

Metric Embeddings :-

$n$ -points, distance function ' $d$ '

$$d(x, x) = 0$$

$$d(y, x) = d(x, y) \geq 0 \quad \forall x, y$$

$$d(x, y) + d(y, z) \geq d(x, z)$$

Examples of metrics

Extend to higher dimensions ( $d \geq 2$ )

①  $n$  Points in a plane

$$(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$$

$$d(p_i, p_j) = |x_i - x_j| + |y_i - y_j|$$

↳  $l_1$ -metric

$$d(p_i, p_j) = \sqrt{(x_i - x_j)^2 + (y_i - y_j)^2}$$

↳  $l_2$ -metric

$$d(p_i, p_j) = \left( (x_i - x_j)^p + (y_i - y_j)^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$$

↳  $l_p$ -norm

$$d(p_i, p_j) = \max(|x_i - x_j|, |y_i - y_j|)$$

↳  $l_\infty$ -norm

Natural Example of non-metric

$$d(p_i, p_j) = (x_i - x_j)^2 + (y_i - y_j)^2$$

(Won't satisfy triangle inequality) !!

Graph Metric

$G = (V, E)$  & have  $w_e \geq 0$  are weights on edges,

$$d(u, v) = \text{shortest path w.r.t weights } \{w_e\}$$

→ Where do metrics appear in algorithm design?

Ⓐ Metrics arise as part of the problem!

Ⓑ Metrics appear as part of the solution technique

What are Metric Embeddings?

How well do one family of metrics embed into another family of metrics?

Example

$d$  be any  $n$ -point metric  $(X, d)$   
embed isometrically into  $\ell_\infty$  metric

1. ca a . q..?

embed isometrically into  $\ell_\infty$  metric  
 $\{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n\} = X \quad \cancel{\longleftrightarrow} \quad \{q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n\}$   
 Points in  $\mathbb{R}^n$

$$d(p_i, p_j) = \|q_i - q_j\|_\infty$$

	a	b	c	d	e
a	0	3	8	6	1
b	3	0	9	1	2
c	8	9	0	2	7
d	6	7	2	0	5
e	1	2	7	5	0

↳ 5 point metric space.

	a	b	c	d	e
$v_a$	(0, 3, 8, 6, 1)				
$v_b$	(3, 0, 9, 1, 2)				
$v_c$	(8, 9, 0, 2, 7)				
$v_d$	(6, 7, 2, 0, 5)				
$v_e$	(1, 2, 7, 5, 0)				

Example  $v_a - v_d = (-6, -4, 6, 6, -4)$

$$\|v_a - v_d\| = 6$$

~~Not~~  $\neq p, q$

(A)  $\|v_p - v_q\|_\infty > d(p, q) \leftarrow$  look at  $p^{th}$  column of  $v_p \neq v_q$ .

(B)  $\|v_p - v_q\|_\infty \leq d(p, q)$

look at any coordinate ' $r$ '

$$|d(p, r) - d(q, r)| \leq d(p, q)$$

follows because

triangle inequality. 
$$\begin{cases} d(p, r) - d(q, r) \leq d(p, q) & \\ d(q, r) - d(p, r) \leq d(p, q) & \end{cases}$$

Provided enough dimensions,  $\ell_\infty$  metrics are all powerful to capture any finite metric !!.

How powerful are  $\ell_1$ -metrics?  
 For any metric  $(X, d)$ , can we embed it into vectors s.t  $d(x, y) = \|f(x) - f(y)\|_1$  ??

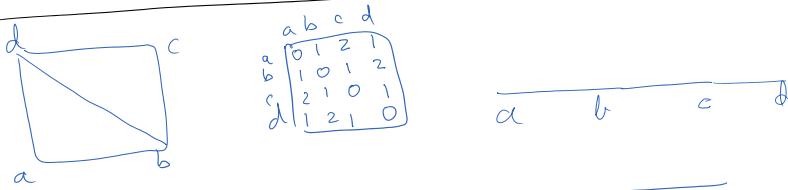
SAME QN for  $\ell_2$  ??

Can  $\ell_1$ -metrics embed into  $\ell_2$ -metrics?  
 $\ell_2 \rightarrow \ell_1$  ??

