Algorithmic Approaches for Analyzing Large Graphs: Sampling, Sketching, Streaming

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• **Big Graphs**

  Social networks, web, call graphs, biological networks... Graphs are a natural way to encode structural information when we have data about both basic entities and their relationships.

  *Can’t use classic algorithms on such graphs.* Often can’t store graph in memory, may be distributed across multiple machines, data may change over time...

What are new “textbook” algorithms for modern massive graphs?
• **Tutorial Goals and Caveats**

Present some new algorithmic primitives for large graphs. Widely applicable technique; try to be platform agnostic. Won’t be comprehensive; will cherry pick illustrative results. Focus on arbitrary graphs rather than specific applications. Won’t focus on proofs but will give basic outline when it helps convey why certain approaches are effective.

• **Resources**

Survey: SIGMOD Record

Tutorial: Slides and Bibliography
http://people.cs.umass.edu/~mcgregor/graphs

Lectures: Ten Lectures on Graph Streams
https://people.cs.umass.edu/~mcgregor/courses/CS711S18/
Overview

- **Part I: Sampling**  Sampling for finding densest subgraphs, small matchings, triangles, spectral properties.
  
  “Different sampling techniques for different problems”

- **Part II: Sketching**  Dimensionality reduction for graph data. Examples include connectivity and cut sparsification.
  
  “Homomorphic compression: sketch first and then run algorithms on the sketched data”

- **Part III: Streaming**  What can you compute in limited memory with only a few passes over the edges.

  “A little inspiration yields a lot less iteration”
Recurring Theme

What’s appropriate notion of lossy compression for graphs?

- If compression is easy, we get faster and more-space efficient algorithms by using existing algorithms on compressed graphs.
Part 1

Sampling

- Uniform Sampling + Densest Subgraph
- Snape Sampling + Matching
- Monochromatic Sampling + Clustering Coefficient
- Edge-Weighted Sampling + Cuts and Sparsification
Part I

Sampling

Uniform Sampling + Densest Subgraph
Snape Sampling + Matching
Monochromatic Sampling + Clustering Coefficient
Edge-Weighted Sampling + Cuts and Sparsification
• Given a graph $G$, the density of a set of nodes $S \subseteq V$ is:

$$D_S = \frac{\text{\# of edges with both endpoints in } S}{\text{\# of nodes in } S}$$

• **Problem** Estimating $D^* = \max_S D_S$ is a basic graph problem with numerous applications. Studied in a variety of models.

> See tutorial Gionis, Tsourakakis [KDD 15]

• **Thm** Sample $\tilde{O}(\varepsilon^{-2} n)$ edges uniformly and find the densest subgraph in sampled graph. Gives a $(1+\varepsilon)$-approx whp.

> McGregor et al. [MFCS 15], Esfandiari et al. [SPAA 16]

> Mitzenmacher et al. [KDD 15]
Why Uniform Sampling Works...

- Essentially sampling each edge w/p $p \approx \varepsilon^{-2}n/m$.
- Let $D'_S$ be density of $S$ in sampled graph.

Chernoff: For each $S$, $D_S = D'_S/p \pm \varepsilon D^*$ w/p $1-n^{-3|S|}$

Union Bound: Bound applies for all $S$ w/p $1-n^{-1}$

- There are $\leq n^k$ subsets of $k$ nodes. So bound fails for some subset of size $k$ w/p $\leq n^k n^{-3k} = n^{-2k}$
- Bound fails for some subset w/p $\leq n^{-2}+n^{-4}+\ldots+n^{-2n} \leq n^{-1}$

So max density of sampled graph gives $1+\varepsilon$ approx.
Part 1

Sampling

Uniform Sampling + Densest Subgraph

**Snake Sampling** + Matching

Monochromatic Sampling + Clustering Coefficient

Edge-Weighted Sampling + Cuts and Sparsification
• **Matching Problem** Find large set of edges such that no two edges share an endpoint.

• How many “samples” are needed to find a matching of size k?

• Sampling uniformly can be very inefficient…

\[ n \gg k/2 \]

\[ k/2 \]
- **SNAPE “Sample Nodes And Pick Edge” Sampling:**
  - Sample each node with probability $1/k$ and delete rest
  - Pick a random edge amongst those that remain.

