

Learning Set Functions that are Sparse in Non-Orthogonal Fourier Bases

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Motivation

Set function

Maps each subset to a real value

$$N = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$$

$$s: 2^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

Example: preference functions

$$N = \{\text{laptop}, \text{phone}, \text{pen}\}$$
$$s(\{\text{phone}\}) = 2 \quad s(\{\text{laptop}\}) = 1 \quad s(\{\text{phone}, \text{laptop}\}) = 4$$

objects

values for subsets of objects

Goal: Learn s from few queries

Challenge

Set functions are exponentially large (2^n)

Fourier-sparse set functions

New Non-Orthogonal Fourier Bases

- new classes of learnable set functions
- new learning algorithms
- theoretical and experimental analysis
- interpretation: new Fourier-sparsity captures complementarity and substitutability

Set Function Fourier Transforms

Derivation: Algebraic Signal Processing (ASP)

shift \rightarrow shift equivariant convolutional filters \rightarrow Fourier transform

Shift by $Q \subseteq N$ $(T_Q s)(A) = s(A \cup Q)$

Convolutional filter

$$(h * s)(A) = \sum_{Q \subseteq N} h(Q) s(A \cup Q)$$

Equivariance

$$h * T_Q s = T_Q(h * s)$$

Fourier transform

$$\hat{s}(B) = \sum_{A: A \cup B = N} (-1)^{|A \cap B|} s(A)$$

$$s(A) = \sum_{B: A \cap B = \emptyset} \hat{s}(B)$$

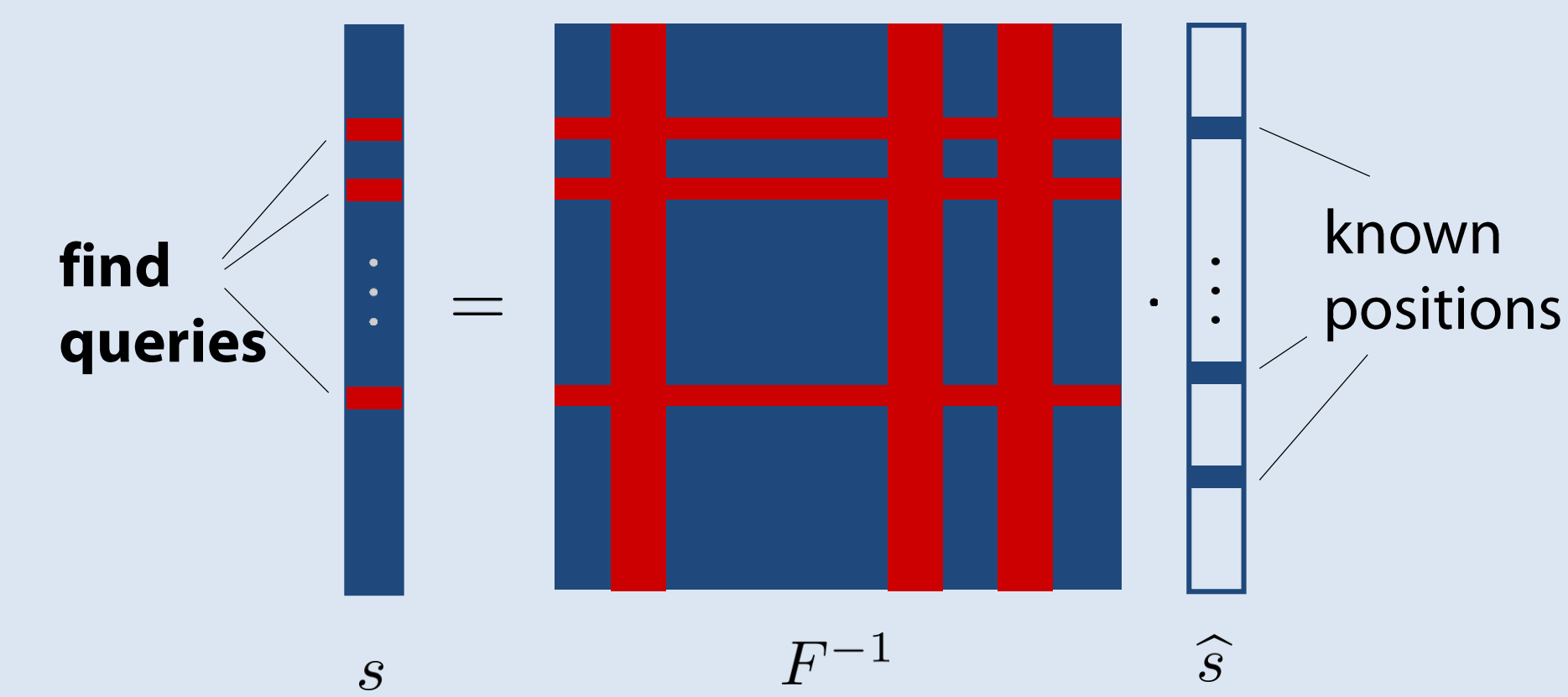
5 different shifts \rightarrow 5 Fourier transforms

