

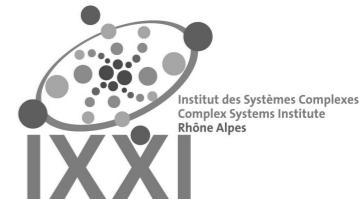
# Weg2Vec: Event Embedding for Temporal Networks

*Márton Karsai*

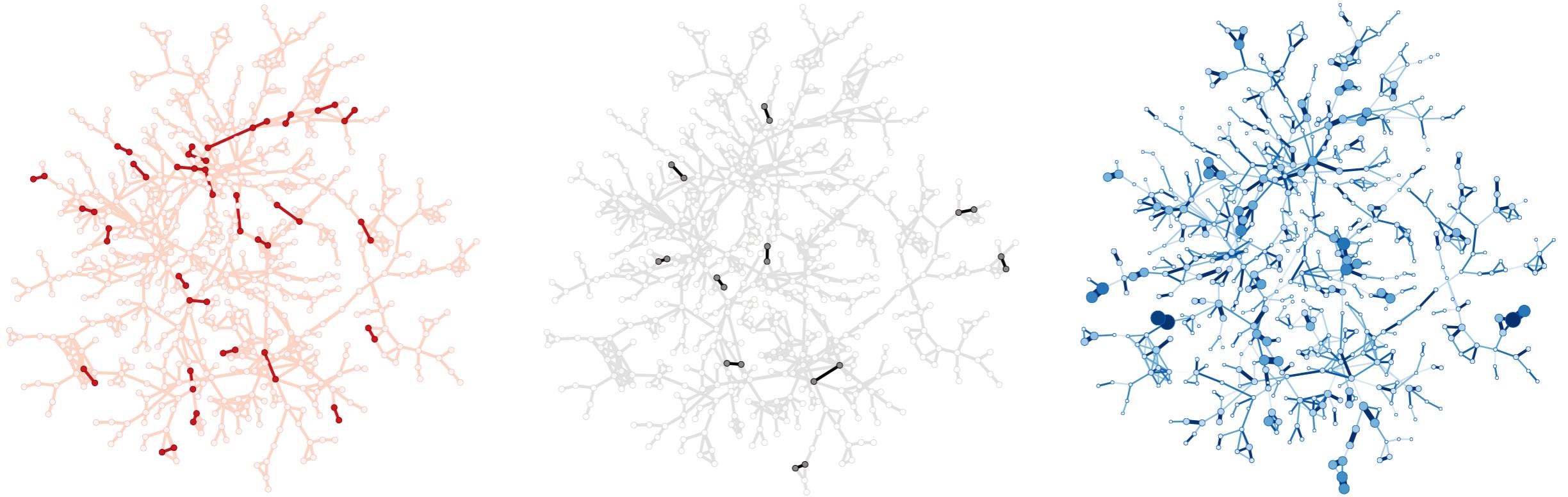


Department of  
Network and  
Data Science

CENTRAL  
EUROPEAN  
UNIVERSITY



# Temporal Networks

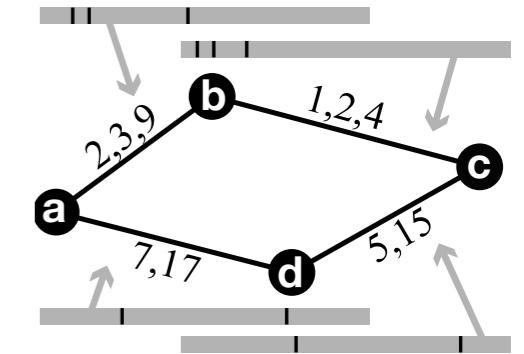


- Interactions between entities are not present always but varying in time (Holme, Saramaki 2012)
  - *Calls, SMS, f2f, @mentions, collaborations, transportation networks...*

# Representation of temporal networks

1. Temporal Graph:  $G_t = (V, E, T_e)$

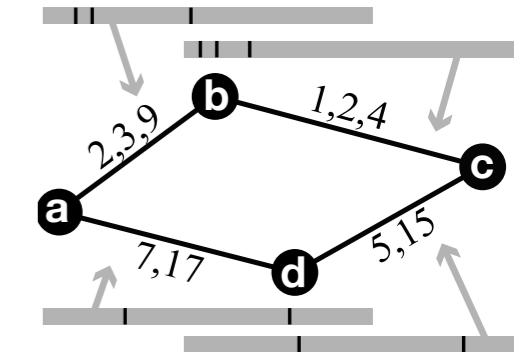
- $V$ : set of vertices
- $E$ : set of edges
- $T_e = \{t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n\}$ : set of times when edge  $e$  is active



# Representation of temporal networks

## 1. Temporal Graph: $G_t = (V, E, T_e)$

- $V$ : set of vertices
- $E$ : set of edges
- $T_e = \{t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n\}$ : set of times when edge  $e$  is active



## 2. Contact sequence

(Similar representation is called *link streams*, (Latapy et al. 2018))

$$E \subset T \times V \times V \left( \times \prod_i A_i^e \times L \right)$$

where

- $T$  is the set of time stamps
- $V$  is the set of interacting entities
- $A^e$  are event attribute set e.g. duration, cost, etc,
- $L$  is a location set
- sequence of events  $ev \in E$

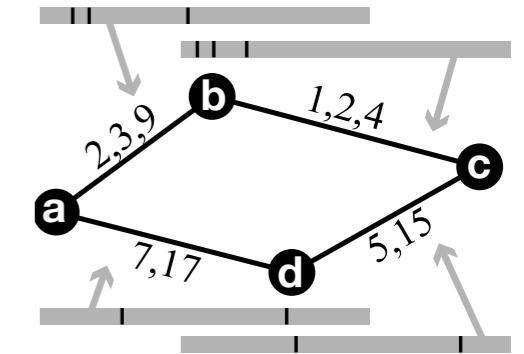
$t_1$	a	b
$t_2$	a	c
$t_4$	e	f
$t_{10}$	f	a
...		

$$ev(t, u_{beg}, v_{end}, a_1, a_2, \dots, loc_{beg}, loc_{end})$$

# Representation of temporal networks

## 1. Temporal Graph: $G_t = (V, E, T_e)$

- $V$ : set of vertices
- $E$ : set of edges
- $T_e = \{t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n\}$ : set of times when edge  $e$  is active



## 2. Contact sequence

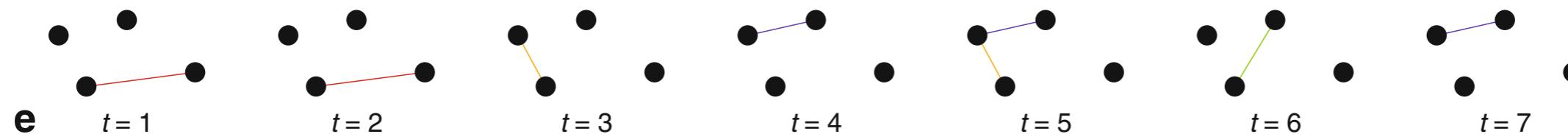
(Similar representation is called *link streams*, (Latapy et al. 2018)

$$E \subset T \times V \times V (\times \prod_i A_i^e \times L)$$

$t_1$	a	b
$t_2$	a	c
$t_4$	e	f
$t_{10}$	f	a
...		

## 3. Graphlet or snapshot representation

- Set of graphs representing aggregated interactions happening at the **same time or interval**
- Can be represented as a **dynamic adjacency matrix**  $A_{ij}(t)$
- Can be represented as a **multiplex network**



# Representation of temporal networks

1. Temporal Graph:  $G_t = (V, E, T_e)$

- $V$ : set of vertices

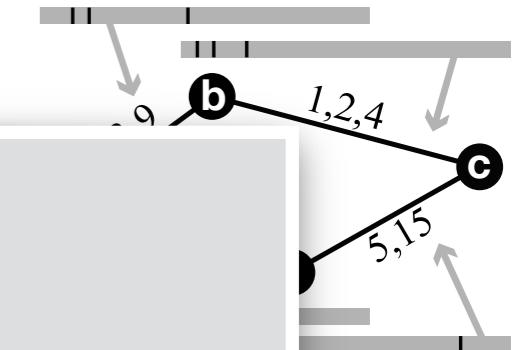
## Computational difficulties:

2. Computationally expensive

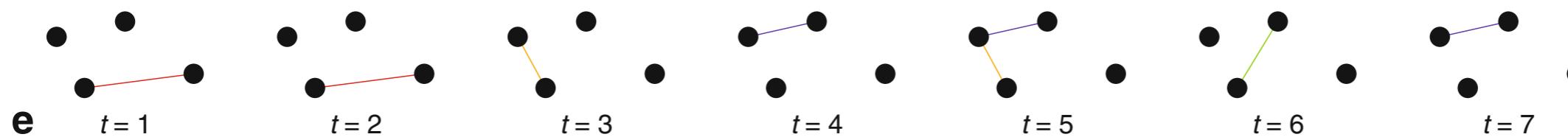
(Similar reasoning)

3. Graph

- Expensive to measure **temporal centralities and similarities**
  - any node/link character vary in time
- Expensive to compute **time respecting paths**
  - depends on time and seed
- Expensive to detect **causal correlations**
  - interactions are not independent but form local correlated patterns
- Expensive to simulate **dynamical/epidemic processes**
  - They must be seeded from every time point and every node



a	b
a	c
e	f
f	a
...	



