

Nyström-based approximations for Kernel Logistic Regression: Application to transport choice modelling

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**World Conference on
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- ¹ Hagenauer and Helbich (2017) *A comparative study of machine learning classifiers for modeling travel mode choice*. *Expert. Systems with Applications*
 - ² Hillel et al (2021) *A systematic review of machine learning classification methodologies for modelling passenger mode choice*. *Journal of Choice Modelling*
 - ³ Martín-Baos et al (2023) *A prediction and behavioural analysis of machine learning methods for modelling travel mode choice*. Arxiv preprint
 - ⁴ Martín-Baos et al (2021) *Revisiting kernel logistic regression under the random utility models perspective. An interpretable machine-learning approach*. *Transportation Letters*

$$U_{in} = V_{in} + \epsilon_{in}$$

$$U_{in} = \text{KLR} + \epsilon_{in}$$

KLR

$$V_i(\mathbf{x} \mid \boldsymbol{\alpha}) = \sum_{n=1}^N \alpha_{in} k(\mathbf{x}_{in}, \mathbf{x})$$

$$[\mathbf{K}_i]_{n,n'} = k(\mathbf{x}_{in}, \mathbf{x}_{in'}) \quad \text{for } n, n' = 1, \dots, N$$

$$V_i(\mathbf{x} \mid \boldsymbol{\alpha}) = \mathbf{K}_i^{(n)\top} \boldsymbol{\alpha}_i$$

K_i

| n | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 0.1 |
| 2 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.6 | 0.3 |
| 3 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 0.5 |
| 4 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 0.4 | 0.6 |
| 5 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 1.0 | 0.8 |
| 6 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 1.0 |

K_i

| n | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 0.1 |
| 2 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.6 | 0.3 |
| 3 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 0.5 |
| 4 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 0.4 | 0.6 |
| 5 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 1.0 | 0.8 |
| 6 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 1.0 |

| \mathbf{K}_i | | | | | | α_i | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------|---|-------|
| n | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | | |
| 1 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 0.1 | × | 0.82 |
| 2 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.6 | 0.3 | | 0.14 |
| 3 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 0.5 | | -0.26 |
| 4 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 0.4 | 0.6 | | 0.91 |
| 5 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 1.0 | 0.8 | | 0.74 |
| 6 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 1.0 | | -0.6 |

×

$$\mathbb{P}(i \mid \mathbf{K}_n, \boldsymbol{\alpha}) = \frac{e^{V_i}}{\sum_{j=1}^I e^{V_j}} = \frac{e^{\mathbf{K}_i^{(n)\top} \boldsymbol{\alpha}_i}}{\sum_{j=1}^I e^{\mathbf{K}_j^{(n)\top} \boldsymbol{\alpha}_j}}$$

Numerical results

GKLR Python package



- Ubuntu 20.04 LTS
- 3.8 GHz 12 core AMD Ryzen
- 32 GB of RAM

<https://github.com/JoseAngelMartinB/gklr>



LPMC

- Single day travel diary data from 2012 to 2015.
- 81,096 surveys with 31 variables.
- After pre-processing, 20 variables selected.



35%



44%



3%



18%



NTS

- ML focused dataset:
 - Data from a Dutch transport survey from 2010 to 2012.
 - Environmental data.
- 230,608 surveys with 16 variables.



4%



55%



24%



17%

KLR estimation problem



Spatial complexity to store the Gram matrix

$$\mathcal{O}(N^2)$$



Computational cost of V

$$\mathcal{O}(N^2)$$

Nystrom method

$$V_i = \mathbf{K}_i \boldsymbol{\alpha}_i$$

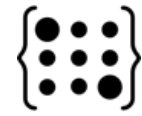
$$\mathbf{K} \approx \mathbf{K}_{N,L} \cdot \mathbf{K}_{L,L}^\dagger \cdot \mathbf{K}_{N,L}^\top, \quad \text{with } L \ll N$$

$$V_i = \mathbf{K}_{N,L} \cdot \left(\mathbf{K}_{L,L}^\dagger \cdot \left(\mathbf{K}_{N,L}^\top \cdot \boldsymbol{\alpha} \right) \right)$$



