Perturbation-Stable Maximum Cut

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UBC Beyond Worst-Case Analysis Reading Group
(Based on Tim Roughgarden's Notes for Stanford CS264)

June 30, 2020

Maximum Cut

Problem (Maximum Cut)

Input: An undirected graph $G = (V, E)$ with edge weights $w_e > 0$ for each $e \in E$.

Goal: A cut (A, B) that maximizes the weight of the **crossing** edges.

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- Maximum Cut is a type of 2-clustering problem (e.g. weights measure dissimilarities).

MAXIMUM CUT Is *NP*-Hard

Problem (MAXIMUM CUT, Decision Version)

Input: An undirected graph $G = (V, E)$ with edge weights $w_e > 0$ for each $e \in E$, and a positive integer W.

Output: Yes iff. there is a set $S \subseteq V$ such that the weight of the **crossing** edges is at least W.

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Proof Sketch (Partition $\leq_P$ Maximum Cut)

- $G = K_n$.
- $w_{ij} = c_i c_j$ for all $i, j \in V, i \neq j$.
- $W = \lceil \frac{1}{4} \sum c_i^2 \rceil$.

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- Minimum Cut is **not** *NP*-hard and can be solved by the Maximum-Flow Minimum-Cut Theorem.
- **Question:** Can't we negate the edge weights, yielding a Minimum Cut instance?
- No! Polynomial-time algorithms solving Minimum Cut require nonnegative edge weights.

Exact Recovery

- **Theme:** To recover the optimal solution in polynomial time in γ-**perturbation-stable** instances, where γ is as small as possible.

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- **Theme:** To recover the optimal solution in polynomial time in γ-**perturbation-stable** instances, where γ is as small as possible.

Definition (γ-Perturbation-Stability)

For $\gamma \geq 1$, an instance of $\textsc{Maximum Cut}$ is γ-**perturbation-stable** if a cut (A, B) is the **unique** optimal solution to all γ-**perturbations**, where each original edge weight w_e is replaced with an edge weight $w'_e \in [\frac{1}{\gamma} w_e, w_e]$.

LP Relaxation, Take 1

- **Question:** Can we use an LP relaxation similar to the one for Minimum Cut, i.e.

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\begin{aligned}
\max \quad & \sum_{e \in E} w_e x_e & \\
\text{s.t.} \quad & x_e \geq |d_u - d_v|, & \forall e = uv \in E, \\
& x_e \in [0,1], & \forall e \in E, \\
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- No! $x_e = 1$ for each $e \in E$ is a feasible solution and maximizes the objective value.
- **Question:** What about $x_e \leq d_u - d_v$ and $x_e \leq d_v - d_u$?
- This forces $x_e = 0$, instead of $x_e \leq |d_u - d_v|$.

LP Relaxation, Take 2

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LP Relaxation, Take 2

- Hence we obtain the LP relaxation $(\text{LP-}\textsc{MaxCut})$:

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\max \quad & \sum_{(i,j)\in E} w_{ij} x_{ij} \\
\text{s.t.} \quad & x_e \geq |d_u - d_v|\,, && \forall e = uv \in E, \\
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There is a constant $c > 0$ *such that in every* $(c \log n)$*-perturbation-stable instance of* $\textsc{Maximum Cut}$ *with* n *vertices,* $(\text{LP-}\textsc{MaxCut})$ *solves to integers.*

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There is a constant $c > 0$ such that in every $(c \log n)$-perturbation-stable instance of MAXIMUM CUT *with n vertices,* (LP-MAXCUT) *solves to integers.*

- Recall the proofs of exact recovery by LP in 1-perturbation-stable MINIMUM s-t CUT instances and in 4-perturbation-stable MINIMUM MULTIWAY CUT instances.

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- In each of the two proofs we design a **randomized rounding algorithm** that outputs a (random) cut such that the probability of an edge being cut is approximately the same as the value of the corresponding decision variable.

