

Spectral methods for graph clustering

Ph.D. defence

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- Graph clustering
- Community detection
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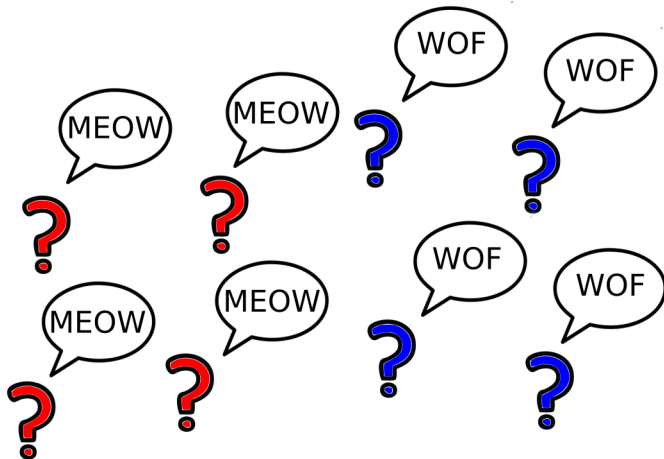
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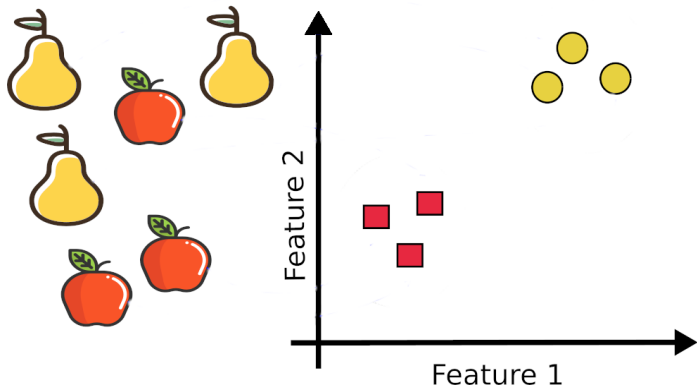
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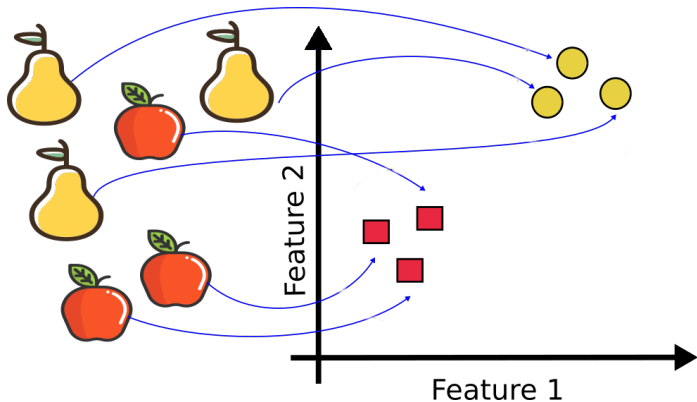
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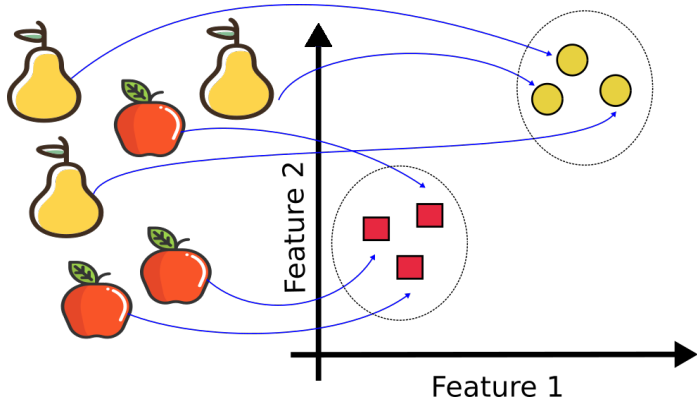
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The relevant features define the concept of categories

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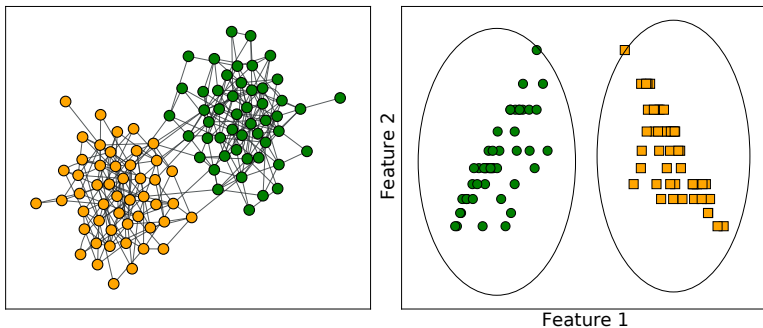
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A graph representation for pairwise “affinity”



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$\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$, is a graph with $|\mathcal{V}| = n$ nodes.

DEFINITION: adjacency matrix

$$\forall 1 \leq i < j \leq n, \quad A_{ij} = \mathbb{1}_{(ij) \in \mathcal{E}}$$

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$\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$, is a graph with $|\mathcal{V}| = n$ nodes.

