



Learning from Crowds in the Presence of Schools of Thought

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Crowd-sourcing



	Worker 1	Worker 2	Worker 3	Worker 4
Task 1	X	X		X
Task 2		X		X
Task 3	X		X	X

Crowd-sourcing



Objective Tasks

*E.g. Labeling dataset
Knowledge Test*

Subjective Tasks

*E.g. Demographical Survey
Personal Opinions
Creative thoughts
Ill-designed ambiguous tasks.*

Crowd-sourcing



Objective Tasks

Subjective Tasks

Noise

Crowd-sourcing



Objective Tasks

Subjective Tasks

Noise

Worker reliability

Task clarity

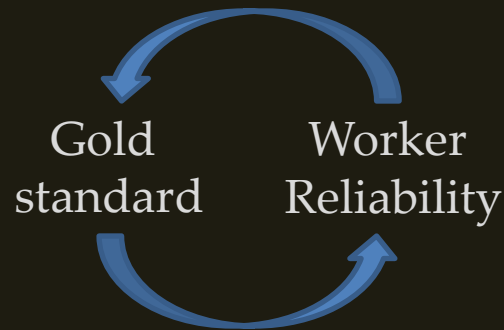
Previous works



Majority Voting

- [J. Whitehill et al., NIPS'09]
- [V.C. Raykar et al., JMLR'10]
- [P. Welinder et al., NIPS'10]

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Our Contribution



Contributions:

1. Applicable to both objective and subjective tasks.
2. Simple , no iterative procedure, no initial guess.

Two Principles

A worker is reliable

if he agrees with other workers in many tasks.

A task is clear

if it has only a few answers.

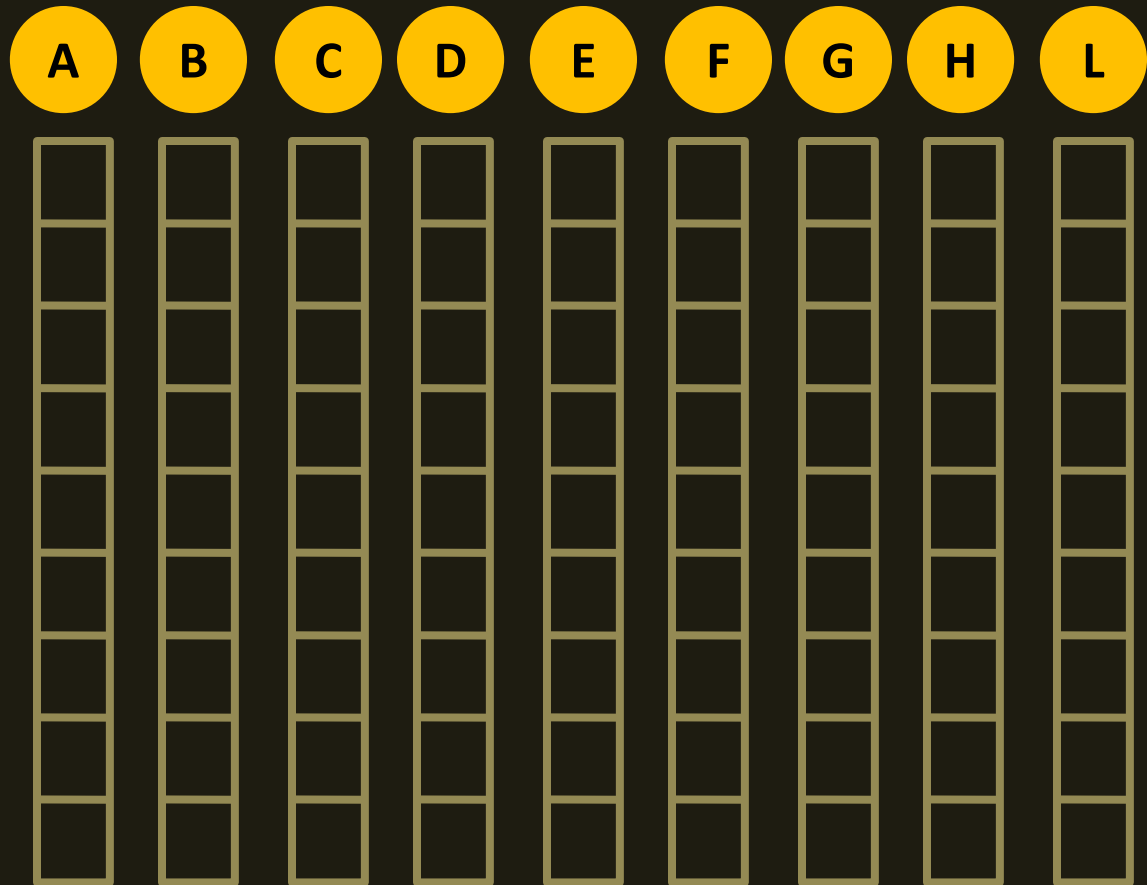
Clustering Analysis

Task k

X_{ik}

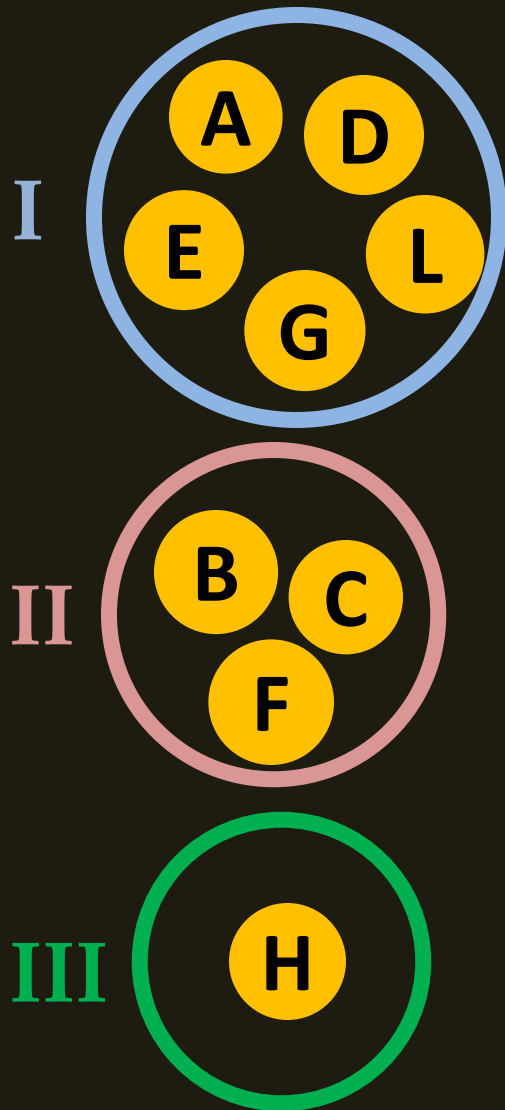
Workers

1
0
1
1
1
1
1
0
1
0



Group-size Matrix #Z

Task k



Worker	Assign.	Cluster size
A	I	5
B	II	3
C	II	3
D	I	5
E	I	5
F	II	3
G	I	5
H	III	1
L	I	5

Group-size Matrix #Z

#Z

	Task 1	Task 2	Task 3	Task 4	Task 5	Task 6	Task 7
Worker A	5	3	2	3	4	2	6
Worker B	3	3	4	5	4	3	6
Worker C	3	2	2	5	2	4	6
Worker D	5	3	4	5	4	4	6
Worker E	5	2	2	5	2	3	2
Worker F	3	2	2	5	2	4	2
Worker G	5	2	4	3	1	3	6
Worker H	1	1	1	1	2	2	1
Worker L	5	1	4	3	4	4	6

