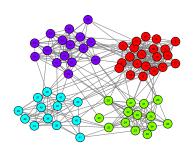
# Community Detection Methods for Generalized Random Dot Product Graphs

Dissertation Proposal

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# Community Detection for Networks



How can we cluster the nodes of a network?

Statistical inference (parametric approach):

- 1. Define a generative model for graph  $G \mid z_1,...,z_n, \vec{\theta} \sim P(\vec{z}, \vec{\theta})$ .
- 2. Develop a method for obtaining estimators  $f(G) = \hat{z}_1,...,\hat{z}_n$ .
- 3. Identify asymptotic properties of estimators.

### Overview

- 1. Probability Models for Networks
  - a. Block Models and Community Structure
  - b. (Generalized) Random Dot Product Graphs
  - c. Connecting Block Models to the (G)RDPG
- 2. Popularity Adjusted Block Model
  - a. Connecting the PABM to the GRDPG
  - b. Subspace Clustering for Community Detection
  - c. Orthogonal Spectral Clustering
- Community Detection for the (G)RDPG
  - a. Manifold Clustering
  - b. Manifolds as (G)RDPG Latent Configurations

# Probability Models for Networks

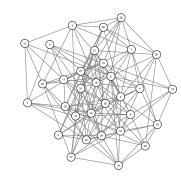
# Bernoulli Graphs

Let G=(V,E) be an undirected and unweighted graph with |V|=n. G is described by adjacency matrix A such that  $A_{ij}=\begin{cases} 1 & \exists \text{ edge between } i \text{ and } j \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$   $A_{ji}=A_{ij}$  and  $A_{ii}=0 \ \forall i,j\in[n].$ 

### $A \sim \mathsf{BernoulliGraph}(P)$ iff:

- 1.  $P \in [0,1]^{n \times n}$  describes edge probabilities between pairs of vertices.
- 2.  $A_{ij} \stackrel{\text{ind}}{\sim} \text{Bernoulli}(P_{ij}) \text{ for each } i < j.$

**Example 1**: If every entry  $P_{ij} = \theta$ , then  $A \sim \mathsf{BernoulliGraph}(P)$  is an Erdos-Renyi graph.



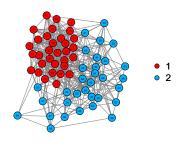
### **Block Models**

Suppose each vertex  $v_1,...,v_n$  has hidden labels  $z_1,...,z_n\in [K]$ , and each  $P_{ij}$  depends on labels  $z_i$  and  $z_j$ .

Then  $A \sim \mathsf{BernoulliGraph}(P)$  is a block model.

### **Example 2**: Stochastic Block Model with two communities

- $z_1, ..., z_n \in \{1, 2\}$ •  $P_{ij} = \begin{cases} p & z_i = z_j = 1\\ q & z_i = z_j = 2\\ r & z_i \neq z_j \end{cases}$
- To make this an assortative SBM, set  $pq>r^2$
- In this example, p=1/2, q=1/4, and r=1/8.



### **Block Models**

### Erdos-Renyi Model (1959)

- $P_{ij} = \theta$
- Not a block model

Stochastic Block Model (Lorrain and White, 1971)

- $P_{ij} = \theta_{z_i z_j}$
- K(K+1)/2 parameters  $\theta_{kl}$

Degree Corrected Block Model (Karrer and Newman, 2011)

- $P_{ij} = \theta_{z_i z_j} \omega_i \omega_j$
- K(K+1)/2 + n parameters  $\theta_{kl}$ ,  $\omega_i$

Popularity Adjusted Block Model (Sengupta and Chen, 2017)

- $P_{ij} = \lambda_{iz_j}\lambda_{jz_i}$
- Kn parameters  $\lambda_{ik}$

### Hierarchy of Block Models

PABM  $\rightarrow$  DCBM:  $\lambda_{ik} = \sqrt{\theta_{z_i k}} \omega_i$ 

 $DCBM \rightarrow SBM: \omega_i = 1$ 

 $\mathsf{SBM} \to \mathsf{Erdos} ext{-Renyi: } \theta_{kl} = \theta$ 

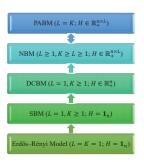


Figure 2: The hierarchy of block models

Majid Noroozi and Marianna Pensky, 2021

# (Generalized) Random Dot Product Graph Model

Random Dot Product Graph  $A \sim \mathsf{RDPG}(X)$  (Young and Scheinerman, 2007)

