# Understanding Vulnerability of Communities in Social Networks

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BTP Track: Research

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#### Student's Declaration

I hereby declare that the work presented in the report entitled "Understanding vulnerability of Communities in Social Networks" submitted by me for the partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Bachelor of Technology in Computer Science & Engineering at Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology, Delhi, is an authentic record of my work carried out under guidance of Dr. Tanmoy Chakraborty and Dr. Ponnurangam Kumaraguru. Due acknowledgements have been given in the report to all material used. This work has not been submitted anywhere else for the reward of any other degree.

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Certificate	
This is to certify that the above statement made by the knowledge.	ne candidate is correct to the best of my
Dr. Tanmoy Chakraborty	Place & Date:
 Dr. Ponnurangam Kumaraguru	Place & Date:
z	

#### Abstract

In this project I study the problem of identifying critical nodes in a network which minimize different community metrics like NMI(Normalized Mutual Information), Modularity, Adjusted Rand Index etc. and compare their results. Currently I focus on Modularity and NMI metric of communities in a social network. The ability to see such results allows us to better understand the vulnerability of the network since the nodes selected across different metrics might be different and hence seeing those results in conjunction will tell us a lot more about the network, than seeing only one metric which is what is done in some literature. Also since the problem does not restrict the use of only one community detection algorithm, hence the mechanism that I would propose should be able to work on multiple community detection algorithms. Presently, I have tried different approaches or heuristics since the problem itself is NP-Complete and attempted to achieve the ground truth results for small datasets such as Karate Club.

Keywords: (Graph Mining, Algorithms, Community Analysis)

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# Introduction

#### 1.1 Problem Definition

Given a graph G(V, E), each node i is associated with a cost  $C_i$ , and there is a total budget K. For a vertex set  $S \subseteq V$ , let G[S] be the graph induced by S,  $Cost(S) = \sum_{i \in S} C_i$ , and  $f(S) = Modularity(G) - Modularity(G[\bar{S}])$ . Here,  $\bar{S} = V \setminus S$ . Note that, f(S) is a real-valued set function. We need to identify a set of nodes  $S \subseteq G$  which,

Modularity is defined as follows:

$$\frac{1}{2m} \sum_{i,j} (A_{i,j} - \frac{k_i * k_j}{2m}) \delta(c_i, c_j)$$
 where  $\mathbf{m} = \text{Number of edges}$   $\mathbf{k_i}, \mathbf{k_j} = \text{Degree of node i, j}$   $\mathbf{c_i}, \mathbf{c_j} = \text{Community label of node i and node j}$   $\mathbf{A_{i,j}} = \text{Adjacency Matrix}$  
$$\mathbf{\delta(c_i, c_j)} = \begin{cases} 1 & c_i = c_j \\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases}$$

The unit cost formulation of the above problem has only one change. The value of  $C_i = 1$  i.e each node in the graph G has unit cost. We are going to prove that this version of the above mentioned problem is NP-Complete. Since the unit cost formulation is just a trivial case of the general cost version, if we prove that the unit cost version is NP-Complete then clearly the general case would also be NP-Complete.

# NP-Completeness Proof

#### 2.1 Reduction Problem

We will use *Maximum Vertex Coverage - Bipartite Graphs* (MVC-B) for reduction. This problem states the following,

Given a bipartite graph  $G = (V, E), V = V_L \cup V_R, V_L \cap V_R = \emptyset$  and positive integers b, c, check if there exists a subset of vertices  $S \subseteq V$  with |S| = b such that at least c edges are incident to nodes in S.

#### 2.2 Proof

Given an instance of MVC-B with bipartite graph G = (V, E),  $V = V_L \cup V_R$ ,  $V_L \cap V_R = \emptyset$  and positive integers b, c.

