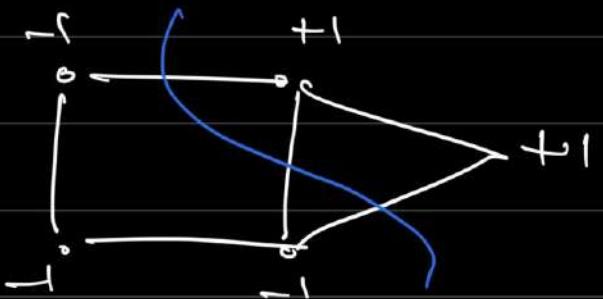


Maxcut problem -

diff nodes \rightarrow cut

Same nodes \rightarrow NO cut



our objective is to maximise this cut
out of all n nodes.

we have to general n-node graph
and calculate cut values
return the max of :-

$$x_i = +1 \text{ or } -1$$

$$\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n)$$

2^n possibilities to generate a graph
of n nodes

if $n \rightarrow \infty$ NP Hard problem

$$x_i x_j \begin{cases} & \text{if } -1 \text{ cut} \\ & \text{if } +1 \text{ No cut} \end{cases}$$

Rewrite

$$\frac{1 - x_i x_j}{2} \begin{cases} & \text{if } 1 \text{ cut} \\ & \text{if } 0 \text{ no cut} \end{cases}$$

Objective :- $\max \sum \left(\frac{1 - x_i x_j}{2} \right)$

if w_{ij} is the weight of edge

$$\max \left(w_{ij} \left(\frac{1 - x_i x_j}{2} \right) \right)$$

Rewrite in matrix notation

Consider matrix $X = x x^T$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{let } x &= n \times 1 \\ &= [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n] \end{aligned}$$

So X_{ij} values are all $x_i x_j$

$$\Rightarrow \max \left[w_{ij} \left(\frac{1 - x_i x_j}{2} \right) \right] \Rightarrow \max \left[w_{ij} \left(\frac{1 - X_{ij}}{2} \right) \right]$$

New objective

$$\max \left[\omega_{ij} \left(\frac{1 - x_{ij}}{\alpha} \right) \right]$$

then this x has properties

$$\begin{array}{l} \textcircled{1} \quad x_{ii} = 1 \quad \rightarrow \begin{cases} 1 \times 1 \geq 1 \\ -1 \times 1 = 1 \end{cases} \\ \textcircled{2} \quad x \geq 0 \end{array}$$

\hookrightarrow positive semi definite

matrix as it can be

written as $x = \alpha \alpha^T$

$\textcircled{3}$ $\text{Rank}(x) = 1 \rightarrow$ as it is produced
by single vector α

$\textcircled{4}$ x is symmetric

This is still hard to solve as $\alpha \in (-1+1)$

This Binary input is making it Rank 1

In General, low rank matrix is easy to solve
compared to high rank.

But as Rank 1 is NP-hard we try to find
next low Rank solution.

we know $1 \leq \text{Rank of matrix } x < \infty$

New objective -

$$\text{maximise} \left(\sum w_{ij} \frac{[1 - x_{ij}]}{2} \right)$$

$$x \geq 0$$

$$\text{Rank} > 1$$

$$x_{ii} = 1$$

x is symmetric

$$\Rightarrow x = vv^T$$

$v = n \times k$ matrix

instead of $n = n \times 1$ size

we are taking a vector of points

$$\Rightarrow v = n \times k \text{ size}$$

this is called SDP relaxation. There is a method proposed long before to solve SDP problem.

In this paper they proposed new method of solving this SDP which is EP-SDP

we add some entropy to our objective function. This entropy pushes the function to become low-Rank (Not certainly Rank 1)

So the flow is

Rank 1 → High Rank → push close to Rank 1

Entropy functions -

$$\textcircled{1} \text{ Tsallis entropy} = \frac{1}{1-\alpha} \left[\frac{t_\alpha(x^\alpha)}{(t_\alpha x)^\alpha} - 1 \right]$$

$$\textcircled{2} \text{ Renyi entropy} = \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha} \frac{x^{\alpha-1}}{t_\alpha x^\alpha} \left(1 - \frac{x}{t_\alpha x} \right) V$$

$$\textcircled{3} \text{ Neumann entropy} = \frac{t_\alpha x \bar{I} - x}{(t_\alpha x)^2} \left[\bar{I} + \log \frac{x}{t_\alpha x} \right] V$$

Here we will use Tsallis entropy.

New objective function

$$\max \sum w_{ij} \left(\frac{1 - x_{ij}}{2} \right) \rightarrow R(x)$$

λ - controls strength of entropy

$R(x)$ - entropy function

① we use gradient descent to solve this
Objective.

② Then to the result we apply GW Rounding
and convert back to +1 and -1

① Gradient descent

$$v \rightarrow v + \eta(\nabla)$$

η is step value

∇ is derivative of v

In our objective $x = vv^T$

so we try to find best v

Algorithm -

choose rank k

Initialise V randomly

Normalise each row

$$v_i \leftarrow \frac{v_i}{\|v_i\|}$$

set penalty $\lambda \leftarrow \lambda_0$

for each penalty stage $t = 1, 2 - T$

for each iteration $m = 1, 2 - M$

compute gradient

$$[\text{fun} \leftarrow \text{fun} + \lambda (\nabla)]$$

diff \downarrow
obj + entropy

$$\Rightarrow V \leftarrow V - \eta (g_f + \lambda g_R)$$

obj diff + entropy diff

$$\lambda \leftarrow f \lambda_0$$

We will get V , apply GW Rounding to
convert to t_1 and t_2

② GW Rounding -

for a value k

if $A \cdot k$ and k has same sign $\rightarrow +1$
has diff sign $\rightarrow -1$

k is an arbitrary value

A is our v matrix

Using this gradient based entropy penalty proved to give us much faster solution than regular SDP solving.

Entropy Penalised

Semi-Definite Programming

19-02-2026

Champlain