



GENERATING ALGORITHMIC RECOURSE

SOUMYA SARKAR

UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF

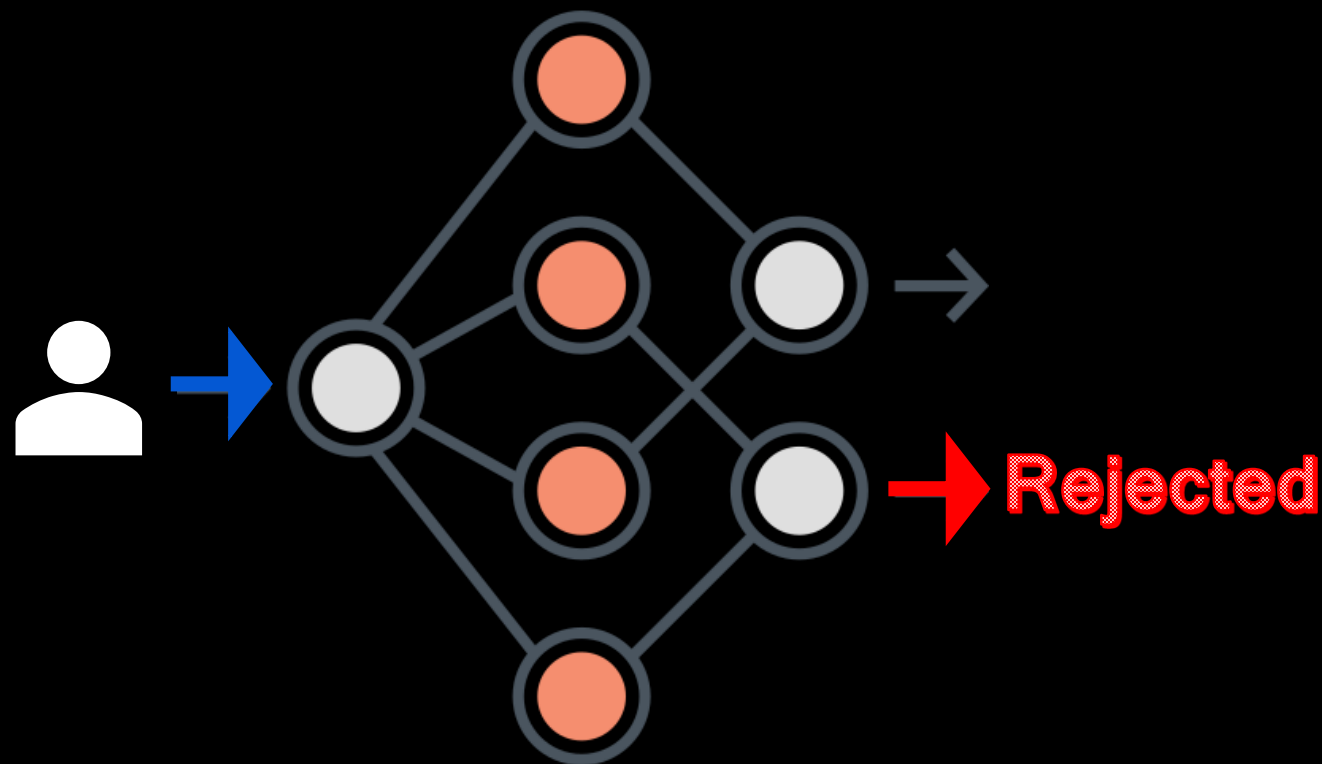
DR. SHWETA JAIN

USING USER PREFERENCE

THE
WHAT?

THE
WHY?

THE
HOW?



Why does my model show that the shortest path is through a river?

Why was this investment of mine flagged for being a potential loss?

Why does this model show a lower expected range for women job-seekers as compared to men?

Why am I being recommended this song over and over again?

Is this even fair? Is this model discriminatory?

How smart is my model and how well does it generalize?

WHY WAS MY LOAN REJECTED?

Why did the model say I am a potential criminal?

Why does my smart band say I might potentially have a terminal disease?

How well does this algorithm truly work over the expected data?

How is the model calculating my age of marriage as 55?

Why am I not eligible for that prestigious scholarship?

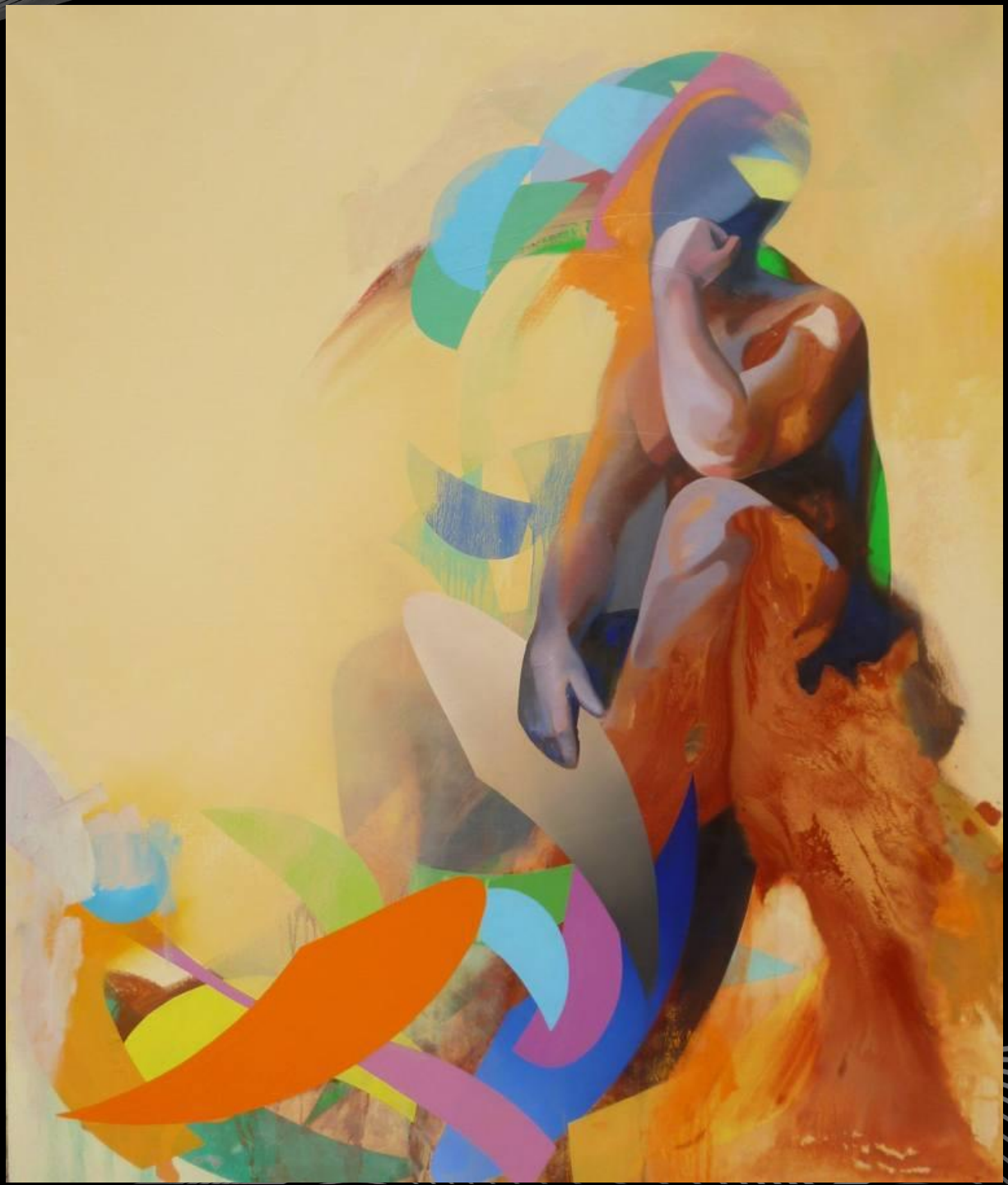
So how do I ensure that this time, I *do* pass the GATE cutoff?

Why was my driver's license denied?

How was my resume sorted by the automated system and why was I out?

How well does this algorithm truly work over the expected data?

