

Dutch-Belgian Database Day

– Past and Present of Entity Resolution

Keynote Information

date: Tuesday, 7 December 2021, 13:00-13:45

presenter: Ekaterini Ioannou <http://www.eioannou.nl>

Department of Management, University of Tilburg

- Introduction
 - Time evolution of challenges
 - Generations based on the challenges
- ↳ latest developments & directions

Presentation based on

- G. Papadakis, E. Ioannou, T. Palpanas: *Entity Resolution: Past, Present & Yet-to-Come*, EDBT, 2020. <https://research.tilburguniversity.edu/en/projects/4ger>
- G. Papadakis, E. Ioannou, E. Thanos, T. Palpanas: *The Four Generations of Entity Resolution*, Morgan & Claypool Publishers, 2021. <https://entityresolution4g.com>

Entities

people



companies



products



projects

events

...

...

locations



- Encode a large part of our knowledge
- Valuable asset for numerous current applications and (Web) systems

A. Matching, Linkage, Reconciliation, etc.

- Many names, descriptions, or IDs (URIs) are used for the same real-world objects
- Example:



London 런던 ロンドン
لندن ລັດນ ລັດນ ລັດນ ລັດນ ລັດນ ລັດນ
ლົບນ ລອນໂດນ ເມີລ້ັ່ງຕົ້ນ ລູນບູນບົວນ Llundai
Londain Londe Londen Londen Londen Londinium
London Londona Londonas Londoni Londono Londra
Londres Londrez Londyn Lontoo Loundres Luân Đôn
لندن لندن لوندون لوندان لوندوں لانڈاں لانڈاون
Lunden Lundúnir Lunnaínn Lunnon
Лондон Лондан Лондан Лондон Лондон
Лондон Lnúñun 伦敦 ...

capital of UK, host city of the IV Olympic Games,
host city of the XIV Olympic Games, future host of
the XXX Olympic Games, city of the Westminster
Abbey, city of the London Eye, the city described by
Charles Dickens in his novels, ...

<http://sws.geonames.org/2643743/>
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/London>
<http://dbpedia.org/resource/Category:London>
...

B. Disambiguation, Deduplication, etc.

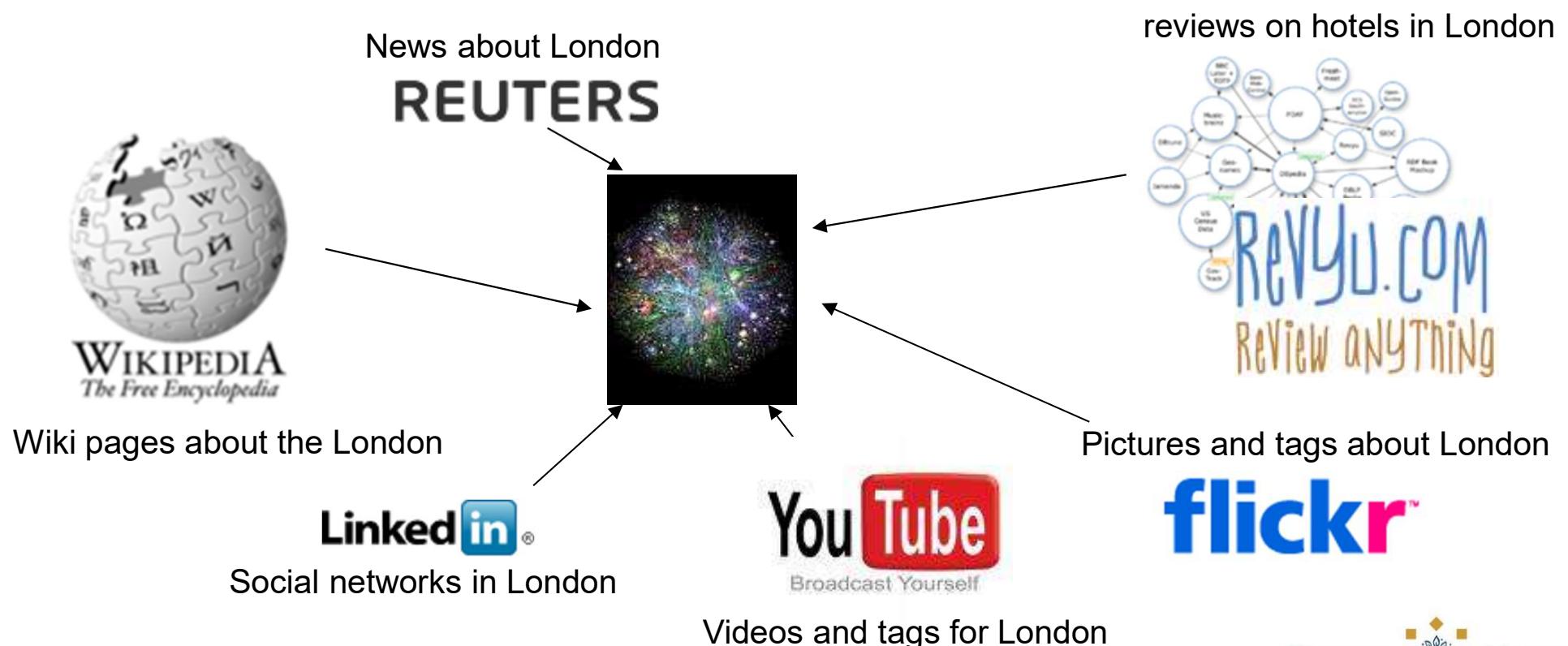
- Plethora of different objects have the same name
- Examples:

- London, KY
- London, Laurel, KY
- London, OH
- London, Madison, OH
- London, AR
- London, Pope, AR
- London, TX
- London, Kimble, TX
- London, MO

- London, Jack
2612 Almes Dr
Montgomery, AL
(334) 272-7005
- London, Jack R
2511 Winchester Rd
Montgomery, AL 36106-3327
(334) 272-7005
- London, Jack
1222 Whitetail Trl
Van Buren, AR 72956-7368
(479) 474-4136
- London, Jack
7400 Vista Del Mar Ave
La Jolla, CA 92037-4954
(858) 456-1850
- ...

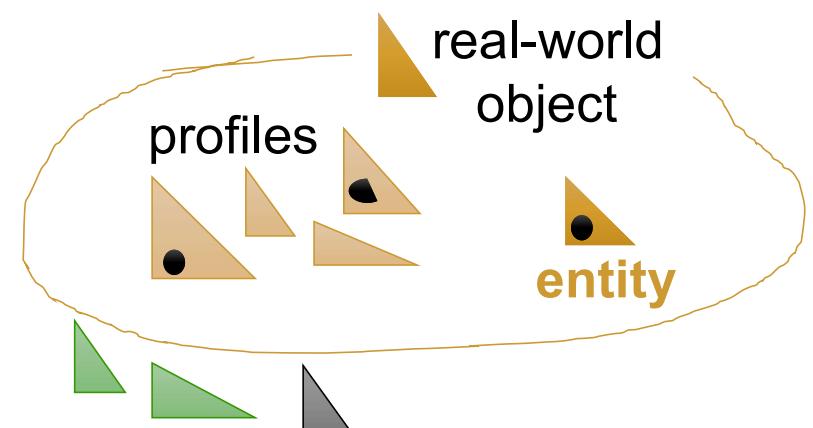
Today's situation

- Content providers offering valuable information describing (part of) real-world objects
- Information is useful for data integration, link discovery, query processing, searching, etc.



Entity Resolution

- Task that identifies and aggregates the different profiles that describe the same real-world objects [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
- Primary usefulness:
 - Improves data quality and integrity
 - Fosters re-use of existing data sources
- Example application domains:
 - Linked Data
 - Building Knowledge Graphs
 - Census data
 - Price comparison portals

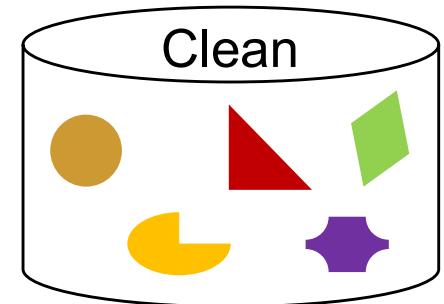


Types of Entity Resolution

- Data collections can be of two types:
clean + dirty [3, 5, 6]

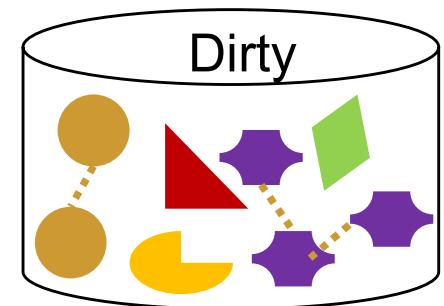
1. Clean:

- Duplicate-free data
- E.g., DBLP, ACM Digital Library, Wikipedia, Freebase



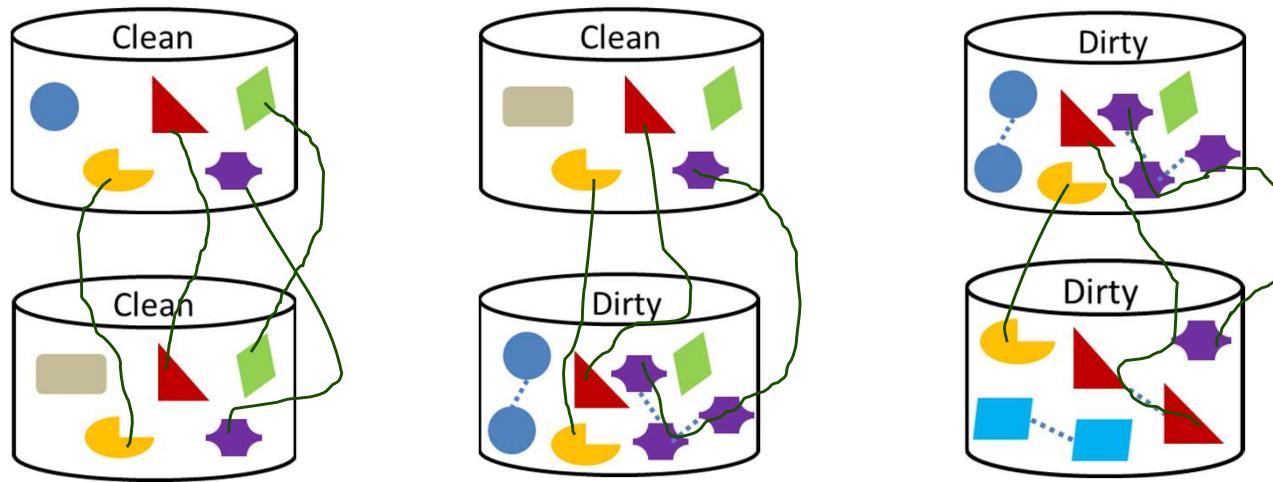
2. Dirty:

- Contain duplicate profiles
- E.g., Google Scholar, CiteseerX



Types of Entity Resolution

- Based on the quality of input, we distinguish entity resolution into 3 sub-tasks:
 1. Clean-Clean ER, a.k.a. *Record Linkage* in databases
 2. Dirty-Clean ER
 3. Dirty-Dirty ER
- } equivalent to *Dirty ER*, a.k.a. *Deduplication* in databases



References

1. X. L. Dong, D. Srivastava. Big Data Integration. Synthesis Lectures on Data Management, Morgan & Claypool Publishers 2015.
2. A. K. Elmagarmid, P. G. Ipeirotis, V. S. Verykios. Duplicate Record Detection: A Survey. TKDE 2007.
3. V. Christophides, V. Efthymiou, K. Stefanidis. Entity Resolution in the Web of Data. Synthesis Lectures on the Semantic Web: Theory and Technology, Morgan & Claypool Publishers 2015.
4. P. Christen. Data Matching – Concepts and Techniques for Record Linkage, Entity Resolution, and Duplicate Detection. Data-Centric Systems and Applications 2012.
5. P. Christen. A Survey of Indexing Techniques for Scalable Record Linkage and Deduplication. TKDE 2012.
6. G. Papadakis, E. Ioannou, T. Palpanas. Entity Resolution: Past, Present and Yet-to-Come. EDBT 2020.

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 - Time evolution of challenges
 - Generations based on the challenges
- ↳ latest developments & directions

Overview of Challenges!

title	A Blocking Framework for ER ...
conference	TKDE 2013
author	George Papadakis
author	Ekaterini Ioannou
author	Themis Palpanas
author	Claudia Niederée
author	Wolfgang Nejdl

Overview of Challenges!

title	A Blocking Framework for ER ...
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heterogeneity: abbreviations, misspellings, acronym, initials, etc.