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- Minimum s-t Cut: $A = \{v \in V : \hat{d}_v \leq r\}$ and $B = V \setminus A$, where $r \sim \text{Uniform}(0, 1)$.

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- Recall the proofs of exact recovery by LP in 1-perturbation-stable MINIMUM s-t CUT instances and in 4-perturbation-stable MINIMUM MULTIWAY CUT instances.
- In each of the two proofs we design a **randomized rounding algorithm** that outputs a (random) cut such that the probability of an edge being cut is approximately the same as the value of the corresponding decision variable.
- MINIMUM s-t CUT: $A = \{v \in V : \hat{d}_v \leq r\}$ and $B = V \setminus A$, where $r \sim \text{Uniform}(0, 1)$.
- MINIMUM MULTIWAY CUT: For each iteration, a group and a threshold are chosen uniformly randomly.

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- Since all of the extreme points of the feasible region are integral and correspond to a cut, then LP algorithms always solve $(\text{LP-}\textsc{MaxCut})$ to an integral optimal solution.

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- Formally, we define $\Delta(C)$ to be the total cost of C that exceeds that of C^* and $\Delta(\hat{x})$ to be total cost of C^* that exceeds the objective function value of $\hat{x}$.
- We show that $\mathbb{E}[\Delta(C)] \leq 0$ by the probability properties of the cut generated by the randomized rounding algorithm.
- Since $\Delta(C) \geq 0$ and since the equality holds iff. C is an optimal cut, it follows that the randomized rounding algorithm outputs an optimal cut w.p.1.

Randomized Rounding Algorithm

Lemma

Fix an instance of the $\textsc{Maximum Cut}$ *problem, with* F^* *the edges in the optimal cut, and* $\hat{x}$ *the optimal solution to* $(\text{LP-}\textsc{MaxCut})$. *Then there exists a randomized algorithm that generates a random cut* (A, B) *and a scaling parameter* $\sigma > 0$ *such that:*

1. *For every edge* $e = ij \notin F^*$,

$$\mathbb{P}[e \text{ cut by } (A, B)] \geq \sigma \cdot \frac{\hat{x}_{ij}}{\alpha},$$

   where $\alpha = \Theta(\log n)$;

2. *For every edge* $e = ij \in F^*$,

$$\mathbb{P}[e \text{ not cut by } (A, B)] \leq \sigma \cdot (1 - \hat{x}_{ij});$$

3. *The rounding algorithm is deterministic iff.* $\hat{x}$ *is integral.*

Randomized Rounding Algorithm, Roadmap

- **Exercise:** Show that this lemma implies the main theorem (outlined above, Homework #4).

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Proposition

Fix an instance of $\textsc{Maximum Cut}$, a cut C, and a feasible solution $\hat{x}$ to $(\text{LP-}\textsc{MaxCut})$. For distinct $i, j \in V$, define

$$\hat{y}_{ij} = \begin{cases} \hat{x}_{ij}, & \text{if } i, j \text{ are on the same side of } C, \\ 1 - \hat{x}_{ij}, & \text{if } i, j \text{ are on different sides of } C. \end{cases}$$

Then $\hat{y}$ satisfies the triangle inequality:

$$\hat{y}_{jk} \le \hat{y}_{ij} + \hat{y}_{ik}$$

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- That is, $\hat{x}, \hat{y}$ are both **pseudometrics** (i.e. metrics except that distinct points may have zero distances).

Randomized Rounding Algorithm, Roadmap

Theorem (Bourgain's Theorem)

For every n-point **pseudometric** *space (X, d), there exists a randomized algorithm that generates a random partition (A, B) of X and a scaling parameter $\sigma > 0$ such that, for all distinct $i, j \in X$,*

$$\mathbb{P}[i, j \text{ on different sides of } (A, B)] \in \sigma \cdot \left[\frac{d(i,j)}{\alpha}, d(i,j)\right],$$

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- That is, every n-point metric space admits a randomized partitioning algorithm so that the sepration probabilities between pairs of points are **proportional** to the distances, up to a $\Theta(\log n)$ factor.

