

# Lecture 10: Review of graph modeling and inference

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# Main Problems

## Main Problem

Input data: a weighted graph  $G = (\mathcal{V}, W)$  with  $n$  nodes.

Issues:

- 1 *Decide how well the two random graph models explain the data.*
- 2 *Partition the graph into two communities.*
- 3 *Construct an embedding  $\{y_1, \dots, y_n\} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  such that  $W_{i,j} \sim \varphi(\|y_i - y_j\|)$  for some monotonically decreasing function  $\varphi$ .*

Typical weight functions:

- 1 *Exponential model:  $\varphi(t) = Ce^{-t^2}$ , for some  $C > 0$ .*
- 2 *Power law:  $\varphi(t) = \frac{C}{t^p}$ , for some  $C > 0$  and  $p > 0$ .*

# Analysis

Three studies need to be done:

- 1 *Random graph hypothesis*: Sort edges by weight: from the largest weight to the smallest weight. Then compare sample statistics of 3-cliques, 4-cliques with their expectations under the two stochastic models, Erdős-Rényi and SSBM.

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- 1 *Random graph hypothesis*: Sort edges by weight: from the largest weight to the smallest weight. Then compare sample statistics of 3-cliques, 4-cliques with their expectations under the two stochastic models, Erdős-Rényi and SSBM.
- 2 Community Detection/Partition/Image Segmentation: Two classes of algorithms: spectral methods and SDP relaxations.



# Analysis

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- 1 *Random graph hypothesis*: Sort edges by weight: from the largest weight to the smallest weight. Then compare sample statistics of 3-cliques, 4-cliques with their expectations under the two stochastic models, Erdős-Rényi and SSBM.
- 2 Community Detection/Partition/Image Segmentation: Two classes of algorithms: spectral methods and SDP relaxations.
- 3 Embeddings: *Laplacian eigenmaps*: The geometric graph is obtained by solving the bottom  $d + 1$  eigenproblems for the normalized symmetric Laplacian  $\tilde{\Delta} = I - D^{-1/2}WD^{-1/2}$ . Additional algorithms: LLE and ISOMAP.

# Distribution of Cliques

## Expected Values

Let  $X_q$  denote the number of  $q$ -cliques in a random graph  $G$ . Then the expectation of  $X_q$  in  $\mathcal{G}_{n,p}$  class is

$$\mathbb{E}[X_q] = \binom{n}{q} p^{q(q-1)/2}$$

The expectation of  $X_q$  in the class  $\Gamma^{n,m}$  is approximated by the above formula for  $p = \frac{2m}{n(n-1)}$ :

$$\mathbb{E}[X_q] \approx \binom{n}{q} \left( \frac{2m}{n(n-1)} \right)^{q(q-1)/2} \sim \theta_q \frac{m^{q(q-1)/2}}{n^{q(q-2)}}$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X_3] \sim \theta \frac{m^3}{n^3}, \quad \mathbb{E}[X_4] \sim \theta \frac{m^6}{n^8}$$

# 3-Cliques and 4-cliques

## Thresholds

### Theorem

Let  $m = m(n)$  be the number of edges in  $\Gamma^{n,m}$ .

- 1 If  $m \gg n$  (i.e.  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{m}{n} = \infty$ ) then  
 $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{Prob}[G \in \Gamma^{n,m} \text{ has a 3-clique}] \rightarrow 1.$
- 2 If  $m \ll n$  (i.e.  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{m}{n} = 0$ ) then  
 $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{Prob}[G \in \Gamma^{n,m} \text{ has a 3-clique}] \rightarrow 0.$

### Theorem

Let  $m = m(n)$  be the number of edges in  $\Gamma^{n,m}$ .

- 1 If  $m \gg n^{4/3}$  (i.e.  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{m}{n^{4/3}} = \infty$ ) then  
 $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{Prob}[G \in \Gamma^{n,m} \text{ has a 4-clique}] \rightarrow 1.$
- 2 If  $m \ll n^{4/3}$  (i.e.  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{m}{n^{4/3}} = 0$ ) then  
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## 3-Cliques and 4-Cliques

### Behavior at the threshold

In general we obtain a "coarse threshold". Recall a Poisson process  $X$  with parameter  $\lambda$  has p.m.f.  $Prob[X = k] = e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^k}{k!}$ .

