

# Kernel Stein Tests for Multiple Model Comparison

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## Summary

- **Given:**  $l$  candidate models  $\mathcal{M} = \{P_1, \dots, P_l\}$  and  $n$  samples  $\{y_i\}_{i=1}^n \sim R$  from unknown data distribution  $R$ . In  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .
- **Goal:** For each model  $P_i \in \mathcal{M}$ , determine if it (the model) is worse than the best candidate model  $P_j$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ .
- **Contribution:**
  - Proposed two methods for constructing non-parametric tests for multiple model comparison.
  - 1. Mult: The dataset is split into two independent portions for selection (i.e., determining  $P_j$ ) and testing.
  - 2. PSI: The same dataset is used for selection and testing.
  - When  $l = 2$ , PSI has provably higher **true positive rate (TPR)** than Mult.
  - Both methods control **false positive rate (FPR)**.

## Multiple Model Comparison

- Test  $H_{0,i} : D(P_i, R) < D(P_j, R)$  v.s.  $H_{1,i} : D(P_i, R) > D(P_j, R)$  where  $P_j$  is the best candidate model in  $\mathcal{M}$ .
- $D$  = a discrepancy measure. Can be MMD or KSD.
- For each model  $P_i$ , we either have samples  $\{x_j\}_{j=1}^n \sim P_i$  ( $D$  = MMD) or have the log density  $\log p_i(x)$  ( $D$  = KSD).
- $J$  in  $P_j$  is unknown. Estimate best index  $\hat{J}$  from data (selection).
- We choose  $P_{\hat{J}} = \operatorname{argmin}_{P_i \in \mathcal{M}} \hat{D}(P_i, R)$ .
- Consider hypotheses conditioned on the selection
  - $H_{0,i} : D(P_i, R) \leq D(P_{\hat{J}}, R) \mid P_{\hat{J}}$  is the best,
  - $H_{1,i} : D(P_i, R) > D(P_{\hat{J}}, R) \mid P_{\hat{J}}$  is the best.
- Conditional null hypothesis  $\implies$  valid post selection tests that account for selection bias.

## False and True Positive Rates

- We use **false positive rate (FPR)** and **true positive rate (TPR)** to measure the performance of our algorithm.
- **True positive rate (TPR)** is the proportion of models correctly designated as worse than the best  $P_j$ .
- **False positive rate (FPR)** is the proportion of models incorrectly designated as worse than the best  $P_j$ .
- A good test has high TPR and low FPR.

## Test Statistic

Our test statistic is  $\hat{S} := \sqrt{n}[\hat{D}(P_i, R) - \hat{D}(P_{\hat{J}}, R)]$  where  $\hat{D}$  is an unbiased estimator of KSD or MMD

- **Before selection**,  $\hat{S}$  is normally distributed as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .
- **After selection**,  $\hat{S}$  under the conditional null is asymptotically:
  - **Normal** if the data are split into two independent portions: one for selection and the other for inference.
  - **Truncated normal** if the full dataset is used for both selection and testing, by the polyhedral lemma of Lee et. al. 2016.

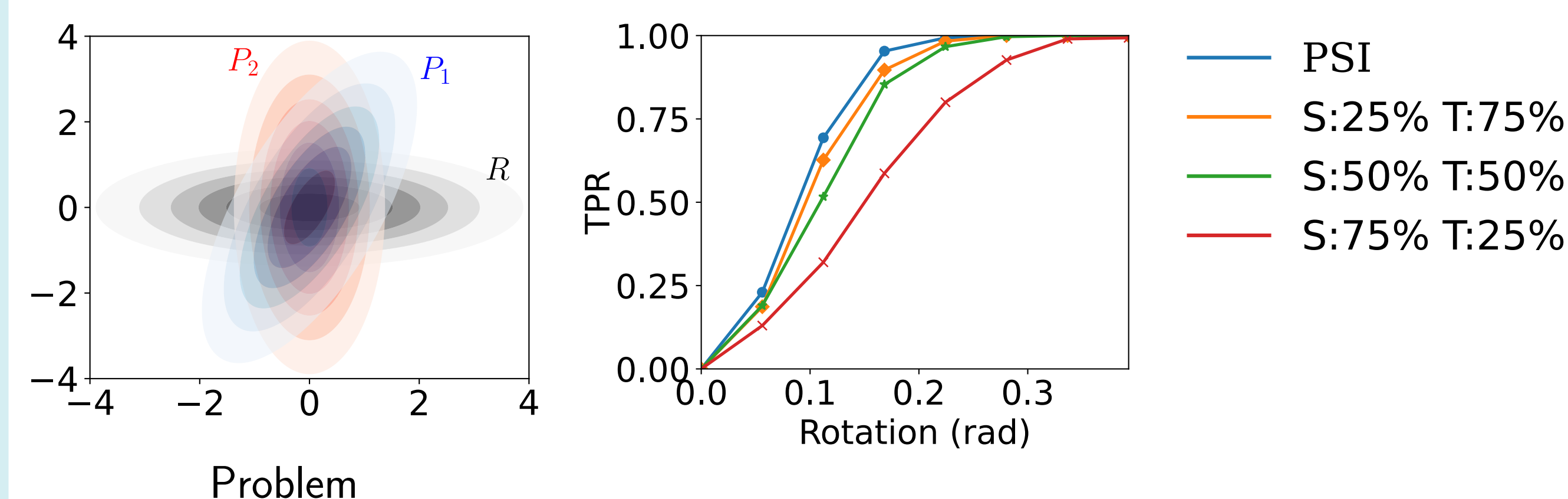
- For all  $i = 1, \dots, l$ , reject  $H_{0,i}$  if  $\hat{S} > (1 - \alpha)$ -quantile of the distribution of  $\hat{S}$  **after** selection.
- Reject  $H_{0,i} \implies$  Model  $P_i$  is **worse** than the best  $P_{\hat{J}}$ .
- This asymptotically controls the type-I error and FPR at  $\alpha$ .

