

## Machine Learning for Graphs and Sequential Data Exercise Sheet 6

### Graphs: Embeddings and Classification

#### 1 Node Embeddings

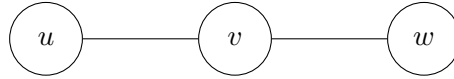


Figure 1: Undirected 3-chain for the Graph2Gauss problem

**Problem 1:** Consider an undirected 3-chain as in Figure 1 with three nodes  $u$ ,  $v$  and  $w$  that we want to embed into  $\mathbb{R}$ , i.e. 1-dimensional, with Graph2Gauss. Find the embeddings analytically that we get by minimizing the training loss for a fixed embedding variance 1. So we are embedding each node as a 1-dimensional Gaussian with variance 1 by minimizing the loss

$$\mathcal{L} = E_{uv}^2 + e^{-E_{uv}} + E_{vw}^2 + e^{-E_{vw}}$$

where  $E_{uv} = \text{KL}(f(u)||f(v))$  is the KL divergence between the embeddings of node  $u$  and  $v$ .

*Hint:* The KL divergence between two normal distributions  $\mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$  and  $\mathcal{N}(\nu, \tau^2)$  simplifies to

$$\text{KL}(\mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)||\mathcal{N}(\nu, \tau^2)) = \log \frac{\tau}{\sigma} + \frac{\tau^2 + (\mu - \nu)^2}{2\sigma^2} - \frac{1}{2}.$$

*Hint:* Use the Lambert W-function to denote the inverse of  $x \exp(x)$ , i.e.

$$x \exp(x) = y \Rightarrow W(y) = x.$$

If you want to find a numerical solution, you can evaluate it for example on WolframAlpha with `ProductLog(x)`.

Since the embedding variance is fixed, we only optimize over the means. Denote the embedding mean of node  $u$  by  $u$  and so on.

We begin by simplifying the KL divergence in this special case to

$$\text{KL}(\mathcal{N}(u, 1)||\mathcal{N}(v, 1)) = \log 1 + \frac{1 + (u - v)^2}{2} - \frac{1}{2} = 0 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{(u - v)^2}{2} - \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}(u - v)^2.$$

Plugging this into the loss  $\mathcal{L}$  simplifies it to

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{4}(u - v)^4 + \exp\left(-\frac{(u - v)^2}{2}\right) + \frac{1}{4}(w - v)^4 + \exp\left(-\frac{(w - v)^2}{2}\right)$$

Collect common terms

$$= \frac{1}{4}(u - v)^4 + \frac{1}{4}(w - v)^4 + 2 \exp\left(-\frac{(u - v)^2}{2}\right)$$

Only the fourth power terms depend on  $v$ , so it is easiest to minimize with respect to  $v$  first.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial v} \left( \frac{1}{4}(u-v)^4 + \frac{1}{4}(w-v)^4 \right) = -(u-v)^3 - (w-v)^3 = 0 \Leftrightarrow -(u-v) = w-v \Leftrightarrow v = \frac{u+w}{2}$$

Now that we have found the minimum of  $\mathcal{L}$  in  $v$  as a function of  $u$  and  $w$ , we can reduce  $\mathcal{L}$  to a two-dimensional problem.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} &= \frac{1}{4} \left( u - \frac{u+w}{2} \right)^4 + \frac{1}{4} \left( w - \frac{u+w}{2} \right)^4 + 2 \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2}(u-w)^2 \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{u-w}{2} \right)^4 + \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{w-u}{2} \right)^4 + 2 \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2}(u-w)^2 \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{u-w}{2} \right)^4 + 2 \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2}(u-w)^2 \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2^5} (u-w)^4 + 2 \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2}(u-w)^2 \right) \end{aligned}$$

And we can even make it one-dimensional by reparameterizing with the difference  $d = u - w$  between  $u$  and  $w$ .

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2^5} d^4 + 2 \exp \left( -\frac{d^2}{2} \right)$$

The first derivative of  $\mathcal{L}$  in  $d$  is  $\mathcal{L}' = 2^{-3}d^3 - 2d \exp \left( -\frac{d^2}{2} \right)$  which has a root at  $d = 0$ . By visualizing  $\mathcal{L}$  as a parabola (fourth power) with a bump in the middle ( $\exp(-d^2)$ ), we can eliminate  $d = 0$  as a minimum. Assuming  $d \neq 0$ , we solve

$$2^{-3}d^3 - 2d \exp \left( -\frac{d^2}{2} \right) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{8} = \frac{2}{d^2} \exp \left( -\frac{d^2}{2} \right) \Leftrightarrow 8 = \frac{d^2}{2} \exp \left( \frac{d^2}{2} \right)$$

We denote the solution of this for  $\frac{d^2}{2}$  by the Lambert W function with

$$\frac{d^2}{2} = W(8) \Rightarrow d = \sqrt{2W(8)}$$

where we have arbitrarily chosen the positive root since the embedding should be symmetric in  $u$  and  $w$  because they are at equivalent positions in the graph. So we finally arrive at the embeddings

$$u = w + d = w + \sqrt{2W(8)} \approx w + 1.7921$$

and

$$v = \frac{1}{2}(u+w) = w + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2W(8)} \approx w + 0.89605$$

with  $w$  as a free variable. As one would expect, Graph2Gauss embeds  $u$  and  $w$  symmetrically around  $v$  and  $w$  remains as a free variable because the loss only constrains differences between variables but does not impose any constraints regarding a reference point.

