

# Computational Techniques in Latent Variable Network Models

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## 1 Introduction

*Game of Thrones* is a popular HBO TV series adapted from George R.R. Martin’s best-selling book series *A Song of Ice and Fire*. The medieval fantasy epic describes the stories of powerful families - kings and queens, knights and renegades, liars and honest men - playing a deadly game for control of the Seven Kingdoms of Westeros and to sit atop the Iron Throne. Conspiracy and deception, power and exile, blood and tears run through the plot, sewing together characters with various backgrounds including royals and peasants, as well as ice zombies and dragons. As the plot develops with each book release, readers wonder where the storyline leads. Within the Seven Kingdoms, enemies become friends and vice-versa, all the while winter spreads as the battle of ice and fire draws nearer. For many characters, it is clear who is good and who is evil, but such moral assignments are skewed by the readers’ biases. Here, we propose to put aside our personal feelings and let the data decide.

After discovering a dataset on the exchanges between the characters from the third book, *A Storm of Swords*, we start to wonder if, and what, information we can extract. In particular, how can we make inferences on character being good or bad. To address this, we turn to research of Peter Hoff on latent network models. In Section 2, we show how the relationships between characters from the book naturally arise as a network. Before fitting a model, we explain the latent network model framework in Section 3. We then present two methods for fitting our model in Section 4 and then compare the results of the two methods in Section 5. Finally, in Section 6 we end with a discussion on the implications of our findings, as well as possible future work. We provide our code in the Appendix.

## 2 Data

Due to its global fame, *Game of Thrones* has been studied in many different contexts, especially in network analysis. Therefore, there are many readily available datasets. In our project, we use the dataset from [beveridge2016network], which contains information about characters’ interactions in the third book of the series. In this case, an *interaction* occurs if the characters’ names appear within fifteen words of one another. This could mean that the characters interacted with each other, conversed with each other, or were generally mentioned together by another means. There is also a column that contains the number of times each pair interacts with one another. Using this dataset, we constructed a weighted network using the number of interactions as weights. Here, the nodes represent the characters and the edges represent the interactions. We use an adjacency matrix,  $A$ , to represent the network, where the  $a_{i,j}$  element represents the number of times the characters interacted with each other. Note that this means if  $a_{i,j} = 0$ , there are no recorded interactions between character  $i$  and  $j$  based on how an *interaction* is defined. Although the original dataset is intended as a directed network, we treat it as an undirected network in order to simplify our models.

After transforming the dataset, our network  $G$  contains  $N_V(G) = 107$  nodes and  $N_E(G) = 352$  edges which means it is quite sparse since it only contains approximately 6.20% of  $\binom{N_V(G)}{2} = 5,671$  possible edges. Figure **include figure** shows the network described. In order to account for the sparsity of our network, we consider a subnetwork which only contains pairs of characters with at least 100 interactions. We chose a cutoff of 100 interactions because we want to focus our analysis on only the main characters. Looking at the distribution of the weighted degree, we see that 77.6% of the characters had fewer than 100 interactions.

Therefore, it makes sense to use this cutoff to limit our analysis to only the main characters. By doing so, our new network  $G'$  contains  $N_V(G') = 24$  nodes and  $N_E(G') = 102$  edges. Here, we see that the network now contains 38.2% of 276 possible edges, which is a more appropriate level of density for our analysis. Everything that follows is done on this subnetwork  $G'$ . Figure **include figure next to other figure** shows this subnetwork  $G'$ , and indeed, we recognize the main characters remain in our network.

### 3 Models

#### 3.1 Model Formulation

**Ben** Intro paragraph: latent network models. Review of Hoff's papers.

Following the latent network model framework, we model the presence of an edge given our latent variables as

$$\text{logit } \mathbb{P}(Y_{ij} = 1|Z) = \|Z_i - Z_j\| + \epsilon_{ij}$$

where

$$Z_i \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \sum_{k=1}^G \lambda_k \text{MVN}_d(\mu_k, \sigma_k^2 I_d)$$

