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3	Talk about why multi-dimensional is particularly important vs. one-dimensional . . . . .	3
4	cite a bunch of theory papers . . . . .	3
5	Say that in general no feasible solution might exist at all. . . . .	3
6	Maybe need a citation here to justify this is standard . . . . .	3
7	discuss how constrained is different from unconstrained . . . . .	3
8	TBD . . . . .	4
9	cite some literature on randomized PGD . . . . .	4
10	cite literature on escaping from saddle points using SGD, etc. . . . .	4
11	write this . . . . .	4
12	Find more papers to cite here . . . . .	4
13	seems like they are only looking at the convex case, their number of non-zeros is at most $10^8$ it seems	4
14	cite Recht et al. NIPS'11 paper suggested by Kostya . . . . .	5
15	cite some paper which focus on efficiency of projection step in PGD . . . . .	5
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# BADGER RAMPAGE: Multi-Dimensional Balanced Graph Partitioning via Gradient Descent

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## Abstract

51 The abstract paragraph should be indented 1/2 inch (3 picas) on both the left-  
52 and right-hand margins. Use 10 point type, with a vertical spacing (leading) of  
53 11 points. The word **Abstract** must be centered, bold, and in point size 12. Two  
54 line spaces precede the abstract. The abstract must be limited to one paragraph.

## 55 1 Introduction

56 We give fast and scalable practical algorithms for the problem of partitioning large graphs into com-  
57 ponents of roughly the same size/weight according to multiple user-specified weight functions. This  
58 problem, referred to as *multi-dimensional balanced graph partitioning* (see Section 2 for formal def-  
59 initions) arises in critical infrastructure applications which involve storage and processing of large  
60 graphs, including social networks. High-quality partitions help optimize load balancing in query pro-  
61 cessing, etc. While a large body of work exists offering practical solutions for the one-dimensional  
62 version of the problem [KK95, DGRW12, UB13, TGRV14, ABM16, DKK<sup>+</sup>16, MLLS17, KKP<sup>+</sup>17]  
63 (see also a recent survey [BMS<sup>+</sup>16]), as well as on theoretical foundations of graph partition-  
64 ing [KNS09, AFK<sup>+</sup>14, MM14], literature on principled and scalable approaches for the multi-  
65 dimensional case is quite sparse []. In particular, if the weight functions are unrelated to each  
66 other, one can easily construct examples when no feasible solution exists that satisfies all balance  
67 constraints even for two weight functions.

68 **Our contributions** Let  $G(V, E)$  be an  $n$ -vertex graph whose adjacency matrix is  $A$ . We intro-  
69 duce a family of algorithms for the multi-dimensional balanced graph partitioning problem by using  
70 the *projected gradient descent method* on a standard relaxation which involves maximizing an  $n$ -  
71 dimensional non-convex quadratic function  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x}$  subject to a constraint  $\mathbf{x} \in K$  for some  
72 convex body  $K$  defined by the weight functions<sup>1</sup>. See Section 3 for the exact description of the  
73 relaxation.

74 While applying projected gradient descent to solve non-convex optimization problems subject to  
75 convex constraints is a well-studied approach in non-linear optimization [Ber99] (Section 2.3) and  
76 machine learning [JK17] (Section 6.6), one has to overcome several technical challenges to make it  
77 applicable to the multi-dimensional graph partitioning problem: 1) projection step is computationally  
78 expensive, 2) abundance of saddle points slows down convergence.

79 We show how to address the first challenge by designing ultra-efficient projection step algorithms  
80 tailored to the standard non-convex relaxation of the multi-dimensional balanced graph partitioning  
81 problem. Computationally the problem of finding the closest point in the For balance according to  
82 one weight function our projection algorithm runs in time  $O(n)$  where  $n$  is the number of vertices

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<sup>1</sup>While second-order methods could potentially give better performance in terms of partition quality, due to the large scale of our instances such methods are infeasible.

elaborate

Talk about why multi-dimensional is particularly important vs. one-dimensional

cite a bunch of theory papers

Say that in general no feasible solution might exist at all.

Maybe need a citation here to justify this is standard

discuss how constrained is different from unconstrained

83 in the graph. For two weight functions we show how to implement projection in time  $O(n \log^2 n)$ .  
 84 For  $k$  weight functions the time is .

TBD

85 In order to address the second challenge we use small perturbations to each intermediate point, where  
 86 the perturbation vectors are sampled from a scaled  $n$ -dimensional Gaussian distribution. We refer to  
 87 this algorithm as BADGER RAMPAGE (Algorithm 1). We show how the magnitude of Gaussian noise  
 88 affects convergence properties of BADGER RAMPAGE by helping it escape from saddle points [] .

cite some literature on randomized PGD

89 Our experimental results show that BADGER RAMPAGE can be scaled to graphs with billions of  
 90 vertices and hundreds of billions of edges. BADGER RAMPAGE outperforms...

cite literature on escaping from saddle points using SGD, etc.

## 91 Previous work

92 • Discuss all papers on balanced graph partitioning again [KK95, DGRW12, UB13,  
 93 TGRV14, ABM16, DKK<sup>+</sup>16, MLLS17, KKP<sup>+</sup>17], survey [BMS<sup>+</sup>16].

write this

94 • Discuss all the standard non-convex optimization subject to convex constraints (CNOPT)  
 95 literature again [Ber99] (Section 2.3), [JK17] (Section 6.6).

96 • Discuss recent papers which use first-order methods for CNOPT and show how to escape  
 97 saddle points in general and specific situations. Cite noisy SGD [GHJY15], some polyno-  
 98 mial time algorithm which converges to third-order local optimum [AG16], matrix comple-  
 99 tion [GLM16], second-order methods [SQW15].

100 • Discuss papers which use PGD for constrained non-convex optimization problems arising  
 101 from graph partitioning [LRS<sup>+</sup>10]..

Find more papers to cite here

102 • Discuss why we can't use off the shelf QP solvers, like OSQP from Steven Boyd and others  
 103 (they wouldn't scale to billions of vertices) [SBG<sup>+</sup>17].