Complexity

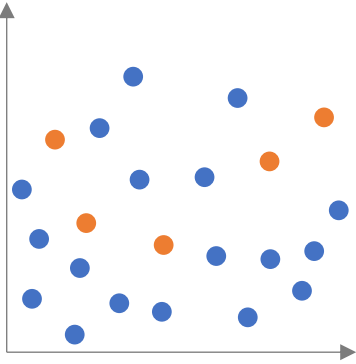
$$\mathcal{O}(N \cdot L)$$



Nyström method

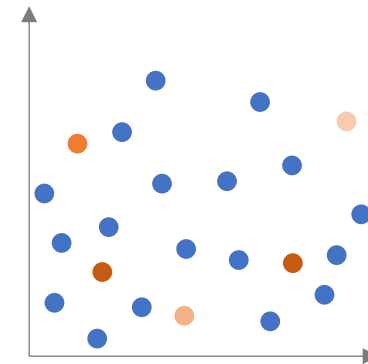
Random strategy

Nyström KLR



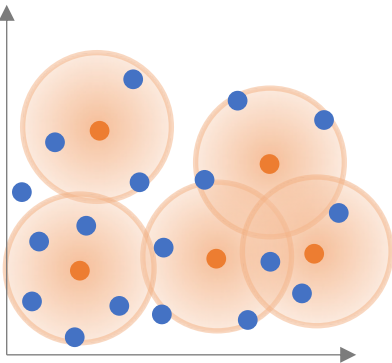
Divide-and-conquer ridge-leverage strategy

