

## Motivation

Given tables, how can we determine if they are *versions* of each other?

id	name	score	id	full_name	score	id	name	has_cat?
1	Alice	83	1	Alice T.	84	1	Alice	True
2	Bob	91	2	Bob	91	2	Bob	False

## What is a Version?

Let table  $T$  be composed of a set of attributes  $T_A = \{A_1, \dots, A_n\}$  and tuples  $T_r = \{r_1, \dots, r_m\}$ .

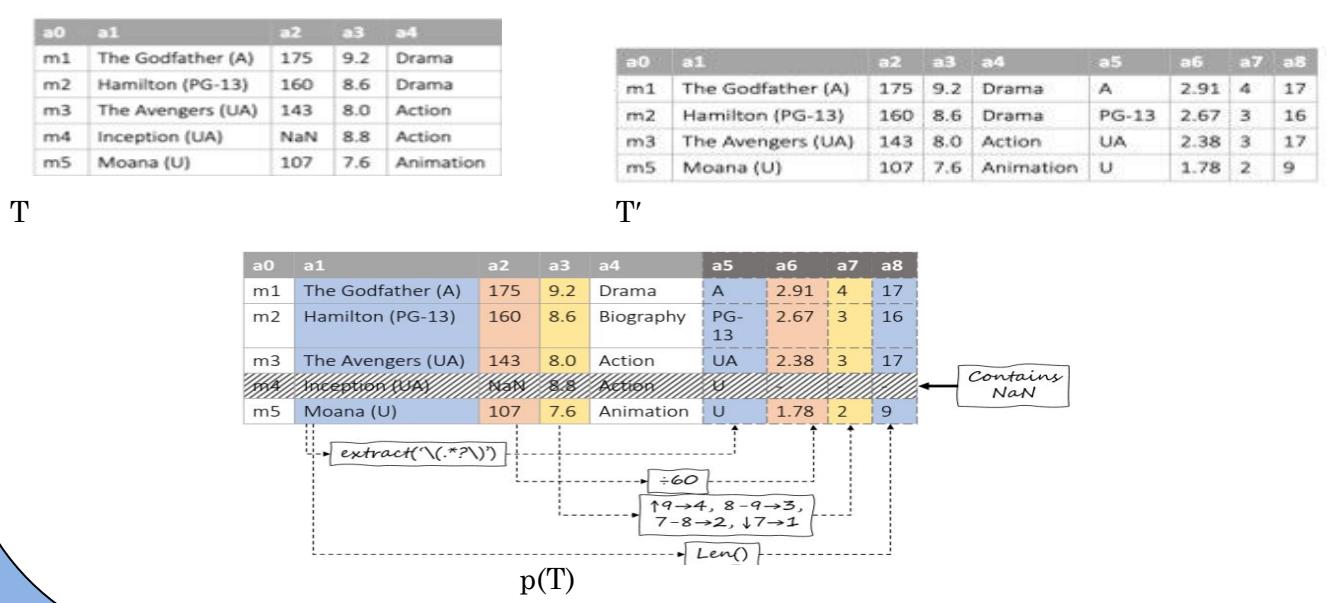
Let each tuple defined by  $r_i = \langle r_{i0}, r_{i1} \dots r_{in} \rangle$ , s.t.  $r_{i0}$  can be easily recognized as the tuple identifier and  $r_{ij} (j \neq 0)$  can represent a value assigned to the attribute  $A_j$  in the tuple  $r_i$ .

With that definition, let  $T$  and  $T'$  be two tables. We say that  $T'$  is a *version* of  $T$  iff there exists a transformation  $p$  such that  $p(T) = T'$ , where  $p$  belongs to a family of semantics-preserving transformations  $\mathcal{P}$ .

The version relationship is then defined as:

$$\text{Version}(T, T') \iff \exists p \in \mathcal{P}^* : p(T) = T'$$

where  $\mathcal{P}^*$  denotes the closure of  $\mathcal{P}$  under composition.



