Online Social Networks and Media

Link Prediction, Classification, Graph Embeddings

Graph embeddings: what are they?



Map nodes to *d*-dimensional vectors so that: *"similar" nodes* in the graph have embeddings that *are close together*.

Example

Zachary's Karate Club Network:

Input

Output



Graph embeddings: why?

Machine learning lifecycle



Graph embeddings: why?

Machine learning lifecycle



Automatically learn the features (embeddings)

Machine Learning tasks in networks

- Link prediction and link recommendations
- Node labeling
- Community detection (we have already seen an approach)
- Network similarity

Link Prediction

Motivation

 Recommending *new friends* in online social networks, suggesting *interactions* or *collaborations*, predicting *hidden connections* (e.g., terrorist),

In social networks:

- Increases user engagement
- Controls the growth of the network

Outline

- Estimating a score for each edge (seminal work of Liben-Nowell&Kleinberg)
- Classification approach
- The who to follow service at Twitter (one more application of link analysis)

Problem Definition

Link prediction problem: Given the links in a social network at time t (G_{old}), predict the edges that will be added to the network during the time interval from time t to a given future time t' (G_{new}).

Based solely on the topology of the network (social proximity) (the more general problem also considers attributes of the nodes and links)

 Different from the problem of *inferring missing (hidden) links* (there is a temporal aspect)

To save experimental effort in the laboratory or in the field

Approach

- Assign a connection weight score(x, y) to each pair of nodes <x, y> based on the input graph
- Produce a ranked list of edges in decreasing order of score
- Recommend the ones with the highest score

Note

- We can consider all links incident to a specific node x, and recommend to x the top ones
- If we focus to a specific x, the score can be seen as a centrality measure for x

How to define the score

How to assign the score(x, y) between two nodes x and y?

Some form of similarity or node proximity

Two general methods

- Neighbors
- Paths

Neighborhood-based metrics

The larger the *overlap of the neighbors* of two nodes, the more likely the nodes to be linked in the future

Common neighbors:

 $score(x, y) = |N(x) \cap N(y)|$

A adjacency matrix $A_{x,y}^2$: number of *different* paths of length 2

Jaccard coefficient:

$$score(x,y) = \frac{|N(x) \cap N(y)|}{|N(x) \cup N(y)|}$$

The probability that both x and y have a feature from a randomly selected feature that either x or y has

Neighborhood-based metrics

Adamic Adar:

$$score(x, y) = \sum_{z \in |N(x) \cap N(y)|} \frac{1}{\log(|N(z)|)}$$

- Weighted version: common neighbors which themselves have few neighbors get larger weights (larger weights to rare features)
- Neighbors who are linked with 2 nodes are assigned weight = 1/log(2)
- Neighbors who are linked with 5 nodes are assigned weight = 1/log(5)

Note: |N(x)| = degree of x, inverse logarithmic centrality

Neighborhood-based metrics

Preferential attachment:

score(x, y) = |N(x)||N(y)|

- Nodes like to form ties with 'popular' nodes
 - E.g., empirical evidence suggest that co-authorship is correlated with the product of the neighborhood sizes
 - Fall-back strategy: recommending popular users
- Depends on the degrees of the nodes not on their neighbors per se

Not just the shortest, but <u>all</u> paths between two nodes

Katz_{$$\beta$$} measure: $\sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \beta^l |path_{\langle x,y \rangle}^l|$

- Sum over all paths of length *I*
- 0 < 6 < 1 parameter of the predictor, exponentially damped to count short paths more heavily

$Katz_{\beta}$ measure:

$$\sum_{l=1}^{\infty}\beta^l |path^l_{< x,y>}| = \beta \mathcal{A}_{xy} + \beta^2 \mathcal{A}^2_{xy} + \beta^3 \mathcal{A}^3_{xy} + \dots$$

$$(I - \beta A)^{-1} - I$$

• *0 < 6 < 1*

- Small β much like common neighbors
- β small: degree, β maximal: eigenvalue
- Weighted version

Based on **random walks** that starts at x

Hitting Time $H_{x,y}$ from x to y: the expected number of steps it takes for the random walk starting at x to reach y.