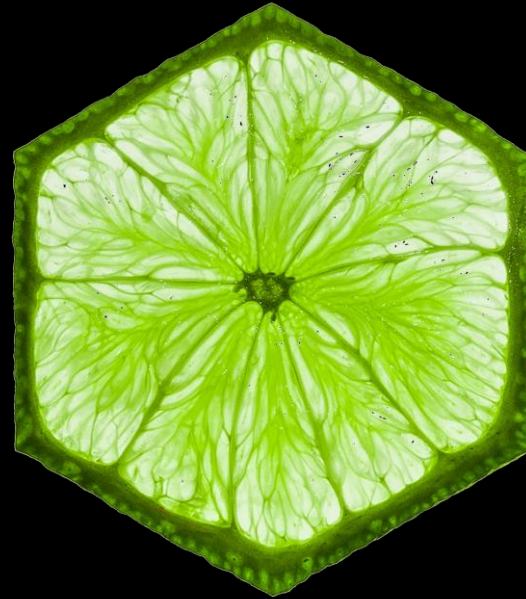
THE
WHAT?
THE
WHY?
THE
HOW?



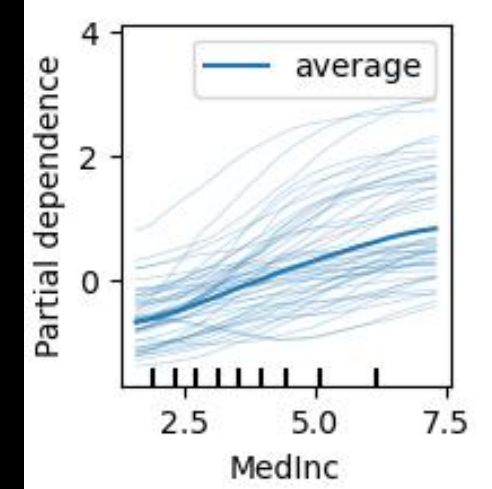
ENTER: EXPLAINABLE AI



SHAP - A
global and
local
explanation
technique

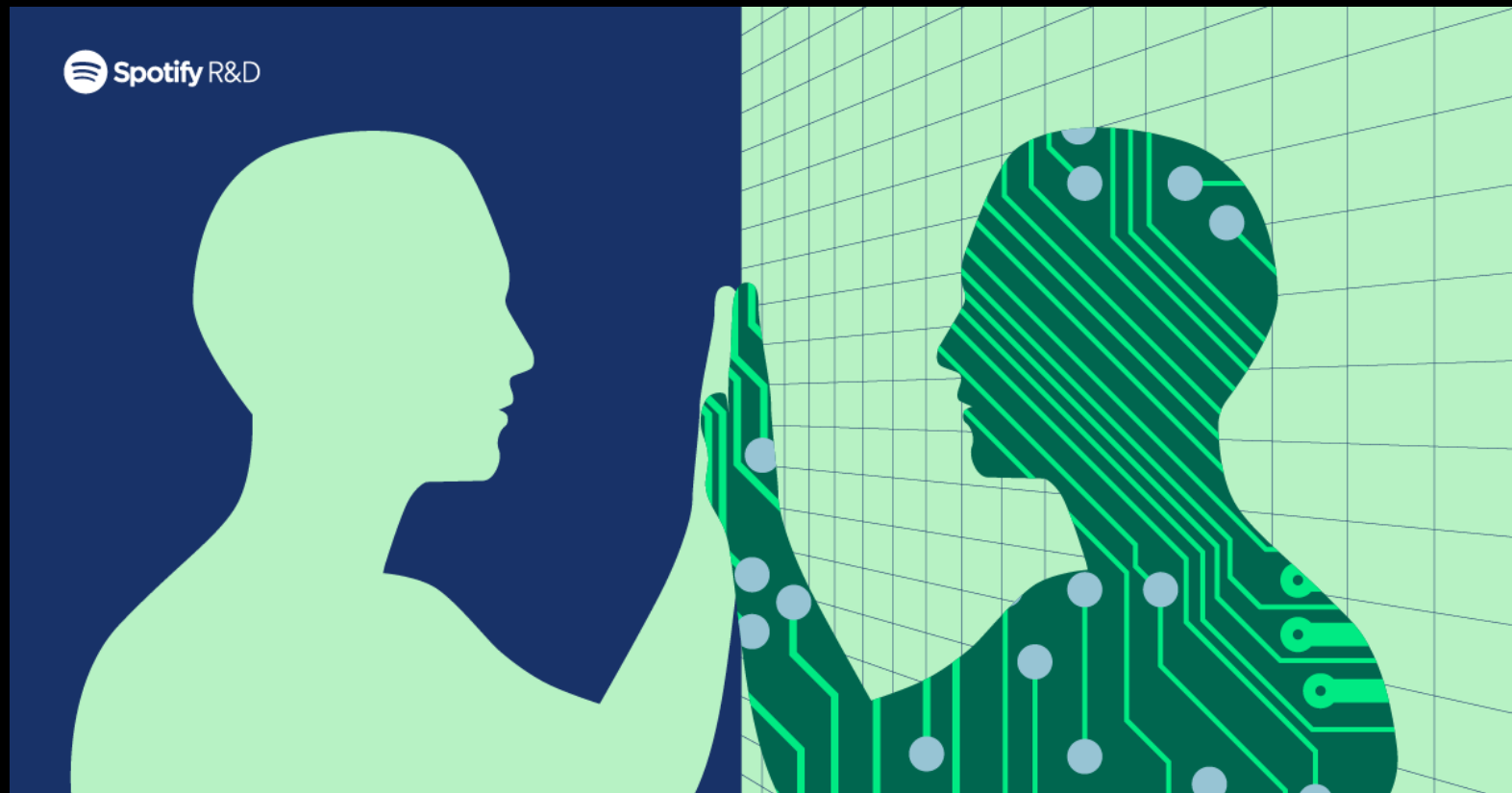


LIME - A
local
explanation
technique



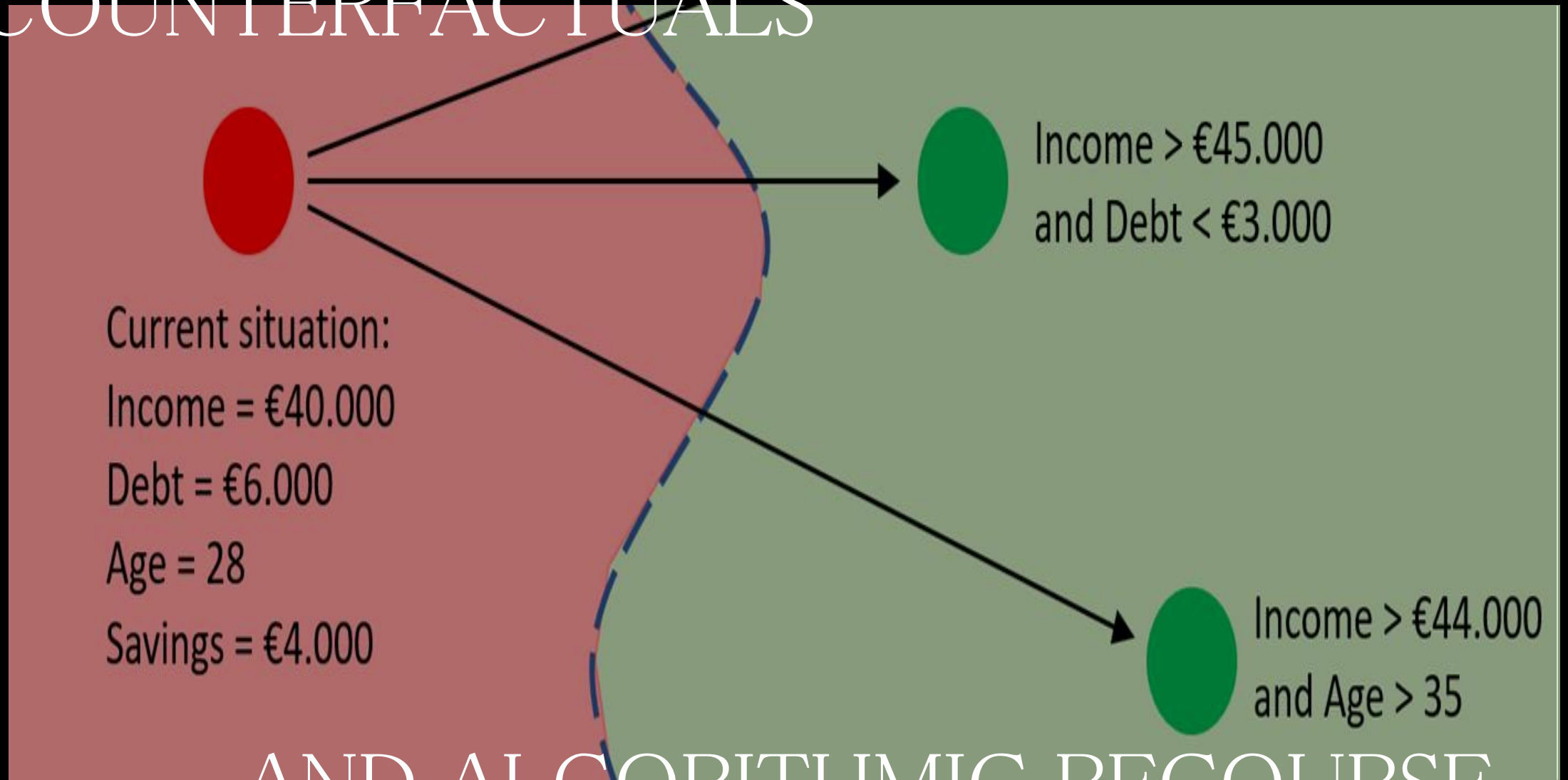
PDP - A
global
explanation
technique

THE
WHAT?
THE
WHY?
THE
HOW?



COUNTERFACTUALS

XAI TECHNIQUES



AND ALGORITHMIC RECOURSE

COUNTERFACTUALS

A lot of use cases are cropping up

KPMG

Themen

Br

Counterfactual Explanations: The What-Ifs of AI Decision Making

Counterfactuals: Demystifying AI decision-making for greater clarity.

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A Lloyd’s report urges insurers to ask “what if?”

Counterfactual risk analysis might improve underwriting

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ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

The complex math of counterfactuals could help Spotify pick your next favorite song

A new kind of machine-learning model is set to improve automated decision making in finance, health care, ad targeting, and more.