#### Theorem

In  $\mathcal{G}_{n,p}$ ,

- ① For  $p = \frac{c}{n}$ ,  $X_3$  is asymptotically Poisson with parameter  $\lambda = c^3/6$ .
- ② For  $p = \frac{c}{n^{2/3}}$ ,  $X_4$  is asymptotically Poisson with parameter  $\lambda = c^6/24$ .



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#### Theorem

In  $\Gamma^{n,m}$ ,

- 1 For  $m = cn$ ,  $X_3$  is asymptotically Poisson with parameter  $\lambda = 4c^3/3$ .
- 2 For  $m = cn^{4/3}$ ,  $X_4$  is asymptotically Poisson with parameter  $\lambda = 8c^6/3$ .

# Eigenvalues of Laplacians

$\Delta, L, \tilde{\Delta}$

What do we know about the set of eigenvalues of these matrices for a graph  $G$  with  $n$  vertices?

- ①  $\Delta = \Delta^T \geq 0$  and hence its eigenvalues are non-negative real numbers.
- ②  $eigs(\tilde{\Delta}) = eigs(L) \subset [0, 2]$ .
- ③ 0 is always an eigenvalue and its multiplicity equals the number of connected components of  $G$ ,

$$\dim \ker(\Delta) = \dim \ker(L) = \dim \ker(\tilde{\Delta}) = \# \text{connected components.}$$

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- 3 0 is always an eigenvalue and its multiplicity equals the number of connected components of  $G$ ,

$$\dim \ker(\Delta) = \dim \ker(L) = \dim \ker(\tilde{\Delta}) = \# \text{connected components.}$$

Let  $0 = \lambda_0 \leq \lambda_1 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_{n-1}$  be the eigenvalues of  $\tilde{\Delta}$ . Denote

$$\lambda(G) = \max_{1 \leq i \leq n-1} |1 - \lambda_i|.$$

Note  $\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \lambda_i = \text{trace}(\tilde{\Delta}) = n$ . Hence the average eigenvalue is about 1.  $\lambda(G)$  is called *the absolute gap* and measures the spread of eigenvalues away from 1.

# The spectral absolute gap

 $\lambda(G)$ 

The main result in [9]) says that for connected graphs w/h.p.:

$$\lambda_1 \geq 1 - \frac{C}{\sqrt{\text{Average Degree}}} = 1 - \frac{C}{\sqrt{p(n-1)}} = 1 - C\sqrt{\frac{n}{2m}}.$$

Theorem (For class  $\mathcal{G}_{n,p}$ )

Fix  $\delta > 0$  and let  $p > (\frac{1}{2} + \delta)\log(n)/n$ . Let  $d = p(n-1)$  denote the expected degree of a vertex. Let  $\tilde{G}$  be the giant component of the Erdős-Rényi graph. For every fixed  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there is a constant  $C = C(\delta, \varepsilon)$ , so that

$$\lambda(\tilde{G}) \leq \frac{C}{\sqrt{d}}$$

with probability at least  $1 - Cn \exp(-(2 - \varepsilon)d) - C \exp(-d^{1/4} \log(n))$ .

Connectivity threshold:  $p \sim \frac{\log(n)}{n}$ .

# The spectral absolute gap

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Theorem (For class  $\Gamma^{n,m}$ )

Fix  $\delta > 0$  and let  $m > \frac{1}{2}(\frac{1}{2} + \delta)n \log(n)$ . Let  $d = \frac{2m}{n}$  denote the expected degree of a vertex. Let  $\tilde{G}$  be the giant component of the Erdős-Rényi graph. For every fixed  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there is a constant  $C = C(\delta, \varepsilon)$ , so that

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Connectivity threshold:  $m \sim \frac{1}{2}n \log(n)$ .

