

Network Two-Sample Test

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Introduction and motivation

Networks: relational data

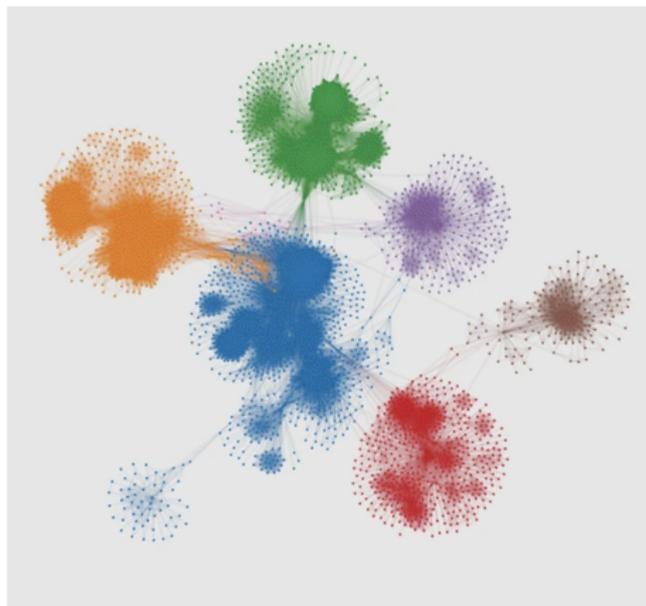


Figure: Plot of some social network (*Fortunato & Newman: 20 years of network community detection, Nature, 2022*)

Introduction and motivation

Networks: relational data

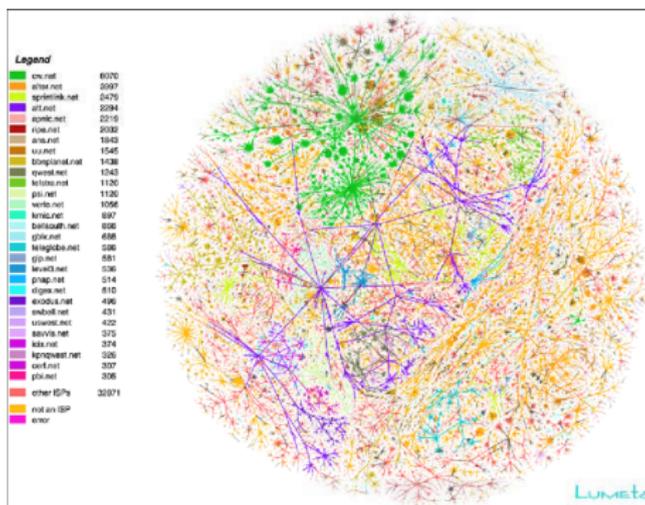


Figure: Internet network (*Zook et al., 2004*)

Introduction and motivation

- Relational nature: no direct observations on individuals
- Research interests (on one network)
 - Clustering nodes (community detection) *Zhao et al. (2012); Zhang & Zhou (2015); Gao et al. (2018)*
 - Learning node representation *Young & Scheinerman (2007); Cape et al. (2018); Lei (2021); Xie (2022+)*
 - Denoising and link prediction *Chatterjee (2015); Gao et al. (2015); Z et al. (2017); Xu (2018)*
 - And many, many more...

Introduction and motivation

Levin & Levina (2019) says well:

*“A core problem in statistical network analysis is to develop **network analogues** of classical techniques.”*

Today's topic: **network two-sample test**

- Given two sets of networks $A^{(1)}, \dots, A^{(N_A)}; B^{(1)}, \dots, B^{(N_B)}$
- **Question:** Compare the models behind networks A and B
- Motivating applications:
 - Sociology: compare structural roles of two nodes through their **ego-networks**
 - Biomedical studies: compare **brain imaging networks** for diagnosis and disease sub-type discovery

Introduction and motivation

Two-sample test: $A^{(1)}, \dots, A^{(N_A)}$ vs. $B^{(1)}, \dots, B^{(N_B)}$

Problem difficulty depends on:

- 1. Multiple observations: $N_A, N_B \rightarrow \infty?$

Ginestet et al. (2017); Ghoshdastidar & Von Luxburg (2018); Kolaczyk et al. (2020); Ghoshdastidar et al. (2020); Chen et al. (2022); Maugis et al. (2020); Bravo-Hermsdorff et al. (2021); Yuan & Wen (2021)

With diverging N_A, N_B , one can:

- Easily **denoise** A and B
- Easily estimate the **variability** of your test statistic

Issue:

- Within-group heterogeneity (e.g., schizophrenia data)

Introduction and motivation

Two-sample test: $A^{(1)}, \dots, A^{(N_A)}$ vs. $B^{(1)}, \dots, B^{(N_B)}$

Problem difficulty depends on:

- 2. Known node registration?

Ghoshdastidar and Von Luxburg (2018); Li and Li (2018); Ghoshdastidar et al. (2020); Chen et al. (2022).

With known node registration, one can:

- Perform edge-wise comparison

But node correspondence...

