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# Fast Construction of Similarity Graphs with Kernel Density Estimation: Supplementary Material

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1 The supplementary material of the paper is organised as follows: we present the complete proof of  
2 Theorem 1 in Section A, and present some additional experimental results in Section B.

### 3 A Proof of Theorem 1

4 This section presents the complete proof of Theorem 1. To make the supplementary material self-  
5 contained, we first re-state the main theorem of our paper, and our presented algorithm is described  
6 in Algorithm 2.

7 **Theorem 1.** *Given a set of data points  $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  as input, there is a randomised*  
8 *algorithm that constructs a sparse graph  $G$  of  $X$ , such that it holds with probability at least 9/10 that*

- 9 1. *graph  $G$  has  $\tilde{O}(n)$  edges,*
- 10 2. *graph  $G$  has the same cluster structure as the fully connected similarity graph  $K$  of  $X$ ;*  
11 *that is, if  $K$  has  $k$  well-defined clusters, then it holds that  $\rho_G(k) = O(k \cdot \rho_K(k))$  and*  
12  *$\lambda_{k+1}(\mathbf{N}_G) = \Omega(\lambda_{k+1}(\mathbf{N}_K))$ <sup>1</sup>.*

13 *The algorithm uses an approximate KDE algorithm as a black-box, and has running time*  
14  *$\tilde{O}(T_{\text{KDE}}(n, n, \epsilon))$ , where  $T_{\text{KDE}}(n, n, \epsilon)$  is the running time of solving the KDE problem for  $n$  data*  
15 *points up to a  $(1 + \epsilon)$ -approximation.*

16 For simplicity, throughout the proof we always use  $K$  to stand for the fully connected similarity graph  
17 and  $G$  stands for the sparsifier constructed by Algorithm 2.

18 For each  $x_i$  in the input data, Algorithm 2 adds  $L = 6C \cdot \log(n)/\lambda_{k+1}$  edges to the constructed  
19 graph  $G$  for some constant  $C$ . Let  $y_{i,1}, \dots, y_{i,L}$  be random variables which are equal to the  $L$  points  
20 sampled for  $x_i$ . Recall that by the SZ algorithm, the “ideal” sampling probability for  $x_j$  from  $x_i$  is

$$p_i(x_j) \triangleq \min \left\{ \frac{k(x_i, x_j)}{\deg_K(x_i)} \cdot \frac{C \log(n)}{\lambda_{k+1}}, 1 \right\}.$$

21 We denote the true sampling probability under Algorithm 2 to be

$$\tilde{p}_i(x_j) \triangleq \mathbb{P}[x_j \in \{y_{i,1}, \dots, y_{i,L}\}].$$

22 Finally, for each added edge, Algorithm 2 also computes an estimate of  $p_i(x_j)$  which we denote

$$\hat{p}_i(x_j) \triangleq \min \left\{ \frac{k(x_i, x_j)}{g(x_i)} \cdot \frac{C \log(n)}{\lambda_{k+1}}, 1 \right\}.$$

23 Similarly, we define

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<sup>1</sup>The formal definition of  $\rho_G(k)$  and matrix  $\mathbf{N}_G$  can be found in Section 2. We show in Section 3 that these two conditions guarantee that graph  $G$  and  $K$  have the same cluster structure.

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**Algorithm 1** SAMPLE

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1: Input: set  $S$  of  $\{y_i\}$ 
           set  $X$  of  $\{x_i\}$ 
2: Output:
    $E = \{(y_i, x_j) \text{ for some } i \text{ and } j\}$ 
3: if  $|X| = 1$  then
4:   return  $S \times X$ 
5: else
6:    $X_1 = \{x_j : j < |X|/2\}$ 
7:    $X_2 = \{x_j : j \geq |X|/2\}$ 
8:   Compute  $g_{X_1}(y_i)$  for all  $i$  with a KDE algorithm
9:   Compute  $g_{X_2}(y_i)$  for all  $i$  with a KDE algorithm
10:   $S_1 = S_2 = \emptyset$ 
11:  for  $y_i \in S$  do
12:     $r \sim \text{Unif}[0, 1]$ 
13:    if  $r \leq g_{X_1}(y_i)/(g_{X_1}(y_i) + g_{X_2}(y_i))$ 
14:      then
15:         $S_1 = S_1 \cup \{y_i\}$ 
16:      else
17:         $S_2 = S_2 \cup \{y_i\}$ 
18:      end if
19:    end for
20:  return  $\text{SAMPLE}(S_1, X_1) \cup \text{SAMPLE}(S_2, X_2)$ 
end if
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**Algorithm 2** FASTSIMILARITYGRAPH

