



CMU SCS

# Large Graph Mining: Power Tools and a Practitioner's Guide

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CMU



# Outline

## ➡ Reminders

- Adjacency matrix
  - Intuition behind eigenvectors: Eg., Bipartite Graphs
  - Walks of length  $k$
- Laplacian
  - Connected Components
  - Intuition: Adjacency vs. Laplacian
  - Cheeger Inequality and Sparsest Cut:
    - Derivation, intuition
    - Example
- Normalized Laplacian



# Matrix Representations of $G(V,E)$

Associate a matrix to a graph:

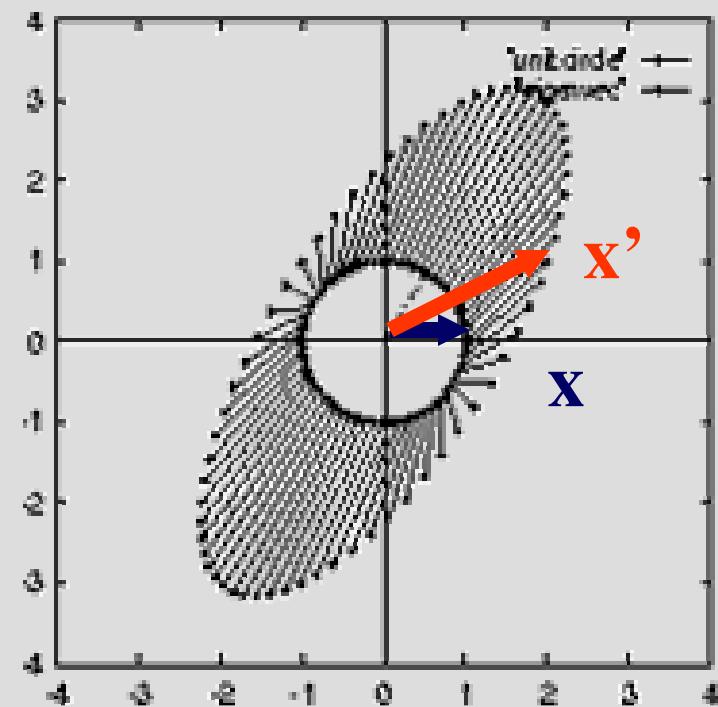
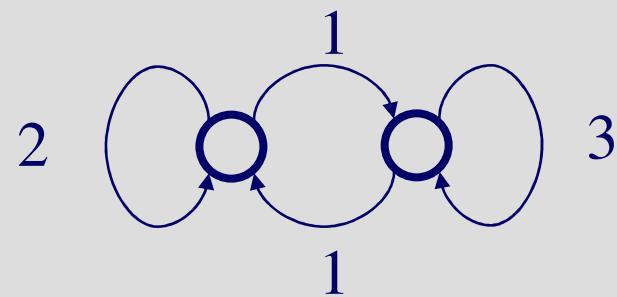
- Adjacency matrix
  - Laplacian
  - Normalized Laplacian
- 
- Main focus



# Recall: Intuition

- $A$  as vector transformation

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

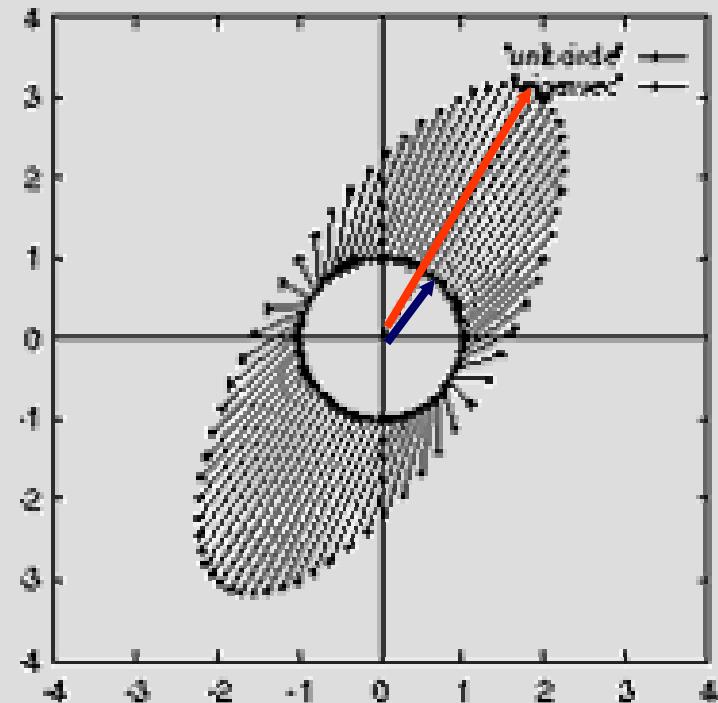




# Intuition

- By defn., eigenvectors remain parallel to themselves ('fixed points')

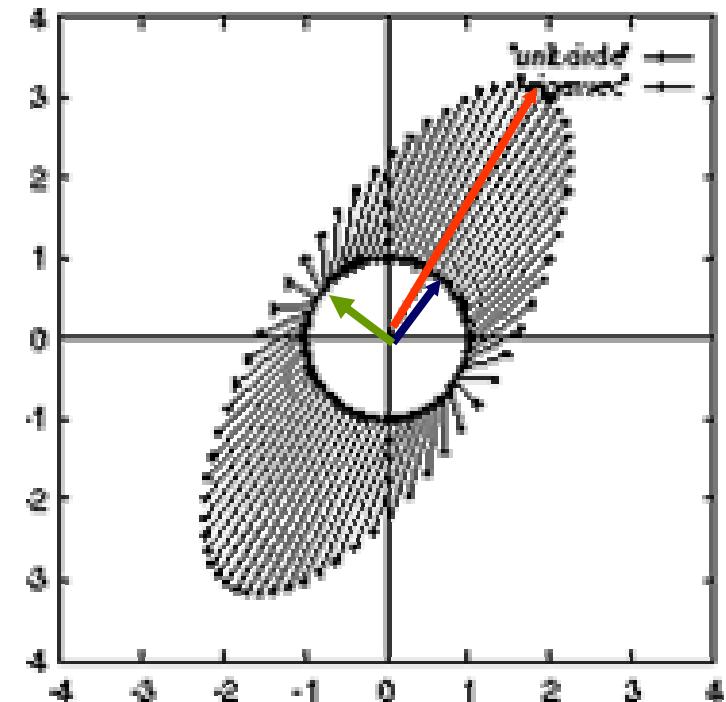
$$\lambda_1 \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_1 \\ 0.52 \\ 0.85 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A} \\ 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_1 \\ 0.52 \\ 0.85 \end{bmatrix}$$





# Intuition

- By defn., eigenvectors remain parallel to themselves ('**fixed points**')
- And orthogonal to each other





# Keep in mind!

- For the rest of slides we will be talking for square  $n \times n$  matrices

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} m_{11} & & m_{1n} \\ & \dots & \\ m_{n1} & & m_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

and symmetric ones, i.e,

$$M = M^T$$



# Outline

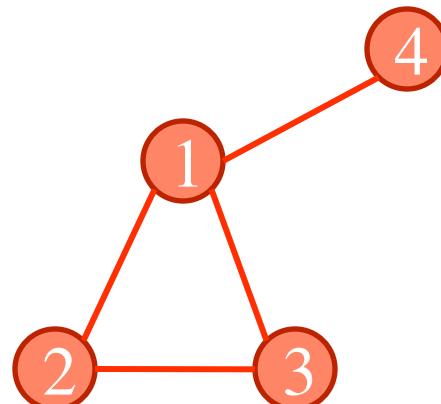
- Reminders
- **Adjacency matrix**
  - Intuition behind eigenvectors: Eg., Bipartite Graphs
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# Adjacency matrix

Undirected

$$A_{uv} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } (u, v) \in E(G) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



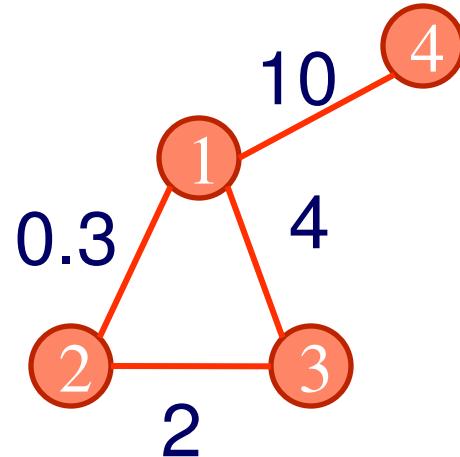
$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



# Adjacency matrix

## Undirected Weighted

$$A_{uv} = \begin{cases} w_{uv} & \text{if } (u, v) \in E(G) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



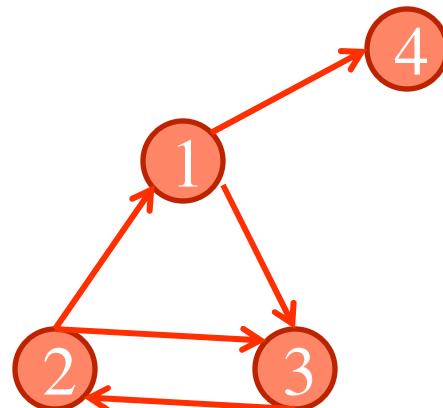
$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0.3 & 4 & 10 \\ 0.3 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 4 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 10 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



# Adjacency matrix

## Directed

$$A_{uv} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } (u, v) \in E(G) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



**Observation**  
If  $G$  is undirected,  
 $A = A^T$

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

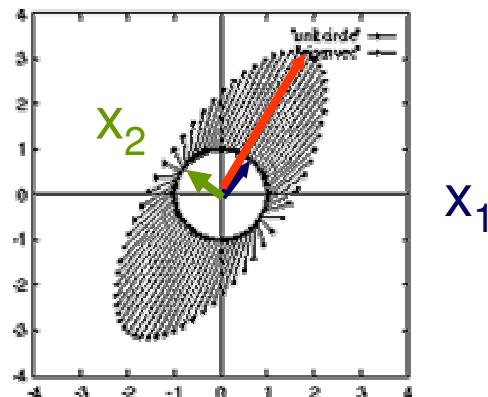


# Spectral Theorem

Theorem [Spectral Theorem]

- If  $M=M^T$ , then

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} | & & | \\ x_1 & \dots & x_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & & \\ & \ddots & & 0 \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1^T \\ \vdots \\ x_n^T \end{bmatrix} = \lambda_1 x_1 x_1^T + \dots + \lambda_n x_n x_n^T$$



Reminder 1:  
 $x_i, x_j$  orthogonal

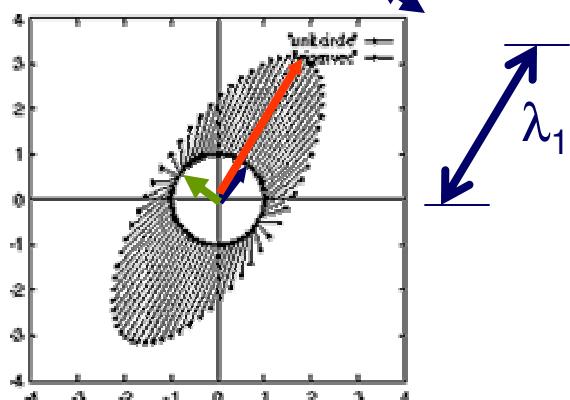


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Reminder 2:

$x_i$

i-th principal axis

$\lambda_i$

length of i-th principal axis



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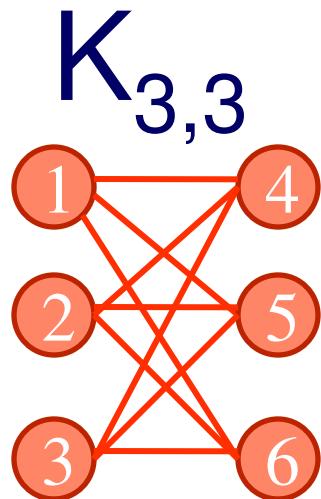
## Eigenvectors:

- Give groups
- Specifically for bi-partite graphs, we get each of the two sets of nodes
- Details:



# Bipartite Graphs

Any graph with no cycles of odd length is bipartite



$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & B^T \\ B & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

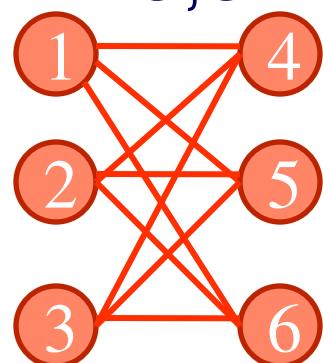
- Q1: Can we check if a graph is bipartite via its spectrum?
- Q2: Can we get the partition of the vertices in the two sets of nodes?



