

Graphs in Machine Learning

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Partially based on material by: Ulrike von Luxburg,
Gary Miller, Doyle & Schnell, Daniel Spielman

Previous lecture

- ▶ where do the graphs come from?
 - ▶ social, information, utility, and biological networks
 - ▶ we create them from the flat data
 - ▶ random graph models
- ▶ specific applications and concepts
 - ▶ maximizing influence on a graph **gossip propagation, submodularity**, proof of the approximation guarantee
 - ▶ Google pagerank **random surfer process, steady state vector, sparsity**
 - ▶ online semi-supervised learning **label propagation, backbone graph, online learning, combinatorial sparsification, stability analysis**
 - ▶ Erdős number project, real-world graphs, **heavy tails, small world** – when did this happen?
- ▶ similarity graphs
 - ▶ different types
 - ▶ construction
 - ▶ practical considerations

This Lecture

- ▶ spectral graph theory
- ▶ Laplacians and their properties
 - ▶ symmetric and asymmetric normalization
 - ▶ random walks
- ▶ geometry of the data and the connectivity
- ▶ spectral clustering
- ▶ manifold learning with Laplacians eigenmaps

Next Class: Lab Session

- ▶ 30.01.2022 by Achraf
- ▶ Short written report (graded)
- ▶ All homeworks together make up the final grade
- ▶ Content
 - ▶ Graph Construction
 - ▶ Test sensitivity to parameters: σ, k, ε
 - ▶ Spectral Clustering
 - ▶ Spectral Clustering vs. k -means
 - ▶ Image Segmentation

Similarity Graphs

Input:

$\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \mathbf{x}_3, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N$

- ▶ raw data
- ▶ flat data
- ▶ vectorial data



Similarity Graphs

Similarity graph: $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$ — **(un)weighted**

Task 1: For each pair i, j : define a **similarity function** s_{ij}

Task 2: Decide which edges to include

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fully connected graphs - consider everything

ε -neighborhood graphs – connect the points with the distances smaller than ε

k -NN neighborhood graphs – take k nearest neighbors

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This is art (not much theory exists).

http://www.informatik.uni-hamburg.de/ML/contents/people/luxburg/publications/Luxburg07_tutorial.pdf

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Edges connect everything.

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- ▶ choose a “meaningful” similarity function s
- ▶ default choice:

$$s_{ij} = \exp\left(\frac{-\|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

- ▶ why the exponential decay with the distance?

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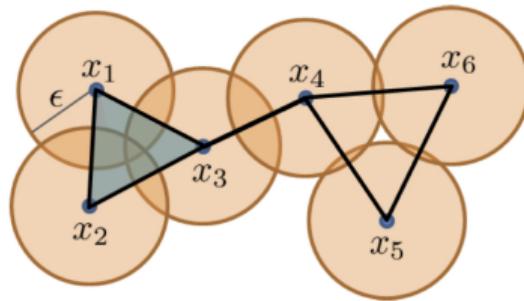
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- ▶ why the exponential decay with the distance?
- ▶ σ controls the width of the neighborhoods
 - ▶ a practical rule of thumb: 10% of the average empirical std
 - ▶ possibility: learn σ_i for each feature independently
- ▶ metric learning (a whole field of ML)

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- ▶ distances are roughly on the same scale (ε)
- ▶ weights may not bring additional info → unweighted
- ▶ equivalent to: similarity function is at least ε
- ▶ theory [Penrose, 1999]: $\varepsilon = ((\log N)/N)^d$ to guarantee connectivity N nodes, d dimension
- ▶ practice: choose ε as the length of the longest edge in the MST - minimum spanning tree

What could be the problem with this MST approach?

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Anomalies can make ε too large.

Similarity Graphs: k -nearest neighbors graphs

Edges connect each node to its k -nearest neighbors.

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- ▶ asymmetric (or directed graph)
 - ▶ option OR: ignore the direction
 - ▶ option AND: include if we have both direction (mutual k -NN)
- ▶ how to choose k ?
- ▶ $k \approx \log N$ - suggested by asymptotics (practice: up to \sqrt{N})
- ▶ for mutual k -NN we need to take larger k
- ▶ mutual k -NN does not connect regions with different density
- ▶ why don't we take $k = N - 1$?
 - ▶ space and time
 - ▶ manifold considerations (preserving local properties)

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- ▶ these rules have little theoretical underpinning
- ▶ similarity is very data-dependent

$$\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{D} - \mathbf{W}$$

graph Laplacian

...the only matrix that matters

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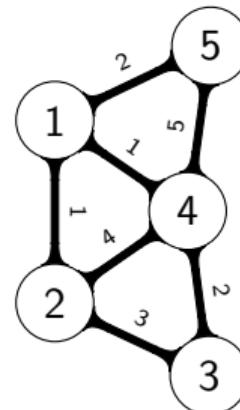
W weight matrix

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L = **D** - **W** graph **Laplacian** matrix

$$\mathbf{L} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -1 & 0 & -1 & -2 \\ -1 & 8 & -3 & -4 & 0 \\ 0 & -3 & 5 & -2 & 0 \\ -1 & -4 & -2 & 12 & -5 \\ -2 & 0 & 0 & -5 & 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

L is SDD!



demo: <https://dominikschenkxyz/spectral-clustering-exp/>

Properties of Graph Laplacian

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Proof:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{f}^\top \mathbf{L} \mathbf{f} &= \sum_{i,j \leq N} \mathbf{L}_{i,j} f_i f_j = \sum_{i,j \leq N} \mathbf{D}_{i,j} f_i f_j - \sum_{i,j \leq N} \mathbf{W}_{i,j} f_i f_j = \sum_{i=1}^N d_i f_i^2 - \sum_{i,j \leq N} w_{i,j} f_i f_j \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\sum_{i=1}^N d_i f_i^2 - 2 \sum_{i,j \leq N} w_{i,j} f_i f_j + \sum_{j=1}^N d_j f_j^2 \right) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j \leq N} w_{i,j} (f_i - f_j)^2\end{aligned}$$

Recap: Eigenwerte und Eigenvektoren

A vector \mathbf{v} is an **eigenvector** of matrix \mathbf{M} of **eigenvalue** λ

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For symmetric \mathbf{M} , the **multiplicity** of λ is the dimension of the space of eigenvectors corresponding to λ .

$N \times N$ symmetric matrix has N eigenvalues (w/ multiplicities).

Eigenvalues, Eigenvectors, and Eigendecomposition

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Right-multiplying $\mathbf{M}\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{Q}\Lambda$ by \mathbf{Q}^T we get the **eigendecomposition** of \mathbf{M} :

$$\mathbf{M} = \boxed{\mathbf{MQQ}^T = \mathbf{Q}\Lambda\mathbf{Q}^T} = \sum_i \lambda_i \mathbf{v}_i \mathbf{v}_i^T$$

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For \mathbf{L}_i $(0, \mathbf{1}_{|V_i|})$ is an eigenpair, hence the claim.

Smoothness of the Function and Laplacian

$$S_G(\mathbf{f}) = \mathbf{f}^\top \mathbf{L} \mathbf{f} = \mathbf{f}^\top \mathbf{Q} \Lambda \mathbf{Q}^\top \mathbf{f} = \boldsymbol{\alpha}^\top \Lambda \boldsymbol{\alpha} = \|\boldsymbol{\alpha}\|_\Lambda^2 = \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i \alpha_i^2$$

Eigenvectors are graph functions too!

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Spectral coordinates of eigenvector \mathbf{v}_k : $\mathbf{Q}^T \mathbf{v}_k =$

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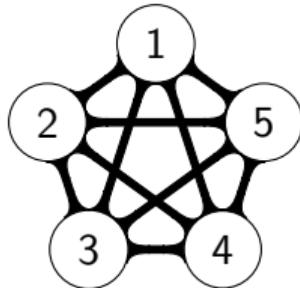
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The smoothness of k -th eigenvector is the k -th eigenvalue.

