

Representation and Coding of Signal Distances

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(Joint work w/ Shantanu Rane)



The Big Picture



Signal: x



Output: $g(x, y)$

Information Scalable Coding:

How to encode signal for general functions $g(\cdot, \cdot)$?

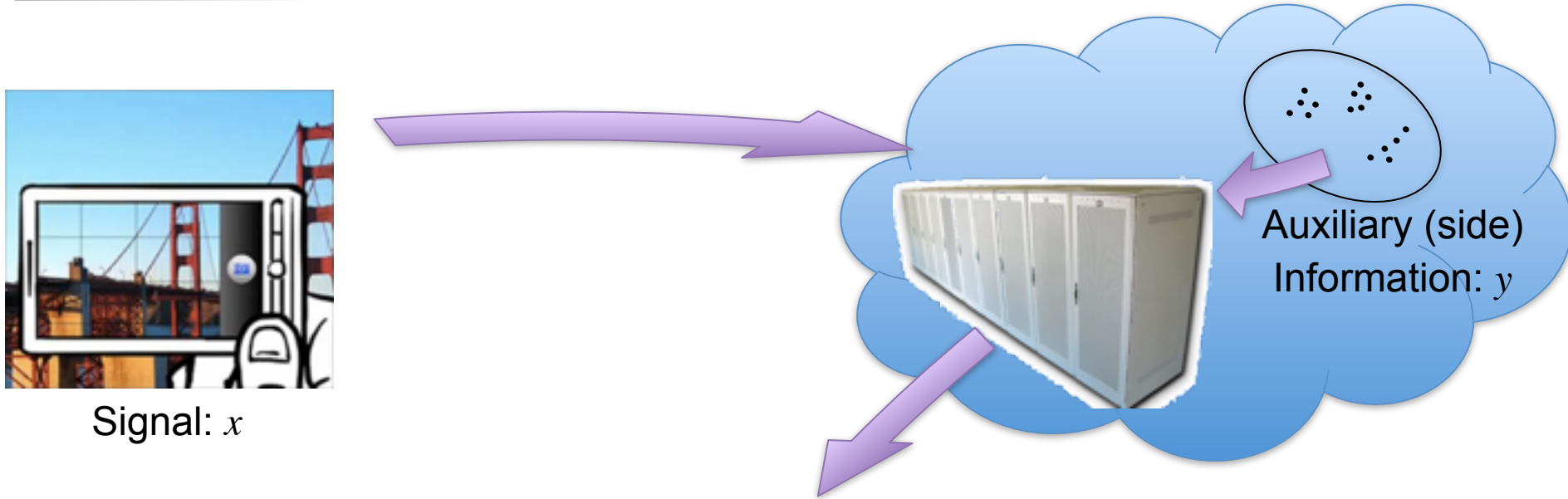
Main questions:

Rate- and computation-**efficient encoding**

Accurate and **efficient computation** of $g(\cdot, \cdot)$

Interaction of encoding and computation

The Big Picture



Output: $g(x,y)$

Example/Special Case:

Function **computes** just **signal**, $g(x,y)=x$,

No auxiliary **information**

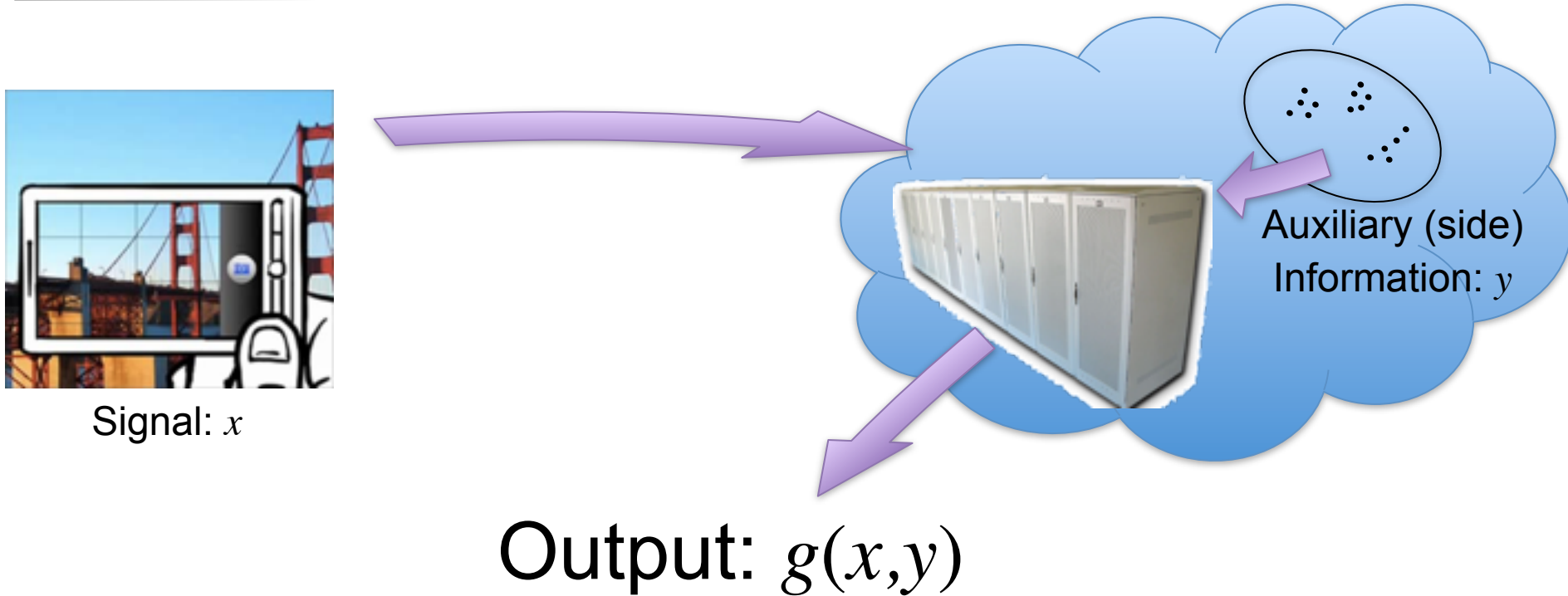
⇒ **Conventional compression**/source coding

Encoding Efficiency: **Rate**

Accuracy of function computation: **Distortion**

Interaction: **Rate/Distortion theory**

The Big Picture



Example/Special Case:

Function **computes** just **signal**, $g(x,y)=x$,

Auxiliary **information: similar signals**

⇒ **Distributed source coding** (coding with side information)

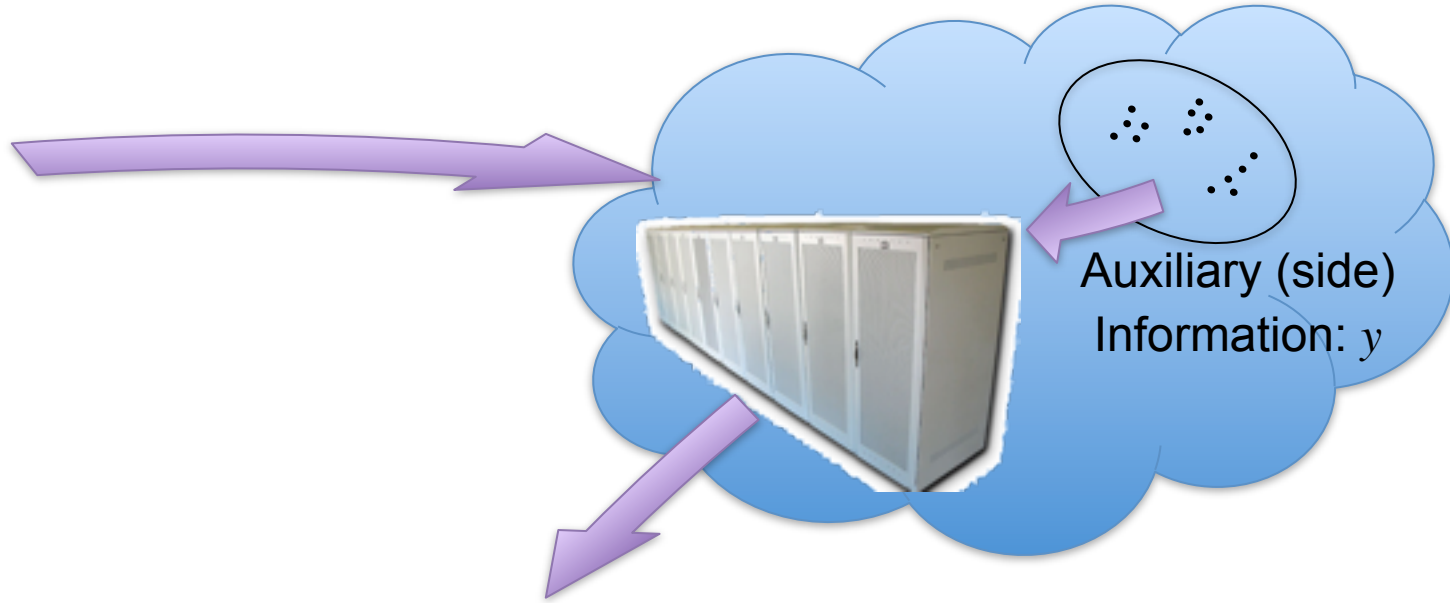
Slepian-Wolf coding: discrete source, lossless—no distortion

Wyner-Ziv coding: continuous source, lossy—rate/distortion

The Big Picture



Signal: x



Output: $g(x,y)$

Today

Function computes **functions of signal distances**,

$$g(x,y)=g(\|x-y\|_2),$$

Auxiliary **information: other signals**

⇒ Coding of signal distances

Main tool: **Embeddings**

Motivation: Augmented Reality



Server-side processing increasingly important
(e.g. cloud computing, augmented reality)

Compression is necessary

Goal: detection; not image transmission

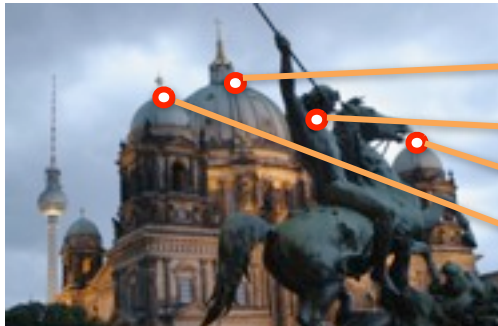
Q: Should we transmit the signal?

Can we reduce the rate?

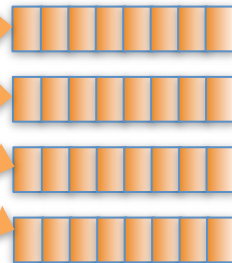


Signal/Image-based Retrieval

Feature Extraction



Query Signal/Image



Descriptive Features



Berlin Cathedral

Building

[Directions](#)

Berlin Cathedral is the colloquial name for the Evangelical Oberpfarr- und Domkirche in Berlin, Germany. [Wikipedia](#)

Address: Am Lustgarten, 10178 Berlin, Germany

Opened: 1905

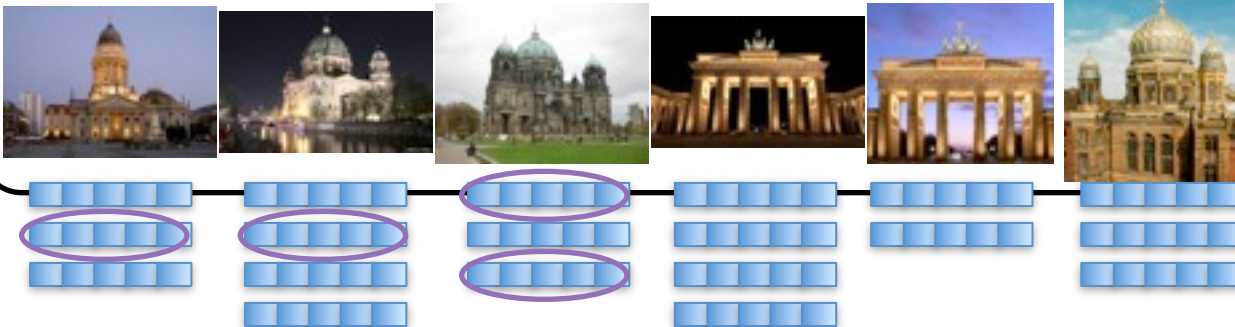
Hours: Sunday 12:00–7:00 [See all](#)

Phone: +49 30 20269152

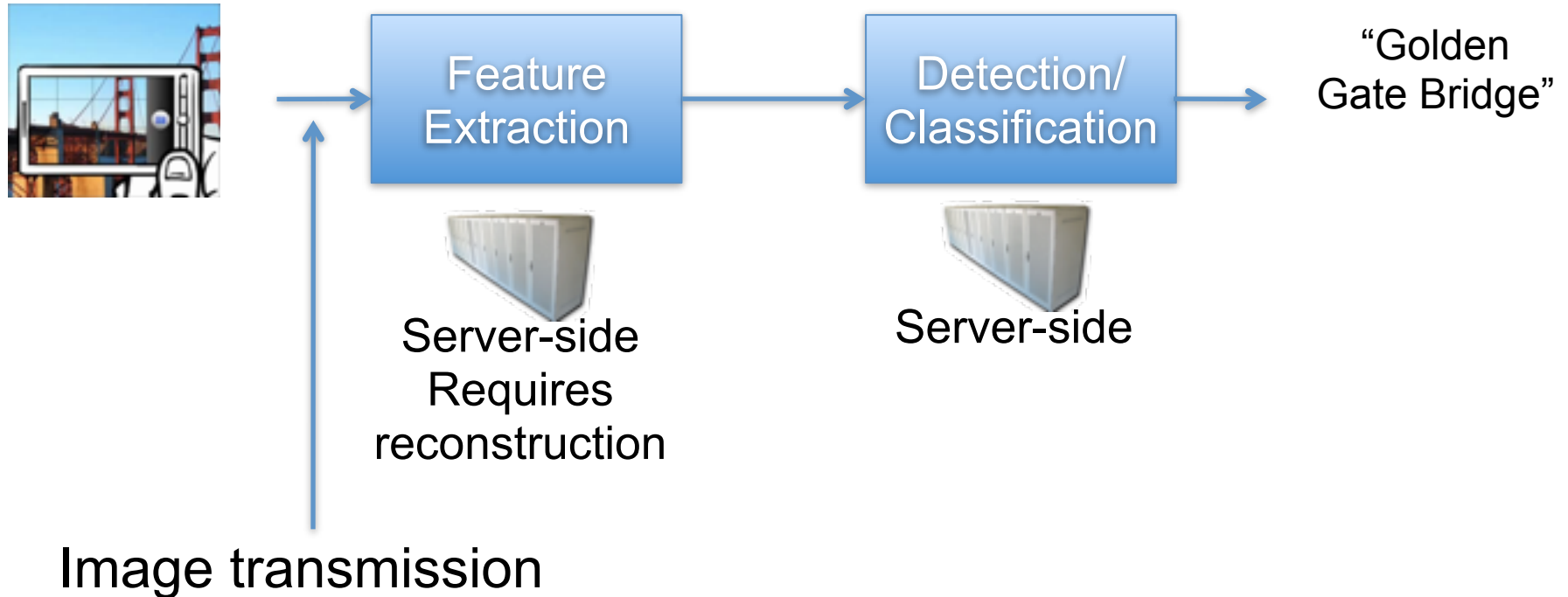
Architectural styles: Renaissance architecture, Brick Gothic, Baroque architecture, Neoclassical architecture