# Temporal Event Graphs

# Time-respecting paths

- Temporal equivalent of topological path in static graphs
- Consider a temporal contact network (for simplicity without durations)
- Any path between node has to respect the timing and ordering of events!

## Definition

- Time-respecting path between node  $a$  and  $b$  is a set of events

$$\{(a, v, t_1), (v, w, t_2), \dots, (y, b, t_n)\}$$

such that  $t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_n$  and consecutive events are adjacent

(i.e. time ordered and share at least one node)

# Time-respecting paths

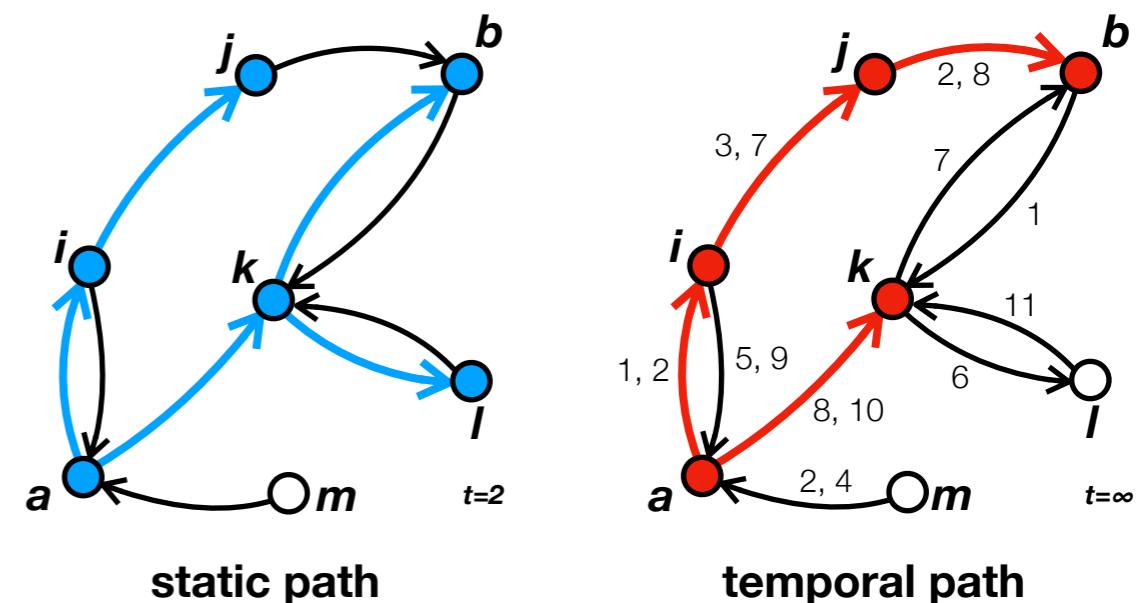
- Temporal equivalent of topological path in static graphs
- Consider a temporal contact network (for simplicity without durations)
- Any path between node has to respect the timing and ordering of events!

## Definition

- Time-respecting path between node  $a$  and  $b$  is a set of events

$$\{(a, v, t_1), (v, w, t_2), \dots, (y, b, t_n)\}$$

such that  $t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_n$  and consecutive events are adjacent  
(i.e. time ordered and share at least one node)



## Properties

- Reachable set of nodes are limited
- **No reciprocity**: the existence of the path  $a-b$  does not guarantee the existence of a  $b-a$  path
- **No transitivity**: the existence of the path  $a-b$  and  $b-c$  does not guarantee that there is a  $a-b-c$  path
- **Time dependency**: paths begin and end at certain times; if there is a path  $a-b$  that begins at  $t$ , this doesn't guarantee a path at  $t' > t$
- **They determine the spread of information thus the outcome of any collective phenomena**

# Weighted event graphs

## Temporal networks

$$G = (V, E, T) \quad \text{with events} \quad E \subset V \times V \times [0, T]$$

## Adjacent events

Events  $e = (a, b, t)$  are adjacent to events  $e' = (b, c, t')$  if

- Share at least one common node
- $t < t'$

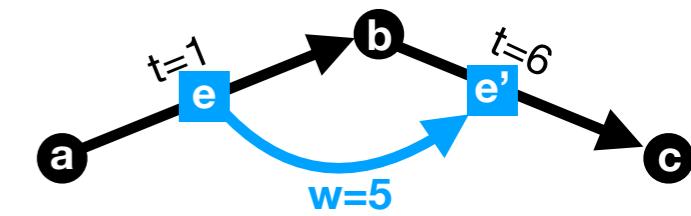
## Weighted event graphs

Kivelä, Cambe, Saramäki, Karsai, *Sci. Rep.* (2018)  
Mellor J. *Complex Netw.* (2017).

$$D = (E, E_D, w) \quad \text{where}$$

- nodes are events in  $G$
- links  $e_D \in E_D$  are adjacent events  $e_D = e \rightarrow e'$
- weights are  $w(e_D) = t' - t$
- $\delta t$  threshold for weights: keeping adjacent events which are closer in time than  $\delta t$

## Temporal network



## Weighted even graph

- **Static and lossless representation** of all temporal and structural information
- It is a weighted **directed acyclic graph (DAG)**
- **Superposition of every** ( $\delta t$ -connected) **time-respecting paths**
- Its connectedness determines the outcome of any dynamical process

# **Weg2Vec:** **Event Embedding**

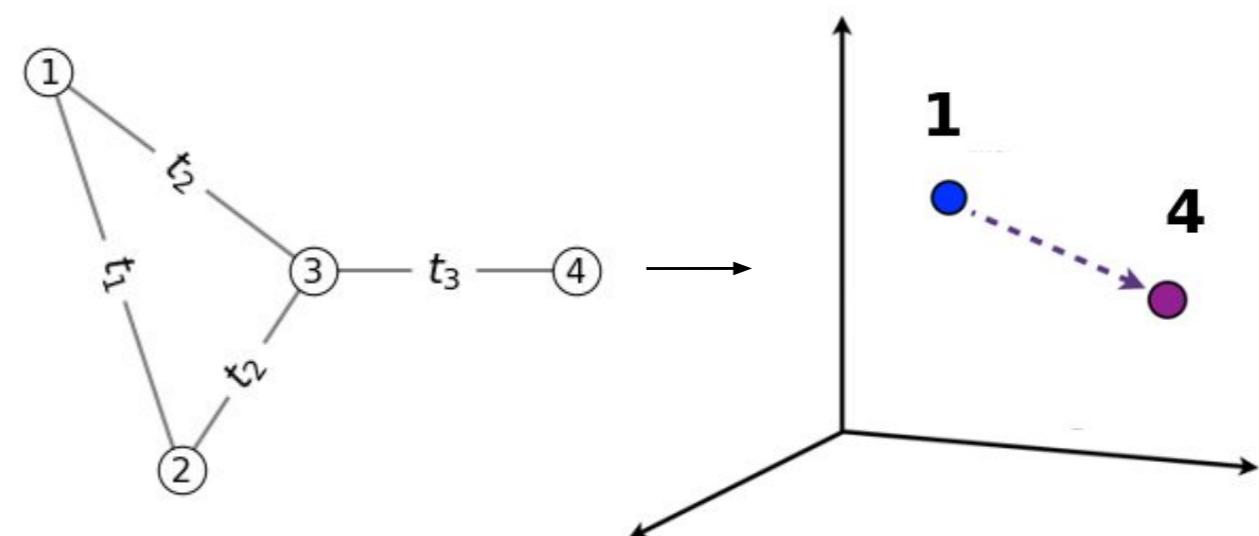
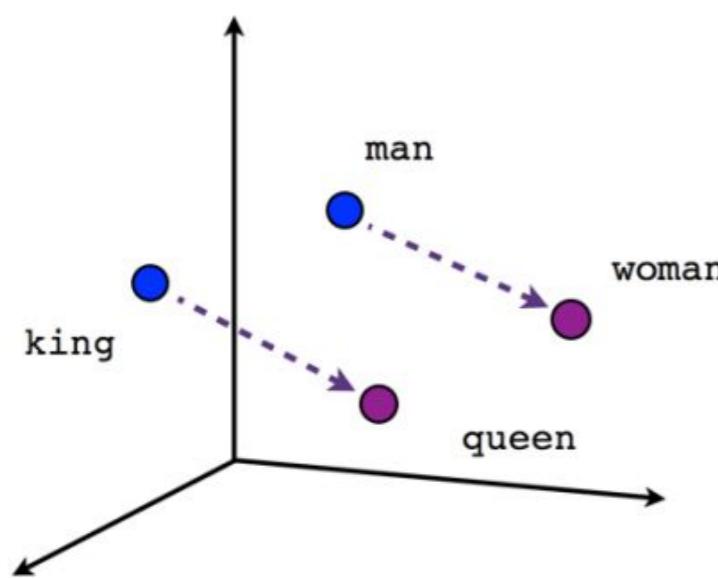
*for*