- Latent vectors  $x_1,...,x_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$  such that  $x_i^{\top}x_j \in [0,1]$
- $A \sim \mathsf{BernoulliGraph}(XX^\top)$  where  $X = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & \cdots & x_n \end{bmatrix}^\top$

Generalized Random Dot Product Graph  $A \sim \mathsf{GRDPG}_{p,q}(X)$  (Rubin-Delanchy, Cape, Tang, Priebe, 2020)

- Latent vectors  $x_1,...,x_n\in\mathbb{R}^{p+q}$  such that  $x_i^{\top}I_{p,q}x_j\in[0,1]$  and  $I_{p,q}=\mathsf{blockdiag}(I_p,-I_q)$
- $A \sim \mathsf{BernoulliGraph}(XI_{p,q}X^\top)$  where  $X = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & \cdots & x_n \end{bmatrix}^\top$

If latent vectors  $X_1,...,X_n \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} F$ , then we write  $(A,X) \sim \mathsf{RDPG}(F,n)$  or  $(A,X) \sim \mathsf{GRDPG}_{p,q}(F,n)$ .

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### (Generalized) Random Dot Product Graph Model

### Recovery/Estimation

Want to estimate X from A, or alternatively, interpoint distances, inner products, or angles.

### Adjacency Spectral Embedding

To embed in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ ,

- 1. Compute  $A \approx \hat{V} \hat{\Lambda} \hat{V}^{\top}$  where  $\hat{\Lambda} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  and  $\hat{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ . For RDPG, use d greatest eigenvalues; for GRDPG, use p most positive and q most negative eigenvalues.
- 2. For RDPG, let  $\hat{X}=\hat{V}\hat{\Lambda}^{1/2}$ ; for GRDPG, let  $\hat{X}=\hat{V}|\hat{\Lambda}|^{1/2}$ .

RDPG:  $\max_{i} \|\hat{X}_{i} - W_{n}X_{i}\| \stackrel{a.s.}{\to} 0$  (Athreya et al., 2018) GRDPG:  $\max_{i} \|\hat{X}_{i} - Q_{n}X_{i}\| \stackrel{a.s.}{\to} 0$  (Rubin-Delanchy et al., 2020)

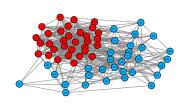
# Connecting Block Models to the (G)RDPG Model

All Bernoulli Graphs are RDPG (if P is positive semidefinite) or GRDPG (in general).

**Example 2** (cont'd): Assortative SBM  $(pq > r^2)$  with K = 2

$$P_{ij} = \begin{cases} p & z_i = z_j = 1\\ q & z_i = z_j = 2\\ r & z_i \neq z_j \end{cases}$$

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} P^{(11)} & P^{(12)} \\ P^{(21)} & P^{(22)} \end{bmatrix} = XX^{\top}$$



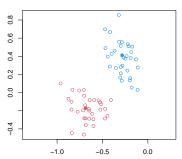
$$X = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{p} & 0\\ \vdots & \vdots\\ \sqrt{p} & 0\\ \sqrt{r^2/p} & \sqrt{q - r^2/p}\\ \vdots & \vdots\\ \sqrt{r^2/p} & \sqrt{q - r^2/p} \end{bmatrix}$$

# Connecting Block Models to the (G)RDPG Model

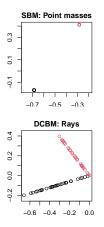
**Example 2** (cont'd): If we want to perform community detection,

- 1. Note that  $A \sim \operatorname{BernoulliGraph}(P)$  is a RDPG since  $P = XX^{\top}$ .
- 2. Compute the ASE  $A \approx \hat{X}\hat{X}^{\top}$  with  $\hat{X} = \hat{V}\hat{\Lambda}^{1/2}$ .
- 3. Apply clustering algorithm (e.g., K-means) to  $\hat{X}$ .

