

Statistical learning with graphs

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1 Statistical learning with positive definite kernels

- Positive definite kernels and RKHS
- Learning in RKHS

2 Kernels for graphs

- Motivations
- Complexity vs expressiveness trade-off
- Walk kernels
- Extensions
- Applications

3 Kernels on graphs

- Motivation
- Graph distance and p.d. kernels
- Construction by regularization
- The diffusion kernel
- Harmonic analysis on graphs
- Applications

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Statistical Learning with Positive Definite Kernels

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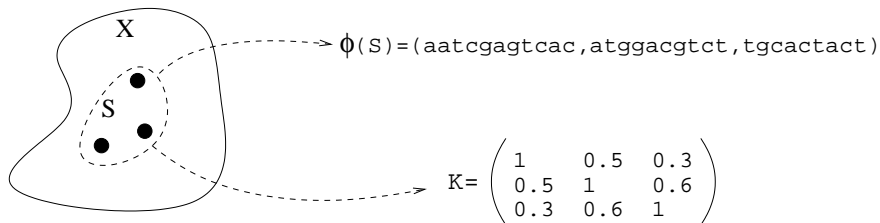
Motivations

- Develop **versatile** algorithms to process and learn from data
- No hypothesis made regarding the **type of data** (vectors, strings, **graphs**, images, ...)

The approach

- Develop methods based on **pairwise comparisons**.
- By imposing **constraints** on the pairwise comparison function (positive definite kernels), we obtain a nice **general framework for learning from data**.

Representation by pairwise comparisons



Idea

- Define a “comparison function”: $K : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \mapsto \mathbb{R}$.
- Represent a set of n data points $\mathcal{S} = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n\}$ by the $n \times n$ matrix:

$$[K]_{ij} := K(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) .$$

Positive Definite (p.d.) Kernels

Definition

A **positive definite (p.d.) kernel** on the set \mathcal{X} is a function $K : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ **symmetric**:

$$\forall (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') \in \mathcal{X}^2, \quad K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = K(\mathbf{x}', \mathbf{x}),$$

and which satisfies, for all $N \in \mathbb{N}$, $(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N) \in \mathcal{X}^N$ et $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_N) \in \mathbb{R}^N$:

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N a_i a_j K(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) \geq 0.$$

Remarks

- Equivalently, a kernel K is p.d. if and only if, for any $N \in \mathbb{N}$ and any set of points $(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N) \in \mathcal{X}^N$, the **similarity matrix** $[K]_{ij} := K(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j)$ is **positive semidefinite**.
- Complete **modularity** between the **kernel** (mapping a set of points to a matrix) and the **algorithm** (processing the matrix)
- **Poor scalability** w.r.t to the dataset size (n^2 ?)

Kernels for vectors

Classical kernels for vectors ($\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}^p$) include:

- The **linear kernel**

$$K_{lin}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}' .$$

- The **polynomial kernel**

$$K_{poly}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \left(\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}' + a \right)^d .$$

- The **Gaussian RBF kernel**:

$$K_{Gaussian}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \exp \left(-\frac{\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'\|^2}{2\sigma^2} \right) .$$

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P.d. kernels are inner products

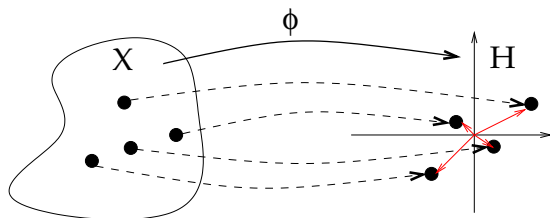
Theorem (Aronszajn, 1950)

K is a p.d. kernel on the set \mathcal{X} *if and only if* there exists a *Hilbert space* \mathcal{H} and a mapping

$$\Phi : \mathcal{X} \mapsto \mathcal{H},$$

such that, for any \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}' in \mathcal{X} :

$$K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \langle \Phi(\mathbf{x}), \Phi(\mathbf{x}') \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}.$$



Corollary: The kernel trick

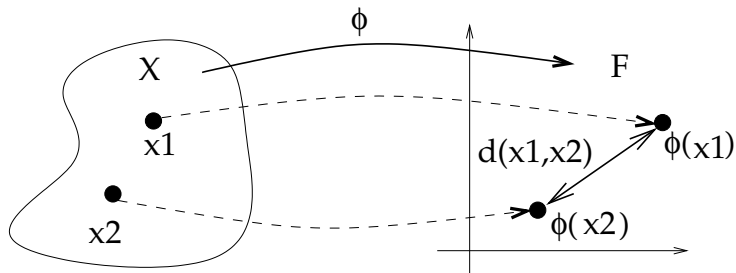
Kernel trick

Any algorithm to process finite-dimensional vectors that can be expressed **only in terms of pairwise inner products** can be applied to potentially infinite-dimensional vectors in the feature space of a p.d. kernel by **replacing each inner product evaluation by a kernel evaluation**.

Remarks

- The proof of this proposition is trivial, because the kernel is exactly the inner product in the feature space.
- This trick has **huge practical applications**, in particular to **extend linear methods** to **non-linear** settings and **non-vector** data.
- Vectors in the feature space are only manipulated **implicitly**, through pairwise inner products.

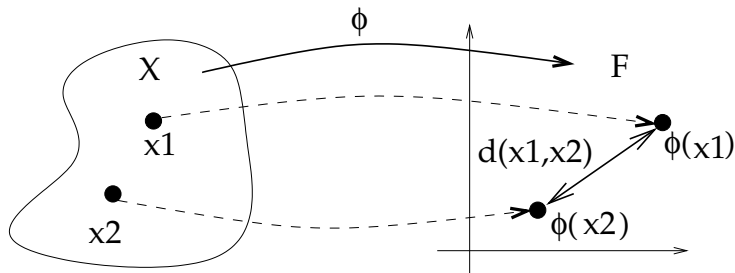
Kernel trick example: computing distances in the feature space



$$\begin{aligned}d_K(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2)^2 &= \|\Phi(\mathbf{x}_1) - \Phi(\mathbf{x}_2)\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 \\ &= \langle \Phi(\mathbf{x}_1) - \Phi(\mathbf{x}_2), \Phi(\mathbf{x}_1) - \Phi(\mathbf{x}_2) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \\ &= \langle \Phi(\mathbf{x}_1), \Phi(\mathbf{x}_1) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} + \langle \Phi(\mathbf{x}_2), \Phi(\mathbf{x}_2) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} - 2 \langle \Phi(\mathbf{x}_1), \Phi(\mathbf{x}_2) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}\end{aligned}$$

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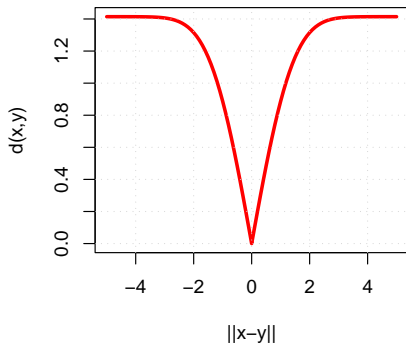
Distance for the Gaussian kernel

- The Gaussian kernel with bandwidth σ on \mathbb{R}^d is:

$$K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = e^{-\frac{\|\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{y}\|^2}{2\sigma^2}},$$

- $K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}) = 1 = \|\Phi(\mathbf{x})\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2$, so all points are on the unit sphere in the feature space.
- The distance between the images of two points \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} in the feature space is given by:

$$d_K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \sqrt{2 \left[1 - e^{-\frac{\|\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{y}\|^2}{2\sigma^2}} \right]}$$



Reproducing kernel Hilbert space

Definition

Let \mathcal{X} be a set and $\mathcal{H} \subset \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{X}}$ be a **class of functions forming a (real) Hilbert space** with inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$. The function $K : \mathcal{X}^2 \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ is called a **reproducing kernel (r.k.)** of \mathcal{H} if

- 1 \mathcal{H} contains all functions of the form

$$\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}, \quad K_{\mathbf{x}} : \mathbf{t} \mapsto K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{t}) .$$

- 2 For every $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}$ and $f \in \mathcal{H}$ the **reproducing property** holds:

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \langle f, K_{\mathbf{x}} \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} .$$

If a r.k. exists, then \mathcal{H} is called a **reproducing kernel Hilbert space (RKHS)**.

Equivalence between positive definite and reproducing kernels

Theorem (Aronszajn, 1950)

K is a p.d. kernel **if and only if** there exists a RKHS having K as r.k.