## Temporal Networks

# Temporal network embedding

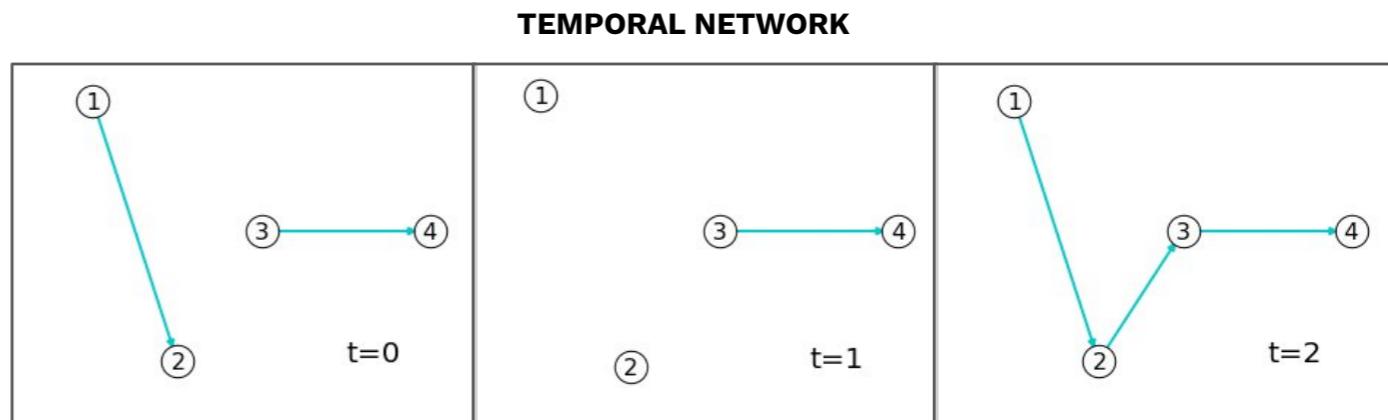
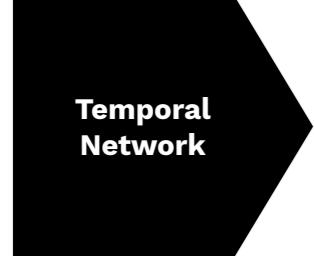
- Learn low-dimensional representations
- Capture temporal and structural regularities in the network
- Various applications: node classification, link prediction...

**... or the prediction of spreading outcome**



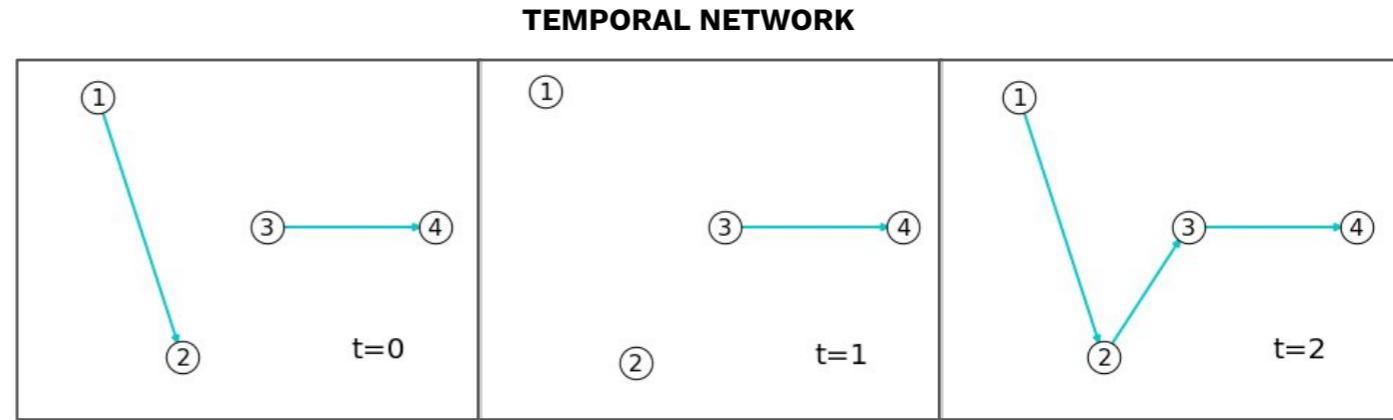
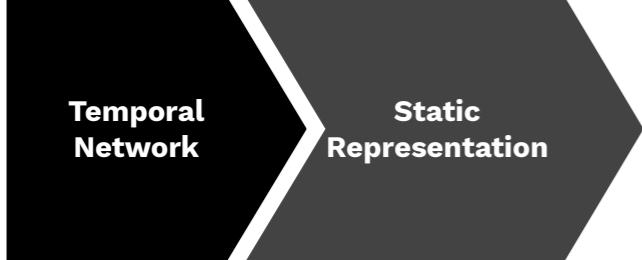
Mikolov, T., Chen, K., Corrado, G., & Dean, J. (2013).  
Efficient estimation of word representations in  
vector space.

# Weg2Vec pipeline



Network	Nodes	Events	Temporal Interval
Conference	113	10457	~ 2.5 days
Hospital	75	13650	~ 4 days
High School	327	36015	~ 2 days *
Primary School	236	35921	~ 8 hours *