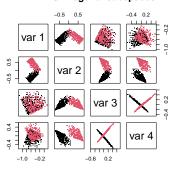
#### ASE of the adjacency matrix drawn from SBM



# Connecting Block Models to the (G)RDPG Model



#### PABM: Orthogonal subspaces



# Popularity Adjusted Block Model

# Popularity Adjusted Block Model

**Def** Popularity Adjusted Block Model (Sengupta and Chen, 2017):

Let each vertex  $i \in [n]$  have K popularity parameters  $\lambda_{i1},...,\lambda_{iK} \in [0,1]$ . Then  $A \sim \mathsf{PABM}(P)$  if each  $P_{ij} = \lambda_{iz_j}\lambda_{jz_i}$ .

Lemma (Noroozi, Rimal, and Pensky, 2020):

A is sampled from a PABM if P can be described as:

- 1. Let each  $P^{(kl)}$  denote the  $n_k \times n_l$  matrix of edge probabilities between communities k and l.
- 2. Organize popularity parameters as vectors  $\lambda^{(kl)} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_k}$  such that  $\lambda_i^{(kl)} = \lambda_{k_i l}$  is the popularity parameter of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  vertex of community k towards community l.
- 3. Each block can be decomposed as  $P^{(kl)} = \lambda^{(kl)} (\lambda^{(lk)})^{\top}$ .

**Notation**:  $A \sim \mathsf{PABM}(\{\lambda^{(kl)}\}_K)$ .

### Connecting the PABM to the GRDPG (K = 2)

**Theorem** (KTT): Given popularity vectors  $\{\lambda^{(kl)}\}_2$ , we can define block diagonal  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times 4}$  and  $U \in \mathbb{O}(4)$  such that  $A \sim \mathsf{PABM}(\{\lambda^{(kl)}\}_2)$  is equivalent to  $A \sim \mathsf{GRDPG}_{3,1}(XU)$ .

Proof: Decompose P as follows

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda^{(11)} & \lambda^{(12)} & 0 & 0\\ 0 & 0 & \lambda^{(21)} & \lambda^{(22)} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/\sqrt{2} & 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 1/\sqrt{2} & -1/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P = (XU)I_{3,1}(XU)^{\top} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda^{(11)}(\lambda^{(11)})^{\top} & \lambda^{(12)}(\lambda^{(21)})^{\top} \\ \lambda^{(21)}(\lambda^{(12)})^{\top} & \lambda^{(22)}(\lambda^{(22)})^{\top} \end{bmatrix}$$

### Connecting the PABM to the GRDPG

**Theorem** (KTT):  $A \sim \mathsf{PABM}(\{\lambda^{(kl)}\}_K)$  is equivalent to  $A \sim \mathsf{GRDPG}_{p,q}(XU)$  with

- p = K(K+1)/2, q = K(K-1)/2
- $U \in \mathbb{O}(K^2)$
- $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times K^2}$  is block diagonal and composed of  $\{\lambda^{(kl)}\}_K$  with each block corresponding to a community.

**Remark 1** (orthogonality of subspaces): If  $x_i^{\top}$  and  $x_j^{\top}$  are two rows of XU corresponding to different communities, then  $x_i^{\top}x_j=0$ .

**Remark 2** (non-uniqueness of the latent configuration): If  $A \sim \mathsf{GRDPG}_{p,q}(Y)$ , then  $A \sim \mathsf{GRDPG}_{p,q}(YQ)$  for any Q in the indefinite orthogonal group with signature p,q.

**Remark 3**: Communities correspond to subspaces even with linear transformation  $Q\in \mathbb{O}(p,q)$ , but this may break the orthogonality property.