Putting priors over  $\mu_k$  and  $\sigma_k^2$ , as well as introducing the latent variable  $K$  representing the group from which  $Z$  is drawn, we have the following model formulation:

$$\begin{aligned} Y_{ij}|Z_i, Z_j &\stackrel{iid}{\sim} \text{Bern}\left[\text{logit}^{-1}(\|Z_i - Z_j\|)\right] \\ Z_i|K_i = k_i &\stackrel{iid}{\sim} \text{MVN}(\mu_{k_i}, \sigma_{k_i}^2 I_d) \\ K &\stackrel{iid}{\sim} \text{Multinoulli}(G, \lambda) \\ \lambda_k &\stackrel{iid}{\sim} \frac{1}{G} \\ \mu_k &\stackrel{iid}{\sim} \text{MVN}_d(0, I_2) \\ \sigma_k^2 &\stackrel{iid}{\sim} \text{Inv}\chi_1^2 \end{aligned}$$

With these, we can write the complete likelihood which we will use in both our fitting procedures. We let  $\theta = (\mu, \sigma^2, K, \lambda)$  denote our nuisance parameters. Then, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(Z, \theta; Y) &= \prod_{i < j} \mathbb{P}(Y_{ij}|Z_i, Z_j) \mathbb{P}(Z_i|K_i, \mu_{k_i}, \sigma_{k_i}^2) \mathbb{P}(Z_j|K_j, \mu_{k_j}, \sigma_{k_j}^2) \\ &\quad \times \mathbb{P}(K_i|\lambda_i) \mathbb{P}(\lambda_i) \mathbb{P}(\mu_{k_i}) \mathbb{P}(\sigma_{k_i}^2) \mathbb{P}(K_j) \mathbb{P}(\mu_{k_j}) \mathbb{P}(\sigma_{k_j}^2) \\ &= \prod_{i < j} \left( \text{logit}^{-1}(\|Z_i - Z_j\|) \right)^{Y_{ij}} \left( 1 - \text{logit}^{-1}(\|Z_i - Z_j\|) \right)^{1-Y_{ij}} \\ &\quad \times f_{\text{MVN}_d}(\mu_{k_i}, \sigma_{k_i}^2 I_d) \times \lambda_i \times \frac{1}{G} \times f_{\text{MVN}_d}(0, I_d) \times f_{\text{Inv}\chi_2^2} \\ &\quad \times f_{\text{MVN}_d}(\mu_{k_j}, \sigma_{k_j}^2 I_d) \times \lambda_j \times \frac{1}{G} \times f_{\text{MVN}_d}(0, I_d) \times f_{\text{Inv}\chi_2^2} \\ &\propto \prod_{i < j} \left( \text{logit}^{-1}(\|Z_i - Z_j\|) \right)^{Y_{ij}} \left( 1 - \text{logit}^{-1}(\|Z_i - Z_j\|) \right)^{1-Y_{ij}} \\ &\quad \times \frac{1}{(\sigma_{k_i}^2)^{1/2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma_{k_i}^2} (Z_i - \mu_{k_i})^T (Z_i - \mu_{k_i}) \right\} \frac{1}{(\sigma_{k_j}^2)^{1/2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma_{k_j}^2} (Z_j - \mu_{k_j})^T (Z_j - \mu_{k_j}) \right\} \\ &\quad \times \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \mu_{k_i}^T \mu_{k_i} \right\} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \mu_{k_j}^T \mu_{k_j} \right\} \times \frac{1}{(\sigma_{k_i}^2)^2} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{\sigma_{k_i}^2} \right\} \frac{1}{(\sigma_{k_j}^2)^2} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{\sigma_{k_j}^2} \right\} \times \lambda_i \times \lambda_j \end{aligned}$$

## 4 Computational Methods

### 4.1 EM

One method for finding the latent variables  $Z_i$  for each node is the Expectation-Maximization (EM) algorithm. Unfortunately, the likelihood given in Section 3.1 cannot easily be handled with EM. In particular, finding  $\mathbb{E}_{Z_i, Z_j | Y, \theta} [l(Z, \theta; Y)]$  is difficult. One solution is to sample and use Monte Carlo estimation in the E-step, then proceed with the M-step. This is the so-called Monte Carlo EM (MCEM) method.

Instead, we simplify our model to make EM more analytically tractable. In Section 4.2, we fit the full model using MCMC. Here, we fit two simplified models: an unweighted model where  $Y$  indicates the presence of an edge and a weighted model where now  $Y$  represents the number of interactions between characters.

