

Bipartite graph Matching

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This note aims to generalize the matching techniques in [Ding et al. \(2021, Section 3.1, 3.2\)](#) for bipartite graphs (unbalanced matrices with Bernoulli entries).

1 Problem Setup

We first define the generalized Erdos-Renyi graph and the generalized correlated Erdos-Renyi graphs.

Definition 1 (Generalized Erdos-Renyi Graph $\mathcal{G}(n, m, q)$). Let $A \in \{0, 1\}^{n \times m}$ denote the adjacency matrix of a generalized Erdos-Renyi graph $\mathcal{G}(n, m, q)$, where $q \in (0, 1)$ and

$$P(A_{ij} = 1) = q, \quad \text{for all } (i, j) \in [n] \times [m].$$

Note that the generalized Erdos-Renyi graph is not necessarily symmetric.

Definition 2 (Generalized Correlated Erdos-Renyi Graph $\mathcal{G}(n, m, q; s)$). Let $A, B \in \{0, 1\}^{n \times m}$ denote two adjacency matrices of two Erdos-Renyi graphs $\mathcal{G}(n, m, q)$, where $q \in (0, 1)$. Let $\pi_1^* : [n] \mapsto [n]$ and $\pi_2^* : [m] \mapsto [m]$ denote the latent permutations for the row and column indices. Conditional on A , we assume for all $(i, j) \in [n] \times [m]$, $B_{\pi_1^*(i), \pi_2^*(j)}$ are independent and distributed as

$$B_{\pi_1^*(i), \pi_2^*(j)} = \begin{cases} \text{Ber}(s) & \text{if } A_{ij} = 1 \\ \text{Ber}\left(\frac{q(1-s)}{1-q}\right) & \text{if } A_{ij} = 0 \end{cases}.$$

2 Generalized Matching via Degree Profile

Without loss of generality, we consider the matching problem to find π_1^* .

For each vertex $i \in [n]$, define the *connected set* $N_A(i)$ (corresponding to the “open/closed neighbourhood” in ([Ding et al., 2021](#))) as

$$N_A(i) = \{j \in [m] : A_{ij} = 1\}, \quad \text{with } a_i = |N_A(i)|.$$

Define $N_B(i)$ and b_i similarly. Also, define the “degree” (corresponding to the “outdegree” in ([Ding et al., 2021](#))) of vertex $j \in [m]$ in A, B as

$$a_j^{(i)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(n-1)q(1-q)}} \sum_{l \neq i} (A_{lj} - q), \quad b_j^{(i)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(n-1)q(1-q)}} \sum_{l \neq i} (B_{lj} - q).$$

Consider the empirical distributions of $a_j^{(i)}$ for all $j \in N_A(i)$ and $b_j^{(i)}$ for all $j \in N_B(i)$ as

$$\mu_i = \frac{1}{a_i} \sum_{j \in N_A(i)} \delta_{a_j^{(i)}}, \quad \nu_i = \frac{1}{b_i} \sum_{j \in N_B(i)} \delta_{b_j^{(i)}},$$

where δ_x refers to the point mass at point x , and the centered version

$$\bar{\mu}_i = \mu_i - \overline{Bin(n-1, q)}, \quad \bar{\nu}_i = \nu_i - \overline{Bin(n-1, q)},$$

where $\overline{Bin(k, p)}$ denotes the standardized binomial distribution, that is, the law of $\frac{X-kp}{\sqrt{kp(1-p)}}$ for $X \sim Bin(k, p)$. Then, we obtain the the distance Z_{ik} with $\bar{\mu}_i$ and $\bar{\nu}_k$ as [Ding et al. \(2021\)](#).

Without the symmetry, we need to repeat the above procedures for the column matching to find π_2^* .

The possible generalization of Algorithm 1 is in Algorithm 1.

Algorithm 1 Generalized graph matching via degree profile

Input: Graphs $A, B \in \{0, 1\}^{n \times m}$, an integer L (tuning parameter).

- 1: For each $i, k \in [n]$, calculate the row distances Z_{ik}^r ; for each $j, l \in [m]$, calculate the column distances Z_{jl}^c .
- 2: Sort $\{Z_{ik}^r : i, k \in [n]\}$ and let \mathcal{S}_1 be the set of indices of the smallest n elements; sort $\{Z_{jl}^c : j, l \in [m]\}$ and let \mathcal{S}_2 be the set of indices of the smallest m elements.
- 3: **if** there exists $\hat{\pi}_1$ such that $\mathcal{S}_1 = \{(i, \hat{\pi}_1(i)) : i \in [n]\}$; there exists $\hat{\pi}_2$ such that $\mathcal{S}_2 = \{(i, \hat{\pi}_2(i)) : i \in [n]\}$ **then**
- 4: Output $\hat{\pi}_1$ and $\hat{\pi}_2$
- 5: **else**
- 6: Output error.
- 7: **end if**

Output: Estimated permutations $\hat{\pi}_1, \hat{\pi}_2$ or error.

References

Ding, J., Ma, Z., Wu, Y., and Xu, J. (2021). Efficient random graph matching via degree profiles. *Probability Theory and Related Fields*, 179(1):29–115.