

Community Detection in Sparse Networks by the Symmetrized Laplacian Inverse Matrix (SLIM)

Xianshi Yu

the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Joint work with Bing-Yi Jing, Ting Li & Ningchen Ying

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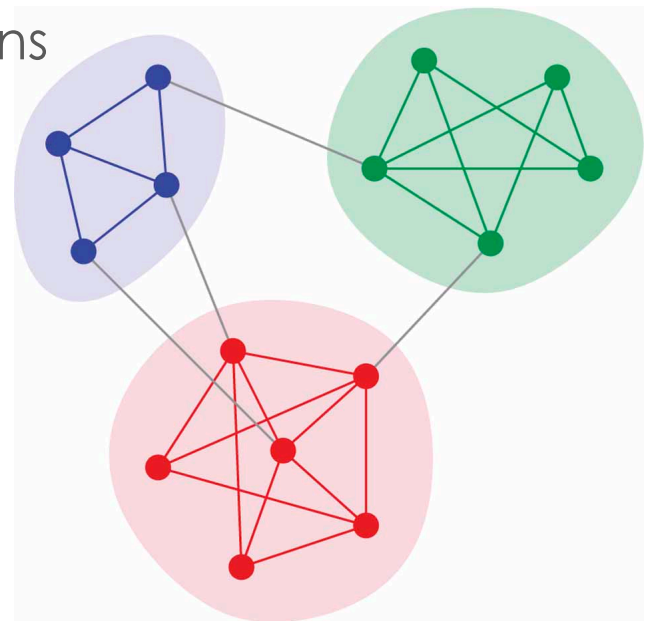
Outline

- ◆ Network community detection
- ◆ Community detection in **sparse** networks
- ◆ SLIM method
- ◆ Empirical performance of the SLIM method
- ◆ Comparison between the SLIM method & other spectral methods
- ◆ Theoretical result

Network Community Detection

Motivations

- ▣ Parallel Computation
- ▣ Detect functional modules of proteins
- ▣ Find friend circles



Methods

■ Algorithm-based methods

- Maximize Modularity

e.g. Newman and Girvan, 2004

- Search and combine cliques

e.g. Palla et al., 2005

Methods

■ Model-based methods

- MLE

e.g. Clauset et al., 2008; Airoldi, 2009; Karrer and Newman, 2011

- Spectral methods for Stochastic Block Model

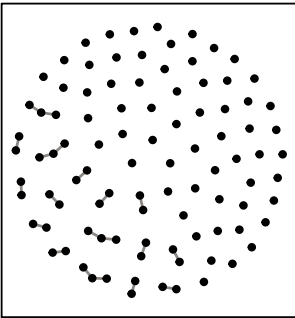
Rohe et al., 2011; Jin, 2015; Zhang et al., 2015