DAC ridge-leverage Nyström KLR



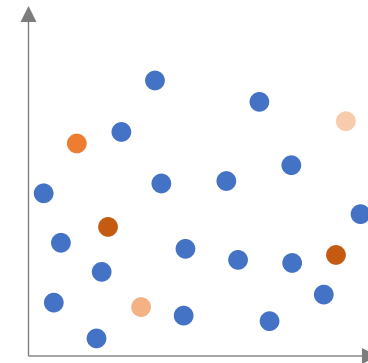
K-means strategy

K-means Nyström KLR

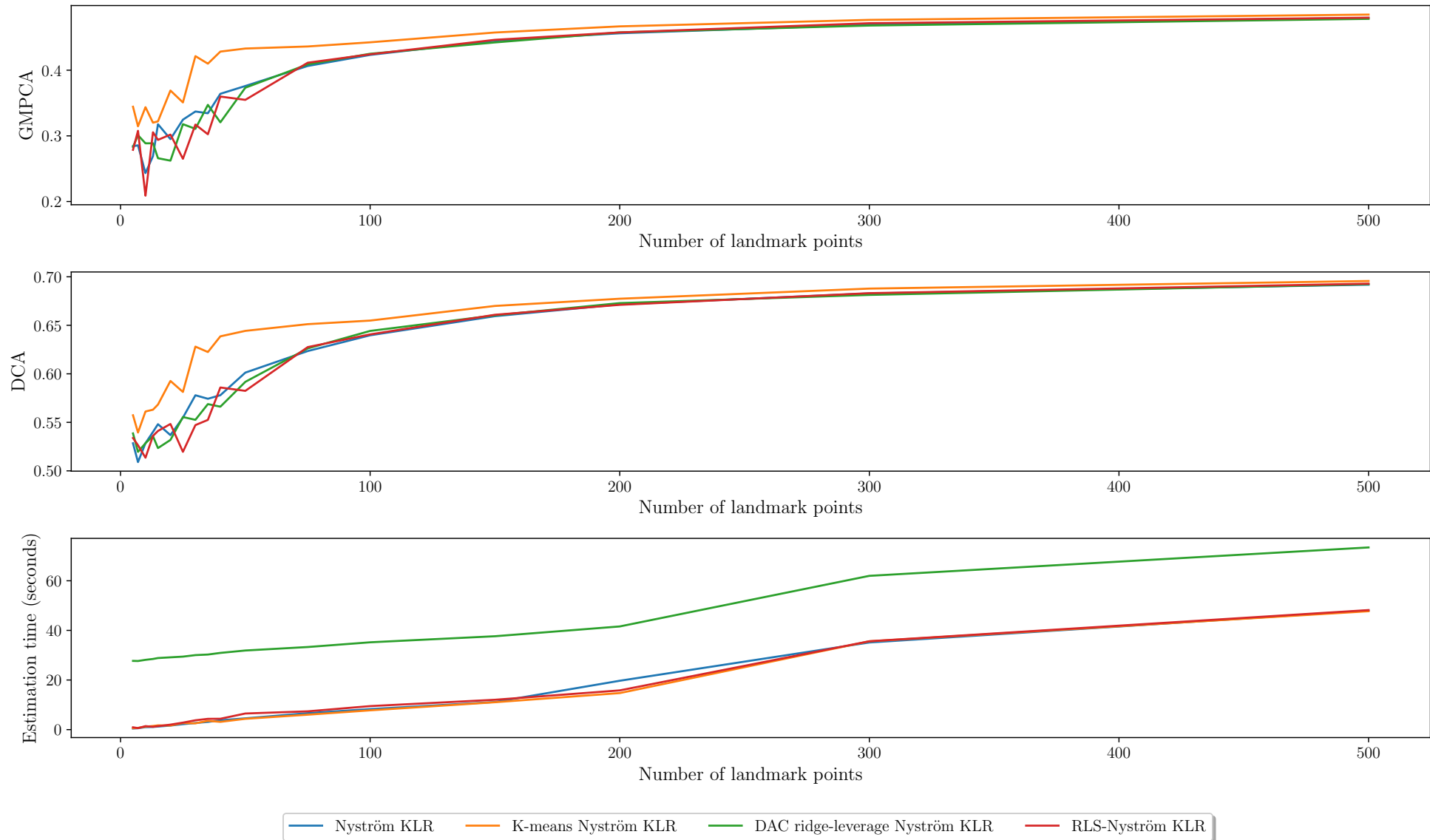


Recursive ridge-leverage strategy

RLS-Nyström KLR







Experiment 1: Comparison Nyström KLR methods



Experiment 2: Comparison Nyström KLR and ML



| | | LPMC | | | NTS | | | |
|-----|---|--------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|----------|
| | | DCA | GMPCA | Estimation time (s) | DCA | GMPCA | Estimation time (s) | |
| | MNL | 72.54 | 48.85 | 623.43 | 65.42 | 43.83 | 855.61 | |
| | LinearSVM | 72.13 | 48.92 | 691.21 | 64.64 | 43.72 | 3,963.52 | |
| |  RF | 73.58 | 50.14 | 2.67 | 68.19 | 46.84 | 1.87 | |
| |  XGBoost | 74.71 | 51.85 | 82.04 | 68.72 | 48.05 | 138.72 | |
| |  NN | 73.87 | 50.72 | 5.25 | 68.40 | 47.12 | 7.51 | |
| | Nyström KLR | 73.45 | 50.41* | 303.39 | 64.98 | 44.53* | 776.46 | |
| |  k-means | Nyström KLR | 73.46 | 50.35 | 309.40 | 65.09* | 44.50 | |
| DAC | ridge-leverage | Nyström KLR | 73.49 | 50.33 | 507.37 | 64.91 | 44.41 | 1,010.26 |
| | RLS-Nyström KLR | 73.62* | 50.43 | 324.85 | 64.81 | 44.52 | 727.24 | |