Architects: Karl Friedrich Schinkel, Julius Raschdorff

Signal/Image Database

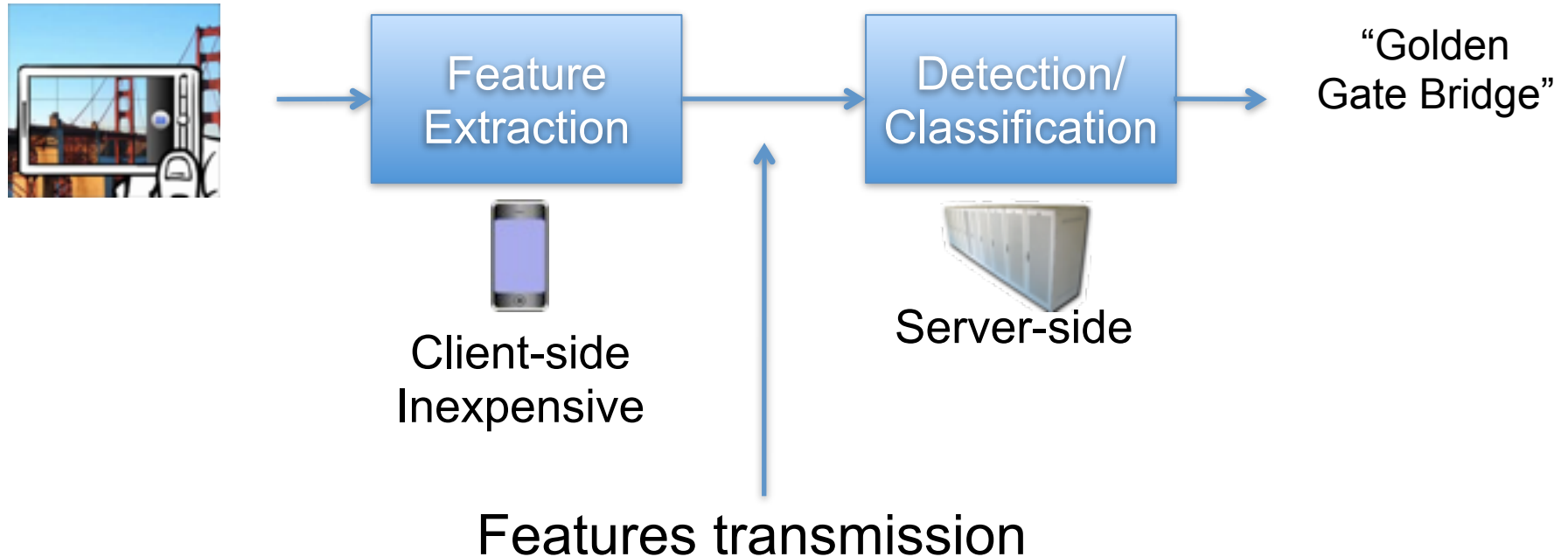


Detection/Classification Pipeline (typical)



Detection/Classification: Based on signal geometry

Detection/Classification Pipeline (efficient)

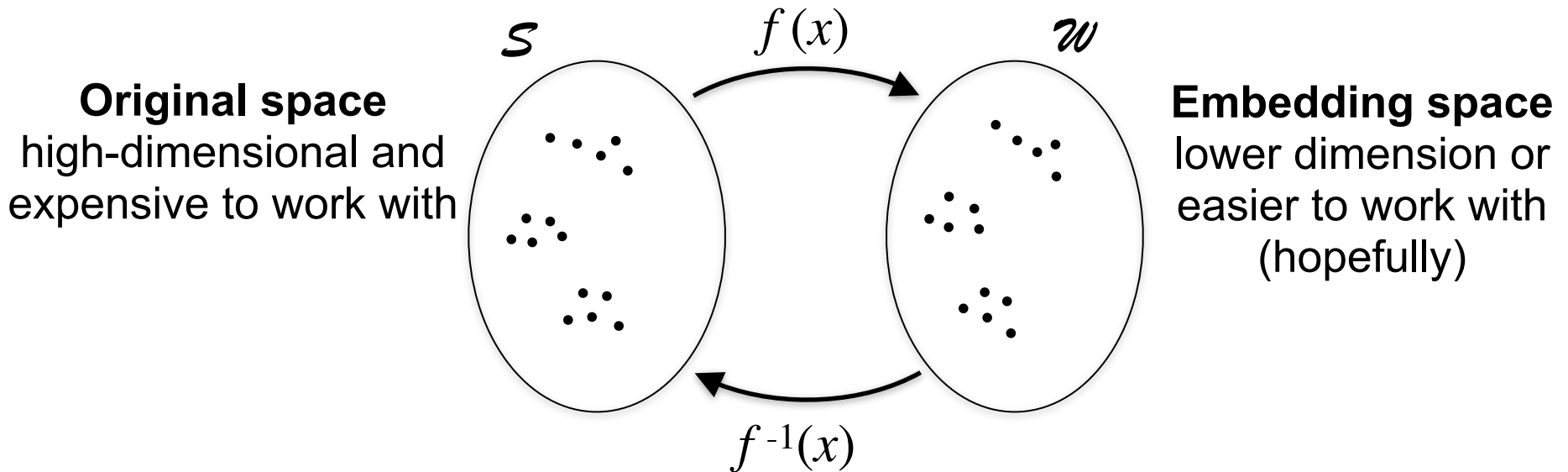


Detection/Classification: Based on signal geometry

Goal: rate-efficient geometry-preserving transmission

GEOMETRY-PRESERVING EMBEDDINGS

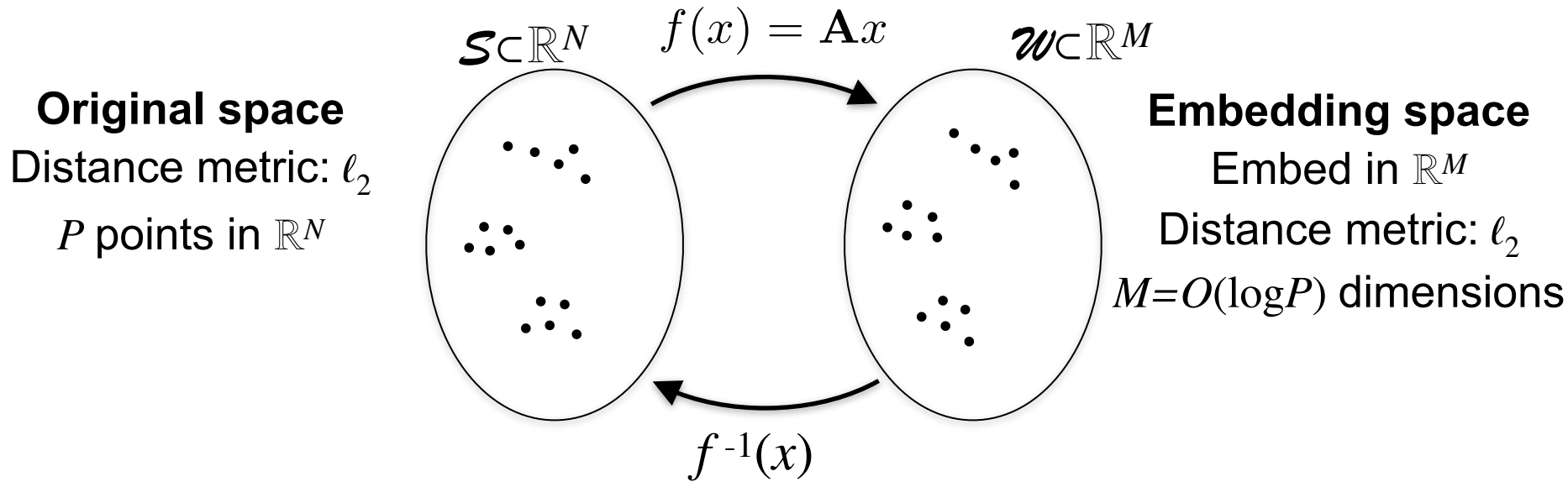
Isometric (approximate) embeddings



Transformations that preserve distances

For all x, y in \mathcal{S} : $d_{\mathcal{S}}(x, y) \approx d_{\mathcal{W}}(f(x), f(y))$

Johnson-Lindenstrauss embeddings

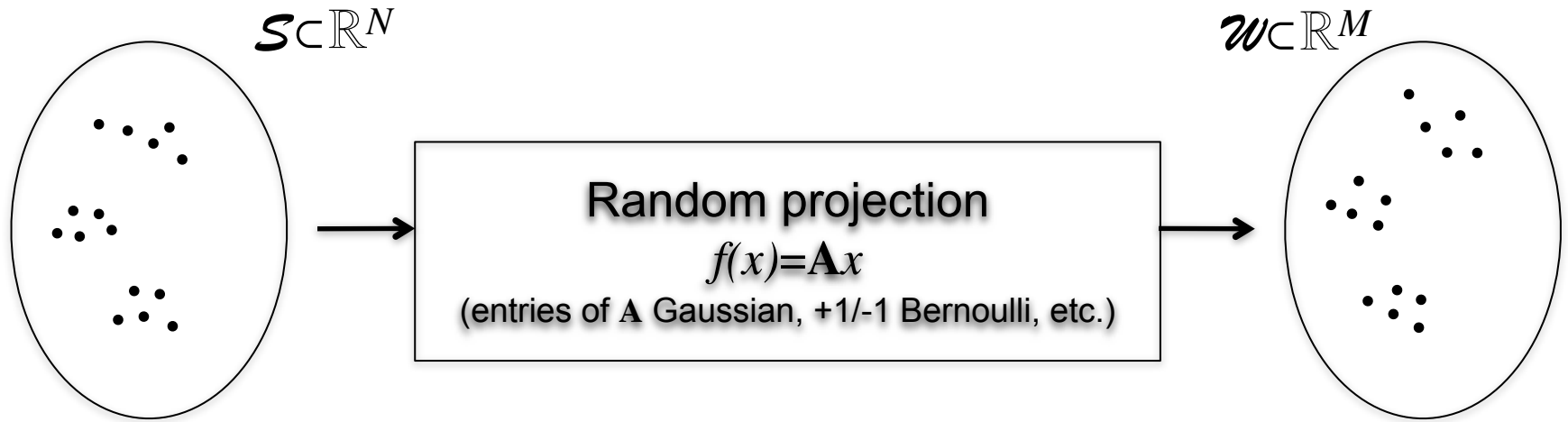


Transformations that preserve distances

For all x, y in \mathcal{S} :

$$(1 - \epsilon) \|x - y\|_2^2 \leq \|f(x) - f(y)\|_2^2 \leq (1 + \epsilon) \|x - y\|_2^2$$

Johnson-Lindenstrauss embeddings



With overwhelming probability on \mathbf{A} , for all x, y in \mathcal{S} :

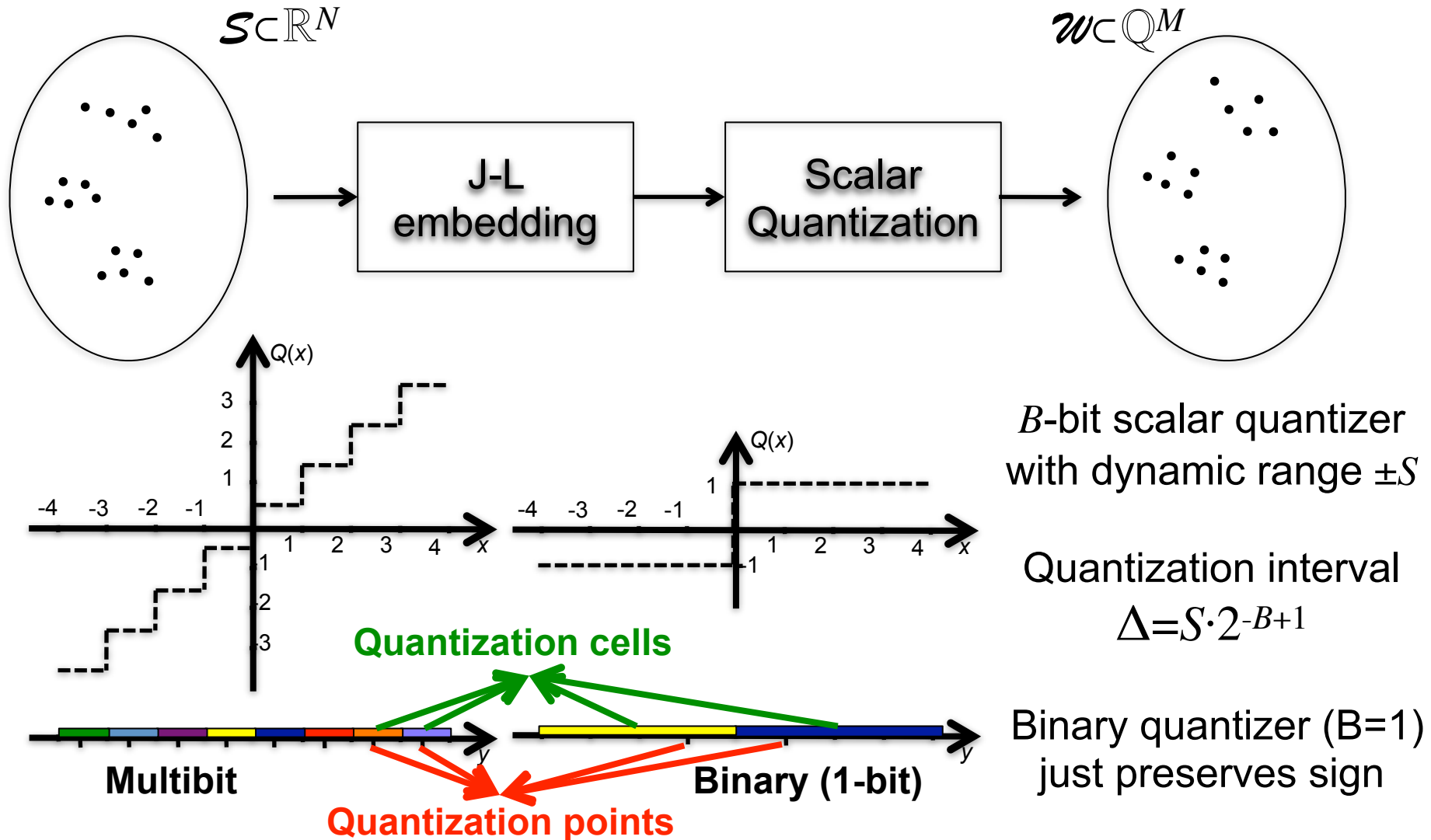
$$(1 - \epsilon) \|x - y\|_2^2 \leq \|f(x) - f(y)\|_2^2 \leq (1 + \epsilon) \|x - y\|_2^2$$

using only $M = O\left(\frac{\log P}{\epsilon^2}\right)$ dimensions

Bound (almost) tight: $M = O\left(\frac{\log P}{\epsilon^2 \log \frac{1}{\epsilon}}\right)$ dimensions necessary

BUT: Quantization is necessary for transmission!
Are J-L Embeddings still appropriate?