Worker Reliability

	Task 1	Task 2	Task 3	Task 4	Task 5	Task 6	Task 7
Worker A	5	3	2	3	4	2	6
Worker B	3	3	4	5	4	3	6
Worker C	3	2	2	5	2	4	6
Worker D	5	3	4	5	4	4	6
Worker E	5	2	2	5	2	3	2
Worker F	3	2	2	5	2	4	2
Worker G	5	2	4	3	1	3	6
Worker H	1	1	1	1	2	2	1
Worker L	5	1	4	3	4	4	6

Task Clarity

	Task 1	Task 2	Task 3	Task 4	Task 5	Task 6	Task 7
Worker A	5	3	2	3	4	2	6
Worker B	3	3	4	5	4	3	6
Worker C	3	2	2	5	2	4	6
Worker D	5	3	4	5	4	4	6
Worker E	5	2	2	5	2	3	2
Worker F	3	2	2	5	2	4	2
Worker G	5	2	4	3	1	3	6
Worker H	1	1	1	1	2	2	1
Worker L	5	1	4	3	4	4	6

Factorization

#Z

λ

μ^T

	T 1	T 2	T 3	T 4	T 5	T 6	T 7
WA	5	3	2	3	4	2	6
WB	3	3	4	5	4	3	6
WC	3	2	2	5	2	4	6
WD	5	3	4	5	4	4	6
WE	5	2	2	5	2	3	2
WF	3	2	2	5	2	4	2
WG	5	2	4	3	1	3	6
WH	1	1	1	1	2	2	1
WL	5	1	4	3	4	4	6

=

Worker
Reliability

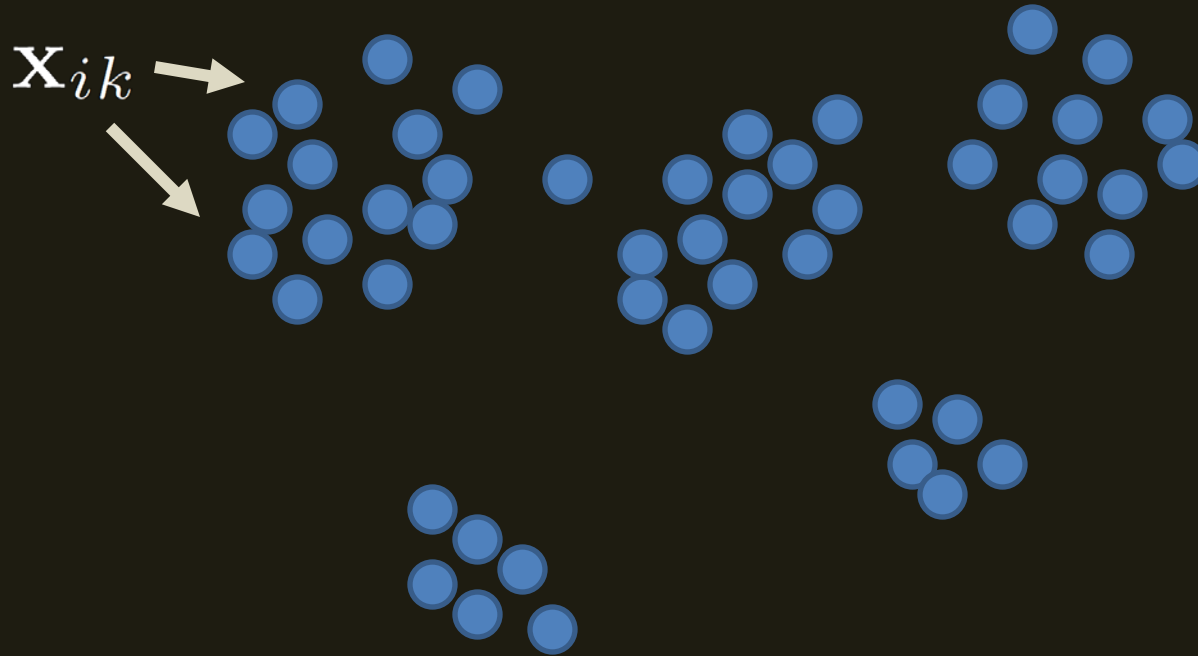
Task clarity

Perron-Frobenius theorem:

$$\#Z > 0 \rightarrow \lambda > 0 \text{ and } \mu > 0$$

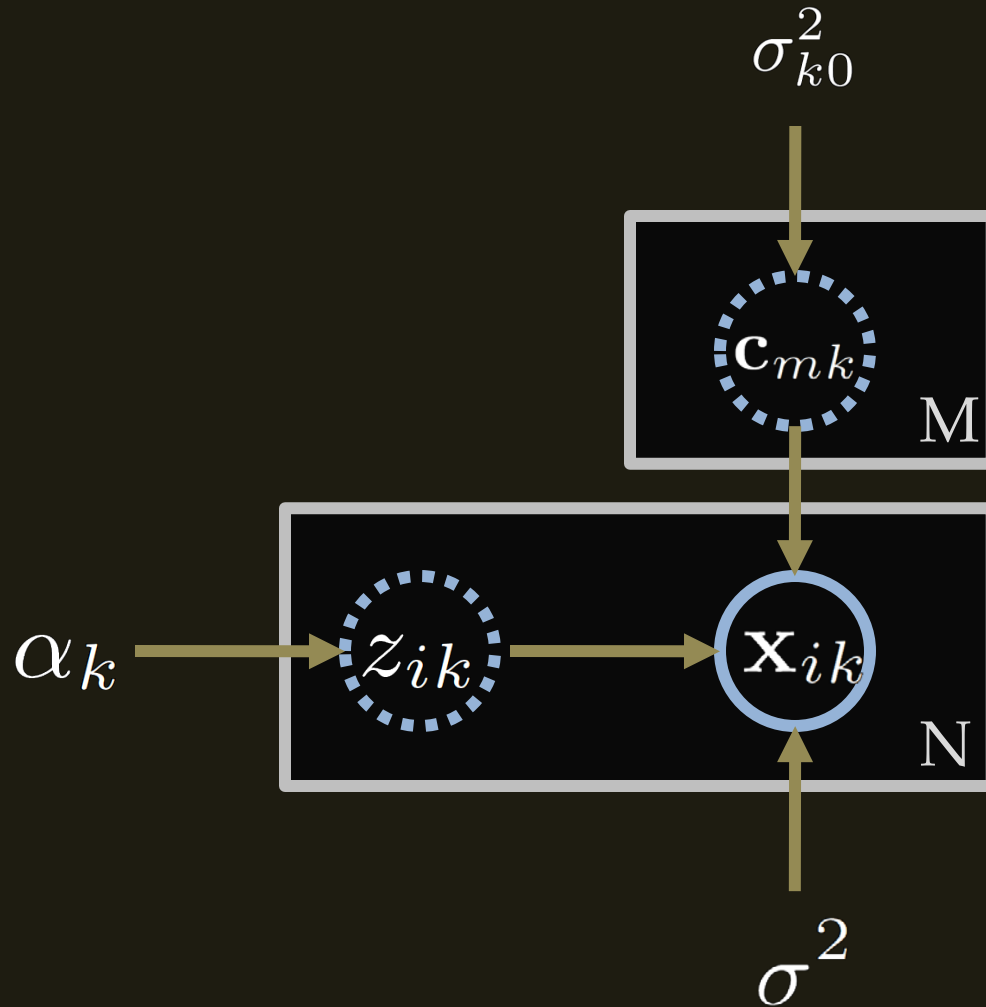
Clustering Model

Task k



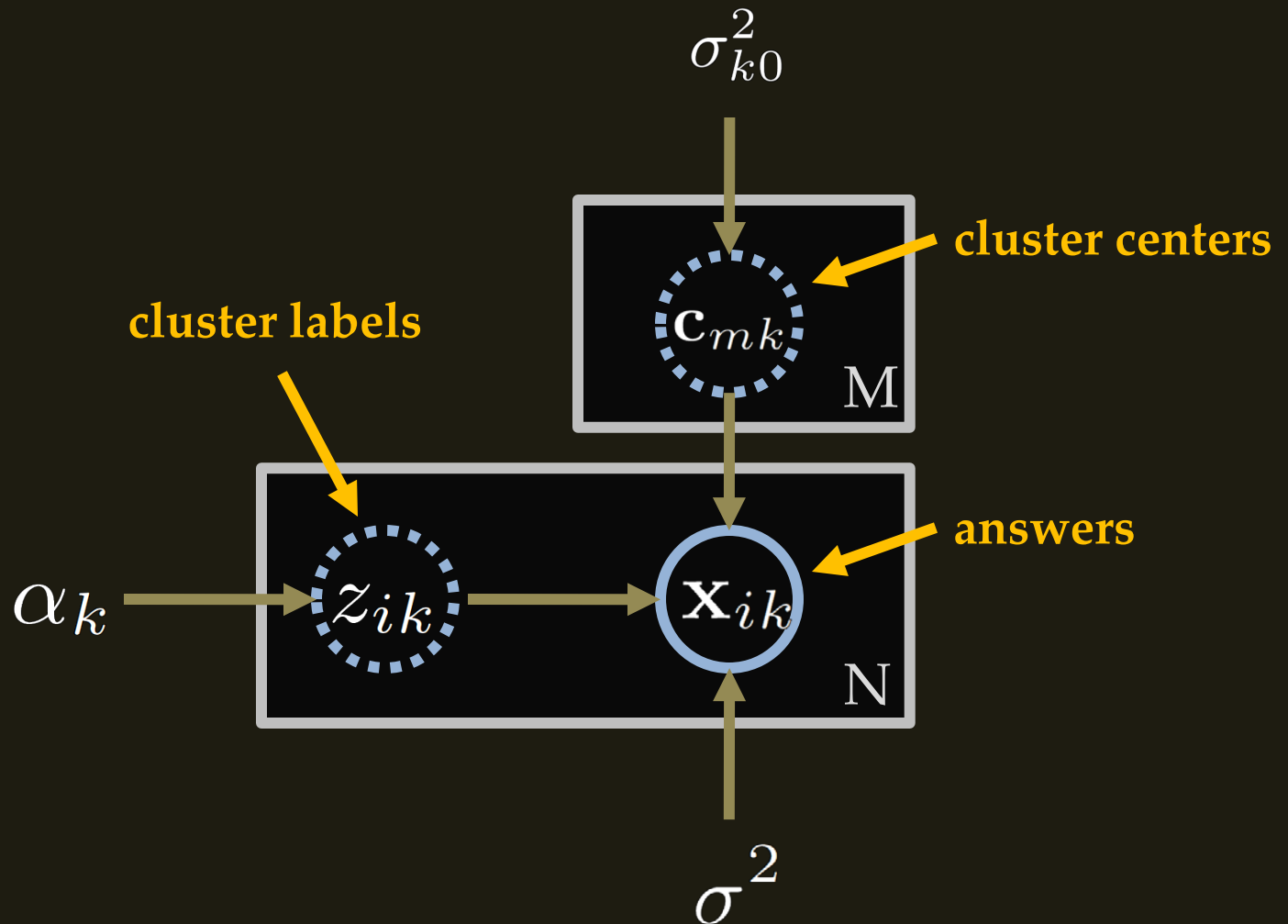
Clustering Model

Task k



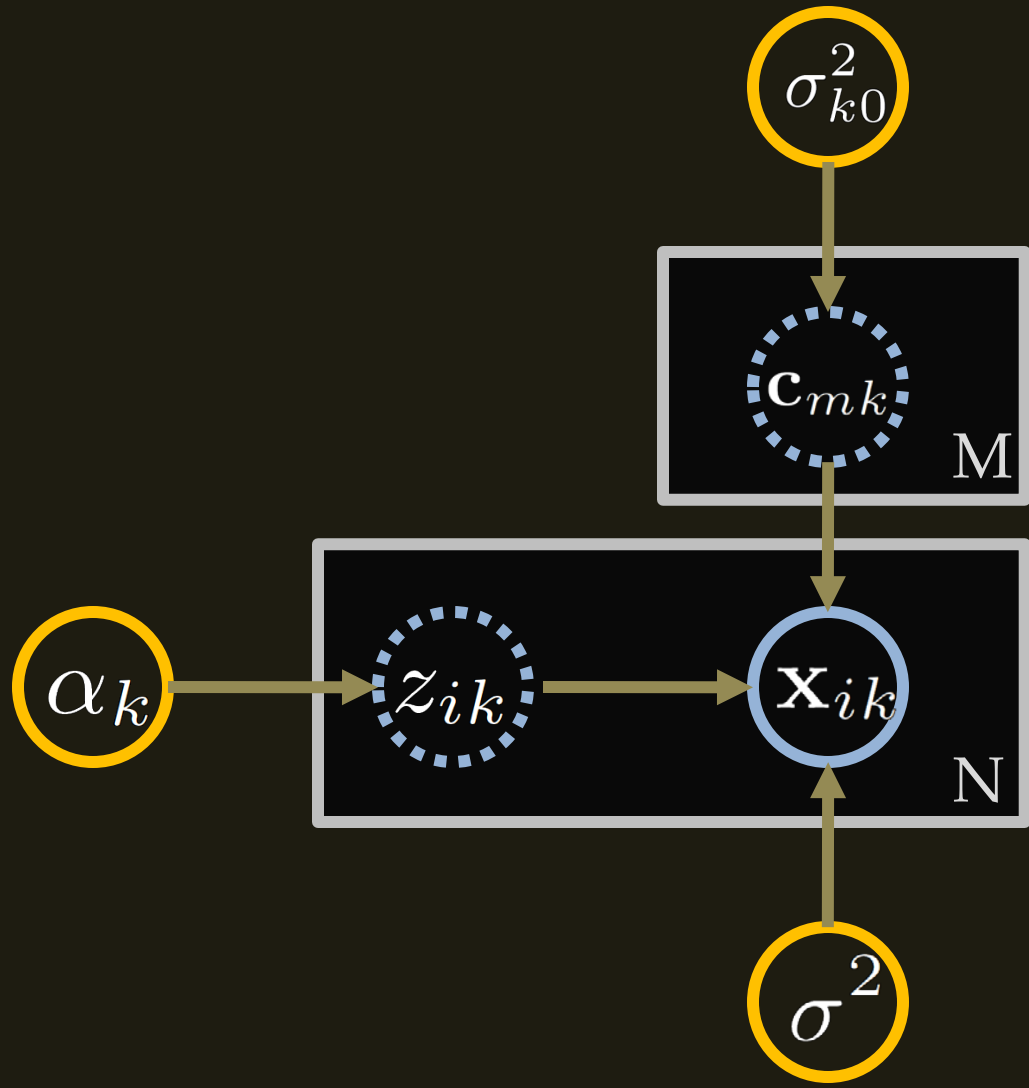
Clustering Model

Task k

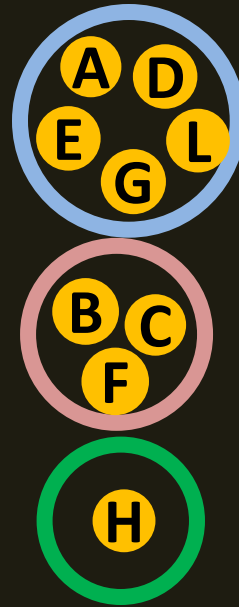
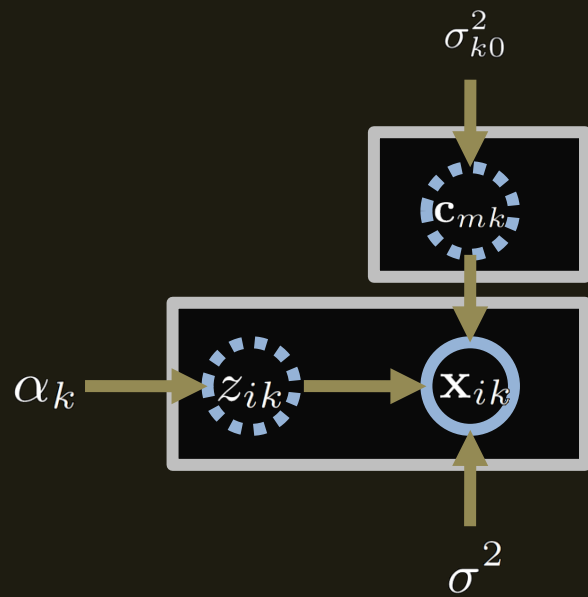


