

S+SSPR 2016

A Novel Graph Database for Handwritten Word Images &
Graph-based Keyword Spotting in Historical Handwritten Documents

Plantation of Charles Sellers - the rest to Captain
Cokes' company, at Nicholas Reasmers.
October 26th G.W.

Winchester: October 28th 1755.
Parole Hampton.

The officers who came down
from Fort Cumberland with Colonel
Washington, are immediately to go Recrui-

Team

Michael Stauffer



University of Pretoria
University of Applied Sciences
and Arts Northwestern
Switzerland

Andreas Fischer



University of Fribourg
University of Applied Sciences
and Arts Western Switzerland

Kaspar Riesen



University of Applied Sciences
and Arts Northwestern
Switzerland

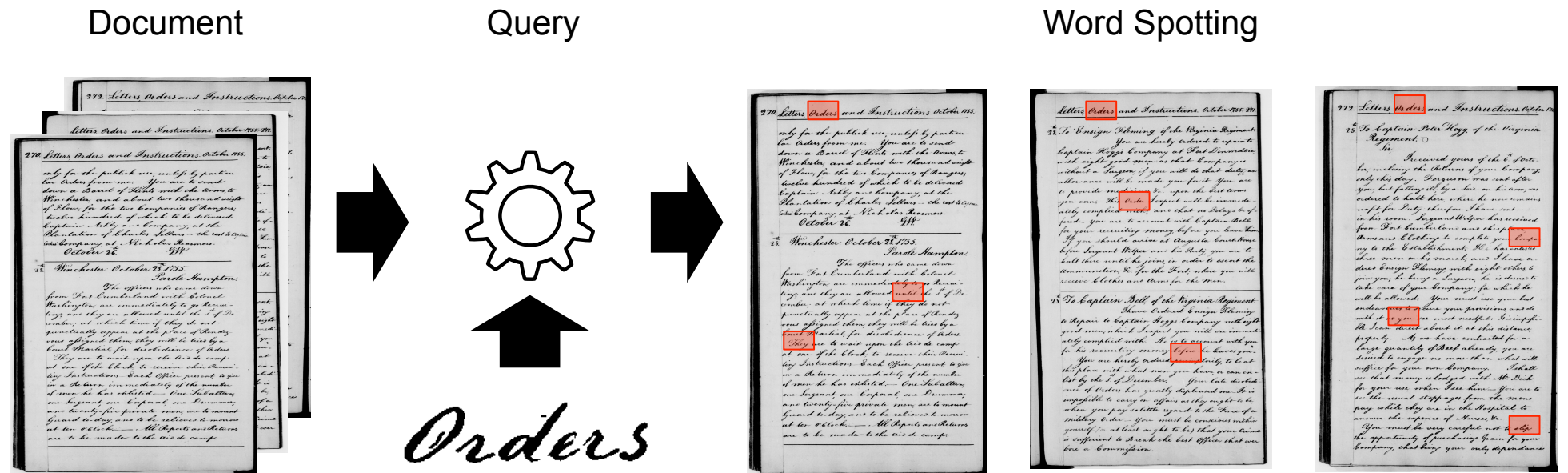
Content

- Overview
- From Documents to Graphs
 - Image Preprocessing
 - Graph Representation
 - Graph Normalisation
 - Graph Matching
- Experiments
- Future Work
- Q+A

Overview – What is Keyword Spotting

Keyword Spotting (KWS) is the task of **retrieving any instance of a given query word in speech recordings or text images.**

➔ Focus on handwritten, historical documents

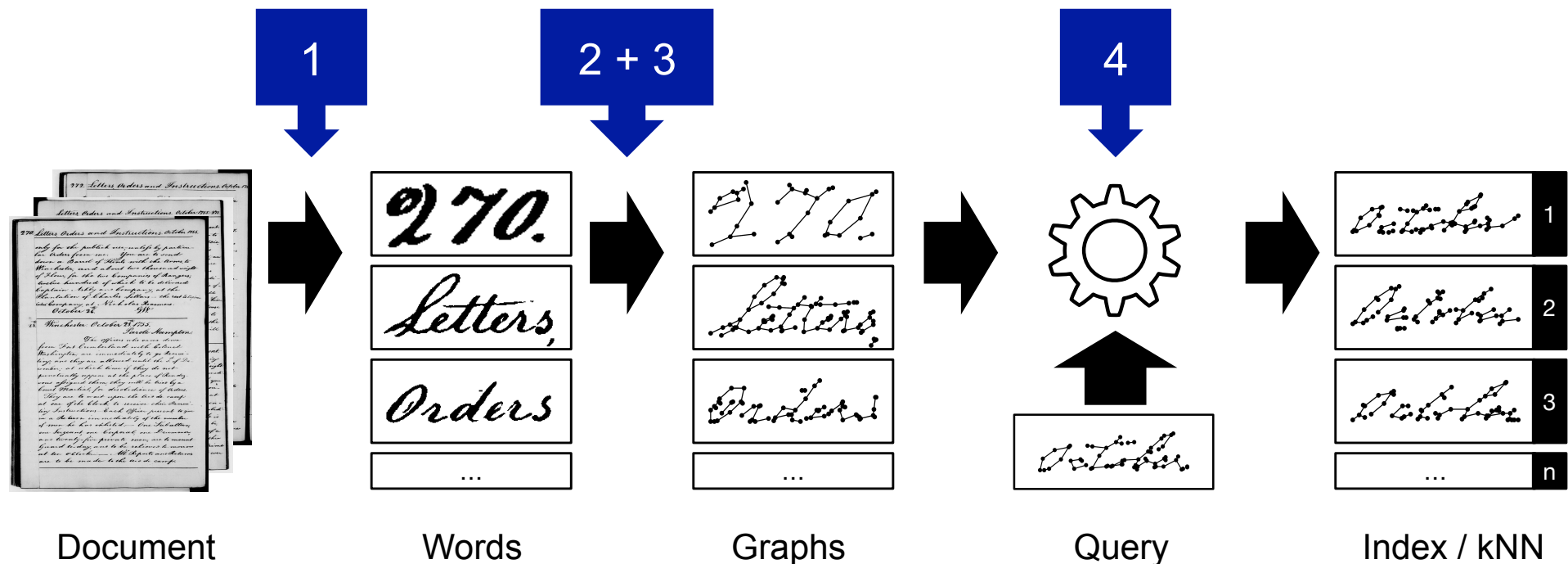


Process Legend

- 1) Image Preprocessing
- 2) Graph Extraction
- 3) Graph Normalisation
- 4) Pairwise Matching

