

# SNOM HW1 - Theoretical Question

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## 1 Problem 1

Consider a graph created according to the Erdős-Rényi  $G_{n,p}$  random-graph model.

### 1.3

I have  $n$  nodes. The total number of possible edges that can be formed is equal to the simple combinations of  $n$  elements taken two by two:  $\binom{n}{2}$ . The other parameter of the model is  $p \in [0,1]$  which is the probability that an edge exists, so it is interpreted as the probability of "success" that an edge is formed.

In conclusion the number of edges  $m$  is a random variable distributed as:

$m \sim \text{Binom}\left(\binom{n}{2}, p\right)$  and so the expected number of edges is:  $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{m}] = \binom{n}{2} \cdot p$

For a large number of nodes the expected number of edges will be very close to  $n \cdot p$ .

### 1.1

From the previous point I know that  $m \sim \text{Binom}\left(\binom{n}{2}, p\right)$  and so:

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{"a particular graph with } m \text{ edges"}) = p^m (1-p)^{\binom{n}{2}-m}$$

Taking three edges and three nodes I obtain a triangle so firstly I am looking for a graph with exactly three edges. Moreover if I have  $n$  nodes the way to pick three of them is equal to the simple combinations of  $n$  elements taken three by three:  $\binom{n}{3}$ . Combining these two considerations I have:

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{"graph contains exactly only one triangle"}) = \binom{n}{3} \cdot p^3 (1-p)^{\binom{n}{2}-3} \text{ with } n \geq 3$$

### 1.2

Firstly to build a line with  $n$  nodes I need exactly  $n-1$  edges, so similarly as before I have  $\mathbb{P}(\text{"a particular graph with } n-1 \text{ edges"}) = p^{n-1} (1-p)^{\binom{n}{2}-(n-1)}$ .

Then I have found that the total number of possible graph made by  $n$  nodes connected in a line is  $\frac{n!}{2}$ : I have considered the number of way to arrange  $n$  nodes in a line is equal to simple provisions with  $n$  elements:  $n!$  (in this case I have to use provisions and not combinations because the order of nodes matters). It is important to notice that a graph has two provisions corresponding to itself indeed each line can be written from right to left and the other way around but it is the same graph. For example 1-2-3 is the same graph of 3-2-1, 2-1-3 is the same graph of 3-1-2 and so on. In conclusion, combining these two results I have:

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{"all the } n \text{ nodes are connected in a line"}) = \frac{n!}{2} \cdot p^{n-1} (1-p)^{\binom{n}{2}-(n-1)} \text{ with } n \geq 2$$

## 2 Problem 3

As notation I have used:

- $V$ : set of nodes of the network.
- $S$ : set of nodes that contains people that I have decided to follow.
- $k$ : budget or the maximum number of people that I can follow.
- $N_S$ : set of nodes that are neighbours of at least one node contained in  $S$ .  $N_v$ : set of nodes that are neighbours of  $v$ .
- $f(S) = |S \cup N_S|$  It is the number of nodes in  $S$  and nodes reachable from  $S$  in one hop.

The aim of my algorithm is:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{maximize} && f(S) \\ & \text{subject to} && S \subseteq V, |S| \leq k. \end{aligned}$$

Initially to solve this problem I have thought to follow the  $k$  people who have the  $k$  highest degree in the network. Then I have reckoned this heuristic not adequate because in the case in which people with the highest degree follow each other I would obtain a bad solution. In the counterexample that I have created in the figure if  $k=2$  I should follow for example the people 1 and 2 because they have both degree = 3, but in this way I will know just four users. On the other if I followed 1 and 5, that has degree = 2, I would know seven users!



Figure 1: Counterexample

For this reason I have slightly modified my initial idea. As first node I take the node with the highest degree as before. But from the second node on I will take the node that has as maximum the difference between its degree and the number of its neighbours that are already "known" from previous selected nodes. In this way I will prevent me to take a node that have a lot of friends that are friends of people that I have already followed, but I will take or "follow" nodes that have a lot of friends still unknown to me. So at each step maximizing my function  $|S \cup N_S|$  adding a node  $v$  means to find a node  $v$  that maximizes  $\text{degree}(v) - (|N_S \cap N_v|)$ . To do this whenever I have to choose a node I have to scan all the nodes not previously taken.

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### Algorithm 1 Monitoring

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function MONITOR(Network,  $k$ )
   $S \leftarrow \emptyset$ 
   $N_S \leftarrow \emptyset$ 
  while  $|S| \leq k$  do
     $\text{find } v \in V \setminus S : \max(f(S \cup \{v\})) = \max(\text{degree}(v) - (|N_S \cap N_v|))$ 
     $S \leftarrow S \cup \{v\}$ 
     $N_S \leftarrow N_S \cup N_v$ 
  end while
  return  $S$ 
end function

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The number of steps of my algorithm is  $\mathcal{O}(|V| \cdot k)$  because I have a while cycle made by  $k$  iterations and in each iteration I scan each node of the graph.

A function  $f : 2^V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is submodular if  $\forall S, T \subseteq V$  with  $S \subset T$  and  $v \in V \setminus T$  we have:  $f(S \cup \{v\}) - f(S) \geq f(T \cup \{v\}) - f(T)$ .