# Bipartite Graphs

Adjacency matrix  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & B^T \\ B & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$K_{3,3}$



where

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

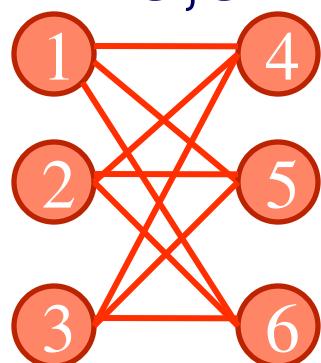
Eigenvalues:  $\Lambda = [3, -3, 0, 0, 0, 0]$



# Bipartite Graphs

Adjacency matrix  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & B^T \\ B & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$K_{3,3}$



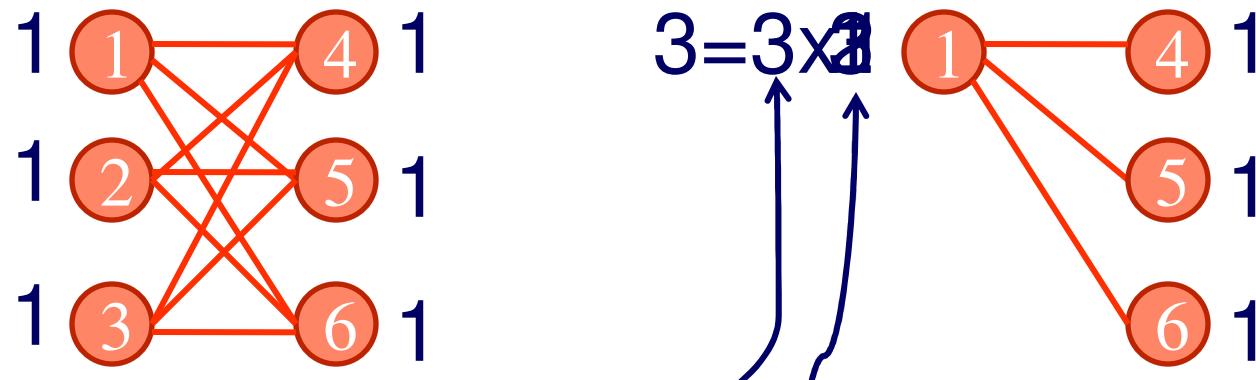
where  $B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

Why  $\lambda_1 = -\lambda_2 = 3$ ?

Recall:  $Ax = \lambda x$ ,  $(\lambda, x)$  eigenvalue-eigenvector



# Bipartite Graphs

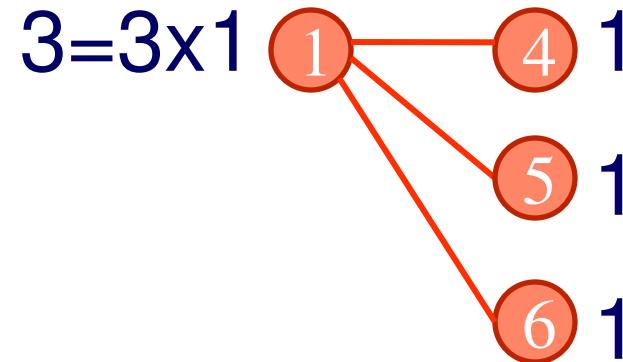
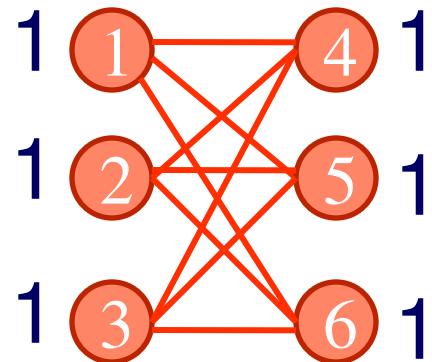


$$\lambda_1 = 3, u_1 = 1 = [1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1]^T$$

Value @ each node: eg., enthusiasm about a product



# Bipartite Graphs

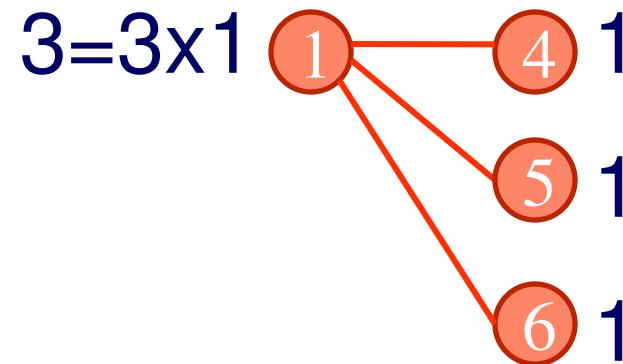
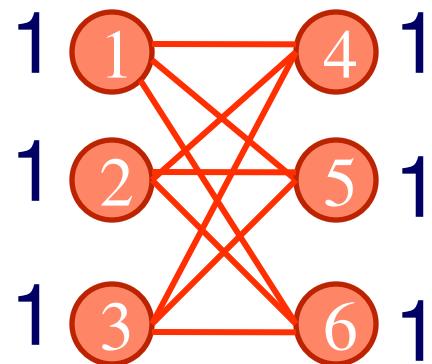


$$\lambda_1 = 3, u_1 = \mathbf{1} = [1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1]^T$$

1-vector remains unchanged (just grows by ' $3 = \lambda_1$ ' )



# Bipartite Graphs

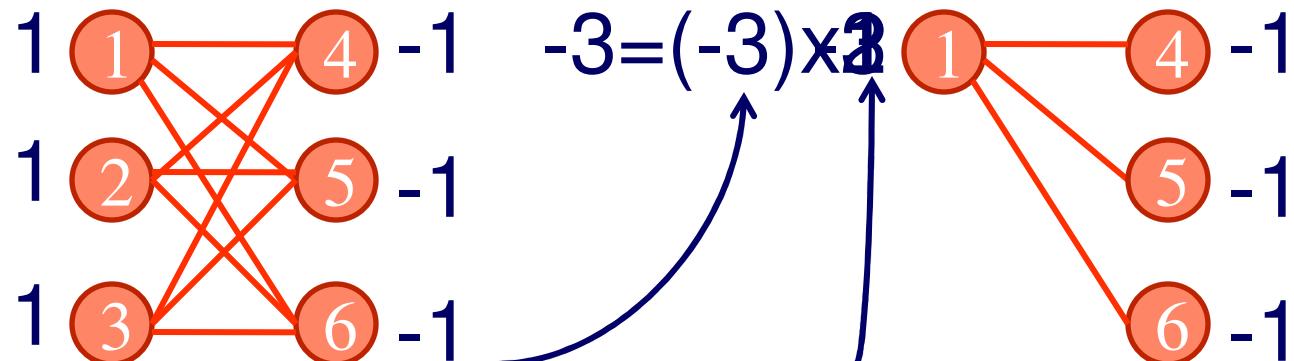


$$\lambda_1 = 3, u_1 = \mathbf{1} = [1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1]^T$$

Which other vector remains unchanged?



# Bipartite Graphs

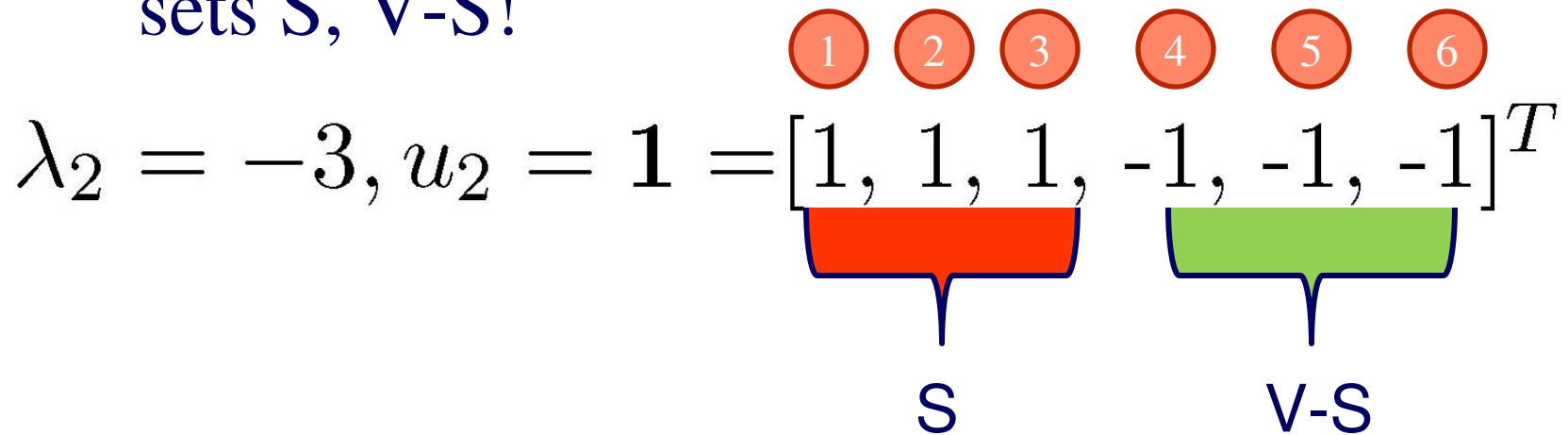


$$\lambda_2 = -3, u_2 = 1 = [1, 1, 1, -1, -1, -1]^T$$



# Bipartite Graphs

- Observation
  - $u_2$  gives the partition of the nodes in the two sets  $S, V-S$ !



Question: Were we just “lucky”? Answer: No

Theorem:  $\lambda_2 = -\lambda_1$  iff  $G$  bipartite.  $u_2$  gives the partition.



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# Walks

- A walk of length  $r$  in a directed graph:

$$u_0 \rightarrow u_1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow u_r$$

where a node can be used more than once.

