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# GraphSAGE

## Inductive Representation Learning on Large Graphs

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# Introduction

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Low-dimensional vector embedding is useful for graph analysis tasks

Limitations of previous works

1. Computational cost

- GCN: For large graphs, excessive memory usage and computational time

2. Application to inductive learning

- Previous works directly optimize the embeddings for each node
- MF based models require additional computations
- GCN has only been applied to transductive settings

# Introduction

## Inductive vs. Transductive Learning

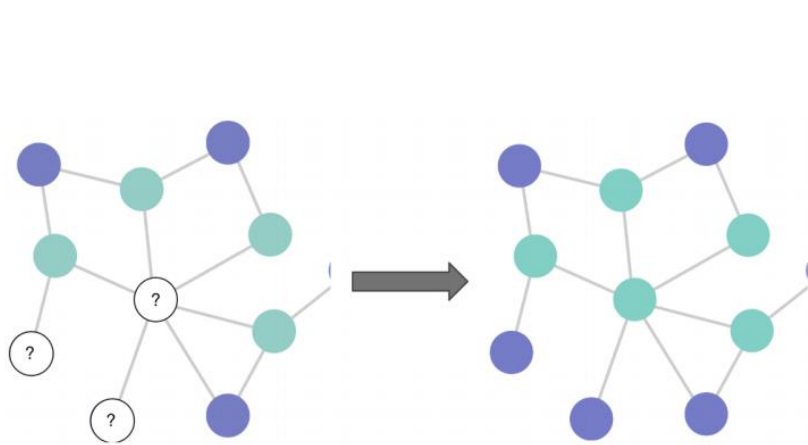


Figure 1. Node classification in transductive setting. At training time, the learning algorithm has access to all the nodes and edges including nodes for which labels are to be predicted.

## Transductive

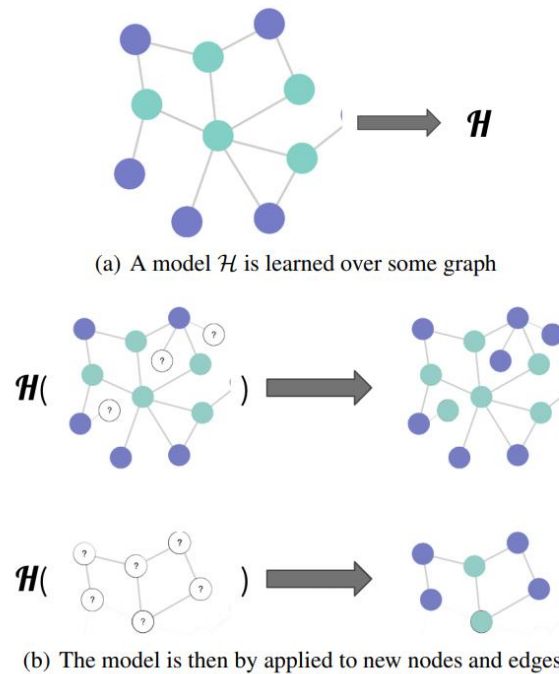
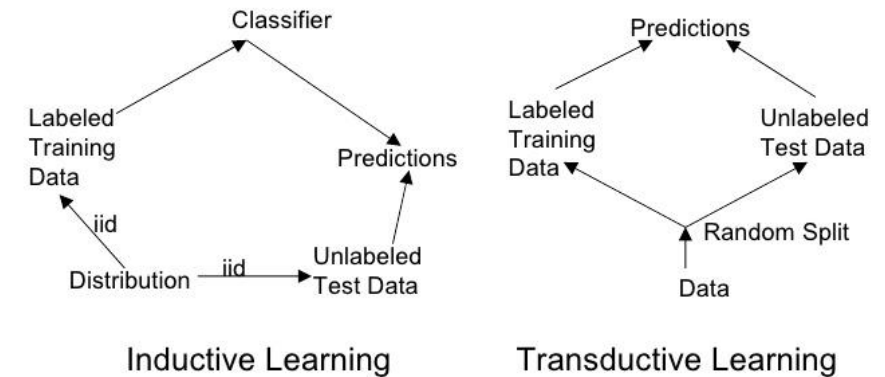


Figure 2. Node classification in inductive setting. Once learned, the model can be applied to new unseen nodes (outlined in red). There may or may not exist edges between such new nodes and the nodes used for training.