our paper: model 4 **prior:** Walsh Hadamard transform = model 5

Known Support

Given oracle access to a *Fourier-sparse* set function s and its *support* $\mathcal{B} = \text{supp}(\hat{s}) = \{B_1, \dots, B_k\}$, learn s from few queries.

Idea



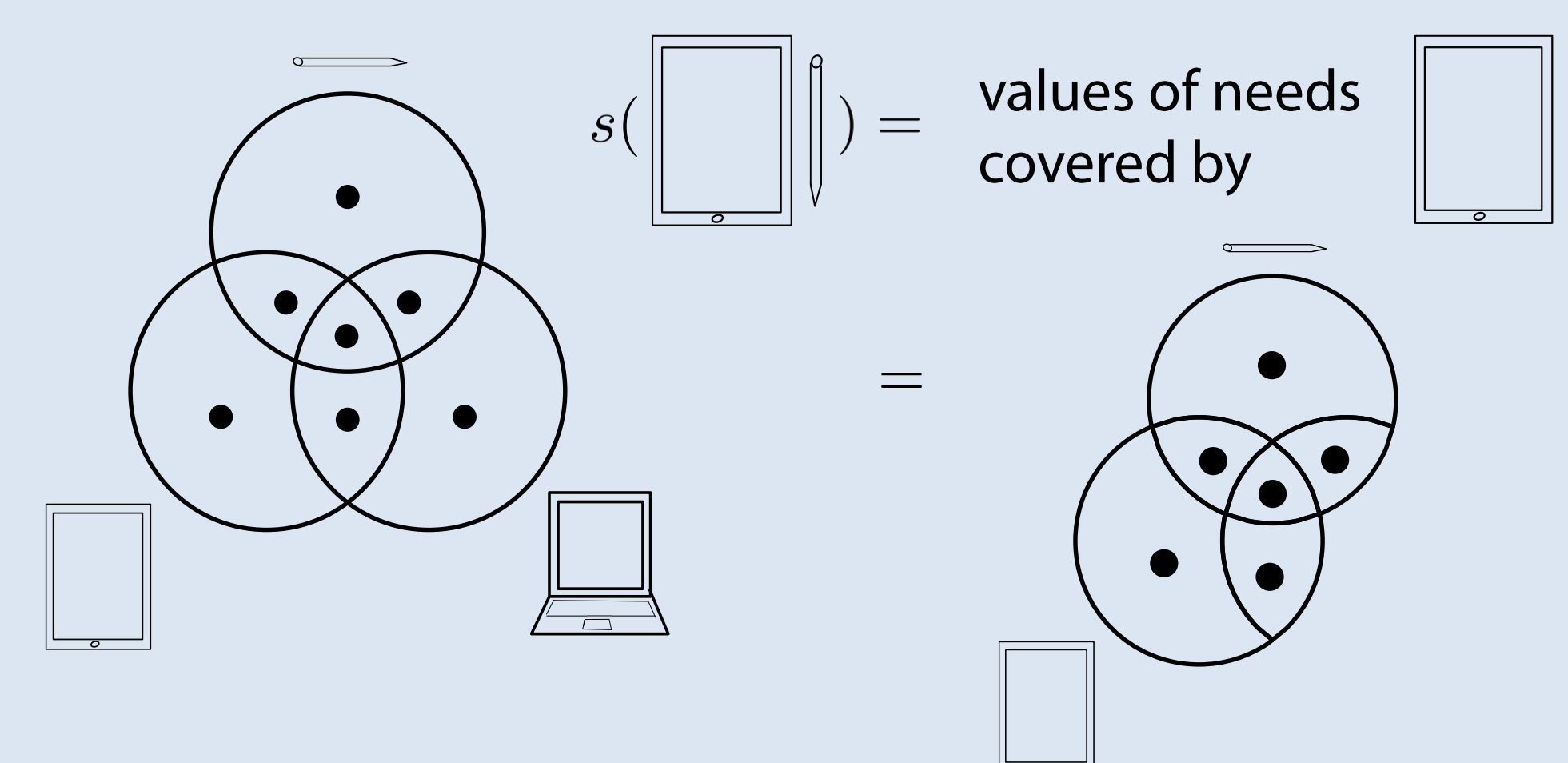
s.t. submatrix is invertible

Theorem There always are queries s.t. the resulting submatrix is triangular and invertible.

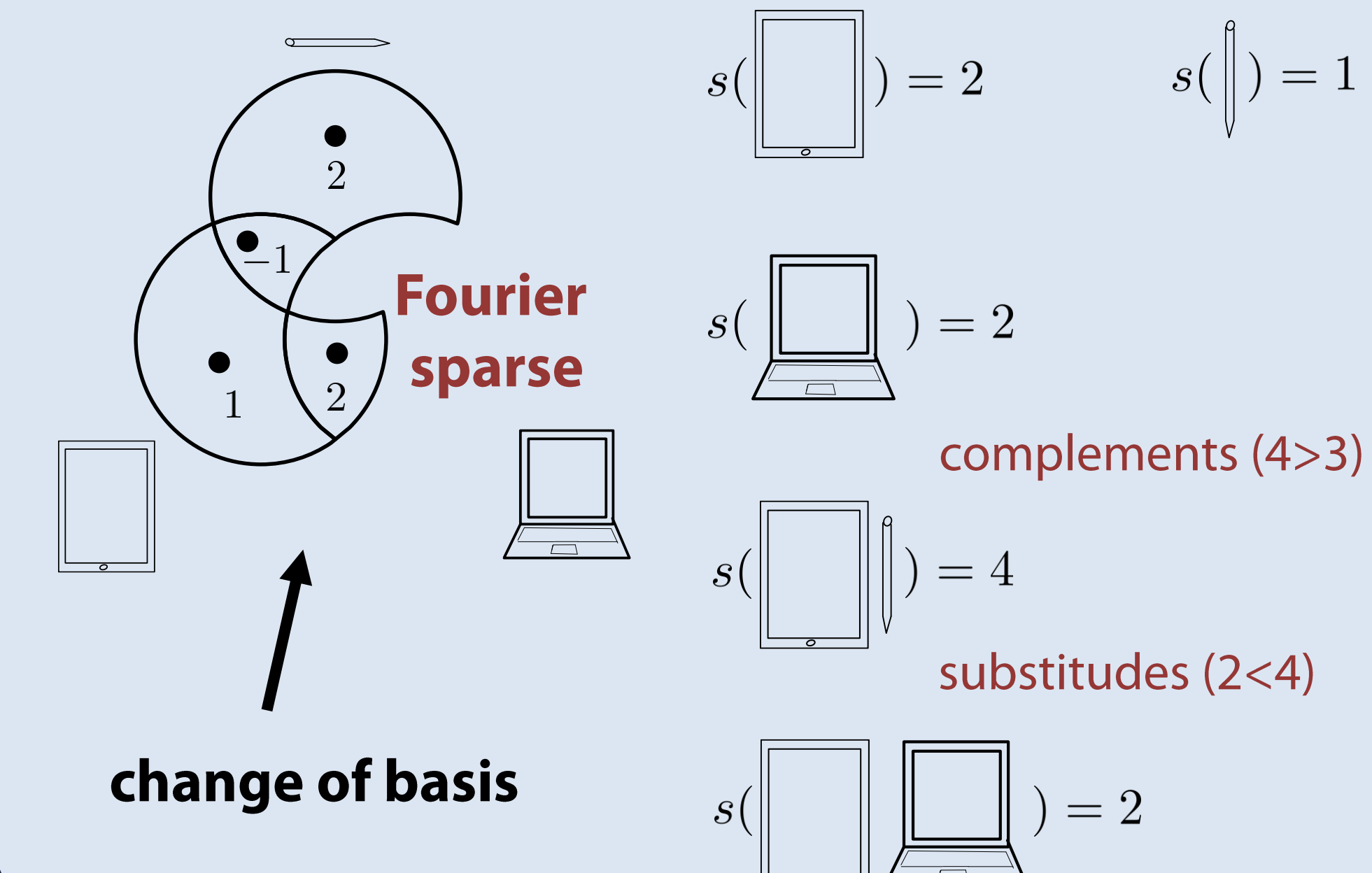
$\rightarrow O(k)$ queries, $O(k^2)$ operations

