

Spectral Methods for Subgraph Detection

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12 July 2010

This work is sponsored by the Department of the Air Force under Air Force Contract FA8721-05-C-0002. Opinions, interpretations, conclusions and recommendations are those of the author and are not necessarily endorsed by the United States Government.

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Outline

Introduction

- Approach
- Handling Large Graphs
- Summary



Application Examples



- Detect anomalies in the social network (detection)
- Identify actors (individuals) involved (identification)



Subgraph Detection Problem

Goal: Develop detection framework for finding subgraphs of interest in large graphs



- H_0 : $G = G_b$
- H_1 : $G = G_b + G_f$
- Detection problem:
 - Given G, is H_0 or H_1 true?

Graph Detection Challenges

- Background/foreground models
- Non-Euclidean data
- High-dimensional space



H₀: Background Graph -Power Law-



- A: Adjacency matrix of graph G
- 1024-vertex power law graph

Degree distribution of graph G

- Real world graphs exhibit power law properties
- Well-defined generators exist
- Structural complexity presents a challenge for detection



*H*₁: Background Graph + Foreground Graph -Dense Subgraph in Power Law Graph-



G_f adjacency matrix



Some subgraphs of interest exhibit high density



M. Skipper, Network biology: A protein network of one's own proteins, Nature **Reviews Molecular Cell Biology 6, 824** (November 2005)



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Graph-Based Residuals Analysis

Linear Regression



- Analysis of variance (ANOVA) describes fit
- "Explained" vs
 "unexplained" variance → signal/noise discrimination

Graph "Regression"





Overview

Processing chain for subgraph detection analogous to a traditional signal processing chain





Modularity Matrix* Construction



Commonly used to evaluate *quality* of division of a graph into communities
Application to subgraph detection

- Target signatures have connectivity patterns distinct from the background
- Can view target embedding as creation of a community

*M. E. J. Newman. Finding community structure in networks using the eigenvectors of matrices. Phys. Rev. E, 74:036104, 2006.



Eigen Decomposition





Detection





Distribution of Test Statistics





Detection Performance



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Eigendecomposition of the Modularity Matrix -Revisited-



Approach: create a function that accepts a vector *x* and returns *Bx* without computing *B*; compute the eigenvectors of this function

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Computing Eigenvectors of Large Graphs

- *Bx* can be computed without computing *B*
 - Multiplication by *B* can be expressed as multiplication by a sparse matrix (*A*), plus a vector dot product and scalar-vector product
 - This method is both space- and time-efficient
- The eigenvectors of $f(x) = Ax K(K^Tx)/M$ are the eigenvectors of B







Detection Performance -Large Graphs-



Spectral subgraph detection algorithm can be optimized by exploiting matrix properties
Analysis of 2²⁰ vertex graph can be performed in minutes (~10) on a single laptop



Detectability -With Increasing Background Size-



Algorithm exhibits desired performance: as size of the background graph increases, minimum detectable subgraph size remains small



Epinions Data Analysis -Large Graph Example-

- Who-trusts-whom network from the Epinions consumer review site
 - 75,879 vertices, 405,740 edges
- Modularity matrix: too large to store in memory
- Approach: compute eigenvectors of $f(x) = Ax K(K^Tx)/M$
 - 200 eigenvectors in 155 seconds using MATLAB





- Subgraph detection is an important problem
- Detection framework for graphs enables algorithms and metrics development
- Results on simulated and real datasets demonstrate the power of the approach
 - Demonstrated good detection performance
 - Extended approach to very large graphs
- Understanding background statistics (noise and clutter model) is of key importance
- Current research
 - Weak signature foregrounds
 - Subgraph formation detection