



Aalto University  
School of Science  
and Technology

# Structured Prediction of Network Response

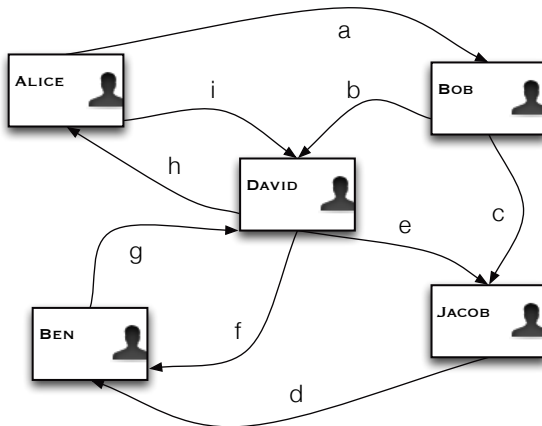
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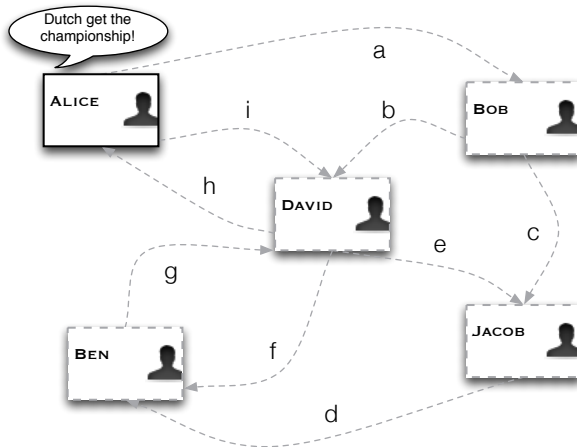
# Example: Predicting Network Response

A twitter (follower-ship) network consists of five users.



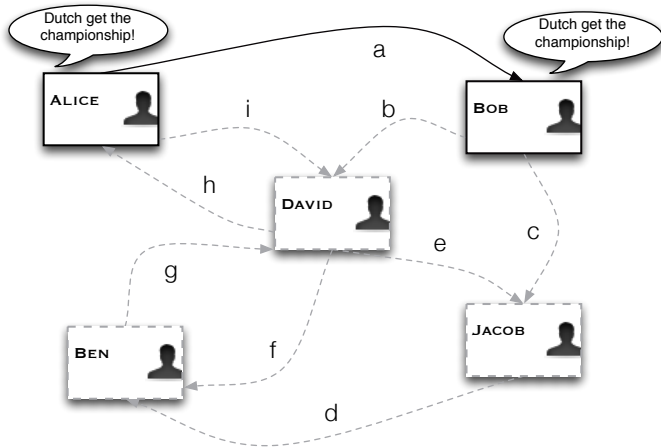
# Example: Predicting Network Response

Alice tweets a message after World Cup final.



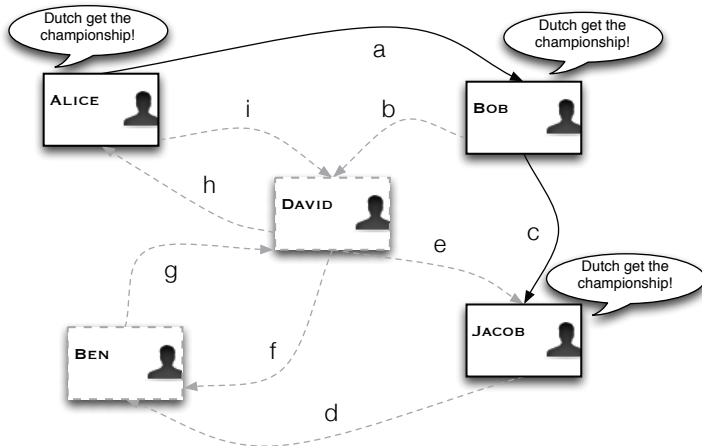
# Example: Predicting Network Response

Bob sees the message and retweets the message from Alice.



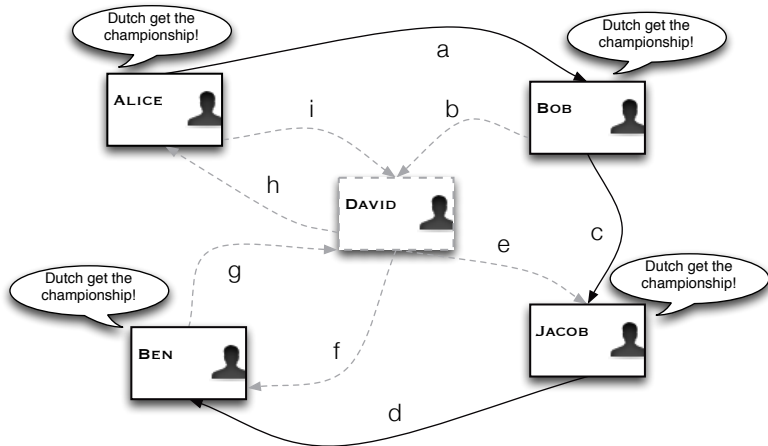
# Example: Predicting Network Response

Jacob retweets the message from Bob.