## 2 Label Propagation

**Problem 2:** The goal in Label Propagation is to find a labeling  $\mathbf{y} \in \{0, 1\}^N$  that minimizes the energy  $\min_{\mathbf{y}} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ij} w_{ij} (y_i - y_j)^2$  subject to  $y_i = \hat{y}_i \forall i \in S$  where the set of nodes  $V$  has been partitioned into the labeled nodes  $S$  and the unlabeled nodes  $U$ ,  $w_{ij} \geq 0$  is the non-negative edge weight and  $\hat{y}_i$  are the observed labels.

Following from the first observation regarding the Laplacian, the minimization problem can be rewritten and then relaxed to  $\min_{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^N} \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{y}$  subject to the same constraints. Show that the closed form solution is

$$\mathbf{y}_U = -\mathbf{L}_{UU}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{L}_{US} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{y}}_S$$

where w.l.o.g. we assume that the Laplacian matrix is partitioned into blocks for labeled and unlabeled nodes as

$$\mathbf{L} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{L}_{SS} & \mathbf{L}_{SU} \\ \mathbf{L}_{US} & \mathbf{L}_{UU} \end{pmatrix}.$$

We begin by plugging the block partitioned form of  $\mathbf{L}$  into the minimization term.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{y} &= \mathbf{y}^T \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{L}_{SS} & \mathbf{L}_{SU} \\ \mathbf{L}_{US} & \mathbf{L}_{UU} \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{y} \\ &= \hat{\mathbf{y}}_S^T \mathbf{L}_{SS} \hat{\mathbf{y}}_S + \hat{\mathbf{y}}_S^T \mathbf{L}_{SU} \mathbf{y}_U + \mathbf{y}_U^T \mathbf{L}_{US} \hat{\mathbf{y}}_S + \mathbf{y}_U^T \mathbf{L}_{UU} \mathbf{y}_U \end{aligned}$$

The laplacian is symmetric and therefore  $\mathbf{L}_{US} = \mathbf{L}_{SU}^T$ .

$$= \hat{\mathbf{y}}_S^T \mathbf{L}_{SS} \hat{\mathbf{y}}_S + 2\mathbf{y}_U^T \mathbf{L}_{US} \hat{\mathbf{y}}_S + \mathbf{y}_U^T \mathbf{L}_{UU} \mathbf{y}_U =: f(\mathbf{y}_U)$$

We can find the minimizer of  $f$  by finding the root of its first derivative with respect to  $\mathbf{y}_U$  because  $f$  is quadratic.

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{y}_U} = 2\mathbf{L}_{US} \hat{\mathbf{y}}_S + (\mathbf{L}_{UU} + \mathbf{L}_{UU}^T) \mathbf{y}_U = 2\mathbf{L}_{US} \hat{\mathbf{y}}_S + 2\mathbf{L}_{UU} \mathbf{y}_U = 0 \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{y}_U = -\mathbf{L}_{UU}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{L}_{US} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{y}}_S$$

### 3 Spectral GNNs

**Problem 3:** Consider the spectral GNN given by

$$\mathbf{Z} = \phi(\mathbf{U}g(\mathbf{\Lambda})\mathbf{U}^T\varphi(\mathbf{X})),$$

where  $\phi$  and  $\varphi$  are non-linear, parametrized functions, e.g. multi-layer perceptrons. For this exercise we choose a polynomial filter of the form

$$g(\lambda) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \theta_k \lambda^k.$$

Note that instead of parametrizing the spectral filter  $g$  we can also choose fixed coefficients  $\theta_k$ , for example

$$\theta_k = \frac{(-t)^k}{k!}$$

where  $t > 0$  is a hyperparameter that we can fine-tune.

Show that this choice of  $g$  constraints the possible graph filters.

We first observe that for the spectral filter  $g$  we have

$$g(\lambda) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \theta_k \lambda^k = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-t)^k}{k!} \lambda^k = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-t\lambda)^k}{k!} = e^{-t\lambda}$$

Note that for all  $\lambda_i < \lambda_j$  we have  $g(\lambda_i) > g(\lambda_j)$  since

$$\frac{g(\lambda_i)}{g(\lambda_j)} = e^{t(\lambda_j - \lambda_i)} > 1$$

(Note that the fraction is well-defined due to the definition of the exponential function.)