Quantized J-L Embeddings



Johnson-Lindenstrauss With Quantization [w/ Li, Rane]

Consider $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathbb{R}^N$ containing P points.

We can embed \mathcal{S} in \mathbb{R}^M such that for all x, y in \mathcal{S} :

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - \epsilon) \|x - y\|_2 - 2^{-B+1} S &\leq \\ \|Q(f(x)) - Q(f(y))\|_2 & \\ &\leq (1 + \epsilon) \|x - y\|_2 + 2^{-B+1} S \end{aligned}$$

using only $M = O\left(\frac{\log P}{\epsilon^2}\right)$ dimensions

and B bits per dimension

(with appropriate normalizations/saturation levels)

Total rate: $R=BM$

Quantized J-L at Fixed Rate

Given total rate: $R=MB$

How to assign B and M ? More M or more B ?

Larger B , less quantization distortion

$$(1 - \epsilon) \|x - y\|_2 - 2^{-\frac{R}{M} + 1} S \leq \|Q(f(x)) - Q(f(y))\|_2 \leq (1 + \epsilon) \|x - y\|_2 + 2^{-\frac{R}{M} + 1} S$$

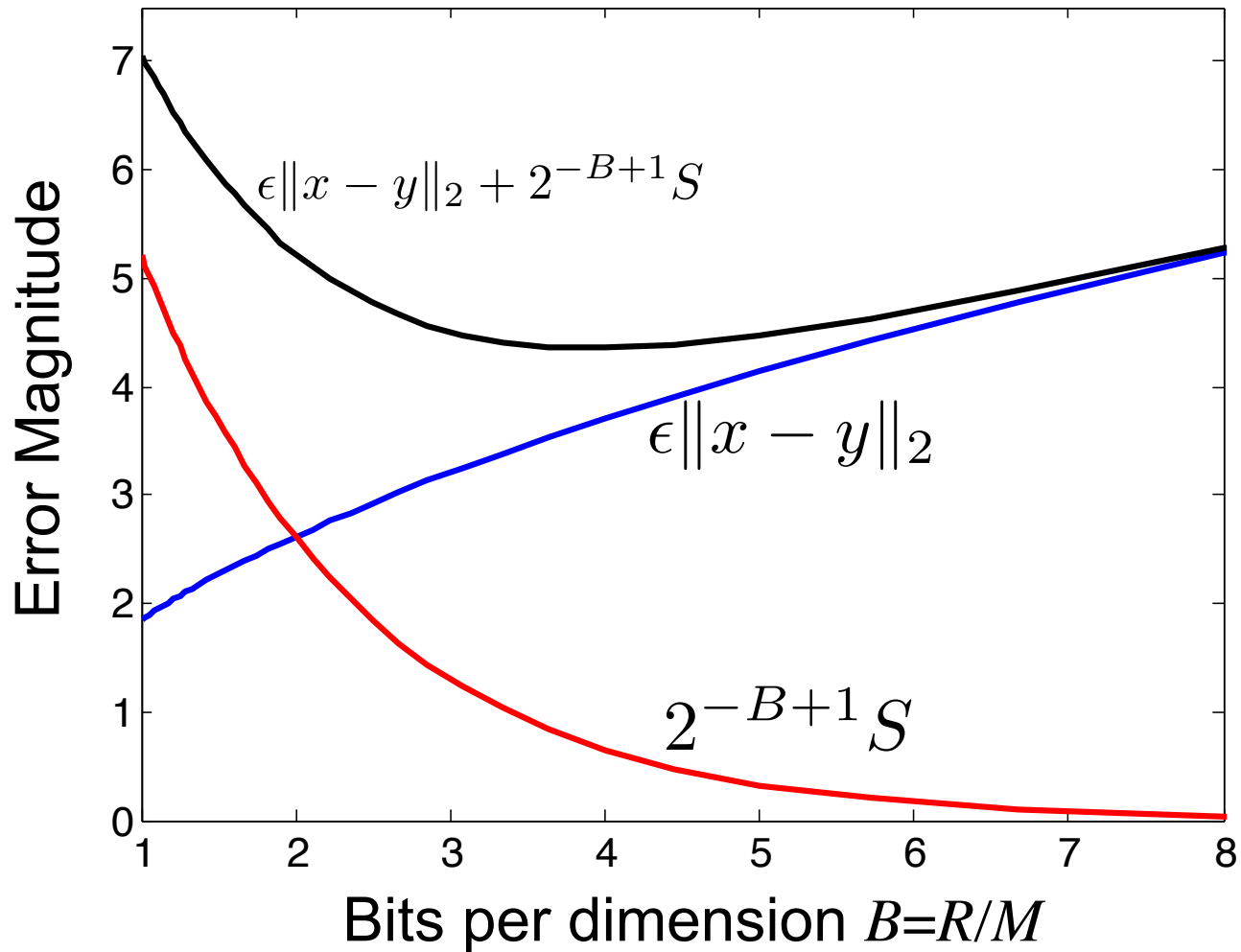
Larger M , less J-L type distortion ϵ

$$\epsilon = O(1/\sqrt{M})$$

Design tradeoff:

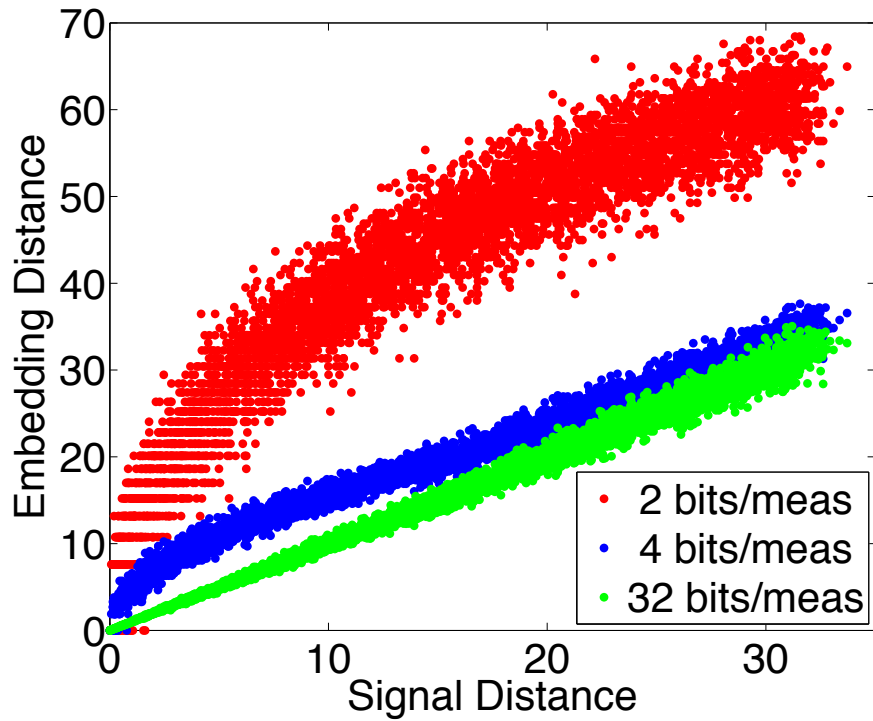
Number of projections vs. bits per projection