Then :-

$\exists$  metrics  $(X, d)$  which don't embed isometrically into  $\ell_1$ .

$\exists$  metrics  $(X, d)$  which don't embed  
isometrically into  $\ell_2$ .



Next qn  
Can we 'approximately' embed all metrics  
into  $\ell_1$  (or)  $\ell_2$ ?

Then

[BOURGAIN]

Any metric can be embedded into an  $\ell_1$  metric  
with distortion  $O(\log n)$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Iff } & \exists f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d \text{ st} \\ d(x, y) & \leq \|f(x) - f(y)\|_1 \leq O(\log n) d(x, y) \\ & \forall x, y \in X. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, any metric also embeds into  
 $\ell_2$  with distortion  $O(\log n)$

In both cases,  $d$  will be reasonably small!  
( $\approx O(\log^2 n)$ )

Cool property

- Originally needed  $\frac{n^2}{2}$  entries to remember the metric!
- if we are OK with approximately remembering distances, can do it with  $n \cdot d$  entries  
 $\approx n \cdot \log^2 n$

LB : Can't improve on  $O(\log n)$  distortion.  
(ie)  $\exists$  metric  $\&$  best possible embedding  
into  $\ell_1$  has distortion  $\Omega(\log n)$ .

Dimensionality Reduction

Given  $n$  points in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , ~~can't~~  
&  $\ell_2$ -norm metric between them.

$$v_i, v_2, \dots, v_n$$

$$d(v_i, v_j) = \|v_i - v_j\|_2$$

& suppose  $d$  is very very large

Theorem:  
 $\exists c > 0, \exists$  a mapping  $f: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^L$

Theorem:  $\exists \epsilon > 0$ ,  $\exists$  a mapping  $f: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^L$

st  $f(i, j)$

$$(1-\epsilon) \|v_i - v_j\|_2 \leq \|f(v_i) - f(v_j)\|_2 \leq (1+\epsilon) \|v_i - v_j\|_2$$

where  $L = \frac{O(\log n)}{\epsilon^2}$ .

# entries per point comes down from  $L$   $\rightarrow L = \frac{O(\log n)}{\epsilon^2}$

Johnson-Lindenstrauss Lemma

Bourgain's Theorem

Given a metric  $(X, d)$  on  $n$  points, we can always embed it into  $\mathbb{R}^L$  with distortion  $\leq O(\log n)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  where  $d = O(\log^2 n)$

(ie)  $\exists f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  st

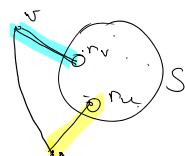
$$d(u, v) \leq \|f(u) - f(v)\|_1 \leq O(\log n) d(u, v) \quad \forall u, v \in X$$

We'll carefully choose many subsets  $S \subseteq X$ , & create one coordinate in the embedding

$$f_S(v) = d(v, S)$$

$$f(v) = (f_{S_1}(v), f_{S_2}(v), \dots, f_{S_D}(v))$$

$$d(v, S) = \min_{u \in S} d(u, v)$$



Claim ①

$$\|f(u) - f(v)\|_1 \leq D d(u, v)$$

Proof:  $\forall S \subseteq X$

$$\epsilon |d(u, S) - d(v, S)| \leq d(u, v)$$

$$\Rightarrow d(u, S) - d(v, S) \leq d(u, v) \quad \&$$

$$d(v, S) - d(u, S) \leq d(u, v)$$

We'll int  $D = O(\log^2 n)$

Theorem ②

We can carefully choose  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_D$  st

$$\|f(u) - f(v)\|_1 > \sqrt{\log n} \cdot d(u, v)$$

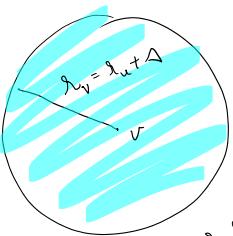
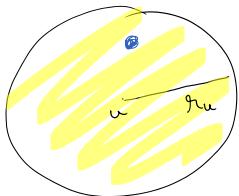
How to choose  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_D$ ?

Idea / Intuition



How many points are there?

