

# Advanced Data Management (CSCI 640/490)

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Data Wrangling

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# Types of Dirty Data Problems

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- Separator Issues: e.g. CSV without respecting double quotes
  - 12, 13, "Doe, John", 45
- Naming Conventions: NYC vs. New York
- Missing required fields, e.g. key
- Different representations: 2 vs. two
- Truncated data: "Janice Keihanaikukauakahihuliheekahaunaele" becomes "Janice Keihanaikukauakahihuliheek" on Hawaii license
- Redundant records: may be exactly the same or have some overlap
- Formatting issues: 2017-11-07 vs. 07/11/2017 vs. 11/07/2017

[J. Canny et al.]

# Dirty Data: Data Scientist's View

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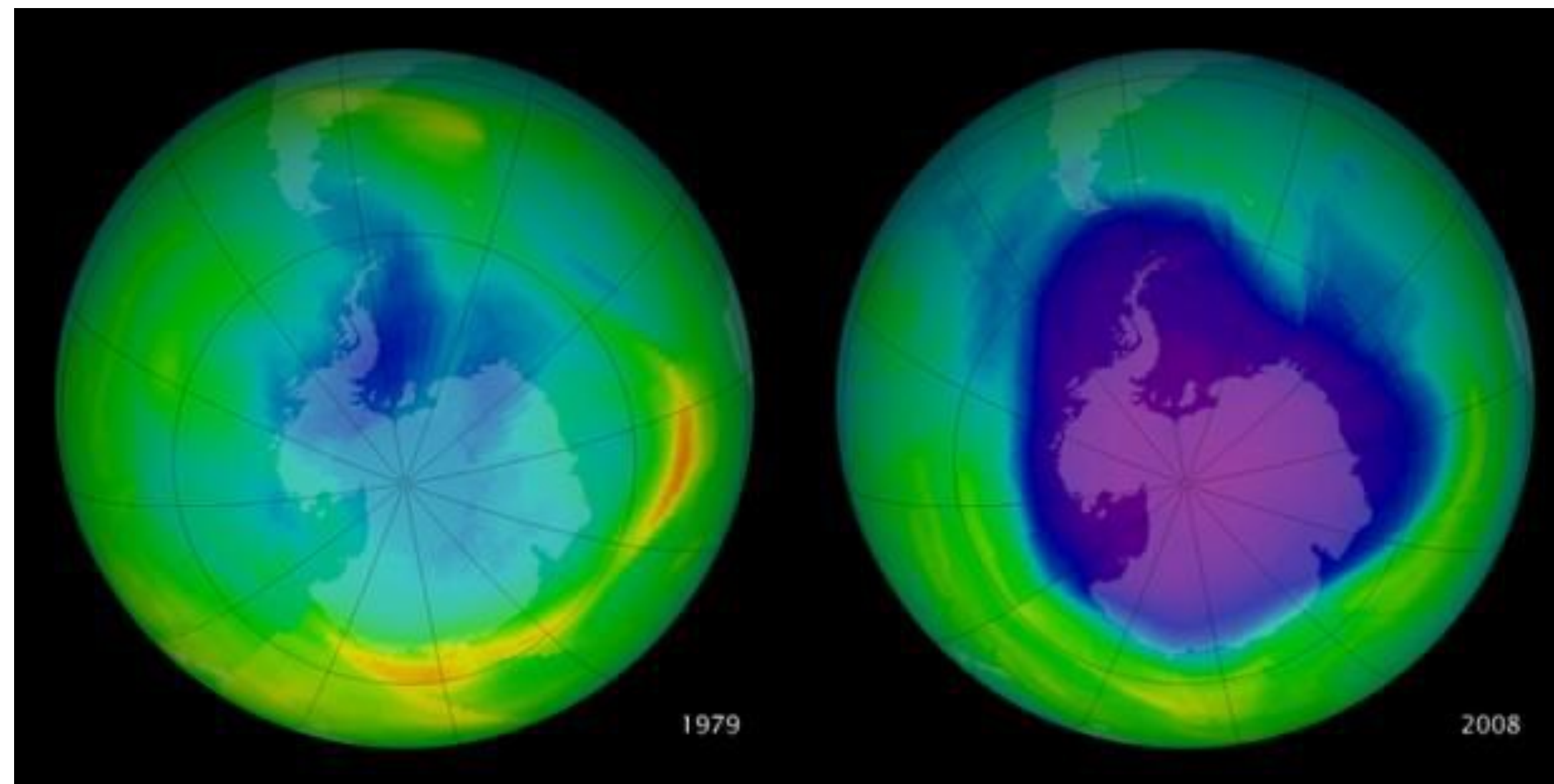
- Combination of:
  - Statistician's View: data has non-ideal samples for model
  - Database Expert's View: missing data, corrupted data
  - Domain Expert's View: data doesn't pass the smell test
- All of the views present problems with the data
- The goal may dictate the solutions:
  - Median value: don't worry too much about crazy outliers
  - Generally, aggregation is less susceptible by numeric errors
  - Be careful, the data may be correct...

[J. Canny et al.]

# Be careful how you detect dirty data

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- The appearance of a hole in the earth's ozone layer over Antarctica, first detected in 1976, was so unexpected that scientists didn't pay attention to what their instruments were telling them; they thought their instruments were malfunctioning.
  - National Center for Atmospheric Research



[Wikimedia]

# CSAN Panel: Real Jobs in the Real World



**NIU**

**COMPUTER SCIENCE  
ALUMNI NETWORK**

**REAL  
JOBS IN  
THE REAL  
WORLD**

A Panel  
Discussion

**TUESDAY, OCT. 7, 2025**  
**Barsema Alumni & Visitors Center (Ballroom)**  
**5:30–7:30 p.m.**

- Tuesday, Oct. 7, 5:30–7:30pm
- Provides an insight into jobs from NIU alumni
- Food is Provided
- Sponsored by the Computer Science Alumni Network and the NIU Alumni Association

