#### Research Report - Spectral Clustering

Sourabh Antani supervisor Dr. Yunkai Zhou

Mathematics Department, Southern Methodist University

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Below are some examples of clustering algorithms used in practice, aside from spectral clustering.

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  - PCA Based clustering [Zhang et al. 2018]



Graph Laplacian - Construction

• Given an undirected graph,  $\mathbf{G} = (\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{E})$  with set of vertices  $\mathbf{V} = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  and  $\mathbf{E}$  set of weighted edges. The weight of the edge between  $v_i$  and  $v_j$ , denoted by  $w_{ij}$  is assigned based on the 'similarity' between the data-points  $v_i$  and  $v_j$ . For example, if the similarity function chosen is a Gaussian kernel and the data that these vertices represent are scalars  $x_i$  and  $x_j$ , then  $w_{ij} = e^{-|x_i - x_j|^2/2}$ 

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- Construct the Weighted adjacency matrix  $\mathbf{W} = (\mathbf{w_{ij}})_{i,j=1,\dots,n}$  and Degree matrix  $\mathbf{D} = diag(d_1,\dots,d_n)$  where  $\mathbf{d_i} = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{w_{ij}}$  is called Degree of a vertex  $v_i$ .

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- Graph Laplacian is defined as L = D W
- A fully connected graph can be made sparse by converting it into a k-nearest neighbor or an  $\epsilon$ -neighborhood graph.

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- The eigenpair  $(\lambda, u)$  of  $L_{rw}$  solve  $Lu = \lambda Du$  and in this case  $D^{1/2}u$  is eigenvector of  $L_{sym}$  with eigenvalue  $\lambda$ .

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Graph Laplacian - Types and Properties [Luxburg, 2007]

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- All Laplacians are Positive-semidefinte, hence have non-Negative Real-Valued Eigenvalues
- 0 is an eigenvalue with multiplicity equal to number of connected components

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$$\operatorname{\mathsf{cut}}(A_1,\ldots,A_k) := \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^k \mathit{W}(A_i,\bar{A}_i), \quad \text{where } \mathit{W}(A,B) = \sum_{i \in A, j \in B} \mathit{w}_{ij}, \bar{A} = \mathit{V} \setminus A$$

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To maximize the within-cluster similarity, we define two objective functions

$$RatioCut(A_{1},...,A_{k}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{k} \frac{W(A_{i},\bar{A}_{i})}{|A_{i}|} = \sum_{i=1}^{k} \frac{cut(A_{i},\bar{A}_{i})}{|A_{i}|} [Hagen, Kahng, 1992]$$

$$Ncut(A_{1},...,A_{k}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{k} \frac{W(A_{i},\bar{A}_{i})}{vol(A_{i})} = \sum_{i=1}^{k} \frac{cut(A_{i},\bar{A}_{i})}{vol(A_{i})} [Shi, Malik, 2000]$$

Algorithms - Unnormalized Spectral Clustering - Hagen & Kahng (1992)

**Input:** Similarity matrix  $S \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , number k of clusters to construct. **begin** 

Construct a similarity graph and its weighted adjacency matrix *W* according to the chosen similarity function

Compute the unnormalized Laplacian L

Compute the first k eigenvectors  $u_1, \ldots, u_k$  of L

Let  $U \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k}$  be the matrix containing the vectors  $u_1, \dots, u_k$  as columns

For i = 1, ..., n, let  $y_i \in \mathbb{R}^k$  be the vector corresponding to the  $i^{th}$  row of U

Cluster the points  $(y_i)$ , i = 1, ..., n in  $\mathbb{R}^k$  with the k-means algorithm into clusters  $C_1, ..., C_k$ 

#### end

**Output:** Clusters  $A_1, \ldots, A_k$  with  $A_i = \{x_j | y_j \in C_i\}$ 

Algorithms - Normalized Spectral Clustering - Shi & Malik (2000)

This algorithm uses generalized eigenvectors of L, which are the eigenvectors of normalized random-walk Laplacian  $L_{rw} = D^{-1}L$ 

**Input:** Similarity matrix  $S \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , number k of clusters to construct begin

Construct a similarity graph and its weighted adjacency matrix *W* according to the chosen similarity function

Compute the unnormalized Laplacian L.

Compute the first k generalized eigenvectors  $u_1, \ldots, u_k$  of generalized eigenproblem  $Lu = \lambda Du$ .

Let  $U \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k}$  be the matrix containing the vectors  $u_1, \dots, u_k$  as columns.

For i = 1, ..., n, let  $y_i \in \mathbb{R}^k$  be the vector corresponding to the  $i^{th}$  row of U.

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**Output:** Clusters  $A_1, \ldots, A_k$  with  $A_i = \{x_i | y_i \in C_i\}$ 



Algorithms - Normalized Spectral Clustering - Ng, Jordan & Weiss (2002)

This algorithm uses the eigenvectors of normalized symmetric Laplacian  $L_{sym} = D^{-1/2}LD^{-1/2}$ . Note that if  $D^{1/2}u$  is an eigenvector of  $L_{sym}$  if u is an eigenvector of L hence an additional normalization step is needed.

