



Graph Edit Distance: Basics and History

May 21, 2017

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Recognition implies the definition of similarity or dissimilarity measures.

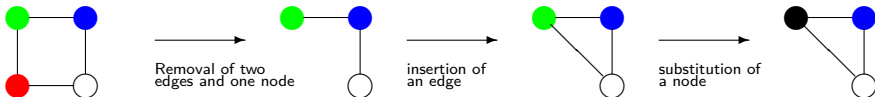
Different measures between graphs:

- Distance based on maximum common subgraphs,
- Distance based on spectral characteristics,
- Graph kernels (similarities),
- Graph Edit distance.
 - 😞 Not definite negative,
 - 😊 Very fine.



Definition (Edit path)

Given two graphs G_1 and G_2 an **edit path** between G_1 and G_2 is a sequence of node or edge removal, insertion or substitution which transforms G_1 into G_2 .



A substitution is denoted $u \rightarrow v$, an insertion $\epsilon \rightarrow v$ and a removal $u \rightarrow \epsilon$.

Alternative edit operations such as merge/split have been also proposed[Ambauen et al., 2003].



Costs

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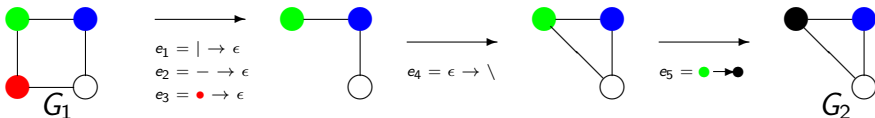
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All paths go to Roma. . . However we are usually only interested by the shortest one.

Let $c(.)$ denote the cost of any elementary operation. The cost of an edit path is defined as the sum of the costs of its elementary operations.

- All cost are positive: $c() \geq 0$,
- A node or edge substitution which does not modify a label has a 0 cost: $c(l \rightarrow l) = 0$.



If all costs are equal to 1, the cost of this edit path is equal to 5.



Graph edit distance

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Definition (Graph edit distance)

The graph edit distance between G_1 and G_2 is defined as the cost of the less costly path within $\Gamma(G_1, G_2)$. Where $\Gamma(G_1, G_2)$ denotes the set of edit paths between G_1 and G_2 .

$$d(G_1, G_2) = \min_{\gamma \in \Gamma(G_1, G_2)} \sum_{e \in \gamma} c(e)$$



Main concepts

Tree search algorithms explore the space $\Gamma(G_1, G_2)$ with some heuristics to avoid to visit unfruitful states. More precisely let us consider a partial edit path p between G_1 and G_2 . Let:

- $g(p)$ the cost of the partial edit path.
- $h(p)$ a lower bound of the cost of the remaining part of the path required to reach G_2 .

$$\forall \gamma \in \Gamma(G_1, G_2), \gamma = p.q, \quad g(p) + h(p) \leq d_\gamma(G_1, G_2)$$

where $d_\gamma(G_1, G_2)$ denotes the cost of the edit path γ .



Main concepts

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Let UB denote the best approximation of the GED found so far. If $g(p) + h(p) > UB$ we have:

$$\forall \gamma \in \Gamma(G_1, G_2), \gamma = p.q, d_\gamma(G_1, G_2) \geq g(p) + h(p) > UB$$

In other terms, all the sons of p will provide a greater approximation of the GED and correspond thus to unfruitful nodes.



Choosing a good lower bound

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Let us suppose that n_1 and n_2 vertices of respectively V_1 and V_2 remain to be assigned. Different choices are possible for function h [Abu-Aisheh, 2016]:

Null function: $h(p) = 0$,

Bipartite Function: $h(p) = d_{lb}(G_1, G_2)$ (see below).

Closer bound but requires a $\mathcal{O}(\max\{n_1, n_2\}^3)$ algorithm.

Hausdorff distance $h(p)$ is set to the Hausdorff distance between the sets of n_1 and n_2 vertices (including their incident edges). Requires $\mathcal{O}((n_1 + n_2)^2)$ computation steps.



