

GAIA-DR3: STELLAR COMPOSITION

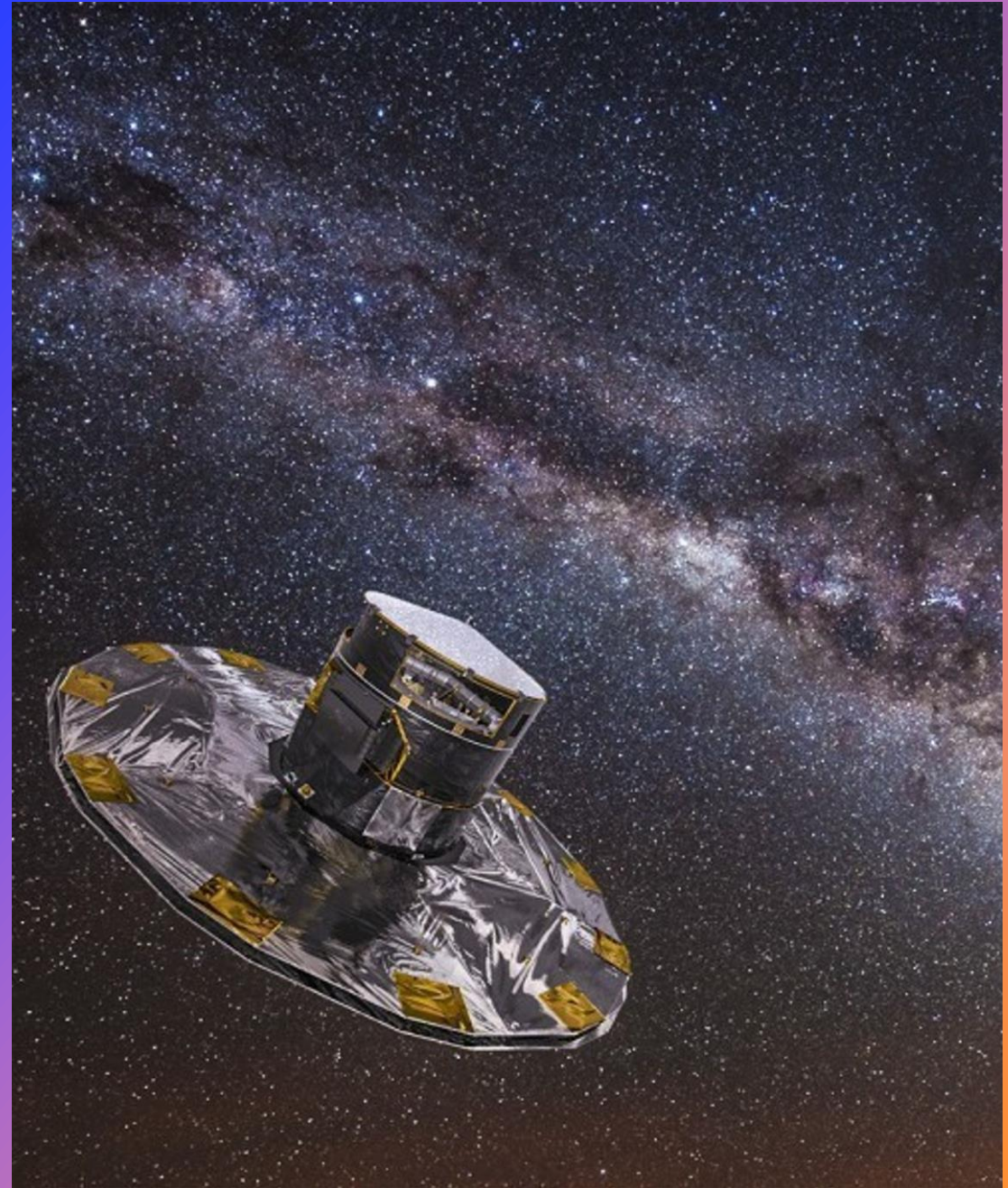
Jiasheng Wang



Maximillian Machado

GLOBAL ASTROMETRIC INTERFEROMETER (FOR) ASTROPHYSICS

- Gaia is a space observatory
 - Launched by the **European Space Agency**
- Data Release (DR) 3
 - Released on **June 13, 2022**
 - Collected over a **34-month** period
 - Contains around **1.81 billion sources**
 - Position expressed by **right ascension, declination, parallax, and proper motion**





AGENDA

- + Research Question ✓
- Methodology ✓
- K-Nearest Neighbors ✓
- R-Nearest Neighbors ✓
- Graph Analysis ✓
- Key Takeaways ✓

RESEARCH MOTIVATION

1

How can we uncover the **underlying structure of stellar** distributions in stars around us?

2







Can graph-based approaches **highlight different scales** of structure in the stellar population?

3

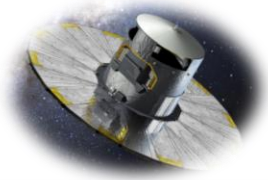
Are there **distinct communities** or "clusters" of stars that emerge naturally from these graph models?



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METHODOLOGY



Data Query Engine

Description:

Collection of Gaia observational data

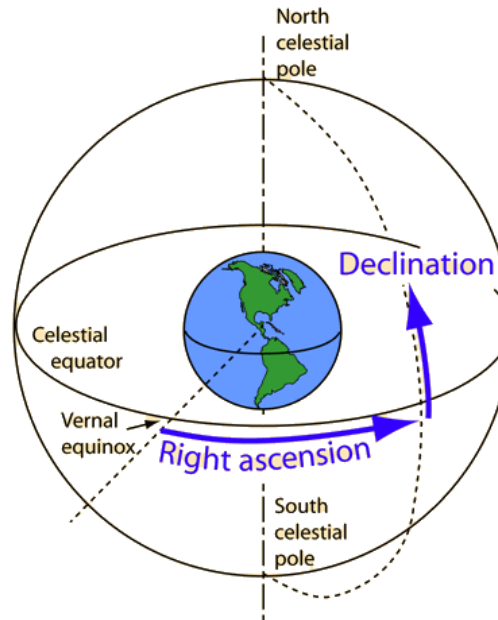
Input:

SQL statement
(parallax > 10)

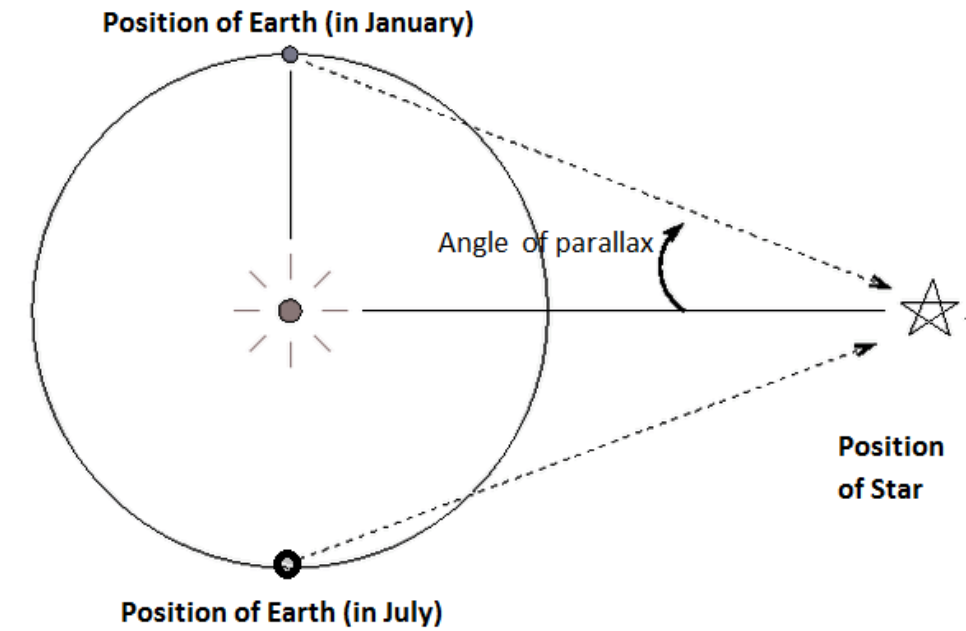
Output:

- Right ascension
- Declination
- Parallax
- Proper motion

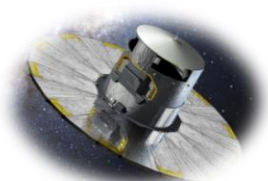
Ascension vs Declination



Parallax Method



METHODOLOGY



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Graph Generation

Description:

Construction of graphs
(KNN & RNN)

Input:

Spatial Coordinates
(X, Y, Z)

Output:

- KNN Graph
- RNN Graph

Input Coord:

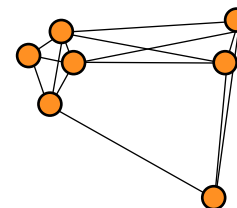
$$(\alpha, \delta) \rightarrow (x, y, z)$$

Pairwise distances:

$$d(star_i, star_j)$$

Node Definition: $\mathcal{N} := \{star_i\}_{i=1}^n$

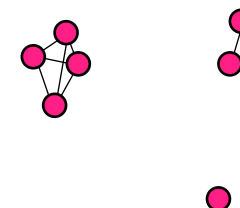
KNN Graph:



Edge Definition:

$$E := (star_i, star_j), \\ \text{top } K \text{ from} \\ \min_{star_j} d(star_i, star_j)$$