Overview – From Documents to Graphs

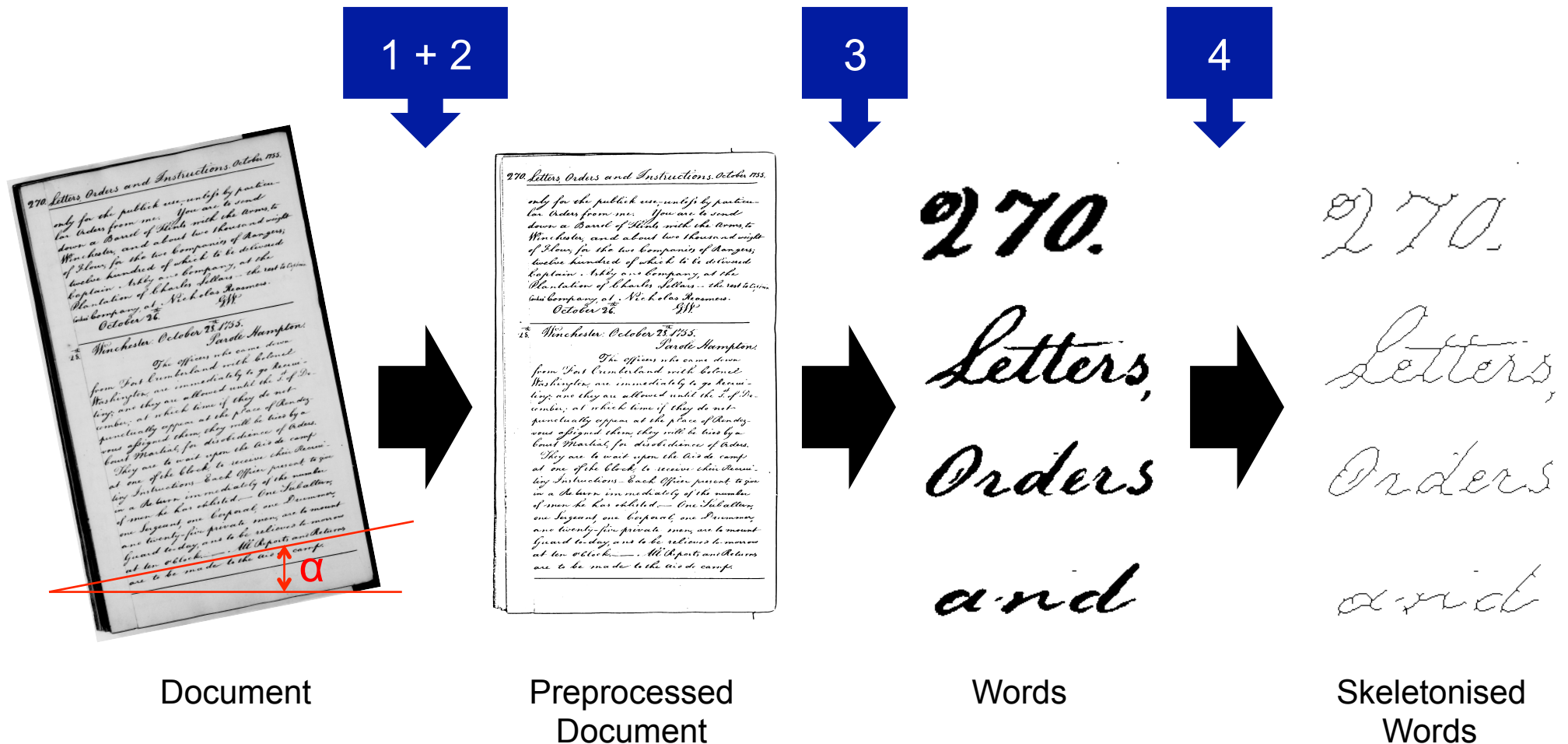
Graph-based KWS is based on the **representation of words** by means of different **graphs**. This representations are eventually used to **match a query** graph **against** all **document** graphs.



1) Image Preprocessing

Process Legend

- 1) Binarisation / Difference of Gaussian
- 2) Skew Correction (α)
- 3) Word Segmentation
- 4) Skeletonisation (optional)



2) Graph Extraction – Overview

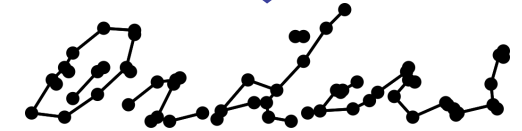
Node Extraction
+
Edge Extraction

Keypoint	1 + 2
- Skeleton	
Grid	1
- Neighbourhood (NNA)	
- Minimal Spanning Tree (MST)	
- Delaunay (DEL)	
Projection	1
- Skeleton	
Split	1
- Skeleton	

Papers

- 1) A Novel Graph Database for Handwritten Word Images
- 2) Graph-based Keyword Spotting in Historical Handwritten Documents

Orders

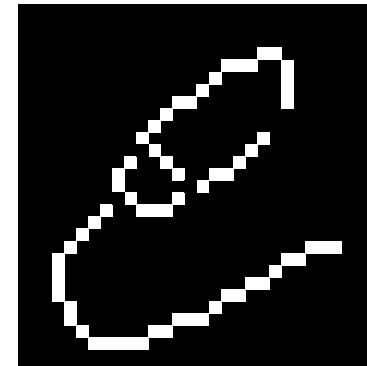


2) Graph Extraction – Keypoint (Node Extraction)

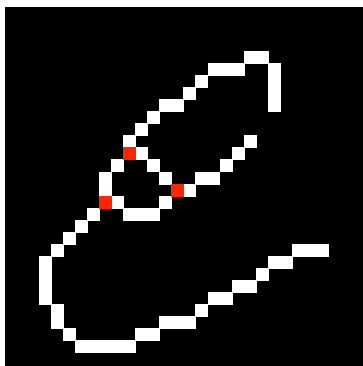
1) For each connected component...



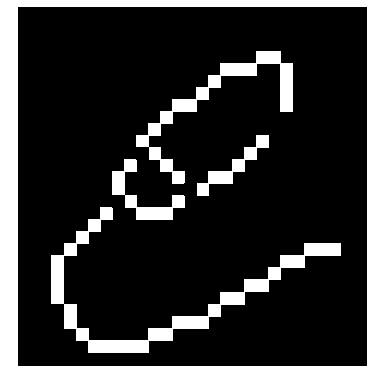
3) ...invert junction points



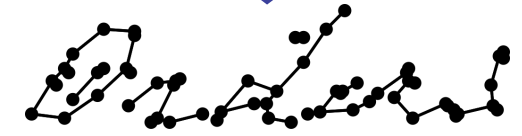
2) ...find junction points



4) For each connected subcomponent...