Exploring the Design Trade-off

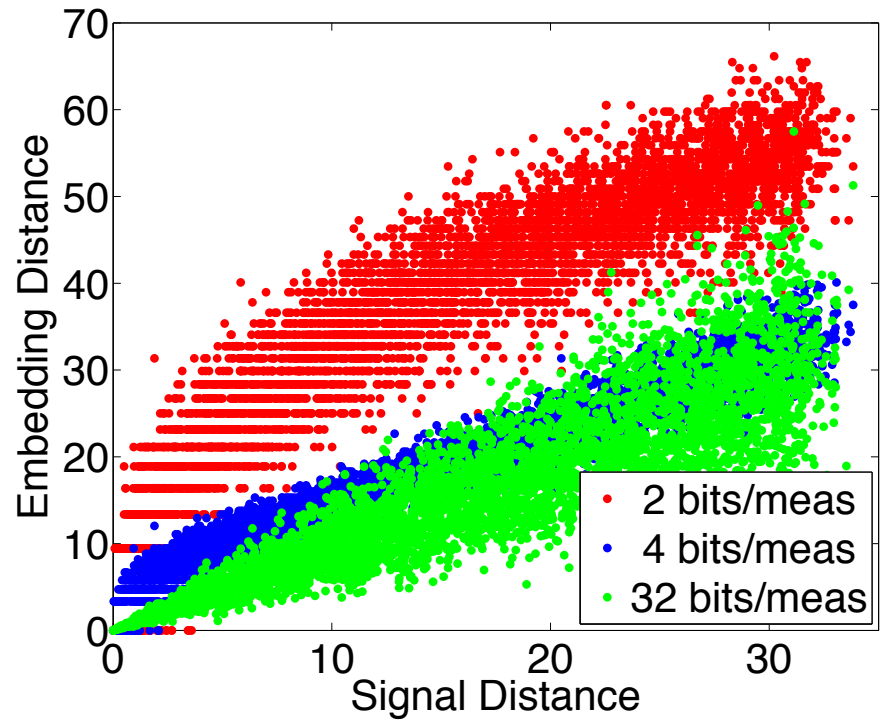


Exploring the Design Trade-off

Fixed $M=256$

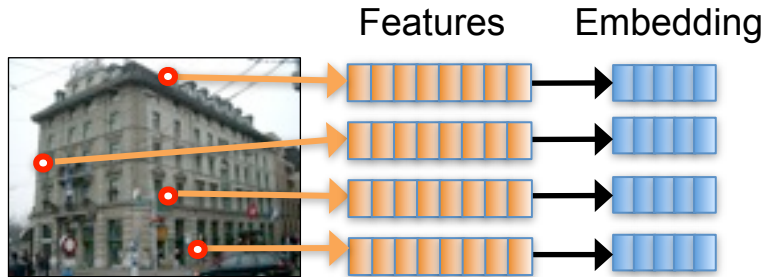


Fixed $R=MB=256$



IN PRACTICE

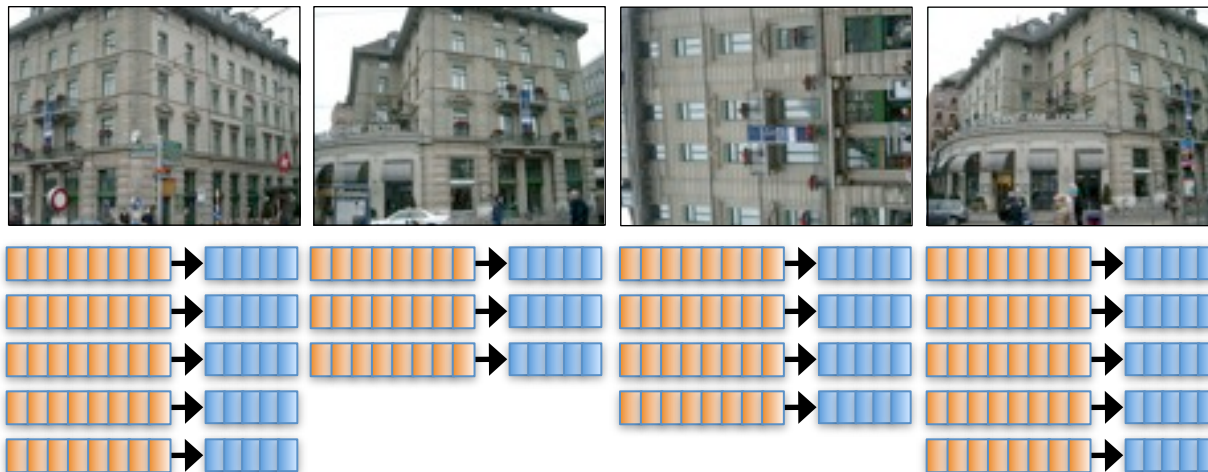
ZuBuD: Zurich Buildings Database



1005 images: 201 buildings from 5 viewpoints each
804 images (4 viewpoints per building) in server
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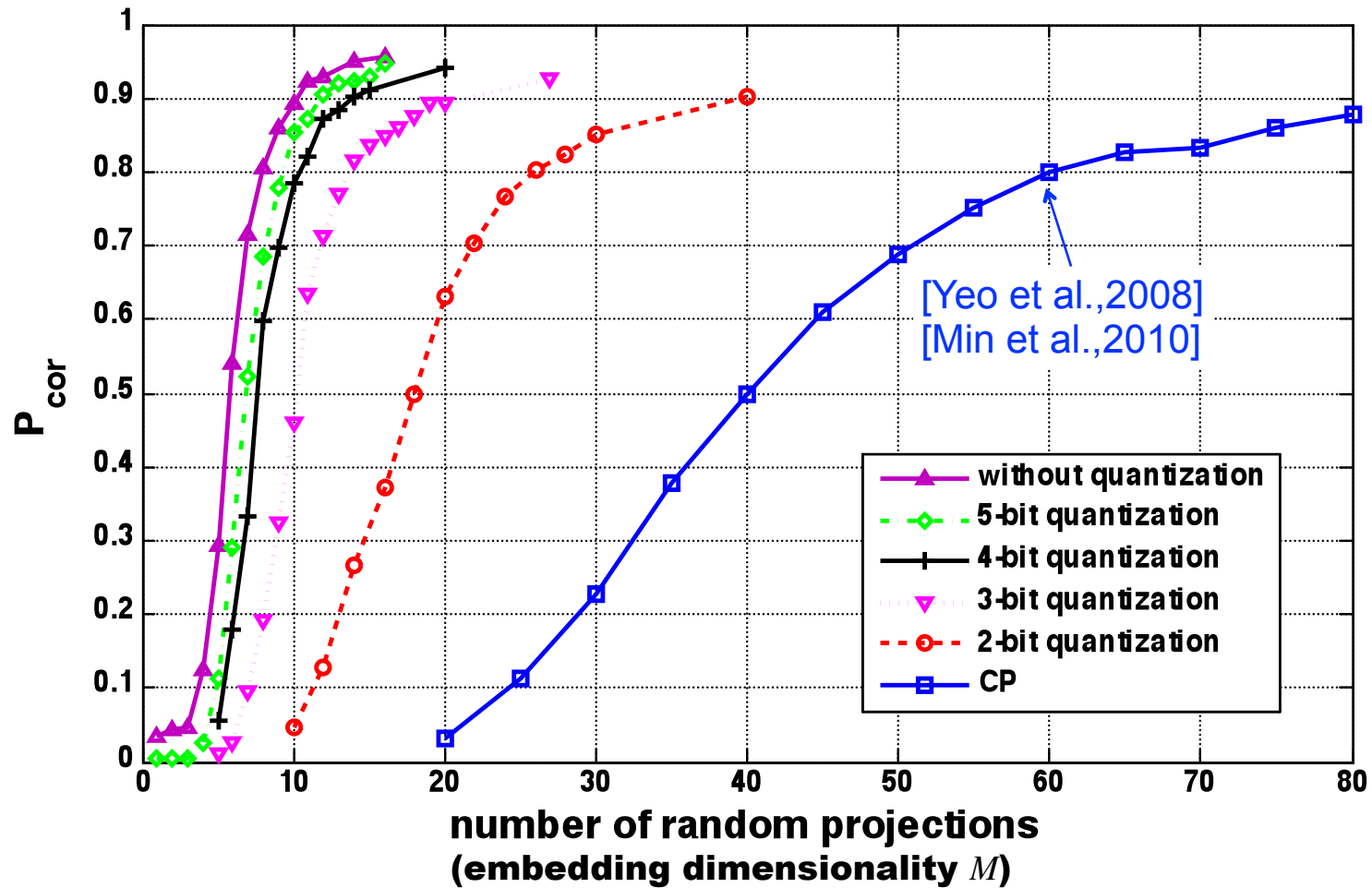
Server Database



