

# NON-BACKTRACKING PAGERANK

**F. Arrigo**, Desmond J. Higham, and V. Noferini

Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Strathclyde

Glasgow, Scotland

`francesca.arrigo@strath.ac.uk`

The PageRank algorithm, which has been “bringing order to the web” for more than twenty years, computes the steady state of a classical random walk plus teleporting [3, 4]. Here we consider a variation of PageRank that uses a non-backtracking random walk. To do this, we first reformulate PageRank in terms of the associated line graph. A non-backtracking analog then emerges naturally [2, 5]. Comparing the resulting steady states, we find that, even for undirected graphs, non-backtracking generally leads to a different ranking of the nodes [6]. We then focus on computational issues, deriving an explicit representation of the new algorithm that can exploit structure and sparsity in the underlying network. Finally, we assess effectiveness and efficiency of this approach on some real-world networks.

## References

- [1] N. Alon, I. Benjamini, E. Lubetzky, S. Sodin, *Non-backtracking random walks mix faster*. Communications in Contemporary Mathematics **09**, pp. 585–603 (2007).
- [2] F. Arrigo, D. J. Higham, and V. Noferini, *Non-backtracking PageRank* MIMS EPrint: 2018.29 (2018).
- [3] L. Page, S. Brin, R. Motwani, T. Winograd, *The PageRank citation ranking: Bringing order to the web*. Technical Report, Stanford University (1998).
- [4] D. F. Gleich, *PageRank beyond the web*. SIAM Review **57**(3), pp. 321–363 (2015).
- [5] K. Hashimoto, *Zeta functions of finite graphs and representations of  $p$ -adic groups*. In: Automorphic forms and geometry of arithmetic varieties, pp. 211–280. Elsevier (1989).
- [6] M. Kempton, *Non-backtracking random walks and a weighted Ihara’s theorem*. Open Journal of Discrete Mathematics **6**(04), pp. 207–226 (2016).