Clustering Model

Task k



Clustering Model



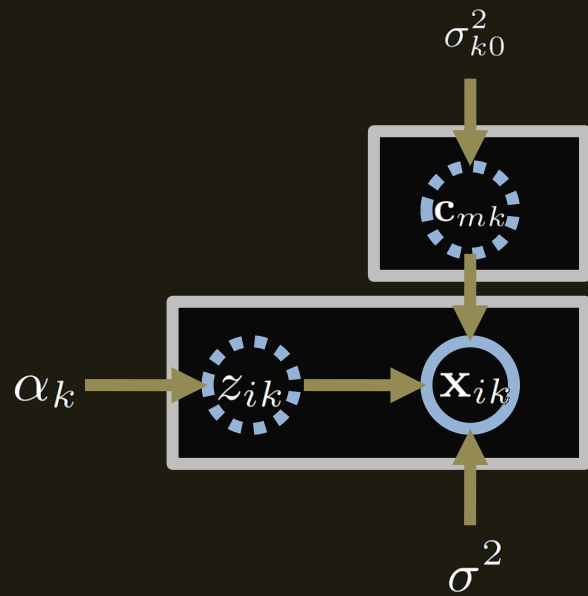
	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	T6	T7
W1	5	3	2	3	4	2	6
W2	3	3	4	5	4	3	6
W3	3	2	2	5	2	4	6
W4	5	3	4	5	4	4	6
W5	5	2	2	5	2	3	2
W6	3	2	2	5	2	4	2
W7	5	2	4	3	1	3	6
W8	1	1	1	1	2	2	1
W9	5	1	4	3	4	4	6

Clustering Model

Label assignment

#Z

Clustering Model

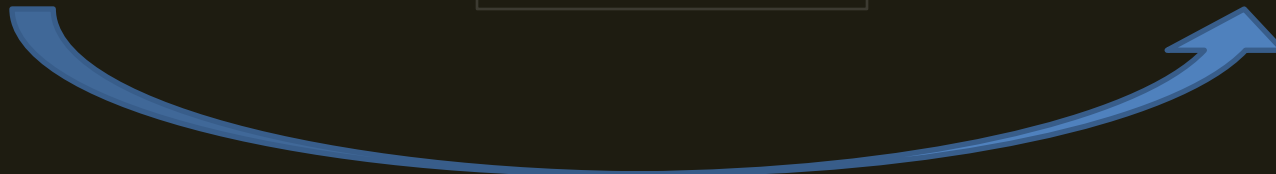


	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	T6	T7
W1	5	3	2	3	4	2	6
W2	3	3	4	5	4	3	6
W3	3	2	2	5	2	4	6
W4	5	3	4	5	4	4	6
W5	5	2	2	5	2	3	2
W6	3	2	2	5	2	4	2
W7	5	2	4	3	1	3	6
W8	1	1	1	1	2	2	1
W9	5	1	4	3	4	4	6

Clustering Model

Label assignment


#Z



Close form solution to #Z

$$\# \tilde{z}_{ik} \approx \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{1}{1 + \exp(\beta_k D_{ij}^k + \beta_{k0})}$$

Close form solution to #Z

$$\# \tilde{z}_{ik} \approx \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{1}{1 + \exp(\beta_k D_{ij}^k + \beta_{k0})}$$


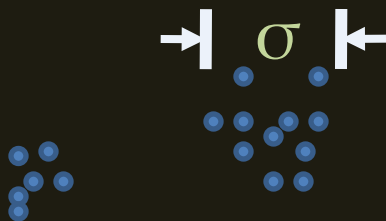
Squared Euclidean Distance
between worker i and worker j in task k

Hyper-Parameters Estimation

Hyper-parameters: α_k , σ_{k0} and σ

$$\mathbb{E} \left[D_{ij}^k \right] = 2d \left(\sigma^2 + \sigma_{k0}^2 \frac{\alpha_k}{1 + \alpha_k} \right)$$

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\|\mathbf{x}_{ik}\|^2 \right] = d(\sigma^2 + \sigma_{k0}^2).$$



$$\sigma = 0.2$$

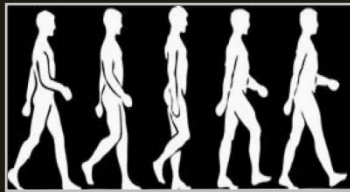
Experiments Setting

Mission I: Image Classification (Sky/Building/Computer)



Do these images contain sky?

Mission II: Counting Objects



Mission III: Images Aesthetics



Do these images look pretty?

Statistics

Mission I

Sky (12) Building (12) Computer (12)



Mission II

Counting (4)



Mission III

Images Aesthetics (12 + 12)