### Idea / Intuition



$$\forall u \in S, B(u, r_u) = \{v : d(u, v) \leq r_u\}$$

$$\text{Consider } B(u, r_u) \text{ & } B(v, r_v) \text{ s.t. } f_S(u) \leq r_u$$

$$r_v = r_u + \Delta$$



$$\text{& suppose } S \subseteq X \text{ s.t. } S \cap B(u, r_u) \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow f_S(v) \geq r_v = r_u + \Delta$$

In this case,  $|f_S(u) - f_S(v)| \geq \Delta$

### Algorithm

$$\text{For } i = 1, 2, \dots, \log n$$

For  $\ell = 0, 1, \dots, \log n$   
 Add  $u$  to  $S_\ell$  w.p.  $\frac{1}{2^\ell}$  independently for all  $u$   
 $\forall v : f_{S_\ell}(v) = d(v, S_\ell)$

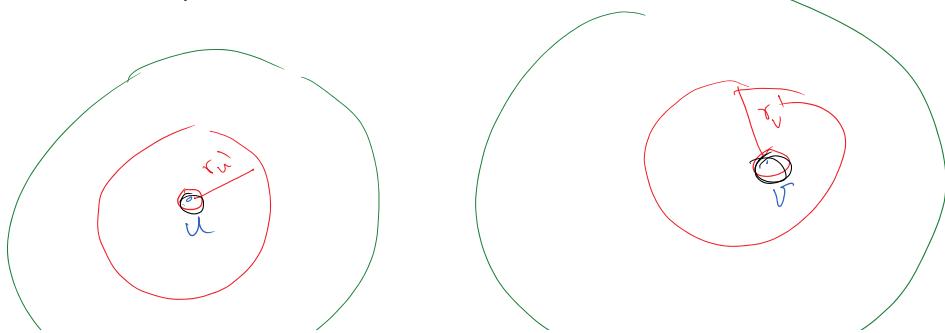
$$f(v) = \left( \{f_{S_\ell}(v)\}_{\ell=0}^{\log n} \right)$$

### WTS

for each  $u \neq v$   
 $\|f(u) - f(v)\|_1 \leq \sqrt{\log n} \cdot d(u, v)$ .

For every  $(u, v)$ , ~~if~~

$r_u^\ell = \text{radius s.t. } |B(u, r_u^\ell)| \approx 2^\ell$  points in it



Let  $t$  be the level at which the 2 balls overlap

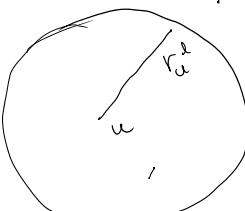
$$\Rightarrow r_u^t + r_v^t \geq d(u, v)$$

WLOG, let  $r_u^t \geq \frac{d(u, v)}{2}$

CLM ① If  $0 \leq l < t$ , we'll show the following

$$\|f_{S_l}(u) - f_{S_l}(v)\|_1 \geq 0.1(r_u^l - r_u^{l-1})$$

with probability  $\geq 0.1$



Call  $S_l$  good if  $|f_{S_l}(u) - f_{S_l}(v)| \geq 0.1(r_u^l - r_u^{l-1})$   
as bad otherwise.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\# \text{good sets } S_l \text{ over } i = 1, 2, \dots, \log(n)] \\ \geq 0.1 \times 100 \cdot \log n \\ = 10 \log n \end{aligned}$$

Chernoff Bounds  $\Rightarrow$  with probability  $\geq 1 - \frac{1}{n^6}$ ,  
the # good sets  $S_l \geq 5 \log n$ .