Community Detection in **Sparse** Networks

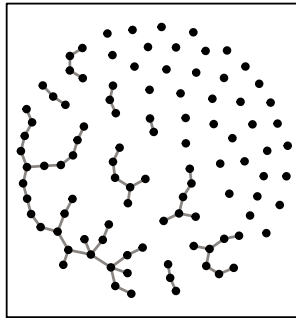
Community Detection in Sparse Networks

Networks with Different Edge Densities

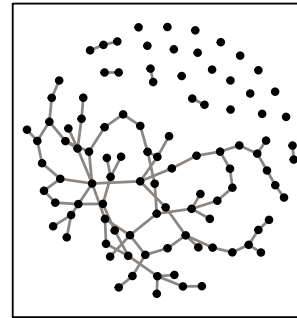
$E(d) = 0.5$



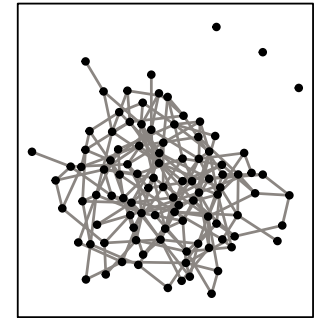
$E(d) = 1$



$E(d) = 2$



$E(d) = 4$



ER Random Graphs, $n=100$

Three Scenarios

① $E(\text{degree}) = \Omega(\log n)$

② $E(\text{degree}) = \infty$

③ $E(\text{degree}) = O(1)$

2. and 3. are commonly seen but understudied

Pioneer Works

- Krzakala et al. 2013; Newman 2013

Consider the network of edges, non-backtracking

- Amini et al. 2013; Joseph and Yu 2013; Gao et al. 2015

Normalized Spectral Clustering with Regularization

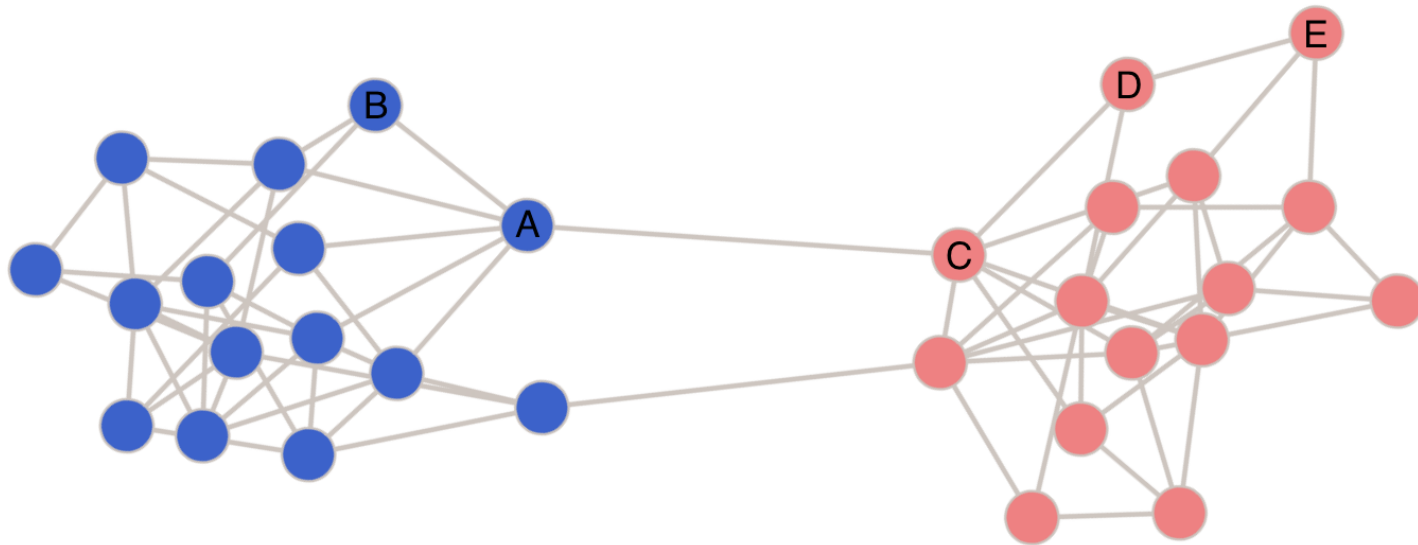
- Bhattacharyya and Bickel 2014; Bhattacharyya and Bickel 2015