Now we construct our problem instance G' = (V', E') by connecting  $V_L, V_R$  to cliques  $K_L, K_R$ , respectively. We create an edge between all  $\{(u,v)|u\in K_L,v\in V_L\}$  and all  $\{(u,v)|u\in K_R,v\in V_R\}$ . We choose the size of  $K_R, K_L$  such that, when b vertices in V are removed with at least c edges incident to them in E, A(Algorithm) will detect two communities  $K_L \cup V_L \setminus S_L, K_R \cup V_R \setminus S_R$  where  $S_L \in V_L$  and  $S_R \in V_R$  and when we do not do any such operation it will detect only one community. By this we mean that  $|K_L|$  is not necessarily equal to  $|V_L|$  and similarly  $|K_R|$  is not necessarily equal to  $|V_R|$ . Suppose when E is sparse then we would want  $|K_L|$  and  $|K_R|$  to be small enough so that A(G') will detect only one community and  $A(G'[V' \setminus S])$  will detect 2 above mentioned communities when we remove |S| = b vertices. Similarly when E is dense we would want  $K_L$  and  $K_R$  to be large enough for the same reason.

Let k = b and,

$$a = \min_{S_L \in V_L, S_R \in V_R, |S_L| + |S_R| = b} Modularity(A(G')) - Modularity(Y')$$

where

$$Y' = \{K_L \cup V_L \setminus S_L, K_R \cup V_R \setminus S_R\}$$

Now assume we have a solution S, |S| = K to our problem. As

$$Modularity(A(G') - Modularity(A(G'[V' \setminus S])) \geq a$$

,  $A(G'[V' \setminus S])$  must contain two communities. By construction, number of edges removed from E is at least c. If  $S \subseteq V$  then we directly obtain the solution to MVC-B. If  $\exists v \in S, v \notin V$ , we can always find a vertex  $u \in V, u \notin S$  and update S to S' =  $S \cup \{u\} \setminus \{v\}$  while keeping the number of edges incident to S greater than c. Therefore, we have a solution S', |S'| = K = b for MVC-B.

Now assume we have a solution S, |S| = b to MVC-B. Then at least c edges in E are incident to vertices in S. If we remove all vertices in S, by construction,  $A(G'[V' \setminus S))$  will output 2 communities,  $K_L \cup V_L \setminus S'_L$  and  $K_R \cup V_R \setminus S'_R$ . Then we have,

$$Modularity(A(G')) - Modularity(A(G'[V' \setminus S])) \ge a$$

as a is the maximum Modularity difference value for communities in the form  $\{K_L \cup V_L \setminus S_L, K_R \cup V_R \setminus S_R\}$ . Therefore, we have a solution S, |S| = b = K for our problem.

#### 2.3 Conclusion

Since our problem statement has a solution if and only if *Maximum Vertex coverage - Bipartite Graph* has a solution, hence our problem statement is NP-Complete.

# Approach

- Considering that the problem is NP-Complete I needed to a small dataset to work on. Hence, I used UCI Karate Club network with 2 communities and 34 nodes.
- Since my problem statement is not restricted by a particular community detection algorithm, I have the following,
  - Louvain
  - Edge Betweenness
  - Fast Greedy
  - Infomap
  - Label Propagation
  - Leading Eigenvector
  - Multilevel
  - Walktrap
- The value functions that I have tried to optimize are the following,
  - Modularity (as mentioned above)
  - NMI (Normalized Mutual Information)
     NMI is defined as follows:

$$\frac{2\sum_{i=1}^{c_X}\sum_{j=1}^{c_Y}(n_{ij}log(\frac{n_{ij}n}{x_i*y_j}))}{(n-k)H(X) + \bar{y}log(n-k) - \sum_{j=1}^{c_Y}(y_jlog(y_j))}$$

where  $c_X$  = Number of communities in network X

 $c_Y$  = Number of communities in network Y

 $n_{ij} = |X_i \cap Y_j|$ 

n = Number of nodes

```
egin{aligned} & m{x_i} = |X_i| \ & m{y_i} = |Y_i| \ & m{ar{y}} = & \text{Total size of communities in Y} \end{aligned}
```

#### 3.1 Getting ground truth

First I generated the ground truth for the small dataset of Karate Club. This would allow me to compare the heuristics with the actual best results. The algorithm is as follows.