$$score(x, y) = -H_{x,y}$$

Commute Time $C_{x,y}$ from x to y: the expected number of steps to travel from x to y and from y to x

$$score(x, y) = - (H_{x,y} + H_{y,x})$$

Not symmetric, can be shown

$$h_{vu} = \Theta(n^2)$$
$$h_{uv} = \Theta(n^3)$$



clique of size n/2



Stationary-normed versions:

to counteract the fact that $H_{x,y}$ is rather small when y is a node with a large stationary probability regardless of x

score(x, y) = $-H_{x,y}\pi_y$ score(x, y) = $-(H_{x,y}\pi_y + H_{y,x}\pi_x)$

Personalized (or, Rooted) PageRank: with probability (1 - a) moves to a random neighbor and with probability a returns to x

score(x, y) = stationary probability of y in a personalized PageRank

SimRank

Two objects are *similar*, if they are *related to similar objects* x and y are *similar*, if they are related to objects w and z

respectively and w and z are themselves similar

$$similarity(x,y) = C \frac{\sum_{w \in N(x)} \sum_{z \in N(y)} similarity(w,z)}{|N(x)||N(y)|}$$

Base case: similarity(x, x) = 1

score(x, y) = similarity(x, y)

SimRank

Introduced for directed graphs: two objects are similar if referenced by similar objects

$$s(a,b) = \frac{C}{|I(a)||I(b)|} \sum_{i=1}^{|I(a)|} \sum_{j=1}^{|I(b)|} s(I_i(\alpha), I_j(b))$$

Average similarity between in-neighbors of a and in-neighbors of b*I(x):* in-neighbors of x, *C:* constant between 0 and 1, *decay*

s(a, b) = 1, if a =b

Iterative computation

 $s_0(x, y) = 1$ if x = y and 0 otherwise s_{k+1} based on the s_k values of its (in-neighbors) computed at iteration k

ProfB StudentB

SimRank: the Pair Graph



G

Pair graph G²

A node for each pair of nodes An edge $(x, y) \rightarrow (a, b)$, if $x \rightarrow a and y \rightarrow b$ a value per node: similarity of the corresponding pairs

Computation starts at singleton nodes (score = 1) Scores *flow* from a node to its neighbors *C* gives the rate of *decay* as similarity flows across edges (C = 0.8 in the example)

- Symmetric pairs: (a, b) node same as (b, a) node (with the union of associated edges)
- Omit singleton that do not contribute to score (no {ProfA, ProfA} node) and nodes with 0 score {ProfA, StudentA})
- Self-loops and cycles reinforce similarity
- Prune: by considering only nodes within a radius

SimRank and random walks

Expected Meeting Distance (EMD) *m* (*a*, *b*) between *a* and *b*: the expected number of steps required before two random surfers, one starting at *a* and the other starting at *b*, would meet if they walked the graph randomly at lock-step



SimRank and random walks

Let us consider G^2 A node (*a*, *b*) as a state of the tour in G: if *a* moves to *c*, *b* moves to *d* in G, then (*a*, *b*) moves to (*c*, *d*) in G^2

A tour in G² of length n represents a pair of tours in G where each has length n

What are the states in G² that correspond to "meeting" points in G? What is the meeting point of a and b? m(a, b)?

SimRank and random walks

What are the states in G² that correspond to "meeting" points in G?

Singleton nodes (common neighbors)

The EMD m(*a*, *b*) is just the expected distance - hitting time in G² between (*a*, *b*) and any singleton node

 The sum is taken over all walks that start from (*a*, *b*) and end at a singleton node

This roughly corresponds to the SimRank of (a, b): when two surfers one from a and one from b that randomly walk the graph would meet

SimRank for bipartite graphs



- People are *similar* if they purchase *similar* items.
- Items are *similar* if they are purchased by *similar* people
 Useful for recommendations in general

SimRank for bipartite graphs



SimRank



Q: What is most related conference to ICDM?



