

Optimal Laplacian regularization for sparse spectral community detection

ICASSP 2020

Lorenzo Dall'Amico

Romain Couillet, Nicolas Tremblay

Laboratoire Gipsa-lab, UMR 5216, CNRS, UGA
11 rue des mathématiques 38420 Grenoble, France
lorenzo.dall-amico@gipsa-lab.fr

April 15, 2020



Community detection

Problem position

Spectral clustering

The generative model

A unified framework

The non-backtracking matrix

The Bethe-Hessian matrix

The classical Laplacians

Conclusion



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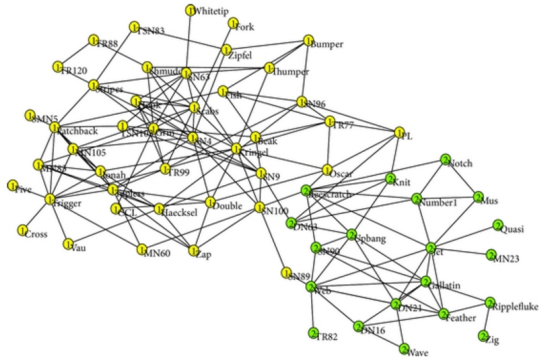


Figure: A representation of the *dolphin* network (Lusseau 2003)

More formally

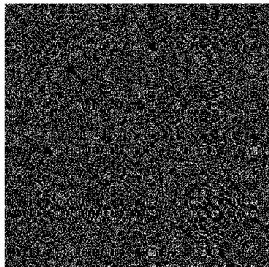
Given a graph $\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$ with $|\mathcal{V}| = n$ nodes and k communities, assign to each node the correct class label.



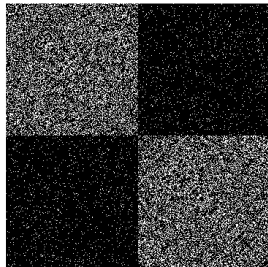
More formally

Given a graph $\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$ with $|\mathcal{V}| = n$ nodes and k communities, assign to each node the correct class label.

The problem



The solution



A representation of the adjacency matrix $A_{ij} = 0$ (black) if i, j are not connected and $A_{ij} = 1$ (white) if they are connected

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Spectral clustering

Node embedding to low dimensional space

Spectral clustering

Node embedding to low dimensional space \rightarrow *k-means*



Spectral clustering

Node embedding to low dimensional space \rightarrow *k-means*

$$D = \text{diag}(A\mathbf{1})$$



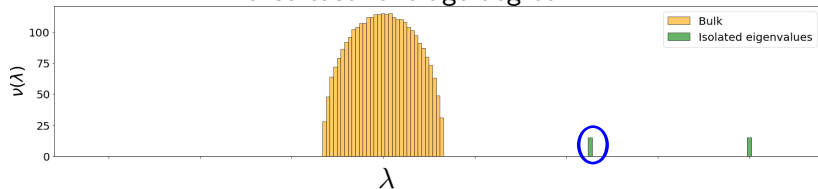
Spectral clustering

Node embedding to low dimensional space \rightarrow *k-means*

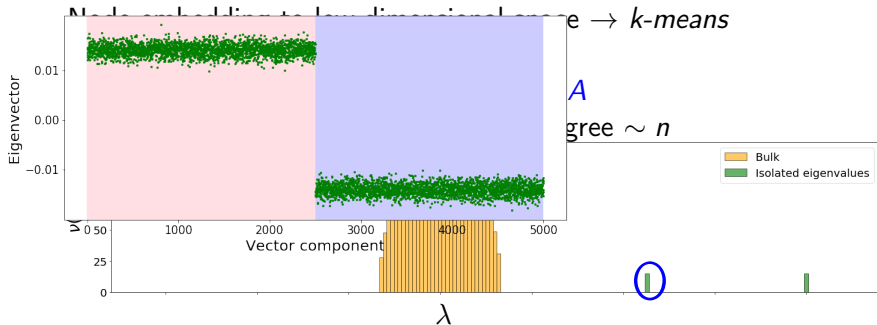
$$D = \text{diag}(A\mathbf{1})$$

Spectrum of $D^{-1}A$

Dense case: average degree $\sim n$



Spectral clustering



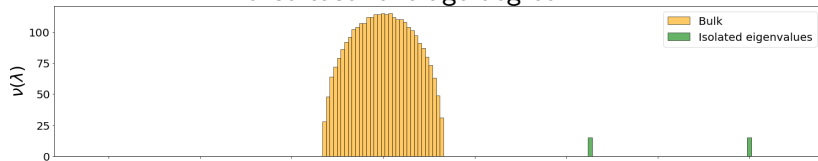
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Node embedding to low dimensional space \rightarrow *k-means*