# Weg2Vec pipeline

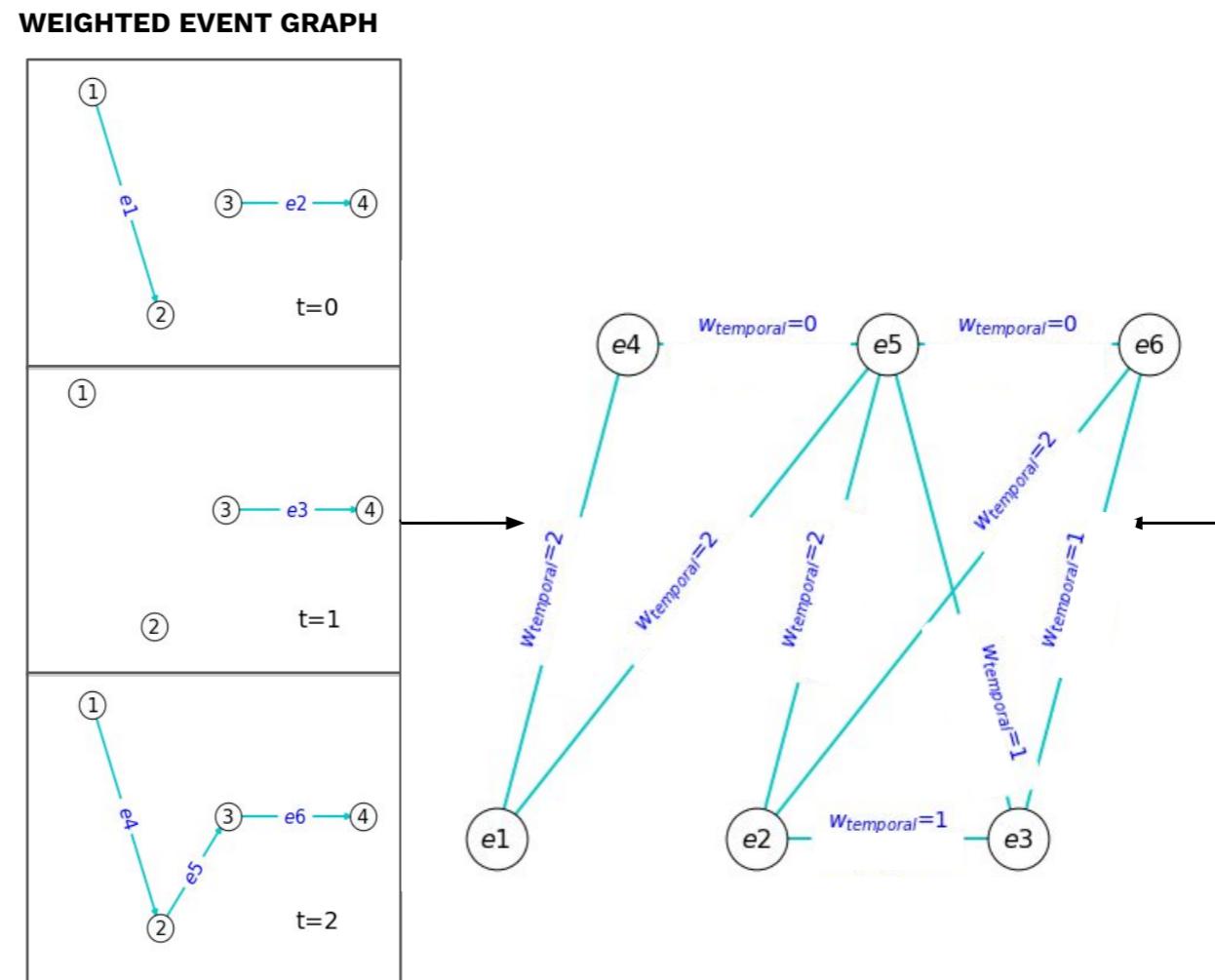


## Event embedding

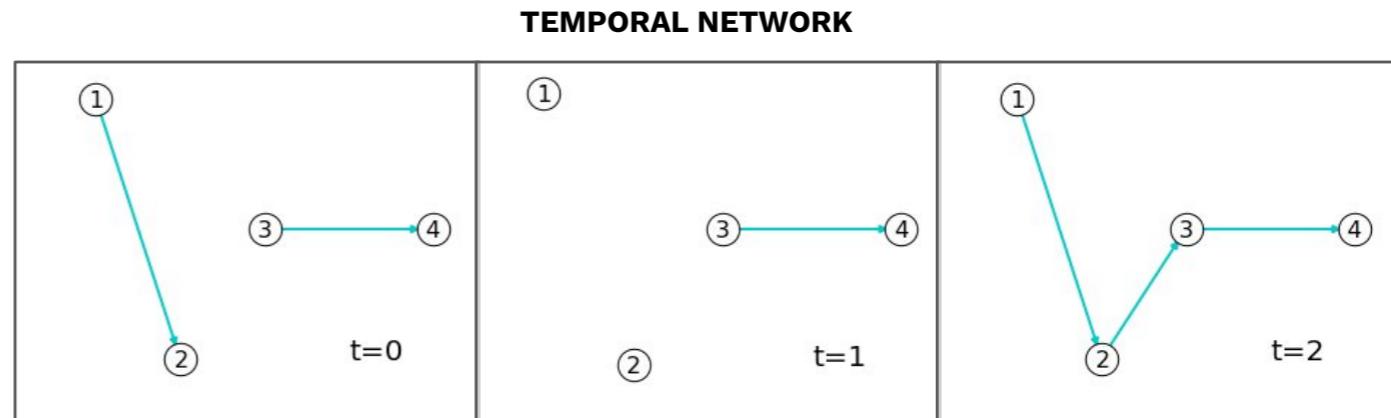
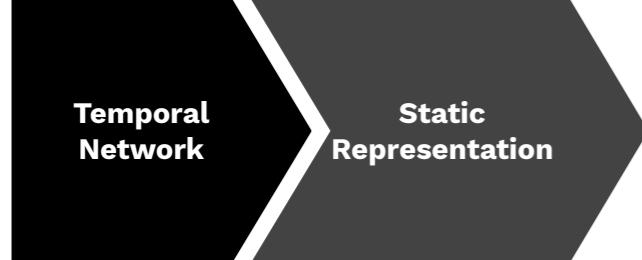
### Event graph representation

- Path (temporal) weight:

$$w_{path}(e_k, e_l) = \frac{1}{1 + |t_k - t_l|}$$



# Weg2Vec pipeline



## Event embedding

### Event graph representation

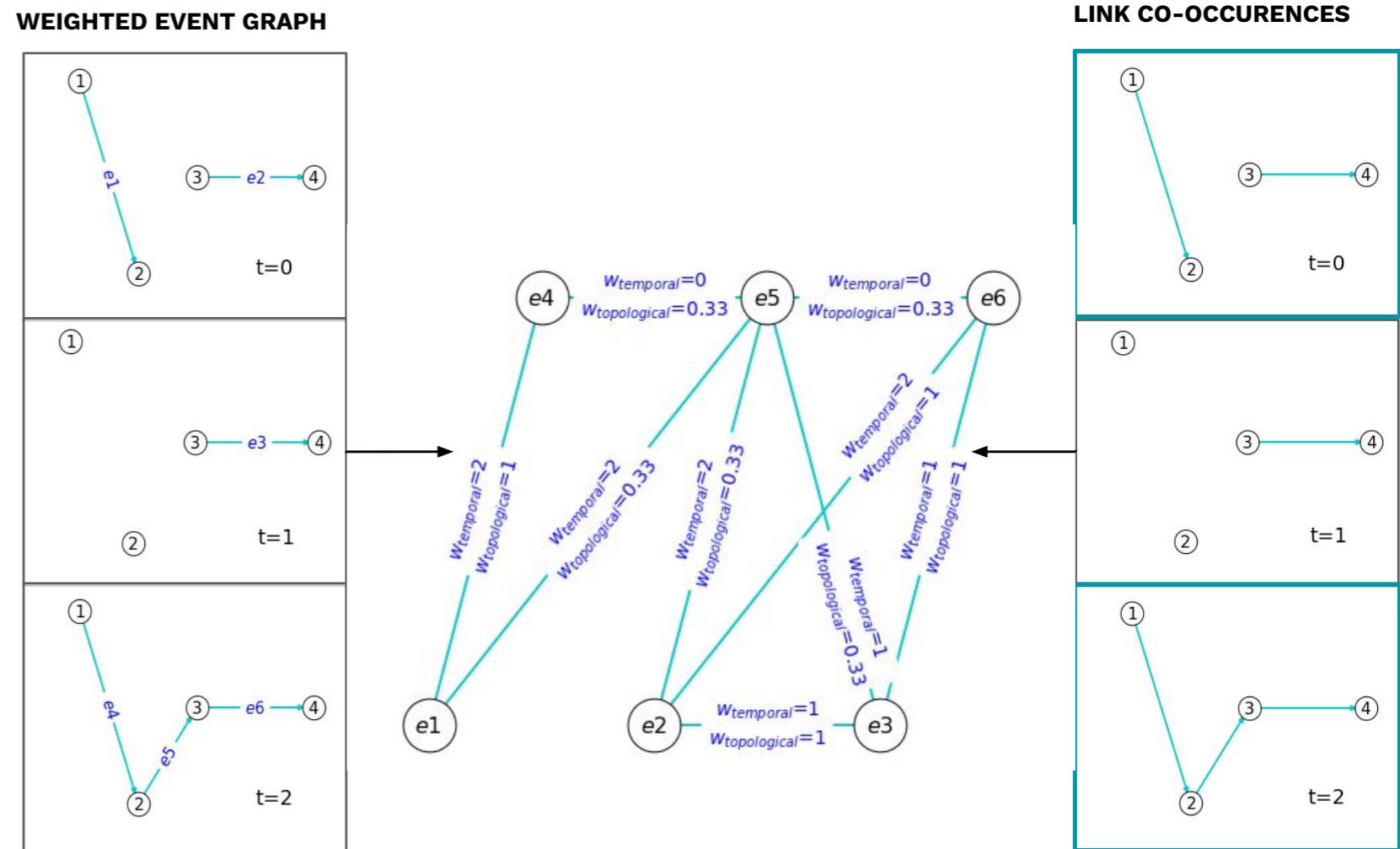
- Path (temporal) weight:

$$w_{path}(e_k, e_l) = \frac{1}{1 + |t_k - t_l|}$$

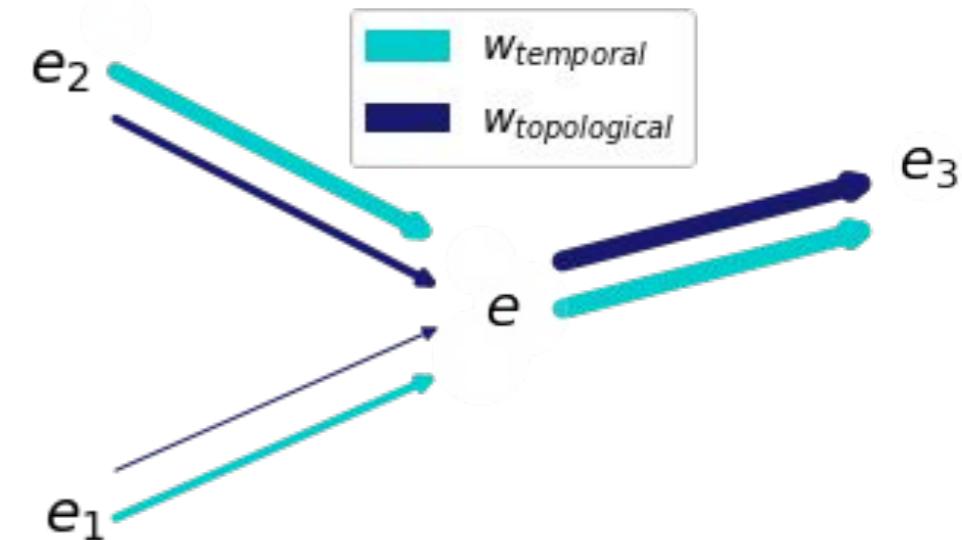
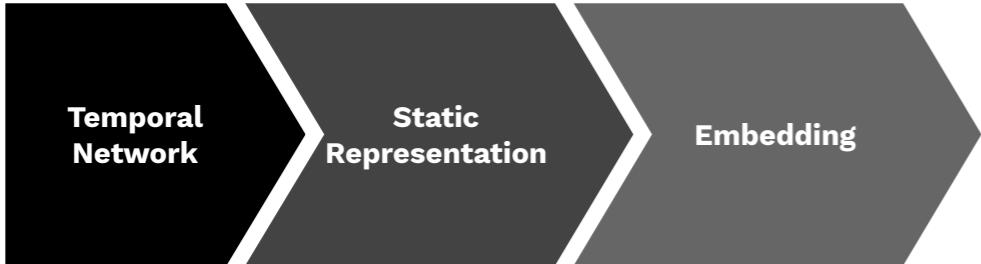
- Co-occurrence (topological) weight:

$$w_{co-occ}(e_k, e_l)$$

- Number of co-occurrence of  $\delta t$  adjacent events on the same pair of adjacent static links



# Weg2Vec pipeline



## Event embedding

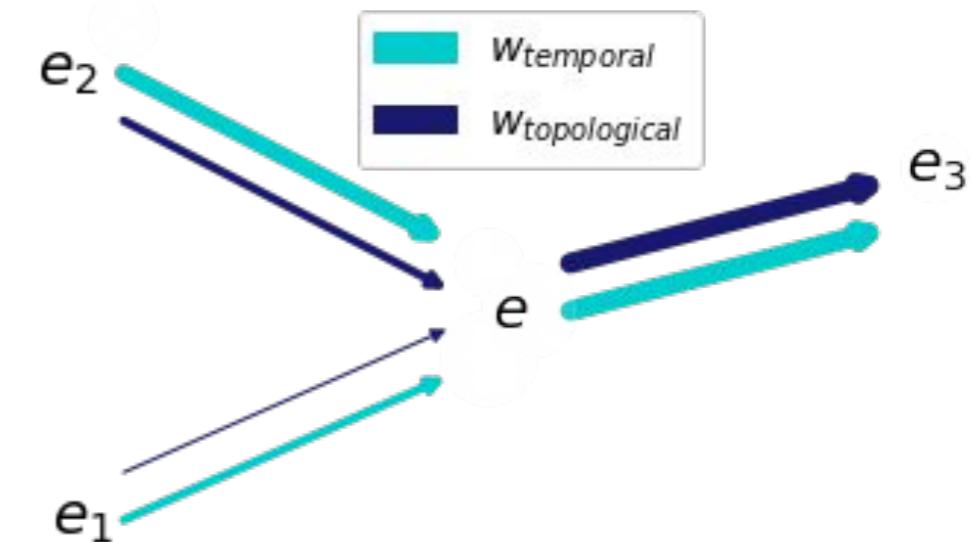
We rely on the **static representations of the temporal networks** to generate the **contexts** to be passed as input to **Word2Vec**

$$p(e_l) = \alpha \mathcal{F}(w_{path}(e_k, e_l)) + (1 - \alpha) \mathcal{F}(w_{co-occ}(e_k, e_l))$$

