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Sonica Saraf*, Department of Mathematical Sciences, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA 15213, and Natalie Wellen, Department of Mathematical Sciences, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, MA 01609. The Resolution Limit for Detecting Communities in Benchmark Graphs. Preliminary report.

Detecting community structure within networks is important in a variety of practical applications including social networks, biological networks, technological networks, and many more. Modularity optimization is a popular method for detecting communities of nodes within networks. It was shown by Fortunato and Barthelemy that modularity optimization is subject to a resolution limit wherein communities smaller than a certain size cannot be detected. In this talk, we will examine the resolution limit for certain classes of benchmark graphs, and discuss how the inclusion of a multi-resolution parameter affects the ability to detect communities. (Received August 07, 2015)