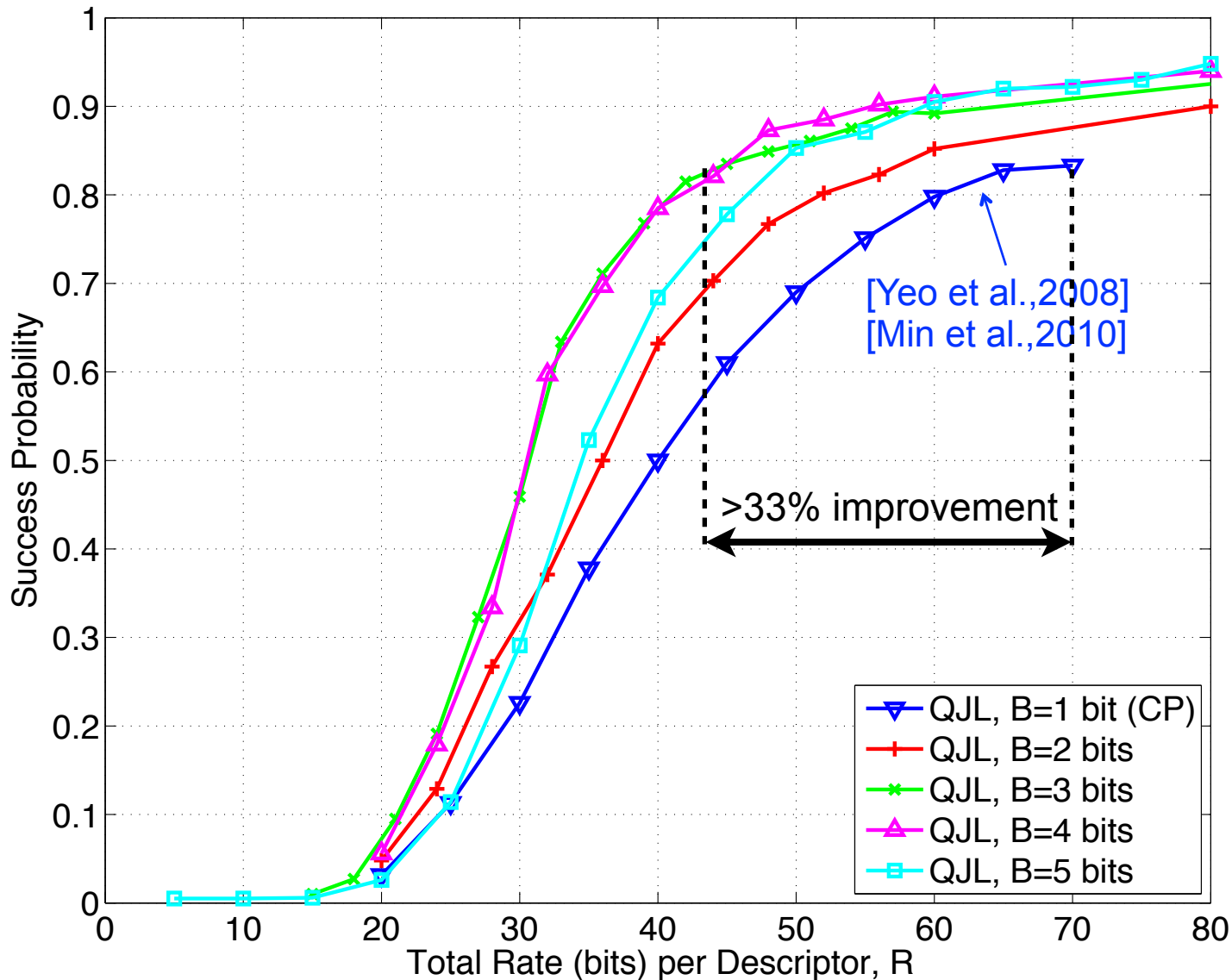
Building ID



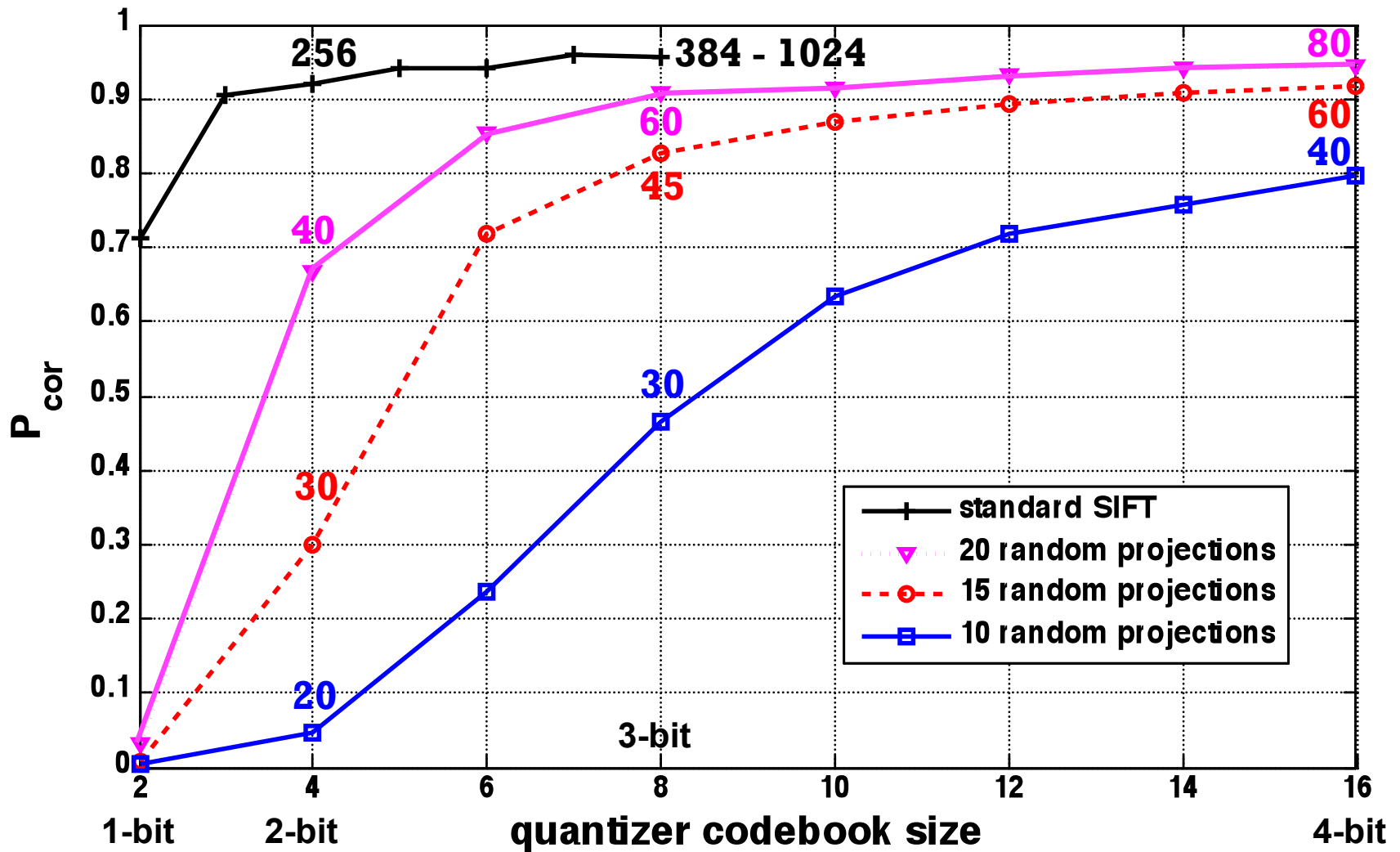
Success Probability



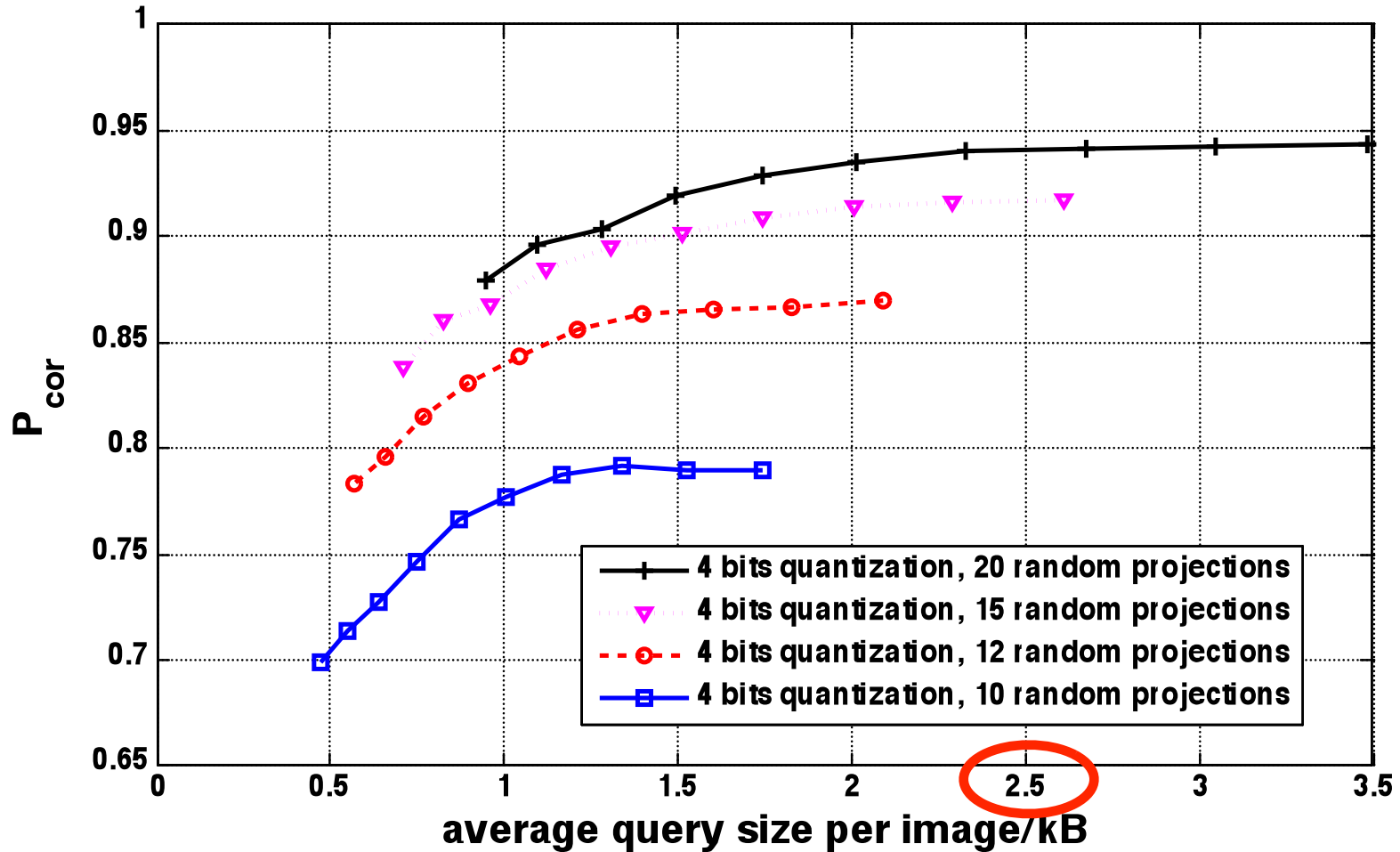
Success Probability with Fixed Rate



Performance Compared to Plain SIFT



Performance Compared to JPEG



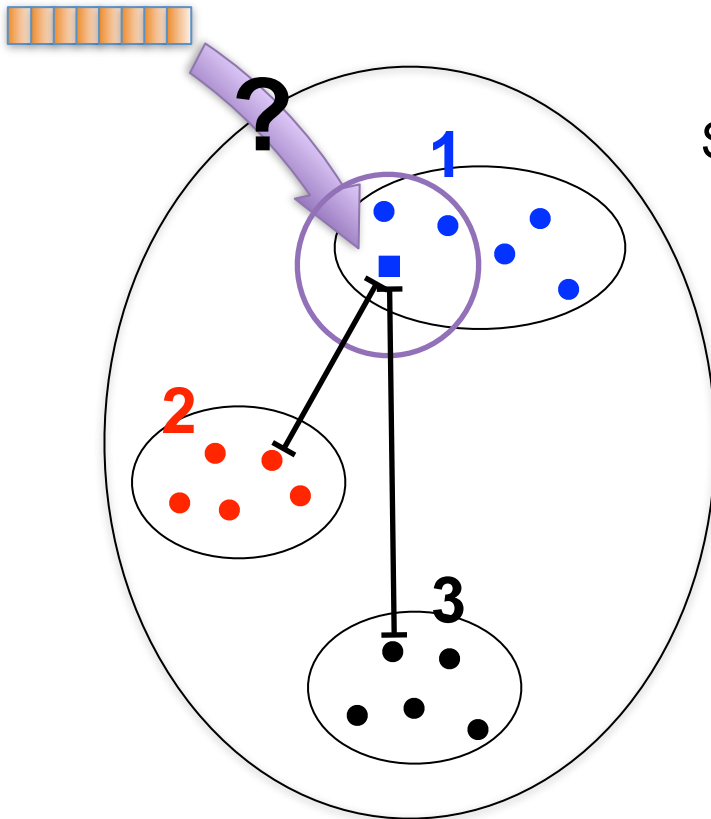
JPEG images at 80 QF need **58.5kB** on average

Information Scalability

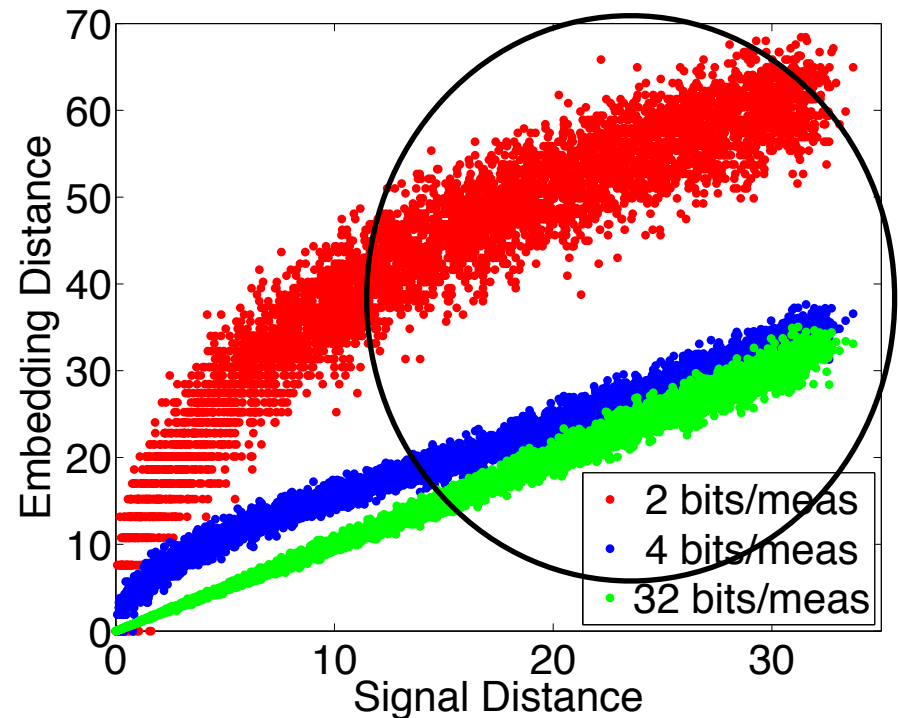
Inference relies on clusters of signals

Large distances not necessary to determine clusters and nearest neighbors

Should not spend bits encoding large distances!

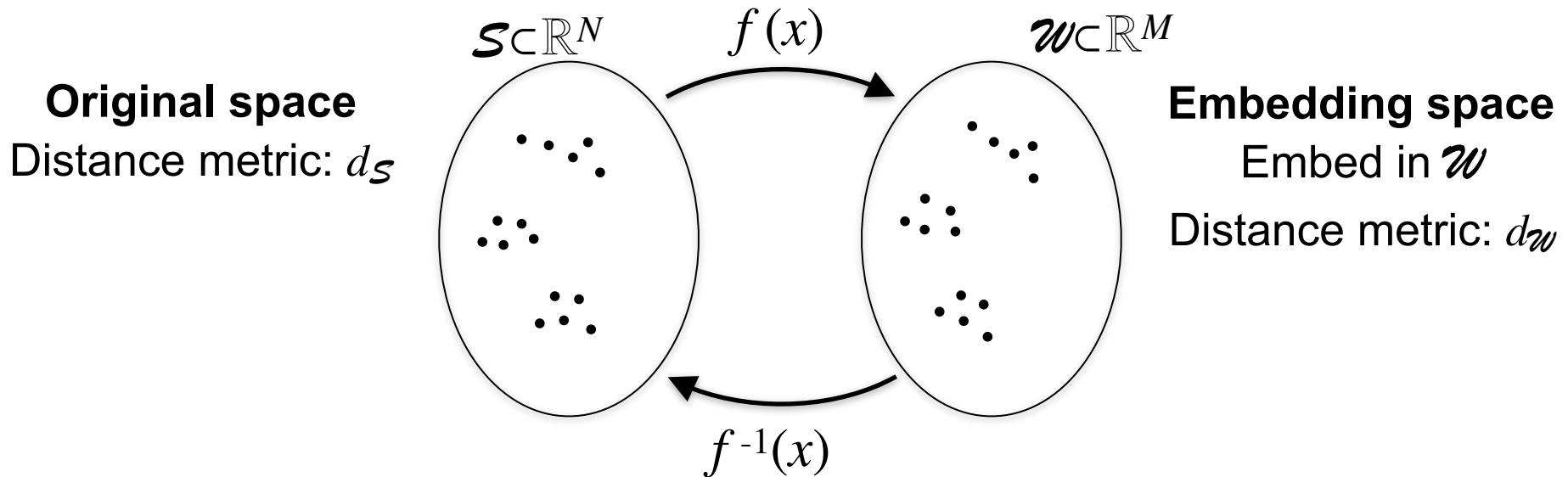


But how?



GENERAL EMBEDDING DESIGN

Generalized Embedding Maps



Assume we can construct a **distance map** $g(\cdot)$

For all x, y in \mathcal{S} :

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - \epsilon)g(d_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')) - \delta &\leq \\ &d_{\mathcal{W}}(f(\mathbf{x}), f(\mathbf{x}')) \\ &\leq (1 + \epsilon)g(d_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')) + \delta \end{aligned}$$

Embedding Analysis

For all x, y in \mathcal{S} :

$$\begin{aligned}(1 - \epsilon)g(d_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')) - \delta &\leq \\ &d_{\mathcal{W}}(f(\mathbf{x}), f(\mathbf{x}')) \\ &\leq (1 + \epsilon)g(d_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')) + \delta\end{aligned}$$

Given two signal **embeddings**, $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}' \Rightarrow f(\mathbf{x}), f(\mathbf{x}')$

What is the distance of the signals \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}' ?

$$d_{\mathcal{W}}(f(\mathbf{x}), f(\mathbf{x}')) \approx g(d_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}'))$$

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{d}_{\mathcal{S}} = g^{-1}(d_{\mathcal{W}}(f(\mathbf{x}), f(\mathbf{x}')))$$

Embedding Analysis


For all x, y in \mathcal{S} :

$$\begin{aligned}(1 - \epsilon)g(d_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')) - \delta &\leq \\ &d_{\mathcal{W}}(f(\mathbf{x}), f(\mathbf{x}')) \\ &\leq (1 + \epsilon)g(d_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')) + \delta\end{aligned}$$

Distance estimate:

$$\tilde{d}_{\mathcal{S}} = g^{-1}(d_{\mathcal{W}}(f(\mathbf{x}), f(\mathbf{x}')))$$

Given distance estimate, what is the **ambiguity**?

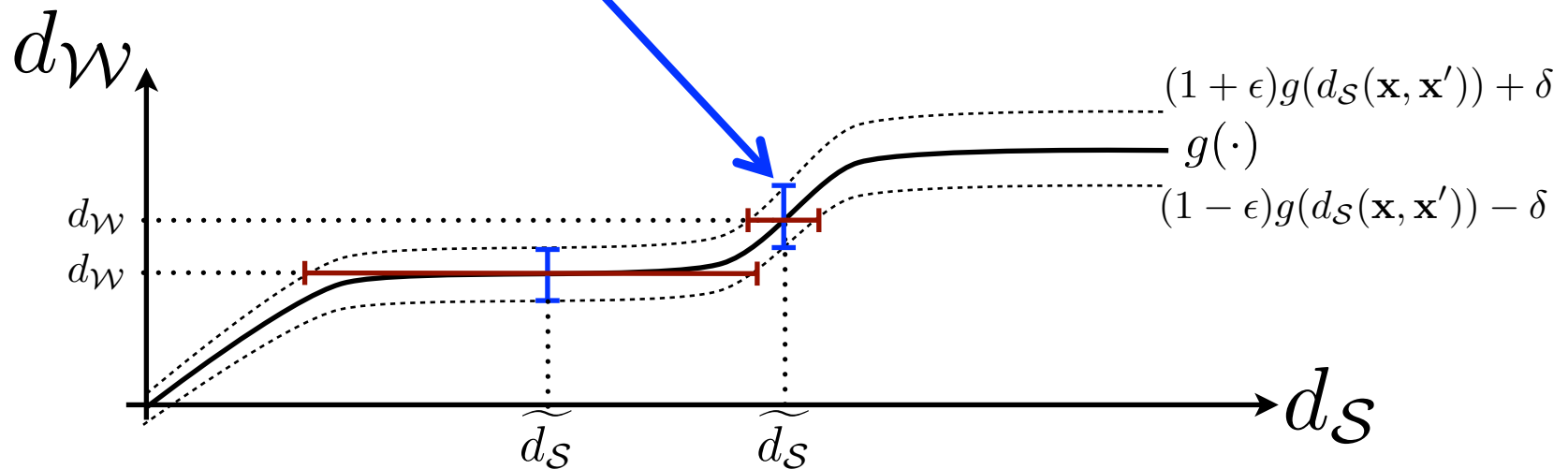
$$\left| d_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') - \tilde{d}_{\mathcal{S}} \right| \lesssim \frac{\delta + \epsilon d_{\mathcal{W}}(f(\mathbf{x}), f(\mathbf{x}'))}{g'(d_{\mathcal{S}})}$$


Note dependence on slope!

Embedding Analysis

For all x, y in \mathcal{S} :

$$(1 - \epsilon)g(d_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')) - \delta \leq d_{\mathcal{W}}(f(\mathbf{x}), f(\mathbf{x}')) \leq (1 + \epsilon)g(d_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')) + \delta$$



$$\left| d_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') - \tilde{d}_{\mathcal{S}} \right| \lesssim \frac{\delta + \epsilon d_{\mathcal{W}}(f(\mathbf{x}), f(\mathbf{x}'))}{g'(d_{\mathcal{S}})}$$

Note dependence on slope!

Embedding Design

Q: Can we design embeddings?

A: Yes. We start with a **random matrix** $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$

a **periodic function** $h(t) = h(t + 1)$

and **random** i.i.d., uniform **dither** $\mathbf{w} \in [0, 1)$

$$\mathbf{y} = h(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{w})$$

Fourier series coefficients of $h(\cdot)$: H_k

Also, assume bounded: $\bar{h} = \sup_t h(t) - \inf_t h(t)$

Distance Map

$\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$ i.i.d., Gaussian, variance σ^2

$\mathbf{w} \in [0, 1)$ i.i.d, uniform

$$h(t) = h(t + 1) \quad \bar{h} = \sup_t h(t) - \inf_t h(t)$$

Fourier series coefficients of $h(\cdot)$: H_k

Theorem (Embedding Design)

Consider a set \mathcal{S} of Q points in \mathbb{R}^N , measured using $\mathbf{y} = h(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{w})$, with \mathbf{A} , \mathbf{w} , and $h(t)$ as above. With failure probability $P_F \leq 2Q^2 e^{-2M \frac{\delta^2}{\bar{h}^4}}$ the following holds

$$g(\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'\|_2) - \delta \leq \frac{1}{M} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}'\|_2^2 \leq g(\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'\|_2) + \delta$$

for all pairs $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}' \in \mathcal{S}$ and corresponding measurements \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{y}' .