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heterogeneity, schema variations

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→ alternatives matches increase the belief

title	Entity Resolution: Past, Present and Yet-to-Come
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heterogeneity, schema variations, collective

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→ Propagate information of a detected match

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heterogeneity, schema variations, collective

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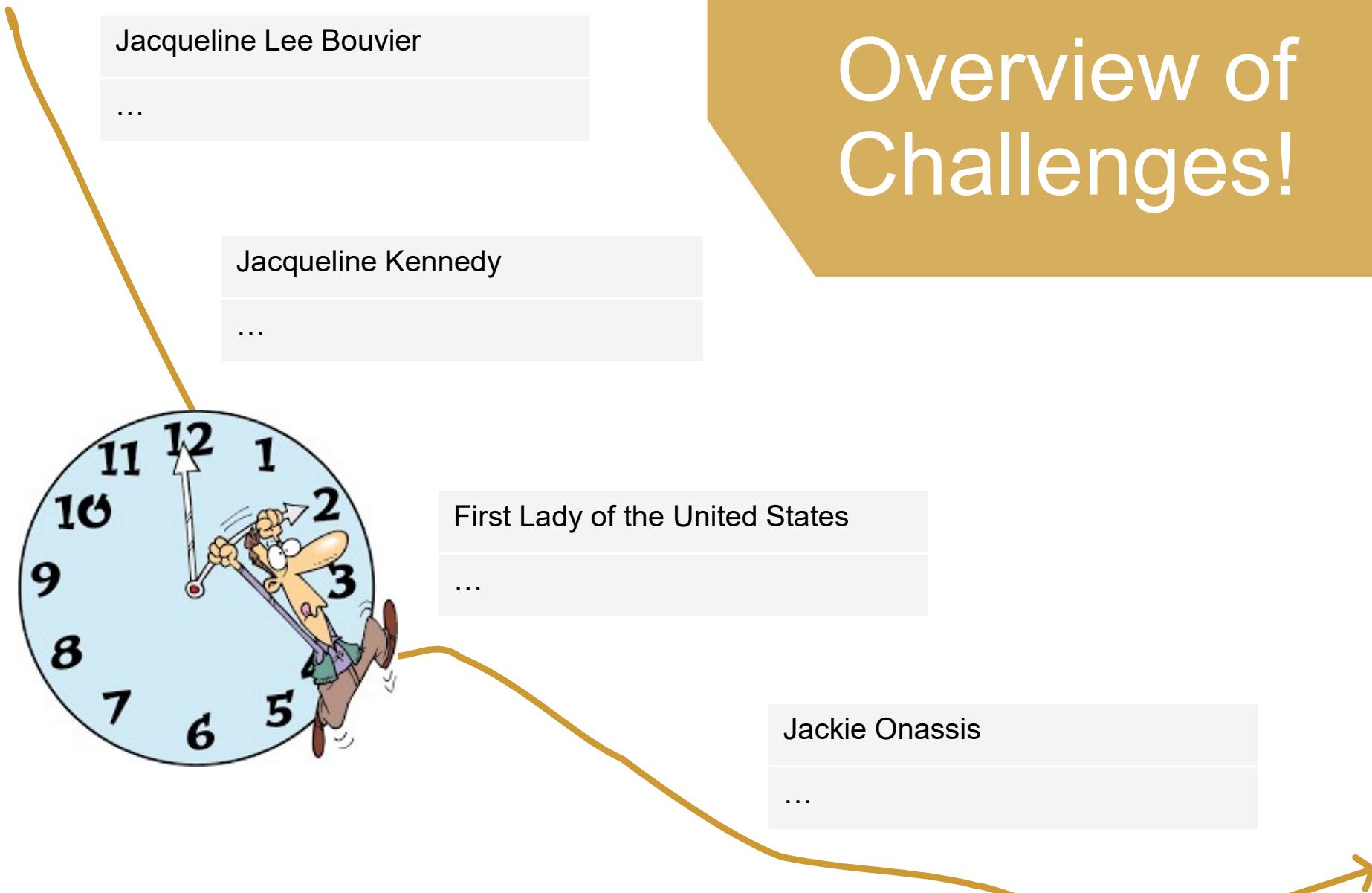
A Blocking Framework for ER ...
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Entity Resolution: Past, Present and Yet-to-Come
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heterogeneity, schema variations, collective, unstructured

Overview of Challenges!



heterogeneity, schema variations, collective, unstructured, **volatility**

Entity Resolution: Past, Present and Yet-to-Come

EDBT 2020

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E. Ioannou

T. Palpanas

A Blocking Framework

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collective, unstructured, volatility, Big collections, ...

Entity Resolution: Past, Present and Yet-to-Come

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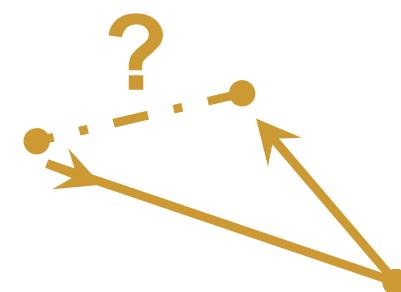
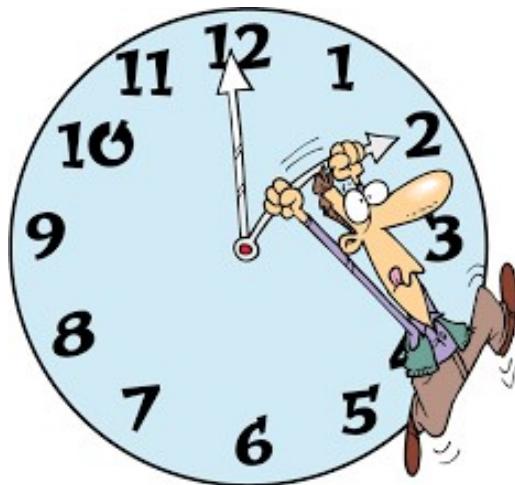
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Overview of Challenges!

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heterogeneity, schema variations, collective, unstructured, volatility, Big collection, . . .

Challenges

- ER challenges arise from the application settings
- Examples:
 - Data characteristics
 - System and resources
 - Time restrictions
 - ...

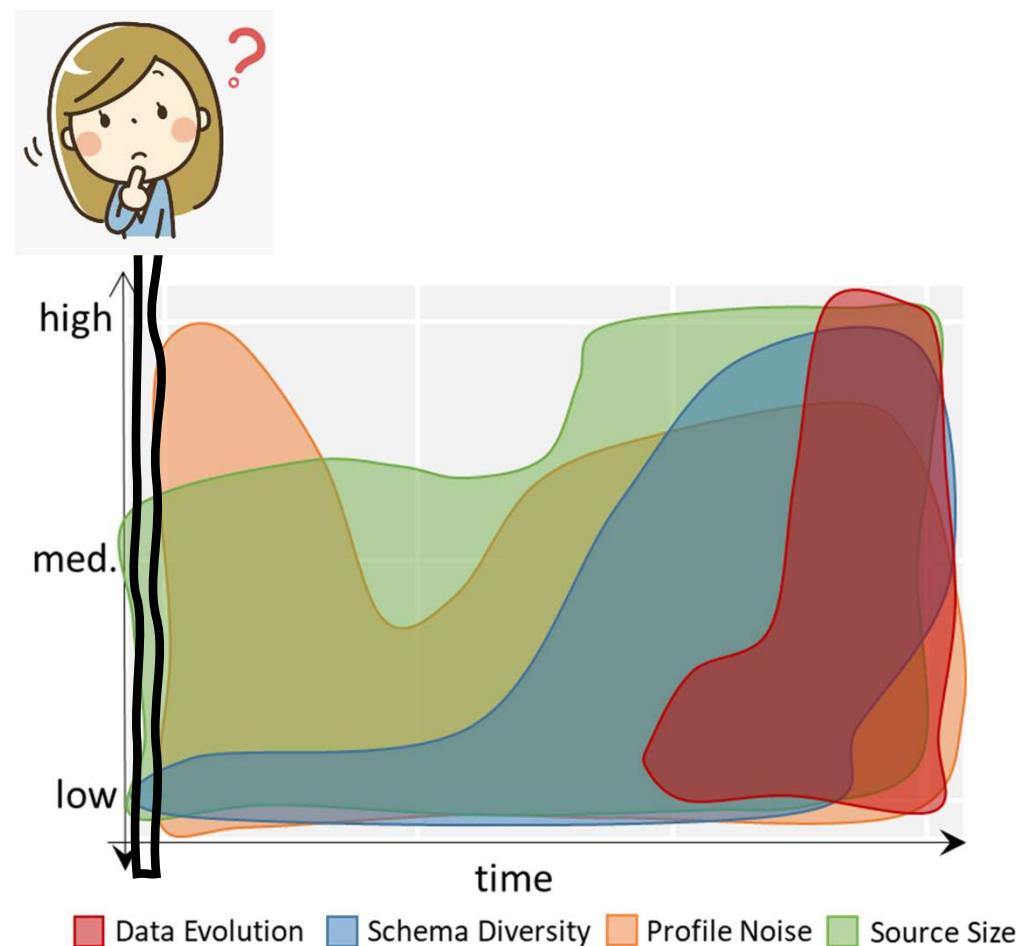
- Evolving nature of the application settings implies:
 - Constant modification of the challenges
 - Plethora of resolution methods

- Introduction
 - Time evolution of challenges
-
- Generations based on the challenges
- ↳ latest developments & directions

additional material at the
end of the presentation

Veracity
+Volume
+Variety
+Velocity

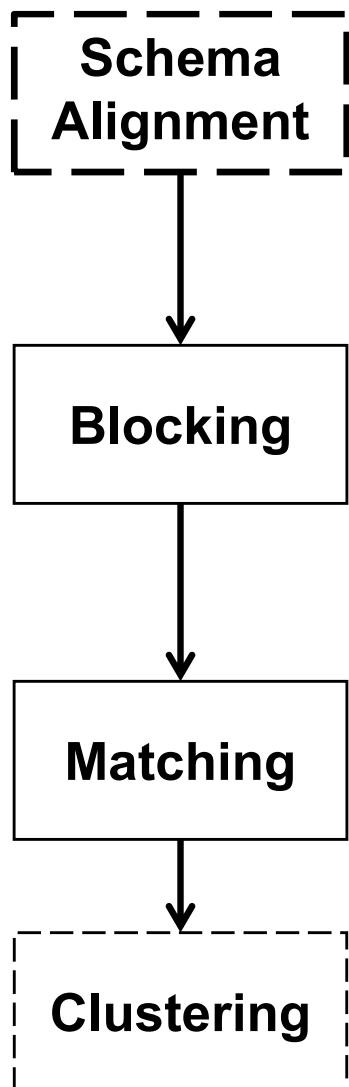
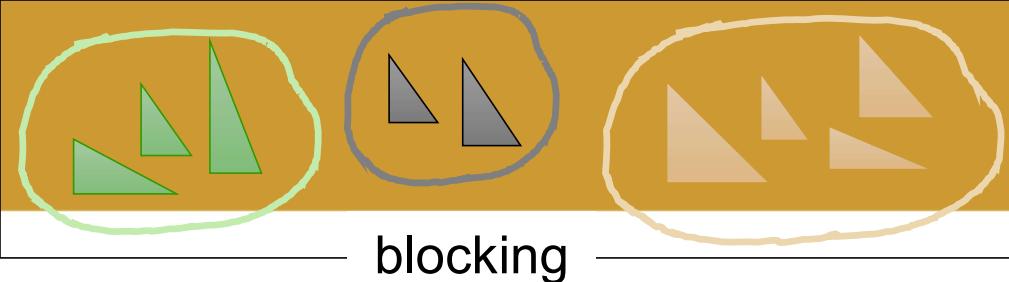
ER Methods



Earliest Resolution Methods (Generation 1)

- Scope → Veracity
 - Structured data with known semantics and quality, e.g., small relational databases
 - Dealing with high levels of profile noise
- Goal:
 - Achieve high accuracy despite inconsistencies, noise, or errors in profiles
- Assumption is a “known schema”

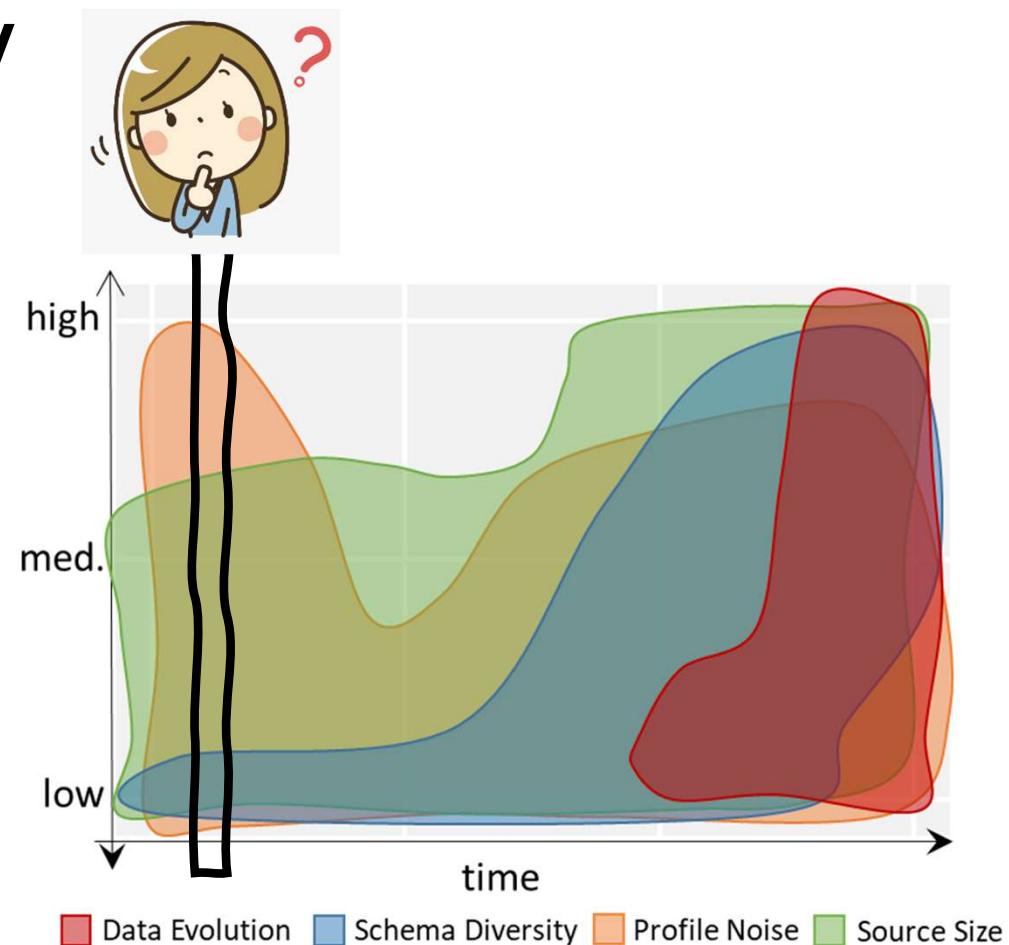
Generation 1



- Creating mappings between equivalent attributes of the two schemata, e.g., $\text{profession} \equiv \text{job}$
- Grouping similar profiles into blocks
 - All profiles in one block might be the same
 - Profiles of different blocks cannot be the same
- Estimating the similarity among the candidate matches
- Partitioning the matched pairs into equivalence clusters, i.e., sets describing the same real-world object

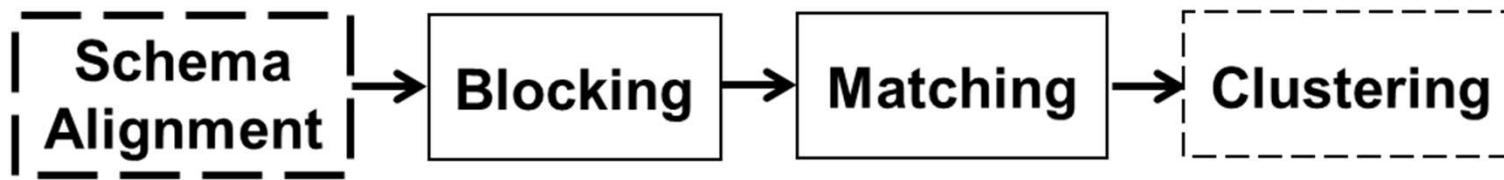
Veracity
+Volume
+Variety
+Velocity

ER Methods



Generation 2

- Scope → Volume & Veracity
 - (tens of) millions of structured profiles
- Goals:
 - High accuracy despite noise
 - High time efficiency despite the size of data
- Assumptions:
 - Known schema → custom, schema-based solutions
- Workflow remains the same