By Will Douglas Heaven

April 4, 2023

Counterfactual history: why what didn’t happen matters

The counterfactual approach can open up fascinating new perspectives and give a voice to the neglected ‘losers’ of history, professors say

November 28, 2021

scientific reports

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Article | Open access | Published: 04 September 2023

Counterfactual scenarios reveal historical impact of cropland management on soil organic carbon stocks in the United States

Stephen M. Ogle

F. Jay Breidt

Stephen Del Grosso

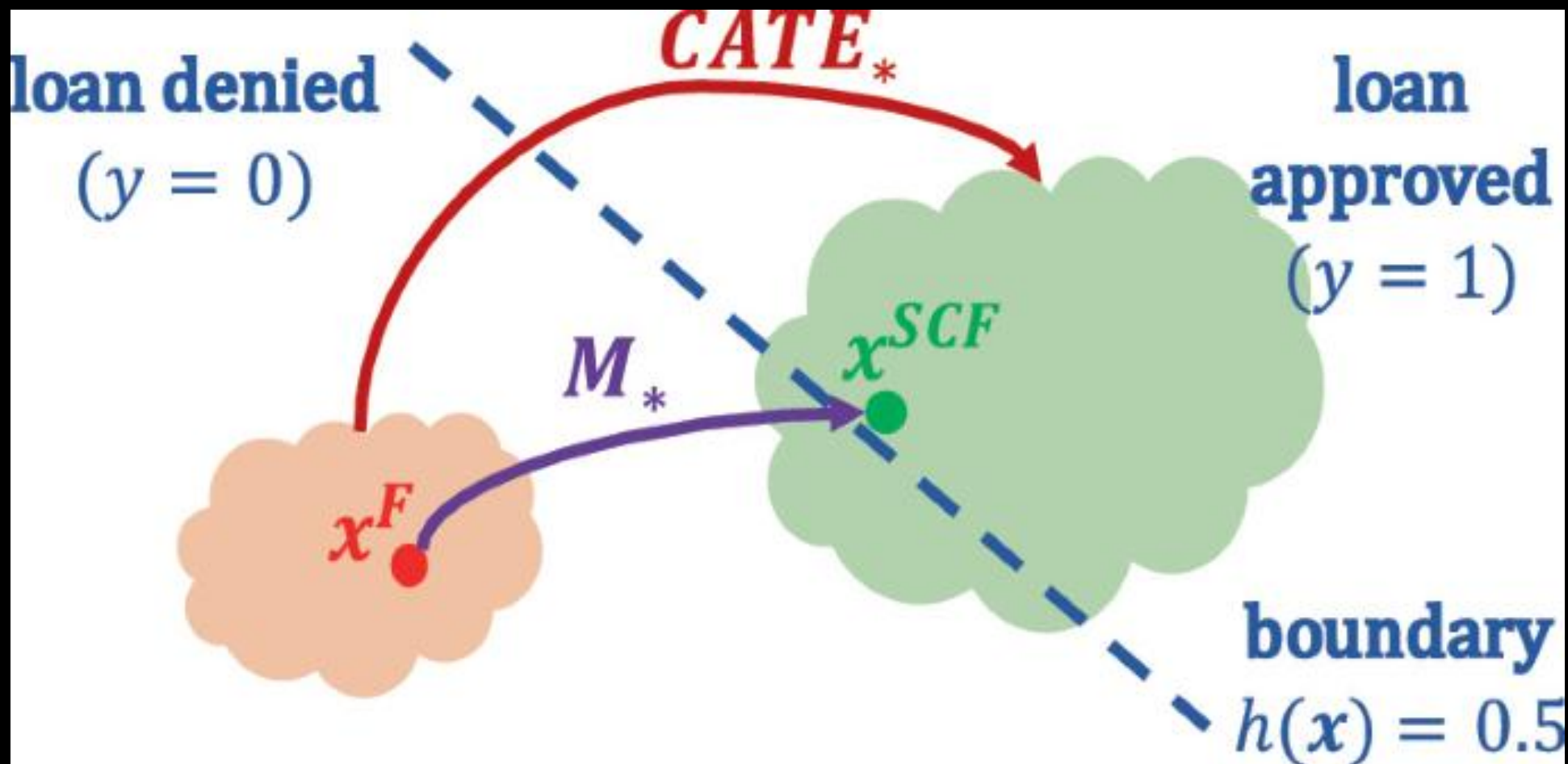
Ram Gurung

Ernie Marx

Shannon Spencer

article

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ALGORITHMIC
RECOURSE

Now your loan too can be
approved!

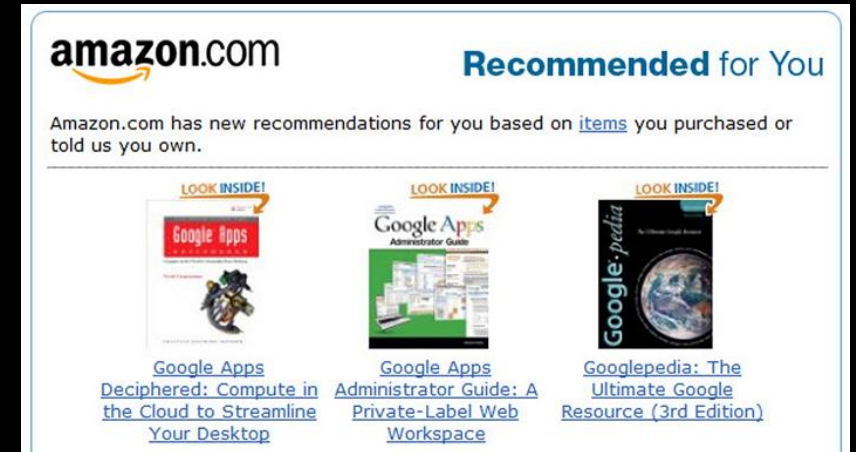
A BIT ABOUT HUMAN PREFERENCES

EVERYONE HAS IT, BUT NOBODY CAN QUANTIFY IT

What is the best way to ask users for preferences, especially their inherent resistance towards changes?



Which ice-cream would you choose?



Amazon recommendations



Voting

CAUSALITY



CORRELATION IS NOT
CAUSATION!

