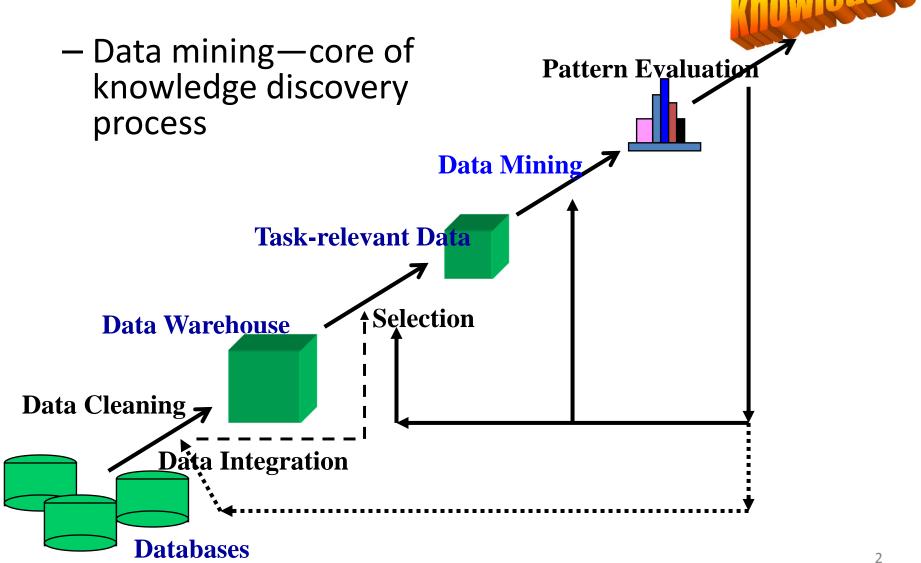
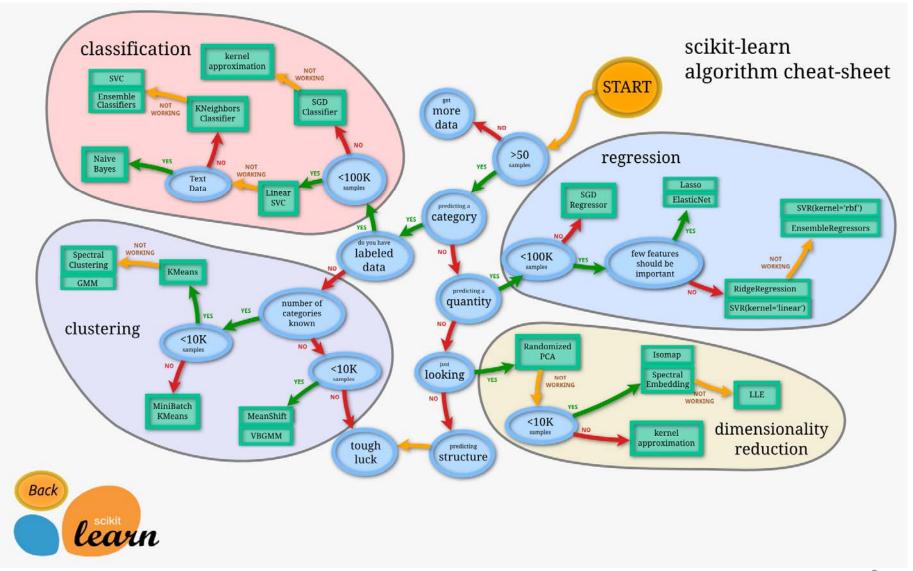
Social Big Data - Applications

Dr. Hong Huang

Knowledge Discovery (KDD) Process



Data mining algorithms



What can we do in social network?

- Community identification
- Influential user identification
- Link prediction
- Point of interest recommendation
- Disease prediction
- Crime prediction
- Event monitoring
- ...