#### Algorithm 1 Exhaustive Algorithm

```
1: graph \leftarrow load\_graph
 2: partition \leftarrow qenerate\_partition
 3: value \leftarrow compute\_value\_function
 4: make plot of the partition
 5: n \leftarrow total\_nodes, r \leftarrow budget
 6: tryAll \leftarrow generate^n P_r combinations
 7: score \leftarrow array
 8: for all tryAll do
         copy \leftarrow graph.copy
 9:
         copy \leftarrow copy.remove\_selection
10:
         new\_partition \leftarrow generate\_partition
11:
12:
         new\_value \leftarrow compute\_value\_function
13:
         score \leftarrow value - new\_value
14: sort the score array
15: best\_nodes \leftarrow score.0
16: qraph \leftarrow qraph.remove\_selection
17: best\_partition \leftarrow qenerate\_partition
18: make plot of best_partition
```

### 3.2 Network based Greedy approach

In this approach I greedily chose top K nodes based on different metrics such as,

- Clustering Coefficient  $C_i = \frac{2|\{e_{jk}: v_j, v_k \in N_i, e_{jk} \in E\}|}{k_i(k_i-1)}$  where  $C_i$  is the clustering coefficient of vertex i.  $N_i$  is the neighborhood of vertex i.  $k_i$  is the degree of the vertex i.
- Degree Centrality  $C_D(v) = \deg(v)$
- Betweenness Centrality  $C_B(v) = \sum_{s \neq v \neq t \in V} \frac{\sigma_{st}(v)}{\sigma_{st}}$  where  $\sigma_{st}$  is the total number of shortest paths from vertex s to vertex t.  $\sigma_{st}(v)$  is the number of those paths that pass through v.
- Eigenvector Centrality  $x_v = \frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_{t \in M(v)} x_t$  where  $\lambda$  is a constant and M(v) is the set of neighbors of v

- Closeness Centrality  $C(x) = \frac{1}{\sum_y d(y,x)}$  where d(y,x) is the distance between vertices x and y
- Coreness The k-core of the graph is a maximal subgraph in which each vertex has at least degree(in the subgraph) k. The coreness of a vertex is k if it is a member of the k-core but not a member of k + 1-core.
- Diversity It is the normalized Shannon extropy of the weights of edges incident on the vertex. Shannon entropy  $[H(X)] = -\sum_{i=1}^{n} P(x_i) \log_b P(x_i)$
- Eccentricity Shortest distance from (or to) the vertex, to(or from) all the other vertices in the graph, and taking maximum.
- Constraint Burt's value. Well defined on the internet.
- Closeness Vitality Change in the sum of distances between all node pairs when excluding that node

Apart from the above mentioned metrics I used some other metrics as well such as,

- myMod Selects the vertex that contributes most to the modularity of the network.
- myNMI Selects the vertex that contributes most to the NMI of the network.

#### Algorithm 2 Network based Greedy Algorithm

```
graph \leftarrow load\_graph
```

- 2:  $partition \leftarrow generate\_partition$  $value \leftarrow compute\_value\_function$
- 4:  $selection \leftarrow best\_nodes\_greedy$  $copy \leftarrow graph.remove\_selection$
- 6:  $new\_partition \leftarrow generate\_partition$  $new\_value \leftarrow compute\_value\_function$
- 8:  $score \leftarrow value new\_value$ make plot of  $new\_partition$

The intuition behind this approach was if we remove nodes that contribute majorly to the network property, then it might help us reduce the value function itself.

### 3.3 Community based Greedy approach

In this approach rather than directly attacking and removing nodes that contribute heavily to some network property of the graph we first try to identify a community within the network based on a greedy metric and then within that community we identify a node based on the greedy metrics defined in the previous subsection. We then repeat the process until we hit out budget.