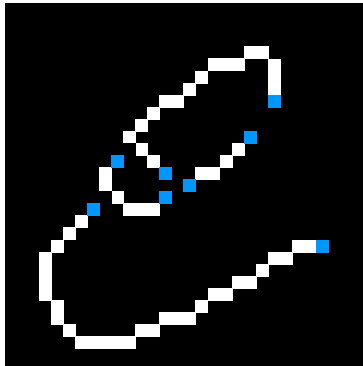


Orders

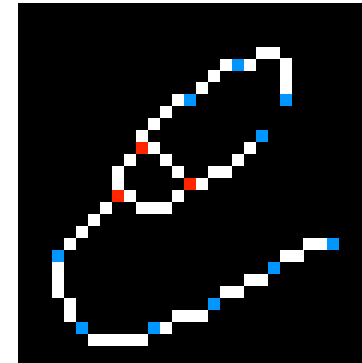


2) Graph Extraction – Keypoint (Node / Edge Extraction)

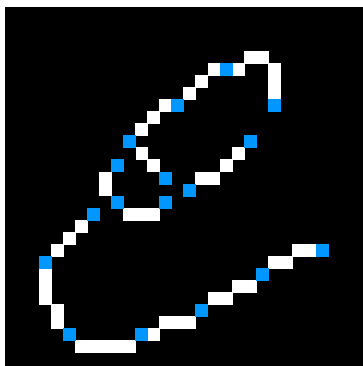
5) ...find start- and end points



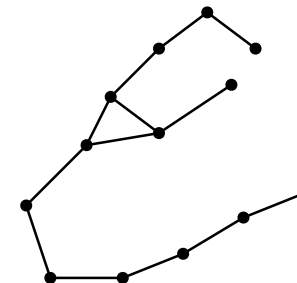
7) Replace neighbours of junction point



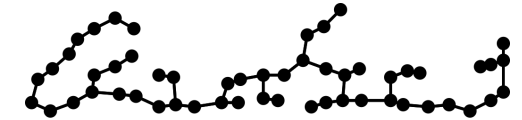
6) ...add nodes along path



8) Add edges based on skeleton



Orders

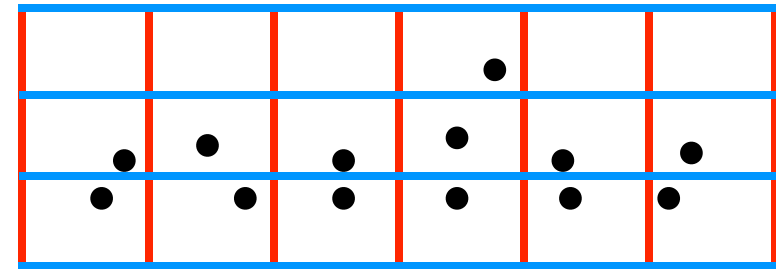


2) Graph Extraction – Grid (Node / Edge Extraction)

1) Add columns based on threshold



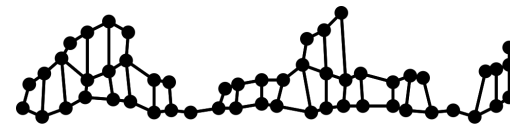
3) Add nodes based on centre of mass



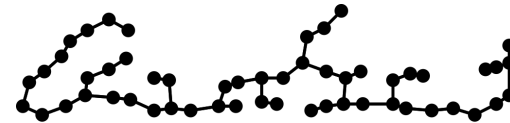
2) Add rows based on threshold



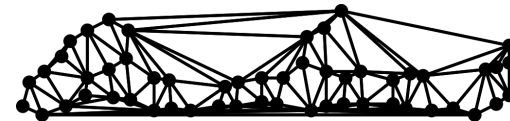
4) Add edges based on edge extraction



Neighbourhood Analysis (NNA)



Minimal Spanning Tree (MST)

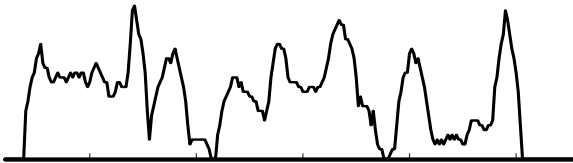


Delaunay Triangulation (DEL)

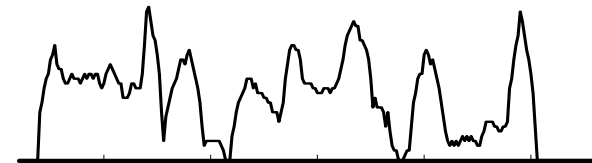
Orders

2) Graph Extraction – Projection (Node Extraction)

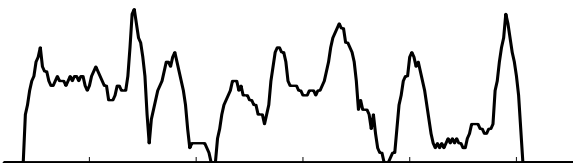
1) Vertical projection



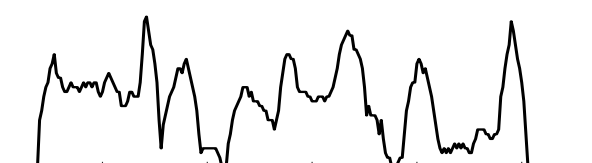
3) Add further columns based on threshold



2) Add "null" positions as columns



4) Horizontal projection per column

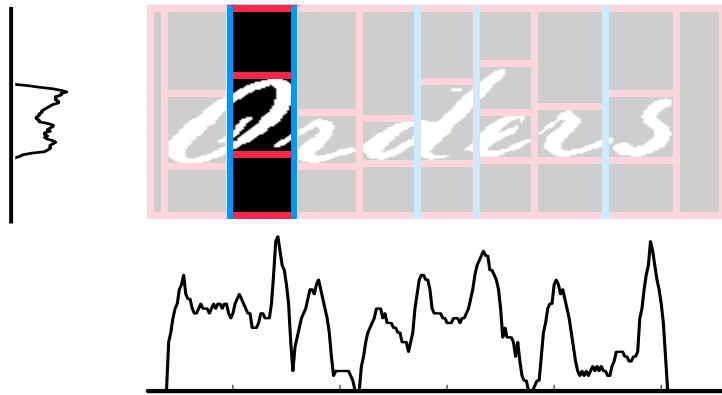


Orders

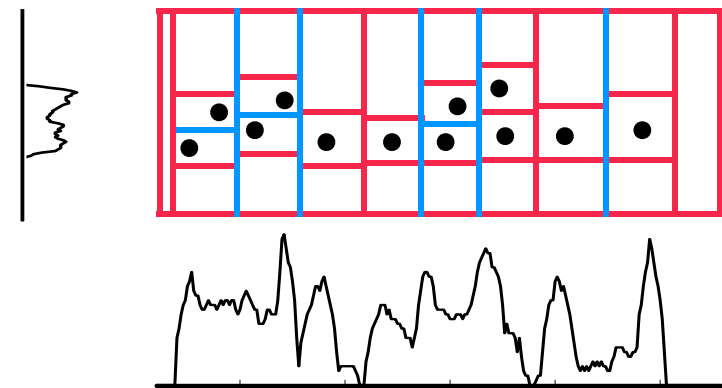


2) Graph Extraction – Projection (Node / Edge Extraction)

