

# A High-Order Proximity-Incorporated Nonnegative Matrix Factorization-based Community Detector

## Supplementary File

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### I. INTRODUCTION

This is the supplementary file for the paper entitled “*A High-Order Proximity-Incorporated Nonnegative Matrix Factorization-based Community Detector*”. We have put tables of main acronyms and symbols in Section II, the proof of *Theorem 1* and *Convergence Proof* in Section III, and some figures and tables of experimental results in Section IV.

### II. ACRONYMS AND SYMBOLS

Main acronyms and symbols of the paper are summarized in Tables S.I and S.II.

### III. PROOF OF THEOREMS 1 AND CONVERGENCE PROOF

#### A. Proof of Theorem 1

**Proof.** We prove the correctness of the learning rules in (23) in the manuscript separately in the following.

**a) Updating  $X$ :** If the learning rule in (23a) in the manuscript converges, then we achieve  $X^{(\infty)}=X^{(t+1)}=X^{(t)}=X^{(*)}$ , where  $t$  denotes the  $t$ -th iteration. Thus, for each  $x_{ik}$  in  $X$ , we have the following inference:

$$\begin{aligned} x_{ik}^{(*)} &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x_{ik}^{(t)} = x_{ik}^{(t+1)} \\ &= x_{ik}^{(t)} \left( 1 - \beta + \beta \frac{\left( (1 + \lambda) \tilde{A}X^{(t)} + \mathcal{G}Y + \mathcal{G}U \right)_{sk}}{\left( X^{(t)} \left( X^{(t)} \right)^T X^{(t)} + 2\mathcal{G}X^{(t)} + \lambda \tilde{D}X^{(t)} \right)_{ik}} \right) \\ &\Rightarrow x_{ik}^{(*)} = 0, \text{ or } \left( X^{(*)} \left( X^{(*)} \right)^T X^{(*)} + 2\mathcal{G}X^{(*)} + \lambda \tilde{D}X^{(*)} - (1 + \lambda) \tilde{A}X^{(*)} - \mathcal{G}Y - \mathcal{G}U \right)_{ik} = 0, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{S1})$$

which results in

$$\left( X^{(*)} \left( X^{(*)} \right)^T X^{(*)} + 2\mathcal{G}X^{(*)} + \lambda \tilde{D}X^{(*)} - (1 + \lambda) \tilde{A}X^{(*)} - \mathcal{G}Y - \mathcal{G}U \right)_{ik} x_{ik}^{(*)} = 0, \quad (\text{S2})$$

which is identical with (22a) in the manuscript.

**b) Updating  $Y$ :** If the learning rule in (23b) converges, then we achieve  $Y^{(\infty)}=Y^{(t+1)}=Y^{(t)}=Y^{(*)}$ , where  $t$  denotes the  $t$ -th iteration. Thus, for each  $y_{jk}$  in  $Y$ , we have the following inference:

$$\begin{aligned} y_{jk}^{(*)} &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} y_{jk}^{(t)} = y_{jk}^{(t+1)} = y_{jk}^{(t)} \frac{\left( \tilde{A}U + X \right)_{jk}}{\left( Y^{(t)}U^T U + Y^{(t)} \right)_{jk}} \\ &\Rightarrow y_{jk}^{(*)} = 0, \text{ or } \left( Y^{(*)}U^T U + Y^{(*)} - \tilde{A}U - X \right)_{jk} = 0, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{S3})$$

TABLE S.I  
MAIN ACRONYM APPOINTMENT

Acronym	Description
IoT	Internet of Things
SNMF	Symmetric and Nonnegative Matrix Factorization
LF	Latent Factor
FOP	First-Order Proximity
PMI	Pointwise Mutual Information
HOP	High-Order Proximity
HOP-NMF	High-Order Proximity-incorporated, Nonnegative Matrix Factorization
INE	Iterative Network Enhancement
CGF	Capacity-enlarged and Graph-regularized Factorization
KKT	Karush-Kuhn-Tucker
NMU	Nonnegative Multiplicative Update
DFS	Depth-First Search
NMI	Normalized Mutual Information
AC	Clustering Accuracy

TABLE S.II  
SYMBOL APPOINTMENT

Symbol	Description
$G$	Target graph describing an undirected and unweighted network.
$V, E$	Node set and edge set of $G$ , respectively.
$v_i, e_{ij}$	Single node and edge in $V$ and $E$ , respectively.
$n, m$	Number of nodes in $V$ and number of edges in $E$ , respectively.
$C_l$	Community $l$ .
$K$	Number of communities.
$A^{n \times n}, \hat{A}^{n \times n}$	Adjacency matrix and its low-rank approximation.
$\tilde{A}$	Adjacency matrix of an HOP-enhanced network.
$a_{ij}, \hat{a}_{ij}, \tilde{a}_{ij}$	Single elements in $A, \hat{A}$ and $\tilde{A}$ .
$W, \tilde{W}$	Weight matrix related to $A$ and $\tilde{A}$ .
$D, \tilde{D}$	Diagonal matrix related to $A$ and $\tilde{A}$ .
$L, \tilde{L}$	Laplacian matrix related to $A$ and $\tilde{A}$ .
$X^{n \times K}, Y^{n \times K}$	Latent factor matrices of $A$ .
$U^{n \times K}$	Bridging matrix related to $X$ and $Y$ .
$x_{ik}, y_{jk}, u_{sk}$	Single entries in $X, Y$ and $U$ .
$x_{ik}^{(t)}, y_{jk}^{(t)}, u_{sk}^{(t)}$	State values of $x_{ik}, y_{jk}$ and $u_{sk}$ in the $t$ -th iteration.
$\Phi, \Psi, K$	Lagrangian multiplier matrices related to $X, Y$ and $U$ .
$\phi_{ik}, \psi_{jk}, \kappa_{sk}$	Single entries in $\Phi, \Psi$ and $K$ .
$\zeta, \zeta, \vartheta$	Equality-regularization coefficients
$\lambda$	Graph regularization coefficient.
$\beta$	Adjusting coefficient.
$r, d$	Order and count of HOP-based INE.
$H_k$	A set of $k$ -th-order node pairs.
$\omega_k$	Weight for the $k$ -th-order connection of nodes
$\varepsilon$	Threshold coefficient.
$P$	HOP matrix.
$P(v_i, v_j)$	HOP index between nodes $v_i$ and $v_j$ .
$p(v_i)$	The probability of observing $v_i$ .
$p(v_i, v_j)$	The probability of observing $v_i$ and $v_j$ together.
$N_k(v_i), N_k(v_j)$	Times that node $v_i$ ( $v_j$ ) appears in a $k$ -th-order node pair set.
$N_k(v_i, v_j)$	Times that node pair $(v_i, v_j)$ appears in a $k$ -th-order node pair set.
$\cup, \cap$	Union and intersection set operation, respectively.
$\emptyset$	Null set.
$ \cdot $	Cardinality of an enclosed set.
$\ \cdot\ _F$	Frobenius norm of an enclosed matrix
$\text{Tr}(\cdot)$	Trace of an enclosed matrix.

which results in

$$\left(Y^{(*)}U^T U + Y^{(*)} - \tilde{A}U - X\right)_{jk} y_{jk}^{(*)} = 0. \quad (\text{S4})$$

Note that (S4) is identical with (22b) in the manuscript.