#### 4.1.1 Unweighted Model

We first fit an unweighted model on the presence of an edge in the network, which is defined by:

$$\begin{aligned} Y_{ij} | p_{ij} &\stackrel{ind}{\sim} \text{Bern}(p_{ij}) \\ p_{ij} &\stackrel{iid}{\sim} \text{Beta}(\alpha, \beta) \end{aligned}$$

where we define  $p_{ij} \equiv 2 - 2 * \text{logit}^{-1}(d_{ij})$  where  $d_{ij}$  are latent distances defined in Section 3.1 and are calculated by  $d_{ij} = \text{logit}(1 - \frac{p_{ij}}{2})$ . We define  $p_{ij}$  in this manner to ensure that higher probabilities result in smaller distances and lower probabilities result in greater distances. Then the likelihoods are

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(p, \alpha, \beta; Y) &= \prod_{i < j} p_{ij}^{Y_{ij}} (1 - p_{ij})^{1 - Y_{ij}} \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + \beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\beta)} p_{ij}^{\alpha - 1} (1 - p_{ij})^{\beta - 1} \\ l(p, \alpha, \beta; Y) &= \sum_{i < j} Y_{ij} \log\left(\frac{p_{ij}}{1 - p_{ij}}\right) + \log(1 - p_{ij}) \\ &\quad + \log \Gamma(\alpha + \beta) - \log \Gamma(\alpha) - \log \Gamma(\beta) \\ &\quad + (\alpha - 1) \log p_{ij} + (\beta - 1) \log(1 - p_{ij}) \end{aligned}$$

For the E-step, we observe that the beta distribution is conjugate to the binomial and since the  $p_{ij}$  only depend on the data through  $Y_{ij}$ , we have the following likelihood. Note we just suppress our parameters  $\theta = \{\alpha, \beta\}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} p_{ij} | Y_{ij}, \theta &\propto \text{Bern}(p_{ij}) \times \text{Beta}(\alpha, \beta) \\ &= \text{Beta}(\alpha + Y_{ij}, \beta + 1 - Y_{ij}) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_{ij} &\equiv \mathbb{E}_{p_{ij} | Y_{ij}, \theta} [\log p_{ij}] = \Psi(\alpha + Y_{ij}) - \Psi(\alpha + \beta + 1) \\ \eta_{ij} &\equiv \mathbb{E}_{p_{ij} | Y_{ij}, \theta} [\log(1 - p_{ij})] = \Psi(\beta + 1 - Y_{ij}) - \Psi(\alpha + \beta + 1) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Psi$  is the digamma function. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} Q(\theta; \theta^{(t)}) &\equiv \mathbb{E}_{p | Y, \theta^{(t)}} [l(p; Y, \theta)] \\ &= \sum_{i < j} (Y_{ij} + \alpha - 1) \mathbb{E}_{p_{ij} | Y_{ij}, \theta^{(t)}} [\log p_{ij}] + (\beta - Y_{ij}) \mathbb{E}_{p_{ij} | Y_{ij}, \theta^{(t)}} [\log(1 - p_{ij})] \\ &\quad + \log \Gamma(\alpha + \beta) - \log \Gamma(\alpha) - \log \Gamma(\beta) \end{aligned} \tag{E}$$

For the M-step, we simply take the partial derivatives of  $Q(\theta; \theta^{(t)})$  with respect to  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ . Note that we will need an approximate solution in both cases since the digamma function prevents us from finding an analytic solution. For this, we use the Newton-Raphson Method.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial Q(\theta; \theta^{(t)})}{\partial \alpha^{(t)}} &= \sum_{i < j} \mathbb{E}_{p_{ij}|Y_{ij}, \theta^{(t)}} [\log p_{ij}] + \Psi(\alpha^{(t+1)} + \beta^{(t)}) - \Psi(\alpha^{(t+1)}) = 0 \\ \implies \Psi(\alpha^{(t+1)} + \beta^{(t)}) - \Psi(\alpha^{(t+1)}) &= -\frac{\sum_{i < j} \mathbb{E}_{p_{ij}|Y_{ij}, \theta^{(t)}} [\log p_{ij}]}{\binom{n}{2}} \end{aligned} \quad (\text{MU1})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial Q(\theta; \theta^{(t)})}{\partial \beta^{(t)}} &= \sum_{i < j} \mathbb{E}_{p_{ij}|Y_{ij}, \theta^{(t)}} [\log(1 - p_{ij})] + \Psi(\alpha^{(t+1)} + \beta^{(t+1)}) - \Psi(\beta^{(t+1)}) = 0 \\ \implies \Psi(\alpha^{(t+1)} + \beta^{(t+1)}) - \Psi(\beta^{(t+1)}) &= -\frac{\sum_{i < j} \mathbb{E}_{p_{ij}|Y_{ij}, \theta^{(t)}} [\log(1 - p_{ij})]}{\binom{n}{2}} \end{aligned} \quad (\text{MU2})$$

