# Graph clustering and the Stochastic Block Model

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Autumn semester, 2019

https://github.com/jchiquet/CourseUnsupervisedLearningX





- Basic notions on graphs and networks
   Definitions
   Representations
- ② Graph Partionning Hierarchical clustering Spectral Clustering
- 3 The Stochastic Block Model (SBM) Some Graphs Models and their limitations Mixture of Erdös-Rényi and the SBM Inference in SBM with variational EM

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#### References



Statistical Analysis of Network Data: Methods and Models, Eric Kolazcyk Chapiter 2, Section 1



Analyse statistique de graphes, Catherine Matias Chapitre 1

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## Graphs, Networks: some definitions

## Definition (Network versus Graph)

- A Network is a collection of interacting entities
- A Graph is the mathematical representation of a network

## Definition (Graph)

A graph  $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$  is a mathematical structure consisting of

- a set  $\mathcal{V} = \{1, \dots, n\}$  of vertices or nodes
- a set  $\mathcal{E}=\{e_1,\ldots,e_p:e_k=(i_k,j_k)\in(\mathcal{V}\times\mathcal{V})\}$  of edges or links
- The number of vertices  $N_v = |\mathcal{V}|$  is called the order
- ullet The number of edges  $N_e=|\mathcal{E}|$  is called the size

## Definition (Vocabulary)

subgraph, induced subgraph, (un)directed graph, weighted graph, bipartite graph, tree, DAG, etc.

# Paths, Cycles, Connected Components

## Definition (Path)

In a undirected graph  $\mathcal{G}=(\mathcal{V},\mathcal{E})$  a path between  $i,j\in\mathcal{V}^2$  is a series of edges  $e_1,\ldots,e_k$  such that

- $\forall 1 \leq \ell < k$ , all edges  $(e_{\ell}, e_{\ell+1})$  share a vertex in  $\mathcal{V}$
- $e_1$  starts from i,  $e_k$  ends to j.

#### Vocabulary

- A cycle is a path from i to itself.
- A connected component is a subset  $\mathcal{V}' \subset \mathcal{V}$  such that there exists an path between any  $i,j \in \mathcal{V}'$ .
- A graph is connected when there is a path between every node pairs.

## Proposition (Decomposition)

Any graph can be decomposed in a unique set of maximal connected components. The number of connected component is a least  $n-|\mathcal{E}|$ 

## Neighborhood, Degree

## Definition (Neighborhood)

The neighbors of a vertex are the nodes directly connected to this vertex:

$$\mathcal{N}(i) = \{ j \in \mathcal{V} : (i, j) \in \mathcal{E} \}.$$

#### Definition (Degree)

The degree  $d_i$  of a node i is given by its number of neighbors, i.e.  $|\mathcal{N}(i)|$ .

#### Remark

In digraphs, vertex degree is replaced by in-degree and out-degree.

#### Proposition

In a graph  $\mathcal{G}=(\mathcal{V},\mathcal{E})$  the sum of the degree is given by  $2|\mathcal{E}|$ . Hence this is always an even quantity.

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# Adjacency matrix and list of edges

## Definition (Adjacency matrix)

The connectivity of  $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$  is captured by the  $|\mathcal{V}| \times |\mathcal{V}|$  matrix **A**:

$$(\mathbf{A})_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i \sim j, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

#### Proposition

The degree of G are then simply obtained as the row-wise and/or column-wise sums of A.

#### Remark

If the list of vertices is known, the only information which needs to be stored is the list of edges. In terms of storage, this is equivalent to a sparse matrix representation.

#### Incidence matrix

#### Definition (Incidence matrix)

The connectivity of  $\mathcal{G}=(\mathcal{V},\mathcal{E})$  is captured by the  $|\mathcal{V}|\times |\mathcal{E}|$  matrix  $\mathbf{B}$ :

$$(\mathbf{B})_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i \text{ is incident to edge } j, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

## Proposition (Relationship)

Let  $\tilde{\mathbf{B}}$  be a modified signed version of  $\mathbf{B}$  where  $\tilde{B}_{ij}=1/-1$  if i is incident to j as tail/head. Then

$$\tilde{\mathbf{B}}\tilde{\mathbf{B}}^{\mathsf{T}} = \mathbf{D} - \mathbf{A},$$

where  $\mathbf{D} = diag(\{d_i, i \in \mathcal{V}\})$  is the diagonal matrix of degrees.