DEFINITION: adjacency matrix

$$\forall 1 \leq i < j \leq n, \quad A_{ij} = \mathbb{1}_{(ij) \in \mathcal{E}}$$

DEFINITION: diagonal degree matrix

$$\forall 1 \leq i \leq j \leq n, \quad D_{ij} = \delta_{ij} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{V}} A_{ik}$$

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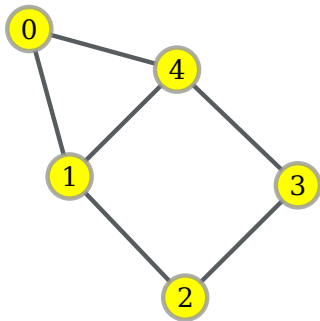
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$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

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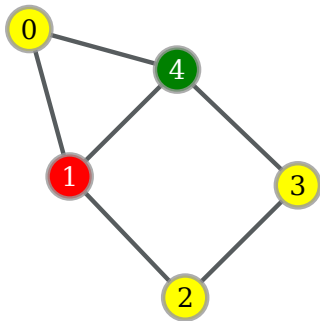
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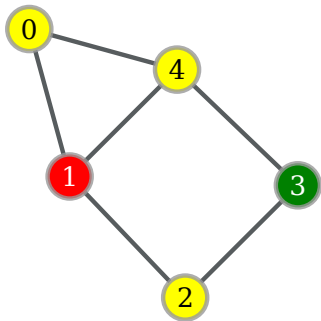
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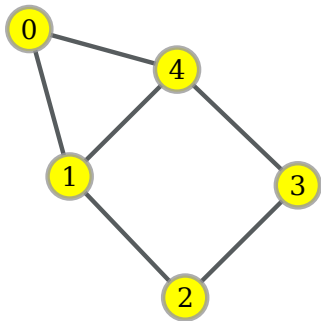
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$$D = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

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Graph → **Matrix** → **Eigenvectors embedding**

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Graph \rightarrow **Matrix** \rightarrow **Eigenvectors embedding**

Typical spectral clustering algorithm

Input: $\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E}), k$

- $M \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$: graph matrix representation
- k eigenvectors of M in the columns of $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k}$
- Clustering in k -dimensions (k-means)

Output: $\ell \in \{1, \dots, k\}^n$, labelling vector

3 years in 40 minutes...

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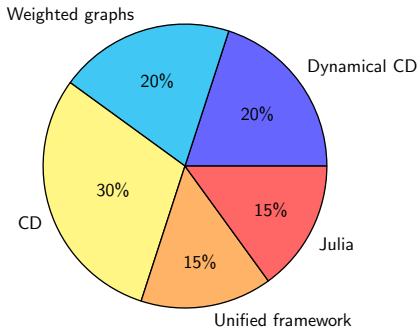


Figure: My PhD

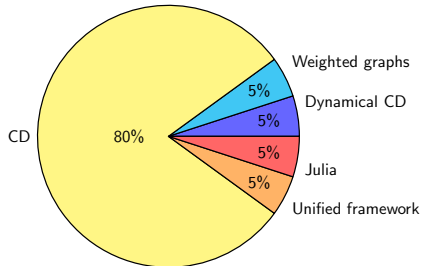


Figure: My presentation

Community detection: problem position

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Problem: given $\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$, find a partition of \mathcal{V} to
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Problem: given $\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$, find a partition of \mathcal{V} to recover the community labels

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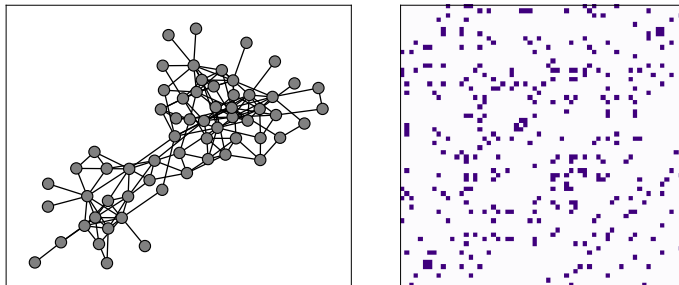


Figure: The dolphin network (Lusseau 2003)

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OUTPUT

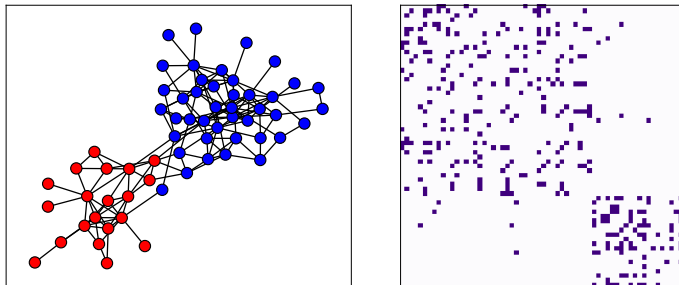


Figure: The dolphin network (Lusseau 2003)

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Recall: compute k eigenvectors of M to embed the nodes in \mathbb{R}^k

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Recall: compute k eigenvectors of M to embed the nodes in \mathbb{R}^k

Popular choices for M in community detection are

- A , adjacency matrix
- $D - A$, graph Laplacian matrix
- $D^{-1}A, D^{-1/2}AD^{-1/2}$, normalized Laplacian matrices

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Poor performances on **sparse** and **heterogeneous** graphs

Sparsity

Real graphs are typically **sparse**

Dataset	Size	Average degree
Dolphins	62	5
Polbooks	105	8,4
Football	115	10,7
Polblogs	1.222	27,4
Facebook	4.039	43,7
GNutella P2P	6.301	6,6
Astrophysics	18.775	21,1
Condensed matter	23.133	8,1
Email Enron	36.692	10

Source : Stanford Large Network Dataset Collection

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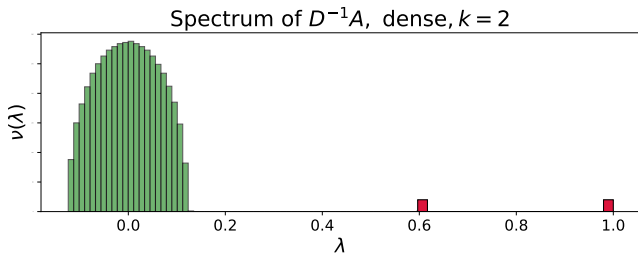
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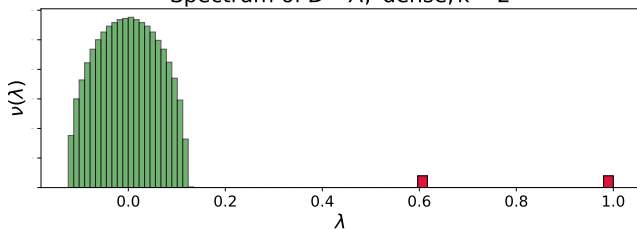
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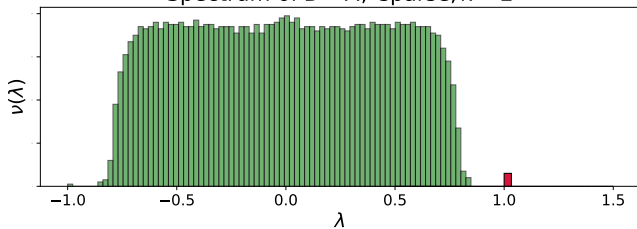
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Spectrum of $D^{-1}A$, dense, $k = 2$



