

Inferring Networks and Network Properties from Graph Dynamic Processes

Santiago Segarra

Electrical and Computer Engineering
Rice University
segarra@rice.edu
http://segarra.rice.edu

One World SP Seminar Series, July 16-17, 2020

Network Science





▶ Desiderata: Process, analyze and learn from network data [Kolaczyk09]

Network Science







Clean energy and grid analytics

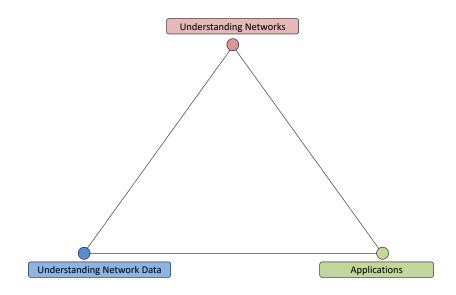


- ▶ Desiderata: Process, analyze and learn from network data [Kolaczyk09]
- Network as graph G: encodes pairwise relationships between agents
- ▶ Interest not only in *G*, also in network data associated with the nodes

Combine Network Science and Signal Processing and Machine Learning to leverage the structure of networks for the better understanding of data defined on them

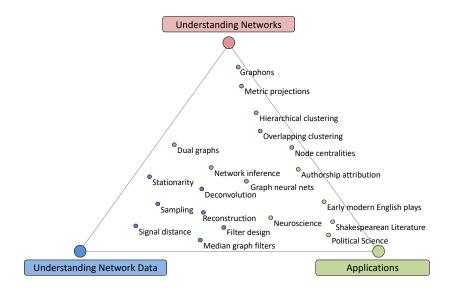
Data Science for Networks





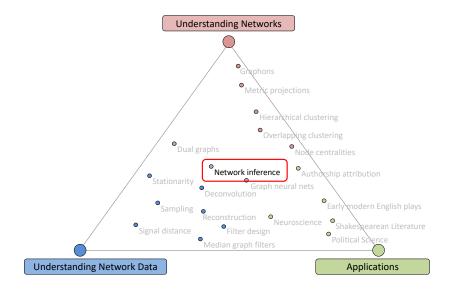
Data Science for Networks





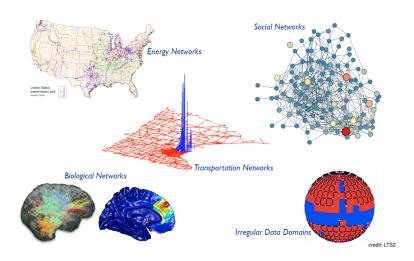
Data Science for Networks





Motivating examples – Graph signals





Santiago Segarra 4/4:

Motivating examples – Processing signals



Interpolate a brain signal from local observations



Compress a signal in

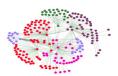
an irregular domain

Localize the





Smooth an observed network profile



Predict the evolution of a network process

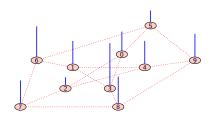


Infer the topology where the signals reside

Graph signals



- ▶ Consider graph $G = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E}, W)$. Graph signals are mappings $x : \mathcal{V} \to \mathbb{R}$ \Rightarrow Defined on the nodes of the graph
- ▶ May be represented as a vector $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N$
 - $\Rightarrow x_i$ denotes the signal value at the *i*-th vertex in \mathcal{V}



$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \vdots \\ x_{10} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.6 \\ 0.7 \\ 0.3 \\ \vdots \\ 0.7 \end{bmatrix}$$

Graph-shift operator



- ▶ Associated with *G* is the graph-shift operator $\mathbf{S} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$
- ▶ S can take nonzero values in the edges of G or in its diagonal
 - \Rightarrow **S** transformation that can be computed locally at the nodes

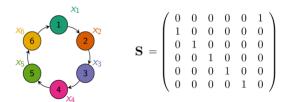
$$\mathbf{S} = \begin{pmatrix} S_{11} & S_{12} & 0 & 0 & S_{15} & 0 \\ S_{21} & S_{22} & S_{23} & 0 & S_{25} & 0 \\ 0 & S_{23} & S_{33} & S_{34} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & S_{43} & S_{44} & S_{45} & S_{46} \\ S_{51} & S_{52} & 0 & S_{54} & S_{55} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & S_{64} & 0 & S_{66} \end{pmatrix}$$

ightharpoonup Ex: Adjacency **A** and Laplacian m L = D - A matrices

Graph-shift operator



- ▶ Associated with *G* is the graph-shift operator $\mathbf{S} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$
- ▶ S can take nonzero values in the edges of G or in its diagonal
 - ⇒ **S** transformation that can be computed locally at the nodes



ightharpoonup Ex: Adjacency **A** and Laplacian m L = D - A matrices

Graph-shift operator



- ▶ Associated with *G* is the graph-shift operator $\mathbf{S} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$
- ▶ S can take nonzero values in the edges of G or in its diagonal
 - \Rightarrow **S** transformation that can be computed locally at the nodes

$$\mathbf{S} = \begin{pmatrix} S_{11} & S_{12} & 0 & 0 & S_{15} & 0 \\ S_{21} & S_{22} & S_{23} & 0 & S_{25} & 0 \\ 0 & S_{23} & S_{33} & S_{34} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & S_{43} & S_{44} & S_{45} & S_{46} \\ S_{51} & S_{52} & 0 & S_{54} & S_{55} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & S_{64} & 0 & S_{66} \end{pmatrix}$$

ightharpoonup Ex: Adjacency **A** and Laplacian m L = D - A matrices



- ▶ Let $S = V \wedge V^{-1}$ be the shift associated with G
- ► The Graph Fourier Transform (GFT) of **x** is defined as

$$\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{V}^{-1}\mathbf{x}$$

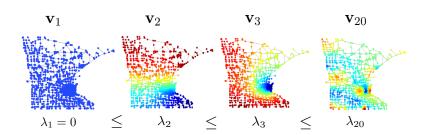
▶ While the inverse GFT (iGFT) of $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$ is defined as $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{V}\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$