- may not exist (e.g., Google+ ego-network data)
- may not be known (e.g., person \leftrightarrow social media accounts)

Introduction and motivation

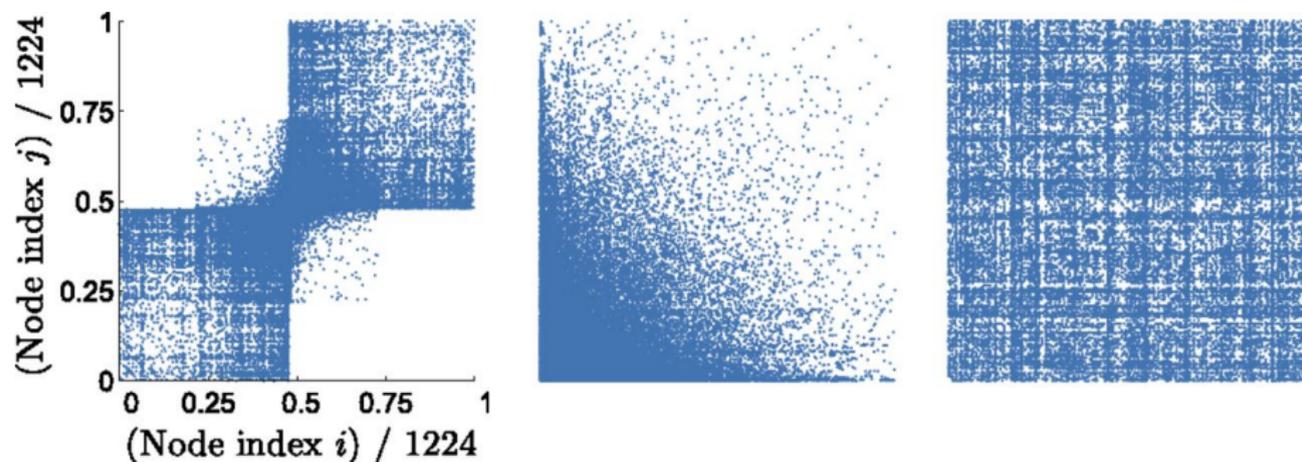


Figure: The same network plotted with three different node orders (*Olhede & Wolfe, 2014*)

Introduction and motivation

Two-sample test: $A^{(1)}, \dots, A^{(N_A)}$ vs. $B^{(1)}, \dots, B^{(N_B)}$

Assumption 1: Multiple observations

Assumption 2: Known node registration

- Many existing works assume **both**:
Ghoshdastidar and Von Luxburg (2018); Ghoshdastidar et al. (2020); Chen et al. (2022).
- Some assume **neither**, but usually need other significant assumptions (low-rankness, degree monotonicity i.e. identification by degree):
Tang et al. (2017); Agterberg et al. (2020); Yang et al. (2014); Sabanayagam et al. (2021)
(*graph-matching*-based methods)

Goals:

- No multiple observations: $N_A = N_B = 1$
- No/Unknown node registration
- Avoid strong structural assumptions
- Scalable and memory-parsimonious algorithm
- Handle potentially very different network sizes and sparsity levels
- Finite-sample higher-order accuracy

Problem set up

Input data:

- Adjacency matrices: $A \in \{0, 1\}^{m \times m}$, $B \in \{0, 1\}^{n \times n}$

Base model:

- Adjacency matrix: $A \in \{0, 1\}^{m \times m}$

$$A_{ij} = A_{ji} = \begin{cases} 1 & i \leftrightarrow j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Symmetric edge probability matrix: $W^{(A)} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$:

$$A_{ij} | W^{(A)} \overset{\text{independent}}{\sim} \text{Bernoulli}(W_{ij}^{(A)})$$

Graphon model: two-stage data generation

- 1 Latent **node positions** $X_1, \dots, X_m \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \text{Uniform}[0, 1]$
- 2 Edge probabilities:

$$W_{ij}^{(A)} = \rho_A \cdot f_A(X_i, X_j)$$

where:

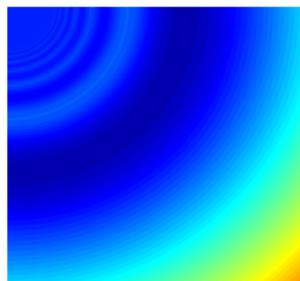
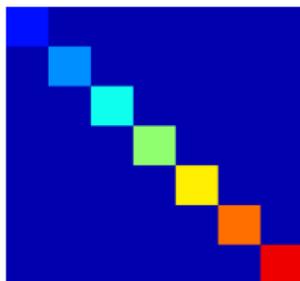
- Latent **graphon function** $f_A : [0, 1]^2 \rightarrow [0, 1]$, s.t. $\int_0^1 \int_0^1 f_A(u, v) \, du \, dv = 1$
- ρ_A : sparsity multiplier

Problem set up

$$W_{ij}^{(A)} = \rho_A \cdot f_A(X_i, X_j)$$

Remarks:

- f_A encodes all network structures
- X_i encodes node's role
- Both are **inestimable**



Goal: compare f_A vs f_B , using just A and B

Is this even doable?