- Closed walk when:  $u_0 = u_r$





# Walks

**Theorem:**  $G(V, E)$  directed graph, adjacency matrix  $A$ . The number of walks from node  $u$  to node  $v$  in  $G$  with length  $r$  is  $(A^r)_{uv}$

**Proof:** Induction on  $k$ . See Doyle-Snell, p.165



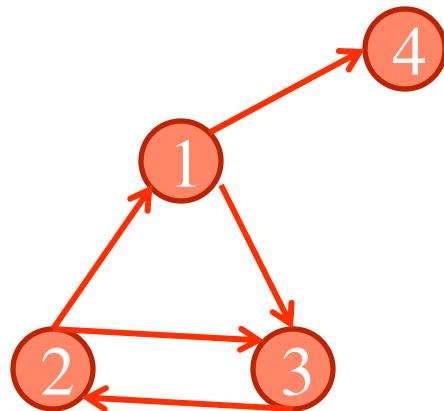
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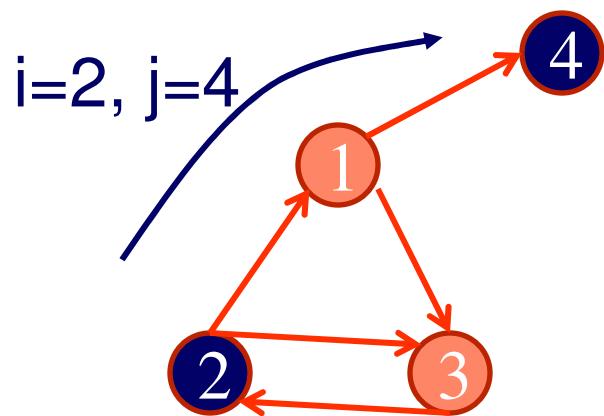
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} & \xrightarrow{(i,j)} \\ \xleftarrow{a_{ij}^1} & \end{bmatrix}, \quad A^2 = \begin{bmatrix} & \xrightarrow{(i, i_1), (i_1, j)} \\ \xleftarrow{a_{ij}^2} & \end{bmatrix}, \dots, A^r = \begin{bmatrix} & \xrightarrow{(i, i_1), \dots, (i_{r-1}, j)} \\ \xleftarrow{a_{ij}^r} & \end{bmatrix}$$



# Walks

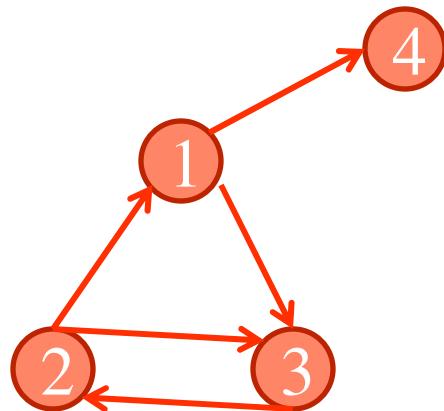


$$A^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

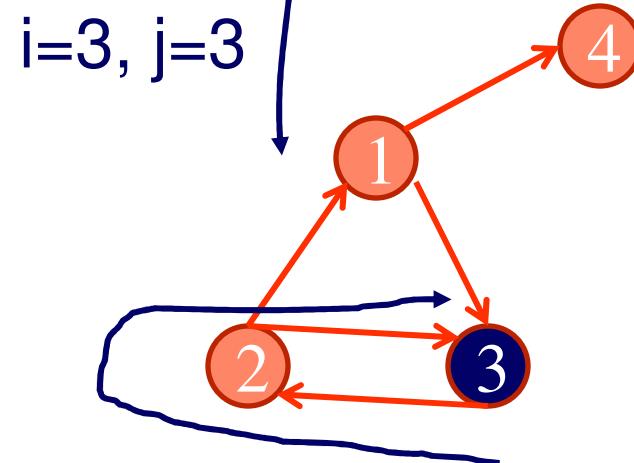




# Walks

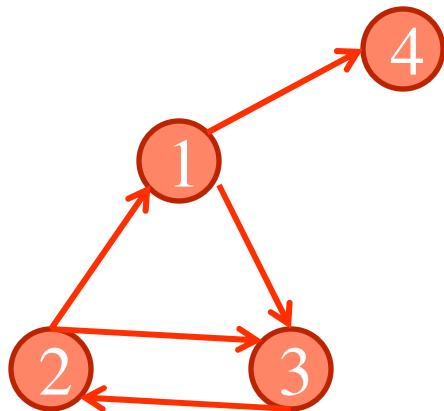


$$A^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

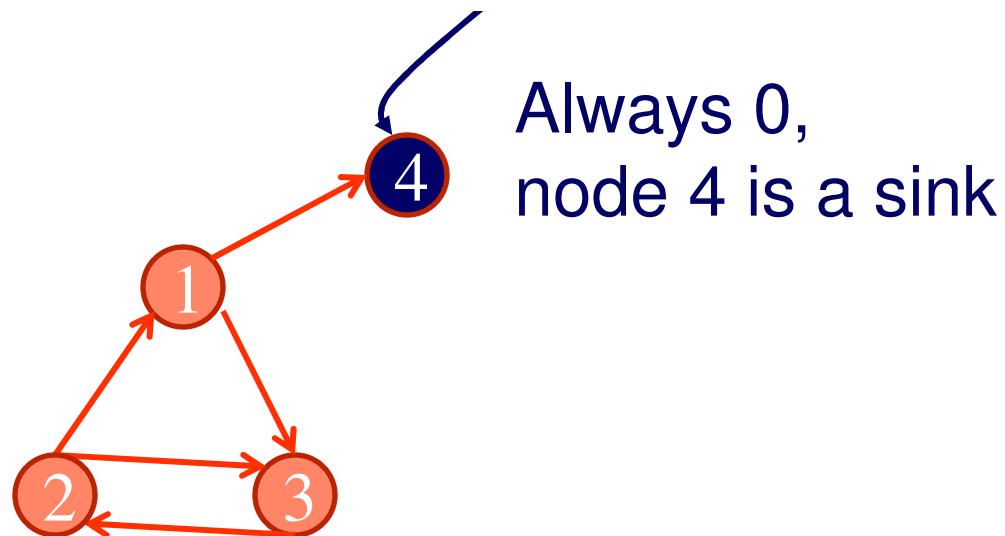




# Walks



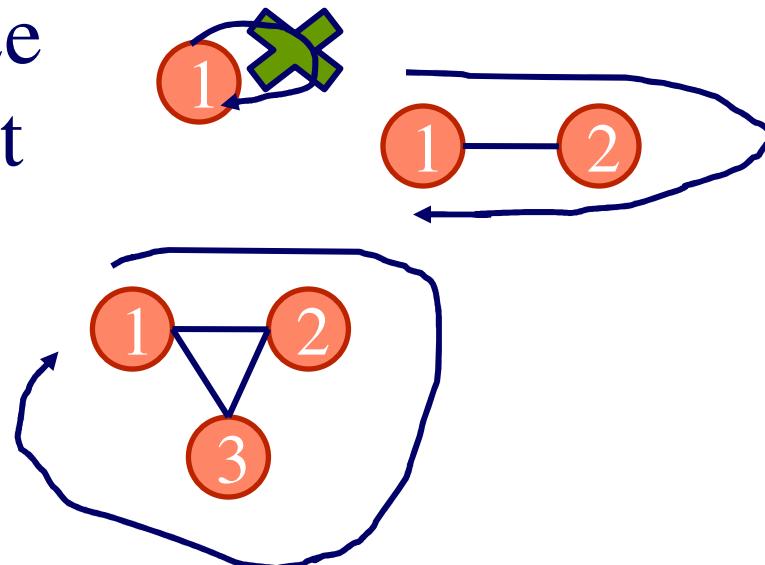
$$A^6 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



# Walks

**Corollary:** If  $A$  is the adjacency matrix of undirected  $G(V,E)$  (no self loops),  $e$  edges and  $t$  triangles. Then the following hold:

- a)  $\text{trace}(A) = 0$
  - b)  $\text{trace}(A^2) = 2e$
  - c)  $\text{trace}(A^3) = 6t$





# Walks

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- a)  $\text{trace}(A) = 0$
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- c)  $\text{trace}(A^3) = 6t$

Computing  $A^r$  may be expensive!



## Remark: virus propagation

The earlier result makes sense now:

- The higher the first eigenvalue, the more paths available ->
- Easier for a virus to survive



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## → Laplacian

- Connected Components
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## Main upcoming result

the second eigenvector of the Laplacian ( $u_2$ )  
gives a good cut:

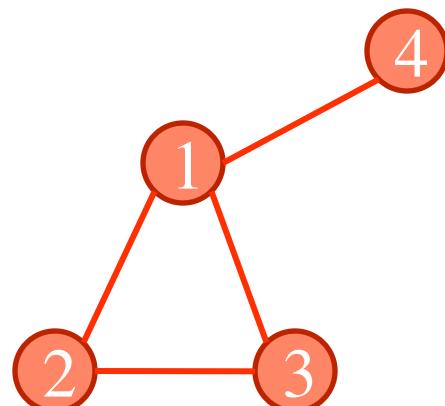
Nodes with positive scores should go to one  
group

And the rest to the other



# Laplacian

$$L_{uv} = \begin{cases} d_u & \text{if } u = v \\ -1 & \text{if } (u, v) \in E(G) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



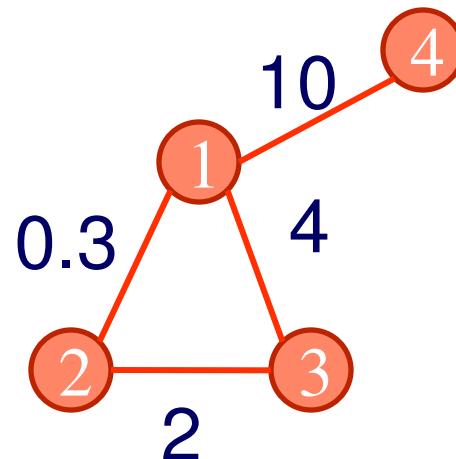
$$L = D - A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & 2 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Diagonal matrix,  $d_{ii} = d_i$



# Weighted Laplacian

$$L_{uv} = \begin{cases} d_u = \sum_v w_{uv} & \text{if } u = v \\ -w_{uv} & \text{if } (u, v) \in E(G) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



$$L = \begin{pmatrix} 14.3 & -0.3 & -4 & -10 \\ -0.3 & 2.3 & -2 & 0 \\ -4 & -2 & 6 & 0 \\ -10 & 0 & 0 & 10 \end{pmatrix}$$



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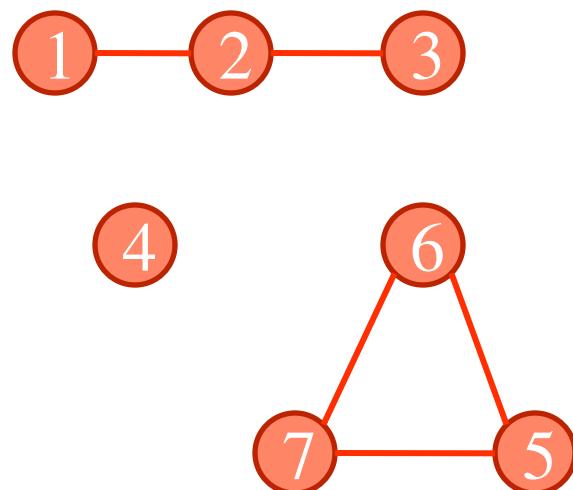
# Connected Components

- **Lemma:** Let  $G$  be a graph with  $n$  vertices and  $c$  connected components. If  $L$  is the Laplacian of  $G$ , then  $\text{rank}(L) = n - c$ .
- **Proof:** see p.279, Godsil-Royle