Graph distance based (GDB), multi-dimensional scaling

SLIM (Symmetrized Laplacian Inverse Matrix) Method

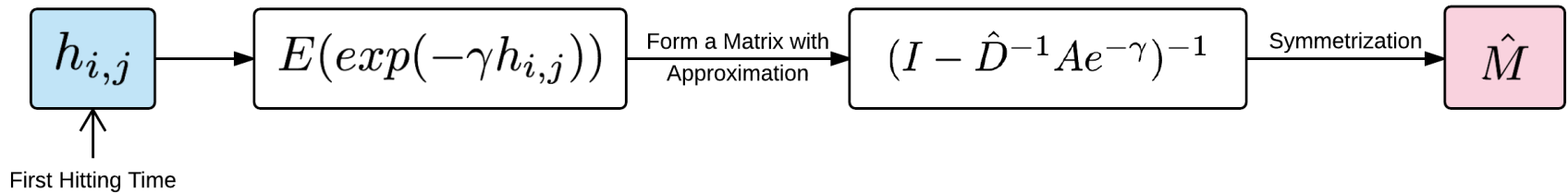
SLIM Method

Consider First Hitting Time



SLIM Method

Symmetrized Laplacian Inverse Matrix



□ Laplacian Inverse Matrix

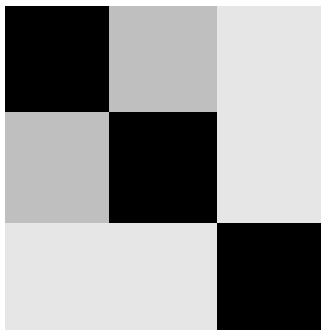
$$W = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \exp(-\gamma k) (D^{-1} A)^k = (I - D^{-1} A e^{-\gamma})^{-1}$$

□ Symmetrized Laplacian Inverse Matrix (SLIM)

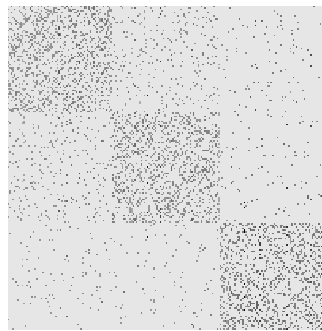
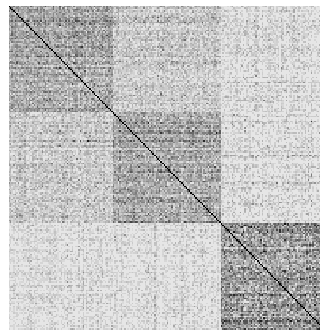
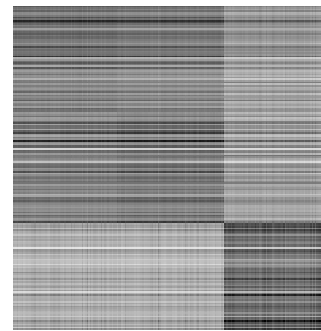
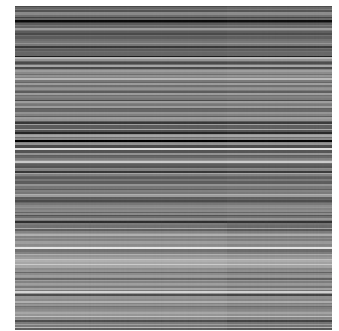
$$M = \frac{W + W^T}{2}$$

Alternative Explanation of SLIM

- $W = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \exp(-\gamma k)(D^{-1}A)^k$ is a weighted summation of different scales of representations of network structure
- $W_m = \sum_{k=0}^m \exp(-\gamma k)(D^{-1}A)^k$ is reasonable approximation of W



E(A)

