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COMMUNITY DETECTION IN CENSORED HYPERGRAPH

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Abstract: Community detection refers to the problem of clustering the nodes of a network (either graph or hypergraph) into groups. Various algorithms are available for community detection and all these methods apply to uncensored networks. In practice, a network may have censored (or missing) values and it is shown that censored values have non-negligible effect on the structural properties of a network. In this paper, we study community detection in censored m -uniform hypergraph from an information-theoretic point of view. We derive the information-theoretic threshold for exact recovery of the community structure. Besides, we propose a polynomial-time algorithm to exactly recover the community structure up to the threshold. The proposed algorithm consists of a spectral algorithm plus a refinement step. It is also interesting to study whether a single spectral algorithm without refinement achieves the threshold. To this end, we also explore the semi-definite relaxation algorithm and analyze its performance.

Key words and phrases: Community detection, Information-theoretic threshold,

Censored hypergraph, Exact recovery.

1. Introduction

Many complex data sets can be modelled as a network of items (nodes).

One of the most popular topic in network data mining is to understand which items are similar to each other. Community detection refers to the problem of clustering the nodes of network into groups based on similarity. Community detection is widely used in analysis of social networks (Goldenberg et al. (15); Zhao et al. (41)), protein-to-protein interaction networks ((8)), image segmentation ((36)) and so on. Existing literature in community detection can be roughly classified into two categories: (1) derive information-theoretic threshold for recovering the community structure ((2; 30; 31; 7; 9; 18; 39)); (2) devise efficient algorithms to recover the community structure ((11; 12; 28; 29; 22; 38; 4; 5; 17; 14; 37; 42; 25; 20)). See (1; 6) for more references. All these methods apply to uncensored networks.

In practice, network data may have censored or missing values. For example, in social network, non-response of actors can cause missingness of ties ((21; 13)); in MRI network, missingness may be due to the high cost involved with PET scanning ((27)). Missing values have non-negligible effects on the structural properties of a network ((21; 35)). Most existing

algorithms for community detection apply to uncensored networks. A natural question is how to recover communities in a censored network. As far as we know, (3) is the first to deal with community detection in censored graph and obtains the information-theoretic threshold for exact recovery of communities. Recently, (9) shows spectral algorithm without refinement step can exactly recover the community structure in censored graph up to the information-theoretic threshold.

Many complex networks in the real world can be formulated as hypergraphs, where hyperedge is used to model higher-order interaction among individuals((10; 33; 34; 32; 16; 11)). For example, in folksonomy network, an hyperedge may represent a triple (user, resource, annotation) structure ((16)); in coauthorship networks, the coauthors of a paper form a hyperedge((10; 33; 34; 32)). Hypergraph learning with missing values has recently attracted much attention in literature ((19; 26; 27)). In this paper, we are interested in detecting communities in censored hypergraphs. It is not immediately clear how the sharp threshold obtained by ((9)) changes in the censored hypergraph case. This motivates us to study this problem. Our contributions are summarized as follows. We derive the information-theoretic threshold for exact recovery of community struture in censored hypergraph. Interestingly, the threshold is generally larger than that in

1.1 The censored hypergraph block model

the graph case. In this sense, community detection in censored hypergraph is harder than in censored graph. Besides, we propose a polynomial-time algorithm that can exactly recover the community structure up to the information-theoretic threshold. The proposed algorithm consists of a spectral algorithm plus a refinement step. It is also interesting to study whether a single spectral algorithm without refinement can achieve the threshold as in the censored graph case (9). To this end, we study the semi-definite relaxation algorithm and provide a sufficient condition for the algorithm to achieve exact recovery.

1.1 The censored hypergraph block model

For a positive integer n , let $\mathcal{V} = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ denote a set of nodes and \mathcal{E} be a set of subsets of \mathcal{V} . The pair $\mathcal{H}_m = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$ is called an *undirected* m -uniform hypergraph if $|e| = m$ for every $e \in \mathcal{E}$. That is, each element $e \in \mathcal{E}$ (called hyperedge) contains exactly m distinct nodes. The hypergraph \mathcal{H}_m can be represented as a m -dimensional symmetric array $A = (A_{i_1, \dots, i_m}) \in \{0, 1\}^{\otimes n^m}$, where $A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 1$ if $\{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_m\}$ is a hyperedge and $A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 0$ otherwise. Besides, $A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = A_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_m}$ if $\{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_m\} = \{j_1, j_2, \dots, j_m\}$. In this paper, self-loop is not allowed, that is, $A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 0$ if $|\{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_m\}| < m$. When $m = 2$, \mathcal{H}_2 is

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just the usual graph that has been widely used in community detection problems ((1)). A hypergraph is said to be random if elements of the adjacency tensor are random. Throughout this paper, we focus on hypergraph generated from the Censored m -uniform Hypergraph Stochastic Block Model (CHSBM) $\mathcal{H}_m(n, p, q, \alpha)$ defined below.

Definition 1.1 (Censored m -uniform Hypergraph Stochastic Block Model (CHSBM)). Each node $i \in \mathcal{V}$ is randomly and independently assigned a label σ_i with

$$\mathbb{P}(\sigma_i = +1) = \mathbb{P}(\sigma_i = -1) = \frac{1}{2}.$$

Let $\sigma = (\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n)^T$ be a column vector of labels, $I_+(\sigma) = \{i | \sigma_i = +1\}$ and $I_-(\sigma) = \{i | \sigma_i = -1\}$. The nodes in $I_+(\sigma)$ and $I_-(\sigma)$ constitute two communities. The distinct nodes i_1, i_2, \dots, i_m form a hyperedge with probability p if $\{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_m\}$ is a subset of $I_+(\sigma)$ or $I_-(\sigma)$ and q otherwise. Each hyperedge status is revealed independently with probability α . The hyperedge of the resulting hypergraph takes value in $\{1, 0, *\}$, where $*$ means a hyperedge is censored or missing (the hyperedge status is not revealed). This model is denoted as $\mathcal{H}_m(n, p, q, \alpha)$.

Each hyperedge in $\mathcal{H}_m(n, p, q, \alpha)$ with $\alpha < 1$ has three status: 1 (present), 0 (absent) or $*$ (censored or missing). When $\alpha = 1$, the hypergraph is uncensored and $\mathcal{H}_m(n, p, q, 1)$ is just the usual hypergraph stochastic block

1.2 Summary of main result

model ((11; 12; 7; 24; 22; 39)). The Censored Stochastic Block Model $CSBM(p, q, \alpha)$ studied in ((9)) corresponds to $\mathcal{H}_2(n, p, q, \alpha)$. Throughout this paper, we assume $p, q \in (0, 1)$ are fixed constants, $p > q$ and $\alpha = \frac{t \log n}{n^{m-1}}$ for some constant $t > 0$. The reason for considering the $\frac{\log n}{n^{m-1}}$ order of α is: this is the smallest order that exact recovery is possible. Please see Theorem 2.1 and Theorem 2.2.

1.2 Summary of main result

Given a hypergraph A generated from $\mathcal{H}_m(n, p, q, \alpha)$, community detection refers to the problem of recovering the unknown true label vector σ , or equivalently, identifying the sets $I_+(\sigma)$ and $I_-(\sigma)$. We say an estimator $\hat{\sigma}$ is an exact recovery of σ or $\hat{\sigma}$ exactly recovers σ or $\hat{\sigma}$ achieves exact recovery if

$$\mathbb{P}(\exists s \in \{\pm 1\} : \hat{\sigma} = s\sigma) = 1 - o(1).$$

That is, the estimator $\hat{\sigma}$ is equal to σ or $-\sigma$ with probability $1 - o(1)$. If there exists an estimator $\hat{\sigma}$ that exactly recovers σ , we say exact recovery is possible. Otherwise, we say exact recovery is impossible.

For $m = 2$, (9) establishes the sharp information-theoretic threshold for exact recovery. The authors show that spectral algorithm can exactly recover the true label without refinement step. It is not immediately clear

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how $m \geq 3$ changes the threshold for exact recovery. More importantly, the spectral method in ((9)) can not be straightforwardly extended to $m \geq 3$, since the spectral analysis of tensor is still not well developed.