Memory usage

LPMC 

22 GB

$L = 500$

NTS 

194 GB

$L = 1000$



Memory usage

LPMC 

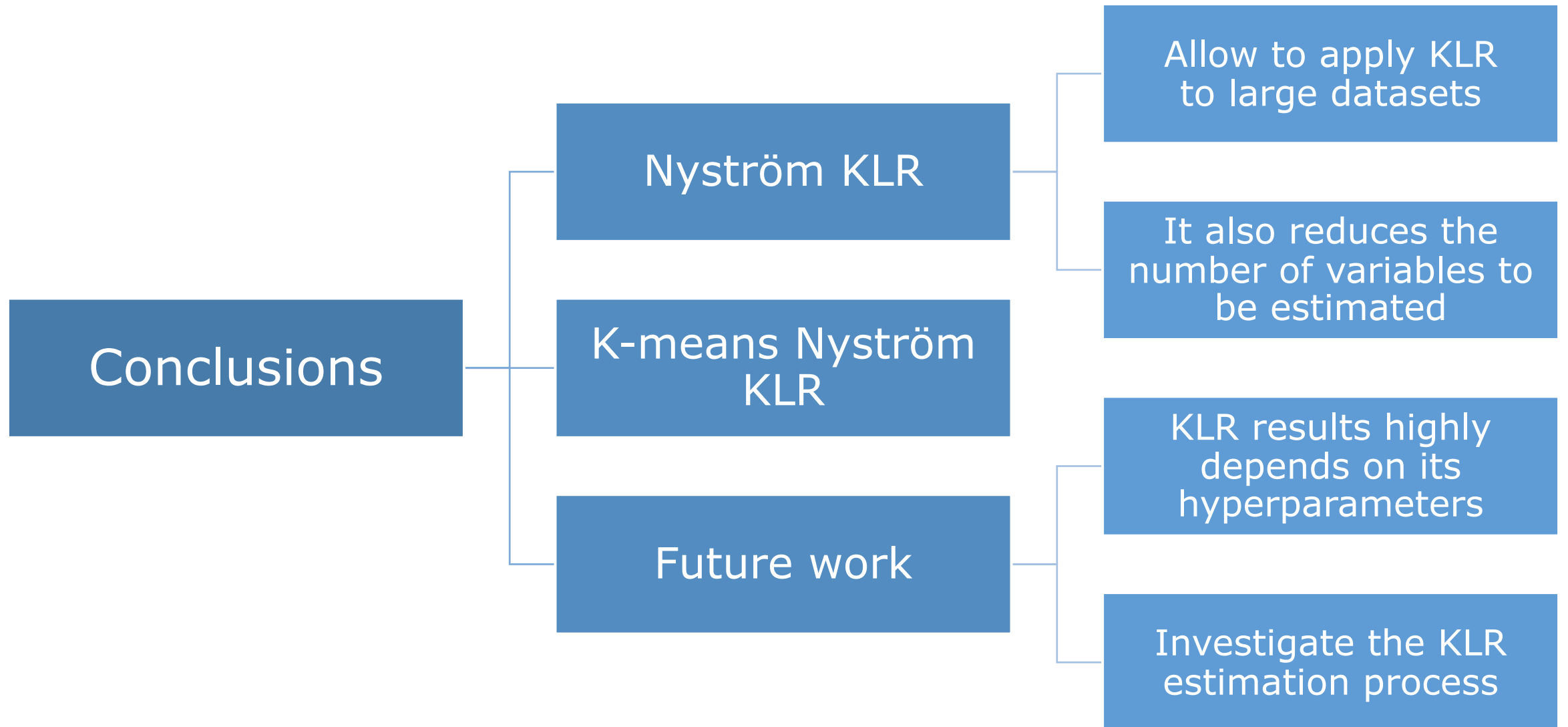
0.2 GB × **110**

$L = 500$

NTS 

1.2 GB × **160**

$L = 1000$



Thanks for your attention!

For more information you can contact me at:



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More info of this research:



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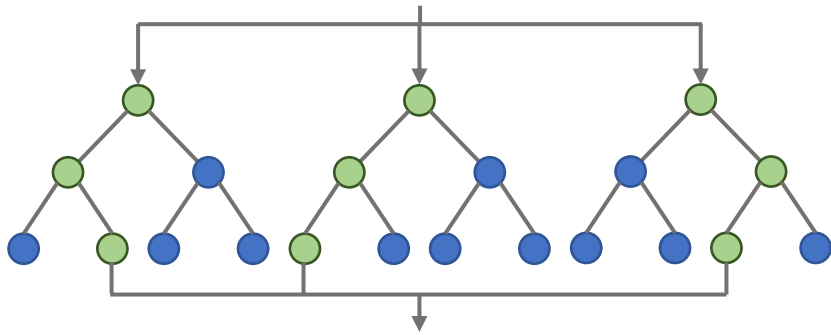


Supplementary material

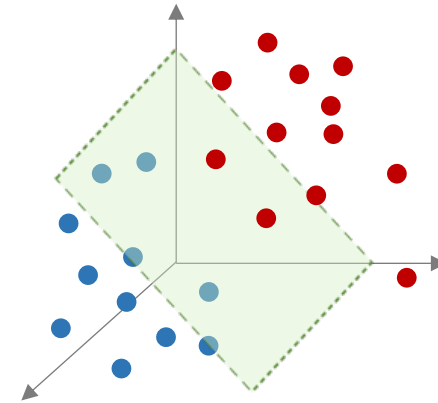
For the curious minds 🤔

ML methods

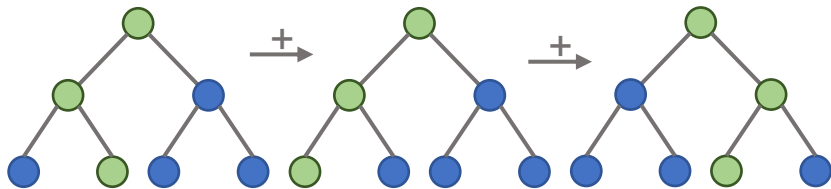
Random Forests (RF)