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1: Input: data point set  $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ 
2: Output: similarity graph  $G$ 
3:  $E = \emptyset, L = C \cdot \log n$ 
4: for  $\ell \in [1, L]$  do
5:    $E = E \cup \text{SAMPLE}(X, X)$ 
6: end for
7: Compute  $g_{[1,n]}(x_i)$  for each  $i$  with a KDE algorithm
8: for  $(v_i, v_j) \in E$  do
9:    $\hat{p}_i(j) = \min \{L \cdot k(x_i, x_j)/g_{[1,n]}(x_i), 1\}$ 
10:   $\hat{p}_j(i) = \min \{L \cdot k(x_i, x_j)/g_{[1,n]}(x_j), 1\}$ 
11:   $\hat{p}(i, j) = \hat{p}_i(j) + \hat{p}_j(i) - \hat{p}_i(j) \cdot \hat{p}_j(i)$ 
12:  Set  $w(v_i, v_j) = k(x_i, x_j)/\hat{p}(i, j)$ 
13: end for
14: return graph  $G = (X, E, w)$ 
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- 24     •  $p(x_i, x_j) = p_i(x_j) + p_j(x_i) - p_i(x_j)p_j(x_i),$   
25     •  $\tilde{p}(x_i, x_j) = \tilde{p}_i(x_j) + \tilde{p}_j(x_i) - \tilde{p}_i(x_j)\tilde{p}_j(x_i),$  and  
26     •  $\hat{p}(x_i, x_j) = \hat{p}_i(x_j) + \hat{p}_j(x_i) - \hat{p}_i(x_j)\hat{p}_j(x_i).$

27 Following the convention of [2], we use  $p_i(x_j)$  to refer to the probability that a given edge is sampled  
28 from the vertex  $x_i$  and  $p(x_i, x_j)$  is the probability that the given edge  $(x_i, x_j)$  is sampled at all by the  
29 algorithm. We use the same convention for  $\tilde{p}_i(x_j)$  and  $\hat{p}_i(x_j)$ .

30 Before coming to the proof of Theorem 1, we first show a sequence of lemmas showing that these  
31 probabilities are all within a constant factor of each other.

32 **Lemma 1.** For any point  $x_i$ , the probability that a given sampled neighbour  $y_{i,l}$  is equal to  $x_j$  is  
33 given by

$$\frac{k(x_i, x_j)}{2 \deg_{\mathcal{K}}(x_i)} \leq \mathbb{P}[y_{i,l} = x_j] \leq \frac{2k(x_i, x_j)}{\deg_{\mathcal{K}}(x_i)}.$$

34 *Proof.* Let  $X = x_1, \dots, x_n$  be the input data points for Algorithm 2, and  $X_{[a,b]} = \{x_a, \dots, x_b\}$  be  
35 the subset of  $X$  with indices between  $a$  and  $b$ . Then, in each recursive call to Algorithm 1, we are  
36 given a range  $X_{[a,b]}$  as input and assign  $y_{i,l}$  to one half of it: either  $X_{[a, \lfloor b/2 \rfloor]}$  or  $X_{[\lfloor b/2 \rfloor + 1, b]}$ . By  
37 Algorithm 1, we have that the probability of assigning  $y_{i,l}$  to  $X_{[a, \lfloor b/2 \rfloor]}$  is

$$\mathbb{P}[y_{i,l} \in X_{[a, \lfloor b/2 \rfloor]} | y_{i,l} \in X_{[a,b]}] = \frac{g_{[a, \lfloor b/2 \rfloor]}(x_i)}{g_{[a,b]}(x_i)},$$

38 where we write  $g_{[a,b]}$  rather than  $g_{X_{[a,b]}}$  for clarity. By our guarantee on the performance of the KDE  
39 algorithm, we have that  $g_{[a,b]}(x_i) \in (1 \pm \epsilon) \deg_{[a,b]}(x_i)$ , where we define

$$\deg_{[a,b]}(x_i) \triangleq \sum_{j=a}^b k(x_i, x_j).$$

40 This gives

$$\left(\frac{1-\epsilon}{1+\epsilon}\right) \frac{\deg_{[a, \lfloor b/2 \rfloor]}(x_i)}{\deg_{[a, b]}(x_i)} \leq \mathbb{P}[Y \in X_{[a, \lfloor b/2 \rfloor]} | Y \in X_{[a, b]}] \leq \left(\frac{1+\epsilon}{1-\epsilon}\right) \frac{\deg_{[a, \lfloor b/2 \rfloor]}(x_i)}{\deg_{[a, b]}(x_i)}. \quad (1)$$

41 Then, notice that we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}[y_{i,l} = x_j] &= \mathbb{P}[y_{i,l} = x_j | y_{i,l} \in X_{[a_1, b_1]}] \times \mathbb{P}[y_{i,l} \in X_{[a_1, b_1]} | y_{i,l} \in X_{[a_2, b_2]}] \\ &\quad \times \dots \times \mathbb{P}[y_{i,l} \in X_{[a_k, b_k]} | y_{i,l} \in X_{[1, n]}], \end{aligned}$$

42 where each term corresponds to one level of recursion of Algorithm 1, and there are at most  $\lceil \log_2(n) \rceil$   
43 terms. Then, by (1), and noticing that the denominator and numerator of adjacent terms cancel out,  
44 we have

$$\left(\frac{1-\epsilon}{1+\epsilon}\right)^{\lceil \log_2(n) \rceil} \frac{k(x_i, x_j)}{\deg(x_i)} \leq \mathbb{P}[y_{i,l} = x_j] \leq \left(\frac{1+\epsilon}{1-\epsilon}\right)^{\lceil \log_2(n) \rceil} \frac{k(x_i, x_j)}{\deg(x_i)}$$

45 since  $\deg_{[j, j]}(x_i) = k(x_i, x_j)$  and  $\deg_{[1, n]}(x_i) = \deg(x_i)$ .

