



Finite Approximations of Discrete Random Measures

Jonathan H. Huggins

Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Department of Biostatistics, Harvard

with: Trevor Campbell, Jonathan How, Lorenzo Masoero,
Lester Mackey, Tamara Broderick

Bayesian nonparametrics

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Need models that can
extract new, useful
information from unbounded
streams of data

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e.g. keep learning new topics
from a stream of documents

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Bayesian nonparametrics:
achieves growing model size
via infinite parameters

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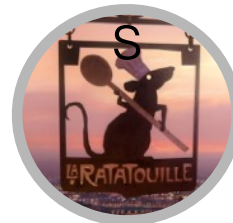
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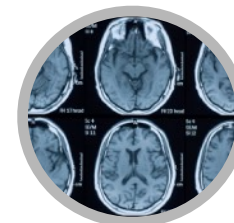
movie



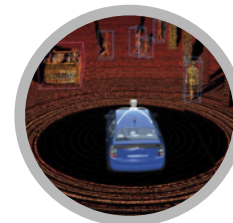
text



medicine



robotics



genetics



finance



astronomy



traffic



agriculture



pathology

Bayesian nonparametrics

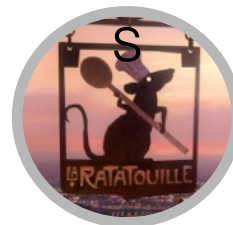
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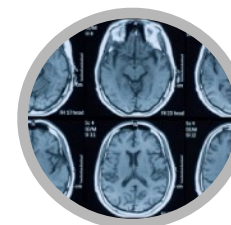
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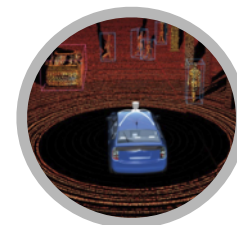
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pathology

$$\Pi(d\Theta \mid X) \propto_{\Theta} f(X \mid \Theta) \Pi_0(d\Theta)$$

Bayesian nonparametrics

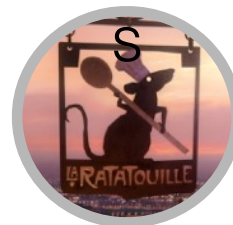
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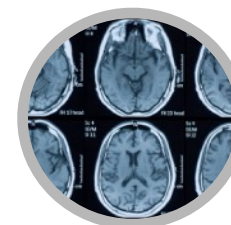
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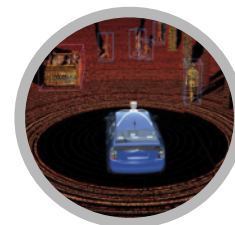
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pathology

parameter

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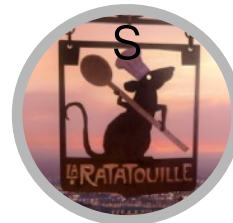
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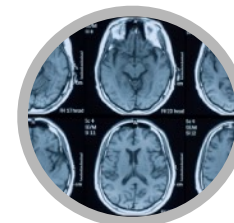
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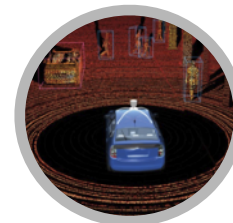
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pathology

$$\Pi(d\Theta \mid X) \propto_{\Theta} f(X \mid \Theta) \Pi_0(d\Theta)$$

parameter \nearrow
likelihood \nwarrow

Bayesian nonparametrics

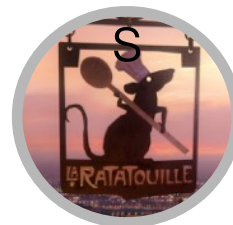
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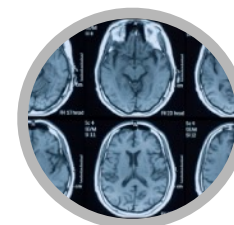
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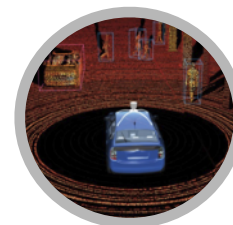
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pathology

$$\Pi(d\Theta \mid X) \propto_{\Theta} f(X \mid \Theta) \Pi_0(d\Theta)$$

parameter \swarrow

likelihood \nearrow **data**

Bayesian nonparametrics

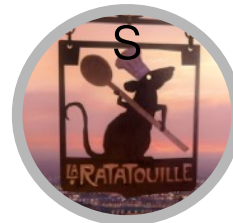
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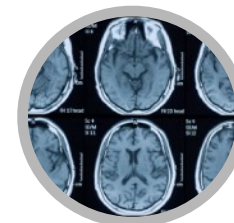
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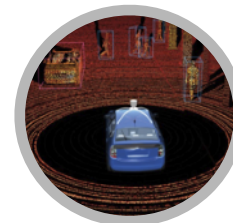
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pathology

$$\Pi(d\Theta | X) \propto_{\Theta} f(X | \Theta) \Pi_0(d\Theta)$$

parameter → Θ
prior → $\Pi_0(d\Theta)$
likelihood → $f(X | \Theta)$
data → X

Bayesian nonparametrics

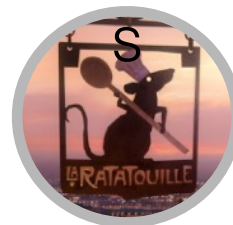
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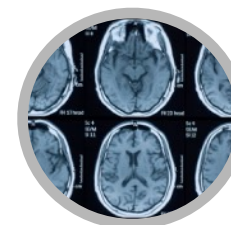
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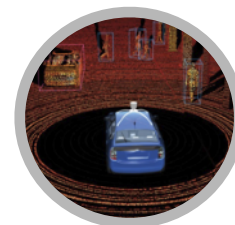
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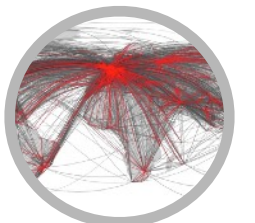
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posterior → $\Pi(d\Theta | X) \propto_{\Theta} f(X | \Theta) \Pi_0(d\Theta)$

parameter → Θ

prior → $\Pi_0(d\Theta)$

likelihood → $f(X | \Theta)$

data → X

Inference in BNP models

$$\pi(\mathrm{d}\Theta \mid X) \propto_{\Theta} f(X \mid \Theta) \pi_0(\mathrm{d}\Theta)$$

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$$\pi(d\Theta | X) \propto_{\Theta} f(X | \Theta) \pi_0(d\Theta)$$

- Option #1: Integrate out the parameter Θ (CRP, IBP, etc.)
issues: care about the parameters, using certain inference algs. (HMC/VB), distributed computation, discrete latent variables instead

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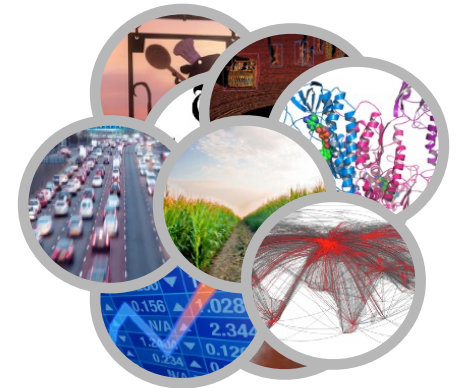
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with e.g. variational inference, HMC [Blei 06; Neal 10]

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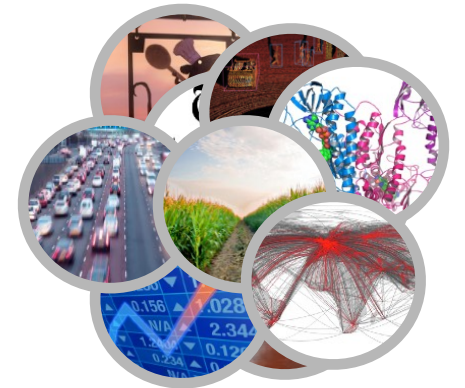
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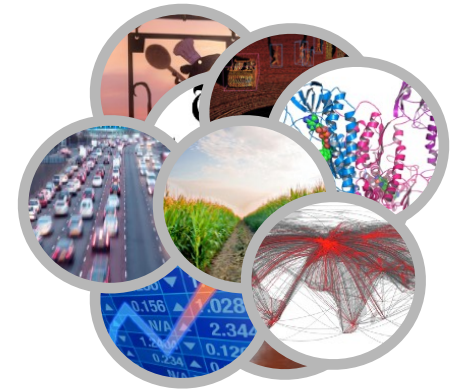
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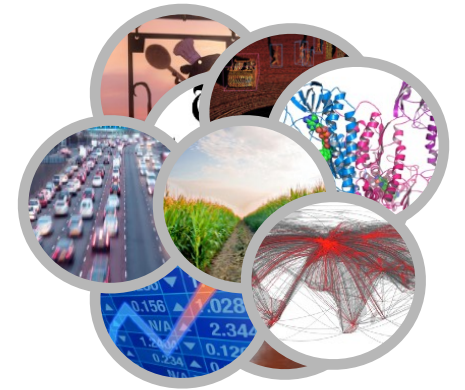
In this talk:

- 1) Two finite approximation types: **truncated** and **non-nested**

Inference in BNP models

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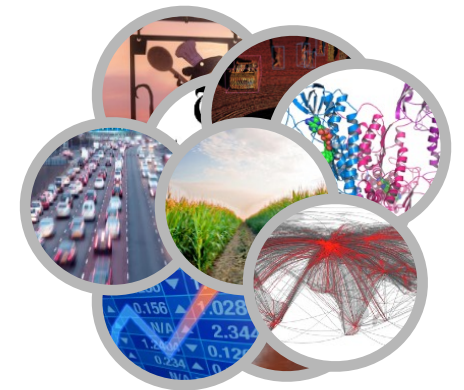
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- 1) Two finite approximation types: **truncated** and **non-nested**
- 2) Two truncated forms (7 reps total) that allow finite approximation of
(normalized) completely random measures [(N)CRMs]

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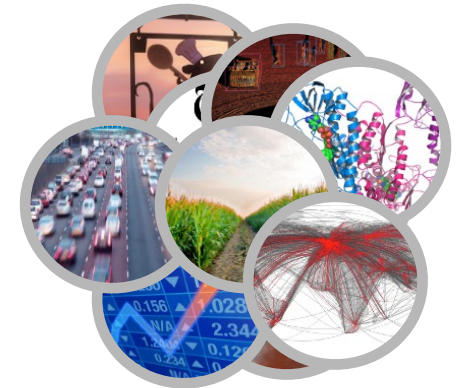
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- 3) Truncation approximation error analysis

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In this talk:

- 1) Two finite approximation types: **truncated** and **non-nested**
- 2) Two truncated forms (7 reps total) that allow finite approximation of ***(normalized) completely random measures [(N)CRMs]***
- 3) Truncation approximation error analysis
- 4) One non-nested form for (N)CRMs

Outline

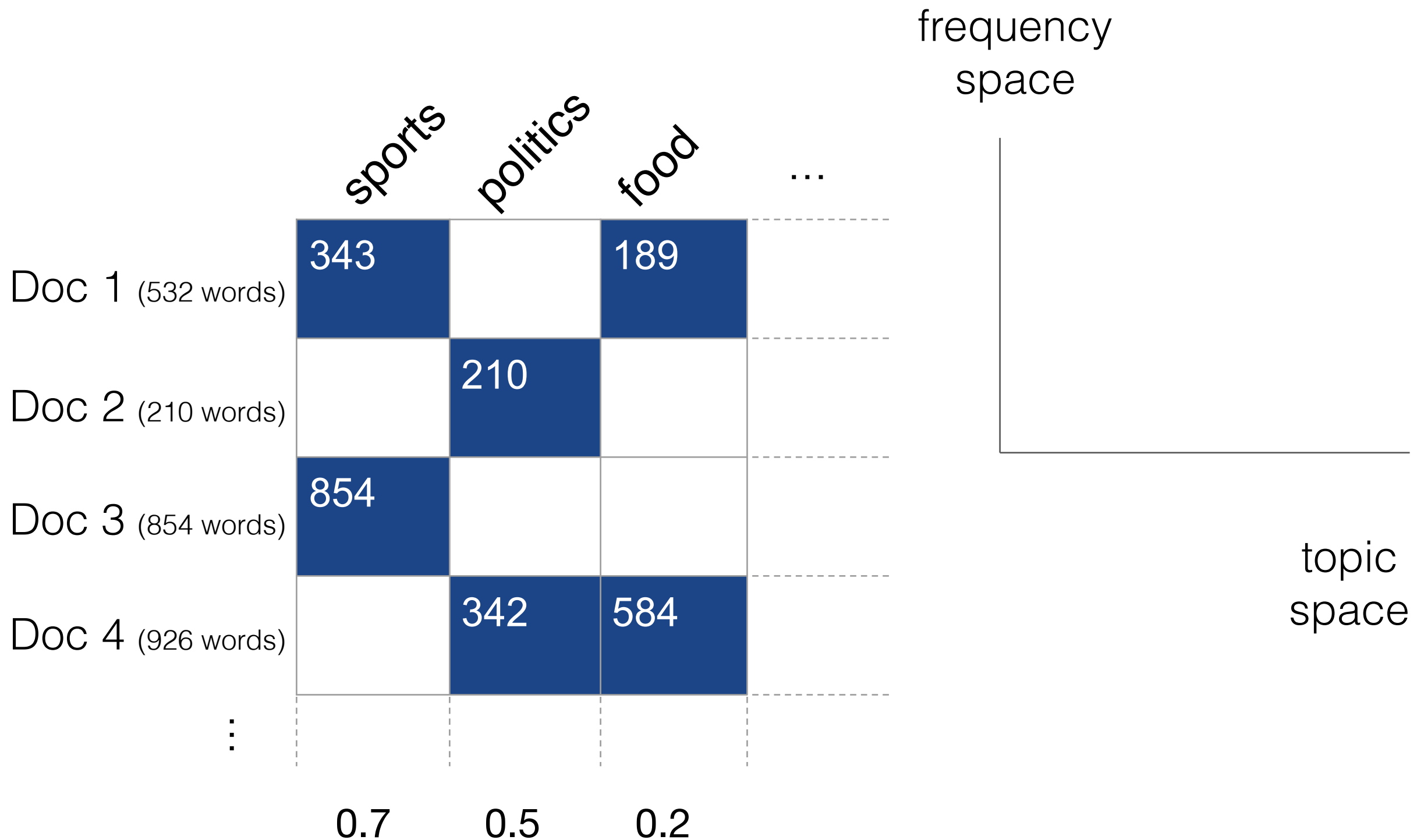
➔ **Tractable priors in BNP**

- Truncated approximations
 - Two forms for sequential representations
 - Truncation and error analysis
- Non-nested approximations