For each good set, coordinate value  
 $|f_{S_l}(u) - f_{S_l}(v)| \geq 0.1(r_u^l - r_u^{l-1})$

$\Rightarrow$  total coordinate value over all good sets  $S_l$   
 $\geq 0.5 \log n (r_u^l - r_u^{l-1})$

Sum over all  $0 \leq l < t$

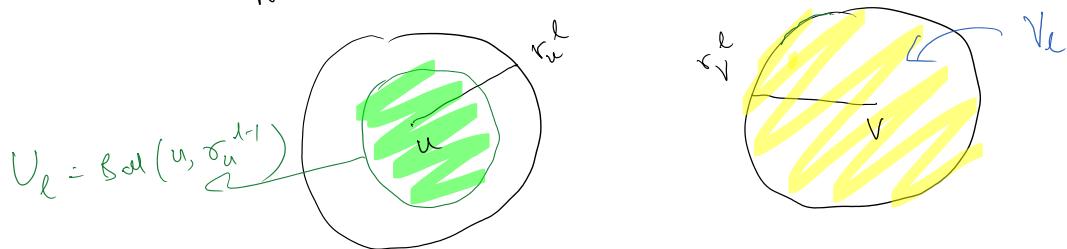
$$\begin{aligned} \text{total dist} &\geq 0.5 \log n (r_u^t - r_u^0) \\ &\geq 0.5 \log n \frac{d(u, v)}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Suffices to show Claim ①

Call a set  $S_\ell$  good if  
 $|f_{S_\ell}(u) - f_{S_\ell}(v)| \geq 0.1 (r_u^\ell - r_v^{\ell-1})$

Need to show that picking  $S_\ell$  randomly by including each vertex with prob  $\frac{1}{2^\ell}$  gives a good set w.p.  $\geq 0.1$

Note that  $\forall l \in [0, t)$



Case ①  $r_u^\ell < r_v^\ell$  : consider  $V_l = \text{Ball}(u, r_u^{\ell-1})$   
&  $V_l = \text{Ball}(v, r_v^\ell)$

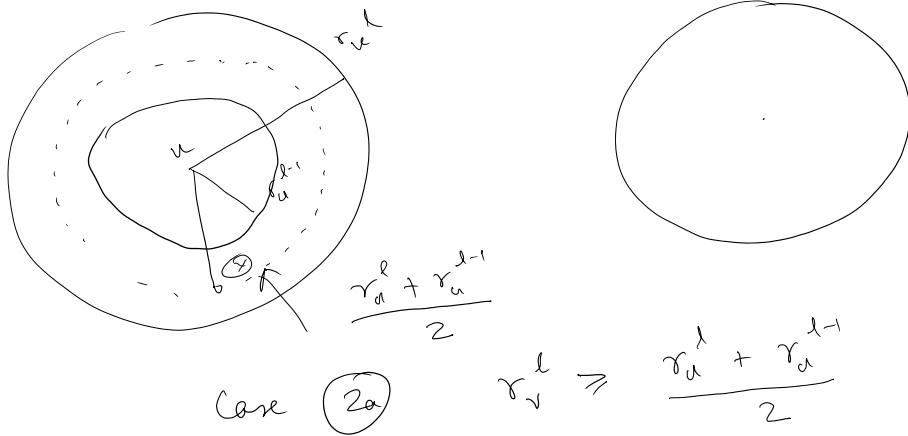
Suppose  $S_\ell$  intersects  $V_l$  but completely misses  $V_l$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow d(u, S_\ell) &\leq r_u^{\ell-1} \quad \& \\ d(v, S_\ell) &> r_v^\ell \geq r_u^\ell \\ \Rightarrow \|f_{S_\ell}(u) - f_{S_\ell}(v)\|_1 &\geq r_u^\ell - r_u^{\ell-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr(S_\ell \text{ intersects } V_l \text{ \& } S_\ell \text{ misses } V_l) &= \Pr(S_\ell \text{ misses } V_l) (1 - \Pr(S_\ell \text{ misses } V_l)) \\ &= \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^\ell}\right)^{2^\ell} \left[1 - \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^\ell}\right)^{2^\ell}\right] \\ &\approx \frac{1}{e} \left[1 - \frac{1}{e}\right] \end{aligned}$$

Case ② :  $r_u^\ell \geq r_v^\ell$

$$= r_v^\ell$$



Set  $U_l = \text{Ball}(u, r_u^{l-1})$  &  
 $V_l = \text{Ball}(v, r_v^l)$

We'll get that if  
 $S_l \cap U_l = \emptyset$  &  $S_l \cap V_l \neq \emptyset$   
 $|d(u, S_l) - d(v, S_l)| \geq \frac{r_u^{l-1} - r_v^l}{2}$