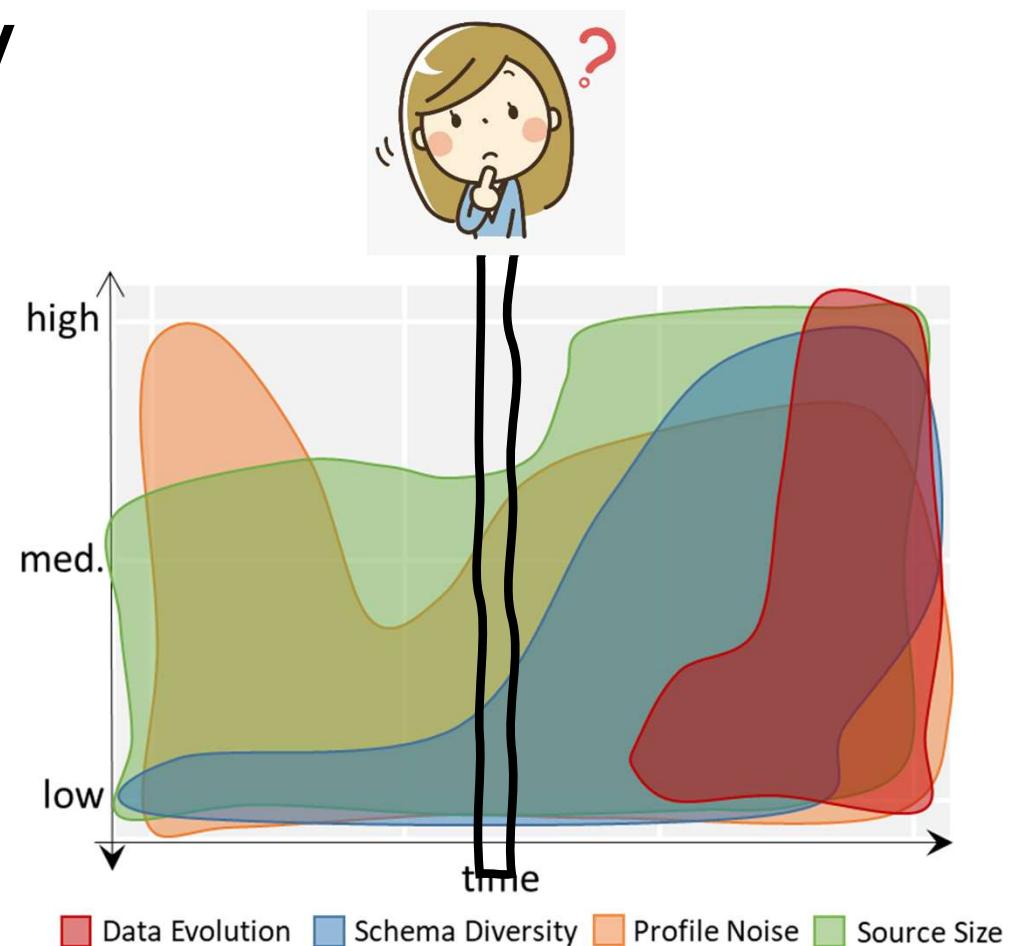


Solution: Parallelization

- Type A :: Multi-core parallelization
 - Single system → shared memory
 - Distribute processing among available CPUs
- Type B :: Massive parallelization
 - Cluster of independent systems
 - Map-Reduce paradigm [1]
 - Data partitioned across the nodes of a cluster
 - **Map Phase:** transforms a data partition into (key, value) pairs
 - **Reduce Phase:** processes pairs with the same key
- Additional material (end of presentation)
 - Parallelization method for each workflow step

Veracity
+Volume
+Variety
+Velocity

ER Methods



Generation 3



Generation 3



Scope → Variety & Volume & Veracity

- User-generated Web Data
- Users are free to add attribute values and/or attribute names
→ unprecedented levels of schema heterogeneity
 - Google Base: 100,000 schemata for 10,000 profile types
 - BTC09: 136,000 attribute names
- Voluminous, (semi-)structured datasets
 - BTC09: 1.15 billion triples, 182 million profiles
- Several datasets produced by automatic information extraction techniques → noise, tag-style values

(BTC: billion triple challenge database)

Example of Web Data

DATASET 1

Entity 1

name=United Nations Children's Fund

acronym=unicef

headquarters=California

address=Los Angeles, 91335

Entity 2

name=Ann Veneman

position=unicef

address=California

ZipCode=90210

Loose Schema Binding

Split values

Attribute Heterogeneity

Noise

DATASET 2

Entity 3

organization=unicef

California

status=active

Los Angeles, 91335

Entity 4

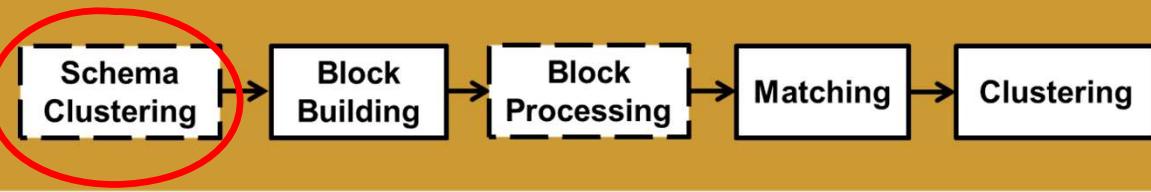
firstName=Ann

lastName=Veneman

residence=California

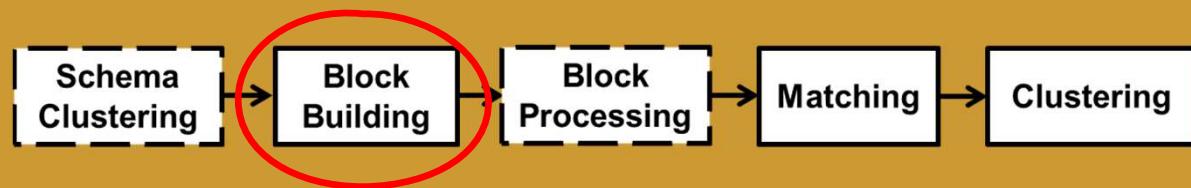
zip_code=90201

Schema Clustering



- Schema Matching → not applicable (too many alternatives)
- Instead, partition attributes according to their **syntactic** similarity, regardless of their **semantic** relation
- Goal: Facilitate next steps
- Both Clean-Clean and Dirty ER
- Attribute clustering using graphs

Block Building



- Considers **all** attribute **values** and completely ignores all attribute names → **schema-agnostic functionality**
- Core approach: **Token Blocking**
 1. Given a profile, extract all tokens that are contained in its attribute values
 2. Create one block for every distinct token with frequency > 2 → each block contains all profiles with the corresponding token

Pros:

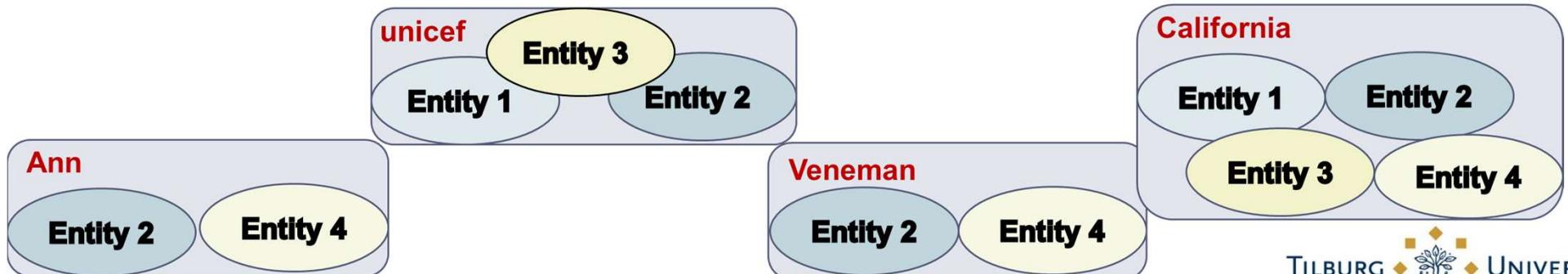
- Parameter-free
- Efficient
- Unsupervised

Example of Token Blocking

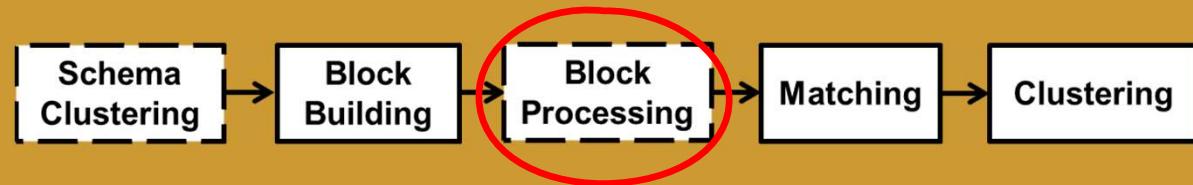
DATASET 1



DATASET 2



Block Processing



- Block Building creates a huge number of blocks
- Results in an additional step in the workflow
 - Goal: restructure the original blocks in order to increase **precision** at no significant cost in **recall**
- Focus on reducing / removing comparisons:
 1. **Redundant comparisons**, i.e., comparing profiles that were already compared in a previous block
 2. **Superfluous comparisons**, i.e., high number of comparisons between irrelevant profiles

Entity Matching



- Collective approaches to tackle Variety
- Most methods crafted for **Clean-Clean ER**
- General outline:
 - Iterative process starts with a few reliable seed matches
 - Propagate initial matches to neighbors
 - Order candidate matches in descending overall similarity
 - Recompute the similarity of the neighbors
 - Update candidate matches order
- Alternative is to perform a specific number of steps, rather than iterating until convergence

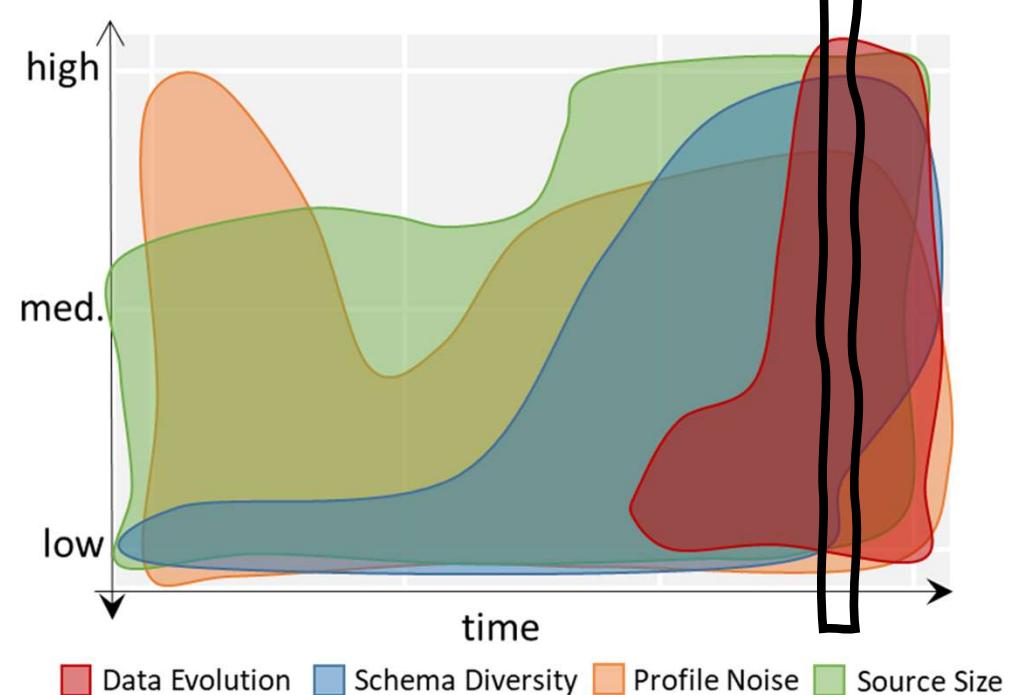
Entity Clustering



- Methods from previous generations are still applicable
- Only difference:
 - Similarity scores extracted in a schema-agnostic fashion, not from specific attributes