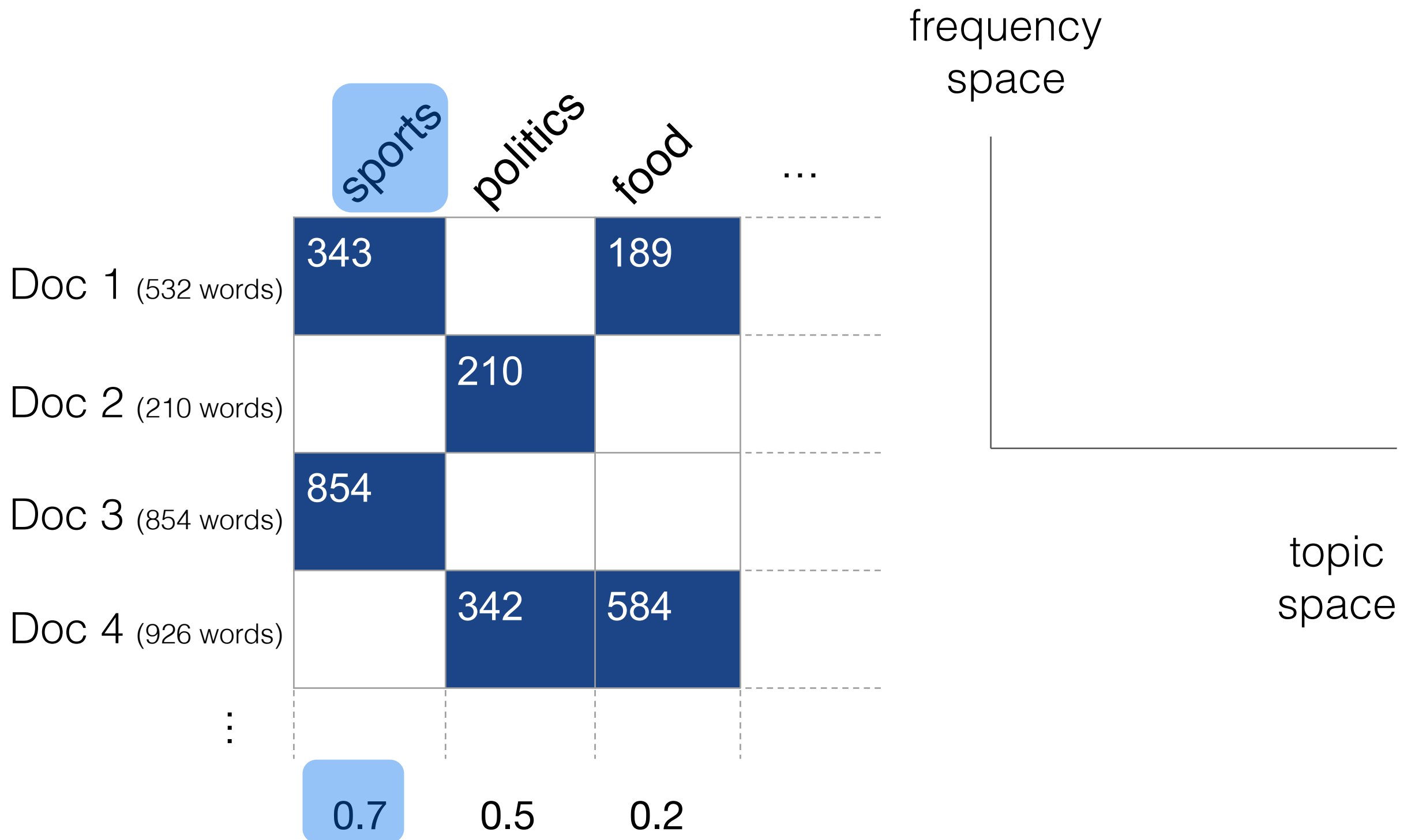
The Standard Model in BNP (By Example)

	sports	politics	food	...
Doc 1 (532 words)	343		189	
Doc 2 (210 words)		210		
Doc 3 (854 words)	854			
Doc 4 (926 words)		342	584	
⋮				
	0.7	0.5	0.2	

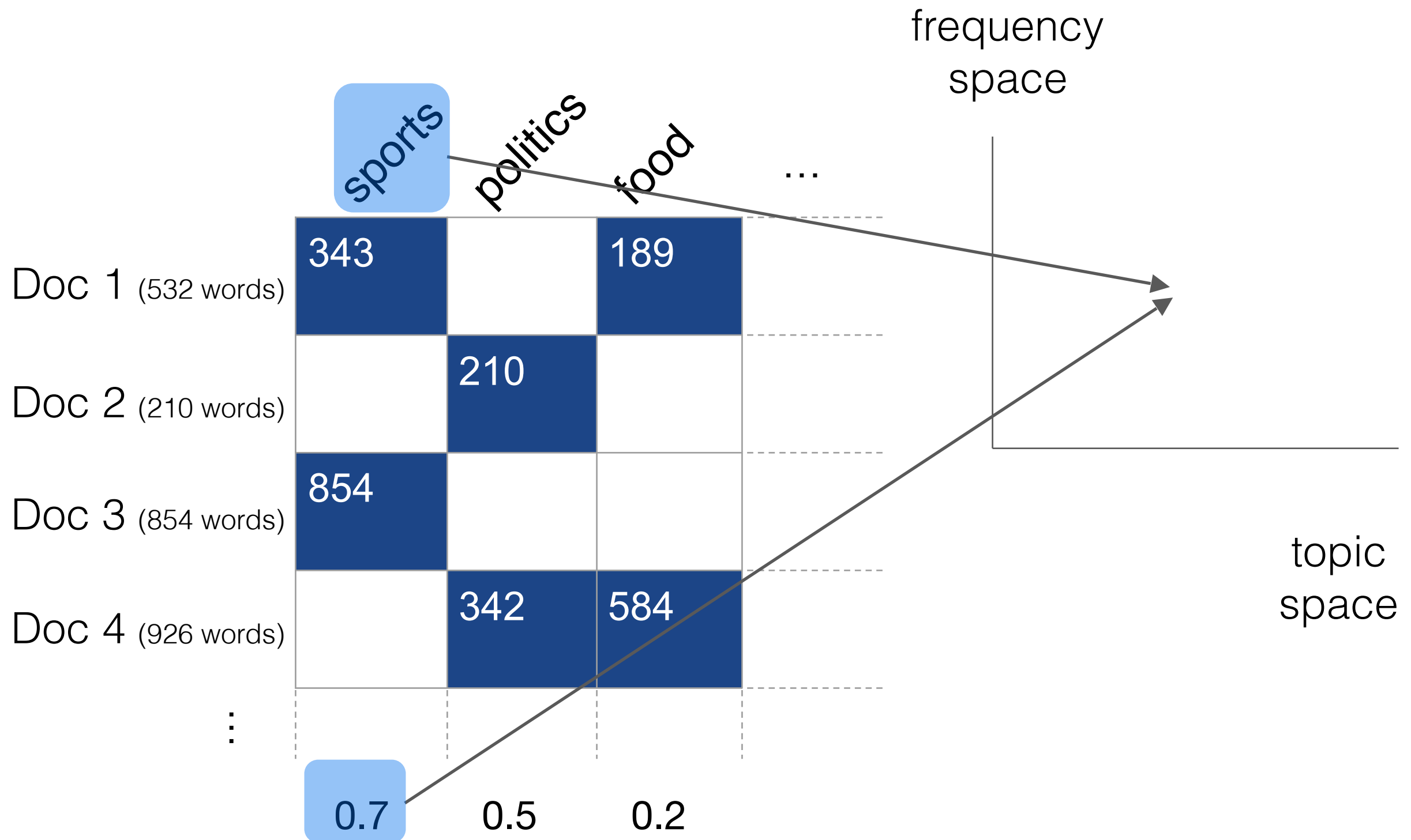
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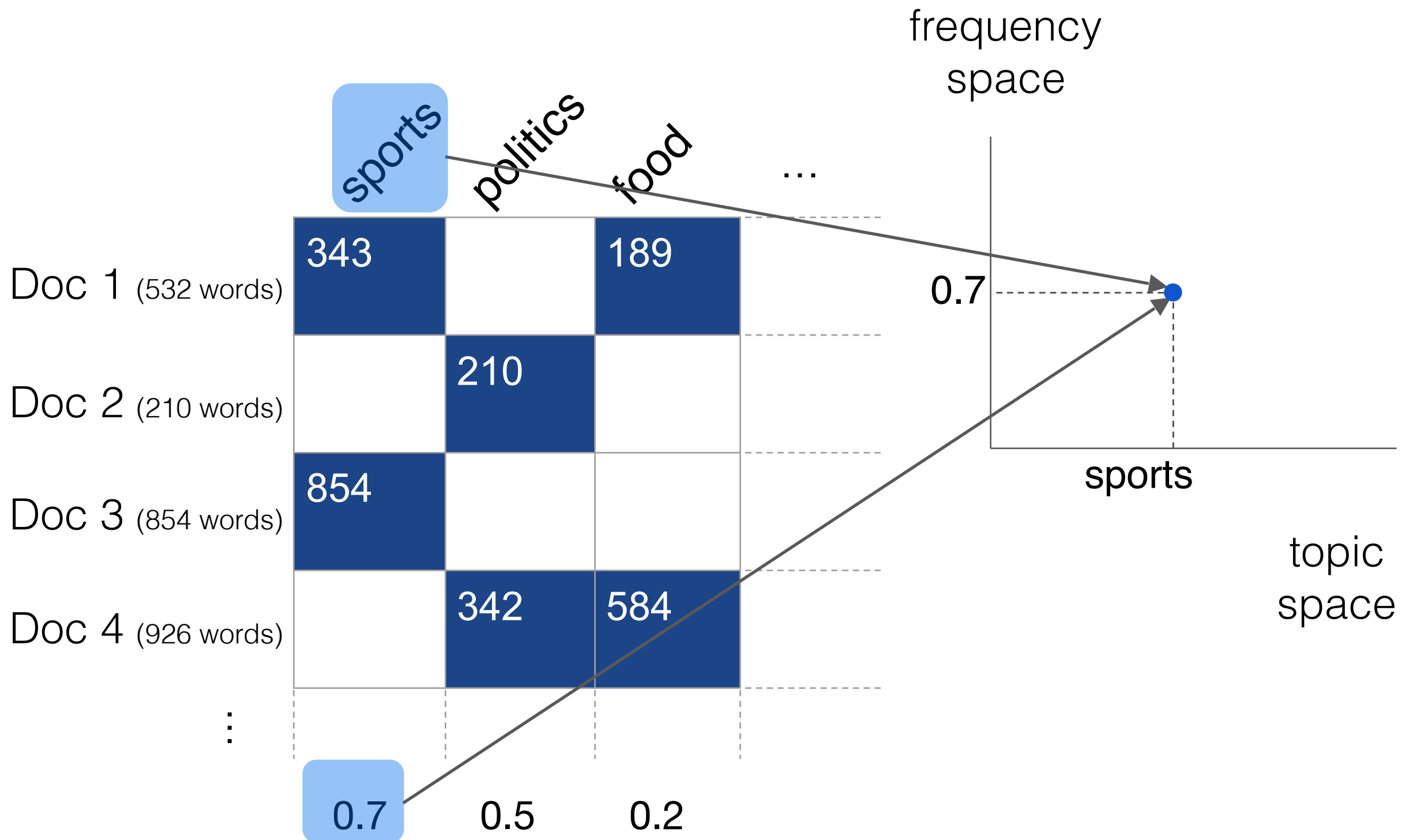
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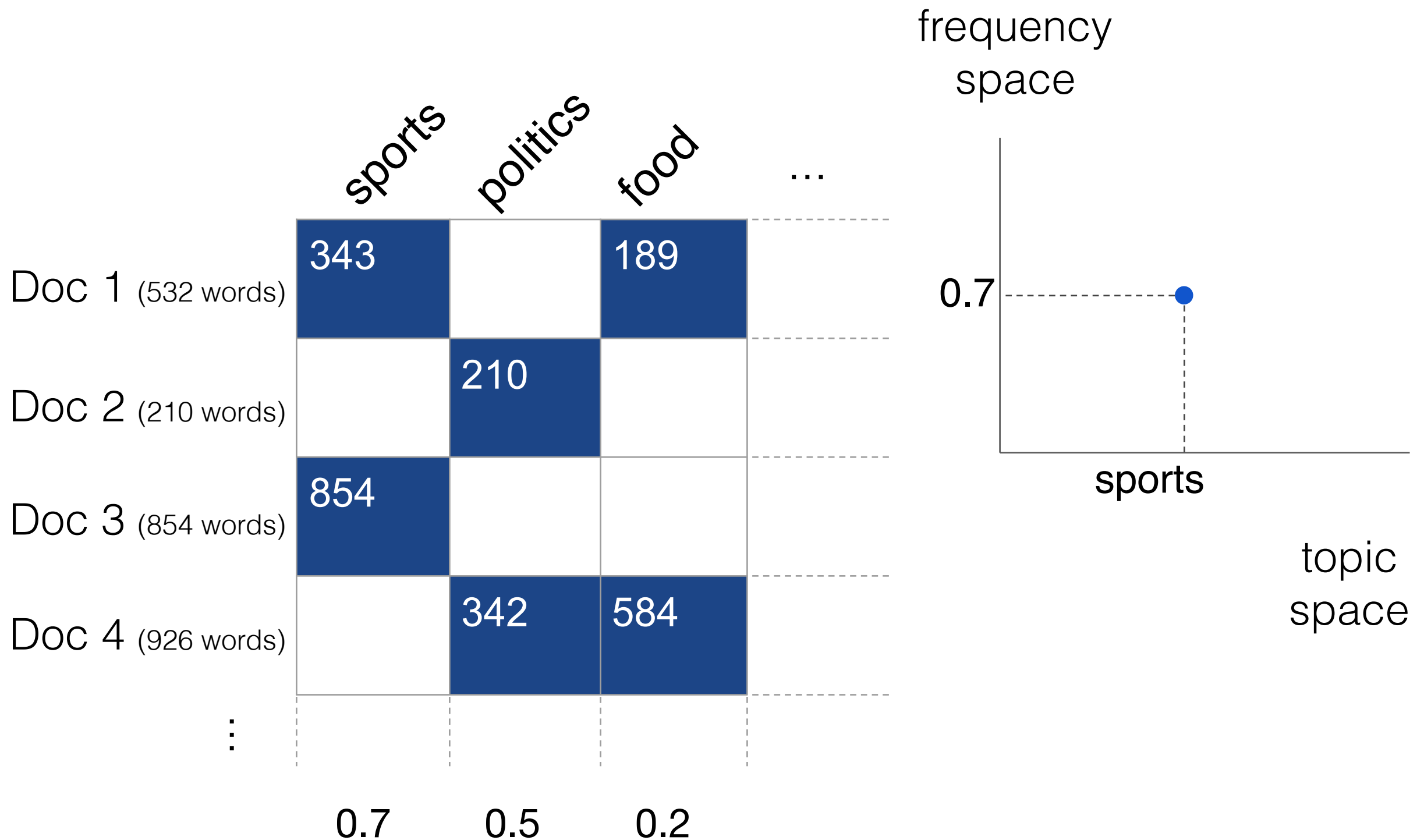
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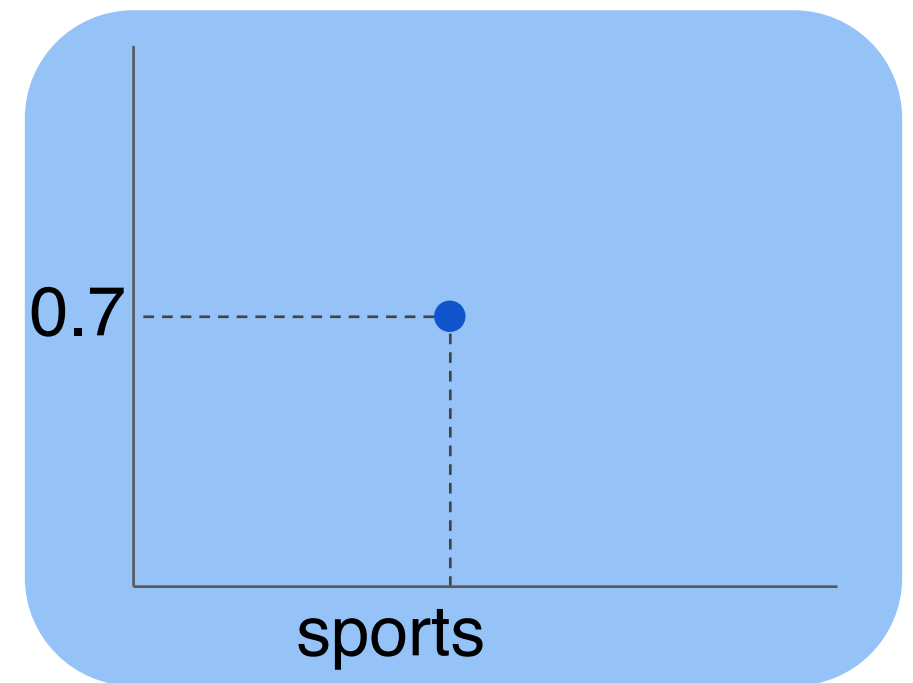
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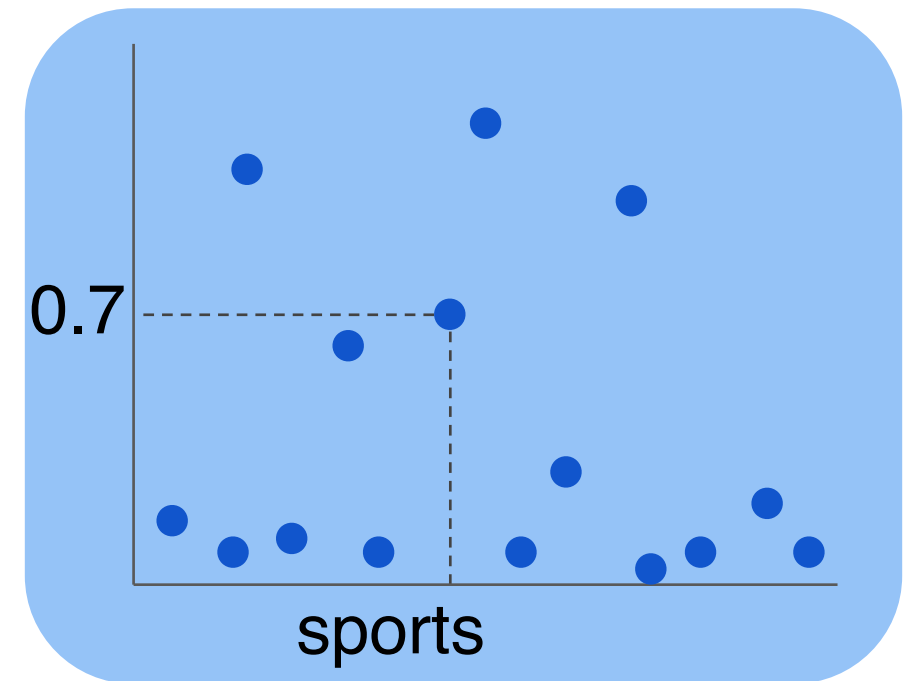