# Assignment 2

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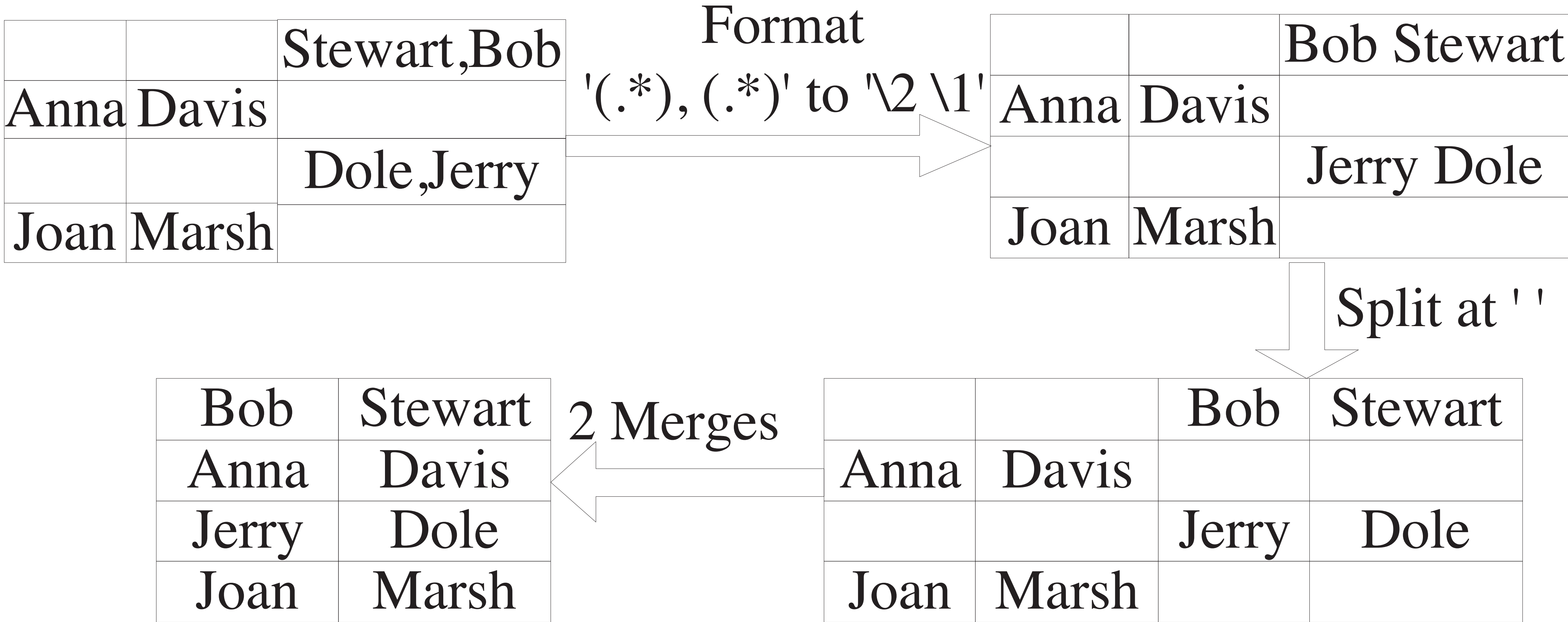
- Assignment 1 Questions with polars, DuckDB, and pandas
- CS 640 students do all, CS 490 do polars & DuckDB (pandas is EC)
- Can work by framework or by query
- Most questions can be answered with a single statement... but that statement can take a while to write
  - Read documentation
  - Check hints

# Wrangler

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- Data cleaning takes a lot of **time** and **human effort**
- "Tedium is the message"
- Repeating this process on multiple data sets is even worse!
- Solution:
  - interactive interface (mixed-initiative)
  - transformation language with natural language "translations"
  - suggestions + "programming by demonstration"

# Potter's Wheel: Example



[V. Raman and J. Hellerstein, 2001]

# Potter's Wheel: Transforms

| Transform | Definition                                      |   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Format    | $\phi(R, i, f)$                                 | = | $\{(a_1, \dots, a_{i-1}, a_{i+1}, \dots, a_n, f(a_i)) \mid (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in R\}$                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Add       | $\alpha(R, x)$                                  | = | $\{(a_1, \dots, a_n, x) \mid (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in R\}$                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Drop      | $\pi(R, i)$                                     | = | $\{(a_1, \dots, a_{i-1}, a_{i+1}, \dots, a_n) \mid (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in R\}$                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Copy      | $\kappa((a_1, \dots, a_n), i)$                  | = | $\{(a_1, \dots, a_n, a_i) \mid (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in R\}$                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Merge     | $\mu((a_1, \dots, a_n), i, j, \text{glue})$     | = | $\{(a_1, \dots, a_{i-1}, a_{i+1}, \dots, a_{j-1}, a_{j+1}, \dots, a_n, a_i \oplus \text{glue} \oplus a_j) \mid (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in R\}$                                                                                                                    |
| Split     | $\omega((a_1, \dots, a_n), i, \text{splitter})$ | = | $\{(a_1, \dots, a_{i-1}, a_{i+1}, \dots, a_n, \text{left}(a_i, \text{splitter}), \text{right}(a_i, \text{splitter})) \mid (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in R\}$                                                                                                         |
| Divide    | $\delta((a_1, \dots, a_n), i, \text{pred})$     | = | $\{(a_1, \dots, a_{i-1}, a_{i+1}, \dots, a_n, a_i, \text{null}) \mid (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in R \wedge \text{pred}(a_i)\} \cup$<br>$\{(a_1, \dots, a_{i-1}, a_{i+1}, \dots, a_n, \text{null}, a_i) \mid (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in R \wedge \neg \text{pred}(a_i)\}$ |
| Fold      | $\lambda(R, i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k)$              | = | $\{(a_1, \dots, a_{i_1-1}, a_{i_1+1}, \dots, a_{i_2-1}, a_{i_2+1}, \dots, a_{i_k-1}, a_{i_k+1}, \dots, a_n, a_{i_l}) \mid$<br>$(a_1, \dots, a_n) \in R \wedge 1 \leq l \leq k\}$                                                                             |
| Select    | $\sigma(R, \text{pred})$                        | = | $\{(a_1, \dots, a_n) \mid (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in R \wedge \text{pred}((a_1, \dots, a_n))\}$                                                                                                                                                                   |

**Notation:**  $R$  is a relation with  $n$  columns.  $i, j$  are column indices and  $a_i$  represents the value of a column in a row.  $x$  and glue are values.  $f$  is a function mapping values to values.  $x \oplus y$  concatenates  $x$  and  $y$ . splitter is a position in a string or a regular expression,  $\text{left}(x, \text{splitter})$  is the left part of  $x$  after splitting by splitter. pred is a function returning a boolean.

[V. Raman and J. Hellerstein, 2001]

# Potter's Wheel: Inferring Structure from Examples

| Example Values Split By User<br>(  is user specified split position)            |                                                             | Inferred Structure                                                                                                      | Comments                                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Taylor, Jane  , \$52,072<br>Blair, John  , \$73,238<br>Tony Smith  , \$1,00,533 |                                                             | $(\langle \xi^* \rangle \langle ', ' Money \rangle)$                                                                    | Parsing is doable despite no good delimiter. A <i>regular expression</i> domain can infer a structure of $\$[0-9,]^*$ for last component. |
|                                                                                 | MAA  to  SIN<br>JFK  to  SFO<br>LAX  —  ORD<br>SEA  //  OAK | $(\langle len\ 3\ identifier \rangle \langle \xi^* \rangle \langle len\ 3\ identifier \rangle)$                         | Parsing is possible despite multiple delimiters.                                                                                          |
| 321 Blake #7  , Berkeley  , CA 94720<br>719 MLK Road  , Fremont  , CA 95743     |                                                             | $(\langle number\ \xi^* \rangle \langle ', ' word \rangle \langle ', ' (2\ letter\ word) (5\ letter\ integer) \rangle)$ | Parsing is easy because of consistent delimiter.                                                                                          |

[V. Raman and J. Hellerstein, 2001]

# Wrangler Transformation Language

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- Based on Potter's Wheel
- Map: Delete, Extract, Cut, Split, Update
- Lookup/join: Use external data (e.g. from zipcode→state)
- Reshape: Fold and Unfold (aka pivot)
- Positional: Fill and lag
- Sorting, aggregation, key generation, schema transforms

