

GraphM package: approximate graph matching algorithms

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1 Problem description

A graph $G = (V, E)$ of size N is defined by a finite set of vertices $V = \{1, \dots, N\}$ and a set of edges $E \subset V \times V$. We consider weighted undirected graphs with no self-loop, i.e., all edges (i, j) have an associated positive real value $w(i, j) = w(j, i)$ and $w(i, i) = 0 \forall i, j \in V$. Each such graph can be equivalently represented by a symmetric adjacency matrix A where $A_{ij} = w(i, j)$.

Given two graphs G and H with the same number of vertices N^1 , the problem of matching G and H consists in finding a correspondence between vertices of G and vertices of H which aligns G and H in some optimal way. The correspondence between vertices may be defined by a permutation matrix P , P_{ij} is equal to 1 if the i -th vertex of G is matched to the j -th vertex of H , and 0 otherwise. After applying the permutation defined by P to the vertices of H we obtain a new graph isomorphic to H which we denote by $P(H)$. The adjacency matrix of the permuted graph, $A_{P(H)}$, is simply obtained from A_H by the equality $A_{P(H)} = PA_H P^T$.

In order to assess whether a permutation P defines a good matching between the vertices of G and those of H , a quality criterion must be defined. We focus in this paper on measuring the discrepancy between the graphs after matching of edges which are present in one graph and not in the other one:

$$F(P) = \|A_G - A_{P(H)}\|_F^2 = \|A_G - PA_H P^T\|_F^2, \quad (1)$$

where $\|\cdot\|_F$ is the Frobenius matrix norm. Therefore, the problem of graph matching can be reformulated as the problem of minimization of $F(P)$ over the set of permutation matrices.

An interesting generalization of the graph matching problem is the problem of labeled graph matching. Here each graph has associated labels to all its vertices and the objective is to find an alignment that fits well graph labels and graph structures at the same time. If we let C_{ij} denote the cost of fitness between i -th vertex of G and j -th vertex of H then the matching problem based only on label comparison can be formulated as follows

$$\min_P \operatorname{tr}(C^T P) = \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N C_{ij} P_{ij} = \sum_{i=1}^N C_{i, P(i)}. \quad (2)$$

A natural way of unifying of (2) and (1) is a linear combination

$$\min_P \{(1 - \alpha)F(P) + \alpha \operatorname{tr}(C^T P)\}. \quad (3)$$

In the following the term ‘objective function $F_\alpha(P)$ ’ will denote the last linear combination.

2 Algorithms & Parameters

The GraphM package proposes different approximate algorithms designed to solve (3). All algorithms use the linear combination parameter (3) α , this parameters is called `alpha_ldh` in configuration file. Some algorithms use also their own specific parameters.

1. The Umeyama algorithm.

Originally this algorithm was proposed for weighted graph matching problem without linear term [Ume88]

$$P = \arg \max \operatorname{tr}\{|U_G|^T |U_H| P\}. \quad (4)$$

¹Otherwise the smallest may be completed with dummy nodes.

This approach may naturally modified to include the linear term C

$$P = \arg \max \text{tr}\{(1 - \alpha)|U_G|^T|U_H| + \alpha C^T\}P\}. \quad (5)$$