topic
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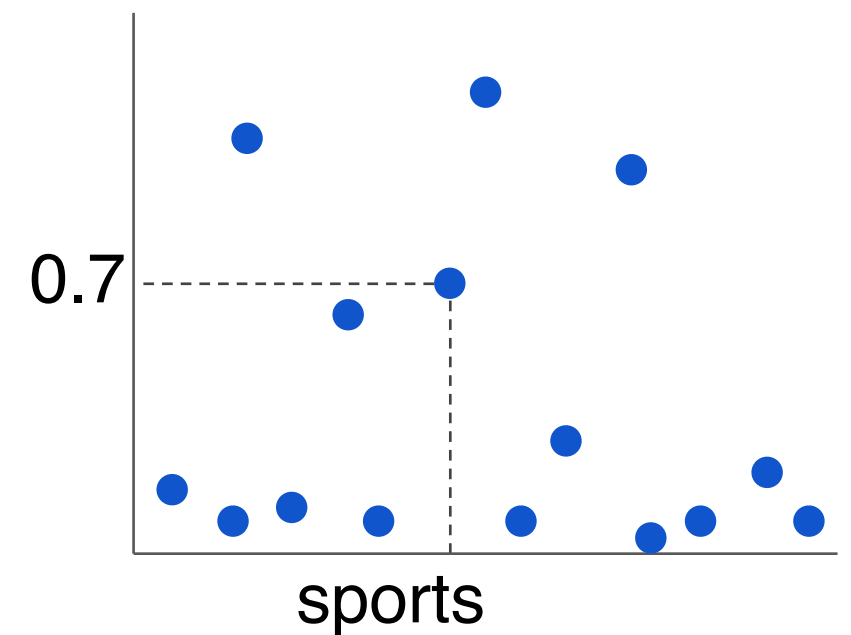


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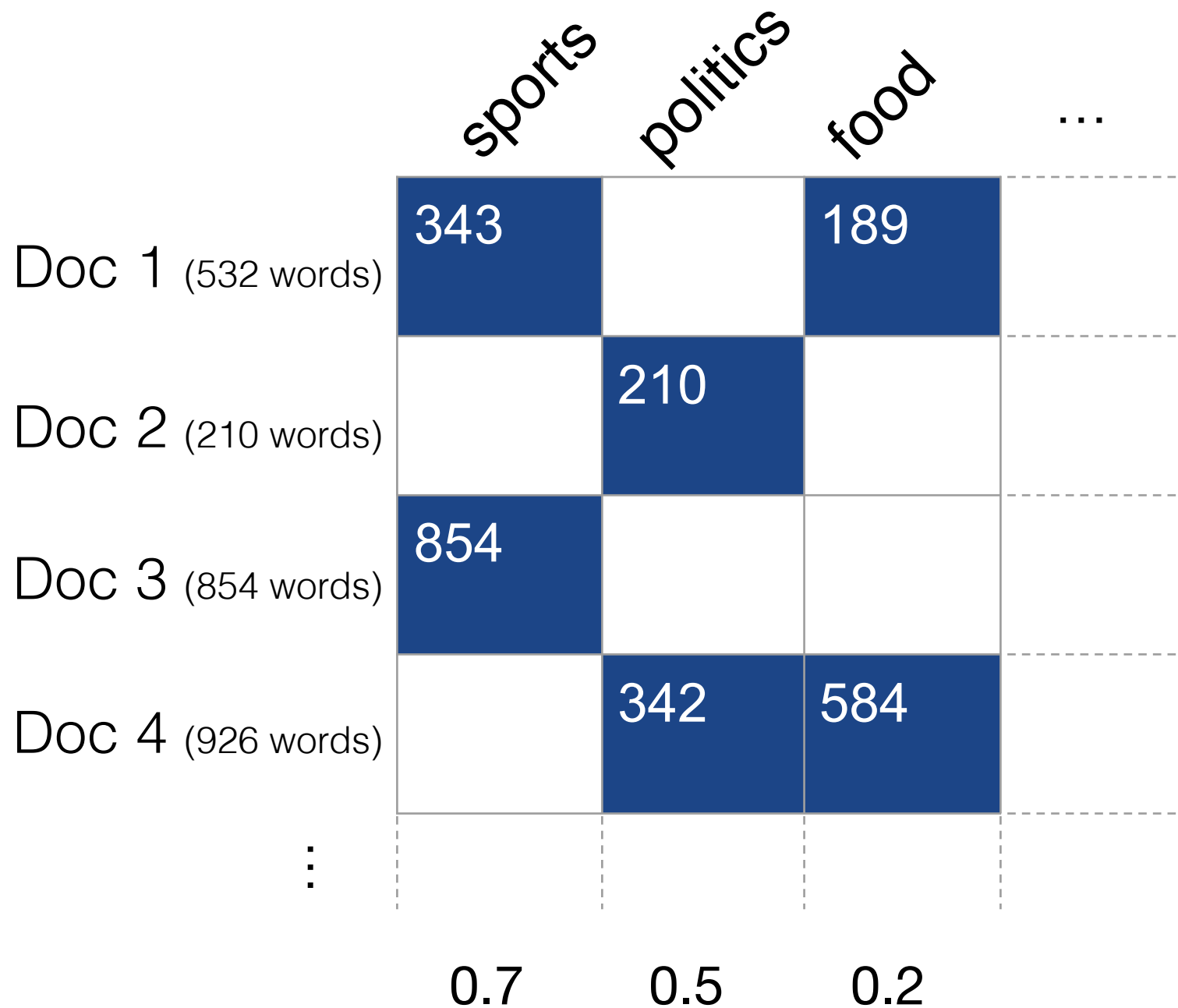
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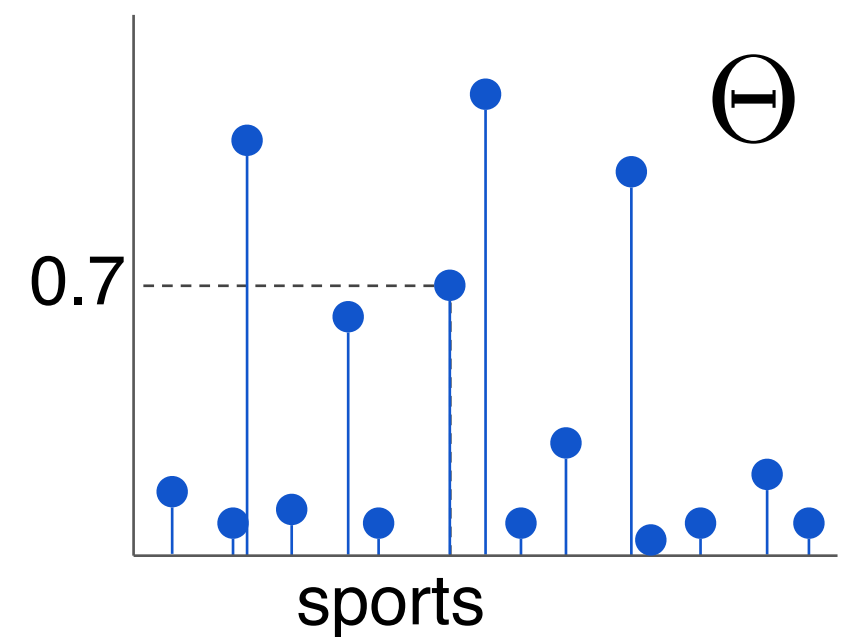


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The Standard Model in BNP (By Example)



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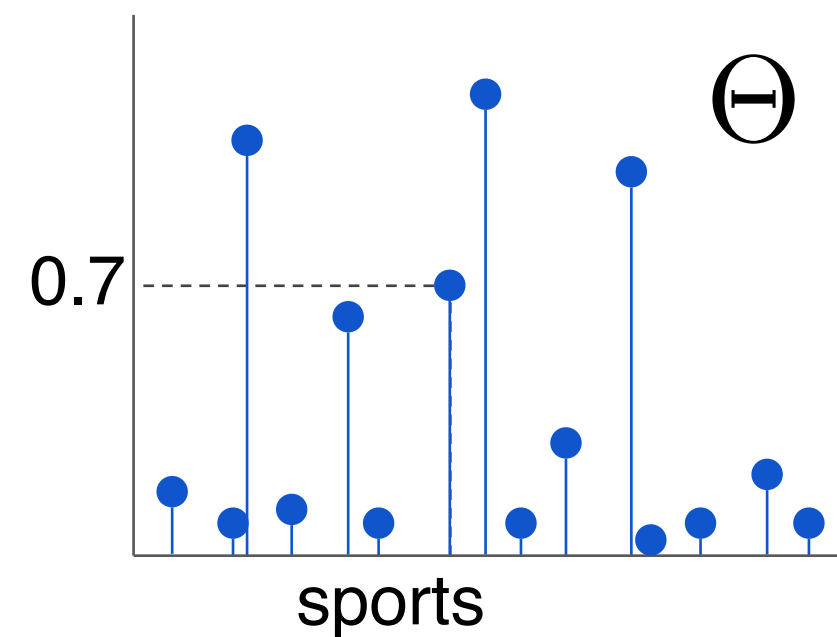
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Θ is a ***random discrete measure on the topics***

