

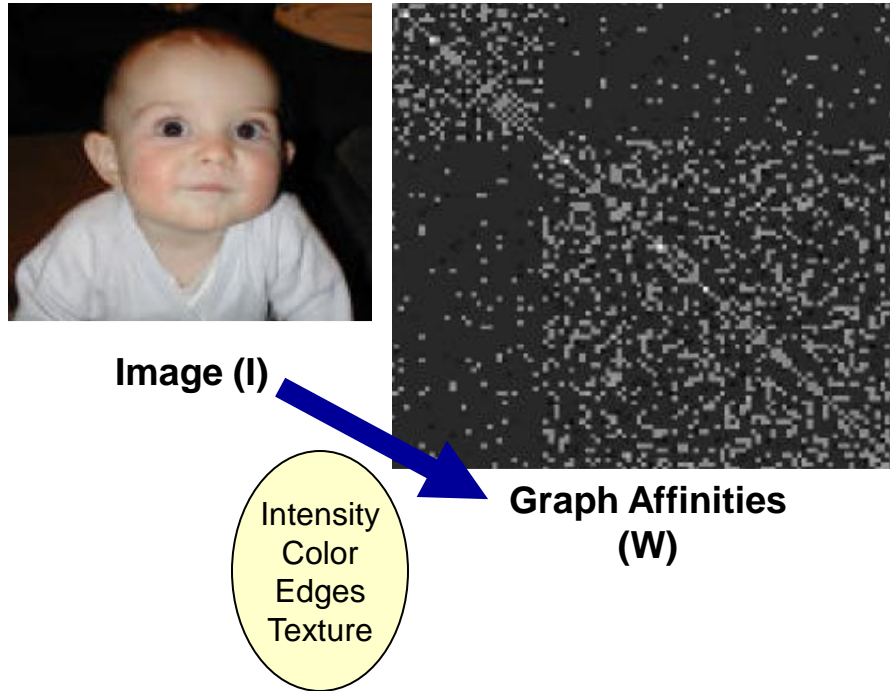
# COMP4222 Machine Learning with Structured Data