The metrics I chose to select a community are as follows,

- Link density  $D(G) = \frac{2E}{V(V-1)}$  where E is the number of edges in the graph and V is the number of vertices in the graph.
- Conductance  $\phi(G) = \frac{s}{v}$  where s is number of vertices with one endpoint in G and another in  $\bar{G}$ , v is the sum of degree of nodes in G.
- Compactness C(G) is defined as the average shortest path lengths within the graph G.

#### Algorithm 3 Community based Greedy Algorithm

```
procedure Best Community
        partition\_score \leftarrow array
        for all partitions_graph do
 3:
            subgraph \leftarrow graph.partition
            value \leftarrow compute\_value\_function
        sort the partition_score array
 6:
        return partition corresponding to partition_score.0
    procedure Best Node
        value \leftarrow compute\_value\_function
 9:
        return value
    qraph \leftarrow load\_qraph
12: graph\_partition \leftarrow generate\_partition
    value \leftarrow compute\_value\_function
    counter \leftarrow 0
15: while counter \leq budget do
        subgraph \leftarrow BEST\_COMMUNITY
        node \leftarrow BEST\_NODE
        graph \leftarrow remove\_selection
18:
        partition \leftarrow generate\_partition
        counter += 1
21: new\_value \leftarrow compute\_value\_function
    score \leftarrow value - new\_value
    make plot of partition
```

The intuition behind this approach was since we want to select nodes such that the community structure of the network breaks, hence we should first target the community itself. Having identified a community, we can then target the node as described in the previous subsection. This method is more fine grained as it considers two level scrutiny at each iteration.

#### 3.4 Genetic Algorithm approach

This approach is similar to a general genetic algorithm which works on a population and improves its progeny at every generation. The algorithm is as follows,

```
Algorithm 4 Genetic Algorithm
    procedure Propagation
        mating \leftarrow array
        mating \leftarrow randomly select 2 parents and cross pollinate them
 4:
       return mating
    procedure MUTATION
        mutate \leftarrow array
        mutate \leftarrow randomly select a parent and change one position
 8:
        return mutate
    procedure Make Next Generation
       propogation \leftarrow PROPAGATE
        mutation \leftarrow MUTATION
12:
       return \ chromosomes + propagation + mutation
    population\_size \leftarrow 100 \text{ (hyperparameter)}
    tryAll \leftarrow generate^n P_r combinations
    chromosomes \leftarrow select\ population\_size\ from\ tryAll
16: generation \leftarrow 0
    score \leftarrow array
    while generation \leq MAX\_GENERATIONS do
        for all chromosomes do
20:
           copy \leftarrow graph.copy
           copy \leftarrow delete\_selection
           score \leftarrow compute\_value\_function
       sort the score array
        chromosomes \leftarrow select top 20 best chromosomes
24:
        chromosomes \leftarrow MAKE\ NEXT\ GENERATION
        generation += 1
```

Genetic algorithms usually start with a random guess and through generations the random samples that it initially started with improves. The improvement is measured by a fit function which in my case is the value function itself. At each generation the current set of chromosomes are evaluated and the top ones are chosen. Now for the next generation we cross pollinate between those selected chromosomes and with some probability, sometimes even mutate them. Cross pollination is done by randomly choosing 2 parents and again randomly choose 2 positions in the parents and making a new child. Mutation is done by randomly selecting a candidate and again randomly choosing a position and change the value at that position of the candidate. Once we have a new set of chromosomes of the next generation we repeat the process again.

# Results

The results below are shown for the following values,

- Community Detection Algorithm Louvain
- Budget 4
- Value Function Modularity and NMI
- Graph Karate Club
- Population Size 100
- Top chromosomes per generation 20
- Max generations 200

#### 4.1 Exhaustive Results

#### 4.1.1 Modularity

Best nodes which optimized the modularity value of the network were, **0**, **3**, **6**, **1**. The corresponding decrease in modularity value of the network was **0.12289**.

#### 4.1.2 NMI

Best nodes which optimized the NMI value of the network were, **32**, **33**, **5**, **6**. The corresponding NMI value between the original network and the new network was **0.38580**.