# Interface

- Automated Transformation Suggestions
- Editable Natural Language Explanations

- ▶ Fill **Bangladesh** by **copying** values from **above**
- ▶ Fill **Bangladesh** by **averaging** values from **above**
- ▶ Fill **Bangladesh** by **interpolating** the 5 values from **above**

averaging

✓ copying

interpolating

- Visual Transformation Previews
- Transformation History

| split         | #    | split1                  | #    | split2            | #    | split3          | #    | split4             |
|---------------|------|-------------------------|------|-------------------|------|-----------------|------|--------------------|
|               | 2004 |                         | 2004 |                   | 2004 |                 | 2003 |                    |
| STATE         |      | Participation Rate 2004 |      | Mean SAT I Verbal |      | Mean SAT I Math |      | Participation Rate |
| New York      | 87   |                         | 497  |                   | 510  |                 | 82   |                    |
| Connecticut   | 85   |                         | 515  |                   | 515  |                 | 84   |                    |
| Massachusetts | 85   |                         | 518  |                   | 523  |                 | 82   |                    |
| New Jersey    | 83   |                         | 501  |                   | 514  |                 | 85   |                    |
| New Hampshire | 80   |                         | 522  |                   | 521  |                 | 75   |                    |
| D.C.          | 77   |                         | 489  |                   | 476  |                 | 77   |                    |
| Maine         | 76   |                         | 505  |                   | 501  |                 | 70   |                    |
| Pennsylvania  | 74   |                         | 501  |                   | 502  |                 | 73   |                    |
| Delaware      | 73   |                         | 500  |                   | 499  |                 | 73   |                    |
| Georgia       | 73   |                         | 494  |                   | 493  |                 | 66   |                    |

| split       | #    | fold | fold1                   | #   | value |
|-------------|------|------|-------------------------|-----|-------|
| New York    | 2004 |      | Participation Rate 2004 | 87  |       |
| New York    | 2004 |      | Mean SAT I Verbal       | 497 |       |
| New York    | 2004 |      | Mean SAT I Math         | 510 |       |
| New York    | 2003 |      | Participation Rate 2003 | 82  |       |
| New York    | 2003 |      | Mean SAT I Verbal       | 496 |       |
| New York    | 2003 |      | Mean SAT I Math         | 510 |       |
| Connecticut | 2004 |      | Participation Rate 2004 | 85  |       |
| Connecticut | 2004 |      | Mean SAT I Verbal       | 515 |       |
| Connecticut | 2004 |      | Mean SAT I Math         | 515 |       |
| Connecticut | 2003 |      | Participation Rate 2003 | 84  |       |
| Connecticut | 2003 |      | Mean SAT I Verbal       | 512 |       |
| Connecticut | 2003 |      | Mean SAT I Math         | 514 |       |

[S. Kandel et al., 2011]

# Automation from past actions

- Infer parameter sets from user interaction
- Generating transforms
- Ranking and ordering transformations:
  - Based on user preferences, difficulty, and corpus frequency
  - Sort transforms by type and diversify suggestions

(a) Reported crime in Alabama

(b) *before:* { 'in', ' ' }      'Alabama' → { 'Alabama', word }  
*selection:* { 'Alabama' }      'in' → { 'in', word, lowercase }  
*after:* ∅      ' ' → { ' ' }

(c) *before:* { (' '), ('in', ' '), (word, ' '), (lowercase, ' ') }  
*selection:* { ('Alabama'), (word) }  
*after:* ∅

(d)  $\{(), ('Alabama'), ()\}$        $\{(), (word), ()\}$   
 $\{(' '), (), ()\}$        $\{(word, ' '), (), ()\}$   
 $\{(' '), ('Alabama'), ()\}$        $\{(word, ' '), ('Alabama'), ()\}$   
 $\{(' '), (word), ()\}$        $\{(word, ' '), (word), ()\}$   
 $\{('in', ' '), (), ()\}$        $\{(lowercase, ' '), (), ()\}$   
 $\{('in', ' '), ('Alabama'), ()\}$        $\{(lowercase, ' '), ('Alabama'), ()\}$   
 $\{('in', ' '), (word), ()\}$        $\{(lowercase, ' '), (word), ()\}$

(e)  $\{(lowercase, ' '), ('Alabama'), ()\} \rightarrow /[a-z]+ (Alabama)/$

[S. Kandel et al., 2011]

# Data Wrangler Demo

- <http://vis.stanford.edu/wrangler/app/>

Transform Script

ImportExport

► Split **data repeatedly** on **newline** into **rows**

► Split **split repeatedly** on **'**

► Promote **row 0** to header

TextColumnsRowsTableClear

Delete **row 7**

Delete **empty rows**

Fill **row 7** by **copying** values from **above**

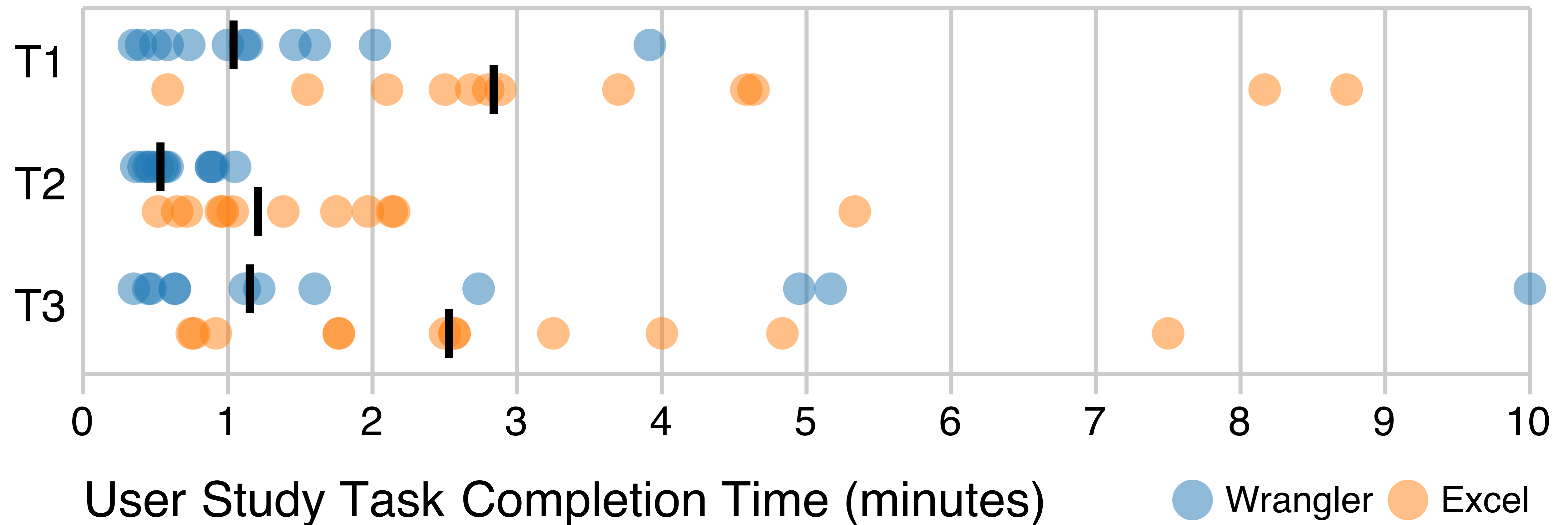
|    |                           |                      |
|----|---------------------------|----------------------|
|    |                           |                      |
|    | Year                      | #Property_crime_rate |
| 0  | Reported crime in Alabama |                      |
| 1  |                           |                      |
| 2  | 2004                      | 4029.3               |
| 3  | 2005                      | 3900                 |
| 4  | 2006                      | 3937                 |
| 5  | 2007                      | 3974.9               |
| 6  | 2008                      | 4081.9               |
| 7  |                           |                      |
| 8  | Reported crime in Alaska  |                      |
| 9  |                           |                      |
| 10 | 2004                      | 3370.9               |
| 11 | 2005                      | 3615                 |
| 12 | 2006                      | 3582                 |

