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MA4404 Complex Networks **PageRank**

Learning Outcomes

- Understand how PageRank is an extension of Katz and Eigenvector Centrality to directed graphs.
- Compute PageRank per node.
- Interpret the meaning of the values of PageRank.



Why PageRank?!

- Who knows how PageRank works? Guesses?
- In directed graphs: some in-degrees are zero.
- Fix: Katz centrality used a "free" weight of β
- New problem: should the weight of the following edges be the same:
 - (11, 9), (5, 11), (3, 8)?
- How should we decide on the weight? Think about it while we're going through the slides.





Introduction –web search

- Early search engines mainly compared content similarity of the query and the indexed pages. i.e.,
 - They use information retrieval methods, cosine similarity, TF-IDF, ...
- In the mid 1990's, it became clear that content similarity alone was no longer sufficient.
 - The number of pages grew rapidly in the mid 1990's.
 - How to choose only 30-40 pages and rank them suitably to present to the user?
 - Content similarity is easily spammed.
 - Webpage can repeat words and add related words to boost the rankings of his pages and/or to make the pages relevant to a large number of queries.



Introduction (cont ...)

- Starting around 1996, researchers began to work on the problem. They resorted to hyperlinks.
 - In 1997, Yanhong Li, Scotch Plains, NJ, created a hyperlink based search patent. The method uses **words** in anchor text of hyperlinks.
- Web pages on the other hand are connected through hyperlinks, which carry important information.
 - Some hyperlinks: organize information at the same site (anchors).
 - Other hyperlinks: point to pages from other Web sites. Such out-going hyperlinks often indicate an implicit conveyance of authority to the pages being pointed to.
- Those pages that are pointed to by many other pages are likely to contain authoritative information.



Introduction (cont ...)

- During 1997-1998, two most influential hyperlink based search algorithms PageRank and HITS were published.
- Both algorithms exploit the hyperlinks of the Web to rank pages according to their levels of "prestige" or "authority".
 - HITS (Section 7.5): Prof. Jon Kleinberg (Cornell University), at Ninth Annual ACM-SIAM Symposium on Discrete Algorithms, January 1998. (HITS stands for Hyperlink-Induced Topic Search)
 - PageRank (Section 7.4): Sergey Brin and Larry Page, PhD students from Stanford University, at Seventh International World Wide Web Conference (WWW7) in April, 1998.
- Which one have you heard of? Why?
- HITS is part of the Ask search engine (www.Ask.com).
- PageRank has emerged as the dominant link analysis model
 - due to its query-independence,
 - its ability to combat spamming, and
 - Google's huge business success.



The PageRank Algorithm for WWW





Sergey Brin and Larry Page in 1998

(quitting their PhD programs at Stanford to start Google)

- Invented the PageRank Algorithm to rank the returned key word searches
- PageRank is based on: A webpage is important if it is pointed to by other important pages.
- The algorithm was patented in 2001, and refined since.

PageRank: the intuitive idea



- PageRank relies on the democratic nature of the Web by using its vast link structure as an indicator of an individual page's value or quality.
- PageRank interprets a hyperlink from page *i* to page *j* as a vote, by page *i*, for page *j*.
- However, PageRank looks at more than the sheer number of votes; it also analyzes the page that casts the vote.
 - A vote casted by an "important" page *i* weighs more heavily and helps to make page *j* more "important." (like eigenvector and Katz)
 - Also, the vote of page *i* is shared among the pages that it points to, so page *j* gets a fraction of the vote.
 - How do we find that fraction? Think about it while we're going through the slides



More specifically

- A hyperlink from a page to another page is an implicit transmission of
- authority to the target page.
- ✓ The more in-links that a page *i* receives, the more prestige the page *i* has.
- Pages that point to page *i* also have their own prestige scores.
 - A page of a higher prestige pointing to *i* is more important than a page of a lower prestige pointing to *i*.
 - In other words, a page is important if it is pointed to by other important pages.