46 For the lower bound, we have that

$$\left(\frac{1-\epsilon}{1+\epsilon}\right)^{\lceil \log_2(n) \rceil} \geq (1-2\epsilon)^{\lceil \log_2(n) \rceil} \geq 1 - 3 \log_2(n) \epsilon \geq 1/2,$$

47 where the final inequality follows by the fact that  $\epsilon \leq 1/(6 \log_2(n))$ .

48 For the upper bound, we similarly have

$$\left(\frac{1+\epsilon}{1-\epsilon}\right)^{\lceil \log_2(n) \rceil} \leq (1+3\epsilon)^{\lceil \log_2(n) \rceil} \leq \exp(3 \lceil \log_2(n) \rceil \epsilon) \leq e^{2/3} \leq 2,$$

49 where the first inequality follows since  $\epsilon < 1/6$ . □

50 The next lemma shows that Algorithm 2 samples each edge with approximately the correct probability.

51 **Lemma 2.** *For every  $i$  and  $j \neq i$ , we have*

$$\frac{9}{10} p_i(x_j) \leq \tilde{p}_i(x_j) \leq 12 p_i(x_j).$$

52 *Proof.* Algorithm 2 samples  $6C \log(n)/\lambda_{k+1}$  neighbours of  $x_i$ , and Lemma 1 guarantees that the  
53 chosen neighbour is equal to  $x_j$  with probability roughly proportional to  $k(x_i, x_j)/\deg(x_i)$ .

54 Let  $Y = \{y_{i,1}, \dots, y_{i,L}\}$  be the neighbours of  $x_i$  sampled by Algorithm 2, where  $L =$   
55  $6C \log(n)/\lambda_{k+1}$ . Then,

$$\mathbb{P}[x_j \in Y] = 1 - \prod_{l=1}^L (1 - \mathbb{P}[y_{i,l} = x_j]) \geq 1 - \left(1 - \frac{k(x_i, x_j)}{2 \deg(x_i)}\right)^L \geq 1 - \exp\left(-L \cdot \frac{k(x_i, x_j)}{2 \deg(x_i)}\right)$$

56 The proof proceeds by case distinction.

57 **Case 1:**  $p_i(x_j) \leq 0.9$ . In this case, we have,

$$\mathbb{P}[x_j \in Y] \geq 1 - \exp(-6p_i(x_j)/2) \geq p_i(x_j).$$

58 **Case 2:**  $p_i(x_j) > 0.9$ . In this case, we have

$$\mathbb{P}[x_j \in Y] \geq 1 - \exp\left(-\frac{9 \cdot 6}{20}\right) \geq \frac{9}{10},$$

59 which completes the proof of the lower bound of  $\tilde{p}(x_j)$ .

60 For the upper bound, we have

$$\mathbb{P}[x_j \in Y] \leq 1 - \left(1 - \frac{2k(x_i, x_j)}{\deg(x_i)}\right)^L \leq \frac{2k(x_i, x_j)}{\deg(x_i)} \cdot L = \frac{12Ck(x_i, x_j) \log(n)}{\deg(x_i) \lambda_{k+1}},$$

61 from which the statement follows. □

62 An immediate corollary of Lemma 2 is as follows.

63 **Corollary 1.** For all  $x_i$  and  $x_j$ , it holds that

$$\frac{8}{10}p(x_i, x_j) \leq \tilde{p}(x_i, x_j) \leq 144p(x_i, x_j)$$

64 and

$$\frac{1}{216}\tilde{p}(x_i, x_j) \leq \hat{p}(x_i, x_j) \leq \frac{30}{16}\tilde{p}(x_i, x_j).$$

65 We now come to the proof of Theorem 1. It is important to note that although some of the analysis is  
 66 parallel to that of [2], our analysis is more involved since we need to carefully take into account the  
 67 error introduced by the approximate KDE algorithm which changes the edge sampling probabilities  
 68 slightly. We also need to be careful since the edges of  $G$  are not sampled independently in our  
 69 algorithm.

