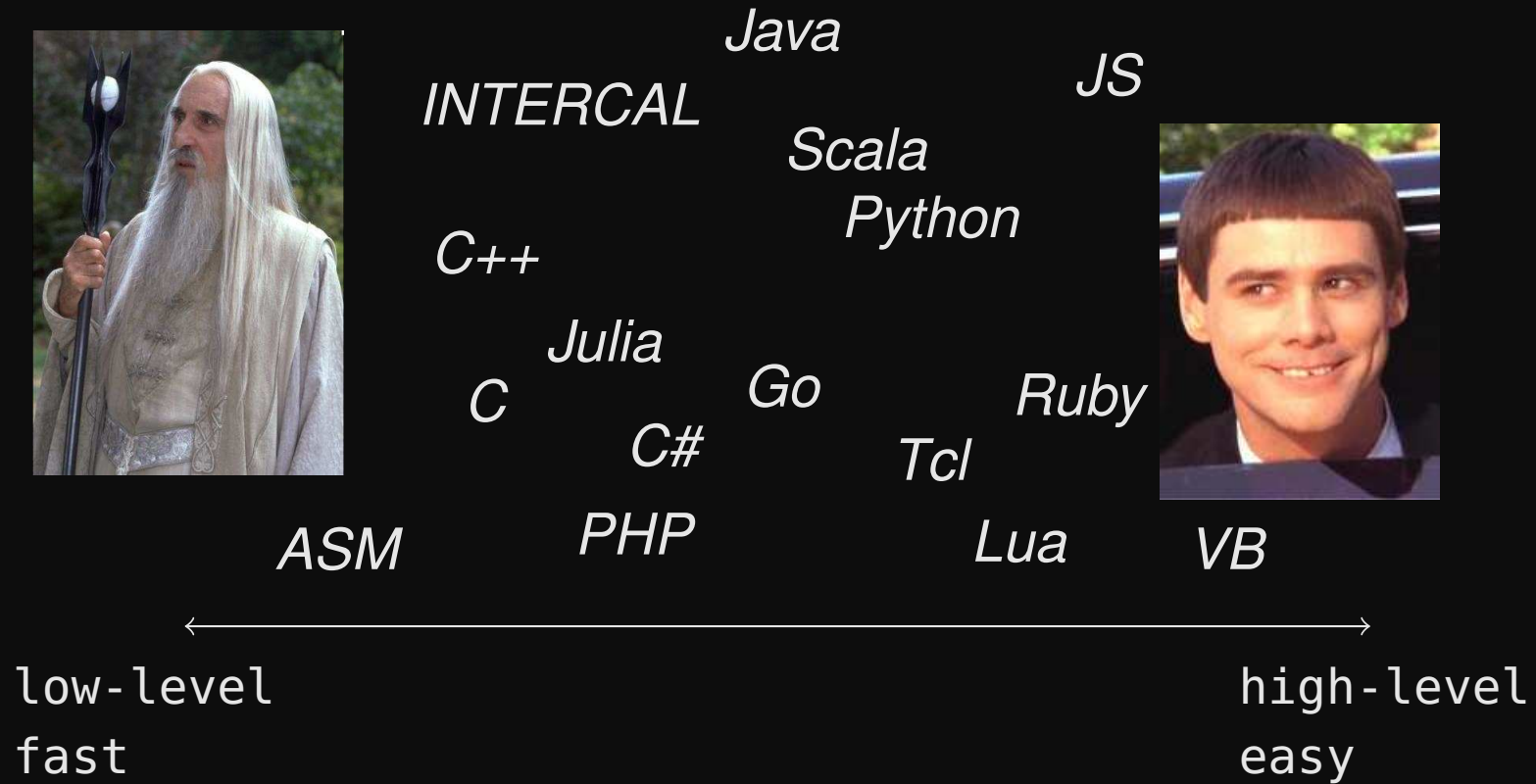


Graph #1



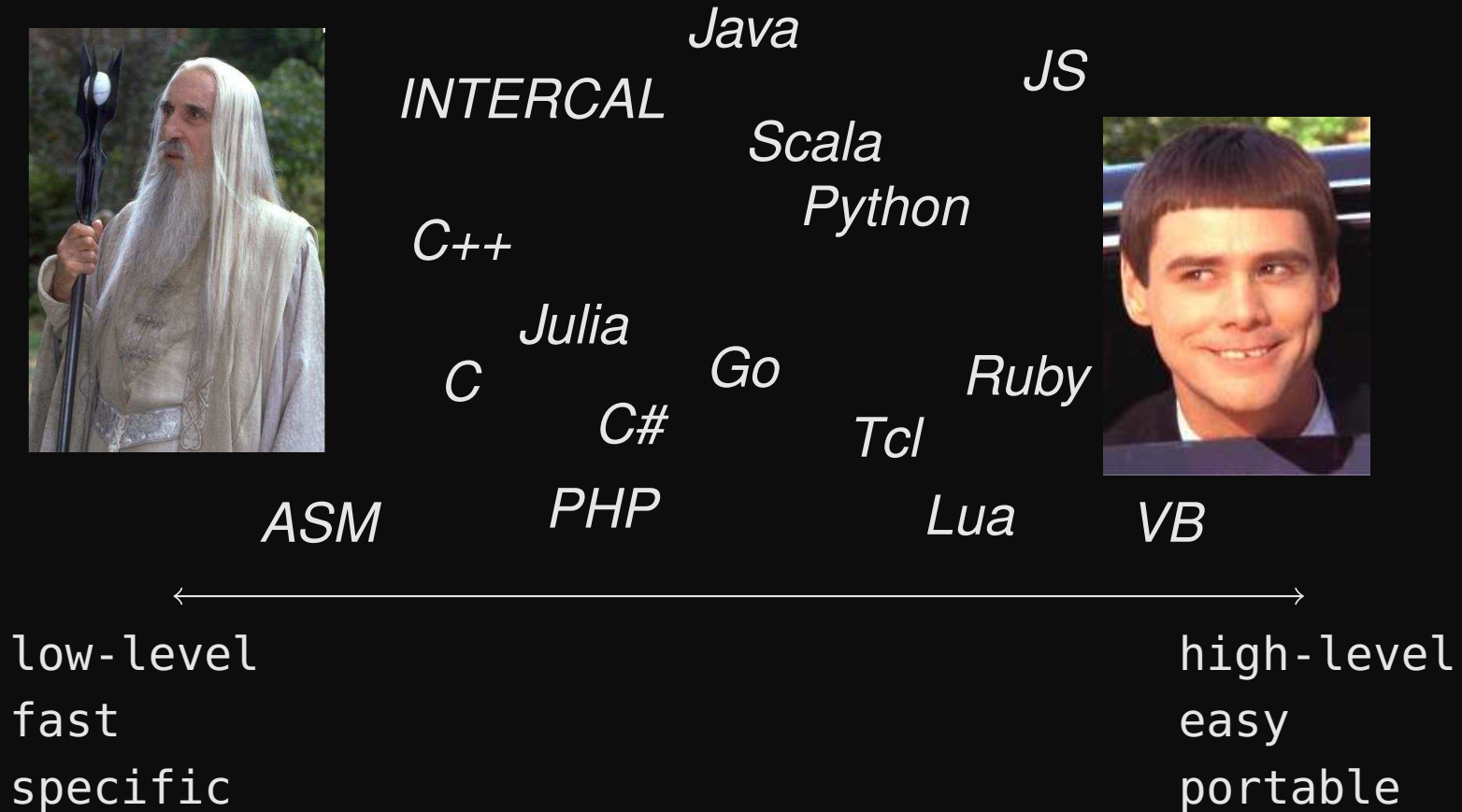
Note: this is not a scientific or particularly accurate representation.