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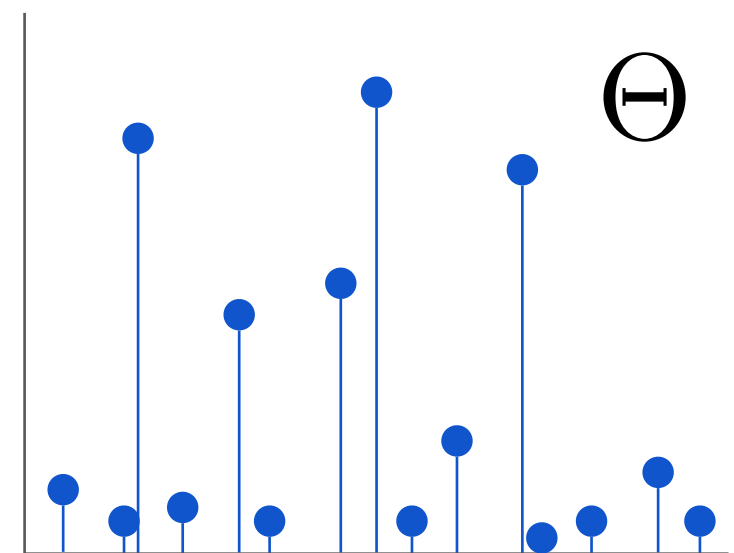
topic
space

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The Standard Model in BNP (By Example)

				<i>“traits”</i>						
				ψ_1	ψ_2	ψ_3	...			
Obs 1	Obs 2	Obs 3	Obs 4	343		189				
					210					
				854						
					342	584				
⋮										
				θ_1	θ_2	θ_3	<i>“rates”</i>			

rate
space



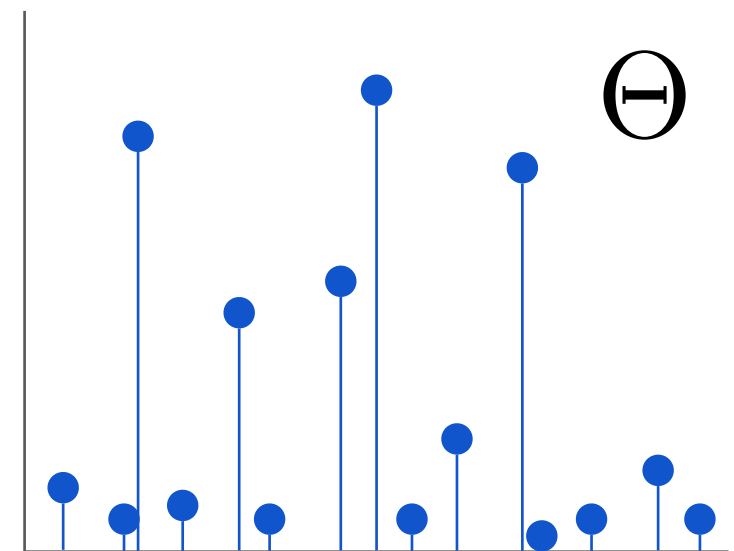
trait
space

Θ is a **random discrete measure on the *topics*** traits

The Standard Model in BNP (By Example)

	ψ_1	ψ_2	ψ_3	“traits” ...
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	θ_1	θ_2	θ_3	“rates”

rate
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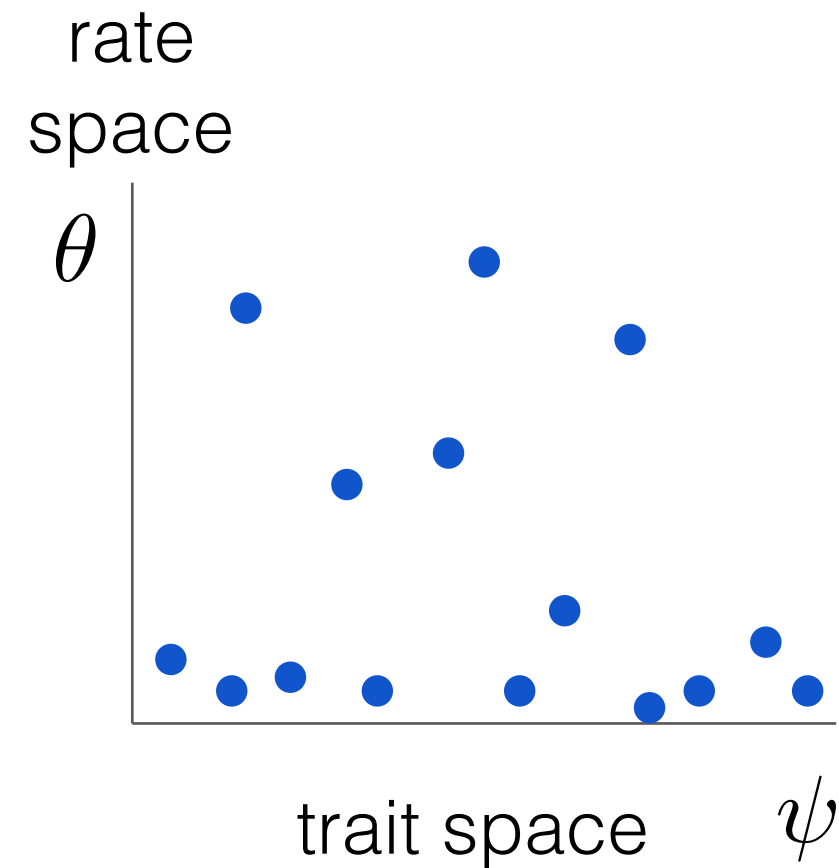


trait
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Θ is a **random discrete measure on the ~~topics~~ traits**

Poisson processes and (N)CRMs

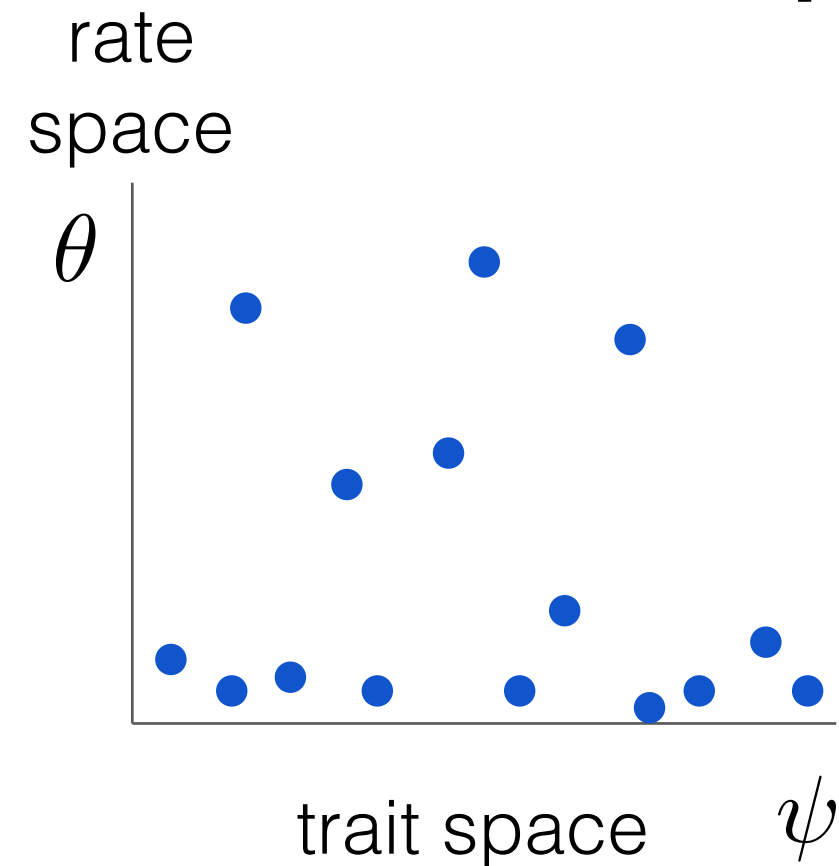
How do we generate infinitely many trait/rate points (ψ, θ) ?



Poisson processes and (N)CRMs

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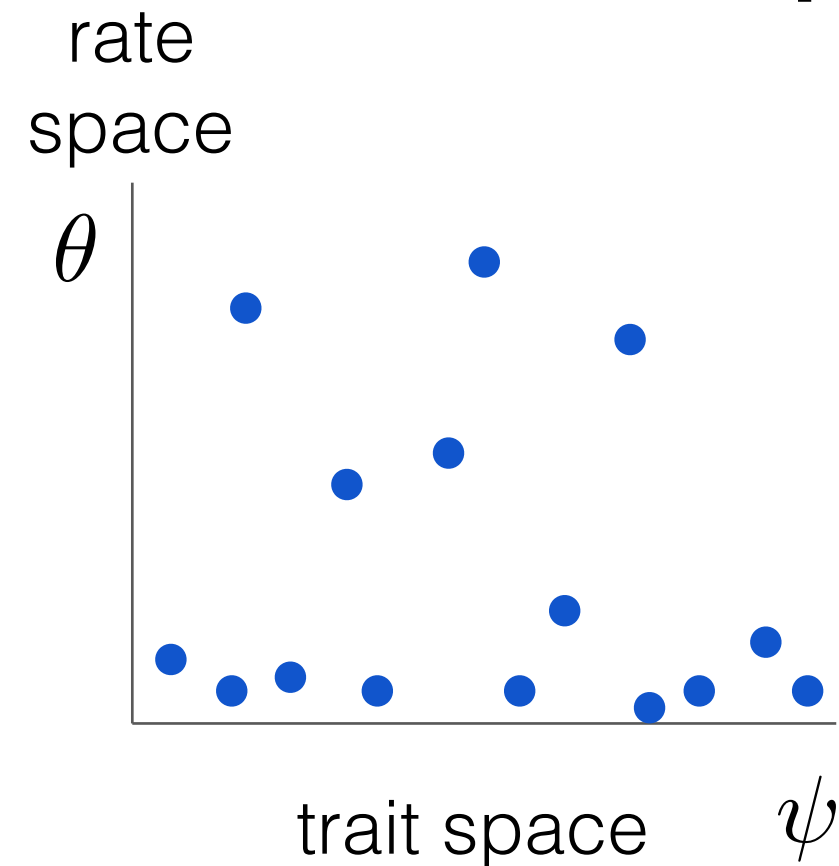
Poisson process with intensity measure $\mu(d\theta \times d\psi)$



Poisson processes and (N)CRMs

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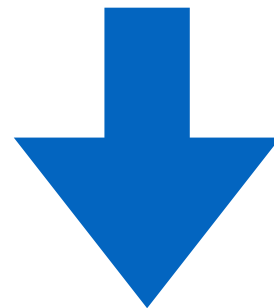
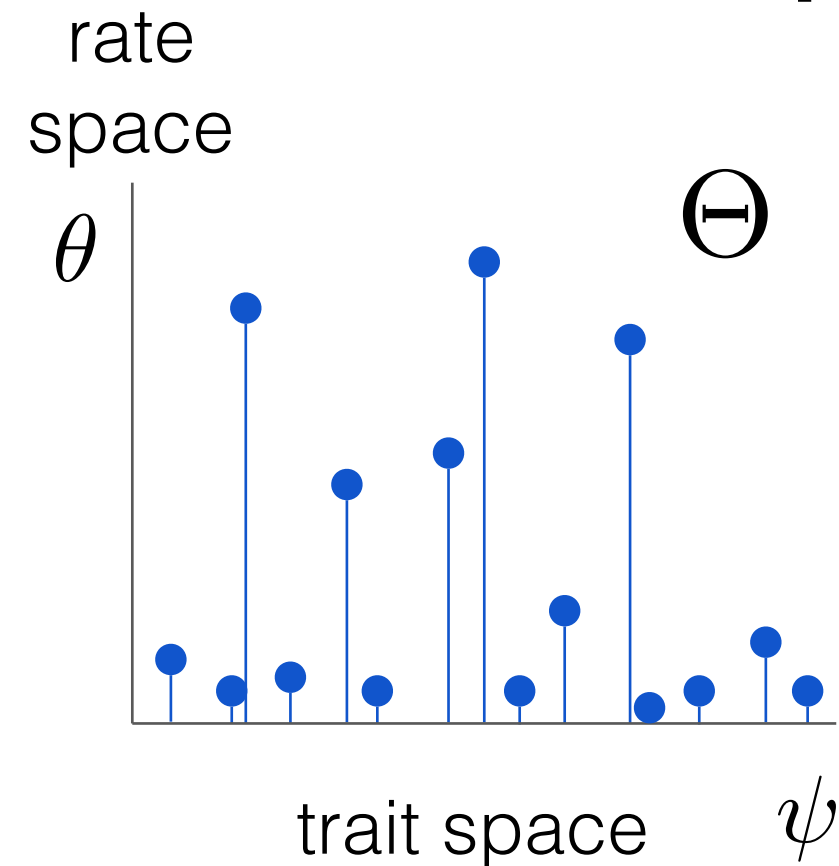
Poisson process with intensity measure $\mu(d\theta \times d\psi)$
 $= \nu(d\theta)H(d\psi)$