Veracity
+Volume
+Variety
+Velocity

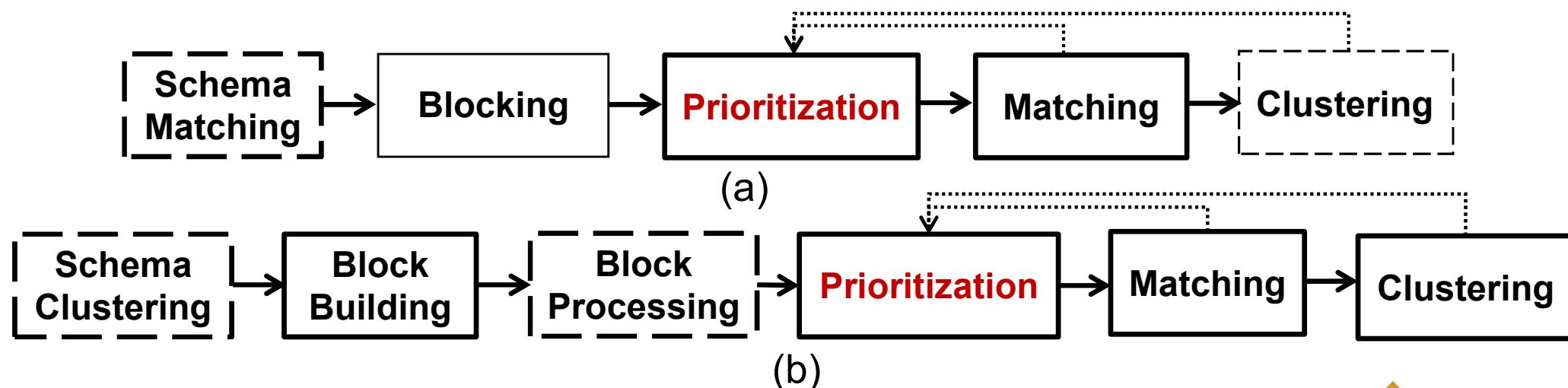
ER Methods



Generation 4

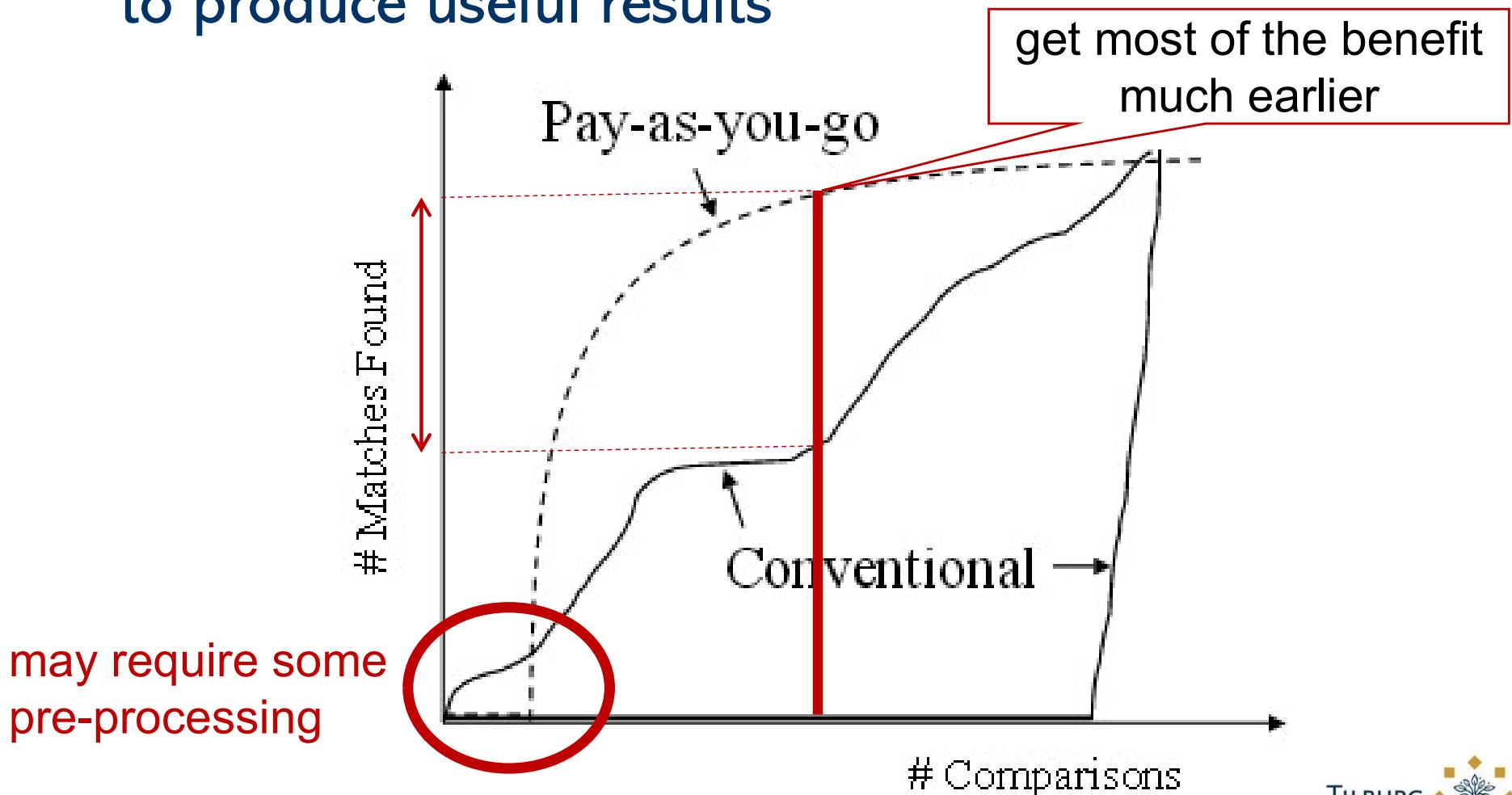
Scope → Velocity & Variety & Volume & Veracity

- Applications with increasing data volume & time constraints
 - Loose ones (e.g., minutes, hours) → Progressive ER
 - Strict ones (i.e., seconds) → Real-time (On-line) ER
- End-to-end workflows for Progressive ER:



Progressive Entity Resolution

- Unprecedented, increasing volume of data
→ applications can compromise with partial solutions to produce useful results

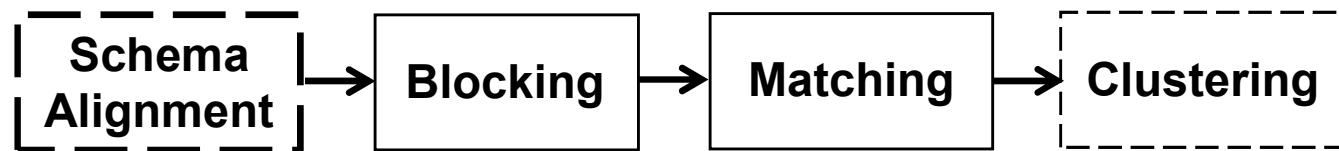


Outline Progressive ER

- Requires:
 - Improved early quality
 - Same eventual quality
- Prioritization:
 - Defines **optimal processing order** for a set of entities
 - Static methods [1, 2]:
 - Guide which records to compare first
(independently of ER matching results)
 - Dynamic methods [3]:
 - If a duplicate is found, then check neighbors as well
 - Assumption: oracle for entity matching

Real-time (also Query-based, Online, Incremental)

Same workflow as original two workflows:



Different goal:

- resolve each query over a large dataset in the shortest possible time (and with the minimum memory footprint)

Same scope (so far):

- structured data

Different input:

- stream of query profiles

Techniques per workflow step

Incremental Blocking

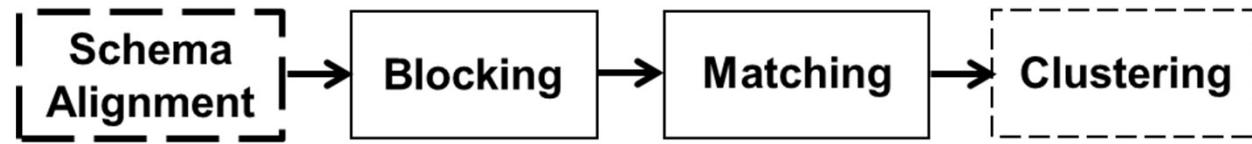
- Maintain a dynamic set of blocks
- I.e., block contents are updated as new profiles arrive
- Examples: DySimll [1], F-DySNI [2, 3], (S)BlockSketch [4]

Incremental Matching

- QDA [5] - SQL-like selection queries over a single dataset
- QuERy [6] - complex join queries over multiple, overlapping, dirty DSs
- Simple or statistical queries over possible worlds (i.e., resolutions) [7, 8]
- Evolving matching rules [9]

Incremental Clustering

- Maintain the entities detected by clustering
- Examples: Incremental Correlation Clustering [10]



Progressive ER References

1. S. E. Whang, D. Marmaros, and H. Garcia-Molina. Pay-as-you-go entity resolution. *TKDE*, 25(5):1111–1124, 2013.
2. T. Papenbrock, A. Heise, and F. Naumann. Progressive duplicate detection. *TKDE*, 27(5):1316–1329, 2015.
3. G. Simonini, G. Papadakis, T. Palpanas, S. Bergamaschi. Schema-Agnostic Progressive Entity Resolution. *IEEE Trans. Knowl. Data Eng.* 31(6): 1208-1221 (2019)
4. Y. Altowim and S. Mehrotra. Parallel progressive approach to entity resolution using mapreduce. In *ICDE*, pages 909–920, 2017.

Incremental ER References

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5. H. Altwaijry, D. V. Kalashnikov, and S. Mehrotra. QDA: A query-driven approach to entity resolution. TKDE, 29(2):402–417, 2017.
6. H. Altwaijry, S. Mehrotra, and D. V. Kalashnikov. Query: A framework for integrating entity resolution with query processing. PVLDB, 9(3):120–131, 2015.
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9. S. E. Whang and H. Garcia-Molina. Entity resolution with evolving rules. PVLDB, 3(1):1326–1337, 2010.
10. A. Gruenheid, X. L. Dong, and D. Srivastava. Incremental record linkage. Proc. VLDB Endow., 7(9):697–708, May 2014. ISSN 2150-8097.

Last 1-2 years



- Crowdsourcing
 - E.g.: how do maximize accuracy while minimize cost?
- Deep Learning
- Explainability for matches and non-matches
- Advance solutions for evolving data
 - E.g., automatic configuration of workflows
- Algorithmic Bias
- Benchmarks
- ...



Questions

- additional material & citations

ER Methods

ER Challenges

Veracity

- Structured data with known semantics and quality
- Dealing with high levels of profile noise

+ Volume

- Very large number of profiles

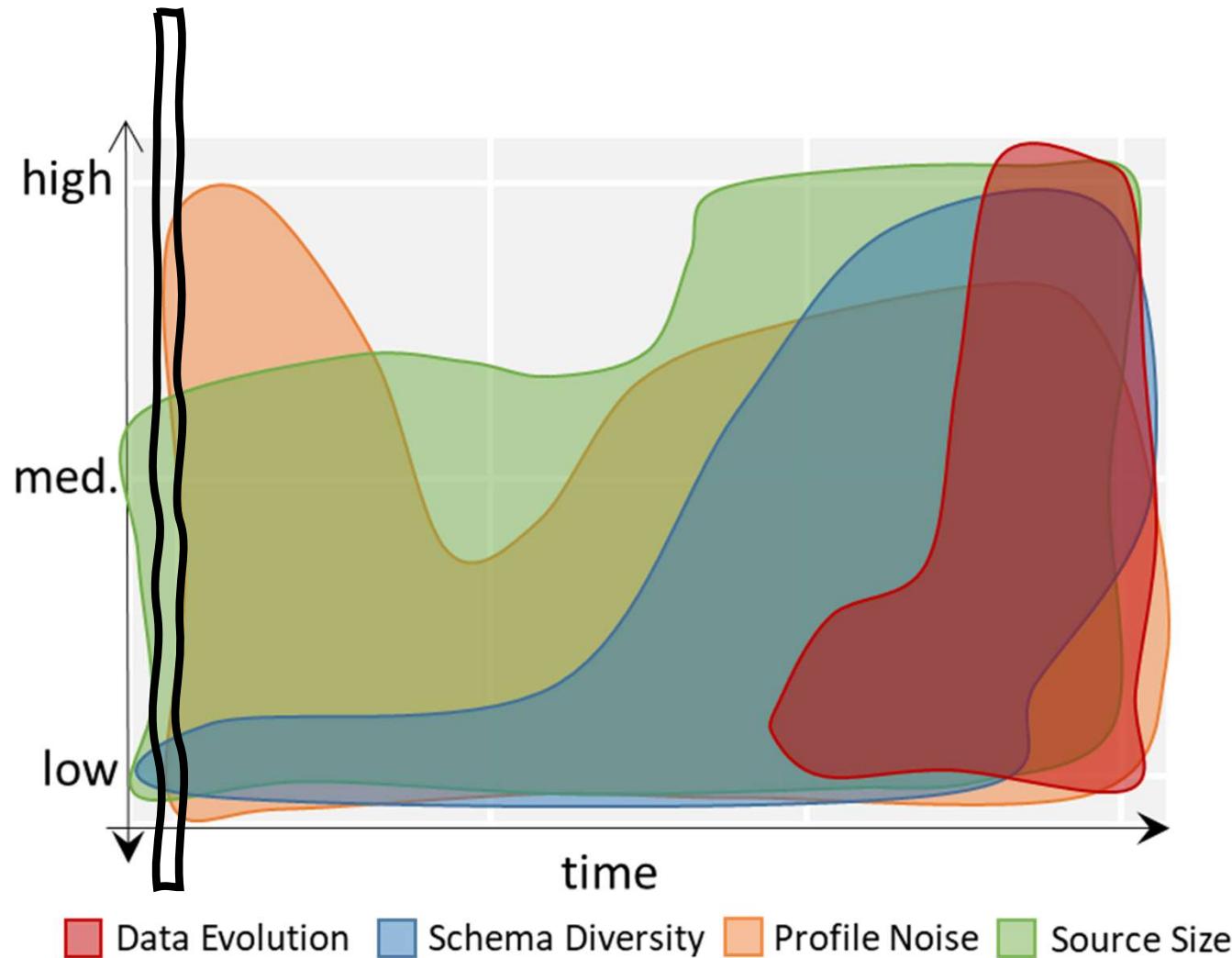
+ Variety

- Large volumes of semi-structured, unstructured or highly heterogeneous structured data

+ Velocity

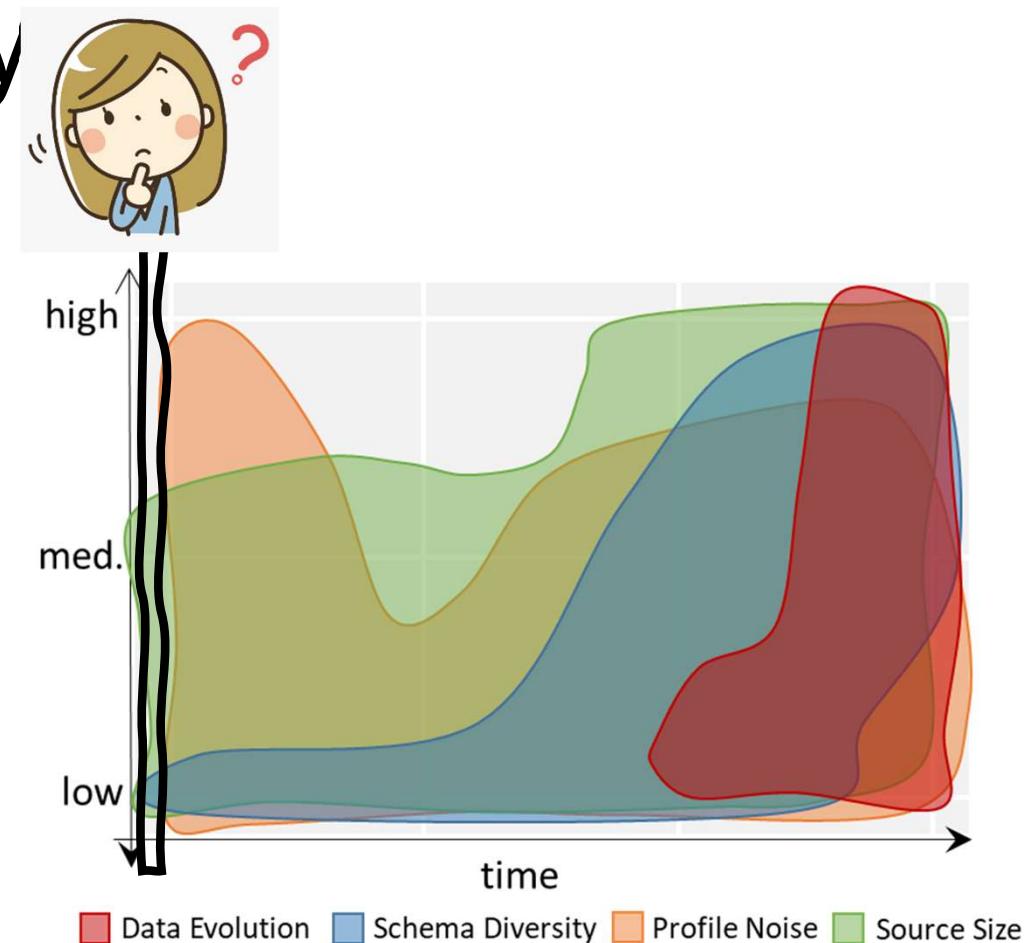
- Increasing volume of available data

ER Challenges in time

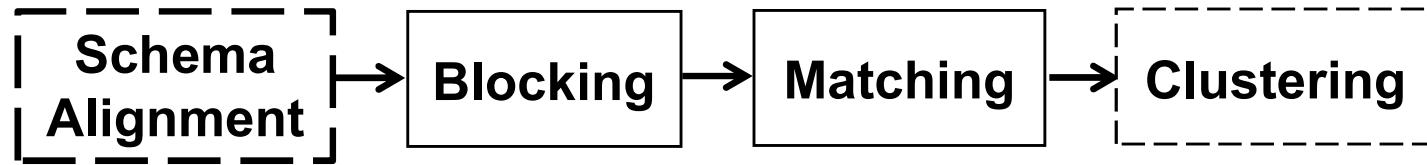


Veracity
+Volume
+Variety
+Velocity

ER Methods



Veracity



- Earliest ER methods
- Scope:
 - Structured data (e.g., small relational databases)
- Goal:
 - Achieve high accuracy despite inconsistencies, noise, or errors in profiles
- Assumptions:
 - Known schema → custom, schema-based solutions

