

# Evaluating Statistical Methods for Nuclear Forensics Analysis

Preliminary Examination

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# Outline



## 1 Introduction

Motivation

Methodology

## 2 Literature Review

Nuclear Forensics

Statistical Models

Algorithms for Prediction

ML Model Assessment

ML Model Validation

Computational Tools

Previous Work

## 3 Demonstration

Training Data

Reactor Parameter Prediction

ML Model Validation

## 4 Research Proposal

Experiment 1

Experiment 2

Experiment 3

Method Comparison

## 5 Summary

# Nuclear Security and Forensics



Find/make image for discussion here, US/DHS Programs

# Needs in Nuclear Forensics



- post-incident rapid characterization
- forensics database challenges
  - multidimensional
  - inconsistent uncertainties
  - international cooperation

# Computational Methods

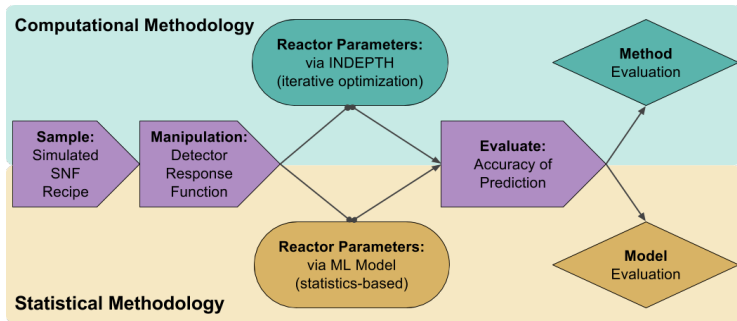


Figure 1: Nuclear forensics research: physical, experimental, and computational



# Computational Methods

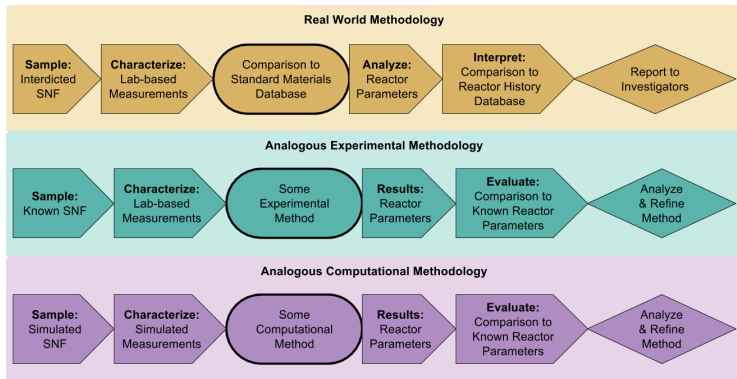


Figure 2: Comparison of computational approaches to nuclear forensics research

# Statistical Methods



Need more space to explain more about ML Models giving rxtr params?

# Statistical Methods



	TRAINING DATA	TESTING DATA
<b>Physical Motivation</b>		
Ideal World	<i>Lab-Measured Mass Spectra</i>	<i>Lab-Measured Mass Spectra</i>
Real World	<i>Lab-Measured Gamma Spectra</i>	<i>Field-Measured Gamma Spectra</i>
<b>Computational Representation</b>		
Ideal World	<i>Simulation-Created Isotopics</i>	<i>Simulation-Created Isotopics</i>
Real World	<i>DRF-Derived Gamma Spectra</i>	<i>DRF-Derived Gamma Spectra</i>

Figure 3: The benefits of data set modularity are easily implemented in this framework



# Goal/Big Question



How does the ability to determine forensic-relevant spent nuclear fuel attributes using machine learning techniques degrade as less information is available?