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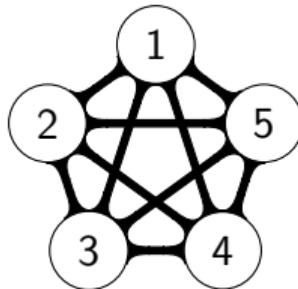
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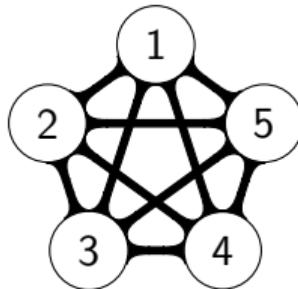
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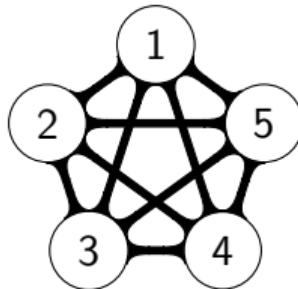
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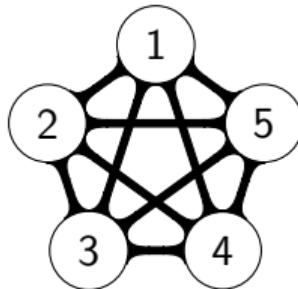
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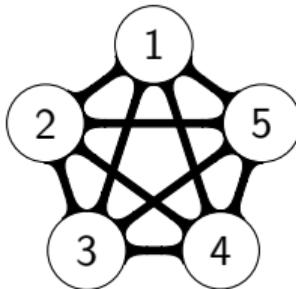
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Answer: $N-1$ eigenvectors $\perp \mathbf{1}_N$ for eigenvalue N with multiplicity $N-1$.

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Proof: As for \mathbf{L} .

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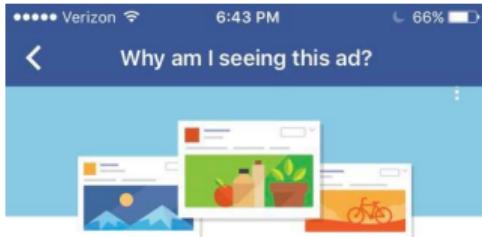
What's the difference from the PageRank™?

$$\text{cut}(A, B) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{f}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{f}$$

spectral clustering

...with connectivity beyond compactness

How to rule the world?



Verizon 6:43 PM 66%

Why am I seeing this ad?

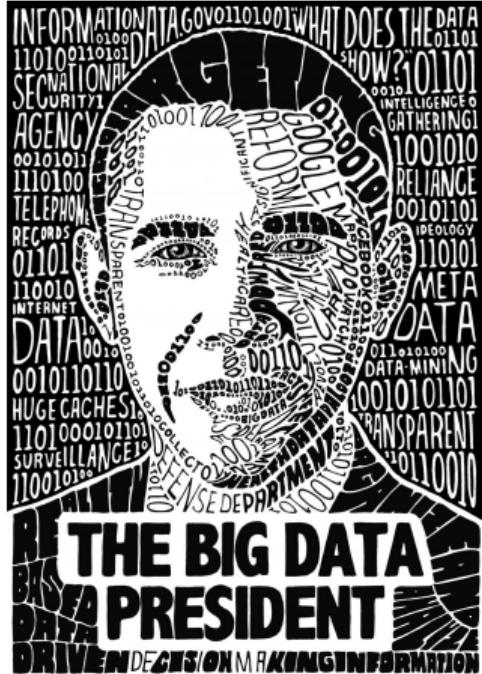
One reason you're seeing this ad is that **Donald J. Trump** wants to reach people who are part of an audience called "**Likely To Engage in Politics (Liberal)**". This is based on your activity on Facebook and other apps and websites, as well as where you connect to the internet.

There may be other reasons you're seeing this ad, including that Donald J. Trump wants to reach **people ages 25 and older who live near Boston, Massachusetts**. This is information based on your Facebook profile and where you've connected to the internet.

Was this explanation useful?

News Feed Requests Messenger Notifications More

How to rule the world: “AI” is here

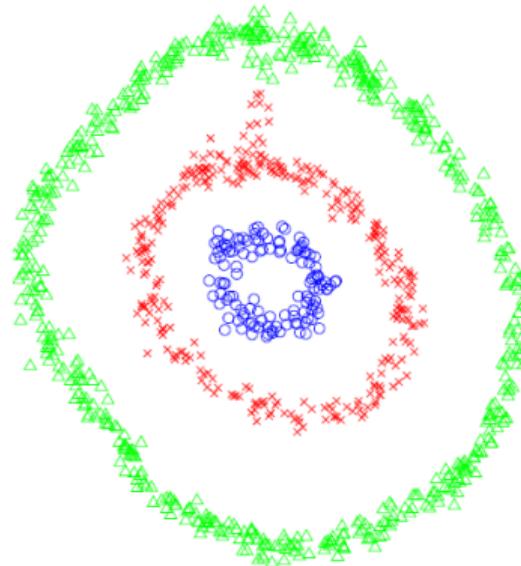
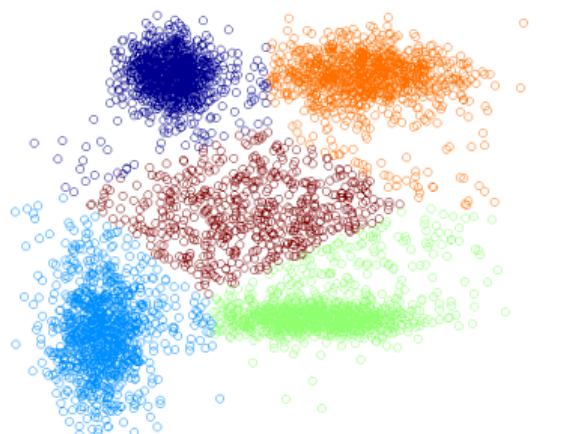


https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/obama-the-big-data-president/2013/06/14/1d71fe2e-d391-11e2-b05f-3ea3f0e7bb5a_story.html

<https://www.technologyreview.com/s/509026/how-obamas-team-used-big-data-to-rally-voters/>

Talk of Rayid Ghani: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gDM1GuszM_U

Application of Graphs for ML: Clustering



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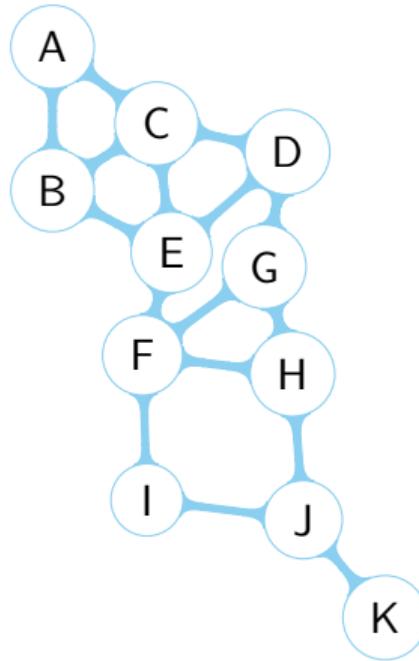
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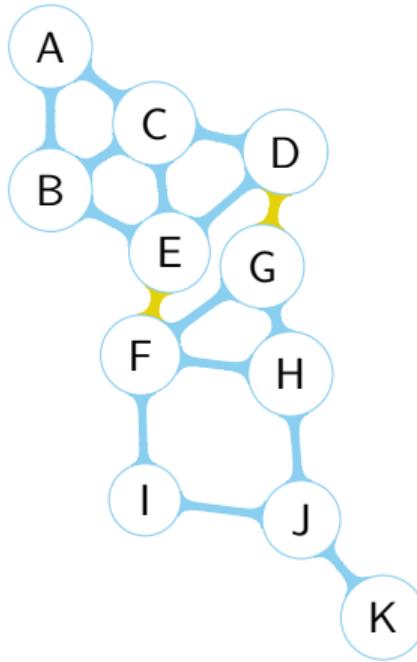
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Spectral Clustering: Cuts on graphs