In this paper, we focus on $m \geq 3$ and derive the sharp information-theoretic threshold for exact recovery. Define $I_m(p, q)$ as

$$I_m(p, q) = \frac{2^{m-1}(m-1)!}{(\sqrt{p} - \sqrt{q})^2 + (\sqrt{1-p} - \sqrt{1-q})^2}.$$

Theorem 2.1 shows that the maximum likelihood estimator (MLE) does not coincide with the true label with probability $1 - o(1)$ if $t < I_m(p, q)$. Theorem 2.2 says that MLE succeeds with probability $1 - o(1)$ if $t > I_m(p, q)$. For efficient algorithms, we propose a spectral algorithm plus refinement step that can achieve exact recovery up to the information-theoretic threshold, see Theorem 2.3. Finally, we prove in Theorem 2.4 that the semidefinite relaxation algorithm can exactly recover the true label under mild conditions. The following Table 1 summarizes our main results. For $m = 2, 3$ and $q = 0.2$, Figure 1 displays the region in which exact recovery is impossible (red region) and the region where exact recovery is possible (green region). Interestingly, with fixed q , the red region of $m = 3$ contains that of $m = 2$ as a proper subset. In this sense, exact recovery gets harder as m increases. For fixed q, m , $I_m(p, q)$ decreases as p goes to one, hence exact recovery becomes easier.

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Table 1: *Regions for exact recovery.*

Region	Exact Recovery
(a) $t < I_m(p, q)$	Exact recovery is impossible
(b) $t > I_m(p, q)$	Exact recovery is possible

1.2 Summary of main result

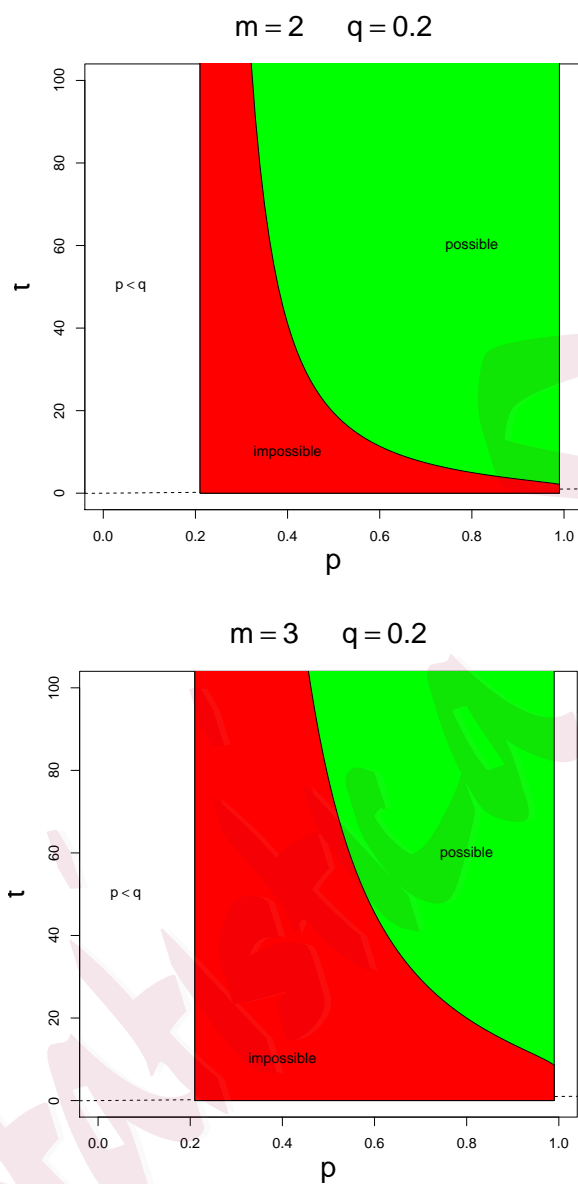


Figure 1: *Regions for exact recovery with $m = 2, 3$ and $q = 0.2$. Red: exact recovery is impossible. Green: exact recovery is possible.*

Throughout this paper, we adopt the Bachmann-Landau notation $o(1), O(1)$.

For two positive sequences a_n, b_n , we write $a_n \sim b_n$ if $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = 1$. Denote $a_n \asymp b_n$ if $0 < c_1 \leq \frac{a_n}{b_n} \leq c_2 < \infty$ for constants c_1, c_2 . Denote $a_n \gg b_n$ or $b_n \ll a_n$ if $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = \infty$. For a square matrix M , $\|M\|$ denotes the operator norm of M and $M \succeq 0$ means M is symmetric and positive semidefinite. Define $\langle M, N \rangle = \sum_{i,j} M_{ij}N_{ij}$.

2. Main Results

In this section, we present information theoretic threshold for exact recovery on the censored hypergraph stochastic block model. Firstly, we use the maximum likelihood method to show that exact recovery is impossible if $t < I_m(p, q)$. Then we prove that MLE can exactly recover the true label if $t > I_m(p, q)$. Combining these two results yields the sharp information-theoretic threshold for exact recovery. This threshold provides a benchmark for developing practical recovery algorithms. Since the time complexity of MLE is not polynomial in n , we propose a polynomial-time algorithm that achieves exact recovery if $t > I_m(p, q)$.

2.1 Sharp threshold for exact recovery

In this subsection, we derive a sharp phase transition threshold for exact recovery. The first result specifies a sufficient condition for impossibility of

2.1 Sharp threshold for exact recovery

exact recovery.

Theorem 2.1. For each fixed integer $m \geq 2$, if $t < I_m(p, q)$, then $\mathbb{P}(\hat{\sigma} = \sigma) = o(1)$ for any estimator $\hat{\sigma}$. Here $I_m(p, q)$ is defined as

$$I_m(p, q) = \frac{2^{m-1}(m-1)!}{(\sqrt{p} - \sqrt{q})^2 + (\sqrt{1-p} - \sqrt{1-q})^2}. \quad (2.1)$$

Theorem 2.1 states that any estimator can not exactly recover the true label if $t < I_m(p, q)$. For $m = 2$, $I_2(p, q)$ is just $t_c(p, q)$ in ((9)). Our result can be considered as a nontrivial extension of Theorem 2.1 in ((9)). Interestingly, with fixed p, q , the region $t < I_2(p, q)$ is smaller than $t < I_m(p, q)$ for $m \geq 3$. Similar phenomenon exists in exact recovery of community in uncensored hypergraph stochastic block model ((24)). However, this phenomenon significantly differs from that in hypothesis testing for communities. For example, (40) derived the sharp boundary for testing the presence of a dense subhypergraph. When the number of nodes in the dense subhypergraph is not too small, the region where any test is asymptotically powerless for $m = 2$ is larger than $m \geq 3$.

The next result shows that the threshold $I_m(p, q)$ is actually sharp for exact recovery.

Theorem 2.2. For each fixed integer $m \geq 2$, if $t > I_m(p, q)$ with $I_m(p, q)$ defined in (2.1), then the maximum likelihood estimator exactly recovers

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the true label with probability $1 - o(1)$.

By Theorem 2.2, if $t > I_m(p, q)$, the true label can be exactly recovered by the maximum likelihood estimator. Combining Theorem 2.1 and Theorem 2.2, we get the sharp boundary $t = I_m(p, q)$ for exact recovery, which is a surface in \mathbb{R}^3 . For illustration, we visualize the regions $t > I_m(p, q)$ and $t < I_m(p, q)$ with $q = 0.2$ and $m = 2, 3$ in Figure 1. The red region represents $t < I_m(p, 0.2)$ where exact recovery is impossible. The green region corresponds to $t > I_m(p, 0.2)$ where exact recovery is possible. Clearly, the green region for $m = 3$ is smaller than $m = 2$. In this sense, exact recovery gets harder as m increases.

2.2 Efficient algorithm for exact recovery

Since the time complexity of MLE is not polynomial in n , we propose an efficient algorithm to reconstruct the two communities up to the information theoretic threshold. The algorithm starts with a random splitting of the hypergraph A into two parts. Then a spectral algorithm is applied to the first part, followed by a refinement based on the second part. We describe the algorithm in the following three steps.

In the first step, we randomly split the hypergraph A into two parts. Denote $M_m = \{(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_m) \mid 1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_m \leq n\}$. Let S_1 be a

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random subset of M_m obtained by including each element of M_m in S_1 with probability $\frac{\log \log n}{\log n}$. Let S_2 be the compliment of S_1 in M_m , that is, $S_2 = M_m - S_1$. Define a hypergraph \tilde{A} as

$$\tilde{A}_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = \begin{cases} \mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 1], & \{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_m\} \in S_1, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Here $\mathbb{1}[E]$ is the indicator function of event E . Define hypergraph \bar{A} as

$$\bar{A}_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = \begin{cases} A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m}, & \{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_m\} \in S_2, \\ *, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then hypergraph A is randomly divided into two independent hypergraphs \tilde{A} and \bar{A} .