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- That is, every n-point metric space admits a randomized partitioning algorithm so that the sepration probabilities between pairs of points are **proportional** to the distances, up to a $\Theta(\log n)$ factor.
- The $\Theta(\log n)$ approximation factor is the best possible for **arbitrary** pseudometric spaces.

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Proof (Proposition & Bourgain's Theorem $\implies$ Lemma).

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- By Proposition, $\hat{\mathrm{y}}$ is a pseudometric.

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- Fix an instance of MAXIMUM CUT. Let C^* denote an optimal cut, cutting the edges F^*.
- Let x̂ be an optimal solution to (LP-MAXCUT). Define ŷ as in Proposition (with C^* being the cut).
- By Proposition, ŷ is a pseudometric.
- By Bourgain's Theorem, there is a randomized algorithm that outputs a partition (A, B) and $\sigma > 0$ such that

$$\mathbb{P}[i, j \text{ on different sides of } (A, B)] = \sigma \cdot \left[\frac{\hat{y}_{ij}}{\alpha}, \hat{y}_{ij}\right],$$

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- **Exercise:** Prove Proposition and Bourgain's Theorem (Homework #4). For Bourgain's Theorem see e.g. CPSC 531F Tools for Modern Algorithm Analysis.

Dimensionality Reduction

Definition (α-Embeddings)

Let $(X, d_X), (Y, d_Y)$ be metric spaces. We say that $\phi : X \to Y$ is an α-**embedding** if there exists $r > 0$ such that

$$r \cdot d_X(u, v) \leq d_Y(\phi(u), \phi(v)) \leq r \cdot \alpha \cdot d_X(u, v).$$

for all $u, v \in X$.

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- **Dimensionality reduction** is the process of mapping a high dimensional dataset to a lower dimensional space, while preserving much of the important structure.
- For instance, let $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ and $Y = \mathbb{R}^t$ with $t < d$ and d_X, d_Y being the Euclidean distance.

Dimensionality Reduction

Theorem (Johnson-Lindenstrauss, 1984)

Let $x_1, \ldots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$. *Let* $\epsilon \in (0, 1)$. *Then for some* $t = O(\frac{\log(n)}{\epsilon^2})$, *there exist* $y_1, \ldots, y_n \in \mathbb{R}^t$ *such that*

$$\begin{array}{rcccll} (1-\epsilon)\left\|x_j\right\| & \leq & \left\|y_j\right\| & \leq & (1+\epsilon)\left\|x_j\right\|, & \forall j \in [n], \\ (1-\epsilon)\left\|x_j - x_{j'}\right\| & \leq & \left\|y_j - y_{j'}\right\| & \leq & (1+\epsilon)\left\|x_j - x_{j'}\right\|, & \forall j, j' \in [n]. \end{array}$$

Notation: $\|v\| = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n v_i^2}$.

Dimensionality Reduction

Theorem (Johnson-Lindenstrauss, 1984)

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\begin{array}{rcccll}
(1-\epsilon)\|x_j\| & \leq & \|y_j\| & \leq & (1+\epsilon)\|x_j\|, & \forall j \in [n], \\
(1-\epsilon)\|x_j - x_{j'}\| & \leq & \|y_j - y_{j'}\| & \leq & (1+\epsilon)\|x_j - x_{j'}\|, & \forall j, j' \in [n].
\end{array}
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Notation: $\|v\| = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n v_i^2}$.

- **Remark:** There is a **random linear map** such that for any $x_1, \ldots, x_n$ the above condition holds with probability at least $\frac{1}{2n}$. This linear map is **oblivious**: it does not depend on $x_1, \ldots, x_n$ at all! In fact, the linear map is just a matrix whose entries are independent Gaussians.

Bourgain's Theorem & Sparsest Cut

Theorem (Bourgain's Metric Embedding Theorem)

For any metric space (V, d), there exists an $O(\log n)$-embedding into $\mathbb{R}^{O(\log^2 n)}$ with the ℓ_1-norm that is computable with high probability by a randomized polynomial-time algorithm.