## 104 Our techniques

seems like they are only looking at the convex case, their number of non-zeros is at most  $10^8$  it seems

## 105 2 Preliminaries

106 We study multi-dimensional graph partitioning problems. The basic one-dimensional unweighted  
 107 graph partitioning problem is as follows:

108 **Definition 2.1** ( $(1 \pm \epsilon)$ -BALANCED  $k$ -PARTITION). *Given an input graph  $G(V, E)$ , an integer  $k$   
 109 and a parameter  $\epsilon > 0$  the goal is to find a partition of the vertex set  $V$  into  $k$  sets  $V_1, \dots, V_k$  such  
 110 that  $|V_i| = \frac{(1 \pm \epsilon)|V|}{k}$  for all  $i \in [k]$ . Among all such partitions the goal is to find one that maximizes  
 111 the number of edges whose both endpoints are contained within some part of the partition.*

112 The more general weighted  $d$ -dimensional version is defined by a collection of  $d$  weight functions  
 113  $w_1, \dots, w_d$  where each  $w_i: V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  is a real-valued weight function. For a set  $S \subseteq V$  we use  
 114 notation  $w_i(S) \equiv \sum_{v \in S} w_i(v)$ . For example, the unweighted case above corresponds to  $d = 1$  and  
 115  $w_1(v) = 1$  for all  $v \in V$ .

116 **Definition 2.2** (MULTI-DIMENSIONAL WEIGHTED  $(1 \pm \epsilon)$ -BALANCED  $k$ -PARTITION). *Given an  
 117 input graph  $G(V, E)$ , an integer  $k$  and a parameter  $\epsilon > 0$  the goal is to find a partition of the vertex  
 118 set  $V$  into  $k$  sets  $V_1, \dots, V_k$  such that for each  $j \in [d]$  it holds that  $w_j(V_i) = \frac{(1 \pm \epsilon)w_j(V)}{k}$  for all  
 119  $i \in [k]$ . Among all such partitions the goal is to find one that maximizes the number of edges whose  
 120 both endpoints are contained within some part of the partition.*

### 121 3 BADGER RAMPAGE: Randomized Projected Gradient Descent Algorithm

122 The standard integer quadratic program for the weighted balanced graph 2-partitioning problem is:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\text{Maximize:} && \frac{1}{2} \sum_{(i,j) \in E} (x_i x_j + 1) \\
 &\text{Subject to:} && \left| \sum_{j=1}^n w_i(j) x_j \right| \leq \epsilon \sum_{j=1}^n w_i(j) && \forall i \in [d] \\
 &&& x_i \in \{-1, 1\} && \forall i \in V
 \end{aligned}$$

123 Dropping the additive term in the objective and relaxing the integrality constraints we have a relax-  
124 ation:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\text{Maximize:} && \mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x} \\
 &\text{Subject to:} && \left| \sum_{j=1}^n w_i(j) x_j \right| \leq \epsilon \sum_{j=1}^n w_i(j) && \forall i \in [d] \\
 &&& x_i \in [-1, 1] && \forall i \in V
 \end{aligned}$$

125 Denoting  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x}$  we have the gradient  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}) = A \mathbf{x}$  and Hessian  $H_f = A$ .

126 We propose the following general algorithm for the multi-dimensional weighted balanced graph  
127 partitioning problem. Let  $\mathcal{B}_\infty = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \forall i: \mathbf{x}_i \in [-1, 1]\}$ . For  $i \in [d]$  let  $\mathcal{S}_\epsilon^i = \{\mathbf{x} \in$   
128  $\mathbb{R}^n \mid \sum_{j=1}^n w_i(j) \mathbf{x}_j \leq \epsilon \sum_{j=1}^n w_i(j)\}$ .

cite Recht et al. NIPS'11 paper suggested by Kostya

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**Algorithm 1:** BADGER RAMPAGE ( $d$ -Dimensional Balanced Graph 2-Partitioning via Randomized Projected Gradient Descent)

---

**input** : Graph  $G(V, E)$ , integer  $k$ , real value  $\epsilon \in [0, 1]$ , weight functions  $w_1, \dots, w_d: V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$   
**output** :  $(1 \pm \epsilon)$ -balanced partition w.r.t  $w_1, \dots, w_d$  of  $V$  into  $(V_1, V_2)$ .

```

1  $\mathbf{x}_0 = 0, t = 0$ 
129 do
2    $\mathbf{x}'_t = \mathbf{x}_t + \eta_t N(0, 1)$ 
3    $\mathbf{y}_{t+1} = (I + \gamma_t A) \mathbf{x}'_t$ 
4    $\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x} \in K} \|\mathbf{y}_{t+1} - \mathbf{x}\|_2$ , where  $K = \mathcal{B}_\infty \cap \bigcap_{j=1}^d \mathcal{S}_\epsilon^j$ 
5    $t = t + 1$ 
6 while  $\|\mathbf{x}_t - \mathbf{x}_{t+1}\|_2 > \theta$ ;

```

---

### 130 4 Projection step

#### 132 4.1 Approximate projection for $d = 1$

133 Formally, we have the following optimization problem. Given a fixed vector  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and allowed  
134 imbalance  $\epsilon$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\text{Minimize:} && f(\mathbf{x}) = \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 \\
 &\text{Subject to:} && g_i = x_i^2 - 1 \leq 0 \\
 &&& h_+ = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i - \epsilon \leq 0 \\
 &&& h_- = -\sum_{i=1}^n x_i - \epsilon \leq 0
 \end{aligned}$$

cite some paper which focus on efficiency of projection step in PGD

By KKT:

$$(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \mu_i x_i \mathbf{e}_i + (\mu_+ - \mu_-) \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{e}_i.$$

I.e. for each coordinate we have  $y_i - x_i = \mu_i x_i + \mu_+ - \mu_-$  where and  $\mu_i, \mu_+, \mu_- \geq 0$ . Complementary slackness gives  $\mu_i(x_i^2 - 1) = 0$ , i.e. for each  $i$  either  $|x_i| = 1$  or  $\mu_i = 0$ . Moreover, we have additional slackness constraints:

- $\mu_+(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i - \epsilon) = 0$ .
- $\mu_-(-\sum_{i=1}^n x_i - \epsilon) = 0$ .

Consider 3 cases:

1.  $\sum x_i = \epsilon$ . In this case  $\mu_- = 0$ , and the first slackness constraint equals  $y_i - x_i = \mu_i x_i + \mu_+$ . Now this problem equals to exact projection, described in the previous section, with  $\lambda = \mu_+$  and  $\sum h_i = \sum y_i - \epsilon$ .
2.  $\sum x_i = -\epsilon$ . This case is similar to the previous one with  $\lambda = -\mu_-$  and  $\sum h_i = \sum y_i + \epsilon$ .
3.  $\mu_+ = \mu_- = 0$ . The first slackness constraint equals  $y_i - x_i = \mu_i x_i$ . This case is just projection on the hypercube, with restriction  $\sum h_i \in (\sum y_i - \epsilon; \sum y_i + \epsilon)$ .