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The Big Tradeoff

speed vs. portability and readability

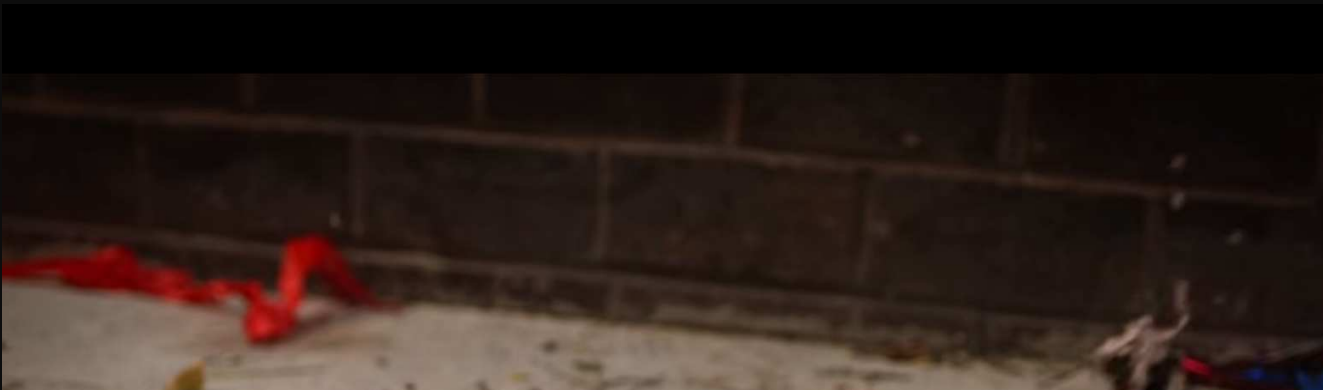
The Big Tradeoff

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The Big Tradeoff

speed vs. portability and readability



If we're careful, we can get speed, portability, *and* readability by using C++.



So, mlpack.

What is it?

So, mlpack.

What is it?

- a fast general-purpose C++ machine learning library
- contains flexible implementations of common and cutting-edge machine learning algorithms
- for fast or big runs on single workstations
- bindings are available for R, Python, and the command line, and are coming for other languages (Go, Julia, etc.)

- 140+ developers from around the world
- regular participation in the Google Summer of Code program

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<http://www.mlpack.org/>

<https://github.com/mlpack/mlpack/>

R.R. Curtin, J.R. Cline, N.P. Slagle, W.B. March, P. Ram, N.A. Mehta, A.G. Gray, “**mlpack**: a scalable C++ machine learning library”, in *The Journal of Machine Learning Research*, vol. 14, p. 801–805, 2013.

What does mlpack implement?

mlpack implements a lot of standard machine learning techniques and also new, cutting-edge techniques.

Classification

Naive Bayes Classifier ID3
Hidden Markov Models
Perceptrons Decision Stumps
Logistic Regression Softmax Regression
Deep Learning Q Learning
Random Forests Sparse SVM
Reinforcement Learning AdaBoost.MH
Hoeffding Trees

Regression

Collaborative Filtering
Deep Learning
Linear Regression
LARS HMM Regression

Distance-Based Techniques

Kernel PCA
Rank-Approximate kNN Nystroem Method
Range Search EMST Sparse Coding
Locality-Sensitive Hashing PCA
k-Nearest-Neighbor Search
Density Estimation Trees NCA k-Furthest-Neighbor Search
Max-Kernel Search Local Coordinate Coding
Approximate KFN Sparse Autoencoder

Other Tools

Randomized SVD
Matrix Completion Hyper-Parameter Tuner
Preprocessing Utilities
Non-Negative Matrix Factorization QUIC-SVD
Regularized SVD
Optimization Toolkit
Collaborative Filtering
Incremental SVD

Clustering

k-means DBSCAN
Gaussian Mixture Models
Mean Shift

How do we get mlpack?

Linux (Debian/Ubuntu): \$ sudo apt-get install libmlpack-dev
Linux (Red Hat/Fedora): \$ sudo dnf install mlpack-devel
OS X (Homebrew): \$ brew tap brewsci/science &&
 brew install mlpack
Windows (nuget): > nuget add mlpack-windows

Or install from source:

```
$ git clone https://github.com/mlpack/mlpack
$ mkdir mlpack/build && cd mlpack/build
$ cmake ../
$ make -j8 # Probably good to use many cores.
$ sudo make install
```

<https://www.mlpack.org/docs/mlpack-3.0.4/doxygen/build.html>
<https://keon.io/mlpack/mlpack-on-windows/>

Installing from Python

Use pip:

```
$ pip install mlpack3
```

Or use conda:

```
$ conda install -c mlpack mlpack
```

Command-line programs

You don't need to be a C++ expert.

```
# Train AdaBoost model.
```

```
$ mlpack_adaboost -t training_file.h5 -l training_labels.h5 \  
> -M trained_model.bin
```

```
# Predict with AdaBoost model.
```

```
$ mlpack_adaboost -m trained_model.bin -T test_set.csv \  
> -o test_set_predictions.csv
```

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```

```
# Predict with AdaBoost model.
```

```
$ mlpack_adaboost -m trained_model.bin -T test_set.csv \  
> -o test_set_predictions.csv
```

```
# Find the 5 nearest neighbors of the data in dataset.txt, storing the  
# indices of the neighbors in 'neighbors.csv'.
```

```
$ mlpack_knn -r dataset.txt -k 5 -n neighbors.csv
```

Python bindings

Can be dropped directly into a Python workflow.

```
>>>
```

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```
>>> import numpy as np
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>>> from mlpack import pca
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```
>>> import numpy as np
>>> from mlpack import pca
>>> x = np.genfromtxt('my_data.csv', delimiter=',')
```

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```

Python bindings

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```
>>> import numpy as np
>>> from mlpack import pca
>>> x = np.genfromtxt('my_data.csv', delimiter=',')
>>> x.shape
```

Python bindings

Can be dropped directly into a Python workflow.

```
>>> import numpy as np
>>> from mlpack import pca
>>> x = np.genfromtxt('my_data.csv', delimiter=',')
>>> x.shape
(2048, 10)
>>>
```

Python bindings

Can be dropped directly into a Python workflow.

```
>>> import numpy as np
>>> from mlpack import pca
>>> x = np.genfromtxt('my_data.csv', delimiter=',')
>>> x.shape
(2048, 10)
>>> result = pca(input=x, new_dimensionality=5, verbose=True)
```

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[INFO ] Performing PCA on dataset...
```

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(2048, 5)
>>>
```

Python bindings

Documentation is straightforward and extensive.

```
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>>> from mlpack import cf
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Python bindings

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```
>>> from mlpack import cf
```

```
>>> help(cf)
```

Help on built-in function cf in module mlpack.cf:

cf(...)