The web can be viewed as directed graph

- The nodes or vertices are the web pages.
- The edges are the hyperlinks between websites
- This digraph has more than 10 billion vertices and it is growing every second!
- Google is useful because it ranks these outputs well, not because it finds all relevant pages



http://orleansmarketing.com/web-development1/microsites/#.VMX4xntHEqL

The web at a glance



 $x_i(t) = \sum_i A_{ij} x_j(t-1)$

Computing PageRank

PageRank algorithm

Eigenvector centrality: i's Rank score, x_i, is the sum of the Rank scores x_j of all pages j that adjacent to i:

$$x_i \propto \sum_{(j,i)\in E} x_j$$

• Then Katz centrality adds the teleportation by adding a small weight edge to each node (using a weight of β):

$$x_i = \frac{1}{\lambda_1} \sum_j A_{ij} x_j + \boldsymbol{\beta}$$

 BUT, since a page j may point to many other pages, its prestige score should be shared among these pages.

(For example, NP' main website pointing to many sites)

$$x_i = \alpha \sum_j A_{ij} \frac{x_j}{out \, deg_j} + \beta$$

Matrix notation

- Let x be a n-dimensional column vector of PageRank values, i.e., $x = (x_1, x_2, ..., x_n)^T$.
- Let **A** be the adjacency matrix of our digraph with entries A_{ij}
- Then the PageRank centrality of node *i* is given by:

$$x_i = \alpha \sum_j A_{ij} \frac{x_j}{out \deg j} + \beta$$

$$x = \alpha A D^{-1} x + \beta$$

Where α is the damping factor, generally set for α = .85 (more on the next page).

Recall from eigenvector centrality:

A
$$\mathbf{x}(t) = \lambda_1 \mathbf{x}(t)$$
 or $\mathbf{x}(t) = \frac{1}{\lambda_1} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}(t)$

- Small α values (close to 0): the contribution given by paths longer than one hop is small, so centrality scores are mainly influenced by β (teleportation).
- Large α values (close to $\frac{1}{\lambda_1}$): allows long paths to be devalued smoothly, and centrality scores influenced by the topology of G and less by the teleportation captured by β .
- Recommendation: choose $\alpha \in (0, \frac{1}{\lambda_1})$, where the centrality diverges at $\alpha = \frac{1}{\lambda_1}$. The default is usually .85

Updated Overview

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Quality: what makes a node important (central)	Mathematical Description	Appropriate Usage	Identification
Lots of one-hop connections to high centrality vertices	A weighted degree centrality based on the weight of the neighbors	For example when the people you are connected to matter.	Eigenvector centrality $C_i = \alpha \sum_j A_{ij}C_j$ Where A is the in degree matrix
Lots of one-hop connections to high out-degree vertices	A weighted degree centrality based on the out degree of the neighbors	Directed graphs that are not strongly connected	Katz $C_i = \alpha \sum_j A_{ij}C_j + \beta$ Where β is some small weight for each node
As above but distribute the weight that a node has to the nodes it points to	$\frac{C_j}{out \deg j}$	As above but distributing the wealth of a node to the ones it points to	Page Rank: $C_{i} = \alpha \sum_{j} A_{ij} \frac{C_{j}}{out \deg j} + \beta$ or $x = \alpha AD^{-1}x + \beta 1$

1/2 0 0 1/6 0 0 0 1 0 1/2 1/6 0 1/2 1/2 0 1/3 1/6 0 $AD^{-1} =$ 0 0 0 1/6 1/20 0 0 0 1/3 1/6 1/2 0 0 1/3 1/6 0 0

An example using the Adjacency and Diagonal Matrices

An example as just described:

each column shows the out degree

 $x_{i} = \alpha \sum_{j} A_{ij} \frac{x_{j}}{out \deg j} + \beta$ or $x = \alpha AD^{-1}x + \beta \mathbf{1}$

Recall that the problem with vertices with indegree = 0 was solved by using β .

Is the formula above well defined?

If not, how could we fix the formula or the matrix?

How can we fix the problem?

- 1. Remove those pages with no out-links during the PageRank computation as these pages do not affect the ranking of any other page directly (these pages will get outgoing links in the future).
- 2. Add a complete set of outgoing links from each such page *i* to all the pages on the Web.

How can we fix the out degree = 0?