# Connected Components

$$G(V, E)$$



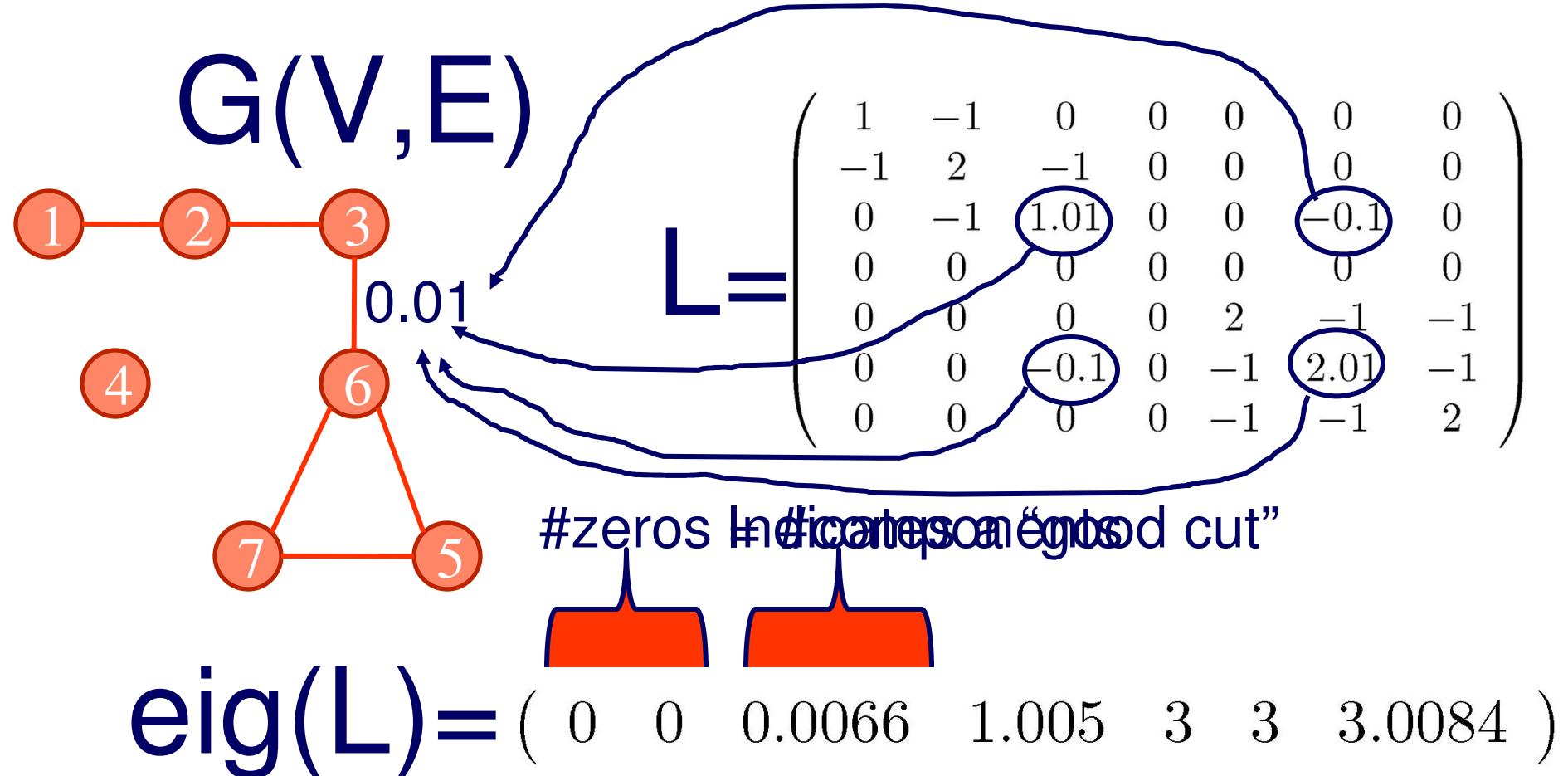
$$L = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

#zeros = #components

$$\text{eig}(L) = \left( \begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 3 & 3 \end{array} \right)$$



# Connected Components





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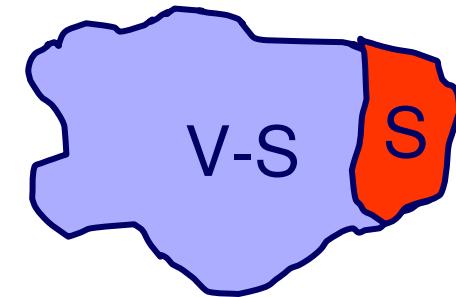


# Adjacency vs. Laplacian Intuition

Let  $\mathbf{x}$  be an indicator vector:

$$x_i = 1, \text{ if } i \in S$$

$$x_i = 0, \text{ if } i \notin S$$



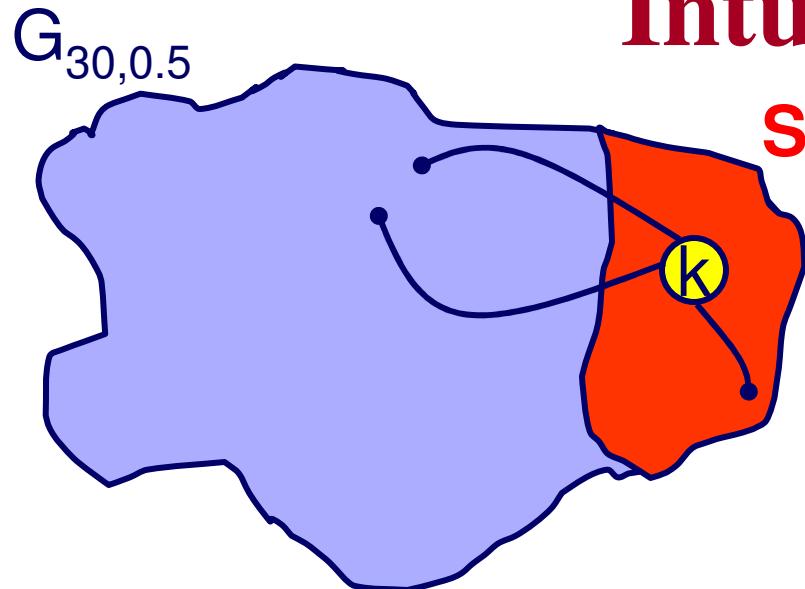
Consider now  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{Lx}$

k-th coordinate

$$y_k = (Lx)_k = d_k x_k - \sum_{j:(j,k) \in E(G)} x_j$$



# Adjacency vs. Laplacian Intuition



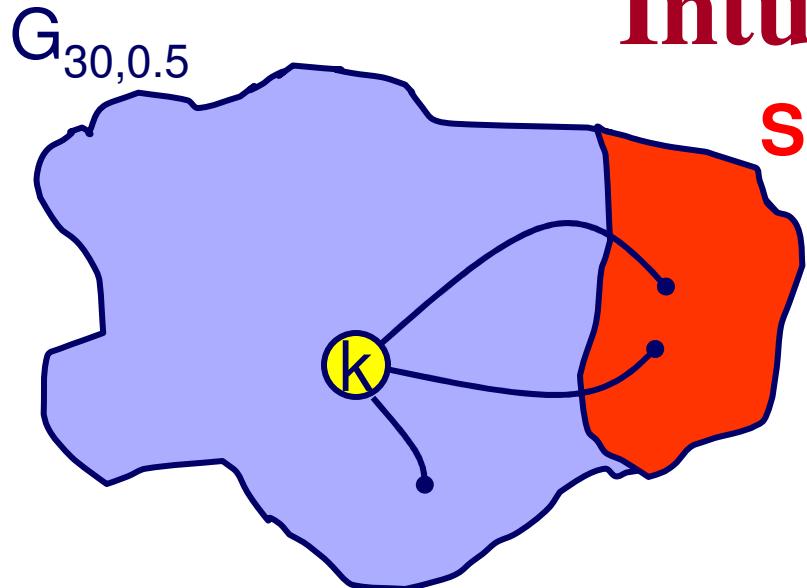
Consider now  $y = Lx$

$$y_k > 0$$

$$y_k = (Lx)_k = d_k x_k - \sum_{j:(j,k) \in E(G)} x_j$$



# Adjacency vs. Laplacian Intuition



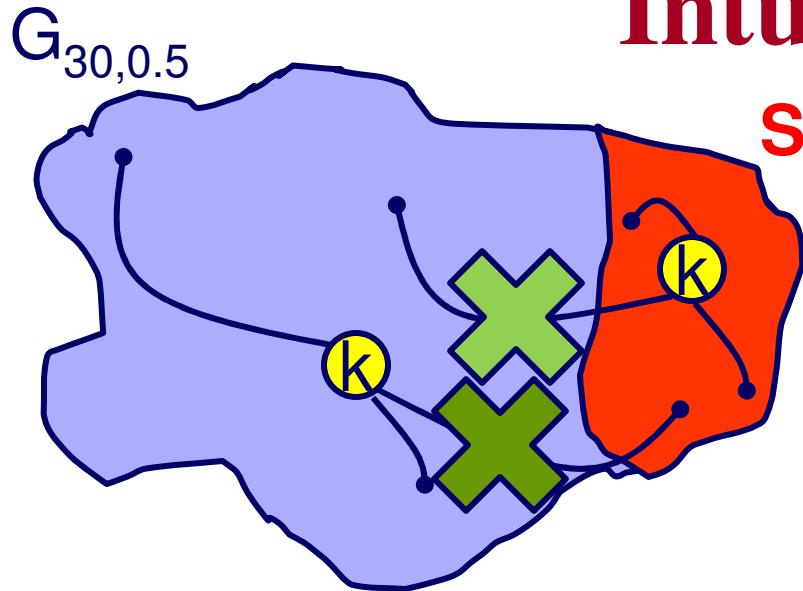
Consider now  $y = Lx$

$$y_k < 0$$

$$y_k = (Lx)_k = d_k x_k - \sum_{j:(j,k) \in E(G)} x_j$$



# Adjacency vs. Laplacian Intuition



Consider now  $y = Lx$

$$y_k = 0$$

$$y_k = \underbrace{(Lx)_k}_{\text{Adjacency: #paths}} = \underbrace{d_k x_k}_{\text{Laplacian: connectivity}} \sum_{j:(j,k) \in E(G)} x_j$$



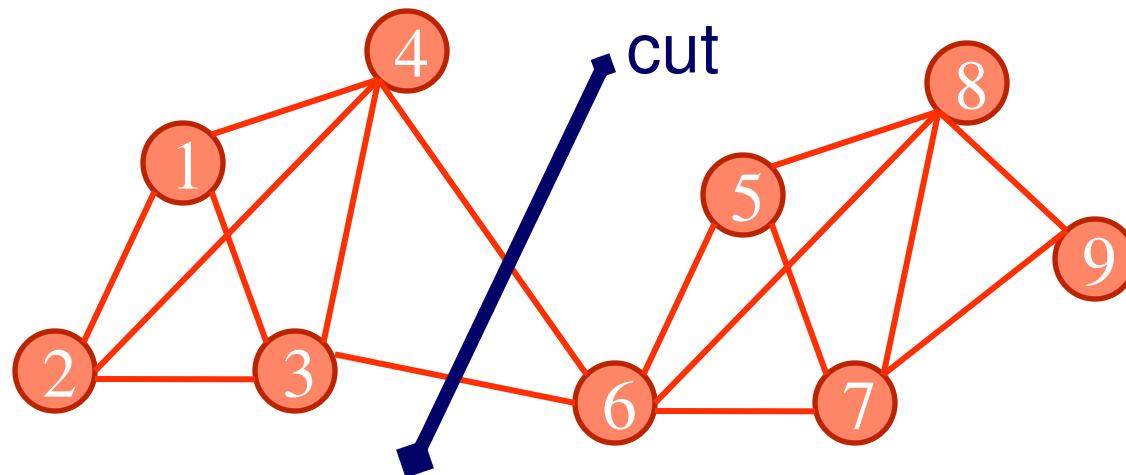
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# Why Sparse Cuts?