A* algorithm

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- 1: **Input:** Two graphs G_1 and G_2 with $V_1 = \{u_1, \dots, u_n\}$ and $V_2 = \{v_1, \dots, v_m\}$
- 2: **Output:** A minimum edit path between G_1 and G_2
- 3: $OPEN = \{u_1 \rightarrow \epsilon\} \cup \bigcup_{w \in V_2} \{u_1 \rightarrow w\}$
- 4: **repeat**
- 5: $p = \arg \min_{q \in OPEN} \{g(q) + h(q)\}$
- 6: **if** p is a complete edit path **then**
- 7: **return** p
- 8: **end if**
- 9: Complete p by operations on u_{k+1} or on remaining vertices of V_2 .
- 10: Add completed paths to OPEN
- 11: **until** end of times



A^* algorithm: discussion

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- 😊 If algorithm A^* terminates it always returns the optimal value of the GED.
- 😞 The set OPEN may be as large as the number of edit paths between G_1 and G_2 .
- 😞 The algorithm does not return any result before it finds the optimal solution.



Depth first search algorithm

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- 1: **Input:** Two graphs G_1 and G_2 with $V_1 = \{u_1, \dots, u_n\}$ and $V_2 = \{v_1, \dots, v_m\}$
- 2: **Output:** γ_{UB} and UB a minimum edit path and its associated cost
- 3:
- 4: $(\gamma_{UB}, UBCOST) = \text{GoodHeuristic}(G_1, G_2)$
- 5: initialize $OPEN$
- 6: **while** $OPEN \neq \emptyset$ **do**
- 7: $p = OPEN.popFirst()$
- 8: **if** p is a leaf (i.e. if all vertices of V_1 are mapped) **then**
- 9: complete p by inserting pending vertices of V_2
- 10: update $(\gamma_{UB}, UBCOST)$ if required
- 11: **else**
- 12: Stack into $OPEN$ all sons q of p such that $g(q) + h(q) < UBCOST$.
- 13: **end if**
- 14: **end while**



Depth first search algorithm

Discussion

- 😊 The number of pending edit paths in OPEN is bounded by $|V_1| \cdot |V_2|$,
- 😊 The initialization by an heuristic allows to discard many branches,
- This algorithm quickly find a first edit path. It may be tuned into [Abu-Aisheh, 2016]:
 - An any time algorithm,
 - a Parallel or distributed algorithm.
- 😞 The computation of the optimal value of the Graph Edit distance may anyway require long processing times.



Independent Edit paths

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An element $\gamma \in \Gamma(G_1, G_2)$ is potentially infinite by just doing and undoing a given operation (e.g. insert and then delete a node). All cost being positive such an edit path can not correspond to a minimum:

Definition (Independent Edit path)

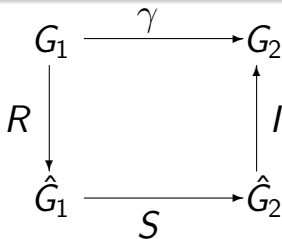
An independent edit path between two labeled graphs G_1 and G_2 is an edit path such that:

- 1 No node nor edge is both substituted and removed,
- 2 No node nor edge is simultaneously substituted and inserted,
- 3 Any inserted element is never removed,
- 4 Any node or edge is substituted at most once,



Proposition

The elementary operations of an independent edit path between two graphs G_1 and G_2 may be ordered into a sequence of removals, followed by a sequence of substitutions and terminated by a sequence of insertions.

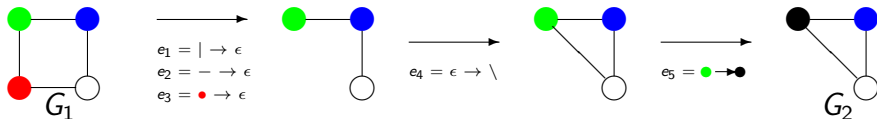


Note that $\hat{G}_1 \underset{s}{\cong} \hat{G}_2$

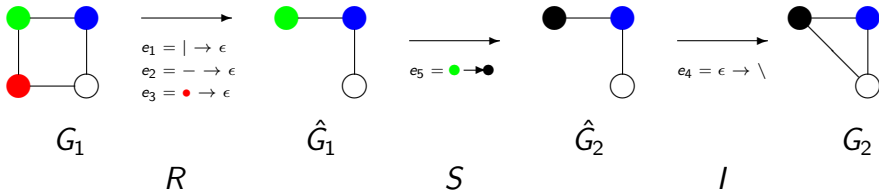


Decomposition of an Edit Path

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May be reordered into:





GED Formulation based on \hat{G}_1

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Let $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$ and $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$. We have:

$$\begin{aligned} d(G_1, G_2) = & \sum_{v \in V_1 \setminus \hat{V}_1} c_{vd}(v) + \sum_{e \in E_1 \setminus \hat{E}_1} c_{ed}(e) + \sum_{v \in \hat{V}_1} c_{vs}(v) + \sum_{e \in \hat{E}_1} c_{es}(e) \\ & + \sum_{v \in V_2 \setminus \hat{V}_2} c_{vi}(v) + \sum_{e \in E_2 \setminus \hat{E}_2} c_{ei}(e) \end{aligned}$$