Case (2b)  $r_v^l \leq \frac{r_u^{l-1} + r_v^l}{2}$

In this case, set  $U_l = \text{Ball}(u, r_u^l)$   
 $V_l = \text{Ball}(v, r_v^l)$

Do same proof to show that

if  $S_l \cap U_l = \emptyset$  &  $S_l \cap V_l \neq \emptyset$   
 $|d(u, S_l) - d(v, S_l)| \geq \frac{r_u^l - r_v^l}{2}$

Proof of claim 1 QED

Similar proof technique  
can be used for embedding

Frechet Embedding

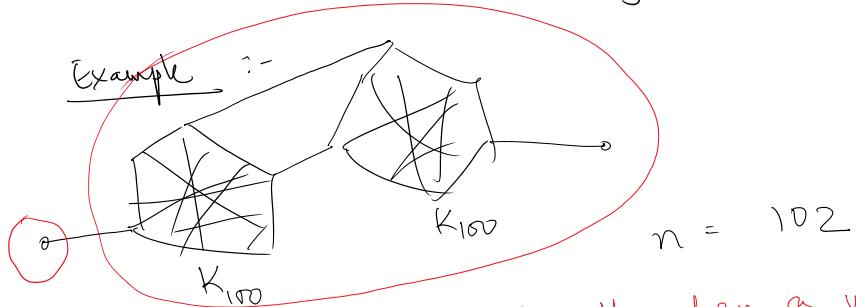
There is  
Every metric can embed into  $\ell_1$  with distortion  
 $\leq O(\log n)$

Bourgain's  
Theorem:

There is  
Every metric can embed wth  $x_i$   $\leq O(\log n)$   
(ie)  $\exists f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  s.t.  
 $d(u, v) \leq \|f(u) - f(v)\| \leq O(\log n) \cdot d(u, v)$

Sparsest Cut :-

Given a graph  $G = (V, E)$ ,  
high level goal: find a "balanced" partitioning which cuts very few edges.



min-cut will return a very unbalanced cut

Sparsest Cut :-

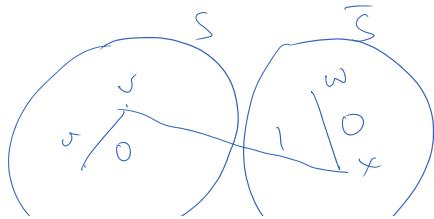
$$\min_S \frac{|E(S, \bar{S})|}{|S||\bar{S}|}$$

Very hard problem in real world !!

↓  
NP-hard !!

Every cut naturally defines a metric !!  
(cut-metric)

$\forall S: S \subseteq V$ ,  
let  $\delta_S(u, v) = 1$  if  $|S \cap \{u, v\}| = 1$   
= 0 otherwise



$$d(u, v) + d(v, w) \geq d(u, w)$$



$$\text{Observe } |E(S, \bar{S})| = \sum_{(u,v) \in E} \delta_S(u, v)$$

$$|S||\bar{S}| = \sum_{\substack{u \in V \\ v \in V}} \delta_S(u, v)$$

Sparsest cut equivalent to

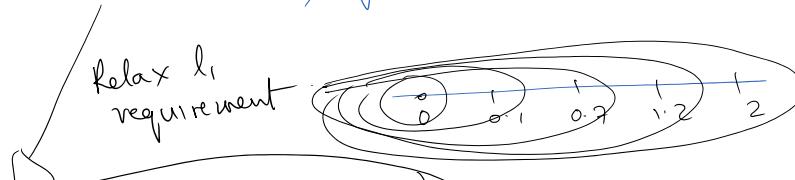
$$\min_{\delta: \delta \text{ is a cut-metric}} \frac{\sum_{(u,v) \in E} \delta(u, v)}{\sum_{u, v \in V} \delta(u, v)}$$

} Same prob!  
So still NP-hard.