- Clustering, Community Detection

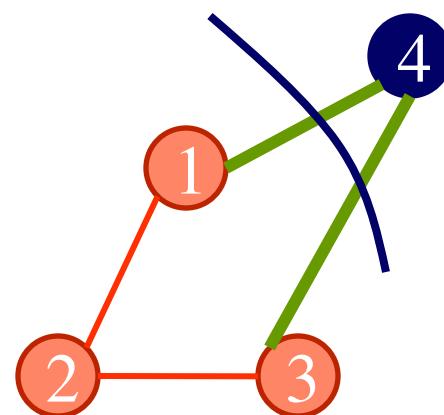


- And more: Telephone Network Design, VLSI layout, Sparse Gaussian Elimination, Parallel Computation



# Quality of a Cut

- Isoperimetric number  $\phi$  of a cut  $S$ :



**#edges across**  $\phi(S) = \frac{e(S, V - S)}{\min(|S|, |V - S|)}$  **#nodes in smallest partition**

$$\phi(\{4\}) = \frac{2}{\min(1,3)} = 2$$

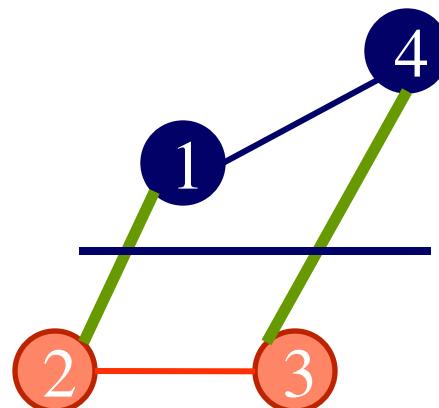


# Quality of a Cut

- Isoperimetric number  $\phi$  of a **graph** = score of best cut:

$$\phi(G) = \min_{S \subseteq V} \phi(S)$$

$$\phi(\{1, 4\}) = \frac{2}{\min(2, 2)} = 1$$



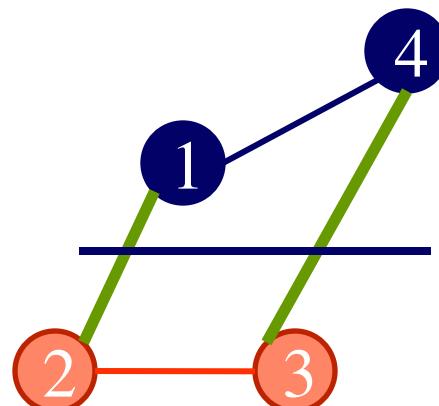
and thus  $\phi(G) = 1$



# Quality of a Cut

- Isoperimetric number  $\varphi$  of a **graph** = score of best cut:

Best cut: hard to find  
BUT: Cheeger's inequality gives bounds  
 $\lambda_2$ : Plays major role



Let's see the intuition behind  $\lambda_2$



## Laplacian and cuts - overview

- A cut corresponds to an indicator vector (ie., 0/1 scores to each node)
- Relaxing the 0/1 scores to real numbers, gives eventually an alternative definition of the eigenvalues and eigenvectors



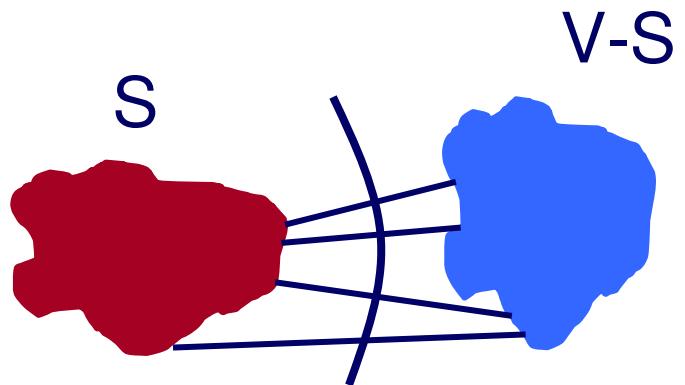
# Why $\lambda_2$ ?

## Characteristic Vector $\mathbf{x}$

- $x_i = 1$ , if  $i \in S$
- $x_i = 0$ , if  $i \notin S$

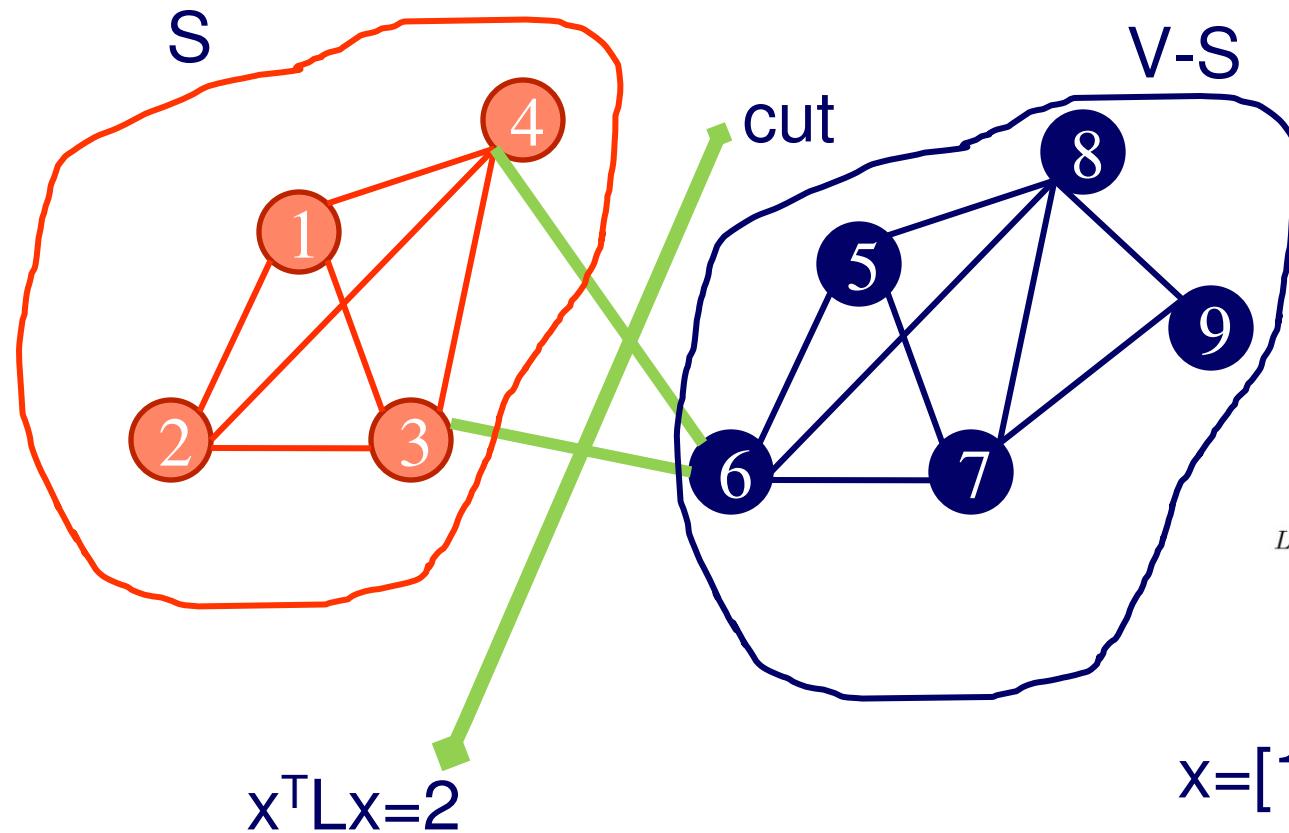
Then:

$$\mathbf{x}^T L \mathbf{x} = \sum_{(i,j) \in E(G)} (x_i - x_j)^2 = e(S, V - S)$$





# Why $\lambda_2$ ?



$$L = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 3 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & 4 & -1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 & 4 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 5 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 4 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 4 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$x = [1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]^T$$



# Why $\lambda_2$ ?

$$r(S) = \frac{e(S, V-S)}{|S||V-S|} \rightarrow \frac{\phi(S)}{n} \leq r(S) \leq \frac{\phi(S)}{\frac{n}{2}}$$

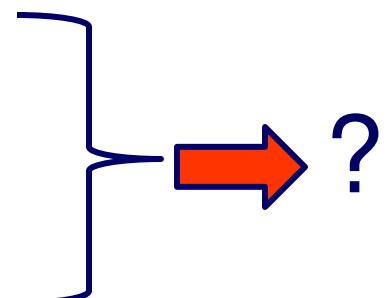
Ratio cut

Sparsest ratio cut  $r(G) = \min_{S \subset V} r(S) = \min_{x \in \{0,1\}^n} \frac{1}{n} \frac{x^T L x}{x^T x}$

NP-hard

Relax the constraint:  $x \in \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow x \in \mathbb{R}^n$

Normalize:  $\sum_i x_i = 0$





# Why $\lambda_2$ ?

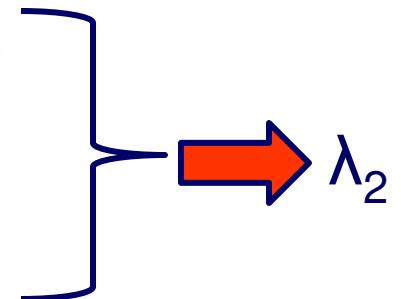
Sparsest ratio cut

$$r(G) = \min_{S \subset V} r(S) = \min_{x \in \{0,1\}^n} \frac{1}{n} \frac{x^T L x}{x^T x}$$

**Relax** the constraint:  $x \in \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow x \in \mathbb{R}^n$

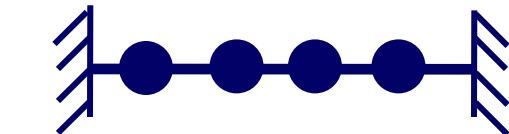
Normalize:  $\sum_i x_i = 0$

NP-hard



because of the Courant-Fisher theorem (applied to  $L$ )

$$\lambda_2 = \min_{\sum_i u_i = 0, u \neq 0} \frac{u^T L u}{u^T u} = \min_{\sum_i u_i = 0, u \neq 0} \frac{\sum_{(i,j) \in E(G)} (u_i - u_j)^2}{\sum_i u_i^2}$$



Each ball 1 unit of mass

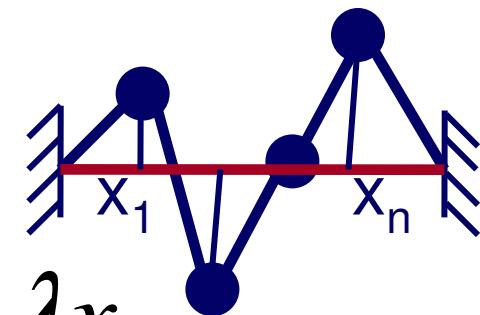
Why  $\lambda_2$ ?

**OSCILLATE**

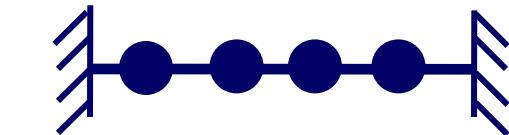
$$Lx = \lambda x$$



Dfn of eigenvector



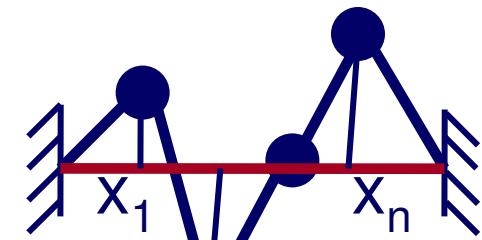
Matrix viewpoint:



Each ball 1 unit of mass

Why  $\lambda_2$ ?