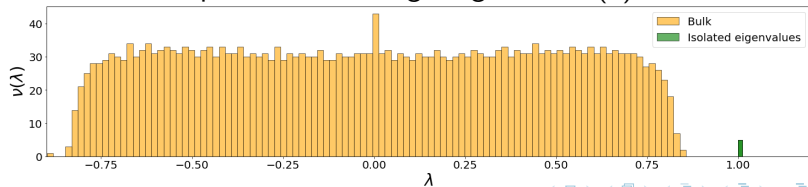
$$D = \text{diag}(A\mathbf{1})$$

Spectrum of $D^{-1}A$

Dense case: average degree $\sim n$



Sparse case: average degree = $O_n(1)$



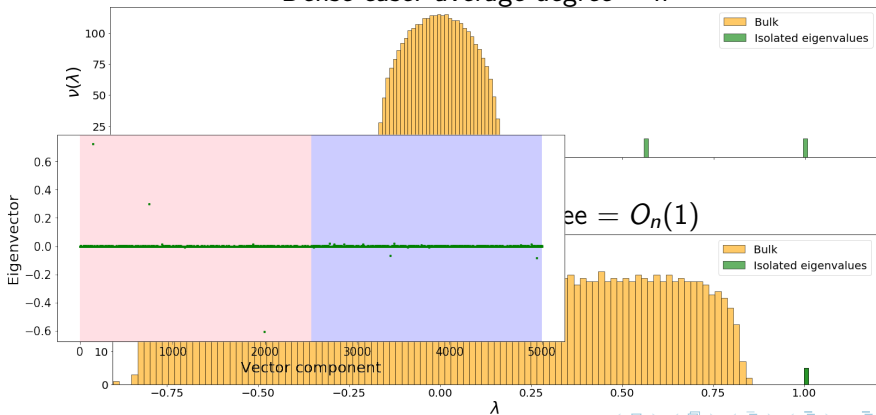
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The degree corrected stochastic block model (DC-SBM)

Dealing with sparsity and heterogeneous degree distributions



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- ▶ n : number of nodes



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The degree corrected stochastic block model (DC-SBM)

Dealing with sparsity and heterogeneous degree distributions

- ▶ n : number of nodes
- ▶ $k = 2$: number of communities
- ▶ $\sigma_i \in \{-1, 1\}$: label of node i
- ▶ $C = \begin{pmatrix} c_{\text{in}} & c_{\text{out}} \\ c_{\text{out}} & c_{\text{in}} \end{pmatrix}$: class affinity matrix



The degree corrected stochastic block model (DC-SBM)

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Degree-corrected stochastic block model

$$\mathbb{P}(A_{ij} = 1 | \theta_i, \theta_j, \sigma_i, \sigma_j) = \theta_i \theta_j \frac{C_{\sigma_i, \sigma_j}}{n}$$



Theoretical bounds

Define

- ▶ $c = \frac{c_{in} + c_{out}}{2}$, expected average degree
- ▶ $\Phi = \sum_i \theta_i^2$



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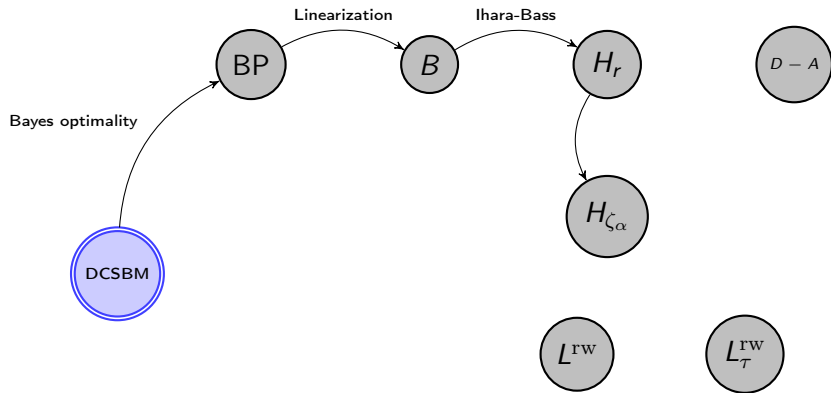
Detectability threshold

$$\text{Non-trivial reconstruction iff}^1 \alpha = \frac{c_{in} - c_{out}}{\sqrt{c}} > \frac{2}{\sqrt{\Phi}}.$$