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- This result is the best possible; i.e., there exists a metric that cannot be embedded into ℓ_1 with distortion less than $\Omega(\log n)$.

Definition (Cut Metrics)

A metric (X, d) is a **cut metric** if there exists $S \subseteq X$ such that $d(x, y) = 0$ whenever $x, y \in S$ or $x, y \notin S$, and $d(x, y) = 1$ otherwise.

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Lemma

A metric (X, d) is an ℓ_1 metric if and only if it is a nonnegative linear combination of cut metrics.

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- **Exercise:** Prove Lemma.
- Lemma and Bourgain's Metric Embedding Theorem imply Bourgain's Theorem in the proof of the main theorem.

Bourgain's Theorem & Sparsest Cut

Problem (Sparsest Cut)

Input: An undirected graph $G = (V, E)$ with edge weights $w_e > 0$ for each $e \in E$, and k pairs of vertices (s_i, t_i) each with demand d_i.

Goal: A set of vertices S that minimizes

$$\rho(S) \equiv \frac{\sum_{e \in \delta(S)} c_e}{\sum_{i:|S \cap \{s_i, t_i\}|=1} d_i}.$$

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Corollary

There is a randomized $O(\log n)$-approximation algorithm for Sparsest Cut.

Tree Metric Embedding

Definition (Tree Metrics)

A metric (X, d) is a **tree metric** if there exists a tree $T = (V, E)$ with edge costs c_e for each $e \in E$ such that $d(u, v)$ is the cost of the unique path from u to v in T.

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Theorem (Fakcharoenphol-Rao-Talwar)

For any metric (V, d) such that $d(u, v) \geq 1$ for all $u, v \in V$ with $u \neq v$, there exists a randomized, polynomial-time algorithm that produces a tree metric (V', T), $V \subseteq V'$ such that for all $u, v \in V$, we have $d(u, v) \leq T_{uv}$ and $\mathbb{E}[T_{uv}] \leq O(\log n) d(u, v)$.

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- The above result is obtained via the method of **hierarchical tree decomposition**.

Semidefinite Programming

Definition (Positive Semidefinite Matrices)

A matrix $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ is **positive semidefinite** (or **psd**), denoted $X \succeq 0$, if $y^T X y \geq 0$ for all $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

Fact

If $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ is a symmetric matrix, then the following statements are equivalent:

1. X *is psd;*
2. X *has nonnegative eigenvalues;*
3. $X = V^T V$ *for some* $V \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ *where* $m \leq n$*;*
4. $X = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_i w_i w_i^T$ *for some* $\lambda_i \geq 0$ *and* $w_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$ *such that* $w_i^T w_i = 1$ *and* $w_i^T w_j = 0$ *for all* $i \neq j$*.*

Semidefinite Programming

Definition (Semidefinite Programming, SDP)

A **semidefinite program**, or **SDP**, is a mathematical program with real-valued variables, a linear objective function, linear constraints, and a square symmetric matrix of variables constrained to be psd.

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- Below is an example of SDP with variables x_{ij} for $i, j \in [n]$:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{max or min} \quad & \sum_{i,j \in [n]} c_{ij} x_{ij} && && (1) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \sum_{i,j \in [n]} a_{ijk} x_{ij} = b_k, && \forall k \in [n], \\ & x_{ij} = x_{ji}, && \forall i, j \in [n], \\ & \mathrm{X} = (x_{ij}) \succeq 0. \end{aligned}$$

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- SDP can be solved to within an additive error of ϵ in polynomial time in the size of the input and $\log(\frac{1}{\epsilon})$.

Equivalence of SDP and Vector Programming

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A **vector program** is a mathematical program with variables $v_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$, where n is the number of vectors, and an objective function and constraints linear in the inner products of the vectors.

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Quadratic Programming Formulation

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- Hence, $z_i - z_j$ is 0 if i, j are on the same side of the cut, and ± 2 otherwise.

