

# Online Social Networks and Media

Graph Partitioning:  
cuts, spectral clustering, density

# What we have seen so far (in PART I)

1. Introduction: what, why, types?
2. Cliques (clique percolation method)
3. Background: How it relates to “cluster analysis” (node/edge similarity) (partitioned (k-means) and hierarchical clustering, how to embed nodes)
4. Betweenness centrality (divisive algorithm)
5. Modularity (intracommunity edges vs random), label propagation

# Outline

## PART II

Cuts

Spectral Clustering

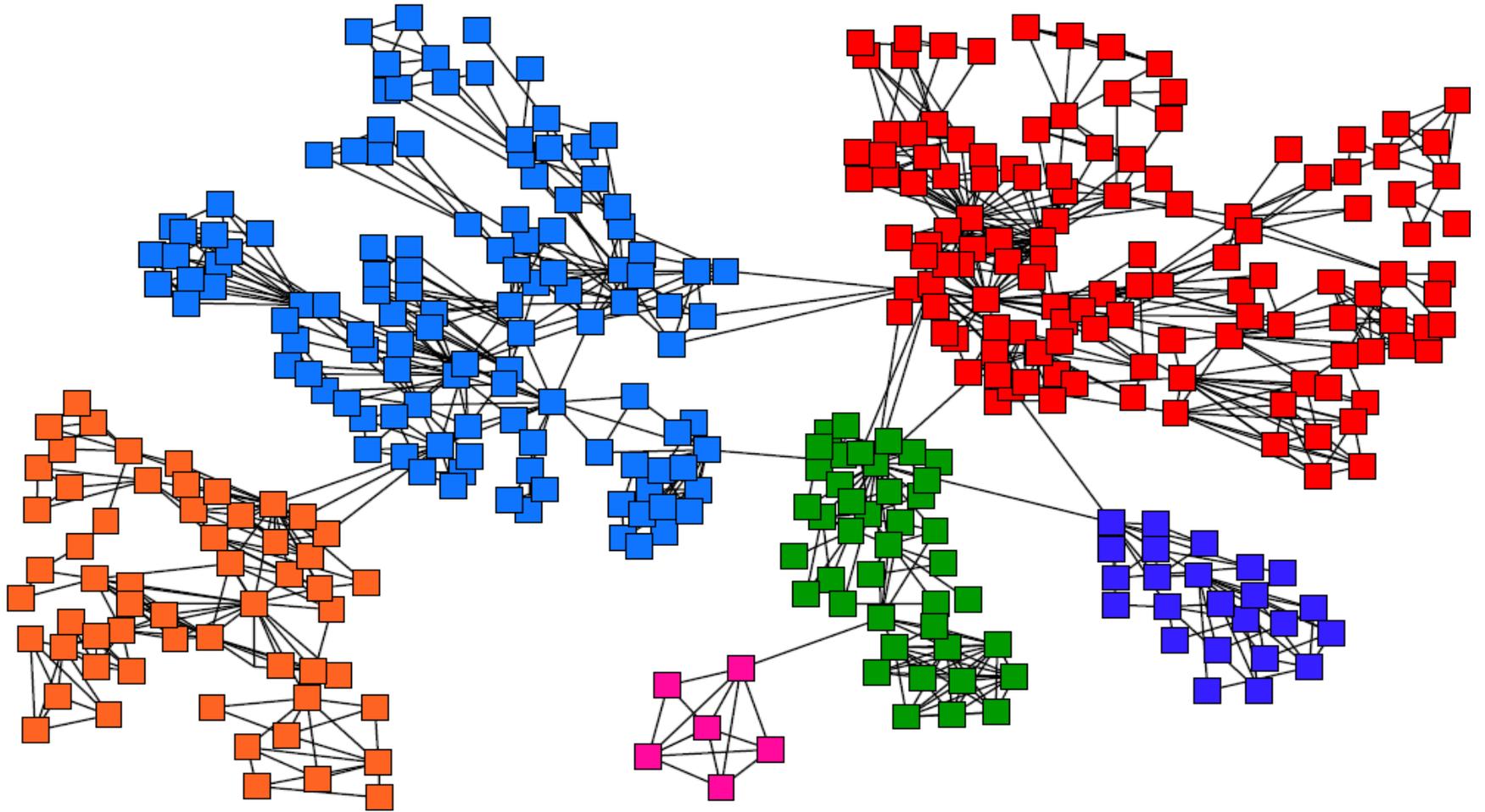
Dense Subgraphs

Evaluation

We **cut** the graph into several partitions and assume these partitions represent communities

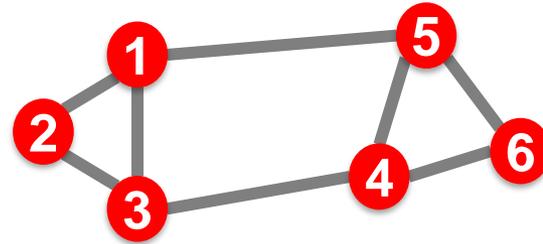
- **Cut:** partitioning (*cut*) of the graph into two (or more) sets (*cutsets*)
  - The **size of the cut** is the **number of edges** that are being cut

# Graph Partitioning



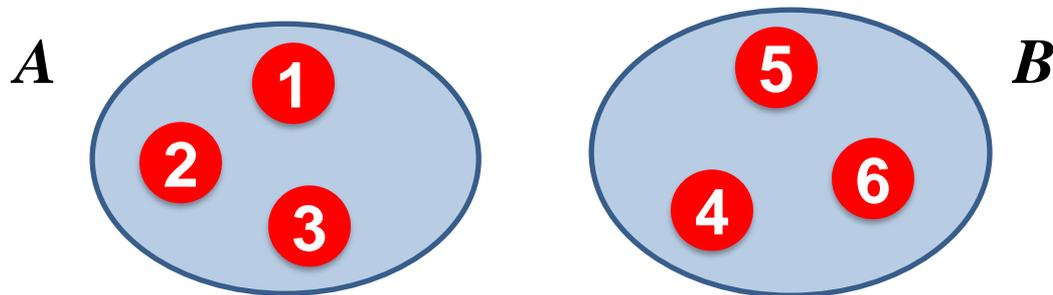
# Graph Partitioning

Undirected graph  $G(V, E)$ :



Bi-partitioning task:

Divide vertices into **two** disjoint groups  $A, B$

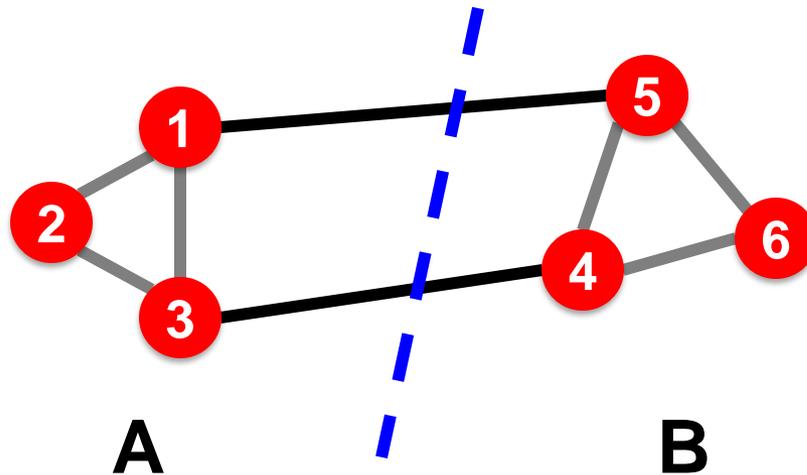


*How can we define a “good” partition of  $G$ ?*

# Graph Partitioning

*What makes a **good partition**?*

- Maximize the number of within-group connections
- Minimize the number of between-group connections

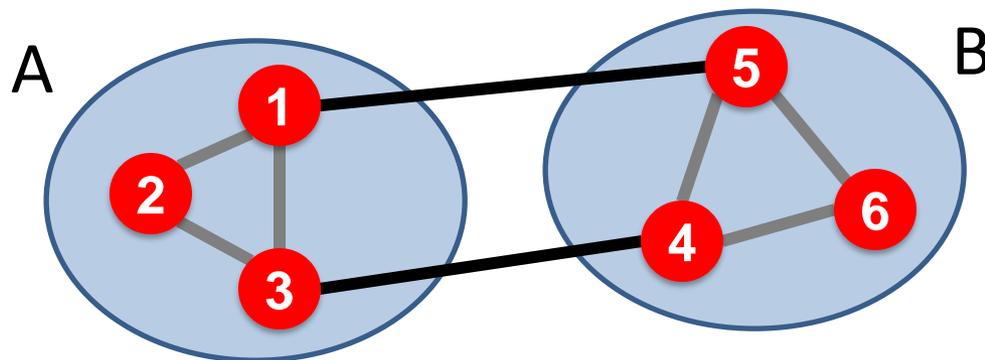


# Graph Cuts

Express *partitioning objectives* as a function of the “edge cut” of the partition

**Cut:** Set of edges with **only one vertex** in a

group:  $cut(A, B) = \sum_{i \in A, j \in B} w_{ij}$



$$cut(A, B) = 2$$

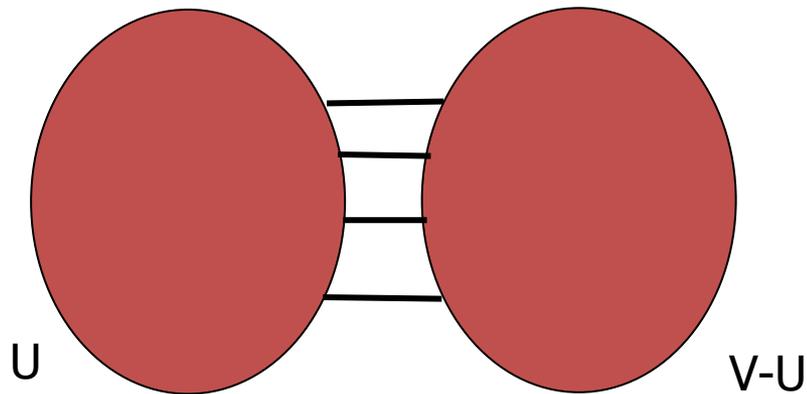
# Min Cut

**min-cut:** the *min number of edges* such that when removed cause the graph to become *disconnected*

Minimizes the number of connections between partition

$$\arg \min_{A, B} \text{cut}(A, B)$$

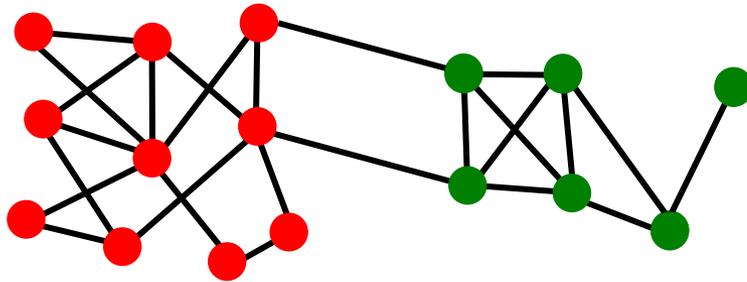
$$\min_U E(U, V-U) = \sum_{i \in U} \sum_{j \in V-U} A[i, j]$$



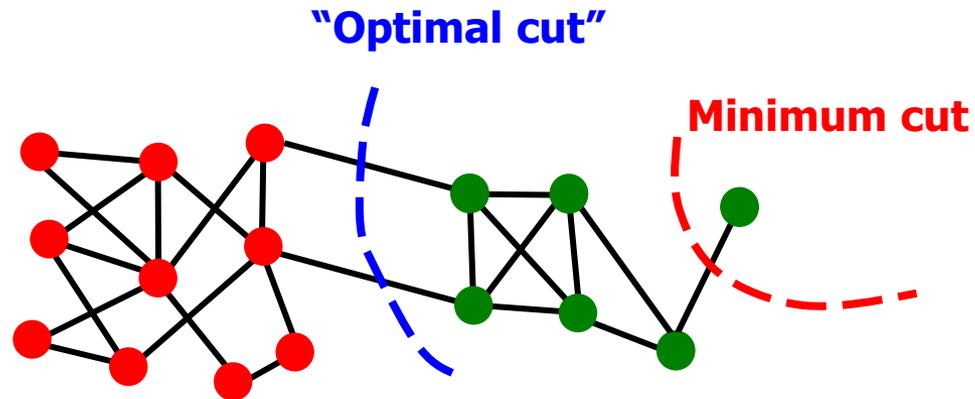
This problem can be solved in polynomial time

**Min-cut/Max-flow algorithm**

# Does this work?



# Min Cut



Problem:

- Only considers external cluster connections
- Does not consider *internal* cluster connectivity

# Graph Bisection

- Since the minimum cut does not always yield good results, we need *extra constraints* to make the problem meaningful.
- **Graph Bisection** refers to the problem of partitioning the nodes of the graph into two *equal sets*.

# Ratio Cut

## Ratio Cut

Normalize cut by the *size* of the groups

$$\text{RatioCut} = \frac{\text{Cut}(U, V-U)}{|U|} + \frac{\text{Cut}(U, V-U)}{|V-U|}$$

# Normalized Cut

## Normalized-cut

Connectivity between groups relative to the *density* of each group

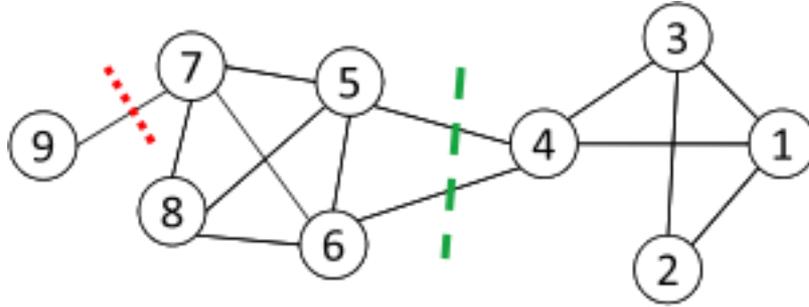
$$\text{Normalized-cut} = \frac{\text{Cut}(U, V-U)}{\text{Vol}(U)} + \frac{\text{Cut}(U, V-U)}{\text{Vol}(V-U)}$$

$\text{vol}(U)$ : total weight of the edges with at least one endpoint in  $U$ ,  $\text{vol}(U) = \sum_{i \in U} d_i$

*Why use these criteria?*

- Produce more balanced partitions

# An example



$$\text{Min-Cut}(\text{Red}) = 1$$

$$\text{Ratio-Cut}(\text{Red}) = \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{9}{8} = 1.125$$

$$\text{Normalized-Cut}(\text{Red}) = \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{27} = \frac{28}{27} = 1.04$$