Collaborative Filtering

This program performs collaborative filtering (CF) on the given dataset. Given a list of user, item and preferences (the 'training' parameter), the program will perform a matrix decomposition and then can perform a series of actions related to collaborative filtering. Alternately, the program can load an existing saved CF model with the 'input_model' parameter and then use that model to provide recommendations or predict values.

The input matrix should be a 3-dimensional matrix of ratings, where the first dimension is the user, the second dimension is the item, and the third dimension is that user's rating of that item. Both the users and items should be numeric indices, not names. The indices are assumed to start from 0.

A set of query users for which recommendations can be generated may be specified with the 'query' parameter; alternately, recommendations may be generated for every user in the dataset by specifying the 'all_user_recommendations' parameter. In addition, the number of recommendations per user to generate can be specified with the 'recommendations' parameter, and the number of similar users (the size of the neighborhood) to be considered when generating recommendations can be specified with the 'neighborhood' parameter.

For performing the matrix decomposition, the following optimization algorithms can be specified via the 'algorithm' parameter:

'RegSVD' -- Regularized SVD using a SGD optimizer

NMF Non-negative matrix factorization with alternating least squares
update rules
'BatchSVD' -- SVD batch learning
'SVDIncompleteIncremental' -- SVD incomplete incremental learning
'SVDCompleteIncremental' -- SVD complete incremental learning
A trained model may be saved to with the 'output_model' output parameter.

To train a CF model on a dataset 'training_set' using NMF for decomposition and saving the trained model to 'model', one could call:

```
>>> cf(training=training_set, algorithm='NMF')  
>>> model = output['output_model']
```

Then, to use this model to generate recommendations for the list of users in the query set 'users', storing 5 recommendations in 'recommendations', one could call

```
>>> cf(input_model=model, query=users, recommendations=5)  
>>> recommendations = output['output']
```

Input parameters:

- algorithm (string): Algorithm used for matrix factorization. Default value 'NMF'.
- all_user_recommendations (bool): Generate recommendations for all users.
- copy_all_inputs (bool): If specified, all input parameters will be deep copied before the method is run. This is useful for debugging problems where the input parameters are being modified by the algorithm, but can slow down the code.
- input_model (CFTType): Trained CF model to load.

Documentation

The documentation is also readily available online.

<https://www.mlpack.org/docs.html>

mlpack-3.1.1
python

- overview
- quickstart
- tutorials
- data formats

classification:

- adaboost()
- decision_stump()
- decision_tree()
- hoeffding_tree()
- logistic_regression()
- nbc()
- perceptron()
- random_forest()
- softmax_regression()

regression:

- lars()
- linear_regression()

clustering:

- dbscan()
- gmm_train()
- gmm_generate()
- gmm_probability()
- kmeans()
- mean_shift()

geometry:

- approx_kfn()
- emst()
- fastmks()
- lsh()
- knn()
- kfn()
- krann()

preprocessing:

- preprocess_split()
- preprocess_binarize()
- preprocess_describe()

misc. / other:

nbc()

Parametric Naive Bayes Classifier

```
>>> from mlpack import nbc
>>> d = nbc(incremental_variance=False, input_model=None,
           labels=np.empty([0], dtype=np.uint64), test=np.empty([0, 0]),
           training=np.empty([0, 0]))
>>> output = d['output']
>>> output_model = d['output_model']
>>> output_probs = d['output_probs']
>>> predictions = d['predictions']
>>> probabilities = d['probabilities']
```

An implementation of the Naive Bayes Classifier, used for classification. Given labeled data, an NBC model can be trained and saved, or, a pre-trained model can be used for classification. [Detailed documentation](#).

Input options

name	type	description	default
copy_all_inputs	bool	If specified, all input parameters will be deep copied before the method is run. This is useful for debugging problems where the input parameters are being modified by the algorithm, but can slow down the code. <i>Only exists in Python binding.</i>	False
incremental_variance	bool	The variance of each class will be calculated incrementally.	False
input_model	NBCModelType	Input Naive Bayes model.	None
labels	int vector	A file containing labels for the training set.	np.empty([0], dtype=np.uint64)
test	matrix	A matrix containing the test set.	np.empty([0, 0])
training	matrix	A matrix containing the training set.	np.empty([0, 0])

Documentation

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mlpack-3.1.1

cli

- overview
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classification:

- mlpack_adaboost
- mlpack_decision_stump
- mlpack_decision_tree
- mlpack_hoeffding_tree
- mlpack_logistic_regression
- mlpack_nbc
- mlpack_perceptron
- mlpack_random_forest
- mlpack_softmax_regression

regression:

- mlpack_lars
- mlpack_linear_regression

clustering:

- mlpack_dbscan
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- mlpack_mean_shift

geometry:

- mlpack_approx_kfn
- mlpack_emst
- mlpack_fastmks
- mlpack_lsh
- mlpack_knn
- mlpack_kfn
- mlpack_range_search
- mlpack_krann

preprocessing:

- mlpack_preprocess_split
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- mlpack_preprocess_describe
- mlpack_preprocess_imputer

mlpack_nbc [🔗](#)