 $\leadsto BB^\intercal$  is called the Laplacian matrix and will be studied latter.

## Layout and Vizualization

- Vizualization of large networks is a field of research in its own
- Be carefull with graphical interpretation of (large) networks

```
library(igraph)
library(sand)
GLattice <- graph.lattice(c(5,5,5))
GBlog <- aidsblog</pre>
```

## Layout and Vizualization

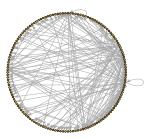
#### Example with circle plot

```
par(mfrow=c(1,2))
plot(GLattice, layout=layout.circle); title("5x5x5 lattice")
plot(GBlog , layout=layout.circle); title("blog network")
```



5x5x5 lattice

blog network



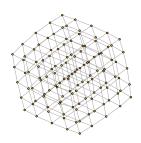
## Layout and Vizualization

#### Example with Fruchterman and Reingold

```
par(mfrow=c(1,2))
plot(GLattice, layout=layout.fruchterman.reingold); title("5x5x5 lattice")
plot(GBlog , layout=layout.fruchterman.reingold); title("blog network")
```

#### 5x5x5 lattice

#### blog network

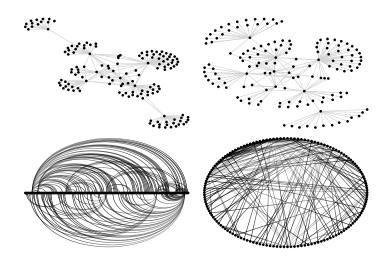




## Layout and Vizualization: ggraph way I

```
library(ggraph)
library(gridExtra)
g1 <- ggraph(GBlog, layout = "fr") +
  geom_edge_link(color = "lightgray") + geom_node_point() + theme_void()
g2 <- ggraph(GBlog , layout = "kk") +
  geom_edge_link(color = "lightgray") + geom_node_point() + theme_void()
g3 <- ggraph(GBlog, layout = "linear") +
  geom_edge_arc(aes(alpha=..index..), show.legend = FALSE) +
  geom_node_point() + theme_void()
g4 <- ggraph(GBlog , layout = "linear", circular = TRUE) +
  geom_edge_link(aes(alpha=..index..), show.legend = FALSE) +
  geom_node_point() + theme_void()
grid.arrange(g1, g2, g3, g4, nrow = 2, ncol = 2)
```

# Layout and Vizualization: **ggraph** way II



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#### References

- Statistical Analysis of Network Data: Methods and Models, Eric Kolazcyk Chapiter 4, Section 4
- Analyse statistique de graphes, Catherine Matias, Chapitre 3
- DS David Sontag's Lecture http://people.csail.mit.edu/dsontag/courses/ml13/ slides/lecture16.pdf
- A Tutorial on Spectral Clustering, Ulrike von Luxburg

# Principle of graph partionning

## Definition (Partition)

A decomposition  $\mathcal{C} = \{C_1, \dots, C_K\}$  of the vertices  $\mathcal{V}$  such that

- $\bullet \ C_k \cap C_{k'} = \emptyset \ \text{for any} \ k \neq k'$
- $\bigcup_k C_k = \mathcal{V}$

#### Goal of graph partionning

Form a partition of the vertices with unsupervized approach where the  $\mathcal C$  is composed by "cohesive" sets of vertices, for instance,

- vertices well connected among themselves
- well separated from the remaining vertices

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## Principle

## **Input:** n individuals with p attributes)

- 1. Compute the dissimilarity between groups
- 2. Regroup the two most similar elements Iterate until all element are in a single group