- **Theorem** If $G$ has max matching size $k$, then $O(k^2 \log k)$ SNAPE samples will include a max matching from $G$.
  
  *Chitnis et al. [SODA 16], Bury et al. [Algorithmica 18]*
Consider a maximum matching $M$ of size $k$ and focus on arbitrary edge $\{u,v\}$ in this matching.

W/p $\Omega(k^{-2})$ $u$ and $v$ only endpoints of $M$ sampled.

Hence, when we pick one of the remaining edges it’s either $\{u,v\}$ or another edge that’s equally useful.

Take $O(k^2 \log k)$ samples; apply analysis to all edges.

Why **SNAPE Sampling** Works...
Part 1

Sampling

Uniform Sampling + Densest Subgraph
Snape Sampling + Matching
Monochromatic Sampling + Clustering Coefficient
Edge-Weighted Sampling + Cuts and Sparsification
Given a graph $G$, the \textit{global clustering coefficient} is

$$\kappa = \frac{3 \times \text{number of triangles}}{\text{number of length 2 paths}}$$

A measure of how much nodes tend to cluster together.

**Monochromatic Sampling** Randomly color each node from a set of colors. Store all edges with monochromatic endpoints. If length-2 path $\{u,v\}, \{v,w\}$ is stored, $\{u,w\}$ also stored if it exists.

**Thm** Can additively estimate $\kappa$ from $\tilde{O}(\sqrt{n})$ samples.

\textit{Pagh, Tsourakakis} [IPL 12], \textit{Jha, Seshadhri, Pinar} [KDD 15]
Proof of Lemma

Let $k = \# \text{ colors and } T_S = \# \text{ triangles sampled.}$

**Edges Sampled:** $mp$

**Expectation:** $E[T_S]=T_p^2$ where $p=1/k$ and $T$ is $\# \text{ triangles}$

**Variance:** Let $W = \# \text{ length 2-paths}$

$$Var[T_S] \leq Tp^2 + 10 \cdot W^{3/2} p^3$$

**Chebyshev Bound:**

$$Pr[|T_S/p^2 - T| > \epsilon W] \leq \frac{Var[T_S]}{\epsilon^2 p^4 W^2} \leq \frac{O(1)}{p \epsilon^2 \sqrt{W}}$$

$k \approx \epsilon^2 \sqrt{(m^2/n)}$ for 0.01 error prob. and $O(\epsilon^{-2} \sqrt{n})$ samples
Part I

Sampling

- Uniform Sampling + Densest Subgraph
- Snape Sampling + Matching
- Monochromatic Sampling + Clustering Coefficient
- Edge-Weighted Sampling + Cuts and Sparsification
• **Defn** A *sparsifier* of graph $G$ is a weighted subgraph $H$ with:

$$\forall \text{ cuts: } \text{“size of cut in } G\text{”} = (1 \pm \varepsilon) \text{“size of cut in } H\text{”}$$

• **Basic Approach** Sample each edge $uv$ with probability $p_{uv}$ and reweight by $1/p_{uv}$. Probabilities depend on edge properties...

• **Thm** If $p_{uv} \approx \varepsilon^{-2}/\lambda_{uv}$ or $p_{uv} \approx \varepsilon^{-2}r_{uv}$ then result is sparsifier with $\tilde{O}(\varepsilon^{-2}n)$ edges. *Fung et al. [STOC 11], Spielman, Srivastava [STOC 08]*

$\lambda_{uv}$ is the min number of edges whose removal disconnects $u$ and $v$

$r_{uv}$ is potential difference when unit of flow injected at $u$ and extracted at $v$

• **Simpler Thm** If min-cut is $\gg \varepsilon^{-2} \log n$ then $p_e = 1/2$ works.
Lemma (Chernoff) Let $k'$ be number of edges that were sampled across some cut of size $k$. Then
\[ \Pr[k' \neq (1 \pm \varepsilon) k/2] \leq \exp(-\varepsilon^2 k/6) \]

Lemma (Karger) The number of cuts with $k$ edges is $< \exp(2k \log n / \lambda)$ where $\lambda$ is size of min-cut.