 $(D^{-1}A)^1$  $(D^{-1}A)^2$  $(D^{-1}A)^8$  $(D^{-1}A)^{20}$

SLIM Method

Apply Classical Spectral Method to M

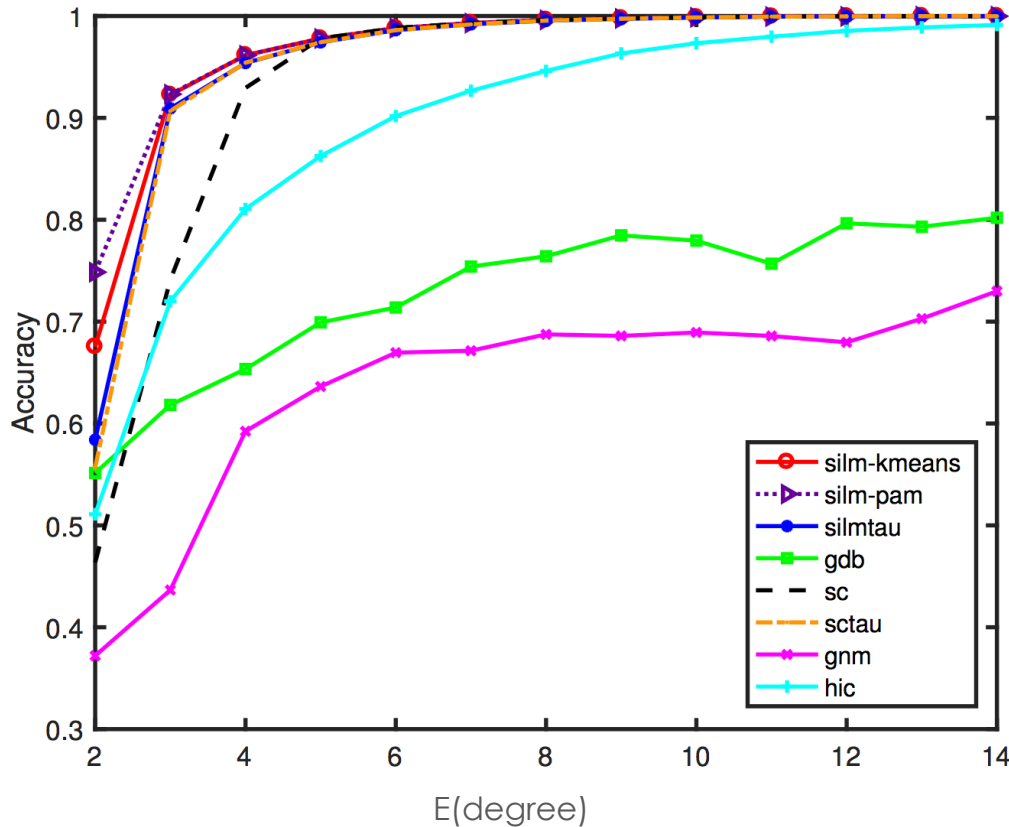
Algorithm

- Compute M (M_m)
- Perform Spectral decomposition to M
- View first k eigenvectors as locations of nodes
- Clustering (e.g. k-means)