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# Technical Nuclear Forensics



something showing illicit trafficking probs. SNF is really just for RDDs, but least guarded

# Types of Investigations



## Post-detonation

- Debris collection (fallout pred/dose rate)
- Rapid (field) analysis (isotope ratios, debris characterization)
- Data evaluation (uncertainty quantification)

## Pre-detonation

- Material characterization (separations, etc)
- Material provenance (inverse prob)



# Nuclear Forensics as an Inverse Problem

Necessary to determine the quality of prediction  
Use Bayes' Framework:

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(B|A)P(A)}{P(B)}$$

$$P(M|D) = \frac{P(D|M)P(M)}{P(D)}$$

# Machine Learning



machine vs. statistical (domain knowledge-¿none)  
supervised and unsupervised  
clustering, dimensionality reduction  
classification, regression – discrete and continuous variables

# Vocabulary



labels  
features  
generalizability  
prediction error  
objective error metric v prediction error metric

# Supervised Regression

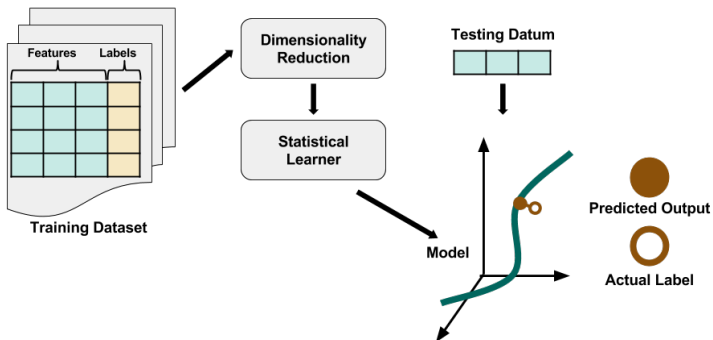


Figure 4: Schematic of a representative prediction workflow

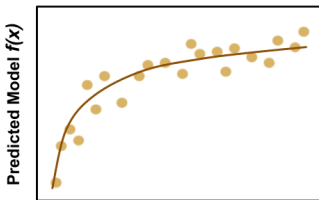




# Linear Models

Objective: minimize error over all training data wrt their labels

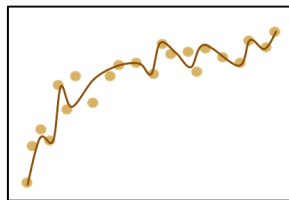
$$F(\mathbf{X}) = \beta_0 + \sum_{j=1}^p x_j \beta_j$$



Input Feature ( $x$ ),  $\lambda > 0$

Regularization using  $\lambda$

$$F(\mathbf{X}) = \beta_0 + \sum_{j=1}^p x_j \beta_j + \lambda \sum_{j=1}^p \beta_j^2$$



Input Feature ( $x$ ),  $\lambda = 0$

Figure 5: How regularization might affect the generalizability of an ML model



# Nearest Neighbor Methods

Objective: minimum distance between test sample and training instance(s)

$$Y(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{x_i \in N_k(\mathbf{x})} y_i$$