**c) Updating  $U$ :** If the learning rule in (23c) in the manuscript converges, then we achieve  $U^{(\infty)} = U^{(t+1)} = U^{(t)} = U^{(*)}$ , where  $t$  denotes the  $t$ -th iteration. Thus, for each  $u_{sk}$  in  $U$ , we have the following inference:

$$\begin{aligned} u_{sk}^{(*)} &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} u_{sk}^{(t)} = u_{sk}^{(t+1)} = u_{sk}^{(t)} \frac{(\tilde{A}^T Y + X)_{sk}}{(U^{(t)} Y^T Y + U^{(t)})_{sk}} \\ \Rightarrow u_{sk}^{(*)} &= 0, \text{ or } (U^{(*)} Y^T Y + U^{(*)} - \tilde{A}^T Y - X)_{sk} = 0, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{S5})$$

which results in

$$(U^{(*)} Y^T Y + U^{(*)} - \tilde{A}^T Y - X)_{sk} u_{sk}^{(*)} = 0, \quad (\text{S6})$$

which is identical with (22c) in the manuscript.

Based on the above analysis, we conclude that converging solutions of  $X$ ,  $Y$  and  $U$  satisfy the KKT optimality conditions. ■

### B. Convergence Proof

Following [36, 47, 48], we conduct the proof by introducing auxiliary functions for the objective function of optimization problem (19) in the manuscript to help us prove that  $J_{CGF}$  is non-increasing during the updating of each single variable. We start the proof by recalling the definition of an auxiliary function [36, 47].

**Definition S1.** Given a function  $\Gamma(x, x^{(t)})$ , if it simultaneously fulfills that  $\Gamma(x, x^{(t)}) \geq F(x)$  and  $\Gamma(x, x) \geq F(x)$ , then  $\Gamma(x, x^{(t)})$  can be an auxiliary function for  $F(x)$ .

Based on Definition S1, we recall the property of an auxiliary function [36, 47].

**Lemma S1.** If  $\Gamma(x, x^{(t)})$  is an auxiliary function of  $F(x)$ , then  $F(x)$  is non-increasing in each iteration by the following learning rule:

$$x^{(t+1)} = \arg \min_x \Gamma(x, x^{(t)}). \quad (\text{S7})$$

Note that the proof for Lemma S1 is provided in [47]. Thus, we aim to prove that (23) in the manuscript for  $X$ ,  $Y$  and  $U$  is essentially equivalent to (S7) with properly-designed auxiliary functions.

Due to the non-convexity of  $J_{CGF}$ , we aim to prove its non-increment with separately  $X$ ,  $Y$  or  $U$  under (23) in the manuscript by keeping the other two alternatively fixed, which is consistent with the proof sketch in [36, 47].

**a) Updating  $X$ :** Considering an arbitrary entry  $x_{ik}$  in  $X$ , we adopt  $F(x_{ik})$  to denote the corresponding component from  $J_{CGF}$  that is relevant to  $x_{ik}$  only. We calculate the first-order and second-order derivatives of  $F(x_{ik})$  with respect to  $x_{ik}$ , i.e.,

$$F'(x_{ik}) = \frac{\partial J_{CGF}}{\partial x_{ik}} = (-\mathcal{G}Y - \mathcal{G}U + XX^T X - \tilde{A}X + \lambda \tilde{L}X)_{ik} + 2\mathcal{G}x_{ik}, \quad (\text{S8})$$

$$F''(x_{ik}) = \frac{\partial^2 J_{CGF}}{\partial x_{ik}^2} = (X^T X)_{kk} + (XX^T - \tilde{A} + \lambda \tilde{L})_{ii} + 2\mathcal{G} + x_{ik}^2. \quad (\text{S9})$$

**Lemma S2.** The following  $\Gamma(x_{ik}, x_{ik}^{(t)})$  is an auxiliary function for  $F(x_{ik})$ .

$$\Gamma(x_{ik}, x_{ik}^{(t)}) = F(x_{ik}^{(t)}) + F'(x_{ik}^{(t)})(x_{ik} - x_{ik}^{(t)}) + \frac{(XX^T X + \lambda \tilde{D}X)_{ik} + 2\mathcal{G}x_{ik}^{(t)}}{2\beta x_{ik}^{(t)}} (x_{ik} - x_{ik}^{(t)})^2. \quad (\text{S10})$$

**Proof.** Note that with (S10)  $\Gamma(x_{ik}, x_{ik}) = F(x_{ik})$  evidently holds. Thus, we aim to prove that  $\Gamma(x_{ik}, x_{ik}^{(t)}) \geq F(x_{ik})$ . To achieve this objective, we expand  $F(x_{ik})$  to its second-order Taylor series at the state point  $x_{ik}^{(t)}$  as:

$$F(x_{ik}) = F(x_{ik}^{(t)}) + F'(x_{ik}^{(t)})(x_{ik} - x_{ik}^{(t)}) + \frac{1}{2} \left( (X^T X)_{kk} + (XX^T - \tilde{A} + \lambda \tilde{L})_{ii} + 2\mathcal{G} + x_{ik}^2 \right) (x_{ik} - x_{ik}^{(t)})^2. \quad (\text{S11})$$

By combining (S10) and (S11), we see that the desired condition of  $\Gamma(x_{ik}, x_{ik}^{(t)}) \geq F(x_{ik})$  is equivalent to the following condition:

$$\frac{(XX^T X + \lambda \tilde{D} X)_{ik} + 2\mathcal{G} x_{ik}^{(t)}}{\beta x_{ik}^{(t)}} \geq (X^T X)_{kk} + (XX^T + \lambda \tilde{D} - (1 + \lambda) \tilde{A})_{ii} + 2\mathcal{G} + (x_{ik}^{(t)})^2 \quad (\text{S12})$$

Since  $x_{ik}^{(t)} \geq 0^1$ , (S12) can be reduced into the following form:

$$\frac{1}{\beta} (XX^T X + \lambda \tilde{D} X)_{ik} \geq x_{ik}^{(t)} (X^T X)_{kk} + (XX^T + \lambda \tilde{D} - (1 + \lambda) \tilde{A})_{ii} x_{ik}^{(t)} + (x_{ik}^{(t)})^3. \quad (\text{S13})$$

It is easy to show that

$$(XX^T X)_{ik} = \sum_{f=1}^K (x_{if} (X^T X)_{fk}) = \sum_{f=1, f \neq k}^K (x_{if} (X^T X)_{fk}) + x_{ik} (X^T X)_{kk} \geq x_{ik} (X^T X)_{kk}. \quad (\text{S14})$$

Similarly, we have

$$(XX^T X)_{ik} \geq (XX^T)_{ii} x_{ik}, \quad (\text{S15})$$

and

$$(XX^T X)_{ik} \geq x_{ik}^3. \quad (\text{S16})$$

By combining (S15)-(S16), we have

$$(XX^T X)_{ik} \geq \frac{1}{3} (x_{ik} (X^T X)_{kk} + (XX^T)_{ii} x_{ik} + x_{ik}^3). \quad (\text{S17})$$

On the other hand, we have

$$\lambda (\tilde{D} X)_{ik} = \lambda \sum_{h=1}^n \tilde{D}_{ih} x_{hk} = \lambda \sum_{h=1, h \neq i}^n \tilde{D}_{ih} x_{hk} + \lambda \tilde{D}_{ii} x_{ik} \geq \lambda \tilde{D}_{ii} x_{ik} \geq \lambda (\tilde{D} - (1 + \lambda) \tilde{A})_{ii} x_{ik}. \quad (\text{S18})$$

Based on the inferences in (S17) and (S18), we conclude that (S13) holds when  $0 < \beta \leq 1/3$ , resulting in the establishment of (S12).