Since  $g(\lambda_i) > g(\lambda_j)$  for any  $\lambda_i < \lambda_j$ ,  $g$  corresponds to a low-pass filter and is therefore constrained. The larger the hyperparameter  $t$  the more we will diminish large eigenvalues.

### 4 PPNP

**Problem 4:** The iterative equation of PPNP is given by

$$\mathbf{H}^{(l+1)} = (1 - \alpha)\hat{\mathbf{A}}\mathbf{H}^{(l)} + \alpha\mathbf{H}^{(0)}$$

where  $\hat{\mathbf{A}} = \tilde{\mathbf{D}}^{-\frac{1}{2}}\tilde{\mathbf{A}}\tilde{\mathbf{D}}^{-\frac{1}{2}}$  is the propagation matrix. Derive the closed form solution for infinitely many propagation steps.

*Hint:* If we have for a matrix  $\mathbf{T}$  that all its eigenvalues  $\lambda$  are strictly between  $-1$  and  $1$ , an equivalent matrix formulation of the geometric series formula holds and

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \mathbf{T}^k = (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{T})^{-1}.$$

*Hint:* The eigenvalues  $\lambda_i$  of any normalized Laplacian  $\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}}$  are  $0 \leq \lambda_i \leq 2$ .

We start with  $H^{(1)}$  and expand for a few steps.

$$\mathbf{H}^{(1)} = (1 - \alpha)\hat{\mathbf{A}}\mathbf{H}^{(0)} + \alpha\mathbf{H}^{(0)}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{H}^{(2)} &= (1 - \alpha)\hat{\mathbf{A}}\mathbf{H}^{(1)} + \alpha\mathbf{H}^{(0)} \\ &= (1 - \alpha)\hat{\mathbf{A}}\left((1 - \alpha)\hat{\mathbf{A}}\mathbf{H}^{(0)} + \alpha\mathbf{H}^{(0)}\right) + \alpha\mathbf{H}^{(0)} \\ &= (1 - \alpha)^2\hat{\mathbf{A}}^2\mathbf{H}^{(0)} + (1 - \alpha)\hat{\mathbf{A}}\alpha\mathbf{H}^{(0)} + \alpha\mathbf{H}^{(0)}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{H}^{(3)} &= (1 - \alpha)\hat{\mathbf{A}}\mathbf{H}^{(2)} + \alpha\mathbf{H}^{(0)} \\ &= (1 - \alpha)\hat{\mathbf{A}}\left((1 - \alpha)^2\hat{\mathbf{A}}^2\mathbf{H}^{(0)} + (1 - \alpha)\hat{\mathbf{A}}\alpha\mathbf{H}^{(0)} + \alpha\mathbf{H}^{(0)}\right) + \alpha\mathbf{H}^{(0)} \\ &= (1 - \alpha)^3\hat{\mathbf{A}}^3\mathbf{H}^{(0)} + (1 - \alpha)^2\hat{\mathbf{A}}^2\alpha\mathbf{H}^{(0)} + (1 - \alpha)\hat{\mathbf{A}}\alpha\mathbf{H}^{(0)} + \alpha\mathbf{H}^{(0)}\end{aligned}$$

We can see the following pattern emerge.

$$\mathbf{H}^{(k)} = \left((1 - \alpha)\hat{\mathbf{A}}\right)^k \mathbf{H}^{(0)} + \left(\sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \left((1 - \alpha)\hat{\mathbf{A}}\right)^i\right) \alpha\mathbf{H}^{(0)}$$

If we let  $k$  grow to infinity, the first term converges to 0 because  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  and in the second term we can apply the geometric series formula to get

$$\mathbf{H}^{(\infty)} = \alpha \left(\mathbf{I} - (1 - \alpha)\hat{\mathbf{A}}\right)^{-1} \mathbf{H}^{(0)}$$

as the closed form solution as long as the eigenvalues of  $(1 - \alpha)\hat{\mathbf{A}}$  are strictly between  $-1$  and  $1$ .

We know from the hint that the eigenvalues of the normalized Laplacian  $\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}}$  for any graph structure  $A$  are in  $[0, 2]$ . So it is also true for the amended graph structure with self-loops  $\hat{\mathbf{A}}$  where  $\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{I} - \hat{\mathbf{A}}$ . Let  $\lambda$  be an eigenvalue of  $\hat{\mathbf{A}}$  with eigenvector  $\mathbf{v}$ .

$$(1 - \lambda)\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v} - \hat{\mathbf{A}}\mathbf{v} = (\mathbf{I} - \hat{\mathbf{A}})\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{v}$$

So  $1 - \lambda$  is also an eigenvalue of  $\mathbf{L}$  and must therefore be in  $[0, 2]$ . Consequently, the eigenvalues of  $\hat{\mathbf{A}}$  are in  $[-1, 1]$  and the eigenvalues of  $(1 - \alpha)\hat{\mathbf{A}}$  are in  $(-1, 1)$  because  $0 < (1 - \alpha) < 1$ .