



# New geometric approaches to the map-matching problem

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**What is g-RIPS?**

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Not sure yet if I should do this yet; ask Suito-sensei

# Introduction to map-matching

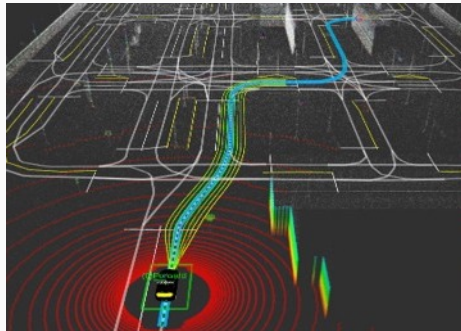
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# Map-matching

Given GPS trajectory data and a road map, **map-matching** is the process of determining the route on the map that corresponds to the trajectory data.



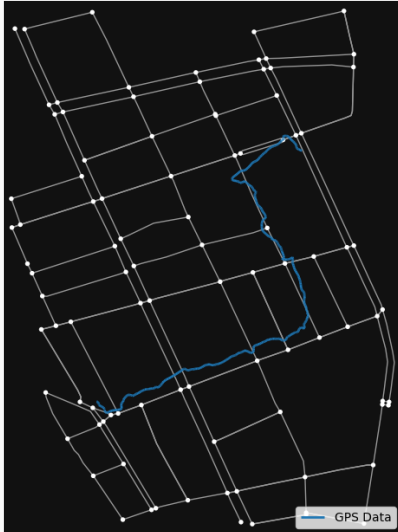
Web mapping services



Autonomous Vehicles [H]

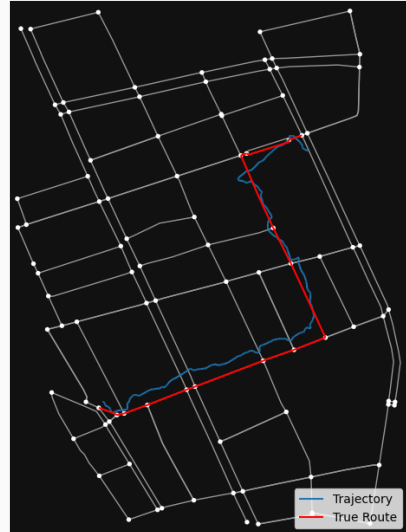
# Map-matching

Example Trajectory in Road Network of Sendai



Map-matching  
⇒

Example of Successful Map Matching



**How do we model this  
mathematically?**

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# Mathematical Formulation of the Problem

Let us fix  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $N \geq 2$ , but almost everywhere we consider the case  $N = 2$ .

## Definition (Trajectory)

A **trajectory**  $Tr$  is a sequence  $\mathbf{p} = (p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n)$  of points in  $\mathbb{R}^N$  equipped with

- a sequence  $t(\mathbf{p}) = (t_1, \dots, t_n)$  of positive numbers satisfying  $t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_n$ , called the **timestamp** of  $\mathbf{p}$ ,
- a sequence  $\text{spd}(\mathbf{p}) = (\text{spd}_1, \dots, \text{spd}_n)$  of positive numbers called the **speed** of  $\mathbf{p}$  (optional),
- a sequence  $u(\mathbf{p}) = (u_1, \dots, u_n)$  of unit vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^N$ , called the **direction** of  $\mathbf{p}$  (optional).



## Definition (Road Network)

A **road network** (also known as a map) is a directed graph  $G = (V, E)$  consists of the set  $V$  (resp.  $E$ ) of vertices (resp. edges) with an embedding  $\phi : |G| \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$  of the geometric realization  $|G|$  of  $G$ . We will identify  $G$  and the image  $\phi(|G|)$  by  $\phi$  as long as there is no confusion.

## Definition (Local Road Network)

A **local road network** is a directed connected subgraph of  $G = (V, E)$ .

## (Local) Road Network



## Definition (Route)

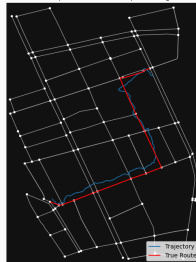
A **route**  $r$  on a road network  $G = (V, E)$  is a sequence of connected edges  $(e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n) \subset E$ , i.e. the head of  $e_i$  coincides with the tail of  $e_{i+1}$  for each  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$ . Let  $R$  denote the set of all routes.

## Definition (Candidate Routes)

For the local road network graph as  $H$  of the road network  $G$ , we define

$$CR_H = CR := \{\text{routes on a local road network graph } H\},$$

Example of Successful Map Matching



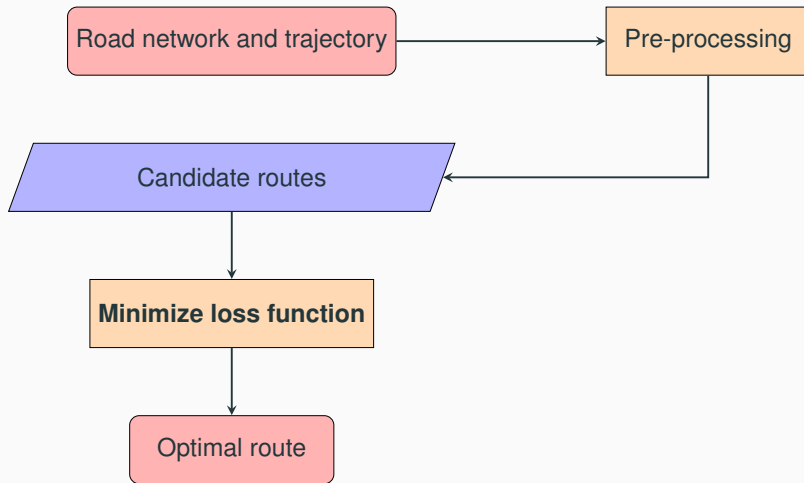
## Candidate Routes



### Definition (Map-Matching)

Given a road network  $G = (V, E)$  and a trajectory  $Tr$ , the map-matching,  $\mathcal{MR}_G(Tr)$ , is the route that is the argument of the minimum of some function  $L : \mathcal{CR} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ , called the **loss function**.