# Evaluation

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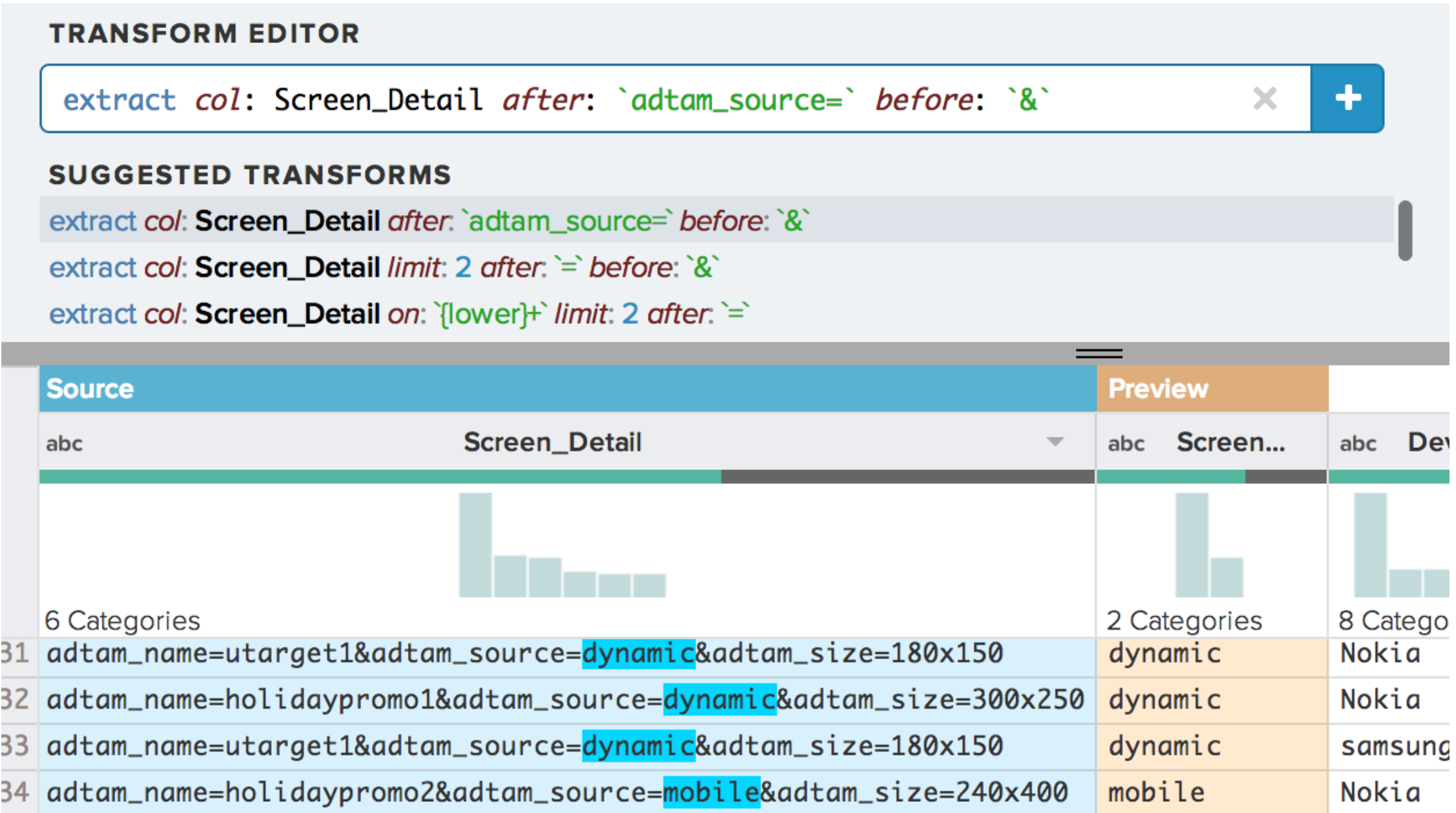
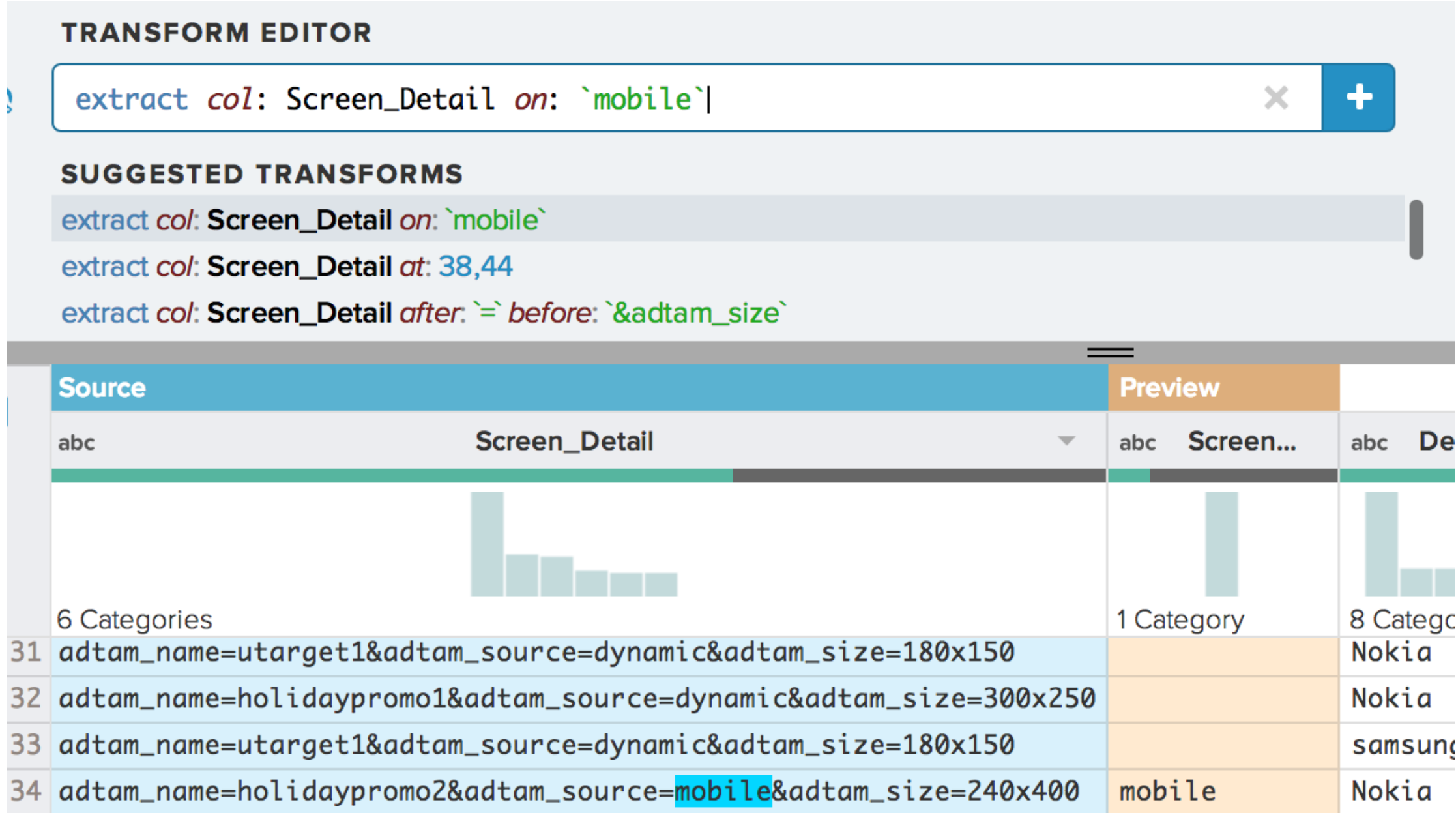
- Compare with Excel
- Tests:
  - Extract text from a single string entry
  - Fill in missing values with estimates
  - Reshape tables
- Allowed users to ask questions about Excel, not Wrangler
- Found significant effect of tool and users found previews and suggestions helpful
- Complaint: No manual fallback, make implications of user choices more obvious for users