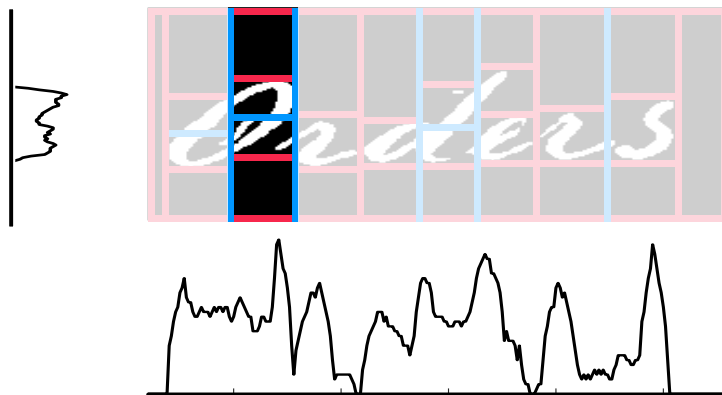
5) Add "null" positions as rows



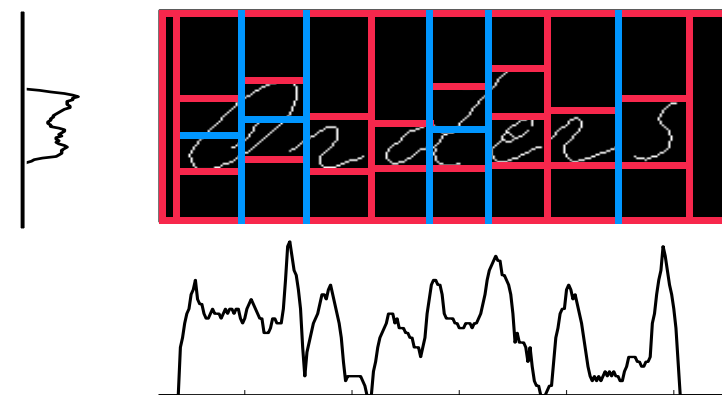
7) Add nodes based on centre of mass



6) Add further rows based on threshold



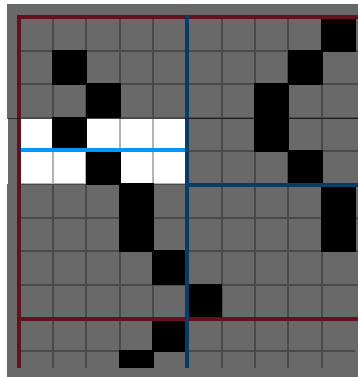
8) Add edges based on skeleton...



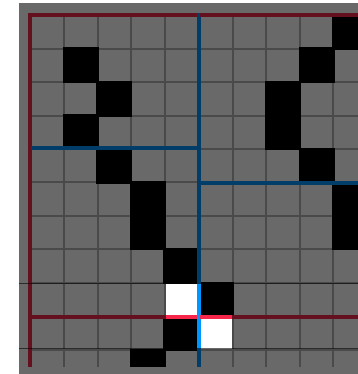
Orders
↓
Orders

2) Graph Extraction – Projection (Edge Extraction)

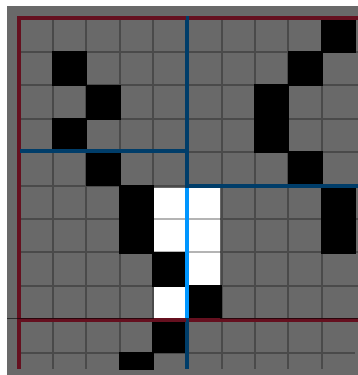
9) ...vertical



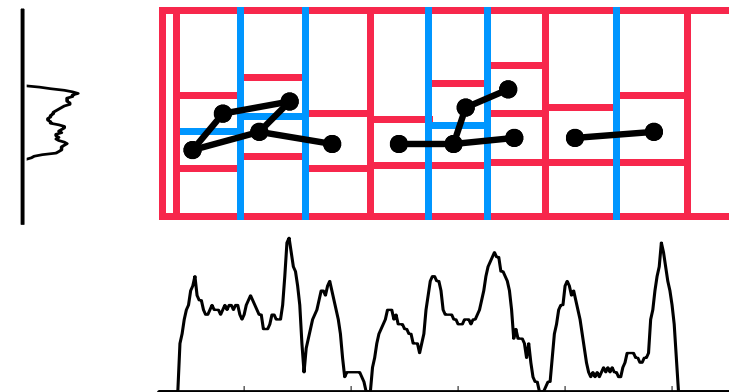
11) ...diagonal

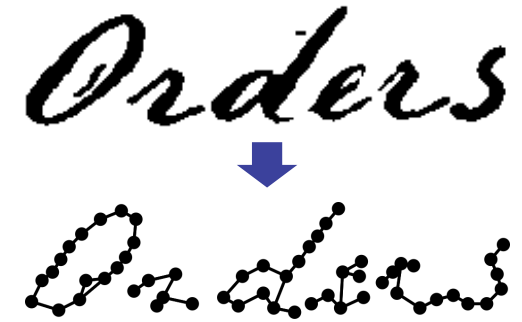


10) ...horizontal



12) Complete graph





2) Graph Extraction – Split (Node Extraction)

1) Split horizontal on null positions



3) For each subimage...