For the Newton-Raphson Method, we first define

$$\begin{aligned} g(\alpha) &= \Psi(\alpha + \beta^{(t)}) - \Psi(\alpha) + \sum_{i < j} \frac{\mathbb{E}_{p_{ij}|Y_{ij}, \theta^{(t)}} [\log p_{ij}]}{\binom{n}{2}} \\ \implies g'(\alpha) &= \Psi'(\alpha + \beta^{(t)}) - \Psi'(\alpha) \\ g(\beta) &= \Psi(\alpha^{(t+1)} + \beta) - \Psi(\beta) + \sum_{i < j} \frac{\mathbb{E}_{p_{ij}|Y_{ij}, \theta^{(t)}} [\log(1 - p_{ij})]}{\binom{n}{2}} \\ \implies g'(\beta) &= \Psi'(\alpha^{(t+1)} + \beta) - \Psi'(\beta) \end{aligned}$$

Using these equations, we can find the updates of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ :

$$\alpha^{(t+1)} = \alpha^{(t)} - \frac{\Psi(\alpha^{(t)} + \beta^{(t)}) - \Psi(\alpha^{(t)}) + \sum_{i < j} \frac{\mathbb{E}_{p_{ij}|Y_{ij}, \theta^{(t)}} [\log p_{ij}]}{\binom{n}{2}}}{\Psi'(\alpha^{(t)} + \beta^{(t)}) - \Psi'(\alpha^{(t)})} \quad (\alpha_U)$$

$$\beta^{(t+1)} = \beta^{(t)} - \frac{\Psi(\alpha^{(t+1)} + \beta^{(t)}) - \Psi(\beta^{(t)}) + \sum_{i < j} \frac{\mathbb{E}_{p_{ij}|Y_{ij}, \theta^{(t)}} [\log(1 - p_{ij})]}{\binom{n}{2}}}{\Psi'(\alpha^{(t+1)} + \beta^{(t)}) - \Psi'(\beta^{(t)})} \quad (\beta_U)$$

Algorithm 1 shows the algorithm for the Unweighted Model.

#### 4.1.2 Weighted Model

From the unweighted model, we were able to find convergent values for the latent distances for pairs of nodes in the network. However, because the unweighted model only depends on the existence of an edge between the nodes, there are only two possible values for these distances. Since we cannot infer anything from these, we turn to the weighted model for the latent distances where the weights correspond to the number of interactions between the characters.

In this weighted model, we fit the following model:

$$\begin{aligned} Y_{ij} | \lambda_{ij} &\overset{ind}{\sim} \text{Pois}(\lambda_{ij}) \\ \lambda_{ij} &\overset{iid}{\sim} \text{Gamma}(\alpha, \beta) \end{aligned}$$

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**Algorithm 1:** EM for simplified latent network unweighted model

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1 LNM EM ( $G, tol$ );
   Input : Graph  $G$ 
           Tolerance  $tol$ 
   Output: Nuisance Parameters  $\alpha^*, \beta^*$ 
           Latent Probability Estimates  $\hat{p}$ 
           Latent Distance Estimates  $\hat{d}$ 
2 Initialize  $Q^{(0)}$  repeat
3   E: calculate  $\pi^{(t)}, \eta^{(t)}$ ;
4   M: update  $\alpha^{(t+1)}$  using  $(\alpha_U)$ ;
5   update  $\beta^{(t+1)}$  using  $(\beta_U)$ ;
6   calculate  $Q(\theta, \theta^{(t+1)})$ 
7 until  $|\frac{Q(\theta^{(t+1)}, \theta^{(t)}) - Q(\theta^{(t)}, \theta^{(t)})}{Q(\theta^{(t)}, \theta^{(t)})}| < tol$ ;
8 return  $\alpha^*, \beta^*, \hat{p} = e^{\pi^*}, \hat{d} = \text{logit}^{-1}(1 - \frac{e^{\pi^*}}{2})$ ; where  $\alpha^*, \beta^*, \pi^*$  are converged values