- ▶ Let $S = V \wedge V^{-1}$ be the shift associated with G
- ► The Graph Fourier Transform (GFT) of **x** is defined as

$$\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{V}^{-1}\mathbf{x}$$

▶ While the inverse GFT (iGFT) of $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$ is defined as $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{V}\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$



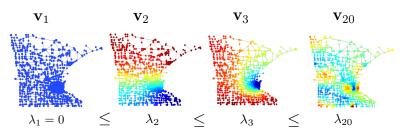


- ▶ Let $S = V \wedge V^{-1}$ be the shift associated with G
- ► The Graph Fourier Transform (GFT) of x is defined as

$$\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{V}^{-1}\mathbf{x}$$

▶ While the inverse GFT (iGFT) of $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$ is defined as $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{V}\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$

$$\mathbf{v}_k^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{v}_k = \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} A_{ij} ([\mathbf{v}_k]_i - [\mathbf{v}_k]_j)^2 = \mathrm{TV}(\mathbf{v}_k)$$



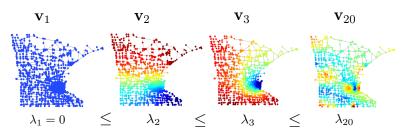


- ▶ Let $S = V \wedge V^{-1}$ be the shift associated with G
- ► The Graph Fourier Transform (GFT) of x is defined as

$$\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{V}^{-1}\mathbf{x}$$

▶ While the inverse GFT (iGFT) of $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$ is defined as $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{V}\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$

$$\lambda_k = \lambda_k \mathbf{v}_k^T \mathbf{v}_k = \mathbf{v}_k^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{v}_k = \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} A_{ij} ([\mathbf{v}_k]_i - [\mathbf{v}_k]_j)^2 = \mathrm{TV}(\mathbf{v}_k)$$



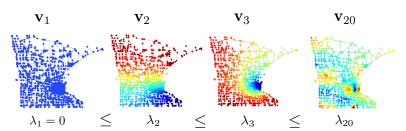


- ▶ Let $S = V \wedge V^{-1}$ be the shift associated with G
- ► The Graph Fourier Transform (GFT) of x is defined as

$$\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{V}^{-1}\mathbf{x}$$

▶ While the inverse GFT (iGFT) of $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$ is defined as $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{V}\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$

$$\lambda_{k} = \lambda_{k} \mathbf{v}_{k}^{T} \mathbf{v}_{k} = \mathbf{v}_{k}^{T} \mathbf{L} \mathbf{v}_{k} = \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} A_{ij} ([\mathbf{v}_{k}]_{i} - [\mathbf{v}_{k}]_{j})^{2} = \mathbf{TV}(\mathbf{v}_{k})$$



Linear (shift-invariant) graph filter



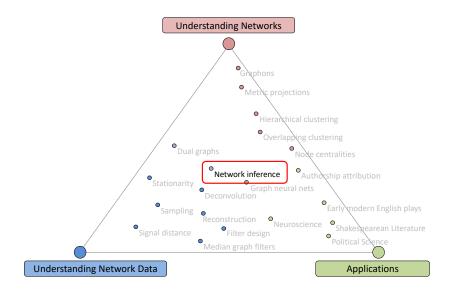
- ▶ A graph filter $H: \mathbb{R}^N \to \mathbb{R}^N$ is a map between graph signals of the form
- ▶ Polynomial in **S** of degree *L*, with coeff. $\mathbf{h} = [h_0, \dots, h_L]^T$ [Sandryhaila-Moura13]

$$\mathbf{H} := h_0 \mathbf{S}^0 + h_1 \mathbf{S}^1 + \ldots + h_L \mathbf{S}^L = \sum_{l=0}^L h_l \mathbf{S}^l$$

▶ If $\mathbf{y} := \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x}$, Def 1 says $\mathbf{y} = \sum_{l=0}^{L} h_l \mathbf{x}^{(l)}$ (shifted versions of \mathbf{x}) $\Rightarrow \mathbf{x}^{(l)} := \mathbf{S}^l \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{S} \mathbf{x}^{(l-1)} \text{ can be found locally and sequentially}$

Network topology inference





Santiago Segarra 10 / 42

Network topology inference and GSP



- Network topology inference from nodal observations [Kolaczyk09]
 - ⇒ Approaches use Pearson correlations to construct graphs [Brovelli04]
 - ⇒ Partial correlations and conditional dependence [Friedman08]
 - \Rightarrow [Banerjee08], [Lake10], [Slawski15], [Meinshausen06], [Karanikolas16]

Network topology inference and GSP



- ► Network topology inference from nodal observations [Kolaczyk09]
 - ⇒ Approaches use Pearson correlations to construct graphs [Brovelli04]
 - ⇒ Partial correlations and conditional dependence [Friedman08]
 - ⇒ [Banerjee08], [Lake10], [Slawski15], [Meinshausen06], [Karanikolas16]
- ► Key in neuroscience [Sporns10]
 - ⇒ Functional net inferred from activity



Network topology inference and GSP



- ► Network topology inference from nodal observations [Kolaczyk09]
 - ⇒ Approaches use Pearson correlations to construct graphs [Brovelli04]
 - ⇒ Partial correlations and conditional dependence [Friedman08]
 - ⇒ [Banerjee08], [Lake10], [Slawski15], [Meinshausen06], [Karanikolas16]
- Key in neuroscience [Sporns10]
 - ⇒ Functional net inferred from activity



- ▶ Most GSP works assume that **S** (hence the graph) is known
 - ⇒ Analyze how the characteristics of **S** affect the signals and filters
- We take the reverse path
 - ⇒ How to use GSP to infer the graph topology? [TSIPN17] [SPMag19]
 - ⇒ [Dong16], [Kalofolias16], [Mei17], [Shen17], [Pasdeloup17], [Egilmez17]

Connecting the dots



- ► Recent tutorials on learning graphs from data
 - ► IEEE Signal Processing Magazine and Proceedings of the IEEE



- ▶ IEEE Trans. on Signal and Information Processing over Networks
 - ► Issue on Network Topology Inference earlier this year

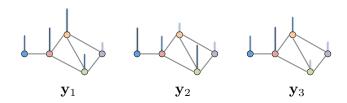
Santiago Segarra 12 / 42

Problem formulation



Setup

- ▶ Undirected network *G* with unknown graph shift **S**
- ▶ Observe signals $\{y_i\}_{i=1}^P$ defined on the unknown graph

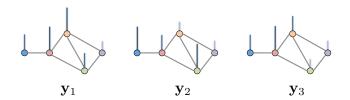


Santiago Segarra 13 / 42



Setup

- ► Undirected network *G* with unknown graph shift **S**
- ► Observe signals $\{y_i\}_{i=1}^P$ defined on the unknown graph



Problem statement

Given observations $\{\mathbf y_i\}_{i=1}^P$, determine the network $\mathbf S$ knowing that $\{\mathbf y_i\}_{i=1}^P$ are outputs of a diffusion process on $\mathbf S$.