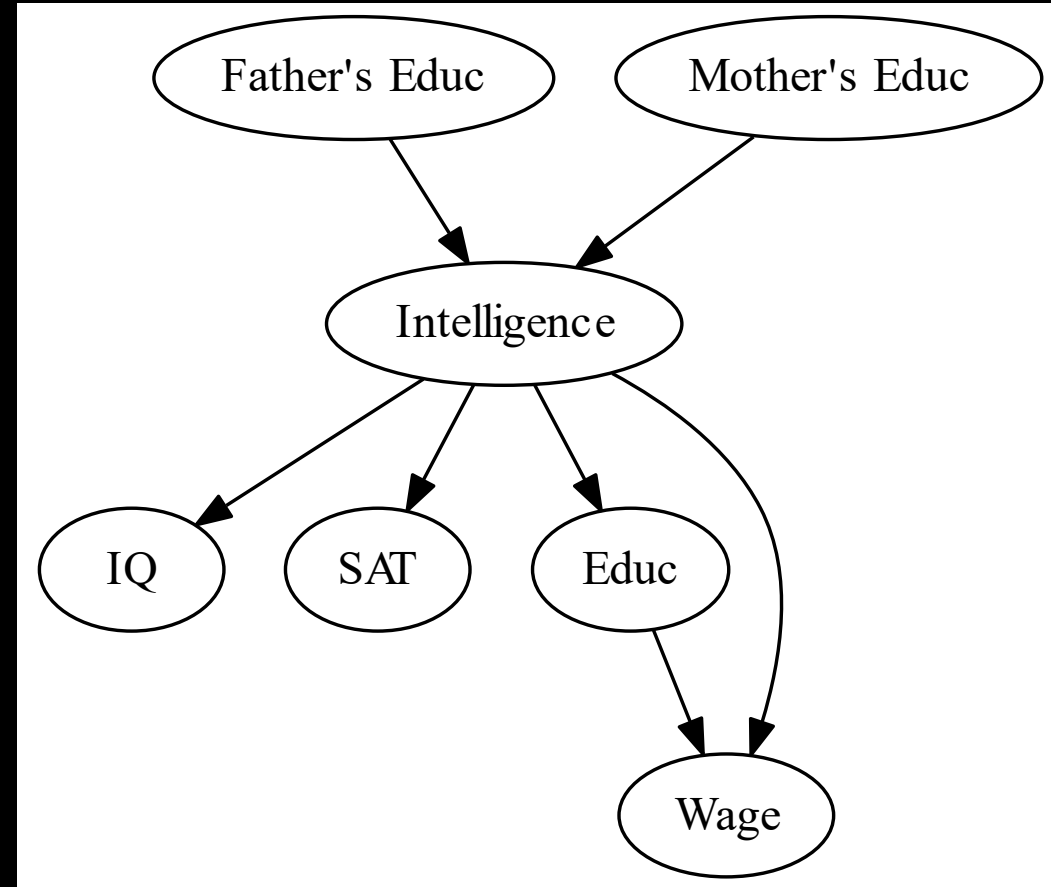
But what *is* **causation**?

So does more ice cream being sold
mean more soccer games being
played?

CAUSALITY IS IMPORTANT

Effects of your actions can trickle downstream.

Ignoring it has been proven to lead to suboptimal recourse [1].



A causal graph

- [1] - Karimi, A. H., Schölkopf, B., & Valera, I. (2021, March). Algorithmic recourse: from counterfactual explanations to interventions. In *Proceedings of the 2021 ACM conference on fairness, accountability, and transparency* (pp. 353-362).

COUNTERFACTUAL GENERATION

Plenty of work, but several assumptions needed

Algorithmic Recourse: from Counterfactual Explanations to Interventions

Amir-Hossein Karimi
MPI-IS, Germany
ETH Zürich, Switzerland

Bernhard Schölkopf
MPI-IS, Germany

Isabel Valera
MPI-IS, Germany
Saarland University, Germany

COUNTERFACTUAL EXPLANATIONS WITHOUT
OPENING THE BLACK BOX: AUTOMATED DECISIONS
AND THE GDPR

Sandra Wachter,* Brent Mittelstadt,** & Chris Russell***

Consequence-aware Sequential Counterfactual Generation

Philip Naumann^{1,2} (✉) and Eirini Ntoutsi^{1,2}

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² L3S Research Center, Leibniz Universität Hannover, Germany
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Algorithmic Recourse based on User's Feature-order Preference

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ABSTRACT

The state-of-the-art recourse generation the user's profile (feature vector). However, the same profile may still have different preferences. Recourse generated from a single profile may not appeal to both the users. For example, one user may prefer a recourse that is more expensive than another user.

Beyond Individualized Recourse: Interpretable and Interactive Summaries of Actionable Recourses

Synthesizing explainable counterfactual policies for algorithmic recourse with program synthesis

Giovanni De Toni^{1,2}  · Bruno Lepri¹ · Andrea Passerini²

Personalized Algorithmic Recourse with Preference Elicitation

THREE MODULES

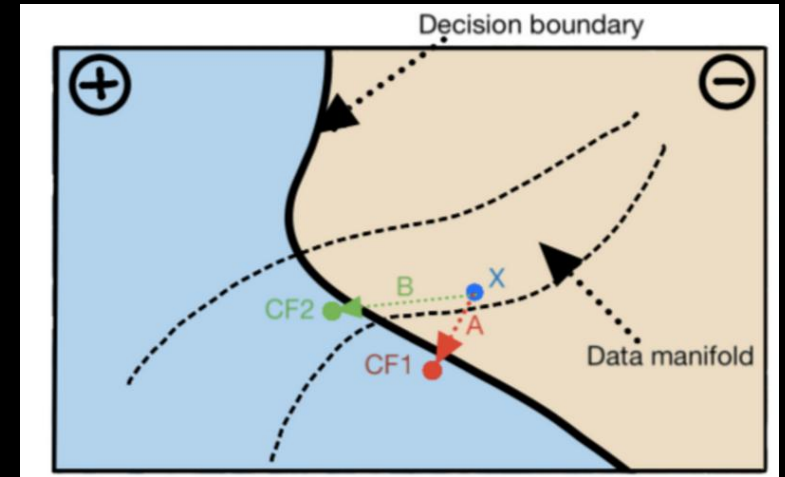
ALGORITHMIC RECOURSE



Preference taken from user using a novel duelling bandits-based algorithm



Causal Discovery using the causal-learn and dowhy packages for python



Counterfactual generation based on causality, user preference and other restrictions

THE BRADLEY- TERRY MODEL

A SIMPLE HEURISTIC SATISFYING
SEVERAL KEY PROPERTIES IN A
BANDIT PERSPECTIVE

- Strong stochastic transitivity
- Stochastic triangle inequality

$$P(b_i > b_j) = \frac{\mu_i}{\mu_i + \mu_j}$$

THE COST OF INTERVENTIONS

HOW COST IS CALCULATED

SMALLEST COST IN ALL SEQUENCE OF ACTIONS

- L2 cost
- Classification loss (BCE)
- A Reduction Factor
- ~~Cost of children of features being intervened on.~~

$$\mathcal{I}^* = \arg \min_{\mathcal{I}} \mathbb{C}(\mathcal{I}, x) \quad (3.3)$$

such that $h(\mathcal{I}^*(x)) \neq h(x)$

where we define the cost function $\mathbb{C}(\mathcal{I}, x)$ as:

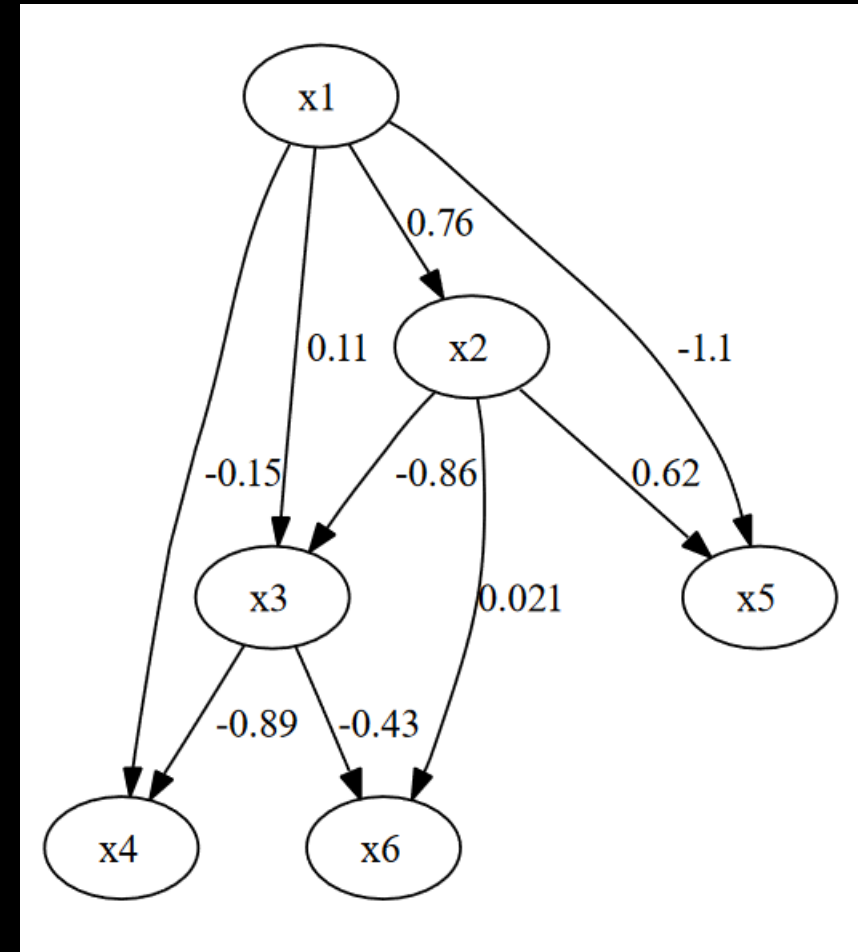
$$\mathbb{C}(\mathcal{I}, x) = \sum_{a_i \in \mathcal{I}} C(a_i, x) * R_{\text{factor}} \quad (3.4)$$

where $C(a_i, x) = \lambda \|a_i(x_i) - x_i\|_2 + L_{\text{classification}}(a_i(x))$

and $R_{\text{factor}} = 0.85(1 - 0.3 * y_{\text{pred}})$

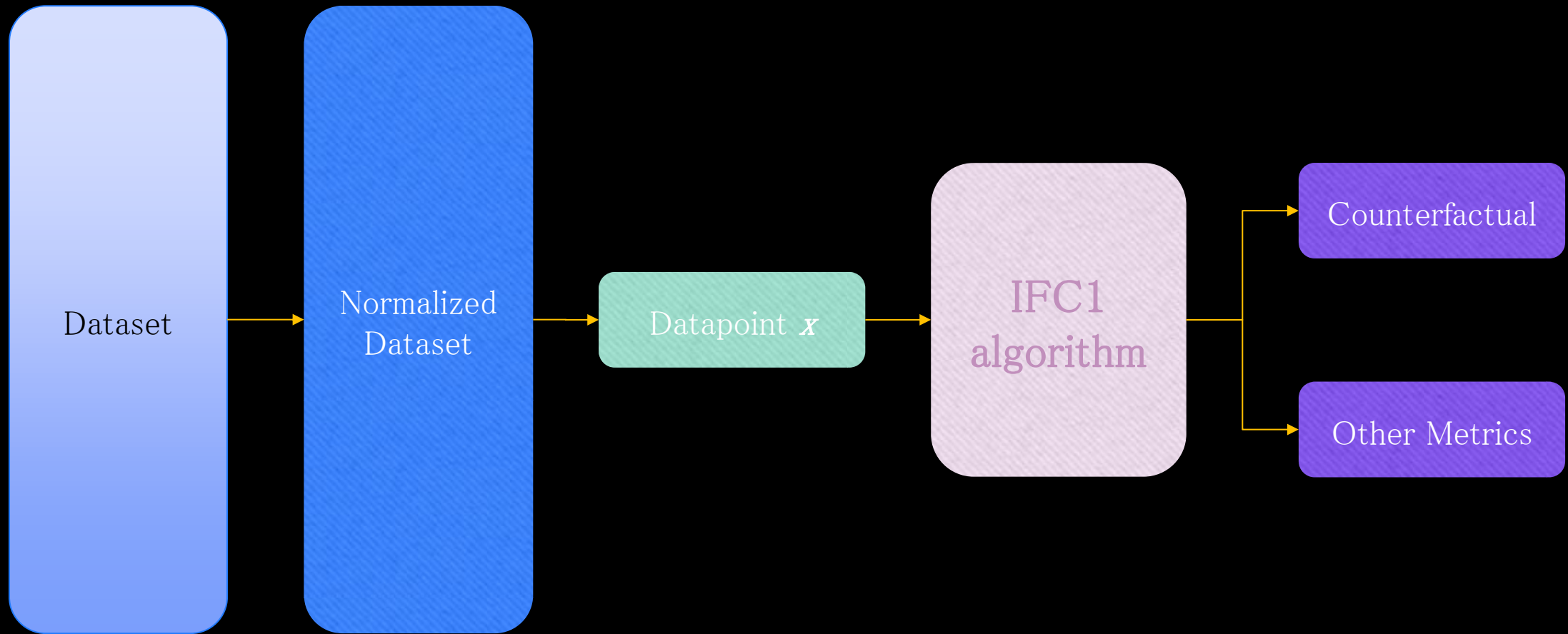
CAUSAL INFERENCE

WE USE ICA-BASED LINGAM [2] FOR ALL INFERENCE PURPOSES

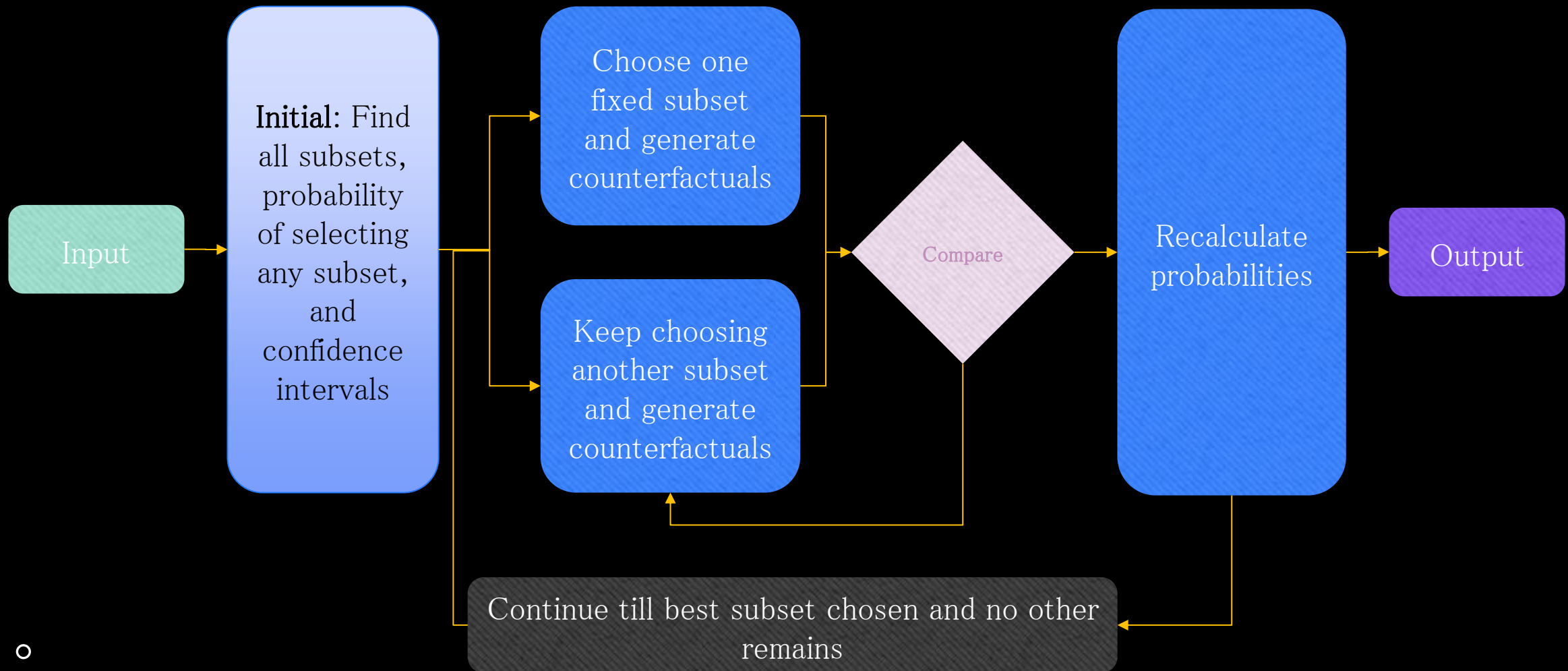


[2] - Shimizu, S., Hoyer, P. O., Hyvärinen, A., Kerminen, A., & Jordan, M. (2006). A linear non-Gaussian acyclic model for causal discovery. *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, 7(10).