**Output:** n nested partitions from  $\{\{1\},\ldots,\{n\}\}$  to  $\{\{1,\ldots,n\}\}$  **Algorithm 1:** Agglomerative hierarchical clustering

## Ingredients

- 1 a dissimilarity measure between singleton
- 2 a distance measure between sets

## Dissimilarity measures

#### Standards

Use standard distances on adjacency matrix:

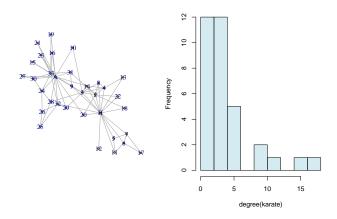
- Euclidean distance:  $x_{ij} = \sqrt{\sum_{ij} (A_{ik} A_{jk})^2}$
- ullet Manhattan distance:  $x_{ij} = \sum_{ij} |A_{ik} A_{jk})|$
- etc. . .

#### Graph-specific

For instance, Modularity (studied during tutorial)

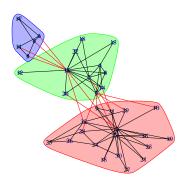
## Example: karaté club

```
library(sand) data(karate)
par(mfrow=c(1,2)) plot(karate)
hist(degree(karate), col=adjustcolor("lightblue", alpha.f = 0.5), main="")
```



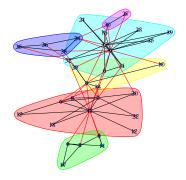
# Examples of graph clustering I

```
hc <- cluster_fast_greedy(karate)
plot(hc,karate)</pre>
```



## Examples of graph clustering II

```
hc <- cluster_edge_betweenness(karate)
plot(hc,karate)</pre>
```



# Examples of graph clustering III

```
hc <- cluster_walktrap(karate)
plot(hc,karate)</pre>
```



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## Graph Laplacian

## Definition ((Un-normalized) Laplacian)

The Laplacian matrix  ${\bf L}$ , resulting from the modified incidence matrix  $\tilde{{\bf B}}$   $\tilde{B}_{ij}=1/-1$  if i is incident to j as tail/head, is defined by

$$\mathbf{L} = \tilde{\mathbf{B}}\tilde{\mathbf{B}}^{\mathsf{T}} = \mathbf{D} - \mathbf{A},$$

where  $\mathbf{D} = \mathsf{diag}(d_i, i \in \mathcal{V})$  is the diagonal matrix of degrees.

#### Remark

- L is called Laplacian by analogy to the second order derivative (see below).
- $\bullet$  Spectrum of L has much to say about the structure of the graph  $\mathcal{G}.$

## Graph Laplacian: spectrum

## Proposition (Spectrum of L)

The  $n \times n$  matrix  $\mathbf L$  has the following properties:

$$\mathbf{x}^{\top} \mathbf{L} \mathbf{x} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} A_{ij} (x_i - x_j)^2, \quad \forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

- L is a symmetric, positive semi-definite matrix,
- the smallest eigenvalue is 0 with associated eigenvector 1.
- L has n positive eigenvalues  $0 = \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_n$ .

## Corollary (Spectrum and Graph)

- The multiplicity of the first eigen value (0) of **L** determines the number of connected components in the graph.
- The larger the second non trivial eigenvalue, the higher the connectivity of G.

## Some variants

## Definition ((Normalized) Laplacian)

The normalized Laplacian matrix  ${f L}$  is defined by

$$\mathbf{L}_N = \mathbf{D}^{-1/2} \mathbf{L} \mathbf{D}^{-1/2} = \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{D}^{-1/2} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{D}^{-1/2}.$$

## Definition ((Absolute) Graph Laplacian)

The absolute Laplacian matrix  $\mathbf{L}_{abs}$  is defined by

$$\mathbf{L}_{abs} = \mathbf{D}^{-1/2} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{D}^{-1/2} = \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{L}_N,$$

with eigenvalues  $1 - \lambda_n \leq \cdots \leq 1 - \lambda_2 \leq 1 - \lambda_1 = 1$ , where  $0 = \lambda_1 \leq \cdots \leq \lambda_n$  are the eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{L}_N$ .