Fourier Sparsity

Set function = Venn diagram of needs



Fourier coefficients associate values to needs



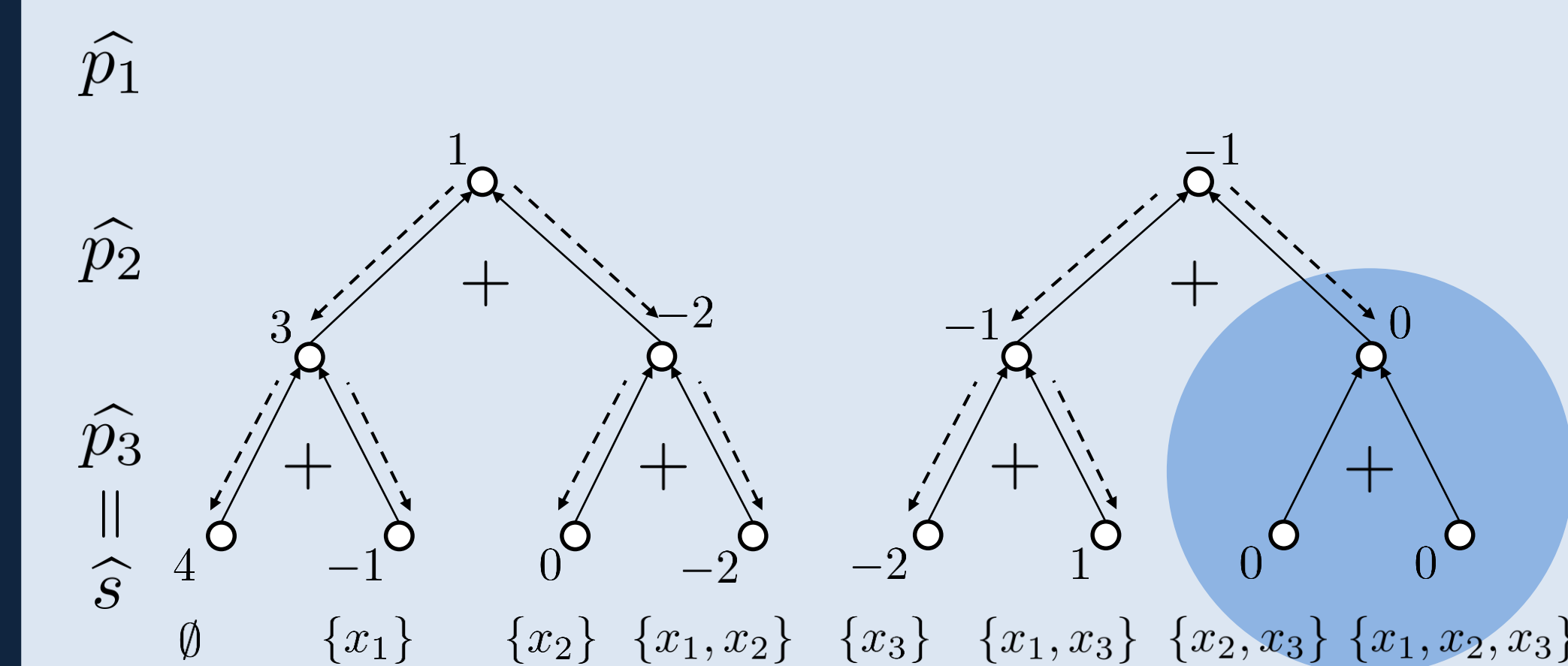
Unknown Support

Given oracle access to a *Fourier-sparse* set function s , learn s from few queries.

