Network Science Models and Distributed Algorithms

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Consensus in static directed networks



- n agents; agent i holds $heta_i \in \mathbf{R}$
- communication network is static and directed
- communication happens in discrete time $t = 0, 1, 2, 3, \ldots$
- goal: compute the average

$$\overline{\theta} = \frac{\theta_1 + \dots + \theta_n}{n}$$

- we model the network as a directed graph $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$:
 - $\mathcal{V} = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ is set of agents
 - *E* is set of communication channels
- agent i can send messages to agent j if and only if $(i, j) \in \mathcal{E}$
- example:



$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{V} &= \{1,2,3,4,5\} \\ \mathcal{E} &= \{(1,1),(1,2),(1,4),(2,2),(2,3),(2,5),(3,1),(3,3) \\ &\quad (4,2),(4,4),(5,3),(5,5)\} \end{aligned}$$

• we also use the notation: $i \to j \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad (i,j) \in \mathcal{E}$

Naive scheme with row stochastic matrix



- agents repeatedly compute averages of themselves and neighbors
- $x_i(0) := \theta_i$ and

$$\begin{cases} x_1(t+1) &= \frac{x_1(t)+x_3(t)}{2} \\ x_2(t+1) &= \frac{x_1(t)+x_2(t)+x_4(t)}{3} \\ x_3(t+1) &= \frac{x_2(t)+x_3(t)+x_5(t)}{3} \\ x_4(t+1) &= \frac{x_1(t)+x_4(t)}{2} \\ x_5(t+1) &= \frac{x_2(t)+x_5(t)}{2} \end{cases}$$

• naive scheme doesn't work:



• how can we fix this?



• naive scheme in matrix form: $x(0) = \underbrace{(\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3, \theta_4, \theta_5)}$

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x_1(t+1)\\ x_2(t+1)\\ x_3(t+1)\\ x_4(t+1)\\ x_5(t+1) \end{bmatrix}}_{x(t+1)} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0\\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0\\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0\\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}}_{W} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x_1(t)\\ x_2(t)\\ x_3(t)\\ x_4(t)\\ x_5(t) \end{bmatrix}}_{x(t)}$$

• important: in distributed algorithms, $W_{ij} = 0$ whenever $j \not\rightarrow i$

• matrix W is row-stochastic:

 $W\mathbf{1} = \mathbf{1}$

• unrolling the recursion x(t+1) = Wx(t) gives

 $x(t) = W^t \theta$

for all $t \ge 0$

 ${\ensuremath{\, \bullet }}$ analysis boils down to analyzing the powers of W

• W is a primitive matrix with $\rho(W) = 1$

• from Perron-Frobenius theorem:

$$W = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{1} & s_2 & \cdots & s_n \end{bmatrix}}_{S} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & \\ & J_{\lambda_2} & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & J_{\lambda_p} \end{bmatrix}}_{J} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} w^T \\ \tilde{s}_2^T \\ \vdots \\ \tilde{s}_n^T \end{bmatrix}}_{S^{-1}}$$

with w > 0, $w^T \mathbf{1} = 1$, and $|\lambda_i| < 1$ for $i = 2, \dots, p$

it follows that



 we reduced the analysis from powers of matrices to powers of Jordan blocks • how does the sequence of powers of a Jordan block behave?

• fact¹: if

$$J_{\lambda} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & 1 & & \\ & \lambda & 1 & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & & \lambda & 1 \\ & & & & \lambda \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbf{C}^{n \times n},$$

then

$$J^t_{\lambda} \xrightarrow[t \to \infty]{} \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 0 & , \text{ if } |\lambda| < 1 \\ \infty & , \text{ if } |\lambda| > 1 \\ \infty & , \text{ if } |\lambda| = 1 \text{ and } n > 1 \\ \text{cycle} & , \text{ if } |\lambda| = 1, \lambda \neq 1, \text{ and } n = 1 \\ 1 & , \text{ if } \lambda = 1, \text{ and } n = 1 \end{array} \right.$$

¹C. Meyer, *Matrix Analysis and Applied Linear Algebra*, p. 630;R. Horn, C. R. Johnson, *Matrix Analysis*.Theorem 5.6.12, p. 298.