Santiago Segarra 13 / 42

Generating structure of a diffusion process



 \triangleright Signal \mathbf{y}_i is the response of a linear diffusion process to input \mathbf{x}_i

$$\mathbf{y}_i = \alpha_0 \prod_{l=1}^{\infty} (\mathbf{I} - \alpha_l \mathbf{S}) \mathbf{x}_i = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \beta_l \mathbf{S}^l \mathbf{x}_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, P$$

⇒ Common generative model, e.g., heat diffusion, consensus

Santiago Segarra 14 / 42

Generating structure of a diffusion process



 \triangleright Signal y_i is the response of a linear diffusion process to input x_i

$$\mathbf{y}_i = \alpha_0 \prod_{l=1}^{\infty} (\mathbf{I} - \alpha_l \mathbf{S}) \mathbf{x}_i = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \beta_l \mathbf{S}^l \mathbf{x}_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, P$$

- ⇒ Common generative model, e.g., heat diffusion, consensus
- ▶ Cayley-Hamilton asserts we can write diffusion as $(L \le N)$

$$\mathbf{y}_i = \left(\sum_{l=0}^{L-1} h_l \mathbf{S}^l\right) \mathbf{x}_i := \mathbf{H} \mathbf{x}_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, P$$

- ⇒ Graph filter **H** is shift invariant [Sandryhaila-Moura'13]
- ⇒ **H** diagonalized by the eigenvectors **V** of the shift operator

Generating structure of a diffusion process



 \triangleright Signal y_i is the response of a linear diffusion process to input x_i

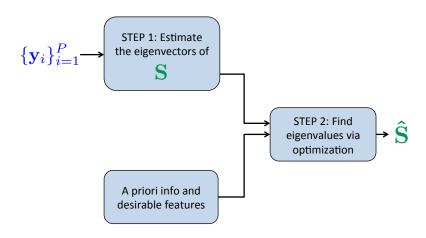
$$\mathbf{y}_i = \alpha_0 \prod_{l=1}^{\infty} (\mathbf{I} - \alpha_l \mathbf{S}) \mathbf{x}_i = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \beta_l \mathbf{S}^l \mathbf{x}_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, P$$

- ⇒ Common generative model, e.g., heat diffusion, consensus
- ▶ Cayley-Hamilton asserts we can write diffusion as $(L \le N)$

$$\mathbf{y}_i = \left(\sum_{l=0}^{L-1} h_l \mathbf{S}^l\right) \mathbf{x}_i := \mathbf{H} \mathbf{x}_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, P$$

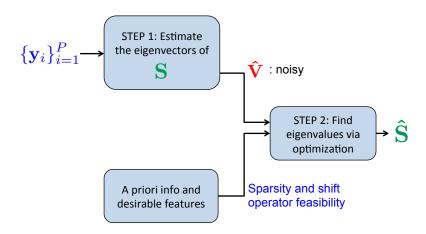
- ⇒ Graph filter **H** is shift invariant [Sandryhaila-Moura'13]
- \Rightarrow **H** diagonalized by the eigenvectors **V** of the shift operator
- ▶ Goal: estimate undirected network **S** from signal realizations $\{y_i\}_{i=1}^P$
 - \Rightarrow Unknowns: filter order L, coefficients $\{h_i\}_{i=1}^{L-1}$, inputs $\{\mathbf{x}_i\}_{i=1}^{P}$





Santiago Segarra 15 / 42





Santiago Segarra 15 / 42

Step 1: Obtaining the eigenvectors of S



y is the output of a local diffusion of a white input

$$\mathbf{y} = \alpha_0 \prod_{l=1}^{\infty} (\mathbf{I} - \alpha_l \mathbf{S}) \mathbf{x} = \left(\sum_{l=0}^{N-1} h_l \, \mathbf{S}' \right) \mathbf{x} := \mathbf{H} \mathbf{x}$$

Step 1: Obtaining the eigenvectors of S



y is the output of a local diffusion of a white input

$$\mathbf{y} = \alpha_0 \prod_{l=1}^{\infty} (\mathbf{I} - \alpha_l \mathbf{S}) \mathbf{x} = \left(\sum_{l=0}^{N-1} h_l \mathbf{S}^l \right) \mathbf{x} := \mathbf{H} \mathbf{x}$$

▶ The covariance C_y of y shares V with S

$$\mathbf{C}_{y} = \mathbf{H}^{2} = h_{0}^{2}\mathbf{I} + 2h_{0}h_{1}\mathbf{S} + h_{1}^{2}\mathbf{S}^{2} + \dots$$

Santiago Segarra 16 / 42

Step 1: Obtaining the eigenvectors of S



y is the output of a local diffusion of a white input

$$\mathbf{y} = \alpha_0 \prod_{l=1}^{\infty} (\mathbf{I} - \alpha_l \mathbf{S}) \mathbf{x} = \left(\sum_{l=0}^{N-1} h_l \mathbf{S}^l \right) \mathbf{x} := \mathbf{H} \mathbf{x}$$

▶ The covariance \mathbf{C}_{y} of \mathbf{y} shares \mathbf{V} with \mathbf{S}

$$\mathbf{C}_y = \mathbf{H}^2 = h_0^2 \mathbf{I} + 2h_0 h_1 \mathbf{S} + h_1^2 \mathbf{S}^2 + \dots$$