Opinion Leader Mining in CQA

Community question answering (CQA) sites

- What is CQA site
 - Allow users to answer the questions posted by other users
 - Give positive or negative judgments to answers provided by others via voting
 - Popular QA portals: Yahoo!
 Answers, Stack Overflow,
 Quora, Zhihu











An innovative CQA -- Zhihu

- What is Zhihu (Chinese Quora)
 - Traditional QA functions
 - Ask & answer questions
 - Vote answers
 - Social functions
 - Follow users









Opinion leader identification

- What is opinion leader
 - Give their influential comments and opinions, put forward guiding ideas, agitate and guide the public to understand social problems[1]
- Topical opinion leader in Zhihu
 - Give authoritative and influential answers,
 comments and other activities in some topic area
 - Play an important role in promoting formation and management of online public opinion and knowledge base

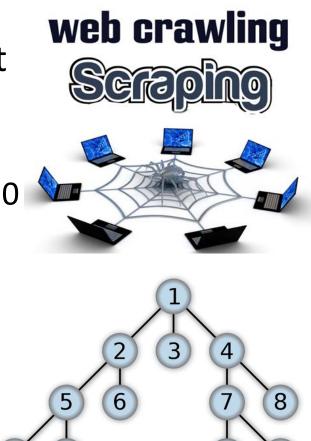
^[1] Lazarsfeld, P.F., Berelson, B., Gaudet, H.: The People's Choice: How the Voter Makes up His Mind in a Presidential Campaign. New York: Columbia University Press, (1948)

Benefits of opinion leader identification

- Users: realize public opinion and authoritative knowledge, get specific answers efficiently
- Zhihu: invite them to attend public activities(e.g., editing, publication) to attract more users
- Marketing: influence customer opinions on products and services
- Government: realize, guide and interfere public opinion on the internet

Dataset collection

- We gathered the Zhihu dataset through a web-based crawler from March to June in 2016
 - Start the crawler using a set of 10 popular Zhihu users from a webpage
 - The crawler follows a Breadth
 First Search (BFS) pattern
 through the follower and
 followee links of each user.



BFS

Dataset

- Each user data contains
 - user ID, the lists of the user's followers and followees, the user's answers and questions posted
- Each answer/question data contains
 - its topic and the number of received votes

Total number of users	1,411,669
Total number of questions	701,982
Total number of answers	4,047,183
Total number of topics	160,664

Data analysis tools

- Depending on needs, some data analysis tools are as follows
 - MATLAB, or its open-source alternatives, Scilab and GNU Octave (great at dealing with numbers)
 - Python with libraries like Numpy, Scipy and Matplotlib (great for general purpose data analysis- particularly good at interacting with other tools)
 - R (Great for statistics)
- Use Python to process the Zhihu dataset

Python libraries for data science

NumPy

the foundational library for scientific computing in Python, and many of the libraries on this list use NumPy arrays as their basic inputs and outputs. In short, NumPy introduces objects for multidimensional arrays and matrices, as well as routines that allow developers to perform advanced mathematical and statistical functions on those arrays with as little code as possible.

SciPy

 builds on NumPy by adding a collection of algorithms and high-level commands for manipulating and visualizing data. This package includes functions for computing integrals numerically, solving differential equations, optimization, and more.

Pandas

adds data structures and tools that are designed for practical data analysis in finance, statistics, social sciences, and engineering. Pandas works well with incomplete, messy, and unlabeled data (i.e., the kind of data you're likely to encounter in the real world), and provides tools for shaping, merging, reshaping, and slicing datasets.

scikit-learn

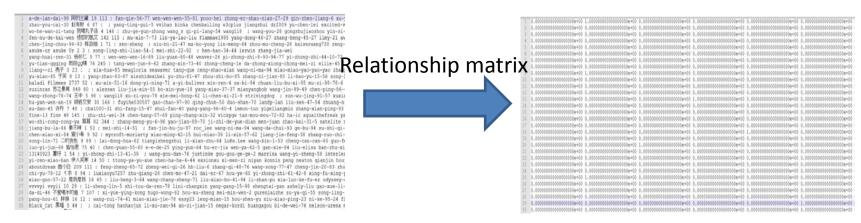
– builds on NumPy and SciPy by adding a set of algorithms for common machine learning and data mining tasks, including clustering, regression, and classification. As a library, scikit-learn has a lot going for it. Its tools are well-documented and its contributors include many machine learning experts. What's more, it's a very curated library, meaning developers won't have to choose between different versions of the same algorithm. Its power and ease of use make it popular with a lot of data-heavy startups, including Evernote, OKCupid, Spotify, and Birchbox.