Empirical Performance of the SLIM Method

Empirical Performance of the SLIM Method

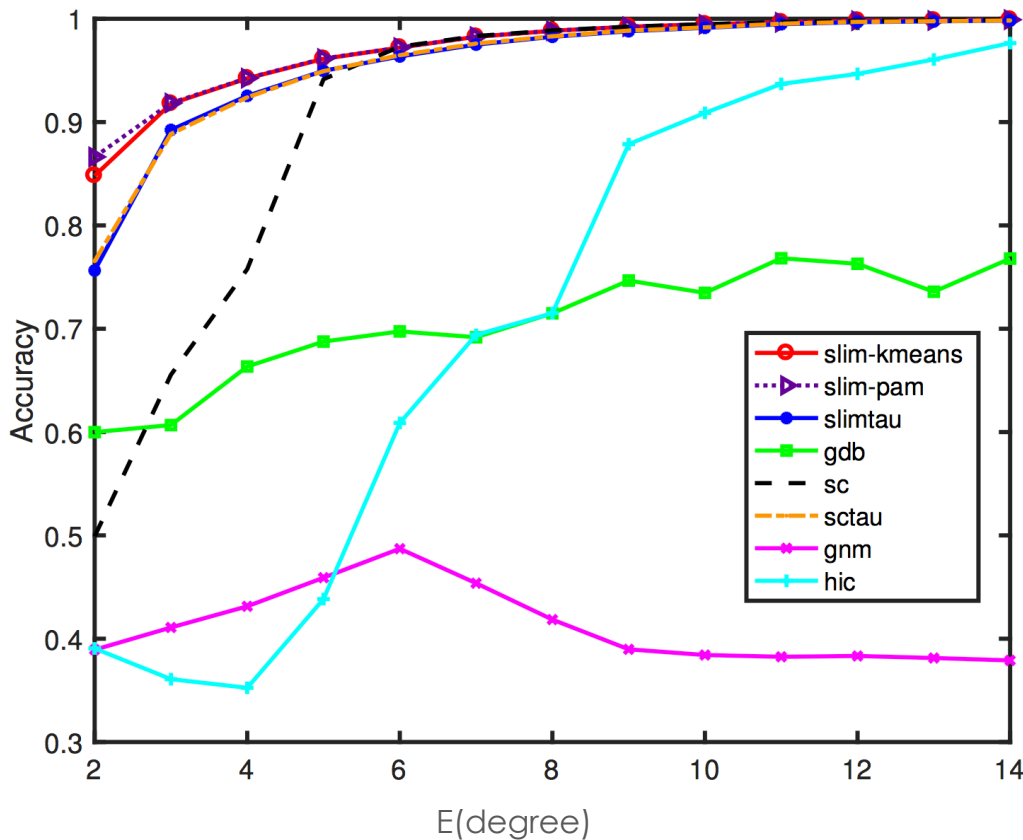
Simulation under SBM



N=1200
3 communities
 $\Pi=(0.33,0.33,0.33)$

Empirical Performance of the SLIM Method

Simulation under DCSBM



N=1200

3 communities

$\Pi=(0.33,0.33,0.33)$

10% nodes are hubs

Empirical Performance of the SLIM Method

Simulation under DCSBM

Replicate Experiment 2 in [Jin, J. \(2015\)](#) (a paper addressing Degree Corrected SBM specifically which proposed SCORE)

| Method | SC | NSC | NGM | SCORE | SLIM |
|--------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Mean (SD) | 0.378 (0.041) | 0.165 (0.084) | 0.355 (0.01) | 0.070 (0.004) | 0.0619 (0.009) |

Mean & SD of **error rate**

Empirical Performance of the SLIM Method

Real Data Analysis

Politic Blogs with Hyperlinks

- Each has been manually labeled to be Conservative or Liberal
- Sparse and inhomogeneous in degree

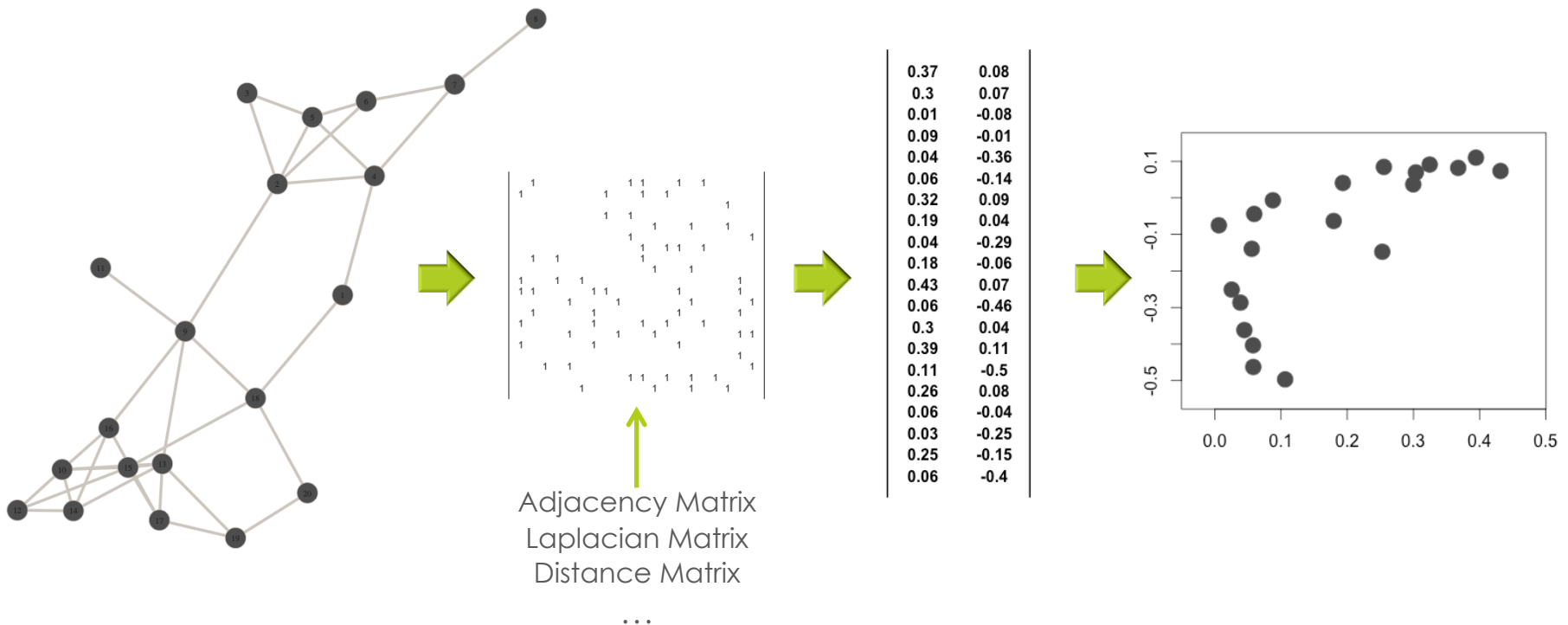
error rate of the SLIM method is **50/1222**