In the second step, we apply the weak recovery algorithm HSC in ((4)) to \tilde{A} . The HSC algorithm proceeds by converting hypergraph \tilde{A} to a $n \times n$ similarity matrix B by $B_{ij} = \sum_{1 \leq i_3 < i_4 < \dots < i_m \leq n} \tilde{A}_{ij i_3 i_4 \dots i_m}$ and then applying geometric 2-clustering to the top 2 eigenvectors of B to output the communities $\tilde{I}_+(\sigma)$ and $\tilde{I}_-(\sigma)$. The sampling probability $\frac{\log \log n}{\log n}$ in the first step makes sure the hyeredge probability of \tilde{A} has order $\frac{\log \log n}{\log n} \alpha = \frac{t \log \log n}{n^{m-1}}$ (Here the $\log \log n$ factor can be replaced by any a_n with $a_n \rightarrow \infty$). According to Theorem 1 of (4), $n - o(n)$ of the nodes are correctly labelled by HSC with probability $1 - o(1)$.

The last step is to refine the communities $\tilde{I}_+(\sigma)$ and $\tilde{I}_-(\sigma)$ based on \bar{A} .

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For a set $S \subset [n]$, define $e(i, S)$ as

$$e(i, S) = \sum_{\substack{i_2, \dots, i_m \in S \setminus \{i\} \\ i_2 < \dots < i_m}} \left(\log \left(\frac{p}{q} \right) \mathbb{1}[\bar{A}_{ii_2 \dots i_m} = 1] + \log \left(\frac{1-p}{1-q} \right) \mathbb{1}[\bar{A}_{ii_2 \dots i_m} = 0] \right).$$

For each node $i \in \tilde{I}_+(\sigma)$, flip the label of i if

$$e(i, \tilde{I}_+(\sigma)) < e(i, \tilde{I}_-(\sigma)).$$

For each node $j \in \tilde{I}_-(\sigma)$, flip the label of j if

$$e(j, \tilde{I}_-(\sigma)) < e(j, \tilde{I}_+(\sigma)).$$

Let $\hat{I}_+(\sigma)$ and $\hat{I}_-(\sigma)$ be the resulting communities. If $|\hat{I}_+(\sigma)| \neq |\tilde{I}_+(\sigma)|$, output $\tilde{I}_+(\sigma)$ and $\tilde{I}_-(\sigma)$; otherwise output $\hat{I}_+(\sigma)$ and $\hat{I}_-(\sigma)$.

The above algorithm is summarized in Algorithm 1.

Theorem 2.3. For each fixed integer $m \geq 2$, if $t > I_m(p, q)$ with $I_m(p, q)$ defined in (2.1), then Algorithm 1 exactly recovers the true label with probability $1 - o(1)$.

Note that the time complexity of Algorithm 1 is at most $O(n^m)$. Specifically, the random splitting in Step 1 and refinement in Step 3 have time complexity at most $O(n^m)$. In Step 2, the weak recovery algorithm HSC in Ahn et al. (2018) has time complexity $O(n^m)$ (see comments below Remark 1 of (4)). Hence, Theorem 2.3 states that the information theoretic threshold can be attained by an algorithm with polynomial time complexity.

2.2 Efficient algorithm for exact recovery

Algorithm 1: Spectral algorithm plus refinement for exact recovery

1: **Input:** A censored m -uniform hypergraph A generated from

$$\mathcal{H}_m(n, p, q, \alpha).$$

2: **Step 1: random splitting.**

Randomly select elements in

$$M_m = \{(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_m) \mid 1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_m \leq n\} \text{ with probability}$$

$$\frac{\log \log n}{\log n} \text{ to form a subset } S_1 \subset M_m \text{ and let } S_2 = M_m - S_1.$$

Construct hypergraph \tilde{A} as $\tilde{A}_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = \mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 1]$, if

$i_1, i_2, \dots, i_m \in S_1$ and $\tilde{A}_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 0$ otherwise. Construct

hypergraph \bar{A} as $\bar{A}_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m}$ if $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_m \in S_2$ and

$\bar{A}_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = *$ otherwise.

3: **Step 2: spectral algorithm.**

Apply the weak recovery algorithm HSC in (4) to \tilde{A} and denote

the community output as $\tilde{I}_+(\sigma), \tilde{I}_-(\sigma)$.

4: **Step 3: refinement.**

Flip the label of $i \in \tilde{I}_+(\sigma)$ if $e(i, \tilde{I}_+(\sigma)) < e(i, \tilde{I}_-(\sigma))$.

Flip the label of $j \in \tilde{I}_-(\sigma)$ if $e(j, \tilde{I}_-(\sigma)) < e(j, \tilde{I}_+(\sigma))$.

Let $\hat{I}_+(\sigma)$ and $\hat{I}_-(\sigma)$ be the resulting communities.

5: **Output:** If $|\hat{I}_+(\sigma)| \neq |\tilde{I}_+(\sigma)|$, output $\tilde{I}_+(\sigma)$ and $\tilde{I}_-(\sigma)$;

otherwise output $\hat{I}_+(\sigma)$ and $\hat{I}_-(\sigma)$.

2.3 Semidefinite relaxation algorithm

2.3 Semidefinite relaxation algorithm

In subsection 2.2, we show that spectral algorithm with refinement step can achieve exact recovery. It is also interesting to study whether a single spectral algorithm without refinement achieves the threshold. In graph case ($m = 2$), the answer is confirmative and the semidefinite relaxation algorithm and spectral algorithm are shown to succeed without refinement step ((17; 9)). In hypergraph case ($m \geq 3$), either censored or uncensored, it is still an open problem. In this subsection, we study the semidefinite relaxation algorithm and analyze its performance. To this end, we define a new hypergraph based on the given hypergraph A and transform it to a weighted graph. Then we show the semidefinite relaxation algorithm applied to the weighted graph can achieve exact recovery.

Define hypergraph \tilde{A} based on A as

$$\tilde{A}_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = \mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 1],$$

and $\tilde{A}_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 0$ if $|\{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_m\}| \leq m - 1$. Each hyperedge $\tilde{A}_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m}$ takes value in $\{1, 0\}$. The hypergraph \tilde{A} shares the same community structure as A , since

$$\mathbb{E}(\tilde{A}_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m}) = \begin{cases} p\alpha, & \{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_m\} \subset I_+(\sigma) \text{ or } I_-(\sigma); \\ q\alpha, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

2.3 Semidefinite relaxation algorithm

Next, we construct a weighted graph $G = [G_{ij}]$ based on \tilde{A} by

$$G_{ij} = \sum_{1 \leq i_3 < \dots < i_m \leq n} \tilde{A}_{ij i_3 \dots i_m}.$$

Define the semidefinite program problem (SDP) as

$$\begin{aligned} \max_Y \quad & \langle G, Y \rangle \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & Y \succeq 0 \\ & \langle Y, J \rangle = 0 \\ & Y_{ii} = 1, \quad i \in [n], \end{aligned} \tag{2.2}$$

where J is $n \times n$ all-one matrix. Suppose σ is the true label and denote $Y = \sigma\sigma^T$. Let \hat{Y} be the solution to semidefinite program problem (2.2). The following result provides a sufficient condition under which \hat{Y} is an exact recovery of Y .

Theorem 2.4. For each fixed integer $m \geq 2$, let

$$J_m(p, q) = \frac{2^{m+2}(m-2)![mp - (m-2^m)q]}{(p-q)^2}.$$

If $t > J_m(p, q)$, then $\mathbb{P}(\hat{Y} = Y) = 1 - o(1)$, where $Y = \sigma\sigma^T$ with true label σ .

Note that $J_m(p, q) > I_m(p, q)$ for each $m \geq 2$. When $m = 2$ and the graph is uncensored, \hat{Y} can exactly recover the true label up to the information theoretic threshold ((17)). However, for $m \geq 3$, it is unclear

whether \hat{Y} succeeds or not in the range $I_m(p, q) < t < J_m(p, q)$. Similar gap exists in uncensored hypergraph case ((24)). The proof of Theorem 2.4 is in the Appendix.

3. Proof of Theorem 2.1

In this section, we provide proof of Theorem 2.1.

Proof of Theorem 2.1 : Let $l(\sigma)$ be the log-likelihood function of a label σ . Note that by Definition 1.1, the true label vector σ is uniformly and independently selected from $S = \{\pm 1\}^n$. By Proposition 4.1 in (9), if there are labels η_t ($1 \leq t \leq k_n$) with $k_n \rightarrow \infty$ such that $l(\eta_1) = l(\eta_2) = \dots = l(\eta_{k_n}) = l(\sigma)$, then the maximum likelihood estimator (MLE) fails to exactly recover the true label with probability $1 - o(1)$. Our proof proceeds by constructing labels η_t ($1 \leq t \leq k_n$) with $k_n \rightarrow \infty$ under the condition $t < I_m(p, q)$.