Step 1: Schema Alignment

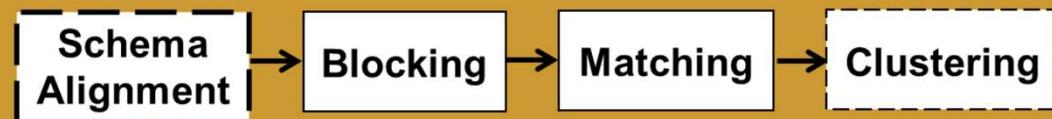
- Scope:
 - Record Linkage
- Goal:
 - Create mappings between equivalent attributes of the two schemata, e.g., *profession* \equiv *job*
- Types of Solutions:
 - Instance-based: use profiles to learn mappings, transformations, rules (e.g., merge of two values)
 - Structure-based: use schema information by converting it to trees or graphs
 - Hybrid

Step 1: Schema Alignment

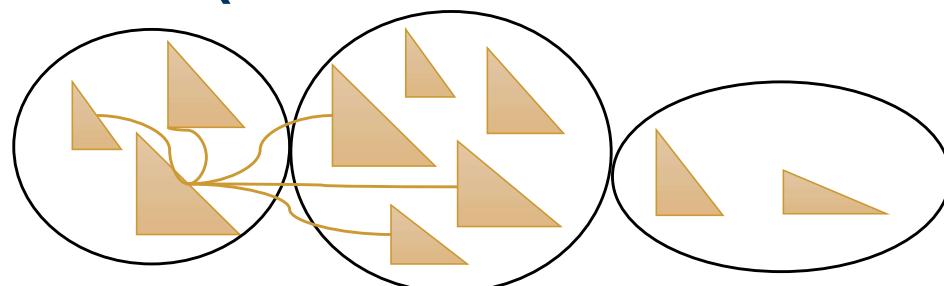
- Taxonomy of Main Schema Matching Methods
(in chronological order)

Method	Category	Type of Evidence
Cupid [1]	Structure-based	Name similarity, Constraints, Contextual similarity
Similarity Flooding [2]	Structure-based	Name similarity, Contextual similarity
COMA [3]	Hybrid	Name similarity, Constraints, Contextual similarity
Distribution-based [4]	Instance-based	Value distribution

Step 2: Blocking



- Scope:
 - Both Deduplication and Record Linkage
- Goal:
 - Entity resolution is an inherently quadratic problem, i.e., $O(n^2)$ with every profile compared to all others
 - Blocking groups **similar** profiles into blocks
 - Comparisons executed only inside each block
 - Complexity is now quadratic to the size of the block (much smaller than dataset size!)

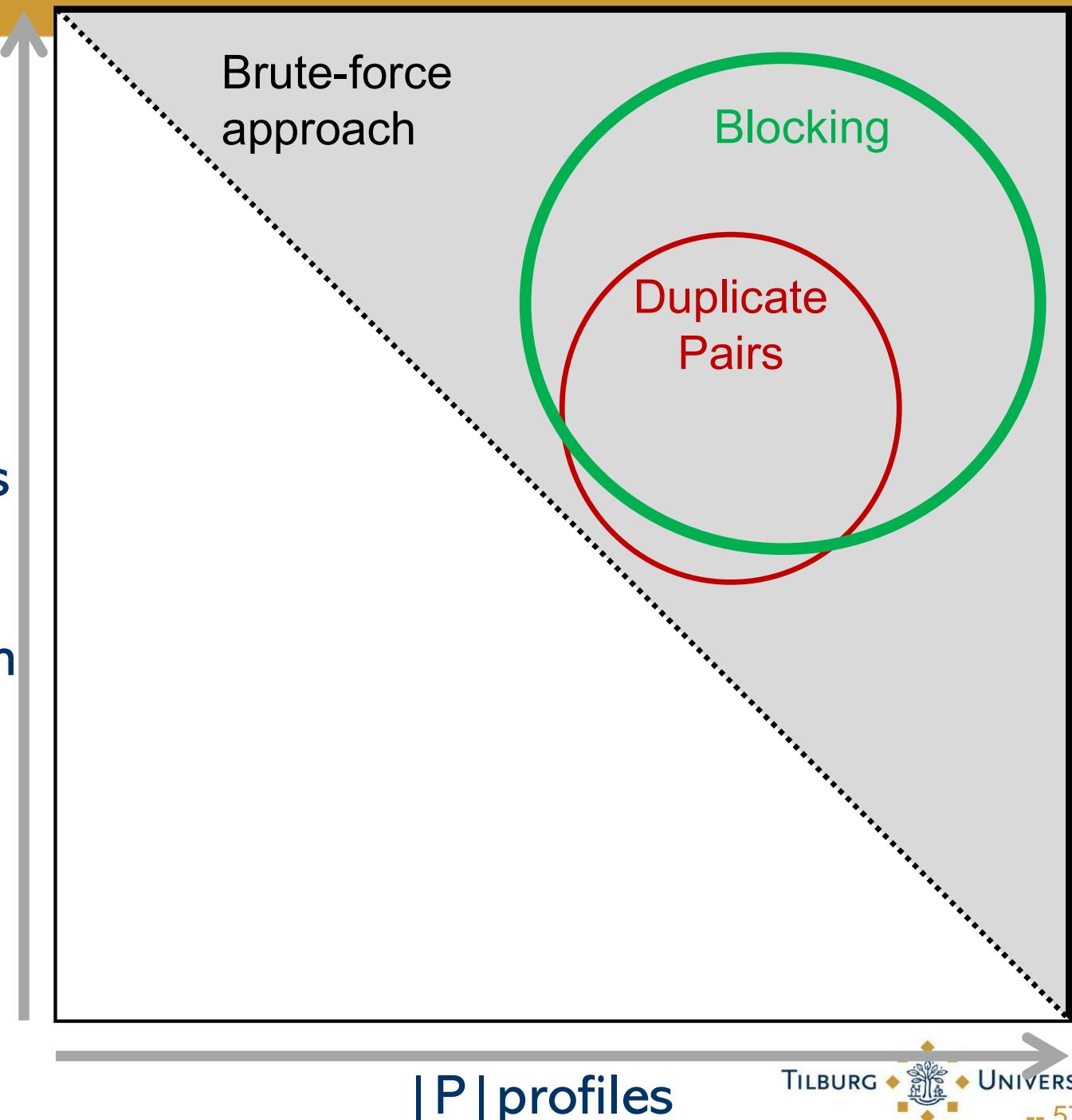


Computational cost

Input:
Profile Collection P

$|P|$ profiles

E.g.: For a dataset with
100,000 profiles:
 $\sim 10^{10}$ comparisons,
If 0.05 msec each →
>100 hours in total



General Principles of Blocking

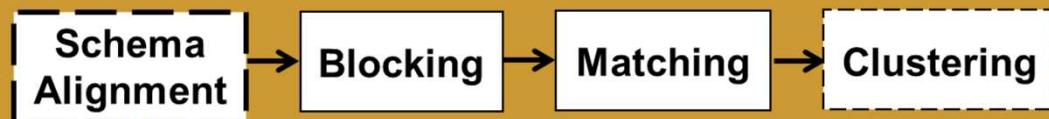
1. Represent each profile by *one or more* signatures called **blocking keys**
 - Focus on **string values**
2. Place into blocks all profiles having the *same or similar* blocking key
3. Two matching profiles can be **detected** as long as they co-occur in at least one block
 - **Trade-off** between recall and precision!

name	Ekaterini Ioannou
zip code	9876
address	...
..	...

Taxonomy of Blocking Methods [1]

Method	Key Type	Matching awareness
Standard Blocking [2]	Hash-based	Static
Suffix Arrays [3] + [4,5]	Hash-based	Static
Q-grams Blocking [6] + [4]	Hash-based	Static
MFIBlocks [7]	Hash-based	Static
Sorted Neighborhood [9] + [4,10]	Sort-based	Static
Duplicate Count Strategy [11]	Sort-based	Dynamic
Sorted Blocks [12]	Hybrid	Static
ApproxDNF [13]	Hash-based	Static
Blocking Scheme Learner [14]	Hash-based	Static
CBlock [15]	Hash-based	Static
FisherDisjunctive [16]	Hash-based	Static

Step 3: Matching



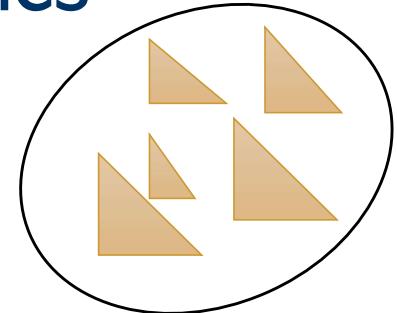
- Estimates the similarity of candidate matches

- Input: a set of blocks

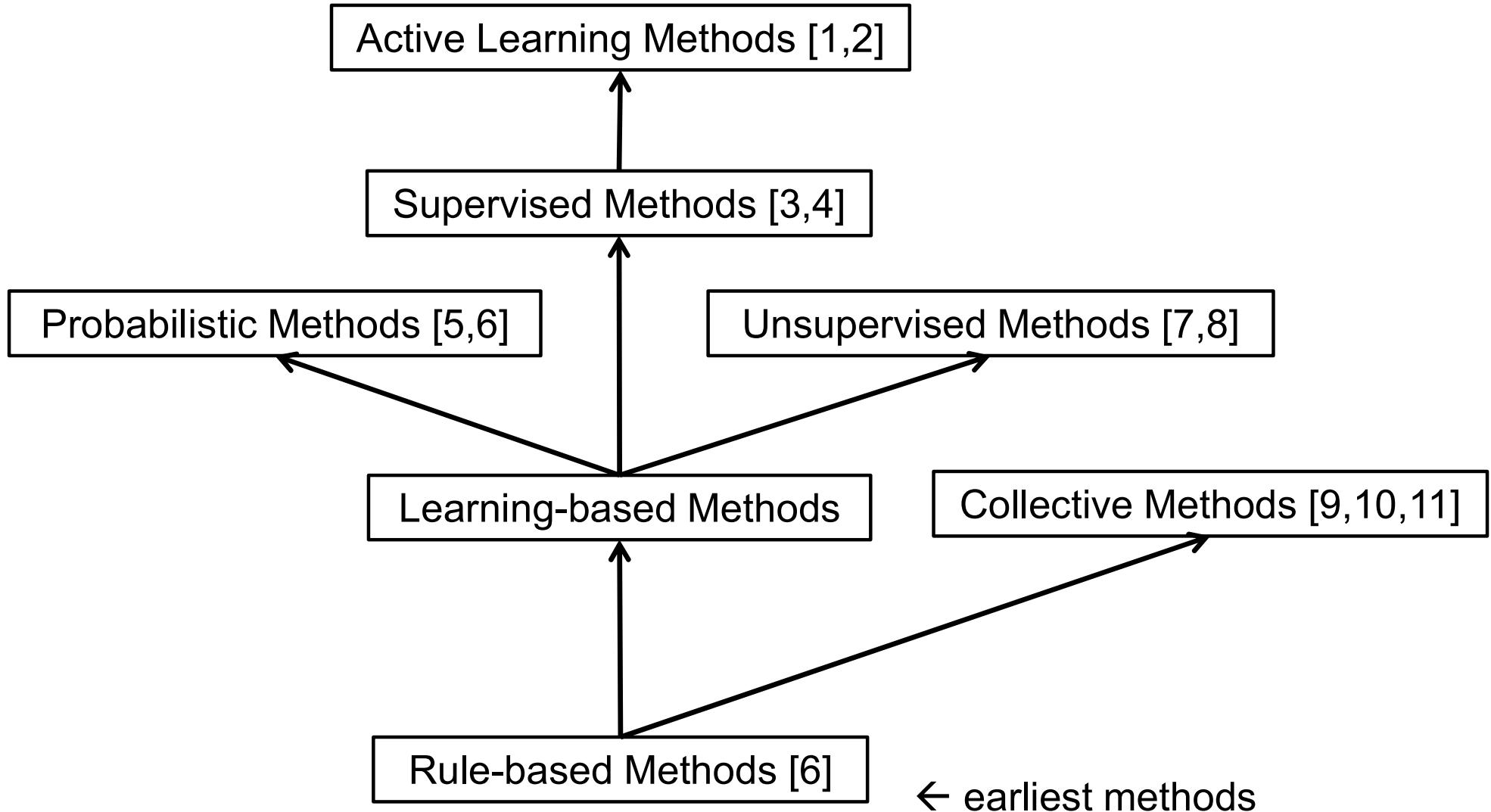
- Every **distinct** comparison in any block is a candidate match

- Output: similarity Graph

- Nodes → profiles
 - Edges → candidate matches
 - Edge weights → matching likelihood (based on similarity score)

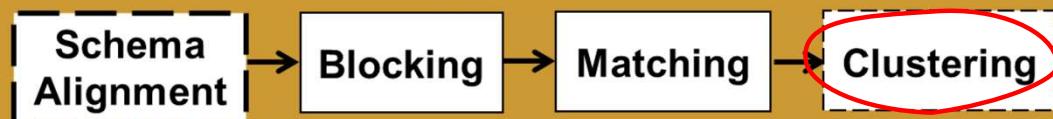


Evolution of Matching

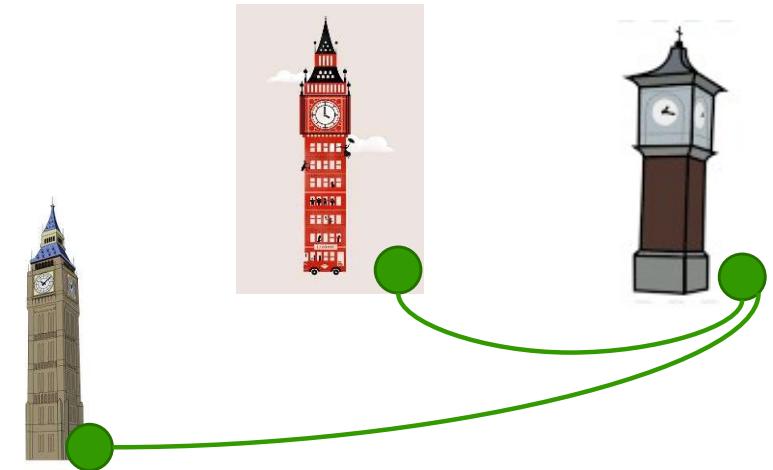


All are heavily based on string similarity measures [6]