Note that it is hard to rigorously show that (S13) still holds when  $1/3 < \beta \leq 1$ . But in fact, (S13) most likely would hold when  $1/3 < \beta \leq 1$ , since in the shrinkage process of (S14)-(S18) we cast away many positive terms that ensures that (S13) holds. Besides, the empirical convergence analysis later has also confirmed this inference. Therefore, we have  $\Gamma(x_{ik}, x_{ik}^{(t)}) \geq F(x_{ik})$ , which makes  $\Gamma(x_{ik}, x_{ik}^{(t)})$  be an auxiliary function of  $F(x_{ik})$ .  $\square$

Based on Lemmas S1 and S2, we then have the following theorem.

**Theorem S1.** The value of  $J_{CGF}$  in (19) in the manuscript keeps non-increasing when updating  $X$  by the learning rule (23a).

**Proof.** It is equivalent to proving that the learning rule in (S7) is consistent with that in (23a). Thus, by replacing  $\Gamma(x_{ik}, x_{ik}^{(t)})$  in (S7) with the auxiliary function in (S10), we have:

<sup>1</sup> Please note that if  $x_{ik}^{(t)}$  goes to zero after the  $t$ -th iteration, then it will keep zero constantly with the learning scheme (22) in the follow-up iterations, which will not affect the convergence of the learning algorithm. Therefore, without loss of generality, we only take into account the case of  $x_{ik}^{(t)} > 0$  in our proof. Similarly, only the case of  $y_{jk}^{(t)} > 0$  or  $u_{sk}^{(t)} > 0$  is taken into consideration when we present the proof of **Updating  $Y$**  and **Updating  $U$**  later, respectively.

$$\begin{aligned}
x_{ik}^{(t+1)} &= \arg \min_{x_{ik}} \Gamma(x_{ik}, x_{ik}^{(t)}) \\
\Rightarrow F'(x_{ik}^{(t)}) + \frac{(XX^T X + \lambda \tilde{D}X)_{ik} + 2\mathcal{G}x_{ik}^{(t)}}{\beta x_{ik}^{(t)}} (x_{ik} - x_{ik}^{(t)}) &= 0 \\
\Rightarrow x_{ik} &= x_{ik}^{(t)} - x_{ik}^{(t)} \frac{\beta F'(x_{ik}^{(t)})}{(XX^T X + \lambda \tilde{D}X)_{ik} + 2\mathcal{G}x_{ik}^{(t)}} \\
\Rightarrow x_{ik}^{(t+1)} &= x_{ik}^{(t)} \left( 1 - \beta + \beta \frac{((1+\lambda)\tilde{A}X + \mathcal{G}Y + \mathcal{G}U)_{ik}}{(XX^T X + \lambda \tilde{D}X + 2\mathcal{G}X)_{ik}} \right),
\end{aligned} \tag{S19}$$

which is identical with the learning rule in (23a). Note that  $x_{ik}$  is an arbitrary entry of  $X$ . Hence,  $\forall i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}, k \in \{1, 2, \dots, K\}$ ,  $F(x_{ik})$  is non-increasing with the learning scheme (23a) as  $Y$  and  $U$  are alternatively fixed. Based on the inferences above, we conclude that  $J_{CGF}$  is non-increasing when updating  $X$  by the learning rule (23a). Hence, *Theorem S1* stands. ■

**b) Updating  $Y$ :** By analogy, considering an arbitrary entry  $y_{jk}$  in  $Y$ , we adopt the function  $F(y_{jk})$  to denote the corresponding component from  $J_{CGF}$  that is relevant to  $y_{jk}$  only. Then, we have the first-order and second-order derivatives of  $F(y_{jk})$  with respect to  $y_{jk}$ , i.e.,

$$F'(y_{jk}) = \frac{\partial J_{CGF}}{\partial y_{jk}} = (\mathcal{G}YU^T U - \mathcal{G}\tilde{A}U - \mathcal{G}X)_{jk} + \mathcal{G}y_{jk}, \tag{S20}$$

$$F''(y_{jk}) = \frac{\partial^2 J_{CGF}}{\partial y_{jk}^2} = \mathcal{G}(U^T U)_{kk} + \mathcal{G}. \tag{S21}$$

**Lemma S3.** The following  $\Gamma(y_{jk}, y_{jk}^{(t)})$  is an auxiliary function for  $F(y_{jk})$ .

$$\Gamma(y_{jk}, y_{jk}^{(t)}) = F(y_{jk}^{(t)}) + F'(y_{jk}^{(t)})(y_{jk} - y_{jk}^{(t)}) + \frac{\mathcal{G}(YU^T U)_{jk} + \mathcal{G}y_{jk}^{(t)}}{2y_{jk}^{(t)}}(y_{jk} - y_{jk}^{(t)})^2. \tag{S22}$$

**Proof.** With (S18),  $\Gamma(y_{jk}, y_{jk}^{(t)}) = F(y_{jk})$  holds. Next, we aim to prove that  $\Gamma(y_{jk}, y_{jk}^{(t)}) \geq F(y_{jk})$ . To do this, we expand  $F(y_{jk})$  to its second-order Taylor series at the state point  $y_{jk}^{(t)}$  as:

$$F(y_{jk}) = F(y_{jk}^{(t)}) + F'(y_{jk}^{(t)})(y_{jk} - y_{jk}^{(t)}) + \frac{1}{2}(\mathcal{G}(U^T U)_{kk} + \mathcal{G})(y_{jk} - y_{jk}^{(t)})^2. \tag{S23}$$

Combining (S22) and (S23), we see that the desired condition of  $\Gamma(y_{jk}, y_{jk}^{(t)}) \geq F(y_{jk})$  is equivalent to the following condition:

$$\left( \mathcal{G}(YU^T U)_{jk} + \mathcal{G}y_{jk}^{(t)} \right) / y_{jk}^{(t)} \geq \mathcal{G}(U^T U)_{kk} + \mathcal{G}. \tag{S24}$$

Since  $y_{jk}^{(t)} \geq 0$  and  $\mathcal{G} > 0$ , (S24) can be reduced into the following form:

$$(YU^T U)_{jk} \geq y_{jk}^{(t)} (U^T U)_{kk}. \tag{S25}$$

To prove (S25), we have the following inferences:

$$(YU^T U)_{jk} = \sum_{f=1}^K y_{jf}^{(t)} (U^T U)_{fk} = \sum_{f=1, f \neq k}^K y_{jf}^{(t)} (U^T U)_{fk} + y_{jk}^{(t)} (U^T U)_{kk} \geq y_{jk}^{(t)} (U^T U)_{kk}. \tag{S26}$$

Hence, (S24) holds based on (S26), thus making  $\Gamma(y_{jk}, y_{jk}^{(t)})$  be an auxiliary function of  $F(y_{jk})$ . □

Based on *Lemmas S1* and *S3*, we then have the following theorem.

