

label propagation for clustering

“razvrščanje vozlišč omrežja z izmenjavo oznak”

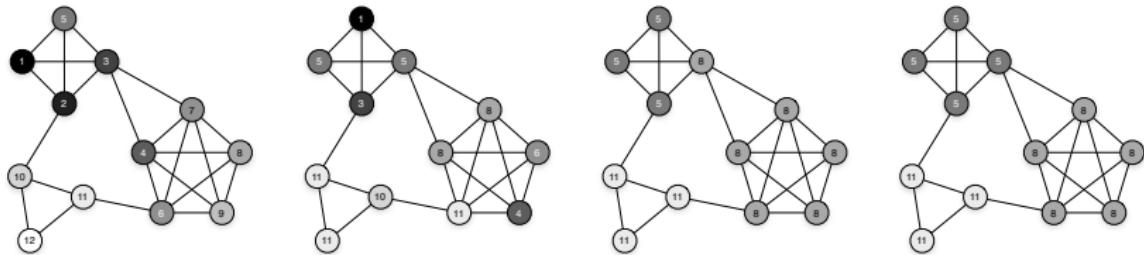
Lovro Šubelj
University of Ljubljana
Faculty of Computer and
Information Science

NetSlo '20

label propagation animation

clusters of nodes represented by colors

label propagation method



(setting) **cluster** of node i represented by its **label** c_i

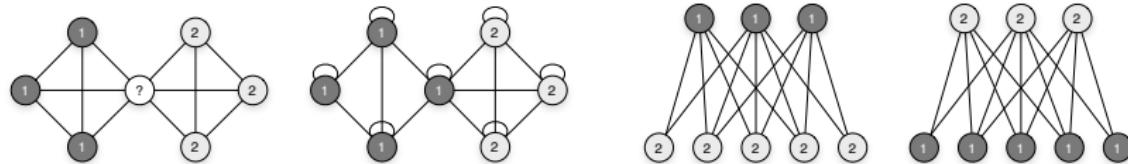
(initialization) put each node i in **own cluster** e.g. $c_i = i$

(propagation) label c_i set to **most frequent** in neighborhood Γ_i

$$c_i = \operatorname{argmax}_c |\{j \in \Gamma_i : c_j = c\}|$$

(convergence) propagate **until no** node i **changes** its label c_i

label propagation details



(ties) label ties resolved **randomly with retention**

(order) labels propagated **asynchronously** for convergence

(links) generalization to **weighted multigraphs** with adjacency A

$$c_i = \operatorname{argmax}_c |\{j \in \Gamma_i : c_j = c\}| = \operatorname{argmax}_c \sum_j A_{ij} \delta(c_j, c)$$

(equilibrium) propagate until convergence followed **by floodfill**

label propagation algorithm

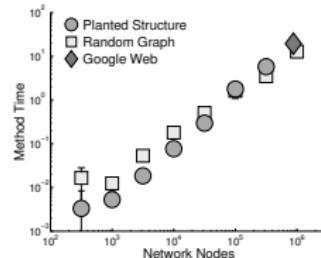
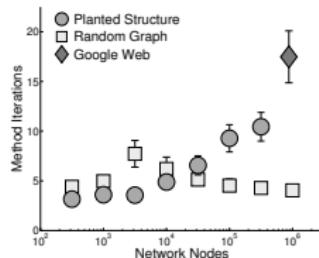
(optimization) label propagation is equivalent to **Potts model**

$$\mathcal{F}(\{c\}) = \sum_{ij} A_{ij} \delta(c_i, c_j)$$

(optimum) revealed structure is local & **not global optimum**

(time) complexity **almost linear** $\mathcal{O}(m^{1.2})$ in number of links m

(terminology) ... = **relocation algorithm** = local greedy optim.



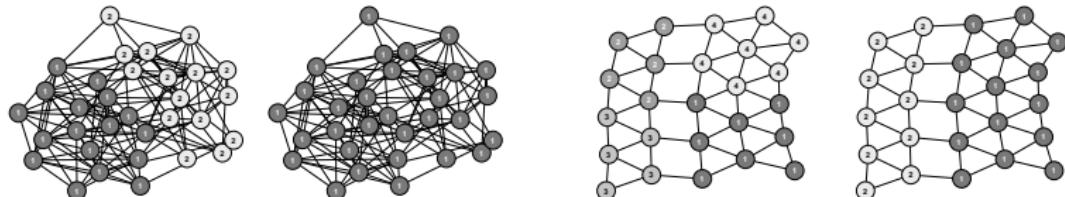
label propagation advances

(modularity) constrained label propagation is **Louvain algorithm**

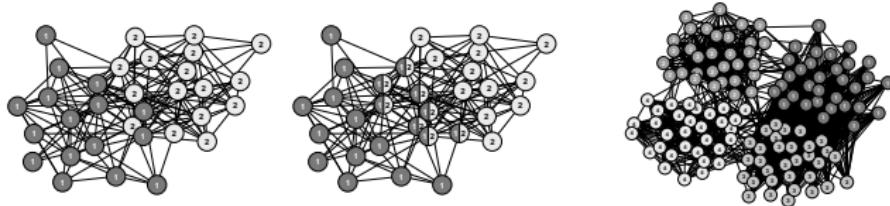
$$c_i = \operatorname{argmax}_c \sum_j \left(A_{ij} - \frac{k_i k_j}{2m} \right) \delta(c_j, c)$$

(preferences) label propagation using (anti)position p_i of node i

$$c_i = \operatorname{argmax}_c \sum_j p_j A_{ij} \delta(c_j, c) \quad c_i = \operatorname{argmax}_c \sum_j (1 - p_j) A_{ij} \delta(c_j, c)$$



