# New methods for large scale unsupervised learning

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### Introduction and motivation

Basics of Random Matrix Theory Large Sample Covariance Matrices Semi-circle law Spiked models

Community detection in graphs Motivations and model Main results Simulations

Kernel spectral clustering Model and assumptions Main results Applications

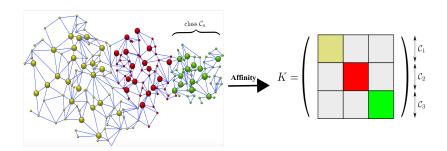
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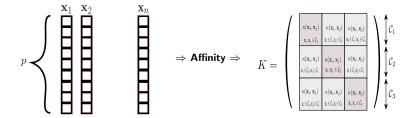
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# Motivation: Graph community detection



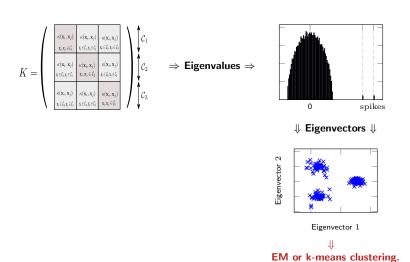
- ▶ Dense graph clustering on realistic block models.
- ▶ Asymptotic regime: number of nodes  $n \to \infty$ .
- ▶ Understanding of spectral clustering: Non-trivial behavior.

# Motivation: Data clustering



- ▶ Clustering of n data vectors of dimension p  $(n, p \to \infty)$ .
- ► Affinity between vectors ⇒ Graph clustering
- ▶ Understanding of kernel spectral methods in the big-data regime.

# Algorithm: Spectral clustering



# Spectral clustering: objective

#### State-of-the-art

- Spectral community detection in graphs
  - ▶ Detectability phase transition threshold in dense and sparse graph models
  - Regime of study where clustering is asymptotically perfect.
  - Studies performed mostly on (too simple) SBM models.
  - Lack of eigenvectors characterization in involved models.
- Kernel spectral clustering
  - ▶ Algorithms derived from ad-hoc procedures (e.g., relaxation).
  - Little understanding of performance, even for Gaussian mixtures.
  - Study of n large with p fixed.

#### **Objectives**

- Study advanced statistical models (e.g., DC-SBM)
- $\triangleright$  Study in big-data (both p and n large) and non-trivial regime of clustering.
- Benefit from concentration effect to study affinity matrices in both applications.
- Characterization of phase transition, eigenvectors content.

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### Context

Baseline scenario:  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n \in \mathbb{R}^p$  i.i.d. with  $E[\mathbf{x}_1] = \mathbf{0}$ ,  $E[\mathbf{x}_1 \mathbf{x}_1^*] = \mathbf{C}_p$ :

▶ If  $\mathbf{x}_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{C}_p)$ , ML estimator for  $\mathbf{C}_p$  is the sample covariance matrix (SCM)

$$\hat{\mathbf{C}}_p = \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{X}^{(p)} (\mathbf{X}^{(p)})^* = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}_i^*$$

$$(\mathbf{X}^{(p)} = [\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n] \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times n}).$$

▶ If  $n \to \infty$ , then, strong law of large numbers

$$\hat{\mathbf{C}}_p \xrightarrow{\mathrm{a.s.}} \mathbf{C}_p.$$

or equivalently, in spectral norm

$$\|\hat{\mathbf{C}}_p - \mathbf{C}_p\| \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} 0.$$

# Random Matrix Regime

▶ No longer valid if  $p, n \to \infty$  with  $p/n \to c \in (0, \infty)$ ,

$$\|\hat{\mathbf{C}}_p - \mathbf{C}_p\| \not\to 0.$$

▶ For practical p, n with  $p \simeq n$ , leads to dramatically wrong conclusions

# The Marčenko-Pastur law

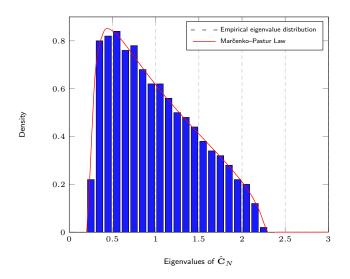


Figure: Histogram of the eigenvalues of  $\hat{\mathbf{C}}_p$  for p=500, n=2000,  $\mathbf{C}_p=\mathbf{I}_p$ .

### **Definitions**

# Definition (Empirical Spectral Density)

Empirical spectral density (e.s.d.)  $\mu_n$  of Hermitian matrix  $\mathbf{X}^{(n)} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is

$$\mu_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \boldsymbol{\delta}_{\lambda_i(\mathbf{X}^{(n)})}.$$

# Definition (Stieltjes transform)

Stieltjes transform  $m_{\mu}(z)$  of real measurable function  $\mu$ 

$$m_{\mu}(z) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{t-z} d\mu(t).$$

for  $z \in Supp(\mu)^c$ .