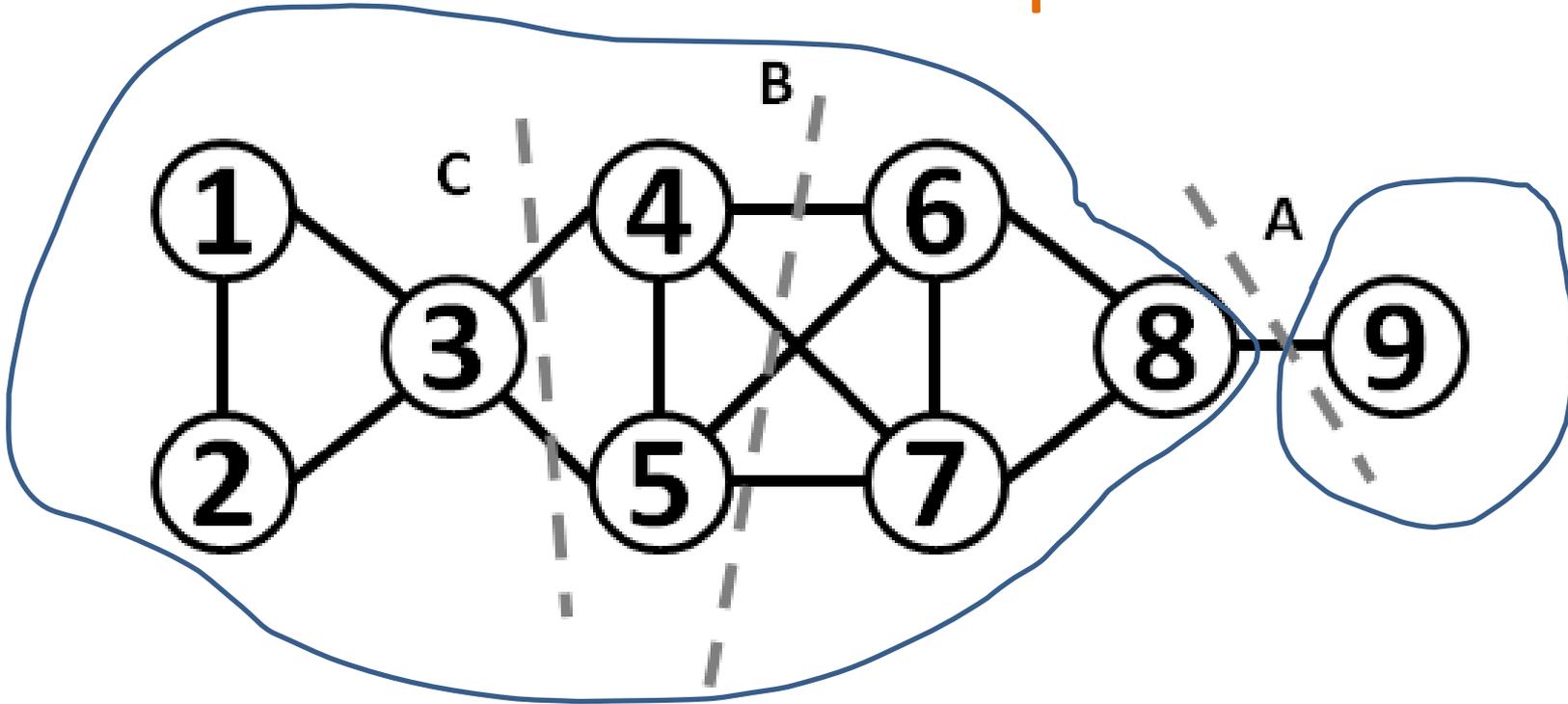
$$\text{Min-Cut}(\text{Green}) = 2$$

$$\text{Ratio-Cut}(\text{Green}) = \frac{2}{5} + \frac{2}{4} = \frac{18}{20} = 0.9$$

$$\text{Normalized-Cut}(\text{Green}) = \frac{2}{12} + \frac{2}{16} = \frac{14}{48} = 0.29$$

Normalized is smaller due to density

# An example

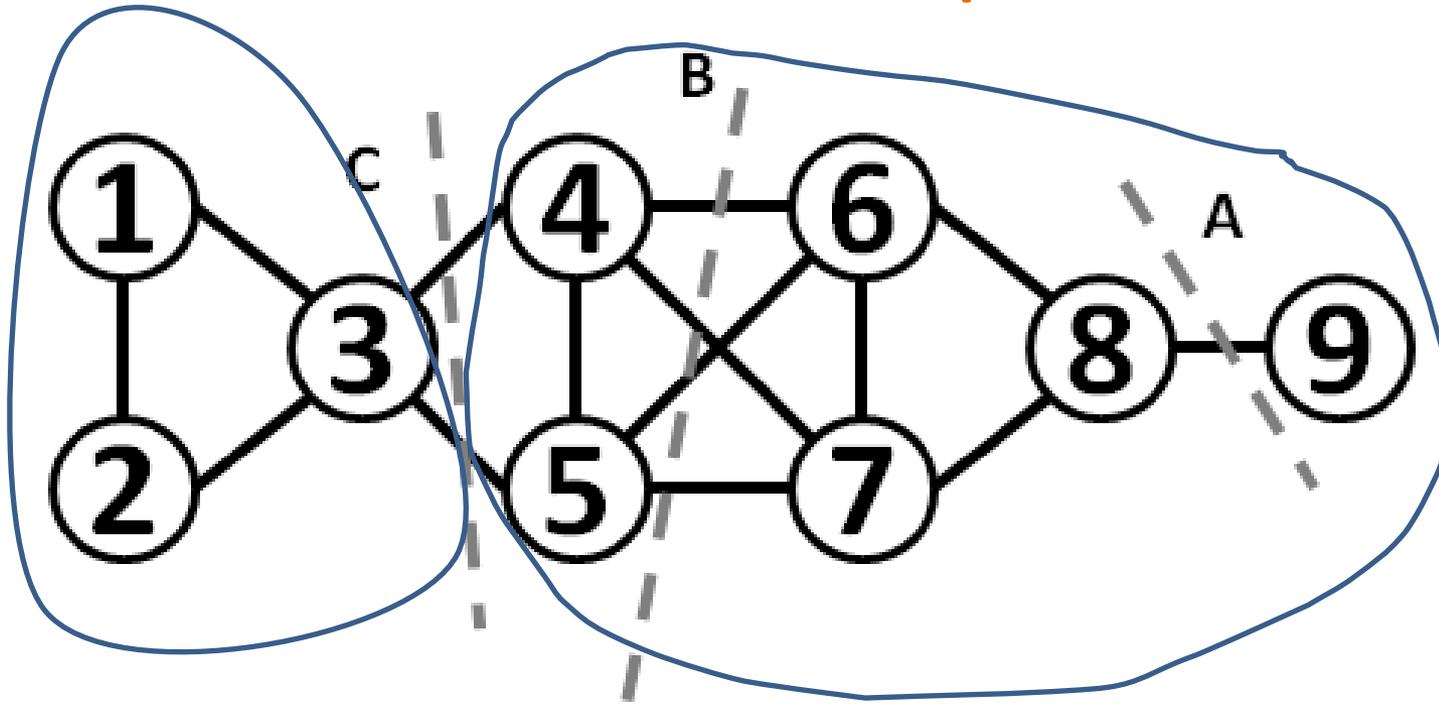


$$\text{Min-Cut}(A) = 1$$

$$\text{Min-Cut}(B) = 4$$

$$\text{Min-Rut}(C) = 2$$

# An example

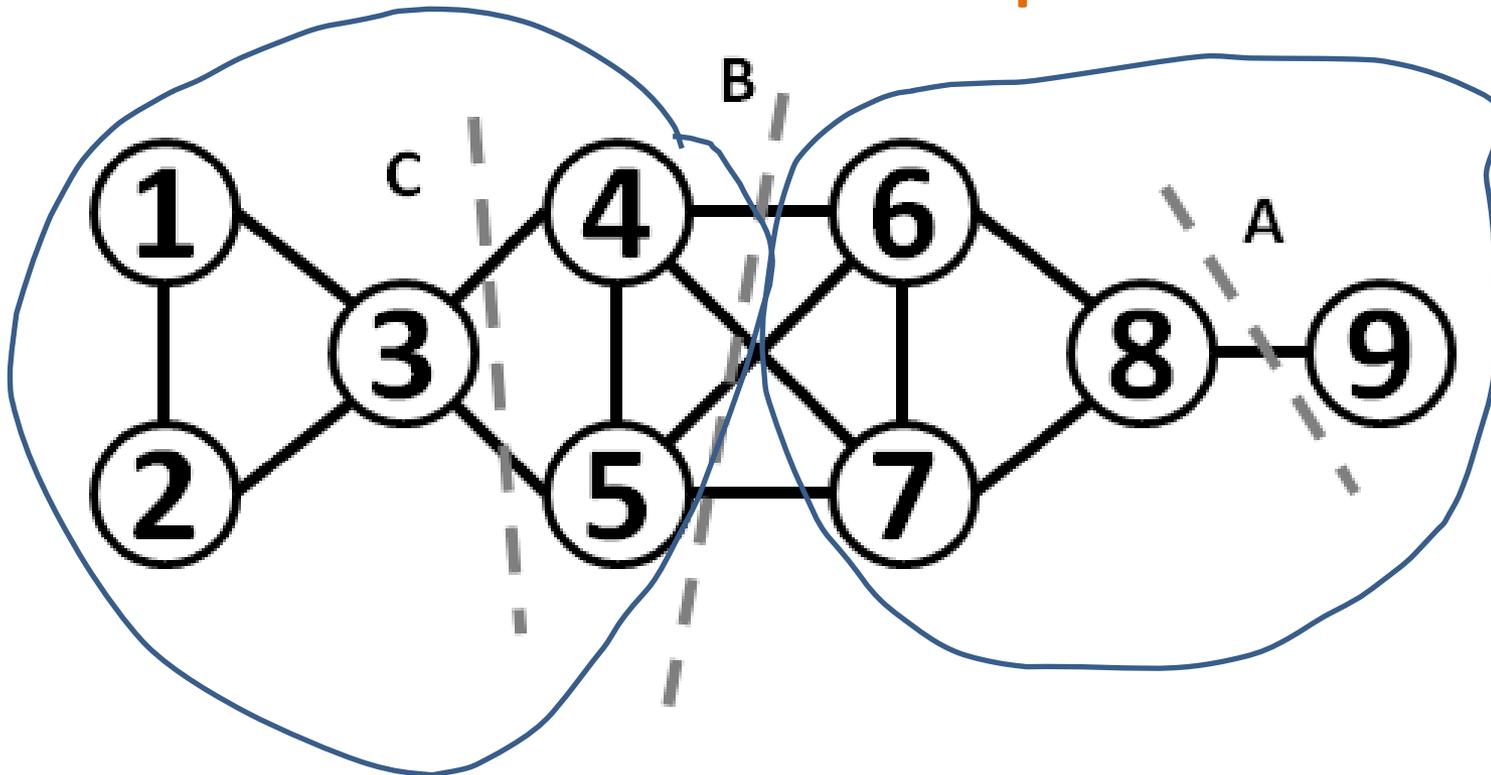


$$\text{Ratio-Cut}(A) = \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{9}{8} = 1.125$$

$$\text{Ratio-Cut}(B) = \frac{4}{5} + \frac{4}{4} = \frac{36}{20} = 1.8$$

$$\text{Ratio-Rut}(C) = \frac{2}{3} + \frac{2}{6} = \frac{6}{6} = 1$$

# An example



$$\text{Normalized-Cut}(A) = \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{27} = \frac{28}{27} = 1.04$$

$$\text{Normalized-Cut}(B) = \frac{4}{16} + \frac{4}{12} = \frac{7}{12} = 0.58$$

$$\text{Normalized-Rut}(C) = \frac{2}{8} + \frac{2}{20} = \frac{44}{40} = 1.1$$

# Graph conductance

Connectivity of group A with the rest of the network relative to the density of the group

$$\varphi(A) = \frac{\text{cut}(A, V - A)}{\min\{\text{vol}(A), 2m - \text{vol}(A)\}}$$

The lower the conductance, the better the cluster

# Graph Bisection

The problem find a partition with **equal number** of nodes and **minimum cut** is **NP-hard**

- **Kernighan-Lin algorithm**: Start with random equal partitions and then swap nodes to improve some quality metric (e.g., cut, modularity, etc).

# Graph Cuts

Ratio and normalized cuts can be reformulated in matrix format and solved using spectral clustering

# Outline

## PART II

Cuts

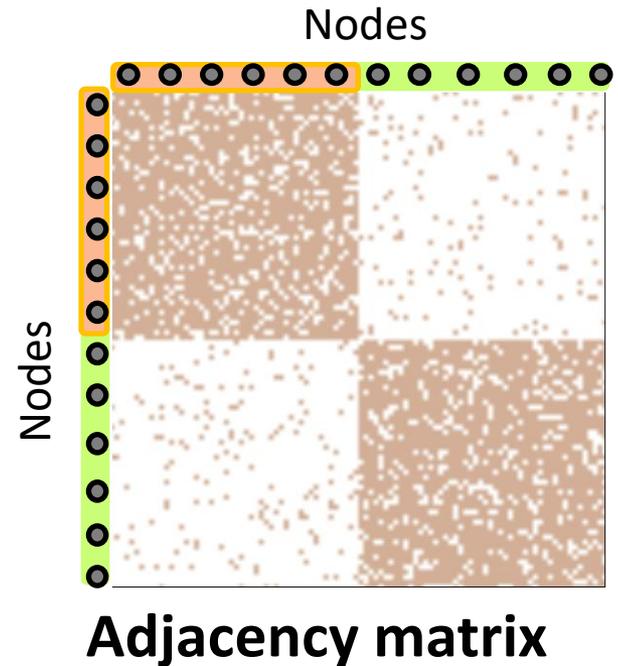
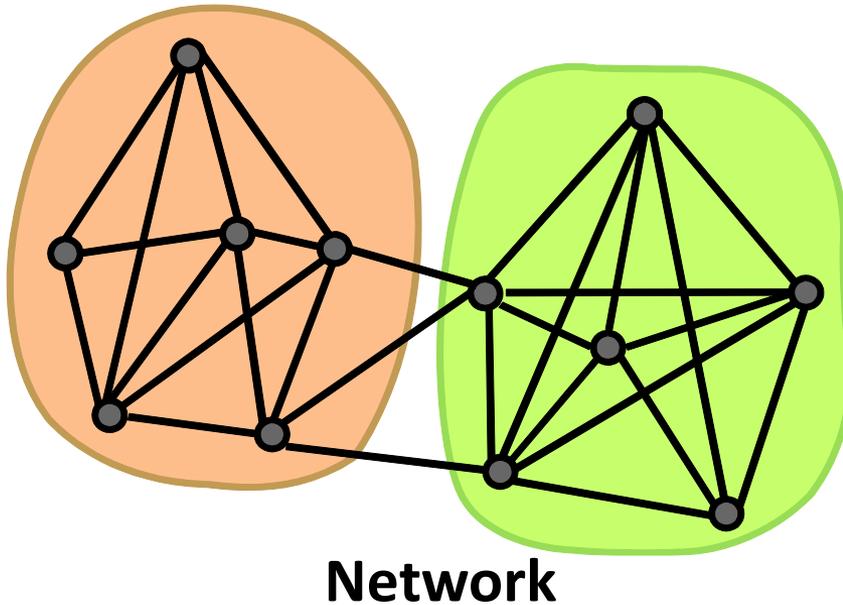
Spectral Clustering

Dense Subgraphs

Evaluation

# Adjacency matrix

Simplest form: Split the graph into two pieces, many connections within, few across



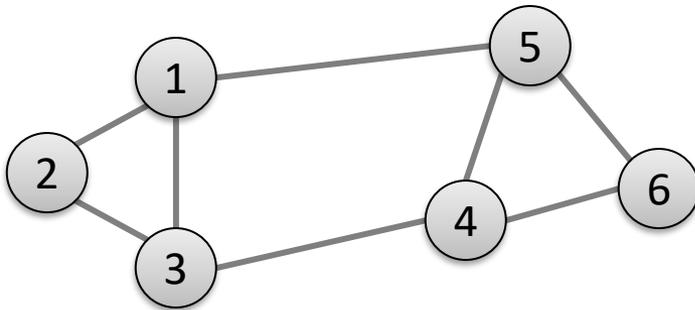
How do we **identify this structure**?