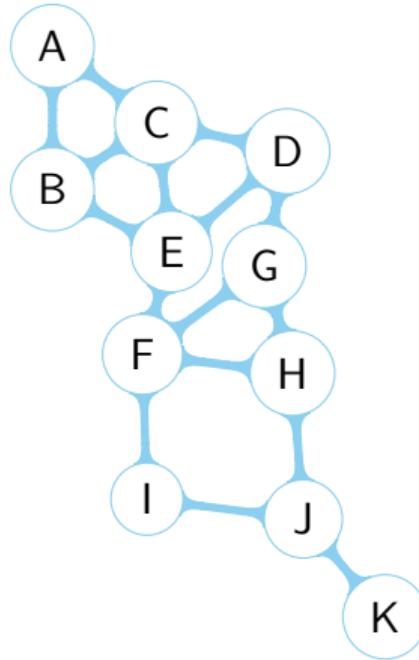


Spectral Clustering: Cuts on graphs



Defining the cut objective we get the clustering!

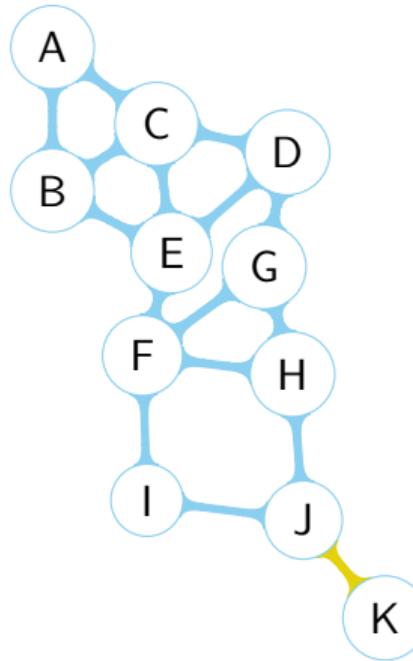
Spectral Clustering: Cuts on graphs



MinCut: $\text{cut}(A, B) = \sum_{i \in A, j \in B} w_{ij}$

Are we done?

Spectral Clustering: Cuts on graphs



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Are we done?

Can be solved efficiently, but maybe not what we want . . .

Spectral Clustering: Balanced Cuts

Let's balance the cuts!

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Spectral Clustering: Relaxing Balanced Cuts

Relaxation for (simple) balanced cuts for 2 sets

$$\min_{A,B} \text{cut}(A, B) \quad \text{s.t.} \quad |A| = |B|$$

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What is the relationship with the **smoothness** of a graph function?

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$$\min_{\mathbf{f}} \mathbf{f}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{f} \quad \text{s.t.} \quad f_i = \pm 1, \quad \mathbf{f} \perp \mathbf{1}_N, \quad \|\mathbf{f}\| = \sqrt{N}$$

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$$\cancel{f_i = \pm 1} \quad \rightarrow \quad f_i \in \mathbb{R}$$

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Rayleigh-Ritz theorem

If $\lambda_1 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_N$ are the eigenvalues of real symmetric \mathbf{L} then

$$\lambda_1 = \min_{\mathbf{x} \neq 0} \frac{\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{x}}{\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x}} = \min_{\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x} = 1} \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{x}$$

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How can we use it?

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Generalized Rayleigh-Ritz theorem (Courant-Fischer-Weyl)

If $\lambda_1 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_N$ are the eigenvalues of real symmetric \mathbf{L} and $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_N$ the corresponding orthogonal eigenvectors, then for $k = 1 : N - 1$

$$\lambda_{k+1} = \min_{\mathbf{x} \neq 0, \mathbf{x} \perp \mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k} \frac{\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{x}}{\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x}} = \min_{\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x} = 1, \mathbf{x} \perp \mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k} \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{x}$$

$$\lambda_{N-k} = \max_{\mathbf{x} \neq 0, \mathbf{x} \perp \mathbf{v}_n, \dots, \mathbf{v}_{N-k+1}} \frac{\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{x}}{\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x}} = \max_{\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x} = 1, \mathbf{x} \perp \mathbf{v}_N, \dots, \mathbf{v}_{N-k+1}} \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{x}$$

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Solution:

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$$\mathbf{f}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{f} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} w_{i,j} (f_i - f_j)^2 = (|A| + |B|) \text{RatioCut}(A, B)$$

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Spectral Clustering: Approximating RatioCut

Define graph function \mathbf{f} for cluster membership of RatioCut:

$$f_i = \begin{cases} \sqrt{\frac{|B|}{|A|}} & \text{if } V_i \in A, \\ -\sqrt{\frac{|A|}{|B|}} & \text{if } V_i \in B. \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_i f_i = 0$$

$$\sum_i f_i^2 = N$$

objective function of spectral clustering (same - it's magic!)

$$\min_{\mathbf{f}} \mathbf{f}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{f} \quad \text{s.t.} \quad f_i \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \mathbf{f} \perp \mathbf{1}_N, \quad \|\mathbf{f}\| = \sqrt{N}$$

Spectral Clustering: Approximating NCut

Normalized Cut

$$\text{NCut}(A, B) = \sum_{i \in A, j \in B} w_{ij} \left(\frac{1}{\text{vol}(A)} + \frac{1}{\text{vol}(B)} \right)$$

Spectral Clustering: Approximating NCut

Normalized Cut

$$\text{NCut}(A, B) = \sum_{i \in A, j \in B} w_{ij} \left(\frac{1}{\text{vol}(A)} + \frac{1}{\text{vol}(B)} \right)$$

Define graph function \mathbf{f} for cluster membership of NCut:

$$f_i = \begin{cases} \sqrt{\frac{\text{vol}(B)}{\text{vol}(A)}} & \text{if } V_i \in A, \\ -\sqrt{\frac{\text{vol}(A)}{\text{vol}(B)}} & \text{if } V_i \in B. \end{cases}$$

Spectral Clustering: Approximating NCut

Normalized Cut

$$\text{NCut}(A, B) = \sum_{i \in A, j \in B} w_{ij} \left(\frac{1}{\text{vol}(A)} + \frac{1}{\text{vol}(B)} \right)$$

Define graph function \mathbf{f} for cluster membership of NCut:

$$f_i = \begin{cases} \sqrt{\frac{\text{vol}(B)}{\text{vol}(A)}} & \text{if } V_i \in A, \\ -\sqrt{\frac{\text{vol}(A)}{\text{vol}(B)}} & \text{if } V_i \in B. \end{cases}$$

$$(\mathbf{D}\mathbf{f})^\top \mathbf{1}_n = 0$$

Spectral Clustering: Approximating NCut

Normalized Cut

$$\text{NCut}(A, B) = \sum_{i \in A, j \in B} w_{ij} \left(\frac{1}{\text{vol}(A)} + \frac{1}{\text{vol}(B)} \right)$$

Define graph function \mathbf{f} for cluster membership of NCut:

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$$(\mathbf{D}\mathbf{f})^\top \mathbf{1}_n = 0 \quad \mathbf{f}^\top \mathbf{D}\mathbf{f} = \text{vol}(\mathcal{V})$$

Spectral Clustering: Approximating NCut

Normalized Cut

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Spectral Clustering: Approximating NCut

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objective function of spectral clustering (NCut)

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Spectral Clustering: Approximating NCut

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Can we apply Rayleigh-Ritz now?