Corollary

For any p.d. kernel K , let \mathcal{H} be its RKHS. Define:

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi : \mathcal{X} &\rightarrow \mathcal{H}, \\ \mathbf{x} &\mapsto K_{\mathbf{x}}.\end{aligned}$$

We then get:

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \Phi(\mathbf{x}), \Phi(\mathbf{x}') \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} &= \langle K_{\mathbf{x}}, K_{\mathbf{x}'} \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \\ &= K_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x}') \\ &= K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') . \quad \square\end{aligned}$$

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Explicit construction of the RKHS

- If K is p.d., then the RKHS \mathcal{H} is the vector subspace of $\mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{X}}$ **spanned by the functions** $\{K_{\mathbf{x}}\}_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}}$ (and their pointwise limits).
- For any $f, g \in \mathcal{H}_0$, given by:

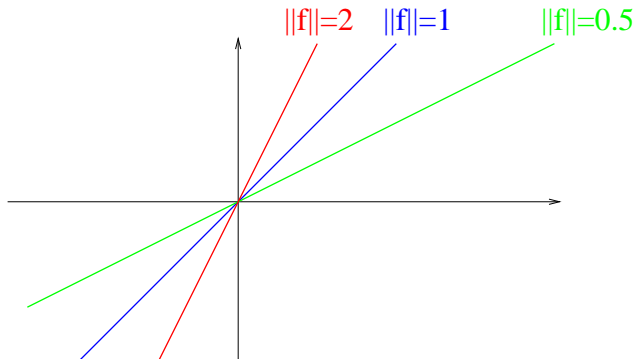
$$f = \sum_i a_i K_{\mathbf{x}_i}, \quad g = \sum_j b_j K_{\mathbf{y}_j},$$

the inner product is given by:

$$\langle f, g \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0} := \sum_{i,j} a_i b_j K(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{y}_j), \quad \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}_0}^2 = \sum_{i,j} a_i a_j K(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j).$$

Example : RKHS of the linear kernel

$$\begin{cases} K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') &= \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}' . \\ f(\mathbf{x}) &= \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x} , \\ \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}} &= \|\mathbf{w}\|_2 . \end{cases}$$



Examples: RKHS of the Gaussian RBF kernel

$$K_{\text{Gaussian}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \exp\left(-\frac{\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'\|^2}{2\sigma^2}\right),$$

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \exp\left(-\frac{\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i\|^2}{2\sigma^2}\right),$$

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 &= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_i \alpha_j \exp\left(-\frac{\|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \\ &= \int |\hat{f}(\omega)|^2 e^{\frac{\sigma^2 \omega^2}{2}} d\omega. \end{aligned}$$

A simple inequality

- By Cauchy-Schwarz we have, for any function $f \in \mathcal{H}$ and any two points $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}' \in \mathcal{X}$:

$$\begin{aligned} |f(\mathbf{x}) - f(\mathbf{x}')| &= |\langle f, K_{\mathbf{x}} - K_{\mathbf{x}'} \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}| \\ &\leq \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}} \times \|K_{\mathbf{x}} - K_{\mathbf{x}'}\|_{\mathcal{H}} \\ &= \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}} \times d_K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') . \end{aligned}$$

- The norm of a function in the RKHS controls **how fast** the function varies over \mathcal{X} with respect to the **geometry defined by the kernel** (Lipschitz with constant $\|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}$).

Important message

Small norm \implies slow variations.

Representer theorem (Kimeldorf and Wahba, 1971)

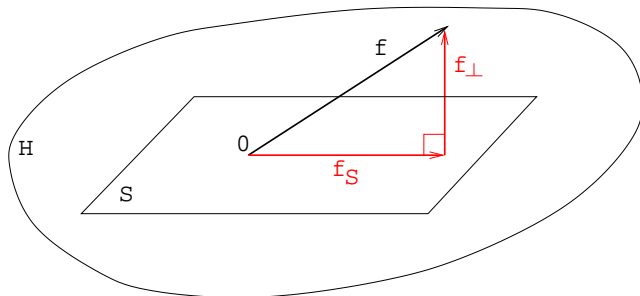
- Let \mathcal{X} be a set endowed with a p.d. kernel K , \mathcal{H}_K the corresponding RKHS, and $\mathcal{S} = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n\} \subset \mathcal{X}$ a finite set of points in \mathcal{X} .
- Let $\Psi : \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a function of $n + 1$ variables, strictly increasing with respect to the last variable.
- Then, any solution to the optimization problem:

$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{H}_K} \Psi(f(\mathbf{x}_1), \dots, f(\mathbf{x}_n), \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}_K}),$$

admits a representation of the form:

$$\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}, \quad f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i K(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}).$$

Representer theorem: proof



- $S = \text{span} \{K_{\mathbf{x}_1}, \dots, K_{\mathbf{x}_n}\}$
- $f_{\perp}(\mathbf{x}_i) = \langle f_{\perp}, K_{\mathbf{x}_i} \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_K} = 0 \implies f(\mathbf{x}_i) = f_S(\mathbf{x}_i)$ for $i = 1, \dots, n$.
- $\|f\|_{\mathcal{H}_K} > \|f_S\|_{\mathcal{H}_K}$ if $f_{\perp} \neq 0$. (Pythagoras) \square

Practical and theoretical consequences

Often the function Ψ has the form:

$$\Psi(f(\mathbf{x}_1), \dots, f(\mathbf{x}_n), \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}_K}) = c(f(\mathbf{x}_1), \dots, f(\mathbf{x}_n)) + \lambda \Omega(\|f\|_{\mathcal{H}_K})$$

where $c(\cdot)$ measures the “fit” of f to a given problem (regression, classification, dimension reduction, ...) and Ω is strictly increasing.

This formulation has two important consequences:

- **Theoretically**, the minimization will enforce the **norm** $\|f\|_{\mathcal{H}_K}$ to be “small”, which can be beneficial by ensuring a sufficient level of smoothness for the solution (regularization effect).
- **Practically**, we know by the representer theorem that the solution lives in a **subspace of dimension n** , which can lead to efficient algorithms although the RKHS itself can be of infinite dimension.

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General setting

- **Observation:** $\{z_1, \dots, z_n\}$ where $z_i = (\mathbf{x}_i, y_i) \in \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}$
- **Goal:** learn a function $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
- **Examples:** density estimation, pattern recognition, regression, outlier detection, clustering, compression, low-dimensional embedding...

Empirical risk minimization (ERM)

- 1 Define a **loss function** $l(f, z)$ and a **space of functions** \mathcal{F} .
- 2 Minimize the **empirical average loss** over \mathcal{F} :

$$\hat{f} \in \arg \min_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n l(f, z_i).$$

General properties of ERM

- If \mathcal{F} is **not “too large”** then the ERM is **consistent** (\hat{f} is close to the best possible $f \in \mathcal{F}$ as the number of observations increases).
- If \mathcal{F} is **not “too small”** then the best possible $f \in \mathcal{F}$ is a **“good” solution**.
- **Challenge**: choose a “small” \mathcal{F} that contains “good” functions.

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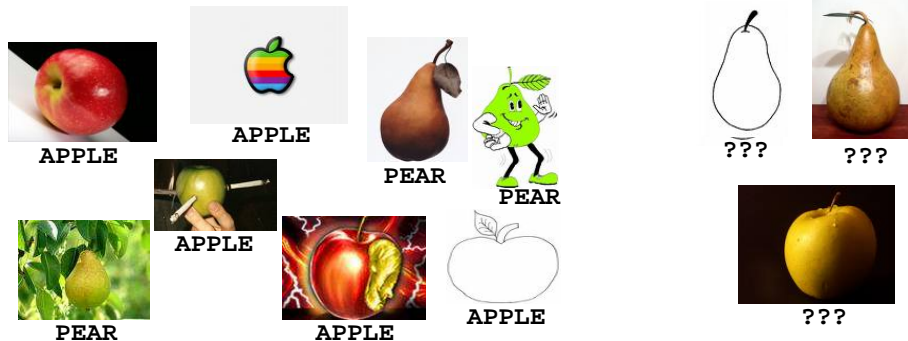
ERM in RKHS

- Take \mathcal{F} to be a ball in the RKHS:

$$\mathcal{F}_B = \{f \in \mathcal{H} : \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq B\} .$$

- Advantage: by **controlling the “size”** of \mathcal{F} (related to B) the ERM principle works (**consistency** and **theoretical rates of convergence**).
- The **kernel** should be chosen s.t. some “good” functions have a small RKHS norm.