## Inductive



# Introduction

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## GraphSAGE: SAmple and aggreGatE

- Learn a generalized embedding function
- Both learn distribution and topological structure
- Aggregator functions
- New loss function for unsupervised learning
- Both applied to supervised and unsupervised learning
- Perform better for evolving graphs

## Related Work

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### Factorization-based embedding approaches

- Directly train node embeddings, need for excessive training in transductive settings
- Embedding space does not generalize

### Graph convolutional networks

- Designed for semi-supervised learning in a transductive setting
- Need for full graph Laplacian
- GraphSAGE extended GCN to inductive settings

# GraphSAGE

## Embedding generation algorithm

Model already trained, parameters fixed

AGGREGATE<sub>K</sub>: K aggregator functions,  $W^K$ : Weight matrices

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**Algorithm 1:** GraphSAGE embedding generation (i.e., forward propagation) algorithm

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**Input** : Graph  $\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$ ; input features  $\{\mathbf{x}_v, \forall v \in \mathcal{V}\}$ ; depth  $K$ ; weight matrices  $\mathbf{W}^k, \forall k \in \{1, \dots, K\}$ ; non-linearity  $\sigma$ ; differentiable aggregator functions AGGREGATE<sub>k</sub>,  $\forall k \in \{1, \dots, K\}$ ; neighborhood function  $\mathcal{N} : v \rightarrow 2^{\mathcal{V}}$

**Output**: Vector representations  $\mathbf{z}_v$  for all  $v \in \mathcal{V}$

```

1  $\mathbf{h}_v^0 \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_v, \forall v \in \mathcal{V}$ ;
2 for  $k = 1 \dots K$  do
3   for  $v \in \mathcal{V}$  do
4      $\mathbf{h}_{\mathcal{N}(v)}^k \leftarrow \text{AGGREGATE}_k(\{\mathbf{h}_u^{k-1}, \forall u \in \mathcal{N}(v)\})$ ;
5      $\mathbf{h}_v^k \leftarrow \sigma(\mathbf{W}^k \cdot \text{CONCAT}(\mathbf{h}_v^{k-1}, \mathbf{h}_{\mathcal{N}(v)}^k))$ 
6   end
7    $\mathbf{h}_v^k \leftarrow \mathbf{h}_v^k / \|\mathbf{h}_v^k\|_2, \forall v \in \mathcal{V}$ 
8 end
9  $\mathbf{z}_v \leftarrow \mathbf{h}_v^K, \forall v \in \mathcal{V}$ 

```

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Aggregate information from neighborhood  
Concatenate with previous feature vector

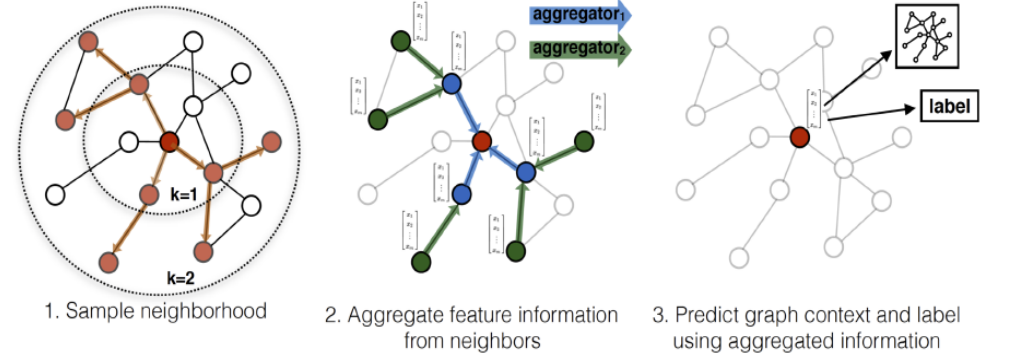


Figure 1: Visual illustration of the GraphSAGE sample and aggregate approach.