**Theorem S2.** The value of  $J_{CGF}$  in (19) in the manuscript keeps non-increasing when updating  $Y$  by the learning rule (23b).

**Proof.** It is equivalent to proving that the learning rule in (S7) is consistent with that in (23b). By replacing  $\Gamma(y_{jk}, y_{jk}^{(t)})$  in (S7) with the auxiliary function in (S23), we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
y_{jk}^{(t+1)} &= \arg \min_{y_{jk}} \Gamma(y_{jk}, y_{jk}^{(t)}) \\
\Rightarrow F'(y_{jk}^{(t)}) + \frac{\mathcal{G}(YU^T U)_{jk} + \mathcal{G}y_{jk}^{(t)}}{y_{jk}^{(t)}} (y_{jk} - y_{jk}^{(t)}) &= 0 \\
\Rightarrow y_{jk} &= y_{jk}^{(t)} - y_{jk}^{(t)} \frac{F'(y_{jk}^{(t)})}{\mathcal{G}(YU^T U)_{jk} + \mathcal{G}y_{jk}^{(t)}} \Rightarrow y_{jk}^{(t+1)} = y_{jk}^{(t)} \frac{(\tilde{A}U + X)_{jk}}{(YU^T U + Y)_{jk}},
\end{aligned} \tag{S27}$$

which is identical with the learning rule in (23b). Similarly,  $\forall j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}, k \in \{1, 2, \dots, K\}$ ,  $F(y_{jk})$  keeps non-increasing under the learning scheme (23b) as  $X$  and  $U$  are alternatively fixed. Thus, we conclude that  $J_{CGF}$  keeps non-increasing when updating  $Y$  by the learning rule (23b), and *Theorem S2* stands. ■

**c) Updating  $U$ :** Similarly, considering an arbitrary entry  $u_{sk}$  in  $U$ , we adopt  $F(u_{sk})$  to denote the corresponding component from  $J_{CGF}$  that is relevant to  $u_{sk}$  only. Then, we have the first-order and second-order derivatives of  $F(u_{sk})$  with respect to  $u_{sk}$ , i.e.,

$$F'(u_{sk}) = \frac{\partial J_{CGF}}{\partial u_{sk}} = (\mathcal{G}UY^T Y - \mathcal{G}\tilde{A}^T Y - \mathcal{G}X)_{sk} + \mathcal{G}u_{sk}, \tag{S28}$$

$$F''(u_{sk}) = \frac{\partial^2 J_{CGF}}{\partial u_{sk}^2} = \mathcal{G}(Y^T Y)_{kk} + \mathcal{G}. \tag{S29}$$

Next, we build an auxiliary function for  $F(u_{sk})$ .

**Lemma S4.** The following  $\Gamma(u_{sk}, u_{sk}^{(t)})$  is an auxiliary function for  $F(u_{sk})$ .

$$\Gamma(u_{sk}, u_{sk}^{(t)}) = F(u_{sk}^{(t)}) + F'(u_{sk}^{(t)})(u_{sk} - u_{sk}^{(t)}) + \frac{\mathcal{G}(UY^T Y)_{sk} + \mathcal{G}u_{sk}^{(t)}}{2u_{sk}^{(t)}} (u_{sk} - u_{sk}^{(t)})^2. \tag{S30}$$

**Proof.** Based on (S30),  $\Gamma(u_{sk}, u_{sk}) = F(u_{sk})$  holds. Next, we need to prove that  $\Gamma(u_{sk}, u_{sk}^{(t)}) \geq F(u_{sk})$ . To do this, we expand  $F(u_{sk})$  to its second-order Taylor series at the state point  $u_{sk}^{(t)}$ , i.e.,

$$F(u_{sk}) = F(u_{sk}^{(t)}) + F'(u_{sk}^{(t)})(u_{sk} - u_{sk}^{(t)}) + \frac{1}{2}(\mathcal{G}(Y^T Y)_{kk} + \mathcal{G})(u_{sk} - u_{sk}^{(t)})^2. \tag{S31}$$

By combining (S30) and (S31), we see that the desired condition of  $\Gamma(u_{sk}, u_{sk}^{(t)}) \geq F(u_{sk})$  is equivalent to the following condition:

$$(\mathcal{G}(UY^T Y)_{sk} + \mathcal{G}u_{sk}^{(t)})/u_{sk}^{(t)} \geq \mathcal{G}(Y^T Y)_{kk} + \mathcal{G}. \tag{S32}$$

Since  $u_{sk}^{(t)} \geq 0$  and  $\mathcal{G} > 0$ , (S32) can be reduced into the following form:

$$(UY^T Y)_{sk} \geq u_{sk}^{(t)}(Y^T Y)_{kk}. \tag{S33}$$

To prove (S33), we have the following inferences:

$$(UY^T Y)_{sk} = \sum_{f=1}^K u_{sf}^{(t)}(Y^T Y)_{fk} = \sum_{f=1, f \neq k}^K u_{sf}^{(t)}(Y^T Y)_{fk} + u_{sk}^{(t)}(Y^T Y)_{kk} \geq u_{sk}^{(t)}(Y^T Y)_{kk}. \tag{S34}$$

Hence, (S34) holds and we have  $\Gamma(u_{sk}, u_{sk}^{(t)}) \geq F(u_{sk})$ , which makes  $\Gamma(u_{sk}, u_{sk}^{(t)})$  be an auxiliary function of  $F(u_{sk})$ . □

Based on *Lemmas S1* and *S4*, we can prove the convergence of the learning rule (23c) in the manuscript.

**Theorem S3.** The value of  $J_{CGF}$  in (19) in the manuscript keeps non-increasing when updating  $U$  by the learning rule (23c).

**Proof.** It is equivalent to proving that the learning rule in (S7) is consistent with that in (23c). By replacing  $\Gamma(u_{sk}, u_{sk}^{(t)})$  in (S7) with the auxiliary function in (S30), we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
u_{sk}^{(t+1)} &= \arg \min_{u_{sk}} \Gamma(u_{sk}, u_{sk}^{(t)}), \\
\Rightarrow F'(u_{sk}^{(t)}) + \frac{\mathcal{G}(UY^T Y)_{sk} + \mathcal{G}u_{sk}^{(t)}}{u_{sk}^{(t)}} (u_{sk} - u_{sk}^{(t)}) &= 0, \\
\Rightarrow u_{sk} &= u_{sk}^{(t)} - u_{sk}^{(t)} \frac{F'(u_{sk}^{(t)})}{\mathcal{G}(UY^T Y)_{sk} + \mathcal{G}u_{sk}^{(t)}}, \Rightarrow u_{sk}^{(t+1)} = u_{sk}^{(t)} \frac{(\tilde{A}^T Y + X)_{sk}}{(UY^T Y + U)_{sk}},
\end{aligned} \tag{S35}$$

which is identical with the learning rule in (23c). Similarly,  $\forall s \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ ,  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, K\}$ ,  $F(u_{sk})$  is non-increasing with the learning scheme (23c) as  $X$  and  $Y$  are alternatively fixed. Thus, we conclude that  $J_{CGF}$  keeps non-increasing when updating  $U$  by the learning rule (23c), and *Theorem S3* stands. ■

With *Theorems S1-S3*, we conclude that the convergence of the HOP-NMF-based community detector with the learning scheme (23) in the manuscript is guaranteed. Besides, with *Theorem 1* in the manuscript, we have that the solution sequences of the CGF algorithm fulfils the KKT conditions, thereby making it converge to KKT stationary points of its learning objective.