# Task Completion Times



[S. Kandel et al., 2011]

# Improvements in Prediction



Update suggestions when given more information

[Heer et al., 2015]

# Data Wrangling Tasks

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- Unboxing: Discovery & Assessment: What's in there? (types, distribution)
- Structuring: Restructure data (table, nested data, pivot tables)
- Cleaning: does data match expectations (often involves user)
- Enriching & Blending: Adding new data
- Optimizing & Publishing: Structure for storage or visualization

[J. M. Hellerstein et al., 2018]

# Differences with Extract-Transform-Load (ETL)

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- ETL:
  - Who: IT Professionals
  - Why: Create static data pipeline
  - What: Structured data
  - Where: Data centers
- "Modern Data Preparation":
  - Who: Analysts
  - Why: Solve problems by designing recipes to use data
  - What: Original, custom data blended with other data
  - Where: Cloud, desktop

[J. M. Hellerstein et al., 2018]

# Evolution of Wrangler

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- Authors started a company, Trifacta
- Eventually bought by Alteryx
- Now known as Alteryx Designer Cloud
- Offer Free Student Licenses: [Link](#)

# Other Tools

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- Open Refine
- VS Code Data Wrangler extension
-

# Transform Data by Example

# Wrangler

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- Have to know what operations to apply
- What about an example-based approach instead?

# Microsoft's Transform by Example

# TDE: Transform Data by Example

| C                          | D                  |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Customer Name              | Output             |
| John K. Doe Jr.            | Doe, John          |
| Mr. Doe, John              | Doe, John          |
| Jane A. Smith              | Smith, Jane        |
| MS. Jane Smith             | Smith, Jane        |
| Smith, Jane                | Smith, Jane        |
| Dr Anthony R Von Fange III | Von Fange, Anthony |
| Peter Tyson                | Tyson, Peter       |
| Dan E. Williams            | Williams, Dan      |
| James Davis Sr.            | Davis, James       |
| James J. Davis             | Davis, James       |
| Mr. Donald Edward Miller   | Miller, Donald     |

### Transform Data by Example

Show Instructions

Get Transformations

Search:

CSharpNameParser.NameParser Parse  
(System.String)

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[Y. He et al., 2018]

# TDE: Transform Data by Example

| C                                             | D                        |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Address                                       | Output                   |
| 4297 148th Avenue NE L105, Bellevue, WA 98007 | Bellevue, WA, 98007      |
| 2720 N Mesa St, El Paso, 79902, USA           | El Paso, TX, 79902       |
| 3524 W Shore Rd APT 1002, Warwick,02886       | Warwick, RI, 02886       |
| 4740 N 132nd St, Omaha, 68164                 | Omaha, NE, 68164         |
| 10508 Prairie Ln, Oklahoma City               | Oklahoma City, OK, 73162 |
| 525 1st St, Marysville, WA 95901              | Marysville, CA, 95901    |
| 211 W Ridge Dr, Waukon,52172                  | Waukon, IA, 52172        |
| 1008 Whitlock Ave NW, Marietta, 30064         | Marietta, GA, 30064      |
| 602 Highland Ave, Shinnston, 26431            | Shinnston, WV, 26431     |
| 840 W Star St, Greenville, 27834              | Greenville, NC, 27834    |

### Transform Data by Example

Show Instructions

Get Transformations

Search:

BuiltIns.AddressParser ParseWithBingMaps (System.String)

BuiltIns.AddressParser ParseWithBingMapsAndPythonUsAddressLibrary (System.String)

Humanizer.ToTitleCase Transform(System.String)

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[Y. He et al., 2018]

# TDE: Transform Data by Example

| C                    | D                    |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Transaction Date     | output               |
| Wed, 12 Jan 2011     | 2011-01-12-Wednesday |
| Thu, 15 Sep 2011     | 2011-09-15-Thursday  |
| Mon, 17 Sep 2012     |                      |
| 2010-Nov-30 11:10:41 |                      |
| 2011-Jan-11 02:27:21 |                      |
| 2011-Jan-12          |                      |
| 2010-Dec-24          |                      |
| 9/22/2011            |                      |
| 7/11/2012            |                      |
| 2/12/2012            |                      |



| C                    | D                    |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Transaction Date     | output               |
| Wed, 12 Jan 2011     | 2011-01-12-Wednesday |
| Thu, 15 Sep 2011     | 2011-09-15-Thursday  |
| Mon, 17 Sep 2012     | 2012-09-17-Monday    |
| 2010-Nov-30 11:10:41 | 2010-11-30-Tuesday   |
| 2011-Jan-11 02:27:21 | 2011-01-11-Tuesday   |
| 2011-Jan-12          | 2011-01-12-Wednesday |
| 2010-Dec-24          | 2010-12-24-Friday    |
| 9/22/2011            | 2011-09-22-Thursday  |
| 7/11/2012            | 2012-07-11-Wednesday |
| 2/12/2012            | 2012-02-12-Sunday    |

Transform Data by Example

Show Instructions

Get Transformations

System.DateTime Parse(System.String)

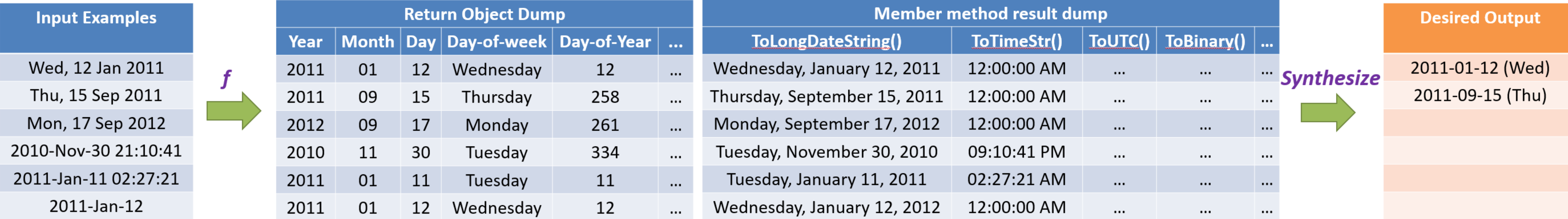
System.Convert.ToDateTime(System.String)