# GraphSAGE

## Embedding generation algorithm

Use mini batches to reduce the number of calculations

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**Algorithm 2:** GraphSAGE minibatch forward propagation algorithm

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**Input** : Graph  $\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$ ;  
input features  $\{\mathbf{x}_v, \forall v \in \mathcal{B}\}$ ;  
depth  $K$ ; weight matrices  $\mathbf{W}^k, \forall k \in \{1, \dots, K\}$ ;  
non-linearity  $\sigma$ ;  
differentiable aggregator functions  $\text{AGGREGATE}_k, \forall k \in \{1, \dots, K\}$ ;  
neighborhood sampling functions,  $\mathcal{N}_k : v \rightarrow 2^{\mathcal{V}}, \forall k \in \{1, \dots, K\}$

**Output**: Vector representations  $\mathbf{z}_v$  for all  $v \in \mathcal{B}$

```
1  $\mathcal{B}^K \leftarrow \mathcal{B}$ ;  
2 for  $k = K \dots 1$  do  
3    $\mathcal{B}^{k-1} \leftarrow \mathcal{B}^k$ ;  
4   for  $u \in \mathcal{B}^k$  do  
5      $\mathcal{B}^{k-1} \leftarrow \mathcal{B}^{k-1} \cup \mathcal{N}_k(u)$ ;      Store the nodes that require calculations  
6   end  
7 end  
8  $\mathbf{h}_u^0 \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_v, \forall v \in \mathcal{B}^0$ ;  
9 for  $k = 1 \dots K$  do  
10  for  $u \in \mathcal{B}^k$  do  
11     $\mathbf{h}_{\mathcal{N}(u)}^k \leftarrow \text{AGGREGATE}_k(\{\mathbf{h}_{u'}^{k-1}, \forall u' \in \mathcal{N}_k(u)\})$ ;  
12     $\mathbf{h}_u^k \leftarrow \sigma(\mathbf{W}^k \cdot \text{CONCAT}(\mathbf{h}_u^{k-1}, \mathbf{h}_{\mathcal{N}(u)}^k))$ ;  
13     $\mathbf{h}_u^k \leftarrow \mathbf{h}_u^k / \|\mathbf{h}_u^k\|_2$ ;  
14  end  
15 end  
16  $\mathbf{z}_u \leftarrow \mathbf{h}_u^K, \forall u \in \mathcal{B}$ 
```

} Identical to previous pseudocode



# GraphSAGE

## Embedding generation algorithm

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### Neighborhood Definition

- Use a fixed-size set of neighbors that are uniformly selected
- $O(\prod_{i=1}^K S_i)$ ,  $S_i$  is the size of the neighborhood set for depth  $K$
- Work best for  $K = 2, S_1 \times S_2 \leq 500$  (Trade-off between efficiency and accuracy)

### Why not using full neighborhood?

- Memory and expected running time is unpredictable
- Worst Case:  $O(|\mathcal{V}|)$

# GraphSAGE

## Learning parameters of GraphSAGE

Loss function for unsupervised learning: graph-based loss

$$J_{\mathcal{G}}(\mathbf{z}_u) = -\log(\sigma(\mathbf{z}_u^{\top} \mathbf{z}_v)) - Q \cdot \mathbb{E}_{v_n \sim P_n(v)} \log(\sigma(-\mathbf{z}_u^{\top} \mathbf{z}_{v_n}))$$

$v$ : node that co-occur near  $u$  on fixed-length random walk

$P_n$ : negative sampling distribution

$v_n$ : negative samples

$Q$ : number of negative samples

- Make the linked nodes lie in similar position, and non-linked nodes in different positions
- Train aggregator functions and weight matrices with SGD

# GraphSAGE

## Aggregator architectures

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Nodes and its neighbors have no ordering

-> Aggregator should be symmetric (invariant to permutations of its inputs)

Symmetric, Trainable, With high representational capacity

- Mean Aggregator
- LSTM Aggregator
- Pooling Aggregator

# GraphSAGE

## Aggregator architectures

### Mean Aggregator

- Take the elementwise mean of neighborhood nodes
- Similar to GCN, but Concatenating instead of Adding