Result then follows by substituting bound for $\lambda$ and applying union bound over all cuts.
Part II

Sketching

What is sketching?
Surprising connectivity example
Revisiting graph cuts and sparsification
Part II

Sketching

What is sketching?
Surprising connectivity example
Revisiting graph cuts and sparsification
• **Random linear projection** $M: \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^D$ where $D \ll N$ that preserves properties of any $v \in \mathbb{R}^N$ with high probability.

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\end{bmatrix} = [Mv] \rightarrow \text{answer}
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• **Many results** for numerical statistics and geometric properties... extensive theory with connections to hashing, compressed sensing, dimensionality reduction, metric embeddings... widely applicable since parallelizable and suitable for stream processing.

• **Example “$l_0$ Sampling” Sketch** Can be used to sample uniformly from non-zero entries of the vector where $D = \text{polylog}(N)$.

  Jowhari, Saglam, Tardos [PODS 11], Kapralov et al. [FOCS 17]

? **Question** What about analyzing massive graphs via sketches?
Basic Idea for $l_0$ sampling...

- Entry in $i^{th}$ row of $M$ is 1 w/p $2^{-i+1}$. Some entry of $M$ probably corresponds to single entry of $a$.

- How do we know when this happens? How do we know which entry of the vector was isolated?
More Details for $l_0$ sampling...

Take 3 copies of $M$: Replace 1’s in 2nd copy by #col.
Replace 1’s in 3rd copy by $r^{#col}$ where $r$ is random.

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Lemma: With high probability, if $w=r^{v/u}u$ then we've isolated non-zero element in position $v/u$. 
Part II

Sketching

What is sketching?

Surprising connectivity example

Revisiting graph cuts and sparsification
• **Communication Problem** n players each have a list their friends. Simultaneously, they each send a message to a central player who deduces if underlying graph is connected.

• **Thm** $O(\text{polylog } n)$ bit message from each player suffices.

  Ahn, Guha, McGregor [SODA 12]
• *Can’t be possible!* What if there’s a *bridge* \((u,v)\) in the graph, i.e., a friendship that is critical to ensuring the graph is connected.

• It *appears* that at least one player needs to send \(\Omega(n)\) bits.
  - Central player needs to know about the special friendship.
  - Participant doesn’t know which friendships are special.
  - Participants may have \(\Omega(n)\) friends.
• Players send carefully-designed sketches of address books.

• **Homomorphic Compression** Instead of running algorithm on original data, run algorithm on sketched data.
Ingredient 1: Basic Algorithm

Algorithm (Spanning Forest):
- For each node: pick incident edge
- For each connected component: pick incident edge
- Repeat until no edges between connected comp.

Lemma After \(O(\log n)\) rounds selected edges include spanning forest.
For node $i$, let $a_i$ be vector indexed by node pairs. Non-zero entries: $a_{i}[i,j]=1$ if $j>i$ and $a_{i}[i,j]=-1$ if $j<i$.

For any subset of nodes $S \subset V$, non-zero entries of $\sum_{j \in S} a_j$ are edges across cut $(S,V \setminus S)$

Player $j$ sends $M(a_j)$ where $M$ is “$l_0$ sampling” sketch.
Recipe: Sketch & Compute on Sketches

- **Player with Address Books:** Player $j$ sends $M_{aj}$
- **Central Player:** “Runs Algorithm in Sketch Space”
- Use $M_{aj}$ to get incident edge on each node $j$
- For $i=2$ to $\log n$:
  - To get incident edge on component $S \subset V$ use:

$$\sum_{j \in S} M_{aj} = M(\sum_{j \in S} a_j) \rightarrow \text{non-zero elt. of } \sum_{j \in S} a_j = \text{edge across cut}$$

**Detail:** Actually each player sends $\log n$ independent sketches $M_1a_j, M_2a_j, \ldots$ and central player uses $M_i a_j$ when emulating $i^{th}$ iteration of the algorithm.
- **Thm** $O(\text{polylog } n)$ bit message from each player suffices.
- **Extensions** $\tilde{O}(k)$ bit messages for $k$-edge connectivity and $\tilde{O}(k^2)$ bit messages for $k$-node connectivity.
Extending to k-Edge-Connectivity

Algorithm: For i=1 to k:

Let $F_i$ be spanning forest of $G(V,E-F_1-...-F_{i-1})$

Lemma: $F_1+...+F_k$ is k-edge-connected iff $G$ is.