Graph Laplacian

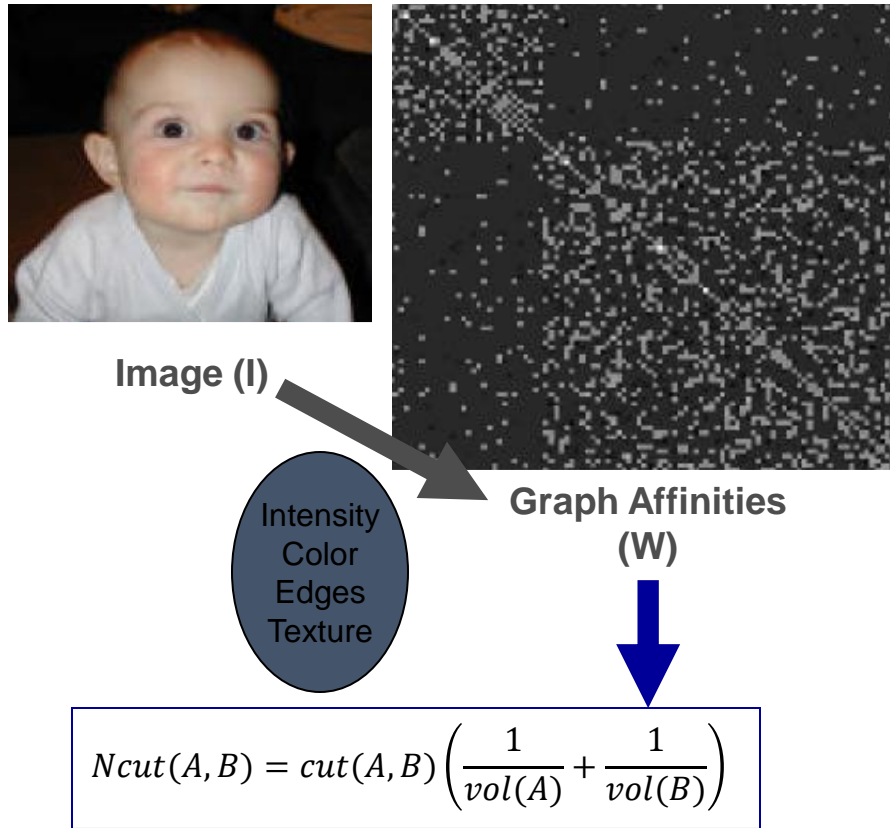
Yangqiu Song

**Slides credits: Jianbo Shi and Alireza Tavakkoli**

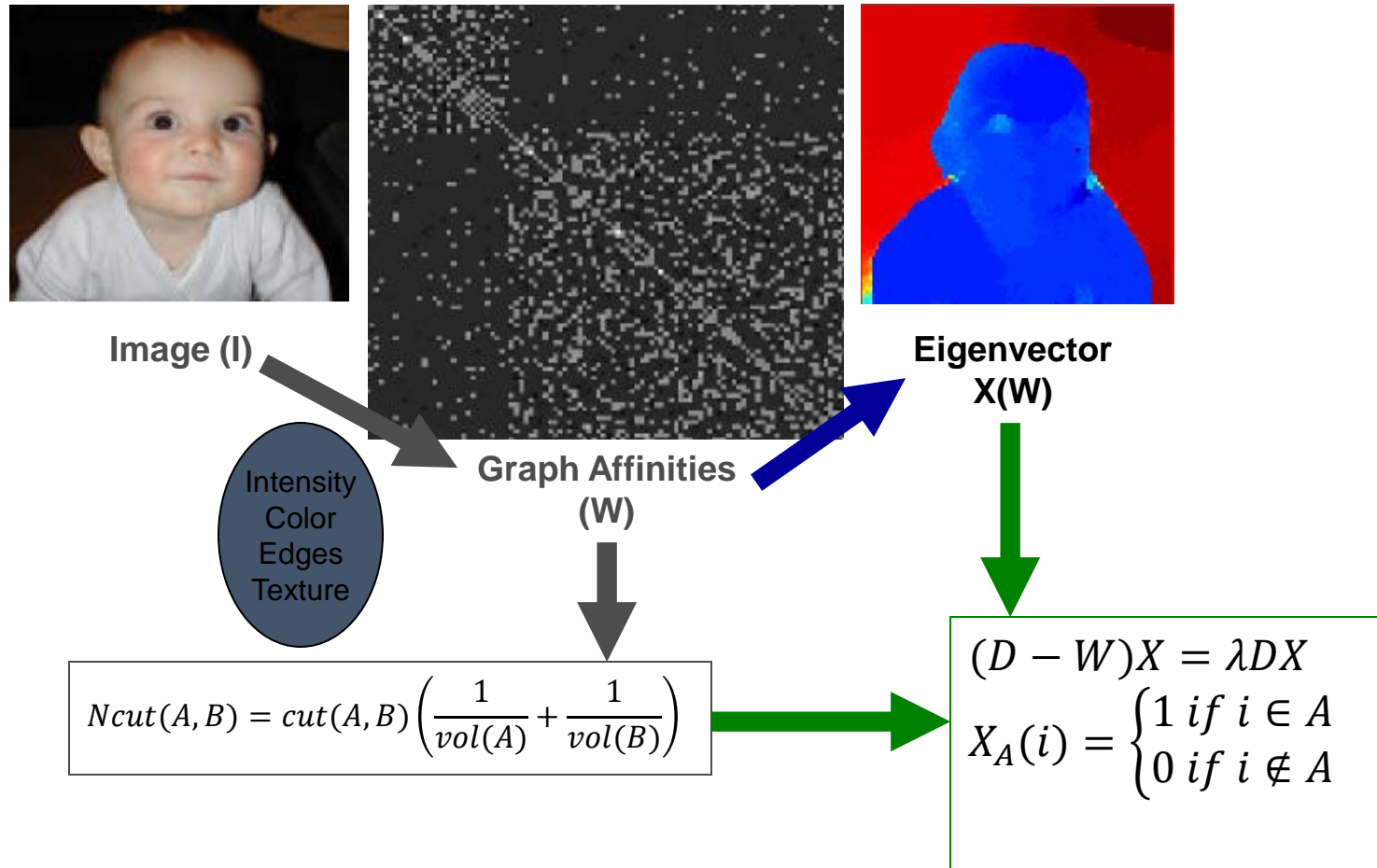
# Graph-based Image Segmentation



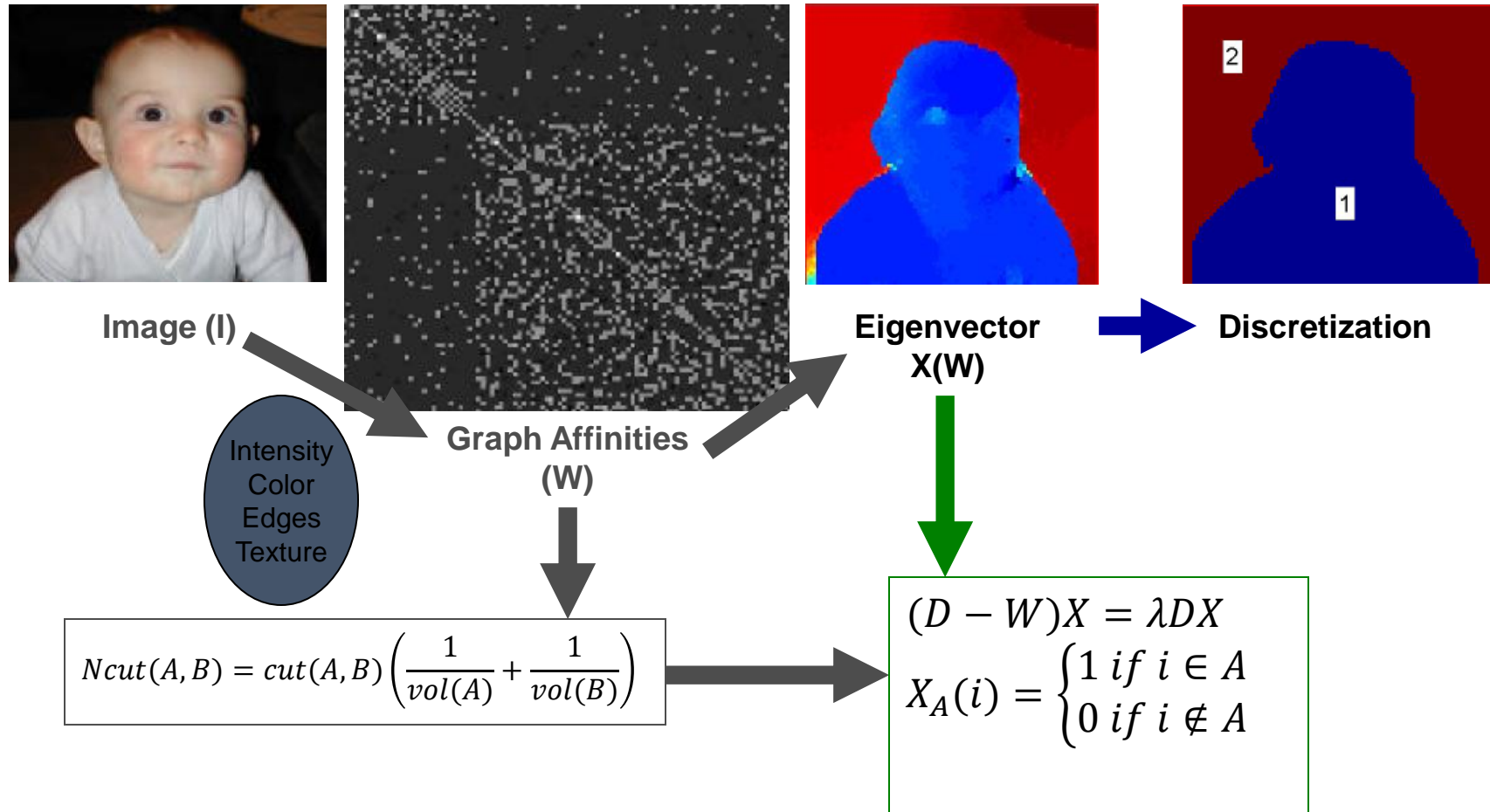
# Graph-based Image Segmentation



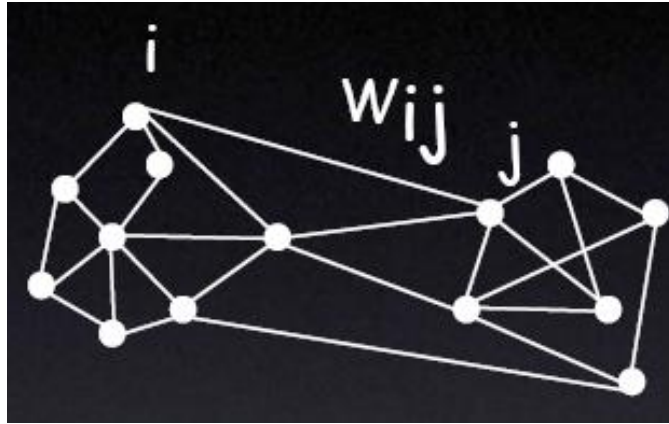
# Graph-based Image Segmentation



# Graph-based Image Segmentation

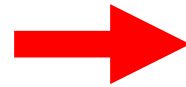


# Graph-based Image Segmentation



$$G = \{V, E\}$$

**V:** graph nodes  
**E:** edges connection nodes

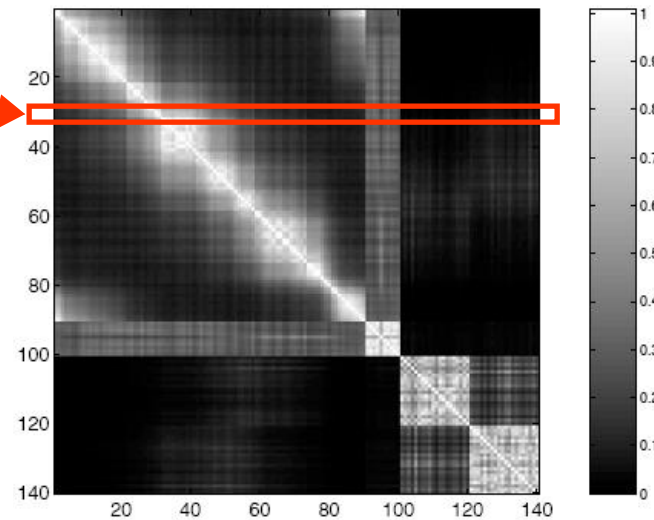
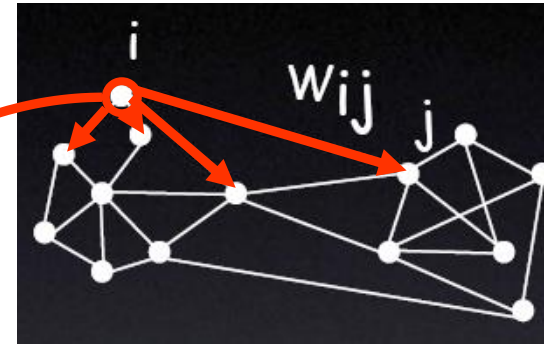
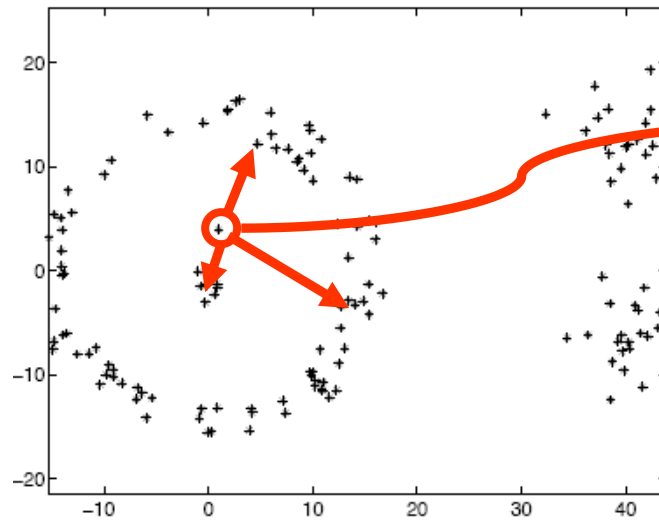