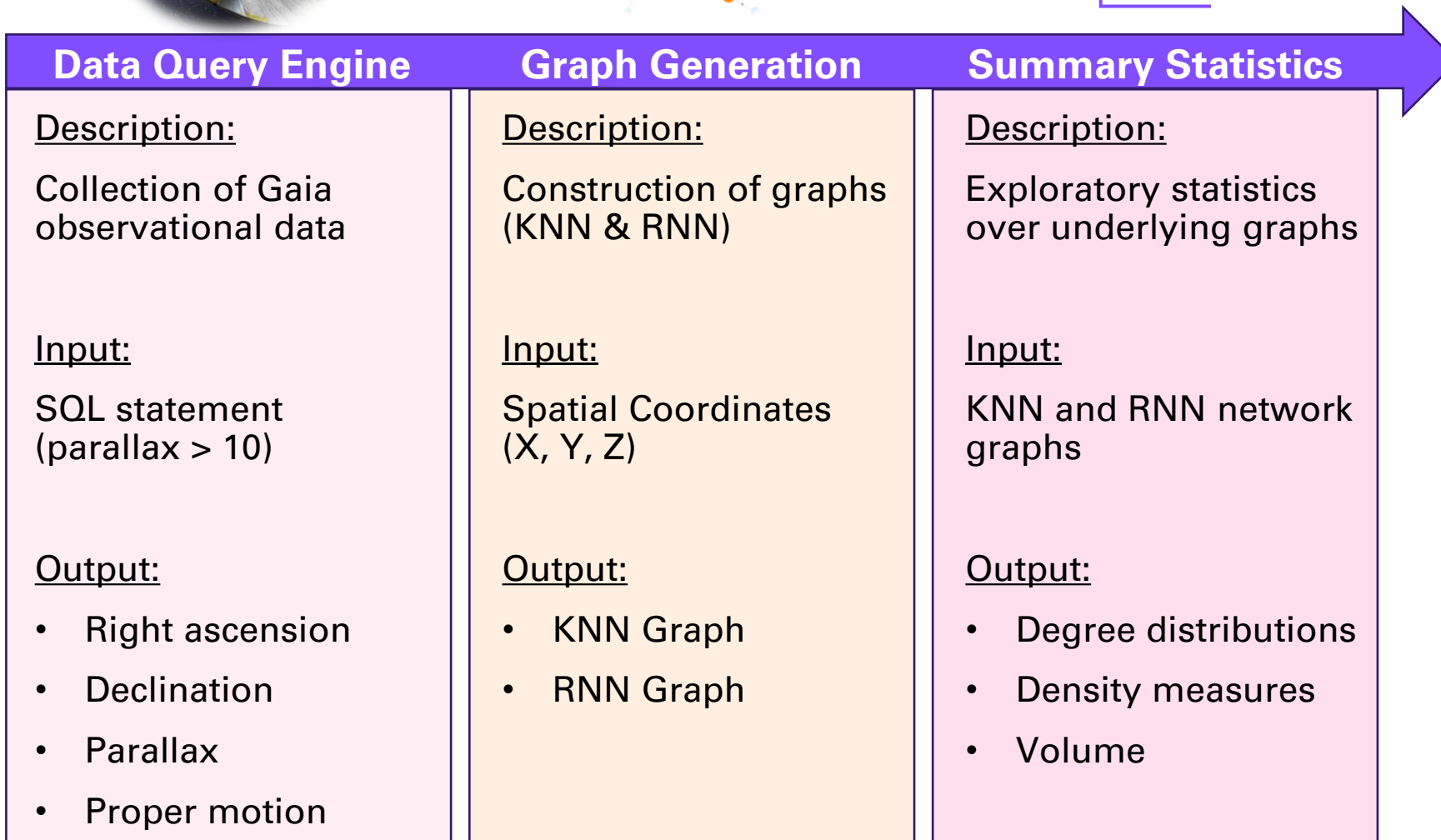
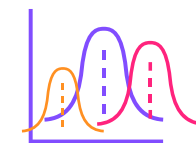
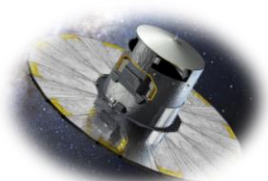
RNN Graph:



Edge Definition:

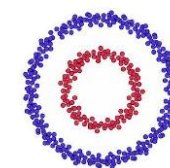
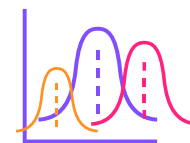
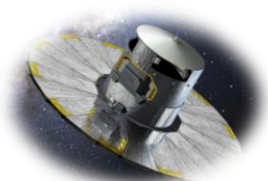
$$E := (star_i, star_j), \\ \text{where} \\ d(star_i, star_j) \leq R$$

METHODOLOGY



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METHODOLOGY



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Data Query Engine

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Graph Generation

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Construction of graphs
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Input:

Spatial Coordinates
(X, Y, Z)

Output:

- KNN Graph
- RNN Graph

Summary Statistics

Description:

Exploratory statistics
over underlying graphs

Input:

KNN and RNN network
graphs

Output:

- Degree distributions
- Density measures
- Volume

Graph Analysis

Description:

Spectral embedding &
community detection

Input:

KNN and RNN network
graphs

Output:

- Spectral embedding
- Community clusters
- Partitioned
Adjacency Matrix



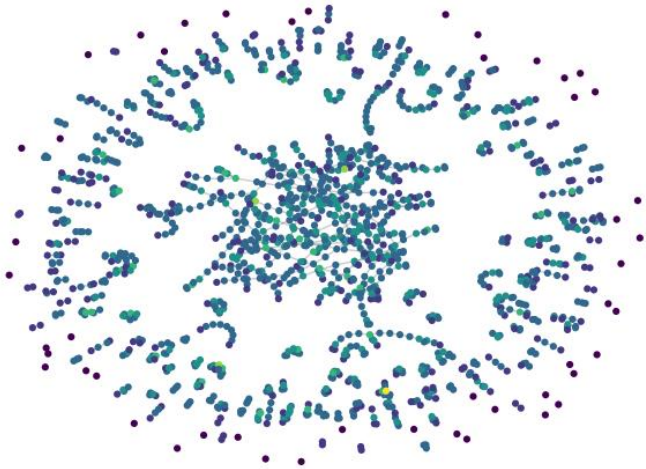
AGENDA

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- R-Nearest Neighbors ☒
- Graph Analysis ☒
- Key Takeaways ☒

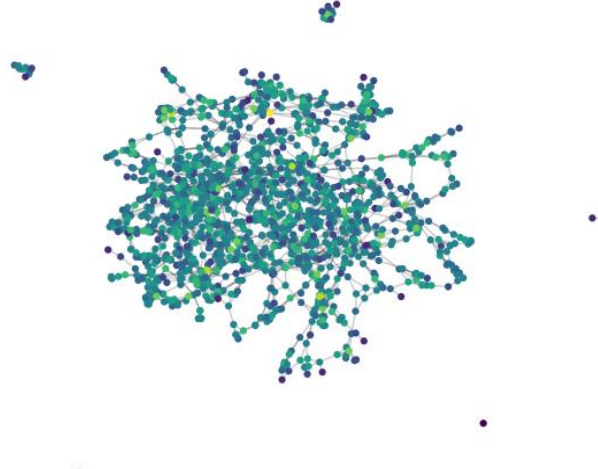
VISUALIZATION

- Network plots for $k = 2, 4$, and 5 .
- Graph connectivity rapidly increasing until $k = 5$.
- The nodes are colored by degree, the lighter the color, the higher the degree.

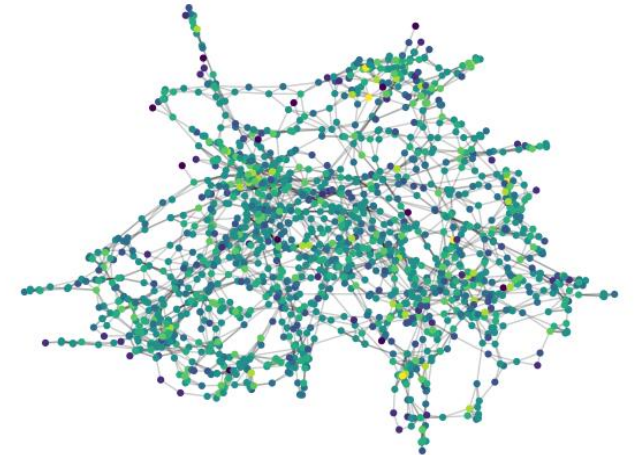
KNN ($k=2$) - Graph Visualization (Colored by Degree)



KNN ($k=4$) - Graph Visualization (Colored by Degree)

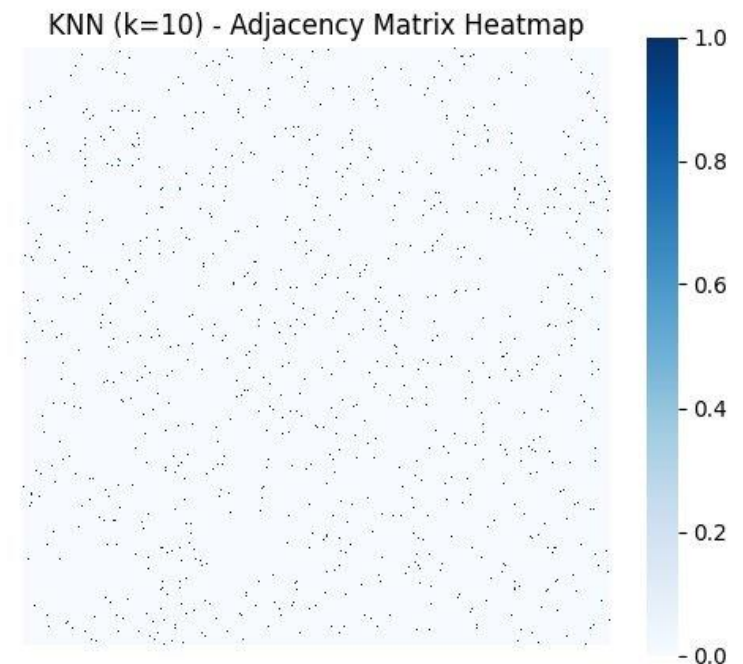
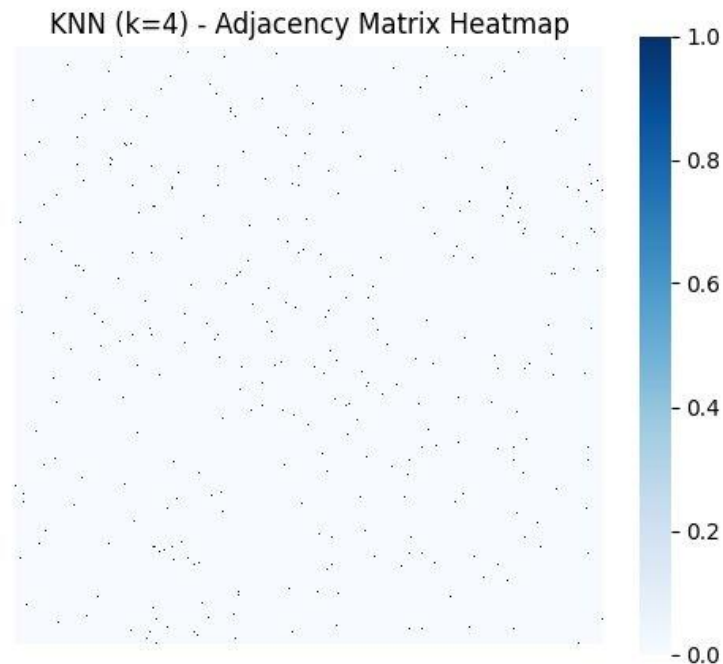
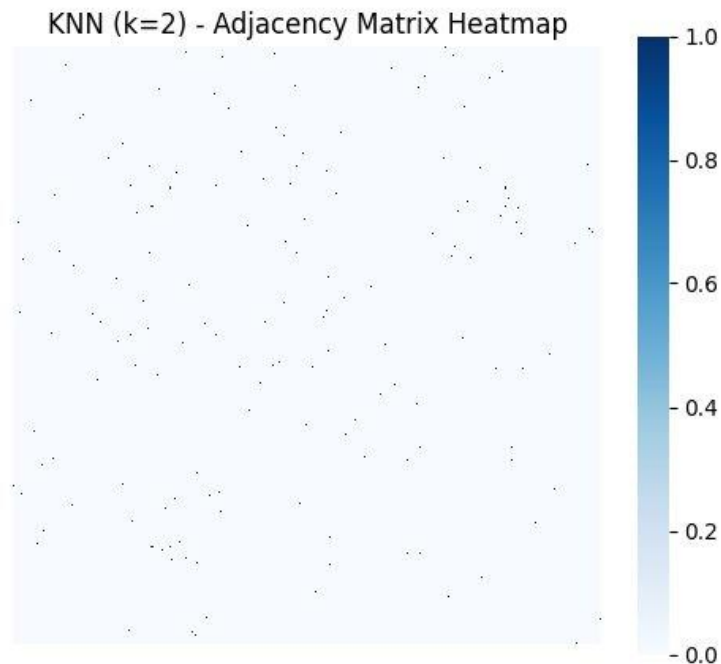