# Orthogonal Spectral Clustering

**Theorem** (KTT): If  $P = V\Lambda V^{\top}$  and  $B = nVV^{\top}$ , then  $B_{ij} = 0$  if  $z_i \neq z_j$ .

Algorithm: Orthogonal Spectral Clustering:

- 1. Let V be the eigenvectors of A corresponding to the K(K+1)/2 most positive and K(K-1)/2 most negative eigenvalues.
- 2. Compute  $B = |nVV^{\top}|$  applying  $|\cdot|$  entry-wise.
- 3. Construct graph G using B as its similarity matrix.
- 4. Partition G into K disconnected subgraphs.

**Theorem** (KTT): Let  $\hat{B}_n$  with entries  $\hat{B}_n^{(ij)}$  be the affinity matrix from OSC. Then  $\forall$  pairs (i,j) belonging to different communities and sparsity factor satisfying  $n\rho_n = \omega\{(\log n)^{4c}\}$ ,

$$\max_{i,j} \hat{B}_n^{(ij)} = O_P\left(\frac{(\log n)^c}{\sqrt{n\rho_n}}\right)$$

# Sparse Subspace Clustering

**Corollary**: The ASE of  $A \sim \mathsf{PABM}(\{\lambda^{(kl)}\}_K)$  lies near a collection of K-dimensional subspaces in  $K^2$  dimensions.

Algorithm: Sparse Subspace Clustering:

1. Solve n optimization problems  $c_i = \arg\min_c \|c\|_1$  subject to  $x_i = Xc$  and  $c^{(i)} = 0$ .

This is typically performed via LASSO:  $c_i = \arg\min \frac{1}{2} ||x_i - X_{-i}c||_2^2 + \lambda ||c||_1$ 

- 2. Compile solutions  $C = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 & \cdots & c_n \end{bmatrix}$ .
- 3. Construct affinity matrix  $B = |C| + |C^{\top}|$ .

# Sparse Subspace Clustering

Noroozi et al. observed that the rank of P is  $K^2$  and the columns of P belonging to each community has rank K to justify SSC for the PABM.

$$c_i = \arg\min_{c} \|c\|_1$$
 subject to  $A_{\cdot,i} = Ac$  and  $c^{(i)} = 0$ 

They were able to show that this obeys SDP if we replace A with P.

GRDPG-based approach: Apply SSC to the ASE of A.

Stronger result: Apply SSC to the eigenvectors of  ${\cal A}.$ 

$$c_i = \arg\min_c \|c\|_1$$
 subject to  $\hat{v}_i = \hat{V}c$  and  $c^{(i)} = 0$  
$$A \approx \hat{V}\hat{\Lambda}\hat{V}^{\top}$$

# Sparse Subspace Clustering

### Theorem (KTT):

#### Let

- $P_n$  describe the edge probability matrix of the PABM with n vertices, and  $A_n \sim \text{BernoulliGraph}(P_n)$ .
- $\hat{V}_n$  be the matrix of eigenvectors of  $A_n$  corresponding to the K(K+1)/2 most positive and K(K-1)/2 most negative eigenvalues.

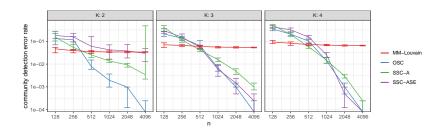
#### Then

•  $\exists \lambda>0$  and  $N<\infty$  such that when n>N,  $\sqrt{n}\hat{V}_n$  obeys the Subspace Detection Property with probability 1.

#### Remarks:

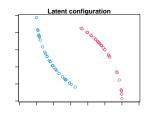
- For large n, we can identify  $\lambda$  for SDP (Wang and Xu, 2016).
- SDP does not guarantee community detection.

