# **SIGIR 2021**

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# SDG: A Simplified and Dynamic Graph Neural Network



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- Motivation
- Proposed SDG Framework
- Experiments
- Conclusion



## **Graph Neural Networks**

Nowadays, GNNs have a wide range of applications, such like





## **Existing Work**

- Goal of simplifying GNNs
  - To reduce computational complexity,
  - and maintain competitive performance in the meantime.
- Simplified GNNs from different perspectives
  - FastGCN [Chen et al., ICLR 2018]
  - SGC [Wu et al., ICML 2019]
  - APPNP [Klicpera et al., ICLR 2019]
  - LightGCN [He et al., SIGIR 2020]
  - .....



## **Challenges**

- In complex real-world settings
  - In addition to scaling the GNNs structures,
  - evolving the structures of GNNs is overlooked.
- Compared with static models, dynamic neural networks have[1]:
  - Compatibility
  - Interpretability
- How can we synchronize simplification and dynamization of GNNs?



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#### **Preliminaries**

reference node  $\Sigma(\boxtimes\boxtimes\boxtimes)$ neighbor #1 neighbor #2

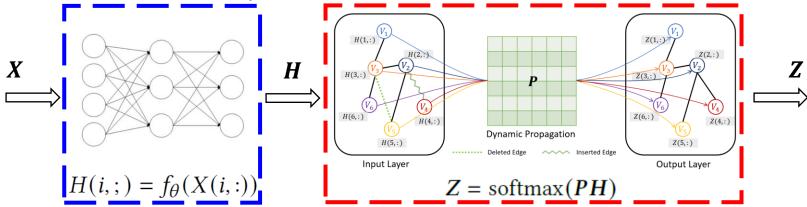
- Information Aggregation in GNNs
  - A classic method: message-passing scheme to aggregate neighborhood information.

$$h_v^{(l)} = \sigma\left(W_l \cdot \mathsf{AGGREGATE}\left(\left\{h_u^{(l-1)}, \forall u \in \widetilde{N}(v)\right\}\right)\right)$$

- Replacing message-passing with personalized PageRank<sub>[2]</sub>
  - The influence of other nodes on a selected node x through a k-layer GNN (e.g., GCN or GraphSAGE) is proportional to the k-step random walk distribution starting from that selected seed node x [3].

#### **Overview of SDG**

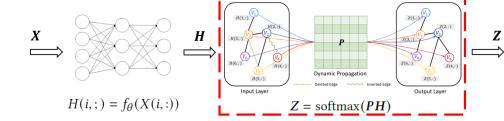
- SDG (A <u>Simplified</u> and <u>Dynamic</u> <u>Graph Neural Network)
  </u>
  - Dynamic Propagation Scheme
    - Realized by tracking PageRank vectors.
    - Efficient fine-tuning for changed graphs.
    - Interpretable prediction by masking certain nodes and edges.
  - Model-Agnostic Neural Networks
    - To extract the qualified hidden node features H.



loss function: 
$$\mathcal{L}_{SDG} = -\sum_{i}^{n} \sum_{j}^{c} Y(i, j) \ln Z(i, j)$$



#### **SDG Framework**



- Dynamic Propagation Scheme
  - Realized by tracking the dynamic propagation matrix P.
  - Each row P(i,:) stores the stationary distribution starting from node i.

$$P(i,:)^{\top} = \alpha M P(i,:)^{\top} + (1-\alpha)r$$

$$M = AD^{-1} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} : \text{columnstochastic transition matrix}$$
 $\alpha: \text{teleport probability}$ 

When the input graph changes

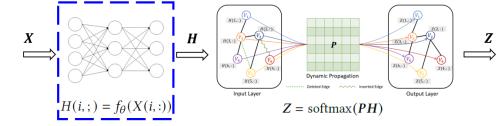
$$P(i,:)_{pushout} = \alpha (\mathbf{M'} - \mathbf{M})P(i,:) \qquad P(i,:)' = P(i,:) + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (\alpha \mathbf{M'})^k \ P(i,:)_{pushout}$$

 $\epsilon$ : stopping criterion

- Time Complexity
  - $O(\frac{mn}{q}\log_{\alpha}(\frac{\epsilon}{2}))$  with error bound  $\frac{n\epsilon}{1-\alpha}$  q: # of distributed machine m: # of non-zero entries in M'



#### **SDG Framework**



- Model-Agnostic Neural Networks
  - To capture hidden node features H from X.
  - $f_{\theta}$  can take a variety of forms, like MLP, CNN, etc.
  - $\theta$  is the only parameter need to train in SDG.
  - When the input graph changes,  $f_{\theta}$  only need to be fine-tuned with M' and/or X'.
  - $f_{\theta}$  could also be paralleled.

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## **Experimental Setup**

- Comparison methods
  - PPNP: Simplified GNN with PageRank.
  - APPNP: Simplified GNN with approximated PageRank.
  - SDG-S: Ablated SDG without Dynamic Propagation Scheme.
  - SDG
- Task: text classification (i.e., node classification)
- Dataset

Table 1: Dataset Statistics

Dataset	Classes	Nodes	Edges	Label Rate
Citeseer	6	2,110	3,668	0.036
Cora-ML	7	2,810	7,981	0.047
PubMed	3	19,717	44,324	0.003

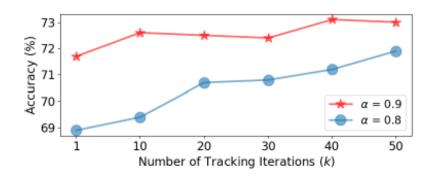
## **Experimental Results**

Effectiveness and Efficiency

Table 2: Effectiveness and Efficiency Comparison

Methods -	Citeseer		Cora-ML		PubMed	
	Accuracy (%)	Time Consumption (s)	Accuracy (%)	Time Consumption (s)	Accuracy (%)	Time Consumption (s)
PPNP	74.07±0.53	10.89±0.91	84.40±0.18	19.81±1.65	84.03±0.32	109.75±7.68
APPNP	73.93±0.30	22.80±1.69	84.63±0.34	49.70±6.18	83.73±0.21	39.91±4.29
SDG-S	74.10±0.30	6.65±0.69	84.60±0.28	8.51±3.26	84.10±0.28	12.74±5.05
SDG	74.17±0.39	7.11±0.93	84.87±0.68	5.89±3.22	84.70±0.59	16.06±6.45

#### Parameter Analysis

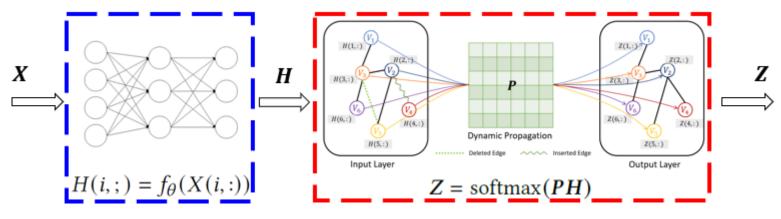


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#### **Conclusion**

- SDG: A Simplified and Dynamic Graph Neural Network
  - Dynamic Propagation Scheme.
  - Model-Agnostic Neural Networks.
- Results
  - Extensive experiments demonstrate the effectiveness, scalability, and interpretability of SDG.



Structure of SDG

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### Thanks!



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Please refer to our paper and code at <a href="https://github.com/DongqiFu/SDG">https://github.com/DongqiFu/SDG</a>