KNN ($k=5$) - Graph Visualization (Colored by Degree)



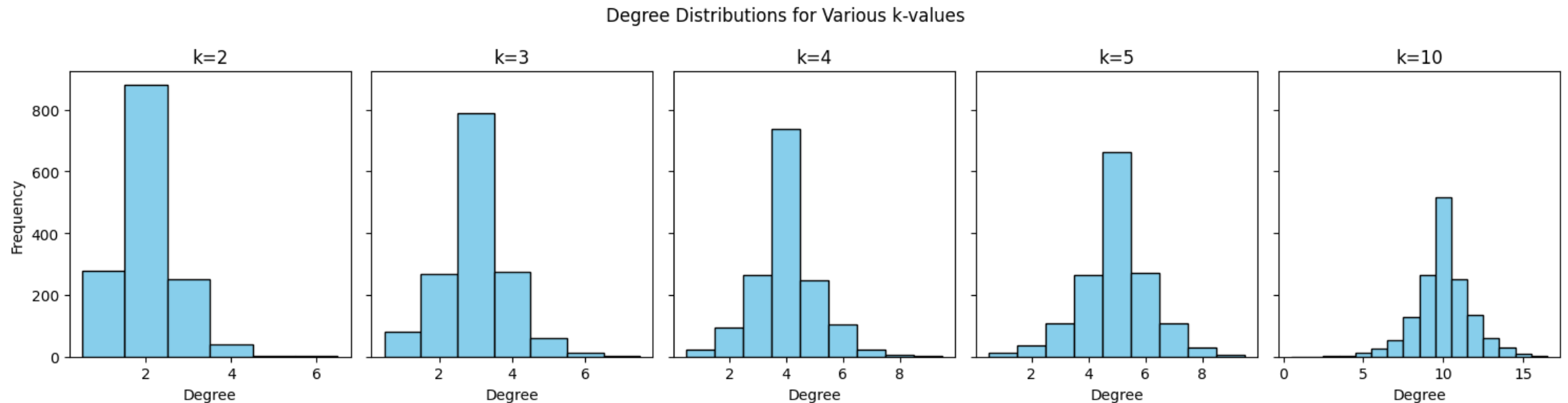
ADJACENCY MATRIX HEATMAPS

- Heatmaps of the adjacency matrix for $k = 2, 4$, and 10 .
- For lower k , the adjacency matrix is sparser.
- For higher k it's more filled in, demonstrating higher global connectivity.



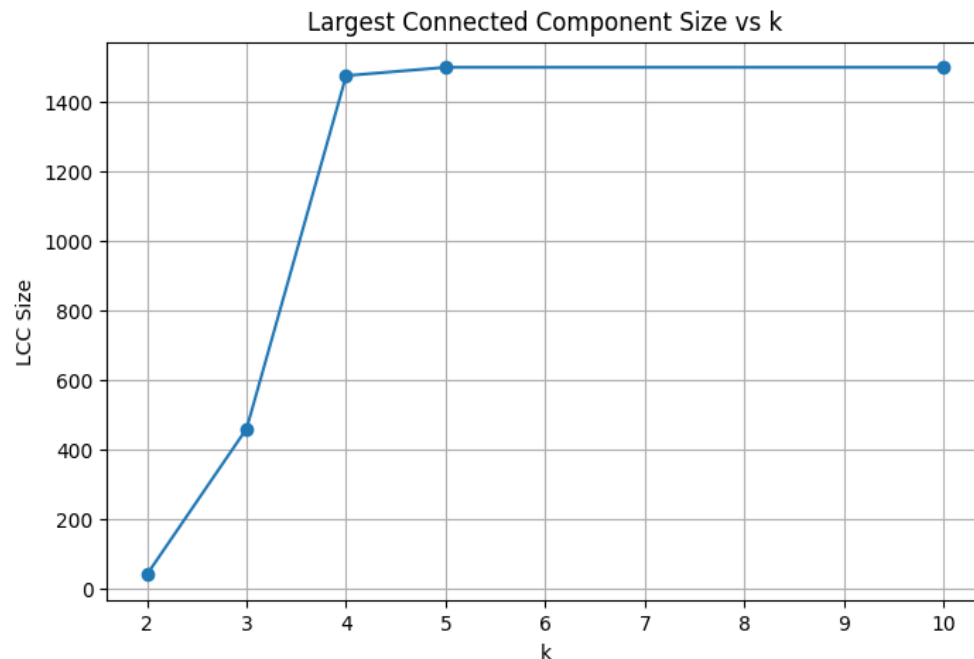
DEGREE DISTRIBUTION

- Below are multiple histograms of KNN degree distributions for $k = 2, 3, 4, 5, 10$.
- low k gives a more skewed distribution, high k yields a more normal distribution (around k).
- As k increases, the graph becomes denser and more uniformly connected.



CONNECTIVITY AND CLUSTERING

- The whole graph becomes connected after $k \geq 5$
- As k grows, the largest component often includes more nodes, indicating better global connectivity.
- More edges can either homogenize neighborhoods or highlight certain cliques





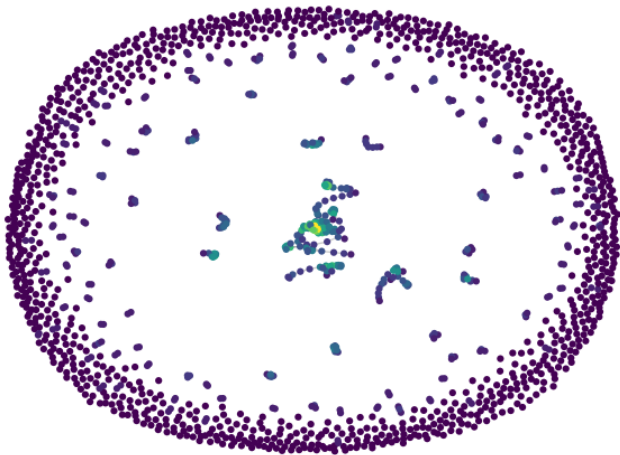
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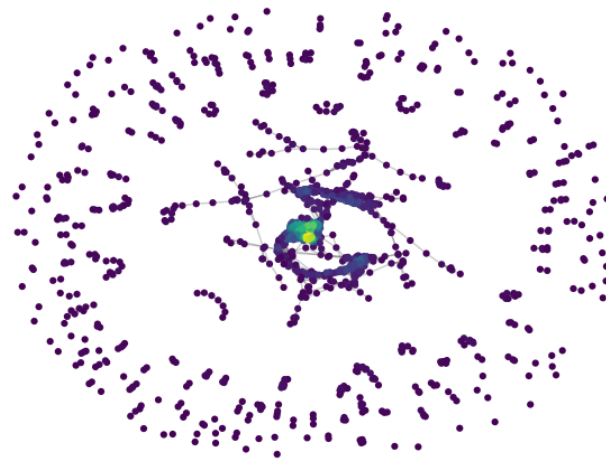
VISUALIZATION

- Network plots for $r = 1.3, 10,$ and 25 parsec.
- Degree-based coloring reveals isolated nodes at smaller radii and the emergence of high-degree hubs (yellow) in denser graphs.
- Unlike KNN, graph density quickly concentrates as radius increases.

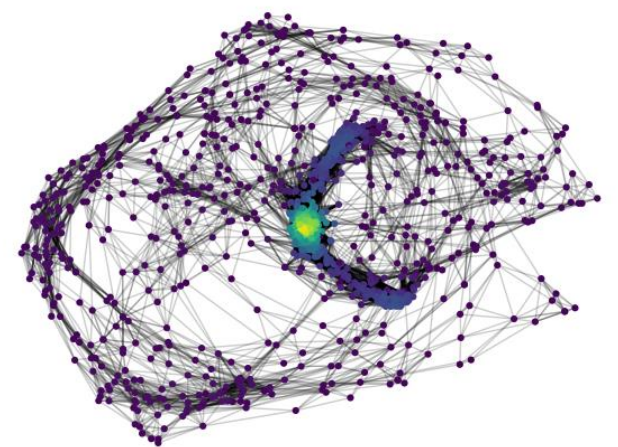
RNN (radius=1.3) - Graph Visualization (Colored by Degree)



RNN (radius=10) - Graph Visualization (Colored by Degree)



RNN (radius=25) - Graph Visualization (Colored by Degree)



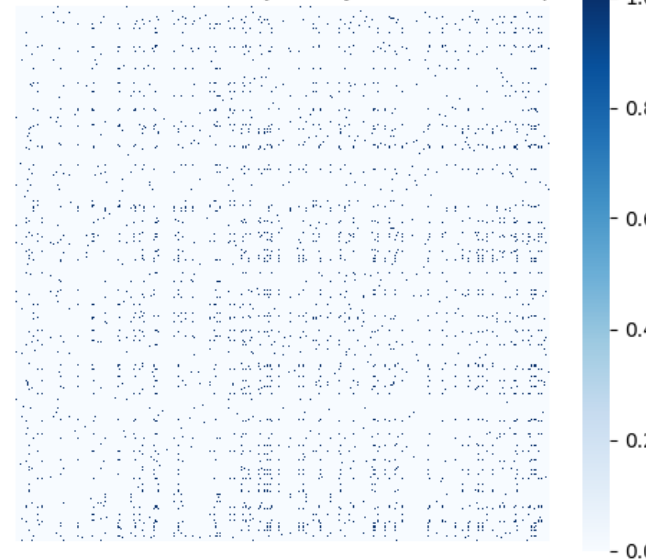
ADJACENCY MATRIX HEATMAPS

- Heatmaps of the adjacency matrix for $r = 1.3, 10$, and 25 .
- Similar to KNN, the adjacency is mostly sparse at lower radii.
- The concentration of degree is not readily apparent.