With distance map:

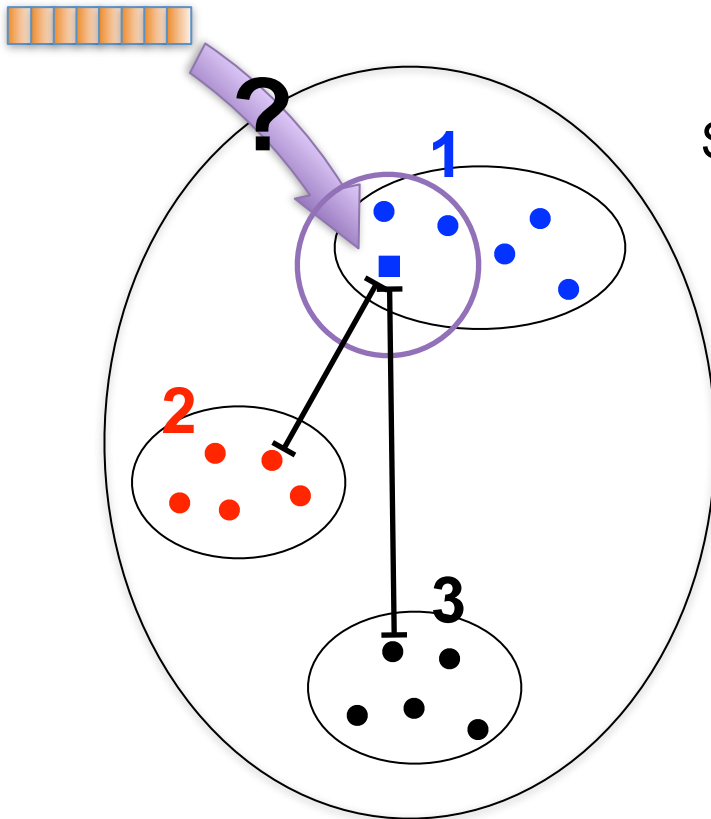
$$g(d) = 2 \sum_k |H_k|^2 \left(1 - e^{-\frac{1}{2} (\sigma d k)^2} \right)$$

Information Scalability

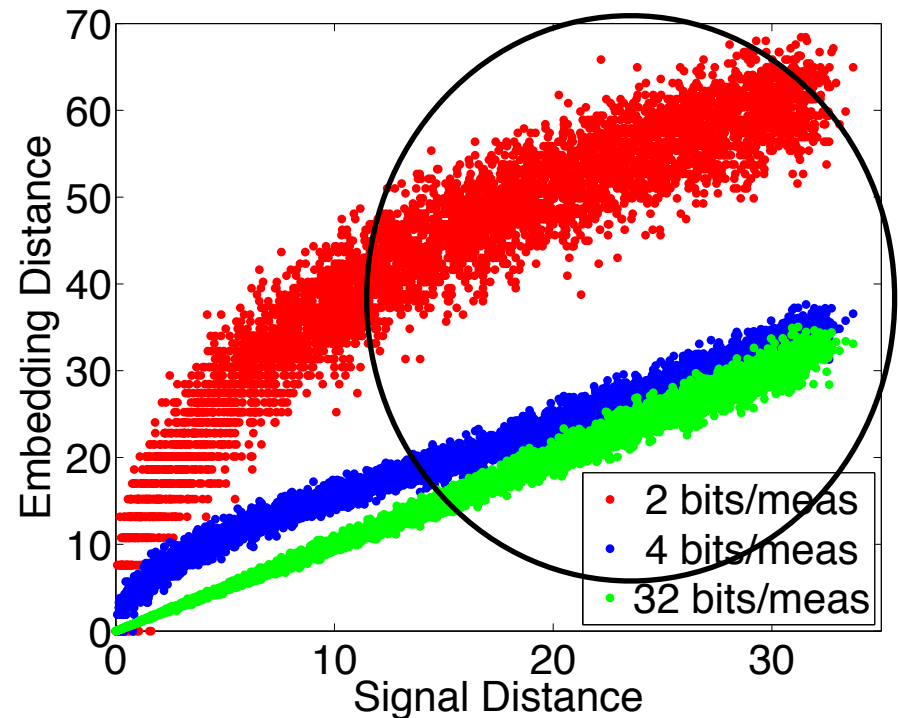
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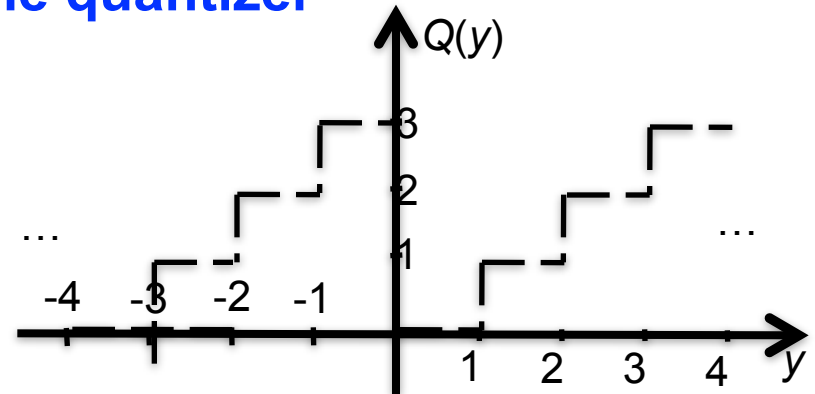
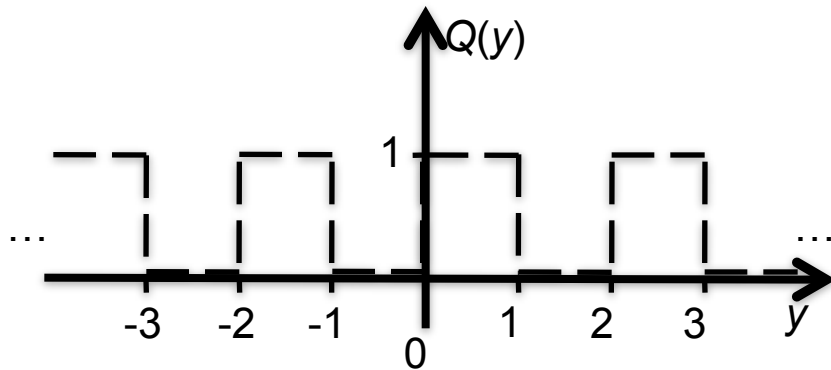
But how?



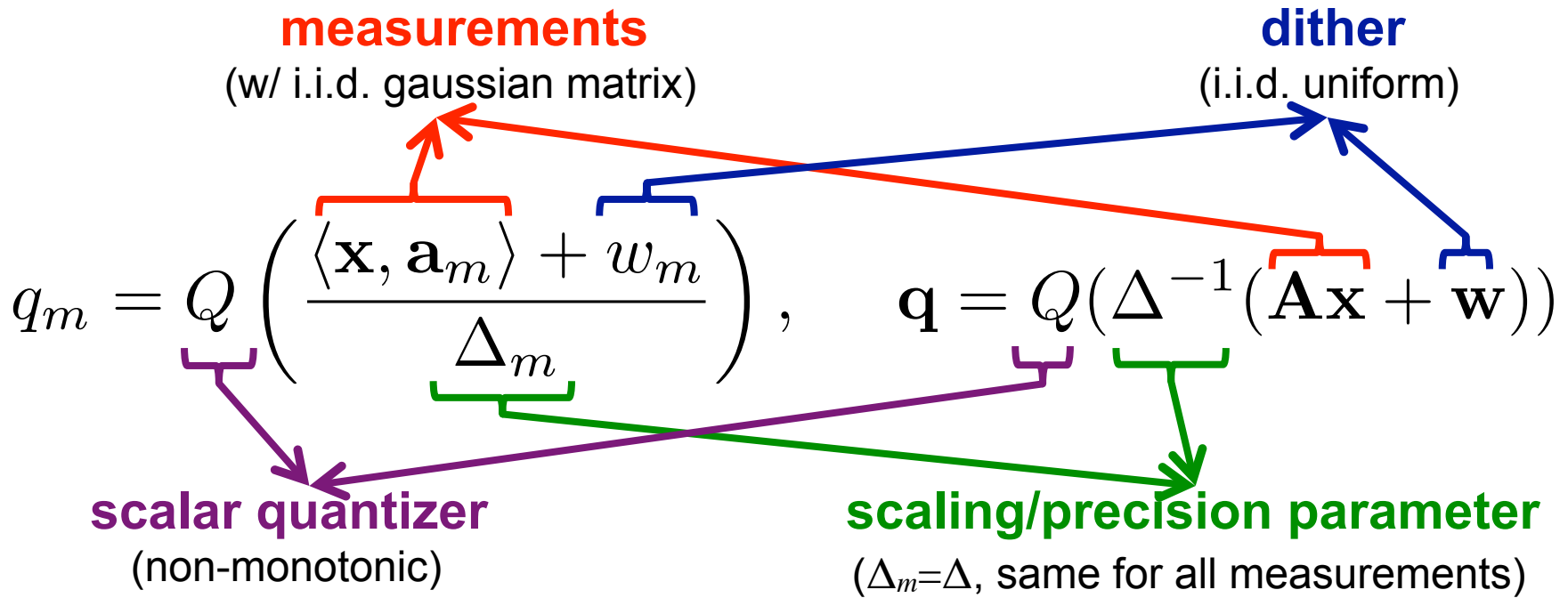
UNIVERSAL QUANTIZED EMBEDDINGS

Rate-Efficient Scalar Quantization

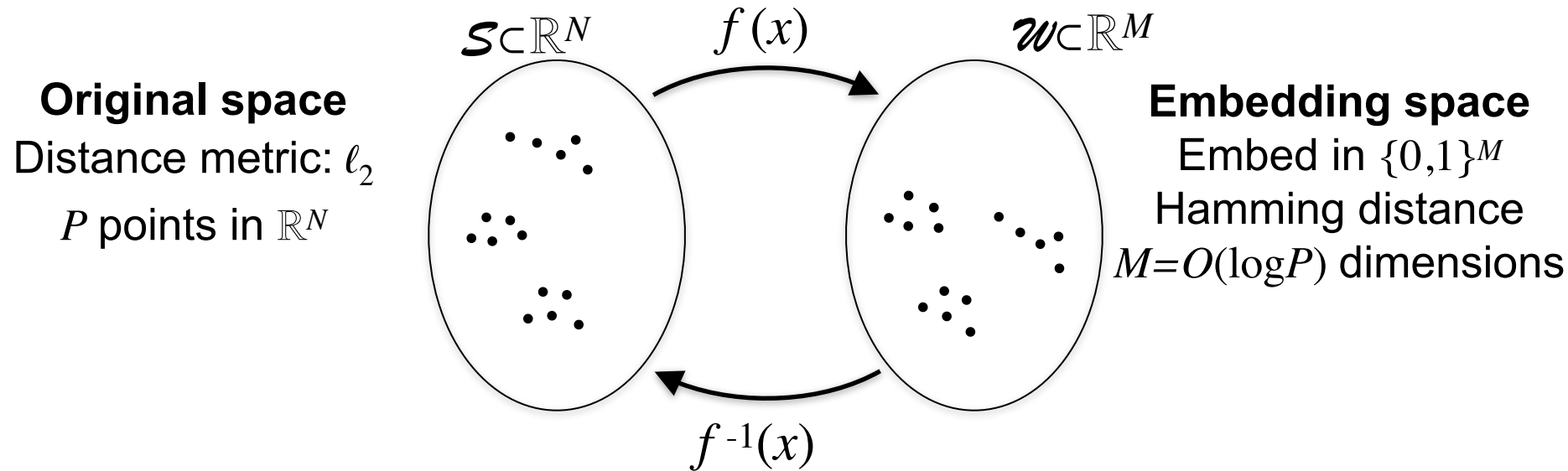
Solution: **Modify the quantizer**



Non-monotonic quantizer: Multiple intervals quantize to same value
(Focus on 1-bit quantizer today)



Embedding Properties



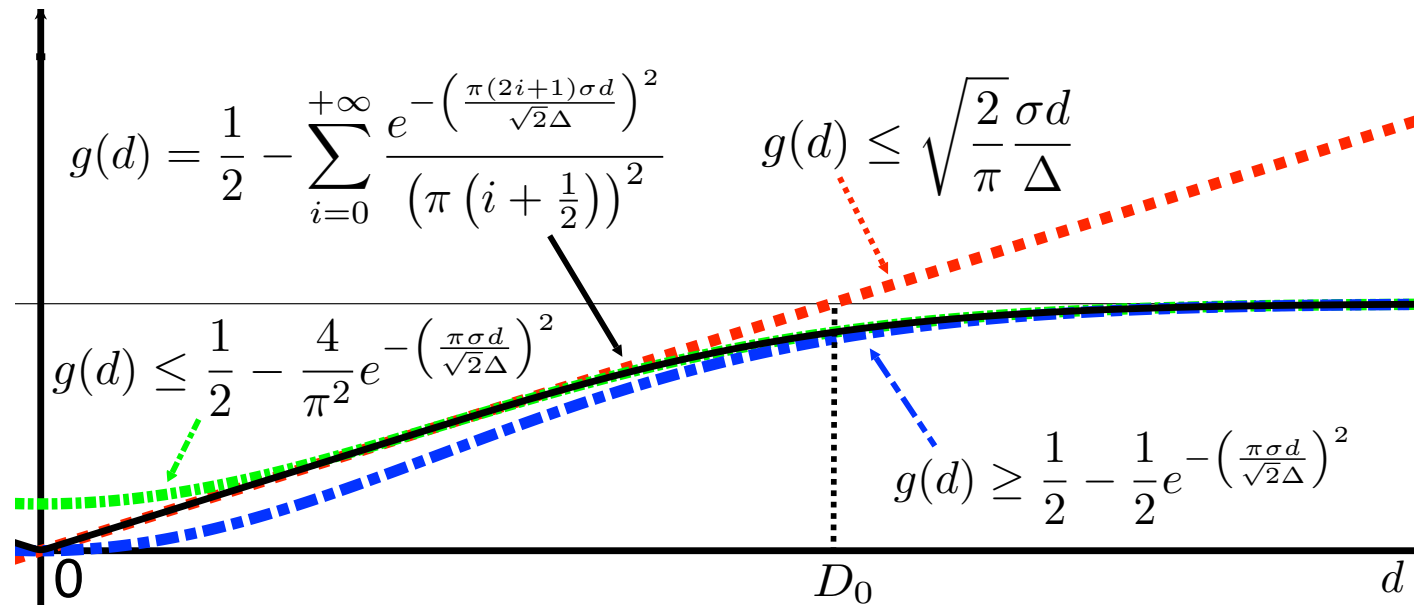
For all x, y in \mathcal{S} :

$$g(d) - \delta \leq d_H(f(x) - f(y)) \leq g(d) + \delta$$

$$g(d) = \frac{1}{2} - \sum_{i=0}^{+\infty} \frac{e^{-\left(\frac{\pi(2i+1)\sigma d}{\sqrt{2}\Delta}\right)^2}}{\left(\pi\left(i + \frac{1}{2}\right)\right)^2}$$