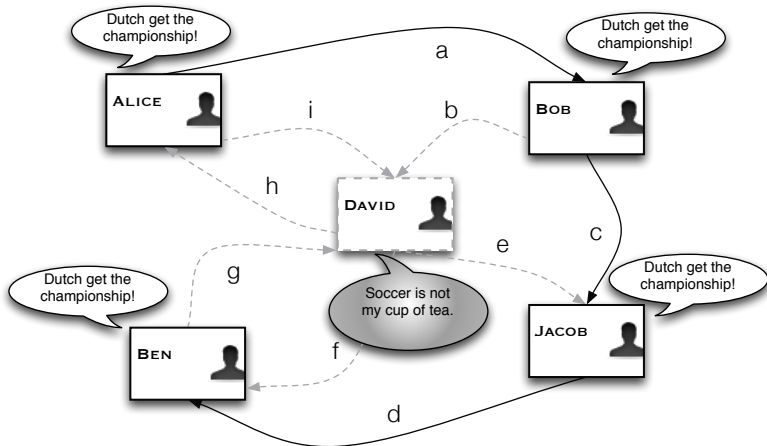
# Example: Predicting Network Response

Ben retweets the message from Jacob.



# Example: Predicting Network Response

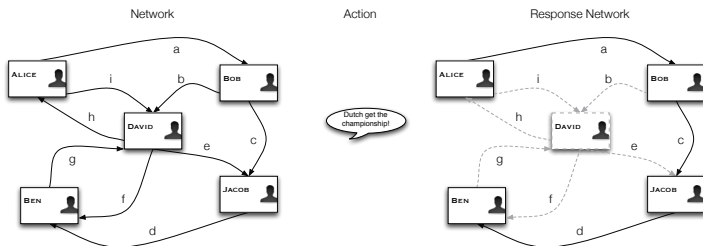
David does not like soccer.



# Network Response Problem

## ► Definition:

- Given a complex network  $G$ , and an action  $\mathbf{a}$  performed on the network.
- Task: predict the subnetwork that responds to the action.
  - Which nodes  $v \in V_{\mathbf{a}}$  perform the action?  
 $V_{\mathbf{a}} = \{\text{Alice}, \text{Bob}, \text{Jacob}, \text{Ben}\}$
  - Which directed edges  $e \in E_{\mathbf{a}}$  relay the action from one node to its neighbors?  $E_{\mathbf{a}} = \{a, c, d\}$





# Contributions

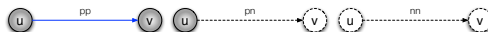
- ▶ **Context-sensitive prediction.** The influence from node  $u$  to node  $v$  not only depends on their connections but also depends on the action  $\mathbf{a}$  under consideration.
- ▶ **Structure output learning.** We model the problem as predicting for each action (e.g. a tweet) a response network (*directed acyclic graph*).
- ▶ **Efficient inference algorithms to discover the response network:**
  - ▶ **Semidefinite programming relaxation** of integer quadratic programming with approximation guarantee.
  - ▶ **Greedy algorithm** as a scalable approach.
- ▶ **Empirically performance** is shown to be better than the state-of-the-art.

# Model

- ▶ Model is defined on directed network.
  - ▶ Any undirected network can be seen as special case by replacing undirected edges with two directed ones.

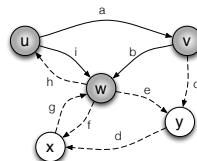


- ▶ Notation of edge labels:



- ▶ Feature maps:
  - ▶ *Input feature*: Encode  $\mathbf{a}$  as  $\phi(\mathbf{a})$  (e.g. bag-of-words of a tweet).
  - ▶ *Output feature*: Encode  $G_{\mathbf{a}}$  as  $\psi(G_{\mathbf{a}})$  (e.g. a set of edges and their labels)

$$\begin{aligned}\psi(G_{\mathbf{a}}) &= \{a_{pp}, a_{pn}, a_{nn}, b_{pp}, b_{pn}, b_{nn}, c_{pp}, c_{pn}, c_{nn}, \dots\} \\ &= \{1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, \dots\}\end{aligned}$$



