

Random Walks, Mixing Times

Random Walks

$$G = (V, E, W) \quad A_{ij} = W_{ij}$$

$$D_{ii} = \sum_j W_{ij}$$

Let $P_i^{(t)}$ = prob at vertex V_i at time t .

Claim $A^T D^{-1} P^{(t)} = P^{(t+1)}$

note Prob going from V_i to V_j = $\frac{W_{ij}}{d_i}$ $d_i = \sum_j W_{ij}$

$$\left(\begin{array}{c|c} A^T & \\ \hline \begin{matrix} w_{1j} \\ \vdots \\ w_{ij} \\ \vdots \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} \vdots \\ d_i \\ \vdots \end{matrix} \end{array} \right)_i = \left(\begin{matrix} w_{1j}/d_i \\ \vdots \\ w_{ij}/d_i \\ \vdots \end{matrix} \right)$$

Note Col sums in $A^T D^{-1}$ are 1.

$A^T D^{-1}$ called transition matrix

In our case $A = A^T \wedge \sum_i P_i^{(0)} = \mathbb{1}$ $P_i^{(0)} \geq 0$

Two natural questions

1) \exists dist \bar{P} s.t. $AD^{-1}\bar{P} = \bar{P}$ (stationary dist)

2) $\forall P_0 \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (AD^{-1})^k P^{(k)} = \bar{P}$

1) Yes let $d = \sum d_i$ $\pi = \begin{pmatrix} d_1/d \\ \vdots \\ d_n/d \end{pmatrix} = 1/d D \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

pf

$AD^{-1}\pi = AD^{-1}(1/d)D \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 1/d A \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 1/d \begin{pmatrix} d_1 \\ \vdots \\ d_n \end{pmatrix} = \pi$

$\bar{d} = \begin{pmatrix} d_1 \\ \vdots \\ d_n \end{pmatrix}$ is an eigenvector with value 1

2) In general no. $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ for $G \equiv \bullet \leftrightarrow \bullet$

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

Note no iff $\exists x$ st $AD^{-1}x = -x$
 $\lambda = -1$

Thm If G is not bipartite & connected then

$$\forall P^{(0)} \text{ } |P^{(0)}|_1 = 1 \text{ \& } P^{(0)} \geq 0 \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (AD^{-1})^k P^{(0)} = \mathbb{1}$$

Question How fast does G "mix"?

Prob A sym but AD^{-1} is not!

We do a change of variables.

$$AD^{-1} \rightarrow \tilde{A} = D^{-1/2} A D^{-1/2}$$

$$P^{(k)} \rightarrow \tilde{P}^{(k)} = D^{-1/2} P^{(k)}$$

$$\mathbb{1} \rightarrow \tilde{\mathbb{1}} = D^{-1/2} \mathbb{1}$$

$$y = D^{-1/2} x$$

Claim $AD^{-1}x = \lambda x$ iff $\tilde{A}y = \lambda y$

$$(\Rightarrow) y = D^{-1/2} x$$

$$\tilde{A}y = D^{-1/2} A D^{-1/2} D^{-1/2} x = D^{-1/2} A D^{-1} x = \lambda D^{-1/2} x = \lambda y$$

(\Leftarrow)

Spectral Thm

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If A is real sym matrix then

1) Eigenvalues of A are real

ie $Ax = \lambda x \Rightarrow \lambda$ is real

2) If $Ax = \lambda x$ & $Ay = \mu y$ & $\lambda \neq \mu$ then

$x^T y = 0$ ie $x \perp y$

3) \exists an orthonormal bases y_1, \dots, y_n of (eigenvectors)

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} | & & | \\ y_1 & \dots & y_n \\ | & & | \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -y_1^T \\ \vdots \\ -y_n^T \end{pmatrix}$$

$$4) A = \sum \lambda_i (y_i y_i^T)$$

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Thus $\tilde{A} \tilde{\pi} = \tilde{\eta}$

Def Error $\tilde{\epsilon}^{(k)} = \tilde{\pi} - \tilde{A}^k \tilde{p}^{(0)} = \tilde{\eta} - \tilde{p}^{(k)}$

Question How fast does ϵ_k go to 0 with k ?

Claim $\tilde{\epsilon}_0 \perp \tilde{\pi}$ i.e. $\tilde{\epsilon}_0^T \tilde{\pi} = 0$

$$\tilde{\pi} = D^{-1/2} \pi = \begin{pmatrix} 1/\sqrt{d_1} \\ \vdots \\ 1/\sqrt{d_n} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} d_1/d \\ \vdots \\ d_n/d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{d_1}/d \\ \vdots \\ \sqrt{d_n}/d \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\tilde{\pi}^T \tilde{\pi} = \sum (\sqrt{d_i}/d)^2 = \sum d_i/d^2 = 1/d$$

$$\tilde{\pi}^T \tilde{p}^{(0)} = (\sqrt{d_1}/d \ \dots \ \sqrt{d_n}/d) \begin{pmatrix} p_1/\sqrt{d_1} \\ \vdots \\ p_n/\sqrt{d_n} \end{pmatrix} = \sum p_i/d = 1/d \sum p_i = 1/d$$

$$\tilde{\pi}^T \tilde{\epsilon}^{(0)} = \tilde{\pi}^T (\tilde{\eta} - \tilde{p}^{(0)}) = \tilde{\pi}^T \tilde{\eta} - \tilde{\pi}^T \tilde{p}^{(0)} = \frac{1}{d} - \frac{1}{d} = 0$$

Perron-Frobenius Thm

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Suppose $A^{n \times n} \geq 0$ Graph(A) is strongly connected

Def $z \in \mathbb{C}$ $|z| = \sqrt{z^* z} = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$ $z = a + ib$

Spectral radius $\rho(A) = \max_{\lambda \in \lambda(A)} |\lambda|$

Thm 1) $\rho(A)$ is a simple eigenvalue of A.