Parametric Naive Bayes Classifier

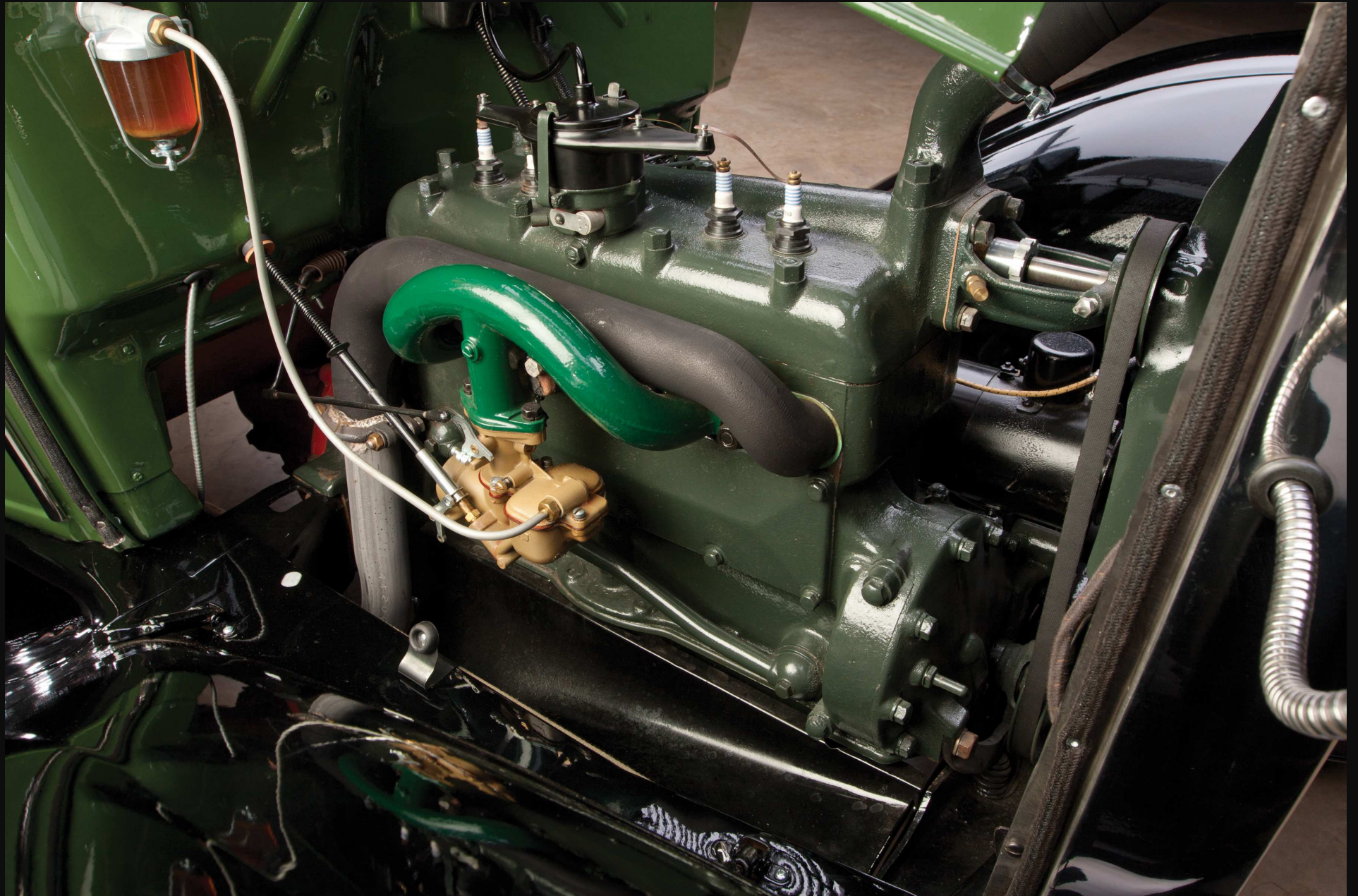
```
$ mlpack_nbc [--incremental_variance] [--input_model_file <string>]
  [--labels_file <string>] [--test_file <string>] [--training_file
  <string>] [--output_file <string>] [--output_model_file <string>]
  [--output_probs_file <string>] [--predictions_file <string>]
  [--probabilities_file <string>]
```

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Input options [🔗](#)

name	type	description	default
--help (-h)	flag	Default help info. <i>Only exists in CLI binding.</i>	
--incremental_variance (-I)	flag	The variance of each class will be calculated incrementally.	
--info	string	Print help on a specific option. <i>Only exists in CLI binding.</i>	''
--input_model_file (-m)	NBCModel file	Input Naive Bayes model.	''
--labels_file (-l)	1-d index matrix file	A file containing labels for the training set.	''
--test_file (-T)	2-d matrix file	A matrix containing the test set.	''
--training_file (-t)	2-d matrix file	A matrix containing the training set.	''
--verbose (-v)	flag	Display informational messages and the full list of parameters and timers at the end of execution.	
--version (-V)	flag	Display the version of mlpack. <i>Only exists in CLI binding.</i>	

Under the hood



Pros of C++

C++ is great!

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- Generic programming *at compile time* via templates.

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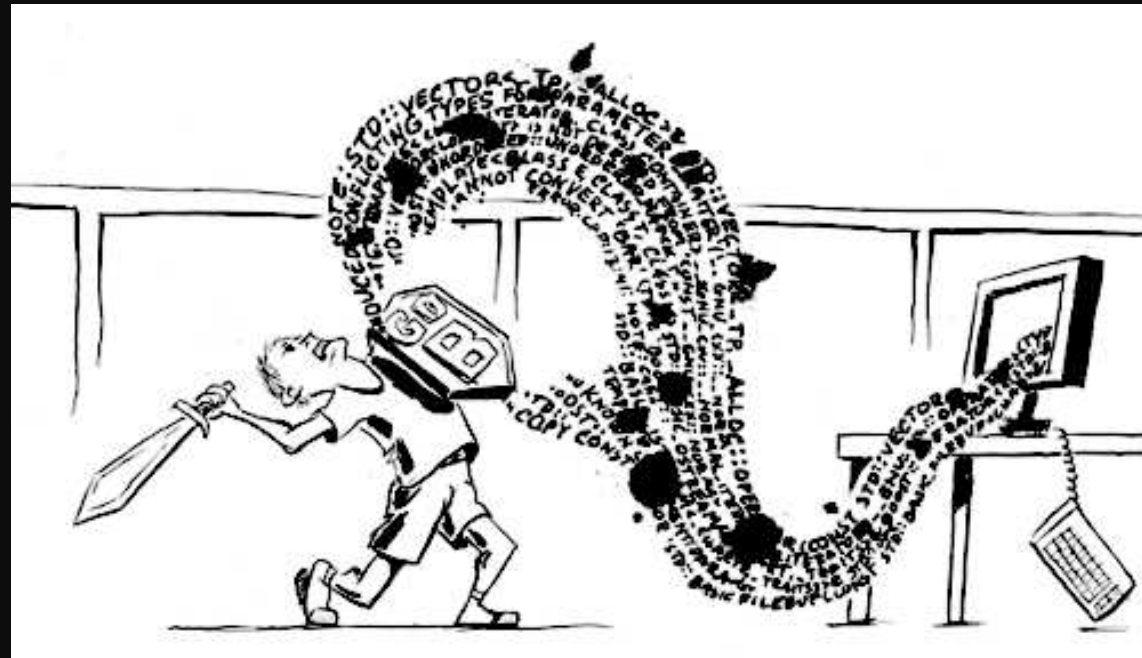
```
using namespace arma;  
extern mat x, y;  
mat z = (x + y) * chol(x) + 3 * chol(y.t());
```

Cons of C++

C++ is not great!

Cons of C++

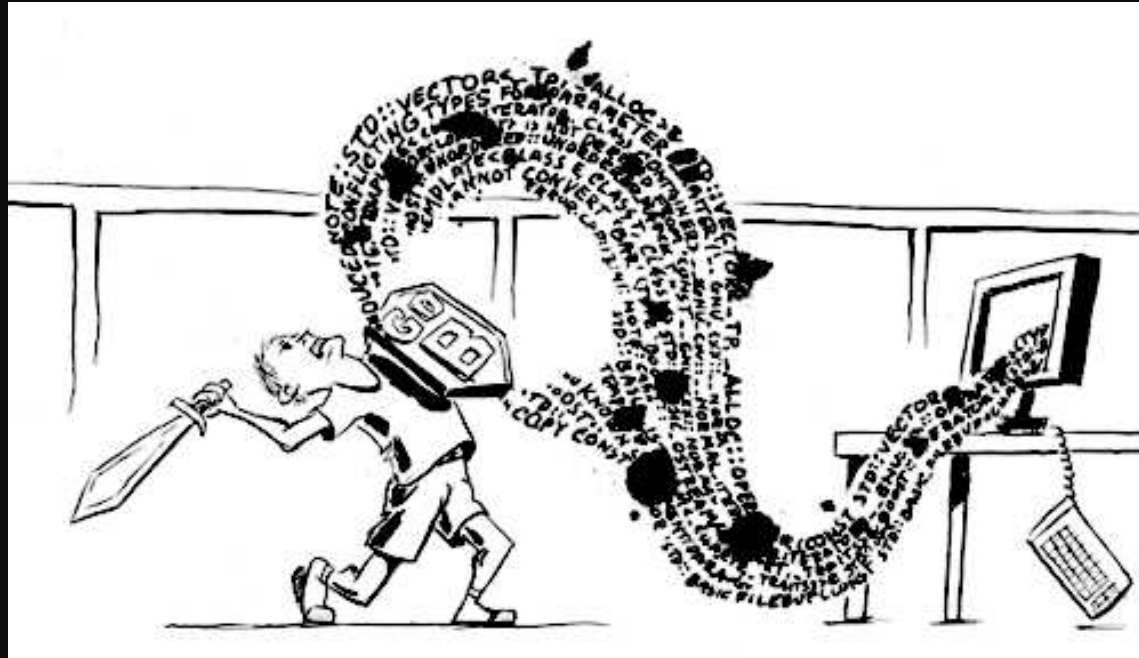
C++ is not great!