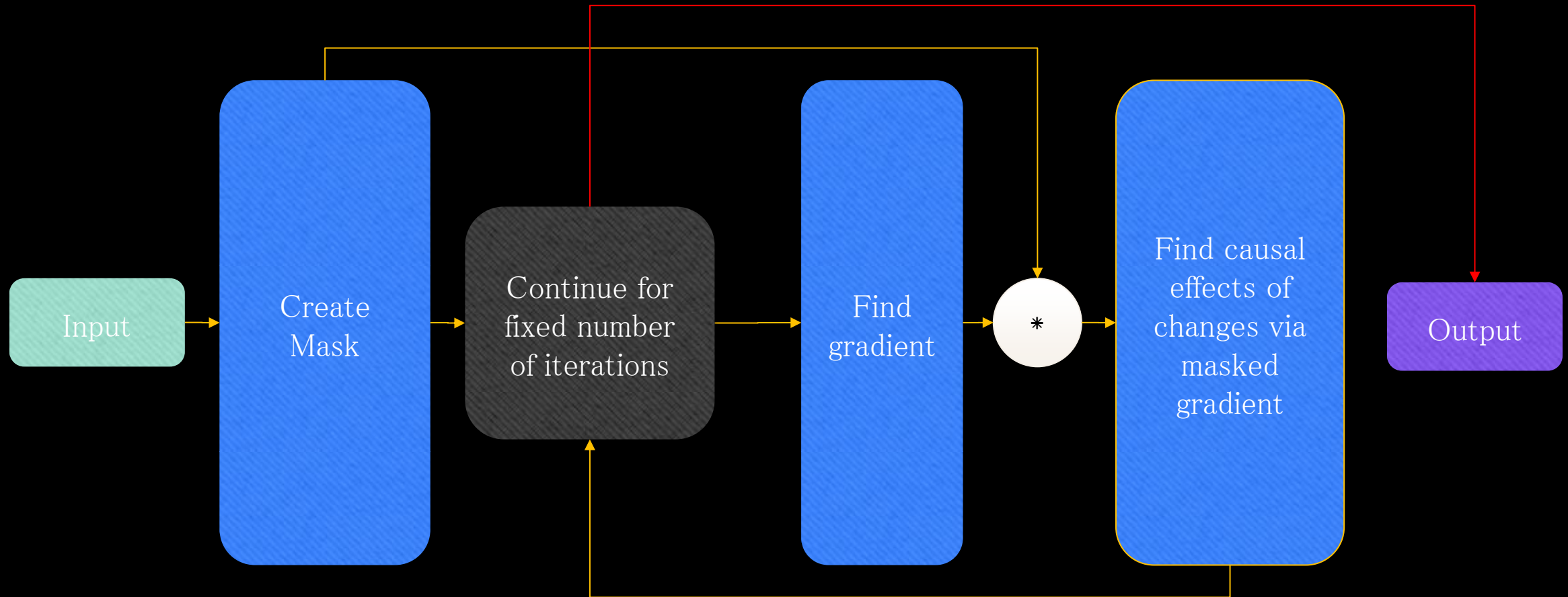
METHODOLOGY



IFC1 ALGORITHM



COUNTERFACTUAL GENERATION ALGORITHM



EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

- Experimental Results on Synthetic Dataset
- Experimental Results on Real World Dataset (Give Me Some Credit)
- For Bradley-Terry model, $\mu_i = 1, \mu_j = 1$

Hyperparamaters	Custom Dataset	Give Me Credit
Number of users	100	50
Size of dataset sampled	1000	5000
Learning Rate	10^{-3}	10^{-3}
Normalization	Z-score	Z-score
Maximum number of permutations of subset	3	3
(Custom 1 only) $\sum \alpha$	1000	1000
(Custom 1 only) α multiplier	100	100

EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS: CUSTOM 1 AND CUSTOM 2

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{x}'} \max_{\lambda} \lambda \mathbb{L}(\mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{w}}(\mathbf{x}') - \mathbf{y}') + d(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}')$$

$$d(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}') = \sum_{i=0} \alpha_i \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}\|_1 \quad (3.7)$$

where $\alpha_{i+1} = c \cdot \alpha_i$, and $\alpha_1 = \frac{\beta_0(c-1)}{c^n-1}$. Here c is known as the alpha multiplier, and $\sum_i \alpha_i = \beta_0$ is the sum of all alphas.

SYNTHETIC DATASET

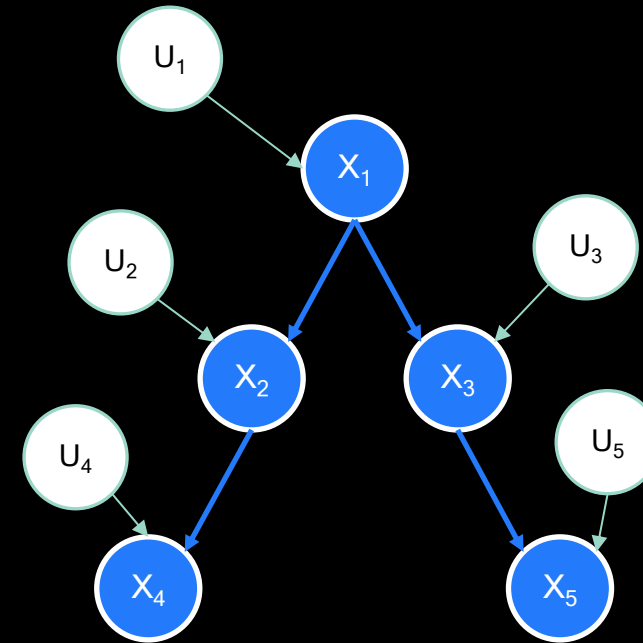
$$X_1 := U_1$$

$$X_2 := 2X_1 + U_2$$

$$X_3 := 3X_1 + U_3$$

$$X_4 := X_2 - 2X_3 + U_4$$

$$X_5 := 2X_3 - 2X_1 + U_5$$



$$y = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \text{sigmoid}(x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5) \geq 0.5 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