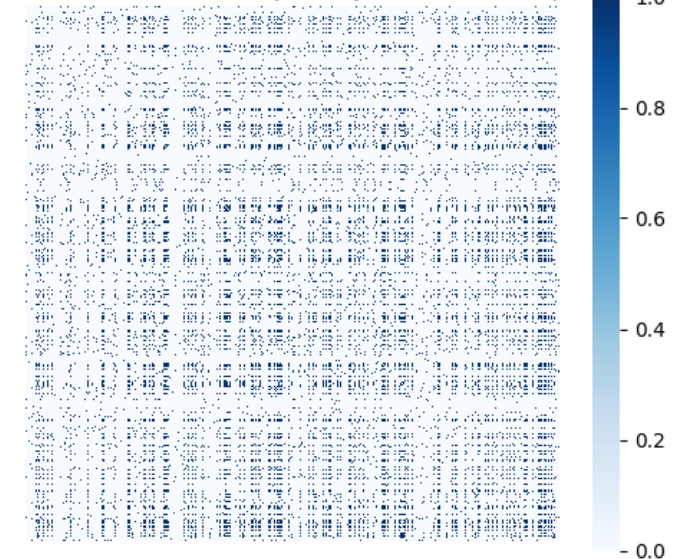
RNN (radius=1.3) - Adjacency Matrix Heatmap



RNN (radius=10) - Adjacency Matrix Heatmap

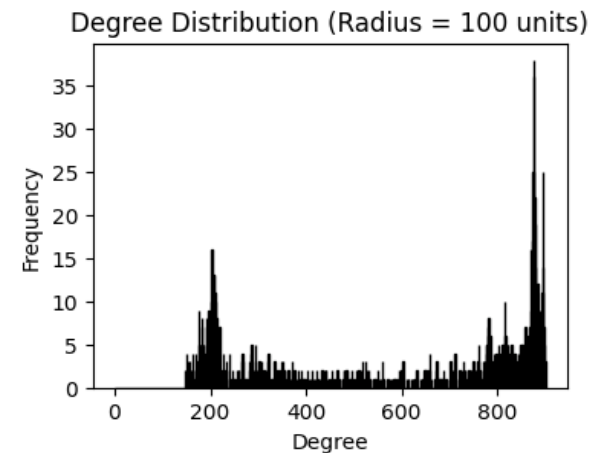
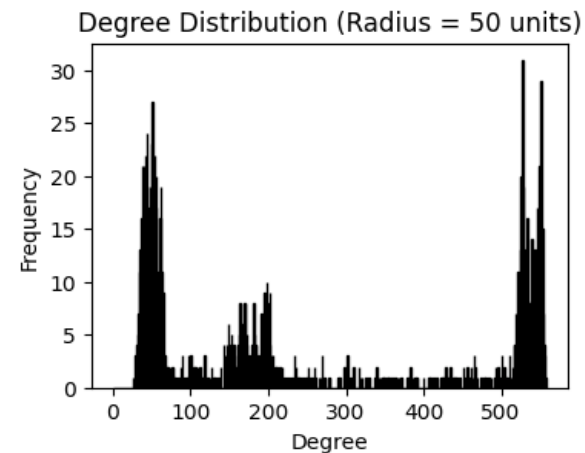
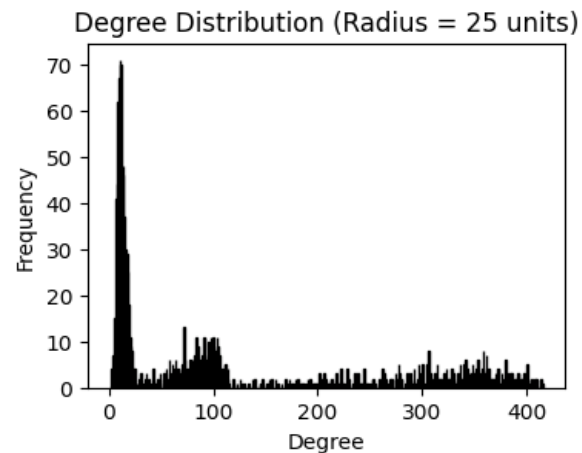
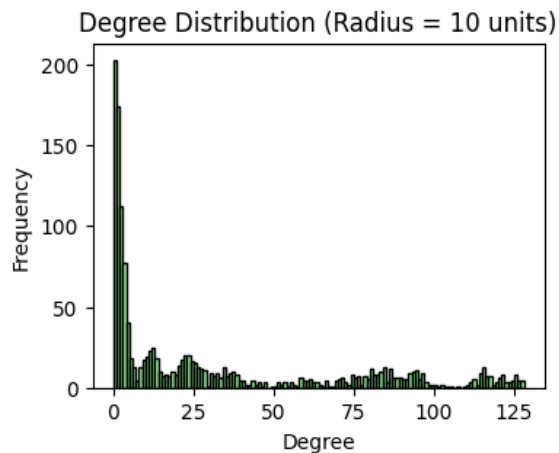


RNN (radius=25) - Adjacency Matrix Heatmap



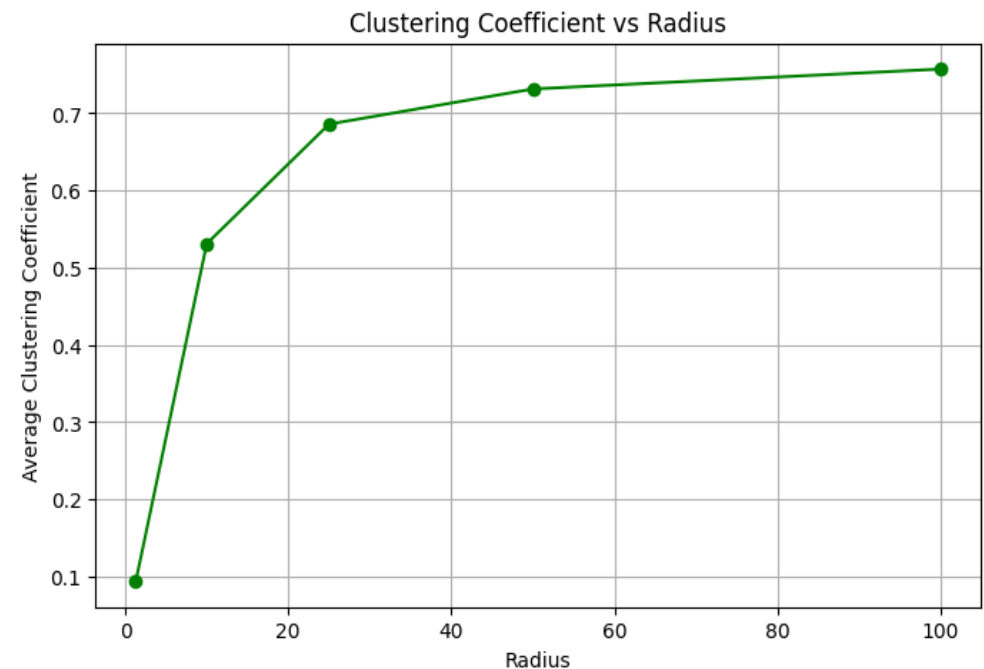
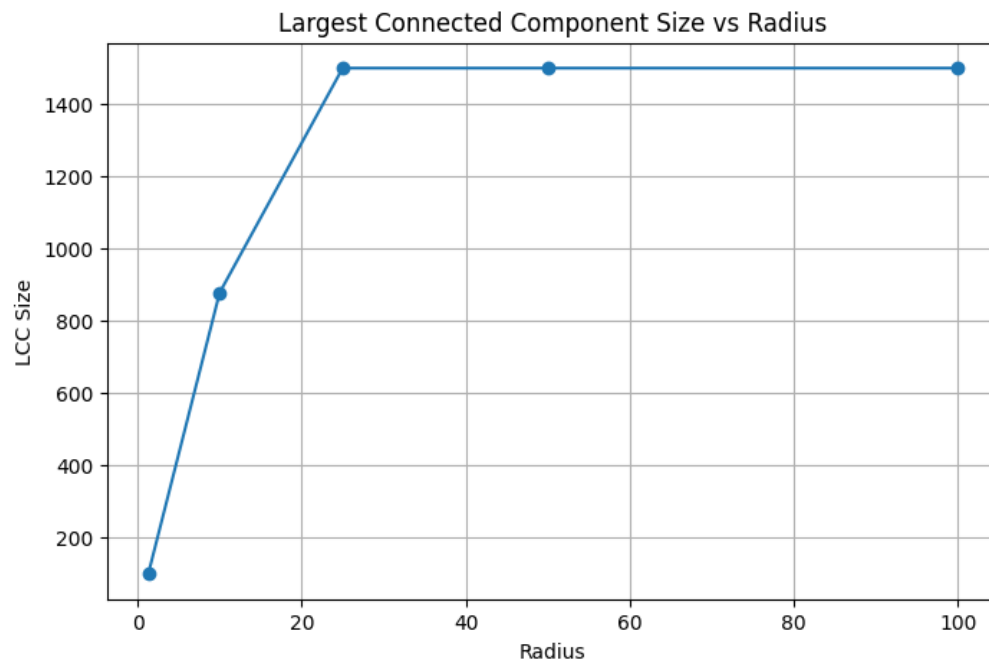
DEGREE DISTRIBUTION

- RNN degree distributions for $r = 10, 25, 50$, and 100 .
- The range is larger than the KNN counter part, especially at larger radii.
- At larger radii (e.g., radius = 50 or 100), the distributions become multi-modal, indicating groups of nodes with distinct connectivity characteristics, potentially tied to spatial clustering.
- The low degree node concentration rapidly shifts to high degree as radius increases.









CONNECTIVITY AND CLUSTERING

- The LCC size increases sharply with the radius reaching near-maximum size by radius = 20, indicating a quick transition to a globally connected graph.
- The rate of increase slows beyond radius = 40, indicating diminishing returns in forming tightly-knit local groups as the radius grows.
- The average clustering coefficient rises steadily with the radius, reflecting stronger local connectivity as the neighborhood radius expands.





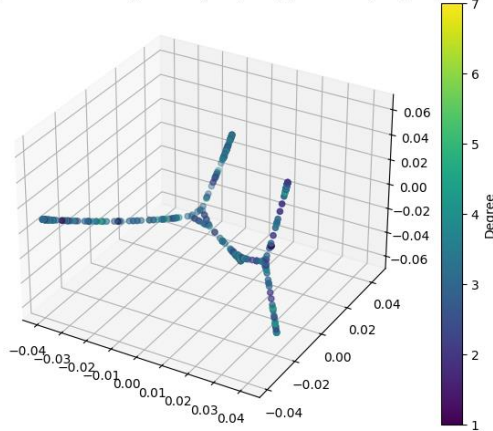
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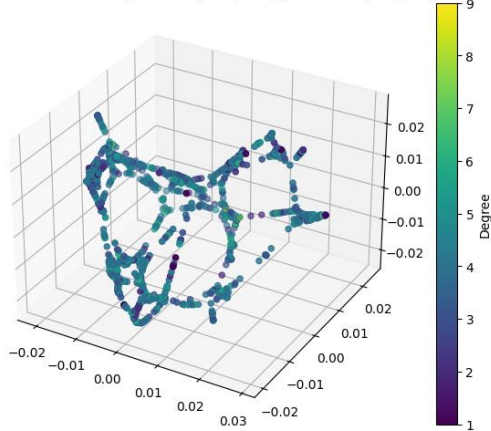
SPECTRAL ANALYSIS

K-Nearest Neighbors

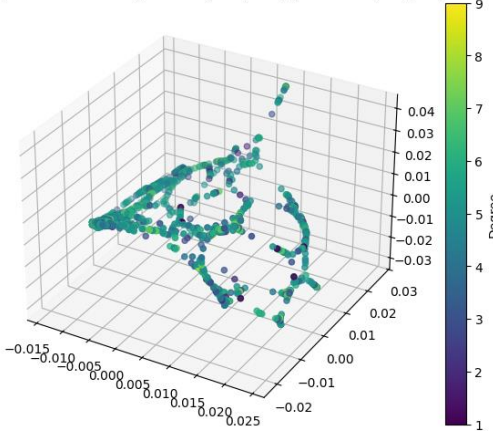
3D Spectral Embedding of KNN (k=3, LCC) (Colored by Degree)