Spectrum of $D^{-1}A$, sparse, $k = 2$



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Real graphs typically have a **broad degree distribution**

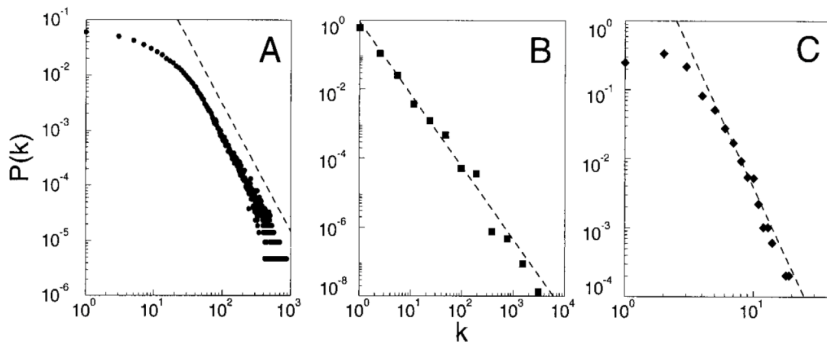


Figure: Degree distribution for various networks. Source: Barabasi, *Emergence of Scaling in Random Networks*, Science 1999

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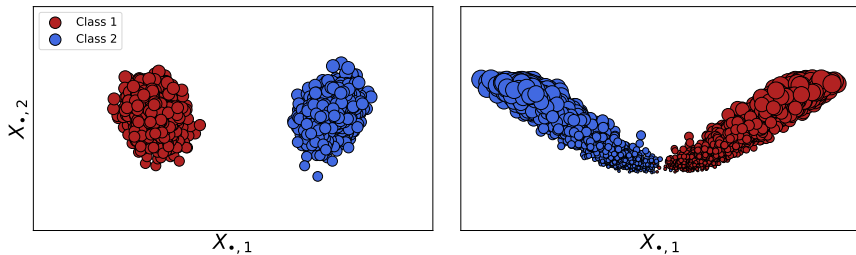


Figure: Spectral node embedding. **Left:** homogeneous degree distribution.

Right: power law degree distribution

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$$\mathbb{P}(A_{ij} = 1) = \theta_i \theta_j \cdot \frac{C_{l_i l_j}}{n}$$

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$$\mathbb{P}(A_{ij} = 1) = \theta_i \theta_j \cdot \frac{C_{l_i l_j}}{n}$$

- $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^n$: intrinsic “probability” of connection
 - $\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{V}} \theta_i = 1$
 - $\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{V}} \theta_i^2 = \Phi = O_n(1)$: broadness of the degree distribution

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- $C \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times k}$: class affinity matrix
- $\ell \in \{1, \dots, k\}^n$: label vector

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- $\mathbb{E}[d_i] = O_n(1)$

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- $\mathbb{E}[d_i] = O_n(1)$

Objective: infer ℓ from A

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- k classes of equal size

- $$C = \begin{pmatrix} c_{in} & c_{out} & c_{out} & \dots \\ c_{out} & c_{in} & c_{out} & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \dots & c_{out} & c_{out} & c_{in} \end{pmatrix}$$

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Detection in polynomial time if

$$\alpha = f(c_{in}, c_{out}, \Phi, k) > \alpha_c$$

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Detection in polynomial time if

$$\alpha = f(c_{in}, c_{out}, \Phi, k) > \alpha_c$$

Typical choices of M do not achieve the α_c threshold

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- Inspired by the DCSBM but applicable to **any** input graph

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- Inspired by the DCSBM but applicable to **any** input graph
- Dealing with **sparsity** and **degree heterogeneity**

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- Inspired by the DCSBM but applicable to **any** input graph
- Dealing with **sparsity** and **degree heterogeneity**
- Reaching the **detectability threshold** on sparse DCSBM graphs

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Ising Hamiltonian on \mathcal{G} for $\mathbf{s} \in \{-1, 1\}^n$

$$\mathcal{H}(\mathbf{s}) = -\mathbf{s}^T A \mathbf{s} = - \sum_{(ij) \in \mathcal{E}} s_i s_j$$

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Ising Hamiltonian on \mathcal{G} for $\mathbf{s} \in \{-1, 1\}^n$

$$\mathcal{H}(\mathbf{s}) = -\mathbf{s}^T A \mathbf{s} = - \sum_{(ij) \in \mathcal{E}} s_i s_j$$

Low energetic configurations with all spins in the same class are aligned

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Ising Hamiltonian on \mathcal{G} for $\mathbf{s} \in \{-1, 1\}^n$

$$\mathcal{H}(\mathbf{s}) = -\mathbf{s}^T A \mathbf{s} = - \sum_{(ij) \in \mathcal{E}} s_i s_j$$

Low energetic configurations with all spins in the same class are aligned

Free energy for $\mathbf{m} \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$$F(\mathbf{m}) = \underbrace{U(\mathbf{m})}_{\text{internal energy}} - T \underbrace{S(\mathbf{m})}_{\text{entropy}}$$

The minima of $F(\mathbf{m})$ are informative

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- Ising Hamiltonian $\mathcal{H}(\mathbf{s})$
- **Temperature**-like parameter r
- Bethe approximation
- Hessian of the Bethe free energy