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where now,  $\lambda_{ij} = \frac{1}{d_{ij}}$  and  $d_{ij}$  is defined as above and are calculated by  $d_{ij} = \frac{1}{\lambda_{ij}}$ . Again, we define  $\lambda_{ij}$  in this manner in order to have smaller distances result in higher mean number of interactions and greater distances result in lower mean number of interactions. Thus the likelihood is:

$$\mathcal{L}(\lambda, \alpha, \beta; Y) = \prod_{i < j} \frac{\lambda_{ij}^{Y_{ij}} e^{-\lambda_{ij}}}{Y_{ij}!} \frac{\beta^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \lambda_{ij}^{\alpha-1} e^{-\beta \lambda_{ij}}$$

$$l(\lambda, \alpha, \beta; Y) = \sum_{i < j} \log \lambda_{ij} (Y_{ij} + \alpha - 1) - \lambda_{ij} (1 + \beta) - \log(Y_{ij}!) + \alpha \log(\beta) - \log \Gamma(\alpha)$$

Since  $\lambda_{ij}$  only depend on  $Y_{ij}$  from the data and since the Poisson and Gamma are conjugate, we know that

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_{ij} | Y_{ij}, \theta &\propto \text{Pois}(\lambda_{ij}) \times \text{Gamma}(\alpha, \beta) \\ &= \text{Gamma}(\alpha + Y_{ij}, \beta + 1) \end{aligned}$$

Note we suppress our parameters  $\theta = \{\alpha, \beta\}$ . From here, we define the following quantities:

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_{ij} &\equiv \mathbb{E}_{\lambda_{ij} | Y_{ij}, \theta} [\lambda_{ij}] = \frac{\alpha + Y_{ij}}{1 + \beta} \\ \eta_{ij} &\equiv \mathbb{E}_{\lambda_{ij} | Y_{ij}, \theta} [\log \lambda_{ij}] = \log(1 + \beta) + \Psi(\alpha + Y_{ij}) \end{aligned}$$

and we have

$$\begin{aligned} Q(\theta; \theta^{(t)}) &\equiv \mathbb{E}_{\lambda | Y, \theta^{(t)}} [l(\lambda; Y, \theta)] \\ &= \sum_{i < j} (Y_{ij} + \alpha - 1) \mathbb{E}_{\lambda_{ij} | Y_{ij}, \theta^{(t)}} [\log \lambda_{ij}] \\ &\quad - (1 + \beta) \mathbb{E}_{\lambda_{ij} | Y_{ij}, \theta^{(t)}} [\lambda_{ij}] - \log(Y_{ij}!) + \alpha \log(\beta) - \log \Gamma(\alpha) \end{aligned}$$

For the M-step, we take partial derivatives of  $Q(\theta; \theta^{(t)})$  with respect to our parameters, and here, we see that we can update  $\beta$  directly, but again, we have to use Newton Raphson for the  $\alpha$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial Q(\theta; \theta^{(t)})}{\partial \beta^{(t)}} &= -\sum_{i < j} \mathbb{E}_{\lambda_{ij} | Y_{ij}, \theta^{(t)}} [\lambda_{ij}] + \frac{\alpha^{(t+1)}}{\beta^{(t+1)}} = 0 \\ \implies \beta^{(t+1)} &= \frac{\alpha^{(t+1)}}{\frac{\sum_{i < j} \mathbb{E}_{\lambda_{ij} | Y_{ij}, \theta^{(t)}} [\lambda_{ij}]}{\binom{n}{2}}}\end{aligned}\tag{\beta_W}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial Q(\theta; \theta^{(t)})}{\partial \alpha^{(t)}} &= \sum_{i < j} \mathbb{E}_{\lambda_{ij} | Y_{ij}, \theta^{(t)}} [\log \lambda_{ij}] + \log(\beta^{(t+1)}) - \Psi(\alpha^{(t+1)}) = 0 \\ \implies \Psi(\alpha^{(t+1)}) &= \frac{\sum_{i < j} \mathbb{E}_{\lambda_{ij} | Y_{ij}, \theta^{(t)}} [\log \lambda_{ij}] + \binom{n}{2} \log(\beta)}{\binom{n}{2}}\end{aligned}\tag{MW1}$$

