# Large-scale semi-supervised learning with online spectral graph sparsification

daniele.calandriello@inria.fr, alessandro.lazaric@inria.fr, michal.valko@inria.fr

#### Graph Learning

Draw  $\mathcal{X}=(\mathbf{x}_1,\ldots,\mathbf{x}_n)$  from  $\mathbb{R}^d$ ,
Build the graph  $\mathcal{G}=(\mathcal{X},\mathcal{E})$  with  $|\mathcal{E}|=m$ ,
The weights  $a_{e_{i,j}}$  encode the "distance" between nodes.

# Transductive setting for Semi-Supervised Learning

There exists a label  $y_i$  for each node in  $\mathcal{G}$ 

 ${\color{red} l}$  nodes are placed in  ${\color{red} {\cal S}}$  the remaining  ${\color{red} u}=n-l$  in  ${\color{red} {\cal T}}$ 

The algorithm receive the labels in  $\mathcal S$  and the graph  $\mathcal G$  and outputs a function  $\mathbf f:\mathcal X\to\mathbb R.$ 

Measure  ${\bf f}$  prediction error over  ${\cal T}$ 

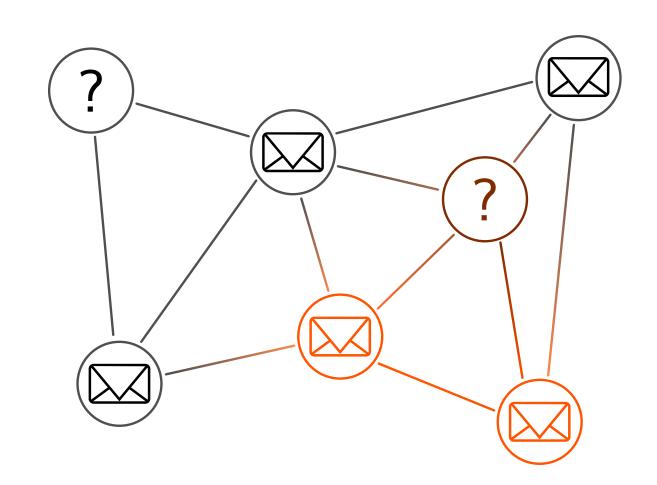
The graph  $\mathcal G$  never changes

(e.g. in spam classification, our email corpus is fixed)
The subset S that is revealed to the algorithm is random

(e.g. which emails the users classify as spam or ham)

### Harmonic Function Solution (HFS)

$$\widehat{\mathbf{f}} = \underset{\mathbf{f} \in \mathbb{R}^n}{\arg \min} \frac{1}{l} (\mathbf{f} - \mathbf{y})^{\mathsf{T}} I_{\mathcal{S}} (\mathbf{f} - \mathbf{y}) + \gamma \mathbf{f}^{\mathsf{T}} L_{\mathcal{G}} \mathbf{f}, \qquad (1)$$