Evaluation of link recommendations

Output

a list L_p of pairs in V × V – E_{old} ranked by score predicted new links in decreasing order of confidence

Precision at recall

How many of the top-n predictions are correct where n = |E_{new}|

Improvement over baseline

Baseline: random predictor

Probability that a random prediction is correct:

Possible correct
$$|E_{new}|$$

Possible predictions

Can we combine the various scores? How? Classification (supervised learning)

Classification

Using Supervised Learning

Given a collection of records (*training set*)

Each record contains

a set of *attributes (features)* + the *class attribute*.

Find a *model* for the class attribute as a function of the values of other attributes.

Goal: previously unseen records should be assigned a class as accurately as possible.

A test set is used to determine the accuracy of the model.

Usually, the given data set is divided into training and test sets, with training set used to build the model and test set used to validate it.

Illustrating the Classification Task

Tid	Attrib1	Attrib2	Attrib3	Class
1	Yes	Large	125K	No
2	No	Medium	100K	No
3	No	Small	70K	No
4	Yes	Medium	120K	No
5	No	Large	95K	Yes
6	No	Medium	60K	No
7	Yes	Large	220K	No
8	No	Small	85K	Yes
9	No	Medium	75K	No
10	No	Small	90K	Yes

Training Set

Tid	Attrib1	Attrib2	Attrib3	Class
11	No	Small	55K	?
12	Yes	Medium	80K	?
13	Yes	Large	110K	?
14	No	Small	95K	?
15	No	Large	67K	?

Test Set



Classification Techniques

- Decision Tree based methods
- Rule-based methods
- Memory based reasoning
- Neural networks (more soon)
- Naïve Bayes and Bayesian Belief networks
- Support vector machines
- Logistic regression

Example of a Decision Tree

		orical	orical	JOUS
	cate	ou cated	conti	ine cla
Tid	Refund	Marital Status	Taxable Income	Cheat
1	Yes	Single	125K	No
2	No	Married	100K	No
3	No	Single	70K	No
4	Yes	Married	120K	No
5	No	Divorced	95K	Yes
6	No	Married	60K	No
7	Yes	Divorced	220K	No
8	No	Single	85K	Yes
9	No	Married	75K	No
10	No	Single	90K	Yes

Training Data



Model: Decision Tree
Classification for Link Prediction

Input Features describing the two nodes

Output Prediction

Metrics for Performance Evaluation

Confusion Matrix:

	PREDICTED CLASS			
ACTUAL CLASS		Class=Yes	Class=No	
	Class=Yes	TP	FN	
	Class=No	FP	TN	

$$Accuracy = \frac{TP + TN}{TP + TN + FP + FN}$$

ROC Curve

TPR (sensitivity)=TP/(TP+FN) (percentage of positive classified as positive) FPR = FP/(TN+FP) (percentage of negative classified as positive)

- (0,0): declare everything to be negative class
- (1,1): declare everything to be positive class
- (0,1): ideal

Diagonal line: Random guessing Below diagonal line: prediction is opposite of the true class



AUC: area under the ROC

Classification for Link Prediction: features

For each edge (i, j)

		0	
Name	Parameters	HPLP	HPLP+
In-Degree(i)	-	~	~
$\operatorname{In-Volume}(i)$	-	\checkmark	✓
In-Degree(j)	-	\checkmark	✓
$\operatorname{In-Volume}(j)$	-	\checkmark	✓
Out-Degree(i)	-	\checkmark	✓
Out-Volume(i)	-	\checkmark	✓
Out-Degree(j)	-	\checkmark	✓
$\operatorname{Out-Volume}(j)$	-	\checkmark	✓
Common $Nbrs(i,j)$	-	\checkmark	✓
Max. $Flow(i,j)$	l = 5	\checkmark	✓
Shortest $Paths(i,j)$	l = 5	\checkmark	✓
$\operatorname{PropFlow}(i,j)$	l = 5	\checkmark	✓
Adamic/Adar(i,j)	-		✓
Jaccard's $Coef(i,j)$	-		✓
Katz(i,j)	$l = 5, \beta = 0.005$		✓
Pref Attach (i,j)	-		✓

PropFlow: corresponds to the probability that a restricted random walk starting at *x* ends at *y* in *l* steps or fewer using link weights as transition probabilities (stops in *l* steps or if revisits a node)

How to construct the training set

When to extract features and when to determine class?