Example: pattern recognition



- **Input** variables $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}$
- **Output** $y \in \{-1, 1\}$.
- **Training set** $\mathcal{S} = \{(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_n, y_n)\}$.

General setting

- For pattern recognition $\mathcal{Y} = \{-1, 1\}$.
- Goal: estimate a function $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ to predict \mathbf{y} from the sign of $f(\mathbf{x})$
- The **margin** for a pair (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) is $\mathbf{y}f(\mathbf{x})$.
- Focusing on **large margins** ensures that $f(\mathbf{x})$ has the same sign as \mathbf{y} and a large absolute value (confidence).
- Leads to a loss function

$$l(f, (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})) = \phi(\mathbf{y}f(\mathbf{x})),$$

where $\phi : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is non-increasing.

Theoretical results

- The ERM estimator \hat{f}_n solves:

$$\begin{cases} \min_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \phi(\mathbf{y}_i f(\mathbf{x}_i)) \\ \text{subject to } \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq B. \end{cases}$$

- Let P an unknown distribution over $\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}$, assume $\mathcal{S} = (\mathbf{x}_i, y_i)_{i=1, \dots, n}$ i.i.d. according to P .
- Assume K upper bounded by κ and ϕ Lipschitz with constant L_ϕ .
- For the ϕ -risk $R_\phi(f) = \mathbf{E} \phi(Yf(X))$ we have:

$$\mathbf{E} R_\phi(\hat{f}_n) \leq \inf_{f \in \mathcal{F}_B} R_\phi(f) + \frac{8L_\phi \kappa B}{\sqrt{n}}.$$

Reformulation as penalized minimization

- We must solve the constrained minimization problem:

$$\begin{cases} \min_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \phi(\mathbf{y}_i f(\mathbf{x}_i)) \\ \text{subject to } \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq B. \end{cases}$$

- To make this practical we assume that ϕ is convex.
- The problem is then a convex problem in f for which strong duality holds. In particular f solves the problem if and only if it solves for some dual parameter λ the unconstrained problem:

$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \left\{ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \phi(\mathbf{y}_i f(\mathbf{x}_i)) + \lambda \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 \right\},$$

and complimentary slackness holds ($\lambda = 0$ or $\|f\|_{\mathcal{H}} = B$).

Optimization in RKHS

- By the **representer theorem**, the solution of the unconstrained problem can be expanded as:

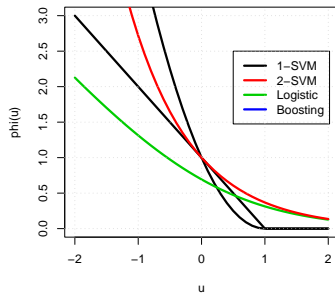
$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i K(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}) .$$

- Plugging into the original problem we obtain the following **unconstrained and convex optimization problem in \mathbb{R}^n** :

$$\min_{\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left\{ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \phi \left(\mathbf{y}_i \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j K(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) \right) + \lambda \sum_{i,j=1}^n \alpha_i \alpha_j K(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) \right\} .$$

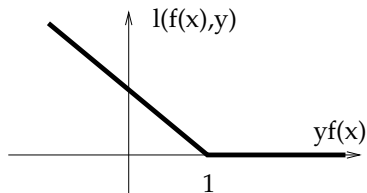
- This can be **implemented** using general packages for **convex optimization** or specific algorithms (e.g., for SVM).

Loss function examples



Method	$\phi(u)$
Kernel logistic regression	$\log(1 + e^{-u})$
Support vector machine (1-SVM)	$\max(1 - u, 0)$
Support vector machine (2-SVM)	$\max(1 - u, 0)^2$
Boosting	e^{-u}

Example: Support vector machines



- The loss function is the **hinge loss**:

$$\phi_{\text{hinge}}(u) = \max(1 - u, 0) .$$

- SVM solve the problem:

$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \left\{ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \phi_{\text{hinge}}(\mathbf{y}_i f(\mathbf{x}_i)) + \lambda \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 \right\} .$$

The classifier is:

$$\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}, \quad f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_i),$$

where α is the solution of the following QP:

$$\max_{\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^d} 2 \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i - \sum_{i,j=1}^n \alpha_i \alpha_j K(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j),$$

subject to:

$$0 \leq y_i \alpha_i \leq \frac{1}{n\lambda}, \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, n.$$

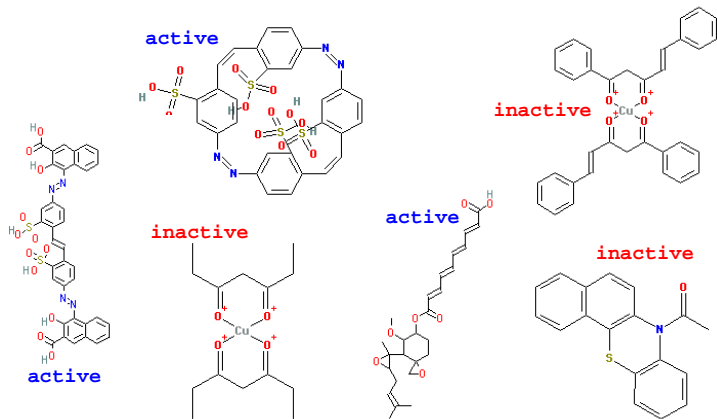
Kernel methods: Summary

- 3 ways to map \mathcal{X} to a Hilbert space:
 - 1 Explicitly define and compute $\Phi : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$
 - 2 Define a **p.d. kernel** over \mathcal{X}
 - 3 Define a **RKHS** over \mathcal{X}
- The **kernel trick** allows to extend many linear algorithms to **non-linear settings** and to **general data** (even non-vectorial).
- The **norm in the RKHS** can be used as **regularization** for empirical risk minimization. This is **theoretically justified** and leads to **efficient algorithms** (often finite-dimensional convex problem thanks to the representer theorem).
- We are now ready to learn with graphs by **defining positive definite kernels for graphs!**

Kernels for Graphs

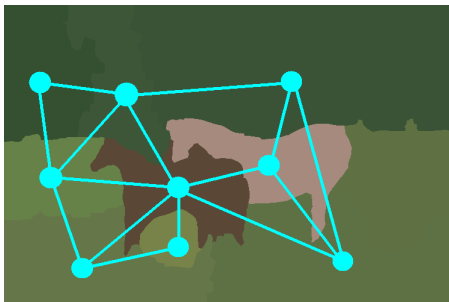
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Cheminformatics and QSAR



NCI AIDS screen results (from <http://cactus.nci.nih.gov>).

Image retrieval and classification



From Harchaoui and Bach (2007).

Notations

- A **directed graph** is a pair $G = (V, E)$ with V finite (**vertices**) and $E \subset V \times V$ (**edges**).
- A graph is **labeled** if a label from a set of labels \mathcal{A} is assigned to each vertex and/or edge.
- Two graphs $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$ and $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$ are **isomorphic** (denoted $G_1 \simeq G_2$) if there exists a bijection between V_1 and V_2 that preserves edges and labels.

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 - **Complexity vs expressiveness trade-off**
 - Walk kernels
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 - Applications
- 3 Kernels on graphs

Expressiveness vs Complexity

Definition: Complete graph kernels

A graph kernel is **complete** if it separates non-isomorphic graphs, i.e.:

$$\forall G_1, G_2 \in \mathcal{G}, \quad d_K(G_1, G_2) = 0 \implies G_1 \simeq G_2.$$

Equivalently, $\Phi(G_1) \neq \Phi(G_2)$ if G_1 and G_2 are not isomorphic.

Expressiveness vs Complexity trade-off

- If a graph kernel is not complete, then there is **no hope** to learn all possible functions over \mathcal{G} : the kernel is not **expressive** enough.
- On the other hand, kernel **computation** must be **tractable**, i.e., no more than polynomial (with small degree) for practical applications.
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Known facts

- *Are G_1 and G_2 isomorphic?*

The **graph isomorphism** problem is in NP. It is believed to lie **between P and NP-complete**. No known polynomial-time algorithm exists.

- *Is G_1 isomorphic to a subgraph of G_2 ?*

The subgraph isomorphism problem is NP-complete.

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Complexity of complete kernels

Proposition (Gärtner et al., 2003)

Computing **any complete graph kernel** is **at least as hard** as the graph isomorphism problem.