Partition the graph, so that the resulting pieces have **low conductance**

# Matrix Representation

## Adjacency matrix ( $A$ ):

- $n \times n$  matrix
- $A = [a_{ij}]$ ,  $a_{ij} = 1$  if edge between node  $i$  and  $j$



	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	0	1	1	0	1	0
2	1	0	1	0	0	0
3	1	1	0	1	0	0
4	0	0	1	0	1	1
5	1	0	0	1	0	1
6	0	0	0	1	1	0

How many non-zeros in each row?

If the graph is weighted,  $a_{ij} = w_{ij}$

# Spectral Graph Partitioning

$\mathbf{x}$  is a **vector** in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with components  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$

– Think of it as a **label/value** of each node of  $G$

- Value  $x_i$  corresponds to **node  $i$**  in the graph

## ■ What is the meaning of $A \cdot \mathbf{x}$ ?

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$y_i = \sum_{j=1}^n A_{ij} x_j = \sum_{(i,j) \in E} x_j$$

Entry  $y_i$  is a **sum of labels  $x_j$  of neighbors of  $i$**

# Spectral Analysis

$i^{\text{th}}$  coordinate of  $A \cdot x$  :

- Sum of the  $x$ -values of neighbors of  $i$
- Make this a new value at node  $j$

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \lambda \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$$

**Spectral Graph Theory:**  $A \cdot x = \lambda \cdot x$

- Analyze the “**spectrum**” of a matrix representing  $G$
- **Spectrum**: Eigenvectors  $x_i$  of a graph, ordered by the magnitude (strength) of their corresponding eigenvalues  $\lambda_i$ :  $\Lambda = \{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n\}$   $\lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_n$

**Spectral clustering**: use the eigenvectors of  $A$  or *graphs derived* by it

Most based on the **graph Laplacian**

# Example: $d$ -regular graph

Suppose all nodes in  $G$  have degree  $d$  and  $G$  is connected

- What are some eigenvalues/vectors of  $G$ ?

$A \cdot x = \lambda \cdot x$  What is  $\lambda$ ? What  $x$ ?

– Let's try:  $x = (1, 1, \dots, 1)$

– Then:  $A \cdot x = (d, d, \dots, d) = \lambda \cdot x$ . So:  $\lambda = d$

– We found eigenpair of  $G$ :  $x = (1, 1, \dots, 1), \lambda = d$

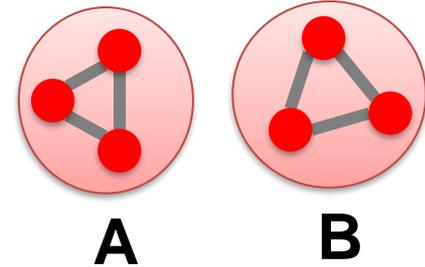
Remember the meaning of  $y = A \cdot x$ :

$$y_j = \sum_{i=1}^n A_{ij} x_i = \sum_{(j,i) \in E} x_i$$

# Example: Graph on 2 components

- What if  $G$  is not connected?

- $G$  has 2 components, each  $d$ -regular



- What are some eigenvectors?

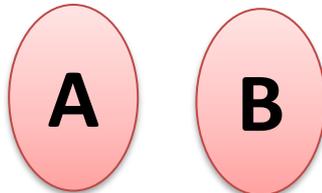
- $x =$  Put all **1**s on **A** and **0**s on **B** or vice versa

- $x' = (\underline{1, \dots, 1}, \underline{0, \dots, 0})$  then  $A \cdot x' = (d, \dots, d, 0, \dots, 0)$

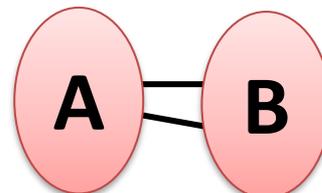
- $x'' = (0, \dots, 0, \overset{|A|}{1}, \dots, \overset{|B|}{1}, 1)$  then  $A \cdot x'' = (0, \dots, 0, d, \dots, d)$

- And so in both cases the corresponding  $\lambda = d$

- A bit of intuition:



$$\lambda_n = \lambda_{n-1}$$



$$\lambda_n - \lambda_{n-1} \approx 0$$

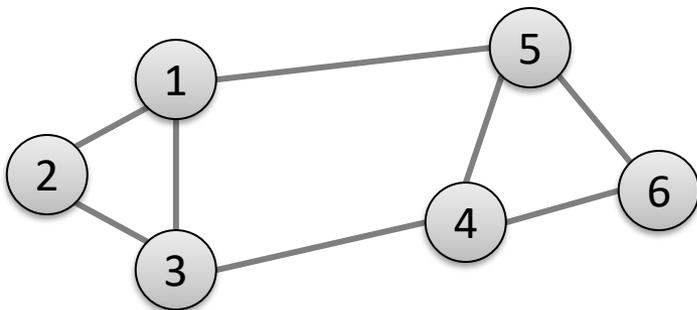
2<sup>nd</sup> largest eigenvalue  $\lambda_{n-1}$  now has value very close to  $\lambda_n$

What is the right matrix to apply this intuition?

# Matrix Representations

## Adjacency matrix ( $A$ ):

- $n \times n$  matrix
- $A = [a_{ij}]$ ,  $a_{ij} = 1$  if edge between node  $i$  and  $j$



Important properties:

- Symmetric matrix
- Eigenvectors are real and orthogonal

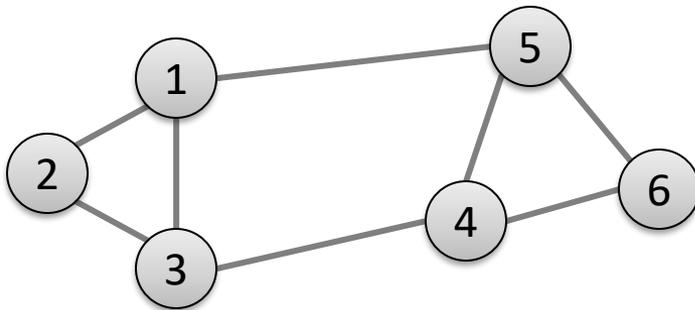
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	0	1	1	0	1	0
2	1	0	1	0	0	0
3	1	1	0	1	0	0
4	0	0	1	0	1	1
5	1	0	0	1	0	1
6	0	0	0	1	1	0

# Matrix Representations

## Degree matrix (D):

–  $n \times n$  diagonal matrix

–  $D = [d_{ii}]$ ,  $d_{ii}$  = degree of node  $i$



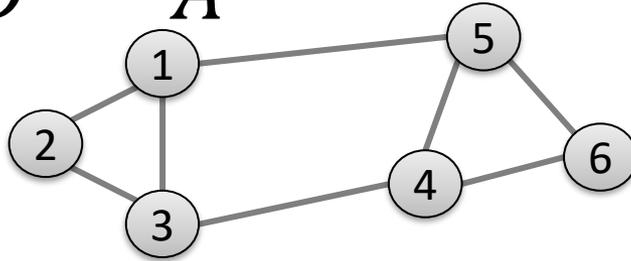
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	3	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	2	0	0	0	0
3	0	0	3	0	0	0
4	0	0	0	3	0	0
5	0	0	0	0	3	0
6	0	0	0	0	0	2

# Graph Laplacian

## Laplacian matrix (L):

–  $n \times n$  symmetric matrix

$$L = D - A$$



	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	3	-1	-1	0	-1	0
2	-1	2	-1	0	0	0
3	-1	-1	3	-1	0	0
4	0	0	-1	3	-1	-1
5	-1	0	0	-1	3	-1
6	0	0	0	-1	-1	2

- What is trivial eigenpair?

–  $\mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{1}, \dots, \mathbf{1})$  then  $L \cdot \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  and so  $\lambda = \lambda_1 = \mathbf{0}$

- Important properties:

– Eigenvalues are **non-negative** real numbers

– Eigenvectors are real and **orthogonal**

# Graph Laplacian

If the graph is disconnected

- If there are **two connected components**, the same argument as for the adjacency matrix applies, and  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = 0$
- The **multiplicity** of eigenvalue 0 is equal to the **number of connected components**

# The second smallest eigenvalue

Fact: For a symmetric matrix  $M$

$$\lambda_2 = \min_x \frac{x^T M x}{x^T x}$$

What is the meaning of  $\min x^T L x$  on  $G$ ?

# $\lambda_2$ as an optimization problem

What is the meaning of  $\min x^T L x$  on  $G$ ?

$$\begin{aligned} - x^T L x &= \sum_{i,j=1}^n L_{ij} x_i x_j = \sum_{i,j=1}^n (D_{ij} - A_{ij}) x_i x_j \\ - &= \sum_i D_{ii} x_i^2 - \sum_{(i,j) \in E} 2x_i x_j \\ - &= \sum_{(i,j) \in E} (x_i^2 + x_j^2 - 2x_i x_j) = \sum_{(i,j) \in E} (x_i - x_j)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Node  $i$  has degree  $d_i$ . So, value  $x_i^2$  needs to be summed up  $d_i$  times.  
But each edge  $(i,j)$  has two endpoints so we need  $x_i^2 + x_j^2$

# $\lambda_2$ as an optimization problem

The expression:  $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{x}$

is

$$\sum_{(i,j) \in E} (x_i - x_j)^2$$

When is this expression minimized?  
“similar values” for connected edges

# $\lambda_2$ as an optimization problem

What else do we know about  $x$ ?

–  $x$  is unit vector:  $\sum_i x_i^2 = 1$

–  $x$  is orthogonal to 1<sup>st</sup> eigenvector  $(1, \dots, 1)$  thus:  
 $\sum_i x_i \cdot 1 = \sum_i x_i = 0$

$$\lambda_2 = \min_{\substack{\text{All labelings} \\ \text{of nodes } i \text{ so} \\ \text{that } \sum x_i = 0}} \frac{\sum_{(i,j) \in E} (x_i - x_j)^2}{\sum_i x_i^2 = 1}$$

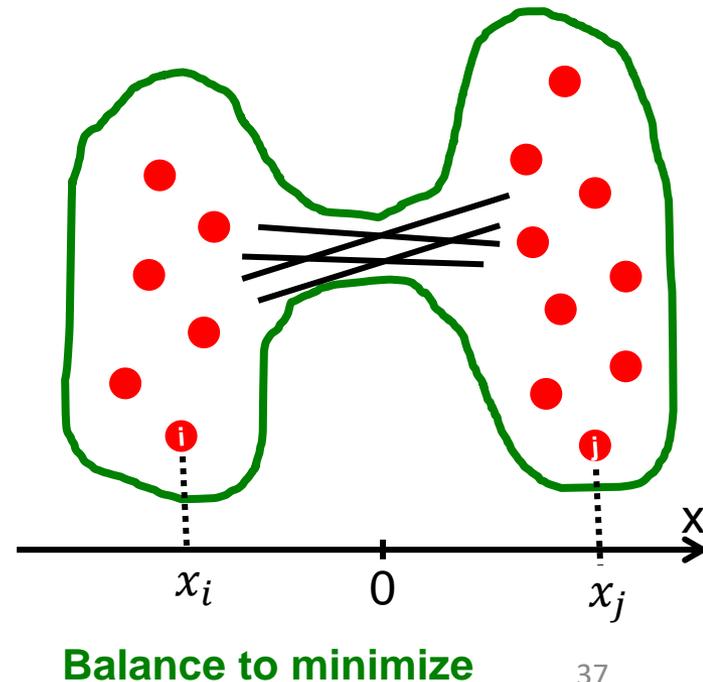
If  $i$  and  $j$  are connected, we want  $x_i$  and  $x_j$  to subtract each other, have the “same sign”  
We want to assign values  $x_i$  to nodes  $i$  such that few edges cross 0.

# $\lambda_2$ as an optimization problem

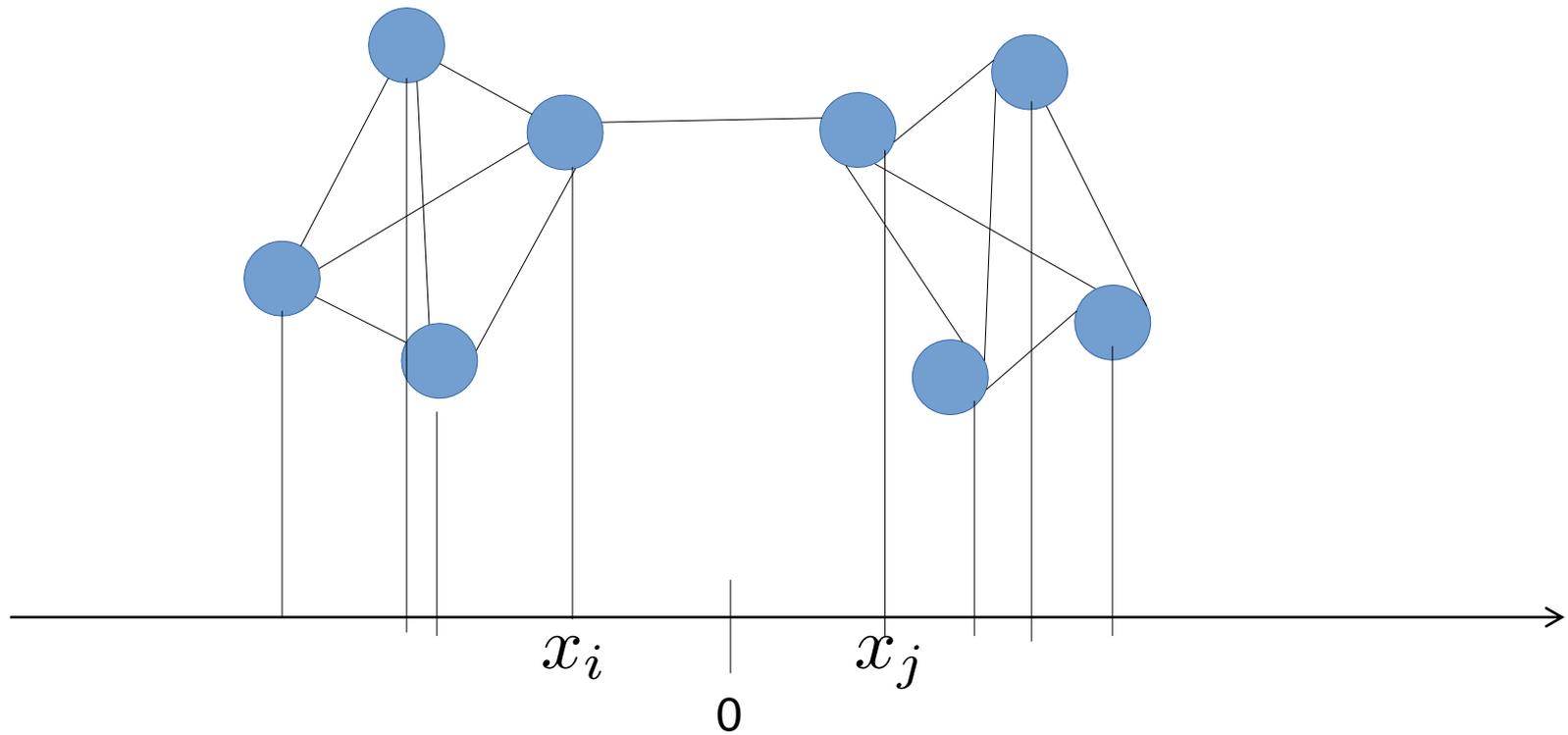
$$\lambda_2 = \min \frac{\sum_{(i,j) \in E} (x_i - x_j)^2}{\sum_i x_i^2}$$