NetworkX

 allows you to create and analyze graphs and networks. It's designed to work with both standard and nonstandard data formats, which makes it especially efficient and scalable. All this makes NetworkX especially well suited to analyzing complex social networks.

Data preprocessing

- Data cleaning
 - Remove incomplete user data
- Data transformation

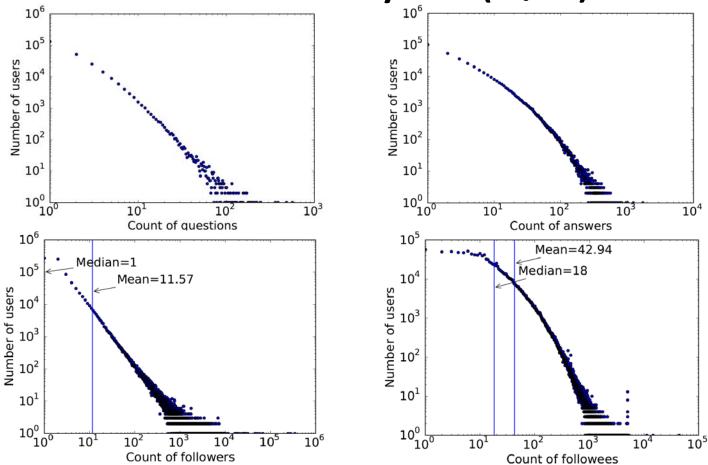


Topic vector



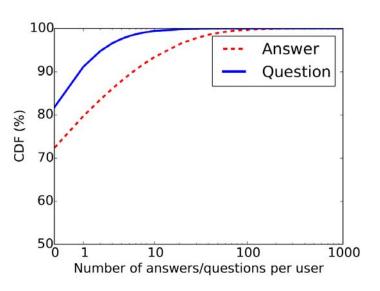
a-de-lan-dai-98,35,12,14,3,9,2,6,2,0,0,1,0 wo-he-wan-zi-tang, 6, 12, 6, 0, 0, 0, 15, 0, 1, 3, 3, 0 fen-nu-de-kai-wen, 39, 14, 16, 4, 10, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0 cao-lei-18-59,20,49,19,4,16,1,0,0,1,0,0,0 tang-yuan-75-7,18,10,8,3,3,8,0,3,3,0,0,4 zi-lai-juan-er-35,18,4,4,14,5,1,0,0,0,0,0,0

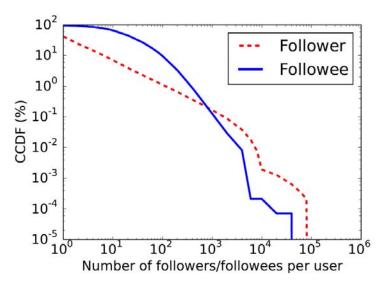
Initial analysis (1/2)



- Power law distribution
 - It has been identified in social science
 - It means that a small portion have extremely high degree while most have low degree

Initial analysis (2/2)

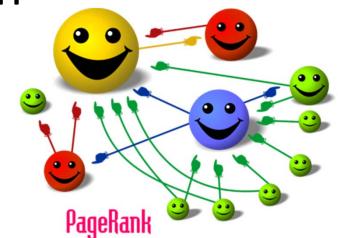




- CDF (Cumulative distribution function) & CCDF (Complementary Cumulative Distribution Function)
 - 81% of the users did not ask any question and 72% of users did not publish any answer
 - about 38% of users have no follower and more than 99% of users have followees