Idea Consider subproblems p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n :

$$p_i(A) = s(A) \text{ for } A \subseteq \{y_1, \dots, y_i\} \subseteq N$$

Consider $N = \{x_1, x_2, x_3\} = \{\text{phone}, \text{laptop}, \text{pen}\}$



Observation $\text{supp}(\widehat{p_{i+1}}) \xleftarrow{\text{SSFT}} \text{supp}(\widehat{p_i})$

Sparse Set Function Fourier Transform:

SSFT Algorithm avoids unnecessary computation

1. compute $\widehat{p_1}$ explicitly
 2. compute $\widehat{p_i}$ from $\widehat{p_{i-1}}$ by solving the *known support* problem, for $i = 2, \dots, n$
 3. return $\widehat{p_n} = \widehat{s}$
- Queries** $O(nk)$ instead of 2^n
- Operations** $O(nk^2)$ instead of $n2^n$

Refinement Algorithm

SSFT does not always work

Problem we want $\text{supp}(\widehat{p_{i+1}}) \xleftarrow{\text{SSFT}} \text{supp}(\widehat{p_i})$
we have $\text{supp}(\widehat{p_{i+1}}) \xrightarrow{\text{SSFT}} \text{supp}(\widehat{p_i})$

Cancellations can occur

SSFT does not process children of 0's

Refinement Algorithm (SSFT+) use novel filtering techniques to ensure

Queries $O(n^2k)$

Operations $O(n^2k + nk^2)$

*Please find the details and analysis of SSFT(+) in our paper.

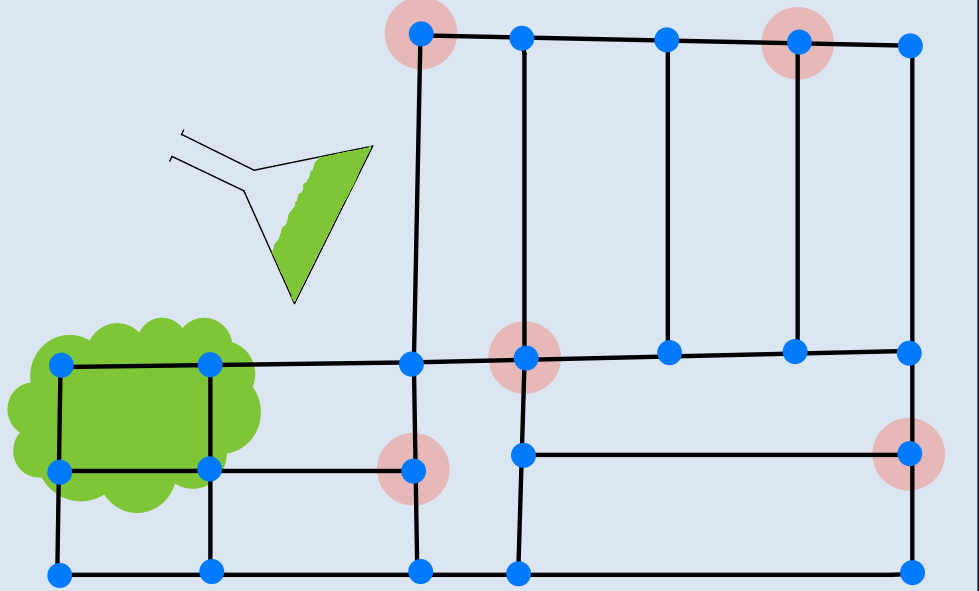
Experimental Evaluation

Facility Locations Functions

N = facility locations

s importance score

$s(A) = 50$ contamination events detected



Goal: learn importance score \rightarrow find 5 best locations

Data from battle of water networks (Leskovec, 2007)

$ N $		α	queries	time (s)	k	$\ \mathbf{p} - \mathbf{p}'\ / \ \mathbf{p}\ $
50	SSFT	1	10K	2	648	0
		2	2,103K	361	1,380	0.001744
		4	4,192K	766	2,739	0.000847
		8	8,370K	1,499	5,054	0.000129
		16	16,742K	2,838	9,547	0.000108
100	SSFT	1	76K	24	2,308	0
		2	16,544K	5,014	2,997	0.000546
		4	33,100K	10,265	6,466	0.000380
		8	66,200K	20,530	12,932	0.000290
		16	132,400K	41,060	25,864	0.000210
200	SSFT	1	494K	451	7,038	0
300	SSFT	1	1,644K	2,368	16,979	0
400	SSFT	1	3,859K	7,654	28,121	0
500	SSFT	1	7,218K	17,693	38,471	0