70 The proof makes use of the following concentration inequalities.

71 **Lemma 3** (Bernstein's Inequality [1]). Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be independent random variables such that  
 72  $|X_i| \leq M$  for any  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ . Let  $X = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ , and  $R = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}[X_i^2]$ . Then, it holds that

$$\mathbb{P}[|X - \mathbb{E}[X]| \geq t] \leq 2 \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{2(R + Mt/3)}\right).$$

73 **Lemma 4** (Matrix Chernoff Bound [3]). Consider a finite sequence  $\{X_i\}$  of independent, random,  
 74 PSD matrices of dimension  $d$  that satisfy  $\|X_i\| \leq R$ . Let  $\mu_{\min} \triangleq \lambda_{\min}(\mathbb{E}[\sum_i X_i])$  and  $\mu_{\max} \triangleq$   
 75  $\lambda_{\max}(\mathbb{E}[\sum_i X_i])$ . Then, it holds that

$$\mathbb{P}\left[\lambda_{\min}\left(\sum_i X_i\right) \leq (1 - \delta)\mu_{\min}\right] \leq d \left(\frac{e^{-\delta}}{(1 - \delta)^{1-\delta}}\right)^{\mu_{\min}/R}$$

76 for  $\delta \in [0, 1]$ , and

$$\mathbb{P}\left[\lambda_{\max}\left(\sum_i X_i\right) \geq (1 + \delta)\mu_{\max}\right] \leq d \left(\frac{e^{\delta}}{(1 + \delta)^{1+\delta}}\right)^{\mu_{\max}/R}$$

77 for  $\delta \geq 0$ .

78 *Proof of Theorem 1.* We first show that the degrees of all nodes in the similarity graph  $K$  are preserved  
 79 with high probability in the sparsifier  $G$ . We follow **SZ** and consider only the edges with  $p_i(j) < 1$   
 80 since we can assume with high probability that the other edges are included in the sparsifier  $G$ . For  
 81 any node  $x_i$ , and let  $y_{i,1}, \dots, y_{i,L}$  be the neighbours of  $x_i$  sampled by Algorithm 2.

82 We fix an arbitrary node  $x_i$ , and let  $Y_1, \dots, Y_L$  be random variables defined by

$$Y_l \triangleq \frac{k(x_i, y_{i,l})}{\hat{p}(x_i, y_{i,l})}.$$

83 For each  $j \neq i$ , we define the random variable  $Z_{j,i}$  by

$$Z_{j,i} \triangleq \begin{cases} \frac{k(x_i, x_j)}{\hat{p}(x_i, x_j)} & \text{if } x_i \in \{y_{j,1} \dots y_{j,L}\}, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

84 Then, we can write

$$\deg_G(x_i) = \sum_{l=1}^L Y_l + \sum_{j \neq i} Z_{j,i}.$$

85 We have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\deg_G(x_i)] &= \sum_{l=1}^L \mathbb{E}[Y_l] + \sum_{j \neq i} \mathbb{E}[Z_{j,i}] \\ &= \sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{j \neq i} \mathbb{P}[y_{i,l} = x_j] \cdot \frac{k(x_i, x_j)}{\hat{p}(x_i, x_j)} + \sum_{j \neq i} \tilde{p}_j(i) \cdot \frac{k(x_i, x_j)}{\hat{p}(x_i, x_j)}. \end{aligned}$$

86 By Lemmas 1 and 2 and Corollary 1, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{E}[\deg_G(x_i)] &\geq \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{k(x_i, x_j)}{\widehat{p}(x_i, x_j)} \left( \frac{L \cdot k(x_i, x_j)}{2 \deg(x_i)} + \widetilde{p}_j(x_i) \right) \\
&\geq \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{k(x_i, x_j)}{4 \cdot \widehat{p}(x_i, x_j)} (\widetilde{p}_i(x_j) + \widetilde{p}_j(x_i)) \\
&\geq \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{2 \cdot k(x_i, x_j)}{15} = \frac{2 \cdot \deg_K(x_i)}{15}.
\end{aligned}$$

87 Similarly, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{E}[\deg_G(x_i)] &\leq \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{k(x_i, x_j)}{\widehat{p}(x_i, x_j)} \left( \frac{2 \cdot L \cdot k(x_i, x_j)}{\deg(x_i)} + \widetilde{p}_j(x_i) \right) \\
&\leq \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{40 \cdot k(x_i, x_j)}{3 \cdot \widehat{p}(x_i, x_j)} (\widetilde{p}_i(x_j) + \widetilde{p}_j(x_i)) \\
&\leq \sum_{j \neq i} 5760 \cdot k(x_i, x_j) = 5760 \cdot \deg_K(x_i).
\end{aligned}$$

88 In order to prove a concentration bound on this degree estimate, we would like to apply the Bernstein  
89 inequality for which we need to bound

$$\begin{aligned}
R &= \sum_{l=1}^L \mathbb{E}[Y_l^2] + \sum_{j \neq i} \mathbb{E}[Z_{j,i}^2] \\
&= \sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{j \neq i} \mathbb{P}[y_{i,l} = x_j] \frac{k(x_i, x_j)^2}{\widehat{p}(x_i, x_j)^2} + \sum_{j \neq i} \widetilde{p}_j(i) \frac{k(x_i, x_j)^2}{\widehat{p}(x_i, x_j)^2} \\
&\leq \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{40 \cdot k(x_i, x_j)^2}{3 \cdot \widehat{p}(x_i, x_j)^2} (\widetilde{p}_i(j) + \widetilde{p}_j(i)) \\
&\leq \sum_{j \neq i} 5760 \cdot \frac{k(x_i, x_j)^2}{\widehat{p}(x_i, x_j)} \\
&\leq \sum_{j \neq i} 6720 \cdot \frac{k(x_i, x_j)^2}{p_i(x_j)} \\
&= \sum_{j \neq i} 6720 \cdot \frac{k(x_i, x_j) \cdot \deg_K(x_i) \cdot \lambda_{k+1}}{C \log(n)} \\
&\leq \frac{6720 \cdot \deg_K(x_i)^2 \cdot \lambda_{k+1}}{C \log(n)}.
\end{aligned}$$