All labelings  
of nodes  $i$  so  
that  $\sum x_i = 0$

- Minimum when connected nodes get the same sign (similar values)
- This minimization problem tries to **place (embed) nodes of the graph on the real line** so that the number of edges that span across 0 is as small as possible
- Tightly connected nodes on the same side of the real line



$$\lambda_2 = \min_{x: \sum x_i = 0} \sum_{(i,j) \in E} (x_i - x_j)^2$$



# Find Optimal Cut [Fiedler'73]

Back to finding the optimal cut

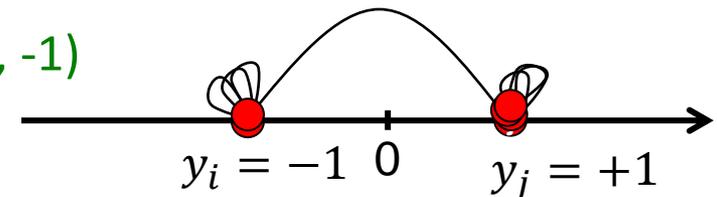
- Express partition (A,B) as a vector

$$y_i = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{if } i \in A \\ -1 & \text{if } i \in B \end{cases}$$

- We can minimize the cut of the partition by finding a non-trivial vector  $x$  that **minimizes**:

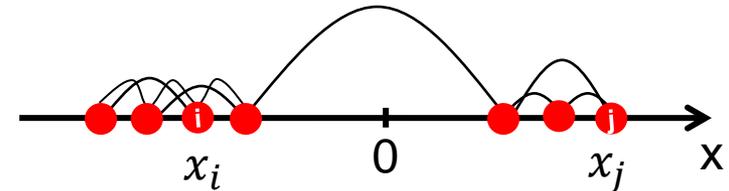
$$\arg \min_{y \in [-1, +1]^n} f(y) = \sum_{(i,j) \in E} (y_i - y_j)^2$$

Can't solve exactly. Let's relax  $y$  and allow it to take any real value (instead of just +1, -1)



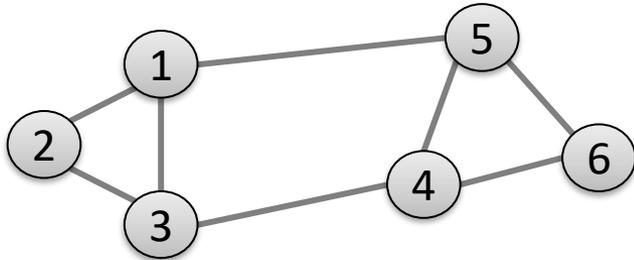
# Rayleigh Theorem

$$\min_{y \in \mathbb{R}^n} f(y) = \sum_{(i,j) \in E} (y_i - y_j)^2 = y^T L y$$



- $\lambda_2 = \min_y f(y)$ : The minimum value of  $f(y)$  is given by the 2<sup>nd</sup> smallest eigenvalue  $\lambda_2$  of the Laplacian matrix  $L$
- $x = \arg \min_y f(y)$ : The optimal solution for  $y$  is given by the corresponding eigenvector  $x$ , referred to as the **Fiedler vector**

# Example



**Eigenvalues**

0.0 1.0 3.0 3.0 4.0 5.0

**Eigenvectors**

0.4	0.3	-0.5	-0.2	-0.4	-0.5
0.4	0.6	0.4	-0.4	0.4	0.0
0.4	0.3	0.1	0.6	-0.4	0.5
0.4	-0.3	0.1	0.6	0.4	-0.5
0.4	-0.3	-0.5	-0.2	0.4	0.5
0.4	-0.6	0.4	-0.4	-0.4	0.0

# Spectral Partitioning Algorithm

Three basic stages:

Pre-processing

- Construct a **matrix representation** of the graph

Decomposition

- **Compute eigenvalues and eigenvectors** of the matrix

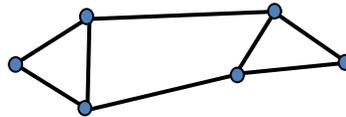
Grouping

- **Assign points to two or more clusters**, based on the new representation

# Spectral Partitioning Algorithm

Pre-processing:

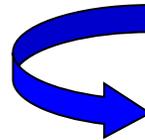
Build Laplacian matrix  $L$  of the graph



	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	3	-1	-1	0	-1	0
2	-1	2	-1	0	0	0
3	-1	-1	3	-1	0	0
4	0	0	-1	3	-1	-1
5	-1	0	0	-1	3	-1
6	0	0	0	-1	-1	2

Decomposition:

– Find eigenvalues  $\lambda$  and eigenvectors  $x$  of the matrix  $L$



$\lambda =$

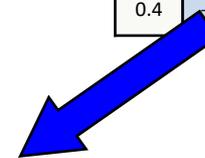
0.0
1.0
3.0
3.0
4.0
5.0

$X =$

0.4	0.3	-0.5	-0.2	-0.4	-0.5
0.4	0.6	0.4	-0.4	0.4	0.0
0.4	0.3	0.1	0.6	-0.4	0.5
0.4	-0.3	0.1	0.6	0.4	-0.5
0.4	-0.3	-0.5	-0.2	0.4	0.5
0.4	-0.6	0.4	-0.4	-0.4	0.0

– Map vertices to corresponding components of  $\lambda_2$

1	0.3
2	0.6
3	0.3
4	-0.3
5	-0.3
6	-0.6

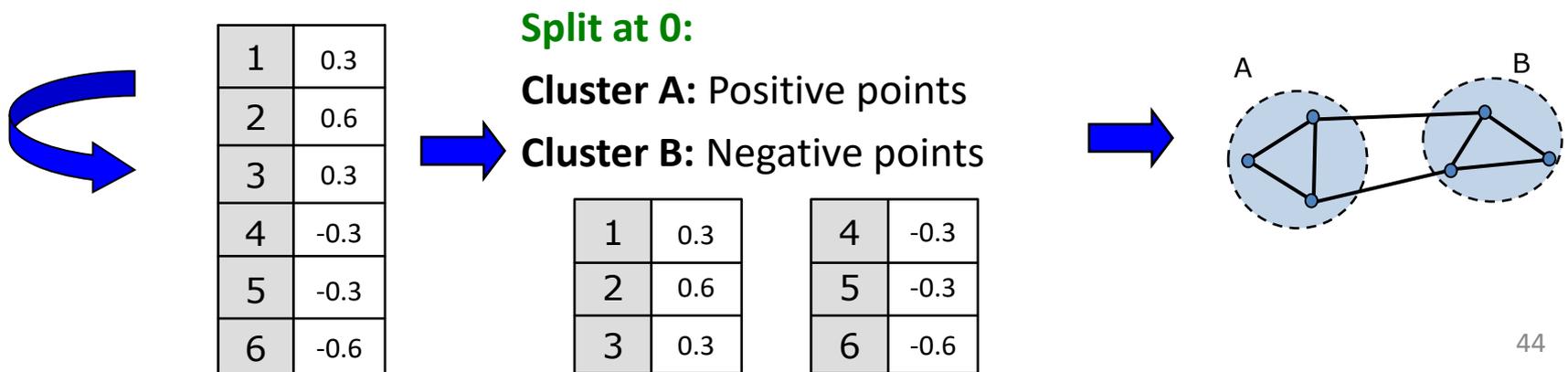


How do we now find the clusters?

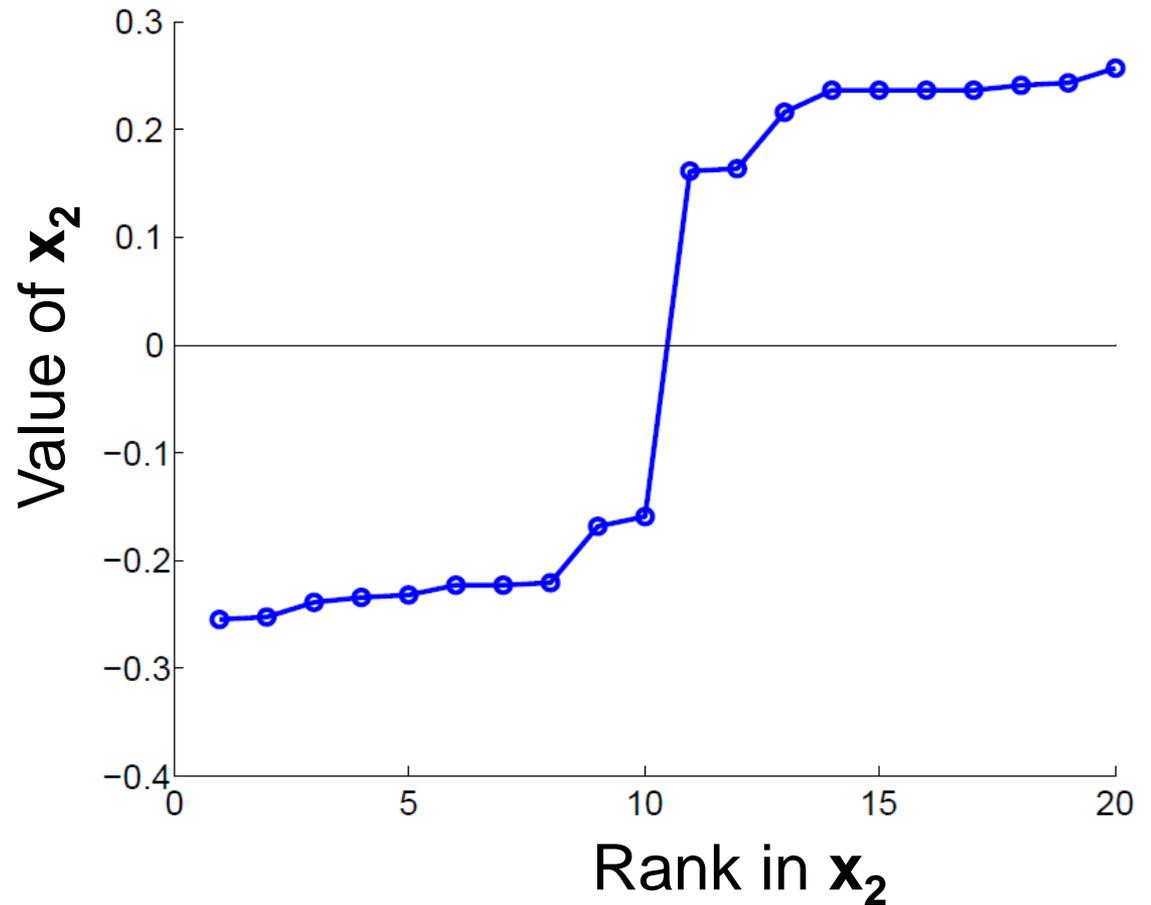
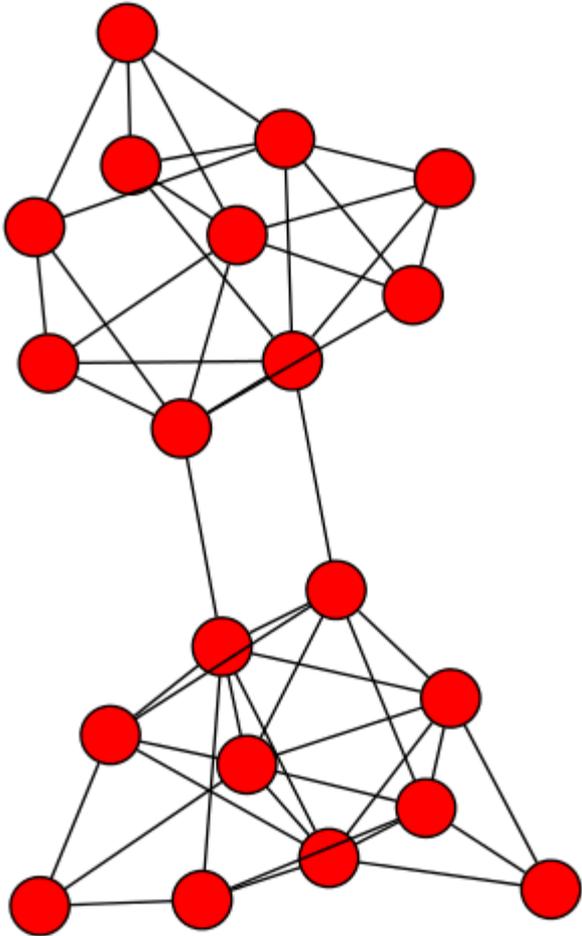
# Spectral Partitioning Algorithm

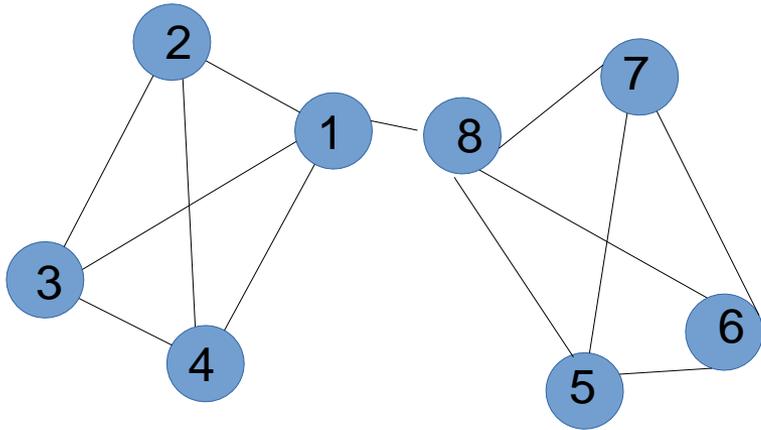
## Grouping:

- Sort components of reduced 1-dimensional vector
- Identify clusters by splitting the sorted vector in two
- How to choose a splitting point?
  - Naïve approaches:
    - Split at 0 or median value
  - More expensive approaches:
    - Attempt to minimize normalized cut in 1-dimension (sweep over ordering of nodes induced by the eigenvector)