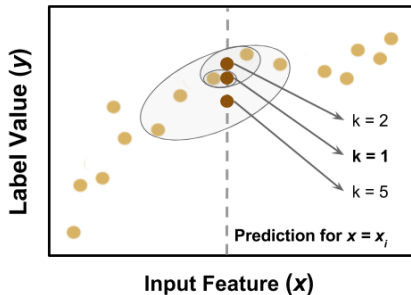


Figure 6: Illustration of the regularization effects by choosing  $k$

# Support Vector Machines

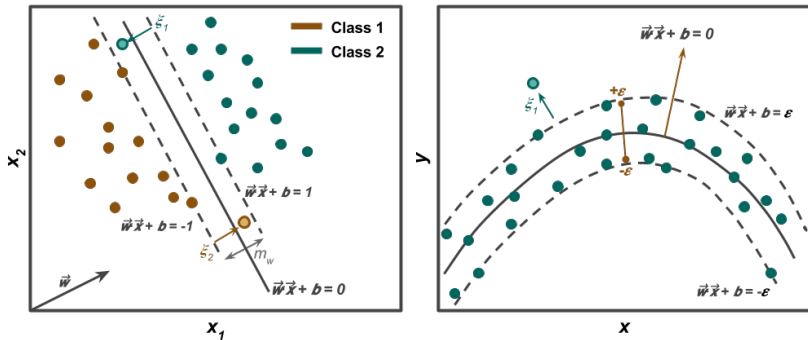


Figure 7: Classification with SVM and regression with SVR

# Support Vector Regression with Many Dimensions



Objective: minimize margin width and outliers

$$\min \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 + C \sum_i \xi_i$$

$$\text{subject to : } |y_i - (w\phi(x_i) + b)| \leq \varepsilon + \xi_i$$

$$\text{where : } w = \sum_i \alpha_i y_i \phi(x_i)$$

$$\text{and : } K(x_i, x_j) = \phi(x_i)\phi(x_j) = e^{\gamma \|x_i - x_j\|^2}$$

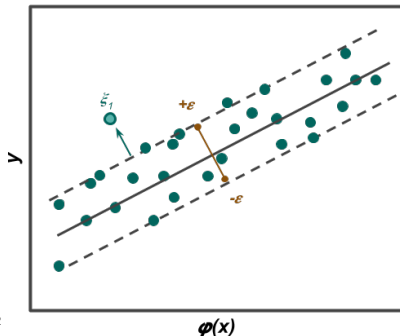


Figure 8: Diagram showing the use of the kernel trick with SVR

# Dimensionality Reduction



Manual via domain knowledge or some measure

PCA

Factor Analysis

ICA

# Sources of Error

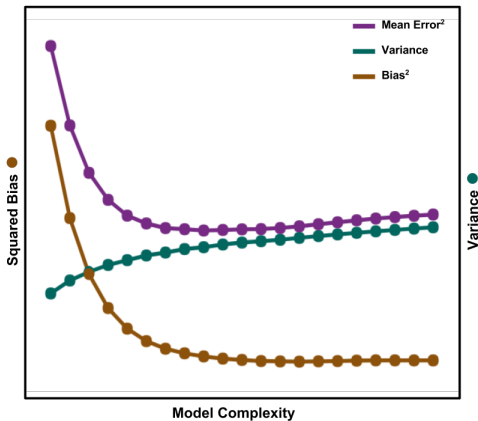


Figure 9: Bias and variance comprise the prediction error



# Types of Error

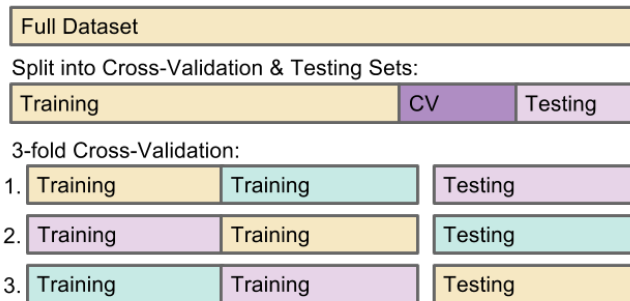


Figure 10: Diagram explaining the concept of  $k$ -fold cross-validation

# Error Metrics



L1, L2: absolute error and squared error

Others:  $r^2$  score, percent error

Used for model prediction error and optimization of algs in obj funcs





# Training Set Size: Learning Curves

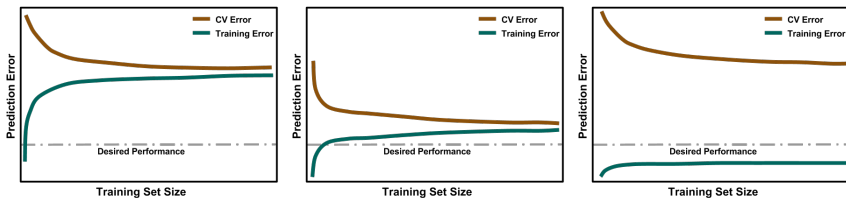


Figure 11: Learning curves for three training scenarios: high bias, balanced bias and variance, and high variance