90 Then, by applying Bernstein's inequality we have for any constant  $C_2$  that

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{P} \left[ |\deg_G(x_i) - \mathbb{E}[\deg_G(x_i)]| \geq \frac{1}{C_2} \deg_K(x_i) \right] &\leq 2 \cdot \exp \left( - \frac{\deg_K(x_i)^2 / C_2^2}{\frac{6720 \deg_K(x_i)^2 \lambda_{k+1}}{C \log(n)} + \frac{1}{6} \frac{\deg_K(x_i)^2 \lambda_{k+1}}{C_2 C \log(n)}} \right) \\
&\leq 2 \exp \left( - \frac{C \cdot \log(n)}{6721 \cdot \lambda_{k+1} \cdot C_2^2} \right) \\
&= o(1/n).
\end{aligned}$$

91 Therefore, by taking  $C$  to be sufficiently large and by the union bound, it holds with high probability  
92 that the degree of all the nodes in  $G$  are preserved up to a constant factor. For the remainder of the  
93 proof, we assume that this is the case. Note in particular that this implies  $\text{vol}_G(S) = \Theta(\text{vol}_K(S))$  for  
94 any subset  $S \subseteq V$ .

95 Next, we prove it holds for  $G$  that  $\phi_G(S_i) = O(k \cdot \phi_K(S_i))$  for any  $1 \leq i \leq k$ , where  $S_1, \dots, S_k$   
 96 form an optimal clustering in  $K$ .

97 By the definition of  $Z_{i,j}$ , it holds for any  $1 \leq i \leq k$  that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[w_G(S_i, V \setminus S_i)] &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \sum_{j \in S_i} \sum_{l \notin S_i} Z_{l,j} + Z_{j,l} \right] \\ &= \sum_{j \in S_i} \sum_{l \notin S_i} \frac{k(x_j, x_l)}{\widehat{p}(x_j, x_l)} (\widetilde{p}(x_j, x_l) + \widetilde{p}(x_l, x_j)) \\ &= O(w_K(S_i, V \setminus S_i)) \end{aligned}$$

98 where the last line follows by Corollary 1. By Markov's inequality and the union bound, with constant  
 99 probability it holds for all  $i = 1, \dots, k$  that

$$w_G(S_i, V \setminus S_i) = O(k \cdot w_K(S_i, V \setminus S_i)).$$

100 Therefore, it holds with constant probability that

$$\rho_G(k) \leq \max_{1 \leq i \leq k} \phi_G(S_i) = \max_{1 \leq i \leq k} O(k \cdot \phi_K(S_i)) = O(k \cdot \rho_K(k)).$$

101 Next, we prove that  $\lambda_{k+1}(\mathbf{N}_G) = \Omega(\lambda_{k+1}(\mathbf{N}_K))$ . Let  $\overline{\mathbf{N}}_K$  be the projection of  $\mathbf{N}_K$  on its top  $n - k$   
 102 eigenspaces, and notice that  $\overline{\mathbf{N}}_K$  can be written

$$\overline{\mathbf{N}}_K = \sum_{i=k+1}^n \lambda_i f_i f_i^\top$$

103 where  $f_1, \dots, f_n$  are the eigenvectors of  $\mathbf{N}_K$ . Let  $\overline{\mathbf{N}}_K^{-1/2}$  be the square root of the pseudoinverse of  
 104  $\overline{\mathbf{N}}_K$ .

105 We prove that the top  $n - k$  eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{N}_K$  are preserved, which implies that  $\lambda_{k+1}(\mathbf{N}_K) =$   
 106  $\Theta(\lambda_{k+1}(\mathbf{N}_G))$ . To prove this, for each data point  $x_i$  and sample  $1 \leq l \leq L$ , we define a random  
 107 matrix  $X_{i,l} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  by

$$X_{i,l} = w_G(x_i, y_{i,l}) \cdot \overline{\mathbf{N}}_K^{-1/2} b_e b_e^\top \overline{\mathbf{N}}_K^{-1/2},$$

108 where  $b_e = \chi_{x_i} - \chi_{y_{i,l}}$  is the edge indicator vector. Notice that

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{l=1}^L X_{i,l} = \sum_{\text{sampled edges } e=(x_i, x_j)} w_G(x_i, x_j) \overline{\mathbf{N}}_K^{-1/2} b_e b_e^\top \overline{\mathbf{N}}_K^{-1/2} = \overline{\mathbf{N}}_K^{-1/2} \mathbf{N}'_G \overline{\mathbf{N}}_K^{-1/2}$$

109 where

$$\mathbf{N}'_G = \sum_{\text{sampled edges } e=(x_i, x_j)} w_G(x_i, x_j) b_e b_e^\top$$

110 is the Laplacian matrix of  $G$  normalised with respect to the degrees of the nodes in  $K$ . We prove that,  
 111 with high probability, the top  $n - k$  eigenvectors of  $\mathbf{N}'_G$  and  $\mathbf{N}_K$  are approximately the same. Then,  
 112 we show the same for  $\mathbf{N}_G$  and  $\mathbf{N}'_G$  which implies that  $\lambda_{k+1}(\mathbf{N}_G) = \Omega(\lambda_{k+1}(\mathbf{N}_K))$ .