Firstly, we write down the explicit expression of the likelihood function.

Note that for distinct nodes i_1, i_2, \dots, i_m , we have

$$A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = \begin{cases} 1 & , \\ 0 & , \\ * & . \end{cases}$$

For convenience, let $\mathbb{1}[E]$ be the indicator function of event E and

$$\mathbb{1}_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m}(\sigma) = \mathbb{1}[\sigma_{i_1} = \sigma_{i_2} = \dots = \sigma_{i_m}].$$

Then the likelihood function for σ given an observation of hypergraph A

from $\mathcal{H}_m(n, p, q, \alpha)$ is

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \prod_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_m \leq n} (p\alpha)^{\mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 1] \mathbb{1}_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m}(\sigma)} [\alpha(1-p)]^{\mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 0] \mathbb{1}_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m}(\sigma)} \\ &\quad \times (q\alpha)^{\mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 1] (1 - \mathbb{1}_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m}(\sigma))} [\alpha(1-q)]^{\mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 0] (1 - \mathbb{1}_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m}(\sigma))} (1-\alpha)^{\mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = *]} \\ &= \prod_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_m \leq n} (1-\alpha)^{\mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = *]} (q\alpha)^{\mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 1]} \left(\frac{p}{q}\right)^{\mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 1] \mathbb{1}_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m}(\sigma)} \\ &\quad \times [\alpha(1-q)]^{\mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 0]} \left(\frac{1-p}{1-q}\right)^{\mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 0] \mathbb{1}_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m}(\sigma)} \\ &= \prod_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_m \leq n} (1-\alpha)^{\mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = *]} (q\alpha)^{\mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 1]} [\alpha(1-q)]^{\mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 0]} \\ &\quad \times \prod_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_m \leq n} \left(\frac{p}{q}\right)^{\mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 1] \mathbb{1}_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m}(\sigma)} \left(\frac{1-p}{1-q}\right)^{\mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 0] \mathbb{1}_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m}(\sigma)}. \end{aligned}$$

The maximum likelihood estimator(MLE) is obtained by maximizing L with

respect to σ . The first product factor of L does not involve σ . Hence we

only need to maximize the second product factor of L to get MLE. Denote

$$l(\sigma) = \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_m \leq n} \left[\log \left(\frac{p}{q} \right) \mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 1] \mathbb{1}_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m}(\sigma) + \log \left(\frac{1-p}{1-q} \right) \mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 0] \mathbb{1}_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m}(\sigma) \right].$$

The log-likelihood function is equal to

$$\log L = R_n + l(\sigma), \quad (3.3)$$

where R_n is independent of σ .

Below we construct labels η_t ($1 \leq t \leq k_n$) with $k_n \rightarrow \infty$ under the condition $t < I_m(p, q)$. Since R_n is independent of σ . We only need to focus on $l(\sigma)$.

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} l(\sigma) = & \left[\log \left(\frac{p}{q} \right) \mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 \dots i_m} = 1] + \log \left(\frac{1-p}{1-q} \right) \mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 \dots i_m} = 0] \right] \mathbb{1}[\sigma_{i_1} = \dots = \sigma_{i_m} = +1] \\ & + \left[\log \left(\frac{p}{q} \right) \mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 \dots i_m} = 1] + \log \left(\frac{1-p}{1-q} \right) \mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 \dots i_m} = 0] \right] \mathbb{1}[\sigma_{i_1} = \dots = \sigma_{i_m} = -1]. \end{aligned}$$

Suppose $i_0 \in I_+(\sigma)$ has exactly m_1 present hyperedges and m_2 absent hyperedges in $I_+(\sigma)$ and has exactly m_1 present hyperedges and m_2 absent hyperedges in $I_-(\sigma)$. Suppose $j_0 \in I_-(\sigma)$ has exactly m_1 present hyperedges and m_2 absent hyperedges in $I_+(\sigma)$ and has exactly m_1 present hyperedges and m_2 absent hyperedges in $I_-(\sigma)$. Then $l(\sigma)$ remains the same if we flip the label of i_0 and j_0 . Let $\tilde{\sigma}$ be labels obtained from σ by flipping the labels of i_0, j_0 . We shall verify that $l(\sigma) = l(\tilde{\sigma})$. To prove this, let

$T_1 = \log \left(\frac{p}{q} \right)$, $T_2 = \log \left(\frac{1-p}{1-q} \right)$, then

$$\begin{aligned} l(\sigma) = & \left(T_1 \sum_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} \mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 1] + T_2 \sum_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} \mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 0] \right) \mathbb{1}[\sigma_{i_1} = \dots = \sigma_{i_m} = +1] \\ & + \left(T_1 \sum_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} \mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 1] + T_2 \sum_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} \mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 0] \right) \mathbb{1}[\sigma_{i_1} = \dots = \sigma_{i_m} = -1]. \end{aligned}$$

Further, $l(\sigma)$ can be written as

$$\begin{aligned}
 l(\sigma) = & T_1 \sum_{\substack{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m \in I_+(\sigma) \\ i_1 i_2 \dots i_m \neq i_0}} \mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 1] + T_1 \sum_{\substack{i_2 \dots i_m \in I_+(\sigma) \\ i_2 \dots i_m \neq i_0}} \mathbb{1}[A_{i_0 i_2 \dots i_m} = 1] \\
 & + T_2 \sum_{\substack{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m \in I_+(\sigma) \\ i_1 i_2 \dots i_m \neq i_0}} \mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 0] + T_2 \sum_{\substack{i_2 \dots i_m \in I_+(\sigma) \\ i_2 \dots i_m \neq i_0}} \mathbb{1}[A_{i_0 i_2 \dots i_m} = 0] \\
 & + T_1 \sum_{\substack{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m \in I_-(\sigma) \\ i_1 i_2 \dots i_m \neq j_0}} \mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 1] + T_1 \sum_{\substack{i_2 \dots i_m \in I_-(\sigma) \\ i_2 \dots i_m \neq j_0}} \mathbb{1}[A_{j_0 i_2 \dots i_m} = 1] \\
 & + T_2 \sum_{\substack{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m \in I_-(\sigma) \\ i_1 i_2 \dots i_m \neq j_0}} \mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 0] + T_2 \sum_{\substack{i_2 \dots i_m \in I_-(\sigma) \\ i_2 \dots i_m \neq j_0}} \mathbb{1}[A_{j_0 i_2 \dots i_m} = 0],
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 l(\tilde{\sigma}) = & T_1 \sum_{\substack{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m \in I_+(\sigma) \\ i_1 i_2 \dots i_m \neq j_0}} \mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 1] + T_1 \sum_{\substack{i_2 \dots i_m \in I_+(\sigma) \\ i_2 \dots i_m \neq j_0}} \mathbb{1}[A_{j_0 i_2 \dots i_m} = 1] \\
 & + T_2 \sum_{\substack{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m \in I_+(\sigma) \\ i_1 i_2 \dots i_m \neq j_0}} \mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 0] + T_2 \sum_{\substack{i_2 \dots i_m \in I_+(\sigma) \\ i_2 \dots i_m \neq j_0}} \mathbb{1}[A_{j_0 i_2 \dots i_m} = 0] \\
 & + T_1 \sum_{\substack{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m \in I_-(\sigma) \\ i_1 i_2 \dots i_m \neq i_0}} \mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 1] + T_1 \sum_{\substack{i_2 \dots i_m \in I_-(\sigma) \\ i_2 \dots i_m \neq i_0}} \mathbb{1}[A_{i_0 i_2 \dots i_m} = 1] \\
 & + T_2 \sum_{\substack{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m \in I_-(\sigma) \\ i_1 i_2 \dots i_m \neq i_0}} \mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 0] + T_2 \sum_{\substack{i_2 \dots i_m \in I_-(\sigma) \\ i_2 \dots i_m \neq i_0}} \mathbb{1}[A_{i_0 i_2 \dots i_m} = 0]
 \end{aligned}$$

Then $l(\sigma) = l(\tilde{\sigma})$ by the assumption of i_0 and j_0 .