#### IV. SOME FIGURES AND TABLES OF EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

Some experimental results are shown in this section.

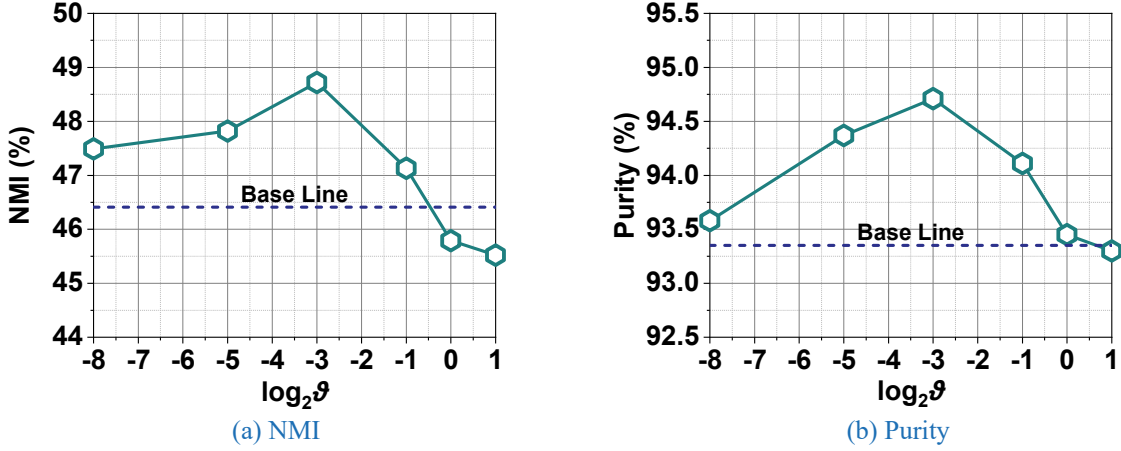


Fig. S.1. Effects of  $\theta$  on D1.

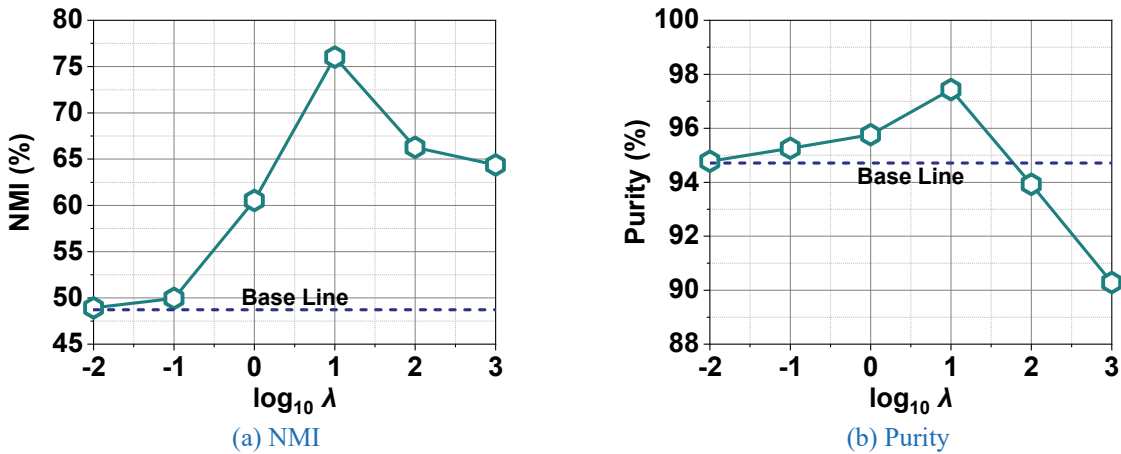


Fig. S.2. Effects of  $\lambda$  on D1.



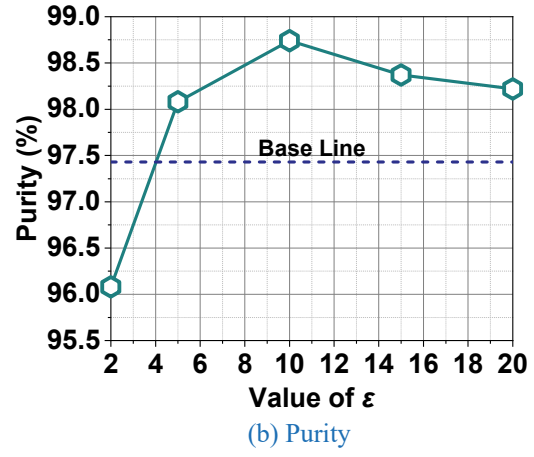
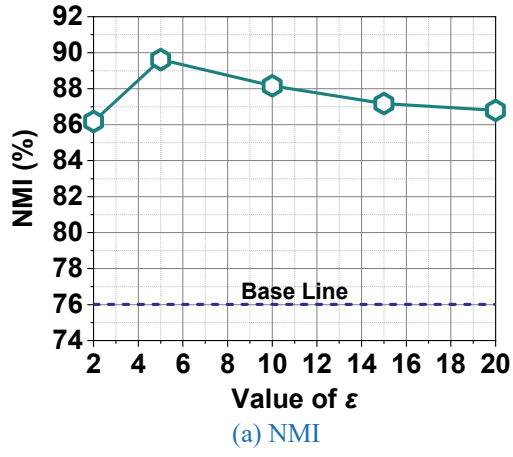


Fig. S.3. Effects of  $\varepsilon$  on D1.

