





Efficient Cross-layer Community Search in Large Multilayer Graphs

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Roadmap

- Background
- Related Work
- Preliminaries
- Proposed Methodology
- Experiments
- Conclusions

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Background: Multilayer Graphs



Background: Multilayer Graphs





Background: Community Search

Community Search: find densely connected communities

- query-dependent & highly-personalized
- support for different kinds of graphs



Background: Community Search



Background: Community Search in MLGs



Background: Applications

- Event planning
- Social marketing
- Recommendation
- Biological data analysis





Location-based Social Marketing



1) failure to identify informative communities with the most layers when a multilayer graph is associated with a large number of layers;
 2) failure to distinguish the degree of connections in internal layers and cross-layers.

| Papers | Gra | ph Types | Main Ideas | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| | Heterogeneous Information Networks | Multiplex Graphs | Multilayer Graphs | Dense Subgraph Model | Random Walk |
| Fang et al. PVLDB 2020 | \checkmark | | | \checkmark | |
| Jiang et al. PVLDB 2022 | \checkmark | | | \checkmark | |
| Zhou et al. PVLDB 2023 | \checkmark | | | \checkmark | |
| Behrouz et al. PVLDB 2022 | | \checkmark | | \checkmark | |
| Luo et al. KDD 2020 | | ✓ ✓ | \checkmark | | \checkmark |
| Ours | \checkmark | \checkmark | \checkmark | \checkmark | |

Preliminary: Overview



Preliminary: (k, d)-core



Definition 1 ((k, d)-core). Given a multilayer graph MG and two parameters $k, d \in \mathbb{Z}^{\geq 0}$, a connected two-layer subgraph $H(H_i, H_j, E_{ij}^H) \subseteq$ MG located at layers G_i and G_j is (k, d)core *if and only if* H admits the following conditions:

- ∀v ∈ V_i(H), the intra-degree at layer G_i: deg_{Hi}(v) ≥ k;
 ∀v ∈ V_j(H), the intra-degree at layer G_j: deg_{Hj}(v) ≥ k;
 k;
- 3) $\forall v \in V_i(H) \cup V_j(H)$, the inter-degree: $\deg_{E_{ij}^H}(v) \ge d$.

Preliminary: Strong Cross-layer Connectivity



Definition 2 (Strong Cross-layer Connectivity). Given a multilayer graph H, we say that H has the strong cross-layer connectivity between two layers G_i and G_j if and only if there exists a non-empty two-layer subgraph of (k, d)-core $H' \subseteq H$ at layers G_i , G_j , denoted as $H_i \xleftarrow{H} H_j$.

Preliminary: Fully-connected Multilayer Connectivity



Definition 3 (Fully-connected Multilayer Community). Given a multilayer subgraph $H \subseteq$ MG and two numbers k, d, we say that H is a full-layer connected multilayer community *if* and only *if* for every pair of layers $i, j \in \mathcal{L}(H)$, there exists a strong cross-layer connectivity between G_i and G_j , such that, $\forall i, j \in \mathcal{L}(H), H_i \xleftarrow{H} H_j$.

Preliminary: Multilayer Community Search Problem

V₃ G₁ Hd Query U3 G2 G₃ W1 W₅ W4 G₄

MCS-problem is NP-Hard

Problem 1 (MCS-problem). Given a multilayer graph $MG(V_M, E_M, \mathcal{L})$, a set of query vertices $Q \subseteq V_M$, two parameters $k, d \in \mathbb{Z}^{\geq 0}$, the problem of cross-layer community search in MG (MCS-problem) is to find a connected community $H \subseteq MG$ satisfying the following four constraints:

- 1) Query-dependent personalization: $Q \subseteq V(H)$;
- 2) Core-dense internal layers: $\forall i \in \mathcal{L}(H)$, H_i is a connected k-core;
- 3) Fully-connected cross-layers: $\forall i, j \in \mathcal{L}(H)$, two layers H_i and H_j are connected via a (k, d)-core in H;
- 4) Cross-layer maximization: $|\mathcal{L}(H)|$ is maximized.

 $\bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet$

Proposed Methodologies: Framework

The additional phase is for relaxed MCS problem which starting from Q to search pathconnected multilayer community H.





(b) *Phase-I:* K-Core Component Extraction (c) *Phase-II:* Cross-layer (k, d)-Core Verification (e) Path-layer based Community Search

The key idea of MCS framework consists of three phases:

- I. extracting k-core components at all layers;
- II. identifying the strong cross-layer connectivity for any two k-core components at different layers;
- III. starting from Q to search fully-connected multilayer community H.

Proposed Methodologies: Relaxed pMCS-problem



Definition 4 (Path-layer Connectivity). For a given multilayer subgraph $H \subseteq MG$, two layers H_i and H_j with $i, j \in \mathcal{L}(H)$, $i \neq j$, we say that H_i and H_j has the *path-layer connectivity*, denoted as $H_i \stackrel{H}{\longleftrightarrow} H_i$, if and only if there exists a path (H_{p_1},\ldots,H_{p_r}) such that every pair of layers $(H_{p_x},H_{p_{x+1}})$ where $1 \le x < r$, is strong cross-layer connected, i.e., $H_{p_x} \stackrel{H}{\longleftrightarrow} H_{p_{x+1}}, p_1 = i, \text{ and } p_r = j.$

Problem 3 (pMCS-problem). Given a multilayer graph MG, a set of query vertices Q, two parameters k and d, the problem of path-layer based multilayer community search is to find a connected subgraph $H \subseteq MG$ satisfying four constraints:

1) H contains all query vertices Q; 2) $\forall i \in \mathcal{L}(H), H_i \text{ is a } k\text{-core};$

Tree Structure 3) $\forall i, j \in \mathcal{L}(H)$, the path-layer connectivity $H_i \stackrel{H}{\longleftrightarrow} H_j$

always holds; is maximized.