# Model Complexity: Validation Curves

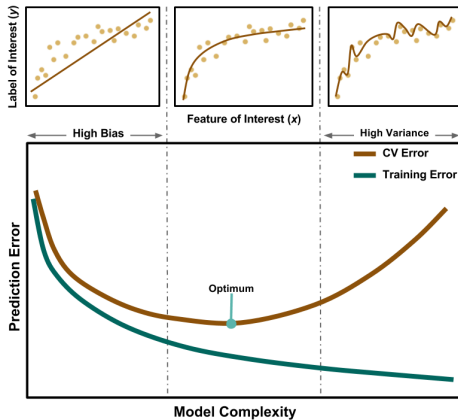


Figure 12: Validation curve showing different fitness of models



# Model Comparison

Probabilities	Calculation Method and Example
<b>P(D M)</b> Prior	Given: M = BWR U-oxide with burnup = $x$ GWd/MTU This is true: D = nuclide vector with Pu-239 = $y\%$ With: $z\%$ probability Calc'd from: ORIGEN simulations in training set
<b>P(M)</b> Likelihood	Given: No direct information on D This is true: M = BWR U-oxide with burnup = $x$ GWd/MTU With: $z\%$ probability Calc'd from: Machine-learned model prediction
<b>P(D)</b> Marginal L.	Given: No direct information on M This is true: D = nuclide vector with Pu-239 = $y\%$ With: $z\%$ probability Calc'd from: Summation of training set instances
<b>P(M D)</b> Posterior	Given: D = nuclide vector with Pu-239 = $y\%$ This is true: M = BWR U-Ox with burnup = $x$ GWd/MTU With: $z\%$ probability Calc'd from: All quantities above

$$\text{Posterior} = \frac{\text{Likelihood} * \text{Prior}}{\text{Marginal Likelihood}}$$

Table 1: Bayes

# Computational Tools



cite stuff

- Training Data : SCALE/ORIGEN-ARP
- Statistics Toolkit : scikit-learn (python)
- Information Reduction
  - Gamma energies: ORIGEN
  - Computational gamma spectra: GADRAS

# Pre-detonation Materials of Interest



UOC

UOX powder

SNF

Reprocessed SNF

# Statistical Methods Employed



get images

Factor Analysis

SFCOMPO extension

Dayman paper on prediction ability wrt info reduction



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# Proposed Experiment Methodology

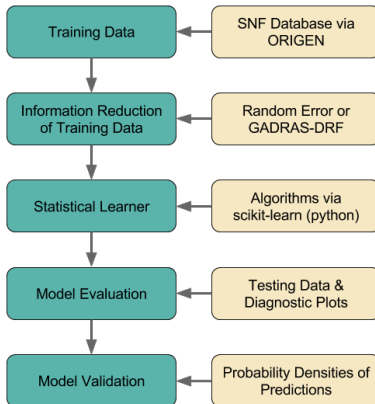


Figure 13: Workflow of the experiments with tools used for each step



# Training Set



ORIGEN Rxtr	Rxtr Type	Enrichment
CE14x14	PWR	2.8
CE16x16	PWR	2.8
W14x14	PWR	2.8
W15x15	PWR	2.8
W17x17	PWR	2.8
S14x14	PWR	2.8
VVER440	PWR	3.60
VVER440_3.82	PWR	3.82
VVER440_4.25	PWR	4.25
VVER440_4.38	PWR	4.38
VVER1000	PWR	2.8
GE7x7-0	BWR	2.9
GE8x8-1	BWR	2.9
GE9x9-2	BWR	2.9
GE10x10-8	BWR	2.9
Abb8x8-1	BWR	2.9
Atrium9x9-9	BWR	2.9
SVEA64-1	BWR	2.9
SVEA100	BWR	2.9
CANDU28	PHWR	0.711
CANDU37	PHWR	0.711



# Independent Testing Set

Reactor	Type	Enrichment	Cooling Time
CANDU28	PHWR	0.711	{1m, 7d, 30d, 1y}
CANDU28	PHWR	0.711	{3m, 9d, 2y}
CE16x16	PWR	2.8	{1m, 7d, 30d, 1y}
CE16x16	PWR	2.8	{3m, 9d, 2y}
CE16x16	PWR	3.1	{7d, 9d}
GE7x7-0	BWR	2.9	{1m, 7d, 30d, 1y}
GE7x7-0	BWR	2.9	{3m, 9d, 2y}
GE7x7-0	BWR	3.2	{7d, 9d}

# Information Reduction



Random error here  
gamma not implemented here



# Algorithm Parameters

Algorithm	Parameter	Value
Nearest Neighbor Regression	$n$ -neighbors	1
	Weights	uniform
	Distance Metric	L2: Euclidian Distance
Ridge Regression	Regularization, $\alpha$	1.0
	Normalization	False
	Stopping Tolerance	0.001
Support Vector Regression	Kernel	Radial Basis Function
	Gamma, $\gamma$	0.001
	$C$	1000
	Epsilon, $\epsilon$	0.1
	Stopping Tolerance	0.001