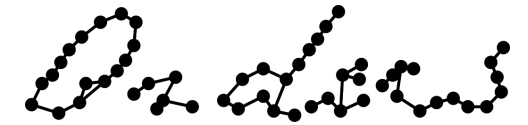
2) Split vertical on null positions



4) ...too wide? Split horizontal

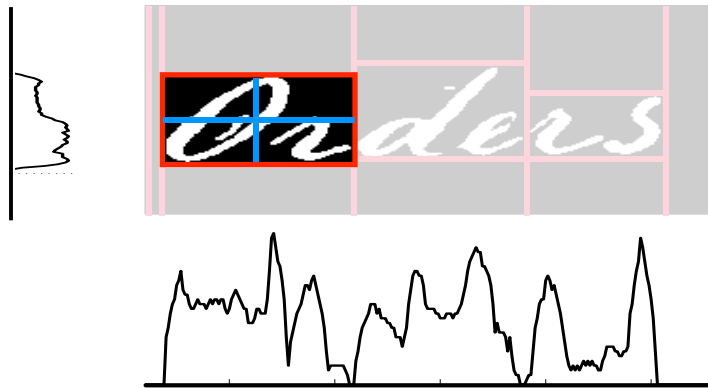


Orders

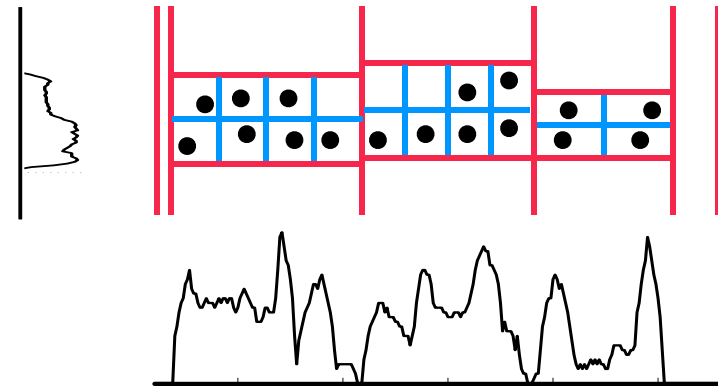


2) Graph Extraction – Split (Node / Edge Extraction)

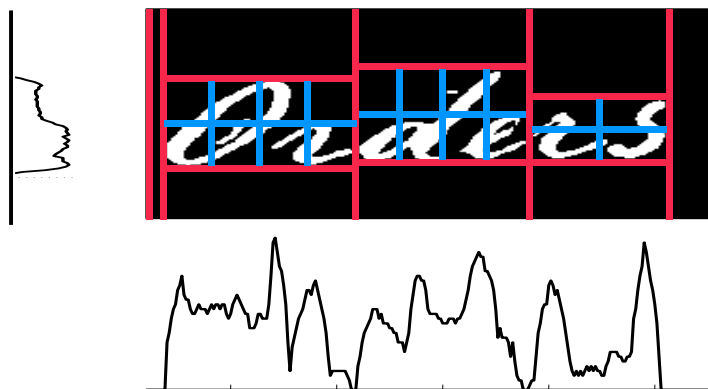
5) ...too high? Split vertical



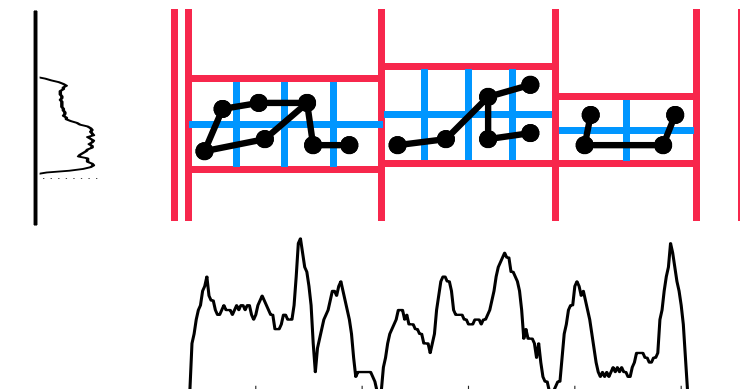
7) Add nodes based on centre of mass



6) Split until subimages < threshold



8) Add edges based on skeleton



2) Graph Extraction – Resulting Graphs

Word Image	Keypoint	Grid-NNA	Grid-MST	Grid-DEL	Projection	Split

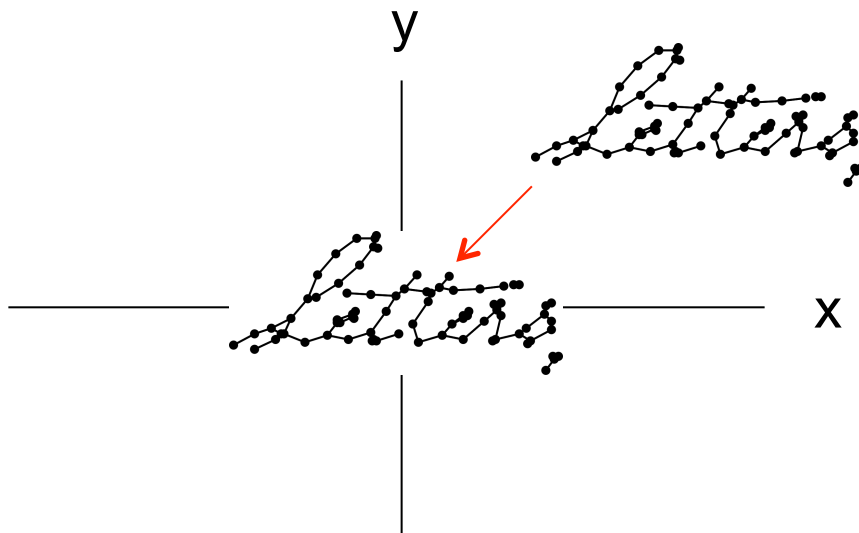
3) Graph Normalisation – Size & Position of Nodes