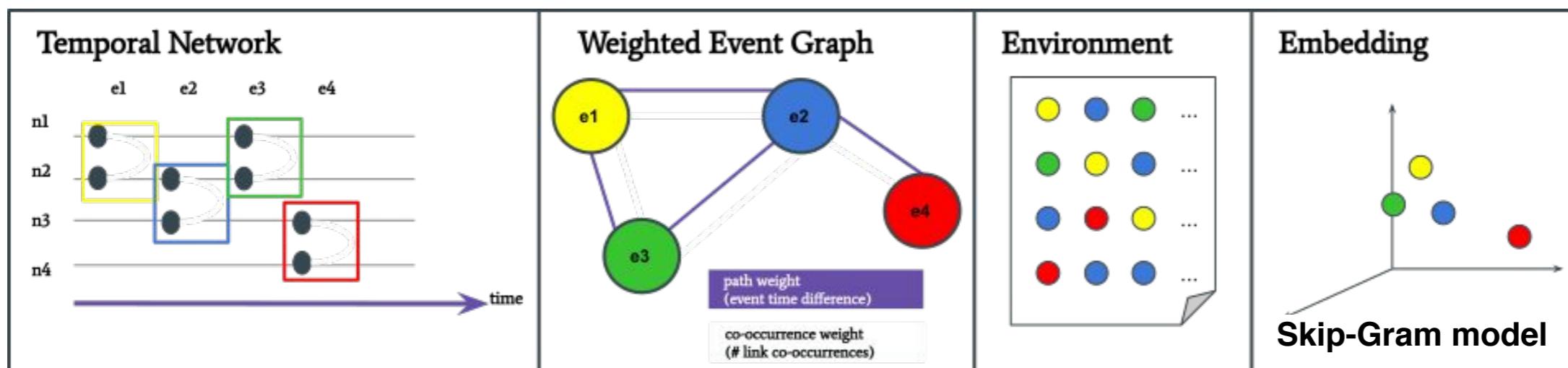
- Sample  $nb$  local **environments** of  $s$  length for each event by randomly choosing neighbours in the event graph with probability  $p(e_l)$
- Sampling equally from the set of **past** (predecessors) and **future** (successor) adjacent events

**Identifies similarity between different events/nodes, which may be active at different times, but influence a similar set of nodes in the future**

# Weg2Vec pipeline



## Event embedding



## Parameters

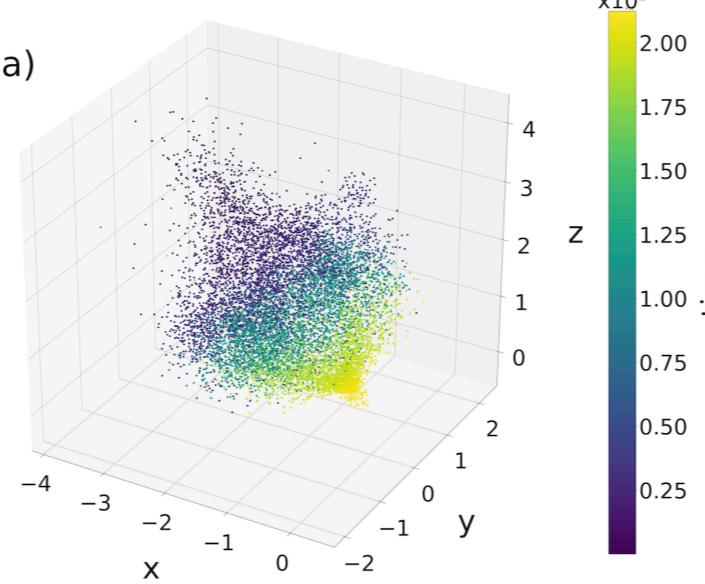
- $\alpha$  - balance parameter between temporal and topological contribution
- $d$  - number of embedding dimensions
- $s$  and  $nb$  - context parameters for environment sampling

# Weg2Vec - embedding

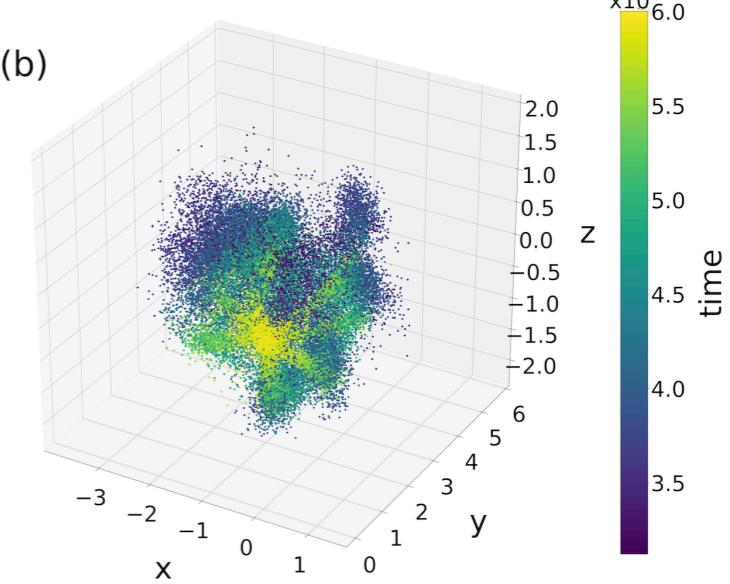
## Embedding time & structure

Temporal ordering

(a)

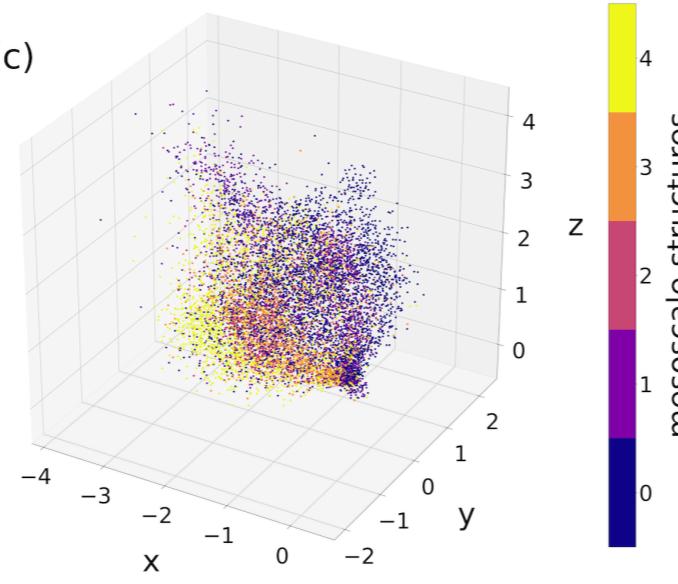


(b)

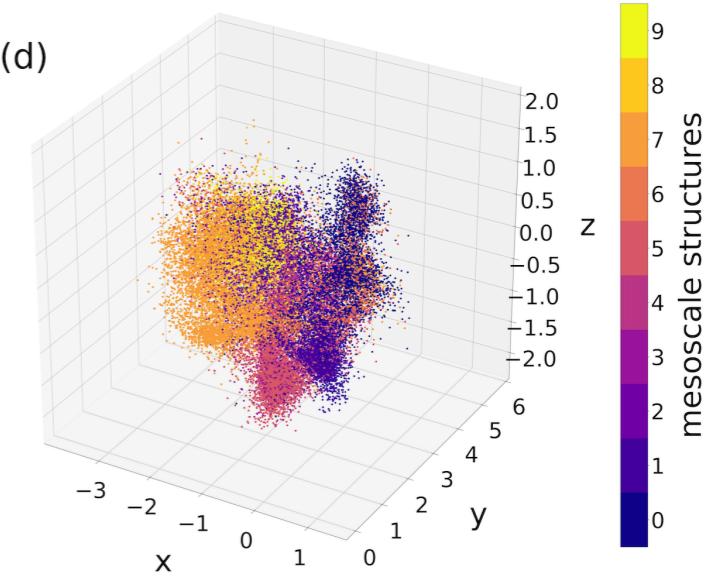


Membership in mesoscale structures

(c)



(d)