113 We begin by looking at the first moment of the expression above:

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_{\min} \left( \mathbb{E} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{l=1}^L X_{i,l} \right] \right) &= \lambda_{\min} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{j \neq i} \mathbb{P}[y_{i,l} = x_j] \frac{k(x_i, x_j)}{\widehat{p}(x_i, x_j)} \cdot \overline{\mathbf{N}}_K^{-1/2} b_e b_e^\top \overline{\mathbf{N}}_K^{-1/2} \right) \\ &\geq \lambda_{\min} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{\widetilde{p}_i(x_j)}{4} \frac{k(x_i, x_j)}{\widehat{p}(x_i, x_j)} \cdot \overline{\mathbf{N}}_K^{-1/2} b_e b_e^\top \overline{\mathbf{N}}_K^{-1/2} \right) \\ &\geq \lambda_{\min} \left( \frac{2}{15} \cdot \overline{\mathbf{N}}_K^{-1/2} \mathbf{N}_K \overline{\mathbf{N}}_K^{-1/2} \right) = \frac{2}{15}. \end{aligned}$$

114 Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned}
\lambda_{\max} \left( \mathbb{E} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{l=1}^L X_{i,l} \right] \right) &= \lambda_{\max} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{j \neq i} \mathbb{P}[y_{i,l} = x_j] \frac{k(x_i, x_j)}{\widehat{p}(x_i, x_j)} \cdot \overline{\mathbf{N}}_{\mathbf{K}}^{-1/2} b_e b_e^{\top} \overline{\mathbf{N}}_{\mathbf{K}}^{-1/2} \right) \\
&\leq \lambda_{\max} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{120 \cdot \widetilde{p}_i(x_j)}{9} \frac{k(x_i, x_j)}{\widehat{p}(x_i, x_j)} \cdot \overline{\mathbf{N}}_{\mathbf{K}}^{-1/2} b_e b_e^{\top} \overline{\mathbf{N}}_{\mathbf{K}}^{-1/2} \right) \\
&\leq \lambda_{\max} \left( 5760 \cdot \overline{\mathbf{N}}_{\mathbf{K}}^{-1/2} \mathbf{N}_{\mathbf{K}} \overline{\mathbf{N}}_{\mathbf{K}}^{-1/2} \right) = 5760.
\end{aligned}$$

115 Additionally, for any  $i$  and  $l$ , we have that

$$\begin{aligned}
\|X_{i,l}\| &\leq w_{\mathbf{G}}(x_i, y_{i,l}) \cdot b_e^{\top} \overline{\mathbf{N}}_{\mathbf{K}}^{-1/2} \overline{\mathbf{N}}_{\mathbf{K}}^{-1/2} b_e \\
&= \frac{k(x_i, y_{i,l})}{\widehat{p}(x_i, y_{i,l})} \cdot b_e^{\top} \overline{\mathbf{N}}_{\mathbf{K}}^{-1} b_e \\
&\leq \frac{k(x_i, y_{i,l})}{\widehat{p}(x_i, y_{i,l})} \cdot \frac{1}{\lambda_{k+1}} \|b_e\|^2 \\
&\leq \frac{2(1+\epsilon)\lambda_{k+1}}{C \log(n) \left( \frac{1}{\deg_{\mathbf{K}}(u)} + \frac{1}{\deg_{\mathbf{K}}(y_{i,l})} \right)} \cdot \frac{1}{\lambda_{k+1}} \left( \frac{1}{\deg_{\mathbf{K}}(x_i)} + \frac{1}{\deg_{\mathbf{K}}(y_{i,l})} \right) \\
&\leq \frac{2(1+\epsilon)}{C \log(n)}.
\end{aligned}$$

116 Now, we apply the matrix Chernoff bound and have that

$$\mathbb{P} \left[ \lambda_{\max} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{l=1}^L X_{i,l} \right) \geq 8640 \right] \leq n \left( \frac{e^{1/2}}{(1+1/2)^{3/2}} \right)^{2C \log(n)/15(1+\epsilon)} = O(1/n^c)$$

117 for some constant  $c$ . The other side of the matrix Chernoff bound gives us that

$$\mathbb{P} \left[ \lambda_{\min} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{l=1}^L X_{i,l} \right) \leq 1/15 \right] \leq O(1/n^c).$$

118 Combining these, with probability  $1 - O(1/n^c)$  it holds for any non-zero  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  in the space  
119 spanned by  $f_{k+1}, \dots, f_n$  that

$$\frac{x^{\top} \overline{\mathbf{N}}_{\mathbf{K}}^{-1/2} \mathbf{N}'_{\mathbf{G}} \overline{\mathbf{N}}_{\mathbf{K}}^{-1/2} x}{x^{\top} x} \in \{1/15, 8640\}.$$