Idea: compare network summary statistics

- Question 1: which statistics to compare?
- Question 2: similar summary statistics \Leftrightarrow similar network models

Our method

Question 1: which statistics to compare?

Network moment: frequency of the corresponding **motif**

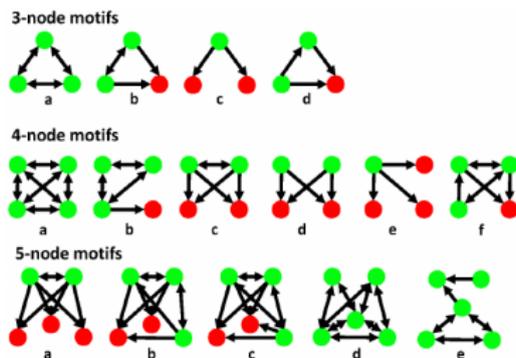


Figure: Network motifs (*Jayavelu & Bar, 2014*)

Our method

- Network motif: R with r nodes and s edges
- **Empirical network moment**

$$\hat{U}_m := \binom{m}{r}^{-1} \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_r \leq m} h(A_{i_1, \dots, i_r})$$

where the kernel $h(\cdot)$ is

$$h(A_{i_1, \dots, i_r}) := \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } A_{i_1, \dots, i_r} \text{ contains } R \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- **Example:** $R = \text{Triangle}$:

$$\hat{U}_m := \binom{m}{3}^{-1} \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < i_3 \leq m} A_{i_1, i_2} A_{i_2, i_3} A_{i_3, i_1} \quad (1)$$

- Define population network moment: $\mu_m := \mathbb{E}[\hat{U}_m]$
- Similarly define \hat{V}_n and v_n for B

Our method

Question 2: similar summary statistics $\stackrel{?}{\Leftrightarrow}$ similar network models

- **Goal:** Horvitz–Thompson estimator (population version)

$$d_{m,n,\rho_A,\rho_B} := \rho_A^{-s} \cdot \mu_m - \rho_B^{-s} \cdot \nu_n$$

- Similar network moments \approx similar network models!
(Borgs et al, 2008)

Theorem 1 (Inverse Counting Lemma, [7]). *Suppose the graphon functions f_A and f_B are measurable and bounded by 1. For any k_0 , if $|d_{m,n,\rho_A,\rho_B}| \leq 3^{-k_0^2}$ holds for all motifs with at most k_0 nodes, then the cut distance, denoted by $\delta_{\square}(\cdot, \cdot)$, satisfies*

$$\delta_{\square}(f_A, f_B) := \inf_{\sigma} \sup_{S,T \subset [0,1]} \left| \int_{S \times T} \{f_A(x, y) - f_B(\sigma(x), \sigma(y))\} dx dy \right| \leq \frac{22}{\sqrt{\log k_0}},$$

where $\sigma : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ ranges over all invertible measure-preserving maps.

- **Goal:** Horvitz–Thompson estimator (population version)

$$d_{m,n,\rho_A,\rho_B} := \rho_A^{-s} \cdot \mu_m - \rho_B^{-s} \cdot \nu_n$$

- Sample version (point estimator)

$$\widehat{D}_{m,n} := \widehat{\rho}_A^{-s} \cdot \widehat{U}_m - \widehat{\rho}_B^{-s} \cdot \widehat{V}_n$$

- Next steps:

- i. estimate $\text{Var}(\widehat{D}_{m,n})$ and studentize $\widehat{D}_{m,n}$ into $\widehat{T}_{m,n}$
- ii. distribution approximation for $\widehat{T}_{m,n}$

- Let's analyze \widehat{U}_m

Our method

Analysis of \widehat{U}_m : take $R = \text{Triangle}$ as an example, assuming $\rho_A = 1$

$$\binom{m}{3} \widehat{U}_m = \underbrace{\sum_{i,j,k} W_{i,j} W_{j,k} W_{k,i}}_{:=U_m, \text{ Randomness due to } X_i\text{'s}} + \underbrace{\sum_{i,j} \Theta_{i,j} \eta_{i,j} + \sum_{i,j,k} \Theta_{i,j;k} \eta_{i,k} \eta_{j,k} + \sum_{i,j,k} \Theta_{i,j,k} \eta_{i,j} \eta_{j,k} \eta_{k,i}}_{:= (\widehat{U}_m - U_m), \text{ Randomness due to observational error}} \quad (2)$$

where:

- Recall $W_{i,j} = f(X_i, X_j)$, then U_m is a U-statistic
- $\eta_{i,j} = A_{i,j} - W_{i,j}^{(A)}$
- Θ 's: coefficients, functions of X_i 's

Decomposition of \hat{U}_m :

$$\hat{U}_m = U_m + (\hat{U}_m - U_m)$$

where

- $U_m = U_m(X_1, \dots, X_m)$: randomness in $W^{(A)}$, driven by random latent node positions
- $\hat{U}_m - U_m$: observational errors in $A|W^{(A)}$, driven by Bernoulli edge realization
- “Non-degenerate” case: $\text{Var}(U_m) \gg \text{Var}(\hat{U}_m - U_m)$, focus on U_m