Two time instances τ_x and τ_y

- From t_0 to τ_x construct graph and extract features (G_{old})
- From $\tau_x + 1$ to τ_y examine if a link appears (determine class value)

What are good values

- Large τ_x better topological features (as the network reaches saturation)
- Large τ_v larger number of positives (size of positive class)
- Should also match the real-world prediction interval

How to construct the training set

Unsupervised (single feature)



Figure 1: Performance in the second-degree neighborhood as a function of τ_x .

Datasets

712 million cellular phone calls

- weighted, directed networks, weights correspond to the number of calls
- use the first 5 weeks of data (5.5M nodes, 19.7M links) for extracting features and the 6th week (4.4M nodes, 8.5M links) for obtaining ground truth.

19,464 condensed matter physics collaborations from 1995 to 2000.

- weighted, undirected networks, weights correspond to the number of collaborations two authors share.
- use the years 1995 to 1999 (13.9K nodes, 80.6K links) for extracting features and the year 2000 (8.5K nodes, 41.0K links) for obtaining ground truth.

	phone	condmat
Assortativity Coef.	0.293	0.177
Average Clustering Coef.	0.187	0.642
Mean Degree	3.88	6.42
Median Degree	3	4
Number of SCCs	1,023,044	652
Largest SCC	4,293,751	15,081
Largest SCC Diameter	25	19

Table 1: Network Characteristics

The **assortativity coefficient** is the *Pearson correlation coefficient* of degree between pairs of linked nodes. Positive values indicate a correlation between nodes of similar degree, while negative values indicate relationships between nodes of different degree.

Using Supervised Learning: why?



A different prediction model for each distance

- Predictors that work well in one network not in another
- Should increase with the score (not in phone)
- Preferential attachment increase with distance (when other may fail)

Using Supervised Learning: why?



- Even training on a single feature may outperform ranking (if no clear bound on score)
- Dependencies between features use an ensemble of features

Imbalance

Sparse networks: |E| = k |V| for constant k << |V|</p>

The class imbalance ratio for link prediction in a sparse network is $\Omega(|V|/1)$ when at most |V| nodes are added



Results

Ensemble of classifiers: Random Forest

Random forest: Ensemble classifier constructs a multitude of decision trees at training time output the class that is the mode (most frequent) of the classes (classification) or mean prediction (regression) of the individual trees.

Results



Results

- Mechanism by which links arise different both across networks and geodesic distances.
- Local vs Global (preferential attachment)
 - Better in condmat network,
 - Improves with distance
- HPLP achieves performance levels as much as 30% higher than the best unsupervised methods

Salsa

An application: Wtf

Wtf ("Who to Follow"): the Twitter user recommendation service

Twitter graph statistics (August 2012)

- over 20 billion edges (only active users)
- power law distributions of in-degrees and out-degrees.
 - over 1000 with more than 1 million followers,
 - 25 users with more than 10 million followers.

Is it a "social" network as Facebook? Difference between:

- Interested in
- Similar to

Example (follow @espn but not similar to it)

 do not follow users similar to you, but follow users that the users that are similar to you follow

Algorithms

- Asymmetric nature of the follow relationship (other social networks e.g., Facebook or LinkedIn require the consent of both participating members)
- Directed edge case is similar to the user-item recommendations problem where the "item" is also a user.

Bipartite graph



Authorities

Hubs: 500 top-ranked nodes from the user's circle of trust *Circle of trust*: the result of an egocentric random walk (similar to personalized PageRank)

Authorities: users that the hubs follow.

Algorithms: SALSA

SALSA (Stochastic Approach for Link-Structure Analysis) a variation of HITS

- As in HITS
 - hubs
 - authorities

HITS

- Good hubs point to good authorities
- Good authorities are pointed by good hubs

hub weight = sum of the authority weights of the authorities pointed to by the hub

$$h_i = \sum_{j:i \to j} a_j$$

authority weight = sum of the hub weights that $a_i = \sum h_i$







hubs

Algorithms: SALSA

Random walks to rank hubs and authorities

- Two different random walks (Markov chains): a chain of hubs and a chain of authorities
- Each walk traverses nodes only in one side by traversing two links in each step h->a->h, a->h->a

Transition matrices of each Markov chain: H and A

W: the adjacency of the directed graph W_r: divide each entry by the sum of its row W_c: divide each entry by the sum of its column

 $H = W_r W_c^T$ $A = W_c^T W_r$

Proportional to the degree



Algorithms: SALSA

Authorities



Use SALSA to assign scores to both sides Hub scores: user similarity (based on homophily, also useful) Authority scores : "interested in" user recommendations.