120 By setting  $y = \overline{\mathbf{N}}_{\mathbf{K}}^{-1/2} x$ , we can rewrite this as

$$\frac{y^{\top} \mathbf{N}'_{\mathbf{G}} y}{y^{\top} \overline{\mathbf{N}}_{\mathbf{K}}^{-1/2} \overline{\mathbf{N}}_{\mathbf{K}}^{-1/2} y} = \frac{y^{\top} \mathbf{N}'_{\mathbf{G}} y}{y^{\top} \overline{\mathbf{N}}_{\mathbf{K}} y} = \frac{y^{\top} \mathbf{N}'_{\mathbf{G}} y}{y^{\top} y} \frac{y^{\top} y}{y^{\top} \overline{\mathbf{N}}_{\mathbf{K}} y} \in \{1/240, 1280\}.$$

121 Since  $\dim(\text{span}\{f_{k+1}, \dots, f_n\}) = n - k$ , we have shown that there exist  $n - k$  orthogonal vectors  
122 whose Rayleigh quotient with respect to  $\mathbf{N}'_{\mathbf{G}}$  is  $\Omega(\lambda_{k+1}(\mathbf{N}_{\mathbf{K}}))$ . By the Courant-Fischer Theorem, we  
123 have  $\lambda_{k+1}(\mathbf{N}'_{\mathbf{G}}) = \Omega(\lambda_{k+1}(\mathbf{N}_{\mathbf{K}}))$ .

124 It only remains to show that  $\lambda_{k+1}(\mathbf{N}_{\mathbf{G}}) = \Omega(\lambda_{k+1}(\mathbf{N}'_{\mathbf{G}}))$ , which implies that  $\lambda_{k+1}(\mathbf{N}_{\mathbf{G}}) =$   
125  $\Omega(\lambda_{k+1}(\mathbf{N}_{\mathbf{K}}))$ . By the definition of  $\mathbf{N}_{\mathbf{G}}$ , we have that  $\mathbf{N}_{\mathbf{G}} = \mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{G}}^{-1/2} \mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{K}}^{1/2} \mathbf{N}'_{\mathbf{G}} \mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{K}}^{1/2} \mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{G}}^{-1/2}$ . Therefore,  
126 for any  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $y = \mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{K}}^{1/2} \mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{G}}^{-1/2} x$ , it holds that

$$\frac{x^{\top} \mathbf{N}_{\mathbf{G}} x}{x^{\top} x} = \frac{y^{\top} \mathbf{N}'_{\mathbf{G}} y}{x^{\top} x} = \Omega \left( \frac{y^{\top} \mathbf{N}'_{\mathbf{G}} y}{y^{\top} y} \right),$$

127 where the final guarantee follows from the fact that the degrees in  $\mathbf{G}$  are preserved up to a constant  
128 factor. The conclusion of the theorem follows by the Courant-Fischer Theorem.

129 Finally, we bound the running time of Algorithm 2 which is dominated by the recursive calls to  
 130 Algorithm 1. We note that although the number of nodes doubles at each level of the recursion tree  
 131 (visualised in Figure 4), the total number of samples  $S$  and data points  $X$  remain constant for each  
 132 level of the tree. Then, since the running time of the KDE algorithm is superadditive, the total running  
 133 time of the KDE algorithms at level  $i$  of the tree is

$$T_i = \sum_{j=1}^{2^i} T_{\text{KDE}}(|S_{i,j}|, |X_{i,j}|, \epsilon)$$

$$\leq T_{\text{KDE}}\left(\sum_{j=1}^{2^i} |S_{i,j}|, \sum_{j=1}^{2^i} |X_{i,j}|, \epsilon\right) = T_{\text{KDE}}(|S|, |X|, \epsilon).$$

134 Since there are  $O(\log_2(n))$  levels of the tree, the total running time of Algorithm 1 is  
 135  $\tilde{O}(T_{\text{KDE}}(|S|, |X|, \epsilon))$  which completes the proof.  $\square$

## 136 B Additional Experimental Results

137 In this section, we include in Figures 1 and 2 some additional examples of the performance of the  
 138 six spectral clustering algorithms on the BSDS image segmentation dataset. Due to the quadratic  
 139 memory requirement of the SKLEARN GK algorithm, it cannot be used on the full-resolution image.  
 140 Therefore, we present its results on each image downsampled to 20,000 pixels. For every other  
 141 algorithm, we show the results on the full-resolution image. In every case, we find that our algorithm  
 142 is able to identify more refined detail of the image when compared with the alternative algorithms.