- Templates can be hard to debug because of error messages.

Cons of C++

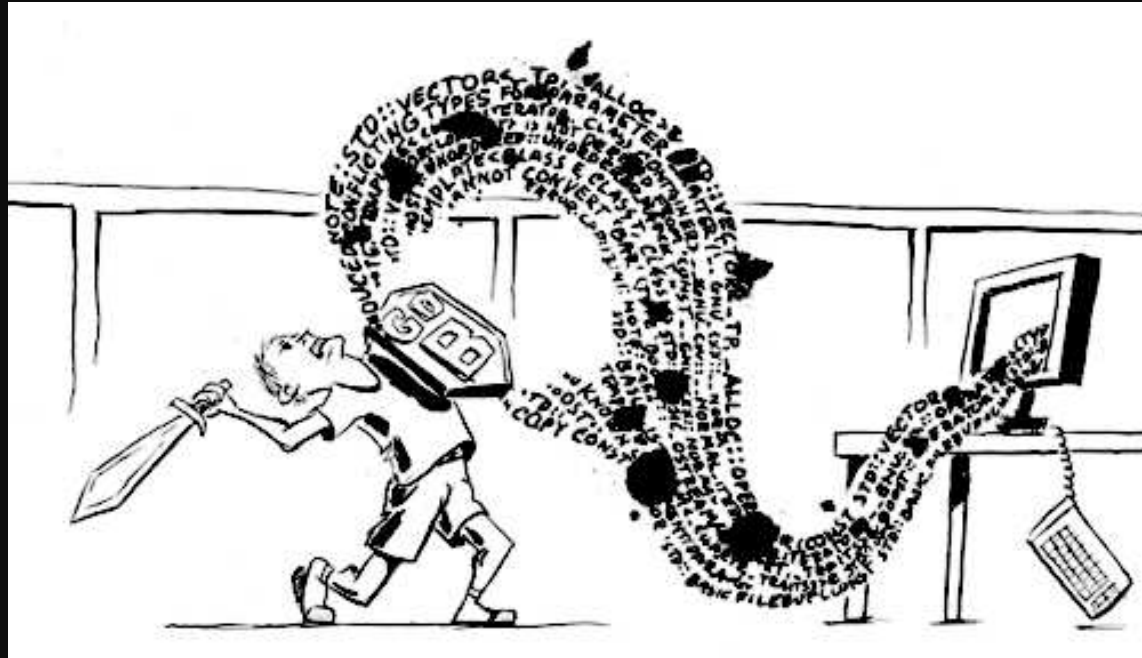
C++ is not great!



- Templates can be hard to debug because of error messages.
- Memory bugs are easy to introduce.

Cons of C++

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- Templates can be hard to debug because of error messages.
- Memory bugs are easy to introduce.
- The new language revisions are not making the language any simpler...

Genericity

Why write an algorithm for one specific situation?

Genericity

Why write an algorithm for one specific situation?

```
NearestNeighborSearch n(dataset);  
n.Search(query_set, 3, neighbors, distances);
```

What if I don't want the Euclidean distance?

Genericity

Why write an algorithm for one specific situation?

```
// The numeric parameter is the value of p for the p-norm to  
// use. 1 = Manhattan distance, 2 = Euclidean distance, etc.  
NearestNeighborSearch n(dataset, 1);  
n.Search(query_set, 3, neighbors, distances);
```

Ok, this is a little better!

Genericity

Why write an algorithm for one specific situation?

```
// ManhattanDistance is a class with a method Evaluate().  
NearestNeighborSearch<ManhattanDistance> n(dataset);  
n.Search(query_set, 3, neighbors, distances);
```

This is much better! The user can specify whatever distance metric they want, including one they write themselves.

Genericity

Why write an algorithm for one specific situation?

```
// This will _definitely_ get me best paper at ICML! I can
// feel it!
class MyStupidDistance
{
    static double Evaluate(const arma::vec& a,
                          const arma::vec& b)
    {
        return 15.0 * std::abs(a[0] - b[0]);
    }
};

// Now we can use it!
NearestNeighborSearch<MyStupidDistance> n(dataset);
n.Search(query_set, 3, neighbors, distances);
```

Genericity

Why write an algorithm for one specific situation?

```
// We can also use sparse matrices instead!  
NearestNeighborSearch<MyStupidDistance, arma::sp_mat>  
    n(sparse_dataset);  
n.Search(sparse_query_set, 3, neighbors, distances);
```