- $U_m := \mathbb{E}[\widehat{U}_m | W^{(A)}]$ admits **Hoeffding's ANOVA decomposition**

$$U_m - \mu_m = \underbrace{\frac{r}{m} \sum_{i=1}^n g_{A;1}(X_i)}_{\text{Linear part, main term}} + \underbrace{\frac{r(r-1)}{m(m-1)} \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq m} g_{A;2}(X_i, X_j)}_{\text{Quadratic part, correction}} + (\text{Remainder}) \quad (3)$$

where all $g_{A;k}$'s are **uncorrelated**

- Other terms $(\widehat{\rho}_A, \widehat{V}_n, \widehat{\rho}_B)$ can be analyzed similarly

Our method

- Recall:

$$\widehat{D}_{m,n} := \widehat{\rho}_A^{-s} \cdot \widehat{U}_m - \widehat{\rho}_B^{-s} \cdot \widehat{V}_n$$

- Variance estimation:

$$\widehat{S}_{m,n}^2 := \frac{1}{m^2} \widehat{\alpha}_1^2(X_i) + \frac{1}{n^2} \widehat{\beta}_1^2(Y_j)$$

where

$$\widehat{\alpha}_1(X_i) := r \widehat{\rho}_A^{-s} \widehat{g}_{A;1}(X_i) - \underbrace{2s \widehat{\rho}_A^{-(s+1)} \widehat{U}_m \widehat{g}_{\rho_A;1}(X_i)}_{\text{Plug-in error}}$$

and β defined similarly

- Studentization:

$$\widehat{T}_{m,n} := \widehat{S}_{m,n}^{-1} \{ \widehat{D}_{m,n} - (\rho_A^{-s} \cdot \mu_m - \rho_B^{-s} \cdot \nu_n) \}$$

- Distribution of $\widehat{T}_{m,n}$?

- Edgeworth expansion approximates $F_{\hat{T}_{m,n}}(u)$ by

$$G_{m,n}(u) := \Phi(u) - \varphi(u) \cdot \{Q_1 + Q_2(u^2 + 1) + I_0\},$$

where

- Φ : CDF of $N(0, 1)$
- φ : PDF of $N(0, 1)$
- I_0, Q_1 and Q_2 are estimable coefficients :

$$I_0 \asymp Q_1 \asymp Q_2 \asymp (m \wedge n)^{1/2} \cdot (m^{-1} + n^{-1})$$

(Lengthy details omitted, see paper ArXiv: 2208.07573)

If you're curious...

$$\mathcal{I}_0 := \sigma_{m,n}^{-1} (m^{-1} \alpha_0 - n^{-1} \beta_0),$$

$$Q_{m,n,\rho_A,\rho_B;1} := \frac{1}{2} \sigma_{m,n}^{-3} \left\{ -m^{-2} \mathbb{E}[\alpha_4(X_1, X_2) \alpha_1(X_2)] - m^{-2} \mathbb{E}[\alpha_1(X_1) \alpha_3(X_1)] \right. \\ \left. + n^{-2} \mathbb{E}[\beta_1(Y_1) \beta_3(Y_1)] + n^{-2} \mathbb{E}[\beta_4(Y_1; Y_2) \beta_1(Y_2)] \right\},$$

$$Q_{m,n,\rho_A,\rho_B;2} := \sigma_{m,n}^{-3} \left\{ m^{-2} (\mathbb{E}[\alpha_1^3(X_1)/6 \right. \\ \left. + \alpha_1(X_1) \alpha_1(X_2) \alpha_2(X_1, X_2)]) - n^{-2} (\mathbb{E}[\beta_1^3(Y_1)/6 + \beta_1(Y_1) \beta_1(Y_2) \beta_2(Y_1, Y_2)]) \right\} \\ + \frac{1}{2} \sigma_{m,n}^{-5} \left\{ (-m^{-3} \xi_{\alpha;1}^2 - m^{-2} n^{-1} \xi_{\beta;1}^2) \cdot \mathbb{E}[\alpha_1(X_1) \alpha_3(X_1) + \alpha_4(X_1; X_2) \alpha_1(X_2)] \right. \\ \left. + (m^{-1} n^{-2} \xi_{\alpha;1}^2 + n^{-3} \xi_{\beta;1}^2) \cdot \mathbb{E}[\beta_1(Y_1) \beta_3(Y_1) + \beta_4(Y_1; Y_2) \beta_1(Y_2)] \right\}.$$

Inference procedures:

- Hypothesis testing:

$$H_0 : d_{m,n,\rho_A,\rho_B} = 0, \quad \text{vs} \quad H_a : d_{m,n,\rho_A,\rho_B} \neq 0. \quad (10)$$

The empirical p-value produced by our method is

$$\hat{p}_{\text{val}} := 2 \cdot \min \{ \hat{G}_{m,n}(\hat{T}_{m,n}^{(\text{obs})}), 1 - \hat{G}_{m,n}(\hat{T}_{m,n}^{(\text{obs})}) \},$$

where we define the observed statistic by $\hat{T}_{m,n}^{(\text{obs})} := \hat{D}_{m,n} / \hat{S}_{m,n} + \delta_T$. Given a significance level α ,