# Theorem (Inverse transformation)

If  $\mu$  has a density  $f_{\mu}(x)$  at x

$$f_{\mu}(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \lim_{y \to 0^{+}} \mathcal{I}[m_{\mu}(x+iy)].$$

# Eigenvalue distribution of sample covariance matrices

# Theorem ([Silverstein, Bai'95])

- $\mathbf{X}^{(p)} = [\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n] \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times n}, \ \mathbf{x}_1 \ \textit{i.i.d. with } E[\mathbf{x}_1] = 0, \ E[\mathbf{x}_1 \mathbf{x}_1^*] = \mathbf{C}_p$
- $ightharpoonup \mathbf{C}_p \in \mathbb{C}^{p \times p} \text{ and } \mu_{\mathbf{C}_p} \xrightarrow{\mathbf{a.s.}} \nu.$

As  $p,n \to \infty$  with  $p/n \to c \in (0,\infty)$ , e.s.d.  $\mu_p$  of  $\frac{1}{n}\mathbf{X}^{(p)}(\mathbf{X}^{(p)})^*$  satisfies

$$\mu_p \stackrel{\mathrm{a.s.}}{\longrightarrow} \mu_c$$

weakly, where  $m_{\mu_c}$  Stieltjes transform of  $\mu_c$  the unique solution for  $z \in \mathbb{R}$  of

$$m_{\mu_c}(z) = \frac{1}{c} \left( -z + c \int \frac{t}{1 + ct \left[ m_{\mu_c}(z) + \frac{c-1}{zc} \right]} d\nu(t) \right)^{-1} - \frac{c-1}{zc}.$$

### The Marčenko-Pastur law

# Theorem (Marčenko-Pastur Law [Marčenko, Pastur'67])

 $\mathbf{X}^{(p)} \in \mathbb{R}^{p imes n}$  with i.i.d. zero mean, unit variance entries. As  $p,n \to \infty$  with  $p/n \to c \in (0,\infty)$ , e.s.d.  $\mu_p$  of  $\frac{1}{n}\mathbf{X}^{(p)}(\mathbf{X}^{(p)})^*$  satisfies

$$\mu_p \xrightarrow{\mathrm{a.s.}} \mu_c$$

weakly, where

- $\mu_c(\{0\}) = \max\{0, 1 c^{-1}\}\$
- on  $(0,\infty)$ ,  $\mu_c$  has continuous density  $f_c$  supported on  $[(1-\sqrt{c})^2,(1+\sqrt{c})^2]$

$$f_c(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi cx} \sqrt{(x - (1 - \sqrt{c})^2)((1 + \sqrt{c})^2 - x)}.$$

And  $m_{\mu_c}$  Stieltjes transform of  $\mu_c$  is given by

$$m_{\mu_c}(z) = \frac{1}{1 - c - z - cz m_{\mu_c}(z)}.$$

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# The Deformed semi-circle law

# Theorem (Deformed semi-circle Law [Th1.1, Girko, V.L'2001, P.2])

 $\mathbf{X}^{(n)} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  symmetric, with independent entries  $X_{ij}^{(n)}, \mathbb{E}[X_{ij}^{(n)}] = 0,$ 

 $Var[X_{ij}^{(n)}] = \sigma_{ij}^{(n)}$ . As  $n \to \infty$ , e.s.d.  $u_n$  of  $n^{-\frac{1}{2}}X^{(n)}$  satisfies

$$\mu_n \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} \mu$$

weakly where

$$m_{\mu}(z) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{-z - m_i(z)}$$

$$m_i(z) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\sigma_{ji}^{(n)}}{-z - m_j(z)}$$

with  $m_{\mu}(z)$  Stieltjes transform of  $\mu$ .

# Particular case: the semi-circle law

# Theorem (Semi-circle Law)

 $\mathbf{X}^{(n)} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \text{ symmetric, with i.i.d entries } X_{ij}^{(n)}, \, \mathbb{E}[X_{ij}^{(n)}] = 0, \, Var[X_{ij}^{(n)}] = 1.$ 

As  $n \to \infty$ , e.s.d.  $\mu_n$  of  $n^{-\frac{1}{2}}\mathbf{X}^{(n)}$  satisfy

$$\mu_n \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} \mu$$

weakly where  $\mu$  has a density f supported on [-2,2] and defined as

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sqrt{(4-x^2)^+}.$$

And  $m_{\mu}$  Stieltjes transform of  $\mu$  is given by

$$m_{\mu}(z) = -\frac{1}{z + m_{\mu}(z)}$$

# Particular case: the semi-circle law

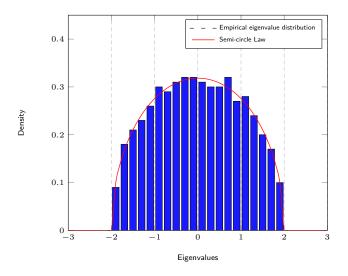


Figure: Histogram of the eigenvalues of Wigner matrices and the semi-circle law, for n=500.

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# Spiked models

# Theorem (Eigenvalues)

- ▶ Let  $\mathbf{Y}^{(n)} = \frac{\mathbf{X}^{(n)}}{\sqrt{n}} + \sum_{i=1}^k w_i \mathbf{v}_i \mathbf{v}_i^\mathsf{T}$  with ordered eigenvalues  $\lambda_1(\mathbf{Y}^{(n)}) \geq \cdots \geq \lambda_n(\mathbf{Y}^{(n)})$  and  $w_1 \geq \cdots \geq w_k$ .
- $\qquad \qquad \mathbf{X}^{(n)} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \text{ symmetric, with i.i.d entries } X_{ij}^{(n)}, \ \mathbb{E}[X_{ij}^{(n)}] = 0, \ Var[X_{ij}^{(n)}] = 1.$
- $\blacktriangleright \mu_n \xrightarrow{\mathrm{a.s.}} \mu$  with support [-2,2], and m(z) Stieltjes transform of  $\mu$ .