For the Newton Raphson step, we define

$$\begin{aligned}g(\alpha) &= \sum_{i < j} \mathbb{E}_{\lambda_{ij} | Y_{ij}, \theta^{(t)}} [\log \lambda_{ij}] + \binom{n}{2} \log \beta^{(t)} - \binom{n}{2} \Psi(\alpha) \\ \implies g'(\alpha) &= -\binom{n}{2} \Psi'(\alpha)\end{aligned}$$

Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha^{(t+1)} &= \alpha^{(t)} - \frac{\sum_{i < j} \mathbb{E}_{\lambda_{ij} | Y_{ij}, \theta^{(t)}} [\log \lambda_{ij}] + \binom{n}{2} \log \beta^{(t)} - \binom{n}{2} \Psi(\alpha)}{-\binom{n}{2} \Psi'(\alpha)} \\ &= \alpha^{(t)} - \frac{\Psi(\alpha^{(t)}) - \sum_{i < j} \frac{\mathbb{E}_{\lambda_{ij} | Y_{ij}, \theta^{(t)}} [\log \lambda_{ij}]}{\binom{n}{2}} - \log \beta^{(t)}}{\Psi'(\alpha^{(t)})}\end{aligned}\tag{(\alpha_W)}$$

Algorithm 2 shows the algorithm for the Weighted Model.

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**Algorithm 2:** EM for simplified latent network weighted model

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1 LNM EM ( $G, tol$ );
   Input : Graph  $G$ 
           Tolerance  $tol$ 
   Output: Nuisance Parameters  $\alpha^*, \beta^*$ 
           Latent Mean Estimates  $\hat{\lambda}$ 
           Latent Distance Estimates  $\hat{d}$ 
2 Initialize  $Q^{(0)}$  repeat
3   | E: calculate  $\pi^{(t)}, \eta^{(t)}$ ;
4   | M: update  $\beta^{(t+1)}$  using  $(\beta_W)$ ;
5   | update  $\alpha^{(t+1)}$  using  $(\alpha_W)$ ;
6   | calculate  $Q(\theta, \theta^{(t+1)})$ 
7 until  $|\frac{Q(\theta^{(t+1)}, \theta^{(t)}) - Q(\theta^{(t)}, \theta^{(t)})}{Q(\theta^{(t)}, \theta^{(t)})}| < tol$ ;
8 return  $\alpha^*, \beta^*, \hat{\lambda} = \pi^*, \hat{d} = \frac{1}{\pi^*}$ ; where  $\alpha^*, \beta^*, \pi^*$  are converged values

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## 4.2 MCMC

### 4.2.1 Full Conditionals

Next, we turn to find the full conditional of each parameter in this likelihood function. At each iteration  $t$  of the Gibbs sampler, we condition on the current parameter vector  $\theta^{(t)}$  and sample each parameter in

stepwise fashion. We develop the full conditionals below.

First, note that all nodes  $i$  from group  $K = k$  have latent variables  $Z_i \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(\mu_k, \sigma_k^2)$ . Hence the group parameters  $\mu_k$  and  $\sigma_k^2$  can be sampled by considering only the nodes  $i$  from group  $k$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
f_{\mu_k|\theta^{(t)}, Y}(\mu_k|\theta^{(t)}, Y) &\propto \prod_{k_i=k} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma_{k_i}^2} (Z_i - \mu_{k_i})^T (Z_i - \mu_{k_i}) \right\} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \mu_{k_i}^T \mu_{k_i} \right\} \\
&\propto \exp \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{N_v} \mathbb{I}\{k_i = k\} \left[ -\frac{1}{2\sigma_{k_i}^2} (Z_i^T Z_i - 2Z_i^T \mu_{k_i} + \mu_{k_i}^T \mu_{k_i}) - \frac{1}{2} \mu_{k_i}^T \mu_{k_i} \right] \right\} \\
&\propto \exp \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{N_v} \mathbb{I}\{k_i = k\} \left[ -\frac{Z_i^T Z_i}{2\sigma_{k_i}^2} + \frac{Z_i^T \mu_{k_i}}{\sigma_{k_i}^2} - \left( \frac{1}{2\sigma_{k_i}^2} + \frac{1}{\sigma_{k_i}^2} \right) \mu_{k_i}^T \mu_{k_i} \right] \right\} \\
&\propto \exp \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{N_v} \mathbb{I}\{k_i = k\} \left[ -\frac{(\sigma_{k_i}^2 + 1)}{2\sigma_{k_i}^2} \left( \mu_{k_i} - \frac{Z_i}{(\sigma_{k_i}^2 + 1)} \right)^T \left( \mu_{k_i} - \frac{Z_i}{(\sigma_{k_i}^2 + 1)} \right) \right] \right\}
\end{aligned}$$