## 143 References

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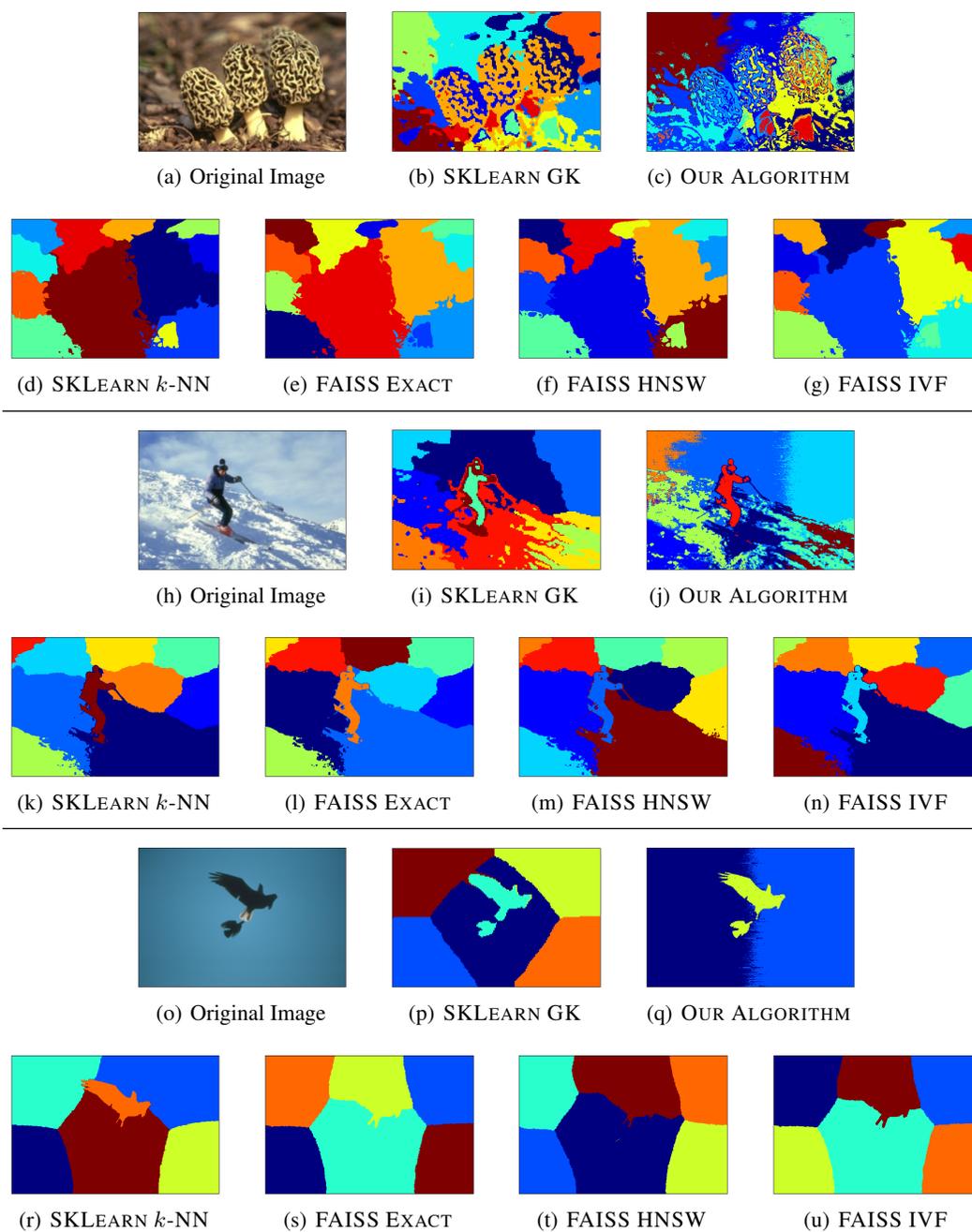


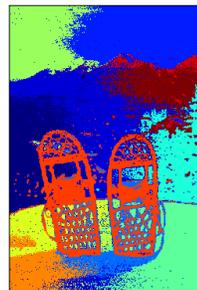
Figure 1: Further examples of the performance of the spectral clustering algorithms for image segmentation.



(a) Original Image



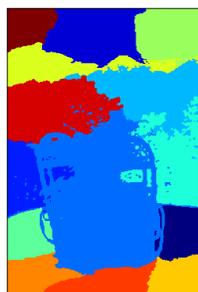
(b) SKLEARN GK



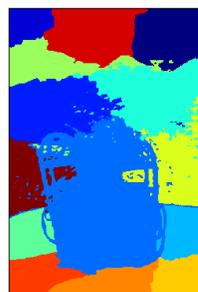
(c) OUR ALGORITHM



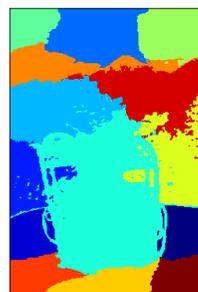
(d) SKLEARN  $k$ -NN



(e) FAISS EXACT



(f) FAISS HNSW



(g) FAISS IVF



(h) Original Image



(i) SKLEARN GK



(j) OUR ALGORITHM



(k) SKLEARN  $k$ -NN



(l) FAISS EXACT



(m) FAISS HNSW



(n) FAISS IVF

Figure 2: Further examples of the performance of the spectral clustering algorithms for image segmentation.