Paper Summary

David Miller CIS 5930: Social Network Mining February 5, 2018

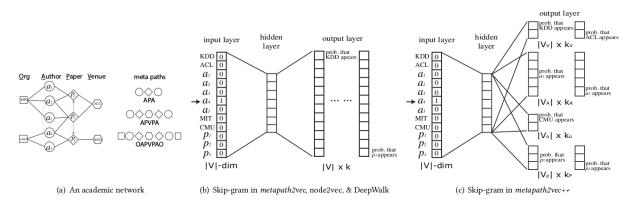


Figure 1

A Heterogeneous Network is defined as a graph G=(V,E,T) in which each node v and each link e are associated with their mapping functions $\phi(v):V\to T_V$ and $\phi(e):E\to T_E$, respectively. T_V and T_E denote the sets of object and relation types, where $|T_V|+|T_E|>2$ [1]. Given this definition, we can state the problem as follows:

Problem. Given a heterogeneous network G, the task is to learn the d-dimensional latent representations $X \in \mathbb{R}^{|V|d}, d << |V|$ that are able to capture the structural and semantic relations among them

What the problem is essentially stating given some input I we try to find the best (lowest) dimension d that accurately represent and captures the relationship amongst elements in I.

The problem generates similar neighborhoods based on random meta-paths $\mathcal{P}: V_1 \xrightarrow{R_1} V_2 \xrightarrow{R_2} \dots V_t \xrightarrow{R_t} V_{t+1} \dots \xrightarrow{R_{l-1}} V_l$, where R_i is the relationship between nod V_i and V_{i+1} and where probability of transition is given by

$$p(v^{i+1}|v_t^i, \mathcal{P}) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{|N_{t+1}(v_t^i)|} & (v^{i+1}, v_t^i) \in E, \phi(v^{i+1}) = t+1) \\ 0 & (v^{i+1}, v_t^i) \in E, \phi(v^{i+1}) \neq t+1 \\ 0 & \notin E \end{cases}$$

which essentially states that the walker is likely to go to a node within its neighborhood. Once all nodes on the neighborhood have been visited, there is no place for the random walker to go and thus this creates a neighborhood of some shared context. This is essentially what metapath2vec does. What metapath2vec++ does it just add probability distributions to context types c_1, \ldots, c_t to increases neighborhood classification. Future work is discussed very well in the paper. It includes different improvements and optimizations that can be done: optimizing sampling space, machine learning to uncover meaningful meta-paths, allow the model to work with dynamic data, and generalizing the model for all types of heterogeneous networks.

Three strengths I found with the paper are

- 1. metapath2vec and metapath2vec++ models are efficient and scalable for large-scale heterogeneous networks with millions of nodes [1].
- 2. The area of application lends itself well to data visualization, allowing for easy communication with the public and possible commercial consumers if sold as a product.
- 3. Parameter sensitivity allows contexts to be weighted respective to their significance.

Three weaknesses I found with the paper are

- 1. A lack of applications; the paper (results including) focused too much on the author and venue networks.
- 2. There was no evidence suggesting that this can be applied to GPU computing, which I believe to be an appropriate computing venue for *metapath2vec* and *metapath2vec*.
- 3. Lack of analysis. Topics such as statistics and probability deserve a thorough analysis to provide evidence that algorithms based on them are valid and reliable. There is a lack of this sort of analysis in the paper.

Questions for the reader

- 1. What exactly does metapath2vec++ offer over metapath2vec?
- 2. Is there a way to embed the data in one dimension while keeping context of data?
- 3. If machine learning is used for metapath finding, how would that work?

References

[1] Yuxiao Dong, Nitesh V. Chawla, Ananthram Swami, metapath2vec: Scalable Representation Learning for Heterogeneous Networks, KDD17, August 13-17, 2017, Halifax, NS, Canada.