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- Hence, $z_i - z_j$ is 0 if i, j are on the same side of the cut, and ± 2 otherwise.
- Equivalently, $(z_i - z_j)^2$ is 0 if i, j are on the same side of the cut, and 4 otherwise.

Quadratic Programming Formulation

- Hence we obtain the **exact** quadratic programming formulation of MAXIMUM CUT:

$$\begin{array}{lll} \max & \frac{1}{4} \sum_{ij \in E} w_{ij} (z_i - z_j)^2 & \\ \text{s.t.} & z_i \in \{-1, +1\}, & \forall i \in V. \end{array}$$

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- This quadratic program is **equivalent** to MAXIMUM CUT. Hence optimizing this program is *NP*-hard.

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- **Recall:** Vector programming and SDP are equivalent and hence can be solved to within small error in polynomial time.

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- Hence relaxing each $z_i \in \{-1, 1\}$ to a **unit vector** $\mathrm{v}_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and therefore replacing quadratic terms with inner products yield a vector program that is computationally tractable:

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- The quadratic terms $\|\mathrm{v}_i - \mathrm{v}_j\|^2$ and $\|\mathrm{v}_i\|^2$ expands to sums of inner products $\mathrm{v}_i \cdot \mathrm{v}_i - 2 \cdot \mathrm{v}_i \cdot \mathrm{v}_j + \mathrm{v}_j \cdot \mathrm{v}_j$ and $\mathrm{v}_i \cdot \mathrm{v}_i$, respectively.

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- This vector program is a relaxation of the quadratic program by setting $\mathrm{v}_i = (z_i, 0, \ldots, 0) \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

Goemans-Williamson Approximation Algorithm

- The above vector programming relaxation already leads to the best-known approximation algorithm for MAXIMUM CUT:

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Theorem (Goemans-Williamson Approximation Algorithm)

There is a randomized .878-approximation algorithm for MAXIMUM CUT.

Theorem

Given the unique game conjecture there is no α-approximation for MAXIMUM CUT *with constant $\alpha > .878$ unless $P = NP$.*

Vector Programming Relaxation

- For our purposes we want the vector programming relaxation to generalize the LP relaxation. Hence we want the analogs of the following two sets of constraints:

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\begin{aligned}
x_{ij} + x_{ik} + x_{jk} &\le 2, && \forall i, j, k \in V \text{ distinct},\\
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- This implies the following two sets of constraints in the form of inner products:

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\|\mathrm{v}_i - \mathrm{v}_j\|^2 + \|\mathrm{v}_i - \mathrm{v}_k\|^2 + \|\mathrm{v}_j - \mathrm{v}_k\|^2 \leq 8, && \forall i, j, k \in V \text{ distinct}, \\
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- The extended vector program, which we call (VP-MAXCUT), is still a relaxation for MAXIMUM CUT by setting v_i to $\pm e_1$ according to i's side.

Improved Exact Recovery, Roadmap

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- Recall the roadmap for the proof of the exact recovery for $\textsc{Maximum Cut}$ with $\gamma = \Theta(\log n)$.
- We first proved a proposition saying that if $\hat{x}$ is a pseudometric, then $\hat{y}$ defined below is also a pseudometric:

$$\hat{y}_{ij} = \begin{cases} \hat{x}_{ij}, & \text{if } i, j \text{ are on the same side of } C, \\ 1 - \hat{x}_{ij}, & \text{if } i, j \text{ are on different sides of } C. \end{cases}$$

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- This proposition and Bourgain's Theorem imply the lemma for the existence of randomized rounding algorithm that outputs a (random) cut such that the probability of an edge being cut is approximately the same as the value of the corresponding decision variable.
- The lemma then implies the exact recovery theorem by a common pattern used in perturbation-stable Minimum Cut and Minimum Multiway Cut.