As  $n \to \infty$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ 

• If  $|\omega_i| > \lim_{z \downarrow 2} - \frac{1}{m(z)} = 1$ 

$$\lambda_i(\mathbf{Y}^{(n)}) \stackrel{\text{a.s.}}{\longrightarrow} m^{-1} \left( -\frac{1}{\omega_i} \right) = \frac{1 + \omega_i^2}{\omega_i} > 2.$$

Otherwise

$$\lambda_i(\mathbf{Y}^{(n)}) \stackrel{\text{a.s.}}{\longrightarrow} 2.$$

# Spiked models

# Theorem (Eigenvectors)

- ▶ Let  $\mathbf{Y}^{(n)} = \frac{\mathbf{X}^{(n)}}{\sqrt{n}} + \sum_{i=1}^{k} w_i \mathbf{v}_i \mathbf{v}_i^\mathsf{T}$  with ordered eigenvalues  $\lambda_1(\mathbf{Y}^{(n)}) \ge \cdots \ge \lambda_n(\mathbf{Y}^{(n)})$  and  $w_1 \ge \cdots \ge w_k$ .
- $\qquad \qquad \mathbf{X}^{(n)} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \text{ symmetric, with i.i.d entries } X_{ij}^{(n)}, \ \mathbb{E}[X_{ij}^{(n)}] = 0, \ Var[X_{ij}^{(n)}] = 1.$
- $\blacktriangleright \mu_n \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} \mu$  with support [-2,2], and m(z) Stieltjes transform of  $\mu$ .

As  $n \to \infty$ , for  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  deterministic vectors and  $\mathbf{u}_i$  eigenvector of  $\mathbf{Y}^{(n)}$  associated with eigenvalue  $\lambda_i(\mathbf{Y}^{(n)})$ ,

$$\mathbf{a}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{u}_{i}\mathbf{u}_{i}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{b} - \frac{\omega_{i}^{2} - 1}{\omega_{i}^{2}}\mathbf{a}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{v}_{i}\mathbf{v}_{i}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{b} \cdot 1_{|\omega_{i}| > 1} \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} 0.$$

In particular

$$\left|\mathbf{v}_{i}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{u}_{i}\right|^{2} \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} \frac{\omega_{i}^{2}-1}{\omega_{i}^{2}} \cdot 1_{\left|\omega_{i}\right|>1}.$$

# Spiked models: eigenvectors

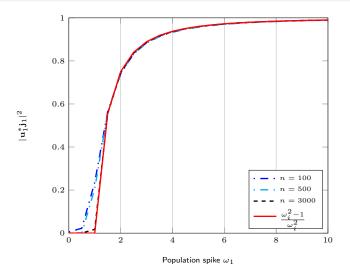


Figure: Simulated versus limiting  $|\mathbf{u}_1^\mathsf{T}\mathbf{j}_1|^2$  for  $\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{X} + \omega_1\mathbf{j}_1\mathbf{j}_1^\mathsf{T}$ ,  $\mathbf{j}_1 = \frac{2}{\sqrt{n}}[\mathbf{1}_{n/2}, \mathbf{0}_{n/2}]$ ,  $X_{ij} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1/n)$ , varying  $\omega_1$ .

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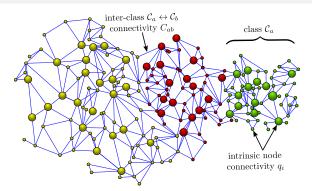
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# System Setting



Undirected graph with n nodes, m edges:

- "intrinsic" average connectivity  $q_1, \ldots, q_n \sim \mu$  i.i.d.
- ▶ k classes  $\mathcal{C}_1, \dots, \mathcal{C}_k$  independent of  $\{q_i\}$  of (large) sizes  $n_1, \dots, n_k$ , with preferential attachment  $C_{ab}$  between  $\mathcal{C}_a$  and  $\mathcal{C}_b$
- $lackbox{ edge probability for nodes } i \in \mathcal{C}_{g_i}, j \in \mathcal{C}_{g_j}$ :

$$P(i \sim j) = q_i q_j C_{g_i g_j}.$$

► adjacency matrix A with

$$A_{ij} \sim \text{Bernoulli}(q_i q_j C_{g_i g_j})$$

# Affinity matrices used for spectral methods

### Dense graphs:

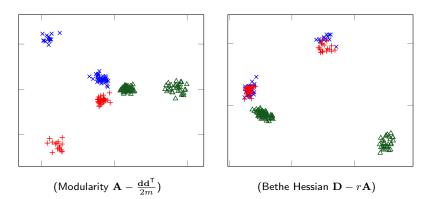
- ► Adjacency: **A**.
- ► Modularity:  $\mathbf{A} \mathbf{dd}^\mathsf{T}$ ,  $\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{A1}$ .
- ▶ Laplacian:  $\mathcal{D}(\mathbf{d})^{-\frac{1}{2}}\mathbf{A}\mathcal{D}(\mathbf{d})^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ .

### Sparse graphs:

- ▶ Non-backtracking matrix (affinity between edges).
- ▶ Bethe-Hessian matrix:  $\mathcal{D}(\mathbf{d}) \mathbf{A}$ .

# Limitations of Classical Spectral Methods

▶ 3 classes with  $\mu$  bi-modal  $(\mu = \frac{3}{4}\delta_{0.1} + \frac{1}{4}\delta_{0.5})$ 



# Proposed Regularized Modularity Approach

Recall:  $P(i \sim j) = q_i q_j C_{g_i g_j}$ .

**Dense Regime Assumptions**: Non trivial regime when,  $\forall a, b$ , as  $n \to \infty$ ,

$$C_{ab} = 1 + \frac{M_{ab}}{\sqrt{n}}, \ M_{ab} = O(1).$$

Community information is weak but highly redundant

Considered Matrix:

$$\mathbf{L}_{\alpha} = (2m)^{\alpha} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \mathbf{D}^{-\alpha} \left[ \mathbf{A} - \frac{\mathbf{d}\mathbf{d}^{\mathsf{T}}}{2m} \right] \mathbf{D}^{-\alpha}.$$

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# Asymptotic Equivalence

# Theorem (Limiting Random Matrix Equivalent)

As  $n \to \infty$ ,  $\|\mathbf{L}_{\alpha} - \tilde{\mathbf{L}}_{\alpha}\| \stackrel{\mathrm{a.s.}}{\longrightarrow} 0$ , where

$$\mathbf{L}_{\alpha} = (2m)^{\alpha} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \mathbf{D}^{-\alpha} \left[ \mathbf{A} - \frac{\mathbf{d} \mathbf{d}^{\mathsf{T}}}{2m} \right] \mathbf{D}^{-\alpha}$$
$$\tilde{\mathbf{L}}_{\alpha} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \mathbf{D}_{q}^{-\alpha} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{D}_{q}^{-\alpha} + \mathbf{U} \mathbf{\Lambda} \mathbf{U}^{\mathsf{T}}$$

with  $\mathbf{D}_q = \mathrm{diag}(\{q_i\})$ ,  $\mathbf{X}$  zero-mean random matrix with variance profile,

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{U} &= \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{D}_q^{1-\alpha} \frac{\mathbf{J}}{\sqrt{n}} & \mathbf{D}_q^{-\alpha} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{1}_n \end{bmatrix}, \ \, \underset{k}{\textit{rank } k+1} \\ \mathbf{\Lambda} &= \begin{bmatrix} (\mathbf{I}_k - \mathbf{1}_k \mathbf{c}^\mathsf{T}) \mathbf{M} (\mathbf{I}_k - \mathbf{c} \mathbf{1}_k^\mathsf{T}) & -\mathbf{1}_k \\ \mathbf{1}_k^\mathsf{T} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{split}$$

and 
$$\mathbf{J} = [\mathbf{j}_1, \dots, \mathbf{j}_k]$$
,  $\mathbf{j}_a = [0, \dots, 0, \mathbf{1}_{n_a}^\mathsf{T}, 0, \dots, 0]^\mathsf{T} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\mathbf{c} = \{c_a\}_{a=1}^k$ ,  $c_a = n_a/n$ .

### Consequences:

- ▶ isolated eigenvalues beyond phase transition  $\Leftrightarrow \lambda(\mathbf{M}) >$  "spectrum edge"
  - Optimal choice  $\alpha_{\mathrm{opt}}$  of  $\alpha$  from study of limiting spectrum.
- eigenvectors correlated to  $\mathbf{D}_a^{1-\alpha}\mathbf{J}$

Necessary regularization by  $\mathbf{D}^{\alpha-1}$ .

# Eigenvalue Spectrum

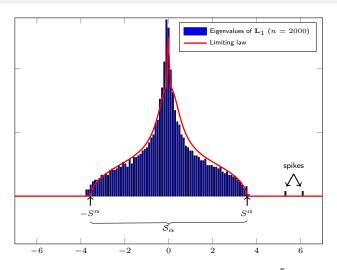


Figure: 3 classes,  $c_1=c_2=0.3, c_3=0.4, \ \mu=\frac{1}{2}\pmb{\delta}_{0.4}+\frac{1}{2}\pmb{\delta}_{0.9}, \ \mathbf{M}=4\begin{bmatrix}3&-1&-1\\-1&3&-1\\-1&-1&3\end{bmatrix}.$ 

### Phase Transition

# Theorem (Phase Transition)

Isolated eigenvalue  $\lambda_i(\mathbf{L}_{\alpha})$  if  $|\lambda_i(\bar{\mathbf{M}})| > \tau^{\alpha}$ ,  $\bar{\mathbf{M}} = (\mathcal{D}(\mathbf{c}) - \mathbf{c}\mathbf{c}^{\mathsf{T}})\mathbf{M}$ , where

$$au^{lpha} = \lim_{x\downarrow S^{lpha}_+} -rac{1}{g^{lpha}(x)}, \; ext{phase transition threshold}$$

with  $[S_-^{\alpha}, S_+^{\alpha}]$  limiting eigenvalue support of  $\mathbf{L}_{\alpha}$  and  $g^{\alpha}(x)$  ( $|x| > S_+^{\alpha}$ ) solution of

$$f^{\alpha}(x) = \int \frac{q^{1-2\alpha}}{-x - q^{1-2\alpha} f^{\alpha}(x) + q^{2-2\alpha} g^{\alpha}(x)} \mu(dq)$$
$$g^{\alpha}(x) = \int \frac{q^{2-2\alpha}}{-x - q^{1-2\alpha} f^{\alpha}(x) + q^{2-2\alpha} g^{\alpha}(x)} \mu(dq).$$

In this case,  $\lambda_i(\mathbf{L}_\alpha) \stackrel{\mathrm{a.s.}}{\longrightarrow} (g^\alpha)^{-1} \left(-1/\lambda_i(\bar{\mathbf{M}})\right)$ .