DEFINITION: Bethe-Hessian family of matrices

$$H_r = (r^2 - 1)I_n + D - rA, \quad r \geq 1$$

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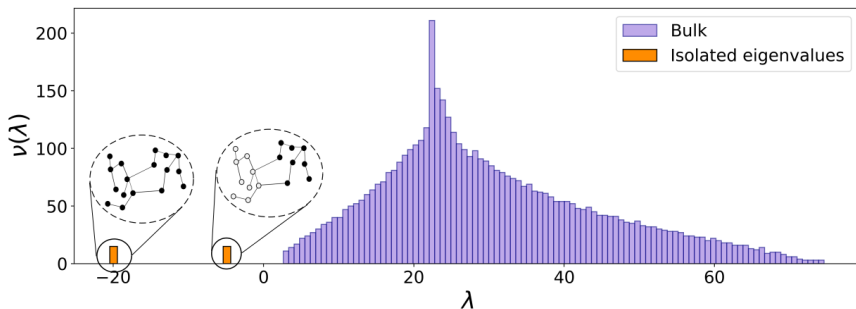


Figure: Spectrum of H_r for r fixed and $k = 2$

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DEFINITION: non-backtracking matrix

$$\forall (ij), (kl) \in \mathcal{E}_d, \quad B_{(ij),(kl)} = \delta_{jk}(1 - \delta_{il})$$

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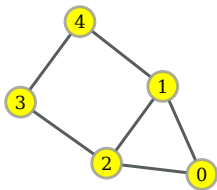
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DEFINITION: non-backtracking matrix

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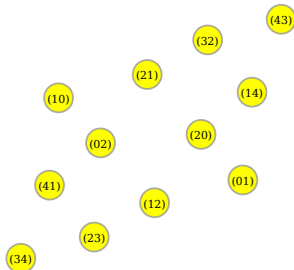
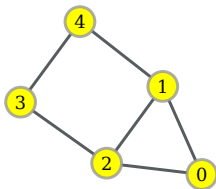
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DEFINITION: non-backtracking matrix

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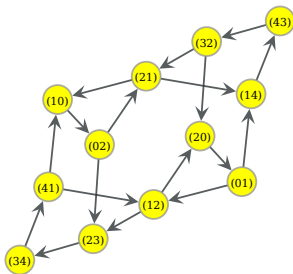
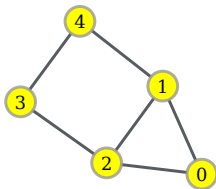
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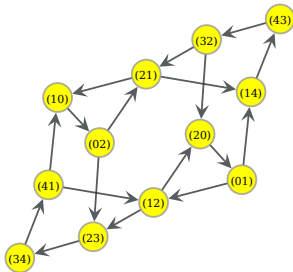
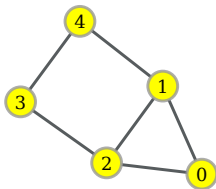
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DEFINITION: non-backtracking matrix

$$\forall (ij), (kl) \in \mathcal{E}_d, \quad B_{(ij),(kl)} = \delta_{jk}(1 - \delta_{il})$$



$$\det(B - rI_{|\mathcal{E}_d|}) \propto \det(H_r)$$

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- For $\alpha > \alpha_c$, k real isolated eigenvalues
- All complex eigenvalues satisfy $|\lambda_i(B)| \leq \sqrt{\rho(B)} + o_n(1)$

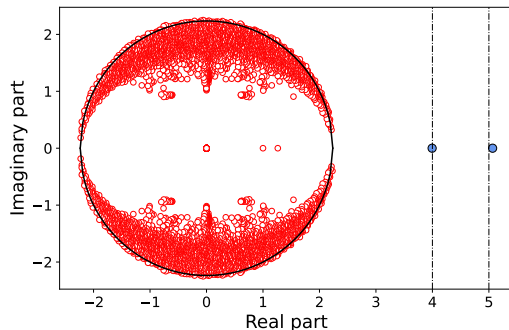


Figure: Spectrum of B for $k = 2$, sparse DCSBM

Spectrum of H_r (DCSBM)

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For $r = \sqrt{\rho(B)}$ (Saade 2014)

- If $\alpha > \alpha_c$, k isolated negative eigenvalues
- All bulk eigenvalues are positive

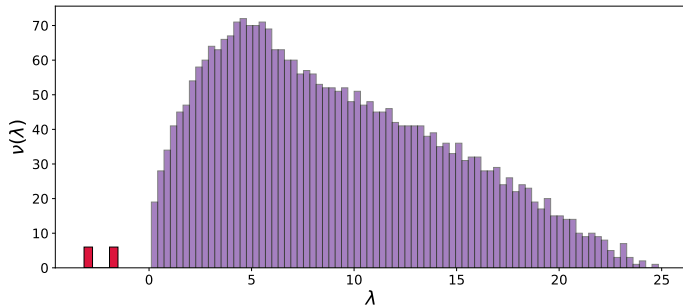


Figure: Spectrum of $H_{\sqrt{\rho(B)}}$ for $k = 2$, sparse DCSBM

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Both $H_{\sqrt{\rho(B)}}$ and B

✓ achieve **detectability** when $\alpha > \alpha_c$

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Both $H_{\sqrt{\rho(B)}}$ and B

✓ achieve **detectability** when $\alpha > \alpha_c$

✗ do not deal with **heterogeneity**

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✗ do not deal with **heterogeneity**

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Q1 : deal with **sparsity** and **heterogeneity** at once

Q2 : find the optimal $r \neq \sqrt{\rho(B)}$ for H_r

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Both $H_{\sqrt{\rho(B)}}$ and B

✓ achieve **detectability** when $\alpha > \alpha_c$

✗ do not deal with **heterogeneity**

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Q1 : deal with **sparsity** and **heterogeneity** at once

Q2 : find the optimal $r \neq \sqrt{\rho(B)}$ for H_r

Q3 : efficiently estimate the optimal r

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$$H_r = (r^2 - 1)I_n + D - rA$$

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Let $\lambda_p^\uparrow(M)$ be the p -th smallest eigenvalue of M

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$$H_r = (r^2 - 1)I_n + D - rA$$