## Theoretical Result

**Proposition:** Given two candidate models  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ , then PSI has a **higher** TPR than Mult for both MMD and KSD.

## Toy Example ( $D = \text{KSD}$ )

- Initially,  $P_1 \approx P_2$ . Then,  $P_1$  is then rotated away such that  $P_1$  is closer to  $R$  than  $P_2$ .
  - Rotating  $P_1 \implies$  easier problem  $\implies$  higher TPR.
- The TPR of PSI is consistently higher than Mult with varying portion of data splits.

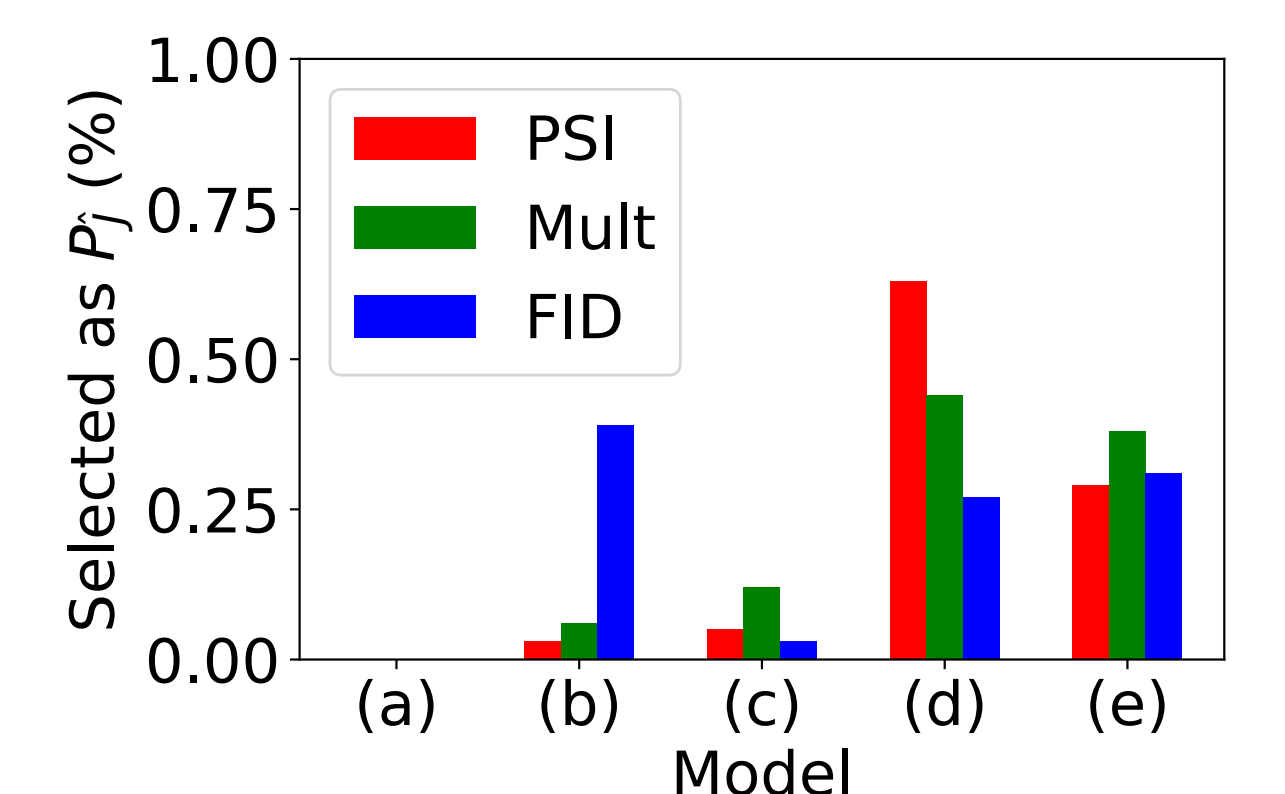


Notation: (S:a% T:b%) means a% and b% of the data are used for selection and testing, respectively.

## Mixture of CelebA ( $D = \text{MMD}$ )

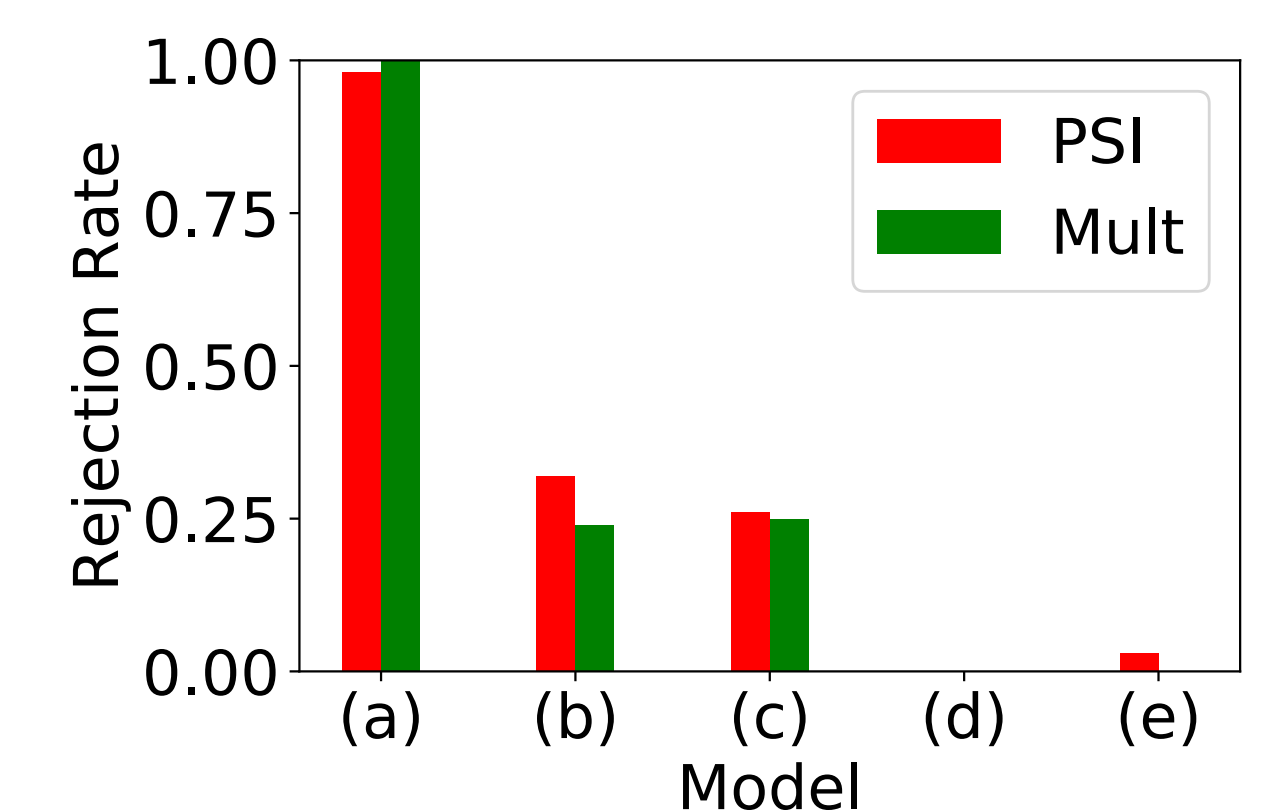
**Task:** If the true distribution is composed of 50% smile and 50% non-smile (images), which of the following models are the closest?