If x is an eigenvector for ρ then $\text{sign}(x_i) = \text{sign}(x_j) \forall i, j$

2) $\theta \in \lambda(A)$ and $|\theta| = \rho(A)$ then $\theta/\rho(A)$ is an m th root of unit and all cycles in X have length a multiple of m .

3) Only non-neg eigenvector is x .

proof (to come)

Suppose eigenvalues of \tilde{A} are:

$$-1 < \lambda_1 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_{n-1} < 1 \text{ with}$$

Eigenvectors $v_1, \dots, v_{n-1} = \tilde{V} \cdot d$

We know $\varepsilon_0 = \alpha_1 v_1 + \dots + \alpha_{n-1} v_{n-1}$ some α_i 's

$$\tilde{\varepsilon}_1 = \tilde{A} \tilde{\varepsilon}_0 = \lambda_1 \alpha_1 v_1 + \dots + \lambda_{n-1} \alpha_{n-1} v_{n-1}$$

$$\tilde{\varepsilon}_k = \lambda_1^k \alpha_1 v_1 + \dots + \lambda_{n-1}^k \alpha_{n-1} v_{n-1}$$

Thus mixing rate is determined by

$$\lambda = \max\{|\lambda_1|, |\lambda_{n-1}|\}$$

Pick k s.t. $\lambda^k \leq 1/2$

Thus every k rounds the error halves.

pf

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{\epsilon}^{(k)}\|_2 &= \sqrt{\sum \lambda_i^{2k} \alpha_i^2 \lambda_i^2} \\ &= \sqrt{\sum \lambda^{2k} \alpha_i^2 \lambda_i^2} \\ &= \lambda^k \sqrt{\sum \alpha_i^2 \lambda_i^2} \\ &= \lambda^k \|\tilde{\epsilon}^{(0)}\|_2 \end{aligned}$$

$\lambda^k \leq 1/2$ done,

PROOF OF SPECTRAL THEOREM

Theorem 1 (Spectral Theorem). *Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ be a real symmetric matrix. Then*

- (1) *All eigenvalues of A are real.*
- (2) *There exists an orthogonal matrix Q and a diagonal matrix Λ such that $A = Q\Lambda Q^T$.*

Proof. We have proved (1) in the class. Only need to prove (2). We make an induction on n .

When $n = 1$, the claim is obvious. Now assume that the claim is valid for $n = m$, that is, for any $m \times m$ -real symmetric matrix A , there exists an orthogonal matrix Q and diagonal matrix Λ such that $A = Q\Lambda Q^T$. Let us consider $(m + 1) \times (m + 1)$ -real symmetric matrix A . By (1), A has a real eigenvalue λ with eigenvector α . We see that all entries of α must be real numbers. By Gram-Schmidt process, we may assume that there exists an orthonormal basis q_1, \dots, q_n with $q_1 = \alpha$. Let $P := (q_1 q_2 \dots q_n)$ and $C := P^T A P = (c_{ij})_{(m+1) \times (m+1)}$. We claim that $c_{11} = \lambda$ and $c_{i1} = 0$ for $i \neq 1$. In fact, note that P is an orthogonal matrix, we have $AP = PC$, that is, $A(q_1 q_2 \dots q_n) = (q_1 q_2 \dots q_n)C$. Therefore, we have $Aq_1 = \sum_{i=1}^{m+1} c_{i1} q_i$. But $q_1 = \alpha$ is an eigenvector, so $\lambda q_1 = \sum_{i=1}^{m+1} c_{i1} q_i$. Since q_1, \dots, q_n are linearly independent. So $c_{11} = \lambda$ and $c_{i1} = 0$ for $i \neq 1$. So C has four blocks like $\begin{pmatrix} \lambda & \star \\ 0 & \tilde{A} \end{pmatrix}$. Note that $C = P^T A P$ is symmetric(why ?), thus $\star = 0$. So $C = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \tilde{A} \end{pmatrix}$ and \tilde{A} has to be symmetric matrix with the size $m \times m$. By induction, there exists an orthogonal matrix Q and diagonal matrix Λ such that $\tilde{A} = Q\Lambda Q^T$. Therefore

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \tilde{A} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & Q\Lambda Q^T \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & Q \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \Lambda \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & Q \end{pmatrix}^T$$

Therefore

$$A = PCP^T = P \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & Q \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \Lambda \end{pmatrix} (P \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & Q \end{pmatrix})^T$$

and we easily check $P \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & Q \end{pmatrix}$ is an orthogonal matrix and we are done. □