# OF MINNESOTA TWIN CITIES

Numerical Linear Algebra for data-related applications

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### Introduction: a historical perspective

In 1953, George Forsythe published a paper titled: "Solving linear systems can be interesting".



• Survey of the state of the art linear algebra at that time: direct & iterative methods, conditioning, preconditioning, the Conjugate Gradient method, acceleration methods, ...

An amazing paper in which the author was urging researchers to start looking at solution methods for linear systems.

### Introduction: a historical perspective

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Almost 7 decades later – we can similarly state that:

"Linear Algebra problems in Machine Learning can be interesting" Focus of numerical linear algebra changed many times over the years

**1940s–1950s:** Major issue: the flutter problem in aerospace engineering  $\rightarrow$  eigenvalue problem [cf. Olga Taussky Todd]

Then came the discoveries of the LR and QR algorithms. The package Eispack followed a little later

*1960s:* Problems related to the power grid promoted what we would call today general sparse matrix techniques

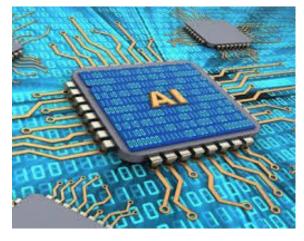
*Early-late 1990:* Thrust on parallel matrix computations.

*Early 2000:* Spur of interest in "financial computing"

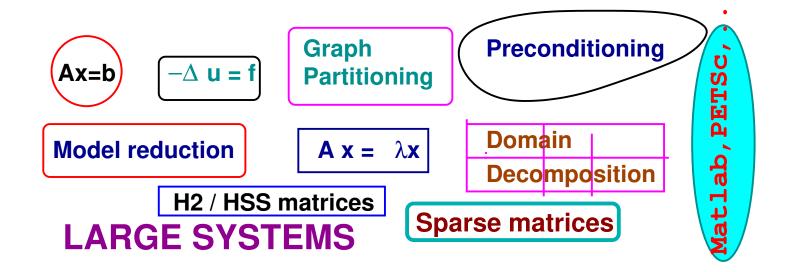
*Current:* Machine learning, data-centered computing

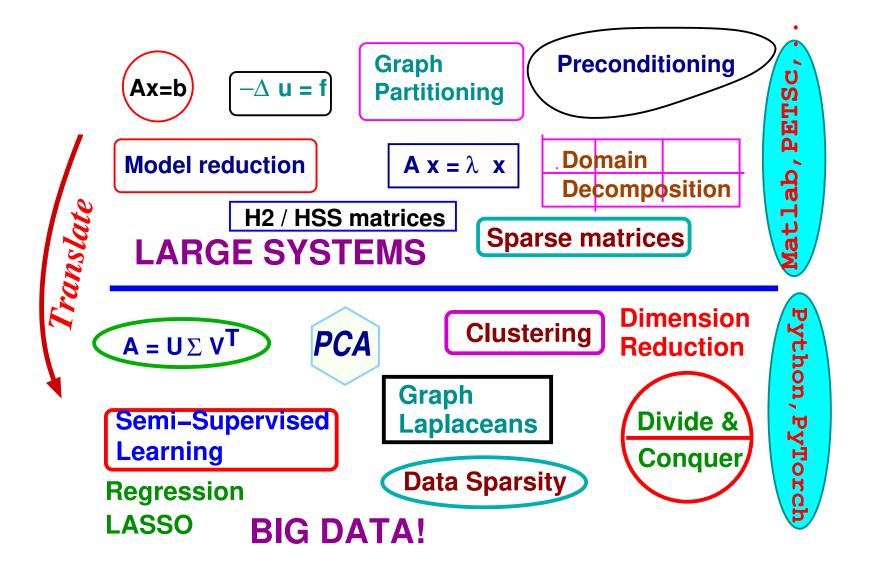
Solution of PDEs (e.g., Fluid Dynamics) and problems in mechanical eng. (e.g. structures) major force behind numerical linear algebra algorithms in the past few decades.

- Strong new forces are now reshaping the field
- Machine learning is appearing everywhere:



- Design of materials, drugs, ...
- Machine learning in geophysics
- Self-driving cars, ..
- .. Even: solving PDEs
- Look at what you are doing under new lenses: DATA
- Big impact on the economy .. and on jobs:





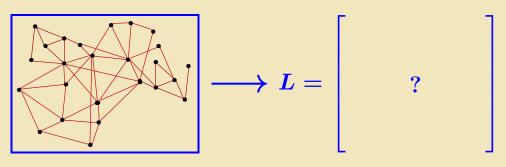
### Plan:

- 1. A mini-tutorial: machine learning
- 2. Focus: Graph methods ...
- 3. ... and Graph coarsening.

#### **INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND: GRAPH LAPLACIANS**

### **Graph Laplacians - Definition**

• "Laplace-type" matrices associated with general undirected graphs –



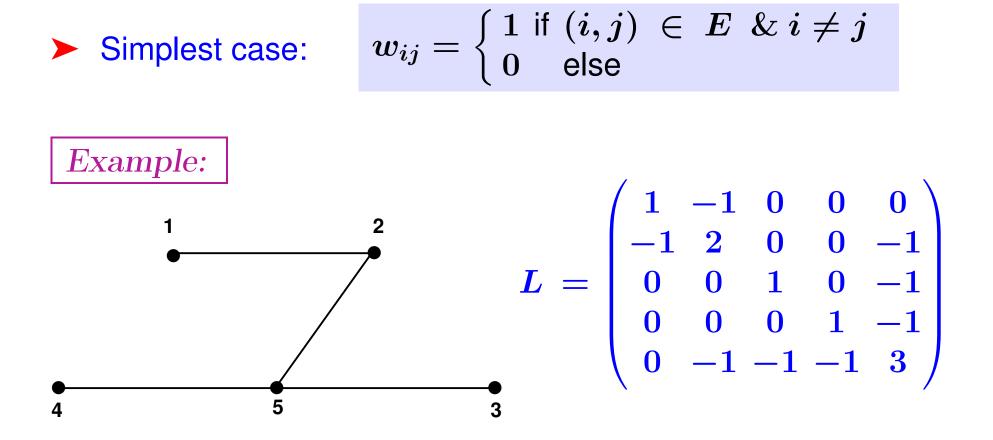
> Given a graph G = (V, E) define

• A matrix W of weights  $w_{ij}$  for each edge with:  $w_{ij} \geq 0, \quad w_{ii} = 0, \quad ext{and} \quad w_{ij} = w_{ji} \, orall (i,j)$ 

• The diagonal matrix  $oldsymbol{D} = diag(d_i)$  with  $oldsymbol{d}_i = \sum_j w_{ij}$ 