The best performance know is 55/1222 (SCORE)

Comparison Between the SLIM Method & Other Spectral Methods

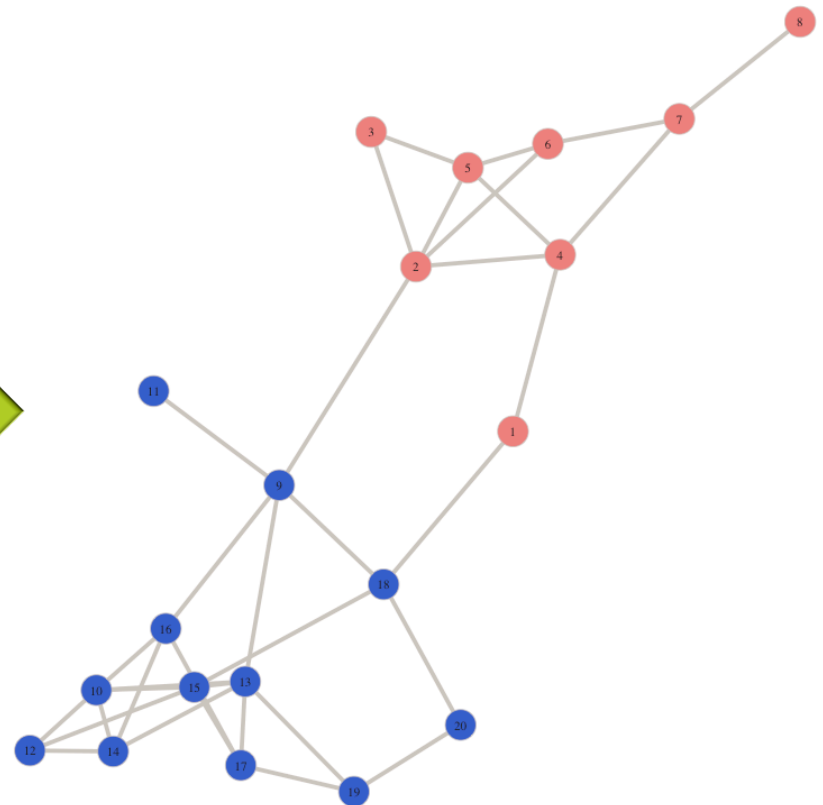
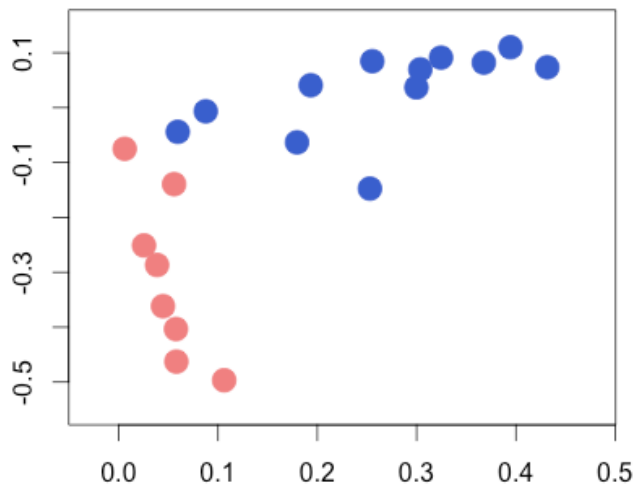
Comparison Between the SLIM Method & Other Spectral Methods