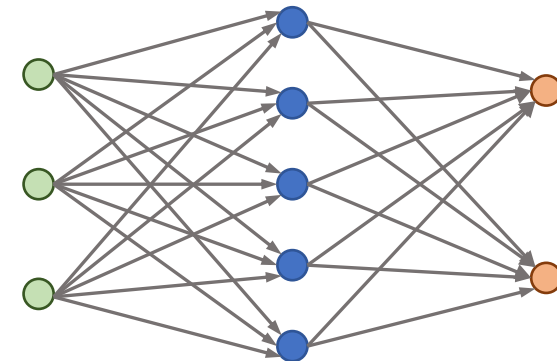
Support Vector Machines (SVM)



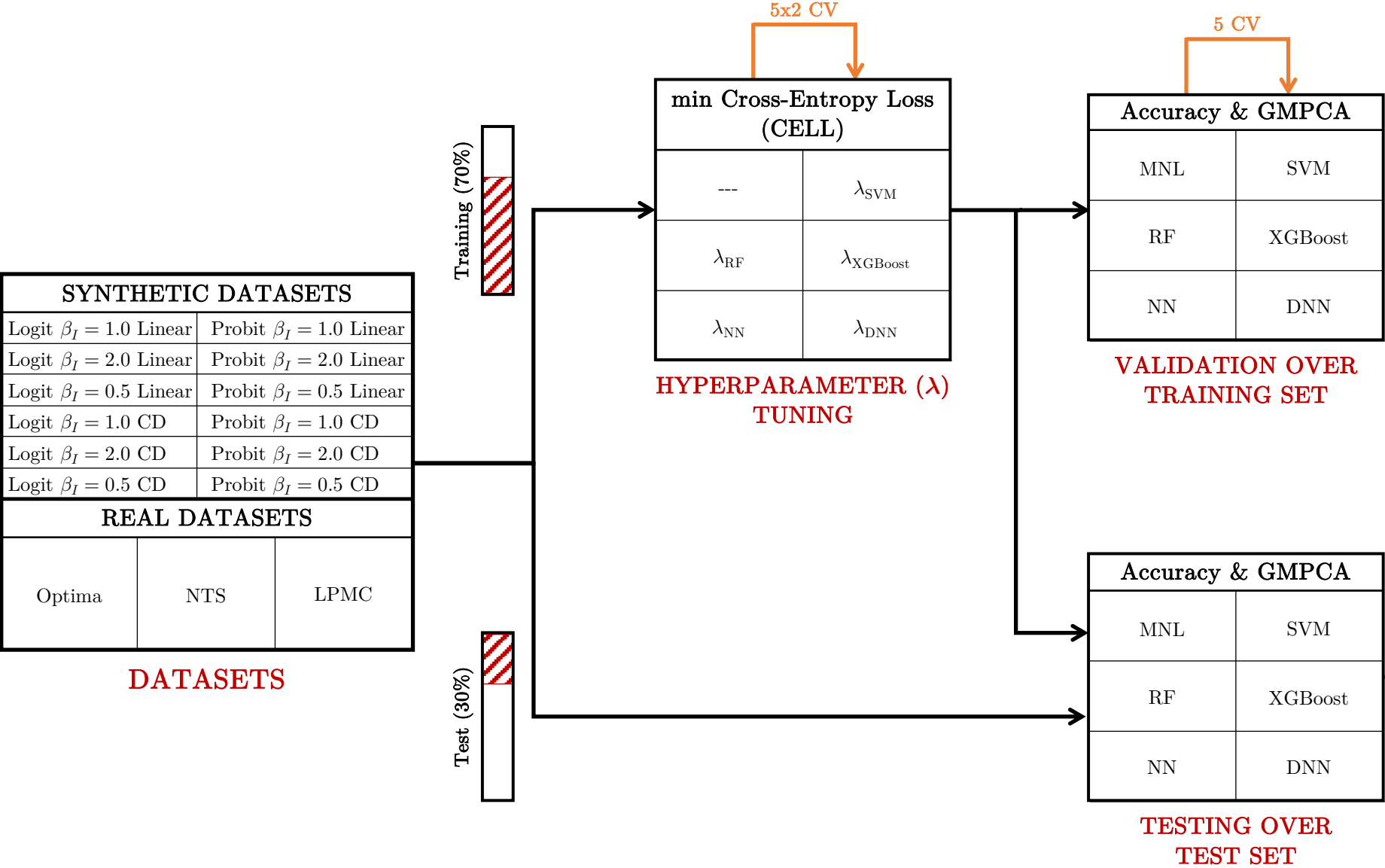
Gradient Boosting Decision Trees (GBDT)