Next we will show there are k_n ($k_n \rightarrow \infty$) such pairs. More specifically, we will show that there exists $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k \in I_+(\sigma)$ and $j_1, j_2, \dots, j_k \in I_-(\sigma)$ with $k \gg 1$ such that the likelihood function remains unchanged if we flip the label of a pair (i_t, j_t) $t = 1, 2, \dots, k$. Let η_t be the label obtained by flipping the label of i_t, j_t in σ . Then $l(\eta_t) = l(\sigma)$ for $1 \leq t \leq k \rightarrow \infty$.

Let $n_1 = |I_+(\sigma)|$ and $n_2 = |I_-(\sigma)|$. Then $n_1, n_2 = \frac{n}{2}(1 + O(n^{-\frac{1}{3}}))$ with probability $1 - o(1)$. Hence we can take $n_1 = n_2 = \frac{n}{2}$ below. Let $S_+ \subset I_+(\sigma)$ be a random subset with $|S_+| = \frac{n}{\log^2 n}$ and $S_- \subset I_-(\sigma)$ be a random subset with $|S_-| = \frac{n}{\log^2 n}$. Denote $S = S_+ \cup S_-$. Define

$$S_0 = \{i \in S \mid \text{any } i_2, \dots, i_t \in S, i_{t+1}, \dots, i_m \in S^c, \text{ s.t. } A_{ii_2 \dots i_t i_{t+1} \dots i_m} = *, t \geq 2\}.$$

For each node $i \in S_0$, hyperedge $A_{ii_2 \dots i_m}$ is possibly revealed if and only if $\{i_2, \dots, i_m\} \subset I_+(\sigma) - S$ or $\{i_2, \dots, i_m\} \subset I_-(\sigma) - S$.

We will show $|S_0| = \frac{2n(1+o(1))}{\log^2 n}$ with probability $1 - o(1)$. Let

$$T = \sum_{t=2}^m \sum_{\substack{i_1, \dots, i_t \in S \\ i_{t+1}, \dots, i_m \in S^c}} \mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_t i_{t+1} \dots i_m} \neq *].$$

The expectation of T is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}T &= \sum_{t=2}^m \binom{\frac{2n}{\log^2 n}}{t} \binom{n - \frac{2n}{\log^2 n}}{m-t} \alpha \\ &= \sum_{t=2}^m \binom{\frac{2n}{\log^2 n}}{t} \binom{n - \frac{2n}{\log^2 n}}{m-t} \frac{t \log n}{n^{m-1}} \\ &= \frac{c \cdot n^m t \log n}{\log^4 n n^{m-1}} \\ &\asymp \frac{n}{\log^3 n}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, by Markov inequality we have

$$\mathbb{P}\left(T \geq \frac{n}{\log^2 n \sqrt{\log n}}\right) \leq \frac{1}{\frac{n}{\log^2 n \sqrt{\log n}}} \frac{c \cdot n}{\log^3 n} = \frac{\sqrt{\log n}}{\log n} = o(1).$$

Then $T < \frac{n}{\log^2 n \sqrt{\log n}}$ with probability $1 - o(1)$. Hence $|S_0| = \frac{2n}{\log^2 n}(1 + o(1))$ with probability $1 - o(1)$.

Let $m_1 = \frac{\sqrt{pqt} \log n}{2^{m-1}(m-1)!}$, $m_2 = \frac{\sqrt{(1-p)(1-q)t} \log n}{2^{m-1}(m-1)!}$. For some $k \gg 1$, we will show that there exists $i_t \in S_0 \cap S_+$, ($1 \leq t \leq k$) such that i_t has m_1 present hyperedges and m_2 absent hyperedges in $I_+(\sigma)$ and $I_-(\sigma)$ respectively. Denote

$$\tilde{n}_1 = \binom{n_1 - \frac{2n}{\log^2 n}}{m-1} \sim \frac{n^{m-1}}{2^{m-1}(m-1)!}.$$

Let $i_0 \in S_0 \cap S_+$, the probability that i_0 has m_1 present hyperedges, m_2

absent hyperedges in $I_+(\sigma)$ and $I_-(\sigma)$ respectively is,

$$\begin{aligned}
 p_0 &= \frac{\tilde{n}_1!}{m_1!m_2!(\tilde{n}_1 - m_1 - m_2)!} \cdot (\alpha p)^{m_1} [\alpha(1-p)]^{m_2} (1-\alpha)^{(\tilde{n}_1 - m_1 - m_2)} \\
 &\quad \times \frac{\tilde{n}_1!}{m_1!m_2!(\tilde{n}_1 - m_1 - m_2)!} \cdot (\alpha q)^{m_1} [\alpha(1-q)]^{m_2} (1-\alpha)^{(\tilde{n}_1 - m_1 - m_2)} \\
 &\sim \frac{1}{m_1!^2 m_2!^2} \left[\frac{\tilde{n}_1^{\tilde{n}_1 + \frac{1}{2}} e^{-\tilde{n}_1}}{(\tilde{n}_1 - m_1 - m_2)^{\tilde{n}_1 - m_1 - m_2 + \frac{1}{2}} e^{-\tilde{n}_1 + m_1 + m_2}} \right]^2 (\alpha^2 pq)^{m_1} \\
 &\quad \times [\alpha^2(1-p)(1-q)]^{m_2} (1-\alpha)^{2(\tilde{n}_1 - m_1 - m_2)} \\
 &= \frac{1}{m_1!^2 m_2!^2} \left[\frac{(\tilde{n}_1 - m_1 - m_2)^{m_1 + m_2}}{e^{m_1 + m_2} (1 - \frac{m_1 + m_2}{\tilde{n}_1})^{\tilde{n}_1 + \frac{1}{2}}} \right]^2 (\alpha^2 pq)^{m_1} [\alpha^2(1-p)(1-q)]^{m_2} (1-\alpha)^{2(\tilde{n}_1 - m_1 - m_2)} \\
 &= \frac{1}{m_1!^2 m_2!^2} \left[\frac{\tilde{n}_1^{m_1 + m_2}}{e^{m_1 + m_2} e^{-(m_1 + m_2)}} \right]^2 (\alpha^2 pq)^{m_1} [\alpha^2(1-p)(1-q)]^{m_2} e^{-\frac{t \log n}{2^{m-2}(m-1)!}} \\
 &= \frac{\tilde{n}_1^{2(m_1 + m_2)}}{m_1!^2 m_2!^2} e^{-\frac{t \log n}{2^{m-2}(m-1)!}} (\alpha^2 pq)^{m_1} [\alpha^2(1-p)(1-q)]^{m_2} \\
 &= \frac{n^{-\frac{t}{2^{m-2}(m-1)!}}}{m_1!^2 m_2!^2} (\alpha^2 \tilde{n}_1^2 pq)^{m_1} [\alpha^2 \tilde{n}_1^2 (1-p)(1-q)]^{m_2} \\
 &= n^{-\frac{t}{2^{m-2}(m-1)!}} \frac{e^{2(m_1 + m_2)}}{4\pi^2 m_1 m_2} \left(\frac{\alpha^2 \tilde{n}_1^2 pq}{m_1^2} \right)^{m_1} \left(\frac{\alpha^2 \tilde{n}_1^2 (1-p)(1-q)}{m_2^2} \right)^{m_2} \\
 &= \frac{1}{4\pi^2 m_1 m_2} n^{-\frac{t}{2^{m-2}(m-1)!}} e^{\frac{\sqrt{pq} + \sqrt{(1-p)(1-q)}}{2^{m-2}(m-1)!} t \log n} \\
 &= \frac{1}{4\pi^2 m_1 m_2} n^{-\frac{t}{2^{m-2}(m-1)!} [1 - \sqrt{pq} - \sqrt{(1-p)(1-q)}]} \\
 &= \frac{1}{4\pi^2 m_1 m_2} n^{-t \cdot \frac{(\sqrt{p} - \sqrt{q})^2 + (\sqrt{1-p} - \sqrt{1-q})^2}{2^{m-1}(m-1)!}}.
 \end{aligned}$$

If $t < \frac{2^{m-1}(m-1)!}{(\sqrt{p} - \sqrt{q})^2 + (\sqrt{1-p} - \sqrt{1-q})^2}$, then $p_0 \gg \frac{n^{1-\epsilon}}{n}$ for some $\epsilon \in (0, 1)$. Similarly,

the probability that $j_0 \in S_0 \cap S_-$ has m_1 present hyperedges and m_2 absent hyperedges in $I_+(\sigma)$ and $I_-(\sigma)$ is equal to p_0 .