OSCILLATE



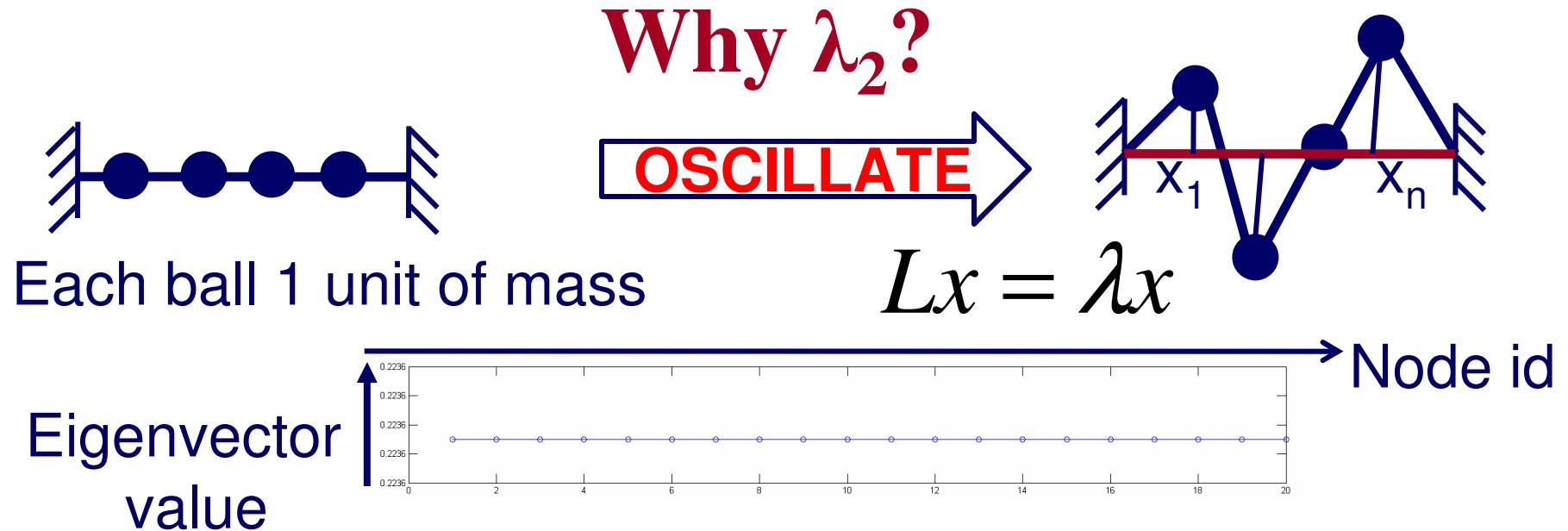
$$Lx = \lambda x$$

Force due to neighbors

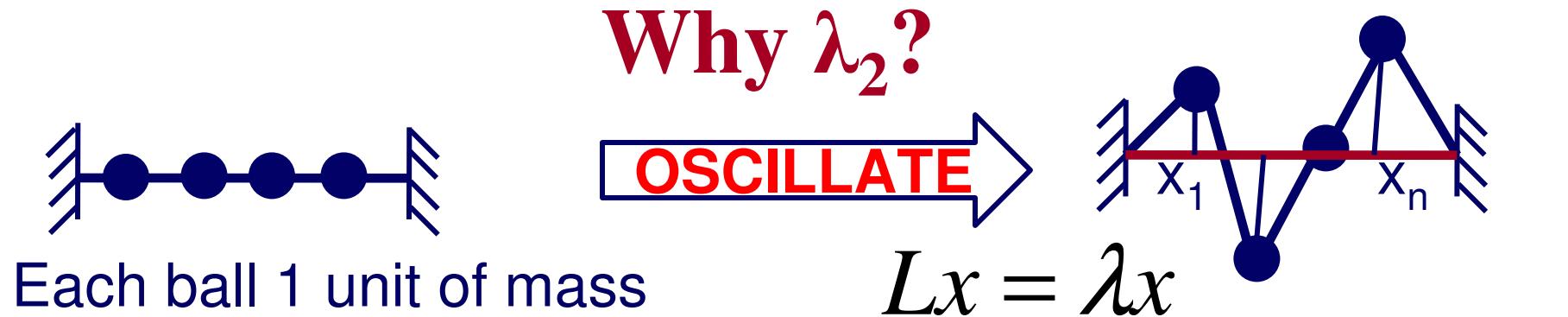
displacement

Physics viewpoint:

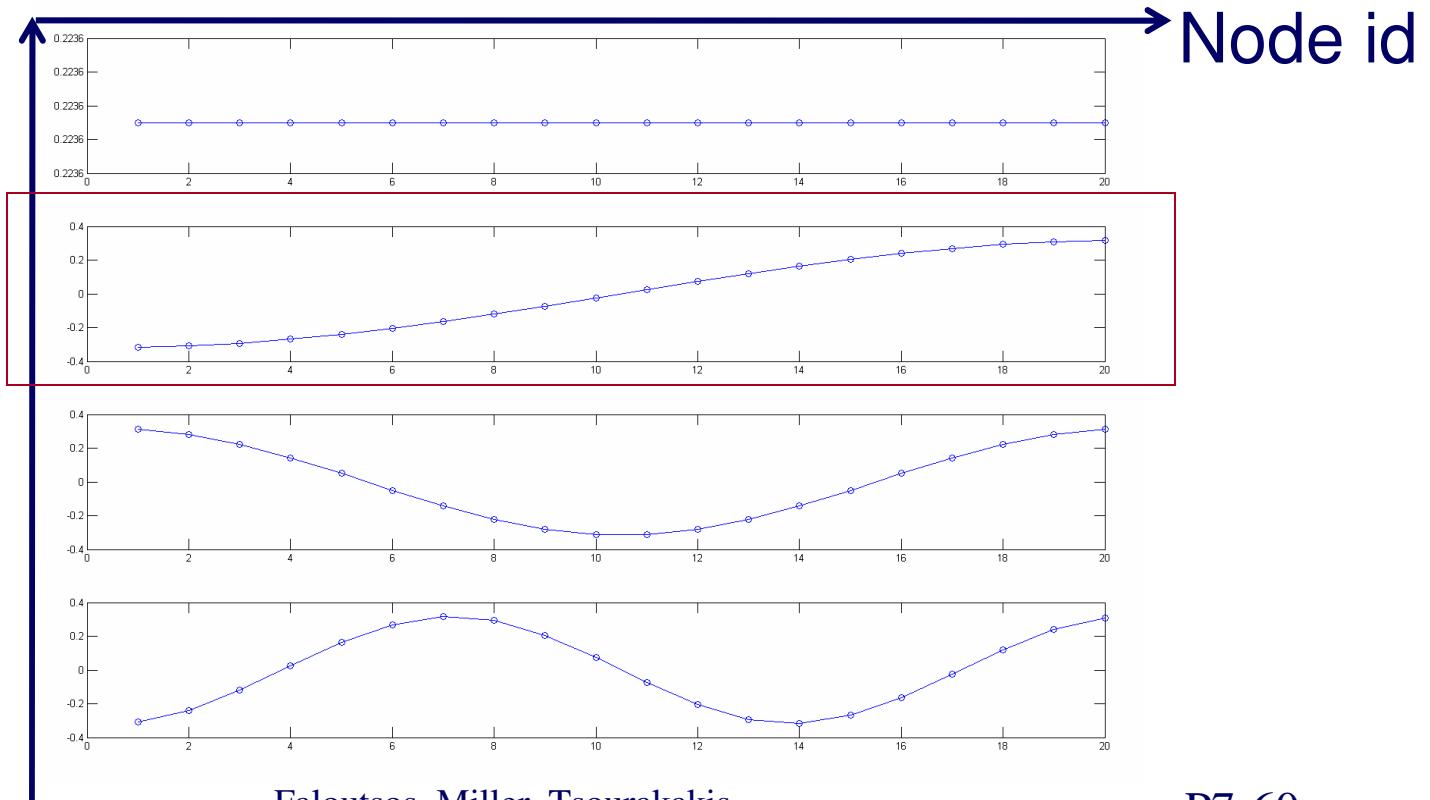
Hooke's constant



For the first eigenvector:  
All nodes: same displacement (= value)



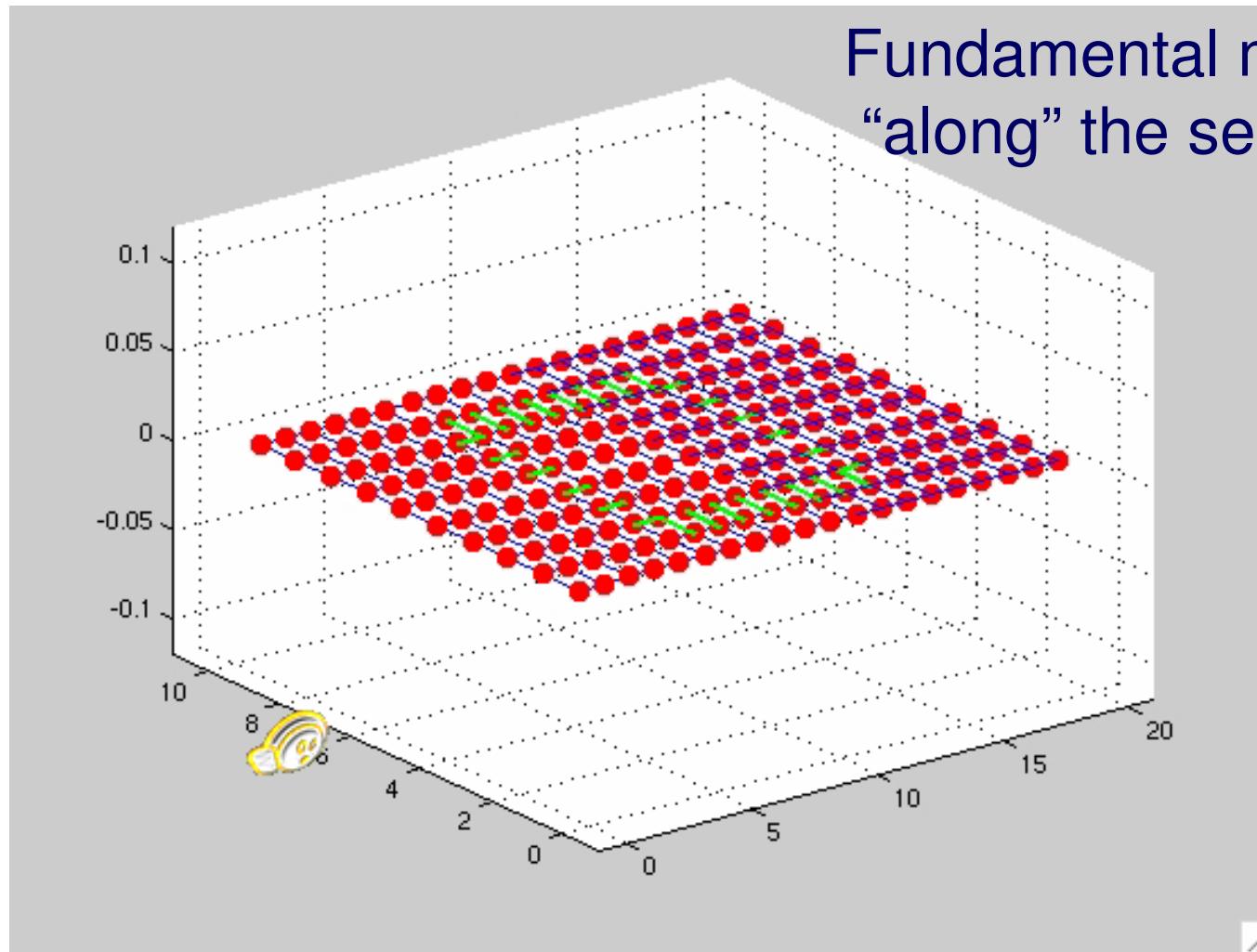
Eigenvector  
value





# Why $\lambda_2$ ?

Fundamental mode of vibration:  
“along” the separator





# Cheeger Inequality

Score of best cut  
(**hard** to compute)

$$\frac{\phi^2}{2d_{max}} \leq \lambda_2 \leq 2\phi(G)$$

Max degree

2<sup>nd</sup> smallest eigenvalue  
(**easy** to compute)