2. The Rank algorithm [RJB07]. This algorithm is based on the power method, and sometimes it does not converge, so there is a hard constraint on the number of iterations used in the code (1000 iteration). Usually the Rank algorithm converges, if there is a significant linear term.
3. The LP (Linear programming) algorithm [AS93]. This algorithm has the complexity $O(N^7)$, so it is not recommended to use it for graphs of size more than 50.
4. The QCV (Quadratic convex relaxation) algorithm [ZBV08]. Parameters: α (linear combination (3)). This algorithm use Frank-Wolfe method for convex function minimization, the stop criterion of the FW method is defined by two parameters: `algo_fw_xeps` and `algo_fw_feps`. The stop criterion is $dx < x * \text{algo_fw_xeps} \ \& \ |df| < |f| * \text{algo_fw_feps}$. Another important parameter is `hungarian_max`, it defines the integer diapason used in hungarian method to represent the initial real valued gradient matrix. The more is the the value of this parameter, the more precise is the Hungarian method, and the slower is its speed.
5. The PATH algorithm [ZBV08]. The PATH algorithm uses the parameters of Frank-Wolfe method defined above, and its own parameters: `qcvqcc_lambda_M` and `qcvqcc_lambda_min`. These parameters define the behavior of adaptative path following strategy. The idea of the adaptative strategy is that the choice of $d\lambda$ (see the schema of the PATH algorithm [ZBV08]) is depending on the behavior of $F_\alpha^\lambda(P)$ function. If the current value of $d\lambda$ changes the function $F_\alpha^\lambda(P)$ only a little, then it is better to use larger value of $d\lambda$ to do larger steps. Or if the current $d\lambda$ changes $F_\alpha^\lambda(P)$ then we should decrease $d\lambda$. The minimal increment of $d\lambda$ is defined by `qcvqcc_lambda_min`, and the larger is parameter `qcvqcc_lambda_M`, the larger steps are allowed.

Formally speaking there are four other algorithms which are not true algorithms but they may be used to provide an idea about the shape of objective function.

1. Identity matching IDEN. This algorithm returns the identity permutation.
2. Random matching RAND. This algorithm returns a random permutation matrix.
3. Uniform matching UNIF. This algorithm does not produce a permutation matrix, the return value is $\frac{1}{N}1_N1_N^T$ — $N \times N$ matrix with all elements equal to $1/N$. But this algorithm is used as the initial point for other graph matching algorithms.

3 Common parameters

Here we describe common parameters for all graph matching algorithms. All parameters are usually defined in a configuration file, but they may be also given in the command line. Each line of configuration file is corresponding to one parameter and have four parts: parameter name, sign '=', parameter value and parameter type. There are four different parameter types: 's'—string, 'd' — double, 'i' — integer, 'c' — character.

3.1 Basic parameters

Parameter=Value Type	Description
graph_1=../qap/m_a_1EWK s	Adjacency matrix $N \times N$ of the first graph (ascii file)
graph_2=../qap/m_a_1U19 s	Adjacency matrix $M \times M$ of the second graph (ascii file)
C_matrix=../qap/1 s	Matrix of vertex similarities $C N \times M$ (ascii file)
algo=U QCV RANK PATH s	List of graph matching algorithms
algo_init.sol=unif rand U unif s	List of graph matching initialization algorithms. Each graph matching algorithm may be used as an initialization algorithm, so here for example, initial points for U and PATH are generated by unif algorithm, QCV is initialized by a random matrix, and the initial point of the RANK algorithm is the solution of the Umeyama algorithm
alpha_ldh=0.5 d	α parameter of the linear combination (3)
dummy_nodes=0 i	0 — just add $N-M$ nodes to the smallest graph, 1 — add M nodes to the first graph and N nodes to the second. Depending on your problem different choices are possible. If the problem is to find an embedding of all nodes of the smallest graph into the largest, so all vertices of the smallest graph should be matched to something in the largest, then you have to use ‘dummy_nodes=0 i’. If you want to authorize to the vertices of the smallest graph to be matched to nothing, then ‘dummy_nodes=1 i’ should be used
dummy_nodes_fill=0 d	0 — all dummy nodes are isolated, 0;const _i =1 dummy nodes are connected to all others by edges with weight $\text{const} * (\text{min_weight} + \text{max_weight})$. An interpretation of this parameter is the topological penalty for vertices to be matched to dummy nodes. The more is the value, the less is the penalty.
dummy_nodes_c_coef=0 d	dummy nodes associated values for the C matrix: $\text{min}(C) + \text{const} * (\text{max}(C) - \text{min}(C))$. This parameter is used to set the vertex similarity for dummy nodes. The less is the value of this parameter, the less preferable is the association to a dummy node.
exp_out_file=qap_out s	Output file for graph matching results
exp_out_format=Parameters Compact Permutation s	List of output results, ‘Parameters’—used parameters, ‘Compact’ — value of objective function for each used algorithm, ‘Permutation’ — optimal permutation. For more details see section 4
verbose_mode=1 i	verbose mode. 1 - on/0 - off.
verbose_file=cout s	cout — standard output (screen), another value — name for verbose output file