¹Gulikers *et.al.*, An impossibility result for reconstruction in the degree-corrected stochastic block model



State of the art



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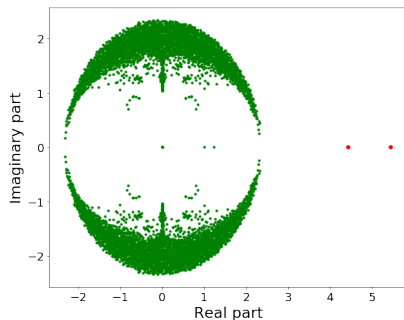
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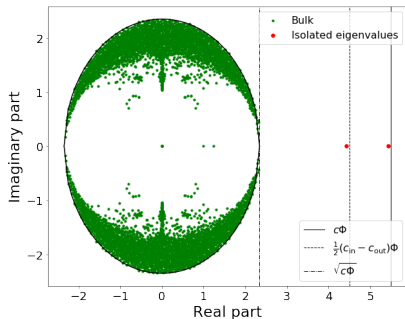
The non-backtracking matrix

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



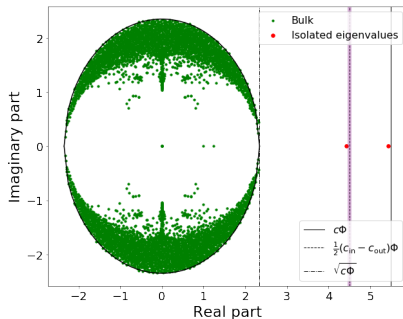
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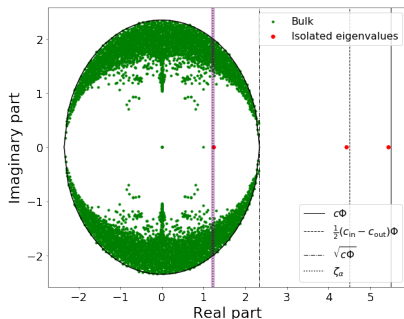
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Linearization of BP

$$B\delta = \zeta_\alpha \delta \quad (1)$$

$$\zeta_\alpha = \frac{c_{\text{in}} + c_{\text{out}}}{c_{\text{in}} - c_{\text{out}}} = \frac{2\sqrt{c}}{\alpha} \quad (2)$$



To recap

✓ Detects communities down to the threshold



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- ✓ An informative eigenvalue *inside* the bulk of B



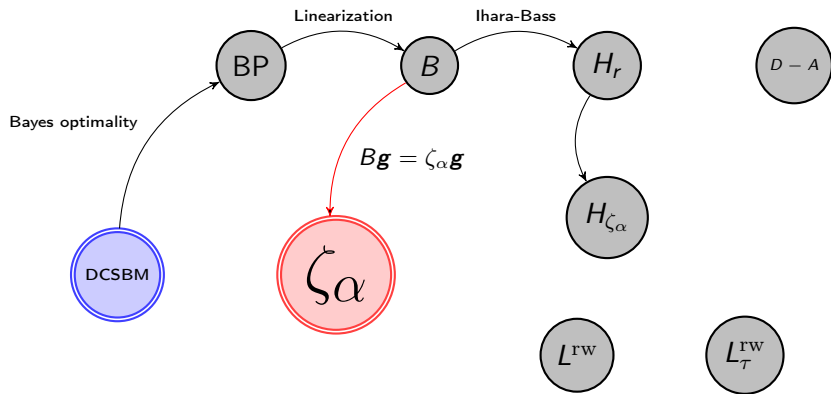
To recap

- ✓ Detects communities down to the threshold
- ✓ An informative eigenvalue *inside* the bulk of B