Step 4: Clustering



- Partitions the matched pairs into equivalence clusters
i.e., groups of profiles describing the same real-world object
- Input
 - Similarity Graph:
 - Nodes → profiles
 - Edges → candidate matches
 - Edge weights → matching likelihood (based on similarity score)
- Output
 - Equivalence Clusters



Clustering Algorithms for Record Linkage

Relies on 1-1 constraint

- One profile from source dataset matches one profile from the target dataset

1. Unique Mapping Clustering [1, 2]

- Sorts all edges in **decreasing weight**
- Starting from the top, each edge corresponds to a pair of duplicates, if:
 - None of the adjacent profiles have already been matched to other profiles, or
 - Predefined threshold < edge weight

Clustering Algorithms for Record Linkage

Relies on 1-1 constraint

- One profile from source dataset matches one profile from the target dataset
1. Unique Mapping Clustering
 2. Row-Column Clustering [3]
 - Based on an efficient approximation of the Hungarian Algorithm

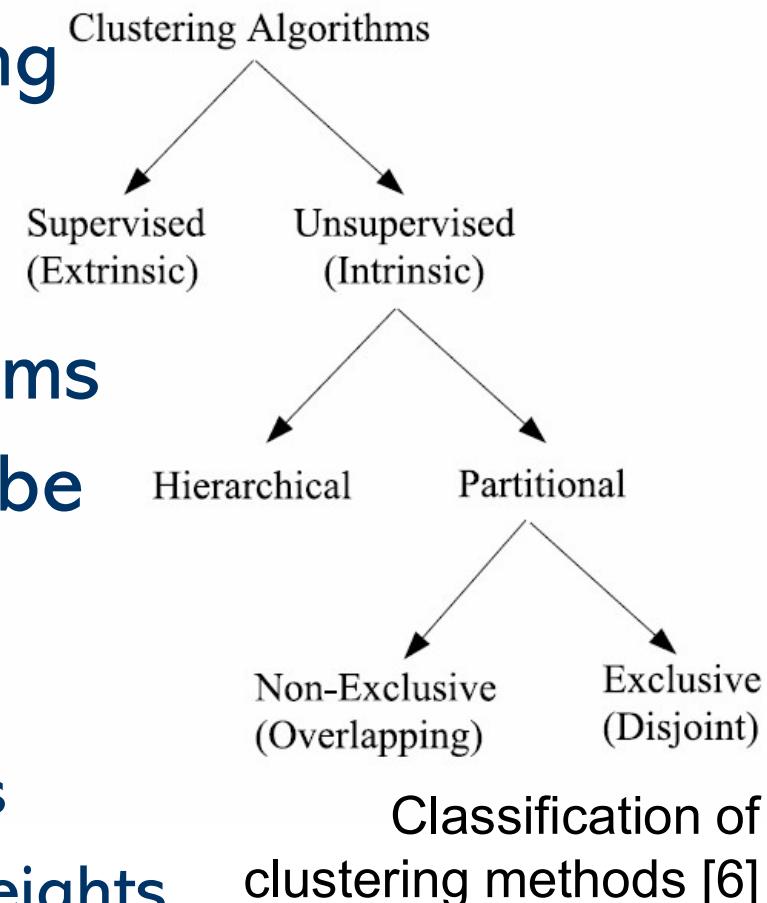
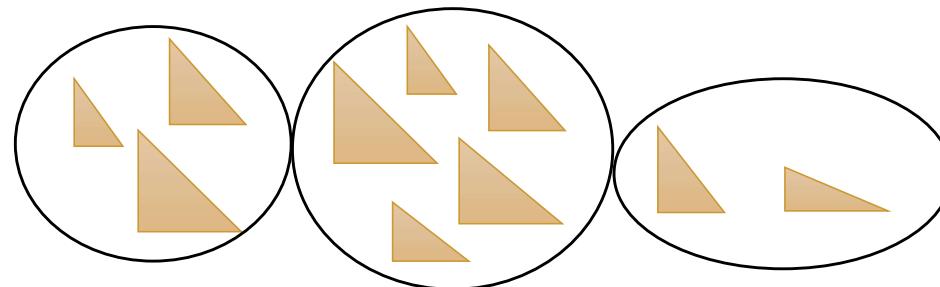
Clustering Algorithms for Record Linkage

Relies on 1-1 constraint

- One profile from source dataset matches one profile from the target dataset
1. Unique Mapping Clustering
 2. Row-Column Clustering
 3. Best Assignment Clustering [4]
 - Efficient, heuristic solution to the **assignment problem** in unbalanced bipartite graphs

Clustering Algorithms for Deduplication

- A wealth of literature on clustering algorithms
- Requirements:
 - Partitional and disjoint algorithms
 - Sometimes overlapping may be desirable
 - Goal: Sets of clusters that
 - maximize the intra-cluster weights
 - minimize the inter-cluster edge weights



(slide from O. Hassanzadeh)

Dirty ER Clustering Algorithms Characteristics [3]

- Most important feature “**unconstrained algorithms**”, i.e.,
 - Algorithms need to be able to *predict* the correct number of clusters (do not require the number)
- Need to scale well
 - Time complexity $< O(n^2)$
- Need to be robust with respect to characteristics of the data
 - E.g., distribution of the duplicates
- Need to be capable of finding ‘singleton’ clusters
 - Different from many clustering algorithms
 - E.g., algorithms proposed for image segmentation

Summary of Experimental Results [3]

Scalability (Current Implementations)	Robustness Against				
	Ability to find the correct number of clusters	Choice of threshold	Amount of Errors	Distribution of errors	
Partitioning	High	Low	Low	Low	High
CENTER	High	High	Low	Low	High
MERGE CENTER	High	High	Low	Low	High
Star	Medium	High	Low	Low	High
SR	Low	Medium	High	High	Low
BSR	Low	Low	High	High	Low
CR	Low	High	Medium	High	High
OCR	Low	High	Medium	High	Low
Correlation Clustering	Low	High	Low	Low	High
Markov Clustering	High	High	Medium	Medium	High
Cut Clustering	Low	Low	Low	Low	High
Articulation Point	High	Medium	Low	Low	High

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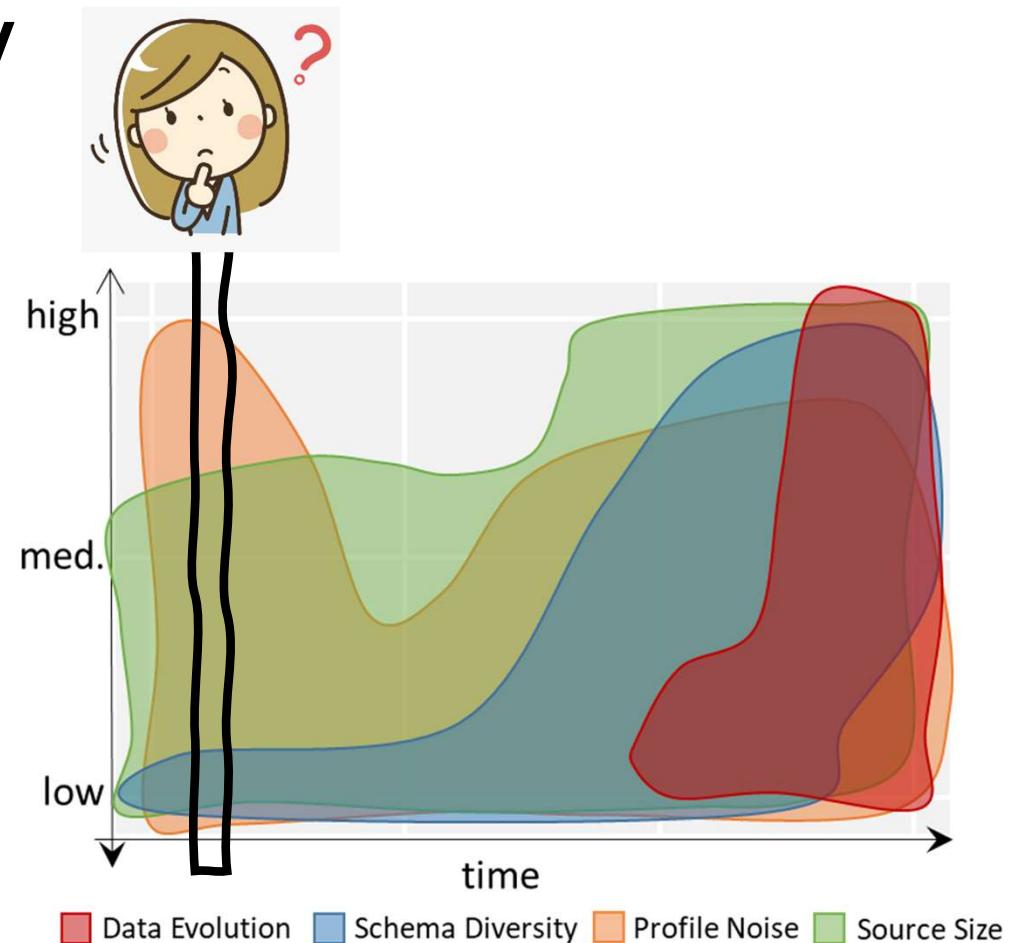
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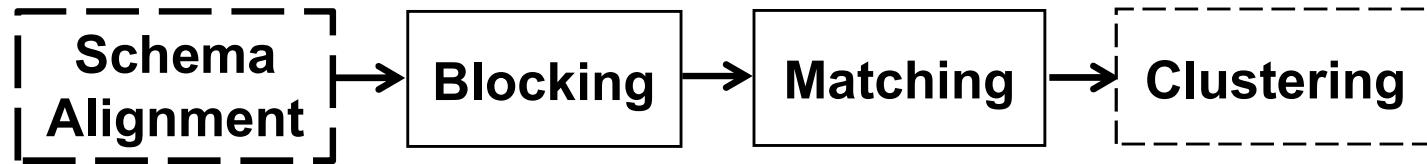
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Veracity
+Volume
+Variety
+Velocity

ER Methods



Volume & Veracity



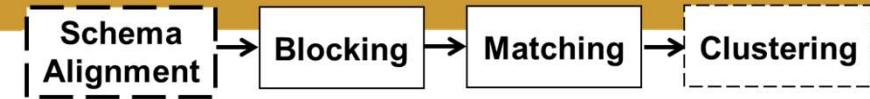
- Workflow remains the same
- Scope:
 - (tens of) millions of structured profiles
- Goals:
 - High accuracy despite noise
 - High time efficiency despite the size of data
- Assumptions:
 - Known schema → custom, schema-based solutions

Solution: Parallelization

Two types:

- Multi-core parallelization
 - Single system → shared memory
 - Distribute processing among available CPUs
- Massive parallelization
 - Cluster of independent systems
 - Map-Reduce paradigm [1]
 - Data partitioned across the nodes of a cluster
 - **Map Phase**: transforms a data partition into (key, value) pairs
 - **Reduce Phase**: processes pairs with the same key

Mechanisms per Workflow step



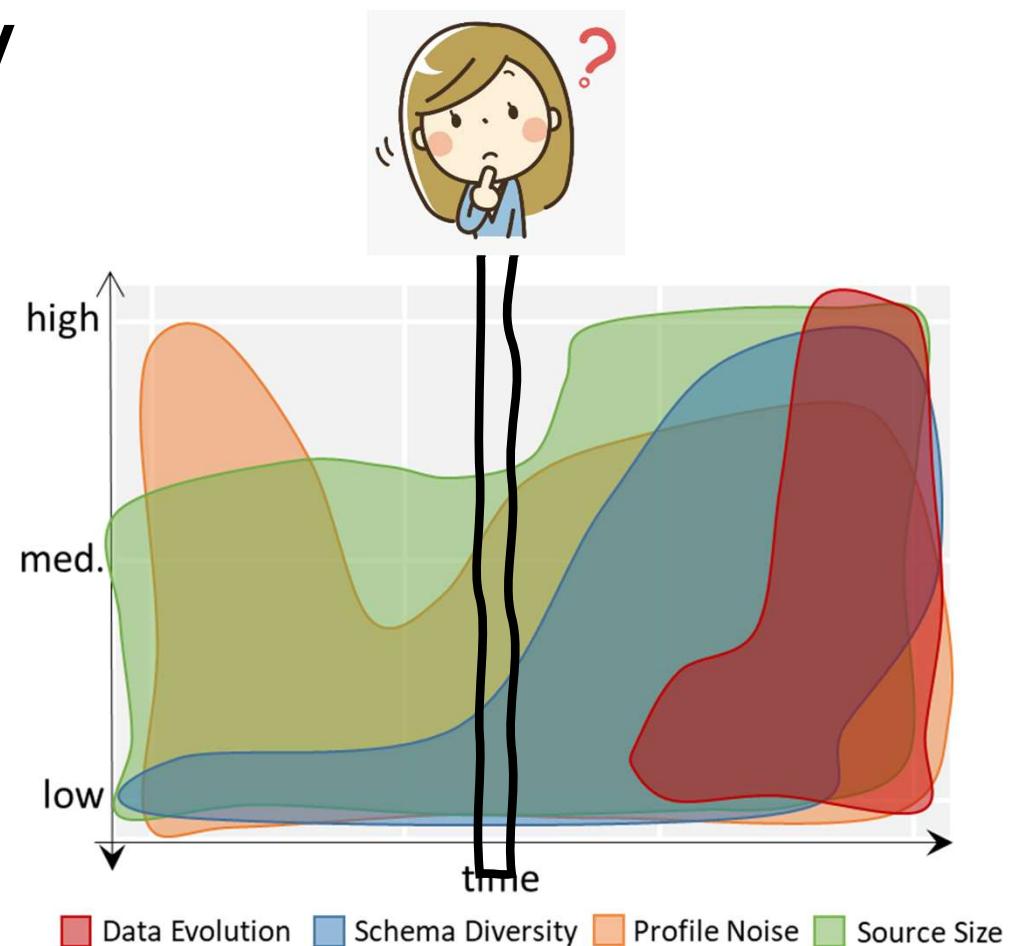
- Blocking based on map reduce
 - Dedoop [2]
 - MapReduce-based Sorted Neighborhood [3]
- Matching
 - Multi-core approaches [7, 8]
 - MapReduce-based: Emphasis on **load balancing**
 - BlockSplit & PairRange [4, 5]
 - Dis-Dedup [6]
 - Message-passing framework [9]
- Clustering
 - Fast Multi-source ER (FAMER) framework [10, 11]