- (a) GAN: Smile 50%, No-smile 50%.
- (b) Real: Smile 60%, No-smile 40%.
- (c) Real: Smile 40%, No-smile 60%.
- (d) Real: Smile 51%, No-smile 49%.
- (e) Real: Smile 52%, No-smile 48%.



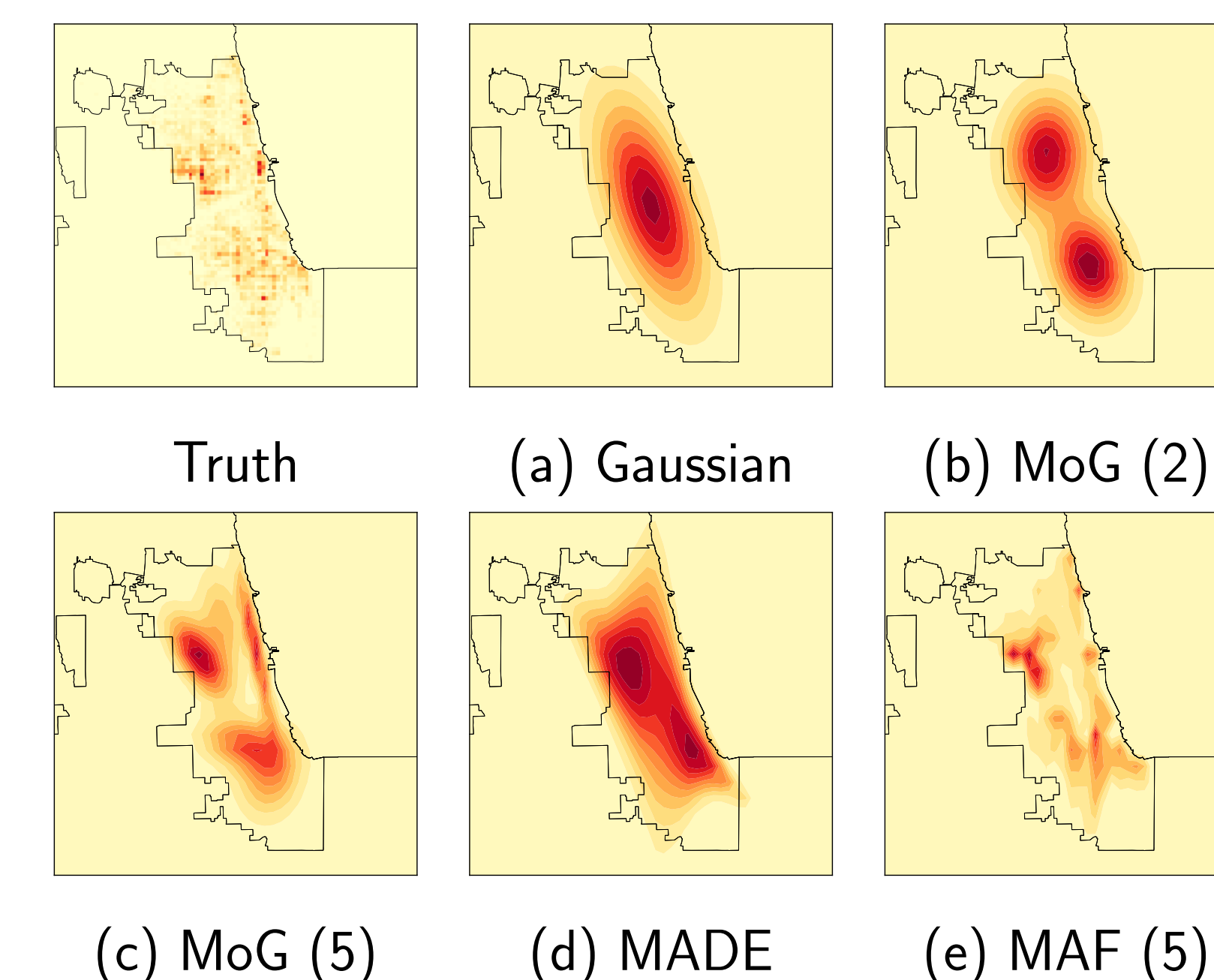
### Results:

- Ranking by FID  $\implies$  noisy selection.
- Testing indicates that (d) and (e) are the best. 😊
- Performance of PSI and Mult similar.



## Chicago Crime ( $D = \text{KSD}$ )

**Task:** Best model for representing the crime activity in Chicago?



- Ranking by KSD  $\implies$  (c) and (e) are selected.
- Negative Log Likelihood (NLL) favors the most complex model (e).
- PSI has higher rejection rate than Mult.