# Map-matching Pipeline



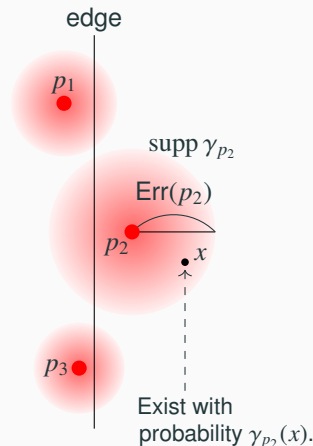
## Assumption

- Give the **GPS error** as  $\text{Err} : \mathbf{p} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$  and assume that the *spherically-symmetric probability measure*  $\gamma_p$  (e.g. *Gaussian measure*) is given such that

$$\text{supp } \gamma_p = B(p; \text{Err}(p)) := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^N \mid d_{\mathbb{R}^N}(x, p) \leq \text{Err}(p)\}.$$

We assume that  $p \in \mathbf{p}$  is truly located at  $x$  with probability  $\gamma_p(x)$ .

- Suppose that **there is NO error with respect to the speed and direction information.**



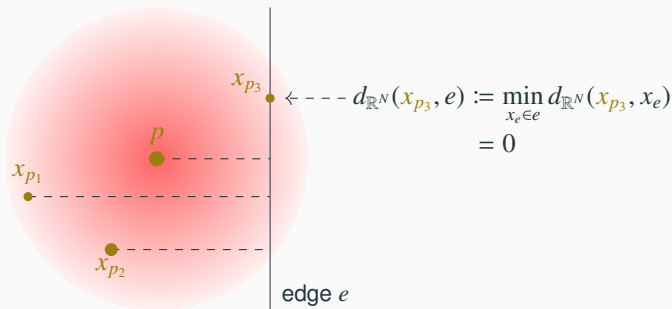


**Definition (The “distance” with error between  $p \in \mathbf{p}$  and  $e \in E$ )**

- Define the “distance” with error  $d_{\text{Err}}$  between  $p \in \mathbf{p}$  (*with errors*) and  $e \in E$  (*without errors*)

as

$$d_{\text{Err}}(p, e) := \int_{x_p \in B(p; \text{Err}(p))} d_{\mathbb{R}^N}(x_p, e) d\gamma_p(x_p).$$



## Wasserstein method

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## Definition ( $(L^1)$ -Wasserstein distance (review of mid-term presentation))

Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete and separable metric space. For probability measures  $\mu, \nu$  with finite supports, we define  $W_1$  distance between  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  as

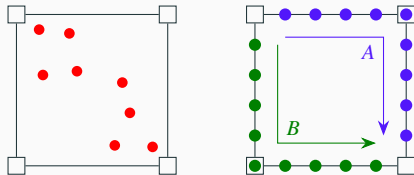
$$W_1(\mu, \nu) := \min_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)} \sum_{x \in X} \sum_{y \in X} d(x, y) \pi(x, y),$$

where  $\pi \in \Pi(\mu, \nu) :\Leftrightarrow$  for any  $x, y \in X$ ,  $\sum_{y \in X} \pi(x, y) = \mu(x)$ ,  $\sum_{x \in X} \pi(x, y) = \nu(y)$ .

## Definition (Prob. meas. associated w/ $\mathbf{p}$ and

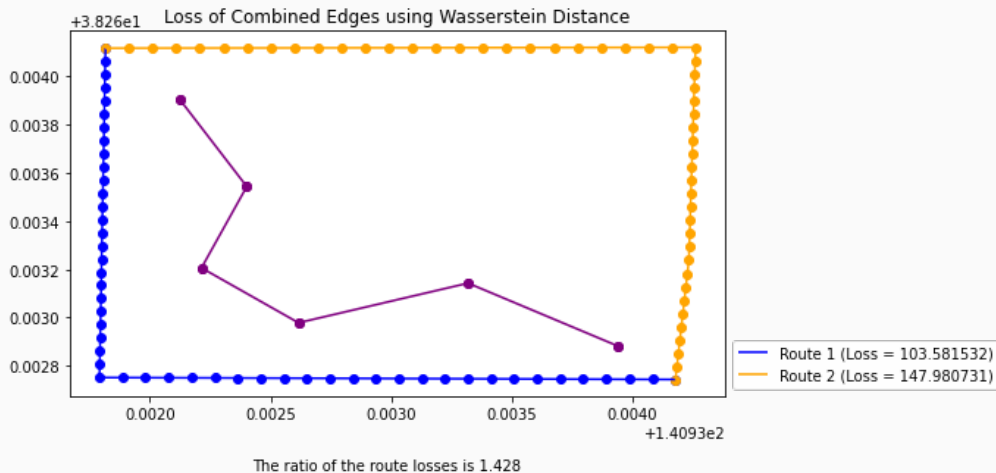
$A \in \mathcal{CR}$ )

- For the trajectory  $\mathbf{p}$ , define  $\mu_{\mathbf{p}} := (1/n) \sum_{p \in \mathbf{p}} \delta_p$ .
- $\triangleright$  Devide each  $A \in \mathcal{CR}$  into  $m + 1$  equal parts and  $V(A, m)$  denotes the set of  $m$  threshold points.
- $\triangleright$  Define  $\nu_A := (1/m) \sum_{a \in V(A, m)} \delta_a$ .

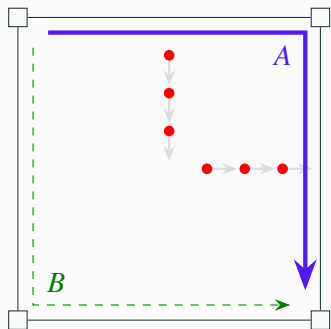


Compare  $W_1(\mu_{\mathbf{p}}, \nu_A)$  with  $W_1(\mu_{\mathbf{p}}, \nu_B)$ .

# Wasserstein Distance: Proof of Concept



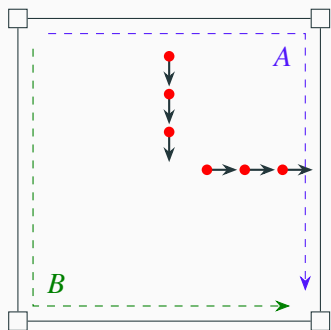
# Motivation



- Each  $p \in \mathbf{p}$  is located on the vertical or parallel bisectors.
- $\text{spd}(p)$ ,  $\text{Err}(p)$  are the same at each  $p$ , respectively.

