

Random Walks

Lecturer: Sushant Sachdeva

Scribe: Junwei Sun

1 Remark from last class

If at step t , your distribution is given by P_t , then

$$P_{t+1} = AD^{-1}P_t \quad (1)$$

Where:

A: weighted adjacency matrix

D: diagonal weighted degree matrix

(1) is equivalent to the following expression:

$$P_{t+1}(x) = \sum_{y:(x,y) \in E} \frac{w(x,y)}{D(y)} * P_t(y) \quad (2)$$

2 Stationary state

Definition 2.1. If distance $\pi \in R^v$ is stationary for G if $AD^{-1}\pi = \pi$

Lemma 2.2. Any undirected graph has a stationary distance

Proof. Given any undirected graph G , let $\pi = \frac{D * \vec{1}}{\vec{1}^T * D * \vec{1}}$. This is the stationary distribution for G since $AD^{-1}\pi = \frac{1}{\vec{1}^T * D * \vec{1}} * A * \vec{1} = \frac{1}{\vec{1}^T * D * \vec{1}} * D * \vec{1} = \pi$ \square

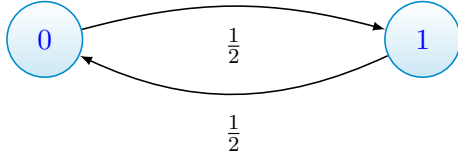
Remark:

If the graph is disconnected, then the stationary distribution must not be unique

Claim: If G is connected, π is unique

Remark: Even if G is connected, it is not true that for any $p_0, p_t \rightarrow \pi$

Example:



3 Lazy Random Walk:

At each step,

$$\begin{cases} \text{with probability } \frac{1}{2} & \text{stay} \\ \text{with probability } \frac{1}{2} & \text{take a usual random step} \end{cases}$$

Lazy Random Walk Matrix $W = \frac{1}{2}(I + AD^{-1})$

Definition 3.1. A symmetric matrix M is positive semi-definite (psd) if $\forall x, x^T M x \geq 0$

Theorem 3.2. the follow statements are equivalent:

- (1) M is psd
- (2) All eigenvalue of M are non-negative
- (3) There exist an matrix A such that $M = A^* A^T$

Lemma 3.3. If M is psd, then for all matrix C , $C^T M C$ is psd

Proof. $\forall x, x^T C^T M C x = (Cx)^T M (Cx) \geq 0$ since M is psd

□

Notation:

M is psd: $M \succeq 0$

Lemma 3.4. $\mathcal{L} \succeq 0$ where \mathcal{L} is the laplacian matrix

Remark: $\mathcal{L} \succeq 0$ implies $N \succeq 0$ since $N = D^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathcal{L} D^{-\frac{1}{2}}$

Lemma 3.5. $\mathcal{L} \preceq 2D \Leftrightarrow N \preceq 2I \Leftrightarrow \lambda_i(N), \forall_i \leq 2$

HW: If $A \succeq B$, then $\lambda_i(A) \geq \lambda_i(B)$

4 Relation between W(Lazy random walk matrix) and N(Normalized Laplacian)

$$\begin{aligned}
W &= \frac{1}{2} * (I + AD^{-1}) \\
N &= D^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathcal{L} D^{-\frac{1}{2}} \\
&= D^{-\frac{1}{2}} (D - A) D^{-\frac{1}{2}} \\
&= I - D^{-\frac{1}{2}} A D^{-\frac{1}{2}}
\end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned}
W &= \frac{1}{2} I + \frac{1}{2} A D^{-1} \\
&= \frac{1}{2} I + \frac{1}{2} D^{\frac{1}{2}} D^{-\frac{1}{2}} A D^{-\frac{1}{2}} D^{-\frac{1}{2}} \\
&= \frac{1}{2} I + \frac{1}{2} D^{\frac{1}{2}} (I - N) D^{-\frac{1}{2}} \\
&= I - \frac{1}{2} D^{\frac{1}{2}} N D^{-\frac{1}{2}}
\end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

Thus,

$$W = I - \frac{1}{2} D^{\frac{1}{2}} N D^{-\frac{1}{2}} \tag{5}$$

Lemma 4.1. *If (γ_i, ψ_i) is an eigenpair for N , i.e $N^* \psi_i = \gamma_i \psi_i \Leftrightarrow (1 - \frac{1}{2} \gamma_i, D^{\frac{1}{2}} \psi_i)$ is an eigenpair for W*