If all costs are constants we have:

$$\begin{aligned} d(G_1, G_2) = & (|V_1| - |\hat{V}_1|)c_{vd} + (|E_1| - |\hat{E}_1|)c_{ed} + V_f c_{vs} + E_f c_{es} \\ & + (|V_2| - |\hat{V}_2|)c_{vi} + (|E_2| - |\hat{E}_2|)c_{ei} \end{aligned}$$

where V_f (resp. E_f) denotes the number of vertices (resp. edges) substituted with a non zero cost and c_{vd} ,



By grouping constant terms minimize:

$$d(G_1, G_2) = (|V_1| - |\hat{V}_1|)c_{vd} + (|E_1| - |\hat{E}_1|)c_{ed} + V_f c_{vs} + E_f c_{es} \\ + (|V_2| - |\hat{V}_2|)c_{vi} + (|E_2| - |\hat{E}_2|)c_{ei}$$

is equivalent to maximize:

$$M(P) \stackrel{not.}{=} |\hat{V}_1|(c_{vd} + c_{vi}) + |\hat{E}_1|(c_{ed} + c_{ei}) - V_f c_{vs} - E_f c_{es}$$

We should thus maximize \hat{G}_1 while minimizing V_f and E_f .

If $c(u \rightarrow v) \geq c(u \rightarrow \epsilon) + c(\epsilon \rightarrow v)$, $M(P)$ is maximum for $V_f = E_f = \emptyset$ and \hat{G}_1 is a maximum common sub graph of G_1 and G_2 [Bunke, 1997, Bunke and Kandel, 2000].

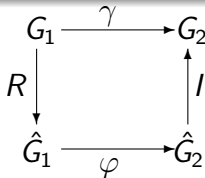


Definition (Restricted edit path)

A restricted edit path is an independent edit path in which an edge cannot be removed and then inserted.

Proposition

If G_1 and G_2 are simple graphs, there is a one-to-one mapping between the set of restricted edit paths between G_1 and G_2 and the set of injective functions from a subset of V_1 to V_2 . We denote by φ_0 , the special function from the empty set onto the empty set.





- Let v_1 and V_2 be two sets, with $n = |v_1|$ and $m = |V_2|$.
- Consider $V_1^\epsilon = V_1 \cup \{\epsilon\}$ and $V_2^\epsilon = V_2 \cup \{\epsilon\}$.

Definition

An ϵ -assignment from V_1 to V_2 is a mapping $\varphi : V_1^\epsilon \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(V_2^\epsilon)$, satisfying the following constraints:

$$\begin{aligned}\forall i \in V_1 \quad & |\varphi(i)| = 1 \\ \forall j \in V_2 \quad & |\varphi^{-1}(j)| = 1 \\ & \epsilon \in \varphi(\epsilon)\end{aligned}$$

An ϵ assignment encodes thus:

- 1 Substitutions: $\varphi(i) = j$ with $(i, j) \in V_1 \times V_2$.
- 2 Removals: $\varphi(i) = \epsilon$ with $i \in V_1$.
- 3 Insertions: $j \in \varphi^{-1}(\epsilon)$ with $j \in V_2$.



From assignments to matrices

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- An ϵ -assignment can be encoded in matrix form.

$$\mathbf{X} = (x_{i,k})_{(i,k) \in \{1, \dots, n+1\} \times \{1, \dots, m+1\}} \text{ with}$$

$$\forall (i, k) \in \{1, \dots, n+1\} \times \{1, \dots, m+1\} \quad x_{i,k} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } k \in \varphi(i) \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

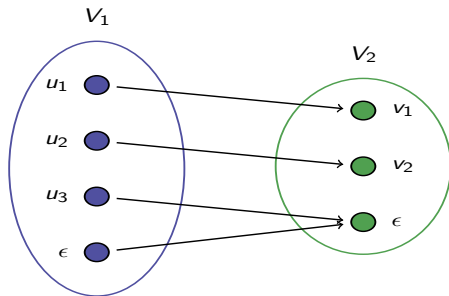
- We have:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \forall i = 1, \dots, n, & \sum_{k=1}^{m+1} x_{i,k} = 1 \quad (|\varphi(i)| = 1) \\ \forall k = 1, \dots, m, & \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} x_{j,k} = 1 \quad (|\varphi^{-1}(k)| = 1) \\ & x_{n+1, m+1} = 1 \quad (\epsilon \in \varphi(\epsilon)) \\ \forall (i, j) & x_{i,j} \in \{0, 1\} \end{array} \right.$$