### 4.2 Network based Greedy approach

#### 4.2.1 Modularity

Metrics	Clustering	Degree Cen-	Betweenness	Eigenvector	Closeness	Coreness	Diversity	Eccentricity	Constraint	Closeness	myMod	Intra-degree
	Coefficient	trality	Centrality	Centrality	Centrality					Vitality		
Nodes	16, 22, 7, 12	33, 0, 32, 2	0, 33, 32, 2	33, 0, 2, 32	0, 2, 33, 31	33, 32, 1, 2	33, 8, 14, 13	16, 26, 18,	11, 16, 26,	0, 16, 26, 11	17, 20, 15, 5	33, 32, 0, 1
Selected								20	12			
Modularity	0.03664	-0.23652	-0.23652	-0.23652	-0.23186	-0.07938	-0.01111	0.04439	0.03641	-0.00166	0.03469	-0.15885
Scores												

Table 4.1: Louvain Results for different greedy metrics optimizing modularity scores.

#### 4.2.2 NMI

Metrics	Clustering	Degree Cen-	Betweenness	Eigenvector	Closeness	Coreness	Diversity	Eccentricity	Constraint	Closeness	myNMI	Intra-degree
	Coefficient	trality	Centrality	Centrality	Centrality					Vitality		
Nodes	16, 22, 7, 12	33, 0, 32, 2	0, 33, 32, 2	33, 0, 2, 32	0, 2, 33, 31	33, 32, 1, 2	33, 8, 14, 13	16, 26, 18,	11, 16, 26,	0, 16, 26, 11	17, 20, 15, 5	33, 32, 0, 1
Selected								20	12			
NMI Scores	0.64575	0.67842	0.67842	0.67842	0.77117	0.70084	0.69480	0.85071	0.64740	0.83451	0.64568	0.62733

Table 4.2: Louvain Results for different greedy metrics optimizing NMI scores.

### 4.3 Community based Greedy approach

#### 4.3.1 Modularity

#### Link Density

Metrics	Clustering	Degree Cen-	Betweenness	Eigenvector	Closeness	Coreness	Diversity	Eccentricity	Constraint	Closeness	myMod	Intra-degree
	Coefficient	trality	Centrality	Centrality	Centrality					Vitality		
Nodes	25, 16, 20,	NA	NA	31, 24, 6, 9	NA	NA	NA	28, 30, 27,	25, 16, 11,	NA	31, 27, 16,	31, 16, 26,
Selected	10							25	10		24	24
Modularity	0.04875	NA	NA	0.05090	NA	NA	NA	-0.01348	0.04690	NA	0.03180	0.02399
Scores												

Table 4.3: Louvain Results for different greedy metrics with link density as the global metric.

#### Conductance

Metrics	Clustering	Degree Cen-	Betweenness	Eigenvector	Closeness	Coreness	Diversity	Eccentricity	Constraint	Closeness	myMod	Intra-degree
	Coefficient	trality	Centrality	Centrality	Centrality					Vitality		
Nodes	30, 21, 26,	NA	NA	NA	NA	33, 13, 7, 14	33, 21, 19,	32, 16, 28,	9, 25, 24, 27	9, 25, 24, 21	29, 27, 2, 26	NA
Selected	25						29	20				
Modularity	-0.01510	NA	NA	NA	NA	-0.01761	-0.04365	0.02800	-0.02899	-0.01871	-0.06334	NA
Scores												

Table 4.4: Louvain Results for different greedy metrics with conductance as the global metric.