For $i \in S_0$, let $\mathbb{1}_i$ denote the event that i has m_1 present hyperedges and

m_2 absent hyperedges in $I_+(\sigma)$ and $I_-(\sigma)$ respectively. Define two random variables

$$X = \sum_{i \in S_0 \cap S_+} \mathbb{1}_i, \quad Y = \sum_{i \in S_0 \cap S_-} \mathbb{1}_i.$$

If $\mathbb{1}_i = \mathbb{1}_j = 1$ for $i \in S_0 \cap S_+$ and $j \in S_0 \cap S_-$, then the likelihood function remains unchanged if we flip the labels of i and j . By Chebyshev's inequality, given $|S_0 \cap S_+|$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{P} \left(X \leq (1 - \epsilon) \frac{2n}{\log^2 n} p_0 \right) \\ = & \mathbb{P} \left(X \leq (1 - \epsilon) \frac{2n}{\log^2 n} p_0 \middle| |S_0 \cap S_+| \geq \frac{2n}{\log^2 n} (1 - o(1)) \right) \cdot \mathbb{P} \left(|S_0 \cap S_+| \geq \frac{2n}{\log^2 n} (1 - o(1)) \right) \\ + & \mathbb{P} \left(X \leq (1 - \epsilon) \frac{2n}{\log^2 n} p_0 \middle| |S_0 \cap S_+| < \frac{2n}{\log^2 n} (1 - o(1)) \right) \mathbb{P} \left(|S_0 \cap S_+| < \frac{2n}{\log^2 n} \right) \\ \leq & \mathbb{P} \left(X \leq (1 - \epsilon) |S_0 \cap S_+| p_0 \middle| |S_0 \cap S_+| \geq \frac{2n}{\log^2 n} (1 - o(1)) \right) + o(1) \\ \leq & \frac{1}{\epsilon^2 |S_0 \cap S_+| p_0} + o(1). \end{aligned}$$

Since $p_0 \gg \frac{n^{1-\epsilon}}{n}$ for some $\epsilon > 0$ and $|S_0 \cap S_+| \geq \frac{2n}{\log^2 n} (1 - o(1))$. Then

$X \geq |S_0 \cap S_+| p_0 \rightarrow +\infty$ with probability $1 - o(1)$. Similarly $Y \geq |S_0 \cap S_+| p_0 \rightarrow +\infty$ with probability $1 - o(1)$. As a result, we have pairs (i_t, j_t) ($1 \leq t \leq k \rightarrow \infty$). For each t , the likelihood is constant by flipping the labels of i_t and j_t . The proof is complete by Proposition 4.1 in (9).

4. Proof of Theorem 2.2

Proof of Theorem 2.2 : Let σ be the maximum likelihood estimator(MLE).

Recall the log-likelihood function in (3.3). The MLE fails to exactly recover the true label if there exists a label η such that $l(\eta) \geq l(\sigma)$ with probability δ for some constant $\delta > 0$. Our proof proceeds by showing that the probability MLE fails is $o(1)$.

The maximum likelihood estimator(MLE) is obtained by maximizing $\log L$ in (3.3) with respect to σ . The first term of $\log L$ does not involve σ . Hence we only need to maximize the second term of $\log L$ to get MLE. Let σ be the MLE. Recall that the MLE fails if there exists a label η such that $l(\eta) \geq l(\sigma)$ with probability δ for some constant $\delta > 0$. Below, we show the probability MLE fails is $o(1)$.

Let k be an even number and $1 \leq k \leq \frac{n}{2}$. Define the Hamming distance between two labels σ, η as

$$d(\sigma, \eta) = \min \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{1}[\sigma_i \neq \eta_i], \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{1}[\sigma_i \neq -\eta_i] \right\}.$$

Let η be a label such that $d(\sigma, \eta) = k$, and denote

$$C_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m}(A) = \log \left(\frac{p}{q} \right) \mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 1] + \log \left(\frac{1-p}{1-q} \right) \mathbb{1}[A_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 0].$$

Then log-likelihood difference at η and σ is

$$l(\eta) - l(\sigma) = \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_m \leq n} C_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m}(A) (\mathbb{1}_{i_1 \dots i_m}(\eta) - \mathbb{1}_{i_1 \dots i_m}(\sigma)).$$

We will show

$$\mathbb{P}(\exists k \text{ and } d(\sigma, \eta) = k, \text{ s.t. } l(\eta) - l(\sigma) \geq 0) = o(1).$$

Recall $I_+(\sigma)$ and $I_-(\sigma)$. Denote $\mathbb{1}_{i_1 \dots i_m}(\eta) = I[\eta_{i_1} = \eta_{i_2} = \dots = \eta_{i_m}]$. Note that

$$\mathbb{1}_{i_1 \dots i_m}(\eta) - \mathbb{1}_{i_1 \dots i_m}(\sigma) = \begin{cases} 1, & i_1 \dots i_m \subset I_+(\eta) \text{ or } I_-(\eta), i_1 \dots i_m \not\subset I_+(\sigma), I_-(\sigma); \\ -1, & i_1 \dots i_m \subset I_+(\sigma) \text{ or } I_-(\sigma), i_1 \dots i_m \not\subset I_+(\eta), I_-(\eta); \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Hence, $l(\eta) - l(\sigma)$ is written as

$$l(\eta) - l(\sigma) = \sum_{\substack{i_1 \dots i_m \subset I_+(\eta) \text{ or } I_-(\eta) \\ i_1 \dots i_m \not\subset I_+(\sigma), I_-(\sigma)}} C_{i_1 \dots i_m}(A) - \sum_{\substack{i_1 \dots i_m \subset I_+(\sigma) \text{ or } I_-(\sigma) \\ i_1 \dots i_m \not\subset I_+(\eta), I_-(\eta)}} C_{i_1 \dots i_m}(A).$$

It is easy to verify that there are $n_k = 2 \left[\binom{n}{m} - \binom{k}{m} - \binom{n-k}{m} \right]$ hyperedges

$\{i_1, \dots, i_m\}$ such that $\{i_1 \dots i_m\} \subset \mathbb{1}_+(\eta) \text{ or } \mathbb{1}_-(\eta), \{i_1 \dots i_m\} \not\subset \mathbb{1}_+(\sigma), \mathbb{1}_-(\sigma)$.

For convenience, define random variables X, Y as

$$\mathbb{P}(X = 1) = \alpha p, \quad \mathbb{P}(X = 0) = \alpha(1 - p), \quad \mathbb{P}(X = -1) = 1 - \alpha.$$

$$\mathbb{P}(Y = 1) = \alpha q, \quad \mathbb{P}(Y = 0) = \alpha(1 - q), \quad \mathbb{P}(Y = -1) = 1 - \alpha.$$

Let X_i, Y_i be *i.i.d* copies of X, Y respectively and

$$\begin{aligned} W_i &= \log\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) \mathbb{1}[X_i = 1] + \log\left(\frac{1-p}{1-q}\right) \mathbb{1}[X_i = 0] \\ V_i &= \log\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) \mathbb{1}[Y_i = 1] + \log\left(\frac{1-p}{1-q}\right) \mathbb{1}[Y_i = 0]. \end{aligned}$$

For any $r > 0$, by Markov inequality we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(l(\eta) - l(\sigma) \geq 0) &= \mathbb{P}\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n_k} (V_i - W_i) \geq 0\right) \\ &= \mathbb{P}\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n_k} (W_i - V_i) \leq 0\right) \\ &= \mathbb{P}\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n_k} (-r)(W_i - V_i) \geq 1\right) \\ &\leq [\mathbb{E}(e^{-rW_1}) \mathbb{E}(e^{rV_1})]^{n_k}. \end{aligned}$$

Next, we find the explicit expression of expectations $\mathbb{E}(e^{-rW_1})$ and $\mathbb{E}(e^{rV_1})$.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[e^{-rW_1}] &= \mathbb{E}e^{-r(\log(\frac{p}{q})\mathbb{1}[X_i=1]+\log(\frac{1-p}{1-q})\mathbb{1}[X_i=0])} \\ &= e^{-r\log(\frac{p}{q})}\alpha p + e^{-r\log(\frac{1-p}{1-q})}\alpha(1-p) + (1-\alpha) \\ &= \left(\frac{q}{p}\right)^r \alpha p + \left(\frac{1-q}{1-p}\right)^r \alpha(1-p) + (1-\alpha) \\ \mathbb{E}[e^{rV_1}] &= \mathbb{E}e^{r(\log(\frac{p}{q})\mathbb{1}[Y_i=1]+\log(\frac{1-p}{1-q})\mathbb{1}[Y_i=0])} \\ &= e^{r\log(\frac{p}{q})}\alpha q + e^{r\log(\frac{1-p}{1-q})}\alpha(1-q) + (1-\alpha) \\ &= \left(\frac{p}{q}\right)^r \alpha q + \left(\frac{1-p}{1-q}\right)^r \alpha(1-q) + (1-\alpha) \end{aligned}$$