Proof

- For any kernel K the complexity of computing d_K is the same as the complexity of computing K , because:

$$d_K(G_1, G_2)^2 = K(G_1, G_1) + K(G_2, G_2) - 2K(G_1, G_2).$$

- If K is a complete graph kernel, then computing d_K solves the graph isomorphism problem ($d_K(G_1, G_2) = 0$ iff $G_1 \simeq G_2$). \square

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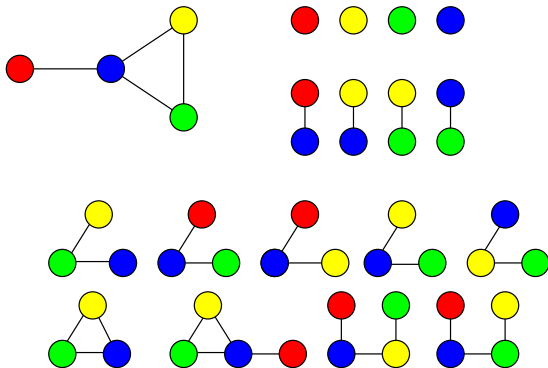
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Subgraphs

Definition

A **subgraph** of a graph (V, E) is a connected graph (V', E') with $V' \subset V$ and $E' \subset E$.



Definition

- Let $(\lambda_G)_{G \in \mathcal{G}}$ a set of **nonnegative** real-valued weights
- For any graph $G \in \mathcal{G}$, let

$$\forall H \in \mathcal{G}, \quad \Phi_H(G) = |\{G' \text{ is a subgraph of } G : G' \simeq H\}|.$$

- The **subgraph kernel** between any two graphs G_1 and $G_2 \in \mathcal{G}$ is defined by:

$$K_{\text{subgraph}}(G_1, G_2) = \sum_{H \in \mathcal{G}} \lambda_H \Phi_H(G_1) \Phi_H(G_2).$$

Subgraph kernel complexity

Proposition (Gärtner et al., 2003)

Computing the subgraph kernel is **NP-hard**.

Proof (1/2)

- Let P_n be the path graph with n edges.
- The vectors $\phi(P_1), \dots, \phi(P_n)$ are linearly independent, therefore:

$$e_{P_n} = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \phi(P_i).$$

- The coefficients α_i can be found in polynomial time (solving a $n \times n$ triangular system).

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Proof (2/2)

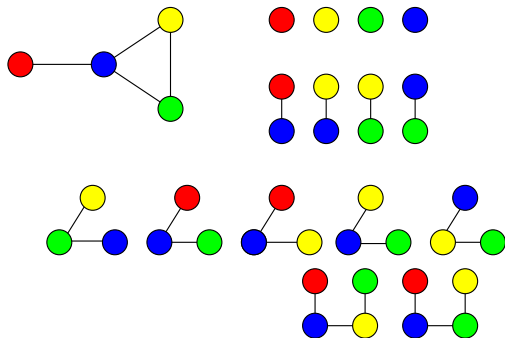
- If G is a graph with n vertices, then it has a path that visits each node exactly once (Hamiltonian path) if and only if $\Phi(G)^\top e_n > 0$, i.e.,

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i K_{\text{subgraph}}(G, P_i) > 0.$$

- The decision problem whether a graph has a Hamiltonian path is NP-complete. \square

Definition

- A **path** of a graph (V, E) is sequence of **distinct vertices** $v_1, \dots, v_n \in V$ ($i \neq j \implies v_i \neq v_j$) such that $(v_i, v_{i+1}) \in E$ for $i = 1, \dots, n - 1$.
- Equivalently the paths are the **linear subgraphs**.



Definition

The **path kernel** is the subgraph kernel restricted to paths, i.e.,

$$K_{path}(G_1, G_2) = \sum_{H \in \mathcal{P}} \lambda_H \Phi_H(G_1) \Phi_H(G_2),$$

where $\mathcal{P} \subset \mathcal{G}$ is the set of path graphs.

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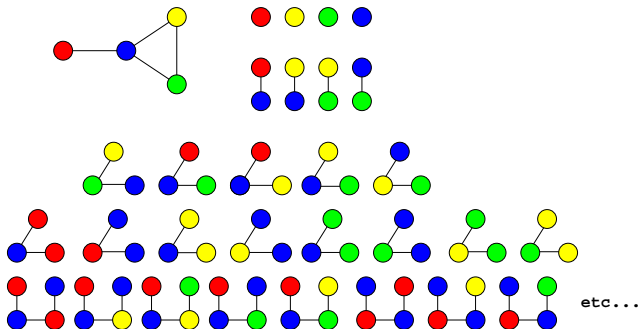
Expressiveness vs Complexity trade-off

- It is **intractable** to compute **complete** graph kernels.
- It is **intractable** to compute the **subgraph kernels**.
- Restricting subgraphs to be linear does not help: it is also **intractable** to compute the **path kernel**.
- One approach to define polynomial time computable graph kernels is to have the feature space be made up of graphs **homomorphic** to subgraphs, e.g., to consider **walks** instead of paths.

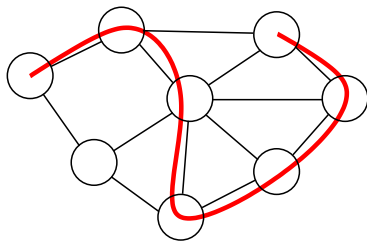
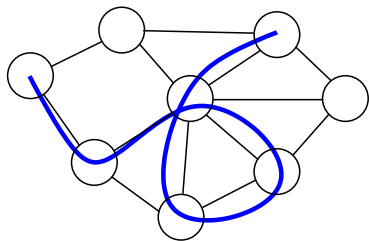
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- A **walk** of a graph (V, E) is sequence of $v_1, \dots, v_n \in V$ such that $(v_i, v_{i+1}) \in E$ for $i = 1, \dots, n - 1$.
- We note $\mathcal{W}_n(G)$ the set of walks with n vertices of the graph G , and $\mathcal{W}(G)$ the set of all walks.



Paths and walks



Definition

- Let \mathcal{S}_n denote the set of all possible **label sequences** of walks of length n (including vertices and edges labels), and $\mathcal{S} = \cup_{n \geq 1} \mathcal{S}_n$.
- For any graph \mathcal{G} let a **weight** $\lambda_{\mathcal{G}}(w)$ be associated to each walk $w \in \mathcal{W}(\mathcal{G})$.
- Let the feature vector $\Phi(\mathcal{G}) = (\Phi_s(\mathcal{G}))_{s \in \mathcal{S}}$ be defined by:

$$\Phi_s(\mathcal{G}) = \sum_{w \in \mathcal{W}(\mathcal{G})} \lambda_{\mathcal{G}}(w) \mathbf{1}(s \text{ is the label sequence of } w) .$$

- A walk kernel is a graph kernel defined by:

$$K_{walk}(\mathcal{G}_1, \mathcal{G}_2) = \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} \Phi_s(\mathcal{G}_1) \Phi_s(\mathcal{G}_2) .$$

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Walk kernel examples

Examples

- The **n th-order walk kernel** is the walk kernel with $\lambda_G(w) = 1$ if the length of w is n , 0 otherwise. It compares two graphs through their common walks of length n .
- The **random walk kernel** is obtained with $\lambda_G(w) = P_G(w)$, where P_G is a **Markov random walk on G** . In that case we have:

$$K(G_1, G_2) = P(\text{label}(W_1) = \text{label}(W_2)),$$

where W_1 and W_2 are two independent random walks on G_1 and G_2 , respectively.

- The **geometric walk kernel** is obtained (when it converges) with $\lambda_G(w) = \beta^{\text{length}(w)}$, for $\beta > 0$. In that case the feature space is of infinite dimension.

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Proposition

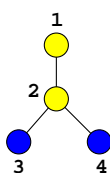
These three kernels (n th-order, random and geometric walk kernels) can be computed efficiently in **polynomial time**.

Product graph

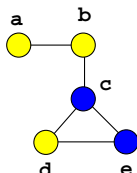
Definition

Let $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$ and $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$ be two graphs with labeled vertices. The **product graph** $G = G_1 \times G_2$ is the graph $G = (V, E)$ with:

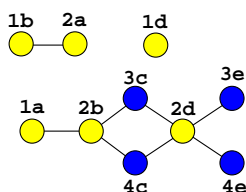
- 1 $V = \{(v_1, v_2) \in V_1 \times V_2 : v_1 \text{ and } v_2 \text{ have the same label}\}$,
- 2 $E = \{((v_1, v_2), (v'_1, v'_2)) \in V \times V : (v_1, v'_1) \in E_1 \text{ and } (v_2, v'_2) \in E_2\}$.