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned}
W D^{\frac{1}{2}} * \psi_i &= (I - \frac{1}{2} * D^{\frac{1}{2}} N D^{-\frac{1}{2}}) D^{\frac{1}{2}} \psi_i \\
&= D^{\frac{1}{2}} \psi_i - \frac{1}{2} \gamma_i D^{\frac{1}{2}} \psi_i
\end{aligned}$$

□

Corrolary: $0 \leq \lambda_i(W) \leq 1$

Warning: W is not symmetric. Thus, its eigenvector need not be orthogonal

5 Convergence:

State transition:

$$p_{t+1} = Wp_t$$

When $t = 0$:

$$p_1 = Wp_0$$

$$D^{-\frac{1}{2}}p_0 = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \psi_i \Leftrightarrow p_0 = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i D^{\frac{1}{2}} \psi_i$$

$$\Rightarrow p_1 = Wp_0 = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i (WD^{\frac{1}{2}} \psi_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i (1 - \frac{\gamma_i}{2}) D^{\frac{1}{2}} \psi_i$$

Iterating the process above, we can obtain:

$$p_t = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i (1 - \frac{\gamma_i}{2})^t D^{\frac{1}{2}} \psi_i$$

Claim: If G is connected $\Leftrightarrow \gamma_2 > 0$

Remark: the claim above implies the following:

$$\forall i \neq 1, 0 \leq 1 - \frac{\gamma_i}{2} < 1$$

5.1 Finding t given a ϵ

At arbitrary vertex u , we have the following:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{1}_u^T P_t - \vec{1}_u^T \pi &= \vec{1}_u^T P_t - \frac{\vec{1}_u^T D \vec{1}}{\vec{1}^T D \vec{1}} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n a_i (1 - \frac{\gamma_i}{2})^t \vec{1}_u^T D^{\frac{1}{2}} \psi_i - \frac{\vec{1}_u^T D \vec{1}}{\vec{1}^T D \vec{1}} \end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

we know that:

$$\psi_1 = \frac{(D^{\frac{1}{2}} \vec{1})}{\|D^{\frac{1}{2}} \vec{1}\|} = \frac{(D^{\frac{1}{2}} \vec{1})}{\sqrt{\vec{1}^T D \vec{1}}} \tag{7}$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{1}_u^T D^{\frac{1}{2}} \psi_1 &= \vec{1}_u^T D^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{(D^{\frac{1}{2}} \vec{1})}{\|\vec{1}\|} \\ &= \frac{(\vec{1}_u^T D \vec{1})}{\sqrt{\vec{1}^T D \vec{1}}}\end{aligned}\tag{8}$$

Also,

$$\begin{aligned}D^{-\frac{1}{2}} p_0 &= \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \psi_i \\ \psi_1^T D^{-\frac{1}{2}} p_0 &= a_1\end{aligned}\tag{9}$$

This gives us:

$$\begin{aligned}a_1 &= \frac{(\vec{1}^T D^{\frac{1}{2}}) D^{-\frac{1}{2}} p_0}{\sqrt{\vec{1}^T D \vec{1}}} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\vec{1}^T D \vec{1}}}\end{aligned}\tag{10}$$

Now, we can further simplify (6):

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{1}_u^T p_t - \vec{1}_u^T \pi &= a_1 \left(1 - \frac{\gamma_1}{2}\right)^t + \sum_{i=2}^n a_i \left(1 - \frac{\gamma_i}{2}\right)^t \vec{1}_u^T D^{\frac{1}{2}} \psi_i - \frac{\vec{1}_u^T D \vec{1}}{\vec{1}^T D \vec{1}} \\ &= \sum_{i=2}^n a_i \left(1 - \frac{\gamma_i}{2}\right)^t \vec{1}_u^T D^{\frac{1}{2}} \psi_i\end{aligned}\tag{11}$$