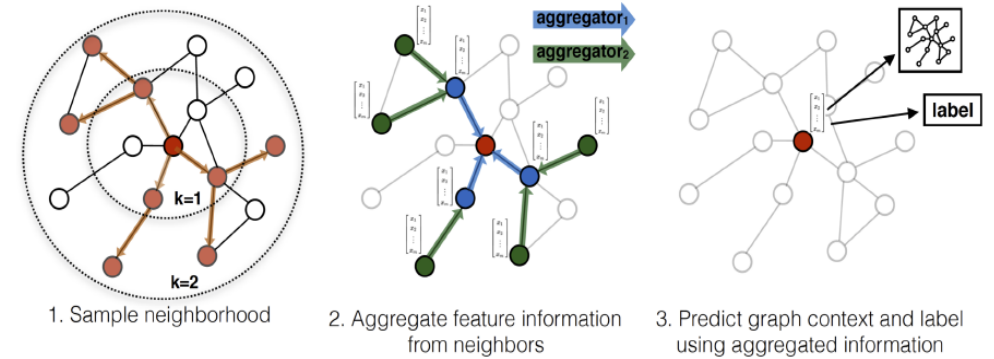


Figure 1: Visual illustration of the GraphSAGE sample and aggregate approach.

- Inductive version of GCN: Adding instead of Concatenating

$$\mathbf{h}_v^k \leftarrow \sigma(\mathbf{W} \cdot \text{MEAN}(\{\mathbf{h}_v^{k-1}\} \cup \{\mathbf{h}_u^{k-1}, \forall u \in \mathcal{N}(v)\}))$$

# GraphSAGE

## Aggregator architectures

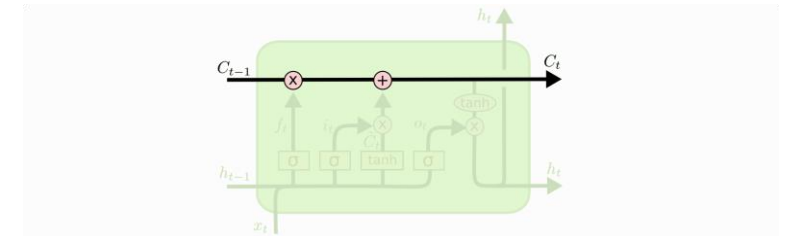
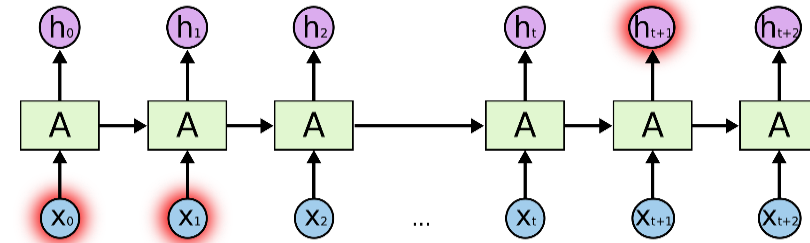
LSTM(Long Short-Term Memory) Aggregator

LSTM: variant of RNN (Recursive Neural Net)

- Long-term dependencies of RNN
- Use cell-state to pass information of past nodes

LSTM is sequential

- Use random permutations of neighbors



# GraphSAGE

## Aggregator architectures

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### Pooling Aggregator

- Symmetric and Trainable
- Fed neighbor's vector through fully connected neural net
- Element-wise max operator

$$\text{AGGREGATE}_k^{\text{pool}} = \max(\{\sigma(\mathbf{W}_{\text{pool}} \mathbf{h}_{u_i}^k + \mathbf{b}), \forall u_i \in \mathcal{N}(v)\})$$

- Max operator can be replaced with any symmetric vector function ( ex) mean )
  - Max operator usually performs better

# Experiments

## Models and Loss function

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### Models

- Random classifier
- Logistic regression feature-based classifier
- DeepWalk (representative factorization-based approach)
- Concatenation of the raw features with DeepWalk
- GraphSAGE: GCN, mean, LSTM, pooling ( $K = 2, S_1 = 25, S_2 = 10$ )

### Loss function

- Supervised setting: Cross-entropy loss
- Unsupervised setting: Graph-based loss