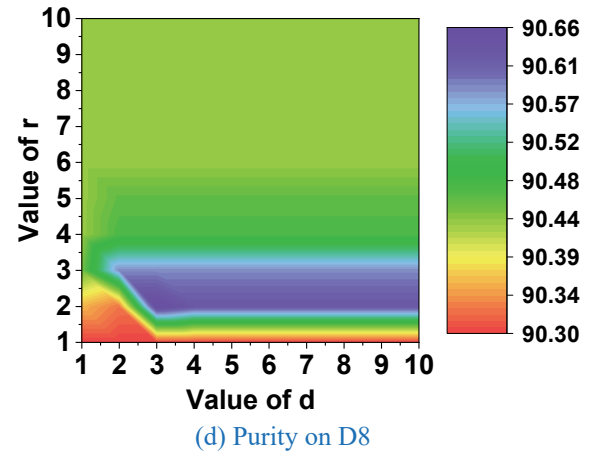
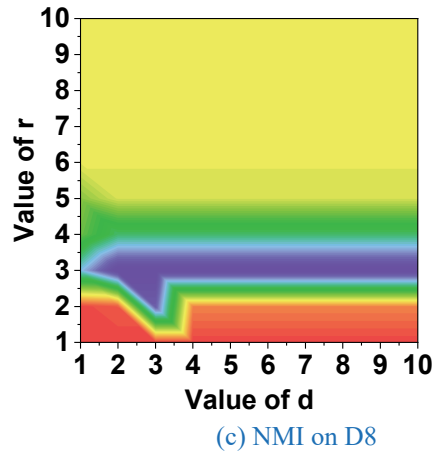
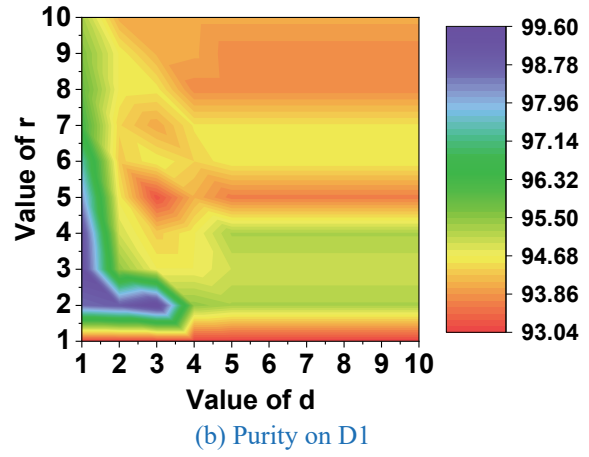
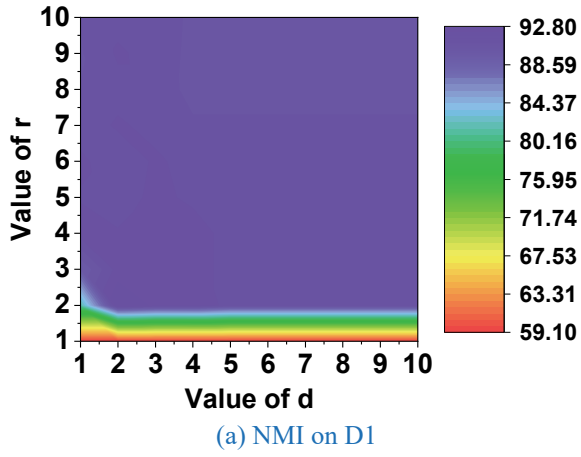
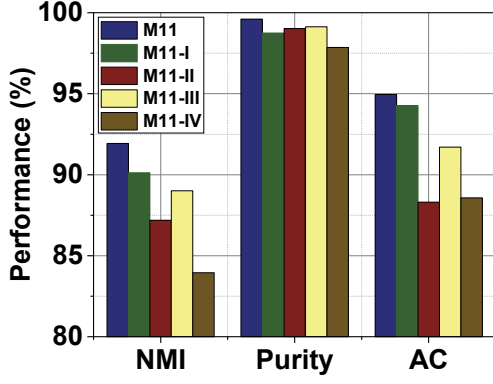
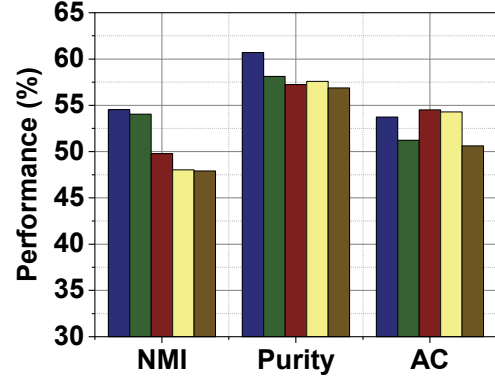


Fig. S.4. Effects of  $r$  and  $d$  on D1 and D8.

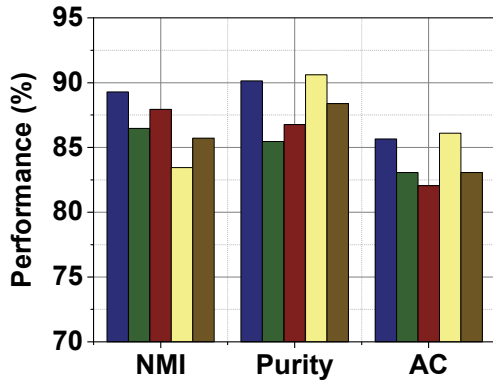




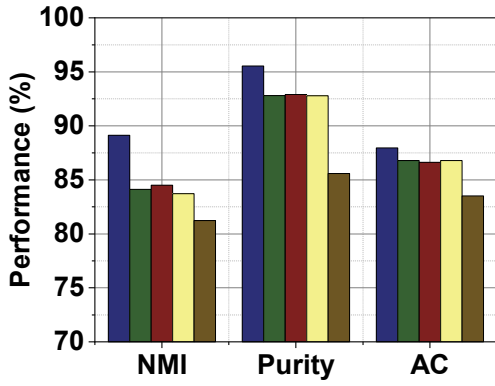
(a) D1



(b) D2



(c) D3



(d) D4

Fig. S.5. Performance comparison among HOP-NMF and its variants on D1-D4.

TABLE S.III

COMMUNITY DETECTION PERFORMANCE (NMI%±STD%) OF TESTED MODELS ON EACH NETWORK, INCLUDING WIN/LOSS COUNTS (⊙, ○, ●, AND ⊗ INDICATE THAT M11-M14 WIN THE COMPARED MODELS).

Datasets Models	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	D7	D8	★Win/ Loss	○Win/ Loss	●Win/ Loss	⊗Win/ Loss
M1	42.21±1.46 ⊙○⊙⊙	17.26±2.58 ⊙○⊙⊙	68.08±6.66 ⊙○⊙⊙	29.53±2.13 ⊙○⊙⊙	23.47±3.87 ⊙○⊙⊙	9.02±3.64 ⊙○⊙⊙	35.65±0.40 ⊙○⊙⊙	53.30±2.82 ⊙○⊙⊙	8/0	8/0	8/0	8/0
M2	45.48±1.72 ⊙○⊙⊙	16.95±2.10 ⊙○⊙⊙	67.64±5.53 ⊙○⊙⊙	29.39±6.36 ⊙○⊙⊙	33.78±4.49 ⊙○⊙⊙	12.51±0.49 ⊙○⊙⊙	34.71±2.03 ⊙○⊙⊙	62.44±3.39 ⊙○⊙⊙	8/0	8/0	8/0	8/0
M3	46.55±1.87 ⊙○⊙⊙	18.44±1.44 ⊙○⊙⊙	76.14±5.13 ⊙○⊙⊙	31.25±4.93 ⊙○⊙⊙	19.79±5.19 ⊙○⊙⊙	6.25±3.51 ⊙○⊙⊙	34.08±2.27 ⊙○⊙⊙	42.32±2.64 ⊙○⊙⊙	8/0	8/0	8/0	8/0
M4	48.30±0.54 ⊙○⊙⊙	18.59±1.85 ⊙○⊙⊙	78.40±4.49 ⊙○⊙⊙	33.75±7.20 ⊙○⊙⊙	42.22±2.81 ⊙○⊙⊙	15.60±2.52 ⊙○⊙⊙	35.40±0.48 ⊙○⊙⊙	63.65±0.89 ⊙○⊙⊙	8/0	8/0	8/0	8/0
M5	48.23±1.65 ⊙○⊙⊙	17.84±1.39 ⊙○⊙⊙	70.31±1.95 ⊙○⊙⊙	43.31±2.36 ⊙○⊙⊙	42.33±1.59 ⊙○⊙⊙	4.75±0.16 ⊙○⊙⊙	39.66±0.50 ○	36.18±0.69 ⊙○⊙⊙	7/1	8/0	8/0	7/1
M6	68.20±1.20 ⊙○⊙⊙	49.45±2.18 ⊙○⊙⊙	62.64±6.95 ⊙○⊙⊙	59.18±4.02 ⊙○⊙⊙	53.94±7.03 ⊙○⊙⊙	20.13±0.80 ⊙○⊙⊙	44.23±4.00 ○	55.08±3.33 ⊙○⊙⊙	7/1	8/0	7/1	7/1
M7	62.83±2.25 ⊙○⊙⊙	38.99±2.47 ⊙○⊙⊙	45.17±2.80 ⊙○⊙⊙	71.92±3.88 ⊙○⊙⊙	65.77±1.91 ⊙○⊙⊙	18.05±1.66 ⊙○⊙⊙	41.32±2.00 ○	63.53±1.49 ⊙○⊙⊙	7/1	8/0	8/0	6/2
M8	75.31±2.11 ⊙○⊙⊙	50.04±2.54 ⊙○⊙⊙	80.55±3.55 ⊙○⊙⊙	47.99±8.32 ⊙○⊙⊙	68.03±4.51 ⊙○⊙⊙	16.40±2.77 ⊙○⊙⊙	41.56±2.79 ○	64.14±3.43 ⊙○⊙⊙	7/1	8/0	8/0	6/2
M9	84.04±1.36 ⊙	50.63±1.84 ⊙	84.91±3.80 ⊙	76.60±3.19 ⊙	73.44±0.71 ⊙	15.82±3.36 ⊙	<b>49.62±4.05</b> --	64.51±1.58 ⊙	7/1	4/4	7/1	3/5
M10	83.25±0.62 ⊙	51.56±1.77 ⊙	87.55±3.24 ⊙	75.75±0.06 ⊙	74.80±0.90 ⊙	22.65±2.63 ⊙	47.51±1.44 ○	67.32±2.67 ⊙	7/1	4/4	6/2	3/5
M11★	<b>91.94±0.23</b>	<b>54.52±0.93</b>	89.29±0.23	<b>89.12±10.06</b>	<b>84.31±0.08</b>	<b>29.92±2.02</b>	38.57±1.05	<b>69.94±1.82</b>	--	--	--	--
M12○	76.01±1.52	50.65±3.80	82.98±4.79	77.55±7.08	71.46±2.28	24.40±2.44	49.39±6.32	68.60±3.60	--	--	--	--
M13●	85.39±1.66	51.69±1.23	<b>93.52±0.11</b>	85.44±7.55	79.80±3.14	22.48±4.92	44.00±3.78	69.48±4.09	--	--	--	--
M14⊗	78.82±1.51	50.53±1.88	82.00±2.89	83.30±0.01	60.74±0.57	23.58±3.32	36.04±0.85	67.80±3.79	--	--	--	--