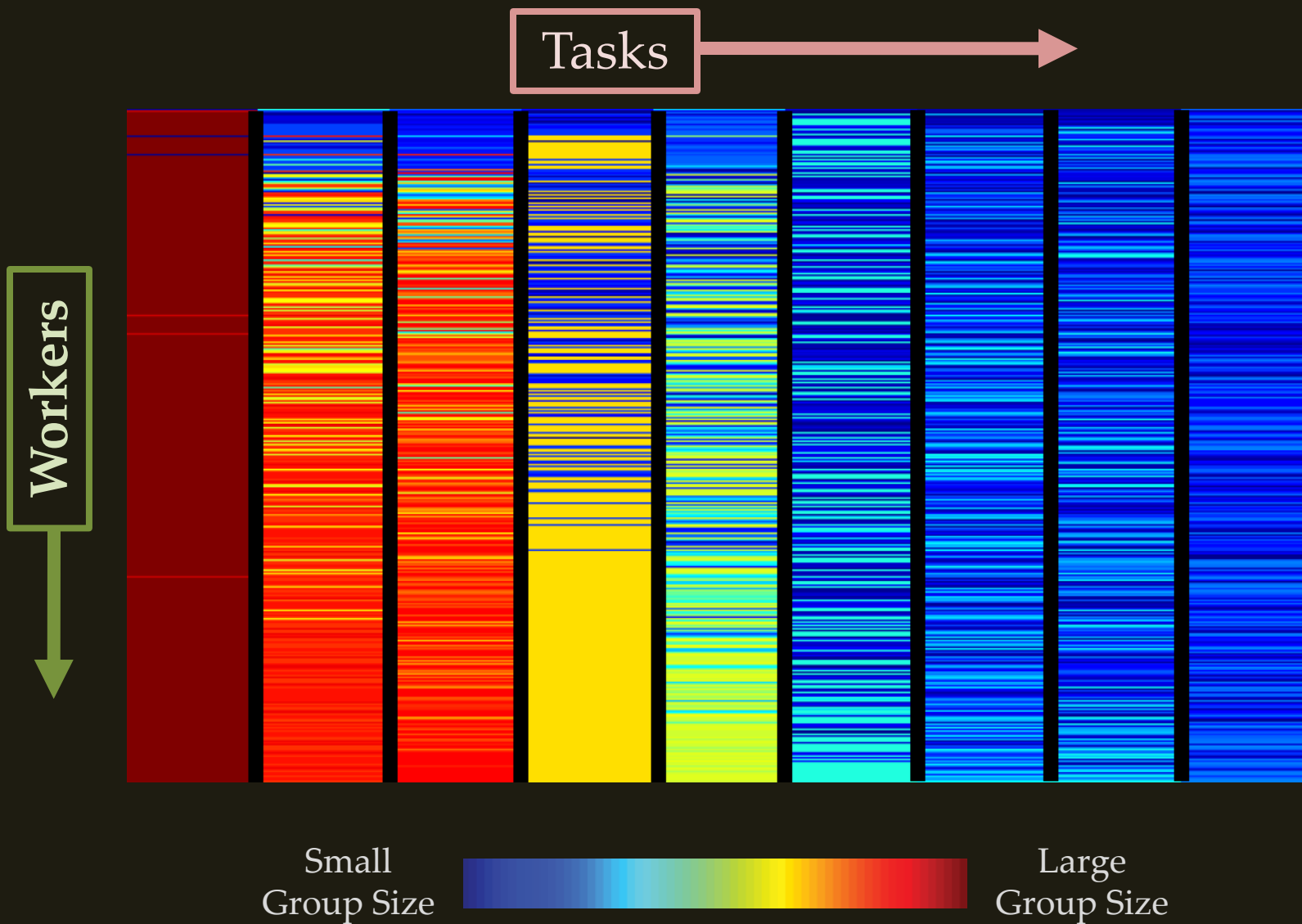


402 workers

Dataset link:

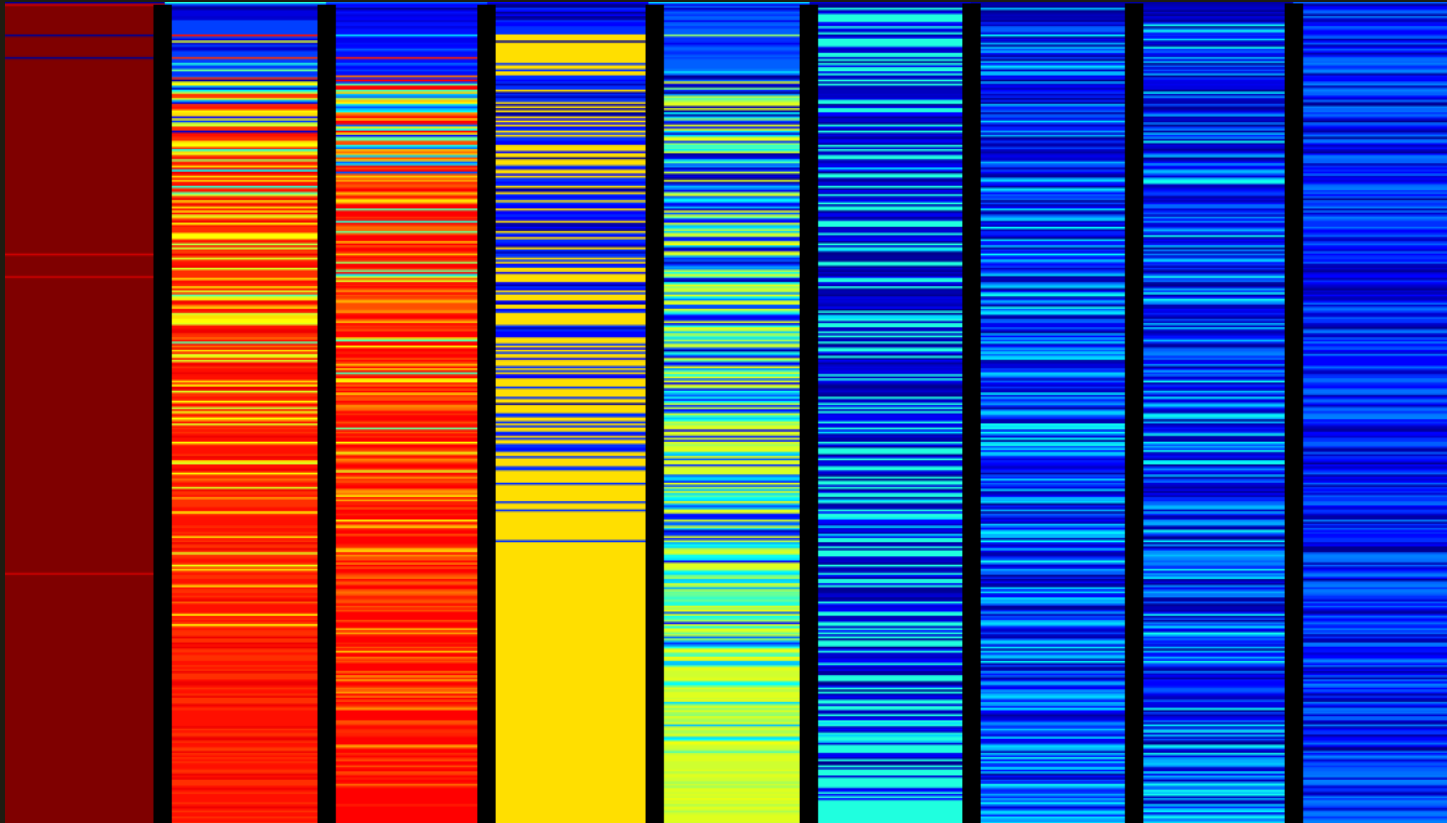
<http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~yuandong/kdd2012-dataset.zip>