• Corresponding graph Laplacian of 
$$G$$
 is  $\rightarrow$ 

$$L = D - W$$



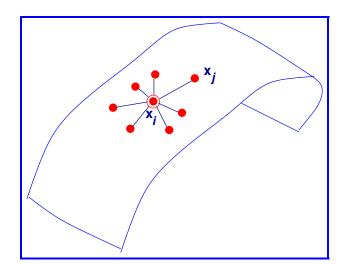
### **Basic results on graph Laplacians**

*Proposition:* 

- 1. *L* is symmetric semi-positive definite.
- 2. L is singular with 1 as a null vector. If G is connected, then  $Null(L) = span\{1\}$
- 3. If G has k > 1 connected components  $G_1, G_2, \cdots, G_k$ , then the nullity of L is k and Null(L) is spanned by the vectors  $z^{(j)}, j = 1, \cdots, k$  defined by:

$$(z^{(j)})_i = egin{cases} 1 & ext{if} \; i \; \in G_j \ 0 & ext{if} \; ext{not.} \end{cases}$$

### A few properties of graph Laplacians



Strong relation between  $x^T L x$  and local distances between entries of x> Let L = a graph Laplacian. Then: *Property 1:* for any  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ :  $x^T L x = \sum_{i>i} w_{ij} |x_i - x_j|^2$ 

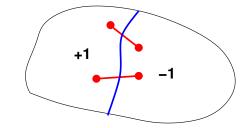
Property 2:(Generalization) for any  $Y \in \mathbb{R}^{n imes d}$  : $\mathsf{Tr}\left[Y^{ op}LY
ight] = \sum_{j>i} w_{ij} \|y_{i,:} - y_{j,:}\|^2$ 

Note:  $y_{j,:} = j$ -th row of Y. Each row can represent a data sample.

**Property 3:** (Graph partitioning) Consider situation when  $w_{ij} \in \{0, 1\}$ . If x is a vector of signs  $(\pm 1)$  then

 $x^ op Lx = 4 imes$  ('number of edge cuts')

- Edge-cut  $\equiv$  pair (i, j) with  $x_i \neq x_j$
- Can be used to partition graphs....



lnstead solve a relaxed form of problem. Solution =  $u_2$  2nd smallest eigenvector of L (Fiedler vector)

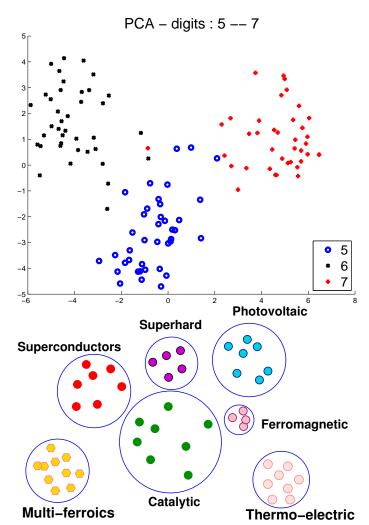
 $\min_{oldsymbol{x}\in\mathbb{R}^{n};\;\mathbb{1}^{T}x=0}rac{\left(Lx,x
ight)}{\left(x,x
ight)}$ 

#### **UNSUPERVISED LEARNING & CLUSTERING**

### Unsupervised learning

### Data is not labeled

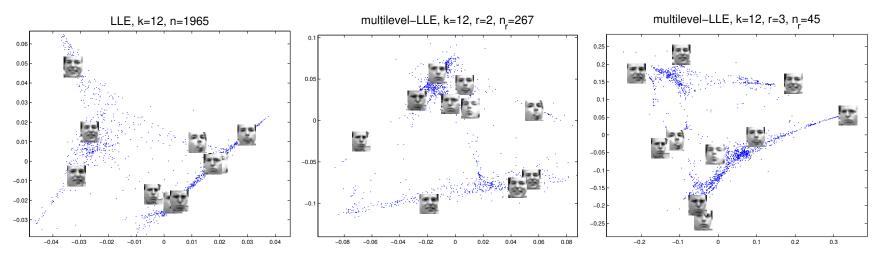
- Example of digits: perform a 2-D projection. Images of same digit tend to cluster (more or less)
- Such 2-D representations are popular for visualization
- Problem: find natural clusters in data, e.g., in materials



### "Manifold Learning" Example: projection of face images

Frey Dataset: 1,965 images of an individual – different expressions. Each image: 20 × 28 grey-scale pixels

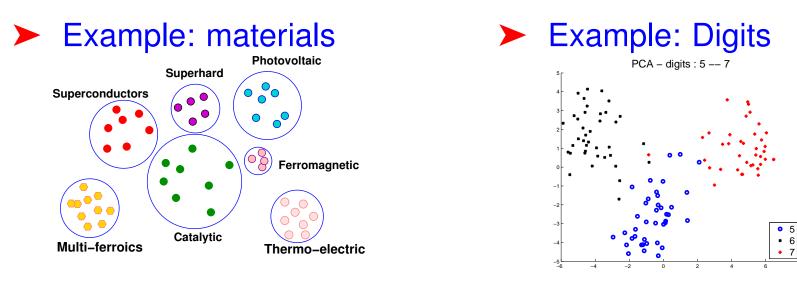
Various projections [see H-R Fang, S. Sakellaridi, YS '10]



2D mappings of Frey Face database using LLE and multilevel-LLE.

### Clustering

> Problem: we are given n data items:  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ . Would like to *'cluster'* them, i.e., group them so that each group or cluster contains items that are similar in some sense.

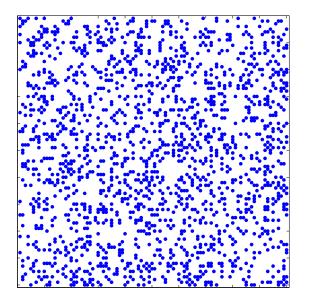


Refer to each group as a 'cluster' or a 'class'

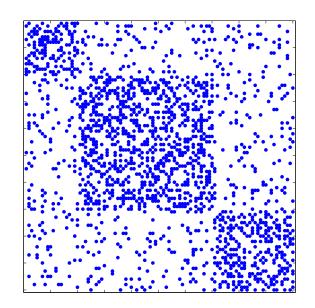
'Unsupervised learning' : Methods do not exploit labeled data

### **Example:** Community Detection

Communities modeled by an 'affinity' graph [e.g., 'user A sends frequent e-mails to user B']
 Adjacency Graph represented by a sparse matrix



 $\leftarrow \quad \text{Original} \\ \text{matrix} \\ \hline \textbf{Goal:} \quad \text{Find} \\ \text{ordering} \quad \text{so} \\ \text{blocks} \quad \text{are} \\ \text{as dense as} \\ \text{possible} \rightarrow \\ \hline \end{array}$ 