# Cheeger Inequality and graph partitioning heuristic:

$$\frac{\phi^2}{2d_{max}} \leq \lambda_2 \leq 2\phi(G)$$

- Step 1: Sort vertices in non-decreasing order according to their score of the second eigenvector
  - Step 2: Decide where to cut.
    - Bisection
    - **Best ratio cut**
- Two common heuristics



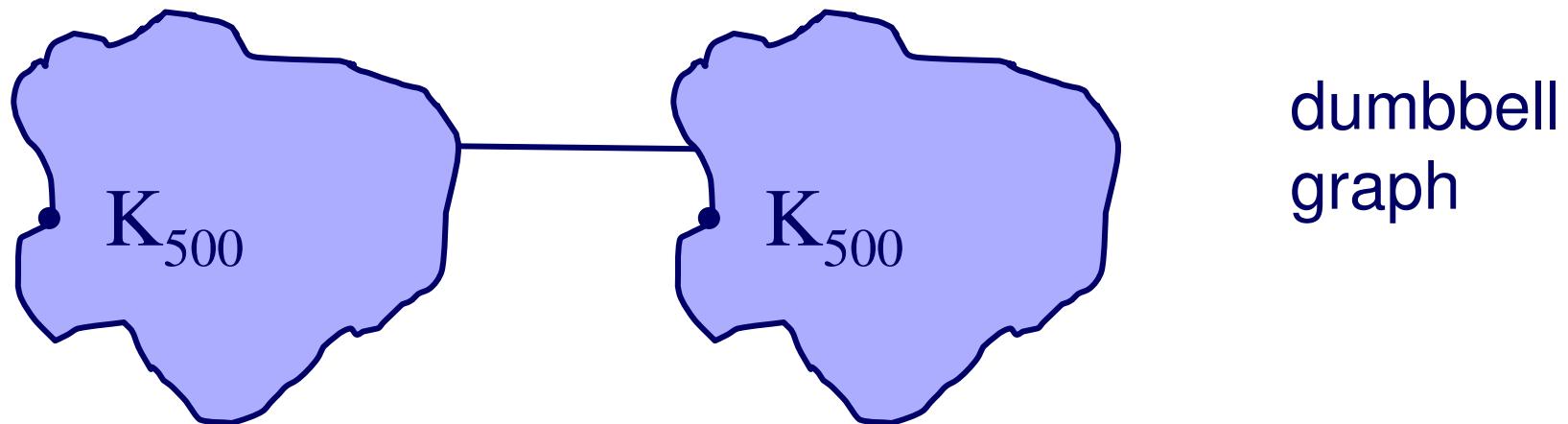
# Outline

- Reminders
- Adjacency matrix
- Laplacian
  - Connected Components
  - Intuition: Adjacency vs. Laplacian
  - Sparsest Cut and Cheeger inequality:
    - Derivation, intuition
    - **Example**
- Normalized Laplacian





# Example: Spectral Partitioning



Algorithms (network analysis,

As (500,1:500) are ones(500)-eye(500);

$A(501:1000,501:1000) = \text{ones}(500)-\text{eye}(500);$

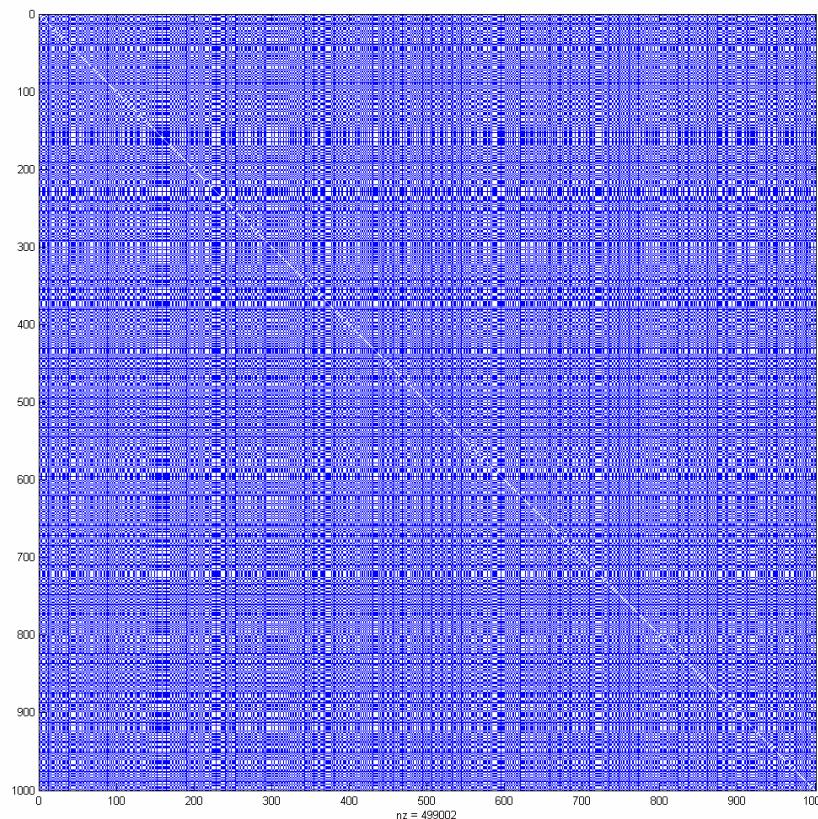
$\text{myrandperm} = \text{randperm}(1000);$

$B = A(\text{myrandperm}, \text{myrandperm});$



# Example: Spectral Partitioning

- This is how adjacency matrix of B looks



`spy(B)`

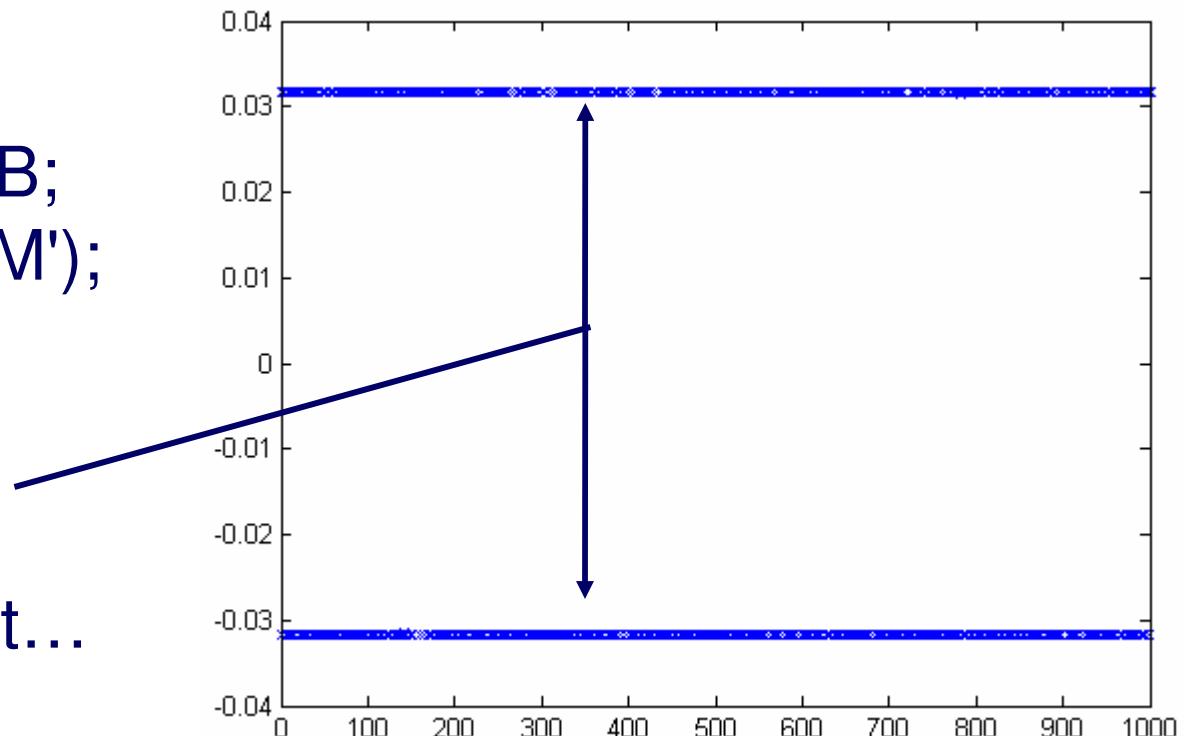


# Example: Spectral Partitioning

- This is how the 2<sup>nd</sup> eigenvector of  $B$  looks like.

```
L = diag(sum(B))-B;  
[u v] = eigs(L,2,'SM');  
plot(u(:,1),'x')
```

Not so much  
information yet...



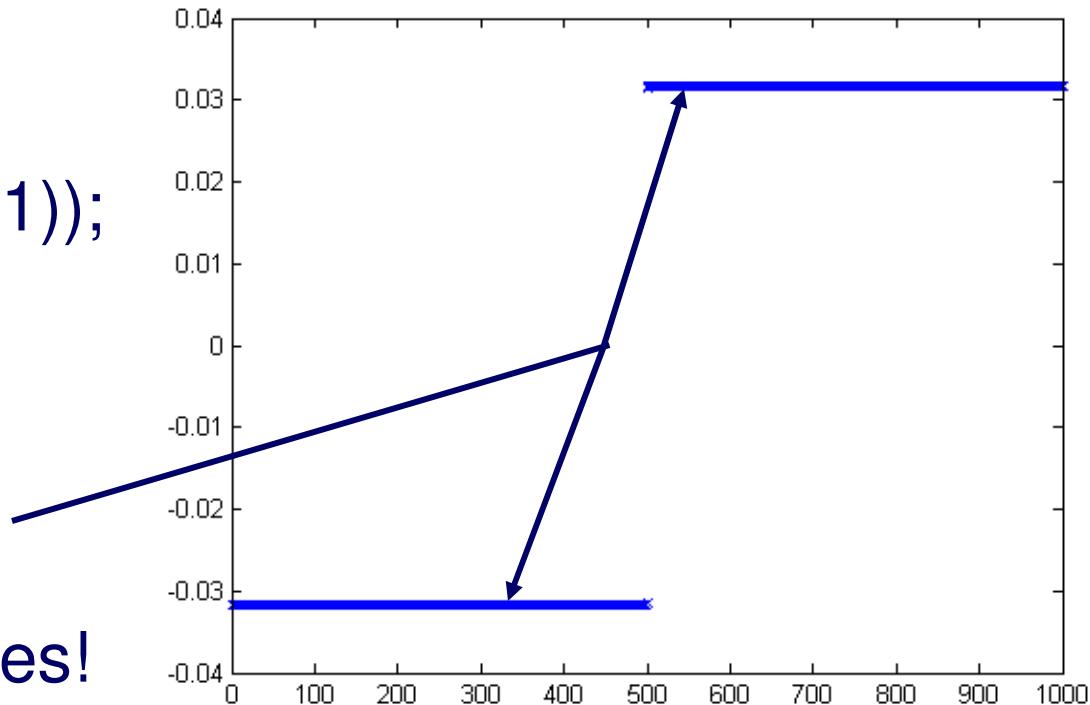


# Example: Spectral Partitioning

- This is how the 2<sup>nd</sup> eigenvector looks if we sort it.

```
[ign ind] = sort(u(:,1));
plot(u(ind),'x')
```