DateFormat.Program Parse(System.String)

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[Y. He et al., 2018]

# TDE: Synthesized Function



[Y. He et al., 2018]

# TDE: Transform Data by Example

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- Row-to-row translation only
- Search System, GitHub, and StackOverflow for functions
- Given dataset with examples
  - Use L1 from library
  - Compose synthesized programs (L2)
  - Rank best transformations

# TDE Benchmarks

| System                       | Total cases (239) | FF-GR-Trifacta (46) | Head cases (44) | StackOverflow (49) | BingQL-Unit (50) | BingQL-Other (50) |
|------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| <i>TDE</i>                   | <b>72% (173)</b>  | <b>91% (42)</b>     | <b>82% (36)</b> | <b>63% (31)</b>    | <b>96% (48)</b>  | <b>32% (16)</b>   |
| <i>TDE</i> -NF               | 53% (128)         | 87% (40)            | 41% (18)        | 35% (17)           | 96% (48)         | 10% (5)           |
| FlashFill                    | 23% (56)          | 57% (26)            | 34% (15)        | 31% (15)           | 0% (0)           | 0% (0)            |
| Foofah                       | 3% (7)            | 9% (4)              | 2% (1)          | 4% (2)             | 0% (0)           | 0% (0)            |
| DataXFormer-UB               | 38% (90)          | 7% (3)              | 36% (16)        | 35% (17)           | 62% (31)         | <b>46% (23)</b>   |
| System-A                     | 13% (30)          | 52% (24)            | 2% (1)          | 10% (5)            | 0% (0)           | 0% (0)            |
| OpenRefine-Menu <sup>8</sup> | 4% (9)            | 13% (6)             | 2% (1)          | 4% (2)             | 0% (0)           | 0% (0)            |

- TDE and FlashFill focused on row-to-row transformations
- Foofah considers a wider range of transformations (table reformatting)

[Y. He et al., 2018]

# Trifacta's Transform by Example

# Transform by Pattern (TBP)

- Focus on non-technical users
- More general than Transform by Example
- No need for paired examples
- Use Cases:
  - Auto-Unify: Unify data in different formats
  - Auto-Repair: Fix data quality issues
- Example (Auto-Unify):
  - $P_S = \langle \text{letter} \rangle \{3\} . \langle \text{digit} \rangle \{2\} , \langle \text{digit} \rangle \{4\}$
  - $P_T = \langle \text{digit} \rangle \{4\} - \langle \text{digit} \rangle \{2\} - \langle \text{digit} \rangle \{2\}$

| S-timestamp  | S-phone        | S-coordinates      |
|--------------|----------------|--------------------|
| 2019-12-23   | (425) 882-8080 | (38°57'N, 95°15'W) |
| 2019-12-24   | (425) 882-8080 | (38°61'N, 95°21'W) |
| 2019-12-23   | (206) 876-1800 | (39°19'N, 95°18'W) |
| 2019-12-24   | (206) 876-1800 | (39°26'N, 95°23'W) |
| 2019-12-23   | (206) 903-8010 | (39°42'N, 96°38'W) |
|              |                |                    |
| R-timestamp  | R-phone        | R-coordinates      |
| Nov. 16 2019 | 650-853-1300   | N37°31' W122°14'   |
| Nov. 17 2019 | 650-853-1300   | N37°18' W122°19'   |
| Nov. 16 2019 | 425-421-1225   | N37°48' W122°17'   |
| Nov. 17 2019 | 425-421-1225   | N37°60' W123°08'   |
| Nov. 16 2019 | 650-253-0827   | N37°01' W123°72'   |

[Jin et al.]

# TBP Use Cases

- Auto-Unify
- Auto-Repair

| S-timestamp  | S-phone        | S-coordinates      |
|--------------|----------------|--------------------|
| 2019-12-23   | (425) 882-8080 | (38°57'N, 95°15'W) |
| 2019-12-24   | (425) 882-8080 | (38°61'N, 95°21'W) |
| 2019-12-23   | (206) 876-1800 | (39°19'N, 95°18'W) |
| 2019-12-24   | (206) 876-1800 | (39°26'N, 95°23'W) |
| 2019-12-23   | (206) 903-8010 | (39°42'N, 96°38'W) |
|              |                |                    |
| R-timestamp  | R-phone        | R-coordinates      |
| Nov. 16 2019 | 650-853-1300   | N37°31' W122°14'   |
| Nov. 17 2019 | 650-853-1300   | N37°18' W122°19'   |
| Nov. 16 2019 | 425-421-1225   | N37°48' W122°17'   |
| Nov. 17 2019 | 425-421-1225   | N37°60' W123°08'   |
| Nov. 16 2019 | 650-253-0827   | N37°01' W123°72'   |

| Date              | Opponents                                                                                         |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| January 12, 1997  |  Venezuela     |
| February 12, 1997 |  Peru          |
| April 2, 1997     |  Colombia      |
| 1997-06-04        |  United States |
| 1997-06-11        |  Chile         |
| 1997-06-14        |  Ecuador       |

(a) EN-Wiki: Dates

| Year | Artist           | Issue Price (BU) |
|------|------------------|------------------|
| 1989 | John Mardon      | \$16.25          |
| 1990 | D.J. Craig       | \$16.75          |
| 1991 | D.J. Craig       | \$16.75          |
| 1992 | Karsten Smith    | 17.50            |
| 1993 | Stewart Sherwood | \$17.50          |
| 1994 | Ian D. Sparkes   | \$17.95          |

(b) EN-Wiki: Currency values

| Women's winner  | Time    |
|-----------------|---------|
| Anikó Kálovics  | 2:31:24 |
| Lenah Cheruiyot | 2:27:02 |
| Lenah Cheruiyot | 2:33.44 |
| Emily Kimuria   | 2:28.42 |
| Jane Ekimat     | 2:32.08 |

(c) EN-wiki:time

| #  | Original air date <sup>[1]</sup> |
|----|----------------------------------|
| 12 | March 23, 2008                   |
| 13 | March 30, 2008                   |
| 14 | April 6, 2008                    |
| 15 | 13 April 2008                    |
| 16 | 20 April 2008                    |

(d) EN-Wiki: Date

[Jin et al.]