# Example: Spectral Partitioning



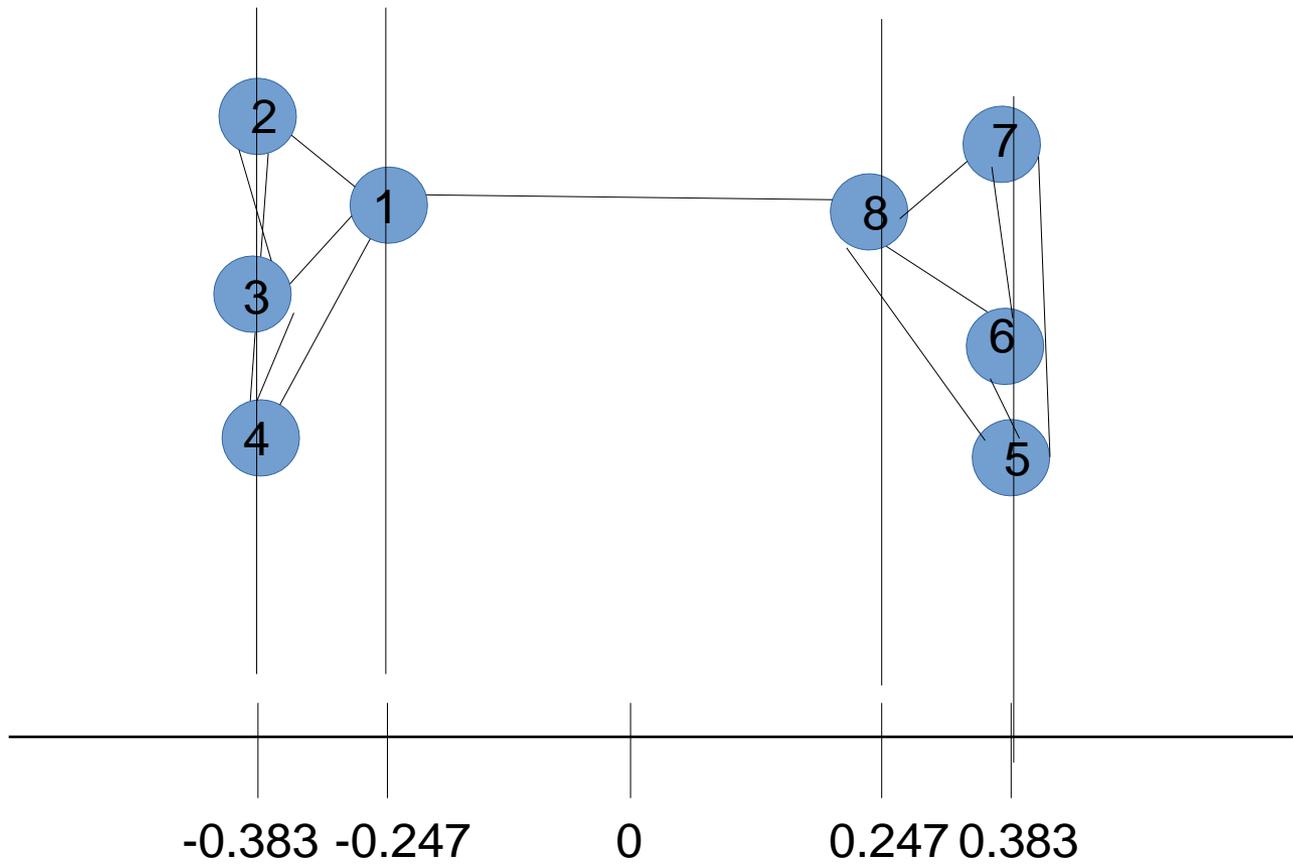


$$L = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 3 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & 3 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 3 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 3 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_1 = 0$$

$$\lambda_2 = 0.354$$

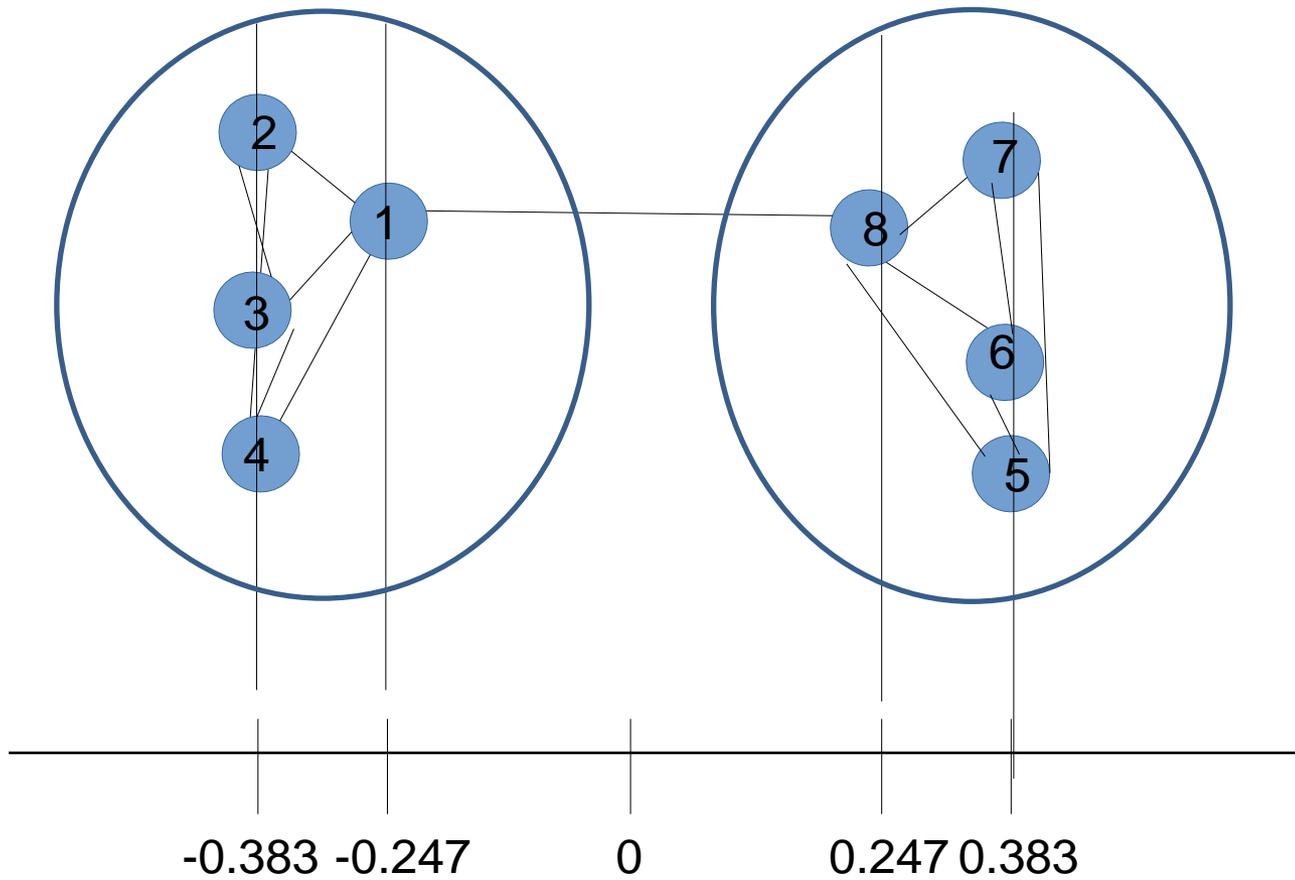
$$v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.247 \\ 0.383 \\ 0.383 \\ 0.383 \\ -0.383 \\ -0.383 \\ -0.383 \\ -0.247 \end{bmatrix}$$



$$\lambda_1 = 0$$

$$\lambda_2 = 0.354$$

$$v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.247 \\ 0.383 \\ 0.383 \\ 0.383 \\ -0.383 \\ -0.383 \\ -0.383 \\ -0.247 \end{bmatrix}$$

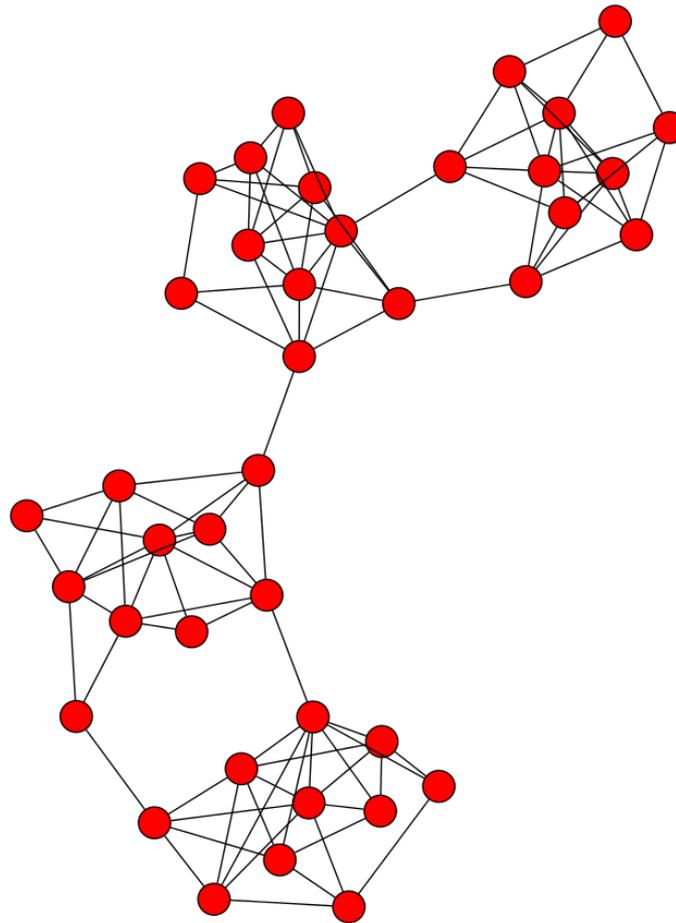


$$\lambda_2 = 0.354$$

$$v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.247 \\ 0.383 \\ 0.383 \\ 0.383 \\ -0.383 \\ -0.383 \\ -0.383 \\ -0.247 \end{bmatrix}$$

# *k*-Way Spectral Clustering

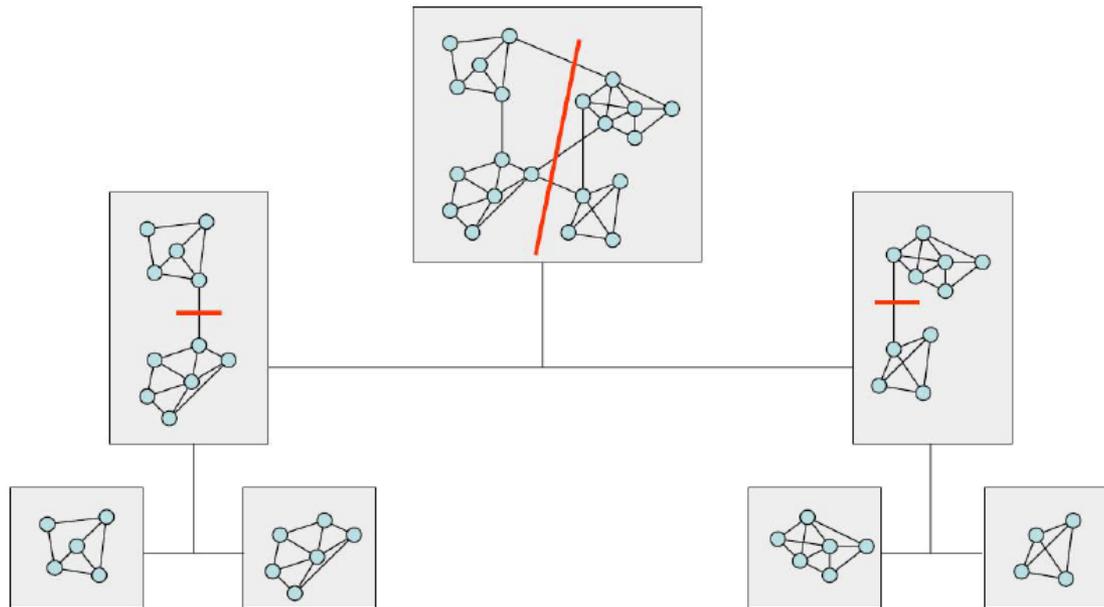
*How do we partition a graph into  $k$  clusters?*



# *k*-Way Spectral Clustering

*How do we partition a graph into  $k$  clusters?*

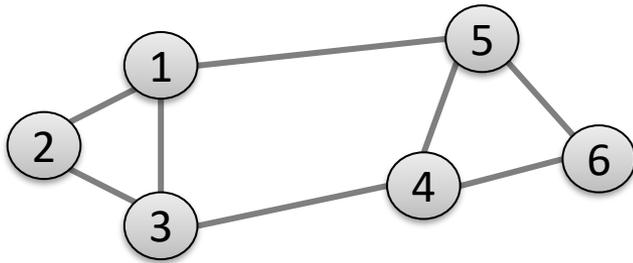
- *Recursively apply a bi-partitioning algorithm* in a hierarchical divisive manner
  - Disadvantages: Inefficient, unstable



# *k*-Way Spectral Clustering

Use *several of the eigenvectors* to partition the graph.

- Use  $m$  eigenvectors, and set a threshold for each,
- Get a partition into  $2^m$  groups, each group consisting of the nodes that are above or below threshold for each of the eigenvectors, in a particular pattern.



# Example

Eigenvalues

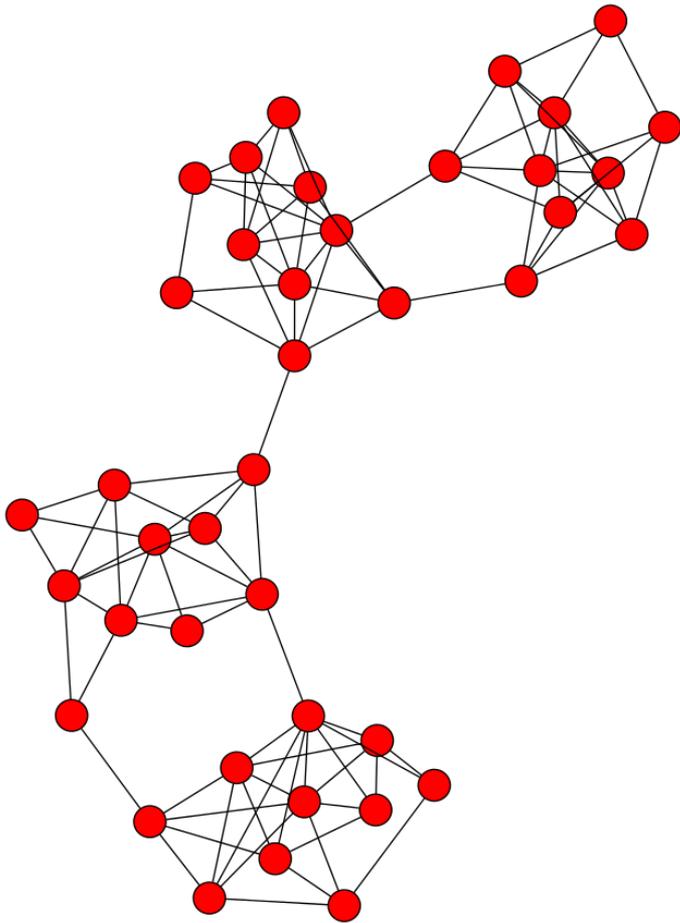
0.0	1.0	3.0	3.0	4.0	5.0
0.4	0.3	-0.5	-0.2	-0.4	-0.5
0.4	0.6	0.4	-0.4	0.4	0.0
0.4	0.3	0.1	0.6	-0.4	0.5
0.4	-0.3	0.1	0.6	0.4	-0.5
0.4	-0.3	-0.5	-0.2	0.4	0.5
0.4	-0.6	0.4	-0.4	-0.4	0.0