Methods on opinion leader identification

- Opinion leader identification is a ranking problem
 - PageRank (Larry Page), HITS (Jon Kleinberg)

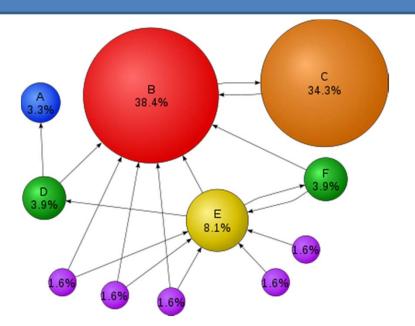


- A typical ranking method PageRank
 - An algorithm used by Google Search to rank websites in their search engine results
 - It works by counting the number and quality of links to a page to determine a rough estimate of how important the website is

PageRank

 used by Google Search to rank websites in their search engine results (Larry Page)

PageRank works by counting the number and quality of links to a page to determine a rough estimate of how important the website is. The underlying assumption is that more important websites are likely to receive more links from other websites



Original PageRank algorithm

- PR(A) = (1-d) + d (PR(T1)/C(T1) + ... + PR(Tn)/C(Tn))
- Where:
 - PR(A) is the PageRank of page A
 - PR(Ti) is the PageRank of pages Ti which link to page A
 - C(Ti) is the number of outbound links on page Ti
 - d is a damping factor which can be set between 0 and 1

A simple example of PageRank

- We regard a small web consisting of three pages A, B and C
 - Page A links to the pages B and C, page B links to page C and page C links to page A
 - The damping factor d is usually set to 0.85, but to keep the calculation simple we set it to 0.5
- Calculating PageRank PR(A) = 0.5 + 0.5 PR(C)

$$PR(A) = 0.5 + 0.5 PR(C)$$

$$PR(B) = 0.5 + 0.5 (PR(A) / 2)$$

$$PR(C) = 0.5 + 0.5 (PR(A) / 2 + PR(B))$$

We get the following PageRank values for the single pages:

$$PR(A) = 14/13 = 1.07692308$$

$$PR(B) = 10/13 = 0.76923077$$

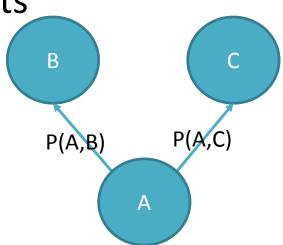
The sum of all pages' PageRanks is 3 and thus equals the total number of web pages

Α

Topical opinion leader identification in Zhihu

Our method considers three aspects

- Social network structure
 - Based on PageRank
- Topical interest similarity
 - A user's influence on each follower depends on the topic interest similarity between them
- Knowledge authority
 - The higher authority (the number of votes) a user has, the higher probability he has to impact his followers
- Set link weight between users according to the topical interest similarity and knowledge authority



Results and evaluation

Topic	Top 5 opinion leaders in each topic
Movie	xiepanda, liuniandate, vikinglau, WxzxzW, chen-yao-39-75
Psychology	xiepanda, liuniandate, WxzxzW, zhang-xiao-wei-23, yezhuang
Travel	WxzxzW, chico-62, xu-wen-39, li-zhi-qiang-peter, qiu-shi-19-94
Food	xiepanda, anshi, weijiali, ji-li-ji-li, liuniandate
Fitness	WxzxzW, chico-62, xiepanda, summer.li, guo-fu-lin
Internet	xiepanda, WxzxzW, liuniandate, big_caaat, 8king
Fashion	WxzxzW, 8king, sickberry, liuniandate, xiepanda
Pioneer	wangxing, zhou-kui, xiepanda, liuniandate, dreamcog
Design	WxzxzW, 8king, xiepanda, soulchef, xiaoxiao
Finance	xiepanda, liuniandate, WxzxzW, ji-li-ji-li, big_caaat

Overall evaluation

 They always published lots of topic-related posts and received a great number of votes, and have a great number of followers including some important followers