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- Fix an instance of MAXIMUM CUT. Let $\hat{\mathsf{v}}_i$'s be an optimal solution to the vector program. Let $\hat{x}_{ij} = \frac{1}{4}\|\mathsf{v}_i - \mathsf{v}_j\|^2$ for any distinct $i, j \in V$.

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- $\hat{\mathrm{x}}$ is a metric by the triangle inequality constraints of (VP-MAXCUT).

Improved Exact Recovery, Roadmap

- Fix an instance of $\textsc{Maximum Cut}$. Let $\hat{\mathsf{v}}_i$'s be an optimal solution to the vector program. Let $\hat{x}_{ij} = \frac{1}{4}\|\mathsf{v}_i - \mathsf{v}_j\|^2$ for any distinct $i, j \in V$.
- $\hat{\mathsf{x}}$ is a metric by the triangle inequality constraints of $(\text{VP-}\textsc{MaxCut})$.
- Furthermore, $\hat{x}_{ij}$ represents the squared Euclidean distances between points in $\mathbb{R}^k$ for some k.

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- Fix an instance of MAXIMUM CUT. Let $\hat{\mathrm{v}}_i$'s be an optimal solution to the vector program. Let $\hat{x}_{ij} = \frac{1}{4}\|\mathrm{v}_i - \mathrm{v}_j\|^2$ for any distinct $i, j \in V$.
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Definition (ℓ_2^2 Metrics)

A metric (X, d) is an ℓ_2^2 **metric** if it represents squared Euclidean distances between points in $\mathbb{R}^k$ for some k.
That is, there exists an embedding from X to $\mathbb{R}^k$ for some k such that $d(\cdot, \cdot)$'s are squared Euclidean distances between points in $\mathbb{R}^k$.

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- **Question:** Can the approximation factor α be improved for the more restricted ℓ_2^2 metrics?

Theorem (Arora, Lee, and Naor, 2005)

For every n-point ℓ_2^2 metric space (X, d), there exists a randomized algorithm that generates a random partition (A, B) of X and a scaling parameter $\sigma > 0$ such that, for all distinct $i, j \in X$,

$$\mathbb{P}[i, j \text{ on different sides of } (A, B)] \in \sigma \cdot \left[\frac{d(i,j)}{\alpha}, d(i,j)\right],$$

where $\alpha = O(\sqrt{\log n} \log \log n)$.

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- Hence we prove an analog of the proposition used in the exact recovery with $\gamma = \Theta(\log n)$. That is, if $\hat{\mathrm{x}}$ is an ℓ_2^2 metric, then so is the similarly defined $\hat{\mathrm{y}}$.

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- Arora, Lee, and Naor's Theorem gives the lower bound for the probability of an edge being cut. Similarly, we need an upper bound for the probability of an edge not being cut.
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Proposition

Fix an instance of $\textsc{Maximum Cut}$, a cut C, and a feasible solution $\hat{\mathrm{v}}_i$'s to $(\text{VP-}\textsc{MaxCut})$. Let $\hat{\mathrm{x}}$ be the induced ℓ_2^2 metric $\hat{x}_{ij} = \frac{1}{4}\|\mathrm{v}_i - \mathrm{v}_j\|^2$. For distinct $i, j \in V$, define

$$\hat{y}_{ij} = \begin{cases} \hat{x}_{ij}, & \text{if } i, j \text{ are on the same side of } C, \\ 1 - \hat{x}_{ij}, & \text{if } i, j \text{ are on different sides of } C. \end{cases}$$

Then $\hat{\mathrm{y}}$ is also an ℓ_2^2 metric.

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Proof.

- $\hat{y}$ is a metric by the triangle inequality constraints of $(\text{VP-}\textsc{MaxCut})$.

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- $\hat{y}$ is a metric by the triangle inequality constraints of (VP-MaxCut).
- To prove that $\hat{y}$ is an ℓ_2^2 metric, we need to exhibit an embedding of V into $\mathbb{R}^k$ for some k such that $\hat{y}_{ij}$'s are squared Euclidean distances between points in $\mathbb{R}^k$.