Eigenvectors

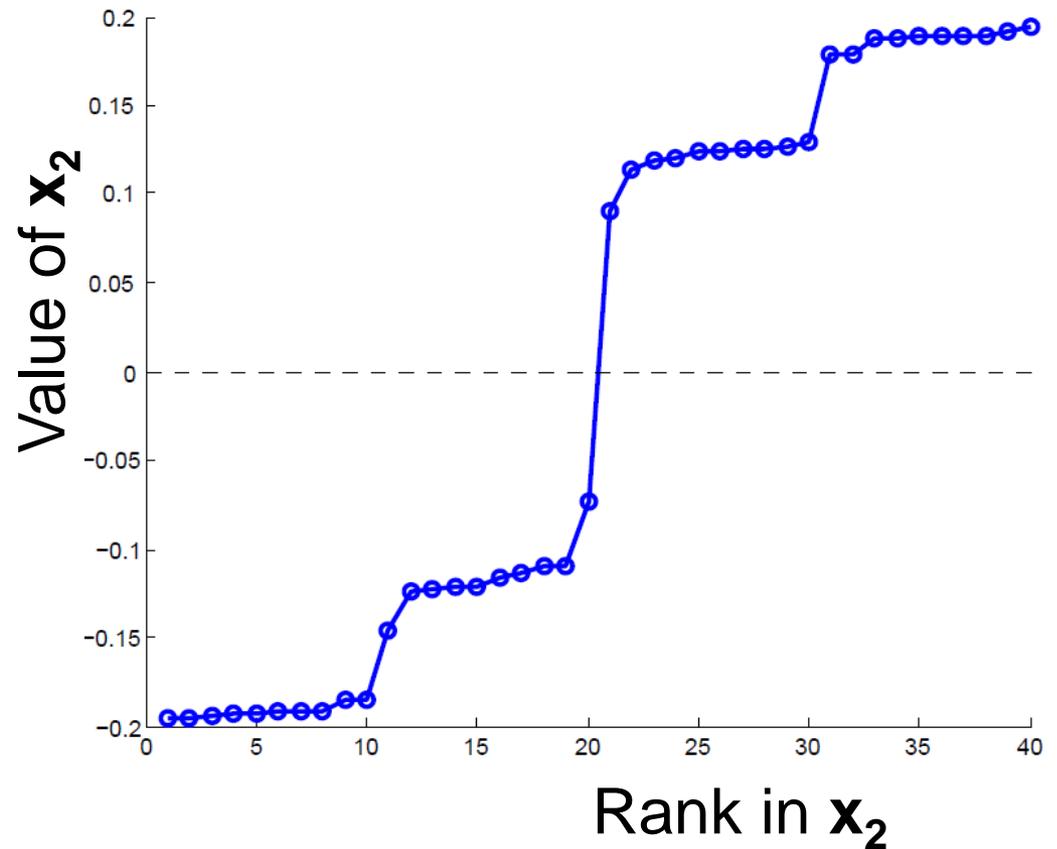
If we use both the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> eigenvectors,  
 nodes 5 and 6 (negative in both) 2 and 3 (positive in both)  
 1 and 4 alone

- Note that each eigenvector except the first is the vector  $x$  that **minimizes  $x^T L x$** , subject to the constraint that it is **orthogonal to all previous eigenvectors**.
- Thus, while each eigenvector tries to produce a minimum-sized cut, successive eigenvectors have to satisfy more and more constraints => the cuts progressively worse.

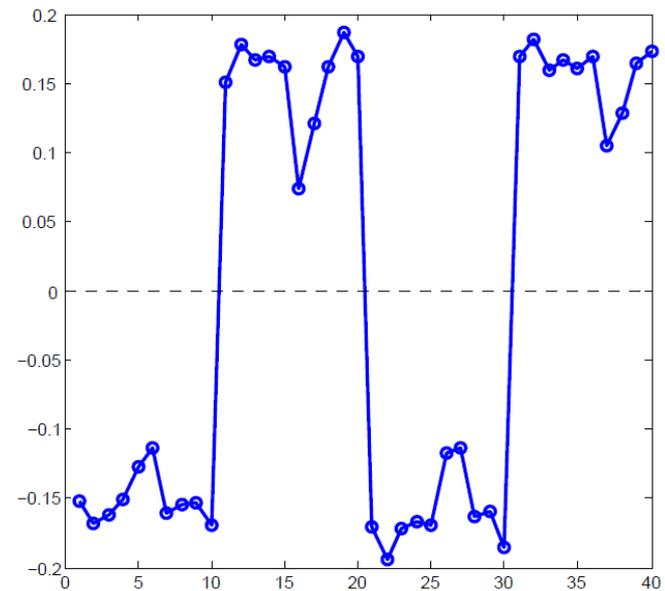
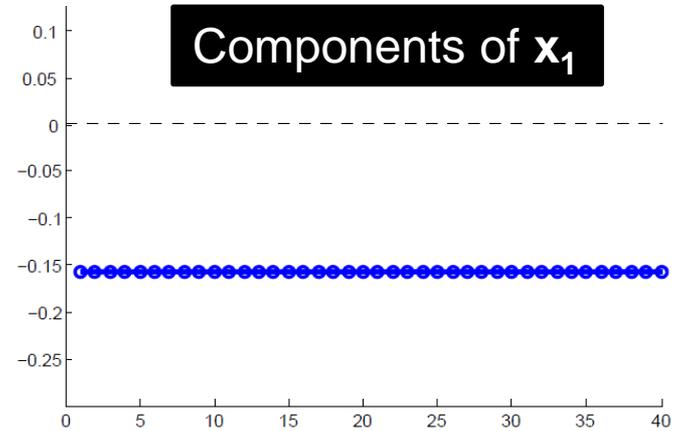
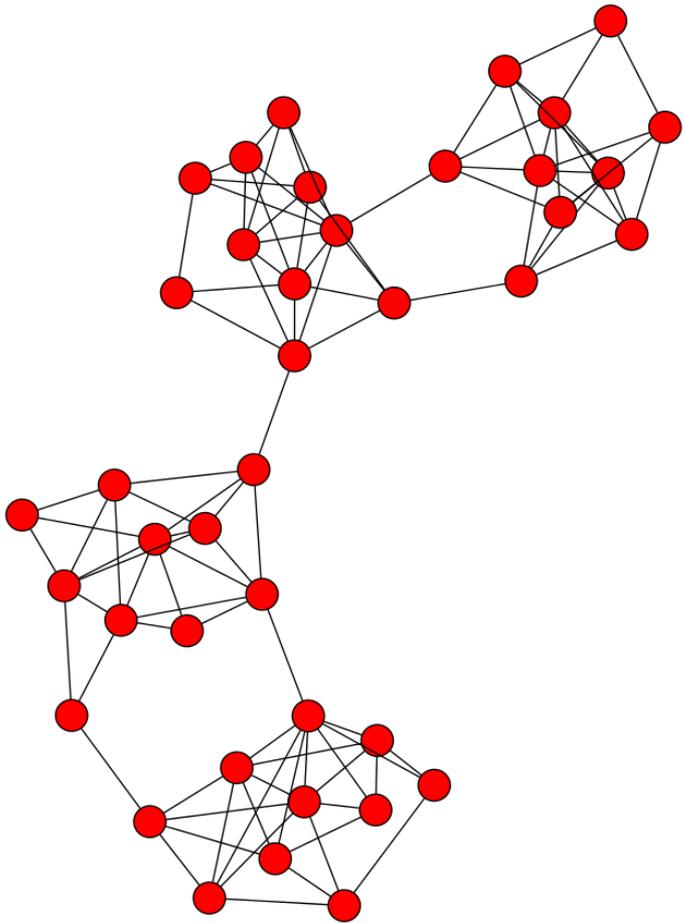
# Example: Spectral Partitioning



Components of  $\mathbf{x}_2$



# Example: Spectral partitioning



Components of  $x_3$

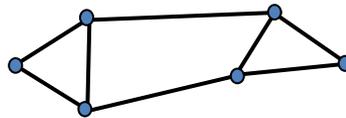
# Spectral Clustering

- Use the **lowest  $k$**  eigenvalues of  $L$  to construct the  **$n \times k$**  graph  $G'$  that has these eigenvectors as columns
- *The  $n$ -rows represent the graph vertices in a  $k$ -dimensional Euclidean space*
- Group these vertices in  $k$  clusters using  $k$ -means clustering or similar techniques

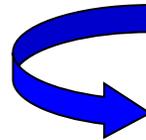
# *k*-Way Spectral Clustering

Pre-processing:

Build Laplacian matrix  $L$  of the graph



	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	3	-1	-1	0	-1	0
2	-1	2	-1	0	0	0
3	-1	-1	3	-1	0	0
4	0	0	-1	3	-1	-1
5	-1	0	0	-1	3	-1
6	0	0	0	-1	-1	2



Decomposition:

- Find eigenvalues  $\lambda$  and eigenvectors  $x$  of the matrix  $L$

$\lambda =$

0.0
1.0
3.0
3.0
4.0
5.0

$X =$

0.4	0.3	-0.5	-0.2	-0.4	-0.5
0.4	0.6	0.4	-0.4	0.4	0.0
0.4	0.3	0.1	0.6	-0.4	0.5
0.4	0.3	0.1	0.6	0.4	-0.5
0.4	0.3	-0.5	-0.2	0.4	0.5
0.4	0.6	0.4	-0.4	-0.4	0.0

$k = 3$

# Cuts and spectral clustering

$$\text{cut}(A_1, \dots, A_k) := \sum_{i=1}^k \text{cut}(A_i, \bar{A}_i)$$

$$\text{RatioCut}(A_1, \dots, A_k) = \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{\text{cut}(A_i, \bar{A}_i)}{|A_i|}$$

$$\text{Ncut}(A_1, \dots, A_k) = \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{\text{cut}(A_i, \bar{A}_i)}{\text{vol}(A_i)}.$$

Relaxing **Ncut** leads to **normalized spectral clustering**, while relaxing **RatioCut** leads to **unnormalized spectral clustering**

# Normalized Graph Laplacians

$$L_{sym} = D^{-1/2} L D^{-1/2} = I - D^{-1/2} A D^{-1/2}$$
$$x^T L_{sym} x = \sum_{(i,j) \in E} \left( \frac{x_i}{\sqrt{d_i}} - \frac{x_j}{\sqrt{d_j}} \right)^2$$

$$L_{rw} = D^{-1} L = I - D^{-1} A$$

$L_{rw}$  closely connected to random walks

# Spectral clustering (besides graphs)

Can be used to cluster any points (not just vertices), as long as there is an appropriate similarity matrix

Needs to be *symmetric* and *non-negative*

How to construct a graph:

- **$\epsilon$ -neighborhood graph**: connect all points whose pairwise distances are smaller than  $\epsilon$
- **k-nearest neighbor graph**: connect each point with each k nearest neighbor
- **full graph**: connect all points with weight in the edge  $(i, j)$  equal to the similarity of  $i$  and  $j$

# Summary

- The values of  $x$  minimize

$$\min_{x \neq 0} \sum_{(i,j) \in E} (x_i - x_j)^2 \quad \sum_i x_i = 0$$

- For weighted matrices

$$\min_{x \neq 0} \sum_{(i,j)} A[i,j] (x_i - x_j)^2 \quad \sum_i x_i = 0$$

- The ordering according to the  $x_i$  values will group similar (connected) nodes together

# Outline

## PART II

Cuts

Spectral Clustering

**Dense Subgraphs**

Evaluation

# Finding Dense Subgraphs

- **Dense subgraph**: A collection of vertices such that there are **a lot of edges between them**
  - E.g., find the subset of email users that talk the most between them
  - Or, find the subset of genes that are most commonly expressed together
- Similar to **community identification** but we do *not require* that the dense subgraph is *sparsely connected with the rest of the graph*.

# Definitions

- Input: **undirected** graph  $G = (V, E)$ .
- **Degree** of node  $u$ :  $\deg(u)$
- For two sets  $S \subseteq V$  and  $T \subseteq V$ :  
$$E(S, T) = \{(u, v) \in E : u \in S, v \in T\}$$
- $E(S) = E(S, S)$ : edges within nodes in  $S$
- **Graph Cut** defined by nodes in  $S \subseteq V$ :  
 $E(S, \bar{S})$ : edges between  $S$  and the rest of the graph
- **Induced Subgraph** by set  $S$  :  $G_S = (S, E(S))$

# Definitions

- How do we define the **density** of a subgraph?

- **Average Degree:**

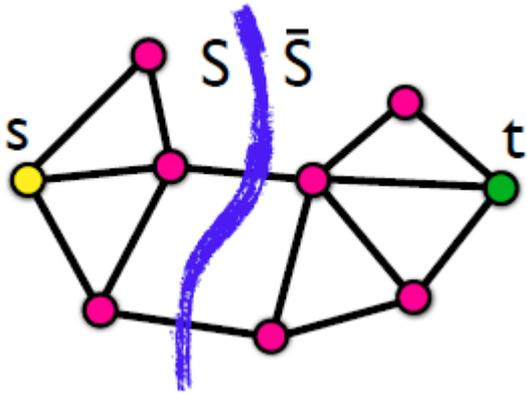
$$d(S) = \frac{2|E(S)|}{|S|}$$

- **Problem:** Given graph  $G$ , find subset  $S$ , that maximizes density  $d(S)$ 
  - Surprisingly there is a **polynomial-time algorithm** for this problem.

# The $k$ -densest subgraph

- The  $k$ -densest subgraph problem: Find the set of  $k$  nodes  $S$ , such that the density  $d(S)$  is maximized.
  - The  $k$ -densest subgraph problem is NP-hard!

# Min-Cut Problem



Given a graph\*  $G = (V, E)$ ,  
A source vertex  $s \in V$ ,  
A destination vertex  $t \in V$

Find a set  $S \subseteq V$   
Such that  $s \in S$  and  $t \in \bar{S}$   
That **minimizes**  $E(S, \bar{S})$

\* The graph may be **weighted**

**Min-Cut = Max-Flow**: the minimum cut maximizes the flow that can be sent from  $s$  to  $t$ . There is a polynomial time solution.

the **maximum amount of flow** passing from the source to the sink is equal to the **total weight of the edges in the minimum cut**

# Algorithm (Goldberg)

Given the input graph  $G$ , and value  $c$

1. Create the **min-cut instance** graph
2. Compute the **min-cut**
3. If the set  $S$  is not empty, return **YES**
4. Else return **NO**

How do we find the set with **maximum** density?