Genericity

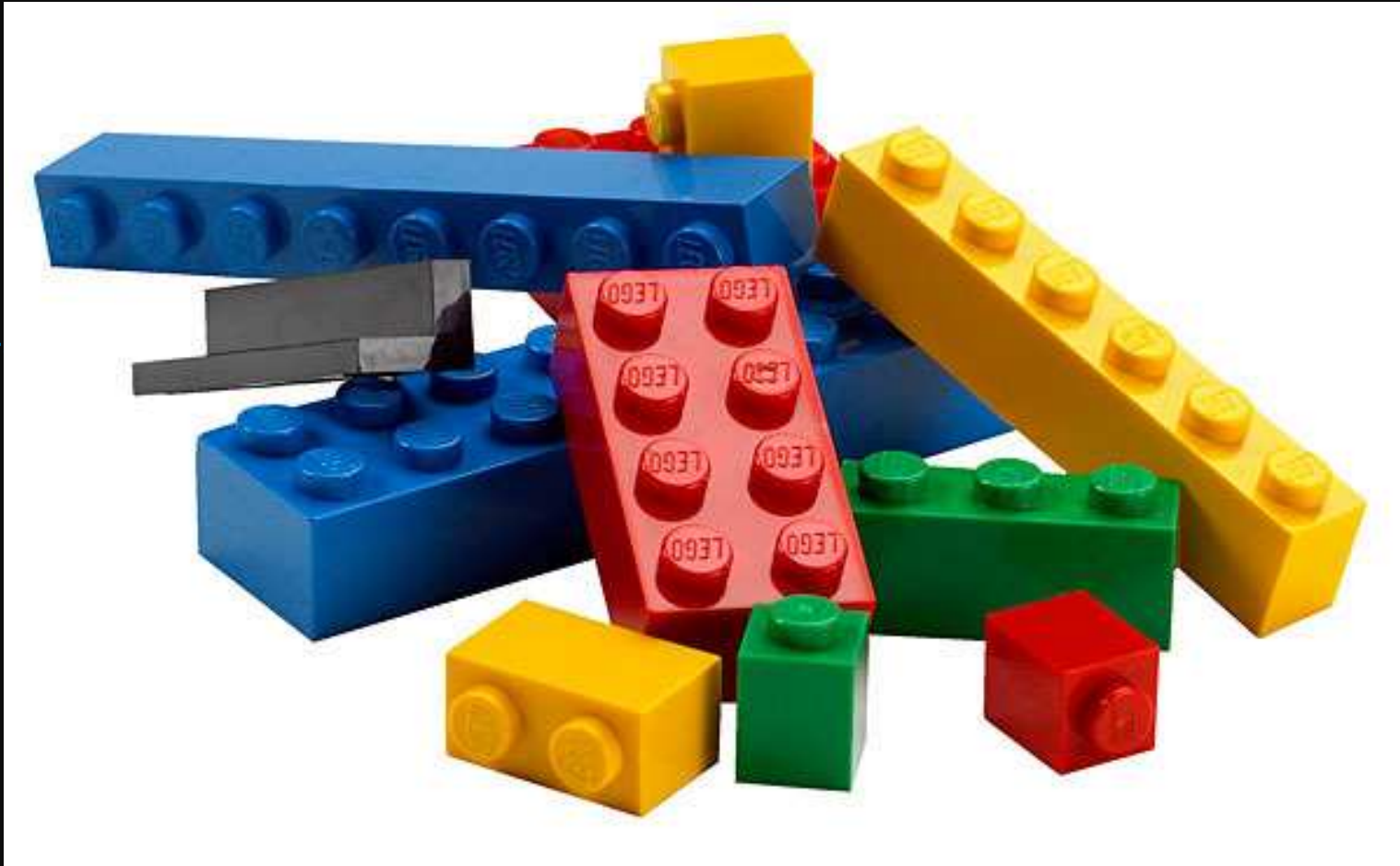
Why write an algorithm for one specific situation?

```
// Nearest neighbor search with arbitrary types of trees!  
NearestNeighborSearch<EuclideanDistance, arma::mat, KDTree> kn;  
NearestNeighborSearch<EuclideanDistance, arma::sp_mat, CoverTree> cn;  
NearestNeighborSearch<ManhattanDistance, arma::mat, Octree> on;  
NearestNeighborSearch<ChebyshevDistance, arma::sp_mat, RPlusTree> rn;  
NearestNeighborSearch<MahalanobisDistance, arma::mat, RPTree> rpn;  
NearestNeighborSearch<EuclideanDistance, arma::mat, XTree> xn;
```

Genericity

Why write an algorithm for one specific situation?

```
// Near  
Nearest  
Nearest  
Nearest  
Nearest  
Nearest  
Nearest
```



R.R. Curtin, "Improving dual-tree algorithms". *PhD thesis, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA, 8/2015.*

Genericity

Why write

// Near
Nearest
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R.R. Curtin, "Improving dual-tree algorithms". *PhD thesis, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA, 8/2015.*

Why templates?

What about virtual inheritance?

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What about virtual inheritance?

```
class MyStupidDistance : public Distance
{
    virtual double Evaluate(const arma::vec& a,
                           const arma::vec& b)
    {
        return 15.0 * std::abs(a[0] - b[0]);
    }
};
```

```
NearestNeighborSearch n(dataset, new MyStupidDistance());
n.Search(3, neighbors, distances);
```

Why templates?

What about virtual inheritance?

```
class MyStupidDistance : public Distance
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    }
};
```

```
NearestNeighborSearch n(dataset, new MyStupidDistance());
n.Search(3, neighbors, distances);
```

vtable lookup penalty!

Why templates?

Using inheritance to call a function costs us instructions:

```
Distance* d =  
    new MyStupidDistance();  
d->Evaluate(a, b);
```

```
MyStupidDistance::Evaluate(a, b);
```

Why templates?

Using inheritance to call a function costs us instructions:

```
Distance* d =  
    new MyStupidDistance();  
d->Evaluate(a, b);
```

```
; push stack pointer  
movq  %rsp, %rdi  
; get location of function  
movq  $_ZTV1A+16, (%rsp)  
; call Evaluate()  
call  _ZN1A1aEd
```

```
MyStupidDistance::Evaluate(a, b);
```

```
; just call Evaluate()!  
call  _ZN1B1aEd.isra.0.constprop.1
```

Why templates?

Using inheritance to call a function costs us instructions:

```
Distance* d =  
    new MyStupidDistance();  
d->Evaluate(a, b);
```

```
; push stack pointer  
movq  %rsp, %rdi  
; get location of function  
movq  $_ZTV1A+16, (%rsp)  
; call Evaluate()  
call  _ZN1A1aEd
```

```
MyStupidDistance::Evaluate(a, b);
```

```
; just call Evaluate()!  
call  _ZN1B1aEd.isra.0.constprop.1
```

Up to 10%+ performance penalty in some situations!

Compile-time expressions

What about math? (Armadillo)



Compile-time expressions

What about math? (Armadillo)

In C:

```
extern double** a, b, c, d, e;  
extern int rows, cols;  
  
// We want to do  $e = a + b + c + d$ .  
mat_copy(e, a, rows, cols);  
mat_add(e, b, rows, cols);  
mat_add(e, c, rows, cols);  
mat_add(e, d, rows, cols);
```



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In C with a custom function:

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extern double** a, b, c, d, e;  
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```

```
// We want to do  $e = a + b + c + d$ .
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```
extern double** a, b, c, d, e;  
extern int rows, cols;
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```
// We want to do  $e = a + b + c + d$ .  
mat_add4_into(e, a, b, c, d, rows, cols);
```

Fastest! (one pass)



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In C with a custom function:

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extern double** a, b, c, d, e;  
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```

```
// We want to do e = a + b + c + d.  
mat_add4_into(e, a, b, c, d, rows, cols);
```

Fastest! (one pass)

```
void mat_add4_into(double** e, double** a, double** b,  
                  double** c, double** d, int rows, int cols)  
{  
    for (int r = 0; r < rows; ++r)  
        for (int c = 0; c < cols; ++c)  
            e[r][c] = a[r][c] + b[r][c] + c[r][c] + d[r][c];  
}
```



Compile-time expressions

What about math? (Armadillo)

In MATLAB:

```
e = a + b + c + d
```



Compile-time expressions

What about math? (Armadillo)

In MATLAB:

```
e = a + b + c + d
```

Beautiful!



Compile-time expressions

What about math? (Armadillo)



Compile-time expressions

What about math? (Armadillo)



Compile-time expressions

What about math? (Armadillo)

In C++ (with Armadillo):

```
using namespace arma;  
extern mat a, b, c, d;  
  
mat e = a + b + c + d;
```

No temporaries, only one pass! Just as fast as the fastest C implementation.