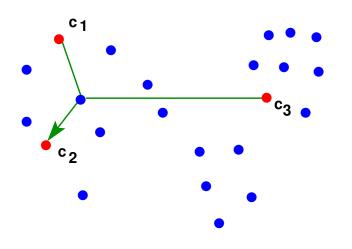


Use 'blocking' techniques for sparse matrices Advantage of this viewpoint: need not know # of clusters. [data: www-personal.umich.edu/~mejn/netdata/]

### A basic clustering method: K-means (Background)

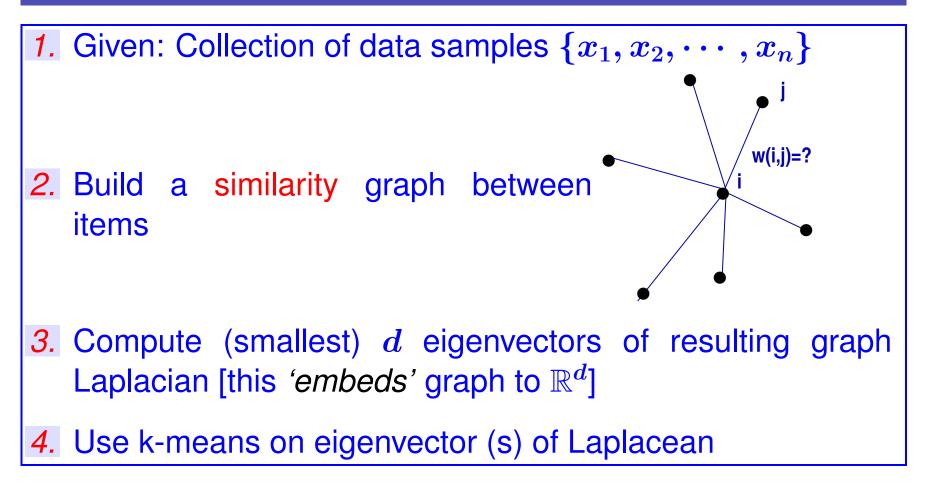
### A basic algorithm that uses Euclidean distance

- **1.** Select p initial centers:  $c_1, c_2, ..., c_p$  for classes  $1, 2, \cdots, p$
- 2. For each  $x_i$  do: determine *class* of  $x_i$  as  $\operatorname{argmin}_k \|x_i c_k\|$
- **3.** Redefine each  $c_k$  to be the centroid of class k
- 4. Repeat until convergence



- Simple algorithm
- Works well but can be slow
- Performance depends on initialization



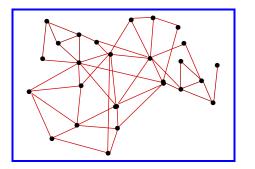


#### **GRAPH EMBEDDINGS**

### Graph embeddings

- In Similarity Graphs: we build a graph to represent data
- Graph embedding: We do the opposite, i.e., map a graph to vectors

*Vertex embedding:* map every vertex  $x_i$  to a vector  $y_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$ 

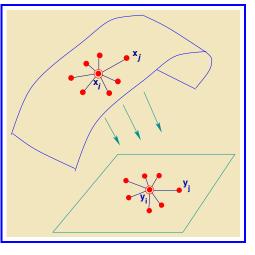


Data: 
$$oldsymbol{Y} = [oldsymbol{y}_1, oldsymbol{y}_2, \cdots, oldsymbol{y}_n]$$
 in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ 

Trivial use: visualize a graph (d = 2)
 *Graph embedding:* map whole graph *G* to a vector  $y_G \in \mathbb{R}^d$ 

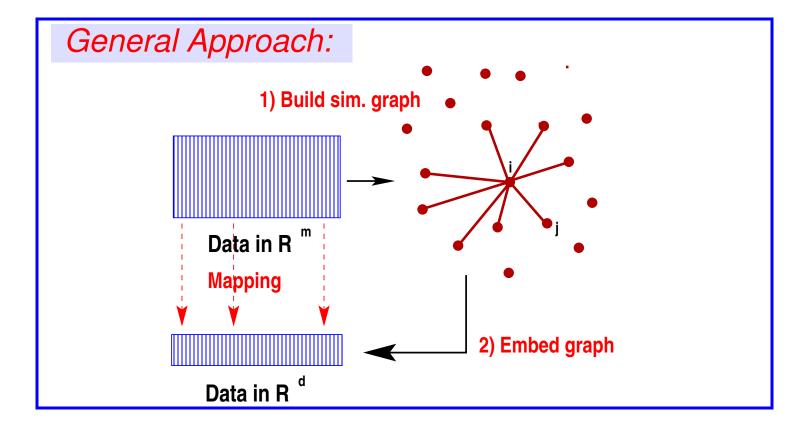
- Many applications [clustering, finding missing link, semisupervised learning, community detection, ...]
- Embeddings are central to Graph Neural Networks (GNNs)
- Graph built to captures similarities in data
- Goal of the embedding is to preserve these similarities.
- Done via the Graph (e.g., Laplacian)
- Many methods do this. Examples: Eigenmaps, Isomap, LLE

Used in earlier illustration with Frey dataset



### **Graph-based dimension reduction**

• A class of methods that exploit graphs to perform dimensionality reduction [eigenmaps, LLE, isomap, LLP, ..]

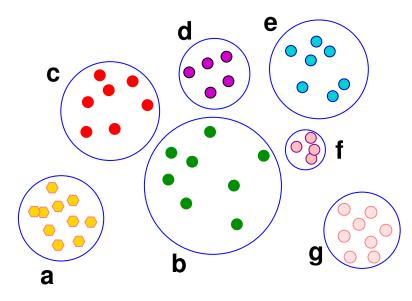


#### SUPERVISED LEARNING

### Supervised learning

### Now: data is 'labeled'

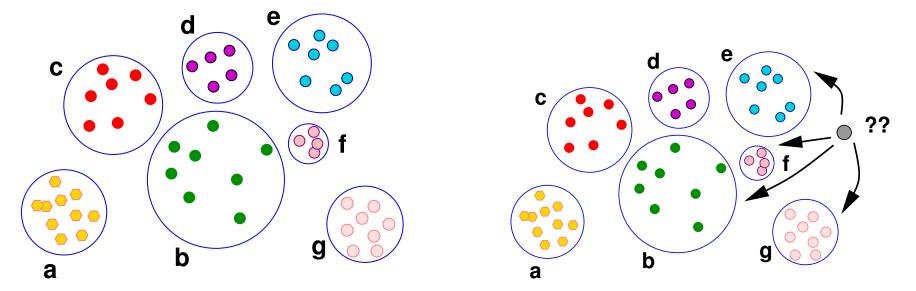
- Example: (health sciences) 'malignant'- 'non malignant'
- Example: (materials) 'photovoltaic', 'hard', 'conductor', ...
- Example: (Digit recognition) Digits '0', '1', ...., '9'