Centering

$$x_n = x - \mu_x$$

$$y_n = y - \mu_y$$

μ is mean of node positions

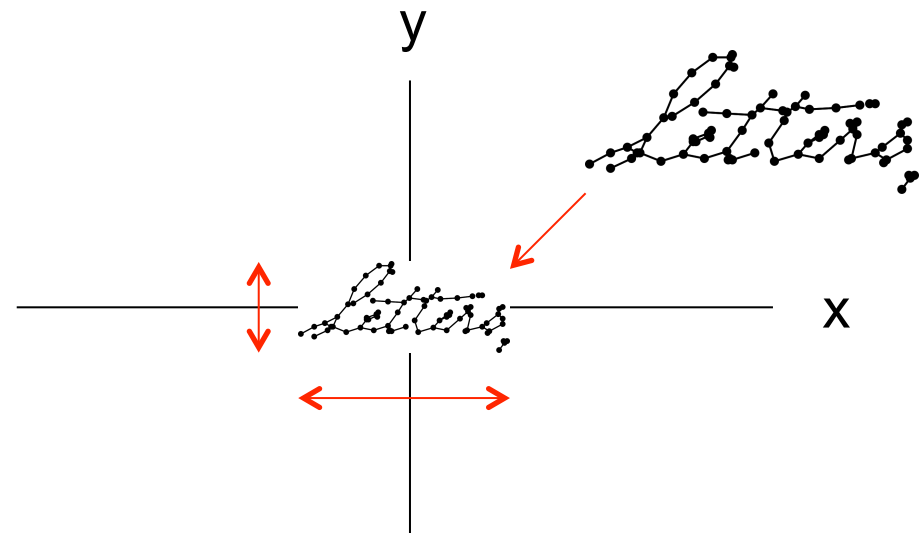


Centering & Scaling

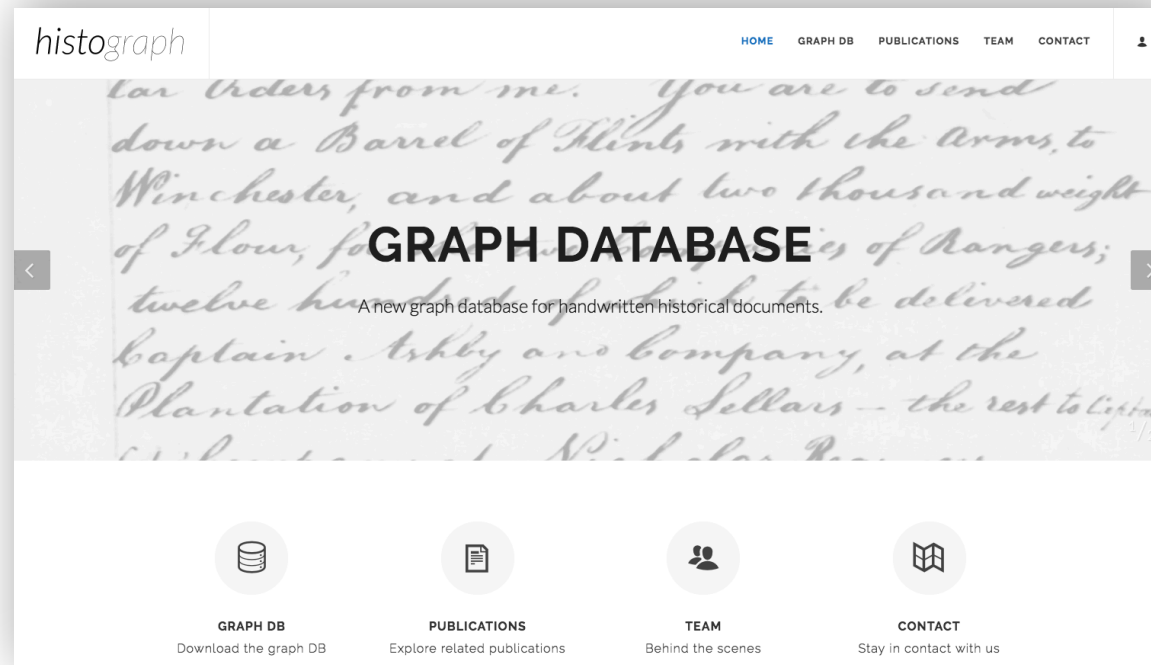
$$x_n = (x - \mu_x) / \sigma_x$$

$$y_n = (y - \mu_y) / \sigma_y$$

σ is standard deviation of node positions



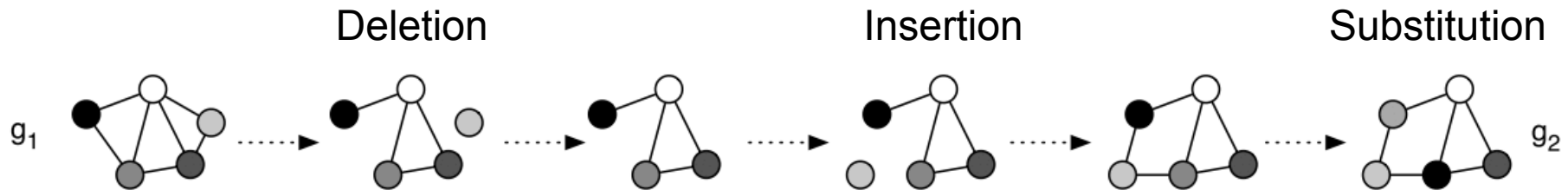
3) Graph Normalisation – Graph DB



All graphs are available at **histograph.ch**

4) Graph Matching – Graph Edit Distance

Graph Edit Distance (GED) measures the **minimum amount of distortion** that is needed to **transform one graph into another**.