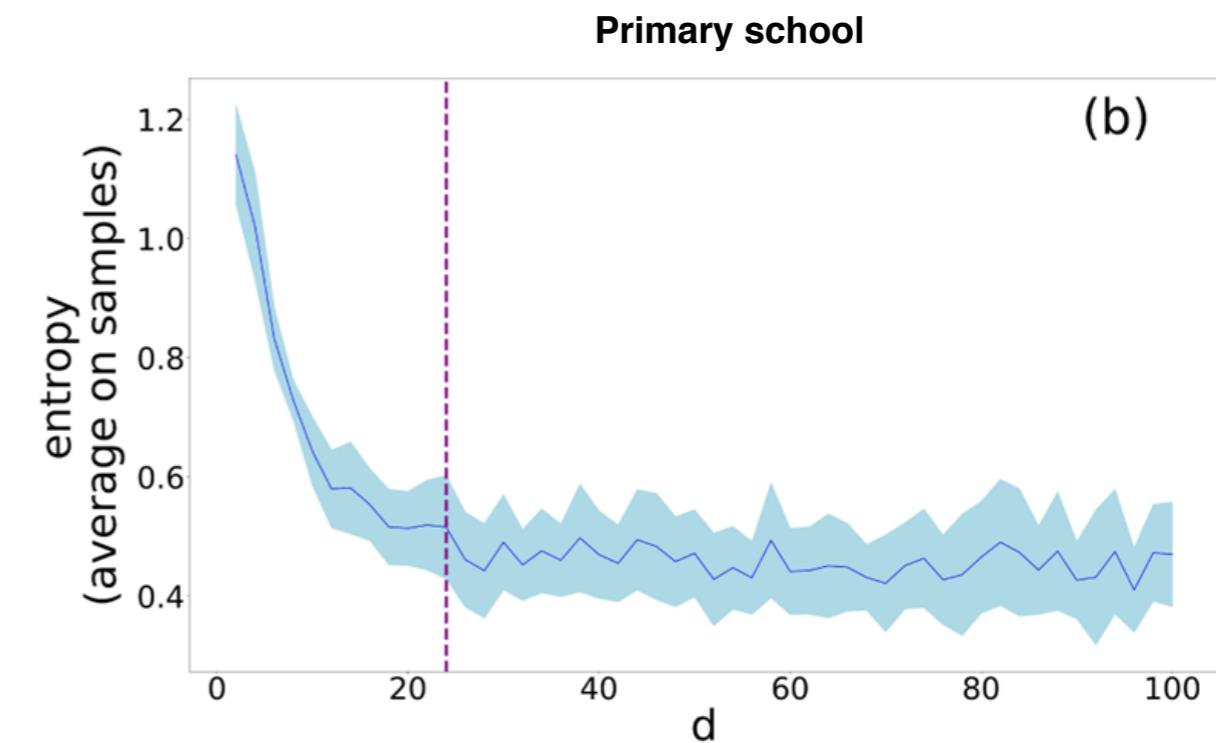
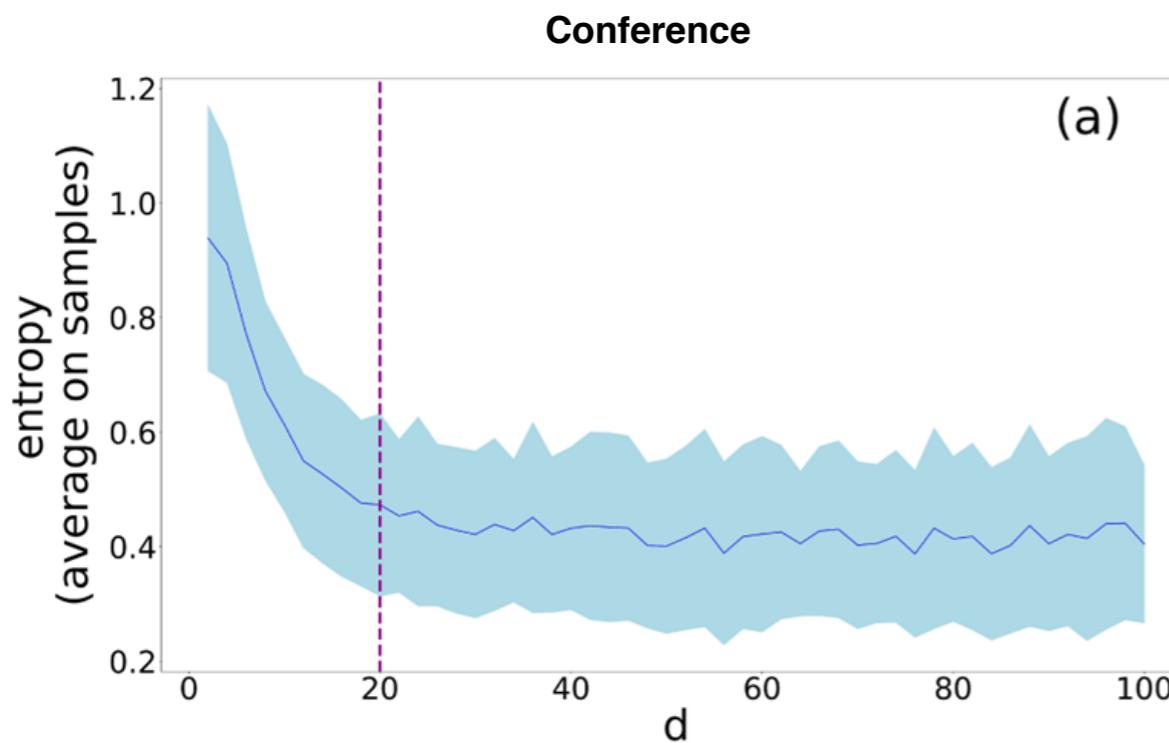
Conference

Primary school

# Weg2Vec - stability

## Embedding dimension

- should be high enough to capture correlations
- should be low enough to avoid redundancies in the embeddings
- we measure the entropy of euclidean distances between nodes while increasing the dimensions
- once the number of dimensions reaches its optimum nodes will stabilise and entropy becomes constant



# Weg2Vec - evaluation

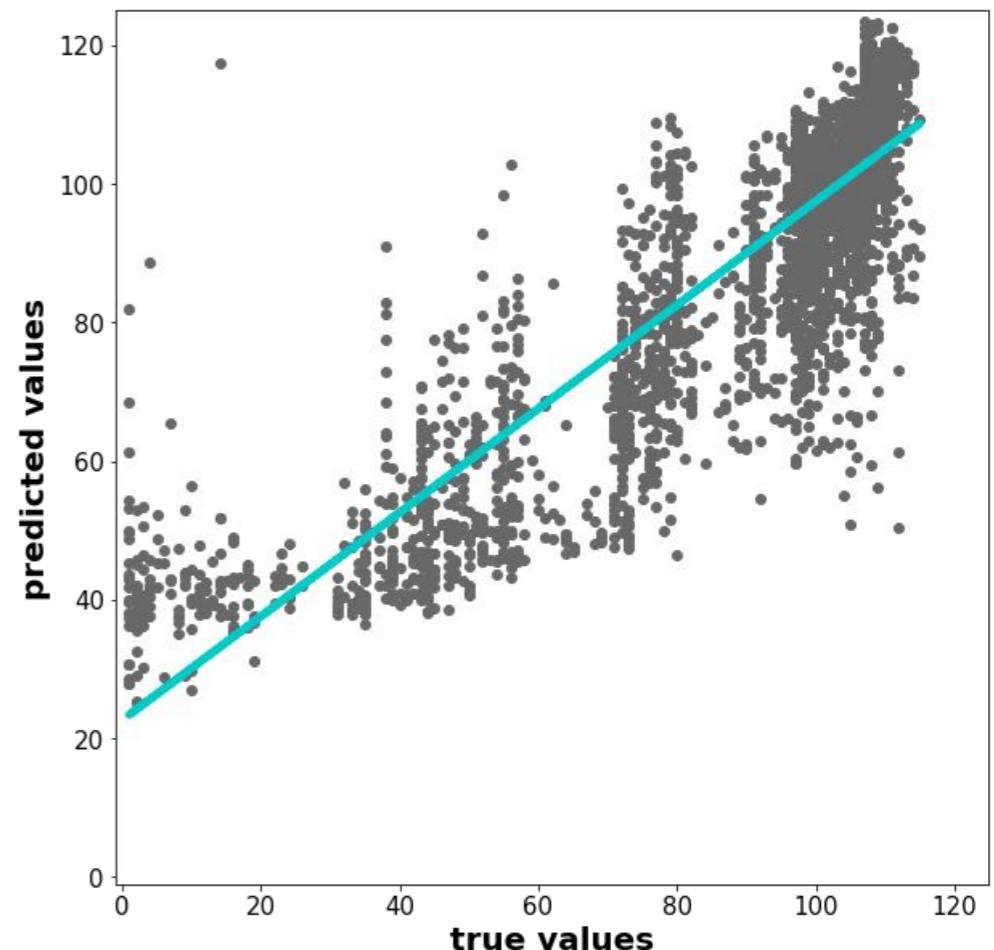
Pearson's correlation coefficients between similarity measures: the **time difference** (in temporal network) and the **euclidean distance** (in embedding) among randomly selected pairs and pairs of adjacent events.