### Supervised learning

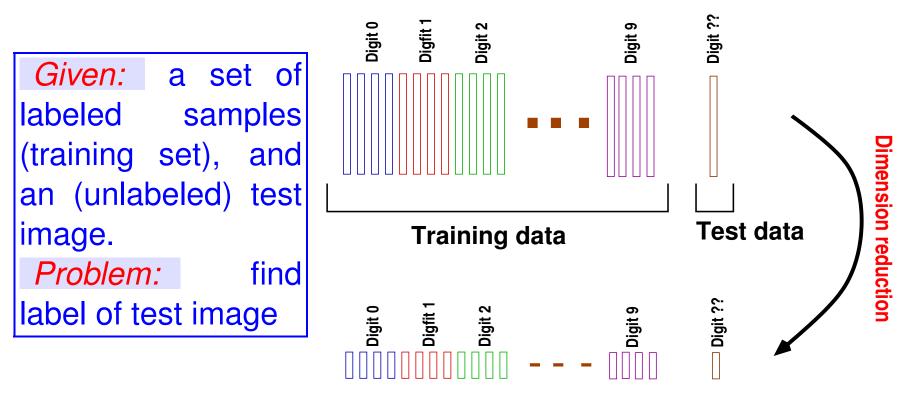
We now have data that is 'labeled'

- Example: (health sciences) 'malignant'- 'non malignant'
- Example: (materials) 'photovoltaic', 'hard', 'conductor', ...
- Example: (Digit recognition) Digits '0', '1', ...., '9'



### Supervised learning: classification

### Example: written digits recognition



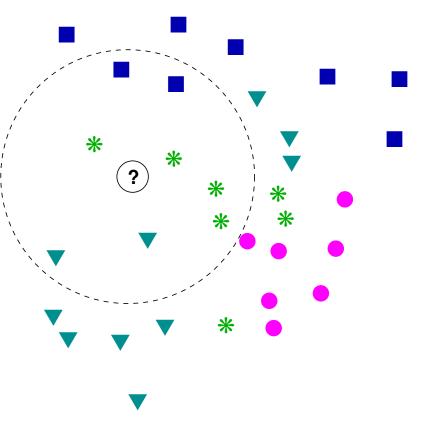
Roughly speaking: we seek dimension reduction so that recognition is 'more effective' in low-dim. space

### Basic method: K-nearest neighbors (KNN) classification

Idea of a voting system: get distances between test sample and training samples

• Get the k nearest neighbors (here k = 8)

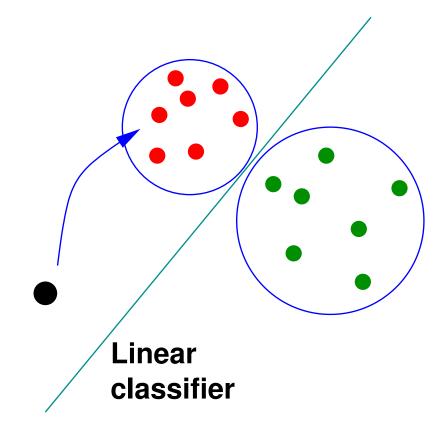
Predominant class among these k items is assigned to the test sample ("\*" here)



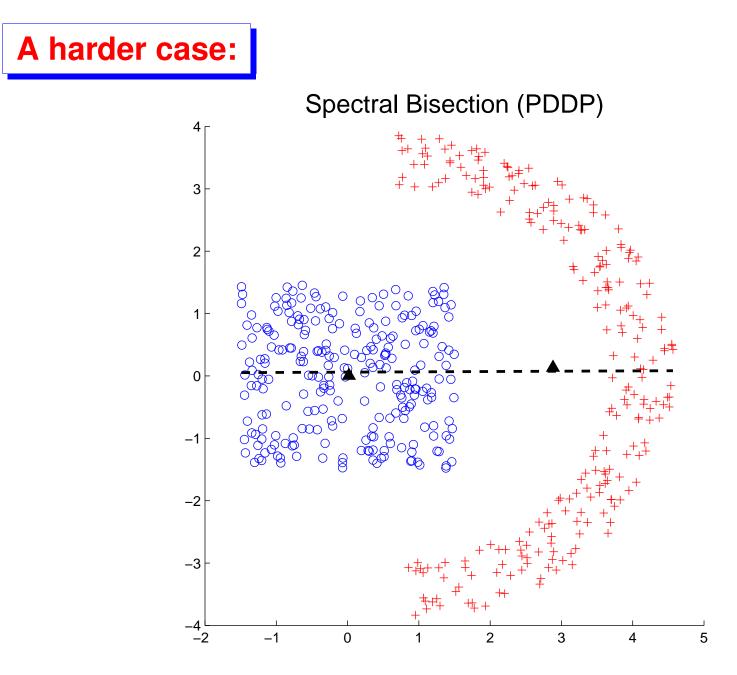
### Supervised learning: Linear classification

*Linear classifiers:* Find a hyperplane that best separates data in two classes. Examples:

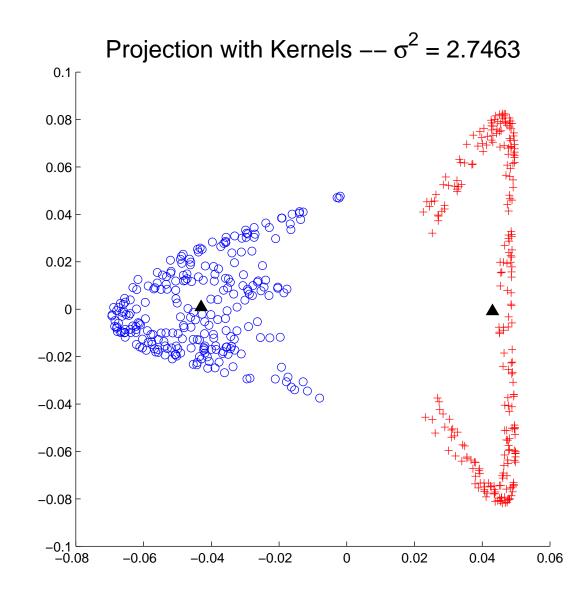
- Fisher's Linear Discriminant Analysis (LDA)
- Support Vector Machines (SVM)



Note: The world in non-linear. Often this is combined with Kernels – amounts to changing the inner product



Use kernels to transform



### Transformed data with a Gaussian Kernel

#### DEMO

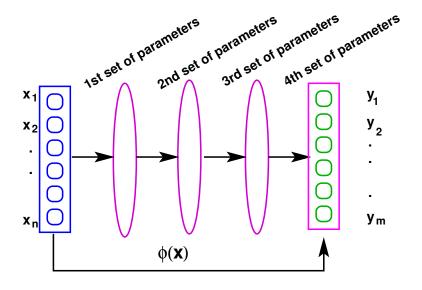
### A few words on Deep Neural Networks (DNNs)

Ideas of neural networks goes back to the 1960s - were popularized in early 1990s – then laid dormant until recently.