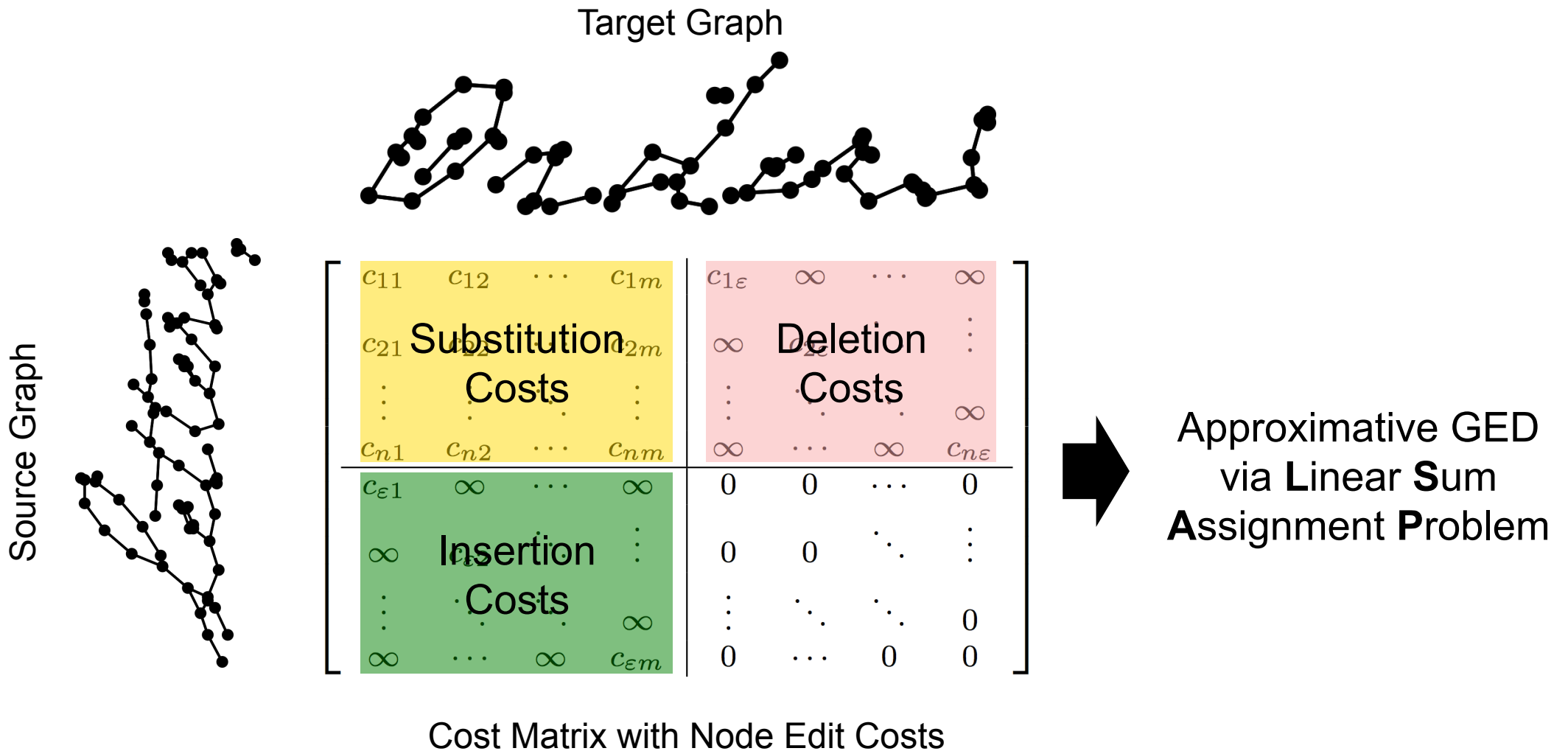


Exact GED is exponential in the number of nodes of the involved graphs and therefore intractable.



We make use of approximated GED

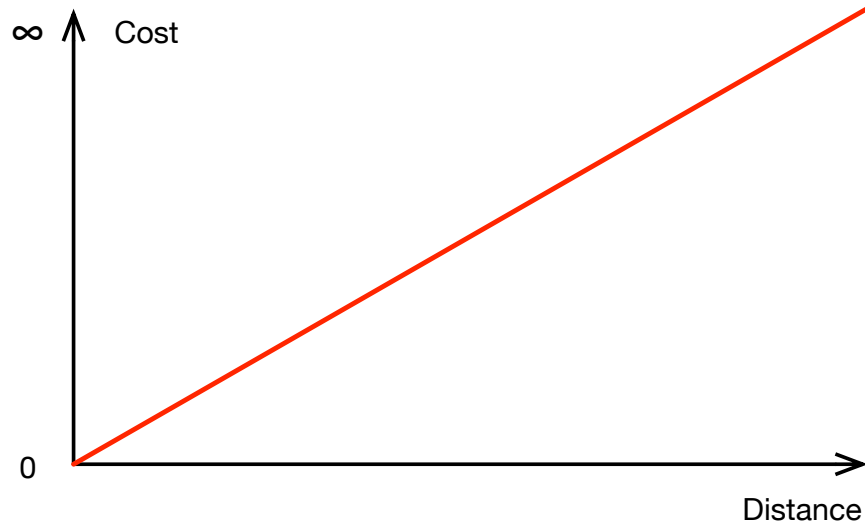
4) Graph Matching – Bipartite Graph Matching



4) Graph Matching – Substitution Cost Functions

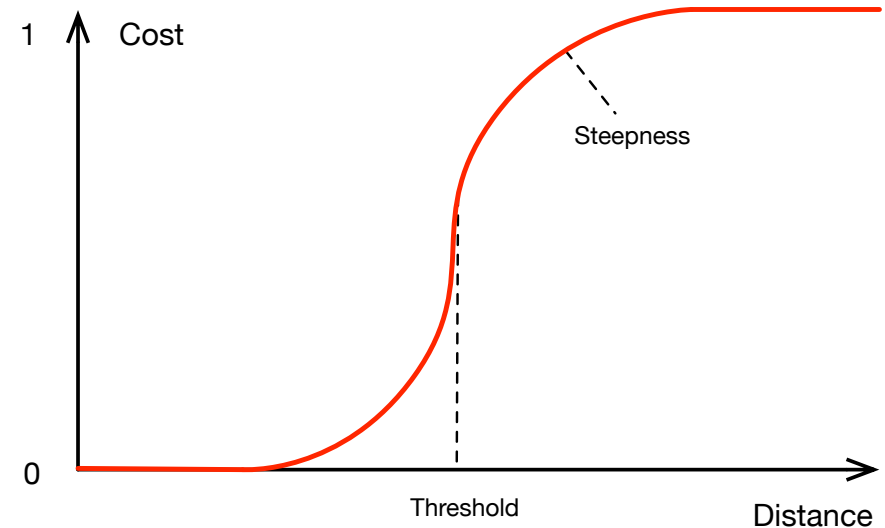
Euclidean $c_{\text{Euclidean}}$

$$c_E(u \rightarrow v) = \sqrt{\alpha(x_i - x_j)^2 + (1 - \alpha)(y_i - y_j)^2},$$



Sigmoidal $c_{\text{Sigmoidal}}$

$$c_S(u \rightarrow v) = \frac{2\tau_v}{1 + e^{(kc_E(u \rightarrow v) - \gamma)}}$$



For deletion and insertion of nodes and edges we assume fixed costs

Abbreviations

|V| Median number of nodes

|E| Median number of edges

Experiments – Setup / Results Graph DB (kNN)

Set	Instances per Word Class	Size
Training	3	90
Validation	2	60
Test	3 - 5	143

Graph Extraction Algorithm	V	E	Accuracy
Keypoint	73	67	0.7762
Grid-NNA	39	55	0.6502
Grid-MST	46	44	0.7413
Grid-DEL	52	138	0.6294
Projection	44	41	0.8182
Split	51	48	0.8042

Experiments – Setup KWS

Set	Instances per Word Class	Size
Training	> 10	1000
Validation	1	10
Training	> 1	1223.5 (avg)
Test	> 1	2447.0 (avg)

 Quality is measured by the **mean Average Precision (mAP)**

Recall = True Positives / (True Positives + False Negatives)