Compile-time expressions

What about math? (Armadillo)

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using namespace arma;  
extern mat a, b, c, d;
```

```
mat e = a + b + c + d;
```

C++ allows us templated operator overloading:

```
template<typename T1, typename T2>  
const op<T1, T2, add> operator+(const T1& x, const T2& y);
```



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- `mat + mat`
→ `op<mat, mat, add>`



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C++ allows us templated operator overloading:

```
template<typename T1, typename T2>  
const op<T1, T2, add> operator+(const T1& x, const T2& y);
```

The expression yields type `op<op<op<mat, mat, add>, mat, add>, mat, add>`.

```
// This can accept an op<...> type.  
template<typename T1, typename T2>  
mat::operator=(const op<T1, T2, add>& op);
```



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The expression yields type `op<op<op<mat, mat, add>, mat, add>, mat, add>`.

```
// This can accept an op<...> type.  
template<typename T1, typename T2>  
mat::operator=(const op<T1, T2, add>& op);
```

The assignment operator "unwraps" the operation and generates optimal code.



Take-home

- Templates give us generic code.
- Templates allow us to generate fast code.

Deep Neural Networks with mlpack

With `ensmallen`, we can do deep learning.

Deep Neural Networks with mlpack

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```
using namespace mlpack::ann;
extern arma::mat data, responses, testData;

// Create a 3-layer sigmoid neural network with 10 outputs.
FFN<NegativeLogLikelihood<>, RandomInitialization> model;
model.Add<Linear<>>(data.n_rows, 100);
model.Add<SigmoidLayer<>>();
model.Add<Linear<>>(100, 100);
model.Add<SigmoidLayer<>>();
model.Add<Linear<>>(100, 10);
model.Add<LogSoftMax<>>();
```

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// Train the model.
SGD<> optimizer(0.001 /* step size */, 1024 /* batch size */,
               100000 /* max iterations */);
model.Train(data, responses, optimizer);
```

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model.Add<Linear<>>(100, 10);
model.Add<LogSoftMax<>>();

// Train the model.
SGD<> optimizer(0.001 /* step size */, 1024 /* batch size */,
               100000 /* max iterations */);
model.Train(data, responses, optimizer);

// Predict on test points.
arma::mat predictions;
model.Predict(testData, predictions);
```

Benchmarks

Did C++ get us what we wanted?

Benchmarks

Task 1: $z = 2(x' + y) + 2(x + y')$.

```
extern int n;  
mat x(n, n, fill::randu);  
mat y(n, n, fill::randu);  
mat z = 2 * (x.t() + y) + 2 * (x + y.t()); // only time this line
```

n	arma	numpy	octave	R	Julia
1000	0.029s	0.040s	0.036s	0.052s	0.027s
3000	0.047s	0.432s	0.376s	0.344s	0.041s
10000	0.968s	5.948s	3.989s	4.952s	3.683s
30000	19.167s	62.748s	41.356s	<i>fail</i>	36.730s

Benchmarks

Task 3: $z = abcd$ for decreasing-size matrices.

```
extern int n;  
mat a(n, 0.8 * n, fill::randu);  
mat b(0.8 * n, 0.6 * n, fill::randu);  
mat c(0.6 * n, 0.4 * n, fill::randu);  
mat d(0.4 * n, 0.2 * n, fill::randu);  
mat z = a * b * c * d; // only time this line
```

n	arma	numpy	octave	R	Julia
1000	0.042s	0.051s	0.033s	0.056s	0.037s
3000	0.642s	0.812s	0.796s	0.846s	0.844s
10000	16.320s	26.815s	26.478s	26.957s	26.576s
30000	329.87s	708.16s	706.10s	707.12s	704.032s

Armadillo can automatically select the correct ordering for multiplication.

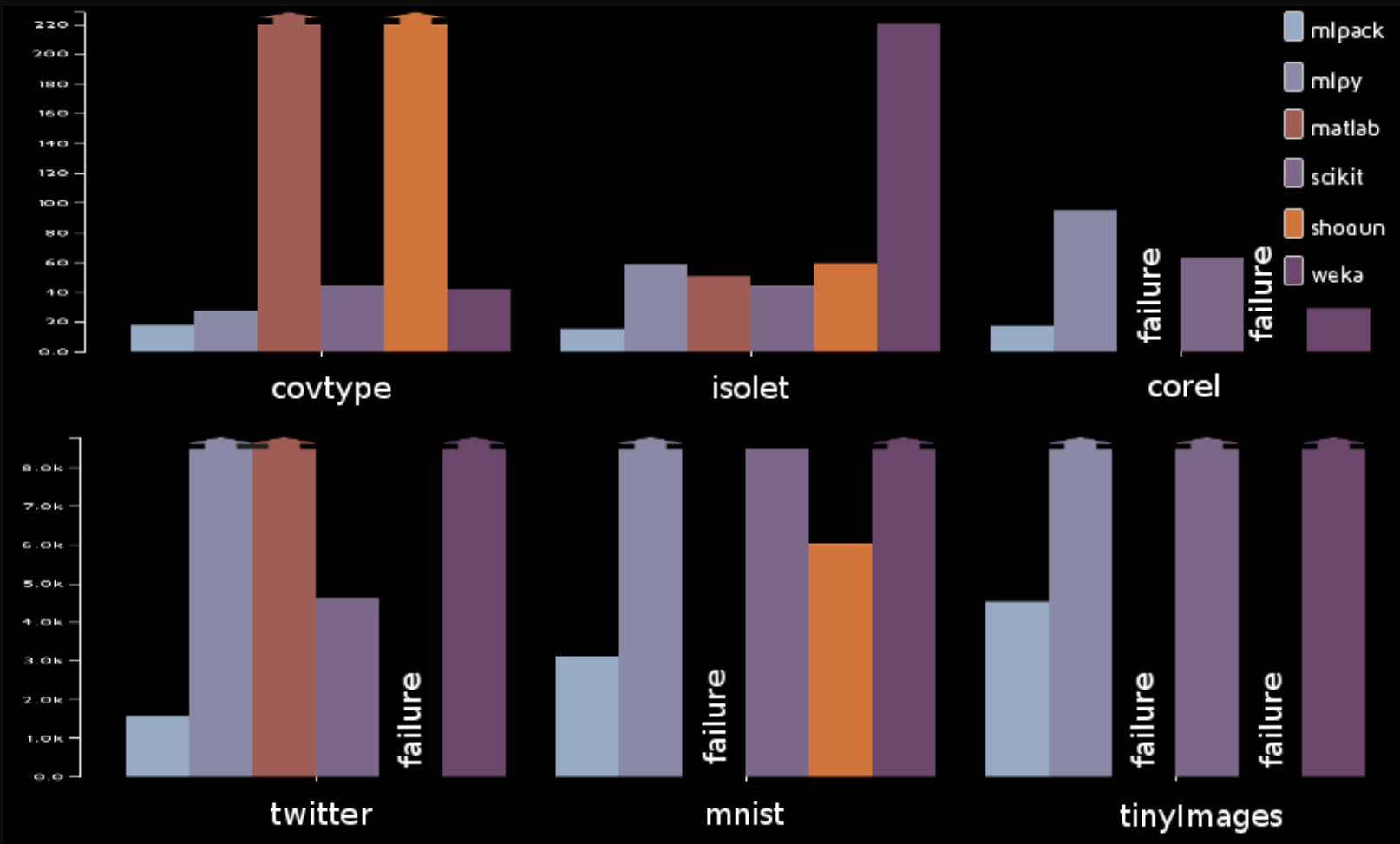
Benchmarks

Task 4: $z = a'(\text{diag}(b)^{-1})c$.

```
extern int n;  
vec a(n, fill::randu);  
vec b(n, fill::randu);  
vec c(n, fill::randu);  
double z = as_scalar(a.t() * inv(diagmat(b)) * c); // only time this line
```