Training a neural network amounts to approximating a function  $\phi$  which is defined via sets ('layers') of parameters:

#### **Problem:**

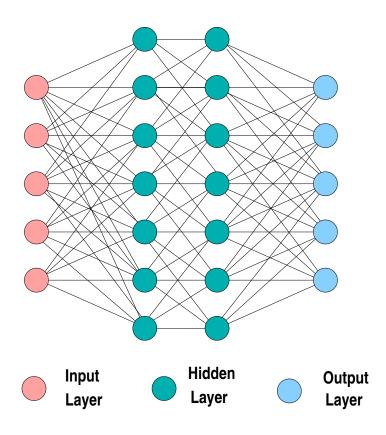
Find sets of parameters such that  $\phi(x) \approx y$ 



 $\begin{array}{ll} \text{Input: } x, \text{Output: } y \\ \text{Set: } z_0 = x \\ \text{For } l = 1: \texttt{L+1 Do:} \\ z_l = \sigma(W_l{}^T z_{l-1} + b_l) \\ \text{End} \\ \text{Set: } y = \phi(x) := z_{L+1} \end{array}$ 

layer # 0 = input layer
layer # (L+1) = output layer

**Problem:** 



> Matrix  $W_l$  associated with layer l for  $l = 1, 2, \cdots, L + 1$ 

Find  $\phi$  (i.e., matrices  $W_l$ ) s.t.  $\phi(x) pprox y$ 

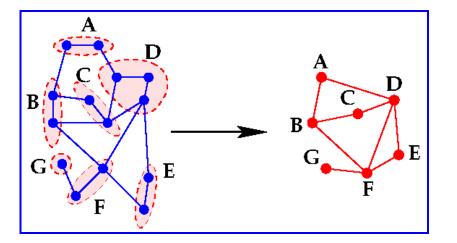
# **DNN** (continued)

- Problem is not convex and it is highly over-parameterized
- Main method used: Stochastic gradient descent [basic]
- It all works like alchemy... but great results for certain applications
- Training is still quite expensive GPUs can help
- Very\* active area of research

### FOCUS: GRAPH COARSENING

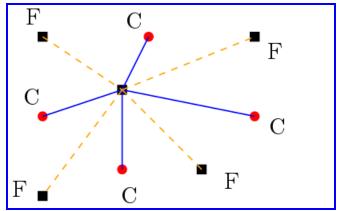
### Graph Coarsening in scientific computing

Goal : exploit coarse representation of problem



Fewer nodes so: cheaperCan be used recursively

► Success story: Multigrid, Algebraic Multigrid
 ► AMG: Define coarse / fine nodes based on 'strength of coupling' →



Example: Multilevel ILU [D. Osei-Kuffuor, R. Li, YS, '15]

*Goal:* Form of ILU preconditioning with improved robustness

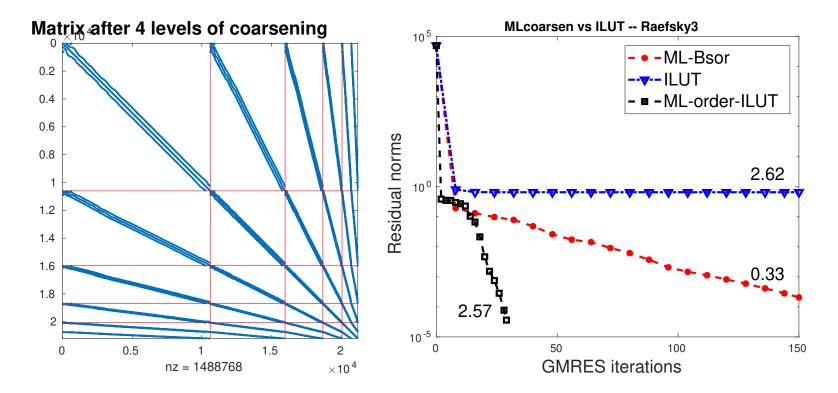
To define coarse nodes: traverse edges  $(i, j) \in Nz(A)$  in decreasing order of the weights:

$$w_{ij} = \min\left\{rac{|a_{ij}|}{\delta_r(i)}, rac{|a_{ij}|}{\delta_c(j)}
ight\}$$
 where:  
 $\delta_r(i) = rac{\|A_{i,:}\|_1}{nz(A_{i,:})}$  and  $\delta_c(j) = rac{\|A_{:,j}\|_1}{nz(A_{:,j})}$  i

Select *i* as 'coarse' if  $\sigma_i > \sigma_j$  and *j* otherwise, where  $\rightarrow$ 

 $\sigma_k = rac{|a_{kk}|}{\delta_r(k)\delta_c(k)}$ 

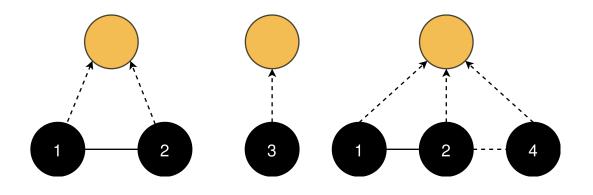
- (Matlab) Test with matrix Raefsky3<sup>1</sup>
- > 4 levels of coarsening. Then reorder matrix and:
- Solve with ILUT- GMRES(50) or BSOR GMRES(50)



*Cedya21, 06-15-2021* p. 41

SparseSuite collection.  $n = 21, 200, nnz \approx 1, 5M$ , Turbulence model.

# Coarsening approaches by matching: Pairwise aggregation



- **1.** Visit edges (i, j) in decreasing value of their weight  $w_{i,j}$
- 2. If both i and j have no parents yet (left), create a new coarse node ('new'). Set parents of i and j to be new.
- When loop is completed deal with unassigned nodes: Either (middle) add as a coarse nodes if disconnected ("singleton") or (right) lump as a child to an existing coarse node
- We will refer to this as: Heavy Edge Matching (HEM)

### Coarsening by independent sets

*Recall:* An independent set  $S \subseteq V$  consists of vertices that are not adjacent to each other:  $i, j \in S \implies a_{ij} = 0$ 

 $\succ$  *S* is maximal if it cannot be augmented into another IS

> Can take  $V_c = S$  as a coarse set. Need to define edges.