Table 5: caption

# Initial Results



Algorithm	Error Origin	MAPE	RMSE [MWd/MTU]
Nearest Neighbor Regression	Testing Set	9.82	812.43
	5-fold Cross-Validation	2.24	421.41
Ridge Regression	Testing Set	15.68	1049.66
	5-fold Cross-Validation	0.08	13.08
Support Vector Regression	Testing Set	12.28	769.97
	5-fold Cross-Validation	2.08	188.07

Table 6: caption

# ML Model Prediction with Reduced Information

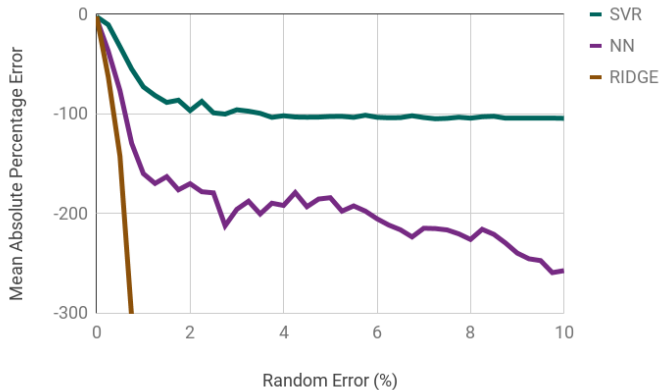
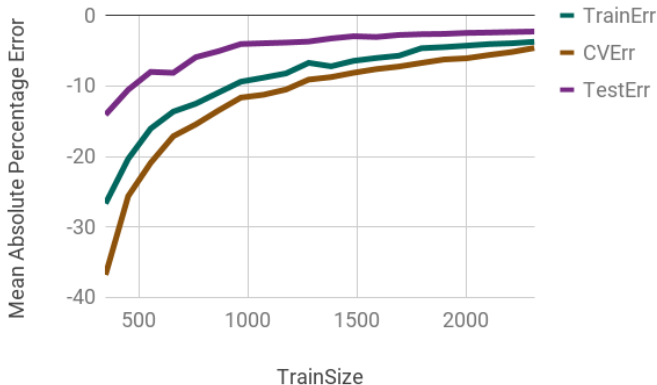


Figure 14: caption



# SVR Learning Curve

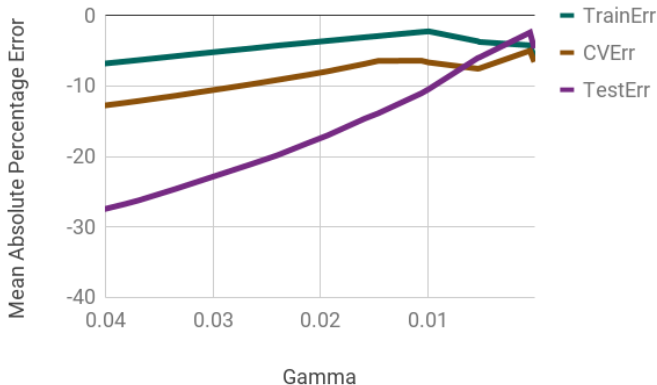
add in example LCs for comparison add in NN or Ridge LC (They look the same)





# SVR Validation Curve

add in example VCs for comparison add in NN or Ridge VC (They look the same)





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# Research Proposal Preparations



Previous Work -  $\lambda$  SFCOMPO-based  
Finalizing set of algorithms  
computational resources

# Statistical Learning with Direct Isotopics



**Goals** : Understand limits of simplest scenario

- ① Usefulness of statistical methods for reactor parameter prediction
- ② Best performing methods

**Variables**

- ① the complexity of the ML algorithm used,
- ② feature reduction, and
- ③ different subsets of the decision space.



# Statistical Learning with Direct Isotopics

## Qualitative Hypotheses

- Complex algorithm will provide best behavior
- Manual preprocessing (feature reduction): speed, accuracy
- Reduction of decision space should help: PWR vs. BWR?