# TBP Programs and Triples

**Table 1:** An example repository of TBP programs ( $P_s$ ,  $P_t$ ,  $T$ ), where each line is a TBP program. The first three programs can be used to auto-unify the two tables shown in Figure 2.

| TBP-id | Source-pattern ( $P_s$ )                                                           | Target-pattern ( $P_t$ )                                                        | ( $T$ ) |
|--------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| TBP-1  | <letter>{3}. <digit>{2}, <digit>{4}                                                | <digit>{4}-<digit>{2}-<digit>{2}                                                | ...     |
| TBP-2  | (<digit>{3}) <digit>{3}-<digit>{4}                                                 | <letter>{3}-<digit>{3}-<digit>{4}                                               | ...     |
| TBP-3  | (<digit>+ <sup>o</sup> <num>'<letter>{1}, <digit>+ <sup>o</sup> <num>'<letter>{1}) | <letter>{1}<digit>+ <sup>o</sup> <num>' <letter>{1}<digit>+ <sup>o</sup> <num>' | ...     |
| ...    | ...                                                                                | ...                                                                             | ...     |
| TBP-7  | <digit>{4}/<digit>{2}/<digit>{2}                                                   | <letter>{3} <digit>{2}                                                          | ...     |
| TBP-8  | <num> kg                                                                           | <num> lb                                                                        | ...     |
| TBP-9  | <num> lb                                                                           | <num> lb <num> oz                                                               | ...     |
| ...    | ...                                                                                | ...                                                                             | ...     |
| TBP-15 | <num> kg                                                                           | <num>公斤                                                                         | ...     |
| TBP-16 | <letter>+ de <digit>{4}                                                            | <digit>{4}                                                                      | ...     |
| ...    | ...                                                                                | ...                                                                             | ...     |

| CCT-id | Input-column ( $C$ )                                          | Output-column ( $C'$ )                                   | Program ( $T$ ) |
|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| CCT-1  | ( $C_1$ ) "Born" = {"02/22/1732", "10/30/1735", ... }         | ( $C'_1$ ) "Date of birth" = {"February 22, 1732", ... } | Listing 1       |
| CCT-2  | ( $C_2$ ) "Date of birth" = {"February 22, 1732", ... }       | ( $C'_2$ ) "Born" = {"02/22/1732", "10/30/1735", ... }   | ...             |
| CCT-3  | ( $C_3$ ) "Died" = {"02/14/1799", "07/04/1826", ... }         | ( $C'_3$ ) "Date of birth" = {"February 22, 1732", ... } | ...             |
| CCT-4  | ( $C_4$ ) "Date" = {"11/01/2019", "12/01/2019", ... }         | ( $C'_4$ ) "Date-2" = {"November 01, 2019", ... }        | Listing 1       |
| ...    | ...                                                           | ...                                                      | ...             |
| CCT-9  | ( $C_9$ ) "Name" = {"Washington, George", "Adam, John", ... } | ( $C'_9$ ) "Date of birth" = {"February 22, 1732", ... } | $\emptyset$     |
| ...    | ...                                                           | ...                                                      | ...             |

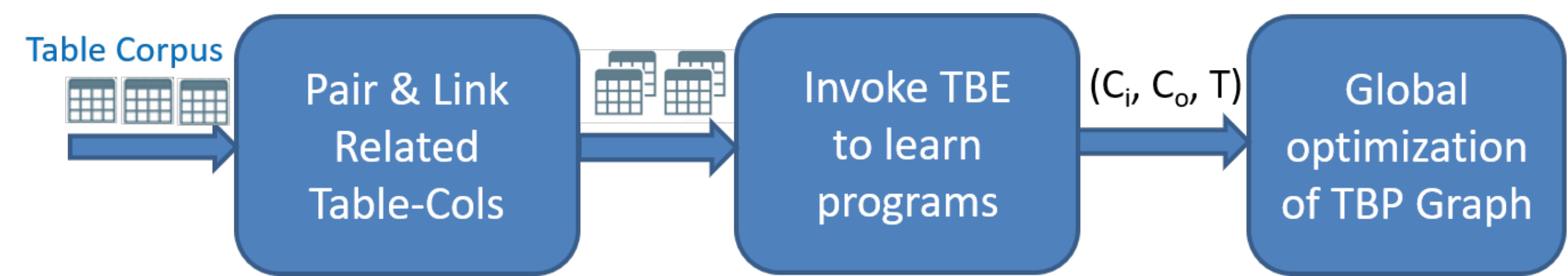
# Learning TBP Programs

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- User Logs
  - Similar to Search Engines
  - (Privacy Issues)
- Tables
  - Find common tables whose rows can be linked
  - Link Wikipedia tables across languages
  - Obtain different data formats and abbreviations that can be used as patterns

[Jin et al.]

# TBP Learning from Tables



$T_1$

| Name               | #                         | Born       | Died       |
|--------------------|---------------------------|------------|------------|
| Washington, George | USA President (1)         | 02/22/1732 | 12/14/1799 |
| Adams, John        | USA President (2), VP (1) | 10/30/1735 | 07/04/1826 |
| Jefferson, Thomas  | USA President (3), VP (2) | 04/13/1743 | 07/04/1826 |
| Madison, James     | USA President (4)         | 03/16/1751 | 06/28/1836 |
| Monroe, James      | USA President (5)         | 04/28/1758 | 07/04/1851 |

$T_2$

| Date of birth     | President         | Birthplace          | State† of birth |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| February 22, 1732 | George Washington | Westmoreland County | Virginia†       |
| October 30, 1735  | John Adams        | Braintree           | Massachusetts†  |

$T_3$

|     |                   |         |               |            |            |
|-----|-------------------|---------|---------------|------------|------------|
| 30. | George Washington | –       | 57y, 10d      | 22.02.1732 | 14.12.1799 |
| 31. | John Quincy Adams | Nat-Rep | 57y, 7m, 20d  | 11.07.1767 | 23.02.1848 |
| 32. | Thomas Jefferson  | Dem-Rep | 57y, 10m, 18d | 13.04.1743 | 04.07.1826 |
| 33. | James Madison     | Dem-Rep | 57y, 11m, 15d | 16.03.1751 | 28.06.1836 |
| 34. | James Monroe      | Dem-Rep | 58y, 10m, 3d  | 28.04.1758 | 04.07.1831 |

$T_4$

|    |                                   |               |               |               |
|----|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. | <a href="#">George Washington</a> | Virginia      | Feb. 22, 1732 | Dec. 14, 1797 |
| 3. | <a href="#">Thomas Jefferson</a>  | Virginia      | Apr. 13, 1743 | July 4, 1826  |
| 4. | <a href="#">James Madison</a>     | Virginia      | Mar. 16, 1751 | June 28, 1836 |
| 6. | <a href="#">John Quincy Adams</a> | Massachusetts | July 11, 1767 | Feb. 23, 1848 |

$T_5$

|    | Name and (party) <sup>1</sup>               | Term      | State of birth | Born       | Died       | Religion <sup>2</sup> | Age at inaug. | Age at death |
|----|---------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------|------------|------------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. | <a href="#">Washington</a> (F) <sup>3</sup> | 1789–1797 | Va.            | 2/22/1732  | 12/14/1799 | Episcopalian          | 57            | 67           |
| 2. | <a href="#">J. Adams</a> (F)                | 1797–1801 | Mass.          | 10/30/1735 | 7/4/1826   | Unitarian             | 61            | 90           |

$T_6$

| PRESIDENT         | BIRTH DATE   | BIRTH PLACE           | DEATH DATE   | LOCATION OF DEATH |
|-------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| George Washington | Feb 22, 1732 | Westmoreland Co., Va. | Dec 14, 1799 | Mount Vernon, Va. |
| John Adams        | Oct 30, 1735 | Quincy, Mass.         | July 4, 1826 | Quincy, Mass.     |