**Pixels**  
**Pixel similarity**

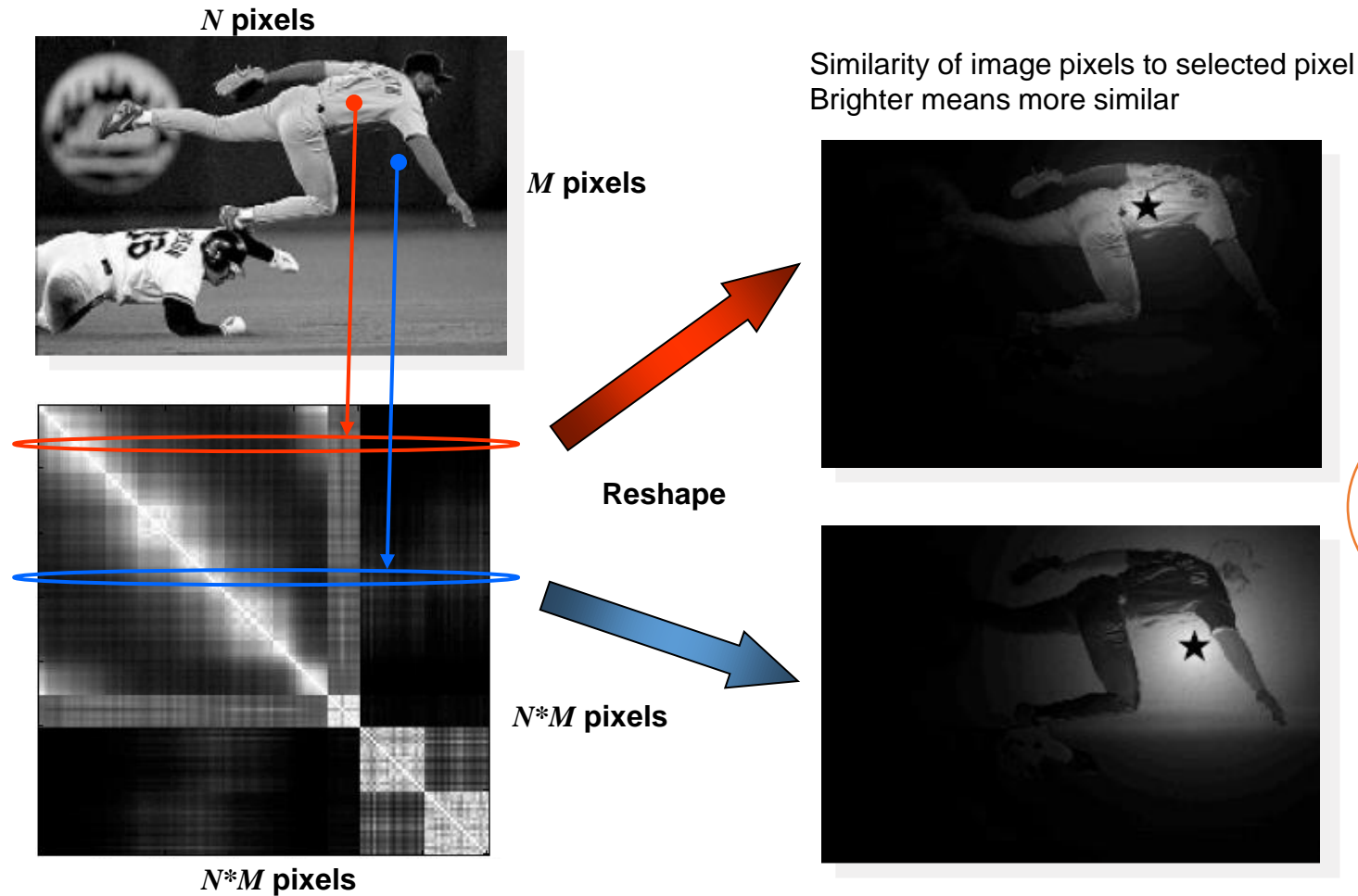
# Graph Terminology

- Similarity matrix:  $W = [w_{i,j}]$

$$w_{i,j} = e^{\frac{-\|X_{(i)} - X_{(j)}\|_2^2}{\sigma_X^2}}$$



# Affinity Matrix



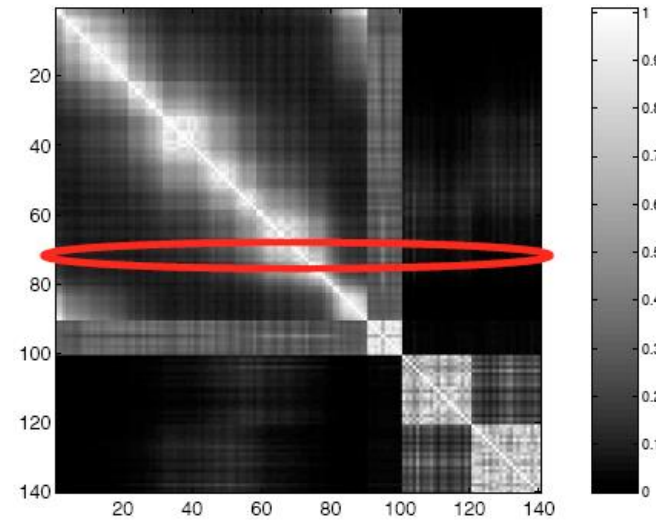
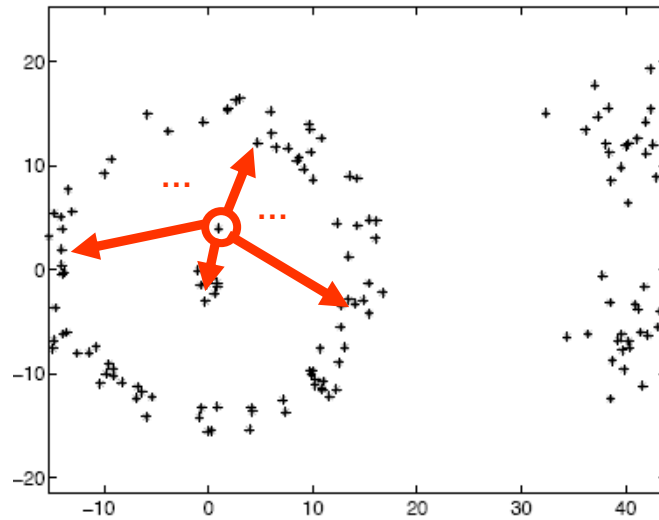
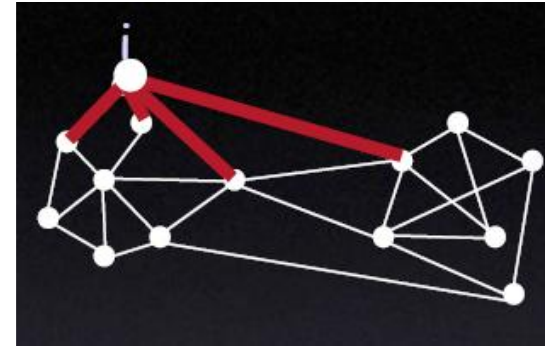
**Warning**  
the size of  $W$  is quadratic  
with the number  
of parameters!



# Graph Terminology

- Degree of node:

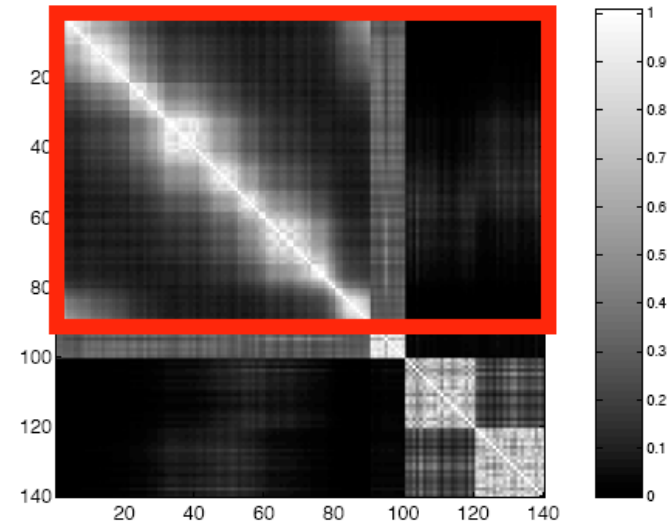
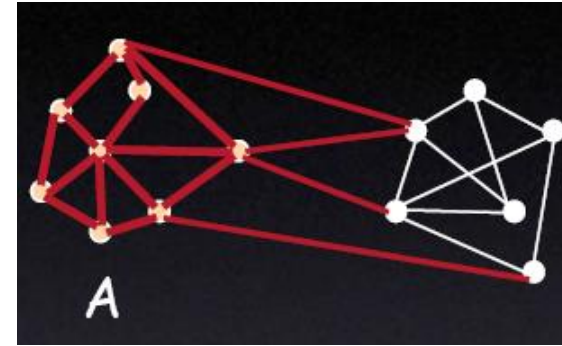
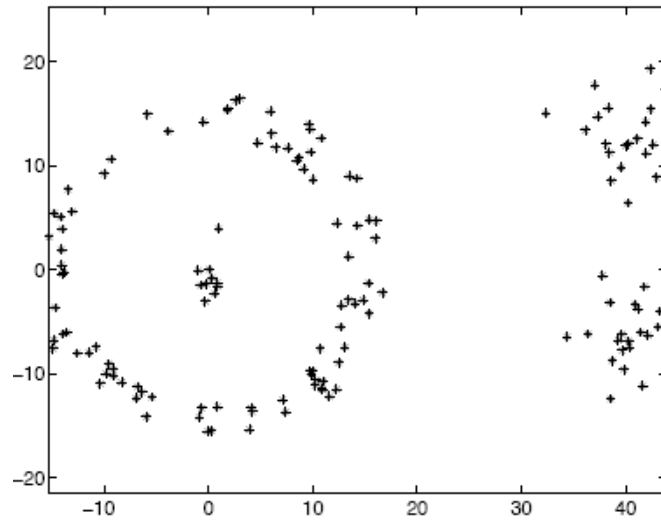
$$d_i = \sum_j w_{i,j}$$



# Graph Terminology

- Volume of set:

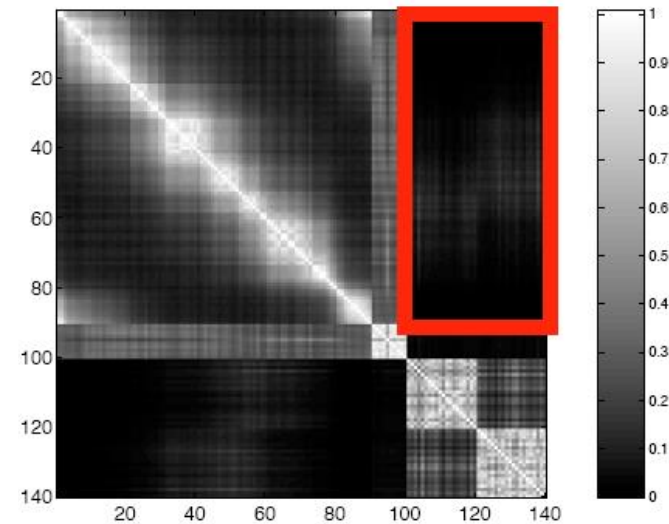
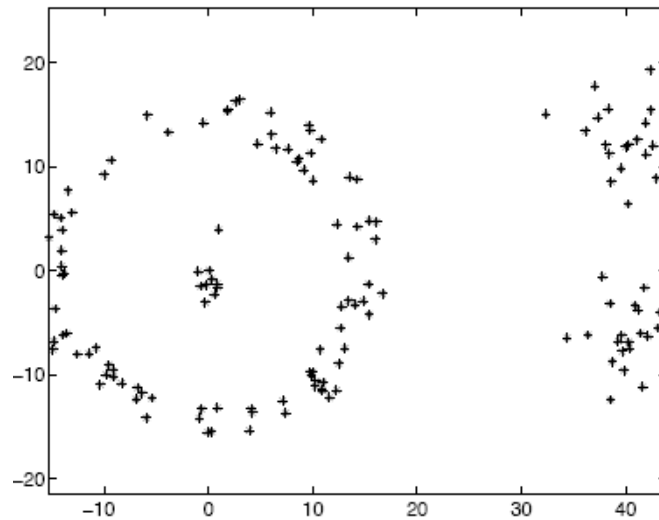
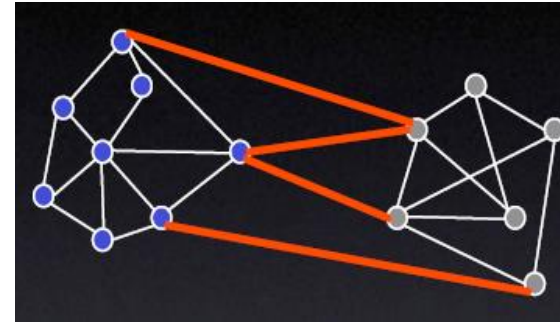
$$vol(A) = \sum_{i \in A} d_i, A \subseteq V$$



# Graph Terminology

- Cuts in a graph:

$$\text{cut}(A, \bar{A}) = \sum_{i \in A, j \in \bar{A}} w_{i,j}$$



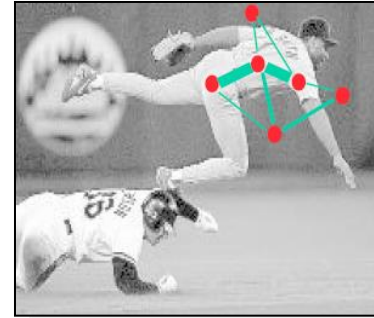
Slides from Jianbo Shi

# Representation

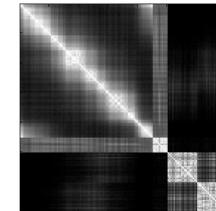
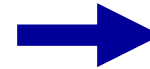
Partition matrix  $X$ :

$$X = [X_1, \dots, X_K]$$

$$X = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} \text{segments} \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} \text{pixels} \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$



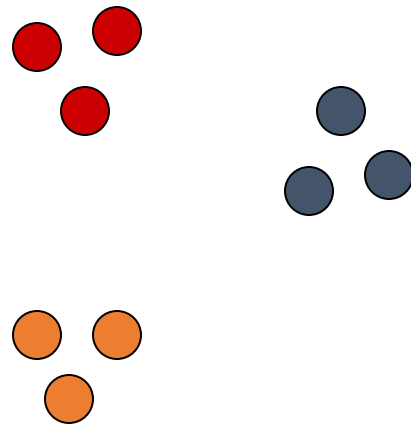
Pair-wise similarity matrix  $W$ :  $W(i, j) = \text{Sim}(i, j)$



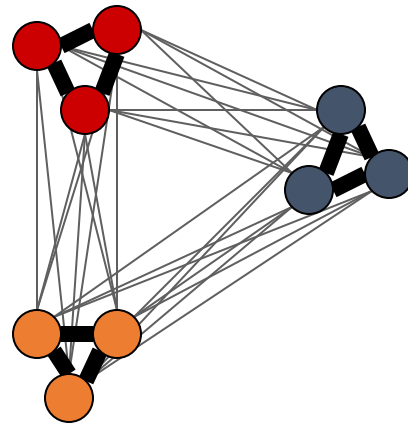
Degree matrix  $D$ :  $D(i, i) = \sum_j w_{i,j}$

Laplacian matrix  $L$ :  $L = D - W$

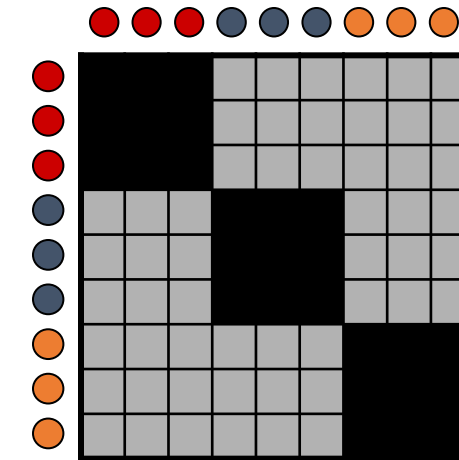
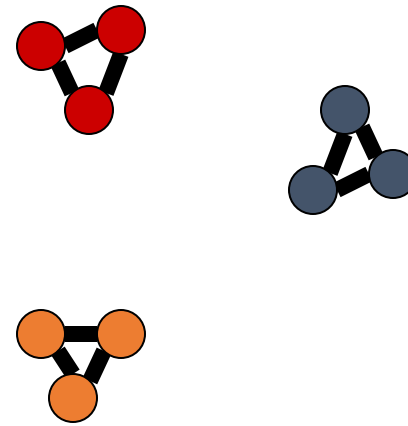
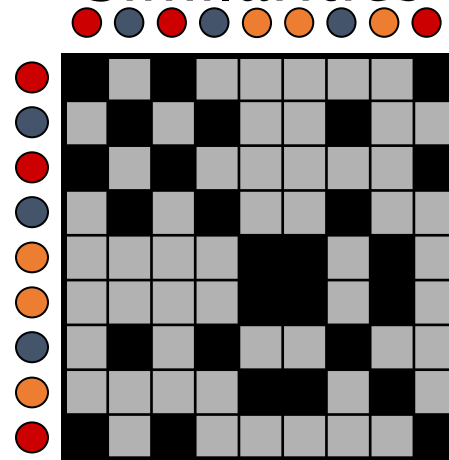
# Spectral Clustering



Data



Similarities



# Eigenvectors and Blocks

- Block matrices have block eigenvectors:

1	1	0	0
1	1	0	0
0	0	1	1
0	0	1	1

eigsolver

$\lambda_1 = 2$

.71
.71
0
0

$\lambda_2 = 2$

0
0
.71
.71

$\lambda_3 = 0$

$\lambda_4 = 0$

- Near-block matrices have near-block eigenvectors:

1	1	.2	0
1	1	0	-.2
.2	0	1	1
0	-.2	1	1

eigsolver

$\lambda_1 = 2.02$

.71
.69
.14
0

$\lambda_2 = 2.02$

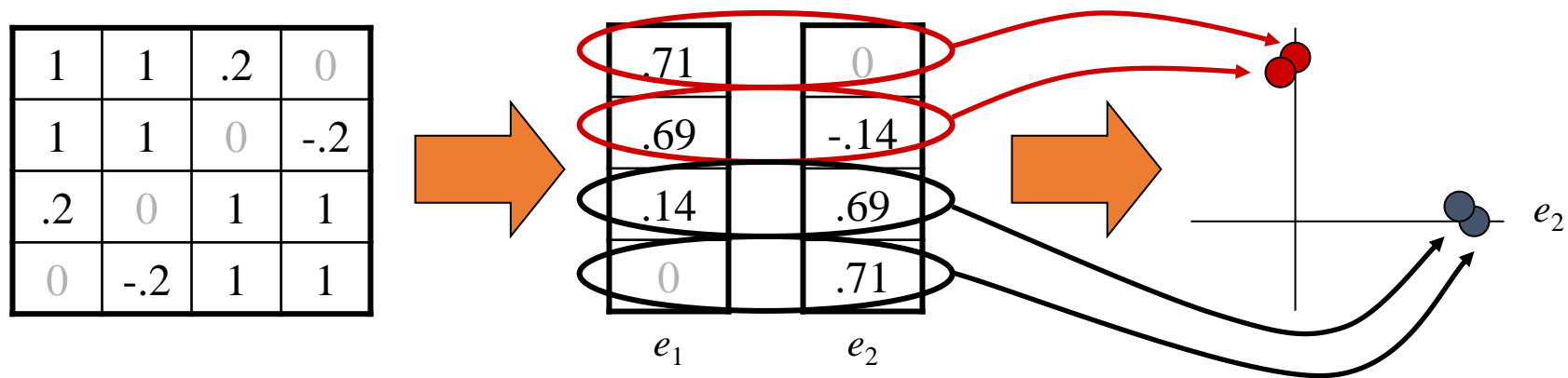
0
-.14
.69
.71

$\lambda_3 = -0.02$

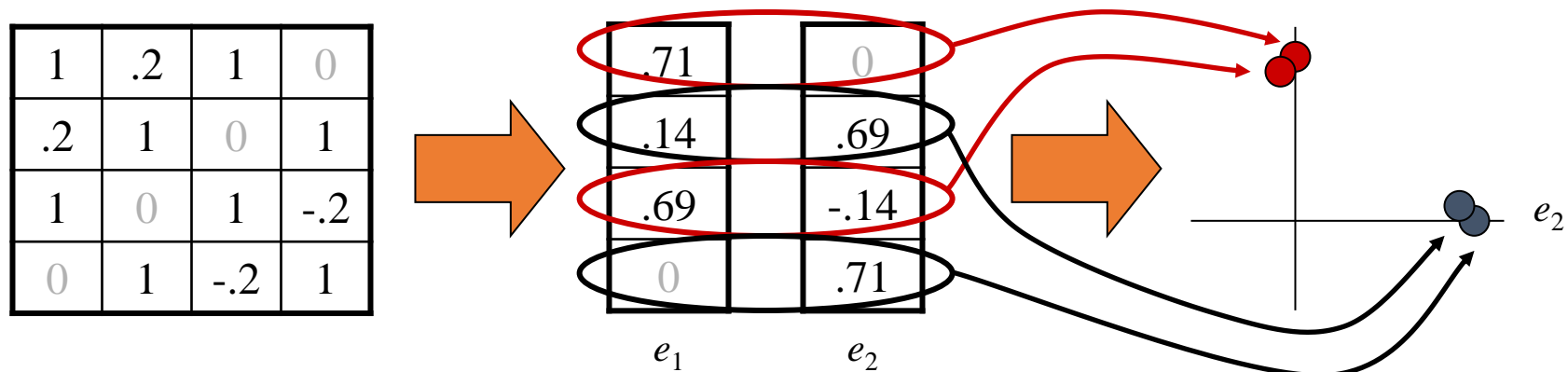
$\lambda_4 = -0.02$

# Spectral Space

- Can put items into blocks by eigenvectors:



- Clusters clear regardless of row ordering:



# Min Cut vs Normalized Cut



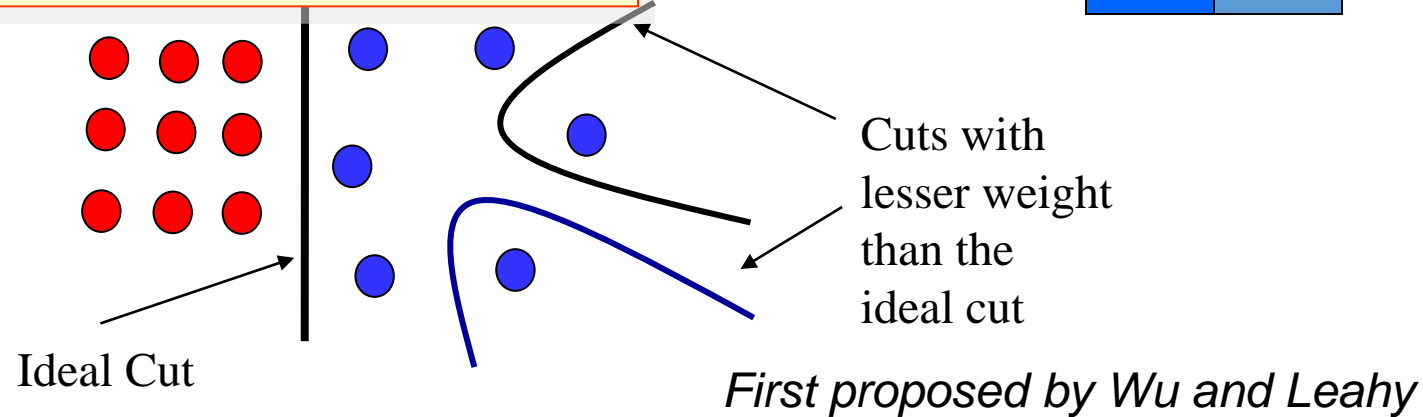
# Minimum Cut

- Criterion for partition:

$$\min cut(A, B) = \min_{A, B} \sum_{u \in A, v \in B} w(u, v)$$

**Problem!**

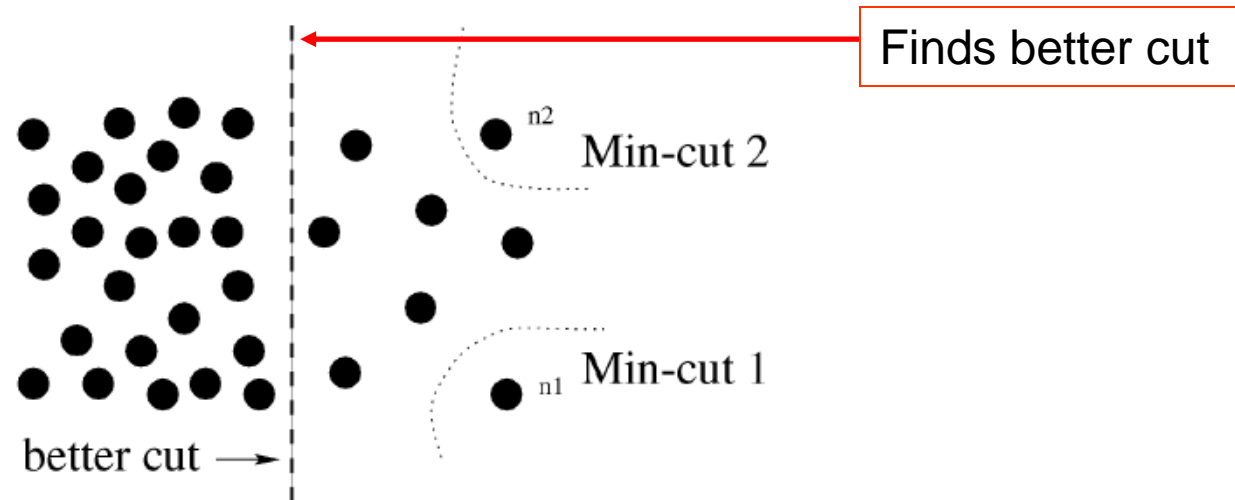
Weight of cut is directly proportional to the number of edges in the cut.



# Normalized Cut

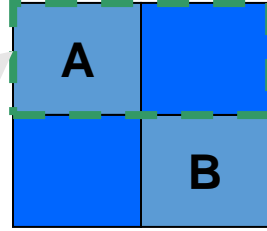
Normalized cut or balanced cut:

$$Ncut(A, B) = cut(A, B) \left( \frac{1}{vol(A)} + \frac{1}{vol(B)} \right)$$

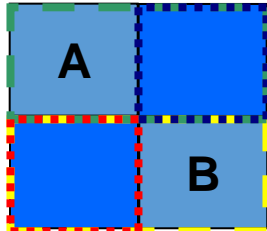


# Normalized Cut

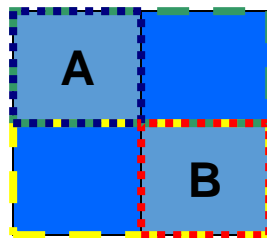
- Volume of set (or association):

$$vol(A) = assoc(A, V) = \sum_{u \in A, t \in V} w(u, t)$$


- Define normalized cut: “a fraction of the total edge connections to all the nodes in the graph”:

$$Ncut(A, B) = \frac{cut(A, B)}{assoc(A, V)} + \frac{cut(A, B)}{assoc(B, V)}$$


- Define normalized association: “how tightly on average nodes within the cluster are connected to each other”

$$Nassoc(A, B) = \frac{assoc(A, A)}{assoc(A, V)} + \frac{assoc(B, B)}{assoc(B, V)}$$


# Observations(I)

- Maximizing *Nassoc* is the same as minimizing *Ncut*, since they are related:

$$Ncut(A, B) = 2 - Nassoc(A, B)$$

- How to minimize *Ncut*?