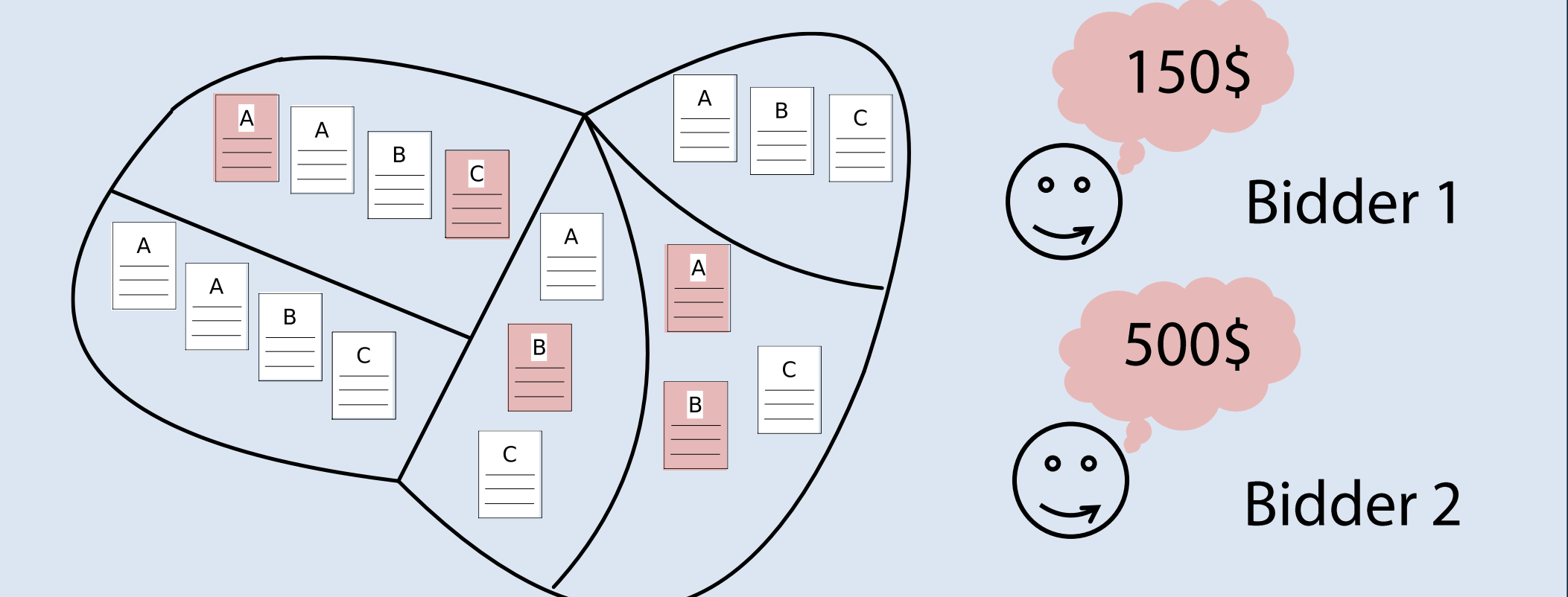
SSFT requires only 1,6 million queries to perfectly learn a 2^{300} dimensional set function.

Preference Elicitation in Combinatorial Spectrum Auctions

N = licenses of bands electromagnetic spectrum

Set functions = bidders

Example with $|N| = 17$ licenses



Goal: learn preferences \rightarrow assign licenses to bidders

Multi region value model, $|N| = 98$, 3 bidder types (rows)

	number of queries (in thousands)		Fourier coefficients recovered		relative reconstruction error	
	SSFT+	H-WHT	SSFT+	H-WHT	SSFT+	H-WHT
L	229 \pm 73	781 \pm 0	303 \pm 93	675 \pm 189	0 \pm 0	0 \pm 0
R	646 \pm 12	781 \pm 0	813 \pm 36	1,779 \pm 0	0 \pm 0	0 \pm 0
N	3,305 \pm 1	781 \pm 0	1,027 \pm 6	4,170 \pm 136	0.01 \pm 0.01	0.27 \pm 0.21

SSFT+ perfectly learns the preferences of regional bidders using 656,000 queries and 813 Fourier coefficients.