## Spectral Clustering

#### Principle

- $oldsymbol{0}$  Use the spectral property of  $oldsymbol{L}$  to perform clustering in the eigen space
- 2 If the network have K connected components, the first K eigenvectors are  ${\bf 1}$  span the eigenspace associated with eigenvalue 0
- $oldsymbol{3}$  Applying a simple clustering algorithm to the rows of the K first eigenvectors separate the components
- → This principle generalizes to a graph with a single component: spectral clustering tends to separates groups of nodes which are highly connected together

## Normalized Spectral Clustering

by Ng, Jordan and Weiss (2002)

**Input:** Adjacency matrix and number of classes Q

Compute the normalized graph Laplacian  ${f L}$ 

Compute the eigen vectors of  ${\bf L}$  associated with the Q smallest eigenvalues

Define  ${f U}$ , the n imes Q matrix that encompasses these Q vectors

Define  $ilde{\mathbf{U}}$ , the row-wise normalized version of  $\mathbf{U}$ :  $ilde{u}_{ij} = \frac{u_{ij}}{\|\mathbf{U}_i\|_2}$ 

Apply k-means to  $(\tilde{\mathbf{U}}_i)_{i=1,...,n}$ 

**Output:** vector of classes  $\mathbf{C} \in \mathcal{Q}^n$ , such as  $C_i = q$  if  $i \in q$ 

#### Remarks

- implemented during today's lab
- also apply to no graphical data!

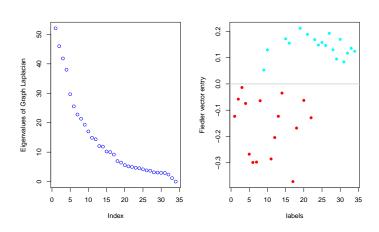
# Example: Karate club and Fielder vector and eigenvalue I

```
eigen_karate <- graph.laplacian(karate) %>% eigen()

fielder_vector <- eigen_karate$vectors[, igraph::vcount(karate) - 1]
faction <- as.character(vcount(karate))
faction[V(karate)$Faction == 1] <- "red"
faction[V(karate)$Faction == 2] <- "cyan"

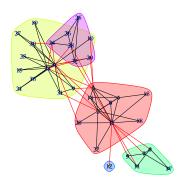
par(mfrow = c(1,2))
plot(eigen_karate$values, col = "blue", ylab = "Eigenvalues of Graph Laplacian")
plot(fielder_vector, pch = 16, xlab = "labels",
    ylab = "Fiedler vector entry", col = faction)
abline(0, 0, lwd = 2, col = "lightgray")</pre>
```

# Example: Karate club and Fielder vector and eigenvalue II



## Clustering based on the first non null eigenvalue

```
hc <- cluster_leading_eigen(karate)
plot(hc,karate)</pre>
```



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  Inference in SBM with variational EM

### References



Mixture model for random graphs, Statistics and Computing Daudin, Robin, Picard

 $\verb|pbil.univ-lyon1.fr/members/fpicard/franckpicard_fichiers/pdf/DPR08.pdf|$ 

Analyse statistique de graphes, Catherine Matias Chapitre 4, Section 4

### **Motivations**

Last section: find an underlying organization in a observed network

Spectral or hierachical clustering for network data

Not model-based, thus no statistical inference possible

Now: clustering of network based on a probabilistic model of the graph

Become familiar with

- the stochastic block model, a random graph model tailored for clustering vertices,
- the variational EM algorithm used to infer SBM from network data.

hierarchical/kmeans clustering  $\leftrightarrow$  Gaussian mixture models

hierarchical/spectral clustering for network  $\leftrightarrow$  Stochastic block model

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# A mathematical model: Erdös-Rényi graph