Introduces the parameter ζ_α



A unified framework



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The Bethe-Hessian matrix

Ihara-Bass formula

$$B\mathbf{g} = \zeta_\alpha \mathbf{g}$$

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



The Bethe-Hessian matrix

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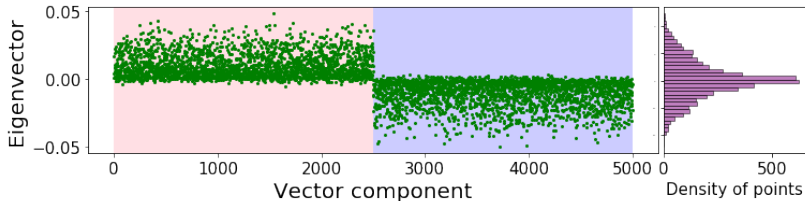
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⏟
Bethe-Hessian H_{ζ_α}

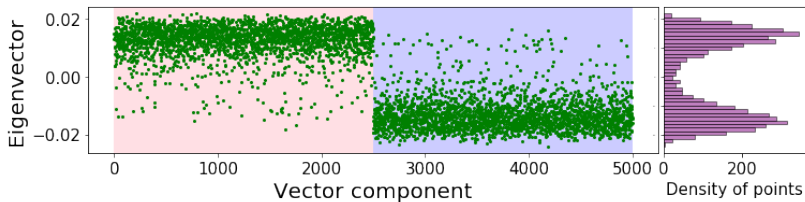
We showed, for all D

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}] = \boldsymbol{\sigma}$$

Initially proposed value⁶ $r = \sqrt{c\Phi}$



Optimal value $r = \zeta_\alpha = \frac{c_{in} + c_{out}}{c_{in} - c_{out}}$



⁶Saade (2014) *Spectral clustering of graphs with the Bethe Hessian*



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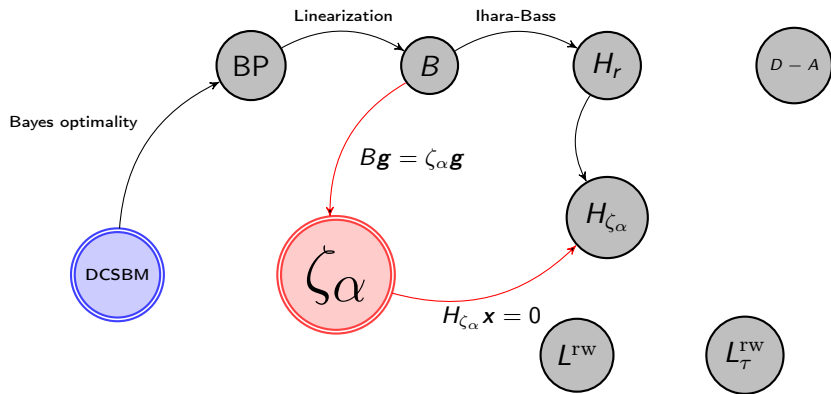
To recap

$$H_{\zeta\alpha}$$

- ✓ The second smallest eigenvalue is zero and is informative
- ✓ Detects communities down to the threshold
- ✓ The eigenvector is resilient to the degree distribution



A unified framework



Regularized Laplacian matrix

$$L_{\tau} = D_{\tau}^{-1/2} A D_{\tau}^{-1/2}$$

$$L_{\tau}^{\text{rw}} = D_{\tau}^{-1} A$$

Where $D_{\tau} = D + \tau I_n$.

¹Qin (2013) *Regularized spectral clustering under the degree-corrected stochastic blockmodel*



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From H_{ζ_α} to L_τ

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

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So

$$\tau = \zeta_\alpha^2 - 1 \leq c\Phi - 1 \approx c$$

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$$L_{\zeta_{\alpha}^2-1}^{\text{rw}}$$

✓ Explains why $\tau = c$ is a good choice, in practice

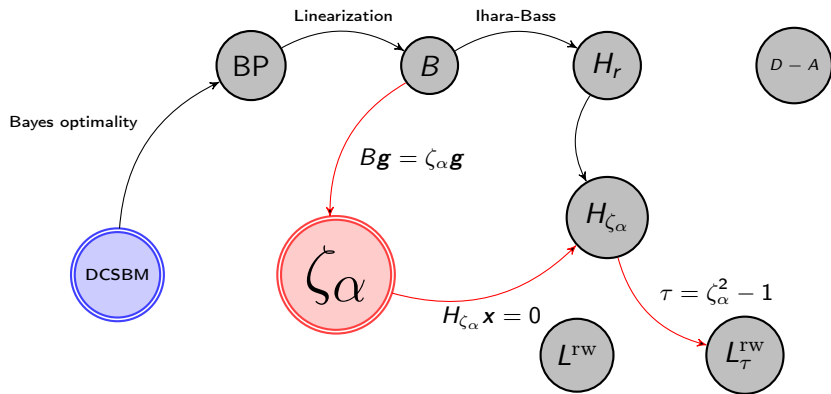


$$L_{\zeta_\alpha^2 - 1}^{\text{rw}}$$

- ✓ Explains why $\tau = c$ is a good choice, in practice
- ✓ $\tau = \zeta_\alpha^2 - 1$: minimal regularization for detection down to the threshold