In all cases we have  $y_i - x_i = \mu_i x_i + \lambda$ , and possible values of  $\lambda$  are disjoint. Since  $\sum h_i$  is increasing, only one of this options can be satisfied. For example, if case one is satisfied, then for  $\lambda < 0$   $\sum h_i(\lambda) = \sum y_i + \epsilon$ . Since  $\sum h_i(\lambda)$  is increasing, for  $\sum h_i(0) \geq \sum h_i(\lambda) = \sum y_i + \epsilon$ , and therefore  $\sum h_i(0) \notin (\sum y_i - \epsilon; \sum y_i + \epsilon)$ .

Therefore, to find lambda we can use the following algorithm:

- Try the case  $\lambda = 0$ . If  $\sum h_i(0) \in (\sum y_i - \epsilon; \sum y_i + \epsilon)$ , then return the corresponding  $\mathbf{x}$ . Otherwise select the part for binary search:
  - If  $h(0) \geq \sum y_i + \epsilon$ , search  $\lambda$  in  $(-\infty; 0]$  with  $\sum h_i(\lambda) = \sum y_i + \epsilon$ .
  - If  $h(0) \leq \sum y_i - \epsilon$ , search  $\lambda$  in  $[0; +\infty)$  with  $\sum h_i(\lambda) = \sum y_i - \epsilon$ .

## 4.2 Exact projection for $d = 2$

If we want to project on the intersection of two hyperplanes:  $\sum_i w_i x_i = 0$  and  $\sum_i w'_i x_i = 0$  then we can do this as follows. Using parameters  $\lambda$  and  $\lambda'$  as above we can still use the following algorithm setting  $\gamma_i = \lambda w_i + \lambda' w'_i$ :

1.  $(y_i \geq 1 + \gamma_i)$ . Set  $x_i = 1$ .
2.  $(y_i \in (-1 + \gamma_i, 1 + \gamma_i))$ . Set  $x_i = y_i - \gamma_i$ .
3.  $(y_i \leq -1 + \gamma_i)$ . Set  $x_i = -1$ .

Now we have two balance functions:  $h = \sum w_i x_i$  and  $h' = \sum w'_i x_i$ . The change in  $h$  after projection is expressed as:

$$\sum_i w_i y_i - \sum_i w_i x_i = \sum_{i: y_i \geq 1 + \gamma_i} w_i (y_i - 1) + \sum_{i: y_i \in (-1 + \gamma_i, 1 + \gamma_i)} w_i \gamma_i + \sum_{i: y_i \leq -1 - \gamma_i} w_i (1 + y_i) = \sum_i h_i(\lambda, \lambda'),$$

where each  $h_i$  is the following function:

$$h_i(\lambda, \lambda') = \begin{cases} w_i (y_i - 1) & \text{if } \lambda w_i + \lambda' w'_i < y_i - 1 \\ w_i (\lambda w_i + \lambda' w'_i) & \text{if } \lambda w_i + \lambda' w'_i \in [y_i - 1, y_i + 1] \\ w_i (y_i + 1) & \text{if } \lambda w_i + \lambda' w'_i > y_i + 1 \end{cases}$$

Analogously, the difference between  $h'$  can be expressed as  $\sum h'_i$ , where

$$h'_i(\lambda, \lambda') = \begin{cases} w'_i (y_i - 1) & \text{if } \lambda w_i + \lambda' w'_i < y_i - 1 \\ w'_i (\lambda w_i + \lambda' w'_i) & \text{if } \lambda w_i + \lambda' w'_i \in [y_i - 1, y_i + 1] \\ w'_i (y_i + 1) & \text{if } \lambda w_i + \lambda' w'_i > y_i + 1 \end{cases}$$

change this to support approximate projection

167 Denote  $h(\lambda, \lambda') = \sum h_i(\lambda, \lambda')$  and  $h'(\lambda, \lambda') = \sum h'_i(\lambda, \lambda')$ . We want to find  $\lambda$  and  $\lambda'$  such that  
 168  $h(\lambda, \lambda') = \sum w_i y_i$  and  $h'(\lambda, \lambda') = \sum w'_i y_i$ . We will show that we can use binary search for  $\lambda$  with  
 169 binary search for  $\lambda'$  inside.

170 **Theorem 4.1.** Consider the situation when  $\lambda$  is fixed. Denote the maximum  $\lambda'$  such that  $h(\lambda, \lambda') =$   
 171  $\sum w_i y_i$  as  $root(\lambda)$ . The same way denote the maximum  $\lambda'$  such that  $h'(\lambda, \lambda') = \sum w'_i y_i$  as  
 172  $root'(\lambda)$ . Then

$$\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} (root(\lambda) - root'(\lambda)) \cdot \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow -\infty} (root(\lambda) - root'(\lambda)) \leq 0$$

173 Our goal is to find  $\lambda$  such that  $root(\lambda) - root'(\lambda) = 0$ , meaning that there exist  $\lambda'$ , such that  
 174  $h(\lambda, \lambda') = \sum w_i y_i$  and  $h'(\lambda, \lambda') = \sum w'_i y_i$ . Since function  $dif(\lambda) = root(\lambda) - root'(\lambda)$  is  
 175 continuous (since it's piecewise-linear and continuous near borders??) and we can find points with  
 176 different signs, we can find its root using binary search. (TODO: I think I know two pointers solution  
 177 for this case).

178 Note that there can be several  $\lambda'$ , corresponding to one  $\lambda$ . By selecting maximum value  $root(\lambda)$   
 179 becomes unique. Now we will prove the theorem.

180 *Proof.* For the proof we will use a geometric approach. We consider a two-dimensional plane  $(\lambda, \lambda')$   
 181 and the following regions:  $\lambda w_i + \lambda' w'_i$  for all  $i$ . We will show that when  $\lambda \rightarrow +\infty$ ,  $root(\lambda)$  form a  
 182 line, lying in some region and parallel to its borders.

183 First, note that there are only finite number of intersections between regions. Non-empty intersec-  
 184 tions can be of two following types:

- 185 1. Unbounded intersections. Each region corresponds to an area between two parallel lines,  
 186 two regions are *parallel* if their border lines are parallel. Then non-empty intersection of  
 187 the regions is unbounded if all the regions are parallel.
- 188 2. Bounded intersection. If some of regions are not parallel, the intersection is bounded.

189 We consider the case when there are no unbounded intersections of more than one region. (TODO:  
 190 consider another case.) By monotonicity and piecewise-linearity of  $h$  and  $h'$   $root$  and  $root'$  are also  
 191 piecewise-linear functions. Since region borders are lines, for large enough  $\lambda$   $root(\lambda)$  entirely lies  
 192 in one region or between them (TODO: show this).