Spectral Clustering: Approximating NCut

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Can we apply Rayleigh-Ritz now? Define $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{D}^{1/2}\mathbf{f}$

Spectral Clustering: Approximating NCut

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$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{D}^{-1/2} \mathbf{L} \mathbf{D}^{-1/2} \mathbf{w} \quad \text{s.t.} \quad w_i \in \mathbb{R}, \mathbf{w} \perp \mathbf{D}^{1/2}\mathbf{1}_N, \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 = \text{vol}(\mathcal{V})$$

Spectral Clustering: Approximating NCut

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objective function of spectral clustering (NCut)

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{L}_{\text{sym}} \mathbf{w} \quad \text{s.t.} \quad w_i \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \mathbf{w} \perp \mathbf{v}_{1,\mathbf{L}_{\text{sym}}}, \quad \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 = \text{vol}(\mathcal{V})$$

Spectral Clustering: Approximating NCut

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Spectral Clustering: Approximating NCut

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Solution by Rayleigh-Ritz?

Spectral Clustering: Approximating NCut

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Solution by Rayleigh-Ritz? $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{v}_{2,\mathbf{L}_{\text{sym}}} \quad \mathbf{f} = \mathbf{D}^{-1/2} \mathbf{w}$

\mathbf{f} is the second eigenvector of \mathbf{L}_{rw} !

Spectral Clustering: Approximating NCut

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\mathbf{f} is the second eigenvector of \mathbf{L}_{rw} !

tl;dr: Get the second eigenvector of $\mathbf{L}/\mathbf{L}_{\text{rw}}$ for RatioCut/NCut.

Spectral Clustering: Approximating NCut

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tl;dr: Get the second eigenvector of $\mathbf{L}/\mathbf{L}_{\text{rw}}$ for RatioCut/NCut.

demo: <https://dominikschenk.xyz/spectral-clustering-exp/>

Spectral Clustering: Approximation

These are all approximations. How bad can they be?

Spectral Clustering: Approximation

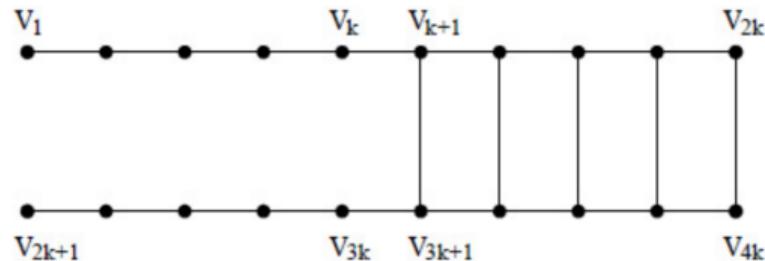
These are all approximations. How bad can they be?

Pretty bad.

Spectral Clustering: Approximation

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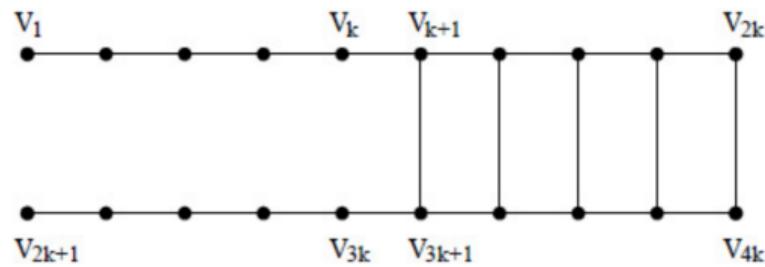
Pretty bad. Example: cockroach graphs



Spectral Clustering: Approximation

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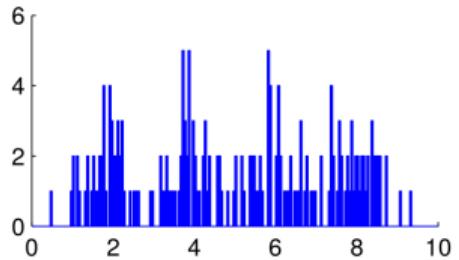
Pretty bad. Example: cockroach graphs



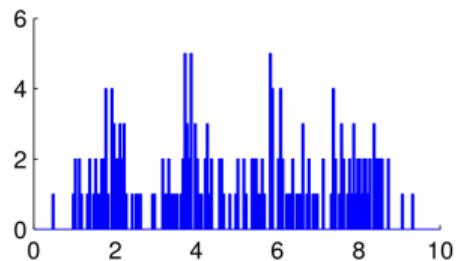
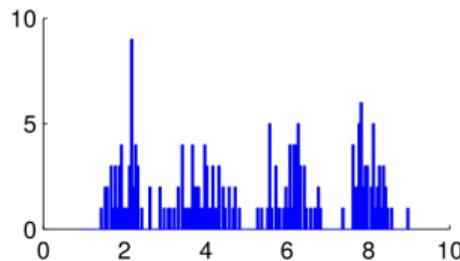
No efficient approximation exist. Other relaxations possible.

<https://www.cs.cmu.edu/~glmiller/Publications/Papers/GuMi95.pdf>

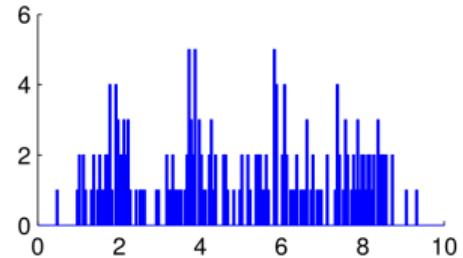
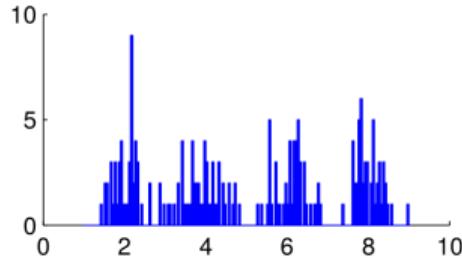
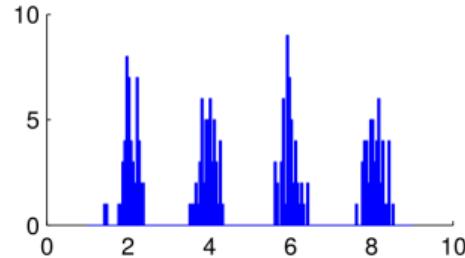
Spectral Clustering: 1D Example