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Proof.

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- Define

$$\hat{u}_i = \begin{cases} \hat{v}_i, & \text{if } i \in A, \\ -\hat{v}_i, & \text{if } i \in B. \end{cases}$$

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Proof.

- $\hat{y}$ is a metric by the triangle inequality constraints of (VP-MaxCut).
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$$\hat{u}_i = \begin{cases} \hat{v}_i, & \text{if } i \in A, \\ -\hat{v}_i, & \text{if } i \in B. \end{cases}$$

- Then $\hat{y}_{ij} = \frac{1}{4}\|\hat{u}_i - \hat{u}_j\|^2$ for any distinct $i, j \in V$.

$\square$

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Lemma

Fix an instance of MAXIMUM CUT, *with* F^* *the edges in the optimal cut, and* v_i*'s the optimal solution to* (VP-MAXCUT). *Then there exists a randomized algorithm that generates a random cut* (A, B) *and a scaling parameter* $\sigma > 0$ *such that:*

1. *For every edge* $e = ij \notin F^*$,

$$\mathbb{P}[e \text{ cut by } (A, B)] \geq \sigma \cdot \frac{\frac{1}{4}\|\mathsf{v}_i - \mathsf{v}_j\|^2}{\alpha},$$

   where $\alpha = \Theta(\sqrt{\log n} \log \log n)$;

2. *For every edge* $e = ij \in F^*$,

$$\mathbb{P}[e \text{ not cut by } (A, B)] \leq \sigma \cdot \left(1 - \frac{1}{4}\|\mathsf{v}_i - \mathsf{v}_j\|\right);$$

3. *The rounding algorithm is deterministic iff.* $\hat{\mathsf{v}}_i$*'s are integral.*

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- By $\hat{\mathsf{v}}_\mathsf{i}$'s being **integral**, we mean that there exist antipodal unit vectors $\mathsf{w}, -\mathsf{w}$ such that $\hat{\mathsf{v}}_\mathsf{i} \in \{\mathsf{w}, -\mathsf{w}\}$ for each $i \in V$.

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- As the lemma implies the main theorem in the exact recovery with $\gamma = \Theta(\log n)$, the above lemma implies the following theorem by an analagous argument:

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- As the lemma implies the main theorem in the exact recovery with $\gamma = \Theta(\log n)$, the above lemma implies the following theorem by an analagous argument:

Theorem

There is a constant $c > 0$ such that in every $(c\sqrt{\log n}\log\log n)$-perturbation-stable instance of MAXIMUM CUT *with n vertices, every optimal solution to* (VP-MAXCUT) *is integral.*

Can We Do Better?

Theorem

There exist $O(\sqrt{\log n})$-perturbation-stable instances of $\textsc{Maximum Cut}$ *for which the optimal solution to* $(\text{VP-}\textsc{MaxCut})$ *is not integral.*

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There exist $O(\sqrt{\log n})$-perturbation-stable instances of Maximum Cut *for which the optimal solution to* (VP-MaxCut) *is not integral.*

Theorem

Assuming the Unique Game Conjecture, for every constant $\gamma \geq 1$, there is no polynomial-time algorithm for certifiable exact recovery in γ-perturbation-stable instances of Maximum Cut.

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There exist $O(\sqrt{\log n})$-perturbation-stable instances of $\textsc{Maximum Cut}$ *for which the optimal solution to* $(\text{VP-}\textsc{MaxCut})$ *is not integral.*

Theorem

Assuming the Unique Game Conjecture, for every constant $\gamma \geq 1$, there is no polynomial-time algorithm for certifiable exact recovery in γ-perturbation-stable instances of $\textsc{Maximum Cut}$.

- Both results are based upon a reduction from $\textsc{Sparsest Cut}$ to $\textsc{Maximum Cut}$. See *Bilu–Linial Stable Instances of Max Cut and Minimum Multiway* by Makarychev, Makarychev, and Vijayaraghavan (2013) and Homework $\#4$.