# Min-cut algorithm

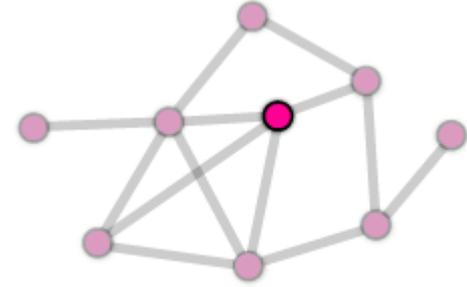
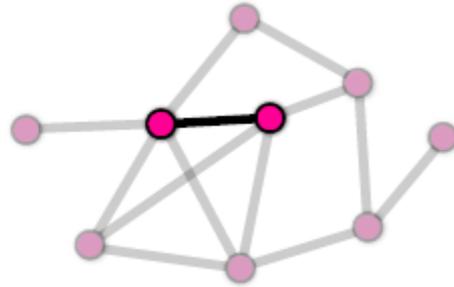
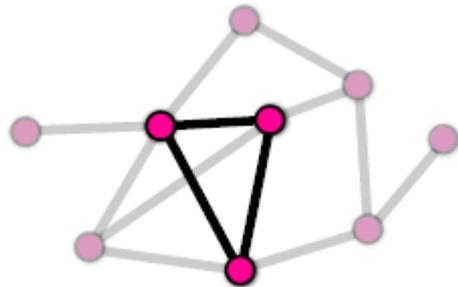
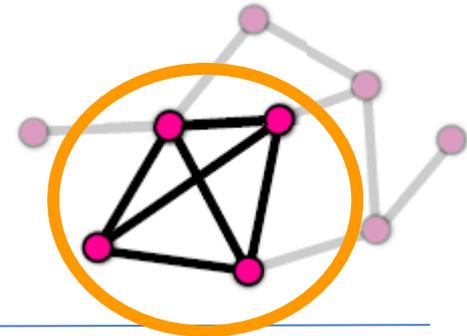
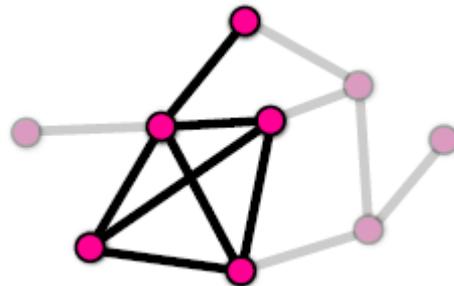
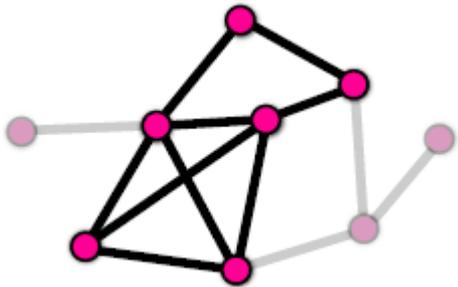
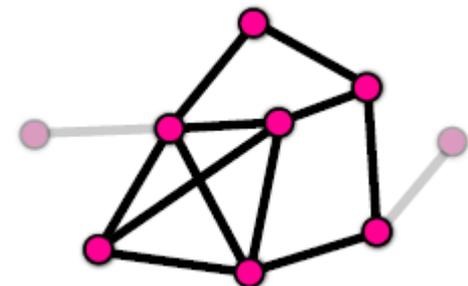
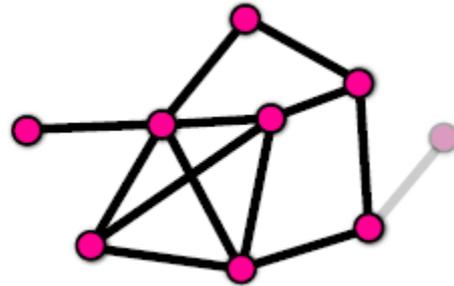
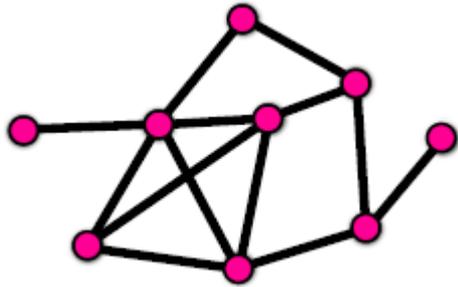
- The **min-cut** algorithm finds the **optimal** solution in polynomial time  $O(nm)$ , but this is too expensive for real networks.
- We will now describe a simpler **approximation** algorithm that is very fast
  - **Approximation algorithm**: the **ratio** of the density of the set produced by our algorithm and that of the optimal is **bounded**.
    - The ratio is at most  $\frac{1}{2}$
    - The **optimal** set is **at most twice** as dense as that of the **approximation** algorithm.
- Any ideas for the algorithm?

# Greedy Algorithm

Given the graph  $G = (V, E)$

1.  $S_0 = V$
2. For  $i = 1 \dots |V|$ 
  - a. Find node  $v \in S$  with the **minimum degree**
  - b.  $S_i = S_{i-1} \setminus \{v\}$
3. Output the **densest** set  $S_i$

# Example



# Analysis

- Density of optimal set:  $d_{opt} = \max_{S \subseteq V} d(S)$
- Density of greedy algorithm  $d_g$
- $d_{opt} \leq 2 \cdot d_g$

# Outline

## PART II

Cuts

Spectral Clustering

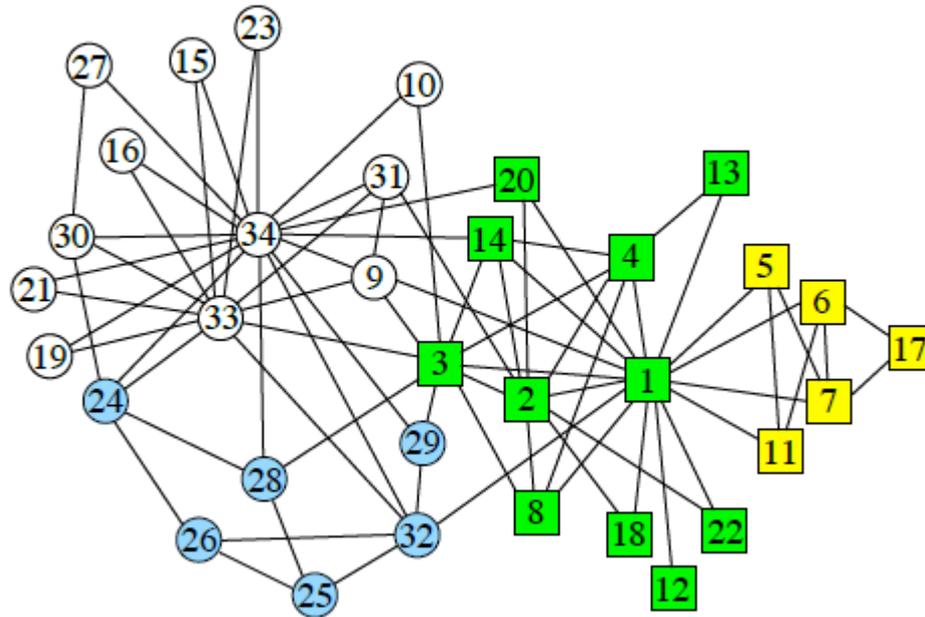
Dense Subgraphs

**Evaluation**

# Community Evaluation

- With ground truth
- Without ground truth

# Evaluation with ground truth



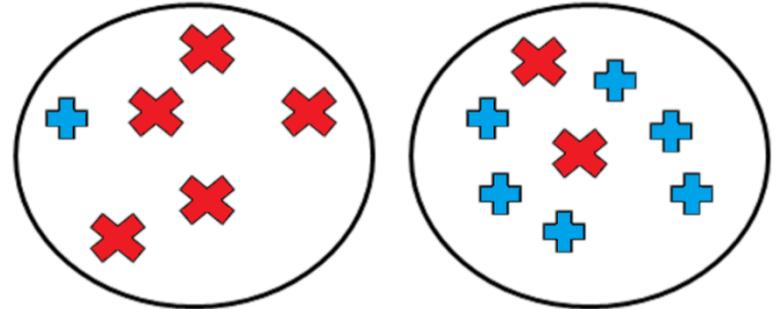
## Zachary's Karate Club

Club president (34) (circles) and instructor (1) (rectangles)

# Community Evaluation

We are given objects of two different kinds (+, ×)

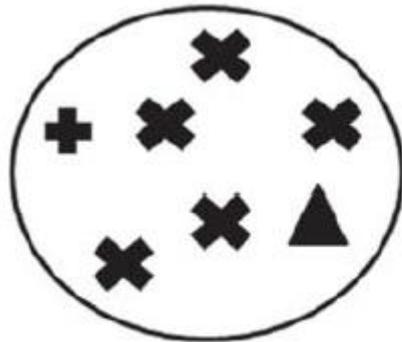
- **The perfect community:** all objects inside the community are of the same type



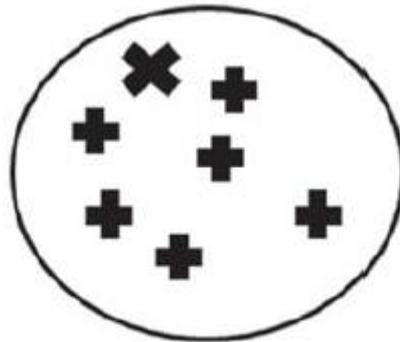
# Metrics: purity

the fraction of instances that have labels equal to the label of the community's majority

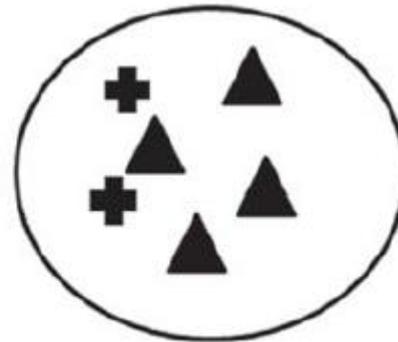
$$Purity = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^k \max_j |C_i \cap L_j|$$



Community 1



Community 2



Community 3

$$(5+6+4)/20 = 0.75$$

Purity can be easily **tampered** by

- Points being singleton communities (of size 1); or by
- Very large communities

# Metrics

**Based on pair counting:** the number of pairs of vertices which are classified in the same (different) clusters in the two partitions.

- **True Positive (TP) Assignment:** when *similar members* are assigned to the *same community*. This is a correct decision.
- **True Negative (TN) Assignment:** when *dissimilar members* are assigned to *different communities*. This is a correct decision.
- **False Negative (FN) Assignment:** when *similar members* are assigned to *different communities*. This is an incorrect decision.
- **False Positive (FP) Assignment:** when *dissimilar members* are assigned to the *same community*. This is an incorrect decision.

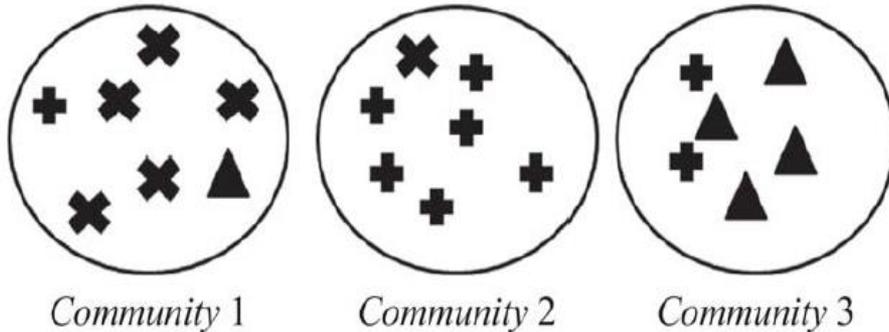
# Metrics: pairs



For **TP**, we need to compute the number of pairs with the same label that are in the same community

$$TP = \underbrace{\binom{5}{2}}_{\text{Community 1}} + \underbrace{\binom{6}{2}}_{\text{Community 2}} + \underbrace{\left(\binom{4}{2} + \binom{2}{2}\right)}_{\text{Community 3}} = 32$$

# Metrics: pairs



$$\begin{aligned}
 TN = & \underbrace{\left( \overset{x,+}{5 \times 6} + \overset{+,x}{1 \times 1} + \overset{\Delta,+}{1 \times 6} + \overset{\Delta,x}{1 \times 1} \right)}_{\text{Communities 1 and 2}} \\
 & + \underbrace{\left( \overset{x,\Delta}{5 \times 4} + \overset{x,+}{5 \times 2} + \overset{+,\Delta}{1 \times 4} + \overset{\Delta,+}{1 \times 2} \right)}_{\text{Communities 1 and 3}} \\
 & + \underbrace{\left( \overset{+,\Delta}{6 \times 4} + \overset{x,+}{1 \times 2} + \overset{x,\Delta}{1 \times 4} \right)}_{\text{Communities 2 and 3}} = 104.
 \end{aligned}$$

For **TN**: we need to compute the number of dissimilar pairs in dissimilar communities

# Metrics: pairs



For **FP**, compute dissimilar pairs that are in the same community.

$$FP = \underbrace{(5 \times 1 + 5 \times 1 + 1 \times 1)}_{\text{Community 1}} + \underbrace{(6 \times 1)}_{\text{Community 2}} + \underbrace{(4 \times 2)}_{\text{Community 3}} = 25$$

For **FN**, compute similar members that are in different communities.

$$FN = \underbrace{(5 \times 1)}_{\times} + \underbrace{(6 \times 1 + 6 \times 2 + 2 \times 1)}_{+} + \underbrace{(4 \times 1)}_{\triangle} = 29$$

# Metrics: pairs

**Precision (P):** the fraction of pairs that have been correctly assigned to the same community.

$$TP/(TP+FP)$$

**Recall (R):** the fraction of pairs assigned to the same community of all the pairs that should have been in the same community.

$$TP/(TP+FN)$$

**F-measure**

$$2PR/(P+R)$$

# Evaluation without ground truth

- **Cluster Cohesion:** Measures how closely related are objects in a cluster
- **Cluster Separation:** Measure how distinct or well-separated a cluster is from other clusters
- Example: Squared Error
  - Cohesion is measured by the within cluster sum of squares (SSE)

$$WSS = \sum_i \sum_{x \in C_i} (x - m_i)^2$$

- Separation is measured by the between cluster sum of squares

$$BSS = \sum_i |C_i| (m - m_i)^2$$

- Where  $|C_i|$  is the size of cluster  $i$

# Evaluation without ground truth

$$\text{cohesion}(C) = \frac{\text{\#internal edges of } C}{N_C(N_C - 1)/2}$$

$$\text{seperation}(C) = \frac{\text{\#inter - cluster edges of } C}{N_C(N - N_C)}$$

# Evaluation without ground truth

## Modularity

Both as a local (per individual community) and as a global measure

## Conductance



# Summary

- Spectral clustering

Using the eigenvectors of the Laplacian (or, normalized Laplacian)

split around 0

use the  $k$ -eigenvectors

- Dense subgraphs
- Evaluation

# Basic References

- Jure Leskovec, Anand Rajaraman, Jeff Ullman, Mining of Massive Datasets, Chapter 10, <http://www.mmnds.org/>
- Reza Zafarani, Mohammad Ali Abbasi, Huan Liu, Social Media Mining: An Introduction, Chapter 6, <http://www.socialmediamining.info/>
- Santo Fortunato: Community detection in graphs. CoRR abs/0906.0612v2 (2010)
- Ulrike von Luxburg: A Tutorial on Spectral Clustering. [CoRR abs/0711.0189](http://arxiv.org/abs/0711.0189) (2007)
- Albert-László Barabasi, Network Science, Chapter 9, <http://networksciencebook.com/>

Questions?