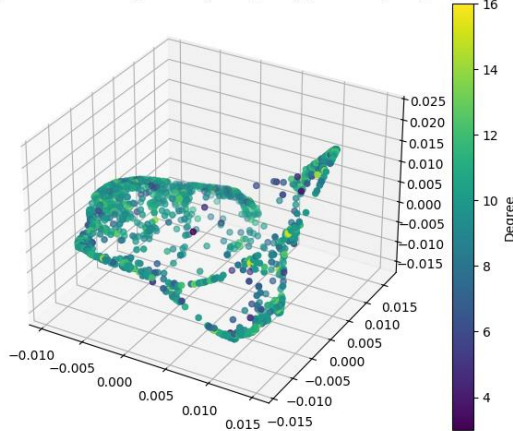
3D Spectral Embedding of KNN (k=4, LCC) (Colored by Degree)



3D Spectral Embedding of KNN (k=5, LCC) (Colored by Degree)

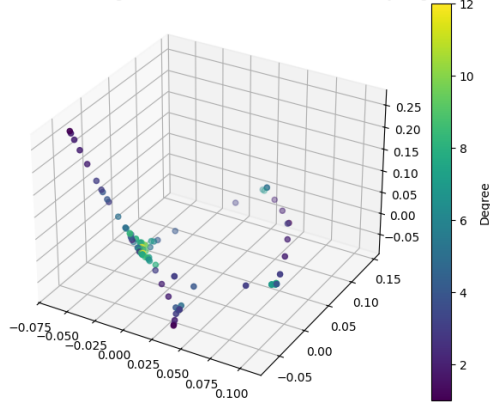


3D Spectral Embedding of KNN (k=10, LCC) (Colored by Degree)

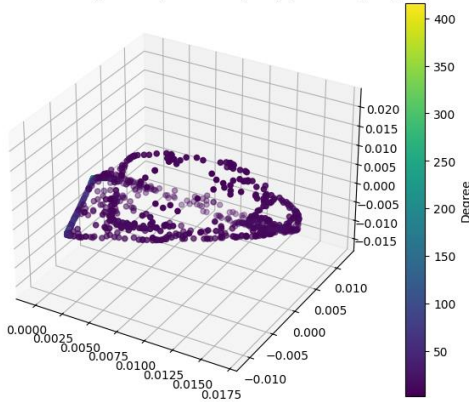


Radius-Nearest Neighbors

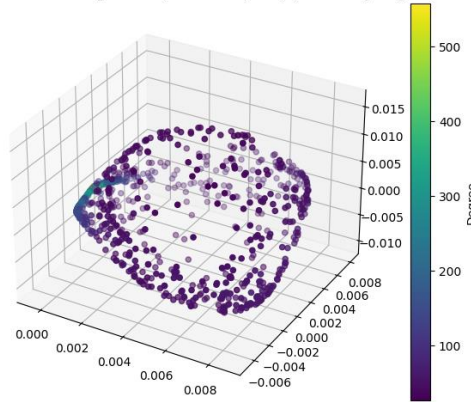
3D Spectral Embedding of RNN (radius=1.3, LCC) (Colored by Degree)



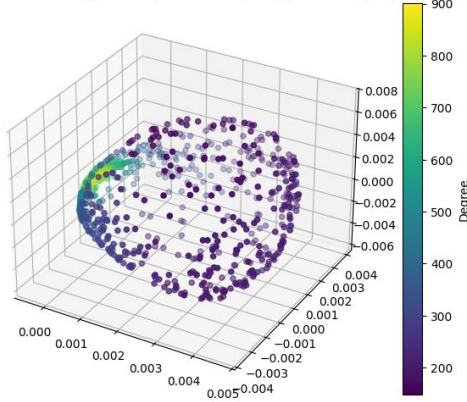
3D Spectral Embedding of RNN (radius=25, LCC) (Colored by Degree)



3D Spectral Embedding of RNN (radius=50, LCC) (Colored by Degree)



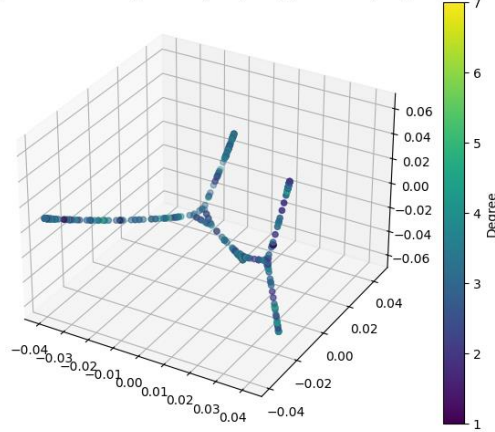
3D Spectral Embedding of RNN (radius=100, LCC) (Colored by Degree)



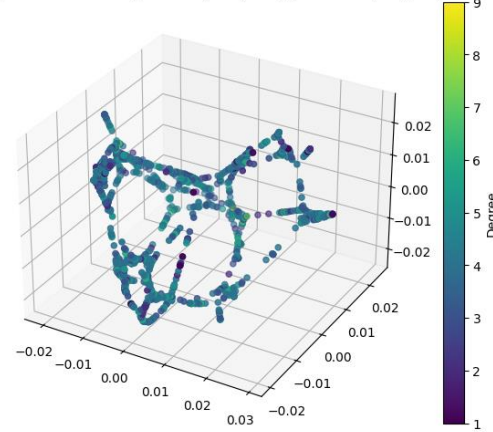
SPECTRAL ANALYSIS

K-Nearest Neighbors

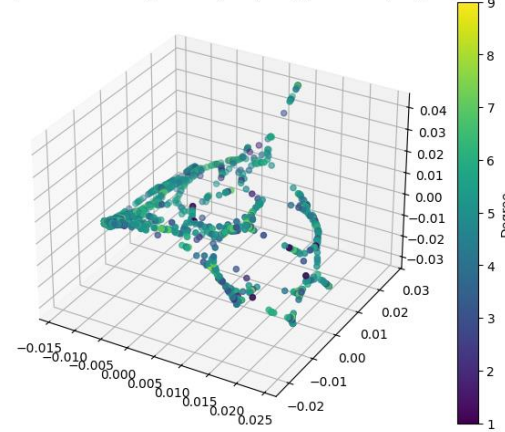
3D Spectral Embedding of KNN (k=3, LCC) (Colored by Degree)



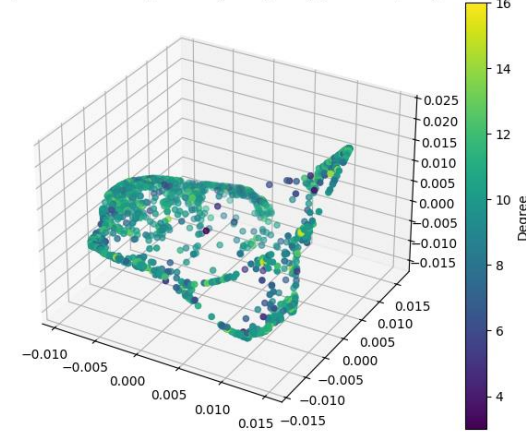
3D Spectral Embedding of KNN (k=4, LCC) (Colored by Degree)



3D Spectral Embedding of KNN (k=5, LCC) (Colored by Degree)

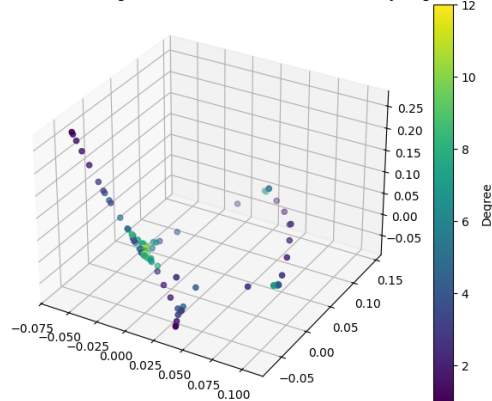


3D Spectral Embedding of KNN (k=10, LCC) (Colored by Degree)

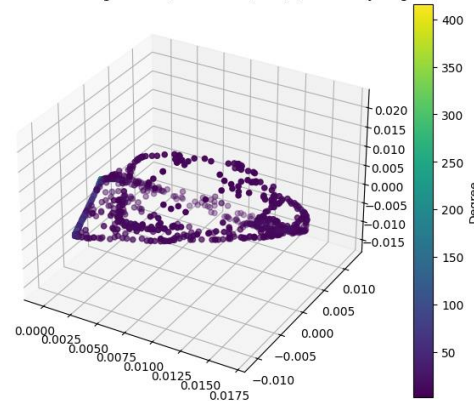


Radius-Nearest Neighbors

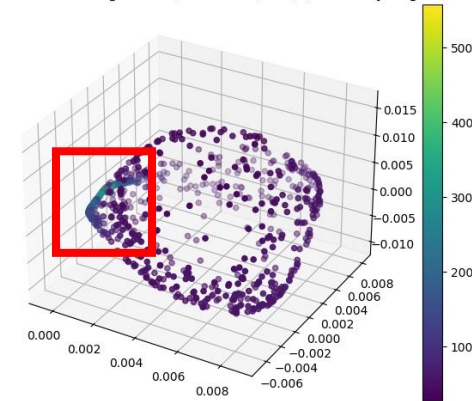
3D Spectral Embedding of RNN (radius=1.3, LCC) (Colored by Degree)



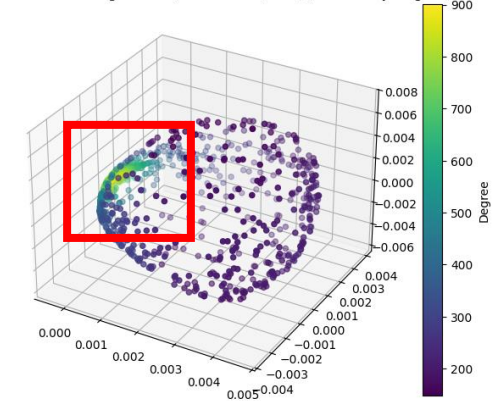
3D Spectral Embedding of RNN (radius=25, LCC) (Colored by Degree)



3D Spectral Embedding of RNN (radius=50, LCC) (Colored by Degree)



3D Spectral Embedding of RNN (radius=100, LCC) (Colored by Degree)