Clustering possible when  $\lambda_i(\bar{\mathbf{M}}) > (\min_{\alpha} \tau_{\alpha})$ :

- "Optimal"  $\alpha_{\mathrm{opt}} \equiv \operatorname{argmin}_{\alpha} \{ \tau_{\alpha} \}.$
- From  $\hat{q}_i \equiv \frac{\mathbf{d}_i}{\sqrt{\mathbf{d}^T \mathbf{1}_n}} \overset{\text{a.s.}}{\longrightarrow} q_i$ ,  $\mu \simeq \hat{\mu} \equiv \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_{\hat{q}_i}$  and thus:

Consistent estimator  $\hat{\alpha}_{opt}$  of  $\alpha_{opt}$ .

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# Simulated Performance Results (2 masses of $q_i$ )

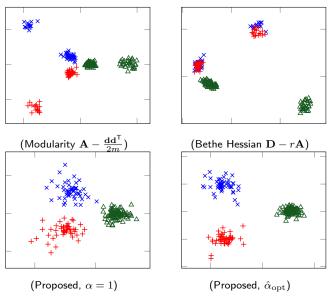


Figure: 3 classes,  $\mu = \frac{3}{4} \delta_{0.1} + \frac{1}{4} \delta_{0.5}$ ,  $c_1 = c_2 = \frac{1}{4}$ ,  $c_3 = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\mathbf{M} = 100 \mathbf{I}_3$ .

# Simulated Performance Results (2 masses for $q_i$ )

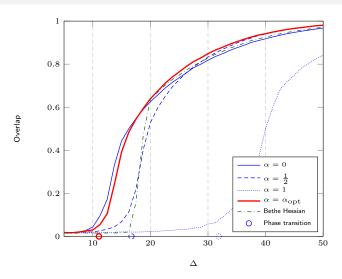


Figure: Overlap performance for  $n=3000,\,k=3,\,c_i=\frac{1}{3},\,\mu=\frac{3}{4}\delta_{q_{\left(1\right)}}+\frac{1}{4}\delta_{q_{\left(2\right)}}$  with  $q_{\left(1\right)}=0.1$  and  $q_{\left(2\right)}=0.5,\,\mathbf{M}=\Delta\mathbf{I}_3,$  for  $\Delta\in[5,50].$  Here  $\alpha_{\mathrm{opt}}=0.07.$ 

# Simulated Performance Results (2 masses for $q_i$ )

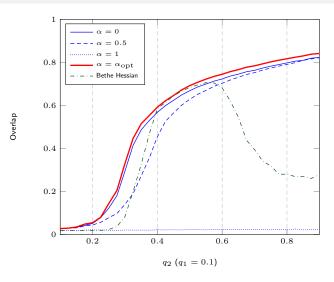
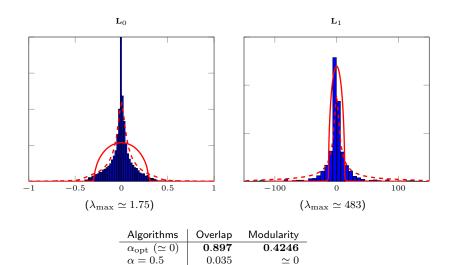


Figure: Overlap performance for  $n=3000,\,k=3,\,\mu=\frac{3}{4}\delta_{q_{\left(1\right)}}+\frac{1}{4}\delta_{q_{\left(2\right)}}$  with  $q_{\left(1\right)}=0.1$  and  $q_{\left(2\right)}\in[0.1,0.9],\,\mathbf{M}=10(2\mathbf{I}_3-\mathbf{1}_3\mathbf{1}_3^{\mathsf{T}}),\,c_i=\frac{1}{3}.$ 

# Real Graph Example: PolBlogs (n = 1490, two classes)

 $\alpha = 1$ 

ВН



0.040

0.304

 $\simeq 0$ 

0.2723

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# Setting and Basic Assumptions

Class definition:

$$\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathcal{C}_a \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{x}_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_a, \mathbf{C}_a).$$

**Growth rates**: As  $n \to \infty$ , k remains fixed, and

$$p/n \to c_0 > 0$$
,  $n_a/n \to c_a > 0$ .

### Growth rates

Growing  $p \Rightarrow$  Control of  $\mu_a$ ,  $C_a$  to avoid trivial solutions.