[HW]

{ cut metrics are effectively the same as  $\ell_1$ -metrics }

$$= \min_{\delta: \delta \text{ is } \ell_1 \text{-metric}} \frac{\sum_{(u,v) \in E} \delta(u, v)}{\sum_{u, v \in V} \delta(u, v)}$$



$$\min_{\delta: \delta \text{ is a metric}} \frac{\sum_{(u,v) \in E} \delta(u, v)}{\sum_{u, v \in V} \delta(u, v)}$$

$\text{OPT}(\text{metric}) \leq \text{OPT}(\ell_1 \text{-metric}) = \text{Sparsest Cut opt.}$

$$= \min_{\substack{u, v, w \\ \delta(u, v), \delta(v, w) > \delta(u, w)}} \frac{\sum_{(u,v) \in E} \delta(u, v)}{\sum_{u, v \in V} \delta(u, v)}$$

$\delta(u, v) + \delta(v, w) > \delta(u, w)$   
 $\delta(u, v) = \delta(v, u)$

$\delta(u, v) > 0$

L P !!

$\{ f(u,v) \}_{u,v \in V}$   
 Bourgain's theorem  
 embed this solution metric  $\delta \rightarrow l_1$ ,  
 $l_1 \rightarrow$  cut metric  $\rightarrow$  good soln.

Overall Result :-

If the embedding has distortion  $\lambda$ ,  
 then we can get  $\lambda$ -approximation to Sparsest Cut.  
 $\Rightarrow O(\log n)$  - approximation to Sparsest Cut.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \min_{\delta: \text{metric}} \quad & \frac{\sum_{(u,v) \in E} \delta(u,v)}{\sum_{u,v} \delta(u,v)} \\
 P3
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \min_{\delta} \quad & \sum_{(u,v) \in E} \delta(u,v) \\
 \sum_{u,v} \delta(u,v) = 1 \\
 \delta(u,v) + \delta(v,w) > \delta(u,w) \\
 \delta(u,v) \geq 0
 \end{aligned}$$

P4

$\text{OPT}(P4) = \text{OPT}(P3) \leq \text{OPT}(P1)$   
 Solve P4 optimally and get  $\delta^*$   
 Use Bourgain's Theorem  $\delta$  embed  $\delta^* \rightarrow l_1$   
 with distortion  $\log n$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(u,v) : \delta^*(u,v) &\leq \|f(u) - f(v)\|_1 \leq O(\log n) \delta^*(u,v) \\
 \Rightarrow \sum_{(u,v) \in E} \|f(u) - f(v)\|_1 &\leq O(\log n) \sum_{(u,v) \in E} \delta^*(u,v) \\
 &\text{and } \sum_{u,v \in V} \|f(u) - f(v)\|_1 \geq \sum_{u,v \in V} \delta^*(u,v) = 1
 \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow$  Sparsity of my  $l_1$ -solution

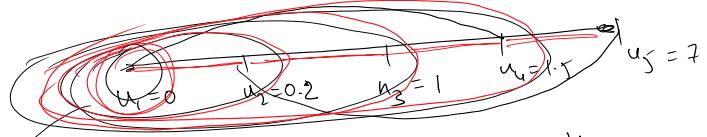
$$\Rightarrow \text{Sparsity of my } l_1\text{-solution}$$

$$= \frac{\sum_{(u,v) \in E} \|f(u) - f(v)\|_1}{\sum_{u,v \in V} \|f(u) - f(v)\|_1} \leq O(\log n) \text{OPT}(l_1)$$

$\Rightarrow$  I've found a soln to P2 with cost  $\leq O(\log n) \text{OPT}(l_1)$

$\Rightarrow$  Can find soln to P1 with cost  $\leq O(\log n) \text{OPT}(l_1)$

Equivalence between  $l_1$  & cut metrics:



$$\sum_{(u,v) \in E} \delta(u,v) = \sum_{(u,v) \in E} \|f(u) - f(v)\|_1$$

Write it as

$$\delta = 0.2 \delta_{S_1} + 0.8 \delta_{S_2} + 0.5 \delta_{S_3} + 5.5 \delta_{S_4}$$

$$\delta(u,v), \quad \delta(u,v) = 0.2 \delta_{S_1}(u,v) + 0.8 \delta_{S_2}(u,v) + 0.5 \delta_{S_3}(u,v) + 5.5 \delta_{S_4}(u,v)$$