## Risk Mitigation

- New algorithms: tree-based, neural nets, Bayesian MLE
- Statistical preprocessing: PCA, ICA
- New materials: Pu, UOC, Post-detonation (urban canyon [1])

# Statistical Learning with Gamma Spectra



**Goals :** Understand limits of real-world scenario

- ① Level of reduction in reactor parameter prediction
- ② Best performing methods

**Variables**

- ① the complexity of the ML algorithm used,
- ② feature reduction (implicit), and
- ③ quality of training and/or testing data set.

# Statistical Learning with Gamma Spectra



## Qualitative Hypotheses

- Complex algorithm will provide best behavior
- Indirect isotopics = implicit feature reduction: less accurate
- Higher quality gamma spectra will yield better results

## Risk Mitigation

- New algorithms: tree-based, neural nets, Bayesian MLE
- Further manual or statistical preprocessing
- Add isotope identification step

# Statistical Learning with Reprocessed Fuel



**Goals :** Probe prediction performance in reprocessing scenario

- ① Experiment with both direct and indirect isotopics
- ② Fresh evaluation of preprocessing
- ③ Best performing methods for materials with multiple sources

## **Variables**

- ① the complexity of the ML algorithm used,
- ② quality of training data set, and
- ③ type of preprocessing for feature reduction.

# Statistical Learning with Reprocessed Fuel



## Qualitative Hypotheses

- Complex algorithm will provide best behavior
- Reduced information will provide less accurate results
- ICA may outperform PCA, but factor analysis may outperform components analysis [4, 5, 6, 8, 7, 2, 3]

## Risk Mitigation

- New algorithms: tree-based, neural nets, Bayesian MLE
- Manual preprocessing
- Results may be interesting even if prediction fails
- Ensemble methods or other creative solutions [8, 7]





# Probability Distributions

Include uncertainty for measures of confidence, posterior probs become prob distrib

$C$  : constant given by marginal likelihood

$\mathbf{d}$  : training data set

$\mathbf{m}$  : model parameters

$P(\mathbf{d}|\mathbf{m})$  : likelihood distribution function

$P(\mathbf{m})$  : prior probability distribution

$P(\mathbf{m}|\mathbf{d})$  : posterior probability distribution

$$P(\mathbf{m}|\mathbf{d}) = C * P(\mathbf{d}|\mathbf{m}) * P(\mathbf{m})$$

Integrate over prob densities to get prob distrib

$\mathbf{m}$  : range of predicted model parameters

$\mathbf{d}$  is a set of nuclide vectors

$$\rho(\mathbf{x}) = \prod_i \rho(x_i)$$

$$P(\mathbf{m}) = \int_{\mathbf{m}} \rho(\mathbf{d}) d\mathbf{d}$$

Likelihood distribution function:

$$P(\mathbf{d}|\mathbf{m}) = \int_{\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{m}} \rho(\mathbf{d}|\mathbf{m}) d\mathbf{m}$$

But, we infer them...



# Estimating Density Functions

estimate  $\rho$ , have a 'sense' or try different prior probability distributions are given by the model space, e.g., reactor parameters as predicted from the ML models. [?] Note: This implies the posterior is now only dependent on the likelihood.

likelihood function: the training phase provides the maximum likelihood distribution through the use of CV, since the results are reported as a mean error with a standard deviation (which can be converted to accuracy for likelihood) [?]

MLE is not this simple for other methods that do not employ CV [?, ?]



# Posterior Odds

citations plz

calc a non-normalized posterior probability distribution,  $P(m_i|d)$  then do it for a model obtained from a different algorithm,  $P(m_j|d)$

relative posterior probability distribution : *posterior odds*  $B_{ij} = \frac{\rho(d|m_i)}{\rho(d|m_j)}$  : *Bayes factor*.

$$\frac{P(m_i|d)}{P(m_j|d)} = B_{ij} \frac{P(m_i)}{P(m_j)}$$

$ \ln B_{ij} $	Probability	Likelihood Strength
< 1.0	< 0.750	Inconclusive
1.0	0.750	Weak
2.5	0.923	Moderate
5.0	0.993	Strong

**Table 9:** Model comparison using likelihood strength

posterior probabilities calculated from  $|\ln B_{ij}|$

Summarize:

Given a mean-squared error and its standard deviation from using CV with any alg, get MLE

compare two models : MLE to MLE



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Summarize



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