## Related Work

- **Data Versioning**
  - Storage, Scalability, Management, Version Control Systems (Git, Xet)
- **Data Discovery**
  - Table Union Search, PBE, Related Table Search, Joinable Table Search
- **Table Representation Learning**
  - Contrastive Pretraining, Permutation-Based Tabular Models

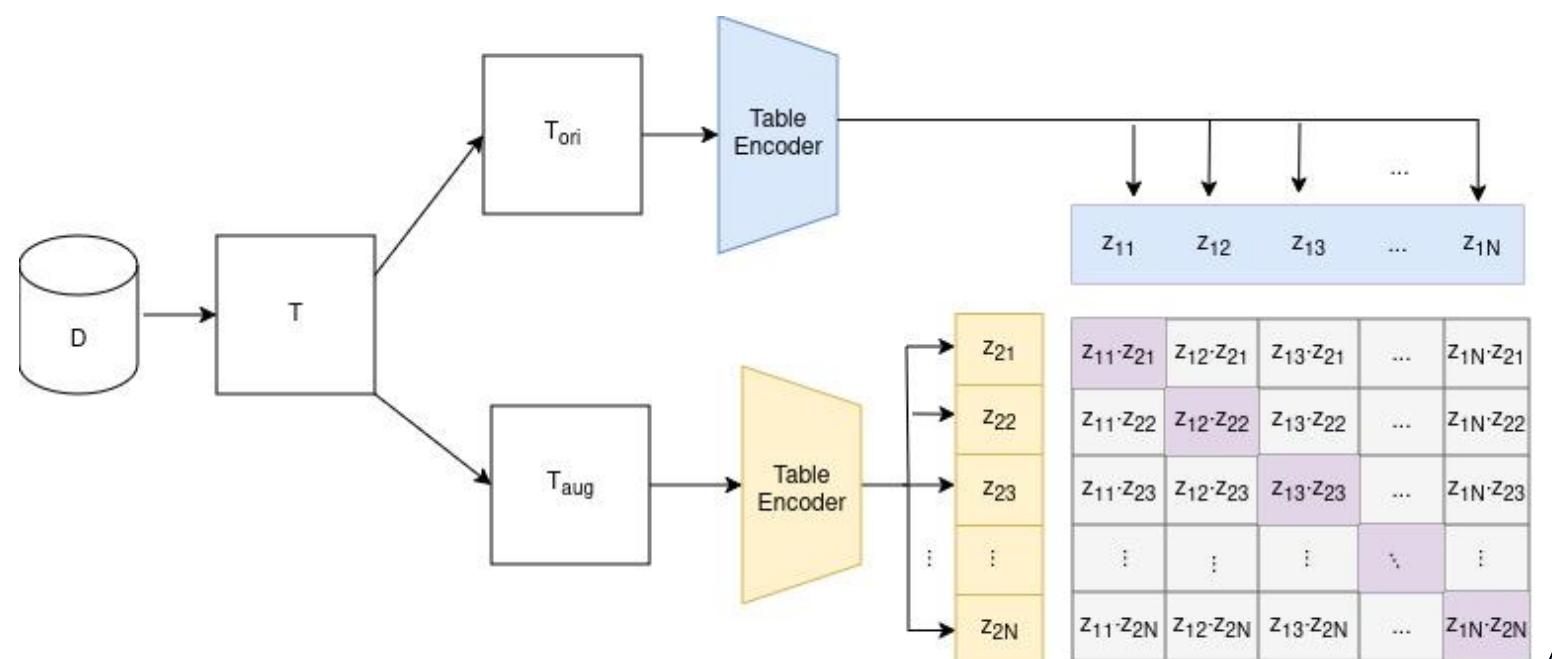


Preprint & Codebase



## Contrastive Learning (SimCLR)

### Augmentation at Train Time



## Augmentation and Loss

- **Augmentation during training**
  - All augmentations independently probable.
  - Includes augmentations such as gaussian jitter, column & row drop and/or shuffle, NaN injection, and one-hot/dummy encoding
- **Normalized Temperature Scaled Cross-Entropy Loss**
  - L2 Normalization so table embeddings lie on the unit hypersphere.
  - For a batch of N table embeddings, positive pairs are pulled together in embedding space.
  - Negative pairs are pushed farther away

## Experimental Design

- **Benchmark:**

- 5 Datasets (IMDB, Titanic, Wine, NBA, Iris) collected into 1 large benchmark called SDVB (Semantic Data Versioning Benchmark)

- **Evaluation:**

- Evaluated on Separation (difference between version-version similarity and version to non-version similarity) and TPR.
- Evaluated against labels provided by benchmark authors to determine whether a table is a version.
- Compared to several pretrained small language models, as well as Starmie, a state of the art contrastive learning approach to dataset discovery.