- Transform *Ncut* equation to a matricial form.
- After simplifying:

$$\min_x Ncut(x) = \min_y \frac{y^T (D - W)y}{y^T D y}$$

Rayleigh quotient

$$\text{Subject to: } y^T D \mathbf{1} = 0$$

$$D(i, i) = \sum_j W(i, j)$$

**NP-Hard!**

*y's values are quantized*

# Observations(II)

- Instead, relax into the continuous domain by solving generalized eigenvalue system:

$$\min_y (y^T (D - W)y) \text{ subject to } (y^T D y = 1)$$

- Which gives:  $(D - W)y = \lambda D y$
- Note that  $(D - W)1 = 0$  so, the first eigenvector is  $y_0=1$  with eigenvalue 0.
- The second smallest eigenvector is the real valued solution to this problem!!

# Algorithm

1. Define a similarity function between 2 nodes. i.e.:

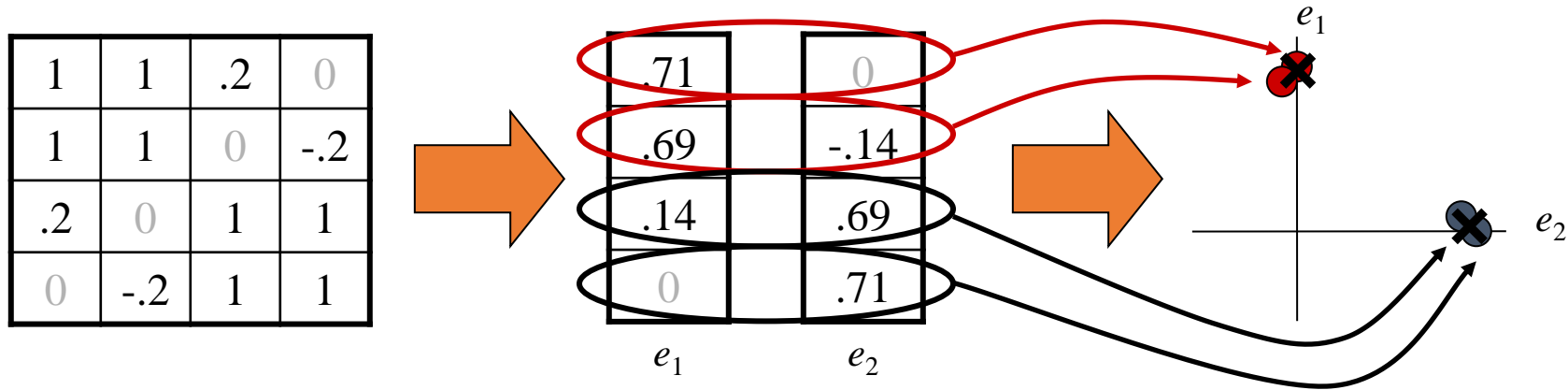
$$w_{i,j} = e^{\frac{-\|X_{(i)} - X_{(j)}\|_2^2}{\sigma_X^2}}$$

2. Compute affinity matrix ( $W$ ) and degree matrix ( $D$ ).
3. Solve  $(D - W)y = \lambda Dy$
4. Use the eigenvector with the second smallest eigenvalue to bipartition the graph.
5. Decide if re-partition current partitions.

Note: since precision requirements are low,  $W$  is very sparse and only few eigenvectors are required, the eigenvectors can be extracted very fast using Lanczos algorithm.

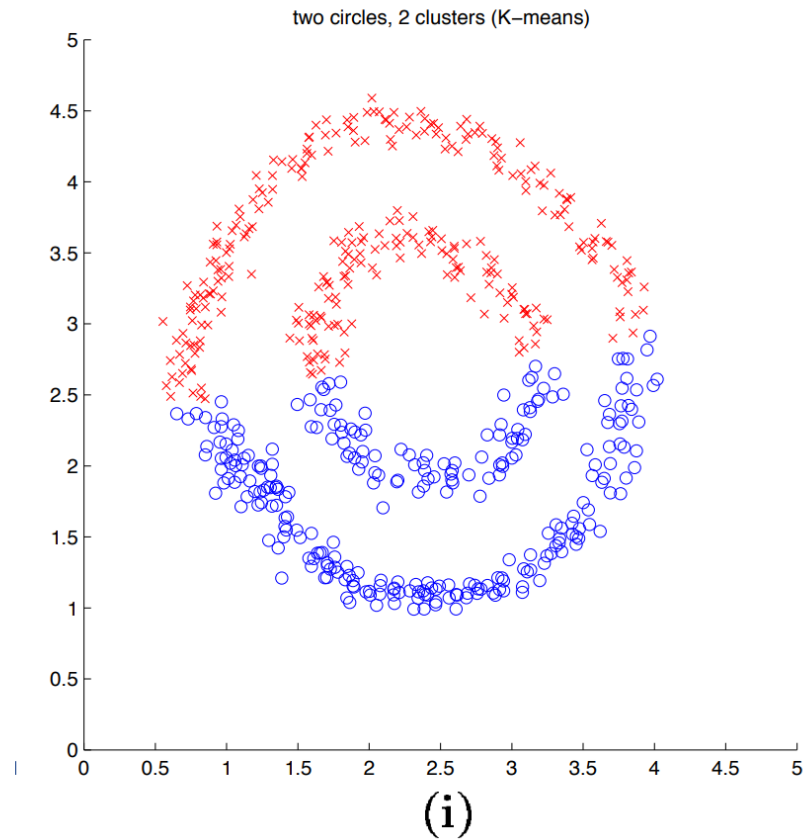
# Use $k$ -eigenvectors

- We can use more eigenvectors to re-partition the graph
- Procedure: compute  $k$ -means with a high  $k$ .