PR centrality formula is well defined

Transition probability matrix

• This modified AD^{-1} matrix is called the state transition probability matrix. Denote its entries by p_{ii} :

$$\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{D}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} p_{11} & p_{12} & \cdots & p_{1n} \\ p_{21} & p_{22} & \cdots & p_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ p_{n1} & p_{n2} & \vdots & \vdots & p_{nn} \end{pmatrix}$$

- *p_{ij}* represents the transition probability that the surfer in state *i* (page *i*) will move to state *j* (page *j*).
- An extra example in the backup slides of this PPT deck.

Updated Overview

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Lots of one-hop connections to high out-degree vertices	A weighted degree centrality based on the out degree of the neighbors	Directed graphs that are not strongly connected	Katz $C_i = \alpha \sum_j A_{ij}C_j + \beta$ Where β is some small weight for each node
As above but distribute the weight that a node has to the nodes it points to	$\frac{C_j}{out \deg j}$	As above but distributing the wealth of a node to the ones it points to	Page Rank: $C_i = \alpha \sum_j A_{ij} \frac{C_j}{out \deg j} + \beta$ Where outdeg j = max{1, out degree of node j}, or $x = \alpha AD^{-1}x + \beta 1$

Some comments

• Newman's book gives: $x_i = \alpha \sum_j A_{ij} \frac{x_j}{out \, de} + \beta$

where α is called the **damping factor** which can be set to between 0 and 1(or the largest eigenvalue of A).

• And the formula in the original PageRank is:

$$x_i = d \sum_j A_{ij} \frac{x_j}{out \deg j} + (1-d)$$

where *d* is the damping factor (*d* = 0.85 as default)

• Gephi: the default value for β is the **probability** = 0.85 and Epsilon is the criteria for eigenvector convergence based on the power method

Final Points on PageRank

• Fighting spam.

- A page is important if the pages pointing to it are important.
- Since it is not easy for Web page owner to add in-links into his/her page from other important pages, it is thus not easy to influence PageRank.

PageRank is a global measure and is query independent.

 The values of the PageRank algorithm of all the pages are computed and saved off-line rather than at the query time => fast

• Criticism:

- There are companies that can increase your PageRank by adding it to a cluster and increasing its indegree
- It cannot not distinguish between pages that are authoritative in general and pages that are authoritative on the query topic.
 - But it works based on the keyword search

Back up slides: one smaller example

A 4-website Internet

A 4-website Internet

 p_{ij} represents the transition probability that the surfer on page *j* will move to page *i*:

$$\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{D}^{-1} = \left(p_{ij}\right) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1/2 \\ 1/3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1/3 & 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 1/3 & 1/2 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Random surfer: each page has equal probability 1/4 to be chosen as a starting point.

$$\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.25\\ 0.25\\ 0.25\\ 0.25 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{Av} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.37\\ 0.08\\ 0.33\\ 0.20 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{A}^{2} \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{A} (\mathbf{Av}) = \mathbf{A} \begin{pmatrix} 0.37\\ 0.08\\ 0.33\\ 0.20 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.43\\ 0.12\\ 0.27\\ 0.16 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{A}^{3} \mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.35\\ 0.14\\ 0.29\\ 0.20 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{A}^{4} \mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.39\\ 0.11\\ 0.29\\ 0.19 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{A}^{5} \mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.39\\ 0.13\\ 0.28\\ 0.19 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{A}^{6} \mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.38\\ 0.13\\ 0.29\\ 0.19 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{A}^{7} \mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.38\\ 0.12\\ 0.29\\ 0.19 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{A}^{8} \mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.38\\ 0.12\\ 0.29\\ 0.19 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{A} D^{-1} = (p_{ij}) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1/2 \\ 1/3 & 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 1/3 & 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 1/3 & 1/2 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The probability that page *i* will be visited after *k* steps (i.e. the random surfer ending up at page *i*) is equal to i^{th} entry of $A^{k}x$.

the sequences of iterates v, Av, ...,
$$A^k v$$
 tends to the equilibrium value $v^* = \begin{pmatrix} 0.38 \\ 0.12 \\ 0.29 \\ 0.29 \end{pmatrix}$ call this the PageRank vector of our web graph.

Simplification for this example: No β was involved since id *i* > 0, for all *i*