Sketch: Simultaneously construct k independent connectivity sketches $M_1(G)$, $M_2(G)$, ..., $M_k(G)$.

Run Algorithm in Sketch Space:

- Use $M_1(G)$ to find a spanning forest $F_1$ of $G$
- Use $M_2(G)-M_2(F_1)=M_2(G-F_1)$ to find $F_2$
- Use $M_3(G)-M_3(F_1)-M_3(F_2)=M_3(G-F_1-F_2)$ to find $F_3$...

Extension: Can recover a set of “weak” edges whose removal leaves connected components with min-cut > k.
**k-Node-Connectivity**

**Algorithm:**

Let $H_1, H_2, \ldots, H_r$ where $r = k^3 \log n$ and $H_i$ is an induced subgraph on a random set of $n/k$ nodes.

Let $F_i$ be a spanning forest of $H_i$.

**Lemma:** Whp, $F_1 + F_2 + \ldots + F_r$ is $k$-node connected iff $G$ is.

**Sketch:** Construct connectivity sketch for each $H_i$, and use this to find $F_i$. 
Part II

Sketching

What is sketching?
Surprising connectivity example
Revisiting graph cuts and sparsification
• **Thm** $O(\varepsilon^{-2} \text{polylog } n)$ bit messages suffice for central player to construct sparsifier and approx all graph cuts.

  Guha, McGregor, Tench [PODS 15], Kapralov et al. [STOC 14]

• **Main Ideas**
  1. For a graph $G$, can find all edges in small cuts.
  2. For large cuts, suffices to sample edges with prob. $1/2$.
  3. So, sparsifying $G$ reduces to sparsifying sampled graph $G'$.
  4. To sparsify $G'$ recurse… Can do recursion in parallel.
Part III

Streaming

Revisiting Matching
Correlation Clustering
Coloring Graphs
Coverage and Submodular Maximization
Two Main Graph Stream Models

Insert-Only Model: Input is a stream of edges.
Insert-Delete Model: Edge insertions and edge deletions.

Goal: Using small memory, compute properties of the graph.

All the earlier algorithms apply in insert-delete model:
- Maintain sketch $Mx$ where $x$ is characteristic vector of edges.
- When $e$ inserted, update sketch $Mx \leftarrow Mx + (e^{th} \text{ column of } M)$
- When $e$ deleted, update sketch $Mx \leftarrow Mx - (e^{th} \text{ column of } M)$

Mark and Erica are now friends.
• **Results so far:** One-pass dynamic data stream algorithms for:
  a) $1+\varepsilon$ approx of densest subgraph in $\tilde{O}(\varepsilon^{-2}n)$ space.
  b) $1+\varepsilon$ approx of all cuts in $\tilde{O}(\varepsilon^{-2}n)$ space via cut sparsification.
  c) Additive $\varepsilon$ approx of clustering coefficient in $\tilde{O}(\varepsilon^{-2}\sqrt{n})$ space.
  d) Finding matching and vertex cover of size $k$ in $\tilde{O}(k^2)$ space.
  e) $k$-edge connectivity in $\tilde{O}(nk)$ space.
  f) $k$-node connectivity in $\tilde{O}(nk^2)$ space.

• Many of above space bounds can be shown to be optimal via reductions from communication complexity.

• Many other algorithms… some only for edge insertions or use multiple passes or only work for certain types of graphs.
Part III

Streaming

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Coverage and Submodular Maximization
• **Unweighted Matching** Greedy algorithm returns 2-approx using $\tilde{O}(n)$ space. Embarrassingly, this is best known one-pass result!

Approximation Ratios for Weighted Matching

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• **Weighted Matching** $2+\varepsilon$ approx in $\tilde{O}(n/\varepsilon)$ space.
  