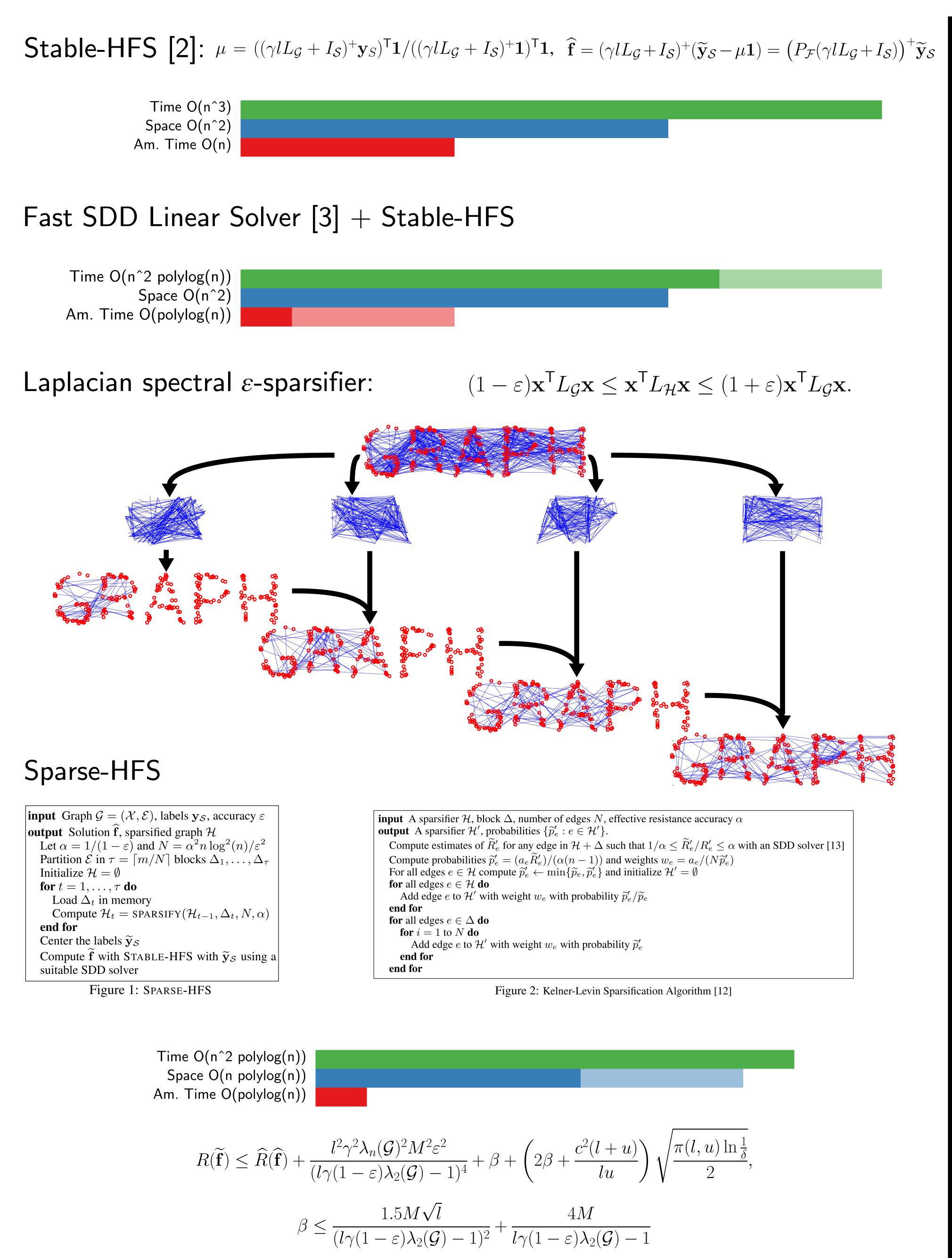
## Algorithmic Stability

$$\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{S}'} = \begin{pmatrix} y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4, \dots, y_{l-1}, y_l, & 0, & 0, 0, 0, \dots \\ y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4, \dots, y_{l-1}, & 0, & y_{l+1}, & 0, 0, 0, \dots \end{pmatrix} \to \mathbf{f}'$$

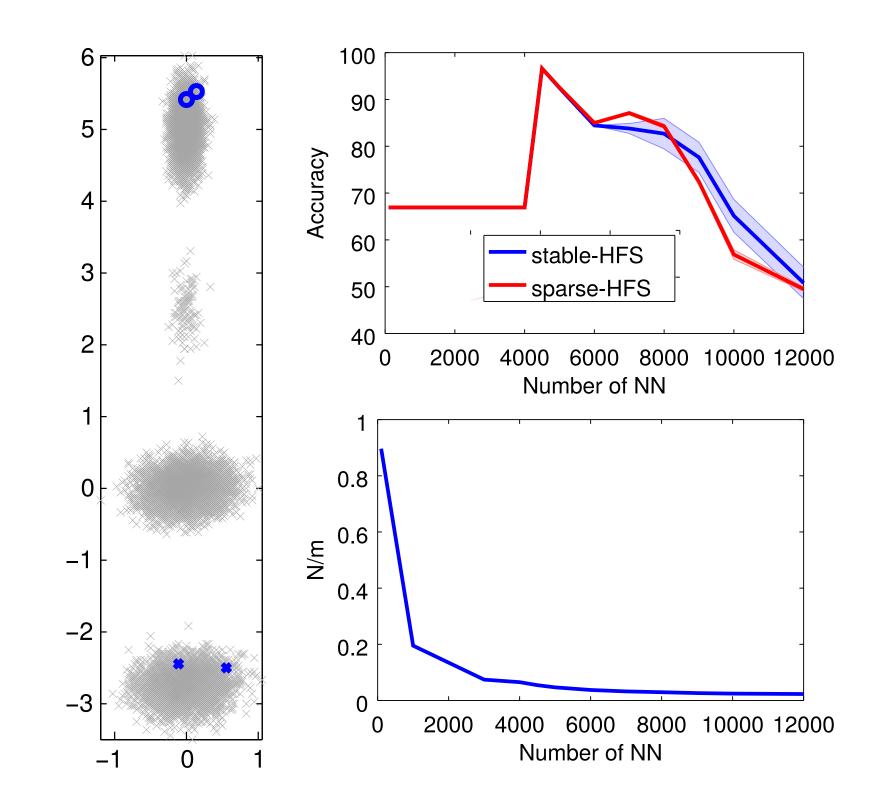
$$|(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{y}(\mathbf{x}))^2 - (\mathbf{f}'(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{y}(\mathbf{x}))^2| \le \beta.$$