\* A lower Friedman rank value indicates a higher community detection accuracy.

TABLE S.IV  
COMMUNITY DETECTION PERFORMANCE (PURITY%±STD%) OF TESTED MODELS ON EACH NETWORK, INCLUDING WIN/LOSS COUNTS (⊙, ○, ●, AND ⊕ INDICATE THAT M11-M14 WIN THE COMPARED MODELS).

Datasets Models	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	D7	D8	★Win/ Loss	○Win/ Loss	●Win/ Loss	⊕Win/ Loss
M1	93.30±1.36 ⊙○●⊕	53.09±1.56 ★○●⊕	81.20±0.02 ★○●⊕	57.20±0.01 ★○●⊕	64.54±0.83 ⊙○●⊕	48.17±3.43 ★○●⊕	91.52±0.27 ★○●⊕	82.50±1.74 ⊙○●⊕	8/0	8/0	8/0	8/0
M2	93.56±1.09 ⊙○●⊕	59.32±7.12 ★○●⊕	78.86±3.19 ⊙○●⊕	60.86±3.75 ★○●⊕	66.61±5.29 ★○●⊕	53.16±1.50 ★○●⊕	91.50±2.17 ★○●⊕	86.64±1.85 ⊙○●⊕	8/0	8/0	8/0	7/1
M3	93.71±1.01 ⊙○●⊕	58.61±4.97 ★○●⊕	85.44±3.76 ★○●⊕	52.27±5.06 ★○●⊕	71.87±2.18 ★○●⊕	46.87±1.21 ★○●⊕	90.33±2.35 ★○●⊕	76.98±1.56 ⊙○●⊕	8/0	8/0	8/0	8/0
M4	94.33±0.58 ⊙○●⊕	58.84±0.16 ★○●⊕	91.82±0.08 ●	67.35±8.63 ★○●⊕	71.21±2.84 ★○●⊕	52.86±1.27 ★○●⊕	91.10±0.13 ★○●⊕	86.21±0.61 ⊙○●⊕	7/1	7/1	8/0	7/1
M5	95.07±1.27 ⊙○●⊕	58.90±0.43 ★○●⊕	84.97±2.62 ★○●⊕	76.66±3.02 ★○●⊕	71.38±2.18 ★○●⊕	27.81±0.21 ★○●⊕	90.40±1.73 ★○●⊕	26.33±0.99 ★○●⊕	8/0	8/0	8/0	8/0
M6	96.75±0.34 ⊙○●⊕	57.37±1.07 ★○●⊕	89.51±3.30 ★●	58.19±0.01 ★○●⊕	71.31±1.64 ★○●⊕	58.30±1.12 ★	92.93±0.49 ★○●	83.32±1.15 ⊙○●⊕	8/0	6/2	7/1	6/2
M7	95.82±1.31 ⊙○●⊕	57.13±1.21 ★○●⊕	84.74±1.87 ★○●⊕	78.93±0.77 ★●⊕	70.81±4.10 ★○●⊕	53.42±0.84 ★○●⊕	91.69±2.14 ★○●⊕	87.11±1.57 ⊙○●⊕	8/0	7/1	8/0	8/0
M8	94.94±1.18 ⊙○●⊕	60.10±0.70 ★○●	87.78±2.34 ★●	65.25±9.92 ★○●⊕	74.67±3.73 ★●⊕	53.60±1.78 ★○●⊕	94.40±0.33 ★○	87.46±1.32 ⊙○●⊕	8/0	6/2	7/1	5/3
M9	97.86±0.87 ★●⊕	60.53±0.09 ★	89.59±2.97 ★●	87.11±2.76 ★●	83.58±1.65 ★●⊕	60.30±4.71 ★	94.36±0.23 ★○	88.19±0.42 ⊙○●⊕	8/0	2/6	5/3	3/5
M10	97.60±0.28 ★●⊕	59.93±1.12 ★○●	90.06±2.39 ★●	86.21±0.00 ★●⊕	84.77±2.03 ★	60.33±3.17 ★	94.93±0.40 ★	88.72±1.06 ⊙○●⊕	8/0	2/6	5/3	4/4
M11★	<b>99.60±0.06</b>	<b>60.71±0.14</b>	90.13±1.00	<b>95.54±5.26</b>	<b>89.05±0.76</b>	<b>64.45±3.04</b>	<b>95.01±0.42</b>	<b>90.66±1.64</b>	--	--	--	--
M12○	97.43±0.89	60.48±0.29	87.27±2.18	77.61±1.24	73.45±2.11	54.45±2.45	94.52±0.11	89.31±1.85	--	--	--	--
M13●	98.53±0.17	60.22±0.53	<b>97.44±0.09</b>	87.28±4.25	84.53±0.33	57.34±3.67	93.30±1.89	90.52±1.83	--	--	--	--
M14⊕	98.15±0.51	59.22±1.01	87.04±6.06	86.53±0.01	86.69±2.02	58.35±3.79	92.04±0.19	89.58±2.00	--	--	--	--

\* A lower Friedman rank value indicates a higher community detection accuracy.

