Semi-supervised Learning with Random Walks on Graphs

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## Main Ideas

- **Goal**: Adaptation to (structured) patterns with minimal human feedback (labels)
  - Most of data around is unlabeled
  - Labeling is expensive
- **Solution**: Semi Supervised learning
  - Labeled examples are provided in the beginning
    - Provide initial bias
  - Unlabeled examples come as available
- Approach: Graph based inference with max-margin learning

#### Semi-supervised learning



#### Structured data



With sequences we have dependencies between  $\mathbf{y}_i$  and  $\mathbf{y}_{i+1}$ 

#### INPUT X



## Overview

- Graph based inference
- Offline Learning
- Online Learning
  - Face Recognition
- Max Margin graph cuts
- Structured Learning
  - Handwriting Recognition
- Online Learning
  - Object Recognition

# Graph-based Semi-Supervised Learning



# Graph-based Semi-Supervised Learning



# Harmonic Function Solution (HFS)

• Labels of unlabeled vertices are inferred using the harmonic function solution



#### **Regularized HFS**

$$\boldsymbol{\ell}^* = \arg\min_{\boldsymbol{\ell}} \boldsymbol{\ell}^{\mathsf{T}} (\boldsymbol{\gamma}_g \boldsymbol{I} + \boldsymbol{L}) \boldsymbol{\ell}$$
  
s.t.  $\ell_i = y_i$  for all  $i \in l;$ 



### Regularization



## Online HFS

**Inputs:** an example x<sub>t</sub>, a data adjacency graph W



**Outputs:** a prediction  $\hat{y}_t$ , an updated data adjacency graph W

## Online HFS

**Inputs:** an example x<sub>t</sub>, a data adjacency graph W

Algorithm:

If the graph W has more than M vertices, quantize it Add  $x_t$  to the graph W and compute the Laplacian L Infer labels on the graph:  $\min_{\lambda \in \Re^N} \lambda^T (L + \gamma_g I) \lambda \quad \text{s.t. } \lambda_i = y_i \text{ for all } i \in l$ 

**Outputs:** a prediction  $\hat{y}_t$ , an updated data adjacency graph W

## Quantizing Data Adjacency Graphs

• Preferably a strategy that minimizes the error:

 $\|\lambda_{u} - \lambda'_{u}\| = \|(L_{uu} + \gamma_{g}I)^{-1}W_{ul}\lambda_{l} - (L'_{uu} + \gamma_{g}I)^{-1}W'_{ul}\lambda_{l}\|$ 

where W and W' are quantized and complete data adjacency graphs, respectively, and L and L' are the corresponding graph Laplacians

- We merge the two most similar vertices in the graph W and increase the multiplicity of the new vertex
- The harmonic function solution on the quantized graph can be computed in O(M<sup>3</sup>) instead of O(t<sup>3</sup>)

#### **Theoretical Guarantees**

• We seek a regret bound of the form:



• The errors should be bounded on the order of  $O(\sqrt{N})$ 

#### Experiments

 Face recognition of 3 people (roughly 1,500 faces) on a 60-second video from ILS Open House 2008



#### **Experimental Results**

- SVMs with RBFs misclassify 18 percent of faces
- Online HFS reduces the error to 7 percent



# Video(s)

Go to Structured learning?

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#### Max Margin Graph Cuts



$$\min_{f} \sum_{i \in l} V(f, \mathbf{x}_i, y_i) + \gamma \left\| f \right\|_K^2$$

decision boundary

#### Max Margin Graph Cuts



$$\begin{split} \min_{f} & \sum_{i:|\ell_{i}^{*}| \geq \varepsilon} V(f, \mathbf{x}_{i}, \operatorname{sgn}(\ell_{i}^{*})) + \boldsymbol{\gamma} \|f\|_{K}^{2} \\ \text{s.t.} & \boldsymbol{\ell}^{*} = \arg\min_{\boldsymbol{\ell}} \boldsymbol{\ell}^{\mathsf{T}}(\boldsymbol{\gamma}_{g}I + L)\boldsymbol{\ell} \\ & \text{s.t.} & \boldsymbol{\ell}_{i} = y_{i} \text{ for all } i \in l; \end{split}$$



## Theory

• With enough correctly inferred labels we can generalize well.

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{RISK} \\ R_P(f) \\ \leq \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i:|\ell_i^*| \geq \varepsilon} \mathcal{L}(f(\mathbf{x}_i), \operatorname{sgn}(\ell_i^*)) + \frac{\varepsilon N_{\varepsilon}}{N} + \\ \\ \sqrt{\widehat{R}_T(\boldsymbol{\ell}^*)} \\ \text{GRAPH RISK} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{l} \text{Figure 1} \\ \text{Figure 2} \\ \text{Fi$$

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#### Structured Graph Cuts



 Huge number of possible structured labels

#### BREAK – INFER – SYNCHRONIZE



## BREAK – INFER – SYNCHRONIZE



 Synchronization for sequences is done using Viterbi algorithm

# Max Margin Markov Networks

Augment M<sup>3</sup>N learning with unlabeled structured data



Maximum Margin Markov Networks (Taskar '03)

## Offline experiments

- Handwriting Recognition 26 way classification
- Letter: 16x8 pixels
- 7K words, 50K letters





Letter K

## 'Synchronizing' structured labels

skiing

$$P_{\gamma} = 0.28 P_{G} = 0.13$$



• S-K-I-I-N-G



Last letter of the word SKIING 29

#### Results

#### (supervised vs. semi-supervised error rates)



#### Results

#### (structured vs. unstructured error rates)