#### Definition

Let  $\mathcal{V}=1,\dots,n$  be a set of fixed vertices. The (simple) Erdös-Rény model  $\mathcal{G}(n,\pi)$  assumes random edges between pairs of nodes with probability  $\pi$ . In orther word, the (random) adjacency matrix  $\mathbf{X}$  is such that

$$X_{ij} \sim \mathcal{B}(\pi)$$

## Proposition (degree distribution)

The (random) degree  $D_i$  of vertex i follows a binomial distribution:

$$D_i \sim b(n-1,\pi).$$

## Erdös-Rényi - example

```
G1 <- igraph::sample_gnp(10, 0.1)
G2 <- igraph::sample_gnp(10, 0.9)
G3 <- igraph::sample_gnp(100, .02)
par(mfrow=c(1,3))
plot(G1, vertex.label=NA); plot(G2, vertex.label=NA)
plot(G3, vertex.label=NA, layout=layout.circle)
```

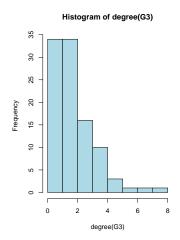






# Erdös-Rény - limitations: very homegeneous

```
average.path.length(G3); diameter(G3)
## [1] 5.834998
## [1] 14
```





# Mechanism-based model: preferential attachment

The graph is defined dynamically as follows

#### Definition

Start from a initial graph  $\mathcal{G}_0 = (\mathcal{V}_0, \mathcal{E}_0)$ , then for each time step,

- lacktriangle At t a new node  $V_t$  is added
- 2  $V_t$  is connected to  $i \in V_{t-1}$  with probability

$$D_i^{\alpha} + \text{cst.}$$

Nodes with high degree get more connections thus richers get richers

# Preferential attachment - example

```
G1 <- igraph::sample_pa(20, 1, directed=FALSE)
G2 <- igraph::sample_pa(20, 5, directed=FALSE)
G3 <- igraph::sample_pa(200, directed=FALSE)
par(mfrow=c(1,3))
plot(G1, vertex.label=NA); plot(G2, vertex.label=NA)
plot(G3, vertex.label=NA, layout=layout.circle)
```



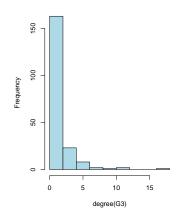




## Preferential attachment - limitations

```
average.path.length(G3); diameter(G3)
## [1] 6.137487
## [1] 14
```

#### Histogram of degree(G3)





### Limitations

Erdös-Rényi

The ER model does not fit well real world network

- As can been seen from its degree distribution
- ER is generally too homogeneous
- Preferential attachment
  - Is defined through an algorithm so performing statistics is complicated
  - Is stucked to the power-law distribution of degrees

#### The Stochastic Block Model

The SBM<sup>1</sup> generalizes ER in a mixture framework. It provides

- a statistical framework to adjust and interpret the parameters
- a flexible yet simple specification that fits many existing network data

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Other models exist (e.g. exponential model for random graphs) but less popular.

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## Stochastic Block Model: definition

Mixture model point of view: mixture of Erdös-Rényi

#### Latent structure

Let  $\mathcal{V}=\{1,..,n\}$  be a fixed set of vertices. We give each  $i\in\mathcal{V}$  a latent label among a set  $\mathcal{Q}=\{1,\ldots,Q\}$  such that

- $\alpha_q = \mathbb{P}(i \in q), \quad \sum_q \alpha_q = 1;$
- $Z_{iq} = \mathbf{1}_{\{i \in q\}}$  are independent hidden variables.