The Groupsize Matrix



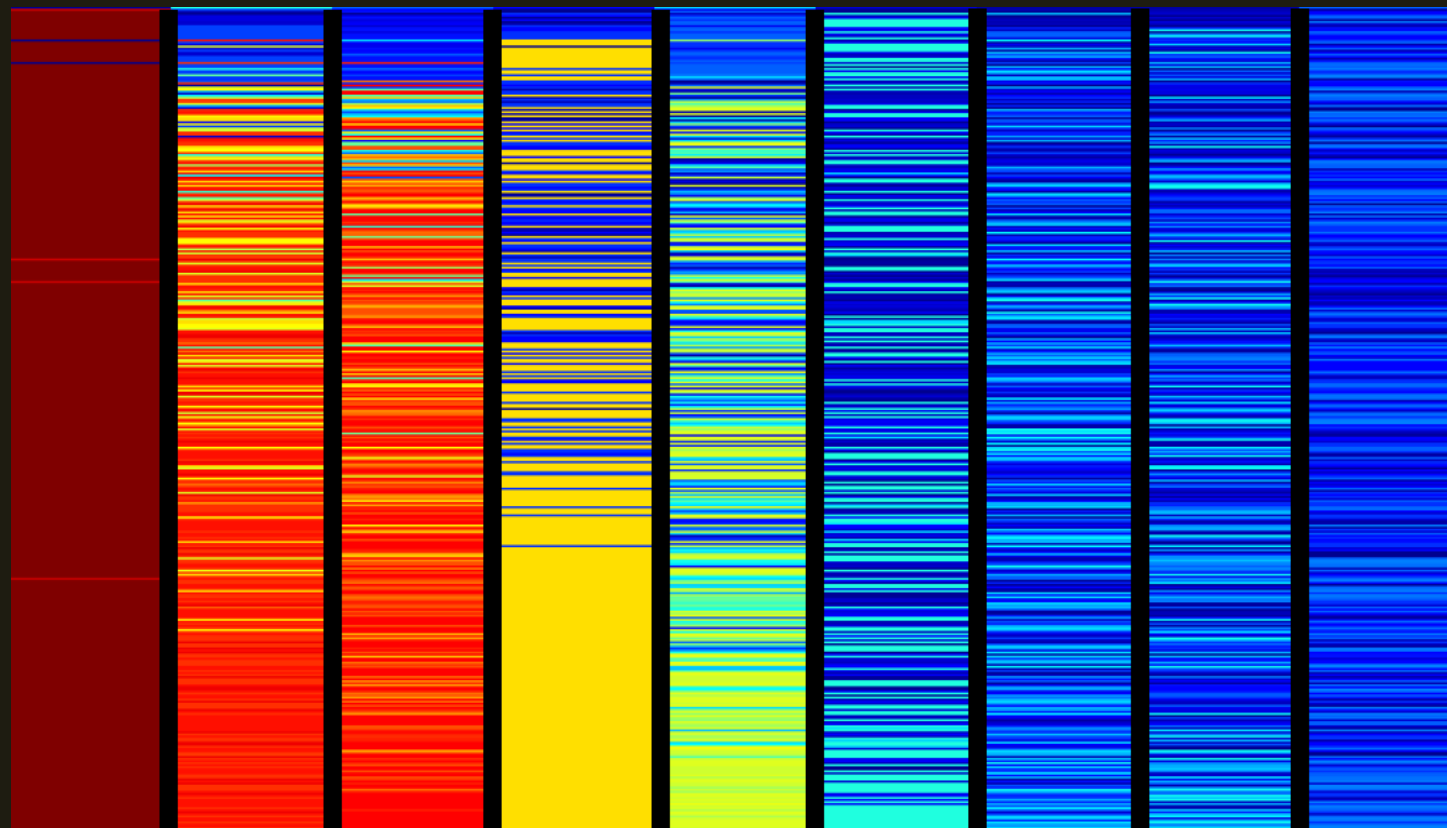
Rank-1 Factorization

$$\|\#\tilde{\mathbf{Z}} - \lambda\mu^T\|_F / \|\#\tilde{\mathbf{Z}}\|_F = 0.27$$



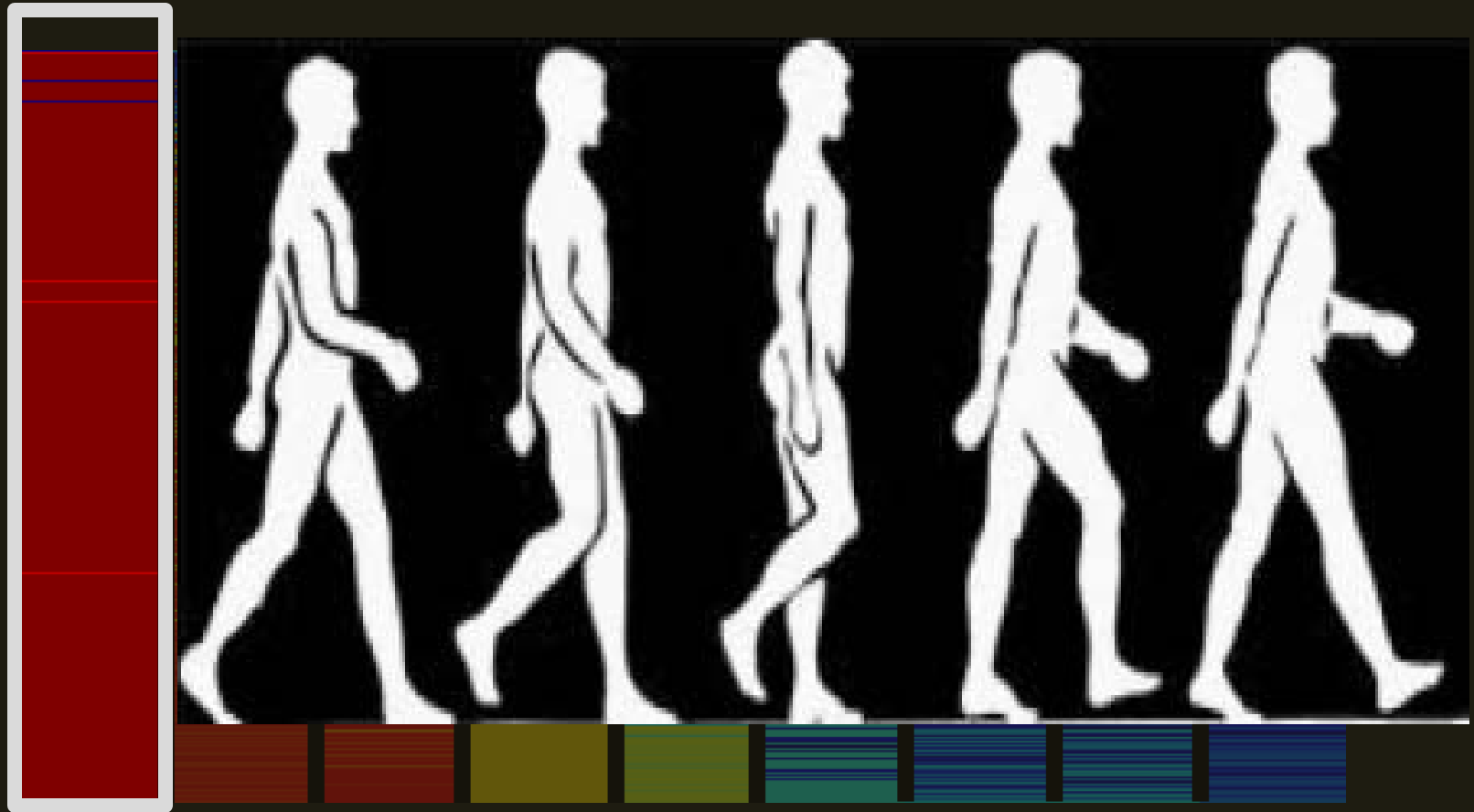
Rank-1 Factorization

Worker
Reliability



Task:	Count2	Sky	Building	Count3	Computer	Count1	Beauty1	Beauty2	Count4
Clarity μ_k :	69.4	52.3	52.0	34.8	28.1	13.9	12.4	11.8	10.2

Tasks' clarity



Task:	Count2	Sky	Building	Count3	Computer	Count1	Beauty1	Beauty2	Count4
Clarity μ_k :	69.4	52.3	52.0	34.8	28.1	13.9	12.4	11.8	10.2

Count 2: Clarity = 69.4

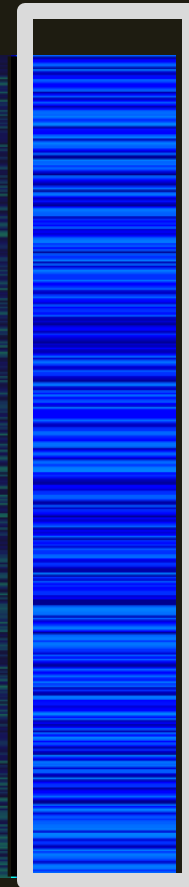
Task's clarity



Task:	Count2	Sky	Building	Count3	Computer	Count1	Beauty1	Beauty2	Count4
Clarity μ_k :	69.4	52.3	52.0	34.8	28.1	13.9	12.4	11.8	10.2