193 Consider function  $h$ . Sort all regions by its angle  $k_i = -\frac{w'_i}{w_i}$ . Change numeration of coordinates  
 194  $\{h_i\}$  in such way that  $k_i$  are decreasing. Then the following is true. When point  $(\lambda, \lambda')$  belongs to  
 195  $i$ -th region, for large enough  $\lambda$ :

- 196 • For all  $h_j$  where  $j < i$  the third case is satisfied (since  $(\lambda, \lambda')$  is above this region), namely  
 197  $\lambda w_i + \lambda' w'_i > y_i + 1$  and  $h_i(\lambda, \lambda') = w_i(y_i + 1)$ .
- 198 • For all  $h_j$  where  $j > i$  the first case is satisfied (since  $(\lambda, \lambda')$  is below this region), namely  
 199  $\lambda w_i + \lambda' w'_i < y_i - 1$  and  $h_i(\lambda, \lambda') = w_i(y_i - 1)$ .
- 200 • For  $i$ -th region itself we know that  $\lambda w_i + \lambda' w'_i \in [y_i - 1; y_i + 1]$ . Therefore,  $\lambda w_i + \lambda' w'_i =$   
 201  $y_i + c$ , where  $c \in [-1; 1]$ .  $h_i(\lambda, \lambda') = w_i(y_i + c)$

202 Computing  $h(\lambda, \lambda')$  gives us

$$\begin{aligned} h(\lambda, \lambda') &= \sum_{j < i} w_i(y_i + 1) + w_i(y_i + c) + \sum_{j > i} w_i(y_i - 1) = \\ &= \sum_i w_i y_i + \sum_{j < i} w_i + w_i c - \sum_{j > i} w_i \end{aligned}$$

204 In case when  $(\lambda, \lambda')$  lies between  $(i - 1)$ -th and  $i$ -th regions, there is no  $w_i c$  term and

$$h(\lambda, \lambda') = \sum_i w_i y_i + \sum_{j < i} w_i - \sum_{j \geq i} w_i$$

205 So, the value of  $h$  doesn't change between two regions, which also follows from  $h_i$  definition (it  
 206 is constant on each side of  $i$ -th region). Also note that it matches the value of  $h$  on the borders of  
 207  $(i-1)$ -th and  $i$ -th region, because values of  $c$  are 1 and  $-1$  respectively.

208 Now we can find  $root(\lambda)$  when  $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ . We need to find  $i$  and  $c$  such that

$$\sum_i w_i y_i = h(\lambda, \lambda') = \sum_i w_i y_i + \sum_{j < i} w_i + w_i c - \sum_{j > i} w_i \iff \sum_{j < i} w_i + w_i c - \sum_{j > i} w_i = 0$$

209 Note that since all  $w_i$  are non-negative, there is an only way to split such sum, but there can be  
 210 two representations when  $c \in \{-1; 1\}$  (i.e. when  $(\lambda, \lambda')$  is between regions). In such case the  
 211 maximum value of  $\lambda'$  is achieved when  $c = -1$  (note that the maximum value is achieved on the left  
 212 border of the right region, which has greater index). Denote such  $i$  and  $c$  as  $i_+$  and  $c_+$  respectively.  
 213 (TODO: handle the case when  $(\lambda, \lambda')$  is not between regions, but on the left or on the right of all of  
 214 them.) (TODO: handle the case when some regions are horizontal or vertical.) (TODO: draw some  
 215 pictures.)

216 Consider  $root(\lambda)$  when  $\lambda \rightarrow -\infty$ . By the similar reasoning we achieve the following equation for  
 217  $i$  and  $c$ :

$$-\sum_{j < i} w_i + w_i c + \sum_{j > i} w_i = 0 \iff \sum_{j < i} w_i - w_i c - \sum_{j > i} w_i = 0$$

218 As can be seen,  $i = i_+$  and  $c = -c_+$  satisfy this equation. If  $c_+ \in (-1; 1)$  then pair  $(i_-, c_-) =$   
 219  $(i_+, -c_+)$  is a solution, corresponding to the unique  $\lambda'$ . Otherwise  $c_+ = -1 \iff -c_+ = 1$  and  
 220 we should assign  $i_- = i - 1$  and  $c_- = -1$  (note that the maximum value is achieved on the left  
 221 border of the right region, which has smaller index).

222 By the same reasoning for  $h'$  we have to solve the following equations

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j < i} w_i + w_i c - \sum_{j > i} w_i &= 0 \\ -\sum_{j < i} w_i + w_i c + \sum_{j > i} w_i &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

223 Denote the solution of the first equation as  $(i'_+, c'_+)$ . Then the solution of the second equation is

$$(i'_-, c'_-) \begin{cases} (i'_+, -c'_+) & \text{if } c'_+ \in (-1; 1) \\ (i'_+ - 1, -1) & \text{if } c'_+ = -1 \end{cases}$$

224 If  $i_+ = i'_+$  and  $c_+ = c'_+$  then the theorem is proved, since  $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} (root(\lambda) - root'(\lambda)) =$   
 225 0. Otherwise, w.l.o.g. assume that  $i_+ < i'_+$  or  $(i_+ = i'_+ \text{ and } c_+ < c'_+)$ . In this case  
 226  $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} (root(\lambda) - root'(\lambda)) < 0$ , since less pair  $(i, c)$  corresponds to less  $\lambda'$  when  $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ .

227 Our goal is to show that  $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow -\infty} (root(\lambda) - root'(\lambda)) \geq 0$ , and namely that  $i_- < i'_-$  or  $(i_- = i'_-$   
 228 and  $c_- \geq c'_-)$ . We need to consider the following cases:

- 229 •  $i_+ < i'_+$  and  $c'_+ = -1$ . Then  $i'_- = i'_+ - 1 \geq i_-$  and  $c'_- = -1 \leq c_-$ .
- 230 •  $i_+ < i'_+$  and  $c'_+ \in (-1; 1)$ . Then  $i'_- = i'_+ > i_-$ .
- 231 •  $i_+ = i'_+$  and  $c'_+ = -1$ . Impossible, since  $c_+$  must be less than  $c'_+$ .
- 232 •  $i_+ = i'_+$ ,  $c_+ = -1$  and  $c'_+ \in (-1; 1)$ . Then  $i'_- = i'_+ > i_+ - 1 = i_-$ .
- 233 •  $i_+ = i'_+$ ,  $c_+, c'_+ \in (-1; 1)$ . Then  $i'_- = i_-$  and  $c'_- < c_-$ .