Error Behavior

$$g(d) - \delta \leq d_H (f(x) - f(y)) \leq g(d) + \delta$$



Distance estimate: $\tilde{d} = g^{-1} (d_H (f(x), f(y)))$

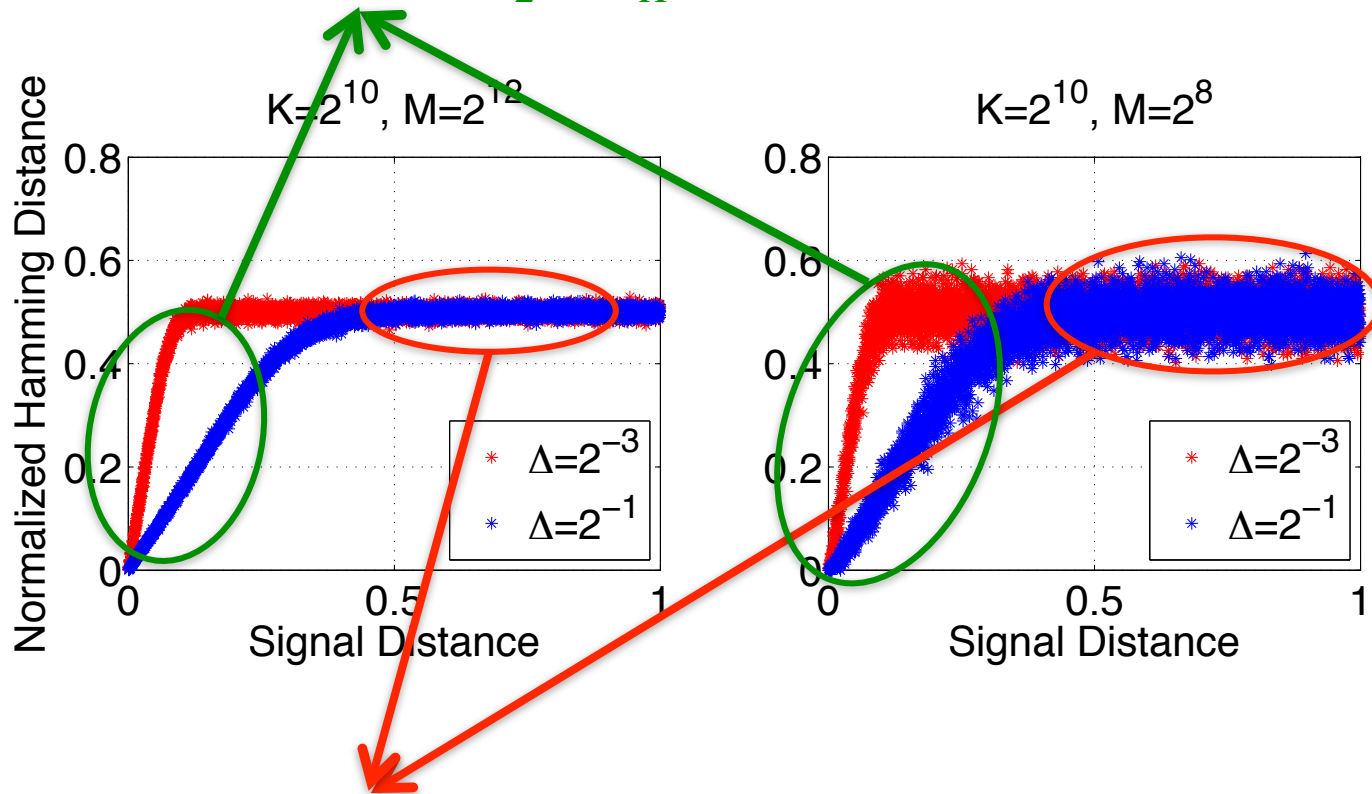
Estimate ambiguity: $\tilde{d} - \frac{\delta}{g'(\tilde{d})} \lesssim d \lesssim \tilde{d} + \frac{\delta}{g'(\tilde{d})}$

Properties (slope) controlled by choice of Δ

Error Behavior

$$g(d) - \delta \leq d_H(f(x) - f(y)) \leq g(d) + \delta$$

“Linear” region: $\ell_2 \propto d_H$, slope controlled by Δ

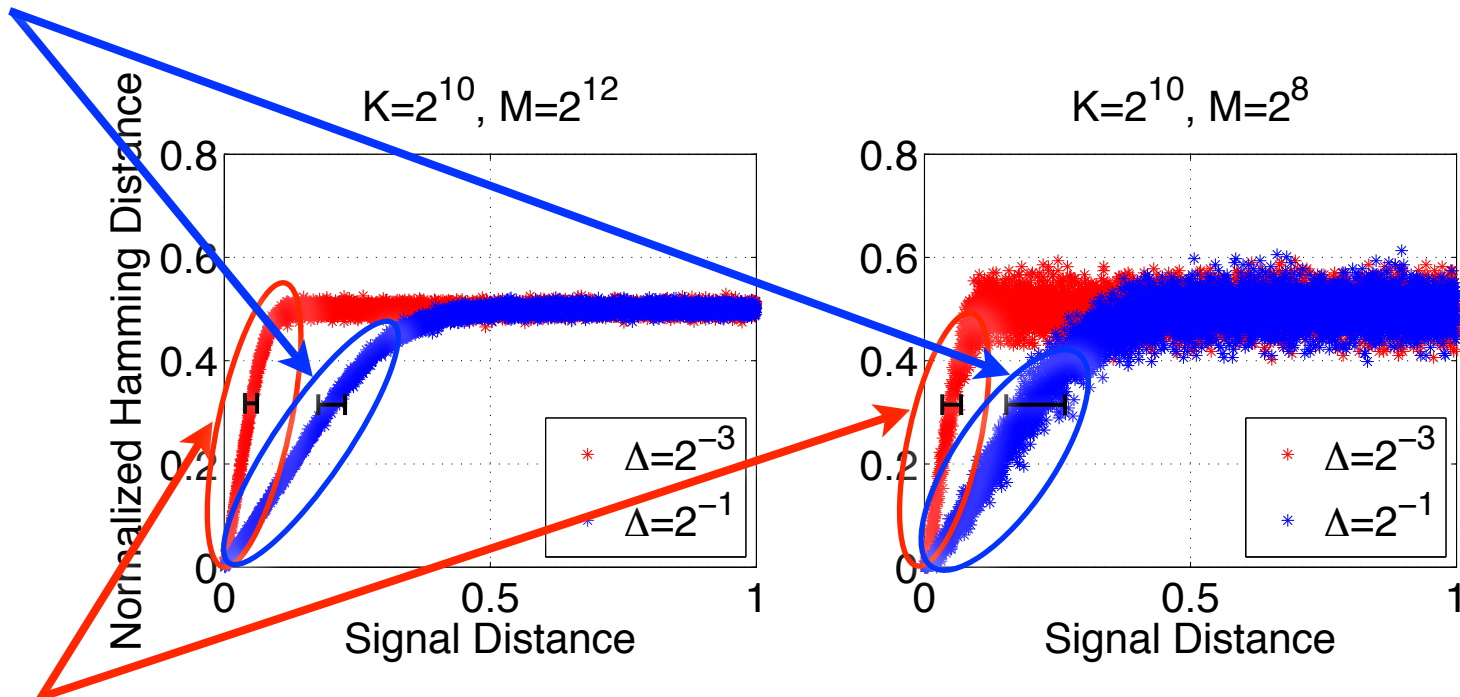


“Flat” region: no distance information

Error Behavior

$$g(d) - \delta \leq d_H(f(x) - f(y)) \leq g(d) + \delta$$

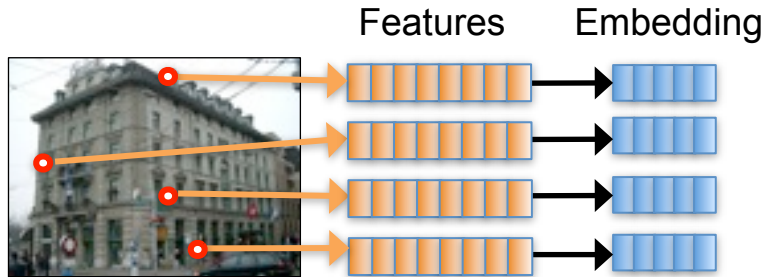
Large Δ : small slope, more ambiguity, preserves larger distances



Small Δ : large slope, less ambiguity, preserves smaller distances

IN PRACTICE

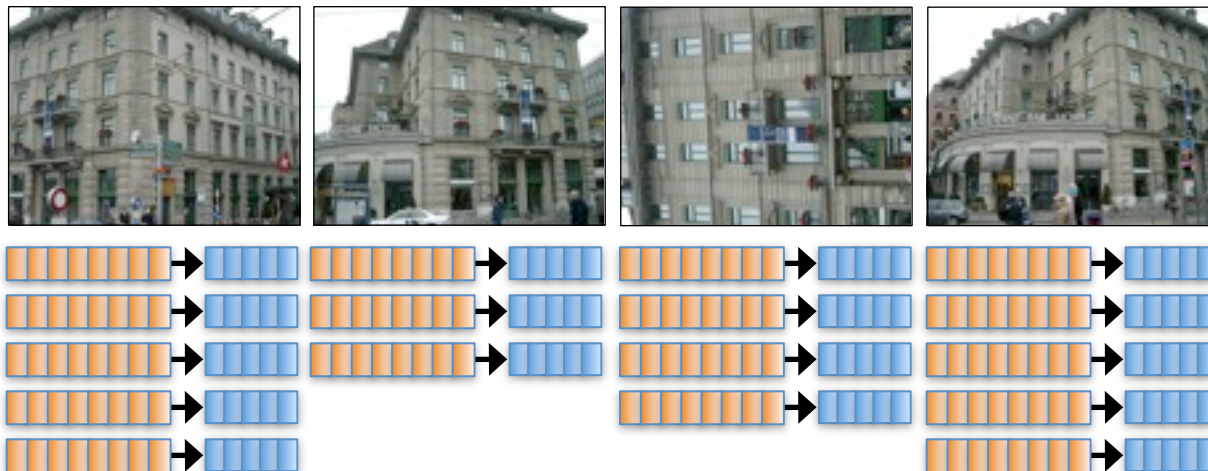
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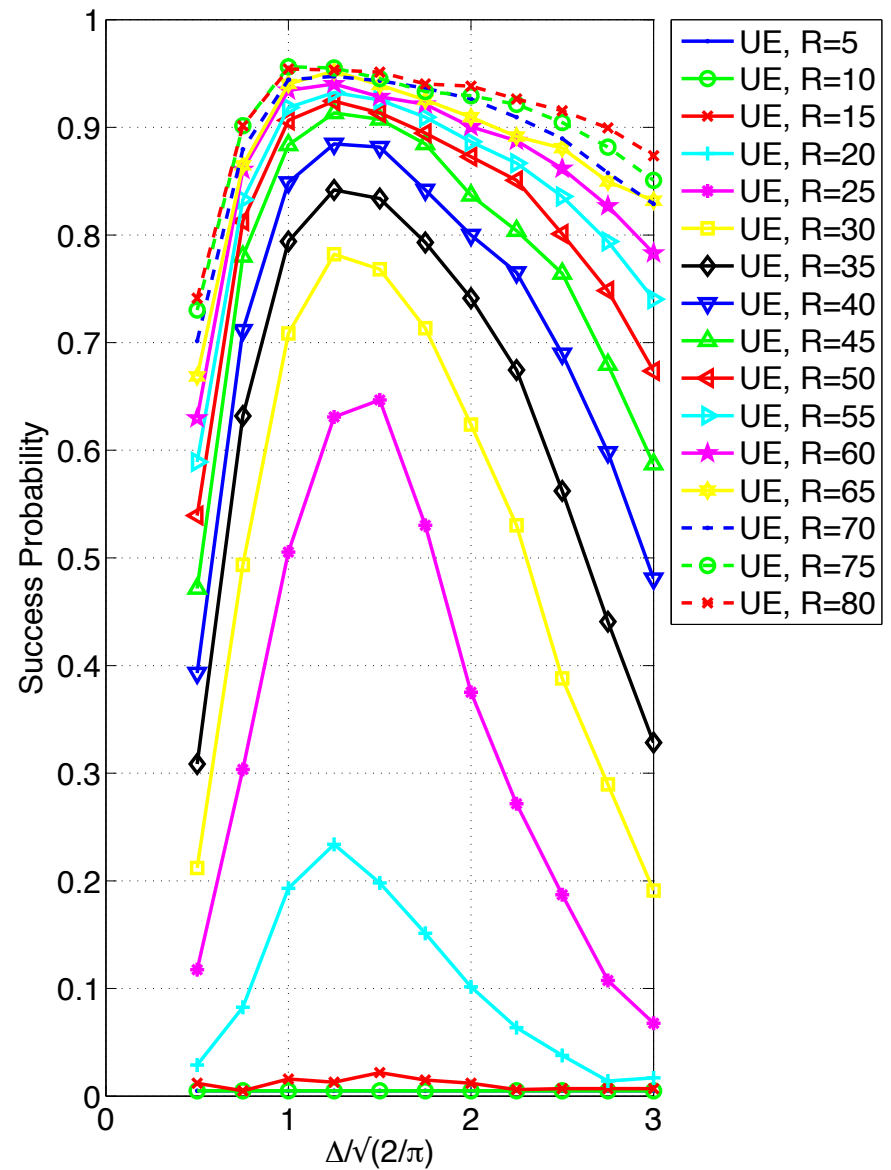
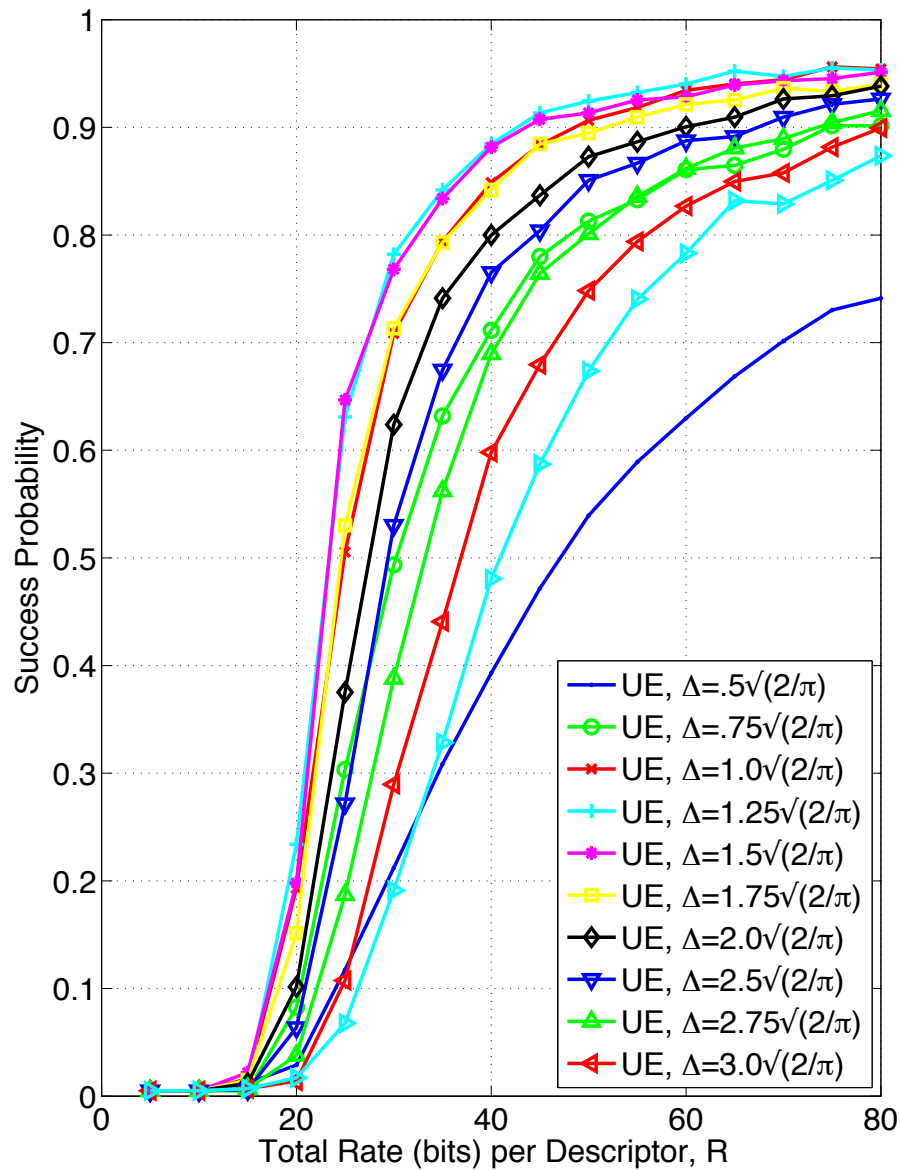
Server Database