SPECTRAL ANALYSIS

Graph Analysis

K-Nearest Neighbors

Previous Evidence

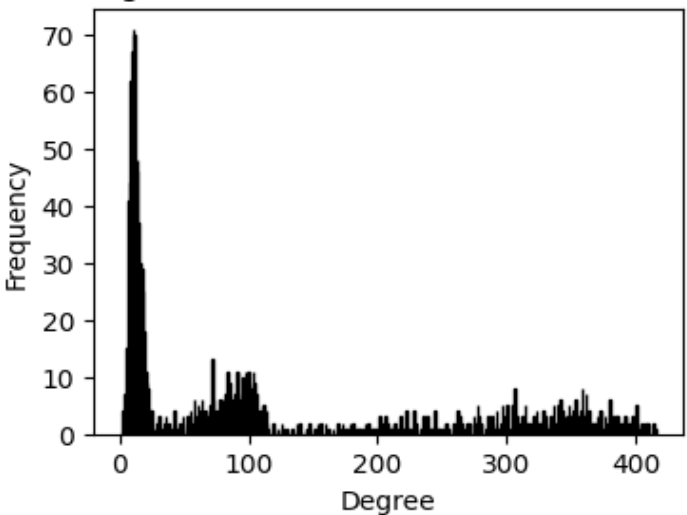
3D Spectral Embedding of KNN (k=3, LCC) (Colored by Degree)

3D Spectral Embedding of KNN (k=4, LCC) (Colored by Degree)

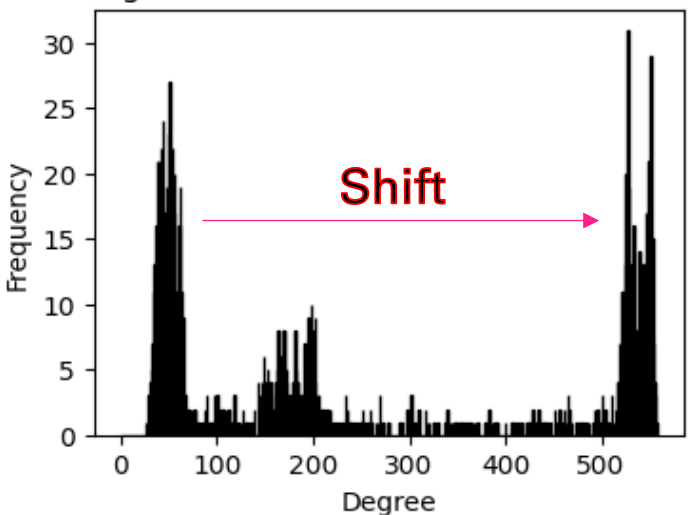
3D Spectral Embedding of KNN (k=5, LCC) (Colored by Degree)

3D Spectral Embedding of KNN (k=10, LCC) (Colored by Degree)

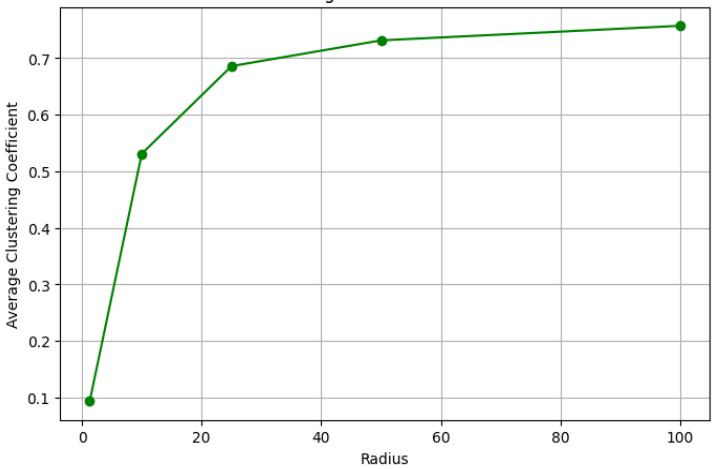
Degree Distribution (Radius = 25 units)



Degree Distribution (Radius = 50 units)



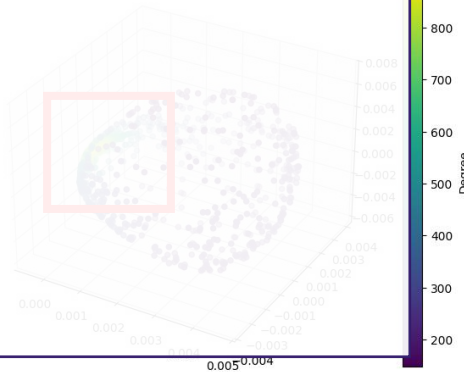
Clustering Coefficient vs Radius



Potential Cause:

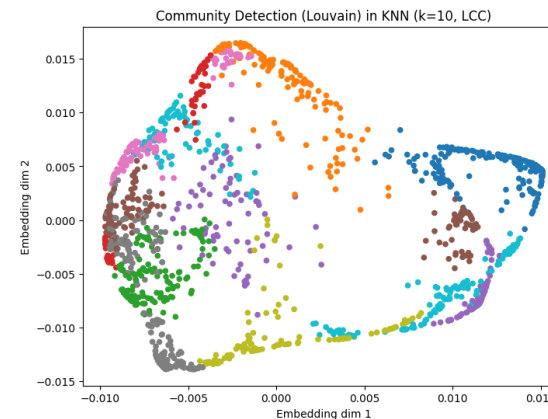
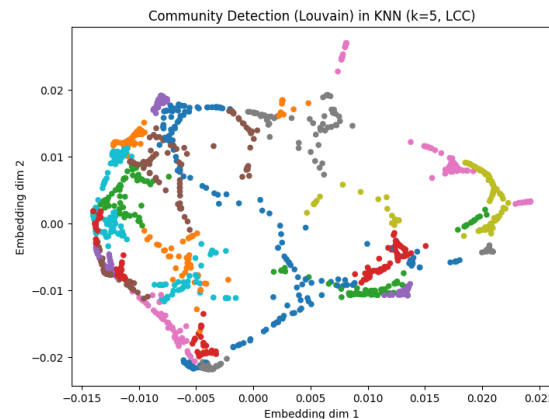
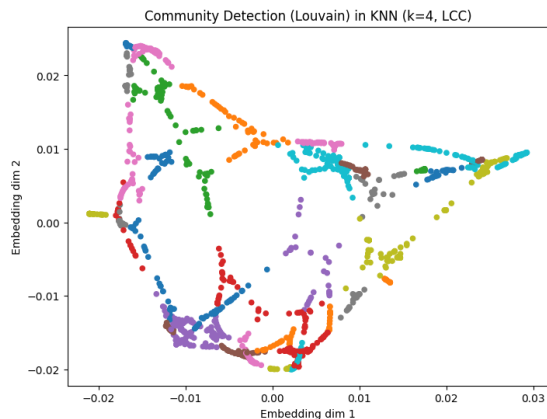
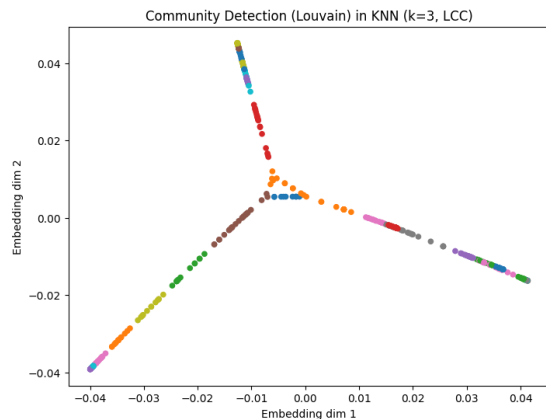
Hyades (Star Cluster)

~46.9 parsec away

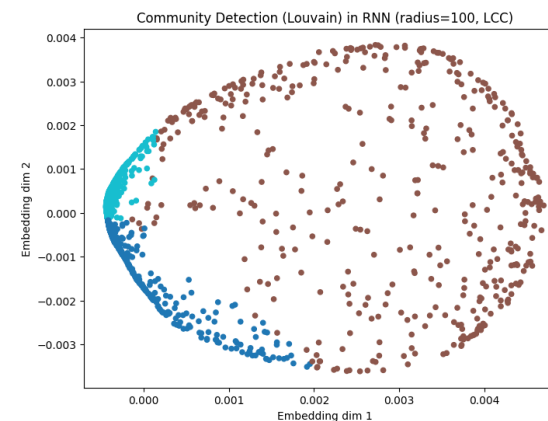
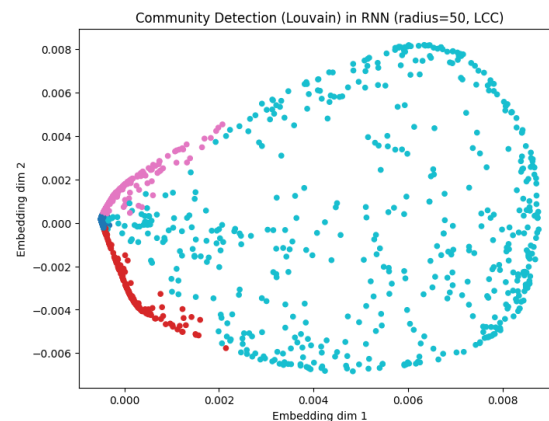
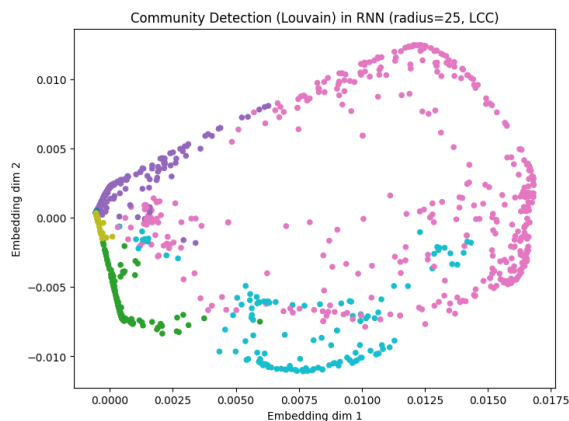
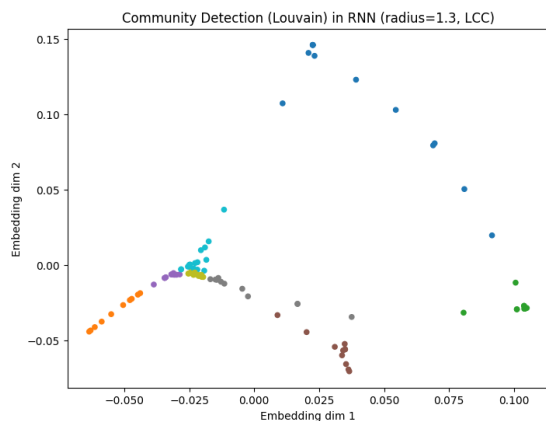