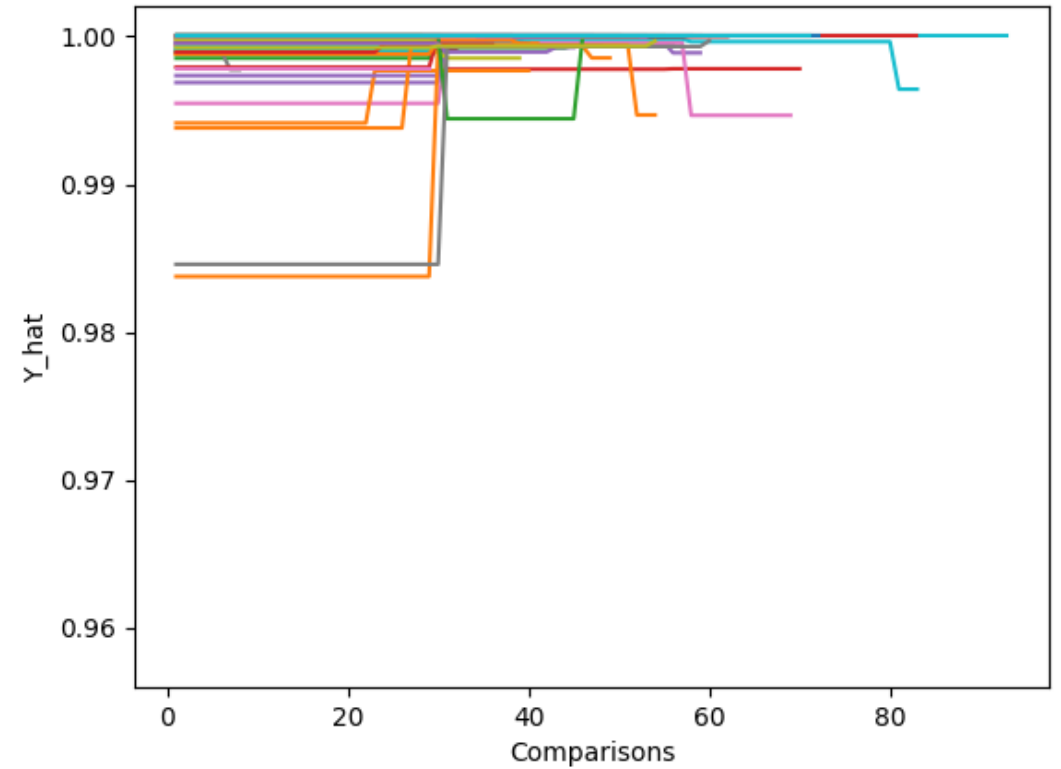
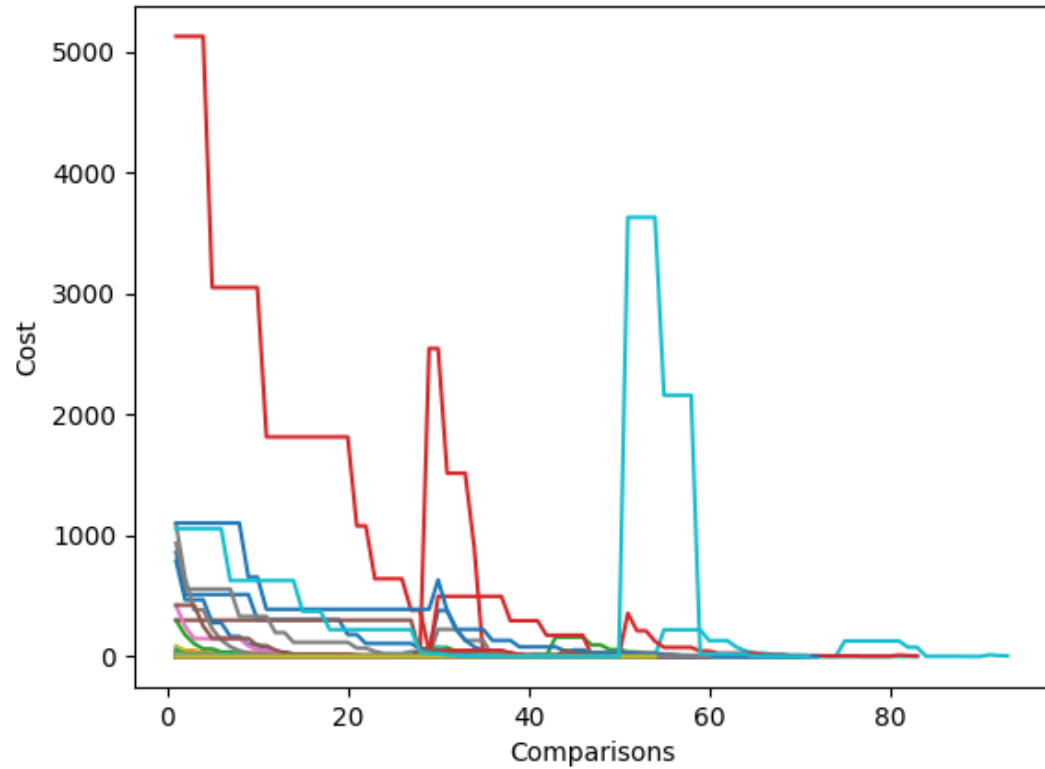
EXPERIMENTS ON SYNTHETIC DATASET

Paramater	Manan	Manan with Causality	Custom 1	Custom 2	Our Method
Average Number of Features Changed	1.08	1	5	1	3.42
Average L_2 Cost of Counterfactuals	14.007	896.582	1.14	21.54	6.34
Validity Percentage	100	100	80	100	50
Average Time to Execute (s)	1.222	1.331	0.771	9.002	116.037

EXPERIMENTS ON SYNTHETIC DATASET :

Paramater	Custom 2	Our Method
Average number of comparisons	40.94	45.78
Average percentage of cases it failed to detect user preference/changed fixed features	100	4

EXPERIMENTS ON SYNTHETIC DATASET :



EXPERIMENTS ON SYNTHETIC DATASET :

```
2024-05-08 02:33:38.927548: y_pred = tensor([0.]) at index 106 with datapoint [-1.5935743 -2.250385 -1.6981801 1.0659246 -1.8776345].
2024-05-08 02:33:38.927548: Final y_pred = tensor([0.]) at index 106.

2024-05-08 02:34:23.670241: Original data point is [-1.5935743 -2.250385 -1.6981801 1.0659246 -1.8776345]
2024-05-08 02:34:23.670241: The counterfactual is given by [-1.5935743 -2.250385 -1.6981801 1.0659246 7.097441 ] with number of features changed = 3, and cost = 2.501935391262246
2024-05-08 02:34:23.670241: Subset chosen by algorithm is ['X1', 'X3', 'X5'], whereas actual subset chosen by user is ['X1', 'X5']. (Fixed features = [])
2024-05-08 02:34:23.670241: Time taken 36.9246928691864 seconds
2024-05-08 02:34:23.670241: Prediction = 1.0
```

We get successful recourse, and subset prediction which is at least a superset (thereby not missing out on any features in the user's preference order).

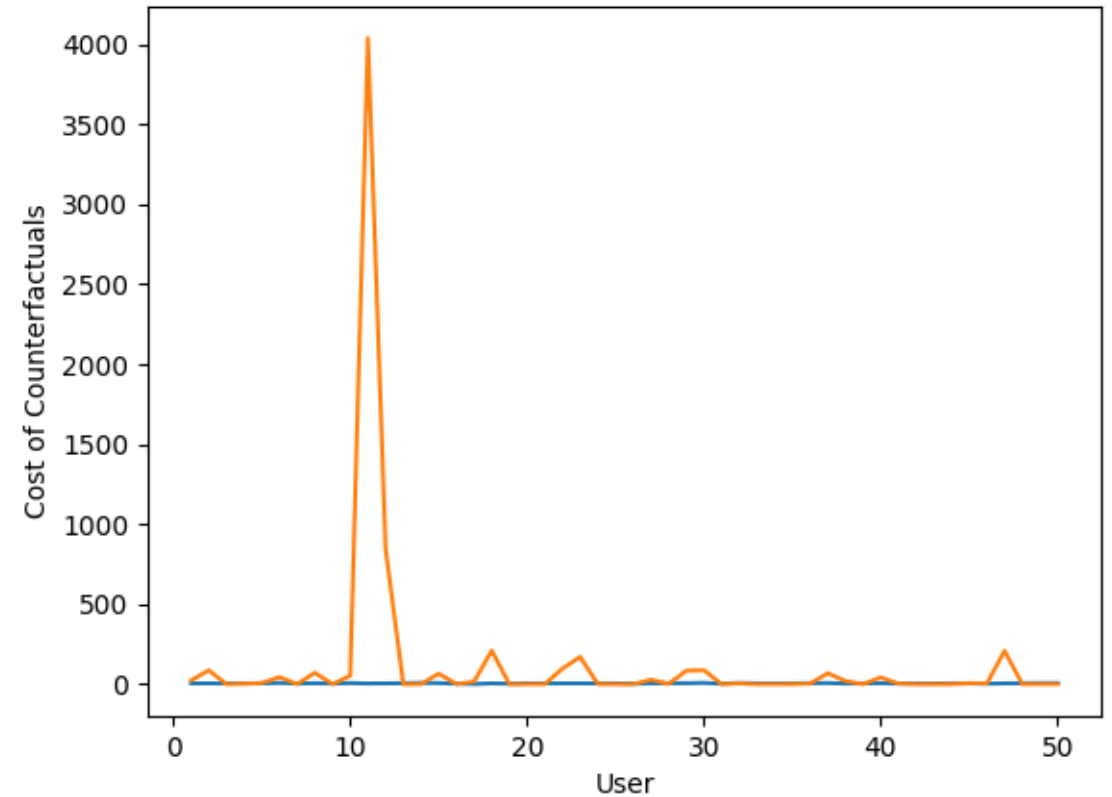
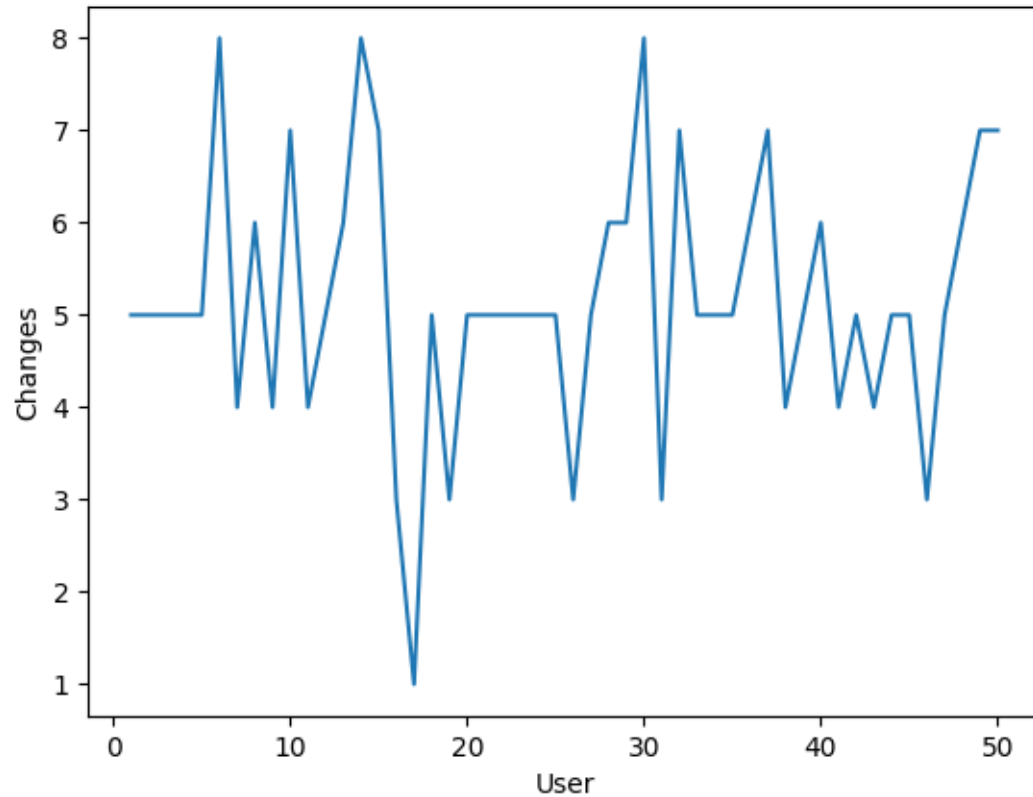
EXPERIMENTS ON GIVE ME SOME CREDIT DATASET