Taking $r = \frac{1}{2}$ yields

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[e^{-rW_1}] &= \alpha\sqrt{pq} + \alpha\sqrt{(1-p)(1-q)} + (1-\alpha) \\ &= 1 + \alpha[\sqrt{pq} + \sqrt{(1-p)(1-q)} - 1], \\ \mathbb{E}[e^{rV_1}] &= \alpha\sqrt{pq} + \alpha\sqrt{(1-p)(1-q)} + (1-\alpha) \\ &= 1 + \alpha[\sqrt{pq} + \sqrt{(1-p)(1-q)} - 1].\end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned}\log \mathbb{P}(l(\eta) - l(\sigma) \geq 0) &\leq n_k \log \mathbb{E}[e^{-rW_1}] + n_k \log \mathbb{E}[e^{rV_1}] \\ &\leq n_k [2\alpha(\sqrt{pq} + \sqrt{(1-p)(1-q)} - 1)] \\ &= n_k \alpha \left[(-1) \left\{ (\sqrt{p} - \sqrt{q})^2 + (\sqrt{1-p} - \sqrt{1-q})^2 \right\} \right] \\ &= -n_k \alpha \left[(\sqrt{p} - \sqrt{q})^2 + (\sqrt{1-p} - \sqrt{1-q})^2 \right]. \quad (4.4)\end{aligned}$$

For $k \geq \frac{n}{\log \log n}$, it is easy to check $n_k \geq \frac{1}{2^{m-1}} \frac{n}{\log \log n} \binom{n-1}{m-1}$. Hence by (4.4),

we get

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}(l(\eta) - l(\sigma) \geq 0) &\leq e^{-[(\sqrt{p}-\sqrt{q})^2+(\sqrt{1-p}-\sqrt{1-q})^2] \frac{t \log n}{n^{m-1}} \frac{1}{2^{m-1}} \frac{n}{\log \log n} \frac{n^{m-1}}{(m-1)!}} \\ &= e^{-[(\sqrt{p}-\sqrt{q})^2+(\sqrt{1-p}-\sqrt{1-q})^2] \frac{t}{2^{m-1}} \frac{n \log n}{(m-1)! \log \log n}} \\ &= e^{-c \frac{n \log n}{\log \log n}},\end{aligned}$$

for some positive constant c . Clearly, there are $\left(\frac{n}{k}\right)^2$ many choices for η with $d(\sigma, \eta) = k$. Note that $\left(\frac{n}{k}\right)^2 \leq 2^n$. Then the probability that there

exists η with $d(\sigma, \eta) = k$ for $k \geq \frac{n}{\log \log n}$ is upper bounded by

$$\frac{n}{2} \cdot 2^n \cdot e^{-c \frac{n \log n}{\log \log n}} = e^{n \log 2 + \log \frac{n}{2} - cn \frac{\log n}{\log \log n}} = o(1).$$

For $k < \frac{n}{\log \log n}$, we have $n_k = \frac{k}{2^{m-1}} \binom{n-1}{m-1}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(l(\eta) - l(\sigma) \geq 0) &\leq e^{-[(\sqrt{p}-\sqrt{q})^2 + (\sqrt{1-p}-\sqrt{1-q})^2] \frac{t \log n}{n^{m-1}} \frac{k}{2^{m-1}} \frac{n^{m-1}}{(m-1)!}} \\ &= e^{-\frac{(\sqrt{p}-\sqrt{q})^2 + (\sqrt{1-p}-\sqrt{1-q})^2}{2^{m-1}(m-1)!} t k \log n} \\ &= n^{-\frac{[(\sqrt{p}-\sqrt{q})^2 + (\sqrt{1-p}-\sqrt{1-q})^2] t k}{2^{m-1}(m-1)!}}. \end{aligned}$$

There are $\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 \leq n^k$ many choices for η with $d(\sigma, \eta) = k$. Then the probability that there exists η with $d(\sigma, \eta) = k$ for $k < \frac{n}{\log \log n}$ is upper bounded by

$$\begin{aligned} k \cdot \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 \mathbb{P}(l(\eta) - l(\sigma) \geq 0) &\leq k n^k \cdot n^{-\frac{[(\sqrt{p}-\sqrt{q})^2 + (\sqrt{1-p}-\sqrt{1-q})^2] t k}{2^{m-1}(m-1)!}} \\ &\leq k n^k n^{-(1+\epsilon)k} \\ &= \frac{k}{n^{\epsilon k}} = o(1), \end{aligned}$$

where ϵ is a constant such that $\frac{[(\sqrt{p}-\sqrt{q})^2 + (\sqrt{1-p}-\sqrt{1-q})^2] t}{2^{m-1}(m-1)!} = 1 + \epsilon$. This is possible by the condition $t > \frac{2^{m-1}(m-1)!}{(\sqrt{p}-\sqrt{q})^2 + (\sqrt{1-p}-\sqrt{1-q})^2}$. Then the proof is complete.

5. Proof of Theorem 2.3

The proof proceeds by showing the probability that there exists a mislabelled node goes to zero. By the definition of hypergraph \tilde{A} , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(\tilde{A}_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 1) &= \begin{cases} \frac{\log \log n}{\log n} \cdot \alpha p, & \{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_m\} \subset I_+(\sigma) \text{ or } I_-(\sigma), \\ \frac{\log \log n}{\log n} \cdot \alpha q, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \\ &= \begin{cases} \frac{tp \log \log n}{n^{m-1}}, & \{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_m\} \subset I_+(\sigma) \text{ or } I_-(\sigma), \\ \frac{tq \log \log n}{n^{m-1}}, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Then \tilde{A} has the same community structure as the original hypergraph A and in \tilde{A} , the order of hyperedge probability is $\frac{\log \log n}{n^{m-1}}$. With probability $1 - o(1)$, the weak recovery algorithm in (4) will recover the true labels of $(1 - \delta)n$ nodes of \tilde{A} with $\delta = o(1)$. Denote the communities as $\tilde{I}_+(\sigma)$, $\tilde{I}_-(\sigma)$. Hence, with probability $1 - o(1)$, there are $\frac{\delta}{2}n$ nodes in $\tilde{I}_+(\sigma)$ and $\tilde{I}_-(\sigma)$ that are mislabelled. By the refinement step, a node i among the correctly labelled $\frac{1-\delta}{2}n$ nodes in $\tilde{I}_+(\sigma)$ is mislabelled if

$$e(i, \tilde{I}_+(\sigma)) < e(i, \tilde{I}_-(\sigma)).$$

A node among the mislabelled $\frac{\delta}{2}n$ nodes in $\tilde{I}_+(\sigma)$ remains mislabelled if

$$e(i, \tilde{I}_+(\sigma)) \geq e(i, \tilde{I}_-(\sigma)).$$

Similar result holds for nodes in $\tilde{I}_-(\sigma)$. Let X_i, Y_i, W_i, V_i be defined as in the proof of Theorem 2.2 and W'_i, V'_i be *i.i.d.* copies of W_i, V_i . Then a node i is mislabelled is equivalent to

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\binom{\frac{\delta}{2}n}{m-1}} W_i + \sum_{i=1}^{\binom{\frac{n}{2}}{m-1} - \binom{\frac{\delta}{2}n}{m-1}} V_i \geq \sum_{i=1}^{\binom{(1-\delta)\frac{n}{2}}{m-1}} W'_i + \sum_{i=1}^{\binom{\frac{n}{2}}{m-1} - \binom{(1-\delta)\frac{n}{2}}{m-1}} V'_i.$$