$$W^t \xrightarrow[t \to \infty]{} \mathbf{1} w^T$$

and

$$x(t) \underset{t \to \infty}{\to} (w^T \theta) \mathbf{1}$$

- interpretation: agents converge to a convex combination of the initial data $\boldsymbol{\theta}$

• a fix: if n and w_i are known at each agent i, initialize

$$x_i(0) = \frac{\theta_i}{nw_i}$$

• back to example in page 5:



Naive scheme with column stochastic matrix



- agents repeatedly send fractions of their state to neighbors
- $x_i(0) := \theta_i$ and

$$\begin{cases} x_1(t+1) &= \frac{1}{3}x_1(t) + \frac{1}{2}x_3(t) \\ x_2(t+1) &= \frac{1}{3}x_1(t) + \frac{1}{3}x_2(t) + \frac{1}{2}x_4(t) \\ x_3(t+1) &= \frac{1}{3}x_2(t) + \frac{1}{2}x_3 + \frac{1}{2}x_5(t) \\ x_4(t+1) &= \frac{1}{3}x_1(t) + \frac{1}{2}x_4(t) \\ x_5(t+1) &= \frac{1}{3}x_2(t) + \frac{1}{2}x_5(t) \end{cases}$$

• naive scheme doesn't work:



• how can we fix this?



• naive scheme in matrix form: $x(0) = \underbrace{(\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3, \theta_4, \theta_5)}$

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x_1(t+1)\\ x_2(t+1)\\ x_3(t+1)\\ x_4(t+1)\\ x_5(t+1) \end{bmatrix}}_{x(t+1)} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0\\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0\\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & \frac{1}{2}\\ \frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0\\ 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}}_{W} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x_1(t)\\ x_2(t)\\ x_3(t)\\ x_4(t)\\ x_5(t) \end{bmatrix}}_{x(t)}$$

• important: in distributed algorithms, $W_{ij} = 0$ whenever $j \not\rightarrow i$

• matrix W is column-stochastic:

$$\mathbf{1}^T W = \mathbf{1}^T$$

• unrolling the recursion x(t+1) = Wx(t) gives

$$x(t) = W^t \theta$$

for all $t \ge 0$

 ${\ensuremath{\, \bullet }}$ analysis boils down to analyzing the powers of W

• W is a primitive matrix with $\rho(W) = 1$

• from Perron-Frobenius theorem:

$$W = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} v & s_2 & \cdots & s_n \end{bmatrix}}_{S} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & \\ & J_{\lambda_2} & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & J_{\lambda_p} \end{bmatrix}}_{J} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{1}^T \\ \widetilde{s}_2^T \\ \vdots \\ \widetilde{s}_n^T \end{bmatrix}}_{S^{-1}}$$

with v > 0, $\mathbf{1}^T v = 1$ and $|\lambda_i| < 1$ for $i = 2, \dots, p$

$$W^t \xrightarrow[t \to \infty]{} v \mathbf{1}^T$$

and

$$x(t) \xrightarrow[t \to \infty]{} (\mathbf{1}^T \theta) v$$

- interpretation: agents converge to a fraction of the sum of initial data $\boldsymbol{\theta}$

• a fix: if n and v_i are known at each agent i, he computes on the side

$$y_i(t) = \frac{x_i(t)}{nv_i}$$

• back to example in page 14:



• another fix: the push-sum algorithm

• initialize x(0) = x, y(0) = 1, and iterate

$$\begin{array}{rcl} x(t+1) & = & Wx(t) \\ y(t+1) & = & Wy(t) \end{array}$$

• at each agent *i*:

$$\frac{x_i(t)}{y_i(t)} \xrightarrow[t \to \infty]{} \frac{v_i \mathbf{1}^T x}{v_i \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{1}} = \frac{\mathbf{1}^T x}{n} = \overline{x}$$

• back to example in page 14:



To know more

- Push-sum algorithm
 - D. Kempe, A. Dobra, and J. Gehrke, "Gossip-based computation of aggregate information," *IEEE Symp. on Found. of Comp. Science*, 2003.
- Matrix analysis (Jordan forms, EVD, SVD)
 - C. Meyer, Matrix Analysis and Applied Linear Algebra.
 - R. Horn, C. R. Johnson, *Matrix Analysis*.