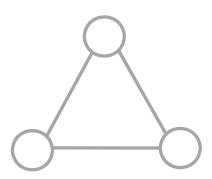
Topical opinion leader examples

- "xiepanda", "liuniandate"and "WxzxzW"are identified among the top 5 topical opinion leaders in most topics
 - This kind of users are so-called cewebrity, who often posts a large number of content about various topics to acquire fame on the Internet so that they have more than 200K followers including many important ones.
- "yezhuang" is identified as a opinion leader in psychology
 - He is a psychology trainer, whose posts are all related to psychology
 - His answers received 458 of average vote count. He is also followed by more than 40K users including some top-ranked ones
- Most of pioneer-related top 5 opinion leaders are successful company founders in real life
 - "wangxing" posted mainly about Pioneer and has 61,268 followers including a few of influential users "yuyue-51", "zhou-kui", and "GavinQi". He founded many popular websites such as Meituan, Fanfou and Renren

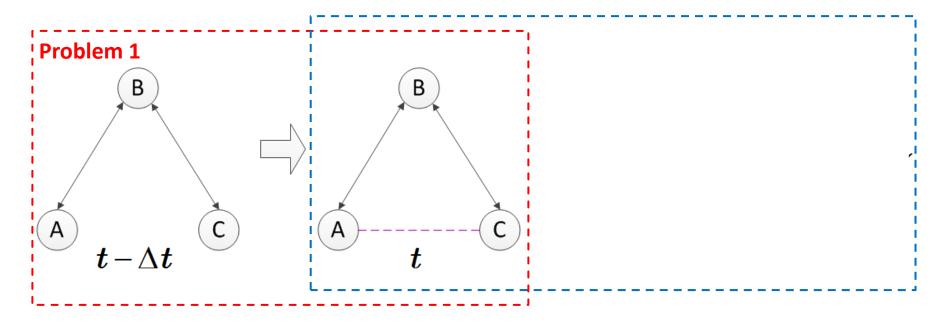


Triadic Closure and Its Influence in Social Networks

- A Microscopic View of Network Structural Dynamics



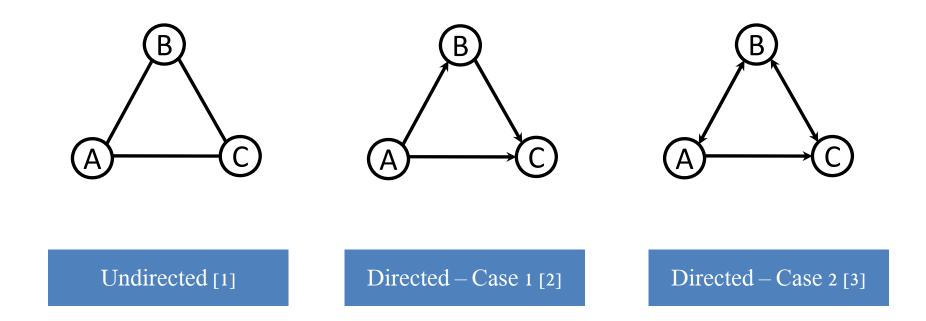
Two Issues in Triadic Closure Process



• Problems:

- 1: will open triad be closed at time t?
- 2: at $t + \Delta t$, will the tie AB become stronger or weaker? Also BC?

Related Work

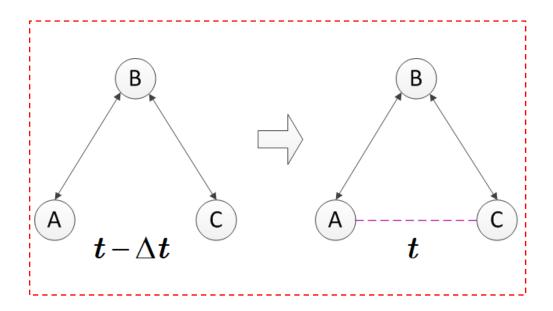


- [1] Zignani, M., et.al. Link and triadic closure delay: Temporal metrics for social network dynamics. In ICWSM'14.
- [2] Romero, D. M. and Kleinberg, J. The directed closure process in hybrid social-information networks, with an analysis of link formation on twitter. Stat, 2010.
- [3] Lou, T et.al. Learning to predict reciprocity and triadic closure in social networks. TKDD, 2013.