#### Compactness

Metrics	Clustering	Degree Cen-	Betweenness	Eigenvector	Closeness	Coreness	Diversity	Eccentricity	Constraint	Closeness	myMod	Intra-degree
	Coefficient	trality	Centrality	Centrality	Centrality					Vitality		
Nodes	25, 30, 16,	31, 27, 25,	31, 27, 25,	31, 27, 25,	31, 27, 25,	31, 27, 25,	31, 27, 25,	28, 16, 18,	25, 27, 16,	31, 27, 25,	31, 27, 16,	31, 16, 10,
Selected	26	24	24	24	24	24	24	28	28	24	24	25
Modularity	0.01645	-0.00041	-0.00041	-0.00041	-0.00041	-0.00041	-0.00041	-0.04365	0.01865	0.01887	0.03180	0.04360
Scores												

Table 4.5: Louvain Results for different greedy metrics with compactness as the global metric.

#### 4.3.2 NMI

#### Link Density

Metrics	Clustering	Degree Cen-	Betweenness	Eigenvector	Closeness	Coreness	Diversity	Eccentricity	Constraint	Closeness	myNMI	Intra-degree
	Coefficient	trality	Centrality	Centrality	Centrality					Vitality		
Nodes	25, 16, 20,	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	28, 30, 27,	25, 16, 11,	NA	24, 4, 29, 5	31, 16, 26,
Selected	10							25	10			24
NMI Scores	0.69975	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.83447	0.80276	NA	0.71725	0.82711

Table 4.6: Louvain Results for different greedy metrics with link density as the global metric.

#### Conductance

Metrics	Clustering	Degree Cen-	Betweenness	Eigenvector	Closeness	Coreness	Diversity	Eccentricity	Constraint	Closeness	myNMI	Intra-degree
	Coefficient	trality	Centrality	Centrality	Centrality					Vitality		
Nodes	30, 21, 26,	NA	NA	NA	NA	33, 13, 7, 14	33, 21, 19,	32, 16, 28,	NA	NA	23, 8, 24, 13	NA
Selected	25						29	20				
NMI Scores	0.83881	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.51916	0.64279	0.57182	NA	NA	0.80198	NA

Table 4.7: Louvain Results for different greedy metrics with conductance as the global metric.

#### Compactness

Metrics	Clustering	Degree Cen-	Betweenness	Eigenvector	Closeness	Coreness	Diversity	Eccentricity	Constraint	Closeness	myNMI	Intra-degree
	Coefficient	trality	Centrality	Centrality	Centrality					Vitality		
Nodes	25, 30, 16,	31, 27, 25,	31, 27, 25,	31, 24, 6, 9	31, 27, 25,	31, 27, 25,	31, 27, 25,	NA	25, 27, 16,	31, 27, 25,	24, 4, 29, 5	31, 16, 10,
Selected	26	24	24		24	24	24		28	24		25
NMI Scores	0.92491	0.83880	0.83880	0.72730	0.83880	0.83880	0.83880	NA	0.90921	0.83880	0.71725	0.58198

Table 4.8: Louvain Results for different greedy metrics with compactness as the global metric.

### 4.4 Genetic Algorithm approach

#### 4.4.1 Modularity

Based on the hyperparameters mentioned previously, best nodes which optimized the modularity value of the network identified by the algorithm were, **0**, **6**, **1**, **3**. The corresponding decrease in modularity value of the network was **0.08984**.

#### 4.4.2 NMI

Based on the hyperparameters mentioned previously, best nodes which optimized the modularity value of the network identified by the algorithm were, **7**, **2**, **30**, **21**. The corresponding NMI value between the original network and the new network was **0.74314**.

# Plots

Plots shown are for louvain community detection algorithm.

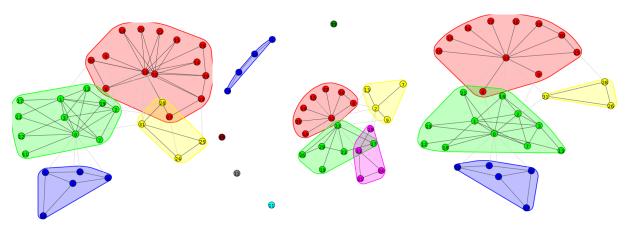
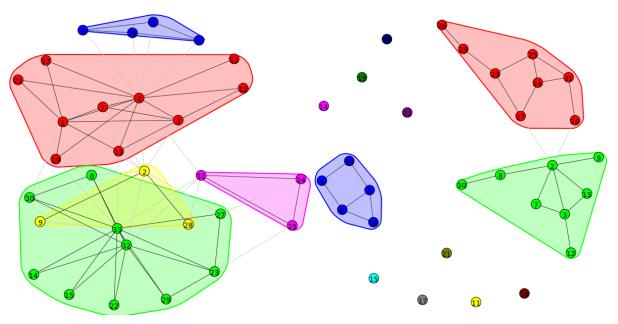


