

# Project Proposal

*Project name*

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## 1 Introduction

*What is the project*

*Motivation*

## 2 Related work

### 2.1 Relationship Inference

Relationship inference in social networks has been studied in various fields and domains. In this context, we refer to friendship inference between pairs of individuals. Representing social networks with topology structures provides insights to predict relationships between individuals based on topology and probability distribution of the links in the topology. [Liben-Nowell and Kleinberg](#) proposed different measurements to compute the similarity between two nodes (individuals) in the graph, including the distance between two nodes, number of shared neighbors, and meta-approaches that integrate different measurements. Beyond topological structures, individual attribute and context information have also been utilized to facilitate the construction of relations between individuals. In the study from [Liben-Nowell and Kleinberg](#), correlations between individuals were constructed using user attributes with relational Markov Networks. For instance, they proposed a transitivity pattern that is useful in relationship prediction, where the presence of A-B relation and B-C relation promotes the probability of A-C relation. Context information, such as locations and periods of time, has also shown potentials to predict social ties. Using location information alone may not be a sufficient predictor. In [Crandall et al.](#)'s work, only 0.1% of the relations were predicted with a confidence of 60%. However, when network structure are analyzed together with location information, over 90% friendship were detected with confidence over 80%, illustrated in the study from [Sadilek et al.](#). Although location information alone is not a good indicator for friendship inference, a number of researches have indicated the importance between social ties and distance. The integration of location information and other features are also proved to be of high accuracy in friendship inference.

### 3 Problem formulation

*Describe your project as a machine learning problem, identify inputs objects, labels, possible features*

### 4 Data and Evaluation plan

*Describe the data you intend to use. Mention if there is an existing data source you intend to use, or if annotation is required*

*How will you evaluate your algorithm? What is a reasonable baseline?*

### Submission Instructions:

*delete this section when submitting*

You are required to use L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X to type your solutions to questions, and report of your programming as well. Other formats of submission will **not** be accepted. A template named “homework.tex” is also provided for your convenience.

After logging into data.cs.purdue.edu (physically go to the lab or use ssh remotely, you are all granted the accounts to CS data machines during this class), please follow these steps to submit your assignment:

1. Make a directory named ‘*your Name\_your Surname*’ and copy all of your files there.
2. While in the upper level directory (if the files are in /homes/dan/dan\_goldwasser, go to/home-s/dan), execute the following command:

```
turnin -c cs578 -p PROPOSAL *your_folder_name*
```

(e.g. your prof would use: `turnin -c cs578 -p PROPOSAL dan_goldwasser` to submit his work)

Keep in mind that old submissions are overwritten with new ones whenever you execute this command.

3. You can verify the contents of your submission by executing the following command:

```
turnin -v -c cs578 -p PROPOSAL
```

Do **not** forget the -v flag here, as otherwise your submission would be replaced with an empty one.

## References

- D. J. Crandall, L. Backstrom, D. Cosley, S. Suri, D. Huttenlocher, and J. Kleinberg. Inferring social ties from geographic coincidences. 107:22436–22441. ISSN 0027-8424. doi: 10.1073/pnas.1006155107. URL <http://adsabs.harvard.edu/abs/2010PNAS..10722436C>.
- David Liben-Nowell and Jon Kleinberg. The link-prediction problem for social networks. 58(7): 1019–1031. ISSN 1532-2882. doi: 10.1002/asi.v58:7. URL <http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/asi.v58:7>.
- Adam Sadilek, Henry Kautz, and Jeffrey P. Bigham. Finding your friends and following them to where you are. In *Proceedings of the Fifth ACM International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining*, WSDM '12, pages 723–732. ACM. ISBN 978-1-4503-0747-5. doi: 10.1145/2124295.2124380. URL <http://doi.acm.org/10.1145/2124295.2124380>.