From functions to matrices

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$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{array}{c} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \\ \epsilon \end{array} \begin{pmatrix} v_1 & v_2 & | & \epsilon \\ 1 & 0 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & | & 1 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & | & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

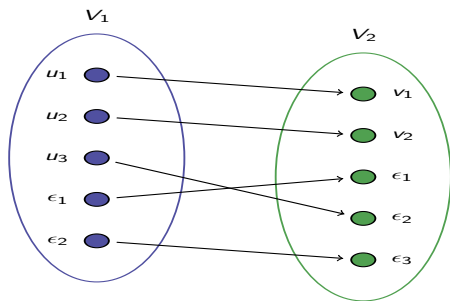
- The set of permutation matrices encoding ϵ -assignments is called the set of ϵ -assignment matrices denoted by $\mathcal{A}_{n,m}$.



An alternative encoding

Example

- Usual assignments are encoded by larger $(n + m) \times (n + m)$ matrices[Riesen, 2015].



$\mathbf{x} =$

$$\begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{cc|ccc} V_1 & V_2 & \epsilon_1 & \epsilon_2 & \epsilon_3 \\ u_1 & \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ u_2 & \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ u_3 & \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ \hline \epsilon_1 & \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ \epsilon_2 & \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \end{array} \end{array}$$



Back to edit paths

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- Let us consider two simple graphs $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$ and $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$ with $|V_1| = n$ and $|V_2| = m$.

Proposition

There is a one-to-one relation between the set of restricted edit paths from G_1 to G_2 and $\mathcal{A}_{n,m}$.

Theorem

Any non-infinite value of $\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{x}^T \Delta \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}$ corresponds to the cost of a restricted edit path. Conversely the cost of any restricted edit path may be written as $\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{x}^T \Delta \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}$ with the appropriate \mathbf{x} .



Costs of Node assignments

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$$\mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} c(u_1 \rightarrow v_1) & \dots & c(u_1 \rightarrow v_m) & c(u_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon) \\ & \ddots & & \vdots \\ \vdots & c(u_i \rightarrow v_j) & \vdots & c(u_i \rightarrow \varepsilon) \\ & & \ddots & \vdots \\ c(u_n \rightarrow v_1) & \dots & c(u_n \rightarrow v_m) & c(u_n \rightarrow \varepsilon) \\ c(\varepsilon \rightarrow v_1) & c(\varepsilon \rightarrow v_i) & c(\varepsilon \rightarrow v_m) & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

- $c = \text{vect}(\mathbf{C})$
- Alternative factorizations of cost matrices exist[Serratos, 2014, Serratos, 2015].



Cost of edges assignments

- Let us consider a $(n+1)(m+1) \times (n+1)(m+1)$ matrix D such that:

$$d_{ik,jl} = c_e(i \rightarrow k, j \rightarrow l)$$

with:

(i, j)	(k, l)	edit operation	cost $c_e(i \rightarrow k, j \rightarrow l)$
$\in E_1$	$\in E_2$	substitution of (i, j) by (k, l)	$c((i, j) \rightarrow (k, l))$
$\in E_1$	$\notin E_2$	removal of (i, j)	$c((i, j) \rightarrow \epsilon)$
$\notin E_1$	$\in E_2$	insertion of (k, l) into E_1	$c(\epsilon \rightarrow (k, l))$
$\notin E_1$	$\notin E_2$	do nothing	0

- $\Delta = \mathbf{D}$ if both G_1 and G_2 are undirected and
- $\Delta = \mathbf{D} + \mathbf{D}^T$ else.
- Matrix Δ is symmetric in both cases.



Let us approximate

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- One solution to solve this quadratic problem consists in dropping the quadratic term. We hence get:

$$d(G_1, G_2) \approx \min \left\{ \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{x} \in \text{vec}[\mathcal{A}_{n,m}^{\sim}] \right\} = \min \sum_{i=1}^{n+m} \sum_{j=1}^{n+m} c_{i,j} x_{i,j}$$

- This problem is an instance of a bipartite graph matching problem also called linear sum assignment problem.