We are going to bound the probability that node i is mislabelled and then apply the union bound. Let $r = \frac{1}{\delta\sqrt{\log(\frac{1}{\delta})}}$. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} p_i &= \mathbb{P}(\text{node } i \text{ is mislabelled}) \\ &= \mathbb{P} \left[\sum_{i=1}^{\binom{\frac{\delta}{2}n}{m-1}} W_i + \sum_{i=1}^{\binom{\frac{n}{2}}{m-1} - \binom{\frac{\delta}{2}n}{m-1}} V_i \geq \sum_{i=1}^{\binom{(1-\delta)\frac{n}{2}}{m-1}} W'_i + \sum_{i=1}^{\binom{\frac{n}{2}}{m-1} - \binom{(1-\delta)\frac{n}{2}}{m-1}} V'_i \right] \\ &= \mathbb{P} \left[\sum_{i=1}^{\binom{\frac{n}{2}}{m-1} - \binom{\frac{\delta}{2}n}{m-1}} (V_i - W'_i) + \sum_{i=1}^{\binom{\frac{\delta}{2}n}{m-1}} W_i \geq \sum_{i=1}^{\binom{\frac{n}{2}}{m-1} - \binom{(1-\delta)\frac{n}{2}}{m-1}} V'_i - \sum_{i=1}^{\binom{\frac{n}{2}}{m-1} - \binom{\frac{\delta}{2}n}{m-1} - \binom{(1-\delta)\frac{n}{2}}{m-1}} W'_i \right] \\ &\leq \mathbb{P} \left[\sum_{i=1}^{\binom{\frac{n}{2}}{m-1} - \binom{\frac{\delta}{2}n}{m-1}} (V_i - W'_i) \geq -r\delta \log n \right] + \\ &\quad \mathbb{P} \left[\sum_{i=1}^{\binom{\frac{\delta}{2}n}{m-1}} W_i + \sum_{i=1}^{\binom{\frac{n}{2}}{m-1} - \binom{\frac{\delta}{2}n}{m-1} - \binom{(1-\delta)\frac{n}{2}}{m-1}} W'_i - \sum_{i=1}^{\binom{\frac{n}{2}}{m-1} - \binom{(1-\delta)\frac{n}{2}}{m-1}} V'_i \geq r\delta \log n \right] \\ &= (I) + (II). \end{aligned}$$

Next we show $(II) = O(n^{-2})$ and $(I) = O\left(n^{-\frac{t}{I_m(p,q)}}\right)$. It is easy to verify

that

$$\begin{aligned} (II) &\leq \mathbb{P} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{\binom{\frac{\delta}{2}n}{m-1}} W_i \geq \frac{r\delta}{3} \log n \right) + \mathbb{P} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{\binom{\frac{n}{2}}{m-1} - \binom{\frac{\delta n}{2}}{m-1} - \binom{(1-\delta)\frac{n}{2}}{m-1}} W'_i \geq \frac{r\delta}{3} \log n \right) \\ &+ \mathbb{P} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{\binom{\frac{n}{2}}{m-1} - \binom{(1-\delta)\frac{n}{2}}{m-1}} -V'_i \geq \frac{r\delta}{3} \log n \right). \end{aligned}$$

Since $p > q > 0$, it follows that $1 - q > 1 - p$ and then

$$\begin{aligned} W_i &= \log \left(\frac{p}{q} \right) \mathbb{1}[X_i = 1] + \log \left(\frac{1-p}{1-q} \right) \mathbb{1}[X_i = 0] \\ &\leq \log \left(\frac{p}{q} \right) \mathbb{1}[X_i = 1]. \end{aligned}$$

Then by the multiplicative Chernoff bound, one has

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{\binom{\frac{\delta}{2}n}{m-1}} W_i \geq \frac{r\delta}{3} \log n \right) &\leq \mathbb{P} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{\binom{\frac{\delta}{2}n}{m-1}} \mathbb{1}[X_i = 1] \geq \frac{r\delta \log n}{3 \log(\frac{p}{q})} \right) \\ &\leq \left(\frac{\frac{r}{\delta^{m-2}} 2^{m-1} (m-1)!}{e \cdot 3pt \log(\frac{p}{q})} \right)^{-\frac{r\delta \log n}{3 \log(\frac{p}{q})}} \\ &= e^{-\frac{\log n}{3 \log(\frac{p}{q}) \sqrt{\log(\frac{1}{\delta})}} [\log(\frac{1}{\delta}) + (m-2) \log(\frac{1}{\delta}) (1+o(1))]} \\ &= e^{-\frac{(m-1) \sqrt{\log(\frac{1}{\delta})}}{3 \log(\frac{p}{q})} \log n (1+o(1))} \\ &= O(n^{-2}). \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we get

$$\mathbb{P} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{\binom{\frac{n}{2}}{m-1} - \binom{\frac{\delta n}{2}}{m-1} - \binom{(1-\delta)\frac{n}{2}}{m-1}} W'_i \geq \frac{r\delta}{3} \log n \right) = O(n^{-2}).$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} -V'_i &= \log\left(\frac{1-p}{1-q}\right) \mathbb{1}[A_i = 0] - \log\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) \mathbb{1}[A_i = 1] \\ &\leq \log\left(\frac{1-p}{1-q}\right) \mathbb{1}[A_i = 0]. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, by the multiplicative Chernoff bound, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}\left(\sum_{i=1}^{\binom{\frac{n}{2}}{m-1} - \binom{(1-\delta)\frac{n}{2}}{m-1}} (-V'_i) \geq \frac{r\delta}{3} \log n\right) &\leq \mathbb{P}\left(\sum_{i=1}^{\binom{\frac{n}{2}}{m-1} - \binom{(1-\delta)\frac{n}{2}}{m-1}} \mathbb{1}[A_i = 0] \geq \frac{r\delta \log n}{3 \log(\frac{1-q}{1-p})}\right) \\ &\leq \left(\frac{\frac{r}{\delta^{m-2}} 2^{m-1} (m-1)!}{e \cdot 3(1-p) \log(\frac{1-q}{1-p})}\right)^{-\frac{r\delta \log n}{3 \log(\frac{1-q}{1-p})}} \\ &= e^{-\frac{1-\delta \log n}{3 \log(\frac{1-q}{1-p})} [(m-1) \log(\frac{1}{\delta})(1+o(1))]} \\ &= e^{-\frac{(m-1) \sqrt{\log(\frac{1}{\delta}) \log n}}{3 \log(\frac{1-q}{1-p})} (1+o(1))} \\ &= O(n^{-2}). \end{aligned}$$

Then we conclude that $(II) = O(n^{-2})$.

Next we bound (I) . Note that $\binom{\frac{n}{2}}{m-1} - \binom{\frac{\delta}{2}n}{m-1} = \frac{n^{m-1}}{2^{m-1}(m-1)!}(1+o(1))$.

By Markov's inequality, one has

$$\begin{aligned} (I) &= \mathbb{P}\left[e^{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{\binom{\frac{n}{2}}{m-1} - \binom{\frac{\delta}{2}n}{m-1}} (V_i - W'_i)} \geq e^{-\frac{r\delta \log n}{2}}\right] \\ &\leq e^{r\delta \frac{\log n}{2}} (\mathbb{E}[e^{\frac{1}{2} V_1} e^{-\frac{1}{2} W'_1}])^{\frac{n^{m-1}}{2^{m-1}(m-1)!}} \\ &= e^{r\delta \frac{\log n}{2}} [e^{-\frac{1}{2} \log(\frac{p}{q})} \alpha p + e^{-\frac{1}{2} \log(\frac{1-p}{1-q})} \alpha(1-p) + (1-\alpha)]^{\frac{n^{m-1}}{2^{m-1}(m-1)!}} \\ &\quad \times [e^{\frac{1}{2} \log(\frac{p}{q})} \alpha q + e^{\frac{1}{2} \log(\frac{1-p}{1-q})} \alpha(1-q) + (1-\alpha)]^{\frac{n^{m-1}}{2^{m-1}(m-1)!}}. \end{aligned}$$

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Taking logarithm on both side yields

$$\begin{aligned}\log(I) &\leq \frac{1}{2}r\delta \log n + \frac{n^{m-1}\alpha}{2^{m-1}(m-1)!}[2\sqrt{pq} + 2\sqrt{(1-p)(1-q)} - 2] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{\log n}{\sqrt{\log(\frac{1}{\delta})}} - \frac{t \log n}{2^{m-1}(m-1)!}[(\sqrt{p} - \sqrt{q})^2 + (\sqrt{1-p} - \sqrt{1-q})^2].\end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$(I) \leq n^{-t \frac{(\sqrt{p}-\sqrt{q})^2 + (\sqrt{1-p}-\sqrt{1-q})^2}{2^{m-1}(m-1)!} (1+o(1))} = n^{-\frac{t}{I_m(p,q)} (1+o(1))}.$$

Since $t > I_m(p, q)$ by assumption, we get $(I) \leq n^{-(1+\epsilon)}$ for some small constant $\epsilon > 0$ and hence

$$p_i \leq (I) + (II) \leq n^{-(1+\epsilon)}.$$

By union bound, the probability that there exists a mislabelled node is bounded by $n^{-\epsilon} = o(1)$. Then the proof is complete.

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