Poisson processes and (N)CRMs

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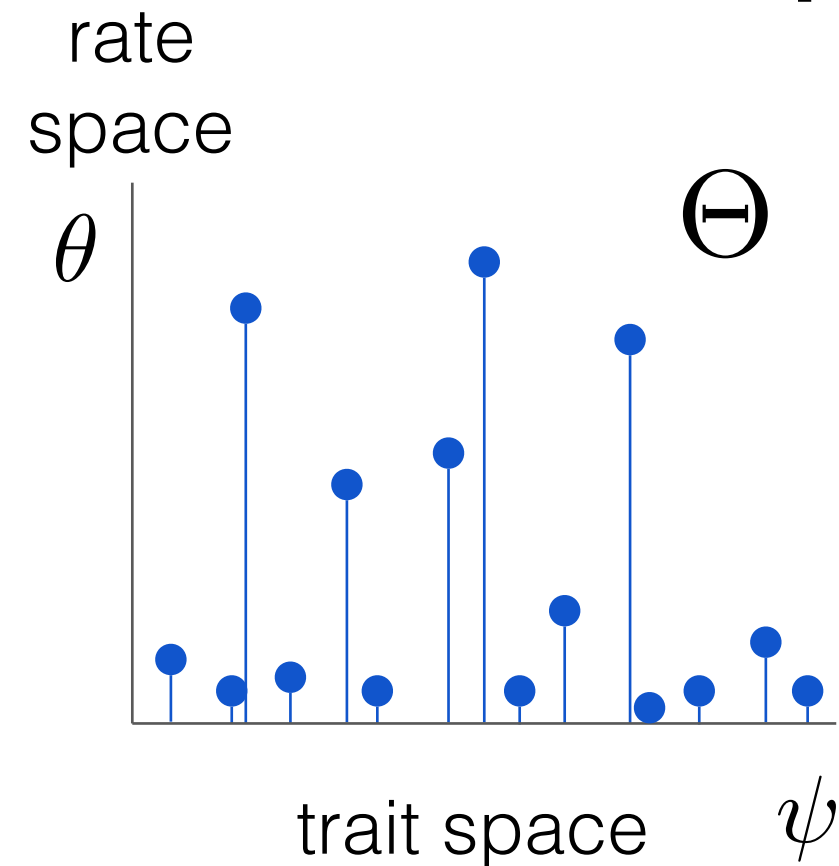


completely random measure (CRM)
(e.g. BP, Γ P) $\Theta = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \theta_k \delta_{\psi_k}$

Poisson processes and (N)CRMs

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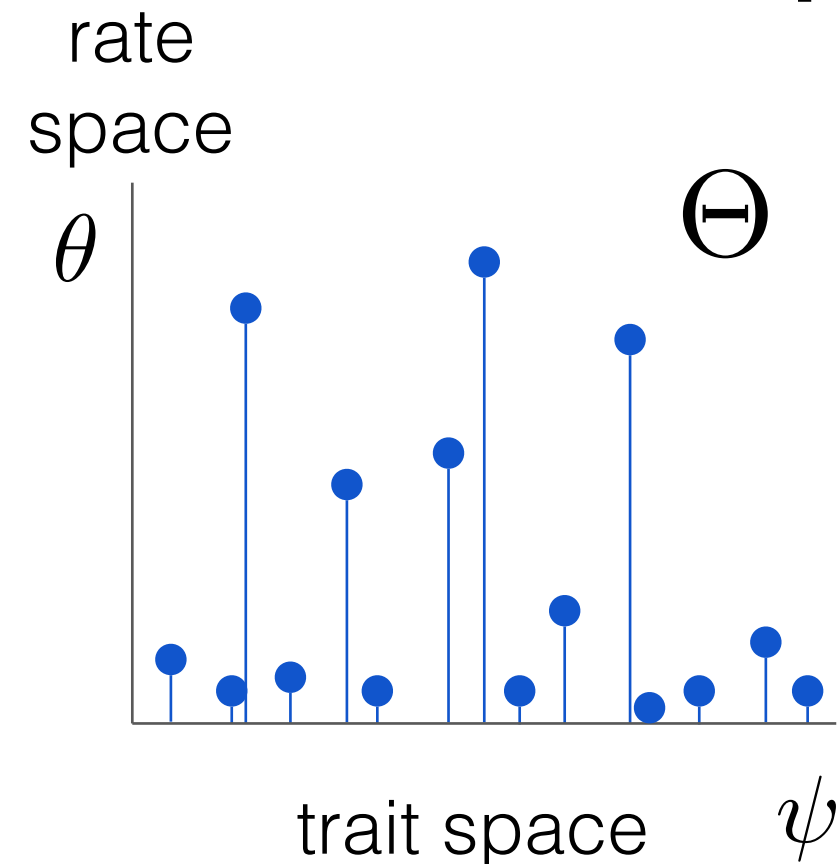
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Normalize rates: **normalized CRM**
(NCRM) (e.g. DP)

Poisson processes and (N)CRMs

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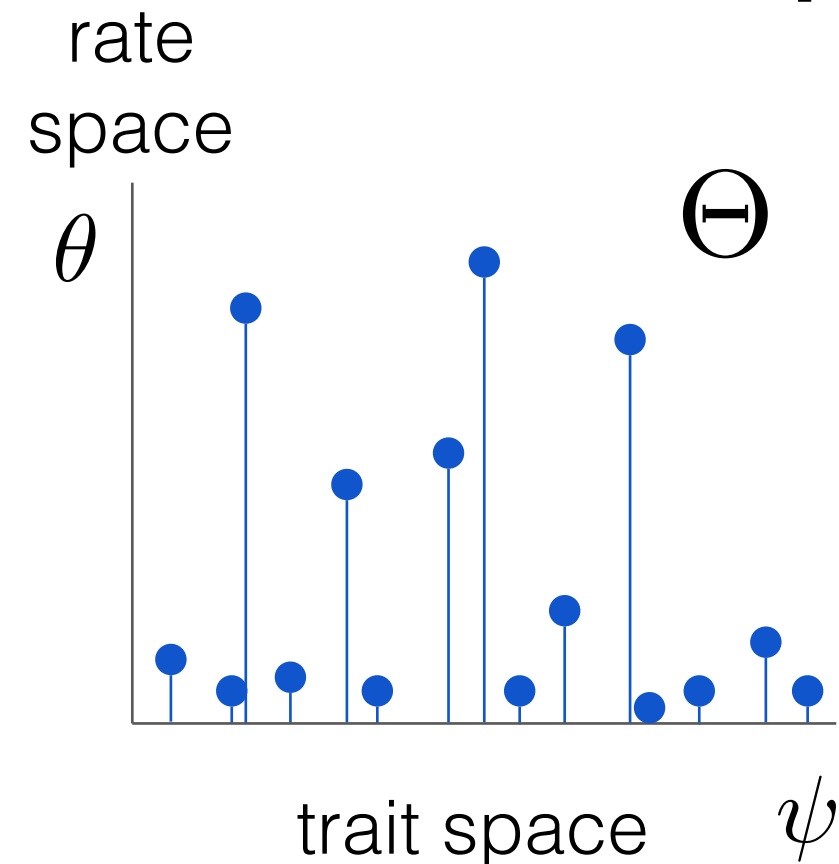
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Captures a large class of useful priors in BNP

Poisson processes and (N)CRMs

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Poisson process with intensity measure $\mu(d\theta \times d\psi) = \nu(d\theta)H(d\psi)$



completely random measure (CRM)
(e.g. BP, Γ P) $\Theta = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \theta_k \delta_{\psi_k}$

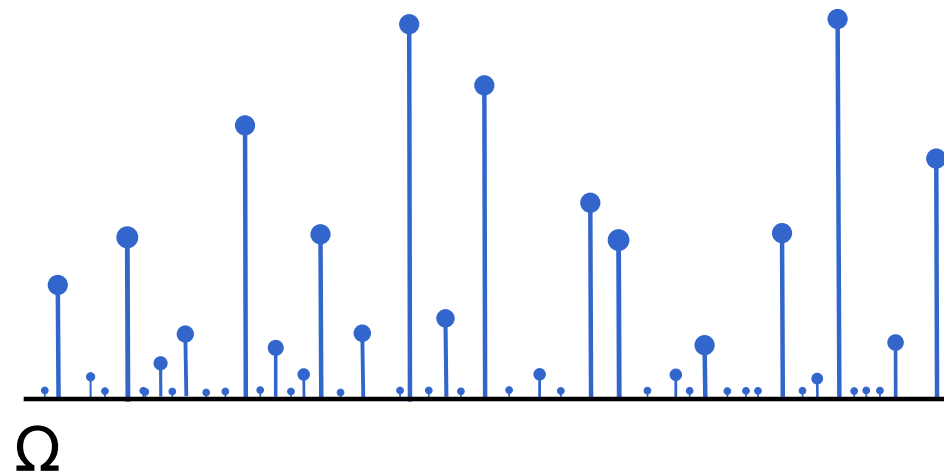
Normalize rates: **normalized CRM**
(NCRM) (e.g. DP)

Captures a large class of useful priors in BNP

How do we approximate with finite number of atoms?

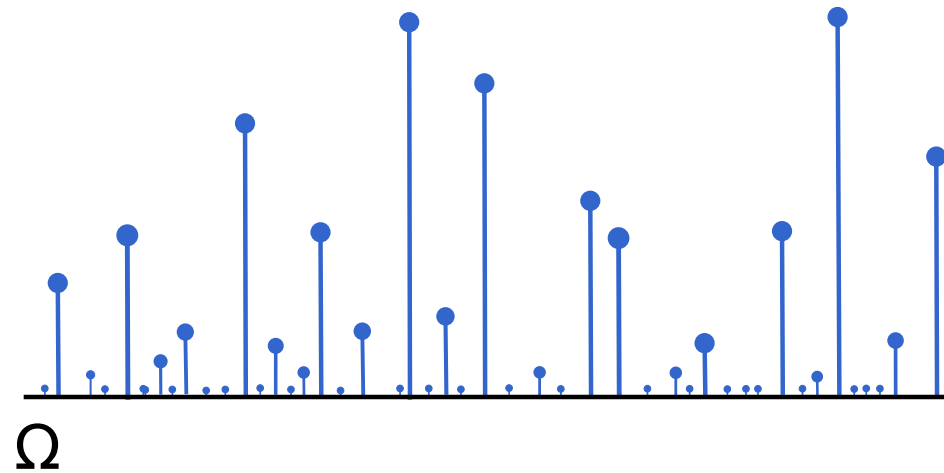
Finite approximation approaches

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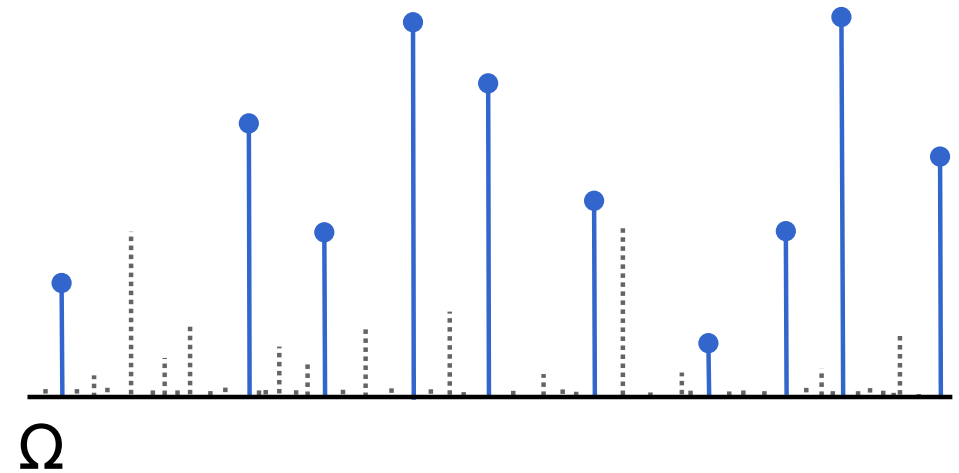


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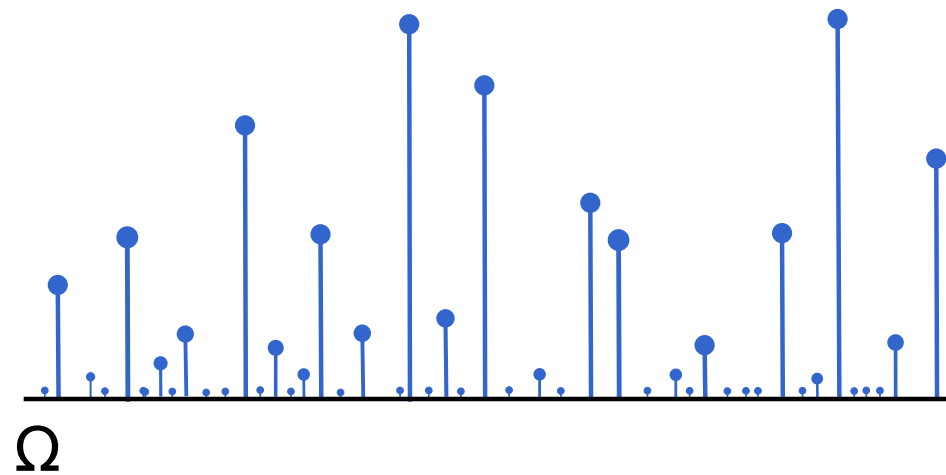