Bipartite Graph matching

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- Approximations of the Graph edit distance defined using bipartite Graph matching methods are called bipartite Graph edit distances (BP-GED).
- Different methods, such as Munkres or Jonker-Volgerand[Burkard et al., 2012] allow to solve this problem in cubic time complexity.
- The general procedure is as follows:

① compute:

$$x = \arg \min c^T x$$

- ② Deduce the edge operations from the node operations encoded by x .
- ③ Return the cost of the edit path encoded by x .



Matching Neighborhoods

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- The matrix **C** defined previously only encodes node information.
- Idea: Inject edge information into matrix **C**. Let

$$d_{i,j} = \min_x \sum_{k=1}^{n+m} c(ik \rightarrow jl) x_{k,l}$$

the cost of the optimal mapping of the edges incident to i onto the edge incident to j .

- Let :

$$c_{i,j}^* = c(u_i \rightarrow v_j) + d_{i,j} \text{ and } x = \arg \min (c^*)^T x$$

- The edit path deduced from x defines an edit cost $d_{ub}(G_1, G_2)$ between G_1 and G_2 .



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- We may alternatively consider:

$$d_{lb}(G_1, G_2) = \sum_{i=1}^{n+m} \sum_{j=1}^{n+m} \left(c(u_i \rightarrow v_j) + \frac{1}{2} d_{i,j} \right) x_{i,j}$$

- The resulting distances satisfy[Riesen, 2015]:

$$d_{lb}(G_1, G_2) \leq d(G_1, G_2) \leq d_{ub}(G_1, G_2)$$



Matching larger structure

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- The upper bound provided by $d_{ub}(G_1, G_2)$ may be large, especially for large graphs. So a basic idea consists in enlarging the considered substructures:
 - 1 Consider both the incident edges and the adjacent nodes.
 - 2 Associate a bag of walks to each vertex and define \mathbf{C} as the cost of matching these bags [Gaüzère et al., 2014].
 - 3 Associate to each vertex a subgraph centered around it and define \mathbf{C} as the optimal edit distance between these subgraphs [Carletti et al., 2015].
 - 4 ...
- All these heuristics provide an upper bound for the Graph edit distance.
- But: up to a certain point the linear approximation of a quadratic problem reach its limits.



Improving the initial edit path

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- One idea to improve the results of the linear approximation of the GED consists in applying a post processing stage.
- Two ideas have been proposed:
 - 1 By modifying the initial cost matrix and recomputing a new assignment.
 - 2 By swapping elements in the assignment returned by the linear algorithm.



- q consecutive trials to improve the initial guess provided by a bipartite algorithm.

- 1: Build a Cost matrix \mathbf{C}^*
- 2: Compute $x = \arg \min (c^*)^T x$
- 3: Compute $d_{best} = d_x(G_1, G_2)$
- 4: **for** $i=1$ to q **do**
- 5: determine node operation $u_i \rightarrow v_j$ with highest cost
- 6: set $c_{i,j}^* = +\infty$ ▷ prevent assignment $u_i \rightarrow v_j$
- 7: compute a new edit path γ on modified matrix \mathbf{C}^* .
- 8: **if** $d_\gamma(G_1, G_2) < d_{best}$ **then**
- 9: $d_{best} = d_\gamma(G_1, G_2)$
- 10: **end if**
- 11: **end for**



Alternative strategies

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- BP-Iterative never reconsiders an assignment.
- Riesen[Riesen, 2015] proposed an alternative procedure called *BP – Float* which after each new forbidden assignment:
 - 1 reconsider the entries previously set to $+\infty$,
 - 2 Restore them if the associated edit cost decreases
- An alternative search procedure is based on Genetic algorithms[Riesen, 2015]:
 - 1 Build a population by randomly forbidding some entries of \mathbf{C}^* ,
 - 2 Select a given percentation of the population whose cost matrix is associated to the lowest edit distance,
 - 3 Cross the population by forbidding an entry if this entry is forbidden by one of the two parent.
 - 4 Go back to step 2.



Swapping assignments

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- Forbidding entries of matrix \mathbf{C}^* requires to recompute a new assignment from scratch.
- The basic idea of the swapping strategy consists to replace assignments:

$$\left(\begin{array}{l} u_i \rightarrow v_k \\ u_j \rightarrow v_l \end{array} \right) \text{ by } \left(\begin{array}{l} u_i \rightarrow v_l \\ u_j \rightarrow v_k \end{array} \right)$$

- Or in matrix terms, replacing

$$\left(\begin{array}{l} x_{i,k} = x_{j,l} = 1; \\ x_{i,l} = x_{j,k} = 0 \end{array} \right) \text{ by } \left(\begin{array}{l} x_{i,l} = x_{j,k} = 1; \\ x_{i,k} = x_{j,l} = 0. \end{array} \right)$$