Beauty1 and Beauty2: Clarity = 12.4/11.8

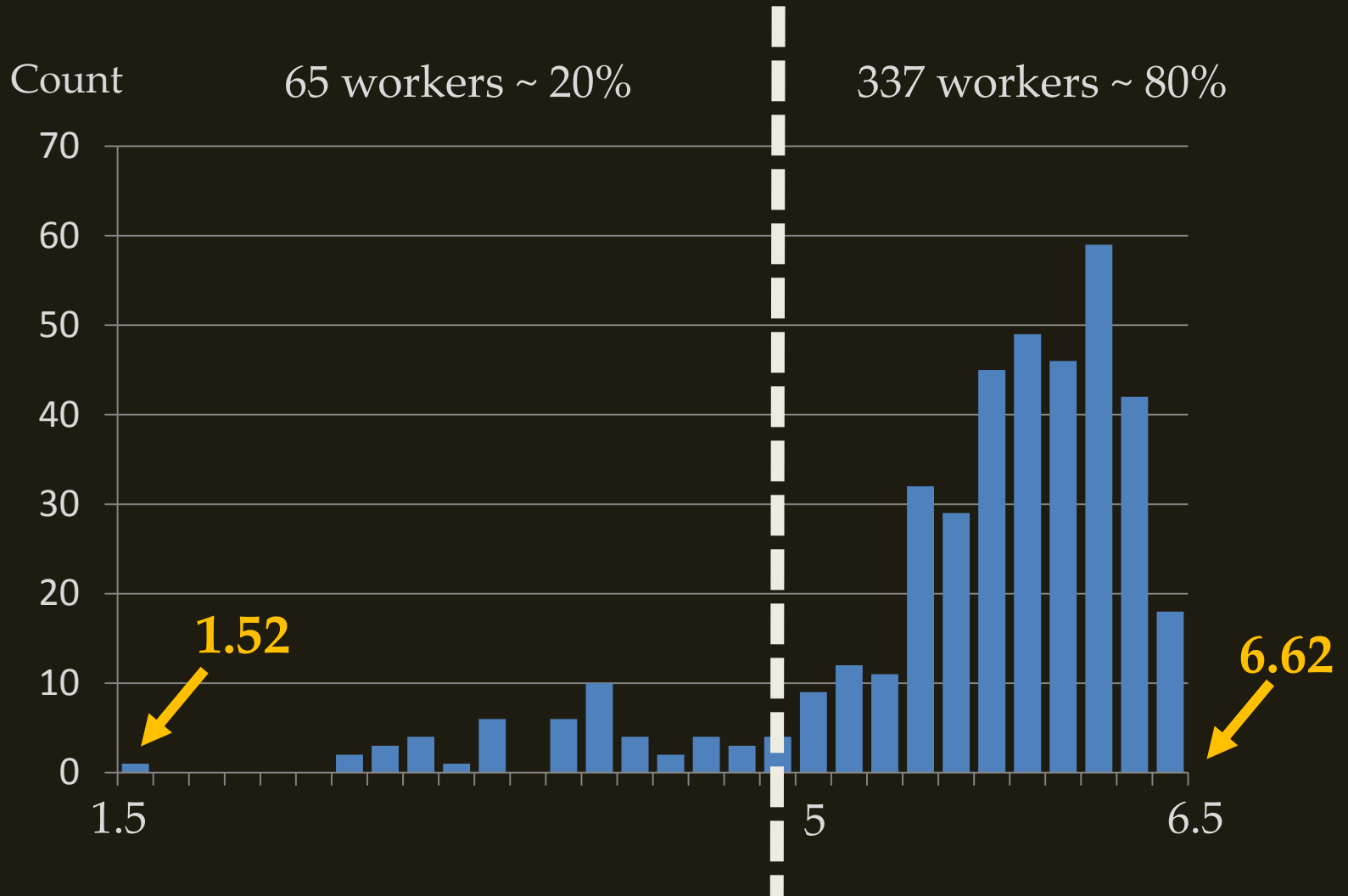
Task's clarity



Task:	Count2	Sky	Building	Count3	Computer	Count1	Beauty1	Beauty2	Count4
Clarity μ_k :	69.4	52.3	52.0	34.8	28.1	13.9	12.4	11.8	10.2

Count 4: Clarity = 10.2

Workers' Reliability



Ranking Workers

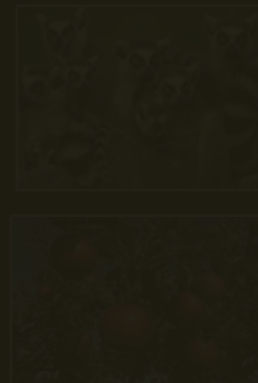
Mission I

Sky (12) Building (12) Computer (12)



Mission II

Counting (4)

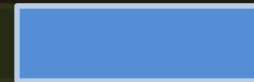


Mission III

Images Aesthetics (12 + 12)