Neural Networks (NN)



Hyperparameters tuning of ML models



Hyperparameters space of ML models

| Technique \mathcal{A} | Name of the hyperparameter | Notation | Type | Search space | NTS | LPMC |
|-------------------------|--|-----------|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------|-------------|
| LinearSVM | Cost (or soft margin constant) | C | Loguniform distribution | [0.1, 10] | 2.704 | 6.380 |
| RF | Number of decision trees | B | Uniform distribution | [1, 200] | 153 | 180 |
| | Max features for the best split | m | Uniform distribution | [2, N° features] | 8 | 16 |
| | Max depth of the tree | d | Uniform distribution | [3, 10] | 10 | 10 |
| | Min samples to be at a leaf node | l | Uniform distribution | [1, 20] | 3 | 11 |
| | Min samples to split an internal node | s | Uniform distribution | [2, 20] | 15 | 14 |
| | Goodnes of split metric | c | Choice | [Gini Entropy] | Entropy | Entropy |
| XGBoost | Maximum tree depth | d | Uniform distribution | [1, 14] | 7 | 7 |
| | Minimum loss for a new split | γ | Loguniform distribution | $[10^{-4}, 5]$ | 4.970 | 4.137 |
| | Minimum sum of instance weight needed in a child | w | Uniform distribution | [1, 100] | 1 | 32 |
| | Maximum delta step in each tree's weight | δ | Uniform distribution | [0, 10] | 0 | 4 |
| | Subsample ratio of the training instance | s | Uniform distribution | [0.5, 1] | 0.823 | 0.935 |
| | Subsample ratio of columns when constructing each tree | c_t | Uniform distribution | [0.5, 1] | 0.553 | 0.679 |
| | Subsample ratio of columns for each level | c_l | Uniform distribution | [0.5, 1] | 0.540 | 0.629 |
| | L1 regularisation term on weights | α | Loguniform distribution | $[10^{-4}, 10]$ | 0.028 | 0.003 |
| | L2 regularisation term on weights | λ | Loguniform distribution | $[10^{-4}, 10]$ | 0.264 | $0.5e^{-3}$ |
| | Number of boosting rounds | B | Uniform distribution | [1, 6000] | 4376 | 2789 |
| NN | Number of neurons in hidden layer | n_1 | Uniform distribution | [10, 500] | 10 | 51 |
| | Activation function | f | Choice | [tanh] | tanh | tanh |
| | Solver for weights optimisation | S | Choice | [LBFGS SGD Adam] | LBFGS | SGD |
| | Initial learning rate | η_0 | Uniform distribution | $[10^{-4}, 1]$ | 0.416 | 0.041 |
| | Learning rate schedule | η | Choice | [adaptive] | adaptive | adaptive |
| | Maximum number of iterations | t | Choice | $[10^6]$ | 10^6 | 10^6 |
| | Batch Size | BS | Choice | [128 256 512 1024] | 512 | 1024 |
| | Tolerance for optimisation | tol | Choice | $[10^{-3}]$ | 10^{-3} | 10^{-3} |
| KLR | Kernel function | K | Choice | [RBF] | RBF | RBF |
| | Parameter of the Gaussian function | γ | Loguniform distribution | $[10^{-3}, 10^{-1}]$ | 0.037 | 0.054 |
| | Tikhonov penalization parameter | λ | Fixed | 10^{-6} | 10^{-6} | 10^{-6} |

Computer Science > Machine Learning

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A prediction and behavioural analysis of machine learning methods for modelling travel mode choice

José Ángel Martín-Baos, Julio Alberto López-Gómez, Luis Rodriguez-Benitez, Tim Hillel, Ricardo García-Ródenas