Let L = reordered graph Laplacian ( $n_c$  vertices of  $V_c$  listed first): (note:  $D_c$  is diagonal)

$$L = egin{pmatrix} D_c & -F \ -F^T & B \end{pmatrix}$$

▶ Replace B by  $D_f = F^T \mathbb{1}$ and define  $G_c$  = graph of  $S_c$  →  $S_c$  =

$$S_c = D_c - F D_f^{-1} F^T$$

**Property:**  $S_c$  = Graph Laplacian of coarse graph  $G_c$ 

## Coarsening by 'algebraic distance'

- Motivated by "bootstrap algebraic multigrid" (BAMG) [Brandt'01]
- In BAMG notion of closeness (used for coarsening) defined from a few steps of Gauss-Seidel for solving Ax = 0
- Speed of convergence of the iterate determines an 'algebraic distance' between variables.
- Exploited to aggregate the unknowns and define restriction and interpolation operators. Analysis in [Chen-Safro'11]

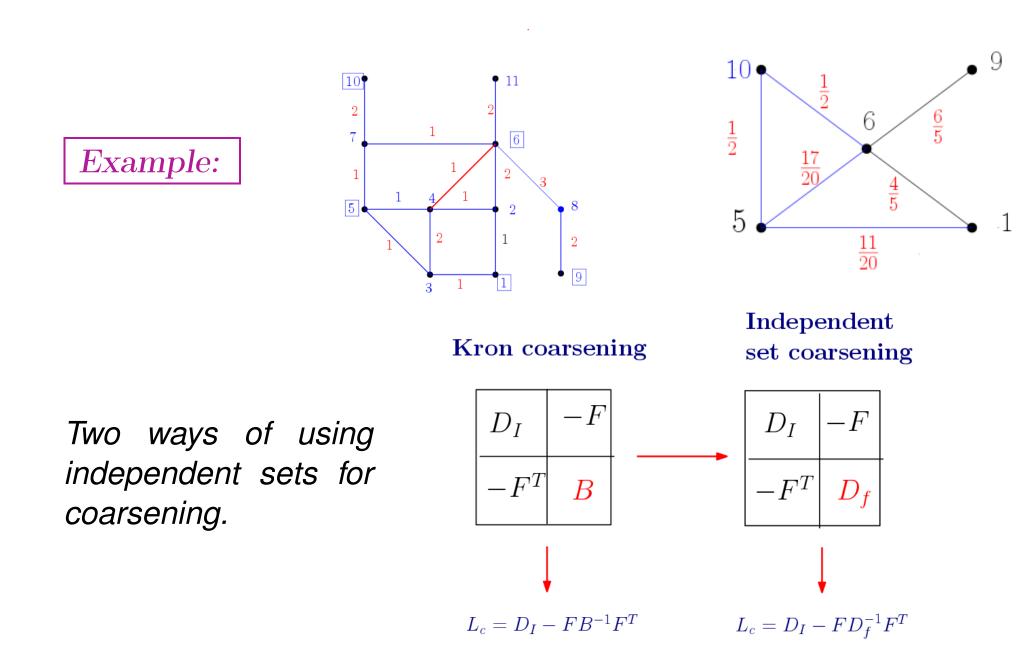
## Coarsening by 'kron' decomposition

- Kron reduction of networks proposed back in 1939 by Kron
   Revived by Dorfler and Bullo(2013) and Shuman et al. (2016)
   Main idea:
- Select a coarse set  $V_1$ : Shuman-al use eigenvectors
- Reorder matrix so that nodes of  $V_1$  come 1st. Laplacean becomes ightarrow

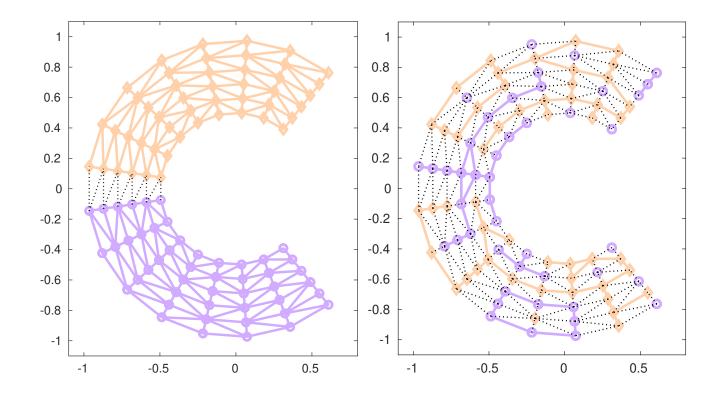
$$L = egin{bmatrix} L_{11} & L_{12} \ L_{12}^T & L_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

• Kron reduction of 
$$L$$
 defined  $L(V_1) = L_{11} - L_{12}L_{22}^{-1}L_{12}^T$  as the Schur complement:

**Property**  $L(V_1) ==$  graph Laplacian of  $V_1$  [Dorfler-Bullo]



- Q. 1: How to deal with 'denser' graph?
- A Sparsify using spectral sparsification
- *Q. 2:* How to select  $V_1$ ?
- A Use signs of largest eigenvector of original Laplacian L
- ► If  $u_1 = [\xi_1, \xi_2, \cdots, \xi_n]^T$  = the largest eigenvector.
- ► Define  $V_+ = \{i | \xi_i \ge 0\}$  and  $V_- = \{i | \xi_i < 0\}$
- > Then select one of  $V_+$ ,  $V_-$  as  $V_1$ .
- Opposite of what is done in spectral graph partitioning

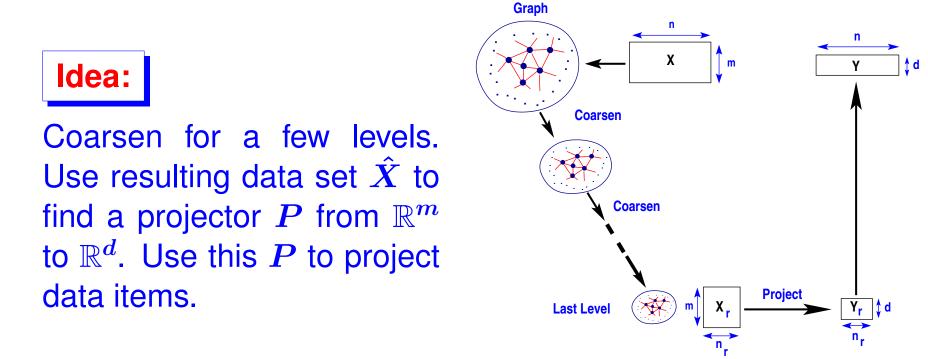


Left side: spectral graph partitioning. Right: Coarsening withlargest eigenvector

Easy to show: (under mild condition on eigenvector) Each node of  $V_+$  (resp.  $V_-$ ) must have at least one nearest neighbor node from  $V_-$  (resp.  $V_+$ ).

#### **GRAPH COARSENING IN MACHINE LEARNING**

# **Multilevel Dimension Reduction**



► Gain: Dimension reduction is done with a much smaller set.