#### Neyman-Pearson optimal rates:

Knowing  $\mu$  and  $\epsilon$ ,

- ▶ For  $\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(\pm \boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{I})$ , can decide on classes when  $\|\boldsymbol{\mu}\| \geq \mathcal{O}(1)$ .
- ▶ For  $\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{I} \pm \mathbf{E})$ , can decide on classes when  $\|\mathbf{E}\| \geq \mathcal{O}(p^{-\frac{1}{2}})$ .

### Neyman-Pearson separability rates

As  $p \to \infty$ , for all  $a, b \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ , when  $\mu_a$ ,  $\mathbf{C}_a$  known,

- $\| \mu_a \mu_b \| = O(1)$
- $\qquad \qquad ||\mathbf{C}_a|| \text{ bounded, } \quad |\operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{C}_a \mathbf{C}_b)| = O(\sqrt{p}), \qquad |\operatorname{tr}((\mathbf{C}_a \mathbf{C}_b)^2) = O(1) \ |.$

# (Inner Product) Kernel Matrix

**Object of interest**: With  $\mathbf{x}_i^{\circ} = \mathbf{x}_i - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \mathbf{x}_j$ , define

$$\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{P} \left\{ f \left( \frac{1}{p} (\mathbf{x}_i^{\circ})^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{x}_j^{\circ} \right) 1_{i \neq j} \right\} \mathbf{P}$$

where  $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{I}_n - \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{1}_n \mathbf{1}_n^\mathsf{T}$  and f three-times differentiable around 0.

$$(f(\frac{1}{p}\|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|^2)$$
 could be treated similarly)

#### Objective: Study:

- ▶ limiting spectrum of **K** (eigenvalues + eigenvectors)
- clustering performances.

# Previous work: Kernel spectral clustering $(f'(0) \neq 0)$

## Assumption (Separability Rate)

As  $p \to \infty$ , for all  $a, b \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ ,

- $\| \mu_a \mu_b \| = O(1)$
- $||\mathbf{C}_a|| \text{ bounded, } |tr(\mathbf{C}_a \mathbf{C}_b)| = O(\sqrt{p}), |tr((\mathbf{C}_a \mathbf{C}_b)^2) = O(p)|.$
- f such that  $f(0) = \mathcal{O}(1), f'(0) = \mathcal{O}(1), f''(0) = \mathcal{O}(1).$

**Key Result**: As  $n, p \to \infty$ , and assumption above,

• for all  $i \neq j$ , irrespective of the class,

$$\boxed{\frac{1}{p}(\mathbf{x}_i^{\circ})^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{x}_j^{\circ} \to 0, \quad \frac{1}{2p}\|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|^2 \to \tau.}$$

- counter-intuitive curse of dimensionality: all vectors are far.
- ▶ but allows for Taylor-expansion of  $K_{ij}$  around f(0):

$$\begin{split} K_{ij} &= f(0) + f'(0) \left[ \frac{1}{p} \boldsymbol{\mu}_a^\mathsf{T} \boldsymbol{\mu}_b + \frac{1}{p} \mathbf{w}_i^\mathsf{T} \mathbf{w}_j + \ldots \right] \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} f''(0) \left[ \frac{1}{p^2} \mathsf{tr} \left( \mathbf{C}_a - \mathbf{C}_b \right)^2 \right] + o(1) \end{split}$$

(for 
$$x_i = \boldsymbol{\mu}_a + \mathbf{w}_i$$
,  $x_i = \boldsymbol{\mu}_b + \mathbf{w}_i$ )

► Model type: Marčenko-pastur+ Spikes.

# Previous work: Kernel spectral clustering $f'(0) \neq 0$

## Assumption (Separability Rate)

As  $p \to \infty$ , for all  $a, b \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ ,

- $\| \mu_a \mu_b \| = O(1)$
- $ightharpoonup \|\mathbf{C}_a\|$  bounded,  $|tr(\mathbf{C}_a \mathbf{C}_b)| = O(\sqrt{p})$ ,  $tr((\mathbf{C}_a \mathbf{C}_b)^2) = O(p)$ .
- f such that  $f(0) = \mathcal{O}(1), f'(0) = \mathcal{O}(1), f''(0) = \mathcal{O}(1).$

#### Conclusions:

- ▶ limiting e.s.d of kernel: Marčenko-pastur law.
- ► Can do better on class covariance rates.
- ▶ f'(0) = 0: asymptotic trivial clustering  $\Rightarrow$  Can improve growth rates for covariances.

# Previous work: Kernel spectral clustering (f'(0) = 0)

## Assumption (Separability Rate)

As  $p \to \infty$ , for all  $a, b \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ ,

- $\| \mu_a \mu_b \| = O(1)$
- $\qquad \qquad ||\mathbf{C}_a|| \ \ \text{bounded}, \quad |\mathsf{tr}(\mathbf{C}_a \mathbf{C}_b)| = O(\sqrt{p}), \qquad \boxed{\mathsf{tr}((\mathbf{C}_a \mathbf{C}_b)^2) = O(\sqrt{p})}.$
- f such that  $f(0) = \mathcal{O}(1), f'(0) = 0, f''(0) = \mathcal{O}(1).$

$$\sqrt{p}K_{ij} = f(0) + \frac{f''(0)}{2} \left[ \frac{1}{p\sqrt{p}} (\mathbf{w}_i^\mathsf{T} \mathbf{w}_j)^2 + \frac{1}{p\sqrt{p}} \mathsf{tr} \left( \mathbf{C}_a - \mathbf{C}_b \right)^2 \right] + o(1)$$

#### Conclusions:

- ► Model type: Semi-circle + spikes.
- ▶ Better rates in class-covariance.
- Sub-optimal in class means discrimination (means discarded).