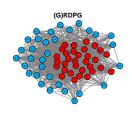
# Simulation Study

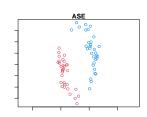


# General Community Detection for the (G)RDPG

# Recovery from the Adjacency Matrix







### Generative Model

Let  $(A, X) \sim \mathsf{GRDPG}_{p,q}(F, n)$  as follows:

- 1. Define functions  $\gamma_1, ..., \gamma_K$  such that each  $\gamma_k : [0, 1]^r \mapsto \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $\gamma_k(t) \neq \gamma_l(t)$  when  $k \neq l$ .
- 2. Sample labels  $Z_1,...,Z_n \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \mathsf{Categorical}(\pi_1,...,\pi_K)$ .
- 3. Sample  $T_1, ..., T_n \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} D$  with support  $[0, 1]^r$ .
- 4. Set latent positions  $X_i = \gamma_{Z_i}(T_i)$  and  $X = \begin{bmatrix} X_1 & \cdots & X_n \end{bmatrix}^\top$ .
- 5.  $A \sim \mathsf{BernoulliGraph}(XI_{p,q}X^\top)$

### Community Detection

Recall that the ASE approximates the true latent positions:

$$\max_{i} \|\hat{X}_{i} - Q_{n}X_{i}\| \stackrel{a.s.}{\to} 0$$

This leads to a general community detection method:

Given A, K, and d (or p and q),

- 1. Use ASE to approximate the latent configuration.
- 2. Use an appropriate clustering algorithm for the latent configuration.

### Parallel Segments

**Example 3**: Let  $U_1,...,U_{n_1},U_{n_1+1},...,U_n \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Uniform}(0,\theta)$ ,  $\gamma_1(t)=(t,0)$ , and  $\gamma_2(t)=(t,a)$ .  $X_i=\gamma_1(U_i)$  for  $i\leq n_1$  and  $X_j=\gamma_2(U_j)$  for  $n_1+1\leq j\leq n$ . If we observe  $X_1,...,X_{n_1},X_{n_1+1},...,X_n$ , what approach will allow us to group the observations by segment?

 $\forall a \in (0,1), \ \delta \in (0,1), \ \text{and} \ K \geq 2, \ \exists N(a,\delta,K) < \infty \ \text{such that}$  when  $\min_k n_k \geq N$ , with probability at least  $1-\delta$ ,

- 1. Single linkage clustering entails perfect community detection.
- 2. Any  $\epsilon$ -neighborhood graph with  $\epsilon \leq a$  will consist of at least K disjoint subgraphs such that no subgraph contains members of two different communities.

### Noisy Parallel Segments and One-Dimensional Manifolds

**Example 4**: Starting with the parallel segments as before, suppose instead of observing  $X_1,...,X_n$ , we have noisy observations  $X_1+\xi_1,...,X_n+\xi_n$  such that  $\max_i \|\xi_i\|=\xi \leq a/3$ .



Then we can derive similar statements as in Example 3.

This also holds for noisy points sampled uniformly on one-dimensional manifolds such that the manifolds are distance at least a apart.

Since the ASE of a RDPG generated from points on these segments/curves will reconstruct the original segments/curves with noise, we can apply this to the RDPG (if sufficient n).

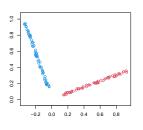
### Future Work

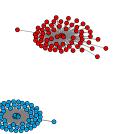
- 1. Derive formal statements showing that the ASE of a random graph generated by these latent configurations produces the correct conditions for community detection.
- Extend results to non-uniform distributions.
- 3. Extend results to multidimensional manifolds.
- 4. Relax condition for the minimum distance between manifolds.
- 5. Explore the performance of these techniques in the presence of outliers.
- 6. Extend results to the GRDPG.

### Additional Slides

# Subspace Detection Property

If X obeys the Subspace Detection Property, then B is sparse such that  $B_{ij} = 0$  if  $x_i$  and  $x_j$  belong to different subspaces.





**Theorem** (Wang and Xu, 2016): If data matrix X consists of points lying close to low-dimensional subspaces such that:

- 1. Each point's distance to its subspace is sufficiently small.
- 2. The points corresponding to each subspace cover a sufficient amount of that subspace.
- 3. The cosine of the angles between pairs of subspaces is

### Parameter Estimation

# Indefinite Orthogonal Group

$$\mathbb{O}(p,q) = \{Q : QI_{p,q}Q^{\top} = I_{p,q}\}$$

- $Q^{\top}Q \neq I$
- If  $A \sim \mathsf{GRDPG}_{p,q}(X)$ , then  $A \sim \mathsf{GRDPG}_{p,q}(XQ)$
- $(Qx)^{\top}(Qy) = x^{\top}Q^{\top}Qy \neq x^{\top}y$
- $||Q|| \neq 1 \implies ||Qx Qy|| \neq ||x y||$