Thus for all  $k \in \{1, \dots, G\}$ , we arrive at the following distribution for  $\mu_k|\theta^{(t)}, Y$ :

$$\mu_k|\theta^{(t)}, Y \sim f_{MVNd} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{N_v} \mathbb{I}\{k_i = k\} \frac{Z_i^{(t)}}{(\sigma_{k_i}^2)^{(t)} + 1}, \sum_{i=1}^{N_v} \mathbb{I}\{k_i = k\} \frac{(\sigma_{k_i}^2)^{(t)}}{(\sigma_{k_i}^2)^{(t)} + 1} I_2 \right)$$

Now, we turn to finding the full conditional for the latent variance parameters  $\sigma_{k_i}^2$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
f_{\sigma_{k_i}^2|\theta, Y}(\sigma_{k_i}^2|\theta, Y) &\propto \prod_{K_i=k} \sigma_{K_i}^2{}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \exp \left\{ \frac{1}{2\sigma_{k_i}^2} (Z_i - \mu_{k_i})^T (Z_i - \mu_{k_i}) \right\} (\sigma_{k_i}^2)^{-\frac{c}{2}-1} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma_{k_i}^2} \right\} \\
&\propto \prod_{K_i=k} (\sigma_{k_i}^2)^{(-\frac{c}{2}-\frac{1}{2})-1} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma_{k_i}^2} ((Z_i - \mu_{k_i})^T (Z_i - \mu_{k_i}) + 1) \right\} \\
&\propto (\sigma_{k_i}^2)^{((-\frac{c-1}{2}ng - ng + 1) - 1)} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma_{k_i}^2} \sum_{K_i=k} ((Z_i - \mu_{k_i})^T (Z_i - \mu_{k_i}) + 1) \right\}.
\end{aligned}$$

Let  $n_g = \sum \mathbb{I}_{\{k_i=K\}}$  and  $SS_g + n_g = \sum_{K_i=k} ((Z_i - \mu_{k_i})^T (Z_i - \mu_{k_i}) + 1)$ . Then by using the posterior distributions

$$\begin{aligned}
\nu_{post} &= (c+1)n_g + 2(n_g - 1) \\
\tau_{post}^2 &= \frac{SS_g + n_g}{(c+1)n_g + 2(n_g - 1)},
\end{aligned}$$

we arrive at the following distribution for  $\sigma_k^2|\theta^{(t)}, Y$ :

$$\sigma_k^2|\theta^{(t)}, Y \sim \text{Inv}\Gamma\left(\frac{c}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right) \stackrel{D}{=} \tau^2 \nu \text{Inv}\chi_c^2.$$

Next, we find the conditional probabilities for group assignment:

$$\mathbb{P}(K_i = k|\theta, Y) \propto \lambda_k f_{MVNd}(\mu_k, \sigma_k^2)(Z_i)$$

Since  $K$  is Multinoulli, we arrive at the following probability by recognizing they must normalize to unity:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{P}(K_i = k|\theta, Y) &= \frac{\lambda_k f_{MVN_d(\mu_k, \sigma_k^2)}(Z_i)}{\sum_{g=1}^G \lambda_g f_{MVN_d(\mu_g, \sigma_g^2)}(Z_i)} \\
&= \frac{f_{MVN_d(\mu_k, \sigma_k^2)}(Z_i)}{\sum_{g=1}^G f_{MVN_d(\mu_g, \sigma_g^2)}(Z_i)} \quad (\lambda^{(t)})
\end{aligned}$$

Finally, we look at the conditional for the latent variable  $Z_i$ :

$$f_{Z_i|\theta, Y}(Z_i|\theta, Y) \propto \prod_{j \neq i} \left( \text{logit}^{-1}(\|Z_i - Z_j\|) \right)^{Y_{ij}} \left( 1 - \text{logit}^{-1}(\|Z_i - Z_j\|) \right)^{1-Y_{ij}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma_{k_i}^2} (Z_i - \mu_{k_i})^T (Z_i - \mu_{k_i}) \right\}$$