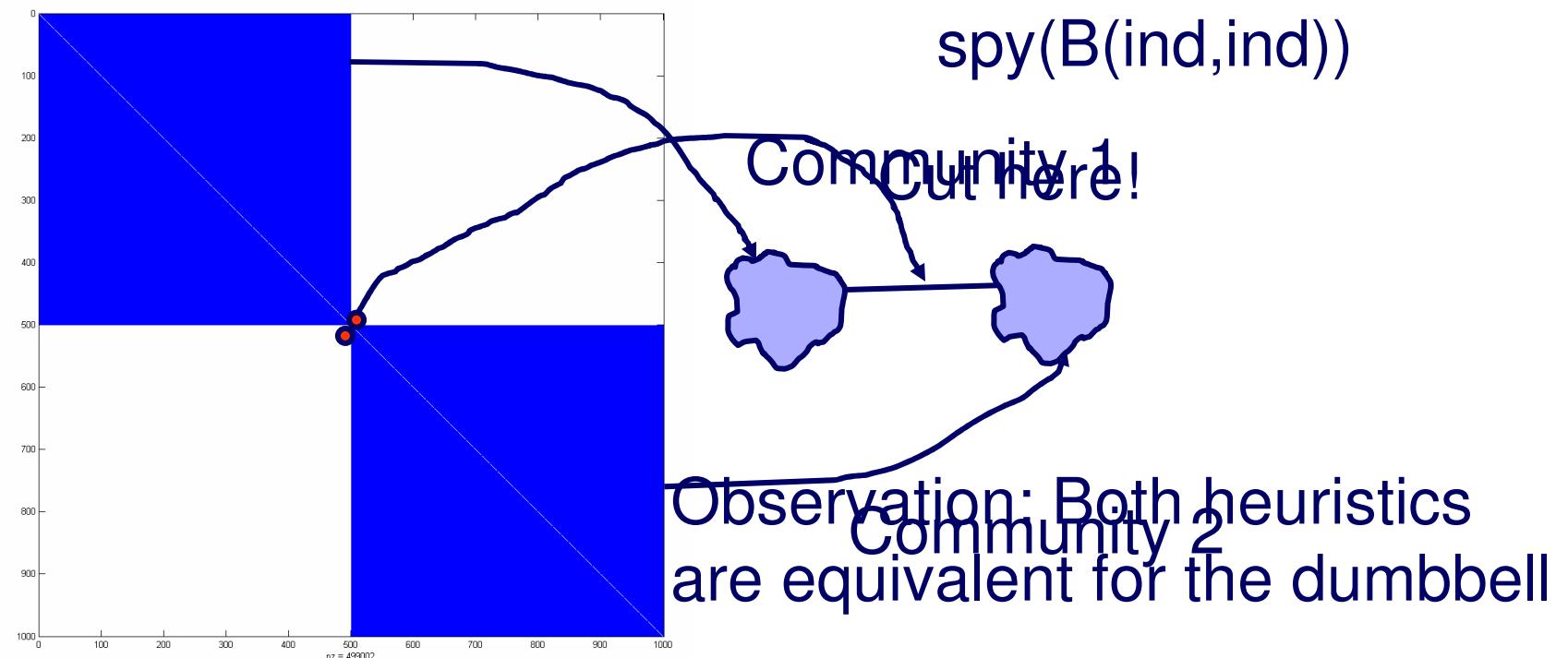
But now we see  
the two communities!





# Example: Spectral Partitioning

- This is how adjacency matrix of B looks now



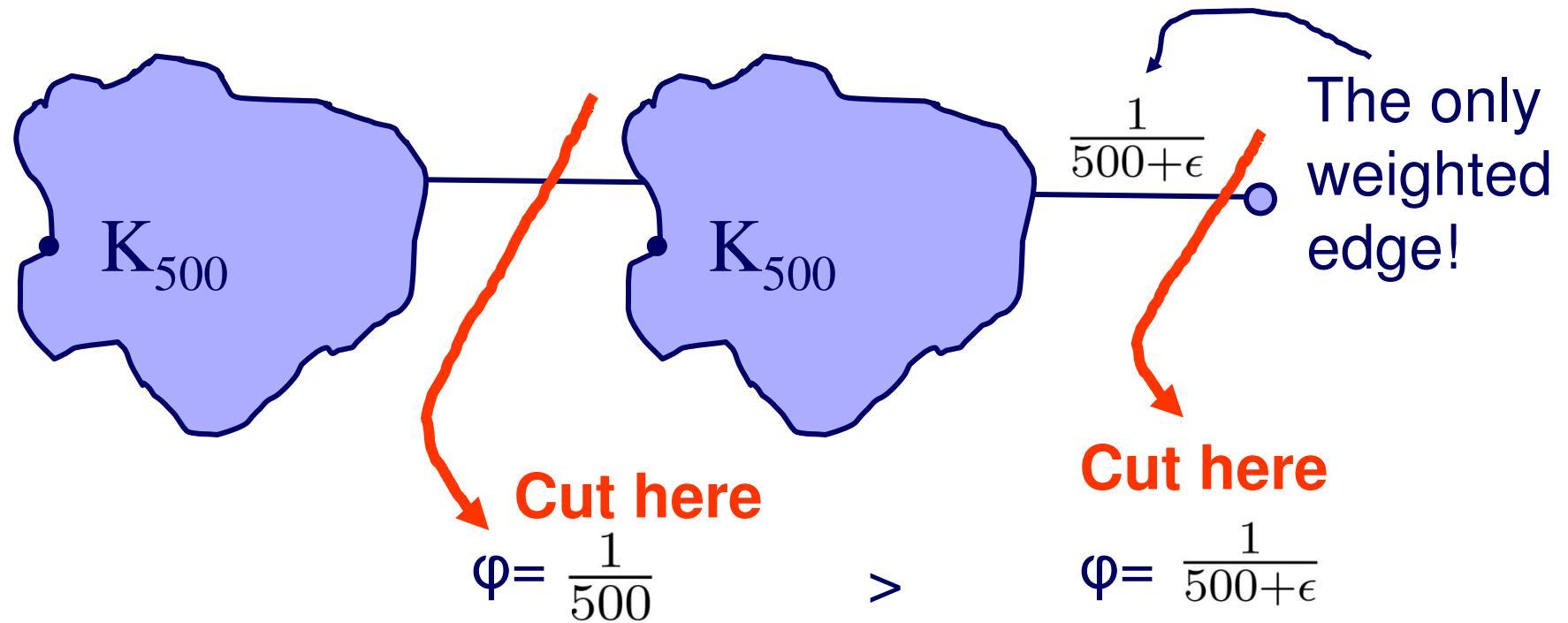


# Outline

- Reminders
- Adjacency matrix
- Laplacian
  - Connected Components
  - Intuition: Adjacency vs. Laplacian
  - Sparsest Cut and Cheeger inequality:
- ➔ Normalized Laplacian



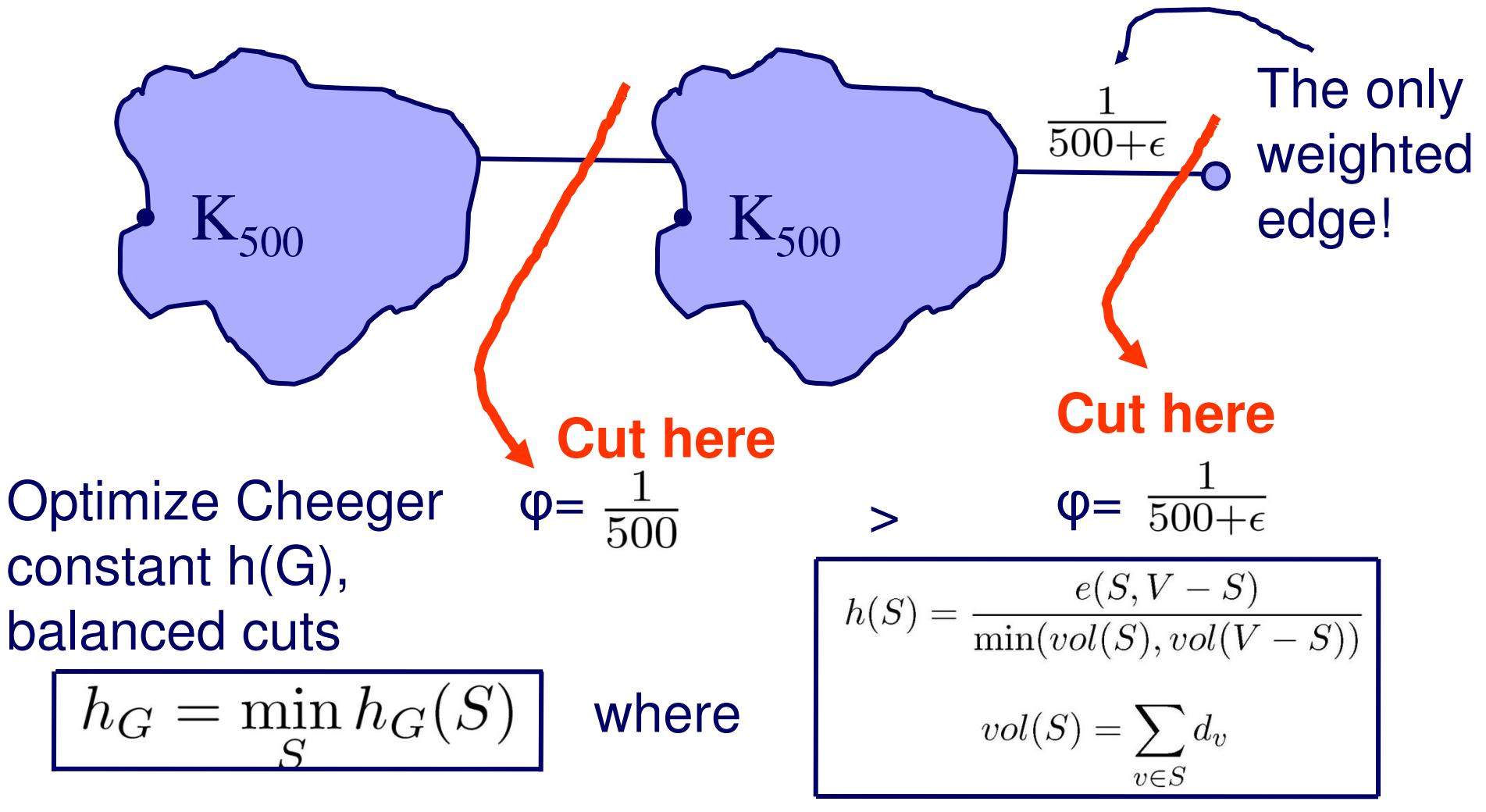
# Why Normalized Laplacian



So,  $\varphi$  is not good here...



# Why Normalized Laplacian





# Extensions

- Normalized Laplacian
  - Ng, Jordan, Weiss Spectral Clustering
  - Laplacian Eigenmaps for Manifold Learning
  - Computer Vision and many more applications...



Standard reference: Spectral Graph Theory  
Monograph by Fan Chung Graham



# Conclusions

Spectrum tells us a lot about the graph:

- Adjacency: #Paths
- Laplacian: Sparse Cut
- Normalized Laplacian: Normalized cuts,  
tend to avoid unbalanced cuts



# References

- Fan R. K. Chung: *Spectral Graph Theory* (AMS)
- Chris Godsil and Gordon Royle: *Algebraic Graph Theory* (Springer)
- Bojan Mohar and Svatopluk Poljak: *Eigenvalues in Combinatorial Optimization*, IMA Preprint Series #939
- Gilbert Strang: *Introduction to Applied Mathematics* (Wellesley-Cambridge Press)