3.2 Additional parameters

Sometimes C similarity matrix is used to define allowed ($C(i, j) > 0$) vertex associations, it means that all final associations $i - j$ should have a positive vertex similarity score. In this case next two parameters may be useful. If we denote by $P_{C>0}$ the set of such permutations, then

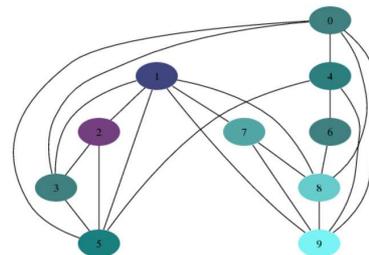
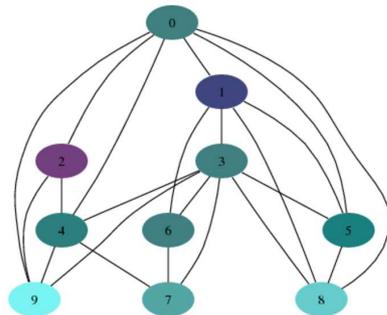
- ‘blast_match_proj=1 i’ means that the final solution will be projected on $P_{C>0}$.
- ‘blast_match=1 i’ restrict the initial optimization set of all permutations to $P_{C>0}$. It means that on each step of FW algorithms a matrix from $P_{C>0}$ will be used as the new direction. In other words not only the final solution, but also each intermediate step is projected on $P_{C>0}$.

4 Example

Let's consider a simple example. Suppose that we have two graphs G and H defined by the following adjacency matrices

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



First time, let's suppose that we do not have any additional information about vertex similarities. In this case the configuration file `config.txt` may have the following form

```

//*****GRAPHS*****
//graph_1,graph_2 are graph adjacency matrices,
//C_matrix is the matrix of local similarities between vertices of graph_1 and graph_2.
//If graph_1 is NxN and graph_2 is MxM then C_matrix should be NxM
graph_1=./simple_test/G s
graph_2=./simple_test/H s
C_matrix=./simple_test/C s
//*****ALGORITHMS*****
//used algorithms and what should be used as initial solution in corresponding algorithms
algo=I U RANK QCV rand PATH s
algo_init_sol=unif unif unif unif unif s
solution_file=solution_im.txt s
//coefficient of linear combination between (1-alpha_ldh)*||graph_1-P*graph_2*P^T||^2_F +alpha_ldh*C_matrix
alpha_ldh=0 d
cdesc_matrix=A c
cscore_matrix=A c
C_matrix_dist=0 i
//*****PARAMETERS SECTION*****
hungarian_max=10000 d
algo_fw_xeps=0.01 d
algo_fw_feps=0.01 d
//0 - just add a set of isolated nodes to the smallest graph, 1 - double size
dummy_nodes=0 i
// fill for dummy nodes (0.5 - these nodes will be connected with all other by edges of weight 0.5(min_weight+max_weight))
dummy_nodes_fill=0 d
// fill for linear matrix C, usually that's the minimum (dummy_nodes_c_coef=0),
// but may be the maximum (dummy_nodes_c_coef=1)
dummy_nodes_c_coef=0.01 d

qcvqcc_lambda_M=10 d
qcvqcc_lambda_min=1e-5 d

//0 - all matching are possible, 1-only matching with positive local similarity are possible
blast_match=1 i
blast_match_proj=0 i
//*****OUTPUT*****
//output file and its format
exp_out_file=./simple_test/exp_out_file s
exp_out_format=Parameters Compact Permutation s
//other
graph_dot_print=1 i;
debugprint=0 i
debugprint_file=debug.txt s

```

```

verbose_mode=1 i
//verbose file may be a file or just a screen:cout
verbose_file=cout s