Network	Random corr.	Linked corr.
Conference	$0.36 \pm 0.01$	$0.52 \pm 0.02$
Hospital	$0.69 \pm 0.02$	$0.73 \pm 0.01$
High School	$0.40 \pm 0.02$	$0.61 \pm 0.01$
Primary School	$0.34 \pm 0.01$	$0.59 \pm 0.01$

The method simultaneously captures structural and temporal correlations between events

# Weg2Vec - prediction of epidemic size

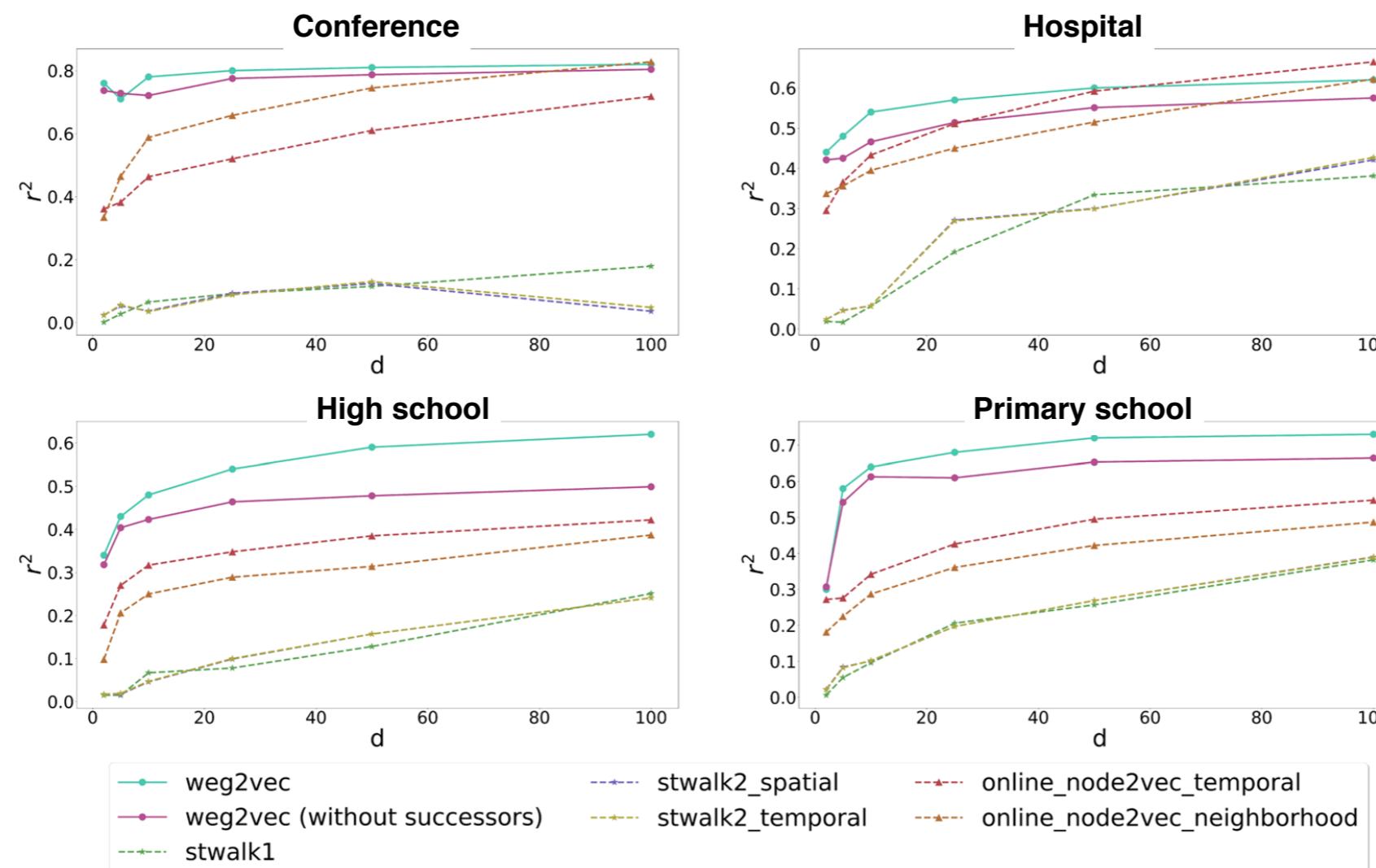
1. Take a deterministic SI process ( $\beta=1$ )
2. Simulate it on the temporal network starting from each event
3. Measure the final epidemic size in each case
4. Take the embedding network ( $d=opt$ ,  $s=nb=10$ ,  $\alpha=0.5$ )
5. Train a linear regression model on the embedded coordinates and infection sizes of events
6. Predict the size of epidemic spreading



Data	dimension	$r^2$
Conference	(d = 20)	$0.79 \pm 0.01$
Hospital	(d = 14)	$0.53 \pm 0.03$
High School	(d = 26)	$0.56 \pm 0.02$
Primary School	(d = 24)	$0.68 \pm 0.02$

# Comparison with other methods

- **STWalk<sup>1</sup>** is designed to learn trajectory representations of nodes in temporal graphs by operating with two graph representations: a graph at a given time step and a graph from past time steps. It performs random walks
- **Online-Node2vec<sup>2</sup>** is a node embedding method updating coordinates each time a new event appears in a temporal network. It also applies random walks to generate environments



[1] Pandhare, S., Mittal, H., Gupta, M., & Balasubramanian, V. N. (2018, January). *Proceedings of the ACM India Joint International Conference on Data Science and Management of Data* (pp. 210-219). ACM.

[2] Béres, F., Pálovics, R., Kelen, D., Szabó, D., & Benczúr, A. 7th International Conference on Complex Networks and Their Applications, Cambridge.

# Conclusions

Event graphs: static lossless representations of temporal networks

by mapping them as weighted directed acyclic graphs

*Weg2Vec* - event embedding of temporal networks

- Identification of nodes which influence similar set of other nodes at different times
- Low-dimensional representations based on neighbourhood sampling
- Capture temporal correlations and mesoscale structures

Efficient prediction of spreading outcome

- Outperforming other temporal networks embedding methods

## Mapping temporal-network percolation to weighted, static event graphs

Mikko Kivelä, Jordan Cambe, Jari Saramäki & Márton Karsai 

*Scientific Reports* **8**, Article number: 12357 (2018) | [Cite this article](#)

1754 Accesses | 10 Citations | 38 Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

## weg2vec: Event embedding for temporal networks

Maddalena Torricelli, Márton Karsai & Laetitia Gauvin 

*Scientific Reports* **10**, Article number: 7164 (2020) | [Cite this article](#)

1033 Accesses | 0 Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

# Collaborators



Mikko Kivelä  
Aalto University



Jari Saramäki  
Aalto University



Maddalena Toricelli  
ISI Torino  
Uni Bologna



Laetitia Gauvin  
ISI Torino



Jordan Cambe  
ENS Lyon



## Mapping temporal-network percolation to weighted, static event graphs

Mikko Kivelä, Jordan Cambe, Jari Saramäki & Márton Karsai [✉](#)

*Scientific Reports* **8**, Article number: 12357 (2018) | [Cite this article](#)

1754 Accesses | 10 Citations | 38 Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

## weg2vec: Event embedding for temporal networks

Maddalena Toricelli, Márton Karsai & Laetitia Gauvin [✉](#)

*Scientific Reports* **10**, Article number: 7164 (2020) | [Cite this article](#)

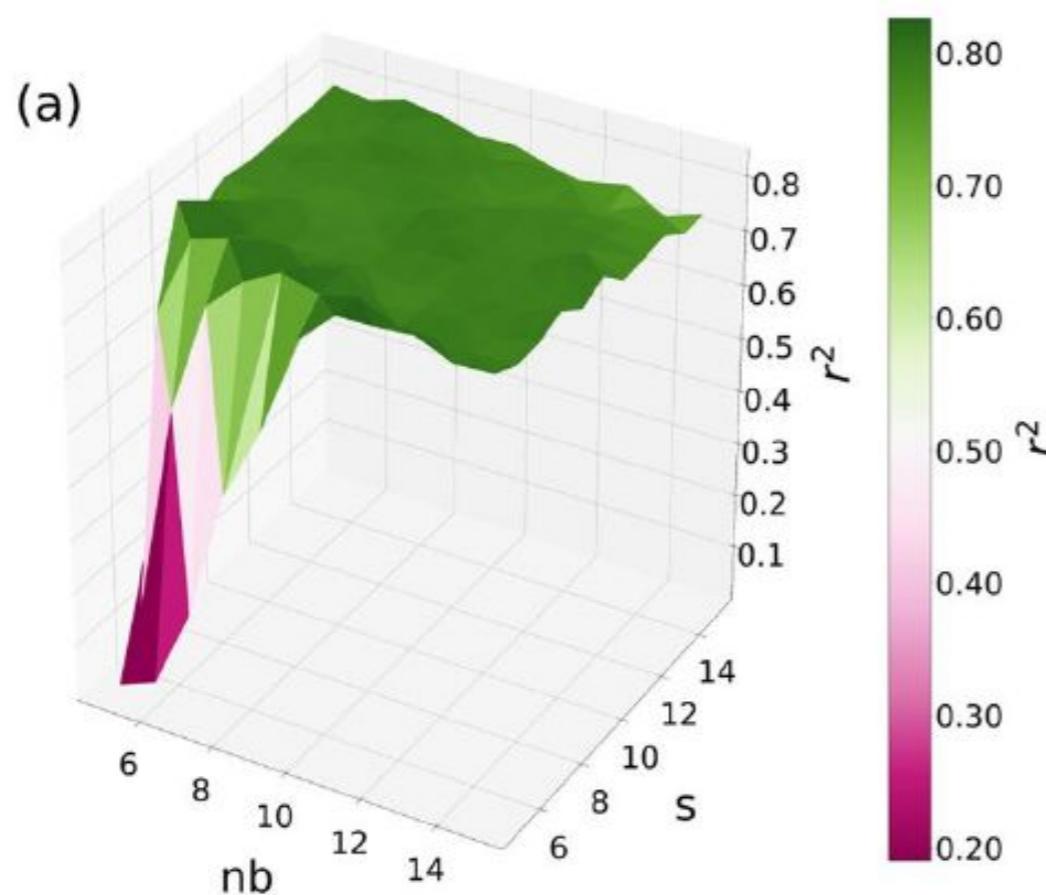
1033 Accesses | 0 Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