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For easy detection problems: $\zeta_\alpha \rightarrow 1$



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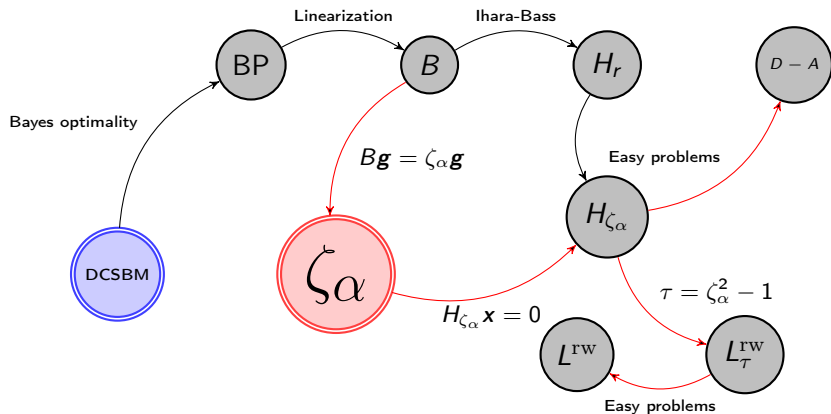
For easy detection problems: $\zeta_\alpha \rightarrow 1$

$$[(\zeta_\alpha^2 - 1)I_n + D - \zeta_\alpha A] \rightarrow D - A$$

$$[D + (\zeta_\alpha^2 - 1)I_n]^{-1}A \rightarrow D^{-1}A$$



A unified framework



Performance on real networks

Dataset	n	c	Φ	k	Alg	$H_{\sqrt{c\Phi}}$	B	L^{rw}	L_{τ}^{sym}
Karate	34	4.6	1.7	<u>2</u>	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.37
Dolphins	62	5	1.3	<u>2</u>	0.38	0.34	0.22	0.38	0.38
Polbooks	105	8.4	1.4	<u>3</u>	0.50	0.50	0.45	0.50	0.50
Football	115	10.7	1	<u>12</u>	0.60	0.60	0.60	0.60	0.60
Mail	1133	9.6	1.9	21	0.50	0.40	0.37	0.48	0.50
Polblogs	1222	27.4	3	<u>2</u>	0.43	0.27	0.23	0.00	0.43
Tv	3892	8.9	3	41	0.85	0.56	0.55	0.55	0.78
Facebook	4039	43.7	2.4	55	0.79	0.49	0.48	0.70	0.58
GrQc	4158	6.5	2.8	29	0.80	0.51	0.51	0.33	0.79
Power grid	4941	2.7	1.5	25	0.92	0.33	0.31	0.92	0.85
Politicians	5908	14.1	3	62	0.85	0.54	0.51	0.74	0.74
GNutella P2P	6299	6.6	2.7	4	0.40	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.35
Wikipedia	7066	28.3	5.1	22	0.27	0.18	0.16	0.34	0.27
HepPh	11204	21.0	6.2	60	0.57	0.42	0.42	0.27	0.52
Vip	11565	11.6	4.4	53	0.65	0.32	0.32	0.16	0.54



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Contributions

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Future perspectives

- ✓ More structured graphs (time-evolving, multi-modal...)



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- ✓ Best performing algorithm

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- ✓ More structured graphs (time-evolving, multi-modal...)
- ✓ Is hardness-dependent regularization more general? (SSL kernel methods, weighted graphs...)



Main references (Dall'Amico, Couillet, Tremblay)

- ▶ *Optimal Laplacian regularization for sparse spectral community detection*, ICASSP 2020
- ▶ *A unified framework for spectral clustering in sparse graphs*, arXiv:2003.09198
- ▶ *Revisiting the Bethe-Hessian: improved community detection in sparse heterogeneous graphs*, NeurIPS 2019.



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