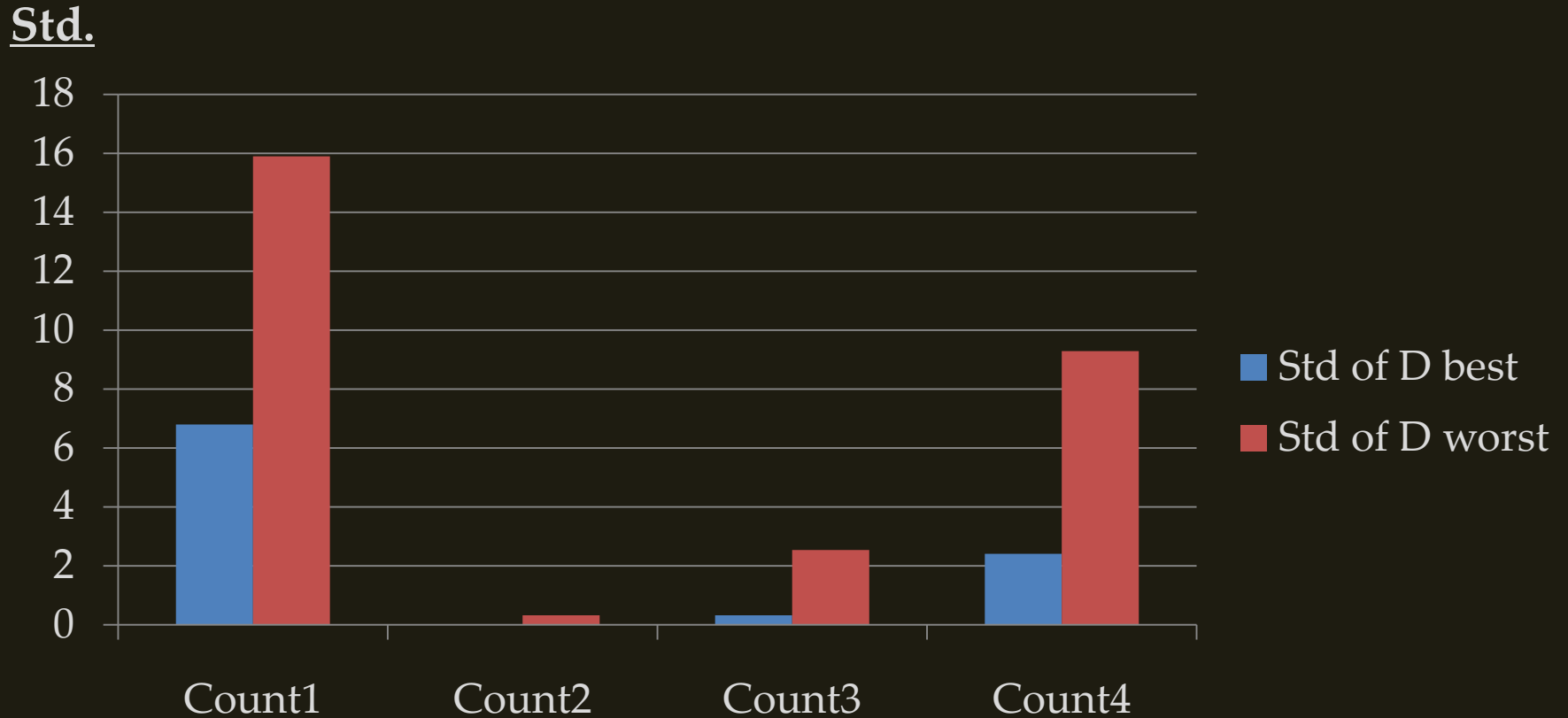


D most unreliable



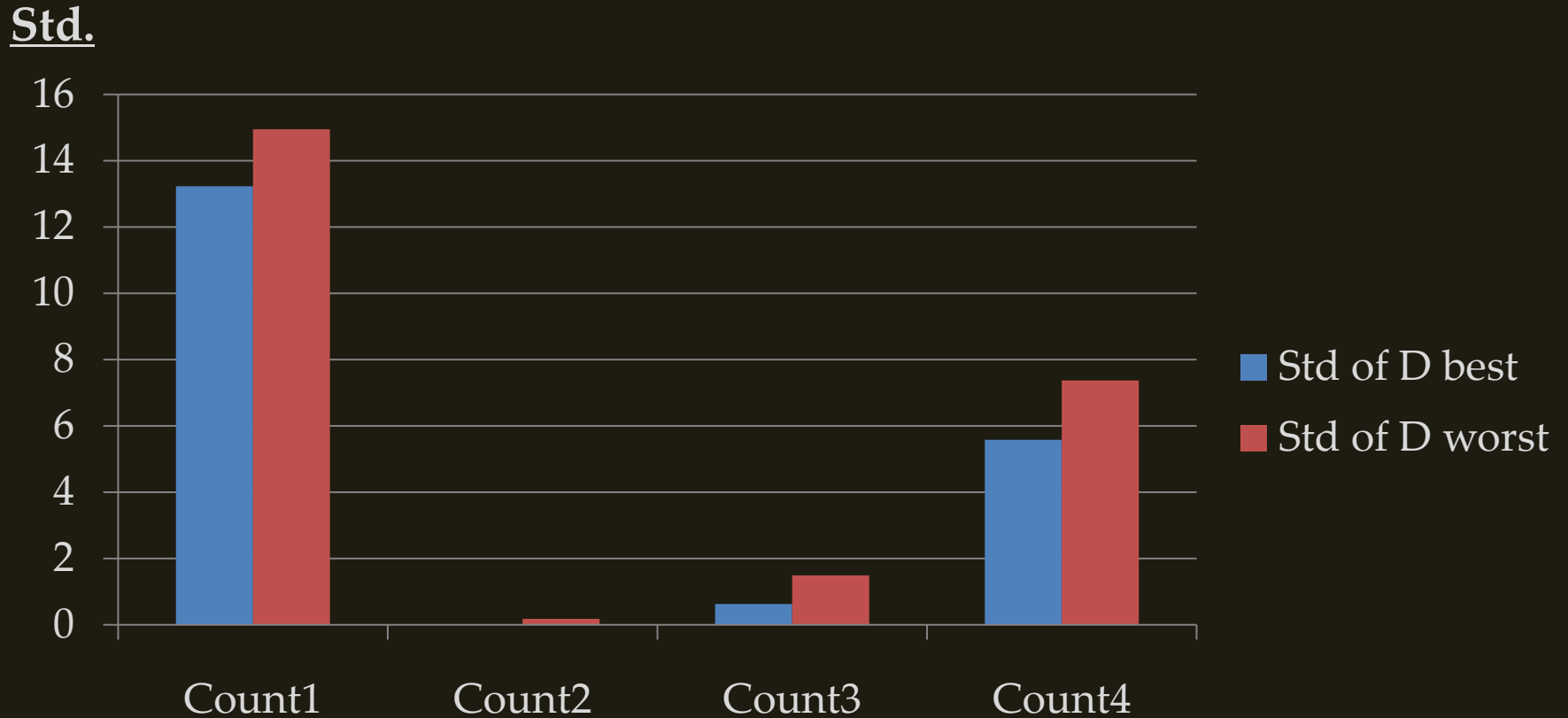
D most reliable

Ranking Workers



$D = 10$

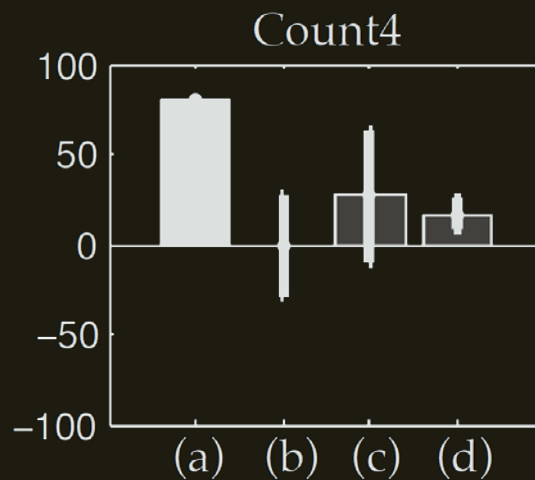
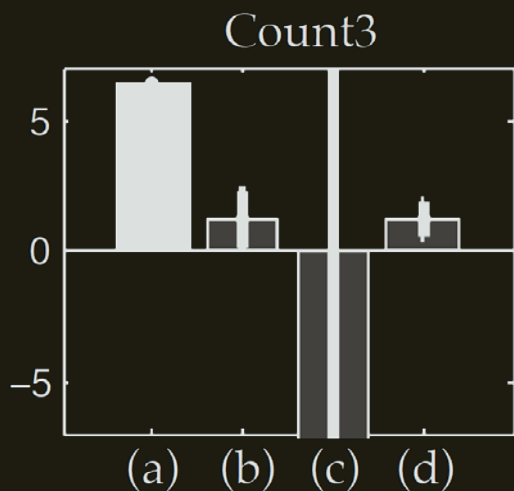
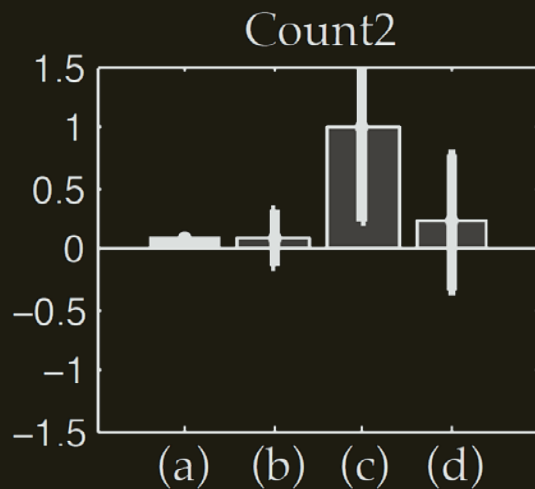
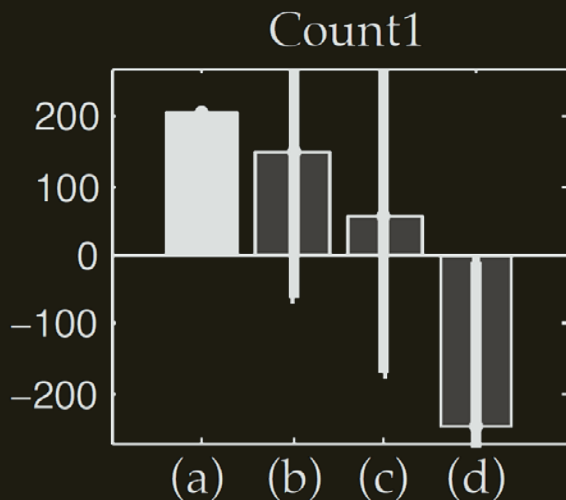
Ranking Workers



$D = 30$

Comparison with Clustering

Difference in Variance



(a) **Our Approach**
 (b) Spectral Clustering

(c) PCA-Kmeans
 (d) Gibbs Sampling

Time Cost

	Methods	Time (sec)
(a)	Our approach	1.41 ± 0.05
(b)	Spectral Clustering	3.90 ± 0.36
(c)	PCA-Kmeans	0.19 ± 0.06
(d)	Gibbs Sampling	53.63 ± 0.19

Predicting Ground truth

	Count1	Count2	Count3	Count4
Ours, $D = 5/10$	65	5	8	26
Majority Voting	53.7	5.0	9.9	22.9
Majority Voting (Median)	60	5.0	8	24
Learning from Crowd [JMLR'10]	56	5	8	24
Multidimensional Wisdom of Crowds [NIPS'10]	63.7	5	8	26.0
Ground truth	65	5	8	27

Conclusion and Future Work

Conclusion

1. Estimating workers' reliability and tasks' clarity in the presence of **schools of thought**.
2. Applicable to both objective and subjective tasks.
3. Simple solution without iteration, no initial guess.

Future Work

Handling possible missing entries
Improving the scalability.

Thanks!