- ▶ Mapping $S \rightarrow C_y$ is polynomial
 - \Rightarrow Correlation methods \Rightarrow $\mathbf{C}_{\nu} = \mathbf{S}$
 - \Rightarrow Precision methods (graphical Lasso) \rightarrow $\mathbf{C}_{v} = \mathbf{S}^{-1}$
 - \Rightarrow Structural EM methods \Rightarrow $\mathbf{C}_y = (\mathbf{I} \mathbf{S})^{-2}$

Step 2: Convex recovery of the eigenvalues



- ► Use extra knowledge/assumptions to find the eigenvalues
 - ⇒ Of all graphs, select one that is optimal in some sense

$$\mathbf{S}_0^* := \underset{\mathbf{S}, \lambda}{\operatorname{argmin}} \ \|\mathbf{S}\|_0 \quad \text{ s. to } \mathbf{S} = \sum_{k=1}^N \lambda_k \mathbf{v}_k \mathbf{v}_k^T, \ \mathbf{S} \in \mathcal{S}$$

Set S contains all admissible scaled adjacency matrices

$$S := \{ S \mid S_{ij} \ge 0, S \in M^N, S_{ii} = 0, \sum_j S_{1j} = 1 \}$$

Step 2: Convex recovery of the eigenvalues



- ► Use extra knowledge/assumptions to find the eigenvalues
 - ⇒ Of all graphs, select one that is optimal in some sense

$$\mathbf{S}_0^* := \underset{\mathbf{S}, \lambda}{\operatorname{argmin}} \ \|\mathbf{S}\|_0 \quad \text{ s. to } \ \mathbf{S} = \sum_{k=1}^N \lambda_k \mathbf{v}_k \mathbf{v}_k^T, \ \mathbf{S} \in \mathcal{S}$$

► Set S contains all admissible scaled adjacency matrices

$$S := \{ S \mid S_{ij} \ge 0, S \in M^N, S_{ii} = 0, \sum_{j} S_{1j} = 1 \}$$

▶ Non-convex problem, relax to ℓ_1 -norm minimization, e.g., [Tropp06]

$$\mathbf{S}_1^* := \underset{\mathbf{S}, \lambda}{\operatorname{argmin}} \ \|\mathbf{S}\|_1 \quad \text{ s. to } \ \mathbf{S} = \sum_{k=1}^N \lambda_k \mathbf{v}_k \mathbf{v}_k^T, \ \mathbf{S} \in \mathcal{S}$$

▶ Does the solution S_1^* coincide with the ℓ_0 solution S_0^* ?

Recovery guarantee for ℓ_1 relaxation



- ▶ Define $\mathbf{W} := \mathbf{V} \odot \mathbf{V}$
- ▶ Build $\mathbf{M} := (\mathbf{I} \mathbf{W} \mathbf{W}^{\dagger})_{\mathcal{D}^c}$ the orthogonal projector onto $\mathrm{range}(\mathbf{W})$
 - \Rightarrow Construct $\mathbf{R} := [\mathbf{M}, \ \mathbf{e}_1 \otimes \mathbf{1}_{N-1}]$
 - \Rightarrow Denote by \mathcal{K} the indices of the support of $\mathbf{s}_0^* = \text{vec}(\mathbf{S}_0^*)$
 - S_1^* and S_0^* coincide if the two following conditions are satisfied:
 - 1) $rank(\mathbf{R}_{\mathcal{K}}) = |\mathcal{K}|$; and
 - 2) There exists a constant $\delta > 0$ such that

$$\psi_{\mathbf{R}} := \|\mathbf{I}_{\mathcal{K}^c} (\delta^{-2} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{R}^T + \mathbf{I}_{\mathcal{K}^c}^T \mathbf{I}_{\mathcal{K}^c})^{-1} \mathbf{I}_{\mathcal{K}}^T \|_{\infty} < 1.$$

- ► Cond. 1) ensures uniqueness of solution S₁*
- ▶ Cond. 2) guarantees existence of a dual certificate for ℓ_0 optimality

Recovery guarantee for ℓ_1 relaxation

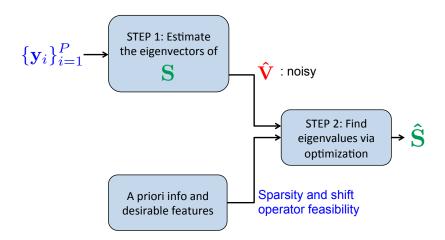


- \triangleright Define W:=V \odot V
- ▶ Build $M := (I WW^{\dagger})_{\mathcal{D}^c}$ the orthogonal projector onto $\operatorname{range}(W)$
 - \Rightarrow Construct $R := [M, e_1 \otimes 1_{N-1}]$
 - \Rightarrow Denote by \mathcal{K} the indices of the support of $\mathbf{s}_0^* = \text{vec}(\mathbf{S}_0^*)$
 - S_1^* and S_0^* coincide if the two following conditions are satisfied:
 - 1) $rank(\mathbf{R}_{\mathcal{K}}) = |\mathcal{K}|$; and
 - 2) There exists a constant $\delta > 0$ such that

$$\psi_{\mathbf{R}} := \|\mathbf{I}_{\mathcal{K}^c} (\delta^{-2} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{R}^T + \mathbf{I}_{\mathcal{K}^c}^T \mathbf{I}_{\mathcal{K}^c})^{-1} \mathbf{I}_{\mathcal{K}}^T \|_{\infty} < 1.$$

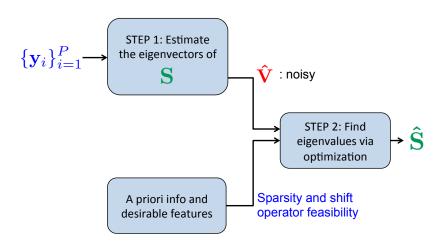
- ► Cond. 1) ensures uniqueness of solution S₁*
- ▶ Cond. 2) guarantees existence of a dual certificate for ℓ_0 optimality





Robust shift identification





- ▶ Q1: How to modify the optimization problem to make it robust?
- ▶ Q2: Recovery guarantees in this robust setting?