## New kernel design

## Assumption (Separability Rate)

As  $p \to \infty$ , for all  $a, b \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ ,

- $\|\boldsymbol{\mu}_a \boldsymbol{\mu}_b\| = O(1)$
- $\qquad \qquad ||\mathbf{C}_a|| \ \ \textit{bounded}, \quad |\textit{tr}(\mathbf{C}_a \mathbf{C}_b)| = O(\sqrt{p}), \qquad ||\textit{tr}((\mathbf{C}_a \mathbf{C}_b)^2) = O(\sqrt{p})|$
- $f'(0) = \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{p}}, \quad \frac{1}{2}f''(0) = \beta.$

#### Taylor approximation:

$$\begin{split} \sqrt{p}K_{ij} &= f(0) + \frac{\alpha}{\alpha} \left[ \frac{1}{p} \boldsymbol{\mu}_a^\mathsf{T} \boldsymbol{\mu}_b + \frac{1}{p} \mathbf{w}_i^\mathsf{T} \mathbf{w}_j + \ldots \right] \\ &+ \frac{\beta}{p} \left[ \frac{1}{p\sqrt{p}} \mathsf{tr} \left( \mathbf{C}_a - \mathbf{C}_b \right)^2 + \frac{1}{p\sqrt{p}} (\mathbf{w}_i^\mathsf{T} \mathbf{w}_j)^2 \right] + o(1) \end{split}$$

(for 
$$x_i = \boldsymbol{\mu}_a + \mathbf{w}_i$$
,  $x_j = \boldsymbol{\mu}_b + \mathbf{w}_j$ )

#### Findings:

- ► Model type: Marcenko-pastur+Semi-circle+spikes.
- Balance between class means and covariances.

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## Random equivalent

## Theorem (Asymptotic Equivalent for K)

For 
$$f$$
 such that  $f'(0)=rac{lpha}{\sqrt{p}},\,rac{1}{2}f''(0)=rac{oldsymbol{eta}}{oldsymbol{eta}}$ , as  $n,p o\infty$ ,

$$\|\mathbf{K} - \hat{\mathbf{K}}\| \stackrel{\mathrm{a.s.}}{\longrightarrow} 0$$

where

$$\sqrt{p}\hat{\mathbf{K}} \equiv \alpha \mathbf{P} \mathbf{W}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{W} \mathbf{P} + \beta \mathbf{P} \Phi \mathbf{P} + \mathbf{U} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{U}^{\mathsf{T}} - (f(0) + \tau f'(0)) \mathbf{P}$$

with

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{W} &= [\mathbf{w}_1, \dots, \mathbf{w}_n], \quad \Phi_{ij} = \sqrt{p} \left[ ((\mathbf{w}_i)^\mathsf{T} \mathbf{w}_j)^2 - \frac{1}{p^2} tr \mathbf{C}_a \mathbf{C}_b \right] \mathbf{1}_{i \neq j} \\ \mathbf{U} &= \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{J}, \mathbf{P} \mathbf{W}^\mathsf{T} \mathbf{M} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{J} = [\mathbf{j}_1, \dots, \mathbf{j}_k], \quad \mathbf{j}_a = (0, \dots, \mathbf{1}_{n_a}, \dots, 0)^\mathsf{T} \\ \mathbf{A} &= \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \mathbf{M}^\mathsf{T} \mathbf{M} + \beta \mathbf{T} & \alpha \mathbf{I}_k \\ \alpha \mathbf{I}_k & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{M} = [\mu_1, \dots, \mu_k], \quad \mathbf{T} = \frac{1}{p\sqrt{p}} \left\{ tr (\mathbf{C}_a - \mathbf{C}_b)^2 \right\}. \end{split}$$

Role of  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ :

- Weighs Marčenko–Pastur versus semi-circle parts.
- Trade-off between means and covariance discrimination.

# Limiting Eigenvalue Distribution

## Theorem (Limiting Eigenvalue Distribution)

As  $n, p \to \infty$ ,

$$\mu_n \equiv \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_{\lambda_i(\mathbf{K})} \xrightarrow{\mathcal{L}} \mu$$

with  $\mu$  (having compact support  $\mathcal S$ ) given by its Stieltjes transform  $m(z)=\int \frac{\mu(d\lambda)}{\lambda-z}$ , unique solution of

$$\frac{1}{m(z)} = -z + \frac{\alpha}{p} \operatorname{tr} \mathbf{C}^{\circ} \left( \mathbf{I}_p + \frac{\alpha m(z)}{c_0} \mathbf{C}^{\circ} \right)^{-1} - \frac{2\beta^2}{c_0} m(z) \left( \frac{1}{p} \operatorname{tr} (\mathbf{C}^{\circ})^2 \right)^2.$$

where

$$\mathbf{C}^{\circ} \triangleq \sum_{a=1}^{k} c_a \mathbf{C}_a.$$

# Mixed Marcenko-Pastur & Wigner Spectrum

- ▶ **PW**<sup>T</sup>**WP**: Marcenko–Pastur like spectrum
- ▶ PΦP: semi-circle (Wigner) like spectrum
- ► UAU<sup>T</sup>: produces spikes under phase transition!

