

## Machine Learning for Graphs and Sequential Data Exercise Sheet 13

### Graphs: Semi-Supervised Learning

#### Label Propagation

**Problem 1:** 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.

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

#### PPNP

**Problem 2:** 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 the 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  $\mathbf{H}^{(1)}$  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  $0 < (1 - \alpha) < 1$ .