Hence, we have the following

$$\begin{aligned}|\vec{1}_u^T p_t - \vec{1}_u^T \pi| &\leq \sum_{i=2}^n |a_i \vec{1}_u^T D^{\frac{1}{2}} \psi_i| \left(1 - \gamma_i/2\right)^t \\ &\leq \left(1 - \frac{\gamma_2}{2}\right)^t \sum_{i=2}^n |a_i \vec{1}_u^T D^{\frac{1}{2}} \psi_i| \\ &\leq \left(1 - \frac{\gamma_2}{2}\right)^t \sqrt{\sum_{i=2}^n a_i^2 \sum_{i=2}^n (\vec{1}_u^T D^{\frac{1}{2}} \psi_i)^2}\end{aligned}\tag{12}$$

Notice that:

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{i=2}^n a_i^2 &\leq \|D^{-\frac{1}{2}} p_0\|_2^2 \\ &\leq \vec{1}_v^T D^{-\frac{1}{2}} \vec{1}_v \\ &= \frac{1}{D(v)}\end{aligned}\tag{13}$$

Claim:

$$D^{\frac{1}{2}} \vec{1} = \sum_{i=1}^n (\vec{1}_u^T D^{\frac{1}{2}} \psi_i) \psi_i$$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} D^{\frac{1}{2}} \vec{1} &= \sum_{i=1}^n B_i \psi_i \\ \psi_j^T D^{\frac{1}{2}} \vec{1}_u &= B_j \\ (\psi_j^T D^{\frac{1}{2}} \vec{1}_u)^T &= \vec{1}_u^T D^{\frac{1}{2}} \psi_j^T \\ \|\vec{1}_u\|_2^2 &= (D^{\frac{1}{2}} \vec{1}_u)^T (D^{\frac{1}{2}} \vec{1}_u) \\ &= \left(\sum_{i=1}^n B_i \psi_i \right)^T \left(\sum_{j=1}^n B_j \psi_j \right) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n B_i^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n (\vec{1}_u^T D^{\frac{1}{2}} \psi_i)^2 \end{aligned} \tag{14}$$

□

Thus, (12) can be simplified as following:

$$\begin{aligned} |\vec{1}_u^T p_t - \vec{1}_u^T \pi| &\leq (1 - \gamma_2)^t \sqrt{\|D^{-\frac{1}{2}} p_0\|_2^2 * \|\vec{1}_u\|_2^2} \\ &= \|\vec{1}_u\|_2 * \|D^{-\frac{1}{2}} p_0\|_2 (1 - \frac{\gamma_2}{2})^t \end{aligned}$$

if you start at v , then

$$= \sqrt{\frac{D_u}{D_v}} (1 - \frac{\gamma_2}{2})^t \tag{15}$$

Notice that $(1 - x) \leq e^{-x}$

$$\leq \sqrt{\frac{D_u}{D_v}} e^{-\gamma_2 t/2}$$

Theorem 5.1. For

$$t \geq \frac{2}{\gamma_2} \log\left(\frac{n}{\epsilon}\right)$$

then

$$|\vec{1}_u^T p_t - \vec{1}_u^T \pi| \leq \epsilon$$

Interpretation:

$$\begin{aligned} T(\frac{\epsilon}{2}) &= \frac{2}{\gamma_2} \log(\frac{2n}{\epsilon}) \\ &= \Theta(\frac{1}{\gamma_2}) + T(\epsilon) \end{aligned} \tag{16}$$

Application of the theorem on some examples

K_n :complete graph with n vertices

Lazy random walk mixes in $\Omega(\log n)$ steps

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}K_n &= nI - \vec{1}\vec{1}^T \\ \lambda_i(L) &= \begin{cases} 0 & i = 1 \\ n-1 & O.W \end{cases} \\ \gamma_2(N_{K_n}) &= 1 \end{aligned} \tag{17}$$

The theorem gives $O(\log n)$

R_n :n-ring

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_2(N_{K_n}) &= \theta(\frac{1}{n^2}) \\ \mathcal{L}K_n &= nI - \vec{1}\vec{1}^T \\ x_{i+1} &= \begin{cases} x_i & \text{with probability } \frac{1}{2} \\ x_{i+1} & \text{with probability } \frac{1}{4} \\ x_{i-1} & \text{with probability } \frac{1}{4} \end{cases} \\ E[x_{i+1}|x_i] &= x_i \\ E[x_{i+1}^2|x_i] &= x_i^2 + \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned} \tag{18}$$

The theorem gives $O(n^2 \log n)$