  *Paz, Schwartzman [SODA 17], Ghaffari, Wajc [SOSA 19]*

? Improve result for sparse graphs? Graph has **arboricity $\alpha$** if all subgraphs have average degree $< \alpha$. Planar graph has $\alpha=3$. 
**Lemma:** $\text{match}(G)/(2+\alpha) \leq A \leq \text{match}(G)$ where $A$ is total edge weight if each edge $uv$ gets weight

$$x_{uv} = \min\left(\frac{1}{\deg(u) + 1}, \frac{1}{\deg(v) + 1}\right)$$

**Thm:** Can $2+\alpha+\varepsilon$ approximate $\text{match}(G)$ using $\tilde{O}(n^{4/5})$ space:

If $\text{match}(G) \leq n^{2/5}$, can find exactly using earlier algorithm.

Otherwise, evaluate $A$ on random set of $\approx n^{4/5}$ nodes.
Proof of Lemma

- The edge weights are a fractional matching, i.e., for any node $u$:
  \[ \sum_{v \in \Gamma(u)} x_{uv} \leq \sum_{v \in \Gamma(u)} \frac{1}{\deg(u) + 1} < 1 \]

- To prove total weight $\leq \text{match}(G)$: Use Edmond’s matching polytope thm since weight on subgraph of $r$ nodes is $\leq (r-1)/2$.

- To prove total weight $\geq \text{match}(G)/(2+\alpha)$:
  Total weight of edges incident to “high degree” vertices $H$ at least $|H|/(2+\alpha)$ and all other weights are at least $1/(2+\alpha)$.
  Matching size is at most $|H| + “edges not incident to H”$


**Insert-Only Algorithm**

- **Thm** $\alpha + 2 + \varepsilon$ approx of matching size in $O(\text{polylog } n)$ space. Cormode et al. [ESA 17], McGregor, Vorotnikova [SOSA 18]

- **Define** Edge $\{u, v\}$ is special if $\leq \alpha$ edges incident to $u$ and $\leq \alpha$ edges incident to $v$ later than $\{u, v\}$. Let $s$ be the number of special edges.

- **Lemma** $\text{match}(G) \leq s \leq (2 + \alpha)\text{match}(G)$.

- **Proof Ingredients** Graph of special edges has degrees $\leq \alpha + 1$. Low arboricity bounds number of almost special edges.

- **Algorithm** Estimate $s$ up to a factor $1 + \varepsilon$
  
  a) Suppose we have a guess $g$ that is $2$-approximates $s$
  
  b) Sample each edge with probability $\approx \varepsilon^{-2} (\log n)/g$. If you subsequently see $>\alpha$ edges incident to either endpoint, drop the edge.

- Can show a) the current sample size is always small and b) size of final sample and $g$ yields good approx for $s$. 


Final Optimized Algorithm...

1. Initialize $S \leftarrow \emptyset$, $p = 1$, estimate = 0
2. For each edge $e = uv$ in the stream:
   a. With probability $p$ add $e$ to $S$ and initialize counters $c^u_e \leftarrow 0$ and $c^v_e \leftarrow 0$
   b. For each edge $e' \in S$, if $e'$ shares endpoint $w$ with $e$:
      - Increment $c^w_{e'}$
      - If $c^w_{e'} > \alpha$, remove $e'$ and corresponding counters from $S$
   c. If $|S| > 40\varepsilon^{-2} \log n$:
      - $p \leftarrow p/2$
      - Remove each edge in $S$ and corresponding counters with probability $1/2$
   d. estimate $\leftarrow \max(\text{estimate}, |S|/p)$
3. Return estimate

- **Best Case Scenario** You put a lot of work/maths into designing and analyzing an algorithm but the final algorithm is simple.
Part III

Streaming

Revisiting Matching

Correlation Clustering

Coloring Graphs

Coverage and Submodular Maximization
• Consider a complete graph where edges are labelled attractive or repulsive. Given a node partition, an attractive edge is sad if it is cut and a repulsive edge is sad if it is not cut.

• **Correlation Clustering** Find partition minimizing # sad edges.
  See tutorial Bonchi, Garcia-Soriano, Liberty [KDD 14]

• **3-Approx Algorithm** a) Pick random node. b) Form cluster with it and its attracted neighbors. c) Remove cluster from graph and repeat until nodes remain.  
  Ailon, Charikar, Newman [J.ACM 08]
• **Emulating algorithm in two passes:**

  • **Preprocess** Randomly order nodes, \( v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_n \).