### Non-Spectral Community Detection for Block Models

Likelihood

$$L = \prod_{i < j} \prod_{k,l}^{K} \left( p_{k,l,i,j}^{A_{ij}} (1 - p_{k,l,i,j})^{1 - A_{ij}} \right)^{z_{ik} z_{jl}}$$

Example: DCBM  $(p_{k,l,i,j} = \theta_{kl}\omega_i\omega_j)$ 

$$L = \prod_{i < j} \prod_{k,l} \left( (\theta_{kl} \omega_i \omega_j)^{A_{ij}} (1 - \theta_{kl} \omega_i \omega_j)^{1 - A_{ij}} \right)^{z_{ik} z_{jl}}$$

- ML method for community detection:  $\hat{\vec{z}} = \arg\max_{\vec{z}} L$
- NP-complete
  - Expectation-Maximization
  - Bayesian methods
  - Spectral methods

### Expectation Maximization for the PABM

Full data log-likelihood

$$\log L = \sum_{i < j} \sum_{k,l} z_{ik} z_{jl} (A_{ij} \log \lambda_{il} \lambda_{jk} + (1 - A_{ij}) \log(1 - \lambda_{il} \lambda_{jk}))$$
$$+ \sum_{i} \sum_{k} z_{ik} \log \pi_{k}$$

### E-step

- $\gamma_{ik} = P(Z_i = k \mid \{\pi_l\}, \{\lambda_{jl}\})$
- $\log \gamma_{ik} \propto \log \pi_k + \sum_{j \neq i} \sum_l \pi_{jl} (A_{ij} \log \lambda_{il} \lambda_{jk} + (1 A_{ij}) \log(1 \lambda_{il} \lambda_{jk}))$

### M-step

- $\pi_k = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i \gamma_{ik}$
- $\{\lambda_{ik}\} = \arg\max_{\{\lambda_{ik}\}} E_Z[\log L]$

# MCMC Sampling for the PABM

#### Priors:

- $Z_i \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} Categorical(\pi_1, ..., \pi_K)$
- $\lambda_{ik} \stackrel{\text{ind}}{\sim} Beta(a_{ik}, b_{ik})$

### Full joint distribution:

$$\log p = constant$$

$$+ \sum_{i < j} \sum_{k} \sum_{l} z_{ik} z_{jl} (A_{ij} \log \lambda_{il} \lambda_{jk} + (1 - A_{ij}) \log(1 - \lambda_{il} \lambda_{jk}))$$

$$+ \sum_{k} \sum_{i} z_{ik} \log \pi_{k}$$

$$+ \sum_{i} \sum_{k} (a_{ik} - 1) \log \lambda_{ik} + (b_{ik} - 1) \log(1 - \lambda_{ik})$$

### Variational Inference for the PABM

#### Mean Field Variational Inference

- Minimize  $d_{KL}(p||q)$ 
  - ullet p is the joint distribution
  - ullet q is a density of some form
- Restrict  $q(\vec{z}, \{\lambda_{ik}\}) = \Big(\prod_i q_{z_i}(z_i)\Big) \Big(\prod_{i,k} q_{\lambda_{ik}}(\lambda_{ik})\Big)$
- Iterative solution:  $q_{\theta_i}^{(t+1)} \propto \exp(E_{\theta_{-i}^{(t)}}[\log p])$
- Approximate solution for the PABM
  - $Z_i \mid \{a'_{ik}\}, \{b'_{ik}\} \sim Categorical(\pi'_1, ..., \pi'_K)$
  - $\lambda_{ik} \mid \{a'_{-i,-k}\}, \{b'_{-i,-k}\}, \{\pi'_k\} \sim Beta(a'_{ik}, b'_{ik})$
  - Iteratively update  $\{\pi_K'\}, \{a_{ik}'\}, \{b_{ik}'\}$  until convergence