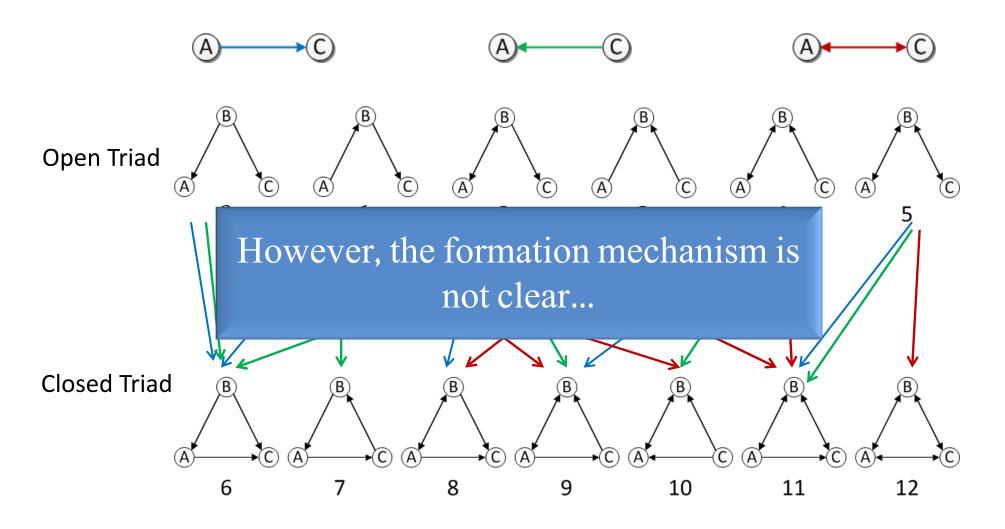
Triad: A group of three people

WHY TRIADS? TRIADIC CLOSURES?

What are underlying factors that trigger triadic closure?



Open Triad to Triadic Closure



Milo R, Itzkovitz S, Kashtan N, et al.. Superfamilies of evolved and designed networks. Science, 2004

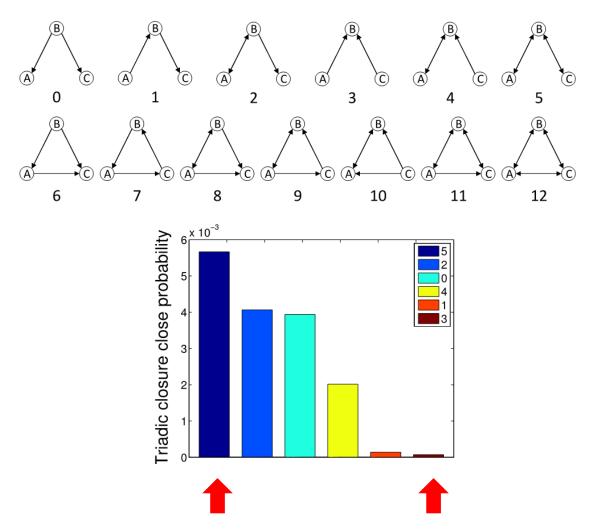
Look into one social network...