- Location only.
  - ▷  $W_1(\mu_{\mathbf{p}}, \nu_A) < W_1(\mu_{\mathbf{p}}, \nu_B)$ .
- We should select the route B.
- Introduce probability measures  $\mu_{\mathbf{p},A}^\varepsilon$ ,  $\nu_A^\varepsilon$  and  $\nu_B^\varepsilon$  that include speed and direction information.
  - ▷ Compare  $W_1(\mu_{\mathbf{p},A}^\varepsilon, \nu_A^\varepsilon)$  with  $W_1(\mu_{\mathbf{p},B}^\varepsilon, \nu_B^\varepsilon)$ .
  - ▷ The effect of location is still strong.
- Normalization.

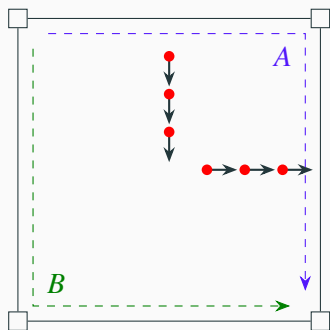
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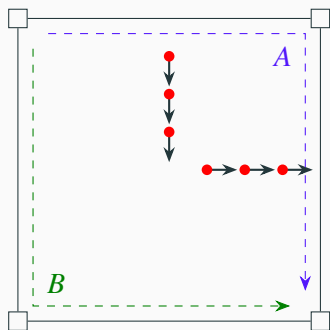
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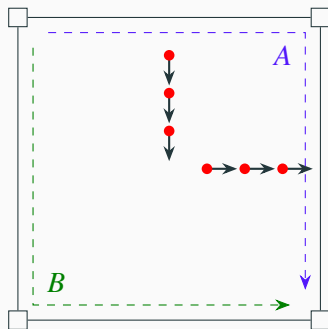


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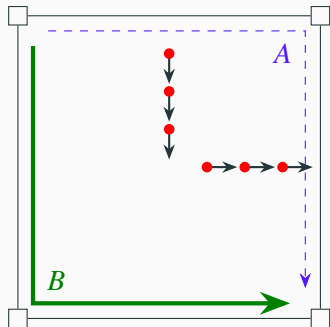
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  - ▷ Compare  $\frac{W_1(\mu_{\mathbf{p},A}^\varepsilon, \nu_A^\varepsilon)}{W_1(\mu_{\mathbf{p}}, \nu_A)}$  with  $\frac{W_1(\mu_{\mathbf{p},B}^\varepsilon, \nu_B^\varepsilon)}{W_1(\mu_{\mathbf{p}}, \nu_B)}$ .

# Motivation



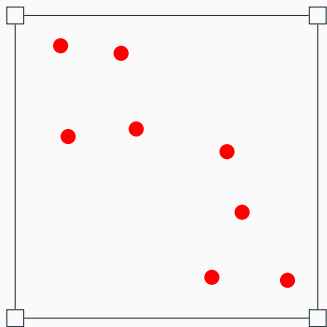
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  - $W_1(\mu_{\mathbf{p}}, \nu_A) < W_1(\mu_{\mathbf{p}}, \nu_B)$ .
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  - Compare  $W_1(\mu_{\mathbf{p},A}^\varepsilon, \nu_A^\varepsilon)$  with  $W_1(\mu_{\mathbf{p},B}^\varepsilon, \nu_B^\varepsilon)$ .
  - The effect of location is still strong.
- Normalization.
  - $$\frac{W_1(\mu_{\mathbf{p},A}^\varepsilon, \nu_A^\varepsilon)}{W_1(\mu_{\mathbf{p}}, \nu_A)} > \frac{W_1(\mu_{\mathbf{p},B}^\varepsilon, \nu_B^\varepsilon)}{W_1(\mu_{\mathbf{p}}, \nu_B)}.$$
  - **We can select the route B.**

Our strategy: Perturb  $\mu_{\mathbf{p}}$  and each  $\nu$  only by  $\varepsilon$  according to speed and direction.

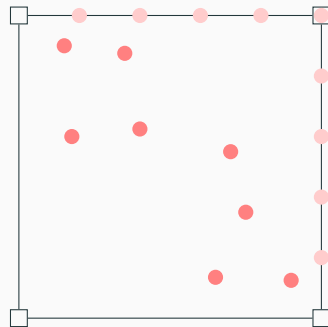
- Let  $0 < \varepsilon \ll 1$ . For each  $p \in \mathbf{p}$ ,  $A \in C\mathcal{R}$ ,  $a \in V(A, m)$  and  $x \in V(A, m)$ , define

$$\mu_{\mathbf{p}, A}^{\varepsilon}(x) := \begin{cases} (1 - \varepsilon)/n & (x = p), \\ \varepsilon \cdot (\text{our weight including } S \& D) & (x \in V(A, m)), \end{cases}$$



$\text{supp } \mu_{\mathbf{p}}$

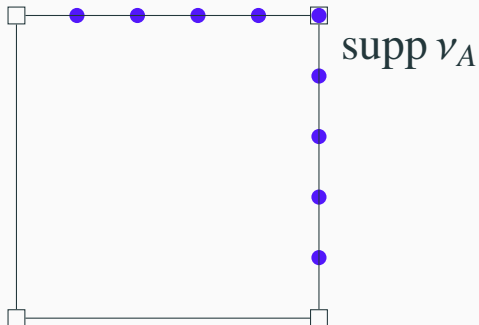
$\text{supp } \mu_{\mathbf{p}, A}^{\varepsilon}$



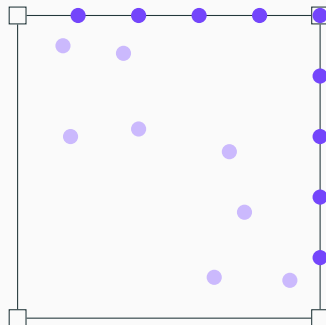
**Our strategy:** Perturb  $\mu_{\mathbf{p}}$  and each  $\nu$  only by  $\varepsilon$  according to speed and direction.

