



# Graphs in Machine Learning

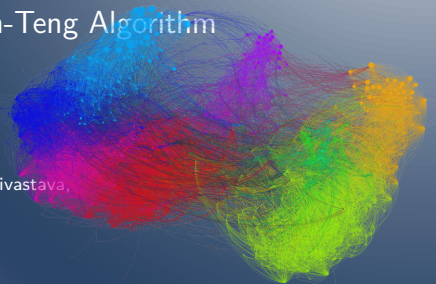
## Spectral Graph Sparsifiers: Theory

Effective Resistance and Spielman-Teng Algorithm

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*Inria & ENS Paris-Saclay, MVA*

Partially based on material by: Rob Fergus, Nikhil Srivastava,  
Yiannis Koutis, Joshua Batson, Daniel Spielman



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As a consequence,  $\arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \|\mathbf{L}_H \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}\| \approx \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \|\mathbf{L}_G \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}\|$

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- a single pass over the data

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Laplacian smoothing (denoising): given  $\mathbf{y} \triangleq \mathbf{f}^* + \xi$  and  $G$  compute

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↳ accuracy guarantees! [sadhanala2016graph]

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Need to approximate spectrum only up to regularization level  $\lambda$



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## Definition

An  $(\varepsilon, \gamma)$ -sparsifier of  $G$  is a reweighted subgraph  $H$  s.t.

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- large (i.e.  $\geq \gamma$ ) directions reconstructed accurately
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RLA → Graph: Improve over  $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$  exploiting regularization

Graph → RLA: Exploit  $\mathbf{L}_G$  structure for fast  $(\varepsilon, \gamma)$ -sparsification

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Let us consider unweighted graphs:  $w_{ij} \in \{0, 1\}$

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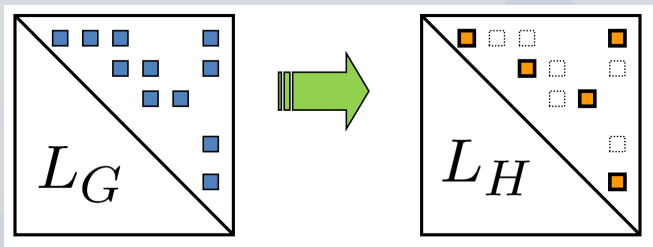
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Then  $\sum_{e \in E} s_e \mathbf{v}_e \mathbf{v}_e^\top \approx \mathbf{I} \iff \sum_{e \in E} s_e \mathbf{a}_e \mathbf{a}_e^\top \approx \mathbf{A}$

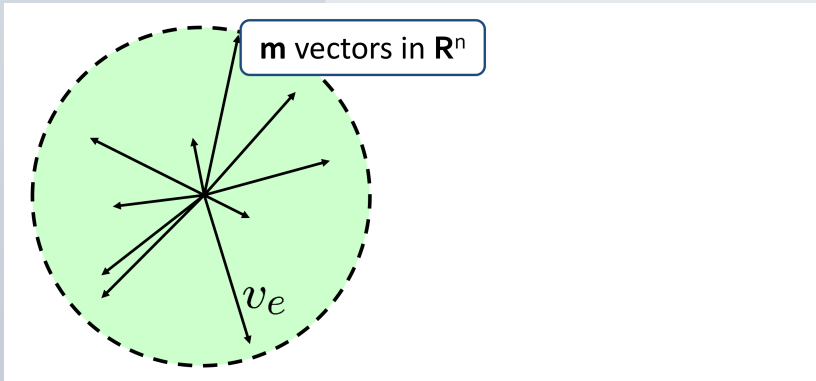
multiplying by  $\mathbf{A}^{1/2}$  on both sides

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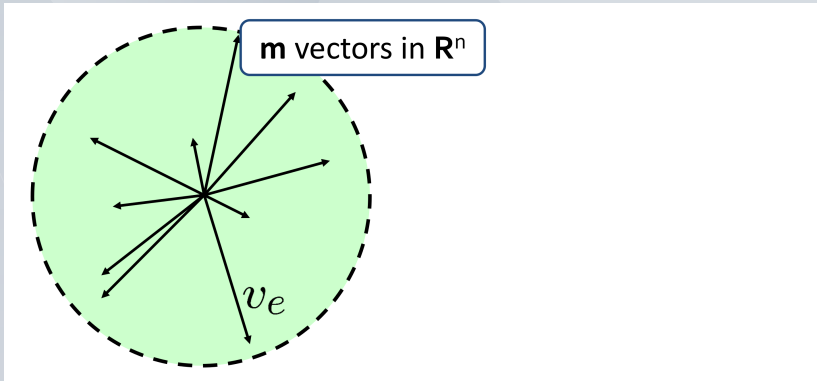
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moment ellipse is a sphere

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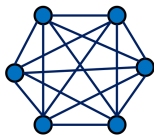
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Example: What happens with  $K_n$ ?

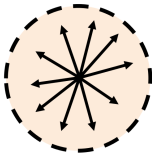
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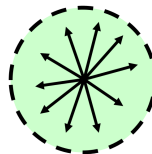
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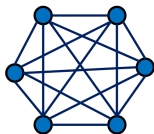




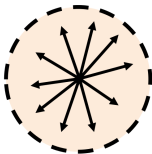
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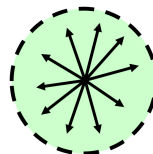
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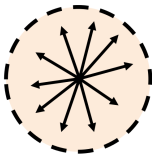
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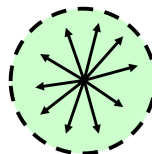
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It is already isotropic! (looks like a sphere)

rescaling  $\mathbf{v}_e = \mathbf{L}^{-1/2} \mathbf{b}_e$  does not change the shape

<https://math.berkeley.edu/~nikhil/>

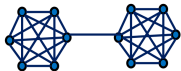
# Spectral Graph Sparsification: Intuition

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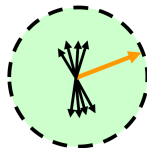
Dumbbell



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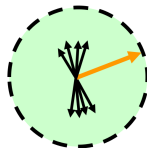
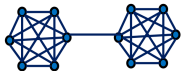
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The vector corresponding to the link gets stretched!

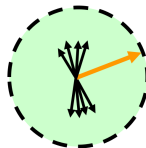
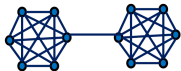
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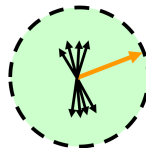
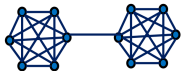
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The vector corresponding to the link gets stretched!

because this transformation makes all the directions important

rescaling reveals the vectors that are critical

<https://math.berkeley.edu/~nikhil/>

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