

2025-2-12 Cheeger's Inequality

Conductance $\phi(S) = \frac{w(\partial(S))}{\min(d(S), d(U-S))}$

$\phi_G = \min_S \phi(S)$. Normalized Laplacian $N \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} D^{-1/2} L D^{-1/2}$ equals $0 = v_1 < v_2 < \dots < v_n$

Mentioned $v_2/2 \leq \phi_G$. Cheeger: $\phi_G \leq \sqrt{2v_2}$. Can find S st. $\phi(S) \leq \sqrt{2v_2}$

Recall $v_2 = \min_{y^T d = 0} \frac{y^T L y}{y^T D y}$. Will use $S_t = \{a : y(a) \leq t\}$, some number t

Then if $y^T d = 0$ and $\rho = \frac{y^T L y}{y^T D y}$, $\exists t$ st. $\phi(S_t) \leq \sqrt{2\rho}$

Replace $y^T d = 0$ with y centered wrt d if $\sum_{a: y(a) > 0} d(a) = \frac{d(U)}{2}$, $\sum_{a: y(a) < 0} d(a) = \frac{d(U)}{2}$

To center y , order vertices so $y(1) \leq y(2) \leq \dots \leq y(n)$

choose c to be least integer so that $\sum_{a \leq c} y(a) = \frac{d(U)}{2}$. $z = y - c \mathbb{1}$

Claim $z^T L z = y^T L y$, and $z^T D z = y^T D y$, so $\frac{z^T L z}{z^T D z} = \frac{y^T L y}{y^T D y}$

proof $z^T D z = (y - c \mathbb{1})^T D (y - c \mathbb{1}) = y^T D y + c^2 \mathbb{1}^T D \mathbb{1} - 2c \mathbb{1}^T D y = y^T D y$
 $= d^T y = 0$

Scale so $z(1)^2 + z(n)^2 = 1$. Will sample t at random. with density $2|t|$.

Then $\mathbb{E} w(\partial(S_t)) \leq \sqrt{2\rho} \mathbb{E} \min\{d(S_t), d(U-S_t)\}$ $S_t = \{a : z(a) < t\}$.

So, $\exists t$ for which holds. Can find it by scanning through t .

lem1 $\mathbb{E}_t [\min\{d(S_t), d(U-S_t)\}] = z^T D z$

lem2 $\mathbb{E} w(\partial(S_t)) \leq \sum_{(a,b) \in E} w_{a,b} (z(a) - z(b)) (|z(a)| + |z(b)|)$

Choose t in $[z(1), z(n)]$ with density $2|t|$. $\mathbb{P}[t \in [a,b]] = \int_{t=a}^b 2|t| dt$

$\int_{t=z(1)}^{z(n)} 2|t| = \int_{t=z(1)}^0 2|t| + \int_0^{z(n)} 2|t| = z(1)^2 + z(n)^2 = 1$

$$\int_{t=a}^b z|t| dt = \operatorname{sgn}(b) b^2 - \operatorname{sgn}(a) a^2 \quad \operatorname{sgn}(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & x > 0 \\ 0 & x = 0 \\ -1 & x < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$z \text{ centered w.r.t } d \Rightarrow \min(d(S_t), d(U-S_t)) = \begin{cases} d(S_t) & \text{if } t \leq 0 \\ d(U-S_t) & \text{if } t > 0 \end{cases}$$

proof of lemma 1 $\mathbb{E} \min(d(S_t), d(U-S_t)) = \sum_a \Pr[t \leq 0 \text{ and } a \in S_t] + \Pr[t > 0 \text{ and } a \in U-S_t]$

(recall $z(c) = 0$) $= \sum_{a < c} \Pr[z(a) < t \text{ and } t < 0] d(a) + \sum_{a \geq c} \Pr[z(a) \geq t \text{ and } t > 0]$

$$= \sum_{a < c} \Pr[z(a) - t < 0] d(a) + \sum_{a \geq c} \Pr[0 \leq t \leq z(a)] d(a) = \sum_{a < c} z(a)^2 d(a) + \sum_{a \geq c} z(a)^2 d(a) = \sum_a z(a)^2 d(a)$$

proof of lem 2 $\mathbb{E} w(\partial(S_t)) = \sum_{(a,b) \in E} w(a,b) \Pr[a < t \leq b]$

$$\Pr[a < t \leq b] = \operatorname{sgn}(z(b)) z(b)^2 - \operatorname{sgn}(z(a)) z(a)^2$$

when $\operatorname{sgn}(a) = \operatorname{sgn}(b)$ $= |z(b)^2 - z(a)^2| = |z(b) - z(a)| (|z(b)| + |z(a)|)$

when $\operatorname{sgn}(b) \neq \operatorname{sgn}(a)$ $= z(b)^2 + z(a)^2 = (z(b) - z(a))^2$
 $= (z(b) - z(a)) (|z(b)| + |z(a)|)$

proof of Thm 1 $\sum_{(a,b) \in E} w_{a,b} |z(b) - z(a)| (|z(b)| + |z(a)|) \leq$

$$\left(\sum_{a \sim b} w_{a,b} (z(b) - z(a))^2 \right)^{1/2} \left(\sum_{a \sim b} w_{a,b} (|z(b)| + |z(a)|)^2 \right)^{1/2}$$

$$z^T L z \leq \beta z^T D z$$

$$\leq 2 \sum_{a \sim b} w_{a,b} (z(b)^2 + z(a)^2) = 2 \sum_a d(a) z(a)^2 = 2 z^T D z$$

So, $\mathbb{E} w(\partial(S_t)) \leq \sqrt{\beta z^T D z} \sqrt{2 z^T D z} = \sqrt{2\beta} z^T D z = \sqrt{2\beta} \mathbb{E} \min(d(S_t), d(U-S_t))$