Figure 5.1: Original Network Figure 5.2: (0, 3, 6, 1) - 0.12289 - Figure 5.3: (32, 33, 5, 6) - 0.38580 Exhaustive Modularity - Exhaustive NMI

Figure 5.4: Original graph and Exhaustive Results



 $\mbox{Figure 5.5: } (16,\,26,\,18,\,20) - 0.04439 - \mbox{Eccentricity} \quad \mbox{Figure 5.6: } (33,\,32,\,0,\,1) - 0.62733 - \mbox{Intra Degree } (33,\,32,\,0,\,1) - \mbox{Intra Degree } (33,\,32,\,0,\,1) - \mbox{Intra Degree } (33,$ 

Figure 5.7: Network based Greedy approach results

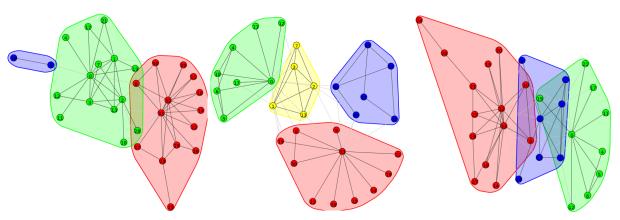


Figure 5.8: (31, 24, 6, 9) - 0.05090 - Figure 5.9: (32, 16, 28, 20) - Figure 5.10: (31, 16, 10, 25) - Link Density, Eigenvector Central- 0.02800 - Conductance, Eccentricity gree

Figure 5.11: Community based Greedy approach results for Modularity

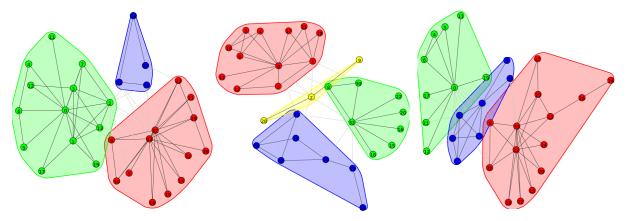


Figure 5.12:  $(25,\ 16,\ 20,\ 10)$  - Figure 5.13:  $(33,\ 13,\ 7,\ 14)$  - Figure 5.14:  $(31,\ 16,\ 10,\ 25)$  - 0.69975 - Link Density, Clustering 0.51916 - Conductance, Coreness 0.58198 - Compactness, Intra Decomposition Coefficient

Figure 5.15: Community based Greedy approach results for NMI  $\,$ 

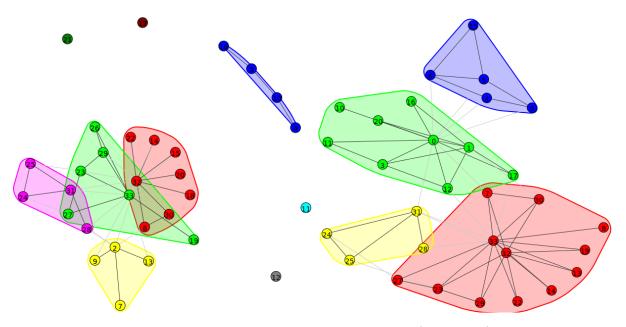


Figure 5.16: (0, 6, 1, 3) - 0.08984 - Modularity

Figure 5.17: (7, 2, 30, 21) - 0.74314 - NMI

Figure 5.18: Genetic Algorithm based results

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