## 234 5 Towards convergence analysis

235 **Lemma 5.1** (Bertsekas, Section 2.3.2). *If  $\|\nabla f(\mathbf{x}) - \nabla f(\mathbf{y})\| \leq L\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|$  for all  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and*  
 236  *$0 < \gamma < 2/L$  then*

$$f(\mathbf{x}_{t+1}) - f(\mathbf{x}_t) \geq \left( \frac{1}{\gamma} - \frac{L}{2} \right) \|\mathbf{x}_t - \mathbf{x}_{t+1}\|_2^2$$



237 *Proof.* We use the following Descent Lemma:

**Proposition 5.2** (Descent Lemma). *Let  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be continuously differentiable, and let  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$  be two vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . If for all  $t \in [0, 1]$  it holds that  $\|\nabla f(\mathbf{x} + t\mathbf{y}) - \nabla f(\mathbf{x})\| \leq Lt\|\mathbf{y}\|$  where  $L$  is a constant then:*

$$f(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) \geq f(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{y}^T \nabla f(\mathbf{x}) - \frac{L}{2} \|\mathbf{y}\|_2^2$$

238 *Proof.* Let  $t$  be a scalar and let  $g(t) = f(\mathbf{x} + t\mathbf{y})$ . By the chain rule  $(dg/dt)(t) = \mathbf{y}^T \nabla f(\mathbf{x} + t\mathbf{y})$ .  
239 Then:

$$\begin{aligned} f(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) - f(\mathbf{x}) &= g(1) - g(0) \\ &= \int_0^1 \frac{dg}{dt}(g) dt \\ &= \int_0^1 \mathbf{y}^T \nabla f(\mathbf{x} + t\mathbf{y}) dt \\ &\geq \int_0^1 \mathbf{y}^T \nabla f(\mathbf{x}) dt - \left| \int_0^1 \mathbf{y}^T (\nabla f(\mathbf{x} + t\mathbf{y}) - \nabla f(\mathbf{x})) dt \right| \\ &\geq \int_0^1 \mathbf{y}^T \nabla f(\mathbf{x}) dt - \int_0^1 \|\mathbf{y}\|_2 \|\nabla f(\mathbf{x} + t\mathbf{y}) - \nabla f(\mathbf{x})\|_2 dt \\ &\geq \mathbf{y}^T \nabla f(\mathbf{x}) - \|\mathbf{y}\|_2 \int_0^1 Lt \|\mathbf{y}\|_2 dt \\ &= \mathbf{y}^T \nabla f(\mathbf{x}) - \frac{L}{2} \|\mathbf{y}\|_2^2 \end{aligned}$$

240

241 By the Descent Lemma we have:

$$f(\mathbf{x}_{t+1}) - f(\mathbf{x}_t) \geq \nabla f(\mathbf{x}_t)(\mathbf{x}_{t+1} - \mathbf{x}_t) - \frac{L}{2} \|\mathbf{x}_{t+1} - \mathbf{x}_t\|_2^2.$$

Note that since  $K = \mathcal{S}_0 \cap \mathcal{B}_\infty$  is a convex body and  $\mathbf{x}_{k+1}$  is a projection of  $\mathbf{y}_{t+1}$  on  $K$  for every  $\mathbf{x} \in K$  it holds that:

$$(\mathbf{y}_{t+1} - \mathbf{x}_{t+1})(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_{t+1}) \leq 0.$$

Applying this to  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}_t$  and using the fact that  $\mathbf{y}_{t+1} = \mathbf{x}_t + \gamma \nabla f(\mathbf{x}_t)$  we have:

$$(\mathbf{x}_t + \gamma \nabla f(\mathbf{x}_t) - \mathbf{x}_{t+1})(\mathbf{x}_t - \mathbf{x}_{t+1}) \leq 0,$$

242 which implies that  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}_t)(\mathbf{x}_{t+1} - \mathbf{x}_t) \geq \frac{1}{\gamma} \|\mathbf{x}_t - \mathbf{x}_{t+1}\|_2^2$ . Hence we have:

$$f(\mathbf{x}_{k+1}) - f(\mathbf{x}_k) \geq \left( \frac{1}{\gamma} - \frac{L}{2} \right) \|\mathbf{x}_t - \mathbf{x}_{t+1}\|_2^2$$

## 243 5.1 First step

244 Let's analyze the first step. We show the following theorem:

245 **Theorem 5.3.** *Let  $\lambda_{max} = \max(|\lambda_1|, |\lambda_n|)$  then if  $\gamma = 1/\lambda_{max}$  then  $\mathbb{E}[f(\mathbf{x}_1)] \geq \frac{\eta^2 |E|}{2\lambda_{max}}$  (assuming*  
246 *we don't have to round the coordinates).*

Fix this!

247 Consider three points  $\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1$  and  $\mathbf{y}_1$ . These three points lie in a hyperplane  $H'$  which is orthogonal  
248 to the hyperplane  $H = \{\mathbf{x} : \langle \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{x} \rangle = 0\}$ , where  $\mathbf{1} = (\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}, \dots, \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}})$ . Let  $\mathbf{x}'_0$  be the projection of  $\mathbf{x}_0$   
249 on  $H$ . Then  $\mathbf{x}'_0$  also lies in  $H'$ .

250 We have  $\|\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_0\|_2^2 = \|\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{x}'_0\|_2^2 + \|\mathbf{x}'_0 - \mathbf{x}_1\|_2^2$ . Let  $\mathbf{y}'_1$  be the projection of  $\mathbf{x}_0$  on the line through  
251  $\mathbf{y}_1$  and  $\mathbf{x}_1$ . Then  $\|\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{y}_1\|_2^2 = \|\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{y}'_1\|_2^2 + \|\mathbf{y}'_1 - \mathbf{y}_1\|_2^2$ . Since  $\|\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{y}'_1\|_2^2 = \|\mathbf{x}'_0 - \mathbf{x}_1\|_2^2$  we  
252 have:

$$\|\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_0\|_2^2 = \|\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{x}'_0\|_2^2 + \|\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{y}_1\|_2^2 - \|\mathbf{y}'_1 - \mathbf{y}_1\|_2^2.$$