Let $\lambda_p^\uparrow(M)$ be the p -th smallest eigenvalue of M

DEFINITION: ζ_p

For each connected component of \mathcal{G}

$$\zeta_p = \min_{r \geq 1} \{r : \lambda_p^\uparrow(H_r) = 0\}$$

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- Well defined for any \mathcal{G}

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Let $\lambda_p^\uparrow(M)$ be the p -th smallest eigenvalue of M

DEFINITION: ζ_p

For each connected component of \mathcal{G}

$$\zeta_p = \min_{r \geq 1} \{r : \lambda_p^\uparrow(H_r) = 0\}$$

- Well defined for any \mathcal{G}
- A “property” of the graph

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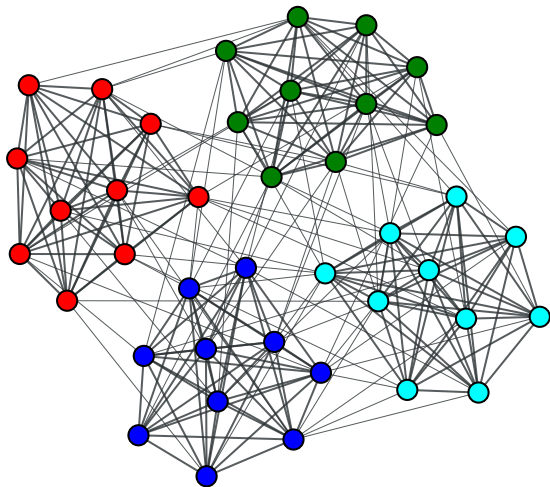
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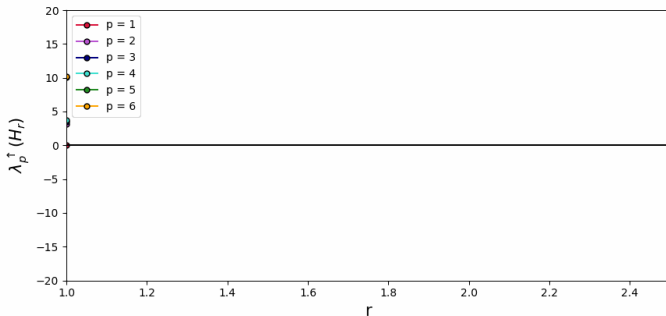
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$$\det(B - rI_{|\mathcal{E}_d|}) \propto \det(H_r)$$

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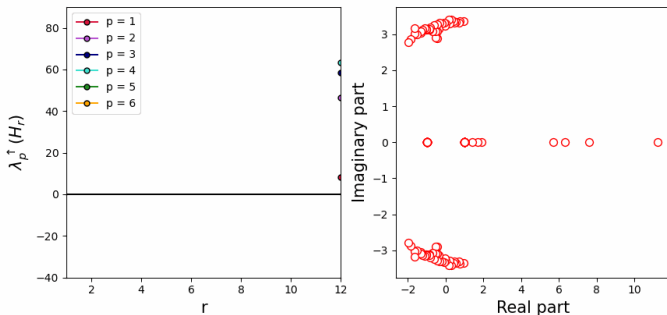
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The ζ_p 's are eigenvalues of B

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- The largest p for which ζ_p is defined is k (**Estimate of k**)

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- The largest p for which ζ_p is defined is k (**Estimate of k**)
- $\zeta_p = \frac{\rho(B)}{\lambda_p^{\downarrow|\cdot|}(B)} + o_n(1)$

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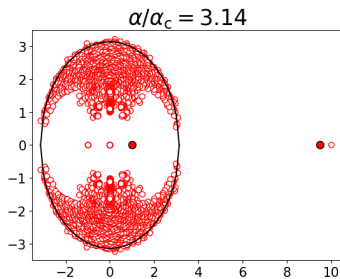
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- $\zeta_p = \frac{\rho(B)}{\lambda_p^{\downarrow | \cdot |}(B)} + o_n(1)$



- hard problems = Large ζ_p
= high temperature
- ζ_p : detection when $\alpha > \alpha_c$

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- hard problems = Large ζ_p
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$$H_{\zeta_p} \mathbf{x}_p = [(\zeta_p^2 - 1)I_n + D - \zeta_p A] \mathbf{x}_p = 0$$

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$$H_{\zeta_p} \mathbf{x}_p = [(\zeta_p^2 - 1)I_n + D - \zeta_p A] \mathbf{x}_p = 0$$

For $k = 2$ let $\sigma_i \in \{\pm 1\}$ be the label

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$$H_{\zeta_p} \mathbf{x}_p = [(\zeta_p^2 - 1)I_n + D - \zeta_p A] \mathbf{x}_p = 0$$

For $k = 2$ let $\sigma_i \in \{\pm 1\}$ be the label

The eigenvector $\mathbf{x}_2 \approx \sigma$ for all D

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$$H_{\zeta_p} \mathbf{x}_p = [(\zeta_p^2 - 1)I_n + D - \zeta_p A] \mathbf{x}_p = 0$$

For $k = 2$ let $\sigma_i \in \{\pm 1\}$ be the label

The eigenvector $\mathbf{x}_2 \approx \sigma$ for all D

Valid also for $k > 2$

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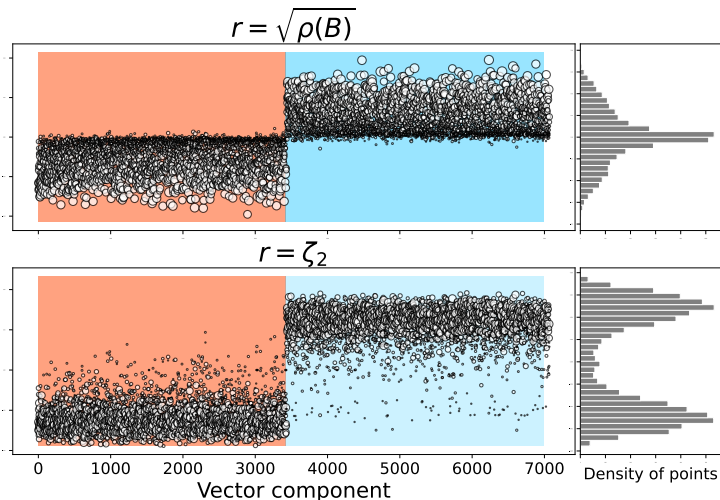
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Input: connected graph \mathcal{G} , k