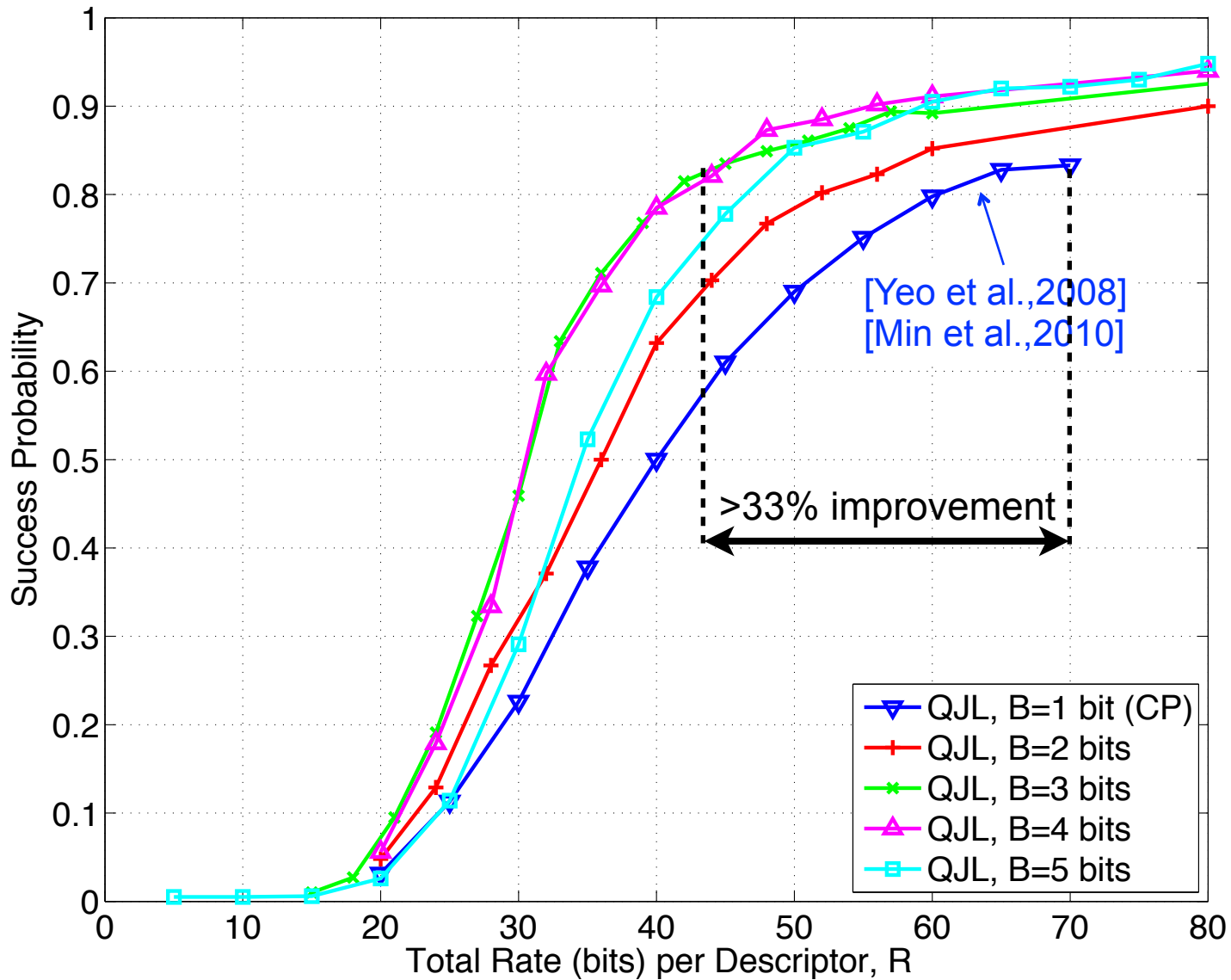
Building ID



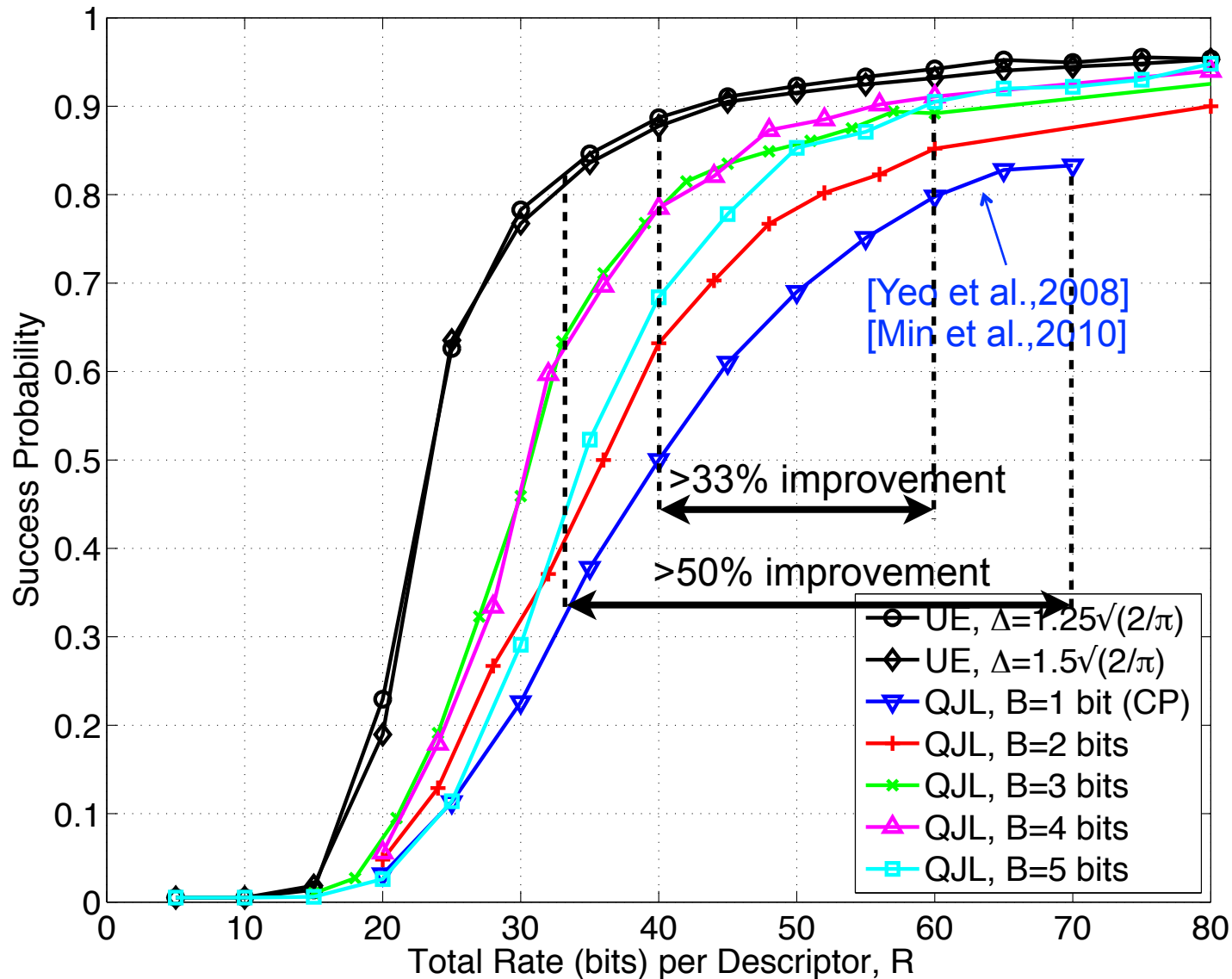
In practice



In practice



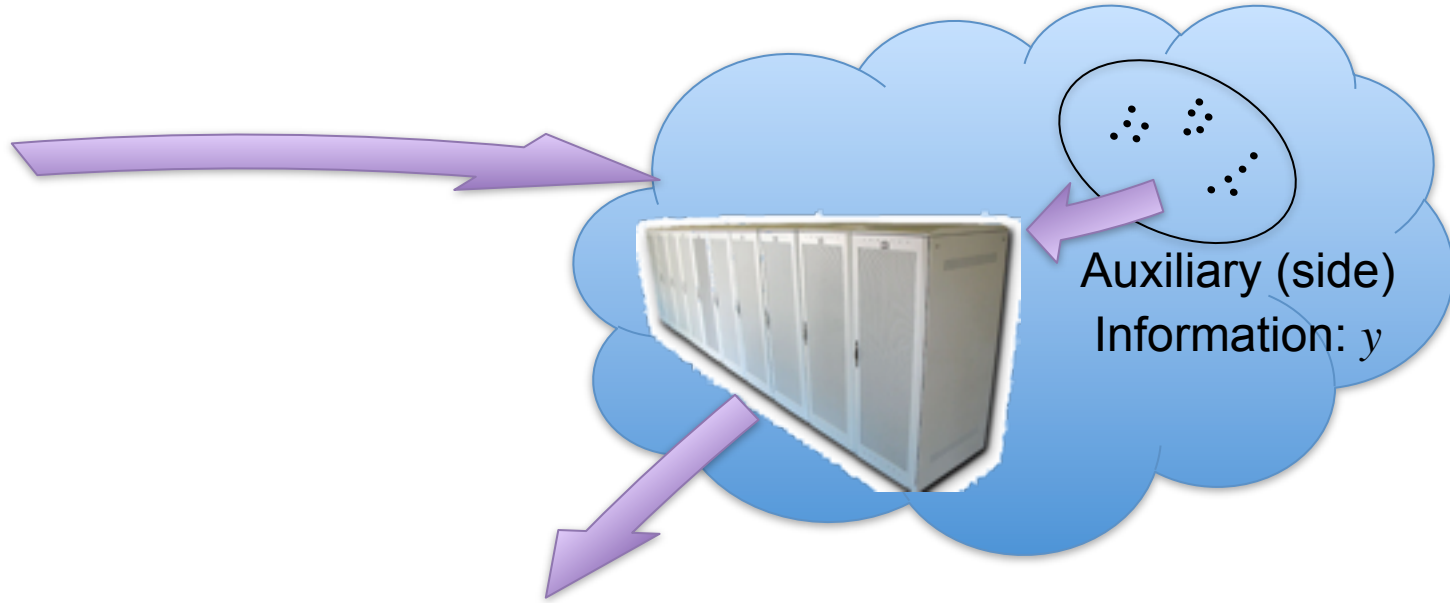
In practice



Looking Ahead: The Big Picture



Signal: x



Output: $g(x,y)$

Information Scalable Coding:

Encode/embed the signal for general functions $g(\cdot, \cdot)$?

Preserving whole signal usually not necessary!

Solution known only for some special cases

Summary

- Embeddings a big step towards information scalability
 - Very effective for coding signal distances
 - Very efficient for big data and distributed systems
 - Very promising for quantization and distributed coding
- Embeddings exist for other distance metrics
 - Angle/correlation of signals (1-bit CS and phase embeddings)
 - Edit distance, Earth mover distance [Indyk et al.]
 - How to properly exploit/quantize them?
- General open problems
 - Embeddings/codings for function computation
 - Information scalability in more general inference problems

Questions/Comments?

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<http://boufounos.com>