253 We now take expectations and make use of the Lemma 5.4 which is proved below:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_0\|_2^2] &= \eta^2 \left( 1 + \gamma^2 \|A\|_F^2 - \gamma^2 \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i^2 \langle \mathbf{1}, v_i \rangle^2 \right) \\ &\geq \eta^2 (1 + 2\gamma^2 |E| - \gamma^2 \max(\lambda_1^2, \lambda_n^2))\end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 5.1 using the fact that for our function  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x}$  we have  $L \leq \max(|\lambda_1|, |\lambda_n|)$  we obtain:

$$f(\mathbf{x}_1) - f(\mathbf{x}_0) \geq \left( \frac{1}{\gamma} - \frac{\max(|\lambda_1|, |\lambda_n|)}{2} \right) \|\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_0\|_2^2.$$

Setting  $\gamma = 1/\max(|\lambda_1|, |\lambda_n|)$  and taking expectations we have:

$$\mathbb{E}[f(\mathbf{x}_1) - f(\mathbf{x}_0)] \geq \frac{\eta^2 |E|}{2 \max(|\lambda_1|, |\lambda_n|)}$$

Finally note that:

$$\mathbb{E}[f(\mathbf{x}_0)] = \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}_0^T A \mathbf{x}_0] = \eta^2 \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i = \eta^2 \text{tr}(A) = 0,$$

254 and hence the proof of the theorem follows.

255 It remains to prove Lemma 5.4.

256 **Lemma 5.4.** *If  $A = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i v_i v_i^T$  is the eigendecomposition of  $A$  where  $v_i$ 's form an orthonormal*  
257 *basis then:*

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{x}'_0\|_2^2] &= \eta^2 \\ \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{y}_1\|_2^2] &= \eta^2 \gamma^2 \|A\|_F^2 \\ \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{y}'_1 - \mathbf{y}_1\|_2^2] &= \eta^2 \gamma^2 \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i^2 \langle \mathbf{1}, v_i \rangle^2\end{aligned}$$

258 *Proof.* We have  $\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{x}'_0\|_2^2] = \mathbb{E}[\langle \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{x}_0 \rangle^2] = \eta^2$ , where the second equality follows by rotational  
259 symmetry of the Gaussian distribution.

260 We have:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{y}_1\|_2^2] &= \mathbb{E}[\|\gamma A \mathbf{x}_0\|_2^2] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\gamma^2 \mathbf{x}_0^T A^2 \mathbf{x}_0] \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \gamma^2 \mathbf{x}_0^T \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i^2 v_i v_i^T \right) \mathbf{x}_0 \right] \\ &= \gamma^2 \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i^2 \mathbb{E}[\langle v_i, \mathbf{x}_0 \rangle^2] \\ &= \gamma^2 \eta^2 \|A\|_F^2,\end{aligned}$$

261 where in the last equality we use the fact that since each  $v_i$  is a unit vector  $\mathbb{E}[\langle v_i, \mathbf{x}_0 \rangle^2] = \eta^2$  by the  
262 rotational symmetry of the Gaussian distribution.

263 Finally, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{y}'_1 - \mathbf{y}_1\|_2^2] &= \mathbb{E}[\langle \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{y}_1 - \mathbf{x}_0 \rangle^2] \\
&= \mathbb{E}[\langle \mathbf{1}, \gamma A \mathbf{x}_0 \rangle^2] \\
&= \gamma^2 \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \mathbf{1}^T \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i v_i v_i^T \right) \mathbf{x}_0 \right)^2 \right] \\
&= \gamma^2 \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \langle \mathbf{1}, v_i \rangle \langle v_i, \mathbf{x}_0 \rangle \right)^2 \right] \\
&= \gamma^2 \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_i \lambda_j \langle \mathbf{1}, v_i \rangle \langle \mathbf{1}, v_j \rangle \mathbb{E}[\langle v_i, \mathbf{x}_0 \rangle \langle v_j, \mathbf{x}_0 \rangle] \right)
\end{aligned}$$

264 Note that since  $v_i$  and  $v_j$  are orthogonal for  $i \neq j$  we have  $\mathbb{E}[\langle v_i, \mathbf{x}_0 \rangle \langle v_j, \mathbf{x}_0 \rangle] = 0$ . For  $i = j$  we  
265 have  $\mathbb{E}[\langle v_i, \mathbf{x}_0 \rangle^2] = \eta^2$  as before. Hence we have:

$$\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{y}'_1 - \mathbf{y}_1\|_2^2] = \eta^2 \gamma^2 \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i^2 \langle \mathbf{1}, v_i \rangle^2$$

## 266 5.2 $t$ -th step

267 We will assume that noise is added in every step, i.e. the algorithm at every step looks as follows:

- 268 1. Given input  $\mathbf{x}_t$  from the pervious step let  $\mathbf{x}'_t = \mathbf{x}_t + \eta N(0, 1)$ .
- 269 2. Let  $\mathbf{y}_{t+1} = \mathbf{x}'_t + \gamma A \mathbf{x}'_t$
- 270 3. Set  $\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{S}_0 \cap \mathcal{B}_\infty} \|\mathbf{y}_{t+1} - \mathbf{x}\|$ .

271 We need an analog of Lemma 5.4.

**Lemma 5.5.**

$$\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{y}_{t+1} - \mathbf{x}'_t\|_2^2] \geq \gamma^2 \eta^2 \|A\|_F^2.$$

272 *Proof.* Let  $\mathbf{z} \sim N(0, 1)$

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{y}_{t+1} - \mathbf{x}'_t\|_2^2] &= \mathbb{E}[\|\gamma A \mathbf{x}'_t\|_2^2] \\
&= \gamma^2 \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}'_t{}^T A^2 \mathbf{x}'_t] \\
&= \gamma^2 \mathbb{E}[(\mathbf{x}_t + \eta \mathbf{z})^T A^2 (\mathbf{x}_t + \eta \mathbf{z})] \\
&= \gamma^2 (\mathbf{x}_t^T A^2 \mathbf{x}_t + 2\eta \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{z}^T A^2 \mathbf{x}_t] + \eta^2 \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{z}^T A^2 \mathbf{z}])
\end{aligned}$$

273 We have  $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{z}^T A^2 \mathbf{z}] = \|A\|_F^2$  as in the proof of Lemma 5.4. Furthermore,  $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{z}^T A^2 \mathbf{x}_t] =$   
274  $\mathbb{E}[\langle \mathbf{z}, A^2 \mathbf{x}_t \rangle] = 0$  where the second equality follows by the linearity of expectation using the fact  
275 that  $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{z}_i] = 0$  for each  $i$ .

276 We have  $\mathbf{x}_t^T A^2 \mathbf{x}_t = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i^2 \langle v_i, \mathbf{x}_t \rangle^2 \geq 0$  which completes the proof.