BP-Greedy-Swap

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```
1: swapped=true
2: while swapped do
3:   Search for indices  $(i, j, k, l)$  such that  $x_{i,k} = x_{j,l} = 1$ 
4:    $cost_{orig} = c_{i,k}^* + c_{j,l}^*$ 
5:    $cost_{swap} = c_{i,l}^* + c_{j,k}^*$ 
6:   if  $|cost_{orig} - cost_{swap}| < \theta cost_{orig}$  then
7:      $x' = swap(x)$ 
8:     if  $d_{x'}(G_1, G_2) < d_{best}$  then
9:        $d_{best} = d_{x'}(G_1, G_2)$ 
10:      best swap= $x'$ ; swapped=true
11:    end if
12:  end if
13:  if we swapped for at least one  $(i, j) \in V_1^2$  then update  $x$  according to
    best swap.
14: end while
```



- *BP – Greedy – Swap* as *BP – Iterative* never reconsiders a swap,
- An alternative exploration of the space of solutions may be performed using Genetic algorithms[Riesen, 2015].
- Or by a tree search:
 - This procedure is called **Beam search**
 - Each node of the tree is defined by $(x, q, d_x(G_1, G_2))$ where x is an assignment and q the depth of the node.
 - Nodes are sorted according to:
 - 1 their depth,
 - 2 their cost.



- 1: Build a Cost matrix \mathbf{C}^*
- 2: Compute $x = \arg \min (c^*)^T x$ and $d_x(G_1, G_2)$
- 3: $OPEN = \{(x, 0, d_x(G_1, G_2))\}$
- 4: **while** $OPEN \neq \emptyset$ **do**
- 5: remove first tree node in $OPEN$: $(x, q, d_x(G_1, G_2))$
- 6: **for** $j=q+1$ to $n+m$ **do**
- 7: $x' = \text{swap}(x, q+1, j)$
- 8: $OPEN = OPEN \cup \{(x', q+1, d_{x'}(G_1, G_2))\}$
- 9: **if** $d_{x'}(G_1, G_2) < d_{best}$ **then**
- 10: $d_{best} = d_{x'}(G_1, G_2)$
- 11: **end if**
- 12: **end for**
- 13: **while** size of $OPEN > b$ **do**
- 14: Remove tree nodes with highest value d_x from $OPEN$
- 15: **end while**
- 16: **end while**



From linear to quadratic optimization

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- Improvements of Bipartite matching explore the space of edit paths around an initial solution.
- In order to go beyond these results, this search must be guided by considering the real quadratic problem.

$$d(G_1, G_2) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}^T \Delta \mathbf{x} + c^T \mathbf{x}$$



This work[Justice and Hero, 2006]:

- Proposes a quadratic formulation of the Graph Edit distance,
- Designed for Graphs with unlabeled edges by augmenting graphs with ϵ nodes,
- Solved by relaxing the integer constraint $x_{i,j} \in \{0, 1\}$ to $x_{i,j} \in [0, 1]$ and then solving it using interior point method.
- Propose a linear approximation corresponding to bipartite matching.



In this work[Neuhaus and Bunke, 2007]