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$$\nu_A^\varepsilon(x) := \begin{cases} (1 - \varepsilon)/m & (x \in V(A, m)), \\ \varepsilon/n & (x \in \mathbf{p}). \end{cases}$$



$\text{supp } \nu_A^\varepsilon$



## Summary

- Quantify the distance between  $p \in \mathbf{p}$  and each  $A \in \mathcal{CR}$  by making  $\mu_{\mathbf{p}}$  and  $\nu_A$   $\varepsilon$ -perturbation according to speed and direction information.
- Conclude that **the route  $A$  with the smallest  $W_1(\mu_{\mathbf{p},A}^\varepsilon, \nu_A^\varepsilon)/W_1(\mu_{\mathbf{p}}, \nu_A)$  is the true route.**

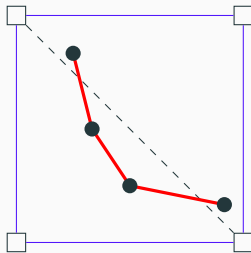
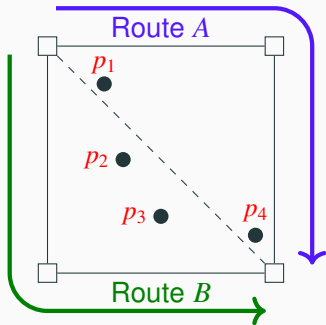
## Future problem (from a theoretical point of view)

- Is this method also effective when  $\mathcal{CR}$  is dense?
- Formulation of  $\mu_{\mathbf{p}}$  with  $(\gamma_p)_{p \in \mathbf{p}}$ .

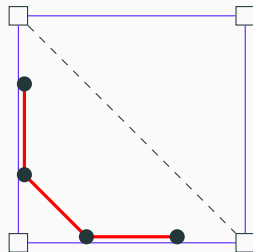
## **“Physical” method**

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## “Electric” Method : Review of Mid-presentation



**Figure 1:** Connecting traj. pts. and giving charges.



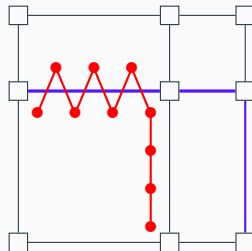
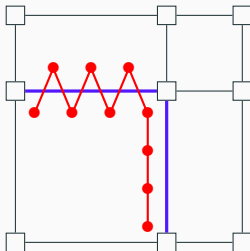
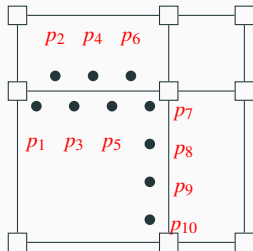
**Figure 2:** Moving to “closer” route.

- Considering not only trajectory points, but also the entire polyline.

# “Electric” Method : Problems

## Problems:

- ✗ Not taking into account speed and direction information.
- ✗ Divergence problem :  $\int_{\text{polyline}} \int_{\text{route}} r^{-2}$
- Even if  $\int_{\text{polyline}} \int_{\text{route}} (r^2 + \varepsilon)^{-1}$ , affects of intersection point is too large.





# “Electric” Method : Strategy to Solve the Problems

## Strategy:

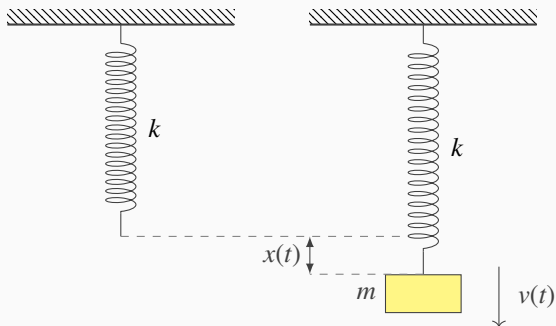
- Replace “maximizing inverse square” to “minimizing square”;

$$\max_{A \in \mathcal{CR}} \frac{1}{r^2} : \text{“electric” method}$$



$$\min_{A \in \mathcal{CR}} r^2 : \text{“harmonic oscillator” method}$$

## “Harmonic Oscillator” Method : General Setting



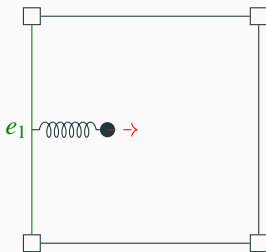
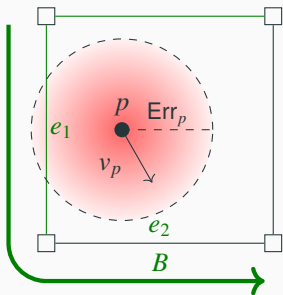
- $m$  :mass,
- $k$  :spring constant,
- $v(t)$  :verocity of mass point,
- $x(t)$  :displacement from natural length of spring
- *Lagrangian*

$$L(t) = \frac{1}{2}mv(t)^2 + \frac{1}{2}kx(t)^2$$

- *Action*

$$\text{Act} = \int L(t) dt = \int \left\{ \frac{1}{2}mv(t)^2 + \frac{1}{2}kx(t)^2 \right\} dt$$

# “Harmonic Oscillator” Method : Settings in Map-matching Problem

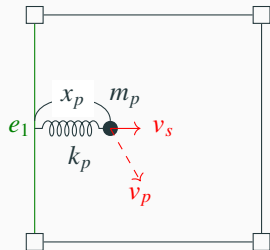


- $p \in \mathbb{R}^N$  : trajectory point,
- $v_p = \text{spd}_p u_p \in \mathbb{R}^N$  : speed at  $p$ ,
- $Err(p) \in \mathbb{R}$  : error of  $p$ ,
- $B \in C\mathcal{R}, \quad e \in B$
- $S(p, e)$  : score of edge  $e$

$$:= \langle v, \vec{e} \rangle_{\mathbb{R}^N} \exp(-d_{Err}(p, e))$$

- Connect trajectory point to the highest score edge by “spring”.
- Define “Lagrangian” of this system.