## 277 6 Experiments

278 We design our experiments to understand how well our algorithm behaves on real-world datasets and  
279 how it compares to the state-of-the-art approaches. As pointed out in Section ??, we are not aware  
280 of a scalable approach for solving the *multidimensional* balanced partitioning. Hence, we present  
281 a comparison of BR with related techniques for *one-dimensional* variant of the problem. For the  
282 multi-dimensional variant, discussed in Section ??, we present...

283 For our experiments, we use three publicly available social networks and several large subgraphs of  
284 the Facebook friendship graph. We utilize the public graphs for which the results of the state-of-the-  
285 art minimum-cut partitioning are known. The private datasets serve to demonstrate scalability of our  
286 approach and its performance on real-world data. Our dataset is as follows.

- LiveJournal is an undirected version of the public social graph (snapshot from 2006) containing 4.8 million vertices and 42.9 million edges [UB13].
- Twitter is a public graph of tweets, with about 41 million vertices (twitter accounts) and 2.4 billion edges (denoting followership) [? ].
- Friendster is another public social graph whose minimum-cut partitioning is available [? ].
- FB- $X$  are subgraphs of the Facebook friendship graph, where  $X$  indicates the (approximate) number of edges; the data was anonymized before processing.

## 6.1 One-dimensional partitioning

We evaluate our algorithm, denoted by BR and described in Section ??, with existing scalable approaches for graph partitioning. Recall that our primary goal is to design and implement a scalable algorithm that can run for very large graphs in distributed setting. The most relevant works are the label propagation-based approaches by Ugander and Backstrom [UB13] and by Martella et al. [], balanced partitioning via linear embedding by Aydin et al. [], a streaming technique, called Fennel, suggested by Tsourakakis et al. [], and a distributed algorithm called SocialHash by Kabiljo et al. []. We also present results computed by the classical library for graph partitioning, METIS [? ].

Table 1 compares the percentage of cut edges produced by various

Next we will compare the technique against competing tools. (for  $d = 1$ ,  $\varepsilon = 0.03$ ,  $k = 2$ ). We need the following data:

Graph	BR	SHP	LinEm	Spinner	Fennel	METIS
Twitter	7.3% $\varepsilon = 0.02$	8.33% $\varepsilon = 0.01$	7.43% $\varepsilon = 0.03$	15% $\varepsilon = 0.05$	<b>6.8%</b> $\varepsilon = 0.1$	11.98% $\varepsilon = 0.03$
Friendster	3.73% $\varepsilon = 0.03$	<b>3.54%</b> $\varepsilon = 0.01$	11.9% $\varepsilon = 0.03$			

Table 1: bla.

Graph	BR	SHP	machine-hours
FB-2.5B	<b>5.11%</b>	8.75%	1.1
FB-5.5B	<b>4.99%</b>	11.75%	9
FB-80B	<b>5.21%</b>	12.04%	13
FB-400B	6.88%	<b>5.82%</b>	65
FB-800B	<b>5.52%</b>	5.58%	150

Table 2: bla.

– describe distributed – give times

## 6.2 Multi-dimensional partitioning

Here we describe how the alg works for  $d > 1$ . For simplicity we pick  $d = 2$  and balance on vertices and degrees. Need a plot for:

- LiveJournal graph. Quality of "one-dim-GradientDescent vs iterations", "alternating projection vs iterations", "real projection vs iterations". Another three plots for "Vertex-imbalance vs iterations". Another three plots for "Degree-imbalance vs iterations".
- com-orkut. (If time permits). Do the same for this graph

## 6.3 Experiments with projections

Dmitry

First, we need to motivate the projection step. We will do it for  $d = 1$ .

- 317       • Consider LiveJournal graph. Compute 6 plots: (i) quality vs iterations, (ii) number of  
318       moved vertices vs iterations, (iii) imbalance ( $\text{max\_vertices}/\text{avg\_vertices}$ ) vs iterations. First  
319       do it for uniform projection (3 plots), then for binary-search-based one (another 3 plots).
- 320       • This one will motivate the usage of approximate projection. Consider LiveJournal and  
321       build a plot "quality vs iterations" for  $\varepsilon = 0$  (exact projection),  $\varepsilon = 0.01$  (1% imbalance),  
322        $\varepsilon = 0.05$ , and  $\varepsilon = 0.1$ .

#### 323   **6.4 Scalability+Distributed computation**

324   We'll do it if we have time and space

Sergey

### 325   **7 Conclusions**

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## 431 **B General formatting instructions**

432 The text must be confined within a rectangle 5.5 inches (33 picas) wide and 9 inches (54 picas) long.  
433 The left margin is 1.5 inch (9 picas). Use 10 point type with a vertical spacing (leading) of 11 points.  
434 Times New Roman is the preferred typeface throughout, and will be selected for you by default.  
435 Paragraphs are separated by 1/2 line space (5.5 points), with no indentation.

436 The paper title should be 17 point, initial caps/lower case, bold, centered between two horizontal  
437 rules. The top rule should be 4 points thick and the bottom rule should be 1 point thick. Allow  
438 1/4 inch space above and below the title to rules. All pages should start at 1 inch (6 picas) from the  
439 top of the page.

440 For the final version, authors’ names are set in boldface, and each name is centered above the corre-  
441 sponding address. The lead author’s name is to be listed first (left-most), and the co-authors’ names  
442 (if different address) are set to follow. If there is only one co-author, list both author and co-author  
443 side by side.

444 Please pay special attention to the instructions in Section D regarding figures, tables, acknowledg-  
445 ments, and references.

## 446 **C Headings: first level**

447 All headings should be lower case (except for first word and proper nouns), flush left, and bold.  
448 First-level headings should be in 12-point type.

### 449 **C.1 Headings: second level**

450 Second-level headings should be in 10-point type.

#### 451 **C.1.1 Headings: third level**

452 Third-level headings should be in 10-point type.

453 **Paragraphs** There is also a `\paragraph` command available, which sets the heading in bold, flush  
454 left, and inline with the text, with the heading followed by 1 em of space.

## 455 **D Citations, figures, tables, references**

456 These instructions apply to everyone.



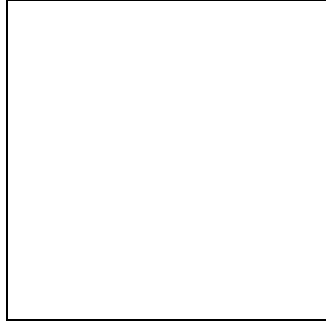


Figure 1: Sample figure caption.

## 457 **D.1 Citations within the text**

458 The `natbib` package will be loaded for you by default. Citations may be author/year or numeric, as  
459 long as you maintain internal consistency. As to the format of the references themselves, any style  
460 is acceptable as long as it is used consistently.