# Experiments

## Dataset

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### Citation data

- Predict paper subject categories on a large citation dataset

### Reddit data

- Predict which community Reddit posts belong to
- Posts connected if the same user comments on both

### Protein-Protein Interaction Data

- Learn node roles rather than community structure
- Classify protein roles



# Experiments

## Results

GraphSAGE performed better than baselines

LSTM and pooling performed better than GCN or mean

LSTM, pooling > mean > GCN

Name	Citation		Reddit		PPI	
	Unsup. F1	Sup. F1	Unsup. F1	Sup. F1	Unsup. F1	Sup. F1
Random	0.206	0.206	0.043	0.042	0.396	0.396
Raw features	0.575	0.575	0.585	0.585	0.422	0.422
DeepWalk	0.565	0.565	0.324	0.324	—	—
DeepWalk + features	0.701	0.701	0.691	0.691	—	—
GraphSAGE-GCN	0.742	0.772	<b>0.908</b>	0.930	0.465	0.500
GraphSAGE-mean	0.778	0.820	0.897	0.950	0.486	0.598
GraphSAGE-LSTM	0.788	0.832	<b>0.907</b>	<b>0.954</b>	0.482	<b>0.612</b>
GraphSAGE-pool	<b>0.798</b>	<b>0.839</b>	0.892	0.948	<b>0.502</b>	0.600
% gain over feat.	39%	46%	55%	63%	19%	45%

# Experiments

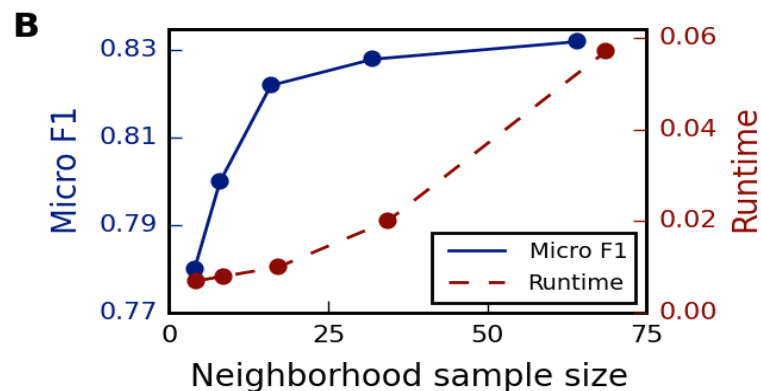
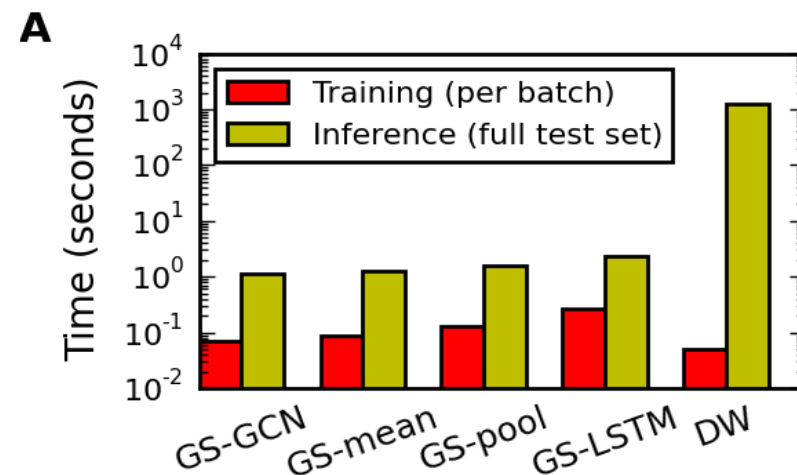
## Runtime and parameter sensitivity

GraphSAGE is faster in inductive settings

For depth  $K$

- $K = 2$  performed better than  $K = 1$  (10~15%)
- Increase beyond 2 is meaningless

## Sampling size and accuracy



## Conclusion

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### GraphSAGE

- An efficient algorithm for generating embeddings from unseen nodes
- Effectively trades off performance and runtime
- Number of potential improvements are possible

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Thank you

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