

each $1 \leq j \leq |V|$, from a normal distribution of zero mean and unit standard deviation (*i.e.*, $\Pr [a \leq r'_j \leq b] = \int_a^b (1/\sqrt{2\pi}) e^{-x^2/2} dx$ for any $\emptyset \subset [a, b] \subset \mathbb{R}$), and then normalizing the coordinates so that the 2-norm of the resulting vector is 1, *i.e.*, setting $r_j = \frac{r'_j}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (r'_i)^2}}$ for $j = 1, 2, \dots, |V|$.

- (b) For each $v \in V$, set $\ell_v = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } \vec{r} \cdot \vec{\ell}_v \geq 0 \\ -1, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$ where “ \cdot ” denotes the vector inner product.

Let ℓ_{opt} be an optimum node labeling function for SGN-CONST with $|F_{\ell_{\text{opt}}}|$ consistent edges. It can be shown that the above randomized algorithm provides a node labeling function ℓ_{approx} to SGN-CONST with $|F_{\ell_{\text{approx}}}|$ consistent edges such that

$$\mathbb{E} [|F_{\ell_{\text{approx}}}|] \geq \kappa |F_{\ell_{\text{opt}}}|$$

where $\kappa = \min \left\{ \min_{0 \leq \theta \leq \pi} \frac{2\theta/\pi}{1 - \cos \theta}, \min_{0 \leq \theta \leq \pi} \frac{2 - (2\theta/\pi)}{1 + \cos \theta} \right\}$. It can be shown using elementary calculus that $\kappa > 0.87856$; thus on an average the approximate solution retains *at least* 87.85% of the number of consistent edges in an optimal solution. The above randomized approach to compute the mappings P_v can be made deterministic (*i.e.*, can be “de-randomized”) [70], but the derandomization procedure is complicated. Instead, one usually runs the randomized algorithm for computing the P_v s many times and accepts the best of these solutions; it can be shown that such an approach retains at least κ fraction of the optimal number of consistent edges with *very high probability* [84].

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