For $p = 1 : k$

- $\zeta_p : \lambda_p^\uparrow(H_{\zeta_p}) = 0$

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Input: connected graph \mathcal{G} , k

For $p = 1 : k$

- $\zeta_p : \lambda_p^\uparrow(H_{\zeta_p}) = 0$
- $X_{\bullet,p} \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_p : H_{\zeta_p} \mathbf{x}_p = 0$

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Input: connected graph \mathcal{G} , k

For $p = 1 : k$

- $\zeta_p : \lambda_p^\uparrow(H_{\zeta_p}) = 0$
- $X_{\bullet,p} \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_p : H_{\zeta_p} \mathbf{x}_p = 0$

- Clustering in k -dimensions

Return: $\ell \in \{1, \dots, k\}^n$, label assignment

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Input: connected graph \mathcal{G} , $k \leftarrow \left| \{i : \lambda_i(H_{\sqrt{\rho(B)}}) < 0\} \right|$

For $p = 1 : k$

- $\zeta_p : \lambda_p^\uparrow(H_{\zeta_p}) = 0$
- $X_{\bullet,p} \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_p : H_{\zeta_p} \mathbf{x}_p = 0$

- Clustering in k -dimensions

Return: $\ell \in \{1, \dots, k\}^n$, label assignment

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Input: connected graph \mathcal{G} , $k \leftarrow \left| \{i : \lambda_i(H_{\sqrt{\rho(B)}}) < 0\} \right|$

For $p = 1 : k$

- $\zeta_p : \lambda_p^\uparrow(H_{\zeta_p}) = 0$
- $X_{\bullet,p} \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_p : H_{\zeta_p} \mathbf{x}_p = 0$
- Clustering in k -dimensions

Return: $\ell \in \{1, \dots, k\}^n$, label assignment

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CD with the optimal BH

Input: connected graph \mathcal{G} , $k \leftarrow \left| \{i : \lambda_i(H_{\sqrt{\rho(B)}}) < 0\} \right|$

For $p = 1 : k$

- $\zeta_p : \lambda_p^\uparrow(H_{\zeta_p}) = 0$
- $X_{\bullet,p} \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_p : H_{\zeta_p} \mathbf{x}_p = 0$
- Clustering in k -dimensions

Random projection
+
polynomial approximation

Return: $\ell \in \{1, \dots, k\}^n$, label assignment

Efficient estimate of ζ_p

$\zeta_p \leftarrow r : \lambda_p^\uparrow(H_r) = 0$: grid search is **inefficient**

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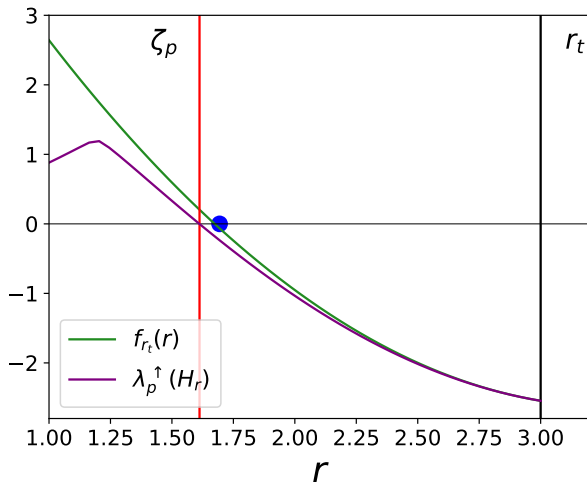
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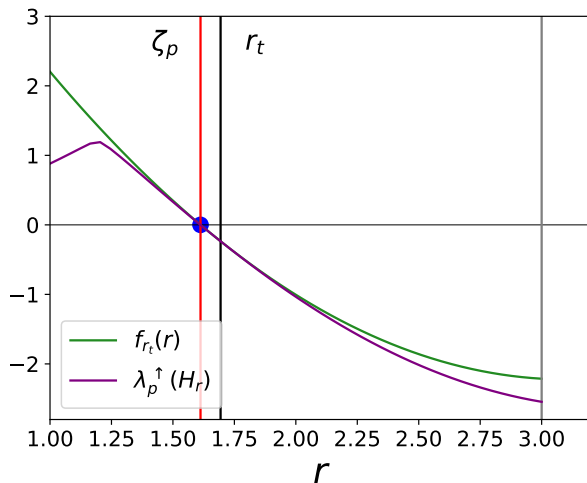
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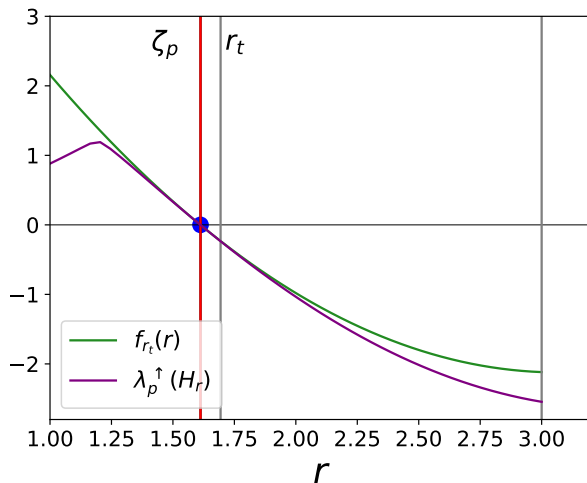
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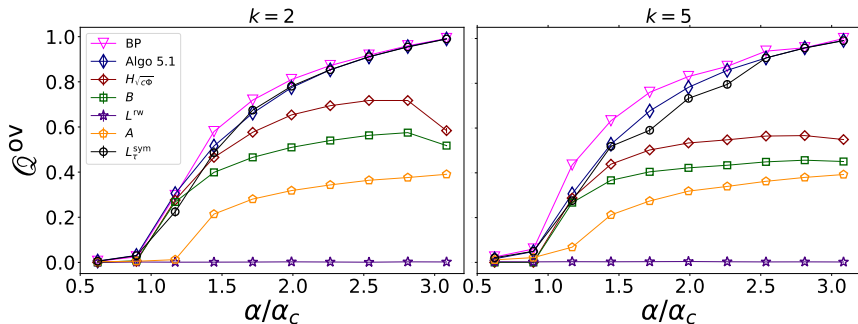


Figure: Performance vs competing methods on DCSBM synthetic graphs.
 $n = 50,000$, $c = 5$.