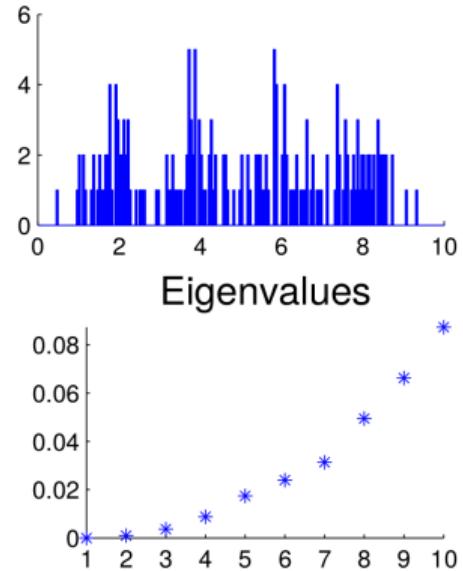
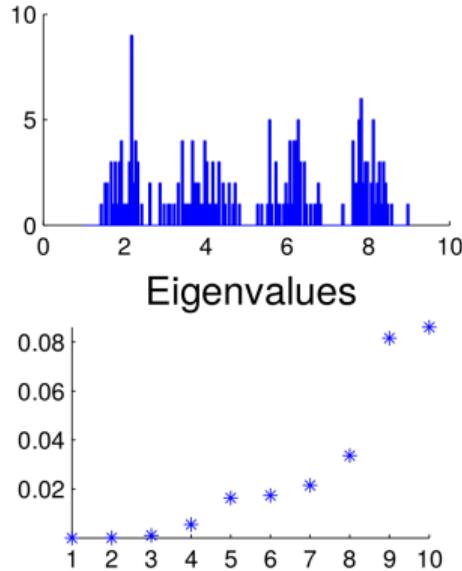
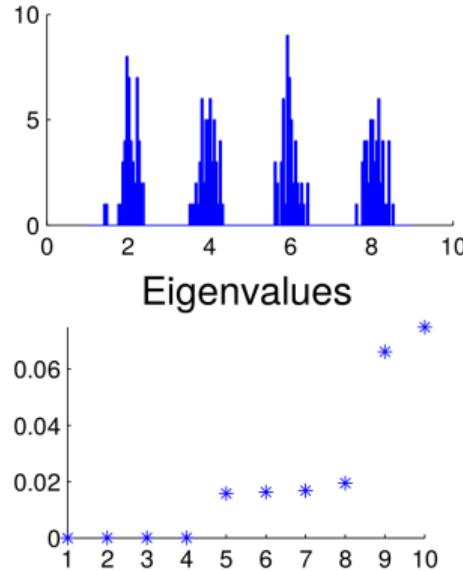
Spectral Clustering: 1D Example



Spectral Clustering: 1D Example

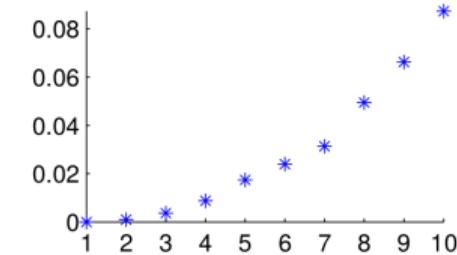
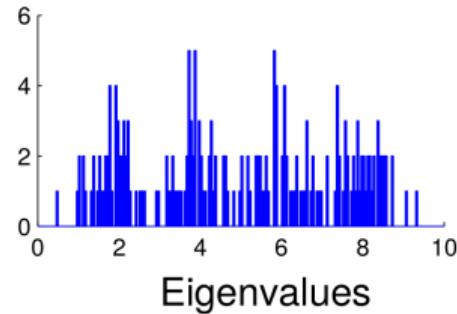
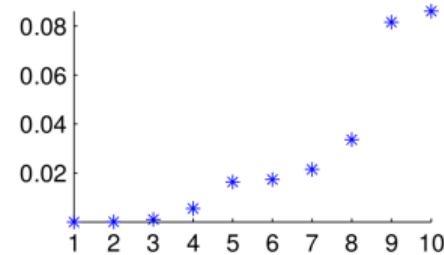
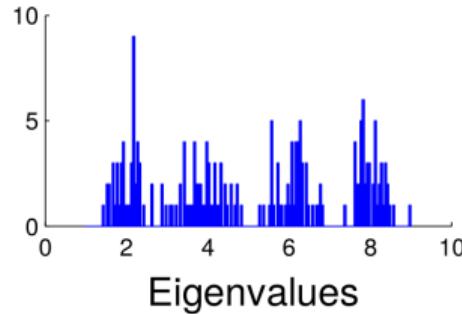
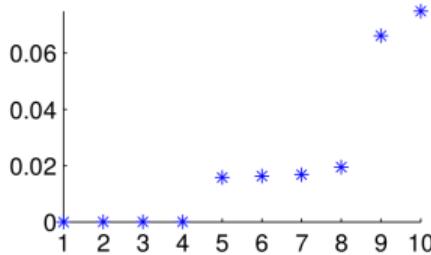
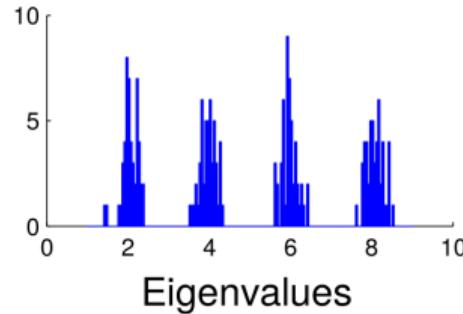


Spectral Clustering: 1D Example



Spectral Clustering: 1D Example

Elbow rule/EigenGap heuristic for number of clusters

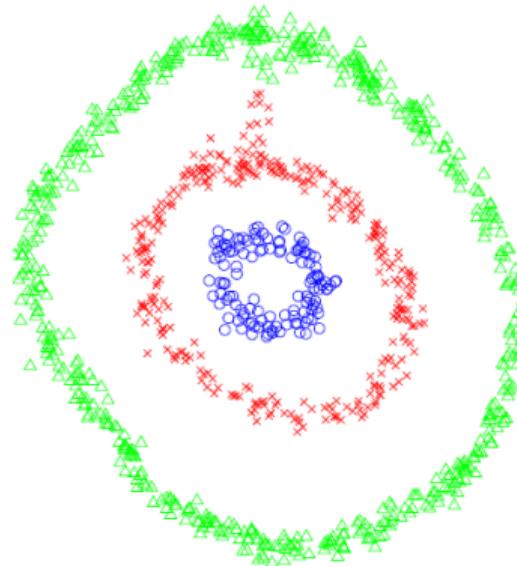
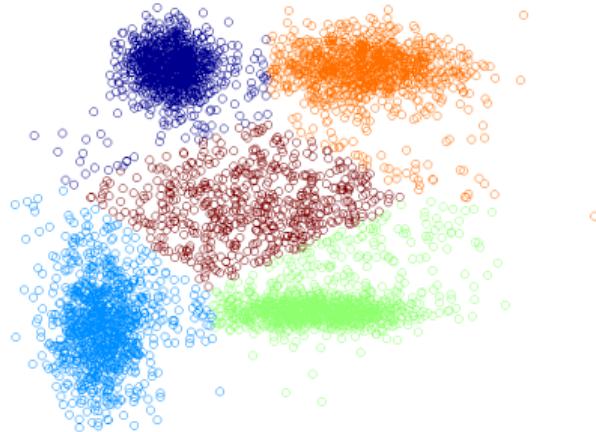


Spectral Clustering: Understanding

Compactness vs. **Connectivity**

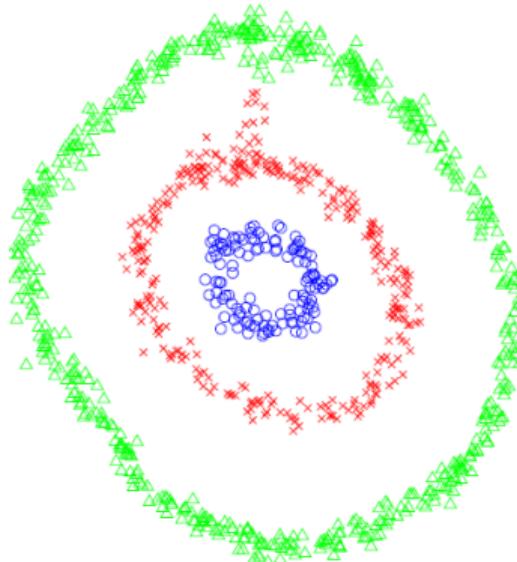
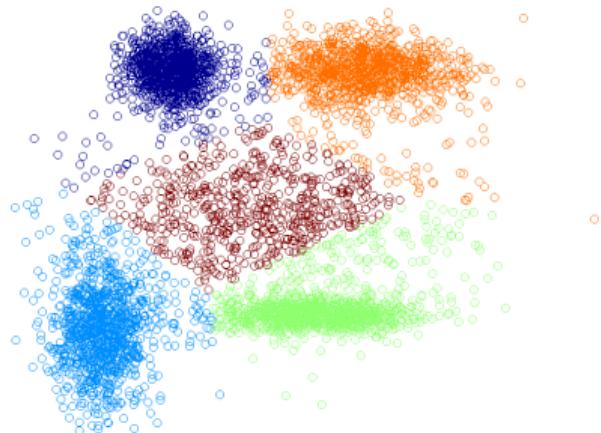
Spectral Clustering: Understanding