# Theoretical guarantees for stable transductive algorithms [1]

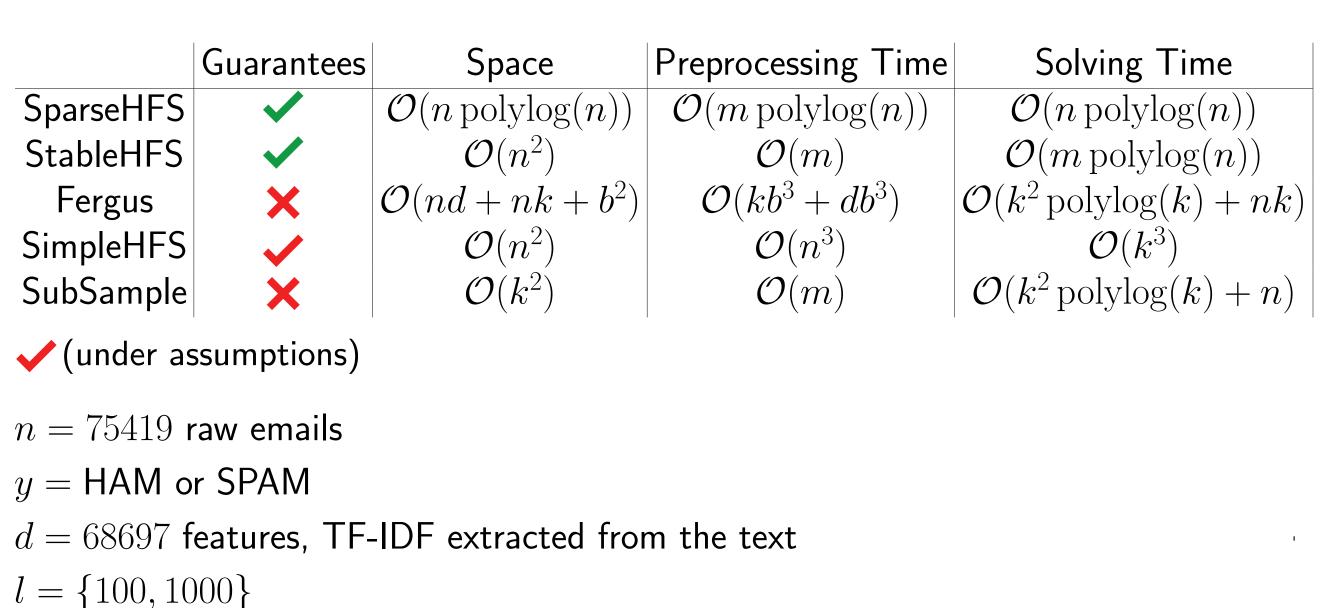
$$R(\widetilde{\mathbf{f}}) \le \widehat{R}(\widetilde{\mathbf{f}}) + \beta + \left(2\beta + \frac{c^2(l+u)}{lu}\right)\sqrt{\frac{\pi(l,u)\log(1/\delta)}{2}}$$
$$\pi(l,u) = \frac{lu}{l+u-0.52\max\{l,u\}}$$

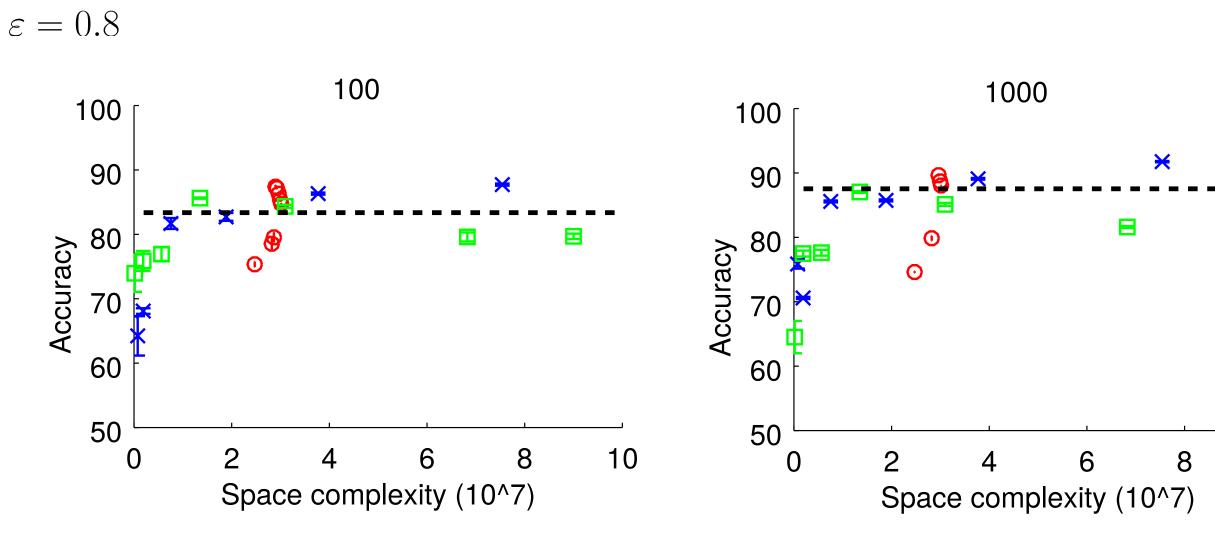


## Toy example



### Spam Classification (TREC07)









We would like to thank loannis Koutis for many useful discussions.

[3] I. Koutis, G. L. Miller, and R. Peng. A nearly-m log n time solver for SDD linear systems. FOCS, 2011