References

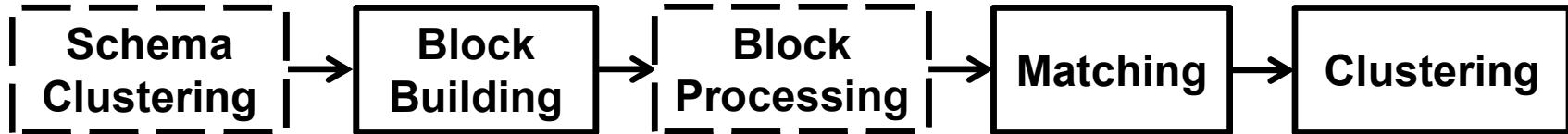
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Veracity
+Volume
+Variety
+Velocity

ER Methods



Variety & Volume & Veracity



Scope (e.g., user-generated Web Data):

- Voluminous, (semi-)structured datasets
 - BTC09: **1.15 billion triples, 182 million profiles**
- Users are free to add attribute values and/or attribute names
→ unprecedented levels of schema heterogeneity
 - Google Base: **100,000 schemata for 10,000 profile types**
 - BTC09: **136,000 attribute names**
- Several datasets produced by automatic information extraction techniques → noise, tag-style values

Example of Web Data

DATASET 1

Entity 1

name=United Nations Children's Fund

acronym=unicef

headquarters=California

address=Los Angeles, 91335

Entity 2

name=Ann Veneman

position=unicef

address=California

ZipCode=90210

Loose Schema Binding

Split values

Attribute Heterogeneity

Noise

DATASET 2

Entity 3

organization=unicef

California

status=active

Los Angeles, 91335

Entity 4

firstName=Ann

lastName=Veneman

residence=California

zip_code=90201

Schema Clustering



- Schema Matching → not applicable (too many alternatives)
- Instead, partition attributes according to their **syntactic** similarity, regardless of their **semantic** relation
- Goal: Facilitate next steps
- Scope: Both Clean-Clean and Dirty ER
- Attribute Clustering [1, 2, 3]
 - Create a graph, with nodes representing attributes
 - For each node n_i
 - Find the most similar node n_j
 - If $\text{sim}(n_i, n_j) > 0$, add an edge $\langle n_i, n_j \rangle$
 - Extract connected components
 - Put all singleton nodes in a “glue” cluster

Block Building



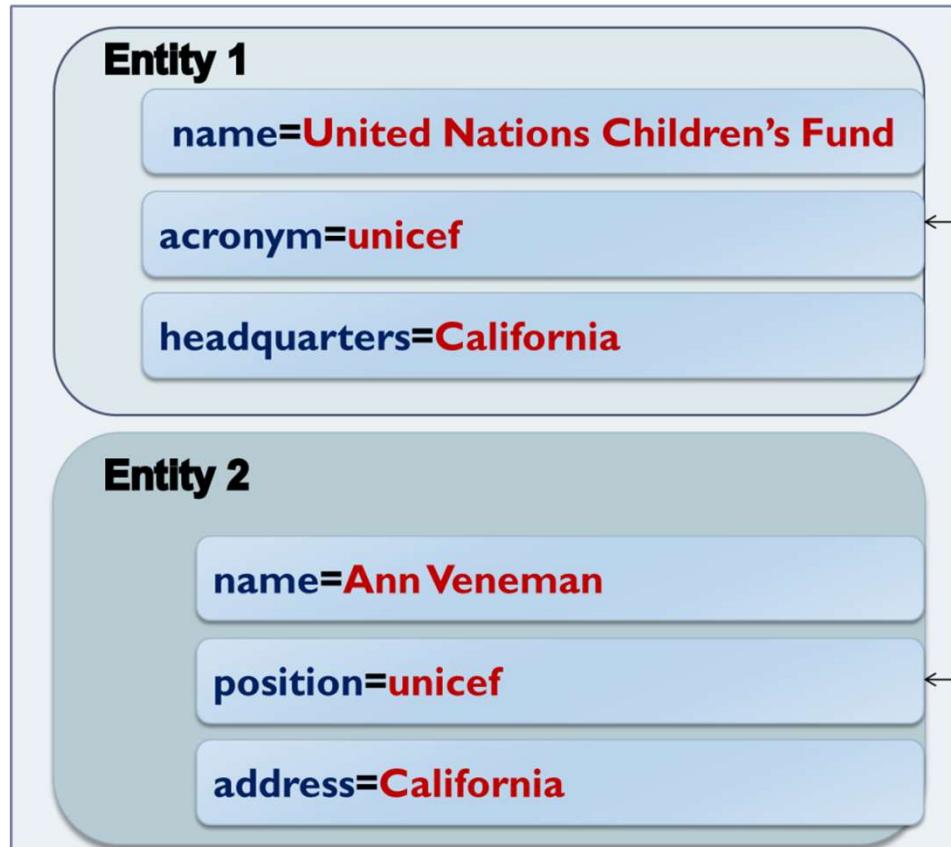
- Considers **all** attribute **values** and completely ignores all attribute names → **schema-agnostic functionality**
- Core approach: **Token Blocking [1]**
 1. Given a profile, extract all tokens that are contained in its attribute values
 2. Create one block for every distinct token with frequency > 2 → each block contains all profiles with the corresponding token

Pros:

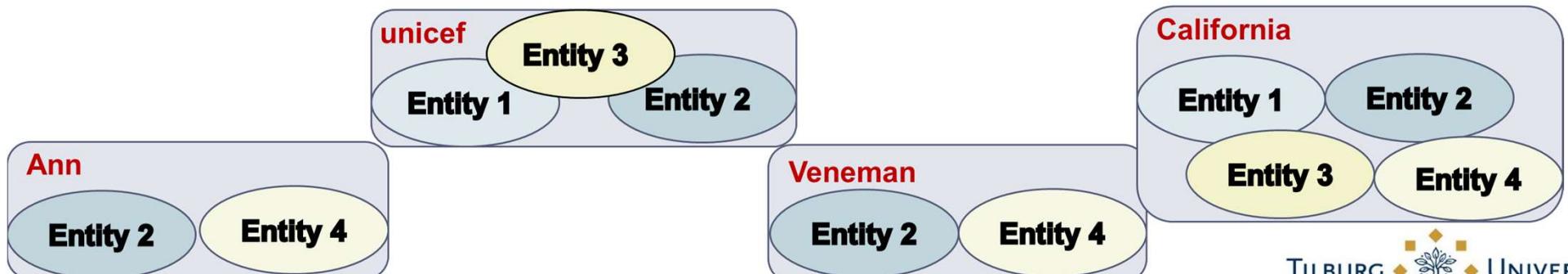
- Parameter-free
- Efficient
- Unsupervised

Example of Token Blocking

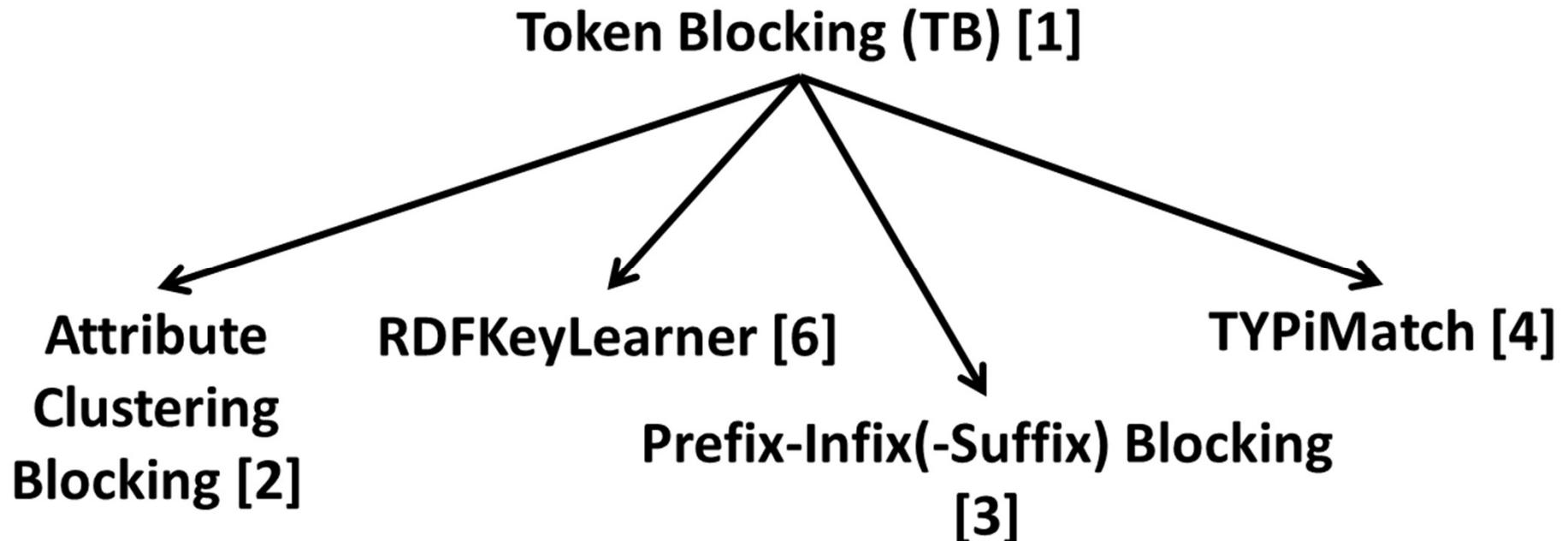
DATASET 1



DATASET 2



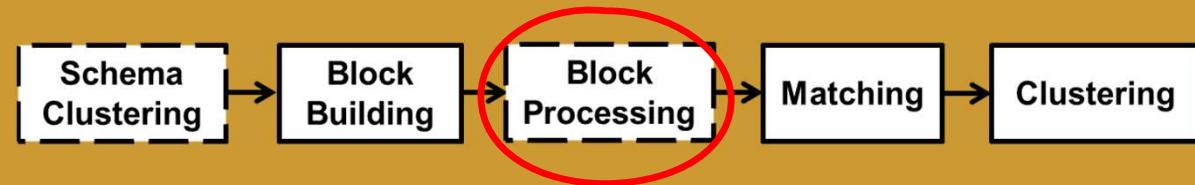
Genealogy of Block Building Techniques [8]



**Semantic Graph
Blocking [5]**

MapReduce-based parallelizations in [7]

Block Processing

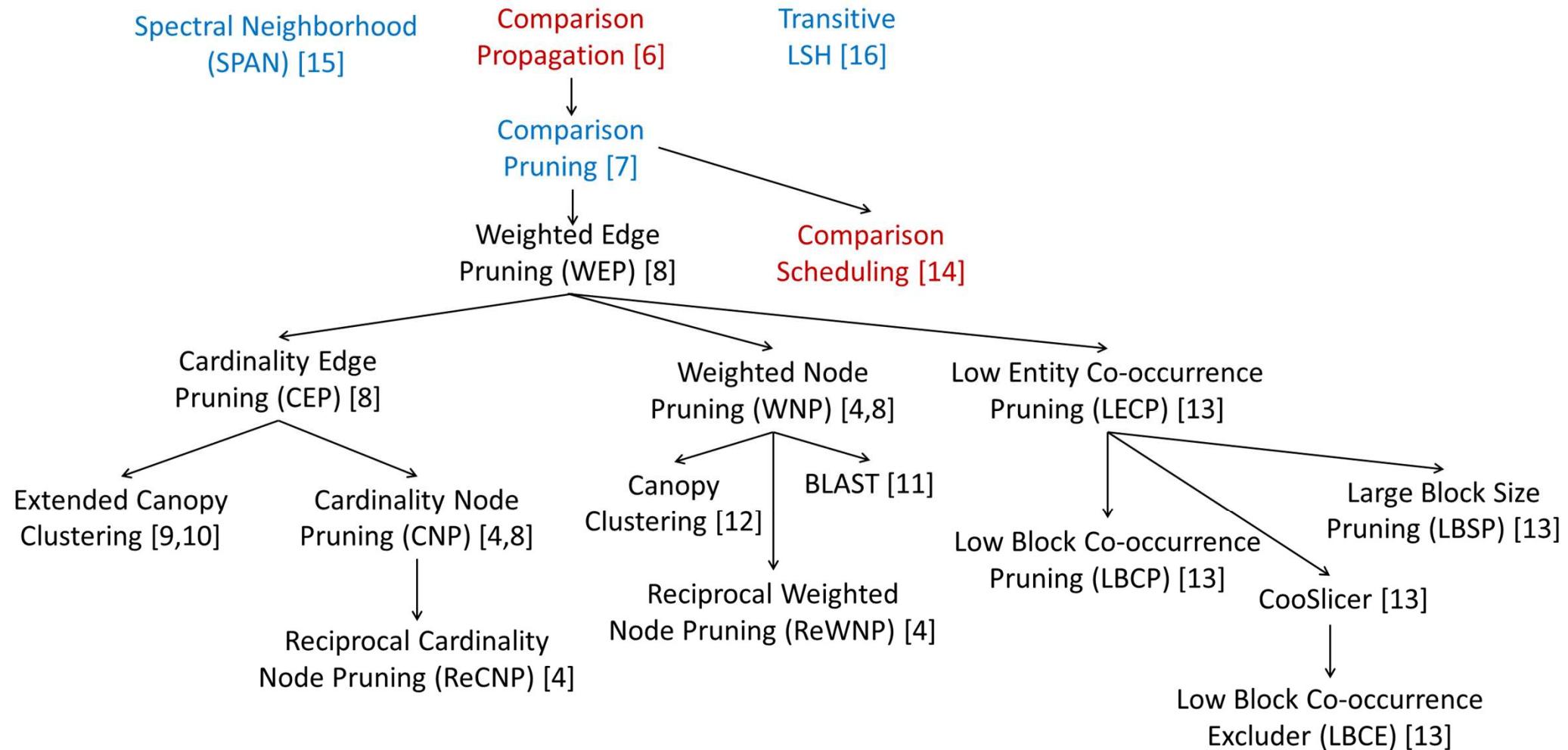


- Block Building resulted into huge number of blocks
- Results in addition of new step in the workflow
- Goal:
 - Restructure the original blocks in order to increase precision at no significant cost in recall
- Focus on reducing / removing comparisons:
 1. Redundant comparisons, i.e., comparing profiles that were already compared in a previous block
 2. Superfluous comparisons, i.e., high number of comparisons between irrelevant profiles

Block Processing Techniques

- Block Clustering:
 - Operate at the level of entire blocks
 - Methods
 - Block Purging [1,2,3]
 - Block Filtering [4]
 - Block Clustering [5]
- Comparison Cleaning:
 - Methods (next slide)

Comparison Cleaning Methods [17]