My  $f(S)$  is a submodular function because:

$$\begin{aligned} f(S \cup \{v\}) - f(S) &\geq f(T \cup \{v\}) - f(T) \\ \Rightarrow |S \cup N_S| + 1 + \text{degree}(v) - |N_S \cap N_v| - |S \cup N_S| &\geq |T \cup N_T| + 1 + \text{degree}(v) - |N_T \cap N_v| - |T \cup N_T| \\ \Rightarrow |N_S \cap N_v| &\leq |N_T \cap N_v| \end{aligned}$$

This is true because  $S \subset T$  so  $N_S \subseteq N_T$ . Moreover in class I have seen that reachability is a submodular function.

There is a theorem that claims that this greedy algorithm gives a  $\left(1 - \frac{1}{e}\right) \approx 0.63$  approximation.

### 3 Problem 4

#### First Example

In the following figure I provide an example of a graph in which the densest subgraph is  $D = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  which coincides with the sparsest cut  $S$ . The partition of the graph is marked in the figure from the color of nodes. Indeed  $D$  is a clique of size four and it maximizes  $\frac{|E \cup (D \times D)|}{|D|} = \frac{E(D)}{|D|} = \frac{6}{4} = 1.5$ .

At the same time  $D$  is also the sparsest cut indeed it minimizes  $\frac{|E \cup (S \times (V \setminus S))|}{\min\{|S|, |V \setminus S|\}} = \frac{1}{\min\{4, 4\}} = 0.25$ . Choosing  $D$  the size of the cut is one, just the bold edge in the figure  $(1, 5)$  that joins the two subgraphs,  $S$  and  $V \setminus S$ .

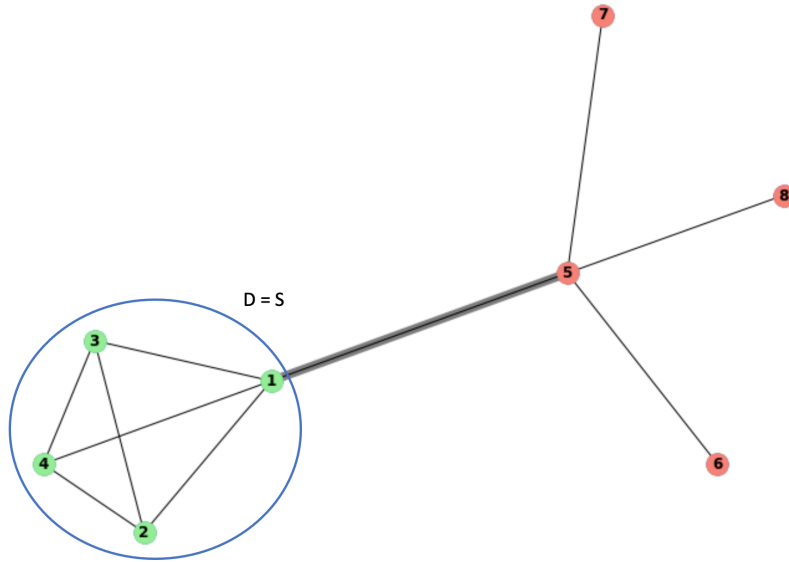


Figure 2: Example in which  $D = S$

#### Second Example

In this second example the densest subgraph is  $D = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$  because it makes  $\frac{|E \cup (D \times D)|}{|D|} = \frac{E(D)}{|D|} = \frac{8}{5} = 1.6$  that is the maximum value that is reachable (for example clique  $\{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  reaches just  $\frac{6}{4} = 1.5$ ). On the other hand the sparsest cut is  $S = \{1, 9, 10, 11, 12\}$  because it minimizes  $\frac{|E \cup (S \times (V \setminus S))|}{\min\{|S|, |V \setminus S|\}} = \frac{2}{\min\{5, 12\}} = 0.4$ . The partition of the graph is marked in the figure from the color of nodes while the bold edges  $(1, 2), (2, 3)$  represent the cut.  $D$  is not contained neither in  $S$  nor in  $V \setminus S$  indeed the node  $1 \in S$  while  $2, 3, 4, 5 \in V \setminus S$ .

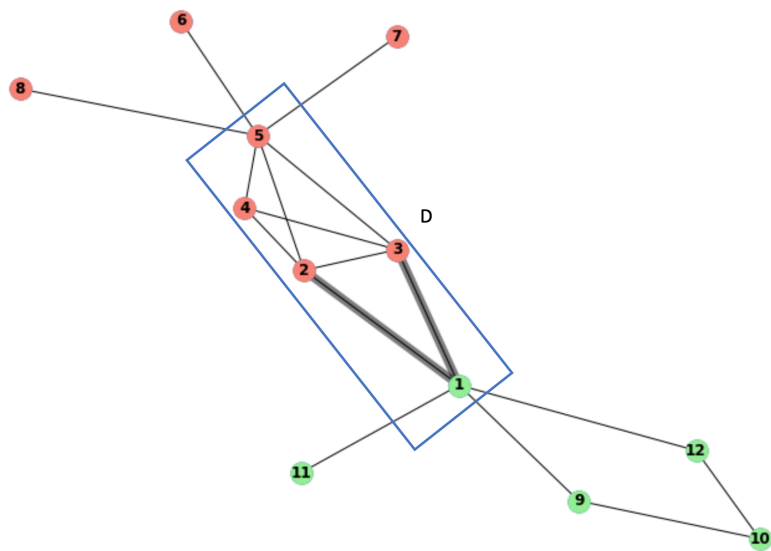


Figure 3: Example in which  $D \notin \{S, V \setminus S\}$