Paramater	PEAR	CSCF	FACE	My Method
Average Number of Features Changed	2.79 ± 0.42	2.51 ± 1.12	5.97 ± 0.62	5.16
Average L_2 Cost of Counterfactuals	96.04 ± 31.96	100.69 ± 120.22	327.18 ± 78.85	125.922
Validity Percentage	89	0.57 ± 0.42	0.24 ± 0.38	100

EXPERIMENTS ON GIVE ME SOME CREDIT : DATASET

Paramater	Our Method
Average number of comparisons	477.5
Average percentage of cases it failed to detect user preference/changed fixed features	0
Average time to execute in seconds	420.583

EXPERIMENTS ON GIVE ME SOME CREDIT DATASET



EXPERIMENTS ON GIVE ME SOME CREDIT : DATASET

Fixed features: ['DebtRatio']

User Preferred subset: ['age', 'NumberOfTime30-59DaysPastDueNotWorse', 'MonthlyIncome', 'NumberOfDependents']

Output subset: ['age', 'NumberOfTime30-59DaysPastDueNotWorse', 'MonthlyIncome', 'NumberOfTime60-89DaysPastDueNotWorse', 'NumberOfDependents']

Number of comparisons: 750

We get successful recourse, and subset prediction which is at least
a superset here as well.

CONCLUSION AND FUTURE SCOPE

- End-to-end counterfactual generation methodology
- Almost comparable to baselines at the moment, performing better on some metrics
- Can be applied in any situation involving black box models
- Special use case in critical scenarios with scope for modification
- Reducing number of comparisons

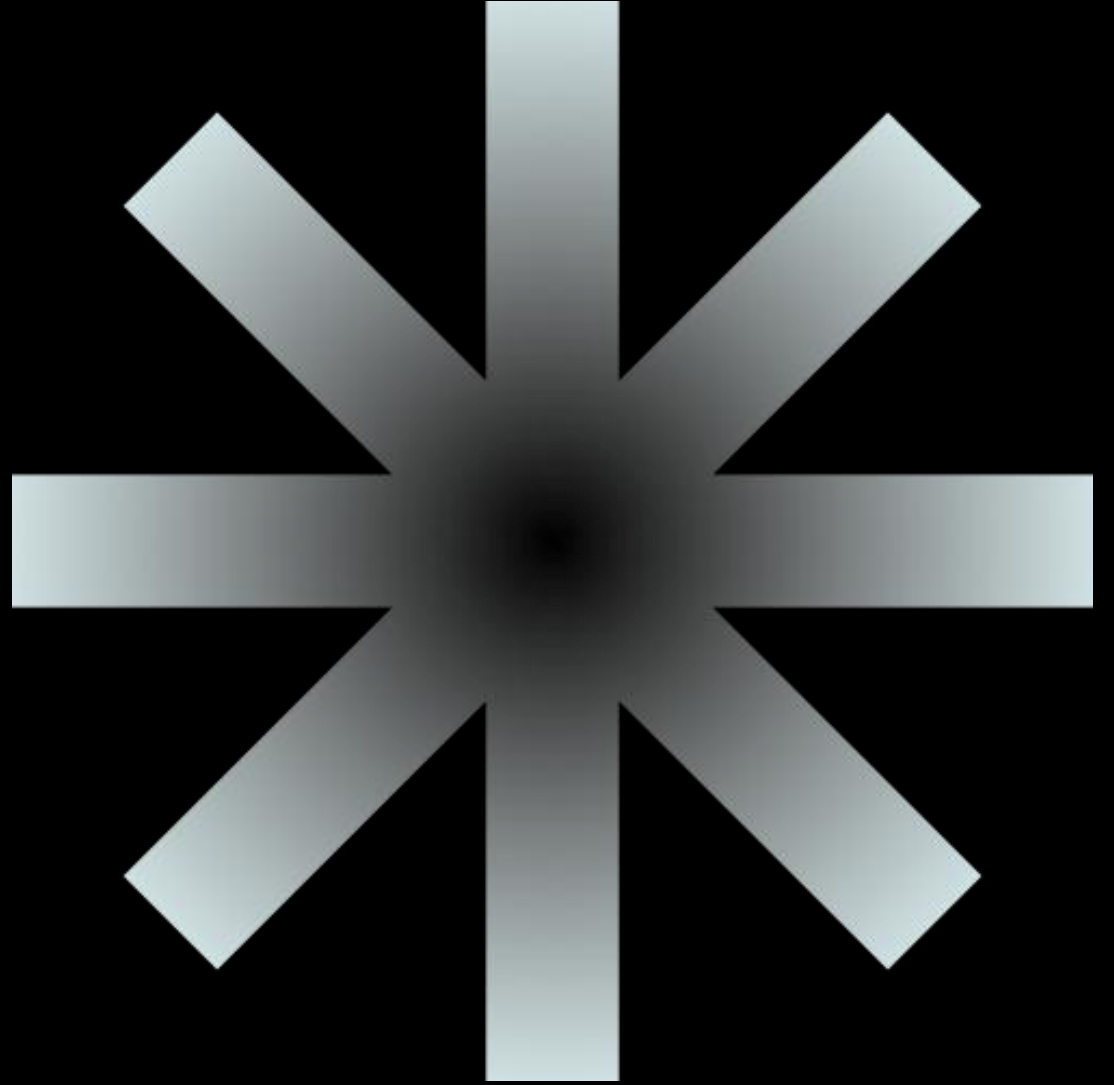
FUTURE SCOPE

- Reduction in the number of comparisons
- Modification in the cost function
- More optimization to reduce computations

THANK YOU

THE END

Hope this
explained my
work so far!



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