# Structure Output Prediction Model

- Compatibility score for  $(\mathbf{a}, G_{\mathbf{a}})$ :  $F(\mathbf{a}, G_{\mathbf{a}}, \mathbf{w}) = \langle \mathbf{w}, \varphi(\mathbf{a}, G_{\mathbf{a}}) \rangle$ 
  - $\mathbf{w}$  is the feature weight to be learned.
  - $\varphi(\mathbf{a}, G_{\mathbf{a}}) = \phi(\mathbf{a}) \otimes \psi(G_{\mathbf{a}})$  is joint feature map.
  - Intuition: given an action  $\mathbf{a}$ , the score of correct response graph  $(\mathbf{a}, G_{\mathbf{a}})$  should be higher than any incorrect response graph  $(\mathbf{a}, G'_{\mathbf{a}})$ .

$$F(\mathbf{a}, G_{\mathbf{a}}, \mathbf{w}) > F(\mathbf{a}, G'_{\mathbf{a}}, \mathbf{w}), \quad \forall G'_{\mathbf{a}} \in \mathcal{H}(G)$$

- $\mathbf{w}$  is learned by solving structured output learning problem

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{w}, \xi} \quad & \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2 + C \sum_{i=1}^m \xi_i \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & F(\mathbf{a}_i, G_{\mathbf{a}_i}; \mathbf{w}) > \underset{G'_{\mathbf{a}_i} \in \mathcal{H}(G)}{\operatorname{argmax}} (F(\mathbf{a}_i, G'_{\mathbf{a}_i}, \mathbf{w}) \\ & + \ell_G(G_{\mathbf{a}_i}, G'_{\mathbf{a}_i})) - \xi_i, \xi_i \geq 0, \forall i \in \{1, \dots, m\}, \end{aligned}$$

# Inference Problem

- ▶ To solve the optimization, we have to solve similar inference problem appeared both in training and in prediction.
- ▶ In prediction phase:
  - ▶ Given the feature weight  $\mathbf{w}$  and the complex network  $G$ .
  - ▶ To find out a network  $H^* = (V_H, E_H)$  that gives the maximal compatibility score for a given action  $\mathbf{a}$

$$\begin{aligned} H^*(a) &= \underset{H \in \mathcal{H}(G)}{\operatorname{argmax}} F(\mathbf{a}, H; \mathbf{w}) \\ &= \underset{H \in \mathcal{H}(G)}{\operatorname{argmax}} \langle \mathbf{w}, \phi(a) \otimes \psi(H) \rangle \\ &= \underset{H \in \mathcal{H}(G)}{\operatorname{argmax}} \sum_{e \in E_H} s_{y_e}(e, a, \mathbf{w}) \end{aligned}$$

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# NP-hardness

$$H^*(a) = \underset{H \in \mathcal{H}(G)}{\mathbf{argmax}} \sum_{e \in E^H} s_{y_e}(e, a, \mathbf{w}) \quad (1)$$

## Lemma

*Finding the graph that maximizes Eq. (1) is an  $\mathcal{NP}$ -hard problem.*

## Proof.

Reduction from MAX-CUT problem.



# Approximate Inference through SDP relaxation

- ▶ SDP inference:
  - ▶ We formulate the inference problem as *integer quadratic programming* (IQP).
    - ▶ Introduce for each node  $u \in V$  a binary variable  $x_u \in \{-1, +1\}$ .
    - ▶ Introduce a special variable  $x_0 \in \{-1, +1\}$  to distinguish activated node.

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & \frac{1}{4} \sum_{(u,v) \in E} [s_{pn}(u,v)(1 + x_0 x_u - x_0 x_v - x_u x_v) \\ & + s_{nn}(u,v)(1 - x_0 x_u - x_0 x_v + x_u x_v) \\ & + s_{pp}(u,v)(1 + x_0 x_u + x_0 x_v + x_u x_v)] \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_0, x_u, x_v \in \{-1, +1\}, \text{ for all } u, v \in V, \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ IQP is solved by *semidefinite programming relaxation* (SDP).
- ▶ Optimization guarantee  $E[Z] \geq (\alpha - \epsilon)Z_R$  with  $\alpha > 0.796$ ,  $Z$  is objective achieved by SDP,  $Z_R$  is objective of IQP.

# GREEDY Inference

- ▶ GREEDY inference:
  - ▶ We have shown that the inference problem can be expressed equivalently as nodes and their scores

$$H^*(\mathbf{a}) = \underset{H \in \mathcal{H}(G)}{\operatorname{argmax}} \sum_{v_i \in V_p^H} F_m(v_i).$$

- ▶ The greedy algorithm iteratively maximizes the equation by adding one node into activated node set  $V_p^H$  in each iteration.
- ▶ The time complexity for greedy inference algorithm is  $\Theta(|E| \log |V|)$ .
- ▶ We are able to run GREEDY algorithm on network with upto 2000 nodes.