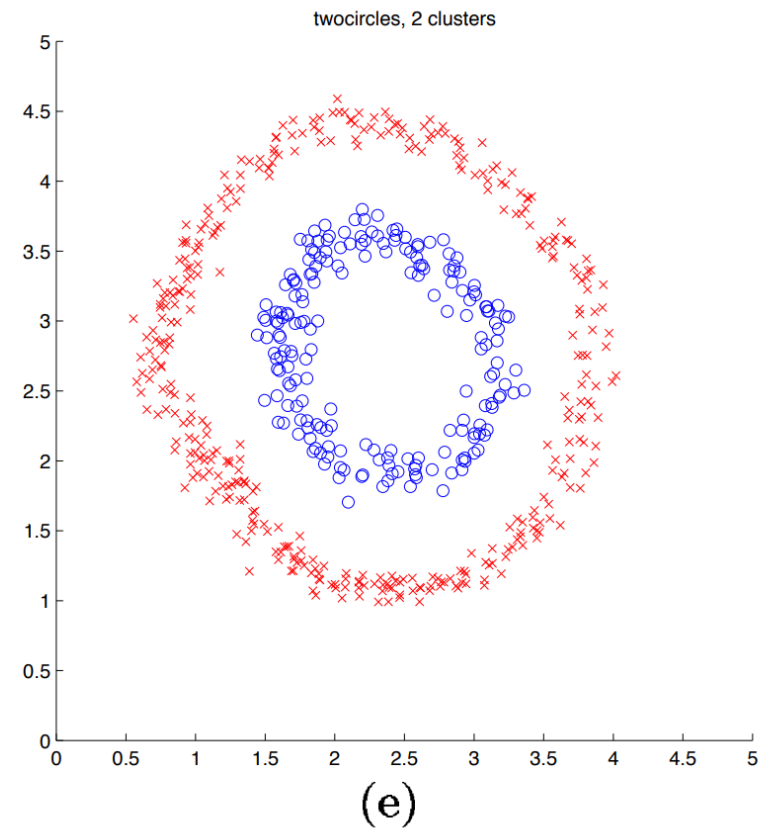


# Results

Original K-means

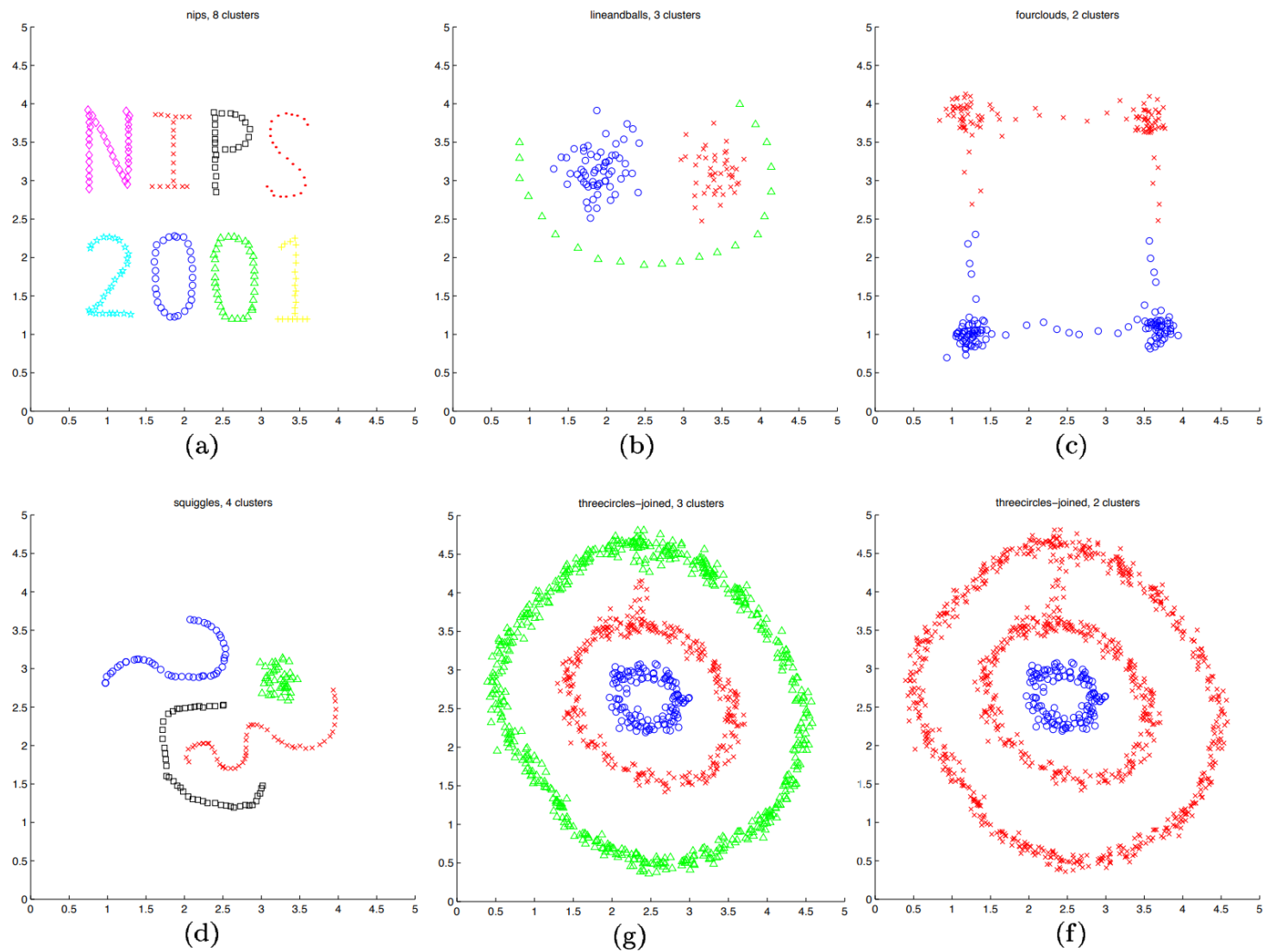


Spectral clustering + K-means





# Results

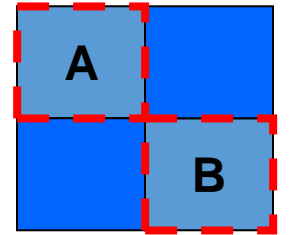


# Other Methods

- Average association

- Use the eigenvector of  $W$  associated to the biggest eigenvalue for partitioning.

- Tries to maximize: 
$$\frac{assoc(A, A)}{|A|} + \frac{assoc(B, B)}{|B|}$$



- $|A|$ : number of nodes in A
- Has a bias to find tight clusters. Useful for Gaussian distributions.

# Other Methods


- Average cut

- Tries to minimize:

$$\frac{cut(A, B)}{|A|} + \frac{cut(A, B)}{|B|}$$

- Very similar to normalized cuts.
    - We cannot ensure that partitions will have a tight within-group similarity since this equation does not have the nice properties of the equation of normalized cuts.

# Other Methods

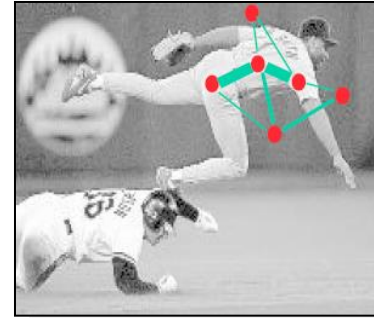
	Finding clumps		Finding splits
			
Discrete formulation	Average association	Normalized Cut	Average cut
	$\frac{\text{asso}(A,A)}{ A } + \frac{\text{asso}(B,B)}{ B }$	$\frac{\text{cut}(A,B)}{\text{asso}(A,V)} + \frac{\text{cut}(A,B)}{\text{asso}(B,V)}$ <p>or</p> $2 - \left( \frac{\text{asso}(A,A)}{\text{asso}(A,V)} + \frac{\text{asso}(B,B)}{\text{asso}(B,V)} \right)$	$\frac{\text{cut}(A,B)}{ A } + \frac{\text{cut}(A,B)}{ B }$
Continuous solution	$W_X = \bar{\lambda} X$	$(D-W)_X = \bar{\lambda} D_X$ <p>or</p> $W_X = (1 - \bar{\lambda}) D_X$	$(D-W)_X = \bar{\lambda} X$

# Summary: Representation

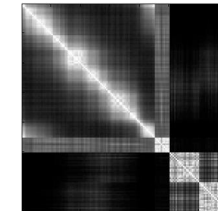
Partition matrix  $X$ :

$$X = [X_1, \dots, X_K]$$

$$X = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} \text{segments} \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} \text{pixels} \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$



Pair-wise similarity matrix  $W$ :  $W(i, j) = \text{aff}(i, j)$



Degree matrix  $D$ :  $D(i, i) = \sum_j w_{i,j}$

Laplacian matrix  $L$ :  $L = D - W$

# Laplacian Matrices of Graphs

- (Un-normalized) Laplacian matrix  $L = D - W$
- The spectrum (eigenvalues) of  $L$  contains a lot of information about the combinatorial structure of the graph  $G$ . Leverage of this information is the object of **spectral graph theory**.
- For clustering, normalized graph Laplacian are usually need
  - Symmetric:  $L_{sym} = D^{-\frac{1}{2}}(D - W)D^{-\frac{1}{2}} = I - D^{-\frac{1}{2}}WD^{-\frac{1}{2}}$
  - Random walk:  $L_{rw} = D^{-1}(D - W) = I - D^{-1}W$
  - $L_{sym} = D^{-\frac{1}{2}} L_{rw} D^{\frac{1}{2}}$

# The Computation of $y^T (D - W)y$

- Assume we have an undirected graph
- Let  $y$  be a  $R^N$  dim vector, where  $N$  is the number of nodes
- For binary class case:  $y_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i \in A \\ -1 & \text{if } i \notin A \end{cases}$
- $2y^T (D - W)y$ 
  - $= 2 \sum_i D_{ii} y_i^2 - 2 \sum_{ij} y_i y_j w_{ij}$
  - $= 2 \sum_i (\sum_j w_{ij}) y_i^2 - 2 \sum_{ij} y_i y_j w_{ij}$
  - $= 2 \sum_{ij} y_i^2 w_{ij} - 2 \sum_{ij} y_i y_j w_{ij}$
  - $= \sum_{ij} y_i^2 w_{ij} - 2 \sum_{ij} y_i y_j w_{ij} + \sum_{ij} y_j^2 w_{ij}$
  - $= \sum_{ij} w_{ij} (y_i^2 - 2y_i y_j + y_j^2)$
  - $= \sum_{ij} w_{ij} (y_i - y_j)^2$
- $\min 2y^T (D - W)y$  defines the smoothness of labels on a graph

# Normalized Version

- Similarly,  $y^T D^{-\frac{1}{2}}(D - W)D^{-\frac{1}{2}}y = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ij} w_{ij} \left( \frac{y_i}{\sqrt{D_{ii}}} - \frac{y_j}{\sqrt{D_{jj}}} \right)^2$
- The smoothness is weighted by nodes' degrees