[karsaim@ceu.edu](mailto:karsaim@ceu.edu) | [@MartonKarsai](#)

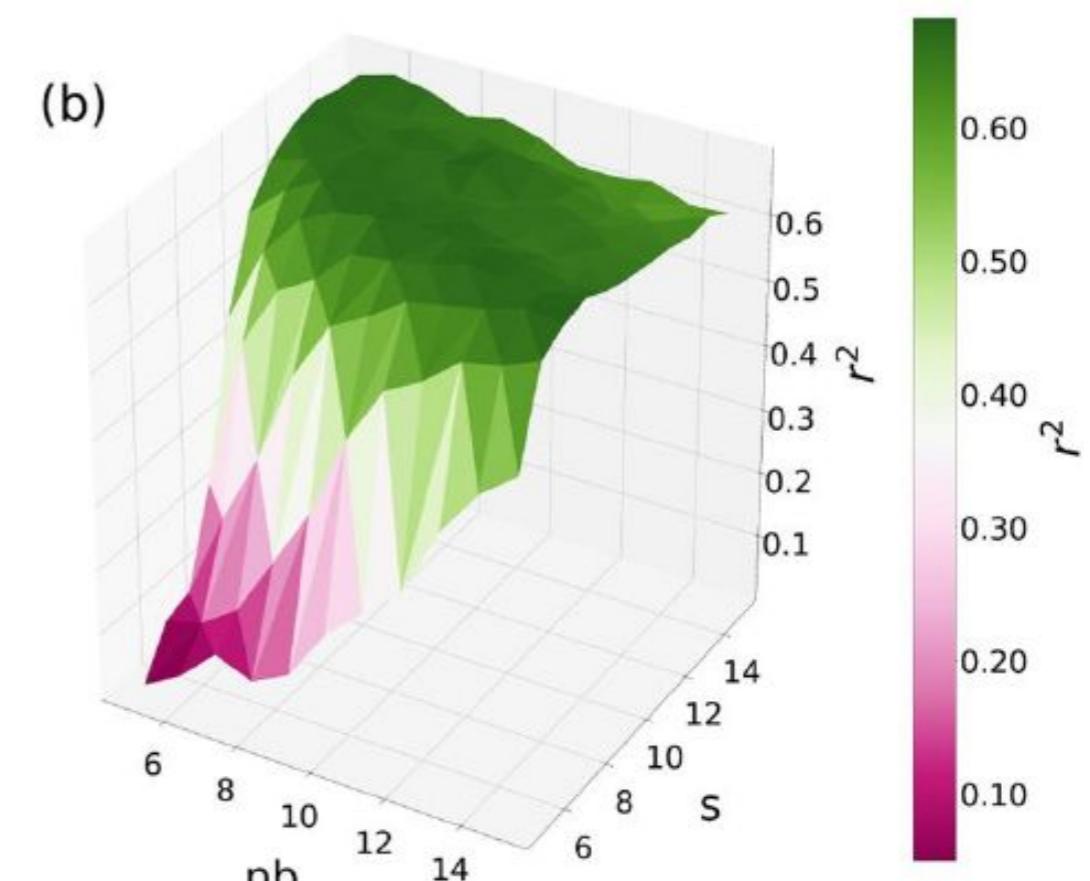
# Template slide 1

## EFFECT OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD SAMPLING

Conference



Primary School

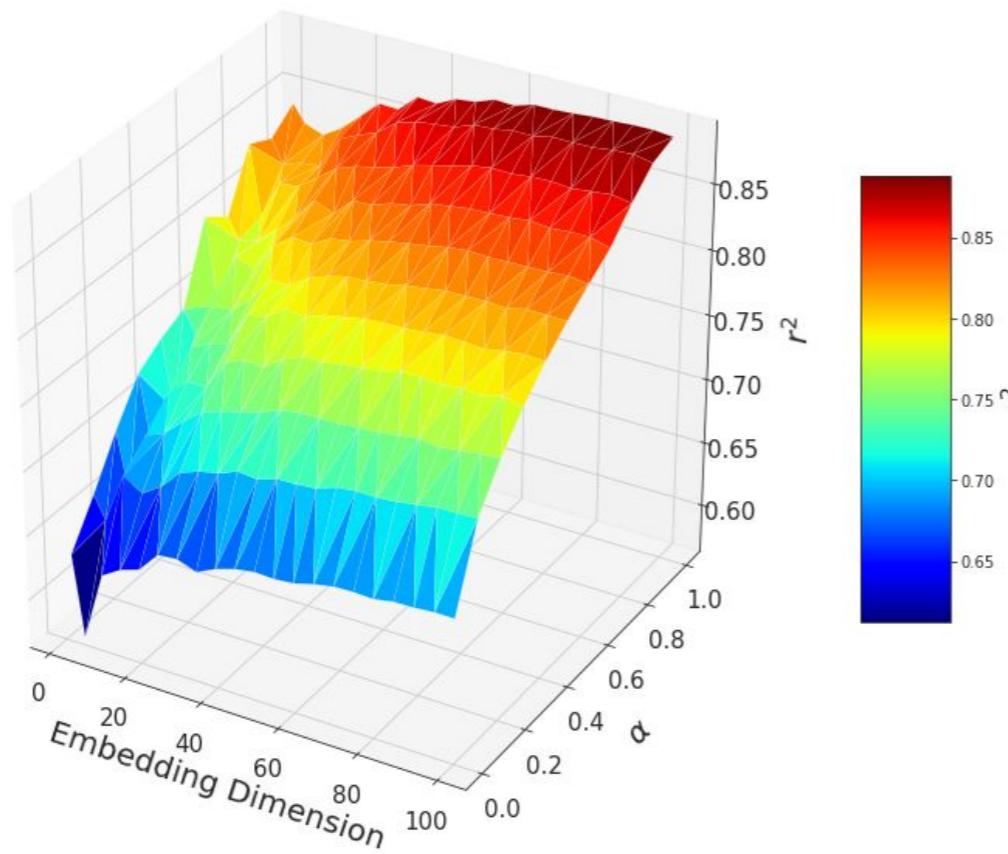


nb= number of environments, s= environment size -> parameters strongly coupled

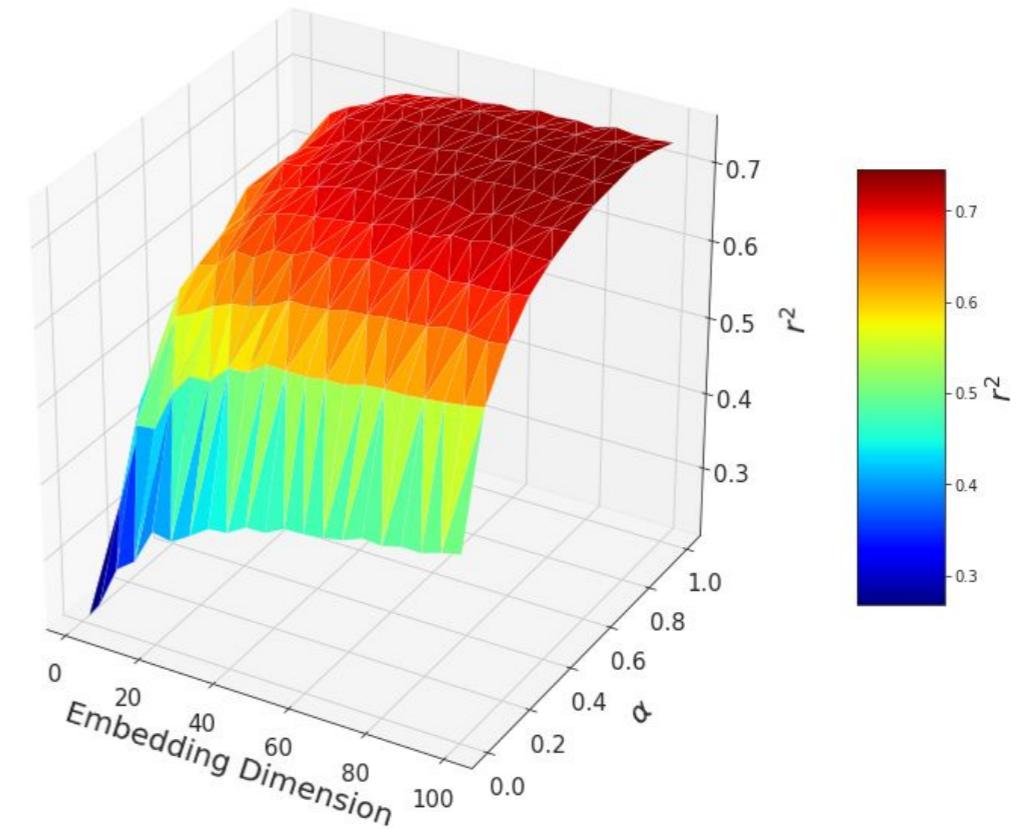
# Template slide 1

## EFFECT OF THE DIMENSION

Conference



Primary School



$\alpha$  lower values=similarity mainly based on co-occurrences