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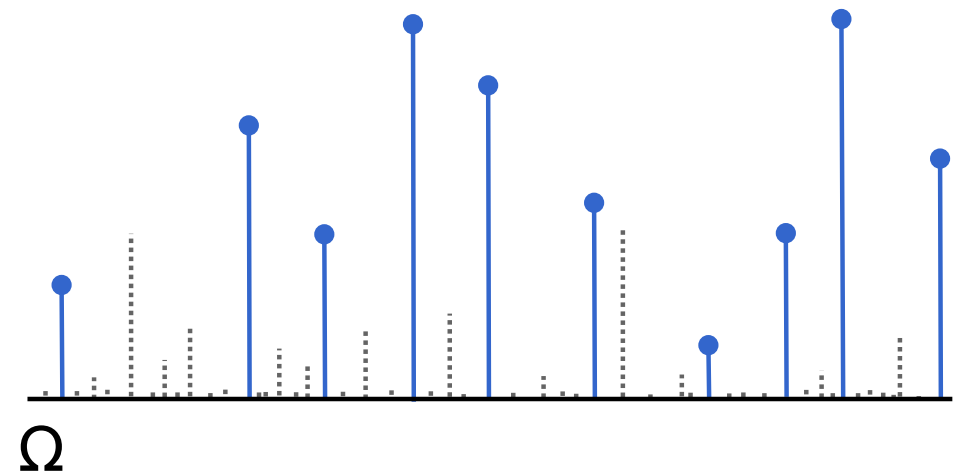


$$\Theta_K = \sum_{k=1}^K \theta_k \delta_{\psi_k}$$

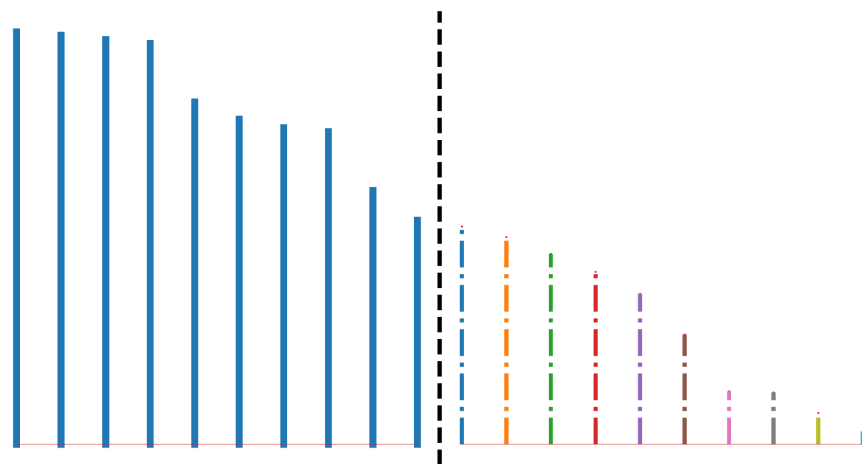
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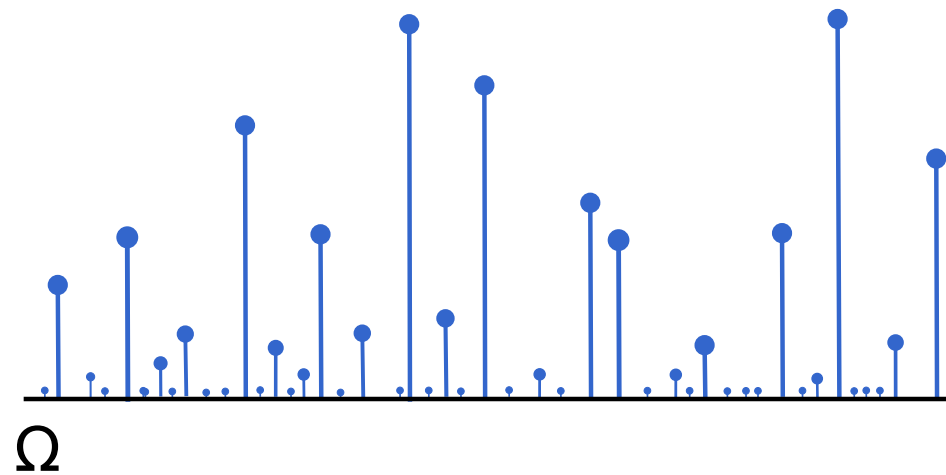
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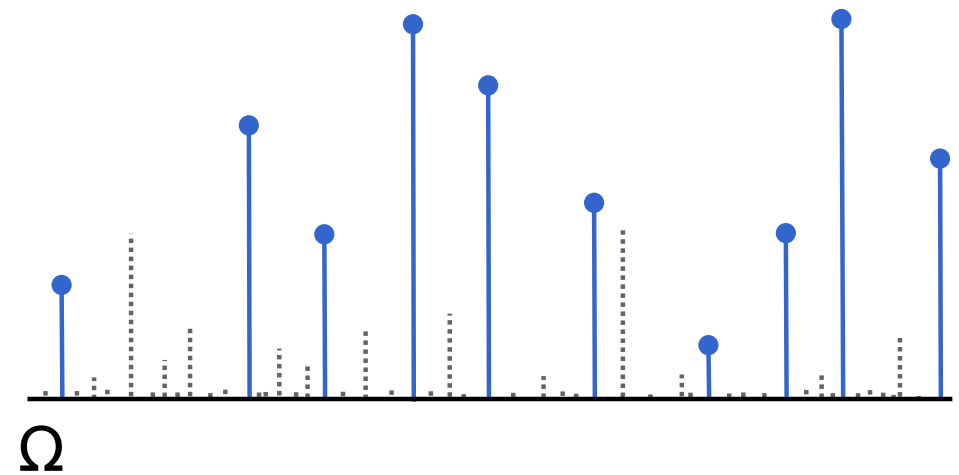
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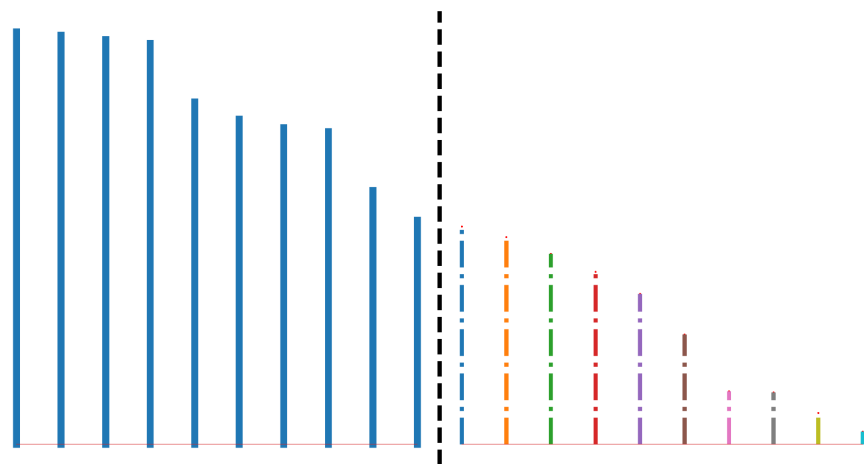
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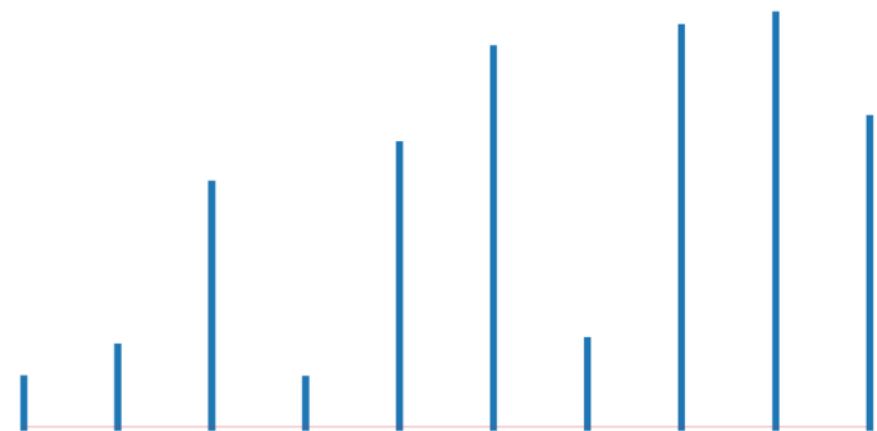


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Non-nested finite approx.

$$\Theta_K = \sum_{k=1}^K \theta_{K,k} \delta_{\psi_k}$$

Past work: finite approximations to BNP priors

	Truncated Approximations	Truncation Error Bounds	Non-nested Approximations
DP	✓	✓	✓
BP	✓	✓	✓
BPP	✓		
ΓP	✓	✓	✓
(N)CRM	✓		

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BP	✓ [Teh 07] [Paisley 12] [Thibaux 07]	✗ [Doshi-Velez 09] [Paisley 12]	✗ [Paisley 16]
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Sparse results for a few priors in BNP

Past work: finite approximations to BNP priors

	Truncated Approximations	Truncation Error Bounds	Non-nested Approximations
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GP	✓ [Bondesson 82] [Roychowdhury 15]	✓ [Roychowdhury 15]	▼ [Titsias 07]
(N)CRM	▼ [Ferguson 72] [Bondesson 82] [Gelman 01] [Broderick 14] Incomplete general theory		

Sparse results for a few priors in BNP

Outline

- Tractable priors in BNP
- Truncated approximations
 - ➔ **Two forms for sequential representations**
 - Truncation and error analysis
- Non-nested approximations

Ordering of (N)CRM atoms

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Series representation

function of a homogenous
Poisson point process

(4 versions)



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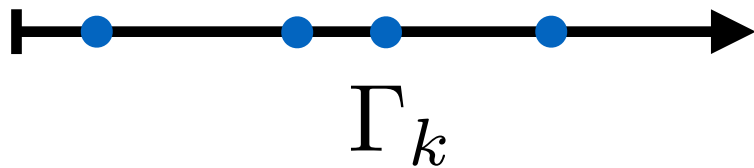
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1 2 ... K



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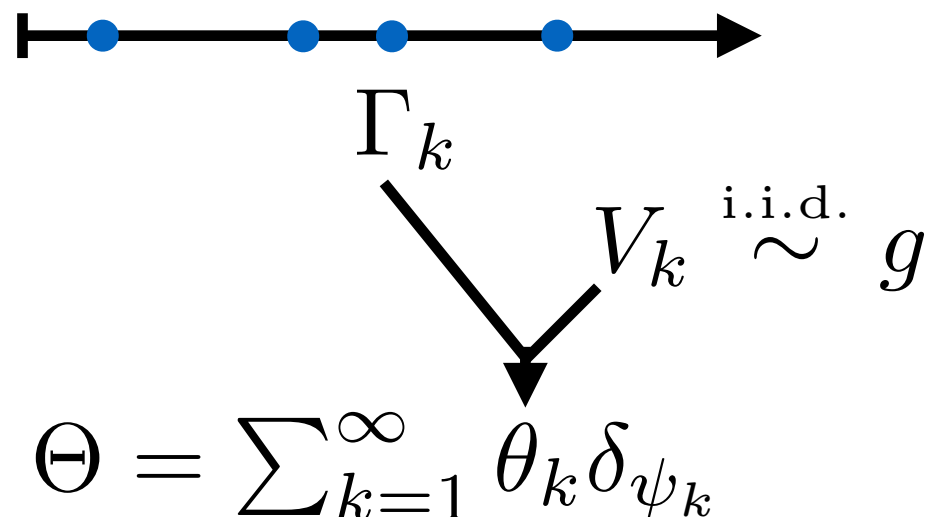
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Superposition representation

infinite sum of CRMs,
each with finite # of atoms

(3 versions)



Ordering of (N)CRM atoms

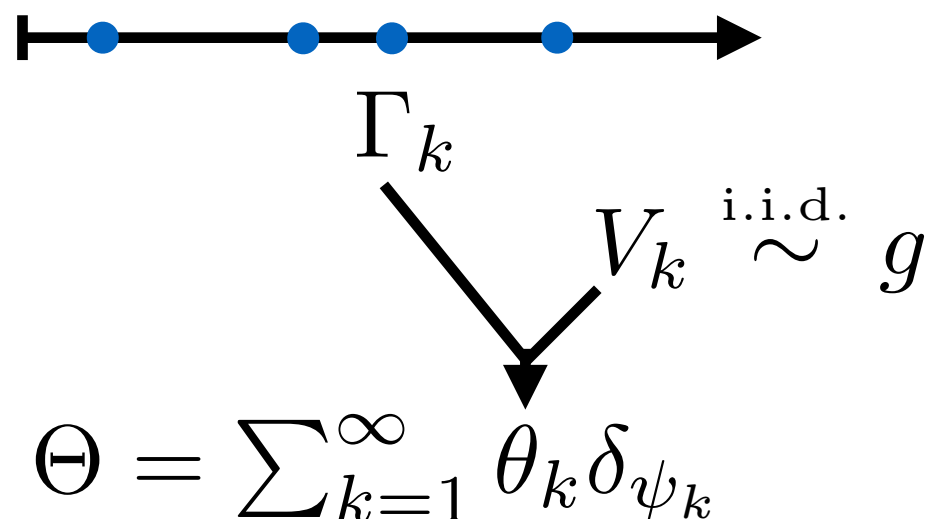
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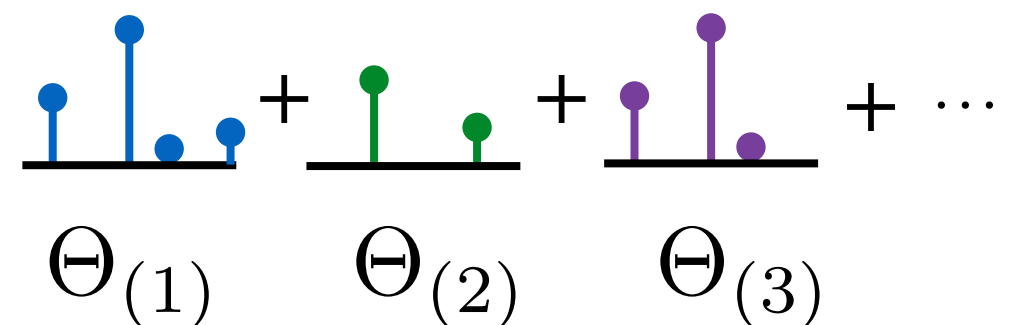
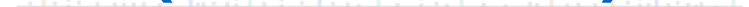
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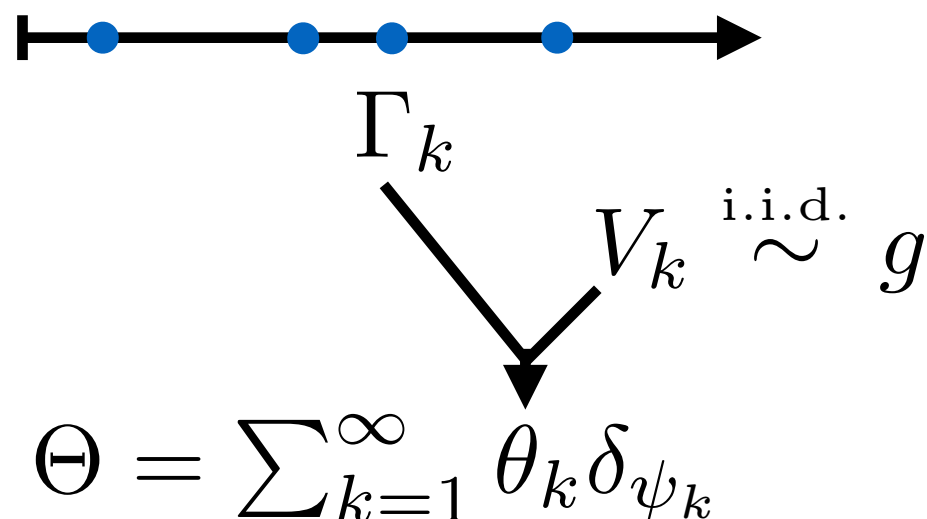
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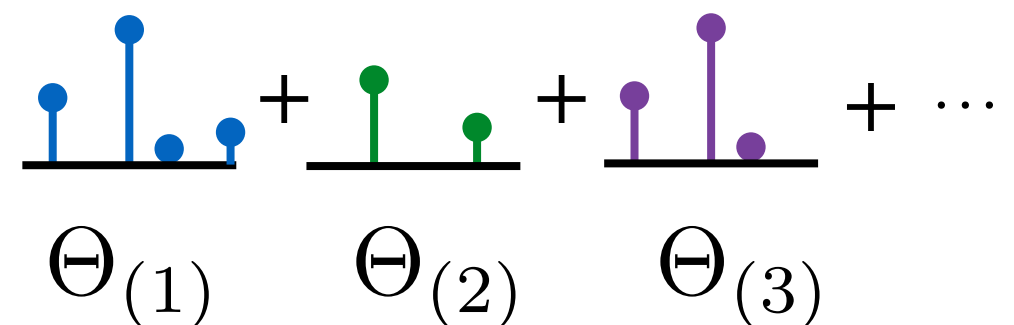
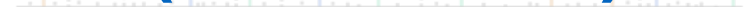
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(3 versions)