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Spectral Clustering: Understanding

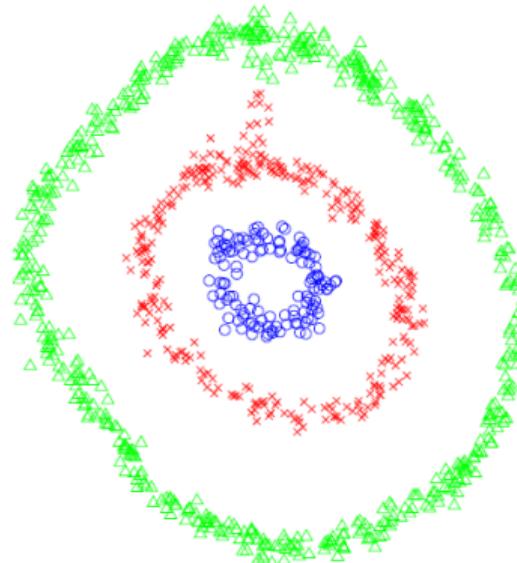
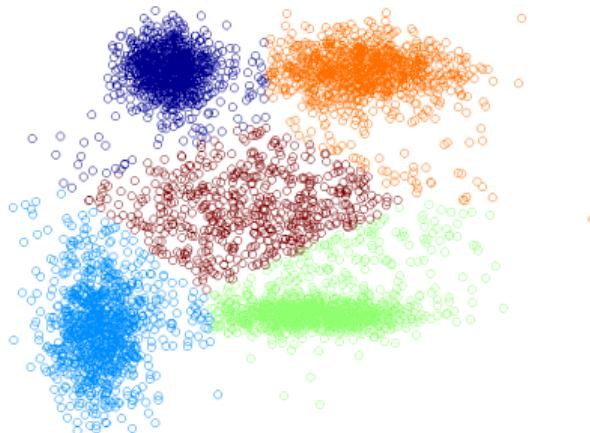
Compactness vs. Connectivity



For which kind of data we can use one vs. the other?

Spectral Clustering: Understanding

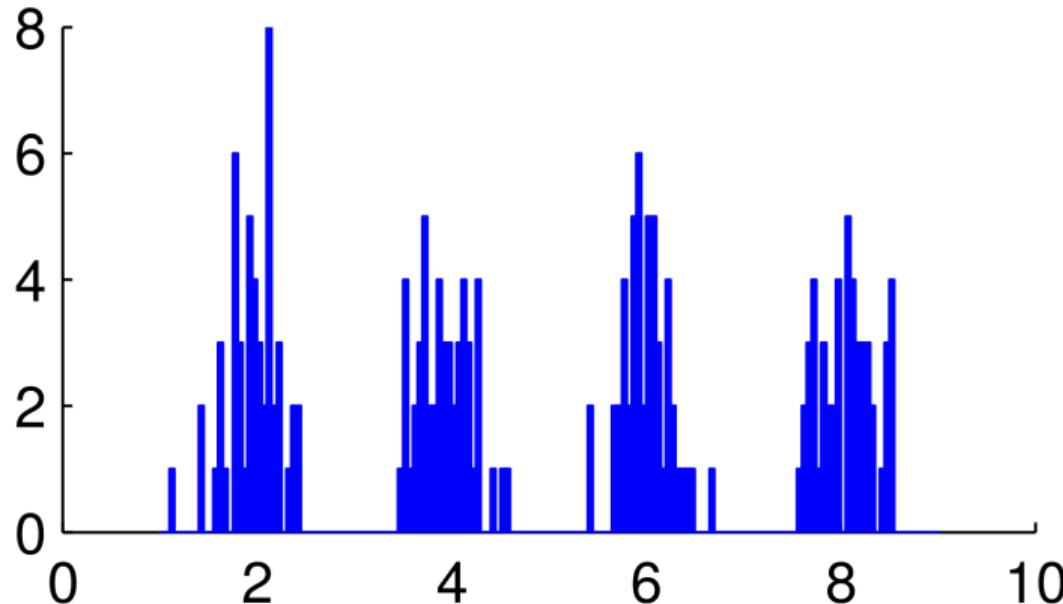
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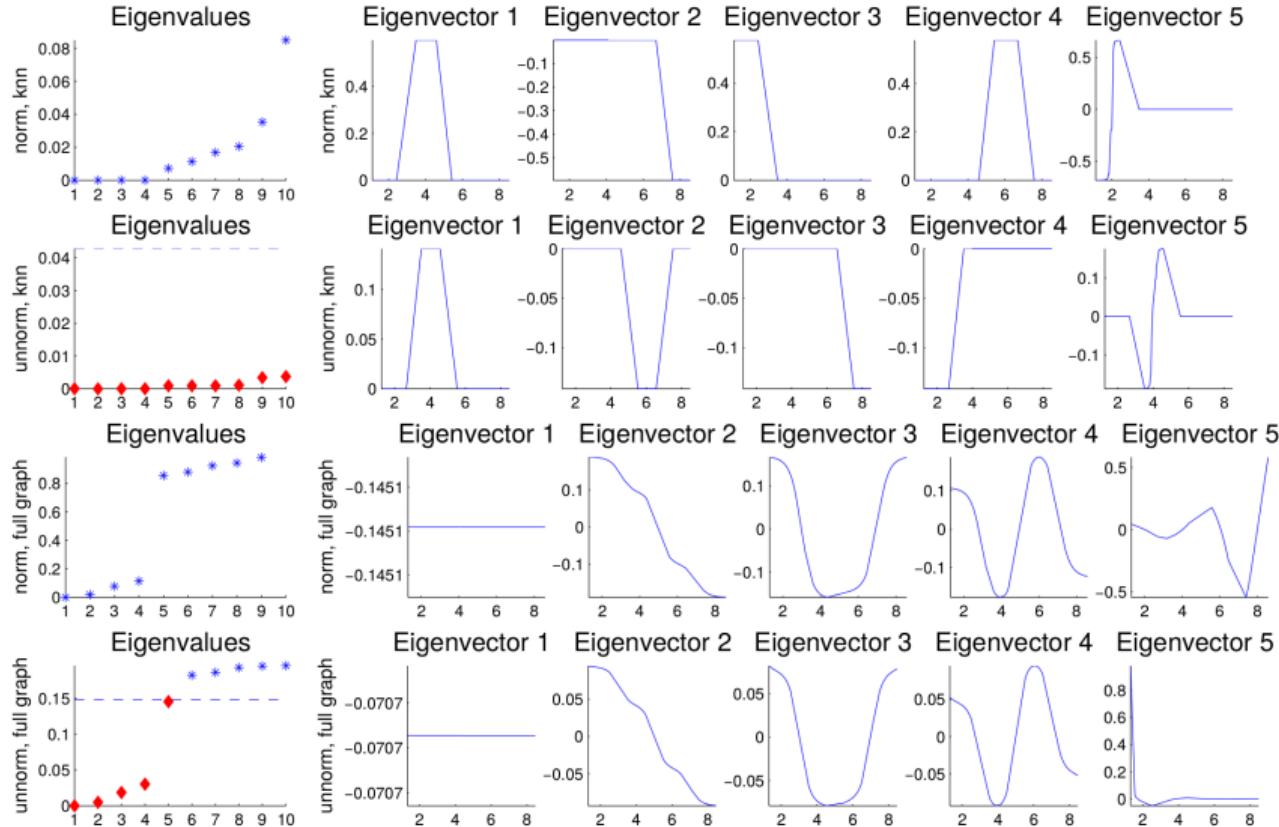
Any disadvantages of spectral clustering?