Precision = True Positives / (True Positives + False Positives)

mAP = Average area under the curve of Precision-Recall curves

Abbreviations

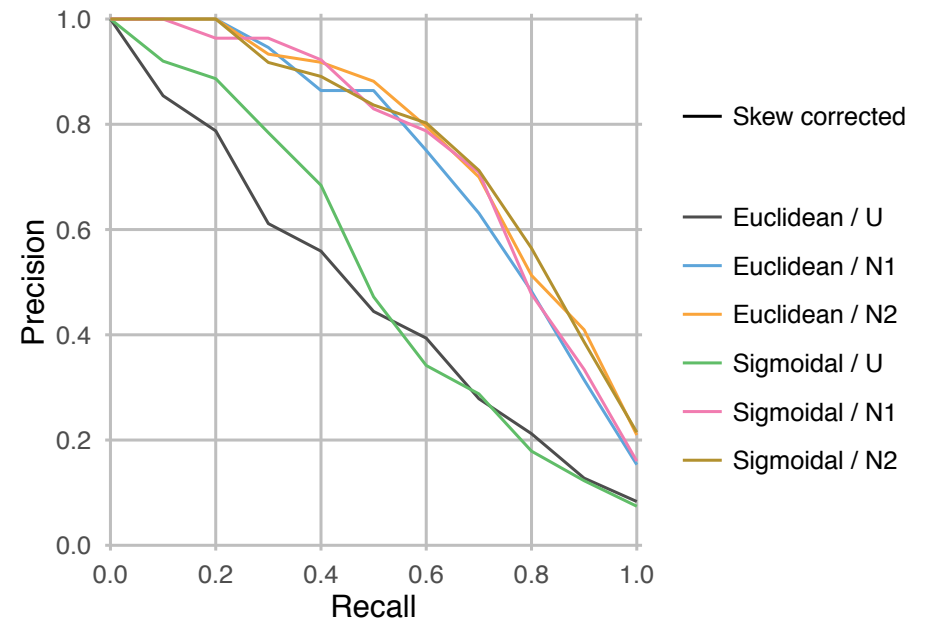
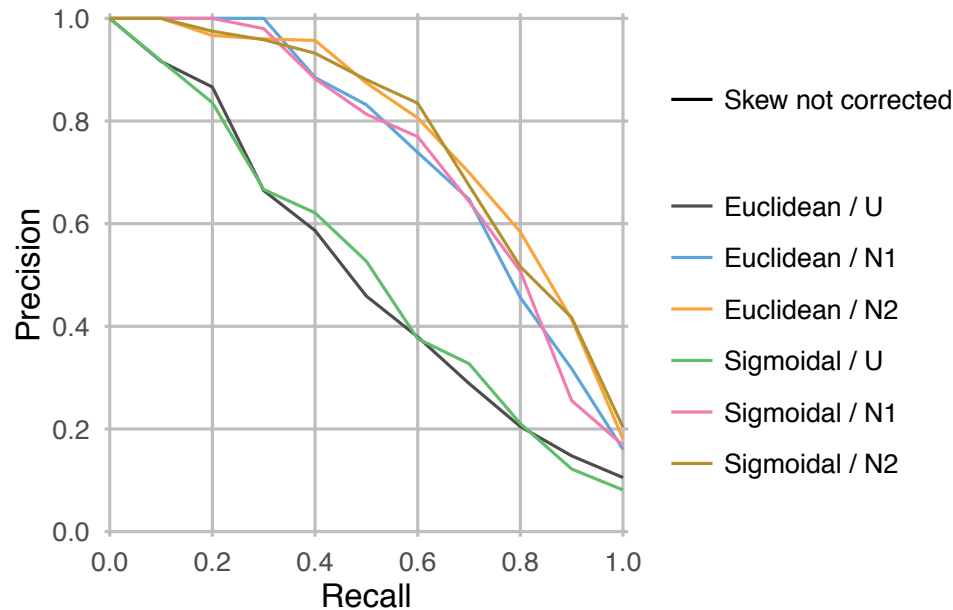
U Not normalised

N₁ Centering

N₂ Centering + Scaling

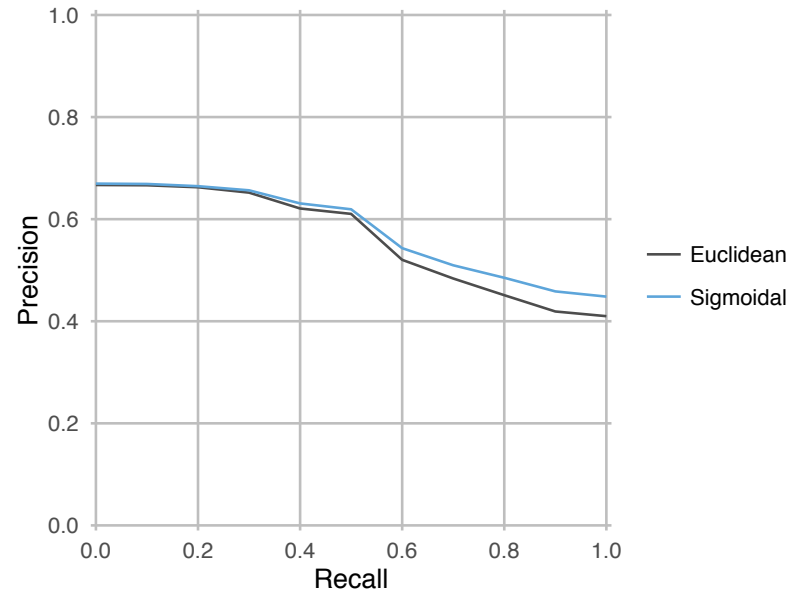
Experiments – Results KWS (mAP) / Validation

Preprocessing Cost Function	Skew not corrected			Skew corrected		
	U	N ₁	N ₂	U	N ₁	N ₂
C _{Euclidean}	50.17	72.87	76.53	47.08	72.24	75.59
C _{Sigmoidal}	49.71	72.72	76.24	50.60	73.53	75.24



Experiments – Results KWS (mAP) / Testing

System	mAP	Improvement
Dynamic Time Warping (DTW)	54.08	
Proposed $c_{\text{Euclidean}}$	55.33	+ 2.31 %
Proposed $c_{\text{Sigmoidal}}$	57.12	+ 5.62 %



Future Work

Database Extension

- Further documents (e.g. Parzival dataset)

Graph Representation

- Further node and edge labels

Graph Matching

- Speeding up graph matching procedure

Experiments

- Evaluate all graph extraction methods with KWS experiment

Q+A

? !