Theorem (H., Campbell, How, Broderick).

Can generate (N)CRMs using all 7 sequential representations

Sequential representation comparison

Why so many representations?

Sequential representation comparison

Why so many representations?

They're all useful in different circumstances

Sequential representation comparison

Why so many representations?

They're all useful in different circumstances

	Series Reps				Superposition Reps		
	B-Rep	IL-Rep	R-Rep	T-Rep	DB-Rep	PL-Rep	SB-Rep
Error Bound Decay	✓	✓	✓ / ✗	✗	✓	✓	✗
Ease of Analysis	✗	✗✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
Generality	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Known # Atoms	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗

Sequential representation example

Given Gamma process: $\nu(\theta) = \gamma \lambda \theta^{-1} e^{-\lambda \theta}$

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↑
Exponential(λ)
density!

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Step 3: plug in!

↑
Exponential(λ)
density!

$$\Theta = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} V_k e^{-\Gamma_k} \delta_{\psi_k}, \quad V_k \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} f, \quad \Gamma \sim \text{PoissonP}(c)$$

Outline

- ✓ Tractable priors in BNP
- Truncated approximations
 - ✓ Two forms for sequential representations
 - ➔ **Truncation and error analysis**
- Non-nested approximations

Choosing between the seven representations

How close is our finite approximation?

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full infinite

Θ

truncated

Θ_K

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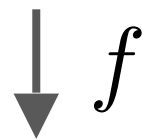
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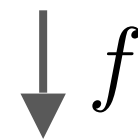
Θ



data X

truncated

Θ_K



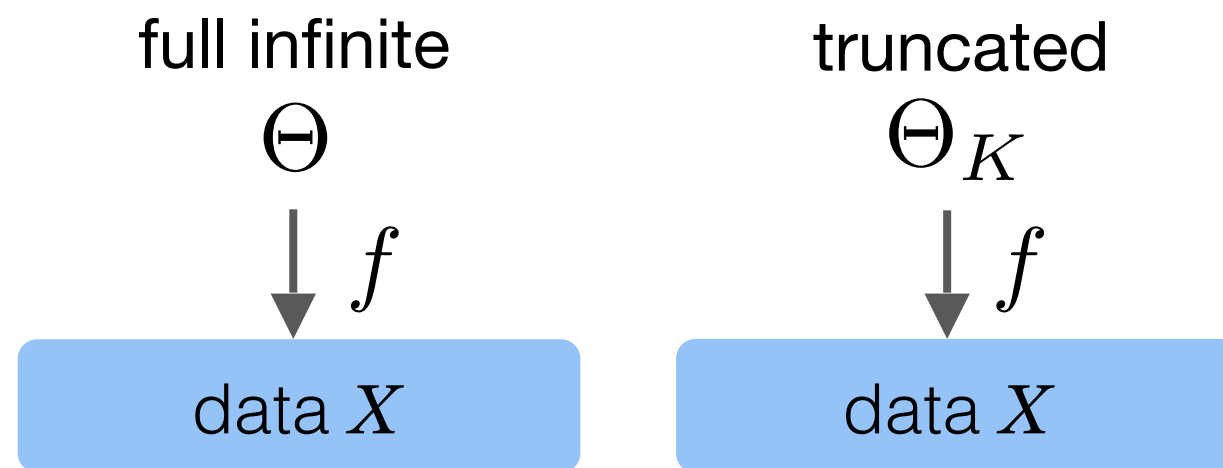
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Compare the distribution of the data
under full vs. truncated

Choosing between the seven representations

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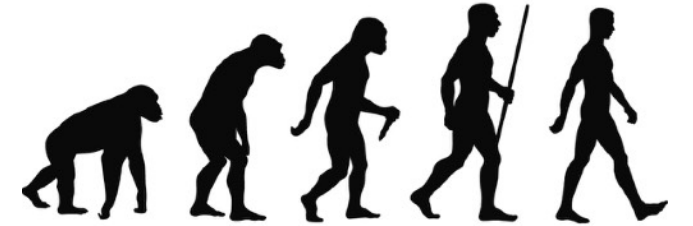
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We develop **new upper bounds**

Protobound

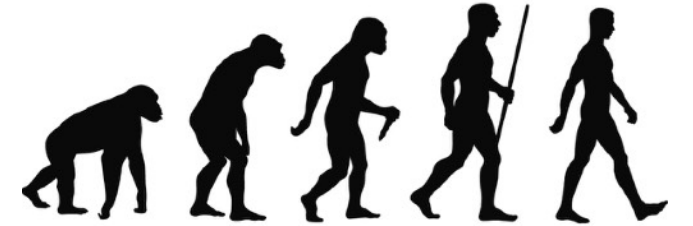


Leads to all the other truncation error bounds in this work

Lemma (H., Campbell, How, Broderick).

$$\|p_{N,\infty} - p_{N,K}\|_1 \leq \mathbb{P}(\text{any datum selects a removed trait})$$

Protobound



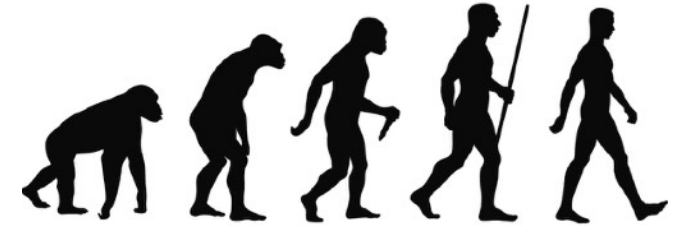
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Proposition (HCHB). The protobound is tight

Protobound

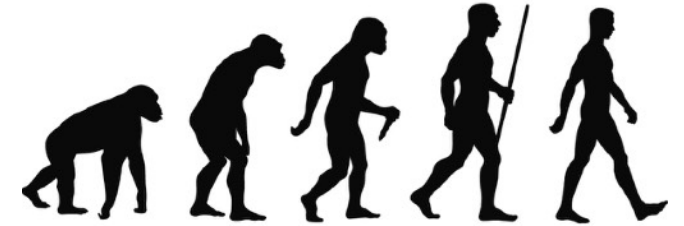


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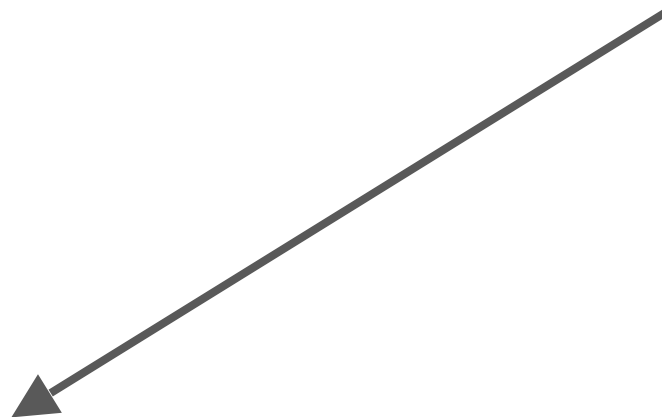
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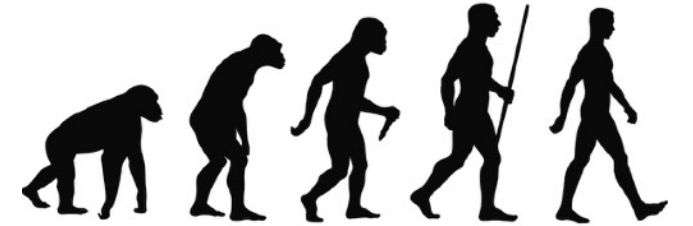
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Theorem (HCHB). The series rep error is bounded by

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$$N \rightarrow \infty, \text{bound} \rightarrow 1 \qquad K \rightarrow \infty, \text{bound} \rightarrow 0$$

Outline

- ✓ Tractable priors in BNP
- ✓ Truncated approximations
 - ✓ Two forms for sequential representations
 - ✓ Truncation and error analysis
- ➔ **Non-nested approximations**

Non-nested CRM approximations

Atom weights are independent

$$\Theta_K = \sum_{k=1}^K \theta_{K,k} \delta_{\psi_k}, \quad \theta_{K,k} \stackrel{\text{ind}}{\sim} \nu_K$$

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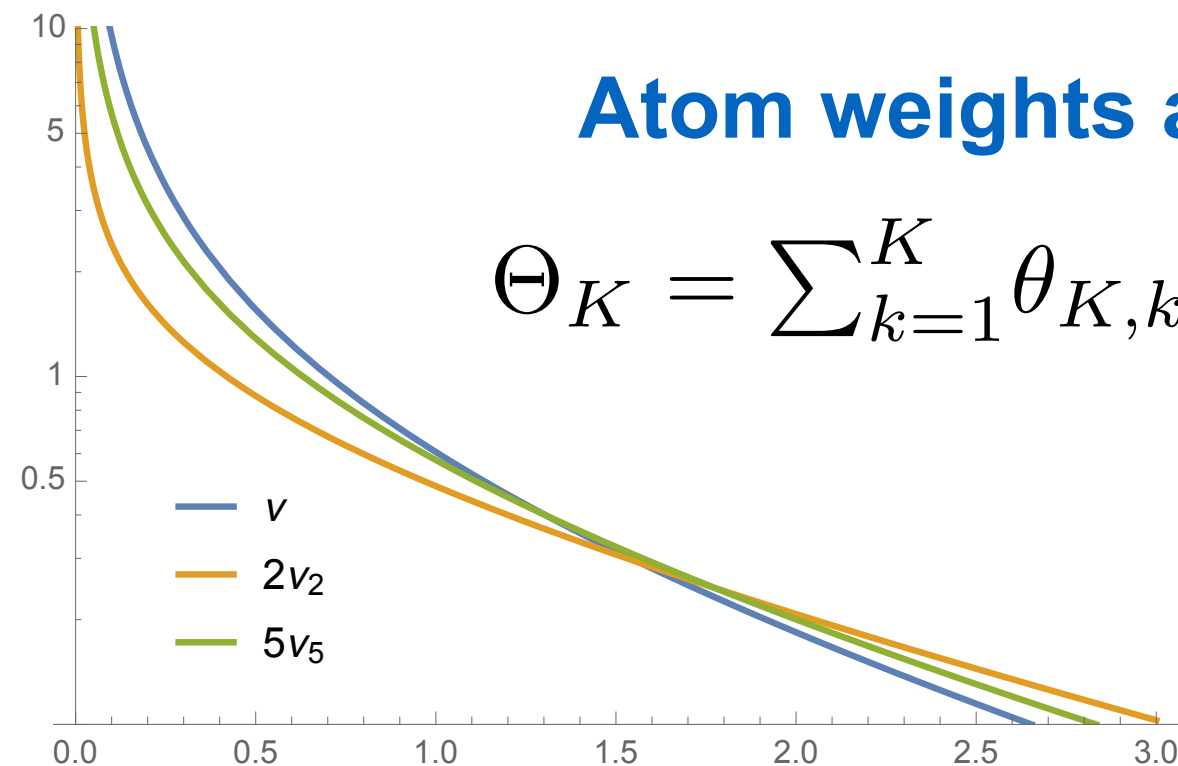
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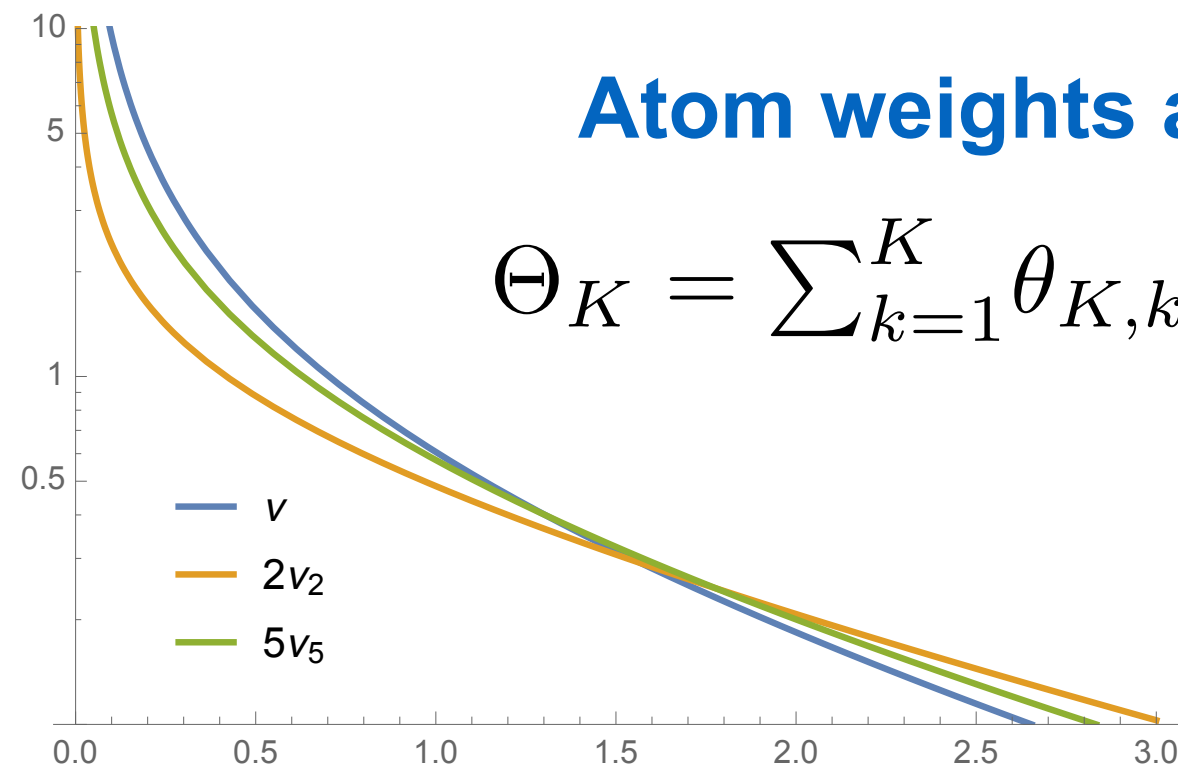