Noisy eigenvectors



- \blacktriangleright We might have access to $\hat{\mathbf{V}}$, a noisy version of the eigenvectors
- With $d(\cdot, \cdot)$ denoting a (convex) distance between matrices

$$\min_{\{\mathbf{S}, \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \hat{\mathbf{S}}\}} \|\mathbf{S}\|_1 \quad \text{s. to} \quad \hat{\mathbf{S}} = \sum_{k=1}^N \lambda_k \hat{\mathbf{v}}_k \hat{\mathbf{v}}_k^T, \quad \mathbf{S} \in \mathcal{S}, \quad d(\mathbf{S}, \hat{\mathbf{S}}) \leq \epsilon$$

▶ How does the noise in $\hat{\mathbf{V}}$ affect the recovery?

Noisy eigenvectors



- \blacktriangleright We might have access to $\hat{\mathbf{V}}$, a noisy version of the eigenvectors
- \blacktriangleright With $d(\cdot, \cdot)$ denoting a (convex) distance between matrices

$$\min_{\{\mathbf{S}, \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \hat{\mathbf{S}}\}} \|\mathbf{S}\|_1 \quad \text{s. to} \quad \hat{\mathbf{S}} = \sum_{k=1}^N \lambda_k \hat{\mathbf{v}}_k \hat{\mathbf{v}}_k^T, \quad \mathbf{S} \in \mathcal{S}, \quad d(\mathbf{S}, \hat{\mathbf{S}}) \leq \epsilon$$

- ► How does the noise in $\hat{\mathbf{V}}$ affect the recovery?
- ► Conditions 1) and 2) but based on $\hat{\mathbf{R}}$, guaranteed

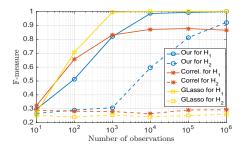
$$d(\mathbf{S}^*, \mathbf{S}_0^*) \leq C\epsilon$$

- $\Rightarrow \epsilon$ large enough to guarantee feasibility of S_0^*
- \Rightarrow Constant C depends on $\hat{\mathbf{V}}$ and the support \mathcal{K}

Performance comparisons



- ► Comparison with graphical lasso and sparse correlation methods
 - \triangleright Evaluated on 100 realizations of ER graphs with N=20 and p=0.2



- ► Graphical lasso implicitly assumes a filter $\mathbf{H}_1 = (\rho \mathbf{I} + \mathbf{S})^{-1/2}$
 - ⇒ For this filter our method works, but not as well
- ► For general diffusion filters **H**₂ our method still works fine

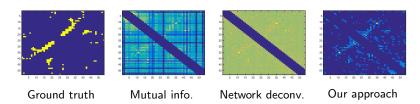
Inferring the structure of a protein



- Our method can be used to sparsify a given network
 - ⇒ Keep direct and important edges or relations
 - ⇒ Discard indirect relations that can be explained by direct ones
- \blacktriangleright Use eigenvectors $\hat{\mathbf{V}}$ of given network as noisy eigenvectors of \mathbf{S}

Ex: Infer contact between amino-acid residues in BPT1 BOVIN

⇒ Use mutual information of amino-acid covariation as input

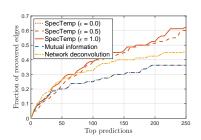


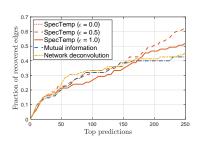
- ► Network deconvolution assumes a specific filter model [Feizi13]
 - ⇒ We achieve better performance by being agnostic to this

Sensitivity of recovered edges

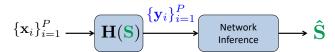


- ► Sensitivity of the top edge predictions
 - ⇒ Fraction of the real contact edges recovered
- ightharpoonup For $\epsilon = 0$ we force **S** to be mutual information matrix **S**'
- \blacktriangleright For larger values of ϵ , we get a better recovery

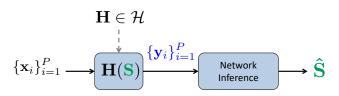






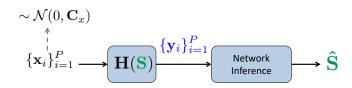






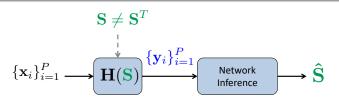
▶ Prior knowledge on the filter class [Segarra et al'17] [Zhu et al'20]





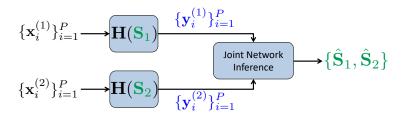
- ▶ Prior knowledge on the filter class [Segarra et al'17] [Zhu et al'20]
- ► Colored inputs to the diffusion process [Shafipour et al'17, '19]





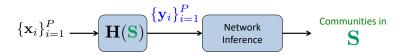
- ▶ Prior knowledge on the filter class [Segarra et al'17] [Zhu et al'20]
- ► Colored inputs to the diffusion process [Shafipour et al'17, '19]
- ► Inference for directed graphs [Shafipour et al'18]





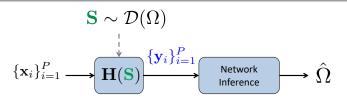
- ▶ Prior knowledge on the filter class [Segarra et al'17] [Zhu et al'20]
- ► Colored inputs to the diffusion process [Shafipour et al'17, '19]
- ► Inference for directed graphs [Shafipour et al'18]
- ▶ Joint inference of multiple networks [Segarra et al'17]





- ▶ Prior knowledge on the filter class [Segarra et al'17] [Zhu et al'20]
- ► Colored inputs to the diffusion process [Shafipour et al'17, '19]
- ▶ Inference for directed graphs [Shafipour et al'18]
- ▶ Joint inference of multiple networks [Segarra et al'17]
- ▶ Recovering the community structure [Wai'18,'19] [Roddenberry'20]

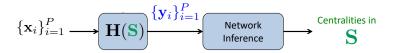




- ▶ Prior knowledge on the filter class [Segarra et al'17] [Zhu et al'20]
- ► Colored inputs to the diffusion process [Shafipour et al'17, '19]
- ▶ Inference for directed graphs [Shafipour et al'18]
- ▶ Joint inference of multiple networks [Segarra et al'17]
- ► Recovering the community structure [Wai'18,'19] [Roddenberry'20]

► Estimating the graph model coefficients [Schaub et al'20]





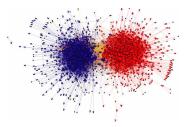
- ▶ Prior knowledge on the filter class [Segarra et al'17] [Zhu et al'20]
- ► Colored inputs to the diffusion process [Shafipour et al'17, '19]
- ▶ Inference for directed graphs [Shafipour et al'18]
- ▶ Joint inference of multiple networks [Segarra et al'17]
- ► Recovering the community structure [Wai'18,'19] [Roddenberry'20]
- ► Estimating the graph model coefficients [Schaub et al'20]
- ► Recovering the node centralities [Roddenberry et al'20] [He at al'20]

What if we have low-rank data?