```

Six graph matching methods are going to be used: ‘algo=I U RANK QCV rand PATH s’.
 To run the programm:

```
./graphm config.txt
```

The results file `exp_out_file` may have three different parts.
 If there is the word ‘Parameters’ in the ‘exp_out_format’ list then all used parameters will be listed:

```

*****
Experiment parameters:
graph_1=./simple_test/G
graph_2=./simple_test/H
C_matrix=./simple_test/C
algo=I U RANK QCV rand PATH
algo_init_sol=unif unif unif unif unif unif
solution_file=solution_im.txt
alpha_ldh=0
cdesc_matrix=A
cscore_matrix=A
hungarian_max=10000
algo_fw_xeps=0.01
algo_fw_feps=0.01
dummy_nodes=0
dummy_nodes_fill=0
dummy_nodes_c_coef=0.01
qcvqc_lambda_M=10
qcvqc_lambda_min=1e-05
blast_match=1
blast_match_proj=0
exp_out_file=./simple_test/exp_out_file
exp_out_format=Parameters Compact Permutation
graph_dot_print=1
debugprint=0
debugprint_file=debug.txt
verbose_mode=1
verbose_file=cout

```

Then if there is the word ‘Compact’, then the following data will be presented

```

Experiment results:
      Alpha      I      U      RANK      QCV      rand      PATH
Gdist 0.000000e+00 5.000000e+01 3.400000e+01 3.800000e+01 1.400000e+01 4.200000e+01 6.000000e+00
F_perm 0.000000e+00 5.813953e-01 3.953488e-01 4.418605e-01 1.627907e-01 4.883721e-01 6.976744e-02
F_exact 0.000000e+00 5.813953e-01 3.953488e-01 4.418605e-01 1.364375e-02 4.883721e-01 6.976744e-02
Time: 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00

```

Here for each graph matching method has four associated values: ‘Gdist’ — $\|A_G - PA_H P^T\|_F^2$, ‘F_perm’ — $F_\alpha(P)$ objective function value; ‘F_exact’ — some graph matching methods like QCV produce a doubly stochastic matrix P_e (an approximation of permutation matrix) and then project it on the set of permutation matrices, so ‘F_exact’ is the value of the objective function in P_e . Line ‘Time’ represents algorithm timing in seconds. The first column ‘Alpha’ is the value of linear combination parameter α .

Note, that because of possible scale problems, we use normalized version of the objective function $F_\alpha(P)$. If $\|A_G - PA_H P^T\|_F^2$ and $\text{tr} C^T P$ have completely different scales then it may be difficult to find a good alpha. It will be wether near zero, or near one depending on which component is bigger. That’s why we use the following normalized version

$$F_\alpha(P) = (1 - \alpha) \frac{1}{\|A_G\|_F^2 + \|A_H\|_F^2} \|A_G - PA_H P^T\|_F^2 + \alpha \frac{1}{\|C\|_F} \text{tr} C^T P \quad (6)$$

The last part contains solutions (vertex matching, permutations) produced by different algorithms, this part will be printed if there is the word ‘Permutation’ in ‘exp_out_format’ list.

```

Permutations:
I U RANK QCV rand PATH
1 2 9 2 1 2
2 10 10 6 6 9
3 4 7 8 5 3
4 1 2 1 4 1
5 3 6 9 8 6
6 8 5 3 9 10
7 7 8 7 7 7
8 5 3 5 3 5
9 6 4 4 2 8
10 9 1 10 10 4

```

Permutations produced by different algorithms are organized in columns. For example, permutation produced by Umeyama algorithm ‘U’ is the second column (2, 10, 4, 1, 3, 8, 7, 5, 6, 9). It means that the vertex number 1 of the graph **graph_1** should be matched to the vertex number 2 of **graph_2**, $2 \rightarrow 10$, $3 \rightarrow 4$ and so on.

If we take the permutation produced by the PATH algorithm then the permutation matrix has the following form

$$P_{path} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

And it can be checked that $G_{dist} = \|A_G - P_{path} A_H P_{path}^T\|_F^2 = 6$, $F_{perm} = F_\alpha(P_{path}) = \frac{1}{\|A_G\|_F^2 + \|A_H\|_F^2} \|A_G - P_{path} A_H P_{path}^T\|_F^2 = 0.0697$.