- Cornish-Fisher CI:

$$\left(\hat{D}_{m,n} - (\hat{q}_{\hat{T}_{m,n}; 1-\alpha/2} - \delta_T) \cdot \hat{S}_{m,n}, \hat{D}_{m,n} - (\hat{q}_{\hat{T}_{m,n}; \alpha/2} - \delta_T) \cdot \hat{S}_{m,n} \right).$$

where $\hat{q}_{\hat{T}_{m,n}; \alpha} := z_\alpha + \hat{I}_0 + \hat{Q}_1 + \hat{Q}_2(z_\alpha^2 - 1)$ and z_α is $N(0, 1)$ quantile

Higher-order accuracy (simplified version):

- Conditions:

- ① $\log(m \vee n)/(m \wedge n) \rightarrow 0$

- ② For acyclic R : $\rho_A m \rightarrow \infty$; for cyclic R : $\rho_A^{r/2} m \rightarrow \infty$;
Similar conditions for B -index terms

- Define error bound:

$$M_A := \begin{cases} (\rho_A m)^{-1}, & \text{Acyclic } R \\ \rho_A^{-r/2} m^{-1}, & \text{Cyclic } R \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

- W.h.p., we have

$$\|F_{\widehat{T}_{m,n}}(u) - \widehat{G}_{m,n}(u)\|_\infty \lesssim (m \wedge n)(m^{-1}M_A + n^{-1}M_B), \quad (5)$$

where $\widehat{G}_{m,n}(u)$: empirical Edgeworth expansion (EEE)

- Larger and more cyclic motifs requires denser networks

Power optimality:

- Under regularity conditions, our test achieves consistency:

$$(\text{Type-I error rate}) + (\text{Type-II error rate}) \rightarrow 0$$

when

$$d_{m,n,\rho_A,\rho_B} \gg m^{-1/2} + n^{-1/2}$$

- No method is consistent when $d_{m,n,\rho_A,\rho_B} \lesssim m^{-1/2} + n^{-1/2}$

Our method simultaneously achieves:

- Higher-order accurate control of “risks”
- Rate-optimal “power”

It is not hard to achieve just one, but difficult to achieve both

Network hashing

Recall:

$$G_{m,n}(u) := \Phi(u) - \varphi(u) \cdot \{Q_1 + Q_2(u^2 + 1) + I_0\},$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} I_0 &:= \sigma_{m,n}^{-1}(m^{-1}\alpha_0 - n^{-1}\beta_0), \\ Q_{m,n,\rho_A,\rho_B;1} &:= \frac{1}{2}\sigma_{m,n}^{-3} \left\{ -m^{-2}\mathbb{E}[\alpha_4(X_1, X_2)\alpha_1(X_2)] - m^{-2}\mathbb{E}[\alpha_1(X_1)\alpha_3(X_1)] \right. \\ &\quad \left. + n^{-2}\mathbb{E}[\beta_1(Y_1)\beta_3(Y_1)] + n^{-2}\mathbb{E}[\beta_4(Y_1; Y_2)\beta_1(Y_2)] \right\}, \\ Q_{m,n,\rho_A,\rho_B;2} &:= \sigma_{m,n}^{-3} \left\{ m^{-2}(\mathbb{E}[\alpha_1^3(X_1)/6 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \alpha_1(X_1)\alpha_1(X_2)\alpha_2(X_1, X_2)]) - n^{-2}(\mathbb{E}[\beta_1^3(Y_1)/6 + \beta_1(Y_1)\beta_1(Y_2)\beta_2(Y_1, Y_2)]) \right\} \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2}\sigma_{m,n}^{-5} \left\{ (-m^{-3}\xi_{\alpha;1}^2 - m^{-2}n^{-1}\xi_{\beta;1}^2) \cdot \mathbb{E}[\alpha_1(X_1)\alpha_3(X_1) + \alpha_4(X_1; X_2)\alpha_1(X_2)] \right. \\ &\quad \left. + (m^{-1}n^{-2}\xi_{\alpha;1}^2 + n^{-3}\xi_{\beta;1}^2) \cdot \mathbb{E}[\beta_1(Y_1)\beta_3(Y_1) + \beta_4(Y_1; Y_2)\beta_1(Y_2)] \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

No cross terms (e.g., sth. like $\mathbb{E}[\gamma(X_1, Y_1)]$)!

Network hashing

Suppose you “Google” a keyword network A in a huge network database B_1, \dots, B_K :

- 1 **Network hashing**: each network \rightarrow a few summary statistics
- 2 **Fast query**: compare A to each B_k using only summary statistics!