COMMUNITY ANALYSIS

K-Nearest Neighbors

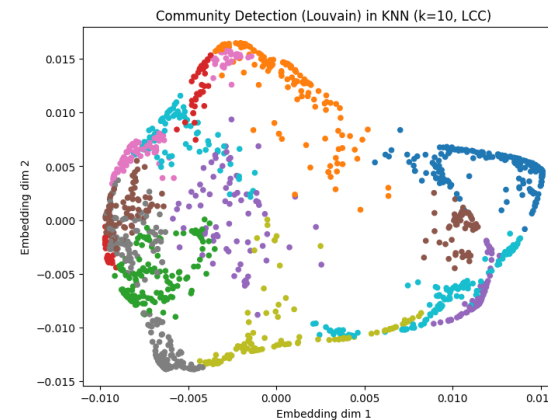
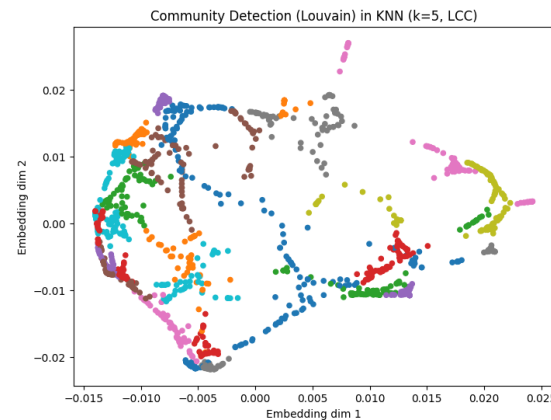
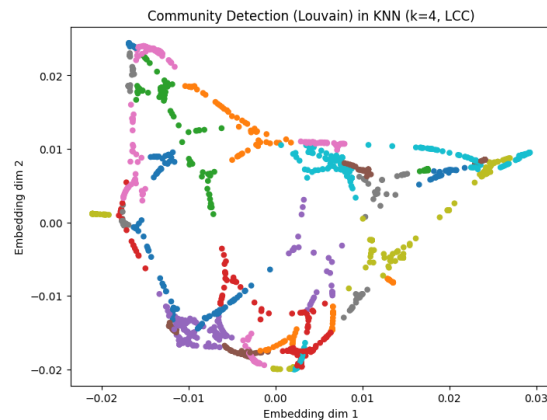
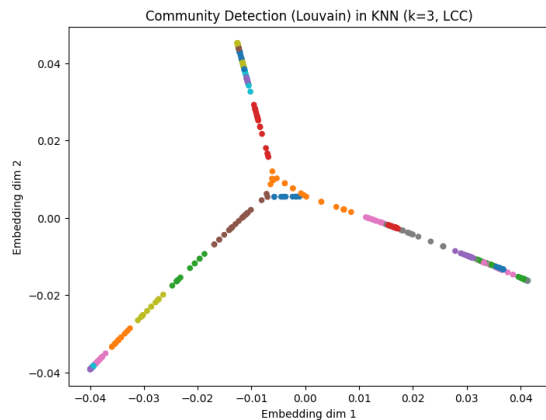


Radius-Nearest Neighbors

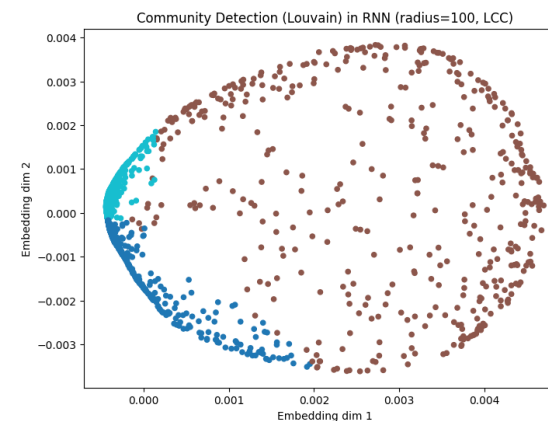
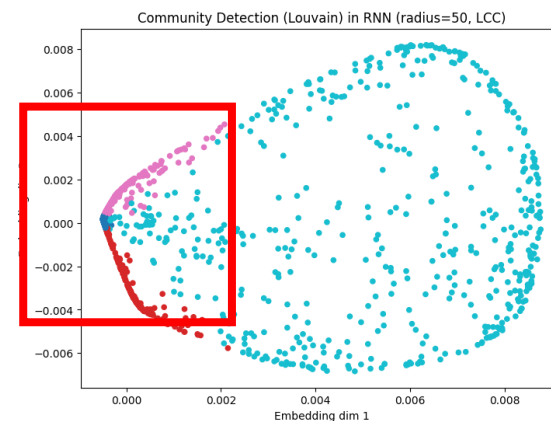
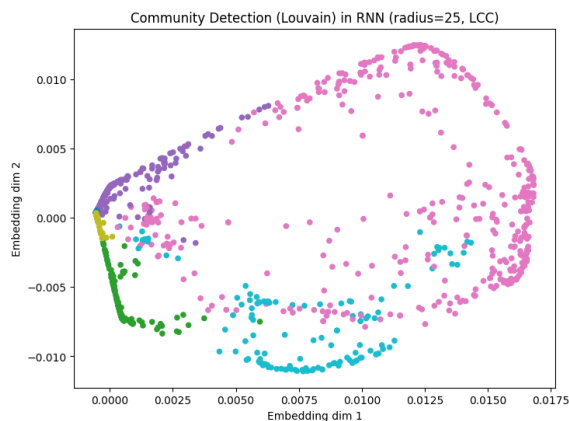
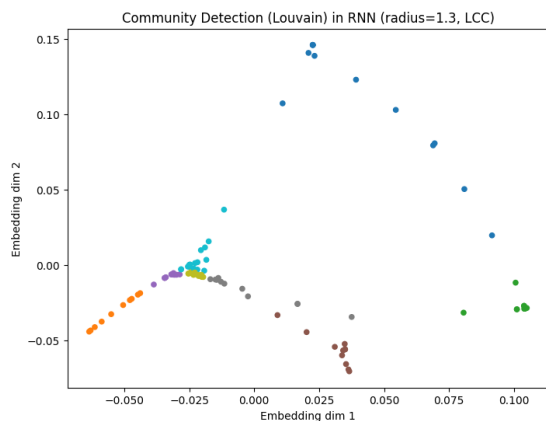


COMMUNITY ANALYSIS

K-Nearest Neighbors



Radius-Nearest Neighbors

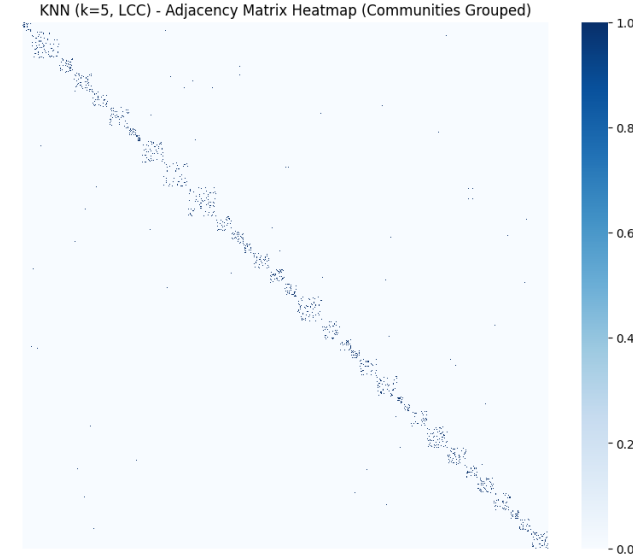
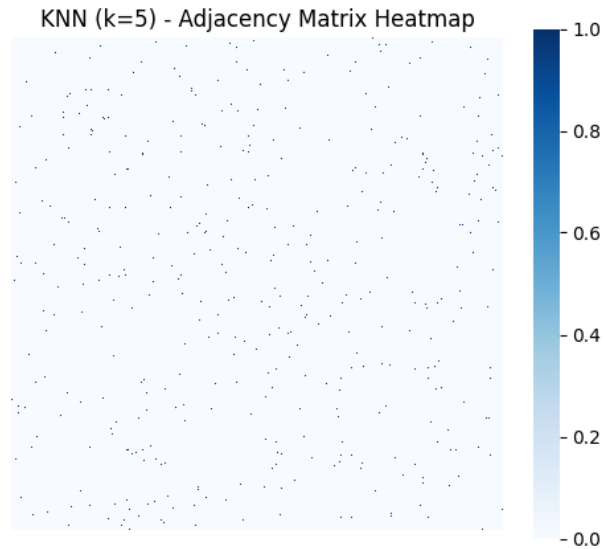


PARTITIONED ADJACENCY MATRIX

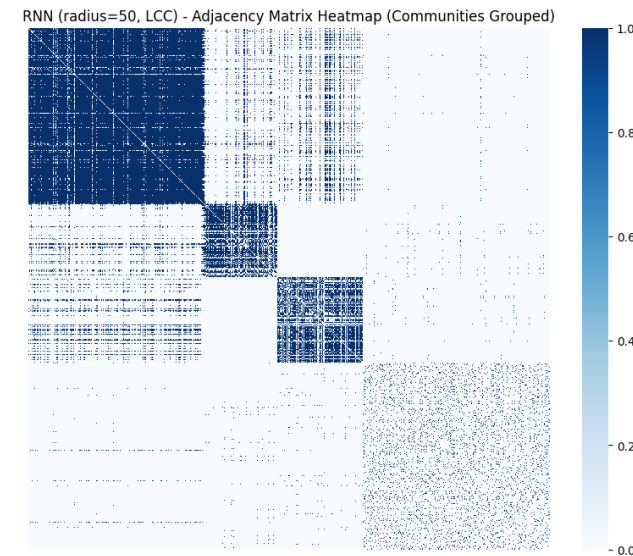
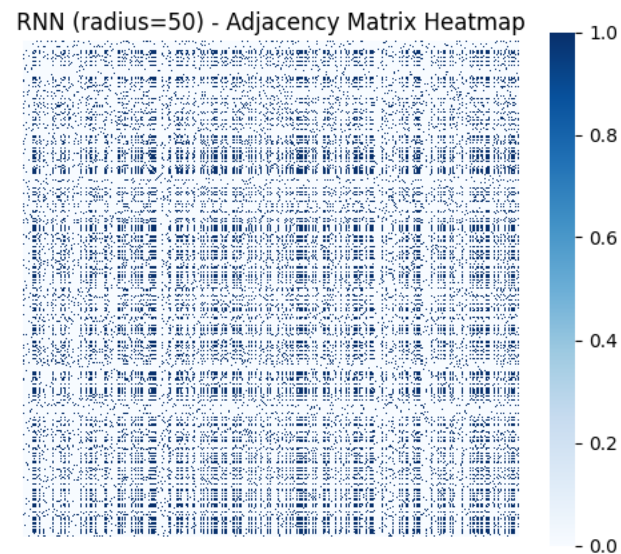
Original Adjacency Matrix

After Community Detection

KNN Graph (k=5)



RNN Graph (r=50)





AGENDA

- + Research Question ✓
- Methodology ✓
- K-Nearest Neighbors ✓
- R-Nearest Neighbors ✓
- Graph Analysis ✓
- Key Takeaways ✓

ANALYSIS SUMMARY

Characteristics	K-NN	R-NN
Graph Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stays sparse during connectivity growth• Degree distribution stays balanced as k increases	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Density concentrates during connectivity growth• Degree distribution inverts from low to high as radius increases
Spectral & Community Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Small communities but higher quantity• Embedding takes on a web shape – potentially hinting at the efficiently in connecting the stars	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Communities are large, fewer in numbers and vary in density• Embedding appears to be concentrated



AGENDA

- + Research Question ✓
- Methodology ✓
- K-Nearest Neighbors ✓
- R-Nearest Neighbors ✓
- Graph Analysis ✓
- Key Takeaways ✓

FINAL TAKEAWAY...