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Dataset	n	c	k	H_{C_p}	A	$H_{\sqrt{c\Phi}}$	B	L^{rw}	L_{τ}^{sym}
Karate	34	4.6	<u>2</u>	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.36	0.37
Dolphins	62	5	<u>2</u>	0.38	0.21	0.34	0.22	0.38	0.38
Polbooks	105	8.4	<u>3</u>	0.50	0.47	0.50	0.45	0.50	0.50
Football	115	10.7	<u>12</u>	0.60	0.60	0.60	0.60	0.60	0.60
Mail	1133	9.6	21	0.52	0.32	0.40	0.37	0.48	0.52
Polblogs	1222	27.4	<u>2</u>	0.43	0.25	0.27	0.23	0.00	0.43
Tv	3892	8.9	41	0.85	0.60	0.56	0.55	0.55	0.80
Facebook	4039	43.7	55	0.76	0.42	0.49	0.48	0.70	0.58
GrQc	4158	6.5	29	0.80	0.52	0.51	0.51	0.34	0.80
Power grid	4941	2.7	25	0.92	0.18	0.33	0.31	0.92	0.85
Politicians	5908	14.1	62	0.82	0.48	0.54	0.51	0.74	0.74
GNutella P2P	6299	6.6	4	0.40	0.20	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.35
Wikipedia	7066	28.3	22	0.27	0.14	0.18	0.16	0.34	0.27
HepPh	11204	21.0	60	0.57	0.46	0.42	0.42	0.27	0.52
Vip	11565	11.6	53	0.62	0.28	0.32	0.32	0.16	0.54

Table: Modularity (no ground truth) comparison on real networks

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- Ising Hamiltonian \rightarrow Bethe approximation \rightarrow Hessian $\rightarrow H_r$
- Ising Hamiltonian \rightarrow naïve mean field approximation \rightarrow Hessian $\rightarrow A$

Naïve mean field vs Bethe approximation

- Unsuitable for sparse graphs
- Does not reach α_c threshold on DCSBM graphs
- Does not keep heterogeneity into account

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$$H_r = (r^2 - 1)I_n + D - rA$$

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$$D - A$$

$$H_{\zeta_p}$$

$$H_{\sqrt{\rho(B)}}$$



Trivial

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Worst case

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$r = \zeta_p$ is the hardness-dependent optimal regularization

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$$L_{\tau} = D_{\tau}^{-1/2} A D_{\tau}^{-1/2}, \quad D_{\tau} = D + \tau I_n$$

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$$L_\tau = D_\tau^{-1/2} A D_\tau^{-1/2}, \quad D_\tau = D + \tau I_n$$

$$(D_{\zeta_p^2-1} - \zeta_p A) \mathbf{x}_p = 0 \implies D_{\zeta_p^2-1}^{-1} A \mathbf{x}_p = \frac{1}{\zeta_p} \mathbf{x}_p$$

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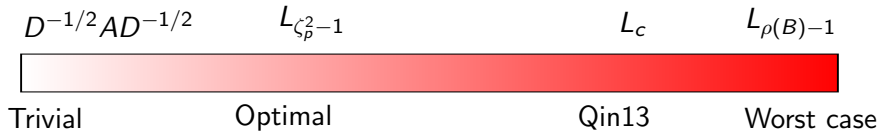
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$$L_\tau = D_\tau^{-1/2} A D_\tau^{-1/2}, \quad D_\tau = D + \tau I_n$$

$$(D_{\zeta_p^2 - 1} - \zeta_p A) \mathbf{x}_p = 0 \implies D_{\zeta_p^2 - 1}^{-1} A \mathbf{x}_p = \frac{1}{\zeta_p} \mathbf{x}_p$$



$\tau = \zeta_p^2 - 1$ is the hardness-dependent optimal regularization

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- The matrix **adapts** to the hardness

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- Between “sparse” and “dense” regimes

A simple paradigm

- The matrix **adapts** to the hardness
- The **optimal** regularization is **computed**

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- Between “sparse” and “dense” regimes

A simple paradigm

- The matrix **adapts** to the hardness
- The **optimal** regularization is **computed**

A question

How to find the “right temperature” for a given ML problem?

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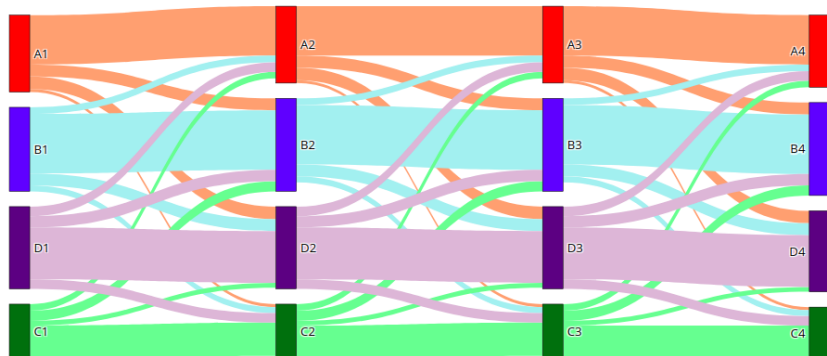
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- Consider a sequence of graphs $\{\mathcal{G}_t\}_{t=1,\dots,T}$