Benefits:

- **Easy indexing and maintenance** for network database curators, memory efficient
- **Enhanced privacy protection**
- **Query is lightning fast**, much faster than existing methods
- Our method can serve as a **screening stage** for other methods (to test exact equality of models, under additional assumptions)

Simulations

Benchmarks:

- Normal approximation
- Node sub-sampling (variant of *Bhattacharyya & Bickel, (2015)*)
- Node re-sampling (variant of *Green & Shalizi, (2022)*)

Motifs:

- Triangle (cyclic)
- V-shape (acyclic)

Performance evaluation criteria:

- Simulation 1: Accuracy: K-S distance $\|\widehat{F}_{\widehat{T}_{m,n}}(u) - F_{\widehat{T}_{m,n}}(u)\|_{\infty}$
- Simulation 2: Accuracy of CI level control
- Simulation 3: database query accuracy
- All simulations: Time cost

Simulation 1

A, B from two different smooth graphons

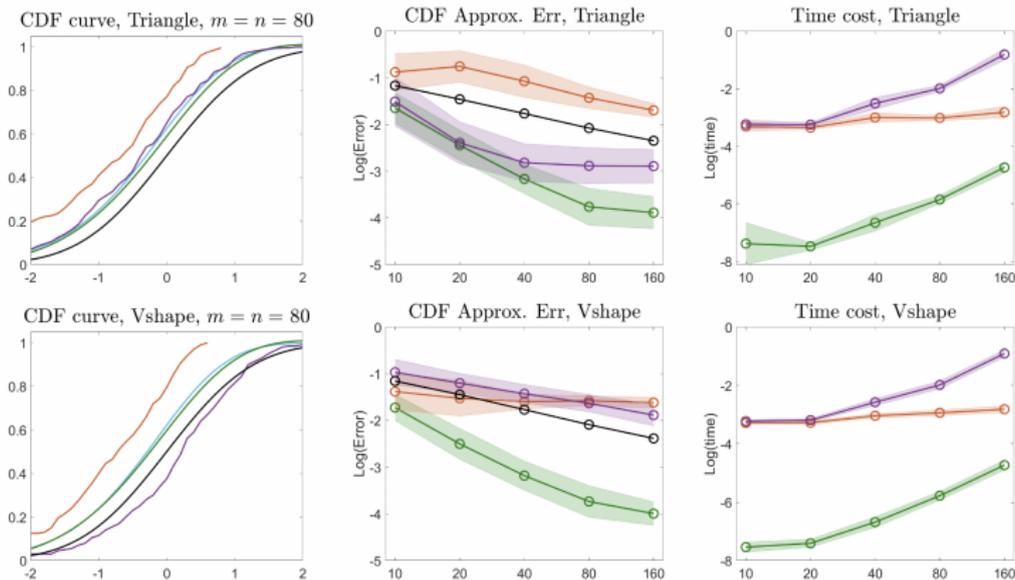
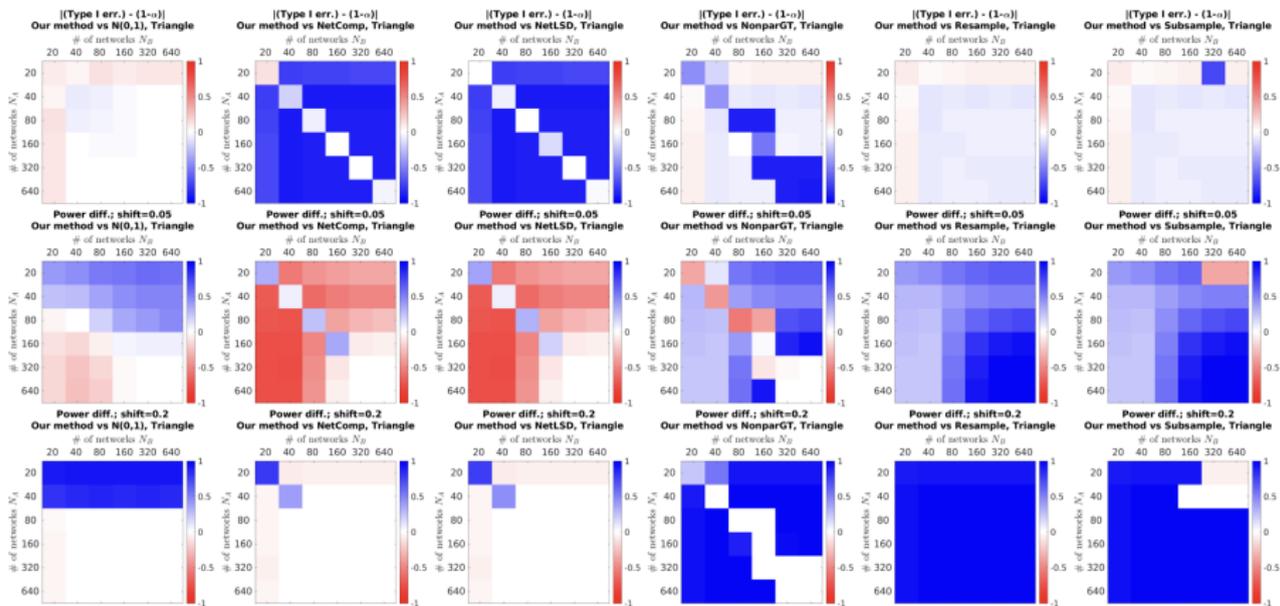


Figure: Green: our method; black: $N(0, 1)$; orange: node sub-sampling; violet: node re-sampling; cyan (left panel): true distribution Monte Carlo emulation