Entity Matching



- Collective approaches to tackle Variety
- Most methods crafted for **Clean-Clean ER**
- General outline of SiGMA[1], PARIS[2], LINDA[3], RiMOM-IM[4,5]
 - Iterative process starts with a few reliable seed matches
 - Propagate initial matches to neighbors
 - Order candidate matches in descending overall similarity
 - Recompute the similarity of the neighbors
 - Update candidate matches order
- MinoanER [6] performs a specific number of steps, rather than iterating until convergence

Entity Clustering



- Methods discussed before are still applicable
 - Only difference: similarity scores extracted in a schema-agnostic fashion, not from specific attributes
- SplitMerge [1]
 - Inherently capable of handling heterogeneous semantic types

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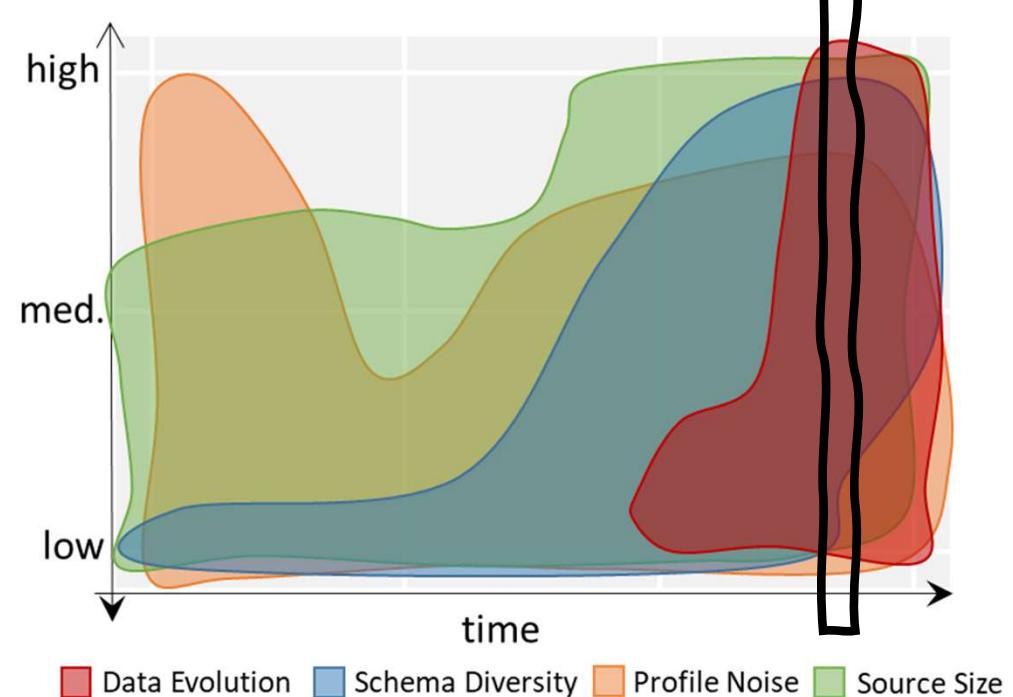
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Veracity
+Volume
+Variety
+Velocity

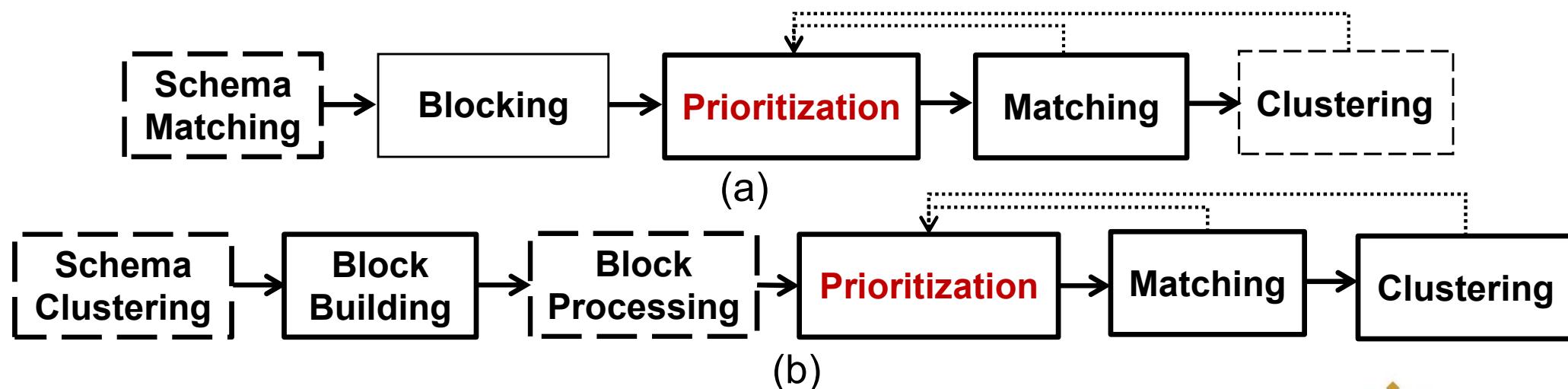
ER Methods



Velocity & Variety & Volume & Veracity

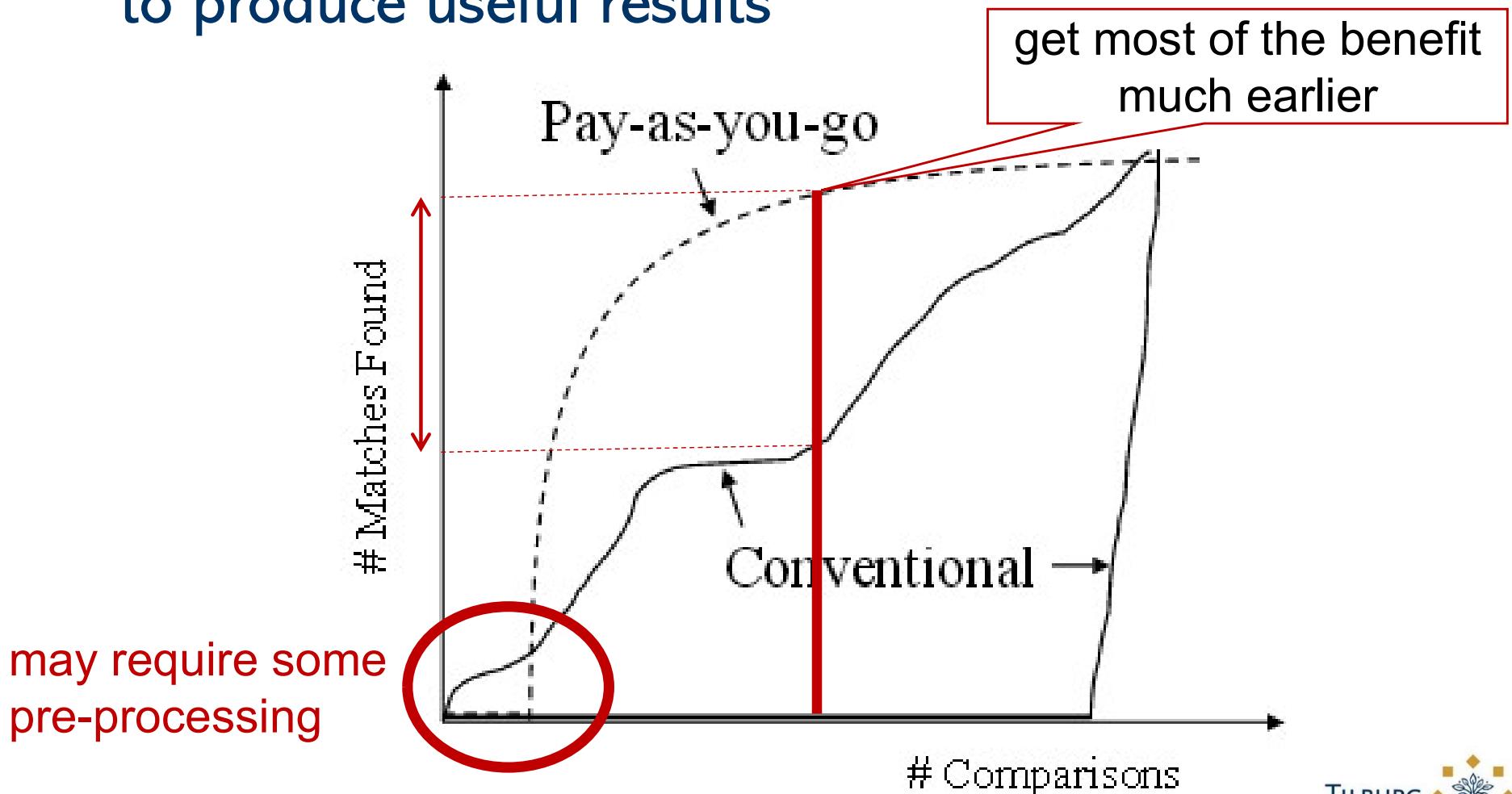
Scope:

- Applications with increasing data volume & time constraints
 - Loose ones (e.g., minutes, hours) → Progressive ER
 - Strict ones (i.e., seconds) → Real-time (On-line) ER
- End-to-end workflows for Progressive ER:



Progressive Entity Resolution

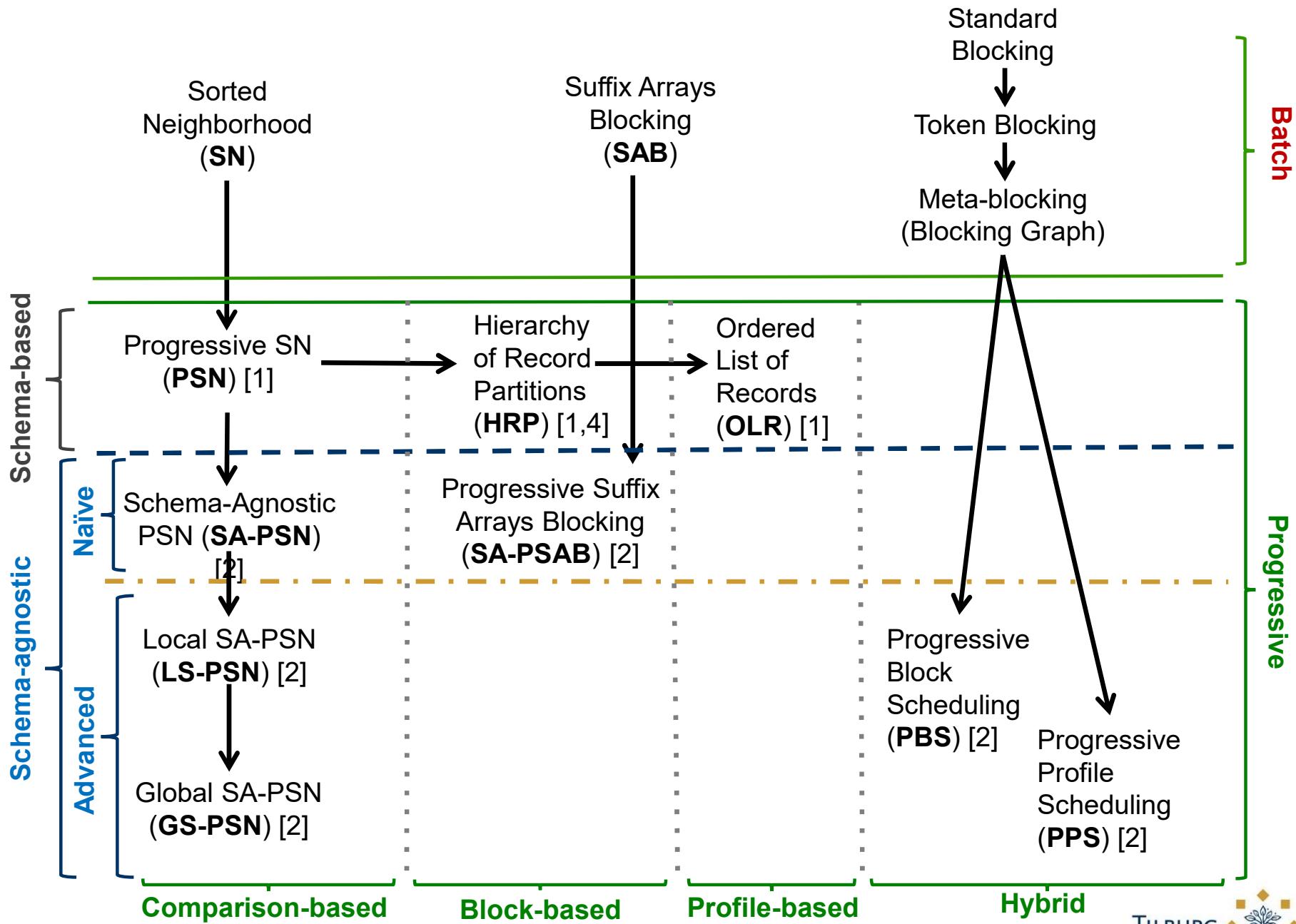
- Unprecedented, increasing volume of data
→ applications can compromise with partial solutions to produce useful results



Outline Progressive ER

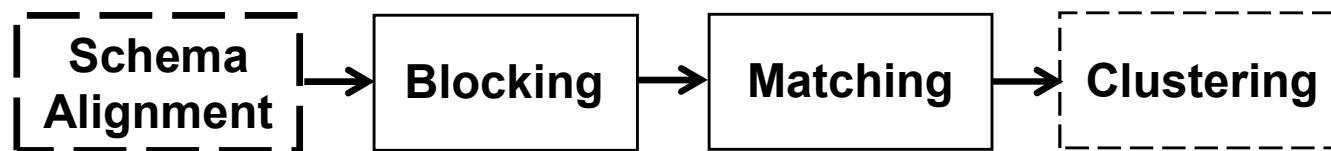
- Requires:
 - Improved early quality
 - Same eventual quality
- Prioritization
 - Defines **optimal processing order** for a set of entities
 - Static methods [1, 2]:
 - Guide which records to compare first
(independently of ER matching results)
 - Dynamic methods [3]:
 - If a duplicate is found, then check neighbors as well
 - Assumption: oracle for entity matching

Taxonomy of Static Prioritization Methods



Real-time Entity Resolution

Same workflow as original two workflows:



Same scope (so far):

- Structured data

Different input:

- stream of query profiles

Different goal:

- resolve each query over a large dataset in the shortest possible time (& with the minimum memory footprint)

Techniques per workflow step

Incremental Blocking

- DySimll [1] - extends Standard Blocking
- F-DySNI [2,3] - extends Sorted Neighborhood
- (S)BlockSketch [4] - bounded matching time, constant memory footprint

Incremental Matching

- QDA [5] - SQL-like selection queries over a single dataset
- QuERy [6] - complex join queries over multiple, overlapping, dirty DSs
- EAQP [7] - queries under data
- Evolving matching rules [8]

Incremental Clustering

- Incremental Correlation Clustering [9]

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