Here for 
$$f(x)=\frac{1}{2}\beta\left(x+\frac{1}{\sqrt{p}}\frac{\alpha}{\beta}\right)^2,$$
 
$$\alpha=8,\ \beta=1$$
 
$$\alpha=4,\ \beta=3$$
 
$$\alpha=1,\ \beta=8$$
 
$$\alpha=1,\ \beta=8$$

Figure: Eigenvalues of K versus limiting law,  $p=2048, n=4096, k=2, n_1=n_2, \mu_i=3\delta_i$ .

# Spikes

#### Theorem

Let  $\rho \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathcal{S}$  be such that

$$\frac{m(\rho)}{4c_0}(\alpha\delta g(\rho) + \beta\theta) + 1 = 0$$

with

$$g(\rho) = \frac{1}{p} tr (\mathbf{I}_p + \frac{\alpha m(\rho)}{c_0} \mathbf{C}^{\circ})^{-1}$$
$$\delta = \|\boldsymbol{\mu}_1 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_2\|^2$$
$$\theta = \frac{1}{\sqrt{p}} tr (\mathbf{C}_1 - \mathbf{C}_2)^2.$$

Then, there exists  $\lambda_i$  eigenvalue of  $\hat{\mathbf{K}}$  such that

$$|\lambda_j - \rho| \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} 0.$$

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## Performance of Kernel Spectral Clustering

Datasets	$\ oldsymbol{\mu}_1 - oldsymbol{\mu}_2\ ^2$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{p}}$ TR $(\mathbf{C}_1 - \mathbf{C}_2)^2$	Ratio
MNIST (digits 1, 7)	612	1990	3.3
MNIST (digits 3, 6)	441	1119	2.5
MNIST (digits 3, 8)	212	652	3.0
EEG (SETS $A, E$ )	2.4	109	45.4

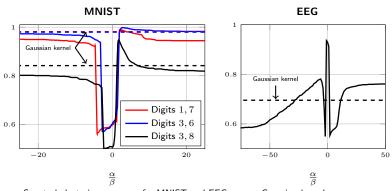


Figure: Spectral clustering accuracy for MNIST and EEG, versus Gaussian kernel  $(K_{ij}=e^{-\frac{1}{2}\|\mathbf{x}_i-\mathbf{x}_j\|^2})$ .

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#### Conclusions

#### Spectral community detection in dense and heterogeneous graphs:

- In heterogeneous dense graph models, adjacency, Laplacian not always optimal even with proper eigenvector normalization.
- We found a matrix with better phase transition in challenging cases.
- ▶ We characterize content of the eigenvectors ⇒ Improved version of E.M algorithm.

#### Kernel spectral clustering:

- Original intuitions of ML algorithms in small dimensions most often no longer valid in high dimensions.
- Under non-trivial regime, concentration of key quantities allows for understanding of kernel matrices.
- We conciliate previous findings to propose new kernel design with better means and covariances discriminative rates.

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## Perspectives

#### Spectral Community detection.

- Study of Fisher-score matrix for spectral clustering.
- Sparse DCSBM
- Complexity/Performance tradeoff of spectral methods.

#### Kernel spectral clustering.

- $\bigcirc$  Off-line estimation of kernel  $(\alpha, \beta)$ .
- Study of kernel spectral clustering under other statistical models (heavy tails,...).

Use of the technical developed tools in the understanding of performances of other machine learning algorithms beyond spectral ones?

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#### Contributions I

#### Journals (2 published)



Tiomoko Ali, H. and Couillet, R. Improved spectral community detection in large heterogeneous networks. Journal of Machine Learning Research, 18:149.



Couillet, R., Wainrib, G., Sevi, H., and Tiomoko Ali, H. The asymptotic performance of linear echo state neural networks. Journal of Machine Learning Research, 17(178):135.

#### Conferences (6 published, 1 submitted)



Tiomoko Ali, H. and Couillet, R. Performance analysis of spectral community detection in realistic graph models. In ICASSP16.



Tiomoko Ali, H. and Couillet, R. community detection in heterogeneous networks. In Signals, Systems and Computers, 2016 50th Asilomar Conference.



Tiomoko Ali, H., Kammoun, A., and Couillet, R. Random matrix asymptotic of inner product kernel spectral clustering. In ICASSP18.



Tiomoko Ali, H., Kammoun, A., and Couillet, R. Random matrix-improved kernels for large dimensional spectral clustering. In Statistical Signal Processing Workshop (SSP), 2018.



Couillet, R., Wainrib, G., Sevi, H., and Tiomoko Ali, H. Training performance of echo state neural networks. In Statistical Signal Processing Workshop (SSP), 2016.

### Contributions II



Couillet, R., Wainrib, G., Tiomoko Ali, H., and Sevi, H. A random matrix approach to echo-state neural networks. In International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML 2016).



Ali, H. T., Liu, S., Yilmaz, Y., Hero, A., Couillet, R., and Rajapakse, I. Latent heterogeneous multilayer community detection.

# The End

Thank you.