Illustration of Spectral Method



Comparison Between the SLIM Method & Other Spectral Methods

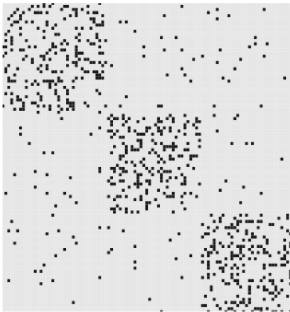
Illustration of Spectral Method



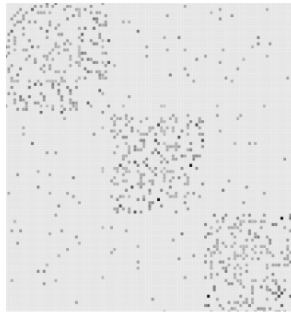
Compare Matrices

- Under Stochastic Block Model (SBM), in expectation, the matrices to be decomposed are BLOCK MATRICES

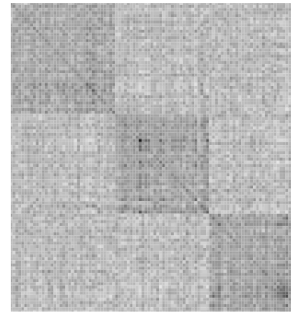
Adjacency Matrix



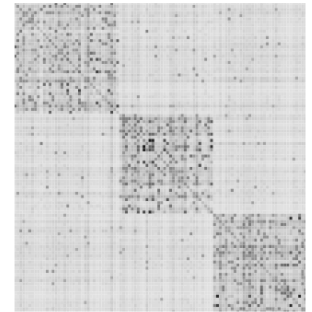
Normalized Laplacian Matrix



Graph Distance Matrix



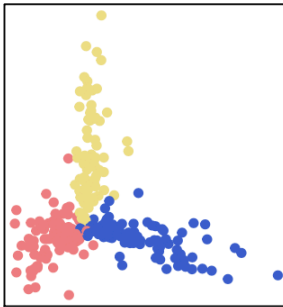
SLIM



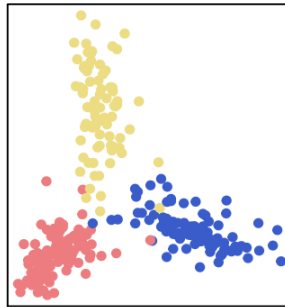
Comparison Between the SLIM Method & Other Spectral Methods

Compare Eigenvectors

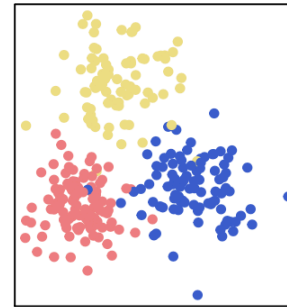
Adjacency Matrix



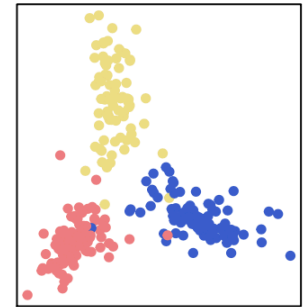
Normalized Laplacian Matrix



Graph Distance Matrix



SLIM



Theoretical Result

Theoretical Result

Consistency in Sparse Scenario

Accuracy $\xrightarrow{P} 1$ if $d \rightarrow \infty$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, under certain conditions