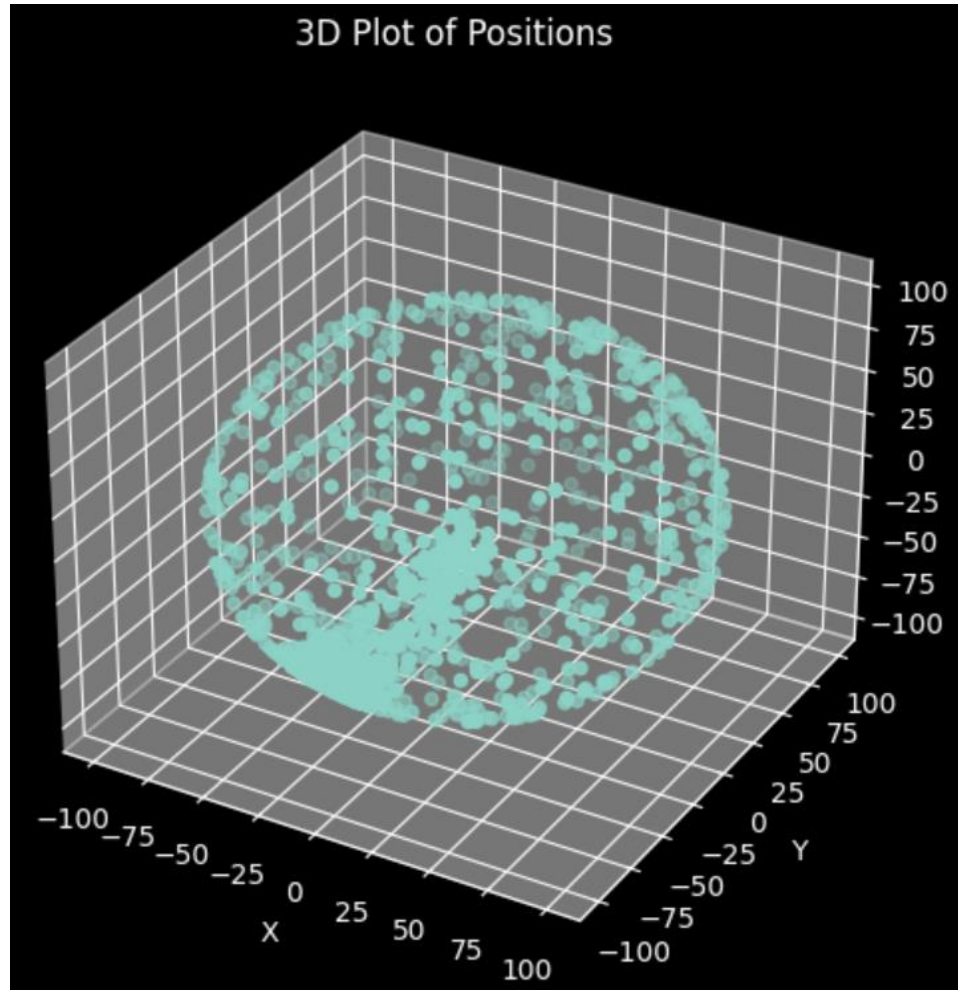


FINAL TAKEAWAY...

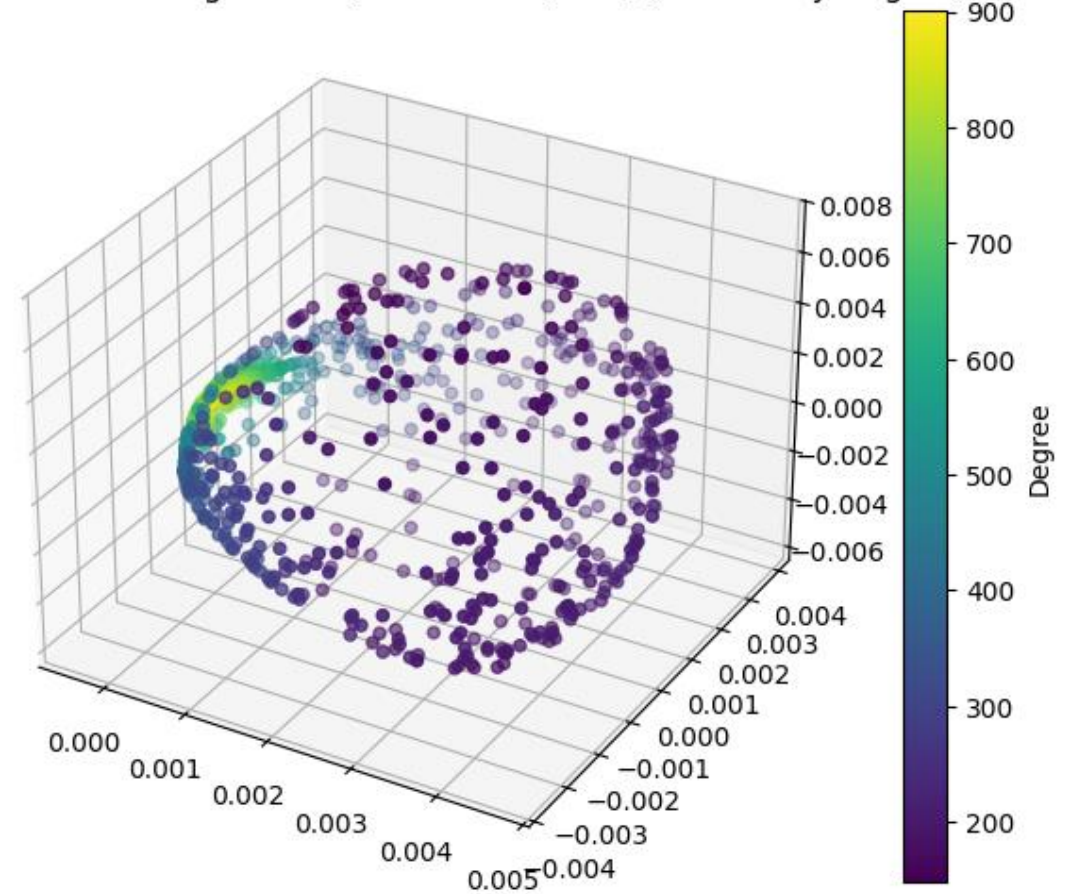
While you're looking at the New Years fireworks, remember that somewhere far away is a star making our lightshow look like an ant pile.



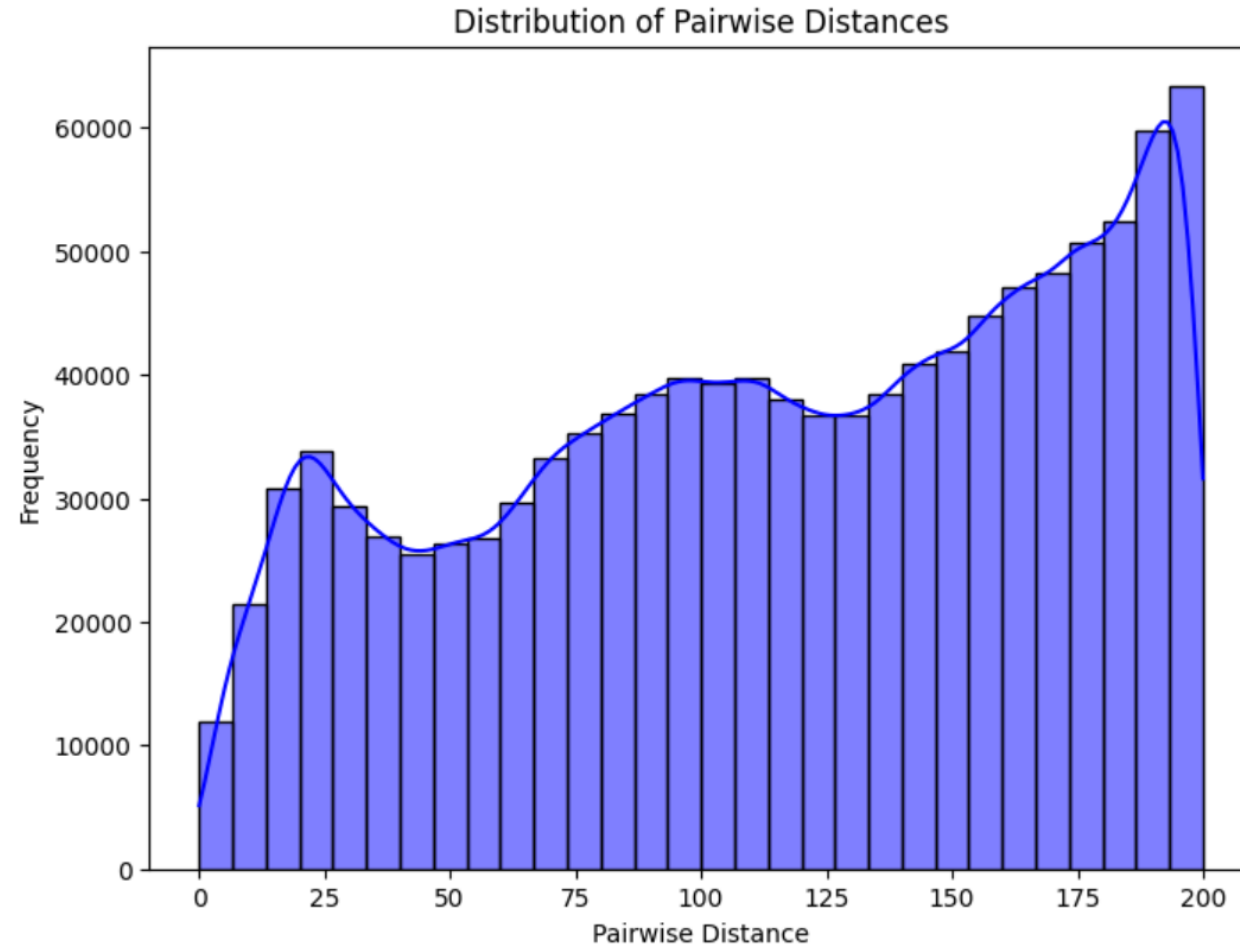
3D POSITION OF STARS



3D Spectral Embedding of RNN (radius=100, LCC) (Colored by Degree)



DISTRIBUTION OF PAIRWISE DISTANCES



LOUVAIN COMMUNITIES

Louvain Community Detection Algorithm is a simple method to extract the community structure of a network. This is a heuristic method based on modularity optimization. [\[1\]](#)

The algorithm works in 2 steps. On the first step it assigns every node to be in its own community and then for each node it tries to find the maximum positive modularity gain by moving each node to all of its neighbor communities. If no positive gain is achieved the node remains in its original community.

The modularity gain obtained by moving an isolated node i into a community C can easily be calculated by the following formula (combining [\[1\]](#) [\[2\]](#) and some algebra):

$$\Delta Q = \frac{k_{i,in}}{2m} - \gamma \frac{\Sigma_{tot} \cdot k_i}{2m^2}$$

where m is the size of the graph, $k_{i,in}$ is the sum of the weights of the links from i to nodes in C , k_i is the sum of the weights of the links incident to node i , Σ_{tot} is the sum of the weights of the links incident to nodes in C and γ is the resolution parameter.



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https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louvain_method (Louvain Community Detection)