Now, let’s suppose that in addition to graph adjacency matrices we have a similarity matrix C

$$C_{GH} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.50 & 0.20 & 0.60 & 0.70 & 1.00 & 0.20 & 0.30 & 0.10 & 0.30 & 0.60 \\ 0.70 & 0.60 & 0.30 & 0.90 & 0.90 & 0.10 & 0.50 & 0.50 & 0.90 & 0.60 \\ 0.10 & 0.70 & 0.90 & 0.10 & 0.00 & 0.10 & 0.30 & 0.90 & 0.40 & 0.60 \\ 1.00 & 0.20 & 0.50 & 0.00 & 0.10 & 0.30 & 0.80 & 0.30 & 0.20 & 0.20 \\ 0.30 & 0.40 & 0.80 & 0.30 & 0.60 & 1.00 & 0.40 & 0.80 & 0.10 & 0.20 \\ 0.50 & 0.50 & 1.00 & 0.30 & 0.10 & 0.80 & 0.50 & 0.50 & 0.70 & 0.60 \\ 0.60 & 0.50 & 0.40 & 0.30 & 0.10 & 0.30 & 0.80 & 0.80 & 0.50 & 0.70 \\ 0.70 & 0.00 & 0.10 & 0.60 & 1.00 & 0.30 & 0.10 & 0.10 & 0.80 & 0.80 \\ 0.60 & 0.80 & 0.30 & 0.10 & 0.50 & 0.50 & 0.70 & 0.60 & 0.90 & 0.00 \\ 0.10 & 0.40 & 0.50 & 0.20 & 0.40 & 0.20 & 0.10 & 0.50 & 0.80 & 0.60 \end{bmatrix}$$

Also we have to set up the value of parameter α , for example, **alpha_ldh=0.44**. All values may be changed in the **config.txt** or it can be defined directly in the command line without changing the configuration file

```
graphm config.txt "C_matrix=../simple_test/C_GH s;alpha_ldh=0.44 d;"
```

In the last case, each definition have to be followed by ‘;’.

Contents of the output file is presented below

```
Experiment parameters:
graph_1=../simple_test/G
graph_2=../simple_test/H
C_matrix=../simple_test/C_GH
algo=I U RANK QCV rand PATH
algo_init_sol=unif unif unif unif unif
solution_file=solution_im.txt
alpha_ldh=0.44
cdesc_matrix=A
cscore_matrix=A
C_matrix_dist=0
hungarian_max=10000
algo_fw_xeps=0.01
algo_fw_feps=0.01
dummy_nodes=0
dummy_nodes_fill=0
dummy_nodes_c_coef=0.01
qcvqcc_lambda_M=10
qcvqcc_lambda_min=1e-05
blast_match=1
blast_match_proj=0
exp_out_file=../simple_test/exp_out_file
exp_out_format=Parameters Compact Permutation
graph_dot_print=1
debugprint=0
debugprint_file=debug.txt
verbose_mode=1
verbose_file=cout
Experiment results:
Alpha      I          U          RANK      QCV      rand      PATH
```

```

Gdist  4.400000e-01  5.000000e+01  3.400000e+01  5.000000e+01  3.400000e+01  4.200000e+01  2.600000e+01
F_perm 4.400000e-01 -1.394961e-01 -3.158493e-01 -3.960905e-01 -4.842394e-01 -7.932901e-02 -4.962396e-01
F_exact 4.400000e-01 -1.394961e-01 -3.158493e-01 -3.960905e-01 -5.964503e-01 -7.932901e-02 -4.962396e-01
Time: 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 1.000000e+00
Permutations:
I U RANK QCV rand PATH
1 2 5 10 1 2
2 10 4 4 6 4
3 4 8 8 5 8
4 1 1 1 4 1
5 3 6 6 8 6
6 6 3 3 9 3
7 7 7 7 7 7
8 5 10 5 3 5
9 8 2 2 2 9
10 9 9 9 10 10