  • **First Pass** Store all attractive edges incident to \( \{v_1, \ldots, v_{\sqrt{n}}\} \). Now can emulate first \( \sqrt{n} \) iterations of the algorithm.

  • **Second Pass** Store all remaining attractive edges. Now can emulate remaining steps of the algorithm.

• **Thm** Algorithm uses \( \tilde{O}(n^{1.5}) \) space. \textit{Ahn et al. [ICML 16]}

• **Proof Idea** At most \( n^{1.5} \) edges stored in first pass. In second, pass, can show remaining node have at most \( n^{0.5} \) neighbors.

• With more work, can get \( \tilde{O}(n) \) space with \( O(\log \log n) \) passes. Can also find maximal independent sets.
Part III

Streaming

Revisiting Matching
Correlation Clustering

Coloring Graphs

Coverage and Submodular Maximization
• **Coloring** With min number of colors, assign a color to every node such that no edge has monochromatic endpoints.

![Graph Diagram]

• **Thm** Can color a graph in $\Delta + 1$ colors where $\Delta$ is max degree.

? How can we do this in a few passes with $\tilde{O}(n)$ space?

• $O(\Delta \log \log n)$ passes via independent sets. Let’s do better!
• **(1+\(\epsilon\))\(\Delta\) Coloring**  
a) Randomly color with \(\Delta/r\) colors.  
b) Store edges \(E'\) with monochromatic endpoints.  
c) Shade colors such that \(E'\) edges no longer monochromatic.  

  *Bera, Ghosh [ArXiv 18]*

![Diagram of a graph with edges and nodes colored randomly.]

• **Space Analysis** \(|E'|=O(nr)\) since probability edge in \(E'\) is \(r/\Delta\).

• **Colors Analysis**  
If \(r \approx \epsilon^{-2} \log n\), max degree in \(E'\) is \(\Delta_{E'}<(1+\epsilon)r\) and final number of colors is \((1+\Delta_{E'})\Delta/r=(1+\epsilon)\Delta\).

• **\(\Delta+1\) Coloring Idea**  
For node \(v\), pick \(S_v \subset \{1,\ldots,\Delta+1\}\) of \(O(\log n)\) random colors. May assume \(v\)'s color in \(S_v\).  

  *Assadi et al. [SODA 19]*
Part III

Streaming

Revisiting Matching
Correlation Clustering
Coloring Graphs

Coverage and Submodular Maximization
• **Max-k-Coverage** Given a stream of subsets $S_1, \ldots, S_m$ of $[n]$, find $C$ that maximizes $f(C) = |\bigcup_{i \in C} S_i|$ subject to $|C| \leq k$.

• **Submodular Functions** $f$ is sub-modular if for $A \subset B$ and $x \notin B$,

$$f(A \cup \{x\}) - f(A) \geq f(B \cup \{x\}) - f(B)$$

• **Thm** $(1 - \varepsilon)/2$ approx. of max-coverage in $\tilde{O}(\varepsilon^{-3}k)$ space.

*McGregor, Vu [ICDT 17]*
• **Algorithm** Guess $g$ such that $OPT \leq g \leq (1+\varepsilon)OPT$. Add first $\leq k$ sets that each cover at least $g/(2k)$ new elements.

• **Approx Ratio**

  • If $k$ sets added, we cover $g/2 \geq OPT/2$.

  • If less sets added, each set not added covers $< g/(2k)$ new elements and hence we covered $OPT - g/2 \geq OPT(1 - \varepsilon)/2$.

• **Reducing Space** Above algorithm requires $\tilde{O}(\varepsilon^{-1} OPT)$ space. Can use subsampling to such that $OPT = \tilde{O}(\varepsilon^{-2}k)$.

• **Generalizations** Constant passes for $\approx 1-1/e$ approx. Extends to other monotone submodular function. Other work on non-monotone functions, beyond cardinality constraints, etc.

  *McGregor, Vu [ICDT 17], Bateni et al. [SPAA 17], Assadi [PODS 17]*
Obrigado!