Spectral Clustering: 1D Example - Histogram



[http://www.informatik.uni-hamburg.de/ML/contents/people/luxburg/publications/
Luxburg07_tutorial.pdf](http://www.informatik.uni-hamburg.de/ML/contents/people/luxburg/publications/Luxburg07_tutorial.pdf)

Spectral Clustering: 1D Example - Eigenvectors



Spectral Clustering: Bibliography

- ▶ M. Meila et al. “A random walks view of spectral segmentation”. In: *International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics* (2001)
- ▶ L_{sym} Andrew Y Ng, Michael I Jordan, and Yair Weiss. “On spectral clustering: Analysis and an algorithm”. In: *Neural Information Processing Systems*. 2001
- ▶ L_{rm} J Shi and J Malik. “Normalized Cuts and Image Segmentation”. In: *IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence* 22 (2000), pp. 888–905
- ▶ Things can go wrong with the relaxation: Daniel A. Spielman and Shang H. Teng. “Spectral partitioning works: Planar graphs and finite element meshes”. In: *Linear Algebra and Its Applications* 421 (2007), pp. 284–305

$\mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$

manifold learning

...discworld

Manifold Learning: Recap

problem: definition reduction/manifold learning

Given $\{\mathbf{x}_i\}_{i=1}^N$ from \mathbb{R}^d find $\{\mathbf{y}_i\}_{i=1}^N$ in \mathbb{R}^m , where $m \ll d$.

Manifold Learning: Recap

problem: definition reduction/manifold learning

Given $\{\mathbf{x}_i\}_{i=1}^N$ from \mathbb{R}^d find $\{\mathbf{y}_i\}_{i=1}^N$ in \mathbb{R}^m , where $m \ll d$.

- ▶ What do we know about the **dimensionality reduction**

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Manifold Learning: Recap

problem: definition reduction/manifold learning

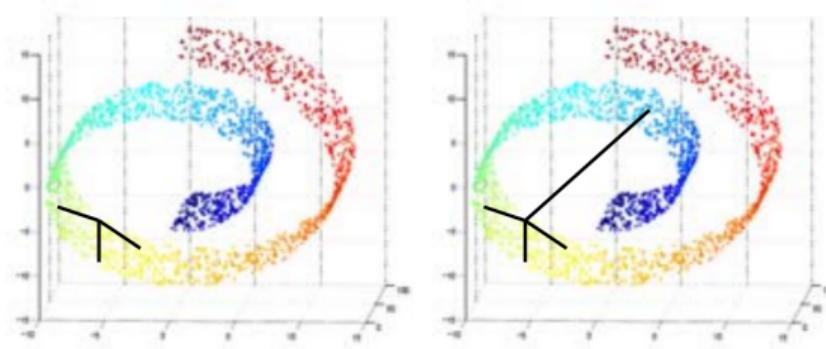
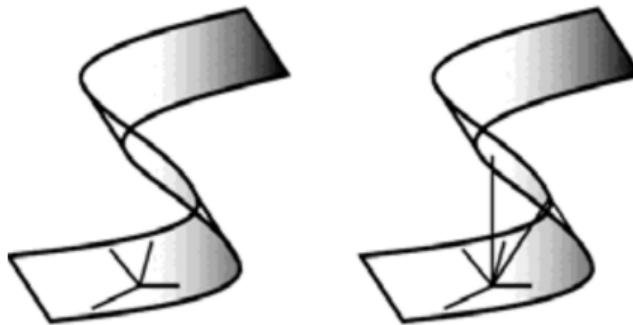
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 - ▶ feature extraction
 - ▶ linear vs. nonlinear dimensionality reduction
- ▶ What do we know about linear vs. nonlinear methods?
 - ▶ linear: ICA, PCA, SVD, ...
 - ▶ nonlinear often preserve only **local** distances

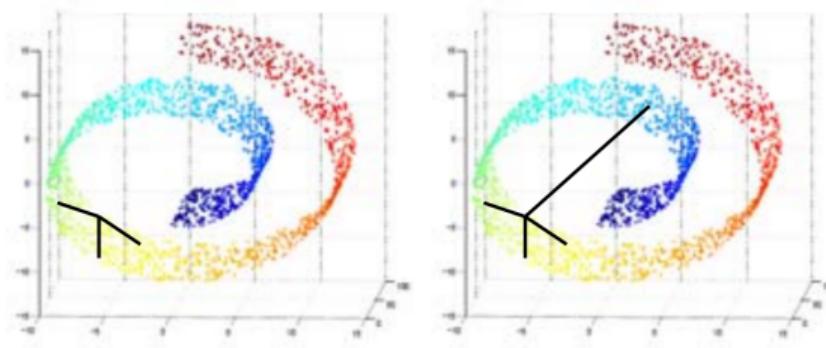
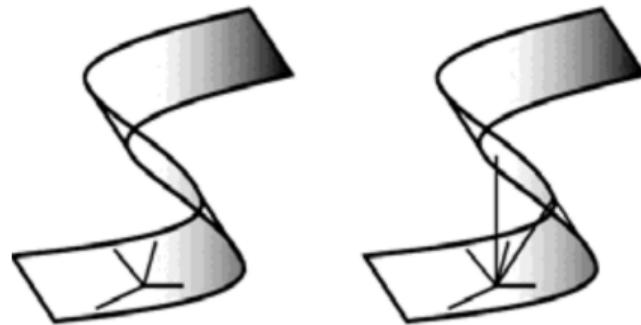
Manifold Learning: Linear vs. Non-linear



Manifold Learning: Preserving (just) local distances

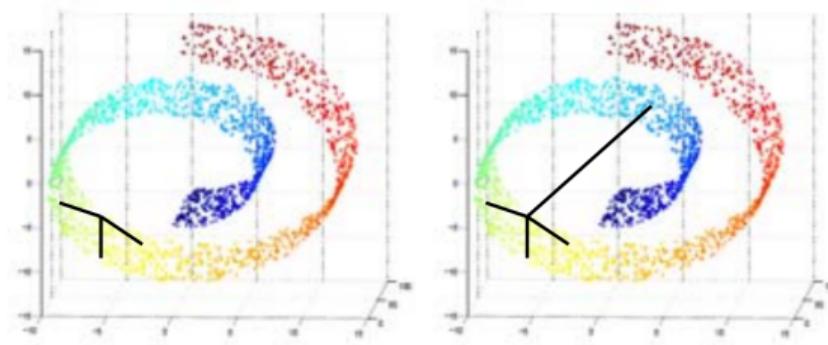
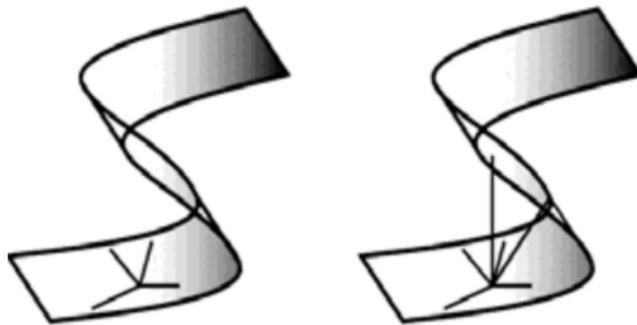


Manifold Learning: Preserving (just) local distances



$$d(\mathbf{y}_i, \mathbf{y}_j) = d(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) \quad \text{only if} \quad d(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) \quad \text{is small}$$