> Wish: not much loss compared to using whole data

### Multilevel Dimension Reduction (for sparse data- e.g., text)

Use Hypergraph Coarsening with column matching – similar to a common one used in graph partitioning

Compute the non-zero inner product  $\langle a^{(i)}, a^{(j)} \rangle$  between two vertices *i* and *j*, i.e., the *i*th and *j*th columns of *A*.

> Note: 
$$\langle a^{(i)}, a^{(j)} \rangle = \|a^{(i)}\| \|a^{(j)}\| \cos \theta_{ij}$$

*Modif. 1:* Parameter:  $0 < \epsilon < 1$ . Match columns *i* & *j* only if angle satisfies:

 $an heta_{ij} \leq \epsilon$ 

Modif. 2:Re-Scale.If i andj match and  $||a^{(i)}||_0 \geq ||a^{(j)}||_0$ replace  $a^{(i)}$  and  $a^{(j)}$  by

$$c^{(\ell)} = \left(1 + \cos^2 heta_{ij}
ight)^{rac{1}{2}} a^{(i)}$$

# $\blacktriangleright$ Call C the coarsened matrix obtained from A using the approach just described

*Lemma:* Let  $C \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times c}$  be the coarsened matrix of A obtained by one level of coarsening of  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ , with columns  $a^{(i)}$  and  $a^{(j)}$  matched if  $\tan \theta_i \leq \epsilon$ . Then $|x^T A A^T x - x^T C C^T x| \leq 3\epsilon ||A||_F^2,$ 

for any  $x \in \mathbb{R}^m$  with  $\|x\|_2 = 1$ .

- > Very simple bound for Rayleigh quotients for any x.
- Implies some bounds on singular values and norms skipped.
- See details + experiments in [Ubaru-YS '19]

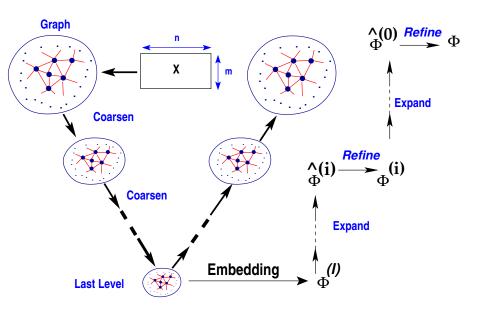
Graph coarsening for graph embeddings: HARP and MILE

• Vertex embedding: Given G = (V, E) find mapping  $\Phi$ :

 $\Phi: v \in V \longrightarrow \Phi(v) \in \mathbb{R}^d$ 

d is small:  $d \ll n$ 

Hierarchical Representation Learning for Networks (HARP): (Chen et al. '18) coarsen for a few levels. Find embedding  $\Phi^{(\ell)}$  for coarsest graph (level  $\ell$ ). Then a succession of expansions to higher level + refinement.



Gain: Embedding done with a much smaller set.

► MILE approach [Liang et al. '18] very similar (difference in refinement).

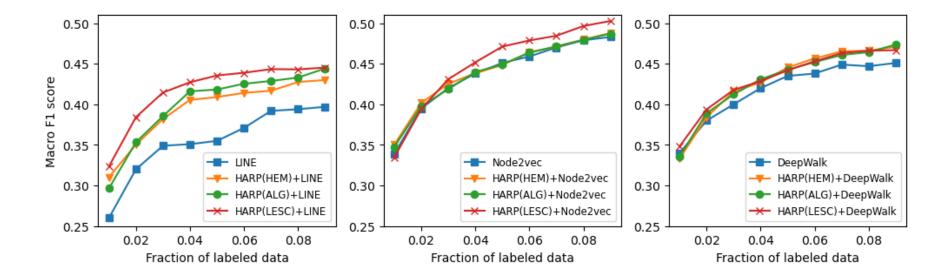
*Experiment* to evaluate the effectiveness of HARP.

► Baseline. Three embedding algorithms: *DeepWalk* [Perozzial'14], *LINE* [Tang-al'15] and *Node2vec* [Grover-Leskovec'16]

- Combined with Coarsening methods:
- 1. Heavy Edge Matching (HEM) sketched earlier
- 2. Algebraic distance (ALG) sketched earlier
- 3. Leverage Score Coarsening (LESC) variant of HEM

## > Problem: Multilabel classification with dataset *Citeseer*

[Citation network. Publications in computer science consisting of 3.3K nodes and 4.5K edges. Label (zeros and ones) indicates research areas to which a paper belongs.]



Multi-label classification results. x-axis == portion of nodes randomly sampled for training. y-axis == Macro  $F_1$  score

### **Coarsening with eigenvectors**

- It is possible to coarsen a graph with the goal of exactly preserving a few eigenvectors.
- This has turned out not to be too useful in practice.
- Instead we use eigenvectors to define 'importance of nodes' for the graph traversal

### Leverage Scores

A = U∑V<sup>T</sup> (ran (A) = ran (U))
 Leverage score of *i*-th row →
 
$$\eta_i = \|U_{i,:}\|_2^2$$

• Used to measure importance of row *i* in random sampling methods [e.g. El-Aloui & Mahonney '15]

• Let A now be a graph Laplacian and  $A = U\Lambda U^T$  with  $\lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \cdots \leq \lambda_n$ 

In Leverage-score coarsening (LESC) we dampen lower sing. vectors  $\rightarrow$ 

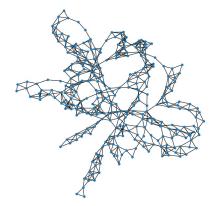
$$\eta_i = \sum_{k=1}^r (e^{- au\lambda_k} U_{ik})^2$$

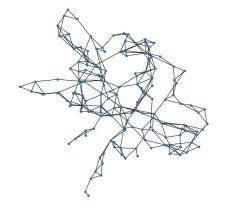
- Use  $\eta_i$  to decide order of traversal in coarsening algorithm
- Slightly different way of handling left-over nodes ('singletons')
- Next: visualization with 5 different coarsening methods on a graph with n=312 nodes and ne=761 edges

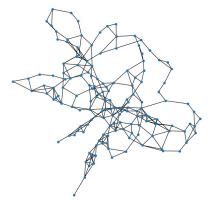
Original, ne = 761

 $HEM \ ne = 340$ 

 $LV^{1}, ne = 321$ 



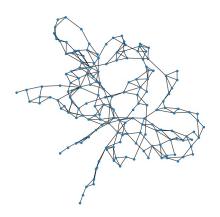


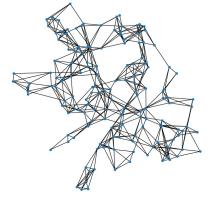


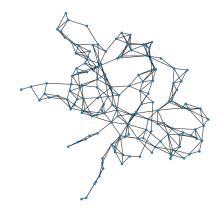
ALG, ne = 327

Kron, ne = 485









1. Local Variation (Loukas'2019)

Consider case when r = n (or simply r is large)

$$\eta_i = \sum_{k=1}^n (e^{- au\lambda_k} U_{ik})^2 = \sum_{k=1}^n e^{-2 au\lambda_k} |U_{ik}|^2 = e_i^T e^{-2 au L} e_i.$$