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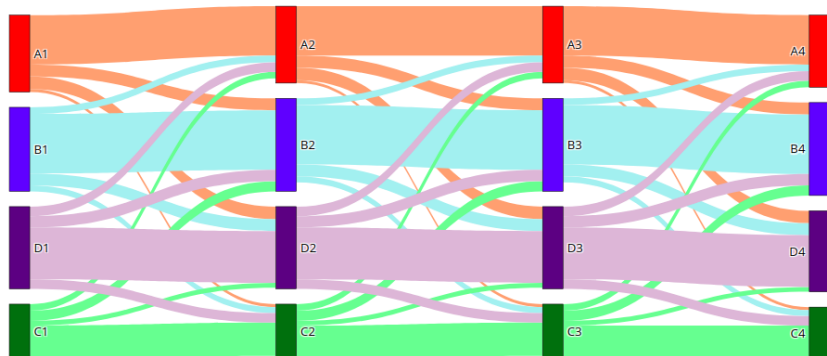
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- Consider a sequence of graphs $\{\mathcal{G}_t\}_{t=1,\dots,T}$
- Suppose the labels are correlated across time $\mathbb{P}(\ell_i^{(t)} = \ell_i^{(t+1)}) = \eta$

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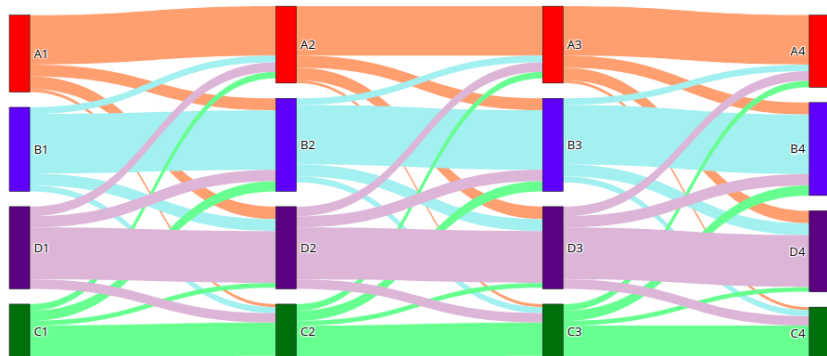
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- Consider a sequence of graphs $\{\mathcal{G}_t\}_{t=1,\dots,T}$
- Suppose the labels are correlated across time $\mathbb{P}(\ell_i^{(t)} = \ell_i^{(t+1)}) = \eta$
- Infer the labels as a function of t , exploiting their time correlation

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A “dynamical” Hamiltonian

$$\mathcal{H}(\mathbf{s}) = - \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{(i_t, j_t) \in \mathcal{V}_t} \text{ath}(\xi) s_{i_t} s_{j_t} - \sum_{t=1}^{T-1} \sum_{i_t \in \mathcal{V}_t} \text{ath}(h) s_{i_t} s_{i_{t+1}}$$

Same t $t \leftrightarrow t+1$

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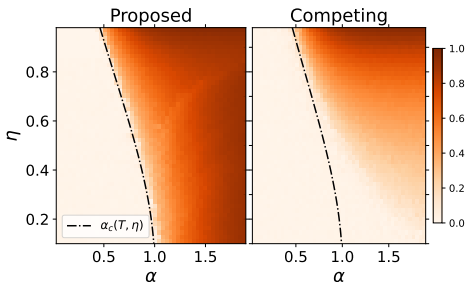
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A “dynamical” Hamiltonian

$$\mathcal{H}(\mathbf{s}) = - \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{(i_t, j_t) \in \mathcal{V}_t} \text{ath}(\xi) s_{i_t} s_{j_t} - \sum_{t=1}^{T-1} \sum_{i_t \in \mathcal{V}_t} \text{ath}(h) s_{i_t} s_{i_{t+1}}$$

Same t $t \iff t+1$

... and a dynamical Bethe-Hessian for SC



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Erdős-Rényi random graph \mathcal{G} , $\forall (ij) \in \mathcal{E}$, $\omega_{ij} \sim P_0(|\omega_{ij}|)e^{\beta_N \omega_{ij}}$

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$$\hat{\beta}_N = \max_{\beta} \{ \beta : \lambda_1^\uparrow(H_\beta) = 0 \}$$
$$\hat{\beta}_N = \beta_N + o_n(1)$$

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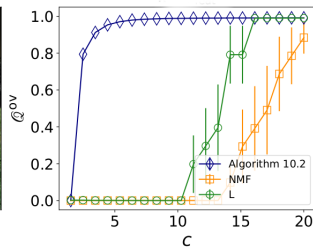
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$$\hat{\beta}_N = \max_{\beta} \{ \beta : \lambda_1^\uparrow(H_\beta) = 0 \}$$
$$\hat{\beta}_N = \beta_N + o_n(1)$$



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Journal papers

- **LD**, Romain Couillet Nicolas Tremblay: *Nishimori meets Bethe: a spectral method for node classification in sparse weighted graphs*, in Journal of statistical mechanics
- **LD**, Romain Couillet, Nicolas Tremblay: *A unified framework for spectral clustering in sparse graphs*, in JMLR

Conference papers

- **LD**, Romain Couillet Nicolas Tremblay: *Community detection in sparse time-evolving graphs with a dynamical Bethe-Hessian*, in NeurIPS 2020
- **LD**, Romain Couillet, Nicolas Tremblay: *Optimal Laplacian regularization for sparse spectral community detection*, in ICASSP 2020
- **LD**, Romain Couillet, Nicolas Tremblay: *Classification spectrale par la laplacienne déformée dans des graphes réalistes*, in GRETSI 2019
- **LD**, Romain Couillet, Nicolas Tremblay: *Revisiting the Bethe-Hessian: improved community detection in sparse heterogeneous graphs*, in NeurIPS 2019
- **LD**, Romain Couillet: *Community Detection in Sparse Realistic Graphs: Improving the Bethe Hessian*, in ICASSP 2019