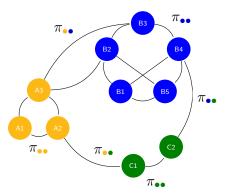
### The conditional distribution of the edges

Connexion probabilities depend on the node class belonging:

$$X_{ij} | \{i \in q, j \in \ell\} \sim \mathcal{B}(\pi_{q\ell}) \qquad \left( \Leftrightarrow X_{ij} | \{Z_{iq}Z_{j\ell} = 1\} \sim \mathcal{B}(\pi_{q\ell}). \right)$$

The  $Q \times Q$  matrix  $\pi$  gives for all couple of labels  $\pi_{q\ell} = \mathbb{P}(X_{ij} = 1 | i \in q, j \in \ell).$ 

# Stochastic Block Model: the big picture



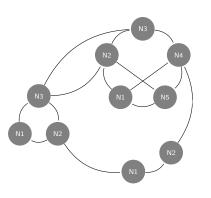
#### Stochastic Block Model

Let n nodes divided into

- $Q = \{ \bullet, \bullet, \bullet \}$  classes
- $\alpha_{\bullet} = \mathbb{P}(i \in \bullet), \bullet \in \mathcal{Q}, i = 1, \dots, n$
- $\pi_{\bullet \bullet} = \mathbb{P}(i \leftrightarrow j | i \in \bullet, j \in \bullet)$

$$Z_i = \mathbf{1}_{\{i \in \bullet\}} \sim^{\mathsf{iid}} \mathcal{M}(1, \alpha), \quad \forall \bullet \in \mathcal{Q},$$
$$X_{ij} \mid \{i \in \bullet, j \in \bullet\} \sim^{\mathsf{ind}} \mathcal{B}(\pi_{\bullet \bullet})$$

# Stochastic Block Model: unknown parameters



#### Stochastic Block Model

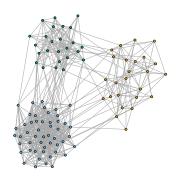
Let n nodes divided into

- $Q = \{ \bullet, \bullet, \bullet \}$ , card(Q) known
- $\alpha_{\bullet} = ?$ ,
- $\pi_{\bullet \bullet} = ?$

$$\begin{split} Z_i &= \mathbf{1}_{\{i \in \bullet\}} \ \sim^{\mathsf{iid}} \mathcal{M}(1, \alpha), \quad \forall \bullet \in \mathcal{Q}, \\ X_{ij} \mid \{i \in \bullet, j \in \bullet\} \sim^{\mathsf{ind}} \mathcal{B}(\pi_{\bullet \bullet}) \end{split}$$

# Stochastic block models – examples of topology

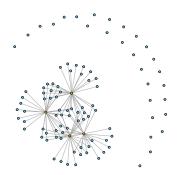
#### Community network



# Stochastic block models – examples of topology

Star network

```
pi <- matrix(c(0.05,0.3,0.3,0),2,2)
star <- igraph::sample_sbm(100, pi, c(4, 96))
plot(star, vertex.label=NA, vertex.color = rep(1:2,c(4,96)))</pre>
```



# Degree distributions

### Conditional degree distribution

The conditional degree distribution of a node  $i \in q$  is

$$D_i|i \in q \sim \mathrm{b}(n-1,\bar{\pi}) \approx \mathcal{P}(\lambda_q), \qquad \bar{\pi}_q = \sum_{\ell=1}^Q \alpha_\ell, \pi_{q\ell} \quad \lambda_q = (n-1)\bar{\pi}_q$$

### Conditional degree distribution

The degree distribution of a node i can be approximated by a mixture of Poisson distributions:

$$\mathbb{P}(D_i = k) = \sum_{q=1}^{Q} \alpha_q \exp\{-\lambda_q\} \frac{\lambda_q^k}{k!}$$

### Likelihoods

### Complete-data loglikelihood

$$\log L(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z}) = \sum_{i,q} Z_{iq} \log \alpha_q + \sum_{i < j,q,\ell} Z_{iq} Z_{j\ell} \log \pi_{q\ell}^{X_{ij}} (1 - \pi_{q\ell})^{1 - X_{ij}}.$$

Conditional expectation of the complete-data loglikelihood

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{Z}|\mathbf{X}}\left[\log L(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z})\right] = \sum_{i, q} \tau_{iq} \log \alpha_q + \sum_{i < j, q, \ell} \eta_{ijq\ell} \log \pi_{q\ell}^{X_{ij}} (1 - \pi_{q\ell})^{1 - X_{ij}}$$

where  $\tau_{iq}, \eta_{ijq\ell}$  are the posterior probabilities:

- $\tau_{iq} = \mathbb{P}(Z_{iq} = 1|\mathbf{X}) = \mathbb{E}[Z_{iq}|\mathbf{X}].$
- $\eta_{ijq\ell} = \mathbb{P}(Z_{iq}Z_{j\ell} = 1|\mathbf{X}) = \mathbb{E}[Z_{iq}Z_{j\ell}|\mathbf{X}].$

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# The EM strategy does not apply directly for SBM

### Ouch: another intractability problem

- the  $Z_{iq}$  are not independent in the SBM framework...
- we cannot compute  $\eta_{ijq\ell} = \mathbb{P}(Z_{iq}Z_{j\ell} = 1|\mathbf{X}) = \mathbb{E}\left[Z_{iq}Z_{j\ell}|\mathbf{X}\right]$ ,
- the conditional expectation  $Q(\theta)$ , i.e. the main EM ingredient, is intractable.

### Solution: mean field approximation

Approximate  $\eta_{ijq\ell}$  by  $\tau_{iq}\tau_{j\ell}$ , i.e., assume independence between  $Z_{iq}$   $\leadsto$  This can be formalized in the variational framework

# Revisting the EM algorithm I

### Proposition

Consider a distribution  $\mathbb{Q}$  for the  $\{Z_{iq}\}$ . We have

$$\log L(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{X}) = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{Q}}[\log L(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z})] + \mathcal{H}(\mathbb{Q}) + \mathrm{KL}(\mathbb{Q} \mid \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{Z} | \mathbf{X}; \boldsymbol{\theta})),$$

where  ${\cal H}$  is the entropy and  ${\rm KL}(\cdot|\cdot)$  is the Kullback-Leibler divergence:

$$\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{Q}) = -\sum_{z} \mathbb{Q}(z) \log \mathbb{Q}(z) = -\mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{Q}}[\log \mathbb{Q}(Z)]$$

$$\mathcal{KL}(\mathbb{Q} \mid \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{Z}|\mathbf{X}; \boldsymbol{\theta})) = \sum_{z} \mathbb{Q}(z) \log \frac{\mathbb{Q}(z)}{\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{Z}|\mathbf{X}; \boldsymbol{\theta})} = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{Q}} \left[ \log \frac{\mathbb{Q}(z)}{\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{Z}|\mathbf{X}; \boldsymbol{\theta})} \right]$$

# Revisting the EM algorithm II

Let

$$J(\mathbb{Q}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \triangleq \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{Q}} \left( \log L(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z}) \right) + \mathcal{H}(\mathbb{Q})$$

The steps in the EM algorithm may be viewed as:

Expectation step : choose  $\mathbb Q$  to maximize  $J(\mathbb Q; \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)})$ 

The solution is  $\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{Z}|\mathbf{X};\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)})$ 

Maximization step : choose  $oldsymbol{ heta}$  to maximize  $J(\mathbb{Q}^{(t)};oldsymbol{ heta})$ 

The solution maximizes  $\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{Z}|\mathbf{X};\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}}\left(\log L(\boldsymbol{\theta};\mathbf{X},\mathbf{Z})\right)$ 

# Variational approximation for SBM

#### Problem for SBM

 $\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{Z}|\mathbf{X}; \boldsymbol{ heta}^{(t)})$  cannot be computed thus the E-step cannot be solved.

#### Idea

Choose  $\mathbb Q$  in a class of function so that the E-step can be solved.

### Family of distribution that factorizes

We chose  $\mathbb{Q}$  so as the  $Z_{iq}$  are marginally independents:

$$\mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{Z}) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{Q}_i(Z_i) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} \prod_{q=1}^{Q} \tau_{iq}^{Z_{iq}},$$

where  $\tau_{iq} = \mathbb{Q}_i(Z_i = q) = \mathbb{E}Q(Z_{iq})$ , with  $\sum_q \tau_{iq} = 1$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .

### Variational EM for SBM: the criterion

### Lower bound of the loglikehood

Since  $\mathbb Q$  is an approximation of  $\mathbb P(\mathbf Z|\mathbf X),$  the Kullback-Leibler divergence is non-negative and

$$\log L(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{X}) \geq \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{Q}}[\log L(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z})] + \mathcal{H}(\mathbb{Q}) = J(\mathbb{Q}, \boldsymbol{\theta}).$$

For the SBM,

$$J(\mathbb{Q}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \sum_{i,q} \tau_{iq} \log \alpha_q + \sum_{i < j,q,\ell} \tau_{iq} \tau_{j\ell} \log b(X_{ij}; \pi_{q\ell}) - \sum_{i,q} \tau_{iq} \log(\tau_{iq}),$$

 $\leadsto$  we optimize the loglikelihood lower bound  $J(\mathbb{Q}, \theta) = J(\tau, \theta)$  in  $(\tau, \theta)$ .

## E and M steps for SBM

### Variational E-step

Maximizing  $J(\tau)$  for fixed  $\theta$ , we find a fixed-point relationship:

$$\hat{\tau}_{iq} \propto \alpha_q \prod_j \prod_\ell b(X_{ij}, \pi_{q\ell})^{\hat{\tau}_{j\ell}} \tag{1}$$

### M-step

Maximizing  $J(\boldsymbol{\theta})$  for fixed  $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ , we find,

$$\hat{\alpha}_q = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i} \hat{\tau}_{iq}, \quad \hat{\pi}_{q\ell} = \frac{\sum_{i \neq j} \hat{\tau}_{iq} \hat{\tau}_{j\ell} X_{ij}}{\sum_{i \neq j} \hat{\tau}_{iq} \hat{\tau}_{j\ell}}.$$
 (2)

### Model selection

We use our lower bound of the loglikelihood to compute an approximation of the  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{ICL}}$ 

$$vICL(Q) = \mathbb{E}_{\hat{\mathbb{Q}}}[\log L(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}); \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z}] - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{Q(Q+1)}{2} \log \frac{n(n-1)}{2} + (Q-1) \log(n) \right),$$

where

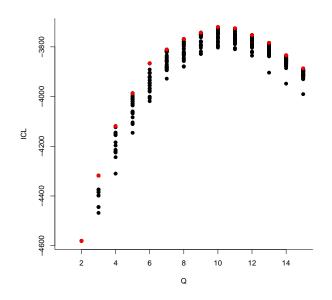
$$\mathbb{E}_{\hat{\mathbb{Q}}}[\log L(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}; \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z})] = J(\hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}) - \mathcal{H}(\hat{\mathbb{Q}}).$$

The variational BIC is just

vBIC(Q) = 
$$J(\hat{\tau}, \hat{\theta}) - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{Q(Q+1)}{2} \log \frac{n(n-1)}{2} + (Q-1) \log(n) \right).$$

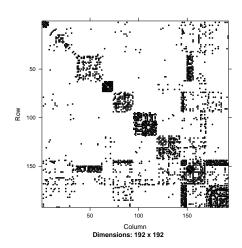
# Example on the French blogsphere (I)

# Example on the French blogsphere (II)



# Example on the French blogsphere (III)

```
library(Matrix)
clusters <-
   apply(mySBM_collection$memberships[[10]]$Z, 1, which.max)
image(Matrix(adj_blog[order(clusters), order(clusters)]))</pre>
```



# Example on the French blogsphere (IV) I

```
library(RColorBrewer); pal <- brewer.pal(10, "Set3")</pre>
g <- graph_from_adjacency_matrix(</pre>
  adj_blog,
  mode = "undirected",
  weighted = TRUE,
  diag = FALSE
V(g)$class <- clusters
V(g)$size <- 5
V(g) $frame.color <- "white"
V(g)$color <- pal[V(g)$class]
V(g)$label <- ""
E(g) $arrow.mode <- 0
par(mar = c(0,0,0,0))
plot(g, edge.width=E(g)$weight)
```

# Example on the French blogsphere (IV) II