G1



G2



G1 x G2

Walk kernel and product graph

Lemma

There is a **bijection** between:

- 1 The **pairs of walks** $w_1 \in \mathcal{W}_n(G_1)$ and $w_2 \in \mathcal{W}_n(G_2)$ with the **same label sequences**,
- 2 The **walks on the product graph** $w \in \mathcal{W}_n(G_1 \times G_2)$.

Corollary

$$\begin{aligned}K_{\text{walk}}(G_1, G_2) &= \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} \Phi_s(G_1) \Phi_s(G_2) \\&= \sum_{(w_1, w_2) \in \mathcal{W}(G_1) \times \mathcal{W}(G_1)} \lambda_{G_1}(w_1) \lambda_{G_2}(w_2) \mathbf{1}(l(w_1) = l(w_2)) \\&= \sum_{w \in \mathcal{W}(G_1 \times G_2)} \lambda_{G_1 \times G_2}(w).\end{aligned}$$

Computation of the n th-order walk kernel

- For the n th-order walk kernel we have $\lambda_{G_1 \times G_2}(w) = 1$ if the length of w is n , 0 otherwise.

- Therefore:

$$K_{nth-order}(G_1, G_2) = \sum_{w \in \mathcal{W}_n(G_1 \times G_2)} 1.$$

- Let A be the adjacency matrix of $G_1 \times G_2$. Then we get:

$$K_{nth-order}(G_1, G_2) = \sum_{i,j} [A^n]_{i,j} = \mathbf{1}^\top A^n \mathbf{1}.$$

- Computation in $O(n|G_1||G_2|d_1d_2)$, where d_i is the maximum degree of G_i .

Computation of random and geometric walk kernels

- In both cases $\lambda_G(w)$ for a walk $w = v_1 \dots v_n$ can be decomposed as:

$$\lambda_G(v_1 \dots v_n) = \lambda^i(v_1) \prod_{i=2}^n \lambda^t(v_{i-1}, v_i).$$

- Let Λ_i be the vector of $\lambda^i(v)$ and Λ_t be the matrix of $\lambda^t(v, v')$:

$$\begin{aligned} K_{walk}(G_1, G_2) &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{w \in \mathcal{W}_n(G_1 \times G_2)} \lambda^i(v_1) \prod_{i=2}^n \lambda^t(v_{i-1}, v_i) \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \Lambda_i \Lambda_t^n \mathbf{1} \\ &= \Lambda_i (I - \Lambda_t)^{-1} \mathbf{1} \end{aligned}$$

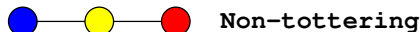
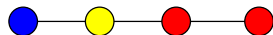
- Computation in $O(|G_1|^3 |G_2|^3)$

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Extension 1: Non-tottering walk kernel

Tottering walks

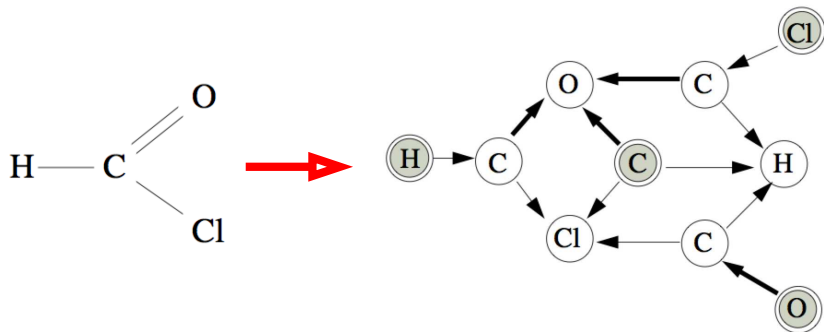
A **tottering walk** is a walk $w = v_1 \dots v_n$ with $v_i = v_{i+2}$ for some i .



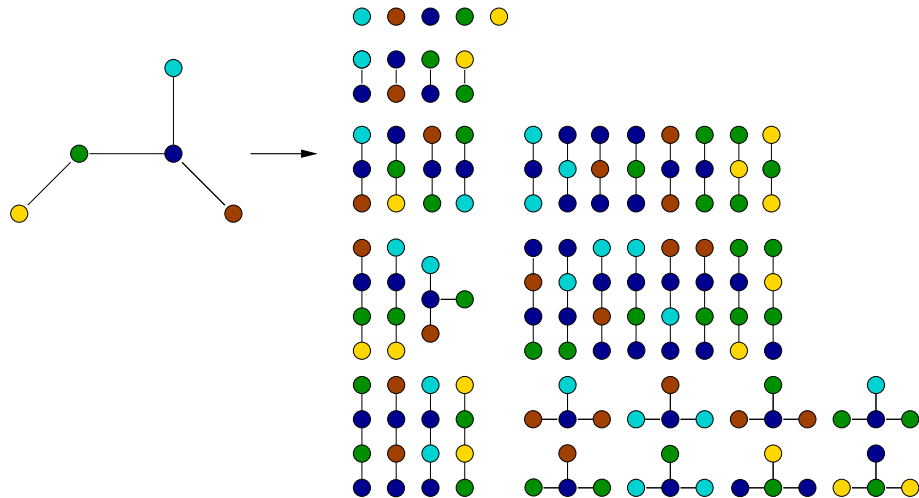
- Tottering walks seem **irrelevant** for many applications
- Focusing on non-tottering walks is a way to get closer to the **path kernel** (e.g., equivalent on trees).

Computation of the non-tottering walk kernel

- **Second-order** Markov random walk to prevent tottering walks
- Written as a **first-order** Markov random walk on an **augmented graph**
- **Normal** walk kernel on the augmented graph (which is always a **directed** graph).



Extension 2: Subtree kernels



Computation of the subtree kernel

- Like the walk kernel, amounts to compute the (weighted) number of subtrees in the **product graph**.
- Recursion: if $\mathcal{T}(v, n)$ denotes the weighted number of subtrees of depth n rooted at the vertex v , then:

$$\mathcal{T}(v, n+1) = \sum_{R \subset \mathcal{N}(v)} \prod_{v' \in R} \lambda_t(v, v') \mathcal{T}(v', n),$$

where $\mathcal{N}(v)$ is the set of neighbors of v .

- Can be combined with the non-tottering graph transformation as preprocessing to obtain the **non-tottering subtree kernel**.

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MUTAG dataset

- aromatic/hetero-aromatic compounds
- high mutagenic activity /no mutagenic activity, assayed in *Salmonella typhimurium*.
- 188 compounds: 125 + / 63 -

Results

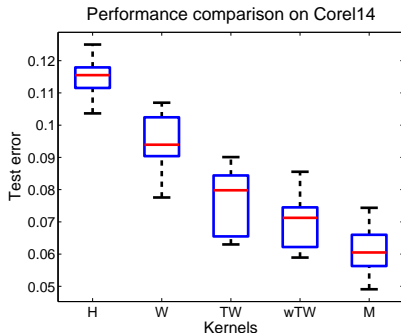
10-fold cross-validation accuracy

Method	Accuracy
Progol1	81.4%
2D kernel	91.2%

Image classification (Harchaoui and Bach, 2007)

COREL14 dataset

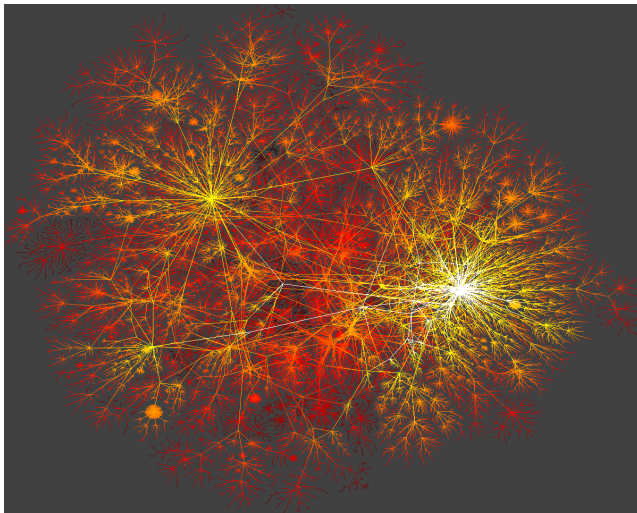
- 1400 natural images in 14 classes
- Compare kernel between histograms (H), walk kernel (W), subtree kernel (TW), weighted subtree kernel (wTW), and a combination (M).