Recommend best in the RHS

SALSA: summary

How it works

SALSA mimics the recursive nature of the problem:

- A user u is likely to follow those who are followed by users that are similar to u.
- A user is similar to u if the user follows the same (or similar) users.
- I. SALSA provides *similar users* to u on the LHS and *similar followings* of those on the RHS.
- II. The random walk ensures equitable distribution of scores in both directions
- III. Similar users are selected from the circle of trust of the user through personalized PageRank.

Real evaluation

- Offline experiments on retrospective data
- Online A/B testing on live traffic

Various parameters may interfere:

- How the results are rendered (e.g., explanations)
- Platform (mobile, etc.)
- New vs old users

Evaluation: metrics

Follow-through rate (FTR) (precision)

- Does not capture recall
- Does not capture lifecycle effects (newer users more receptive, etc.)
- Does not measure the quality of the recommendations: all follow edges are not equal

Engagement per impression (EPI):

After a recommendation is accepted, the *amount of engagement* by the user on that recommendation in a specified time interval called the observation interval.

Extensions

- Add metadata to vertices (e.g., user profile information) and edges (e.g., edge weights, timestamp, etc.)
- Consider *interaction graphs* (e.g., graphs defined in terms of retweets, favorites, replies, etc.)

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Online Social Networks and Media

Graph Embeddings

Embedding nodes

Input: Graph G(V, E)

Goal: encode nodes so that *similarity in the embedding space* approximates *similarity in the original network*.





Learning node embeddings

- 1. Define an encoder that maps nodes to low dimensional spaces
- 2. Define *a node similarity function* in the original network.
- 3. Optimize the parameters of the encoder so that we minimize *a loss function L* that looks (roughly) like:

$$\mathbf{L} = \sum_{i,j \in V} (similarity(i,j) - z_i \cdot z_j)^2$$

When are two nodes similar? Any ideas?

Node embeddings

Approaches based on:

- Adjacency matrix
- Multi-hop neighborhoods

Approaches based on Word2Vec

- DeepWalk
- Node2Vec

Shallow embeddings^(*)

Each node is assigned *a single d-dimensional vector* Learn embedding matrix Z: each column *i* is the embedding z_i of node *i*



(*) As opposed to deep learning in graphs (neural networks embeddings)

Shallow embeddings

Encoder is an embedding lookup



 Z_i

Adjacency-based approach



- Similarity function is just the edge (weight) between u and v in the original network.
- Dot products between node embeddings approximate edge existence.

Adjacency-based approach

The loss that what we want to minimize



How to minimize loss

- 1. Matrix decomposition (for example, SVD decomposition)
 - 1. Scalability issues
 - 2. Produced matrices that are very dense
- 2. Stochastic gradient descent

Singular Value Decomposition

- **r** : rank of matrix A
- $\sigma_1 \ge \sigma_2 \ge \dots \ge \sigma_r$: singular values (square roots of eigenvals AA^T, A^TA)
- $\vec{u}_1, \vec{u}_2, \dots, \vec{u}_r$: left singular vectors (eigenvectors of AA^T)
- $\vec{V}_1, \vec{V}_2, \dots, \vec{V}_r$: right singular vectors (eigenvectors of A^TA)

$$A_r = \sigma_1 \vec{u}_1 \vec{v}_1^T + \sigma_2 \vec{u}_2 \vec{v}_2^T + \dots + \sigma_r \vec{u}_r \vec{v}_r^T$$
Adjacency-based approach – stochastic gradient descent