Simulation 2



Simulation 3

Database: 10 different models, each generate 100 networks;
Keyword networks: one from a database model, one from outside

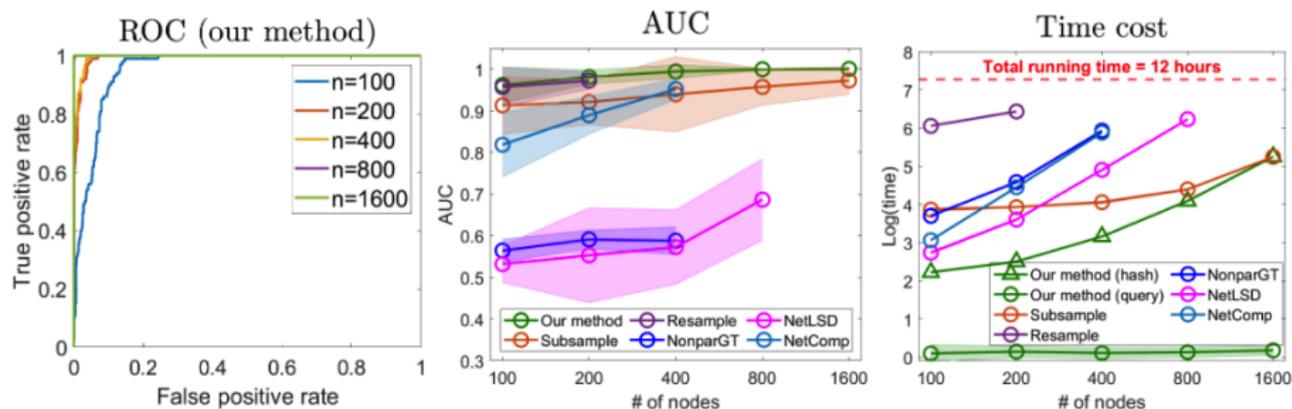
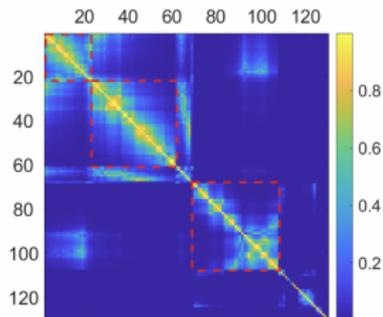


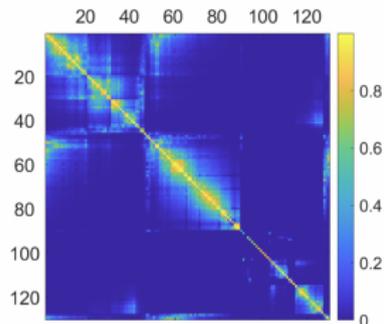
Figure: Comparison of query accuracy and speed. All networks are size n . Incomplete curves indicate benchmark went timeout.