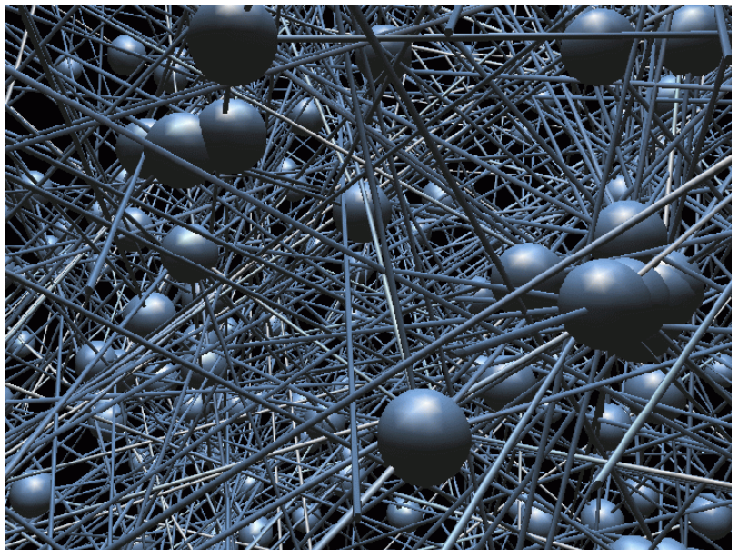
Kernels on Graphs

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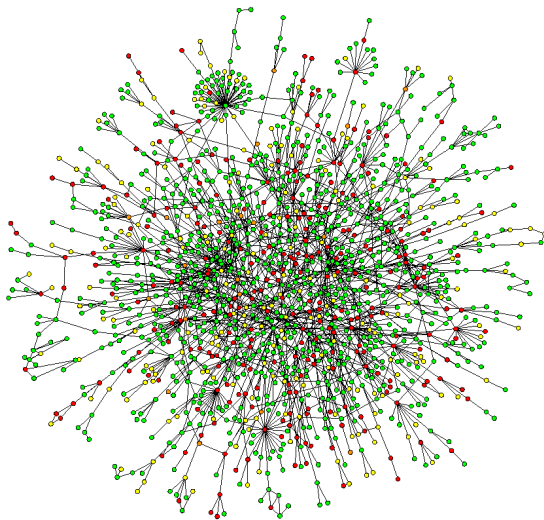
Example: web



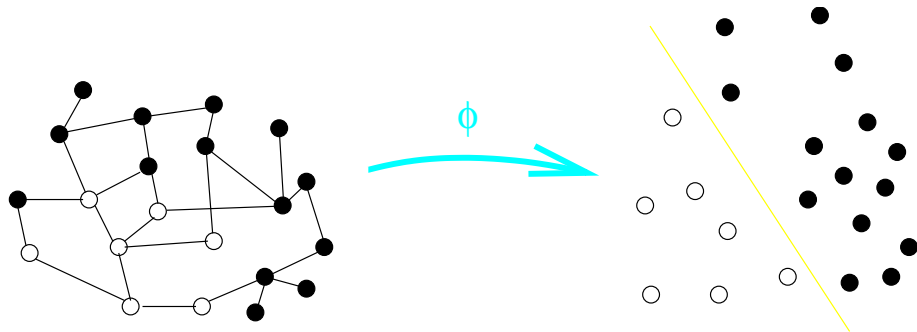
Example: social network



Example: protein-protein interaction



Kernel on a graph



- We need a **kernel $K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$** between nodes of the graph.
- Example: predict gene protein functions from high-throughput protein-protein interaction data.

Strategies to make a kernel on a graph

- \mathcal{X} being finite, **any symmetric semi-definite matrix K** defines a valid p.d. kernel on \mathcal{X} .
- How to “translate” the graph topology into the kernel?
 - **Direct geometric approach:** $K_{i,j}$ should be “large” when \mathbf{x}_i and \mathbf{x}_j are “close” to each other on the graph?
 - **Functional approach:** $\|f\|_K$ should be “small” when f is “smooth” on the graph?
 - **Link discrete/continuous:** is there an equivalent to the continuous Gaussian kernel on the graph (e.g., limit by fine discretization)?

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Hilbert distance

- Any p.d. kernels is an inner product in a Hilbert space

$$K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \langle \Phi(\mathbf{x}), \Phi(\mathbf{x}') \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} .$$

- It defines a Hilbert distance:

$$d_K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')^2 = K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}) + K(\mathbf{x}', \mathbf{x}') - 2K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$$

- $-d_K^2$ is **conditionally positive definite**, i.e.:

$$\forall t > 0, \quad \exp\left(-td_K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')^2\right) \text{ is p.d.}$$

Graph embedding in a Hilbert space

- Given a graph $G = (V, E)$, the **graph distance** $d_G(x, x')$ between any two vertices is the **length of the shortest path** between x and x' .
- We say that the graph $G = (V, E)$ can be **embedded** (exactly) in a Hilbert space if **$-d_G$ is c.p.d.**, which implies in particular that $\exp(-td_G(x, x'))$ is p.d. for all $t > 0$.

Lemma

- *In general graphs can not be embedded exactly in Hilbert spaces.*
- *In some cases exact embeddings exists, e.g.:*
 - *trees can be embedded exactly,*
 - *closed chains can be embedded exactly.*

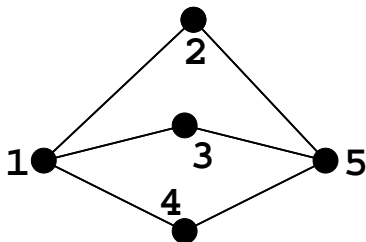
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Example: non-c.p.d. graph distance



$$d_G = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_{\min} \left(\left[e^{(-0.2d_G(i,j))} \right] \right) = -0.028 < 0.$$

Graph distance on trees are c.p.d.

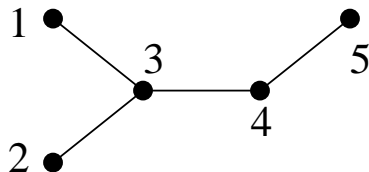
Proof

- Let $G = (V, E)$ a tree
- Fix a root $x_0 \in V$
- Represent any vertex $x \in V$ by a vector $\Phi(x) \in \mathbb{R}^{|E|}$, where $\Phi(x)_i = 1$ if the i -th edge is in the (unique) path between x and x_0 , 0 otherwise.
- Then:

$$d_G(x, x') = \|\Phi(x) - \Phi(x')\|^2,$$

and therefore $-d_G$ is c.p.d., in particular $\exp(-td_G(x, x'))$ is p.d. for all $t > 0$.

Example

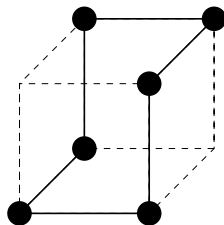
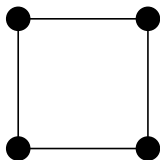


$$\left[e^{-d_G(i,j)} \right] = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0.14 & 0.37 & 0.14 & 0.05 \\ 0.14 & 1 & 0.37 & 0.14 & 0.05 \\ 0.37 & 0.37 & 1 & 0.37 & 0.14 \\ 0.14 & 0.14 & 0.37 & 1 & 0.37 \\ 0.05 & 0.05 & 0.14 & 0.37 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Graph distance on closed chains are c.p.d.

Proof: case $|V| = 2p$

- Let $G = (V, E)$ a cycle with an even number of vertices $|V| = 2p$
- Fix a root $x_0 \in V$, number the $2p$ edges from x_0 to x_0 .
- Map the $2p$ edges in \mathbb{R}^p to $(e_1, \dots, e_p, -e_1, \dots, -e_p)$
- Map a vertex v to the sum of the edges in the shortest path between x_0 and v .