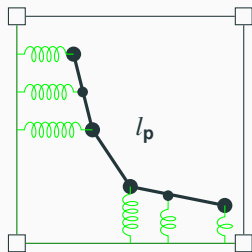
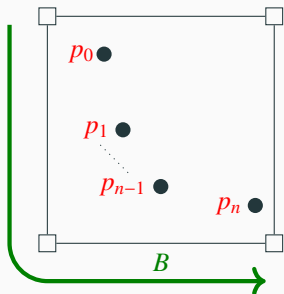
## “Harmonic Oscillator” Method : Settings in Map-matching Problem



- $v_s$  : spring direction component of  $v_p$
- $x_p = d_{\text{Err}_p}(p, e)$  : “displacement” of  $p$
- $m_p = \frac{1}{1+\text{Err}(p)}$  : “mass” of  $p$ ,
- $k_p = \exp(-\text{Err}(p))$  : “spring constant” w.r.t.  $p$ ,
- $M(p) = m_p \left\| \frac{v_s}{\log(1+|v_p|)} \right\|^2$  : “momentum” of  $p$ ,
- $P(p) = k_p x_p^2$  : “potential” of  $p$ ,

$$L := M(p) + P(p) : \text{“Lagrangian”}.$$

# “Harmonic Oscillator” Method : Settings in Map-matching Problem



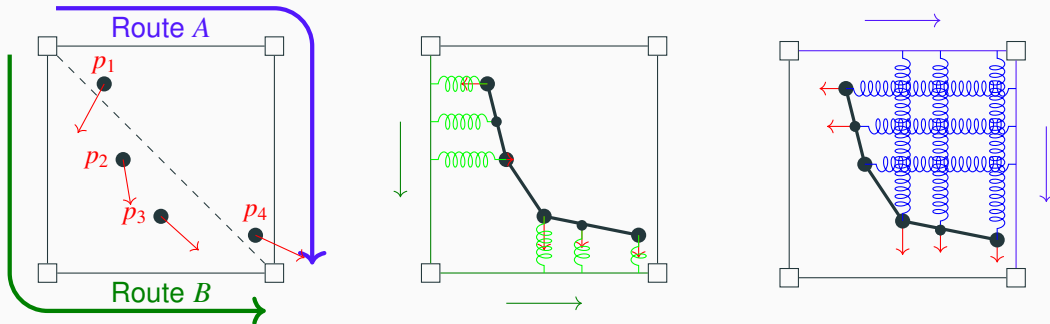
- $\mathbf{p} = (p_i)_{0 \leq i \leq n}$  : traj. points,
- $v_p = (v_i = \text{spd}_i u_i)_{0 \leq i \leq n}$  : velocity,
- $\text{Err} : \mathbf{p} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  : error,
- $B \in \mathcal{CR}$  : route.



- $l_p : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$  : polyline,
- $v_{l_p} : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$  : velocity,
- $\text{Err}_{l_p} : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  : error,

$$L(t) := M(l_p(t)) + P(l_p(t)), \quad \text{Act}_{\mathbf{p}}(B) := \int_{[0,1]} L(t) dt : \text{“action” of } \mathbf{p} \text{ on } B.$$

## “Harmonic Oscillator” Method : Settings in Map-matching Problem



- Calculate  $Act_p(A)$  and  $Act_p(B)$ .
- Choose the route that minimize action.

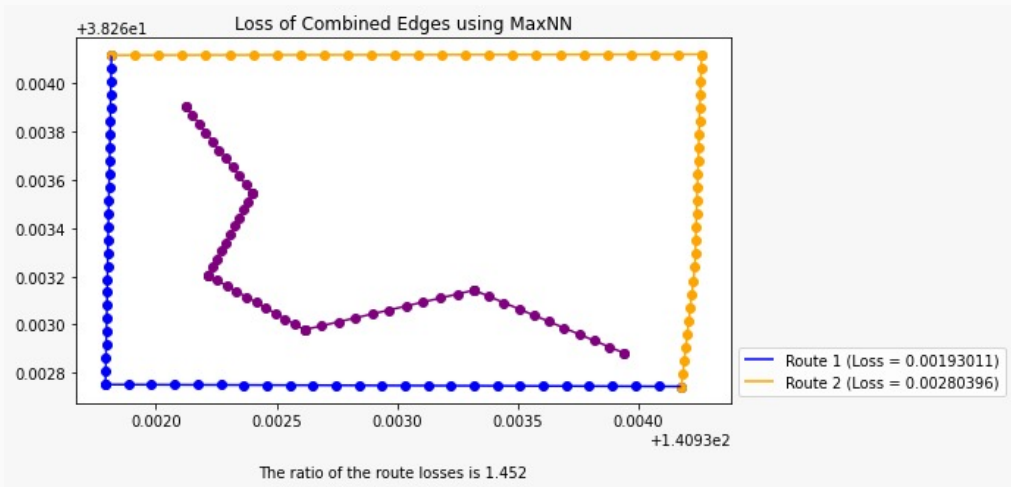
### **Strength/weakness:**

- ✓ No divergence problem,
- ✓ Taking into account speed and direction naturally,
- ✗ Insufficient consideration of the entire route.

### **Future problems:**

- Consider more appropriate way to define mass and spring constant.
- Connect to all edge of a route with appropriate weight to consider the whole route.