461 The documentation for `natbib` may be found at

462 `http://mirrors.ctan.org/macros/latex/contrib/natbib/natnotes.pdf`

463 Of note is the command `\citet`, which produces citations appropriate for use in inline text. For  
464 example,

465 `\citet{hasselmo}` investigated\dots

466 produces

467 Hasselmo, et al. (1995) investigated...

468 If you wish to load the `natbib` package with options, you may add the following before loading the  
469 `nips_2018` package:

470 `\PassOptionsToPackage{options}{natbib}`

471 If `natbib` clashes with another package you load, you can add the optional argument `nonatbib`  
472 when loading the style file:

473 `\usepackage[nonatbib]{nips_2018}`

474 As submission is double blind, refer to your own published work in the third person. That is, use “In  
475 the previous work of Jones et al. [4],” not “In our previous work [4].” If you cite your other papers  
476 that are not widely available (e.g., a journal paper under review), use anonymous author names in  
477 the citation, e.g., an author of the form “A. Anonymous.”

## 478 **D.2 Footnotes**

479 Footnotes should be used sparingly. If you do require a footnote, indicate footnotes with a number<sup>2</sup>  
480 in the text. Place the footnotes at the bottom of the page on which they appear. Precede the footnote  
481 with a horizontal rule of 2 inches (12 picas).

482 Note that footnotes are properly typeset *after* punctuation marks.<sup>3</sup>

## 483 **D.3 Figures**

484 All artwork must be neat, clean, and legible. Lines should be dark enough for purposes of reproduc-  
485 tion. The figure number and caption always appear after the figure. Place one line space before the

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<sup>2</sup>Sample of the first footnote.

<sup>3</sup>As in this example.

Table 3: Sample table title

Part		
Name	Description	Size ( $\mu\text{m}$ )
Dendrite	Input terminal	$\sim 100$
Axon	Output terminal	$\sim 10$
Soma	Cell body	up to $10^6$

figure caption and one line space after the figure. The figure caption should be lower case (except for first word and proper nouns); figures are numbered consecutively.

You may use color figures. However, it is best for the figure captions and the paper body to be legible if the paper is printed in either black/white or in color.

#### D.4 Tables

All tables must be centered, neat, clean and legible. The table number and title always appear before the table. See Table 3.

Place one line space before the table title, one line space after the table title, and one line space after the table. The table title must be lower case (except for first word and proper nouns); tables are numbered consecutively.

Note that publication-quality tables *do not contain vertical rules*. We strongly suggest the use of the booktabs package, which allows for typesetting high-quality, professional tables:

<https://www.ctan.org/pkg/booktabs>

This package was used to typeset Table 3.

#### E Final instructions

Do not change any aspects of the formatting parameters in the style files. In particular, do not modify the width or length of the rectangle the text should fit into, and do not change font sizes (except perhaps in the **References** section; see below). Please note that pages should be numbered.

#### F Preparing PDF files

Please prepare submission files with paper size “US Letter,” and not, for example, “A4.”

Fonts were the main cause of problems in the past years. Your PDF file must only contain Type 1 or Embedded TrueType fonts. Here are a few instructions to achieve this.

- You should directly generate PDF files using `pdflatex`.
- You can check which fonts a PDF files uses. In Acrobat Reader, select the menu Files>Document Properties>Fonts and select Show All Fonts. You can also use the program `pdf fonts` which comes with `xpdf` and is available out-of-the-box on most Linux machines.
- The IEEE has recommendations for generating PDF files whose fonts are also acceptable for NIPS. Please see <http://www.emfield.org/icuwb2010/downloads/IEEE-PDF-SpecV32.pdf>
- `xfig` "patterned" shapes are implemented with bitmap fonts. Use "solid" shapes instead.
- The `\bbold` package almost always uses bitmap fonts. You should use the equivalent AMS Fonts:

```
\usepackage{amsfonts}
```

520 followed by, e.g., `\mathbb{R}`, `\mathbb{N}`, or `\mathbb{C}` for  $\mathbb{R}$ ,  $\mathbb{N}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$ . You can also  
521 use the following workaround for reals, natural and complex:

```
522 \newcommand{\RR}{\mathbb{R}} %real numbers
523 \newcommand{\Nat}{\mathbb{N}} %natural numbers
524 \newcommand{\CC}{\mathbb{C}} %complex numbers
```

525 Note that `amsfonts` is automatically loaded by the `amssymb` package.

526 If your file contains type 3 fonts or non embedded TrueType fonts, we will ask you to fix it.

## 527 **F.1 Margins in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X**

528 Most of the margin problems come from figures positioned by hand using `\special` or other com-  
529 mands. We suggest using the command `\includegraphics` from the `graphicx` package. Always  
530 specify the figure width as a multiple of the line width as in the example below:

```
531 \usepackage[pdftex]{graphicx} ...
532 \includegraphics[width=0.8\linewidth]{myfile.pdf}
```

533 See Section 4.4 in the graphics bundle documentation (<http://mirrors.ctan.org/macros/latex/required/graphics/>)

534 A number of width problems arise when L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X cannot properly hyphenate a line. Please give LaTeX  
535 hyphenation hints using the `\-` command when necessary.

## 536 **Acknowledgments**

537 Use unnumbered third level headings for the acknowledgments. All acknowledgments go at the  
538 end of the paper. Do not include acknowledgments in the anonymized submission, only in the final  
539 paper.

## 540 **References**

541 References follow the acknowledgments. Use unnumbered first-level heading for the references.  
542 Any choice of citation style is acceptable as long as you are consistent. It is permissible to reduce  
543 the font size to `small` (9 point) when listing the references. **Remember that you can use more**  
544 **than eight pages as long as the additional pages contain *only* cited references.**

545 [1] Alexander, J.A. & Mozer, M.C. (1995) Template-based algorithms for connectionist rule extraction. In  
546 G. Tesauero, D.S. Touretzky and T.K. Leen (eds.), *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems* 7, pp.  
547 609–616. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

548 [2] Bower, J.M. & Beeman, D. (1995) *The Book of GENESIS: Exploring Realistic Neural Models with the*  
549 *GENeral NEural Simulation System*. New York: TELOS/Springer-Verlag.

550 [3] Hasselmo, M.E., Schnell, E. & Barkai, E. (1995) Dynamics of learning and recall at excitatory recurrent  
551 synapses and cholinergic modulation in rat hippocampal region CA3. *Journal of Neuroscience* **15**(7):5249-  
552 5262.