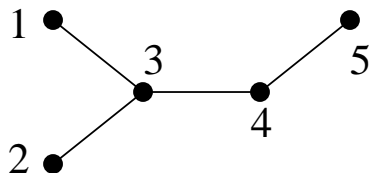
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Motivation

- How to make p.d. kernel on **general graphs**?
- Making a kernel is equivalent to defining a **RKHS**.
- There are intuitive notions of **smoothness** on a graph

Idea

- Define a priori a **smoothness functional** on the functions $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.
- Show that **it defines a RKHS** and identify the corresponding kernel

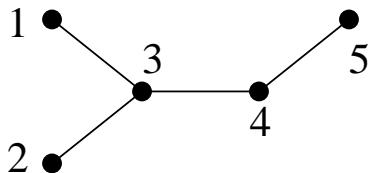


$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad D = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Graph Laplacian

Definition

The Laplacian of the graph is the matrix $L = D - A$.



$$L = D - A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & 3 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Properties of the Laplacian

Lemma

Let $L = D - A$ be the Laplacian of a **connected** graph:

- For any $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$,

$$\Omega(f) := \sum_{i \sim j} (f(\mathbf{x}_i) - f(\mathbf{x}_j))^2 = f^\top L f$$

- L is a **symmetric positive semi-definite** matrix
- 0 is an **eigenvalue** with multiplicity 1 associated to the constant eigenvector $\mathbf{1} = (1, \dots, 1)$
- The **image** of L is

$$\text{Im}(L) = \left\{ f \in \mathbb{R}^m : \sum_{i=1}^m f_i = 0 \right\}$$

Proof: link between $\Omega(f)$ and L

$$\begin{aligned}\Omega(f) &= \sum_{i \sim j} (f(\mathbf{x}_i) - f(\mathbf{x}_j))^2 \\ &= \sum_{i \sim j} \left(f(\mathbf{x}_i)^2 + f(\mathbf{x}_j)^2 - 2f(\mathbf{x}_i)f(\mathbf{x}_j) \right) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^m D_{i,i} f(\mathbf{x}_i)^2 - 2 \sum_{i \sim j} f(\mathbf{x}_i)f(\mathbf{x}_j) \\ &= \mathbf{f}^\top D \mathbf{f} - \mathbf{f}^\top A \mathbf{f} \\ &= \mathbf{f}^\top L \mathbf{f}\end{aligned}$$

Proof: eigenstructure of L

- L is symmetric because A and D are symmetric.
- For any $f \in \mathbb{R}^m$, $f^\top Lf = \Omega(f) \geq 0$, therefore the (real-valued) eigenvalues of L are ≥ 0 : L is therefore positive semi-definite.
- f is an eigenvector associated to eigenvalue 0
iff $f^\top Lf = 0$
iff $\sum_{i \sim j} (f(\mathbf{x}_i) - f(\mathbf{x}_j))^2 = 0$,
iff $f(\mathbf{x}_i) = f(\mathbf{x}_j)$ when $i \sim j$,
iff f is constant (because the graph is connected).
- L being symmetric, $Im(L)$ is the orthogonal supplement of $Ker(L)$, that is, the set of functions orthogonal to $\mathbf{1}$. \square

Theorem

The set $\mathcal{H} = \{f \in \mathbb{R}^m : \sum_{i=1}^m f_i = 0\}$ endowed with the norm:

$$\Omega(f) = \sum_{i \sim j} (f(\mathbf{x}_i) - f(\mathbf{x}_j))^2$$

is a RKHS whose reproducing kernel is L^* , the pseudo-inverse of the graph Laplacian.

- Restricted to \mathcal{H} , the symmetric bilinear form:

$$\langle f, g \rangle = f^\top Lg$$

is positive definite (because L is positive semi-definite, and $\mathcal{H} = \text{Im}(L)$). It is therefore a scalar product, making of \mathcal{H} a **Hilbert space** (in fact Euclidean).

- The norm in this Hilbert space \mathcal{H} is:

$$\|f\|^2 = \langle f, f \rangle = f^\top Lf = \Omega(f).$$

To check that \mathcal{H} is a RKHS with reproducing kernel $K = L^*$, it suffices to show that:

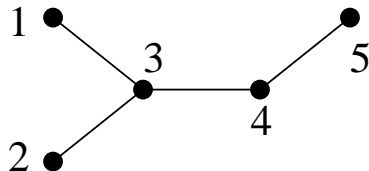
$$\begin{cases} \forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}, & K_{\mathbf{x}} \in \mathcal{H}, \\ \forall (\mathbf{x}, f) \in \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{H}, & \langle f, K_{\mathbf{x}} \rangle = f(\mathbf{x}). \end{cases}$$

- $\text{Ker}(K) = \text{Ker}(L^*) = \text{Ker}(L)$, implying $K\mathbf{1} = 0$. Therefore, each row/column of K is in \mathcal{H} .
- For any $f \in \mathcal{H}$, if we note $g_i = \langle K(i, \cdot), f \rangle$ we get:

$$g = KLf = L^*Lf = \Pi_{\mathcal{H}}(f) = f.$$

As a conclusion $K = L^*$ is the reproducing kernel of \mathcal{H} . \square

Example



$$L^* = \begin{pmatrix} 0.88 & -0.12 & 0.08 & -0.32 & -0.52 \\ -0.12 & 0.88 & 0.08 & -0.32 & -0.52 \\ 0.08 & 0.08 & 0.28 & -0.12 & -0.32 \\ -0.32 & -0.32 & -0.12 & 0.48 & 0.28 \\ -0.52 & -0.52 & -0.32 & 0.28 & 1.08 \end{pmatrix}$$

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The diffusion equation

Lemma

For any $\mathbf{x}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$, the function:

$$K_{\mathbf{x}_0}(\mathbf{x}, t) = K_t(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{(4\pi t)^{\frac{d}{2}}} \exp\left(-\frac{\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0\|^2}{4t}\right).$$

is solution of the *diffusion equation*:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} K_{\mathbf{x}_0}(\mathbf{x}, t) = \Delta K_{\mathbf{x}_0}(\mathbf{x}, t).$$

with initial condition $K_{\mathbf{x}_0}(\mathbf{x}, 0) = \delta_{\mathbf{x}_0}(\mathbf{x})$.

Discrete diffusion equation

- For finite-dimensional $f_t \in \mathbb{R}^m$, the diffusion equation becomes:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} f_t = -L f_t$$

which admits the following solution:

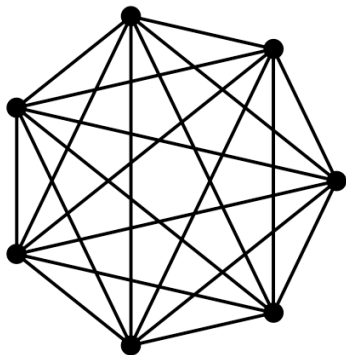
$$f_t = f_0 e^{-tL}$$

- This suggest to consider:

$$K = e^{-tL}$$

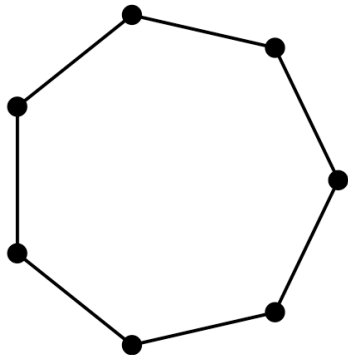
which is indeed symmetric positive semi-definite. We call it the **diffusion kernel** or **heat kernel**.

Example: complete graph



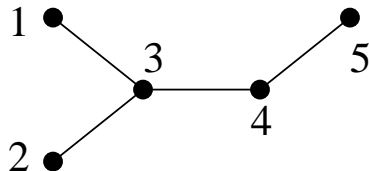
$$K_{i,j} = \begin{cases} \frac{1+(m-1)e^{-tm}}{m} & \text{for } i = j, \\ \frac{1-e^{-tm}}{m} & \text{for } i \neq j. \end{cases}$$

Example: closed chain



$$K_{i,j} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{\nu=0}^{m-1} \exp \left[-2t \left(1 - \cos \frac{2\pi\nu}{m} \right) \right] \cos \frac{2\pi\nu(i-j)}{m}.$$

Example



$$e^{-L} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.50 & 0.13 & 0.24 & 0.10 & 0.04 \\ 0.13 & 0.50 & 0.24 & 0.10 & 0.04 \\ 0.24 & 0.24 & 0.24 & 0.18 & 0.10 \\ 0.10 & 0.10 & 0.18 & 0.32 & 0.30 \\ 0.04 & 0.04 & 0.10 & 0.30 & 0.52 \end{pmatrix}$$

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Spectrum of the diffusion kernel

- Let $0 = \lambda_1 < \lambda_2 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_m$ be the eigenvalues of the Laplacian:

$$L = \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i u_i u_i^\top \quad (\lambda_i \geq 0)$$

- The diffusion kernel K_t is an **invertible** matrix because its eigenvalues are strictly positive:

$$K_t = \sum_{i=1}^m e^{-t\lambda_i} u_i u_i^\top$$

- For any function $f \in \mathbb{R}^m$, let:

$$\hat{f}_i = u_i^\top f$$

be the Fourier coefficients of f (projection of f onto the eigenbasis of K).