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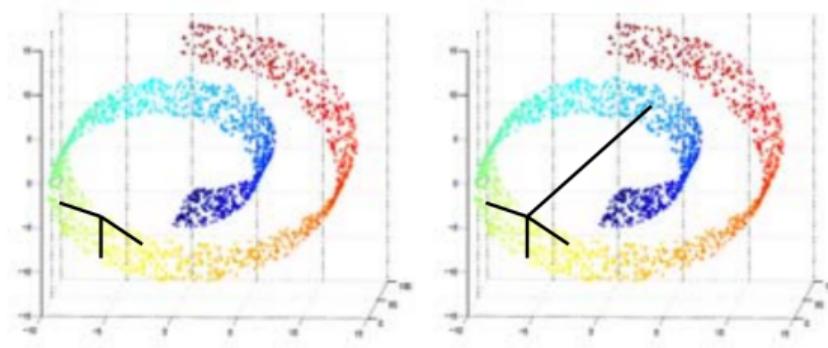
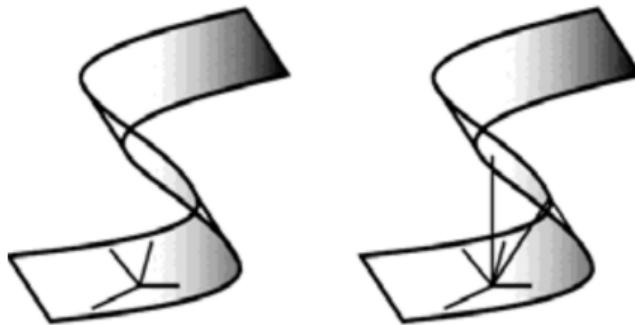


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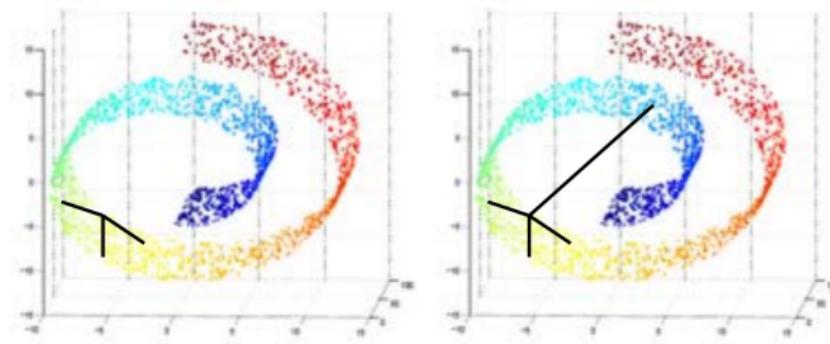
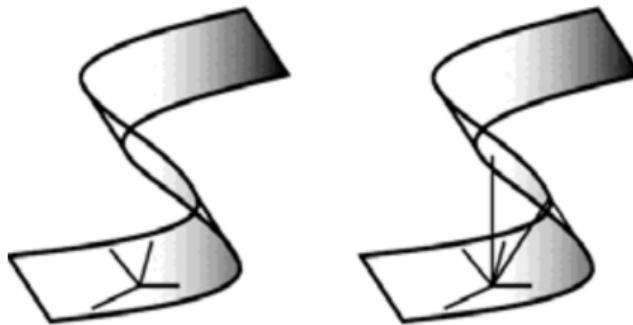


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Looks familiar?

Manifold Learning: Laplacian Eigenmaps

Step 1: Solve generalized eigenproblem:

$$\mathbf{Lf} = \lambda \mathbf{Df}$$

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Note₂: \mathbf{f}_1 is useless

http://web.cse.ohio-state.edu/~mbelkin/papers/LEM_NC_03.pdf

Manifold Learning: Laplacian Eigenmaps to 1D

Laplacian Eigenmaps 1D objective

$$\min_{\mathbf{f}} \mathbf{f}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{f} \quad \text{s.t.} \quad f_i \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \mathbf{f}^T \mathbf{D} \mathbf{1} = 0, \quad \mathbf{f}^T \mathbf{D} \mathbf{f} = 1$$

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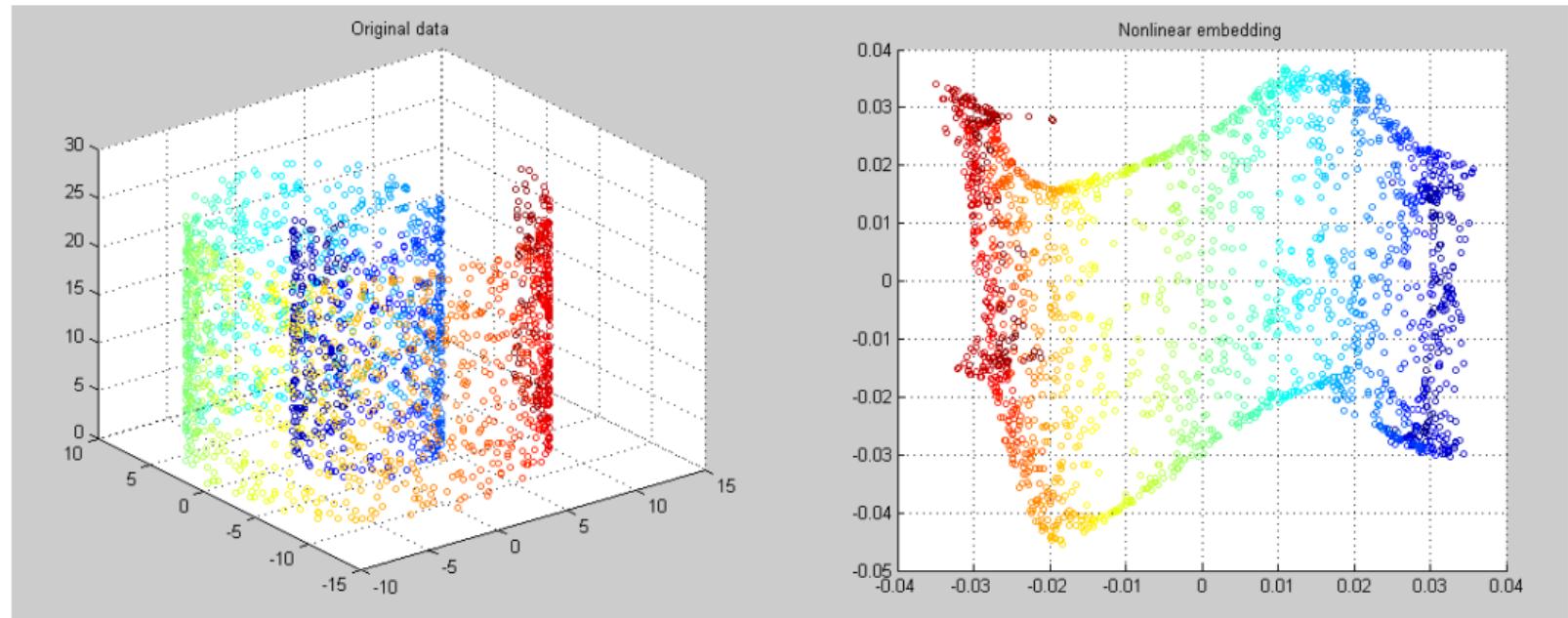
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What is the solution?

Manifold Learning: Example



[http://www.mathworks.com/matlabcentral/fileexchange/
36141-laplacian-eigenmap---diffusion-map---manifold-learning](http://www.mathworks.com/matlabcentral/fileexchange/36141-laplacian-eigenmap---diffusion-map---manifold-learning)

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ENS Paris-Saclay, MVA 2022/2023

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