Data examples

Similarity Matrix
Our method, transformed distance



Similarity Matrix
Subsample, transformed distance



Histogram of network sizes
in data example 1

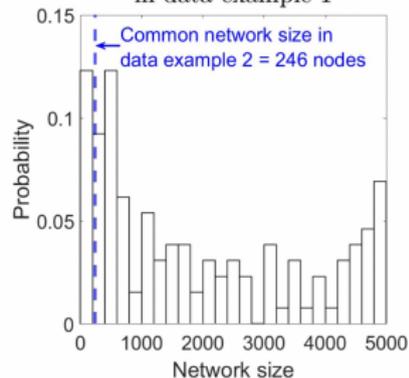


Figure: Data set 1: Google+ ego-networks

Data examples

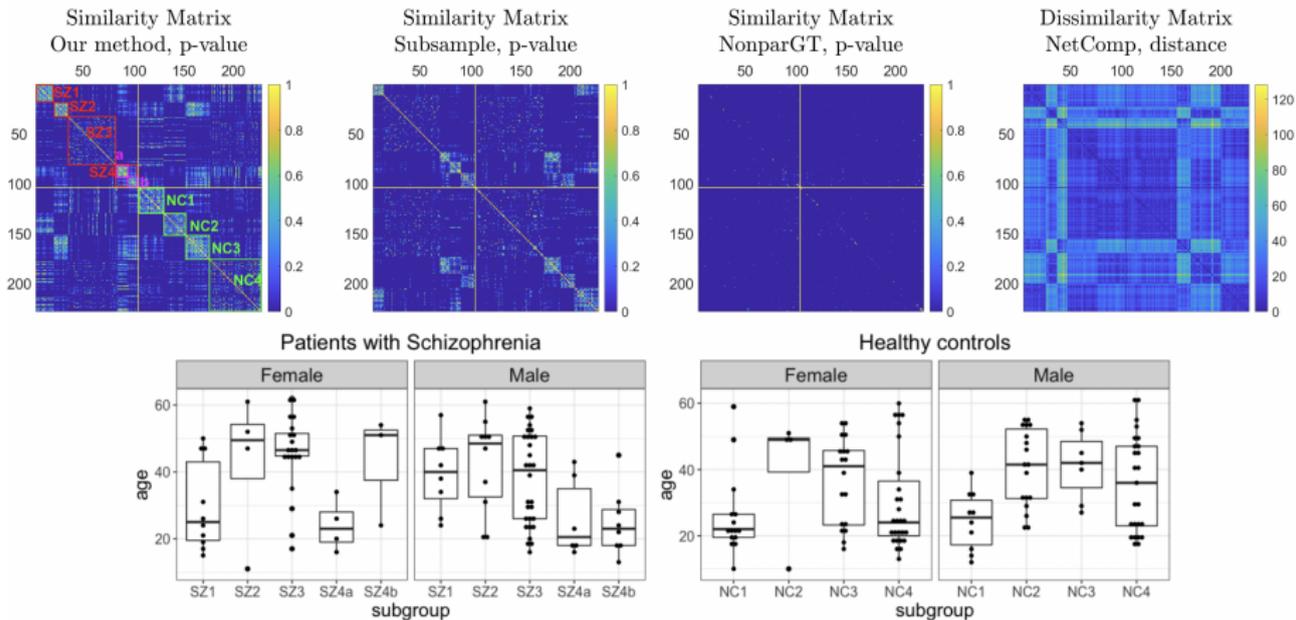


Figure: Data set 2: Schizophrenia brain image networks

Data examples

Table 2: Time cost comparison table. Unit is second. Timeout is 12 hours = 43200 seconds.

	Our method (hash)	Our method (test)	Subsample	Resample
Data example 1	116.39	18.81	10884.62	(Timeout)
Data example 2	3.60	64.36	2488.21	(Timeout)
	NonparGT	NetLSD	NetComp	
Data example 1	(Execution error)	(Timeout)	(Timeout)	
Data example 2	4327.09	(Execution error)	4304.51	

Figure: Time cost comparison

Extensions

What if I do have multiple observations? $A^{(1)}, \dots, A^{(N_A)}; B^{(1)}, \dots, B^{(N_B)}$, $N_A, N_B > 1$.

- If nodes are **matched** (same set of nodes):
 - ① Pool (average over) all adjacency matrices in one group

$$A^{\text{pool}} := N_A^{-1} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_A} A^{(\ell)}$$

- ② Apply our algorithm to pooled A, B with **no formula change**
- If nodes are **independently generated**:

- ① Compute $\hat{U}_m^{(\ell)}$ for each network ℓ in Group A, then average:

$$\hat{U}_m^{\text{pool}} := N_A^{-1} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_A} \hat{U}_m^{(\ell)}$$

Do the same for $\hat{\rho}_A, \hat{V}_n, \hat{\rho}_B$ and all emp. Edgeworth expansion coef.

- ② **Formula changes:** (assuming equal network sizes)
 - A new variance estimator
 - Edgeworth expansion formula: $m \rightarrow mN_A, n \rightarrow nN_B$

Extensions

Degenerate U-statistics:

- Reducing the U-statistic **reinstates normality** (*Weber, 1981; Chen & Kato, 2019; Shao et al, 2023*)
- **Example:** $Z_1, \dots, Z_n \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} N(0, 1)$, then:

$$\sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} Z_i Z_j \not\rightarrow^d \text{Normal}$$

However, $Z_1 Z_2 + Z_3 Z_4 + \dots \xrightarrow{d} \text{Normal}$

- Reduced statistic also **computes faster**, but **inflates variance**
- We proposed a novel test statistic, **automatically adaptive** to potential degeneracy (see paper)

Extensions

FDR control for query:

- Recall set up: test A vs each of B_1, \dots, B_K
- Vector of test statistics: $\hat{T} \approx \iota + \gamma W + \mathcal{K}$, where
 - $W \sim N(0, 1)$
 - $\mathcal{K} \sim N(0, \Psi)$
- \mathcal{K} has “weak dependence” (Fan et al, 2012), i.e., $\Psi \approx \text{diag}(\Psi)$
- Conditional on W , \hat{T} produces nearly independent p-values

Theorem 6. Suppose the conditions of Theorem 2 hold for all networks (keyword and database entries). Additionally, assume

$$\lim_{K, m, n_{\min} \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log(mK)}{m} + \frac{\log(n_{\min}K)}{n_{\min}} + \frac{\log^{1/2}(mK)}{\rho_A m} + \max_{j \in [1:K]} \frac{\log^{1/2}(n_j K)}{\rho_{B_j} n_j} = 0,$$

where $n_{\min} := \min_{k \in [1:K]} n_k$. Then, we have

$$\text{FDP}(t) - \frac{\sum_{k \in \{\text{true nulls}\}} [\Phi(a_k(z_{t/2} + \eta_k)) + \Phi(a_k(z_{t/2} - \eta_k))]}{\sum_{k \in [1:K]} \mathbb{1}(\hat{p}_k \leq t)} \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} 0, \quad (16)$$

as $K, m, n_{\min} \rightarrow \infty$, where $a_k := (1 - \gamma_k^2)^{-1/2}$, $z_t := \Phi^{-1}(t)$, and $\eta_k := \gamma_k W$ with $W \sim N(0, 1)$.

Thank you!

Questions?