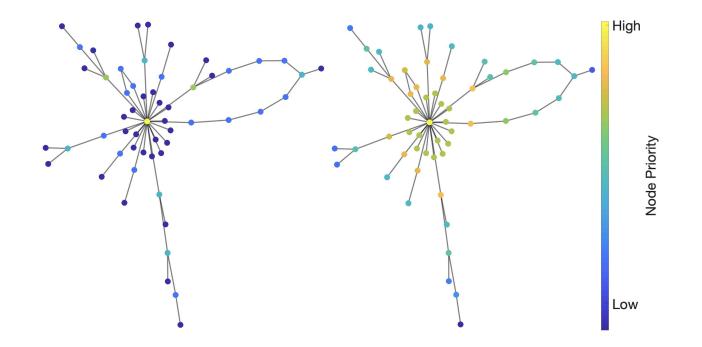
>  $\eta_i$  equals the *i*-th diagonal entry of the matrix  $H \equiv \exp(-2\tau L)$ Alternative definition

 $\blacktriangleright$  We consider the following alternative - related to  $L^{\dagger}$ 

$$\eta_i = \sum_{j=2}^n \left(rac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_j}} U_{ij}
ight)^2 o \eta_i pprox \sum_{j=2}^r \left(rac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_j}} U_{ij}
ight)^2$$

Property:

$$L_{ii}^{\dagger} = \sum_{j=2}^n rac{U_{ij}}{\sqrt{\lambda_j}} rac{U_{ij}}{\sqrt{\lambda_j}} = \eta_i$$



Traversal order: HEM (left) and LESC (right) on a small graph.

# Analysis

 $\succ$   $L^{\dagger}$  has long been used to define node importance

The nonzero entries of  $L^{\dagger}$  define resistance distance. Its trace is the Effective graph resistance. Related to betweenness centrality measure... + many other links.

 $\succ$  Important fact:  $\eta$  helps measure the change in  $L^{\dagger}$ 

Let the graph be connected. The magnitude of the difference between  $L^{\dagger}$  and  $L^{\dagger}_{\infty}$  caused by assigning the  $+\infty$  edge weight to an edge e(i,j) is bounded by

$$||\Delta L^{\dagger}||_F^2 \leq \kappa(L)(L_{ii}^{\dagger}+L_{jj}^{\dagger}),$$

where  $\kappa \equiv$  effective condition number.

[Adapted from a result of Hermsdorff and Gunderson'19]

# Application: Graph classification

*Problem:* determine the label of a graph [e.g., graph of a molecule in chemistry applications].

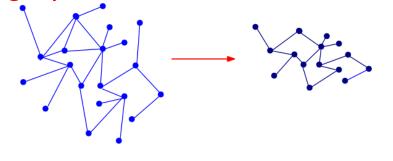
Method: Graph Neural Networks [GNN]

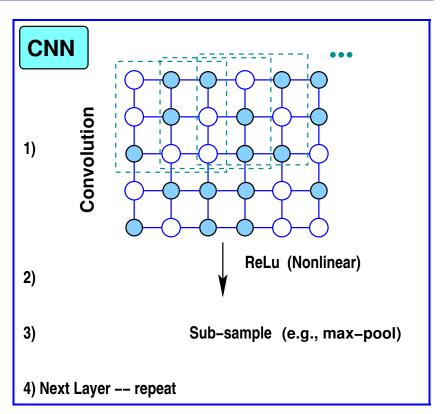
GNNs find an embedding of a graph by using several 'pooling' layers of a neural network. We use:

- 1. SortPool
- 2. DiffPool
- 3. TopKPool
- 4. SAGPool

### What are these 'pooling' methods?

*Aim:* generalize the convolution and subsampling layers of Convolutional Neural Networks to graphs:





End result : embedding of a graph.

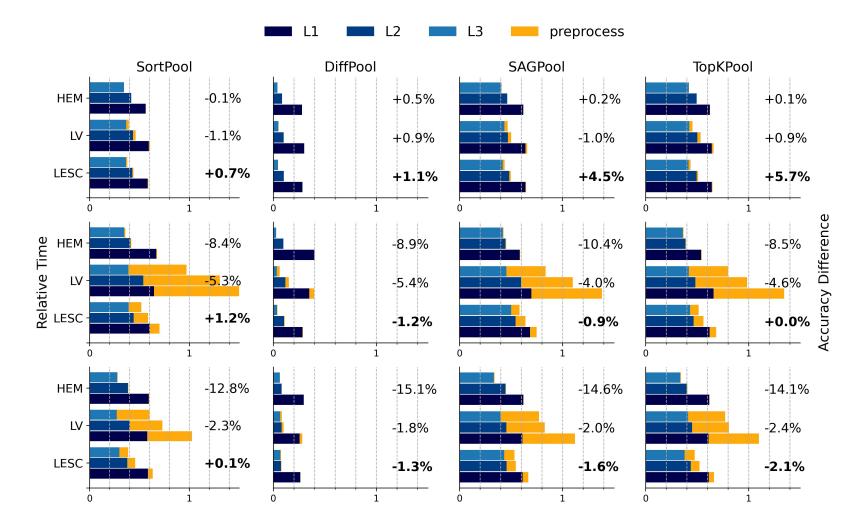
## Datasets:

**D&D** protein data set (predict protein functions from structure) **REDDIT-BINARY (REBI)** and

**REDDIT-MULTI-5K (RE5K)** social network data sets from the discussion forum *Reddit* [Graph: discussion threads]

	_		DD	REBI	RE5K
		#GRAPHS	1178	2000	4999
Stats.		#CLASSES	2	2	5
	ľ	AVG.#NODES	284.32	429.63	508.52
	1	AVG.#EDGES	715.66	497.75	594.87

Method: preprocess (coarsen) each graph prior to using it.



Relative times vs. original (No coarsening). Percentates on right of each figure: gain (loss) in accuracy

# Conclusion

- \*Many\* interesting new matrix problems in areas that involve the effective exploitation of data
- Many online resources available
- Huge potential in scientific areas like materials science
- To a researcher in computational linear algebra : Tsunami of change on types or problems, algorithms, frameworks, culture,..
- But change should be welcome :

From "Who Moved My Cheese?" [Spencer Johnson '02]:

"The quicker you let go of old cheese, the sooner you find new cheese."

"If you do not change, you can become extinct!"

Thank you !

Visit my web-site at www.cs.umn.edu/~saad