**Input:** Similarity matrix  $S \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , number k of clusters to construct. **begin** 

Construct a similarity graph and its weighted adjacency matrix *W* according to the chosen similarity function

Compute the normalized Laplacian  $L_{sym}$ 

Compute the first k eigenvectors  $u_1, \ldots, u_k$  of  $L_{sym}$ 

Let  $U \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k}$  be the matrix containing the vectors  $u_1, \dots, u_k$  as columns

Form the matrix  $T \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k}$  from U by normalizing the norm to 1,

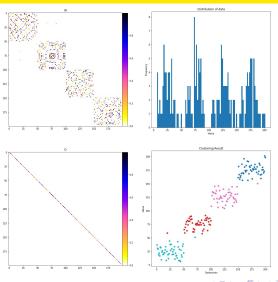
$$t_{ij} = u_{ij}/(\sum_k u_{ik}^2)^{1/2}$$

For  $i=1,\ldots,n$ , let  $y_i\in\mathbb{R}^k$  be the vector corresponding to the  $i^{th}$  row of U Cluster the points  $(y_i), i=1,\ldots,n$  in  $\mathbb{R}^k$  with the k-means algorithm into clusters  $C_1,\ldots,C_k$ 

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Mixture of 4 Gaussians in  $\mathbb{R}^1$ . Similarity function:  $e^{-|x_i-x_j|^2/2}$ 



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1351 Points in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Similarity function:  $||x - y||_2^{-1}$ 

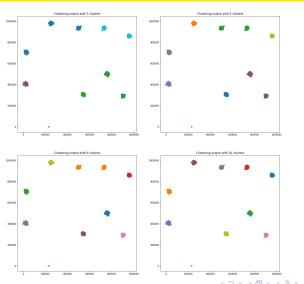
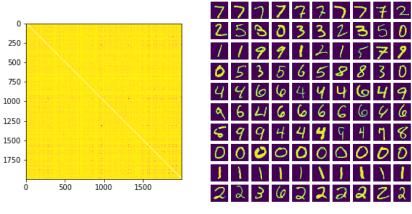


Image Classification. Similarity function:  $||\mathbf{v_i} \circ \mathbf{v_j}||_1$ 

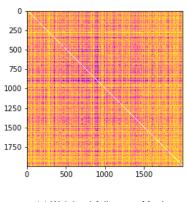


(a) Weighted Adjacency Matrix

(b) Clustering Result

Figure: 2000 images from MNIST data-set were clustered into 10 clusters. (b) shows first 10 images in each cluster with one row per cluster

Image Classification. Similarity function:  $||\mathbf{v_i} - \mathbf{v_j}||_2^{-1}$ 



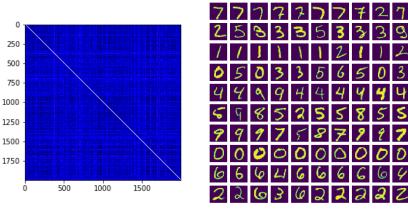




(b) Clustering Result

Figure: 2000 images from MNIST data-set were clustered into 10 clusters. (b) shows first 10 images in each cluster with one row per cluster

Image Classification. Similarity function: number of pixels that either 0 or non-zero in both  $v_i \& v_j$ 



(a) Weighted Adjacency Matrix

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Figure: 2000 images from MNIST data-set were clustered into 10 clusters. (b) shows first 10 images in each cluster with one row per cluster

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Image Classification. Doubling the number of clusters to capture handwriting style differences

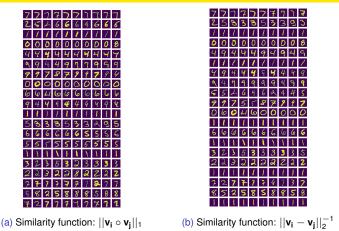


Figure: 2000 images from MNIST data-set were clustered into 20 clusters, showing first 10 images in each cluster with one row per cluster.

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[Tremblay et al. 2016]

Challenges with Spectral Clustering: Eigenvector computation, Cold-restart, expensive *k*-means due to high dimensionality.

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  - Estimate k<sup>th</sup> eigenvalue per [Napoli 2013]
  - Approximate the action of a low-pass filter H that selects the first k eigenvectors on the graph Laplacian
  - Generate  $\mathcal{O}(\log(k))$  Gaussian signals, filtered by H to generate feature vectors  $\mathbf{f}_i$

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- Infer the cluster label of all N nodes by interpolating.

#### **Future Work**

- Accelerated Eigensolvers
  - Accelerating Lanczos
  - Chebyshev-Davidson Methods [Zhou & Saad 2007] [Z. Wang, 2015]
  - Taking advantage of structure
- Detecting number of clusters adaptively.
- Hot-restart information from the pass with k clusters to bootstrap clustering process with k + l clusters
- Dimensionality reduction for k-means

Thank You!