# Isometric Embeddings with Partial Data

## Linear constraints

Given any set of vectors  $\{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$  and their associated matrix  $Y = [y_1 | \dots | y_n]$  their invariant to the action of the rigid transformations (translations, rotations, and reflections) is the Gram matrix of the centered system:

$$G = \left(I - \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{1} \cdot \mathbf{1}^T\right) Y^T Y \left(I - \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{1} \cdot \mathbf{1}^T\right) =: LY^T YL, \quad L = I - \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{1} \cdot \mathbf{1}^T.$$

On the other hand, the distance between points  $i$  and  $j$  can be computed by:

$$d_{i,j}^2 = \|y_i - y_j\|^2 = G_{i,i} - G_{i,j} + G_{j,j} - G_{j,i} = e_{ij}^T G e_{ij}$$

where

$$e_{ij} = \delta_i - \delta_j = [0 \cdots 0 \ 1 \cdots -1 \ 0 \cdots 0]^T$$

where 1 is on position  $i$ ,  $-1$  is on position  $j$ , and 0 everywhere else.

# Almost Isometric Embeddings with Partial Data

## The SDP Problem

Reference [10] proposes to find the matrix  $G$  by solving the following Semi-Definite Program:

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \text{trace}(G) \\ G = G^T \geq 0 \\ G \cdot \mathbf{1} = 0 \\ |\langle Ge_{ij}, e_{ij} \rangle - \tilde{d}_{i,j}^2| \leq \varepsilon, \quad (i, j) \in \Theta \end{aligned}$$

where  $\tilde{d}_{i,j}^2$  are noisy estimates  $d_{i,j}$  and  $\varepsilon$  is the maximum noise level. The trace promotes low rank in this optimization. However, this is basically a feasibility problem: Decrease  $\varepsilon$  to the minimum value where a feasible solution exists. With probability 1 that is unique.  
How to do this: Use CVX with Matlab.

# Geometric Graph Embedding

Gram matrix factorization: The Algorithm

## Algorithm

*Input: Symmetric  $n \times n$  Gram matrix  $G$ .*

- 1 *Compute the eigendecomposition of  $G$ ,  $G = Q\Lambda Q^T$  with diagonal of  $\Lambda$  sorted in a descending order;*
- 2 *Determine the number  $d$  of significant positive eigenvalues;*
- 3 *Partition*

$$Q = [Q_1 \quad Q_2] \quad , \text{ and } \Lambda = \begin{bmatrix} \Lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \Lambda_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

*where  $Q_1$  contains the first  $d$  columns of  $Q$ , and  $\Lambda_1$  is the  $d \times d$  diagonal matrix of significant positive eigenvalues of  $G$ .*

- 4 *Compute:*

$$Y = \Lambda_1^{1/2} Q_1^T$$

*Output: Dimension  $d$  and  $d \times n$  matrix  $Y$  of vectors  $Y = [y_1 | \cdots | y_n]$*



# Nearly Isometric Embeddings with Partial Data

## Stability to Noise

[10] proves the following stability result in the case of partial measurements. Here we denote  $\Theta_r = \{(i, j), \|y_i - y_j\| \leq r\}$  the set of all pairs of points at distance at most  $r$ .

### Theorem

Let  $\{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$  be  $n$  nodes distributed uniformly at random in the hypercube  $[-0.5, 0.5]^d$ . Further, assume that we are given noisy measurement of all distances in  $\Theta_r$  for some  $r \geq 10\sqrt{d}(\log(n)/n)^{1/d}$  and the induced geometric graph of edges is connected. Let  $\tilde{d}_{i,j}^2 = d_{i,j}^2 + \nu_{i,j}$  with  $|\nu_{i,j}| \leq \varepsilon$ . Then with high probability, the error distance between the estimated  $\hat{Y} = [\hat{y}_1 | \dots | \hat{y}_n]$  returned by the SDP-based algorithm and the correct coordinate matrix  $Y = [y_1 | \dots | y_n]$  is upper bounded as

$$\|L\hat{Y}^T\hat{Y}L - LY^TYL\|_1 \leq C_1(nr^d)^5 \frac{\varepsilon}{r^4}.$$

## Optimization Criterion

Assume  $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{V}, W)$  is a undirected weighted graph with  $n$  nodes and weight matrix  $W$ .