## "Electric Method" and "Harmonic Oscillator": Proof of Concept





## Numerical Results

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# Implementing metric-based methods

```
from algorithms import metric mm#, fmm_bin
# from fmm import FastMapMatchConfig

### Define map matching configurations

k = 8
radius = 0.003
gps_error = 0.0005

# fmm_config = FastMapMatchConfig(k, radius, gps_error)
cfg_file = None

## Least squares functions
ls_r1 = lambda distarray: np.square(distarray) # The function applied directly to the distances from the candidate route to the k-NN GPS coords
ls_ro = lambda distarray: 1*(1/np.size(distarray) * np.sum(distarray)) # This is where we 'integrate' over the distances, and if we need to do anything else, we do it
ls_g1 = lambda distarray: np.square(distarray) # The function applied directly to the distances from the GPS coords to the k-NN candidate route nodes
ls_go = lambda distarray: 1*(1/np.size(distarray) * np.sum(distarray))
##

## Inverse squares function ('Electrical method')
eps = 0.0000001
is_r1 = lambda distarray: np.power(np.square(distarray) + eps, -1) # We need eps to prevent singularities, i.e. r = 0
is_ro = lambda distarray: -1*(1/np.size(distarray) * np.sum(distarray)) # We sum, and then multiply by -1 to turn the minimizing process into a maximizing process
is_g1 = lambda distarray: np.power(np.square(distarray) + eps, -1)
is_go = lambda distarray: -1*(1/np.size(distarray) * np.sum(distarray))
##

def wrapper_f(r1, ro, g1, go): # This should return a function composed from the basic functions, that can then be applied onto route and gps data.
    return lambda route, gps: 1*ro(r1(route)) + 1*go(g1(gps))

ls_loss_function = wrapper_f(ls_r1, ls_ro, ls_g1, ls_go)
is_loss_function = wrapper_f(is_r1, is_ro, is_g1, is_go)

def wasserstein(route_loss, gps_loss): # gps_loss, n, m
    # the (i,j)th entry of the gps_loss matrix is the distance from the ith point of the trajectory to the jth point on the candidate route
    # n is the number of points along the trajectory
    # m is the number of points on the candidate route
    n = gps_loss.shape[0]
    m = gps_loss.shape[1]
    # the (i,j)th entry of the gps_loss matrix is the distance from the ith point of the trajectory to the jth point on the candidate route
    # Create equality constraints
    b = [1/n for i in range(0,n)] + [1/m for i in range(0,m)]
    row1 = [i for i in range(0,n) for j in range(0,m)]
    row2 = [n+j for j in range(0,n) for i in range(0,m)]
    row = np.append(np.matrix.flatten(np.array(row1)), np.matrix.flatten(np.array(row2)))
    col1 = [i for i in range(0,n*m)]
    col2 = [j*m+k for j in range(0,m) for k in range(0,n)]
    col = np.append(np.matrix.flatten(np.array(col1)), np.matrix.flatten(np.array(col2)))
    data = np.ones(n*m*2)
    A = csr_matrix((data, (row, col)), shape = (n*m, n*m)).toarray()
    A = A[::-1]
    b = b[::-1]
    # solve the linear program
    res = linprog(np.matrix.flatten(gps_loss), None, None, A, b)
    # return the function value, i.e. the wasserstein distance
    loss = res.fun
    return loss
```

# Implementing metric-based methods

Why are we defining each of the metric-based functions here, instead of in a separate Class? Because `metric_mm` is designed to accommodate any distance-based loss function, allowing for simple and customizable simulator creations.

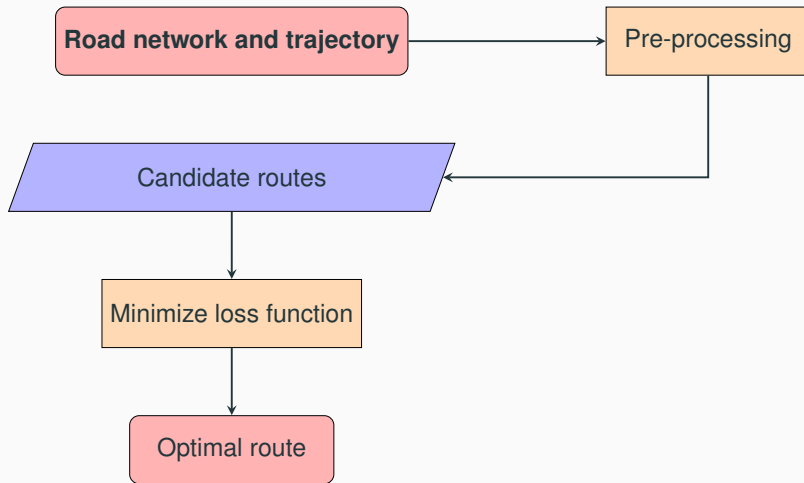
```
# The metric_mm algorithm allows you to either directly pass in a loss function, or to pass it all the individual pieces and wrap it itself  
# This may be useful in case you wish to utilize the individual functions of a sim elsewhere.
```

```
sim1 = fmm_bin.FMM(cfg = fmm_config)  
sim2 = metric_mm.Sim(ls_ri, ls_ro, ls_gi, ls_go, wrapper_f) # Least squares metric-based  
sim3 = metric_mm.Sim(loss_function = is_loss_function)  
sim4 = metric_mm.Sim(loss_function = wasserstein)
```

```
## If you have the ground truth, load it here  
ground_truth = db.read_text('map-matching-dataset/*route.geojson').map(json.loads).map(gpd.GeoDataFrame.from_features)
```

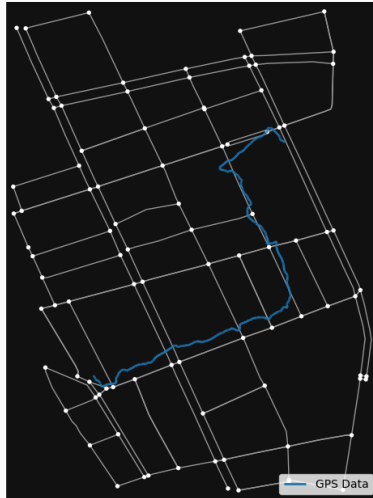
Now we revisit the Sendai map case.