# Laplacian as an Operator

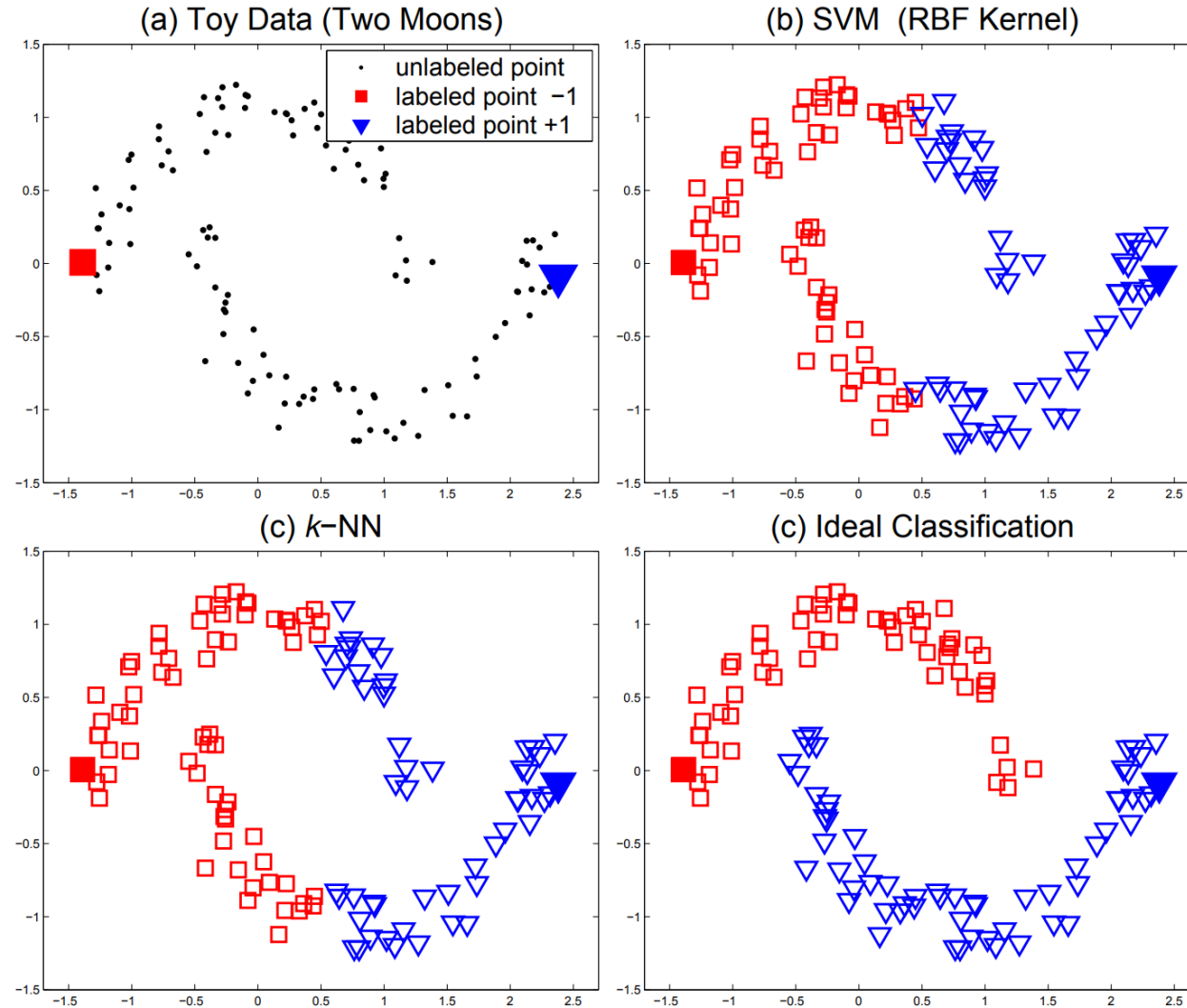
- The weight matrix can be viewed as a linear map from  $R^N$  to itself

$$(Wy)_i = \sum_{j \in N(i)} w_{ij} y_j$$

- Similarly,  $L = D - W$  can also be viewed as a linear map from  $R^N$  to itself

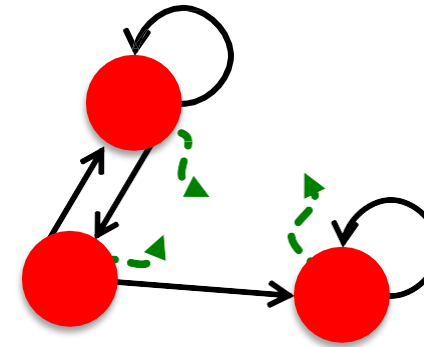
$$(Ly)_i = \sum_{j \in N(i)} w_{ij} (y_i - y_j)$$

# Semi-supervised Learning on Graphs

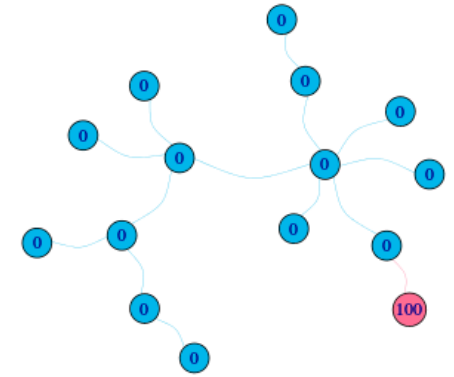


# Personalized PageRank

- PageRank: Random Walk over Graph [Page et al., '98]
  - $p^{t+1} = ((1 - \beta)\mathbf{E} + \beta W)p^t$
  - With a probability to randomly/lazily jump
- Semi-supervised learning (and Personalized PageRank)
  - [Haveliwala et al., TKDE'03, Jeh and Widom, WWW'03]
  - [Zhu et al., ICML'03, Zhou et al., NIPS'03]
  - $p^{t+1} = (1 - \beta)\mathbf{q} + \beta Wp^t$
  - With a probability to restart with a label: prior

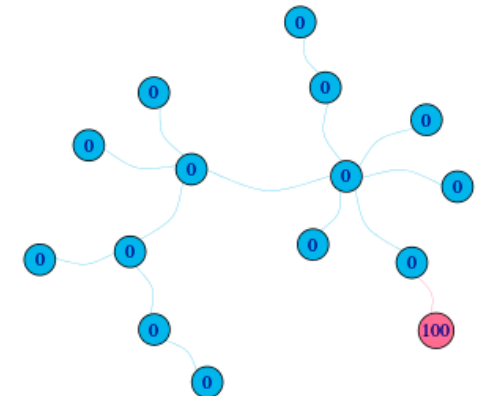


Walk length: 0    Alpha: 0    Distance: Inf



Random Walk

Walk length: 0    Alpha: 0.5    Distance: Inf



PPR (beta = 0.5)

# Semi-supervised Learning

- $p^{t+1} = (1 - \beta) \mathbf{q} + \beta W p^t$

- We rewrite the equation in the normalized form as

$$f^{t+1} = (1 - \alpha) y + \alpha S f^t$$

where

- $f \in R^N$  are the predicted labels on graphs
- $y \in R^N$  is the prior labels on graphs  $y_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i \in A \\ 0 & \text{unknown} \end{cases}$ 
  - For multiple labels on graph, we can have multiple  $y$  vectors for each class.
- $S = D^{-1/2} W D^{-1/2}$ , here we use the normalized  $W$  for the random walk

# Label Propagation

- By iterating the equation  $f^{t+1} = (1 - \alpha)y + \alpha S f^t$ , and suppose  $f^0 = y$ , we have

$$f^t = (1 - \alpha) \sum_{k=0}^{t-1} (\alpha S)^k y + (\alpha S)^{t-1} f^t$$

- As  $0 < \alpha < 1$ , and eigenvalues of  $S$  are in  $[-1, 1]$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} (\alpha S)^{t-1} = 0 \text{ and } \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=0}^{t-1} (\alpha S)^k = (I - \alpha S)^{-1}$$

- Hence, we have

$$f^* = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} f^t = (1 - \alpha)(I - \alpha S)^{-1} y$$

# Graph Regularization Framework

- In fact, we have an objective function for the semi-supervised learning

$$\begin{aligned} L(f) &= \frac{1}{2} \left( \sum_{ij} W_{ij} \left\| \frac{f_i}{\sqrt{D_{ii}}} - \frac{f_j}{\sqrt{D_{jj}}} \right\|^2 + \mu \sum_i \|f_i - y_i\|^2 \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left( f^T D^{-\frac{1}{2}} (D - W) D^{-\frac{1}{2}} f + \mu (f - y)^T (f - y) \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (f^T (I - S) f + \mu (f - y)^T (f - y)) \end{aligned}$$

- By setting  $\frac{\partial L(f)}{\partial f} = f - Sf + \mu(f - y) = 0$ , and  $\alpha = \frac{1}{1+\mu}$  and  $\beta = \frac{\mu}{1+\mu}$  we have  $f^* = \beta(I - \alpha S)^{-1}y$

# $L^{-1}$ as an Operator

- $L^{-1}$  can act as an operator too
  - $(L^{-1}y)_i$  can be viewed as a linear map from  $R^N$  to itself
- Let  $G = L^{-1}$  and let  $L = I - D^{-1}W$  (convenient to interpret for the probability of random walk)
- Note that  $(I - D^{-1}W)^{-1} = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=0}^{t-1} (D^{-1}W)^k$ 
  - $\left((D^{-1}W)^k\right)_{ij}$  shows the  $k$ -th hop probability from node  $i$  to node  $j$
  - $(I - D^{-1}W)^{-1}$  shows an aggregation of probabilities of all paths from node  $i$  to node  $j$
  - Larger  $\left((I - D^{-1}W)^{-1}\right)_{ij}$  indicates similar nodes  $i$  and  $j$
- The classification given by  $f^* = L^{-1}y$  is given by
$$p_+(i) = \sum_{y_j=1} G_{ij}$$

# Summary

- Adjacency matrix of a graph shows clustering property of nodes
- Graph Laplacian indicate informative graph structures locally and globally
- Laplacian as an operator will be useful for graph convolutional network design