TABLE S.V  
COMMUNITY DETECTION PERFORMANCE (AC%±STD%) OF TESTED MODELS ON EACH NETWORK, INCLUDING WIN/LOSS COUNTS (⊙, ○, ●, AND ⊕ INDICATE THAT M11-M14 WIN THE COMPARED MODELS).

Datasets Models	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	D7	D8	★Win/ Loss	○Win/ Loss	●Win/ Loss	⊕Win/ Loss
M1	68.68±3.01 ⊙○●⊕	43.64±0.38 ★○●⊕	77.33±6.27 ★○●⊕	48.18±0.90 ★○●⊕	58.42±3.04 ⊙○●⊕	40.95±4.35 ★○●⊕	64.09±2.98 ★○●⊕	67.46±2.29 ⊙○●⊕	8/0	8/0	8/0	8/0
M2	72.14±2.49 ⊙○●⊕	45.75±0.45 ★○●⊕	73.51±5.49 ★○●⊕	51.51±3.81 ★○●⊕	63.16±0.93 ★○●⊕	43.25±1.47 ★○●⊕	61.79±6.19 ★○●⊕	75.79±2.86 ⊙○●⊕	8/0	8/0	8/0	8/0
M3	67.27±2.52 ⊙○●⊕	45.51±2.81 ★○●⊕	78.67±1.83 ★○●⊕	49.28±0.76 ★○●⊕	43.53±5.98 ★○●⊕	39.24±3.80 ★○●⊕	63.43±4.17 ★○●⊕	66.16±0.81 ⊙○●⊕	8/0	8/0	8/0	8/0
M4	76.21±0.40 ⊙○●⊕	46.96±2.11 ★○●⊕	83.60±2.39 ★○●⊕	59.10±8.21 ★○●⊕	63.49±0.55 ★○●⊕	41.58±3.56 ★○●⊕	62.30±3.15 ★○●⊕	80.89±1.32 ⊙○●⊕	8/0	8/0	8/0	8/0
M5	49.14±1.92 ⊙○●⊕	46.72±1.99 ★○●⊕	73.34±0.37 ★○●⊕	45.73±4.06 ★○●⊕	43.17±1.07 ★○●⊕	41.41±4.16 ★○●⊕	64.95±0.94 ★○●⊕	81.44±1.42 ⊙○●⊕	8/0	8/0	8/0	8/0
M6	76.62±1.94 ★○●⊕	44.82±4.41 ★○●⊕	<b>88.85±5.56</b> --	78.97±10.21 ★○●⊕	75.22±2.97 ★●	44.73±14.52 ★○●⊕	66.32±0.36 ★○●⊕	72.56±1.27 ⊙○●⊕	7/1	6/2	7/1	6/2
M7	75.52±2.53 ★○●⊕	46.36±2.53 ★○●⊕	85.42±7.22 ★○	72.07±9.71 ★○●⊕	69.77±2.39 ★○●⊕	51.40±3.62 ★	62.06±6.11 ★○●⊕	83.12±3.66 ★	8/0	6/2	5/3	5/3
M8	79.96±0.98 ★○●⊕	47.81±2.18 ★○●⊕	81.67±6.09 ★○●⊕	63.33±6.64 ★○●⊕	72.65±6.69 ★○●	43.78±1.45 ★○●⊕	86.77±2.41 ★	81.61±1.43 ⊙○●⊕	8/0	7/1	7/1	6/2
M9	86.76±0.42 ★●	44.87±4.56 ★○●⊕	80.11±2.09 ★○●⊕	86.28±9.13 ★●	73.28±1.23 ★○●	47.49±2.53 ★○●⊕	89.54±3.35 ★	81.75±1.03 ⊙○●⊕	8/0	5/3	6/2	4/4
M10	88.13±1.40 ★●	48.58±1.47 ★○●⊕	85.13±3.43 ★○●	83.64±8.17 ★●⊕	76.05±3.35 ★●	51.12±3.08 ★●⊕	89.34±4.40 ★	81.47±2.13 ⊙○●⊕	8/0	3/5	7/1	4/4
M11★	<b>94.95±0.28</b>	<b>53.74±0.33</b>	85.66±5.11	<b>87.95±5.69</b>	<b>83.65±1.04</b>	<b>51.56±1.05</b>	<b>90.44±0.98</b>	<b>84.27±3.43</b>	--	--	--	--
M12○	82.93±0.96	52.02±0.13	86.11±1.63	79.95±9.52	74.26±1.38	50.81±1.19	81.38±7.32	82.54±2.46	--	--	--	--
M13●	94.27±0.52	53.15±1.38	85.23±3.75	86.78±8.92	81.47±1.96	51.26±4.29	85.01±6.54	81.69±1.74	--	--	--	--
M14⊕	86.28±0.60	49.51±1.91	83.91±1.23	86.03±0.02	71.75±4.94	51.16±1.31	86.28±1.59	82.04±2.50	--	--	--	--

\* A lower Friedman rank value indicates a higher community detection accuracy.

TABLE S.VI  
AVERAGE FRIEDMAN RANKS OF ALL TESTED MODELS BY TAKING ALL THE TESTING CASES IN TABLES S.III-V INTO ACCOUNT.

Models	M1	M2	M3	M4	M5	M6	M7	M8	M9	M10	M11	M12	M13	M14
Ranks*	12.50	11.58	12.17	9.71	11.25	8.25	8.46	7.17	4.96	4.21	1.54	4.75	3.17	5.29

\* A lower Friedman rank value indicates a higher community detection accuracy.

TABLE S.VII  
RESULTS OF WILCOXON SIGNED-RANK TEST BY TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ALL OF THE TESTING CASES IN TABLES S.III-V.

VS.		M1	M2	M3	M4	M5	M6	M7	M8	M9	M10
M11	R+	300	300	300	299	299	289	296	295	278	279
	R-	0	0	0	1	1	11	4	5	22	21
	p-value	9.7112E-06	9.7112E-06	9.7112E-06	1.1035E-05	1.1035E-05	3.7926E-05	1.6113E-05	1.8234E-05	1.3481E-04	1.2060E-04
M12	R+	300	300	300	291	300	273	292	271	120	84
	R-	0	0	0	9	0	27	8	29	180	216
	p-value	9.7112E-06	9.7112E-06	9.7112E-06	2.9787E-06	9.7112E-06	2.3263E-04	2.6402E-05	2.8780E-04	0.8082	0.9713
M13	R+	300	300	300	291	300	288	294	292	248.5	233
	R-	0	0	0	9	0	12	6	8	51.5	67
	p-value	9.7112E-06	9.7112E-06	9.7112E-06	2.9787E-06	9.7112E-06	4.2726E-05	2.0639E-05	2.6379E-05	0.0026	0.0092
M14	R+	300	299	300	289	293	259	265	236.5	142	89
	R-	0	1	0	11	7	41	35	63.5	158	211
	p-value	9.7112E-06	1.1035E-05	9.7112E-06	3.7926E-05	2.3363E-05	9.6760E-04	5.3503E-04	0.0070	0.5959	0.9606

\* The accepted hypotheses with a significance level of 0.05 are highlighted.