# Map-matching Pipeline

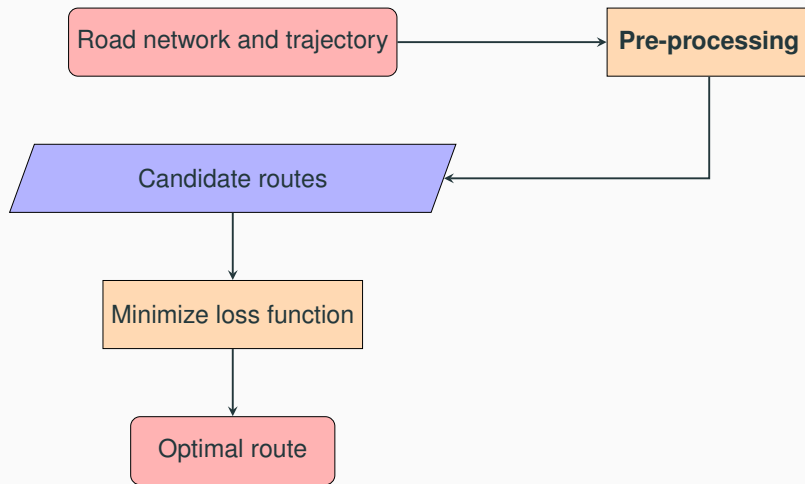


# Sendai Map Revisited

Example Trajectory in Road Network of Sendai



# Map-matching Pipeline



Obtaining Candidate Routes (Dijkstra's Algorithm)

CPU times: user 45.8 s, sys: 49.7 ms, total: 45.9 s

Wall time: 45.9 s

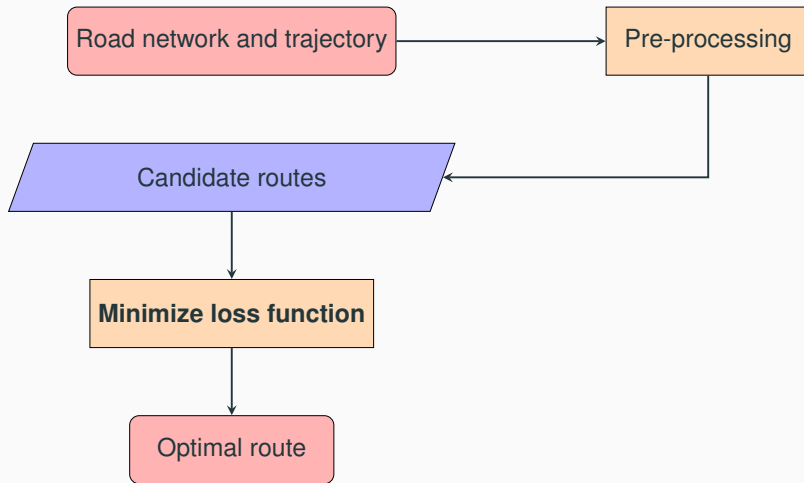
Preprocessing Candidate Routes

CPU times: user 12.7 s, sys: 103 ms, total: 12.8 s

Wall time: 12.8 s



# Map-matching Pipeline



## Sendai Map Revisited

### Least Squares Runtime

CPU times: user 1.53 s, sys: 29.9 ms, total: 1.56 s

Wall time: 1.55 s

### Inverse Squares Runtime

CPU times: user 14.2 s, sys: 392 ms, total: 14.6 s

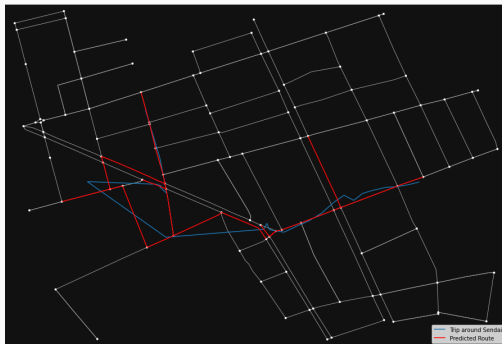
Wall time: 10.2 s

### Wasserstein Runtime

(Computation times vary wildly based on parameters- anywhere from 20 seconds, to 20 minutes, to 2.5 hours)

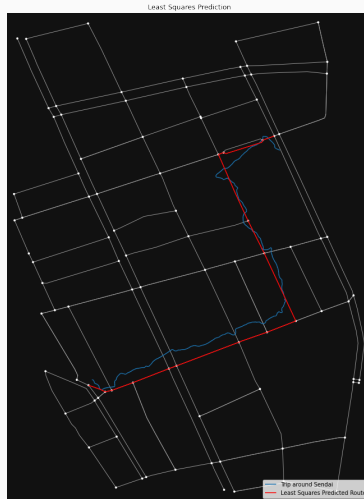
## Sendai Map Revisited

Unfortunately, due to FMM relying on outdated libraries, we could not produce an image demonstrating FMM's performance on the new trip data. Our preliminary findings demonstrated that FMM still performed poorly on the dataset. For the sake of comparison, recall FMM's results on the older GPS dataset:

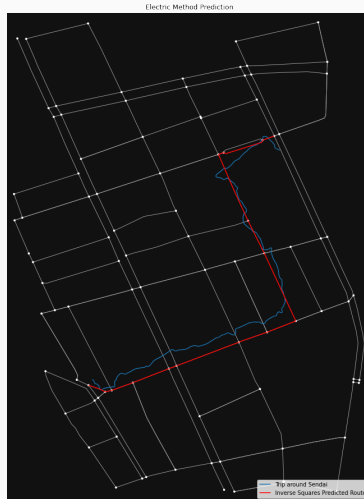


We also note that FMM runs in roughly 5 seconds on our current dataset.

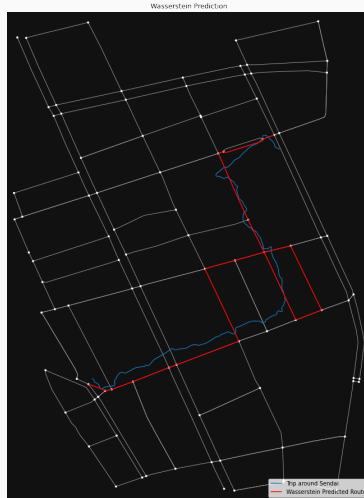
# Sendai Map: Least Squares (Harmonic Oscillator) Result