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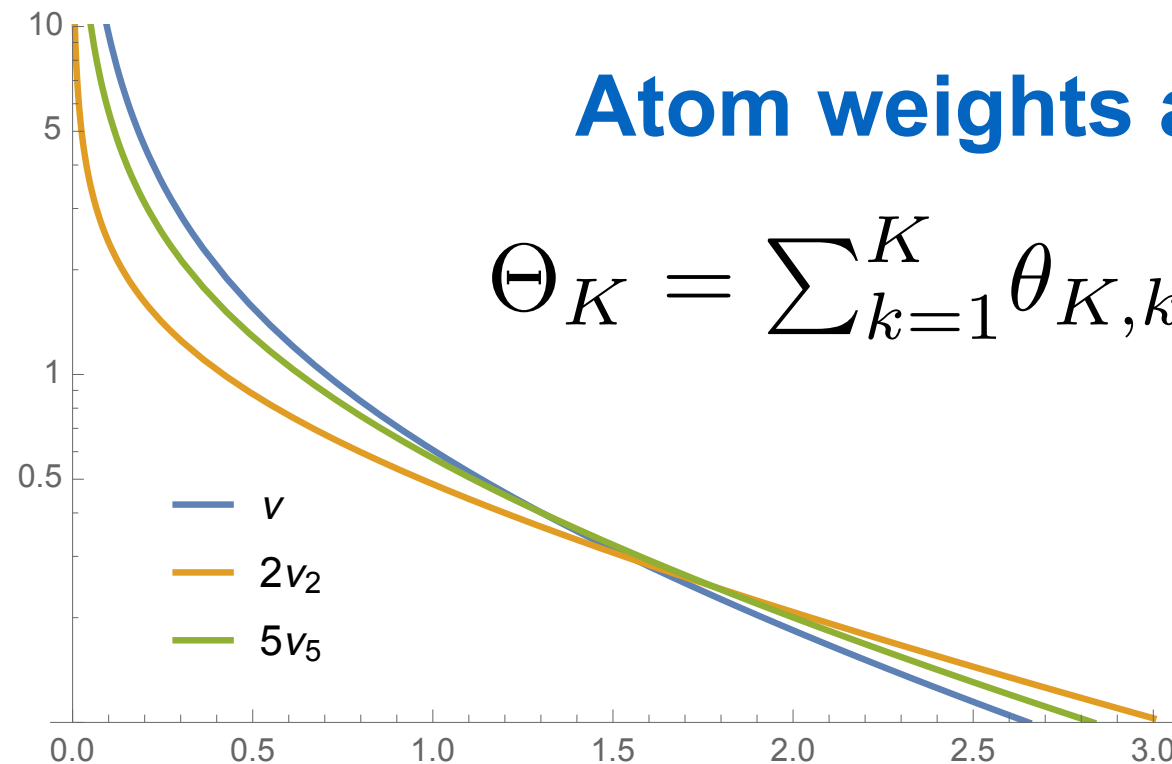
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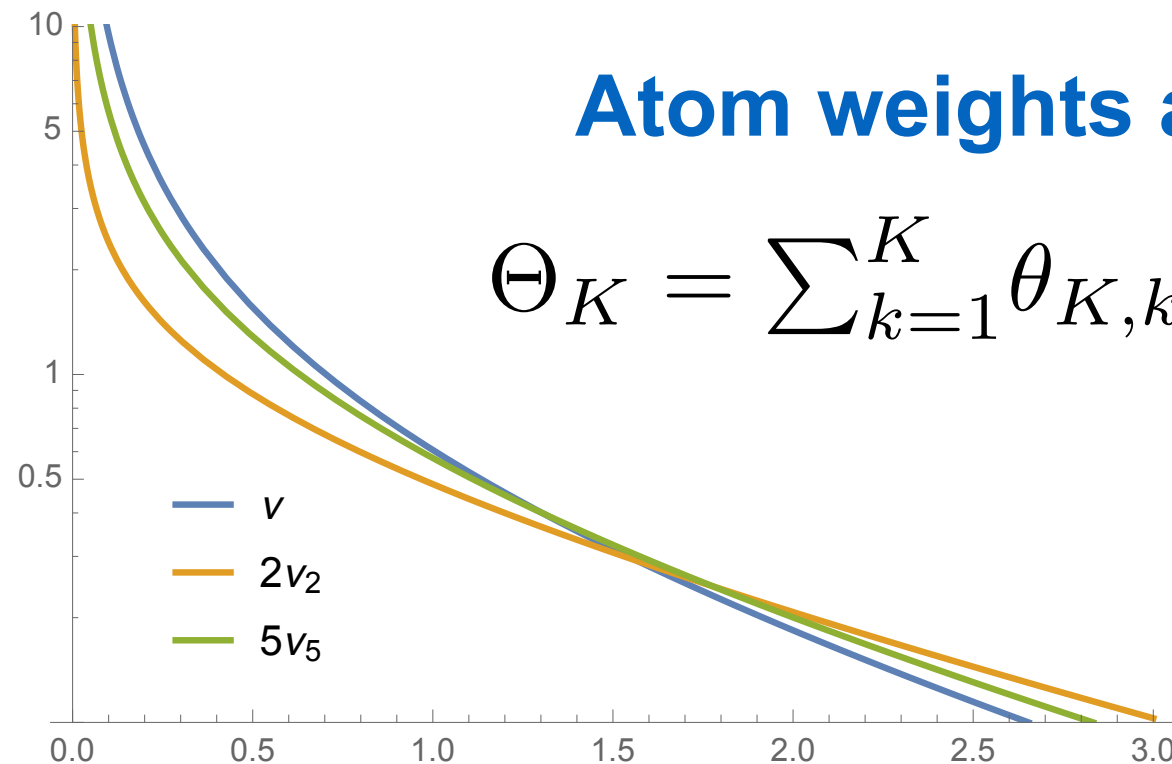
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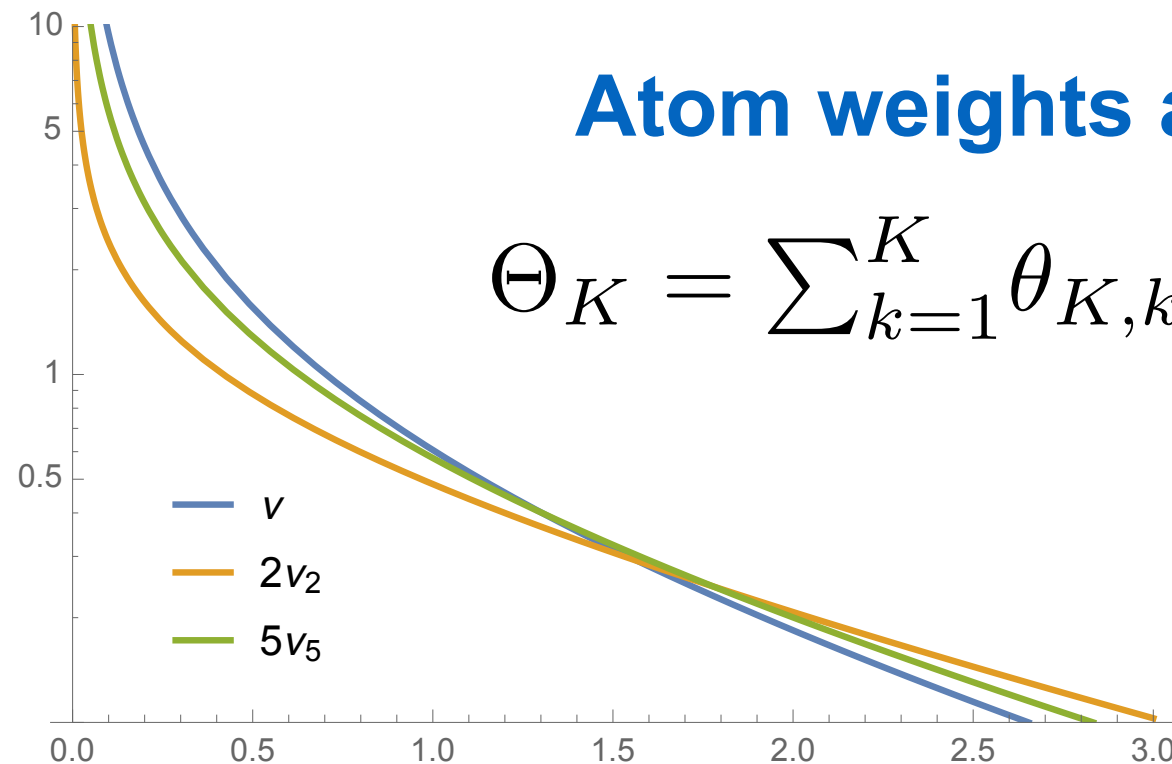
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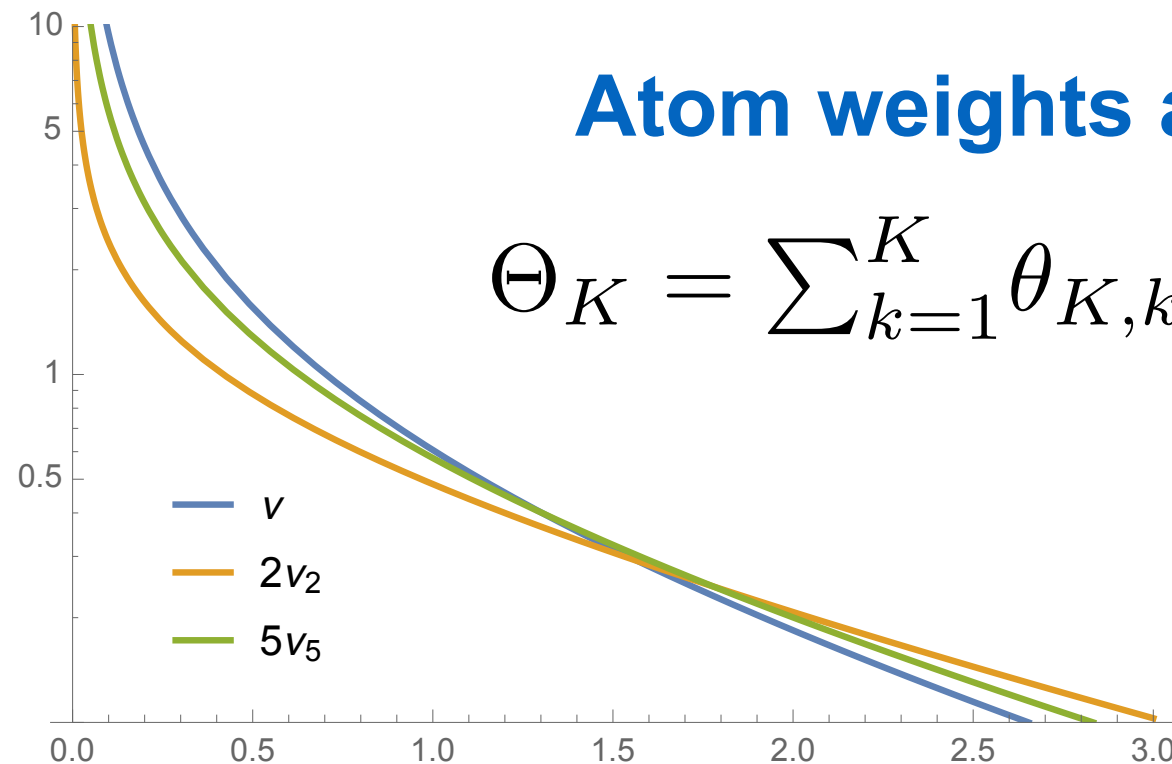
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Conclusion

Previous Work	Truncated Approximations	Truncation Error Bounds	Non-nested Approximations
DP	✓	✓	✓
BP	✓	✓	✓
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ΓP	✓	✓	✓
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Conclusion

J. Huggins*, T. Campbell*, J. How, T. Broderick

Truncated random measures

Bernoulli, to appear

Available online: <https://arxiv.org/abs/1603.00861>

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Generic finite approximations for practical Bayesian nonparametrics

NIPS Workshop on Advances in Approximate Bayesian Inference, 2017

Available online: <http://approximateinference.org/2017/accepted/HugginsEtAl2017.pdf>

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