- Time span: Sep 29th, 2012 Oct 29th, 2012
- 1.7 million nodes
- 400 million following links



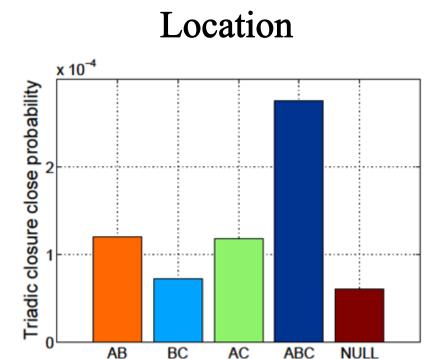
- 200 out-degree per user
- 360 thousand new links
- 746 thousand newly formed closed triads per day

Observation - Network Topology



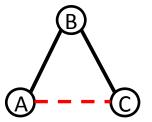
Y-axis: probability that each open triad forms triadic closures

Observation - Demography

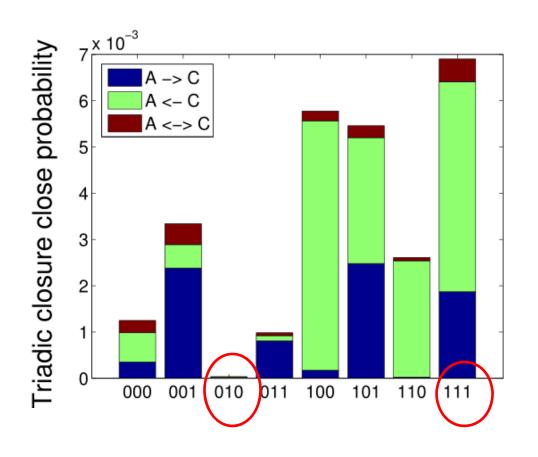


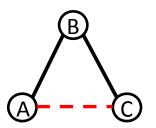
AB means A and B are from the same city

Gender



Observation – Opinion Leader

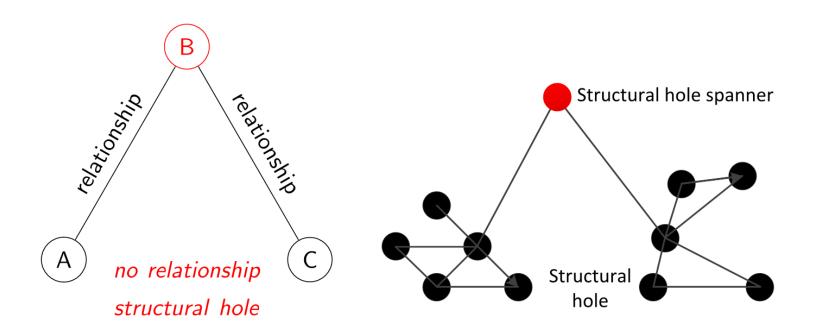




o—ordinary useropinion leader

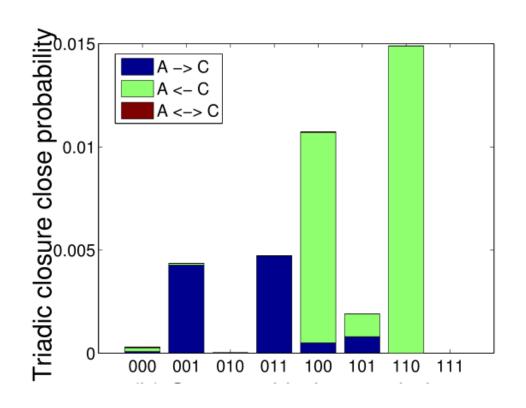
Structural Hole

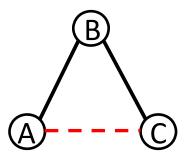
• **Structural hole:** two separate clusters possess non-redundant information.



Lou T, Tang J. Mining structural hole spanners through information diffusion in social networks, www2013