n	arma	numpy	octave	R	Julia
1k	8e-6s	0.100s	2e-4s	0.014s	0.057s
10k	8e-5s	49.399s	4e-4s	0.208s	18.189s
100k	8e-4s	<i>fail</i>	0.002s	<i>fail</i>	<i>fail</i>
1M	0.009s	<i>fail</i>	0.024s	<i>fail</i>	<i>fail</i>
10M	0.088s	<i>fail</i>	0.205s	<i>fail</i>	<i>fail</i>
100M	0.793s	<i>fail</i>	1.972s	<i>fail</i>	<i>fail</i>
1B	8.054s	<i>fail</i>	19.520s	<i>fail</i>	<i>fail</i>

kNN benchmarks



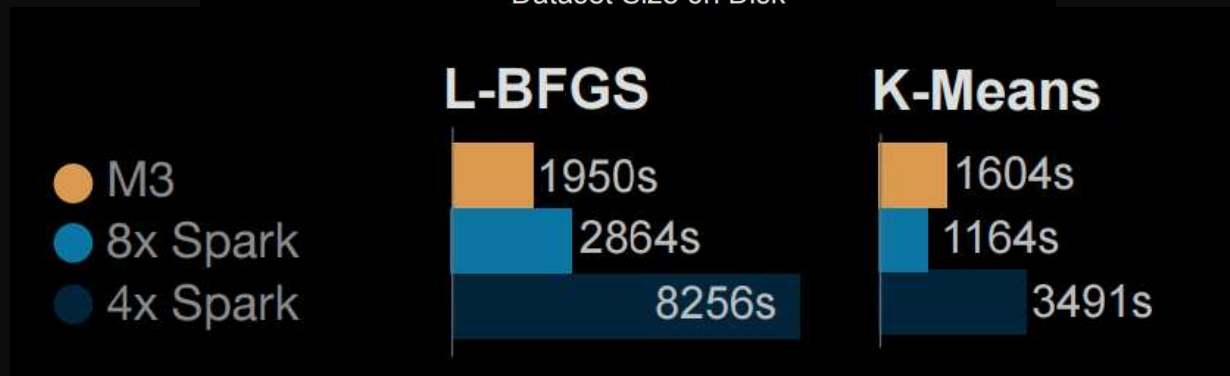
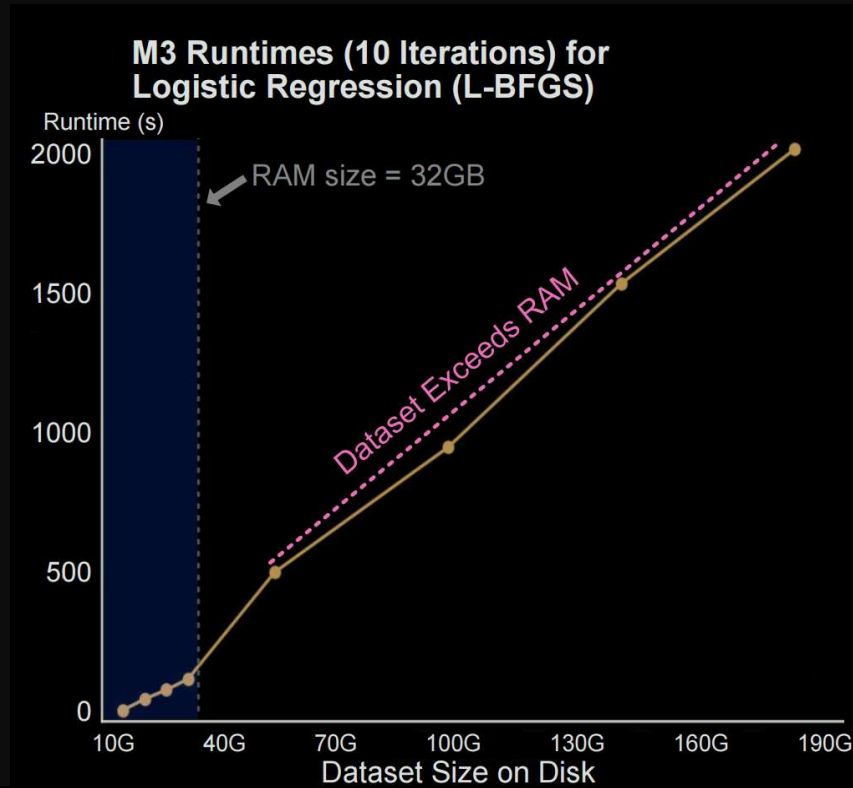
dataset	d	N	mlpack	mlpy	matlab	scikit	shogun	Weka
isolet	617	8k	15.65s	59.09s	50.88s	44.59s	59.56s	220.38s
corel	32	68k	17.70s	95.26s	fail	63.32s	fail	29.38s
covertyp	54	581k	18.04s	27.68s	>9000s	44.55s	>9000s	42.34s
twitter	78	583k	1573.92s	>9000s	>9000s	4637.81s	fail	>9000s
mnist	784	70k	3129.46s	>9000s	fail	8494.24s	6040.16s	>9000s
tinyImages	384	100k	4535.38s	9000s	fail	>9000s	fail	>9000s

vs. Spark

We can use `mmap()` for out-of-core learning since our algorithms are generic!

vs. Spark

We can use `mmap()` for out-of-core learning since our algorithms are generic!



What didn't I talk about in depth?

- optimization toolkit (ensmallen)
- hyper-parameter tuner
- tree infrastructure for problems like nearest neighbor search
- reinforcement learning code
- matrix decomposition infrastructure
- benchmarking system
- automatic binding generator
- preprocessing utilities
- ...and surely more I am not thinking of...

What's coming?

mlpack 3.1.1 was just released and ready for production use!

<http://mlpack.org/blog/mlpack-3-released.html>



<http://www.mlpack.org/>
<https://github.com/mlpack/mlpack/>

Further out

Armadillo-like library for GPU matrix operations: **Bandicoot**



<http://coot.sourceforge.io/>

Two separate use case options:

- Bandicoot can be used as a drop-in accelerator to Armadillo, offloading intensive computations to the GPU when possible.
- Bandicoot can be used as its own library for GPU matrix programming.

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Armadillo-like library for GPU matrix operations: **Bandicoot**



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Two separate use case options:

- Bandicoot can be used as a drop-in accelerator to Armadillo, offloading intensive computations to the GPU when possible.
- Bandicoot can be used as its own library for GPU matrix programming.

```
using namespace coot;  
mat x(n, n, fill::randu); // matrix allocated on GPU  
mat y(n, n, fill::randu);  
mat z = x * y; // computation done on GPU
```

Questions and comments?



<http://www.mlpack.org/>
<https://github.com/mlpack/mlpack/>