A few manipulations

$$L = \sum_{i,j \in V \times V} ||A_{ij} - Z_i \cdot Z_j||^2$$

sum over all node pairs

$$L = \sum_{(i,j) \in E} (A_{ij} - Z_i \cdot Z_j)^2$$

sum over all edges

 $L = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{(i,j) \in E} (A_{ij} - z_i \cdot z_j)^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_i ||z_i||^2$

regularization factor

Adjacency-based approach $L = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{(i,j) \in E} (A_{ij} - z_i \cdot z_i)^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_i ||z_i||^2$

Taking the gradient

Gradient of *L* with respect *to each row* (column) of Z (learn one vector per node)

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial z_i} = -\sum_{j \in N(i)} \left(A_{ij} - z_j \cdot z_i \right) z_j + \lambda z_i$$

For each edge (i, j) $\in E$ this amounts for

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial z_i} = - (A_{ij} - z_i \cdot z_j) Z_j + \lambda Z_i$$

Adjacency-based approach

Requires: Adjacency matrix *A*, rank *d*, accuracy *e*

Ensures: Local minimum

- 1: Initialize Z' at random
- 2: t ← 1
- 3; repeat
- 4: $Z \leftarrow Z'$
- 5: for all edges $(i, j) \in E$ do
- 6: $\eta \leftarrow 1/\sqrt{t}$
- 7: $t \leftarrow t + 1$
- 8: $Zi \leftarrow Zi + \eta ((Aij \langle Zi \cdot Zj \rangle Zj) + \lambda Zi)$
- 9: end for
- 10: until $||Z-Z'||^2 \le \varepsilon$
- 11: return Z
- Complexity O(|E|)
- Can be parallelized

 η : learning rate, captures the extent at which newly acquired information overrides old

Multi-hop approaches

Only considers direct connections What about further neighbors?



Look further than the 1-step neighbors and learn by using information from/for *k*-step neighbors

We will see two approaches

- GraRep: looks at probabilities of reaching a node
- HOPE: various metrics of similarity based on neighbors and paths



- Look at the paths that connect the nodes
- More paths -- more similar
 - Probability from a node to reach the other
- Considers paths of different lengths

S. Cao, W. Lu, Q.i Xu: GraRep: Learning Graph Representations with Global Structural Information. CIKM 2015

GraRep

But not all k-neighbors equally important



Nearest neighborhoods more important

Maintain *different k-step information differently* in the graph representation



Probabilistic adjacency matrix P_{ij} the probability of transition from node *i* to node *j* where the transition has *length exactly 1*



$$P^{2} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1/2 & 0 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 1/2 & 0 & 0 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1/2 & 1/6 & 0 & 1/3 \\ 1/6 & 5/12 & 5/12 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

 P_{ij}^2 the probability of transition form node *i* from node *j* when the transition has *length exactly 2*

 P_{ij}^{k} : Transition probability from node *i* to node *j* where the transition consists of **exactly** *k* steps

1. Minimize the loss for *a specific k*

$$L_k = \sum_{(i,j) \in V \times V} ||P_{ij}^k - z_i \cdot z_j||^2$$

2. *Concatenate* the embeddings for the different k

Basic idea:

- Train embeddings to predict *k*-hop neighbors.
- Approach based on skipgrams (How? Next week)

High-order Proximity Preserved Embeddings (HOPE)

Based on a high order proximity matrix S,

S_{ij} = proximity(i j)

Learn two embeddings vectors $Z = |Z^s, Z^t|$

$$L = \sum_{(i,j) \in V x V} ||S_{ij} - z_i^s \cdot z_j^t||^2$$

M. Ou, P. Cui, J. Pei, Z.i Zhang, W. Zhu: Asymmetric Transitivity Preserving Graph Embedding. KDD 2016

HOPE

Local High Order Proximity

 $CN = A^2$

Common Neighbors (for directed graphs, source-target)





Adamic-Adar $S^{AA} = A D A$

Similar but assigns a weight to the neighbor = reciprocal of its degree The more vertices a node is connected to, the less important it is on evaluating the proximity between a pair of nodes

HOPE

Global High Order Proximity

Katz

Sum over all paths of length I, using a decay parameter

$$S^{Katz} = \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \beta^l A^l$$

Rooted Pagerank

SVD with some tricks to save computations

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