The emergence of a variety of Machine Learning (ML) approaches for travel mode choice prediction poses an interesting question to transport modellers: which models should be used for which applications? The answer to this question goes beyond simple predictive performance, and is instead a balance of many factors, including behavioural interpretability and explainability, computational complexity, and data efficiency. There is a growing body of research which attempts to compare the predictive performance of different ML classifiers with classical random utility models. However, existing studies typically analyse only the disaggregate predictive performance, ignoring other aspects affecting model choice. Furthermore, many studies are affected by technical limitations, such as the use of inappropriate validation schemes, incorrect sampling for hierarchical data, lack of external validation, and the exclusive use of discrete metrics. We address these limitations by conducting a systematic comparison of different modelling approaches, across multiple modelling problems, in terms of the key factors likely to affect model choice (out-of-sample predictive performance, accuracy of predicted market shares, extraction of behavioural indicators, and computational efficiency). We combine several real world datasets with synthetic datasets, where the data generation function is known. The results indicate that the models with the highest disaggregate predictive performance (namely extreme gradient boosting and random forests) provide poorer estimates of behavioural indicators and aggregate mode shares, and are more expensive to estimate, than other models, including deep neural networks and Multinomial Logit (MNL). It is further observed that the MNL model performs robustly in a variety of situations, though ML techniques can improve the estimates of behavioural indices such as Willingness to Pay.

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Revisiting kernel logistic regression under the random utility models perspective. An interpretable machine-learning approach

José Ángel Martín-Baos ^{a,b}, Ricardo García-Ródenas ^{a,b} and Luis Rodriguez-Benitez ^c

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ABSTRACT

The success of machine-learning methods is spreading their use to many different fields. This paper analyses one of these methods, the Kernel Logistic Regression (KLR), from the point of view of Random Utility Model (RUM) and proposes the use of the KLR to specify the utilities in RUM, freeing the modeler from the need to postulate a functional relation between the features. A Monte Carlo simulation study is conducted to empirically compare KLR with the Multinomial Logit (MNL) method, the Support Vector Machine (SVM) and the Random Forests (RF). We have shown that, using simulated data, KLR is the only method that achieves maximum accuracy and leads to an unbiased willingness-to-pay estimator for non-linear phenomena. In a real travel mode choice problem, RF achieved the highest predictive accuracy, followed by KLR. However, KLR allows for the calculation of indicators such as the value of time, which is of great importance in the context of transportation.

KEYWORDS

Random utility models;
kernel Logistic Regression;
machine Learning;
willingness to Pay; value of
Time

(Penalised) Maximum likelihood estimation

$$\mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}) = \prod_{n=1}^N \prod_{i=1}^I \mathbb{P}(i \mid \mathbf{x}_n, \boldsymbol{\alpha}_i)^{y_{in}}$$

$$\log \mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}) = \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{i=1}^I y_{in} \log \mathbb{P}(i \mid \mathbf{x}_n, \boldsymbol{\alpha}_i)$$

$$\max_{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} \quad \underbrace{\log \mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\alpha})}_{\text{Goodness of fit}} - \underbrace{\lambda \Omega(\boldsymbol{\alpha})}_{\text{Penalisation term}}$$

Algorithm 1: Line search method

Input : The total number of iterations T to be performed

The hyperparameters of the optimisation method

Output: The parameter vector ω_{T+1} of the optimised model

1 Choose an initial guess ω_1

2 **for** $t = 1, 2, \dots, T$ **do**

3 Determine the search direction $g(\omega_t)$

4 Choose a learning rate $\alpha_t > 0$

5 Update the parameter vector as $\omega_{t+1} = \omega_t - \alpha_t g(\omega_t)$

GD:

$$g(\omega_t) = -\nabla F(\mathbf{w}_t)$$

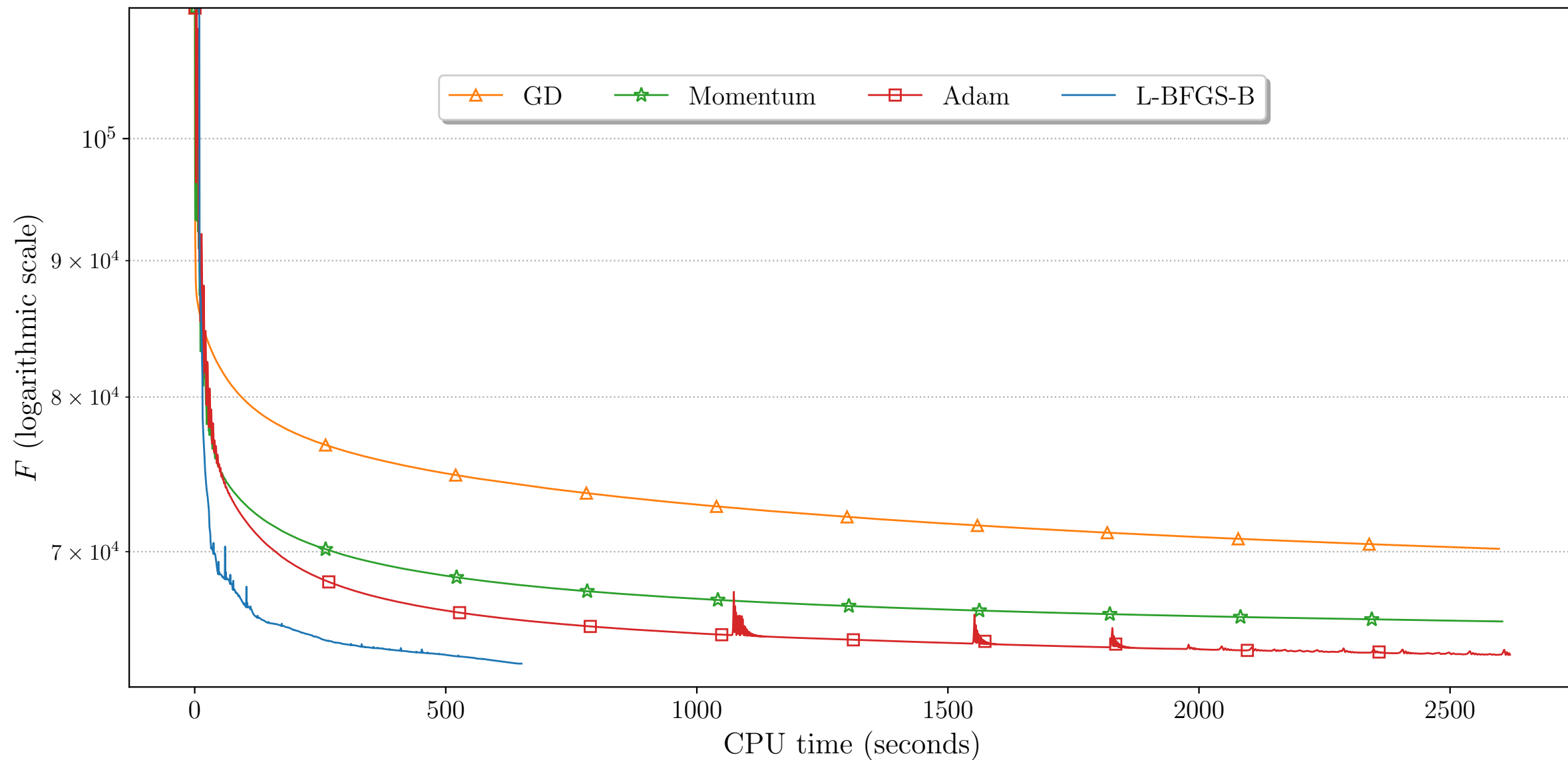
Quasi-Newton:

$$g(\omega_t) = -H_t \nabla F(\mathbf{w}_t)$$

Newton:

$$g(\omega_t) = -[\nabla^2 F(\mathbf{w}_t)]^{-1} \nabla F(\mathbf{w}_t)$$

Comparison optimisation techniques



MNL model considered for the experiments

The MNL is going to be used as the baseline model for this experiment. We have considered linear utility functions for each dataset. For the LPMC dataset we have defined an utility function where all the features were selected as individual specific except for the following features that were selected as alternative specific attributes:

- Walk: *distance* and *dur_walking*.
- Bike: *distance* and *dur_cycling*.
- Public transport: *cost_transit*, *dur_pt_access*, *dur_pt_rail*, *dur_pt_bus*, *dur_pt_int_waiting*, *dur_pt_int_walking*, and *pt_n_interchanges*.
- Car: *cost_driving_total* and *dur_driving*.

For the NTS dataset linear utilities specified over all the attributes have been considered, using different parameters for each alternative.

Results for the LPMC dataset

