

CS 596: Theoretical Machine Learning

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Lecture 14
November 03, 2016

1 Recap

In the previous lecture we studied spectral clustering in the context of stochastic block models. Specifically, let

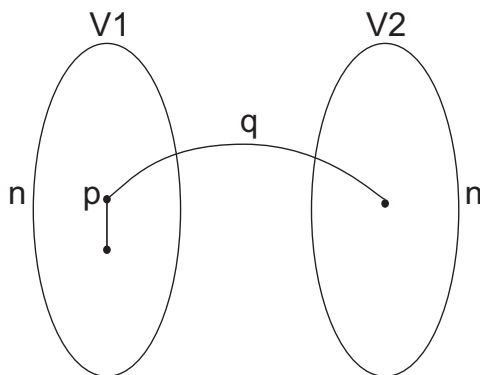
- A = adjacency matrix of G .
- v_2 = second singular vector
- $S_1 = \{i : v_2(i) > 0\}, S_2 = \{i : v_2(i) < 0\}$

Theorem 1. If $p - q > c\sqrt{\frac{p \log n}{n}}$ then w.p.¹ $\geq 1 - \frac{1}{n^3}$ we have,

$$(S_1 \Delta V_1) + (S_2 \Delta V_2) \leq \frac{n}{\log n}$$

2 Sparse Setting

In this lecture, first we will study the sparse setting,



which $p = \frac{a}{n}, q = \frac{b}{n}$ where a, b are constants.

Q: Does spectral clustering work in the above setting?

A: Yes, it works with a modification

Let's first see why plain spectral clustering might fail. We have that the *ideal* matrix $E[A]$ has singular values $n(p + q), n(p - q), 0, \dots, 0$. The matrix that we see is $A = E[A] + R$. From the previous lecture, we would want that w.h.p.² $\sigma_1(R) \leq \sqrt{np}$. If this were true then we can argue that the singular values of A are close to those of $E[A]$

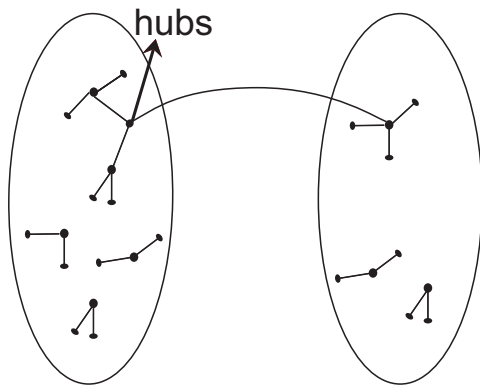
¹w.p. = with probability

²w.h.p. = with high probability

and hence the singular vectors will also be close. Unfortunately, the required bound on $\sigma_1(R)$ is not true for sparse graphs.

$$E[A] \rightarrow n(p+q), n(p-q) \begin{cases} p = \frac{a}{n} \\ q = \frac{b}{n} \end{cases} \rightarrow a+b, a-b$$

Sparse graphs look like this,



in which $E[\text{deg of vertex}] = a+b$. What we can show is that, \exists hubs of $\text{deg} \geq \Omega(\frac{\log n}{\log \log n})$

$$\text{Adjacency matrix } \mathbf{A} = \begin{matrix} & & \text{hubs} & & \\ \begin{bmatrix} \dots & 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots \\ \dots & 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots \\ \dots & 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots \\ \dots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \dots \end{bmatrix} & & & & \end{matrix} \quad (1)$$

Because of the presence of high degree vertices, $\sigma_1(A)$ will be quite large.

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_1(A) &= \max_{\|x\|=1} \|Ax\| \\ &\geq \frac{\log n}{\log \log n} \end{aligned}$$

3 Regularized Spectral Clustering

We want to get rid of the points that are highly connected,

- A = adjacency matrix of G .
- remove all vertexes of $\text{deg} > 4(a+b)$
- let A' be new matrix
- run spectral clustering on A'