- The RKHS norm of f is then:

$$\|f\|_{K_t}^2 = f^\top K^{-1} f = \sum_{i=1}^m e^{t\lambda_i} \hat{f}_i^2.$$

This observation suggests to define a whole family of kernels:

$$K_r = \sum_{i=1}^m r(\lambda_i) u_i u_i^\top$$

associated with the following RKHS norms:

$$\|f\|_{K_r}^2 = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{\hat{f}_i^2}{r(\lambda_i)}$$

where $r : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_*^+$ is a **non-increasing** function.

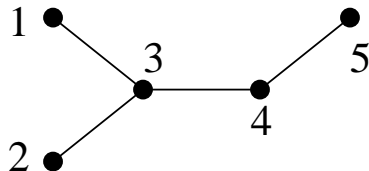
Example : regularized Laplacian

$$r(\lambda) = \frac{1}{\lambda + \epsilon}, \quad \epsilon > 0$$

$$K = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{1}{\lambda_i + \epsilon} u_i u_i^\top = (L + \epsilon I)^{-1}$$

$$\|f\|_K^2 = f^\top K^{-1} f = \sum_{i \sim j} (f(\mathbf{x}_i) - f(\mathbf{x}_j))^2 + \epsilon \sum_{i=1}^m f(\mathbf{x}_i)^2.$$

Example



$$(L + I)^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.60 & 0.10 & 0.19 & 0.08 & 0.04 \\ 0.10 & 0.60 & 0.19 & 0.08 & 0.04 \\ 0.19 & 0.19 & 0.38 & 0.15 & 0.08 \\ 0.08 & 0.08 & 0.15 & 0.46 & 0.23 \\ 0.04 & 0.04 & 0.08 & 0.23 & 0.62 \end{pmatrix}$$

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Applications 1: graph partitioning

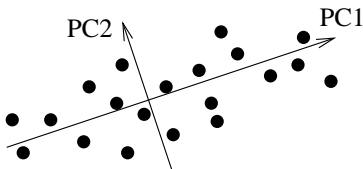
- A classical relaxation of graph partitioning is:

$$\min_{f \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{X}}} \sum_{i \sim j} (f_i - f_j)^2 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \sum_i f_i^2 = 1$$

- This can be rewritten

$$\max_f \sum_i f_i^2 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq 1$$

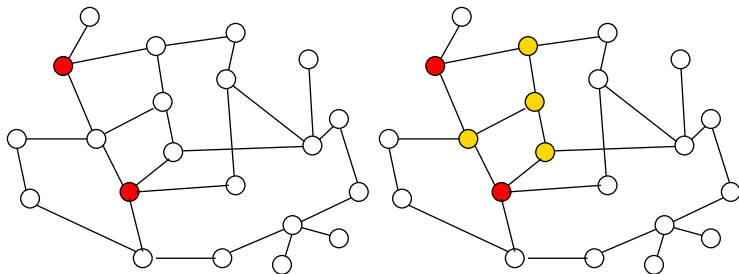
- This is **principal component analysis** in the RKHS (“kernel PCA”)



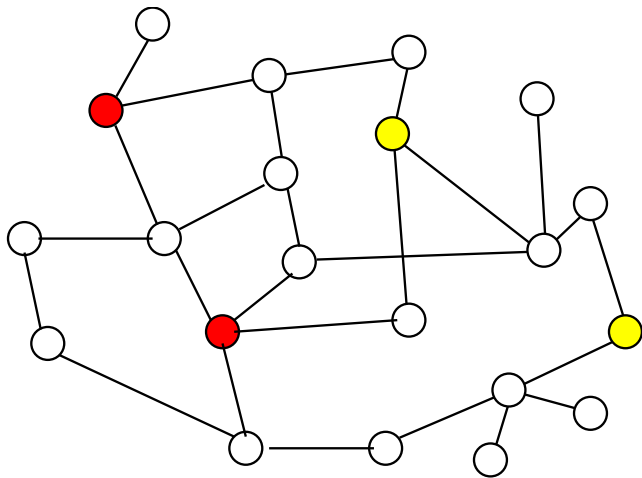
Applications 2: search on a graph

- Let x_1, \dots, x_q a set of q nodes (the **query**). How to find “similar” nodes (and rank them)?
- One solution:

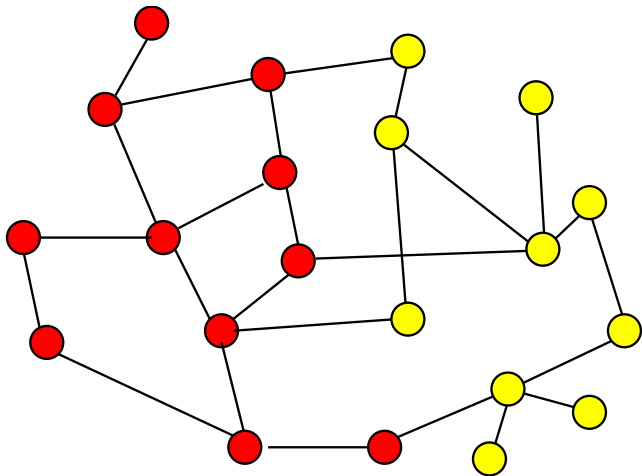
$$\min_f \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}} \quad \text{s.t.} \quad f(x_i) \geq 1 \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, q.$$



Application 3: Semi-supervised learning



Application 3: Semi-supervised learning



Application 4: Tumor classification from microarray data

Data available

- Gene expression measures for **more than 10k genes**
- Measured on **less than 100 samples** of two (or more) different classes (e.g., different tumors)

Goal

- Design a **classifier** to automatically assign a class to future samples from their expression profile
- **Interpret** biologically the differences between the classes

Application 4: Tumor classification from microarray data

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- **Interpret** biologically the differences between the classes

The approach

- Each sample is represented by a vector $x = (x_1, \dots, x_p)$ where $p > 10^5$ is the number of probes
- **Classification**: given the set of labeled sample, learn a linear decision function:

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^p \beta_i x_i + \beta_0 ,$$

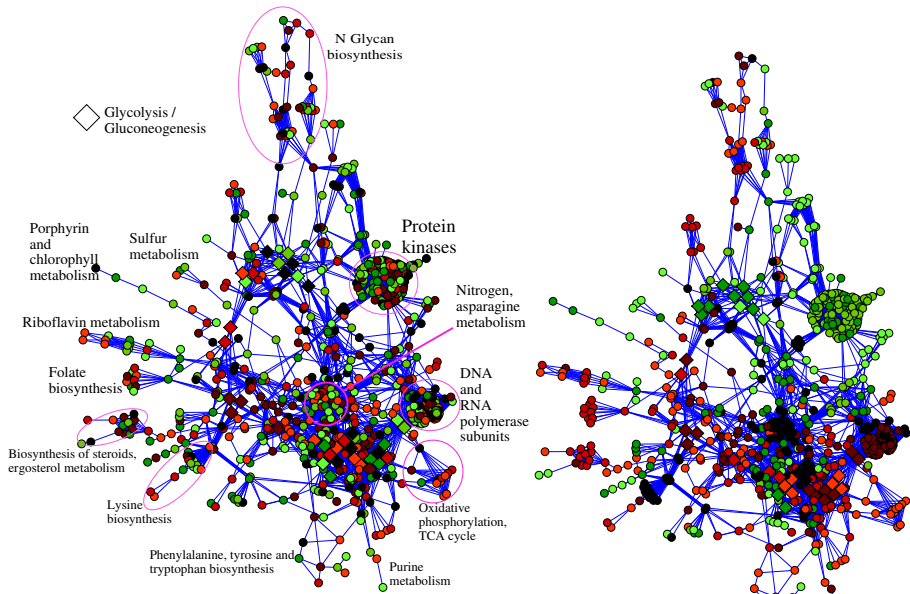
- **Interpretation**: the weight β_i quantifies the influence of gene i for the classification

Pitfalls

- **No robust estimation procedure** exist for 100 samples in 10^5 dimensions!

- We know the functions of many genes, and how they interact together.
- This can be represented as a **graph of genes**, where connected genes perform some action together
- Prior knowledge: **constraint the weights of genes that work together to be similar**
- Mathematically: constrain the norm of the weight vector in the RKHS of the diffusion kernel.

Comparison



Conclusion

What we saw

- Extension of machine learning algorithms to graph data through the definition of positive definite kernels for and on graphs
- A variety of solutions have been proposed, borrowing ideas from graph algorithms and spectral graph theory.
- Increasingly used in real-world applications.

Unanswered question

- Theoretical foundations to guide the choice of kernel?
- How to design / choose / learn a kernel for a given application in practice?
- How to improve scalability of kernel methods + graph kernels to large datasets?

Kernels and RKHS: general



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