Observation - Structural Hole

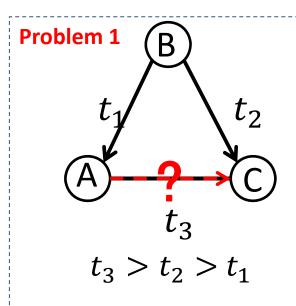




0—ordinary user

1—structural hole spanner

Problem Formalization



- Given a network $G^t = (V, E, X, Y)$,
 - X features defined for candidate triads
 - Y whether an open triad become closed or not (Problem 1)
- Goal: Predict the formation of triadic closure given learned features and the network

$$\varphi = logP(Y|X,G)$$

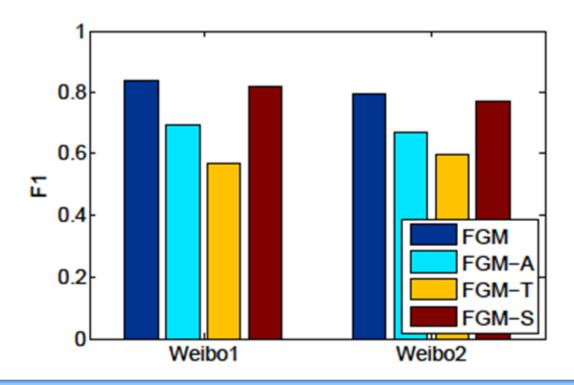
Experiments & Results

- Datasets: Weibo
- 50% as a training set, 50% as a testing set

Problem 1

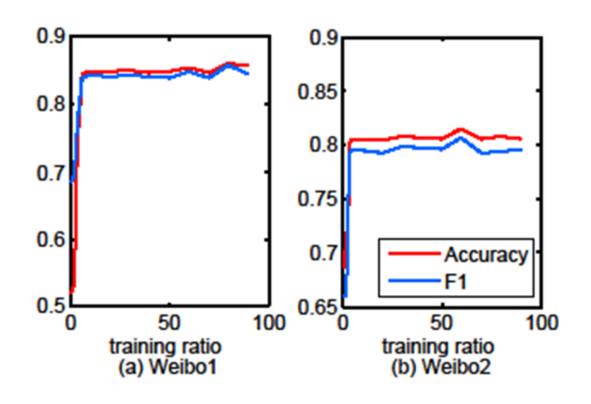
Algorithm	Precision	Recall	F1	Accuracy
SVM	0.890	0.844	0.866	0.882
Logistic	0.882	0.913	0.897	0.885
Our	0.901	0.953	0.926	0.931

Factor Contributions



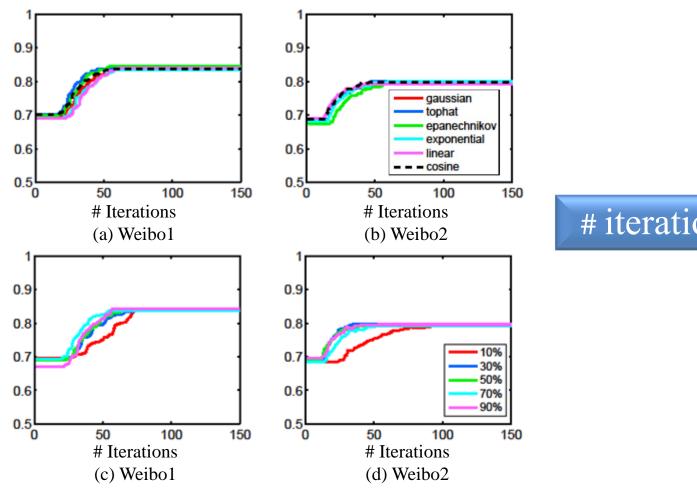
Temporal factor > Attribute factor > Social factor

Performance - Training Data Ratio



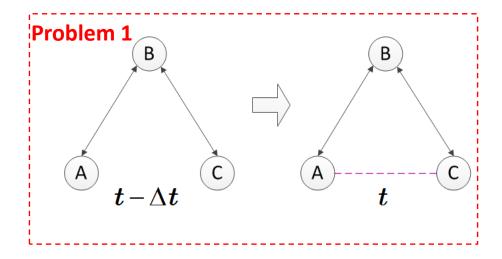
Robust to the size of training dataset

Performance - Convergence



iterations < 50

Conclusion



- Studying triadic closure process
- Uncovering underlying factors that trigger triadic closure
- Proposing efficient models to predict triadic

Announcement

• Next class on 8th June will start at 10:30am and end at 12:00.