```

An important remark is that if the similarity matrix is used (`C_matrix_dist=0 i`) then the second component is subtracted from the objective function

$$F_\alpha(P) = (1 - \alpha) \frac{1}{\|A_G\|_F^2 + \|A_H\|_F^2} \|A_G - PA_H P^T\|_F^2 - \alpha \frac{1}{\|C\|_F} \text{tr} C^T P \quad (7)$$

In both cases the PATH algorithm give the best approximate solution. This example may be found in `test_simple`. Other examples are presented in `test_qap` (graphs from QAP becnhmark library), `test` and `test_large` (large size graphs). In each directory you can just call `./test_script` to see how does it work.

5 Installation

1. First, the GSL (GNU scientific library) should be installed, see <http://www.gnu.org/software/gsl/>. Usually it can be automatically installed by system package managers, for example, `apt-get install gsl` (Debian) or `yum install gsl` (Fedora).
2. download and unpack `graphm-*.tar.gz`
3. go to `graphm` directory
4. launch `./graphm_comp`

Executive file `graphm` will be created in `bin` directory. By default, LP algorithm is not included because it needs the `glpk` solver. If you want to use LP algorithm, first, you have to install `glpk` solver (see www.gnu.org/software/glpk/, or use a system package manager). On the last step of the installation process you should use `./graphm_comp LP`.

6 Package extension

This is very simple to add your own algorithm to the package. There are three principal steps

1. Create a child class from the abstract class `algorithm` (`algorithm.h`)

```

class algorithm_thebest : public algorithm
{
public:
    virtual match_result match(graph &g,graph &h,gsl_matrix* gm_P_i=NULL, gsl_matrix* gm_ldh=NULL,

};

```

You may add this description to `algorithm_ext.h`

2. Write your own graph matching algorithm by re defining the virtual function `match`, this implementation may be done in `algorithm_ext.cpp`

```

match_result algorithm_thebest::match(graph& g, graph& h,gsl_matrix* gm_P_i, gsl_matrix* _gm_ldh,d
{
if (bverbose) *gout<<"The best matching algorithm"<<std::endl;
match_result mres; //class with results
gsl_matrix* gm_Ag_d=g.get_descmatrix(cdesc_matrix);//get the adjacency matrix of graph g
gsl_matrix* gm_Ah_d=h.get_descmatrix(cdesc_matrix);//get the adjacency matrix of graph h
//the similarity matrix C is defined in the algorithm class memeber gm_ldh
//dalpha_ldh is corresponding to the linear combination coefficent alpha

//YOUR OPERATIONS WITH MATRICES, RESULT IS A PERMUTATION MATRIX P

//do not forget to release the memory
gsl_matrix_free(gm_Ag_d);
gsl_matrix_free(gm_Ag_h);

mres.gm_P=P;//save the solution
mres.gm_P_exact=NULL; //you can save here the matrix which was used as an approximation for P

mres.dres=graph_dist(g,h,mres.gm_P,cscore_matrix);// distance between graph adjacency matrices
return mres;
}

```

3. Add line `if (salgo.compare("THEBEST")==0){ return new algorithm m.thebest;}` into `experiment::get_algorithm(std::string salgo) (experiment.h)`.
4. That's all ! You have to recompile the package by using `graphm_install`, and you can use your algorithm. For example, you can modify the configuration file by setting `algo=THEBEST s`.

References

- [AS93] H.A. Almohamad and S.O.Duffuaa. A linear programming approach for the weighted graph matching problem. *TPAMI*, 15, 1993.
- [RJB07] R.Singh, J.Xu, and B.Berger. Pairwise global alignment of protein interaction networks by matching neighborhood topology. *Research in Computational Molecular Biology*, 4453:16–31, 2007.
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- [ZBV08] Mikhail Zaslavskiy, Firancis Bach, and Jean-Philippe Vert. A path following algorithm for graph matching problem. *arXiv:0801.3654v1*, 2008.