We interpret  $W_{i,j}$  as the *similarity* between nodes  $i$  and  $j$ . The larger the weight the more similar the nodes, and the closer they are in a geometric graph embedding.

Thus we look for a dimension  $d > 0$  and a set of points

$\{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n\} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  so that  $d_{i,j} = \|y_i - y_j\|$ 's is small for large weight  $W_{i,j}$ . This means we want to minimize

$$J(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) = \sum_{1 \leq i, j \leq n} W_{i,j} \|y_i - y_j\|^2,$$

To avoid trivial solution  $Y = 0$  we impose a normalization condition:

$$YDY^T = I_d.$$

# The Optimization Problem

Combining the criterion with the constraint:

$$(LE) : \begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & \text{trace} \left\{ Y \Delta Y^T \right\} \\ \text{subject to} & Y D Y^T = I_d \end{array}$$

we obtained the *Laplacian Eigenmap* problem.

Good news: The optimizer  $Y$  is obtained by solving an eigenproblem.

# Laplacian Eigenmaps Embedding

## Algorithm

### Algorithm (Laplacian Eigenmaps)

*Input: Weight matrix  $W$ , target dimension  $d$*

- 1 Construct the diagonal matrix  $D = \text{diag}(D_{ii})_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ , where  $D_{ii} = \sum_{k=1}^n W_{i,k}$ .
- 2 Construct the normalized Laplacian  $\tilde{\Delta} = I - D^{-1/2}WD^{-1/2}$ .
- 3 Compute the bottom  $d + 1$  eigenvectors  $e_1, \dots, e_{d+1}$ ,  $\tilde{\Delta}e_k = \lambda_k e_k$ ,  $0 = \lambda_1 \cdots \lambda_{d+1}$ .

# Laplacian Eigenmaps Embedding

## Algorithm-cont's

### Algorithm (Laplacian Eigenmaps - cont'd)

- ④ Construct the  $d \times n$  matrix  $Y$ ,

$$Y = \begin{bmatrix} e_2 \\ \vdots \\ e_{d+1} \end{bmatrix} D^{-1/2}$$

- ⑤ The new geometric graph is obtained by converting the columns of  $Y$  into  $n$   $d$ -dimensional vectors:

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_1 & | & \cdots & | & y_n \end{bmatrix} = Y$$

Output: Set of points  $\{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n\} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ .

# Problem Formulation

Given: It is assumed that we are given a set of points  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \subset \mathbb{R}^N$ , or a weight matrix  $W$ , where  $W_{i,j}$  is inverse monotonically dependent to distances  $\|x_i - x_j\|$ ; the smaller the distance  $\|x_i - x_j\|$  the larger the weight  $W_{i,j}$ .

Target: We look for a dimension  $d > 0$  and a set of points  $\{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n\} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  so that all  $d_{i,j} = \|y_i - y_j\|$ 's are compatible with the raw data.

Approaches:

- 1 Principal Component Analysis
- 2 Independent Component Analysis
- 3 Laplacian Eigenmaps
- 4 Local Linear Embeddings (LLE)
- 5 Isomaps

# Principal Component Analysis

## Algorithm

### Algorithm (Principal Component Analysis)

*Input: Data vectors  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \in \mathbb{R}^N$ ; dimension  $d$ .*

- ① *If affine subspace is the goal, append '1' at the end of each data vector.*
- ① *Compute the sample covariance matrix*

$$R = \sum_{k=1}^n x_k x_k^T$$

- ② *Solve the eigenproblems  $Re_k = \sigma_k^2 e_k$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq N$ , order eigenvalues  $\sigma_1^2 \geq \sigma_2^2 \geq \dots \geq \sigma_N^2$  and normalize the eigenvectors  $\|e_k\|_2 = 1$ .*

# Principal Component Analysis

## Algorithm - cont'ed

### Algorithm (Principal Component Analysis)

- ③ *Construct the co-isometry*

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} e_1^T \\ \vdots \\ e_d^T \end{bmatrix}.$$