Not used

# Graph partitioning

## The general problem

- Input: a graph  $G = (V, E)$ 
  - edge  $(u, v)$  denotes **connection/similarity** between  $u$  and  $v$
  - weighted graphs: **weight** of edge captures the degree of similarity (or, strength of connection)

**Partition** the nodes in the graph such that

- nodes *within clusters* are **well interconnected** (high edge weights)
- nodes *across clusters* are **sparsely interconnected** (low edge weights)

**Partitioning** as an optimization problem:

- most graph partitioning problems are NP hard

## Reformulating ratio cut (or normalized cut) in matrix format

- Let  $X_{ij} = 1$ , when node  $i$  is member of community  $j$ ; 0, otherwise
- Let  $D = \text{diag}(d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n)$  be the diagonal degree matrix
- The  $i$ th entry on the diagonal of  $X^T A X$  is **the number of edges that are inside community  $i$ .**
- The  $i$ th element on the diagonal of  $X^T D X$  is **the number of edges that are connected to members of community  $i$ .**
- The  $i$ th element on the diagonal of  $X^T (D - A) X$  is **the number of edges in the cut that separates community  $i$  from other nodes.**

The  $i$ th diagonal element of  $X^T (D - A) X$  is equivalent to  $\text{cut}(P_i, \bar{P}_i)$

So, ratio cut is

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Ratio Cut}(P) &= \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{\text{cut}(P_i, \bar{P}_i)}{|P_i|} \\ &= \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{X_i^T (D - A) X_i}{X_i^T X_i} \\ &= \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k \hat{X}_i^T (D - A) \hat{X}_i \\ \hat{X}_i &= \hat{X}_i / (\hat{X}_i^T \hat{X}_i)^{1/2}\end{aligned}$$


Both ratio/normalized cut can be reformulated as

$$\min_{\hat{X}} \text{Tr}(\hat{X}^T L \hat{X})$$

$$L = \begin{cases} D - A & \text{Ratio Cut Laplacian, i.e., Unnormalized Laplacian} \\ I - D^{-1/2} A D^{-1/2} & \text{Normalized Laplacian for Normalized Cut.} \end{cases}$$

$D = \text{diag}(d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n)$  is a diagonal degree matrix

- Spectral relaxation: 
$$\min_{\hat{X}} \text{Tr}(\hat{X}^T L \hat{X})$$
$$s.t. \hat{X}^T \hat{X} = I_k$$

**Optimal Solution**

$\hat{X}$  is the top eigenvectors with the smallest eigenvalues

- Because we performed spectral relaxation, the matrix obtained is not integer valued
- To recover  $X$  from  $\hat{X}$  we can run  $k$ -means on  $\hat{X}$

# Decision problem

- Consider the decision problem:
  - Is there a set  $S$  with  $d(S) \geq c$ ?

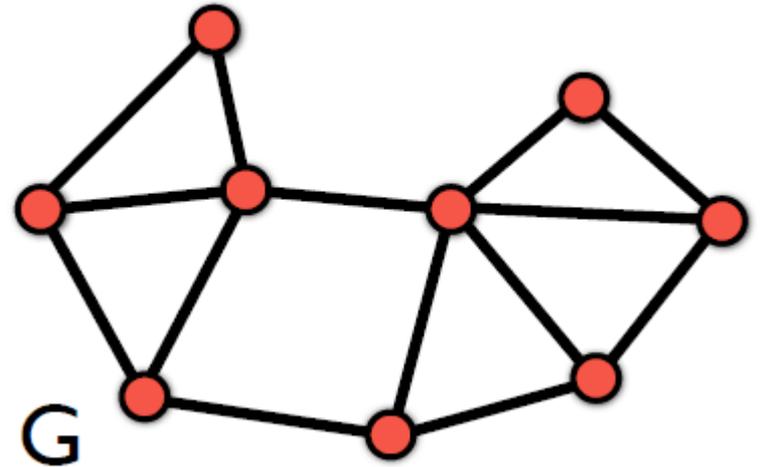
- $d(S) \geq c$

- $2|E(S)| \geq c|S|$

- $\sum_{v \in S} \deg(v) - E(S, \bar{S}) \geq c|S|$

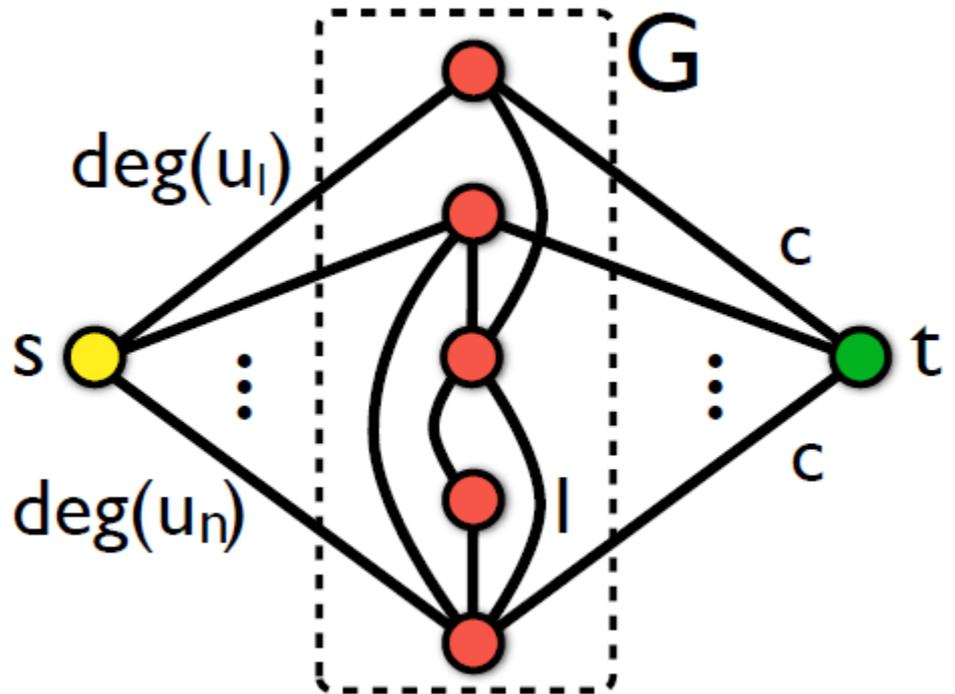
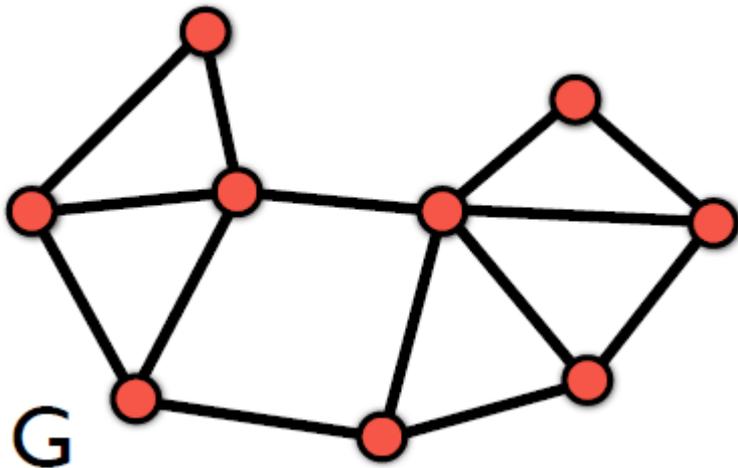
- $2|E| - \sum_{v \in \bar{S}} \deg(v) - E(S, \bar{S}) \geq c|S|$

- $\sum_{v \in \bar{S}} \deg(v) + E(S, \bar{S}) + c|S| \leq 2|E|$



# Transform to min-cut

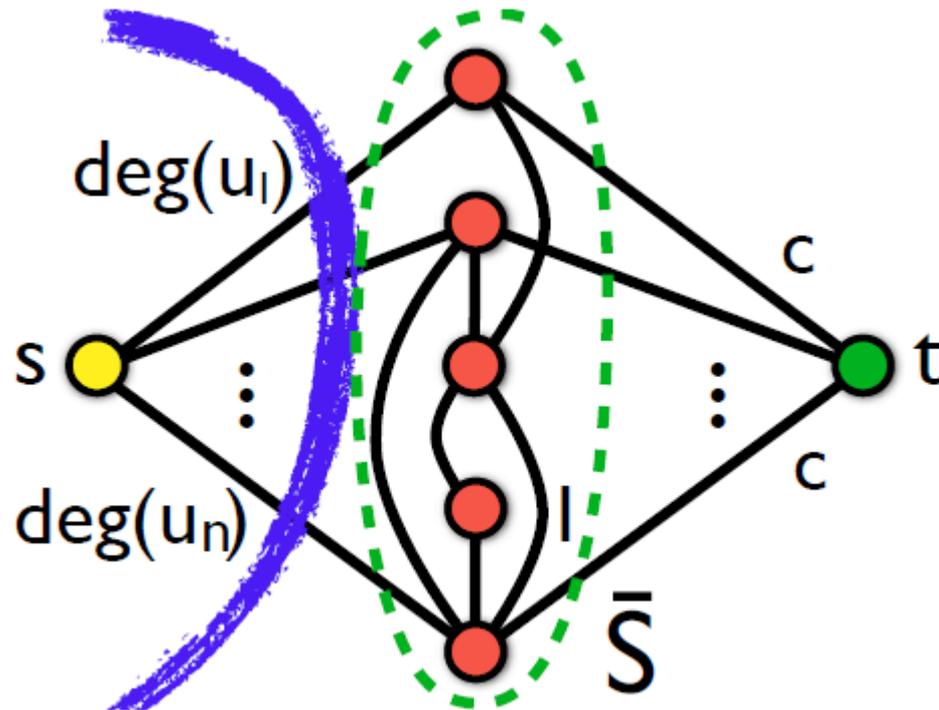
- For a value  $c$  we do the following transformation



- We ask for a min  $s$ - $t$  cut in the new graph

# Transformation to min-cut

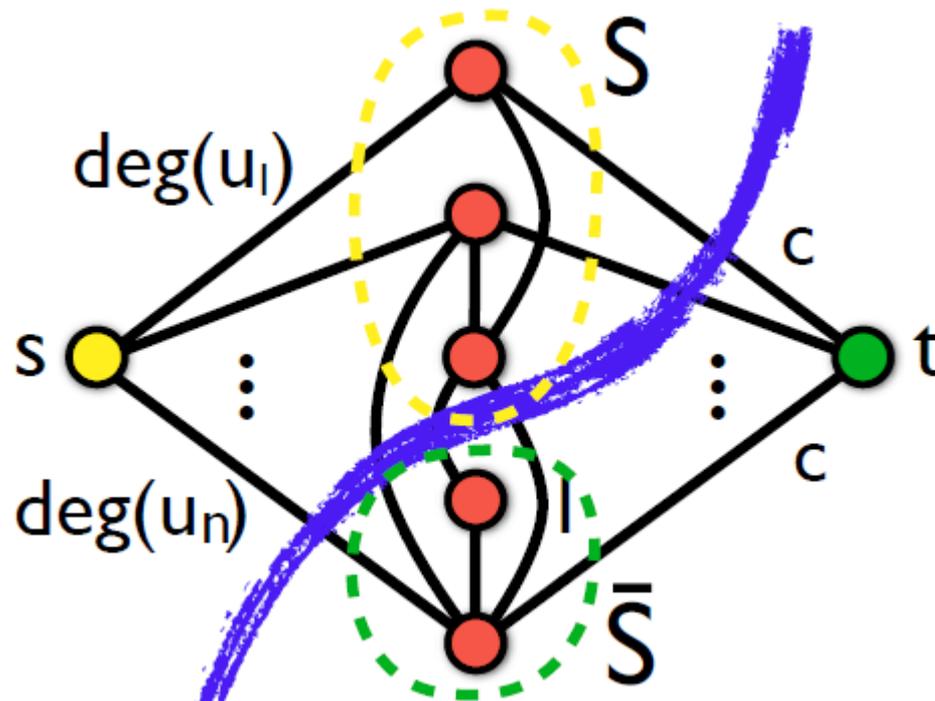
- There is a cut that has value  $2|E|$



# Transformation to min-cut

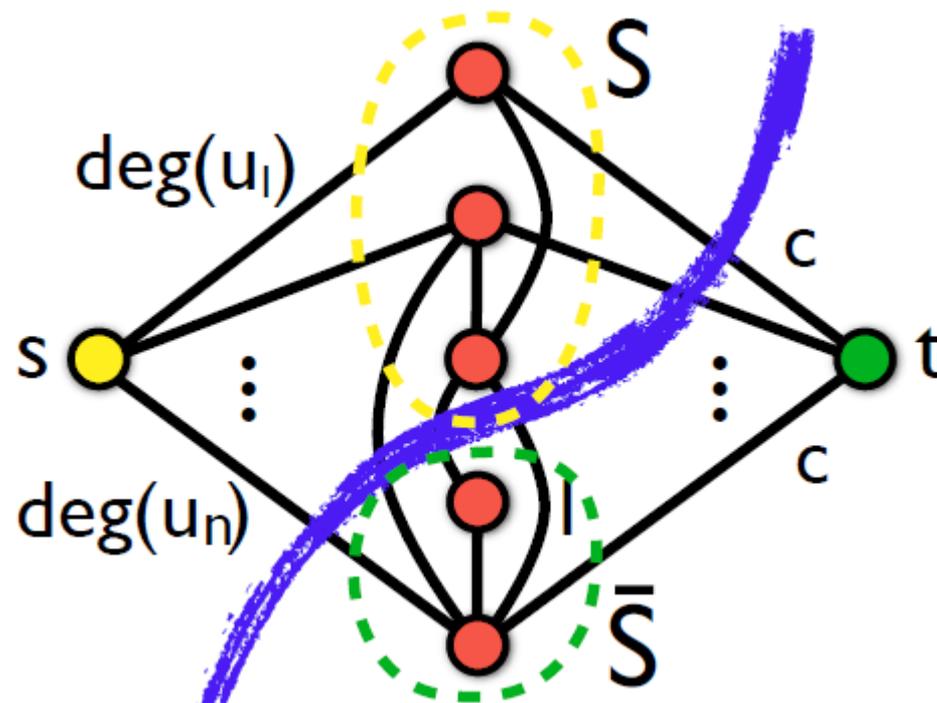
Every other cut has value:

- $\sum_{v \in \bar{S}} \text{deg}(v) + E(S, \bar{S}) + c|S|$



# Transformation to min-cut

- If  $\sum_{v \in \bar{S}} \deg(v) + E(S, \bar{S}) + c|S| \leq 2|E|$   
then  $S \neq \emptyset$  and  $d(S) \geq c$



# Analysis

- We will prove that the optimal set has density at most 2 times that of the set produced by the Greedy algorithm.
- Density of optimal set:  $d_{opt} = \max_{S \subseteq V} d(S)$
- Density of greedy algorithm  $d_g$
- We want to show that  $d_{opt} \leq 2 \cdot d_g$

# Upper bound

- We will first **upper-bound** the solution of **optimal**
- Assume an arbitrary assignment of an edge  $(u, v)$  to either  $u$  or  $v$



- Define:
  - $IN(u) = \#$  edges assigned to  $u$
  - $\Delta = \max_{u \in V} IN(u)$
- We can prove that
  - $d_{opt} \leq 2 \cdot \Delta$

This is true for **any** assignment of the edges!

# Lower bound

- We will now prove a **lower bound** for the density of the set produced by the **greedy** algorithm.
- For the lower bound we consider a **specific** assignment of the edges that we create as the greedy algorithm progresses:
  - When removing node  $u$  from  $S$ , **assign** all the edges to  $u$
- So:  $IN(u) = \text{degree of } u \text{ in } S \leq d(S) \leq d_g$
- This is true for **all**  $u$  so  $\Delta \leq d_g$
- It follows that  $d_{opt} \leq 2 \cdot d_g$