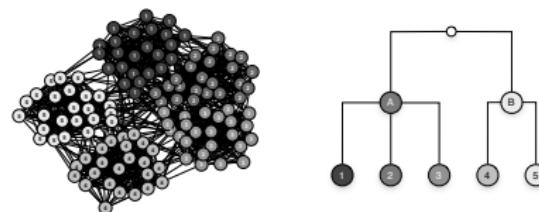
label propagation clusters



(left) communities, (middle) overlaps & (right) equivalences

$$c_i = \operatorname{argmax}_c \sum_j A_{ij} \delta(c_j, c) + \sum_{kj \neq i} \frac{1}{k_k - 1} A_{ik} A_{kj} \delta(c_j, c)$$

(bottom) hierarchical detection of nested clusters' dendrogram



label propagation networks

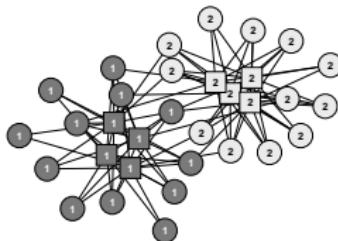
(weights) straightforward for weighted multigraphs ↑

(directions) there is no general method for directed graphs

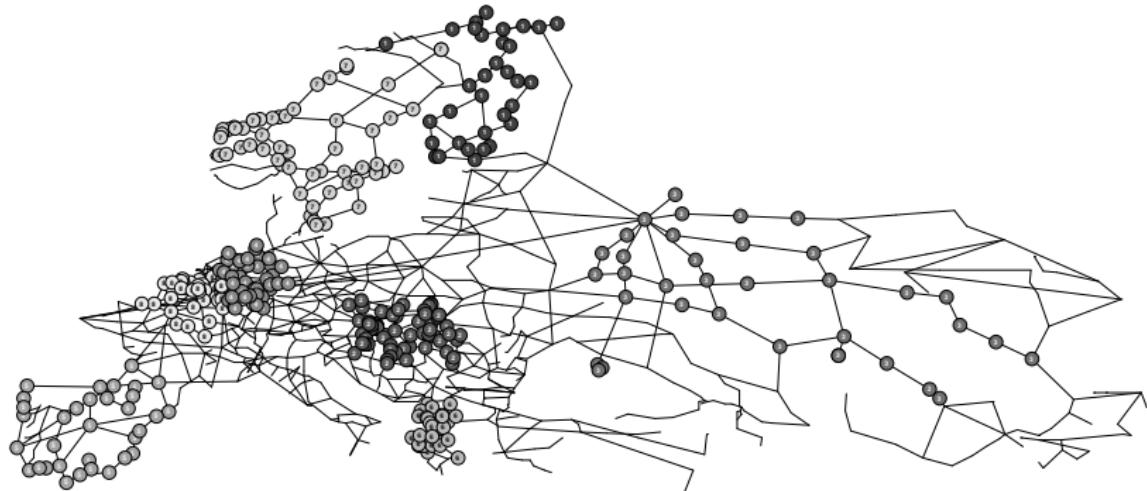
(signs) signed graphs with m_p positive & m_n negative links

$$c_i = \operatorname{argmax}_c \sum_j \begin{cases} 1/m_p & \text{for } A_{ij} \geq 0 \\ 1/m_n & \text{for } A_{ij} < 0 \end{cases} A_{ij} \delta(c_j, c)$$

(multipartite) labels propagated synchronously in each partition

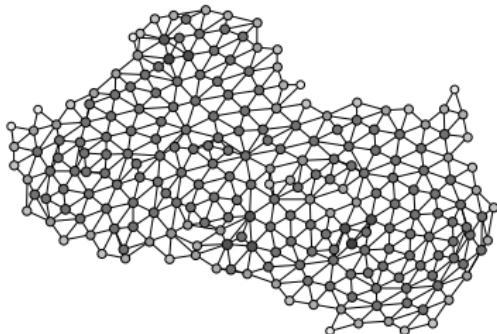
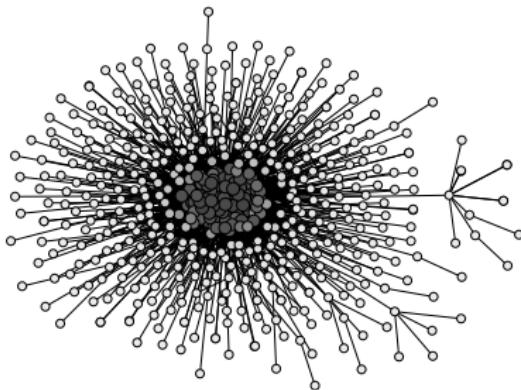


label propagation example



(consensus) partition of **European highways** with 1174 nodes

label propagation abstraction



(left) communities in **Google web graph** with 875 713 nodes

(right) partitioning of **Pennsylvania roads** with 1 087 562 nodes

label propagation applications

(recommendation) people you may know on Facebook*

(compression) degrees of separation between Facebook users[†]



(bibliometrics) clusters of papers published in Physical Review E

* Ugander & Backstrom (2013) Balanced label propagation, In: *Proceedings of WSDM '13*, pp. 507-516

[†]Boldi et al. (2011) Layered label propagation, In: *Proceedings of WWW '11*, pp. 587-596

label propagation conclusions

(method) simplest/fastest/parallel algorithm in literature

(**generality**) method for almost any graph/clustering/use case

(literature) reviewed > 150 references & selected 78 references

(practice) first network abstraction & (future) more applications



thank you!

arXiv:**1709.05634v1**

Šubelj (2020) Label propagation for clustering, In: *Advances in Network Clustering and Blockmodeling*, pp. 121-150

Lovro Šubelj
University of Ljubljana
lovro.subelj@fri.uni-lj.si
<http://lovro.lpt.fri.uni-lj.si>