- ④ *Project the input data*

$$y_1 = Ux_1, \quad y_2 = Ux_2, \quad \dots, \quad y_n = Ux_n.$$

*Output: Lower dimensional data vectors  $\{y_1, \dots, y_n\} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ .*

The orthogonal projection is given by  $P = \sum_{k=1}^d e_k e_k^T$  and the optimal subspace is  $V = \text{Ran}(P)$



# Dimension Reduction using Laplacian Eigenmaps

## Algorithm

### Algorithm (Dimension Reduction using Laplacian Eigenmaps)

*Input: A geometric graph  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\} \subset \mathbb{R}^N$ . Parameters: threshold  $\tau$ , weight coefficient  $\alpha$ , and dimension  $d$ .*

- 1 *Compute the set of pairwise distances  $\|x_i - x_j\|$  and convert them into a set of weights:*

$$W_{i,j} = \begin{cases} \exp(-\alpha\|x_i - x_j\|^2) & \text{if } \|x_i - x_j\| \leq \tau \\ 0 & \text{if otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- 2 *Compute the  $d + 1$  bottom eigenvectors of the normalized Laplacian matrix  $\tilde{\Delta} = I - D^{-1/2}WD^{-1/2}$ ,  $\tilde{\Delta}e_k = \lambda_k e_k$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq d + 1$ ,  $0 = \lambda_0 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_{d+1}$ , where  $D = \text{diag}(\sum_{k=1}^n W_{i,k})_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ .*

# Dimension Reduction using Laplacian Eigenmaps

## Algorithm - cont'd

### Algorithm (Dimension Reduction using Laplacian Eigenmaps-cont'd)

- ③ Construct the  $d \times n$  matrix  $Y$ ,

$$Y = \begin{bmatrix} e_2^T \\ \vdots \\ e_{d+1}^T \end{bmatrix} D^{-1/2}$$

- ④ The new geometric graph is obtained by converting the columns of  $Y$  into  $n$   $d$ -dimensional vectors:

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_1 & | & \cdots & | & y_n \end{bmatrix} = Y$$

Output:  $\{y_1, \dots, y_n\} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ .

# Dimension Reduction using Isomaps

## Algorithm

### Algorithm (Dimension Reduction using Isomap)

*Input: A geometric graph  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\} \subset \mathbb{R}^N$ . Parameters: neighborhood size  $K$  and dimension  $d$ .*

- 1 Construct the symmetric matrix  $S$  of squared pairwise distances:
  - 1 Construct the sparse matrix  $T$ , where for each node  $i$  find the nearest  $K$  neighbors  $\mathcal{V}_i$  and set  $T_{i,j} = \|x_i - x_j\|_2$ ,  $j \in \mathcal{V}_i$ .
  - 2 For any pair of two nodes  $(i, j)$  compute  $d_{i,j}$  as the length of the shortest path,  $\sum_{p=1}^L T_{k_{p-1}, k_p}$  with  $k_0 = i$  and  $k_L = j$ , using e.g. Dijkstra's algorithm.
  - 3 Set  $S_{i,j} = d_{i,j}^2$ .

# Dimension Reduction using Isomaps

## Algorithm - cont'd

### Algorithm (Dimension Reduction using Isomap - cont'd)

- 2 Compute the Gram matrix  $G$ :

$$\rho = \frac{1}{2n} \mathbf{1}^T \cdot S \cdot \mathbf{1}, \quad \nu = \frac{1}{n} (S \cdot \mathbf{1} - \rho \mathbf{1})$$

$$G = \frac{1}{2} \nu \cdot \mathbf{1}^T + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{1} \cdot \nu^T - \frac{1}{2} S$$

- 3 Find the top  $d$  eigenvectors of  $G$ , say  $e_1, \dots, e_d$  so that  $GE = E\Lambda$ , form the matrix  $Y$  and then collect the columns:

$$Y = \Lambda^{1/2} \begin{bmatrix} e_1^T \\ \vdots \\ e_d^T \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 & | & \cdots & | & y_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Output:  $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ .

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