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# Generating Patterns

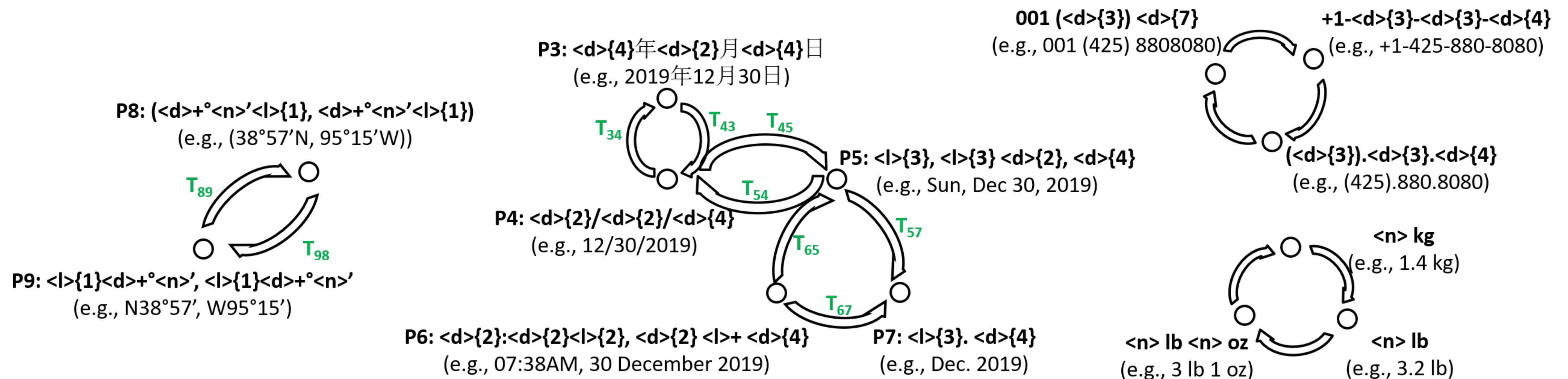
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- Generate potential regex patterns
- Want more general patterns
- (`<digits>/<digits>/<digits>` VS. `<digits>/<digits>/17<digits>`)
- Can be too general: `<num><symbol><num><symbol><num>`
- Want high "coverage" and high "accuracy"

[Jin et al.]

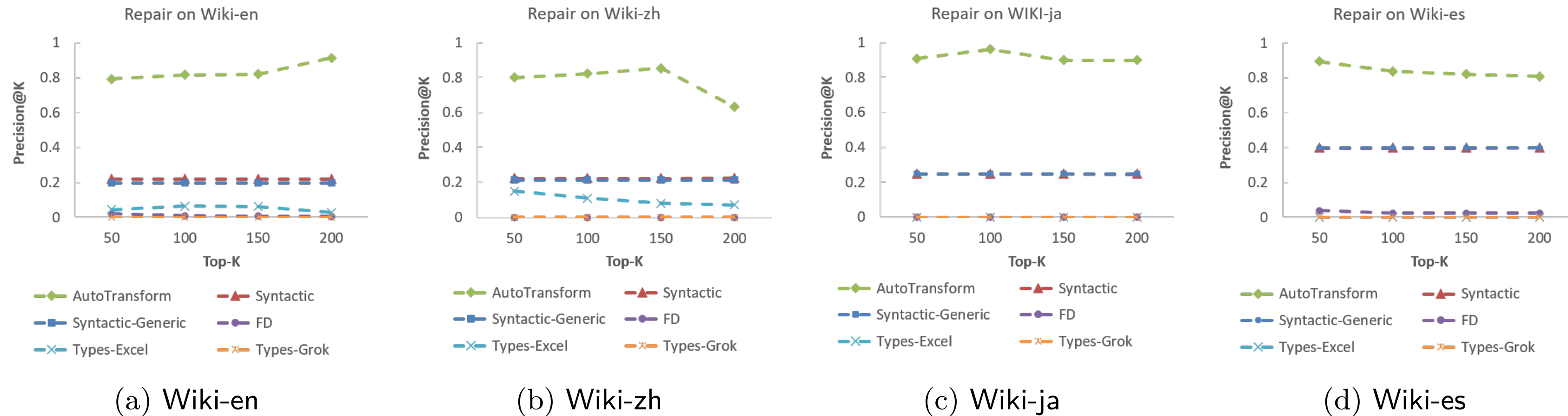
# Graph Pattern Relationships

- Lossless inverses: can go back and forth
- Triangular equivalent programs: applying one transformation on a column matches the output of apply two other transformations in sequence

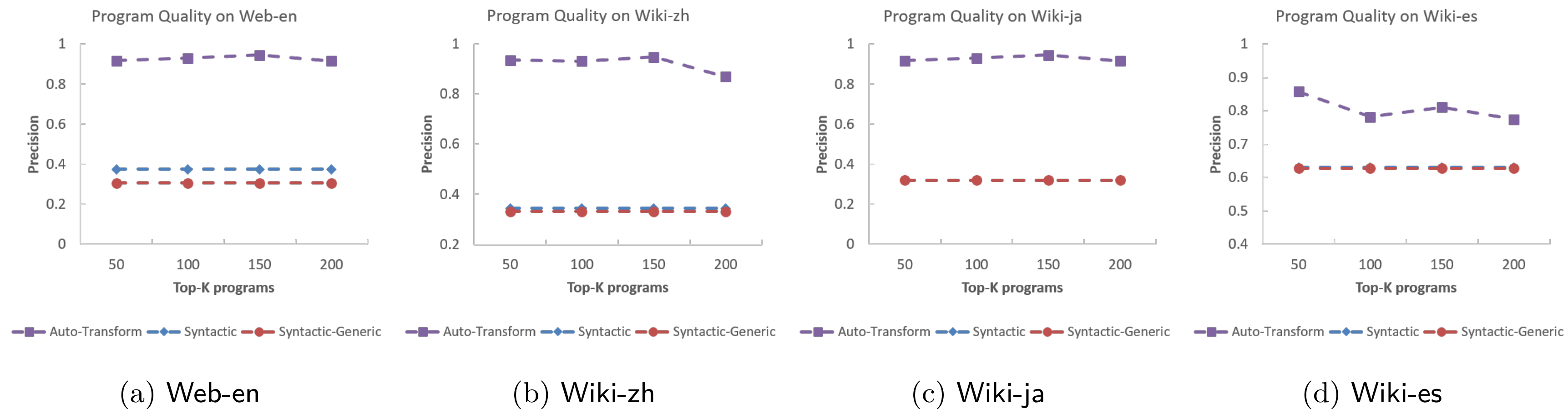


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# Experiment Results



**Figure 10:** Quality of repairs on Wiki-en, Wiki-zh, Wiki-ja, Wiki-es, using TBP programs learned from corresponding corpus.



**Figure 11:** Quality of TBP programs produced on Web-en, Wiki-zh, Wiki-ja, Wiki-es, respectively.

[Jin et al.]

# Data Wrangling and LLMs

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- SheetAgent: <https://sheetagent.github.io/>
- SheetCopilot: <https://sheetcopilot.github.io/>
- Dango
  - Mixed-initiative system (DSL is also extended from Potter's Wheel)
  - <https://site-gold-theta.vercel.app/dango/dango.html>
- Table-GPT
  - Ensure LLMs can reason about 2D tables (not just 1D text)

# Dango: Mixed-Initiative Data Wrangler using LLM