- Also a quadratic formulation but with node operations restricted to substitution with the induced operations on edges.
- Works well mainly for graphs having close sizes with a cost of substitution lower than a cost of removal plus a cost of insertion.



From quadratic to linear problems

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- Let us consider a quadratic problem:

$$x^T Q x = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n q_{i,j} x_i x_j$$

- Let us introduce $y_{n+i+j} = x_i x_j$ we get:

$$x^T Q x = \sum_{k=1}^{n^2} q_k y_k$$

with an appropriate renumbering of Q 's elements. Hence a Linear Sum Assignment Problem with additional constraints.

- Note that the Hungarian algorithm can not be applied due to additional constraints. We come back to tree based algorithms.
- This approach has been applied to the computation of the exact Graph Edit Distance by [Lerouge et al., 2016]



Integer Projected Fixed Point (IPFP)

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[Leordeanu et al., 2009]

- Start with an good Guess x_0 :

$$x = x_0$$

while a fixed point is not reached **do**

$$b^* = \arg \min \{x^T \Delta + c^T)b, b \in \{0, 1\}^{(n+m)^2}\}$$

t^* = line search between x and b^*

$$x = x + t^*(b^* - x)$$

end while

- b^* minimizes a sum of:

$$(x^T \Delta + c^T)_{i,j} = c_{i,j} + \sum_{k,l}^{n+m} d_{i,j,k,l} x_{k,l}$$

which may be understood as the cost of mapping i to j given the previous assignment x .

- The distance decreases at each iteration. Moreover,
- at each iteration we come back to an integer solution,



Graduated NonConvexity and Concavity Procedure (GNCCP)

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- Consider [Liu and Qiao, 2014]:

$$S_{\eta}(x) = (1 - |\zeta|)S(x) + \zeta x^T x \text{ with } S(x) = \frac{1}{2}x^T \Delta x + c^T x$$

where $\zeta \in [-1, 1]$.

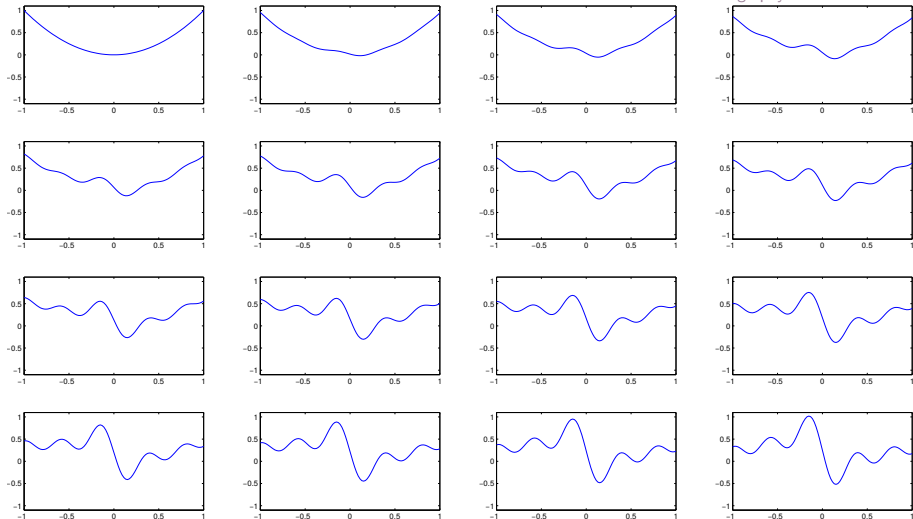
$$\begin{cases} \zeta = 1 : \text{Convex objective function} \\ \zeta = -1 : \text{Concave objective function} \end{cases}$$

- The algorithm tracks the optimal solution from a convex to a concave relaxation of the problem.



From $\zeta = 1$ to $\zeta = 0$

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$\zeta = 0$



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```
 $\zeta = 1, d = 0.1, x = 0$   
while ( $\zeta > -1$ ) and ( $x \notin \mathcal{A}_{n,m}$ ) do  
     $Q = \frac{1}{2}(1 - |\zeta|)\Delta + \zeta I$   
     $L = (1 - |\zeta|)c$   
     $x = IPFP(x, Q, L)$   
     $\zeta = \zeta - d$   
end while
```