# Sendai Map: Inverse Squares (Electrical Method) Result

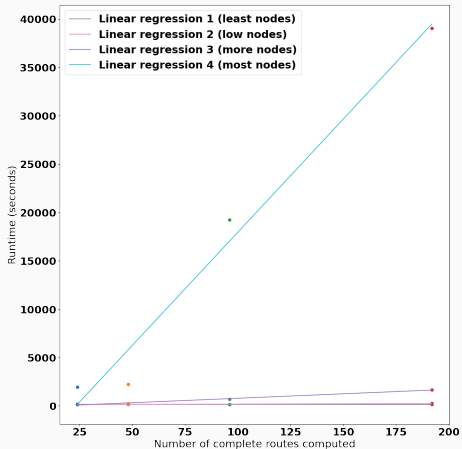
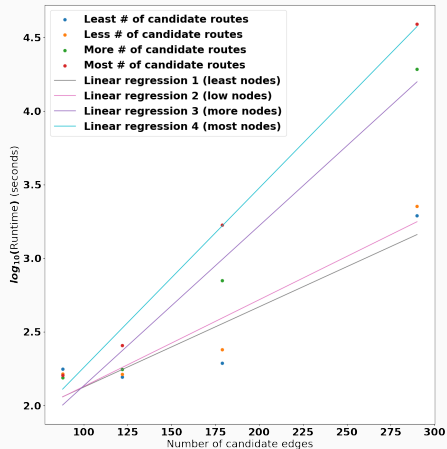


# Sendai Map: Wasserstein Method Result



# Computational Complexity (Preprocessing)

Preprocessing (Dijkstra) Runtime



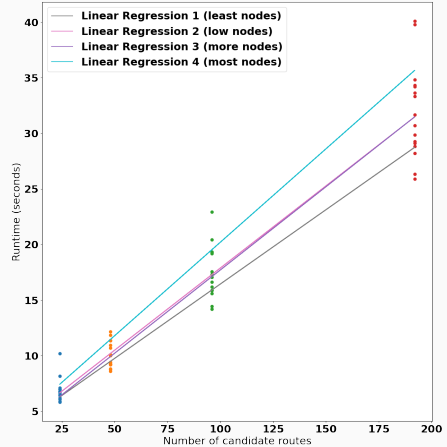
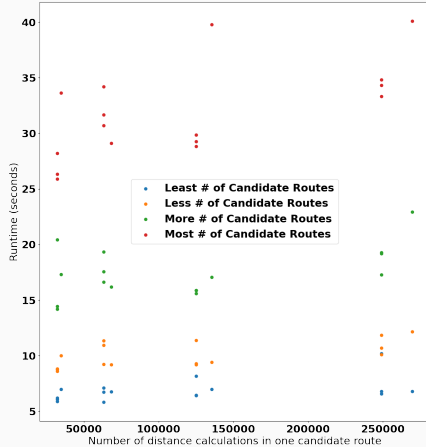
## Computational Complexity (Metric Calculations)

The following scatter plots demonstrates how computation grows as a function of input nodes.



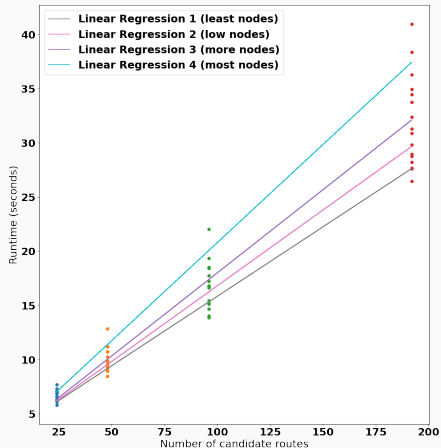
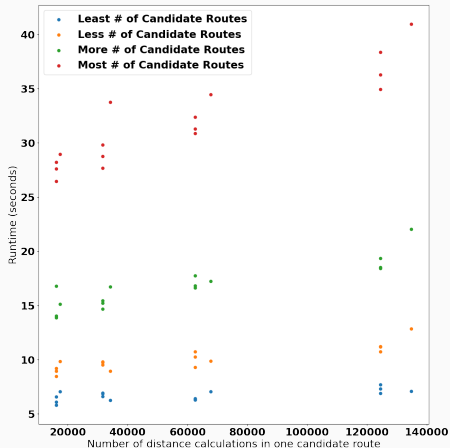
# Computational Complexity (Metric Calculations)

Least Squares Runtime



# Computational Complexity (Metric Calculations)

Inverse Squares Runtime



This suggests that simple distance methods (like inverse squares and least squares) have a computational complexity of  $O(n)$ . Due to processing power, we could not obtain enough data to infer the computational complexity of the Wasserstein method. Because it relies on linear programming, we hypothesize that the growth rate is a polynomial of degree  $> 1$ .

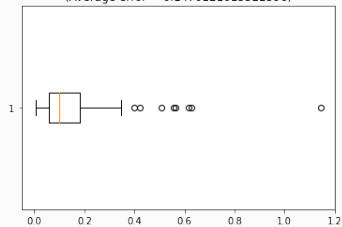
Some aspects of these algorithms can be improved upon— simple parallelization techniques offer a noticeable increase. However, other aspects are inherent to the method and are difficult to improve.

## Preliminary Numerical Results

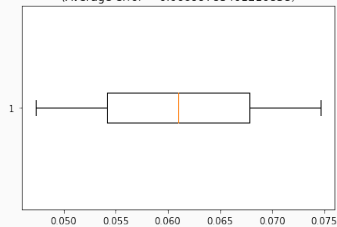
Due to limits in processing power, we were unable to test our algorithms against all of the data in the dataset. However, we demonstrate a few cases here.

# Preliminary Numerical Results

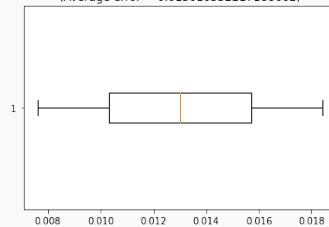
FMM Error %s on 100 test cases  
(Average error = 0.1470121015322596)



Least Squares Error %s on 2 test cases  
(Average error = 0.06099783401210838)








Electrical Method Error %s on 2 test cases  
(Average error = 0.013010332217188662)



## Future Work (Implementation)

- While a naive Dijkstra method generates a good set of candidate routes, it has many shortcomings. It is still relatively slow, it is conditional on the given parameters, and it cannot handle stranger routes (traversing an edge more than once). Each of these individually can be addressed; or it may be more suitable to find an alternative candidate route generation method.
- Investigate Wasserstein method inconsistencies more thoroughly
- Incomplete road networks
- Implement IMU-based map matching approaches

## Thank You! And References

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-  C. Yang and G. Gidófalvi, *Fast map matching, an algorithm for integrating a hidden Markov model with precomputation*, International Journal of Geographical