# Experiment: Context-sensitive Prediction

- ▶ Experiment settings:
  - ▶ We assume action is known (e.g. bag-of-word of a tweet).
  - ▶ Task is to predict the response network given an action.
  - ▶ *Predicted Subgraph Coverage* (PSC) is the relative size of correctly predicted subgraph in terms of node labels.)
- ▶ Result:

Dataset	Node Accuracy			Node $F_1$ Score			Edge Acc		PSC		
	SVM	MMCRF	SPIN	SVM	MMCRF	SPIN	SVM	SPIN	SVM	MMCRF	SPIN
memeS	<b>73.4</b>	68.0	72.2	39.0	39.8	<b>47.1</b>	<b>62.7</b>	45.6	23.4	25.3	<b>33.6</b>
memeM	<b>82.1</b>	79.0	81.5	29.1	30.1	<b>38.0</b>	61.1	<b>68.8</b>	18.6	18.8	<b>28.3</b>
memeL	<b>89.9</b>	88.3	89.8	26.7	27.1	<b>35.0</b>	45.5	<b>80.0</b>	17.7	18.9	<b>27.6</b>
M700	91.9	<b>94.1</b>	92.1	13.8	7.3	<b>14.2</b>	26.3	<b>93.0</b>	29.4	23.9	<b>34.4</b>
M1k	94.1	<b>95.8</b>	94.2	<b>10.9</b>	3.5	9.3	26.6	<b>94.7</b>	33.7	16.6	<b>35.2</b>
M2k	96.8	<b>97.6</b>	96.7	<b>6.2</b>	1.4	3.4	25.3	<b>97.6</b>	<b>34.6</b>	9.6	14.7
L700	89.7	<b>92.4</b>	89.7	16.2	9.4	<b>17.3</b>	26.5	<b>90.4</b>	9.5	6.7	<b>12.5</b>
L1k	92.4	<b>94.4</b>	91.5	12.4	6.4	<b>13.9</b>	26.4	<b>92.3</b>	6.1	4.4	<b>8.4</b>
L2k	92.5	<b>94.5</b>	91.9	12.3	5.4	<b>12.7</b>	26.5	<b>93.2</b>	6.0	2.9	<b>7.2</b>
Geom.	85.5	86.4	<b>86.6</b>	19.8	12.6	<b>20.3</b>	32.6	<b>79.7</b>	18.9	14.2	<b>21.7</b>

# Experiment: Context-free Prediction

- ▶ Experiment settings:
  - ▶ We assume action is unknown.
  - ▶ Task is to predict directed edges from a cascade of actions and compare the results against other influence network prediction methods.
  - ▶ The measure of success is *Precision@K*, where we ask for top-*K* percent edge predictions and compute the precision.
- ▶ Result:

Dataset	Model	T ( $10^3$ s)	Precision @ K					
			10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%
memeS	SPIN	5.50	<b>82.9</b>	<b>81.0</b>	<b>76.0</b>	<b>74.0</b>	<b>74.0</b>	<b>70.0</b>
	ICM-EM	<b>0.01</b>	60.3	63.5	65.1	62.0	62.0	61.5
	NETRATE	5.83	76.2	73.8	70.4	68.7	68.7	66.8
memeM	SPIN	5.52	<b>82.7</b>	<b>72.1</b>	<b>70.5</b>	<b>69.2</b>	<b>69.2</b>	<b>67.9</b>
	ICM-EM	<b>0.02</b>	56.3	55.3	56.8	57.4	57.4	56.3
	NETRATE	13.93	61.2	64.6	62.9	62.5	62.5	62.4
memeL	SPIN	4.75	<b>82.2</b>	<b>73.6</b>	<b>69.1</b>	<b>66.7</b>	<b>66.7</b>	<b>65.9</b>
	ICM-EM	<b>0.01</b>	52.1	55.7	54.2	56.5	56.5	56.7
	NETRATE	12.63	56.5	57.8	60.0	59.3	59.3	59.4

# Conclusion

- ▶ We have developed a structured output learning approach for network response prediction problem.
- ▶ To outperform competing methods, our model takes the advantage of two sources of prior knowledge:
  - ▶ The context given by the action descriptions.
  - ▶ The structure of an underlying network (e.g. followership in Twitter, friendship in Facebook).
- ▶ The inference problem is  $\mathcal{NP}$ -hard, and is in practice tackled by two algorithms:
  - ▶ SDP relaxation with approximation guarantee.
  - ▶ a fast GREEDY heuristics.

- ▶ Poster No. 565 tonight.
- ▶ Thank you !