Proposed Methodologies: MCS vs pMCS



(a) Multilayer Graph MG

(b) Phase-I: K-Core Component Extraction (c) Phase-II: Cross-layer (k, d)-Core Verification

(e) Path-layer based Community Search

 $\bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet$

Proposed Methodologies: (k, d)-core Index



Definition 5 ((k, d)-coreness). Given two layers G_i and G_j , the (k, d)-coreness of a cross-layer edge (u, v) in E_{ij} , denoted as $\Phi((u, v))$, is a set of unique (k, d) pairs, such that for any pair of $(k, d) \in \Phi((u, v))$, $\Phi^k((u, v)) = d$. Moreover, for any $(k, d) \in \Phi((u, v))$, there exists no $(k', d') \in \Phi((u, v))$ such that both $k' \ge k$ and $d' \ge d$ hold.

Experiments: Datasets

Setup: All experiments were performed on a server with an Intel Xeon Gold 6330 2.0 GHz CPU and 1T RAM, running 64-bit Oracle Linux 8.8.

| Datasets types: | | News groups: | 6ng, 9ng | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|----------|--|
| Collaboration networks: | DBLP, Citeseer | Protein-protein networks: | Yeast | |
| Social networks: | Twitter, Friendfeed, Venetie | Agriculture data: | FAO | |

| Dataset | n | m | m_l | m_s | l |
|-----------------|---------|------------|------------|------------|-----|
| DBLP | 41,892 | 661,883 | 280,707 | 381,176 | 2 |
| Twitter | 47,280 | 535,062 | 445,287 | 89,775 | 3 |
| 6ng | 4,500 | 29,984 | 9,000 | 20,984 | 5 |
| 9ng | 6,750 | 44,980 | 13,500 | 31,480 | 5 |
| Citeseer (CS) | 15,533 | 68,376 | 56,548 | 11,828 | 3 |
| Yeast | 4,458 | 8,500,745 | 8,473,997 | 26,748 | 4 |
| FAO | 214 | 14,456,470 | 318,346 | 14,138,124 | 364 |
| FriendFeed (FF) | 510,338 | 20,204,534 | 18,673,520 | 1,531,014 | 3 |
| Venetie | 206 | 21,310 | 19,955 | 1,355 | 43 |

Experiments: Comparison on All Algorithms





Quality evaluation on all chosen datasets.

RWM: a random-walk-based approach for localmultilayer community search [Luo et al. KDD 2020].FirmTruss: a truss-based community search approach in
multiplex networks [Behrouz et al. PVLDB 2022].

- Naive-MCS: our baseline method for full-layered community enumerations.
- Path-MCS: the path-layer community search algorithm.
 - **MCS**: our fast approach for full-layer community search.
- Path-iMCS: our index-based Path-MCS.
- iMCS: our index-based improved approach of MCS.

Experiments: Scalability Evaluation



Efficiency evaluation by varying parameters (k, d) on Twitter.



Efficiency evaluation by varying parameters (k, d) on DBLP.



Efficiency evaluation by varying |L(MG)|.



Experiments: Index Quality Comparison

A COMPARISON OF INDEX SIZE AND CONSTRUCTION TIME.

| | DBLP | Twitter | 6ng | 9ng | CS | Yeast | FAO | FF | Venetie |
|-------------------------------|------|---------|-------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|---------|
| Graph Size (MB) | 8.99 | 9.43 | 0.377 | 0.59 | 1.71 | 117 | 211 | 357 | 0.286 |
| (k, d)-core Index Size (MB) | 4.15 | 7.32 | 0.25 | 0.376 | 1.1 | 336 | 523 | 307 | 0.417 |
| FirmTruss Index Size (MB) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 1380 | 2600 | 2670 | 2.8 |
| (k, d)-core-indexing Time (h) | 3.63 | 3.44 | 0.005 | 0.009 | 1 | 29.02 | 4.27 | 98.39 | 0.001 |
| FirmTruss-indexing Time (h) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 15.54 | 0.71 | 11.55 | 0.008 |

Conclusion

- We propose a novel dense subgraph of **(k, d)-core** in multilayer graphs, strengthening the connections in internal layers and cross-layers.
- Based on (k, d)-core, we formulate our new problem of multilayer community search (MCS) to maximize the number of cross-layers and prove the MCS problem to be NP-hard.
- We propose an exact enumeration algorithm and a bound-and-search method, which reduces the *full-layer connectivity* to *path-layer connectivity* to accelerate efficiency.
- In addition, we design a **(k, d)-core index** to store all (k, d)-core information and propose an index-based algorithm to speed up community search.
- We conduct extensive experiments to evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of our algorithms on **nine** real-world datasets.

THANK YOU

Q&A







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