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Datasets

<i>Dataset</i>	<i>Number of graphs</i>	<i>Avg Size</i>	<i>Avg Degree</i>	<i>Properties</i>
<i>Alkane</i>	150	8.9	1.8	acyclic, unlabeled
<i>Acyclic</i>	183	8.2	1.8	acyclic
<i>MAO</i>	68	18.4	2.1	
<i>PAH</i>	94	20.7	2.4	unlabeled, cycles
<i>MUTAG</i>	8×10	40	2	



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Algorithm	Alkane		Acyclic	
	d	t	d	t
A^*	15.5	1.29	17.33	6.02
[Riesen and Bunke, 2009]	35.2	0.0013	35.4	0.0011
[Gaüzère et al., 2014]	34.5	0.0020	32.6	0.0018
[Carletti et al., 2015]	26	2.27	28	0.73
IPFP _{Random init}	22.6	0.007	23.4	0.006
IPFP _{Init} [Riesen and Bunke, 2009]	22.4	0.007	22.6	0.006
IPFP _{Init} [Gaüzère et al., 2014]	19.3	0.005	20.4	0.004
[Neuhaus and Bunke, 2007]	20.5	0.07	25.7	0.42
GNCCP	16.8	0.12	19.1	0.07



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Algorithm	MAO		PAH	
	d	t	d	t
[Riesen and Bunke, 2009]	105	$5 \cdot 10^{-3}$	138	$7 \cdot 10^{-3}$
[Gaüzère et al., 2014]	56.9	$2 \cdot 10^{-2}$	123.8	$3 \cdot 10^{-2}$
[Carletti et al., 2015]	44	6.16	129	2.01
IPFP _{Random init}	65.2	0.031	63	0.04
IPFP _{Init} [Riesen and Bunke, 2009]	59	0.031	62.2	0.04
IPFP _{Init} [Gaüzère et al., 2014]	32.9	0.030	48.9	0.048
[Neuhaus and Bunke, 2007]	59.1	7	52.9	8.20
GNCCP	32.9	0.46	38.7	0.86



Graph Edit distance Contest

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- Two characteristics of a Graph edit distance algorithm:
 - Mean Deviation:

$$\overline{deviation_score^m} = \frac{1}{\#subsets} \sum_{S \in subsets} \frac{\overline{dev_S^m}}{\max_dev_S}$$

- Mean execution time:

$$\overline{time_score^m} = \frac{1}{\#subsets} \sum_{S \in subsets} \frac{\overline{time_S^m}}{\max_time_S}$$



Graph Edit distance Contest

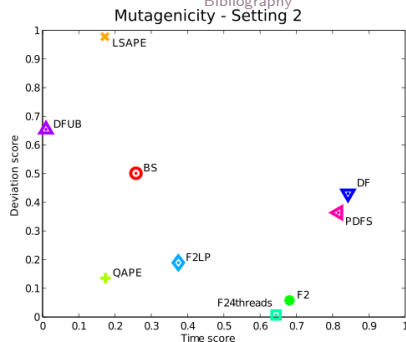
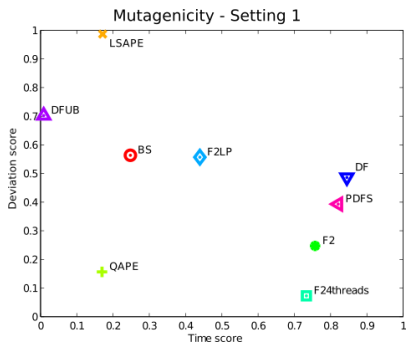
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- Several Algorithms (all limited to 30 seconds):
 - Algorithms based on a linear transformation of the quadratic problem solved by integer programming:
 - F2 (●),
 - F24threads(□),
 - F2LP ((◇, relaxed problem)
 - Algorithms based on Depth first search methods:
 - DF(▽),
 - PDFS(◁),
 - DFUP(△).
 - Beam Search: BS (⊙)
 - *IPFP*_[Gaüzère et al., 2014] : QAPE (+)
 - Bipartite matching[Gaüzère et al., 2014]: LSAPE(×)



Average speed-deviation scores on MUTA sub-sets

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Two settings of editing costs

vertices

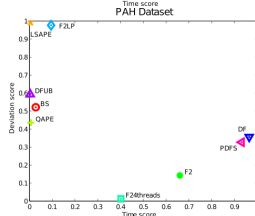
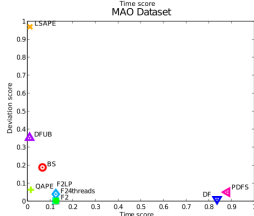
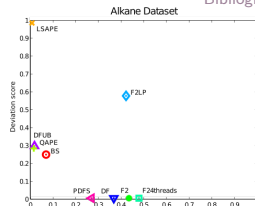
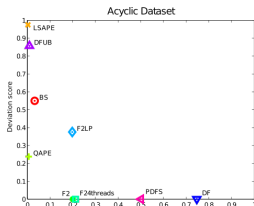
edges

	C_s	C_d	C_i	C_s	C_d	C_i
Setting 1	2	4	4	1	2	2
Setting 2	6	2	2	3	1	1



Average speed-deviation scores on GREYC's subsets

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vertices

edges

● Setting:

	C_s	C_d	C_i	C_s	C_d	C_i
Setting	2	4	4	1	1	1



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- Bipartite Graph edit distance has re initiated a strong interest on Graph edit Distance from the research community
 - 1 It is fast enough to process large graph databases,
 - 2 It provides a reasonable approximation of the GED.
- More recently new quadratic solvers for the GED have emerged.
 - 1 They remain fast (while slower than BP-GED),
 - 2 They strongly improve the approximation or provide exact solutions.



- The Bipartite Matching remains a core element of several quadratic algorithms. So any improvement of such algorithms has many consequences.
- Quadratic algorithms for GED are still immature, a lot of job remains to be done.
- Distances not directly related to GED should also be investigated (Kernel Based, Hausdorff, . . .)
- Related applications are also quite fascinating:
 - Media/mean computation,
 - Learning costs for GED,
 - . . .

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