▶ Low-rankness is a prevalent feature in graph signals / network data

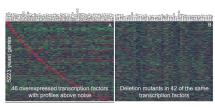
Social network data / opinion:



► Polarization is common in social networks' opinions

▶ Bad news: oftentimes we do not have full-rank data

Gene network data:



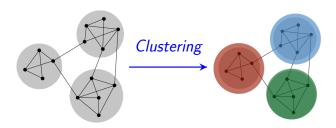
[Chua et al., PNAS, 2006]

Number of experiments available is limited due to time and labor cost.

Community detection



Remedy: relax the goal of learning the whole graph

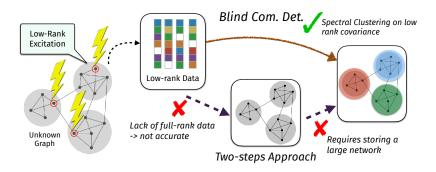


- Understanding the community structure gives a macroscopic (or reduced resolution) view of the graph
 - ⇒ useful for network analysis and influence maximization
- ► Typical approach requires **perfect knowledge** of the graph

Blind community detection



► A **Blind Community Detection** method to detect communities from graph signals without learning/storing the graph itself





Given observations $\{\mathbf{y}_i\}_{i=1}^P$, determine the communities in G when: (AS1) $\{\mathbf{y}_i\}_{i=1}^P$ are the outputs of a low-rank diffusion on G



Given observations $\{\mathbf{y}_i\}_{i=1}^P$, determine the communities in G when: (AS1) $\{\mathbf{y}_i\}_{i=1}^P$ are the outputs of a low-rank diffusion on G

$$\mathbf{y} = \sum_{\ell=0}^{L} h_{\ell} \mathbf{S}^{\ell} \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{S}) \mathbf{w}$$



Given observations $\{\mathbf{y}_i\}_{i=1}^P$, determine the communities in G when: (AS1) $\{\mathbf{y}_i\}_{i=1}^P$ are the outputs of a low-rank diffusion on G

$$\mathbf{y} = \sum_{\ell=0}^{L} h_{\ell} \mathbf{S}^{\ell} \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{S}) \mathbf{w}$$

$$\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{Bz}, \ \mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times R}, \ R \ll N.$$



Given observations $\{\mathbf{y}_i\}_{i=1}^P$, determine the communities in G when: (AS1) $\{\mathbf{y}_i\}_{i=1}^P$ are the outputs of a low-rank diffusion on G

$$\mathbf{y} = \sum_{\ell=0}^{L} h_{\ell} \mathbf{S}^{\ell} \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{S}) \mathbf{w}$$

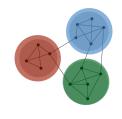
$$\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{Bz}, \ \mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times R}, \ R \ll N.$$

- Additional unknowns:
- ▶ The filter \mathbf{H} ⇒ Unknown L and $\{h_\ell\}_{\ell=0}^L$
- ► Tall matrix B
- ▶ Input $z \Rightarrow Assume statistical knowledge <math>\mathbb{E}[zz^\top] = I$

Quick review of spectral clustering



- ▶ Undirected graph $G = (V, E, \mathbf{A})$
- ▶ Let $V = C_1 \cup \cdots \cup C_K$ with $C_k \cap C_{k'} = \emptyset, k \neq k'$.
- ► "Best" clustering is achieved by minimizing:



$$\mathsf{RatioCut}(\mathcal{C}_1,...,\mathcal{C}_K) := \sum_{k=1}^K \frac{1}{|\mathcal{C}_k|} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{C}_k} \sum_{i \in \overline{\mathcal{C}}_k} A_{ij}$$

► Spectral clustering tackles it via low rank approximation —

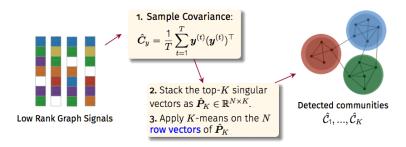
Let $\mathbf{S} := \mathrm{Diag}(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{1}) - \mathbf{A}$ be the *graph Laplacian*, and $\mathbf{V}_K \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times K}$ as the collection of its smallest K singular vectors. Perform K-means to:

$$\min_{\mathcal{C}_1,...,\mathcal{C}_K} F(\mathcal{C}_1,...,\mathcal{C}_K) := \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{j \in \mathcal{C}_k} \left\| \left. \mathbf{v}_i^{ ext{row}} \right| - \frac{1}{|\mathcal{C}_k|} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{C}_k} \left\| \mathbf{v}_j^{ ext{row}} \right\|_2^2,$$

where $\mathbf{v}_{i}^{\text{row}}$ is the *i*th row vector of \mathbf{V}_{K} .

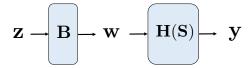


Blind Community Detection (BlindCD):

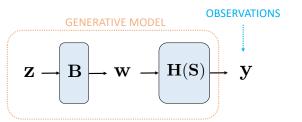


- A blind method as the graph and graph filter are unknown.
- ▶ If $\hat{\mathbf{P}}_K$ spans the same subspace as \mathbf{V}_K , then BlindCD is accurate.