- Consistency of the SLIM method is proven for dense networks
- Consistency of “SLIM with regularization” is proven for sparse networks
- Here the “regularization” is to deal with nodes with with very large or small degrees

Summary

Motivation

- First hitting time describes the closeness between nodes
- The exponential transformation emphasizes local similarities
- SLIM is never sparse

Performance

- Spectral method is more computationally scalable than MLE methods
- Empirical study show that the SLIM method works well especially for sparse networks and networks with inhomogeneous degrees

Reference

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- ❑ Bhattacharyya, S. and Bickel, P. J. (2014). Community detection in networks using graph distance. arXiv preprint arXiv:1401.3915.
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- ❑ Clauset, A., Moore, C. and Newman, M. E. (2008). Hierarchical structure and the prediction of missing links in networks. *Nature*, 453(7191), 98-101.
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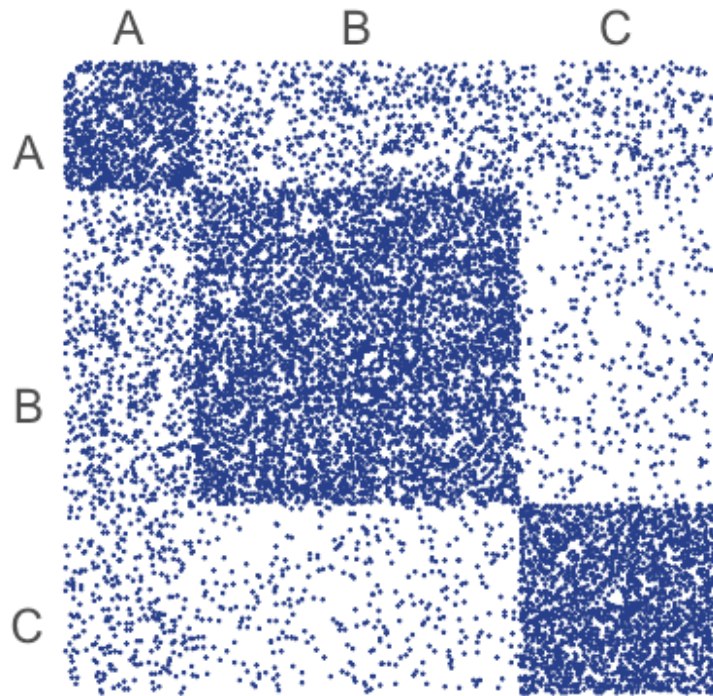
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- Zhang, Y., Levina, E. and Zhu, J. (2014). Detecting overlapping communities in networks with spectral methods. arXiv preprint arXiv:1412.3432.

Appendix

Appendix

Stochastic Block Model (SBM)



- n nodes and K groups
- $g(i) \in \{1, \dots, K\}$ indicates the group assignment
- Node i and j connects with probability $P(g(i), g(j))$, where P is a $K \times K$ matrix

Appendix

Stochastic Block Model (SBM)

Example: 5 nodes and 2 groups

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} 0.8 & 0.8 & 0.8 & 0.2 & 0.2 \\ 0.8 & 0.8 & 0.8 & 0.2 & 0.2 \\ 0.8 & 0.8 & 0.8 & 0.2 & 0.2 \\ 0.2 & 0.2 & 0.2 & 0.6 & 0.6 \\ 0.2 & 0.2 & 0.2 & 0.6 & 0.6 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & & \\ 1 & 1 & & & 1 \\ 1 & & 1 & & \\ & & & 1 & \\ & 1 & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$