Theorem 2. *If $(a-b) > \frac{c}{\epsilon^2} \sqrt{a}$ then w.p $\geq 1 - \frac{1}{n^3}$, regularized spectral clustering outputs S_1, S_2 such that,*

$$(S_1 \Delta V_1) + (S_2 \Delta V_2) \leq \epsilon n$$

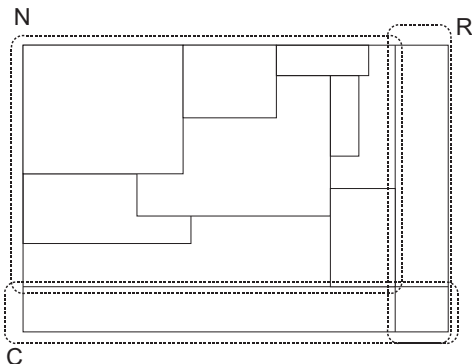
Proof. The proof is exactly the same as the last lecture as long as we can claim that $\sigma_1(A' - E[A]) \leq c\sqrt{a+b}$. This is formalized in the lemma below. \square

Lemma 1. Let $A_{n \times n}$ be a random matrix with $A_{ij} \in \{0,1\}$. $E[A_{ij}] = p_{ij}$, let $d = n \max_{i,j} p_{ij}$ w.p $\geq 1 - \frac{1}{n^3}$, the following holds. Choose any set $10n/d$ rows/columns of A and reduce their weights. Let k' be the resulting matrix then $\|A' - E[A]\| \leq O(\sqrt{d} + \sqrt{d'})$ where d' is the new maximum degree of the graph.

4 Decomposition Theorem

The proof of the lemma will rely on the following decomposition theorem.

Theorem 3. Let A be a random matrix such that $A_{ij} \in \{0,1\}$. $E[A_{ij}] = p_{ij}$ and $d = n \cdot \max_{i,j} p_{ij}$. Then w.p $\geq 1 - \frac{1}{n^3}$, A can be decomposed into N, R, C



- $\|(A - E[A])_N\| \leq O(\sqrt{d})$
- each row of R has ≤ 64 1's and R intersects $\leq \frac{n}{d}$ columns
- each column of C has ≤ 64 1's and C intersects $\leq \frac{n}{d}$ rows

Next, we will use the decomposition theorem to prove the lemma above. We will often use the following standard fact about matrices

Lemma 2. Let A be a matrix such that the ℓ_1 norm of each row is bounded by a and the ℓ_1 norm of each column is bounded by b . Then $\|A\| \leq \sqrt{ab}$.

5 Proof of Lemma 1

Proof. Let I be the indices of the rows modified and I' be the indices of the columns modified. Define the bad region E to be a union of disjoint sets E_1 and E_2 , where $E_1 = I \times [n]$ and $E_2 = [n \setminus I] \times I'$.

$$\|A' - E[A]\| \leq \|(A' - E[A])_N\| + \|(A' - E[A])_R\| + \|(A' - E[A])_C\|$$

Let's first bound the first term on the right hand side. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \|(A' - E[A])_N\| &\leq \|(A - A')_N\| + \|(A - E[A])_N\| \\ &\leq \|(A - A')_N\| + O(\sqrt{d}) \text{ (by decomposition theorem)} \end{aligned}$$

Next we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|(A - A')_N\| &= \|(A - A')_{N \cap E}\| \text{ (} A \text{ and } A' \text{ are the same outside } E\text{)} \\ &\leq \|A_{N \cap E}\| \text{ (} A \text{ dominates } A - A' \text{ entrywise)} \\ &\leq \|(A - E[A])_{N \cap E}\| + \|E[A]_{N \cap E}\| \\ &\leq \|(A - E[A])_{N \cap E_1}\| + \|(A - E[A])_{N \cap E_2}\| + \|E[A]_{N \cap E}\| \\ &\leq 2\|(A - E[A])_N\| + \|E[A]_{N \cap E}\| \text{ (restricting onto a product decreases spectral norm)} \end{aligned}$$

For the final term we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|E[A]_{N \cap E}\| &\leq \|E[A]_{N \cap E_1}\| + \|E[A]_{N \cap E_2}\| \\ &\leq O(\sqrt{d}) + O(\sqrt{d}) \text{ (Using Lemma 2)} \end{aligned}$$

Now let's bound Term 2, i.e. $\|(A' - E[A])_R\|$. Term 3 can be bounded similarly. We have

$$\|(A' - E[A])_R\| \leq \|A'_R\| + \|E[A]_R\| \leq O(\sqrt{d'}) + O(\sqrt{d}) \text{ (Using Lemma 2)}$$

we use the same procedure for term 3. □

In the next class we will prove the decomposition theorem.

6 Additional Reading

- A paper by Le et al. containing the decomposition theorem. <https://arxiv.org/abs/1506.00669>.