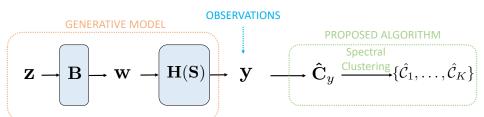




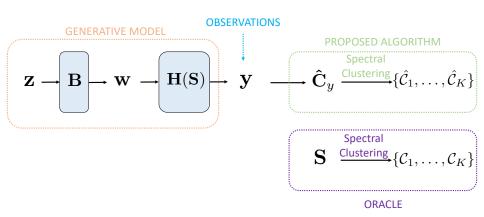




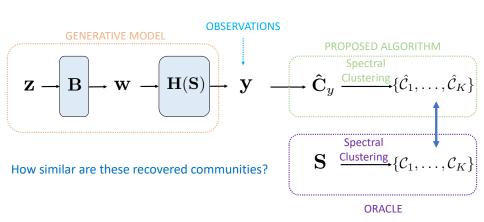












Building up some intuition



- ▶ Recall: Spectral clustering require the smallest *K* eigenvectors of **S**
- ▶ Specifically, we want V_K from $V := (V_K \ V_{N-K})$ [recall $S = V\Lambda V^{\top}$].
- ightharpoonup Under the low-rank model, $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{Bz}$, we have

$$\boldsymbol{C}_{\boldsymbol{y}} = \boldsymbol{H}\boldsymbol{B}\boldsymbol{B}^{\top}\boldsymbol{H}^{\top} = \boldsymbol{V}\big(\mathrm{Diag}(\tilde{\boldsymbol{h}})\big)(\boldsymbol{V}^{\top}\boldsymbol{B})(\boldsymbol{B}^{\top}\boldsymbol{V})\big(\mathrm{Diag}(\tilde{\boldsymbol{h}})\big)\boldsymbol{V}^{\top}$$

▶ Intuitively, the singular vectors \mathbf{V}_K are in \mathbf{C}_V if

$$\operatorname{rank}(\boldsymbol{V}_{K}^{\top}\boldsymbol{B})=K,\ \boldsymbol{V}_{N-K}^{\top}\boldsymbol{B}\approx\boldsymbol{0}$$

$$\tilde{h}_i \begin{cases} \neq 0 &, i = 1, ..., K, \\ \approx 0 &, i \geq K + 1. \end{cases}$$

Low-pass graph filters



Definition: a graph filter is said to be (K, η) -low pass if

$$\left| \frac{\tilde{h}_{K+1}}{\tilde{h}_{K}} \right| \leq \left| \eta \right| < 1, \quad \tilde{h}_{1} \geq \tilde{h}_{2} \geq \cdots \geq \tilde{h}_{N} \geq 0,$$

where $\tilde{h}_i := [\sum_{\ell=0}^{L-1} h_\ell \mathbf{\Lambda}^\ell]_{ii}$, i=1,...,N.

- ▶ An ideal low-pass graph filter have $\eta = 0$.
- **► Example 1** consensus dynamics

$$\mathbf{H}_1(\mathbf{S}) = (\mathbf{I} - \alpha \mathbf{S})^{L-1} \Longrightarrow \eta = \left(\frac{1 - \alpha \lambda_{K+1}}{1 - \alpha \lambda_K}\right)^{L-1}.$$

► Example 2 — steady-state of DeGroot dynamics

$$\mathbf{H}_2(\mathbf{S}) = (\mathbf{I} + c^{-1}\mathbf{S})^{-1} \Longrightarrow \eta = \frac{1 + c^{-1}\lambda_K}{1 + c^{-1}\lambda_{K+1}}.$$

Theoretical guarantee of BlindCD



- ► Recall $F(C_1, ..., C_K) := \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{i \in C_k} \| \mathbf{v}_i^{\text{row}} \frac{1}{|C_k|} \sum_{j \in C_k} \mathbf{v}_j^{\text{row}} \|_2^2$.
- ▶ Let $F^* := \min_{\mathcal{C}_1,...,\mathcal{C}_K} F(\mathcal{C}_1,...,\mathcal{C}_K)$ and $\hat{\mathcal{C}}_1,...,\hat{\mathcal{C}}_K$ be the communities found by BlindCD, we have:

Under some conditions (e.g., $\|\mathbf{C}_{y} - \hat{\mathbf{C}}_{y}\|$ is small, $R \geq K$), we have

$$\sqrt{F(\hat{\mathcal{C}}_1,...,\hat{\mathcal{C}}_K)} - \sqrt{F^\star} \leq \sqrt{8K} \left(\sqrt{\frac{\gamma^2}{1+\gamma^2}} + \frac{\|\mathbf{C}_y - \hat{\mathbf{C}}_y\|_2}{\delta} \right),$$

where
$$\gamma \leq \|\boldsymbol{\eta} \cdot \|\mathbf{V}_{N-K}^{\top} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{Q}_K \|_2 \cdot \|(\mathbf{V}_K^{\top} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{Q}_K)^{-1} \|_2$$

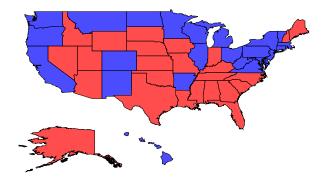
and \mathbf{Q}_K is a set of K orthogonal vectors.

- ► The error of BlindCD is decomposed into two parts
 - ► Non-ideal low-pass graph filter and mismatch between V_K, B.
 - ▶ Due to **insufficient samples** in covariance estimation.

United States Senate data



- ► Rollcall data from the 110-114th congress of the US Senate (2007-2017)
- ▶ Infer partition of the network of n = 50 states of USA
- ightharpoonup *i*-th rollcall data is mapped into a graph signal $\mathbf{y}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{50}$



United States Senate data



- ► Rollcall data from the 110-114th congress of the US Senate (2007-2017)
- ▶ Infer partition of the network of n = 50 states of USA
- ightharpoonup *i*-th rollcall data is mapped into a graph signal $\mathbf{y}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{50}$





- ► GSP approach to network inference in the graph spectral domain
 - ⇒ Two step approach: i) Obtain V; ii) Estimate S given V
- ► How to obtain the spectral templates **V**
 - ⇒ Based on covariance of diffused signals
 - ⇒ Other sources: network operators, network deconvolution