Since this is not a distribution we know how to sample from, we use a Metropolis-Hastings step. Here, we choose a symmetric proposal, which simplifies the subsequent rejection ratio:

$$\begin{aligned}
q(Z_*|\theta^{(t)}, Y) &\sim MVN_2(0, I_2) \\
R(Z^*, Z^{(t)}) &= \frac{f_{Z|\theta, Y}(Z^*|\theta^{(t)}, Y) q(Z^{(t)}|\theta^{(t)}, Y)}{f_{Z|\theta, Y}(Z^{(t)}|\theta^{(t)}, Y) q(Z^*|\theta^{(t)}, Y)} \\
&= \frac{f_{Z|\theta, Y}(Z^*|\theta^{(t)}, Y)}{f_{Z|\theta, Y}(Z^{(t)}|\theta^{(t)}, Y)}
\end{aligned}$$

## 5 Results

1. Analysis
2. Results

### 5.1 EM

unweighted: paragraph ( $d_{ij} \iff Y_{ij}$ )

weighted: 3 heat maps, kernel density plot, cluster using distance matrix, network colored by clusters

### 5.2 MCMC

**Nate:**  $\hat{Z} \in \mathbb{R}^2$  plot with  $\hat{\mu}$  and  $\hat{\sigma}^2$

**Lily:** k-means: table, network colored by clusters

## 6 Conclusion

**Nate:** book 3 is nice because its midpoint of releases so characters have developed, but what if we perform same analysis for the other books and map a character's goodness across each book. Also, could apply MCEM, or for simplified latent distance model, we could choose any GLM and change to conjugate prior



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**Algorithm 3:** Gibbs sampler for latent network model

---

```

1 LNM MCMC ( $G, N_k, d, ns$ );
   Input : Graph  $G$ 
           Number of groups  $N_k$ 
           Dimension of Latent Variable  $d$ 
           Number of samples  $ns$ 
   Output: Posterior  $p(Z|Y, \theta)$ 
2 Initialize parameters  $\mu^{(0)}, \sigma^{2(0)}, \lambda^{(0)}, K^{(0)}, Z^{(0)}$ ;
3 for  $t = 2, \dots, ns$  do
4   for  $k = 1, \dots, N_k$  do
5     sample  $\mu_k | \theta^{(t)}, Y \sim MVN_d \left( \sum_{i=1}^{N_v} \mathbb{I}\{k_i = k\} \frac{Z_i^{(t-1)}}{(\sigma_{k_i}^2)^{(t-1)} + 1}, \sum_{i=1}^{N_v} \mathbb{I}\{k_i = k\} \frac{(\sigma_{k_i}^2)^{(t-1)}}{(\sigma_{k_i}^2)^{(t-1)} + 1} I_d \right)$ ;
6   end
7   for  $k = 1, \dots, N_k$  do
8     sample  $\sigma_k^2 | \theta^{(t)}, Y \sim \left( 1 + \sum_{i=1}^{N_v} \mathbb{I}\{k_i = k\} (Z_i^{(t-1)} - \mu_k^{(t)})^T (Z_i^{(t-1)} - \mu_k^{(t)}) \right) \text{Inv}\chi_{1+d \sum_{i=1}^{N_v} \mathbb{I}\{k_i = k\}}^2$  ;
9   end
10  for  $i = 1, \dots, N_v$  do
11    sample  $K_i \sim \text{Multinoulli}(G, \lambda^{(t)})$ ;
12  end
13  for  $i = 1, \dots, N_v$  do
14    sample  $Z_i^* \sim MVN_d(0, I_d)$ ;
15     $R(Z_i^*, Z_i^{(t)}) = \min \left( 1, \frac{f_{Z|\theta, Y}(Z_i^* | \theta^{(t)}, Y, Z_{[-1]})}{f_{Z|\theta, Y}(Z_i^{(t)} | \theta^{(t)}, Z_{[-1]})} \right)$  ;
16    sample  $U \sim \mathcal{U}(0, 1)$ ;
17    if  $U \leq R(Z_i^*, Z_i^{(t)})$  then
18       $Z_i^{(t+1)} = Z_i^*$ ;
19    else
20       $Z_i^{*(t+1)} = Z_i^{(t)}$ 
21    end
22  end
23 end
24 end

```

---

## 7 References

## Appendix

### A Estimation Maximization Code

### B Markov Chain Monte Carlo Code

### C Figures Code