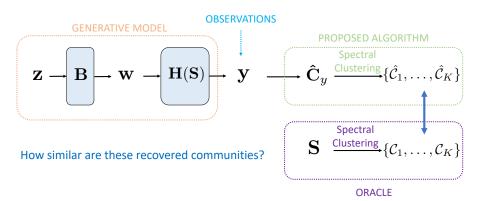
- ► GSP approach to network inference in the graph spectral domain
 - ⇒ Two step approach: i) Obtain V; ii) Estimate S given V
- ► How to obtain the spectral templates V
 - ⇒ Based on covariance of diffused signals
 - ⇒ Other sources: network operators, network deconvolution
- ► Infer S via convex optimization
 - ⇒ Objectives promote desirable physical properties
 - ⇒ Constraints encode a priori information on structure
 - ⇒ Robust formulations for noisy (and incomplete) templates



- ▶ Whenever recovering the whole graph is not feasible
 - ⇒ What can data tell us about the graph?
 - ⇒ Try to recover coarser features ⇒ Communities

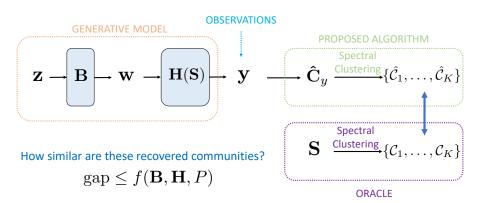


- ▶ Whenever recovering the whole graph is not feasible
 - ⇒ What can data tell us about the graph?
 - ⇒ Try to recover coarser features ⇒ Communities





- ▶ Whenever recovering the whole graph is not feasible
 - ⇒ What can data tell us about the graph?
 - \Rightarrow Try to recover coarser features \Rightarrow Communities





Thank you

Antonio Marques (K. Juan Carlos)

Gonzalo Mateos (U. Rochester)

Hoi-To Wai (CUHK)

Asuman Ozdaglar (MIT)

Michael Schaub (RWTH Aachen)

Yuhao Wang (MIT)

Yu Zhu (Rice)

Alejandro Ribeiro (UPenn)

Rasoul Shafipour (U. Rochester)

Anna Scaglione (ASU)

Ali Jadbabaie (MIT)

John Tsitsiklis (MIT)

Caroline Uhler (MIT)

T. Mitchell Roddenberry (Rice)

References: Journal papers (1)



- ► H. T. Wai, S. Segarra, A. E. Ozdaglar, A. Scaglione and A. Jadbabaie, "Blind Community Detection from Low-rank Excitations of a Graph Filter," *IEEE Trans. Signal Process.*, vol. 68, pp. 436 451, 2020.
- Y. Zhu, M. T. Schaub, A. Jadbabaie and S. Segarra, "Network Inference from Consensus Dynamics with Unknown Parameters," *IEEE Trans. Signal and Info. Process. over Networks*, vol. 6, pp. 300-315, 2020.
- M. T. Schaub, S. Segarra and J. N. Tsitsiklis, "Blind Identification of Stochastic Block Models from Dynamical Observations," SIAM J. Math. Data Science (SIMODS), vol. 2, no. 2, pp. 335–367, 2020.
- ► G. Mateos, S. Segarra, A. G. Marques and A. Ribeiro, "Connecting the Dots: Identifying Network Structure via Graph Signal Processing," *IEEE Signal Process. Magazine*, vol. 36, no. 3, pp. 16-43, May 2019.

References: Journal papers (2)



- S. Segarra, A. G. Marques, G. Mateos and A. Ribeiro, "Network Topology Inference from Spectral Templates," *IEEE Trans. Signal and Info. Process.* over Networks, vol. 3, no. 3, pp. 467-483, Sept. 2017.
- R. Shafipour, S. Segarra, A. G. Marques and G. Mateos, "Identifying the Topology of Undirected Networks from Diffused Non-stationary Graph Signals," arXiv:1801.03862, 2020. (Under review OJSP)
- ► T. M. Roddenberry, M. T. Schaub, H. T. Wai and S. Segarra, "Exact Blind Community Detection from Signals on Multiple Graphs", arXiv:2001.10944, 2020. (Under review TSP)

References: Conference papers (1)



- ► T. M. Roddenberry and S. Segarra, "Blind Inference of Centrality Rankings from Graph Signals", *IEEE Intl. Conf. Acoust., Speech and Signal Process.* (*ICASSP*), pp. 5335-5339, Barcelona, Spain, May 4-8, 2020.
- M. T. Schaub, S. Segarra and H.T. Wai, "Spectral Partitioning of Time-Varying Networks with Unobserved Edges," *IEEE Intl. Conf. Acoust.*, *Speech and Signal Process. (ICASSP)*, pp. 4938-4942, Brighton, UK, May 12-17, 2019.
- R. Shafipour, S. Segarra, A. G. Marques and G. Mateos, "Directed Network Topology Inference via Graph Filter Identification," *IEEE Data Science Workshop*, pp. 210-214, Lausanne, Switzerland, June 4-6, 2018.
- ► H. T. Wai, S. Segarra, A. E. Ozdaglar, A. Scaglione and A. Jadbabaie, "Community Detection from Low-rank Excitations of Graph Filters," *IEEE Intl. Conf. Acoust., Speech and Signal Process. (ICASSP)*, pp. 4044-4048, Calgary, Canada, April 15-20, 2018.

References: Conference papers (2)



- R. Shafipour, S. Segarra, A. G. Marques and G. Mateos, "Identifying Undirected Network Structure via Semidefinite Relaxation," *IEEE Intl. Conf. Acoust., Speech and Signal Process. (ICASSP)*, pp. 4049-4053, Calgary, Canada, April 15-20, 2018.
- S. Segarra, Y. Wang, C. Uhler and A. G. Marques, "Joint Inference of Networks from Stationary Graph Signals," *Asilomar Conference on Signals,* Systems, and Computers, pp. 975-979, Pacific Grove, CA, October 29 – November 1, 2017.
- R. Shafipour, S. Segarra, A. G. Marques and G. Mateos, "Network Topology Inference from Non-Stationary Graph Signals," *IEEE Intl. Conf. Acoust.*, *Speech and Signal Process. (ICASSP)*, pp. 5870-5874, New Orleans, USA, March 5-9, 2017.
- ► T. M. Roddenberry and S. Segarra, "Blind Estimation of Eigenvector Centrality from Graph Signals: Beyond Low-pass Filtering", *Asilomar* Conference on Signals, Systems, and Computers, 2020. (submitted)